

Unraveling the Basic Components of Cancer Immunotherapy

Alan L. Epstein MD, PhD

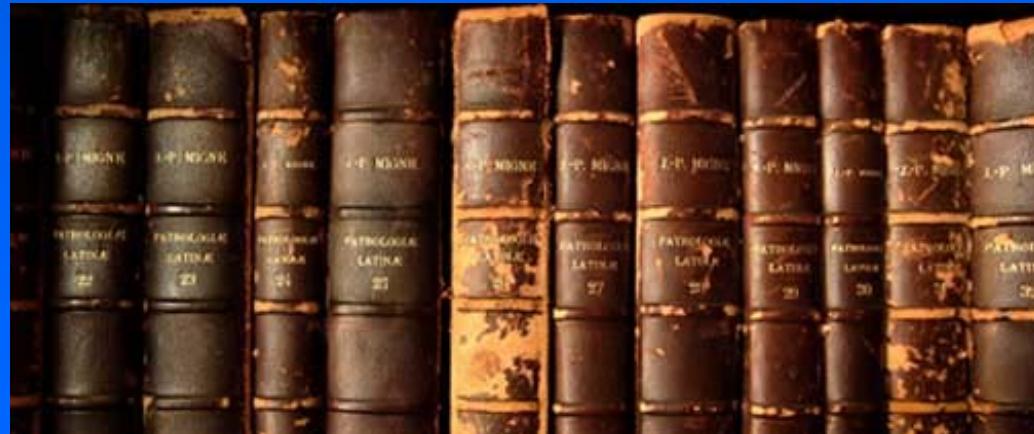
Department of Pathology

USC Keck School of Medicine



Working Hypothesis

- Targeting missing immunostimulatory molecules to tumor can generate complete immune response with memory
- Deletion of natural immunosuppression can enable immunotherapy to be effective



Targeting Tumor Necrosis with TNT Antibodies

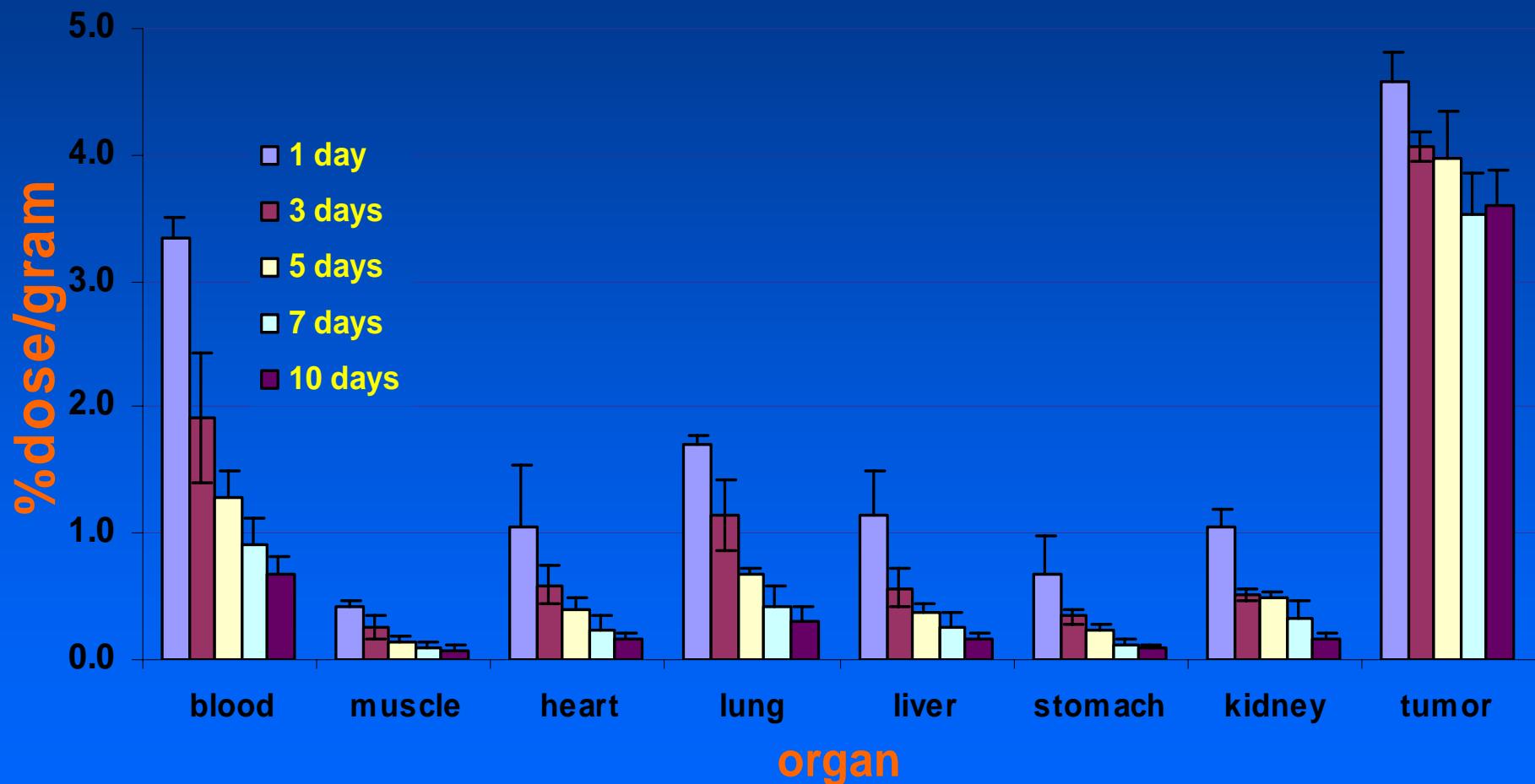


USC

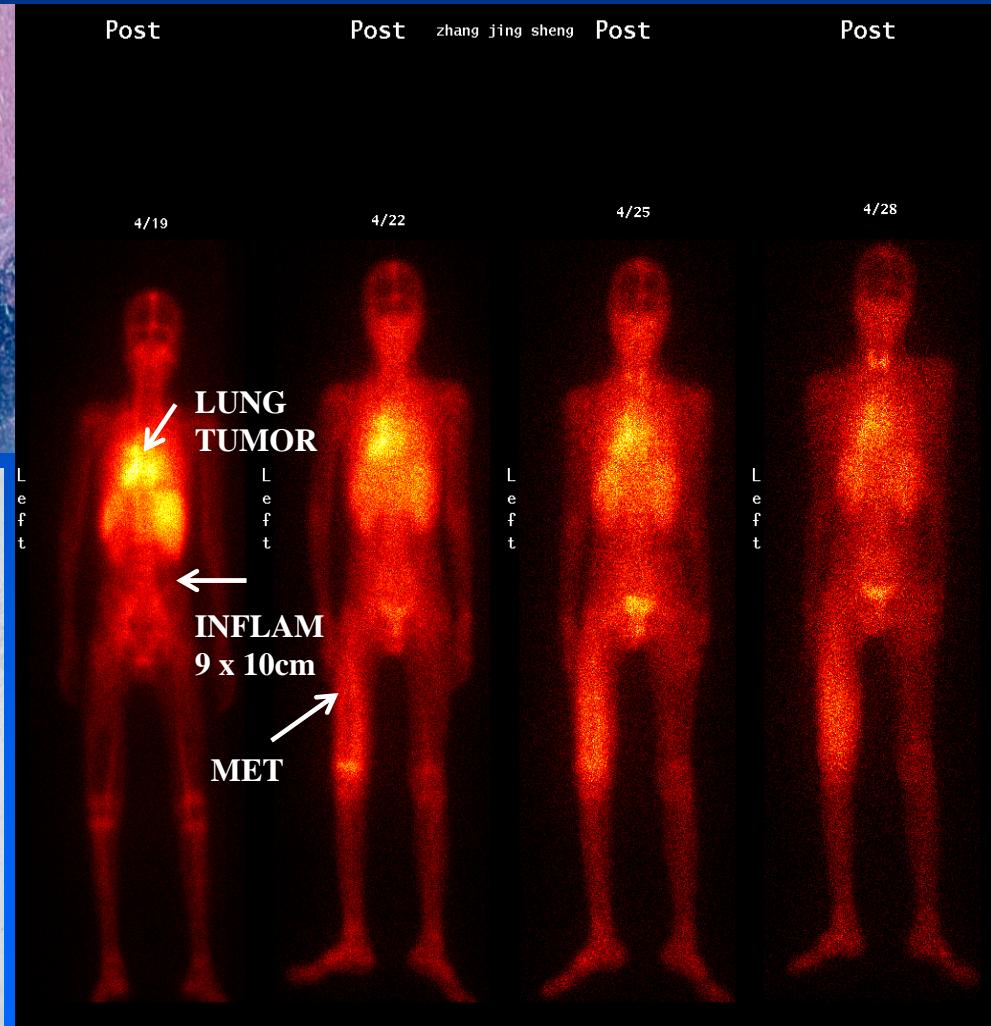
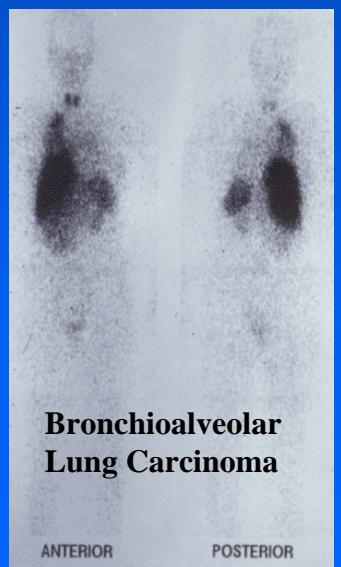
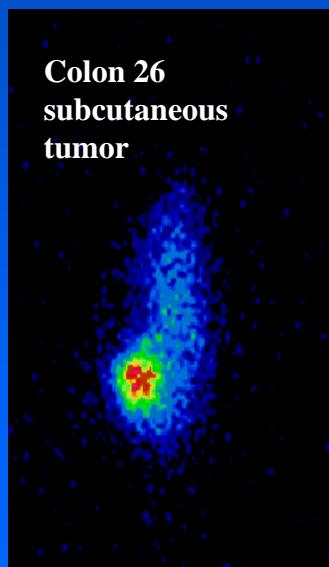
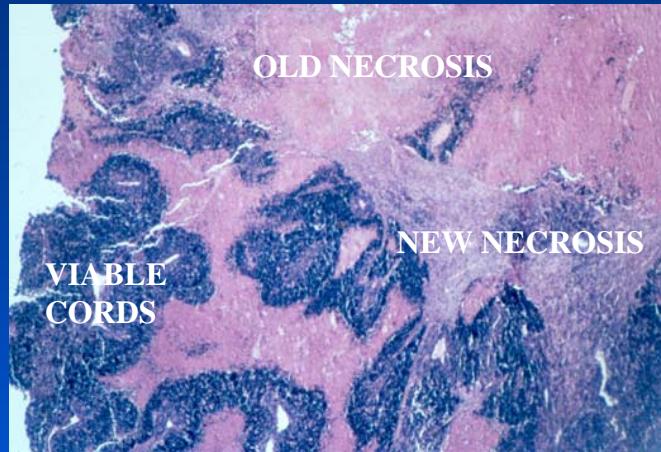
Major Characteristics of TNT Antibodies

- * Recognize abundant intranuclear antigens present in all cancers, all species
- * Have long retention times in tumor
- * Have enhanced uptake after cytoreductive therapies
- * Localize to necrosis, a site rich in tumor antigens

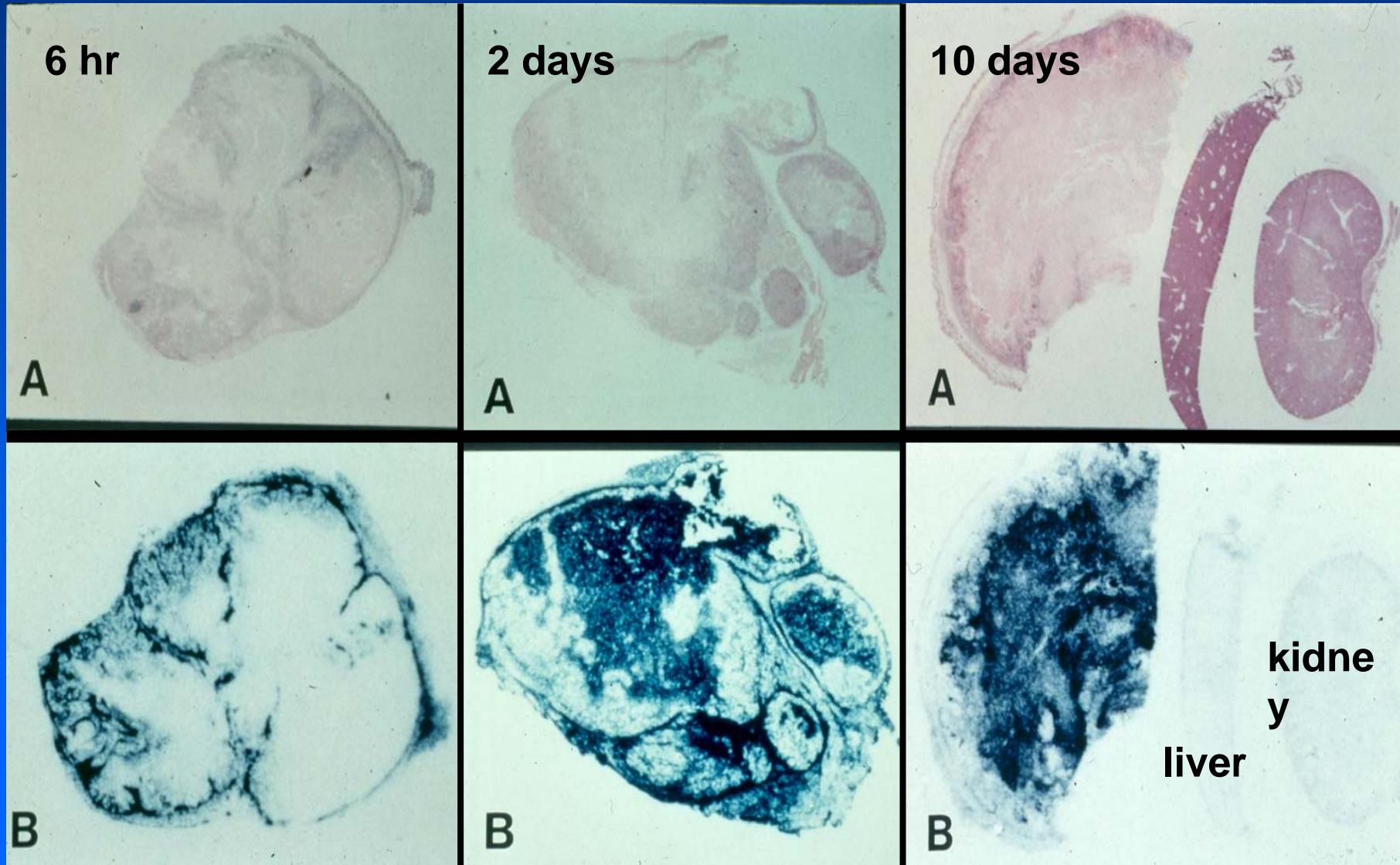
Tissue Biodistribution of I-125-chTNT-3/B in ME-180 Carcinoma-bearing Nude Mice



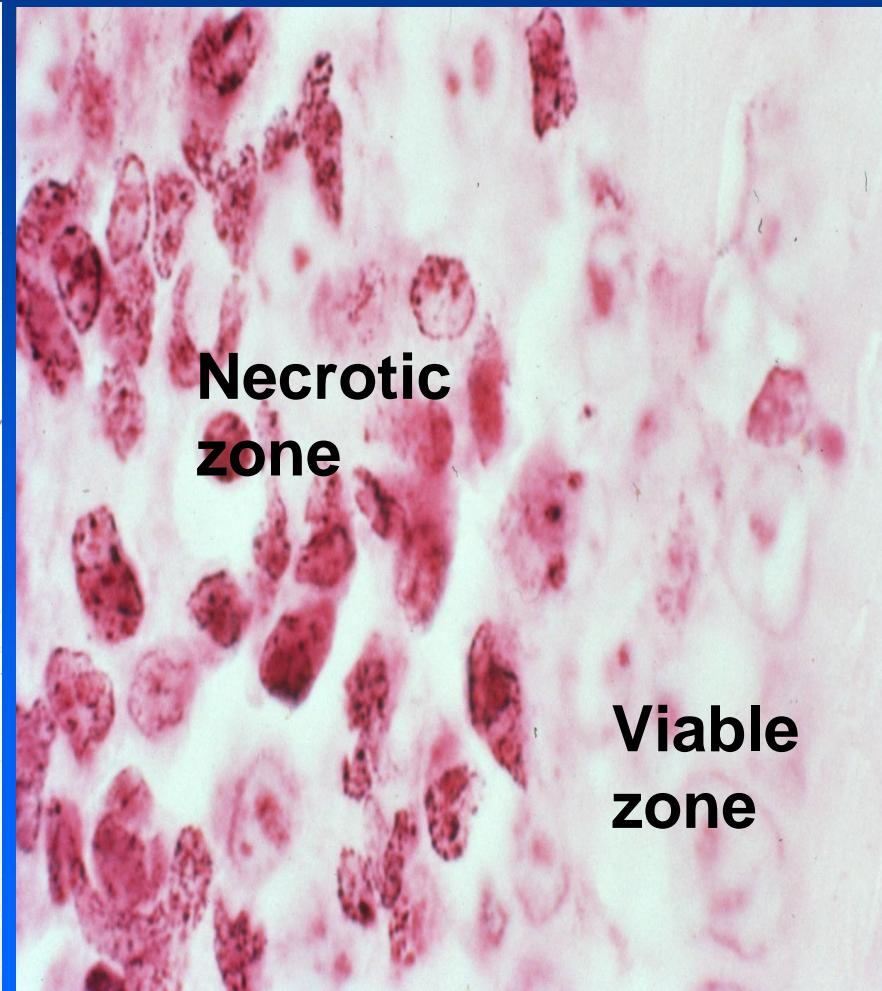
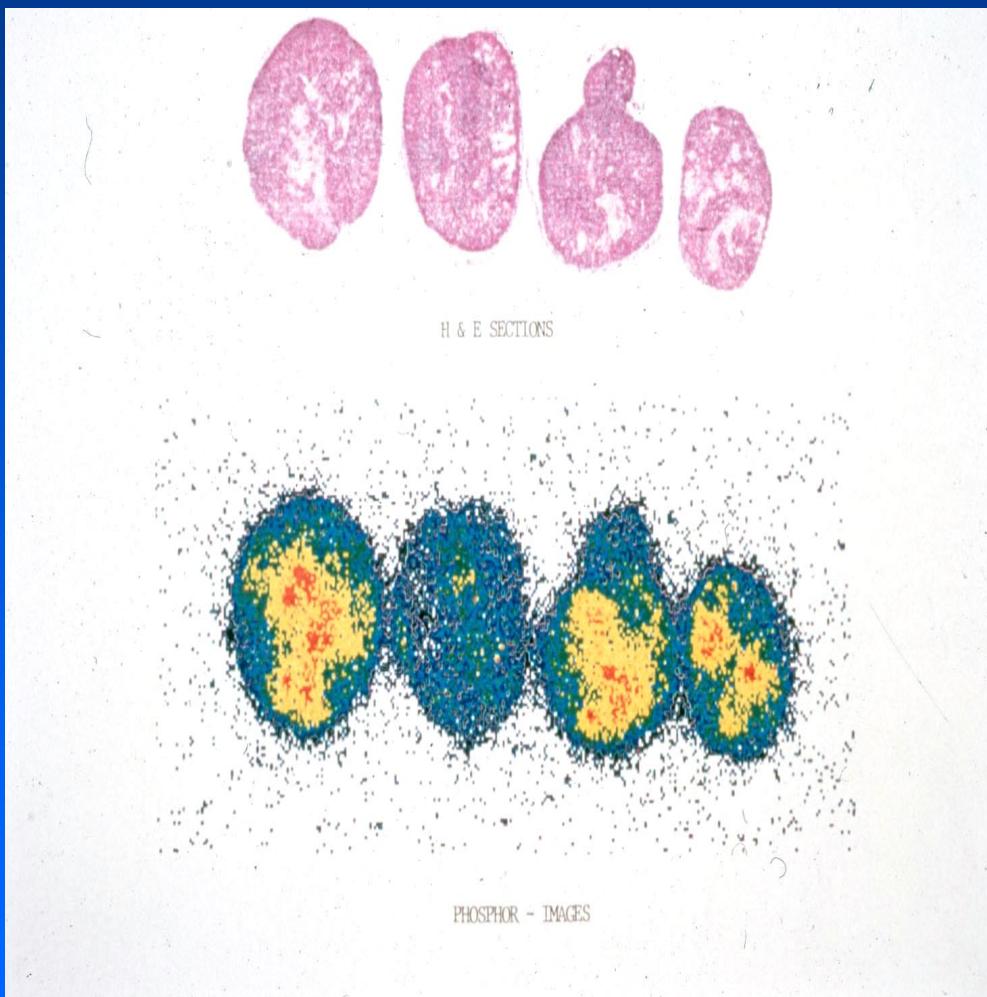
TNT Antibody Uptake in Tumor



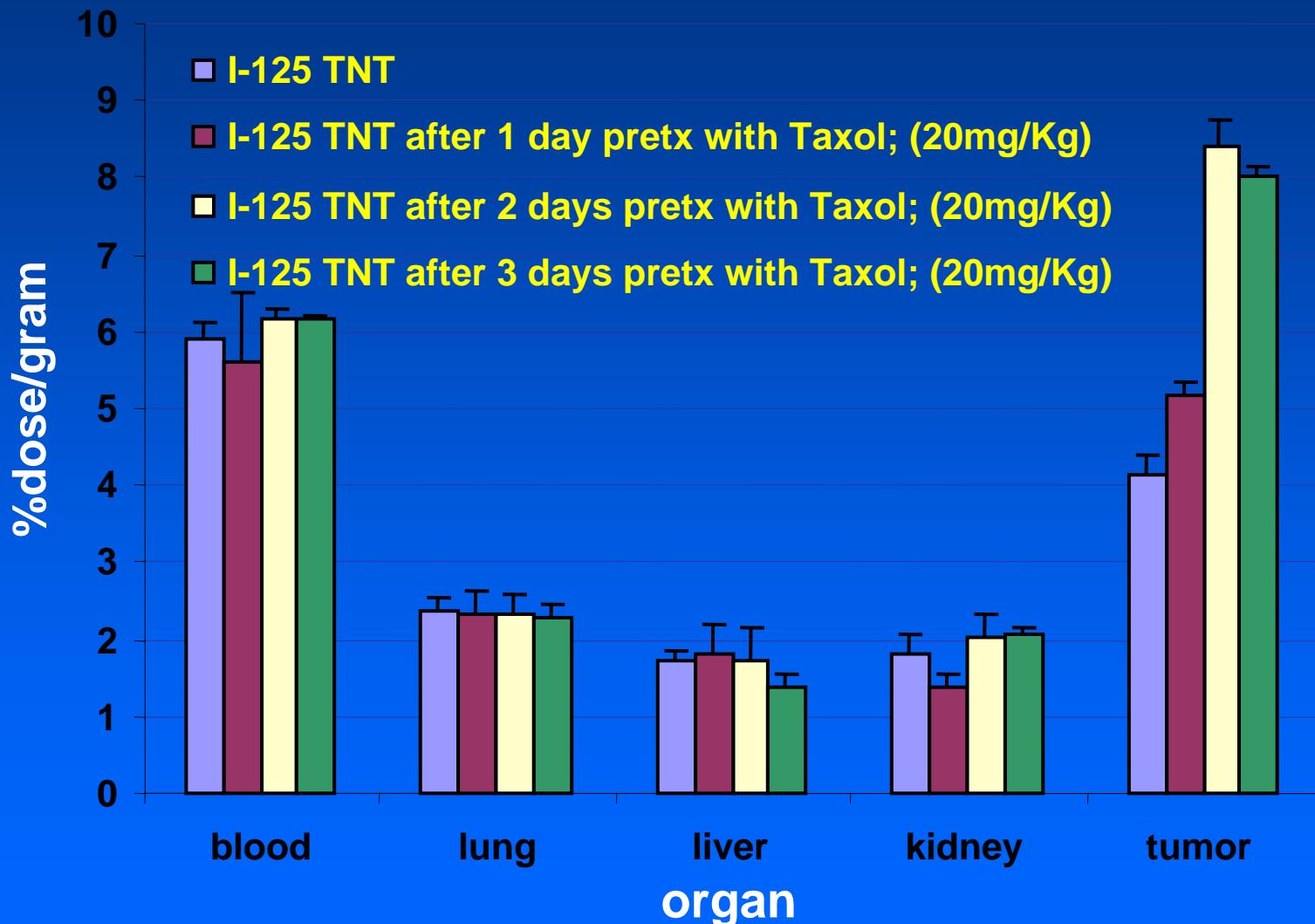
Macroautoradiography of ^{125}I -TNT-1 in ME-180 Human Cervical CA



Macro and Microautoradiography of ^{125}I -TNT-3



Enhanced Uptake of TNT in Taxol Treated Colon 26 Tumors

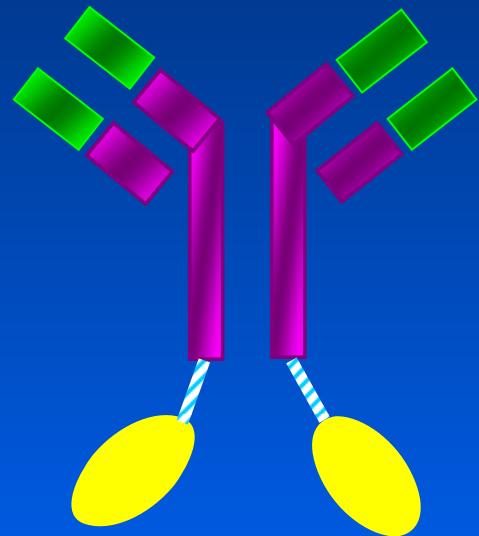


Methods of Immunotherapy

- Vaccines
- Cytokine Therapy
- Adoptive Transfer of Immunity
- Fusion Proteins
 - Targeted (MAb)
 - Untargeted (Fc)
- Genetic alteration of T-cells
- Immunomodulatory drugs

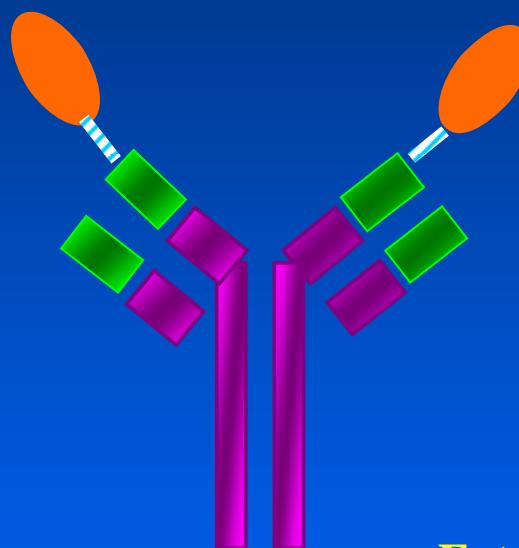
Targeted Fusion Proteins

C-Terminal Fusion



Cytokines, Type
II costimulatory
molecules

N-Terminal Fusion



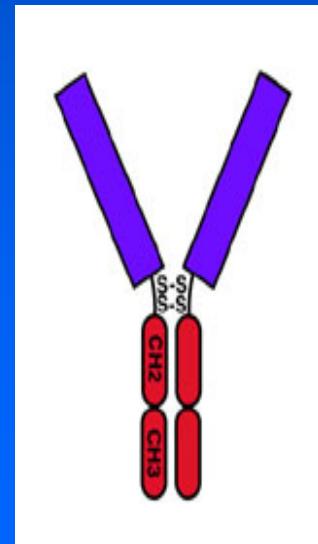
Chemokines,
B7

Untargeted Fc

N-Terminal Fusion

Extracellular
domains

Fc portion of
human IgG1



CH₂
CH₃

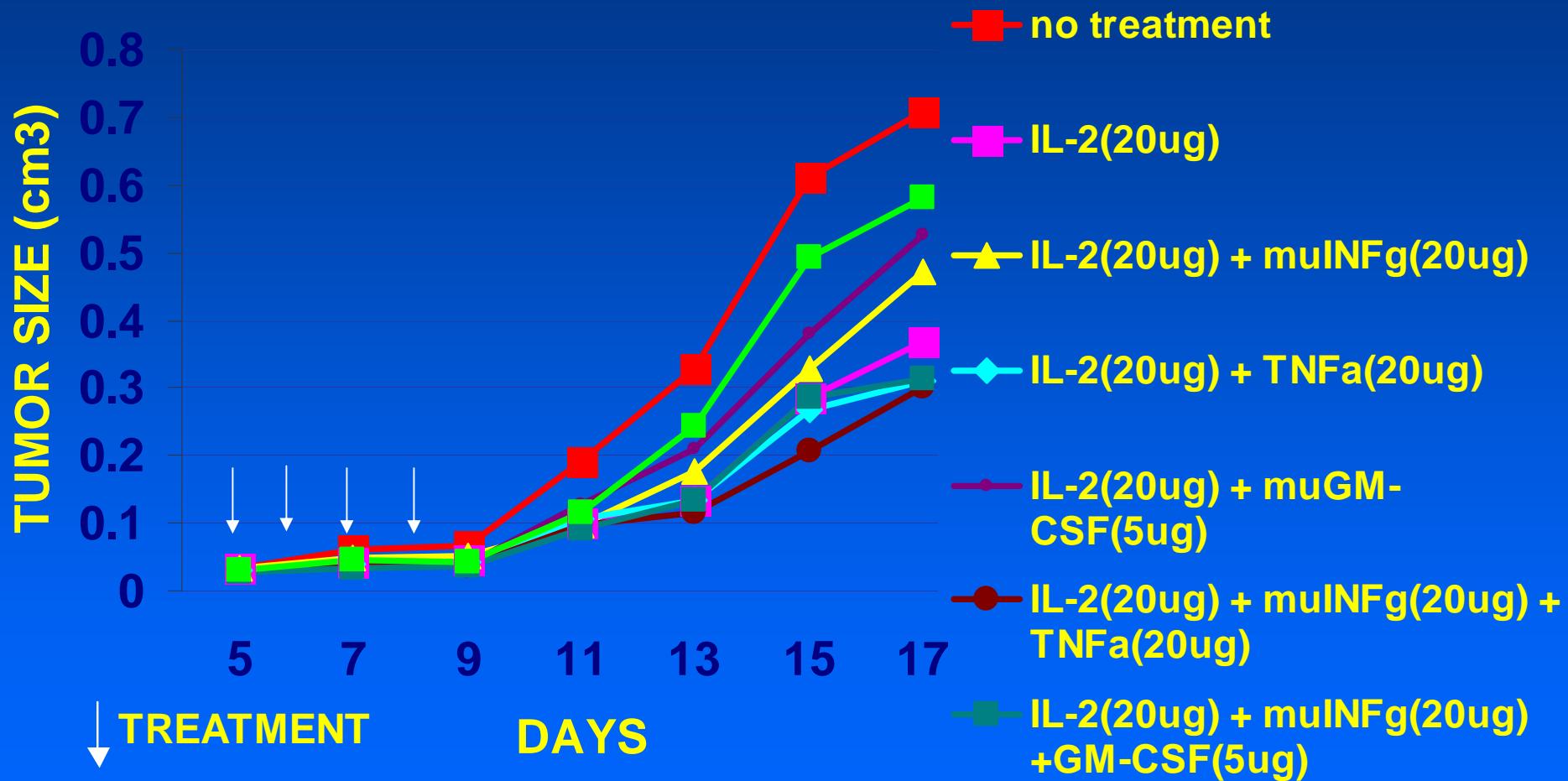
Cytokine Fusion Proteins

**IL-2, IL-4, IL-12, TNF α , GM-CSF,
IFN γ**

Chemokine Fusion Protein

LEC

Immunotherapy of MAD 109 Lung CA Using Immunocytokine Fusion Proteins

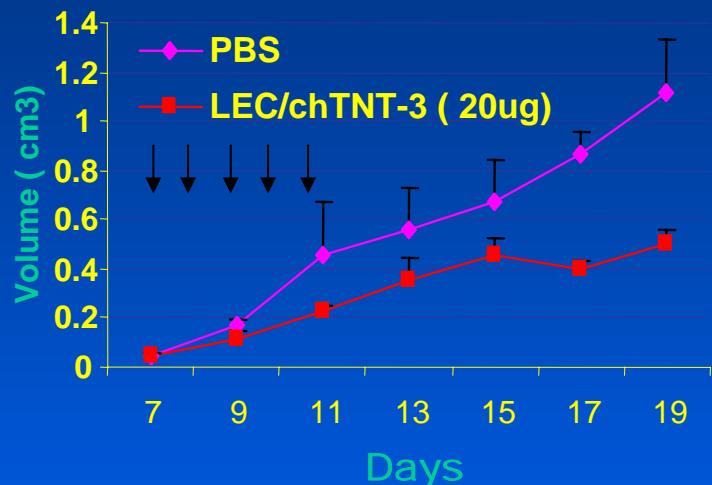


LEC Chemokine

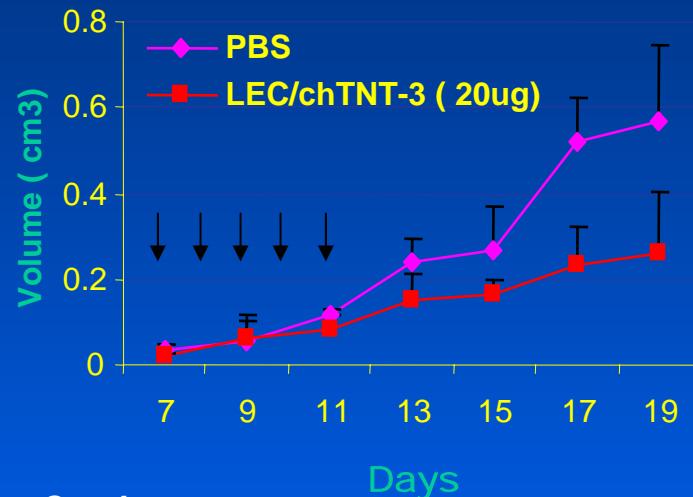
- Liver Expression Chemokine (LEC)
- A CC family (β family) chemokine (CCL16)
- Located on chromosome 17q in CC cluster
- Chemoattracts PMNS, monocytes, dendritic cells, and lymphocytes
- Interacts with CCR1, CCR5, and CCR8 receptors

LEC/chTNT-3 Immunotherapy in 3 Tumor Models of the BALB/c Mouse

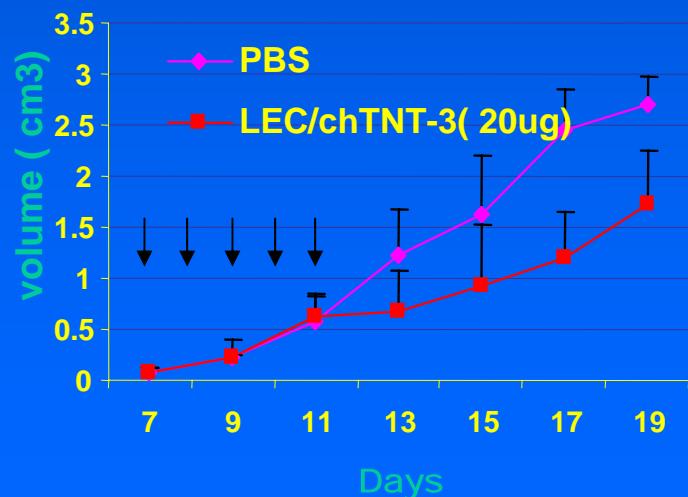
Colon 26 Colon Carcinoma



RENCA Renal Carcinoma

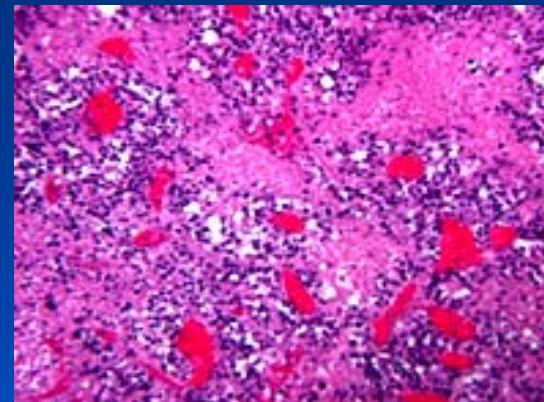
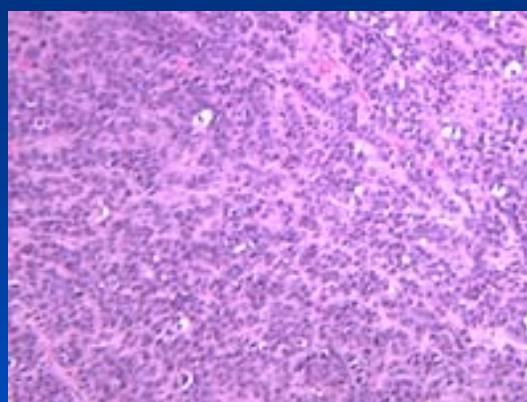


MAD 109 Lung Carcinoma

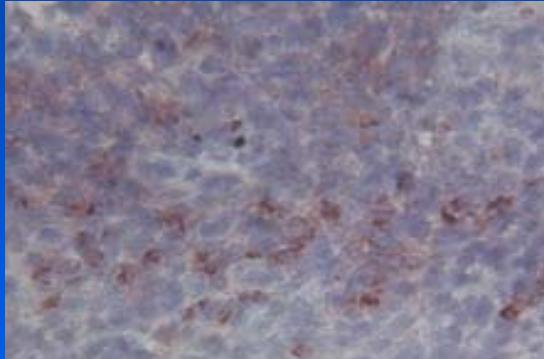
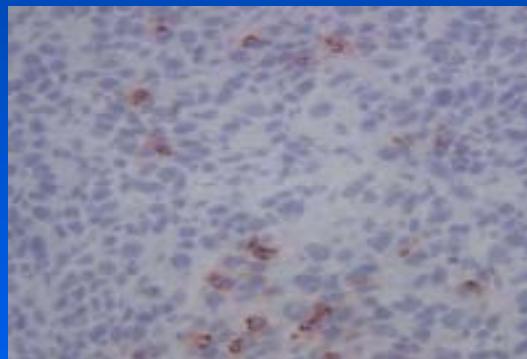


Histologic and IHC Analysis of Tumor Sections

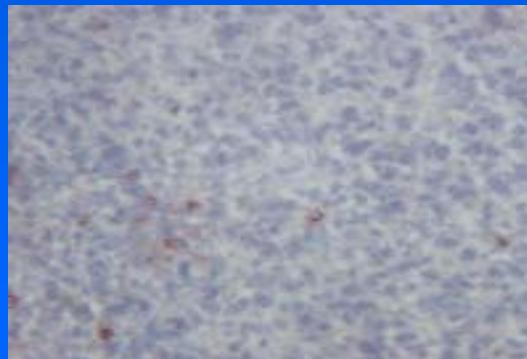
H&E



Dendritic Cells



PMNS

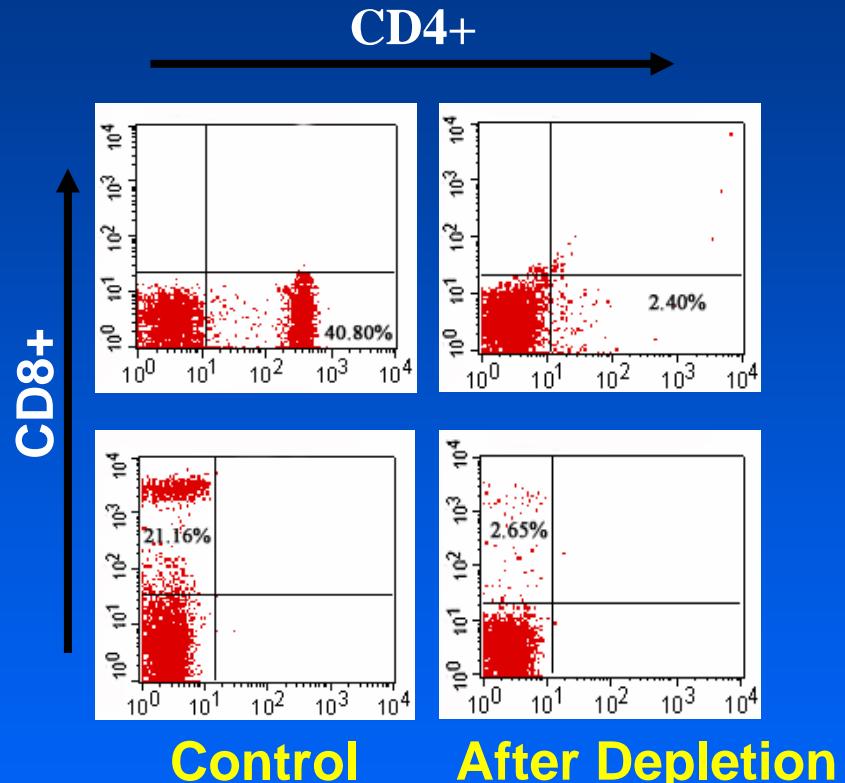
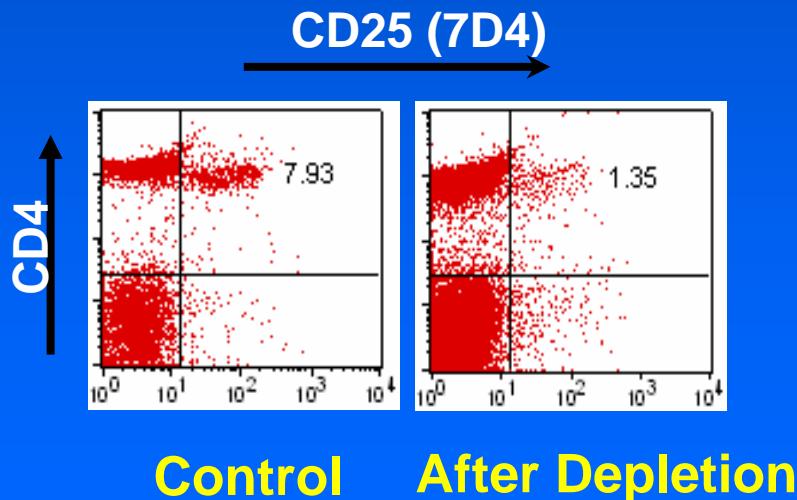


Control Treated

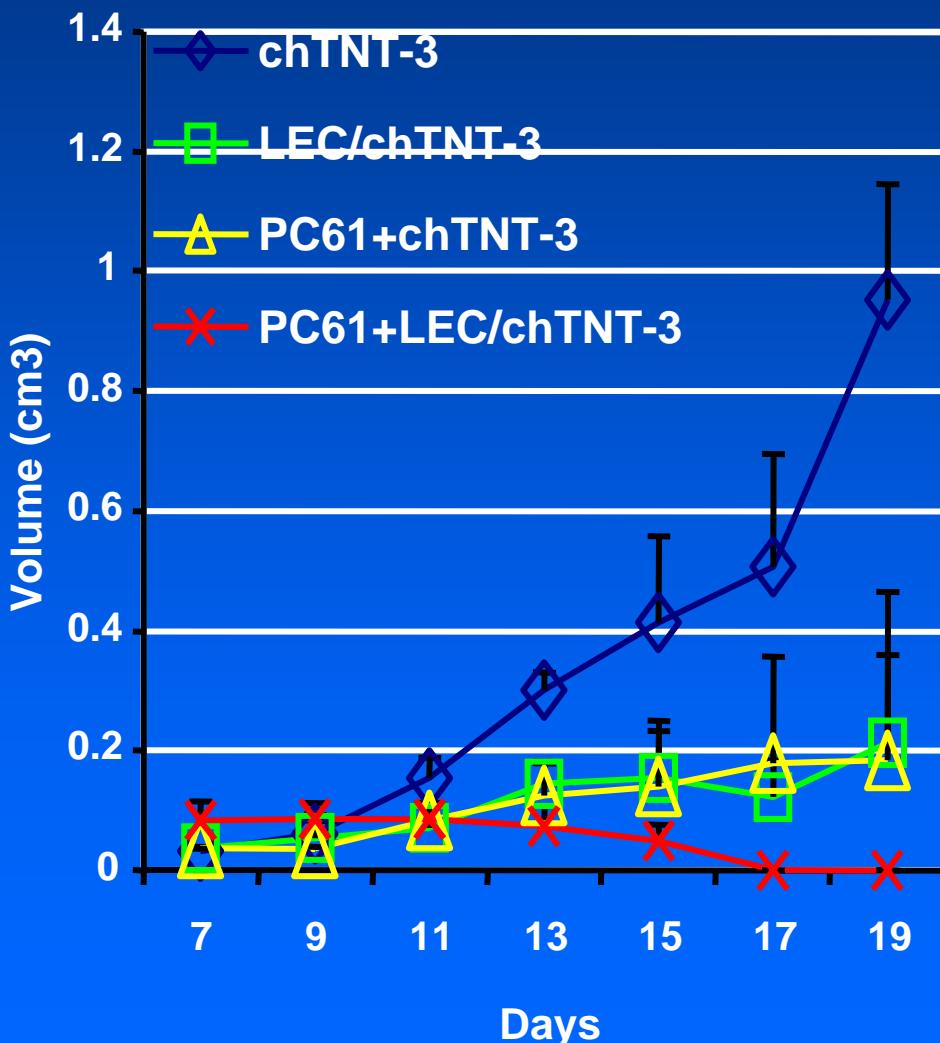
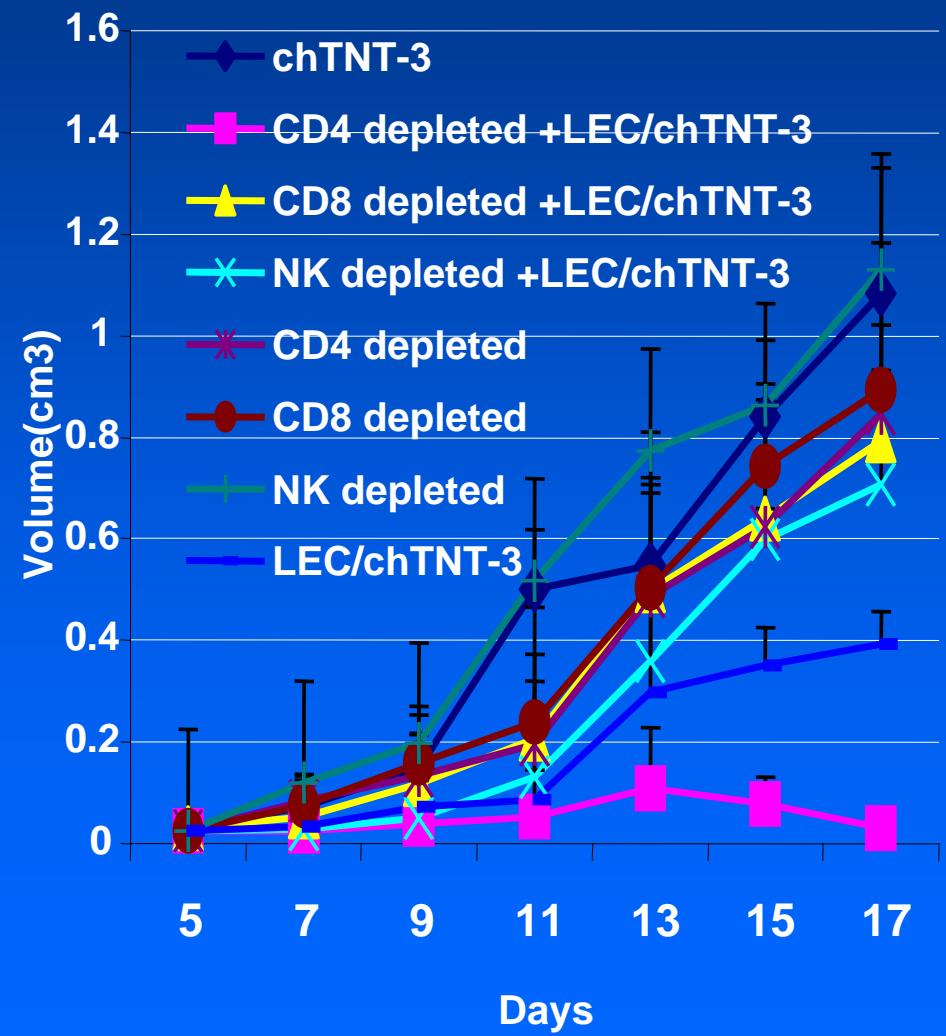
LEC/chTNT-3 Treated

Lymphocyte Depletion Studies

- CD4⁺ T cell depletion: GK1.5 (0.5mg ip q5 days)
- CD8⁺ T cell depletion:
• 2.43 (0.5 mg ip q5 days)
- NK depletion:
• anti-asialo GM1(0.35mg ip q5 days)
- CD4⁺CD25⁺ depletion: PC61 (0.5 mg ip Day 0)



T-cell Subset Depletion Studies in Colon 26





Control



CD4 depletion control

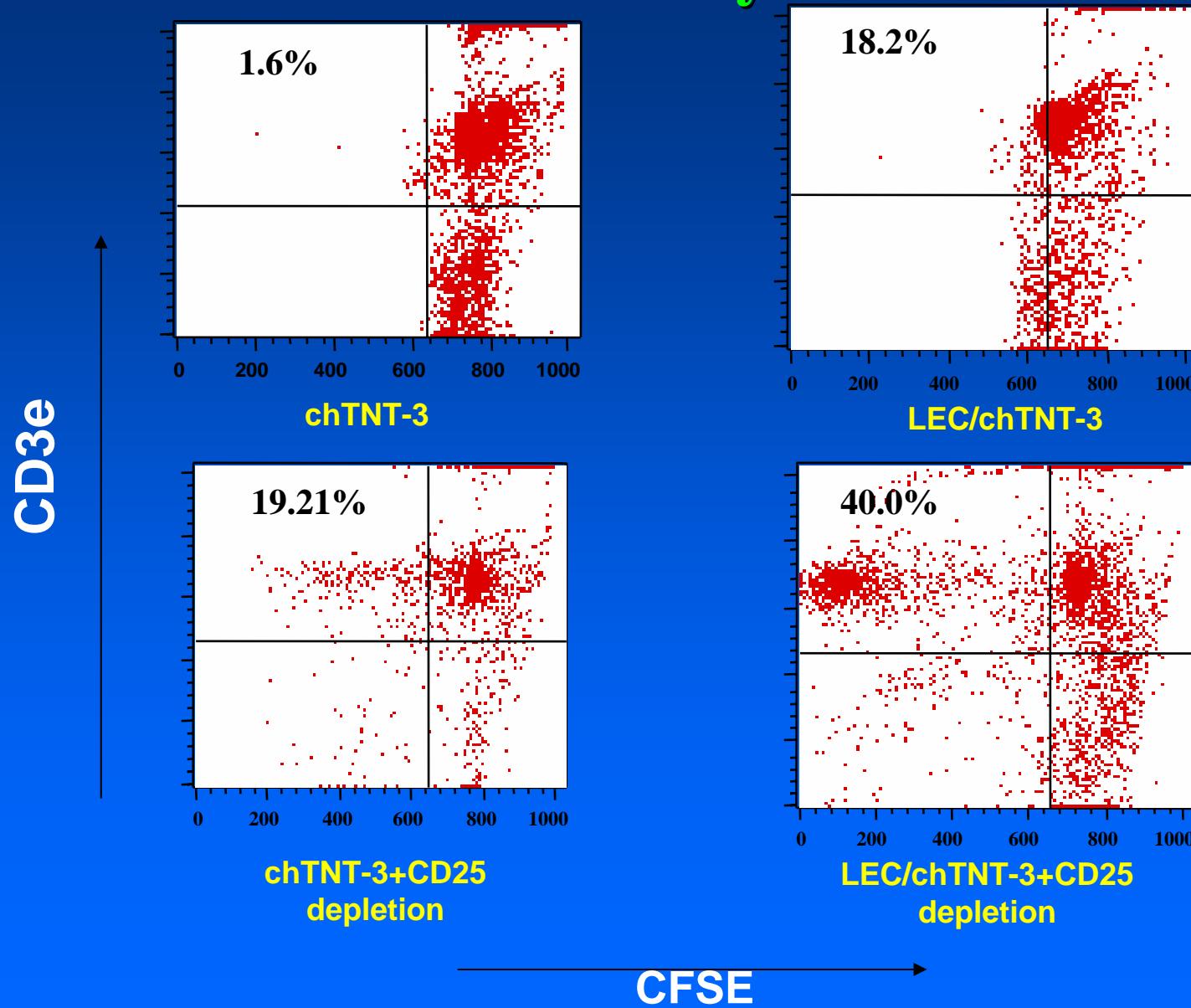


LEC/chTNT-3



LEC/chTNT-3+CD4 depletion

Cell Proliferation Assay of TDLN after Incubation with Tumor Lysates



Tumor Re-challenge Studies (3 months)



Combination Cytokine or Chemokine Fusion Protein Immunotherapy and T-cell Subset Depletion in Colon 26

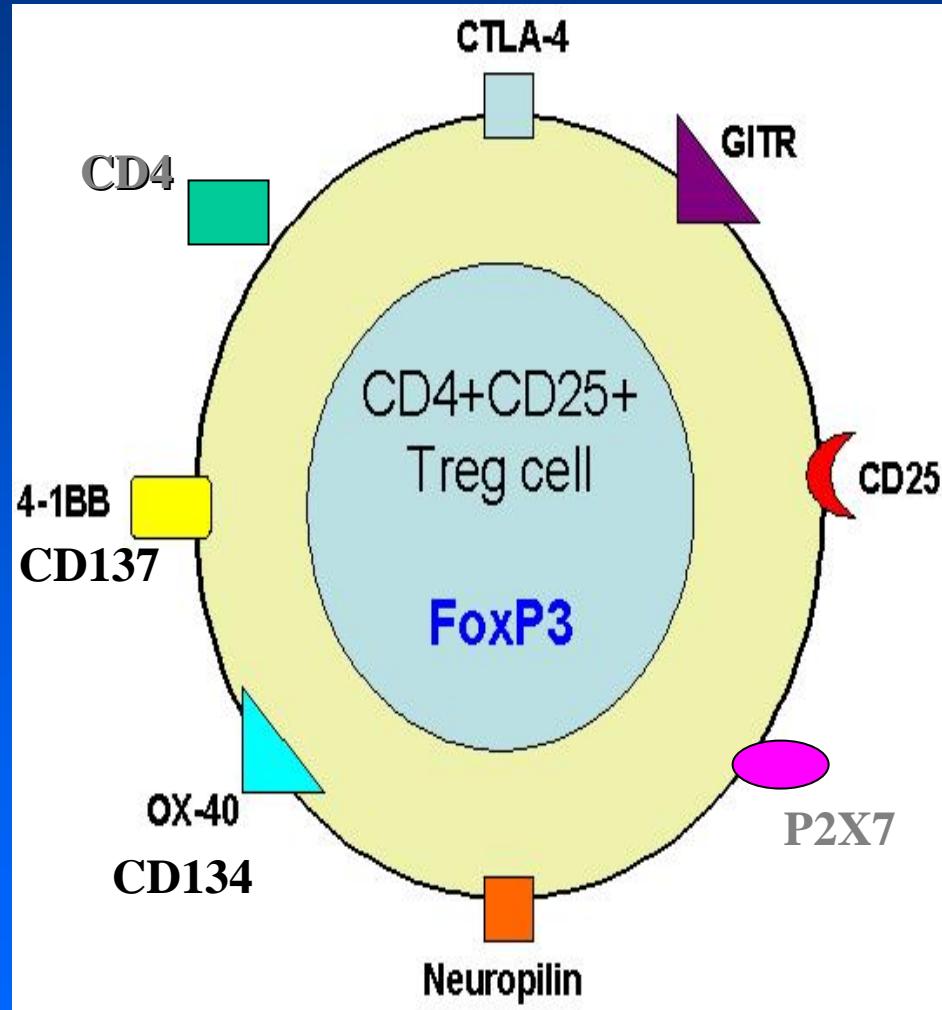
Immunotherapy ¹	-T-cell Subset Depletion ²	% Tumor Reduction (Day 19)
chTNT -3 (control)	-	0%
chTNT -3 (control)	CD4 ⁺ depletion	33%
LEC/chTNT -3	-	60%
LEC/chTNT -3	CD4 ⁺ depletion	100%
chTNT -3/IL -2	-	38%
chTNT -3/IL -2	CD4 ⁺ depletion	64%
chTNT -3/IFN - γ	-	32%
chTNT -3/IFN - γ	CD4 ⁺ depletion	33%
chTNT -3/TNF - α	-	10%
chTNT -3/TNF - α	CD4 ⁺ depletion	33%

¹Antibodies and fusion proteins (20ug/dose) were injected iv for 5 consecutive days after tumors reached 0.5cm in diameter.

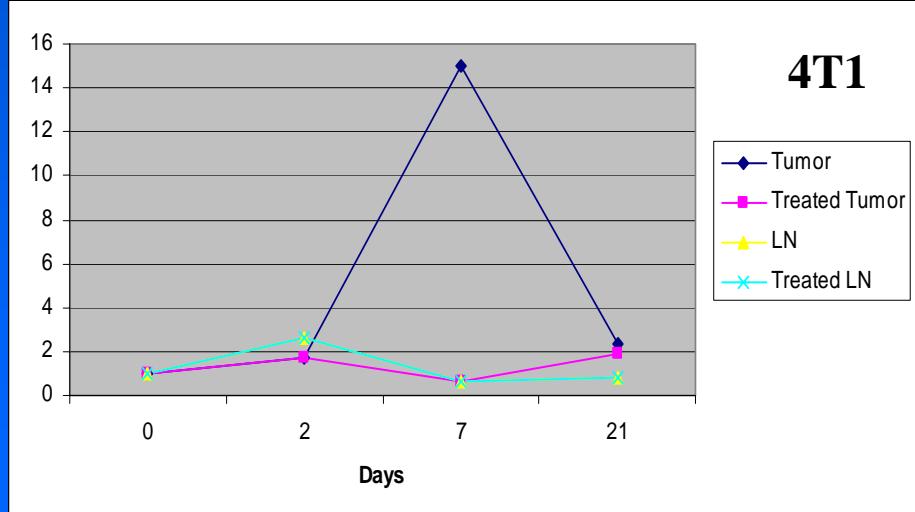
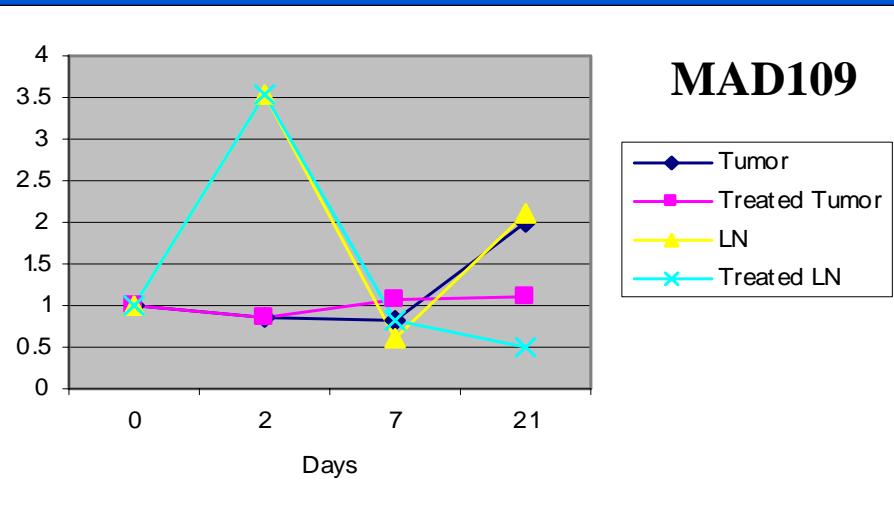
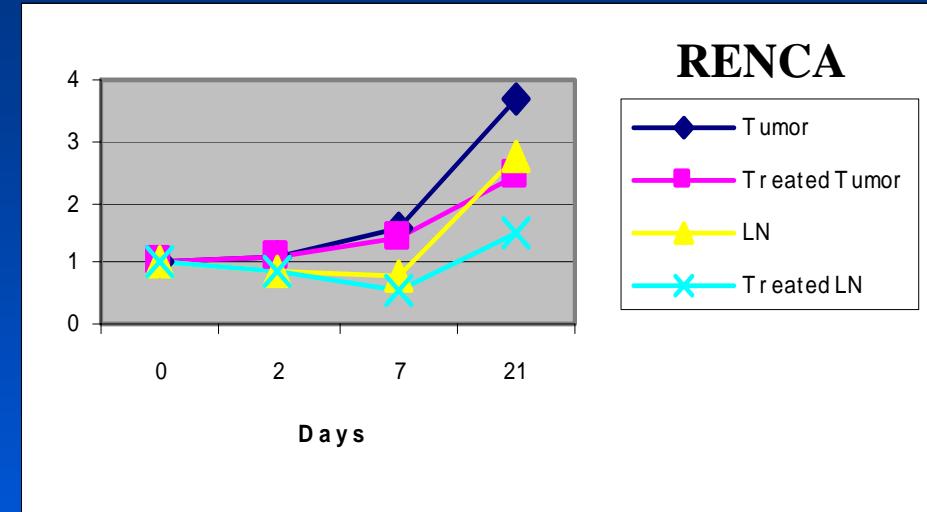
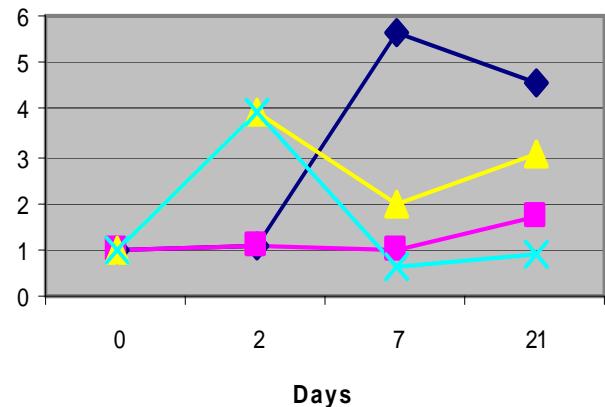
²CD4⁺ depletion (0.5 mg/dose of GK1.5) was performed ip 1 day after tumor implantation and repeated every 5 days.

Treg Markers

- * The concept of suppressor T cells was elusive until: Sakaguchi et al identified a subpopulation (about 10%) of CD4⁺ cells that express CD25.
- * Most cell markers for Treg cells are also expressed on CD4⁺CD25⁻ cells upon activation.
- * None of the known cell surface markers appear to be responsible for CD4⁺CD25⁺ mediated suppression.



Real-Time PCR Analysis of Foxp3 in 4 Treated and Untreated Murine Tumor Models



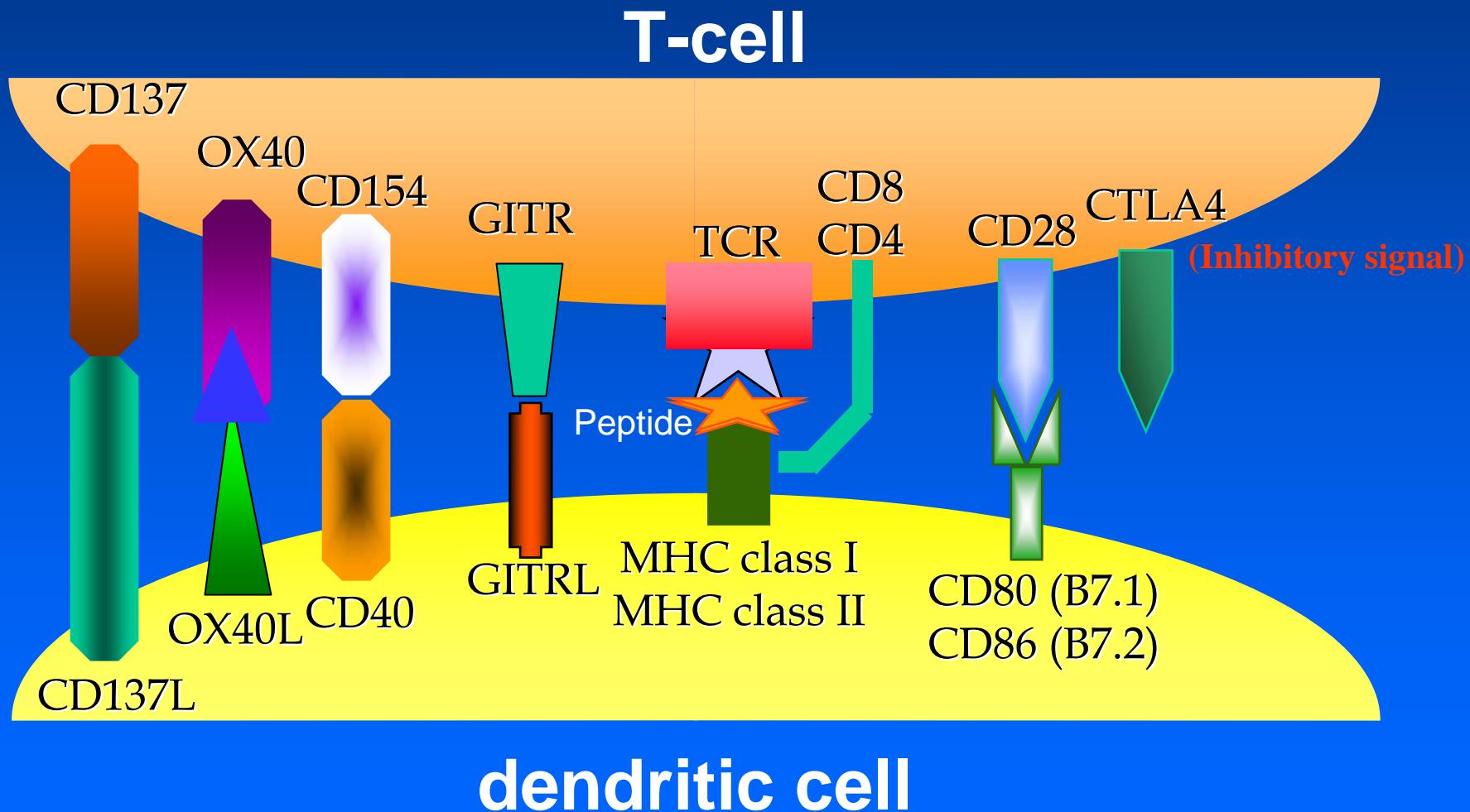
Y Axis: Fold Increase over control

Untargeted and Targeted Co-stimulation

B7

GITRL

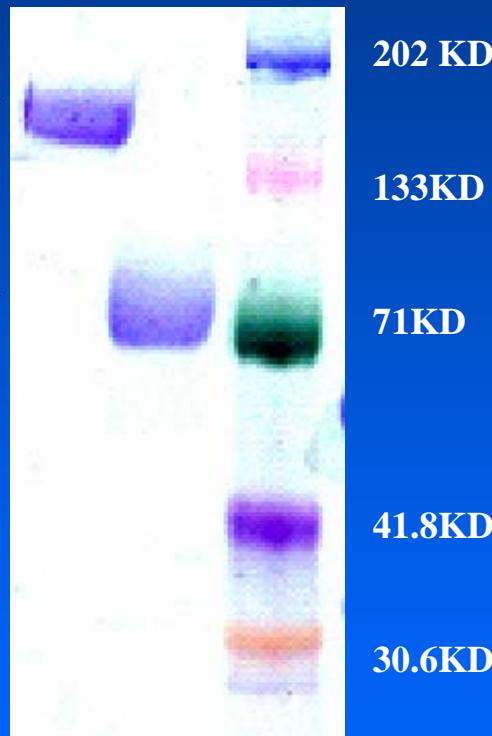
Co-stimulatory Molecules



B7.1-Fc

Non-reducing
B7.1-Fc →

Reducing
B7.1-Fc →

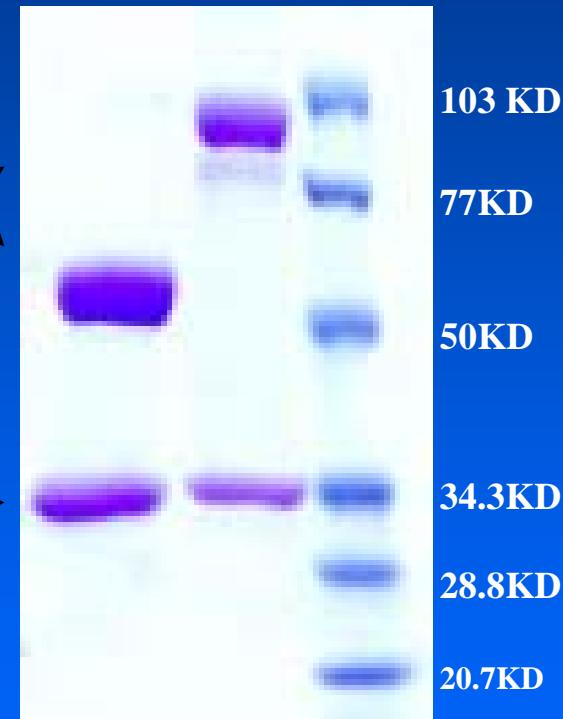


B7.1/NHS76

Reducing
NHS76 Reducing
B7.1/NHS76

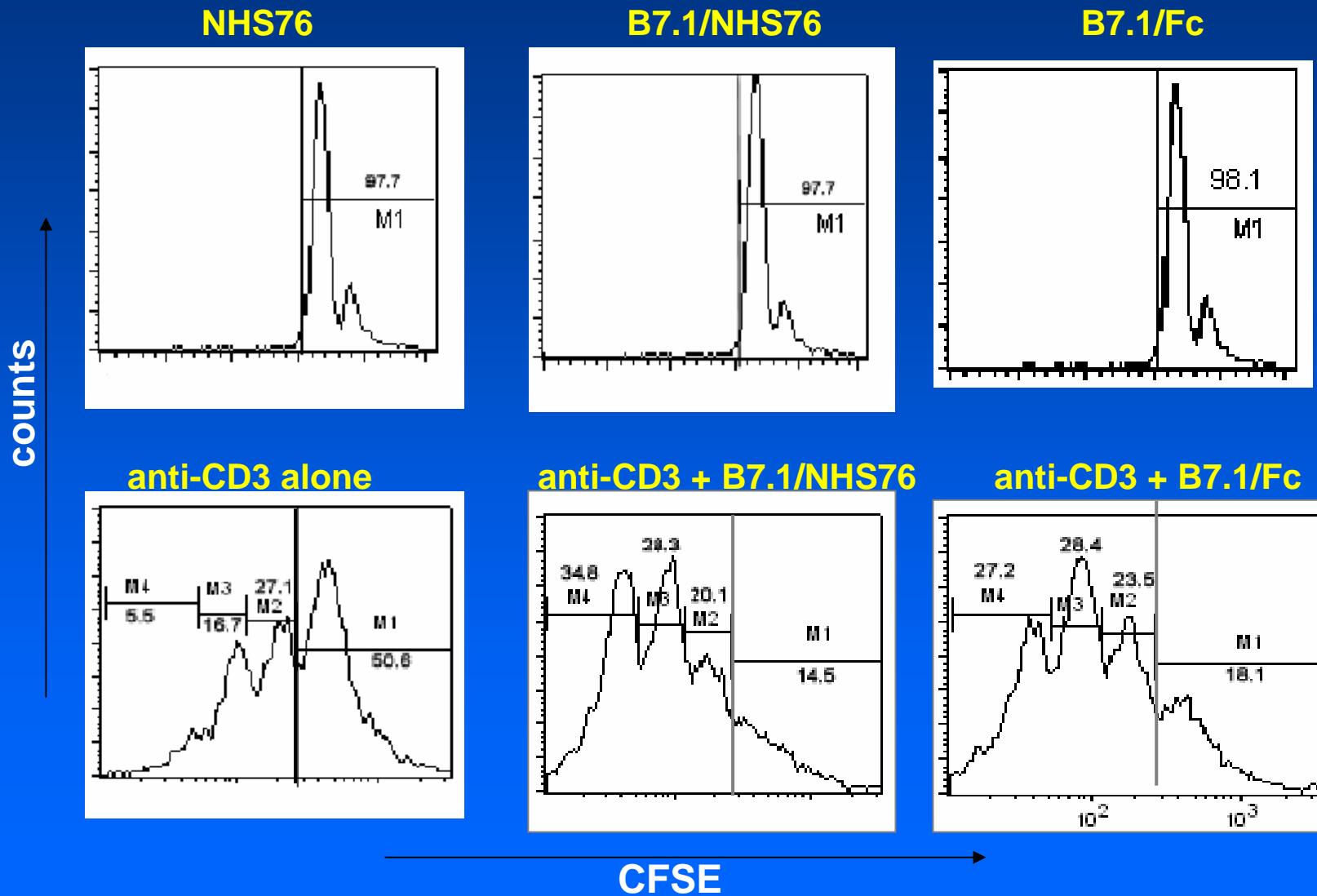
H ↗

L →

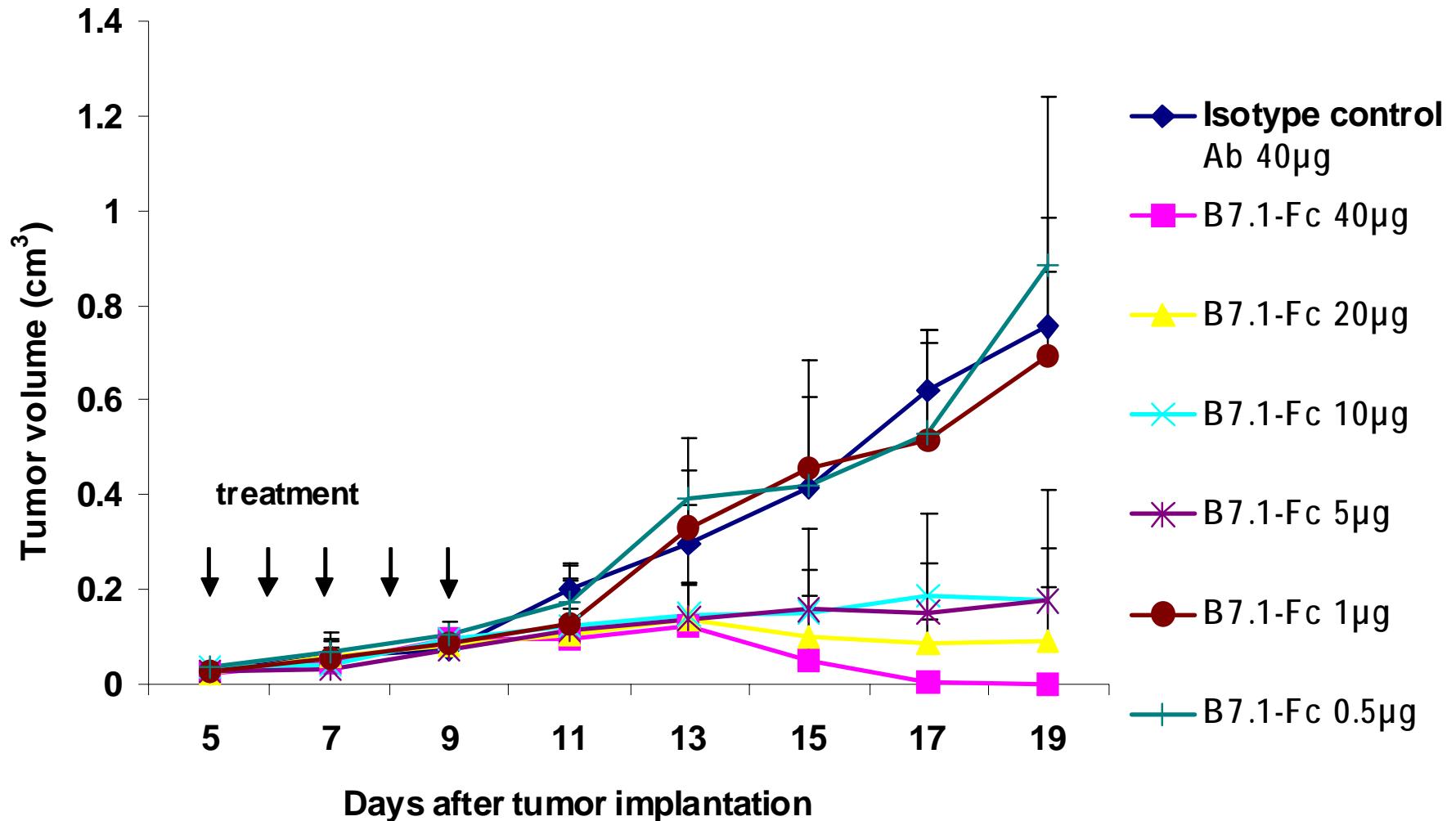


SDS PAGE

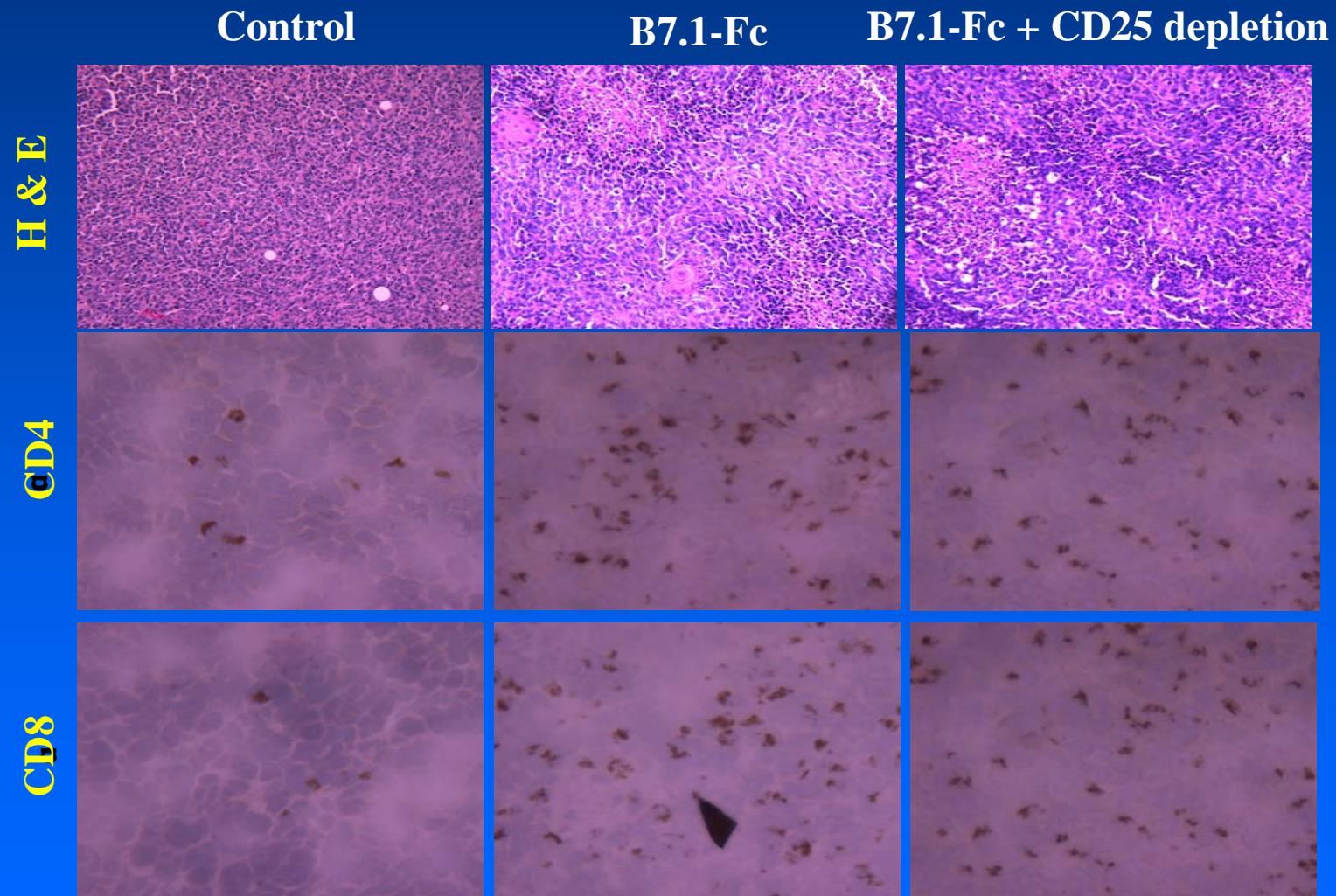
CFSE Proliferation Assay



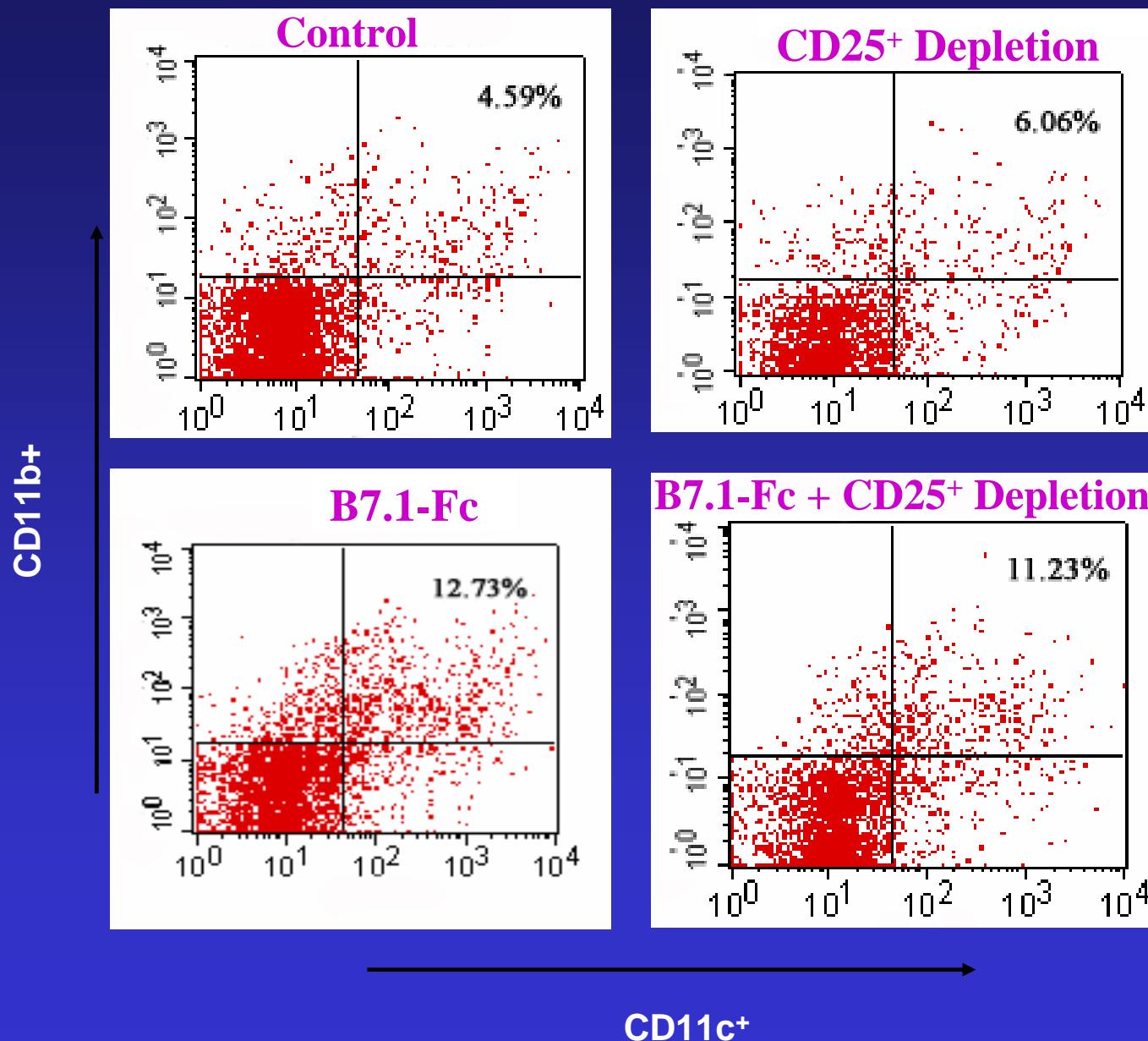
B7.1-Fc Dosing Study in Colon 26 Tumor Model



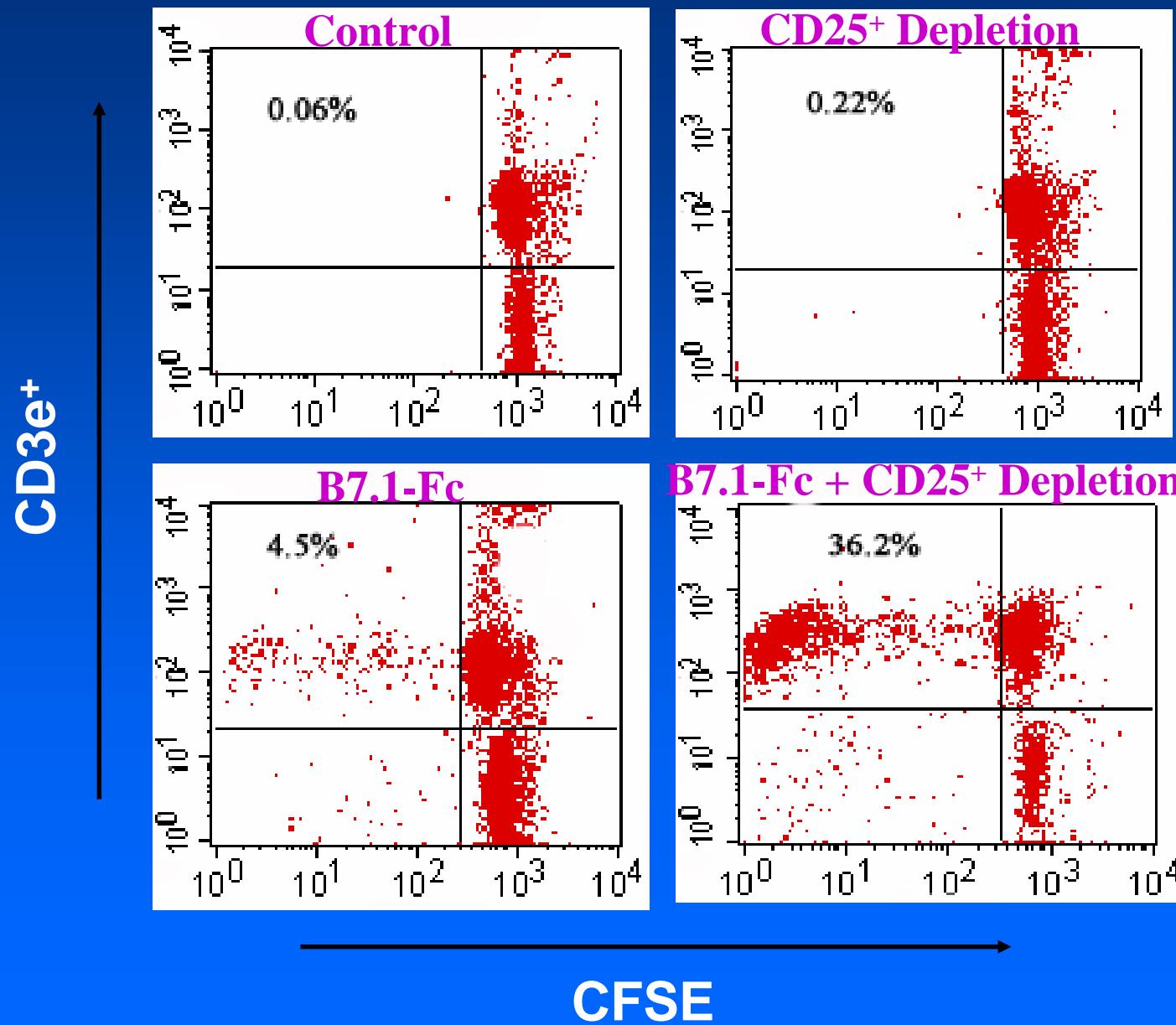
IHC of Control and Treated Colon 26



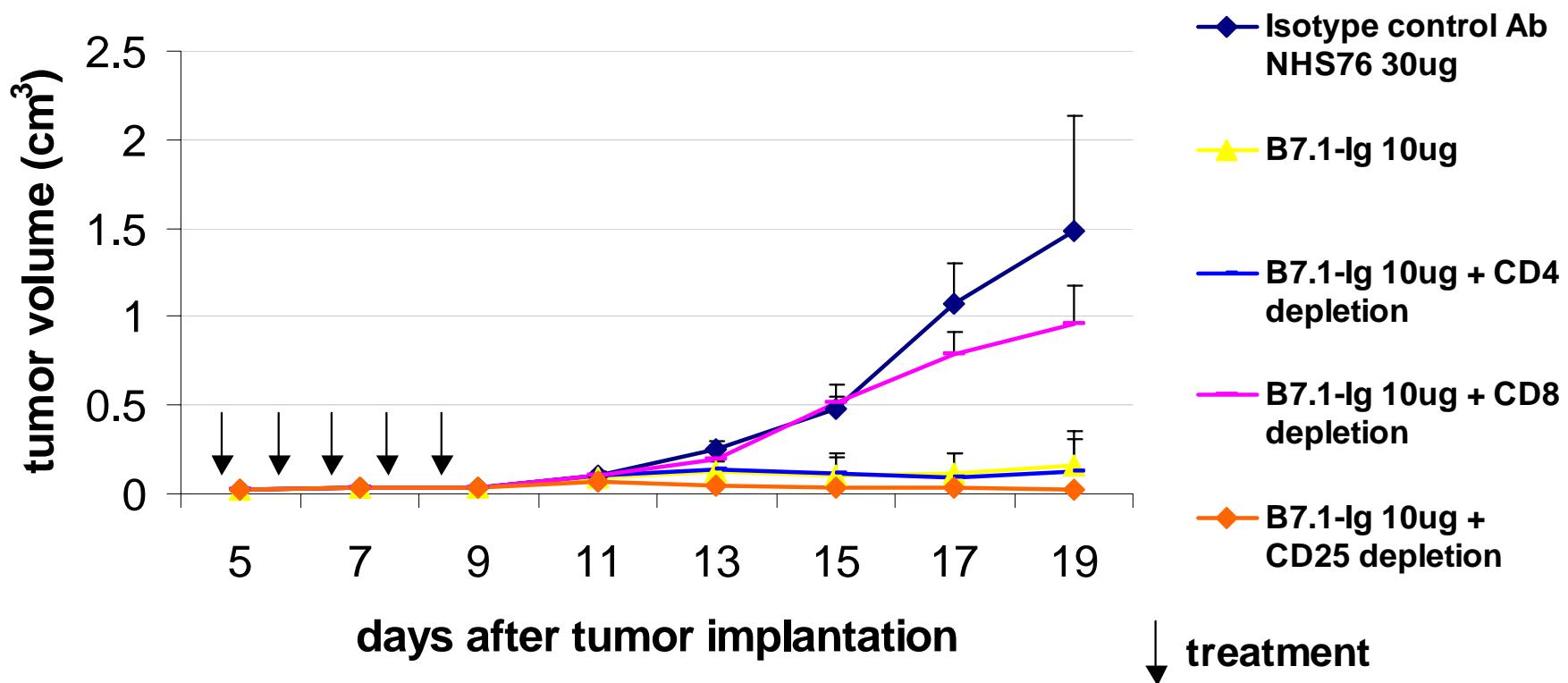
Tumor Infiltrating Lymphocytes (TIL)



Activation of TIL With Tumor Lysate *In Vitro*



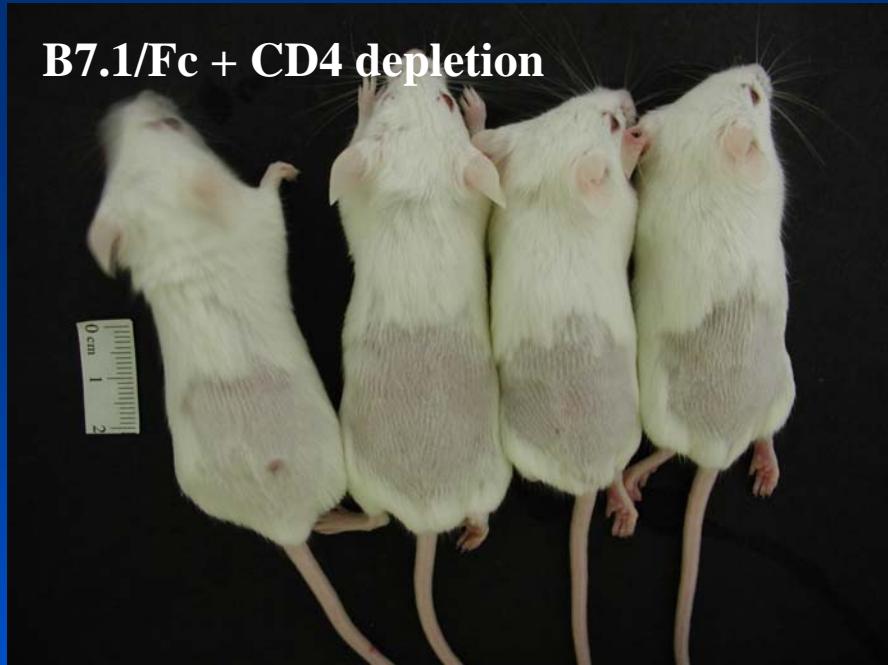
T-Cell Depletion Studies in B7.1-Fc Treated Colon 26-Bearing Mice



B7.1/Fc



B7.1/Fc + CD4 depletion



B7.1/Fc + CD8 depletion

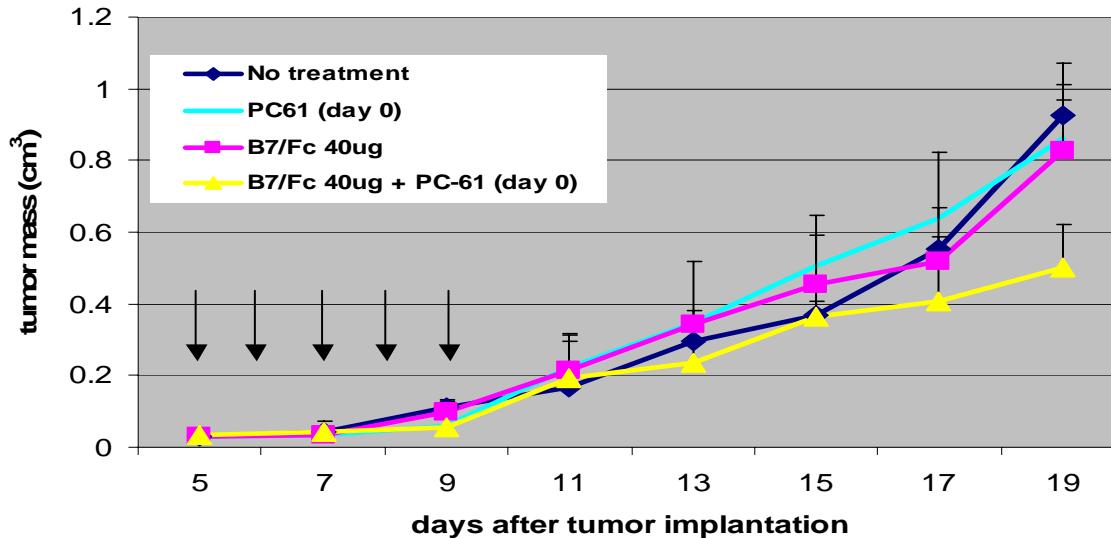


B7.1/Fc + CD25 depletion

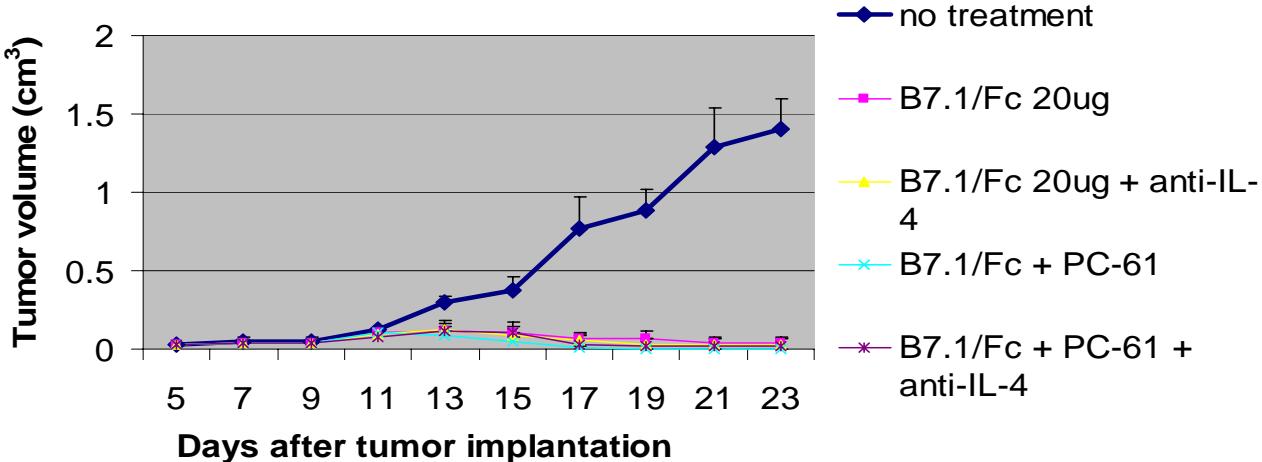


Mechanism of Action Studies

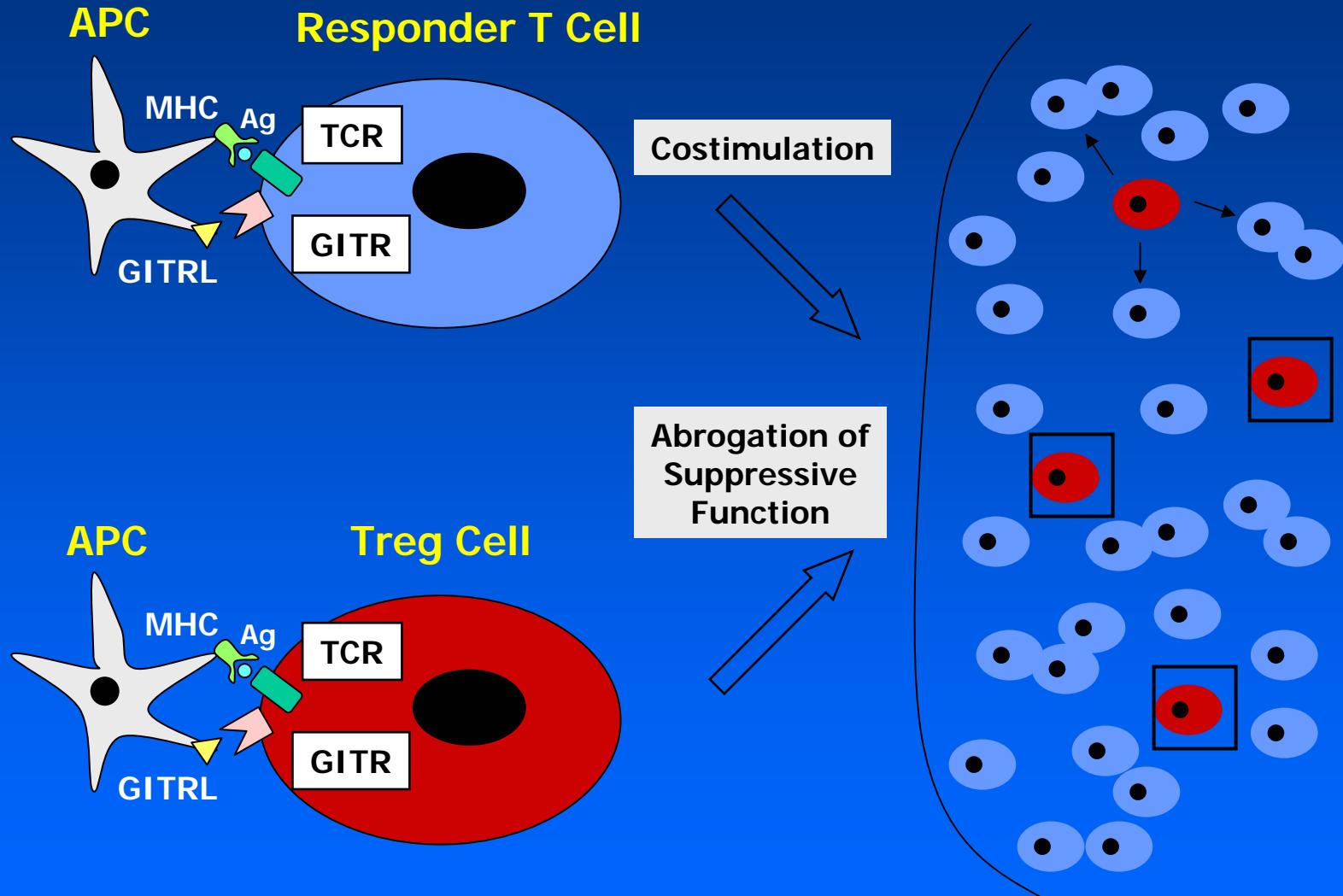
IFN-gamma Vital for B7.1 Therapy as Demonstrated in KO mice



Anti IL-4 Therapy Does Not Reverse B7.1-Fc Therapy

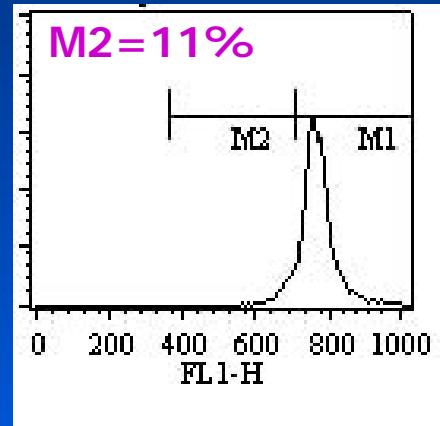


Dual Function of GITR

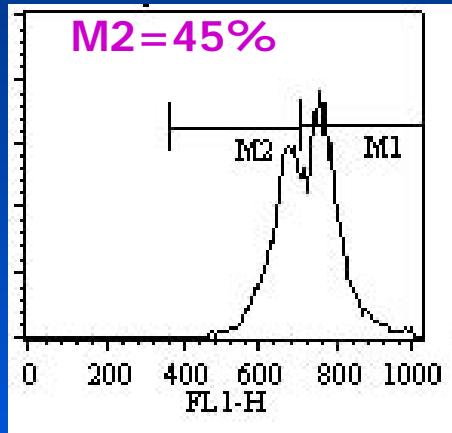


Activity Assay of GITRL Fusion Proteins at 48 Hours

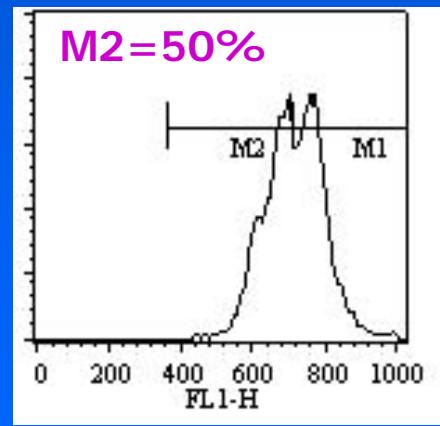
CD3 alone



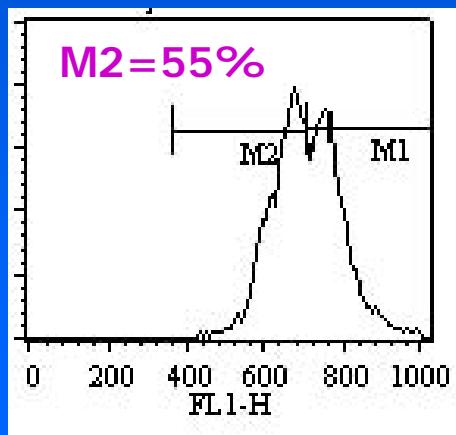
DTA-1



Fc-GITRL



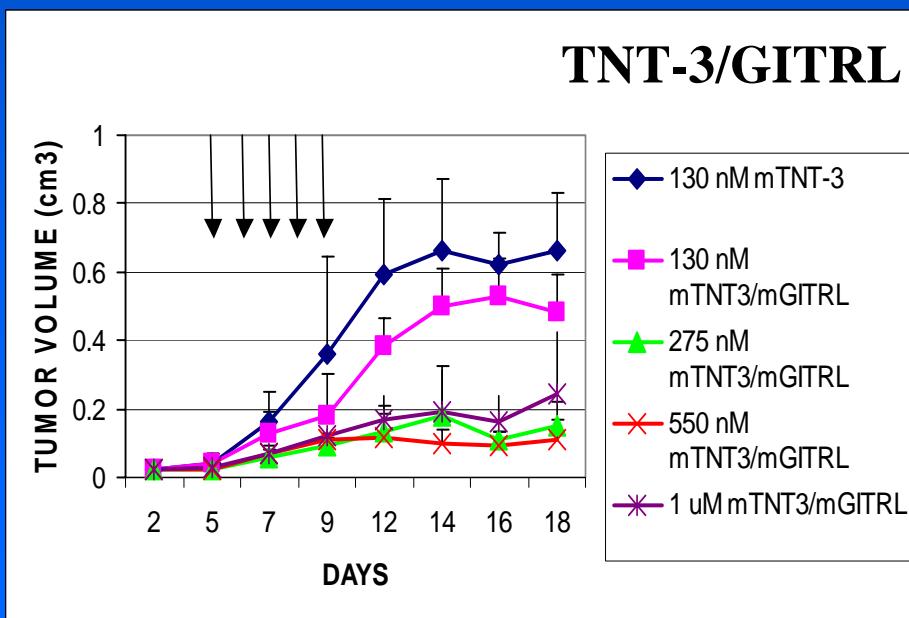
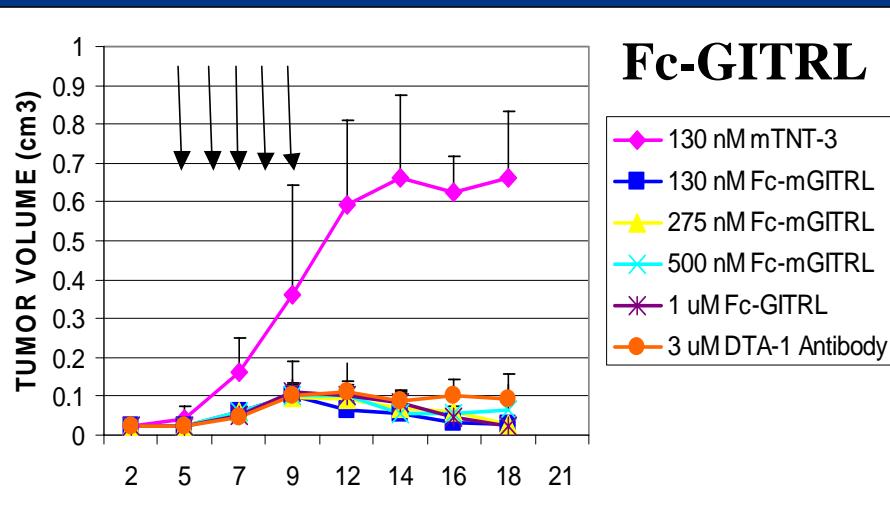
TNT3/GITRL



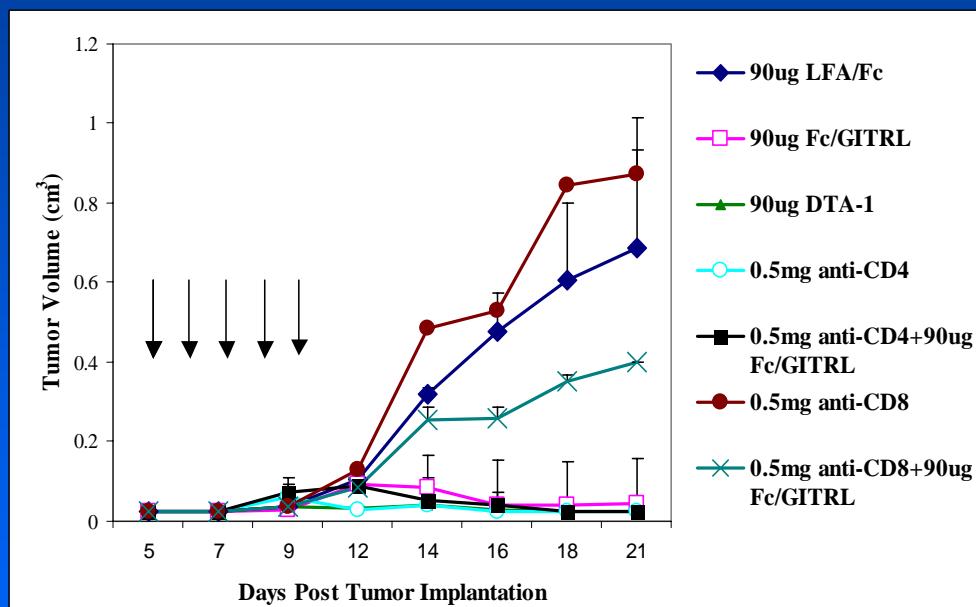
← CFSE

- Performed on naïve splenocytes.
- 2ug of protein was used for each sample.
- CFSE stained $CD4^+$ T cells

Targeted and Non-targeted GITRL Dosing Studies in Colon 26 Tumor Model

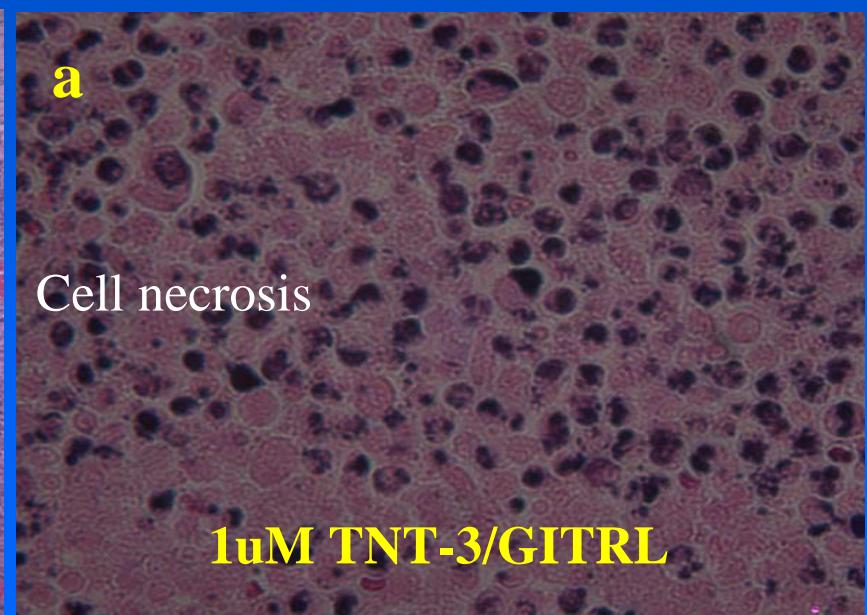
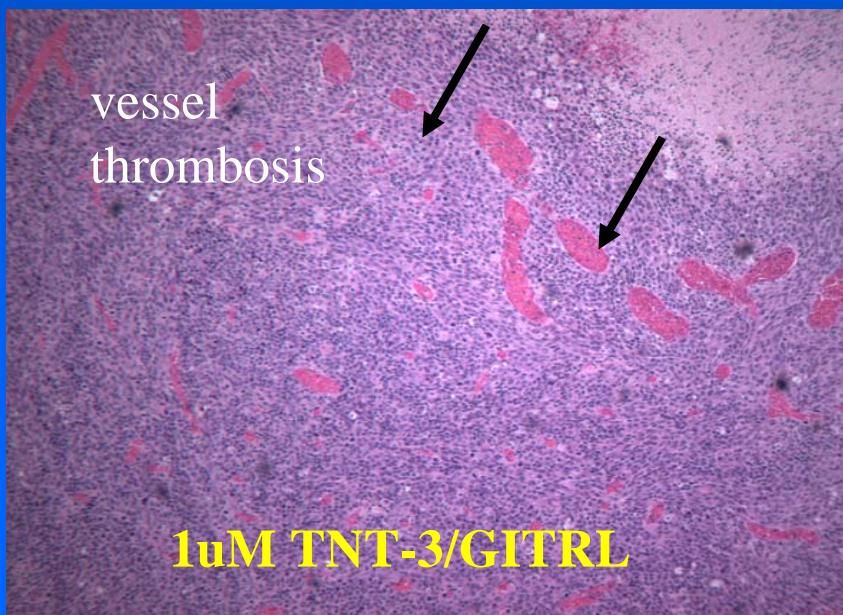
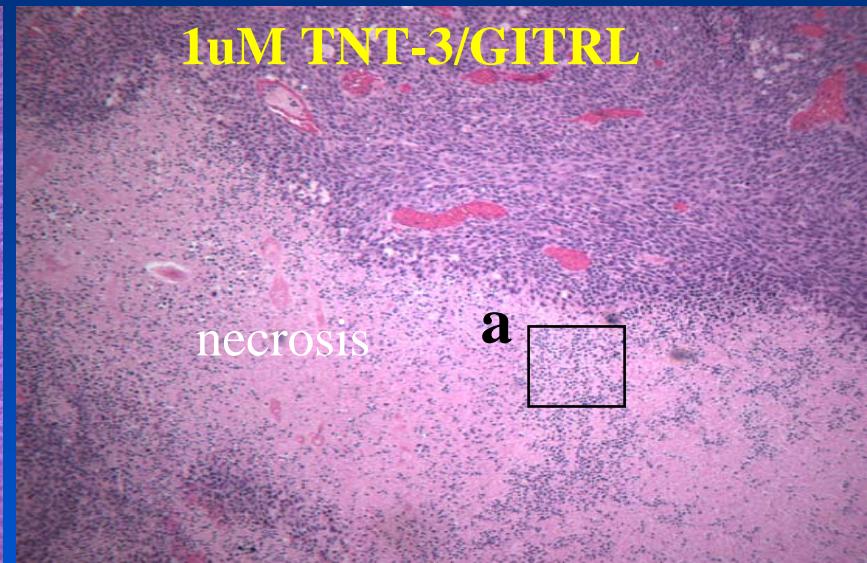


T-cell Subset Deletion Studies



↓
TREATMENT

H & E of GITRL Treated COLON-26 Bearing Mice



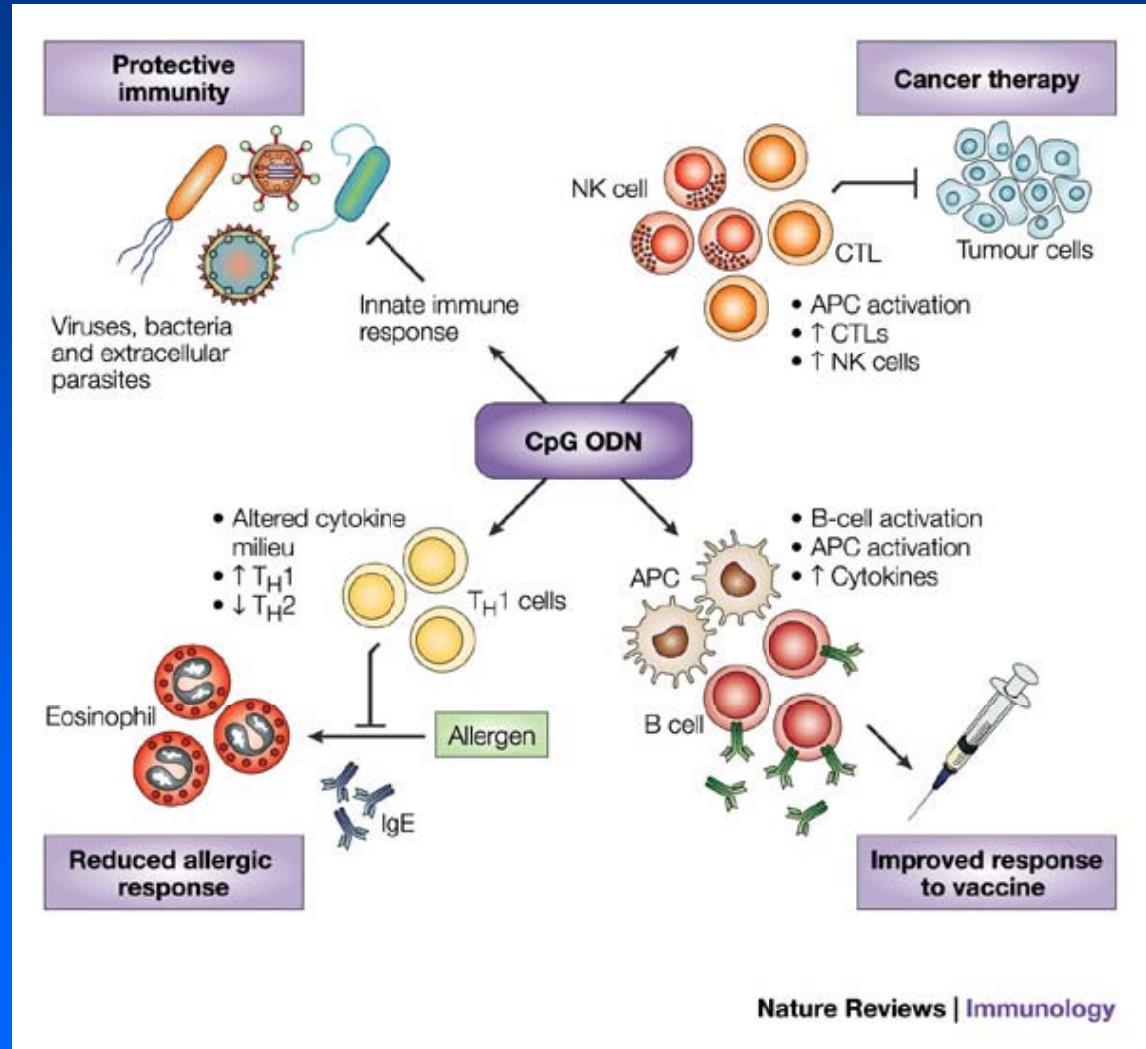
Targeting Innate Immunity

TNT-3/CpG

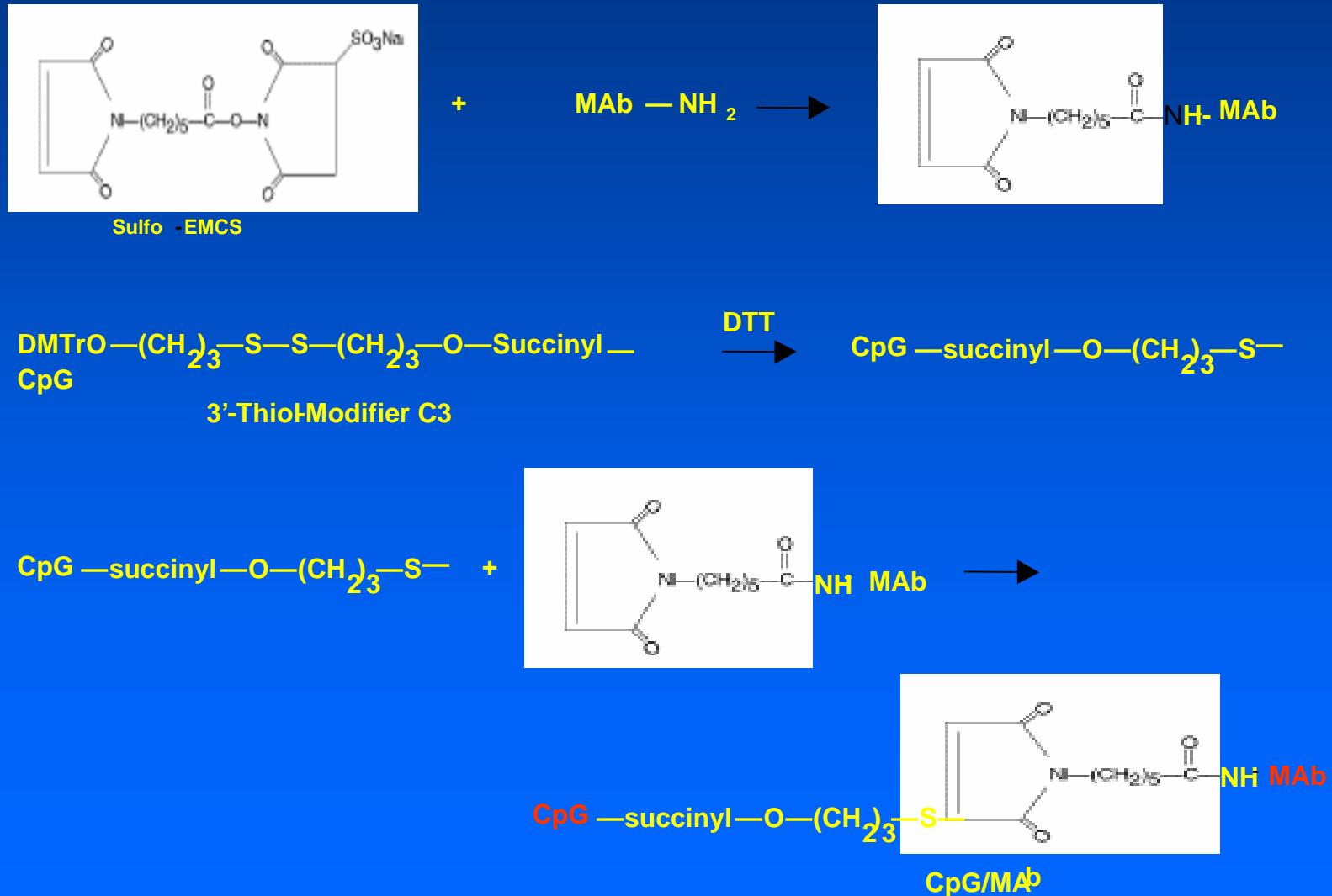


Multiple Functions of CpG

- Potential for CpG ODNS
 - Protective Immunity
 - TLR9 detects CpG → triggers ↑ response
 - Allergies
 - TH1 response
 - Vaccine Response
 - Th1 and pro-inflammatory cytokines → Improves APC function
 - Promotes induction of Ag-specific response
 - Cancer Therapy
 - ↑ CTLs and NK cells



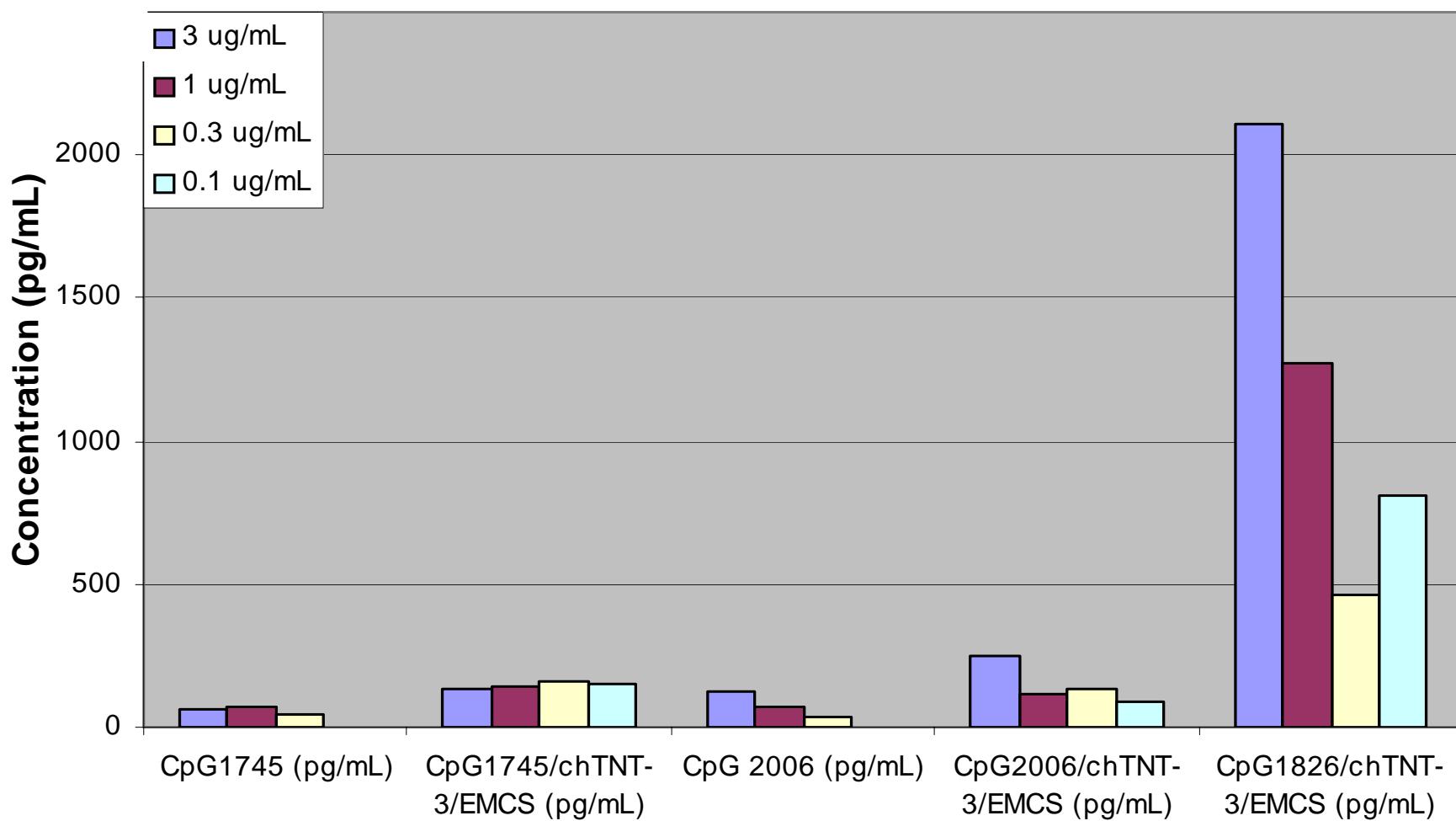
Heterobifunctional Linkage of CpG to Antibody



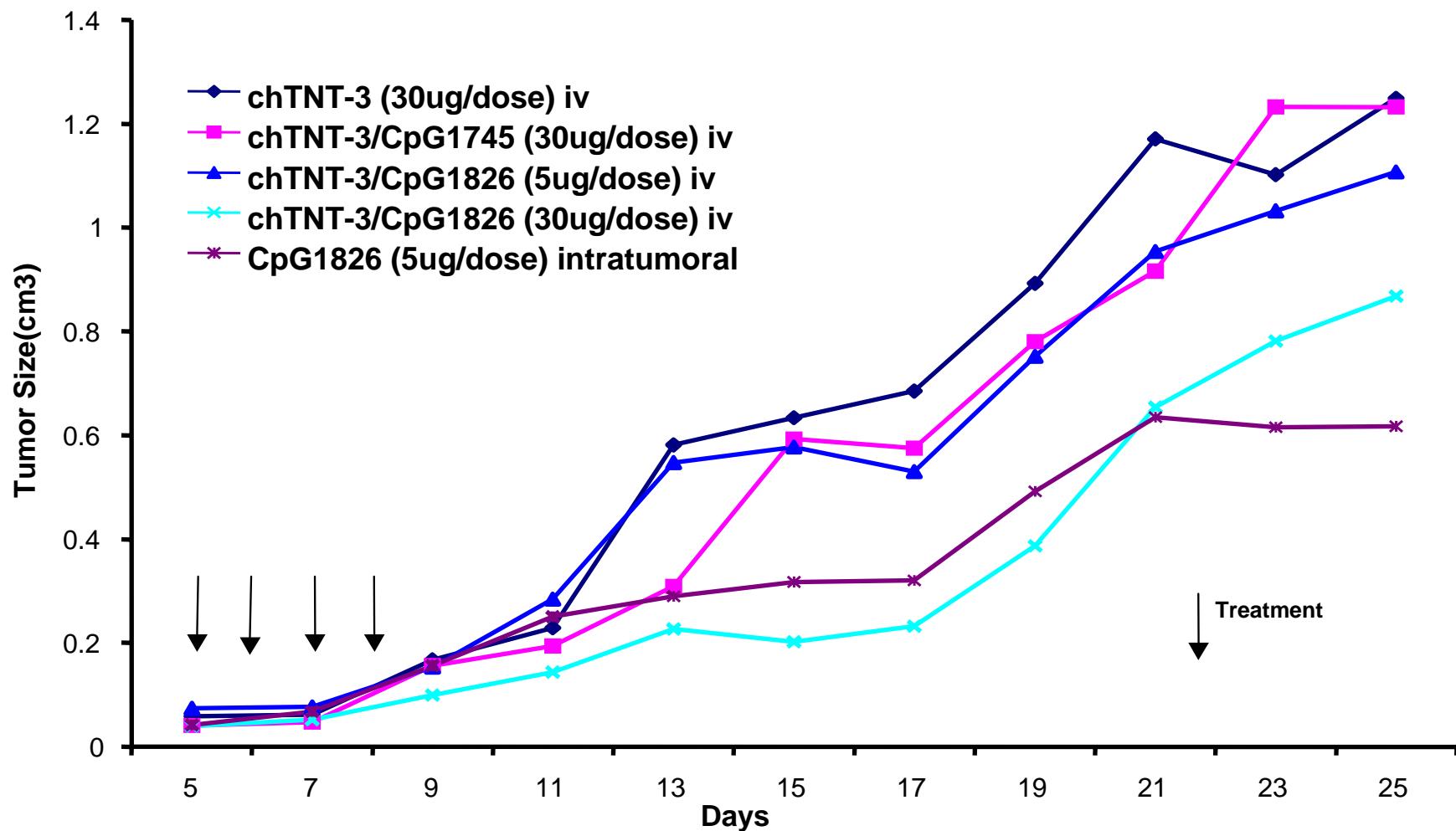
In Vitro Assay Demonstrating CpG Activity of Immunoconjugate

B

IL-6 J77743A Cells



chTNT-3/CpG Immunotherapy



SUMMARY: Major Pathways of Immune Activation for Cancer Immunotherapy

- Chemotaxis (chemokines)
- Co-Stimulation (second signal)
- Combination T-cell activation and inhibition of Treg (GITRL)
- Activators of innate immunity (CpG)

SUMMARY: Major Inhibitory Mechanisms That Generate Tolerance to Tumors

- Treg cells
- T-cell death receptors (PD-1, 2)
- Soluble cytokines (IL-10, TGF β)
- Inhibition of CD28 Co-stim (CTLA-4, B7.1-Fc?)
- IDO (Indoleamine 2,3-dioxygenase)
 - degrades tryptophan
- Loss or release of MHC class I molecules

Epstein Laboratory

Peisheng Hu, PhD

Leslie Khawli, PhD

PhD Students

Ahong Liu

Robyn Arias

Meg Flanagan

Nan Zhang

Rebecca Sadun

Master Students

Charleen Nien

Howard Kuo

Technicians

Maggie Yun

Mandy Han

James Pang

Canada



Los Angeles, CA



Aspen, CO



Freiberg, Germany



The Birth of Man

**Mills Garden,
Stockholm**

