



CREaTE

Canterbury Research and Theses Environment

Canterbury Christ Church University's repository of research outputs

<http://create.canterbury.ac.uk>

Please cite this publication as follows:

Wilson, C. (2016) A new role under sortilin's belt in cancer. *Communicative & Integrative Biology*, 9 (1). ISSN 1942-0889.

Link to official URL (if available):

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/19420889.2015.1130192>

This version is made available in accordance with publishers' policies. All material made available by CReaTE is protected by intellectual property law, including copyright law. Any use made of the contents should comply with the relevant law.

Contact: create.library@canterbury.ac.uk



Addendum:

A new role under sortilin's belt in cancer.

Cornelia M. Wilson^{ab*}, Thomas Naves^b, Hussein Al-Akhrass^b, François Vincent^{t^{b,c}}, Boris Melloni^c, François Bonnaud^c, Fabrice Lalloué^b, Marie-Odile Jauberteau^b

^aUniversity of Liverpool, Institute of Translational Medicine, Dept of Molecular & Clinical Cancer Medicine, Liverpool, L7 8TX

^bEA3842 Homéostasie cellulaire et pathologies and Chaire de Pneumologie Expérimentale, Université de Limoges, Faculté de Médecine, 2, rue du Dr Raymond Marcland, 87025 Limoges CEDEX–France

^cService de Pathologie Respiratoire, Centre Hospitalier et Universitaire de Limoges, 87000 Limoges CEDEX-France.

*To whom correspondence should be addressed.

E-mail: Cornelia.Wilson@liverpool.ac.uk/cornelia.wilson@unilim.fr

Running title: Sortilin in cancer

Total character count: (no spaces): 9,466

Title: A new role under sortilin's belt in cancer.

Abstract:

The neurotensin receptor-3 also known as sortilin was the first member of the small family of vacuolar protein sorting 10 protein domain (Vps10p) discovered two decades ago in the human brain. The expression of sortilin is not confined to the nervous system but sortilin is ubiquitously expressed in many tissues. Sortilin has multiple roles in the cell as a receptor or a co-receptor, in protein transport of many interacting partners to the plasma membrane, to the endocytic pathway and to the lysosomes for protein degradation. Sortilin could be considered as the cell's own shuttle system. In many human diseases including neurological diseases and cancer, sortilin expression has been shown to be deregulated. In addition, some studies have highlighted that the extracellular domain of sortilin is shed into the culture media by an unknown mechanism. Sortilin can be released in exosomes and appears to control some mechanisms of exosome biogenesis. In lung cancer cells, sortilin can associate with two receptor tyrosine kinase receptors called the TES complex found in exosomes. Exosomes carrying the TES complex can convey a microenvironment control through the activation of ErbB signaling pathways and the release of angiogenic factors. Deregulation of sortilin function is now emerging to be implicated in four major human diseases- cardiovascular disease, Type 2 diabetes mellitus, Alzheimer's disease and cancer.

Keyword: Sortilin/TrkB/EGFR/exosome/lung cancer/

Exosomes discovery timeline: Exosomes are small extracellular vesicles ("cell bubbles") secreted by most eukaryotic cells. They range from 30 to 100nm in size found in the cell culture media and many biological fluids such as blood, saliva and urine, and hence have a potential involvement in intercellular communication. They were originally described in 1983 such as small released vesicles from the multivesicular body (or also known as multivesicular late endosome) fusion with the plasma membrane during red blood cell maturation ¹ (Figure 1). For many years these vesicles were believed to be the cell's own garbage disposal route. Some years later, these scarcely understood microvesicles have been called exosomes. ² Since the last decade, exosomal research is growing exponentially, especially after the discovery of distinct subsets of RNAs into the exosomal cargo ³, which has enriched the knowledge of the molecular cocktail that may be shuttled by exosomes. In doing so, many laboratories have investigated the close link between exosome secretion and disease, indicative but not exhaustive, such as cardiomyocyte hypertrophy ⁴, diabetes ⁵ and cancer. ⁶⁻⁸ Remarkably, cancer cells may take advantage of exosome secretion in order to control the tumor microenvironment, and could endorse thereby the aggressiveness and the tumorigenic features of the tumor, such as angiogenesis ⁶, invasion ^{8, 9} and therapeutic escape. ⁷ Encouragingly, exosomes are shedding light on their utility as disease diagnostic markers ^{10, 11}, as well as in

the development of novel cancer treatment ¹², and could take the lion's share of this major challenge.

Sortilin: Sortilin is a newly identified member of a small family of proteins characterized to contain a Vps10p domain. Sortilin can function alone or as part of a co-receptor as well as a transporter of proteins from the trans-Golgi network (TGN). ¹³ As a co-receptor of p75 neurotrophin receptor (p75^{NTR}), sortilin binds the immature, pro-forms of nerve growth factor (NGF) or brain derived neurotrophic growth factor (BDNF) and induces apoptosis in neuronal cells. ¹⁴ Sortilin's cytoplasmic tail shares similarity to the mannose-6-phosphate receptor with colocalisation to the endosomes and endosome to TGN cargo vesicles. ¹⁵ In addition, sphingolipid activator proteins, acid sphingomyelinase, and cathepsin D and H have been shown to be trafficked by sortilin to the lysosomes. ¹⁶⁻¹⁸ These studies demonstrate that sortilin has a dual role both in endocytosis and in receptor trafficking allowing the correct sorting of ligands from the cell surface to lysosomes and the traffic of pro-neurotrophins (proNTs) such as the neuropeptide neurotensin (NT), proNGF and proBDNF. ^{14, 19-23}

Role of sortilin in cancer: Given the important function of pro-neurotrophin receptors such as sortilin play in cellular development, cell survival and death. ²⁴ An imbalance in cellular homeostasis can be affected by neurotrophin signalling which could lead to the progression of cancer. ^{24, 25} Not surprising, sortilin expression is elevated in several human cancer cells including brain, prostate, colon, pancreas, skin, pituitary. ²⁵⁻²⁹ Some of the initial studies demonstrated that a furin-cleaved form of sortilin could bind NT at the cell surface ^{19, 20} and traffic NT to the endocytic pathway whilst maintaining a constant level of sortilin expression at the cell surface. ²¹ In a later study, sortilin was shown to be released from cells requiring cleavage of sortilin luminal domain by a protein kinase C-dependent protease. ³⁰ However, the mechanism used for sortilin release from these cells and the consequence to the microenvironment was uncertain. In colon cancer, sortilin forms a dimeric complex with NTSR1 which is internalised upon NT stimulation. ³¹ The binding of NT to sortilin-NTSR1 and trafficking of this complex induces signaling pathways by modification of mitogen-activated protein (MAP) kinases and the turnover of phosphoinositide (PI) facilitated by NTSR1. ³¹ It is not known why sortilin is released from cancer cells but evidence is now emerging to implicate that sortilin may modify the neighbouring cells/environment. Massa and colleagues studied the human adenocarcinoma epithelial cell line (HT29) to assess the ability of soluble sortilin to be released and internalised using radioreceptor assays and microscopy. ³² The binding of soluble sortilin is independent from the transactivation of the epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) resulting in raised intracellular calcium concentration and significant activation of PI3 kinase pathway through Akt phosphorylation dependent upon of FAK/Src phosphorylation. ³² The PI3 kinase pathway is implicated in the survival mechanisms of cancer cells. ³³ The action of soluble sortilin could be explained to have an autocrine/paracrine function.

A number of reports have hinted that NT mediated by sortilin stimulated by an autocrine/paracrine function could be a mechanism associated with the tumorigenesis.²⁶⁻²⁸ The cell responds to two types of neurotrophin signal, one elicited by the p75^{NTR} and the other by Trk tyrosine kinase receptors.³⁴ Sortilin can interact with either of these receptors but the consequential outcome affects cell survival. Sortilin traffics from the TGN to the cell surface through the secretory pathway where it interacts with p75^{NTR} that can signal a pro-neurotrophin-induced cell death. The signals induce cell death by the pathway of c-Jun N-terminal kinase 3 and caspases 3, 6 and 9.³⁵⁻³⁸ Trk interaction with sortilin promotes cell survival and in the case of neuronal cells stimulates cell survival, differentiation, innervation and plasticity /effect cell survival. Sortilin can associate with all the Trk receptors (A, B and C)^{24, 25} implicating an important role in cell survival that is disrupted in human disease.

Sortilin is a key component of exosome biogenesis. Unprecedented reports have found that sortilin expression level is associated to different types of cancer.²⁶⁻²⁸ Some of these studies have implicated that sortilin could play a role in the tumorigenesis process.^{26, 27} Our team has been interested in these links between sortilin and cancer and at the same time the cross-talk between the epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) and tyrosine kinase receptor (Trk) signalling pathways.¹³ We have discovered that sortilin can form a novel complex with TrkB and EGFR found in exosomes that are released from lung cancer cells conveying a microenvironmental control upon endothelial cells.³⁹ In this study, we examined closely the secretion mechanism utilised for the extracellular domain of sortilin from human lung cancer cells (A549) and the effect on the microenvironment. We show for the first time that sortilin uses a ‘canonical pathway’ and can be found in exosomes. We demonstrate that sortilin is a key component of exosomes mediating communication between A549 and endothelial cells (Figure 2). Sortilin is already known to play a prime function in cancer cells; however we have reported herein that it plays a new role in both the assembly of a tyrosine kinase complex and its exosome release. This novel complex called ‘**TES**’ complex expressed by exosomes results in the linkage of two tyrosine kinase receptors, TrkB and EGFR with sortilin. We demonstrate in this study that the TES complex conveys a control on the microenvironment i.e. endothelial cells and initiates the activation of angiogenesis via exosome transfer. Therefore, our data suggested that sortilin and its partners have a paracrine through exosome transfer and control of the microenvironment. This novel complex containing sortilin could play the role as a molecular switch in cancer progression by promoting angiogenesis.

The unanswered questions of sortilin’s role in exosome/EV biogenesis. It is well appreciated that MVBs have two fates in the cell; they act as a platform to deliver cargo destined for lysosome-mediated degradation or as a portal to release ILVs/exosomes from the cell. The endosomal sorting of cargo is mediated by a sequence events involving four multiprotein complexes (ESCRT0, -I, -II, and -III). The clathrin coats condense and cluster cargo at the cytosolic face of the MVB membrane ready to be captured and recruited to ILVs. These early events of cargo recruitment are assisted by the ESCRT machinery, ESCRT-0 and ESCRT-I. In a previous study, the HRS gene found in the ESCRT-0 complex could be involved in the formation and secretion of exosomes.⁴⁰ Knocking down some of the genes

that encode for components of the ESCRT-0 complex (HRS, STAM1 or TSG101) perturb exosome release and affect the size and/or protein content of the ILVs demonstrating an important role played by the ESCRT complex.⁴¹ Our data suggested a possible unreported new role for sortilin as a possible cargo recruiter to ILVs through cargo recognition and sorting at the MVB. The challenge remains to determine several questions: (1) what is the intracellular route of sortilin trafficking through the secretory pathway; (2) at what stage is sortilin important for ILV formation at the MVB; (3) what is sortilin's mechanism to recruit cargo or the regulation of ILV formation; (4) and at the same time whether sortilin released as exosomes from cells plays a role in the angiogenesis process. Furthermore, an imbalance in sortilin expression in cancer could alter the content of exosomes regulating the delivery of both a genomic and proteomic content to the target cells. To this end, the challenge remains to define the exact role of sortilin in cancer thus providing clues to sortilin's global role in other types of human diseases.

Figure 1 Main discoveries in extracellular vesicle biology

Timeline showing the main discoveries in the extracellular vesicle research.

Figure 2- Role of sortilin in EV biogenesis

Sortilin is initially synthesised in the constitutive secretory pathway as a precursor encoding a short propeptide sequence. The propeptide is cleaved by pro-protein convertases at the TGN allowing sortilin to enter the secretory pathway (stage 1). There are a number of likely routes that sortilin can be trafficked. Sortilin can be trafficked along a number of possible routes such as trafficking to the plasma membrane through constitutive secretory vesicles (stage 2). Alternatively, sortilin could be anterograde transported from the TGN by itself or with its binding partners to the early endosomes (stage 3). Sortilin present at the cell surface or in the endocytic pathway could be cleaved by disintegrin and metalloproteinase domain-converting protein (ADAM) 10 or ADAM17, and followed by γ -secretase (stage 5). Following endoproteolytic cleavage, sortilin could form a heterotrimeric complex with TrkB and EGFR (TES complex) which is internalized through a clathrin-dependent endocytosis process into early endosomes (stage 6). At the plasma membrane, the purple spots represent clathrin associated with vesicles (clathrin-coated vesicles [CCV]) or the bilayered clathrin coats at the endosome. The intraluminal vesicles (ILV) are formed by an invagination event at the membrane of the late endosomes/multivesicular body (MVB). Sortilin may play a role in the recruitment of certain cargo such as its binding partners- TrkB and EGFR, which could be an ESCRT-dependent mechanism. The MVB and its content could be degraded via the lysosome-mediated pathway for degradation or alternatively the MVB are transported to the cell surface where they dock at the plasma membrane requiring Rab27A to release the vesicles into the extracellular space (stage 7). The exosomes carrying the TES complex could be released and taken up in the target cell. The uptake of TES-containing exosomes initiates cellular communication through upregulation of cell signaling events by the induction of cell survival through the EGFR cascade and the angiogenesis process (stage 8).

References:

1. Harding C, Heuser J, Stahl P. Receptor-mediated endocytosis of transferrin and recycling of the transferrin receptor in rat reticulocytes. *The Journal of cell biology* 1983; 97:329-39.
2. Johnstone RM, Adam M, Hammond JR, Orr L, Turbide C. Vesicle formation during reticulocyte maturation. Association of plasma membrane activities with released vesicles (exosomes). *The Journal of biological chemistry* 1987; 262:9412-20.
3. Valadi H, Ekstrom K, Bossios A, Sjostrand M, Lee JJ, Lotvall JO. Exosome-mediated transfer of mRNAs and microRNAs is a novel mechanism of genetic exchange between cells. *Nature cell biology* 2007; 9:654-9.
4. Bang C, Batkai S, Dangwal S, Gupta SK, Foinquinos A, Holzmann A, Just A, Remke J, Zimmer K, Zeug A, et al. Cardiac fibroblast-derived microRNA passenger strand-enriched exosomes mediate cardiomyocyte hypertrophy. *The Journal of clinical investigation* 2014; 124:2136-46.

5. Lei H, Venkatakrisnan A, Yu S, Kazlauskas A. Protein kinase A-dependent translocation of Hsp90 alpha impairs endothelial nitric-oxide synthase activity in high glucose and diabetes. *The Journal of biological chemistry* 2007; 282:9364-71.
6. Chowdhury R, Webber JP, Gurney M, Mason MD, Tabi Z, Clayton A. Cancer exosomes trigger mesenchymal stem cell differentiation into pro-angiogenic and pro-invasive myofibroblasts. *Oncotarget* 2014.
7. Ciravolo V, Huber V, Ghedini GC, Venturelli E, Bianchi F, Campiglio M, Morelli D, Villa A, Della Mina P, Menard S, et al. Potential role of HER2-overexpressing exosomes in countering trastuzumab-based therapy. *Journal of cellular physiology* 2012; 227:658-67.
8. Singh R, Pochampally R, Watabe K, Lu Z, Mo YY. Exosome-mediated transfer of miR-10b promotes cell invasion in breast cancer. *Molecular cancer* 2014; 13:256.
9. Kaplan RN, Riba RD, Zacharoulis S, Bramley AH, Vincent L, Costa C, MacDonald DD, Jin DK, Shido K, Kerns SA, et al. VEGFR1-positive haematopoietic bone marrow progenitors initiate the pre-metastatic niche. *Nature* 2005; 438:820-7.
10. Hogan MC, Bakeberg JL, Gainullin VG, Irazabal MV, Harmon AJ, Lieske JC, Charlesworth MC, Johnson KL, Madden BJ, Zenka RM, et al. Identification of Biomarkers for PKD1 Using Urinary Exosomes. *Journal of the American Society of Nephrology : JASN* 2014.
11. Musante L, Tataruch DE, Holthofer H. Use and isolation of urinary exosomes as biomarkers for diabetic nephropathy. *Frontiers in endocrinology* 2014; 5:149.
12. Yang T, Martin P, Fogarty B, Brown A, Schurman K, Phipps R, Yin VP, Lockman P, Bai S. Exosome Delivered Anticancer Drugs Across the Blood-Brain Barrier for Brain Cancer Therapy in Danio Rerio. *Pharmaceutical research* 2015.
13. Wilson CM, Naves T, Saada S, Pinet S, Vincent F, Lalloue F, Jauberteau MO. The implications of sortilin/vps10p domain receptors in neurological and human diseases. *CNS & neurological disorders drug targets* 2014; 13:1354-65.
14. Nykjaer A, Lee R, Teng KK, Jansen P, Madsen P, Nielsen MS, Jacobsen C, Kliemann M, Schwarz E, Willnow TE, et al. Sortilin is essential for proNGF-induced neuronal cell death. *Nature* 2004; 427:843-8.
15. Mari M, Bujny MV, Zeuschner D, Geerts WJ, Griffith J, Petersen CM, Cullen PJ, Klumperman J, Geuze HJ. SNX1 defines an early endosomal recycling exit for sortilin and mannose 6-phosphate receptors. *Traffic* 2008; 9:380-93.
16. Canuel M, Lefrancois S, Zeng J, Morales CR. AP-1 and retromer play opposite roles in the trafficking of sortilin between the Golgi apparatus and the lysosomes. *Biochemical and biophysical research communications* 2008; 366:724-30.
17. Lefrancois S, Zeng J, Hassan AJ, Canuel M, Morales CR. The lysosomal trafficking of sphingolipid activator proteins (SAPs) is mediated by sortilin. *The EMBO journal* 2003; 22:6430-7.
18. Ni X, Morales CR. The lysosomal trafficking of acid sphingomyelinase is mediated by sortilin and mannose 6-phosphate receptor. *Traffic* 2006; 7:889-902.
19. Mazella J, Zsurger N, Navarro V, Chabry J, Kaghad M, Caput D, Ferrara P, Vita N, Gully D, Maffrand JP, et al. The 100-kDa neurotensin receptor is gp95/sortilin, a non-G-protein-coupled receptor. *The Journal of biological chemistry* 1998; 273:26273-6.
20. Munck Petersen C, Nielsen MS, Jacobsen C, Tauris J, Jacobsen L, Gliemann J, Moestrup SK, Madsen P. Propeptide cleavage conditions sortilin/neurotensin receptor-3 for ligand binding. *The EMBO journal* 1999; 18:595-604.
21. Navarro V, Martin S, Sarret P, Nielsen MS, Petersen CM, Vincent J, Mazella J. Pharmacological properties of the mouse neurotensin receptor 3. Maintenance of cell surface receptor during internalization of neurotensin. *FEBS letters* 2001; 495:100-5.
22. Teng HK, Teng KK, Lee R, Wright S, Tevar S, Almeida RD, Kermani P, Torkin R, Chen ZY, Lee FS, et al. ProBDNF induces neuronal apoptosis via activation of a receptor complex of p75NTR and sortilin. *The Journal of neuroscience : the official journal of the Society for Neuroscience* 2005; 25:5455-63.

23. Nilsson SK, Christensen S, Raarup MK, Ryan RO, Nielsen MS, Olivecrona G. Endocytosis of apolipoprotein A-V by members of the low density lipoprotein receptor and the VPS10p domain receptor families. *The Journal of biological chemistry* 2008; 283:25920-7.
24. Vaegter CB, Jansen P, Fjorback AW, Glerup S, Skeldal S, Kjolby M, Richner M, Erdmann B, Nyengaard JR, Tessarollo L, et al. Sortilin associates with Trk receptors to enhance anterograde transport and neurotrophin signaling. *Nature neuroscience* 2011; 14:54-61.
25. Akil H, Perraud A, Melin C, Jauberteau MO, Mathonnet M. Fine-tuning roles of endogenous brain-derived neurotrophic factor, TrkB and sortilin in colorectal cancer cell survival. *PLoS one* 2011; 6:e25097.
26. Dal Farra C, Sarret P, Navarro V, Botto JM, Mazella J, Vincent JP. Involvement of the neurotensin receptor subtype NTR3 in the growth effect of neurotensin on cancer cell lines. *International journal of cancer Journal international du cancer* 2001; 92:503-9.
27. Truzzi F, Marconi A, Lotti R, Dallaglio K, French LE, Hempstead BL, Pincelli C. Neurotrophins and their receptors stimulate melanoma cell proliferation and migration. *The Journal of investigative dermatology* 2008; 128:2031-40.
28. Giorgi RR, Chile T, Bello AR, Reyes R, Fortes MA, Machado MC, Cescato VA, Musolino NR, Bronstein MD, Giannella-Neto D, et al. Expression of neurotensin and its receptors in pituitary adenomas. *Journal of neuroendocrinology* 2008; 20:1052-7.
29. Xiong J, Zhou L, Yang M, Lim Y, Zhu YH, Fu DL, Li ZW, Zhong JH, Xiao ZC, Zhou XF. ProBDNF and its receptors are upregulated in glioma and inhibit the growth of glioma cells in vitro. *Neuro-oncology* 2013; 15:990-1007.
30. Navarro V, Vincent JP, Mazella J. Shedding of the luminal domain of the neurotensin receptor-3/sortilin in the HT29 cell line. *Biochemical and biophysical research communications* 2002; 298:760-4.
31. Martin S, Navarro V, Vincent JP, Mazella J. Neurotensin receptor-1 and -3 complex modulates the cellular signaling of neurotensin in the HT29 cell line. *Gastroenterology* 2002; 123:1135-43.
32. Massa F, Devader C, Beraud-Dufour S, Brau F, Coppola T, Mazella J. Focal adhesion kinase dependent activation of the PI3 kinase pathway by the functional soluble form of neurotensin receptor-3 in HT29 cells. *The international journal of biochemistry & cell biology* 2013; 45:952-9.
33. Liu P, Cheng H, Roberts TM, Zhao JJ. Targeting the phosphoinositide 3-kinase pathway in cancer. *Nature reviews Drug discovery* 2009; 8:627-44.
34. Schecterson LC, Bothwell M. Neurotrophin receptors: Old friends with new partners. *Developmental neurobiology* 2010; 70:332-8.
35. Skeldal S, Matusica D, Nykjaer A, Coulson EJ. Proteolytic processing of the p75 neurotrophin receptor: A prerequisite for signalling?: Neuronal life, growth and death signalling are crucially regulated by intra-membrane proteolysis and trafficking of p75(NTR). *BioEssays : news and reviews in molecular, cellular and developmental biology* 2011; 33:614-25.
36. Reichardt LF. Neurotrophin-regulated signalling pathways. *Philosophical transactions of the Royal Society of London Series B, Biological sciences* 2006; 361:1545-64.
37. Volosin M, Song W, Almeida RD, Kaplan DR, Hempstead BL, Friedman WJ. Interaction of survival and death signaling in basal forebrain neurons: roles of neurotrophins and proneurotrophins. *The Journal of neuroscience : the official journal of the Society for Neuroscience* 2006; 26:7756-66.
38. Harrington AW, Leiner B, Blechschmitt C, Arevalo JC, Lee R, Morl K, Meyer M, Hempstead BL, Yoon SO, Giehl KM. Secreted proNGF is a pathophysiological death-inducing ligand after adult CNS injury. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America* 2004; 101:6226-30.
39. Wilson CM, Naves T, Vincent F, Melloni B, Bonnaud F, Lalloue F, Jauberteau MO. Sortilin mediates the release and transfer of exosomes in concert with two tyrosine kinase receptors. *Journal of cell science* 2014; 127:3983-97.
40. Tamai K, Tanaka N, Nakano T, Kakazu E, Kondo Y, Inoue J, Shiina M, Fukushima K, Hoshino T, Sano K, et al. Exosome secretion of dendritic cells is regulated by Hrs, an ESCRT-0 protein. *Biochemical and biophysical research communications* 2010; 399:384-90.

41. Colombo M, Moita C, van Niel G, Kowal J, Vigneron J, Benaroch P, Manel N, Moita LF, Thery C, Raposo G. Analysis of ESCRT functions in exosome biogenesis, composition and secretion highlights the heterogeneity of extracellular vesicles. *Journal of cell science* 2013; 126:5553-65.

Figure 1

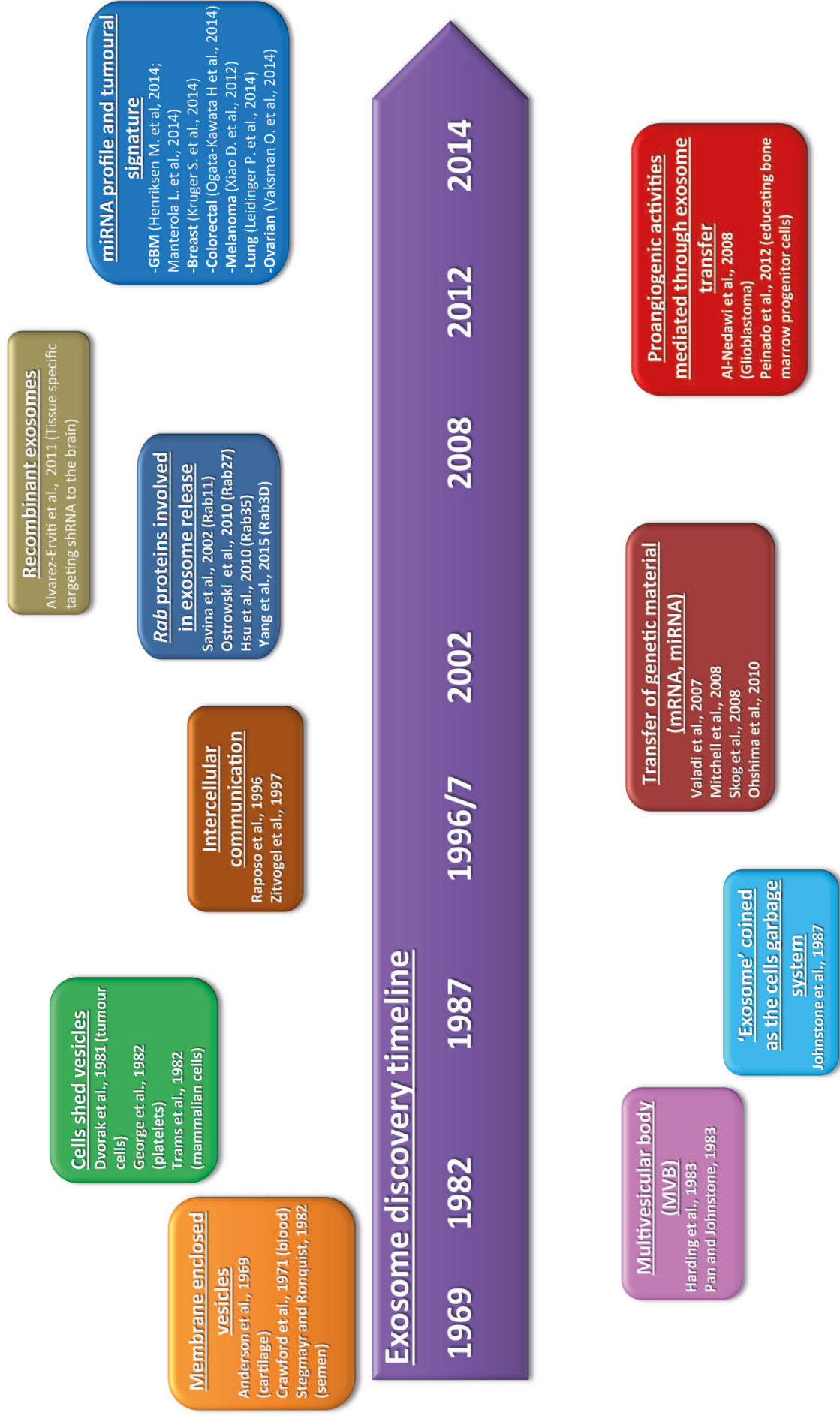


Figure 2

