Supplementary Information

Patient-derived xenografts undergo murine-specific tumor evolution

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Supplementary Figures

Figure S1

Supplementary Figure 1: CNA profiles from PDX gene expression data are highly similar to those from PDX SNP array data

Moving average plots of PDX SNP arrays (upper panels) and their corresponding gene expression arrays (lower panels) in six representative cancer types. The CNAs identified in each sample by our pipeline are depicted as rectangles above the affected genomic regions. Gains are shown in red, losses in blue.

Figure S2

Supplementary Figure 2: The CNA landscapes of PDXs are highly similar to those of primary tumors from matched tissues

CNA frequency plots of PDX model types and the respective primary tumor types from TCGA, showing that PDXs generally exhibit the aneuploidies and CNAs that are characteristic of each tissue type. Gains are shown in red, losses in blue.

Figure S3

Supplementary Figure 3: Gradual evolution of CNA landscapes throughout PDX passaging

PDX models acquire CNAs throughout their *in vivo* propagation. **(a)** Bar plots present the fraction of the PDX models with at least one model-acquired CNA, as a function of the number of passages between measurements. (**b**) Box plots present the number of discrete CNAs as a function of the number of passages between measurements. Bar, median; box, $25th$ and $75th$ percentiles; whiskers, data within 1.5*IQR of lower or upper quartile; circles: all data points. Pvalues indicate significance from a Wilcoxon rank-sum test. (**c**) Box plots present the proportion of genes affected by CNAs as a function of the number of passages between measurements. Bar, median; box, $25th$ and $75th$ percentiles; whiskers, data within 1.5*IQR of lower or upper quartile; circles: all data points. P-values indicate significance from a Wilcoxon rank-sum test. (**d**) Equal rates of acquiring new CNAs and losing existing ones in PDXs. Violin plots present the absolute CNA fraction of PDX models at early $(p<2)$, medium $(2< p<4)$ and late $(p>=4)$ passages. Bar, median; colored rectangle, $25th$ and $75th$ percentiles; width of the violin indicates frequency at that CNA fraction level. n.s., non-significant (Wilcoxon rank-sum test).

Figure S4

Allelic fraction $\mathbf 0$ 0.5 SA531 GALNT7 ANKRD17 **REL TRIM49L2** TP53BP1 ANKRD17 ANKRD17 ATXN7L1 WAPAL LAMA5 PRDM13 ANKRD17 SOCS4 JAK2 SLITRK2 KIAA2026 LINGO₂ ZC3H12C BPIFB6 PRDM9 DUSP21 BMP10 RSF1 BAZ2B SAYSD1 ZC3H7A KCNJ16 VCPIP1 WDR7 **IHH** TULP4 RANBP2 **UTP20** IRS4 TULP2 NRG3 Primary \blacksquare PDX

Figure S4 (continued)

Supplementary Figure 4: Shifts in the allelic fraction of point mutations during PDX derivation and propagation

(**a**) The allelic fractions (AF) of point mutations can change throughout PDX passaging. Plots present the number of point mutations with an AF shift ($|\Delta AF|>0.2$) between the primary tumor and its derived xenograft, in 13 matched pairs of primary breast cancer tumors and PDXs from Eirew et al. 1 . (b) AF shifts in non-synonymous missense and nonsense coding mutations in each of the matched pairs described in (**a**). (**c**) The allelic fractions (AF) of point mutations can change throughout PDX passaging. Plots present the number of point mutations with an AF shift $(|\Delta AF|>0.2)$ between early (p=1 or p=2) and late (p=5) PDXs, in two matched pairs of tumor xenografts from Eirew et al.¹. (d) AF shifts in non-synonymous missense and nonsense coding mutations in each of the matched pairs described in (**c**).

Figure S5

Supplementary Figure 5: PDX models from metastases exhibit larger CNA fractions and higher CIN70 scores than PDX models from primary tumors

PDX models from metastases are more aneuploid than those from primary tumors. (**a**) Box plots present the absolute CNA fraction of PDX models from primary tumors (n=563) and from metastases (n=98). (**b**) Box plots present chromosomal instability (CIN70) signature scores of PDX models from primary tumors (n=563) and from metastases (n=98). P-values indicate significance from Wilcoxon rank-sum tests.

Supplementary Figure 6: Expansion of pre-existing subclones during PDX propagation demonstrated by identification of LOH "reversion"

Alleles that seem to have been lost in early-passage PDX tumors can "re-appear" in later passages of the same PDX models, demonstrating expansion of rare pre-existing subclones throughout PDX propagation. Plots present the loss of heterozygosity (LOH) status along the genomes of four PDX models from Eirew et al. $¹$. LOH events are shown in purple. For each</sup> model, shown are two passages. Arrows mark large (>10Mb) chromosomal segments for which LOH was identified at the earlier passage, but both alleles were present at the later passage.

Figure S7

Supplementary Figure 7: Genomic instability in PDXs correlates both the genomic instability and the heterogeneity levels of primary tumors

(**a**) The DGI of PDXs and that of primary tumors correlate extremely well. In PDXs, tissue DGI was defined as the median CNA fraction affected per passage. In TCGA tumors, tissue DGI was defined as the fraction of samples with whole-genome duplication (WGD). (**b**) The DGI of PDXs also correlates extremely well with intra-tumor heterogeneity (ITH) of primary tumors (including skin tissue). The DGI of PDXs was defined as the median number of arm-level CNAs per passage. The heterogeneity of primary tumors was defined as the median number of clones per tumor. Spearman's rho values and p-values indicate the strength and significance of the correlations, respectively.

Figure S8

Supplementary Figure 8: Disappearance of recurrent CNAs throughout PDX propagation: opposite trends of patient-acquired and model-acquired CNAs

Twelve recurrent arm-level CNAs, which were observed in >40% of TCGA samples, were found to be preferentially lost during PDX passaging. Heatmaps present the model-acquired arm-level CNAs identified in five PDX tumor types: breast, brain, colon, lung and pancreas. Gains are shown in red, losses in blue. The chromosome arms that show an opposite acquisition trend to that seen in human patients are highlighted with arrows. 86% of these events represent the disappearance of a CNA that existed at an earlier passage, rather than the acquisition of the opposite CNA.

Figure S9

Supplementary Figure 9: Disappearance of recurrent CNAs throughout PDX propagation: prevalence differences between early and late passages

Recurrent CNAs that tend to disappear during PDX passaging are less commonly identified in late compared to early passage PDX samples. Absolute CNA frequency plots of three PDX model types (breast, brain and lung) at early and late passage numbers are presented. Gains are shown in red, losses in blue. Nine of the twelve events that tend to disappear in PDXs are less common in high passage PDXs (highlighted by arrows). P-values indicate significance from a Fisher's exact test.

Supplementary Figure 10: Genomic instability of PDXs is comparable to that of cell lines and CLDXs

(**a**) Gradual evolution of CNA landscapes throughout passaging of newly-derived cell lines. Box plots present model-acquired CNA fraction as a function of *in vitro* passage number. (**b**) Similar rates of CNA acquisition in PDXs and in newly-derived cell lines. Dot plots present the distribution of model-acquired CNA fractions across three available cancer types. Cell lines used for this analysis are listed in **Supplementary Table 3**. (**c**) The CNA acquisition rate of CLDXs is associated with the numerical karyotypic complexity of the parental cell lines. Violin plots present the fraction of CNAs acquired by passage 10 as a function of numerical karyotypic complexity. P-values indicate significance from a Wilcoxon rank-sum test.

Figure S11

Supplementary Figure 11: Arm-level CNAs affect genetic dependencies and drug sensitivities

(**a**) Pancreatic cancer cell lines with chromosome 20q gain are more sensitive to RNAi-mediated knockdown of multiple *PI3K* genes. Box plots present the dependency scores to RNAi-mediated knockdown of the indicated genes. (**b**) Arm-level CNAs lead to significant gene expression changes in cell lines. Volcano plot shows the differential gene expression between cell lines with and without a gain of chromosome 1q. Genes that reside within chromosome 1q are highlighted in red. (**c**) Breast cancer cell lines with a chromosome 1q gain are less sensitive to the ARF1 inhibitor brefeldin A. (**d**) Cell lines with a chromosome 1q gain are less sensitive to the ARF1 inhibitor brefeldin A. Box plots present the area under the curve (AUC) values for cell lines with and without 1q gain. P-values indicate significance from a Wilcoxon rank-sum test.

Supplementary Figure 12: Arm-level CNAs are associated with extensive gene expression changes in cell lines

The expression of most genes that reside within arm-level CNAs changes significantly, in the expected direction of the aberration. Volcano plots present the differential gene expression analysis between cell lines with and without arm-level CNAs, for all the recurrent arm-level CNAs that tend to disappear during PDX passaging. Genes that reside within the affected arm are highlighted in red (for gains) or blue (for losses).

Supplementary Figure 13: CNA-based and mutation-based phylogenetic trees are highly concordant

Arm-level CNA-based phylogenetic trees are less informative than, but as accurate as, mutationbased trees. **(a)** Phylogenetic trees constructed from arm-level CNAs (left) or point mutations (right) data from five patients^{2,3}. Branch lengths correspond to genetic distance. (**b**) Quantification of the sensitivity and specificity of the arm-level CNA-based trees, compared to the mutation-based trees. Bar plots present the percentage of branch points from mutation-based trees that were also identified in CNA-based trees (gray); and the percentage of branch points identified in CNA-based trees that were also identified in mutation-based trees (black).

Figure S14

Supplementary Figure 14: *De novo* **CNAs may play a role in PDX CNA dynamics as well**

(**a**) Model-acquired CNAs keep emerging at high *in vivo* passages. Plots present the modelacquired CNAs in multiple passages of two breast PDX models ⁴. (b) Unique events also emerge in "sibling" PDXs, which were derived from the same primary tumor and propagated independently in mice. Plots present the model-acquired CNAs in pairs of passages from breast (PDX2127), lung (PDX1726), pancreas (PDX2081) and skin (PDX1655) PDX models $⁵$. Gains</sup> are shown in red, losses in blue. (**c**) PDXs with a mutant or deleted p53 present a significantly higher rate of CNA acquisition throughout passaging, compared to their WT counterparts. Box plots present the rate of model-acquired CNAs in PDX models without (PDX-WT; n=65) and with (TP53 mut/del; n=110) a TP53 perturbation. P-value indicates significance from a Wilcoxon rank-sum test.

Supplementary Tables

* Partial (20 models) overlap with the tumors described in GSE14804

** Partial (11 models) overlap with the tumors described in GSE32530

*** Partial (7 models) overlap with the tumors described in GSE41188

Supplementary Table 1: Summary of PDX datasets

A list of the datasets included in this study, together with their accession numbers, tumor types, the number of PDX models and samples included in them, the experimental platform used, and the Pubmed ID number of the original study that generated them.

Supplementary Table 2: Comparison of DNA- and RNA-based CNA profiles

A comparison of model-acquired CNAs inferred from DNA and RNA data from the same tumor samples.

Supplementary Table 3: Summary of advanced disease datasets

A list of the advanced disease datasets included in this study, together with their accession numbers, tumor types, the number of primary tumor and advanced disease samples, the experimental platform used, and the Pubmed ID number of the original study that generated them.

Supplementary Table 4: Summary of newly-derived cell lines

A list of the newly-derived cell lines included in this study, together with their accession numbers, tumor types, passage numbers, and the Pubmed ID number of the original study that generated them.

Supplementary Table 5: Comparisons of gene expression and genetic dependencies in cell lines with arm-level CNAs and cell lines without them

A lineage-controlled comparison of cell lines with and without recurrent arm-level CNAs, across a panel of 936 cell lines (for gene expression) or 446 cell lines (for gene dependencies). In the gene expression comparison, genes that are differentially expressed between cell lines with the CNA and cell lines without it were subjected to gene set enrichment analysis (GSEA), and found to be significantly enriched for genes that reside within that chromosome arm. In the genetic dependency comparison, genes that are differentially depleted in a pooled genome-wide RNAi screen between cell lines with the CNA and cell lines without it were subjected to GSEA, and found to be significantly enriched for genes that reside within that chromosome arm. Presented are the effect magnitudes (enrichment statistics) and the p-values of the enrichments. Note that the enrichment statistics are positive in the expression comparison and negative in the dependency comparison. Therefore, a gain of an arm results (on average) in increased expression and reduced dependency on the genes within the arm, and a loss of an arm results (on average) in decreased expression and increased dependency on the genes within the arm.

Supplementary Table 6: Comparison of drug response in cell lines with arm-level CNAs and cell lines without them

A lineage-controlled comparison of cell lines with and without recurrent arm-level CNAs, across a panel of 804 cell lines and 545 compounds. Compounds that are differentially active/inactive towards cell lines with CNAs vs. cell lines without them are listed (one-tailed p<0.05; one-tailed q<0.25). Presented are the compound names, the associated CNAs, the known compound targets, the average response differences (log fold-change), and the statistical significance of these differences.

Legends to Supplementary Datasets

Supplementary Dataset 1: CNA profiles of PDX samples

PDX CNA profiles generated in this study from gene expression data. The first tab provides a full description of the samples. The second tab provides a segmental aberration matrix, in a format readily visualized by the Integrative Genomics Viewer (IGV; [https://www.broadinstitute.org/igv/\)](https://www.broadinstitute.org/igv/).

Supplementary Dataset 2: Model-acquired CNAs in PDX samples

PDX model-acquired CNAs identified in this study from gene expression data. The first tab provides a full description of the samples. The second tab provides a segmental aberration matrix, in a format readily visualized by the Integrative Genomics Viewer (IGV; [https://www.broadinstitute.org/igv/\)](https://www.broadinstitute.org/igv/).

Supplementary Dataset 3: CNA profiles of CLDX samples

CLDX CNA profiles generated in this study from gene expression data. The first tab provides a full description of the samples. The second tab provides a segmental aberration matrix, in a format readily visualized by the Integrative Genomics Viewer (IGV; [https://www.broadinstitute.org/igv/\)](https://www.broadinstitute.org/igv/).

Supplementary Dataset 4: Model-acquired CNAs in CLDX samples

CLDX model-acquired CNAs identified in this study from gene expression data. The first tab provides a full description of the samples. The second tab provides a segmental aberration matrix, in a format readily visualized by the Integrative Genomics Viewer (IGV; [https://www.broadinstitute.org/igv/\)](https://www.broadinstitute.org/igv/).

Supplementary Note

1. Supplementary Introduction: Previous evidence for genomic instability of PDXs

Hints that PDXs may be more genomically unstable than assumed have begun to emerge, with a recent study showing that the clonal composition of breast cancer PDXs evolves during serial passaging *in vivo*¹. Another study recently extended this analysis to additional breast cancer PDXs, showing that while there was overall similarity of PDX models to their tumors of origin, the clonal composition of the tumors could change dramatically throughout PDX derivation and propagation⁶. Importantly, both studies presented a deep characterization of PDXs from a total of 83 models of a single tissue type (breast), with no systematic assessment of the rate, prevalence or recurrence patterns of genomic changes during *in vivo* passaging of PDXs. Additionally, whether the observed clonal dynamics have any functional importance remains an open question.

2. Supplementary Introduction: Somatic copy number alterations (CNAs) in cancer

Somatic copy number alterations (CNAs) are detectable in the vast majority of cancers^{7,8}, and therefore represent a powerful strategy to track the clonal evolution of tumors. Moreover, CNAs are often drivers of tumorigenesis and have been associated with drug response and prognosis in human patients⁹⁻¹⁴. Despite the importance of CNAs in cancer, they are rarely characterized in PDX models, and comprehensive analysis of CNA dynamics during *in vivo* PDX passaging has yet to be reported^{6,15-17}.

3. Supplementary Results: Comparison of DNA- and RNA-derived copy number profiles

To validate the accuracy of inferred CNAs, we analyzed PDXs from which both gene expression and SNP array data (a more direct measurement of DNA copy number) were available. Because in most cases DNA and RNA were obtained from different PDX passages, we focused on the 59 PDX models that had stable CNAs over time. The DNA- and RNA-derived profiles were highly concordant both when comparing the proportion of the genome affected by CNAs (Pearson's $r =$ 0.86) and when comparing the concordance of affected genes (median concordance $= 0.82$) (**Supplementary Fig. 1**). Moreover, for 15 breast and prostate PDXs, we could directly compare the changes that occurred during their engraftment and/or passaging (hereinafter called 'modelacquired CNAs'), using DNA and RNA data from the same samples. These DNA- and RNAderived profiles were highly concordant (Pearson's $r = 0.95$; median concordance = 0.91). These results thus confirmed that gene expression accurately identifies model-acquired CNAs (**Supplementary Table 2**).

4. Supplementary Results: Changes in the allelic fraction of point mutations throughout PDX passaging

To assess whether model-acquired clonal evolution affected genes known to play important roles in cancer, we analyzed the whole-genome sequencing data of 13 matched breast cancer models¹. We first focused on changes in the allelic fraction (AF) of mutations when comparing primary tumors to their PDXs. We found a median of 64 mutations with a substantial AF shift (|ΔAF|>0.2) (**Supplementary Fig. 4a**). Importantly, a median of 7 of these mutations were nonsynonymous missense or nonsense coding mutations, many involving oncogenes and tumor suppressor genes (**Supplementary Fig. 4a-b**). For example, the AF of a *TP53BP1* missense mutation increased from 0.188 to 0.562, and the AF of a *PIK3CA* missense mutation increased from 0.339 to 0.740 during the PDX evolution of tumors SA531 and SA536, respectively (**Supplementary Fig. 4b**). Similarly, substantial coding mutation AF shifts were observed when comparing early passage (P1 or P2) to late passage (P5) PDXs (**Supplementary Fig. 4c-d**). For example, the Rho-associated kinase *ROCK1* has been previously shown to promote tumor cell invasion and metastasis^{18,19}. A missense *ROCK1* mutation was not detected at all in a PDX model at passage 2, but was detected at a high AF (AF=0.46) at passage 5 of the same model (**Supplementary Fig. 4d**). These results indicate that clonal dynamics quickly alter the prevalence of functional mutations in cancer genes, with potentially important functional consequences.

5. Supplementary Results: Deviation of melanoma from the observed correlation between PDX instability and primary tumor heterogeneity

Melanoma is the only tumor type that deviated from the tight correlation between intra-tumor heterogeneity and model-acquired genomic instability (**Supplementary Fig. 7a**). A potential explanation for this discrepancy is that the extent of genetic heterogeneity in melanoma may be overestimated compared to other cancer types due to the unusually high mutation load of this tumor.

6. Supplementary Results: Association between arm-level CNAs and cell line gene expression, genetic dependencies and drug response

To further assess the potential functional relevance of model-acquired chromosomal changes we turned to the Cancer Cell Line Encyclopedia (CCLE) project and its associated datasets of genomic features, genetic dependencies and drug response²⁰⁻²². Interestingly, arm-level CNAs significantly affected the genetic dependencies for genes that reside within them: cell lines with an arm-level gain were less sensitive on average to RNAi-mediated depletion of genes within the gained arm, whereas cell lines with an arm-level loss were hyper-sensitive to such perturbations (**Supplementary Table 5**). Next, we queried the drug response data for the CCLE cell lines and asked whether there were differential drug responses associated with the twelve hallmark armlevel CNAs that tend to disappear in PDXs. Out of 545 drugs tested, each arm-level CNA had on average 13 (range, 0-112) differentially active drugs associated with it. That is, the responses to these drugs were significantly associated with the copy number status of that arm $(p<0.05$, q<0.25; **Supplementary Table 6**). For example, the gene *ARF1* is located on chromosome 1q, and is the most significantly over-expressed gene in cell lines with a 1q gain (p=9.8E-45) (**Supplementary Fig. 11b**); this rendered cell lines with a gain of this chromosome arm more resistant to the ARF1 inhibitor brefeldin A $(p=0.01)$, and this strong association remained significant when breast cancer cell lines were considered alone (p=0.026) (**Supplementary Fig. 11c-d**).

7. Supplementary Discussion: Comparison of our findings to previous studies

Our findings may be surprising in light of previous works that emphasized the relative stability of PDXs throughout their propagation. However, most prior studies either focused on comparisons at the cohort level^{5,15,16}; inferred stability from the increased similarity between PDXs derived from the same patient compared to PDXs from different patients^{5,6,17}; or used only a handful of markers to assess stability²³ (reviewed in ²⁴). Our large-scale, genome-wide, pairwise comparison of early vs. late PDXs exposed previously-underappreciated CNA dynamics, similar to the SNV dynamics recently seen in breast cancer $PDXs¹$.

8. Supplementary Discussion: The relevance of our CNA-based analysis to other types of genetic alterations

While we focused our analysis on CNAs, we confirmed the accuracy of CNA-based phylogenetic trees (**Supplementary Fig. 13**) using matched point mutation and CNA data from primary tumors and their metastases^{2,3}. It seems very likely that PDX models (as all other models) also acquire other types of aberrations, including point mutations, small insertions and deletions, translocations, and epigenetic modifications. Large-scale datasets do not exist at present to experimentally confirm these other forms of selection, but an analysis of a small cohort of breast cancer $PDXs⁷$ confirmed that the allelic fraction of cancer genes can drastically change within the course of very few passages.

9. Supplementary Discussion: Combination of pre-existing and *de novo* **occurring CNAs in PDXs**

Our study strongly suggests that clonal dynamics play a major role in model-acquired CNAs. In particular, the acquisition of identical events in "sibling" PDXs, and the detection of LOH "reversion" throughout PDX passaging, strongly point towards expansion of pre-existing subclones. However, our analysis suggests that *de novo* events also occur. First, model-acquired CNAs are not limited to the early passages and keep emerging, albeit at a lower rate, even at high passages (**Supplementary Fig. 14a** and **Supplementary Data 2**). Second, although "sibling" PDXs exhibit high similarity of model-acquired CNAs, most of them also acquire unique events (**Supplementary Figure 14b**). Third, we found that PDXs with a mutant or deleted p53 present a significantly higher rate of CNA acquisition throughout passaging, compared to their WT counterparts (**Supplementary Figure 14c**). All three of these findings, however, could also be potentially explained by extensive pre-existing heterogeneity.

10. Supplementary Discussion: Distinct selection pressures in PDXs and in patients

Unique, context-dependent selection pressures shape tumor evolution, giving rise to recurrent cancer type-specific CNAs⁷. While genetic drift or "founder effects" may underlie some of the changes observed in PDXs, we provide evidence that selection plays an important role. The increase in proliferation signatures and decrease in cell death signature throughout passaging; the independent emergence of the same events in "sibling" PDX models; and the tendency of recurrent arm-level CNAs to disappear – all support the notion of selection. In line with selection for increased fitness, a recent work demonstrated increased tumor growth rate with PDX passaging²⁵. At least three important parameters may account for the different selection pressures between patients and PDXs: the species (human vs. mouse), the anatomical and physiological context (a specific organ vs. subcutaneous growth), and the interaction with the immune system (immunocompetent patients vs. immunodeficient animals). We note that relaxation of selection, followed by genetic drift, may also play a role in the observed dynamics. In the future, comparisons of orthotopic vs. subcutaneous PDXs, and of mouse-derived xenografts in "humanized" immunocompetent vs. immunodeficient recipients, may help delineate the contribution of each of these parameters to shaping tumor evolutionary pressures.

11. Supplementary Discussion: Implications of PDX genomic instability for their use in drug testing

PDX collections are generally used for drug testing in two different ways: to predict, at the cohort level, the relationship between genotype and dependency; and to predict, at the individual level, a therapeutic response²⁴. Our findings have several practical implications for both of these uses. The rapid genomic divergence that we identify on the individual tumor level suggests that PDXs may often not be faithful representations of their parental tumors. If individual PDXs are to be utilized as avatar models for personalized medicine, it will be necessary to ensure that the

model retains the relevant genomic features of the primary tumor from which it was derived, before PDX drug response is used to guide clinical treatment decisions. It will also be advisable to use such avatar models at the earliest passage possible and avoid their prolonged propagation, especially in the context of a $1x1x1$ (one animal per model per treatment) experimental design⁶. For population level analyses, our findings highlight the need to document the molecular properties of the models at the same passage as that used for drug testing, rather than relying on an early passage characterization. They also emphasize the importance of large cohorts of PDX models, similar to the large cell line collections that were recently established^{20,26}, in order to average out random effects when performing drug screens and biomarker studies. Finally, the gradual loss of recurrent primary CNAs suggests that prolonged propagation could lead to underrepresentation of some hallmark cancer events in late passage PDX cohorts.

12. Supplementary Discussion: Possible explanations for the difference in CNA acquisition rate between PDXs and CLDXs

The comparison of PDXs to CLDXs showed a lower CNA acquisition rate in CLDXs than in PDXs. There are three potential explanations for this difference: a lower degree of heterogeneity in established cancer cell lines, a reduced bottleneck upon cell line transplantation, or a reduced rate of ongoing instability. As cell lines are generally more clonal than primary tumors²⁷, and as we could attribute much of the CNA dynamics observed in PDXs to expansion of pre-existing clones, we speculate that the reduced heterogeneity of established cell lines explains most of the observed difference, although this question remains to be addressed experimentally. In any case, this difference suggests that although established cell lines don't represent primary tumors as faithfully as newly-derived cell lines and PDXs, their genomic landscapes are more stable.

13. Supplementary Discussion: Implications beyond cancer model systems

Our study may have implications beyond cancer model systems. Recent single cell RNAseq studies used hallmark arm-level CNAs as genetic markers to distinguish between tumor and nontumor cells^{28,29}. The finding that some of these events, such as trisomy 7 and monosomy 10 in GBM, can disappear in PDXs, suggests that minor subclones without these aberrations probably exist in primary tumors; therefore, cells should not be classified as non-tumor cells solely based on the absence of a single hallmark event.

Supplementary References

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