

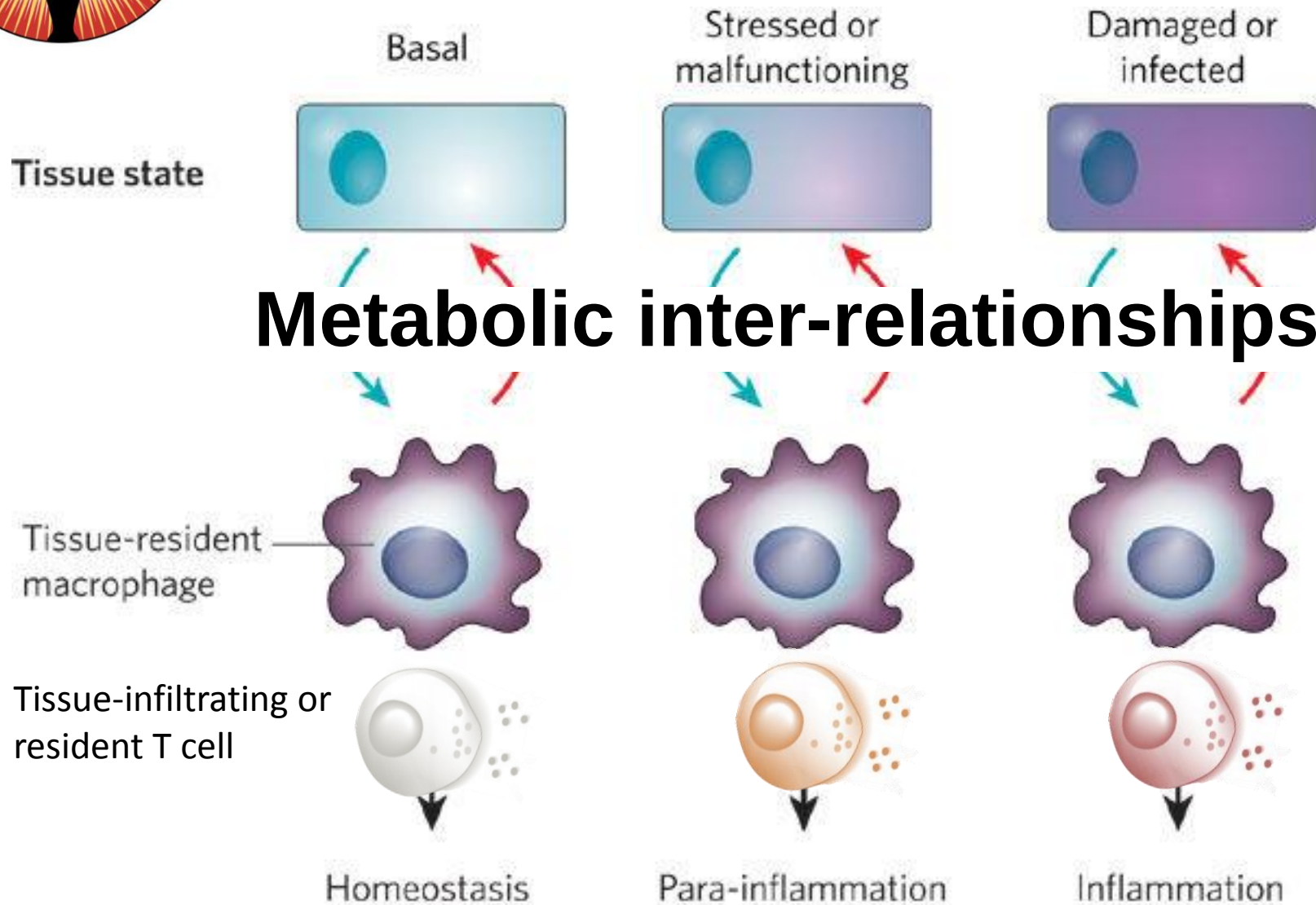
# Anti-tumor T cells: You are what you eat



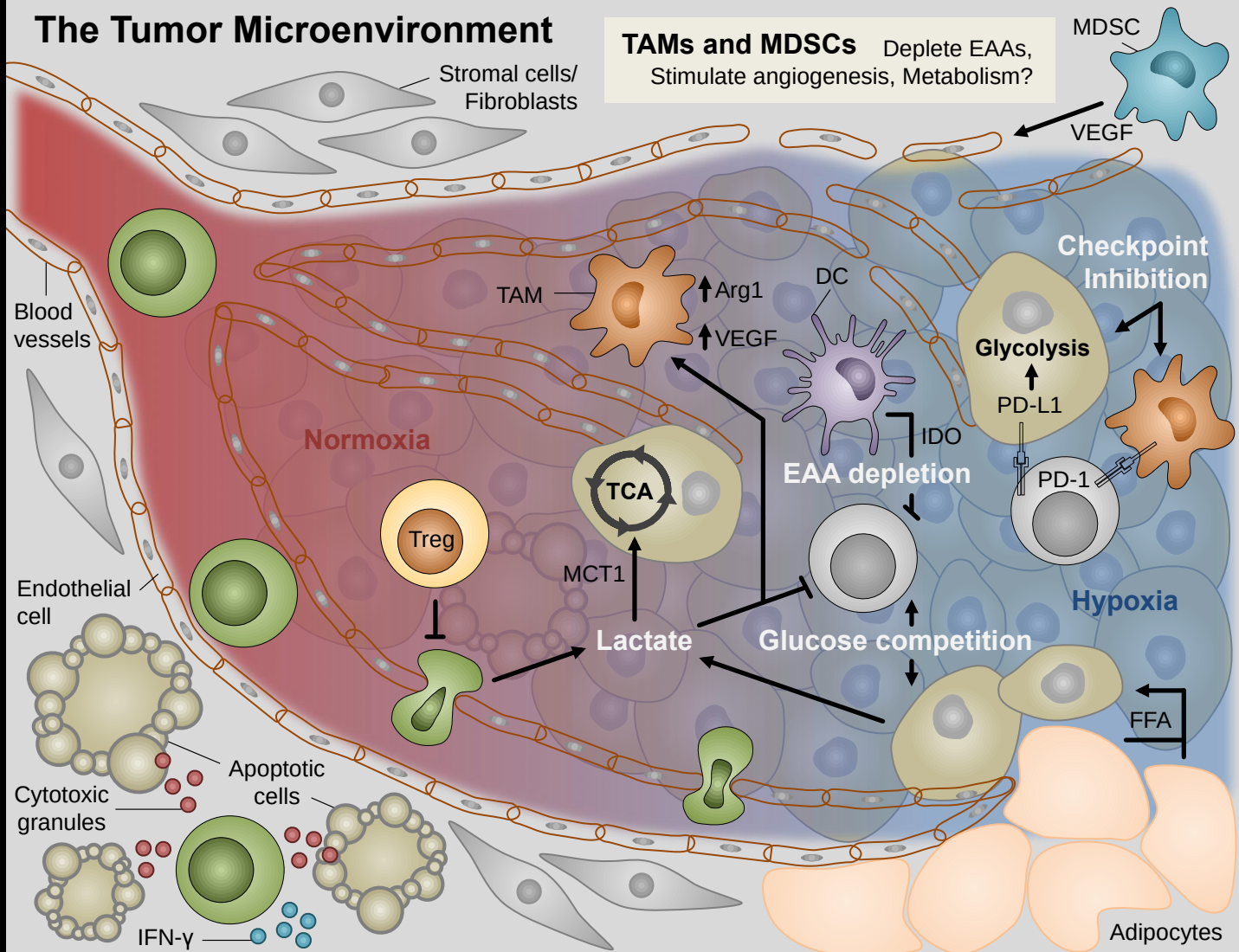
Susan Kaech  
Department of Immunobiology, Yale University  
Salk Institute



# Tissue Homeostasis and Dystasis



# The Tumor Microenvironment



## Activated T<sub>E</sub> cells

↑ Nutrient competency  
 mTOR, HIF-1 $\alpha$   
 Aerobic glycolysis  
 OXPHOS  
 IFN- $\gamma$ , cytotoxicity  
 Mitochondria  $\Psi_m$



## Exhausted/Hyporesponsive T cells

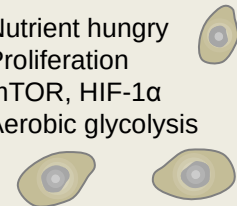
↓ Nutrient competency  
 mTOR, HIF-1 $\alpha$ ?  
 Aerobic glycolysis  
 OXPHOS  
 IFN- $\gamma$ , cytotoxicity  
 Mitochondria  $\Psi_m$

**Identification**  
 ↑ PD-1, TIM3, LAG3  
 TIGIT, CTLA-4



## Tumor cells

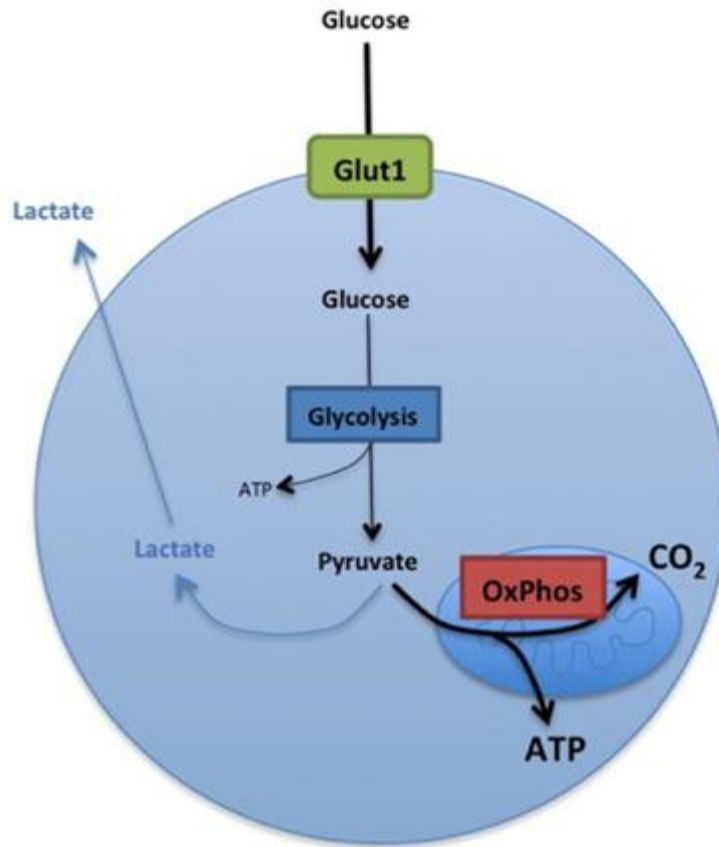
↑ Nutrient hungry  
 Proliferation  
 mTOR, HIF-1 $\alpha$   
 Aerobic glycolysis



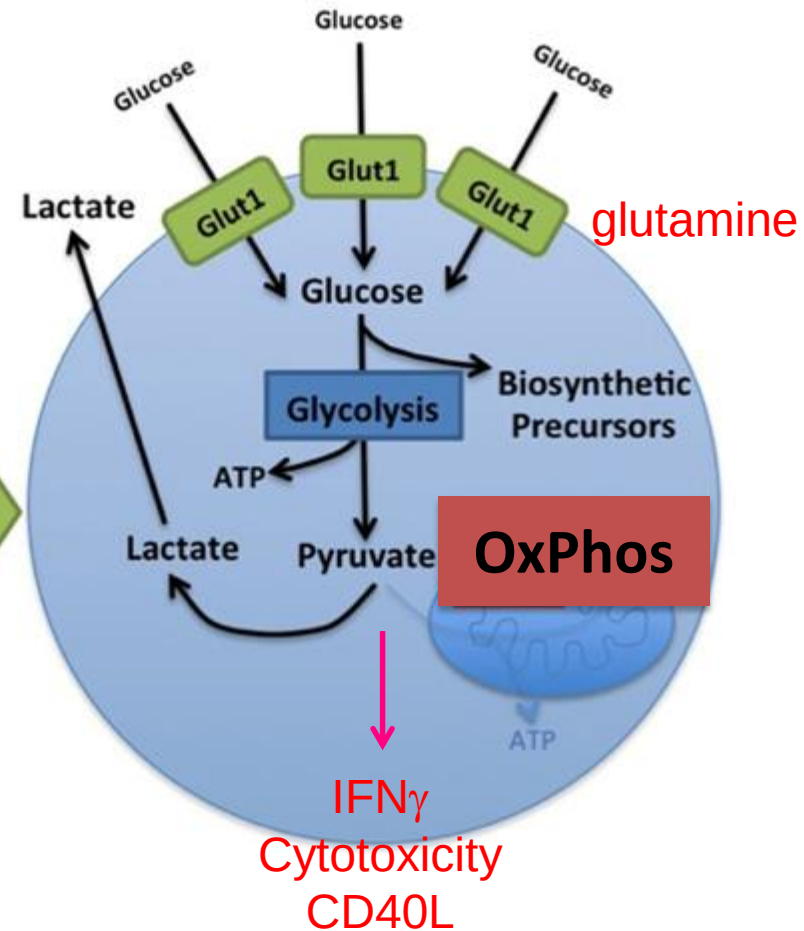
**Does metabolic adaptation  
contribute to  
T cell dysfunction  
in tumors?**

# Metabolic switch to aerobic glycolysis is essential for effector T cell development and function

## Naïve/Quiescent T cell



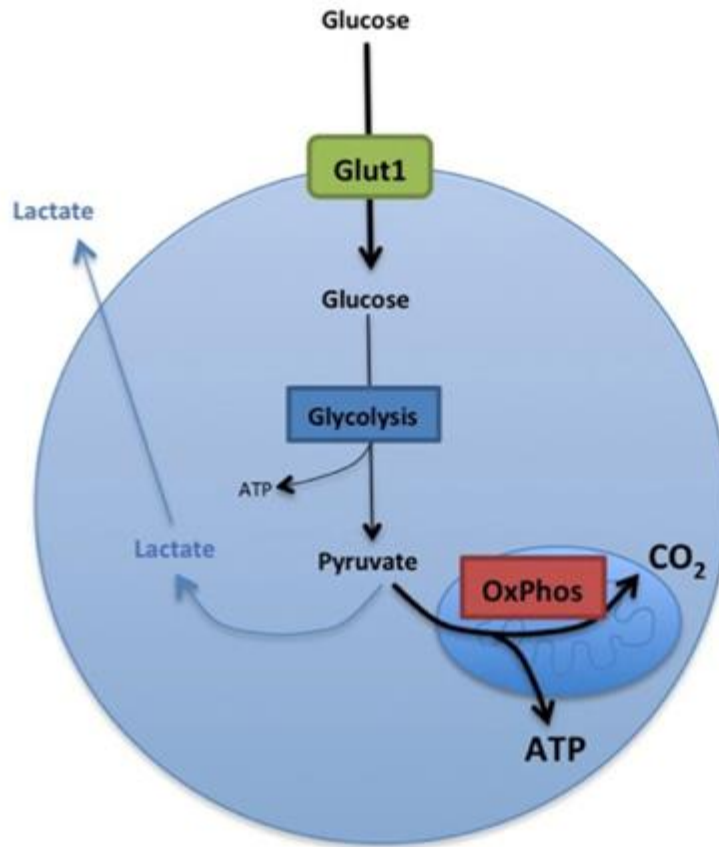
## Activated T cell



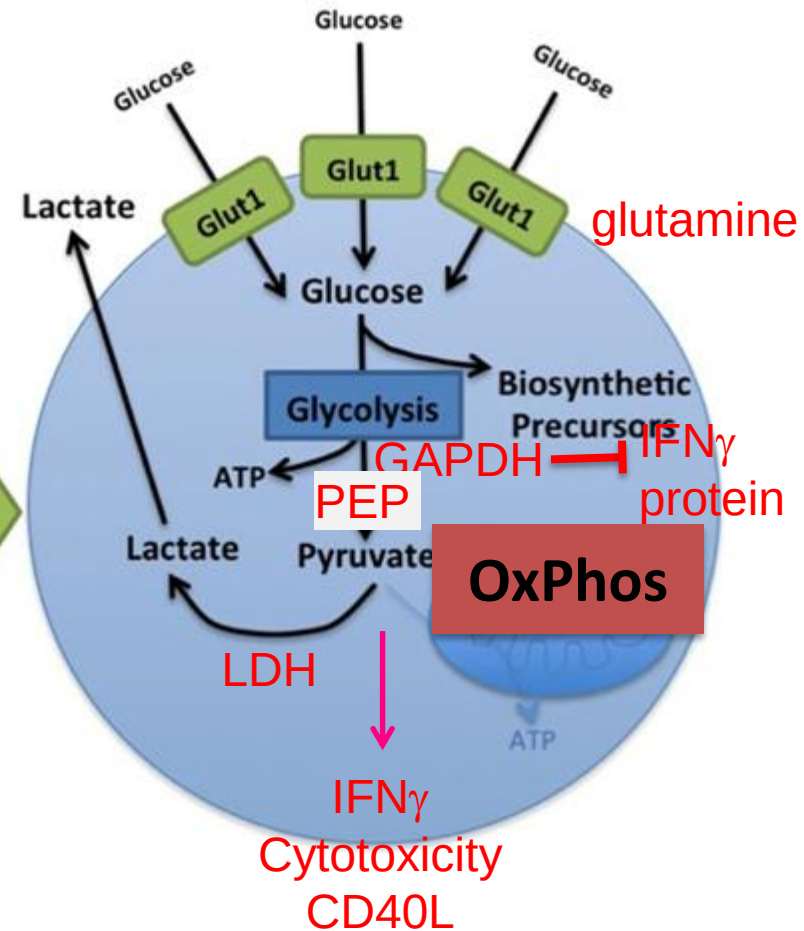


# Metabolic switch to aerobic glycolysis is essential for effector T cell development and function

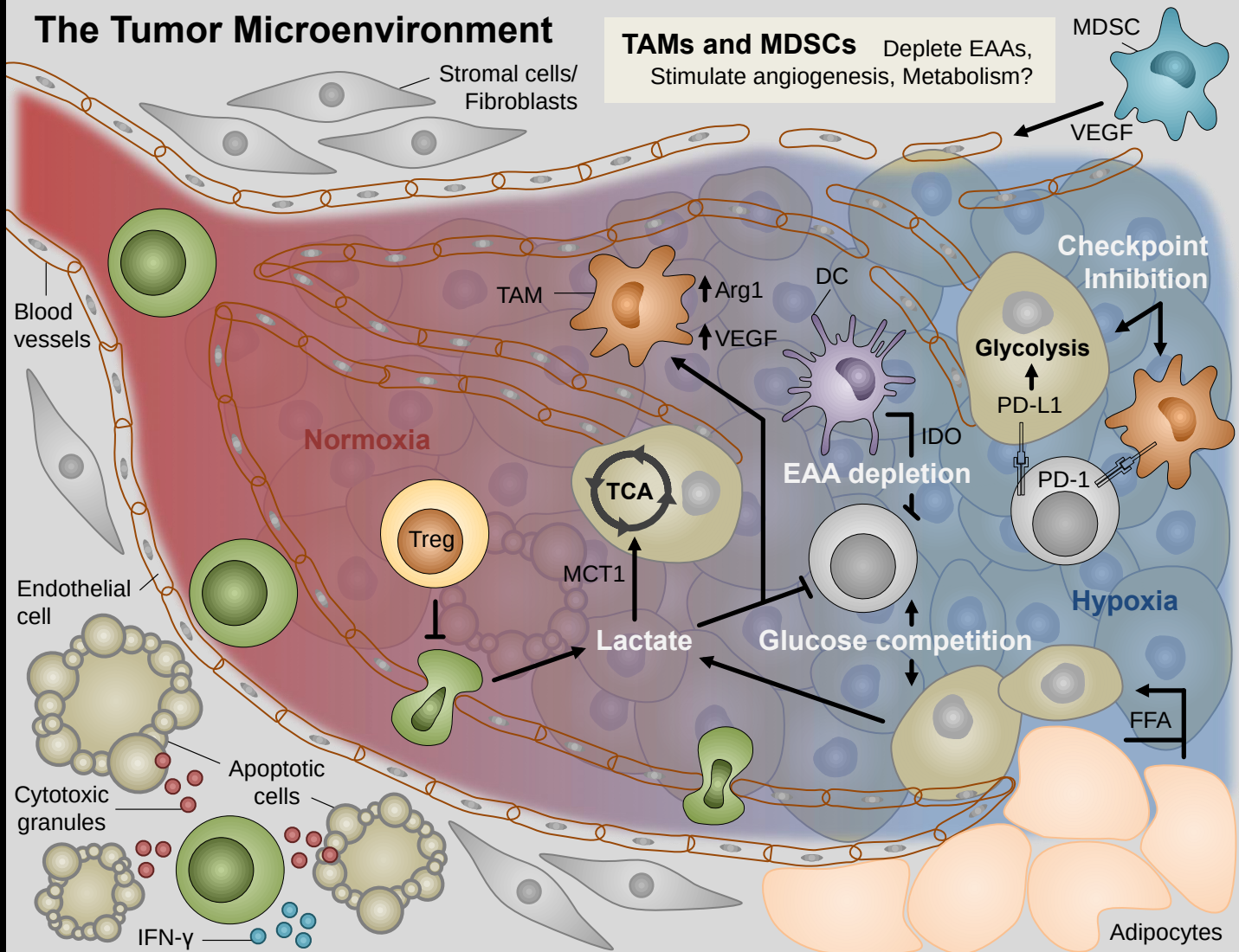
## Naïve/Quiescent T cell



## Activated T cell



# The Tumor Microenvironment



## Activated T<sub>E</sub> cells

↑ Nutrient competency  
 mTOR, HIF-1 $\alpha$   
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## Exhausted/Hyporesponsive T cells

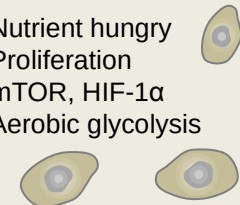
↓ Nutrient competency  
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 Aerobic glycolysis  
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## Tumor cells

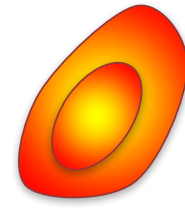
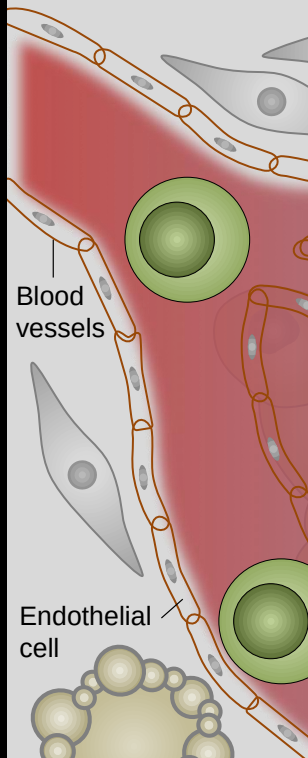
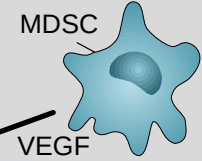
↑ Nutrient hungry  
 Proliferation  
 mTOR, HIF-1 $\alpha$   
 Aerobic glycolysis



# The Tumor Microenvironment

TAMs and MDSCs

Deplete EAAs,



Tumor cells



Activated T cells

## Metabolic features

Glucose uptake

Glycolysis

Pentose phosphate pathway

Glutamine metabolism

Fatty acid synthesis

Checkpoint Inhibition

colysis

D-L1

PD-1

Hypoxia

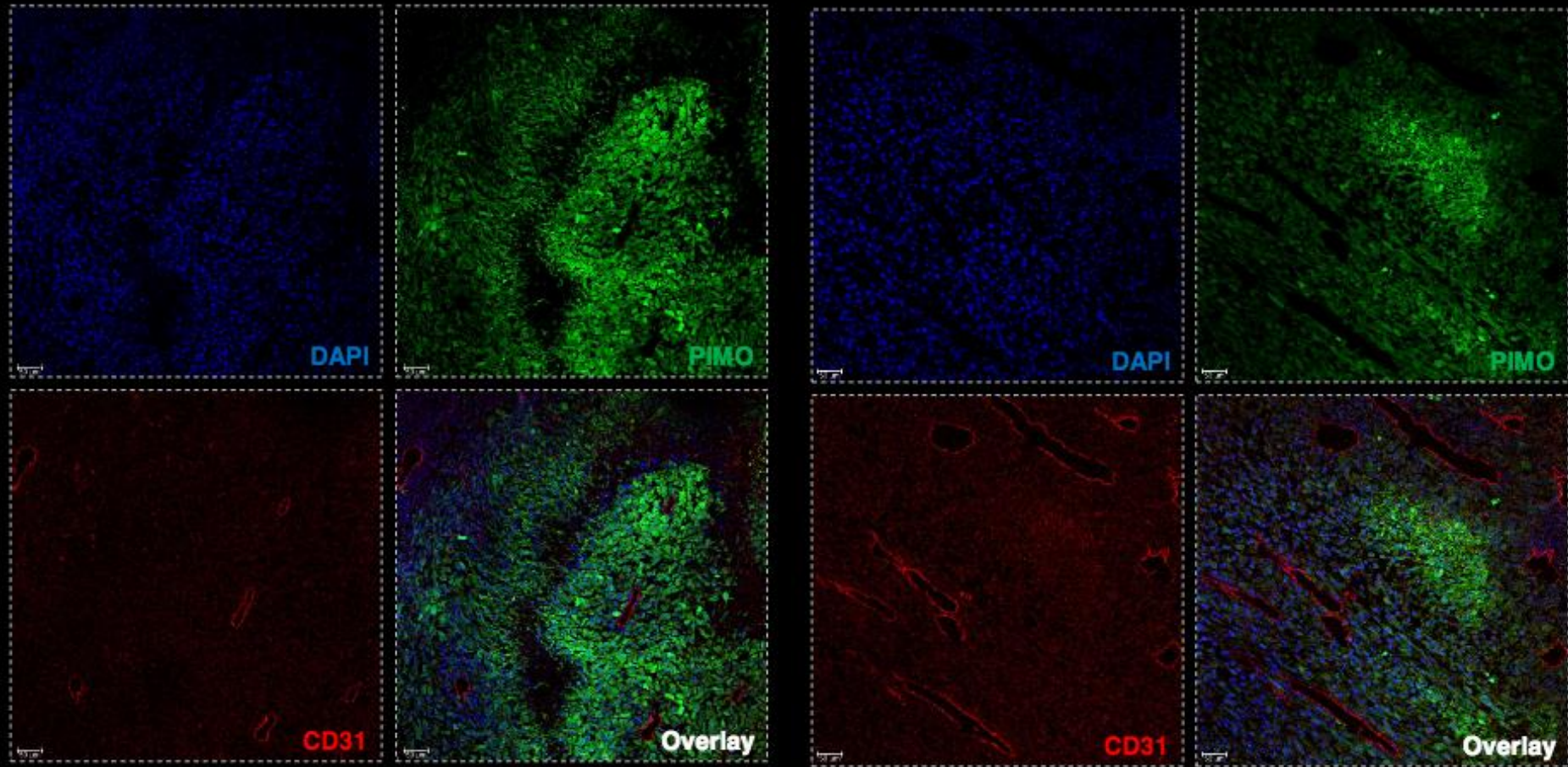
metabolic tug-of-war



- Increased tumor cell glycolysis enhances immunoevasion.
- Decreased tumor cell Ldha-suppression promotes anti-tumor immunity.

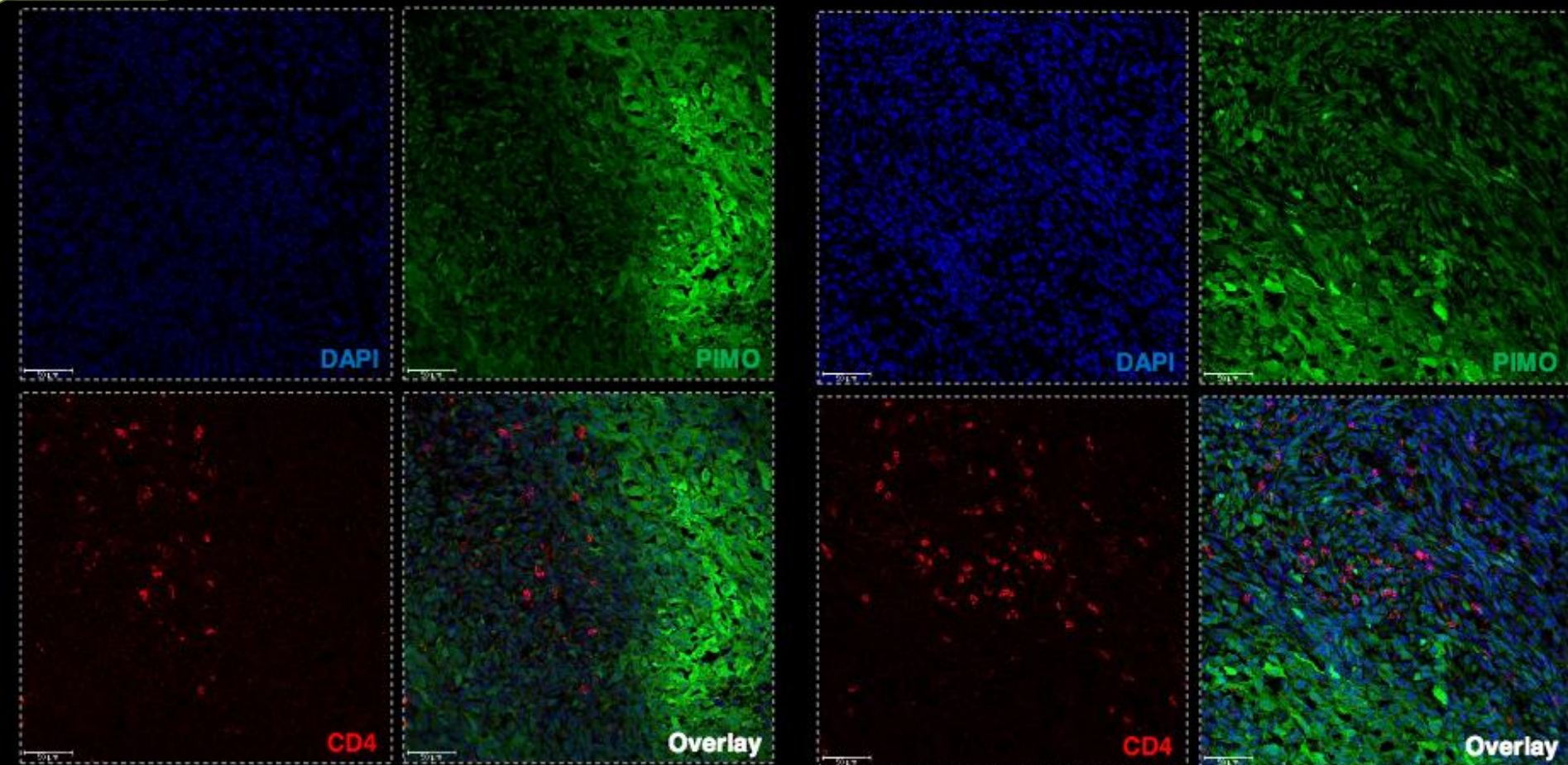


## Little T cell infiltration into hypoxic areas in tumors





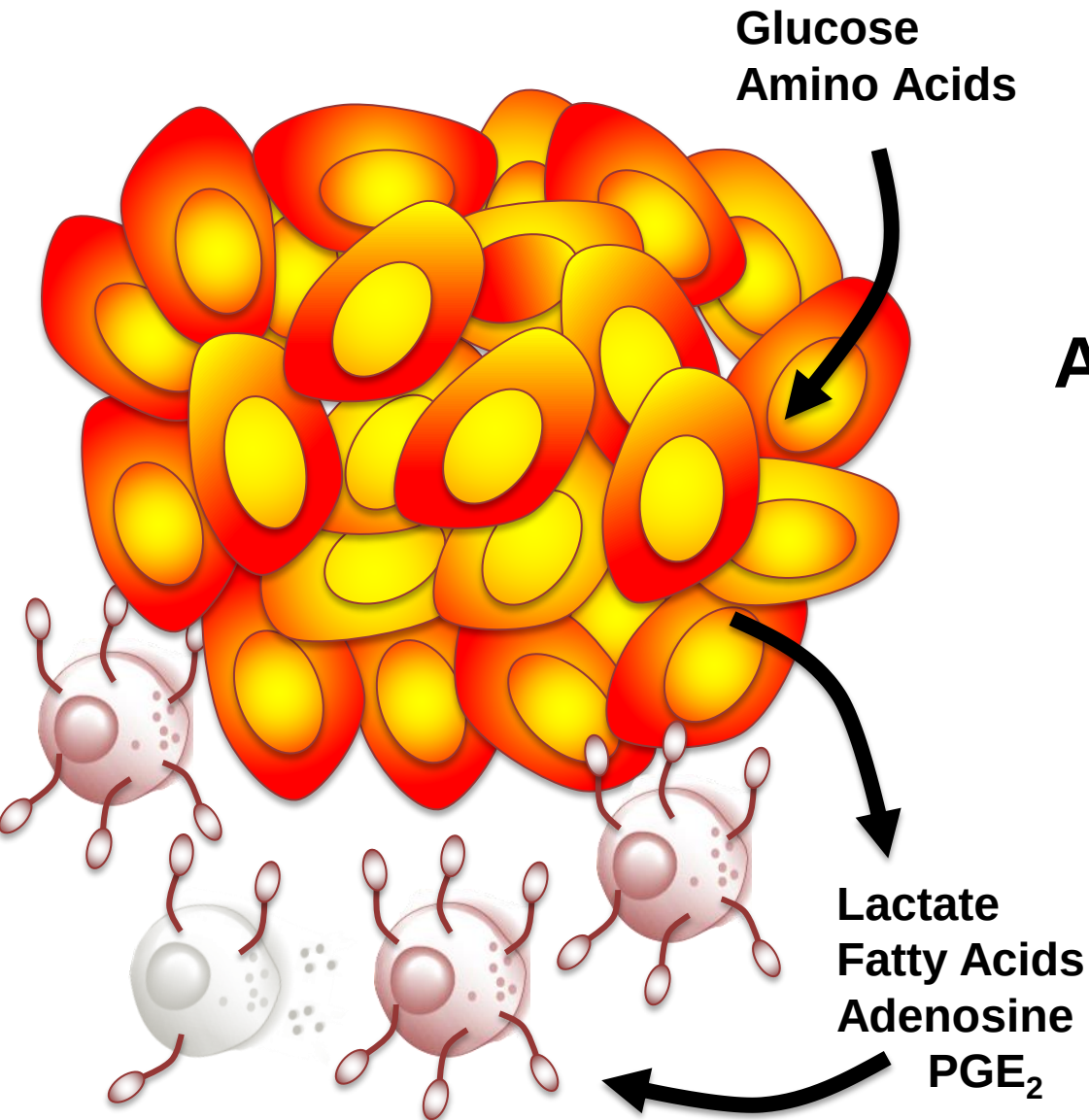
## Little T cell infiltration into hypoxic areas in tumors



Perhaps hypoxia will be a major  
'metabolic checkpoint' for T cells in some tumors?

- Increased glycolysis, lactate, pH
- Decreased glucose availability

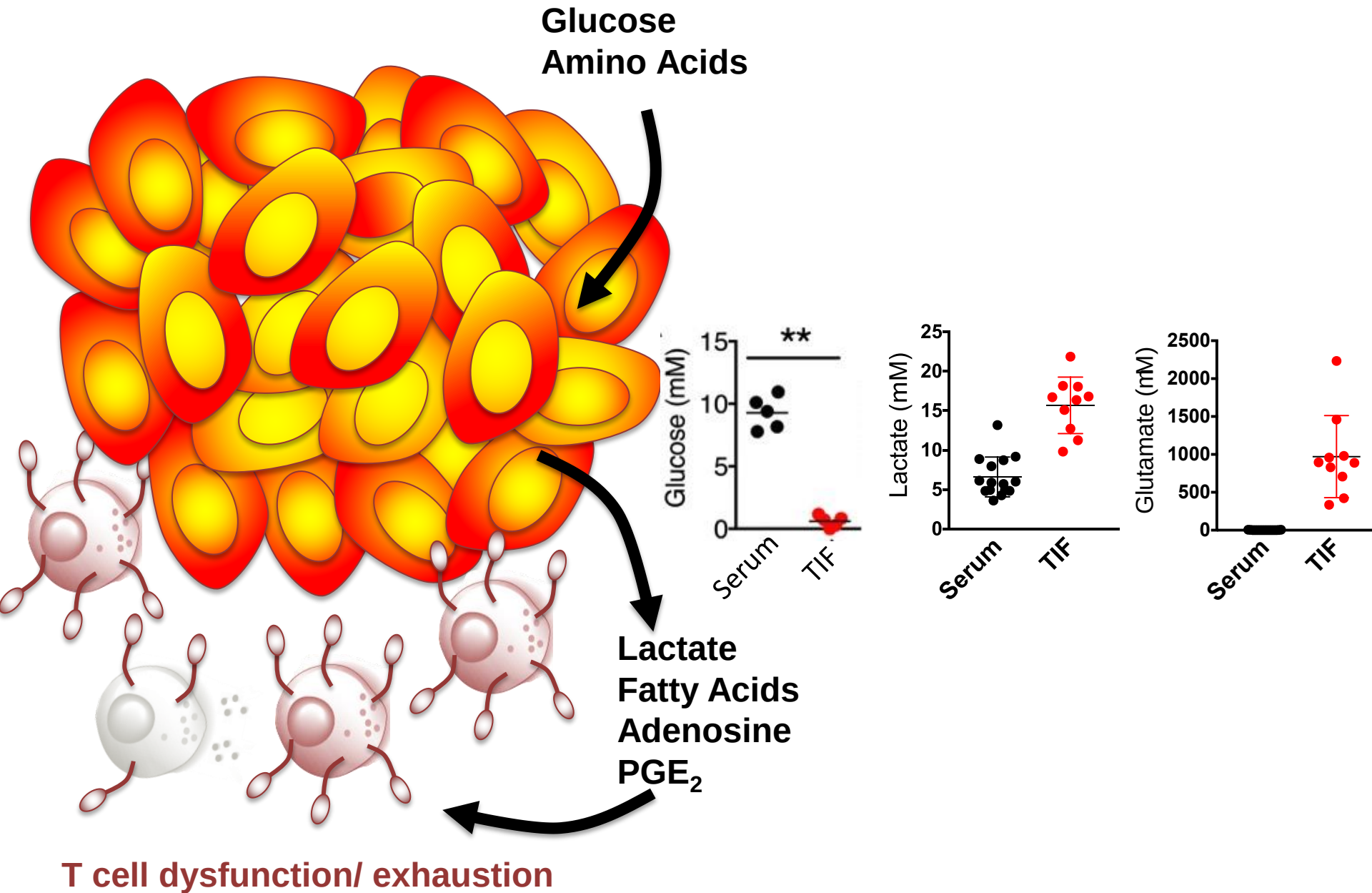
# Metabolic tug-of-war in tumors?



**Are there alterations in  
nutrient availability  
that affect T cell  
function in tumors?**

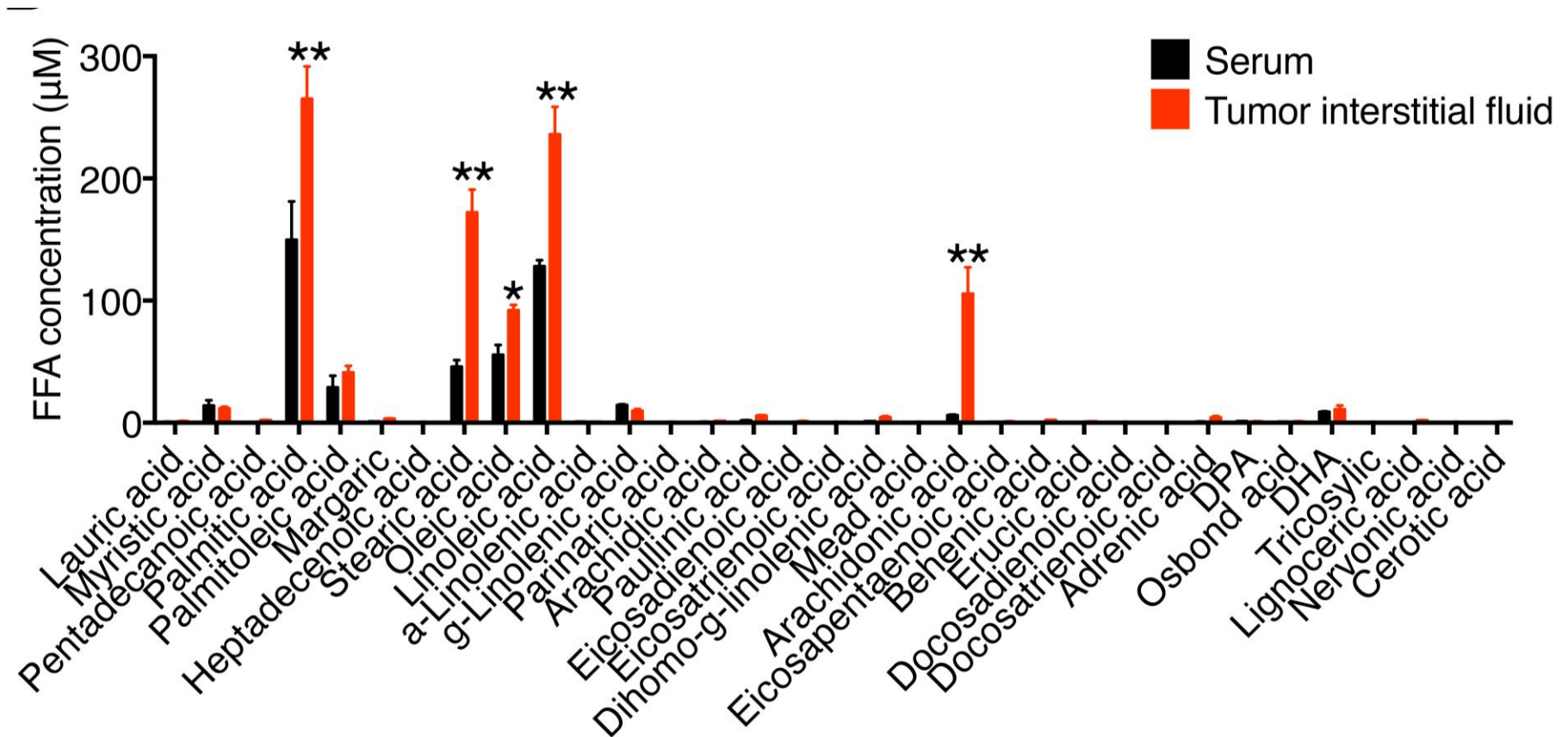
**T cell dysfunction/ exhaustion**

# Metabolic regulation of T cell function in tumors?



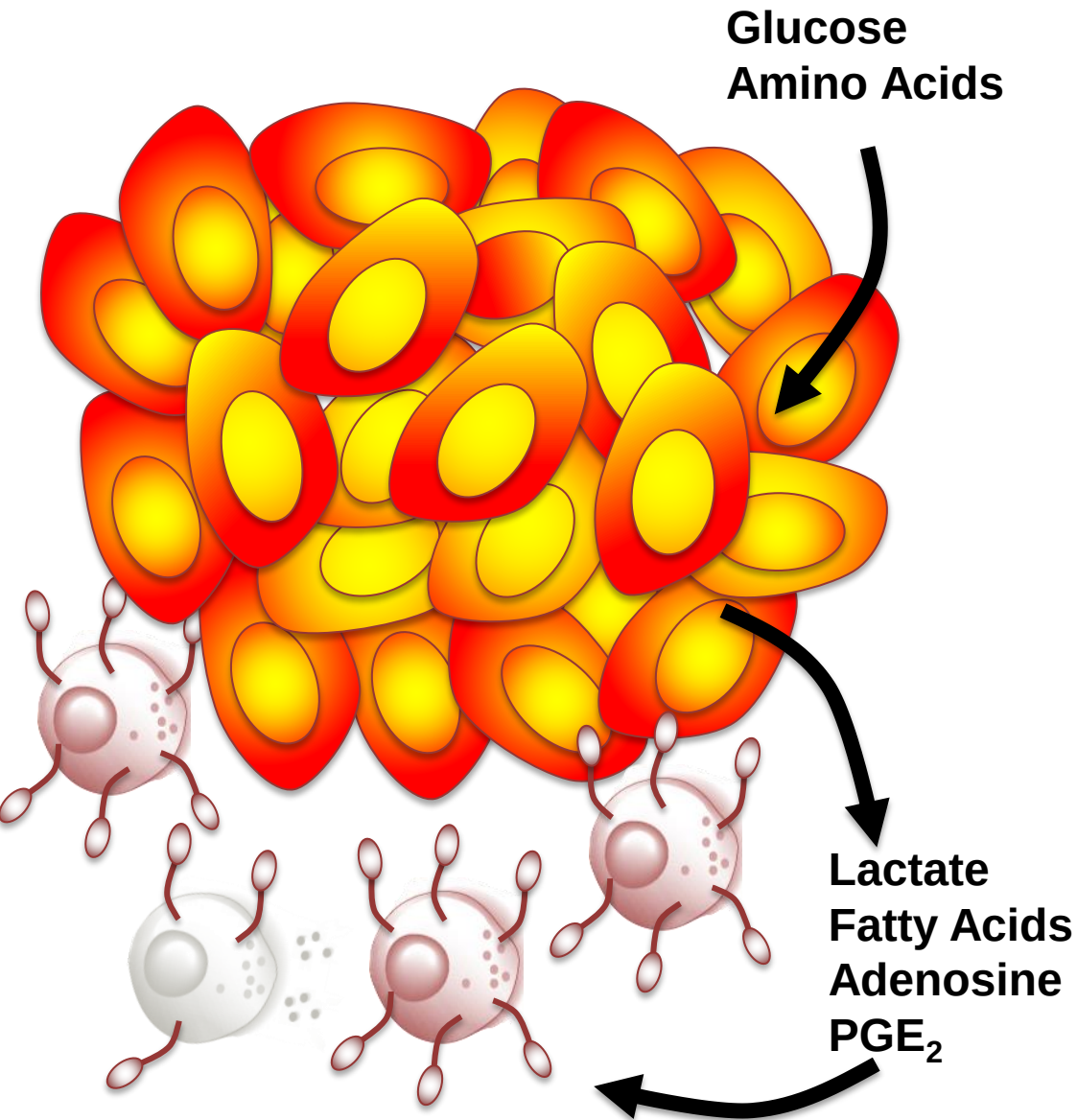


# Fatty Acids in tumor interstitial fluid



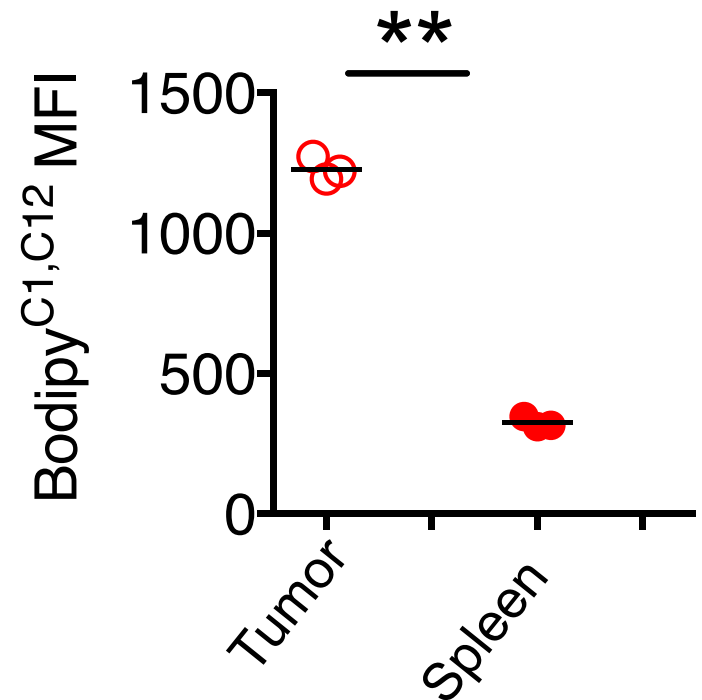


# Metabolic regulation of T cell function in tumors?



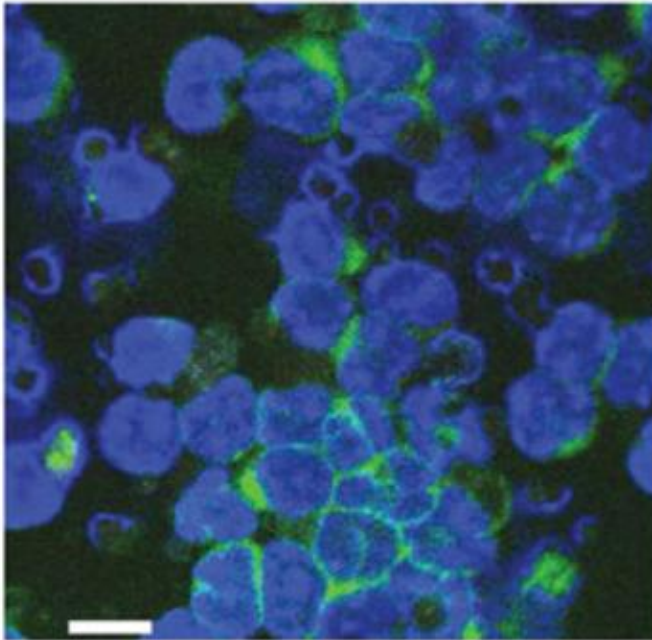
T cell dysfunction/ exhaustion

T cell  
Fatty acid uptake assay

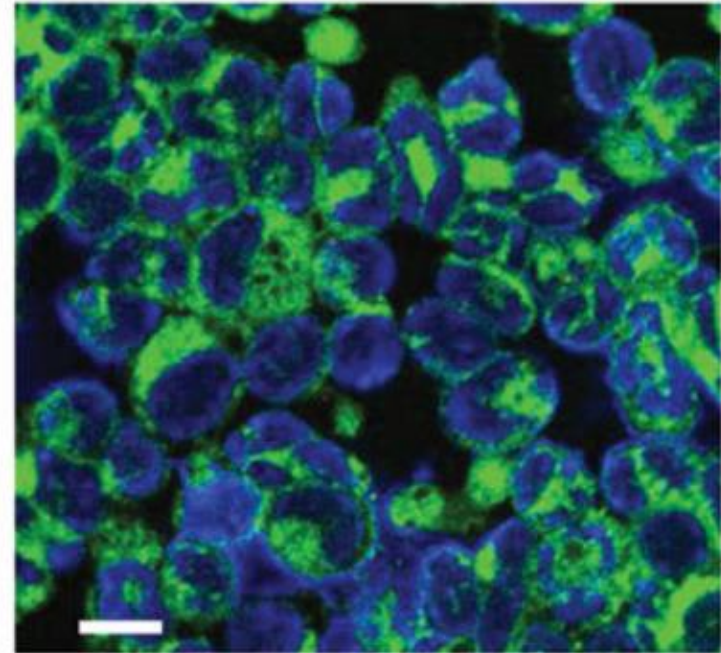


# Precedence for Fatty Acid Metabolism's Immune Suppression of Myeloid Cells

Naive CD11C<sup>+</sup>



Tumor Burdened CD11C<sup>+</sup>



- Increased in lipid uptake of DCs in tumor burdened mice
- Lipid density was associated with inadequate antigen presentation
- Suppressing fatty acid synthesis partially rescued the DCs

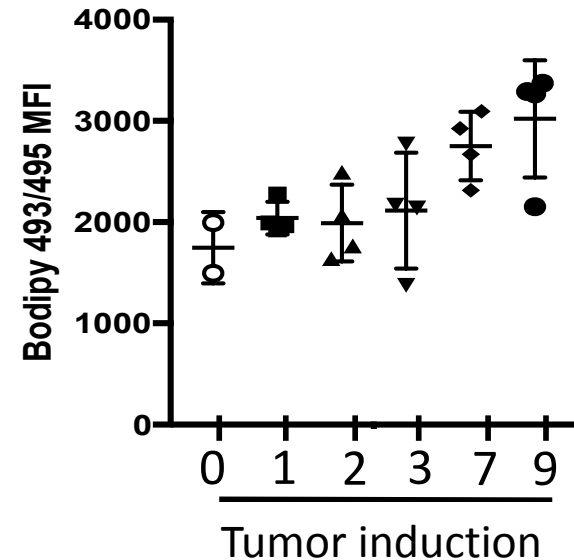
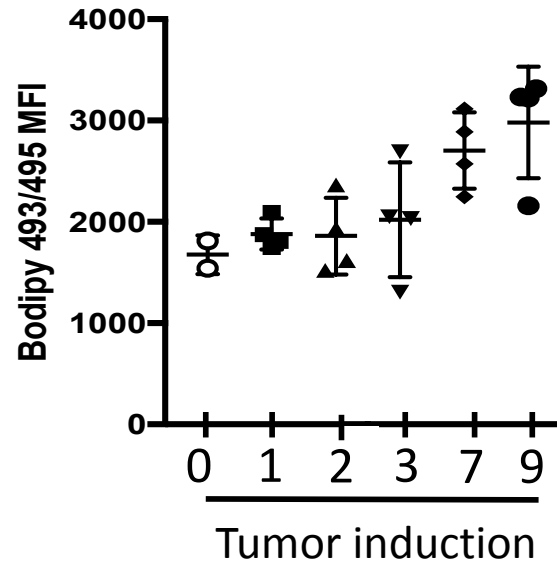
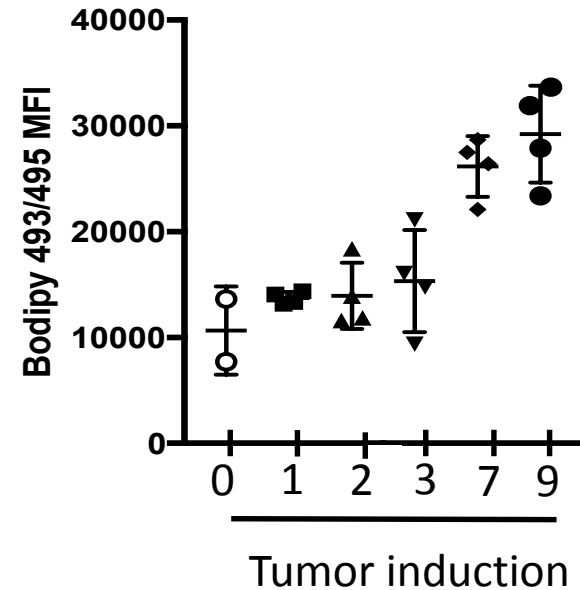
Donna L. Herber et al. Nat. Med 2010

# Progressively increased lipid storage in immune cells in murine LUAD (EGFR<sup>L858R</sup>) model

Macrophages

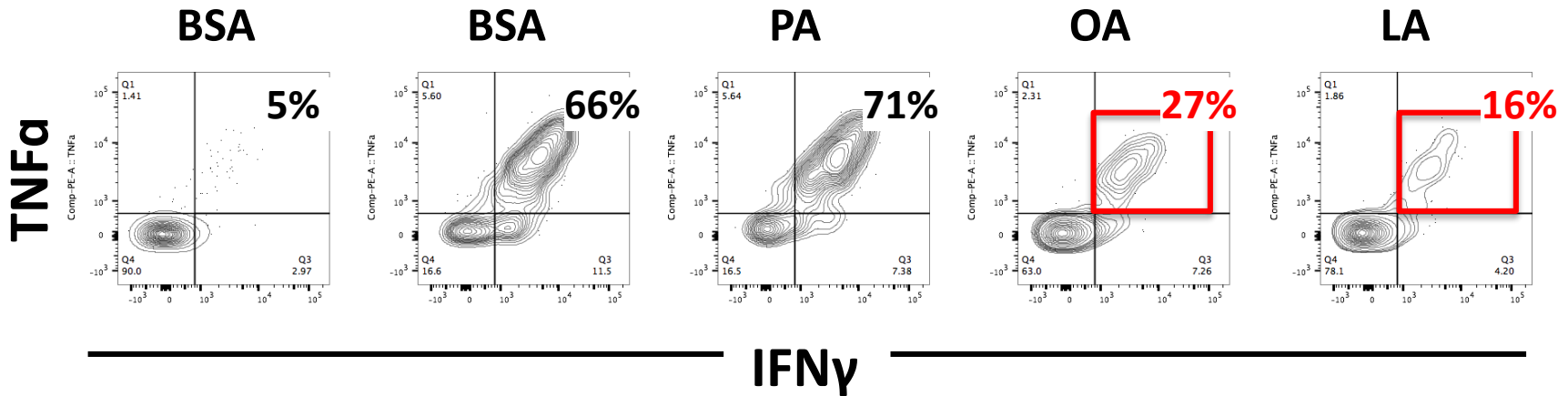
CD4 T cells

CD8 T cells



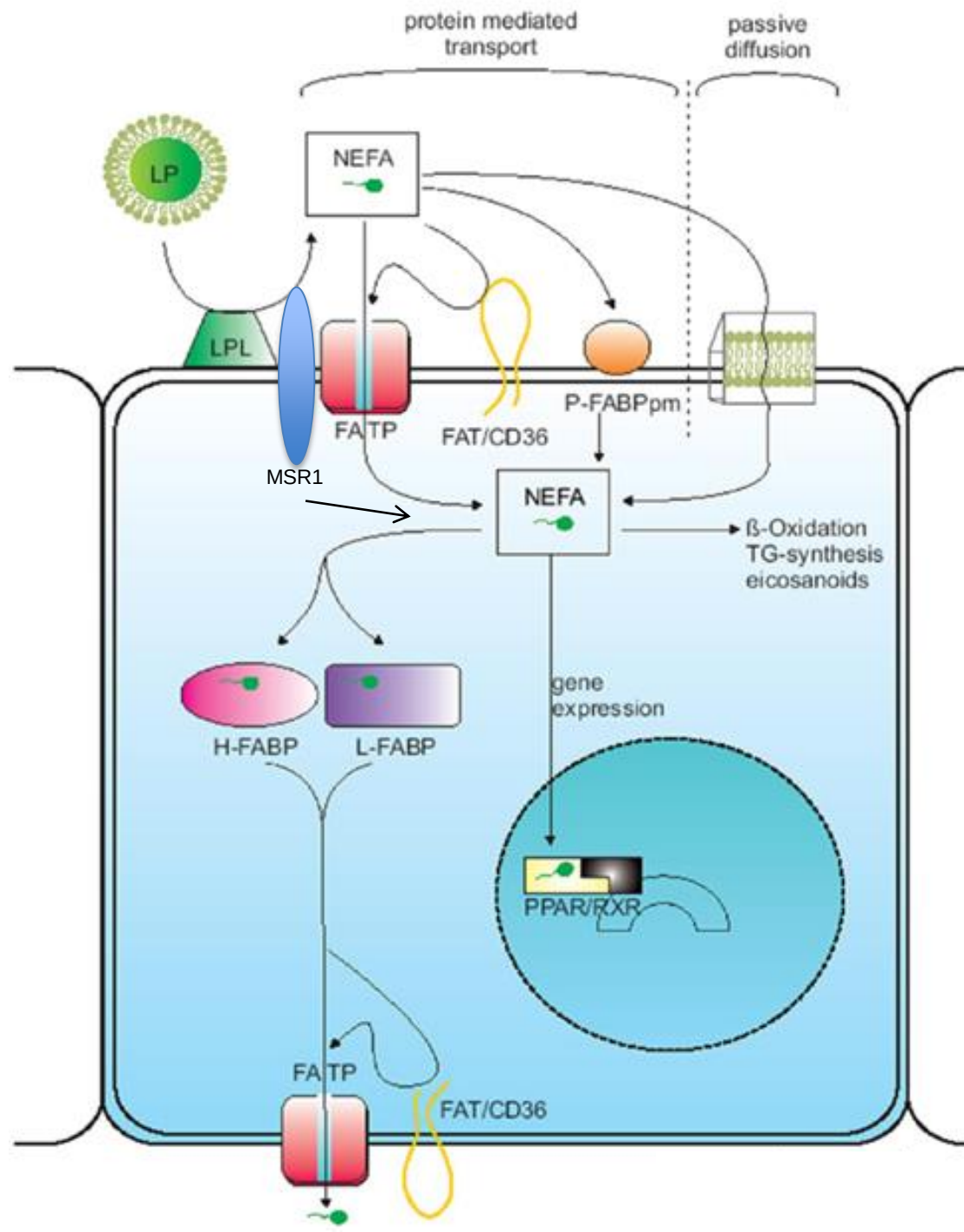
# Certain FAs suppress T cell effector function

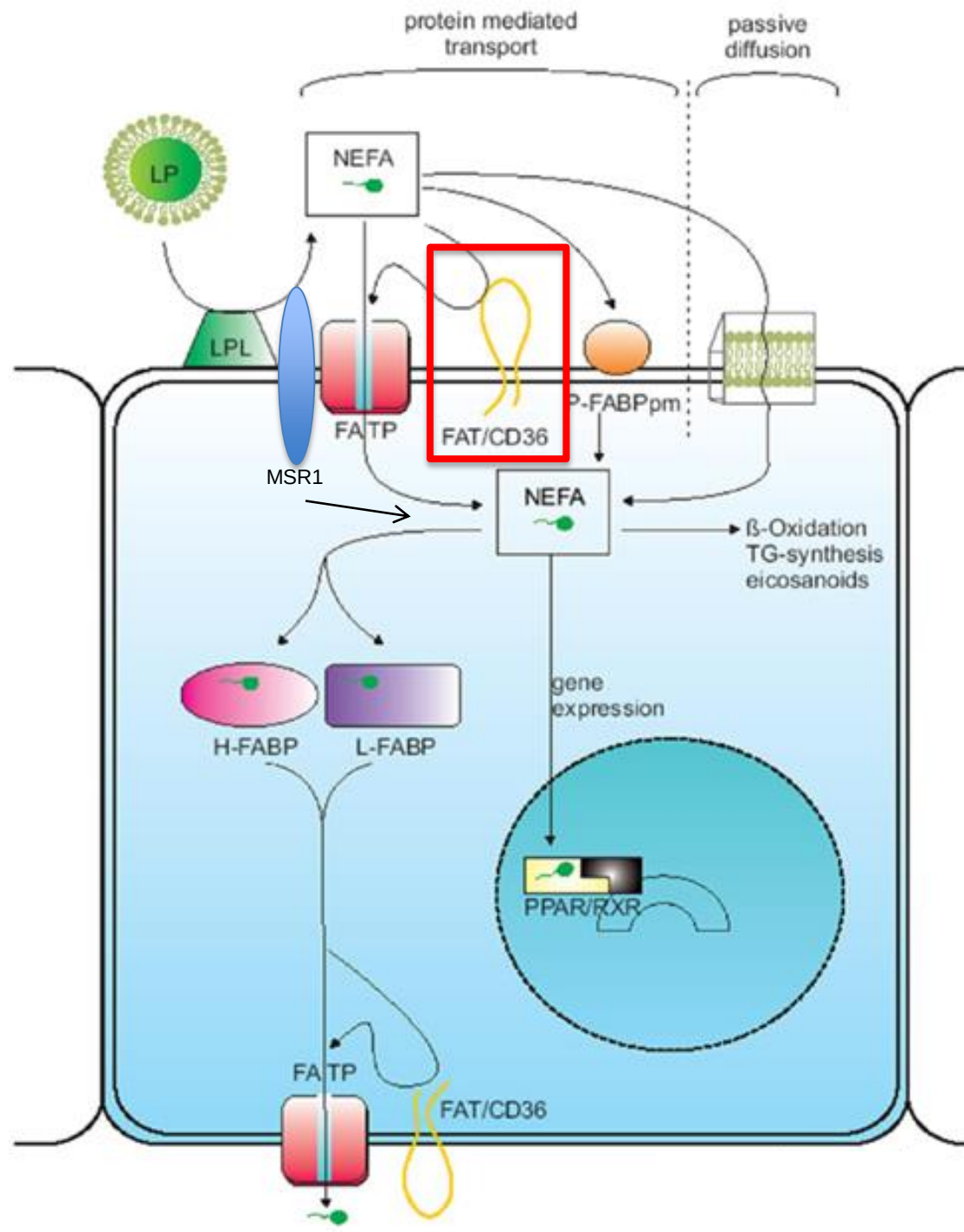
+ stimulation



- Palmitic acid (PA 16:0);
- Oleic acid (OA 18:1);
- Linoleic acid (LA 18:2);



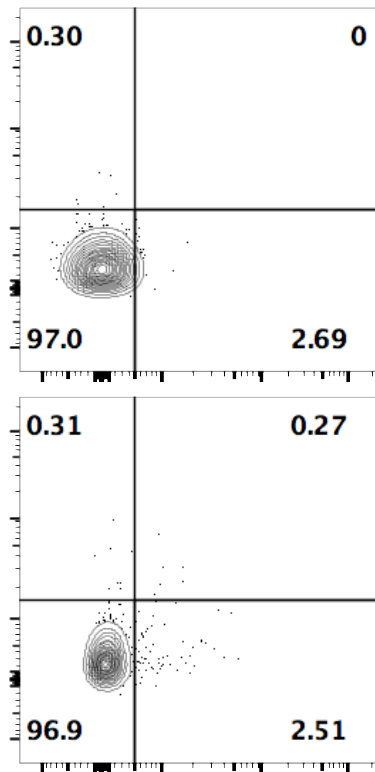




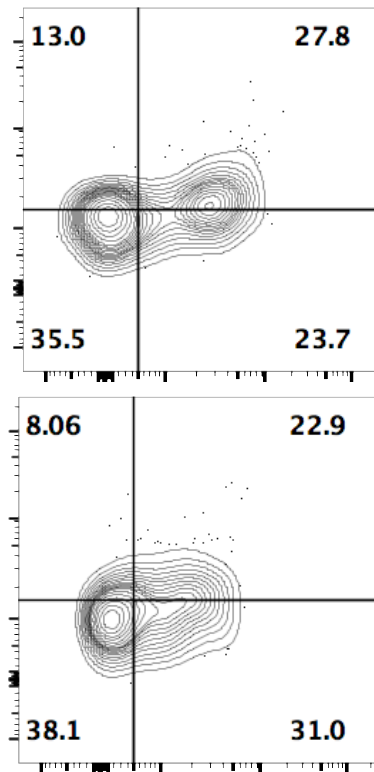
# CD36 expression is increased in TILs

CD36

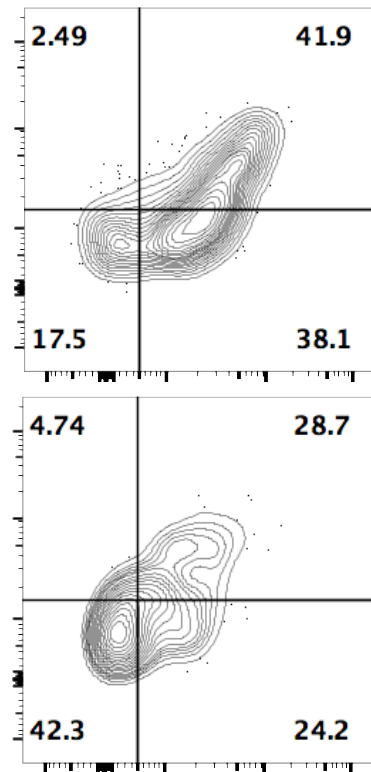
Spleen



B16-F10  
tumor



YUMMER  
tumor



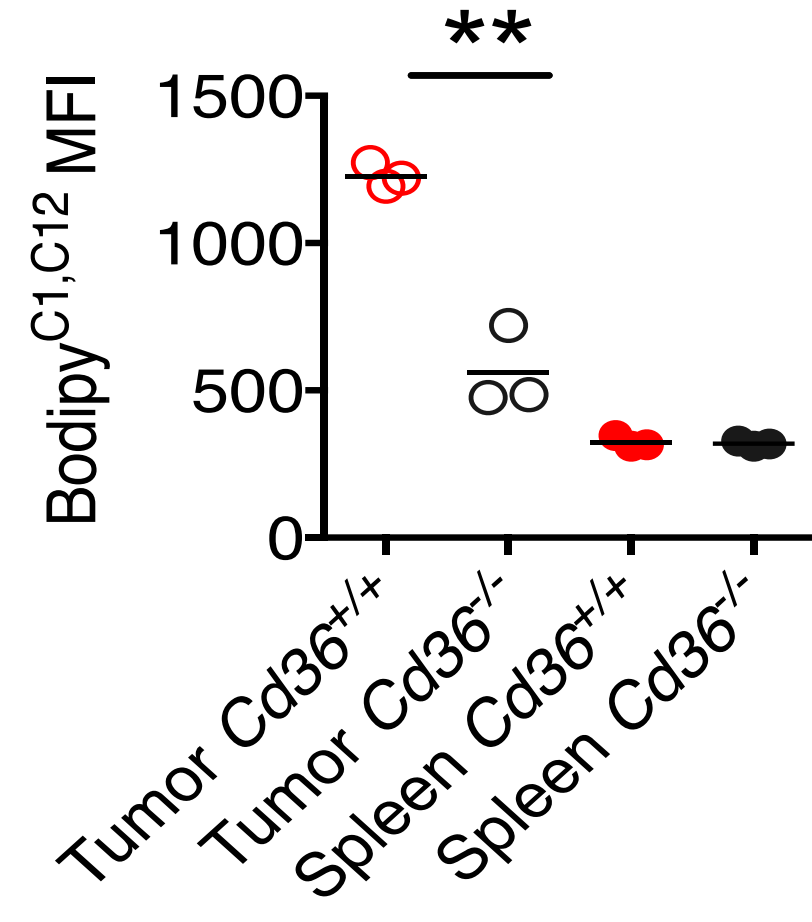
CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells

CD4<sup>+</sup> T cells

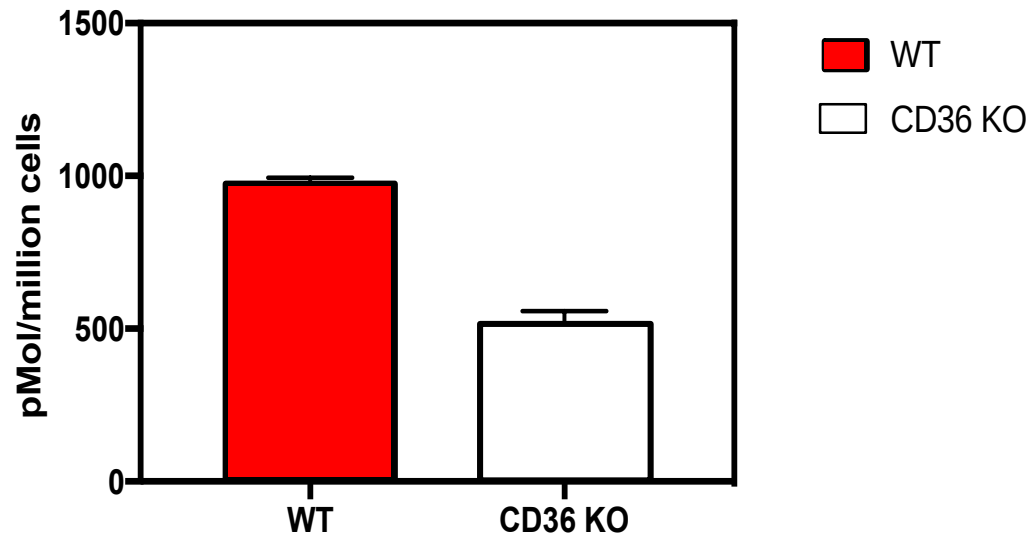
PD1

# CD36 promotes tumor growth and PD-1 expression

T cell  
Fatty acid uptake assay



Intracellular  
Fatty acid levels in T cells





# CD36 promotes tumor growth and PD-1 expression

B16-GP<sub>33-41</sub>

*Cd36*<sup>+/+</sup> P14 CD8<sup>+</sup>

*Cd36*<sup>-/-</sup> P14 CD8<sup>+</sup>

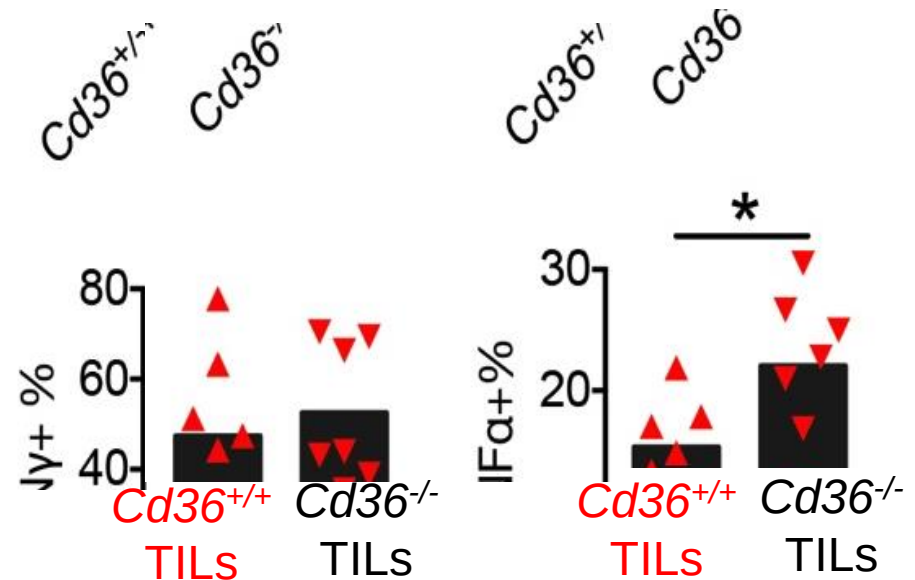
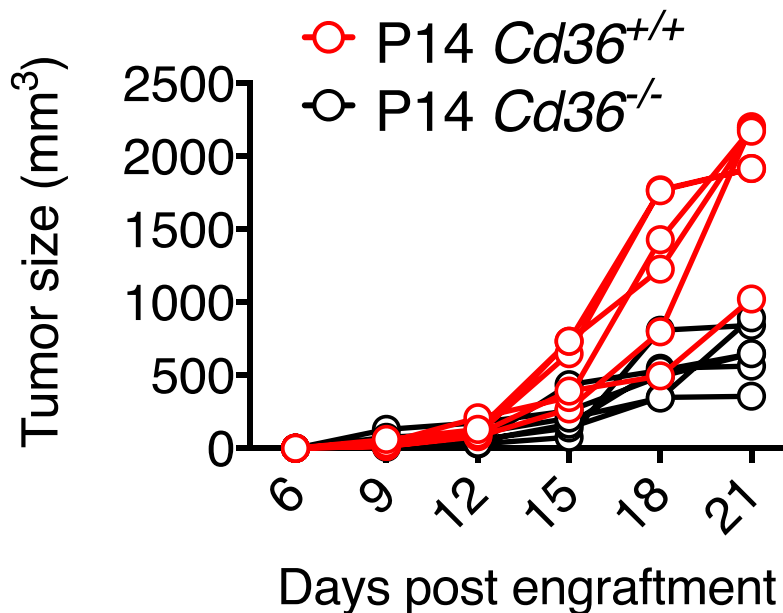
P14 CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells recognize the GP<sub>33-41</sub> epitope on B16-GP melanoma cells.

FACS

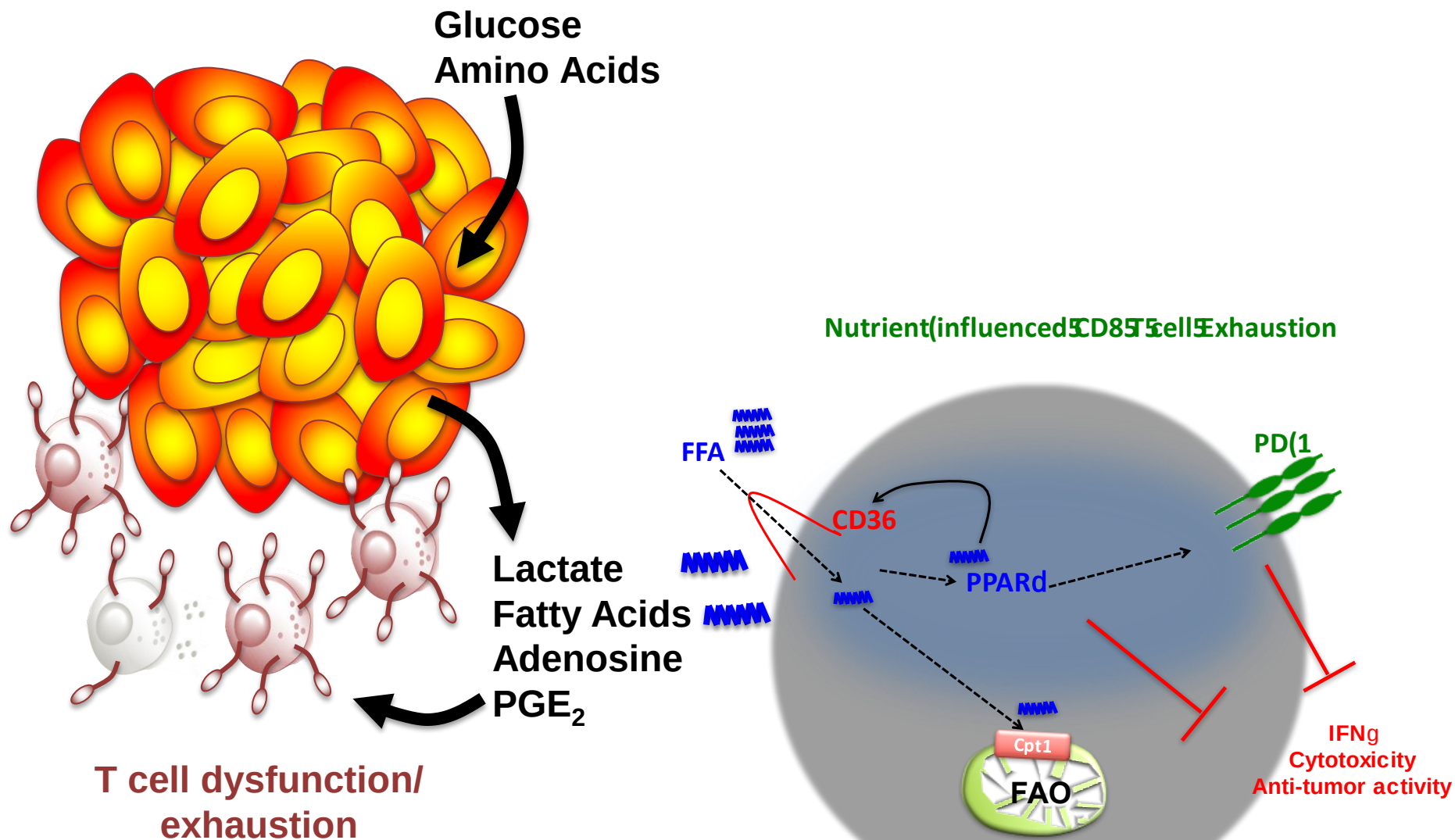
Day 0

Day 10

Day 20~25



# Metabolic regulation of T cell function in tumors?



# Robert Amezquita The Kaech Bunch

Magda Coman

Guoliang Cui

Bill Damsky

Victor Du

Ping-Chih Ho

Simon Gray

Tianxia Guan

Xiaodong Jiang

Ali Kuhlman

Jun Siong Low

Bin Lu

Koonam Park

Curtis Perry

Camila Robles-Oteiza

Fabio Santori

Ryan Sowell

Durga Thakral

Shihao Xu

Hao Xu



Marcus Bosenberg

Kathryn Miller- Jense

Andres Muñoz-Rojas

Katie Politi

Roy Herbst

Jeff Townsend

Stephen Gaffey

Ping-Min Chen

Jeff Rathmell

Stefan Feske

NIH, Cancer Research Institute,  
Yale SPORES in Lung and Skin Cancer  
Yale Cancer Center,  
Melanoma Research Alliance

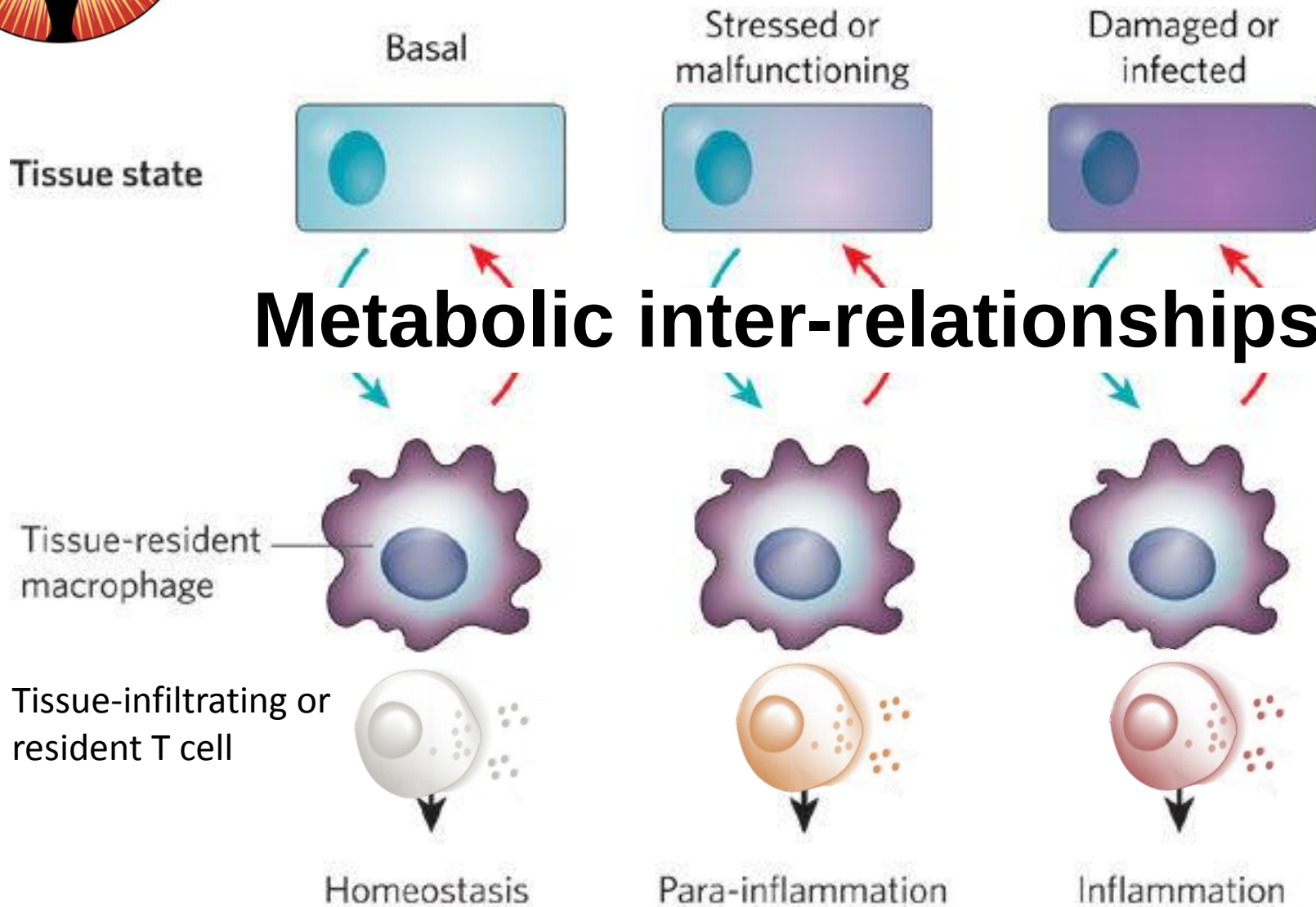
Agios

Gillian Kingsbury

Victor Chowdury



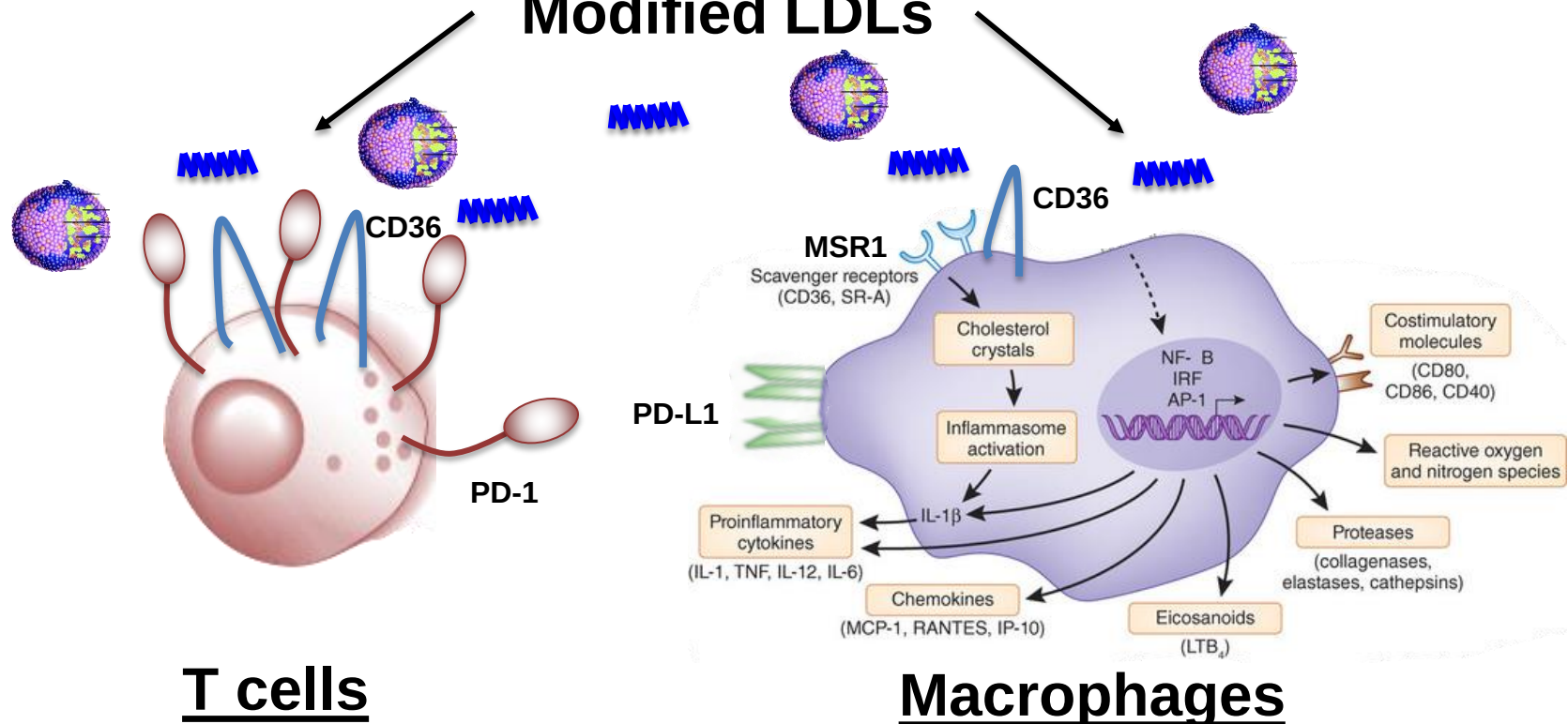
# Tissue Homeostasis and Dystasis



# FFA and LDLs act on both T cells and Macrophages to create pro-tumorigenic states

## Fatty Acids

## Modified LDLs



↑ PD-1<sup>Hi</sup>  
↑ CD36<sup>Hi</sup>  
↑ T cell dysfunction

↑ PD-L1<sup>Hi</sup>  
↑ MSR-1<sup>Hi</sup> CD36<sup>Hi</sup>  
↑ Tumor promotion