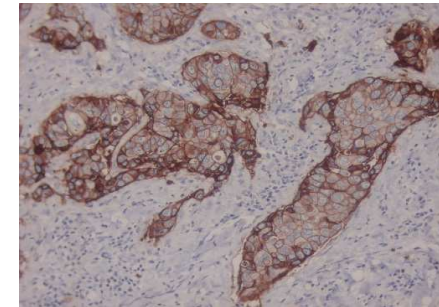
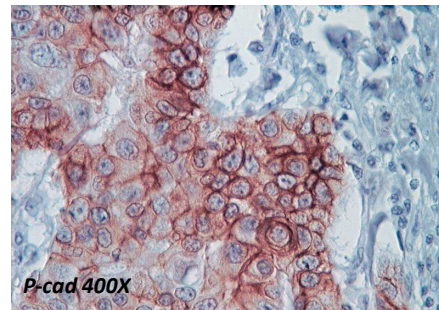
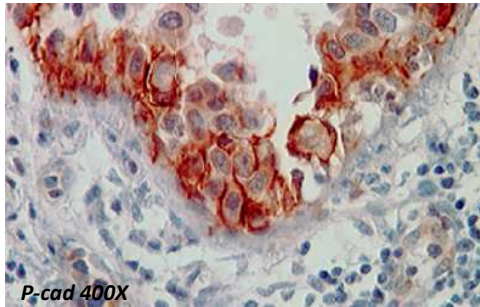
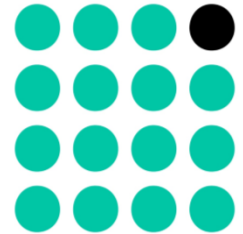


# AFM analysis of P-cadherin/SFK mechanotransduction signalling in breast cancer cells

**Nuno C. Santos**

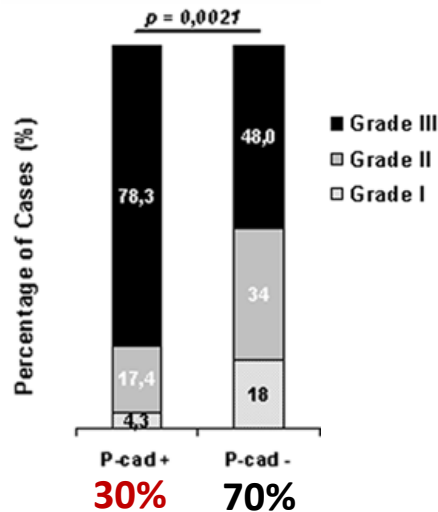
nsantos@fm.ul.pt

# P-CADHERIN: A POOR PROGNOSIS PREDICTOR IN BREAST CANCER

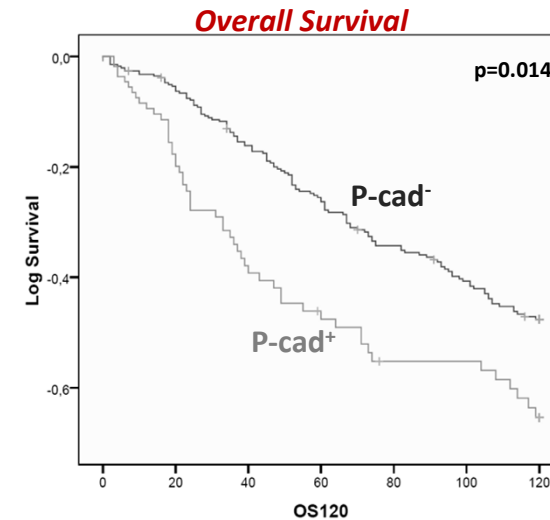
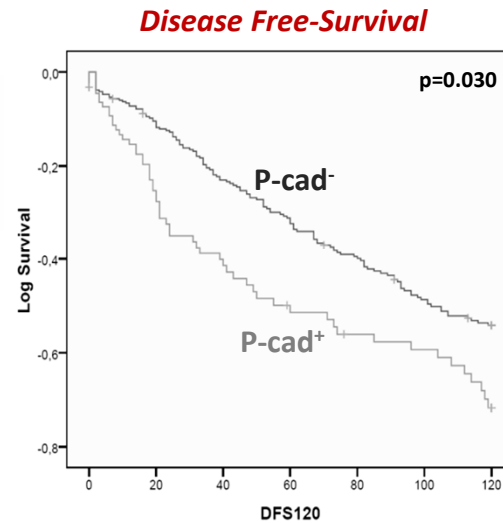


Strong membranous and cytoplasmic expression of P-cadherin in a high-grade invasive breast carcinoma.

P-cadherin expression and tumor histologic grade

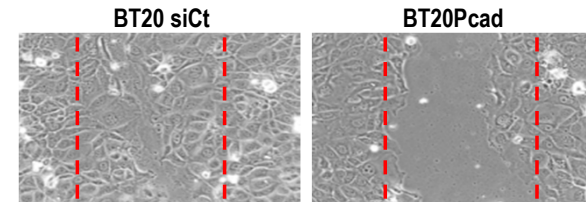


Patients with P-cad<sup>+</sup> tumors vs. patients with P-cad<sup>-</sup> tumors



Paredes et al. Virchow Arch 2002; Paredes et al. Cancer Res 2004; Paredes et al. Clin Cancer Res 2005; Paredes et al. Breast Cancer Res 2007

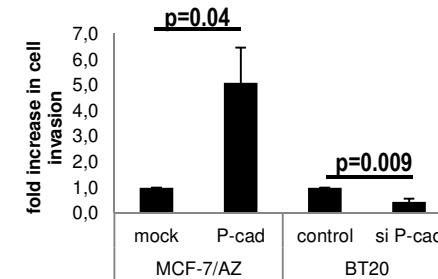
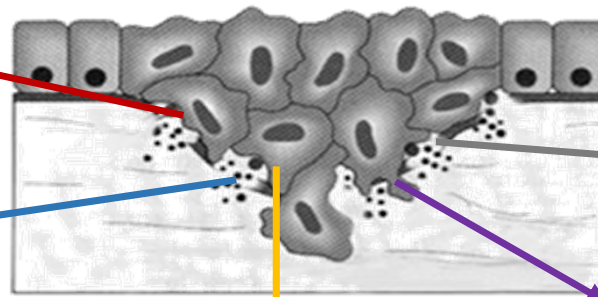
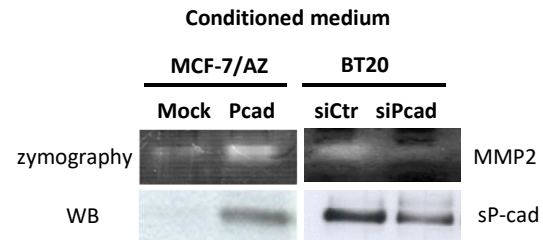
# P-CADHERIN ROLE IN BREAST CANCER PROGRESSION



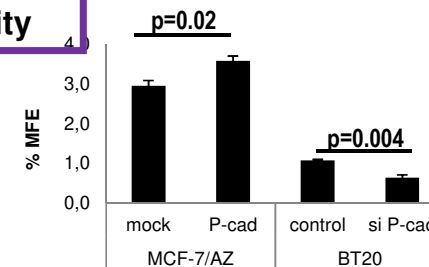
*In vitro and in vivo*

**Migration**

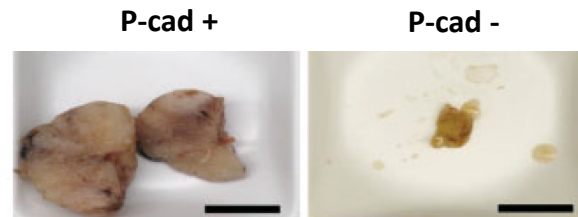
**Increased Proteolysis**



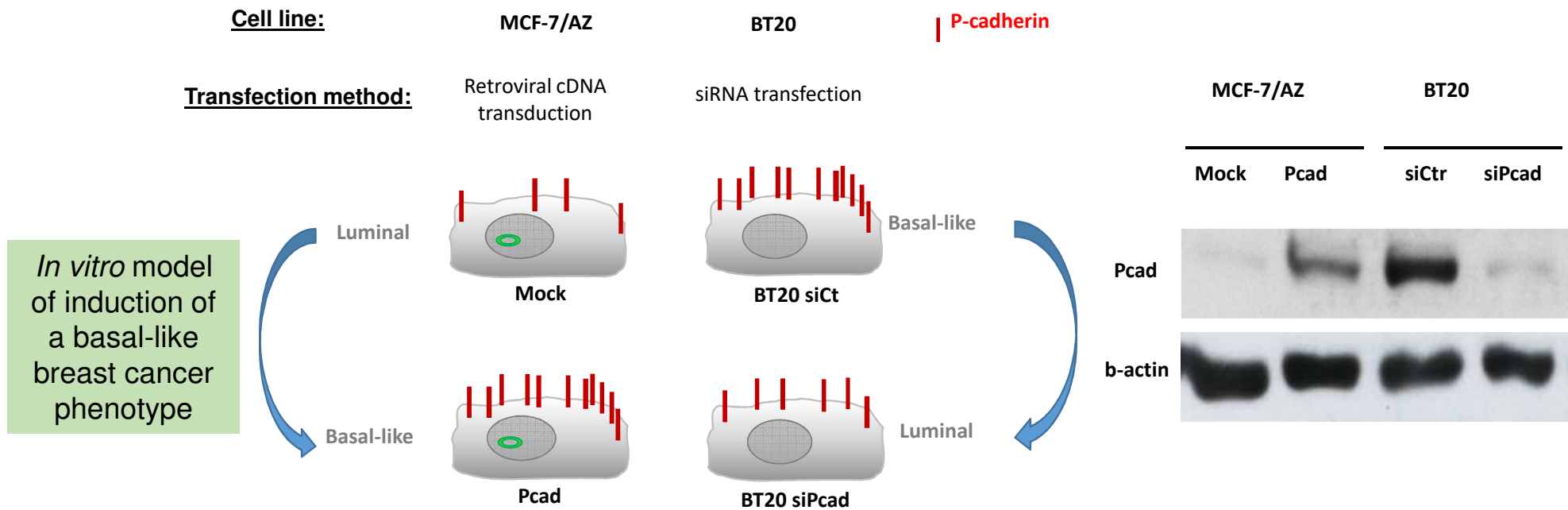
**Self-renew capacity**



**Increased tumorigenic potential**

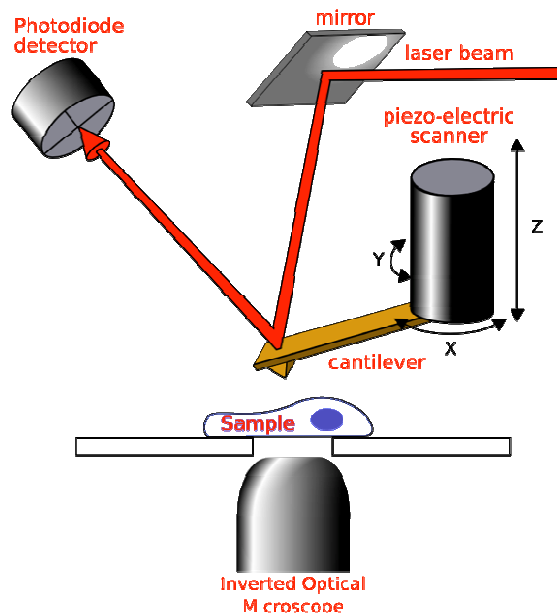


# CELL MODEL



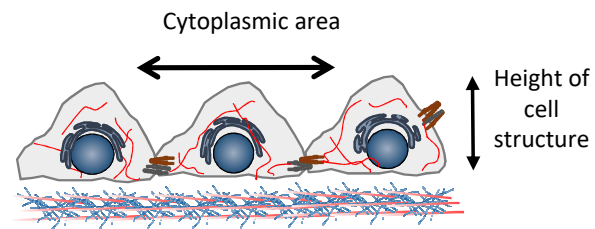
# METHODS

## ATOMIC FORCE MICROSCOPY

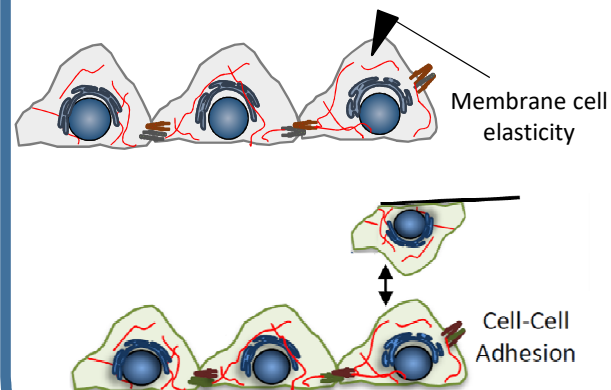


## AFM

### AFM Image analysis



### AFM Force Spectroscopy





# RESULTS

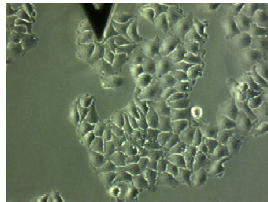
P-cadherin overexpression promotes morphological and biomechanical changes associated with a more invasive phenotype.



## LEGEND

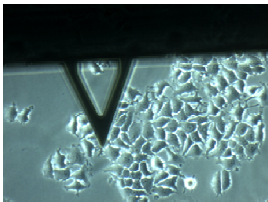
■ MCF-7/AZ  
■ BT20

MCF-7/AZ.MOCK



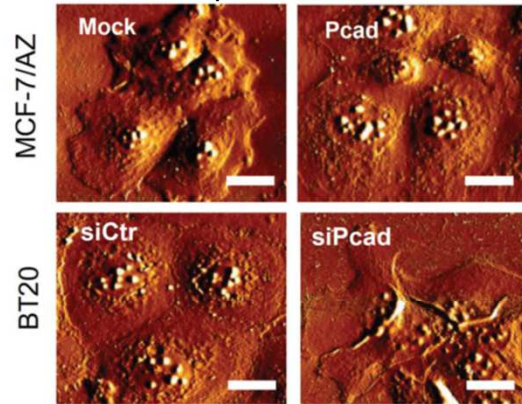
(magnification 16x)

MCF-7/AZ.PCAD

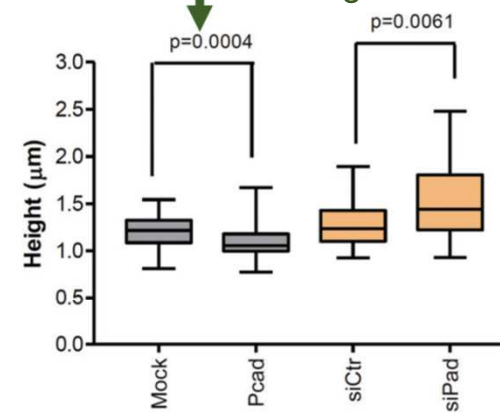


(magnification 16x)

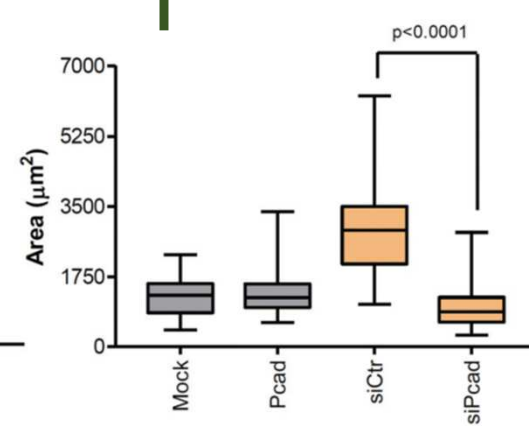
A. 100 × 100 μm



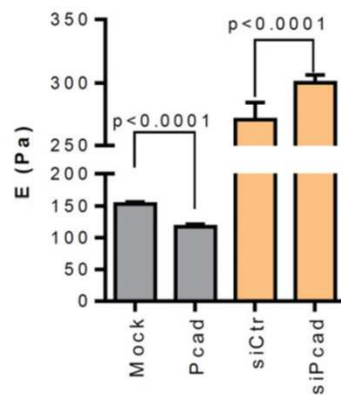
B. Cell height



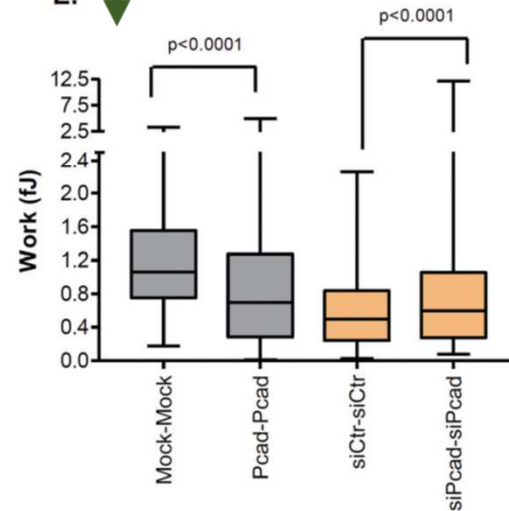
C. Cell area



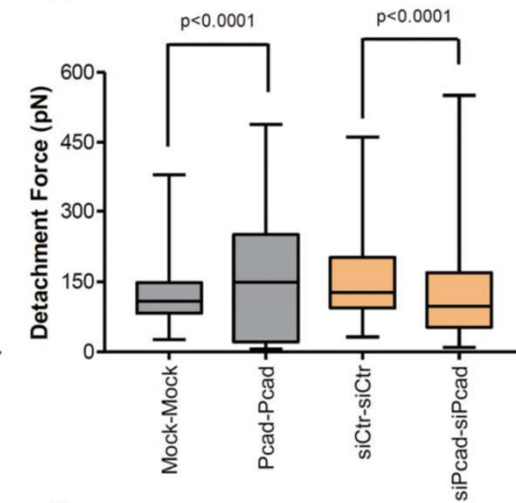
D. Cell elasticity



E. Cell-cell adhesion

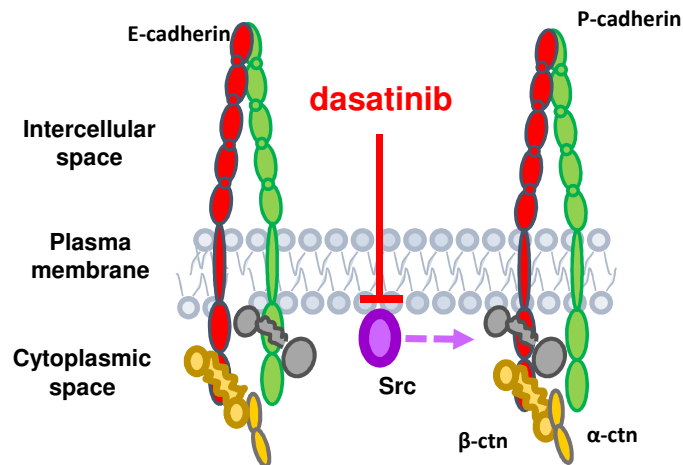


F.



# RESULTS

## P-CADHERIN OVEREXPRESSING CELLS SHOW Src FAMILY KINASE (SFK) ACTIVATION



Dasatinib is an oral tyrosine kinase inhibitor that potently inhibits SFKs

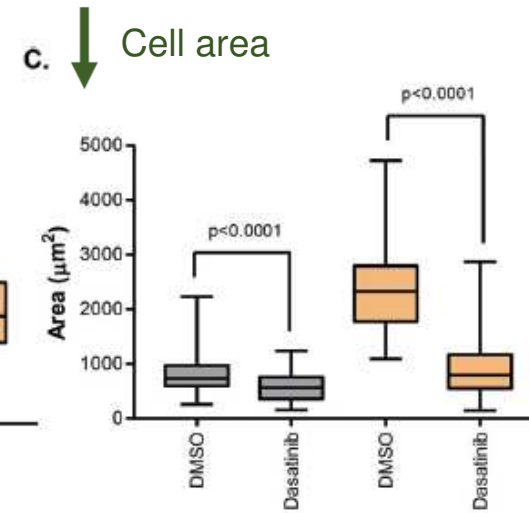
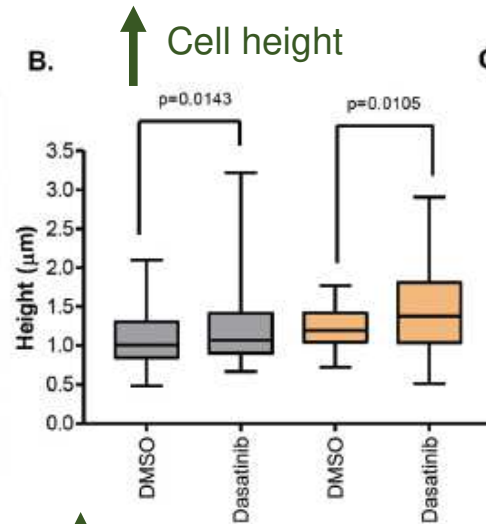
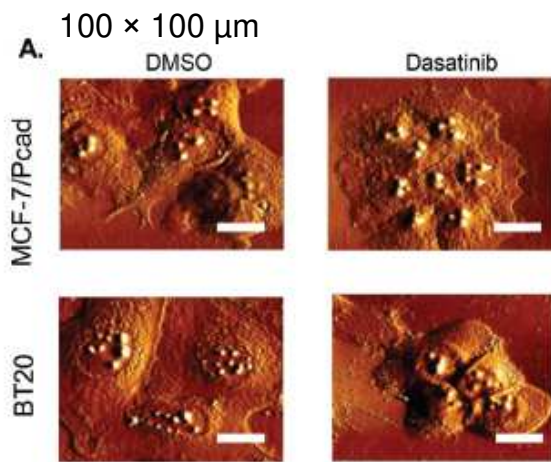
Dasatinib is approved for treatment of imatinib-resistant and imatinib-intolerant chronic myeloid leukemia and Philadelphia chromosome-positive acute lymphoblastic leukemia.

# RESULTS

Inhibition of SFK activation with dasatinib in P-cadherin expressing cells promotes a recovery of cell phenotype and biomechanical properties

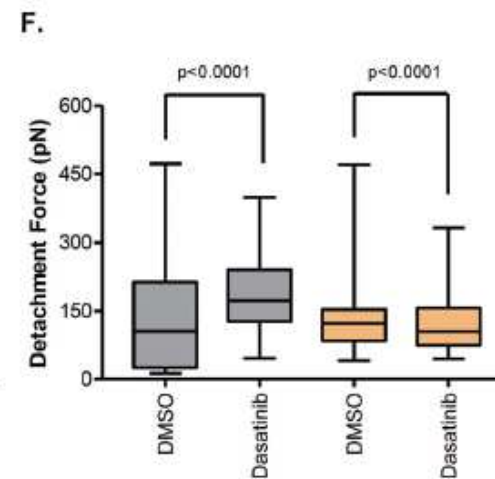
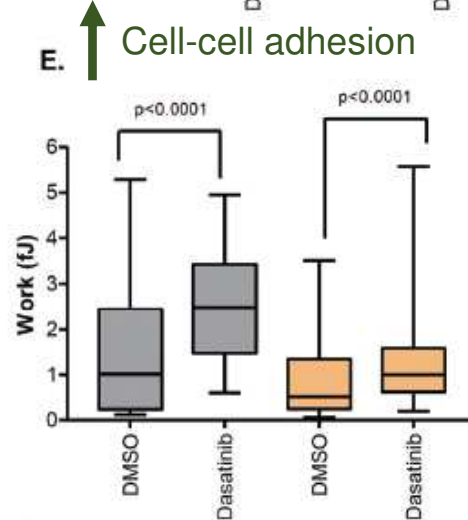
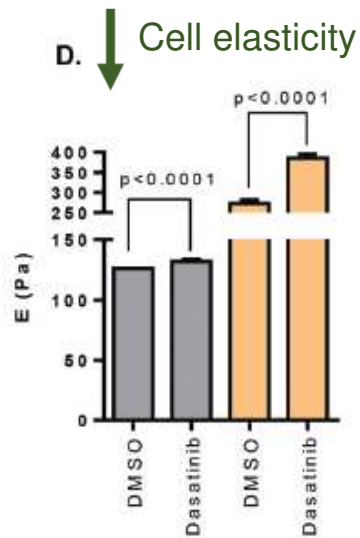


P-cadherin OE cells



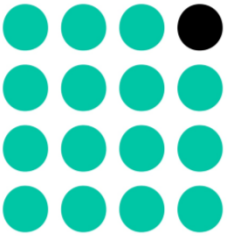
LEGEND

■ MCF-7/AZ.Pcad  
■ BT20

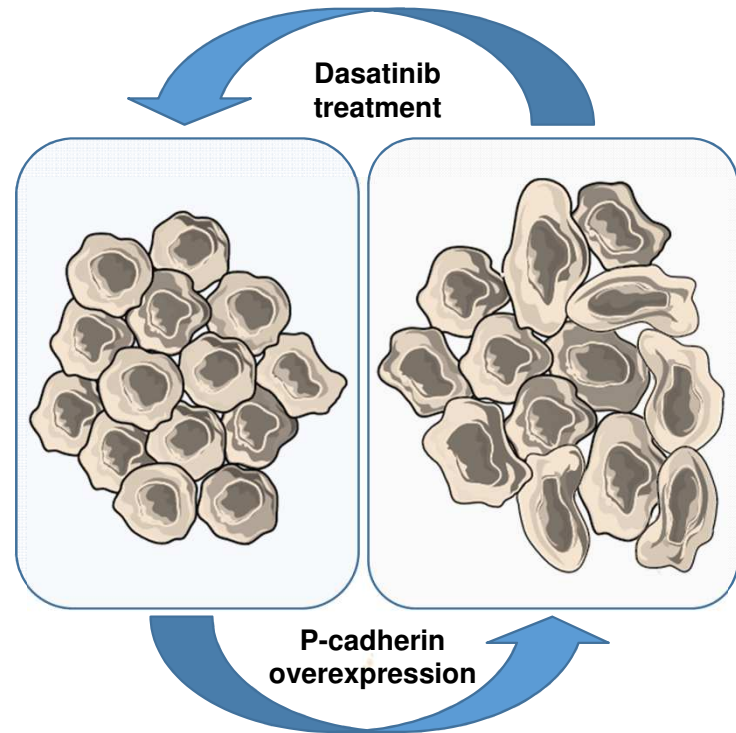




# CONCLUSIONS



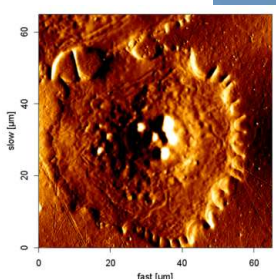
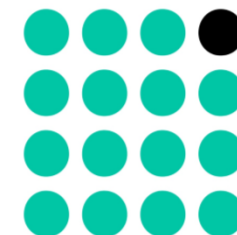
AFM



➤

- Decreased cell height
- Increased cell area
- Higher elasticity
- Decreased cell-cell adhesion

# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS



iMM Biomembranes & Nanomedicine Unit



FACULDADE DE  
**MEDICINA**  
LISBOA

Filomena Carvalho  
Ana Filipa Guedes



Instituto  
de Medicina  
Molecular



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DE LISBOA



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