

CO016

## Oral Session APL Biology -II

# Metabolic catastrophe of arsenic trioxide resistant cells in acute promyelocytic leukemia

**Balasundaram Nithya, Ganesan Saravanan, Palani Hamenth, Alex Abu Ansu, David Sachin, Balasubramanian Poonkuzhali, Kulkarni Uday, George Biju, Mathews Vikram.**

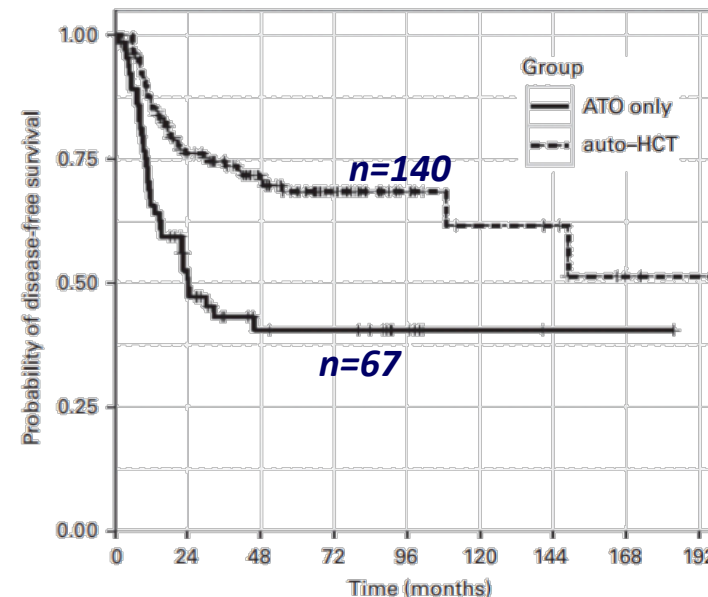
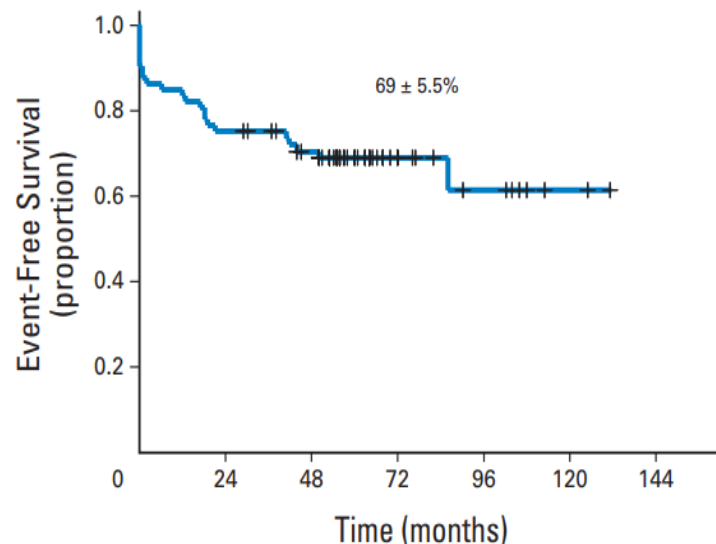
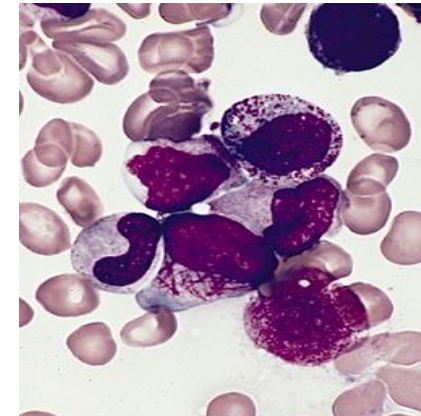
**26<sup>th</sup> September 2017**



**Nithya Balasundaram  
Department of Haematology  
Christian Medical College  
Vellore, Tamilnadu  
INDIA**

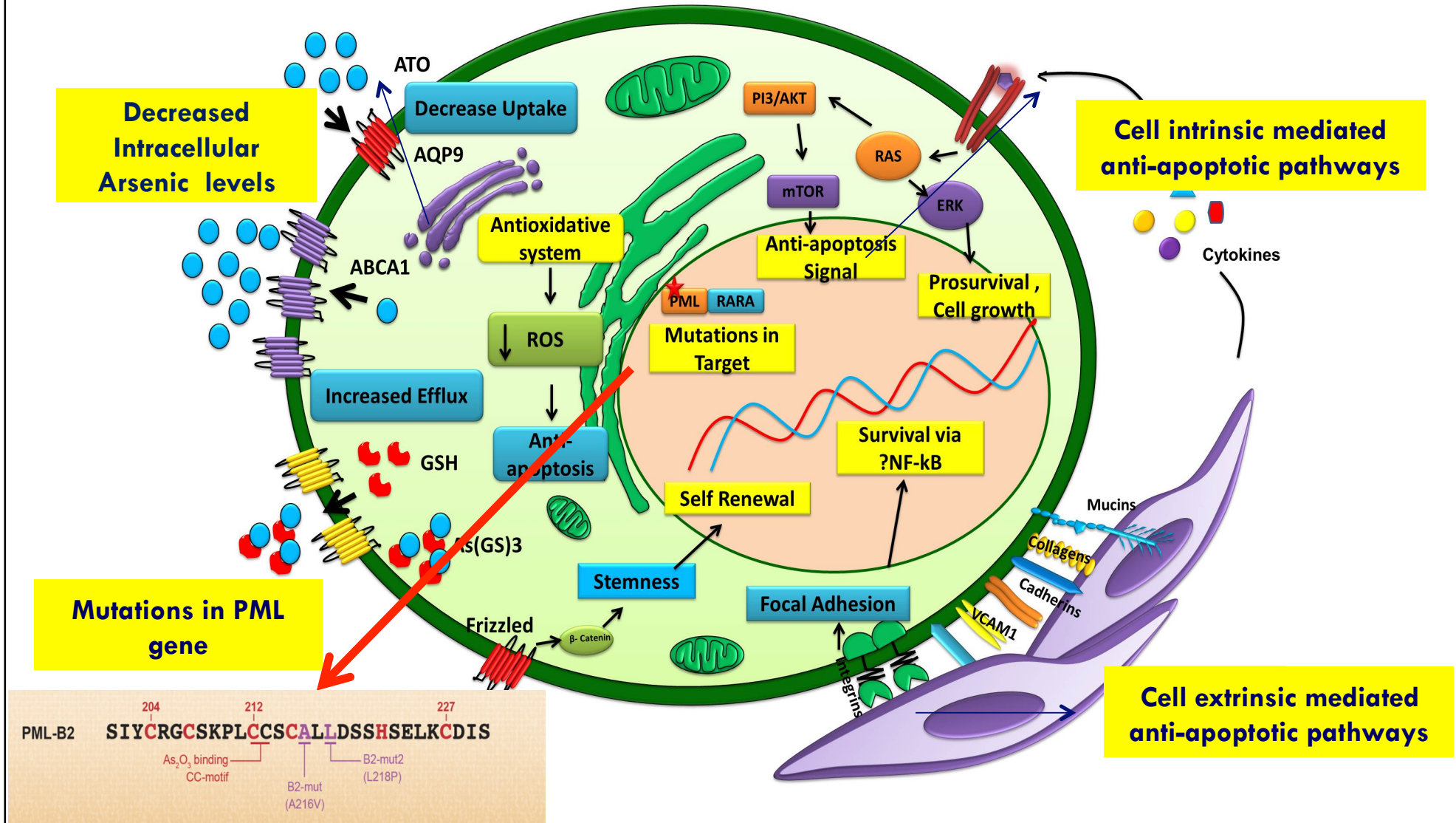
# Acute Promyelocytic Leukemia

- ❖ >95% of APL cases – PML-RARA Fusion
- ❖ Combination of ATRA and ATO in patients with low-risk disease is very promising.
- ❖ Relapses with arsenic trioxide <sup>1,2</sup>:
  - Newly diagnosed APL (NAPL) Relapses 10-20%
  - Relapsed APL (RAPL) -Relapses 60%.



**Limited data to explain this inferior long term clinical response in RAPL treated with ATO in contrast to NAPL**

# Potential Mechanisms of Resistance to ATO



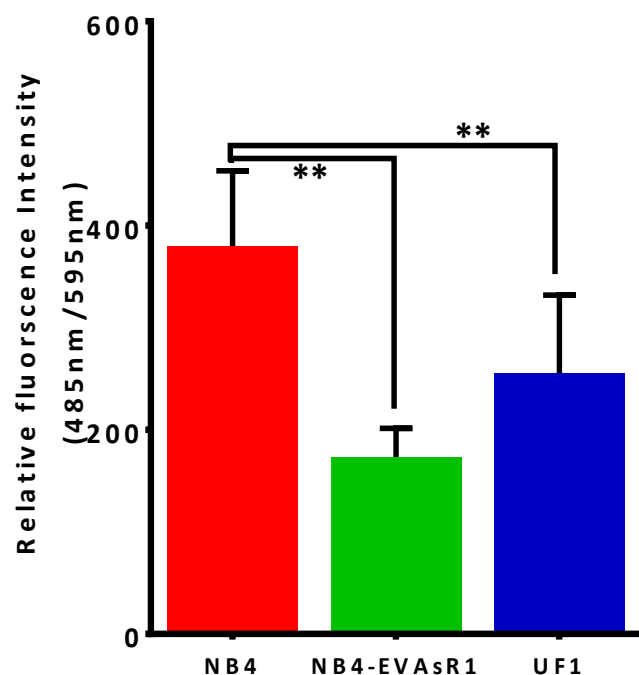
Go to .et al.,Blood 2011;118(6):1600-1609

## Arsenic trioxide resistance: More to it than mutations in PML-RARA

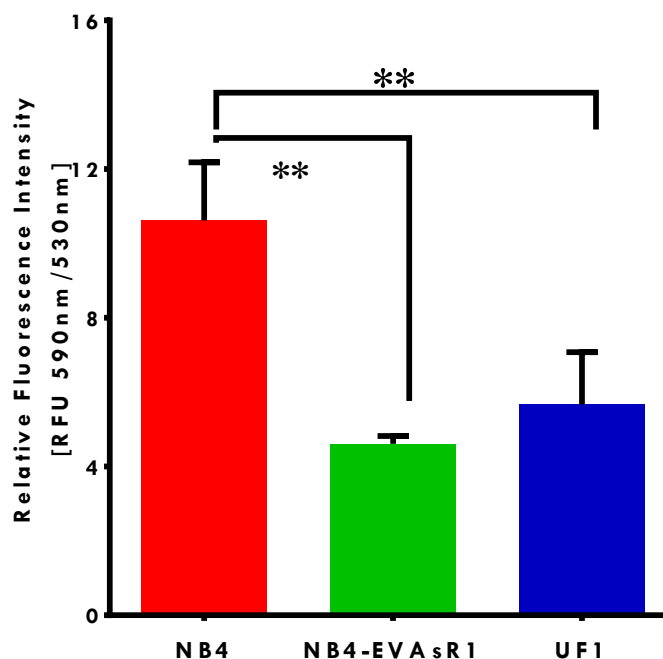
<i>Characteristic features</i>	<i>NB4 naive</i>	<i>NB4 EV-AsR1</i>	<i>NB4 EV-AsR2</i>	<i>NB4 EV-AsR3</i>	<i>UF1</i>
Presence of PML B2 domain mutation (A216V)	-	+ 91.7 % VAF	-	-	-
Sensitivity to ATO (IC 50 - $\mu$ M)	0.9	3.09	3.44	2.88	4.1
Sensitivity to other chemotherapy					
a) Daunorubicin IC50( $\mu$ M)	0.14	0.22	0.19	0.2	0.18
b) Cytosine arabinoside IC50( $\mu$ M)	8.3	16.5	4.7	13.1	0.309
Reactive oxygen species (ROS) levels (MFI Fold difference normalized to NB4 cells) (n=3)	1	0.74	0.86	0.68	0.3
Glutathione levels (MFI Fold difference- normalized to NB4 cells) (n=3)	1	1.37	1.45	1.39	0.5
Doubling time (hrs)	28	46	48	42	72

## Metabolic features of ATO resistant cell line

**2-NBDG –Glucose Uptake**



**Mitochondrial Membrane Potential (MMP)**



Sensitive Cell line : NB4,  
Resistant cell line :  
NB4-EVAsR1 and UF1  
MMP (JC-1)  
Glucose Uptake - 2-NBDG –  
analog of Glucose (n=3)  
(n=4)

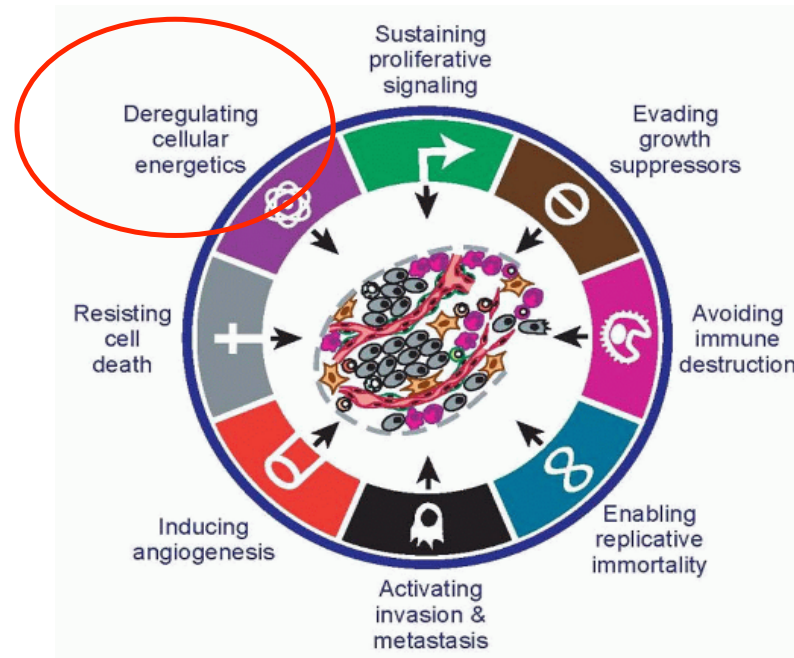
❖ Lower glucose uptake, ROS, Mitochondrial Membrane potential and increased antioxidant level, doubling time in contrast to NB4 naive cell line suggests that the ATO resistant cells are metabolically less active.

# Metabolism of cancer cells are distinct from normal cells

*“the rate of glucose uptake dramatically increases and lactate is produced, even in the presence of oxygen” – Aerobic Glycolysis – Warburg Effect*

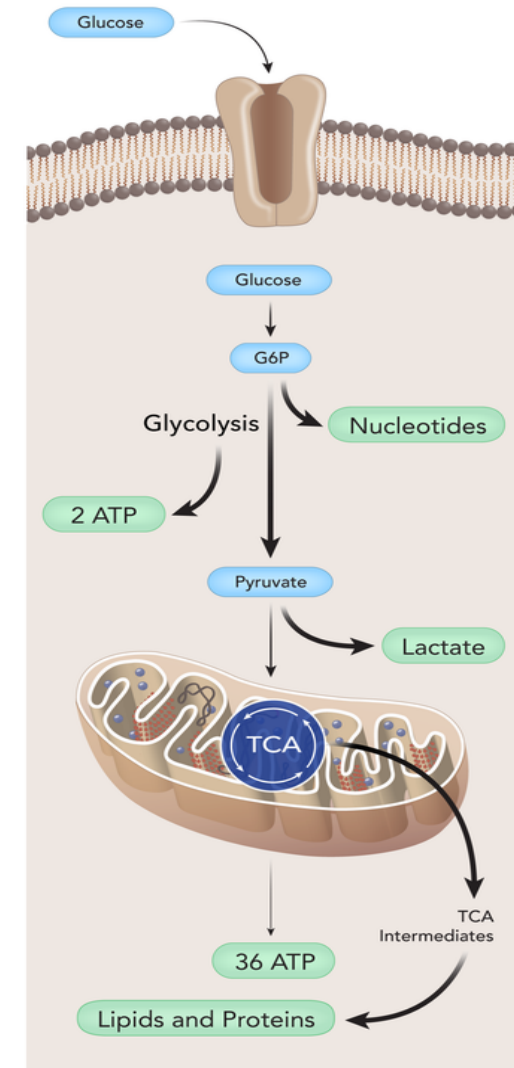


Dr. Otto Warburg (Oct 8, 1883 Aug 1, 1970)



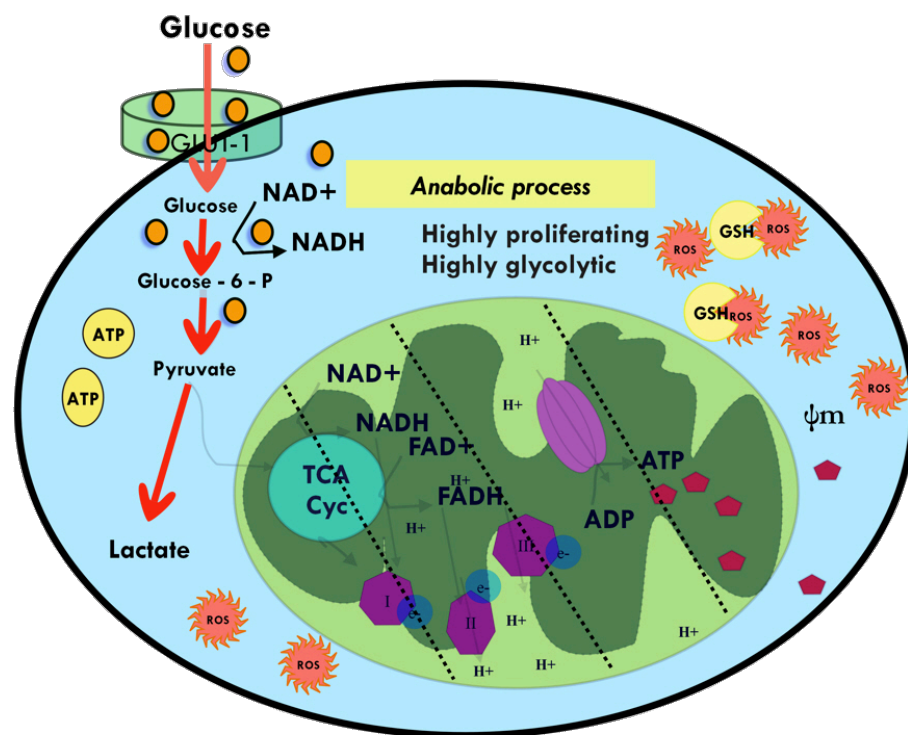
Cell 144, March 4, 2011 ©2011 Elsevier Inc.

**Cancer cells rely on glycolysis**

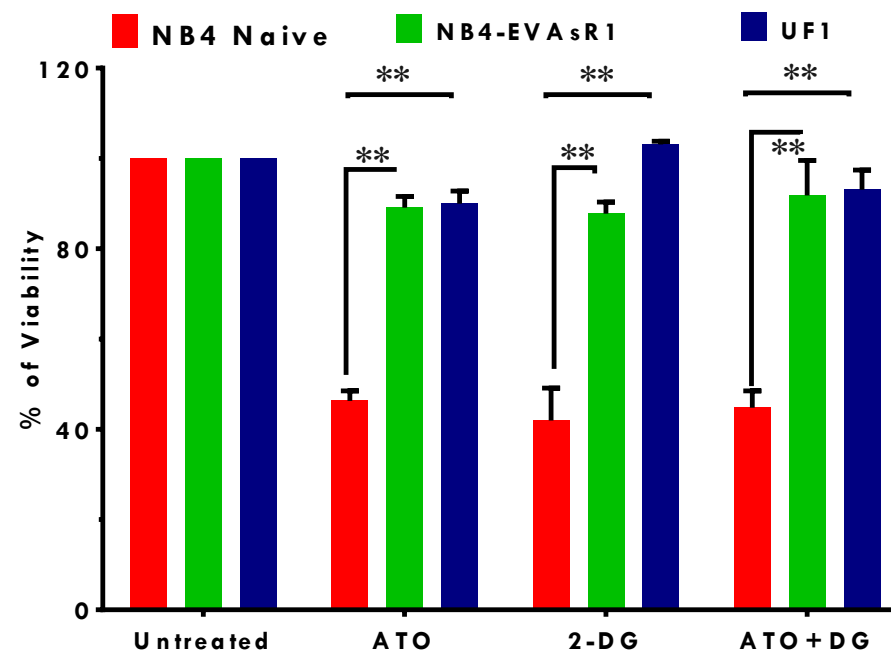




## Sensitivity to metabolic inhibitor – Glycolytic inhibition



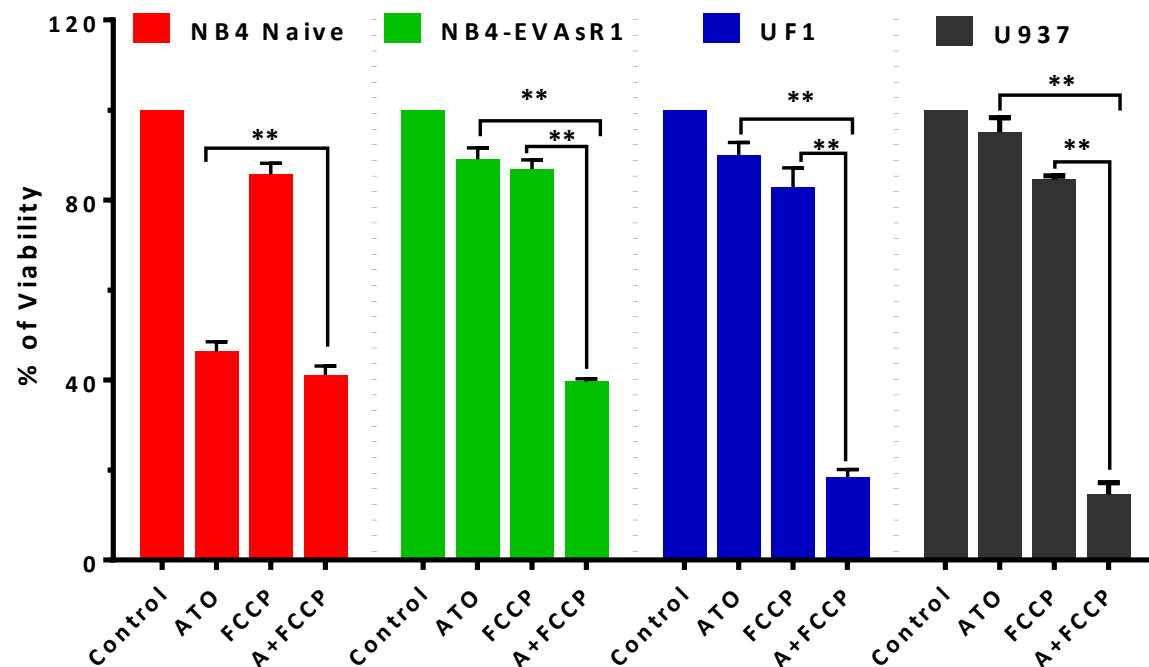
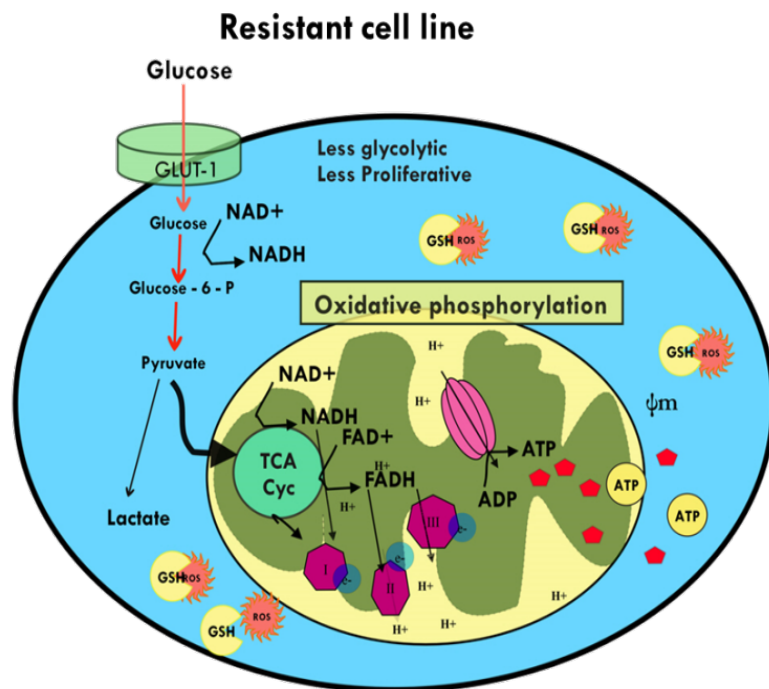
**2-Deoxy Glucose (2-DG) –  
Inhibitor of Glycolysis**



**Cell line : NB4, NB4-EvAsR1 and UF1**  
**Duration : 48hours (n=4)**  
**Drugs : ATO (2uM): 2-DG (5mM)**  
**Assay : Annexin V-7AAD**

**ATO resistant cell lines are not relying on glycolytic pathway for their survival and proliferation**

## Sensitivity to metabolic inhibitor – OXPHOS Inhibition

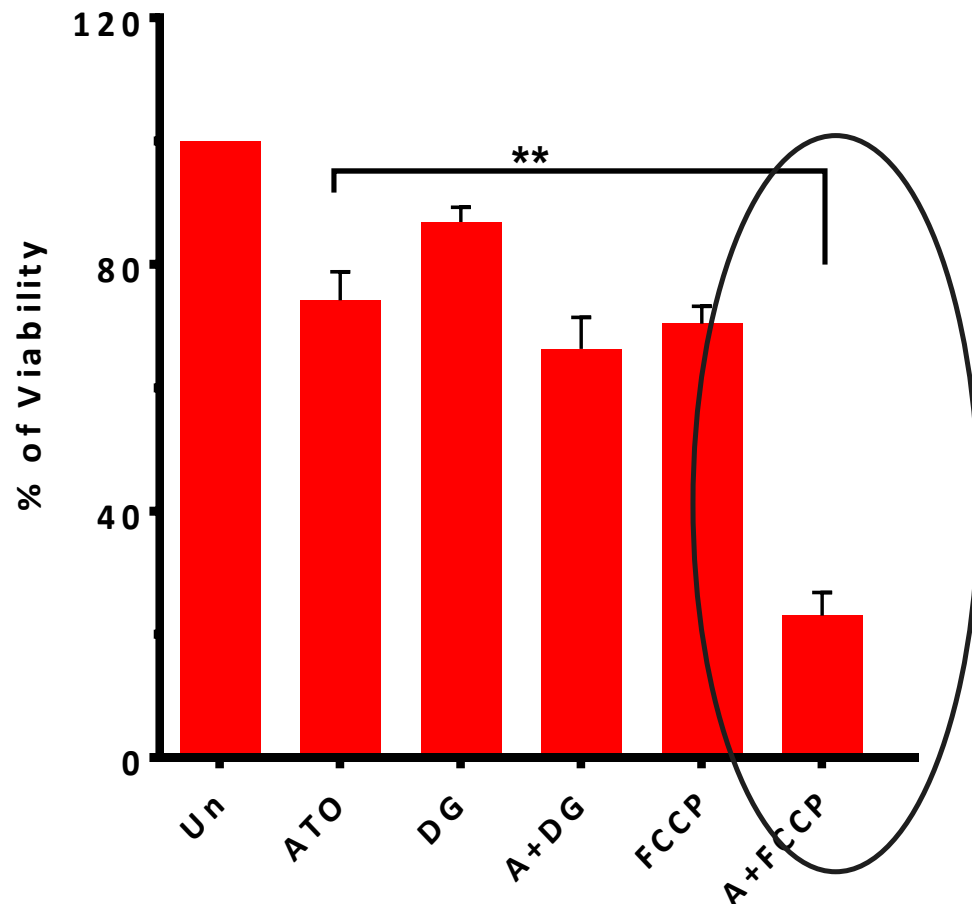


❖ FCCP – dissipates the membrane potential which is required for the activation of ATP synthase complex to generates ATP.

Cell line : NB4, NB4-EVAsR1 ,UF1 and U937  
 Duration : 48hours; (n=4)  
 Drugs : ATO (2uM);2-DG (5mM); FCCP (10uM)  
 Assay : Annexin V-7AAD



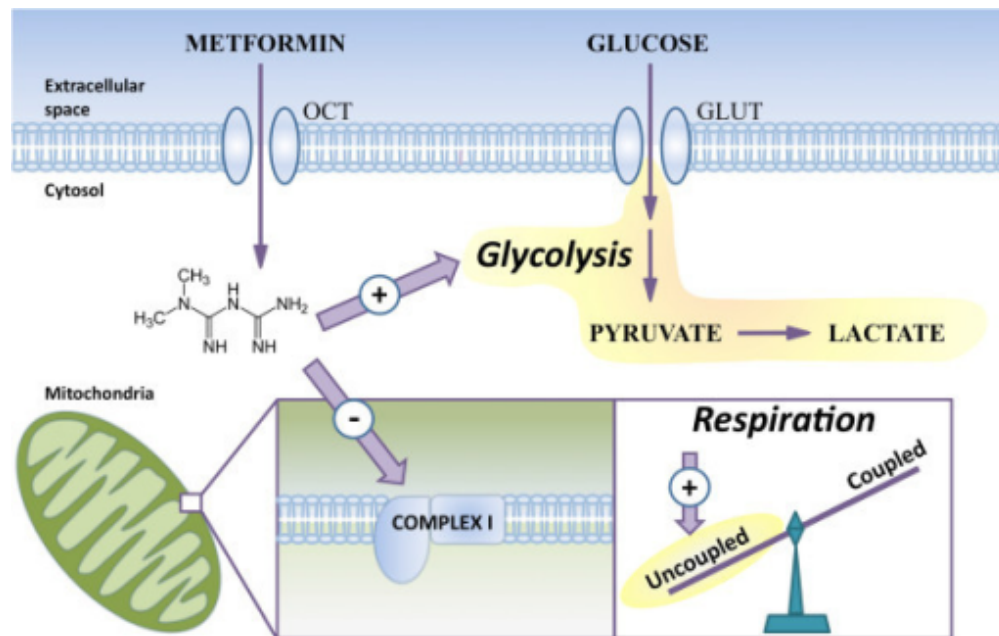
## Effect of metabolic disruptors on normal cells



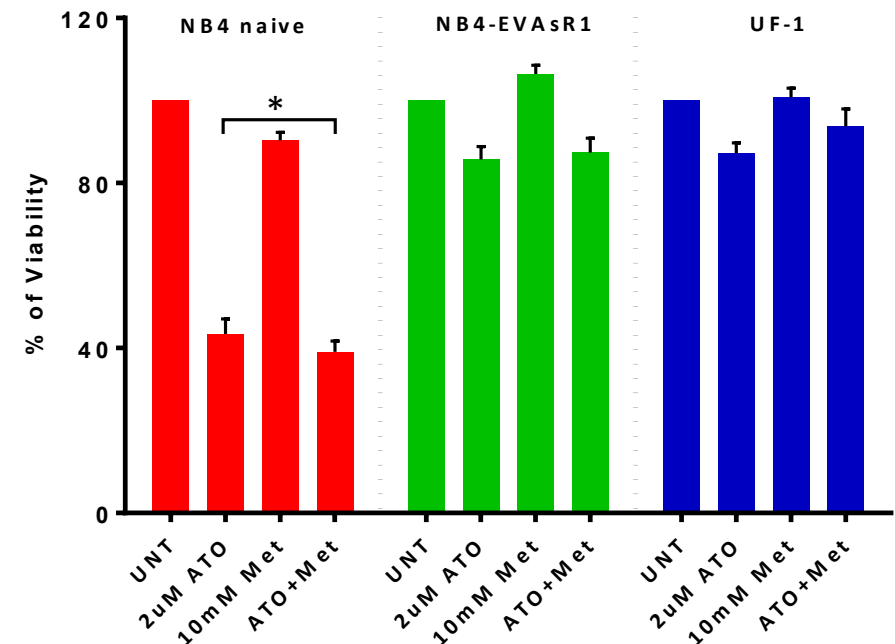
Normal Peripheral blood mononuclear cell  
Duration : 48hours  
Drugs : ATO (2 $\mu$ M); 2-DG (5mM); FCCP (10 $\mu$ M)  
Assay : Annexin V-7AAD  
(n=4)

Despite of the profound effect of ATO+FCCP on malignant cells there is a significant bystander effect on the normal peripheral blood mononuclear cell which limits it potential to be translated into the clinic

## Effect of Metformin (OXPHOS Complex I inhibitor) on ATO resistant cell lines



Andrzejewski et al. Cancer & Metabolism 2014,



Inhibition of Complex-I is not effective in overcoming resistance to ATO, the cells might survive using other energy sources of TCA cycle intermediates (glutamine, α-keto glutarate) to drive OXPHOS surpassing complex I inhibition or by up regulating glycolysis

## **Bedaquiline, an FDA-approved antibiotic, inhibits mitochondrial function and potently blocks the proliferative expansion of stem-like cancer cells (CSCs)**

**Marco Fiorillo<sup>1,2,3</sup>, Rebecca Lamb<sup>1,2</sup>, Herbert B. Tanowitz<sup>4</sup>, Anna Rita Cappello<sup>3</sup>, Ubaldo E. Martinez-Outschoorn<sup>5</sup>, Federica Sotgia<sup>6</sup>, and Michael P. Lisanti<sup>1,2</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>The Breast Cancer Now Research Unit, Institute of Cancer Sciences, Cancer Research UK Manchester Institute, University of Manchester, Manchester, UK

<sup>2</sup>The Manchester Centre for Cellular Metabolism (MCCM), Institute of Cancer Sciences, Cancer Research UK Manchester Institute, University of Manchester, Manchester, UK

<sup>3</sup>The Department of Pharmacy, Health and Nutritional Sciences, The University of Calabria, Cosenza, Italy

<sup>4</sup>Departments of Pathology and Medicine, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Bronx, NY 10461, USA

<sup>5</sup>The Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center, Philadelphia, PA 19107, USA

<sup>6</sup>School of Environment & Life Sciences, University of Salford, Salford, UK

**Bedaquiline is an FDA-approved anti-microbial drug, selectively sensitizes the malignant cells by targeting the mitochondrial ATP-synthase , leading to mitochondrial dysfunction and ATP depletion.**

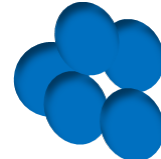
# Summary

## ATO Sensitive cell line



- ❖ High  $\psi_m$
- ❖ Increased ROS
- ❖ Decreased Glutathione
- ❖ Increased Proliferation rate

## ATO Resistant cell line



- ❖ Low  $\psi_m$
- ❖ Decreased ROS
- ❖ Increased Glutathione
- ❖ Decreased Proliferation rate

- ❖ Resistance to ATO is not restricted to mutations in PML-RARA and that it is likely to be multi-factorial.
- ❖ ATO resistant cell lines survives the energy crisis by efficiently handling the two metabolic pathways (Glycolysis and OXPHOS) when one is inhibited.
- ❖ There are a number of FDA approved molecules widely used in the clinic and are reported to have inhibitory effect on malignant cells mitochondrial respiration.
- ❖ Targeting the metabolic adaptation could be a potential approach to overcome arsenic trioxide resistance.

# Acknowledgements

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