

# Germline mutations shape somatic alteration landscapes in BRCA-associated cancers

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# Background

- Genomics plays a critical role in precision oncology, serving as a valuable tool for drug development and as a biomarker for predicting treatment response in clinical settings.
- Both germline and somatic genomics may influence prognosis and therapeutic considerations across multiple cancers, but <u>paired</u> analysis of <u>tumor/normal</u> samples is not routinely performed.
- As a result, the *interaction* between germline and somatic genomics (*i.e.* how one influences the other) is largely unknown.







# Background

- Homologous recombination repair (HRR) genes are involved in repairing dsDNA breaks, and increase the risk of cancers of the breast, ovaries, pancreas, and prostate: often described as BRCA-associated cancers.
- By studying these 4 *BRCA*-associated cancers, we sought to understand for the first time how germline HRR gene mutations influence the somatic genomic landscape of tumors arising in these individuals.







# **Methods**



#### Retrospective study of 21,263 patients:

- 7,008 Breast cancers
- 4,310 Ovarian cancers
- 5,426 Pancreatic cancers
- 4,526 Prostate cancers

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#### Presence of germline HRR mutations:

- gBRCA1
- gBRCA2
- g*PALB2*
- g*ATM*
- gCHEK2





### **TEMPUS Tumor-Normal DNA Analysis**

#### **Tumor-Normal Matching**

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- DNA sequencing of tumor tissue and a normal sample in parallel
- Normal match sequencing enables identification of incidental germline variants filtered from somatic variants



Mandelker & Ceyhan-Birsoy, Trends Cancer. 2020; 6: 31-39.





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# **Methods**

 Particular genes of interest in our somatic analysis included \*: AR, ATM, APC, AKT1, ARID1A, BRAF, BRCA1, BRCA2, CDK12, CDKN2A, CDH1, CHD1, CHEK2, CCND1, CTNNB1, EGFR, ERBB2, ESR1, FAT3, FGFR1, FOXA1, GATA3, GNAS, HRAS, KDM6A, KMT2C, KMT2D, KMT2A, KRAS, MAP2K4, MLH1, MSH2, MSH6, MUTYH, MYC, NF1, NRAS, NOTCH1, PALB2, PMS2, PIK3CA, PIK3R1, PTEN, RB1, SPOP, SETD2, SMAD4, STK11, TMPRSS2-ERG, TP53.

\* Due to the high prevalence of alterations in these 50 genes in the four cancers studied.







### **Methods**

- We also compared the tumor mutational burden (TMB)\* of germline HRRmutated tumors versus sporadic tumors across all 4 cancer types.
- Finally, we performed survival analysis to compare the outcomes for each germline-mutated group relative to sporadic cases, to identify common trends seen with HRR-altered patients across all 4 cancers.

\*The number of nonsynonymous somatic mutations per megabase of DNA.







Characteristic	Sporadic (n=6,599)	g <i>BRCA1</i> (n=104)	g <i>BRCA2</i> (n=148)	g <i>PALB2</i> (n=42)	g <i>ATM</i> (n=57)	g <i>CHEK2</i> (n=57)				
Age at diagnosis(yrs)										
Median, Range	56 (17–90)	43 (24–86)	52 (24–81)	55 (27–82)	52 (24–83)	53 (29–79)				
Race										
White	3,298 (75%)	42 (68%)	65 (71%)	19 (68%)	27 (82%)	33 (89%)				
Black	643 (15%)	10 (16%)	13 (14%)	3 (11%)	4 (12%)	1 (2%)				
Other	268 (6%)	10 (16%)	14 (15%)	6 (22%)	2 (6%)	3 (8%)				
Ethnicity										
Hispanic	409 (16%)	8 (24%)	11 (17%)	2 (17%)	2 (10%)	5 (23%)				
Site of tumor sequenced										
Primary (Breast)	2,435 (39%)	36 (35%)	50 (36%)	13 (48%)	17 (31%)	15 (29%)				
Metastatic	3,822 (61%)	68 (65%)	88 (64%)	24 (52%)	38 (69%)	36 (71%)				





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#### **1. Breast Cancer - Associations with TMB**





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Characteristic	Sporadic (n=4,041)	g <i>BRCA1</i> (n=138)	g <i>BRCA2</i> (n=84)	g <i>PALB2</i> (n=11)	g <i>ATM</i> (n=24)	g <i>CHEK2</i> (n=10)				
Age at diagnosis (yrs)										
Median, Range	63 (17–90)	53 (32–79)	61 (43–81)	68 (46–74)	60 (34–83)	64 (25–77)				
Race										
White	2,221 (82%)	77 (79%)	39 (78%)	9 (100%)	12 (71%)	5 (100%)				
Black	226 (8%)	9 (9%)	6 (12%)	0 (0%)	2 (12%)	0 (0%)				
Other	262 (10%)	12 (12%)	5 (10%)	0 (0%)	3 (17%)	0 (0%)				
Ethnicity										
Hispanic	229 (14%)	10 (19%)	2 (8%)	0 (0%)	1 (12%)	1 (17%)				
Site of tumor sequenced	Site of tumor sequenced									
Primary (Ovary)	1,260 (31%)	31 (24%)	27 (34%)	4 (36%)	9 (38%)	2 (22%)				
Metastatic	2,752 (69%)	98 (76%)	52 (66%)	7 (64%)	15 (62%)	7 (78%)				





Characteristic	Sporadic (n=4,041)	g <i>BRCA1</i> (n=138)	g <i>BRCA2</i> (n=84)	g <i>PALB2</i> (n=11)	g <i>ATM</i> (n=24)	g <i>CHEK2</i> (n=10)	
Age at diagnosis (yrs)							
Median, Range	63 (17–90)	53 (32–79)	61 (43–81)	68 (46–74)	60 (34–83)	64 (25–77)	
Race							
White	2.221 (82%)	77 (79%)	39 (78%)	9 (100%)	12 (71%)	5 (100%)	
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Ethnicity							
Hispanic	229 (14%)	10 (19%)	2 (8%)	0 (0%)	1 (12%)	1 (17%)	
Site of tumor sequenced							
Primary (Ovary)	1,260 (31%)	31 (24%)	27 (34%)	4 (36%)	9 (38%)	2 (22%)	
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p<0.001



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Age at diagnosis (yrs)									
Median, Range	63 (17–90)	53 (32–79)	61 (43–81)	68 (46–74)	60 (34–83)	64 (25–77)			
Race									
White	2,221 (82%)	77 (79%)	39 (78%)	9 (100%)	12 (71%)	5 (100%)			
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Age at diagnosis (yrs)									
Median, Range	63 (17–90)	53 (32–79)	61 (43–81)	68 (46–74)	60 (34–83)	64 (25–77)			
Race									
White	2,221 (82%)	77 (79%)	39 (78%)	9 (100%)	12 (71%)	5 (100%)			
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#### 2. Ovarian Cancer - Associations with TMB





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Characteristics	Sporadic (n=5,213)	g <i>BRCA1</i> (n=20)	g <i>BRCA2</i> (n=89)	g <i>PALB2</i> (n=21)	g <i>ATM</i> (n=61)	g <i>CHEK2</i> (n=17)			
Age at diagnosis (yrs)									
Median, Range	67 (21–90)	63 (41–88)	64 (37–85)	60 (41–78)	66 (43–84)	70 (56–81)			
Gender									
Male	2,776 (53%)	12 (60%)	50 (56%)	10 (48%)	32 (52%)	8 (47%)			
Female	2,437 (47%)	8 (40%)	39 (44%)	11 (52%)	29 (48%)	9 (53%)			
Race									
White	2,572 (82%)	9 (70%)	40 (77%)	18 (100%)	26 (79%)	12 (100%)			
Black	321 (10%)	2 (15%)	3 (6%)	0 (0%)	5 (15%)	0 (0%)			
Other	243 (8%)	2 (15%)	9 (17%)	0 (0%)	2 (6%)	0 (0%)			
Ethnicity									
Hispanic	205 (14%)	1 (11%)	6 (17%)	0 (0%)	5 (22%)	0 (0%)			
Site of tumor sequenced									
Primary (Pancreas)	2,392 (46%)	4 (20%)	35 (40%)	8 (38%)	27 (44%)	8 (47%)			
Metastatic	2,804 (54%)	16 (80%)	53 (60%)	13 (62%)	34 (56%)	9 (53%)			



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Characteristics	Sporadic (n=5,213)	g <i>BRCA1</i> (n=20)	g <i>BRCA2</i> (n=89)	g <i>PALB2</i> (n=21)	g <i>ATM</i> (n=61)	g <i>CHEK2</i> (n=17)		
Age at diagnosis (yrs)								
Median, Range	67 (21–90)	63 (41–88)	64 (37–85)	60 (41–78)	66 (43–84)	70 (56–81)		
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p<0.05



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#### **3. Pancreatic Cancer - Associations with TMB**



\*y-axis truncated at 15. Dashed line indicates cutoff for TMB-High



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Characteristics	Sporadic (n=4,329)	g <i>BRCA1</i> (n=16)	g <i>BRCA2</i> (n=110)	g <i>BRCA2</i> g <i>PALB2</i> (n=110) (n=12)		g <i>CHEK2</i> (n=13)
Age at diagnosis (yrs)						
Median, Range	66 (46–89)	64 (54–83)	63 (46–84)	69 (58–89)	66 (52–82)	68 (55–83)
Race						
White	2,006 (75%)	7 (78%)	54 (76%)	9 (90%)	21 (78%)	8 (100%)
Black	479 (18%)	0 (0%)	13 (18%)	0 (0%)	4 (15%)	0 (0%)
Other	200 (7%)	2 (22%)	4 (6%)	1 (10%)	2 (7%)	0 (0%)
Ethnicity						
Hispanic	195 (13%)	1 (20%)	6 (15%)	0 (0%)	3 (17%)	0 (0%)
Site of tumor sequenced						
Primary (Prostate)	2,845 (66%)	7 (47%)	70 (69%)	7 (64%)	30 (70%)	9 (75%)
Metastatic	1,457 (34%)	8 (53%)	32 (31%)	4 (36%)	13 (30%)	3 (25%)



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Characteristics	Sporadic (n=4,329)	g <i>BRCA1</i> (n=16)	g <i>BRCA2</i> (n=110)	g <i>PALB2</i> (n=12)	g <i>ATM</i> (n=44)	g <i>CHEK2</i> (n=13)
Age at diagnosis (yrs)						
Median, Range	66 (46–89)	64 (54–83)	63 (46–84)	69 (58–89)	66 (52–82)	68 (55–83)
Race						
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p<0.05

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Median, Range	66 (46–89)	64 (54–83)	63 (46–84)	69 (58–89)	66 (52–82)	68 (55–83)
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Metastatic	1,457 (34%)	8 (53%)	32 (31%)	4 (36%)	13 (30%)	3 (25%)



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#### 4. Prostate Cancer - Associations with TMB



\*y-axis truncated at 15. Dashed line indicates cutoff for TMB-High



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### Trends across all 4 cancers – TP53





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### KRAS









#### **Breast cancer**



#### **Pancreatic cancer**



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#### **Ovarian cancer**



#### **Prostate cancer**





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#### **Breast cancer**

Comparison			HR (95% CI)
ATM vs. sporadic		I	- 1.53 (0.89 to 2.64)
BRCA1 vs. sporadic			0.78 (0.54 to 1.13)
BRCA2 vs. sporadic			1.04 (0.75 to 1.47)
CHEK2 vs. sporadic			- 1.51 (0.85 to 2.66)
PALB2 vs. sporadic	<b></b>		1.08 (0.54 to 2.16)
_	0.5 1	2	3
Worse Pro	gnostic Bett	er Progn	ostic

#### Pancreatic cancer

Comparison					HR (95% CI)
ATM vs. sporadic		<b>—</b>			1.47 (0.99 to 2.16)
BRCA1 vs. sporadic	+	-			1.92 (0.86 to 4.28)
BRCA2 vs. sporadic					0.72 (0.52 to 0.99)
CHEK2 vs. sporadic	;				0.89 (0.44 to 1.79)
PALB2 vs. sporadic		•			1.77 (0.88 to 3.54)
	0.5 1	2	3	4	5
	lostic R	attor F	Progn	ostic	

#### worse Froghostic Detter Froghostic

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#### **Ovarian cancer**

Comparison					HR (95% CI)
gATM vs. Sporadic		•			— 1.59 (0.51 to 4.94)
gBRCA1 vs. Sporadic		-		-	2.26 (1.42 to 3.60)
gBRCA2 vs. Sporadic	-				2.28 (1.19 to 4.42)
gCHEK2 vs. Sporadic					→ >5.00 (0.00 to Inf)
gPALB2 vs. Sporadic		-			→ 2.28 (0.57 to 9.12)
<i>,</i>	0.5 1	2	3	4	5
Worse Progn	ostic B	etter I	Proan	ostic	

#### **Prostate cancer**

Comparison		HR (95% CI)
ATM vs. sporadic		1.55 (0.58 to 4.13)
BRCA1 vs. sporadic	<b></b>	0.80 (0.30 to 2.14)
BRCA2 vs. sporadic		0.88 (0.58 to 1.32)
CHEK2 vs. sporadic		1.26 (0.31 to 5.03)
PALB2 vs. sporadic		0.67 (0.25 to 1.80)
<u></u>	0.51 2 3 4	5
Worse Progno	tic	



#### **Breast cancer**

Comparison			HR (95% CI)
ATM vs. sporadic	· · · · ·		1.53 (0.89 to 2.64)
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#### Pancreatic cancer

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PALB2 vs. sporadic	<b>_</b>		-	1.77 (0.88 to 3.54)
	0.51 2	2 3	4	5
Worse Progr	nostic Bette	er Progr	nostic	$\rightarrow$

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#### Ovarian cancer

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gCHEK2 vs. Sporadic	i				→ >5.00 (0.00 to Inf)
gPALB2 vs. Sporadic					→ 2.28 (0.57 to 9.12)
	0.51	2	3	4	5
Worse Prognostic Better Prognostic					$\rightarrow$

#### **Prostate cancer**





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#### **Breast cancer**



#### Pancreatic cancer



#### **Ovarian cancer**

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,	0.5 1	2	3	4	5	
Worse Prognostic Better Prognostic						



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# Conclusions

- gHRR-mutated cancers have divergent genomic landscapes relative to their sporadic counterparts, and this may influence therapeutic considerations.
- *TP53* mutations are enriched in g*BRCA1* patients and depleted in g*ATM* pts across all 4 cancers.
- *PIK3CA* mutations are depleted in g*BRCA1/2* patients in breast and ovarian cancers.
- *gATM*-altered patients across all 4 cancers had improved survival outcomes compared to their sporadic counterparts.
- gBRCA1 and gBRCA2 genes behave discordantly in some cancers, and may have opposing prognostic effects.





# **Clinical Implications**

- gATM mutations across all 4 cancers were associated with improved survival (HR 1.23, 95%CI 0.92–1.65), suggesting that tumors harboring ATM mutations may be synthetic-lethal with several standard therapies.
- gBRCA1 mutations were associated with improved survival in pancreatic cancer while gBRCA1/2 were both associated with improved survival in ovarian cancer. One hypothesis could be that coexisting TP53 mutations may increase platinum sensitivity.
- Tumors harboring gATM mutations showed a depletion of somatic TP53 mutations. We hypothesize concurrent ATM and TP53 mutations may unfavorably impact cancer-cell survival.





# Acknowledgments

- The author would like to thank:  $\bullet$ 
  - Patients for their contributions to science
  - TEMPUS for providing clinical and genomic data
  - My clinical and lab mentors, Drs. Emmanuel Antonarakis and Justin Drake

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The University of Minnesota Translational Working Group for their comments on this presentation.

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