Published in final edited form as:

Cancer Res. 2011 November 15; 71(22): 7048-7060. doi:10.1158/0008-5472.CAN-11-0882.

# Increased skin papilloma formation in mice lacking glutathione transferase GSTP

Colin J Henderson<sup>||</sup>, Kenneth J Ritchie<sup>||</sup>, Aileen McLaren, Probir Chakravarty<sup>\*</sup>, and C. Roland Wolf

Cancer Research UK Molecular Pharmacology Unit, Medical Research Institute, Level 5, Ninewells Hospital & Medical School, Dundee, DD1 9SY, UK

<sup>\*</sup>Bioinformatics & Biostatistics Group, Cancer Research UK London Research Institute, 44, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, WC2A 3PX, UK

### Abstract

The glutathione transferase GSTP is overexpressed in many human cancers and chemotherapyresistant cancer cells, where there is evidence that GSTP may have additional functions beyond its known catalytic role. Based on evidence that Gstp-deficient mice have a comparatively higher susceptibility to skin carcinogenesis, we investigated whether this phenotype reflected an alteration in carcinogen detoxification or not. For this study,  $Gstp^{-/-}$  mice were interbred with Tg.AC mice which harbor initiating H-ras mutations in the skin. Gstp<sup>-/-</sup>/Tg.AC mice exposed to the pro-inflammatory phorbol ester TPA exhibited higher tumor incidence and multiplicity with a significant thickening of skin after treatment illustrating hyperproliferative growth. Unexpectedly, we observed no difference in cellular proliferation or apoptosis or in markers of oxidative stress, although higher levels of the inflammatory marker nitrotyrosine were found in Gstp<sup>-/-</sup>/Tg.AC mice. Instead, gene set enrichment analysis of microarray expression data obtained from skin revealed a more pro-apoptotic and pro-inflammatory environment shortly after TPA treatment. Within 4 weeks of TPA treatment, Gstp<sup>-/-</sup>/Tg.AC mice displayed altered lipid/sterol metabolism and Wnt signalling along with aberrant processes of cytoskeletal control and epidermal morphogenesis at both early and late times. In extending the evidence that GSTP has a vital role in normal homeostatic control and cancer prevention, they also strongly encourage the emerging concept that GSTP is a major determinant of the pro-inflammatory character of the tumor microenvironment.

This study demonstrates that the glutathione transferase GstP plays a major role in carcinogenesis distinct from its role in detoxification, and provides evidence that the enzyme is a key determinant of the pro-inflammatory tumour environment.

### **Keywords**

skin; cancer; promotion; glutathione; mouse

# Introduction

Glutathione S-transferases (GST) are a multi-gene family of dimeric enzymes playing an important role in chemical detoxification due to their capacity to catalyse the addition of reduced glutathione to reactive electrophiles [1]. GSTP has received particular attention

Correspondence should be addressed to C.R.W (c.r.wolf@dundee.ac.uk).  $\|$ Joint first authors

because of its association with carcinogenesis, drug resistance and chemical toxicity [2-4]. In order to define the *in vivo* functions of this protein, we have generated *Gstp*-null mice; these mice develop normally, are fertile and show no obvious abnormalities [5]. When Gstpnull mice are submitted to a two-stage skin tumorigenesis protocol, involving topical application of the polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon (PAH) and tumour initiator 7,12dimethylbenz[a]anthracene (DMBA), followed by the tumour promoting agent 12-0tetradecanoylphorbol-13-acetate (TPA), there was a significant increase in the number of papillomas in null animals, demonstrating that GSTP is an important determinant in PAHinduced skin cancer susceptibility [5]. Similarly, increased adenoma formation in the lungs of *Gstp*-null mice was observed following the administration of benzo[a]pyrene, 3methylcholanthene (3-MC) and urethane. In these studies, no increase in pulmonary DNA adducts was found in 3-MC treated tissue from Gstp-null mice relative to wild-type controls, suggesting GSTP may be acting in a manner distinct from its role as a detoxification enzyme [6]. In this regard, we have also recently reported a marked increase in colon adenoma formation, when APC<sup>Min</sup> mice are on a GstP null background [7]. GSTP has now been linked to a wide range of cellular functions, including modulation of JNK and TRAF2 signalling [8, 9], glutathionylation [10] and in inflammation [7]. Also, mice nulled at the Gstp locus exhibit significant changes in mRNA expression profiles in liver, lung and colon [6, 7], and the fact that the GSTP gene becomes hypermethylated, and as a consequence inactivated, in certain human cancers all point to novel functions of this protein [11, 12].

To further explore the role(s) of Gstp in carcinogenesis, we have crossed the *Gstp*-null mouse with the Tg.AC line which is predisposed to the development of skin cancer. The Tg.AC mouse contains the oncogenic *v*-*Ha*-*ras* transgene (mutated at codons 12 and 59) [13] which when treated topically with variety of tumour promoters, develop multiple papillomas [14]. Since the tumorigenic response observed in Tg.AC mice occurs independently of the initiation step, the Tg.AC mouse has been characterised as a 'genetically initiated' model for mouse skin tumorigenesis, allowing us to determine whether GSTP is involved in the initiation or promotion steps, or both.

### Methods

#### Reagents

All chemicals were of the highest grade available and were purchased from Sigma (Poole, UK) or Fisher Scientific Ltd. (Loughborough, UK).

### Animals

All experiments were undertaken in accordance with the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986 and approved by the Animal Ethics Committees of the University of Dundee and Cancer Research UK. *Gstp1/p2* null and wild-type mouse lines, on a  $129 \times MF1$ background, were generated and maintained by random inter-crossing as previously reported [5]. Tg.AC mice, on a FVB background, were purchased from Taconic, and were crossed with *Gstp*-null or *Gstp*-wt mice to generate *Gstp*<sup>+/+</sup>/Tg.AC or *Gstp*<sup>-/-</sup>/Tg.AC mice.

### Genotyping

*Gstp* genotyping was carried out as previously described [7]. Tg.AC genotype was determined by Southern blotting (Taconic); only those mice with the Tg.AC responder genotype were used.

### Chemical carcinogenesis protocol

TPA (6  $\mu$ g) was dissolved in acetone (200  $\mu$ l) and applied twice weekly to the shaved backs of 6- to 9-week-old mice. Matched cohorts of mice were treated with acetone alone, or left

untreated. All mice were monitored for papilloma growth twice weekly. The date of first papilloma incidence was recorded; papillomas that grew to 1mm were counted. All animals entered into the study were included in the final analysis.

### Histology

Tumors were fixed in PBS-formalin (10%), transferred to 80% ethanol and processed to wax for sectioning. Tissue sections were stained with haematoxylin and eosin (H & E) and examined by a pathologist blinded to sample identity.

### **Microarray Analysis**

Mice were sacrificed by a rising concentration of  $CO_2$  and skin immediately removed for preparation of RNA using TRIzol (Invitrogen) and an RNeasy Mini Kit (Qiagen). RNA was pooled from two animals of each genotype, and subsequent hybridisations were carried out in triplicate. A<sub>260/280</sub> ratio of total RNA was typically 1.9. RNA quality was assessed on an Agilent 2100 Bioanalyzer.

Total RNA (1µg) was labelled with Cyanine 3 (Cy3)-CTP (Agilent One-Colour Microarray-Based Gene Expression Analysis protocol, v5.0.1) using the Low Input RNA Fluorescent Linear Amplification Kit (Agilent). Agilent 4×44K Whole Mouse Genome Oligo Microarray slides were hybridized, washed and scanned at 5µM resolution on an Agilent Microarray Scanner. Scanner images were processed using Agilent Feature Extraction Software v9.1. The microarray scanned image and intensity files were imported into Rosetta Resolver<sup>™</sup> gene expression analysis software v6.0.0.0.1. Individual expression profiles from the various genotypes ( $Gstp^{+/+}/Tg.AC$  and  $Gstp^{-/-}/Tg.AC$ ) and treatments (no treatment, acetone and TPA) were pooled in silico by calculating an error weighted mean and compared to build ratios. Data were analyzed using the bioinformatics platform Bioconductor 2.7, running on R 2.12.1. Chip expression data were quantile normalized and a linear model fitted to determine the effects of genotype, time and stimulation using the LIMMA package [51]. Differential genes were selected by applying a 0.05 false discovery rate threshold to p values corrected using the Benjamini and Hocberg method. Differential genes were used for enrichment analysis using Genego's Metacore pathway tool to identify enriched pathways and biological processes.

Gene set enrichment of Biocarta pathways was determined by using the function "geneSetTest" within the LIMMA package to see if pathways are either up or down regulated using the t-statistics for each factor. Pathways with a false discovery rate of < 0.05 were called enriched. GO annotation enrichments were also determined to see which biological processes and molecular functions were enriched using the same method.

### Immunohistochemistry

Sections were de-waxed and rehydrated, and then underwent microwave antigen retrieval using 10mM citrate buffer for 10 min. Immunohistochemistry was carried out using the Dako Envision staining system and an anti-BrdU antibody (Becton Dickinson) or antinitrotyrosine antibody (Millipore). Signals were developed by standard techniques.

#### **TUNEL** assay

The terminal deoxynucleotidyl transferase dUTP nick end labeling (TUNEL) assay to determine levels of apoptosis was carried out using the *In situ* cell death detection kit, POD (Roche). For analysis, the total number of cells and the number of labelled cells for 3 separate fields/slide were counted.

### Statistical analysis

Statistical analysis was performed using GraphPad Quickcalcs Online statistical calculator. Significant differences when comparing two groups were determined by unpaired t-test. P values were considered significant if they were less than 0.05.

# Results

### Papilloma pathology and growth

Wild-type mice on a Tg.AC background ( $Gstp^{+/+}/Tg.AC$ ) and Gstp null mice on a Tg.AC background ( $Gstp^{-/-}/Tg.AC$ ) were born with normal Mendelian frequency and did not differ in size, weight or growth characteristics. To assess the role of Gstp in the promotion stage of tumorigenesis we treated  $Gstp^{+/+}/Tg.AC$  and  $Gstp^{-/-}/Tg.AC$  mice with TPA. Both genotypes developed papillomas, which were indistinguishable either in gross anatomical appearance or after histological examination (Fig. 1). The first detectable tumours (>1 mm) on both  $Gstp^{+/+}/Tg.AC$  and  $Gstp^{-/-}/Tg.AC$  mice were seen at 5 weeks (Fig. 2a). However, by week 6, whereas only 18% of  $Gstp^{+/+}/Tg.AC$  mice had papillomas, in 55% of  $Gstp^{-/-}/Tg.AC$  mice, tumours were observed. This significantly accelerated appearance of papillomas. Tumour multiplicity was also significantly higher in  $Gstp^{-/-}/Tg.AC$  animals, this difference reaching statistical significance after 9 weeks of treatment (Fig. 2b). These results demonstrated that loss of Gstp markedly increased both the incidence and multiplicity of skin papillomas in  $Gstp^{-/-}/Tg.AC$  mice.

# Effect of Gstp-null genotype on skin thickness, cell proliferation, apoptosis and oxidative stress

In order to evaluate the effects of the Gstp-null genotype, we looked for changes in skin morphology and epidermal proliferation rates following TPA exposure. Following 6 weeks treatment with TPA, a marked increase in the thickness of the epidermis of both genotypes was observed, consistent with the known ability of TPA to induce cellular proliferation (Fig. 3a). This increase was much more marked (28% higher) in  $Gstp^{-/-}/Tg$ .AC mice relative to  $Gstp^{+/+}/Tg.AC$  animals (Fig 3a, 3b). These effects were not observed in acetone-treated controls. Investigation of increased cellular proliferation rates using *in vivo* BrdU labelling experiments showed that there was no difference in epidermal cellular proliferation rate between mouse lines (Fig 3c). Although the percentage of cells in apoptosis appeared to be slightly higher in  $Gstp^{+/+}/Tg$ . AC mice than in null animals (69% ± 5 vs. 58% ± 3 respectively), this difference was not statistically significant. Western blotting of skin tissue from Gstp<sup>+/+</sup>/Tg.AC and Gstp<sup>-/-</sup>/Tg.AC mice was carried out for markers of oxidative stress (Supplementary Figure 1); haem oxygenase-1 (HO-1) expression was marginally induced, and NADH quinone oxidoreductase (NQO1) suppressed, 6 hours after TPA treatment in Gstp<sup>+/+</sup>/Tg.AC mice, but both returned to untreated levels at 4 weeks. GSTP behaved in a similar manner to NQO1. Similar changes were observed in Gstp<sup>-/-</sup>/Tg.AC mice for NQO1 and HO-1, and the alterations in protein expression were confirmed by RT-PCR, along with Nrf2, a transcription factor considered as a master regulator of the antioxidant response. (Supplementary Figure 2).

### Gene expression changes in the skin of Gstp-null and Gstp-WT mice

Despite no histological differences being evident between untreated wild-type and *Gstp*-null mouse skin (Fig. 1), the expression of 169 genes was increased, and 175 genes reduced, by a factor of 2-fold or greater (Supplementary Table 1). Ten of the 30 genes increased to the greatest extent were unannotated; of the remainder, the most induced was armadillo repeat-containing 10 (*Armc10*) (~12-fold), followed by murinoglobulin 1 (*Mug1*) and mitogen-

activated protein kinase kinase kinase kinase 2 (*Map4k2*) (both ~11-fold). Among the genes whose expression was most reduced approximately one-third were unannotated; the most suppressed gene (~10-fold) was *Fin15*, (fibroblast growth factor inducible 15). Further analysis using Metacore pathway software failed to find enrichment of pathways in either set of genes, although within the set of induced genes a number of biological processes, rather than pathways, were significantly enriched in *Gstp*-null mouse skin, including cell inflammation and cell adhesion (data not shown).

# Gene expression changes in the skin of $Gstp^{-/-}/Tg$ .AC mice following TPA treatment

To evaluate the effects of TPA on gene expression in the skin in the presence or absence of *Gstp*, we carried out gene expression profiling following both short- (6 hours) and long-term (4 weeks) exposure of  $Gstp^{-/-}/Tg.AC$  and  $Gstp^{+/+}/Tg.AC$  mice to TPA.

Genes whose expression was significantly changed in *Gstp*<sup>-/-</sup>/Tg.AC and *Gstp*<sup>+/+</sup>/Tg.AC mice after 6h of TPA treatment were compared to vehicle (acetone)-treated animals. The expression of more than 3900 genes was changed in both groups. At 6h, within the top 50 induced or suppressed genes, there was a high degree of similarity, forty-five genes being found in both genotypes (Supplementary Table 2). However, some variation in the extent of induction was observed; expression of 27 genes induced in the skin of both *Gstp*<sup>-/-</sup>/Tg.AC and *Gstp*<sup>+/+</sup>/Tg.AC mice differed in fold-change by a factor of three or more, 16 to a greater extent in *Gstp*<sup>-/-</sup>/Tg.AC mice - *Chi313, Trpm2, AK048833, Nrg1, Prg4, Clec4d, AK031717, Ccl22, Klk9, Tnc., Slc26a4, Ccl3, Ccl17, Serpinb1c, IL19, Il1r11* - several of which are associated with inflammatory response. Eleven genes were induced to a greater extent in the skin of *Gstp*<sup>+/+</sup>/Tg.AC mice - *Zdhhc21, CCl24, Ier2, Tnip3, AK078295, Lce3f, RSG2, Mmp10, A330043J11Rik, Gfpt1, Mcpt8.* 

The expression of many common genes was also reduced, with the majority of the most suppressed genes present in both genotypes (Supplementary Table 2). Similar to the induced genes, the fold-change varied between the genotypes. The expression of thirteen genes was decreased in both genotypes with fold-change ratios differing by a factor of three or more, two to a greater extent in *Gstp*<sup>-/-</sup>/Tg.AC (*Pla2g2d, Pamr1*) and eleven in *Gstp*<sup>+/+</sup>/Tg.AC mice (*Adh7, Em116, Edar, 3830408C21Rik, Cttnbp2, Cldn8, Dlg2, 2130005G13Rik, Pramef12, AK089297, BC034902*). A single gene - *Bclp2* - was induced in *Gstp*<sup>+/+</sup>/Tg.AC mice (3.2-fold) and suppressed in *Gstp*<sup>-/-</sup>/Tg.AC mice (2.6-fold).

In addition to the similarities, there were many significant differences between the effects of TPA on gene expression between  $Gstp^{-/-}/Tg$ .AC and  $Gstp^{+/+}/Tg$ .AC mice. After 6h of TPA treatment a total of 1750 genes were altered uniquely in  $Gstp^{+/+}/Tg$ .AC mice relative to acetone-treated controls and TPA-treated  $Gstp^{-/-}/Tg$ .AC animals, ie changes in the  $Gstp^{+/+}/Tg$ .AC were observed which did not occur in the  $Gstp^{-/-}/Tg$ .AC mice. The expression of 840 genes was reduced and 910 genes increased by more than 2-fold. The top 50 genes in each category are shown in Table 1. Similarly,, the expression of 2170 genes were uniquely altered in  $Gstp^{-/-}/Tg$ .AC mice 6h after TPA treatment; of these, 1058 were expressed at higher levels and 1112 at lower levels by more than 2-fold; the top 50 genes in each category are shown in Table 2.

After 4 weeks of TPA treatment 950 genes were altered in both  $Gstp^{-/-}/Tg.AC$  and  $Gstp^{+/+}/Tg.AC$  mice, compared to control animals; the top 50 induced or repressed genes are shown in Supplementary Table 4. Again, there was a very strong similarity between the  $Gstp^{+/+}/Tg.AC$  and  $Gstp^{-/-}/Tg.AC$  groups. As with the 6h timepoint, there were, however, differences in the fold-changes in the expression of these genes between the groups. Fifteen genes were increased in the skin of both mouse strains and differed in fold-change ratio by a factor of 3 or more, 14 to a greater extent in  $Gstp^{-/-}/Tg.AC$  mice (*Krtap 31-1, Stfa2, Krt84*,

2310033E01Rik, Spink12, Lrrc15, Lce3f, Oca2, Sprr11, Sprr2d, Krt16, Scrg1, Uox, Dlx4), and one in  $Gstp^{+/+}/Tg.AC$  mice (*Prss51*). Two genes were suppressed in both genotypes with a fold-change ratio greater than three, one to a greater extent in  $Gstp^{-/-}/Tg.AC$  mice (*Kel*), and one to a greater extent in  $Gstp^{+/+}/Tg.AC$  mice (*1500015010Rik*). Five genes were induced in  $Gstp^{+/+}/Tg.AC$  mice but suppressed in  $Gstp^{-/-}/Tg.AC$  mice (*Cacnb2*, *Dmrtc2*, *Olf346*, *Mpp1*, *A630077J23Rik*).

In addition to the similarities to the gene expression profiles at 4 weeks, there were also significant differences. In  $Gstp^{+/+}/Tg$ .AC mice, the expression of 1868 genes was uniquely altered in their expression as compared to controls and Gstp-null animals; 937 were higher, and 931 lower, by more than 2-fold. The top 50 genes in each category are shown in Table 3. In  $Gstp^{-/-}/Tg$ .AC mice, a total of 1772 genes were uniquely altered 4 weeks after TPA treatment, 910 genes being increased and 862 decreased by more than 2-fold. The top 50 genes in each category are shown in Table 4. It is interesting to note that in  $Gstp^{-/-}/Tg$ .AC mice, 40 of the top 50 genes which were found to be increased were keratins or keratin-associated proteins (induced 200 - 2000-fold).

In order to define the pathways that were uniquely up- or down-regulated in Gstp<sup>-/-</sup>/Tg.AC mice, and identify those biological processes or molecular functions that were statistically enriched at both time-points, the unfiltered microarray data from Gstp<sup>-/-</sup>/Tg.AC and Gstp<sup>+/+</sup>/Tg.AC mice treated with TPA for 6h or 4 weeks were subject to ANOVA and subsequent gene set enrichment analysis (GSEA). There were 101 pathways up-regulated in Gstp<sup>-/-</sup>/Tg.AC compared to Gstp<sup>+/+</sup>/Tg.AC mice at 6h after TPA treatment, and the same number up-regulated at the 4 week time-point. Seventeen pathways were uniquely upregulated at each time-point: at 6h, pathways were associated with apoptosis, cell-mediated immunity, T cell activation and differentiation, inflammation and cytokine production, while at 4 weeks apoptotic pathways were essentially absent although pathways related to cell proliferation and the immune system were still up-regulated in Gstp<sup>-/-/</sup>/Tg.AC mice compared to Gstp<sup>+/+</sup>/Tg.AC mice (Supplementary Table 3). With regard to pathways uniquely down-regulated in Gstp<sup>-/-</sup>/Tg.AC mice, there were a smaller number at both 6 hours (8) and 4 weeks (1), and none in common; keratinocyte differentiation was represented at both time-points, while pathways down-regulated at 6h also included those involved in cell cycle, inflammatory response and T cell activation (Supplementary Table 5). Gene ontology gene sets were analysed using GSEA to identify biological processes or molecular functions that were statistically enriched (up or down) in Gstp<sup>-/-</sup>/Tg.AC compared to Gstp<sup>+/+</sup>/Tg.AC mice at both time-points (Supplementary Table 8). Interestingly, with regard to up-regulation, there was a good deal of conformity between the two time-points; in both cases there were biological processes and molecular functions associated with the actin cytoskeleton, chromatin remodeling and transcriptional regulation, as well as kinase signaling, blood vessel development and epithelial/endothelial cell proliferation and differentiation. However, whilst at 6 hours there was a predominance of anti-apoptotic biological processes, at the later time-point pro- and anti-apoptotic processes were more balanced. Furthermore, cytokine production and cytokine-mediated signalling observed at 6 hours were absent at 4 weeks, while altered lipid and sterol metabolic processes, and Wnt receptor signalling, present at 4 weeks were not found at the earlier time-point (Supplementary Table 8). For down-regulated GO annotations, there were relatively few, and little or no overlap between time-points: at 6 hours down-regulated molecular functions included aromatase and oxidoreductase activities, while at 4 weeks signal transduction, G protein coupled receptor activity and a number of processes related to pheromones and olfaction were down-regulated (data not shown).

# Gene expression changes in papillomas from Gstp<sup>-/-</sup>/Tg.AC mice

To investigate the molecular mechanism(s) underlying the increased incidence and multiplicity of tumour in Gstp<sup>-/-</sup>/Tg.AC mice, mRNA profiles for papillomas from each genotype were determined. In Gstp<sup>-/-</sup>/Tg.AC mice only 87 genes were expressed at higher and 127 genes at lower levels, by a factor of 2-fold or greater relative to  $Gstp^{+/+}/Tg.AC$ mice (see Supplementary Table 6). The genes that were expressed at higher levels included the  $\beta$ -galactoside-binding proteins galectin-4 (*Igals4*, 3.4 fold) and galectin-6 (*Igals6*, 8.5 fold), and Mug1 (3.3-fold). Genes repressed in Gstp<sup>-/-</sup>/Tg.AC mice vs. Gstp<sup>+/+</sup>/Tg.AC mice were chitinase-like proteins Chi3l4 (17-fold down) and Chi3l3 (6-fold down); Clec2g (Ctype lectin domain family 2, member g, 3.8-fold down); and the tumour suppressor Dbc1 (Deleted in bladder cancer protein 1, 3.7-fold), [15]. Unbiased analysis of the gene expression profiles in  $Gstp^{-/-}/Tg$ .AC mice compared to  $Gstp^{+/+}/Tg$ .AC mice failed to identify specific biochemical pathways significantly altered in mice lacking Gstp. However, a number of biological processes were found to be enriched in *Gstp<sup>-/-/</sup>*/Tg.AC mice, including keratinization, keratinocyte differentiation, epidermal morphogenesis, development and differentiation, as well as several processes related to steroid and lipid metabolism (Supplementary Table 7), all of which could potentially be mechanistically associated with the increased rate of papilloma development observed in the  $Gstp^{-/-}/Tg$ .AC mice following TPA treatment (Figure 2)

# Discussion

Our previous work with the GstP null mouse and skin carcinogenesis showed that GstP can play an important role in the aetiology of skin and lung tumours [5, 6]. We have also recently reported that by crossing  $Gstp^{-/-}$  mice onto APC<sup>*Min*</sup> mice enhanced the incidence of adenomas arising in the colon [7]. However, the mechanism(s) by which GstP protected against tumour formation was unclear and did not appear to be solely due to its role as a detoxification enzyme. In this study we have demonstrated that GstP can have a profound effect on skin tumorigenesis and initiated by the presence of the mutant Ras oncogene, i.e. in the absence of a chemical carcinogen. There is now also a growing body of evidence suggesting that Gstp is also an important determinant in inflammatory disease [16-18].

In the experiments described here, there are a number of other ways in which Gstp could influence carcinogenesis. It could alter the signaling pathways induced by the presence of mutant Ras protein, or it could alter the promotional effects of TPA. Alternatively, because TPA and Ras act at least in part through AP1 signalling, Gstp could act through a combination of the two mechanisms. However, It is also important to consider the role of GstP in the detoxification of endogenous toxins as a possible explanation for the increased tumorigenesis noted in the null animals. The generation of endogenous reactive oxygen species (ROS) by NADPH oxidase-1 (Nox1), which catalyses the reduction of molecular oxygen to superoxide, has been recently found to be required for Ras mediated oncogenic transformation [19, 20]. In addition Nox1 is thought to be responsible for the generation of ROS in human keratinocytes following UVA irradiation [21]. Given the well-known activity of GstP in the detoxification of genotoxic lipid peroxidation products such as acrolein [22], it is possible that the increased tumorigenesis noted in GSTP null animals is a direct consequence of their reduced ability to deal with endogenously produced toxic metabolites of oxidative stress. However, expression of oxidative stress markers such as HO-1 and NQO1, and the transcription factor Nrf2, although altered at 6 hours after TPA, were essentially unchanged from control levels at the 4 week time-point (Supplementary Figures 1 & 2), indicating that while oxidative stress may play a role in the early stages of tumorigenesis, it appears to have less influence in the longer term. The GstP null background seems to potentiate the pathways activated by TPA and is manifest in the increased skin thickness observed in the GstP null animals. However, these effects do not

seem to be mediated by an increased cell proliferation rate, as measured by BrdU, or by changes in rates of apoptosis; rationalisation of these effects requires further study.

In order to gain further insights into the mechanism of action of Gstp in skin tumorigenesis, we carried out a detailed gene expression profile analysis on mice where Gstp is either present or absent. In normal skin the annotated mRNA most induced in  $Gstp^{-/-}/Tg$ .AC mice was Armc10 (~12 fold); this protein has been implicated in cell survival and growth, has been reported to suppress p53 activity and thus apoptosis [23], and is also up-regulated in hepatocellular carcinoma [24]. We also found that Armc10 expression is elevated (~4-fold) in the lungs of *Gstp* null mice which had a significantly higher incidence of chemicallyinduced pulmonary adenomas [6]. Also elevated significantly (~11-fold) was Map4k2, a member of the serine/threonine protein kinase family and which can be activated by TNFa, poly(IC), LPS and IL-1, thus mediating an array of inflammatory responses, and couples TNF signalling to the p38 MAPK and SAPK pathways [25, 26]. Deletion of this gene in mice renders them resistant to endotoxin-mediated lethality [27]. Interestingly, serum amyloid a protein 2 (Saa2) was also expressed at significantly higher levels (6.8-fold) in  $Gstp^{-/-}/Tg.AC$  mice; Saa2 is a member of a family of highly-conserved acute-phase proteins, secreted during inflammation in response to the cytokines IL-1, IL-6 and TNFa, and which aid in the recruitment of immune cells to inflammatory sites. Saa2 is expressed in a variety of tissues, including skin, primarily in epithelial cells [28]. Similarly to Armc10, another Saa family member, Saa3, was significantly induced (~6-fold) in the lungs of Gstp null mice, relative to WT [6]. Interestingly, skin sections from mice treated with TPA and stained for the inflammatory marker nitrotyrosine, show higher levels of expression in the absence of Gstp (Supplementary Figure 3). The presence of genes associated with inflammation was also observed in the colonic epithelium of  $Gstp^{-/-}$ :: APC<sup>Min</sup> mice [7]. Together, these data add weight to the argument that the absence of Gstp creates an elevated level of basal inflammation in a number of different tissues – skin (this study), lung [6] and colon [7]. However, such an inflammatory environment, while pro-tumorigenic, is clearly not sufficient for tumour development, since Gstp null mice do not develop cancer spontaneously [29].

Many genes induced in the skin by TPA on a Tg.AC background were also induced in the  $Gstp^{-/-}/Tg.AC$  background. These data are reassuring and provide confidence about the significance of the differences between the  $Gstp^{+/+}/Tg.AC$  and  $Gstp^{-/-}/Tg.AC$  genotypes. It is interesting to note that in many cases the genes were induced to a higher level in the  $Gstp^{-/-}$  mice compared to mice carrying the Tg.AC alone. Among the most prominent genes induced by TPA administration in both genotypes (but to a significantly greater extent in  $Gstp^{-/-}/Tg.AC$  mice) at 6h or 4 weeks were s100A8, Sprr2a, Sprr2d, and Stfa1, Stfa2, Stfa3 (Supplementary Tables 2 & 4), previously described as being present in clusters of differentially-expressed genes from the skin of Tg.AC mice in which papillomagenesis had been induced by abrasion [30].

Strikingly, more than 90% of the top 50 genes encoded for keratins or keratin-associated proteins and were expressed at several orders of magnitude higher in  $Gstp^{-/-}/Tg$ .AC mice, compared to wild-type at the 4 week timepoint (Table 4). Interestingly, a recent study by Quigley *et al* [31] in which the authors mapped genetic loci contributing to skin tumour susceptibility in mice identified a network of 62 genes involved in control of the hair follicle containing 37 keratins or keratin-associated proteins, all of which were found on our list of genes uniquely up-regulated in  $Gstp^{-/-}/Tg$ .AC mice 4 weeks after TPA treatment (Table 4). Furthermore, of the remaining genes in this network, all but 3 (*Lyg2, Pdzm3, Vsig8*) were also up-regulated (3- to 227-fold) only in  $Gstp^{-/-}/Tg$ .AC mice 4 weeks after TPA treatment, strongly suggesting that dysregulation of hair follicle function occurs to a considerably greater extent in the absence of GstP and may play a significant role in the accelerated

development of papillomas in this genotype. Quigley *et al* [31], also identified the intestinal stem cell marker *Lgr5* (leucine rich repeat containing G protein coupled receptor 5) as the best candidate for a master regulator of the hair follicle network; interestingly, although *Lgr5* expression is down-regulated in both *Gstp*<sup>+/+</sup>/Tg.AC and *Gstp*<sup>-/-</sup>/Tg.AC mice 6h after TPA treatment (12- and 9-fold, respectively), it is up-regulated (3.2-fold) uniquely in *Gstp*<sup>-/-</sup>/Tg.AC mice 4 weeks after treatment.

Also of note, one  $\alpha$ -defensin (*Defa-rs12*, down 3.2-fold) and two  $\beta$ -defensin proteins (*Defb14*, up 4-fold; *Defb15*, down 6-fold) were altered in their expression in  $Gstp^{-/-}/Tg.AC$  mice relative to  $Gstp^{+/+}/Tg.AC$ ; these antimicrobial peptides are involved in the defence response to bacterial infection [32], and interestingly other proteins from this family ( $\alpha$ -defensins) were found be significantly down-regulated in both normal colonic tissue and adenomas from *GstP*-null mice which also carried the APC<sup>*Min+*</sup> mutation [7]. Interestingly, at this stage rather than key induced pathways, many genes associated with inflammatory responses appeared to be repressed in the *Gstp*<sup>-/-</sup>/Tg.AC mice relative to the *Gstp*<sup>+/+</sup>/Tg.AC animals.

At both time-points after TPA treatment a large number of genes were either induced or repressed in the Gstp<sup>-/-</sup>/Tg.AC mouse skin relative to Gstp<sup>+/+</sup>/Tg.AC Tg.AC mice alone (Supplementary Tables 2 & 4). Although there were a handful of genes found in the top 50 upregulated genes at both timepoints (Sprr2d, Uox, Lcn2, S100A8, S100A9) the transcript profiles of skin at 4 weeks after treatment were markedly different from that at 6 hours; this probably reflects the emerging complexity and crosstalk between many regulatory networks prior to overt tumour formation. However, the experimental design employed in the current study allowed us to carry out GSEA on the unfiltered data generated from the microarray protocols [33, 34]. All microarray data was subjected to ANOVA analysis to examine the effect of time, treatment and genotype on gene expression, and Biocarta pathways were mapped onto the gene expression data (Supplementary Tables 3 & 5). Since we were primarily interested in the role of Gstp in the process of skin tumorigenesis, we focussed on the effect of genotype in the pathway and gene ontology analysis. As shown in Supplementary Table 8, the up-regulated biological processes and molecular functions statistically enriched in Gstp<sup>-/-</sup>/Tg.AC mice relative to Gstp<sup>+/+</sup>/Tg.AC were highly similar, with the exception of a more anti-apoptotic and pro-inflammatory environment at the early timepoint, and alterations to lipid and sterol metabolism, and the Wnt receptor signaling pathway, at 4 weeks. The latter is interesting since transient activation of  $\beta$ -catenin signalling has previously been shown to be required for the initiation of hair follicle development [35], but higher and more sustained, or continuous, activation is required to maintain tumours derived from hair follicles such as those generated in the model used in this study [36].

Although the changes observed at 4 weeks could reflect changes in the constitution of the skin, those at 6h must reflect changes in short-term regulatory control and not be related to cell type. It is important to note that the high number of papillomas seen in these studies suggest that the 4 week time-point the entire skin is highly predisposed to tumour formation, reflected in the altered pathways of hair follicle morphogenesis and development, and epidermal morphogenesis observed, and suggesting a more de-differentiated phenotype in the skin of  $Gstp^{-/-}/Tg.AC$  mice.

We also carried out analysis of patterns of gene expression in papillomas from  $Gstp^{-/-}$ /Tg.AC *vs.*  $Gstp^{+/+}$ /Tg.AC animals. Although there were some differences in patterns of gene expression between the two genotypes, we were unable to identify regulatory networks from which these gene expression changes were derived. Relative to the gene expression differences in normal skin, remarkably few changes were observed in the papillomas of the

different genotypes, further strengthening the evidence that Gstp affects tumour promotion rather than tumour genetics. However, some of the differences observed are worthy of note. Galectin-4 and galectin-6 were elevated in  $Gstp^{-/-}/Tg$ .AC mice; galectins have been implicated in a number of biological processes, including inflammation, innate and adaptive immunity, and cance - indeed, galectin-4 has been proposed as a marker for breast cancer [37]. Mug1 expression was induced both in papillomas (3.2-fold) and skin (11.3-fold) from  $Gstp^{-/-}/Tg.AC$  mice. Mug1 is a novel protease inhibitor and a member of the  $\alpha$ 2macroglobulin family whose members act as binding proteins for growth factors and cytokines including TNFa, TGF\beta, and interleukins; Mug1 knockout mice are more susceptible to diet-induced acute pancreatitis [38]. The elevated expression of *Mug1* in both skin and papillomas from  $Gstp^{-/-}/Tg$ . AC mice may reflect the presence of a significantly enhanced inflammatory environment, both basally and following TPA treatment. CHi313 and *Chi3l4* mRNA were both significantly lower in papillomas from  $Gstp^{-/-}/Tg$ .AC mice; chitinase-like proteins have been associated with infection, T cell-mediated inflammation & allergy [39]. Interestingly, *Chi313* was induced in the skin of both *Gstp*<sup>+/+</sup>/Tg.AC and  $Gstp^{-/-}/Tg.AC$  mice 6h after TPA treatment (Supplementary Table 2), but to a significantly greater extent in the latter (6-fold vs 84-fold). These data demonstrate that the absence of Gstp can cause marked changes in gene expression profiles in tumours containing dominant oncogenes. Such changes could explain why GSTP is methylated in human tumours of prostate, liver and breast [12, 40, 41].

A number of studies have reported a reduction in papilloma multiplicity following crossing of the Tg.AC mouse with different transgenic mouse strains [42-44], whilst others have shown the transgene to initiate earlier onset of papillomagenesis [45] or an increase in tumour size [46]. However, as reported in this study the effects of the absence of *Gstp* on the Tg.AC background appear to be particularly marked with regards to both the incidence and multiplicity of papillomas.

Ras-related signaling has been show to be activated by mutation in a significant number of skin cancers in man, for example B-Raf mutations are commonly found in melanoma [47, 48]. The finding that Gstp can alter tumours induced by Ras signaling raises the interesting possibility that it may affect susceptibility to skin cancer in humans. In support of this possibility, polymorphisms in GSTP have been reported to increase susceptibility to basal cell and squamous cell carcinomas [49, 50]. In future work it will be interesting to establish whether GSTP also alters tumour incidence in other models of skin cancer such as the conditional B-Raf mutant mouse and whether tumorigenicity in these models can be inhibited by exogenous agents.

### Supplementary Material

Refer to Web version on PubMed Central for supplementary material.

### Acknowledgments

We are grateful to Catherine Hughes, Susanne van Schelven and Jennifer Kennedy for assistance with mouse work. Dr Shaun Walsh (Pathology, NHS Tayside) is thanked for expert analysis of histology sections and Probir Chakravarty (Cancer Research UK London Research Institute) is thanked for bioinformatic analyses. This work was funded by a Programme Grant awarded to CRW by Cancer Research UK (C4639/A5661).

# Abbreviations

BrdU	bromodeoxyuridine
DMBA	7,12-dimethylbenz[a]anthracene

GSEA	gene set enrichment analysis
GST	glutathione S-transferase
H & E	haematoxylin and eosin
НО-1	haem oxygenase-1
3-MC	3-methylcholanthene
РАН	polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon
PBS	phosphate-buffered saline
NQO1	NADH quinone oxidoreductase
Nrf2	nuclear factor erythroid 2-related factor 2
Saa	serum amyloid A
TPA	12-0-tetradecanoylphorbol-13-acetate
TUNEL	terminal deoxynucleotidyl transferase dUTP nick end labeling
WT	wild-type

# References

- Hayes JD, Flanagan JU, Jowsey IR. Glutathione transferases. Annu Rev Pharmacol Toxicol. 2005; 45:51–88. [PubMed: 15822171]
- McIlwain CC, Townsend DM, Tew KD. Glutathione S-transferase polymorphisms: cancer incidence and therapy. Oncogene. 2006; 25:1639–48. [PubMed: 16550164]
- Townsend DM, Tew KD. The role of glutathione-S-transferase in anti-cancer drug resistance. Oncogene. 2003; 22:7369–75. [PubMed: 14576844]
- Wareing CJ, Black SM, Hayes JD, Wolf CR. Increased levels of alpha-class and pi-class glutathione S-transferases in cell lines resistant to 1-chloro-2,4-dinitrobenzene. European Journal of Biochemistry. 1993; 217:671–6. [PubMed: 8223610]
- Henderson CJ, Smith AG, Ure J, Brown K, Bacon EJ, Wolf CR. Increased skin tumorigenesis in mice lacking pi class glutathione S-transferases. Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A. 1998; 95:5275–80. [PubMed: 9560266]
- Ritchie KJ, Henderson CJ, Wang XJ, Vassieva O, Carrie D, Farmer PB, et al. Glutathione transferase pi plays a critical role in the development of lung carcinogenesis following exposure to tobacco-related carcinogens and urethane. Cancer Res. 2007; 67:9248–57. [PubMed: 17909032]
- Ritchie KJ, Walsh S, Sansom OJ, Henderson CJ, Wolf CR. Markedly enhanced colon tumorigenesis in ApcMin mice lacking glutathione S-transferase Pi. Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A. 2009
- Adler V, Yin Z, Fuchs SY, Benezra M, Rosario L, Tew KD, et al. Regulation of JNK signaling by GSTp. EMBO J. 1999; 18:1321–34. [PubMed: 10064598]
- Wu Y, Fan Y, Xue B, Luo L, Shen J, Zhang S, et al. Human glutathione S-transferase P1-1 interacts with TRAF2 and regulates TRAF2-ASK1 signals. Oncogene. 2006; 25:5787–800. [PubMed: 16636664]
- Townsend DM, Manevich Y, He L, Hutchens S, Pazoles CJ, Tew KD. Novel role for glutathione S-transferase pi. Regulator of protein S-Glutathionylation following oxidative and nitrosative stress. J Biol Chem. 2009; 284:436–45. [PubMed: 18990698]
- Gao P, Yang X, Xue YW, Zhang XF, Wang Y, Liu WJ, et al. Promoter methylation of glutathione S-transferase pi1 and multidrug resistance gene 1 in bronchioloalveolar carcinoma and its correlation with DNA methyltransferase 1 expression. Cancer. 2009; 115:3222–32. [PubMed: 19484794]

- Yang B, House MG, Guo M, Herman JG, Clark DP. Promoter methylation profiles of tumor suppressor genes in intrahepatic and extrahepatic cholangiocarcinoma. Mod Pathol. 2005; 18:412– 20. [PubMed: 15467712]
- Leder A, Kuo A, Cardiff RD, Sinn E, Leder P. v-Ha-ras transgene abrogates the initiation step in mouse skin tumorigenesis: effects of phorbol esters and retinoic acid. Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A. 1990; 87:9178–82. [PubMed: 2251261]
- Spalding JW, Momma J, Elwell MR, Tennant RW. Chemically induced skin carcinogenesis in a transgenic mouse line (TG.AC) carrying a v-Ha-ras gene. Carcinogenesis. 1993; 14:1335–41. [PubMed: 8330346]
- Nishiyama H, Gill JH, Pitt E, Kennedy W, Knowles MA. Negative regulation of G(1)/S transition by the candidate bladder tumour suppressor gene DBCCR1. Oncogene. 2001; 20:2956–64. [PubMed: 11420708]
- Conklin DJ, Haberzettl P, Lesgards JF, Prough RA, Srivastava S, Bhatnagar A. Increased sensitivity of glutathione S-transferase P-null mice to cyclophosphamide-induced urinary bladder toxicity. J Pharmacol Exp Ther. 2009; 331:456–69. [PubMed: 19696094]
- Townsend DM, Tew KD, He L, King JB, Hanigan MH. Role of glutathione S-transferase Pi in cisplatin-induced nephrotoxicity. Biomed Pharmacother. 2009; 63:79–85. [PubMed: 18819770]
- Zhou J, Wolf CR, Henderson CJ, Cai Y, Board PG, Foster PS, et al. Glutathione transferase P1: an endogenous inhibitor of allergic responses in a mouse model of asthma. Am J Respir Crit Care Med. 2008; 178:1202–10. [PubMed: 18787219]
- Mitsushita J, Lambeth JD, Kamata T. The superoxide-generating oxidase Nox1 is functionally required for Ras oncogene transformation. Cancer research. 2004; 64:3580–5. [PubMed: 15150115]
- 20. Shinohara M, Shang WH, Kubodera M, Harada S, Mitsushita J, Kato M, et al. Nox1 redox signaling mediates oncogenic Ras-induced disruption of stress fibers and focal adhesions by down-regulating Rho. The Journal of biological chemistry. 2007; 282:17640–8. [PubMed: 17435218]
- Valencia A, Kochevar IE. Nox1-based NADPH oxidase is the major source of UVA-induced reactive oxygen species in human keratinocytes. The Journal of investigative dermatology. 2008; 128:214–22. [PubMed: 17611574]
- 22. Berhane K, Widersten M, Engstrom A, Kozarich JW, Mannervik B. Detoxication of base propenals and other alpha, beta-unsaturated aldehyde products of radical reactions and lipid peroxidation by human glutathione transferases. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America. 1994; 91:1480–4. [PubMed: 8108434]
- 23. Zhou X, Yang G, Huang R, Chen X, Hu G. SVH-B interacts directly with p53 and suppresses the transcriptional activity of p53. FEBS Lett. 2007; 581:4943–8. [PubMed: 17904127]
- Huang R, Xing Z, Luan Z, Wu T, Wu X, Hu G. A specific splicing variant of SVH, a novel human armadillo repeat protein, is up-regulated in hepatocellular carcinomas. Cancer Res. 2003; 63:3775–82. [PubMed: 12839973]
- 25. Yuasa T, Ohno S, Kehrl JH, Kyriakis JM. Tumor necrosis factor signaling to stress-activated protein kinase (SAPK)/Jun NH2-terminal kinase (JNK) and p38. Germinal center kinase couples TRAF2 to mitogen-activated protein kinase/ERK kinase kinase 1 and SAPK while receptor interacting protein associates with a mitogen-activated protein kinase kinase kinase upstream of MKK6 and p38. J Biol Chem. 1998; 273:22681–92. [PubMed: 9712898]
- 26. Zhong J, Kyriakis JM. Germinal center kinase is required for optimal Jun N-terminal kinase activation by Toll-like receptor agonists and is regulated by the ubiquitin proteasome system and agonist-induced, TRAF6-dependent stabilization. Mol Cell Biol. 2004; 24:9165–75. [PubMed: 15456887]
- Zhong J, Gavrilescu LC, Molnar A, Murray L, Garafalo S, Kehrl JH, et al. GCK is essential to systemic inflammation and pattern recognition receptor signaling to JNK and p38. Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A. 2009; 106:4372–7. [PubMed: 19246396]
- Urieli-Shoval S, Cohen P, Eisenberg S, Matzner Y. Widespread expression of serum amyloid A in histologically normal human tissues. Predominant localization to the epithelium. J Histochem Cytochem. 1998; 46:1377–84. [PubMed: 9815279]

- Henderson CJ, Wolf CR. Disruption of the glutathione transferase pi class genes. Methods in enzymology. 2005; 401:116–35. [PubMed: 16399382]
- Dang H, Trempus C, Malarkey DE, Wei SJ, Humble M, Morris RJ, et al. Identification of genes and gene ontology processes critical to skin papilloma development in Tg.AC transgenic mice. Mol Carcinog. 2006; 45:126–40. [PubMed: 16329151]
- Quigley DA, To MD, Perez-Losada J, Pelorosso FG, Mao JH, Nagase H, et al. Genetic architecture of mouse skin inflammation and tumour susceptibility. Nature. 2009; 458:505–8. [PubMed: 19136944]
- Salzman NH, Hung K, Haribhai D, Chu H, Karlsson-Sjoberg J, Amir E, et al. Enteric defensins are essential regulators of intestinal microbial ecology. Nat Immunol. 2010; 11:76–83. [PubMed: 19855381]
- 33. Subramanian A, Tamayo P, Mootha VK, Mukherjee S, Ebert BL, Gillette MA, et al. Gene set enrichment analysis: a knowledge-based approach for interpreting genome-wide expression profiles. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America. 2005; 102:15545–50. [PubMed: 16199517]
- 34. Irizarry RA, Wang C, Zhou Y, Speed TP. Gene set enrichment analysis made simple. Statistical methods in medical research. 2009; 18:565–75. [PubMed: 20048385]
- Andl T, Reddy ST, Gaddapara T, Millar SE. WNT signals are required for the initiation of hair follicle development. Developmental cell. 2002; 2:643–53. [PubMed: 12015971]
- 36. Lo Celso C, Prowse DM, Watt FM. Transient activation of beta-catenin signalling in adult mouse epidermis is sufficient to induce new hair follicles but continuous activation is required to maintain hair follicle tumours. Development. 2004; 131:1787–99. [PubMed: 15084463]
- Huflejt ME, Leffler H. Galectin-4 in normal tissues and cancer. Glycoconj J. 2004; 20:247–55. [PubMed: 15115909]
- Umans L, Serneels L, Overbergh L, Stas L, Van Leuven F. alpha2-macroglobulin- and murinoglobulin-1-deficient mice. A mouse model for acute pancreatitis. Am J Pathol. 1999; 155:983–93. [PubMed: 10487856]
- Sutherland TE, Maizels RM, Allen JE. Chitinases and chitinase-like proteins: potential therapeutic targets for the treatment of T-helper type 2 allergies. Clin Exp Allergy. 2009; 39:943–55.
  [PubMed: 19400900]
- Jeronimo C, Varzim G, Henrique R, Oliveira J, Bento MJ, Silva C, et al. 1105V polymorphism and promoter methylation of the GSTP1 gene in prostate adenocarcinoma. Cancer Epidemiol Biomarkers Prev. 2002; 11:445–50. [PubMed: 12010858]
- Lasabova Z, Tilandyova P, Kajo K, Zubor P, Burjanivova T, Danko J, et al. Hypermethylation of the GSTP1 promoter region in breast cancer is associated with prognostic clinicopathological parameters. Neoplasma. 2010; 57:35–40. [PubMed: 19895170]
- Lozano J, Xing R, Cai Z, Jensen HL, Trempus C, Mark W, et al. Deficiency of kinase suppressor of Ras1 prevents oncogenic ras signaling in mice. Cancer Res. 2003; 63:4232–8. [PubMed: 12874031]
- Murphy JE, Morales RE, Scott J, Kupper TS. IL-1 alpha, innate immunity, and skin carcinogenesis: the effect of constitutive expression of IL-1 alpha in epidermis on chemical carcinogenesis. J Immunol. 2003; 170:5697–703. [PubMed: 12759452]
- Robles AI, Rodriguez-Puebla ML, Glick AB, Trempus C, Hansen L, Sicinski P, et al. Reduced skin tumor development in cyclin D1-deficient mice highlights the oncogenic ras pathway in vivo. Genes Dev. 1998; 12:2469–74. [PubMed: 9716400]
- Larcher F, Murillas R, Bolontrade M, Conti CJ, Jorcano JL. VEGF/VPF overexpression in skin of transgenic mice induces angiogenesis, vascular hyperpermeability and accelerated tumor development. Oncogene. 1998; 17:303–11. [PubMed: 9690512]
- 46. Tober KL, Cannon RE, Spalding JW, Oberyszyn TM, Parrett ML, Rackoff AI, et al. Comparative expression of novel vascular endothelial growth factor/vascular permeability factor transcripts in skin, papillomas, and carcinomas of v-Ha-ras Tg.AC transgenic mice and FVB/N mice. Biochem Biophys Res Commun. 1998; 247:644–53. [PubMed: 9647747]

- 47. Banerji U, Affolter A, Judson I, Marais R, Workman P. BRAF and NRAS mutations in melanoma: potential relationships to clinical response to HSP90 inhibitors. Mol Cancer Ther. 2008; 7:737–9. [PubMed: 18375819]
- Packer LM, East P, Reis-Filho JS, Marais R. Identification of direct transcriptional targets of (V600E)BRAF/MEK signalling in melanoma. Pigment Cell Melanoma Res. 2009; 22:785–98. [PubMed: 19682280]
- Fryer AA, Ramsay HM, Lovatt TJ, Jones PW, Hawley CM, Nicol DL, et al. Polymorphisms in glutathione S-transferases and non-melanoma skin cancer risk in Australian renal transplant recipients. Carcinogenesis. 2005; 26:185–91. [PubMed: 15459020]
- Marshall SE, Bordea C, Haldar NA, Mullighan CG, Wojnarowska F, Morris PJ, et al. Glutathione S-transferase polymorphisms and skin cancer after renal transplantation. Kidney Int. 2000; 58:2186–93. [PubMed: 11044240]
- 51. Smyth GK. Linear Models and Empirical Bayes Methods for Assessing Differential Expression in Microarray Experiments. Stat Appl Genet Mol Biol. 2004; 3 Article 3.



Figure 1. Gross histology of skin papillomas did not differ differ between  $Gstp^{+/+}/Tg.AC$  and  $Gstp^{-/-}/Tg.AC$  mice

Haematoxylin and Eosin stained sections of papillomas from (a)  $Gstp^{+/+}/Tg.AC$  and (b)  $Gstp^{-/-}/Tg.AC$  genotypes. Photomicrographs are representative of each genotype.



**Figure 2.** Increased number and rate of papilloma formation in  $Gstp^{-/-}$ /Tg.AC mice (a) Papilloma incidence (number of mice with at least one papilloma) and (b) multiplicity (mean number of papillomas per mouse) was determined twice-weekly over a 15-week period in  $Gstp^{-/-}$ /Tg.AC (circles) and  $Gstp^{+/+}$ /Tg.AC mice (triangles). n=29 wt, 33 null at experimental initiation, (\* p<0.05, \*\* p<0.01, \*\*\* p<0.001). Data are mean + standard deviation.



# Figure 3. Increased skin thickness, but no change in BrdU labelling, in $Gstp^{-/-}/Tg.AC$ mice treated with TPA for 6 weeks

(a) Increase in skin thickness relative to acetone controls in both  $Gstp^{+/+}/Tg.AC$  (compare i and iii) and  $Gstp^{-/-}/Tg.AC$  mice (compare ii and iv) following TPA treatment, whilst comparison of iii and iv clearly shows the increased thickness of the epidermal layer in  $Gstp^{-/-}/Tg.AC$  mice relative to  $Gstp^{+/+}/Tg.AC$  mice. \*\*\* p<0.001; 6 fields/slide, 5 measurements/field; n=3, (b) Skin thickness in  $Gstp^{+/+}/Tg.AC$  (black bars) and  $Gstp^{-/-}/Tg.AC$  (white bars) mice following TPA treatment, (c) No difference in BrdU-labelled cells between  $Gstp^{+/+}/Tg.AC$  mice and  $Gstp^{-/-}/Tg.AC$  mice. Sections shown are representative of each genotype (3 fields/slide, n= 3 for each genotype).

mRNA expression profiles in skin of  $Gstp^{+/+}/Tg.AC$  (WT) uniquely changed 6h after TPA treatment, relative to untreated animals. Microarray analysis was carried out as described in Methods section. Data are expressed as fold-changes between untreated and TPA treatment after subtraction of effects of acetone vehicle on gene expression.

Symbol	Fold-change
Ccl7	25.1
A530023O14Rik	17.6
Pcdh21	15.5
Msx3	10.6
Mmp12	9.0
Dsc2	8.2
AK087584	8.1
Ccl24	8.0
Ifi205	8.0
9130204L05Rik	7.6
Rprm	7.5
F830004M19Rik	7.3
4930519N16Rik	7.2
Msx3	7.2
4732457N14	7.1
Ltf	7.1
Rprm	6.7
Chrna4	6.7
Bhlhb5	6.4
Alkbh1	6.4
Itpkc	6.2
Cd9	6.2
Elf5	6.0
2810403A07Rik	5.9
Gpr26	5.9
1700095B10Rik	5.8
NAP093165-001	5.7
Rgs4	5.6
Bhlhb5	5.6
Lsg1	5.5
NAP027952-1	5.5
Grid2ip	5.4
Gm1967	5.3
Rgs4	5.1

Henderson et al.

Symbol	Fold-change
Rgs4	5.1
Hoxd13	4.9
ENSMUST0000006029 8	4.7
Tnfsf11	4.7
Twsg1	4.7
Abhd2	4.7
LOC638575	4.7
C330005M16Rik	4.6
Klk1b27	4.6
C430019N01Rik	4.6
Mesdc2	4.6
AK041408	4.6
Fblim1	4.6
Dtl	4.5
Abhd2	4.5
Rassf8	4.4
AK082583	-4.8
D030022P07Rik	-4.8
Msh3	-4.9
NAP062641-1	-4.9
Atp6v1g3	-4.9
Pde8b	-4.9
E030025L21Rik	-4.9
AK089839	-5.0
37865	-5.0
Abcg3	-5.0
Il22ra2	-5.1
AK078633	-5.1
D830026I12Rik	-5.1
4930506C02Rik	-5.1
Rnf43	-5.1
9630031F12Rik	-5.1
Wdr76	-5.2
5730590G19Rik	-5.2
AK086288	-5.2
Armc2	-5.3
Tmc5	-5.3
B230114P17Rik	-5.4
Tnrc9	-5.4

Henderson et al.

Symbol	Fold-change
Lrrc44	-5.4
Gm711	-5.5
AK028935	-5.5
Abcb1a	-5.6
8430408G22Rik	-5.6
AI428226	-5.6
AK045549	-5.6
AK037956	-5.7
Dlg7	-5.8
A230048G03Rik	-5.9
Dlec1	-5.9
5031426D15Rik	-6.0
Nnat	-6.2
Zfp30	-6.2
9030407P20Rik	-6.3
AK027992	-6.3
Prom1	-6.4
AK043317	-6.4
AK085674	-6.5
1700041G16Rik	-6.7
Lama1	-6.9
9530077C05Rik	-7.8
NAP028040-1	-8.5
5430435G22Rik	-8.8
Ak5	-9.8
TC1668068	-11.0
Add2	-24.6

mRNA expression profiles in skin of Gstp<sup>-/-</sup>/Tg.AC (NULL) uniquely changed 6h after TPA treatment, relative to untreated animals. Microarray analysis was carried out as described in Methods section. Data are expressed as fold-changes between untreated and TPA treatment after subtraction of effects of acetone vehicle on gene expression.

Symbol	Fold- change
Atp11b	52.8
Ubxd2	51.3
5830417I10Rik	47.6
Dio3	44.9
Uts2	44.1
Sult4a1	18.1
5430405N12Rik	16.1
Il8rb	15.8
Mmp7	15.0
Setd7	14.5
1700102J08Rik	14.4
5830417I10Rik	10.2
E130310K16Rik	10.0
Serpine1	9.1
AK033022	8.9
Cdk5r2	8.7
1200011M11Rik	8.6
C530042K13Rik	8.5
Cxcl11	7.9
Cacna1b	7.7
D330037H05Rik	7.6
Olfr218	7.3
2600011E07Rik	7.2
4930593A02Rik	7.0
NAP028432-1	7.0
Gpr35	7.0
Slc7a11	6.8
AK082839	6.7
Olfr665	6.6
Gpr83	6.4
ENSMUST00000094393	6.4
Mill1	6.4
Ntrk1	6.3
Mtrr	6.2

Europe PMC Funders Author Manuscripts

Henderson et al.

Symbol	Fold- change
Il17c	6.0
Hemt1	6.0
Olfr711	6.0
4930555F03Rik	6.0
A_52_P852662	5.9
Itga2	5.9
Xlkd1	5.9
Prss16	5.8
Gnaz	5.8
B3gnt5	5.7
Olfr689	5.7
2810430M08Rik	5.6
Atp12a	5.6
Tekt1	5.5
Olfr1148	5.5
NAP027441-1	5.4
Pln	-4.0
9030617O03Rik	-4.0
H1fx	-4.0
AK036030	-4.1
Sp5	-4.1
Serpinb12	-4.1
Agxt2l1	-4.1
Pon1	-4.1
Slc6a7	-4.1
Dync1i1	-4.2
AK081832	-4.2
Rab27a	-4.2
Spic	-4.2
Spic	-4.3
Cyp3a25	-4.3
Kcnk2	-4.3
2810032G03Rik	-4.3
C330050A14Rik	-4.3
LOC620355	-4.4
AF143539	-4.4
D230012E17Rik	-4.4
NAP027004-1	-4.4
Klhl4	-4.4

Henderson et al.

Foldchange

-4.5

-4.5 -4.5 -4.6 -4.6 -4.6 -4.8 -5.0 -5.0-5.1 -5.1 -5.1-5.2 -5.3 -5.5 -5.7 -5.8 -6.1-6.3 -6.5

-6.5 -7.0 -7.6 -8.3 -8.9 -9.5

-14.8

Symbol	
Thrsp	
2810030E01Rik	
AK087309	
E030026E10Rik	
4933400E14Rik	
BC062109	
Tef	
AK034975	
AK076276	
Sema3d	
Gpc2	
Cbs	
Dtl	
Hoxa9	
Kenj10	
Neil3	
NAP025218-001	
Sfrp2	
BB744776	
Rab36	
A630012P03Rik	
Car8	
Gabrp	
AK046982	
TC1658561	
Susd4	

Tead2

mRNA expression profiles in skin of Gstp<sup>+/+</sup>/Tg.AC (WT) uniquely changed 4 weeks after TPA treatment, relative to untreated animals. Microarray analysis was carried out as described in Methods section. Data are expressed as fold-changes between untreated and TPA treatment after subtraction of effects of acetone vehicle on gene expression.

Symbol	Fold- change
Trim12	45.6
Prdm16	32.8
Olfr1240	9.6
Trim12	9.6
Hsd3b2	8.5
Pcnx12	8.5
AK036971	8.0
Olfr739	7.9
CA560305	7.7
4930434F21Rik	7.7
Hadha	7.4
BB262475	7.2
Olfr291	7.1
Rdhe2	7.0
AK020422	6.8
Tpcn2	6.6
AK083252	6.6
unknown	6.5
Olfr1337	6.5
Rhox5	6.4
unknown	6.3
1700013E18Rik	6.2
unknown	6.2
Gprc2a-rs1	6.1
1700121L16Rik	6.1
4932443L11Rik	6.1
Olfr944	6.1
Mbnl1	6.0
unknown	6.0
Aldh1a3	5.9
Olfr444	5.8
Tdrd9	5.8
unknown	5.8
unknown	57

Henderson et al.

Symbol	Fold- change
Tac4	5.7
Gpr21	5.6
Gin1	5.6
Olfr497	5.5
Olfr1255	5.4
ENSMUST0000062608	5.4
AK013499	5.4
C730043O17	5.4
Mylk3	5.4
Rhcg	5.3
V1ra6	5.3
4921523P09Rik	5.2
AK029175	5.2
4930564C03Rik	5.2
Wdr66	5.2
Olfr1420	5.1
unknown	-5.5
Clvs2	-5.5
Pparbp	-5.5
Mmp9	-5.6
Cts7	-5.6
Kenq3	-5.6
unknown	-5.7
ENSMUST0000074654	-5.7
Pdgfd	-5.7
Klrb1a	-5.7
LOC665043	-5.8
Pcdhac2	-5.8
Klra7	-5.8
Car8	-5.8
Arhgap26	-5.9
MGC41410	-5.9
2310050B05Rik	-6.0
Klra15	-6.0
Sox8	-6.1
unknown	-6.2
AK084908	-6.3
9630013D21Rik	-6.3
TC1744477	-6.6

Henderson et al.

Symbol	Fold- change
TC1646808	-6.6
AK076536	-6.6
0610037P05Rik	-6.7
D430006K04	-6.9
5730410E19Rik	-7.1
C030002O17Rik	-7.2
Masp1	-7.2
Fkbp11	-7.3
LOC620807	-7.3
Kcnip4	-7.3
unknown	-7.4
AK083452	-7.5
Map4k2	-7.7
Neto1	-7.8
AK086129	-7.9
AK045549	-7.9
Agtr2	-8.2
Spata17	-8.9
AK035641	-9.0
Trim16	-9.1
Scn2a1	-9.2
Pgr	-9.7
Tnfsf18	-11.9
1110037P09	-12.7
Klra20	-12.9
Zfp319	-20.9
Klra22	-21.8

mRNA expression profiles in skin of Gstp<sup>-/-</sup>/Tg.AC (NULL) uniquely changed 4 weeks after TPA treatment, relative to untreated animals. Microarray analysis was carried out as described in Methods section. Data are expressed as fold-changes between untreated and TPA treatment after subtraction of effects of acetone vehicle on gene expression.

Symbol	Fold-change
Krtap16-9	2036
Krt25	1899
Ktrap22-2	1808
Krtap8-1	1572
Krtap3-1	1537
Krtap16-8	1330
Krtap14	1207
LOC435285	1101
Ktrap9-3	1048
Ktrap6-1	1032
Krt34	966
Krt33b	921
high-glycine/tyrosine protein	916
Krtap16-5	842
Krtap16-1	824
Krtap8-1	820
Krt26	754
Ktrap4-2	684
Krtap6-2	672
Krtap16-10	619
Krtap13-1	618
Krtap4-7	610
Prr9	586
Krt27	558
Ktrap26-1	547
Krtap3-1	522
Krt33a	520
Krt71	506
Ktrap1-5	503
1110025L11Rik	501
Krtap6-1	480
glycine tyrosine-rich hair keratin	467
Krtap16-4	441
LOC432600	419

Henderson et al.

Symbol	Fold-change
Krtap16-7	414
LOC432600	413
Ktrap4-13	411
5430421N21Rik	376
Krt31	365
Krt2-25	338
A030003K21Rik	324
Krtap2-4	324
Krt35	323
5530401N06Rik	303
Krt85	292
Krtap6-3	275
Krtap5-1	267
Krtap8-2	245
Trichohyalin	227
Ktrap17-1	211
Lin7a	-4.4
Il20ra	-4.4
Folh1	-4.6
Serpinb7	-4.6
Fut9	-4.6
Paqr7	-4.6
D430015B01Rik	-4.6
Islr2	-4.7
Hsd17b13	-4.7
D430041B17Rik	-4.8
Gls	-4.8
Fh15	-4.8
E330013P04Rik	-4.8
Gpha2	-4.8
Stk40	-4.9
Nalp4b	-5.0
Myh1	-5.0
E230001N04Rik	-5.0
Tmod2	-5.0
AK080997	-5.1
Fkbp5	-5.1
Pde1c	-5.2
Siglecf	-5.2

Europe PMC Funders Author Manuscripts

Symbol	Fold-change
Trpc2	-5.3
Cxcl13	-5.3
4930567K12Rik	-5.3
Tef	-5.4
Slc23a1	-5.5
C730027J19Rik	-5.6
Per1	-5.8
Defb15	-6.0
Cyp2g1	-6.0
Pde1c	-6.0
Il31ra	-6.1
1110012N22Rik	-6.1
Tsc22d3	-6.8
Tsc22d3	-6.8
Fkbp5	-6.9
6030422H21Rik	-7.3
Tsc22d3	-7.4
Cyp2e1	-7.5
Cyp2g1	-7.7
Myoz2	-8.4
Wbp2nl	-8.7
Il22ra2	-9.7
Cyp2a4	-9.8
Cyp2a5	-10.5
Cyp2a4	-11.7
Il22ra2	-11.7
Hamp2	-83.8