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Once and only once: mechanisms of centriole duplication and their deregulation in disease

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Abstract

Centrioles are conserved microtubule-based organelles that form the core of the centrosome and act as templates for the formation of cilia and flagella. Centrioles have important roles in most microtubule related processes, including motility, cell division and cell signaling. To coordinate these diverse cellular processes, centriole number must be tightly controlled. In cycling cells, one new centriole is formed next to each preexisting centriole in every cell cycle. Advances in imaging, proteomics, structural biology and genome editing have revealed new insights into centriole biogenesis, how centriole numbers are controlled and how alterations in these structures contribute to diseases such as cancer and neurodevelopmental disorders. Moreover, recent work has uncovered the existence of surveillance pathways that limit proliferation of cells with numerical centriole aberrations. Here we discuss recent progress in this field with a focus on signaling pathways and molecular mechanisms.

Introduction

Centrosomes function in animal cells as microtubule-organizing centers to influence cell shape, polarity and motility, as well as spindle formation, chromosome segregation and cytokinesis^{1–4}. Each centrosome typically comprises a pair of centrioles, which assemble a protein matrix, the pericentriolar material (PCM). The PCM harbors not only proteins important for microtubule nucleation⁵, but also regulators of the cell cycle and its checkpoints, in line with important roles for centrosomes in intracellular signaling⁶. Fully mature centrioles can also dock at the plasma membrane where they function as basal bodies for the formation of cilia and flagella⁷, and dysfunction of the basal body-ciliary apparatus gives rise to ciliopathies⁸. In recent years, much progress has been made towards understanding how centriole duplication and centrosome assembly are controlled, and how deregulation of these processes can contribute to human disease^{1,9,10}. Here we summarize our current understanding of the mechanisms underlying the regulation of centriole duplication, and we discuss how centrosome aberrations contribute to human diseases such as cancer and neurodevelopmental disorders. We will focus primarily on vertebrate

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centrosomes, but incorporate data from other organisms where appropriate. To provide a guide to nomenclature, the names of prominent orthologous proteins in different species are presented in Table 1.

Centrosome structure and assembly

Centriole duplication and centrosome assembly are complex processes that need to be tightly regulated during proliferation and development. Key components involved in these processes have recently been identified, setting the stage for mechanistic analyses of centriole biogenesis and PCM assembly.

Establishing centriole structure

Centrioles are cylindrical structures characterized by an evolutionarily conserved radial 9-fold symmetry^{11,12} (Figure 1A). In vertebrates, the walls of centrioles are composed of 9 triplet microtubule blades that are arranged circumferentially. The wall of a fully mature centriole carries two sets of appendages: subdistal appendages, which are required for anchoring of cytoskeletal microtubules, and distal appendages, which are needed for membrane docking during ciliogenesis. Several appendage markers have been identified, but much remains to be learned about the assembly and function of these structures^{13,14}. The proximal part of the procentriole [G] lumen harbors a scaffolding structure known as the ‘cartwheel’ (Figure 1A)¹⁵, whose assembly represents the first step in the construction of a new procentriole and onto which microtubules are added to form the centriolar wall. In some organisms, cartwheels are permanent features of centrioles, but in human cells they act as transient scaffolding structures and are disassembled as cells exit mitosis. At the center of the cartwheel is a ring-shaped hub, from which nine spokes emanate to connect to the A-tubules of the microtubule triplets. In side views, the cartwheel appears as a stack of rings, whose height varies depending on species and cell cycle stage (Figure 1A)^{11,16–20}.

Structural studies and cell free reconstitution experiments have revealed that each cartwheel ring is comprised of nine homodimers of SAS-6 proteins. *In vitro*, SAS-6 can oligomerize into structures closely resembling the cartwheel hub, suggesting that SAS-6 may impart the typical nine-fold symmetry to centrioles^{21–23}. However, the assembly of stable cartwheels *in vivo* likely requires additional proteins, interactions with the microtubule wall and/or preexisting centrioles^{24,25}. The conserved centriole duplication factor STIL (Ana2 in *Drosophila*), interacts with SAS-6 and plays a central role in promoting SAS-6 recruitment and/or assembly^{26–32}. In *Chlamydomonas*, cartwheel formation requires the protein Bld10p^{19,33}, which interacts with SAS-6 to relieve an inhibitory action of the SAS-6 C-terminus on cartwheel assembly²³. In human cells, the putative Bld10p homolog CEP135, also interacts with hSAS-6³⁴, but most CEP135 localizes to the parent centriole and not the procentriole^{35,36}, suggesting additional roles in centriole biogenesis and PCM assembly. The exact role of CEP135 in cartwheel formation in vertebrates therefore remains unclear and no homolog of Bld10p has been identified in *Caenorhabditis elegans*. Finally, the deposition of microtubules onto the cartwheel clearly requires CPAP (Centrosomal P4.1-Associated Protein)/hSAS-4^{37,38,39}.

Centriole length control

Human centrioles display a length of 450–500 nm and a diameter of 200–250 nm¹¹. The dimensions of centrioles are remarkably constant in most cells of any given organism, but occasional striking deviations can be seen in specific cell types⁴⁰. In principle, organelle size can be governed by a variety of mechanisms, including molecular rulers [G] or the regulation of kinetics of subunit assembly and disassembly⁴¹. For centriole length, polymerization and depolymerization of centriolar microtubules is likely to be critical. The most direct evidence for this notion stems from the demonstration that the *Drosophila* kinesin-13 Klp10A acts as a microtubule depolymerase to control centriole length⁴². Mammalian Kif24, another member of the kinesin-13 subfamily, has similarly been shown to localize to centrioles, but although Kif24 is required for normal cilia assembly, it does not influence centriole length⁴³. Interestingly, both Klp10A and Kif24 interact with CP110, a protein previously implicated in centriole length control. While the precise functions of CP110 may differ between species⁴⁴, in humans it caps the distal tips of centrioles and its depletion causes the extension of overly long centriolar microtubules^{36,45}. Given that the removal of CP110 is required to extend the centriolar microtubules and form the axoneme [G] during ciliogenesis^{43,45,46}, it is not surprising that CP110 levels are regulated by multiple mechanisms^{47–50}.

Consistent with structural studies that showed CPAP controls the speed of microtubule growth during centriole assembly^{37–39}, overexpression of CPAP or its interaction partners, CEP120 and SPICE1 (Spindle and Centriole Associated Protein 1), triggers the assembly of excessively long centrioles^{45,51–54}. Centriole length can also be modulated by deregulation of proteins implicated in building the distal halves of centrioles, including the WD40 protein POC1 (Proteome Of Centriole protein 1)⁵⁵, the centrin-binding protein hPOC5⁵⁶, or the microtubule binding protein CEP295 (Ana1 in *Drosophila*)^{57,58}. Interestingly, depletion of CEP295 not only impairs the recruitment of hPOC5 and POC1, but also blocks the acetylation and glutamylation of centriolar microtubules⁵⁷. In vertebrates, these tubulin modifications accumulate on centrioles as well as cilia, and polyglutamylation is required for long-term stability of centriolar microtubules⁵⁹. It may be rewarding to explore whether enzymes implicated in post-translational microtubule modifications contribute to centriole length control⁶⁰.

PCM assembly

Human centrosomes comprise ~200–300 proteins, many of which harbor coiled-coil domains^{61,62}. However, centrosome composition is not static and some proteins rapidly exchange through trafficking on microtubules whose minus ends are anchored within the centrosome⁶³. Others assemble on centrosomes through transient incorporation into highly dynamic cytoplasmic granules, termed centriolar satellites^{13,64}. Satellites have been implicated in the delivery of proteins for centrosome assembly as well as ciliogenesis, and they form and dissolve rapidly in response to a variety of internal and external cues. Although numerous satellite components have recently been identified, satellites do not seem to occur in all cell types and their exact physiological roles remain to be fully understood.

Centrosomes are not surrounded by membranes, raising the question of how the PCM assembles and how its boundaries can be defined. Early electron microscopy led to the perception of PCM as an amorphous structure, but super-resolution microscopy has revealed that individual proteins occupy distinct radial “layers” within the PCM^{65–68}. Large PCM proteins may self-assemble into micron-scale structures through multimerization^{69,70}, and this view is strongly supported by recent structural work on the formation of Cnn scaffolds in *Drosophila*⁷¹. An alternative model is centered on the role of phase separation in the formation of non-membrane bounded organelles^{72,73}. Recent work was focused on *C. elegans* SPD-5, a core PCM component and putative functional homolog of *Drosophila* Cnn⁷⁴. Recombinant SPD-5 was shown to assemble *in vitro* into spherical condensates that concentrate tubulin and other proteins required for microtubule polymerization and stabilization⁷⁵. In future, it will be interesting to determine to what extent *in vivo* PCM assembly occurs through a liquid to condensate phase transition, as opposed to high-affinity, well ordered interactions between complementary surfaces on large proteins. The two mechanisms are not necessarily mutually exclusive, as PCM could form by an initial phase separation that concentrates components which then harden into a gel-like or solid structure with ordered protein-protein interactions.

Control of centriole number

Much like DNA replication, centrosome duplication is tightly regulated to ensure that centriole duplication occurs once and only once (cell cycle control) and that only one new centriole is produced per pre-existing centriole (copy number control)⁷⁶. Furthermore, duplication and segregation of centrosomes must be coordinated with the chromosome duplication-segregation cycle and these processes are co-regulated (Figure 1B). The following discussion will focus on three main stages of the centrosome cycle. First, we will describe the processes that occur around the time of mitosis and endow procentrioles with competence for duplication (Figure 2A). Second, we will summarize the salient features that underpin the biogenesis of new procentrioles at the G1/S transition (Figure 2B). And, third, we will discuss the final steps that result in full maturation of both centrioles and centrosomes at the G2/M transition (Figure 2C).

Licensing centrioles for a new round of duplication

Like DNA replication, which depends on licensing of DNA replication origins, centrioles only acquire the competence for duplication after cells pass through mitosis. In molecular terms, the ‘licensing’ of centrioles is now recognized to depend on two main processes: centriole disengagement which permits the reduplication of the parent centriole and centriole-to-centrosome conversion which is required for the procentriole to acquire competence for duplication.

Centriole engagement, the tight, near-orthogonal connection between each parent centriole and its procentriole, has long been shown to block the reduplication of the parent centriole^{77–79}. Both PLK1 and the protease Separase have been implicated in promoting the loss of this tight connection, a process termed disengagement, prompting searches for the substrates of these enzymes⁷⁸ (Figure 2A). One likely substrate of Separase is the PCM

component PCNT (Pericentrin/Kendrin), which is released from centrosomes following cleavage by Separase in late mitosis^{80,81}. Moreover, cleavage of PCNT is regulated by PLK1⁸² and expression of a non-cleavable PCNT mutant suppressed centriole disengagement^{80,81}. Centriole-associated cohesin has also been reported as a Separase substrate⁸³. However, cohesin cleavage is not sufficient for centriole disengagement in *Drosophila* embryos and thus, further experiments are needed clarify the role of cohesin in centriole engagement⁸⁴.

Early electron microscopy showed that a loss of the orthogonal orientation between the parent centriole and procentriole (disengagement) occurs in late M phase/early G1⁸⁵. More recently, correlative live/electron microscopy revealed that PLK1 drives the ‘distancing’ of procentrioles during early prophase, thereby conferring parent centrioles with competence for re-duplication even if the procentriole remains orthogonal to the parent (Figure 2A)⁸⁶. The PCM is likely to maintain the close association of the centriole pair during mitosis, with the action of Separase contributing to PCM remodeling and the loss of this orthogonal orientation at mitotic exit. While the activity of Plk1 is essential for conferring competence for re-duplication, Separase likely plays a supporting role that ensures disengagement occurs soon after mitotic exit⁷⁸. Finally, the CDK1-dependent removal of the cartwheel from the procentriole⁸⁷ has also been shown to be important for relieving the block to reduplication of the parental centriole (Figure 2A)⁸⁸.

For procentrioles, competence for duplication additionally requires the acquisition of PCM, a process termed ‘centriole to centrosome conversion’^{89,90}, which is also governed by CDK1 and PLK1^{91,92} (Figure 2A). Best described are events in *Drosophila*, where PLK1 is first recruited to CPAP, through CDK1-dependent phosphorylation of a single docking site⁹². In both *Drosophila* and mammalian cells, PLK1 then triggers the sequential assembly of CEP135, CEP295/Ana1 and CEP152/Asl and downstream PCM formation^{58,89,90}. Importantly, recruitment of Asl in *Drosophila* embryos only occurs after disengagement, indicating that these licensing processes occur sequentially⁹³. In mammalian cells, CEP295 directly binds to CEP192 and contributes to the stabilization of centrioles after the loss of the cartwheel upon mitotic exit^{89,94}. Considering that CEP152 and CEP192 form scaffolds for the recruitment of PLK4^{95–99}, the kinase essential for centriole duplication (see below), these results explain why post-mitotic PCM assembly is required to confer duplication competence to procentrioles⁹¹. While *C.elegans* lack an obvious CEP295/Ana1 homolog, recent work has shown that the SAS-7 protein interacts with SPD-2 and is required for procentrioles to acquire competence to duplicate, suggesting SAS-7 may function analogously to CEP295¹⁰⁰.

The birth of a new centriole

While cell cycle-coupled mechanisms of centriole licensing ensure that centriole duplication occurs only once per cell cycle, it remains to be explained how cells limit the building of procentrioles to one per pre-existing parent centriole. Whereas PLK1 plays a key role in cell cycle control of centriole duplication, PLK4 takes center stage as the linchpin for copy number control^{101,102}. As indicated by morphological studies, at the G1/S transition one single procentriole begins to assemble perpendicularly to the parent centriole, and this newly

formed procentriole then remains closely linked to its parent centriole while it elongates throughout G2 (Figures 1 and 2B).

Consistent with a central role in controlling centriole biogenesis, the levels and activity of PLK4 are tightly regulated. Plk4 exists as a stable homodimer and low steady-state levels arise from PLK4 trans-autophosphorylation within the dimer, which triggers SCF- β -TrCP-mediated proteolytic degradation^{103–107}. Upon binding to STIL, PLK4 undergoes a conformational change and is activated through trans-phosphorylation within the activation segment^{28,108,109}. Activated PLK4 then phosphorylates STIL within the so-called STAN motif, triggering the centriolar recruitment of SAS-6 and cartwheel formation^{26–29} (Figure 2B). However, in *C. elegans*, recruitment of a SAS-6/SAS-5 complex was shown to require a direct interaction with the PLK4-related kinase (ZYG-1), independent of catalytic activity¹¹⁰. Further downstream events in centriole biogenesis remain to be fully elucidated, but there is evidence that CEP135 serves to connect SAS-6 to CPAP and outer microtubules of the microtubule triplets³⁴. During centriole elongation CPAP then regulates the growth of centriolar microtubules^{37–39,52}, which are inserted underneath a cap of CP110³⁶. Interestingly, CPAP also interacts with STIL and it will be important to understand how CPAP and STIL modulate each other's activities^{32,111–113}.

One major question that remains to be answered is how the 'construction site' for a new procentriole is chosen on the circumference of the parent centriole (Figure 2B). In mammalian cells, PLK4 is recruited to centrioles through binding to two distinct scaffolding proteins, CEP152 and CEP192^{95–99}. Super-resolution microscopy shows that both CEP152 and CEP192 form rings around parent centrioles and, accordingly, PLK4 can also be seen to form rings in G1 phase. However, PLK4, STIL and SAS-6 then coalesce to a precise region on the circumference of the parent centriole (a dot on the CEP152/CEP195 ring) that marks the site of procentriole assembly^{26,35,97}. *A priori*, there is no structural limitation to impose the formation of a single procentriole around the circumference of the parental cylinder, as indicated by the near-simultaneous formation of multiple procentrioles in response to overexpression of PLK4^{36,101}. So what mechanisms ensure copy-number control? One plausible view invokes a symmetry-breaking event that leads to the stochastic choice of a building site and suppression of all other potential sites (Figure 2B). In one attractive model, STIL is proposed to stabilize PLK4 at the site of procentriole assembly, allowing the remaining PLK4 within the ring to be turned over by self-catalyzed degradation^{26,109}. Such a process would be controlled by both PLK4 kinase activity and counteracting phosphatases and would likely involve multiple feed-back loops, as suggested by theoretical modeling of the role of GTPases in symmetry-breaking during yeast cell polarization¹¹⁴. If correct, this symmetry-breaking model raises the challenge of understanding how PLK4 is regulated in time and space.

According to an alternative model, the lumen of the parent centriole acts as a mould for the assembly of a cartwheel that is subsequently released and used to direct formation of a procentriole (Figure 2B)¹¹⁵. In this case, future work would have to explain how cells limit the use of the mould to once per centriole and cell cycle. It will also be important to better define when and where different complexes involving the centriole duplication factors PLK4, STIL and SAS-6 are formed and stabilized¹¹⁶. Another attractive area ripe for

investigation relates to the role of phosphatases in the spatio-temporal control of centriole duplication¹¹⁷.

Coming of age: maturation of centrioles and centrosomes

In a proliferating human cell, both centrioles and centrosomes undergo final maturation during G2 and M phase (Figure 2C). In late G2, each of the two duplicated centrosomes comprises one parental centriole, associated with PCM, and one procentriole, that lacks the ability to recruit PCM. The two parent centrioles are connected by a tether comprising rootletin and other proteins, anchored to C-Nap1/CEP250^{118,119}. Concomitantly, each procentriole is closely associated with the proximal end of the parent cylinder, through a linkage that remains to be characterized¹²⁰. Importantly, only one of the two parental centrioles is fully mature and competent to function as a basal body for ciliogenesis, a feature indicated by the presence of subdistal and distal appendages. Mitotic progression is accompanied by transient modification/disassembly of appendage structures and acquisition of appendages by the younger parental centriole requires Plk1 (Figure 2C)¹²¹.

At the G2/M transition, the PCM expands significantly in preparation for mitotic spindle formation (Figure 2C). This process, termed ‘centrosome maturation’⁵, has long been known to be governed by PLK1^{122,123}, and a contribution of Aurora A is also well documented¹²⁴. More recent work, carried out largely in *Drosophila* and *C. elegans* embryos, has yielded additional insight into the mechanisms underlying PCM expansion³. The emerging view is that PLK1 triggers the ordered assembly of an initial set of core scaffolding proteins which subsequently recruit all other PCM components. In *Drosophila*, these core proteins are Asl, Cnn and DSpd-2, corresponding to CEP152, CEP215/CDK5RAP2 and CEP192 in mammalian cells⁷⁰. According to one model, phosphorylation of Cnn by PLK1 promotes its continuous recruitment around the centrioles, generating a constant outward flux of this scaffolding protein. One attractive feature of this model is that the activity of PLK1 controls the rate of Cnn incorporation into the PCM, offering a plausible mechanism for calibrating the size of PCM associated with each mitotic centrosome³. However, it is not immediately clear how to reconcile this flux model with data from *C. elegans*, where incorporation of SPD-5 into PCM was found to be isotropic¹²⁵.

Sensing centriole number

While centriole number is normally tightly maintained at two or four copies per cell in cycling cells, there are several instances where centriole number is altered as part of a normal developmental program. One striking example is in multiciliated epithelial cells that line the airways, ventricles and oviducts of vertebrates. These specialized cells form hundreds of centrioles that serve as basal bodies for formation of multiple cilia¹²⁶. However, as we will describe in the following sections, in general aberrations to centriole number are not well-tolerated in cycling cells and can contribute to pathologies. The mechanisms by which cells survey centriole number are now starting to emerge.

Centriole loss and the mitotic surveillance pathway

While centrosomes are a major source of spindle microtubules during mitosis, it is clear that chromatin and microtubule-mediated nucleation pathways can support spindle assembly in the absence of centrosomes⁶³. A striking example of the dispensability of centrosomes for cell division are planarians [G], where cell divisions and regeneration occur in the absence of centrosomes, and centrioles are only assembled in terminally differentiated multiciliated cells to allow the formation of cilia used in locomotion¹²⁷. In *Drosophila*, centrosomes are required during rapid-syncytial cell divisions in the early stages of embryogenesis, but are dispensable thereafter¹²⁸. Importantly, flies lacking centrioles from the late stages of development grow to a normal size and are morphologically normal, but perish soon after hatching because of a lack of sensory cilia. These examples support the view that the ancestral role of centrioles was to direct the formation of cilia and flagella and that their association with the poles of the mitotic spindle acted to ensure their equal segregation into the daughter cells¹²⁹.

Although cell division can proceed in the absence of centrosomes in some circumstances^{130–132}, centrosomes are generally required for sustained proliferation of mammalian cells. Mouse embryos lacking centrioles undergo widespread p53-dependent apoptosis at an earlier developmental stage than mutants that lack cilia¹³³. In cultured mammalian cells, centrosome loss resulted in a robust cell cycle arrest within a few divisions^{134,135}. This arrest could be overcome by removal of p53, explaining why cancer cells often fail to respond to centrosome loss. Therefore, in contrast to planarians and flies, mammalian cells possess mechanisms to “sense” centrosome loss and prevent continued cell proliferation.

Insights into how centrosome depletion was signaled to p53 came from genome-wide knockout screens that led to the identification of a USP28-53BP1-p53-p21 signaling axis referred to as the mitotic surveillance pathway^{136–138}. Deletion of any component of this pathway allowed the continued proliferation of cells in the absence of centrosomes. 53BP1 interacts with p53 and is a pivotal regulator of DNA double-strand break repair, while USP28 is a deubiquitinase that interacts with 53BP1 and has a minor function in DNA damage response signaling^{139–141}. However, the role of 53BP1 in responding to centrosome loss is distinct from its established role in DNA damage repair^{136–138,142}. While much remains to be learned about how the mitotic surveillance pathway functions to survey centrosomes, a plausible model is that in response to centrosome loss, 53BP1 binds to USP28 and p53 to facilitate USP28-dependent deubiquitination and activation of p53, leading to cell cycle arrest^{137,142} (Figure 3).

None of the components of the mitotic surveillance pathway show robust localization to the centrosomes, making it unlikely that they directly monitor centrosome number. How then is centrosome loss ‘sensed’? In the absence of centrosomes, spindle assembly is less efficient and cell division time increased^{135–138}. Remarkably, increasing the duration of mitosis past a specific threshold elicits a durable p53-dependent G1 arrest in human epithelial cells¹⁴³. This raises the possibility that centrosome loss triggers a cell cycle arrest by delaying mitosis. Consistent with this view, all the components of the mitotic surveillance pathway

were also required to arrest the cell cycle following a prolonged mitosis^{136–138}. Moreover, activation of p53 in mouse embryos lacking centrioles was associated with an increase in the duration of mitosis¹³³. Additional evidence comes from the identification of the E3 ligase TRIM37 as a hit in genome wide screens for knockouts that allow proliferation without centrosomes^{137,138}. While TRIM37 is required to arrest the cell cycle after centrosome loss, it is not required to prevent cell proliferation following a delayed mitosis. Loss of TRIM37 enables the formation of extra-centrosomal microtubule organizing centers that speed up spindle assembly in cells lacking centrosomes. TRIM37 deletion may thus “bypass” the arrest caused by centrosome loss by reducing the duration of mitosis in cells lacking centrosomes¹³⁸.

Surprisingly, USP28 knockout mice are viable and have no clear phenotypes^{144,145}. Nevertheless, there is evidence to suggest that activation of the mitotic surveillance pathway could underlie the growth defects observed in primary microcephaly (see below). Future work will be required to elucidate cell and tissue specific differences in signaling through the mitotic surveillance pathway as well as the impact of activation of this pathway in normal physiology and disease¹⁴⁶.

Suppression of cell proliferation following centrosome amplification

Like centrosome loss, increases in centrosome number also suppress the proliferation of cells in culture^{107,147}. This defect can be overcome by removal of p53, but does not depend on USP28 and 53BP1¹³⁶, suggesting that distinct pathways activate p53 in response to an increase or decrease in centrosome number. Initial insight into how centrosome amplification suppresses cell proliferation came from the discovery that tetraploid cells, which contain twice the normal number of centrosomes, stabilize p53 through the Hippo pathway [G] kinase LATS2¹⁴⁸ (Figure 3). Inducing extra centrosomes led to LATS2-dependent p53 stabilization, suggesting that extra centrosomes may, at least in part, be responsible for the activation of LATS2 in tetraploid cells.

Recently, an additional pathway, controlled by the PIDDosome [G], was found to be important in preventing the proliferation of cells with extra centrosomes¹⁴⁹. The PIDDosome controls the proximity-induced activation of Caspase-2¹⁵⁰ and was required to stabilize p53 after cytokinesis failure (Figure 3). Importantly, some PIDDosome components localize to the older parent centriole, suggesting that PIDDosome activation may be controlled by the presence of additional mature centrioles¹⁴⁹. Consistent with this idea, depletion of the appendage protein ODF2, reduced Caspase-2 activation and p53 stabilization in cells overexpressing PLK4¹⁴⁹. While ‘counting’ mature parent centrioles offer a method to detect centriole amplification, it remains unclear how excess mature parent centrioles would be detected and in turn, how they would promote activation of the PIDDosome. It will be interesting to test if driving premature maturation of the younger parent centriole with constitutively active Plk1 can promote PIDDosome activation in the absence of centriole amplification¹²¹.

Unlike p53 loss, LATS2 or Caspase-2 knockout does not allow the continued proliferation of cells with extra centrosomes^{136,149}. It is therefore likely that additional pathways feed into p53 activation in response to centrosome amplification. Since many tumor cells possess

supernumerary centrosomes (see below), overcoming the inhibitory effect of extra centrosomes on cell proliferation will be a key step to allow cells with extra centrosomes to acquire the necessary oncogenic mutations required for tumor development¹⁵¹.

Centrosome defects and cancer

Over a century ago the German cytologist Theodor Boveri postulated that centrosome aberrations could contribute to human cancer. Indeed, centrosome defects are present in a broad array of both solid and hematopoietic human cancers and in some tumors types, centrosome abnormalities have been observed early in disease development and correlate with advanced tumor grade and poor clinical outcome^{10,151}. Centrosome anomalies can be subdivided into either numerical or structural alterations¹⁵¹. While structural alterations are likely to originate from alterations in the levels or activity of centrosome proteins¹⁵², numerical alterations reflect increases in centrosome copy number, and arise due to the acquisition of an excessive number of centrioles. While structural and numerical centrosome aberrations are conceptually distinct, they often co-exist in tumors.

Do extra centrosomes promote tumorigenesis?

To test the role of extra centrosomes in cancer, many studies have exploited PLK4 overexpression to increase centrosome number. Pioneering work in *Drosophila* showed that while centrosome amplification does not promote the development of spontaneous tumors, neuroblast and epithelial cells with extra centrosomes can initiate tumorigenesis when transplanted into host flies^{153,154}. However, how centrosome amplification impacts tumor development in mammals is complex. In the mouse brain, extra centrosomes do not promote tumorigenesis¹⁵⁵. Similarly, centrosome amplification in the skin epidermis resulted in spindle orientation defects and aneuploidy, but these abnormalities were not able to initiate spontaneous tumorigenesis or enhance the development of carcinogen-induced skin tumors¹⁵⁶. By contrast, centrosome amplification did accelerate tumorigenesis in a p53-deficient skin epidermis¹⁵⁷. Moreover, global PLK4 overexpression also accelerated the onset of lymphomas and sarcomas in p53 null mice and promoted hyperproliferation in the skin and pancreas¹⁵⁸. Taken together, these studies validate a central role of p53 in restricting the continued proliferation of cells with centrosome amplification in mammals¹⁰⁷.

While initial studies failed to observe the development of spontaneous tumors in animals with widespread PLK4 overexpression^{156,158,159}, a more modest increase in PLK4 levels was shown to promote persistent centrosome amplification that promoted the development of spontaneous tumors¹⁴⁷. Importantly, these tumors exhibited dramatic numerical and structural chromosomal alterations, mirroring the complex karyotype changes frequently observed in human tumors with extra centrosomes¹⁴⁷. Some impairment of the p53 pathway is to be expected in tumors that form spontaneously in response to centrosome amplification. Accordingly, spontaneous lymphomas that develop in mice with centrosome amplification show down-regulation of p53 target genes¹⁴⁷. In the future, it will be interesting to test if knockout of LATS2 or PIDDosome components accelerate the development of tumors driven by centrosome amplification.

The origin of centrosome defects in tumor cells

Cancer cell lines show wide variation in the penetrance and extent of centrosome amplification. Reversible depletion of centrosomes using a PLK4 kinase inhibitor has shown that tumor cell lines reach an equilibrium of centrosome number distribution that is determined by the rate at which extra centrosomes are accumulated and the rate at which cells harboring them are selected against¹³⁴. One pathway leading to the acquisition of extra centrosomes is dysregulation of the centriole duplication cycle. While genes encoding centrosome proteins are rarely mutated in human cancers, increased or decreased expression of centrosome proteins is more common (Table 2)^{1,10,151}. In addition, perturbation of cell cycle progression can lead to defects in centriole biogenesis. The clearest example is that of a prolonged arrest in G2 phase, which leads to Plk1 activation, centriole disengagement and premature centriole reduplication¹⁶⁰. Consequently, DNA damage can induce centrosome amplification by increasing the time cells spend in G2 phase^{161,162}.

A final pathway to generate extra centrosomes is through failed cell division. In addition to the doubling of centrosome number, failing division provides the benefit of doubling the genome to buffer against deleterious mutations or chromosome segregation errors. These properties allow tetraploid cells to sample novel karyotypes, eventually landing upon a rare combination that provides a growth advantage¹⁶³. Consistent with a pro-tumorigenic role of tetraploid cells, a growing body of evidence suggests that a large fraction of human tumors arise from a tetraploid intermediate¹⁶⁴. Although the uncontrolled proliferation of tetraploid cells can drive tumorigenesis¹⁶⁵, extra centrosomes in tetraploid cells initially trigger a p53-dependent cell cycle arrest¹⁴⁸. As a consequence, repeated cytokinesis failure does not result in the long-term establishment of centrosome amplification in cell culture¹⁶⁶. This suggests that further genetic alterations, such as loss of LATS2, Caspase-2 or p53, are required to bypass this fitness disadvantage and generate long-term increases in centrosome number following cytokinesis failure.

Deregulation of oncogenes or tumor suppressor genes have been shown to lead to the formation of supernumerary centrosomes. For example, KLF14 is a transcriptional repressor of PLK4 and knockout of KLF14 leads to PLK4-induced centrosome amplification and tumor formation in mice¹⁶⁷. PLK4 is also transcriptionally repressed by the p53 tumor suppressor^{158,168}. Nevertheless, p53 knockout is insufficient to induce centrosome amplification in human cell lines and in tissues of mice^{135,136,147,155,156,158}. Rather than playing a direct role in controlling centrosome number as originally proposed¹⁶⁹, loss of p53 is likely to offer a permissive environment for the continued proliferation of cells with centrosome abnormalities, as it allows cells to bypass centrosome number surveillance pathways^{107,156–158}.

Consequences of centrosome defects

Irrespective of how they arise, extra centrosomes are capable of nucleating microtubules that lead to the formation of multi-polar mitotic spindles. If not corrected, this results in a multi-polar division leading to extensive chromosome missegregation and inviable progeny (Figure 4A)¹⁷⁰. The primary mechanism by which tumor cells suppress multi-polar divisions is through the coalescence of centrosomes into two groups to form a pseudo-bipolar

spindle¹⁷¹. The efficiency of the clustering process is likely to be an important parameter in determining the ability of cells to tolerate centrosome amplification^{172,173}. Centrosome clustering increases the frequency of incorrect merotelic [G] attachments of chromosomes to the mitotic spindle, leading to low rates of chromosome segregation errors that can be compatible with cell viability (Figure 4A)^{153,170,174}. Through this pathway, supernumerary centrosomes can promote the frequent gains and losses of chromosomes during division, providing an explanation for the tight correlation of centrosome amplification and aneuploidy [G] in human cancer^{10,151}.

An additional source of mitotic errors emerges from the improper timing of centrosome separation prior to cell division. Both accelerating and delaying centrosome separation increase the frequency of chromosome misattachments to the mitotic spindle leading to chromosome segregation errors^{175–178}. It will be interesting to investigate if structural or numerical alterations in centrosomes can contribute to defects in the timing of centrosome separation.

Along with whole chromosome aneuploidy, mitotic errors driven by supernumerary centrosomes also promote the formation of DNA double strand breaks that lead to chromosomal rearrangements. Extra centrosomes increase the frequency of chromosomes that lag in the middle of the spindle during anaphase and these chromosomes can be damaged by constriction in the cleavage furrow during cytokinesis¹⁷⁹. Moreover, lagging chromosomes are often partitioned into micronuclei [G], which accumulate high levels of DNA damage that promote chromosomal rearrangements^{180,181}. Supernumerary centrosomes can therefore facilitate karyotype evolution by acting as a source of both numerical and structural chromosomal alterations.

While centrosome amplification provides a source of genetic instability, extra centrosomes could also contribute to tumorigenesis through additional mechanisms. *Drosophila* neural stem cells (neuroblasts) or epithelial cells with extra centrosomes are capable of initiating tumorigenesis when transplanted into host flies^{153,154}. While aneuploidy was observed in transplanted epithelial cells with extra centrosomes, supernumerary centrosomes generated only a modest increase in aneuploidy in neuroblasts, suggesting that genomic instability is unlikely to be the cause of the uncontrolled proliferation of the transplanted brain cells. Instead, neuroblasts with extra centrosomes have spindle alignment defects that result in an increase in symmetric over asymmetric cell divisions (Figure 4B)¹⁵³. Impaired asymmetric divisions lead to amplification of the neuroblast stem cell pool and subsequent tissue overgrowth¹⁸². Examining whether defects in asymmetric cell division contribute to tumorigenesis in vertebrates is an exciting area of future work.

In addition to perturbing cell divisions, numerical and structural centrosome aberrations can also alter the architecture of the interphase microtubule cytoskeleton^{152,183}. Centrosome amplification promotes the formation of invasive protrusions in non-transformed mammary cells grown in a three-dimensional culture system¹⁸⁴. Importantly, this invasive behavior was not caused by aneuploidy. Instead, cells with extra centrosomes exhibited increased microtubule nucleation that activated the small GTPase RAC1 (Figure 4C). This provides a possible explanation for the association of centrosome amplification and advanced tumor

grade. Further work will be needed to define the impact of centrosome aberrations on cellular invasion and metastasis *in vivo*.

In addition to their role at the centrosome, centrioles also serve as basal bodies required for primary cilia formation. In cultured human cells, PLK4-induced centriole amplification frequently resulted in the formation of more than one primary cilium¹⁸⁵. Surprisingly, cells with additional cilia had reduced levels of ciliary signaling molecules and defective activation of the cilia-regulated Sonic Hedgehog pathway. By contrast, in the mouse epidermis and primary keratinocytes, PLK4 overexpression leads to centriole amplification and the formation of fewer primary cilia¹⁵⁸. Centriole amplification can therefore disrupt ciliary signaling, either due to dilution of ciliary signaling components or the loss of cilia themselves (Figure 4D). Since dysregulation of cilia-regulated signaling pathways are known to contribute to tumorigenesis, supernumerary centrioles could impact cell proliferation by perturbing normal ciliary signaling^{186,187}.

Centrosome anomalies in primary microcephaly

Autosomal recessive primary microcephaly (MCPH) is a severe developmental disorder caused by reduced neuronal proliferation during embryonic development and characterized by small brain size and mental retardation. Surprisingly, the major genetic causes of MCPH are mutations in widely expressed genes coding for proteins that function at the centrosome. Currently, mutations in twelve genes encoding centrosome-localized proteins have been shown to cause MCPH and at least eight of these have established roles in centriole duplication (Table 2)^{188–190}. This suggests that defects in centriole biogenesis may be an underlying cause of neurogenesis defects in MCPH¹⁹¹. Consistently, microcephaly causing mutations in PLK4 and CPAP have been shown to impair centriole biogenesis and depletion of proteins required for centriole duplication reduces the brain size of mice^{32,111–113,192–194}. On the other hand, microcephaly mutations in STIL can promote centriole amplification and overexpression of PLK4 in the developing mouse brain resulted in centriole amplification and reduced brain size at birth^{87,155}. Taken together, the evidence supports the idea that either elevated or reduced numbers of centrioles can cause MCPH.

During brain development, neural progenitors undergo symmetric proliferative divisions to self-renew. Since centrosomes play an important role in orienting the mitotic spindle, defects in the centrosome number or structure could impair symmetric divisions and lead to the premature depletion of neural progenitors¹⁹⁵. In agreement with this view, spindle orientation defects have been observed in brain organoids [G] and mice with MCPH-causing mutations in CDK5RAP2^{196,197}. While this mechanism is appealing, randomizing spindle orientation in mouse neuroepithelial progenitors does not affect the rate at which neurons are produced¹⁹⁸, and defects in mitotic spindle orientation were not observed in the microcephalic brains of some mouse models¹⁹¹.

Cells with abnormal centriole numbers exhibit delayed spindle assembly and an increased duration of mitosis^{107,134,135,199}. Since a mitotic delay is observed in neural progenitors in the brains of some mouse models of microcephaly, it is plausible this delay activates the mitotic surveillance pathway to restrict the proliferation of neural progenitors during

embryogenesis^{192,193,200}. In support of this idea, extending mitosis was shown to promote both differentiation and death of neural progenitors in the developing mouse brain²⁰⁰. Moreover, mouse models with reduced levels of centrosomal proteins exhibit microcephaly that is rescued by loss of p53^{192,193}. Importantly, while deletion of p53 rescued brain size, it did not correct defects in tissue architecture caused by abnormal spindle orientation and the incorrect spatial arrangement of neural progenitor cells¹⁹². The available data support a new model in which centrosome defects lead to mitotic delays that trigger activation of the mitotic surveillance pathway in the developing brain. Future work should focus on testing whether the mitotic surveillance pathway is activated in neural progenitor cells with centrosome defects and whether deletion of USP28 and 53BP1 can rescue brain size in models of MCPH. Mutations in some non-centrosomal proteins also cause MCPH and it will be interesting to test if these mutations also delay mitosis and activate the mitotic surveillance pathway^{188–190}.

A central unanswered question is why mutations in widely expressed centrosome proteins lead to specific defects in brain development? In fact, mutations in some centrosome proteins cause microcephalic primordial dwarfism, where a reduction in brain size is observed alongside a corresponding reduction in body size (Table 2)^{188,189}. Since MCPH or microcephalic primordial dwarfism can be caused by mutations in the same gene, they may represent a phenotypic spectrum with overlap in the underlying pathological mechanisms. Weak hypomorphic mutations [**G**] in a gene could result in MCPH, while stronger hypomorphs cause global growth defects leading to microcephalic primordial dwarfism. One explanation for the increased sensitivity of the brain is that cortical development requires extensive proliferation in a brief developmental time window, while other organs might be able to “catch up” if there are minor delays in achieving the required number of cells. An alternative possibility is that neural progenitors have a lower threshold for activation of the mitotic surveillance pathway compared with other cell types.

Perspective

The past decade has witnessed a dramatic increase in our understanding of the molecules and molecular mechanisms that control centriole biogenesis and function. We will continue to benefit from insights provided by structural work on centriole and PCM components and continued research into the role of phosphorylation in controlling centriole assembly. In particular, additional substrates of kinases PLK1, PLK4 and CDK2 are likely to await identification. Moreover, little is presently known about the role of phosphatases in centriole biogenesis and it will be interesting to further explore the role of other posttranslational modifications of centrosome proteins.

An increased understanding of the molecular mechanisms underlying centriole number, structure and function will have important ramifications for the understanding and treatment of diseases linked to centrosome dysfunction and potential therapeutic approaches are now being explored (Box 1). In this regard, the identification of pathways that restrain the cell cycle in response to abnormal centrosome numbers is particularly exciting. However, we lack a comprehensive understanding of how these pathways are triggered and how they function in the context of an organism. In future, animal models that faithfully mimic the

phenotypes produced by centrosome dysfunction will play a critical role to elucidate the mechanisms by which centrosome defects contribute to human disease. At present, studies that have examined the effect of centrosome amplification in mammals interfere with PLK4 expression. However, PLK4 also plays a critical role in spindle assembly in the absence of centrioles in the early mouse embryo¹³², and recent work also suggested PLK4 can control cancer cell migration and invasion through regulation of the actin cytoskeleton²⁰¹. It will be important, therefore, to further explore these non-canonical functions of PLK4 and extend previous studies by employing alternative means to modify centriole numbers.

Box 1

Centrosomes as therapeutic targets

PLK4 has emerged as a therapeutic target based on its key role in controlling centrosome duplication and recent evidence that it functions to promote cancer cell migration and invasion^{101,102,201}. CFI-400945 was the first described inhibitor of PLK4 and potently suppresses the growth of human Xenograft tumors in mice²⁰². However, CFI-400945 also inhibits the activity of other kinases including Aurora B, making it unclear whether PLK4 is the only relevant therapeutic target of CFI-400945. The recent development of the highly specific PLK4 inhibitor centrinone provides a precise means to study the effect of inhibiting centrosome biogenesis on tumor growth. Work in cultured cells showed centrinone prevents the proliferation of non-transformed cells, but allows continued proliferation of most transformed cell lines¹³⁴. This suggests that inhibiting centrosome duplication alone may not be an efficacious anti-cancer strategy. Nevertheless, it may be possible to identify genetic alterations that are synthetically lethal with centrosome loss and PLK4 inhibitors could offer therapeutic value in suppressing functions of PLK4 that promote invasion and metastasis²⁰¹.

An alternative therapeutic strategy is to exacerbate the challenge of dividing with abnormal centrosome numbers. Since centrosome clustering is not required in cells with normal centrosome numbers, but is required to ensure bipolar spindle assembly in cells with supernumerary centrosomes, one idea is to suppress centrosome clustering and force cancer cells with extra centrosomes into lethal multipolar divisions^{170,171,174}. However, the fact that most cancer cell lines can proliferate *in vitro* without centrosomes suggests that they do not require supernumerary centrosomes for their survival¹³⁴. Inhibiting centrosome clustering may therefore reduce the initial tumor burden, but eventually allow the outgrowth of resistant cell populations. An alternative to targeting the centrosome directly is to manipulate proteins that control the response to errors in centrosome duplication. USP28 is an enzymatic component of the mitotic surveillance pathway and in principle can be inhibited. Since USP28 knockout mice lack any clear phenotypes^{144,145}, USP28 inhibition could be used therapeutically in conditions such as microcephaly, where the mitotic surveillance pathway may be pathologically activated.

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Glossary

Procentriole

A newly constructed centriole that is unable to duplicate

Molecular rulers

Molecules of defined size that can be used to set distances between other structures.

Axoneme

The nine-fold symmetrical microtubule based structure at the center of cilia and flagella.

Planarians

A flatworm used as a model system to study regeneration.

Hippo pathway

A signaling pathway that controls organ size in animals by restraining cell proliferation and promoting apoptosis.

PIDDosome

A protein complex comprised of RAIDD and PIDD that is implicated in the activation of Caspase 2.

Merotelic

A type of attachment where one kinetochore binds microtubules emanating from two centrosomes located on opposite sides of the mitotic spindle.

Aneuploidy

The presence of an abnormal chromosome number that is not a multiple of the haploid chromosome complement.

Micronuclei

A small nucleus separate from the daughter nucleus that contains one or a few chromosomes or chromosome fragments.

Organoids

An *in vitro* culture system that mimics the micro-anatomy of an organ.

Hypomorphic mutations

A mutation that causes a partial loss of gene function.

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Key points

- Centrosome duplication is tightly regulated to ensure that centriole duplication occurs only once per cell cycle and that only one new centriole is produced per pre-existing centriole.
- PLK1 plays a key role in cell cycle control of centriole duplication, while PLK4 takes center stage in controlling centriole copy number.
- Recent work has uncovered the existence of distinct signaling pathways that limit proliferation of cells with an increase or decrease in centrosome number.
- Overcoming the inhibitory effect of extra centrosomes on cell proliferation is necessary to allow cells with extra centrosomes to acquire the necessary oncogenic mutations required for tumor development.
- Primary microcephaly may be caused by deregulation of centriole numbers and, potentially, by pathological activation of the mitotic surveillance pathway in the developing brain.

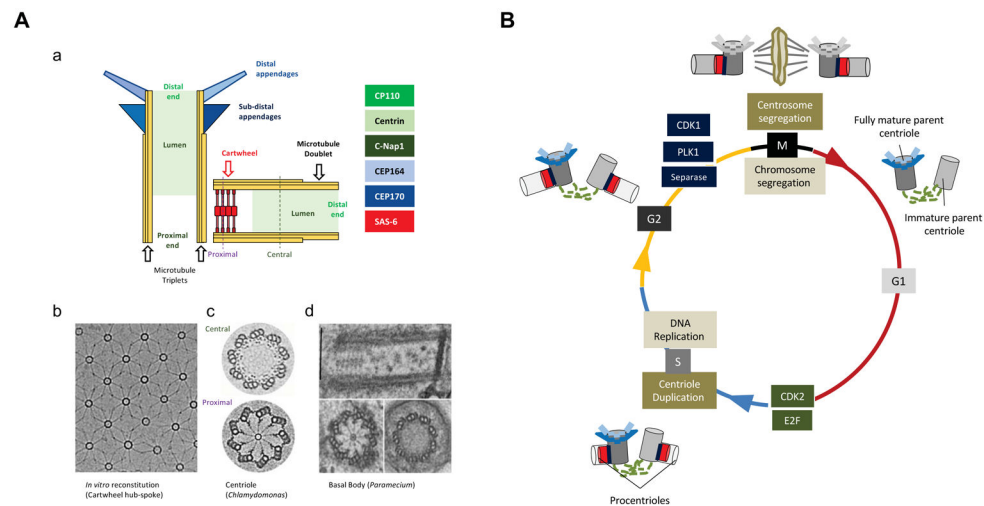


Figure 1. Centriole architecture and the centrosome duplication-segregation cycle

(A) (a) Schematic showing fully mature parent centriole (upright) and tightly associated procentriole. Prominent markers representative for the different structures are indicated to the right. (b) Micrograph shows lattice of *in vitro* reconstituted cartwheel hub and spoke structures visualized by cryo-electron microscopy. Adapted with permission from²³. (c) Image derived from cryotomogram sections of *Chlamydomonas* procentriole emphasizes cartwheel and triplet microtubules. Adapted with permission from¹⁹. (d) Transmission electron microscopy shows longitudinal section (top) and cross sections at proximal (lower left) and distal parts (lower right) of *Paramecium* basal body (Anne-Marie Tassin, unpublished). (B) Shared pathways ensure coordination of centrosome duplication-segregation and chromosome replication-segregation cycles. At the G1/S transition both centriole duplication and DNA replication depend on CDK2 as well as phosphorylation of the retinoblastoma protein pRb and liberation of E2F transcription factors²⁰³. Similarly, overlapping sets of enzymes, including the kinases CDK1 and PLK1 and the protease Separase govern entry into mitosis, chromosome segregation, and licensing of DNA and centrioles for a new round of duplication. Lastly, several proteins with well-established functions in DNA transactions have been proposed to play additional roles in the centrosome cycle, but indirect effects on centrosomes remain difficult to exclude²⁰⁴. Centrioles are depicted in different shades of grey to indicate different states of maturity. A procentriole (light grey) is a newly created centriole that is not yet duplication competent. A procentriole converts into an immature parent centriole (middle grey) following disengagement in mitosis. An immature parent centriole becomes a mature parent centriole (dark grey) following the acquisition of appendages. Appendage structures undergo a transient modification/disassembly during mitosis. Cartwheels are shown in red; loose tethers connecting parent centrioles in dashed green lines; tight linkers connecting procentrioles to their parents in dark blue; subdistal and distal appendages are shown in light and dark blue respectively.

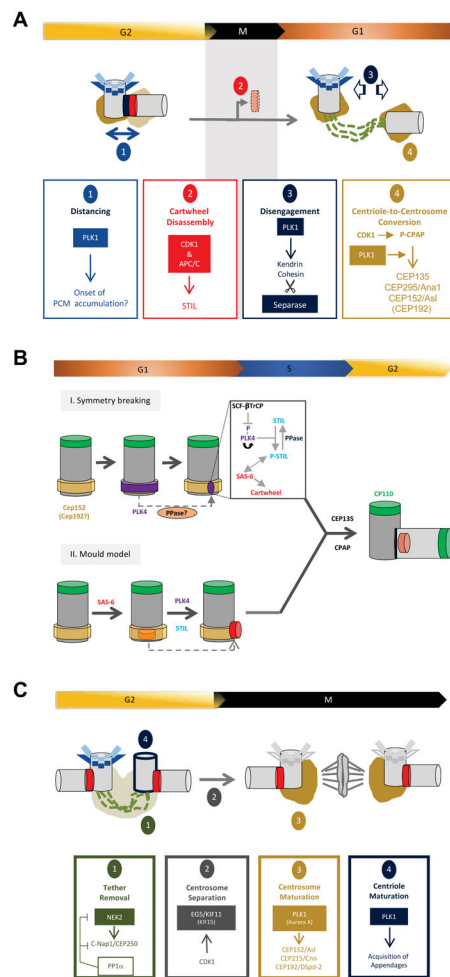


Figure 2. Key aspects of the centrosome duplication cycle

(A) *Mitotic events licensing a new round of centriole duplication.* Schematic describing four major events that occur during the progression from late G2 through M and into early G1. All four events, distancing, removal of the cartwheel, centriole disengagement and centriole-to-centrosome conversion, are considered necessary for the licensing of centrioles for a new round of duplication. Although the four events are conceptually distinct, they are expected to be integrated at a molecular and structural level.

(B) *The birth of a new centriole.* The master regulator PLK4 is initially recruited to a ring of CEP152 and CEP192 at the proximal end of the parent centriole. According to one model (I), a symmetry breaking event triggers accumulation of active PLK4 at one single site (dot) on the ring. The mechanism underlying symmetry breaking remains to be understood, but presumably involves self-enforcing feedback loops centered on PLK4, STIL, proteases and yet unidentified phosphatases. An alternative model (II) attributes an important role to the lumen of the parent centriole in assisting SAS-6 self-assembly into a cartwheel structure. PLK4 and STIL subsequently cooperate to remove the pre-formed cartwheel scaffold from the mould and position it laterally on the parent centriole.

(C) *Coming of age: centriole and centrosome maturation.* A G2 cell typically comprises 2 pairs of centrioles. The two parent centrioles are initially connected by a loose tether and

form a single microtubule-organizing center. This tether is removed by a shift in the balance of activities of the NEK2 kinase and an opposing type 1 phosphatase (PP1 α) acting on C-Nap1/CEP250 and other substrates^{118,119,205}. Subsequently, the two centrosomes are separated by the microtubule-dependent motor EG5 (and the partially redundant motor KIF15)²⁰⁶, with EG5 being recruited to centrosomes in response to CDK1 phosphorylation²⁰⁷. Entry into mitosis requires expansion of PCM, termed centrosome maturation, in preparation for mitotic spindle formation. This step is triggered by PLK1 and Aurora A and results in the sequential recruitment of CEP152/Asl, CEP215/Cnn and CEP192/DSpd-2. Finally, only one parent centriole is fully mature (i.e. carries appendages) in a G2 cell, but during G2 and/or M phase the second parent centriole matures and acquires appendages in an event triggered by PLK1¹²¹. Centrioles are depicted in different shades of grey and PCM in different shades of brown, to indicate different states of maturity. Cartwheels are shown in red; loose tethers connecting parent centrioles as dashed green lines; tight linkers connecting procentrioles to their parents in dark blue; subdistal and distal appendages in light and dark blue respectively.

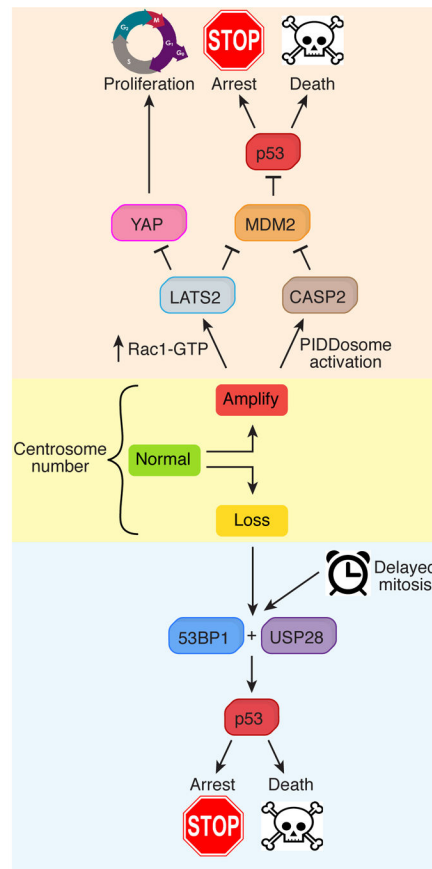


Figure 3. Responding to centrosome defects

Pathways activated by centrosome loss (bottom) and centrosome amplification (top). Centrosome loss leads to 53BP1 and USP28-dependent stabilization of p53, which in turn promotes either cell death or cell cycle arrest^{133,136–138}. An increased duration of mitosis also activates p53 through the same pathway. Centrosome amplification leads to hyper-activation of Rac1 and a corresponding decline in RhoA-GTP. RhoA-GTP activates the LATS2 kinase, which stabilizes p53 through inhibition of MDM2. In addition, LATS2 phosphorylates and inactivates the transcription factor YAP to inhibit proliferation¹⁴⁸. In an alternative pathway, supernumerary centrosomes promote activation of the PIDDosome, which leads to activation of Caspase-2¹⁴⁹. Active Caspase-2 cleaves MDM2 and thereby stabilizes p53²⁰⁸.

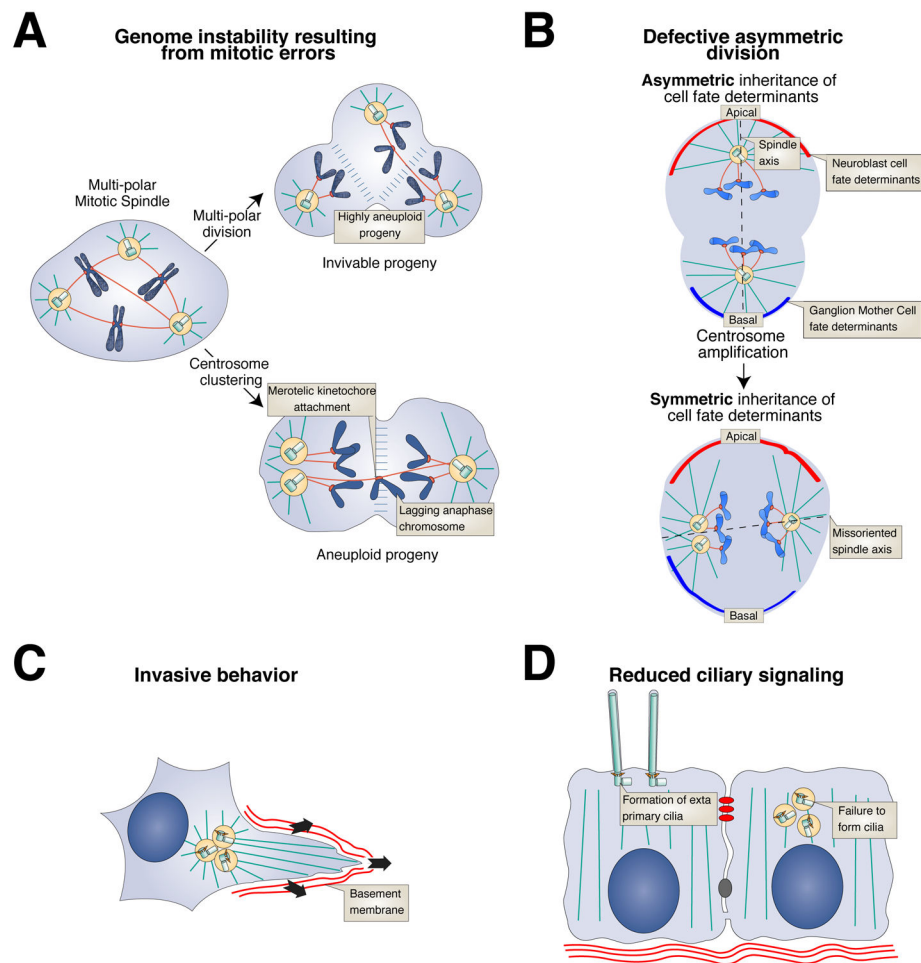


Figure 4. Mechanisms through which centrosome amplification can contribute to tumorigenesis

(A) *Genome instability*. Cells with supernumerary centrosomes form multi-polar mitotic spindles. Multipolar divisions lead to the production of highly aneuploid daughter cells that are typically inviable. To avoid multipolar divisions, cells cluster their centrosomes prior to anaphase. Centrosome clustering enriches for incorrect merotelic attachments of chromosomes to the mitotic spindle, resulting in chromosome segregation errors^{153,170,174}. In addition to creating whole chromosome aneuploidy, mitotic errors caused by extra centrosomes can promote the acquisition of DNA double strand breaks that result in chromosomal rearrangements^{179–181}.

(B) *Defective asymmetric divisions*. *Drosophila* neuroblasts undergo asymmetric cell division to self-renew and produce a differentiated Ganglion Mother Cell. Centrosome amplification can lead to a failure to correctly align the spindle resulting in the equal partitioning of cell fate determinants (red and green crescents) into the daughter cells. This leads to an expansion of the stem cell pool and tissue overgrowth¹⁵³. However, centrosome amplification did not produce spindle orientation defects in mouse neuronal cells, indicating this defect is likely to species or cell type specific¹⁵⁵.

(C) *Invasive behavior*. Increased microtubule nucleation promotes Rac1 hyper-activation that drives invasive behavior¹⁸⁴.

(D) *Reduced ciliary signaling.* Ciliary signaling can be disrupted in response to centrosome amplification by either dilution of cilia signaling components or a failure to form cilia^{158,185}.

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Table 1

A brief guide to nomenclature

H. sapiens	D. melanogaster	C. elegans	Chlamydomonas
PLK4	Plk4 (SAK)	zyg-1	
SAS-6	DSas-6	sas-6	BLD12
STIL	Ana2	sas-5	
CPAP (CENPJ)	DSas-4	sas-4	
CEP135	DCep135		BLD10
CEP152	Asl		
CEP192	DSpd-2	spd-2	
CEP215 (CDK5RAP2)	Cnn	spd-5	
CEP295	Ana1		

Footnotes: Plk4 = Polo-like kinase 4; SAS-6 = Spindle Assembly Abnormal 6; STIL = SCL/TAL1 Interrupting Locus; CPAP = Centrosomal P4.1-Associated Protein/CENPJ = Centromere Protein J; CEP135= Centrosomal Protein 135; CEP152 = Centrosomal Protein 152; CEP192 = Centrosomal Protein 192; CDK5RAP2/CEP216 = CDK5 Regulatory Subunit Associated Protein 2/Centrosomal Protein 216; CEP295 = Centrosomal Protein 295; Ana2 = Anastral Spindle 2; SAS-4 = Spindle Assembly Abnormal 4; Asl = Asterless; Dspd-2 = Spindle Defective 2; Cnn = centrosomin; Ana1 = Anastral Spindle 1; zyg-1 = Zygote defective 1; sas-5 = Spindle Assembly Abnormal 5; spd-5 = Spindle Defective 5; BLD12 = Bald 12; BLD10 = Bald 10.

Table 2

Proteins involved in centriole number control, their functions and links to disease

Gene symbol	Function	Links with disease
Centriole genes linked with tumorigenesis		
<i>PLK4</i>	Centriole duplication	Overexpressed in breast cancer. Controls invasion through regulation of the actin cytoskeleton. <i>PLK4</i> ^{+/-} mice are predisposed to liver and lung cancer
<i>STIL</i>	Centriole duplication	Promoter fused to <i>TAL1</i> in T-Cell acute lymphoblastic leukaemia
<i>NLP</i>	Microtubule nucleation	Overexpressed in multiple cancers
Genes linked to MCPH		
<i>PLK4</i>	Centriole duplication	Mutations reduce the levels of <i>PLK4</i>
<i>STIL</i>	Centriole duplication	Mutations inhibit the cell-cycle controlled degradation of <i>STIL</i>
<i>CPAP</i>	Controls centriole length and centriole duplication	Mutations weaken binding of <i>CPAP</i> to <i>STIL</i>
<i>CEP135</i>	Centriole duplication	
<i>CEP152</i>	Centriole duplication	
<i>CEP63</i>	Centriole duplication	
<i>CDK5RAP2/CEP215</i>	Centriole duplication	
<i>WDR62</i>	Spindle pole organization; Centriole duplication	
<i>ASPM</i>	Spindle pole organization; Centriole duplication	
<i>TUBGCP6</i>	Centriole duplication, component of the γ Tubulin ring complex	
<i>TUBGCP4</i>	Component of the γ Tubulin ring complex	
<i>CDK6</i>	Centrosome associated in mitosis	Mutations mislocalize <i>CDK6</i>
Centriole genes linked to primordial dwarfism		
<i>PLK4</i>	Centriole duplication	Mutations reduce the levels of <i>PLK4</i>
<i>CPAP</i>	Centriole duplication	
<i>CEP152</i>	Centriole duplication	
<i>CEP63</i>	Centriole duplication	
<i>PCNT</i>	Component of the PCM	Mutations mislocalize <i>PCNT</i>
Centriole genes linked with other disorders		
<i>ALMS1</i>	Functions in ciliogenesis	Alstrom Syndrome results in retinitis pigmentosa, deafness, obesity and diabetes.
<i>OFD1</i>	Controls centriole length	Orofaciodigital syndrome results in malformations of the face, oral cavity and digits
<i>C2CD3</i>	Controls centriole length	Orofaciodigital syndrome results in malformations of the face, oral cavity and digits

Footnotes: *Plk4* = Polo-like kinase 4; *STIL* = *SCL/TAL1* Interrupting Locus; *NLP* = Ninein-Like Protein; *CPAP* = Centrosomal P4.1-Associated Protein; *CEP135* = Centrosomal Protein 135; *CEP152* = Centrosomal Protein 152; *CEP63* = Centrosomal Protein 63; *CDK5RAP2/CEP215* = *CDK5* Regulatory Subunit Associated Protein 2/Centrosomal Protein 215; *WDR62* = WD Repeat Domain 62; *ASPM* = Abnormal Spindle Microtubule Assembly; *TUBGCP6* = Tubulin Gamma Complex Associated Protein 6; *TUBGCP4* = Tubulin Gamma Complex Associated Protein 4; *CDK6* = Cyclin Dependent Kinase 6; *PCNT* = Pericentrin/Kendrin; *ALSM1* = Alstrom Syndrome Protein 1; *OFD1* = Oral-Facial-Digital Syndrome

1; C2D3 = C2 Calcium Dependent Domain Containing 3; TAL1 = T-Cell Acute Lymphocytic Leukemia 1; PCM = Pericentriolar Material. MCPH = Autosomal recessive primary microcephaly.

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