

Unveiling integrin beta-6: real-world data from the IB6 expression and clinical outcomes in non-small cell lung cancer study

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Conclusions

- This is the first real-world study to delineate the prevalence of IB6-high expression in mNSCLC within routine clinical practice
- IB6-high expression is common in mNSCLC in this diverse population in the US, particularly in nonsquamous histology, with an observed prevalence of 79.2% (95% CI, 71.0- 85.9)
- Demographics, clinical characteristics, and biopsy characteristics were generally consistent across IB6-high vs IB6-low subpopulations, except for histology
- No initial trends were observed between IB6 expression status and PD-L1 or ALK, but potential trends between IB6 expression status with KRAS and EGFR may merit future investigation
- This study begins to characterize IB6-high vs -low expressors using this novel IHC assay and associated cutoff in patients with mNSCLC to inform future developments of IB6-directed therapies

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Background

- Integrin beta-6 (IB6), a member of the integrin superfamily of transmembrane adhesion proteins is overexpressed in several solid tumors, including non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC)^{1,2}
- As IB6 is a novel potential target in oncology, several clinical trials of IB6-directed agents are ongoing³⁻⁸
 - Sigvotatug vedotin (SV), an investigational IB6-directed antibody-drug conjugate, has shown encouraging activity in a first-in-human phase 1 study and is the subject of two ongoing phase 3 NSCLC studies^{2,5}
- Concurrent studies are also being conducted to characterize IB6 expression levels and patterns in patients with NSCLC⁹
 - Initial findings using commercially sourced nonsquamous NSCLC samples estimated a high prevalence of patients (79%) with IB6-high status⁹
- Here, we present results of the retrospective real-world study, BEACON (IB6 Expression and Clinical Outcomes in NSCLC); we characterize IB6-high expression in real-world NSCLC tissue samples and describe characteristics associated with IB6 status

Results

- After screening records for patients with NSCLC, 200 met eligibility criteria and were included in this study
- Overall, the median age was 67 years; 50.5% were male, 53.0% were White; and 70% had a nonsquamous cell carcinoma. Of the tissue samples, 34.0% were from primary tumors (Table 1)
- Demographic, clinical characteristics, and biopsy characteristics were generally consistent between the IB6-high vs IB6-low groups, except for histology (Figures 2-4)
- IB6-high expression was seen in 74.6% (95% CI, 67.6%-80.8%) of samples from the 181 patients with known IB6 IHC expression (Figure 4)
- IB6-high expression varied by histology, with IB6-high expression in 79.2% (95% CI, 71.0%-85.9%) of nonsquamous samples and 59.4% (95% CI, 40.6%-76.3) of squamous samples (Figure 4)
- PD-L1 expression was generally consistent across IB6-high and -low subgroups (Figure 5)
- Prevalence of KRAS G12C mutation and any EGFR mutation was slightly higher in the IB6-high vs the IB6-low subgroup
- Prevalence of ALK fusion was similar in the IB6-high and IB6-low subgroups

Table 1. Demographics, clinical, and biopsy characteristics of the overall population

	Overall (N=200)
Age at metastatic diagnosis	
Median (range), years	67.0 (37.0-85.0)
Sex, n (%)	
Male	101 (50.5)
Female	97 (48.5)
Not documented	2 (1.0)
Race, n (%)	
White	106 (53.0)
Black or African American	67 (33.5)
Asian	8 (4.0)
Other	16 (8.0)
Not documented	3 (1.5)
Ethnicity, n (%)	
Not Hispanic or Latino	184 (92.0)
Hispanic or Latino	13 (6.5)
Not documented	3 (1.5)
Institution type, n (%)	
Academic	190 (95.0)
Nonacademic	10 (5.0)
Primary tumor histology, n (%) ^a	
Nonsquamous ^b	140 (70.0)
Squamous	33 (16.5)
Not otherwise specified ^c	10 (5.0)
Unknown ^d	17 (8.5)
ECOG PS at metastatic diagnosis, n (%) ^e	
0	35 (17.5)
1	59 (29.5)
2+	24 (12.0)
Not documented	82 (41.0)
Smoking history, n (%)	
Former	97 (48.5)
Current	48 (24.0)
Never	31 (15.5)
Not documented	24 (12.0)
Number of metastatic sites at metastatic diagnosis, n (%) ^f	
1	118 (59.0)
2	44 (22.0)
3+	34 (17.0)
Not documented ^g	4 (2.0)
Biopsy type, n (%)	
Primary	68 (34.0)
Metastatic	132 (66.0)
Biopsy collection date	
Prior to metastatic diagnosis	31 (15.5)
On or after metastatic diagnosis	165 (82.5)
Not documented ^h	4 (2.0)

^aECOG PS, Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group performance status.
^bECOG PS, Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group performance status.
^cIncludes the following histologies: adenosquamous carcinoma, non-small cell carcinoma, epithelioid hemangioendothelioma, carcinoma, no subtype, and bronchio-alveolar carcinoma, mixed mucinous and nonmucinous.
^dIncludes patients with a primary tumor histology recorded >30 days after metastatic diagnosis (n=13) and patients with unknown metastatic diagnosis date (n=4).
^eWithin 60 days before or after metastatic diagnosis.
^fIncludes patients with unknown metastatic diagnosis date (n=4).

Methods

- This is a retrospective, observational study that used de-identified real-world clinical and molecular data from patients in the Tempus Database in the US
- Patients with metastatic NSCLC (mNSCLC) included in this study had to meet patient- and sample-level eligibility criteria (Figure 1)
- Patient demographics and clinical characteristics were obtained via electronic health record integration and clinical record abstraction
- These data were matched with tissue samples from primary or metastatic lesions collected on or after May 1, 2019, that subsequently underwent IB6 immunohistochemistry (IHC) and were manually scored by a pathologist to characterize IB6 at a central lab
 - IB6-high and IB6-low expression were defined as a percent positivity of tumor cells ≥50% and <50% positivity, respectively, of tumor cells at ≥2+ intensity⁹
- Molecular characteristics were obtained from Tempus IHC if available or clinical notes (programmed death ligand 1 [PD-L1] status by IHC), DNA sequencing data (KRAS, ALK, and EGFR mutations), or RNA sequencing data (ALK mutations)
- Data cutoff was August 26, 2025, and data are presented descriptively for cohorts

Figure 1. Study design schematic

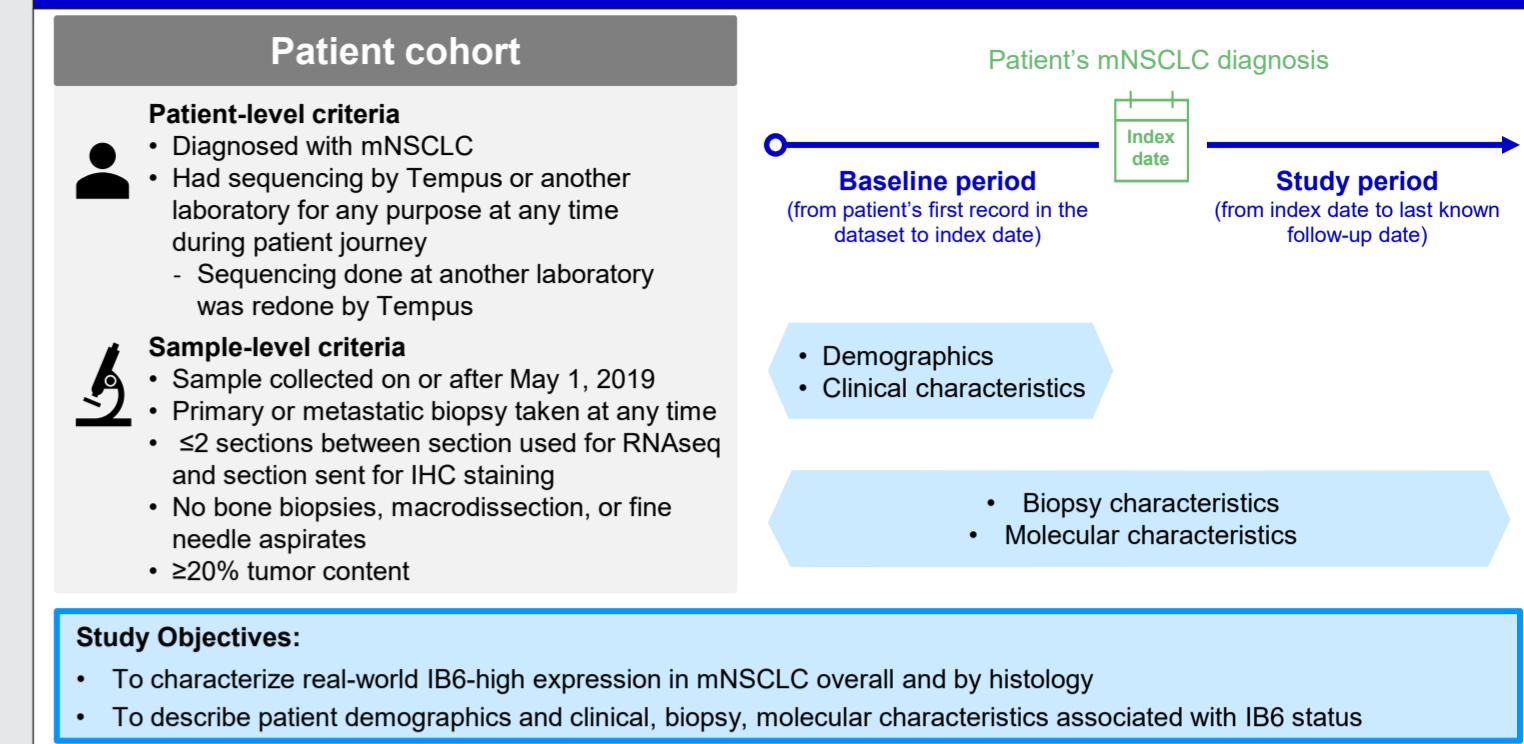
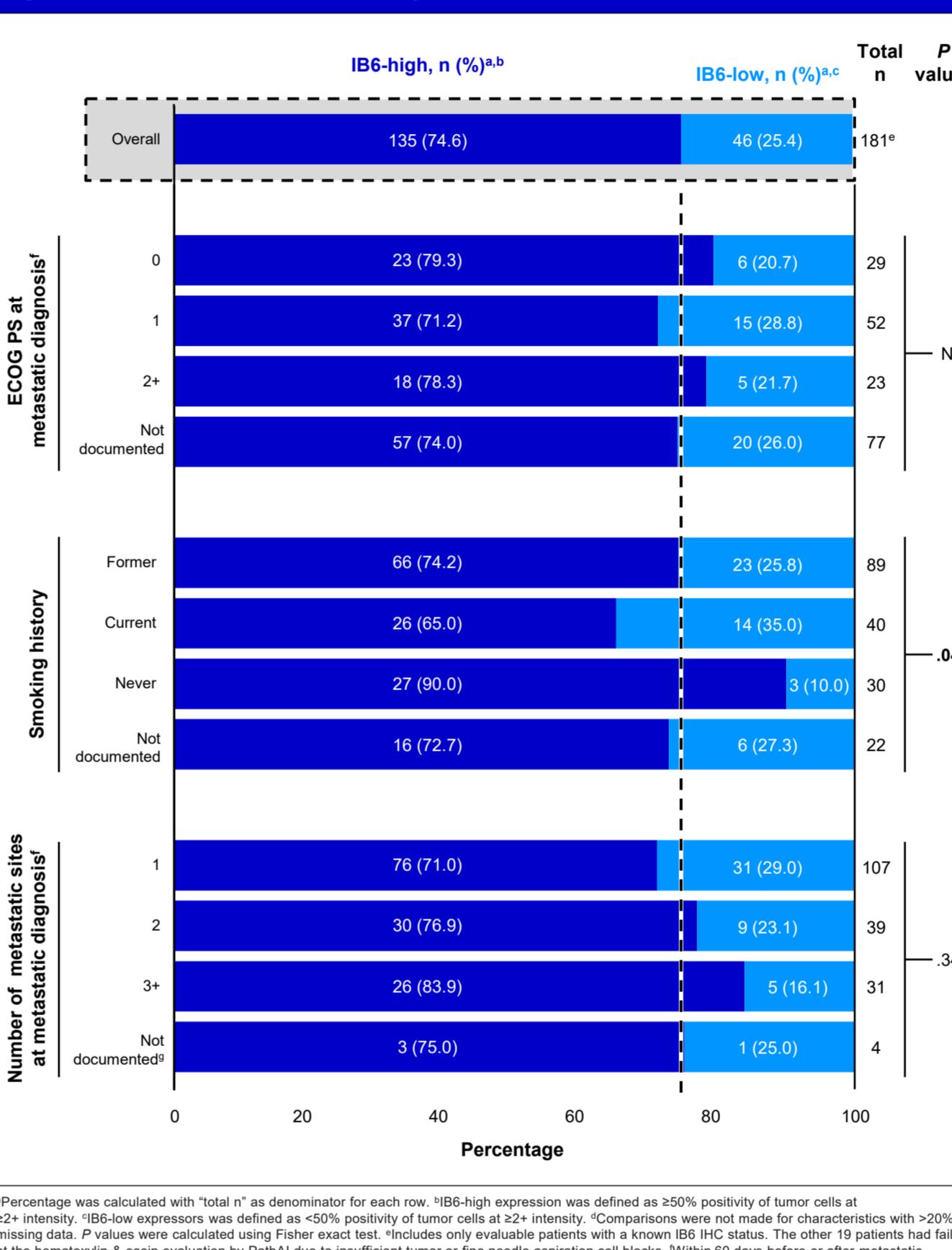
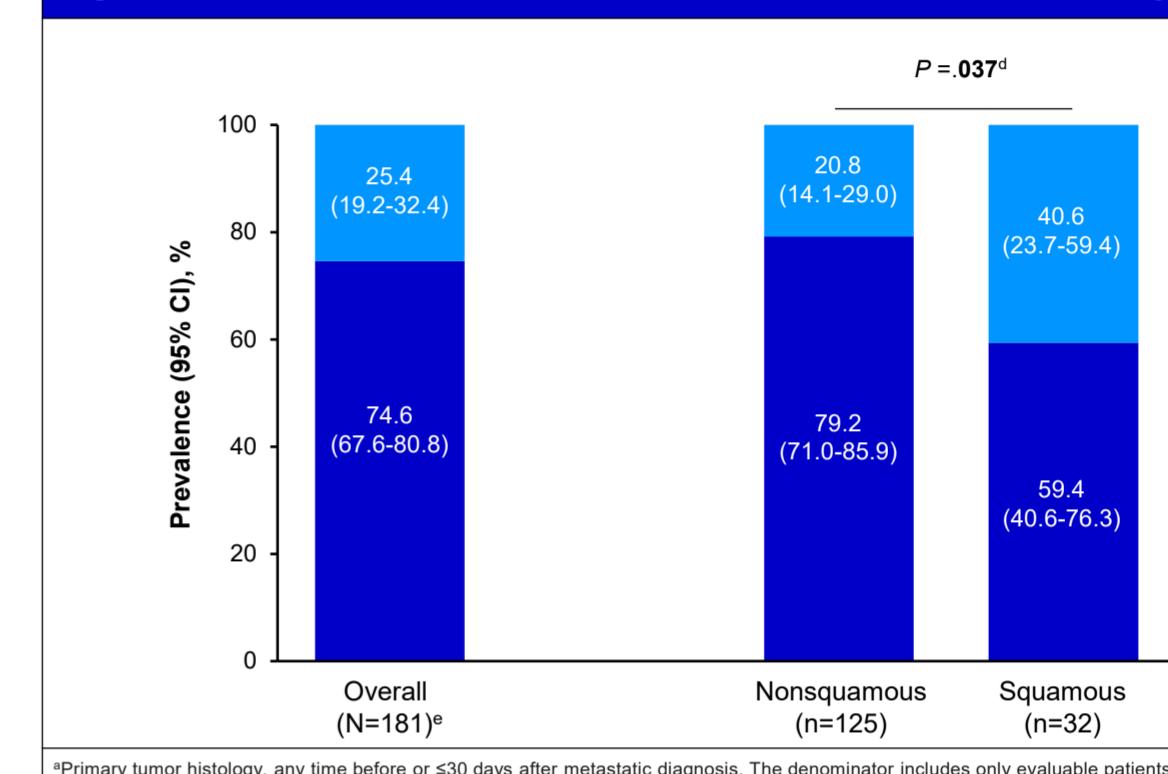


Figure 2. Clinical characteristics by IB6 IHC status



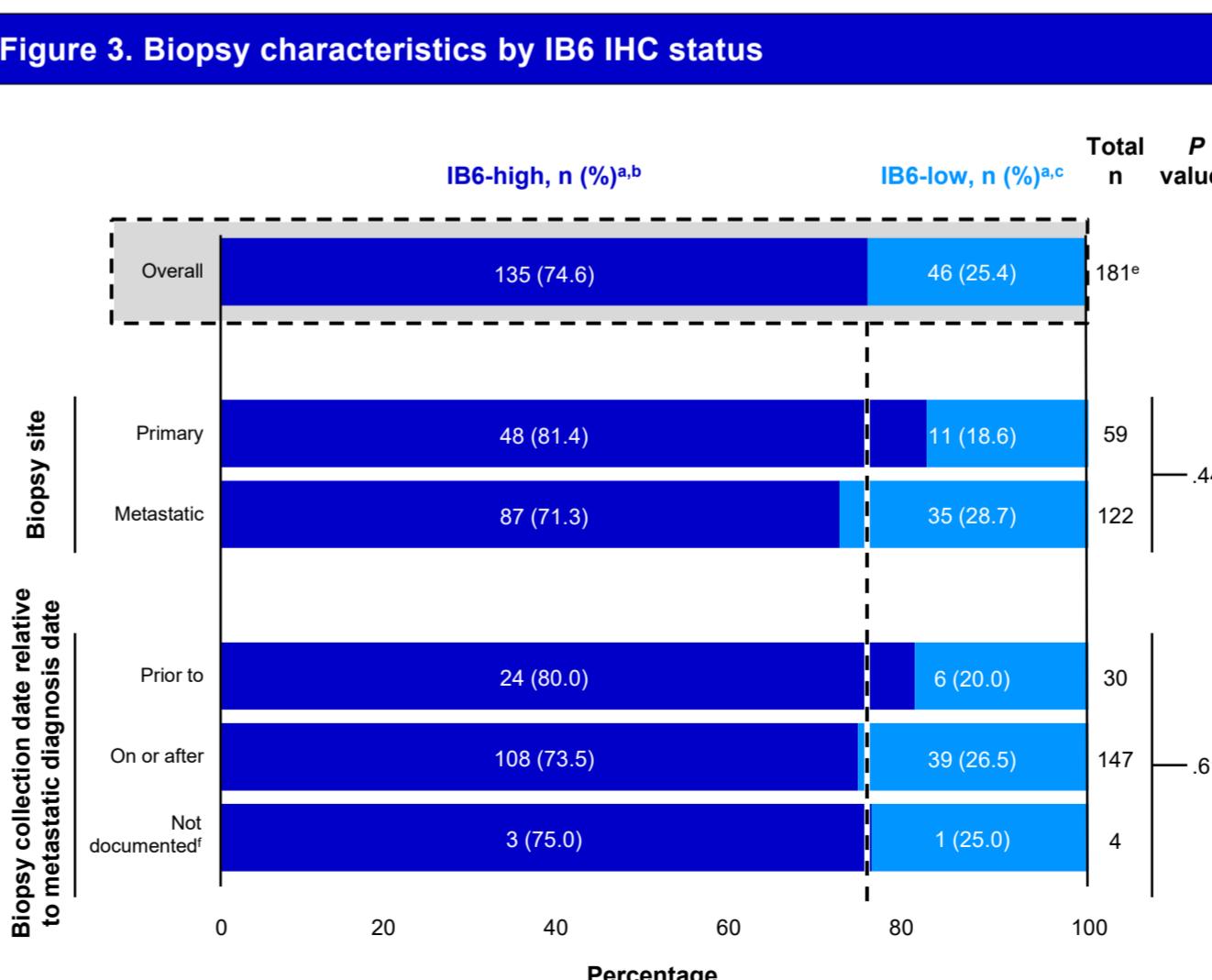
^aPercentage was calculated with "total n" as denominator for each row. ^bIB6-high expression was defined as ≥50% positivity of tumor cells at ≥2+ intensity. ^cIB6-low expression was defined as <50% positivity of tumor cells at ≥2+ intensity. ^dCalculated using Fisher exact test for categorical variables. ^eIncludes only evaluable patients with a known IB6 IHC status. The other 19 patients had failure at the hematoxylin & eosin evaluation by PathAI due to insufficient tumor or fine needle aspiration cell blocks. Additionally, patients with not otherwise specified (n=6) or unknown histology (n=15) are not included here.

Figure 4. Prevalence of IB6 IHC status in overall population and by histology^a



^aPrimary tumor histology, any time before or 30 days after metastatic diagnosis. The denominator includes only evaluable patients with a known IB6 IHC status. ^bIB6-high expression was defined as ≥50% positivity of tumor cells at ≥2+ intensity. ^cIB6-low expression was defined as <50% positivity of tumor cells at ≥2+ intensity. ^dCalculated using Fisher exact test. ^eIncludes only evaluable patients with a known IB6 IHC status. The other 19 patients had failure at the hematoxylin & eosin evaluation by PathAI due to insufficient tumor or fine needle aspiration cell blocks. Additionally, patients with not otherwise specified (n=6) or unknown histology (n=15) are not included here.

Figure 3. Biopsy characteristics by IB6 IHC status



^aPercentage was calculated with "total n" as denominator for each row. ^bIB6-high expression was defined as ≥50% positivity of tumor cells at ≥2+ intensity. ^cIB6-low expression was defined as <50% positivity of tumor cells at ≥2+ intensity. ^dP value was calculated using Fisher exact test. ^eIncludes only evaluable patients with a known IB6 IHC status. The other 19 patients had failure at the hematoxylin & eosin evaluation by PathAI due to insufficient tumor or fine needle aspiration cell blocks. Additionally, patients with not otherwise specified (n=6) or unknown histology (n=15)