

# **Towards an integrated multidimensional predictive biomarker for immunotherapy efficacy versus resistance**

**Thomas F. Gajewski, M.D., Ph.D.**

Professor, Departments of Pathology, Medicine, and the Ben May Institute  
Program Leader, Immunology and Cancer Program  
University Chicago Comprehensive Cancer Center  
American Cancer Society-Jules L. Plangere Jr. Family Foundation  
Professor in Cancer Immunotherapy  
Abbvie Professor in Cancer Immunotherapy

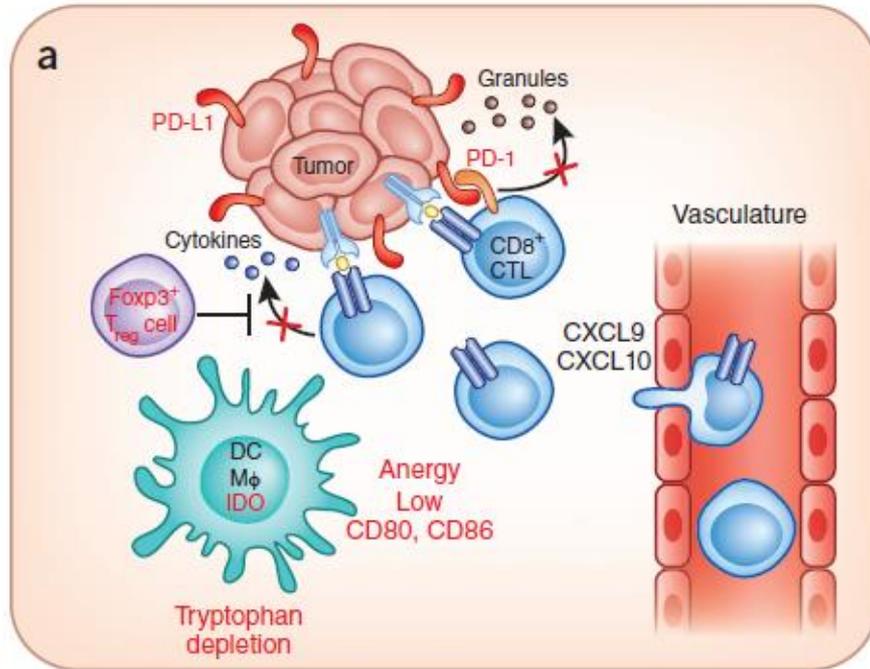


# Disclosures

- Consultant/advisory boards:
  - Roche-Genentech, Merck, Abbvie, Bayer, Aduro, Fog Pharma
- Research support:
  - Roche-Genentech, BMS, Merck, Incyte, Seattle Genetics, Celldex, Ono, Evelo
- Cofounder/shareholder
  - Jounce

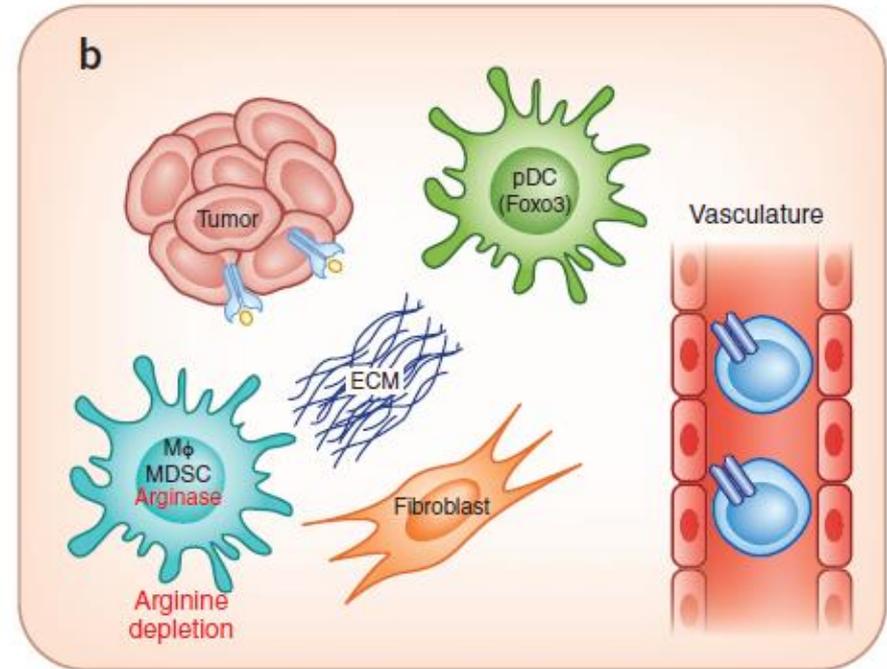
# Working model: immunobiology of T cell-inflamed and non-inflamed tumor microenvironment

## T cell-inflamed



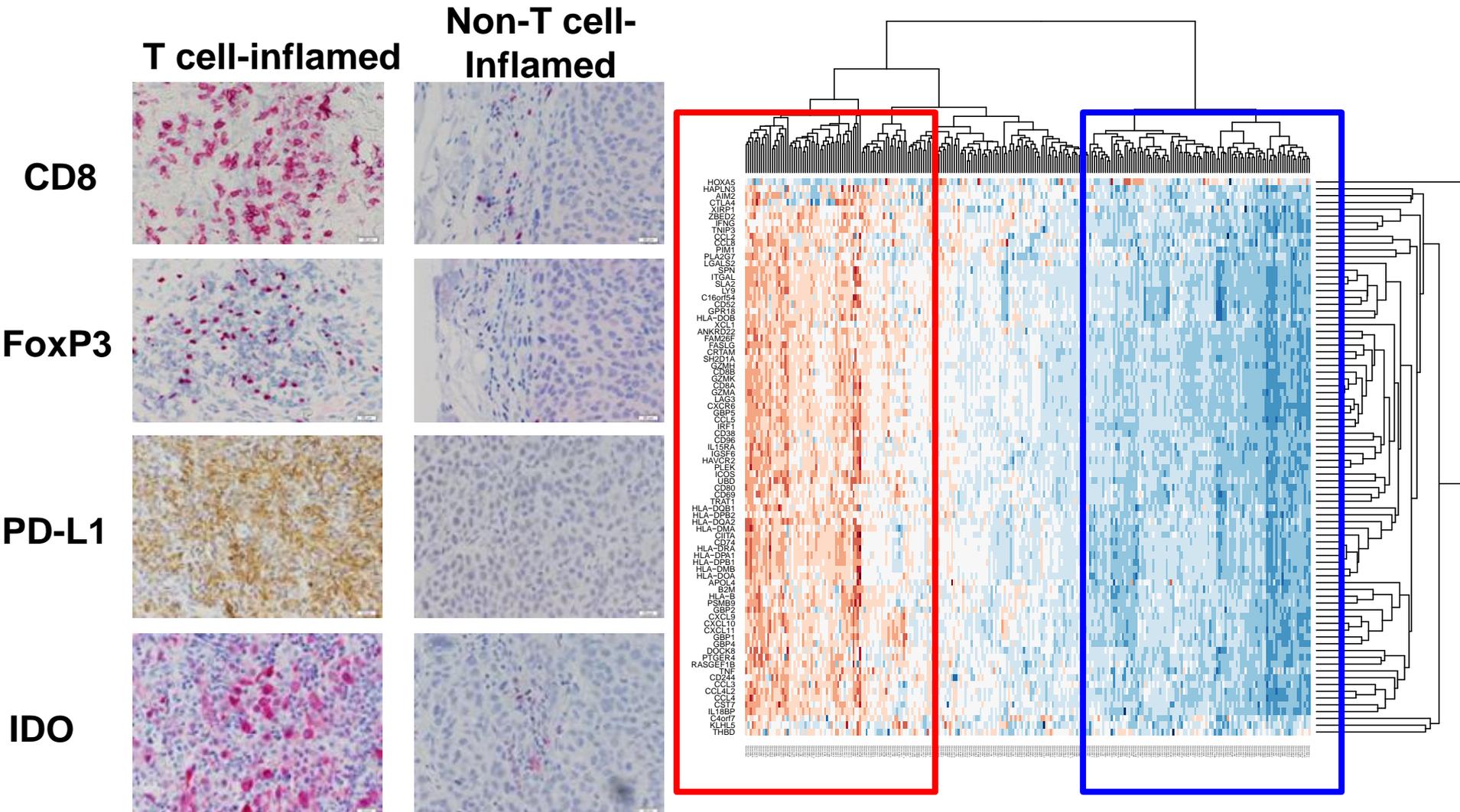
- Chemokines
- CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells
- Type I IFN signature
- Immune escape: Inhibitory pathways
- ***Most immunotherapy responders have this phenotype***

## Non-T cell-inflamed

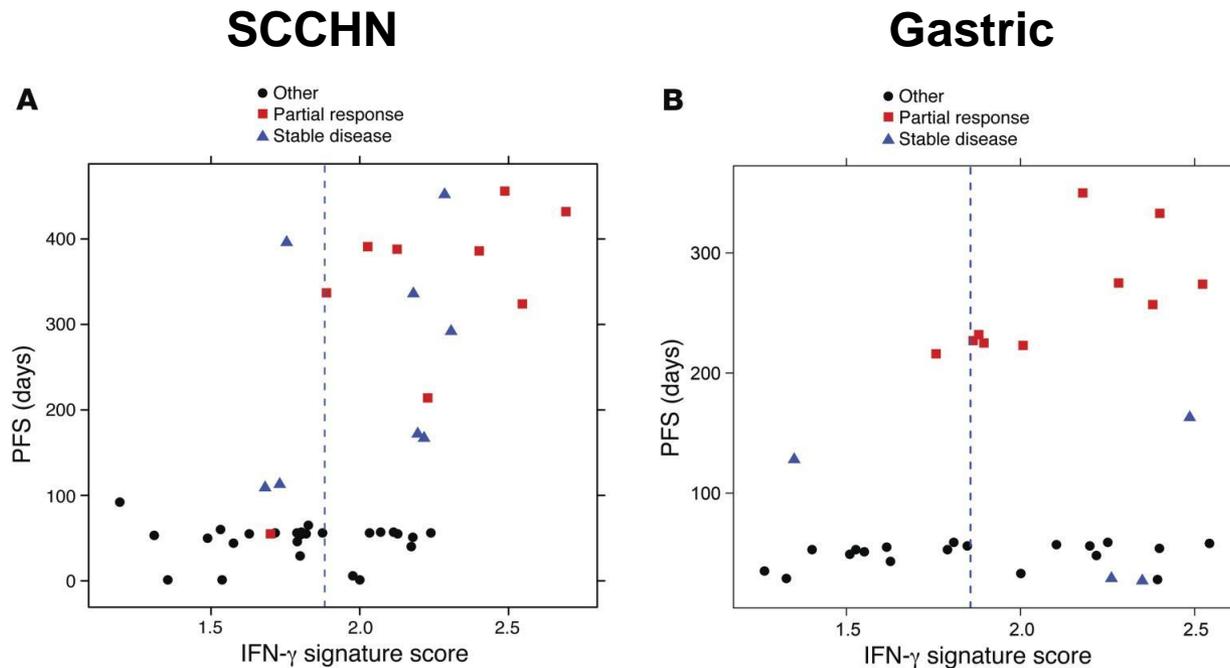


- Low inflammatory signature
- Absent intratumoral CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells
- Immune escape: T cell exclusion

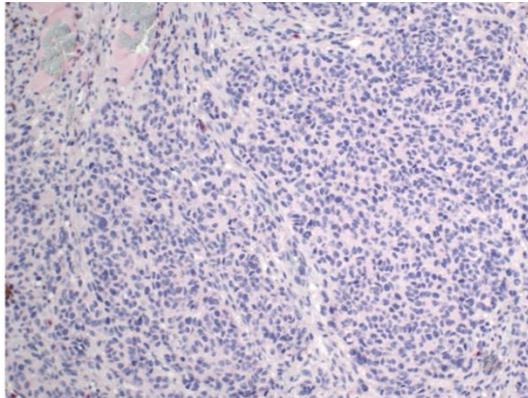
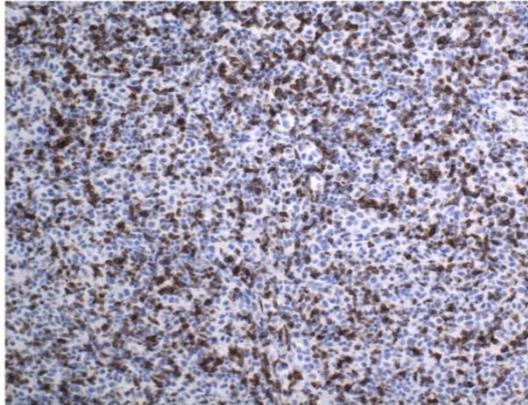
# Tregs, PD-L1, and IDO are associated with CD8+ T cell infiltration and immune gene signature



# Activity of anti-PD1 in head and neck cancer and gastric cancer is associated with T cell-inflamed tumor microenvironment signature



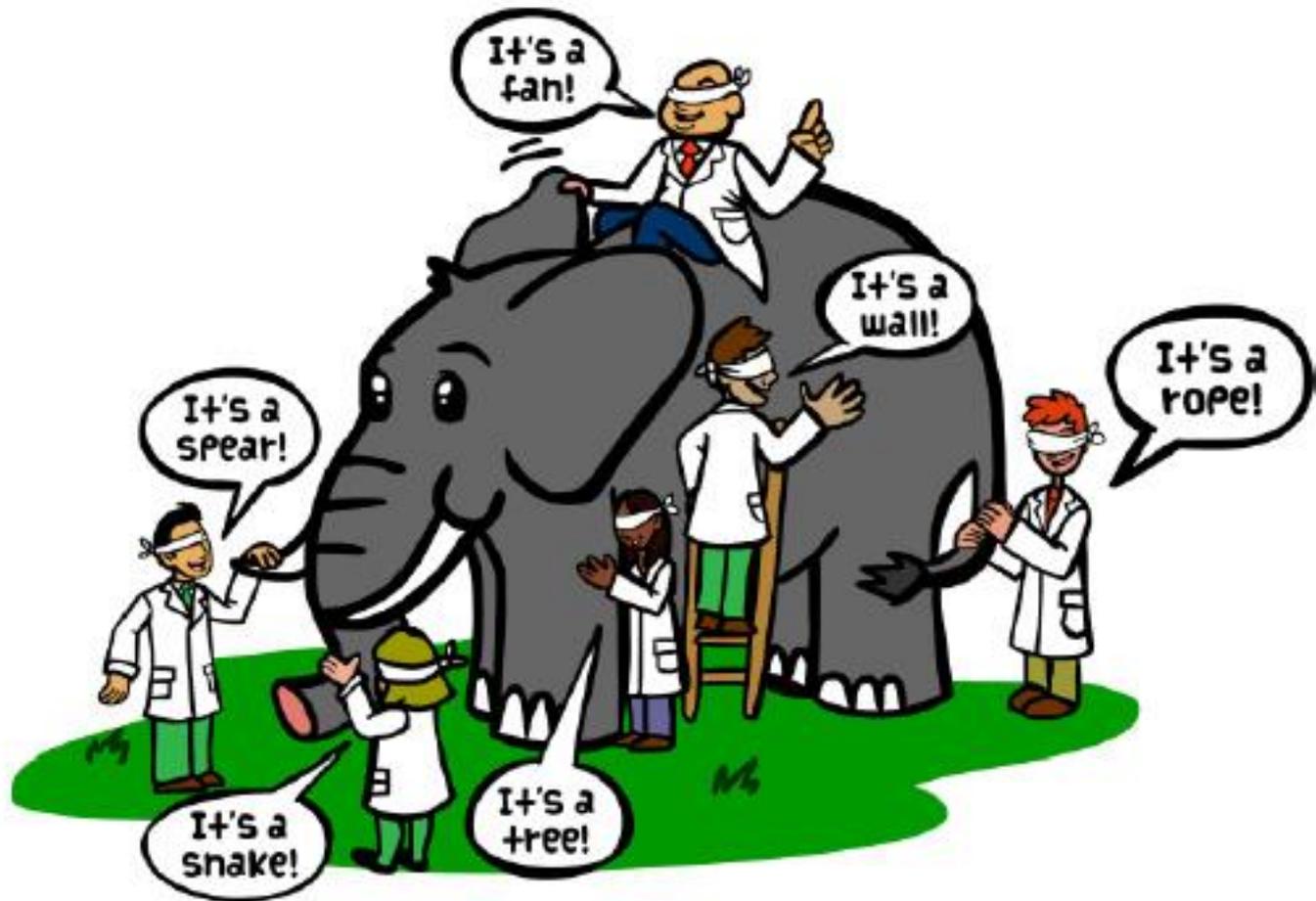
# What molecular mechanisms drive the presence or absence of the T cell-inflamed tumor microenvironment?



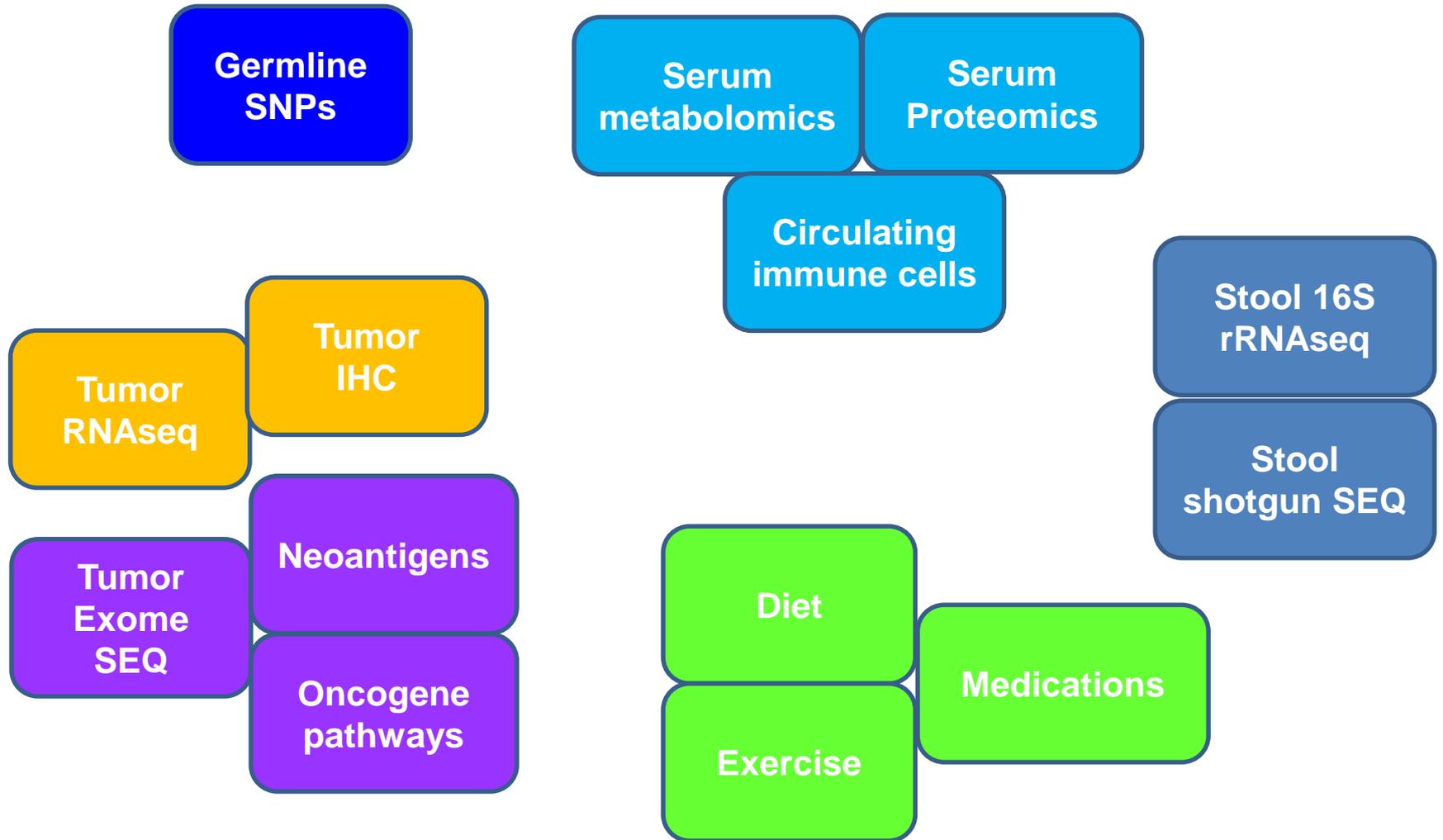
1. Somatic differences at the level of tumor cells
  - Distinct oncogene pathways activated in different patients
  - Mutational landscape and antigenic repertoire
2. Germline genetic differences at the level of the host
  - Polymorphisms in immune regulatory genes
3. Environmental differences
  - Commensal microbiota
  - Immunologic/pathogen exposure history of patients

**blObank protocol:** evaluating these parameters in patients treated with anti-PD-1 using multiple genomics platforms

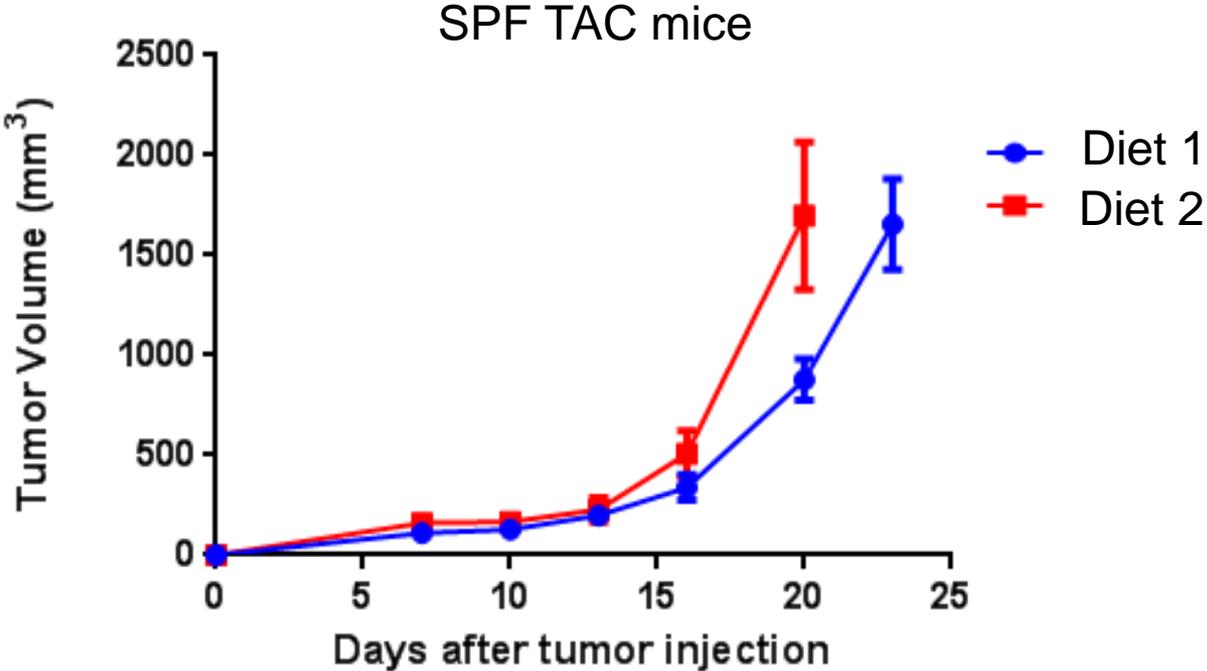
# Which dimension of biomarker data is most critical? An integrated approach could be more informative



# Multiple tissues and compartments being interrogated in patients

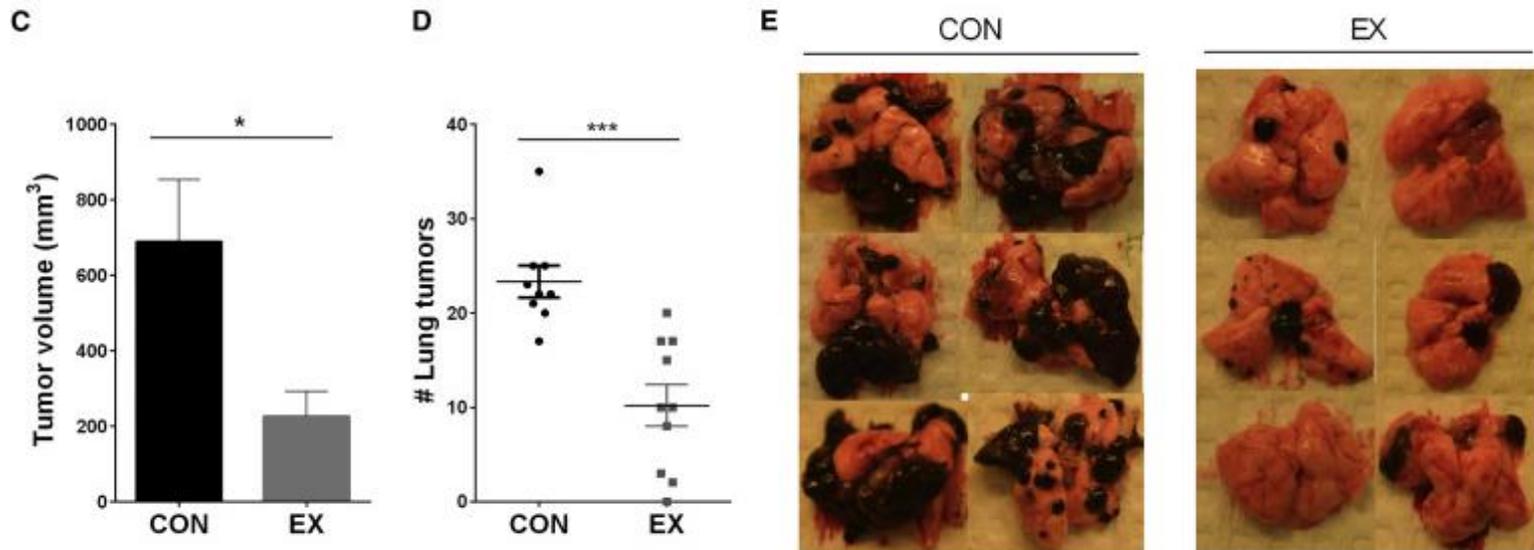


# Diet impacts on tumor growth and anti-tumor immunity

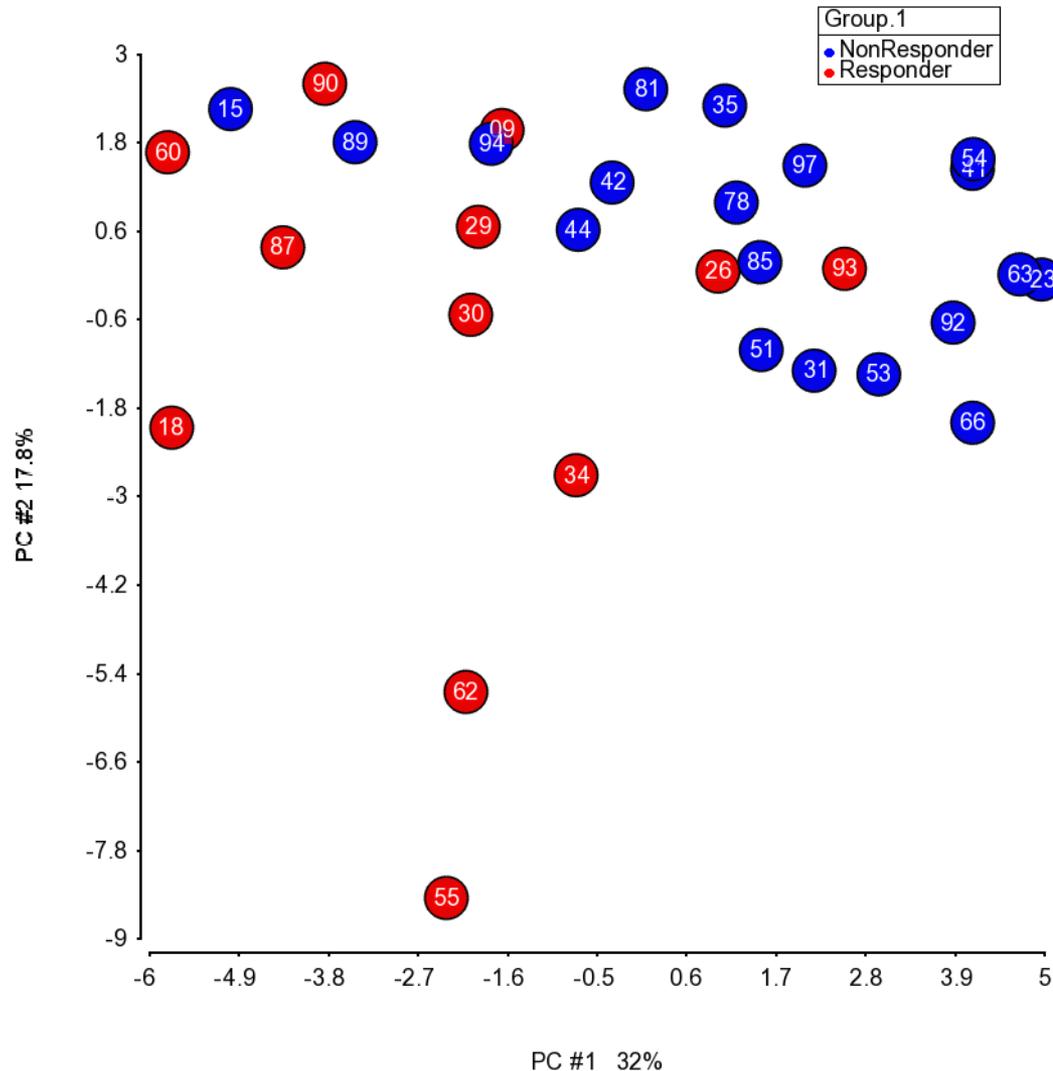


# Voluntary Running Suppresses Tumor Growth through Epinephrine- and IL-6-Dependent NK Cell Mobilization and Redistribution

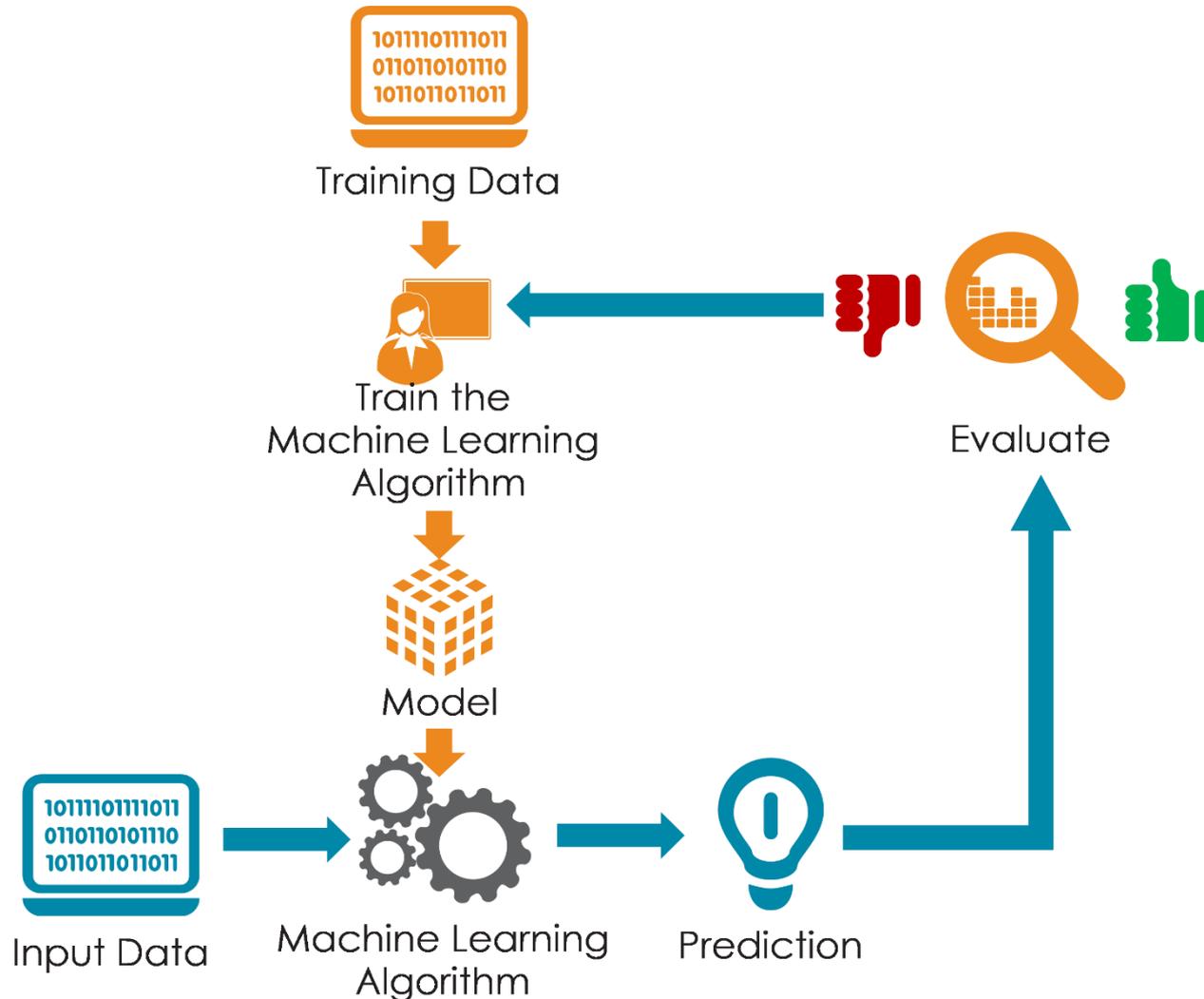
Line Pedersen,<sup>1</sup> Manja Idorn,<sup>2</sup> Gitte H. Olofsson,<sup>2</sup> Britt Lauenborg,<sup>1</sup> Intawat Nookaew,<sup>3,4</sup> Rasmus Hvass Hansen,<sup>5</sup> Helle Hjorth Johannesen,<sup>5</sup> Jürgen C. Becker,<sup>6</sup> Katrine S. Pedersen,<sup>1</sup> Christine Dethlefsen,<sup>1</sup> Jens Nielsen,<sup>3</sup> Julie Gehl,<sup>7</sup> Bente K. Pedersen,<sup>1</sup> Per thor Straten,<sup>2,8</sup> and Pernille Hojman<sup>1,7,\*</sup>



# Serum metabolites measured by mass spectrometry associated with clinical response to anti-PD-1



# Machine learning algorithm approach for identifying combinatorial patterns of biomarkers linked to anti-PD-1 efficacy



# Personalized Nutrition by Prediction of Glycemic Responses

David Zeevi,<sup>1,2,8</sup> Tal Korem,<sup>1,2,8</sup> Niv Zmora,<sup>3,4,5,8</sup> David Israeli,<sup>6,8</sup> Daphna Rothschild,<sup>1,2</sup> Adina Weinberger,<sup>1,2</sup> Orly Ben-Yacov,<sup>1,2</sup> Dar Lador,<sup>1,2</sup> Tali Avnit-Sagi,<sup>1,2</sup> Maya Lotan-Pompan,<sup>1,2</sup> Jotham Suez,<sup>3</sup> Jemal Ali Mahdi,<sup>3</sup> Elad Matot,<sup>1,2</sup> Gal Malka,<sup>1,2</sup> Noa Kosower,<sup>1,2</sup> Michal Rein,<sup>1,2</sup> Gili Zilberman-Schapira,<sup>3</sup> Lenka Dohnalová,<sup>3</sup> Meirav Pevsner-Fischer,<sup>3</sup> Rony Bikovsky,<sup>1,2</sup> Zamir Halpern,<sup>5,7</sup> Eran Elinav,<sup>3,9,\*</sup> and Eran Segal<sup>1,2,9,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Computer Science and Applied Mathematics, Weizmann Institute of Science, Rehovot 7610001, Israel

<sup>2</sup>Department of Molecular Cell Biology, Weizmann Institute of Science, Rehovot 7610001, Israel

<sup>3</sup>Immunology Department, Weizmann Institute of Science, Rehovot 7610001, Israel

<sup>4</sup>Internal Medicine Department, Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center, Tel Aviv 6423906, Israel

<sup>5</sup>Research Center for Digestive Tract and Liver Diseases, Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center, Sackler Faculty of Medicine, Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv 6423906, Israel

<sup>6</sup>Day Care Unit and the Laboratory of Imaging and Brain Stimulation, Kfar Shaul Hospital, Jerusalem Center for Mental Health, Jerusalem 9106000, Israel

<sup>7</sup>Digestive Center, Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center, Tel Aviv 6423906, Israel

<sup>8</sup>Co-first author

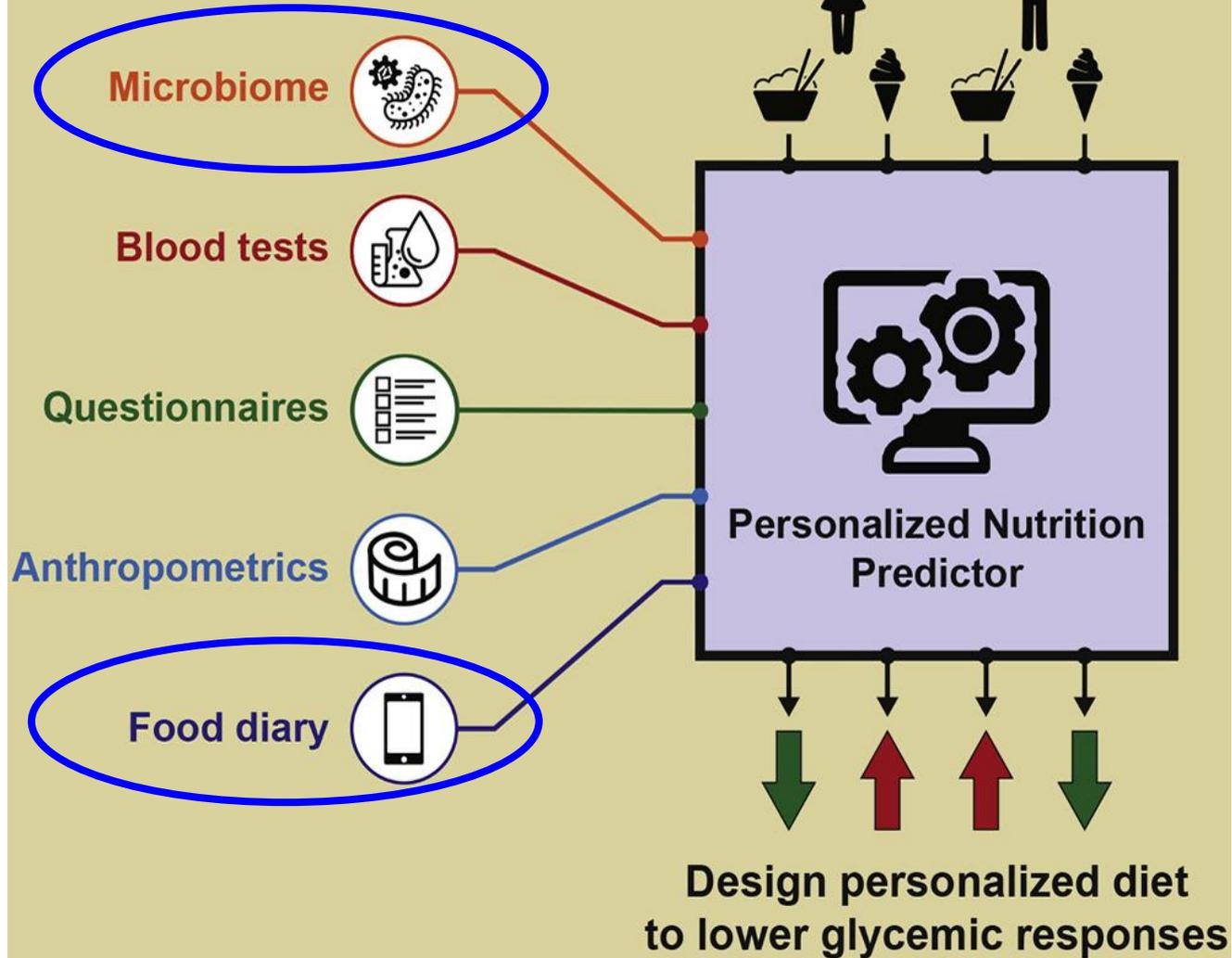
<sup>9</sup>Co-senior author

\*Correspondence: [eran.elinav@weizmann.ac.il](mailto:eran.elinav@weizmann.ac.il) (E.E.), [eran.segal@weizmann.ac.il](mailto:eran.segal@weizmann.ac.il) (E.S.)

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.cell.2015.11.001>

**Measure personal features for 800 people**

**Predict personal glycemic responses**



# Diet computer-recommended based on specific microbiota and dietary history improves glycemic control

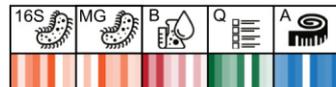
**A**

One week profiling  
(26 participants)

Dietitian prescribed meals

Day	1	2	3	4	5	6
Breakfast	B <sub>1</sub>	B <sub>2</sub>	B <sub>3</sub>	B <sub>4</sub>	B <sub>5</sub>	B <sub>6</sub>
Lunch	L <sub>1</sub>	L <sub>2</sub>	L <sub>3</sub>	L <sub>4</sub>	L <sub>5</sub>	L <sub>6</sub>
Snack	S <sub>1</sub>	S <sub>2</sub>	S <sub>3</sub>	S <sub>4</sub>	S <sub>5</sub>	S <sub>6</sub>
Dinner	D <sub>1</sub>	D <sub>2</sub>	D <sub>3</sub>	D <sub>4</sub>	D <sub>5</sub>	D <sub>6</sub>

Personal features



Color-coded response  
(blue - low; yellow - high)  
L<sub>6</sub> Text meal identifier

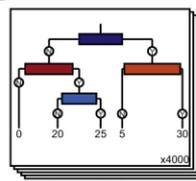
Choose meals for dietary intervention weeks

Expert-based



14 participants  
(E1, E2, ..., E14)

Predictor-based



12 participants  
(P1, P2, ..., P12)

Find best  
and worst meals  
for each row

'Good' diet

B <sub>4</sub>	L <sub>2</sub>	S <sub>5</sub>	D <sub>2</sub>
B <sub>6</sub>	L <sub>5</sub>	S <sub>6</sub>	D <sub>3</sub>

'Bad' diet

B <sub>1</sub>	L <sub>3</sub>	S <sub>1</sub>	D <sub>1</sub>
B <sub>2</sub>	L <sub>6</sub>	S <sub>2</sub>	D <sub>5</sub>

'Good' diet

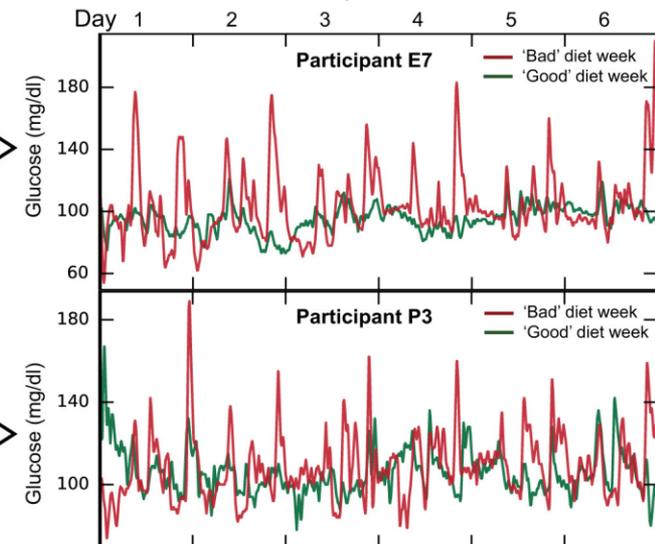
B <sub>4</sub>	L <sub>4</sub>	S <sub>5</sub>	D <sub>2</sub>
B <sub>5</sub>	L <sub>5</sub>	S <sub>6</sub>	D <sub>4</sub>

'Bad' diet

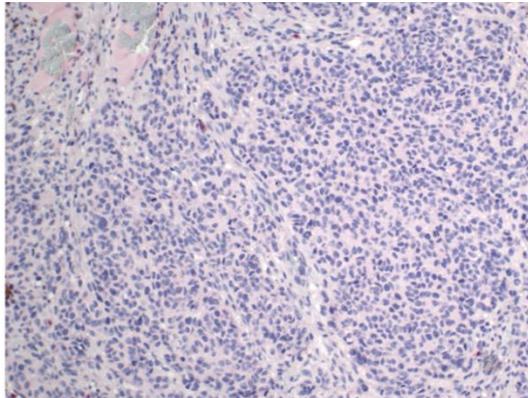
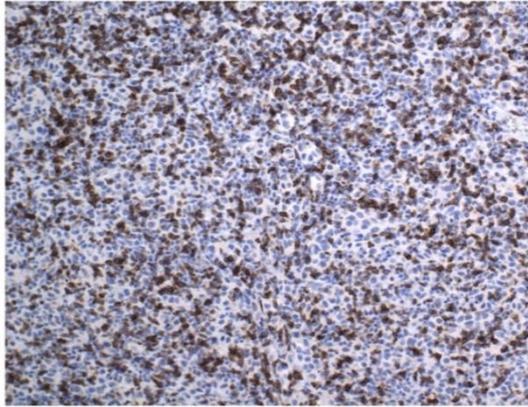
B <sub>1</sub>	L <sub>1</sub>	S <sub>1</sub>	D <sub>1</sub>
B <sub>3</sub>	L <sub>6</sub>	S <sub>2</sub>	D <sub>6</sub>

**B**

Measure and analyze intervention weeks

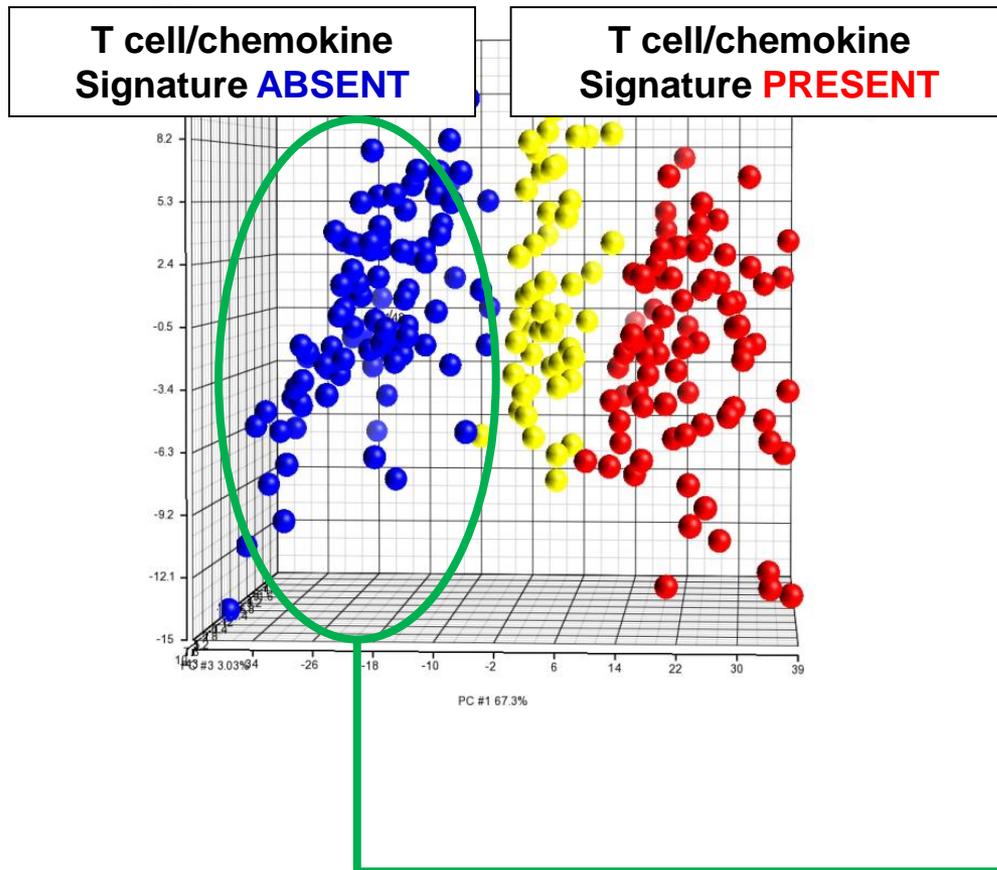


# What are the molecular mechanisms that explain the T cell-inflamed versus non-inflamed tumor microenvironments?

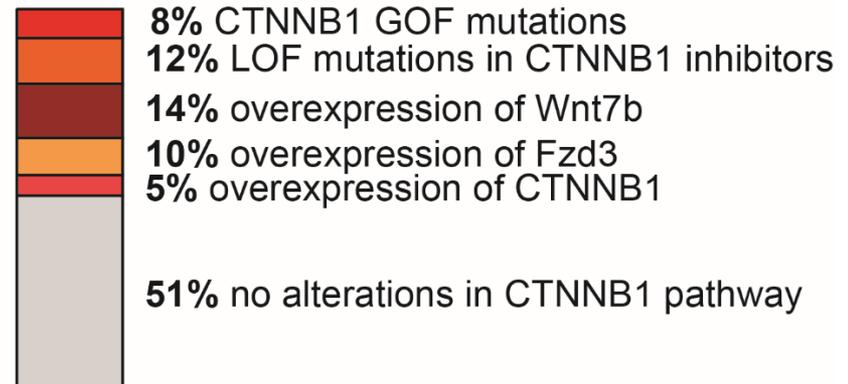


1. Somatic differences at the level of tumor cells
  - Mutational landscape and antigenic repertoire
  - **Distinct oncogene pathways activated in different patients**
2. Germline genetic differences at the level of the host
  - Polymorphisms in immune regulatory genes
3. Environmental differences
  - Commensal microbiota
  - Immunologic/pathogen exposure history of patients

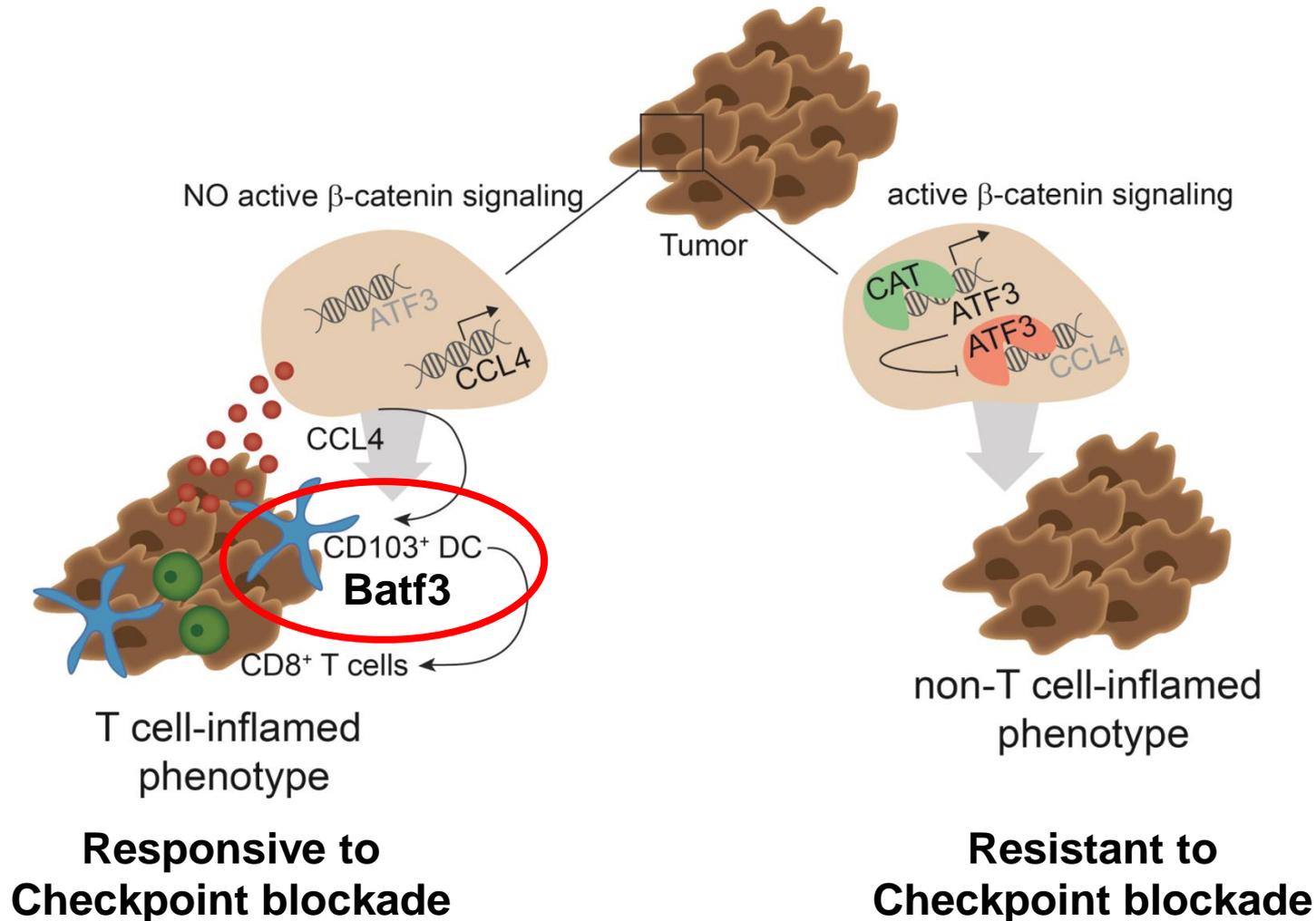
# Integrating RNAseq data with exome sequencing data identified pattern: non-T cell inflamed melanomas are enriched for $\beta$ -catenin signaling



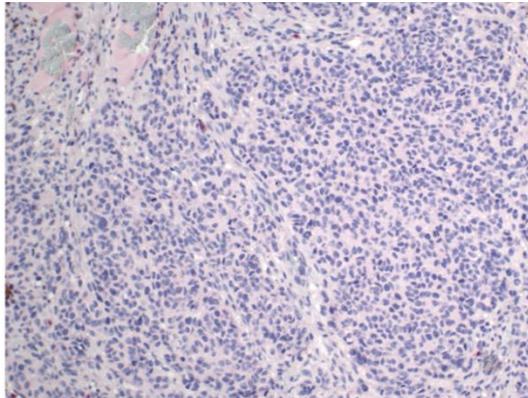
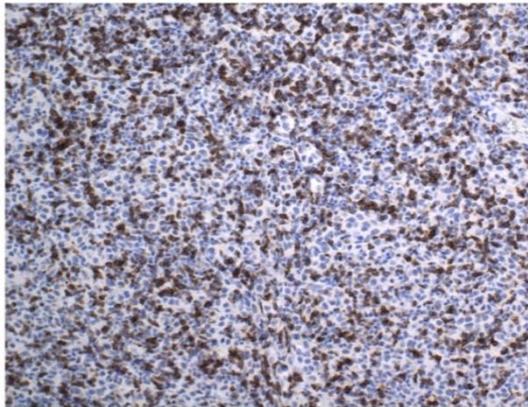
Molecular mechanism for activated  $\beta$ -catenin signaling T cell-signature low patients



# Tumor cell-intrinsic $\beta$ -catenin activation prevents host anti-tumor immune response by failure to recruit Batf3 DCs

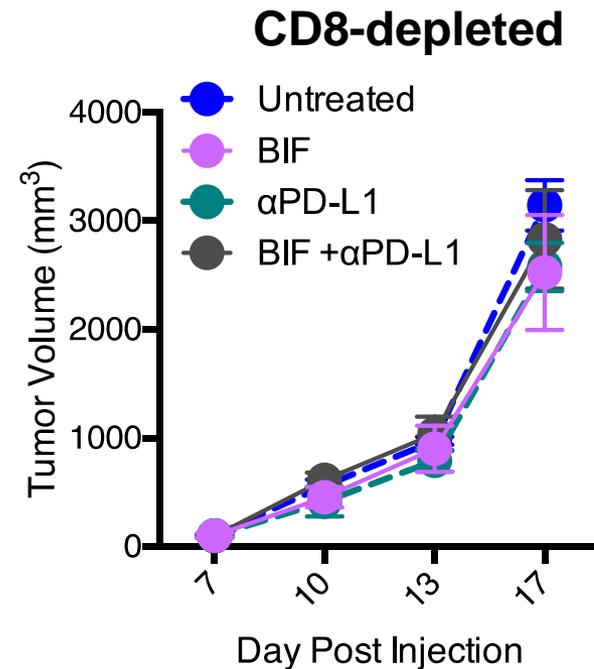
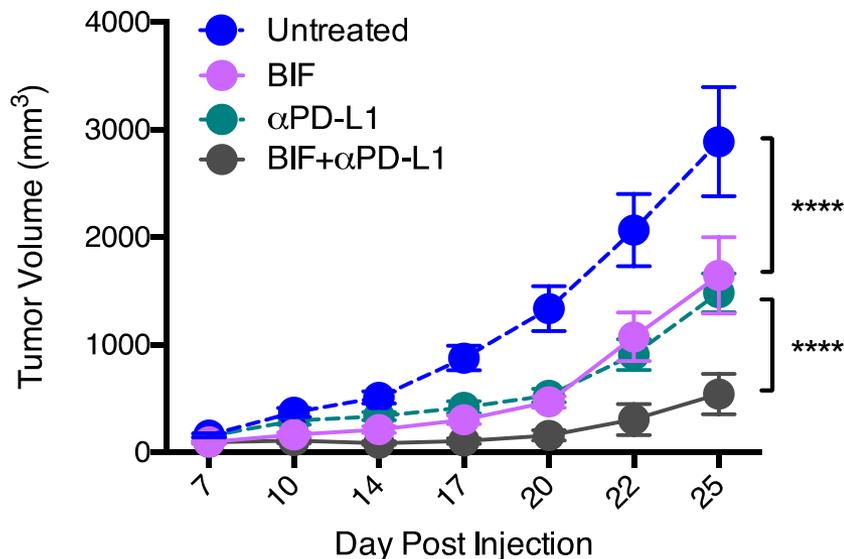


# What are the molecular mechanisms that explain the T cell-inflamed versus non-inflamed tumor microenvironments?



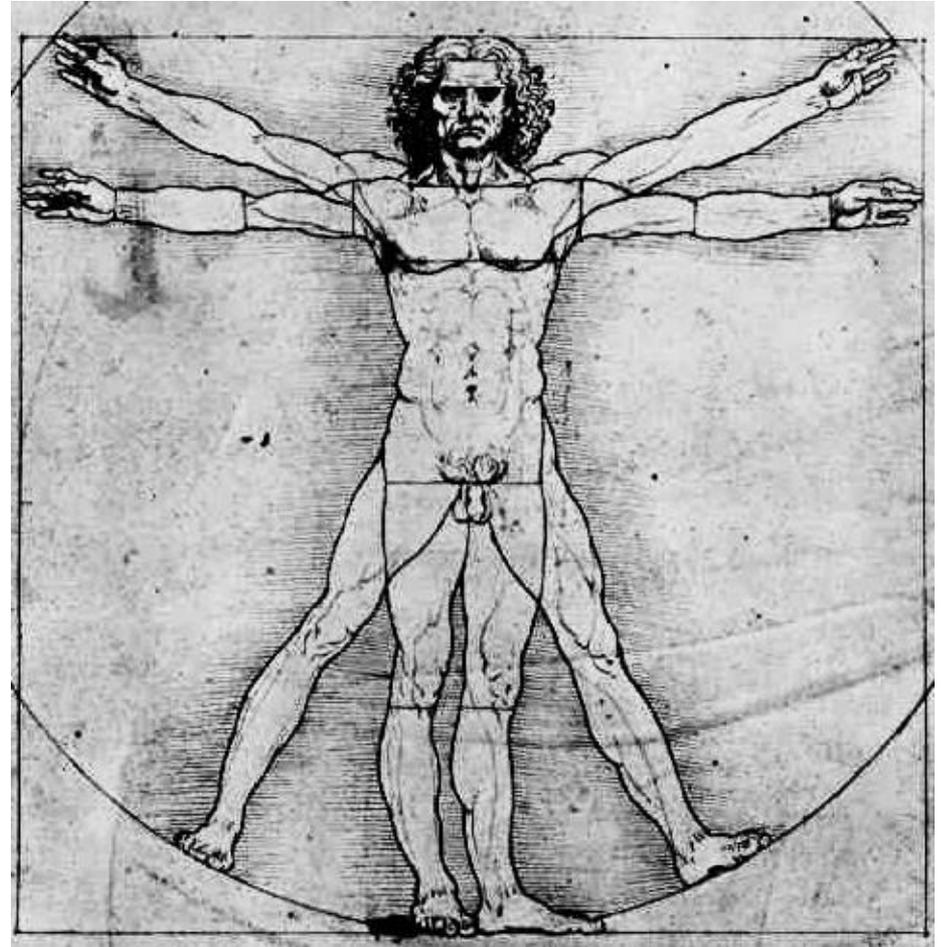
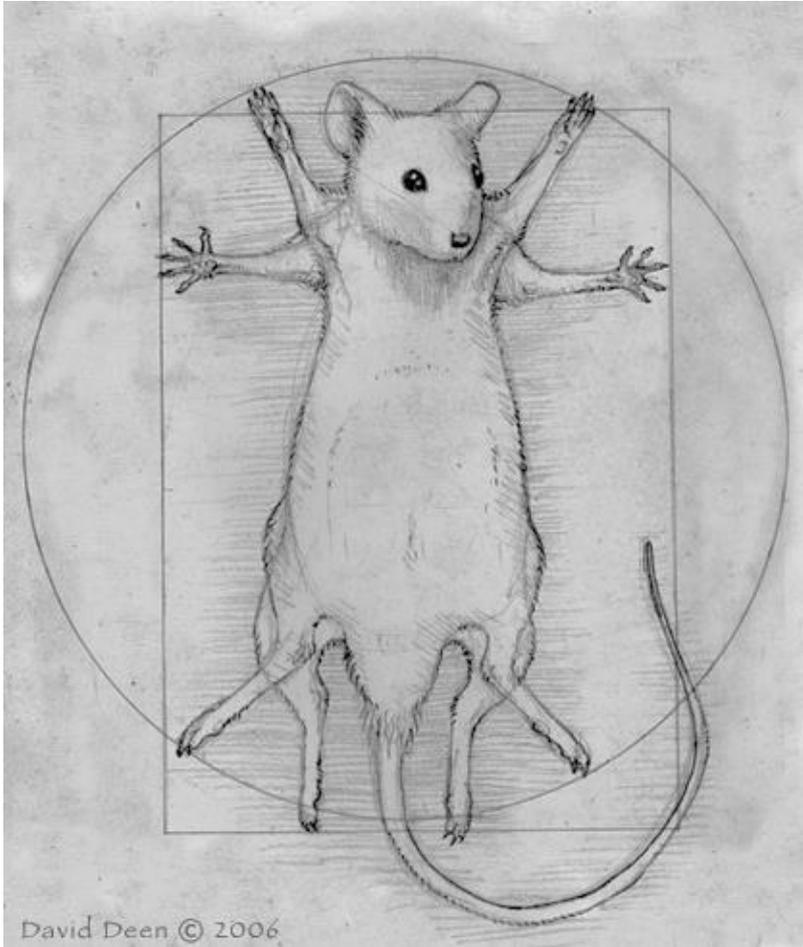
1. Somatic differences at the level of tumor cells
  - Mutational landscape and antigenic repertoire
  - Distinct oncogene pathways activated in different patients
2. Germline genetic differences at the level of the host
  - Polymorphisms in immune regulatory genes
3. Environmental differences
  - **Commensal microbiota**
  - Immunologic/pathogen exposure history of patients

# Direct administration of *Bifidobacterium* mix to tumor-bearing TAC recipients improves tumor-specific immunity and response to $\alpha$ PD-L1 mAb

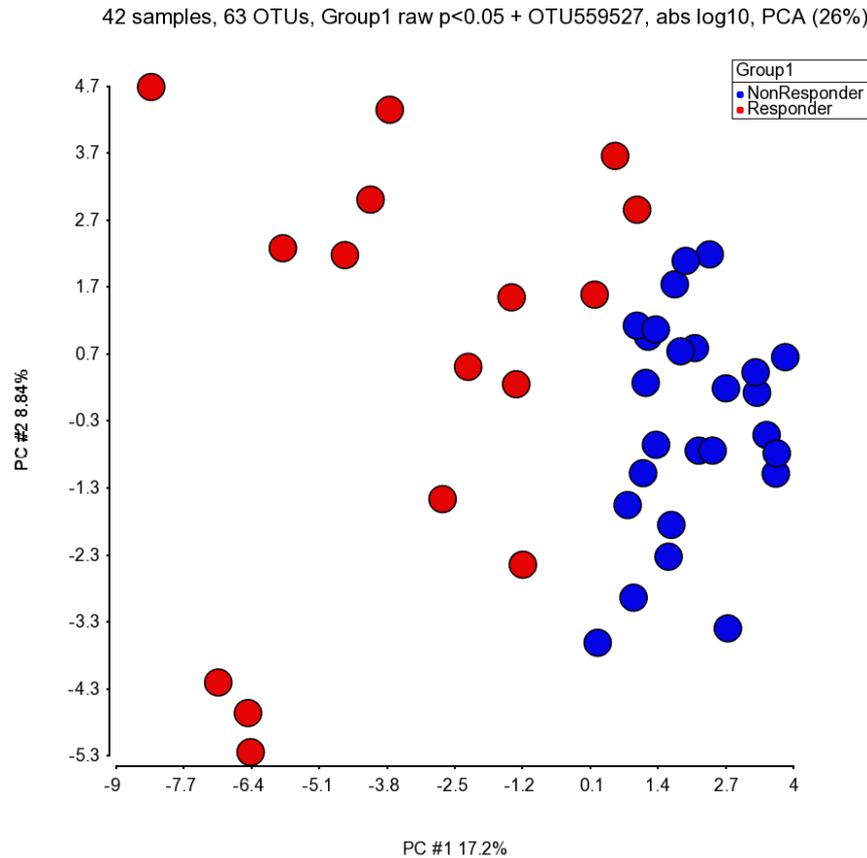


Sivan, Corrales et al;  
*Science*. 2015

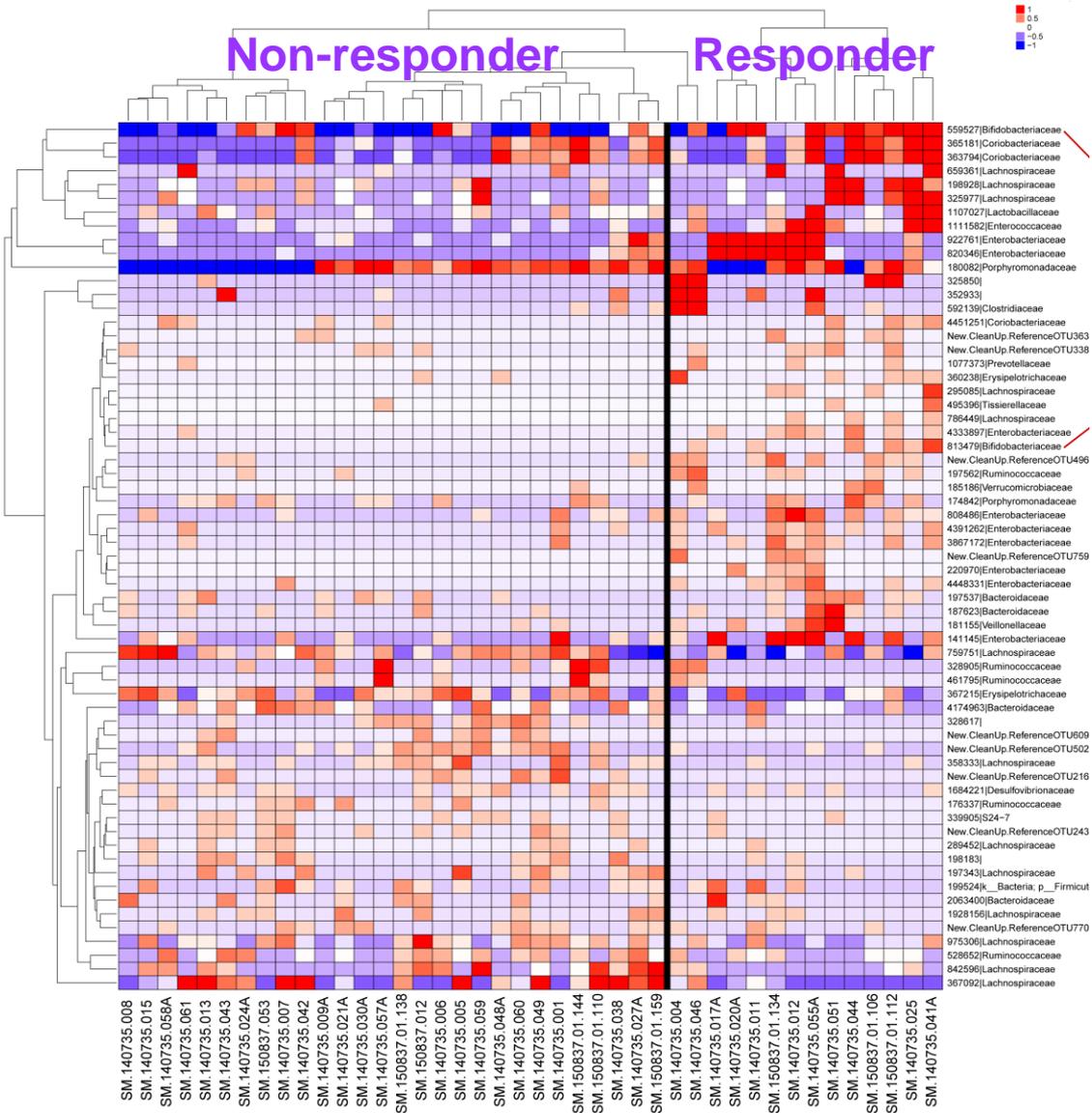
# Does the commensal microbiota impact on anti-tumor immunity carry over to human cancer patients?



# Metastatic melanoma patients: anti-PD-1 responders and non-responders have distinct baseline microbiota



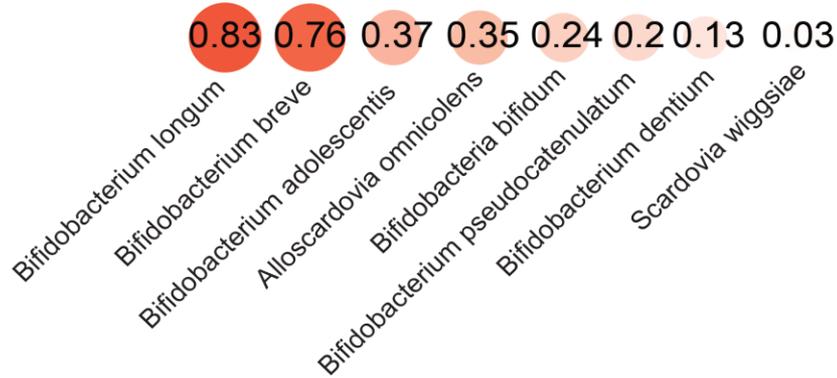
# Commensal microbiota associated with clinical response to anti-PD-1 in metastatic melanoma



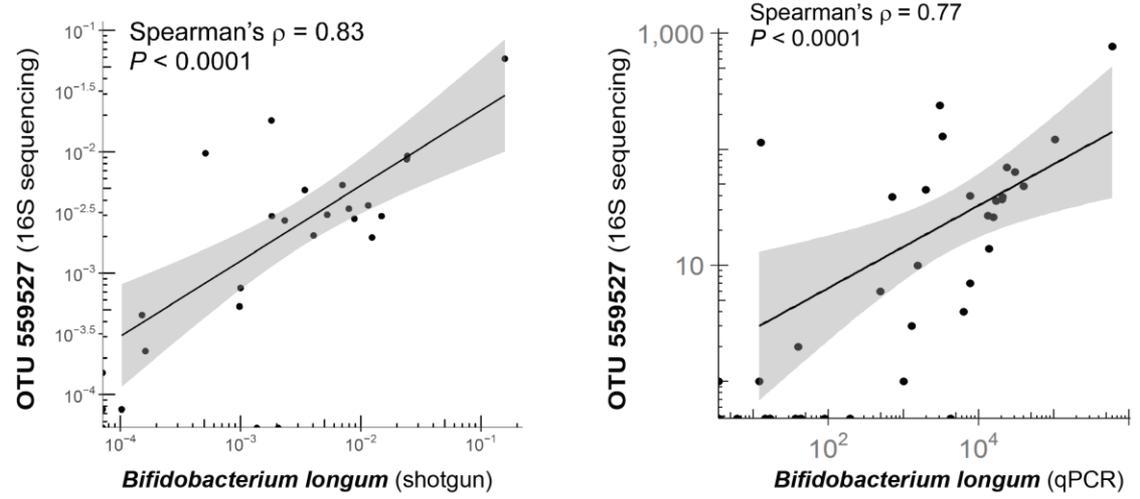
# Integration of 16S, shotgun sequencing, and specific-specific PCR: *Bifidobacterium longum* is one species more abundant in responders

**A**

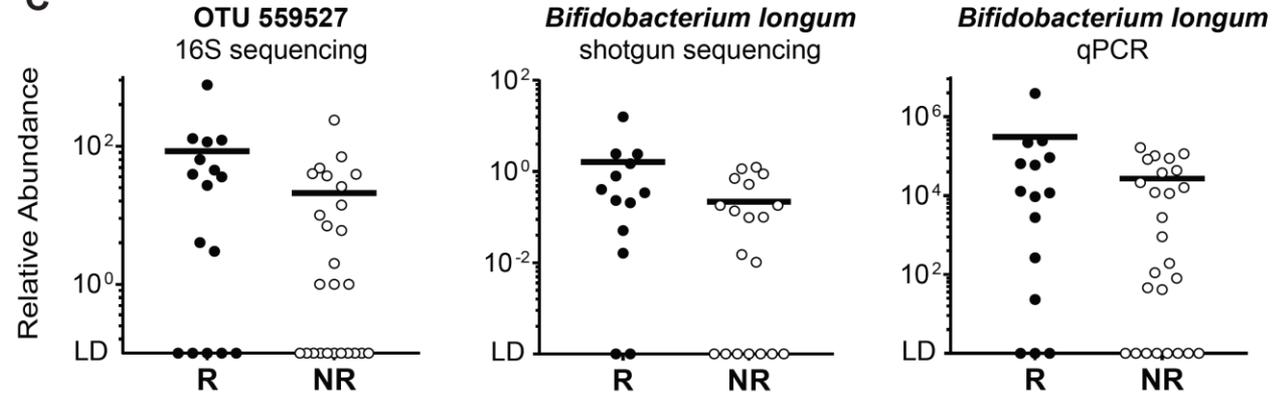
559527|Bifidobacteriaceae



**B**

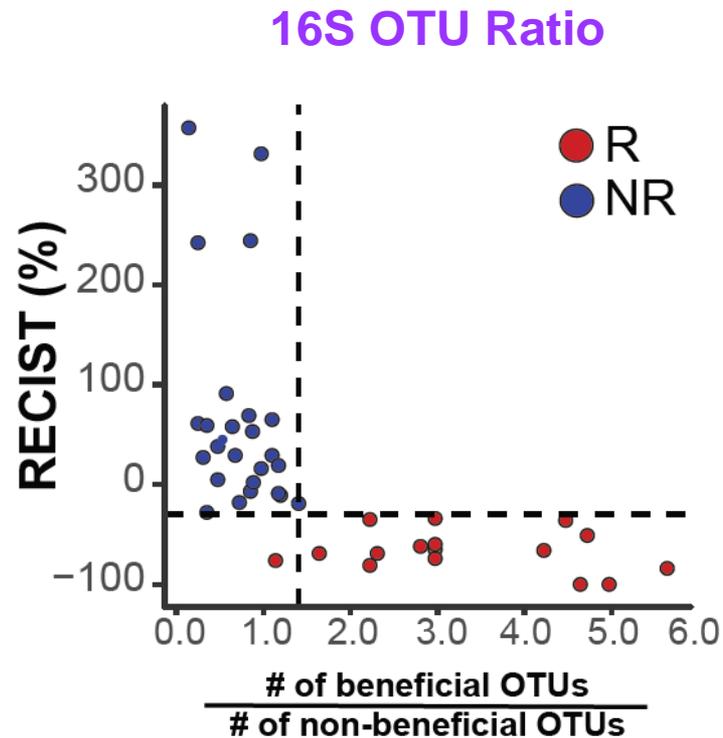
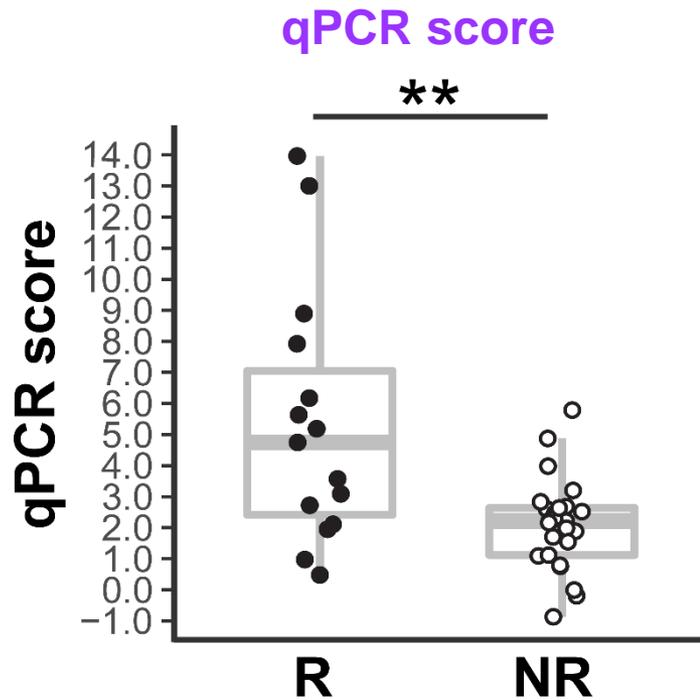


**C**



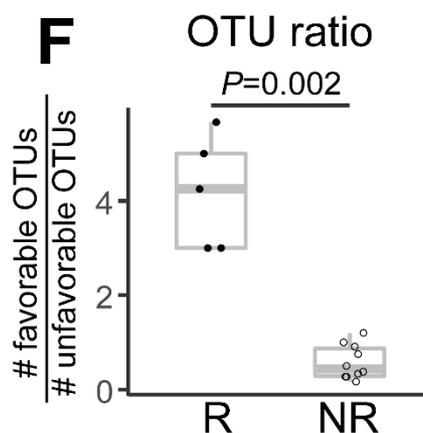
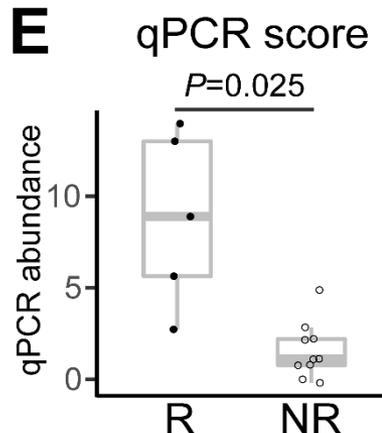
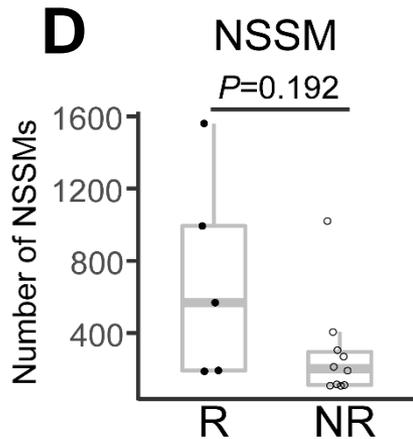
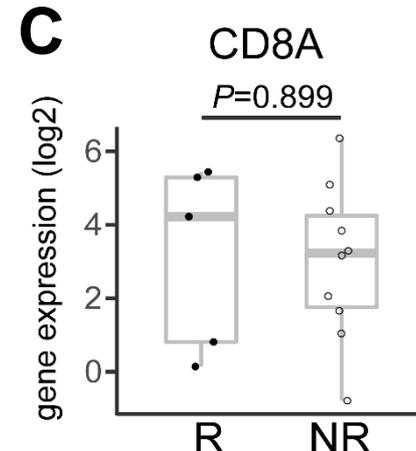
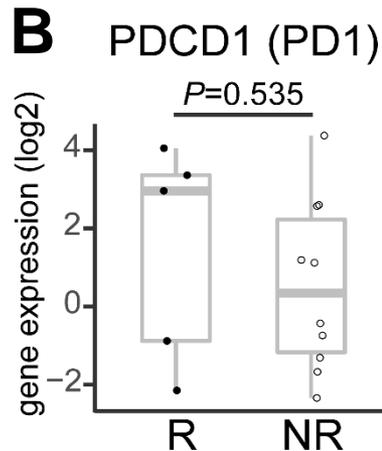
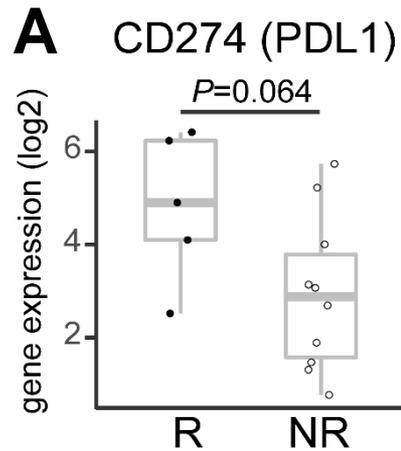
**9 additional species confirmed across all three platforms (16S, shotgun, PCR)**

# qPCR score and ratio of OTUs as a predictive biomarker for clinical response



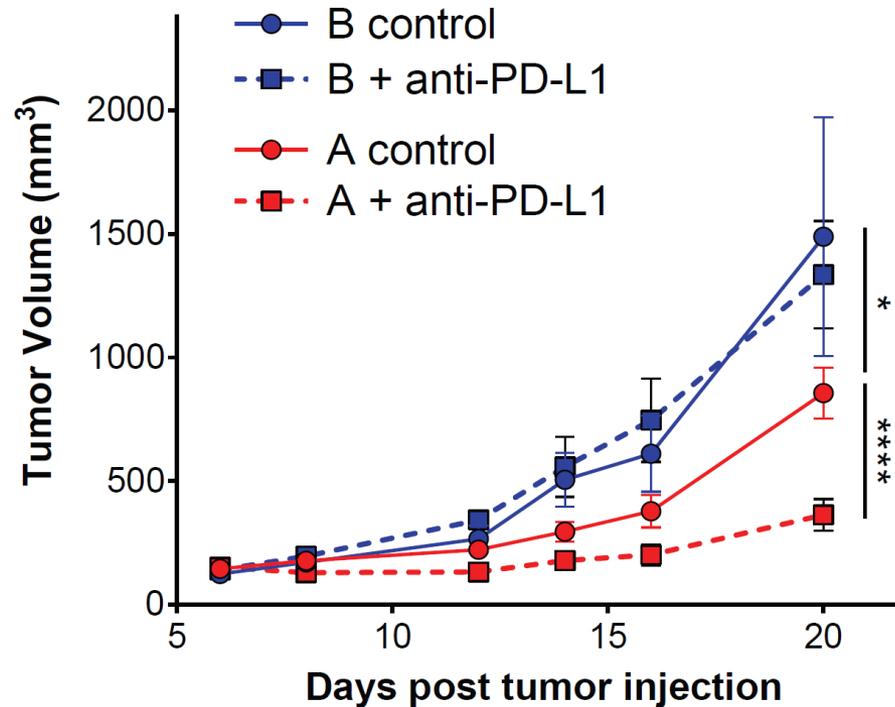
10 species total

# Comparison of biomarkers reveals the high predictive value of microbiota sequencing in this cohort (n=15)



# Anti-PD-L1 is effective in GFM that receive responder but not non-responder microbiota

## Tumor growth



*Matson, Fessler et al;  
Manuscript in press*

# Conclusions

- Multiple tumor and host-derived factors appear to impact on the generation of the T cell-inflamed tumor microenvironment phenotype, and in turn on the efficacy of PD-1-targeted therapy
- Already associated are specific tumor cell-intrinsic oncogene pathways, tumor neoantigen load, specific germline SNPs, serum metabolites, and the composition of the commensal microbiota
- Machine learning approaches are being pursued to identify patterns and potential interactions between dimensions of data
  - Maximize predictive biomarker efficacy
  - Generate new hypotheses about mechanism of effect
  - Develop new therapies to expand therapeutic benefit



# Acknowledgments



## Uncoupling negative

### T cell regulation

Stefani Spranger

Brendan Horton

Jason Williams

### Anergy/dysfunctional TIL

Jason Williams

Brendan Horton

Yan Zheng

### Genetic melanoma models

Stefani Spranger

Michael Leung

### Tumor genomics and T cell phenotype

Yuan-yuan Zha

Jason Luke

Riyue Bao

Stefani Spranger

Randy Sweis

Alex Gajewski

## Innate immune sensing/

### Type I IFNs/STING

Leticia Corrales

Seng-Ryong Woo

Mercedes Fuertes

Aduro (Tom Dubensky)

## Germline genetics and

### T cell phenotype

Kyle Cron

Ayelet Sivan

Ken Onel

## Microbiota and

### anti-tumor immunity

Vyara Matson

Jessica Fessler

Marisa Alegre

Ayelet Sivan

Gene Chang

Bana Jabri

Kevin Lei

