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Dr. Tamanoi is Professor in the Dept. of Microbio., Immunol. & Molec. Genet. at the University of California, Los Angeles. He is also the Director of Signal Transduction and Therapeutics program at Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center. He is a co-Director of NanoMachine Center for Targeted Delivery and On-demand Release, a multidisciplinary effort based at the California NanoSystems Institute. He has made a major contribution to the field of cancer nanodelivery by showing that mesoporous silica nanoparticles provide a safe and efficient delivery vehicle for anticancer drugs. He has also demonstrated that these particles provide an excellent delivery vehicle for siRNA and miRNA. His other research topics include the study of cancer signaling involving the Ras superfamily of G-proteins as well as developing anticancer drugs that target membrane association and prenylation of signaling proteins.