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TRACKING TRENDS & PERFORMANCE IN BASIC RESEARCH

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2009 : June 2009 - Emerging Research Fronts : Dario C. Altieri

## EMERGING RESEARCH FRONTS - 2009

June 2009



**Dario C. Altieri talks with *ScienceWatch.com* and answers a few questions about this month's Emerging Research Front Paper in the field of Clinical Medicine.**



**Article: Survivin, versatile modulation of cell division and apoptosis in cancer**

Authors: Altieri, DC

Journal: ONCOGENE, 22 (53): 8581-8589, NOV 24 2003

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### **SW: Why do you think your paper is highly cited?**

The article covers various aspects of the biology of survivin, a gene that has attracted considerable interest for its ability to regulate multiple critical signaling pathways in cancer.

### **SW: Does it describe a new discovery, methodology, or synthesis of knowledge?**

The review describes our current knowledge of survivin and its functions, and how it can be exploited for novel molecular cancer therapeutics.

### **SW: Would you summarize the significance of your paper in layman's terms?**

The article provides a broad and in-depth analysis of a pivotal regulator of disease progression and response to therapy in virtually every human tumor.

### **SW: How did you become involved in this research and were any particular problems encountered along the way?**

Our laboratory had originally cloned the survivin gene and has continued to work on the cellular and molecular implications of the biology of survivin in normal tissues and cancer.

### **SW: Where do you see your research leading in the future?**

We remain interested in discovering signaling pathways important for tumor growth, and their potential suitability for novel drug discovery opportunities in oncology.

### **SW: Do you foresee any social or political implications for your research?**

The characterization of novel antagonists of cancer pathways may have profound social implications for the development of molecularly based, "personalized" cancer medicine.


**Dario C. Altieri, M.D.**

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KEYWORDS: MESSENGER-RNA EXPRESSION; SOFT-TISSUE SARCOMA; NORMAL CORD BLOOD; WILD-TYPE P53; PROTEIN SURVIVIN; ENDOTHELIAL-CELLS; GENE-EXPRESSION; COLORECTAL-CANCER; PROGNOSTIC-SIGNIFICANCE; REGULATED EXPRESSION.

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