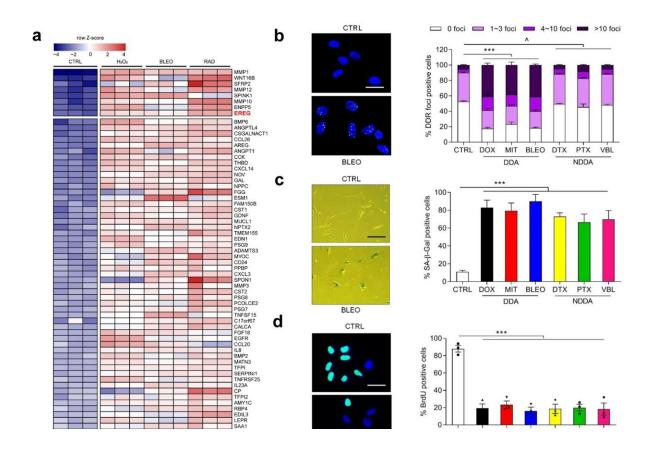


Targeting epiregulin in treatment-damaged tumor microenvironment restrains therapeutic resistance

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Genotoxicity induces expression of EREG and other secreted factors of the SASP spectrum in human stromal cells. **a** Transcriptome-wide profiling of gene expression changes in primary normal human prostate stromal cell line (PSC27) by microarray. Cell lysates were collected for analysis 7 days after treatment. CTRL control. H₂O₂ hydrogen peroxide. BLEO bleomycin. RAD radiation. Red highlighted, EREG. Agilent microarray data adapted from Sun et al. with



permission from *Nature Medicine*, copyright 2012, Springer Nature. **b** Representative immunofluorescence staining images (yH2AX and p-53BP1 costaining, left) and comparative statistics (right) of DNA damage response (DDR) in PSC27 cells treated by DOX (doxorubicin), MIT (mitoxantrone), BLEO (bleomycin), DTX (docetaxel), PTX (paclitaxel) and VBL (vinblastine). DDA DNA-damaging agents (DDAs). NDDA non-DNA-damaging agents. DDR were classified into four sub-categories including 0 foci, 1–3 foci, 4–10 foci and >10 foci per cell. Scale bars, 15 μm. c SA-β-Gal staining of PSC27 cells treated by various agents used in **b**. Cells were stained 7 days after in vitro treatments. Scale bars, 30 µm. Right, comparative statistics. **d** BrdU staining of stromal cells treated by different agents as indicated in b and c. Scale bars, 15 µm. Right, comparative statistics. e Quantitative RT-PCR of EREG expression after treatment of PSC27 cells by various agents. Cell lysates were collected for measurement 7 days after treatment. Signals normalized to CTRL. f Immunoblot analysis of EREG expression in stromal cells 7 days after treatments performed as indicated. IC intracellular samples. CM conditioned media. GAPDH, loading control. g Time course expression assessment of a subset of EREG and other typical SASP factors (CXCL8, CSF2, WNT16B, IL6 and MMP3) after drug treatment of stromal cells in vitro. Numeric numbers indicate the individual days after treatment. h Immunoblot measurement of EREG expression at the protein level in the time course described in g. i Comparative appraisal of EREG transcript expression in stromal cells (PSC27) versus cancer epithelial cells (PC3, DU145, LNCaP and M12). Signals normalized to untreated sample per cell line. j Immunoblot assessment of EREG expression in protein lysates of stromal and epithelial cells after bleomycin treatment as performed in i. Data are representative of three independent experiments. p > 0.05, *p

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