4. Introduction to

"Diacylglycerol Kinase is Required for HGF-induced Invasiveness and Anchorage-independent Growth of MDA-MB-231 Breast Cancer Cells"

by

Filigheddu N, Cutrupi S, Porporato PE, Riboni F, Baldanzi G, Chianale F, Fortina E, Piantanida P, De Bortoli M, Vacca G, Graziani A, and Surico N.

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The HGF/Met-triggered transduction pathway is a good target for cancer therapy, because Met activation is involved in different steps of tumor formation, growth and spreading.

As mentioned in the previous section, Dgkα emerged as a key player in tyrosine kinases signaling, and in particular in HGF-induced cascade leading to cell migration. In the following paper, in press on Anticancer Research vol. 27 (2007), we demonstrate that Dgkα is required for *in vitro* HGF-induced invasiveness of the breast cancer cell line MDA-MB-231 and for their anchorage-independent growth. The data presented, beside underscoring the biological relevance of Dgk signaling in growth factor-elicited cell migration, suggest that Dgkα might be suitable for the development of novel molecular strategies to selectively target cancer progression.