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Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer







Mechanisms of Chitosan/IL-12 Immunotherapy for the Treatment of Bladder Cancer

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#SITC2016

Presenter Disclosure Information

Sean Smith

The following relationships exist related to this presentation:

VivImmune LLC, Ownership, Cofounder





Chitosan/IL-12 Combines Potency with Delivery



Interleukin-12

- 1. Pro-inflammatory cytokine
- 2. Enhances T_H1 response
- 3. Toxic when given systemically



Intratumoral Chitosan/IL-12



Vo et al. *Oncolmmunology* (2014); Yang et al. *Biomaterials* (2013) Zaharoff et al. *J. Immunotherapy* (2010); Zaharoff et al. *Vaccine* (2006)

Bladder Cancer: Recurrence is the Issue

- 5th most common cancer in USA
 - Highest rate of recurrence
- Intravesical BCG
 - Standard of care for 35 years
 - Does not promote tumor specific memory

Can we use CS/IL-12 to initiate an adaptive immune response in the bladder?



Muscle Invasive

- 30% of cases
- Treated with chemotherapy, radiation, and cystectomy
- High mortality

Non-Muscle Invasive

- 70% of cases
- Treated by transurethral resection + intravesical BCG
- High recurrence rate
- Low Mortality

Chitosan Provides Enhanced Intravesical Delivery



Chitosan

- 1. Gels in vivo
- 2. Viscous
- 3. Mucoadhesive
- 4. Absorption Enhancing



MB49 Implantation and Treatment



Tumors are instilled and treated intravesically.

Intravesical Chitosan/IL-12 Against MB49 Bladder Cancer



Can CS/IL-12 eliminate orthotopic bladder tumors?

Intravesical CS/IL-12 eliminates orthotopic tumors and is more effective than IL-12 alone.

Smith et al. Cancer Immunology Immunotherapy (2014)

Intravesical Chitosan/IL-12 Generates Systemic Immunity



Can a local treatment generate a systemic response?

Intravesical Chitosan/IL-12 Generates Systemic Immunity



Smith et al. *Cancer Immunology Immunotherapy* (2014)

Depletion Studies Reveal Key Roles for CD8+ and CD4+ T-cells



CD8+ T-cells are primary drivers of tumor elimination during treatment.

Smith et al. Oncolmmunology (In Press)

Distant Rechallenge



CD4+ T-cells drive tumor rejection upon rechallenge.

Importance of Treatment Number



Shifting Immune Cell Populations



Initial Influx of Macrophages and Granulocytes in Bladder

CS/IL-12 leads to enhanced macrophage infiltration in the bladder.

CS/IL-12 causes an initial influx of granulocytes followed by a decrease in MDSCs in the bladder.



CS/IL-12 reduces T_{Reg} infiltration in the BDLNs after the first treatment.



Delayed Infiltration of CD4+ T-cells into the Bladder

CS/IL-12 leads to enhanced CD3+ and CD4+ T-cell infiltration in the bladder after the third treatment in the bladder.



Treatment Number

Effector-Memory T-Cells Become Dominant in the Bladder

Effector memory T-cells are the dominant phenotype in the bladder for both CD4+ and CD8+ cells by the 4th treatment.



Smith et al. Oncolmmunology (In Press)

- Intratumoral CS/IL-12 is effective in a range of tumor models
- Intravesical CS/IL-12 eliminates the majority of bladder tumors
 - Generates long-lasting memory
 - Effectors are different for initial and memory responses
 - Systemic and dynamic
 - Early treatments effects can have delayed outcomes

Strategic delivery of cytokines maximizes their therapeutic potential.

Acknowledgements





Arkansas

BIOSCIENCES

Institute





Questions?

Come see the rest of the data at poster #349.



Importance of Treatment Number

Bladder Morphology

Bladder Mass



Differences in tumor sizes begin to appear by the third treatment.

Chitosan's Effect on Serum Levels of IL-12 and IFNy



Chitosan/IL-12 Immunotherapy is superior to BCG



Splenocytes from cured mice kill targets in a tumor specific manner.



Efficacy of BCG?



days after turnor inoculation

Fig. 4. Kaplan-Meier analysis of murine survival after intravesical BCG immunotherapy. Mice received four intravesical instillation treatments with BCG. The control group received four PBS instillations. The experiment was terminated at day 28 due to rapid tumor growth. P = 0.005, log-rank test.

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Changes in T-Cell Memory Subsets



Infiltration Overview



Mechanisms: Importance of Treatment Number



Memory CD4



Memory CD8



Memory Panel





CD44L,CD62l- CD44L,CD62l+

10³

APC-Cy7: CD621

24.5%

10⁴ 10⁵

44.1%

0

0

-10

Regulatory Panel



Myeloid Panel



Isotypes



FMO



Depletion

