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Tumour heterogeneity and its role in the emergence of resistance

Cancers are known to be heterogeneous which is the source of their strength explaining both progression and resistance. Nonetheless, the nature of this heterogeneity is still poorly understood, especially regarding its impact on the evolution of resistance to treatment. In this talk we will briefly discuss the evolutionary mechanisms that lead to this heterogeneity as well as its impact in the emergence of resistance. Special attention will be given to the role of interactions between tumour cells and between the tumour and stroma and the stability of these interactions as a potential therapeutic target.