



# KRAS, Function, mutation and Frequency in Cancer

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# Discovery

Discoveries of the potently oncogenic viruses

**1964:** Harvey murine sarcoma virus

**1967:** Kirsten murine sarcoma virus

their ability to cause **rat sarcomas** after their name as **H-ras** and **K-ras**

**H-ras** and **K-ras**, with their protein names cited as **H-Ras** and **K-Ras**

**1973-1976:** viral **src** oncogene is a normal chicken gene transduced by the virus into its own genome, thereby converting a normal gene into a potent oncogenic agent

**1979-:** NIH/3T3 cells become morphologically and growth-transformed by a DNA obtained from tumor have been infected Kirsten murine sarcoma virus.

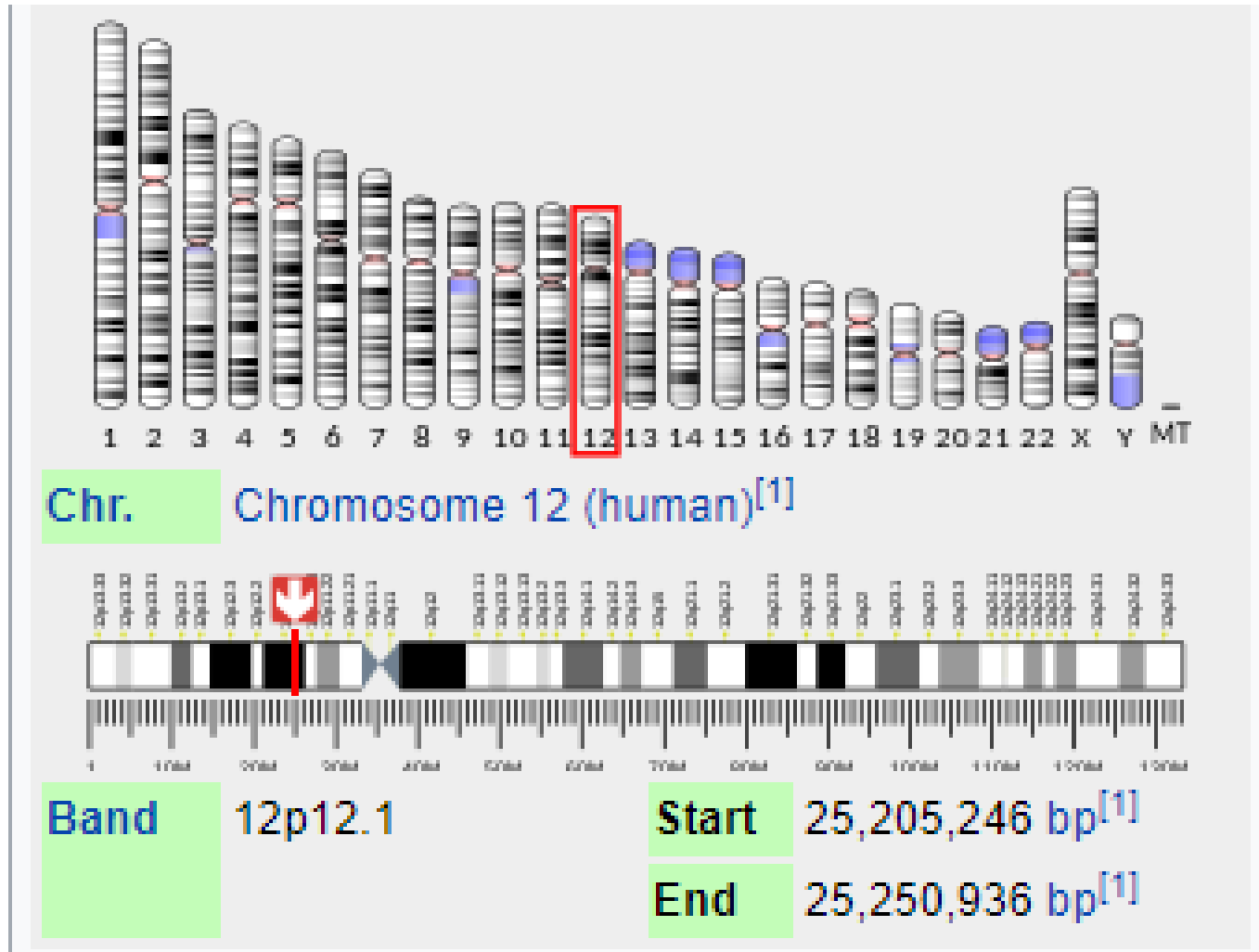
**1982:** Three groups made the discovery that the transforming genes identified in the NIH/3T3 DNA transfection assays were the same RAS genes identified earlier in Kirsten and Harvey sarcoma viruses

**1983:** An abnormal form of the p21 protein expressed by colon and lung carcinoma cell lines showed that the gene encoding this protein is able to transform NIH3T3 cells .

**:1985** The **transformation** of NIH3T3 cells by an activated **aberrant p21 proteins** were encoded by the **altered KRAS gene** and their expression in carcinoma tissue was causally linked to an abnormal state of activation

**Since then,** it has been accepted that **KRAS** is one of front-line sensors that initiate the activation of an array of signaling that lead to **cell transformation**

# 45690 bp Gene location (Human)



# K-Ras protein

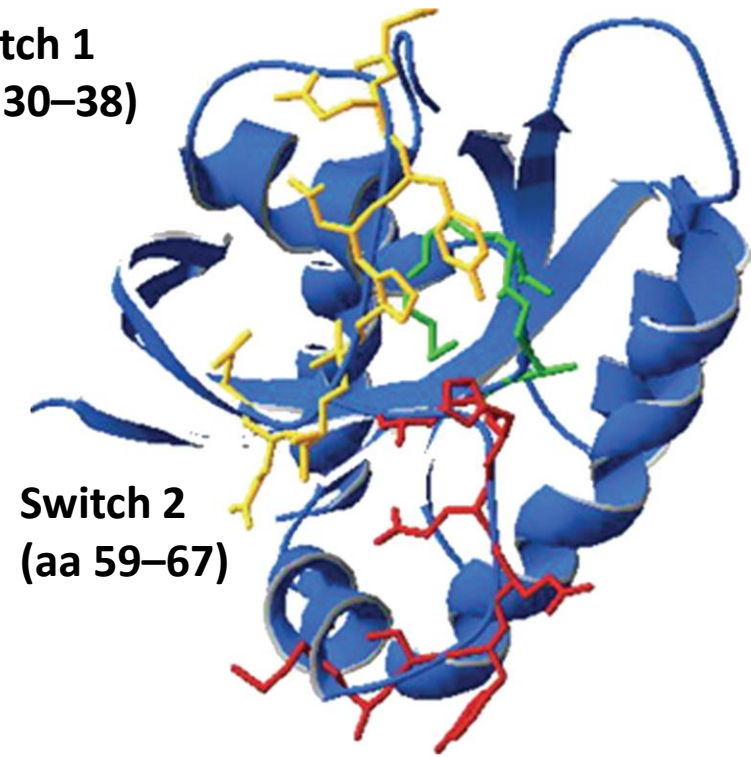
KRAS protein, contains **188 amino acid residues** with a molecular mass of **21.6 kD**

KRAS belongs to a group of small GTP-binding proteins, it's a **GTPase**

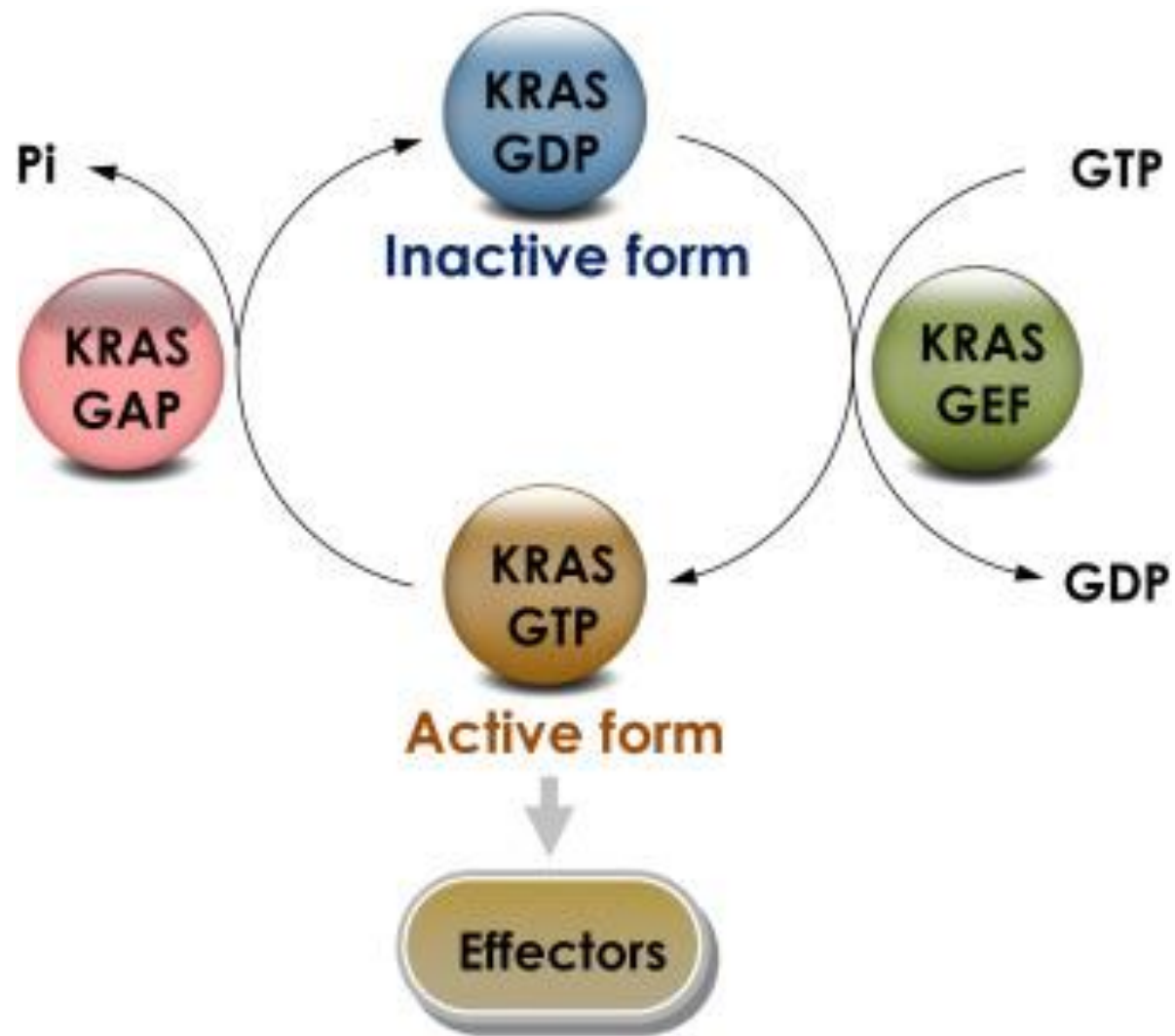
The KRAS protein is a **plasmamembrane-localized molecular, regulating multiple signal transduction pathways**

There are two important regions in RAS protein known as **Switch 1 (amino acids 30–38)** and **Switch 2 (amino acids 59–67)** which form an effector loop, controlling the specificity of the binding of this protein to GTP molecules.

Switch 1  
(aa 30–38)



Switch 2  
(aa 59–67)



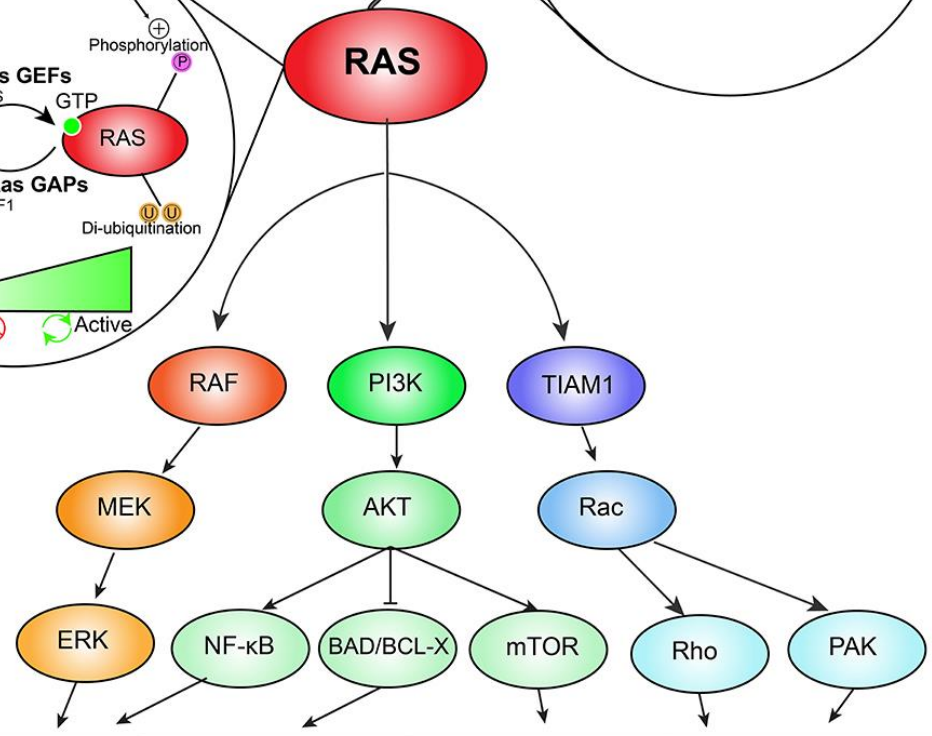
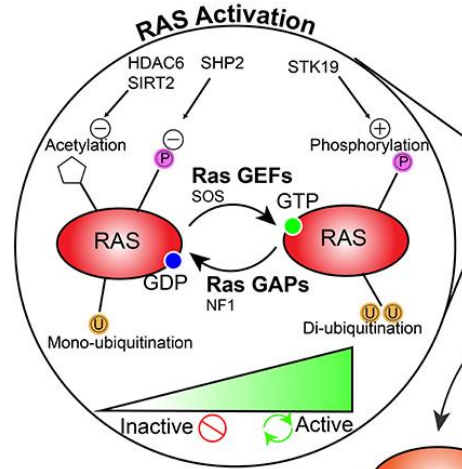
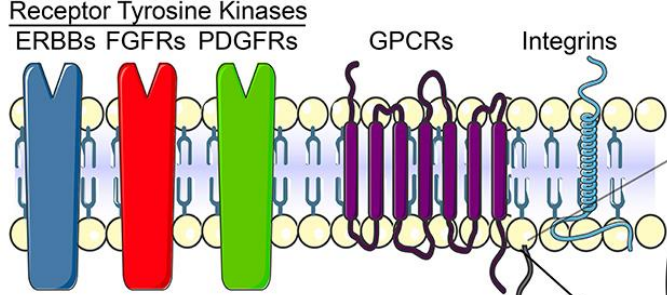
**GTPase-activating proteins (GAPs)— amplify the GTPase activity of the RAS protein 100,000-fold**

**Mutations found in an oncogenic form of the RAS p21 protein impair GTPase activity and make the KRAS protein unresponsive to GAP proteins.**

**Mutated forms of p21 rapidly exchange GDP for GTP, which it prefers as a substrate, thus inducing the active state.**

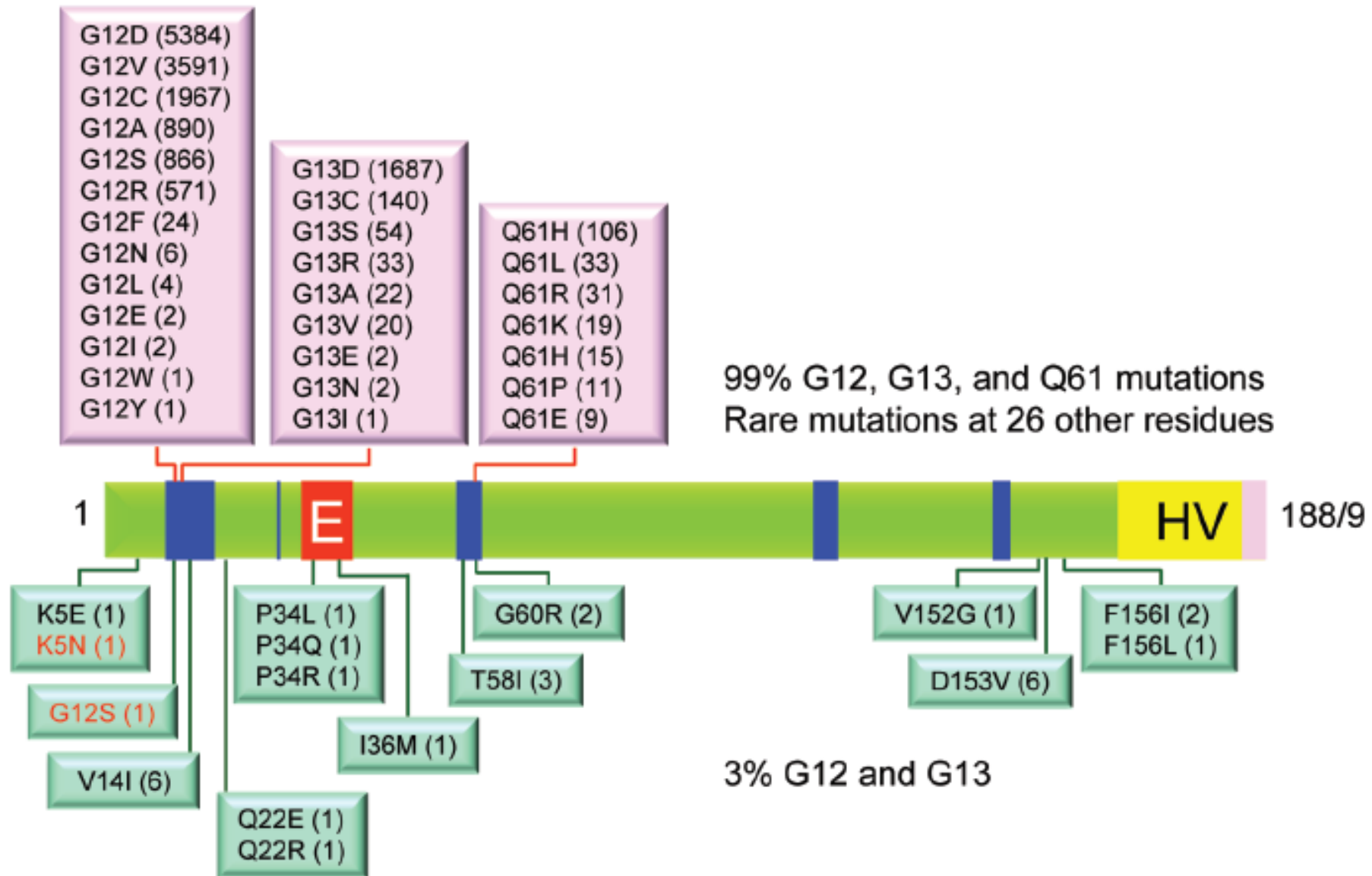
**Such aberrant forms of KRAS protein deregulate many effectors, thus affecting several important cellular pathways**





Oncogenic Transcription	Cell Survival	Cell Growth & Metabolism	Cell Motility & Migration
<p>ETS, FOS, JUN, MYC</p> <p>Cell Cycle Progression</p>	<p>Apoptosis</p>	<p>TCA</p> <p>Metabolic Regulation</p>	

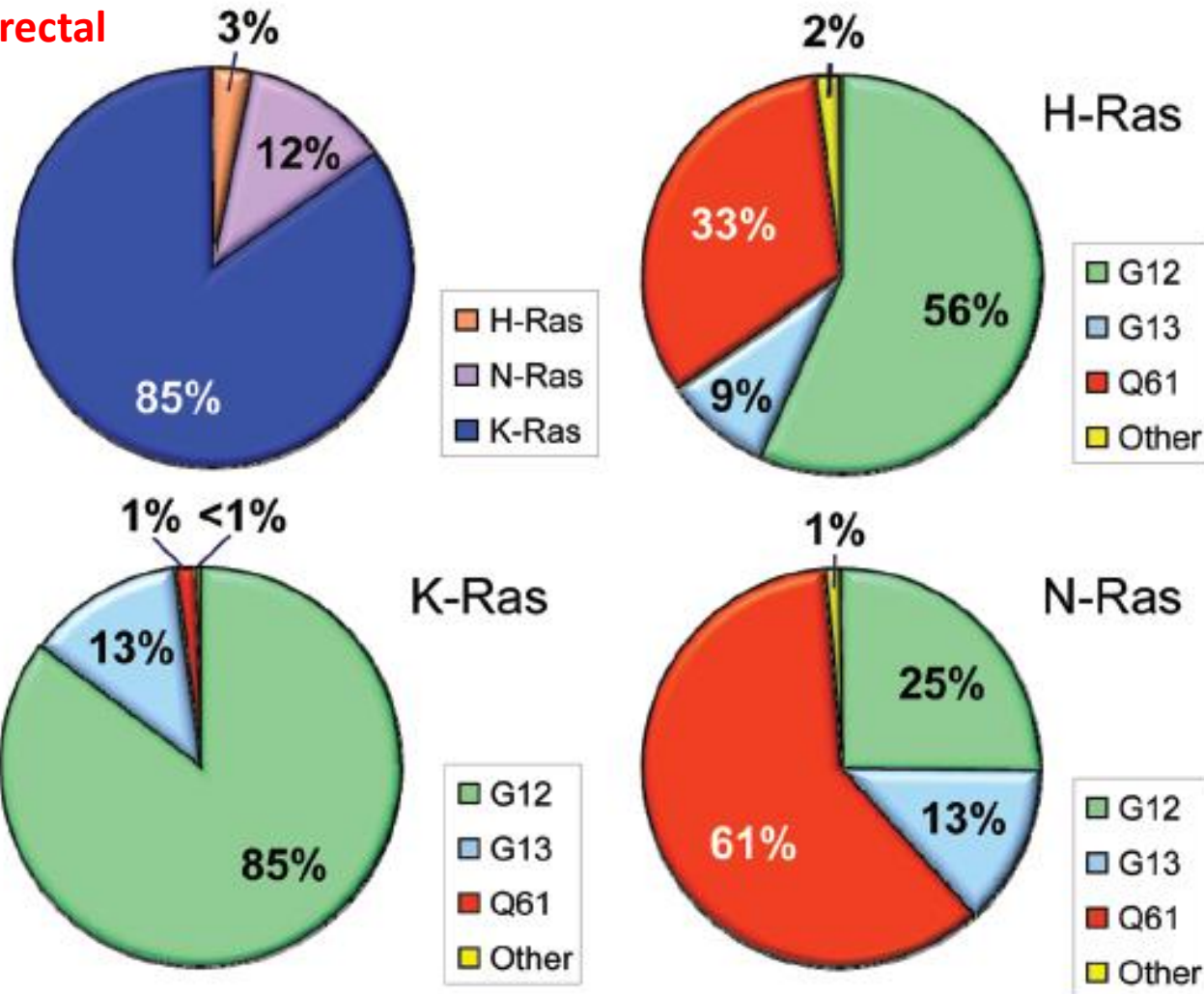
## B K-Ras

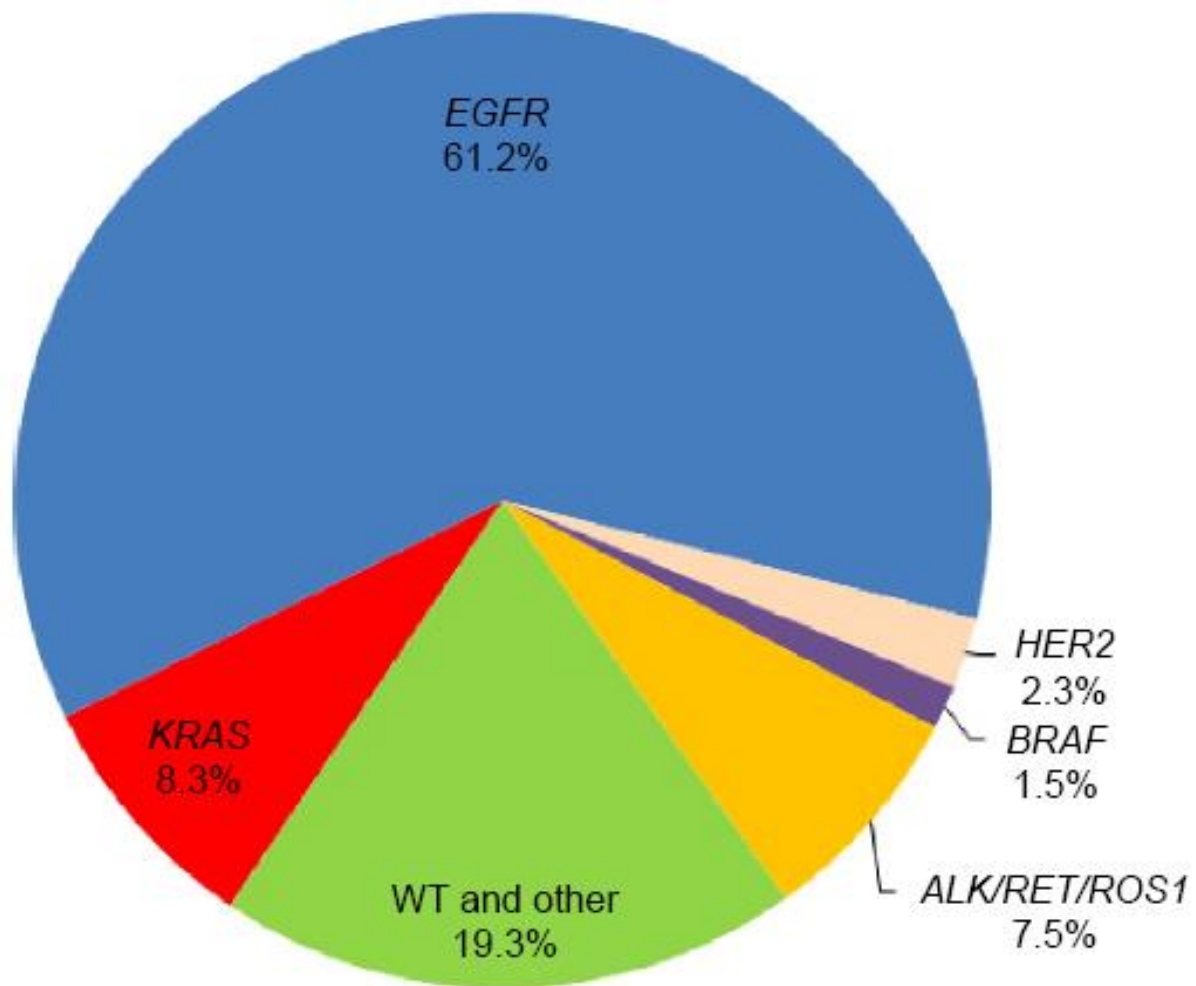


# Distribution of Ras mutation in cancer

D

colorectal

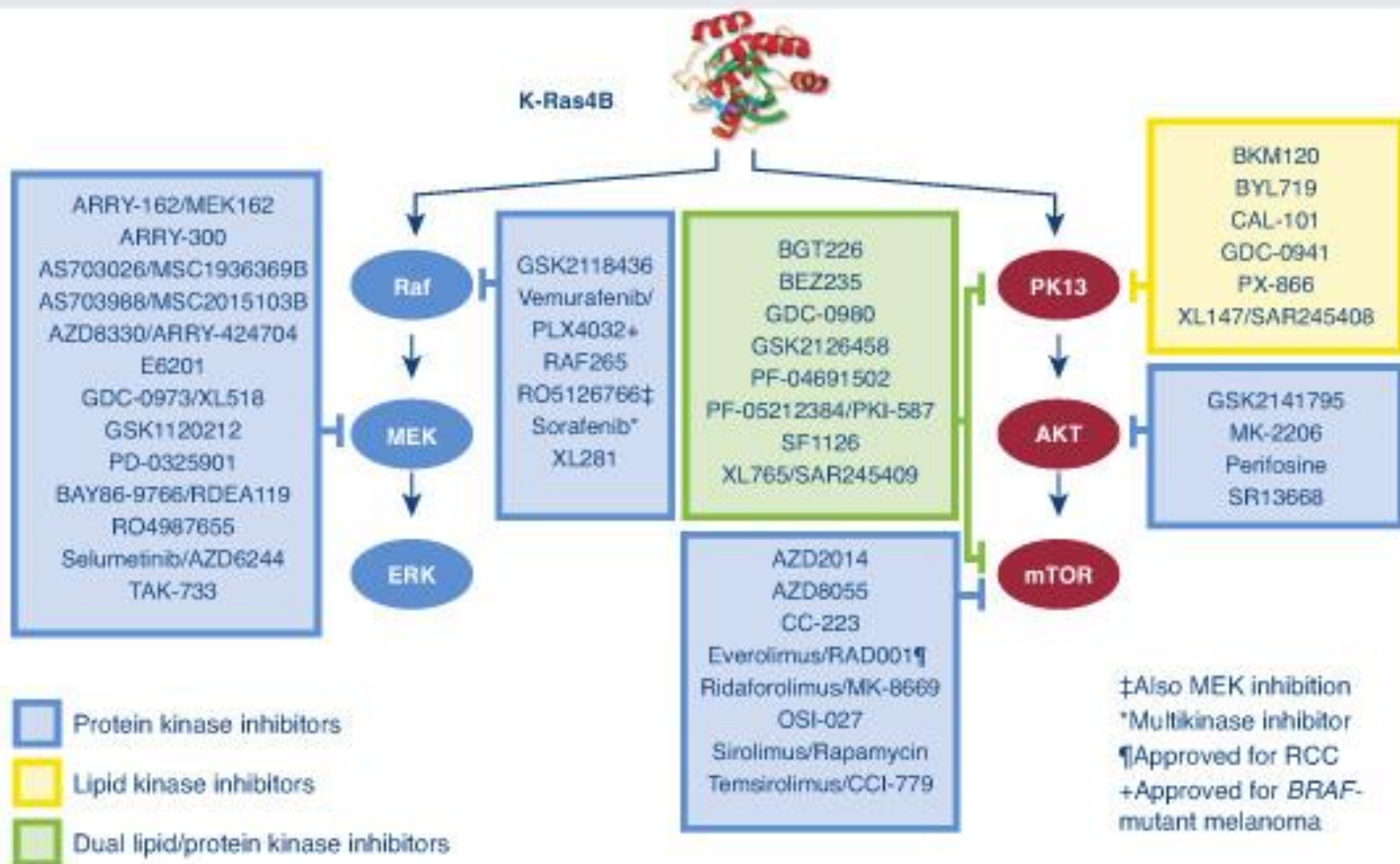




**Figure 1** Frequency of gene mutations in 1,368 patients with lung adenocarcinoma.  
**Abbreviation:** WT, wild type.

**Table 1** Promising metabolic targets for *KRAS*-driven cancers

Metabolic change	Targets <sup>a</sup>	Cancer type <sup>b</sup>	Pathway <sup>c</sup>
Glucose-related	GFPT1	PDCA	HBP
	RPIA	PDCA	Non-oxidative PPP
	RPE	PDCA	Non-oxidative PPP
	GLUT1	CRC	Glycolysis
	Vitamin C	CRC	Redox/glycolysis
	HK2	NSCLC	Glycolysis
Amino acid-related	GOT1	PDCA	Glutaminolysis
	GLUD1	PDCA/CRC	Glutaminolysis
	MDH1	PDCA	Glutaminolysis
	ASNS	CRC	Glutaminolysis
	SLC25A22	CRC	Glutaminolysis
	SLC25A13	CRC	Glutaminolysis
Lysosome-related	Hydroxychloroquine	PDCA	Macropinocytosis/autophagy
	EIPA	PDCA	Macropinocytosis
	ATG7	NSCLC	Autophagy
Lipid-related	ACSL3	NSCLC	Lypogenesis
	FASN	NSCLC	Lypogenesis



‡Also MEK inhibition  
 \*Multikinase inhibitor  
 †Approved for RCC  
 +Approved for BRAF-mutant melanoma

**Fig. 1:** Inhibitors of Raf or PI3K effector signaling under phase I-III clinical evaluation. Courtesy of Channing J. Der, PhD.

A yellow sticky note is pinned to a corkboard with a single orange pushpin. The words "Thank you" are written in red cursive on the note.

Thank you