

**Table S1. Microarray-based cancer classification studies on finding predictive signatures published in high-impact journals.** The studies were published in *Science*, *Nature*, *Nature Medicine*, *PNAS*, *PLoS Medicine*, *Cancer Cell*, *Lancet*, or *New England Journal of Medicine*. Some studies exhibit considerable flaws in methodology, as pointed out in the notes at the table bottom.

Study	Disease	Number of patient samples	Number of genes in signature	Clinical parameter
Golub et al. (1999)	Acute myeloid leukemia vs. acute lymphoblastic leukemia	72	50	Disease classification
Alon et al. (1999)	Colon cancer	62	Not reported	Tumor vs. healthy tissue
Alizadeh et al. (2000)	Diffuse large-B-cell lymphoma	40	Not reported	Disease subclassification
Khan et al. (2001) <sup>a,b</sup>	Small round blue cell tumors	88	96	Disease classification
Sørlie et al. (2001)	Breast cancer	85	456, 264	Tumor subclasses, Survival
West et al. (2001)	Breast cancer	49	100	Outcome
Shipp et al. (2002)	Diffuse large B-cell lymphoma	77, 58	30, 13	Subclassification, Outcome
Rosenwald et al. (2002) <sup>c,d</sup>	Diffuse large B-cell lymphoma	240	17	Survival
Yeoh et al. (2002)	Acute lymphoblastic leukemia	327	7–20	Subclassification and outcome
Pomeroy et al. (2002) <sup>e</sup>	Medulloblastoma	60	8	Survival
Beer et al. (2002)	Lung adenocarcinoma	86	50	Survival
van 't Veer et al. (2002) <sup>c,f</sup>	Breast cancer	117	70	5-year metastasis-free survival
van de Vijver et al. (2002)	Breast cancer	295	70	Prognosis
Izuka et al. (2003) <sup>c</sup>	Hepatocellular carcinoma	60	12	1-year recurrence-free survival
Huang et al. (2003) <sup>g</sup>	Breast cancer	89	Metagenes	Nodal metastatic states and relapse
Dave et al. (2004) <sup>h</sup>	Follicular lymphoma	191	67	Survival
Lossos et al. (2004)	Diffuse large B-cell lymphoma	66	6	Survival
Bullinger et al. (2004)	Acute myeloid leukemia	116	133	Survival
Wang et al. (2005)	Breast cancer	286	76	Distant metastasis
Dave et al. (2006)	Burkitt's lymphoma vs. diffuse large-B-cell lymphoma	303	217	Disease classification
Zhao et al. (2006)	Renal cell carcinoma	177	259	Survival
Shedden et al. (2008)	Lung adenocarcinoma	442	Various	Survival
Lenz et al. (2008)	Diffuse large-B-cell lymphoma	414	39, 283, 71	Survival after treatment
Boutros et al. (2009)	Non-small-cell lung cancer	147	6	Survival

- a Tibshirani and Efron (2002) found that the complex neural network model used by the authors is essentially extracting linear principal components, and thus is unnecessarily complicated for this problem
- b Lai et al. (2006) pointed out an information leak biasing the results caused by the authors' use of the complete dataset (including the validation set) for gene subset selection
- c Michiels et al. (2005) found that the published misclassification rates were below the lower 95% confidence limit obtained by random validation
- d Segal (2006) pointed out an information leak because test set data was used for an initial clustering
- e Michiels et al. (2005) used a multiple random validation strategy on the same data, and found that the original study did not classify patients better than chance
- f Tibshirani and Efron (2002) tried but were unable to exactly reproduce the analysis, even with help of the authors. Ein-Dor et al. (2005) found that the list of 70 genes found by the authors was highly unstable.
- g Ruschhaupt et al. (2004) found only 75% accuracy instead of the 90% reported by the authors
- h Tibshirani (2005) re-analyzed the data and found that the authors' results were extremely fragile—in particular, when their equal-sized training and test sets were swapped, the authors' finding disappeared and virtually nothing was significant

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