

Dipartimento di Biotecnologie e Bioscienze – UNIMIB

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Taking cancer to the third dimension: a roadmap of micro-physiological models

Virginia Brancato

Department of Biotechnology and Biosciences, University of Milano-Bicocca

Abstract: The bargain of a wrong evaluation of new drugs efficacy costs a huge resources loss to pharma/biotech companies, involved in preclinical trials. It has been estimated that about 90% of clinical drug development fails despite the technological and scientific progresses that improve testing strategies. In particular, investigating new molecular targets and drugs in cancer is not straightforward due to the fact that cancer is a complex pathology where cellular and acellular players interact to drive cancer progression and metastasis. Mechanisms underpinning cancer spread should be investigated using innovative system of cell culturing, that take into account cellular part and microenvironment, such as 3D tumor in vitro models.

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