

Title: Interferon-alpha treatment may negatively influence disease progression in melanoma patients by hyperactivation of STAT3 protein.

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1. Survival end-points in relation to different measures of STAT3 activation

Parameter	DFS¹	PFS²	OS²
Induction by IFN-alpha:			
Not inducible (N) vs. inducible (I) activity			
	p = 0.049	p = 0.041	p = 0.039
STAT3 at Y705	N: 34.9 month I: 5.0 months	N: 62.3 month I: 26.1 months	N: 78.4 month I: 26.5 months

¹Disease-free survival (DFS) i.e. months elapsing from the initial diagnosis until first relapse (metastases in the regional lymph nodes);

²Progression-free survival (PFS) i.e. interval from the first relapse till subsequent progression;

³Overall survival (OS) i.e. months from the first diagnosis until exitus and/or termination of the study.

2. A typical culture of melanoma cells established from lymph node metastasis. Immunoperoxidase staining with Melan-A antibody (original magnification: 200 x). Note, a highly homogeneous population of cells showing positive immunoreaction and malignant morphology.

