

# 1 Genetic Landscape of Electron Transport Chain Complex I 2 Dependency in Acute Myeloid Leukemia

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37

38 **Abstract**

39 Inhibition of oxidative phosphorylation (OXPHOS) is a promising therapeutic strategy in Acute  
40 Myeloid Leukemia (AML), but patients respond heterogeneously. Through chemically  
41 interrogation of 200 sequenced specimens, we identified Mubritinib as a strong *in vitro* and *in*  
42 *vivo* anti-leukemic compound, acting through ubiquinone-dependent inhibition of Electron  
43 Transport Chain complex I (ETC1). ETC1 targeting showed selective toxicity against a subgroup  
44 of chemotherapy-resistant leukemias exhibiting OXPHOS hyperactivity, high expression of  
45 mitochondrial activity-related genes, and mutations affecting *NPM1*, *FLT3* and *DNMT3A*.  
46 Altogether, our work thus identifies a novel ETC1 inhibitor with high clinical potential and reveals  
47 the landscape of OXPHOS dependency in AML.

48 **Keywords**

49 Acute Myeloid Leukemia, Metabolism, Oxidative Phosphorylation, Mitochondrial Respiration,  
50 Electron Transport Chain Complex I, NADH dehydrogenase inhibitor, Precision Medicine,  
51 Therapeutic Target.

## 52 Main

53 Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML) is a highly lethal disease, with a five-year overall survival rate of  
54 only 27%<sup>1,2</sup>. Standard treatment for AML includes a combination of cytarabine (AraC) and  
55 anthracycline as an induction regimen, followed by consolidation chemotherapy or  
56 hematopoietic stem cell transplantation, depending on the patient's genetic risk class<sup>3</sup>.  
57 Although 60% to 70% of patients enter complete remission after induction regimen, most of  
58 them relapse within 3 years, due to the outgrowth of therapy resistant AML leukemic stem cells  
59 (LSCs)<sup>4,5</sup>. Thus, the identification of novel treatment strategies, in particular for poor outcome  
60 AML patients, represents an outstanding medical need.

61 The development of novel therapeutic approaches in AML has long been precluded by the  
62 absence of culture conditions that preserve the activity of LSCs *in vitro*. Recently, our group  
63 developed a culture method which maintains LSC activity for several days<sup>6</sup>, thus enabling  
64 relevant cell-based chemical interrogation of the disease<sup>7-12</sup>. Nevertheless, normal and  
65 leukemic stem cells share numerous biological traits, making their specific eradication  
66 challenging<sup>13</sup>. For instance, the initially described CD34<sup>+</sup>/CD38<sup>-</sup> LSC cell surface phenotype<sup>5</sup>  
67 also characterizes normal hematopoietic stem cells (HSCs). Furthermore, although LSC-specific  
68 gene expression signatures are being developed<sup>14</sup>, their transcriptional landscape appears to  
69 be highly reminiscent of that of HSCs<sup>15</sup>, probably because LSCs are oftentimes derived from  
70 HSCs<sup>4,16</sup>.

71 However, striking differences in energy metabolism between normal and leukemic stem cells  
72 have recently been revealed. HSCs rely primarily on anaerobic glycolysis rather than  
73 mitochondrial oxidative phosphorylation (OXPHOS) for energy production and repression of  
74 mitochondrial metabolism by autophagy is in fact required for their long-term self-renewing  
75 capacity<sup>17-19</sup>. In stark contrast, AML LSC protein expression profiles are enriched for hallmarks  
76 of OXPHOS<sup>20</sup> and LSCs rely on mitochondrial function for their survival: they are sensitive to  
77 tigecycline, an antibiotic that inhibits mitochondrial protein synthesis<sup>21</sup> and to 2'3'-  
78 dideoxycytidine (ddC), a selective inhibitor of mitochondrial DNA replication<sup>22</sup>. Furthermore,  
79 AML cells appear to be overall characterized by high OXPHOS activity and high mitochondrial  
80 mass, accompanied by low respiratory chain spare reserve capacity as compared to their  
81 normal hematopoietic counterparts<sup>23</sup>, and are sensitive to inhibition of the mitochondrial  
82 protease ClpP<sup>24</sup>. Interestingly, AML cells resisting cytarabine treatment in mouse xenografts  
83 were recently reported as relying primarily on OXPHOS for their survival<sup>25</sup> and a novel NADH  
84 dehydrogenase inhibitor shows promising anti-leukemic activity<sup>26</sup>. Last but not least, OXPHOS  
85 suppression induced by the combination of BCL-2 inhibitor venetoclax and azacytidine  
86 selectively targets LSCs and results in deep and durable remissions in AML patients<sup>27,28</sup>.

87 Hence, inhibition of mitochondrial function represents a promising therapeutic strategy in AML.  
88 While a large portion of AMLs exhibit strong sensitivity to inhibition of mitochondrial metabolism,  
89 resistance is frequently observed<sup>29,30</sup>. However, the determinants of resistance and sensitivity  
90 to OXPHOS targeting in this genetically highly heterogeneous disease remain so far unclear. In  
91 this study, we interrogated 200 genetically diverse primary AML patient specimens of the well-  
92 characterized Leucegene cohort ([www.leucegene.ca](http://www.leucegene.ca)) using an unbiased chemo-genomic  
93 approach. Through this process, we identified a novel ubiquinone-dependent Electron Transport  
94 Chain (ETC) complex I inhibitor and uncovered the genetic landscape of OXPHOS dependency  
95 in this disease.

96

## 97 Results

### 98 Mubritinib targets a subset of poor outcome AMLs

99 The Leucegene collection of sequenced AML specimens comprises 263 *de novo* non-M3  
100 samples, originating from patients who received intensive standard chemotherapy treatment,  
101 and for whom long-term survival data is available (termed “prognostic cohort”). Within this  
102 cohort, we first compared the clinical and genetic characteristics of specimens from “poor  
103 outcome” patients (hereafter defined by an overall-survival strictly below 3 years, n=183) to that  
104 of specimens from “good outcome” patients (survival $\geq$  3 years, n=80).

105 As expected, the poor outcome group comprised most (87%) adverse cytogenetic risk  
106 specimens and a minority (34%) of favorable risk AMLs, but it also included the vast majority  
107 (73%) of intermediate cytogenetic risk samples, highlighting the heterogeneity of survival rates  
108 within this latter class (Fig. S1a). Accordingly, the poor outcome cohort was overall strongly  
109 enriched for adverse cytogenetic risk AMLs (p=0.0009), whereas the good outcome cohort  
110 associated with favorable cytogenetic risk specimens (p<0.0001), including Core Binding Factor  
111 (CBF) leukemias (p=4x10<sup>-8</sup>, Fig. S1b). In agreement with other reports<sup>31</sup>, we noted an increase  
112 in patient age (p<0.0001), relapse rates (p=5x10<sup>-12</sup>, Fig. S1b), and frequencies of lesions  
113 affecting *TP53* (p=0.0075, Fig. S1c) in the poor outcome group. Also in line with other studies<sup>32-</sup>  
114<sup>34</sup>, poor outcome AMLs strongly associated with overexpression of Homeodomain-containing  
115 transcription factor *HOXA9* and other *HOX*-network genes. Interestingly, genes overexpressed  
116 more than 10-fold in poor outcome AMLs all belonged to the *HOXA* cluster (Fig. S1d).

117 Next, in order to uncover new therapeutic targets for poor outcome AML patients, we chemically  
118 interrogated primary specimens of the Leucegene prognostic cohort originating from poor and  
119 good outcome patients. Using LSC-activity maintaining culture conditions<sup>6</sup> and a panel of  
120 inhibitors targeting receptor tyrosine kinases, as well as components of the RAS and PI3K  
121 pathways, we first compared the Growth Inhibitory 50 (GI50) values of these compounds in a  
122 small cohort of primary AMLs (Fig. 1a, patient characteristics in Table S1). Mubritinib, a  
123 compound described as a specific ERBB2 inhibitor<sup>35</sup>, appeared as the most selective inhibitor  
124 towards specimens belonging to the poor outcome group (p=0.009, Fig. 1b). In order to validate  
125 this observation, we then assessed the sensitivity to Mubritinib treatment in a large and  
126 heterogeneous cohort (Fig. 1c, n=200, patient characteristics in Table S2). This secondary  
127 screen confirmed that leukemic cells originating from poor outcome patients are more sensitive  
128 to Mubritinib than those from good outcome patients (p=0.0048, Fig. 1d). Importantly, the  
129 proliferation of CD34<sup>+</sup> cord blood control cells was not affected by Mubritinib treatment, for  
130 concentrations up to 10 $\mu$ M (n=5 unrelated samples, Fig. 1d).

131 Mubritinib GI50 values varied widely among AML specimens (median: 374nM, Fig. 1e). We first  
132 compared the general features of Mubritinib sensitive (GI50 below median, n=100) and resistant  
133 specimens (GI50 above median, n=100, Fig. 1e). Importantly, we detected no significant  
134 difference between the *in vitro* proliferation rates of untreated specimens from both groups (Fig.  
135 S2a), indicating that the differences in GI50 values were not due to a proliferation bias. Patients  
136 belonging to the Mubritinib sensitive group exhibited decreased overall-survival rates compared  
137 to patients belonging to the resistant category (p=0.0099, Fig. 1f). While we observed no  
138 difference in complete remission rates between patients belonging to the Mubritinib sensitive  
139 and resistant classes, sensitivity associated with a significant increase in relapse rates  
140 (p=4.8x10<sup>-3</sup>, Fig. 1g). In line with these results, within the relatively homogenous normal  
141 karyotype AML genetic subtype, leukemias highly sensitive to Mubritinib (GI50 values in the  
142 lower tertile) exhibited elevated LSC frequencies as compared to highly resistant specimens  
143 (GI50 values in the upper tertile, p=0.02, Fig. 1h).



144 We next investigated the clinical and mutational characteristics of Mubritinib resistant and  
145 sensitive AMLs (Fig. 2a and Table S3). Overall, resistance to Mubritinib associated with the  
146 favorable cytogenetic risk group ( $p=4.4 \times 10^{-8}$ ), with the *inv(16)* subtype ( $p=2.9 \times 10^{-5}$ ) and more  
147 generally with CBF AMLs ( $p=4 \times 10^{-8}$ ). In addition, resistance to Mubritinib associated with the  
148 presence of *KIT* mutations ( $p=4.2 \times 10^{-4}$ ) and more generally with mutations affecting the RAS-  
149 MAPK signaling pathway ( $p=1.8 \times 10^{-5}$ , Fig. 2a-c and Table S3). Conversely, sensitivity to  
150 Mubritinib strongly associated with the intermediate cytogenetic risk category ( $p=5.6 \times 10^{-8}$ ), with  
151 normal karyotype specimens ( $p=8.9 \times 10^{-7}$ ), with the presence of mutations affecting *NPM1*  
152 ( $p=3.5 \times 10^{-5}$ ), *FLT3*-ITD ( $p=7.2 \times 10^{-5}$ ), and *DNMT3A* ( $p=4.1 \times 10^{-7}$ ), as well as with mutations  
153 involving genes belonging to the DNA methylation class (comprising *DNMT3A*, *IDH1*, *IDH2* and  
154 *TET2*,  $p=4.1 \times 10^{-8}$ , Fig. 2a-c and Table S3). Interestingly, the recently identified adverse  
155 outcome triple mutated AMLs<sup>36,37</sup> (carrying *NPM1*, *FLT3*-ITD and *DNMT3A* co-occurring  
156 mutations,  $n=34$  out of 200) were significantly enriched within the sensitive group ( $p=0.002$ , Fig.  
157 2d) and exhibited high sensitivity to Mubritinib compared to other samples (median GI50=96nM  
158 versus 490nM for all other AMLs,  $p=0.0002$ , Fig. S2b).  
159 In addition, and similar to poor outcome specimens (Fig. S1d), comparison of transcriptomic  
160 signatures of Mubritinib sensitive and resistant leukemic samples highlighted *HOX*-network  
161 gene overexpression in sensitive specimens (bold characters in Fig. 2e and Table S4). Gene  
162 set enrichment analysis of most sensitive and resistant specimens (lower quartile versus upper  
163 quartile) revealed that resistant specimens display strong hallmarks of hypoxia (NES=2.32, FDR  
164  $q$ -value<0.0001, Fig. 2f). In contrast, by weighted gene co-expression network analysis  
165 (WGCNA)<sup>38</sup>, the module whose expression most significantly associated with Mubritinib  
166 sensitivity in the 200 tested specimens ( $p=0.03$ , ranked co-first with another module) was highly  
167 enriched for genes involved in mitochondrial activity. Indeed, gene ontology analysis revealed  
168 that five of the top ten enriched biological processes in this module relate to mitochondrial  
169 function, including mitochondrial respiratory chain complex assembly (GO:0033108, FDR  $q$ -  
170 value=0.0004, Fig. 2g).  
171

## 172 **Mubritinib impairs mitochondrial respiration**

173 Mubritinib has been reported as a specific ERBB2 inhibitor<sup>35</sup>. Unexpectedly, none of the AML  
174 patient specimens tested in the primary screen (Fig. 1a and Table S1) responded to Lapatinib,  
175 another potent ERBB2 inhibitor<sup>39</sup> (Fig. 3a). In contrast to healthy and cancer breast tissues,  
176 *ERBB2* mRNA expression levels were very low in both Mubritinib sensitive and resistant AMLs  
177 (average 0.6 RPKM in both groups, Fig. S3a). Moreover, ERBB2 protein expression could not  
178 be detected by flow cytometry in the Mubritinib sensitive *DNMT3A*- and *NPM1*-mutated human  
179 AML cell line OCI-AML3<sup>40,41</sup> (Fig. 3b and Fig. S3b) or in Mubritinib-sensitive AML specimens  
180 (Fig. 3b). The same observation was made by liquid chromatography–mass spectrometry (LC-  
181 MS/MS) analysis of OCI-AML3 cells (Table S5). Taken together, these data indicate that, in the  
182 context of AML, Mubritinib's activity is likely not mediated by ERBB2 inhibition.  
183 In order to understand Mubritinib's mode of action, we first investigated which sub-cellular  
184 compartment it targets using a specific alkyne probe (Fig. 3c and Fig. S3c). We noted that, while  
185 the signal induced by the Mubritinib probe did not co-localize with the receptor tyrosine kinase  
186 ERBB2 (Fig. 3d), it co-localized with a mitochondrial dye (Fig. 3e), suggesting that Mubritinib  
187 accumulates in mitochondria. Furthermore, LC/MS analyses revealed consistent decrease of  
188 Krebs cycle metabolite concentrations (citrate, alpha-ketoglutarate, succinate, fumarate, malate  
189 and acetyl coA Fig. 3f-k) in treated OCI-AML3 cells, indicating that mitochondrial respiration is  
190 impaired. In line with these results, ADP/ATP and AMP/ATP ratios were largely increased upon  
191 treatment (Fig. 3l-m). In addition, monitoring of oxygen consumption rates in two different  
192 human AML cell lines with a Seahorse analyzer revealed that mitochondrial respiration is  
193 inhibited upon Mubritinib treatment (Fig. 3n). Concurrently, we measured increased extra-

194 cellular acidification rates (ECAR) in Mubritinib treated cells, a phenomenon which could be  
195 rescued by 2-deoxy-D-glucose (2-DG, an inhibitor of glycolysis, Fig. S3d-e), suggesting an  
196 upregulation of glycolytic activity upon treatment. Accordingly, Mubritinib treated cells showed  
197 increased intracellular and extracellular lactate concentrations (Fig. S3f-g). Taken together,  
198 these data indicate that Mubritinib treatment of AML cells induces a switch from OXPHOS  
199 towards glycolytic metabolism.

200 In addition, 2',7' -dichlorofluorescein diacetate (DCFDA) staining of Mubritinib-sensitive human  
201 (OCI-AML3) or murine (MLL-AF9, Fig. S3h) AML cells revealed reactive oxygen species (ROS)  
202 accumulation upon Mubritinib treatment (Fig. 3o). LC/MS analyses highlighted decreased levels  
203 of reduced glutathione (Fig. 3p) concomitant with increased levels of oxidized glutathione (Fig.  
204 3q) in presence of Mubritinib, confirming the induction of oxidative stress in treated cells. In  
205 response to treatment, sensitive AML cells underwent apoptotic death as assessed by flow  
206 cytometry using Annexin V and propidium iodide staining in OCI-AML3 cells (Fig. 3r) and MLL-  
207 AF9 cells (Fig. S3i). Last but not least, we monitored the OXPHOS activity profiles of genetically  
208 diverse primary AML specimens (see list in Table S6) that are either sensitive (n=11, GI50 <  
209 100nM) or resistant (n=12, GI50 > 5µM) to Mubritinib treatment. We found that basal  
210 mitochondrial oxygen consumption and proton leak rates are significantly higher in sensitive  
211 leukemias as compared to resistant AMLs, while extracellular acidification rates do not differ  
212 between the two groups of specimens (Fig. 3s-t and S3j-k). The results are in line with our  
213 observation that expression levels of genes involved in mitochondrial activity correlate with  
214 Mubritinib sensitivity Fig. 2g) and suggest that Mubritinib-sensitive AMLs are more heavily  
215 relying on OXPHOS for energy production than Mubritinib-resistant leukemias (Fig. 2g). In  
216 addition, as proton leak mediates a decrease in OXPHOS-induced ROS<sup>42</sup>, these results also  
217 highlight a possible mechanism through which Mubritinib-sensitive AMLs are able to withstand  
218 such sustained basal OXPHOS hyperactivity.  
219

## 220 **Mubritinib is a novel ETC complex I inhibitor**

221 In order to further dissect Mubritinib's mode of action, we next monitored changes in protein and  
222 phospho-protein abundance upon Mubritinib treatment using Stable Isotope Labeling by Amino  
223 acids in cell Culture (SILAC)-proteomic (Fig. 4a) and phospho-proteomic (Fig. 4b) approaches,  
224 respectively. In these experiments, pyruvate dehydrogenase (PDH) E3 subunit was the most  
225 prominent down-regulated protein in Mubritinib treated cells (Fig. 4a), while the inactivating  
226 phosphorylation<sup>43</sup> of serine 293 of PDH E1 subunit was markedly increased upon treatment  
227 (Fig. 4b). Although we could confirm the inhibitory effect of Mubritinib on PDH using a cell-based  
228 enzymatic activity assay (Fig. 4c, p=0.0098), we found that this effect was in fact indirect as  
229 Mubritinib (25µM, cell-free context) did not inhibit the activity of the immuno-captured complex  
230 (Fig. 4d).

231 In order to identify Mubritinib's target pathway, we then carried out a whole-genome  
232 CRISPR/Cas9 screen in the presence or absence of Mubritinib treatment (Fig. S4a and Read  
233 files 1-3), as previously described<sup>44</sup>. For this purpose, we used the B cell precursor leukemia  
234 cell line NALM-6, which, similar to poor outcome AML patient cells, is sensitive to Mubritinib  
235 (Fig. S4a), but resistant to the ERBB2 inhibitor Lapatinib (GI50 > 10µM, not shown). This chemo-  
236 genomic screen notably identified a synthetic lethal interaction between Mubritinib treatment  
237 and loss of *Glutamic-Oxaloacetic Transaminase 1 (GOT1)* expression, a pyridoxal phosphate-  
238 dependent enzyme with aspartate aminotransferase activity (Fig. 4e). Accordingly, shRNA hit  
239 validations (Fig. S4b-c) revealed, among others, that silencing of *GOT1* expression in OCI-  
240 AML3 cells leads to a sensitization to Mubritinib treatment (Fig. S4b). Interestingly, recent  
241 studies reported a similar synthetic lethal interaction between *GOT1* knock-out and inhibitors of  
242 the electron transport chain (ETC). These studies showed that a major role of respiration in  
243 proliferating cells is to provide electron acceptors for aspartate synthesis, an alpha-amino acid

244 that, in the context of ETC inhibition, can only be replenished through GOT1 activity<sup>45,46</sup>.  
245 Indeed, and similar to ETC inhibitors, Mubritinib treatment in OCI-AML3 cells led to a four-fold  
246 decrease in aspartate concentrations (Fig. 4f).

247 So as to investigate whether Mubritinib indeed behaves as an ETC inhibitor in AML cells, we  
248 compared the inhibition pattern induced by Mubritinib treatment with that of known ETC  
249 inhibitors (Deguelin (complex I),<sup>47,48</sup> and Oligomycin (complex V)) for 56 primary AML samples  
250 (see patient characteristics in Supplementary Table S7). We found that the two ETC inhibitors'  
251 inhibitory patterns are highly similar to that of Mubritinib ( $r=0.9$ ,  $p<0.0001$  for Deguelin, Fig. 4g  
252 and  $r=0.7$ ,  $p<0.001$  for Oligomycin, Fig. S4d). These results strongly suggest that, in the context  
253 of AML, Mubritinib targets the same molecular pathway as ETC inhibitors.

254 To test whether Mubritinib directly inhibits the ETC, we next carried out cell-free enzymatic  
255 activity assays for each complex of the chain. We found that, while Mubritinib did not impair the  
256 activities of ETC complexes II to V (Fig. S4e-i), it efficiently inhibited the activity of complex I  
257 (NADH dehydrogenase, *in vitro* IC<sub>50</sub>=51nM, Fig. 4h), similar to Rotenone, the reference ETC  
258 complex I inhibitor<sup>49</sup> (*in vitro* IC<sub>50</sub>=17nM, Fig. S4j). Interestingly, ubiquinone-independent  
259 diaphorase activity of NADH dehydrogenase was unaffected by Mubritinib treatment (Fig. S4k),  
260 suggesting that Mubritinib may bind at or near the ubiquinone binding site, similar to what is  
261 described for Rotenone<sup>50-52</sup>. Indeed, ubiquinone supplementation was able to rescue the  
262 inhibition of NADH oxidation induced by Mubritinib treatment, demonstrating that Mubritinib acts  
263 as a ubiquinone-dependent inhibitor of NADH dehydrogenase (Fig. 4i). In addition, in agreement  
264 with an inhibitory effect on ETC complex I, Mubritinib-treated OCI-AML3 cells exhibited  
265 decreased NAD/NADH concentration ratios (Fig. S4l). NADH being the product, and NAD, the  
266 substrate of PDH, these results might explain the indirect effect of Mubritinib on PDH activity.

267 In order to test whether the anti-leukemic activity of Mubritinib is indeed mediated by the  
268 inhibition of ETC complex I activity, we compared the anti-leukemic potential of 15 different  
269 Mubritinib analogs in cellular assays (GI50) to their cell-free activity on ETC complex I (IC<sub>50</sub>).  
270 We found that GI50 and IC<sub>50</sub> values strongly correlate in both human (OCI-AML3) and murine  
271 (MLL-AF9) AML cells ( $r=0.9$ ,  $p<0.0001$  for both models, Fig. 4j and Table S8). Instead of ETC  
272 complex I, *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* expresses a nucleus-encoded rotenone-insensitive  
273 NADH dehydrogenase called NDI1<sup>53</sup>, known to be able to restore OXPHOS activity in complex  
274 I deficient human cells<sup>54</sup>. Accordingly, ectopic expression of NDI1 in two different human AML  
275 cell lines led to a rescue of cell viability in both Rotenone- and Mubritinib-treated cells, thus  
276 demonstrating that Mubritinib's antileukemic activity is mainly mediated by its ability to inhibit  
277 ETC complex I activity (Fig. 4k-l).

278 Based on preliminary structure activity relationship studies, we propose a model of interaction  
279 between Mubritinib and the ubiquinone binding pocket of NADH dehydrogenase (Fig. 4m).  
280 Overall, our findings on Mubritinib's mechanism of action in AML are summarized in Fig. 5a.

### 281 **Mubritinib significantly delays AML development *in vivo***

282 We next assessed the anti-leukemic potential of Mubritinib *in vivo* using the syngeneic MLL-AF9  
283 murine AML model (Fig. 5b). MLL-AF9 cells express high levels of *HOX*-network genes and are  
284 highly sensitive to Mubritinib treatment *in vitro* (Fig. S3i) and thus represent a relevant AML  
285 model to study Mubritinib's activity. Furthermore, the cells chosen for this study were easily  
286 trackable due to engineered expression of the fluorescent marker tdTomato. Within the treated  
287 cohort, one mouse died at day 20, probably due to compulsive gavage, as we did not detect  
288 overt leukemia development in its bone marrow (Fig. S5a). Upon analysis at day 29, mouse  
289 weights before and after treatment were not altered, both in Mubritinib and vehicle treated  
290 groups (Fig. 5c), suggesting that the treatment was overall well tolerated.

291 By histology, we found that the bone marrow and the spleens of treated animals contained less  
292 leukemic blasts than control animals (Fig. 5d). Accordingly, the frequencies of tdTomato positive  
293 cells in the bone marrow and the spleens of Mubritinib treated animals were largely reduced

294 (representative plots in Fig. 5e and quantification in Fig. S5b-c). Overall, Mubritinib treatment  
295 caused a 19-fold decrease in absolute numbers of tdTomato positive cells in the bone marrow  
296 ( $p=0.0003$ , Fig. 5f) and a 42-fold decrease in the spleens ( $p=0.0003$ , Fig. 5g) of treated animals,  
297 compared to vehicle treated mice. Accordingly, Mubritinib treatment of MLL-AF9 transplanted  
298 animals significantly delayed the development of the disease in a dose dependent manner (Fig.  
299 5h). Importantly, and in agreement with our observation that Mubritinib treatment does not affect  
300 the proliferation of normal hematopoietic CD34<sup>+</sup> cells *in vitro* (Fig. 1d), the absolute number of  
301 tdTomato negative nucleated bone marrow cells was conserved after Mubritinib treatment (Fig.  
302 S5d).

303 In order to investigate the consequences of Mubritinib treatment on normal hematopoiesis, we  
304 treated non-transplanted PeP3B mice according to the experimental scheme in Fig. S5e. Upon  
305 analysis of the bone marrow of treated animals at day 29, we found no significant change in the  
306 absolute number of hematopoietic cells within stem or differentiated compartments (Fig. S5f-n).  
307 Analysis of blood samples at day 29 showed no significant change in neutrophil or platelet  
308 counts but revealed consistent decreases in red blood cell numbers as well as hemoglobin,  
309 hematocrit and haptoglobin measurements, all within the normal range (Fig. S5o-t). Altogether  
310 these results confirm that Mubritinib treatment does not significantly impair normal  
311 hematopoiesis.

312



## 313 Discussion

314 Mubritinib, a small molecule developed in the early 2000s, has originally been reported as a  
315 specific receptor tyrosine kinase ERBB2 inhibitor<sup>35</sup>. Mubritinib's effect on the viability of ERBB2-  
316 negative leukemic cells led us to conclude that its mode of action in AML is likely not mediated  
317 by ERBB2 inhibition. We show that Mubritinib accumulates in the mitochondria and  
318 metabolomic investigations reveal that Mubritinib abrogates mitochondrial respiration and  
319 perturbs metabolite levels accordingly. Using proteomics, phosphoproteomics and whole  
320 genome CRISPR/Cas9 screening, as well as targeted approaches, we demonstrate that  
321 Mubritinib is in fact a novel direct and ubiquinone-dependent ETC complex I inhibitor. In line  
322 with these results, we find that the inhibitory patterns induced by Mubritinib on primary AML  
323 specimens strongly correlate with those induced by rotenoids<sup>11</sup>, as well as by several ETC  
324 inhibitors, but not with those induced by the ERBB2 inhibitor Lapatinib. Interestingly, whole  
325 genome CRISPR/Cas9 screening identified loss of *Solute Carrier Family 25 Member 51*  
326 (*SLC25A51*, encoding for a mitochondrial transporter with unknown function) as having a  
327 synthetic rescue relationship towards Mubritinib treatment. Although we do not find this  
328 transporter to exhibit reduced average expression levels in Mubritinib resistant AML samples,  
329 investigation of its role in future studies might provide important information on the molecular  
330 mechanisms modulating the response to ETC complex I inhibition in leukemia. The genetic  
331 screen also revealed a synthetic lethal interaction between Mubritinib treatment and loss of  
332 *Hexokinase-1 (HK1)*, encoding an enzyme that catalyzes the first step of glucose metabolism.  
333 This result is in line with our observation that Mubritinib-treated cells switch from oxidative  
334 phosphorylation to glycolysis and is consistent with our finding that Mubritinib inhibits the ETC.  
335 This study confirms, in the context of primary AML specimens, the recent observations from  
336 others indicating that inhibition of mitochondrial function is a promising therapeutic strategy in  
337 AML<sup>21,22,24,26-28</sup>. Importantly, it also identifies and characterizes for the first time AML genetic  
338 subtypes most susceptible to respond to mitochondrial targeting. We show that, similar to  
339 normal CD34-positive cells, chemotherapy-sensitive, favorable cytogenetic risk primary AMLs  
340 do not require oxidative phosphorylation for energy production and exhibit strong transcriptomic  
341 hallmarks of hypoxia, which is consistent with recent observations made in AML xenografts<sup>25</sup>.  
342 Also in line with these findings, resistance to Mubritinib associated with mutations affecting the  
343 RAS/MAPK signaling pathway, which are known inducers of glycolytic metabolism<sup>55,56</sup>. In stark  
344 contrast, Mubritinib sensitivity associated with poor outcome AMLs enriched within the normal  
345 karyotype subtype, overexpressing *HOX* network genes, and carrying mutations affecting  
346 *NPM1*, *FLT3-ITD* as well as genes involved in the regulation of DNA methylation (*DNMT3A*,  
347 *TET2*, *IDH1*, and *IDH2*). Sensitivity in primary AML specimens also strongly correlated with  
348 increased expression of gene modules associated with mitochondrial activity, including  
349 mitochondrial respiration and indeed, direct metabolic profiling identified an association between  
350 Mubritinib sensitivity and OXPHOS hyperactivity in primary AML specimens.

351  
352 In summary, using an unbiased chemo-genomic approach, our work identifies Mubritinib as a  
353 direct and ubiquinone-dependent NADH dehydrogenase inhibitor with strong *in vitro* and *in vivo*  
354 anti-leukemic activity. Importantly, we identify a genetically distinct OXPHOS-dependent  
355 population of poor outcome leukemias most susceptible to respond to ETC1-targeting, thus  
356 providing useful stratification information for the design of clinical trials testing the efficacy of  
357 OXPHOS-targeting agents. In addition, as Mubritinib already completed a phase I clinical trial in  
358 the context of ERBB2 positive solid tumors, it may rapidly and cost-sparingly be re-purposed for  
359 the treatment of such high-risk AMLs.

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## 388 **Author Contributions**

389 I.Ba. contributed to project conception, carried out most of the experiments, analyzed the  
390 results, generated the corresponding figures, tables and supplementary material and wrote the  
391 paper. Y.G. and S.G. conceived and produced the alkyne probe and the Mubritinib analogs, B.L.  
392 edited the manuscript and provided the MLL-AF9 model, J-F.S. carried out weighted gene co-  
393 expression network analyses, A.B. performed *in silico* modeling experiments, I.Bo. carried out  
394 part of the chemical screens and Seahorse analyses on primary samples, S.G. contributed to  
395 biochemical and metabolomics assays, T.MR. produced shRNAs for CRISPR/CAS9 hit  
396 validations in AML cells and edited the manuscript, J.K. carried out part of the chemical  
397 screening., NM, SC, MF and KL helped carrying out *in vivo* characterization of Mubritinib  
398 treatment, SC contributed to cell-free assay probing of analogs, C.T. carried out part of the  
399 chemical screening, VP.L. coordinated sequencing activities, E.K. carried out proteomics LC/MS  
400 experiments, T.B. supervised CRISPR/CAS9 screening experiments, J.C-H. analyzed the raw  
401 data of the CRISPR/CAS9 experiment, C.S-D. carried out the CRISPR/CAS9 experiments, G.B.  
402 is responsible for the Leucegene bioinformatics data and edited the manuscript, P.R. provided  
403 scientific guidance, M.-E.B critically commented and revised the manuscript, S.L. was  
404 responsible for supervision of the bioinformatics team and of statistical analyses., M.T. is  
405 responsible for the CRISPR/CAS9 screening activities, P.T., is responsible for the proteomics  
406 analyses, A.M. is responsible for the chemistry team as part of the Leucegene project, J.H.  
407 analyzed the cytogenetic studies, provided all the AML samples and clinical data, and edited the



408 manuscript., and G.S. contributed to project conception and coordination and co-wrote the  
409 paper.

## 410 **Competing interests**

411 G.S., A.M., Y.G., S.G., and I.Ba are inventors on a patent application filed by the University of  
412 Montreal, Canada, that covers Mubritinib and analogs, and their use for the treatment of AML.

## 413 **Materials and correspondance**

414 Further information and requests for resources and reagents should be directed to and will be  
415 fulfilled by the Lead Contact, Guy Sauvageau ([guy.sauvageau@umontreal.ca](mailto:guy.sauvageau@umontreal.ca)).

## 416 **Figure legends**

### 417 **Fig. 1. Identification of Mubritinib as a potent and selective inhibitor for poor outcome** 418 **AML.**

419 **a**, Workflow and **b**, result of the primary screen (see also Table S1). **c**, Set-up and **d**, result of  
420 the validation screen (see also Table S2). **e**, Definition of Mubritinib sensitive and resistant  
421 groups. **f**, Overall survival and **g**, general clinical features of patients belonging to the sensitive  
422 and resistant groups. **h**, LSC frequencies in highly sensitive (GI50 values within the lower tertile  
423 of the cohort) and highly resistant (GI50 values within the higher tertile of the cohort) normal  
424 karyotype AMLs.

425 In **b**, the horizontal grey line corresponds to  $p=0.05$ . Statistical assessments were performed  
426 using the Mann-Whitney test (**b**, **d** and **h**), the log-rank test (**f**) and the Fisher's exact test (**g**).  
427 Data in **d** and **h** are represented as median values.

428

### 429 **Fig. 2. Clinical, mutational and transcriptional landscape of Mubritinib sensitivity in AML.**

430 **a**, Clinical and mutational features enriched in Mubritinib sensitive and resistant AML groups  
431 (see definition of groups in Fig. 1e and corresponding data in Table S3). Mubritinib GI50 values  
432 according to **b**, cytogenetic risk classes, **c**, genetic subgroups and **d**, the presence of co-  
433 occurring *FLT3*-ITD, *DNMT3A* and *NPM1*-mutations (see also Figure S2b). **e**, Most differentially  
434 expressed genes between Mubritinib-resistant and -sensitive specimens, highlighting *HOX*-  
435 network genes in bold (see also Table S4). **f**, Result of gene set enrichment analysis comparing  
436 most sensitive (lower quartile,  $n=50$ ) to most resistant (upper quartile,  $n=50$ ) specimens. **g**.  
437 Gene ontology analysis of top gene module anti-correlating with Mubritinib GI50 values resulting  
438 from Weighted Gene Co-expression Network Analysis (WGCNA, see methods). Statistical  
439 assessments were performed using the Bonferroni-corrected Fisher's exact test (**a-d**), and  
440 analysis of differential gene expression was performed using the Wilcoxon rank-sum test and  
441 the false discovery rate (FDR) method (**e**). For gene set enrichment analysis in **f**, 1,000  
442 permutations were performed by gene set.

### 443 **Fig. 3. Mubritinib impairs mitochondrial respiration.**

444 **a**, Mubritinib and Lapatinib GI50 values in AML specimens (see also Table S1). **b**, ERBB2  
445 protein expression levels (Mean Fluorescent Intensity, MFI). **c**, Validation of the specificity of the  
446 Mubritinib alkyne probe in OCI-AML3 cells (see also Fig. S3c). Confocal microscopy imaging of  
447 signals induced by **d**, the Mubritinib alkyne probe and an ERBB2 antibody as well as by **e**, the  
448 Mubritinib alkyne probe and the Mitotracker green dye in BT474 cells. Effect of Mubritinib

449 treatment (500nM, 20h) on **f**, citrate, **g**, alpha-ketoglutarate, **h**, succinate, **i**, fumarate, **j**, malate,  
450 **k**, AcetylCoA, **l**, ADP/ATP ratio, **m**, AMP/ATP ratio concentrations in OCI-AML3 cells. Effect of  
451 acute (1 $\mu$ M) Mubritinib treatment on **n**, oxygen consumption rates (OCR) in 2 human AML cell  
452 lines. Effect of Mubritinib treatment (500nM, 20h) on **o**, 2',7'-dichlorofluorescein diacetate  
453 (DCFDA) fluorescence intensity, as well as on **p**, reduced and **q**, oxidized glutathione  
454 concentrations in OCI-AML3 cells. **r**, Apoptotic cell death rates in OCI-AML3 cells upon  
455 Mubritinib treatment (500nM), (see also Fig. S3i). **s**, Basal mitochondrial OCR and **t**, proton leak  
456 rates measured in Mubritinib sensitive and resistant primary AML specimens (see also Fig. S3j-  
457 k and Table S6). Statistical assessments were performed using the unpaired two-tailed *t*-test. In  
458 **p**, the number of Annexin V and Propidium Iodide (PI) double positive cells were considered for  
459 statistical assessment. Data are represented as median values (**b** and **k-o**) or mean values of  
460 triplicates or quadruplicates, with SEM.

461 **Fig. 4. Mubritinib is a direct and ubiquinone-dependent ETC complex I inhibitor.**

462 Results of **a**, proteomic, **b**, phospho-proteomic analyses of Mubritinib treatment (500nM, 20h), in  
463 OCI-AML3 cells, average of 6 replicates. PDH enzymatic activity **c**, upon Mubritinib treatment  
464 (500nM, 20h) in OCI-AML3 cells and **d**, in a cell-free context. **e**, Results of the CRISPR/Cas9  
465 whole genome screen in Nalm6-Cas9 clonal cells treated with 200nM Mubritinib, (see layout in  
466 Fig. S4a). **f**, Effect of Mubritinib treatment (500nM, 20h) on aspartate concentration in OCI-  
467 AML3 cells. **g**, Inhibitory patterns of Mubritinib (500nM) and Deguelin (1 $\mu$ M) in primary AML  
468 specimens. **h**, Mubritinib's effect on ETC complex I activity in a cell-free ubiquinone-dependent  
469 assay (see also Fig. S4d-j). **i**, NADH dehydrogenase cell free activity in presence or absence of  
470 Mubritinib and with various concentrations of ubiquinone. **j**, Results of structure activity  
471 relationship studies in cellular and cell free assays (see also Table S8). **k**, and **l**, Rescue of cell  
472 viability through ectopic expression of yeast ETC complex I ortholog, ND11 in NOMO-1 and OCI-  
473 AML3 cell lines, respectively after treatment with positive control Rotenone (40nM) or Mubritinib  
474 (40nM). **m**, Hypothetical binding model of Mubritinib (orange spheres) in the ubiquinone-binding  
475 pocket (yellow mesh), built in the mammalian complex (PDB entry 5LC5). Subunits 49kDa,  
476 PSST and ND1 are shown as blue, purple and green ribbons, respectively. Selected sidechains  
477 lining the site are depicted as sticks and Fe-S cluster N2 is shown as spheres. In **a-b**, statistical  
478 assessments were performed using the unpaired two-tailed *t*-test and the FDR q-value cut-off of  
479 5% is indicated by the dotted line. In **c-d** and **f**, statistical assessments were performed using  
480 the Mann-Whitney test. In **e**, statistical assessments were performed using the Wilcoxon rank-  
481 sum test and the false discovery rate (FDR) method. In **i**, statistical assessments were  
482 performed using the two-sided unpaired *t*-test. In **j**, statistical assessments were performed  
483 using the Pearson correlation test. In **k** and **l**, statistical assessments were performed using  
484 Dunnett's multiple comparisons test. Data in **c-d** and **f**, **h-i** are represented as mean values with  
485 SEM and in **k-l**, as median values.

486 **Fig. 5. Mubritinib significantly delays the development of poor outcome AML in vivo.**

487 **a**, Summary of Mubritinib's mode of action: briefly, Mubritinib is a direct and ubiquinone-  
488 dependent ETC complex I inhibitor. Mubritinib treatment leads to an accumulation of ROS and  
489 cells undergo apoptosis. Mubritinib treatment also induces a decrease in ATP/ADP and  
490 NAD/NADH concentration ratios, as well as in PDH, TCA and OXPHOS activities. In this  
491 context,  
492 expression of GOT1 (due to Aspartate rarefaction) and HK1 (due to OXPHOS impairment)  
493 becomes synthetic lethal. **b**, Overview of the in vivo treatment protocol. **c**, Fold change of  
494 mouse weights upon treatment. **d**, Representative bone marrow cytopins and spleen tissue  
495 sections and **e**, flow cytometry data of bone marrow and spleen hematopoietic cells at day 29  
496 (see also Fig. S5b-c). Absolute counts of tdTomato-positive cells in **f**, the bone marrow of 6  
497 bones (hips, femurs and tibias) and in **g**, the spleen at day 29, (see also Fig. S5d). **h**,

498 Percentage of mice surviving from the aggressive MLL-AF9 AML model following Mubritinib  
499 treatment. FC= Fold Change. Statistical assessments in **c** and **f-g** were performed using the  
500 Mann-Whitney test and in **h** using the log-rank test. Data in **c** and **f-g** are represented as  
501 median values.

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655

## 656 **Online Methods**

### 657 **Experimental models and subject details**

#### 658 **Primary cell cultures**

659 This study was approved by the Research Ethics Boards of Université de Montréal,  
660 Maisonneuve-Rosemont Hospital (Montreal, QC, Canada) and Charles LeMoyné Hospital  
661 (Greenfield Park, QC, Canada). All AML samples were collected between 2001 and 2017  
662 according to the procedures of the Banque de Cellules Leucémiques du Québec (BCLQ) and  
663 with informed consents. Detailed information about primary samples are indicated in Table S1  
664 and Table S2. Frozen AML mono-nucleated cells were thawed at 37°C in Iscove's modified  
665 Dulbecco's medium (IMDM) containing 20% FBS and DNase I (100µg/mL). Cells were then  
666 cultured in optimized AML growth medium as previously reported<sup>6</sup>: IMDM, 15% BIT (bovine  
667 serum albumin, insulin, transferrin; Stem Cell Technologies), 100 ng/mL SCF, 50 ng/mL FLT3-L,  
668 20 ng/mL IL-3, 20 ng/mL G-CSF (Shenandoah), 10<sup>-4</sup>M β-mercaptoethanol, 500nM SR1  
669 (Alichem), 500nM UM729 (synthesized at the Medicinal Chemistry Core Facility at the Institute  
670 for Research in Immunology and Cancer (IRIC)), gentamicin (50µg/mL) and ciprofloxacin  
671 (10µg/mL).

672 Control cord blood cells were collected from consenting mothers at the Charles LeMoyné  
673 Hospital (Greenfield Park, QC, Canada). Before usage in chemical screens, CD34-positive cord  
674 blood cells were isolated using the EasySep kit (StemCell Technologies, Vancouver, Canada)  
675 and cultivated for 6 days in UM171-supplemented media, as described in<sup>57</sup>. During chemical  
676 screening, cord blood cells were grown in StemSpan-ACF (Stemcell Technologies 09855)  
677 containing SCF 100ng/mL, TPO 50ng/mL, FLT3-L 100ng/mL, Glutamax 1X, LDL 10µg/mL and  
678 ciprofloxacin (10µg/mL) as well as 500nM SR1 and 35nM UM171.

#### 679 **Cell lines**

680 BT474 female cells were a kind gift from the laboratory of Sylvie Mader and were cultured in  
681 DMEM 10% FBS. OCI-AML2, OCI-AML3 and OCI-AML5 male cells were provided by the The  
682 University Health Network (Toronto). OCI-AML5 cells were expanded in alpha-MEM, 20% heat-  
683 inactivated FBS, 10ng/mL GM-CSF (Shenandoah). OCI-AML2 and OCI-AML3 cells were  
684 cultured in alpha-MEM, 20% heat-inactivated FBS. NOMO-1 female and NALM-6 male cells  
685 were purchased from DSMZ and cultured in RPMI 1640, 10% heat-inactivated FBS. HEK-293T  
686 female cells were purchased from ATCC and grown in alpha-MEM 10% FBS.

687 Murine leukemias (female cells) were generated by infection with VSV-G-pseudotyped MSCV  
688 MLL-AF9 IRES Puro (subcloned from a construct by Frédéric Barabé, Laval U, Québec, QC,  
689 Canada) as described before<sup>7</sup>. Secondary infections of MLL-AF9 cells with tdTomato  
690 expressing MSCV vectors were done by GPE+86 co-culture under the same conditions or by  
691 spinoculation (1,000g, 32°C, 2h) with VSV-G pseudotyped Plat-A virus-containing supernatant  
692 in the presence of polybrene. Murines were cultivated in (IMDM, 10% heat-inactivated FBS, 100  
693 ng/mL rmSCF (Shenandoah), 10 ng/mL rmlL-3 (Shenandoah), 10 ng/mL rhIL-6 (Shenandoah),  
694 10<sup>-4</sup>M 2-mercaptoethanol.

695 All cell lines were grown in humidified incubators at 37 degrees Celsius and 5% CO<sub>2</sub>.

#### 696 **Animals**

697 All animal procedures complied with recommendations of the Canadian Council on Animal Care  
698 and were approved by the Deontology Committee on Animal Experimentation at University of  
699 Montreal. For the MLL-AF9 study, C57BL/6J female mice were purchased from Jackson  
700 Laboratory (Bar Harbor, Maine, #000664) and bred in a pathogen-free animal facility. 8 to 12-  
701 week-old sub-lethally irradiated (500cGy, <sup>137</sup>Cs-gamma source) C57BL/6J mice were used. For  
702 the study of Mubritinib's effect on normal hematopoiesis *in vivo*, B6.SJL-*Ptprca*<sup>a</sup> *Pepec*<sup>b</sup>/BoyJ

703 (Pep3B) female mice were purchased from Jackson Laboratory (Bar Harbor, Maine, #002014)  
704 and bred in a pathogen-free animal facility. 8 to 12-week-old sub-lethally irradiated (500cGy,  
705 <sup>137</sup>Cs-gamma source) Pep3B mice were used. For all experiments, littermates of the same sex  
706 were randomly assigned to experimental groups.

## 707 **Method details**

### 708 **Chemical screens**

709 All powders were dissolved in DMSO and diluted in culture medium immediately before use.  
710 Final DMSO concentration in all conditions was 0.1%. Cells were seeded in 384-well plates in  
711 50µL media per well at the following densities: AML patient cells, 5,000 cells per well; Cord  
712 blood cells, 2,000 cells per well; OCI-AML3 cells, 150 cells per well; BT474 cells, 2000 cells per  
713 well; MLL-AF9 cells and HOXA9/MEIS1 cells, 90 cells per well; AML/ETO cells, 1350 cells per  
714 well. Compounds were added to seeded cells in serial dilutions (10 dilutions, 1:3 or 8 dilutions,  
715 1:4), in duplicates or quadruplicates. Cells treated with 0.1% DMSO without additional  
716 compound were used as negative controls. Viable cell counts per well were evaluated after 5  
717 days of culture (for murine cells) or 6 days of culture (for human cells) using the CellTiter-Glo  
718 assay (Promega) according to the manufacturer's instruction. The percent of inhibition was  
719 calculated as follows:  $100 - (100 \times (\text{mean luminescence}(\text{compound}) / \text{mean luminescence}(\text{DMSO})))$ ;  
720 where mean-luminescence(compound) corresponds to the average of luminescent signals  
721 obtained for the compound-treated cells, and mean-luminescence(DMSO) corresponds to the  
722 average of luminescent signals obtained for the control DMSO-treated cells.

### 723 **Assessment of Mubritinib's activity *in vivo*.**

724 MLL-AF9 cells used in this study originate from the diseased bone marrow of a primary recipient  
725 C57BL/6J female mouse transplanted with MSCV MLL-AF9 ires Puro-T2A-rtTA2 and MSCV  
726 ires tdTomato infected cells as described in <sup>7</sup>. Briefly 100,000 such cells were transplanted *via*  
727 the tail vein into 8 to 12-week-old sub-lethally irradiated (500cGy, <sup>137</sup>Cs-gamma source)  
728 C57BL/6J mice. In a first experiment, mice were fed once daily by oral gavage either vehicle  
729 (0.86% Natrosol/14% DMSO solution, 10µL/g of mouse, n=10 recipient mice) or 20mg/kg  
730 Mubritinib (n=9 recipient mice), following the experimental scheme shown in Fig. 5a. Mice were  
731 sacrificed at day 29 and their bone marrow (2 hips, 2 femurs and 2 tibias) and spleens were  
732 analyzed by histology (bone marrow cytopspins were colored using the Wright Giemsa stain and  
733 Hematoxylin and Eosin staining was used for paraffin sections of spleens), as well as by flow  
734 cytometry. In a second experiment, we counted the number of mice dying from leukemia after  
735 being fed once daily by oral gavage either vehicle (n=10 recipient mice) 10mg/kg or 20mg/kg  
736 Mubritinib (n=9 recipient mice each), following the experimental scheme shown in Fig. 5a,  
737 extended until day 35. Mice were sacrificed when they showed marked leukemic symptoms.  
738 AML development in sacrificed animals was confirmed by detection of high percentages (>80%)  
739 of tdTomato positive cells in the bone marrow and spleens by flow cytometry. For the evaluation  
740 of Mubritinib's effect on normal hematopoiesis, 8 to 12-week-old sub-lethally irradiated (500cGy,  
741 <sup>137</sup>Cs-gamma source) Pep3B mice were fed once daily by oral gavage either vehicle (0.86%  
742 Natrosol/14% DMSO solution, 10µL/g of mouse, n=5 recipient mice) or 10mg/kg Mubritinib (n=5  
743 recipient mice), following the experimental scheme shown in Fig. S5e. Mice were sacrificed at  
744 day 29 and bone marrow (analysis by flow cytometry, see below and Key resources Table) as  
745 well as blood samples were collected. Cell blood counts were performed at the McGill  
746 Diagnostic and Research Support Service Laboratory at the Comparative Medicine and Animal  
747 Resources Centre (CMARC), using the scil Vet ABC Plus hematology analyzer: WBCs, RBCs,  
748 and platelets were counted via electrical impedance, hemoglobin was measured by photometry,  
749 and hematocrit was calculated. Haptoglobin levels were measured by photometric methodology  
750 by IDEXX Laboratories (Markham, Ontario), using a Cobas 6000 automated chemistry analyzer.

## 751 [Flow cytometry analyses](#)

752 Antibodies used in the study are listed in the Key Resources Table. Dead cells were stained  
753 using Propidium iodide at a final concentration of 1 $\mu$ g/mL. For reactive oxygen species  
754 quantification, cells were stained with 1 $\mu$ M H2DCFDA (Thermo Fisher, D399) for 30 minutes  
755 under normal growth conditions. For absolute cell counts, counting beads (CountBright™  
756 Absolute Counting Beads by Molecular Probes) were added to FACS tubes. Cells were  
757 analyzed on LSRII flow cytometer (BD Bioscience), BD Canto II cytometer (BD Bioscience) or  
758 on an IQue Screener (Intellicyt) and results were analyzed with BD FACS Diva 4.1 and FlowJo  
759 softwares.

## 760 [Next-generation sequencing and mutation quantification](#)

761 Workflow for sequencing, mutation analysis and transcripts quantification of the Leucegene  
762 cohort have been described previously<sup>12</sup>. Briefly, libraries were constructed with TruSeq RNA /  
763 TruSeq DNA Sample Preparation Kits (Illumina). Sequencing was performed using an Illumina  
764 HiSeq 2000 with 200 cycles paired end runs. Sequence data were mapped to the reference  
765 genome hg19 using the Illumina Casava 1.8.2 package and Elandv2 mapping software  
766 according to RefSeq annotations (UCSC, April 16<sup>th</sup> 2014). Variants were identified using  
767 Casava 1.8.2 and fusions or larger mutations such as partial tandem duplications with Tophat  
768 2.0.7 and Cufflinks 2.1.1. Transcript levels are given as Reads Per Kilobase per Million mapped  
769 reads (RPKM) and genes are annotated according to RefSeq annotations (UCSC, April 16<sup>th</sup>  
770 2014).

## 771 [Weighted gene co-expression network analysis \(WGCNA\)](#)

772 Sequencing of the 200 primary specimens was performed using the Illumina HiSeq 2000 device  
773 with 200 cycles paired-end runs. Resulting reads were aligned to the Genome Reference  
774 Consortium Human Build 38 patch release 84 (GRCh38.84) using STAR aligner v.2.5.1<sup>58</sup> and  
775 counted with the RNA-Seq by Expectation Maximization (RSEM) software v1.2.28<sup>59</sup>.  
776 The R package WGCNA<sup>38</sup> was used to perform a weighted correlation network analysis with  
777 normalized expression data (TPM) as input. Co-expression similarities were obtained by  
778 calculating Pearson's correlations between genes. Adjacencies were computed by raising co-  
779 expression similarities to a power  $\beta = 12$  (soft thresholding).  $\beta$  was chosen as the lowest integer  
780 allowing the resulting network to exhibit an approximate scale-free topology (as advised in the  
781 original method<sup>38</sup>). The adjacency matrix obtained was transformed into Topological Overlap  
782 Matrix (TOM)<sup>60</sup> and a clustering tree constructed by average linkage hierarchical clustering  
783 using the corresponding dissimilarities (1-TOM). Module detection was then conducted using  
784 the Dynamic Tree Cut method<sup>61</sup> (minimum module size = 20; deepSplit = 3). Correlations  
785 between eigengenes (first principal component of each module) and Mubritinib GI50 values  
786 were computed and significance assigned to each association. A Gene Significance (GS) was  
787 also assigned to each individual gene composing a module. A GO terms enrichment analysis  
788 using the hyperGTest function (ontology = 'BP', pvalueCutoff = 0.05; testDirection = 'over') from  
789 the GOstats package<sup>62</sup> was performed for each module using significantly associated genes  
790 (p.GS < 0.05).

## 791 [LC/MS metabolite measurements.](#)

792 NAD, NADH, ATP, ADP, AMP and Acetyl CoA measurements were carried out at the  
793 Biopharmacy platform at Université de Montréal. OCI-AML3 cells (treated with either DMSO or  
794 Mubritinib 500nM for 20h) were washed with ice cold 150mM NH4 formate (pH 7.4) and  
795 resulting cell pellets lysed by adding 400 $\mu$ L of ice-cold 65% (v/v) methanol / 50mM NH4HCO3,  
796 pH 8,0 on dry ice, followed by 2 min of sonication in a sonic water bath. After a 20 min  
797 incubation period on dry ice, lysates were centrifuged at 14,000g for 5 min at 4°C to pellet the  
798 cell debris. The polar metabolite-containing supernatants were transferred to new tubes on dry

799 ice and kept at  $-80^{\circ}\text{C}$  until analysis. Quantification of metabolites was performed using a triple  
800 quadrupole mass spectrometer (SCIX API4000 QTRAP) and the metabolites were separated  
801 using a pH gradient on a weak anion exchange column (Thermo Biobasic AX) in HILIC mode.

802  
803 All other LC/MS metabolite measurements were carried out at the McGill Metabolomics core  
804 facility. Authentic metabolite standards were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich Co., while the  
805 following LC/MS grade solvents and additives were purchased from Fisher: ammonium acetate,  
806 formic acid, water, methanol, and acetonitrile. OCI-AML3 cells (5 million cells, quadruplicates,  
807 treated with either DMSO or Mubritinib 500nM for 20h) were washed twice with ice-cold 150mM  
808 ammonium formate pH 7.2. Metabolites were then extracted using 380 $\mu\text{l}$  of LC/MS grade 50%  
809 methanol/50% water mixture and 220 $\mu\text{l}$  of cold acetonitrile. Samples were then homogenized by  
810 the addition of 6 1.4mm ceramic beads and bead beating 2min at 30Hz (TissueLyser, Qiagen).  
811 A volume of 300 $\mu\text{l}$  of ice-cold water and 600 $\mu\text{l}$  of ice-cold methylene chloride were added to the  
812 lysates. Samples were vortexed and allowed to rest on ice for 10 min for phase separation  
813 followed by centrifugation at 4,000rpm for 5min. The upper aqueous layer was transferred to a  
814 fresh pre-chilled tube. Samples were dried by vacuum centrifugation operating at  $-4^{\circ}\text{C}$   
815 (Labconco) and stored at  $-80^{\circ}\text{C}$  until ready for LC-MS/MS data collection.

816 For targeted semi-quantitative analysis of Amino acids or nucleotides LC-MS/MS was utilized.  
817 Specimens were first re-suspended in 50 $\mu\text{L}$  of water and clarified by centrifugation for 5 min at  
818 15,000 rpm at  $1^{\circ}\text{C}$ . Samples were maintained at  $4^{\circ}\text{C}$  for the duration of the LC-MS/MS analysis  
819 in the autosampler. Analysis of nucleotides was performed first followed by analysis of amino  
820 acids and citric acid cycle intermediates. Multiple reaction monitoring (MRM) transitions were  
821 optimized on standards for each metabolite analyzed. Data were quantified by integrating the  
822 area under the curve of each sample compound using MassHunter Quant (Agilent  
823 Technologies) and compared to a dilution series of authentic standard dissolved in water.  
824 These data are considered semi-quantitative due to potential uncorrected matrix effects.

825 For nucleotide analysis, a volume of 5 $\mu\text{L}$  was injected an Agilent 6430 Triple Quadrupole (QQQ)  
826 equipped with a1290 Infinity ultra-performance LC system (Agilent Technologies, Santa Clara,  
827 CA, USA). Separation was achieved using Scherzo SM-C18 column 3 $\mu\text{m}$ , 3.0 $\times$ 150mm (Imtakt  
828 Corp, JAPAN) maintained at  $10^{\circ}\text{C}$ . The chromatographic gradient started at 100% solvent A  
829 (5mM ammonium acetate in water) followed by a 5min gradient to 100 % solvent B (200mM  
830 ammonium acetate in 20% acetonitrile). The gradient was held at 100% solvent B for 5 min.  
831 The flow rate was set for 0.4mL/min. The column was then re-equilibrated at 100% solvent A  
832 for 6 min before the next injection.

833 After extensive re-equilibration to a different solvent system, the same column and instrument  
834 were used for amino acid and citric acid cycle intermediate detection. Separation was achieved  
835 using a gradient starting gradient started at 100% mobile phase A (0.2% formic acid in water)  
836 with a 2min hold followed with a 6min gradient to 80% B (0.2 % formic acid in MeOH) at a flow  
837 rate of 0.4 ml/min and column temperature of  $10^{\circ}\text{C}$ . This was followed by a 5min hold time at  
838 100% mobile phase B and a subsequent re-equilibration time (6 min) before the next injection.

### 839 [LC/MS proteomics and phospho-proteomics approaches.](#)

#### 840 [Protein extraction and enzymatic digestion.](#)

841 Cells were lysed by sonication in lysis buffer (1% sodium deoxycholate, 100 mM  $\text{NH}_4\text{HCO}_3$  pH  
842 8.0, 10 mM TCEP and 40 mM chloroacetamide supplemented with HALT phosphatase inhibitor  
843 cocktail, Pierce) with subsequent 5 min incubation at  $95^{\circ}\text{C}$ . Samples were centrifuged at 40,000  
844 x g for 10 min, and the supernatants were transferred into clean tubes prior to determination of  
845 protein concentrations by BCA-RC assay (Thermo Fisher Scientific). Proteins were digested  
846 with trypsin (Sigma-Aldrich) overnight at  $37^{\circ}\text{C}$  using an enzyme to substrate ratio of 1:50 (w/w).  
847 Tryptic digests were acidified with FA to final of 1% (v/v), centrifuged (20,000 x g 10 min) and



848 desalted on Oasis HLB cartridges (Waters) according to manufacturer instructions. Peptide  
849 eluates were snap-frozen in liquid nitrogen, lyophilized in a speedvac centrifuge and stored at -  
850 80°C.

#### 851 Phosphopeptide isolation and fractionation.

852 Tryptic digests were subjected to enrichment on TiO<sub>2</sub> beads as described previously<sup>63</sup>. Sample  
853 loading, washing, and elution steps were performed using custom StageTips<sup>64,65</sup> made from  
854 200 µL pipette tips containing a SDB-XC membrane (3M) frit and filled with TiO<sub>2</sub> beads. We  
855 equilibrate TiO<sub>2</sub> material in 250 mM lactic acid 70% ACN 3% TFA, the same buffer is used for  
856 sample loading. After extensive washing steps retained phosphopeptides were displaced from  
857 TiO<sub>2</sub> with 500 mM phosphate buffer at pH=7. Peptides were desalted in 50 µL of 1% FA directly  
858 on SDB-XC frits and subsequently eluted using 50 µL of 50% acetonitrile (ACN) 1% FA. Eluates  
859 were dried in a speedvac and stored at -80°C. Prior to LC-MS/MS analyses peptides were  
860 resuspended in 10 µL of 4%.

#### 861 Mass spectrometry.

862 Peptides were analyzed by LC-MS/MS using a Proxeon nanoflow HPLC system coupled to a  
863 tribrid Fusion mass spectrometer (Thermo Fisher Scientific). Each sample was loaded and  
864 separated on a reverse-phase analytical column (18 cm length, 150 µm i.d.) (Jupiter C<sub>18</sub>, 3µm,  
865 300 Å, Phenomenex) packed manually. LC separations were performed at a flow rate of 0.6  
866 µL/min using a linear gradient of 5-30 % aqueous ACN (0.2% FA) in 106 minutes. MS spectra  
867 were acquired with a resolution of 60,000. "TopSpeed" (maximum number of sequencing events  
868 within 5 sec window) method was used for data dependent scans on the most intense ions  
869 using high energy dissociation (HCD). AGC target values for MS and MS/MS scans were set to  
870 5e5 (max fill time 200 ms) and 5e4 (max fill time 200 ms), respectively. The precursor isolation  
871 window was set to m/z 1.6 with a HCD normalized collision energy of 25. The dynamic  
872 exclusion window was set to 30s.

#### 873 Data processing and analysis.

874 MS data were analyzed using MaxQuant<sup>66,67</sup> software version 1.3.0.3 and searched against the  
875 SwissProt subset of the *H. Sapiens* uniprot database (<http://www.uniprot.org/>). A list of 248  
876 common laboratory contaminants included in MaxQuant was also added to the database as well  
877 as reversed versions of all sequences. The enzyme specificity was set to trypsin with a  
878 maximum number of missed cleavages set to 2. Peptide identification was performed with an  
879 allowed initial precursor mass deviation up to 7 ppm and an allowed fragment mass deviation of  
880 20 ppm with subsequent non-linear mass re-calibration<sup>68</sup>. Phosphorylation of serine, threonine  
881 and tyrosine residues was searched as variable modification; carbamidomethylation of  
882 cysteines was searched as a fixed modification. The false discovery rate (FDR) for peptide,  
883 protein, and site identification was set to 1% and was calculated using decoy database  
884 approach. The minimum peptide length was set to 6, and the 'peptide requantification' function  
885 was enabled. The option match between runs (1 min time tolerance) was enabled to correlate  
886 identification and quantitation results across different runs. In addition to an FDR of 1% set for  
887 peptide, protein and phosphosite identification levels, we considered only phosphosites for  
888 which localization confidence was higher than 75%. Relative quantification of the peptides  
889 against their heavy-labeled counterparts was performed with MaxQuant using area under 3D  
890 peptide peak shapes<sup>66,67</sup>.

#### 891 Whole genome CRISPR/Cas9 screen.

892 The Extended Knockout (EKO) pooled lentiviral library of 278,754 sgRNAs targeting 19,084  
893 RefSeq genes, 3,872 hypothetical ORFs and 20,852 alternatively spliced isoforms was  
894 introduced within a clone of the NALM-6 pre-B lymphocytic cells line with a doxycycline-  
895 inducible Cas9 was described previously<sup>44</sup>. NALM-6 cells at 200,000 cells per ml were exposed



896 for a period of 3 days to various concentrations of Mubritinib and luminescence output following  
897 addition of the cell viability CellTiter-Glo assay reagent (Promega) was measured with a Biotek  
898 Synergy Neo multi-mode microplate reader. With this pattern of NALM-6 growth inhibition in  
899 response to amount of compound used (GI50 value close to 500 nM), we estimated that 200nM  
900 would inhibit growth sufficiently to observe growth rescue phenotypes while still allowing enough  
901 growth to observe drug sensitivity phenotypes. The EKO library (kept at a minimum of 250 cells  
902 per sgRNA) was thawed and cultured in 10% FBS RPMI supplemented with 2 ug/mL  
903 doxycycline for a period of 7 days to induce knockouts with dilutions to 400,000 cells per ml  
904 every 2 days. At day 7, 70 million cells were spun at 1,200 rpm for 5 min, washed with 1X PBS,  
905 pelleted and frozen (Day 7 control). The library was left to expand 8 more days without  
906 doxycycline with 200 nM Mubritinib (a total of 100 cells per sgRNA on average) or DMSO only  
907 (250 cells per sgRNA). Cell concentration was assessed every 2 days and cells diluted back to  
908 400,000 cells per ml whenever cell concentration was higher than 800,000 cells per ml. During  
909 this period, there were 7.6 population doublings for the DMSO control while the treated cells had  
910 only 3.5. Both samples were then PBS-washed and cell pellets frozen. Genomic DNA was  
911 extracted from all 3 samples using the QIAamp DNA blood maxi kit (Qiagen). SgRNA  
912 sequences were recovered and fitted with Illumina adaptors by PCR and NGS performed on an  
913 Illumina HiSeq 2000 device (Génome Québec Innovation Center) as previously described<sup>44</sup>.  
914 Synthetic rescue/positive selection scores were determined using the RANKS algorithm<sup>44</sup> using  
915 sgRNA read numbers of the treated sample compared to the Day 7 control whereas synthetic  
916 lethal/negative selection scores were calculated by comparing the treated sample to the Day 15  
917 control.

#### 918 [Molecular modelling](#)

919 The MOE package (Molecular Operating Environment (MOE), 2018.0101; Chemical Computing  
920 Group ULC, 1010 Sherbrooke St. West, Suite #910, Montreal, QC, Canada, H3A 2R7, 2018)  
921 was used for structural analysis, protein protonation (Protonate 3D approach, Amber10:EHT  
922 forcefield), molecular docking and rendering. Docking of Mubritinib and analogs was performed  
923 on the bovine complex I structure (PDB entry 5LC5),<sup>69</sup> and the search area was restricted to  
924 the ubiquinone binding site. The theoretical binding model of Mubritinib was derived from the  
925 analysis of the best docking poses obtained with Mubritinib and the active analogs.

#### 926 [Click chemistry](#)

927 BT474 for were plated on IBIDI 6-well slides the day prior to the experiment at a density of  
928 200,000 cells per well. The next day, cells were treated for 2 hours with the alkyne Mubritinib  
929 probe at 10µM in normal growth conditions. Cells were then stained with Mitotracker green  
930 100nM for 15min (ThermoFisher Scientific, M7514), or ERBB2-FITC 1:10 for 20min (Biolegend,  
931 324404). Cells were then washed twice in PBS, 2%FBS and the click reaction was carried out in  
932 a solution of copper (2.5mM) and ascorbate (5mM) in PBS together with a Cy5 click dye (1:200)  
933 at room temperature for one hour. Cells were then washed in PBS and counterstained with  
934 DAPI (1:2000) for 2min. Pictures were taken on a confocal microscope LSM700, using the  
935 Software ZEN lite from ZEISS Microscopy.

#### 936 [shRNA validations](#)

937 Lentiviral vectors carrying shRNAs targeting candidate genes were generated by cloning  
938 appropriate shRNA sequences as described in<sup>70</sup> into the MNDU-GFP-miRE vector. Control  
939 vector (shLUC1.1309) contained shRNA targeting luciferase.  
940 HEK293T cells were transfected with 0.75µg lentiviral plasmid, 0.5µg PAX2 packaging plasmid  
941 and 0.15µg VSV-G envelope plasmid using 3µL JetPrime Transfection reagent (PolyPlus  
942 Transfection), according to manufacturer's directions. Viral supernatant was collected after 48  
943 hours, filtered and 0.5mL was added fresh to 300,000 OCI-AML3 cells in a 24 well plate, with

944 the addition of 10µg/mL protamine sulfate. Cells were infected by spinoculation at 1,000g for  
945 2hrs at 32°C. Virus was washed off cells after overnight incubation and cells re-plated in alpha-  
946 MEM 20% FBS. Infection efficiency (%GFP positive) and cell counts were assessed 48hr post-  
947 infection using an iQue Flow cytometer (Intellicyt) and Tru-count beads (BD Bioscience).  
948 Infection of OCI-AML3 cells resulted in 70–98% GFP+ cells. Knockdown assessments were  
949 carried out 2 to 4 days post-infection: RNA was harvested in Trizol (ThermoFisher) and isolated  
950 according to manufacturer's protocol and reverse transcribed using MMLV reverse transcriptase  
951 and random primers (ThermoFisher). Quantitative PCR was performed for shRNA target genes  
952 using validated assays designed for the Universal Probe Library (Roche) on the Vii7 (Applied  
953 Biosystems). Relative quantity of target is normalized to HPRT and compared to normalized  
954 expression in shLUC1.1309 infected control cells.

#### 955 **NDI1 ectopic expression**

956 HEK293T cells were transfected with 0.75µg lentiviral plasmid (pLenti6.3/V5 NDI-1 or  
957 pLenti6.3/V5 GFP), 0.5mg PAX2 packaging plasmid and 0.15µg VSV-G envelope plasmid using  
958 3µL JetPrime Transfection reagent (PolyPlus Transfection), according to manufacturer's  
959 directions. Viral supernatant was collected after 48 hours, filtered and fresh viral supernatant  
960 (0.5mL) was added to 300,000 OCI-AML3 cells in a 24 well plate, in the presence of 10mg/mL  
961 protamine sulfate. Cells were infected by spinoculation at 1,000g for 2hrs at 32°C. Virus was  
962 washed off cells after overnight incubation and cells re-plated in alpha-MEM 20% FBS. After  
963 infection, transduced cells were selected through growth in 7 µg/mL blasticidin. Blasticidin  
964 selected cells were subsequently treated for 6 days with either DMSO, Rotenone (40nM) or  
965 Mubritinib (40nM). Cell viability was measured using CellTiter-Glo (Promega).

#### 966 **Leukemic stem cell (LSC) frequency assessment.**

967 LSC frequencies were assessed in immunocompromised NSG mice using limiting dilution  
968 assays, as detailed previously<sup>10</sup>. NOD.Cg-Prkdc<sup>scid</sup> Il2rg<sup>tm1Wjl</sup>/SzJ (NSG) mice were purchased  
969 from Jackson Laboratory (Bar Harbor, Maine) and bred in a pathogen-free animal facility. AML  
970 samples were transplanted via the tail vein into 8 to 12-week-old sub-lethally irradiated (250cGy,  
971 <sup>137</sup>Cs-gamma source) NSG mice. AML cells were transplanted at four different cell doses in  
972 groups of four recipient mice directly after thawing. Human leukemic engraftment in mouse bone  
973 marrow was determined by flow cytometry between 10- and 16-weeks post-transplant. On  
974 average 150,000 gated events were acquired. Mice were considered positive if human cells  
975 represented > 1% of the bone marrow cell population. Mice were excluded only in case of  
976 obvious non-leukemia related death (e.g., first two weeks after irradiation). To discriminate  
977 between engraftment of leukemic and normal cells present in unsorted patient samples only  
978 recipients with proportions of CD45<sup>+</sup>CD33<sup>+</sup> or CD45<sup>+</sup>CD34<sup>+</sup> cells higher than proportions of  
979 CD19<sup>+</sup>CD33<sup>-</sup> or CD3<sup>+</sup> were considered to harbor cells of leukemic origin.

#### 980 **Enzymatic activity assays.**

981 PDH activity kit was purchased from Abcam, Cambridge, UK (ab109902) and the assay was  
982 carried out following the manufacturer's recommendations using proteins extracted from OCI-  
983 AML3 cells exposed to DMSO or Mubritinib 500nM for 20h, or proteins extracted from OCI-  
984 AML3 cells exposed to Mubritinib (25µM) after immunocapture of the complex.

985 The cell-free activity assays for the different ETC complexes were purchased from Abcam:  
986 complex I: ab109903, complex II+III: ab109905, complex IV: ab109906, complex V: ab109907.  
987 All kits were used in accordance with the manufacturer's protocol. Cell-free IC50 values  
988 (concentration inducing 50% of inhibition of the enzyme's activity) were calculated using  
989 GraphPad® Prism 4.03 (La Jolla, CA, USA) by four-parameter-non-linear curve fitting methods.  
990 Finally, the ubiquinone-independent diaphorase complex I activity kit was purchased from  
991 Abcam (ab109721) and the assay was carried out following the manufacturer's

992 recommendations using proteins extracted from OCI-AML3 cells exposed to DMSO or  
993 Mubritinib 500nM for 20h.

#### 994 **Seahorse metabolic flux experiments**

995 Oxygen consumption rates and extracellular acidification rates were measured using a 96-well  
996 Seahorse Bioanalyzer XFe96 or XFe24 according to the manufacturer's instructions (Agilent  
997 Technologies). Seahorse XF Base medium was supplemented with 1mM pyruvate, 2mM  
998 glutamine and 10mM glucose in the case of Mitochondrial Stress Test and with 1mM pyruvate,  
999 2mM glutamine and no glucose in the case of Glycolytic Stress Test. The pH of the Seahorse  
1000 media was then adjusted at 7.4 prior to assay. In brief, leukemic cells were seeded into  
1001 Seahorse 96-well (or 24-well) plates pre-coated for 3 h with poly-lysine (Sigma-Aldrich, P4707)  
1002 at a density of 125,000 cells/well in 100uL (or 150,000 cells/well, in 150µL) of temperature/CO2  
1003 pre-adjusted Seahorse media per well. The Seahorse plates were then centrifuged at 1400rpm  
1004 for 5 min. An additional 75µL (or 375uL) of Seahorse media was then added and cells were  
1005 eventually analyzed following the manufacturer's instructions by adding compounds in a  
1006 constant volume of 25µL (or 75µL). Compounds were acutely injected in cells at a final  
1007 concentration of 1µM for Mubritinib, 1µM for Oligomycin, 0.5µM for FCCP, 0.5µM for  
1008 Rotenone/Antimycin A, Glucose 10mM and 2-Deoxy-Glucose 50mM. Leukemic cells from cell  
1009 lines were passaged in fresh standard culture media 24 prior to being harvested for Seahorse  
1010 analysis. Leukemic cells from primary AML specimens were thawed and cultured for 24h as  
1011 described in "Primary cell cultures" section before being harvested for Seahorse analysis.

#### 1012 **Quantification and statistical analysis**

1013 Analysis of differential gene expression was performed using the Wilcoxon rank-sum test and  
1014 the false discovery rate (FDR) method was applied for global gene analysis as previously  
1015 described<sup>12</sup>. Differential overall-survival p-values were calculated using the log-rank test. GI50  
1016 values (corresponding to the concentration of compound required to reach 50% of inhibition)  
1017 and cell free IC50 values were calculated using ActivityBase SARview Suite (IDBS, London,  
1018 UK) and GraphPad Prism 4.03 (La Jolla, CA, USA) by four-parameter-non-linear curve fitting  
1019 methods. Statistical probing methods for each figure are indicated in the corresponding figure  
1020 legends.

1021

1022 **Key reagents and resources table**

REAGENT or RESOURCE	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
<b>Antibodies</b>		
anti-human ERBB2 FITC	Biolegend	Catalog#324404, RRID:AB_756120
anti-Annexin V FITC	BD Biosciences	Catalog#556419, RRID:AB_2665412
anti-human CD45 FITC	BioLegend	BioLegend Cat# 304006, RRID:AB_314394
anti-human CD34 APC	BD Biosciences	BD Biosciences Cat# 555824, RRID:AB_398614
anti-human CD33 BV421	BD Biosciences	BD Biosciences Cat# 562854, RRID:AB_2737405
anti-human CD33 PE	BD Biosciences	BD Biosciences Cat# 347787, RRID:AB_400350
anti-human CD34 APC	StemCell Technologies	STEMCELL Technologies Cat# 10613, RRID:AB_215602
anti-human CD45, Pacific Blue	BioLegend	BioLegend Cat# 304029, RRID:AB_2174123
anti-human CD3 PE-Cy5	BD Biosciences	BD Biosciences Cat# 555334, RRID:AB_395741
anti-human CD19 PE-Cy7	BD Biosciences	BD Biosciences Cat# 557835, RRID:AB_396893
anti-mouse GR1 PE-Cy7	Abcam	Abcam Cat# ab25514, RRID:AB_470601
anti-mouse B220 FITC	BD Biosciences	BD Biosciences Cat# 553088, RRID:AB_394618
anti-mouse Ter-119 APC-Cy7	BD Biosciences	BD Biosciences Cat# 560509, RRID:AB_1645230
anti-mouse CD71 PE	eBioscience	Thermo Fisher Scientific Cat# 12- 0711-83, RRID:AB_465741
anti-mouse CD4 PE-Cy5	BD Biosciences	BD Biosciences Cat# 553050, RRID:AB_394586

anti-mouse CD8a APC	BD Biosciences	BD Biosciences Cat# 553035, RRID:AB_398527
anti-mouse Ter-119 biotin	BD Biosciences	BD Biosciences Cat# 553672, RRID:AB_394985
anti-mouse CD4 biotin	BD Biosciences	BD Biosciences Cat# 553728, RRID:AB_395012
anti-mouse B220 biotin	BD Biosciences	BD Biosciences Cat# 553085, RRID:AB_394615
anti-mouse GR1 biotin	BD Biosciences	BD Biosciences Cat# 553124, RRID:AB_394640
anti-mouse CD11b biotin	BD Biosciences	BD Biosciences Cat# 553309, RRID:AB_394773
anti-mouse Sca1 PE-Cy5	eBioscience	Thermo Fisher Scientific Cat# 15-5981-82, RRID:AB_468819
anti-mouse C-kit/CD117 PE-Cy7	eBioscience	Thermo Fisher Scientific Cat# 25-1171-82, RRID:AB_469644
anti-mouse CD150 PE	BioLegend	BioLegend Cat# 115904, RRID:AB_313683
anti-mouse CD48 FITC	BD Biosciences	BD Biosciences Cat# 557484, RRID:AB_396724
streptavidin eFluor 450	eBioscience	Thermo Fisher Scientific Cat# 48-4317-82, RRID:AB_10359737
<b>Bacterial and virus strains</b>		
Extended Knockout (EKO) pooled lentiviral library of 278,754 sgRNAs	Bertomeu T. et al. Mol Cell Biol. 2017	N/A
<b>Biological Samples</b>		
Cord blood specimens	Charles LeMoyne Hospital (Greenfield Park, QC, Canada)	N/A
AML patient specimens	Banque de Cellules Leucémiques du Québec (BCLQ, Montreal, QC, Canada)	<a href="http://bclq.org/">http://bclq.org/</a> access codes : GSE67039, GSE49642, GSE52656, GSE62190 and GSE66917

Chemicals, Peptides, and Recombinant Proteins		
Mubritinib	Selleckchem	Catalog# S2216, CAS#366017-09-6
Mubritinib alkyne probe	This paper	N/A
Ubiquinone 1	Sigma	Catalog#C7956 CAS#727-81-1
SR1	Alichem	Catalog#41864 CAS# 1227633-49-9
UM171	Fares I. et al. 2014	N/A
UM729	Pabst C. et al. 2014	N/A
Critical Commercial Assays		
EasySep Human CD34 Positive Selection kit	StemCell Technologies	Catalog#18056
CellTiter-Glo	Promega	Catalog# G7573
PDH enzymatic assay	Abcam	Catalog#ab109902
Complex I ubiquinone-dependent cell free enzymatic assay	Abcam	Catalog#ab109903
Complex I ubiquinone independent enzymatic assay	Abcam	Catalog#ab109721
Complex II+II cell free enzymatic assay	Abcam	Catalog#ab109905
Complex IV cell free enzymatic assay	Abcam	Catalog#ab109906
Complex V cell free enzymatic assay	Abcam	Catalog#ab109907
MitotrackerGreen	ThermoFisher Scientific	Catalog#M7514
Experimental Models: Cell Lines		
OCI-AML3	The University Health Network, Toronto	N/A
OCI-AML2	The University Health Network, Toronto	N/A
OCI-AML5	The University Health Network, Toronto	N/A
BT474	Sylvie Mader, IRIC, Université de Montréal, Montréal, QC, Canada	N/A
NAML-6	DSMZ	Catalog#ACC-128 RRID:CVCL_0092
HEK-293T	ATCC	Catalog#ATCC-CRL-3216, RRID:CVCL_0063
NOMO-1	DSMZ	DSMZ Cat# ACC-542, RRID:CVCL_1609
MLL-AF9 murine cells	Lehnertz B. et al. Blood 2017	N/A
Experimental Models: Organisms/Strains		
C57BL/6J mice	The Jackson Laboratory	Catalog#JAX:000664 RRID:IMSR_JAX:000664

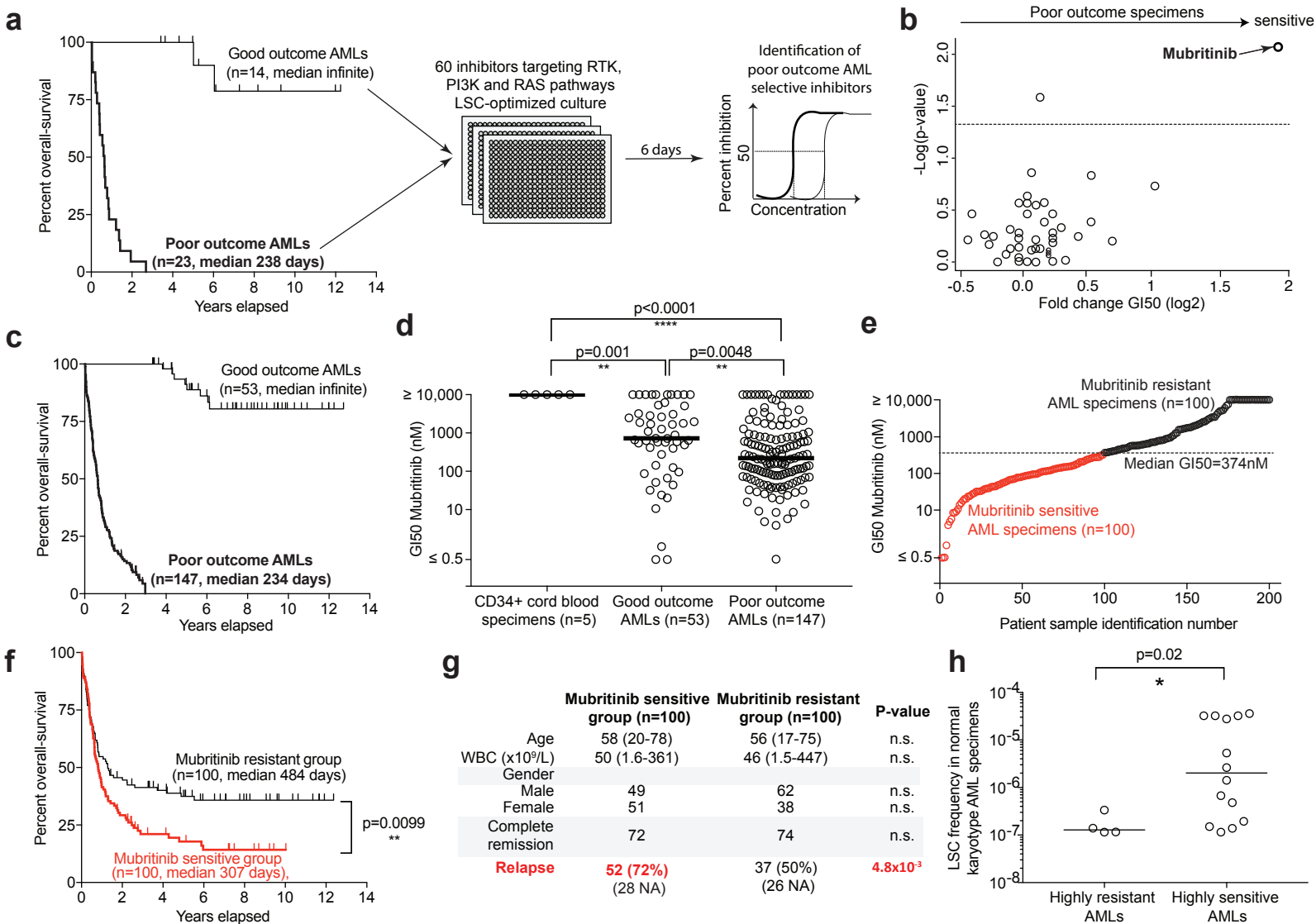


B6.SJL- <i>Ptprc<sup>a</sup> Pepc<sup>b</sup></i> /BoyJ (Pep3B)	The Laboratory Jackson	IMSR Cat# JAX:002014, RRID:IMSR_JAX:002014
NOD.Cg-Prkdc <sup>scid</sup> Il2rg <sup>tm1Wjl</sup> /SzJ	The Laboratory Jackson	IMSR Cat# JAX:005557, RRID:IMSR_JAX:005557
<b>Oligonucleotides</b>		
shRNA GOT1.653 targeting GOT1, sequence: TGCTGTTGACAGTGAGCGCCCGCTGCTGG TTTTAAAGACATAGTGAAGCCACAGATGTA TGTCTTTAAACCAGCAGCGGATGCCTACT GCCTCGGA	This paper	N/A
shRNA GOT1.569 targeting GOT1, sequence: TGCTGTTGACAGTGAGCGACGCGTTGGTA CAATGGAACAATAGTGAAGCCACAGATGTA TTGTTCCATTGTACCAACGCGCTGCCTACT GCCTCGGA	This paper	N/A
shRNA LUCI.1309 targeting luciferase, sequence: TGCTGTTGACAGTGAGCGCCCGCCTGAAG TCTCTGATTAATAGTGAAGCCACAGATGTA TTAATCAGAGACTTCAGGCGGTTGCCTACT GCCTCGGA	This paper	N/A
shRNA SLC25A51.391 targeting SLC25A51, sequence: TGCTGTTGACAGTGAGCGAAGGC TCAGATGTCACAGGTTATAGTGAAGCCACA GATGTATAACCTGTGACATCTGAGCCTGTG CCTACTGCCTCGGA	This paper	N/A
shRNA SLC25A51.1229 targeting SLC25A51, sequence: TGCTGTTGACAGTGAGCGCACG GGACAGAAACTGATAAATAGTGAAGCCAC AGATGTATTTATCAGTTTTCTGTCCCGTTTG CCTACTGCCTCGGA	This paper	N/A
pLenti6.3/V5 NDI-1 and pLenti6.3/V5 GFP	Molina et al., 2018	N/A
shRNA HK1.862 targeting HK1, sequence: TGCTGTTGACAGTGAGCGAAGGATGTGTAT CAATACAGAATAGTGAAGCCACAGATGTAT TCTGTATTGATACACATCCTCTGCCTACTG CCTCGGA	This paper	N/A
<b>Recombinant DNA</b>		
MNDU-GFP-miRE vector	Fares I. et al. Blood 2017	N/A
<b>Software and Algorithms</b>		
WGCNA R package	(Langfelder and Horvath, 2008)	N/A

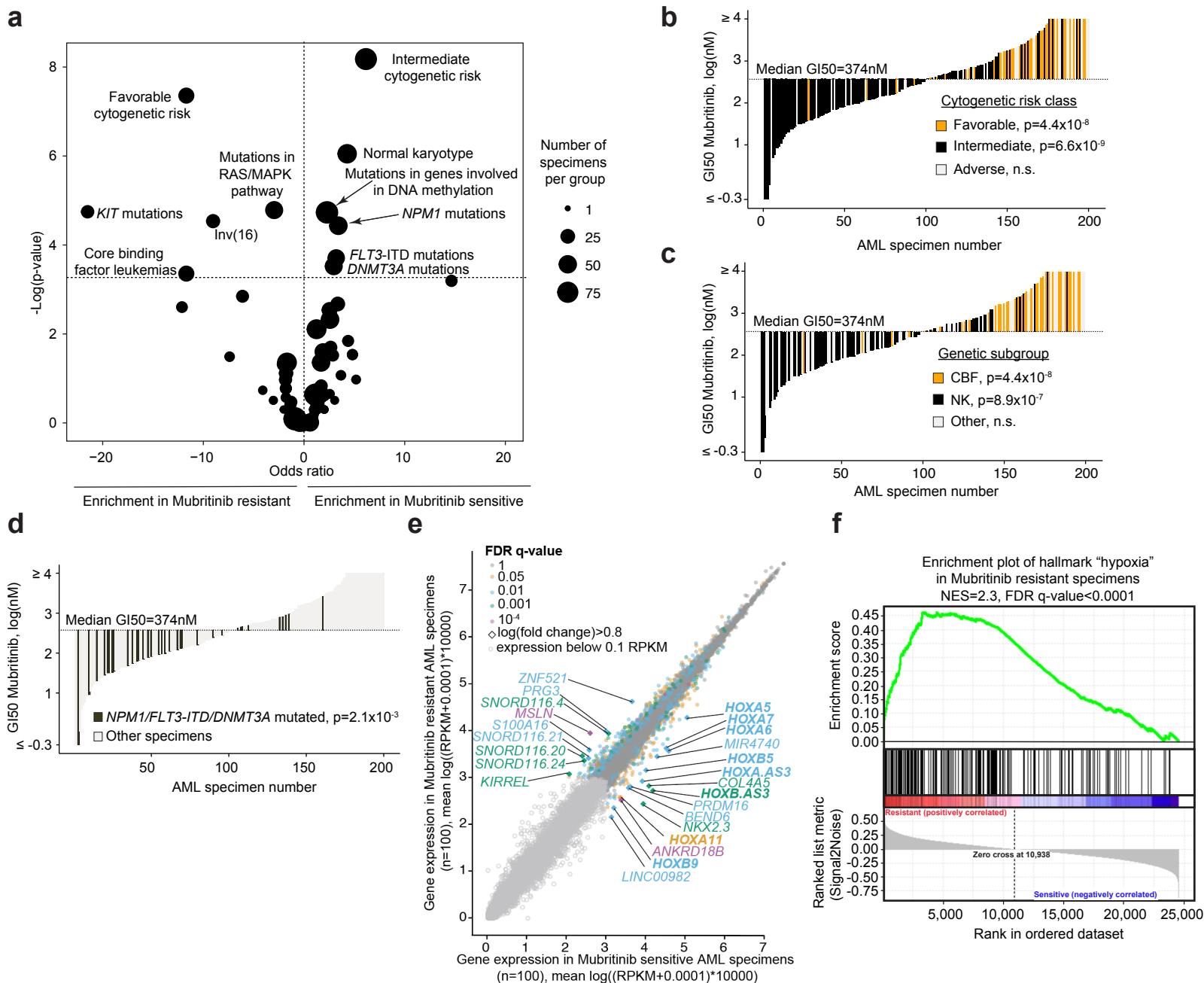
RANKS	Bertomeu T. et al. Mol Cell Biol. 2017	<a href="https://www.biorxiv.org/content/early/2017/02/10/107797">https://www.biorxiv.org/content/early/2017/02/10/107797</a>
MOE package	Molecular Operating Environment, 2018.0101; Chemical Computing Group ULC, 1010 Sherbooke St. West, Suite #910, Montreal, QC, Canada, H3A 2R7, 2018	N/A

1023

**Fig. 1. Identification of Mubritinib as a potent and selective inhibitor for poor outcome AML**



## Fig. 2. Clinical, mutational and transcriptional landscape of Mubritinib sensitivity in AML.



**g** Gene ontology analysis of top gene module correlating with Mubritinib sensitivity (decreasing GI50 values)

Rank	GO term	Description	P-value	FDR q-value	OddsRatio	ExpCount	Count	Size
1	GO:0032543	mitochondrial translation	9.93E-10	2.29E-07	7.17	2.98	18	122
2	GO:0140053	mitochondrial gene expression	9.96E-10	2.29E-07	6.68	3.35	19	137
3	GO:0006415	translational termination	3.42E-09	5.23E-07	7.67	2.49	16	102
4	GO:0070126	mitochondrial translational termination	2.73E-08	3.14E-06	7.77	2.15	14	88
5	GO:0070125	mitochondrial translational elongation	1.60E-07	1.47E-05	7.30	2.10	13	86
6	GO:0006399	tRNA metabolic process	2.88E-06	2.20E-04	4.19	4.50	17	184
7	GO:0043624	cellular protein complex disassembly	8.29E-06	4.42E-04	3.84	4.87	17	199
8	GO:0071822	protein complex subunit organization	8.52E-06	4.42E-04	1.87	40.69	69	1664
9	GO:0033108	mitochondrial respiratory chain complex assembly	8.66E-06	4.42E-04	5.90	2.13	11	87
10	GO:0044281	small molecule metabolic process	1.49E-05	6.43E-04	1.74	52.69	83	2155

**Fig. 3: Mubritinib impairs mitochondrial respiration**

