TRAIL receptor agonists convert the response of breast cancer cells to ONC201 from anti-proliferative to apoptotic

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS



Supplementary Figure 1: ONC201 inhibits the proliferation but does not induce apoptosis in BT474 and MDA-MB-361 TRAIL-resistant non-TNBC cells. (A) Dose response curves for cells treated with varying concentrations of ONC201 for 72 hours were generated. Cell viability was determined using CellTiterGlo reagent. (B) Cells were treated with a vehicle control or approximate GI_{50} doses of ONC201 for 72 hours and stained with propidium iodide. Flow cytometric analysis of the cells was used to determine the percentage of cells with subG₁ DNA content. (C) Cells were treated with a vehicle control or approximate GI_{50} doses of ONC201 for 30 minutes. BrdU-PI staining was performed and the % BrdU positive cells quantitated using flow cytometric analysis. Representative dot plots are shown. ns: p > 0.05; $*p \le 0.05$, $**p \le 0.01$, $***p \le 0.001$.



Supplementary Figure 2: ONC201 treated BT474 and MDA-MB-361 non-TNBC cells increase TRAIL expression and are primed to undergo TRAIL-dependent apoptosis. (A) Cells were treated with a vehicle control or approximate GI_{50} doses of ONC201 for 48 hours and qRT-PCR was used to determine the fold change in TRAIL gene expression. (B) Cells were treated with a vehicle control or approximate GI_{50} doses of ONC201 for 72 hours and then stained with an anti-TRAIL antibody. The geometric mean fluorescence intensity was determined using flow cytometric analysis. Representative histograms show the staining. (C) Cells were treated with a vehicle control or approximate GI_{50} doses of ONC201 for 48 hours and qRT-PCR was used to determine the fold change in DR5 gene expression. (D) Cells were treated with a vehicle control or approximate GI_{50} doses of ONC201 for approximate GI_{50} doses of ONC201 for 72 hours and then stained GI_{50} doses of ONC201 for 72 hours and then stained using flow cytometric analysis. Representative histograms show the staining the stained with an isotype control or an anti-DR5 antibody. The geometric mean fluorescence intensity was determined using flow cytometric analysis. Representative histograms show the staining. (E) Cells were treated with a vehicle control or GI_{50} doses of ONC201 for 72 hours. Western blot analysis used to assess expression of anti-apoptotic proteins. ns: p > 0.05; " $p \le 0.05$, " $p \le 0.01$, "" $p \le 0.001$, """ $p \le 0.001$.



Supplementary Figure 3: The effects of ONC201 treatment on anti-apoptotic gene expression do not correlate with the compound's effects on protein levels. Cells were treated with a vehicle control or approximate GI₅₀ doses of ONC201 for 48 hours and qRT-PCR was used to determine the fold change in anti-apoptotic gene expression.



Supplementary Figure 4: Addition of rhTRAIL converts the response of BT474 and MDA-MB-361 breast cancer cells to ONC201 from anti-proliferative to pro-apoptotic in a DR5-dependent manner. (A) BT474 and MDA-MB-361 cells were treated with a vehicle control or GI_{50} doses of ONC201 for 72 hours. Recombinant human TRAIL (rhTRAIL) was added for 4 hours and the induction of cell death was assessed using western blot. (B) BT474 and MDA-MB-361 cells were treated as above and stained with propidium iodide. Flow cytometric analysis of the cells was used to determine the percentage of cells with subG₁ DNA content. (C) BT474 and MDA-MB-361 cells were treated with a vehicle control or GI_{50} doses of ONC201 for 48 hours. (D) Recombinant human TRAIL (rhTRAIL) was added for 4 hours and western blot analysis used to assess induction of cell death.







Supplementary Figure 6: Safety of ONC201 and rhTRAIL *in vivo*. (A) Mice bearing MDA-MB-361 xenograft tumors were treated weekly with a vehicle control, 100 mg/kg ONC201 orally, 10 mg/kg rhTRAIL intravenously, or a combination of ONC201 and rhTRAIL. rhTRAIL was given 72 hours after ONC201. Mouse weights were measured over time. (B) Liver sections from mice bearing MDA-MB-361 xenograft tumors treated with a vehicle control, 100 mg/kg ONC201 orally, 5 mg/kg rhTRAIL intravenously, or a combination of ONC201 and rhTRAIL for three cycles were stained with H&E 24 hours after treatment.



Supplementary Figure 7: Ki67 staining in MDA-MB-436. (A) Mice bearing MDA-MB-436 xenograft tumors were treated as treated with a vehicle control, 100 mg/kg ONC201 orally, 5 mg/kg rhTRAIL intravenously, or a combination of ONC201 and rhTRAIL for three cycles. 7 days after final TRAIL dose tumor sections were fixed and stained for Ki67. (B) Percentage of Ki67 positive nuclei staining with a low, medium, or high intensity MDA-MB-436 xenograft tumors was determined.



Supplementary Figure 8: Ki67 staining in MDA-MB-231. (A) Mice bearing MDA-MB-231 xenograft tumors were treated with a vehicle control, 100 mg/kg ONC201 orally, 5 mg/kg rhTRAIL intravenously, or a combination of ONC201 and rhTRAIL for one cycle. 24 hours after final TRAIL dose tumor sections were fixed and stained for Ki67. (B) Percentage of Ki67 positive nuclei staining with a low, medium, or high intensity MDA-MB-231 xenograft tumors was determined.



Supplementary Figure 9: A DR5-agonistic antibody can also be used to convert the response of other breast cancer cells from anti-proliferative to pro-apoptotic. (A) Breast cancer cells were treated with a vehicle control or increasing concentrations of anti-DR5 antibody lexatumumab for 72 hours. (B) MDA-MB-361 cells were treated as with a vehicle control or GI_{50} doses of ONC201 for 72 hours. Lexatumumab was added for 4 hours and the induction of cell death was assessed using western blot. (C) MDA-MB-361 cells were treated as above and stained with propidium iodide. Flow cytometric analysis of the cells was used to determine the percentage of cells with subG₁ DNA content.



Supplementary Figure 10: A DR4-agonistic antibody does not convert the response of breast cancer cells from antiproliferative to pro-apoptotic. (A) Breast cancer cells were treated with a vehicle control or increasing concentrations of anti-DR4 antibody mapatumumab for 72 hours and stained with propidium iodide. Flow cytometric analysis of the cells was used to determine the percentage of cells with subG₁ DNA content. (B) Breast cancer cells were treated as with a vehicle control or GI_{50} doses of ONC201 for 72 hours. Mapatumumab was added for 4 hours and the induction of cell death was assessed using western blot.