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Targeting Drug-Tolerant Persister Cells in Lung Adenocarcinoma

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ABSTRACT

A subpopulation of drug-tolerant persister cells underlies relapse after targeted therapy. We characterised persister states in lung adenocarcinoma using paired single-cell transcriptomic and chromatin-accessibility profiling across eight patient-derived models. Persisters converged on a shared quiescent programme marked by lysosomal expansion and dependence on GPX4. Pharmacological ferroptosis induction depleted the persister reservoir and delayed resistance in vivo.

KEYWORDS

persister cells, lung adenocarcinoma, targeted therapy, ferroptosis