

\*Pramodkumar P Gupta, <sup>1</sup>Mala Parab, <sup>1</sup>Janhavi Tripathi, <sup>1</sup>Mayur Sonkusare, <sup>1</sup>Hridhya Nair, <sup>1</sup>Mrunal Gokhale, <sup>2</sup>Amit Kumar Shrivastava, <sup>1</sup>Prerona Boruah, <sup>1</sup>Debjani Dasgupta

<sup>1</sup>School of Biotechnology and Bioinformatics, D Y Patil Deemed to be University, Plot 50, Sector 15, CBD Belapur, Navi Mumbai 400614, Maharashtra, India

<sup>2</sup>Department of Pharmacology, Universal College of Medical Sciences, and Teaching Hospital Bhairahawa, Rupandehi 32900 Nepal

Corresponding author: Dr Pramodkumar P Gupta, pramodkumar785@gmail.com / pramod.gupta@dypatil.edu

## Abstract:

Breast cancer is a leading cause of cancer-related deaths worldwide. While significant progress has been made in its diagnosis and treatment, it remains a major public health concern. This study aimed to investigate the transcriptomic effects of Mebendazole, an antiparasitic drug, on SUM159 cell lines, a model for triple-negative breast cancer (TNBC). RNA-Seq analysis was conducted to identify differentially expressed genes (DEGs) between untreated and Mebendazole-treated cells. Our analysis revealed significant transcriptional alterations in Mebendazole-treated SUM159 cells, with data collected from the NCBI GEO database. The GALAXY server NGS data analysis frame work was used, followed by FASTQC, FASTP, HISAT2, SAMTOOL\_Sort, SAMTOOLS\_Dataset, the Uploading GTF for Humans standard file from UCSC, Hiseq-Count and analysis in R-reported DEGs. The list of 820 DEGs were analysed for enrichment using EnrichR, David tools, to understand the involvement of DEGs in biological processes. DEGs were enriched in pathways related to cell cycle regulation, apoptosis, survival signaling, and metabolism, suggesting that Mebendazole exerts its effects through multiple mechanisms. Notably, the identified DEGs were associated with various diseases, including breast cancer and neurodegenerative disorders. The downregulated genes from the analysis reported to be involved in liver cirrhosis, atherosclerosis, neurological disorder, cellular adhesion, the extracellular matrix, the transcription factor, and the assembly of collagens in humans, whereas the upregulated genes were more involved in pathways of breast cancer, ovarian cancer, the cell cycle and the cell division process. These findings highlight the potential for Mebendazole to be repurposed as a therapeutic agent beyond its traditional use in parasitic infections. Further research is needed to validate these in vitro findings in vivo and explore the clinical implications of Mebendazole for cellular mechanisms, the signal cascade, TNBC and neurodegenerative diseases.

## Background:

- Breast cancer is a world-wide dreadful disease.
- Numerous experimental and known drugs are tested to achieve the targeted therapy and fails due to the poorly identified mechanism (it can be achieved by genomic, transcriptomic and proteomic based approaches).
- A high-throughput technology that enables rapid sequencing of hundreds of thousands of genes or whole genomes.
- Popular methods include Illumina Sequencing, Ion Torrent Sequencing, and Long-Read Sequencing.

## What is TNBC?

- TRIPLE NEGATIVE BREAST CANCER.
- Accounts for 10-15% of all breast cancers.
- Cancer cells lack estrogen or progesterone receptors.
- Cells produce HER2 protein "negative" on all three tests.
- More common in women under 40, with BRCA1 mutation.

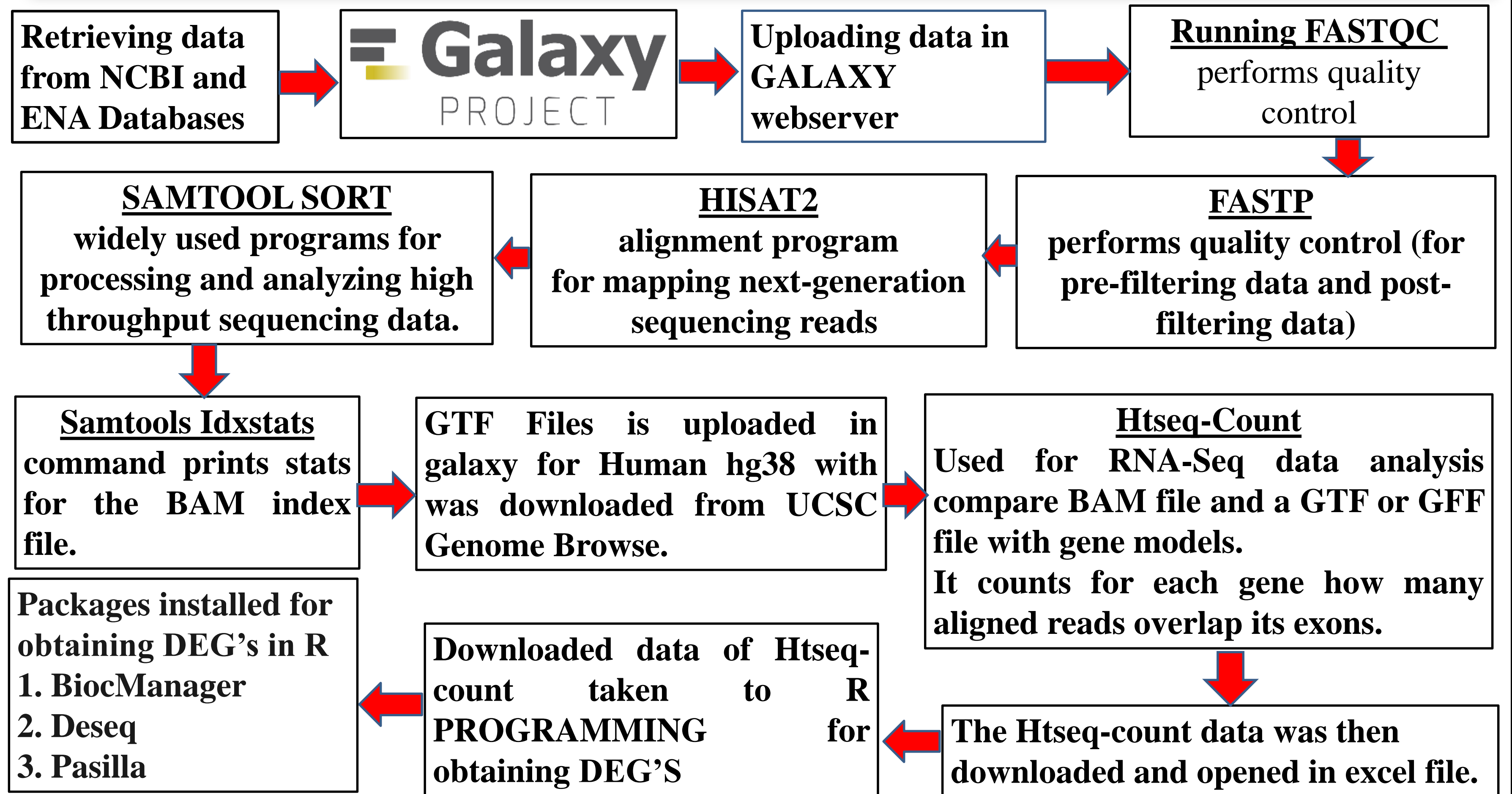
## What is SUM159 cell line?

- Its is Triple negative breast cancer cell line.
- Highly useful for various studies.
- Grow well in appropriate medium with supplements.
- Use to investigate effective novel signalling pathways.

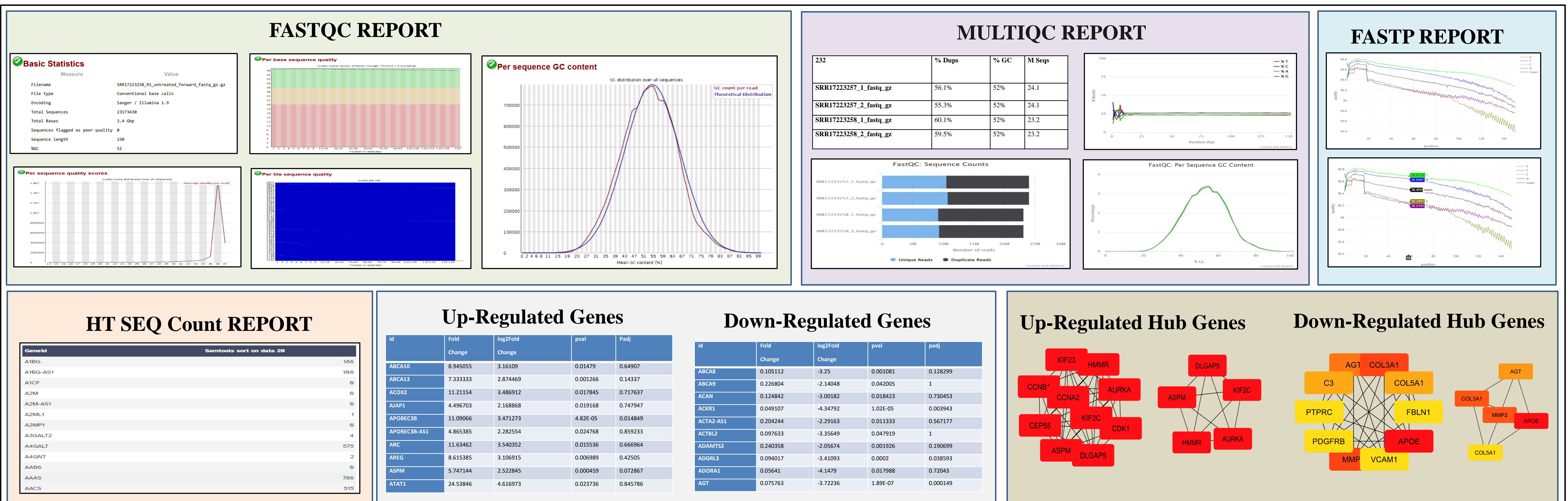
## Problem Formulation

To understand the effect of Mebendazole drug and its effect on SUM 159 cell lines and identification of DEGs and involvement in metabolic pathway

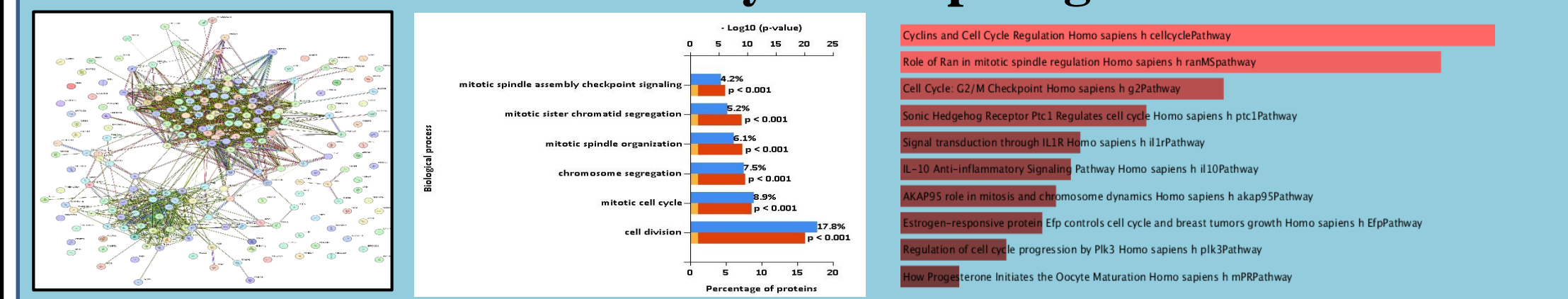
## Materials and Method



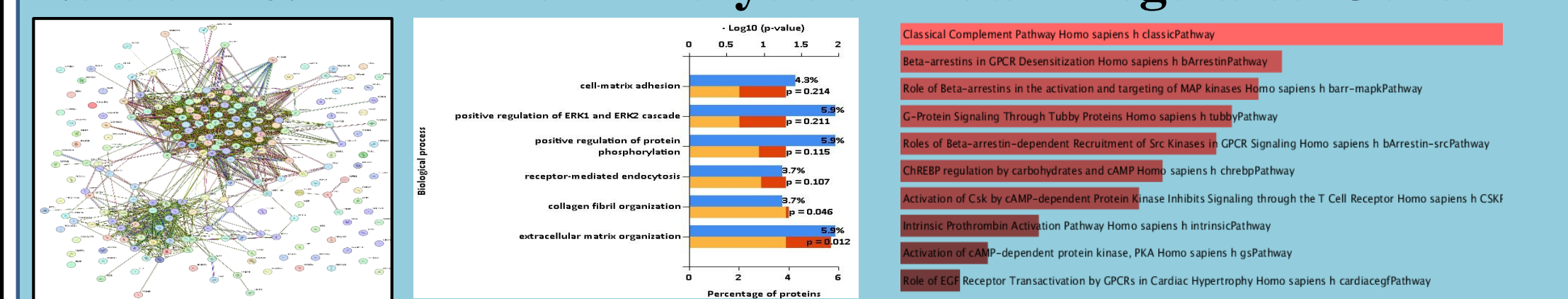
## Results



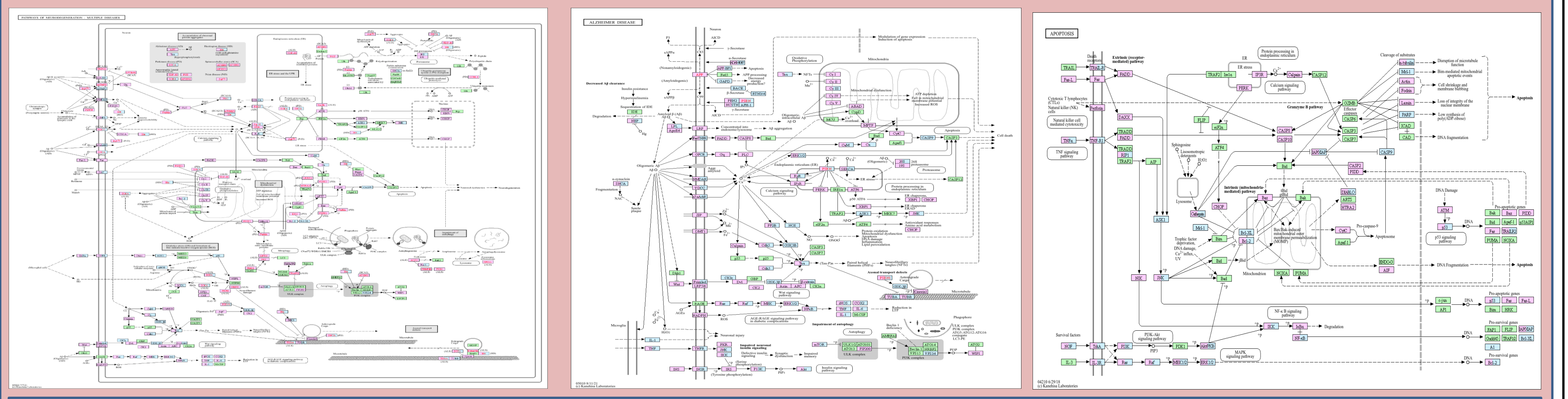
## Network & Enrichment Analysis of Up-Regulated Genes



## Network & Enrichment Analysis of Down-Regulated Genes



## Pathways



## Conclusion:

This study employed Next-Generation Sequencing (NGS), a powerful technology, to investigate the effects of Mebendazole (MBZ) on the gene expression profile of SUM159 cells. NGS allowed for the rapid and comprehensive analysis of thousands of genes simultaneously. Total Differentially Expressed Genes (DEGs): 18,429 genes were identified as differentially expressed upon MBZ treatment compared to the control group. Upregulated Genes: 170 genes displayed a log<sub>2</sub> fold change greater than or equal to 2. These genes are potentially activated by MBZ and might play a role in its mechanism of action or the cellular response to the drug. Downregulated Genes: 42 genes exhibited a log<sub>2</sub> fold change less than or equal to -2, suggesting their suppression by MBZ. These genes could be involved in normal cellular functions that MBZ disrupts. Refined Analysis (p-value <= 0.005): Applying a more stringent p-value threshold (0.005) resulted in a smaller but potentially more reliable set of DEGs. Total DEGs: 1,130 genes were identified, indicating a focus on highly significant changes in gene expression. Upregulated and Downregulated Genes: The analysis identified 80 upregulated and 30 downregulated genes with a log<sub>2</sub> fold change greater than or equal to 2 (up) or less than or equal to -2 (down), respectively. These genes represent strong candidates for further investigation into their functional roles in the context of MBZ treatment. Treatment-Specific Genes: Nine genes remained treatment-specific, highlighting their potential importance in MBZ's mechanism of action.

**Other Key Pathways such as:** Parkinson's Pathway, Prion Disease Pathway, Tight Junction Pathway, Huntington Disease, Phagocytosis Pathway, Gap Junction, Motor Proteins Pathway, Cell Cycle, Cyclin & Cell Cycle Regulation, Focal Adhesion PI3K Akt mTOR Signaling Pathway, Regulatory Circuits of the STAT3 Signaling Pathway, Complement Systems in Neuronal Development, G-Protein Signaling, Complement and Coagulation Cascade, Insulin Resistance, Relaxing Signaling Pathway and Many more.....

- References:** Anders, S., & Huber, W. (2010). Differential expression analysis for sequence count data. *Genome Biology*, 11(10), Article 10. <https://doi.org/10.1186/gb-2010-11-10-r106>; Bano, A., Stevens, J. H., Modi, P. S., Gustafson, J.-Å., & Strom, A. M. (2023). Estrogen Receptor  $\beta$ 4 Regulates Chemotherapy Resistance and Induces Cancer Stem Cells in Triple Negative Breast Cancer. *International Journal of Molecular Sciences*, 24(6), Article 6. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijms24065867>; Chai, J.-Y., Jung, B.-K., & Hong, S.-J. (2021). Albendazole and Mebendazole as Anti-Parasitic and Anti-Cancer Agents: An Update. *The Korean Journal of Parasitology*, 59(3), Article 3. <https://doi.org/10.3347/kjp.2021.59.3.189>