

MicroRNA expression linked to neoadjuvant chemo response

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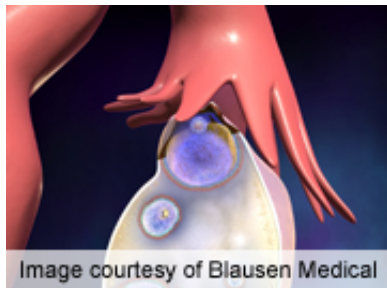


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help select eligible [patients](#) for this modality of treatment," the authors write. "Moreover, inhibitors of this pathway may improve the efficacy of NACT."

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(HealthDay)—Expression of the microRNA MiR-193a-5p, together with HGF and c-MET proteins, is associated with response to neoadjuvant chemotherapy (NACT) in ovarian cancer, according to a study published online June 13 in *Oncotarget*.

Marisa Mariani, Ph.D., from the Danbury Hospital Research Institute in Connecticut, and colleagues attempted to identify actionable mechanisms of resistance to NACT in patients with [ovarian cancer](#). MicroRNA expression was screened in a set of 85 patients. To analyze potential targets, significant correlations were calculated between microRNAs and genes. In a validation set of 109 patients, quantitative immunohistochemistry was employed to validate targets.

The researchers found that in the NACT setting, MiR-193a-5p was significantly overexpressed. This microRNA was also significantly correlated with *HGF* and *MET* genes in analysis of potential targets. In analysis of [protein expression](#) before and after NACT, both HGF and MET were found to be increased after NACT. The highest relative basal expression of HGF and c-MET was exhibited by patients who relapsed shortly after NACT, while the opposite phenomenon was seen in the best responders.

"Mir-193a-5p, HGF, and c-Met expression may

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