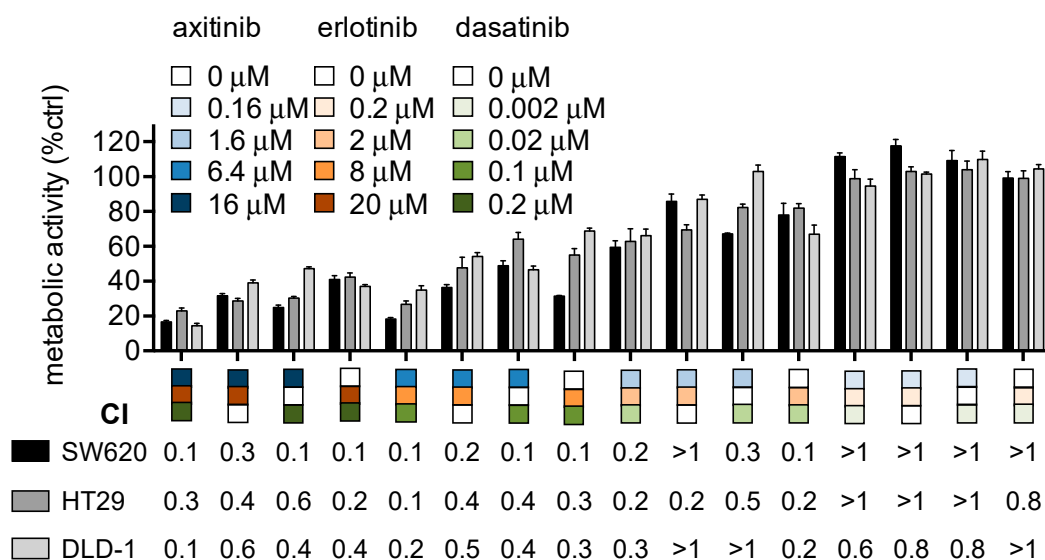


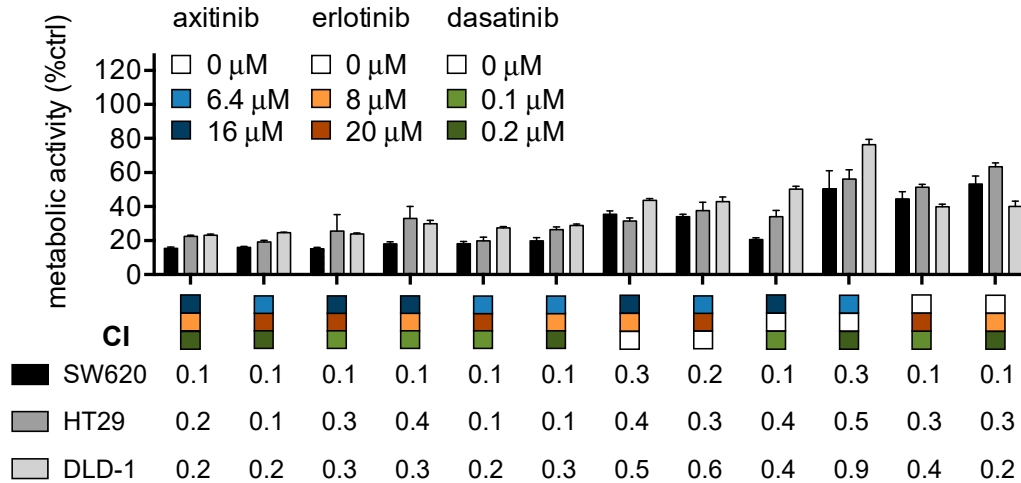
Article

# Colorectal Cancer Growth Retardation through Induction of Apoptosis, Using an Optimized Synergistic Cocktail of Axitinib, Erlotinib, and Dasatinib

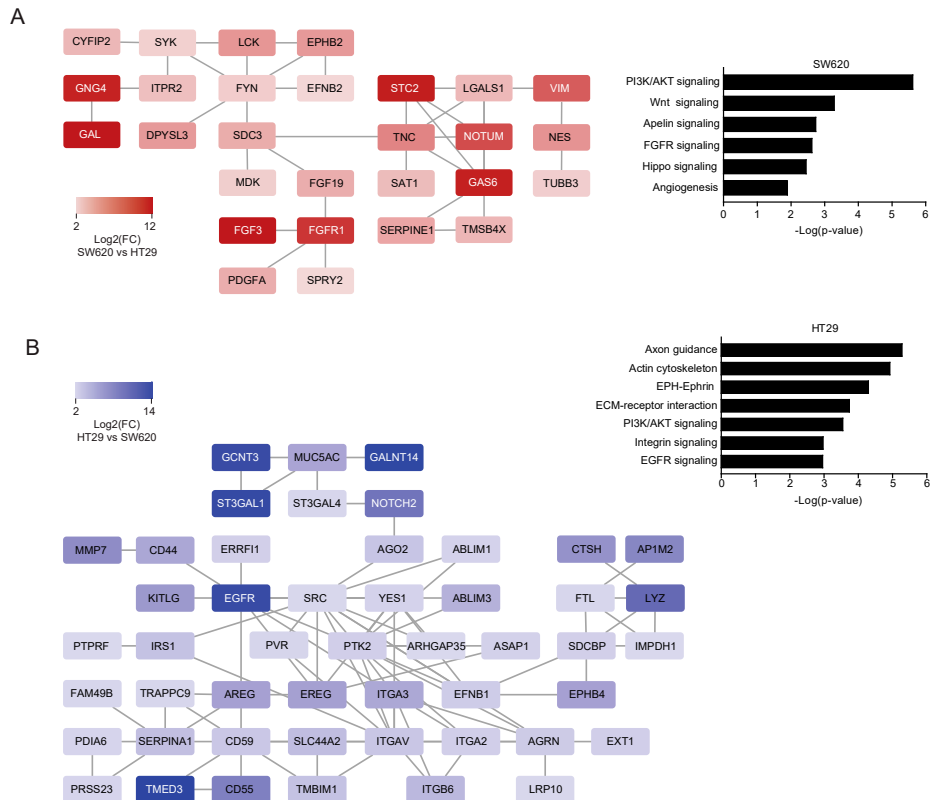
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**Figure S1.** Combinations of axitinib, erlotinib and dasatinib synergistically inhibit colorectal cancer cell metabolic activity in a dose dependent manner. Metabolic activity of 2- and 3-drug combinations at multiple dose levels in CRC (SW620, HT29, DLD-1) cell lines. Color coded drug doses used include axitinib 0.16, 1.6, 6.4 and 16  $\mu$ M, erlotinib 0.2, 2, 8 and 20  $\mu$ M and dasatinib 0.002, 0.02, 0.1 and 0.2  $\mu$ M and indicate dose reductions based on drug doses used on our previous study [1]. CI indicates Combination Index that was assessed with Compusyn software using the Chou-Talalay method [2]. CI values are shown below the graph. CI < 0.9 indicates synergism, CI = 0.9 indicates an additive effect and CI > 1 indicates antagonism. Metabolic activity was assessed after 72h of drug administration by the CellTiter-Glo<sup>®</sup> luminescence assay and represented as a percentage of control. Cells treated with 0.1% DMSO were used as control. Error bars indicate SEM.

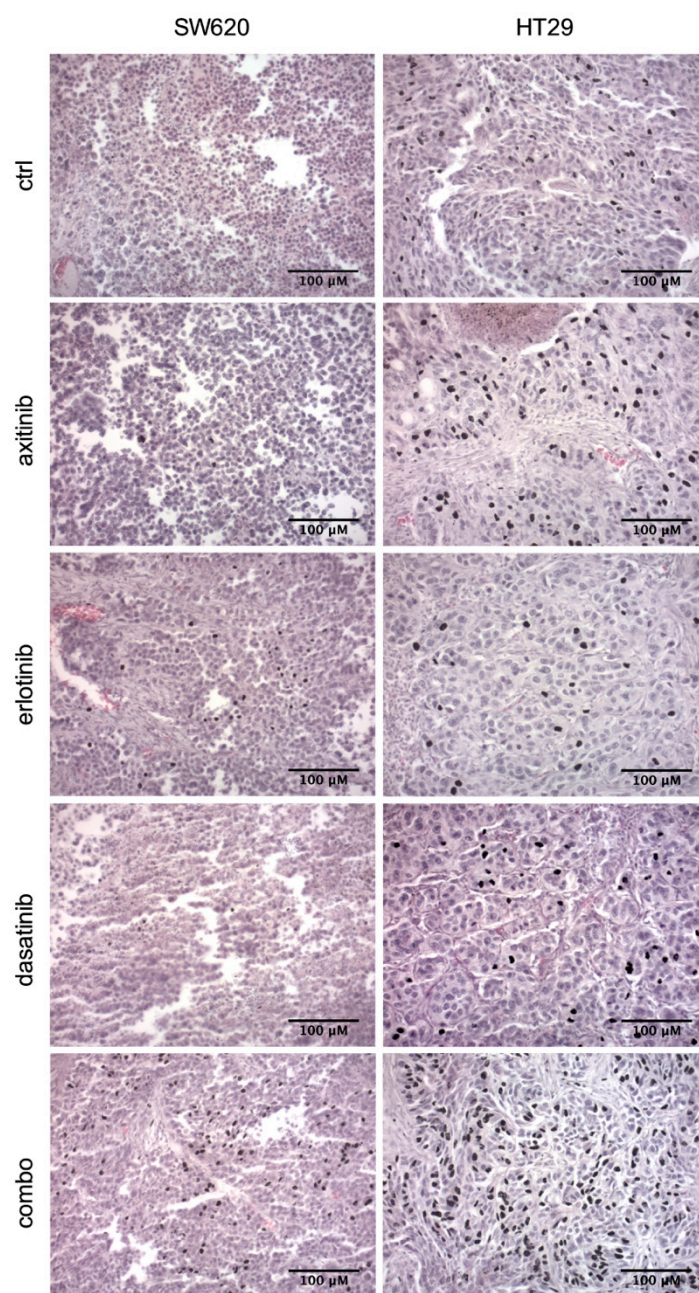


**Figure S2.** Variation in dose ratios of axitinib, erlotinib and dasatinib combinations results in similar inhibition of colorectal cancer cell metabolic activity. Metabolic activity of varying dose ratios of 2- and 3-drug in CRC (SW620, HT29, DLD-1) cell lines. Color coded drug doses include axitinib 6.4 and 16  $\mu$ M, erlotinib 8 and 20  $\mu$ M and dasatinib 0.1 and 0.2  $\mu$ M and are based on our previous study[1]. CI indicates Combination Index that was assessed with Compusyn software using the Chou-Talalay method [2]. CI < 0.9 indicates synergism, CI = 0.9 indicates an additive effect and CI > 1 indicates antagonism. Metabolic activity was assessed after 72 h of drug administration by the CellTiter-Glo<sup>®</sup> luminescence assay and represented as a percentage of control. Cells treated with 0.1% DMSO were used as a control. Error bars indicate SEM.



**Figure S3.** Differential gene expression analysis of HT29 and SW620. RNAseq data were analysed using DESeq2 in R for differentially expressed genes in SW620 (A) and HT29 (B). Gene lists were entered in String (String-db.org) and analysed for protein-protein interaction networks (confidence levels 0.7 and 0.9 for SW620 and HT29, respectively). Unconnected nodes were left out of the graphical representation. Nodes are color coded according to expression difference. Furthermore, gene lists

were entered in Enrichr (<http://amp.pharm.mssm.edu/Enrichr/>) for enrichment analysis on ontologies and pathways. Significant and relevant (>5 genes per group) features are represented in the bar graphs ordered by *p*-value.



**Figure S4.** Hematoxylin and eosin staining of SW620 and HT29 CAM tumors treated with axitinib, erlotinib and dasatinib drug combination. Representative images of H&E stained tumor sections. Scale bars indicate 100  $\mu$ m.

**Table S1.** Comparison of the metabolic activity of SDC axitinib, erlotinib and dasatinib on CRC cells, PBMCs and HDFa.

	SW620	HT29	DLD-1	PBMC [1]	HDFa [2]
SDC	15.2 ± 0.7	26.4 ± 1.8	13.8 ± 1.7	43.0 ± 2.2	48.0 ± 3.6

Metabolic activity was assessed after 72 h of drug administration by the CellTiter-Glo luminescence assay and represented as a percentage of control.

**Table S2.** Overview of methods used to grow tumors on the chicken chorioallantoic membrane (CAM) model.

Method	CRC cell line		
	SW 620	HT29	DLD-1
5 x 10 <sup>6</sup> CRC cells in 45 µL Matrigel	Orange	Orange	Red
5 x 10 <sup>6</sup> CRC cells in 45 µL Geltrex	Orange	Orange	Red
2.5 x 10 <sup>6</sup> CRC cells in 25 µL Geltrex	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
1 x 10 <sup>6</sup> CRC cells in 25 µL Geltrex	Green	Green	Green
1 x 10 <sup>6</sup> CRC cells in 25 µL Geltrex + 25 µL CM	Green	Green	Green
1 x 10 <sup>6</sup> CRC cells in hanging drop spheroid	Red	White	Red
1 x 10 <sup>6</sup> CRC + 0.5 x 10 <sup>6</sup> HDFa in 25 µL Geltrex	Red	White	Red
0.5 x 10 <sup>6</sup> CRC cells in 25 µL Geltrex	Green	White	White

High tumor take  
Low tumor take

Green areas indicate the best tested method in regard to tumor take, survival of embryo's and tumor size. Red areas indicate the opposite. White spaces indicate that the method was not evaluated.

## References

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- Chou TC. Drug Combination Studies and their Synergy Quantification Using the Chou-Talalay Method. *Cancer Res.* **2010**, *70*, 440–446.



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