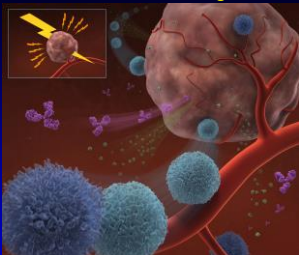


National Cancer Institute

Clinical Trials Using Radiation and Immunomodulatory Agents






C. Norman Coleman, MD
Radiation Research Program
DCTD, NCI, NIH
The "control" group

Mansoor M. Ahmed Ph.D.
Radiation Research Program
NCI, NIH
Actual Expert

THE VIEWS AND OPINIONS PRESENTED ARE OF THE PRESENTER
AND NOT REFLECT THE OPINIONS OR POLICY OF NIH OR NCI.

National Cancer Institute

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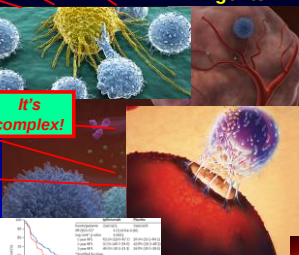

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**Outline – concepts to present
(from the “casual observer” ~5,000 m)**

1. The immune system is extraordinarily complex and activation and de-activation are tightly regulated.
2. In cancer immunotherapy there are many targets: tumor cells, innate immune response cells, adaptive immune response cells, stroma & microenvironmental factors (metabolites), normal epithelial cells, endothelial cells and surrounding normal tissue (including lymph nodes).
3. Processes occur over time- not an “all at once” event, although primary event to stimulate response may be key.
4. So, logically “one size doesn’t fit all” to harness the immune response. (Maybe we’ll be lucky and there is one “best” radiation dose, schedule and target volume (A)).
5. Experiments need good biomarkers and critical thinking so that “null” or disappointing results teach us something.



Osoruri pass,
Peruvian Andes
2016

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
 National Institutes of Health

National Cancer Institute

The points I will try to make

1. With the excitement and potential of immunotherapy there are many publications (10,000's) and clinical trials: clinicaltrials.gov listed 112 (not including many industry trials). So many targets- molecular, cellular, interactions.
2. The multi-step process involves cells and signals throughout the body. What volumes should be irradiated, not-irradiated or unknown needs to be defined... and also when to Rx.
3. The clinical results involve mostly melanoma, renal cell cancer, non-small cell lung cancer and some lymphomas. Response criteria need to be adapted for the “pseudoprogression”.
4. Many patients do not yet benefit.
5. Radiation goes where one aims it and tissues know they’ve been hit.
6. Good opportunities for models and analytical minds.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
 National Institutes of Health

Cancer Immunotherapy Development

ENTHUSIASM PHASE 1970-1985		SKEPTICISM PHASE 1985-1997		RENAISSANCE PHASE 1997-2015	
1990s 1st CA vaccine (reverted (Coley))	1976 1st study with BCG in bladder CA	1985 1st study with adoptive T cell transfer in CA	1990s Discovery of checkpoint inhibitor (Atkinson)	1998 IL-2 (cytokine) approved for CA	2011 1st checkpoint inhibitor approved for CA
1973 Discovery of the T-helper cell (Steinman)	1978 Discovery of tumor specific mAbs	1986 IFN-α (cytokine) approved for CA	1997 1st mAb approved for CA	2010 1st cellular immunotherapy approved for CA	

2014/2015

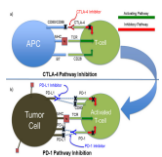
**Approval of 2
anti-PD-1
antibodies for
advanced
melanoma
and lung
cancer**

<http://www.fightcancerwithimmunotherapy.com>

General classes of immunotherapy

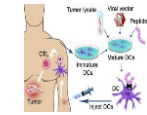
Checkpoint Inhibitors

Left unchecked, immune responses can be so powerful that they will destroy healthy tissue. Thus, specialized immune cells called T cells must pass several biological checkpoints before achieving full strength. Cancer cells often act on these checkpoints in a way that prevents the immune system from attacking the tumor. New drugs—called checkpoint inhibitors—disable the cancer cells' immunodampening signals, allowing the immune system to do its job.



Dendritic Cell Vaccine

Dendritic cells normally patrol the body looking for bits of proteins called antigens that look unfamiliar. They present the off ending antigens to other immune defenders, known as CD4+ and CD8+ T cells. The T cells then attack any other cells that bear the targeted antigen. By choosing antigens found on cancer cells but not on healthy ones and mixing the antigens with a patient's own dendritic cells outside the body, researchers create a kind of vaccine that will seek out and destroy those same cancer cells for years to come.



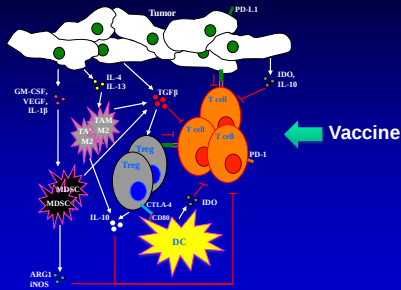
Adapted from Sci Am, April 2016, p48

CAR-T Cells

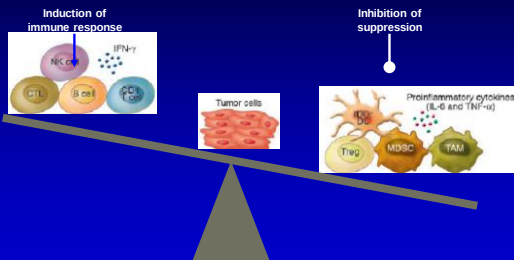
Chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) T cells combine attributes of two types of immune defenders: T cells and B cells. Molecules called receptors found on a CAR-T cell look like a hybrid of receptors on B cells and T cells. The CAR protein allows this unusual cell to both latch onto select antigens and destroy any cells that bear the target antigen. This mishmash eliminates intermediate steps typically taken by B and T cells, making CAR-T cells virtually unstoppable.



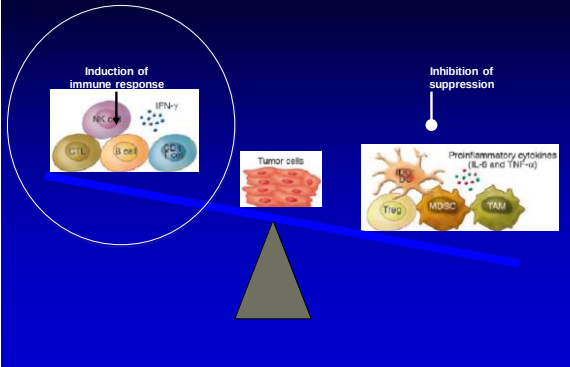
Tumor-Immune Interaction



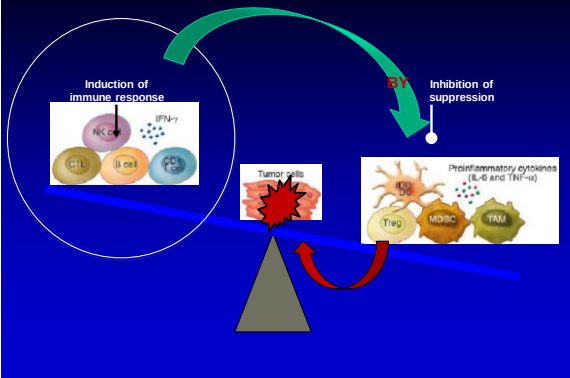
Effective Therapeutic immune-balance



Effective Therapeutic immune-balance



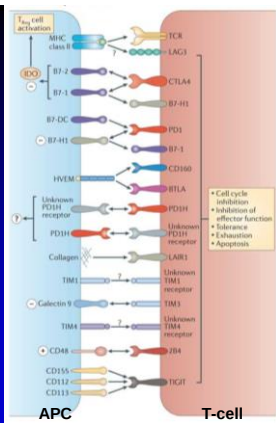
Effective Therapeutic immune-balance

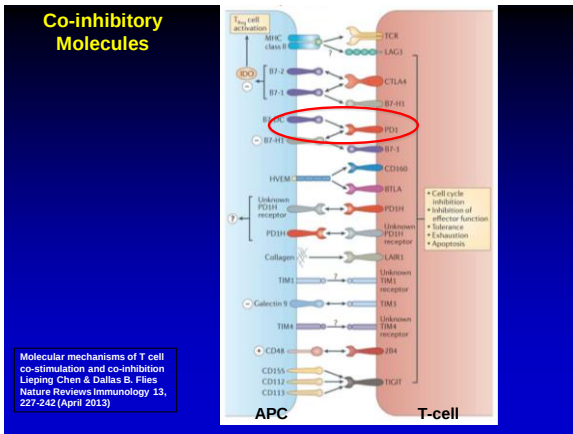


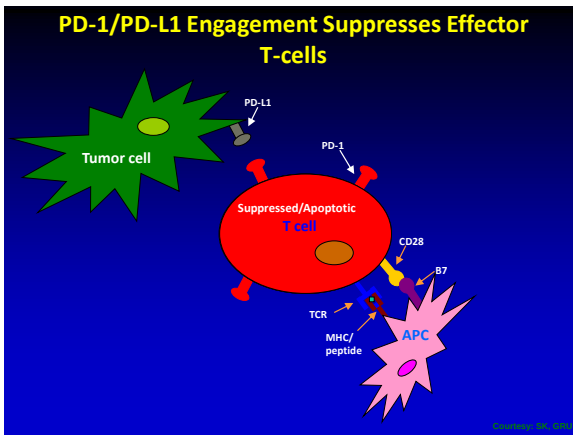
Co-inhibitory Molecules

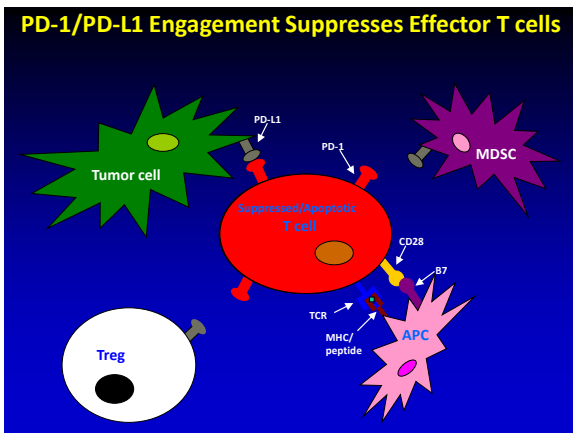
There are similar families of co-stimulatory molecules

Molecular mechanisms of T cell co-stimulation and co-inhibition
Lisping Chen & Dallas B. Flies
Nature Reviews Immunology 13, 227-242 (April 2013)

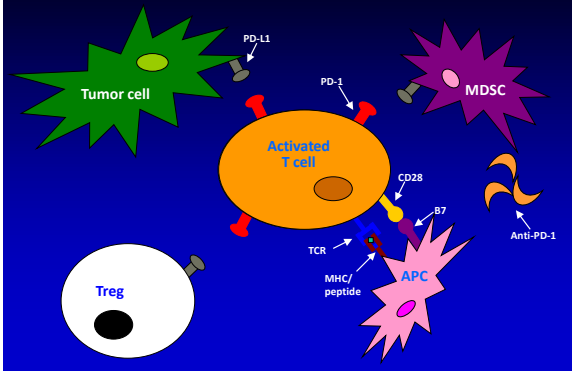








PD-1/PD-L1 Engagement Suppresses Effector T cells



Combinational Immunotherapy

- ❖ Vaccines
- ❖ Immune Modulators
 - Immune Agonists
 - Stimulatory cytokines (IL-2, IL-12, IL-15, TLR etc...)
 - Co-stimulatory molecules (OX-40, GITR, 4-1BB)
 - Immune inhibitors
 - Check point inhibitors (CTLA4, PD1/PDL1, LAG3, TIM3, IDO)
 - Inhibitory cytokines/factors (IL-10, TGFβ)
- ❖ Standard Therapy
 - Chemotherapy
 - Radiation Therapy
- ❖ Small Molecules
- ❖ Chimeric Antigen Receptors

Table 1. Final Rankings of Agents with High Potential for Use in Treating Cancer

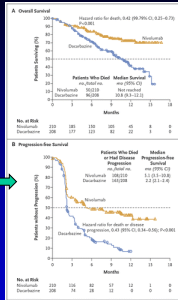
Rank*	Agent	Agent Category
1	IL-15	T-Cell Growth Factor
2	Anti-Programmed Death-1 (PD1) and/or anti-B7-1H1 (PD1 Ligand)	**T-Cell Checkpoint Blockade Inhibitor
3	IL-12	Vaccine Adjuvant
4	Anti-CD40 and/or CD40L	Antigen Presenting Cell Stimulator
5	IL-7	T-Cell Growth Factor
6	CpG	Vaccine Adjuvant
7	1-Methyl Tryptophan	Enzyme Inhibitor
8	Anti-CD137 (anti-4-1BB)	T-Cell Stimulator
9	Anti-TGF-beta	Signaling Inhibitor
10	Anti-IL-10 Receptor or Anti-IL-10	Suppression Inhibitor
11	FBXL	Dendritic Cell Growth Factor/Vaccine Adjuvant
12	Anti-Glucocorticoid-Induced TNF Receptor (GITR)	T-cell Stimulator
13	CCL21 Adenovirus	T-Cell Attracting Chemokine
14	Monophosphoryl Lipid A (MPL)	Vaccine Adjuvant
15	Poly I:C and/or Poly ICLC	Vaccine Adjuvant
16	Anti-OX40	T-Cell Stimulator
17	Anti-B7-1H4	T-Cell Checkpoint Blockade Inhibitor
18	Resiquimod and/or 852A	Vaccine Adjuvant
19	LIGHT and/or LIGHT vector	T-Cell Stimulator
20	Anti-Lymphocyte Activation Gene-3 (LAG-3)	T-Cell Checkpoint Blockade Inhibitor

NCI Immunotherapy Agent Workshop Proceedings

Checkpoint inhibitors- 3

Drug	Trade name	Dosage	Trials - drug label
Ipilimumab (Yervoy)	Anti CTLA-4 antibody	3 mg/kg (nets), or 10 mg/kg (adjvant) Over 90 min every 3 weeks	Melanoma
Nivolumab (Opdivo)	Anti PD-1 antibody	3mg/kg IV over 60 min every 2 weeks	Melanoma NSCLC Renal
Pembrolizumab (Keytruda)	Anti PD-1 antibody	2mg/kg IV over 30 min every 3 weeks	Melanoma NSCLC

Reason for enthusiasm is obvious!



Nivolumab in Previously Untreated Melanoma without BRAF Mutation
Robert C, NEJM 372:320, 2015

Table 1 Incidence of Immune-Related Adverse Events Associated With Ipilimumab and Pembrolizumab

Toxicity	Ipilimumab (n = 1,498) (%)		Pembrolizumab (n = 411) (%)	
	All Grades	Grade 3/4	All Grades	Grade 3/4
GI (eg, enterocolitis)	33	9.1	1	<1
Pneumonitis	<1	<1	2.9	<1
Hepatitis	1.6	1.1	<1	<1
Dermatologic	45	2.6	11-30	0
Hypophysitis	2.7	2.1	<1	<1
Thyroiditis	1.8	<1	9.5	<1
Nephritis	<1	<1	<1	<1

<http://www.cancertherapyadvisor.com/compilents/identification-and-management-toxicities-immune-checkpoint-blocking-drugs/page/03>

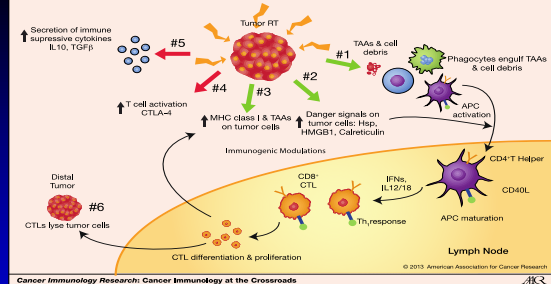
Adverse Reaction	Ipilimumab (n=1498)		Opdivo (nivolumab) (n=411)		Keytruda (pembrolizumab) (n=411)	
	All Grades	Grade 3/4	All Grades	Grade 3/4	All Grades	Grade 3/4
Arthritis	1	0	1	0	1	0
Constipation	1	0	1	0	1	0
Cough	1	0	1	0	1	0
Decreased appetite	1	0	1	0	1	0
Dizziness	1	0	1	0	1	0
Fatigue	1	0	1	0	1	0
Hypertension	1	0	1	0	1	0
Headache	1	0	1	0	1	0
Insomnia	1	0	1	0	1	0
Nausea	1	0	1	0	1	0
Pruritus	1	0	1	0	1	0
Rash	1	0	1	0	1	0

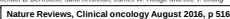


<http://www.georgiagroup.org/articlePrint.aspx?articleID=495>

A Schematic view of RT-induced immune modulations

Alfred MM et al. Harnessing the potential of radiation-induced immune modulation for cancer therapy. Cancer Immunol Res 2013; 1: 280-4.





Nature Reviews, Clinical oncology August 2016, p 516

Nature Reviews, Clinical oncology August 2016, p 516

Table 3 Proposed ISABR studies

Patient population	SABR dose (Gy)/number of fractions	SABR target	Type of immunotherapy	Sequence	Readout
Stage I NSCLC	• 50-60/1-5 • 60-70/8-10	Primary tumour	• Vaccine-MAGE* • Anti-PD-L1	• Immunotherapy followed by SABR • Concurrent ISABR	PET/CT scan, PD-L1, TIL, T _H 1, CD8/CD4, exome mRNA, cytokine production, CEA specific T cells
Early stage hepatocellular carcinoma	• 40-60/1-5 • 50-70/8-10	Primary tumour	Anti-PD-L1	Concurrent ISABR	MRI scan, PD-L1, TIL, T _H 1, CD8/CD4, exome mRNA, cytokine production
Stage IV CRC	• 50-60/1-5 • 60-70/8-10	Dominant liver or lung metastasis	• Vaccine-CEA • Anti-PD-1	• Immunotherapy followed by SABR • Concurrent ISABR	CT scan, MRI of the abdomen, cytokine production, CEA specific T cells, TILs in treated and off-target metastases, inflammatory cytokine production, PD-L1, T _H 1, CD8/CD4, exome mRNA
Stage IV NSCLC with spinal/brain metastases	12-25/1 15-24/1	Spinal metastases Brain metastases	• Anti-PD-L1 • Anti-PD-1 + ipilimumab	• Immunotherapy then SABR • Concurrent ISABR	PET/CT scan, MRI, tumour specific T cells, PD-L1 expression levels, inflammatory cytokine production, TIL, T _H 1, CD8/CD4, exome mRNA
Stage IV NSCLC	Organ dependent dose regimens	Oligometastasis	• Anti-PD-L1 • Anti-PD-1 + ipilimumab	• SABR then immunotherapy • Concurrent ISABR	PET/CT scan to monitor regression at distant metastatic sites, PD-L1 expression levels, TILs in treated primary and untreated metastases, T _H 1, CD8/CD4, exome mRNA

CEA, carcinoembryonic antigen; CRC, colorectal cancer; ISABR, immunotherapy combined and stereotactic ablative radiotherapy; MAGE, melanoma antigen E; NSCLC, non-small cell lung cancer; PD-1, programmed cell death protein 1; PD-L1, programmed cell death ligand 1; SABR, stereotactic ablative radiotherapy; TIL, tumour infiltrating lymphocyte; T_H1, regulatory T cells; RNA, ribonucleic acid; *MAGE tumour associated antigen is expressed in 50% of patients with NSCLC; *with non immunotherapeutic treatment of this antigen observed in normal lung tissue samples³⁴.

Borriello, M. B. et al. (2016) Immunotherapy and stereotactic ablative radiotherapy (ISABR): a curative approach? *Nat. Rev. Clin. Oncol.* doi:10.1038/nrclin.2016.30

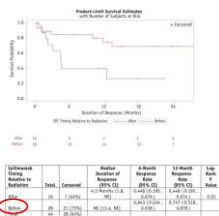


Fig. 1 Patients treated with ipilimumab (Ip) before radiation therapy had higher 6- and 12-month response rates, as well as increased response duration, compared with those who received ipilimumab after radiation therapy. Abbreviations: CI = confidence interval.

Rosie QinRosie Qin, Adam OlsonRosie QinRosie Qin, Adam Olson, Bhavana SinghRosie QinRosie Qin, Adam OlsonR...
Safety and Efficacy of Radiation Therapy in Advanced Melanoma Patients Treated With Ipilimumab
 International Journal of Radiation Oncology*Biology*Physics, 2016
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ijrobp.2016.04.017>

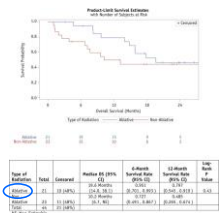


Fig. 2 Patients receiving ablative radiation therapy had numerically higher 6- and 12-month overall survival (OS) rates versus patients treated with non-ablative radiation therapy. Abbreviation: CI = confidence interval.

Rosie QinRosie Qin, Adam OlsonRosie QinRosie Qin, Adam Olson, Bhavana SinghRosie QinRosie Qin, Adam OlsonR...
Safety and Efficacy of Radiation Therapy in Advanced Melanoma Patients Treated With Ipilimumab
 International Journal of Radiation Oncology*Biology*Physics, 2016
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ijrobp.2016.04.017>

Radiation can

- Impact both innate and adaptive immunity
- Provide a source of robust tumor antigens
- Induce cytokines that can help to alter the profile and function of immune infiltrates
- Remodels the stromal and angiogenic compartments of the tumor microenvironment

More importantly

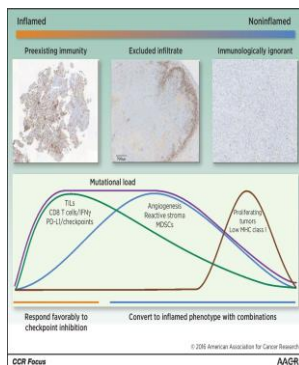
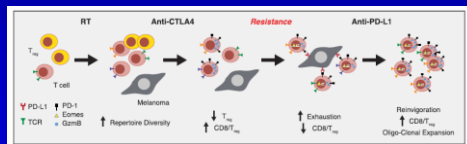
Surviving tumor cells after radiation therapy are more sensitive to immune-mediated killing

LETTER

doi:10.1038/nature14292

Radiation and dual checkpoint blockade activate non-redundant immune mechanisms in cancer

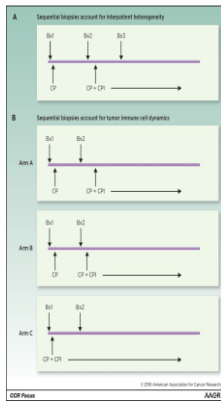
Christina Teyman^{1,2*}, Saint Victor^{1,2*}, Andrew J. Rech^{2*}, Amit Maiti^{2,4}, Ramesh Bergan^{2,4}, Kristen E. Paulsen^{2,5}, Erietta Szeleka^{1,6}, Joseph L. Bence^{2,3}, Bilal Xur^{2,3}, Hannah Dadgar^{2,3}, Pamela M. Odorizzi^{2,6}, Ramin S. Herati^{2,6}, Kathleen D. Mansfield^{2,6}, Dana Patsch², Ravi K. Amaravadi^{1,4}, Lynn M. Schuchter^{2,6}, Hernan Ishwaran², Rosemarie Mick^{2,6}, Daniel A. Pryma^{2,6}, Xiaowei Xu^{2,10}, Michael D. Feldman^{2,10}, Tara C. Gangadhar², Stephen M. Hahn^{2,4}, E. John Wherry^{2,3,4,6}, Robert H. Vonderheide^{1,2,3,4,6} & Andy J. Minn^{2,3,4,6}



The Where, the When, and the How of Immune Monitoring for Cancer Immunotherapies in the Era of Checkpoint Inhibition Priti S. Hegde, Valos Karanika, and Stefan Evers Clin Cancer Res; 22(8); 1865–74.

CCR Focus

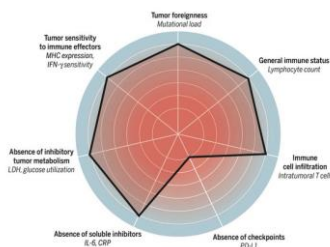
ASCR



The Where, the When, and the How of
Immune Monitoring for Cancer
Immunotherapies in the Era of
Checkpoint Inhibition Priti S. Hegde¹Valios
Karamakos² and Stefan Evers
Clin Cancer Res; 22(8); 1865–74.

The “cancer immunogram”

Christian U. Blank¹, John B. Haanen, Antoni Ribas, Ton N. Schumacher
Netherlands Cancer Institute and UCLA
Science 352: 658, (May 2) 2016



The cancer immunogram.
The radar plot depicts the seven parameters that characterize aspects of cancer-immune interactions for which biomarkers have been identified or are plausible. *Potential biomarkers for the different parameters are shown in italics. Desirable states are located in blue; progressively undesirable states are shown in the red gradient. The black line connecting the data values for each parameter represents a plot for a single hypothetical patient.* In the case shown, it may be argued that single-agent PD-1 blockade, rather than combined PD-1 and CTLA-4 blockade, could be a first treatment of choice. For details on this case and other hypothetical patient cases, see (2).

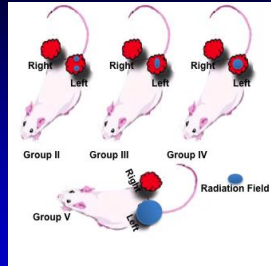
- Few trials testing RT parameters in combination with checkpoint blockade
 - One trials testing low-dose ultrafractionated radiation (<1 Gy per fraction) with PD-L1.
 - Low-dose radiation was an effective inducer of tumor infiltrating T-cells in mouse models (Klug et al. Cancer Cell 2013)
 - Low-dose RT allows exploration of synergistic effects on local control
 - Only one trial explicitly evaluating RT dose (40 patients, 5 histology, multiple timings), not using combined checkpoint blockade

MOUSE MODEL AND SCHEMES

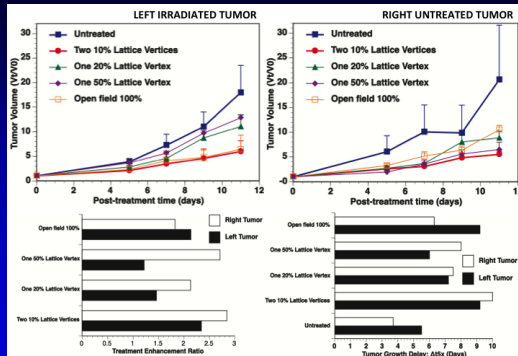
The Lewis lung carcinoma 1 (LLC1), a mouse cancer cell was used to develop syngenic tumors in C57BL/6 mice.

Tumors were initiated by *subcutaneous* injection of 2×10^6 LLC1 cells into the flanks of both left and right hind legs of each mouse.

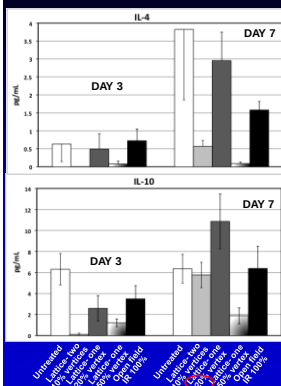
Tumors were allowed to grow to an area of 5 mm x 5 mm before irradiation and sorted within 10% differences in the intra and inter-tumor volumes.



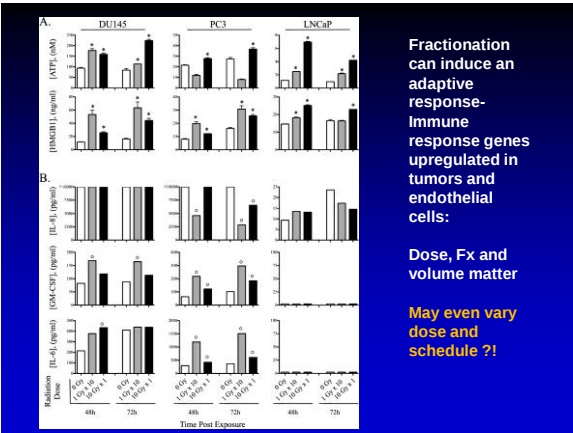
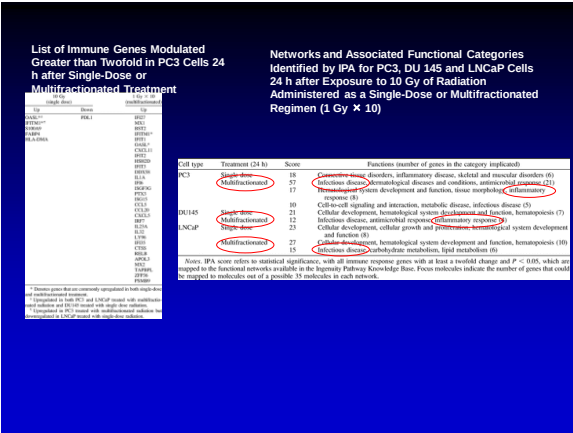
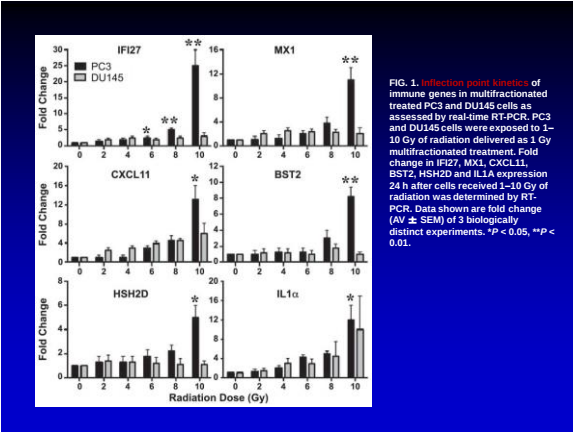
Single fraction, high-dose LRT significantly delayed growth of both local and distant tumors

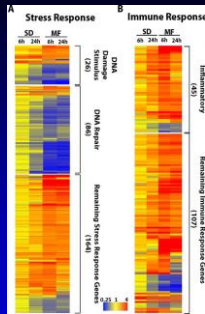


Immune responses in LLC xenograft tumor model: Lattice high-dose radiation induces increased secretion of inflammatory cytokines



There was a significant decrease in both IL-4 and IL-10 in serum obtained from one 50% lattice vertex at both time points. Treatment with two 10% lattice vertices significantly reduced IL-4 and IL-10 secretion in serum although IL-10 levels returned to normal on day 7.





Differential expression of stress and immune response pathway transcripts and miRNAs in **normal human endothelial cells** subjected to fractionated or single-dose radiation.

Palayoor ST. Mol Cancer Res. 12(7):1002-15; 2014

Challenges

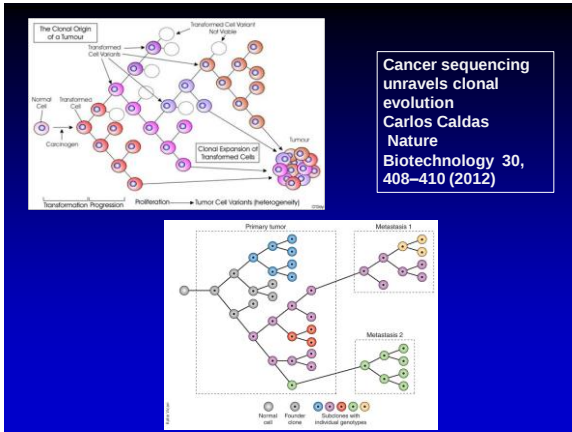
Immune-modulation of tumor microenvironment and tumor cells by radiation

- Quality of radiation (high versus low-LET), dose, size, fractionation (low-dose versus high-dose fractionation) and dose-rate (high-dose rate versus low-dose rate), and schedule (hypofractionation versus multifractionation)
- Irradiation of complete tumor volume or partial volume adequate for effective modulation of tumor immune microenvironment
 - Gross tumor volume (GTV) or GTV plus LN
 - Evoking it by irradiating normal tissue
- HLA class I loss or low TCR diversity or checkpoint expression or TILs.
- Balance between radio-induction of immune suppressive cytokines and radio-induction of immune activating cytokines

Challenges

Effective combinations of radiation and immunotherapy

- Relevant pre-clinical models (NSG-PDX, GEMMs and canine) or from clinical trials (reverse translational)
- Radiation effect on normal tissues and its impact on the efficacy of radiation + checkpoint blockade therapy
 - Efficacy area versus safety area
 - Use of traditional endpoints for safety and efficacy
- Significant challenges in the selection of opportune biomarkers of immunogenicity when radiation is combined with immunotherapy
- Remember tumor cell heterogeneity- many clones to start with and there is ongoing evolution.
- Combinations with molecular targeted agents will add complexity of pathway activation/suppression, tumor adaptation and impact on normal tissues!





ETCTN

Experimental Therapeutics Clinical Trials Network
Team Driven. Cancer Therapy Focused.

A Phase II Trial of Durvalumab and Tremelimumab Alone or in Combination with High or Low-dose Radiation in Metastatic Colorectal and NSCLC

PD-L1 Project Team

Jonathan Schoenfeld, Arta Monjazeb, Mansoor Ahmed, Stephen Hodi





Questions asked by this trial

- This clinical trial is designed to answer novel and critical questions which are unlikely to be answered by existing trials
 - Does RT synergize with dual check-point blockade (Saint-Victor et al Nature 2015)
 - What is the influence of RT dose (Chandra et al Oncoimmunology 2015)
 - Can RT overcome resistance to T-cell exclusion mediated resistance to dual checkpoint blockade (Spranger et al Nature 2015)
 - Does RT increase intratumoral TCR diversity and how does this correlate with response to RT + dual checkpoint blockade (Saint-Victor et al Nature 2015)
 - Does RT increase tumor antigenic load and how does this correlate with response to RT + dual checkpoint blockade (Rizvi et al Science 2015)

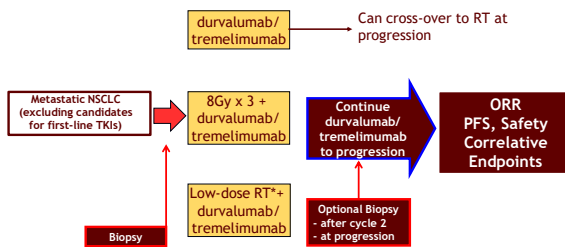
Study Hypotheses

Overall Hypothesis:

Due to complimentary immunologic effects (increasing the magnitude and diversity of the T-cell response in the tumor microenvironment), radiation will synergize with dual checkpoint blockade.

- Two cohorts:
 - Metastatic NSCLC (~15-20% response to anti-PD-1 therapy)**
 - Hypothesis: The addition of low or high dose radiation to combined blockade of PD-L1 (durvalumab) and CTLA-4 (tremelimumab) will increase response rate
 - Metastatic colorectal cancer, microsatellite stable (few to no responders to anti-PD-1 therapy)**
 - Hypothesis: Low or high dose radiation combined with PD-L1/CTLA-4 blockade will lead to a measurable response rate

Trial Schema – NSCLC Cohort



*0.5 Gy BID x2 days repeated q4weeks with durvalumab / tremelimumab

Mathematical modeling of cancer immunotherapy and its synergy with radiotherapy
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Mathematical model of radiation and immunology

The model is described by 5 discrete-time equations:

Tumor dynamics (equation 1)

Antigen dynamics (equation 2)

Lymphocytes (or immune effectors) dynamics (equation 3)

Primary immune response (equation 4)

Secondary (or memory) immune response (equation 5)

Immunotherapy and radiation oncology



Dose, timing, fractionation, combined modality- many parameters to understand so avoid the (cute for sure) herd mentality....

...or important potential clinical benefit for our patients may lead to inappropriate "ruin" of what our "focused biology" can accomplish!



Immunotherapy and radiation oncology

Entering a new era for which great opportunities exist, based on critical science (much yet to be learned)