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## Loss of *LRIG1* locus increases risk of early and late relapse of stage I/II breast cancer

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### Abstract

Gains and losses at chromosome 3p12–21 are common in breast tumors and associated with patient outcomes. We hypothesized that the *LRIG1* gene at 3p14.1, whose product functions in ErbB-family member degradation, is a critical tumor modifier at this locus. We analyzed 971 stage I/II breast tumors using Affymetrix Oncoscan™ molecular inversion probe arrays that include 12 probes located within *LRIG1*. Copy number results were validated against gene expression data available in the public database. By partitioning the *LRIG1* probes nearest exon 12/13, we confirm a breakpoint in the gene and show that gains and losses in the sub-regions differ by tumor and patient characteristics including race/ethnicity. In analyses adjusted for known prognostic

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factors, loss of *LRIG1* was independently associated with risk of any relapse (HR, 1.90; 95% CI, 1.32–2.73), relapse 5 y (HR, 2.39; 95% CI, 1.31–4.36), and death (HR, 1.55; 95% CI, 1.11–2.16). Analyses of copy number across chromosome 3, as well as expression data from pooled, publically available datasets, corroborated the hypothesis of an elevated and persistent risk among cases with loss of or low *LRIG1*. We concluded that loss/low expression of *LRIG1* is an independent risk factor for breast cancer metastasis and death in stage I/II patients. Increased hazard in patients with loss/low *LRIG1* persists years after diagnosis, suggesting that *LRIG1* is acting as a critical suppressor of tumor metastasis and an early clinical indicator of risk for late recurrences in otherwise low-risk patients.

## Keywords

breast cancer; relapse; death; *LRIG1*; early stage

## INTRODUCTION

The human *LRIG1* gene at chromosome 3p14.1 encodes a ‘leucine-rich repeats and immunoglobulin-like domains-1’ protein(1) that negatively regulates the *ERBB2* gene product, HER2, and other oncogenic receptor tyrosine kinases, including EGFR, HER3 and 4, MET (hepatocyte growth factor receptor), and RET (rearranged during transfection)(2–5). The *LRIG1* protein is expressed in most tissues analyzed(6) and limits the size of epithelial progenitor cell populations by promoting the degradation of members of the ErbB family(7–9). In mouse models, deletion results in epidermal hyperplasia(10, 11) and expansion of base columnar cells in the intestinal crypt(9).

We previously analyzed *LRIG1* copy number (CN) by *in situ* hybridization and showed increased CN at exon 12/13 in 34% of 73 breast tumors(12, 13). Moreover, we observed co-incident *ERBB2* gene amplification in tumors with gain of exon 12/13 probe signal. In another study, *LRIG1* expression was observed to be down-regulated in HER2-overexpressing tumors(4). Recently, high levels of *LRIG1* expression were observed in estrogen receptor (ER)+ breast tumors with functional evidence for direct induction of *LRIG1* expression by estrogen that was antagonized by HER2(14). Using pooled results from public expression array data, Krig *et al.* reported that *LRIG1* overexpression in breast tumors was associated with lower risk of relapse, though analyses were not adjusted for clinical covariates(14). These findings contrast with reports of chromosome 3 losses between p12 and p21 common in breast cancer, and Staaf *et al.* showed that loss of 3p13, adjusted for patient and clinical characteristics including *ERBB2* amplification, was independently prognostic for recurrence and breast cancer death(15).

To evaluate the clinical importance and correlates of the *LRIG1* chromosomal region, we applied high-resolution molecular inversion probe (MIP) analysis in a cohort of early-stage breast tumors with long-term follow-up to characterize the effect of *LRIG1* gene dose on patient outcomes, considering amplification of *ERBB2*.

## PATIENTS AND METHODS

### Patients and specimen characteristics.

Patients from the Early Stage Breast Cancer Repository, a cohort of 2327 women with stage I/II breast cancer, were treated at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center between 1985 and 2000. Details of the cohort have been reported, including methodology for medical record abstraction for clinical, pathological, and treatment covariates(16). Of 2327 women, 1003 cases were Texas residents and had primary tumor tissue with >80% tumor cells from formalin-fixed, paraffin-embedded tissue. For CN analyses, cases were matched ~2:1 for non-Hispanic white (NHW)-to-Hispanic and NHW-to-black women, controlling for stage and age of diagnosis. Case status was last updated in 2007 with a median follow-up time of 8.9 y.

ER and progesterone receptor (PR) status were determined as described(17). Intrinsic subtypes were defined as follows: Luminal A: ER+ and/or PR+ and <15% Ki-67; Luminal B: ER+ and/or PR+ and Ki-67 ≥ 15%; and triple-negative breast cancer (TNBC): ER-, PR-, and HER2-. HER2+ tumors were defined based on *ERBB2* gene CN by MIP array with a threshold of >2.3 for gain.

### Assay methods.

Details of Affymetrix Oncoscan™ Version 1 results with clinical and histopathological patient characteristics have been reported(17). Briefly, MIP probes are hybridized to genomic DNA and split into two tubes containing paired nucleotide mixes (triphosphates of adenine + thymine or cytosine + guanine). In the presence of DNA polymerase and ligase, MIP probes circularize with their complementary nucleotide. Allele discrimination is enzymatically derived and highly specific, allowing multiplexed assays. Of 1003 case samples, 971 passed quality control and included.

We followed two approaches to compute CN at *LRIG1*. Pre-processing included application of the Nexus™ Copy Number Segmentation algorithm to each of the samples. We extracted CN information from 11 of 12 probes that passed quality control (call rate >90%, relative standard deviation <0.4) located within the start and stop locations of *LRIG1* assembly UCSC hg18 (NCBI Build 36.1); 16.9% of calls were removed as outliers. To quantify CN, we identified the segment that contained the start-end locations of *LRIG1* (chromosome 3: 66,511,911–66,633,535), with each sample having distinct start and stop sites. The CN assigned to the *LRIG1* ‘locus’ is the mean value of that region as reported by Nexus Copy Number. Thus, the per-tumor locus that includes *LRIG1* is large [median (mean) length of 12.05 (14.16) mb] relative to the *LRIG1* locus (122 kb). The segmentation yielded a median (mean) number of probes/segment of 1183 (13). The distributions of segment lengths and probes are illustrated in Supplemental Figures 1A–B.

In the second case, we focused the location of our previous *LRIG1* probe, which was positioned at 66,527,771–66,531,685 (intron 10 spanning exon 11). The MIP probes located at 66,515,866 and 66,532,949 were closest to the exons. To reduce noise generated from using single exon-flanking probes, we calculated CN from all evaluable probes 5’ and 3’ of exon 12. For these ‘intra-gene’ analyses, the median of the first five probes 5’ of exon

12 are designated LRIG1<sup>1-5</sup>, and the median of the last six probes located 3' of exon 13 are designated LRIG1<sup>6-11</sup> (Supplemental Figure 2). To account for the inherent noise, normal contamination, and possible effects of mosaicism on CN determination, we applied a threshold for CN gain in LRIG1 as >2.3 and loss as <1.7, as reported previously. To determine the impact of the threshold selection on any observed associations, we conducted a series of sensitivity analyses across a range of CN thresholds for the determination of LRIG1 gain or loss. The application of stringent thresholds under an assumption of pure tumor cells produced the magnitude and direction of the association though our power was reduced. The results of the sensitivity analyses indicate that the associations were not sensitive to the selection of thresholds.

### Statistical analyses.

We used Fisher's exact test to examine the association between *LRIG1* CN variation and ERBB2 status or intrinsic subtype. The Spearman's rank correlation coefficient was used to assess the correlation between the logarithm of CN at the *ERBB2* locus and the *LRIG1* locus. We conducted the Kruskal-Wallis test for differences in *LRIG1* CN across the different intrinsic subtypes and Cox proportional-hazards regression for survival analysis. For patient outcomes of any relapse (local and distant, n=252), a clinical-only multivariate Cox model was built. In the first step, all covariates shown in Table 1 were included; then stepwise selection was performed to minimize Akaike Information Criterion (AIC), which resulted in a reduced clinical model with diagnosis age, tumor size, and nodal status. These three selected covariates were included in multivariate Cox models with various outcomes (recurrence, distant metastasis, and overall survival).

## RESULTS

### *LRIG1*, patient and tumor characteristics.

Of 971 stage I/II breast tumors, 3.9% had *LRIG1* gene-level gains, whereas 8.9% showed losses (Table 1). The overall distribution of *LRIG1* CN status (loss, normal, or gain) differed significantly by tumor subtype (p=0.005) and by race/ethnicity (p=0.03). *LRIG1* loss was more common in TNBC (13.8%) and HER2+ (12.3%) tumors than Luminal B (9.7%) and Luminal A (4.8%) tumors. Median *LRIG1* CN differed significantly among the four subtypes (p<0.0001; Supplemental Figure 3). Furthermore, CN loss was more prevalent in black (12.8%) and Hispanic (12.2%) cases than NHWs (7.7%); distribution reflects a higher proportion of TNBC and HER2+ tumors in these patients (Supplemental Table 1). There were no overall differences in *LRIG1* CN status by tumor stage, diagnosis age, nuclear grade, tumor size, lymph node status, or treatment (yes/no or type; Table 1). Further, unlike previous smaller studies of more-advanced tumors, CN *gains* in the *LRIG1* gene were not significantly associated with tumor subtypes, including HER2+ tumors.

### *LRIG1* CN 5' and 3' to exon 12 and clinicopathologic characteristics.

We previously hypothesized a putative breakpoint in *LRIG1* with gain of exon 11 coincident with *ERBB2* amplification(13). Using MIP data in the *LRIG1* locus, we conducted two statistical tests comparing log-CN values of two regions for all possible 11-probe partitions. Both tests produced a minimum p-value for comparing the regions 5' versus 3' to

exon 12 independent of any *a priori* fitting ( $p=2.04^{-46}$  and  $3.36^{-49}$  for a Wilcoxon rank-sum test and a *t*-test, respectively). These results support our prior hypothesis of a common breakpoint in *LRIG1* occurring near the exon 12/13 junction.

Overall, partitioned data of the smaller intra-gene events in tumors reflect those using the whole probe set (Supplemental Table 2). For the loci 5' of exon 12 (*LRIG1*<sup>1-5</sup>), 20.9% of cases had gains and 14.9% showed loss. Losses in the 5' region were significantly more common in black (20.8%) and Hispanic (20.3%) cases than in NHW patients (13%). Gains in the region did not differ significantly by patient or tumor characteristics with the exception that gains of *LRIG1*<sup>1-5</sup> were ~3-fold higher in ER+/HER2+ tumors than ER-/HER2+ tumors (27.8% versus 11.9%, respectively,  $p=0.008$ ). Events at the 3' partitioned loci (*LRIG1*<sup>6-11</sup>) were slightly less frequent than those occurring 5' to exon 12 with 10.0 and 19.8% of tumors showing gains or losses, respectively. CN in the region 3' of exon 12 showed significant differences by race/ethnicity, ER status, and treatment. Specifically, loss of this region was more common among black (28%) and Hispanic (22%) cases than NHW (18.2%) ( $p=0.04$ ). Gains in this region were more common in ER+ (11.3%) than ER- (7.5%) tumors ( $p = 0.08$ ), with losses more common in ER- than ER+ tumors (23.9 versus 18.0%, respectively  $p=0.04$ ).

### ***LRIG1* CN and relapse risk.**

In univariate analyses, *LRIG1* loss was significantly associated with time-to-relapse, with a non-significant trend for lower overall survival (Figure 1A), for both early (<5 y) and late (> 5 y) events (Figure 1B). The 5 year cut-point was selected based on the clinical relevance of this time point for patients and the arbitrary consideration of 'late' recurrences being those that occur after 5 years. For example, when we excluded recurrences that occurred <5 y after diagnosis, the probability of relapse was 46% in patients with *LRIG1* loss compared with only 28% in patients with normal CN. However, when we applied the scaled Schoenfeld residuals, plotted against time, there was no statistically significant time trend of the effect of *LRIG1* gain or loss ( $p$  values for linear trend = 0.23 for losses). If anything, we find that *LRIG1* loss shows the biggest effect between 2 and 7 years from diagnosis and remains independent of the other clinicopathological characteristics. When adjusted for diagnosis age, tumor size, and nodal status associated relapse risk, *LRIG1* loss was significantly associated with recurrence (HR, 1.91; 95% CI, 1.33–2.74), distant metastasis (2.10, 95% CI, 1.43–3.09) and overall mortality (HR, 1.55; 95% CI, 1.11–2.16; Table 2). The increased hazard remained even after forcing in treatment and tumor subtype (data not shown). While the effect of *LRIG1* loss was generally similar in treated and untreated cases, risk of relapse was stronger and more immediate in untreated patients (Supplemental Table 3). However, we observed no association between *LRIG1* gain and relapse or overall mortality (data not shown).

### **Chromosome 3 CN analyses support *LRIG1* as a major driver event at 3p12–21.**

Gains and losses at chromosome 3p12–21 are common and heterogeneous across breast tumors. To investigate the contribution of *LRIG1* to the associations found for chromosome 3 overall, we first generated a high-resolution noise-reduced profile for each sample, applying the quantification method used for *LRIG1* in *a priori* hypothesis testing to the rest

of chromosome 3, and assigning a CN value to each chromosome 3 probe (n=17,557) for each sample. Since we were interested in *LRIG1* CN losses, we conservatively designated loss for each probe of the smoothed data as CN <-1.7 and fit a Cox model adjusted for age, tumor size, and nodal status. We calculated log<sub>10</sub> *p*-values for the association of loss with relapse across chromosome 3 and a small (178 kb) region that includes *LRIG1* and *SLC25A26* (cytogenic band at 3p14), which is positively associated with disease recurrence (Figures 2A–B). In addition, we computed the average overlap with *LRIG1* for each probe (Supplemental Figure 4). The only probes showing low *p*-values for association with recurrence were those with high *LRIG1* overlap. We also used percent agreement of the loss/no-loss calls for each probe with the *LRIG1* loss/no-loss calls and found that the few probes with very high (>99%) correlation with *LRIG1* loss showed small *p*-values for recurrence, and all probes belonged to either *LRIG1* or *SLC25A26*.

### **Association between *LRIG1* loss and recurrence is independent of loss at fragile histidine triad.**

Deletions on 3p are thought to arise as a consequence of frequent breaks due to the presence of a common fragile site encompassed by *FHIT* (fragile histidine triad), a set of highly unstable genomic regions at 3p14.2(13, 14) *FHIT* is abnormally transcribed in 30% of breast tumors(18) and has been associated with poor outcomes(19). In our dataset, *FHIT* loss was highly correlated with *LRIG1* loss (R<sup>2</sup>=0.55; p<0.0001). In order to eliminate *FHIT* as an explanation for our observed associations between *LRIG1* CN and patient outcomes, we conducted a multivariate model adjusted for *FHIT* loss; *LRIG1* loss remained significantly associated with relapse risk (HR, 2.01; 95% CI, 1.15–3.52; p=0.01).

### ***LRIG1* gene expression and patient outcomes.**

For further evidence that *LRIG1* CN may explain the previous association between losses of 3p12–121 and worse patient outcomes (5), we evaluated 18 publically available gene expression datasets with breast cancer outcomes, yielding 1576 samples with information on distant metastasis-free survival (DMFS) and 791 with overall survival (Supplemental Methods). The risk of DMFS and death were significantly higher in breast cancer patients whose tumors expressed low *LRIG1* levels compared with medium or high expression (Figure 3). Importantly, as with the CN analyses, the risk persists beyond 5 y after diagnosis. Further, to rule out a contribution from *SLC25A26*, we tested the association between *SLC25A26* gene expression and patient outcomes using publically available data. Though the sample set is smaller due to differences in probe availability of platforms for *SLC25A26*, unlike its neighbor *LRIG1*, we observed no evidence for an association between *SLC25A26* expression level and DMFS or overall mortality (Supplemental Figure 5). In contrast, low *LRIG1* expression levels were positively associated with higher rates of distant metastasis and mortality, even in the smaller sample set.

## **DISCUSSION**

Our findings support those of Staaf et al.(15), which show that genomic loss near 3p13 in breast tumors is an independent risk factor for relapse and poor survival. Our results strongly implicate *LRIG1* loss as the major driver event in this region, with localized deletion or low

*LRIG1* gene expression significantly associated with distant metastasis and breast cancer death. Importantly, the increased hazard persists in these patients beyond 5 y post-diagnosis, suggesting the loss may be a strong indicator of late events in otherwise low-risk patients.

The higher frequency of loss in black and Hispanic women was positively associated with higher *LRIG1* loss in TNBC, HER2+, and Luminal B tumors; subtypes that are disproportionately higher in these patients (Supplemental Table 2). In contrast to our previous report(13), we observed no significant association between *LRIG1*-specific CN imbalances and *ERBB2* amplification, though specific probe losses were significantly more common among ER– tumors, and gains were more common in ER+ disease. Among HER2+ tumors, gains in *LRIG1* were more common among ER+/HER2+ than HER2+/ER– tumors, consistent with an overall higher frequency of gains in ER+ versus ER– tumors and losses in ER– versus ER+ tumors. Given the complex pattern of splicing in *LRIG1*, additional analyses of expressed transcripts may provide further insight and risk stratification among patient populations.

Our data confirm previous reports of amplification in the *LRIG1* gene region(9); however, we were unable to replicate our prior observation(13) of concomitant gains in *LRIG1* and *ERBB2* amplification. Similar to Krig et al.(14), we observed a significant association between gains and ER+ tumors and non-significantly better patient outcomes (data not shown). Our findings support those of Miller et al.(4), which suggest *LRIG1* loss is more common in tumor subtypes with disturbances in ErbB family members (i.e., *ERBB2* amplification in ER–/HER2+ tumors and *EGFR* in TNBCs). Analyses of probes flanking exon 12/13 favor our original hypothesis for a breakpoint in the gene, possibly reflecting localized fragility involving *FHIT* that destabilizes the region (76 of 86 tumors bearing *LRIG1* loss also show *FHIT* loss).

*LRIG1* protein has been shown to oppose MET synergy with HER2 in cellular invasion and to negatively regulate other oncogenic receptor tyrosine kinases in the ErbB family, including EGFR, HER3 and 4, MET, and RET(4). These functional data support a key role of *LRIG1* as a tumor suppressor gene important in limiting tumor invasion, a putative mechanism that aligns with our finding of greater metastasis risk in cases with *LRIG1* loss.

In our previous study, we showed increased CN at exon 12/13 in *LRIG1* in 34% of 73 breast tumors (12, 13). Moreover, we observed co-incident *ERBB2* gene amplification in tumors with gain of exon 12/13 probe signal. In contrast, *LRIG1* expression was reported to be down-regulated in HER2-overexpressing tumors(4). There are several possible explanations for differences between our earlier results and the present study. First, the Oncoscan array did not provide any probes at the exact genomic location of our previous FISH probe and confidence with few MIP probes is limited, thus the results are not directly comparable. Second, the prior results analyzed a smaller and more selected set of cases including patients with larger and more-advanced tumors.

In conclusion, our results provide strong evidence that *LRIG1* is the tumor suppressor gene on chromosome 3 near p13–14 whose loss is a critical driver event in breast cancer metastasis that is independent of stage and tumor subtype. Though *LRIG1* loss

is proportionally higher in TNBC and HER2+ tumors, loss in otherwise low-risk cases (e.g., Luminal A) may partly explain late relapse events in these patients. Along with efforts to understand the mechanistic impact of *LRIG1* loss on degradation of ErbB family members and control of tumor stem cells in the breast, prospective efforts that combine gene expression and CN determination of *LRIG1* are needed to confirm the clinical value of *LRIG1* expression status for patient-risk stratification.

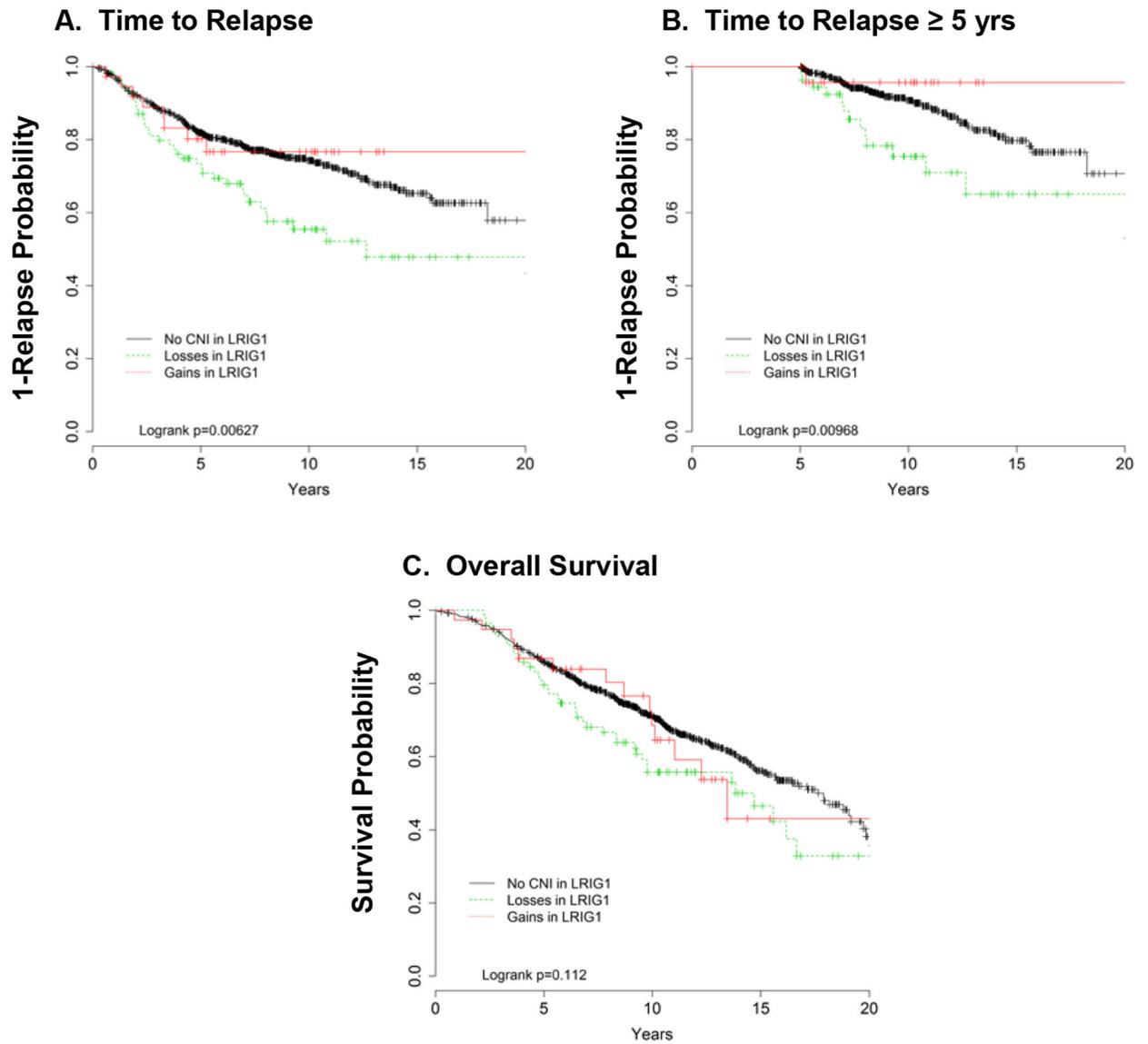
## Supplementary Material

Refer to Web version on PubMed Central for supplementary material.

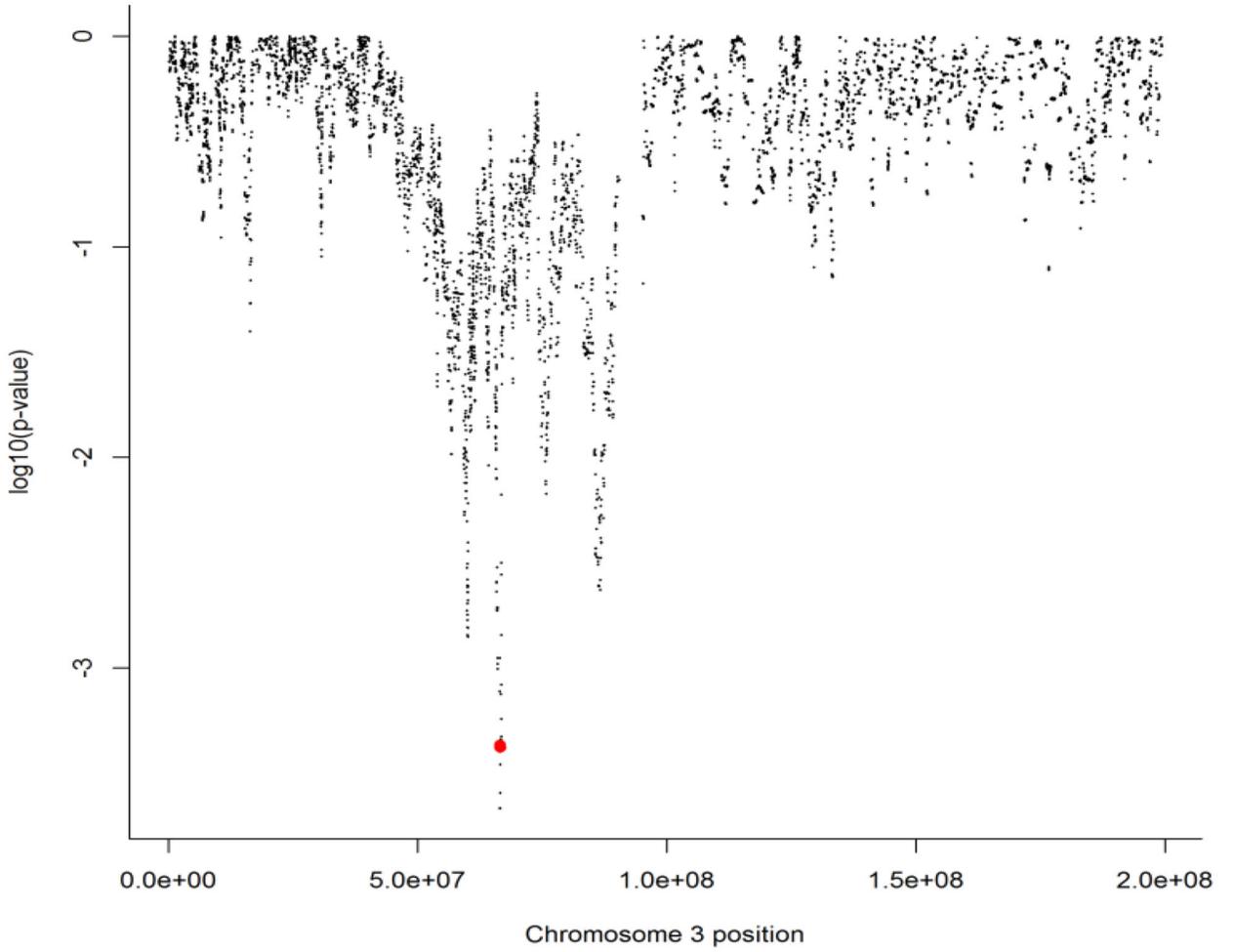
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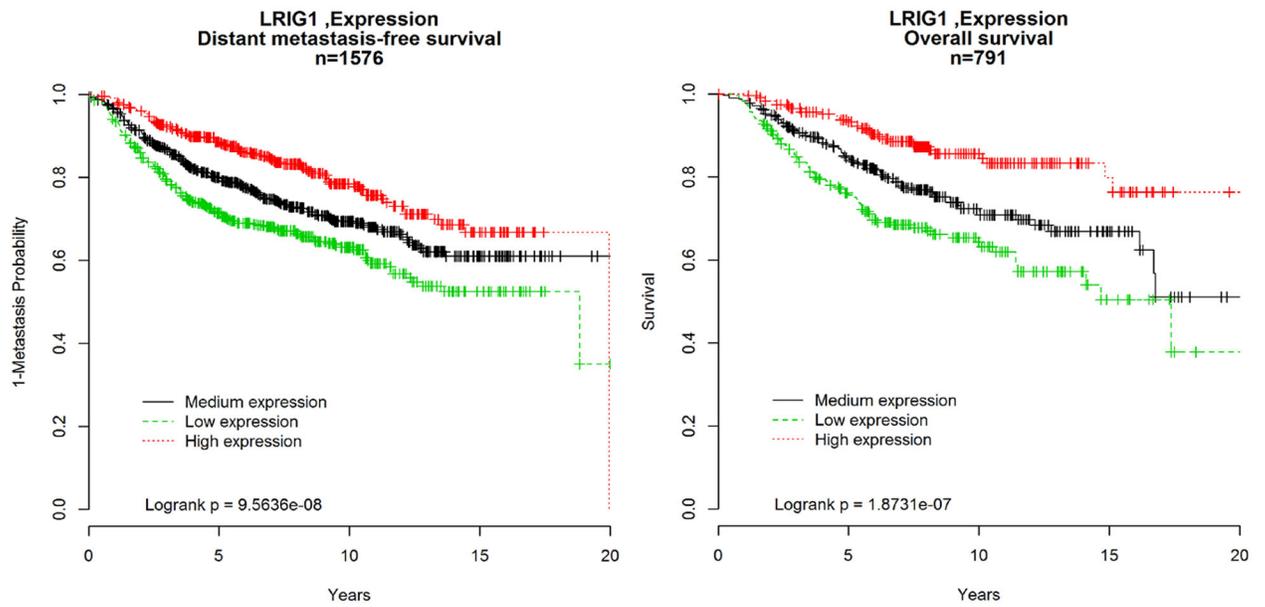
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**Figure 1.**  
Kaplan Meier curves for unadjusted analyses of time to relapse and overall survival by *LRIG1* tumor copy number.



**Figure 2.** The log<sub>10</sub> p-values for association with any recurrence across chromosome 3. A small region that includes LRIG1 (red dots) on the short arm of chromosome 3 is associated with recurrence. The length of the region is narrow and it only includes *LRIG1* and its close neighbor *SLC25A26*.



**Figure 3.** Kaplan Meier curves for unadjusted analyses of A. time to distant metastasis free survival and B. overall survival by level of *LRIG1* gene expression. --- low, --- medium, --- high.

**Table 1.**Clinical characteristics of breast cancer patients ( $N=971$ ), by *LRIG1* copy number imbalance status

Characteristic <sup>*</sup>	Loss (%)	Normal (%)	Gain (%)	<i>p</i> value
No. of patients (n=971)	86 (8.9)	847 (87.2)	38 (3.9)	
Median follow-up time (y)	10.26	9.50	10.26	
Age at diagnosis (y)				
Mean (SD)	52.3 (11.8)	54.5 (12.7)	55.6(13.6)	
<50 (n=394)	37 (9.4)	343 (87.1)	14 (3.6)	0.88
50 (n=555)	48 (8.6)	485 (87.4)	22 (4)	
Race/ethnicity				
Non-Hispanic white (n=715)	55 (7.7)	633 (88.5)	27 (3.8)	<b>0.03</b>
Black (n=125)	16 (12.8)	100 (80)	9 (7.2)	
Hispanic (n=123)	15 (12.2)	106 (86.2)	2 (1.6)	
ER status				
Positive (n=666)	49 (7.4)	590 (88.6)	27 (4.1)	0.07
Negative (n=293)	35 (11.9)	248 (84.6)	10 (3.4)	
HER2 status				
Negative (n=768)	61 (7.9)	679 (88.4)	28 (3.6)	0.09
Positive (n=203)	25 (12.3)	168 (82.8)	10 (4.9)	
HER2/ER status				
HER2+/ER+ (n=115)	15 (13.0)	93 (80.9)	7 (6.1)	0.67
HER2+/ER- (n=84)	9 (10.7)	72 (85.7)	3 (3.6)	
Pathologic stage				
I (n=304)	27 (8.9)	268 (88.2)	9 (3)	0.61
II (n=662)	58 (8.8)	575 (86.9)	29 (4.4)	
Nuclear grade <sup>†</sup>				
I (n=92)	9 (9.8)	81 (88)	2 (2.2)	0.11
II (n=477)	35 (7.3)	426 (89.3)	16 (3.4)	
III (n=336)	40 (11.9)	279 (83)	17 (5.1)	
Tumor size (cm)				
< 2 (n=566)	48 (8.5)	500 (88.3)	18 (3.2)	0.30
2 (n=369)	36 (9.8)	315 (85.4)	18 (4.9)	
Lymph node status				
Negative (n=565)	54 (9.6)	489 (86.5)	22 (3.9)	0.74
Positive (n=383)	31 (8.1)	338 (88.3)	14 (3.7)	
Tumor subtype <sup>#</sup>				
Luminal A (n=373)	18 (4.8)	343 (92)	12 (3.2)	<b>0.005</b>
Luminal B (n=145)	14 (9.7)	125 (86.2)	6 (4.1)	
HER2+ (n=203)	25 (12.3)	168 (82.8)	10 (4.9)	
TNBC (n=174)	24 (13.8)	144 (82.8)	6 (3.4)	
Radiation therapy				
Yes (n=410)	41 (10)	354 (86.3)	15 (3.7)	0.63

Characteristic <sup>*</sup>	Loss (%)	Normal (%)	Gain (%)	<i>p</i> value
No (n=535)	44 (8.2)	470 (87.9)	21 (3.9)	
Chemotherapy				
None (n=480)	41 (8.5)	420 (87.5)	19 (4)	0.94
Anthracycline (n=323)	30 (9.3)	282 (87.3)	11 (3.4)	
Anthracycline/taxane (n=114)	8 (7)	101 (88.6)	5 (4.4)	
Endocrine therapy				
Yes (n=422)	33 (7.8)	368 (87.2)	21 (5)	0.16
No (n=522)	51 (9.8)	456 (87.4)	15 (2.9)	

Abbreviations: SD, standard deviation; ER, estrogen receptor; HER2, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2; TNBC, triple-negative breast cancer.

\* Numbers do not add up to column totals due to missing values for the individual factors.

# Tumor subtype was determined using ER, PR, Ki67, and HER2 as defined in Materials and Methods.

† Nuclear grade was determined by the modified Black's method.

Multivariate Cox proportional hazards models for risk of recurrence, distant metastasis and overall survival for copy number imbalance in *LRIG1*

**Table 2.**

Patient or tumor characteristic	Any Recurrence		Distant Metastasis		Overall Survival	
	HR (95% CI)	p value	HR (95% CI)	p value	HR (95% CI)	p value
Age, diagnosis (y)						
< 50	Reference		Reference		Reference	
50	1.60 (1.24–2.07)	0.0003	1.58 (1.19–2.09)	0.002	0.69 (0.55–0.87)	0.002
Tumor size (cm)						
< 2	Reference		Reference		Reference	
2	1.71 (1.33–2.22)	< 0.0001	1.99 (1.50–2.64)	< 0.0001	1.59 (1.28–1.98)	< 0.0001
Lymph node						
Negative	Reference		Reference		Reference	
Positive	1.62 (1.26–2.10)	0.0002	1.85 (1.39–2.46)	< 0.0001	1.39 (1.12–1.74)	0.003
<i>LRIG1</i>						
Copy normal	Reference		Reference		Reference	
Loss	1.91 (1.33–2.74)	0.0004	2.10 (1.43–3.09)	< 0.0001	1.55 (1.11–2.16)	0.009
Gain	0.87 (0.43–1.78)	0.71	0.94 (0.44–2.01)	0.87	0.97 (0.56–1.71)	0.93

Abbreviations: HR, hazard ratio; CI, confidence interval

Note: The clinical covariates shown above were chosen using a stepwise selection procedure to minimize Akaike Information Criterion.