

Barcelona, Spain

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Angiogenesis: A Key Target in Oncology

Hotel Hilton Diagonal Mar
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08019 Barcelona, Spain

*In collaboration with
the EORTC GI Group*



Angiogenesis: A Key Target in Oncology

Introduction

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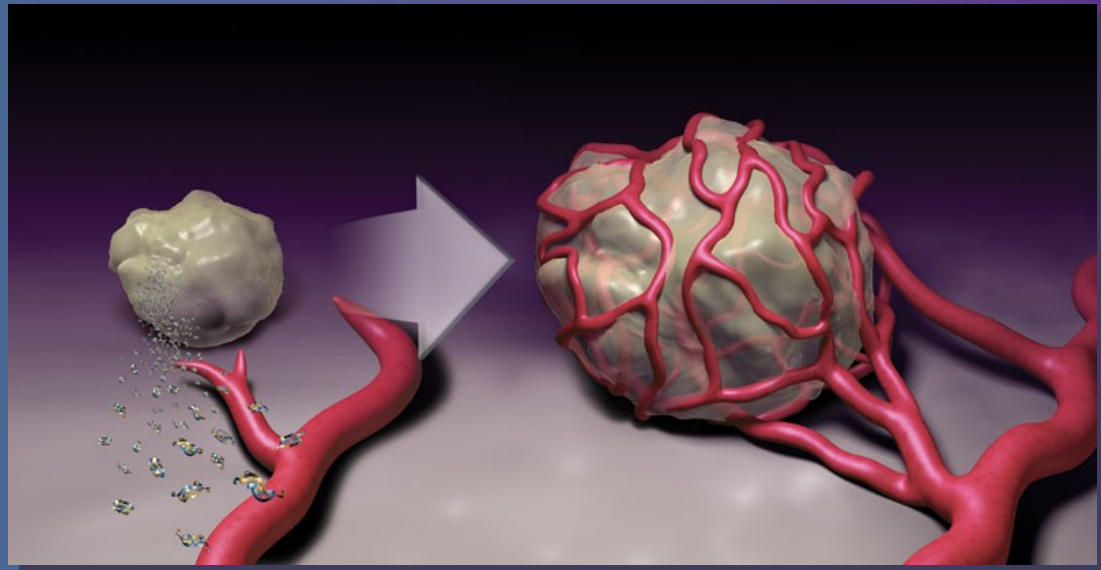


Folkman's Hypothesis 1971: Tumour Angiogenesis



Judah Folkman
1933–2008

“In the absence of vascularisation, solid tumours remain dormant and 2–3 mm³ in size, with size being limited by the ability of oxygen and nutrients to diffuse into the tumour”



Judah Folkman, Researcher, Dies at 74

New York Times, 16 Jan 2008

- Professor at Harvard and Director of the Vascular Biology Program at Children's Hospital Boston
- Path-breaking cancer researcher, considered the father of the idea that tumors can be kept in check by choking off the supply of blood they need to grow
 - The approach is now embodied in several successful cancer drugs, most notably bevacizumab (“Avastin® approved in 2004)

“His vision and ideas literally changed the course of modern medicine,” said Dr. William Li, President of the Angiogenesis Foundation.

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(continued)

- While working for the Navy in 1960 on blood substitutes, Dr. Folkman began experimenting with tumors and found that all grew to the same size. He hypothesized that the tumors could not grow beyond a certain size without a blood supply and that tumors must have some mechanism to induce the formation of blood vessels. He published his research in 1971.
- Dr. Folkman's work created a frenzy in 1998 when a front-page article in *The New York Times* reported how two drugs he had developed had eradicated tumors in mice.
- There may be some controversy about how the drugs actually work, but **Folkman pioneered the field.**