



Translational Opportunities in Immunotherapy Research

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Ludwig Collaborative and Swim Across America lab



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Disclosures

- » IMVAQ therapeutics co-founder
- » Advisory board immunos therapeutics
- » Advisory board Normunity.
- » Consulting for Pfizer, Daichii
- » Inventor on a patent applications related to work on Oncolytic Viral therapy, Alpha Virus Based Vaccine, Neo Antigen Modeling, CD40, GITR, OX40, PD-1 and CTLA-4.

Some of my research was supported by:

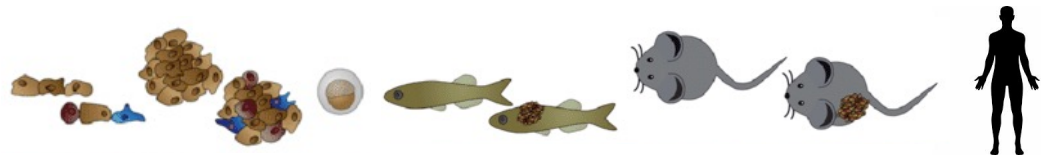
- » Bristol-Myers Squibb
- » Surface Oncology
- » Kyn Therapeutics
- » Infinity Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
- » Peregrine Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
- » Adaptive Biotechnologies
- » Leap Therapeutics, Inc.
- » Aprea.

Some key points for today's lecture

- » Pre-clinical models inform mechanism based therapeutic strategies.
- » Tumor immune landscape should be taken into consideration when designing immune therapy.
- » The timing of the immune intervention is key.
- » Real time monitoring of the tumor microenvironment should help rationally design immune intervention.
- » Do not ignore a phenomena when you don't understand it.

Some key points for today's lecture

- » Use appropriate models for each type of approach.



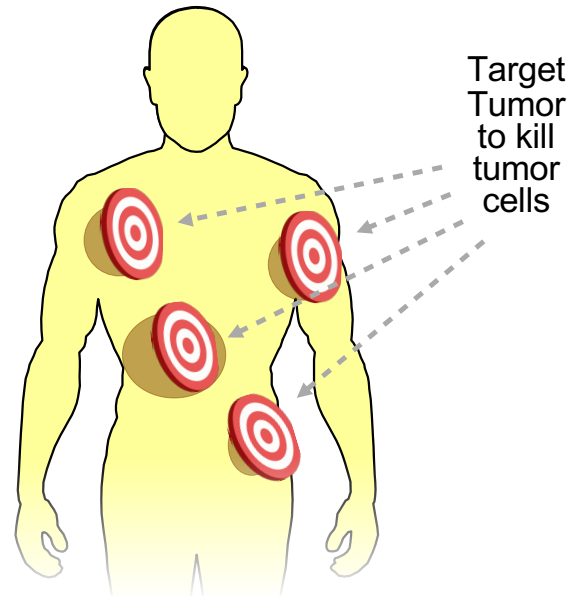
- » Often time the models are not the problem. We are.
 - › We need to make sure that we are not over-interpreting (literal translation).



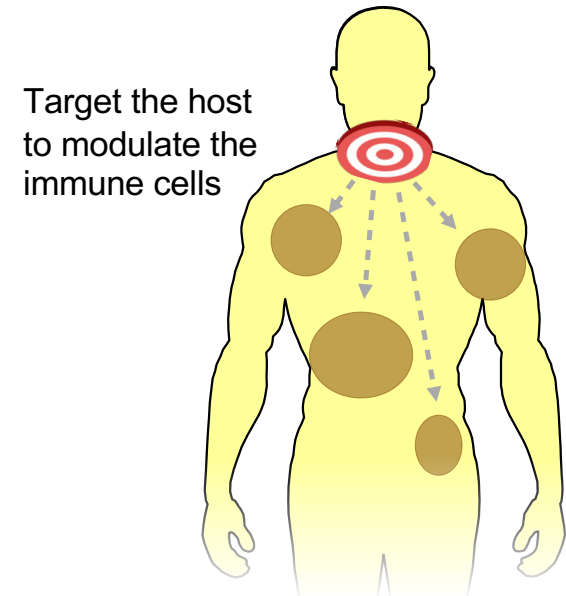
Translation gone wrong: 7 big translation fails from 2016. Richard Brooks. K International.

Two Main Paradigms for Advancing Cancer Therapy Melanoma: the poster child

Targeted Therapy



Immunotherapy





Melanoma Therapy — 2010

FDA Approved Therapies (USA)

Date

DTIC (chemotherapy):

Helps 10% of patients for short periods of time (3 months)

1970s

High-dose interleukin-2:

Helps <15% of patients for a decade or more; high toxicity

1998



There was a clear need for new and more effective therapies.

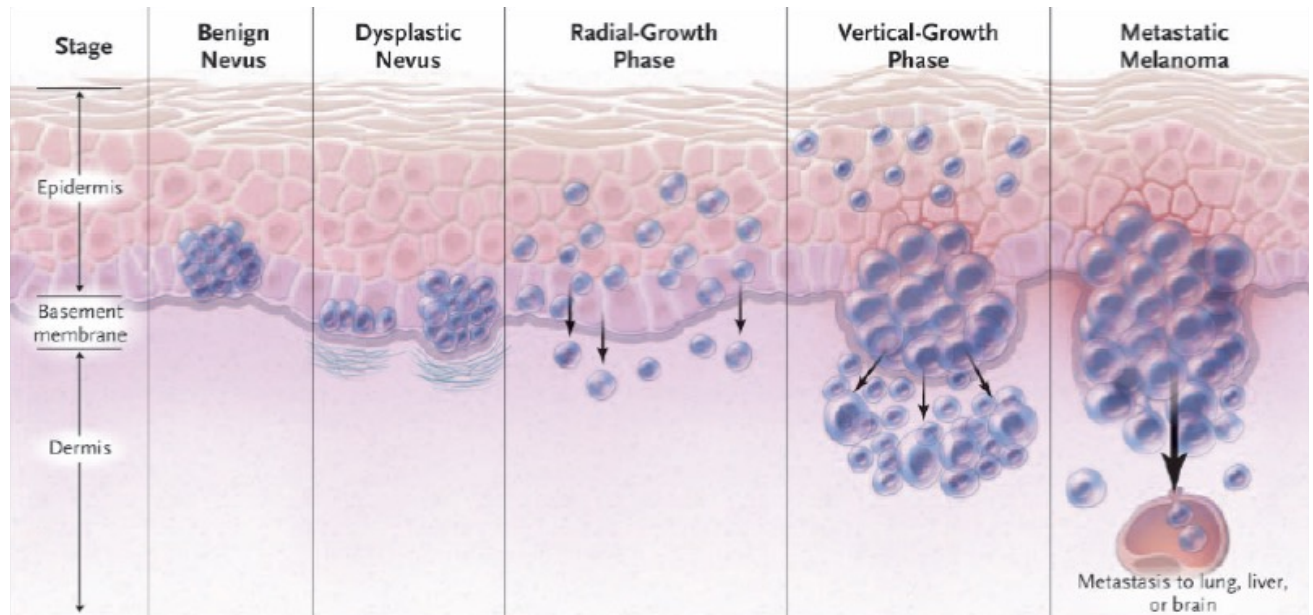
The Poster Child: Metastatic Melanoma today



FDA-approved Therapies (USA)	Date
DTIC (dacarbazine)	1970s
Interferon alfa (adjuvant)	1996
High-dose interleukin-2	1998
Ipilimumab	2011
Nivolumab	2014
Pembrolizumab	2014
Ipilimumab/Nivolumab	2015
Talimogene Laherparepvec (T-VEC)	2015
Vemurafenib	2011
Dabrafenib	2013
Trametinib	2013
Cobimetinib	2015
Encorafenib/Binimetinib	2018
Tebentafusp	2022

Biological Events and Molecular Changes in Melanoma Progression

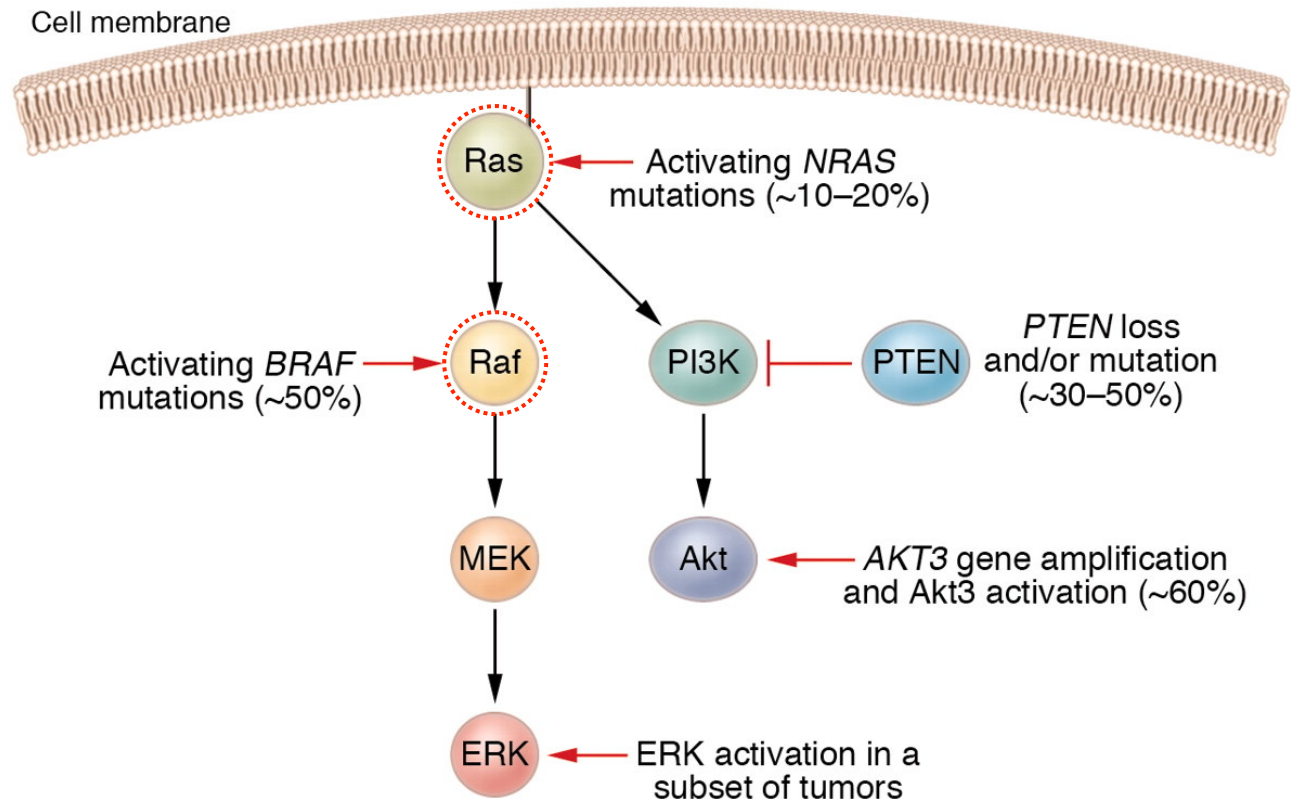
- » Many molecular changes occur during melanoma progression
- » Oncogenes and Tumor Suppressor genes are mutated



(Adapted from Miller A.R., and Merghoub T)

Genomic alteration/Mutation

Genes and Pathways Involved in Melanoma Development



Chudnovsky Y,
JCI, 2005.

Mutations Define Distinct Melanoma Molecular Subsets

Curtin et al. NEJM 2005;
Curtin et al. JCO 2006; Van Raamsdonk et al., NEJM 2010



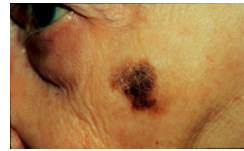
Arising from Skin Without Chronic Sun Damage



Vemurafenib

50% BRAF
20% NRAS

0% KIT



Arising from Skin With Chronic Sun Damage



10% BRAF
10% NRAS

2% KIT



Arising from Mucosal Surfaces



5% BRAF
15% NRAS

20% KIT

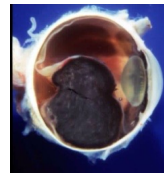


Arising from Acral Surfaces



15% BRAF
15% NRAS

15% KIT

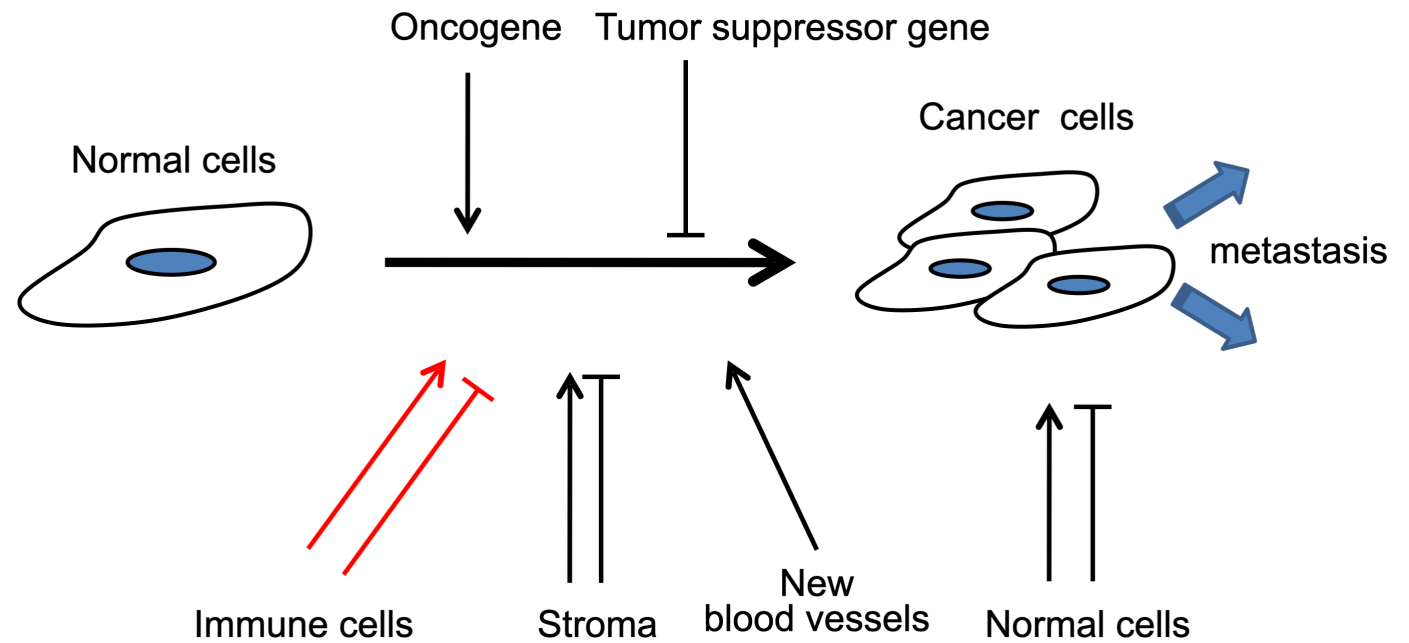


Uveal Melanoma



25% GNAQ
55% GNA11

Targeting Multiple Pathways is Needed for Effective Therapy



Can the immune system recognize cancer?



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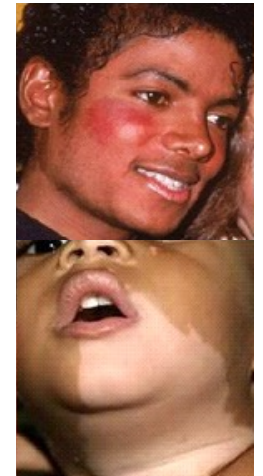
The immune system is designed to recognize foreign antigens



~~Non-self~~

Self

What if the immune system recognizes and attacks self?



Cancer = Self

Autoimmune Reaction to Self / Transformed Self

Recognizing self as non-self:
Autoimmunity/Vitiligo



Goal: Recognition of
Transformed-self/Cancer

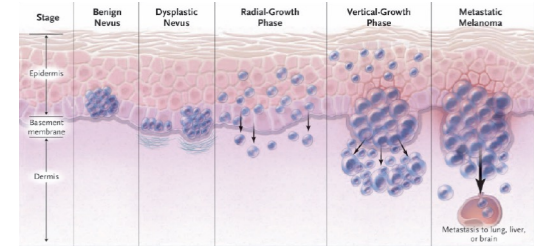


Natural Response to Melanoma

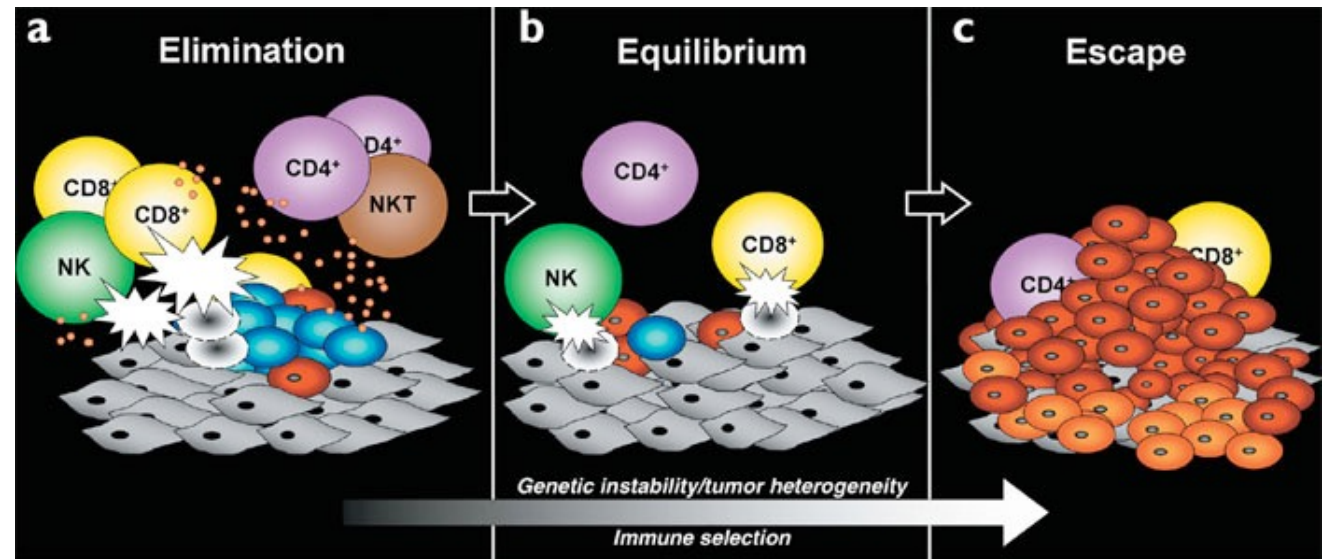
- » Clinical observation that melanoma patients who develop vitiligo “do better” and that vitiligo is associated with response to chemotherapy as well as immunotherapy
- » Isolation from a patient of an antibody recognizing “pigmented associated antigen”



Role of the Immune System in Cancer: Immunoediting

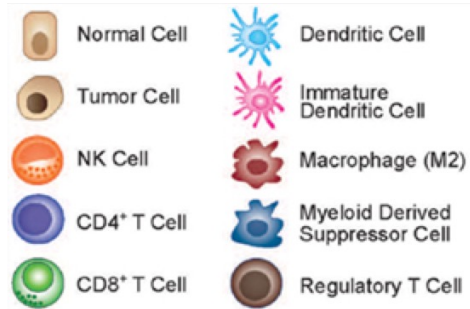


Robert D. Schreiber

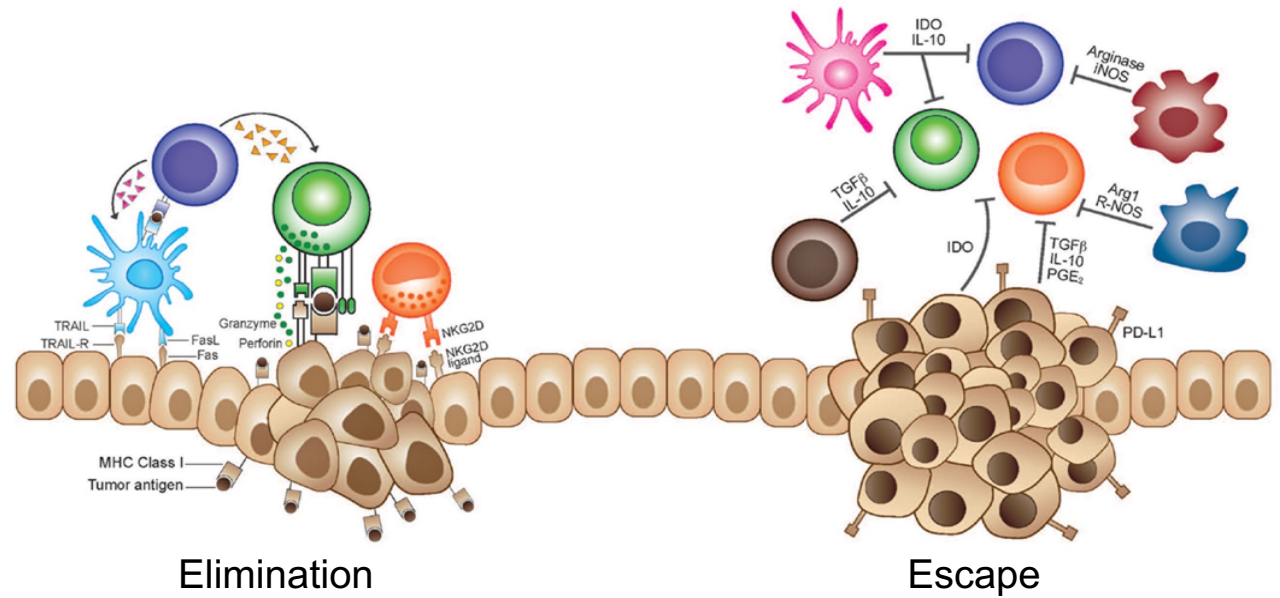


Immunoediting

Immune Suppressive
Microenvironment

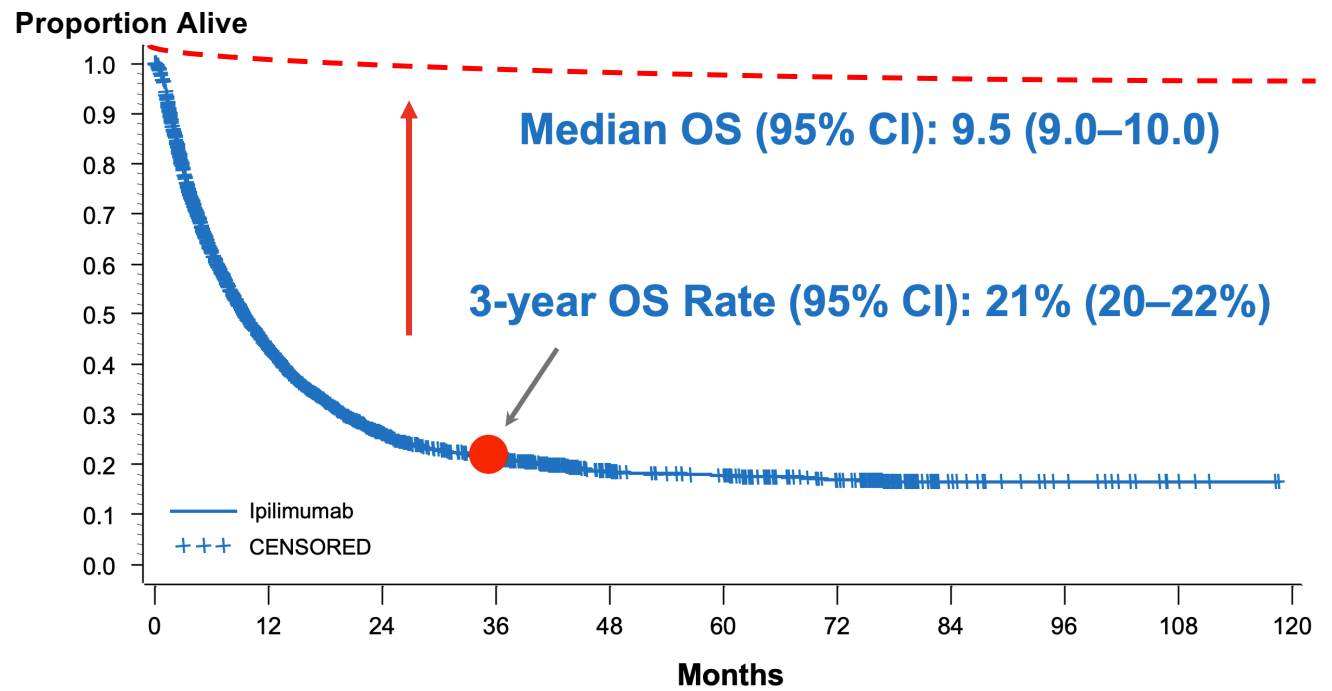


Tumor Microenvironment



William J. Murphy.
Front Oncol.
2013; 3: 197.

Ipilimumab Long Term Pooled Survival Analysis: 4846 Patients



Patients at Risk

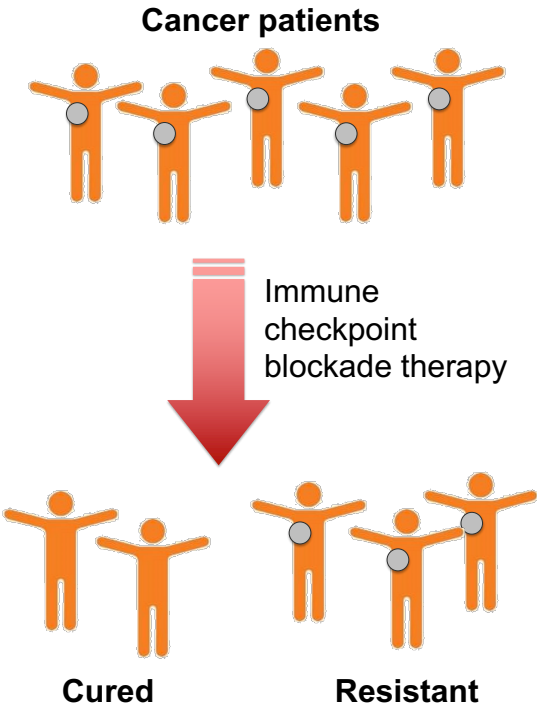
Months	0	12	24	36	48	60	72	84	96	108	120
Ipilimumab	4846	1786	612	392	200	170	120	26	15	5	0

Schadendorf, Hodi
Wolchok, ESMO, 2013

Many Approved Immune Based Therapies

Table 1. FDA-approved immune checkpoint inhibitors

Drug	Target	Approval
Ipilimumab	CTLA-4	2011
Nivolumab	PD-1	2014
Pembrolizumab	PD-1	2014
Atezolizumab	PD-L1	2016
Durvalumab	PD-L1	2017
Avelumab	PD-L1	2017
Cemiplimab	PD-1	2019



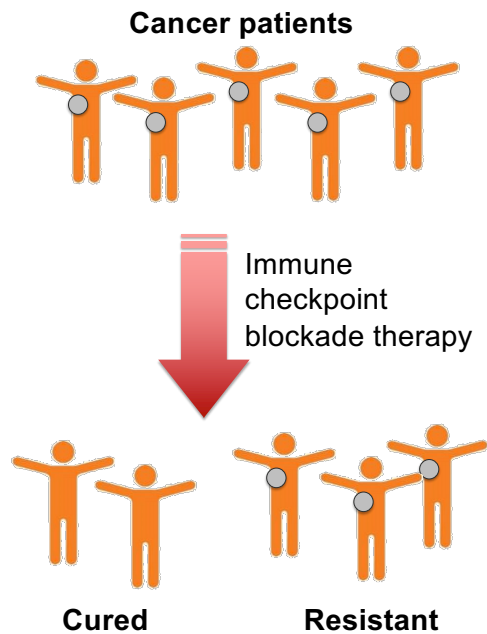
**Can we predict response to
immune therapy reliably?**

**Can we improve response
to immune therapy?**



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Medicine**

Major mechanisms of resistance to anti-tumor immunity



Tumor intrinsic resistance

LETTER

doi:10.1038/nature14404

Melanoma-intrinsic β -catenin signalling prevents anti-tumour immunity

Stefani Spranger¹, Riyue Bao² & Thomas F. Gajewski^{1,3}

Loss of IFN- γ Pathway Genes in Tumor Cells as a Mechanism of Resistance to Anti-CTLA-4 Therapy

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The NEW ENGLAND
JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ESTABLISHED IN 1812 SEPTEMBER 1, 2016 VOL. 375 NO. 9

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Immune-mediated resistance

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Frequencies of circulating MDSC correlate with clinical outcome of melanoma patients treated with ipilimumab

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REVIEW ARTICLE

Tumor-associated macrophages in cancers

W. Hu^{1,2,3} · X. Li^{1,2,3} · C. Zhang¹ · Y. Yang¹ · J. Jiang^{2,3} · C. Wu^{1,2,3}

Research article

CTLA4 blockade and GM-CSF combination immunotherapy alters the intratumor balance of effector and regulatory T cells

Sergio A. Quezada, Karl S. Peggs, Michael A. Curran, and James P. Allison
Howard Hughes Medical Institute, Department of Immunology, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York, New York, USA

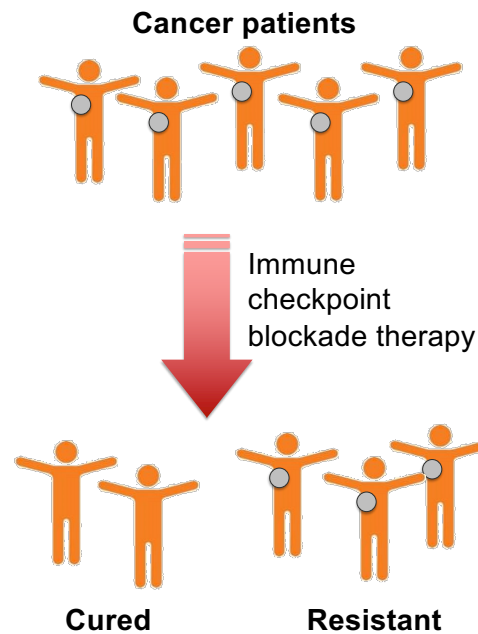
JEM

Article

Indoleamine 2,3-dioxygenase is a critical resistance mechanism in antitumor T cell immunotherapy targeting CTLA-4

Rikke B. Holmggaard,^{1,2} Dmitriy Zamarin,^{1,2,3} David H. Munn,⁴ Jedd D. Wolchok,^{2,3,5,6} and James P. Allison^{1,7}

1 – Better define the tumor intrinsic mechanisms of response to immune therapies



Tumor intrinsic resistance

LETTER

doi:10.1058/nature14404

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Can we predict response to immune therapy reliably?



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Further understand the mechanisms underlying resistance to check point blockade & define potential immunogenic antigens.

- » Paul Ehrlich, Lewis Thomas...
- » **Macfarlane Burnet, 1957:** “It is by no means inconceivable that small accumulations of tumour cells may develop and, because of their possession of new antigenic potentialities, provoke an effective immunological reaction with regression of the tumour and no clinical hint of its existence.”

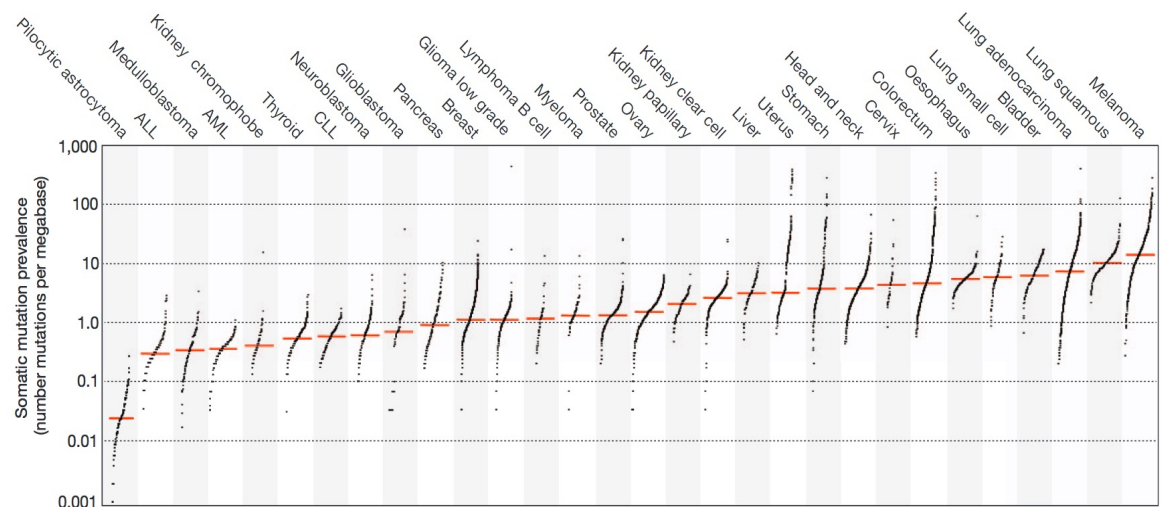
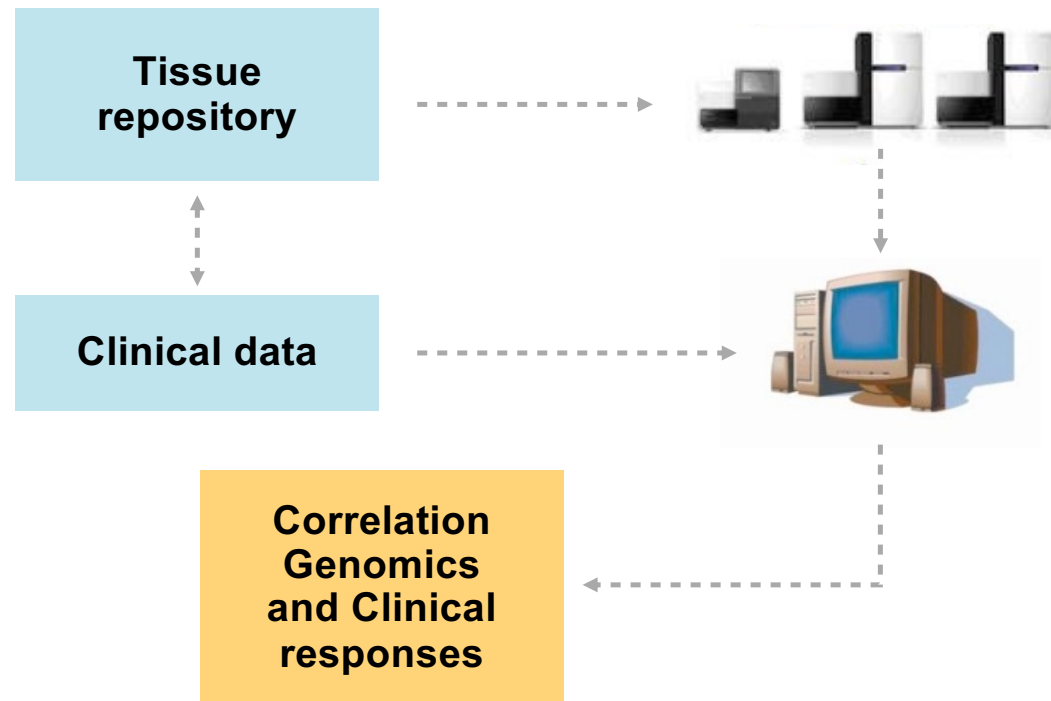
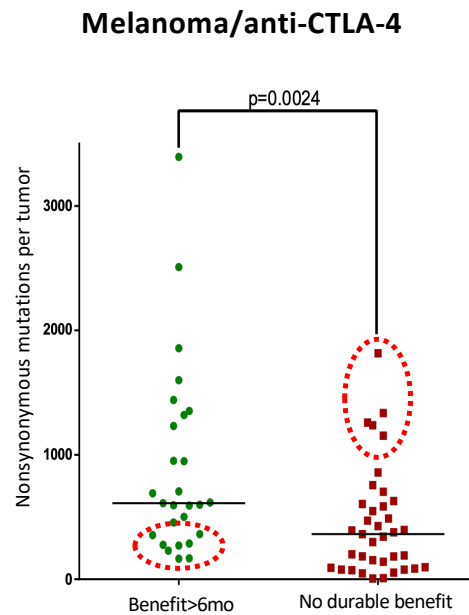


Figure 1 | The prevalence of somatic mutations across human cancer types. cancer types are ordered on the horizontal axis based on their median numbers

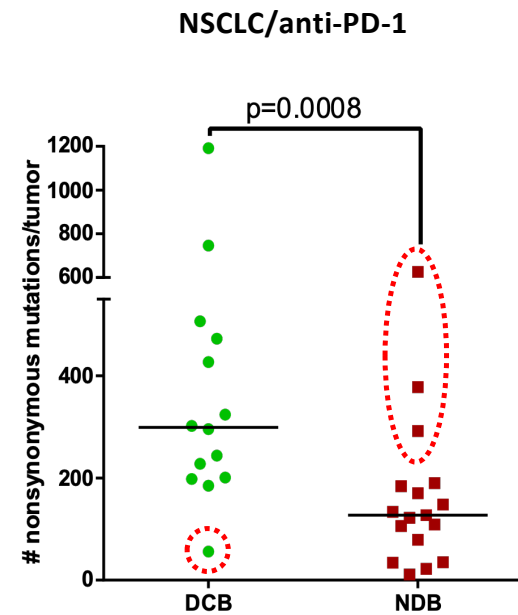
Mutations, Immunogenicity and Prediction of clinical response



Mutational Load Correlates with Benefit from Checkpoint BlockadeWith Important Exceptions



Snyder, Makarov, Merghoub, Yuan et al NEJM 2014
Van Allen, Miao et al Science 2015, Hugo et al Cell 2016



Le et al NEJM 2016, Rizvi, Hellmann, Snyder et al
Science 2015, Rosenberg et al Lancet Oncol 2016

Mutations are not all equal?

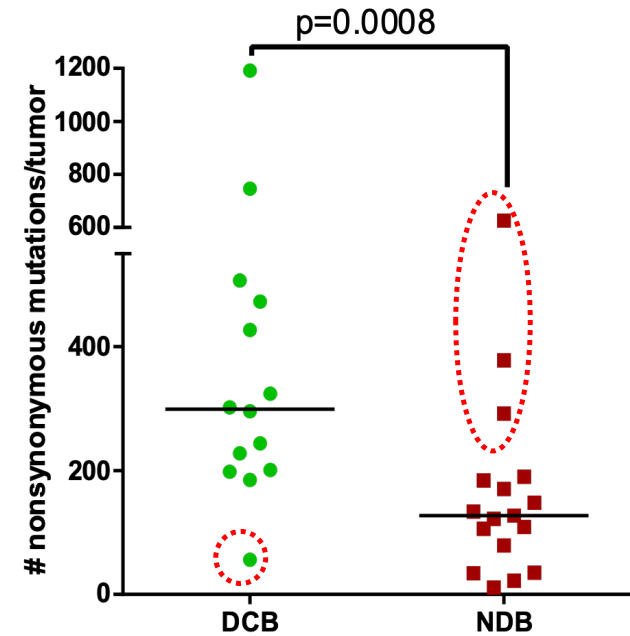


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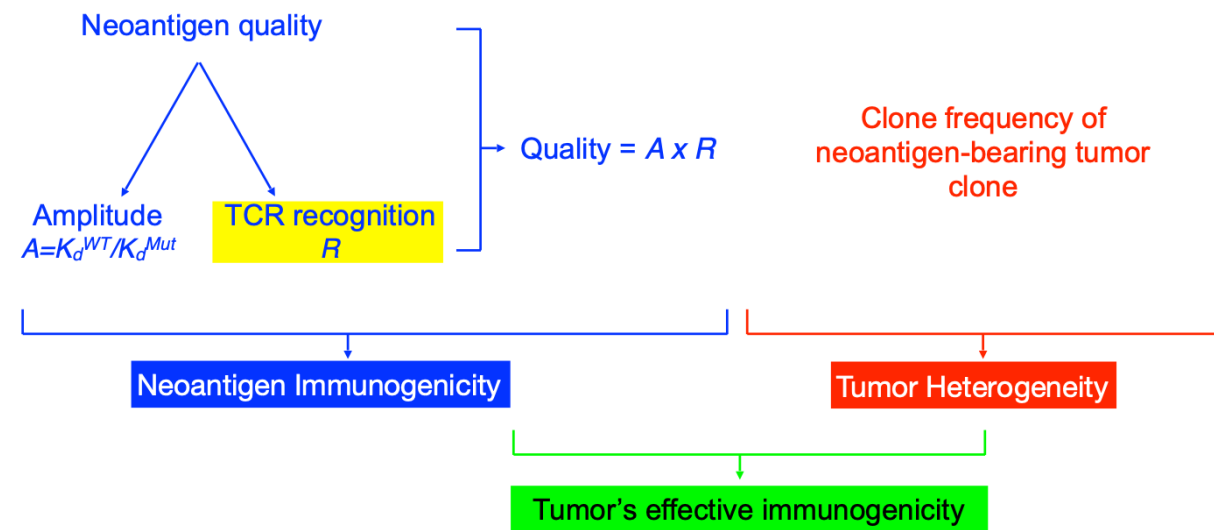
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Having an immunogenic mutation is like drawing the lucky number



A computation model of neoantigen quality based immunogenicity

Which neoantigen(s) are the most immunogenic?



Balachandran VP, Wolchok JD, Merghoub T et al. *Nature* 2017.
Luksza M, Balachandran VP, Greenbaum BG et al. *Nature* 2017.

Do hotspot mutations offer a selective advantage?

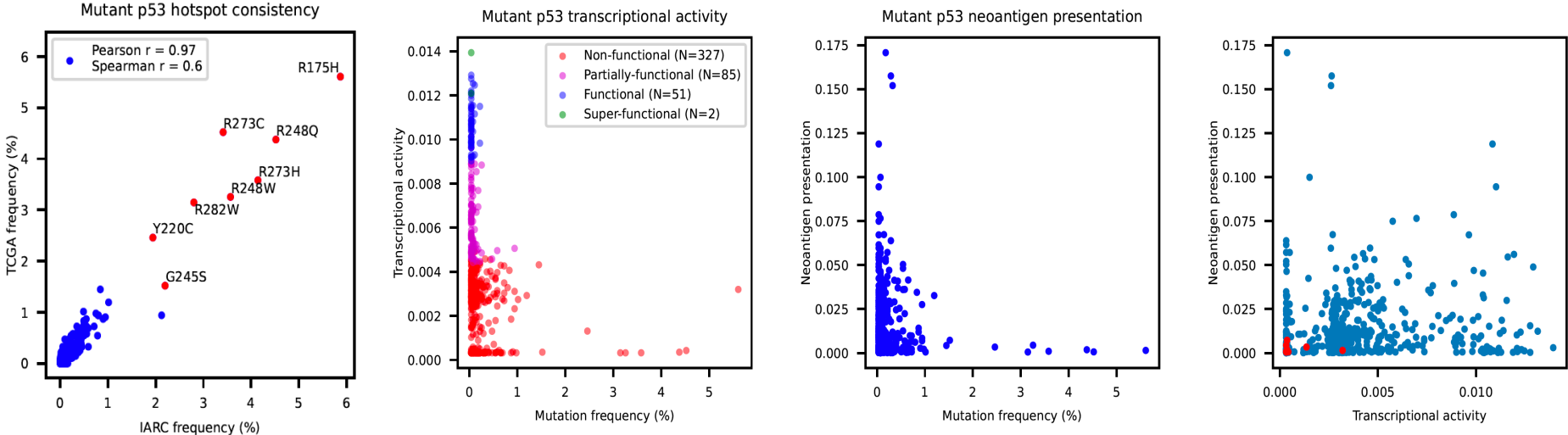


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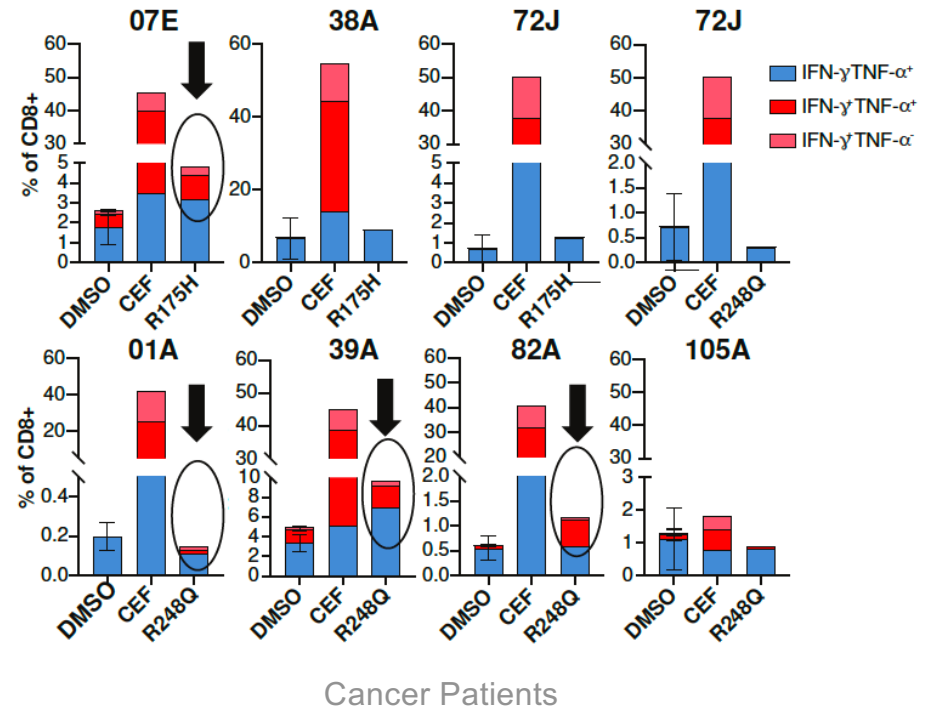
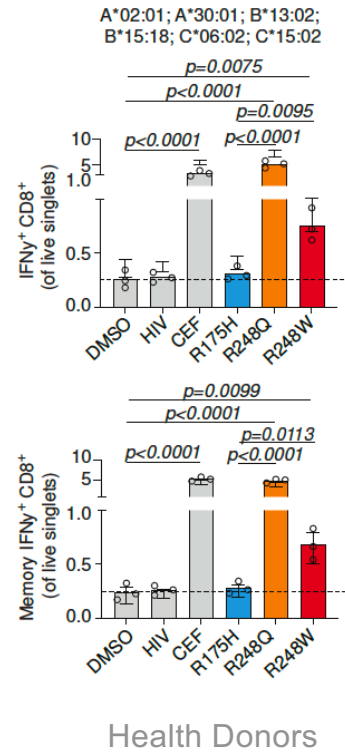
Highly conserved hotspot avoid neoantigen presentation



With Hoyos D, Zappasodi R, Levine A, Łuksza M, Greenbaum B
Hoyos D et al, Nature. 2022 May 11

Differential reactivity to mutant p53 neopeptides in cancer patients and healthy donors.

» Trade-off between oncogenic potential and neoantigen immunogenicity



CANCER

Calreticulin mutant myeloproliferative neoplasms induce MHC-I skewing, which can be overcome by an optimized peptide cancer vaccine

AQ1

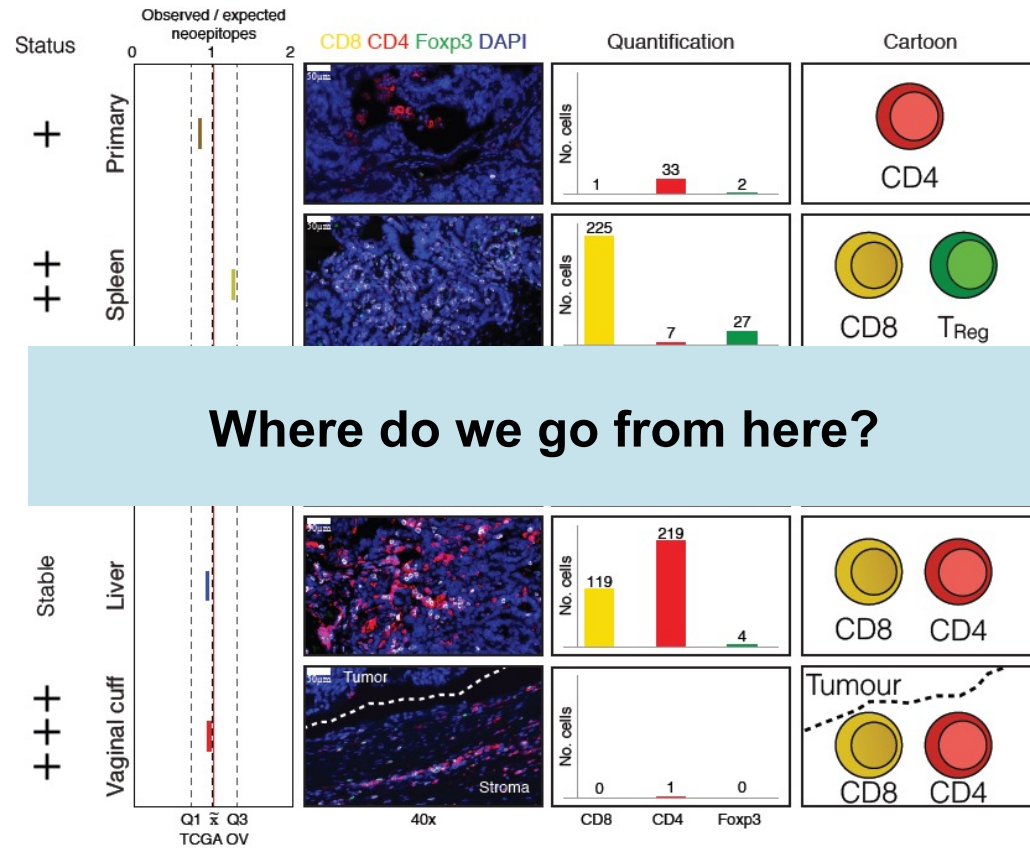
Mathieu Gigoux^{1,2*}, Morten O. Holmström^{3,4†}, Roberta Zappasodi^{1,2,5,6‡}, Joseph J. Park^{1,7}, Cansu Cimen Bozkus⁸, Levi M. B. Mangarin^{1,2}, David Redmond^{1,9}, Svena Verma^{1,2,7}, Sara Schad^{1,2,7}, Mariam George^{1,2}, Divya Venkatesh^{1,2}, Arnab Ghosh^{1,2,10}, David Hoyos¹¹, Zaki Molvi^{12,13}, Baransel Kamaz¹⁴, Anna E. Marneth¹⁴, William Duke¹⁴, Matthew J. Leventhal¹⁵, Max Jan¹⁶, Vincent Ho¹⁷, Gabriela S. Hobbs¹⁸, Trine Alma Knudsen¹⁹, Vibe Skov¹⁹, Lasse Kjær¹⁹, Thomas Stauffer Larsen²⁰, Dennis Lund Hansen²⁰, R. Coleman Lindsley¹⁷, Hans Hasselbalch¹⁹, Jacob H. Grauslund^{3,4}, Thomas L. Lisle^{3,4}, Özcan Met^{3,4}, Patrick Wilkinson²¹, Benjamin Greenbaum^{11,22}, Manuel A. Sepulveda²¹, Timothy Chan^{7,23}, Raajit Rampal²⁴, Mads H. Andersen^{3,4}, Omar Abdel-Wahab^{3,4}, Nina Bhardwaj²⁵, Jedd D. Wolchok^{1,2,5,7‡}, Ann Mullally^{14,17,15‡}, Taha Merghoub^{1,2,5,7*}

AQ2

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American Association
for the Advancement
of Science. No claim
to original U.S.
Government Works



Distinct Tumor Immune TME in one Patient, Controlled for Environmental & Inherited Factors



Can we improve existing immune therapies?



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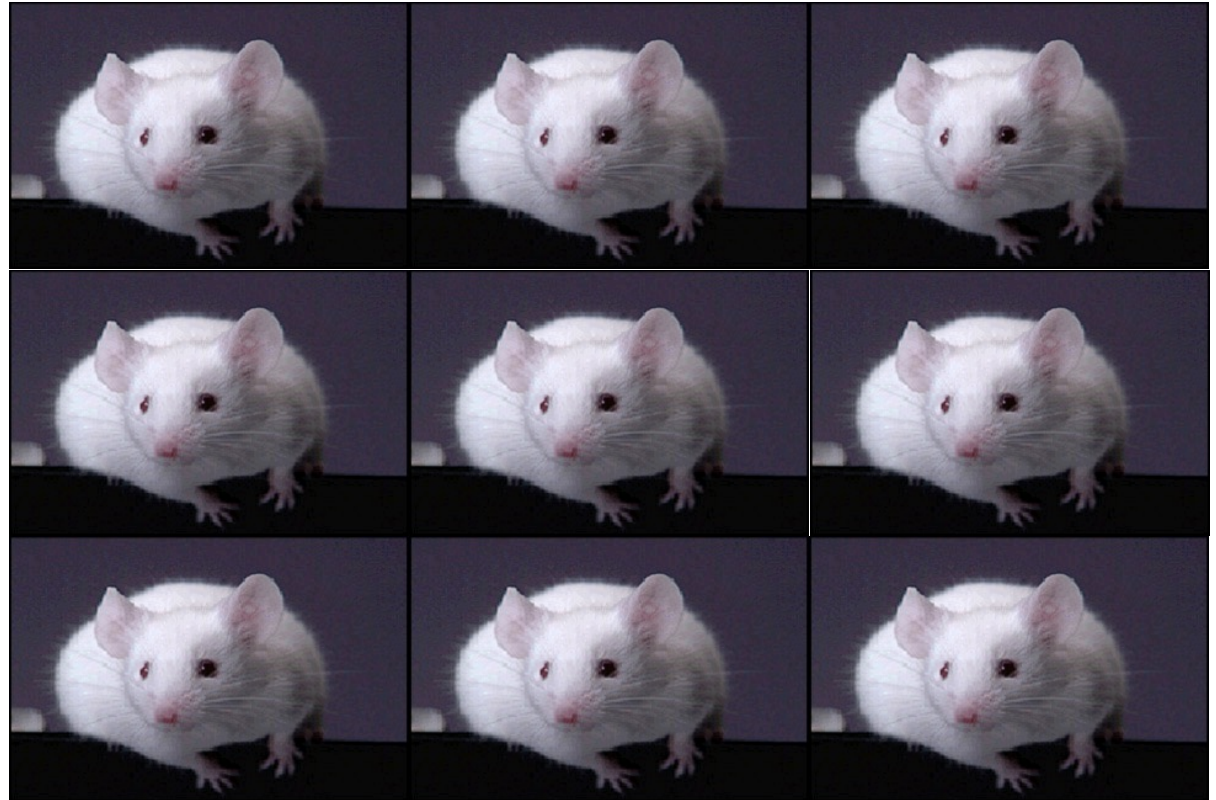


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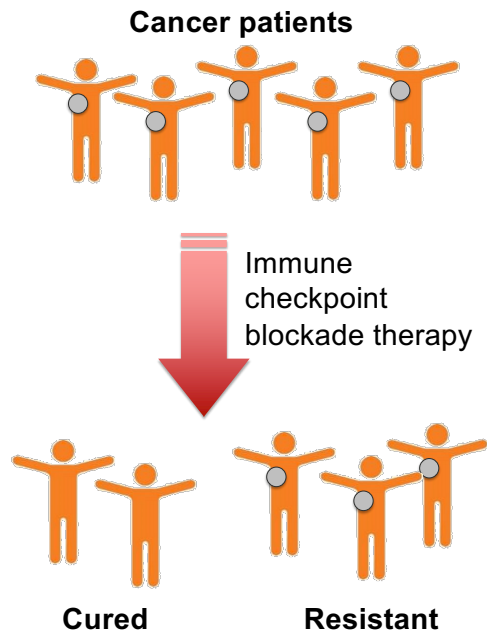
**Need to go back to
murine tumor models**

**We look like
identical twins!**

**Inbred mouse strains
are a great tool**



Major mechanisms of resistance to anti-tumor immunity



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LETTER

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Howard Hughes Medical Institute, Department of Immunology, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York, New York, USA

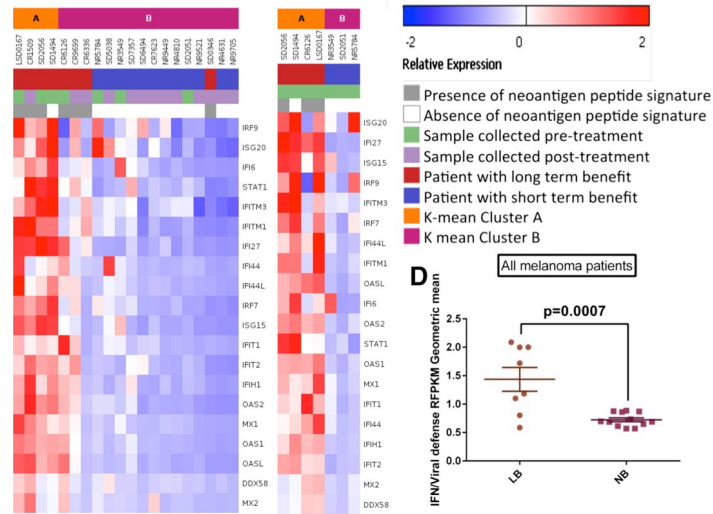
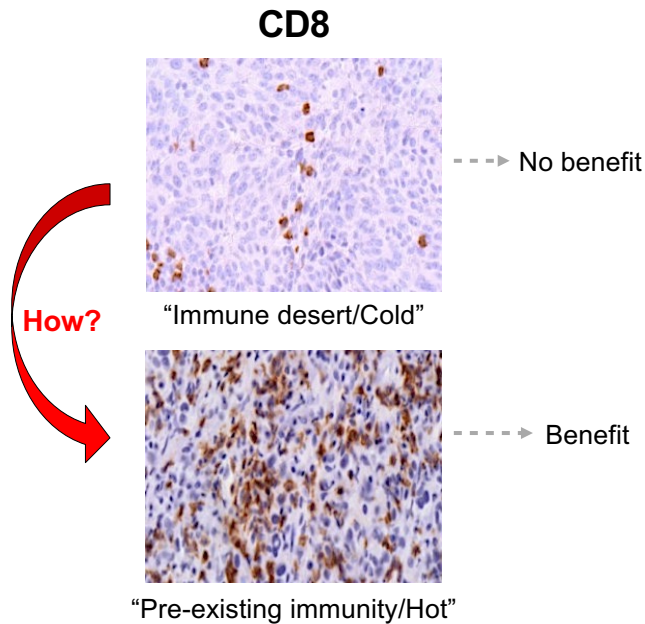
JEM

Article

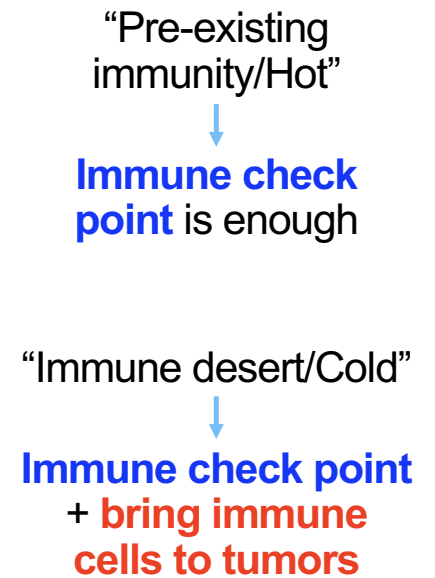
Indoleamine 2,3-dioxygenase is a critical resistance mechanism in antitumor T cell immunotherapy targeting CTLA-4

Rikke B. Holmggaard,^{1,2} Dmitriy Zamarin,^{1,2,3} David H. Munn,⁴ Jedd D. Wolchok,^{2,3,5,6} and James P. Allison^{1,7}

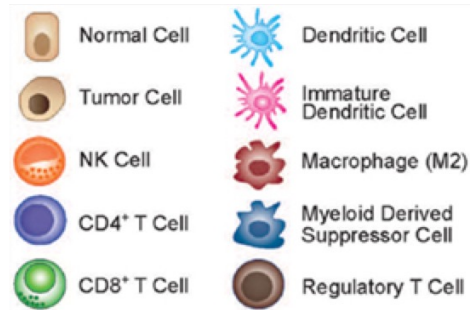
Immune-active microenvironment in human cancers is associated with clinical benefit from immunotherapies



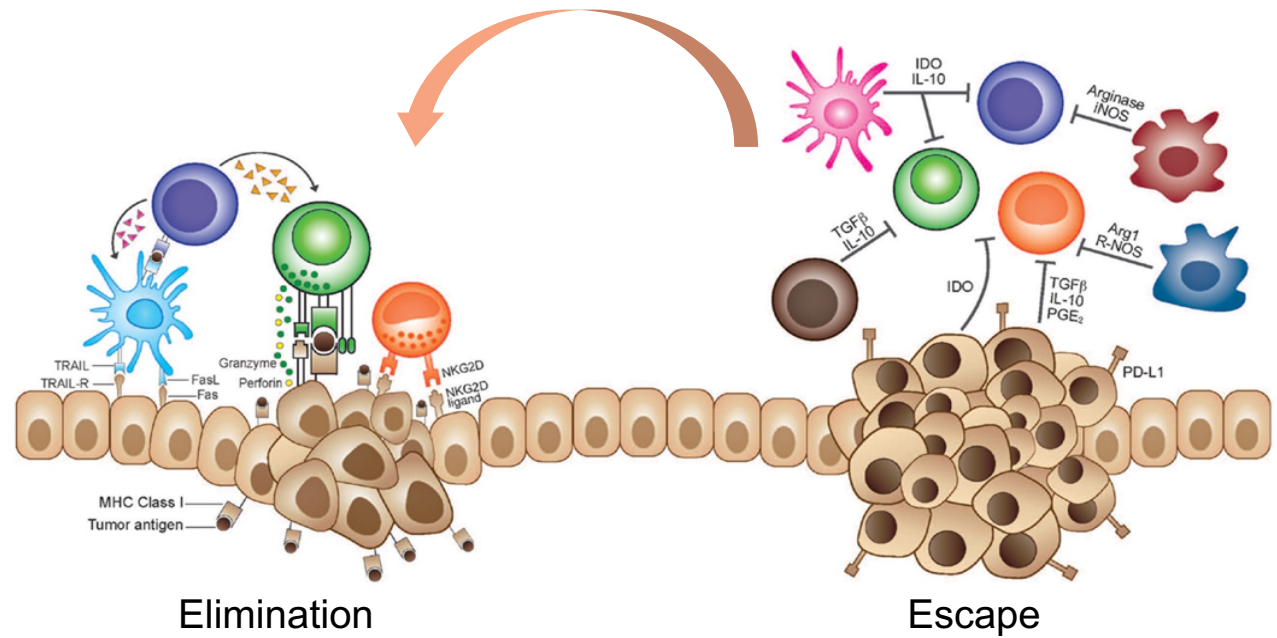
Type I IFN signature is associated with clinical benefit from CTLA-4 blockade in melanoma



2 – Modify the Immune Suppressive Microenvironment



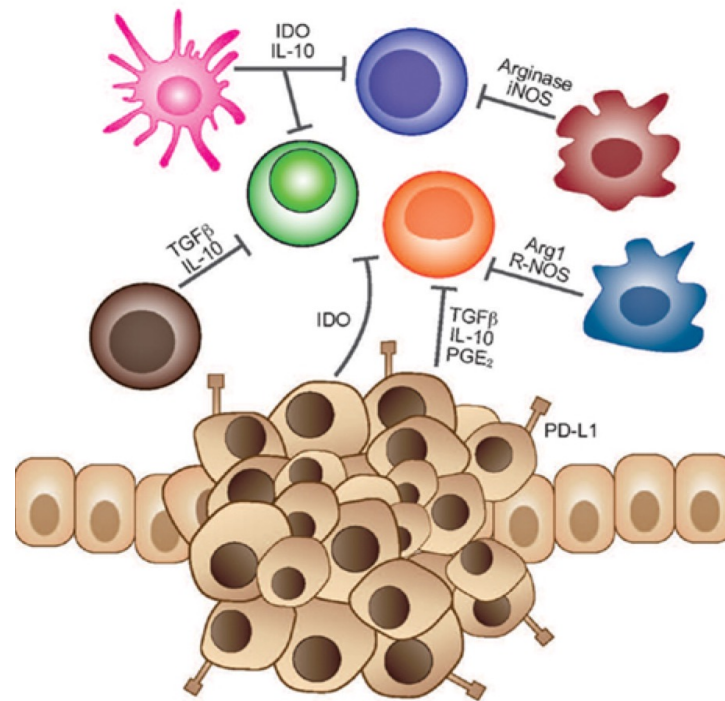
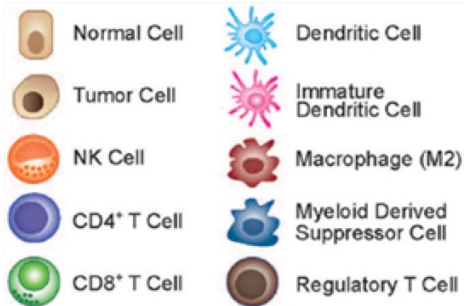
Tumor Microenvironment



William J. Murphy.
Front Oncol.
2013; 3: 197.

- » Reverse immune suppression
- » Induce anti-tumor immune response

Variants for immunogenicity study

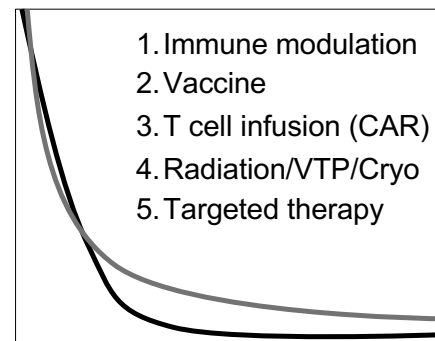
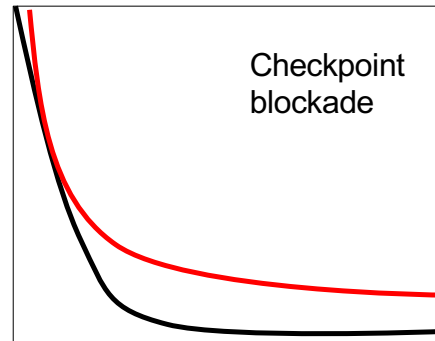


Escape

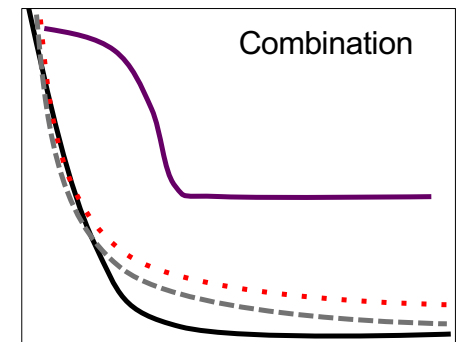
Segal et al. Cancer Res 2008
 Matsushita et al. Nature 2012

Rationale for Combination with other therapies:

- » Use other means to enhance tumor recognition
- » Strategy to address low response rates of checkpoint blockade



?

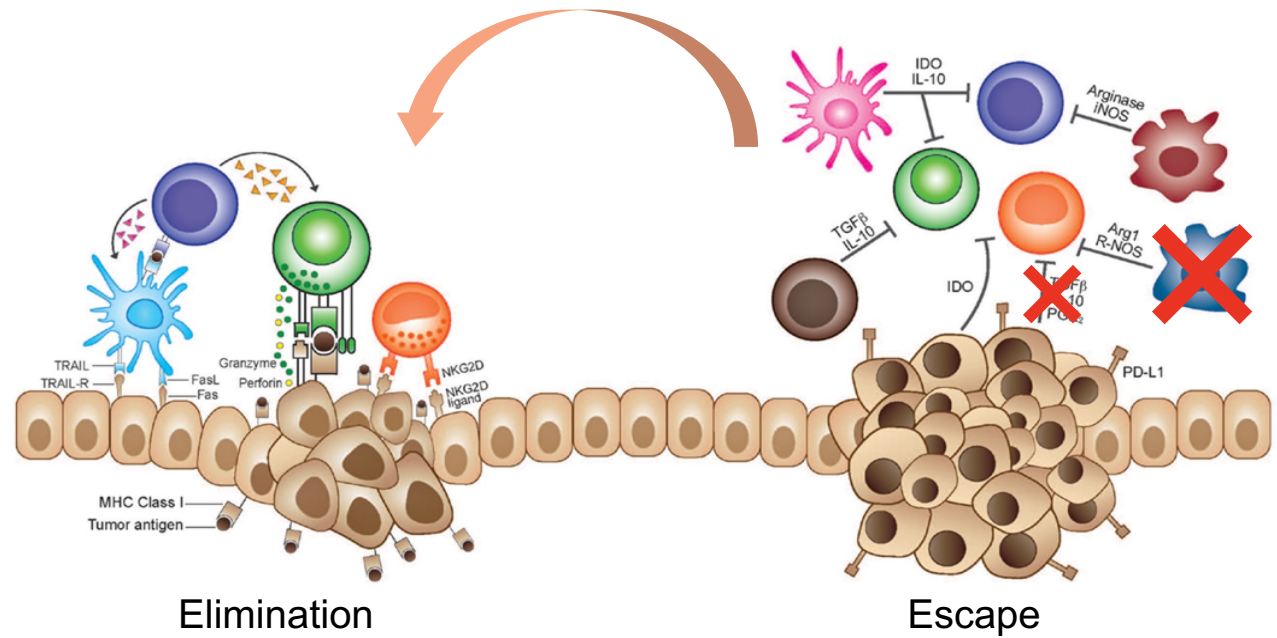
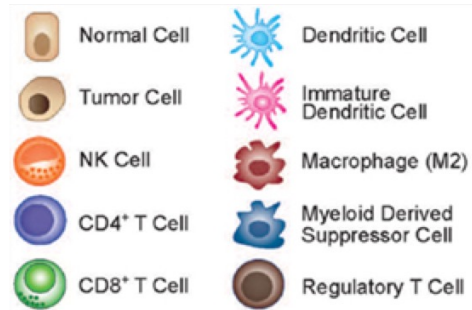


Approach combining blockade of immune suppression with immunotherapy

-----> The target cell need to be present

Immune Suppressive Microenvironment

Tumor Microenvironment



William J. Murphy.
 Front Oncol.
 2013; 3: 197.

Modify the Immune Suppressive Microenvironment



ARTICLE

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-020-17750-z> OPEN



Blockade of the AHR restricts a Treg-macrophage suppressive axis induced by L-Kynurenine

Luis Felipe Camposato^{1,2}, Sadna Budhu^{1,2}, Jeremy Tchaicha³, Chien-Huan Weng^{1,2}, Mathieu Gigoux^{1,2}, Ivan Jose Cohen⁴, David Redmond^{1,2}, Levi Mangarin^{1,2}, Stephane Pourpe^{1,2}, Cailian Liu^{1,2}, Roberta Zappasodi^{1,2}, Dmitry Zamarin^{1,2}, Jill Cavanaugh³, Alfredo C. Castro³, Mark G. Manfredi³, Karen McGovern³, Taha Merghoub^{1,2,5,6*} & Jedd D. Wolchok^{1,2,5,6*}

Timing of CSF-1/CSF-1R signaling blockade is critical to improving responses to CTLA-4 based immunotherapy

Rikke B. Holmgaard, Alexandra Brachfeld, Billel Gasmi, Thompson Doman, Mary Murphy, David Schaer, Jedd D. Wolchok & Taha Merghoub

To cite this article: Rikke B. Holmgaard, Alexandra Brachfeld, Billel Gasmi, Thompson Doman, Mary Murphy, David Schaer, Jedd D. Wolchok & Taha Merghoub (2016): Timing of CSF-1/CSF-1R signaling blockade is critical to improving responses to CTLA-4 based immunotherapy, *Oncoimmunology*, DOI: [10.1080/2162402X.2016.1151595](https://doi.org/10.1080/2162402X.2016.1151595)

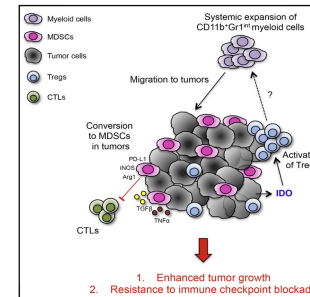


Memorial Sloan Kettering
Cancer Center

Cell Reports

Tumor-Expressed IDO Recruits and Activates MDSCs in a Treg-Dependent Manner

Graphical Abstract



Authors

Rikke B. Holmgaard, Dmitry Zamarin, Yanyun Li, ..., James P. Allison, Taha Merghoub, Jedd D. Wolchok

Correspondence
wolchokj@mskcc.org

In Brief

IDO mediates immune inhibition in tumors, though the mechanisms of this are poorly understood. Holmgaard et al. demonstrate that tumor IDO is a central regulator of both local and systemic immunosuppression and resistance to immunotherapy, which is orchestrated through expansion, recruitment, and activation of MDSCs in a Treg-dependent manner.

Overcoming resistance to checkpoint blockade therapy by targeting PI3K γ in myeloid cells

Olivier De Henau¹, Matthew Rausch², David Winkler², Luis Felipe Camposato¹, Cailian Liu¹, Daniel Hirschhorn-Cymerman¹, Sadna Budhu¹, Arnab Ghosh¹, Melissa Pink², Jeremy Tchaicha², Mark Douglas², Thomas Tibbitts², Sujata Sharma², Jennifer Proctor², Nicole Kosmider², Kerry White², Howard Stern², John Soglia², Julian Adams², Vito J. Palombella², Karen McGovern¹, Jeffery L. Kutok², Jedd D. Wolchok^{1,3,4,5*} & Taha Merghoub^{1,3*}

ONCOIMMUNOLOGY
2019, VOL. 8, NO. 6, e1581528 (10 pages)
<https://doi.org/10.1080/2162402X.2019.1581528>

Taylor & Francis
Taylor & Francis Group

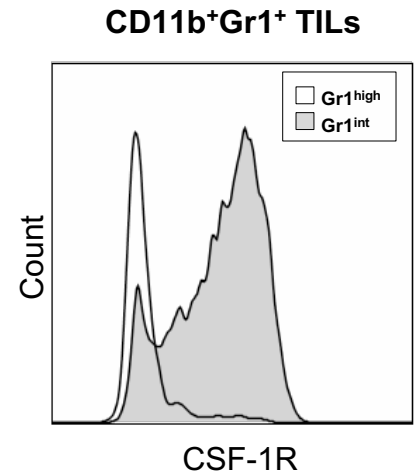
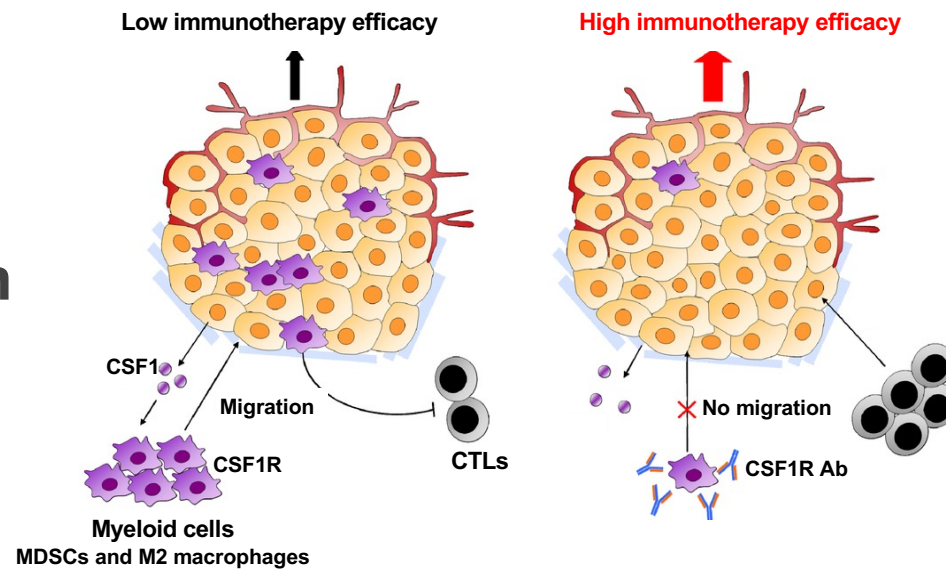
ORIGINAL RESEARCH



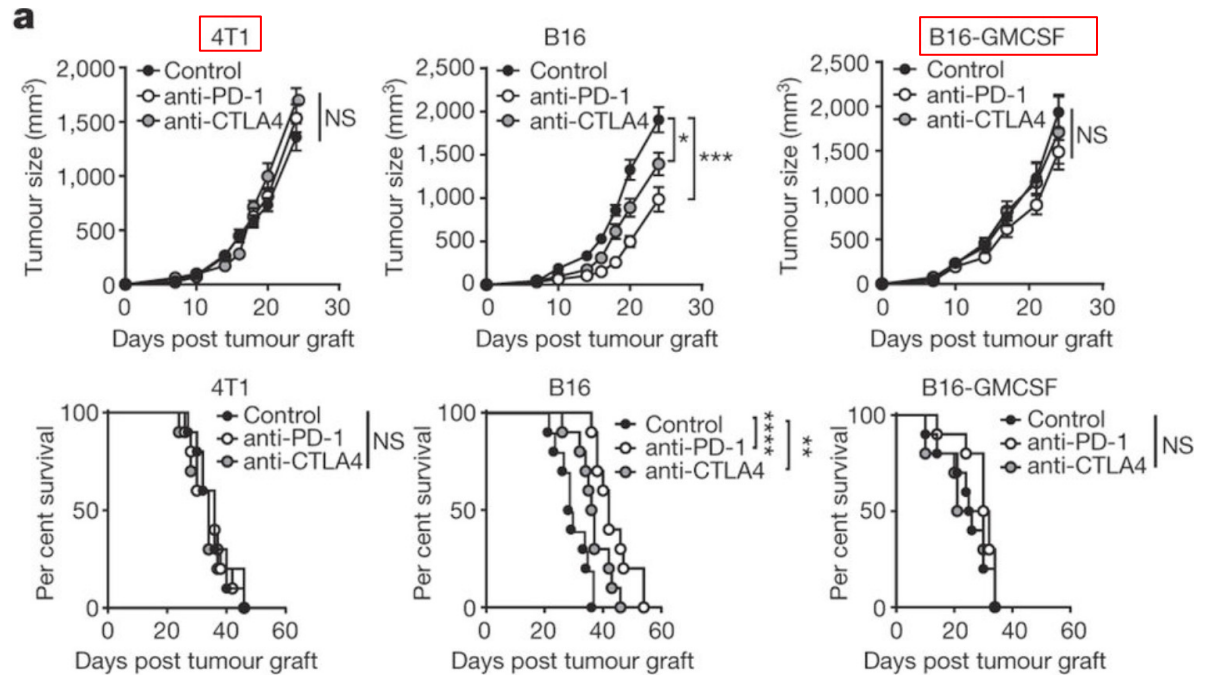
Potentiating vascular-targeted photodynamic therapy through CSF-1R modulation of myeloid cells in a preclinical model of prostate cancer

Souhil Lebdai^{1,2,3*}, Mathieu Gigoux^{4,5,6*}, Ricardo Alvim³, Alexander Somma³, Karan Nagar³, Abdel Rahmene Azzouzi³, Olivier Cussenot³, Taha Merghoub^{4,5,6*}, Jedd D. Wolchok^{4,5,6*}, Avigdor Scherz², Kwanghee Kim³, and Jonathan Coleman⁴

Therapeutic targeting of suppressive MDSCs: Suppressive MDSCs show high expression of CSF-1R



Resistance to checkpoint blockade is associated with suppressive myeloid cells infiltration in tumor microenvironment



**Mammary Carcinoma Model
(Rich in myeloid cells)**

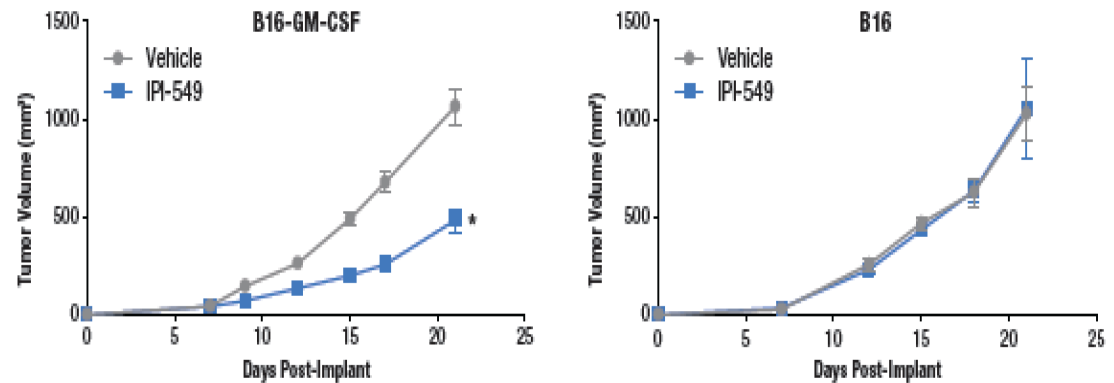
**Melanoma Model
(Poor myeloid cells)**

**Melanoma Model
(Rich in myeloid cells)**

Role of Myeloid Cells in IPI-549 Antitumor Activity

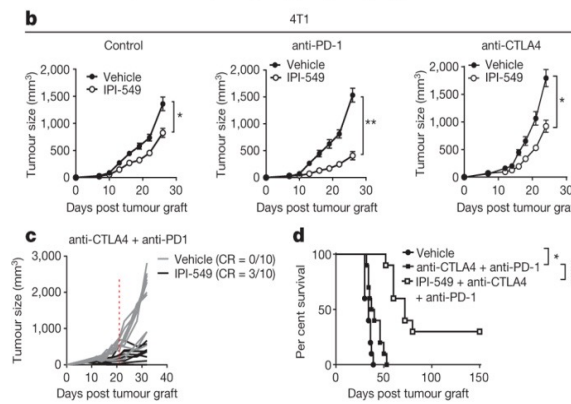
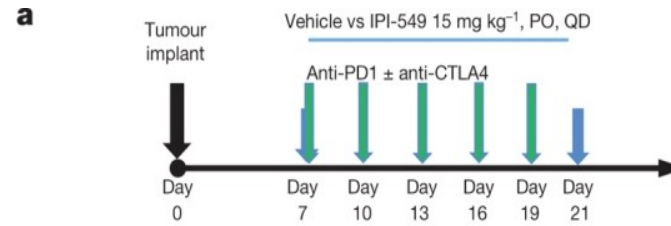
- » PI3 kinase gamma is preferentially expressed in MDSCs
- » IPI-549 is a PI3 kinase gamma inhibitor.
- » IPI-549 is only active in myeloid MDSC dependent tumors.

IPI-549 is Active in the Myeloid-Cell-Rich Melanoma (B16-GM-CSF) Model

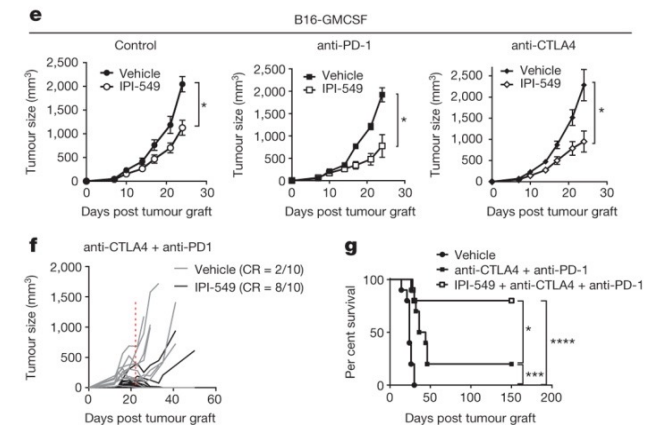


Administration of IPI-549 15 mg/kg orally, daily to C57Bl6 mice bearing GM-CSF transduced B16 tumors resulted in a significant inhibition of tumor growth (* $p < 0.0001$), while IPI-549 had no impact on B16 tumors without GM-CSF ($p = 0.1852$) ($n = 5-6$ mice/group).

Resistance to checkpoint blockade therapy is overcome when combined with selective PI3K γ inhibition



Mammary Carcinoma Model



Melanoma Model

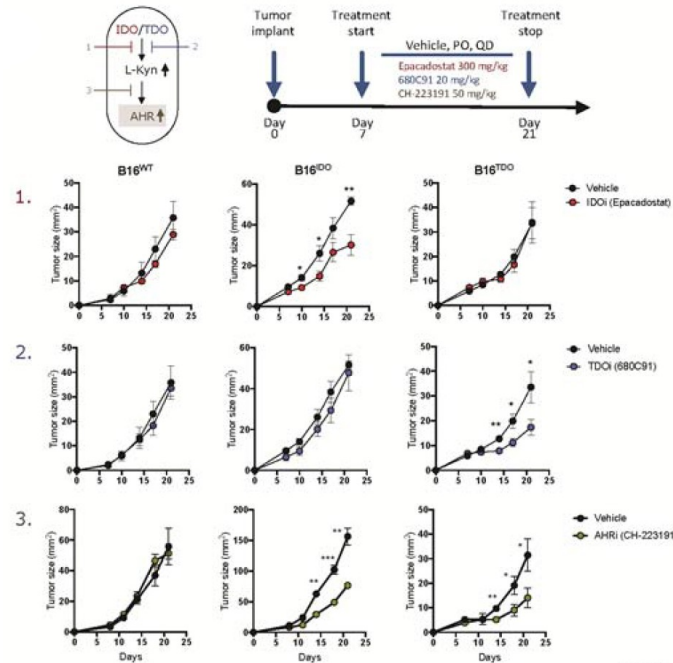
O De Henau et al. Nature 1–4
(2016) doi:10.1038/nature20554

Blocking Suppressive Mechanisms

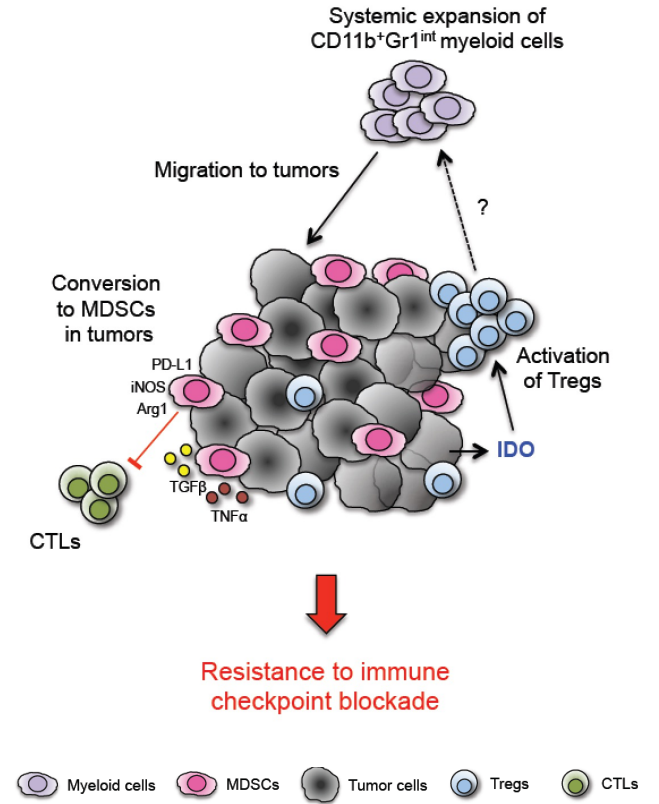
MDSCs Inhibition (CSF1R blockade, PI3 Kinase.....)

IDO inhibition, Kyn, AHR

Campesato, et al, Nat Commun, 2020
Hoolmgard et al, Cell Report,2015



AHRi delays tumor regression of IDO and TDO expressing tumors



Approach combining blockade of immune suppression with checkpoint blockade

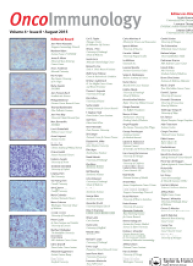
- > The target cell need to be present
Timing is key



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Oncoimmunology



ISSN: (Print) 2162-402X (Online) Journal homepage: <http://www.tandfonline.com/loi/koni20>

Timing of CSF-1/CSF-1R signaling blockade is critical to improving responses to CTLA-4 based immunotherapy

Rikke B. Holmgaard, Alexandra Brachfeld, Billel Gasmi, Thompson Doman, Mary Murphy, David Schaer, Jedd D. Wolchok & Taha Merghoub

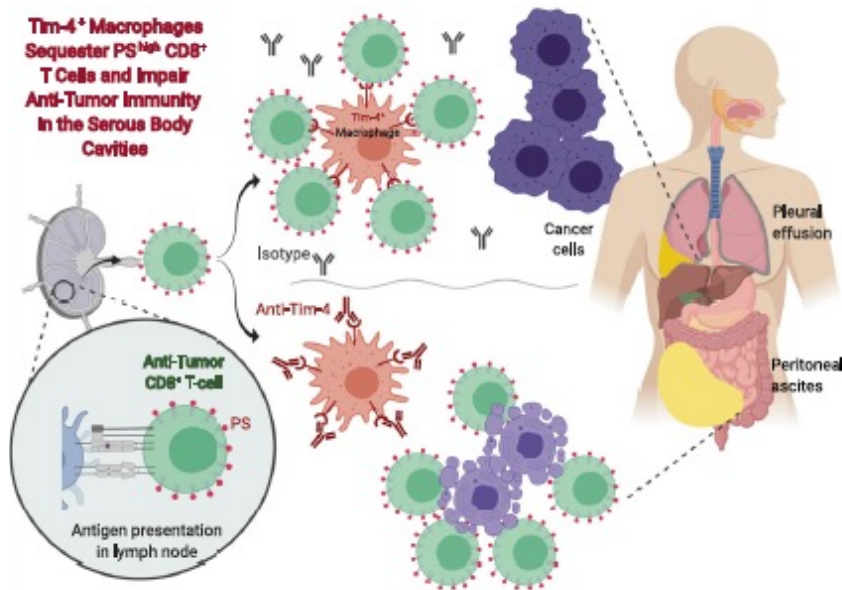
To cite this article: Rikke B. Holmgaard, Alexandra Brachfeld, Billel Gasmi, Thompson Doman, Mary Murphy, David Schaer, Jedd D. Wolchok & Taha Merghoub (2016): Timing of CSF-1/CSF-1R signaling blockade is critical to improving responses to CTLA-4 based immunotherapy, *Oncoimmunology*, DOI: [10.1080/2162402X.2016.1151595](https://doi.org/10.1080/2162402X.2016.1151595)

Approach combining blockade of immune suppression with checkpoint blockade

-----> Location is important

Cancer Cell

Tim-4⁺ cavity-resident macrophages impair anti-tumor CD8⁺ T cell immunity



Authors

Andrew Chow, Sara Schad
Michael D. Green, ..., Jedd D. Wolchok
Charles M. Rudin, Taha Merghoub

Correspondence

rudinc@mskcc.org (C.M.R.),
merghoubt@mskcc.org (T.M.)

In brief

Chow et al. demonstrate that metastatic involvement of the pleural and the peritoneal cavities is associated with poor ICB efficacy in patients with cancer. Tim-4⁺ cavity-resident macrophages directly impair CD8 T cell function, and Tim-4 blockade enhances the efficacy of ICB and adoptive T cells therapy in mice.

Approach of combining check point blockade with the induction of antigen response

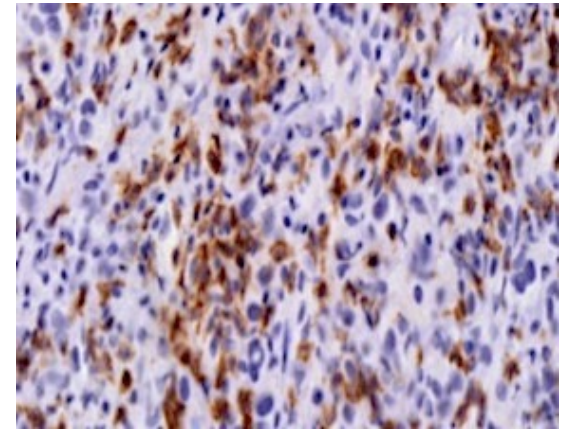
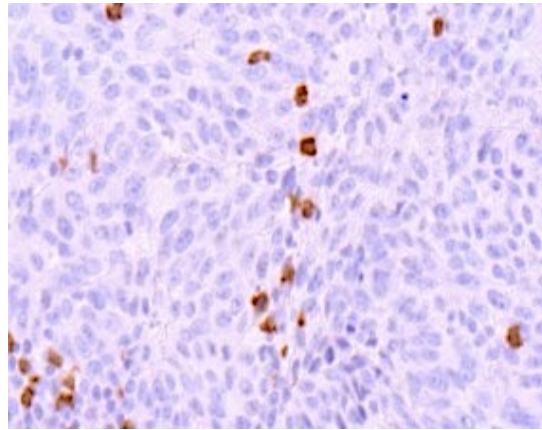
- > Antitumor immune response is needed in situ vaccine**

Approach

Induce Tumor Antigen Response

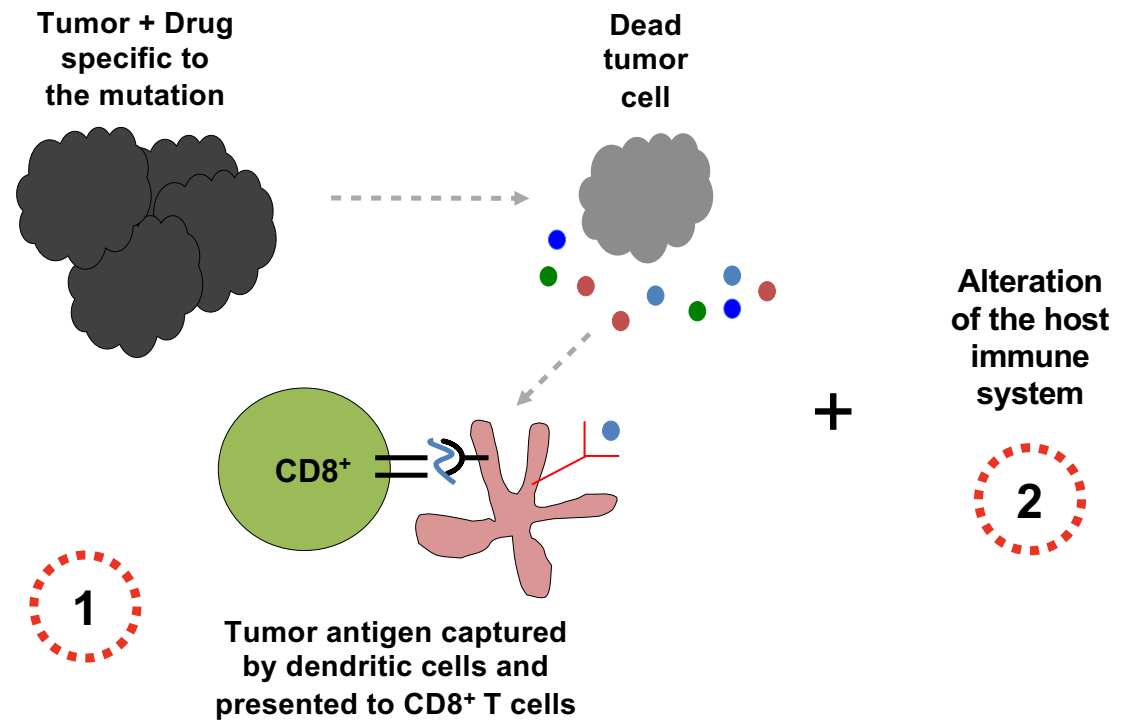
- » Killing the tumors with targeted therapies
- » Oncolytic viral therapy
- » Chemotherapy
- » Radiation therapy
- » VTP
- » Other means...

Increase the Number of Immune Infiltrating Immune Cells

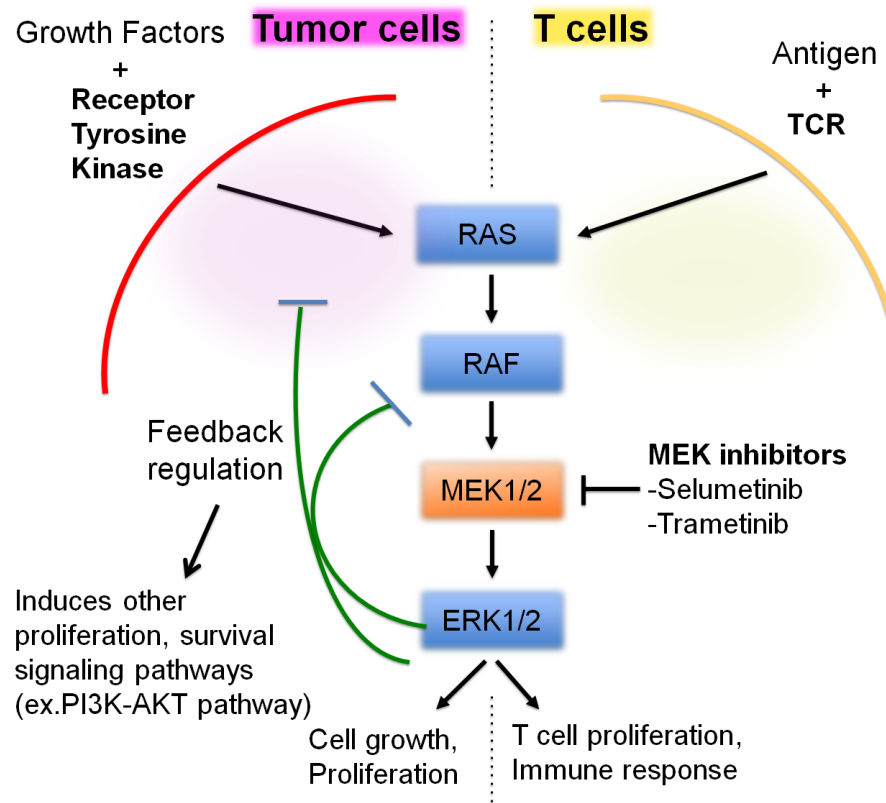


Segal et al. Cancer Res 2008
Matsushita et al. Nature 2012

Targeting tumor cells should induce a tumor-specific immune response



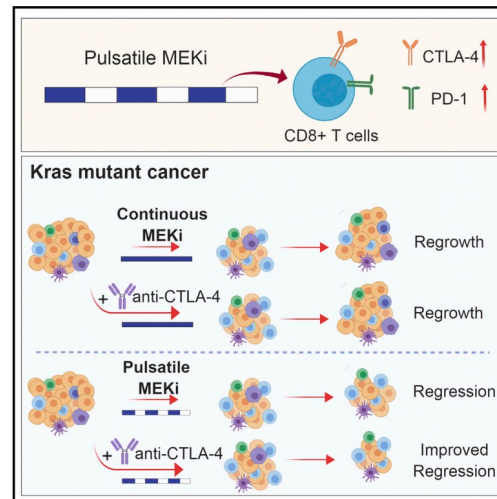
MEK signaling is important to the tumor cells and immune cells both



Cell Reports

Pulsatile MEK Inhibition Improves Anti-tumor Immunity and T Cell Function in Murine Kras Mutant Lung Cancer

Graphical Abstract



Authors

Hyejin Choi, Jiehui Deng, Shuai Li, ...,
Taha Merghoub, Kwok-Kin Wong,
Jedd D. Wolchok

Correspondence

merghout@mskcc.org (T.M.),
kwok-kin.wong@nyumc.org (K.-K.W.),
wolchokj@mskcc.org (J.D.W.)

In Brief

KRAS mutant non-small-cell lung cancer (NSCLC) remains refractory to targeted therapeutics. Choi et al. show that pulsatile, rather than continuous, treatment with MEK inhibitors can maintain T cell activity better and prolong survival in mice with Kras mutant cancer. This effect is further enhanced when combined with CTLA-4 blockade.

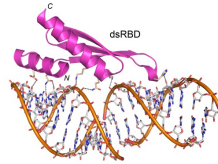


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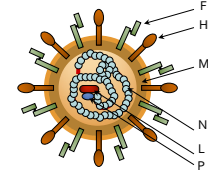
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Induction of antitumor immunity with oncolytic viruses : Δ E3L vaccinia virus or Newcastle disease virus (NDV)



Δ E3L
vaccinia

- » Antagonist of intracellular innate immune signaling
- » A mutant vaccinia virus lacking the E3L gene (Δ E3L):
 - › has a restricted host-range
 - › is highly sensitive to IFN
 - › has greatly reduced virulence in animal models
- » Both the N-terminal Z-DNA BD and C-terminal dsRNA BD are required for full pathogenesis of the virus in vivo.



NDV



- » Member of Paramyxoviridae family
- » Birds are a natural host
- » Strong inducer of type I IFN
- » Readily infects the majority of cancer cells due to
 - » ubiquity of the receptor (sialic acid)
- » Specificity for cancer cells is mediated by selective viral replication in cells with deficient innate immune responses and cells resistant to apoptosis
- » Clinical trials with systemically-administered NDV in humans demonstrated safety and durable clinical benefit

Approach:

Combining Other immune modulatory antibodies






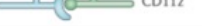






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Alter Host Immune System: Rationale Combination with Immune modulation

Receptor and ligands	Mechanism of action	Current status	Examples of agents
Co-inhibitory receptors			
CTLA4  CD80/86	Limits initial T cell activation and proliferation	FDA-approved	Ipilimumab, tremelimumab
PD1  PD-L1	Inhibits the activity of effector T cells	FDA-approved	Nivolumab, pembrolizumab, durvalumab, atezolizumab
LAG3  MHC II	Inhibits the activity of effector T cells via the KIEELE motif, which is functionally linked with T _{reg} cell-mediated immunosuppression	Phase III trial ongoing	Relatlimab
TIM-3  Galectin-9 CEACAM1	Triggers CD8 ⁺ T cell apoptosis and/or exhaustion	Phase II trials ongoing	Cobolimab, sabatolimab
TIGIT  CD155, CD112	Downregulation of T cell and NK cell function	Phase II trials ongoing	Tiragolumab
BTLA  HVEM	Suppression of downstream activation of TCR signalling via SH2	Phase I trials ongoing	Icatolimab
Co-stimulatory receptors			
GITR  GITRL	Promotes activation and proliferation of effector T cells and a reduction in T _{reg} cells	Phase II trials ongoing	TRX518, BMS-986156
OX40  OX40L	Promotes survival, but not priming, of both effector and memory T cells	Phase II trials ongoing	GSK3174998, MEDI6469, PF-04518600
4-1BB  4-1BBL	Promotes T cell proliferation and mitochondrial function and biogenesis	Phase I trials ongoing	Utomilumab, urelumab
ICOS  ICOSL	Promotes TCR co-stimulation and T _{reg} cell stimulation	Phase I trials ongoing	Vopratelimab, KY1044, GSK3359609

Kraehenbuehl L, Weng CH, Eghbali S, Wolchok JD, Merghoub T. Nat Rev Clin Oncol. 2022

Approach:

**Combining Other
immune modulatory
antibodies beyond
checkpoint blockade**

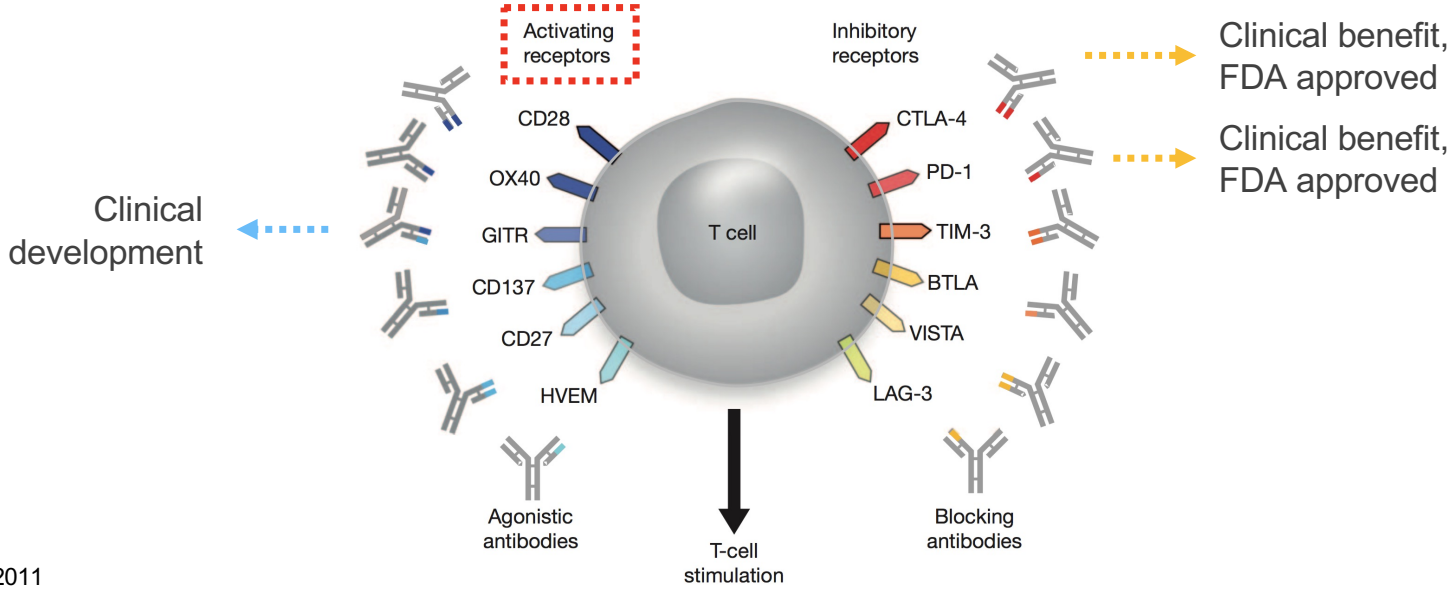


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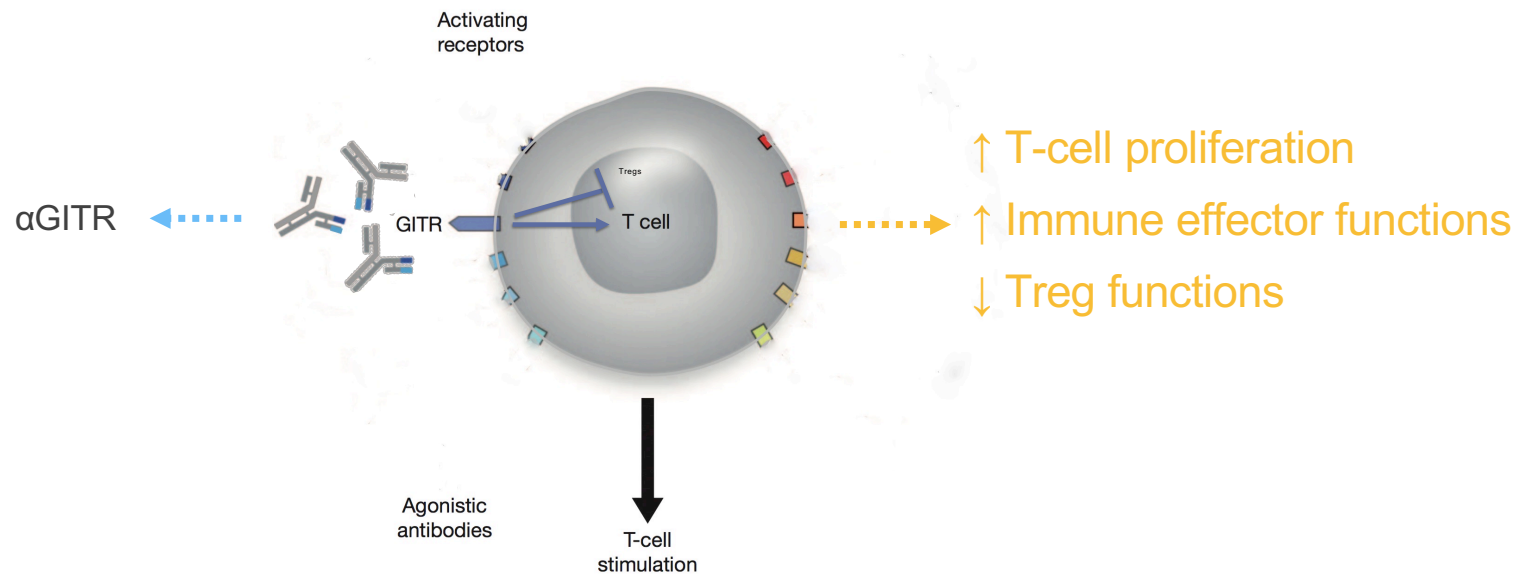
**Weill Cornell
Medicine**

Immunomodulatory Abs for cancer therapy: beyond immune checkpoint blockade



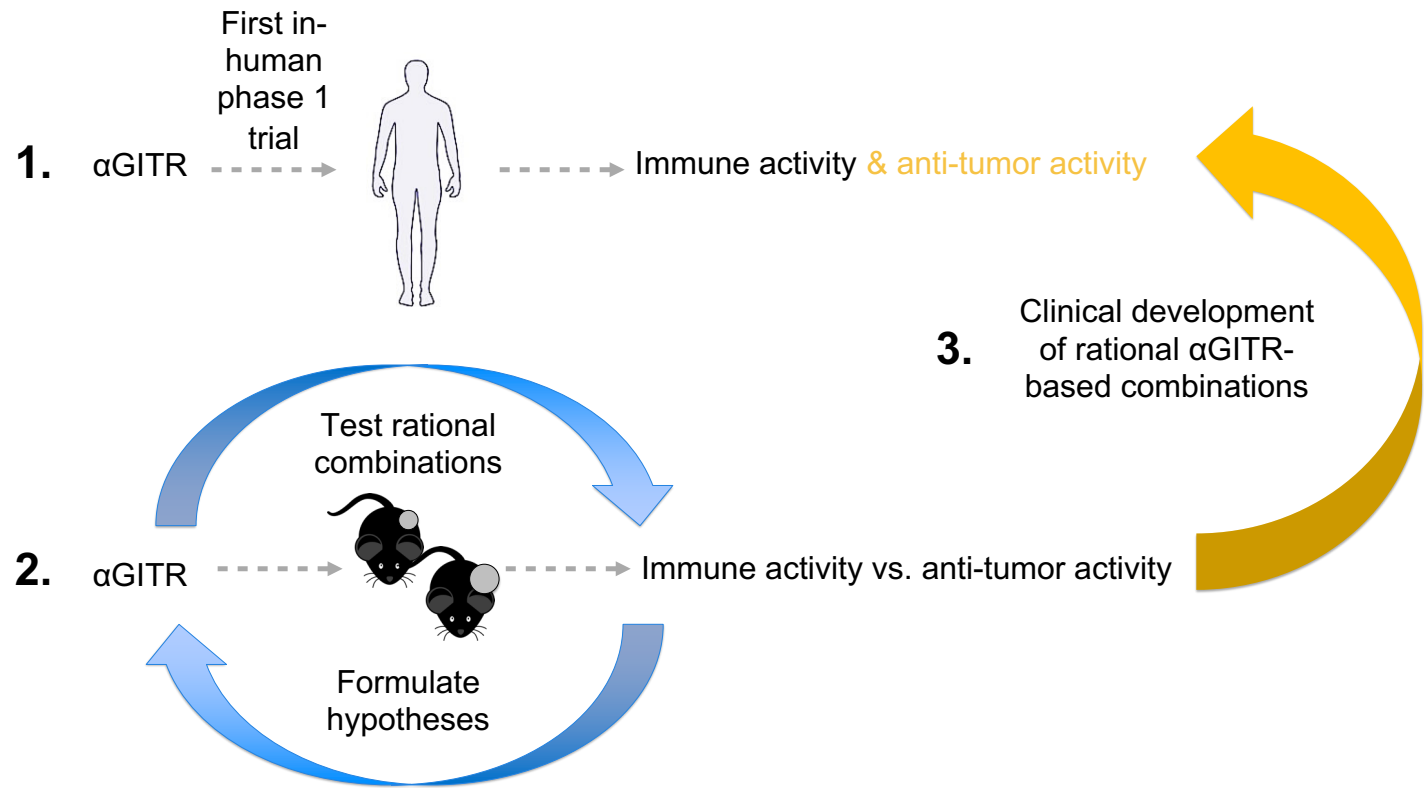
Adapted from Mellman, Nature 2011

Immunomodulatory Abs for cancer therapy: beyond immune checkpoint blockade



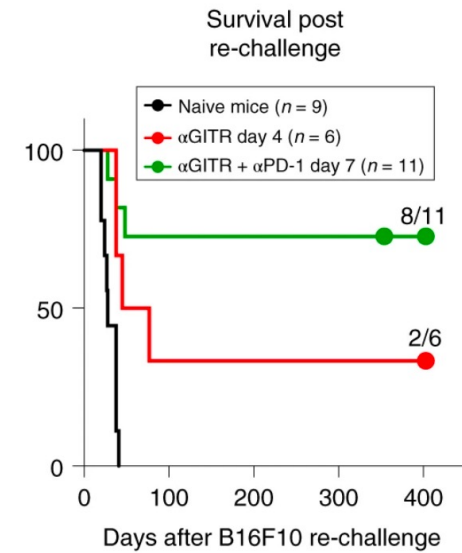
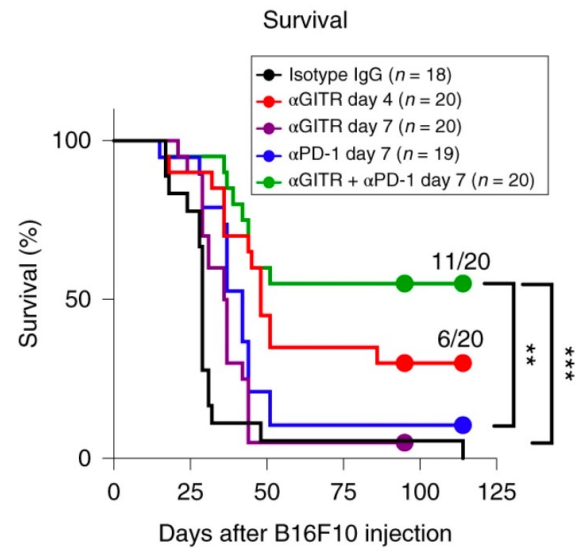
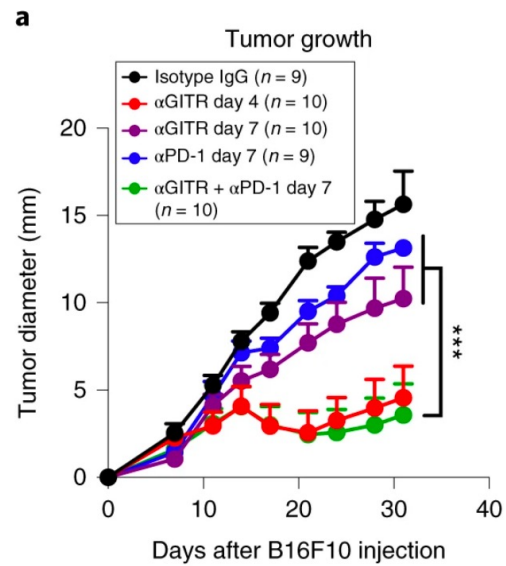
Adapted from
Mellman, Nature 2011

Study Design



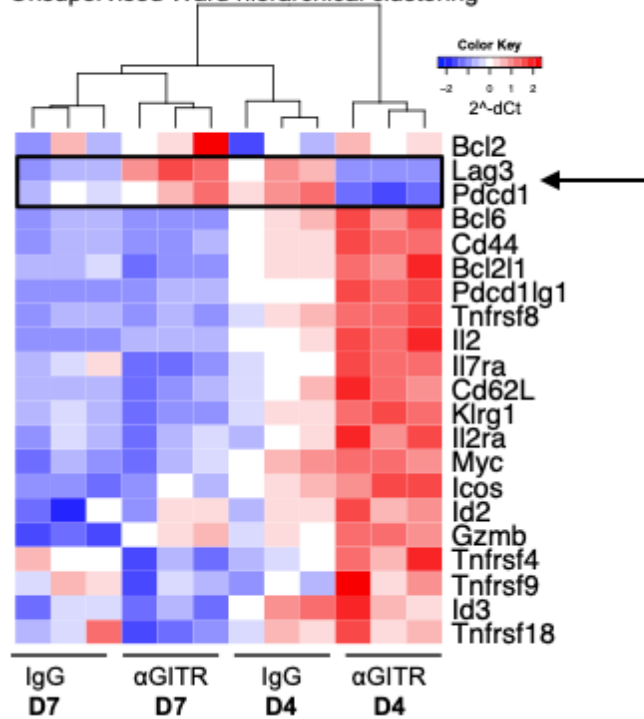
Rational design of anti-GITR-based combination immunotherapy

Roberta Zappasodi^{1,5}, Cynthia Sirard¹, Yanyun Li^{1,5}, Sadna Budhu¹, Mohsen Abu-Akeel¹, Cailian Liu¹, Xia Yang¹, Hong Zhong¹, Walter Newman¹, Jingjing Qi^{1,5}, Phillip Wong^{1,5}, David Schaefer¹, Henry Koon¹, Vamsidhar Velcheti¹, Matthew D. Hellmann^{2,5*}, Michael A. Postow^{3,5*}, Margaret K. Callahan^{2,5*}, Jedd D. Wolchok^{1,2,3,4,5*} and Taha Merghoub^{1,2,3,5*}



Gene expression analyses in purified CD8⁺ TILs

Unsupervised Ward hierarchical clustering

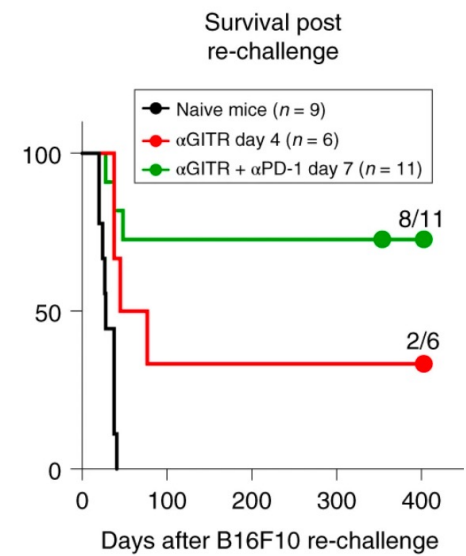


nature
medicine

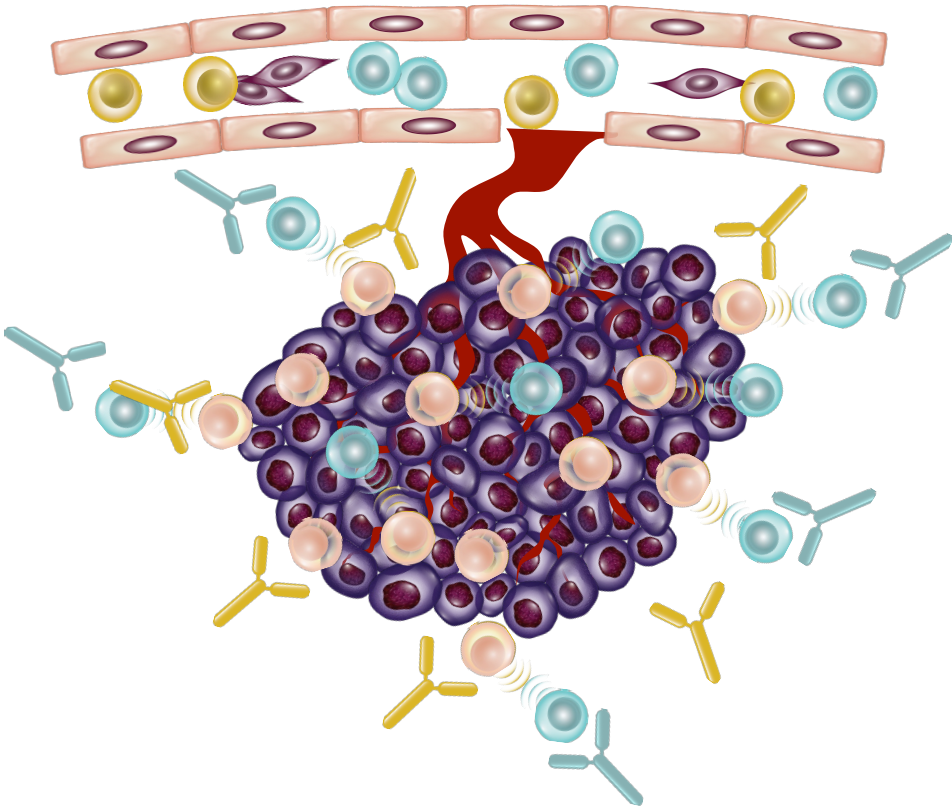
LETTERS
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41591-019-0420-8>







Rational design of anti-GITR-based combination immunotherapy

Roberta Zappasodi^{1,2}, Cynthia Sirard¹, Yanyun Li^{1,2}, Sadna Budhu¹, Mohsen Abu-Akeel¹, Cailian Liu¹, Xia Yang¹, Hong Zhong¹, Walter Newman¹, Jingjing Qi^{1,2}, Phillip Wong^{1,2}, David Schaefer¹, Henry Koon¹, Vamsidhar Velcheti¹, Matthew D. Hellmann^{1,2,3,4}, Michael A. Postow^{1,2}, Margaret K. Callahan^{2,5,6}, Jedd D. Wolchok^{1,2,3,4,6*} and Taha Merghoub^{1,2,7,8*}



Model



-  Treg
-  Exhausted T cell
-  Cytotoxic T cell
-  Tumor cells
-  αGITR
-  αPD-1

Finally:

**Don't ignore the biology
you don't know**



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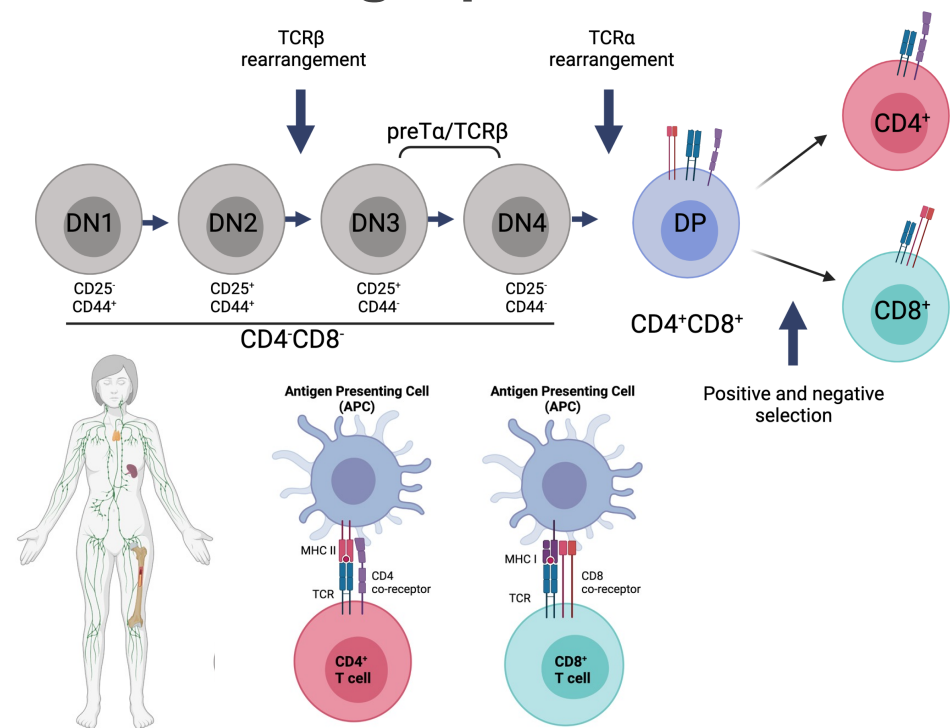


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T cell development and commitment to single positive fates

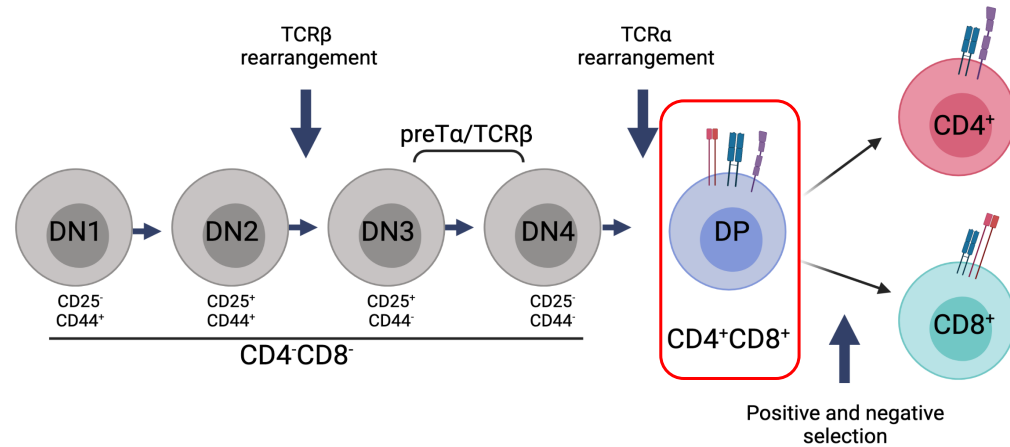
T cells originate from hematopoietic stem cells in the bone marrow and migrate to the thymus for development

- » TCRs undergo rearrangement to produce millions of unique variations
- » Successfully rearranged TCRs are tested for reactivity with peptide:MHC complexes
 - › Strong interactions (self-reactive TCRs) induce cell death
 - › Weak interactions **survive**
 - › No interaction induces cell death
- » Select TCRs enter the periphery as mature single positive T cells

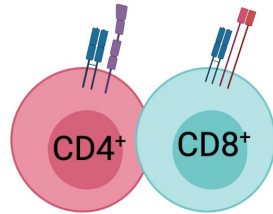


Previous understanding of CD4⁺CD8⁺ T cells

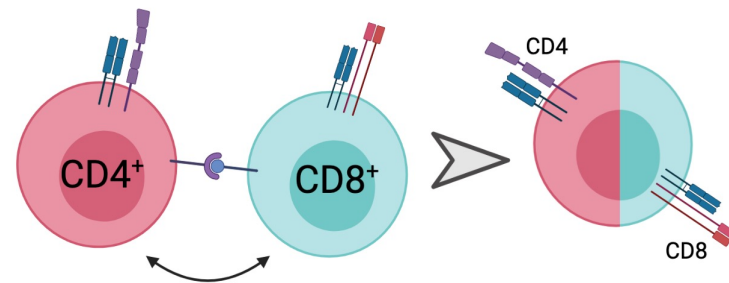
» Developmental stage



» Cell doublet

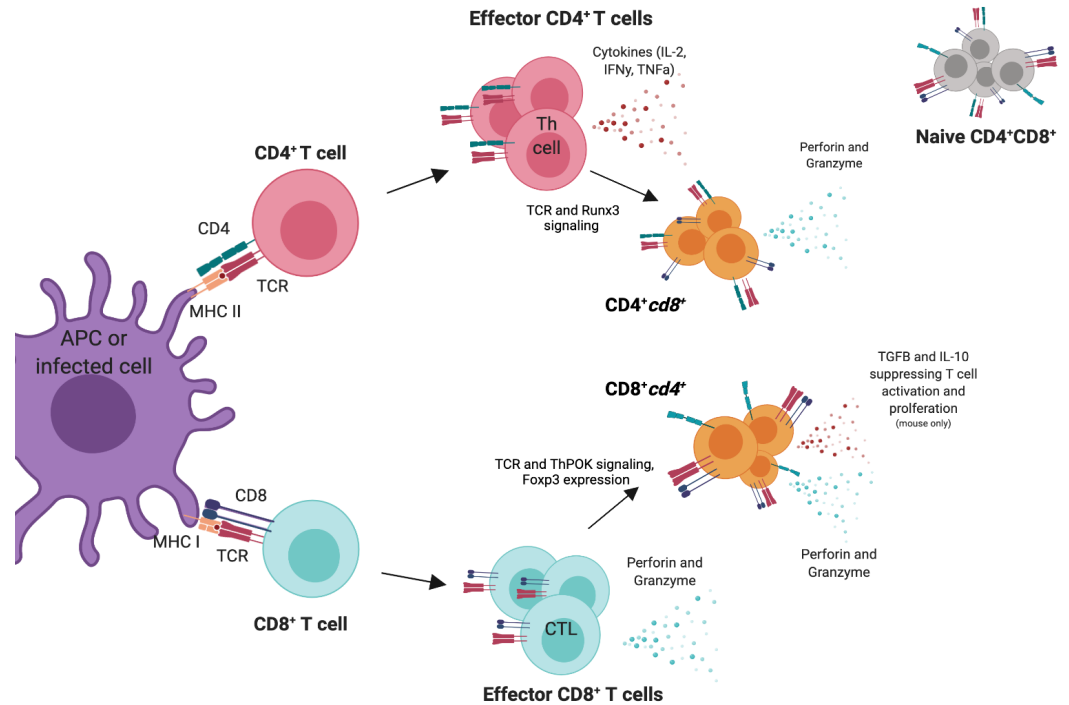


» Trogocytosis (membrane exchange)



CD4+CD8+ T cells are heterogenous and polyfunctional

- » TCR signaling induces co-receptor re-expression
- » CD4+CD8+ T cells are polyfunctional and clonally expanded:
 - › Cytotoxic CD4 derived CD4+cd8+ T cells (mouse and human)
 - › Suppressive (mouse only) and cytotoxic CD8 derived CD8+cd4+ T cells (mouse and human)
- » “Activated” CD4+CD8+ T cells may have enriched antigen specificity
- » Naïve, non-clonally expanded CD4+CD8+ T cells exist

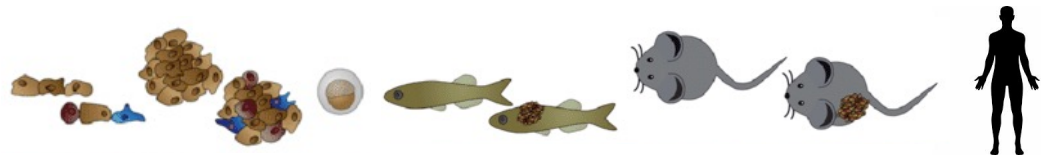


Some key points for today's lecture

- » Pre-clinical models inform mechanism based therapeutic strategies.
- » Tumor immune landscape should be taken into consideration when designing immune therapy.
- » The timing of the immune intervention is key.
- » Real time monitoring of the tumor microenvironment should help rationally design immune intervention.
- » Do not ignore a phenomena when you don't understand it.

Some key points for today's lecture

- » Use appropriate models for each type of approach.



- » Often time the models are not the problem. We are.
 - › We need to make sure that we are not over-interpreting (literal translation).



Translation gone wrong: 7 big translation fails from 2016. Richard Brooks. K International.

Acknowledgement



Ludwig Collaborative Lab at WCM

Other support: NIH,
Dept of Defense,
Swim Across America,
SU2C, Melanoma
Research Alliance,
Breast Cancer
Research Fdn, CRI,
Damon Runyon Fdn,
ASCO Conquer
Cancer Fdn

Adaptive resistance mechanism to SARS-CoV-2 = Zoom



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Translational Opportunities in Immunotherapy Research

Questions