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IN BRIEF

THYROID GLAND

PI3K inhibitor decreases metastatic behavior in thyroid cancer
 GDC-0941, an inhibitor of the phosphoinositide-3 kinase (PI3K) pathway, significantly reduced spreading and migration of four thyroid carcinoma cell lines in culture. Furthermore, oral administration of GDC-0941 to a mice model of follicular thyroid carcinoma decreased tumor growth and metastatic lung colonization. These results support the development of PI3K inhibitors to treat thyroid cancer.

Original article Burrows, N. *et al.* GDC-0941 inhibits metastatic characteristics of thyroid carcinomas by targeting both the phosphoinositide-3 kinase (PI3K) and hypoxia-inducible factor-1 α (HIF-1 α) pathways. *J. Clin. Endocrinol. Metab.* doi:10.1210/jc.2011-1426

DIABETES

RNA oxidation marker predicts long-term mortality in T2DM

Urinary levels of the RNA oxidation marker 8-oxo-7,8-dihydroguanosine (8-oxoGuo) measured in 1,381 patients newly diagnosed as having type 2 diabetes mellitus predicted mortality after a median follow-up period of 18.7 years. The hazard ratios for patients in the highest 8-oxoGuo quartile compared with patients in the lowest quartile were 1.44 (1.12–1.85) for all-cause mortality and 1.54 (1.13–2.10) for diabetes-related mortality. No relationship was found between urinary levels of a marker of DNA oxidation and mortality in this population.

Original article Broedbaek, K. *et al.* Urinary markers of nucleic acid oxidation and long-term mortality of newly diagnosed type 2 diabetic patients. *Diabetes Care* doi:10.2337/dc11-1620

OBESITY

Inhibition of tissue factor signaling—new antiobesity target?

The absence of PAR2 or the cytoplasmic domain of tissue factor in mice prevented weight gain and insulin resistance caused by a high-fat diet, report Badeanlou *et al.* Genetic ablation or pharmacological inhibition of this signaling pathway reduced adipose tissue inflammation and insulin resistance, respectively, in hematopoietic cells, and pharmacological blockade of the pathway *in vivo* increased energy expenditure. The researchers suggest that inhibition of tissue factor signaling could be used to improve insulin resistance and prevent weight gain in individuals with obesity.

Original article Badeanlou, L. *et al.* Tissue factor-protease-activated receptor 2 signaling promotes diet-induced obesity and adipose inflammation. *Nat. Med.* doi:10.1038/nm.2461

ADRENAL GLAND

No benefit of preoperative α -blockade in normotensive pheochromocytoma?

A team at the Ruijin Hospital, Shanghai, analyzed the intraoperative outcomes of patients with normotensive pheochromocytomas who underwent adrenalectomy between January 2003 and July 2011. Patients treated with the α -blocker doxazosin perioperatively ($n = 38$) were significantly more likely to require the use of vasoactive drugs and colloid fluid during surgery than patients who did not receive doxazosin ($n = 21$), with no significant differences in intraoperative blood pressure and heart rate between groups.

Original article Shao, Y. *et al.* Preoperative alpha blockade for normotensive pheochromocytoma: is it necessary? *J. Hypertens.* doi:10.1097/HJH.0b013e32834d24d9