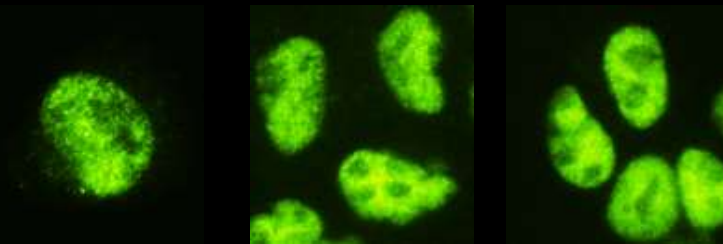


# **The Response of R249 p53 Mutants to NSC319726 Treatment**

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**Briarcliff High School**



# p53 and its Role in Cancer Progression

Background

12.7 million people in the United States are diagnosed with cancer each year.

(Cancer Worldwide)

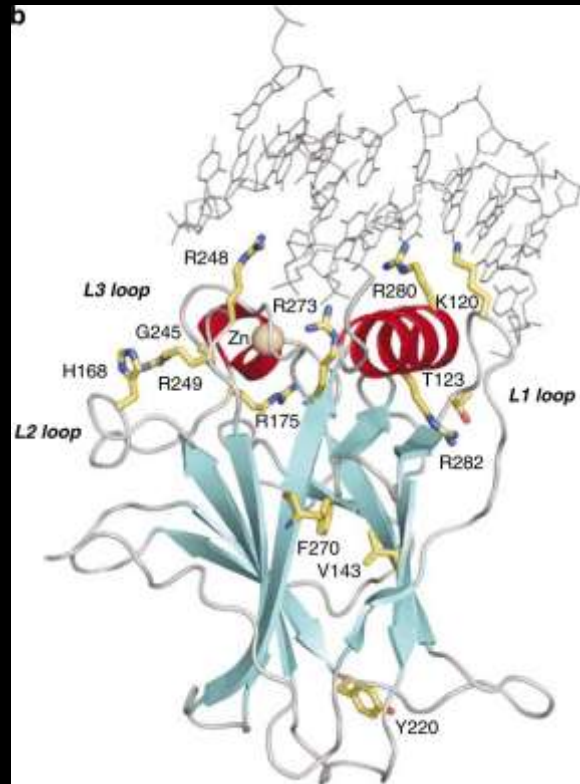
50% of human cancer cases involve a mutated p53 protein.

(Hollstein et al., 1994)

The wild-type p53 genotype is essential in preventing tumor formation and progression in humans.

# p53 in its Wild-Type State

Gain-of-function  
Theory  
(Dittmer et al., 1993)

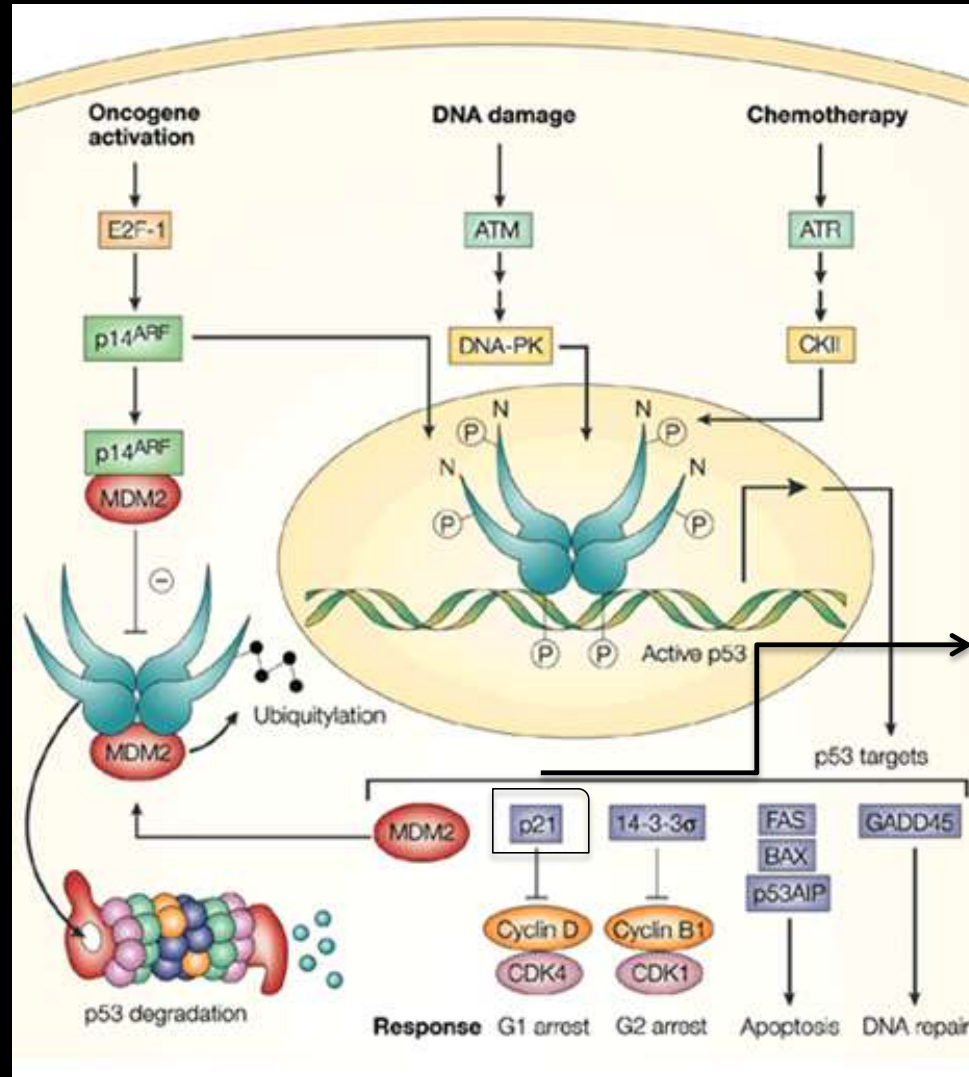


393 Amino Acids  
(Baker et al., 1989)

(Joerger and Fersht., 2007)

# The Role of Wild-Type p53 in the Cell

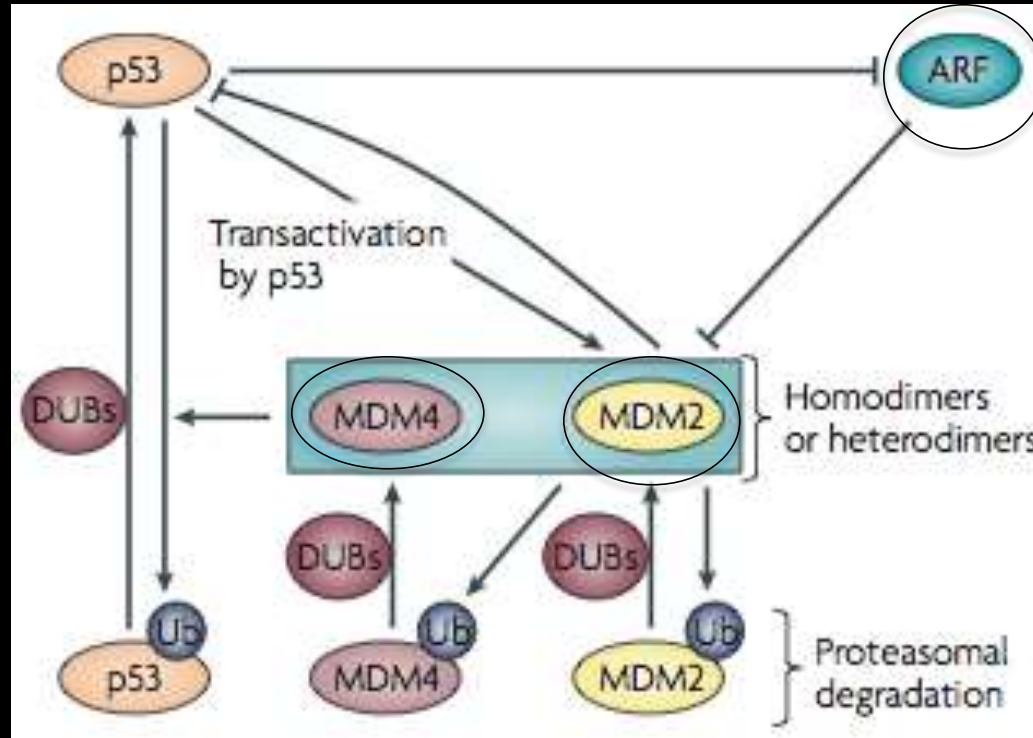
“Cellular Gatekeeper” and “Guardian of the Genome”  
(Lane, 1992)



Transcription factor

(Bullock and Fersht., 2001)

# The Tight Regulation of p53 in the Cell



Positive  
Regulator

E3 Ubiquitin Ligase  
Negative Regulators

(Brown, 2009)

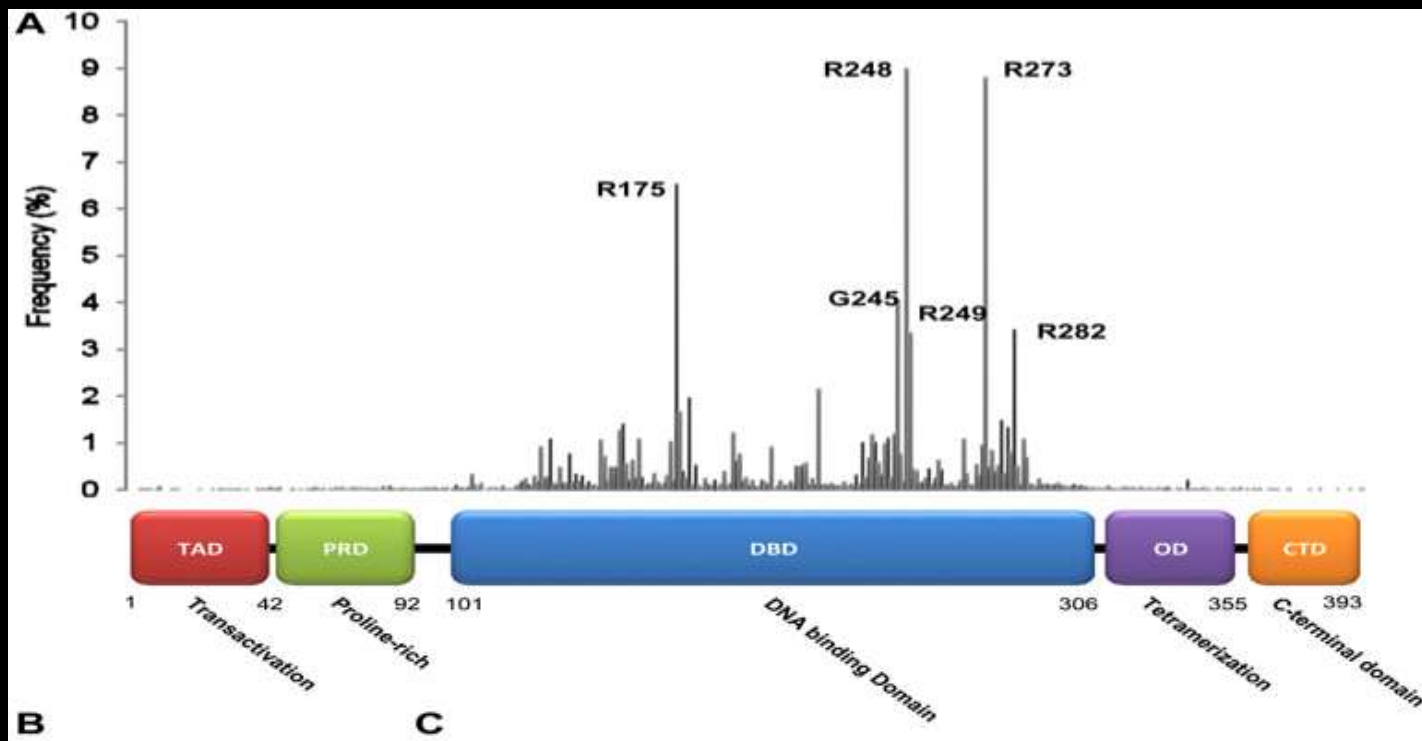
# The Mutated Guardian

1/3 p53 mutants are missense mutants

DNA Contact

Conformational

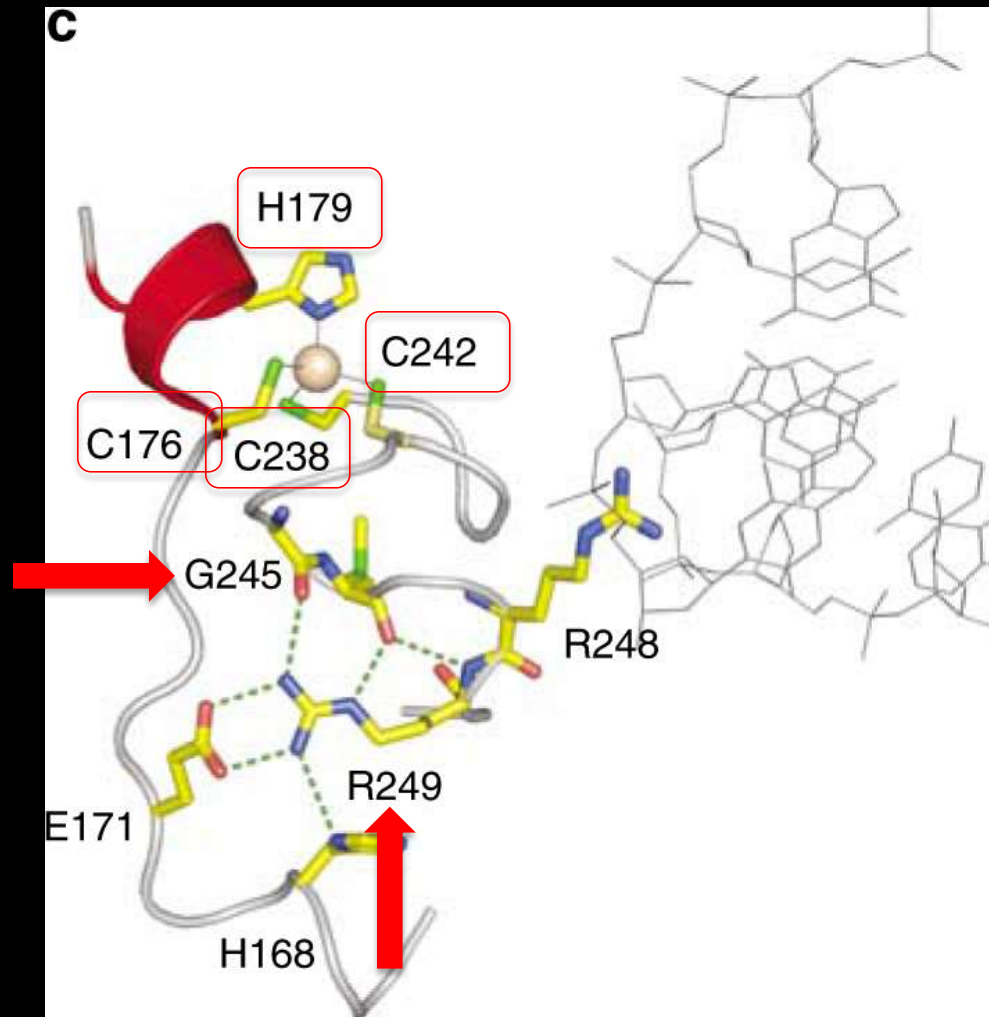
(Cho et al., 1994)



(Freed-Pastor and Prives, 2009)

# Drug-Related p53-Targeted Therapy

Personalized  
Medicine



NSC319726  
Thiosemicarbazone  
Zinc  
Metallochaperone  
(Yu et al., 2012)

(Joerger and Fersht., 2007)

# Research Questions and Hypotheses

- Research Question: Is the R249 codon of p53 involved in zinc binding? If so, will it experience restored wild-type structure and function post NSC319726 drug treatment?
- $H_1$ : Wild-type p53 function will not be reactivated in p53 R249 mutants upon exposure to NSC319726.
- $H_0$ : Wild-type p53 function will be reactivated in p53 R249 mutants upon exposure to NSC319726.



# Methods

Methods

```
graph TD; Methods[Methods] --- Genotyping[Genotyping]; Methods --- MTS[MTS Assay]; Methods --- Immunofluorescent[Immunofluorescent Staining]; Methods --- RT-PCR[RNA Extraction and Quantitative RT-PCR]; Methods --- WesternBlot[Western Blot];
```

Genotyping

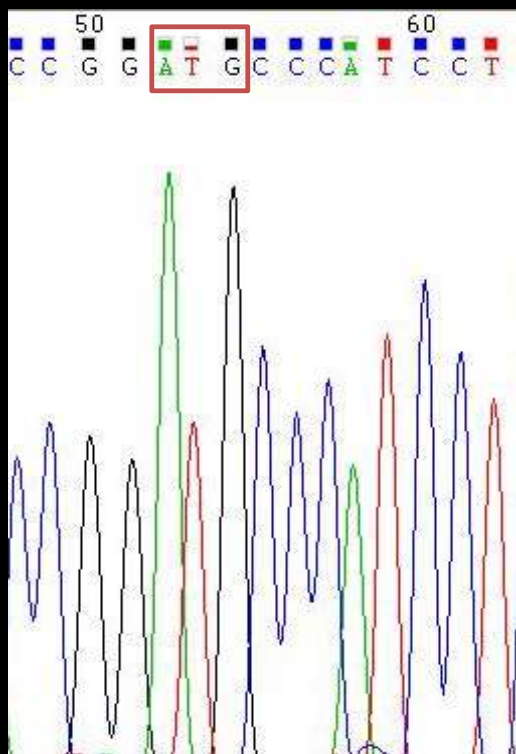
MTS Assay

Immunofluorescent  
Staining

RNA  
Extraction and  
Quantitative  
RT-PCR

Western Blot

# Genotyping Confirms the p53 Status of the Cell Lines



Hs700T Exon 7

Amino Acid

249

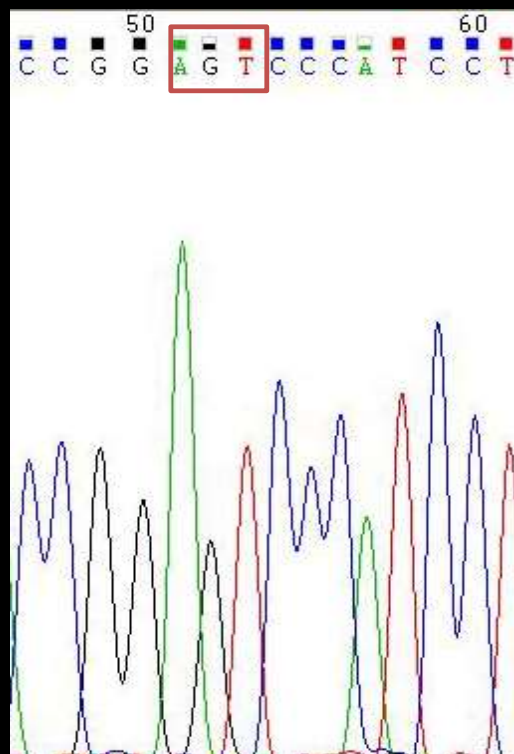
Genotype

ATG

Methionine

R249M

mutant



H460 Exon 7

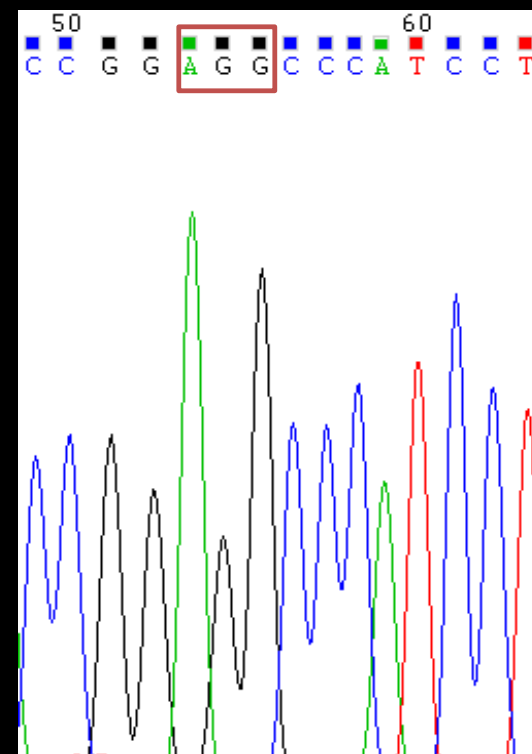
Wild Type p53

Amino Acid

249 Genotype

AGG

Arginine



PLC/PRF5 Exon 7

Amino Acid

249

Genotype

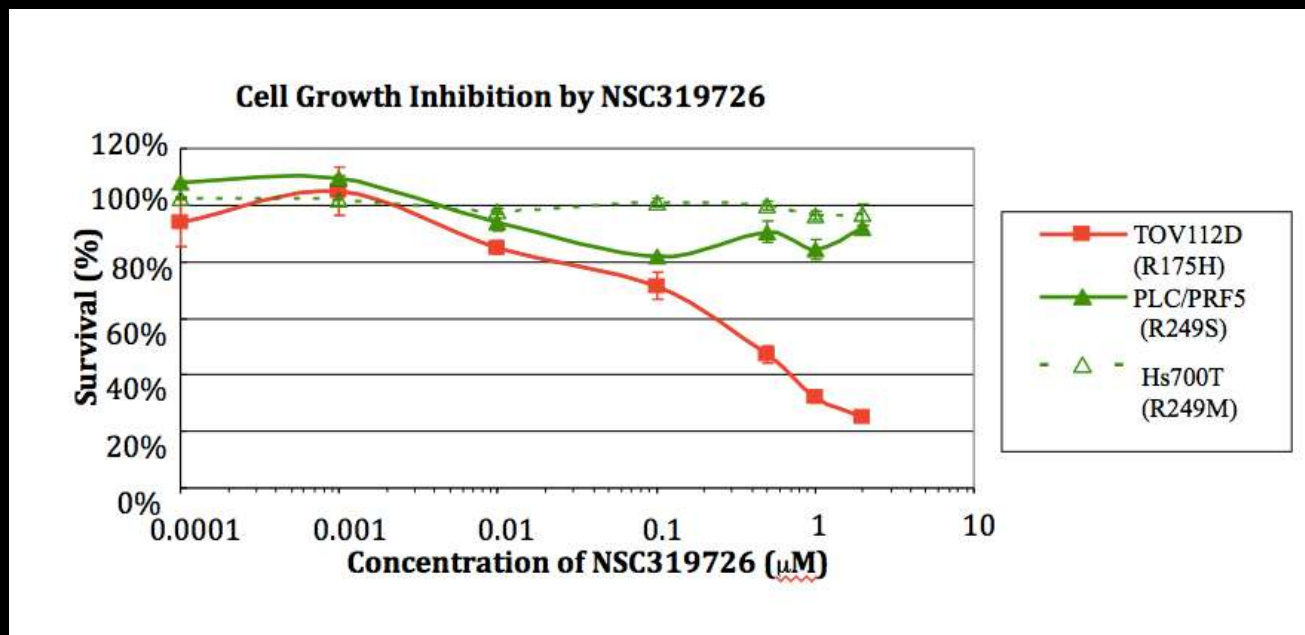
AGT

Serine

R249S

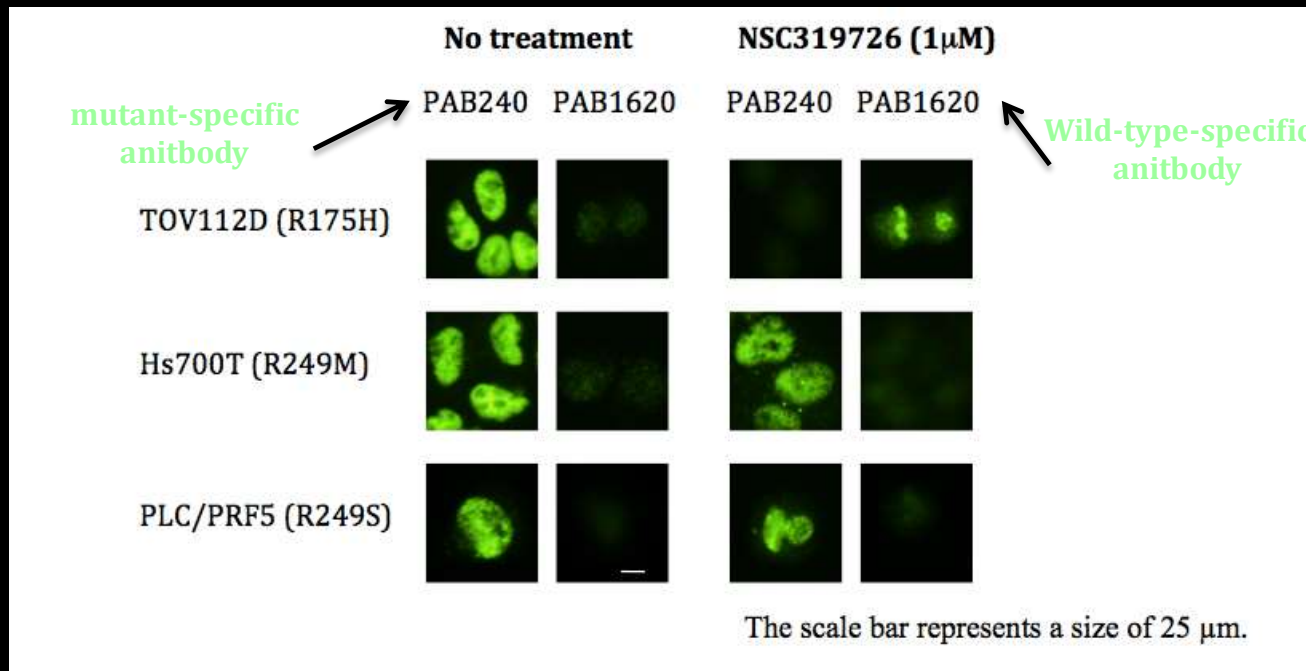
mutant

# NSC319726 does not Inhibit Cell Growth in R249 Mutants



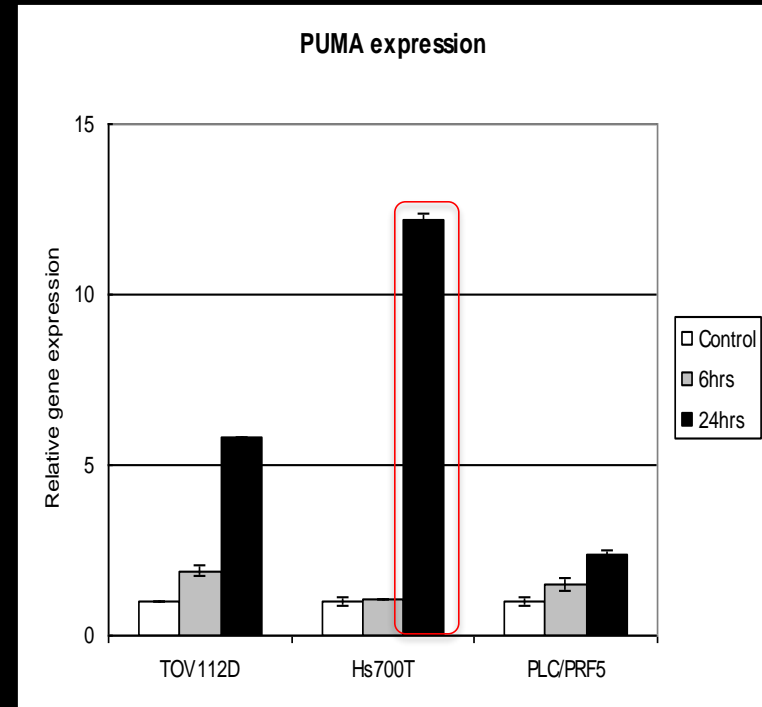
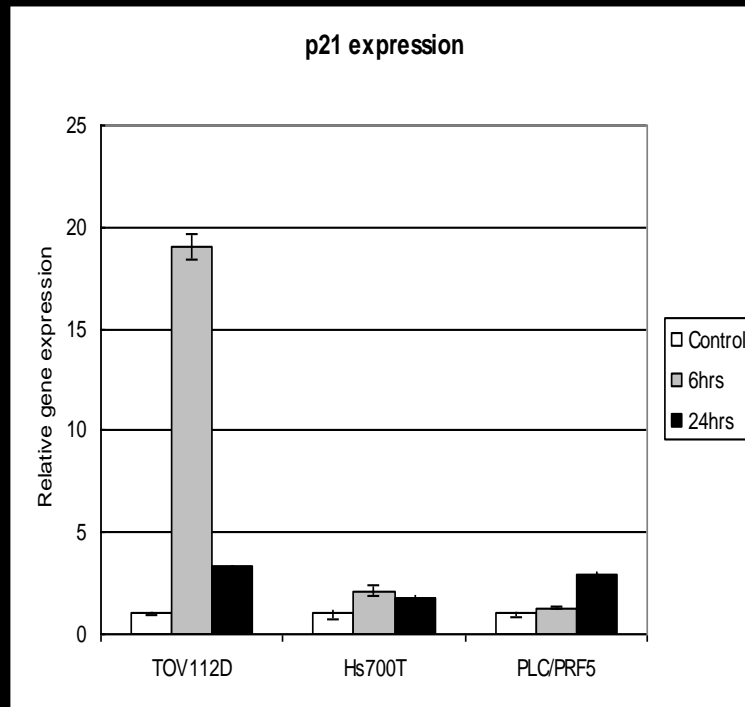
- Evident growth inhibition for TOV112D cell lines
  - $\text{IC}_{50} = 0.4 \mu\text{l}$  (Yu, 2012)
- PLC/PRF5 and Hs700T survival % remained stable despite slight fluctuation

# NSC319726 Restores Wild-Type Conformation in R175H but not in R249 Mutant Proteins



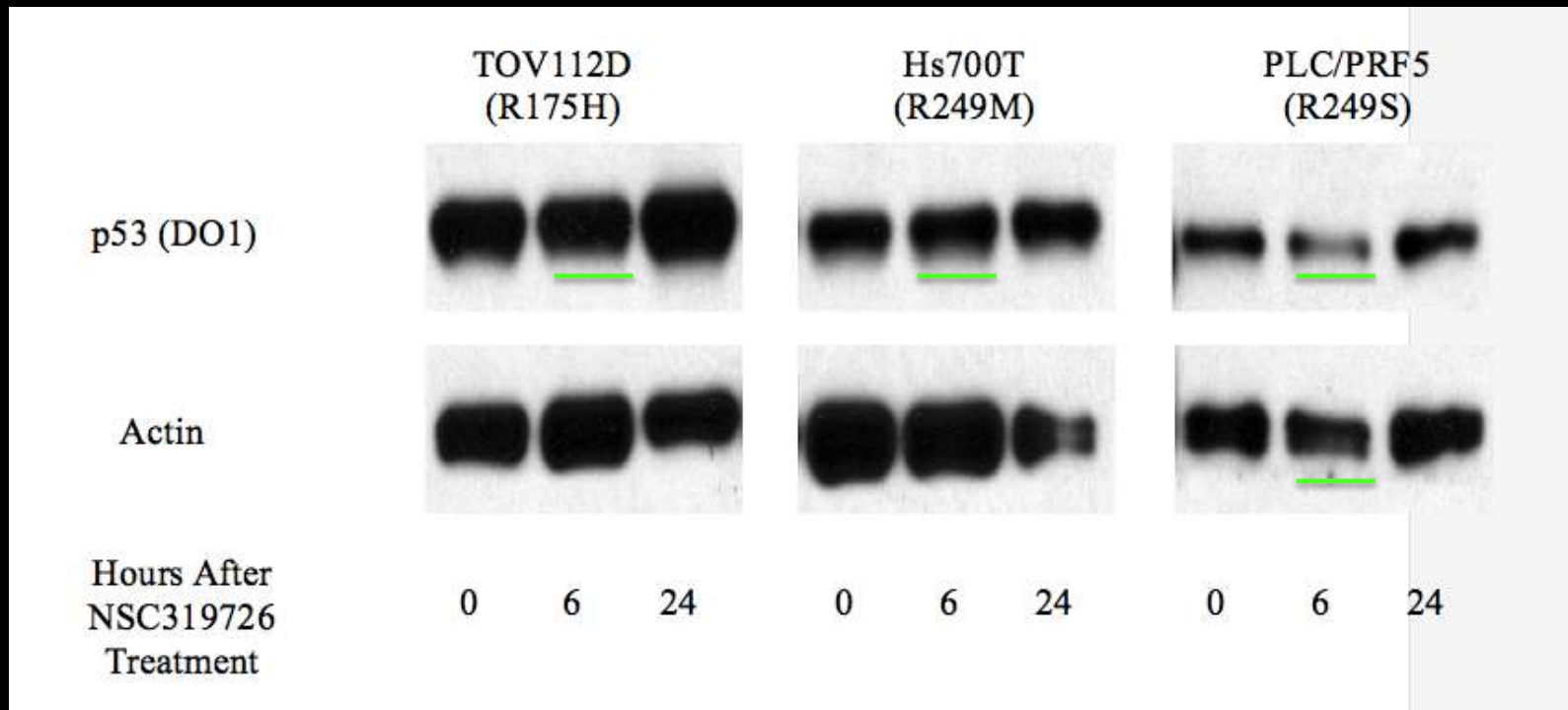
- R175H, R249M, R249S conformational mutants
- Only TOV112D wild-type p53 conformation restored by NSC319726 drug treatment

# NSC319726 does not Restore p53 Transcriptional Function in R249 p53 Mutants



- Up-regulation of PUMA in Hs700T NSC319726-dependent but p53-independent

# NSC319726 does not Change p53 Protein Levels (Stability) in R249 Mutants



- H<sub>1</sub> confirmed

# Discussion/ Conclusion

- It was confirmed that wild-type p53 structure and function is rescued in TOV112D cell line after NSC319726 treatment.
- Unlike other hotspot mutants (C176F, C242S, G245S ), R249 p53 mutants do not receive restored wild-type p53 structure and function post NSC319726 drug treatment.

# Acknowledgements

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# Major Findings

H<sub>1</sub> was confirmed. Thus, it was concluded that wild-type p53 structure and function is rescued in TOV112D cell line after NSC319726 treatment.