# SITC 2019 Gaylord National Hotel & Convention Center Nov. 6-10

NATIONAL HARBOR, MARYLAND





## Flexible <sup>64</sup>Cu-nanoparticle-based cell labeling system allows for *in vivo* tracking of adoptively transferred T-cells by PET/CT

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Presenting: Hólmfridur Rósa Halldórsdóttir M.Sc.

Technical University of Denmark





#### Financial relationships

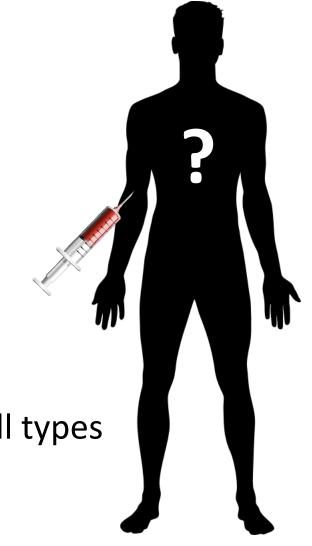
Nothing to disclose

### Why is this of value?

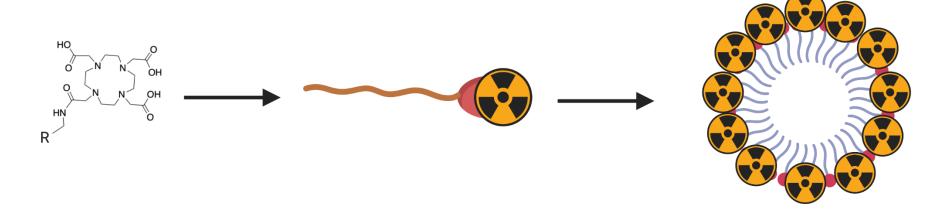
- Adoptive cell transfer
  - Where do the cells go?
  - When do they reach the tumor?
  - Timing of adjuvant therapy!

Real time tracking

Flexible system: Labelling of different cell types



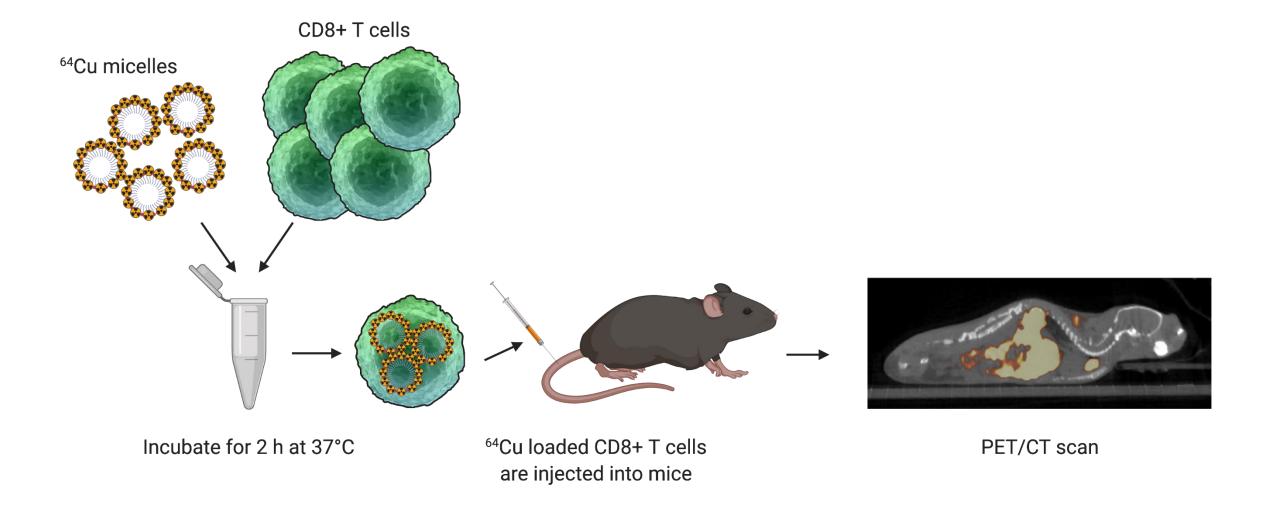
#### The flexible <sup>64</sup>Cu-nanoparticle-based cell labeling system



- Micelle formulation with a DOTA chelator.
- Flexible radiolabeling.
- Provides high specific radioactivity.



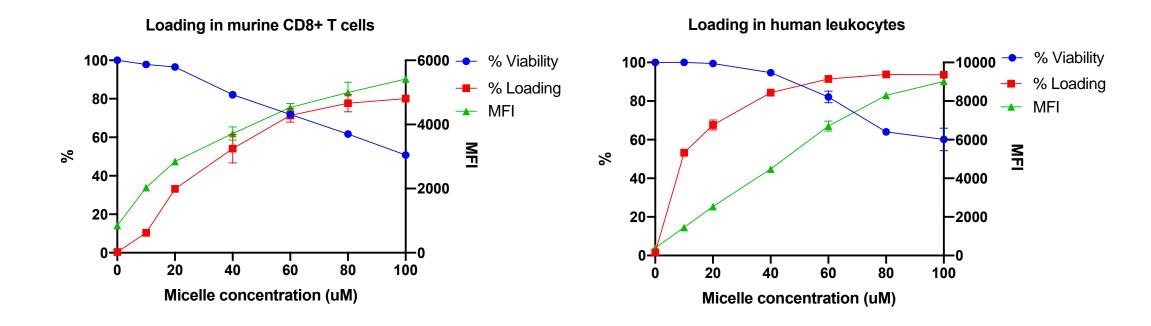
#### **Protocol**





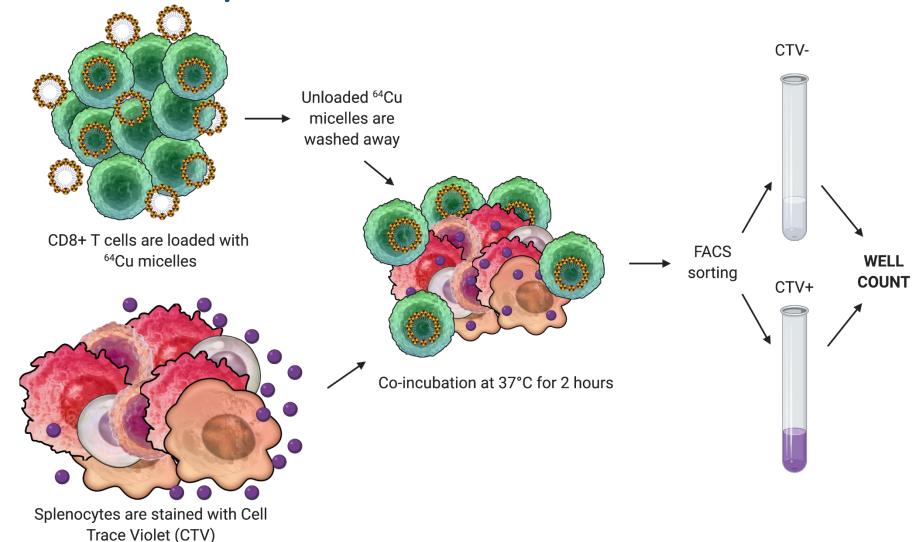
#### Loading parameters

For optimizing the loading protocol we incorporated a fluorophore into our micelle construct.





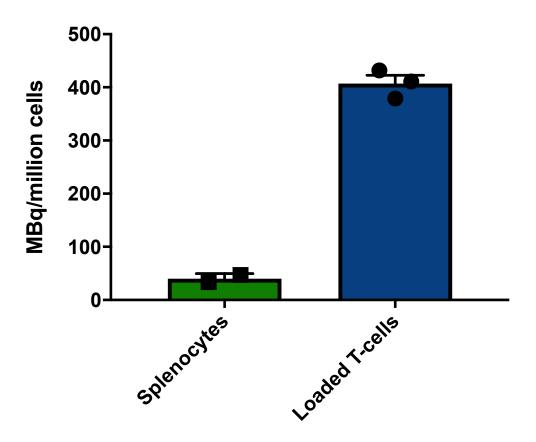
#### Micelles are stably retained within loaded T cells





#### Micelles are stably retained within loaded T cells

#### Well count results after 2h co-incubation



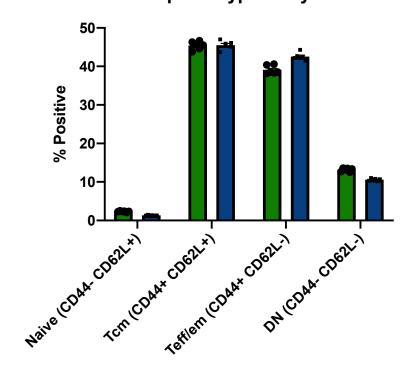
Mean ± SEM

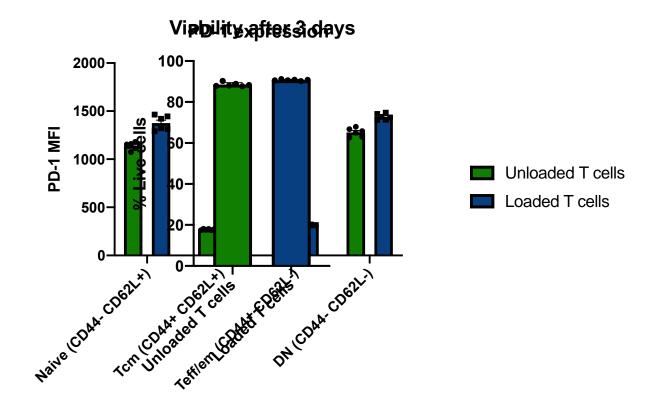
Data by Lars Ringgaard



#### Micelle loading does not change T cell phenotype







Mean ± SEM



#### Proof of concept in vivo

How do we prove it is the loaded T cells we see in the PET/CT scans?



#### Proof of concept in vivo

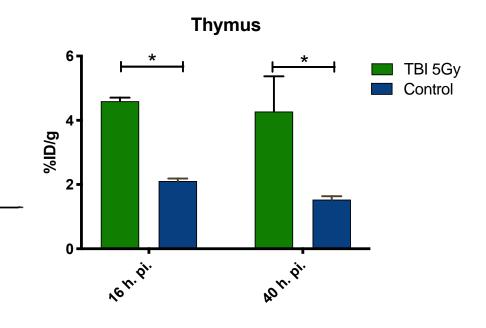
How do we prove it is the loaded T cells we see in the PET/CT scans?

Journal of experimental medicine 1991:

Reentry of T Cells to the Adult Thymus Is Restricted to Activated T Cells

By David B. Agus, Charles D. Surh, and Jonathan Sprent

From the Department of Immunology, Research Institute of Scripps Clinic, La Jolla, California 92037



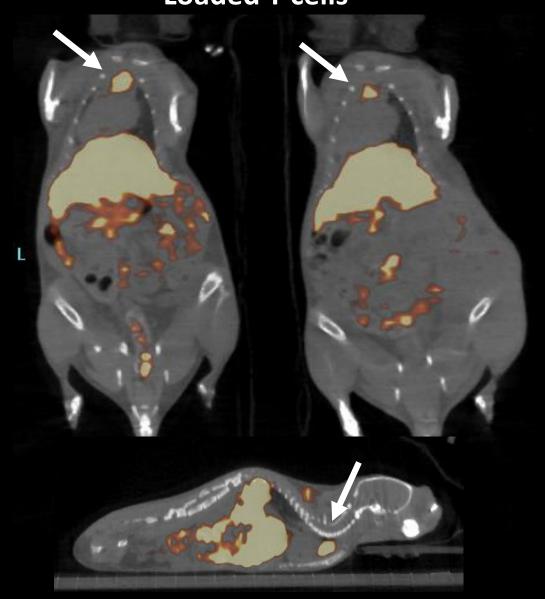


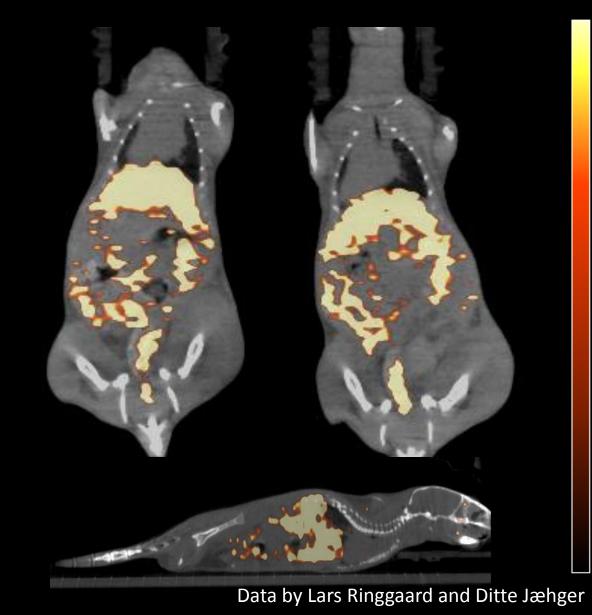
### **Total body irradiated mice**

**Loaded T cells** 

48 hours after injection

Free micelles





#### Radioactivity follows T cell numbers

Mice were injected with 1, 5 or 10 million loaded T cells.

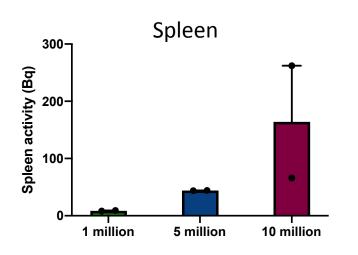
Radioactivity was measured after 24 h in spleen, thymus and tumor using PET/CT.

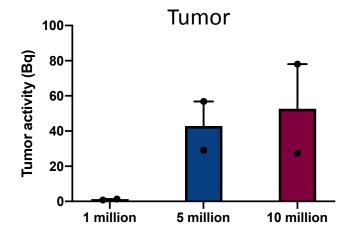
Organs where then harvested and radioactivity in the organs was measured using a well counter.

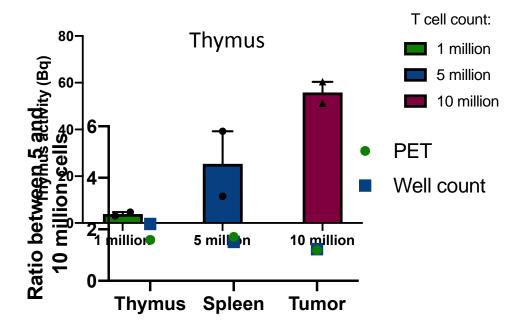


#### Radioactivity follows T cell numbers

#### Well count data:





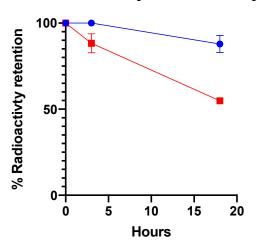


Mean ± SEM



#### T cell biodistribution

#### **Overall body radioactivity**



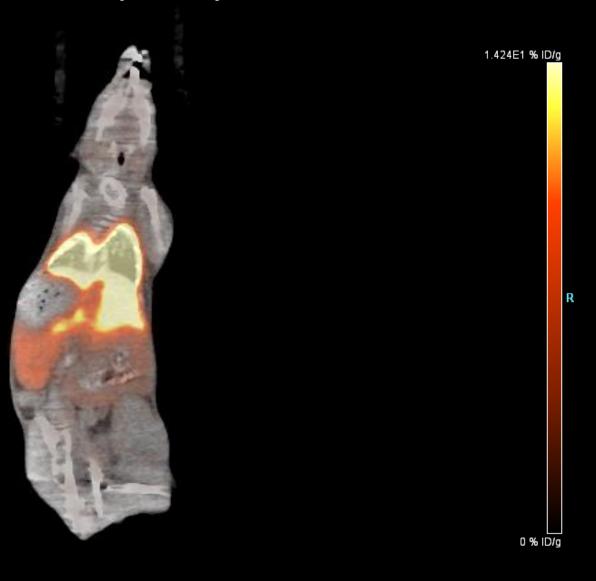
- Loaded T cells
- Free micelles

n=6 Mean ± SEM

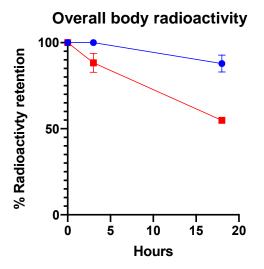


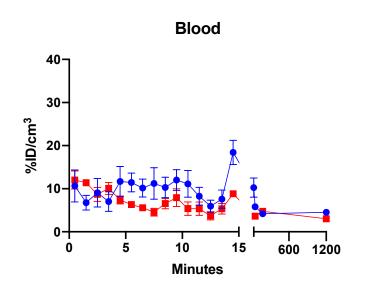
## **Loaded T cells home to lungs**

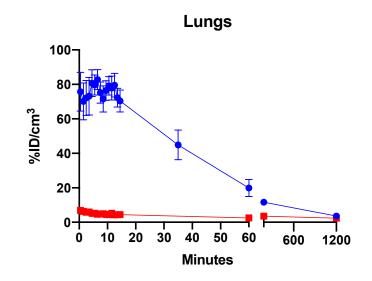
Immediately after injection



#### T cell biodistribution







Loaded T cells

Free micelles

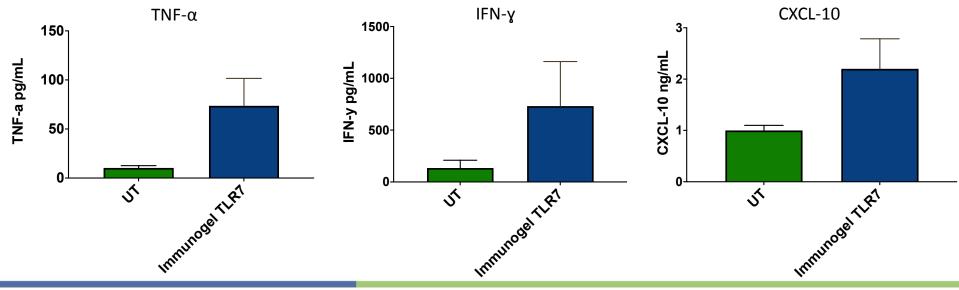
n=6 Mean ± SEM

)



#### T cell theranostic imaging

- Treated tumor bearing mice with i.t. Immunogel TLR7 agonist
- Immunogel TLR7 agonist increases intratumoral cytokine levels of T cell recruitment factors.
- Adoptive cell transfer with 10 million of <sup>64</sup>Cu-loaded T cells and scanned the mice after 40 h.

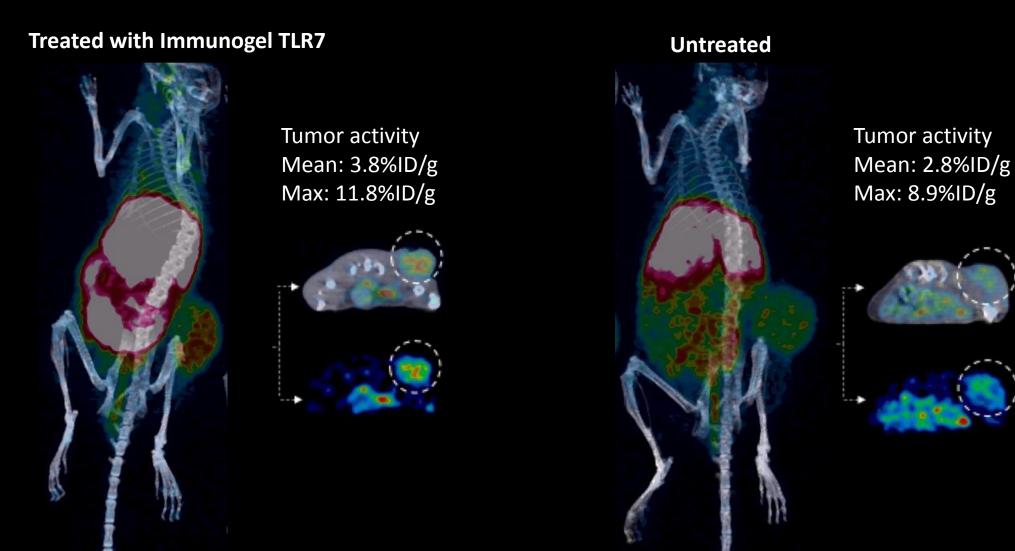




#### T cell infiltration into tumor when treated i.t. with Immunogel TLR7 agonist

**Example of data 40 hours after adoptive cell transfer** 

15



#### Conclusions and perspectives

Flexible immune cell labelling method for in vivo tracking

 Comparison of loaded immune cell infiltration across different treatments

 Dynamic imaging of T cell trafficking patterns allows for the informed timing of adjuvant therapy



## Acknowledgements

- Lars Ringgaard
- Martin Bak
- Ditte Jæhger
- Fredrik Melander
- Anders E. Hansen
- Jonas Henriksen
- Thomas L. Andresen
- Andreas Kjær
- Andreas Tue Ingemann Jensen
- CBIO group at Technical University of Denmark
- CMI group at University of Copenhagen
- DTU Nutech at Risø, Denmark



## Technical University of Denmark



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Also abstracts P517 and P519













#### Bonus data

Free micelles 24 h

#### Radioactivity loading efficiency

