

Review

Metabolic adaptations in cancers expressing isocitrate dehydrogenase mutations

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The most frequently mutated metabolic genes in human cancer are those encoding the enzymes isocitrate dehydrogenase 1 (IDH1) and IDH2; these mutations have so far been identified in more than 20 tumor types. Since *IDH* mutations were first reported in glioma over a decade ago, extensive research has revealed their association with altered cellular processes. Mutations in *IDH* lead to a change in enzyme function, enabling efficient conversion of 2-oxoglutarate to *R*-2-hydroxyglutarate (*R*-2-HG). It is proposed that elevated cellular *R*-2-HG inhibits enzymes that regulate transcription and metabolism, subsequently affecting nuclear, cytoplasmic, and mitochondrial biochemistry. The significance of these biochemical changes for tumorigenesis and potential for therapeutic exploitation remains unclear. Here we comprehensively review reported direct and indirect metabolic changes linked to *IDH* mutations and discuss their clinical significance. We also review the metabolic effects of first-generation mutant IDH inhibitors and highlight the potential for combination treatment strategies and new metabolic targets.

INTRODUCTION

Metabolic alterations are a hallmark of cancer, but their role in tumorigenesis is not well understood.^{1,2} Mutations in the genes encoding enzymes linked to central carbon metabolism have been found in some cancers, including enzymes such as isocitrate dehydrogenase (IDH), succinate dehydrogenase (SDH),³ and fumarate hydratase (FH).⁴ *SDH* and *FH* mutations are apparently loss-of-function mutations, causing succinate and fumarate, respectively, to accumulate to abnormally high levels, leading to a range of subsequent intracellular metabolic changes.^{3,4} Early reports suggested that cancer-associated *IDH1* mutations also caused a “simple” loss of the ability to catalyze conversion of isocitrate to 2-oxoglutarate (2-OG),⁵ also known as α -ketoglutarate, and that wild-type (WT) IDH1 activity was dominantly inhibited by formation of a heterodimer with mutant IDH1 (mutIDH1).⁶ In a seminal study, Dang et al.⁷ revealed that mutIDH1^{R132H} catalyzes production of the metabolite *R*-2-hydroxyglutarate (*R*-2-HG), also referred to as D-2-HG, showing apparent oncogenic selection for production of a specific metabolite. Soon thereafter it was demonstrated that mutIDH2^{R172K} and mutIDH2^{R140Q} also catalyze enantioselective production of *R*-2-HG.⁸ The *R*- and *S*-2-HG enantiomers are present at low micromolar levels in healthy individuals,^{9–11} but their roles in normal metabolism are poorly understood. For the common mutations of *IDH1* and *IDH2* found in cancer, intracellular and extracellular *R*-2-HG levels are substantially increased.^{7,8} *R*-2-HG is now one of the best-validated small-molecule bio-

markers in cancer and has been shown to have considerable diagnostic potential.^{7,12}

Mutations in the genes for *IDH1* and *IDH2* have now been identified in more than 20 different neoplasms (Table 1). They are prevalent in grade II and III gliomas (>70%) and secondary glioblastomas (GBMs) (55%–88%) but not primary GBMs (5%–14%).^{5,13–18} The *IDH* mutations are also prevalent in certain cartilaginous and bone tumors (20%–80%),^{19–26} acute myeloid leukemia (AML) (15%–30%),^{8,27–34} intrahepatic cholangiocarcinoma (ICC) (6%–30%),^{35–43} angioimmunoblastic T cell lymphoma (20%–30%),^{44–47} sinonasal undifferentiated carcinoma (35%–80%),^{48–50} and solid papillary carcinoma with reverse polarity (>77%).^{51,52} The importance of *IDH1/2* mutations in glioma is reflected by the fact that, since 2016, they have featured as diagnostic criteria in the World Health Organization’s (WHO) categorization of central nervous system (CNS) tumors.⁵³ The updated 2021 WHO classification of CNS tumors further emphasizes the clinical importance of the *IDH1/2* mutations by reducing the number of types of adult diffuse glioma to three (astrocytoma, oligodendroglioma, and GBM), with astrocytoma and oligodendroglioma now requiring the presence of an *IDH1/2* mutation for diagnosis.⁵⁴ In the remaining cancer types in which *IDH1* or *IDH2* mutations are reported, the incidence rates are lower (<5%). Interestingly, with rare exceptions,^{15,28,34} mutations of *IDH1* and *IDH2* appear to be mutually exclusive.^{15,18,33}

Mutation of *IDH1* and *IDH2* are reported to occur early in development of solid tumor cells^{17,83} but not hematopoietic malignancies.^{61,84,85} The current view is that, in nascent tumor cells, elevated *R*-2-HG may dysregulate multiple enzymes, including



Table 1. Reported frequency of canonical *IDH1* and *IDH2* mutations in cancers and benign tumors

Cancer type	Reported occurrence (%)			Source
	mutIDH1 (R132)	mutIDH2 (R172 or R140)	Other mutIDH1/2	
CNS neoplasm				
Grade II and III glioma	>70	5	0.3–2.3	Yan et al., ⁵ Balss et al., ¹³ Parsons et al., ¹⁴ Hartmann et al., ¹⁵ Ichimura et al., ¹⁶ Watanabe et al., ¹⁷ Pusch et al., ⁵⁵ Gupta et al. ⁵⁶
Secondary GBM (grade IV)	55–88	3.4	–	Yan et al., ⁵ Balss et al., ¹³ Parsons et al., ¹⁴ Watanabe et al., ¹⁷ Wang et al. ¹⁸
Primary GBM (grade IV)	5–14	0.5	–	Yan et al., ⁵ Parsons et al., ¹⁴ Hartmann et al., ¹⁵ Ichimura et al., ¹⁶ Watanabe et al., ¹⁷ Wang et al., ¹⁸ Balss et al. ⁵⁷
Myeloid and lymphoid neoplasms				
AML	6–13	8–20	0.6	Ward et al., ⁸ Mardis et al., ²⁷ Abbas et al., ²⁸ Marcucci et al., ²⁹ Schnittger et al., ³⁰ Wagner et al., ³¹ Molenaar et al., ³² Figueroa et al., ³³ Paschka et al., ³⁴ Gross et al. ⁵⁸
B cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia	1.7	–	–	Kang et al. ⁵⁹
Angioimmunoblastic T cell lymphoma	–	20–33	–	Cairns et al., ⁴⁴ Odejide et al., ⁴⁵ Sakata-Yanagimoto et al., ⁴⁶ Wang et al. ⁴⁷
Peripheral T cell lymphoma	–	<5	–	Wang et al. ⁴⁷
Myelodysplastic syndrome	<4	<4	–	Molenaar et al., ³² Thol et al. ⁶⁰
Myeloproliferative neoplasm, chronic or fibrotic phase	<3	<1.5	–	Tefferi et al., ⁶¹ Pardanani et al. ⁶²
Myeloproliferative neoplasm, blast phase	5–12	2–9	–	Tefferi et al., ⁶¹ Pardanani et al. ⁶²
Pediatric AML	<1.5	<2.5	–	Andersson et al., ⁶³ Oki et al. ⁶⁴
Pediatric acute lymphoblastic leukemia	0.4	0	–	Andersson et al. ⁶³
Bile duct neoplasms				
ICC	6.5–32	1–9	0.3	Borger et al., ³⁵ Kipp et al., ³⁶ Wang et al., ³⁷ Jiao et al., ³⁸ Ross et al., ³⁹ Farshidfar et al., ⁴⁰ Lee et al., ⁴¹ Nepal et al., ⁴² Wang et al. ⁴³
Extrahepatic cholangiocarcinoma/clear cell extrahepatic cholangiocarcinoma	0–10	<4	–	Borger et al., ³⁵ Kipp et al., ³⁶ Lee et al., ⁴¹ Ally et al. ⁶⁵
Cartilage and bone neoplasms				
Chondrosarcoma	12–54	5–16	–	Amary et al., ¹⁹ Arai et al., ²⁰ Lu et al., ²¹ Jin et al., ²³ Lugowska et al., ²⁴ Cleven et al., ²⁵ Tallegas et al., ²⁶ Zhu et al. ⁶⁶
Giant-cell tumor of the bone/osteoclastoma	–	80	25	Kato Kaneko et al. ²²
Osteosarcoma	–	28	–	Liu et al. ⁶⁷
Ewing sarcoma family tumors	3.3	3.3	–	Na et al. ⁶⁸
Ollier disease- and Mafucci syndrome-related neoplasms				
Ollier disease-related enchondroma and chondrosarcomas	>80	3	–	Pensuriya et al., ⁶⁹ Amary et al. ⁷⁰
Mafucci syndrome-related enchondroma and chondrosarcomas	>80	–	–	Pensuriya et al., ⁶⁹ Amary et al. ⁷⁰
Mafucci syndrome-related hemangioma	1 reported case	–	–	Amary et al. ⁷⁰
Mafucci syndrome-related spindle cell hemangioma	70	–	–	Pensuriya et al. ⁶⁹
Other neoplasms				
Breast cancer (other)	0.2	–	–	Fathi et al. ⁷¹
Solid papillary carcinoma with reverse polarity, rare breast cancer subtype	–	> 77	–	Chiang et al., ⁵¹ Lozada et al. ⁵²

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Table 1. Continued

Cancer type	Reported occurrence (%)			Source
	mutIDH1 (R132)	mutIDH2 (R172 or R140)	Other mutIDH1/2	
Gastric adenocarcinoma	2.7	–	–	Li-Chang et al. ⁷²
Irritable bowel syndrome-associated intestinal adenocarcinoma	13	–	–	Hartman et al. ⁷³
Melanoma metastasis	1.3	–	–	Lopez et al. ⁷⁴
Non-small cell lung cancer	0.6	0.4	–	Toth et al. ⁷⁵
Paraganglioma	1.5	–	–	Gaal et al. ⁷⁶
Prostate cancer	0.3–2.7	–	–	Kang et al., ⁵⁹ Hinsch et al. ⁷⁷
Sinonasal undifferentiated carcinoma	–	35–80	–	Dogan et al., ⁴⁸ Jo et al., ⁴⁹ Riobello et al. ⁵⁰
Spindle cell hemangioma	28	7.1	3.6	Kurek et al. ⁷⁸
Thyroid cancer	–	–	8–16	Murugan et al., ⁷⁹ Hemeryly et al. ⁸⁰
Wilms tumor	–	–	10	Rakheja et al. ⁸¹

IDH1/2 mutations were determined using DNA sequencing and antibodies. *IDH1* or *IDH2* mutations other than the missense mutation causing substitution at *IDH1* R132 and *IDH2* R172 or R140, known as non-canonical mutations, are also listed (other mutIDH1/2). Data table created by I.C.H. (also reproduced in Cadoux-Hudson et al.)⁸²

some 2-OG-dependent dioxygenases and metabolic enzymes, leading to altered cellular metabolism presumed to support or promote tumorigenesis.^{86–88} In myeloid cancers, mutations in *IDH1/2* are considered important for disease progression via similar mechanisms.⁸⁵ The presence of mutIDH1 or mutIDH2 in cell models results in alteration of covalent post-oligomerization modifications (e.g., methylation) to the nucleic acid and histone components of chromatin (“epigenetic” modifications).^{89,90} Interestingly, it has been reported that maintenance of altered “epigenetic” modifications does not appear to be dependent on the continued presence of active mutIDH,^{89,91} except in the case of myeloid cancers.^{92–94}

Comparing mutIDH1/2 with WT *IDH1/2* cells has revealed alterations to central carbon metabolism, amino acid metabolism, lipid metabolism, and redox homeostasis.^{95–116} However, there is currently no consensus regarding the precise roles of these changes in relation to cancer development. This knowledge gap has relevance for development and efficacy of therapeutic approaches that currently focus on mutIDH enzyme inhibition. For example, treatment of AML with synthetic small-molecule mutIDH inhibitors leads to a reduction in *R*-2-HG levels, but resistance to first-generation inhibitors has also emerged.^{117–120} A better understanding of how altered metabolism is linked to mechanisms of tumor development in *IDH1/2* mutant cancers will therefore support new diagnostic, prognostic, and therapeutic developments.

Research into *IDH1/2* mutations over the last decade, including developing an understanding of their effects on cell function, has been facilitated by multiple state-of-the-art analytical techniques and approaches. Targeted and discovery-driven metabolomics, using nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) and mass spectrometry (MS), have been techniques at the forefront of investigating altered metabolism in cells, tissues, and biofluids.¹²¹ Magnetic resonance spectroscopy (MRS) is one of few methods capable of measuring metabolite levels *in vivo* non-invasively and has been applied to analysis of *R*-2-HG levels in individuals with *IDH1/2* mutant glioma.^{122–124} However, it re-

mains unclear which *R*-2-HG-linked metabolic changes, beyond the increase of *R*-2-HG itself, are important in tumor development and which are bystanders in the processes of cellular transformation and tumorigenesis.

We review metabolic changes reported in the most common mutant *IDH1/2* cancers in models that include cells lines, animal models with patient-derived xenografts (PDXs) and patient tissue biopsy (PTB) samples. We evaluate reports of changes in metabolite levels and altered metabolic pathways linked to *IDH1* and *IDH2* mutations that used a range of analytical platforms, including MS, NMR, and MRS. We also discuss the potential for specific changes in metabolic pathways to act as new therapeutic targets.

WT FUNCTIONS OF IDH1, IDH2, AND IDH3

There are three isoforms of human IDH, the closely related homodimeric *IDH1* and *IDH2* and the heterotetrameric *IDH3*, all of which catalyze conversion of isocitrate to 2-OG and CO₂. *IDH3* simultaneously reduces nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide (NAD⁺) to produce NADH, whereas *IDH1* and *IDH2* reduce NAD phosphate (NADP⁺) to NADPH.¹²⁵ *IDH1* and *IDH2* can catalyze the reverse reaction (i.e., reductive carboxylation of 2-OG with CO₂^{126,127}), but *IDH3* has been reported not to do this under physiological conditions.¹²⁸

The human IDH isoforms have distinctive roles in ‘normal’ cellular metabolism (Figure 1). *IDH1* localizes to the cytosol and peroxisomes, whereas *IDH2* and *IDH3* localize to the mitochondrial matrix.^{129–132} *IDH1* normally provides the cytosol and peroxisomes with NADPH, which is used in fatty acid synthesis or to protect from oxidative damage.^{133–135} In cells with damaged mitochondria or those in hypoxia, for example, *IDH1* can indirectly provide acetyl-coenzyme A (CoA) for fatty acid synthesis by catalyzing the reductive carboxylation of glutamine-derived 2-OG to isocitrate; isocitrate is isomerized to citrate, and then ATP citrate lyase cleaves it to acetyl-CoA and

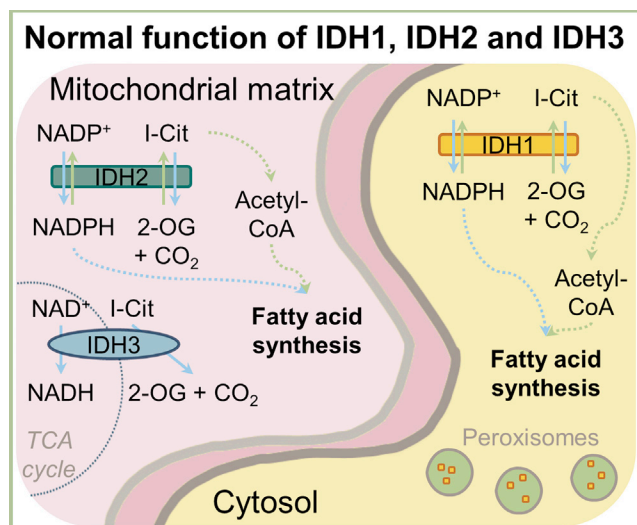


Figure 1. WT functions of IDH1, IDH2, and IDH3

IDH1 localizes in the cytosol and peroxisomes; IDH2 and IDH3 localize in mitochondria. IDH1 and IDH2 oxidize isocitrate (I-Cit) to 2-oxoglutarate (2-OG), producing NADPH; they also reductively carboxylate 2-OG to give I-Cit under hypoxic conditions or in cells with damaged mitochondria. IDH3 is part of the TCA cycle and oxidizes I-Cit to 2-OG, producing NADH. Solid lines denote direct reactions, and dashed lines denote metabolic pathways.

oxaloacetate.^{136,137} IDH2 functions similarly to IDH1 but in the context of the mitochondrial matrix, providing NADPH, helping to protect mitochondria against oxidative damage.^{138,139} IDH2 also synthesizes isocitrate under hypoxia by reductive carboxylation of glutamine-derived 2-OG.¹⁴⁰ IDH3 takes part in mitochondrial respiration by catalyzing oxidation of isocitrate in the tricarboxylic acid (TCA) cycle, producing NADH for ATP production.^{128,131}

BIOSYNTHESIS OF 2-HYDROXYGLUTARATE IN NON-MUTANT IDH CELLS

The role of 2-HG in healthy metabolism is not well understood, but the *R*- and *S*-2-HG enantiomers (Figure 2) occur in low micromolar concentrations in plasma^{11,141} and urine (low millimoles per mole creatinine¹⁰ for adults and low micromoles per millimole of creatinine in neonates⁹). 2-HG can be formed by multiple processes in cells. For example, the *R*-2-HG enantiomer results from metabolism of 5-hydroxy-*L*-lysine¹⁴² and by a coupled reaction involving oxidation of a hydroxyacid and reduction of an oxoacid by hydroxyacid oxoacid *trans*-hydrogenase (HOT) (e.g., coupling of γ -conversion of hydroxybutyrate [HGB] to succinic semialdehyde and 2-OG to *R*-2-HG).^{143,144} *R*-2-HG and *S*-2-HG can also be formed by “promiscuous” reactions catalyzed by phosphoglycerate dehydrogenase (PHGDH) and mitochondrial malate dehydrogenase (MDH2), respectively.^{145,146} In hypoxia, production of *S*-2-HG increases, at least in part catalyzed by promiscuous reactions of lactate dehydrogenase A (LDHA), MDH2, and cytosolic MDH (MDH1) (Figure 2).¹⁴⁷ It has been proposed that *S*-2-HG supports regulation of cellular redox homeostasis under conditions of cell stress; e.g., hypoxia.¹⁴⁸ The

increased *S*-2-HG seen in hypoxia is likely due to the increased efficiency in the promiscuous reactions by LDH and MDH under acidic conditions (pH 6.0–6.8).^{149,150} Similarly, PHGDH leads to increased production of *R*-2-HG under acidic conditions.¹⁴⁹

Levels of both 2-HG enantiomers are normally regulated by 2-HG dehydrogenases (2-HGDH), which convert 2-HG to 2-OG. Inborn errors of metabolism, arising from mutations to the genes for *R*- and *S*-2-HGDH, are known as *D*- or *L*-2-HG aciduria (*D*-2-HGA or *L*-2-HGA). *D*-2-HGA can also be caused by mutation of *IDH2*¹⁵¹. Loss of *R*-2-HGDH or *S*-2-HGDH catalysis causes accumulation of *R*- or *S*-2-HG to high levels in urine, plasma, and cerebral spinal fluid^{151–156}. *L*-2-HGA and *D*-2-HGA are associated with neurological abnormalities, including developmental delay, epilepsy, and cerebral ataxia, as well as cardiomyopathy in individuals with *D*-2-HGA.^{152–157} Interestingly, there appears to be a lack of association between *D*-2-HGA and cancer types commonly reported to have mutations in *IDH1* and *IDH2*.¹⁵⁸ There is also a small number of reported cases of CNS tumors developing in individuals with *L*-2-HGA,^{159,160} but it is not always clinically observed.¹⁶¹

R-2-HG BIOSYNTHESIS IS LINKED TO IDH1 AND IDH2 MUTATIONS

IDH1 and *IDH2* point mutations in cancer are heterozygous and occur most frequently at, or closely linked to, their active sites. In *IDH1*, R132 is the most commonly substituted residue; in *IDH2*, the analogous residue R172 and R140 are the most commonly altered. For all three of these mutation sites, the specific substituted residue is often linked to a particular cancer type. Histidine is the most common residue substitution for R132 in mut*IDH1* in glioma,^{5,13–17} whereas cysteine is more common for chondrosarcoma^{19,20,24–26} and ICC,^{36,37} and in AML, histidine and cysteine occur at a similar frequency.^{27–31,58} Residue R140 in mut*IDH2* is most commonly substituted with glutamine in AML.^{28,29} Substitution of R172 in mut*IDH2* is usually by serine in chondrosarcoma,^{19,20,24–26} lysine or tryptophan in ICC,^{36,37} and lysine in glioma.^{5,15}

Initially it was thought that mut*IDH1* did not convert isocitrate to 2-OG⁵ and that WT *IDH1* was dominantly inhibited as a heterodimer with mut*IDH1*.⁶ Subsequently it was discovered that common mutations (i.e., mut*IDH1*^{R132}, mut*IDH2*^{R172}, and mut*IDH2*^{R140}) produce *R*-2-HG, which accumulates to high levels (Figure 3).^{7,8} Kinetic and structural analyses of the mut*IDH1*s have revealed that substitution of an active-site arginine (R132 *IDH1*) correlates with a lowered affinity for isocitrate and the NADPH-dependent ability to reduce 2-OG to *R*-2-HG.^{6–8,162} However, it has been shown that, when observed with NMR-based enzyme assays¹⁶³ rather than a fluorescence-based assay,¹⁶⁴ mut*IDH1*^{R132H} is capable of producing *R*-2-HG from isocitrate.¹⁶³ At least in studied cases, mut*IDH2* does not appear to bind to or dominantly inhibit WT *IDH2*¹⁶⁵ and does not require WT *IDH2* or *IDH3* to produce *R*-2-HG.¹⁶⁶ Cytosolic mut*IDH1*, however, has been reported to rely on co-expression with WT *IDH1* to elevate intracellular 2-HG,^{166–168} but that substrate (2-OG and NADPH) is likely not channeled from WT *IDH1* to mut*IDH1* in a heterodimer.¹⁶⁸ WT *IDH1* and WT *IDH2* can produce small amounts of *R*-2-HG from 2OG,^{8,162} but the reaction is

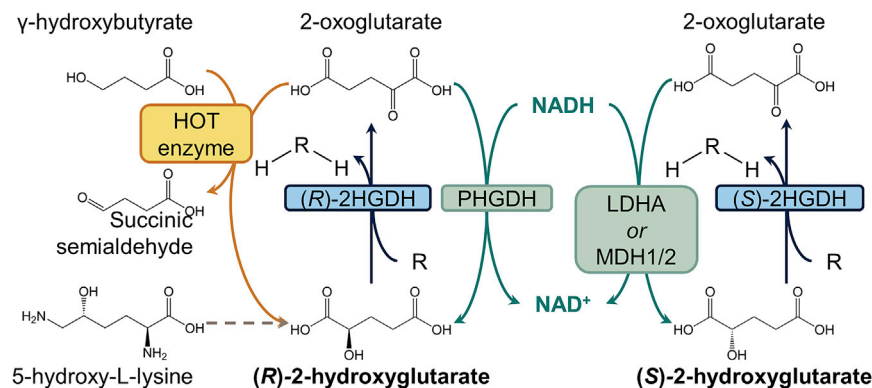


Figure 2. Biosynthesis of 2-hydroxyglutarate in non mutant IDH cells

(R)-2-HG is synthesized by metabolism of 5-hydroxy-L-lysine (gray dashed arrow), by hydroxyacid oxoacid *trans*-hydrogenase (HOT) catalysis (yellow), and by promiscuous catalysis by phosphoglycerate dehydrogenase (PHGDH) (green). (S)-2-HG is synthesized by promiscuous reactions involving mitochondrial malate dehydrogenase 1 and 2 (MDH1/2) and lactate dehydrogenase A (LDHA). Promiscuous reactions are in green. (R)-2-HG and (S)-2-HG are oxidized to 2-OG by (R)-2-HG or (S)-2-HG dehydrogenases ((R)- or (S)-2-HGDH), respectively, in reactions where an acceptor (R) is reduced (RH₂) (blue).

limited because isocitrate binding is more efficient than that of 2-OG.¹⁶² The ability of WT IDH1 to produce *R*-2-HG is not strongly pH dependent, unlike some other metabolic enzymes with similar promiscuous reactions.¹⁴⁹

The extent of *R*-2-HG accumulation may in part depend on the residue and position with which the active site arginine is replaced. Studies of rare IDH1 substitutions (e.g., R132L/S/G) report significantly higher *R*-2-HG levels in glioma tumor tissue compared with IDH1^{R132H} and IDH1^{R132C}.^{169,170} In cell models with mutIDH2^{R172}, *R*-2-HG levels were significantly higher than in models with mutIDH2^{R140Q} or mutIDH1^{R132H}.^{166,171} However, in HEK293T cells where mutIDH1^{R132H} was co-overexpressed with WT IDH1, the intracellular *R*-2-HG levels were similar to those of HEK293T cells expressing mutIDH2^{R172K}.¹⁶⁶ Furthermore, when mutIDH1^{R132H} was expressed in the mitochondria of HEK293T cells rather than in the cytosol, *R*-2-HG levels were again comparable with HEK293T cells expressing mutIDH2^{R72K}.¹⁶⁶

IDH MUTANT AND WT CANCER MODELS

Developing robust pathophysiological models to study metabolism in mutant *IDH1/2* glioma has been challenging. Early attempts to establish a stable mutIDH1 glioma cell line derived

from affected individuals proved difficult,¹⁷² and it was reported that the mutant allele was lost after a small number of passages (<10).^{172,173} It has been suggested that cells with prior loss of the mutIDH1 allele have a selective growth advantage in tissue culture.⁹¹ However, loss of the mutant allele⁹¹ or the WT allele can occur during *in vitro* culturing.^{91,174–176} Most studies reporting insights into altered metabolism using cell models use genetically engineered cell lines where the mutant enzyme is overexpressed, such as in immortalized GBM cell lines (e.g., U87, U251, or LN229), human oligodendroglioma (HOG) cells, or immortalized normal human astrocytes (NHA).^{101,102,106,177–179} These cell lines provide relatively stable models to study the effects of the presence of the mutIDH1/2 enzymes, but it is possible that the process of producing the model itself may have unknown metabolic consequences and that these models do not account for some genetic and, subsequently, metabolic differences between WT IDH and mutIDH1/2 gliomas.^{180–182} A limited number of glioma cell lines that endogenously express *mutIDH* have been successfully cultured from grade II astrocytomas,¹⁸³ grade III gliomas, and what were formerly known as secondary GBMs.^{174,183–186} PDX mouse models bearing cells with *IDH1/2* mutations derived from affected individuals are potentially more physiologically relevant than cell culture using immortalized cell lines.^{181,187,188} Several PDX-specific mutIDH1

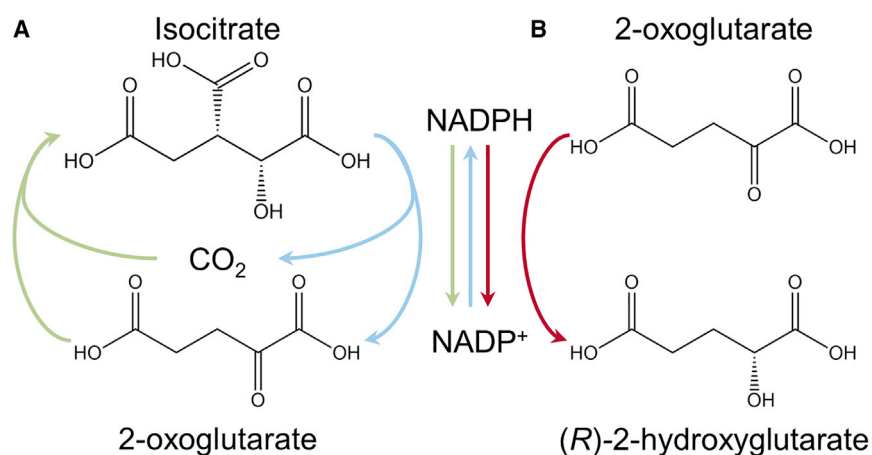


Figure 3. Normal and gain-of-function IDH1 and IDH2 reactions

(A) Normal function of IDH1 and IDH2. I-Cit is oxidized to 2-OG, and NADP⁺ is reduced to NADPH. The reverse reaction occurs under hypoxic cell conditions.

(B) Mutant IDH1 and IDH2 reduce 2-OG to 2-HG by oxidizing NADPH to NADP⁺.

glioma cell lines have been established,^{99,188,189} but in comparison with cultured cells, these can be less practical and straightforward to work with.¹⁸¹

In contrast with glioma cells bearing *IDH* mutations, there are several cell lines derived from chondrosarcomas that harbor endogenous *mutIDH1* or *mutIDH2* with little to no stability issues; e.g., HT1080 and L835 (*IDH1*^{R132C}), JJ012 (*IDH1*^{R132G}), CS1 (*IDH2*^{R172S}), and SW1353 (*IDH2*^{R172K}).^{95,166,190–195} JJ012 and CS1 have been successfully propagated in mice.¹⁹⁴ For AML, it has been common to use human primary AML cells, either as grafts in mice¹⁹⁶ or cultured cells.^{197,198} Transfected commercially available *mutIDH1* cell lines have also been established (HL60 with *mutIDH1*^{R132H}).¹⁰⁹ There are at least two ICC cell lines with endogenous *IDH1* mutations, RBE (*IDH1*^{R132S}) and SNU-1079 (*IDH1*^{R132C}), that have genetic characteristics comparable with biopsies from individuals with ICC.⁴² Inducing *IDH1* or *IDH2* mutations has also been achieved in intrahepatic biliary organoids¹⁹⁹ as well as hepatoblasts and adult mouse liver²⁰⁰ to study how the mutations promote tumorigenesis. However, despite the wide variety of non-glioma cell lines with endogenous *IDH1/2* mutations, there are very few comprehensive studies addressing metabolic changes in these models. This review reports predominantly on glioma models because it reflects their extensive use in the literature on *IDH1/2* mutations to date.

METABOLIC CHANGES IN MUTANT IDH CANCERS

Altered metabolite levels in mutant IDH cancer cell and tumor models

Although there is a lack of comprehensive studies on broader metabolism in mutant *IDH1/2* cancers, there have been numerous reports of elevated *R-2-HG* levels. Comparison of WT *IDH1/2* and *mutIDH1/2* cells has revealed a more than 100-fold change (FC) in *R-2-HG* levels for chondrosarcoma cells (HT1080),⁹⁵ glioma cells (LN18),¹¹³ glioma PDX mouse models,¹⁸⁸ and glioma PTBs.⁷ A more than 50-FC increase in *R-2-HG* levels in *mutIDH1/2* cells derived from individuals with AML compared with WT *IDH1/2* cells has also been reported.⁵⁸ Multiple studies report significant differences, but no specific FC, in *R-2-HG* levels between WT *IDH1/2* and *mutIDH1/2* glioma cells (U251, NHA, U87, and HOG),^{101,102,107,114,201} chondrosarcoma cells (L835, JJ012, SW1353, and L2975),^{202,203} glioma PDX mouse models,⁹⁹ and glioma, chondrosarcoma, and AML PTBs,^{8,106,116,124,204,205} and in plasma from individuals with ICC.²⁰⁶

Studies investigating altered metabolite levels in *mutIDH1/2* compared with WT *IDH* glioma cell lines, PDX mouse models, and PTBs, using a range of analytical approaches (gas chromatography [GC]-MS, liquid chromatography [LC]-MS, capillary electrophoresis [CE]-MS, MS imaging [MSI], NMR, and MRS), have reported significantly altered metabolite levels.^{99,101,102,104,106,107,113,114,116,124} Comparison of metabolite levels is usually made between WT *IDH1/2* and *mutIDH1/2* samples; often the difference is reported as a relative difference or FC rather than absolute concentrations. In contrast with *R-2-HG*, the abundance changes associated with other metabolites appear to be more context dependent.^{99,101,102,106,107,113,114,116}

There are conflicting reports of altered lactate levels in *IDH1/2* variant-bearing cells compared with WT cells. For example, studies with *mutIDH1*^{R132H} and WT *IDH1* HOG cell lines, PDX mouse models, and PTBs, using GC-MS, CE-MS, LC-MS, or MSI, report no change in lactate levels (Table 2).^{99,106,107,116} However, three other studies report lower lactate levels in *mutIDH1*^{R132H} U87, NHA, and LN18 cells and PDX mouse models compared with WT cells,^{102,104,113} Lactate levels in *mutIDH1*^{R132H} U87 GBM cells have been reported to be significantly increased.¹¹⁴ An MRS study of individuals with *mutIDH1*^{R132H} and *mutIDH2*^{R172K} (grade II and III glioma) reported increased lactate compared with WT *IDH1/2* gliomas.¹²⁴ In *mutIDH2*^{R172K} HOG and U87 cells, lactate levels have been reported as being unchanged¹⁰⁷ or decreased,¹¹⁴ respectively. A potential confounding issue with regard to reporting lactate levels and other metabolite levels, including *R-2-HG*, is whether extracellular and intracellular pools of metabolites have been combined (e.g., when tissue samples are homogenized) or not (e.g., when 2D tissue culture cells are harvested and metabolites are extracted). For example, in studies using cultured cells,^{102,107,113,114} extracellular lactate was largely removed prior to intracellular metabolite extraction and analysis, whereas studies using PTBs or PDX mouse models used extracts from whole tissue^{99,106,116} or other methods unlikely to distinguish intracellular and extracellular lactate levels; i.e., MSI⁹⁹ or *in vivo* MRS.^{104,124}

Pyruvate, as measured by LC-MS and MSI in *mutIDH1*^{R132H} glioma tissue and PDX mouse models as well as in *mutIDH1*^{R132H}-expressing LN18 or HOG cell lines, showed no significant differences in abundance when comparing *IDH1* WT and mutant samples.^{99,106,107,113} No significant changes in pyruvate levels were observed between *mutIDH2*^{R172K} and WT *IDH2*-expressing HOG cells.¹⁰⁷ Two studies reported pyruvate to be significantly decreased in abundance in *mutIDH1*^{R132H} PTBs compared with WT *IDH1* PTBs.^{99,116}

The TCA cycle intermediates 2-OG, citrate, *cis*-aconitate, isocitrate, and fumarate are reported to be decreased or unchanged in all model types comparing *mutIDH1*^{R132H} with corresponding WT *IDH1* samples (Table 3).^{99,101,106,107,113,114,116} Succinate, oxaloacetate, and malate are the only TCA cycle intermediates with reports of increased levels in *mutIDH1*^{R132H} compared with WT *IDH1* in cultured cells.^{101,107,114} Other studies of succinate, oxaloacetate, and malate, using PTBs, PDXs, or cultured cells, report decreased relative levels^{99,107,113} or no significant change in abundance.^{99,106,114,116} Two independent studies reporting relative levels of TCA cycle intermediates (using different cell lines and different analytical methods: LC-MS and NMR, respectively) for *mutIDH2*^{R172K} cells (HOG and U87) report decreased succinate levels.^{107,114}

Changes in amino acid abundance have often been reported for *mutIDH* cell models, but as with the aforementioned metabolites, other than *R-2-HG*, the abundance changes are generally not consistent across studies or model types (Table 4),^{102,104,106,107,114,116} with comprehensive analyses only being reported in a small number of studies.^{106,107,114} Only cysteine and proline, of the 20 amino acids measured, have been reported to have the same relative abundance between WT *IDH1* and *mutIDH1*^{R132H} in two studies reporting

Table 2. Analysis of glycolysis intermediates and related metabolites in mutIDH glioma samples

Change	Mutation	Model type	Analysis method	Reference
Glucose-1-phosphate				
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	CE-MS	Ohka et al. ¹⁰⁶
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (LN18)	IC-MS	Walsby-Tickle et al. ¹¹³
Glucose-6-phosphate				
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	CE-MS	Ohka et al. ¹⁰⁶
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	GC-MS/LC-MS	Zhou et al. ¹¹⁶
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (U87)	NMR	Wen et al. ¹¹⁴
-	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (U87)	NMR	Wen et al. ¹¹⁴
6-phospho-gluconate				
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	CE-MS	Ohka et al. ¹⁰⁶
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	GC-MS/LC-MS	Zhou et al. ¹¹⁶
Ribulose-5-phosphate				
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	CE-MS	Ohka et al. ¹⁰⁶
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (LN18)	IC-MS	Walsby-Tickle et al. ¹¹³
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (U87)	NMR	Wen et al. ¹¹⁴
↑	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (U87)	NMR	Wen et al. ¹¹⁴
Ribose-5-phosphate				
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	CE-MS	Ohka et al. ¹⁰⁶
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	GC-MS/LC-MS	Zhou et al. ¹¹⁶
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (LN18)	IC-MS	Walsby-Tickle et al. ¹¹³
Seduheptulose-7-phosphate				
-	IDH1 ^{R132}	PTB	CE-MS	Ohka et al. ¹⁰⁶
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PDX	MSI/LC-MS	Fack et al. ⁹⁹
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (LN18)	IC-MS	Walsby-Tickle et al. ¹¹³
Fructose-1,6-bisphosphate				
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	GC-MS/LC-MS	Zhou et al. ¹¹⁶
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (LN18)	IC-MS	Walsby-Tickle et al. ¹¹³
Fructose-6-phosphate				
-	IDH1 ^{R132}	PTB	CE-MS	Ohka et al. ¹⁰⁶
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	GC-MS/LC-MS	Zhou et al. ¹¹⁶
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (LN18)	IC-MS	Walsby-Tickle et al. ¹¹³
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (U87)	NMR	Wen et al. ¹¹⁴
-	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (U87)	NMR	Wen et al. ¹¹⁴

Table 2. Continued

Change	Mutation	Model type	Analysis method	Reference
Dihydroxyacetone phosphate				
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	CE-MS	Ohka et al. ¹⁰⁶
Glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate				
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	CE-MS	Ohka et al. ¹⁰⁶
↑	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (LN18)	IC-MS	Walsby-Tickle et al. ¹¹³
Phosphoenolpyruvate				
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	CE-MS	Ohka et al. ¹⁰⁶
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	GC-MS/LC-MS	Zhou et al. ¹¹⁶
↑	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (LN18)	IC-MS	Walsby-Tickle et al. ¹¹³
3-phospho-glycerate				
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	CE-MS	Ohka et al. ¹⁰⁶
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	GC-MS/LC-MS	Zhou et al. ¹¹⁶
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (LN18)	IC-MS	Walsby-Tickle et al. ¹¹³
Acetyl-CoA				
↑	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
↑	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
Pyruvate				
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	CE-MS	Ohka et al. ¹⁰⁶
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PDX	MSI/LC-MS	Fack et al. ⁹⁹
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (LN18)	IC-MS	Walsby-Tickle et al. ¹¹³
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	GC-MS/LC-MS	Zhou et al. ¹¹⁶
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	LC-MS	Fack et al. ⁹⁹ (suppl.)
-	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
Lactate				
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	CE-MS	Ohka et al. ¹⁰⁶
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	GC-MS/LC-MS	Zhou et al. ¹¹⁶
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	LC-MS	Fack et al. ⁹⁹ (suppl.)
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PDX	MSI/LC-MS	Fack et al. ⁹⁹
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PDX	MRSI	Lenting et al. ¹⁰⁴
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (U87)	NMR	Izquierdo-Garcia et al. ¹⁰²
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (NHA)	NMR	Izquierdo-Garcia et al. ¹⁰²

(Continued on next page)

Table 2. Continued

Change	Mutation	Model type	Analysis method	Reference
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (LN18)	IC-MS	Walsby-Tickle et al. ¹¹³
↑	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (U87)	NMR	Wen et al. ¹¹⁴
■	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
↓	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (U87)	NMR	Wen et al. ¹¹⁴

Changes in metabolite levels in mutIDH glioma samples relative to WT IDH glioma samples. ■, not significantly different; ↓, significantly lower in mutIDH1; ↑, significantly higher in mutIDH1; PTB, patient tissue biopsy; PDX, patient-derived mouse xenograft; CL, cell line; suppl., from supplemental information.

them.^{106,107} Despite a lack of agreement in abundance changes across models and techniques, the consistent modulation of amino acids in the context of *IDH1* mutations generally is interesting and merits further study.

Comparisons of mutIDH1^{R132H/C}, mutIDH2^{R172K/W/G}, and WT IDH1 glioma, using *in vivo* MRS in humans, has shown that *N*-acetylated amino acids (NAAAs) are consistently decreased in all tumor types measured compared with healthy tissue.^{122–124} Orthotopic mutIDH1^{R132H} and WT IDH1 glioma PDX mouse models similarly show lower levels of NAAAs compared with healthy tissue.^{99,104} In one study comparing the abundance of NAAAs in individuals with mutIDH1^{R132H} and WT IDH1 glioma, MRS revealed that total NAAAs were slightly higher in mutIDH1^{R132H} than WT IDH1 gliomas.¹²⁴ On the other hand, it was found that specific NAAAs were depleted in mutIDH1^{R132H} cells compared with WT IDH1 cells (Table 5).^{107,113} These differences may be linked to concomitant differences in amino acid abundance *in vivo* and *in vitro*, but this link requires further confirmation.

Glutathione, in its thiol or disulfide forms, has been reported as lower in mutIDH1/2 compared with WT IDH1/2 cultured cells in four studies,^{102,107,113,114} except for mutIDH1^{R132H} U87 cells (increased)¹¹⁴ and mutIDH1^{R132H} NHA cells (unchanged)¹⁰² (Table 6). Interestingly, a different study also using mutIDH1^{R132H} U87 cells, reported lower glutathione disulfide levels compared with WT IDH1 U87 cells.¹⁰² Both U87 studies used NMR measurements, and both expressed mutIDH1 and WT IDH1 using a lentiviral vector; it is unclear why different relative glutathione levels were observed.^{102,114} The one study reporting on glutathione levels in tissues did not find a significant difference between mutIDH1^{R132H} and WT IDH1 PDX samples or PTBs.⁹⁹ Few studies have reported levels of other redox metabolites directly (e.g., NADP/NADPH or NAD/NADH), or energy “currency” compounds (e.g., creatine, AMP/ADP/ATP).^{99,102,113,114}

Studies of altered metabolite abundance in the presence of mutIDH (all reported as significant) are inconsistent across model types (e.g., cultured cells versus PTB/PDX) and/or analysis methods (e.g., MS, NMR, and MRS) (Tables 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6). The differences in reported relative levels of metabolites likely result from multiple factors, including the varied genetic backgrounds of the multiple cell models used. The cell lines discussed are especially relevant in this respect because they represent a mixture of cancerous and non-cancerous cell types (e.g., HOG

and NHA) or gliomas with different mutational landscapes (e.g., U87, U251 and LN18). In addition, “background” mutations also have the potential to contribute to metabolic differences observed between cell types for mutIDH1 and *R*-2-HG effects, previously highlighted by, e.g., Carbonneau et al.¹⁸²

Furthermore, it is unclear to what extent the altered metabolite levels directly result from raised *R*-2-HG levels (for example, directly affected by *R*-2-HG-mediated enzyme inhibition) or result from secondary effects (for example, the consequence of altered redox equilibrium because of changes in NADPH production mediated by mutIDH). It is also possible that differences in cell proliferation rates lead to metabolic differences, as reported for a number of isogenic cell lines,^{207–210} which are commonly used when studying the effects of mutIDH1 in glioma. The slower proliferation rate of mutIDH1 cells (compared with the WT) has also been reported for glioma cells derived from affected individuals¹⁷³ and human leukemic cells exposed to *R*-2-HG.²¹¹ Currently, other than for elevated *R*-2-HG, it is difficult to form clear conclusions regarding metabolic adaptations in mutIDH1/2 glioma based on changes in metabolite levels alone. However, when combined with information from additional techniques (e.g., isotopic tracer experiments, proteomics and transcriptomics data) and information about the models, a somewhat clearer picture of metabolic changes at a functional (e.g., pathways) level in mutIDH1/2 models starts to emerge. A discussion of studies in this wider context is provided next.

Mutant IDH1 glioma cells are less glycolytic and have altered TCA cycle function compared with WT cells

Recent studies in which levels of metabolic enzymes were measured in PDX mice or PTBs found that mutIDH1^{R132H} gliomas appear to rely less on glycolysis and more on mitochondrial metabolism to alleviate mutIDH1-related metabolic stress.^{104,212,213} These results support the proposal that some mutIDH1^{R132H} gliomas use lactate and glutamate as anaplerotic substrates for TCA cycle metabolism.^{104,212,213} In contrast, it has been proposed that WT IDH1 gliomas are more dependent on glucose, glutamine, and acetate as anaplerotic substrates (Figure 4).^{104,212,214,215} In mutIDH1 glioma, glutamate and lactate appear to be further metabolized by deamination of glutamate to 2-OG and carboxylation of pyruvate (from imported lactate) to give oxaloacetate, respectively.^{104,212,213}

MutIDH1^{R132H} gliomas are reported to have reduced glucose uptake compared with WT IDH1 gliomas.^{104,173,212} Cultured mutIDH1^{R132H} NHA and glioma (BT142) cells have reduced expression of the mono-carboxylate exporters MCT-1 and MCT-4 compared with WT IDH glioma cells (NHA and U87),^{216,217} supporting the hypothesis that mutIDH1 gliomas are less glycolytic than WT IDH1 gliomas. LDHA, which catalyzes oxidation of pyruvate to lactate, is downregulated in mutIDH1^{R132H} glioma cells, PDX (mouse), and PTBs,^{213,217,218} whereas LDHB (which converts lactate to pyruvate) has increased expression in mutIDH1^{R132H}-expressing BT142 cells, PTBs, and PDX (mouse) gliomas.^{104,212,213,217} Isotope tracer experiments show that production of intracellular lactate from hyperpolarized [¹⁻¹³C]-pyruvate is significantly lower in mutIDH1^{R132H} versus WT IDH1 NHA cells.²¹⁶ A similar experiment comparing BT142 (mutIDH1^{R132H}) with U87 (WT IDH1) cells in cell culture and mouse tumor models

Table 3. Analysis of TCA cycle intermediates in mutIDH glioma samples

Change	Mutation	Model type	Analysis method	Reference
2-OG				
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	CE-MS	Ohka et al. ¹⁰⁶
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (U87)	NMR	Wen et al. ¹¹⁴
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (U251)	LC-MS	Gelman et al. ¹⁰¹
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	GC-MS/ LC-MS	Zhou et al. ¹¹⁶
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	LC-MS	Fack et al. ⁹⁹ (suppl.)
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PDX	MSI/LC-MS	Fack et al. ⁹⁹
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (LN18)	IC-MS	Walsby-Tickle et al. ¹¹³
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
-	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
↓	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (U87)	NMR	Wen et al. ¹¹⁴
Oxaloacetate				
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	GC-MS/ LC-MS	Zhou et al. ¹¹⁶
↑	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (U87)	NMR	Wen et al. ¹¹⁴
↓	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (U87)	NMR	Wen et al. ¹¹⁴
Citrate				
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	CE-MS	Ohka et al. ¹⁰⁶
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	GC-MS/ LC-MS	Zhou et al. ¹¹⁶
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	LC-MS	Fack et al. ⁹⁹ (suppl.)
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PDX	MSI/LC-MS	Fack et al. ⁹⁹
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (U87)	NMR	Wen et al. ¹¹⁴
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (LN18)	IC-MS	Walsby-Tickle et al. ¹¹³
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (U251)	LC-MS	Gelman et al. ¹⁰¹
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
↑	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
↓	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (U87)	NMR	Wen et al. ¹¹⁴
Cis-aconitate				
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	CE-MS	Ohka et al. ¹⁰⁶
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
Isocitrate				
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	CE-MS	Ohka et al. ¹⁰⁶
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	GC-MS/ LC-MS	Zhou et al. ¹¹⁶
Succinate				
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	CE-MS	Ohka et al. ¹⁰⁶
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	LC-MS	Fack et al. ⁹⁹ (suppl.)
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PDX	MSI/LC-MS	Fack et al. ⁹⁹
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (LN18)	IC-MS	Walsby-Tickle et al. ¹¹³
↑	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷

Table 3. Continued

Change	Mutation	Model type	Analysis method	Reference
↑	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (U251)	LC-MS	Gelman et al. ¹⁰¹
↑	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (U87)	NMR	Wen et al. ¹¹⁴
↓	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (U87)	NMR	Wen et al. ¹¹⁴
↓	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
Fumarate				
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	CE-MS	Ohka et al. ¹⁰⁶
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	GC-MS/ LC-MS	Zhou et al. ¹¹⁶
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (U87)	NMR	Wen et al. ¹¹⁴
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (U251)	LC-MS	Gelman et al. ¹⁰¹
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (LN18)	IC-MS	Walsby-Tickle et al. ¹¹³
-	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (U87)	NMR	Wen et al. ¹¹⁴
↓	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
Malate				
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	LC-MS	Fack et al. ⁹⁹ (suppl.)
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (U87)	NMR	Wen et al. ¹¹⁴
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PDX	MSI/LC-MS	Fack et al. ⁹⁹
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (LN18)	IC-MS	Walsby-Tickle et al. ¹¹³
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
↑	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (U251)	LC-MS	Gelman et al. ¹⁰¹
-	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (U87)	NMR	Wen et al. ¹¹⁴
↓	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷

Changes in metabolite levels in mutIDH glioma samples relative to WT IDH glioma samples. -, not significantly different; ↓, significantly lower in mutIDH1; ↑, significantly higher in mutIDH1; PTB, patient tissue biopsy; PDX, patient-derived mouse xenograft; CL, cell line; suppl., from supplemental information.

showed that there is significantly less labeled lactate in mutIDH1 compared with WT IDH1 cells after perfusion with hyperpolarized [1-¹³C]-pyruvate.²¹⁷ However, levels of isotopically labeled lactate derived from [1-¹³C]-glucose tracer experiments have been reported as being significantly lower in mtIDH1^{R132H} cells (NHA)²¹⁶ and unchanged in U87 mutIDH1^{R132H} and WT IDH1 cells.²¹⁹ It has been reported that it can take a number of cell growth cycles (passages) for sufficient promoter region hypermethylation of, e.g., the *LDHA* gene to affect expression levels,^{218,220} therefore, whether lactate level changes are particularly cell line dependent or sensitive to passage number after induction of mutIDH1^{R132H} remains to be determined.

As an anaplerotic substrate for the TCA cycle, pyruvate can be converted to oxaloacetate by pyruvate carboxylase (PC) and to acetyl-CoA by pyruvate dehydrogenase (PDH). In mutIDH1^{R132H} U87 and NHA cells, PC showed increased expression levels and activity, whereas PDH had reduced activity.^{177,219} Furthermore, the fractional flux of pyruvate through PC was increased in mutIDH1^{R132H} NHA cells compared with WT IDH1 cells, and the fractional flux of pyruvate through PDH was decreased.¹⁷⁷

Table 4. Analysis of amino acids in mutIDH glioma samples

Change	Mutation	Model type	Analysis method	Reference
Glutamate				
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	GC-MS/ LC-MS	Zhou et al. ¹¹⁶
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PDX	MRSI	Lenting et al. ¹⁰⁴
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	CE-MS	Ohka et al. ¹⁰⁶
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	LC-MS	Fack et al. ⁹⁹ (suppl.)
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	NMR	Jalbert et al. ¹⁰³
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (U87)	NMR	Wen et al. ¹¹⁴
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (U87)	NMR	Izquierdo-Garcia et al. ¹⁰²
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (NHA)	NMR	Izquierdo-Garcia et al. ¹⁰²
↑	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (U251)	LC-MS	Gelman et al. ¹⁰¹
-	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
↑	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (U87)	NMR	Wen et al. ¹¹⁴
Aspartate				
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	CE-MS	Ohka et al. ¹⁰⁶
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	GC-MS/ LC-MS	Zhou et al. ¹¹⁶
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (NHA)	NMR	Izquierdo-Garcia et al. ¹⁰²
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	LC-MS	Fack et al. ⁹⁹ (suppl.)
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (U87)	NMR	Izquierdo-Garcia et al. ¹⁰²
↓	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
Alanine				
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	CE-MS	Ohka et al. ¹⁰⁶
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	GC-MS/ LC-MS	Zhou et al. ¹¹⁶
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (U87)	NMR	Wen et al. ¹¹⁴
↑	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
↓	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (U87)	NMR	Wen et al. ¹¹⁴
↑	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
Arginine				
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	CE-MS	Ohka et al. ¹⁰⁶
↑	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
↓	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
Asparagine				
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	CE-MS	Ohka et al. ¹⁰⁶
↑	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	GC-MS/ LC-MS	Zhou et al. ¹¹⁶
↑	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
↑	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷

Table 4. Continued

Change	Mutation	Model type	Analysis method	Reference
Cysteine				
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	CE-MS	Ohka et al. ¹⁰⁶
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
-	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
Glutamine				
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	GC-MS/ LC-MS	Zhou et al. ¹¹⁶
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	LC-MS	Fack et al. ⁹⁹ (suppl.)
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (NHA)	NMR	Izquierdo-Garcia et al. ¹⁰²
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	CE-MS	Ohka et al. ¹⁰⁶
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (U87)	NMR	Izquierdo-Garcia et al. ¹⁰²
↑	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PDX	MRSI	Zhou et al. ¹¹⁶
↑	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
↑	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
Glycine				
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	CE-MS	Ohka et al. ¹⁰⁶
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	GC-MS/ LC-MS	Zhou et al. ¹¹⁶
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (U87)	NMR	Wen et al. ¹¹⁴
↑	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
↓	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (U87)	NMR	Wen et al. ¹¹⁴
↑	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
Histidine				
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	CE-MS	Ohka et al. ¹⁰⁶
↑	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
-	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
Isoleucine				
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	CE-MS	Ohka et al. ¹⁰⁶
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (U87)	NMR	Wen et al. ¹¹⁴
↑	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
↑	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
↑	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (U87)	NMR	Wen et al. ¹¹⁴
Leucine				
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	CE-MS	Ohka et al. ¹⁰⁶
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (U87)	NMR	Wen et al. ¹¹⁴
↑	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
↓	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (U87)	NMR	Wen et al. ¹¹⁴
↑	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
Lysine				
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	CE-MS	Ohka et al. ¹⁰⁶
↑	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
↑	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷

(Continued on next page)

Table 4. Continued

Change	Mutation	Model type	Analysis method	Reference
Methionine				
–	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	CE-MS	Ohka et al. ¹⁰⁶
↑	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
↑	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
Phenylalanine				
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	CE-MS	Ohka et al. ¹⁰⁶
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (U87)	NMR	Wen et al. ¹¹⁴
↑	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
↓	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (U87)	NMR	Wen et al. ¹¹⁴
↑	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
Proline				
–	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	CE-MS	Ohka et al. ¹⁰⁶
–	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
↓	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
Serine				
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	GC-MS/ LC-MS	Zhou et al. ¹¹⁶
↑	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
–	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
Threonine				
–	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	CE-MS	Ohka et al. ¹⁰⁶
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (U87)	NMR	Wen et al. ¹¹⁴
↑	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
↑	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (U87)	NMR	Wen et al. ¹¹⁴
↑	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
Tryptophan				
–	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	CE-MS	Ohka et al. ¹⁰⁶
↑	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
↑	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
Tyrosine				
–	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	CE-MS	Ohka et al. ¹⁰⁶
↑	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
↑	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
Valine				
–	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	CE-MS	Ohka et al. ¹⁰⁶
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (U87)	NMR	Wen et al. ¹¹⁴
↑	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
↑	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (U87)	NMR	Izquierdo-Garcia et al. ¹⁰²
↑	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (NHA)	NMR	Izquierdo-Garcia et al. ¹⁰²
↑	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (U87)	NMR	Wen et al. ¹¹⁴
↑	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷

Changes in metabolite levels in mutIDH glioma samples relative to WT IDH glioma samples. –, not significantly different; ↓, significantly lower in mutIDH1; ↑, significantly higher in mutIDH1; PTB, patient tissue biopsy; PDX, patient-derived mouse xenograft; CL, cell line; suppl., from supplemental information.

Thus, by reducing PDH activity and increasing PC levels, mutIDH1^{R132H} glioma U87 and NHA cells have been shown to use pyruvate for production of oxaloacetate, a process supported by separate studies.^{177,219} In general, there appears to be experimental agreement that gliomas with mutIDH1^{R132H} are less glycolytic and rely more on oxidative phosphorylation than WT IDH1 gliomas.^{99,101,104,188,212,217,218}

Glutamate is an important anaplerotic substrate in mutant IDH1 glioma cells

Glutamate dehydrogenase 1 (GLUD1) and GLUD2, which catalyze oxidative deamination of glutamate to 2-OG, are significantly elevated in mutIDH1^{R132H} glioma compared with WT IDH1 glioma,^{104,212,213,221,222} indicating the potential for increased glutamate utilization by the TCA cycle. Moreover, increased expression of nerve-tissue-specific GLUD2 leads to enhanced tumor growth in mutIDH1^{R132H} glioma murine models.^{221,222}

Branched-chain amino acid transaminase 1 (BCAT1), which is located in the cytosol and widely expressed in the brain,²²³ is present at significantly lower levels in mutIDH1^{R132H} glioma PTB and PDX compared with WT IDH1 glioma samples.^{104,212,224} BCAT1 catalyzes transamination of valine, leucine, and isoleucine; the α -amino group of the amino acids is transferred to 2-OG, producing glutamate and branched-chain α -ketoacids.²²⁵ High expression of BCAT1 may be counterproductive to glutamate in its role as an anaplerotic substrate of the TCA cycle in IDH mutant tumors. The reduced level of BCAT1 in mutIDH1^{R132H} cells is in part due to extensive hypermethylation of the promoter region of the *BCAT1* gene.^{212,224} However, other mutIDH1-related mechanisms may be involved in regulation of *BCAT1* expression because expression of *mutIDH1* in immortalized human astrocytes causes *BCAT1* downregulation, but not by hypermethylation of its promoter region.²²⁴ It has been reported that *R-2-HG* can directly inhibit BCAT1 activity in mutIDH1^{R132H} HOG cells at high (millimolar) concentrations,²⁰¹ although this was not the case in mouse brain detergent extracts exposed to millimolar *R-2-HG*.²²⁴

Glutaminolysis, where glutamine is converted to TCA cycle intermediates, is a hallmark of metabolism in several types of cancers.²²⁶ Cultured glioma cells (D54 and U87) expressing mutIDH1^{R132H} are sensitive to inhibition of glutaminase (GLS),^{106,227} the main enzyme catalyzing conversion of glutamine to glutamate, but GLS expression is not significantly increased in samples from individuals with mutIDH1^{R132H}.^{104,212} The reliance on glutaminolysis in cultured cells could be due to the high levels of cystine in standard culture media. When a variety of cancer cell lines were grown in the presence of high levels of cystine, the glutamate/cystine antiporter *xCT/SLC7A11* led to a depletion of glutamate in cells, which was ameliorated via glutaminolysis.²²⁸ Cells grown in low cystine media were significantly less sensitive to inhibition of glutaminolysis as the *xCT* glutamate/cystine antiporter no longer exported glutamate from the cells.²²⁸ The importance of glutaminolysis in mutIDH1 glioma thus requires further study.

Other pathways involved in TCA cycle anaplerosis

Additional changes related to TCA cycle-linked metabolism reported in mutIDH1 cells include the γ -aminobutyric acid (GABA) shunt, lipid oxidation-derived acetyl-CoA, and function

Table 5. Analysis of NAAAs in mutIDH glioma samples

Change	Mutation	Model type	Analysis method	Reference
Total NAAA				
↑	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	MRS	Emir et al. ¹²⁴
	IDH2 ^{R172K}			
■	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PDX	MRS	Lenting et al. ¹⁰⁴
NAAG				
↑	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	LC-MS	Fack et al. ⁹⁹ (suppl.)
■	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PDX	MSI	Fack et al. ⁹⁹
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (LN18)	IC-MS	Walsby-Tickle et al. ¹¹³
↓	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
NAAsp				
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	CE-MS	Ohka et al. ¹⁰⁶
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	LC-MS	Fack et al. ⁹⁹ (suppl.)
■	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PDX	MSI	Fack et al. ⁹⁹
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
↓	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
NAAIa				
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
↓	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
NAGIn				
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
■	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
NAGIu				
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	CE-MS	Ohka et al. ¹⁰⁶
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
↓	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
NAGIy				
↑	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (U87)	NMR	Wen et al. ¹¹⁴
↓	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (U87)	NMR	Wen et al. ¹¹⁴
NAHis				
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	CE-MS	Ohka et al. ¹⁰⁶
NAMet				
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
■	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
NASer				
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
↓	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
NAThr				
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
↓	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷

Changes in metabolite levels in mutIDH glioma samples relative to WT IDH glioma samples. ■, not significantly different; ↓, significantly lower in mutIDH1; ↑, significantly higher in mutIDH1; PTB, patient tissue biopsy; PDX, patient-derived mouse xenograft; CL, cell line; suppl., from supplemental information; NAAA, N-acetylated amino acids; NAAG, N-acetylaspartylglutamate; NAAsp, N-acetylaspartate; NAAIa, N-acetylalanine; NAGIn, N-acetylglutamine; NAGIu, N-acetylglutamate; NAGIy, N-acetylglycine; NAHis, N-acetylhistidine; NAMet, N-acetylmethionine; NASer, N-acetylserine; NAThr, N-acetylthreonine.

of the 2-OG dehydrogenase complex;^{101,104,109,229} the significance of these changes for tumor development is unclear. In the GABA shunt, glutamate is decarboxylated, forming GABA (catalyzed by glutamate decarboxylase [GAD-1]), followed by deamination to give succinic semialdehyde (catalyzed by 4-aminobutyrate aminotransferase [ABAT]), and finally oxidation to succinate by succinate-semialdehyde dehydrogenase (SSADH). Levels of the enzymes involved in the GABA shunt pathway are significantly elevated in mutIDH1^{R132H} glioma tissue^{101,104} but not in an orthotopic xenograft mouse model of mutIDH1^{R132H} glioma.¹⁰⁴ In U251 glioma cells, expression of mutIDH1 or treatment of WT IDH1 cells with exogenous *R*-2-HG leads to a reduction in the pro-proliferative effects of GABA.¹⁰¹ Further studies are needed to understand the effects of *R*-2-HG on enzymes in the GABA shunt and its role in glioma metabolism.

In human leukemia (HL60) mutIDH1^{R132H} cells, acetyl-CoA derived from lipid oxidation is suggested to be an anaplerotic substrate for the TCA cycle. mutIDH1^{R132H} HL60 cells are reported to have increased levels of enzymes linked to fatty acid oxidation compared with WTIDH1 HL60 cells.¹⁰⁹ Furthermore, mutIDH1^{R132H} glioma tumor samples have been shown to have increased levels of citrate synthase (CS)^{104,212} even though PDH activity was reduced.^{177,219} It remains unclear whether mutIDH1 gliomas utilize acetyl-CoA derived from lipid oxidation for anaplerosis. Finally, activity of the 2-OG dehydrogenase complex (OGDH) has been shown to be lowered by *R*-2-HG,²²⁹ but this has yet to be explored further in the context of mutIDH1/2 cancers.

Because of the focus of research on glioma models in relation to mutIDH1 metabolism, the metabolic significance of mutIDH2 has been less well explored. MutIDH2^{R172S} SW1353 chondrosarcoma cells under mitochondrial stress (hypoxia) show an increased ability to activate reductive glutamine metabolism compared with mutIDH1^{R132C} HT1080 fibrosarcoma cells,²⁰⁷ with the latter having limited ability to generate isocitrate by reductive decarboxylation.^{95,207} These observations suggest that, at least in some contexts, mutIDH2 cells may be better able to alleviate metabolic stress than mutIDH1 cells, an observation that could have implications for developing new mutIDH therapeutic strategies.

ALTERED REDOX HOMEOSTASIS LINKED TO MUTANT IDH1 CONSUMPTION OF NADPH

Cells must control reactive oxygen species (ROS) to limit damage to nucleic acids, proteins and lipids and to maintain ROS-based signaling pathways.²³⁰ Antioxidants are central to regulating ROS; glutathione is a ubiquitous antioxidant tripeptide thiol requiring NADPH for its production.²³¹ Cells employ multiple pathways for NADPH production; in the cytosol, major

Table 6. Analysis of other metabolites in mutIDH glioma samples

Change	Mutation	Model type	Analysis method	Reference
Glutathione (oxidized)				
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
↓	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
Glutathione (reduced)				
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	LC-MS	Fack et al. ⁹⁹ (suppl.)
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PDX	MSI/LC-MS	Fack et al. ⁹⁹
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (NHA)	NMR	Izquierdo-Garcia et al. ¹⁰²
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (U87)	NMR	Izquierdo-Garcia et al. ¹⁰²
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (LN18)	IC-MS	Walsby-Tickle et al. ¹¹³
↑	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (U87)	NMR	Wen et al. ¹¹⁴
↓	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (U87)	NMR	Wen et al. ¹¹⁴
↓	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
Cystathionine				
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PDX	MSI/LC-MS	Fack et al. ⁹⁹
Creatine				
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (NHA)	NMR	Izquierdo-Garcia et al. ¹⁰²
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (U87)	NMR	Wen et al. ¹¹⁴
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (U87)	NMR	Izquierdo-Garcia et al. ¹⁰²
-	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (U87)	NMR	Wen et al. ¹¹⁴
ATP				
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	LC-MS	Fack et al. ⁹⁹ (suppl.)
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (LN18)	IC-MS	Walsby-Tickle et al. ¹¹³
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PDX	MSI/LC-MS	Fack et al. ⁹⁹
ADP				
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PDX	MSI/LC-MS	Fack et al. ⁹⁹
↑	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (LN18)	IC-MS	Walsby-Tickle et al. ¹¹³
AMP				
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	LC-MS	Fack et al. ⁹⁹ (suppl.)
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PDX	MSI/LC-MS	Fack et al. ⁹⁹
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (LN18)	IC-MS	Walsby-Tickle et al. ¹¹³
NAD⁺				
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (U87)	NMR	Wen et al. ¹¹⁴
↑	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (U87)	NMR	Wen et al. ¹¹⁴

Table 6. Continued

Change	Mutation	Model type	Analysis method	Reference
NADH				
↑	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (LN18)	IC-MS	Walsby-Tickle et al. ¹¹³

Changes in metabolite levels in mutIDH glioma samples relative to WT IDH glioma samples. -, not significantly different; ↓, significantly lower in mutIDH1; ↑, significantly higher in mutIDH1; PTB, patient tissue biopsy; PDX, patient-derived mouse xenograft; CL, cell line; suppl., from supplemental information.

contributors to ROS regulation are IDH1, malic enzyme 1 (ME1), and glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase (G6PD)/6-phosphogluconate dehydrogenase (PGD) in the oxidative pentose phosphate pathway (oxPPP).^{232,233} IDH1 is especially important for NADPH production in the brain.⁹⁷ IDH2 plays an important role in mitochondrial redox balance and in protection against ROS,^{138,139} protecting tissues such as the lungs, kidneys, heart, and liver from mitochondrial oxidative damage.^{234–237} MutIDH1 and mutIDH2 have a substantially reduced ability to produce NADPH compared with the WT and instead consume significant amounts of NADPH during *R*-2-HG production.^{95–97,100} This puts pressure on maintenance of the cellular NADPH/NAD⁺ balance and redox homeostasis, potentially making mutIDH cells more vulnerable to ROS and metabolic stress.^{95,96,100,105,108,110,112}

There is evidence that mutIDH1 cells employ compensatory pathways to ameliorate the increased use of NADPH for *R*-2-HG production. The PPP has been suggested to act in this role, and there is evidence of increased flux through the PPP in mutIDH1^{R132H} HCT116 and NHA cells.¹⁰⁰ However, such increased flux has been shown not to fully compensate for *R*-2-HG-mediated NADPH consumption, especially when the mutIDH1^{R132H} cells are under metabolic stress.^{95,100} In mutIDH1^{R132H} U87 glioma, primary GBM, and immortalized astrocytes cell lines, NADPH levels were partially restored by phosphorylating NAD⁺ by NAD⁺ kinase.⁹⁶ The upregulation of NAD⁺ synthesis enzymes varies between immortalized astrocyte and GBM cell lines as well as PTBs, indicating the changing role of mutIDH1 throughout tumorigenesis.⁹⁶ MutIDH1^{R132H} glioma xenograft cell lines have reduced NAD⁺ levels as well as lowered nicotinate phosphoribosyltransferase (Napr1), an enzyme involved in the NAD⁺ salvage pathway.¹¹¹ The mutIDH1^{R132H} glioma cells were sensitive to inhibition of nicotinamide phosphoribosyltransferase (NAMPT), the rate-limiting enzyme of the NAD⁺ salvage pathway, which left the mutIDH1^{R132H} cells with few options to increase intracellular NAD⁺.¹¹¹

Glioma (BT142) cells rely on glutamate to boost redox homeostasis by increasing the NADPH/NAD⁺ and reduced/oxidized glutathione ratios.¹¹² Induction of mutIDH1^{R132H} or mutIDH1^{R132C} expression in U251 glioma cell increases expression of glutathione biosynthesis enzymes.¹¹⁰ The nuclear factor erythroid 2-related factor (Nrf2), which regulates the response to oxidative damage, including glutathione biosynthesis, has enhanced activity in mutIDH1^{R132C/H} U251 cells.¹¹⁰ MutIDH1 astrocytoma cells have displayed critical reliance on cystathionine-γ-lyase (CSE) *in vitro* and *in vivo*,¹⁷⁶ CSE provides cysteine for GSH synthesis via lysis of cystathionine. The reliance on CSE

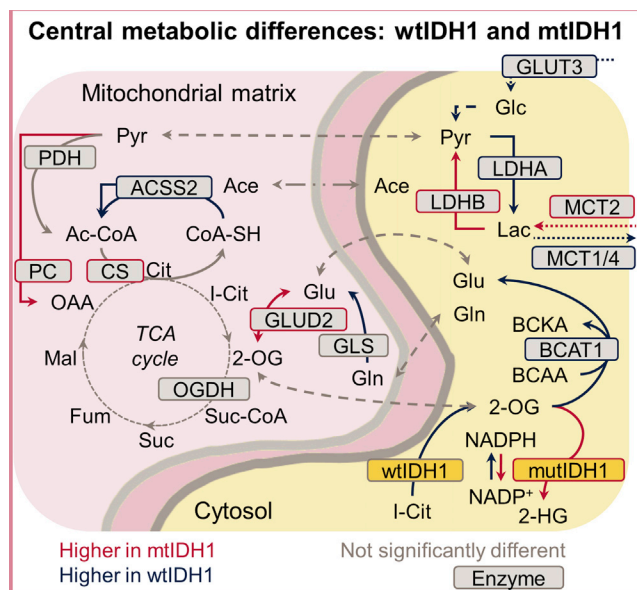


Figure 4. Mutant IDH1 glioma cells are less glycolytic and have altered TCA cycle function compared with WT cells

In mutIDH1R132H glioma cells, glutamate and lactate are favored for anaplerosis of the TCA cycle, whereas WT IDH1 gliomas are more glycolytic and use acetate and glutamine in anaplerosis of the TCA cycle. PDH, pyruvate dehydrogenase; PC, pyruvate carboxylase; CS, citrate synthase; OGDH, 2-OG complex; GLUD2, glutamate dehydrogenase; GLS, glutaminase; GLUT3, glucose transporter 3; LDHA and LDHB, lactate dehydrogenase A and B; MCT1/2/4, monocarboxylate transporter; BCAT1, branched-chain amino acid transferase; IDH, isocitrate dehydrogenase; Cit, citrate; Suc-CoA, succinyl-CoA; Suc, succinate; Fum, fumarate; Mal, malate; OAA, oxaloacetate; Pyr, Pyruvate; Ac-CoA, acetyl-CoA; Ace, acetate; Glc, glucose; Lac, lactate; Glu, glutamate; Gln, glutamine; BCAA, branched-chain amino acids; BCKA, branched-chain α -ketoacids.

was most pronounced under limited cysteine availability.¹⁷⁶ GBMs also have upregulated WT IDH1 expression,^{238,239} and gene knockdown or pharmacological inhibition of WT IDH1 has been shown to lead to decreased NADPH and glutathione levels, along with increased ROS expression and apoptosis.^{238,239} These observations suggest the importance of WT IDH1 activity in maintaining redox homeostasis.

Interestingly, mutIDH1/2 do not appear to confer survival benefits in AML,^{28,240} chondrosarcoma,^{24,66} or ICC^{37,241} but appear to do so in glioma.²⁴² Additionally, in chondrosarcoma, the response to radiation treatment does not correlate with mutIDH1/2-status.²⁴³ Thus, the current understanding of mutIDH1/2 in relation to redox homeostasis is that it is cancer-type dependent. This conclusion is of significance when developing and optimizing therapeutic approaches targeting mutIDH1/2 effects in tumor cells.

ALTERED LIPID METABOLISM IN CELLS EXPRESSING MUTANT IDH

The conversion of isocitrate to 2-OG by WT IDH1 provides NADPH that is subsequently available for fatty acid synthesis,¹³³ and both WT IDH1 and IDH2 support fatty acid synthesis under

Table 7. Analysis of phosphorylated lipids in mutIDH glioma samples

Change	Mutation	Model type	Analysis method	Reference
Phosphocholine				
↑	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	¹ H NMR	Jalbert et al. ¹⁰³
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	³¹ P NMR	Esmaeili et al. ⁹⁸
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PDX	³¹ P MRI	Esmaeili et al. ⁹⁸
↑	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (U251)	³¹ P NMR	Esmaeili et al. ⁹⁸
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (U87)	¹ H NMR	Izquierdo-Garcia et al. ¹⁰²
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (NHA)	¹ H NMR	Izquierdo-Garcia et al. ¹⁰²
↓	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
Glycerophosphocholine				
↑	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	¹ H NMR	Jalbert et al. ¹⁰³
↑	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	³¹ P NMR	Esmaeili et al. ⁹⁸
↑	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PDX	³¹ P MRI	Esmaeili et al. ⁹⁸
↑	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (U251)	³¹ P NMR	Esmaeili et al. ⁹⁸
↑	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
↑	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (U87)	¹ H NMR	Izquierdo-Garcia et al. ¹⁰²
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (NHA)	¹ H NMR	Izquierdo-Garcia et al. ¹⁰²
↓	IDH2 ^{R172K}	CL (HOG)	LC-MS	Reitman et al. ¹⁰⁷
Phosphoethanolamine				
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	¹ H MRI	Wenger et al. ²⁴⁵
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	³¹ P NMR	Esmaeili et al. ⁹⁸
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PDX	³¹ P MRI	Esmaeili et al. ⁹⁸
↓	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (U251)	³¹ P NMR	Esmaeili et al. ⁹⁸
Glycerophospho-ethanolamine				
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PTB	³¹ P NMR	Esmaeili et al. ⁹⁸
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PDX	³¹ P MRI	Esmaeili et al. ⁹⁸
-	IDH1 ^{R132H}	CL (U251)	³¹ P NMR	Esmaeili et al. ⁹⁸
Phosphatidylinositol				
↑	IDH1 ^{R132H}	PDX	MSI	Fack et al. ⁹⁹

Changes in metabolite levels in mutIDH glioma samples relative to WT IDH glioma samples. -, not significantly different; ↓, significantly lower in mutIDH1; ↑, significantly higher in mutIDH1; PTB, patient tissue biopsy; PDX, patient-derived mouse xenograft; CL, cell line.

hypoxic conditions by providing isocitrate, which is converted to acetyl-CoA via citrate^{136,140} (Figure S1). Because mutIDH1^{R132H} loses the ability to produce NADPH and to carry out reductive carboxylation,^{207,244} it is reasonable to propose that cells carrying mutIDH1^{R132H} may have altered lipid metabolism compared with WT IDH1 cells.

In mutIDH1 glioma, alterations in phospholipid profiles have been observed in cultured cell models and tumors, as shown by LC-MS, MSI, *in vitro* and *ex vivo* ¹H and ³¹P NMR, and *in vivo* MRS,^{98,99,102,103} as summarized in part in Table 7. Independent studies using MRS/NMR show that phosphocholine (PCho) and

glycerophosphocholine (GPCho) are increased in cultured glioma cells expressing mutIDH1^{R132H}, xenograft models, and PTBs compared with equivalent WT IDH1 glioma samples.^{98,103} However, a study measuring PCho with LC-MS in cultured HOG cells expressing mutIDH1^{R132H} or mutIDH2^{R172K} found that PCho was significantly lower compared with HOG WT IDH cells¹⁰⁷ and reported GPCho to be increased. In addition to PCho and GPCho, phosphoethanolamine (PE) was significantly lower in mutIDH1^{R132H} gliomas across all the sample types analyzed.⁹⁸ In an MSI study, four putatively identified PE lipids have been reported to be substantially increased in mutIDH1^{R132H} glioma mouse PDXs.⁹⁹ However, the NMR methods employed were insufficiently sensitive to differentiate between the different PEs.

In addition to PE and PCho, levels of phosphatidylinositol (PI) lipids are reported as being increased when comparing mutIDH1^{R132H} and WT IDH1 glioma PDXs in mice.⁹⁹ When gliomas were analyzed in affected individuals using *in vivo* MRS measurements, no significant differences in ratios of PE/PCho, GPCho/glycerophosphoethanolamine (GPE), or (PCho+GPCho)/(PE+GPE), were detected between individuals with mutIDH1^{R132H} and WT IDH1 glioma.²⁴⁵ The apparently specific differences in lipid profiles in glioma may in part be due to cells compensating for loss of WT IDH1 activity⁹⁸ by increasing IDH2-enabled NADPH and lipid production. Cells from mouse PDXs of mutIDH1 glioma have been shown to have significantly higher mitochondrial density than corresponding WT IDH1 cells,¹⁸⁸ an interesting observation given that IDH2 localizes to mitochondria. Additional mitochondria would also increase the lipid membrane content in cells, which could help explain the differences seen in the phospholipid composition of mutIDH1 and WT IDH1 gliomas.⁹⁸

Cholesterol metabolism in mutIDH1/2 glioma has received limited attention to date, but a recent study suggests that it may be of therapeutic relevance.¹¹⁵ It has been found that cholesterol levels were lower in brains of mutIDH1^{R132H} knockin (KI) mice and mutIDH1^{R132H}-expressing U87 and U251 cells compared with corresponding WT IDH1 samples.¹¹⁵ MutIDH glioma cells had increased expression of the *de novo* cholesterol synthesis enzymes 3-hydroxy-3-methyl-glutaryl-coenzyme A reductase (HMGCR) and sterole regulatory element-binding protein 2 (SREBP2), and inhibition of HMGCR by atorvastatin led to significant cell death in mutIDH1^{R132G}-expressing U87 and U251 cells but had little effect on the WT IDH1-expressing U87 and U251 cells.¹¹⁵

Lipid metabolism in leukemia (HL60) cells with mutIDH1^{R132H} was altered compared with WT IDH1 cells.¹⁰⁹ Differences included increased levels of proteins involved in lipid synthesis. ¹³C labeling experiments revealed that HL60 mutIDH1^{R132H} cells have a higher rate of fatty acid synthesis compared with WT IDH1 cells.¹⁰⁹ Total PI, sphingosine, sphingoanine, sphingomyelin, free cholesterol, and monounsaturated fatty acid (MUFA) levels were significantly higher, but esterified cholesterol was significantly lower, in mutIDH1^{R132H} compared with WT IDH1 HL60 cells. Fatty acid synthesis in HL60 cells under normoxic conditions relied on glucose, not glutamine, as the main carbon source.¹⁰⁹ In a chondrosarcoma (HT1080) cell study, no increases in expression of fatty acid synthesis-related genes

were observed in mutIDH1^{R132C} relative to WT IDH1 cells. However, *R*-2-HG production has been shown to limit the metabolic flexibility of cells under stress (de-lipidated media or hypoxia) because of shunting of NADPH toward 2-HG synthesis and away from other cellular processes.⁹⁵

METABOLISM-MEDIATED THERAPEUTICS IN MUTANT IDH CANCERS

The specificity of metabolic changes in mutIDH1 or mutIDH2 cancers and the apparent lack of a critical metabolic role of *R*-2-HG in WT IDH cells, means mutIDHs are promising medicinal chemistry targets. Multiple small-molecule inhibitors have been developed to target mutIDH, and there are several clinical trials underway for treatment of glioma, AML, chondrosarcoma, and ICC (ClinicalTrials.gov: NCT03564821, NCT03515512, NCT03471260, NCT03383575, NCT03343197, NCT02746081, NCT02073394, NCT03684811, NCT03683433, NCT03127735, NCT02977689, NCT02677922).^{63,246} First-generation therapeutic mutIDH-selective inhibitors are effective in reducing *R*-2-HG levels *in vivo* and were approved for AML treatment in 2018.^{119,247} For solid tumors, promising initial results from clinical trials have been reported for advanced cholangiocarcinoma²⁴⁶ and glioma.²⁴⁸ Individuals with advanced mutIDH1 cholangiocarcinomas treated with the mutIDH1 inhibitor ivosidenib report significantly increased progression-free survival (PFS) ($p < 0.0001$) and improved overall survival,²⁴⁶ whereas a different trial of ivosidenib in advanced mutIDH1 gliomas reported improved disease control and reduced tumor growth.²⁴⁸

A variety of mutIDH1 and mutIDH2 inhibitors substantially decrease *R*-2-HG levels in *in vitro* and xenograft models^{111,114,202,203,249–253} and individuals with glioma²⁵⁴ and AML.^{119,247,255,256} Some of these inhibitors have been reported to initiate differentiation in AML and glioma cell lines and mouse models,^{250,251} but do not necessarily slow growth for all types of glioma or chondrosarcoma cells.^{111,203} Resistance has been reported for these first-generation inhibitors,^{117–120} which is generally categorized as primary or acquired and *R*-2-HG restoring or non-restoring.^{117,118,120} Primary resistance to ivosidenib and enasidenib (i.e., where non-restoration of *R*-2-HG levels is manifest) has been reported in individuals with AML. The non-responding individuals had a higher mutational burden compared with responders, either as baseline mutations in genes of the receptor-tyrosine kinase (RTK) pathway¹²⁰ or of the rat sarcoma virus (RAS) pathway.¹¹⁹ Two different types of acquired *R*-2-HG-restoring mechanisms are described in the literature. The first type relates to second-site mutations that are proposed to reduce the binding affinity of the allosteric inhibitors enasidenib¹¹⁷ and ivosidenib¹²⁰ in mutIDH2 and mutIDH1, respectively. The second type of acquired *R*-2-HG-restoring mechanism is emergence of the “opposite” *IDH* mutation (isoform switching); i.e., mutIDH1 arising in individuals previously with mutIDH2 or vice versa.^{118,120}

Altered metabolism in mutIDH1 and mutIDH2 cancer cells after inhibitor treatment, beyond modulation of *R*-2-HG, has received limited attention to date. Two studies, each using cultured glioma cell lines (U87 and/or NHA, mutIDH1^{R132H}) and NMR, confirm that *R*-2-HG levels are significantly decreased

upon treatment with AG5198,¹¹⁴ AG-120, or AG-881.²⁵² There is otherwise not necessarily a high degree of agreement between these two studies with regard to changes in other metabolite levels. Lactate has been reported as unchanged²⁵² or significantly reduced¹¹⁴ upon treatment. Glutamate has been reported as being significantly increased after treatment ($p < 0.001$),²⁵² in addition to a concomitant increase in flux from glutamine to glutamate and a decreased flux from glutamine to *R*-2-HG.²⁵² The second study does not report a significant change in glutamate levels.¹¹⁴ The difference in glutamate response to treatment is potentially due to use of different cell media in the tissue culture experiments (Dulbecco's modified Eagle's medium²⁵² versus Roswell Park Memorial Institute medium¹¹⁴) because the cell line (U87) and analysis method (NMR) were the same. A third study using isogenic mutIDH1^{R132H/C} clones of HCT116 cells reported that reductive carboxylation could not be rescued after treatment with the mutIDH1 inhibitor IDH1iA.²⁰⁷

In more clinically relevant models, two further studies investigated the effect of mutIDH1 inhibitors on the wider metabolism of mutIDH1 glioma cells.^{253,254} In orthotopic mouse tumors from mutIDH1^{R132H} U87 or mutIDH1 BT257 (astrocytoma) and mutIDH1 SF10417 (oligodendroglioma) derived from affected individuals, both inhibitors (AG-881 and BAY1436032) were able to significantly decrease *R*-2-HG levels and significantly increase glutamate and (the combined MRS signal of) glutamate/glutamine.²⁵³ Interestingly, NAA was significantly increased across all tumors and drug combinations, but only at the first measurement time point after treatment induction (7 days) and not at the final time point (14–15 days). The first measurement was made prior to changes in tumor volume.²⁵³ A clinical trial of the mutIDH1 inhibitor IDH305 in glioma, studying 5 individuals, 1 week of treatment (550 mg/day, orally) led to a significant reduction in 2-HG levels ($p < 0.05$).²⁵⁴ Furthermore, there was a trend toward increased lactate levels and an inverse correlation between glutathione and 2-HG levels. Glutamine/glutamate levels, however, were reported as being unchanged.²⁵⁴

Interestingly, several studies have shown that mutIDH1 inhibitor treatment makes mutIDH1 glioma cells less sensitive to radiation therapy and certain DNA damaging chemotherapies.^{208,257–259} However, in chondrosarcoma cell lines, no correlation was found between *IDH* mutation status and response to radiation therapy, including in the presence of a mutIDH1 inhibitor.²⁴³ Combination of the mutIDH2 inhibitor enasidenib with all-*trans* retinoic acid (ATRA), which is known to initiate differentiation in hematopoietic progenitor cells,²⁶⁰ led to increased differentiation in commercially available (mutIDH2^{R140Q} TF-1) AML cells and those derived from affected individuals compared with either drug separately.²⁶¹ The combination of mutIDH1/2 inhibitors with other types of therapy is likely to be highly dependent on cancer type. A better understanding of the wider biochemical effects of IDH inhibitors on cells is needed and may lead to more effective combinations of mutIDH1/2 inhibitors with other therapies.

There has been some interest in alternative therapeutic approaches that take advantage of metabolic vulnerabilities in mutIDH, ²⁶² such as where a particular cancer type is reliant on a specific metabolic pathway. For example, the apparent reliance of mutIDH1 cells on glutamine has been explored. Treatment with

GLS inhibitors showed a greater reduction in viability for mutIDH1 compared with WT IDH1 glioma and AML cells.^{198,227,263,264} There is also an ongoing clinical trial using a GLS inhibitor (CB-839/telaglenastat) combined with radiation therapy and temozolomide for treatment of astrocytoma with mutIDH1 or mutIDH2 (ClinicalTrials.gov: NCT03528642). GLS inhibitors have received attention as an adjuvant drug to more traditional chemotherapy in other cancers too, and telaglenastat is generally well tolerated.^{265–268} In advanced/metastatic renal cell carcinoma (RCC), telaglenastat in combination with everolimus (a mammalian target of rapamycin[mTOR] inhibitor²⁶⁹) improved PFS²⁶⁸, but did not have a similar effect when paired with cabozantinib (a tyrosine kinase inhibitor²⁷⁰). As a single-agent treatment, it appears that telaglenastat stabilizes disease rather than being cytotoxic.²⁶⁵ Finally, the use of GLS inhibitors in general would benefit from stratification of affected individuals to ensure that genetic mutations that confer vulnerability to glutamine starvation are present.^{271,272}

Other drugs with promising mutIDH1 cell-targeting effects are being explored; e.g., repurposing of metformin, phenformin, and chloroquine.^{192,264} Chloroquine, best known as an antimalarial agent²⁷³ and autophagy inhibitor,²⁷⁴ is also capable of inhibiting nerve-specific GLUD2.²⁷⁵ MutIDH1 glioma cells are likely reliant on GLUD2 for glutamate-dependent anaplerosis of the TCA cycle^{104,221} and express GLUD2 at significantly higher levels than WT IDH1 glioma.^{104,212,213,221,222} Treatment with chloroquine could potentially render mutIDH1 glioma cells more metabolically vulnerable by limiting their ability to utilize glutamate. Extracellular glutamate has been reported to increase redox potential in mutIDH1 glioma cells,¹¹² and chloroquine could combine synergistically with a treatment that applies oxidative stress to cells; e.g., radiation therapy. A preclinical study using WT IDH1 stem-like glioma cells demonstrated that treatment with chloroquine during radiation significantly increased cell death; however, in this context, it was considered to be due to the autophagy inhibitory effects of chloroquine.²⁷⁶ Cells derived from individuals with AML showed large variations in sensitivity towards chloroquine treatment, indicating that, similarly to telaglenastat, stratification of affected individuals is likely necessary for effective chloroquine treatment.²⁷⁷

Metformin is commonly used for treatment of type 2 diabetes (T2D)²⁷⁸ and has emerged as a promising anticancer drug after epidemiological studies revealed reduced cancer risk in individuals using metformin to treat T2D.^{279,280} *In vitro* and *in vivo* studies with a variety of cancers have demonstrated that metformin suppresses growth of cancer cells²⁸¹ and can have a synergistic effect with other therapies,²⁸² including WT DH1/2 glioma²⁸³ and AML cells.²⁸⁴ It is thought that the antiproliferative effects of metformin are in part mediated through activation of AMP-activated phosphate kinase (AMPK).²⁸⁵ Metformin has been reported to reduce the cell viability of KI mutIDH1^{R132H} breast cancer cells (MCF10A), amplified by concomitant treatment with the GLS inhibitor bis-2-(5-phenylacetamidomido-1,2,4-thiadiazol-2-yl)ethyl sulfide (BPTES) or the mutIDH1 inhibitor AGI5198.²⁶⁴ A phase 1b clinical trial targeting mutIDH-bearing solid tumors (glioma, chondrosarcoma, and ICC) with a combination of metformin and chloroquine was well tolerated²⁸⁶ but showed a lack of clinical response, potentially

because of low intracellular levels of metformin. This led to the more cell-permeable phenformin being proposed as an alternative to metformin.²⁸⁶

Combination treatment strategies are a potentially important means of exploiting specific metabolic vulnerabilities in particular cancer types. They can also be used to augment conventional therapies and target cancer-specific metabolic adaptations resulting from conventional treatments. The latter has not been investigated to a significant extent with respect to mutIDH inhibitor treatment but could provide an additional therapeutic approach for clinical studies. The reliance of mutIDH1 glioma cells on pyruvate for anaplerosis of the TCA cycle via PC^{177,219} is a potential avenue for metabolism-based therapies. Reliance on PC has been demonstrated for breast²⁸⁷ and non-small cell lung cancer²⁸⁸ as well as glutamine-deprived GBM cells (LN229 and SF188)²⁸⁹ and therefore merits further investigation using combination therapeutics that could target glutamine/glutamate reliance and PC simultaneously. Finally, the increased expression of LDHB in mutIDH1^{R132H} glioma,^{104,212,213,217} the enzyme that converts lactate to pyruvate, is also of interest. Silencing the LDHB gene with small interfering RNA has been shown to reduce cell growth in a number of cancer cell lines, including WT IDH1 glioma.²⁹⁰ LDHB promotes autophagy in a variety of cancer cell lines,^{290,291} which can enable advanced solid tumors to recycle intracellular components and alleviate metabolic stress.²⁹²

CONCLUSIONS

Mutations in genes encoding for *IDH1/2* can lead to remarkably high intracellular and extracellular *R*-2-HG levels, accompanied by apparently wide-ranging, likely context-dependent effects on metabolism and redox homeostasis. Comprehensive studies reporting metabolic changes with respect to *mutIDH* have mainly focused on glioma, despite the availability of cell lines with stable mutIDH1/2 expression for several other cancers with high rates of *IDH1/2* mutations; e.g., AML, chondrosarcoma, and ICC. It has been proposed that many of the metabolic changes observed in *mutIDH* cells are a consequence of elevated *R*-2-HG, in particular via inhibition of specific enzymes, but direct evidence for this is only available in a relatively small number of cases.

Glioma cells harboring mutIDH1 appear to be less glycolytic and rely on oxidative phosphorylation to a greater extent than WT IDH1 glioma cells. Altered metabolic flux in *IDH* mutant cells appears to compensate for reduced production of NADPH via WT IDH1/2 and increased consumption by mutIDH1/2. However, the consumption of NADPH by mutIDH1/2 extends beyond up-regulation of the PPP, and the compensatory mechanisms are poorly understood. Glutathione metabolism is also modulated with likely pleiotropic effects on redox chemistry in cells. The evidence suggests that mutIDH1/2-mediated modulation of redox homeostasis is context dependent, varying with cancer type, an observation that is relevant when considering relevant therapies. Amino acid and lipid metabolism are often reported to be altered in mutIDH1/2 cancer cells, but the type and extent of changes appears to be highly context and disease model dependent; a better understanding of what drives changes in amino acids levels in mutIDH1/2 cells is needed.

Selective inhibition of mutIDH1 or mutIDH2 has been demonstrated as a chemically and biologically tractable therapeutic approach, and inhibition of mutIDH1/2 leads to a clear reduction in *R*-2-HG levels *in vitro* and *in vivo*. In terms of benefit, the inhibitors have mainly been tested for efficacy on individuals with more advanced disease and provide relief from disease progression. However, resistance to approved inhibitors has also now been reported, including isoform switching between mutIDH1/2 and mutations leading to reduced efficacy of the allosteric inhibitors. To date, relatively little focus has been given to targeting metabolic vulnerabilities other than elevated *R*-2-HG, despite their prevalence in *IDH1/2* mutant cells compared with WT *IDH1/2* cells. This is likely in part due to a lack of consistency across different models and how well the models reflect relevant disease-specific targets. Despite these uncertainties, therapeutically promising metabolic vulnerabilities in *IDH1/2* mutant cells include a greater reliance on altered redox homeostasis, glutamate anaplerosis, and lactate transport and conversion to pyruvate.

A significant amount of research revealing altered metabolism in *mutIDH* cells has been conducted to date, but there is a need for further insights to better understand how metabolic changes are causally linked to specific tumorigenic mechanisms in *mutIDH* cells. It therefore remains to be determined whether pursuing direct inhibition of the mutIDH1/2 enzymes alone using specific inhibitors, or combining these with modulation of additional metabolic targets, will lead to the most effective therapeutic approach for treatment of individuals with mutIDH1/2 cancers.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Supplemental information can be found online at <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.xcrm.2021.100469>.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I.C.H. thanks the Anne Grete Eidsvig and Kjell Inge Røkke's Foundation for Education for an Aker Scholarship. This work was funded in whole or in part by the Wellcome Trust (106244/Z/14/Z) and CRUK (C8717/A18245). The graphical abstract created with BioRender.

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

The authors declare no competing interests.

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