

1 **The mutagenic forces shaping the genomic landscape of lung cancer in never** 2 **smokers**

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40 **ABSTRACT**

41 Lung cancer in never smokers (LCINS) accounts for up to 25% of all lung cancers and has been
42 associated with exposure to secondhand tobacco smoke and air pollution in observational studies.
43 Here, we evaluate the mutagenic exposures in LCINS by examining deep whole-genome
44 sequencing data from a large international cohort of 871 treatment-naïve LCINS recruited from 28
45 geographical locations within the Sherlock-*Lung* study. *KRAS* mutations were 3.8-fold more
46 common in adenocarcinomas of never smokers from North America and Europe, while a 1.6-fold
47 higher prevalence of *EGFR* and *TP53* mutations was observed in adenocarcinomas from East Asia.
48 Signature SBS40a, with unknown cause, was found in most samples and accounted for the largest
49 proportion of single base substitutions in adenocarcinomas, being enriched in *EGFR*-mutated
50 cases. Conversely, the aristolochic acid signature SBS22a was almost exclusively observed in
51 patients from Taipei. Even though LCINS exposed to secondhand smoke had an 8.3% higher
52 mutational burden and 5.4% shorter telomeres, passive smoking was not associated with driver
53 mutations in cancer driver genes or the activities of individual mutational signatures. In contrast,
54 patients from regions with high levels of air pollution were more likely to have *TP53* mutations
55 while exhibiting shorter telomeres and an increase in most types of somatic mutations, including
56 a 3.9-fold elevation of signature SBS4 (q-value= 3.1×10^{-5}), previously linked mainly to tobacco
57 smoking, and a 76% increase of clock-like signature SBS5 (q-value= 5.0×10^{-5}). A positive dose-
58 response effect was observed with air pollution levels, which correlated with both a decrease in
59 telomere length and an elevation in somatic mutations, notably attributed to signatures SBS4 and
60 SBS5. Our results elucidate the diversity of mutational processes shaping the genomic landscape
61 of lung cancer in never smokers.

62

63 INTRODUCTION

64 While cancers of the lungs are commonly associated with tobacco smoking¹, prior studies have
65 indicated that between 10 and 25% of the 2.2 million lung cancer cases worldwide are found within
66 individuals that have never smoked tobacco cigarettes^{2,3}. The prevalence of lung cancer in never
67 smokers (LCINS) varies by several notable factors, namely enrichment in females⁴, Asian
68 populations⁵, and individuals with a family history of lung cancer⁶. The occurrence of LCINS can
69 also differ by geographic regions, with higher rates reported in East Asia^{7,8} and Eastern Europe⁹
70 when compared to countries in North America and Western Europe¹⁰. Epidemiological studies
71 have also identified environmental exposures that can increase LCINS risk, including exposure to
72 secondhand smoke¹¹ and air pollution^{12,13}.

73

74 Elucidating the mutational signatures operative within a cancer genome allows the understanding
75 of mutational processes implicated in cancer development¹⁴. Prior analyses have revealed more
76 than 100 characteristic signatures across the spectrum of human neoplasia, with putative etiology
77 assigned to approximately one third of known signatures¹⁵. However, there has been no
78 comprehensive examination of the mutational signatures operative in LCINS as prior lung cancer
79 whole-genome sequencing studies have focused almost exclusively on tobacco smokers from
80 European descent^{16,17} and they have included only a relative small number of LCINS, mostly from
81 East Asian descent¹⁸. To the best of our knowledge, our prior whole-genome sequencing study
82 encompassing 232 lung cancers from never-smokers¹⁹, which was focused on evolutionary
83 classification and its potential for personalized treatment, has been the largest examination of the
84 mutational landscape in LCINS.

85

86 To understand the mutational processes shaping the lung cancer genomes of never smokers, here,
87 we generated and analyzed deep whole-genome sequencing data from 871 treatment-naïve LCINS,
88 including lung cancer histologies both commonly and rarely found in never-smokers. Our large
89 international cohort of LCINS allowed a comprehensive evaluation of the mutagenic role of
90 secondhand smoke, as well as the examination and comparison of mutational signatures between
91 biological sexes, ancestries, and 28 geographic regions with different levels of air pollution.

92 RESULTS

93 The Sherlock-Lung never-smoking lung cancer cohort

94 As part of the Sherlock-Lung study²⁰, a total of 871 treatment-naïve never-smoking lung cancer
95 cases were whole-genome sequenced with a mean coverage of 88x and 35x for tumor and matched
96 germline samples, respectively. Patients were recruited from 28 different locations across four
97 continents (**Fig. 1a**) and were predominantly female ($n=688$; 79.0%). Patients from North America
98 and Europe (NA/EU; $n=541$; 62.1%) mostly clustered with the EUR super-sample from the 1,000
99 Genomes Project²¹ (472/541; 87.2%), and patients from East Asia (AS; $n=309$; 35.5%) clustered
100 exclusively with the EAS super-sample (**Fig. 1b**). Patients of European descent were almost
101 exclusively recruited from Europe, Russia, USA, and Canada, while patients from Asian descent
102 were recruited mainly in Hong Kong, Taipei, Korea, and Canada (**Supplementary Table 1**). Most
103 patients were diagnosed with adenocarcinomas ($n=737$; 84.6%) or carcinoid tumors ($n=61$; 7.0%).
104 In addition, we report the genomic landscapes of 31 squamous cell carcinomas and additional rarer
105 histologies, including 13 adenosquamous carcinomas, 5 large cell carcinomas and 24 tumors with
106 uncertain histological subtype (**Supplementary Table 1**). Information on passive smoking was
107 collected for 458 patients, with 250 exposed and 208 not exposed to secondhand tobacco smoke.
108 No subjects included in the study reported occupational exposure to mutagenic agents.

109

110 Mutational patterns of lung cancer in never smokers

111 The median tumor mutational burden (TMB) was 5,068 for single base substitutions (SBSs; range
112 393-151,385), 279 for small insertions and deletions (IDs; range 14-10,474), and 105 for structural
113 variants (SV; range 1-1,103 **Fig. 1c**), with differences across histologies and geographical
114 locations. Similarly, the median percentage of genome aberration was 55.3%, with clear variances

115 across histologies and geographical areas (**Fig. 1c**). To identify the mutational processes operative
116 in LCINS, we performed *de novo* extraction²² of mutational signatures for SBS, ID, doublet base
117 substitutions (DBS), copy number (CN) alterations, and structural variants (SV; **Supplementary**
118 **Tables 2-6**). Eleven *de novo* SBS signatures were extracted and further decomposed into 18
119 previously identified signatures from the Catalogue of Somatic Mutations in Cancer
120 (COSMICv3.4) reference signature database²³ (**Supplementary Fig. 1; Supplementary Table 7**).
121 The unprecedented size of the cohort allowed us to refine the prevalence and intensity of the
122 signatures involved in LCINS, with several signatures identified for the first time in LCINS,
123 including signature SBS40a, recently extracted in clear cell renal cell carcinomas but shown to be
124 active in multiple cancer types^{15,24}. Other SBS signatures not previously seen in LCINS included
125 unknown etiology signatures SBS12, SBS33, and SBS39 as well as the aristolochic acid-related
126 signature SBS22a and tobacco smoking-associated signatures SBS4 and SBS92 (**Fig. 1d**).
127 Additionally, the mismatch repair deficiency-associated signatures SBS21 and SBS44 were
128 detected in one lung adenocarcinoma case, which had 10,474 indels and was confirmed by
129 MMRDetect²⁵ as microsatellite unstable cancer. Analysis of indels and doublet base substitutions
130 revealed a new compendium of mutational signatures operative in LCINS (**Supplementary Figs.**
131 **2-3; Supplementary Tables 8-9**). Specifically, a novel ID signature was identified (termed, ID24),
132 characterized by short microhomology deletions, whereas several ID and DBS signatures were
133 identified for the first time in LCINS, including ID6, ID10, ID11, ID14, ID19, ID23, DBS5, DBS6,
134 and DBS13. *De novo* extraction of signatures of large mutational events revealed four CN
135 (**Supplementary Fig. 4**) and four SV (**Supplementary Fig. 5**) signatures, which were
136 subsequently decomposed into the recently described COSMICv3.4 reference signatures²⁶⁻²⁹
137 (**Supplementary Tables 10-11**).

138 **Mutational landscape of lung adenocarcinoma in never smokers**

139 The genomic landscape of the 737 lung adenocarcinomas from never smokers showed a
140 remarkable heterogeneity for both SBS and CN alterations (**Fig. 2a**). Approximately 4.9% of
141 adenocarcinomas (36/737) harbored tobacco-associated signature SBS4, while the most prevalent
142 signature was SBS40a, of unknown etiology, which contributed 28.2% of all substitutions.
143 Interestingly, a cluster of 25 hypermutated samples (>25,000 mutations) with high proportions of
144 SBS4 and APOBEC-associated signatures SBS2 and SBS13 was identified (**Fig. 2a-b**).
145 Additionally, a smaller subset of 11 cases harboring signatures SBS3 and ID6, both linked to
146 homologous recombination deficiency (HRD), was also identified. The presence of HRD was
147 further evaluated using CHORD³⁰ and HRDetect³¹, which jointly predicted six of the cases as
148 HRD, with two additional cases predicted as HRD exclusively by CHORD (**Supplementary Fig.**
149 **6**).

150
151 Comparisons between patients from different regions revealed differences in somatic mutagenesis
152 (**Fig. 2c-d**). Notably, signature SBS22a (previously known as SBS22, and recently renamed²⁴) was
153 enriched in patients from East Asia (**Fig. 2c**). This enrichment was also observed after removing
154 the patients from Canada with EAS ancestry (**Supplementary Fig. 7; Methods**), which
155 encompassed most of the patients with EAS ancestry not residing in Asia (35/40, 87.5%; **Fig. 1b**).
156 Further, SBS22a was found almost exclusively in patients from Taipei (32/36 SBS22a-positive
157 cases, 88.9%). Although SBS22a has been associated with aristolochic acid exposure in liver,
158 bladder, and kidney cancers^{32,33}, this is the first evidence of aristolochic acid causing mutations in
159 lung cancer. Moreover, SBS22a also showed a significant co-occurrence with SBS12 in patients
160 from East Asia (OR=4.55; p-value= 1.2×10^{-4}). SBS12 is commonly found in gastrointestinal

161 cancers, especially cancers of the livers^{15,34} and kidneys²⁴, with a consistent enrichment of the
162 signature in patients from East Asia^{24,34}.

163
164 Several signatures of indels and large genomics alterations differed across regions (**Extended**
165 **Data Fig. 1a**), with ID3, CN20, SV2, SV4, SV6, and SV9 being more prevalent in patients from
166 East Asia, whereas three additional SV signatures, all linked primarily with non-clustered
167 alterations, SV5, SV7, and SV10, were enriched in North American and European patients.
168 Interestingly, CN20 was previously found elevated in Black TCGA patients but not in Asian
169 patients when compared to White patients²⁶. Additionally, signatures SBS4 and ID3 showed a
170 difference between males and females across the spectrum of variant classes, with a notably higher
171 prevalence in males, whereas ID9 was enriched in females (**Extended Data Fig. 1b**).

172
173 As in prior LCINS studies¹⁰, *EGFR* and *TP53* harbored the most driver mutations, with 52.2% and
174 30.5% mutated in adenocarcinomas, respectively, whereas *KRAS* was only mutated in 6.5% of
175 samples. *EGFR* and *TP53* mutations were enriched in patients from East Asia, as previously
176 reported³⁵, and *KRAS* mutations were elevated in North American and European patients (**Fig. 2e-**
177 **f** and **Extended Data Fig. 1c-e**). No differences were found for driver mutations between males
178 and females for adenocarcinomas (**Extended Data Fig. 1f**). Interestingly, for *EGFR*-mutated
179 tumors, a significant increase in TMB was observed for those *TP53*-wild-type (q-
180 value= 1.2×10^{-4}), whereas a decrease was found for *TP53*-mutated cases (q-value=0.15;
181 **Extended Data Fig. 1g**). In addition, while analyzing *EGFR*-mutated cases specifically, we
182 identified a high enrichment in the prevalence of signature SBS40a, along with other signatures of
183 multiple variant types (**Extended Data Fig. 1h**).

184 Most driver mutations in *EGFR*, *TP53*, and *KRAS* were probabilistically assigned to signatures
185 SBS5 and SBS40a (**Fig. 2g**), with the proportion of driver mutations significantly higher than
186 expected according to their prevalence in the overall adenocarcinoma cohort (OR=2.55; p-
187 value= 9.8×10^{-22} ; **Fig. 2d**). Prior analyses have shown that SBS4 generates the majority of driver
188 mutations in *KRAS* in tobacco smokers³⁶. In our samples, SBS4 contributed only ~10% of *KRAS*
189 mutations. Most driver indels, especially in *EGFR* (mostly exon 19 deletions; 150/173, 86.7%),
190 were probabilistically assigned to signature ID8 (**Fig. 2h**), which has been previously related to
191 radiation exposure³⁷. Despite contributing a significant number of mutations in adenocarcinomas
192 (**Fig. 2d**), APOBEC-associated signatures SBS2 and SBS13 generate a significantly lower number
193 of driver mutations in *EGFR*, *TP53*, and *KRAS* (OR=0.28; p-value= 2.8×10^{-14}) in comparison to
194 their prevalence in the overall adenocarcinoma cohort, with most APOBEC-associated mutations
195 being *TP53* point mutations in a small number of samples (**Fig. 2g**).

196

197 **Mutational landscape of lung carcinoids in never smokers**

198 Carcinoid tumors were the second most common histology, with all samples originating from
199 North American and European patients except one case from Taipei (**Supplementary Table 1**),
200 and only one case harboring signature SBS4. Carcinoids presented a lower number of single base
201 substitutions (p-value= 3.3×10^{-29}), copy number (p-value= 2.6×10^{-32}), and structural variants (p-
202 value= 4.2×10^{-26}) compared to adenocarcinomas, as well as longer telomeres (p-value= 2.0×10^{-6} ;
203 **Extended Data Fig. 2**). SBS5 accounted for 55.7% of all mutations in carcinoids in contrast to
204 27.0% in the adenocarcinomas (p-value $<2.2 \times 10^{-16}$; **Fig. 1d** and **Extended Data Fig. 3a**). In
205 comparison to adenocarcinomas, carcinoids showed 3.39-fold lower TMB (**Extended Data Fig.**
206 **2a**), with depletion of signatures SBS2, SBS5, SBS12, and SBS13 (**Extended Data Fig. 4a**).

207 Nevertheless, we observed an enrichment in signature SBS8, previously linked to nucleotide
208 excision repair³⁸ and late replicating regions³⁹. Interestingly, SBS8 was a relatively minor
209 signature in adenocarcinomas (**Fig. 1d**) but present in the majority of carcinoids (35/61), where it
210 contributed 11.0% of all mutations (**Extended Data Fig. 3a**). As lung carcinoids are thought to
211 originate from neuroendocrine cells producing hormones and hormone-like substances⁴⁰, the
212 presence of SBS8 is perhaps not surprising as this mutational signature is commonly observed in
213 hormone-dependent cancers such as breast⁴¹ and prostate¹⁵ adenocarcinomas.

214
215 Additionally, three ID signatures and the diploid CN1 signature were found enriched in carcinoids,
216 whereas several different signatures were enriched in adenocarcinomas, including two DBS, four
217 ID, and most CN and SV signatures (**Extended Data Fig. 3b** and **4a**), as expected due to the lower
218 number of large genomic aberrations of this histological subtype of LCINS (**Extended Data Fig.**
219 **2a**). No *EGFR* or *KRAS* driver mutations were found in carcinoid histology, whereas an
220 enrichment was found for driver mutations in *ARID1A* (**Extended Data Fig. 3c** and **4b-d**).

221
222 **Mutational landscape of lung squamous cell carcinomas in never smokers**
223 Squamous cell carcinomas accounted for 3.6% of LCINS (31/871), with 13 samples harboring
224 tobacco-associated signature SBS4. In comparison with adenocarcinomas, squamous cell
225 carcinomas showed an elevated burden of SBS, DBS, and ID, in contrast to a similar landscape of
226 large genomic alterations and telomere lengths (**Extended Data Fig. 2**). Several signatures showed
227 higher prevalence compared to adenocarcinomas, including SBS3, SBS4, SBS92, and SV7
228 (**Extended Data Fig. 5a-c** and **6a**). *TP53* was the most prevalent driver mutation (58.1% of cases;
229 **Extended Data Fig. 5d**) and was found enriched in LCINS squamous cell carcinomas compared

230 to adenocarcinomas, along with mutations in *LRP1B*, *PIK3CA*, and *PTEN* (**Extended Data Fig.**
231 **6b-g**). In contrast, *EGFR* mutations were rarely observed in squamous cell carcinomas, as
232 previously reported⁴² (**Extended Data Fig. 6d**).

233

234 **SBS4 in lung tumors from never smokers**

235 Tobacco-associated signature SBS4 was found active in 56 LCINS tumors (6.4%), and was the
236 predominant signature in 39 of them (69.6%) and in many hypermutated cases (5.51-fold higher
237 median SBS burden in SBS4+ cases; **Extended Data Fig. 7a-b**). Similarly, signature SBS92,
238 recently linked to tobacco smoking in bladder^{22,43} and other cancer types⁴⁴, was also active in four
239 SBS4+ tumors, and found significantly enriched in SBS4+ cases ($p\text{-value}=2.1 \times 10^{-4}$; **Extended**
240 **Data Fig. 7b**). Tumors presenting active SBS4 also showed a significant enrichment of previous
241 ID and DBS signatures linked to tobacco smoking, namely ID3 ($p\text{-value}=1.1 \times 10^{-22}$) and DBS2
242 ($p\text{-value}=5.0 \times 10^{-7}$; **Extended Data Fig. 7c-d**). Additionally, SBS4 in LCINS exhibited the same
243 genome topography characteristics as SBS4 in smokers⁴⁵, including enrichment in late replicating
244 regions, periodicity in the vicinity of nucleosomes, and strong genic and transcriptional strand
245 asymmetries (**Extended Data Fig. 8**).

246

247 In principle, detecting SBS4 in never-smokers can be due to misannotation of tobacco smoking
248 status. The observed SBS4 prevalence increase in males and lung squamous cell carcinomas
249 indicates that some samples might have been incorrectly annotated as never smokers.
250 Nevertheless, the 56 LCINS tumors with SBS4 exhibited statistically different driver mutations
251 when compared to previously generated lung cancers from tobacco smokers³⁶ (**Extended Data**
252 **Fig. 7e**). Specifically, the LCINS samples had fewer mutations in *KRAS* (OR=0.41; p-

253 value=0.021) and an enrichment of *EGFR* p.L858R hotspot mutations (OR=29.35; p-
254 value= 4.1×10^{-4}). These differences indicate that, in addition to possible misannotation, other
255 exogenous processes may be generating SBS4 in these never smokers. As prior work has shown
256 that SBS4 can be found in lifelong non-smokers exposed to different environmental mutagens,
257 including occupational history of coal tar work⁴⁶ and indoor air pollution⁴⁷, we evaluated whether
258 SBS4 in this cohort, as well as mutations in other samples, can be generated by either secondhand
259 exposure to tobacco smoking or by high levels of air pollution.

260

261 **Passive smoking has low mutagenicity in LCINS**

262 To understand the mutational processes activated by secondhand tobacco smoking, we compared
263 the genomic landscapes of 250 LCINS from passive smokers to 208 LCINS from individuals who
264 were not exposed to secondhand smoke. We observed an increase of SBS mutations in passive
265 smokers (**Fig. 3a**), as well as a decrease in tumor/normal telomere length ratio (**Fig. 3b**). Although
266 not significant, the directionality of these associations with passive smoking was consistent after
267 adjustment for other covariates, encompassing age, sex, genetic ancestry, histology, and tumor
268 purity – 8.3% increase and 5.4% decrease in the magnitude of regression coefficients after
269 covariate correction, respectively (**Fig. 3c-d**). Almost identical results were observed when we
270 restricted the analyses to the lung adenocarcinomas from never smokers (**Supplementary Fig. 8**),
271 and when the principal components from the ancestry analysis were used instead of the ancestry
272 labels for adjustment (**Supplementary Table 12; Methods**). However, this increase in mutation
273 burden was not specifically associated with any mutational signature (**Fig. 3e**) or mutation type
274 (**Fig. 3f**). In addition, no significant differences were found for mutations in any cancer driver
275 genes (**Fig. 3g**), nor for the burden of ID, DBS, SV, or CN segments (**Extended Data Fig. 9a-e**)

276 or the presence of signatures derived from these mutation types (**Extended Data Fig. 9f**). Amongst
277 the 250 cases identified as exposed to secondhand smoke, only three (1.2%) displayed signature
278 SBS4 (OR=0.62; p-value=0.71), each with a contribution exceeding 20% and at least 500
279 mutations attributed to SBS4. Moreover, only two of the 281 driver mutations found in secondhand
280 smoke-exposed samples were assigned to SBS4 with a probability above 50%, including a *TP53*
281 missense mutation (p.Val157Phe) and a missense mutation (p.Val409Leu) in *NFI*.

282
283 To evaluate if we were unable to assign SBS4 to other secondhand smoke-exposed cases due to
284 low levels of the signature, we synthetically injected SBS4 mutations using simulations at different
285 levels into the mutational profiles of the 247 passive smoker cases that lacked SBS4 and assessed
286 the number of samples where SBS4 was detected (**Supplementary Fig. 9**). We were able to detect
287 SBS4 in around a quarter of simulated samples, if it contributed at least 5% of all mutations within
288 a sample. Moreover, SBS4 was detectable in almost every sample when the signature accounted
289 for more than 10% of mutations. These simulation results agree with the levels of SBS4 observed
290 in the set of SBS4+ samples, where SBS4 is contributing above 10%. Thus, although SBS4 could
291 have been missed in some secondhand smoke exposed LCINS, this signature would be likely
292 contributing less than 5% of mutations in these cancers. Overall, our simulations demonstrate that
293 it is unlikely that exposure to secondhand smoke accounts for SBS4, whereas the modest increase
294 in overall SBS mutations suggests that passive smoking has low mutagenicity.

295
296 **Air pollution is associated with increased somatic mutations in LCINS**
297 Given the recent evidence of the role of air pollution in lung carcinogenesis^{12,48}, we assessed
298 whether atmospheric air pollution, quantified by the environmental particulate matter measuring

299 $\leq 2.5 \mu\text{m}$ ($\text{PM}_{2.5}$), had an effect on the accumulation of somatic mutations in LCINS. Yearly $\text{PM}_{2.5}$
300 estimates from 1998–2021 were obtained for the 853 LCINS cases with annotated country of
301 residence using a hybrid model combining satellite-based measurements of aerosol optical depth
302 with chemical transport modeling and ground-based observations (**Methods**)⁴⁹. Considering the
303 distribution of $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ estimates across the cohort, a threshold of $20 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ was used to separate
304 patients diagnosed in regions with high and low levels of pollution (**Supplementary Fig. 10**).
305 LCINS originating from areas with high $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ levels exhibited increased burdens of SBS (13.0%),
306 DBS (8.3%), and ID mutations (7.6%; **Fig. 4a**), along with telomere shortening (**Fig. 4b**), even
307 after accounting for age, sex, genetic ancestry, histology, and tumor purity (**Fig. 4c-d**;
308 **Supplementary Table 12**). No enrichments were identified for the numbers of SV or CN segments
309 after corrections (**Extended Data Fig. 10a-b**). In order to determine whether higher levels of
310 pollution lead to an increase in somatic mutagenesis (*i.e.*, a dose-response effect), we calculated
311 individual estimates of $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ per lung cancer patient (**Methods**). Consistent with a dose-response
312 effect, we found statistically significant positive correlations of $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ with the burden of SBS,
313 DBS, and ID (**Fig. 4e-g**), as well as a negative correlation with telomere length (**Fig. 4h**), further
314 corroborating the dose-response relationship of outdoor air pollution and somatic mutations in
315 LCINS.

316
317 Several mutational signature-specific associations with individual $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ estimates were found
318 after adjusting for covariates (**Fig. 5a**). These included clock-like signature SBS5 (OR for $10 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$
319 of $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ =1.76; q-value= 5.0×10^{-5}) as well as signatures SBS4 (OR=3.86; q-value= 3.1×10^{-5}) and
320 ID3 (OR=1.63; q-value= 5.1×10^{-4} ; **Fig. 5b**; **Supplementary Table 12**). Furthermore, dose-
321 response effects were also observed for these signatures, with a significant positive correlation

322 between the total numbers of mutations assigned to a given signature and the individual PM_{2.5}
323 estimates (**Fig. 5c-e**). Specifically, a unit (1µg/m³) increase of PM_{2.5} was associated with a 2.3%
324 increase in SBS5-associated mutations, 12.0% in SBS4-associated mutations, and 6.0% in ID3-
325 associated mutations, independent of other covariates. No associations were found with DBS, CN,
326 or SV signatures (**Fig. 5a; Extended Data Fig. 10c**). Patients in regions with high PM_{2.5} exposure
327 were 1.6 times more likely to have *TP53* mutations and 2.5 times less likely to have *CTNNB1*
328 mutations (**Fig. 5f-h**). Overall, these results indicate that elevated air pollution levels are associated
329 with an increase in both somatic mutations contributing to specific mutational signatures as well
330 as an increased prevalence of *TP53* mutations.

331

332 **DISCUSSION**

333 This study presents the most extensive mutational analyses of whole-genome sequenced lung
334 cancers in never smokers. Our results reveal multiple mutational signatures and mutated cancer
335 driver genes whose frequencies differ across lung cancer histologies, regions, and exposures.
336 Particularly noteworthy is our finding of the aristolochic acid signature SBS22a in patients from
337 Taipei, possibly shedding light on one of the previous unappreciated environmental factors
338 contributing to the accumulation of mutations in LCINS from East Asia. Similarly, multiple
339 signatures of indels and large genomics alterations, most with unknown etiology, were found to
340 differ across regions, further highlighting the likely existence of additional population-specific
341 exposures and other factors contributing to LCINS. Notably, SBS40a, with an unknown cause, and
342 previously associated with kidney cancer²⁴, accounted for the largest proportion of substitutions in
343 adenocarcinomas, thus indicating the existence of a globally widespread and previously
344 unappreciated mutagenic process, likely of endogenous origin.

345
346 Prior epidemiological research¹¹ has established that passive smoking can be associated with a
347 modest heightened risk for developing LCINS. In line with the observational research, our analysis
348 of 458 patients with known exposure to passive smoking uncovered only minimal indications of
349 elevated mutagenesis amongst individuals exposed to secondhand smoke. As in previous
350 epidemiological studies, the data about second-hand tobacco smoking exposure was derived from
351 questionnaires and clinical datasets, and varied across individuals, going from very detailed
352 (during childhood, at work, or with a smoking spouse) to just binary yes/no exposure status. Thus,
353 low exposure levels or very remote exposure (during childhood) may contribute to our findings of
354 low mutagenicity. Nevertheless, our results are also consistent with a recent study in 291 Japanese

355 LCINS patients with extensive information on passive smoking⁵⁰. Additional non-mutagenic
356 carcinogenesis could be contributing to the observed rise in lung cancer in those exposed to
357 secondhand smoke.

358

359 Our investigation of the mutagenic role of outdoor air pollution relied on an average country- and
360 state/province-level quantification of PM_{2.5} that did not provide granularity within these
361 geographical regions or consideration for seasonal variabilities or indoor air pollution levels. The
362 exposure was linked to the subjects' residence at the time of lung cancer diagnosis and may not
363 reflect their lifetime exposure, and the assigned exposures for the patients recruited to this study
364 may systematically differ from the average country, state, province, or city level pollution levels.

365 As such, these associations should be interpreted with caution. Despite these limitations, our
366 findings suggest that LCINS in individuals from areas with elevated air pollution have a higher
367 prevalence of *TP53* mutations while exhibiting shorter telomeres and heightened mutagenesis,
368 notably attributed to signatures SBS4 and SBS5. Consistent with our findings, a previous study
369 comparing Chinese regions with different levels of air pollution reported an increase in *TP53* and
370 total somatic mutations in the highly polluted region of Xuanwei, with a C>A enriched mutational
371 pattern resembling signature SBS4⁵¹.

372

373 In principle, mutations linked to clock-like signature SBS5 that accumulate in LCINS with the
374 increase of PM_{2.5} could be due to additional DNA damage that accumulates in people living in
375 more polluted areas. In addition, considering the significant telomere shortening observed with
376 high levels of PM_{2.5} exposure, the clock-like somatic mutations could also be a readout of a
377 promotion mechanism where lung cells are undergoing more cell divisions in individuals residing

378 in highly polluted areas. Consistently, a recent experimental study⁴⁸ showed that air pollution acts
379 as a tumor-promoting inflammatory agent, demonstrating that short-term exposure to PM_{2.5} is not
380 strongly mutagenic in mice, although leading to an elevation of signature SBS5 and reduced
381 telomeres (**Extended Data Fig. 11**). Future studies with long-term PM_{2.5} exposures and higher
382 number of replicates will be required to experimentally validate the role of outdoor air pollution
383 as a driver of both mutations and inflammation leading to tumorigenesis.

384

385 While the association between SBS4 and PM_{2.5} potentially encompasses the effects of atmospheric
386 pollution exposure in LCINS, the small proportion of cases affected by SBS4 (6.4% of all samples)
387 and the high number of mutations in SBS4+ cancers (21,785 on average) could indicate extreme
388 events of outdoor, indoor, or occupational air pollution. Indeed, such events have been previously
389 reported, for example, SBS4 was found in the lung cancers of never-smoking Chinese women that
390 often cook with smoky coal in poorly ventilated houses⁴⁷, and it is likely that severe levels of
391 pollution are more common in countries with overall higher air pollution levels. Lastly, it is also
392 possible that the self-reported smoking status was inaccurate, as previously shown in other cohorts
393 after biochemical verification⁵², and that some SBS4 cases from smokers were misannotated as
394 never smokers, albeit it is unlikely that such misannotation will exhibit any correlation with air
395 pollution. Notwithstanding, the reported associations between air pollution and somatic mutations
396 remained unaffected when all SBS4 mutations were excluded from our analysis (**Extended Data**
397 **Fig. 12**).

398

399 Overall, the unprecedented size of our global cohort allowed us to refine the prevalence and
400 intensity of the mutational signatures and driver mutations involved in LCINS, and their variability

401 across histologies, genetic ancestries, and geographical locations. Although LCINS appear to be
402 dominated by endogenous processes, our results indicate exposure to aristolochic acids in Taipei's
403 samples, a low mutagenicity of passive smoking, and a role of air pollution as both a mutagenic
404 initiator and promoter of neoplastic expansion in LCINS.
405

406 **FIGURE LEGENDS**

407 **Fig. 1. Overview of the Sherlock-Lung cohort of lung cancers in never smokers. a,**

408 Geographical distribution of the 871 patients across four continents and 28 geographic locations.

409 **b,** Clinical characterization based on histology, genetic ancestry, geographical region, biological

410 sex, and passive smoking status. **c,** Prevalence of mutations, percentage of genome altered, and

411 structural variants across geographic locations and stratified based on histology. Left panel, dots

412 represent median values for the three genomic alterations individually per country and histology.

413 Right panel, dots represent individual tumors, colors different histology types, and horizontal

414 purple lines median values across all histologies. **d,** Landscape of mutational signatures across

415 histologies and somatic variant classes, including single base substitutions (SBS), doublet base

416 substitutions (DBS), small insertions and deletions (ID), copy number alterations (CN), and

417 structural variants (SV). The size and color of the dots represent the percentage of mutations

418 contributed by the signature in all samples sharing the same histology (top panel) or the percentage

419 of samples of a histological type where a particular signature is active (bottom panel). AS: East

420 Asian geographical regions, EAS: East Asian genetic ancestry super-sample, EUR: European

421 genetic ancestry super-sample, LUAD: lung adenocarcinomas, LUSC: lung squamous cell

422 carcinomas, NA/EU: North America and Europe geographical regions.

423

424 **Fig. 2 Repertoire of mutational signatures and driver mutations in LCINS adenocarcinomas.**

425 **a,** Distribution of the most prevalent signatures per sample according to the number of single base

426 substitutions (SBS) and percentage of genome aberrated. **b,** Activity of SBS mutational signatures

427 across samples, representing the total number of mutations attributed to each signature in a given

428 sample. Dots represent individual samples and purple horizontal bars median values. The numbers

429 on the bottom indicate the total number of samples where a particular signature was found active
430 (blue) and the total number of LCINS adenocarcinoma samples (green). **c**, Regional differences
431 across signatures. Volcano plot indicating enrichment of SBS signatures in patients from East
432 Asian (AS) and North American/European regions (NA/EU) in LCINS adenocarcinomas (top
433 panel) and bar plot indicating prevalence by geographical region (bottom panel). Horizontal lines
434 marking statistically significant thresholds were included at 0.05 (dashed orange line) and 0.01
435 FDR levels (dashed red line). **d**, Total number of mutations assigned to specific SBS signatures
436 for patients from East Asia or North America and Europe. **e**, Volcano plot indicating enrichment
437 of mutations in driver genes affecting specific LCINS adenocarcinomas. Blue-colored genes were
438 enriched in patients from North America and Europe, whereas red-colored genes were enriched in
439 patients from East Asia. **f**, Frequency of LCINS adenocarcinoma cases harboring driver mutations
440 in the driver genes significantly differently mutated between geographical regions (*EGFR*, *TP53*,
441 and *KRAS*) **g**, Proportion of driver mutations affecting *EGFR*, *TP53*, and *KRAS* probabilistically
442 assigned to each of the SBS mutational signatures identified in the LCINS adenocarcinoma cohort.
443 The numbers indicate the total number of driver single base substitutions found in each of the
444 genes.

445
446 **Fig. 3. Passive smoking influence in the genomic landscape of LCINS. a-d**, Differences in base
447 substitution burden and tumor-to-normal telomere length ratio using univariate comparisons (**a**
448 and **b**) as well as multivariable linear regressions considering clinical and epidemiological
449 covariates (**c** and **d**), including age, sex, genetic ancestry, histology, and tumor purity. **e**, Volcano
450 plot indicating enrichment of mutational signatures derived from SBS mutations in passive vs.
451 non-passive smokers. Horizontal lines marking statistically significant thresholds were included

452 at 0.05 (dashed orange line) and 0.01 FDR levels (dashed red line). **f**, Comparison of the mutations
453 belonging to each of the six main SBS mutation subtypes in passive vs. non-passive smokers. **g**,
454 Volcano plot indicating enrichment of mutations in driver genes affecting specific LCINS tumors.
455

456 **Fig. 4. Mutagenic effects of PM_{2.5} exposure in LCINS.** **a**, Quantification of tumor mutational
457 burden according to different mutation types, including SBS, DBS, and ID, for patients living in
458 geographical regions with high and low PM_{2.5} exposure levels (threshold defined at 20 µg/m³; only
459 samples for which the country of origin was known (*n*=853) are included). **b**, Quantification of the
460 ratio of telomere lengths for tumor and normal samples across high and low PM_{2.5} exposed cases.
461 **c-d**, Forest plots corresponding to multivariable linear regressions considering high/low PM_{2.5}
462 exposure group, age, sex, genetic ancestry, histology, and tumor sample purity as covariates and
463 tumor mutational burden for the specific mutation type, SBS, DBS, ID (**c**), or telomere length ratio
464 (**d**) as independent variables. **e-h**, Scatter plots showing significant correlations between individual
465 sample estimates of PM_{2.5} exposure and tumor mutational burden for SBS (**e**), DBS (**f**), ID (**g**), and
466 telomere length ratio (**h**).

467
468 **Fig. 5. Associations between PM_{2.5} exposure and specific mutational signatures affecting**
469 **LCINS tumors.** **a**, Enrichment analysis of the presence of mutational signatures derived from
470 SBS, DBS, and ID with PM_{2.5} exposure levels for all samples for which the country of origin was
471 known (*n*=853). Horizontal lines marking statistically significant thresholds were included at 0.05
472 (dashed orange line) and 0.01 FDR levels (dashed red line). The odds ratios for the
473 increase/decrease of 10 µg/m³ of PM_{2.5} estimates are shown. **b**, Detailed forest plots for the logistic
474 regression models corresponding to signatures SBS4, SBS5, and ID3. **c-e**, Scatter plots assessing

475 dose-response effect between individual sample estimates of $PM_{2.5}$ exposure and mutations
476 assigned to signatures SBS4 (**c**), SBS5 (**d**), and ID3 (**e**). **f**, Enrichment analysis of the presence of
477 mutations in driver genes with $PM_{2.5}$ exposure levels. **g-h**, Detail of the enrichment of *TP53* (**g**)
478 and *CTNNB1* (**h**) driver mutations in high and low pollution regions, respectively.
479

480 **EXTENDED DATA FIGURE LEGENDS**

481 **Extended Data Fig. 1. Association of mutational signature prevalence and driver mutations**
482 **with geographical regions, biological sexes, and *EGFR* mutation status in LCINS**
483 **adenocarcinoma cases. a**, DBS, ID, CN, and SV mutational signatures enrichment analysis with
484 geographical regions. Horizontal lines marking statistically significant thresholds were included
485 at 0.05 (dashed orange line) and 0.01 FDR value levels (dashed red line). Blue-colored signatures
486 were enriched in North American and European patients, whereas red-colored signatures were
487 enriched in East Asian patients. **b**, SBS, DBS, ID, CN, and SV mutational signatures enrichment
488 analysis with biological sexes. Blue-colored signatures were enriched in males, whereas red-
489 colored signatures were enriched in females. **c-e**, Detail of the enrichment of *EGFR* (**c**), *TP53* (**d**),
490 and *KRAS* (**e**) driver mutations in North American and European vs. East Asian LCINS
491 adenocarcinoma cases. **f**, Driver mutations enrichment analysis with biological sexes. Blue-
492 colored genes were enriched in males, whereas red-colored genes were enriched in females. **h**,
493 SBS, DBS, ID, CN, and SV mutational signatures enrichment analysis with *EGFR* mutation status.
494 Blue-colored signatures were enriched in *EGFR* mutant tumors, whereas red-colored signatures
495 were enriched in *EGFR* wild-type tumors.

496

497 **Extended Data Fig. 2. Tumor mutational burden differences in LCINS across histologies. a-**
498 **b**, Quantification of tumor mutational burden according to different mutation types, including SBS,
499 DBS, ID, number of copy number segments, and structural variants (**a**), as well as telomere length
500 ratios between tumor and normal samples (**b**) across histologies.

501

502 **Extended Data Fig. 3. Repertoire of mutational signatures and driver mutations in LCINS**
503 **carcinoids. a-b**, Mutational signature landscape for SBS (a) and ID (b) mutation types, including
504 absolute and relative number of mutations assigned to each mutational signature, unsupervised
505 clustering based on the signature contributions, and sample-level annotations of sex, genetic
506 ancestry, and accuracy of signature reconstruction based on cosine similarity. c, Driver mutations
507 landscape, including different types of genomic alterations, as well as sample-level annotations of
508 sex, genetic ancestry, histology, and tumor purity.

509
510 **Extended Data Fig. 4. Association of mutational signature prevalence and driver mutations**
511 **with adenocarcinoma and carcinoid histology in LCINS cases. a-b** SBS, DBS, ID, CN, and SV
512 mutational signatures, and driver mutations (b) enrichment analysis. Horizontal lines marking
513 statistically significant thresholds were included at 0.05 (dashed orange line) and 0.01 FDR value
514 levels (dashed red line). Blue-colored signatures/genes were enriched in adenocarcinomas,
515 whereas green-colored signatures/genes were enriched in carcinoids. c-d, Detail of the enrichment
516 of *TP53* (c) and *ARID1A* (d) driver mutations in carcinoid vs. adenocarcinoma LCINS.

517
518 **Extended Data Fig. 5. Genomic landscape in LCINS squamous cell carcinomas. a-c**,
519 Mutational signature landscape for SBS (a), DBS (b), and ID (c) mutation types, including
520 absolute and relative number of mutations assigned to each mutational signature, unsupervised
521 clustering based on the signature contributions, and sample-level annotations of sex, genetic
522 ancestry, and accuracy of signature reconstruction based on cosine similarity. d, Driver mutations
523 landscape, including different types of genomic alterations, as well as sample-level annotations of
524 sex, genetic ancestry, histology, and tumor purity.

525

526 **Extended Data Fig. 6. Association of mutational signature prevalence and driver mutations**

527 **with adenocarcinoma and squamous cell carcinoma histology in LCINS cases. a-b** SBS, DBS,

528 ID, CN, and SV **(a)** mutational signatures, and driver mutations **(b)** enrichment analysis.

529 Horizontal lines marking statistically significant thresholds were included at 0.05 (dashed orange

530 line) and 0.01 FDR value levels (dashed red line). Blue-colored signatures/genes were enriched in

531 adenocarcinomas, whereas red-colored signatures/genes were enriched in squamous cell

532 carcinomas. **c-f**, Detail of the enrichment of *TP53* **(c)**, *EGFR* **(d)**, *LRP1B* **(e)**, *PTEN* **(f)** and

533 *PIK3CA* **(g)** driver mutations in squamous cell carcinoma vs. adenocarcinoma LCINS.

534

535 **Extended Data Fig. 7. Genomic landscape of 56 LCINS tumors presenting SBS4 activity. a,**

536 Tumor mutational burden differences between SBS4 positive and negative LCINS tumors for SBS,

537 DBS, ID, CN segments, and SV events. **b-d**, Mutational signature landscape for SBS **(b)**, DBS **(c)**,

538 and ID **(d)** mutation types, including absolute and relative number of mutations assigned to each

539 mutational signature, unsupervised clustering based on the signature contributions, and sample-

540 level annotations of sex, genetic ancestry, passive smoking, and accuracy of signature

541 reconstruction based on cosine similarity. **e**, Driver mutations landscape, including different types

542 of genomic alterations, as well as sample-level annotations of sex, genetic ancestry, histology, and

543 tumor purity.

544

545 **Extended Data Fig. 8. Topographical characteristics of 56 LCINS and 68 lung cancer from**

546 **smokers presenting SBS4 activity. a-b**, Distribution of SBS4 mutations with replication timing

547 in our cohort of never smokers **(a)** and in the smokers from the PCAWG cohort **(b)**. Data are

548 separated into deciles, with each segment harboring 10% of the observed replication time signal
549 in the x-axis, and the normalized mutational density displayed in the y-axis. **c-d**, Association of
550 SBS4 mutations with nucleosome occupancy in never smokers (**c**) and smokers (**d**). The solid blue
551 line represents real somatic mutations, whereas the dashed grey line indicates the distribution of
552 simulated mutations. Both lines show the average nucleosome signal in the y-axis, using a genomic
553 window of 2 kilobases centered around the SBS4-associated mutations in the x-axis. **e-f**, Strand
554 asymmetry of SBS4-associated mutations in comparison to simulations and considering lagging
555 and leading DNA strands, transcribed and untranscribed DNA regions and genic and intergenic
556 genomic locations in never smokers (**e**) and smokers (**f**).

557

558 **Extended Data Fig. 9. Passive smoking influence in the landscape of ID, DBS, CN, and SV in**
559 **LCINS. a-e**, Differences in DBS, ID, CN, and SV burden using univariate comparisons (**a**) as well
560 as multivariable linear regressions considering clinical and epidemiological covariates (**b-e**),
561 including age, sex, genetic ancestry, and tumor purity. **f**, Volcano plots indicating enrichment of
562 mutational signatures derived from DBS, ID, CN, and SV alterations. Horizontal lines marking
563 statistically significant thresholds were included at 0.05 (dashed orange line) and 0.01 FDR value
564 levels (dashed red line).

565

566 **Extended Data Fig. 10. Effects of PM_{2.5} exposure in large genomic alterations in LCINS. a-**
567 **b**, Differences in the number of CN segments and SV events using univariate comparisons (**a**) as
568 well as multivariable linear regressions, considering clinical and epidemiological covariates (**b**),
569 including age, sex, genetic ancestry, histology, and tumor purity, for patients diagnosed in
570 geographical regions with high and low PM_{2.5} exposure levels (threshold defined at 20 µg/m³; only

571 samples for which the country of origin was known, $n=853$, were included). **c**, Volcano plots
572 indicating enrichment of mutational signatures derived from CN and SV alterations. Horizontal
573 lines marking statistically significant thresholds were included at 0.05 (dashed orange line) and
574 0.01 FDR value levels (dashed red line).

575
576 **Extended Data Fig. 11. Assignment of mutational signatures and estimation of telomere**
577 **length using data from control ($n=5$) and PM_{2.5}-exposed mice ($n=5$) from Ref.⁴⁸. **a-b**, Boxplots**
578 comparing the mutations assigned to SBS5 (**a**) and the estimations for the telomere length ratio
579 between the tumor and normal samples (**b**). Student's t-tests were used to calculate statistical
580 significance.

581
582 **Extended Data Fig. 12. Mutagenic effects of PM_{2.5} exposure in LCINS cases excluding SBS4**
583 **contributions. **a****, Quantification of SBS burden excluding SBS4 mutations for patients living in
584 geographical regions with high and low PM_{2.5} exposure levels (threshold defined at 20 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$; only
585 samples for which the country of origin was known, $n=853$, were included). **b**, Forest plot
586 corresponding to a multivariable linear regression considering high/low PM_{2.5} exposure group,
587 age, sex, genetic ancestry, histology, and tumor sample purity as covariates and SBS burden as
588 independent variable. **c**, Scatter plot showing a significant correlation between individual sample
589 estimates of PM_{2.5} exposure and SBS burden.

590 **SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL LEGENDS**

591 **Supplementary Table 1. Clinical characteristics of the Sherlock-*Lung* never-smoking lung**
592 **cancer cohort by histology.**

593

594 **Supplementary Table 2. Mutational profiles for SBS *de novo* extracted mutational**
595 **signatures using the SBS-288 mutational context.**

596

597 **Supplementary Table 3. Mutational profiles for ID *de novo* extracted mutational signatures**
598 **using the ID-83 mutational context.**

599

600 **Supplementary Table 4. Mutational profiles for DBS *de novo* extracted mutational**
601 **signatures using the DBS-78 mutational context.**

602

603 **Supplementary Table 5. Mutational profiles for CN *de novo* extracted mutational**
604 **signatures using the CN-68 mutational context.**

605

606 **Supplementary Table 6. Mutational profiles for SV *de novo* extracted mutational**
607 **signatures using the SV-38 mutational context.**

608

609 **Supplementary Table 7. Decomposition of SBS *de novo* mutational signatures into**
610 **COSMICv3.4 reference signatures.**

611

612 **Supplementary Table 8. Decomposition of ID *de novo* mutational signatures into**
613 **COSMICv3.4 reference signatures.**

614

615 **Supplementary Table 9. Decomposition of DBS *de novo* mutational signatures into**
616 **COSMICv3.4 reference signatures.**

617

618 **Supplementary Table 10. Decomposition of CN *de novo* mutational signatures into**
619 **COSMICv3.4 reference signatures.**

620

621 **Supplementary Table 11. Decomposition of SV *de novo* mutational signatures into**
622 **COSMICv3.4 reference signatures.**

623

624 **Supplementary Table 12. Associations of passive smoking and pollution with genomic**
625 **features adjusted by genetic ancestry principal components.**

626

627 **Supplementary Table 13. dbGaP and EGA unique identifiers for the publicly available**
628 **datasets included as part of the analyzed LCINS cohort.**

629

630 **Supplementary Fig. 1. *De novo* mutational signatures extracted using the SBS-288**
631 **mutational context. a, Mutational profiles of the *de novo* extracted signatures, with indication of**
632 **the cosine similarity of the decomposition into COSMICv3.4 reference signatures. b, Contribution**
633 **of the different COSMICv3.4 reference mutational signatures after decomposition of the *de novo***
634 **extracted signatures. c, Activity of *de novo* mutational signatures across samples, representing the**

635 total number of substitutions attributed to each signature in a given sample. Dots represent
636 individual samples, colors different histology types, and purple horizontal bars median values
637 across all histologies. The numbers on top indicate the total number of samples where a particular
638 signature was found active (blue) and the total number of samples of the assessed cohort (green).

639

640 **Supplementary Fig. 2. *De novo* mutational signatures extracted using the ID-83 mutational**

641 **context. a**, Mutational profiles of the *de novo* extracted signatures. **b**, Contribution of the different

642 COSMICv3.4 reference mutational signatures after decomposition of the *de novo* extracted

643 signatures. **c**, Activity of *de novo* mutational signatures across samples, representing the total

644 number of indels attributed to each signature in a given sample. Dots represent individual samples,

645 colors represent different histology types, and purple horizontal bars represent median values

646 across all histologies. The numbers on top indicate the total number of samples where a particular

647 signature was found active (blue) and the total number of samples of the assessed cohort (green).

648

649 **Supplementary Fig. 3. *De novo* mutational signatures extracted using the DBS-78 mutational**

650 **context. a**, Mutational profiles of the *de novo* extracted signatures. **b**, Contribution of the different

651 COSMIC v3.4 reference mutational signatures after decomposition of the *de novo* extracted

652 signatures. **c**, Activity of *de novo* mutational signatures across samples, representing the total

653 number of doublets attributed to each signature in a given sample. Dots represent individual

654 samples, colors represent different histology types, and purple horizontal bars represent median

655 values across all histologies. The numbers on top indicate the total number of samples where a

656 particular signature was found active (blue) and the total number of samples of the assessed cohort

657 (green).

658

659 **Supplementary Fig. 4. *De novo* mutational signatures extracted using the CN-68 mutational**
660 **context. a,** Mutational profiles of the *de novo* extracted signatures. **b,** Contribution of the different
661 COSMICv3.4 reference mutational signatures after decomposition of the *de novo* extracted
662 signatures. **c,** Activity of *de novo* mutational signatures across samples, representing the total
663 number of copy number segments attributed to each signature in a given sample. Dots represent
664 individual samples, colors represent different histology types, and purple horizontal bars represent
665 median values across all histologies. The numbers on top indicate the total number of samples
666 where a particular signature was found active (blue) and the total number of samples of the
667 assessed cohort (green).

668

669 **Supplementary Fig. 5. *De novo* mutational signatures extracted using the SV-38 mutational**
670 **context. a,** Mutational profiles of the *de novo* extracted signatures. **b,** Contribution of the different
671 COSMIC v3.4 reference mutational signatures after decomposition of the *de novo* extracted
672 signatures. **c,** Activity of *de novo* mutational signatures across samples, representing the total
673 number of structural variants attributed to each signature in a given sample. Dots represent
674 individual samples, colors represent different histology types, and purple horizontal bars represent
675 median values across all histologies. The numbers on top indicate the total number of samples
676 where a particular signature was found active (blue) and the total number of samples of the
677 assessed cohort (green).

678

679 **Supplementary Fig. 6. Validation of homologous recombination deficient cases in LCINS**
680 **using computational predictors.** The x-axis shows the probability prediction scores for all the

681 LCINS cases in the cohort (categorized by histology and presence of signature SBS3) using
682 HRDetect³¹, whereas the y-axis shows the probability prediction scores for CHORD³⁰. Dashed
683 lines showed the thresholds proposed by both computational tools for considering a sample as
684 homologous recombination deficient or proficient.

685

686 **Supplementary Fig. 7. Sensitivity analysis of the associations of mutational signatures with**
687 **geographical regions excluding Canadian patients with EAS genetic ancestry.** Volcano plot
688 indicating enrichment of SBS signatures in patients from East Asian (AS) and North
689 American/European regions (NA/EU) in LCINS adenocarcinomas (top panel) and bar plot
690 indicating prevalence by geographical region (bottom panel). Horizontal lines marking
691 statistically significant thresholds were included at 0.05 (dashed orange line) and 0.01 FDR
692 levels (dashed red line).

693

694 **Supplementary Fig. 8. Passive smoking influence in the genomic landscape of lung**
695 **adenocarcinomas from never smokers. a-d,** Differences in base substitution burden and
696 telomere length ratio between tumor and normal samples using univariate comparisons (**a** and **b**)
697 as well as multivariable linear regressions considering clinical and epidemiological covariates (**c**
698 and **d**), including age, sex, genetic ancestry, and tumor purity.

699

700 **Supplementary Fig. 9. Assessment of the resolution to assign signature SBS4 in cases exposed**
701 **to secondhand smoke.** COSMICv3.4 mutational signatures obtained for the whole cohort of
702 LCINS patients were assigned to 247 tumors from SBS4-negative patients exposed to secondhand
703 smoke after the synthetic injection of SBS4 at different levels (1%, 2%, 5%, 10%, 15%, and 20%;

704 100 simulations per injection level). **a**, Boxplots showing the distribution of the proportion of
705 samples where SBS4 was detected for different simulations within a synthetic injection level. **b**,
706 Detail of the SBS4 contributions observed in the synthetic samples, where each row corresponds
707 to a sample, each column to a simulation corresponding to a specific injection level, and the color
708 represents the contribution level of SBS4 to the overall mutational profile.

709

710 **Supplementary Fig. 10. Split of samples in pollution exposure groups according to their levels**
711 **of estimated population weighted PM_{2.5}.** Limit used for the two-group classification (high-low;
712 20 µg/m³; 440 high exposed samples vs. 413 low exposed samples).

713 **ONLINE METHODS**

714 **Ethics declarations**

715 Since the National Cancer Institute only received de-identified samples and data from
716 collaborating centers, had no direct contact or interaction with the study participants, and did not
717 use or generate identifiable private information, *Sherlock-Lung* has been determined to constitute
718 “Not Human Subject Research (NHSR)” based on the federal Common Rule (45 CFR 46;
719 <https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/ECFR?page=browse>).

720

721 **Collection of lung cancer samples**

722 Fresh-frozen tumor tissue and matched germline DNA from whole-blood samples or fresh-frozen
723 normal lung tissue sampled approximately 3 cm from the tumor were obtained from 871 treatment-
724 naïve lung cancer patients from 14 institutions/centers across the world after sample and
725 sequencing quality control. Among these patients, 114 were from the Institut universitaire de
726 cardiologie et de pneumologie de Québec – Université Laval (IUCPQ-UL), Quebec, Canada; 54
727 from Université Côte d’Azur, Nice, France; 25 from the EAGLE study from Italy⁵³; 22 from Yale
728 University, New Haven, Connecticut, USA; 11 from H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center & Research
729 Institute, Tampa, Florida, USA; 27 from Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA;
730 113 from Hong-Kong; 192 from the International Agency for Research on Cancer, Lyon, France;
731 13 from Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota, USA; 13 from Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer
732 Center, Buffalo, New York, USA; 185 from Taipei; 68 from Toronto, Canada; 5 from Valencia,
733 Spain; and 29 from previously published and publicly available whole-genome sequenced (WGS)
734 lung cancers from never smokers (**Supplementary Table 13**). For these 871 individuals, the mean
735 age at lung cancer diagnosis was 64.1 years (range: 21–92) and 79.0% of patients were female.

736
737 Similar to our prior publication¹⁹, we utilized seven rigorous criteria for sample inclusion: (i)
738 *Sequencing coverage*. We maintained a minimum average sequencing coverage of >40x for tumor
739 samples and >25x for normal samples; (ii) *Contamination and Relatedness*. Cross-sample
740 contamination was limited to <1% by Conpair⁵⁴, and detected relatedness was maintained <0.2 by
741 Somalier⁵⁵; (iii) *Copy number analysis*. Subjects with abnormal copy number profiles in normal
742 samples were excluded, as determined by Battenberg⁵⁶; (iv) *Mutational signatures*. Tumor samples
743 exhibiting mutational signatures SBS7 (associated with ultraviolet light exposure⁴¹) and SBS31
744 (associated with platinum chemotherapy⁵⁷) were removed from the analysis. (v) *Tumor type*
745 *validation*. Tumor samples reported as non-lung cancer or not originating from primary lung
746 cancer were excluded. (vi) *WGS quality control*. Tumor samples with a total genomic alteration
747 count of <100 or <1000 along with NRPC (the number of reads per clonal copy)⁵⁸ <10 were
748 excluded as low-quality samples. (vii) *Multiple-region sequencing*. In rare cases where multiple
749 regions of a tumor were sequenced, only one high-purity tumor sample was included to avoid
750 redundancy. These stringent criteria were applied consistently to ensure the robustness and
751 reliability of the data collected for the Sherlock-*Lung* study.

752
753 All 871 matched tumor and germline samples underwent DNA WGS. Except for the 29 previously
754 generated WGS cancers^{18,59-62}, sequencing was performed the same for all other samples.
755 Specifically, frozen tumor tissue with matched blood or normal tissue samples were immediately
756 put into 1ml of 0.2 mg/ml Proteinase K (Qiagen) in DNA lysis buffer (10 mM Tris-Cl (pH 8.0),
757 0.1 M EDTA (pH 8.0), and 0.5% (w/v) SDS) for 24 hours at 56°C with shaking at 850 rpm in
758 Thermomixer R (Eppendorf) until the tissue was completely lysed. Genomic DNA was extracted

759 from fresh frozen tissue using the QIAmp DNA Mini Kit (Qiagen) according to the manufacturer's
760 instructions. Each sample was eluted in 200 µl AE buffer and DNA concentration was determined
761 by Nanodrop spectrophotometer. All DNA samples were aliquoted and stored at -80°C until use.
762
763 DNA was quantified using the QuantiFluor® dsDNA System (Promega Corporation, USA). DNA
764 was normalized to 25ng/ul and underwent fragment analysis via AmpFLSTR™ Identifiler™ PCR
765 Amplification Kit (ThermoFisher Scientific, USA). DNA samples are required to meet minimum
766 mass and concentration thresholds for each assay, as well as show no evidence of contamination
767 or profile discordance in the Identifiler assay. Samples meeting these requirements were aliquoted
768 at the appropriate mass needed for downstream assay processing.

769

770 **Whole-genome sequencing (WGS)**

771 The resulting post-capture enriched multiplexed sequencing libraries were used in cluster
772 formation on an Illumina cBOT (Illumina, San Diego, CA, USA). Paired-end sequencing was
773 performed by the Broad Institute (<https://www.broadinstitute.org>) using the Illumina HiSeq X
774 system following Illumina-provided protocols for 2x151bp paired-end sequencing. FASTQ files
775 were generated after Illumina base-calling. Next, paired FASTQ were converted to unmapped
776 BAM using the GATK pipeline (<https://github.com/gatk-workflows/seq-format-conversion>). The
777 unmapped BAM files were then processed using GATK on the cloud-based platform TERRA
778 workspaces (<https://app.terra.bio>). The sequence data were aligned to the human reference genome
779 GRCh38, and the aligned BAM files were transferred to the NIH HPC system (<https://hpc.nih.gov>)
780 for downstream analyses.

781

782 For the public WGS data, the preprocessed aligned BAM/CRAM files (including unmapped reads)
783 were first converted back to FASTQ files using Bazam (v.1.0.1)⁶³ to retain the sequencing lane
784 and read group information and then processed using the same pipeline as for the Sherlock-*Lung*
785 WGS dataset.

786

787 **Somatic variant calling**

788 The somatic variant calling was performed using our established bioinformatics pipeline as
789 previously described¹⁹. The analysis-ready BAM files were processed using four different
790 mutation calling algorithms for tumor-normal paired analysis, including MuTect⁶⁴, MuTect2,
791 Strelka v.2.9.10⁶⁵ and TNscope⁶⁶, implemented in the Sentieon's genomics software (v202010.01).
792 We employed an ensemble method to merge the results from these different callers followed by
793 additional filtering to reduce false positive calling. The final mutation calls for both single base
794 substitutions (SBSs) and small insertions and deletions (indels) were required to meet the
795 following criteria: (i) read depth >12 in tumor samples and >6 in normal samples; (ii) variant allele
796 frequency <0.02 in the matched-normal sample; and (iii) overall allele frequency (AF) <0.001 in
797 multiple genetics databases including 1000 Genomes (phase 3 v5), gnomAD exomes (v2.1.1), and
798 gnomAD genomes (v3.0)⁶⁷. The filtered variants were annotated with Oncotator v.1.9.1.0⁶⁸ and
799 ANNOVAR v.2019-10-2495. For the indel calling, only variants called by at least three algorithms
800 were kept (MuTect2, Strelka, and TNscope). The UPS-indel⁶⁹ algorithm was used to compare and
801 combine different indel call sets. Similar filtering steps as those used for SNV calling were also
802 applied to indel calling. The final set of indels were left-normalized (left-aligned and trimmed) for
803 the downstream analysis.

804

805 **Ancestry estimation**

806 To confirm the genetic ancestry of the patients, we calculated the principal component (PC)
807 coordinates based on WGS data. This analysis was performed using the VerifyBamID (v.2.0.1)
808 algorithm⁷⁰ in conjunction with samples from the 1000 Genomes Project²¹.

809

810 **Driver gene discovery**

811 The IntOGen pipeline v2020.02.0123⁷¹, which combines seven state-of-the-art computational
812 methods, was employed to detect signals of positive selection in the mutational pattern of driver
813 genes across the cohort. The 65 genes identified as drivers with combination q-value<0.1 in the
814 cohort were classified according to their mode of action in tumorigenesis (*i.e.*, tumor suppressor
815 genes or oncogenes) based on the relationship between the excess of observed nonsynonymous
816 and truncating mutations computed by dNdScv⁷² and their annotations in the Cancer Gene
817 Census⁷³. Genes with conflicting computed and annotated modes of action were labeled
818 ambiguous. To identify potential driver mutations across the 65 cancer driver genes annotated in
819 the Cancer Gene Census, we selected mutations that fulfilled any of the following criteria: (*i*)
820 truncating mutations in genes annotated as tumor suppressors; (*ii*) recurrent missense mutations
821 (seen in at least three independent tumors); (*iii*) mutations classified as “Likely Drivers” by
822 boostDM (score >0.5)⁷⁴; (*iv*) mutations classified as “Oncogenic” or “Likely Oncogenic” by
823 OncoKB⁷⁵; (*v*) mutations classified as drivers in the TCGA MC3 drivers study⁷⁶; (*vi*) missense
824 mutations classified as “Likely Pathogenic” by AlphaMissense⁷⁷ in genes annotated as tumor
825 suppressors.

826

827 **Estimation of tumor purity, ploidy, and allele-specific copy numbers**

828 We used the Battenberg algorithm (v2.2.9)⁵⁶ to conduct analyses of somatic copy number
829 alterations (SCNA). Initial SCNA profiles were generated, followed by an assessment of the
830 clonality of each segment, purity, and ploidy. Any SCNA profile determined to have low-quality
831 after manual inspection underwent a refitting process using the Battenberg algorithm. This process
832 required new tumor purity and ploidy inputs, either estimated by ccube (v1.0)⁷⁸ or recalculated
833 from local copy number status. The Battenberg refitting procedures were iteratively executed until
834 the final SCNA profile was established and met the criteria of manual validation check. GISTIC
835 (v2.0)⁷⁹ was used to identify the recurrent copy number alterations at the gene level based on the
836 major clonal copy number for each segmentation.

837

838 **Structural variants calling**

839 Meerkat (v.0.189)⁸⁰ and Manta (v.1.6.0)⁸¹ were applied with recommended filtering for identifying
840 structural variants (SVs), and the union set of these two callers was merged as the final SV dataset.

841

842 **Telomere length**

843 We estimated telomere length in kb using TelSeq (v.0.0.2)⁸² for all 871 LCINS samples as well as
844 mouse data from a recent experimental study, including control and PM_{2.5}-exposed mice⁴⁸. We
845 used seven as the threshold for the number of TTAGGG/CCCTAA repeats in a read for the read
846 to be considered telomeric. The TelSeq calculation was done individually for each read group
847 within a sample, and the total number of reads in each read group was used as weight to calculate
848 the average TL for each sample.

849

850

851 **Mutational signature analysis**

852 ***Extraction of de novo mutational signatures***

853 *De novo* mutational signatures for single base substitutions (SBS), doublet base substitutions
854 (DBS), and indels (ID) were extracted using SigProfilerExtractor²² v1.1.21 with default parameters
855 and normalization set to 10,000 mutations, in order to limit the effect of hypermutators in the
856 signature extraction process. For SBSs, *de novo* signatures were extracted using the SBS-288 and
857 SBS-1536 high-definition mutational contexts, which, beyond the common SBS-96 trinucleotide
858 context using the mutated base and the 5' and 3' adjacent nucleotides^{83,84}, also consider the
859 transcriptional strand bias and the pentanucleotide context (two 5' and 3' adjacent nucleotides),
860 respectively⁸⁴. Given the high similarity obtained for both mutational contexts as well as the
861 additional separation of mutational processes obtained by the SBS-288 mutational context (11 *de*
862 *novo* signatures using SBS-288 vs. 10 *de novo* signatures using SBS-1536; average cosine
863 similarity 0.97), the results using the SBS-288 context were used for further analysis
864 (**Supplementary Table 2**). Previously established mutational contexts DBS-78 and ID-83^{15,84}
865 were used for the extraction of DBS and ID signatures (**Supplementary Tables 3-4**). Copy number
866 signatures were extracted *de novo* following an updated context definition benefitting from deep
867 WGS data (CN-68) (**Supplementary Table 5**), which allowed to further characterize CN segments
868 below 100kbp in length (in contrast to current COSMICv3.4 reference signatures using the CN-48
869 context, which are based on SNP6 microarray data and therefore without the resolution to
870 characterize short CN segments)²⁶. SV signatures were extracted using a similarly refined context,
871 with an in-depth characterization of short SV alterations below 1kbp (SV-38 context;
872 **Supplementary Table 6**).

873

874 ***Decomposition and assignment of mutational signatures to individual tumors***

875 After *de novo* extraction was completed, SigProfilerAssignment⁸⁵ v0.1.1 was used to decompose
876 the *de novo* extracted SBS, ID, DBS, CN, and SV mutational signatures into COSMICv3.4²³
877 reference signatures based on the GRCh38 reference genome (**Supplementary Tables 7-11**) as
878 well as to assign signatures to individual samples obtaining signature activities, based on the
879 forward stagewise algorithm for sparse regression and nonnegative least squares for numerical
880 optimization. Hierarchical clustering of the activities of mutational signatures was performed using
881 Euclidean distance and Ward's minimum-variance clustering. For the SBS signatures, the 11 *de*
882 *nov*o extracted signatures were originally decomposed into 15 COSMICv3.4 reference signatures.
883 However, two of the COSMICv3.4 signatures, enriched in C>T substitutions, were removed from
884 the decomposition to avoid misassignment, namely SBS23 and SBS32, as the patterns of strong
885 transcriptional strand bias generated by these two signatures¹⁵ were not observed in our LCINS
886 dataset, and their individual contribution to the decomposition of *de novo* signatures was minimal.
887 On the other hand, five additional COSMICv3.4 SBS signatures were included for the assignment
888 to individual samples, including SBS3, SBS21, SBS33, SBS44, and SBS92. SBS3 and SBS92
889 were included considering their previously reported strong associations with indel signatures ID6
890 and ID3, both of which were observed in our indel signature analysis after decomposition to
891 COSMICv3.4 ID signatures^{15,22,43}. Thus, for those tumors harboring ID6 ($n=41$), we allowed
892 assigning SBS3 (assigned only to 14 of the cases), whereas for those tumors with presence of ID3
893 ($n=300$), SBS92 was allowed in the assignment (assigned to 6 tumors). Suspected homologous
894 recombination deficient (HRD) tumors exhibiting signatures SBS3 and ID6 were tested using two
895 independent computational algorithms, CHORD³⁰ and HRDetect³¹. Lastly, two samples showing
896 a low cosine similarity for the mutational profile reconstruction (NSLC-0477 and NSLC-0637)

897 showed high similarities in their mutational profiles with signatures linked to microsatellite
898 instability (MSI) and COSMIC SBS33, respectively. Considering this, we allowed assignment of
899 SBS33 and all MSI-associated signatures (SBS6, SBS14, SBS15, SBS20, SBS21, SBS26, and
900 SBS44), respectively, in each of this specific samples, with SBS21 and SBS44 being finally
901 assigned to sample NSLC-0477. The MSI phenotype of this sample was independently confirmed
902 by MMRDetect²⁵, and further evidence was collected by exploring the indel landscape, with
903 10,474 alterations, 29-fold more than the average number of indels in lung adenocarcinomas, and
904 a strong enrichment of signature ID2, consistent with previously reported MSI cases¹⁵. The
905 decomposed COSMICv3.4 SBS signatures obtained in the whole LCINS cohort were used for the
906 assignment of signatures to the mouse data obtained from a recent publication⁴⁸, after their
907 renormalization to the mouse genome (mm10 build).

908

909 *Assignment of mutational signatures to individual somatic mutations*

910 Signatures were probabilistically assigned to individual somatic mutations using
911 SigProfilerAssignment based on Bayes' rule and the specific mutational context for the mutation,
912 as previously described⁸⁵. Briefly, to calculate the probability of a specific mutational signature
913 being responsible for a mutation in a given mutational context and in a particular sample, we
914 multiplied the general probability of the signature causing mutations in a specific mutational
915 context (obtained from the mutational signature profile) by the activity of the signature in the
916 sample (obtained from the signature activities), and then normalized this value dividing by the
917 total number of mutations corresponding to the specific mutational context (obtained from the
918 reconstructed mutational profile of the sample).

919

920 **Assessment of statistical power to assign mutational signatures in passive smokers**

921 To assess the statistical power to assign SBS4 in passive smokers, we performed simulations where
922 SBS4 was injected at different average levels (1%, 2%, 5%, 10%, 15%, and 20% of total mutations
923 in each sample; 100 simulations for each injection level) in all 247 tumors from passive smoker
924 patients lacking SBS4. For each sample, prior to the injection of SBS4, the number of mutations
925 to be injected into the sample was randomly subtracted from the sample while ensuring all
926 mutation counts were still non-negative. Next, SBS4 mutations were injected at the current level
927 being tested. After, 10% Gaussian noise was added to the resulting mutational profile.
928 Subsequently, mutational signatures were re-assigned in each sample using
929 SigProfilerAssignment⁸⁵ as well as the 18 SBS COSMICv3.4 reference signatures considered for
930 the original data using default parameters except for a relaxed addition penalty
931 (`nls_add_penalty=0.01`) in order to increase the sensitivity of the signature assignment analysis.

932

933 **Evaluating the topography of mutational signatures**

934 Topography analyses specific for the 56 SBS4 positive samples as well as 68 lung cancer
935 samples from smoker patients from the Pan-Cancer Analysis of Whole Genomes (PCAWG)
936 cohort⁴⁵ were carried out with SigProfilerTopography⁸⁶, which evaluates the effect of DNA
937 replication, DNA transcription, chromatin organization, histone modifications, and transcription
938 factor binding on the activities of different mutational processes. SigProfilerTopography
939 examines the distribution of topographical features and narrows down the analyses by calculating
940 the average signal of each feature in the close vicinity of the somatic mutations. Next, all the
941 results of somatic mutations are statistically compared with those from simulated mutations that

942 account for the patterns of all operative mutational signatures within an examined sample to
943 elucidate statistically significant differences.

944 **Estimating air pollution**

945 Annual country-level population-weighted mean concentration estimates of the environmental
946 particulate matter measuring $\leq 2.5 \mu\text{m}$ ($\text{PM}_{2.5}$) ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) from 1998–2021 were obtained from a
947 hybrid model combining measurements of aerosol optical depth from different satellites (MODIS,
948 VIIRS, MISR, and SeaWiFS) with chemical transport modeling (GEOS-Chem) and ground-based
949 photometer (AERONET) observations⁴⁹, and downloaded from
950 <https://sites.wustl.edu/acag/datasets/surface-pm2-5/>. Additional state-level and provincial-level
951 yearly mean estimates were also used for the patients from the United States and Canada,
952 respectively. An individual estimate of the $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ exposure for each patient was calculated by
953 averaging the annual mean concentration values from the year of lung cancer diagnosis (calculated
954 by adding the age of diagnosis to the year of birth) until the earliest year with data available, i.e.,
955 1998. For two patients diagnosed before 1998, as well as for 28 patients whose age of diagnosis
956 or year of birth was unknown, the $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ estimates for 1998 were considered. $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ estimates were
957 not available for 18 cases for which the country of residence was unknown. For the dichotomized
958 analysis between high and low polluted regions according to the levels of individual estimates of
959 the $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ exposure, a threshold of $20 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ was used, considering the distribution of $\text{PM}_{2.5}$
960 estimates across the whole cohort (**Supplementary Fig. 10**).

961

962 **Association of geographical regions, histologies, *EGFR* driver mutation status, air**
963 **pollution, and passive smoking with genomic features**

964 In order to quantify the influence of passive smoking and air pollution on the number of total
965 somatic mutations and the ratio of telomere length between tumor and normal samples, we fitted
966 a series of multivariable linear models, including adjustments for several confounding covariates,
967 namely age, sex, genetic ancestry, histology, and tumor purity. The total number of mutations
968 (\log_{10} scale) or telomere length ratio (\log_2 scale) served as dependent variables for the linear
969 regressions, respectively, whereas passive smoking/air pollution groups and covariates were used
970 as independent variables. In addition, for assessing the dose-response effect of air pollution, we
971 fitted multivariable linear regressions using the individual $PM_{2.5}$ estimates per sample, considering
972 similar adjustments as in the analysis by pollution groups. Genetic ancestry was primarily
973 considered for the adjustments based on the super-samples from the 1,000 Genomes Project²¹,
974 classifying the samples into EUR, EAS, or Other genetic ancestry (**Fig. 1b**). Additionally, we also
975 considered the genetic ancestry principal components derived from the WGS data for the
976 adjustments, with no differences in the associations compared to the ancestry label-based
977 adjustments (**Supplementary Table 12**)

978

979 Similarly, the presence of specific mutational signatures or mutations in specific driver genes was
980 modeled based on the influence of geographical region/histology/*EGFR* mutation status/passive
981 smoking/air pollution and the additional covariates previously considered, including age, sex,
982 genetic ancestry, tumor purity, and histology (if applicable), by using multivariable logistic
983 regressions. For this purpose, signature activities were dichotomized into the presence or absence
984 of a particular signature, and these binary activities served as dependent variables for the logistic
985 regressions, with geographical regions, *EGFR* mutation status, histology subtypes, passive
986 smoking groups, or individual $PM_{2.5}$ estimates, respectively, along with covariates, being used as

987 independent variables. For signatures present in more than 50% of the cases, dichotomization was
988 done above and below the median of assigned mutations to the overall cohort of LCINS patients
989 ($n=871$). Signatures SBS21, SBS33, and SBS44 were excluded from the analysis as they were only
990 found in individual tumors. For the enrichment analysis of mutations in driver genes, the presence
991 or absence of mutations in specific genes was used as the dependent variable for the logistic
992 regressions. Only driver genes having driver mutations in more than 2% of cases of the assessed
993 cohort were considered.

994
995 In addition, to assess the dose-response effect of air pollution, we fitted multivariable linear
996 regressions using the individual $PM_{2.5}$ estimates per sample, considering similar corrections for
997 covariates and the tumor mutational burden (\log_{10} scale), the telomere length ratio (\log_2 scale), or
998 the number of mutations contributed by a given signature (\log_{10} scale) as the dependent variable.
999 Only samples where a particular mutational signature was present were considered for the
1000 multivariable linear regressions. Univariate linear regressions for the average tumor mutational
1001 burden (\log_{10} scale), the telomere length ratio (\log_2 scale), or the number of mutations contributed
1002 by a given signature (\log_{10} scale) vs. the average $PM_{2.5}$ per geographical region were used for
1003 visualization.

1004
1005 In all cases, p-values were corrected according to the different signatures from the same variant
1006 type or driver genes considered by using a false-discovery rate correction based on the Benjamini-
1007 Hochberg method⁸⁷ and reported as FDR. $FDR < 0.05$ were considered statistically significant.

1008

1009 **Statistical analysis**

1010 All statistical analyses and graphic displays were performed using the R software v4.2.3
1011 (<https://www.r-project.org/>). Two-sided Fisher's exact tests were used for the enrichment analyses
1012 of categorical variables. For the comparison of numerical variables across groups, we used non-
1013 parametric Mann-Whitney (Wilcoxon rank sum) tests. P-values<0.05 were considered statistically
1014 significant. If multiple hypothesis testing was required, we used a false-discovery rate correction
1015 based on the Benjamini-Hochberg method⁸⁷ and reported FDR. FDR<0.05 were considered
1016 statistically significant.

1017

1018 **DATA AVAILABILITY**

1019 Normal and tumor-paired CRAM files for the 871 WGS subjects of the Sherlock-*Lung* study have
1020 been deposited in dbGaP under the accession numbers phs001697.v1.p1. Detailed access
1021 information for the publicly available datasets can be found in **Supplementary Table 13**.

1022

1023 **CODE AVAILABILITY**

1024 The WGS bioinformatics pipelines can be accessed at <https://github.com/xtmgah/Sherlock-Lung>.
1025 Battenberg SCNA calling algorithm can be found at <https://github.com/Wedge-lab/battenberg>.

1026

1027 **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

1028 This work was supported by the Intramural Research Program of the National Cancer Institute, US
1029 National Institute of Health (NIH) (project ZIACP101231 to MTL); by the NIH grants
1030 R01ES032547-01, R01CA269919-01, and 1U01CA290479-01 to LBA as well as by LBA's
1031 Packard Fellowship for Science and Engineering. The research performed in LBA's lab was also
1032 supported by UC San Diego Sanford Stem Cell Institute. The funders had no roles in study design,
1033 data collection and analysis, decision to publish, or preparation of the manuscript. The
1034 computational analyses reported in this manuscript have utilized the Triton Shared Computing
1035 Cluster at the San Diego Supercomputer Center of UC San Diego. We thank the study participants,
1036 Dr. Peter Kraft for his reviewing of the manuscript and insightful comments, and the staff at Westat
1037 Inc. for their valuable assistance in collecting samples and corresponding clinical data. This work
1038 utilized the computational resources of the NIH high-performance computational capabilities
1039 Biowulf cluster (<http://hpc.nih.gov>).

1040

1041 **COMPETING INTERESTS**

1042 LBA is a co-founder, CSO, scientific advisory member, and consultant for io9, has equity and
1043 receives income. The terms of this arrangement have been reviewed and approved by the
1044 University of California, San Diego in accordance with its conflict of interest policies. LBA is also
1045 a compensated member of the scientific advisory board of Inocras. LBA's spouse is an employee
1046 of Biotheranostics. ENB and LBA declare U.S. provisional patent application filed with UCSD
1047 with serial numbers 63/269,033. LBA also declares U.S. provisional applications filed with UCSD
1048 with serial numbers: 63/366,392; 63/289,601; 63/483,237; 63/412,835; and 63/492,348. LBA is
1049 also an inventor of a US Patent 10,776,718 for source identification by non-negative matrix

1050 factorization. SRY has received consulting fees from AstraZeneca, Sanofi, Amgen, AbbVie, and
1051 Sanofi; received speaking fees from AstraZeneca, Medscape, PRIME Education, and Medical
1052 Learning Institute. All other authors declare that they have no competing interests.

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1291

Fig. 1

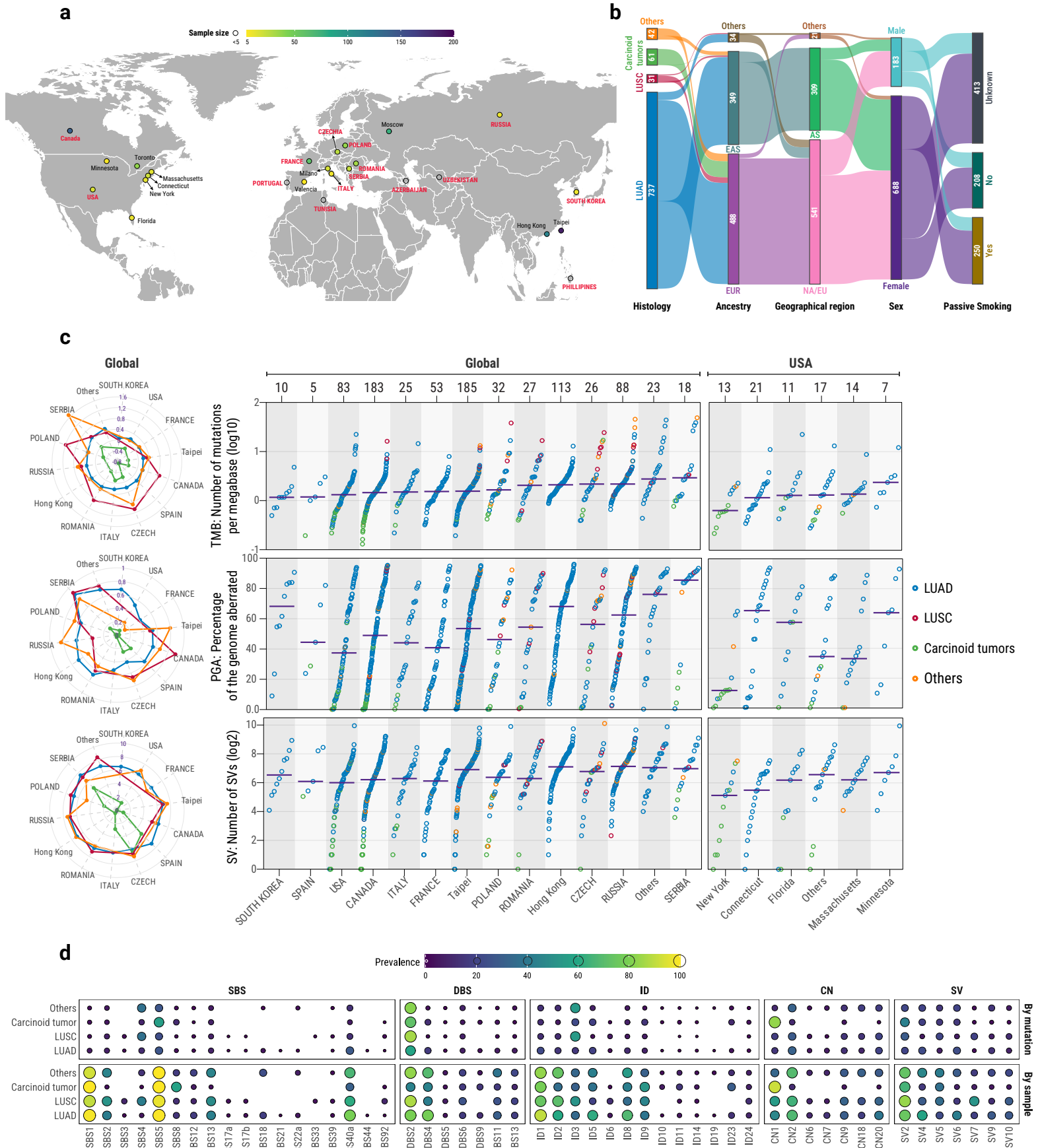


Fig. 2

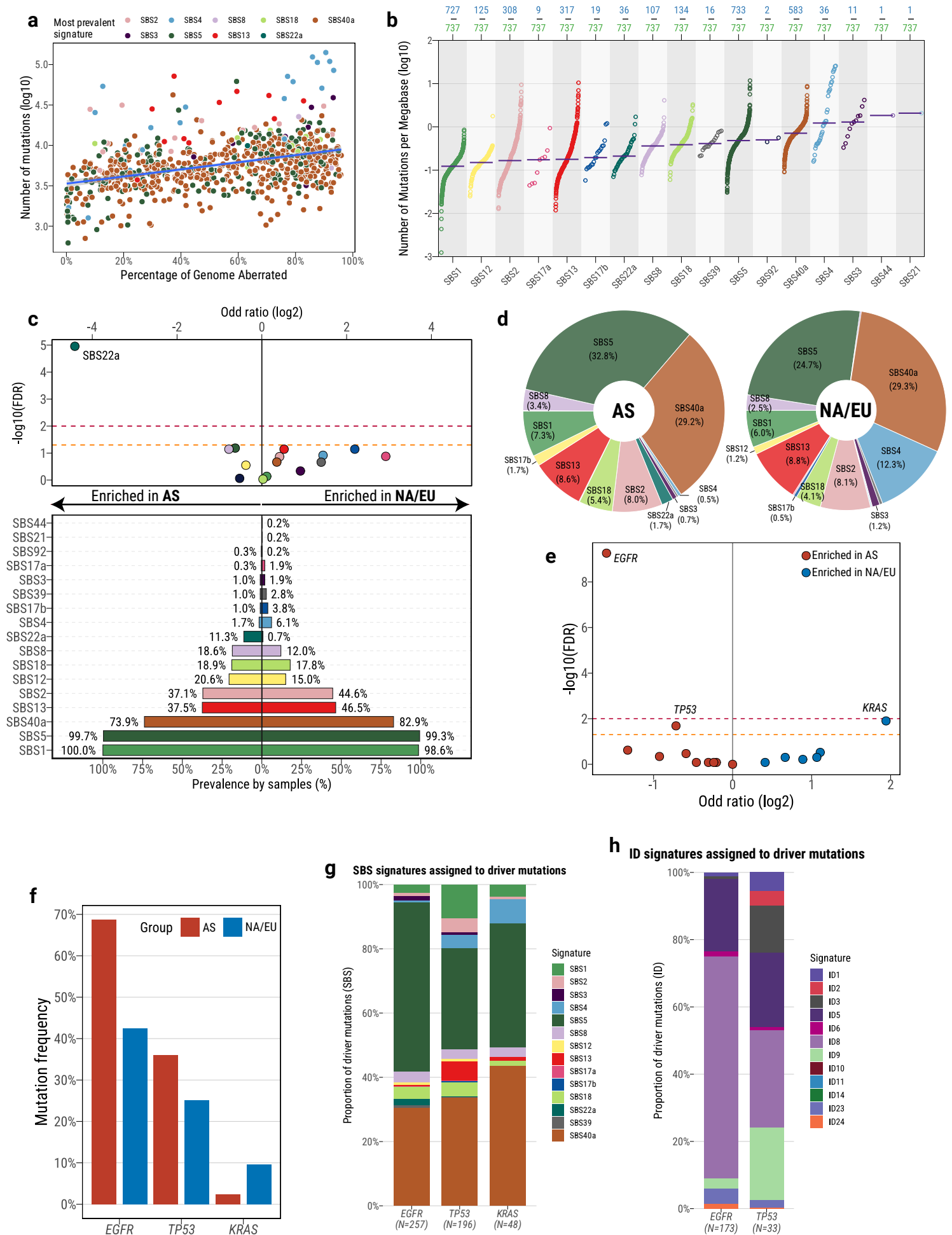


Fig. 3

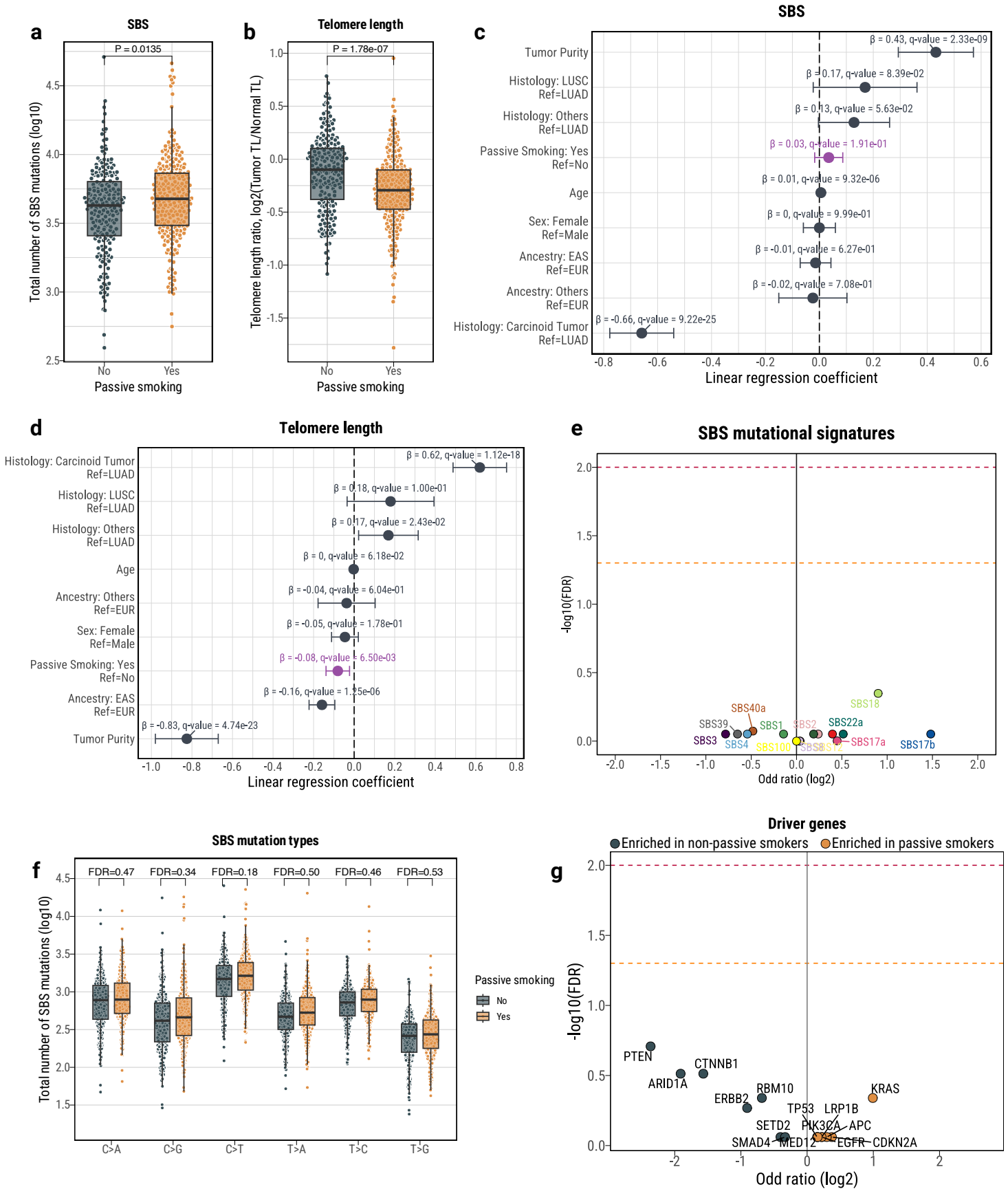


Fig. 4

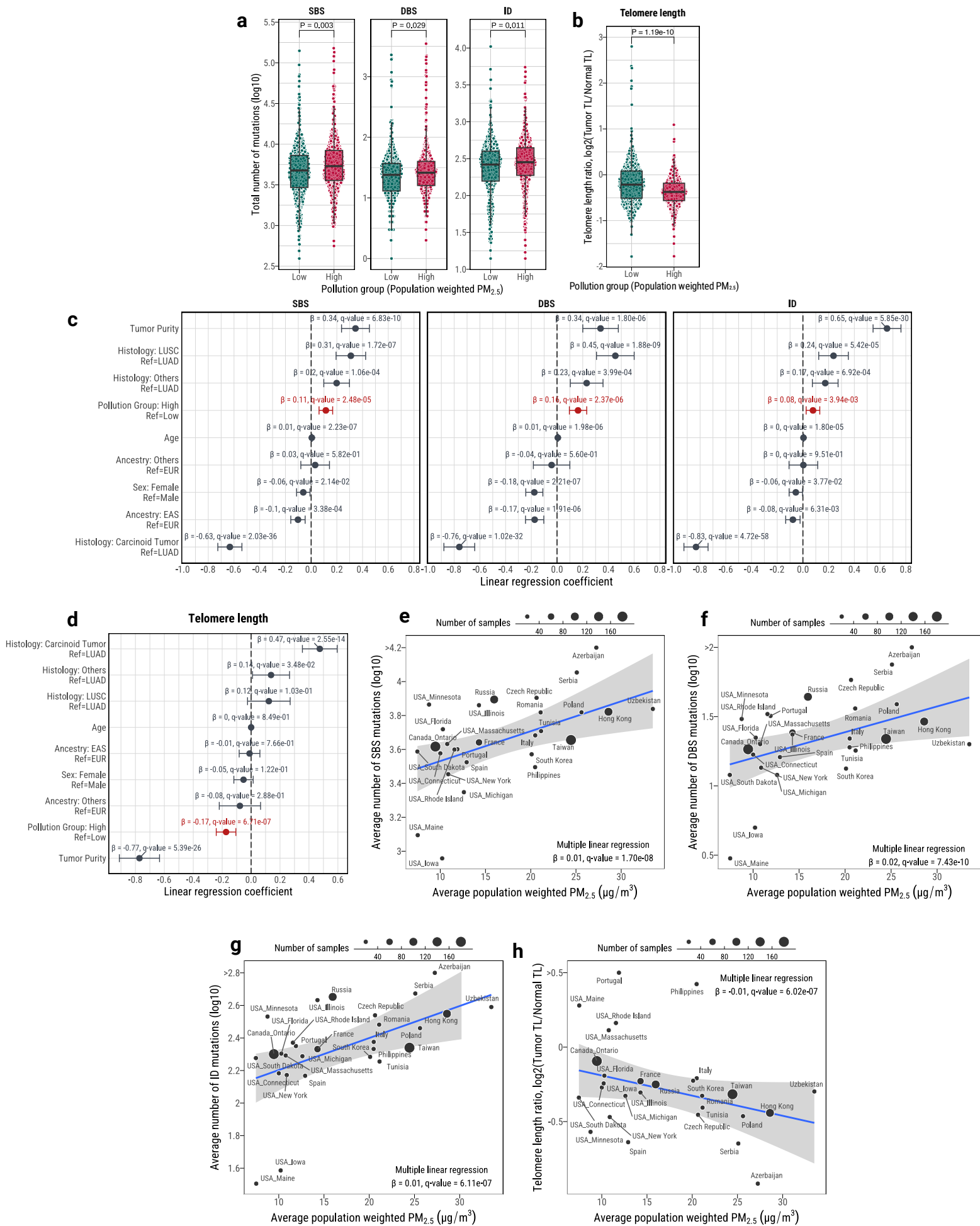


Fig. 5

