Systems Biology of Cancer

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With over 200 types of cancer diagnosed to date, researchers the world over have been forced to rapidly update their understanding of the biology of cancer. In fact, only the study of the basic cellular processes, and how these are altered in cancer cells, can ultimately provide a background for rational therapies. Bringing together the state-of-the-art contributions of international experts, Systems Biology of Cancer proposes an ultimate research goal for the whole scientific community: exploiting systems biology to generate in-depth knowledge based on blueprints that are unique to each type of cancer. Readers are provided with a realistic view of what is known and what is yet to be uncovered on the aberrations in the fundamental biological processes, deregulation of major signaling networks, alterations in major cancers and the strategies for using the scientific knowledge for effective diagnosis, prognosis and drug discovery to improve public health.

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• Offers a biologist's point of view of the systems biology of cancer with minimal mathematical derivations

• Presents the state-of-the-art knowledge on the fundamentals of cancer as a complex disease and outlines how alterations in interconnected networks of pathways specific to individual cancers can be represented and dissected in multi-modular molecular networks (MMM)

• Outlines current systems biology approaches used to identify a panel of alternate target genes or gene products as biomarkers for diagnosis, prognosis and therapy of cancer