Discovering age-specific multi-omic patterns in heterogenous pediatric clinical datasets

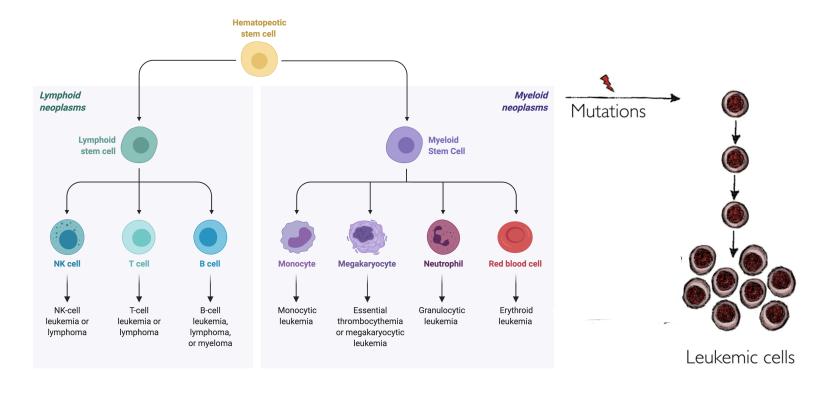
Jenea Adams
Xing Lab Roundtable
May 11, 2021

Acute myeloid leukemia (AML) is the most fatal of childhood cancers with no good

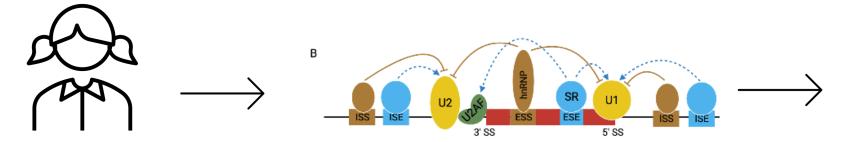
treatments

 Affects 25% of children with leukemia

- Accumulation of immature myeloid cells in bone marrow
- Lacks treatment options comparable to ALL
- AML treatments needed that preserve healthy myeloid cells



Establishing a multi-omic perspective on the presentation of AML by age group



AML treatments are harsh on young bodies → new therapies needed

Splicing = targetable avenue of disease progression in AML

Aim 1: to improve the analysis of splicing in large heterogeneous RNA-seq datasets

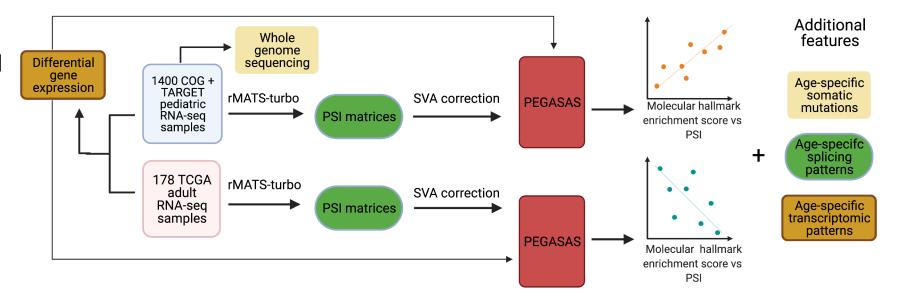
Aim 2: to discover age-specific, pathway-dependent alternative splicing patterns in pediatric AML RNA-seq data

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5/10/21 Intro 1/1 | 3

Does splicing provide a parallel mechanism of regulation in pediatric AML?

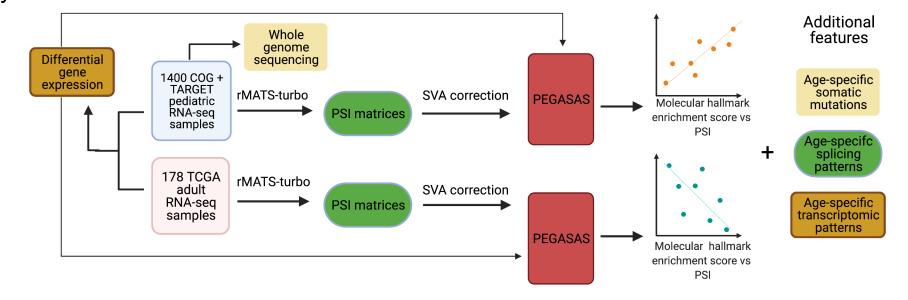
- Low mutation burden in pediatric cancer → different genomic signatures?
 - DNMT3A, NPM1, and certain structural variations, are in low frequency or even absent in pediatric AML cases
- Multi-omic analysis on large clinical datasets



Does splicing provide a parallel mechanism of regulation in pediatric AML?

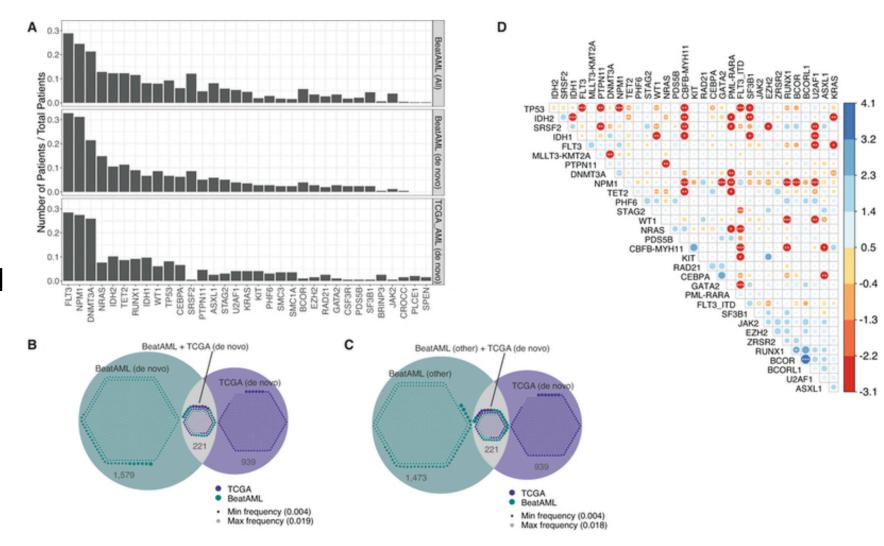
Research Design and Methods

- 1200 Children's Oncology Group Clinical Trial (AAML1031) RNA-seq + Whole Genome sequencing + >200 TARGET samples
- 178 TCGA AML
- Control: GTEx Normal Blood
- Compare molecular hallmark enrichment score vs PSI correlations between pediatric and adult cases



Beat AML vs TCGA

- < 200 TCGA samples
- >600 Beat AML samples
- Beat AML has more data enriched with splicing factor mutations
- Beat AML has patient-matched WGS data

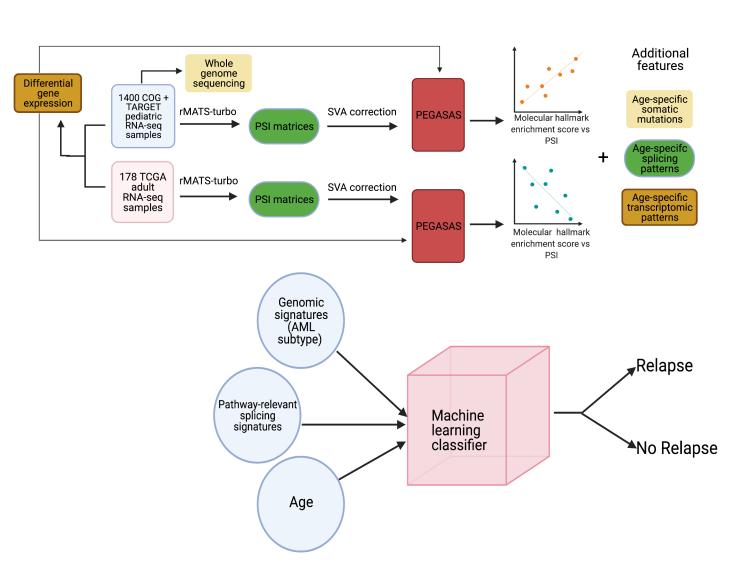


Looking ahead to true data integration

Research Design and Methods

- Data integration
 - Logistic regression, random forest, and SVM
 - 5-fold CV, regularization, hyperparameter sweep (AutoML?)
 - Compare ROC AUC curves

Is this enough?



Looking ahead to true data integration

- Current methods for data integration on this front?
- Is the goal data integration or feature selection?
- How is this evaluated?
- Greater potential for making better use of this large-scale data?

