

Advances in Adoptive Cellular Therapy: The Progress in Solid Tumors

Samer A. Srour, MB ChB, MS

The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

New Orleans, Louisiana

October 9th, 2025

Disclosures

- None

William B. Coley

His Hypothesis, His Toxin, and the
Birth of Immunotherapy



ANNALS *of* SURGERY



WILLIAM BRADLEY COLEY

1862-1936

"Fight on, my men." says Sir Andrew Barton,
"I am hurt, but I am not slaine ;
I'll lay mee downe and bleed a-while,
And then I'll rise and fight againe!"

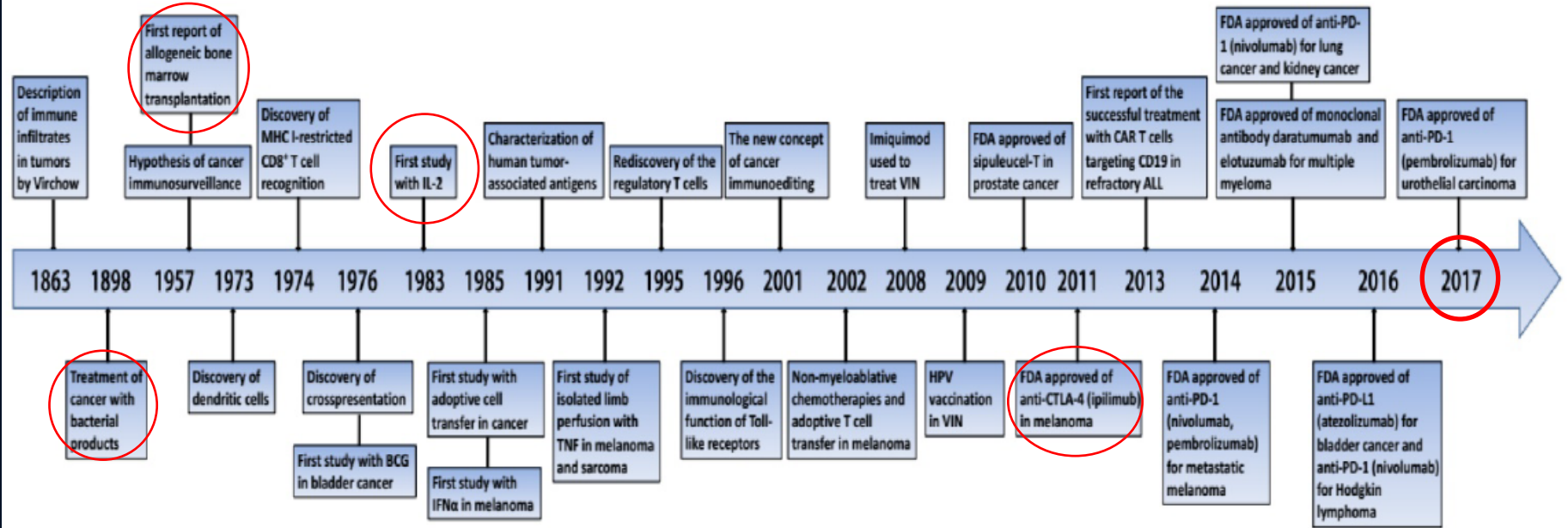


Figure 1. Important events in the history of cancer immunotherapy. BCG, bacilli Calmette-Guérin; CTLA-4, cytotoxic T lymphocyte-associated antigen-4; FDA, Food and Drug Administration; IFN α , interferon- α ; IL-2, interleukin-2; MHC, major histocompatibility complex; PD-1, programmed death 1; TNF, tumor necrosis factor; VIN, vulvar intraepithelial neoplasia

The New England Journal of Medicine

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VOLUME 343

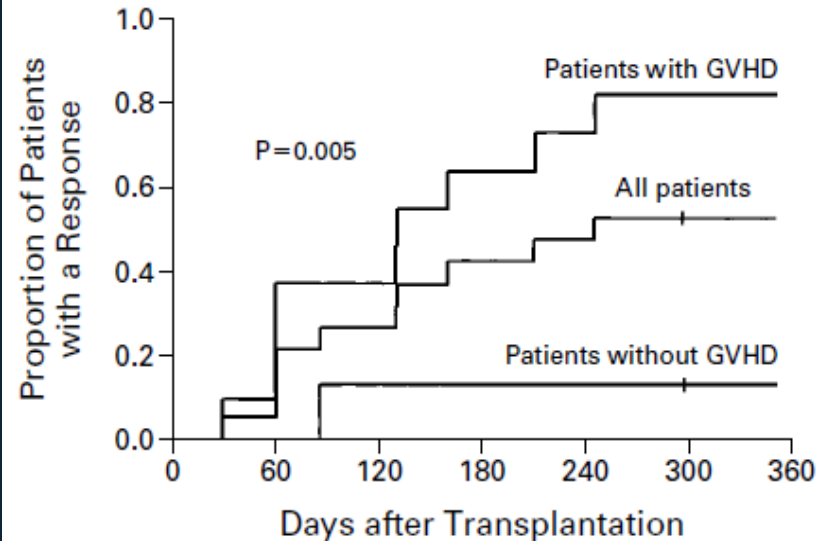
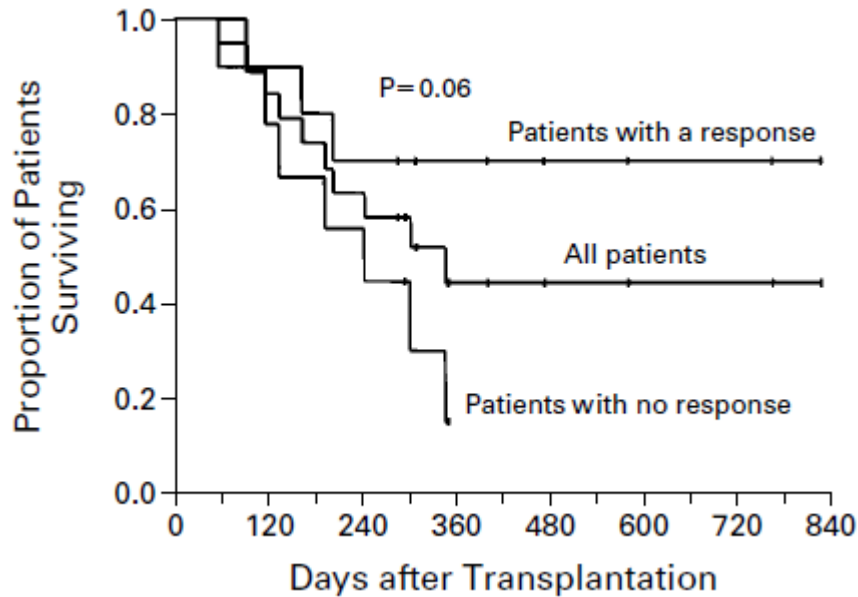
SEPTEMBER 14, 2000

NUMBER 11



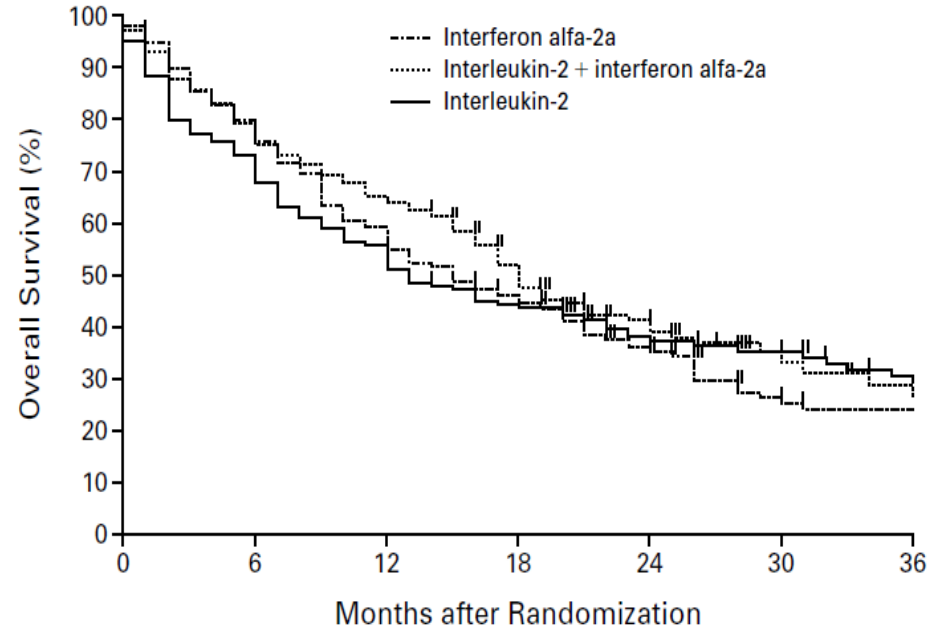
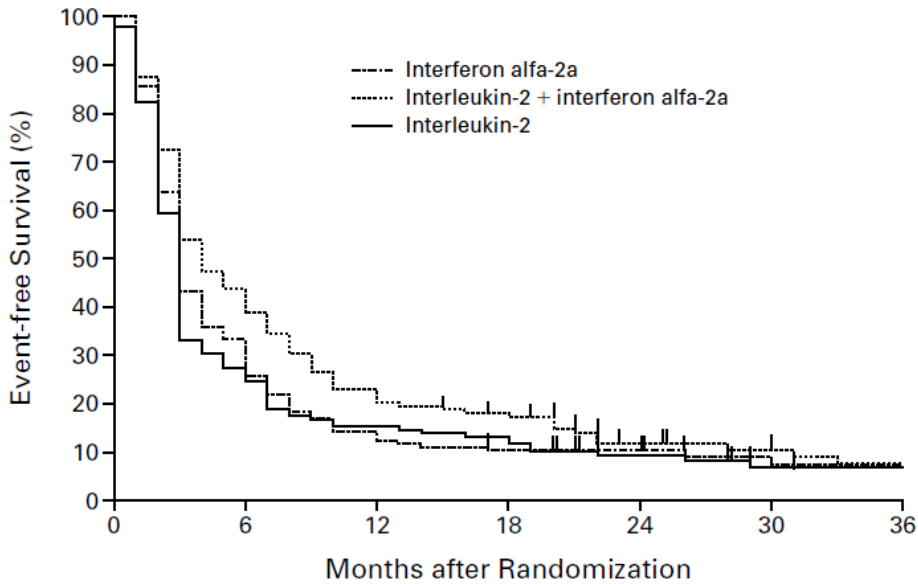
REGRESSION OF METASTATIC RENAL-CELL CARCINOMA AFTER NONMYELOABLATIVE ALLOGENEIC PERIPHERAL-BLOOD STEM-CELL TRANSPLANTATION

RICHARD CHILDS, M.D., ALLEN CHERNOFF, M.D., NATHALIE CONTENTIN, M.D., ERKUT BAHCECI, M.D.,
DAVID SCHRUMP, M.D., SUSAN LEITMAN, M.D., ELIZABETH J. READ, M.D., JOHN TISDALE, M.D., CYNTHIA DUNBAR, M.D.,
W. MARSTON LINEHAN, M.D., NEAL S. YOUNG, M.D., AND A. JOHN BARRETT, M.D.



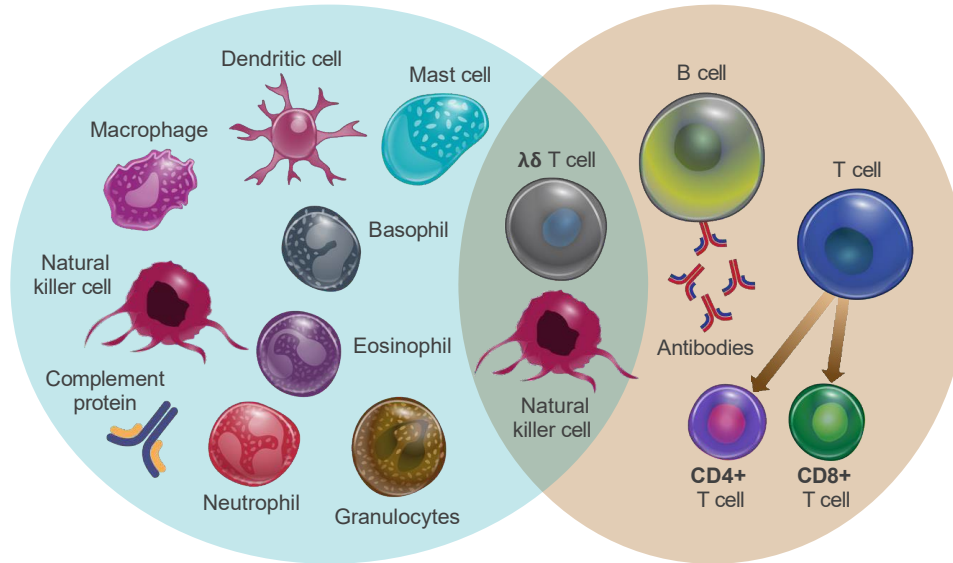
Cytokine therapy in RCC

The New England Journal of Medicine



Innate and Adaptive Immunity

Innate Immunity
Nonspecific first line of defense

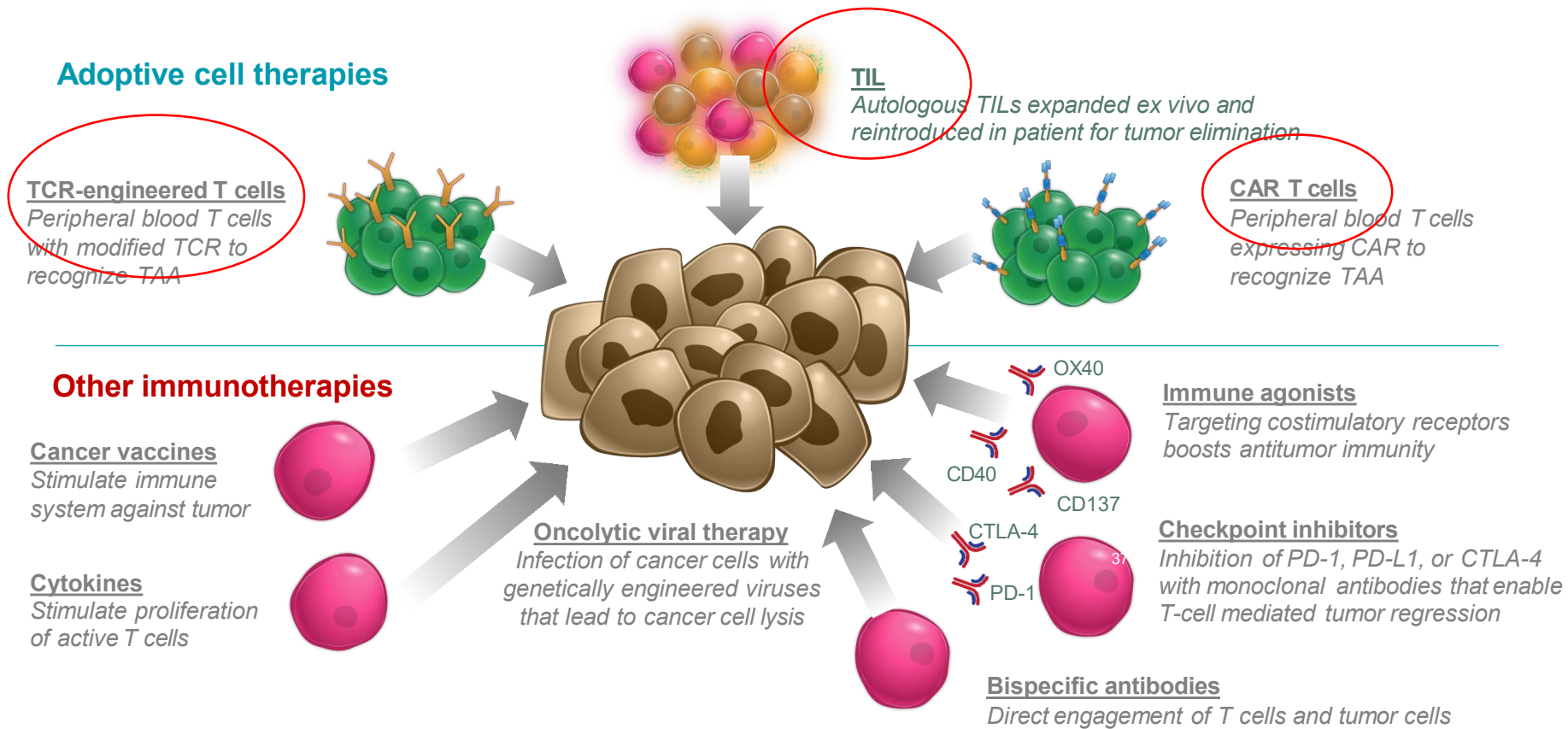


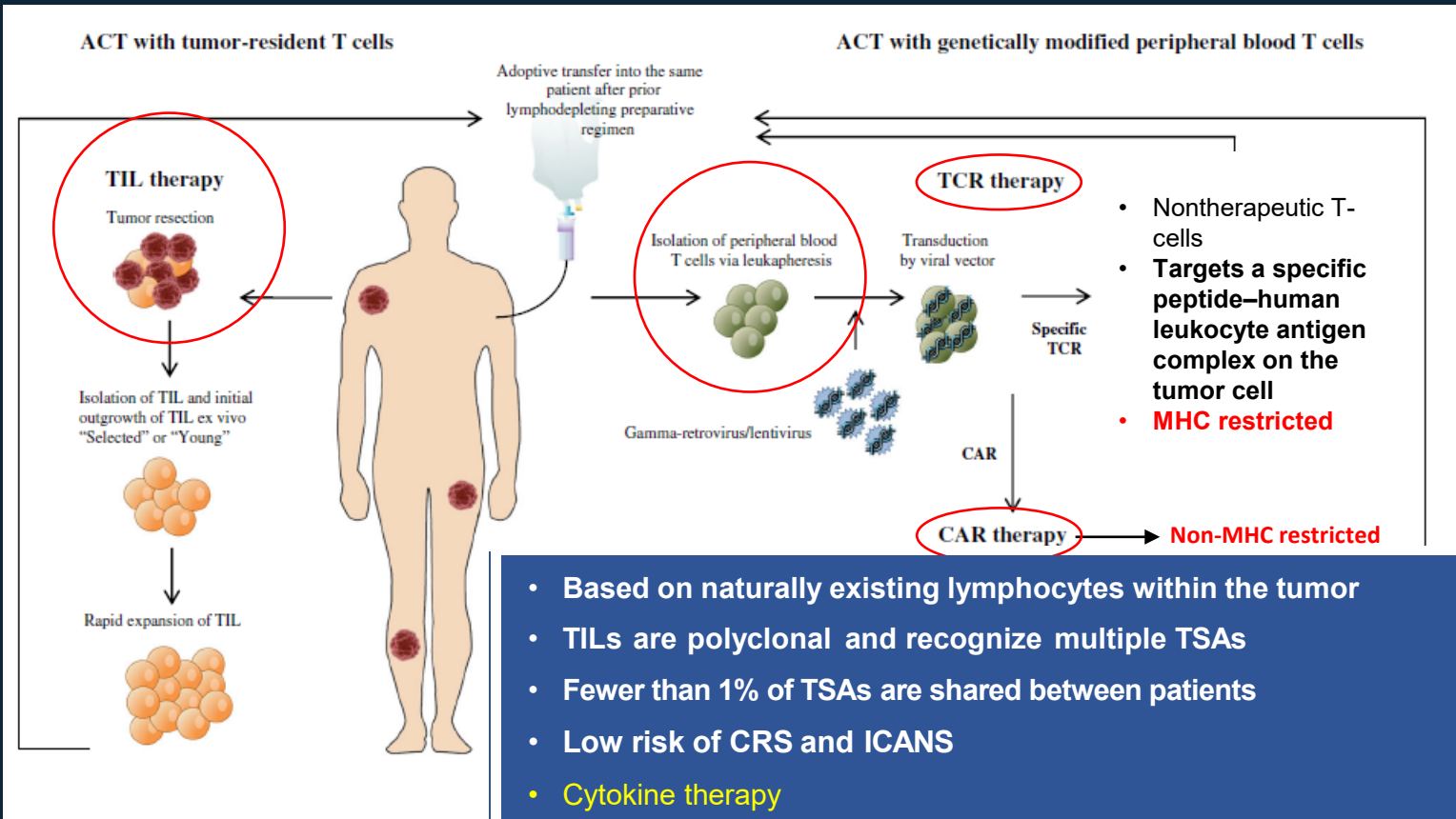
Adaptive Immunity
Specific response, memory functions

Immune Surveillance

Identification and destruction of foreign or abnormal cells by innate and adaptive immunity

Different methods to harness the immune system to treat cancer



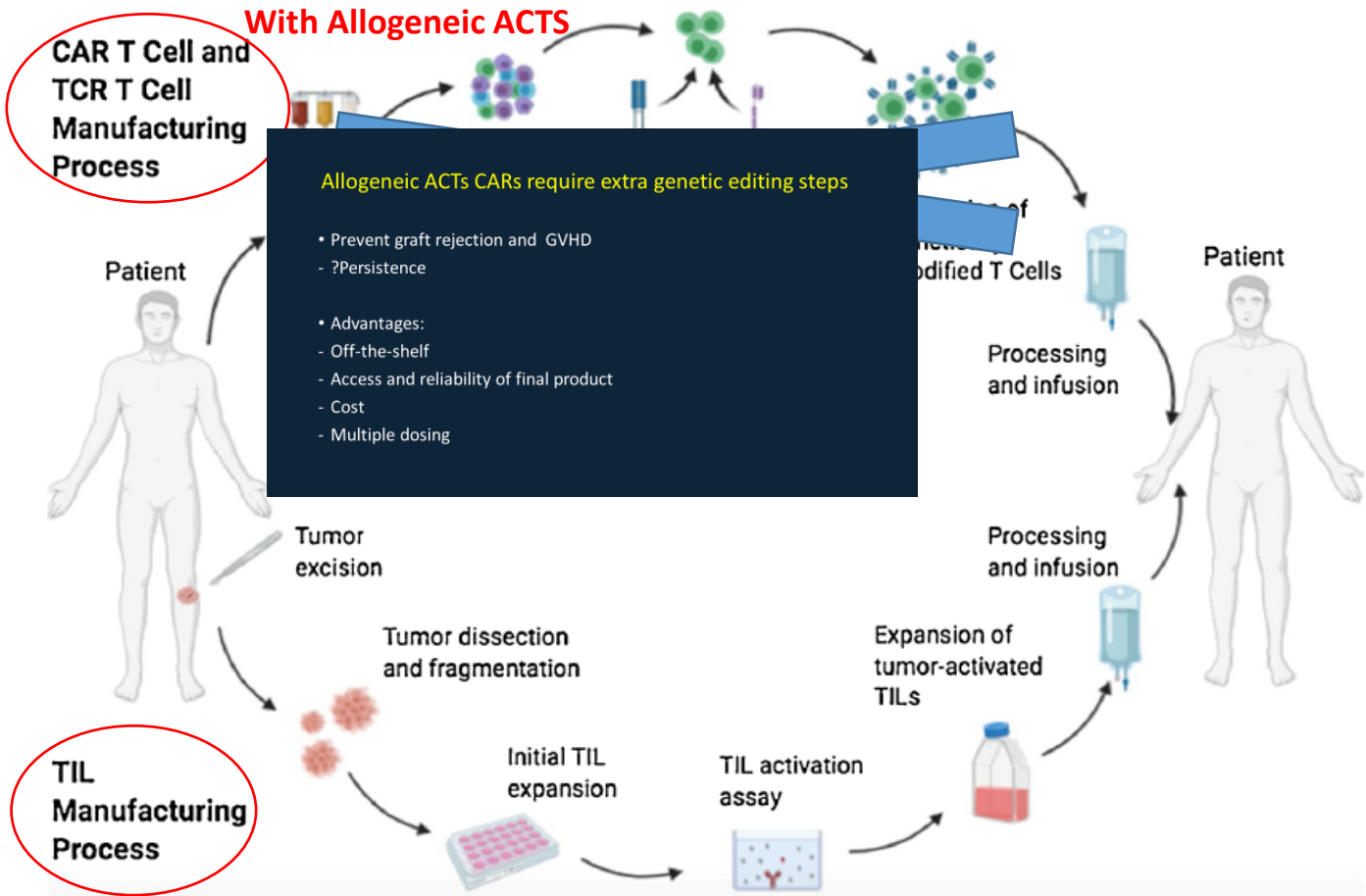


- Based on naturally existing lymphocytes within the tumor
- TILs are polyclonal and recognize multiple TSAs
- Fewer than 1% of TSAs are shared between patients
- Low risk of CRS and ICANS
- Cytokine therapy

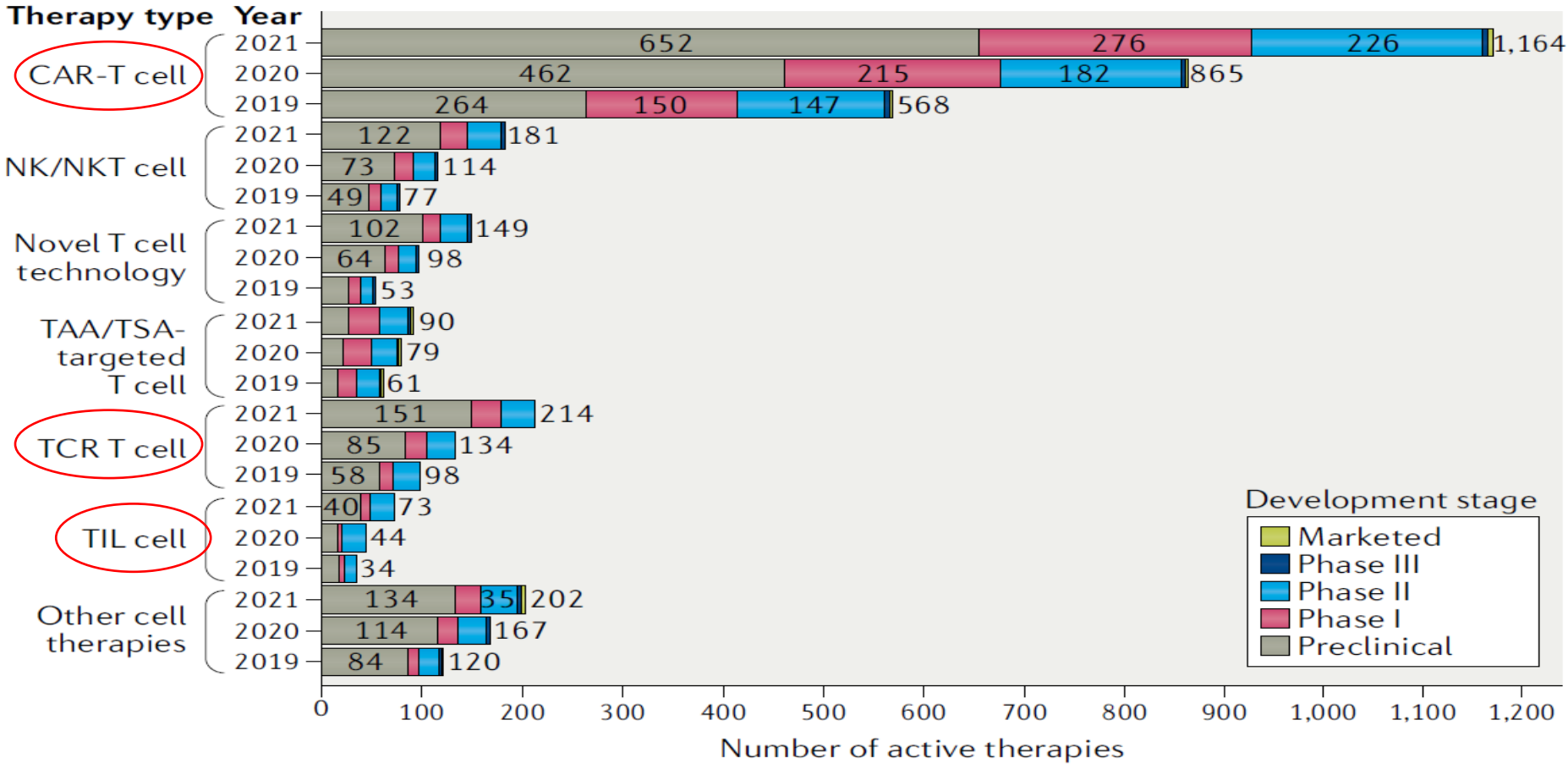
Relative advantages and disadvantages of TILs, TCR T Cells, and CAR T Cells.

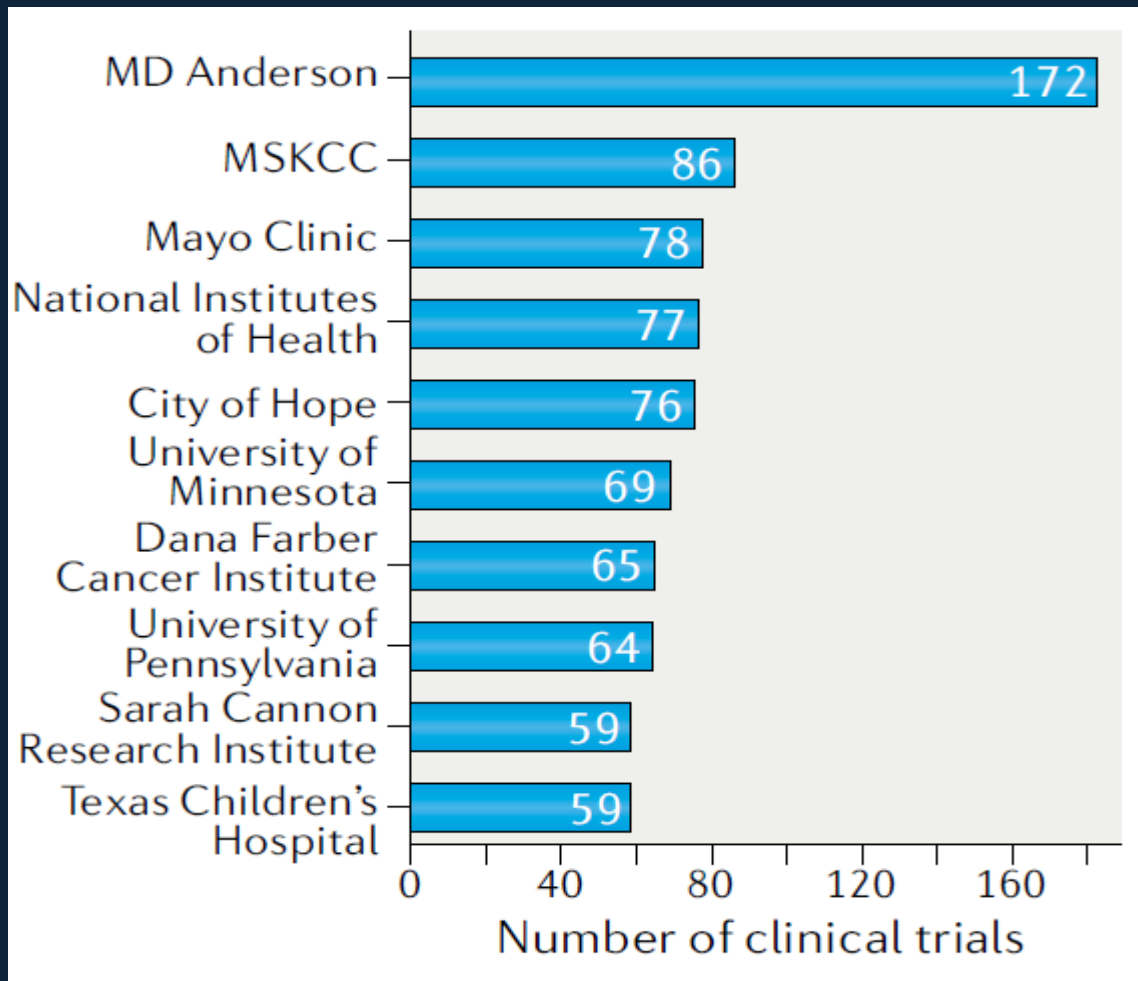
	TILs	CAR T Cells	TCR T Cells
Advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multiple lymphocyte clones target patient-specific antigens • Reduced on-target, off-tumor toxicity risk • Persistent responses achievable with lymphodepletion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MHC independent; no HLA matching requirement • Relatively faster manufacturing time • Off-the-shelf potential 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target intracellular and extracellular antigens, including neoantigens • Relatively faster manufacturing time • Off-the-shelf potential
Disadvantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Longer, more costly manufacturing period • Tumor escape via MHC downregulation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target extracellular antigens only, with few neoantigen options • On-target, off-tumor toxicity • Poor persistence, even with lymphodepletion • Tumor escape via target downregulation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HLA matching requirement • On-target, off-tumor toxicity • Poor persistence, even with lymphodepletion • Tumor escape via MHC downregulation and/or target downregulation

TIL: tumor infiltrating lymphocyte; TCR: T cell receptor; CAR: Chimeric antigen receptor.

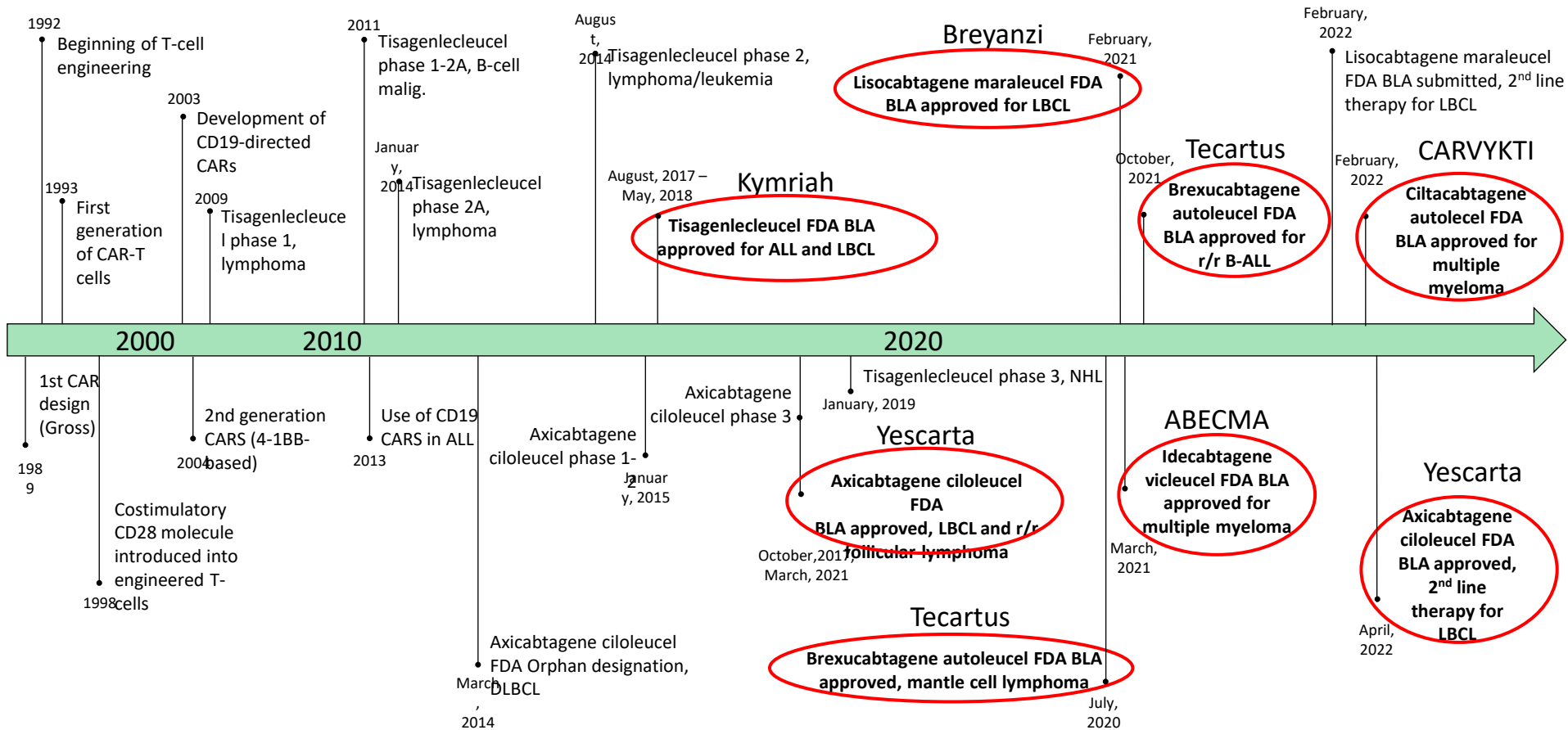


Manufacturing steps for TILs and for engineered T cell therapies, including CAR T Cells and TCR T Cells.





Paradigm Shift for CAR T Cell in Heme Tumors

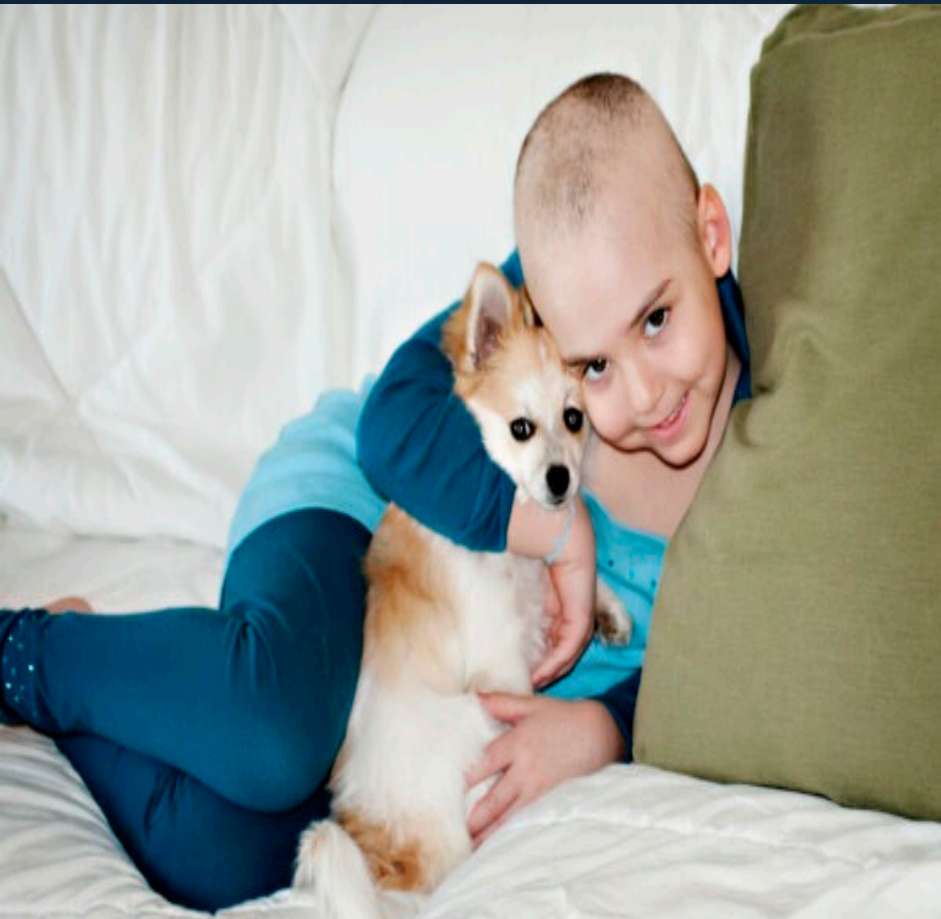


SOC IEC Products by Disease

	Product	FDA Approval Date
Lymphoma	Tisagenlecleucel (Kymriah)	August 2017
	Axicabtagene Ciloleucel (Yescarta)	October 2017
	Brexucabtagene Autoleucel (Tecartus)	July 2020
	Lisocabtagene Maraleucel (Breyanzi)	February 2021
Myeloma	Idecabtagene Vicleucel (Abecma)	February 2021
	Ciltacabtagene Autoleucel (Carykti)	April 2022
Melanoma	Lifileucel (Amtagvi)	February 2024
Leukemia	Tisagenlecleucel (Kymriah)	August 2017
	Brexucabtagene Autoleucel (Tecartus)	October 2021
	Lisocabtagene Maraleucel (Breyanzi)	March 2024
	Obecabtagene Autoleucel (Aucatzyl)	November 2024
Sarcoma	Afamitresgene Autoleucel (Tecelra)	August 2024

Lessons from our CAR T-Cell Experience?

- Durable responses in Heme Malignancies
- Associated with unique and potentially serious toxicities:
 - Cytokine Release Syndrome
 - Immune Cell Associated Neurotoxicity Syndrome
 - High rates of ICU admissions
 - Infections, HLH, Prolonged Cytopenias, Neurological Toxicities
 - NRM
 - Construct-specific toxicities
 - Multi-departmental infrastructure management is critical



NEWS BRIEF

Emily Whitehead, First Pediatric Patient to Receive CAR T-Cell Therapy, Celebrates Cure 10 Years Later



May 10, 2022





Pictured: Emily with Dr. Grupp

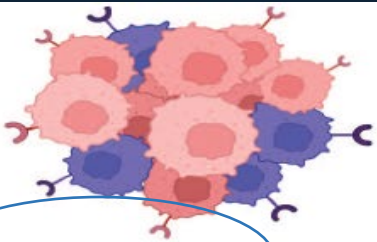
Estimated New Cases

Seigel R, et al. Cancer Statistics, 2023. CA Cancer J Clin 2023

				Males	Females				
Prostate	288,300	29%			Breast	297,790	31%		
Lung & bronchus	117,550	12%			Lung & bronchus	120,790	13%		
Colon & rectum	81,860	8%			Colon & rectum	71,160	8%		
Urinary bladder	62,420	6%			Uterine corpus	66,200	7%		
Melanoma of the skin	58,120	6%			Melanoma of the skin	39,490	4%		
Kidney & renal pelvis	52,360	5%			Non-Hodgkin lymphoma	35,670	4%		
Non-Hodgkin lymphoma	44,880	4%			Thyroid	31,180	3%		
Oral cavity & pharynx	39,290	4%			Pancreas	30,920	3%		
Leukemia	35,670	4%			Kidney & renal pelvis	29,440	3%		
Pancreas	33,130	3%			Leukemia	23,940	3%		
All Sites	1,010,310	100%			All Sites	948,000	100%		

Estimated Deaths

				Males	Females				
Lung & bronchus	67,160	21%			Lung & bronchus	59,910	21%		
Prostate	34,700	11%			Breast	43,170	15%		
Colon & rectum	28,470	9%			Colon & rectum	24,080	8%		
Pancreas	26,620	8%			Pancreas	23,930	8%		
Liver & intrahepatic bile duct	19,000	6%			Ovary	13,270	5%		
Leukemia	13,900	4%			Uterine corpus	13,030	5%		
Esophagus	12,920	4%			Liver & intrahepatic bile duct	10,380	4%		
Urinary bladder	12,160	4%			Leukemia	9,810	3%		
Non-Hodgkin lymphoma	11,780	4%			Non-Hodgkin lymphoma	8,400	3%		
Brain & other nervous system	11,020	3%			Brain & other nervous system	7,970	3%		
All Sites	322,080	100%			All Sites	287,740	100%		

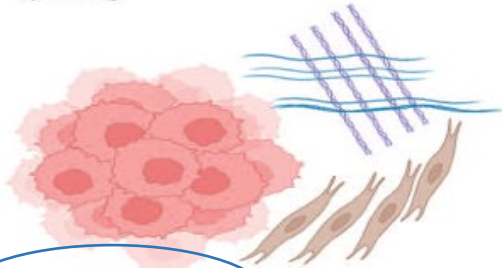


A. Target antigen heterogeneity

1. Clonal complexity in solid tumors
2. Substantial tumor-associated antigen heterogeneity
3. Escape mechanisms due to antigen-negative tumor cells
4. Off-tumor on-target toxicity

Solutions:

- Develop dual and tandem CARs to target multiple antigens
- Target neoantigens
- Use "adapter-mediated" CARs
- Use strategies that can induce "epitope spreading"

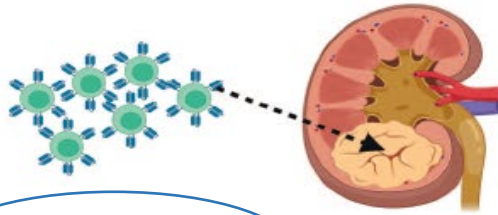


C. Tumor microenvironment

1. Extracellular matrix, tumor stroma
2. Suppressive surveillance immune cells
3. Inhibitory effect of checkpoint molecules
4. Inhibitory cytokine milieu (e.g. IL-10)

Solutions:

- Use modified CARs capable to target tumor stroma

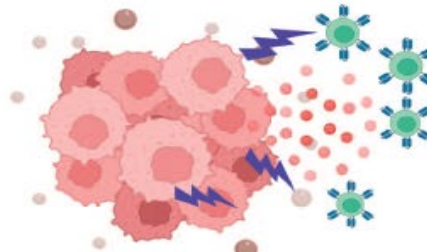


B. Trafficking into tumor tissue

1. Discrete masses in different organs
2. Impaired T-cell fitness
3. Suboptimal CAR T-cell expansion and persistence
4. Suppressive tumor microenvironment

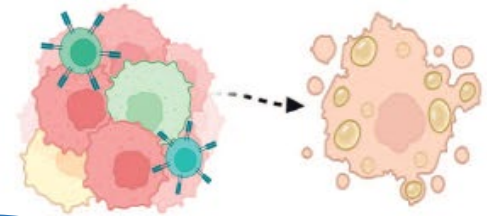
Solutions:

- Improve lymphodepletion strategies
- Improve CAR constructs (e.g. co-express functional chemokine receptors)
- Intracavitary/tumor delivery of CAR T-cells
- Other strategies to overcome the suppressive tumor microenvironment



- Knocked out CARs to resist some of the inhibitory cytokines
- Armored CARs with cytokines (e.g. IL-12 armored CARs) to overcome the suppressive microenvironment
- Combination strategies (e.g. with checkpoint inhibitors)

Challenges with CAR T-cells in Solid Tumors



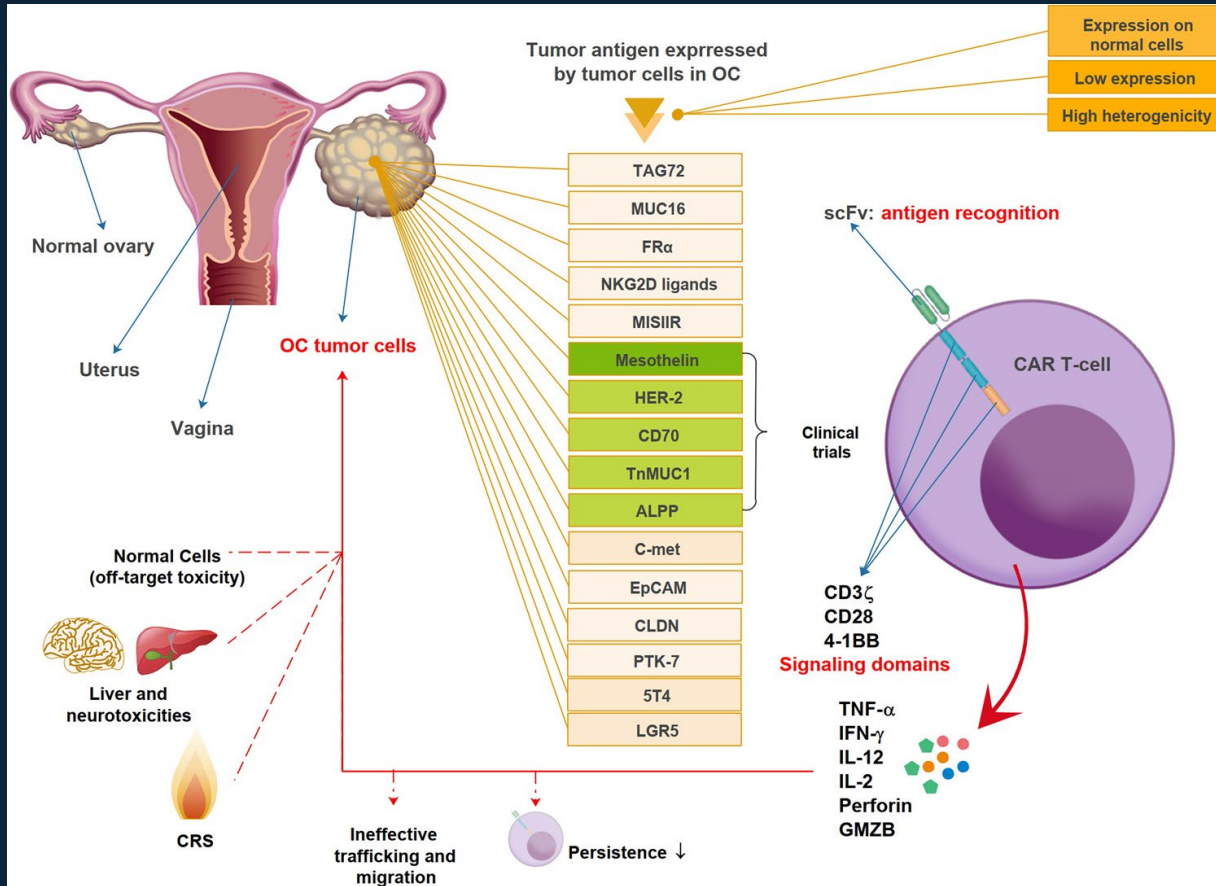
D. Toxicity

1. On-target off-tumor toxicity
2. Indirect CAR T-cell-related end organ toxicity

Solutions:

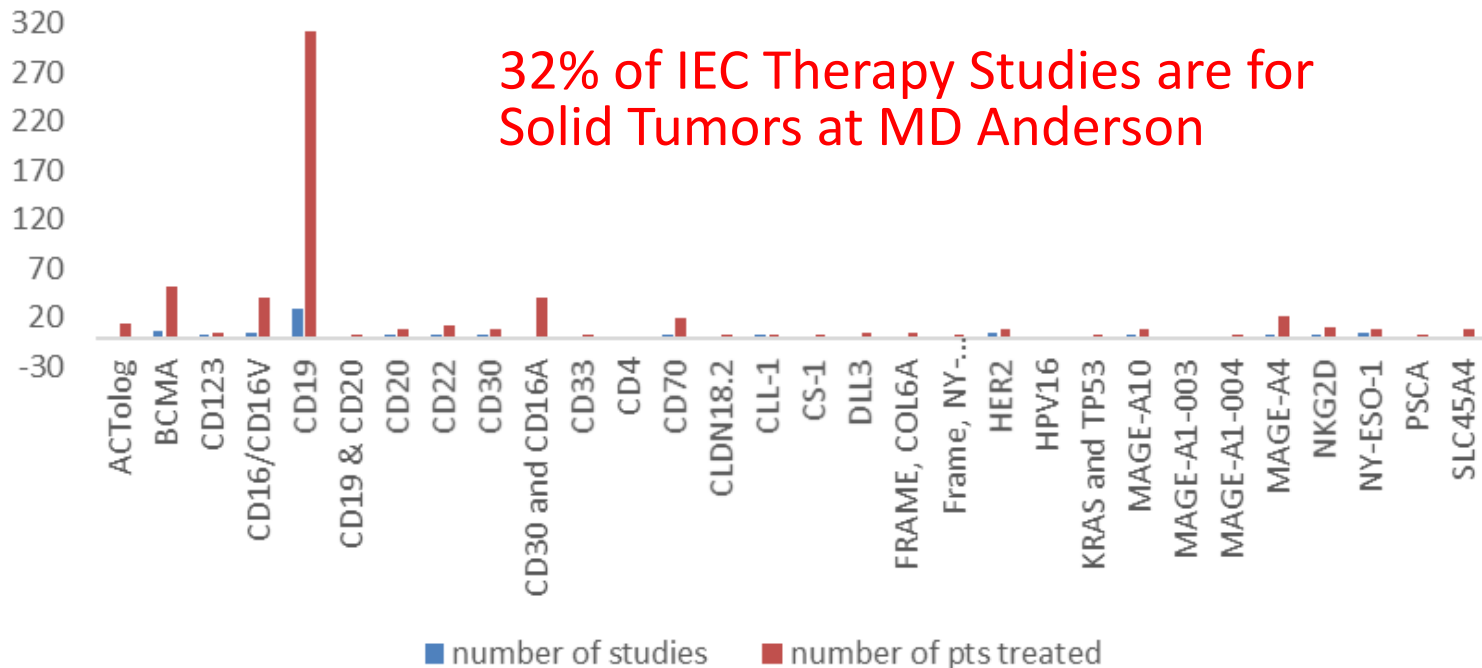
- Select highly tumor-specific antigen
- Engineer CARs with "suicide genes" (e.g. inducible Caspase9 suicide gene system)
- Design CARs with non-functional targeted receptors
- Design adapter-mediated and tandem/dual CARs
- CARs using the Boolean logic gates technology

Target antigen heterogeneity

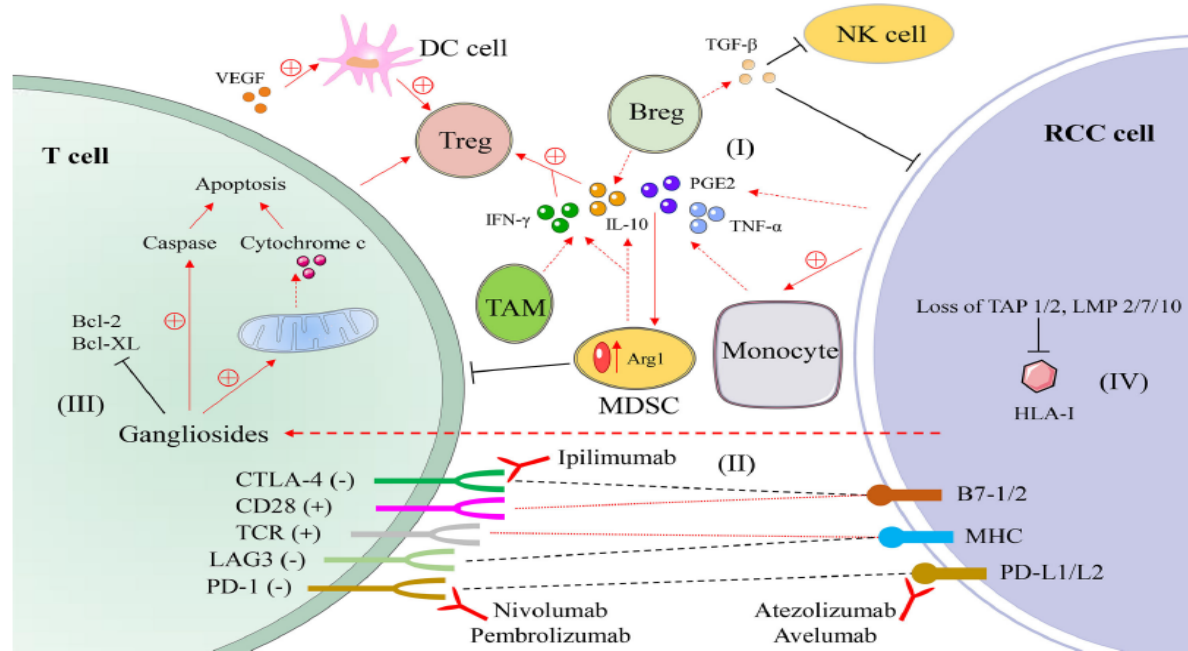


IEC Targets Studied at MD Anderson

30 IEC Targets, 85 Studies, and 618 Patients Treated at MDACC as of November 2022



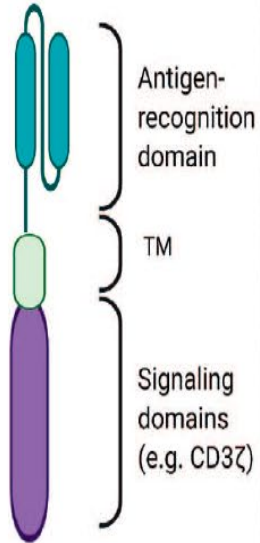
Immune evasion mechanisms and suppressive TME



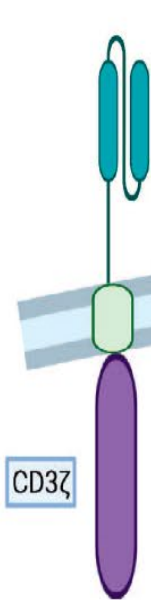
| A schematic diagram of mechanisms of immune evasion in renal cell carcinoma. (I) Immunosuppressive cells and their secreted cytokines, such as interleukin-10 (IL-10), prostaglandin E2 (PGE2), and transforming growth factor- β (TGF- β) secreted by myeloid-derived suppressor cell (MDSC) and other cells. (II) The interaction of T cells and tumor cells and the mode of action of monoclonal antibodies. (III) Gangliosides secreted by renal cell carcinoma cells promote T cell apoptosis. (IV) The absence of components related to antigen processing leads to a decline in antigen presentation function. RCC, renal cell carcinoma; DC, dendritic cell; Treg, regulatory T cell; Breg, regulatory B cell; TAM, tumor-associated macrophage; IFN- γ , interferon- γ ; TNF- α , tumor necrosis factor- α ; HLA, human leukocyte antigen; TAP, transport protein proteins associated with antigen processing; LMP, low molecular weight protein; CD28, cluster of differentiation 28; CTLA-4 (CD152), cytotoxic T-lymphocyte associated protein 4; TCR, T cell receptor; LAG3 (CD223), gene 3 activation of lymphocyte; PD-1 (CD279), programmed cell death protein 1; B7-1/2 (CD80/CD86); MHC, major histocompatibility complex; PD-L1/L2 (CD274/CD273), programmed cell death protein ligand 1/2.

CAR-T Cell Therapy: Improving on CAR Construct

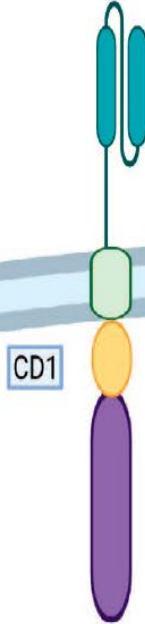
Chimeric antigen receptor (CAR)



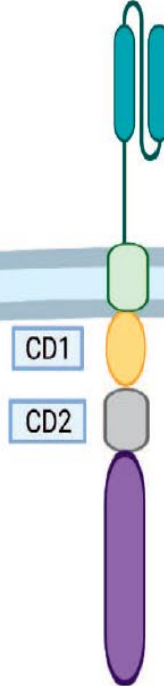
First generation CAR



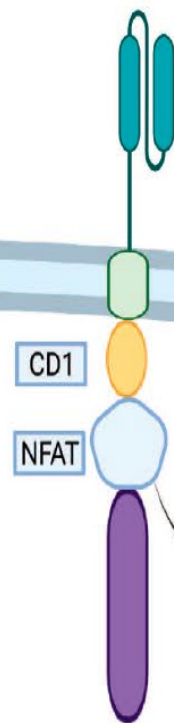
Second generation CAR



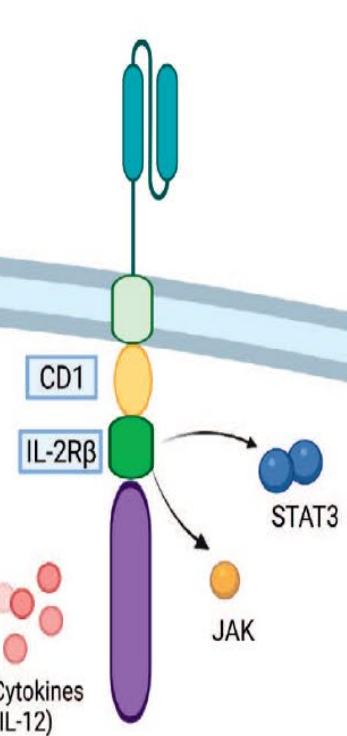
Third generation CAR



Fourth generation CAR



Fifth generation CAR



CAR-T Cell Therapy: Toxicity

N. Frey, D. Porter / Biol Blood Marrow Transplant 25 (2019) e123–e127

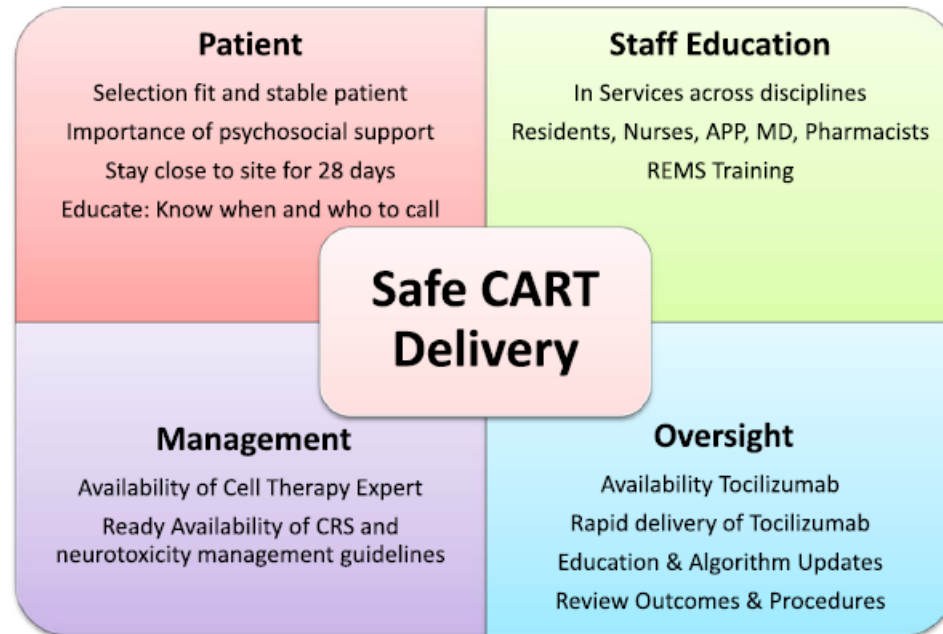
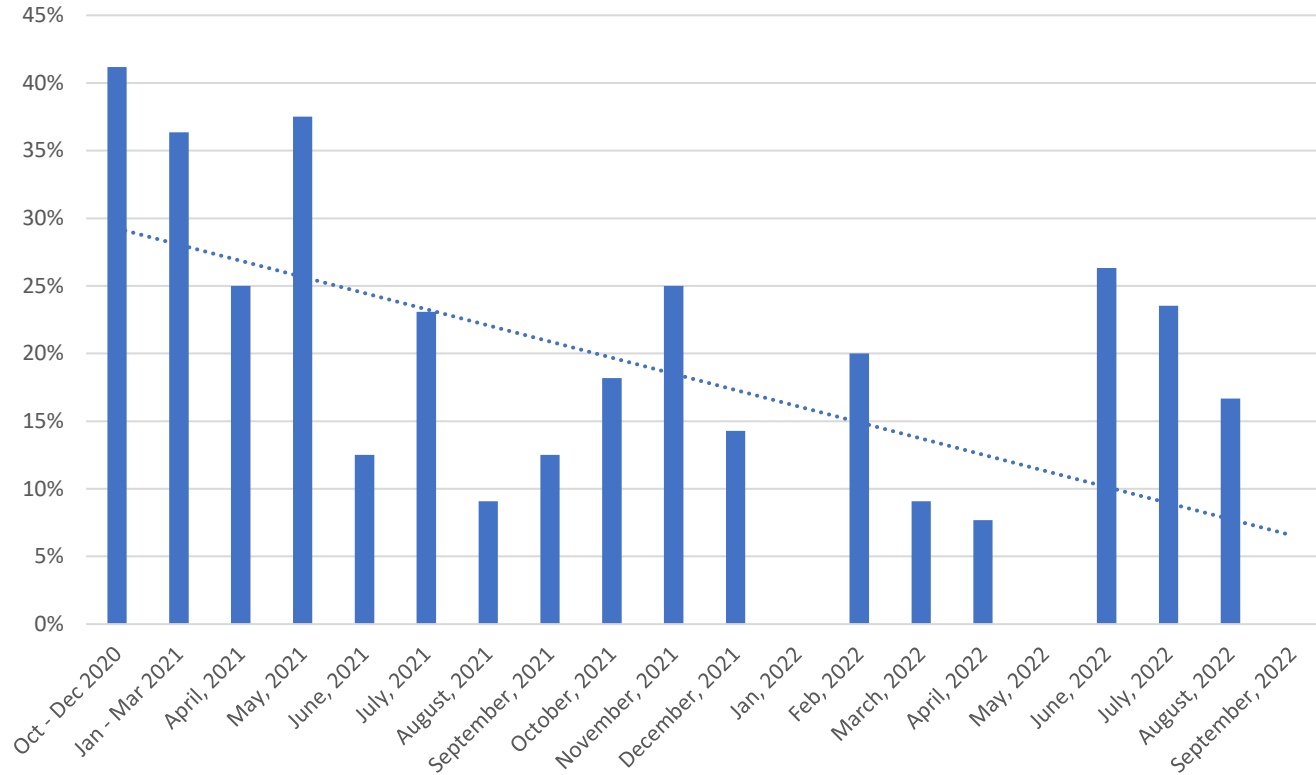


Figure 1. Delivering CAR-Ts safely.

CARTOX Program Quality Trend: ICU Transfer Rate for Patients Treated with SOC

- ICU transfer rate at MD Anderson is trending lower over time with improvements in IEC management



Unique challenges with ACT in solid tumors

- Toxicity profile less uniform c/w CAR T in hematologic malignancies
 - ✓ Target-, CAR construct- and disease-specific
 - ✓ Cytokine therapy, high-dose IL-2
- Shared management between cell therapists and solid tumor oncologists
- Unique challenges not only during the clinical trial development, **but more important when it is commercialized**
- Data reporting

A Robust Quality Infrastructure is Key to Safe and Effective Delivery of Immune Effector Cells – How “FACT”-Finding Can Help

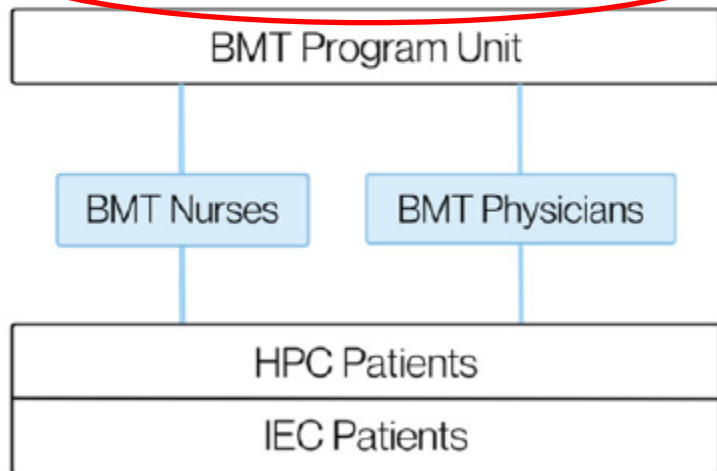
Kevin J. Curran¹, Sarah Nikiforow², Carlos Bachier³, Yen-Michael Hsu⁴, David Maloney⁵, Marcela V. Maus⁶, Philip McCarthy⁷, David Porter⁸, Patricia Shi⁹, Elizabeth J Shpall¹⁰, Basem William¹¹, Kara Wacker¹², Phyllis Warkentin^{12, 13}, Helen E Heslop¹⁴

- Addressed some of the common issues faced by IEC programs including the need to manage resources, proper program structure, and the need for on-going competency assessment
- Through the FACT IEC Standards and accreditation program an institution can develop a quality IEC program which provides safe and effective IEC products for their patients with exceptional outcomes

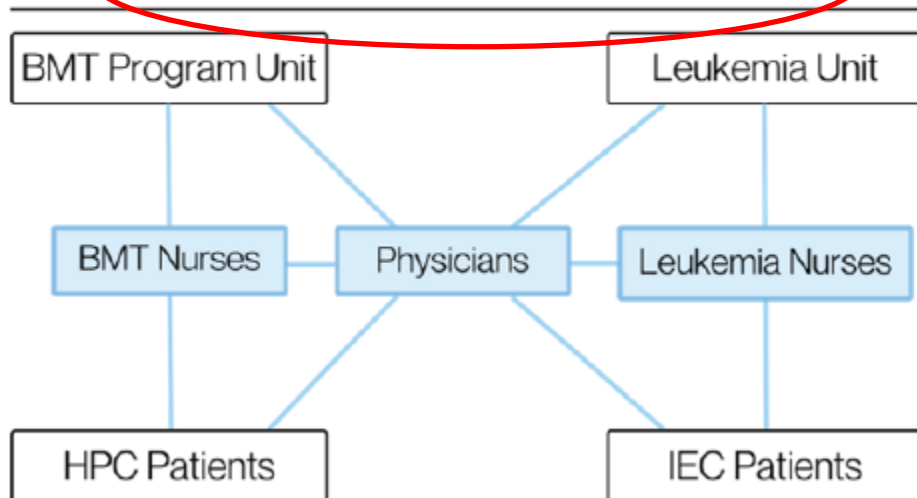
IEC Program Structures

CT/HCT Program Involvement

All IEC Management within BMT Program



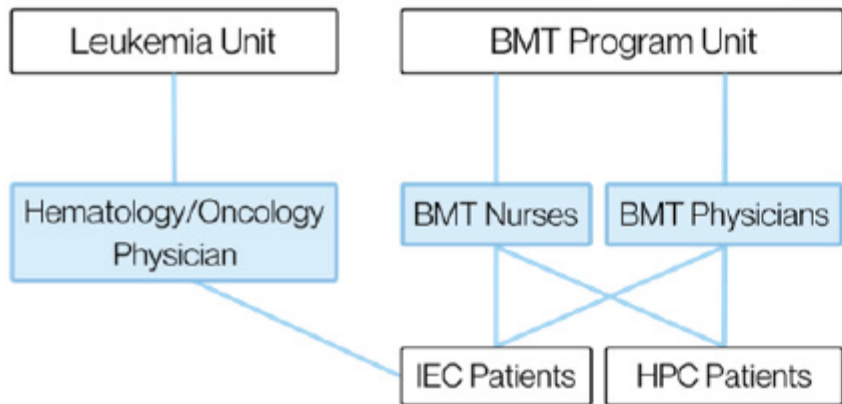
Double Physician Appointments



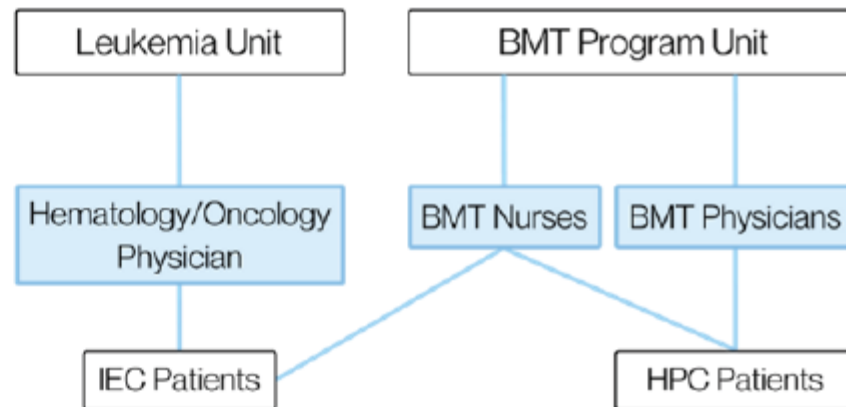
IEC Program Structures

Shared Resources

BMT Program Unit Administers IECs for Hem/Onc Unit



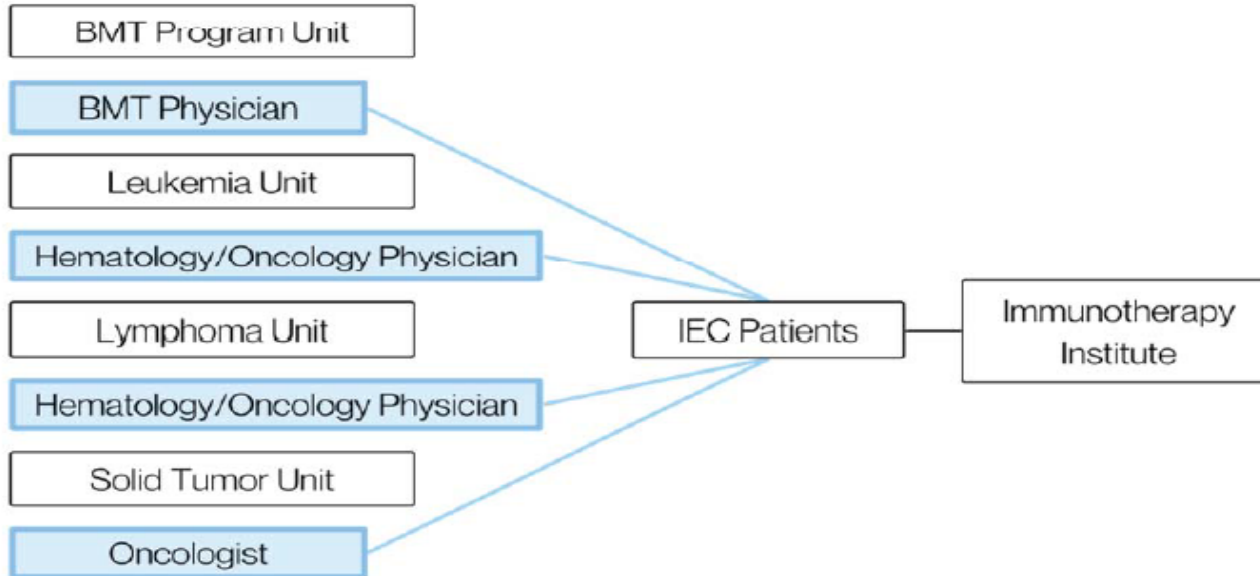
Shared Nursing Resources



IEC Program Structures

IEC Institute

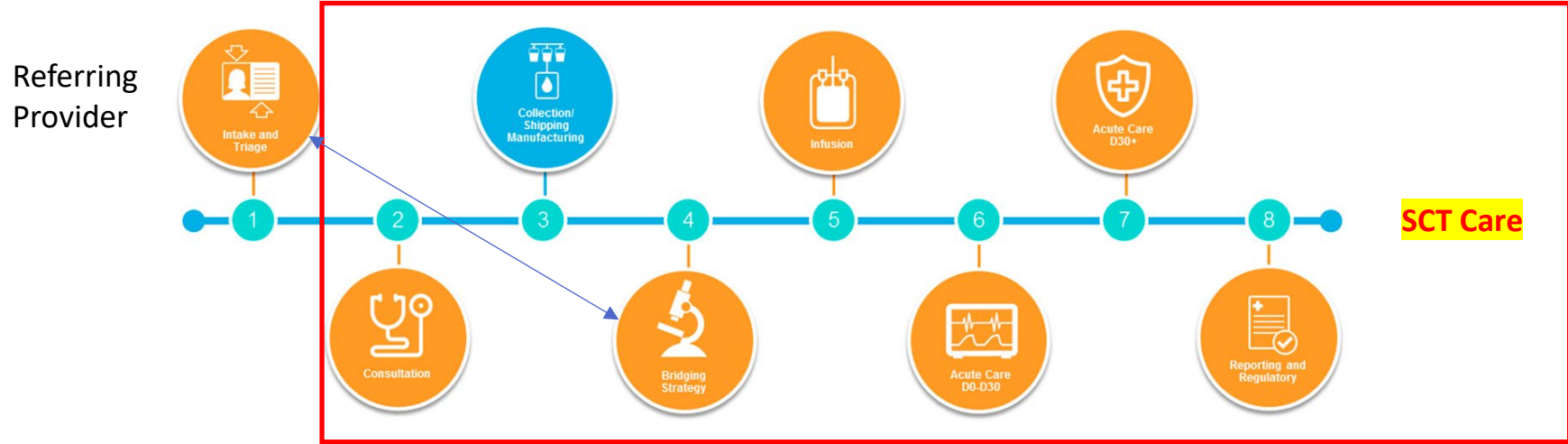
Oversight by Immunotherapy Unit



Caring for IEC solid tumor patients at MDACC: Model 1

- The entire care is provided by the SCT team while on study protocols
- Return to medical oncology upon progression
- **Coordinate with referring oncology** on bridging and follow up care

8 Essential Tasks



Patient
Manufacturing Site



Figure adapted from Berdeja JG. ASH Educ 2020

Caring for IEC solid tumor patients at MDACC: Model 2

- Outpatient, follow up jointly with solid tumor and SCT attending until day 30*
- Return to medical oncology after day 30*

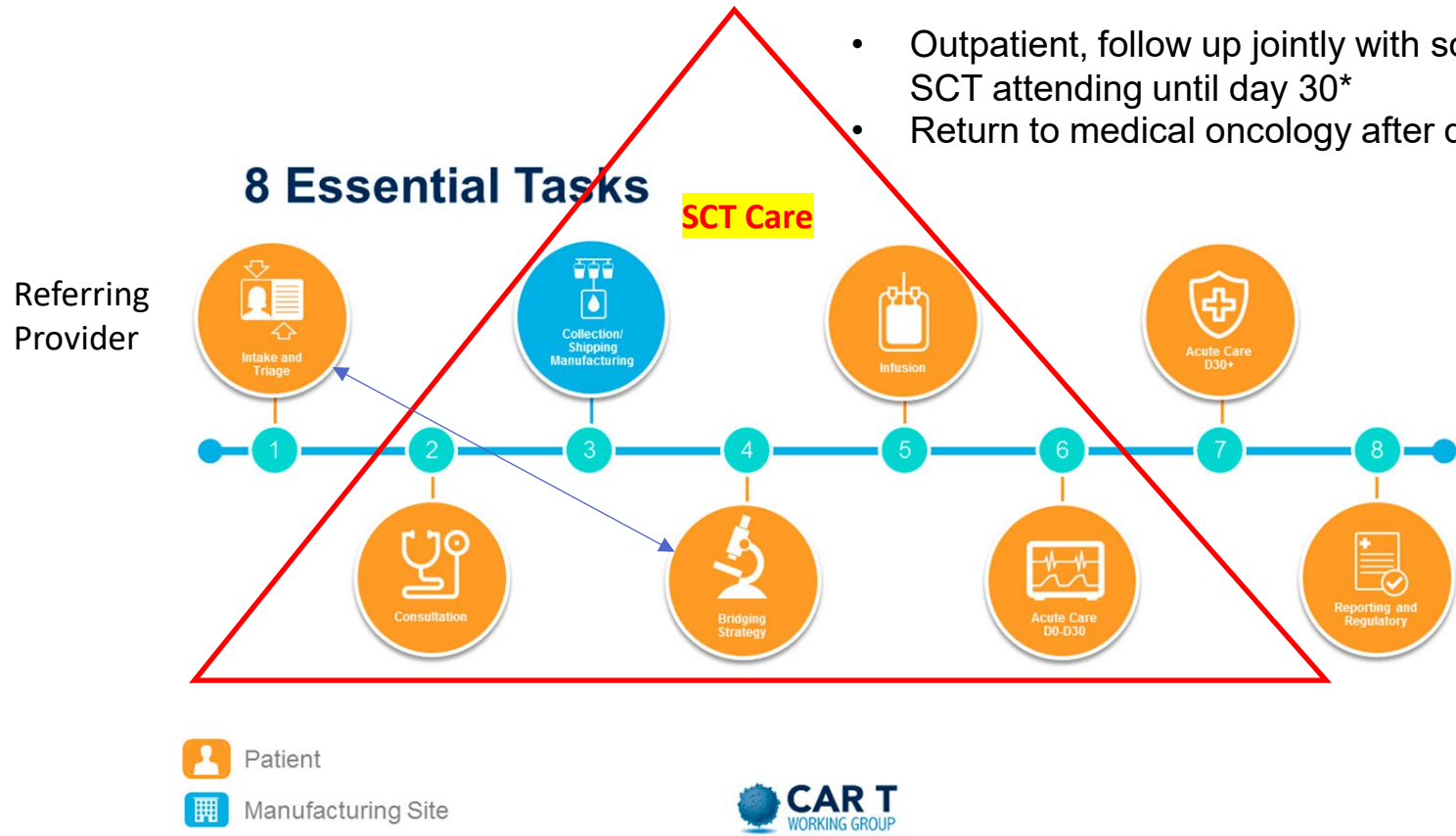
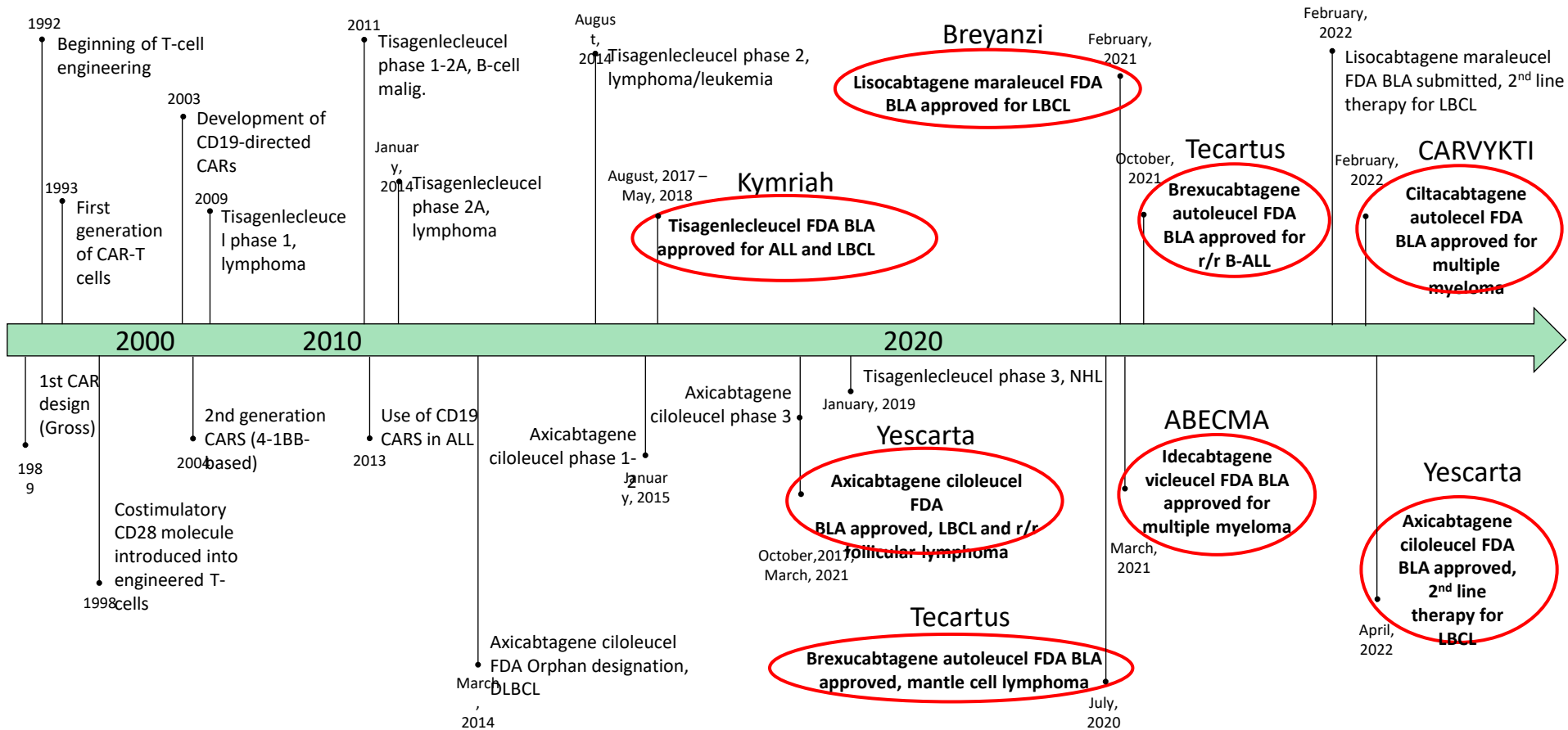


Figure adapted from Berdeja JG. ASH Educ 2020

Paradigm Shift for CAR T Cell in Heme Tumors



What about a Paradigm Shift for CAR T Cell in Solid Tumors?!

- In February 2024, first historical approval for TIL (Lifileucel) in melanoma
- In August 2024, first historical approval for TCR (Afamitresgene) in sarcoma

Table 2. Summary of the published clinical trials for CAR T-cell therapy in solid tumors

Year	Tumor Subtypes	Target	Sample Size	Outcome	Reference
2006	Ovary	FR α	14	No response	Kershaw et al ^[13]
2007	Neuroblastoma	CD171	6	NR	Park et al ^[82]
2010	CRC	HER2	1	Died	Morgan et al ^[36]
2011	Neuroblastoma	GD2	19	3 CR of 11 active disease	Louis et al ^[34]
2013	RCC	CAIX	12	No response	Lamers et al ^[24]
2015	GBM	IL13Ra2	3	Transient	Brown et al ^[29]
2015	Ovary	MUC16	6	NR	Koneru et al ^[83]
2015	GBM	HER2	16	1 PR and 4 SD for up to 24 mo	Ahmed et al ^[84]
2015	Sarcoma	HER2	19	17 evaluable: 4 with SD for up to 14 mo	Ahmed et al ^[37]
2016	Prostate	PSMA	5	2 PR	Junghans et al ^[26]
2017	CRC	CEA	10	2 PR 7 SD up to 30 wk	Zhang et al ^[48]
2017	Neuroblastoma	GD2	11	5 SD	Heczey et al ^[35]
2017	CEA-positive tumors	CEA	14	No response	Thistlethwaite et al ^[49]
2017	GBM	EGFRv3	10	1 SD for 18 wk	O'Rourke et al ^{[3]2}
2018	CD133-positive tumors	CD133	23	3 PR, 14 SD	Wang et al ^[56]
2018	HNSCC	EGFR	13	ORR: 69%	Papa et al ^[85]
2018	Biliary and pancreatic cancers	HER2	11	1 PR 5 SD	Feng et al ^[39]
2018	PDAC	Mesothelin	6	3 SD	Beatty et al ^[40]
2019	Pleural tumors	Mesothelin	20	14 with PD1 therapy: 2 CR, 5 PR, 4 SD	Adusumilli et al ^[42]
2019	Mesothelin-positive tumors	Mesothelin	15	11 SD	Haas et al ^[86]
2019	Gastric, pancreas	Claudin18.2	12	1 CR, 3 PR, 5 SD	Zhan et al ^[51]
2019	MUC1-positive tumors	MUC1	13	9 SD	Li et al ^[87]
2019	GBM	EGFRv3	18	No response	Goff et al ^[33]
2019	CEA-positive tumors	CEA	8	2 SD	Katz et al ^[47]
2019	PSCA-positive tumors	PSCA	15	8 SD	Becerra et al ^[88]
2019	GD2-positive tumors	GD2	12	1 CR, 2 PR	Yankelevich et al ^[89]
2019	TNBC	ROR1	4	1 PR 2 SD	Specht et al ^[90]
2019	CRC	NKG2D	8	NR	Van Cutsem et al ^[91]
2020	Lung	PD-L1	1	Serious AE	Liu et al ^[92]
2020	HCC	Glypican-3	13	2 PR and 1 SD for 44 mo	Shi et al ^[93]

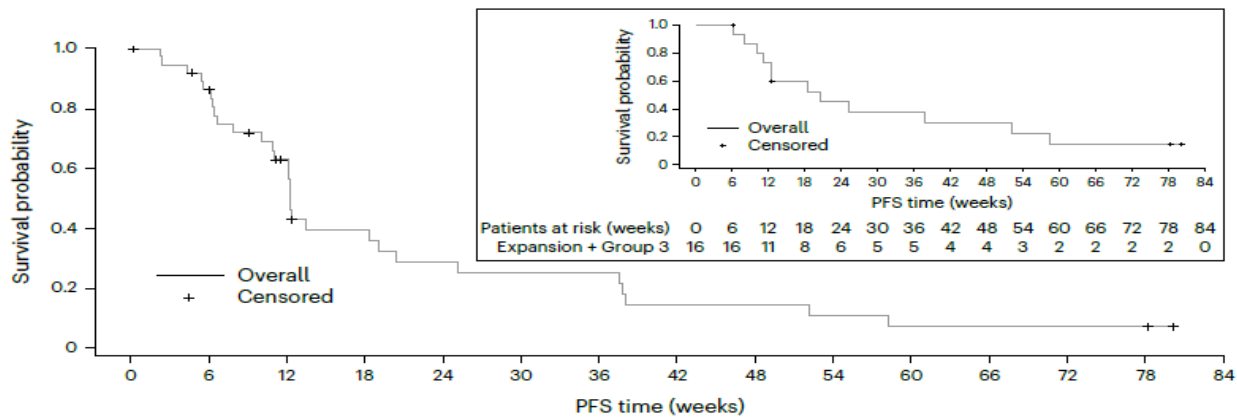
Table 1 | Summary of selected TCR gene therapy clinical trials

Antigen class	HLA	Co-receptor independent	CDR modification	Tumour	ORR ^a	Ref.
Tissue differentiation						
MART-1	A*02:01	No	No	Melanoma	13%	33
MART-1	A*02:01	Yes	No	Melanoma	30%	34
gp100	A*02:01	Yes	No	Melanoma	19%	34
Tyrosinase	A*02:01	Yes	No	Melanoma	33%	299
CEA	A*02:01	Yes	Yes	CRC	33%	35
Cancer germ line						
NY-ESO-1	A*02:01	Yes	Yes	Melanoma	55%	258
NY-ESO-1	A*02:01	Yes	Yes	SS	61%	258
NY-ESO-1	A*02:01	Yes	Yes	SS	50%	43
NY-ESO-1	A*02:01	Yes	Yes	MRCLS	40%	259
MAGE-A3/9/12	A*02:01	Yes	Yes	Various	56%	36
MAGE-A3/6	DPB1*04:01	Yes	No	Various	24%	38
MAGE-A4	A*24:01	No	No	ESCA	0%	37
MAGE-A4	A*02:01	Yes	Yes	SS and MRCLS	36%	262
MAGE-A4	A*02:01	Yes	Yes	Various	24%	263
MAGE-A4+CD8 α	A*02:01	Yes	Yes	Various	36%	264
MAGE-A10	A*02:01	Not defined	Yes	NSCLC	11%	266
PRAME	A*02:01	No	No	Various	50%	268
Overexpressed						
WT1	A*24:02	No	No	MDS/AML	0%	39
WT1	A*02:01	Yes	No	AML	NED	44
Viral						
HPV-16 E6	A*02:01	Yes	No	HPV-16 ⁺	17%	40
HPV-16 E7	A*02:01	Yes	No	HPV-16 ⁺	50%	41
Neoantigen						
Private	Various	Various	No	Various	0%	47
TP53 (R175H)	A*02:01	Yes	No	BRCA breast cancer	1/1	275
KRAS (G12D)	C*08:02	Yes	No	PDAC	1/2	274
KRAS (G12D)	A*11:01	Yes	No	NSCLC	1/1	300

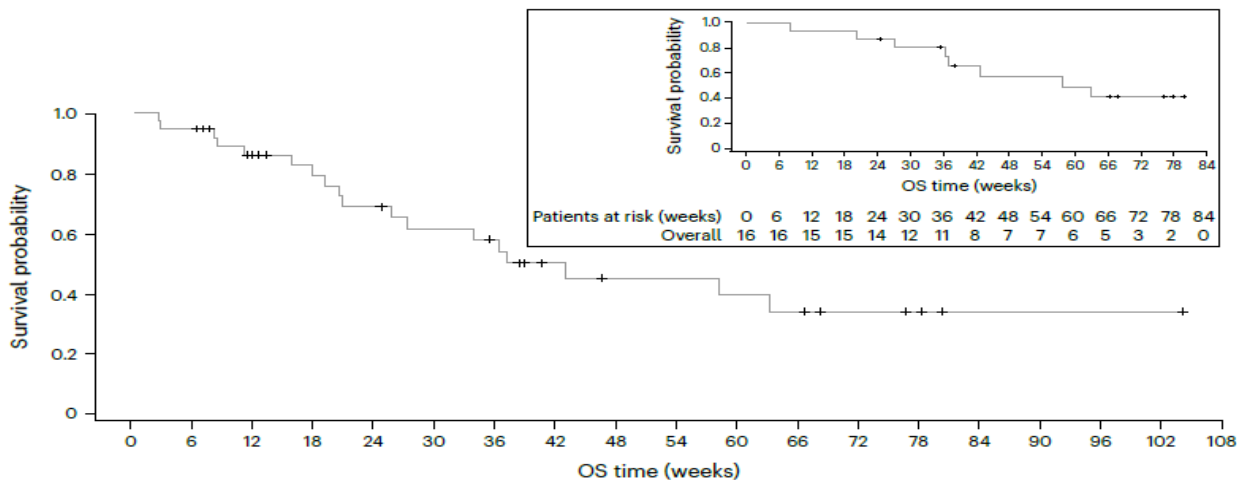


Autologous T cell therapy for MAGE-A4⁺ solid cancers in HLA-A*02⁺ patients: a phase 1 trial

- Phase 1 dose-escalation study
- Autologous T cells that express a high-affinity melanoma-associated antigen A4 (MAGE-A4)-specific T-cell receptor (TCR) targeting MAGE-A4⁺ tumors
- (HLA)-A*02
- 38 patients, **variety of solid tumors**, 42% were sarcomas, 24% ovarian

c

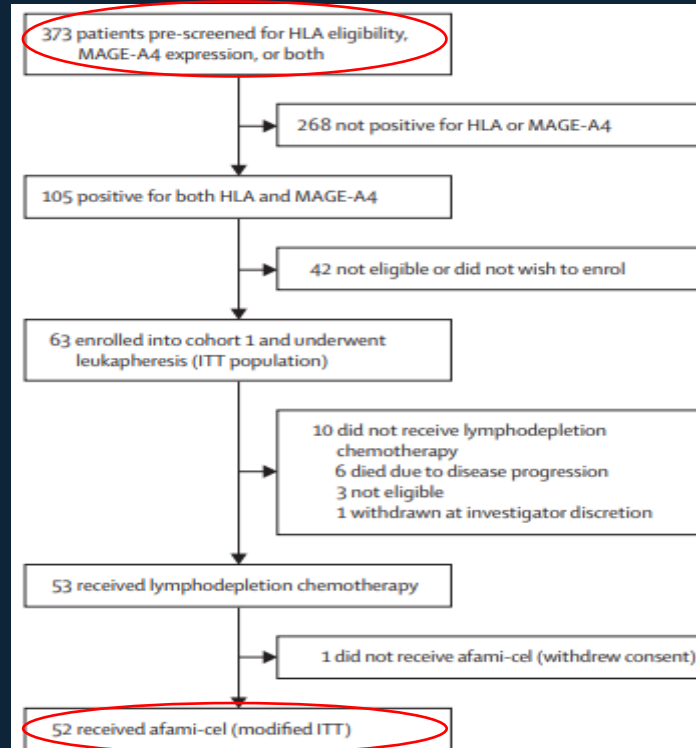
Patients at risk (weeks)	0	6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48	54	60	66	72	78	84
Overall	38	31	19	11	8	7	7	4	4	3	2	2	2	2	0

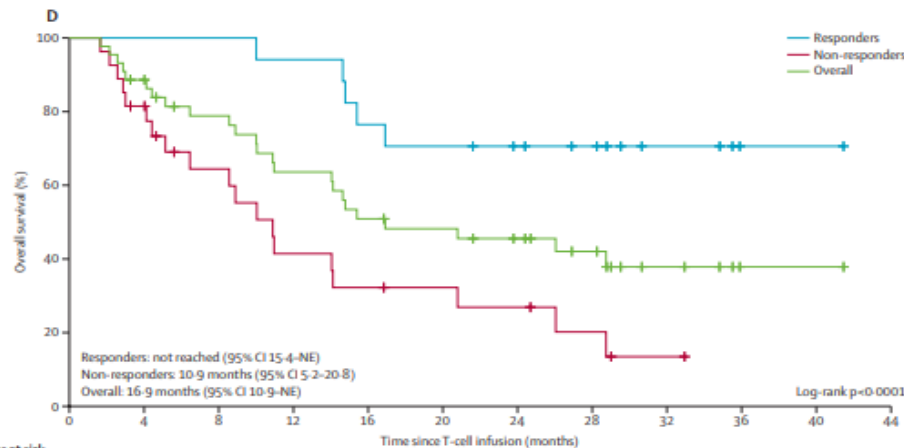
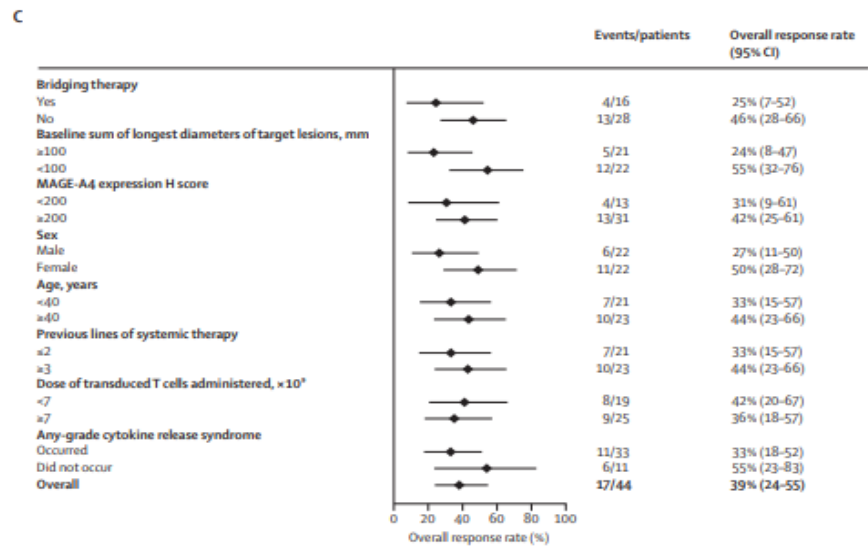
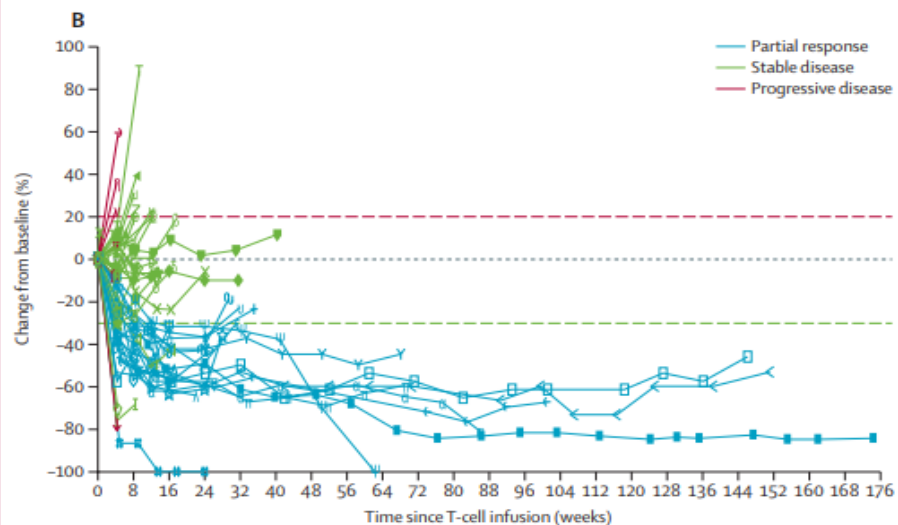
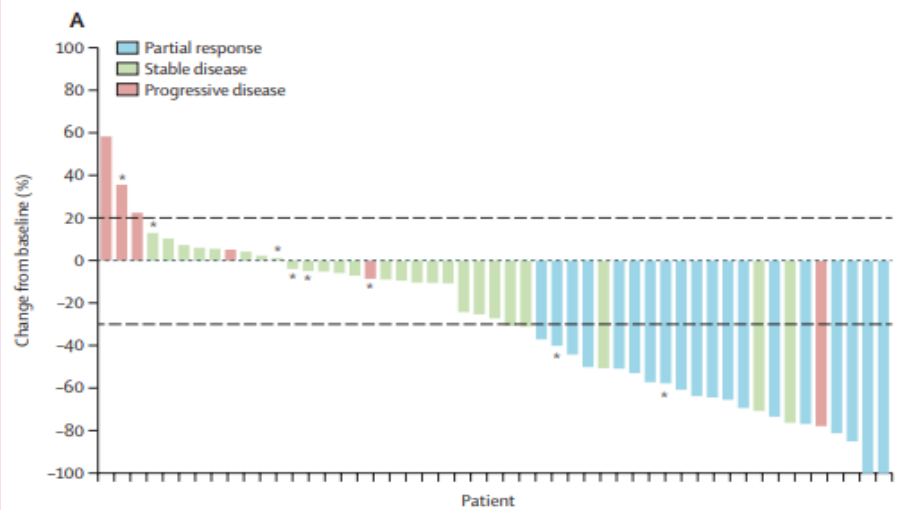
d

Patients at risk (weeks)	0	6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48	54	60	66	72	78	84	90	96	102	108
Overall	38	36	28	23	20	17	15	10	8	8	7	6	4	3	1	1	1	1	0



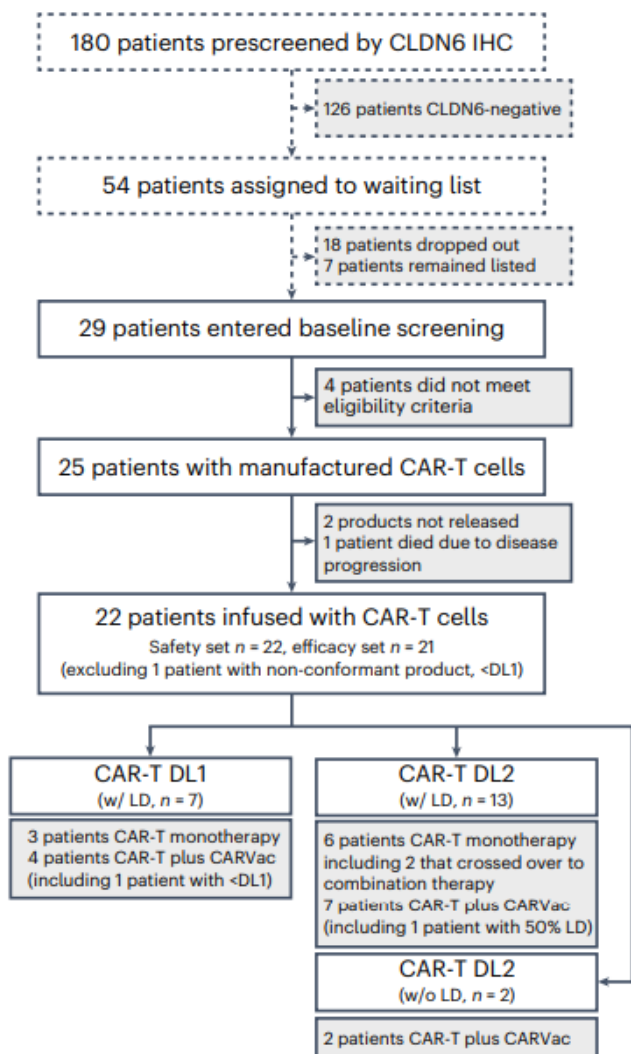
Afamitresgene autoleucel for advanced synovial sarcoma and myxoid round cell liposarcoma (SPEARHEAD-1): an international, open-label, phase 2 trial



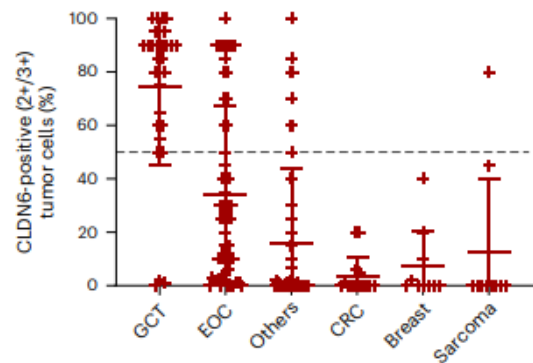
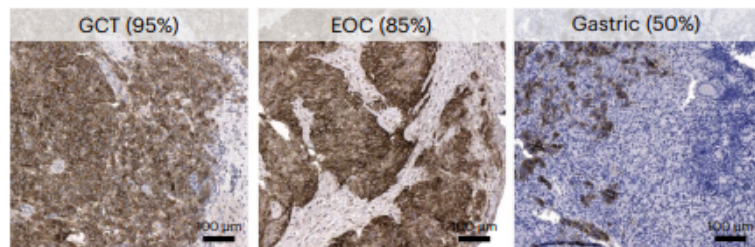


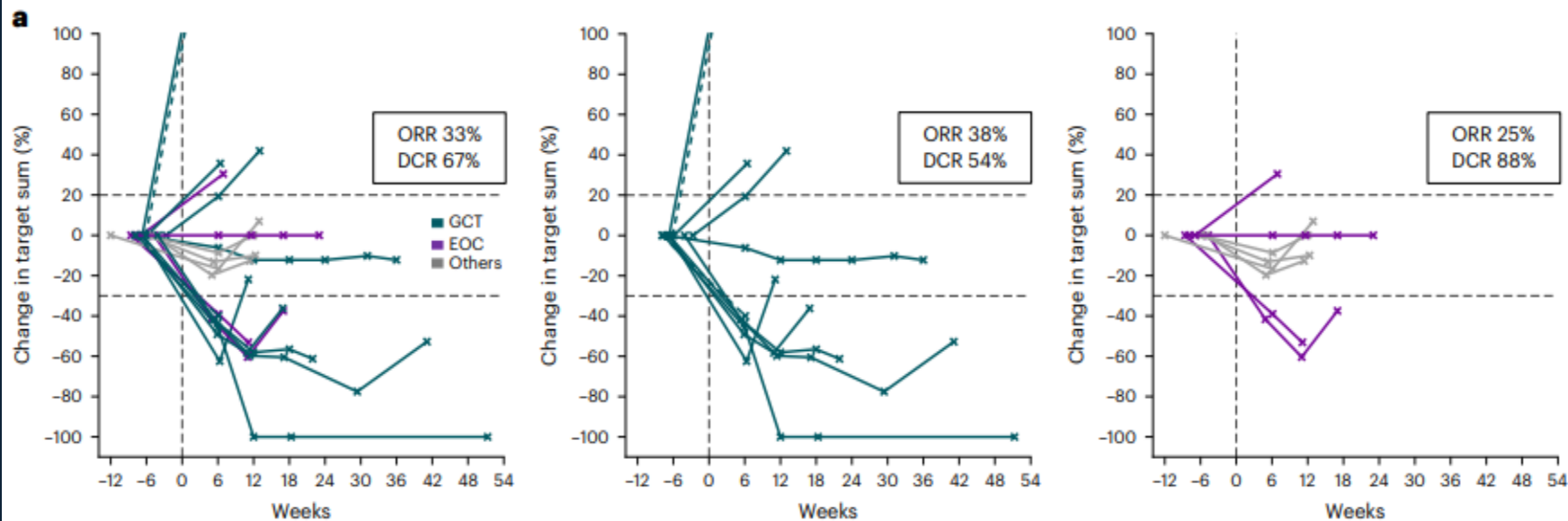
Number at risk (number censored)

	0	4	8	12	16	20	24	28	32	36	40	44
Responders	17 (0)	17 (0)	17 (0)	16 (0)	13 (0)	12 (0)	10 (2)	8 (4)	4 (8)	1 (11)	1 (11)	0 (12)
Non-responders	27 (0)	21 (1)	14 (4)	9 (4)	7 (4)	6 (5)	5 (5)	3 (6)	1 (7)	0 (8)
Overall	44 (0)	38 (1)	31 (4)	25 (4)	20 (4)	18 (5)	15 (7)	11 (10)	5 (15)	1 (19)	1 (19)	0 (20)

b**c**

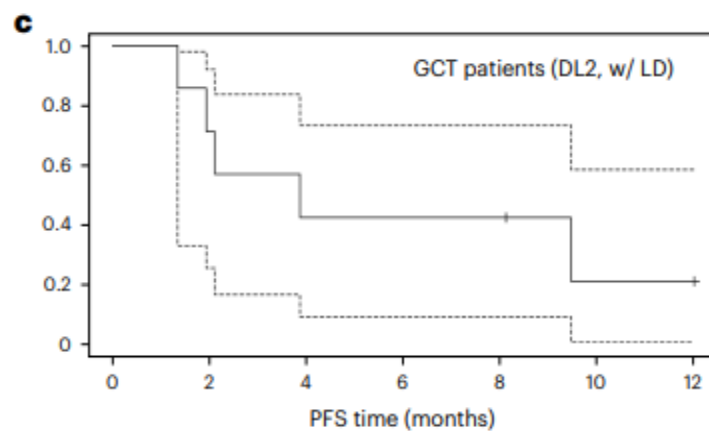
Cancer type	n	Percentage with any positivity	Percentage of 2+/3+
GCT	30	100	90
EOC	55	91	29
Others	61	48	16
CRC	14	43	0
Breast	10	40	0
Sarcoma	10	20	10
Total	180	67	30

**d**



b

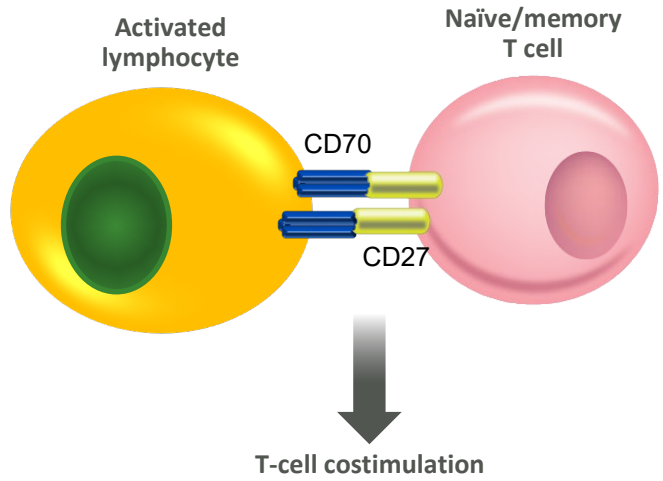
All patients	1×10^7 w/ LD	1×10^8 w/ LD	Total w/ LD	1×10^8 w/o LD	Total
<i>n</i>	6	13	19	2	21
ORR, %	17	46	37	0	33
DCR, %	50	85	74	0	67
GCT patients	1×10^7 w/ LD	1×10^8 w/ LD	Total w/ LD	1×10^8 w/o LD	Total
<i>n</i>	4	7	11	2	13
ORR, %	25	57	45	0	38
DCR, %	25	86	64	0	54
Non-GCT patients	1×10^7 w/ LD	1×10^8 w/ LD	Total w/ LD	1×10^8 w/o LD	Total
<i>n</i>	2	6	8	0	8
ORR, %	0	33	25	N/A	N/A
DCR, %	100	83	88	N/A	N/A



Role of CD70 in Immune Response and Cancer

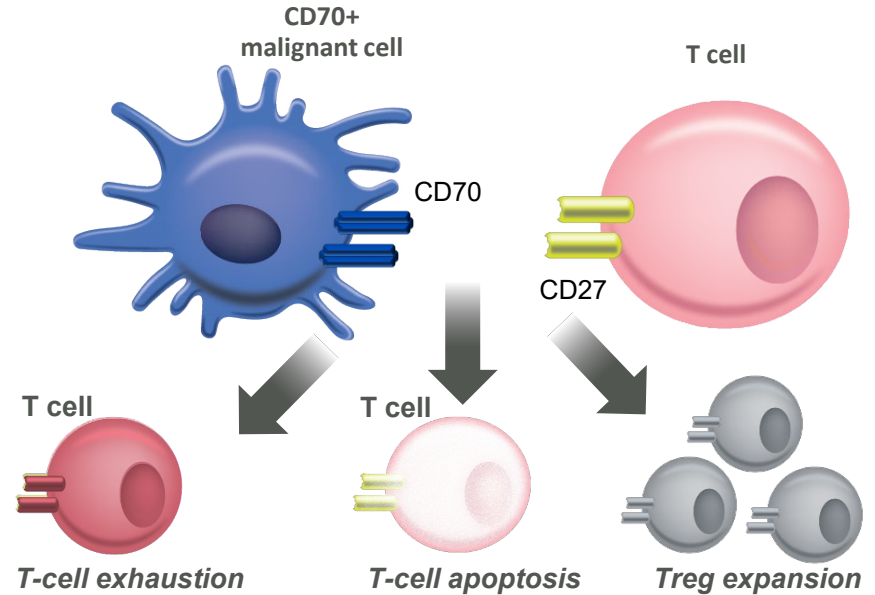
Physiological role of CD70

- Transient CD70 expression on activated lymphocytes as well as NK cells and mature dendritic cells¹
- Controls naïve and memory T-cell activation via interaction with CD27



Role of CD70 in cancer

- High levels of CD70 expression have been detected in approximately 80% of ccRCC samples²
- CD70 expression is regulated by the VHL pathway; HIF activates CD70³
- Possible immunosuppressive role due to T-cell exhaustion, apoptosis, or Treg expansion¹



ccRCC, clear cell renal cell carcinoma; NK, natural killer; VHL, Von Hippel-Lindau; HIF hypoxia-inducible factor; Treg, regulatory T cell

References: 1. Flieswasser T et al., *J Exp Clin Cancer Res* 2022;41:12. 2. Flieswasser T et al., *Cancers* 2019;11:1161. 3. Ruf M et al., *Clin Cancer Res* 2015;21:889-898.

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ANNUAL MEETING
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APRIL 5-10

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CTX130™ allogeneic CRISPR-Cas9–engineered chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) T cells in patients with advanced clear cell renal cell carcinoma: long-term follow-up and translational data from the phase 1 COBALT-RCC study

Samer A. Srour, MD¹, Ben Tran, MBBS, FRACP², John B. Haanen, MD, PhD³, Michael Hurwitz, MD, PhD⁴, Adrian Sacher, MD⁵, Neeraj Agarwal, MD⁶, Nizar Tannir, MD¹, L. Elizabeth Budde, MD⁷, Simon Harrison MBBS, PhD, FRACP², Sebastian Klobuch, MD³, Sagar S. Patel, MD⁶, Mary-Lee Dequeant, PhD⁸, Qiuling Ally He, PhD⁸, Alissa Keegan, MD, PhD⁸, Henia Dar, PhD⁸, Anna Ma, PhD⁸, PK Morrow, MD⁸, Sumanta K Pal, MD⁷

¹ *The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX*; ² *Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, Melbourne, Australia*; ³ *Netherlands Cancer Institute, Amsterdam, Netherlands*; ⁴ *Yale School of Medicine, New Haven, CT*; ⁵ *Princess Margaret Cancer Centre, University Health Network, Toronto, Canada*; ⁶ *Huntsman Cancer Institute, University of Utah Comprehensive Cancer Center, Salt Lake City, UT*; ⁸ *CRISPR Therapeutics, Boston, MA*; ⁷ *City of Hope Comprehensive Cancer Center, Duarte, CA*



AACR JOURNALS

CANCER DISCOVERY

RESEARCH ARTICLE | APRIL 05 2024

CD70-Targeted Allogeneic CAR T-Cell Therapy for Advanced Clear Cell Renal Cell Carcinoma

Sumanta K. Pal    ; Ben Tran  ; John B.A.G. Haanen  ; Michael E. Hurwitz  ; Adrian Sacher  ; Nizar M. Tannir  ; Lihua E. Budde  ; Simon J. Harrison  ; Sebastian Klobuch  ; Sagar S. Patel  ; Luis Meza  ; Mary-Lee Dequeant  ; Anna Ma  ; Qiuling Ally He  ; Leah M. Williams  ; Alissa Keegan  ; Ellen B. Gurary  ; Henia Dar  ; Sushant Karnik  ; Changan Guo  ; Heidi Heath  ; Rachel R. Yuen  ; Phuong K. Morrow  ; Neeraj Agarwal  ; Samer A. Srour 



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[+ Author & Article Information](#)

Cancer Discov OF1–OF14.

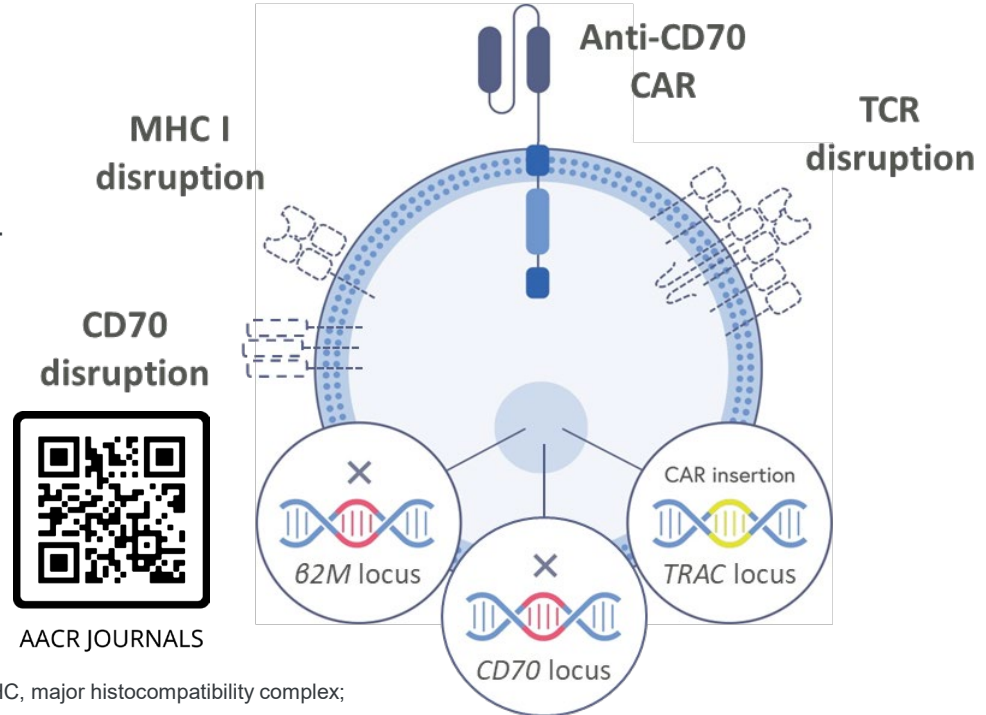
<https://doi.org/10.1158/2159-8290.CD-24-0102>

[Article history](#) 

CTX130 is an allogeneic CAR T targeting CD70

- CTX130 is an investigational allogeneic, CRISPR/Cas9 gene-edited, anti-CD70 CAR T cell therapy with **TRAC**, **β 2M**, and **CD70 disruptions**
 - Using an AAV vector, an anti-CD70 CAR cassette is specifically inserted into the TRAC locus by homology-directed repair
- CTX130 is manufactured from T cells collected from a healthy donor, which are then selected and edited before expansion and cryopreservation for **off-the-shelf** availability

CTX130 Construct



AAV, adeno-associated virus; β 2M, β 2-microglobulin; CAR, chimeric antigen receptor; MHC, major histocompatibility complex; TCR, T-cell receptor; TRAC, T-cell receptor alpha constant.

Reference: Dequeant M-L, et al. CD70 knockout: A novel approach to augment CAR-T cell function. Poster presented at American Association for Cancer Research 2021. April 10-15 and May 17-21, 2021.

Patient Demographics and Baseline Characteristics

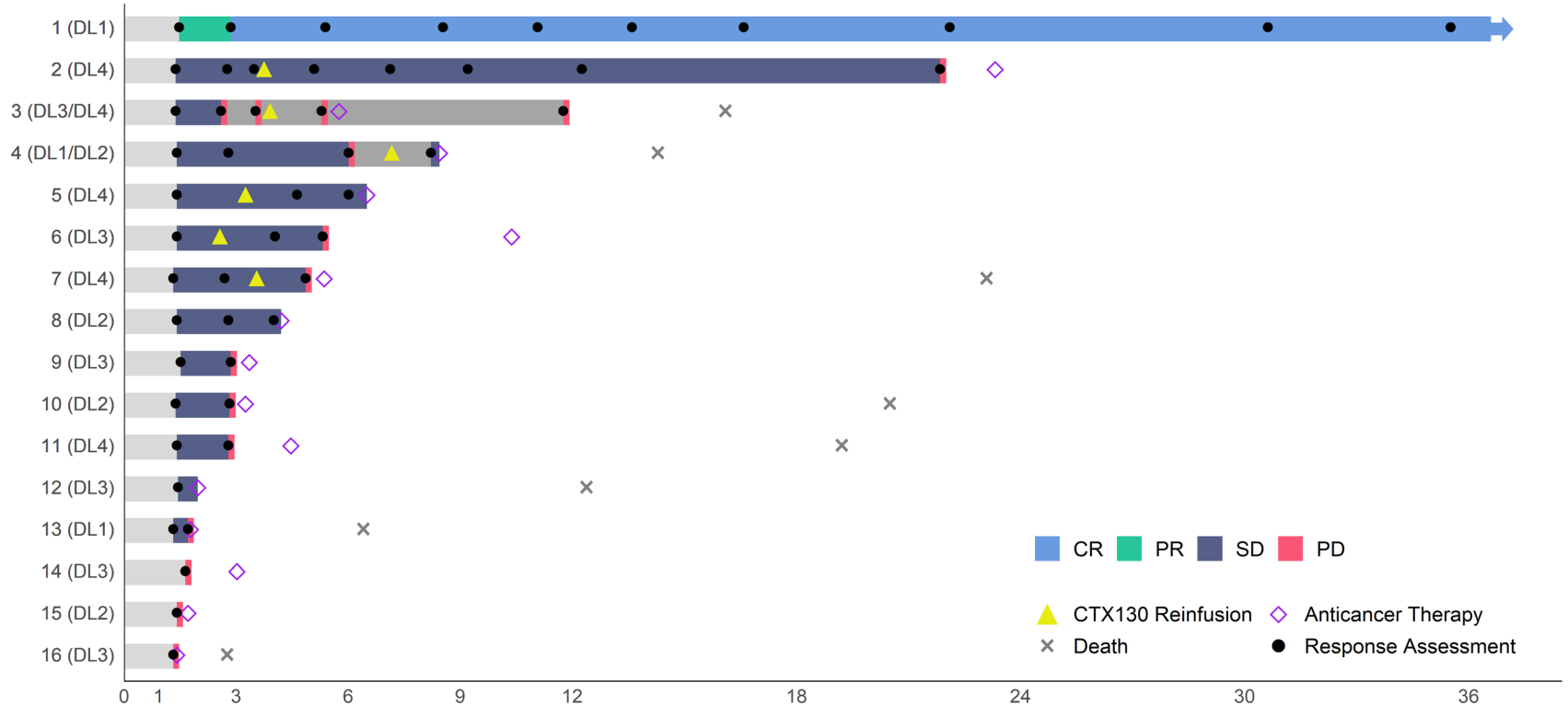
Data cutoff date: 09 OCT 2023

	DL1 3 × 10 ⁷ N=3	DL2 1 × 10 ⁸ N=3	DL3 3 × 10 ⁸ N=6	DL4 9 × 10 ⁸ N=4	Total N=16
Median age, y (range)	59 (58-64)	60 (54-65)	61 (53-73)	70 (66-77)	63 (53-77)
Male sex, n (%)	3 (100.0)	3 (100.0)	6 (100.0)	2 (50.0)	14 (87.5)
Metastatic disease, n (%)	3 (100.0)	3 (100.0)	6 (100.0)	4 (100.0)	16 (100.0)
Prior anticancer therapies, n (%)					
Systemic therapy	3 (100.0)	3 (100.0)	6 (100.0)	4 (100.0)	16 (100.0)
Radiotherapy	1 (33.3)	2 (66.7)	4 (66.7)	4 (100.0)	11 (68.8)
Surgery	3 (100.0)	3 (100.0)	5 (83.3)	4 (100.0)	15 (93.8)
Median prior lines of systemic therapy, n (range)	2 (1-3)	3 (2-4)	3 (1-5)	3 (2-6)	3 (1-6)
Median time from diagnosis, y (range)	3.4 (2.5-6.3)	2.7 (0.7-3.3)	5.1 (2.5-6.3)	10.5 (5.1-24.0)	4.9 (0.7-24.0)
IMDC category at screening, n (%)					
Favorable	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Intermediate	3 (100.0)	3 (100.0)	3 (50.0)	1 (25.0)	10 (62.5)
Poor	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	3 (50.0)	3 (75.0)	6 (37.5)
eGFR <60 mL/min/1.73 m², n (%)	2 (66.7)	1 (33.0)	1 (16.7)	2 (50.0)	6 (37.5)

DL, dose level; eGFR, estimated glomerular filtration rate; IHC, immunohistochemistry; IMDC, International Metastatic Renal Cell Carcinoma Database Consortium; SoD, sum of diameters.

Efficacy

Data cutoff date: 09 OCT 2023

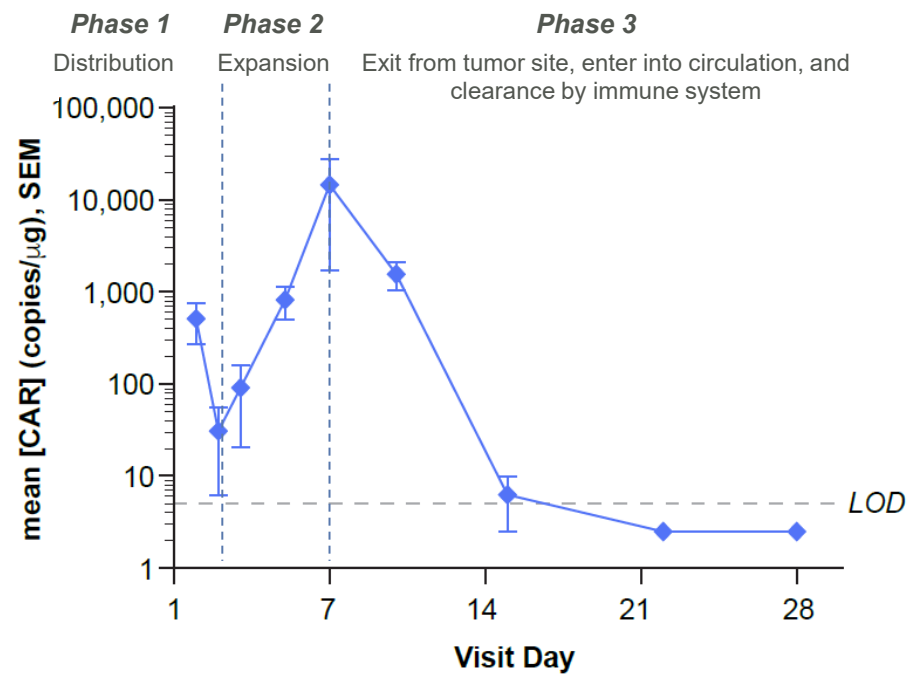


DL, dose level

Time since First CTX130 Infusion (months)

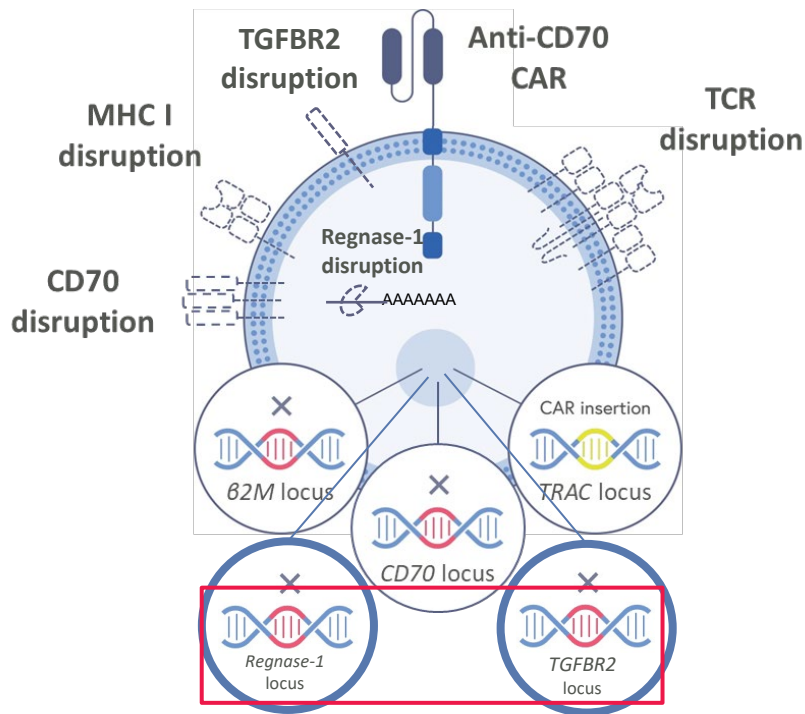
Pharmacokinetics

CTX130 was detected after infusion then redistributed and declined to a nadir in most patients around Day 2 to Day 3 after infusion. This was followed by rapid expansion with peak concentration Day 7 to Day 15. CTX130 cells then subsequently declined and were no longer detected by Day 28

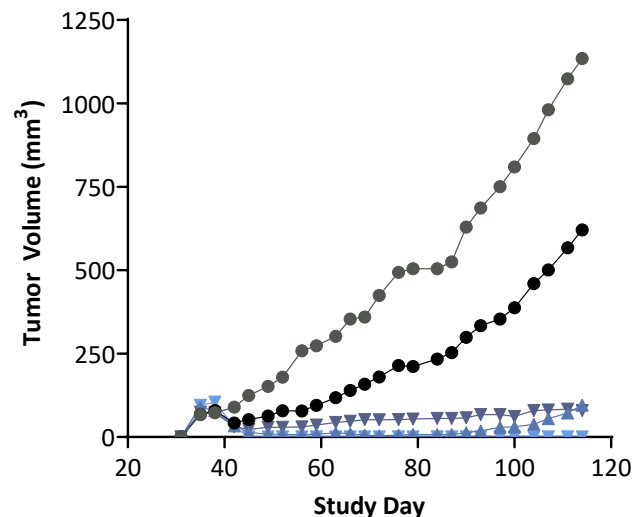


N=4 DL4 subjects, first infusions only

Preclinical efficacy of CTX131™: a next-generation CAR T with additional potency edits



CTX131 eliminates tumors in tumor rechallenge with ACHN (RCC)



- Untreated
- CTX130
- ▼ CTX130 + TGFBR2 KO
- ▲ CTX130 + Regnase-1 KO
- ▼ CTX131

Study Design for CTX131

Phase 1 Dose finding

Part A
Dose escalation

Part B
Dose optimization in
disease-specific cohorts

Cohort 1
ccRCC

ccRCC

Cohort 2

CC

CC

EC

EC

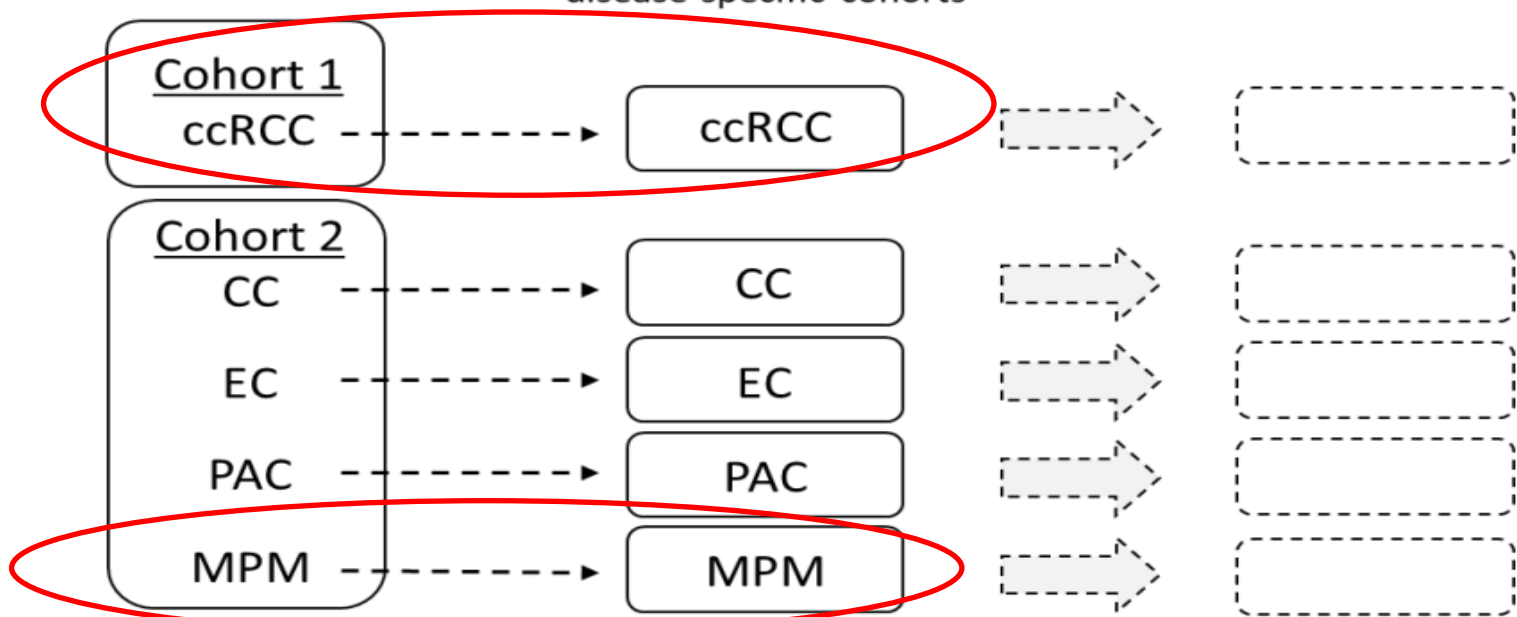
PAC

PAC

MPM

MPM

Phase 2
Expansion of
any selected
Phase 1 cohort

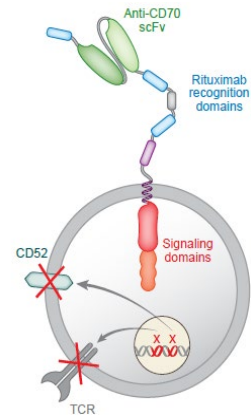
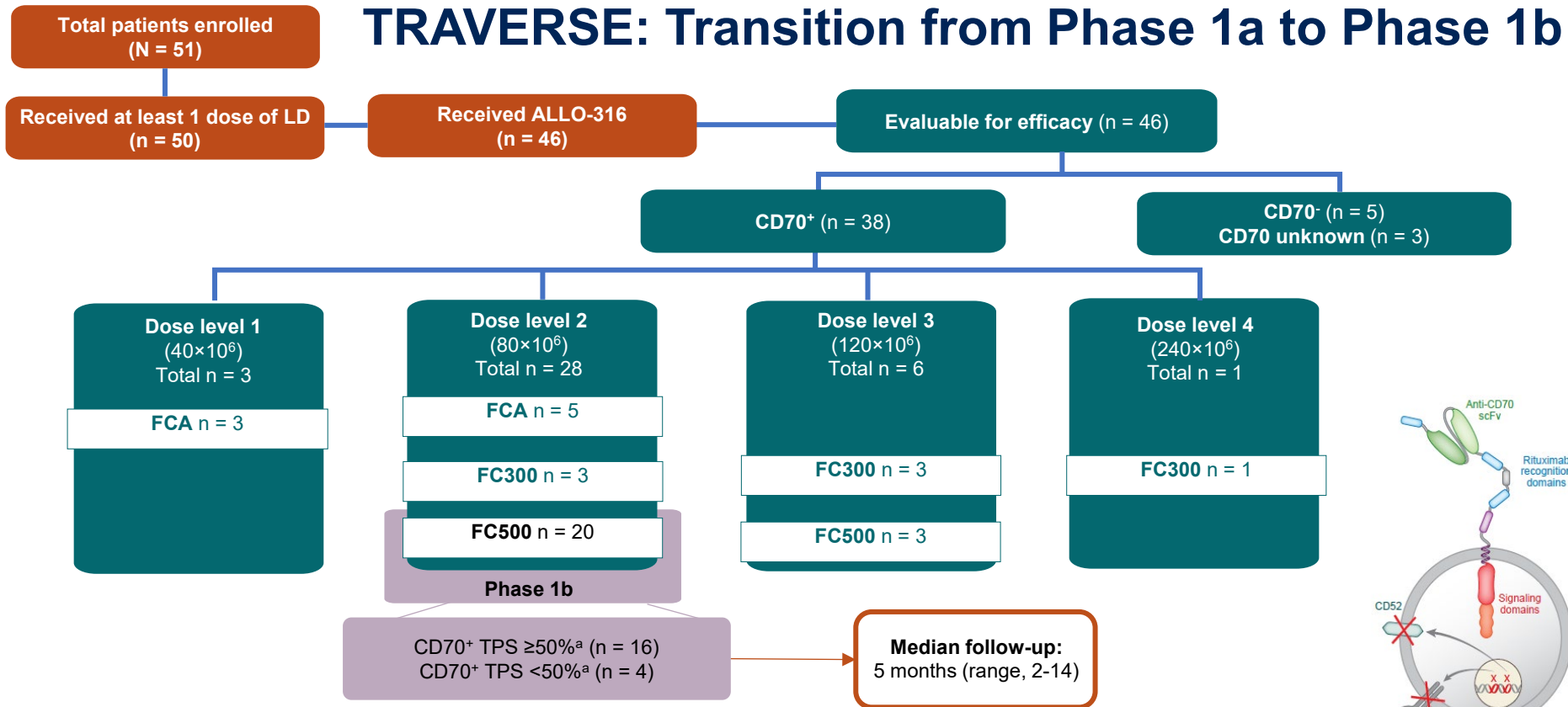


ALLO-316 in Advanced Clear Cell Renal Cell Carcinoma: Updated Results From the Phase 1 TRAVERSE Study

Samer A. Srour¹; Jad Chahoud²; Alexandra Drakaki³; Brendan D. Curti⁴; Geoffrey T. Gibney⁵; Sumanta Pal⁶; Lily Tang⁷; Sara Charmsaz⁷; Joy Atwell⁷; Paul B. Robbins⁷; Chelsea Williams⁷; Srinivas Ghatta⁷; Christopher J. Severyn⁷; John Le Gall⁷; Nizar M. Tannir⁸; Ritesh R. Kotecha⁹

¹Department of Stem Cell Transplantation and Cellular Therapy, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX, USA; ²Moffitt Cancer Center, Tampa, FL, USA; ³UCLA Health, Los Angeles, CA, USA; ⁴Providence Cancer Institute, Franz Clinic, Portland, OR, USA; ⁵Georgetown University Hospital, Washington, DC, USA; ⁶City of Hope Comprehensive Cancer Center, Duarte, CA, USA; ⁷Allogene Therapeutics, San Francisco, CA, USA; ⁸Department of Genitourinary Medical Oncology, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX, USA; ⁹Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, NY, USA

TRAVERSE: Transition from Phase 1a to Phase 1b



FCA, fludarabine, cyclophosphamide, and ALLO-647 (an anti-CD52 monoclonal antibody)

FC300, fludarabine 30 mg/m² and cyclophosphamide 300 mg/m²

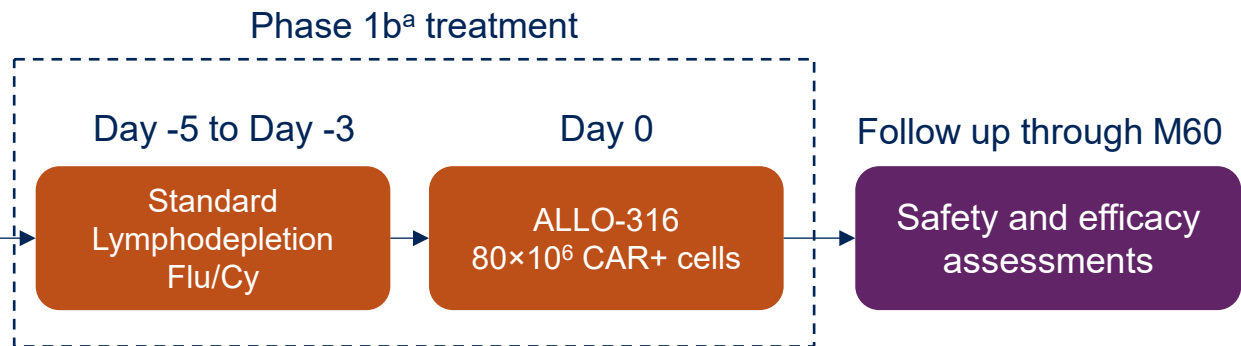
FC500, fludarabine 30 mg/m² and cyclophosphamide 500 mg/m²

^aIHC-based CD70 expression.
LD, lymphodepletion; TPS, Tumor Proportion Score.

TRAVERSE Phase 1b Study Design (NCT04696731)

Key Eligibility Criteria

- Aged ≥ 18 years with advanced or metastatic ccRCC
- Disease progression after PD-1 axis and VEGF targeted therapies
- CD70 positive by IHC on archival or fresh tumor tissue
- ECOG 0-1
- Adequate pulmonary, cardiac, renal, hepatic, and hematologic function



Phase 1b Endpoints

- Primary
 - TEAEs
- Secondary
 - ORR, CRR, DOR, TTR, PFS, OS, CAR T expansion kinetics

^aPhase 1a evaluated escalating doses of both ALLO-316 and various lymphodepletion regimens in a 3+3 design.

CAR, chimeric antigen receptor; ccRCC, clear cell renal cell carcinoma; CRR, complete response rate; DOR, duration of response; ECOG, Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group; Flu/Cy, fludarabine 30 mg/m² and cyclophosphamide 500 mg/m² daily for 3 days; IHC, immunohistochemistry; M, month; ORR, objective response rate; OS, overall survival; PD-1, programmed cell death protein 1; PFS, progression-free survival; TEAE, treatment-emergent adverse events; TTR, time to response; VEGF, vascular endothelial growth factor.

All Patients Had Multiple Treatment-Refractory Advanced or Metastatic ccRCC

Phase 1b patients received a median of 4 prior lines of therapy: 59% had received 3+ prior TKIs, 41% had received belzutifan, and 32% were quadruple class refractory to inhibition of the CTLA-4, PD-(L)1, TKI, and HIF-2 α pathways

Demographics and Disease Characteristics	Phase 1b n = 22 ^a	All patients N = 50
Age, median (range), years	56 (35-67)	60 (35-70)
Male sex, n (%)	20 (91)	44 (88)
ECOG PS 0, n (%)	10 (45)	27 (54)
Disease stage IV, n (%)	22 (100)	50 (100)
Prior nephrectomy, n (%)	22 (100)	45 (90)
IMDC risk at screening, n (%)		
Favorable	8 (36)	19 (38)
Intermediate	14 (64)	27 (54)
Poor	0	3 (6)
Not available	0	1 (2)
Treatment timing	Phase 1b n = 22 ^a	All patients N = 50
Time from enrollment to treatment, median (range), days	4 (1-15)	4 (1-15)

Prior Treatment	Phase 1b n = 22 ^a	All patients N = 50
Lines of prior therapy, median (range)	4 (1-11)	4 (1-11)
Prior therapies, n (%)		
Anti-PD-(L)1 therapy	22 (100)	50 (100)
Anti-CTLA-4 therapy	12 (55)	31 (62)
Cabozantinib	18 (82)	39 (78)
≥ 2 TKIs	18 (82)	32 (64)
≥ 3 TKIs	13 (59)	17 (34)
mTOR inhibitor	15 (68)	20 (40)
Belzutifan	9 (41)	10 (20)
Received CTLA-4 inhibitor, PD-(L)1 inhibitor, TKI, and HIF-2 α inhibitor	7 (32)	8 (16)

^aIncludes 2 patients who received LD but did not receive ALLO-316.

ccRCC, clear cell renal cell carcinoma; CTLA-4, cytotoxic T-lymphocyte associated protein 4; ECOG, Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group; HIF-2 α , hypoxia-inducible factor 2 α ; IMDC, International Metastatic RCC Database Consortium; LD, lymphodepletion; PD-1, programmed cell death protein 1; TKI, tyrosine kinase inhibitor. Data cutoff: 02-May-2025

Adverse Event Profile Consistent With Lymphodepletion and an Active CAR T Therapy

TEAEs ≥20% incidence in Phase 1b, n (%)	Phase 1b n = 22 ^a		All patients N = 50	
	All Grades	Grade ≥3	All Grades	Grade ≥3
Neutropenia	15 (68)	15 (68)	30 (60)	28 (56)
WBC decreased	15 (68)	15 (68)	28 (56)	26 (52)
Anemia	13 (59)	9 (41)	26 (52)	17 (34)
Thrombocytopenia	12 (55)	6 (27)	23 (46)	13 (26)
Nausea	8 (36)	0	25 (50)	0
ALT increased	7 (32)	2 (9)	16 (32)	7 (14)
Peripheral edema	7 (32)	0	17 (34)	0
Pyrexia	7 (32)	0	19 (38)	1 (2)
Arthralgia	6 (27)	0	13 (26)	0
AST increased	6 (27)	2 (9)	15 (30)	7 (14)
Fatigue	5 (23)	0	26 (52)	1 (2)
Headache	5 (23)	0	16 (32)	0

AEs of Special Interest, n (%)	Phase 1b n = 22 ^a		All patients N = 50	
	All Grades	Grade ≥3	All Grades	Grade ≥3
CRS	15 (68)	0	31 (62)	1 (2)
Infection	10 (45)	8 (36)	29 (58)	18 (36)
IEC-HS	8 (36)	2 (9) ^b	12 (24)	3 (6)
ICANS	4 (18)	0	4 (8)	0
GVHD	0	0	0	0

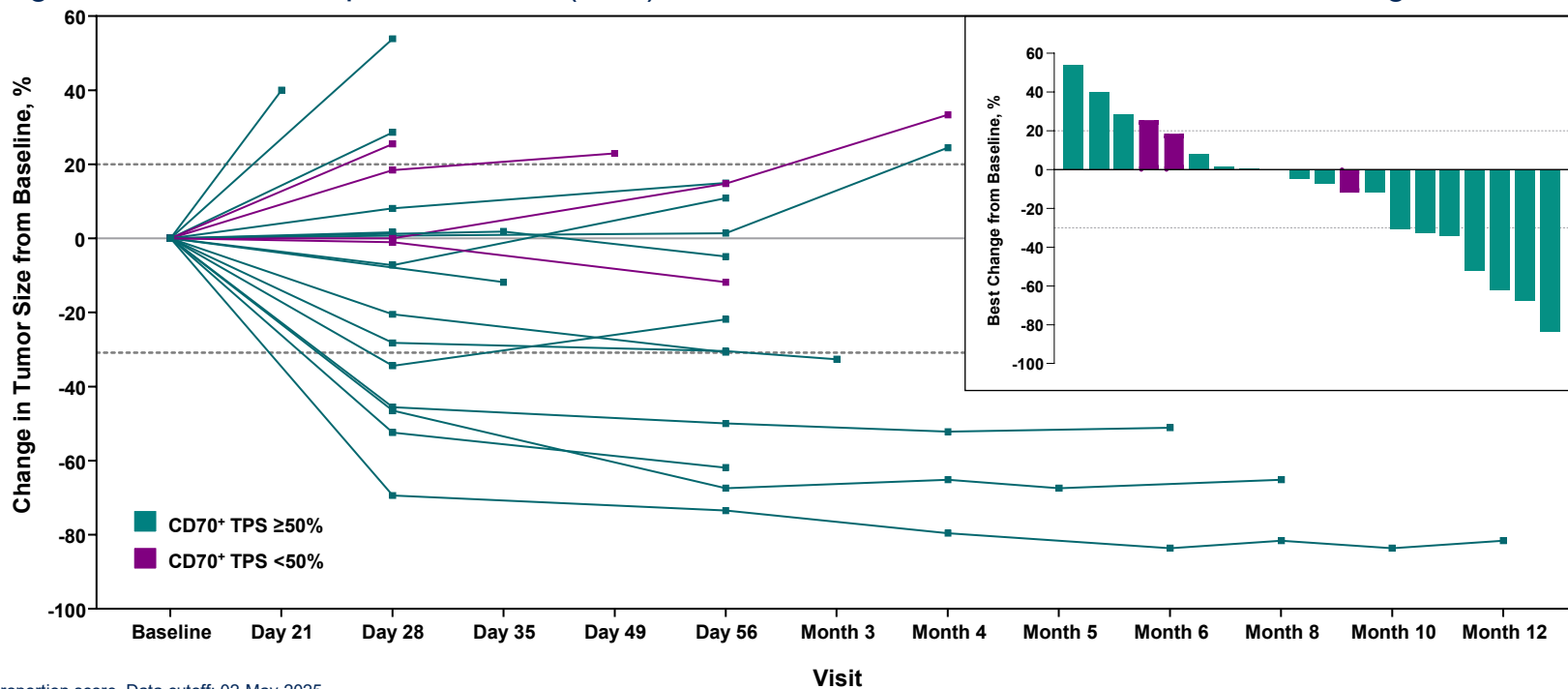
- Any-grade TEAEs occurred in 100% of Phase 1b patients, including:
 - Majority of grade ≥3 TEAEs were hematologic events
 - No treatment related grade 5 AEs

^aIncludes 2 patients who received LD but did not receive ALLO-316. ^bOne patient experienced G4 IEC-HS based on GI bleeding with subsequent improvement and 1 patient experienced G3 IEC-HS based on hypotension managed without pressors with subsequent improvement. There were no grade 5 events of IEC-HS.

AE, adverse event; ALT, alanine aminotransferase; AST, aspartate aminotransferase; CAR, chimeric antigen receptor; CRS, cytokine release syndrome; GVHD, graft versus host disease; ICANS, immune effector cell-associated neurotoxicity syndrome; IEC-HS, immune effector cell-associated hemophagocytic lymphohistiocytosis-like syndrome; LD, lymphodepletion; TEAE, treatment-emergent adverse event; WBC, white blood cell. Data cutoff: 02-May-2025

Tumor Responses Occur Early and Are Sustained Following a Single Infusion of ALLO-316

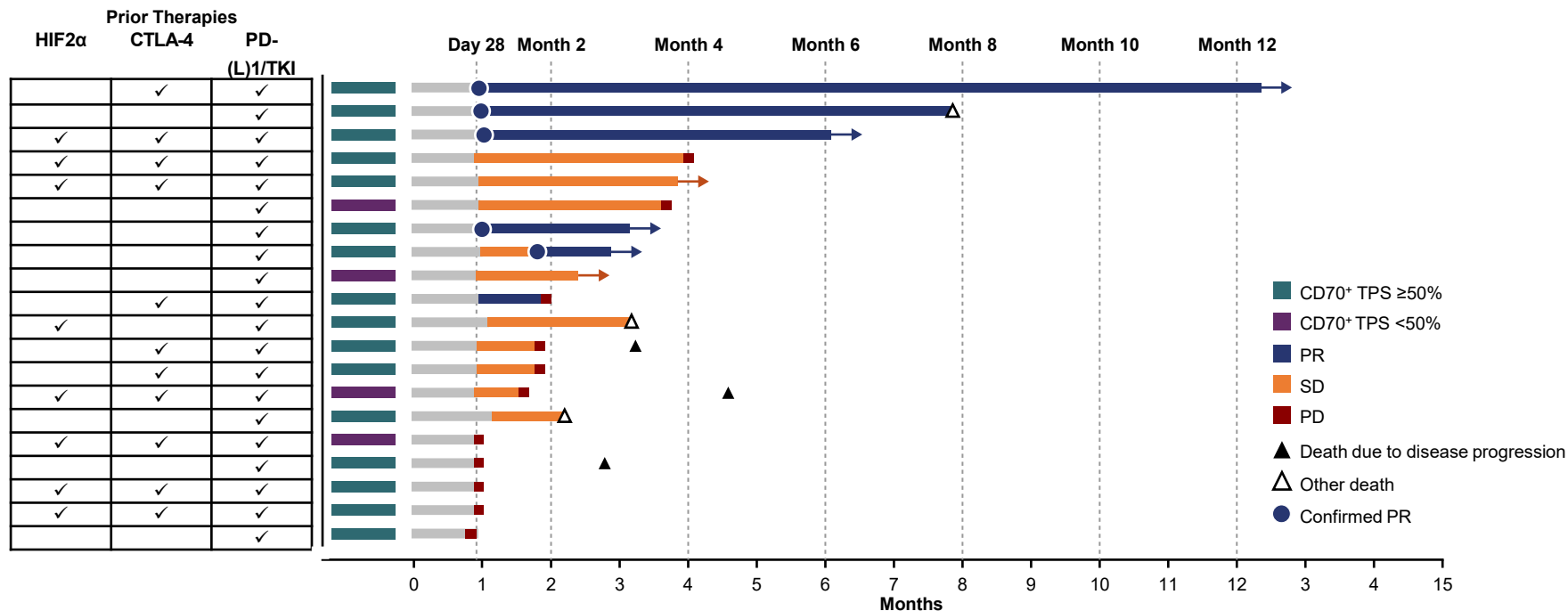
Among CD70⁺ TPS ≥50% patients, 44% (7/16) had >30% reduction in diameter of baseline target lesions



TPS, tumor proportion score. Data cutoff: 02-May-2025

High Response Rate and Ongoing Remissions

Out of 5 confirmed responders, 4 have an ongoing response; 1 has reached the 1 year mark post-ALLO-316



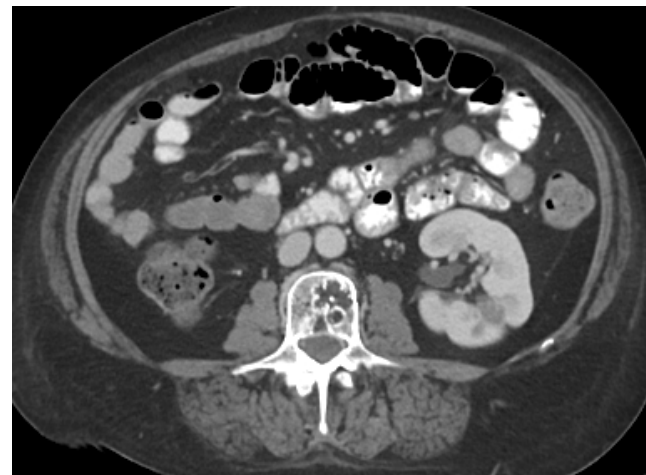
CTLA-4, cytotoxic T-lymphocyte associated protein 4; HIF-2α, hypoxia-inducible factor 2α; PD, progressive disease; PD-(L)1, programmed cell death protein/ligand 1; PR, partial response; SD, stable disease; TKI, tyrosine kinase inhibitor; TPS, tumor proportion score. Data cutoff: 02-May-2025

Regression of Contralateral Kidney Metastasis Following a Single Dose of ALLO-316

Baseline

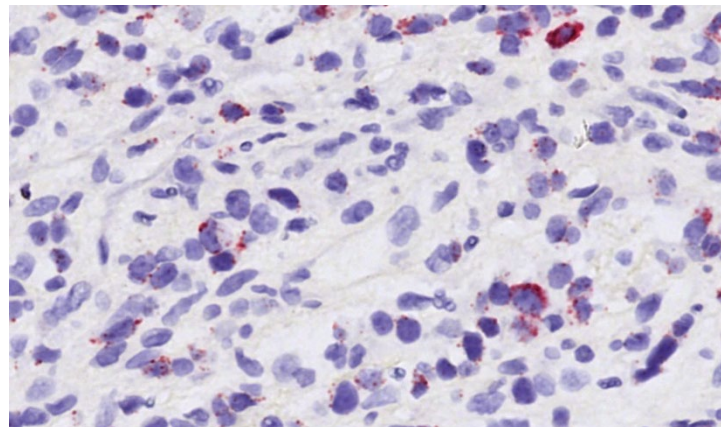
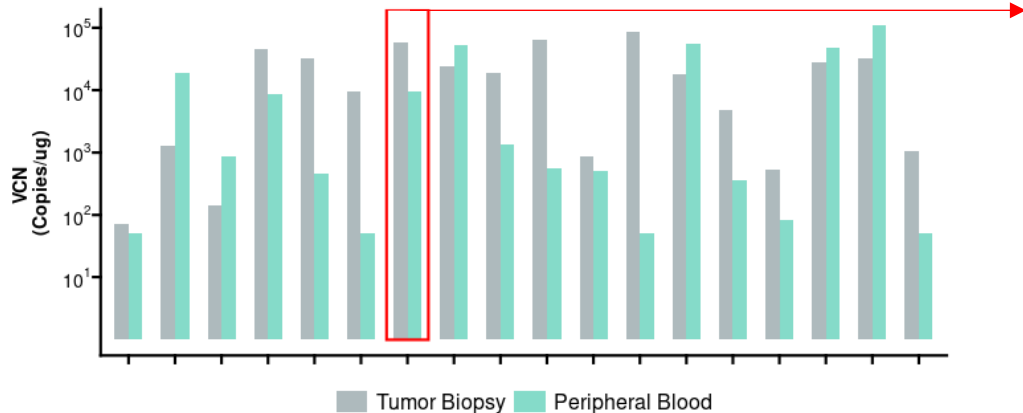


After 1 month



Marked Tumor Infiltration by ALLO-316 Seen in Paired Tumor/Blood Samples

Day 7-10 Tumor Biopsy and Peripheral Blood



CAR Vector Copy Number (VCN) by PCR

CAR T cell chromogenic RNA *in situ* hybridization

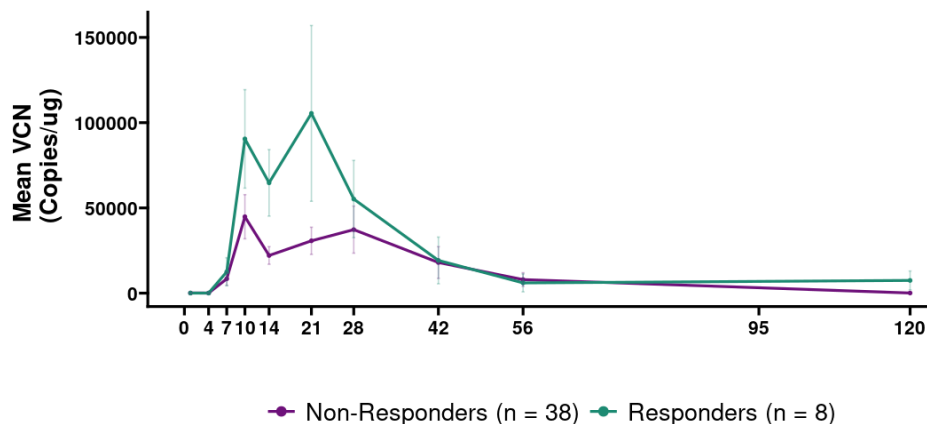
- Homing and infiltration of ALLO-316 CAR T cells into tumor was demonstrated by two independent methods: VCN (PCR) and chromogenic RNA *in situ* hybridization assay using a probe against CAR transcripts
- The high VCN levels observed in the tumor samples demonstrated the extensive infiltration of ALLO-316

CAR, chimeric antigen receptor; PCR, polymerase chain reaction; RNA, ribonucleic acid. Data cutoff: 02-May-2025

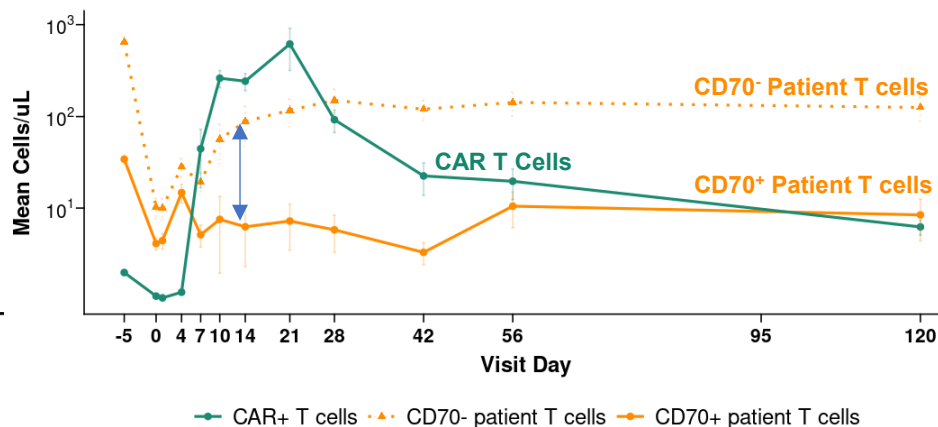
Responders Had Robust Expansion and Persistence of CAR T Cells

CD70⁻ patient T cells quickly rebounded while CD70⁺ patient T cells remained low until ALLO-316 CAR T contraction (Dagger® Effect)

VCN Over Time by Best Overall Response



CD70⁺ Host T Cells are eliminated by ALLO-316



CAR, chimeric antigen receptor; VCN, vector copy number. Data cutoff: 02-May-2025

Thyroid Cancer and ICAM-1

AACR

American Association
for Cancer Research®

**ANNUAL
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2025 CHICAGO**



APRIL 25-30

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ICAM-1 directed chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) T-Cells (AIC100) in patients with advanced thyroid cancers: Clinical and translational data from the phase 1 study

Samer A. Srour, MD¹, Jochen H. Lorch², Mark E. Zafereo¹, Victoria Meucci Villaflor³, Yan Xing,³ , Sonal Gupta⁴, Mimi I-Nan Hu¹, Ramona Dadu¹, Adam Lin², Yang Lu¹, Melissa Cushing⁵, Scott Vecilla⁵, Theresa Scognamiglio⁵, Moonsoo Jin⁶, Janusz Puc⁴, Tripti Gaur⁴, Stacey Ukrainskyj⁴, Sebastian Alexander Mayer⁵, Koen Van Besien⁷, Maria E. Cabanillas¹

¹The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX; ²Northwestern University, Chicago, IL; ³City of Hope National Medical Center, Duarte, CA; ⁴AffyImmune Therapeutics, Natick, MA; ⁵Weill Cornell Medical College, New York, NY; ⁶Houston Methodist, Houston, TX;

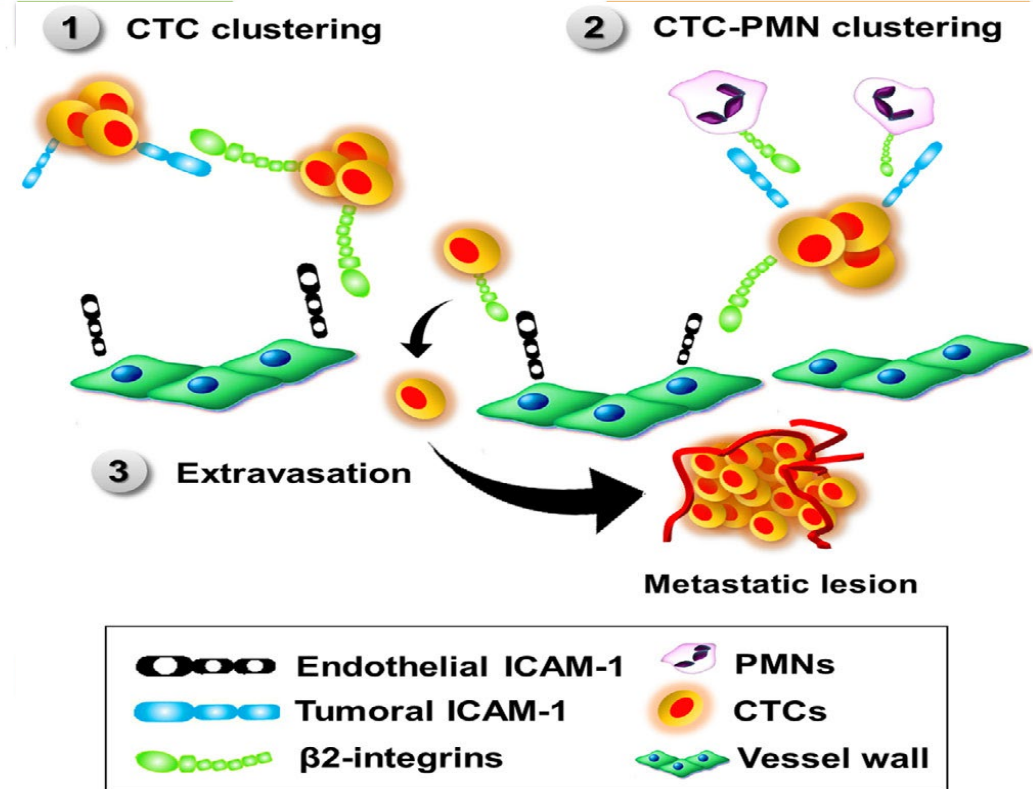
⁷UH Seidman Cancer Center, Cleveland, OH



Background

ICAM-1 function in tissue homeostasis and disease

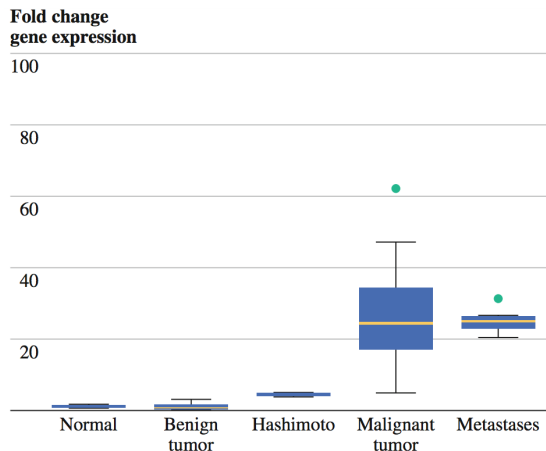
- Is a member of the immunoglobulin superfamily
- A cell surface glycoprotein and an adhesion receptor
- Upregulated by cytokines
- Overexpressed in several tumors



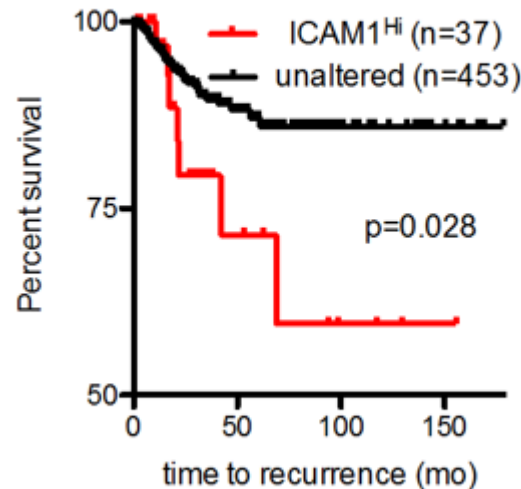
ICAM-1 as a Thyroid Cancer Target

- Highly expressed in ATC and PDTC
- Low levels in healthy tissues

ICAM-1 Expression in Human Thyroid Samples



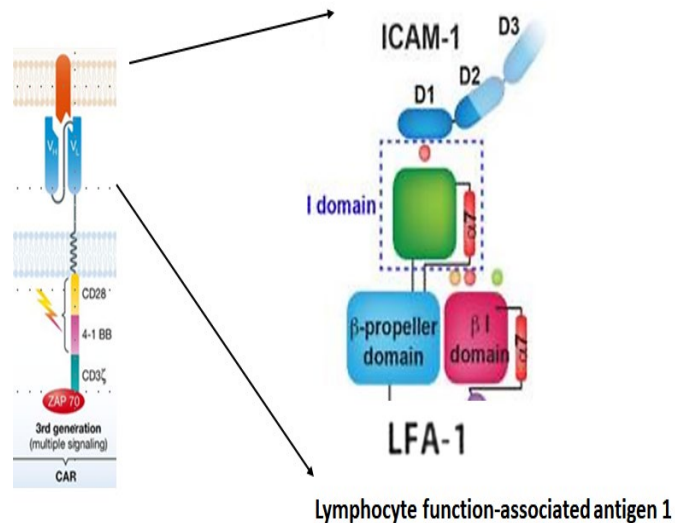
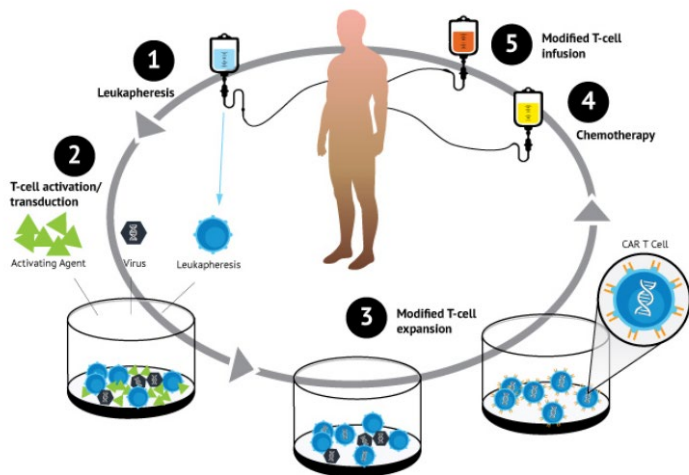
ICAM-1 Associated with Poor Prognosis



Buitrago et al. *Ann Surg Oncol.* 19:973–980, 2012

AIC100 – An Autologous CAR T-Cell Product Targeting ICAM-1

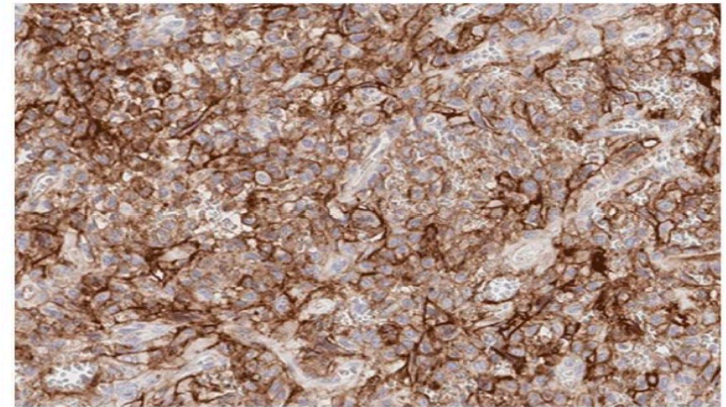
Autologous CAR T Therapy



Baseline Patient and Disease Characteristics

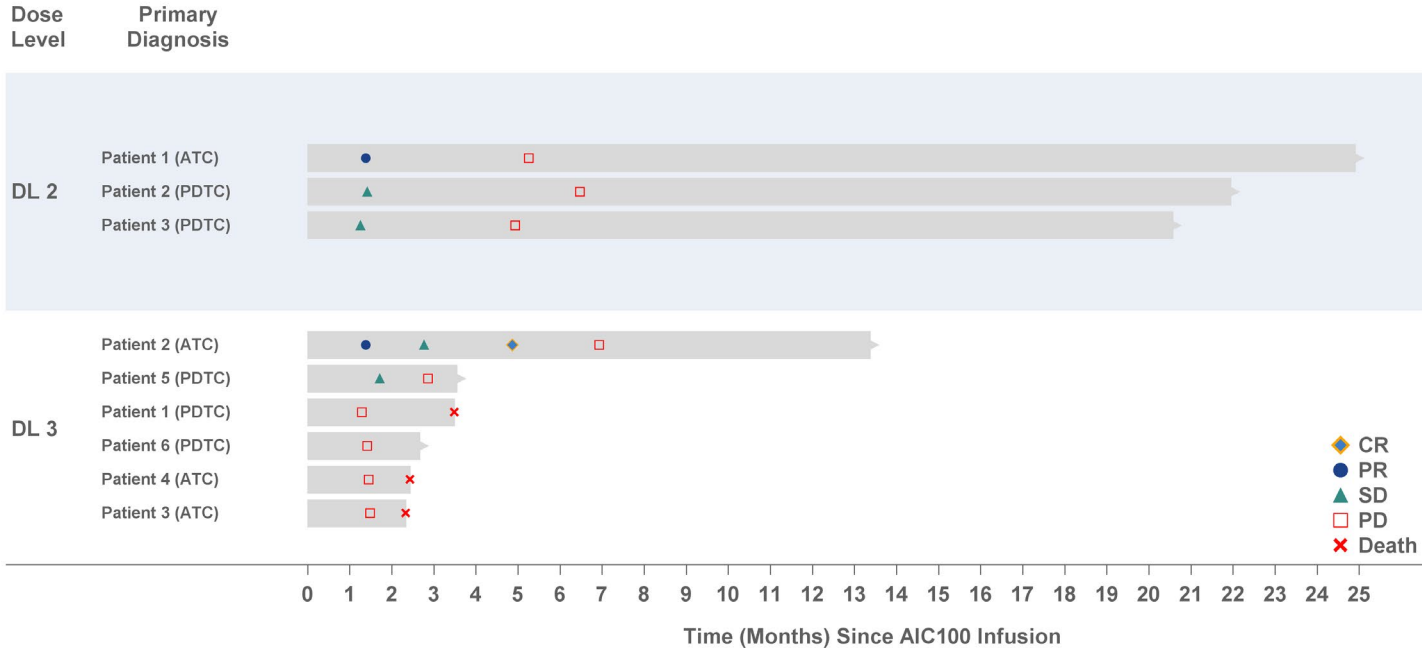
Characteristic	All Patients (N=15)
Median age (range), years	59 (47, 69)
Gender: male/female (%)	11/4 (73/27)
ECOG PS: 0/1 (%)	5/10 (33/67)
Disease Histology, n (%)	
ATC	8 (53)
PDTC	7 (47)
Disease stage at screening, n (%)	
Stage III	1 (7)
Stage IV	14 (93)
Median lines of prior therapy (range)	2 (1-4)
• ATC	2 (1-4)
• PDTC	3 (1-3)
Median time since original diagnosis (range), months	
• ATC	18.7 (1, 114)
• PDTC	54.6 (39, 111)
BRAF Mutation Status for ATC patients, n=8 (%)	
• Mutated	4 (50%)
• Wild	4 (50%)
Median time from apheresis (enrollment) to LD in days (range)	
• ATC	29 (17-51)
• PDTC	40 (23-61)

- Prescreening by IHC testing (archived or fresh biopsy) for ICAM-1 was mandated at the start of the study
 - ✓ All patients (ATC and PDTC) tested positive for ICAM-1 at screening
 - ✓ Median ICAM-1 expression treated patients (n=15) was 35% (range, 7.5-80%)



Data cutoff: Dec 12, 2024

Duration of Response and Survival



Data cutoff: December 12th, 2024. , reflects investigator-reported survival for efficacy-evaluable patients; subsequent anticancer therapies not shown.

Case Presentation #1

- A 68 year-old female patient with metastatic ATC who failed multiple lines of therapy
- 80% ICAM-1 expression
- DL2, achieved PR
- DOTATATE PET activity correlated with CAR T-cell activity and tumor response

Transient DOTATATE PET-CT activity associated with AIC100 expansion and resolution with subsequent tumor regression

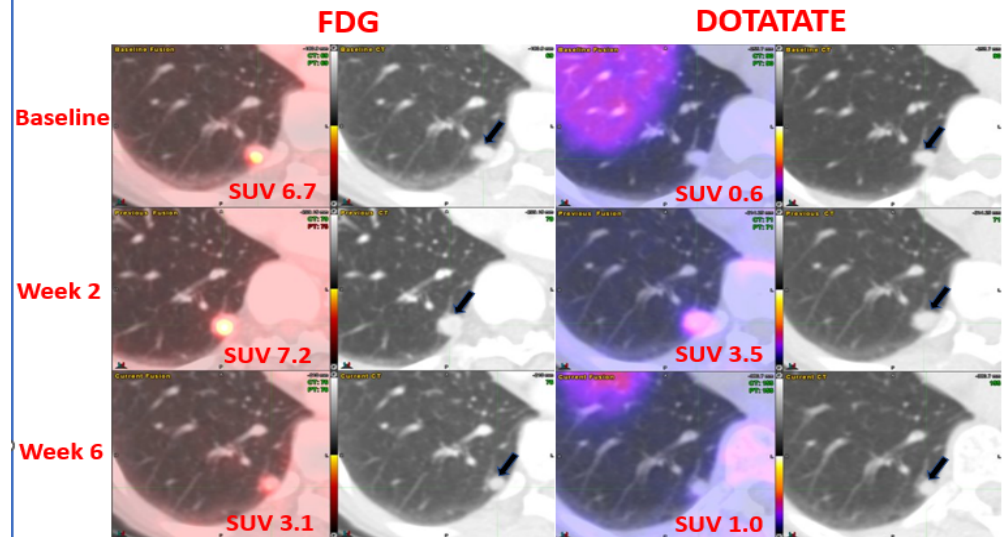


Figure 3 FDG and DOTATATE PET/CT imaging of patient #4. Scans are done 24 hour apart, FDG first followed by DOTATATE. One of the representative lesions is shown for illustration. At baseline, the lesion is FDG active but no DOTATATE activity. At 2 weeks, the lesion shows DOTATATE uptake consistent with CAR T-cell infiltration. At 6 weeks, DOTATATE activity subsided upon response with significant improvement in FDG activity

Case Presentation #2

- A 58 year-old male patient with metastatic ATC (PDTC with anaplastic features) who failed multiple lines of therapy
- 20% ICAM-1 expression
- DL3, achieved CR over time

FDG and Dotatate PET avidity associated with Complete Metabolic Response (CMR) and CAR T cell Trafficking into Tumor Lesion

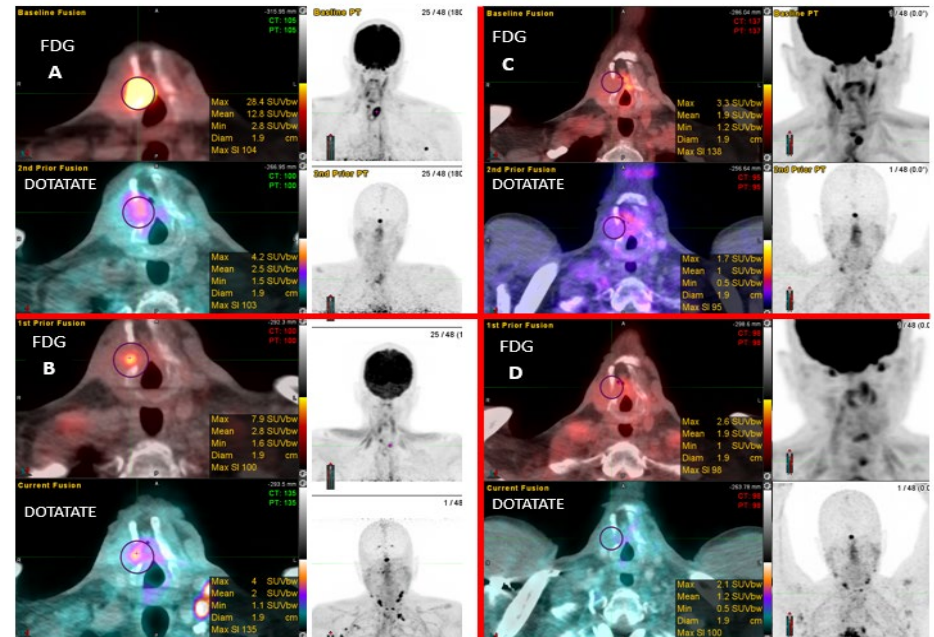
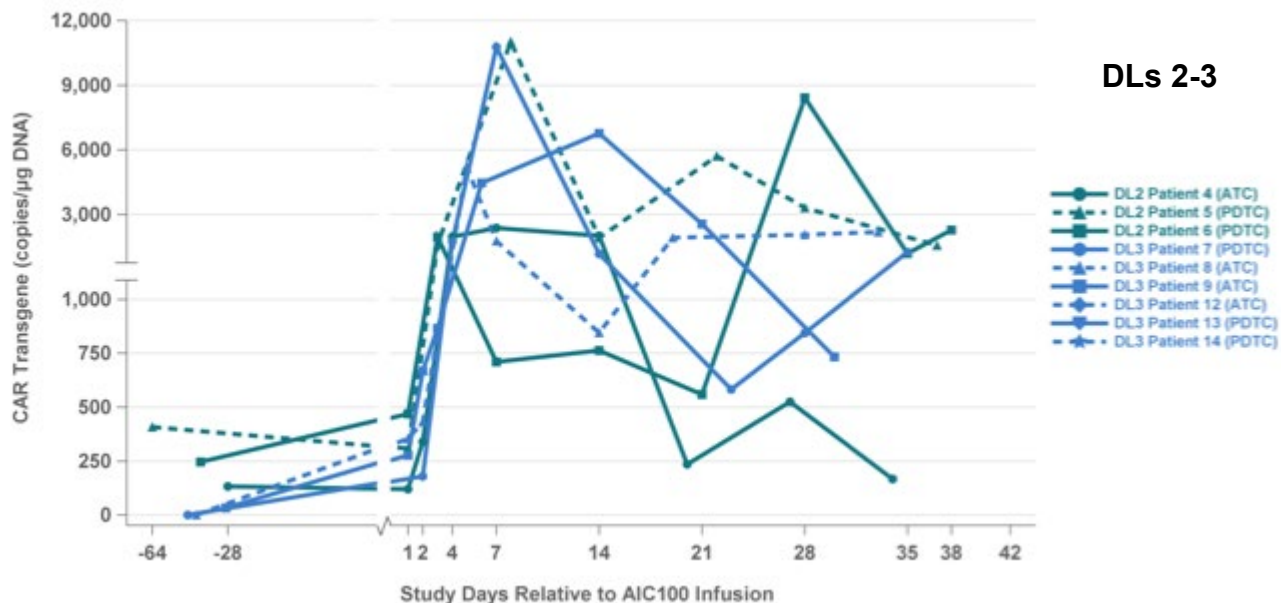


Figure 3 Baseline before infusion (A), and 2 weeks (B), 6 weeks (C) and 3 months (D) after AIC100

Peripheral blood CAR T-cell expansion by ddPCR was observed in all tested patients



Safety and Efficacy of HLA-G-Targeted CAR T Cells (IVS-3001) in Patients with Advanced HLA-G-Positive Solid Tumors: Clinical Trial in Progress

Samer A. Srour¹, Nizar Tannir², Amir Jazaeri³, Matthew Campbell², Yago Nieto¹, Cara Haymaker⁴, Ying Yuan⁵, Israa Salih⁶, Yali Yang⁶, Valerie Doppler⁸, Julie Garibal⁸, Marie Escande⁹, Qi Melissa Yang⁸, Jake A. Kushner⁸, Jane Koo⁷, Serdar Gurses⁸, David Hong⁸, Sijing Fu⁸, Funda Meric-Bernstam⁸, Aung Naing⁸

¹The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Department of Stem Cell Transplantation and Cellular Therapy; ²The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Department of Genitourinary Medical Oncology; ³The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Department of Gynecologic Oncology and Reproductive Medicine; ⁴The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Department of Translational Molecular Pathology; ⁵The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Department of Biostatistics; ⁶The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Department of Investigational Cancer Therapeutics; ⁷IMC; ⁸Invectys Inc.



PHASE 1 – Dose Escalation

Evaluate **safety and RP2D** in solid tumors



- Bayesian optimal interval (BOIN) design
- At least **3 patients per dose level**
- DLT evaluation period is **28 days**

1 de-escalation cohort (dose minus 1) in case of toxicity observed at the first dose level tested

Dose -1

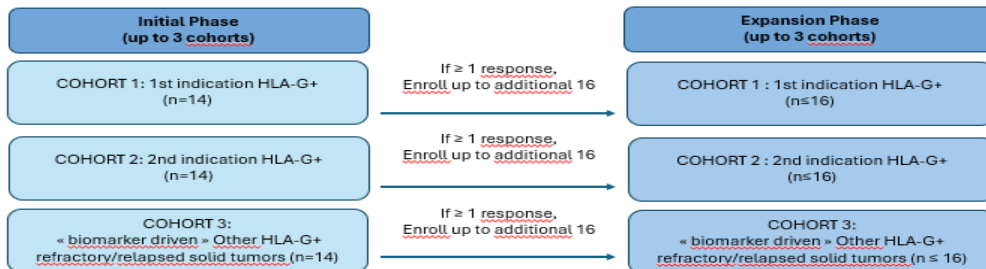


4 cohorts for dose escalation



PHASE 2a – Dose Expansion

Evaluate **clinical efficacy** at the RP2D on tumor shrinkage (ORR by RECIST 1.1)



If no responses among the first 14 subjects (within initial cohorts) are observed, no further subjects will be enrolled

Closing Remarks and Future Directions

- Immunotherapy has revolutionized the landscape of treatment options for solid tumors
 - ✓ Small proportion of patients achieve durable responses
- Cellular therapy for solid tumors is expanding in scope and complexity
 - ✓ Remarkable advances in more recent years
- Overcoming the challenges to advance the field
 - ✓ Identifying the right tumor specific antigen
 - ✓ Improve T-cell trafficking to overcome the hostile TME

Acknowledgements

- To all our patients and their wonderful caring families and caregivers!



Thank You

Questions & Discussion