

Contents

Abstract	6
Introduction	8
Hypothesis and Objectives	14
Rationale of the study	14
How the Present Thesis Addresses These Gaps.....	15
Chapter 1	16
Integrative Bioinformatics Study of KISS1 in Oncogenesis and Metastatic Pathways	16
INTRODUCTION	17
HYPOTHESIS	21
MATERIALS AND METHODS	22
1.3.1 in-silico Analysis for nucleotide and protein sequence of KISS1.....	22
1.3.2 Physicochemical Characterization of KISS1 Protein.....	23
1.3.3 Secondary Structure Prediction and Subcellular Localization.....	23
1.3.4 Identification of KISS1-Associated Transcription Factors	23
1.3.5 Protein 3D Structure Prediction, Refinement, and Validation	23
1.3.6 Binding Residue Prediction and Molecular Docking	24
1.3.7 Molecular Dynamics Simulation	24
1.3.8 MD Trajectory Analysis	25
1.3.9 Principal Component Analysis, Free Energy Landscape, and Clustering.....	25
RESULTS	26
1.4.1 in-silico Characterization of KISS1.....	26
1.4.2 Physicochemical Properties of the KISS1 Protein	27
1.4.3 Secondary Structure Prediction and Intrinsic Disorder Analysis.....	28
1.4.4 Subcellular Localization Prediction	29
1.4.5 Identification and Modelling of Transcription Factors.....	32
1.4.6 Protein–DNA Docking of KISS1–TF Complexes	34
1.4.7. Molecular Dynamics Simulations	36
1.4.7.1 Molecular Dynamics Simulation Analysis of Transcription Factor–KISS1 Complexes	36
1.4.7.2 Root Mean Square Deviation (RMSD).....	36
1.4.7.3 Radius of Gyration (Rg).....	37
1.4.7.4 Hydrogen Bond Analysis	38
1.4.7.5 Root Mean Square Fluctuation (RMSF)	38
1.4.7.6 Post-Simulation Protein–Ligand RMSD Behavior	39
1.4.8 Principal Component Analysis of Transcription Factor–KISS1 Complexes	39

1.4.9 Free Energy Landscape Analysis of Transcription Factor–KISS1 Complexes	42
1.4.10 K-Means Clustering Analysis of Transcription Factor–KISS1 Complexes.....	45
DISCUSSION	50
CONCLUSION	54
Chapter 2	55
Multifunctional Role of KISS1 in Regulating Transcription, EMT, and Apoptosis in Triple-Negative Breast Cancer: A Pleotropic effect	55
INTRODUCTION	56
HYPOTHESIS	62
MATERIALS AND METHODS	63
2.3.1 Cell Culture Maintenance.....	63
2.3.2 Overall Experimental Regime	63
2.3.3 Cell Migration Assay	64
2.3.4. Cell Invasion Assay.....	65
2.3.5 RNA Isolation, cDNA synthesis, and qRT-PCR	65
2.3.6 miRNA isolation and quantitative real-time PCR (qPCR)	70
2.3.7 Western Blot Analysis.....	70
2.3.8 Metabolomic Profiling.....	75
2.3.9 In silico Expression and Prognostic Analysis	76
2.3.10 Data Analysis	78
RESULTS	79
2.4.1 Kisspeptin-10 Suppresses Proliferation of Triple-Negative Breast Cancer Cells.....	79
2.4.2 Kisspeptin-10 Inhibits Migration and Invasion of Triple-Negative Breast Cancer Cells.....	80
2.4.3 Kisspeptin-10 Induces Broad Transcriptional Modulation in TNBC Cells	83
2.4.3.1 Regulation of Transcription Factor Networks	84
2.4.3.2 Reactivation of the KISS1 Signaling Axis.....	85
2.4.3.3 Kisspeptin-10 Reverses EMT and Modulates Adhesion Markers.....	86
2.4.3.4 Activation of Apoptotic Gene Networks.....	87
2.4.3.5 Modulation of Stress, Survival, and Inflammatory Signaling	87
2.4.3.6 Survival Association of Transcription Factors.....	89
2.4.3.7 Survival Association of EMT and Adhesion Markers.....	90
2.4.3.8 Survival Association of Apoptotic Markers.....	91
2.4.3.9 Survival Association of Signaling Molecules	92
2.4.4 Metabolomic Profiling	92
2.4.4.1 Global Metabolomic Alterations Induced by Kisspeptin-10	92
2.4.4.2 Pathway Enrichment Analysis of Altered Metabolites.....	93

2.4.4.3 Compound–Pathway Relationship Analysis	94
2.4.4.4 Metabolite–Pathway Network Analysis.....	95
2.4.5 In Silico Transcriptomic Validation.....	96
2.4.5.1 Dataset Selection and Overview.....	96
2.4.5.2 Identification of Differentially Expressed Genes (DEGs)	96
2.4.5.3 Hierarchical Clustering and Heatmap Analysis	97
2.4.5.4 Construction of Gene–Regulator Network	98
2.4.6 miRNA Expression Analysis in TNBC Cell Lines	99
2.4.6.1 miR-345-3p Expression.....	99
2.4.6.2 miR-200c-3p Expression	100
2.4.6.3 miR-577 Expression	100
2.4.7 Western Blot Analysis.....	101
2.4.7.1 Transcription Factor Proteins.....	101
2.4.7.2 Signaling Pathway Proteins.....	103
DISCUSSION.....	104
CONCLUSION.....	107
Chapter 3.....	108
<i>Understanding the therapeutic potential of Kisspeptin-10 on Metastatic Suppression and EMT in Glioblastoma</i>.....	108
INTRODUCTION.....	109
HYPOTHESIS	114
MATERIALS AND METHODS.....	115
3.3.1 Data Acquisition	115
3.3.2 Differential Gene Expression Analysis.....	115
3.3.3 UALCAN Analysis	116
3.3.4 Functional Enrichment Analysis.....	116
3.3.5 Protein–Protein Interaction (PPI) Network Construction	116
3.3.6 miRNA–mRNA Network Construction	116
3.3.7 Cell Culture and Treatment	117
3.3.8 Cell Migration Assay	118
3.3.9 Cell Invasion Assay.....	118
3.3.10 miRNA Isolation and Quantitative Real-Time PCR (qPCR)	118
3.3.11 Total RNA Isolation and cDNA Preparation Quantitative Real-Time PCR (qPCR)	118
RESULTS.....	119
3.4.1. Identification of differentially expressed genes in glioblastoma.....	119
3.4.2. Overlap of differentially expressed genes across datasets	120

3.4.3. Expression patterns of candidate genes in glioblastoma.....	120
3.4.4. Protein–protein interaction (PPI) network construction and hub gene identification.....	123
3.4.5. Gene Ontology (GO) enrichment analysis	124
3.4.6 Gene–regulator association network reveals coordinated control of invasion, EMT, and apoptosis in glioblastoma.....	127
3.4.7 Kisspeptin-10 Exhibits Dose-Dependent Cytotoxicity in U87MG Cells	129
3.4.8 Kisspeptin-10 Inhibits Migratory Potential of U87MG Cells	130
3.4.9 Kisspeptin-10 Reduces Invasive Potential of U87MG Cells	130
3.4.10 Consolidated Gene Expression Analysis Reveals Coordinated Molecular Reprogramming by Kisspeptin-10	131
3.4.11 In Vitro Validation of miRNA Expression.....	138
DISCUSSION	141
CONCLUSION	144
Chapter 4	145
<i>Molecular Mechanisms of Kisspeptin-10 Mediated Attenuation of Ovarian Cancer Metastasis and Progression</i>	145
INTRODUCTION	146
HYPOTHESIS	151
MATERIALS AND METHODS	152
4.3.1 Cell Culture and Treatment	152
4.3.2 Cell Migration Assay	153
4.3.3 Cell Invasion Assay.....	153
4.3.4 miRNA Isolation and Quantitative Real-Time PCR (qPCR)	153
4.3.5 Total RNA Isolation and cDNA Preparation Quantitative Real-Time PCR (qPCR)	153
4.3.6 Western Blot Analysis.....	153
4.3.7 Bioinformatics and Promoter Analysis.....	153
RESULTS	154
4.4.1 Promoter analysis reveals shared transcription factor binding between KISS1.....	154
4.4.2 Effect of Kisspeptin-10 and Doxorubicin on SKOV-3 cell viability.....	155
4.4.3 Kisspeptin-10 Inhibits Migration of SKOV3 cells	156
4.4.4. Kisspeptin-10 inhibits invasive Potential of SKOV3 cells	158
4.4.4 Effect of Kisspeptin-10 on gene expression in SKOV-3 cells.....	158
4.4.5 In Vitro Validation of miRNA Expression in SKOV-3 Cells	163
4.4.6 Western Blot analysis	164
DISCUSSION	165
CONCLUSION	168

Summary of Findings	169
CONCLUSION	171
Future Prospects	173
REFERENCES	175