

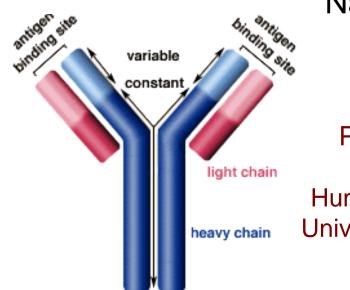
University of Wisconsin Paul P. Carbone Comprehensive Cancer Center





# **Tumor Immunology on the Horizon**

Nov. 12, 2016 SITC Meeting National Harbor, MD



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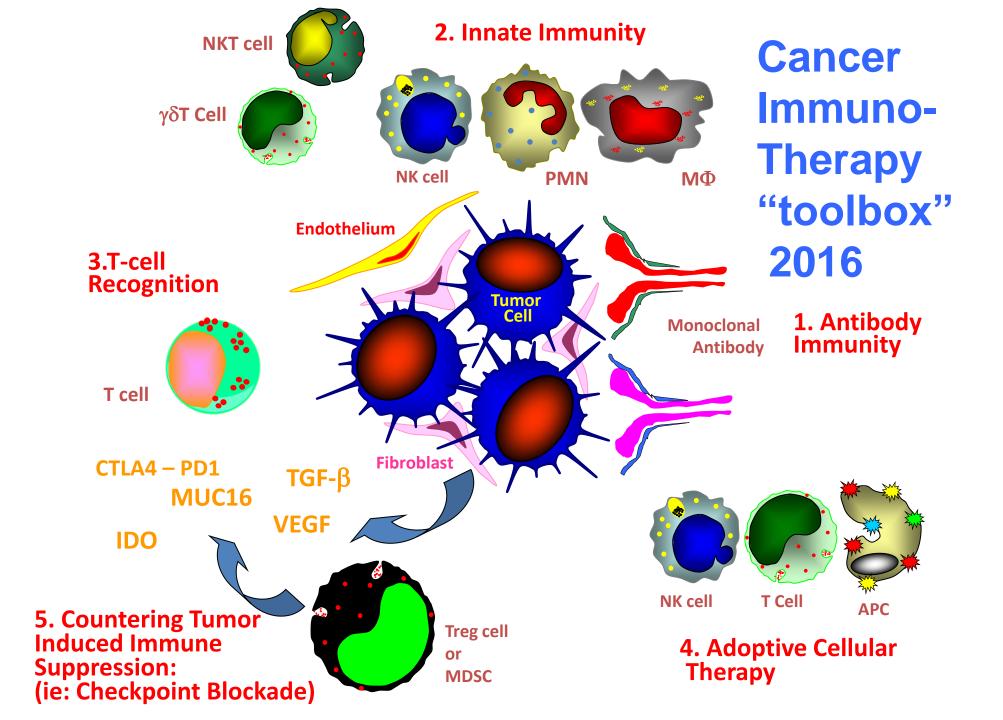


### Disclosure: Neither I nor any member of my family has a financial relationship or interest with any proprietary entity producing health care goods or services related to the content of this presentation

**UWHC-AFCH** 

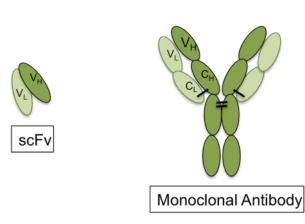
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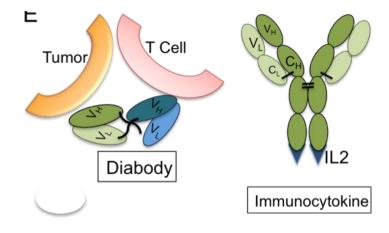




# Examples of monoclonal antibody (mAb) -based anti-cancer

therap





### **Targets for anti-cancer mAbs:**

Molecules selectively expressed on tumor cells or Tumor stroma or vessels : Cancer Antigens *(ie: Rituximab, Dinutuximab, etc.)* 

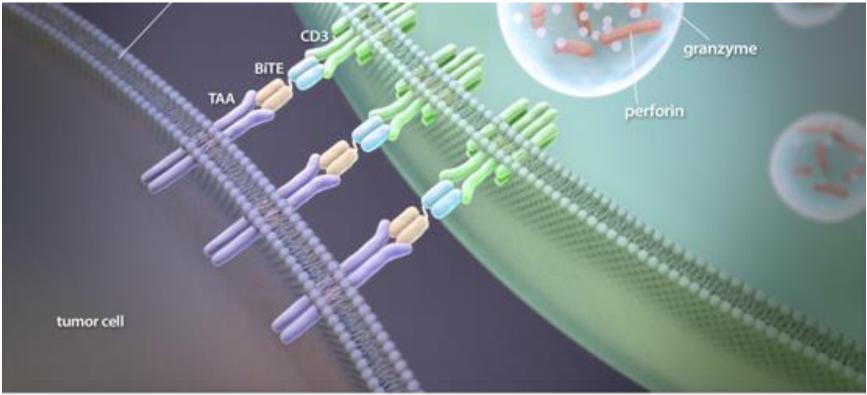
mAb linked to drug, toxin, or radionuclide

#### Or

Molecules expressed on immune cells that regulate Immune function: Immunoregulatory targets "Checkpoint Blockade" (ie: Ipilimumab, Nivolumab, etc.)

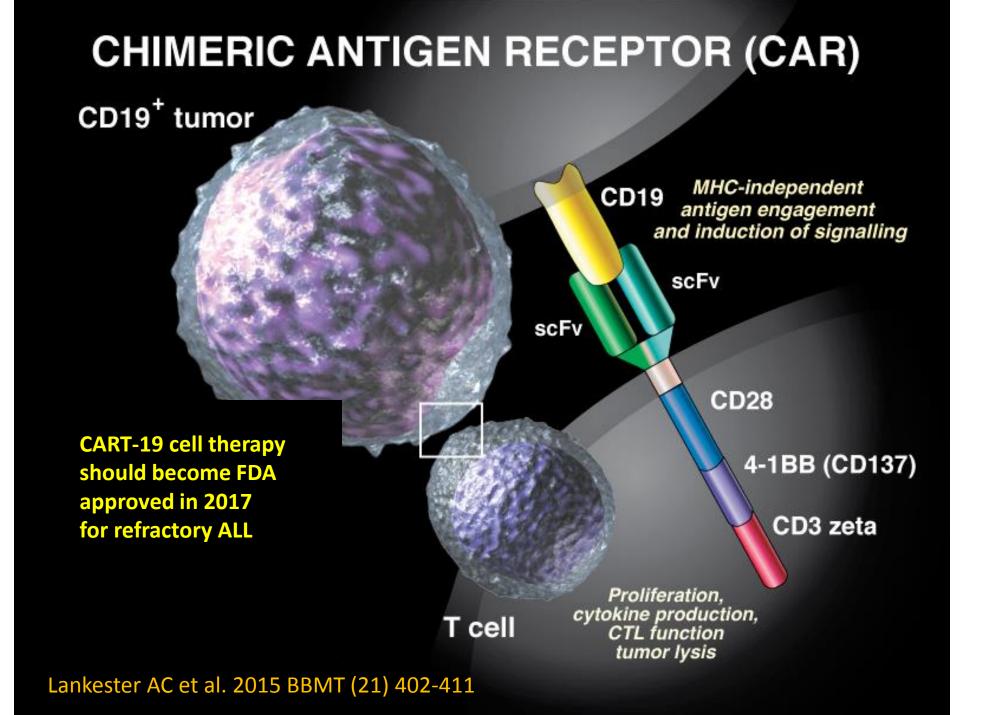


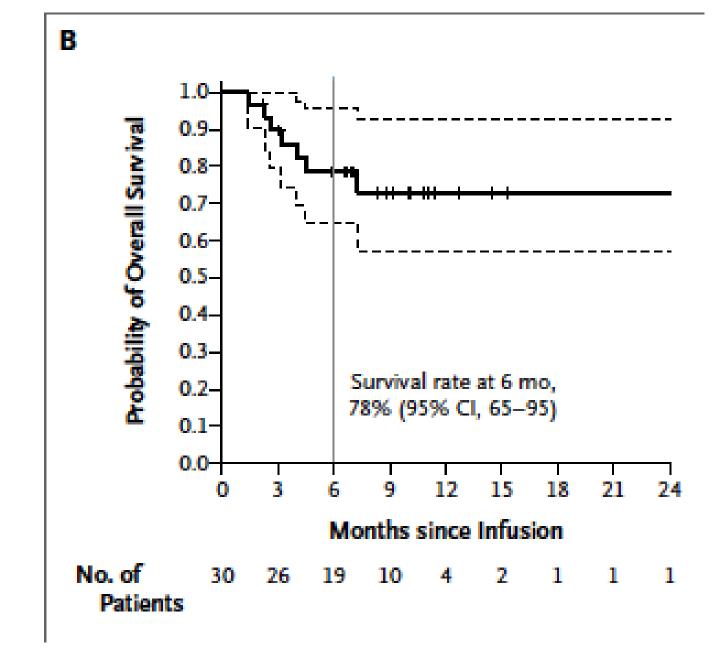
# Bi-specific T-cell Engager Technology (BiTE\*) Micromet (Baeuerle, P. et al) – [Purchased by Amgen]: FDA Approved as "breakthrough therapy" for ALL 2015



Tumor cells develop a way to escape notice by T cells.

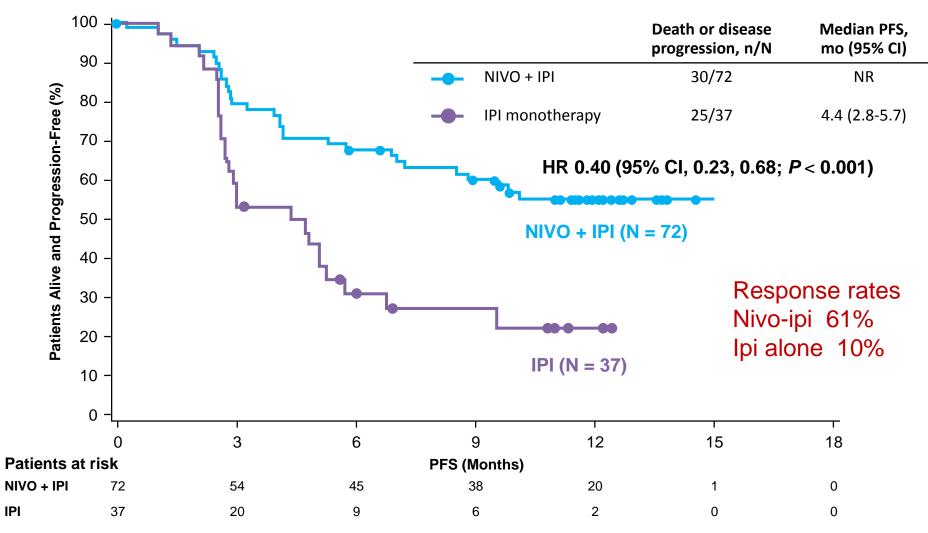
BITE molecules act as bridges that allow the T cells (right) to detect the tumor cells (left).

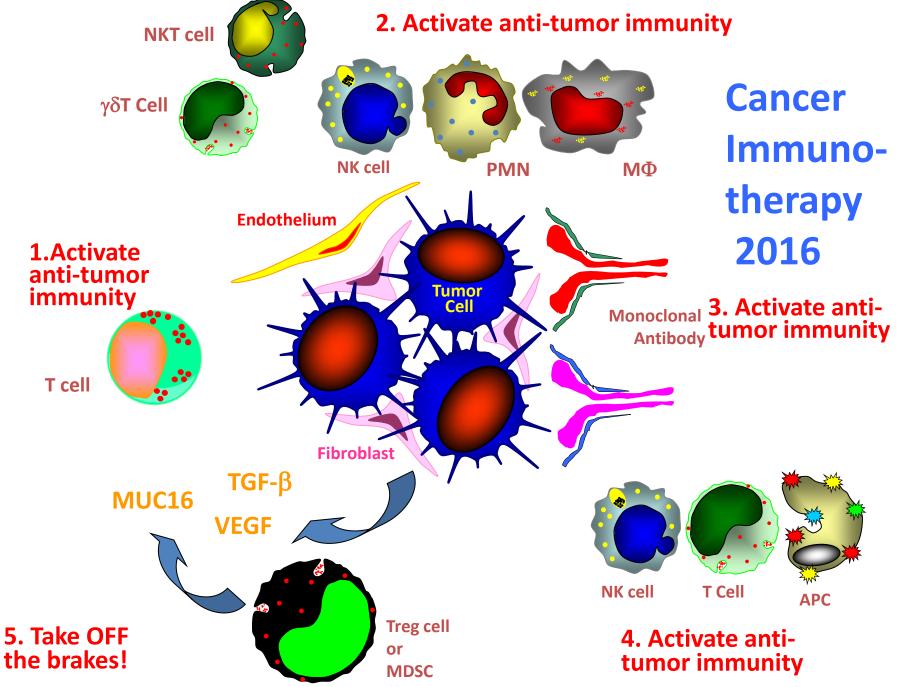




**Clinical effects of anti CD19 CART therapy for relapsed ALL** 

# **Combination Therapy (2 forms of "checkpoint blockade)** Nivolumab +Ipilimumab vs Ipilimumab alone





#### **On The Horizon:**

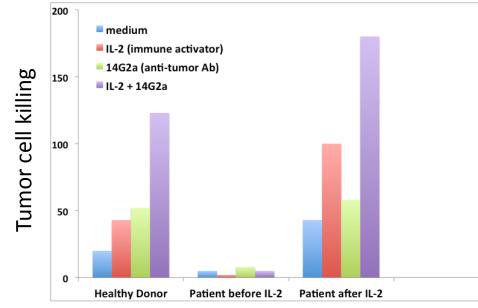
Combining: 1. Different forms of Immunotherapy

#### and

2. Immunotherapies with "conventional" treatments:

2 "off the shelf" examples

Interleukin-2 (IL2) activates NK cells to kill neuroblastoma cells coated with an anti-GD2 mAb (14.18 mAb, sees GD2 on neuroblastoma, melanoma, sarcomas and some other tumors)

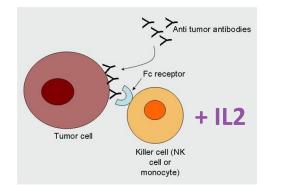




Jackie Hank PhD

Hank JA, Robinson RR, Surfus J, Mueller BM, Reisfeld RA, Cheung NK, Sondel PM., Cancer Res. 50:5234, 1990

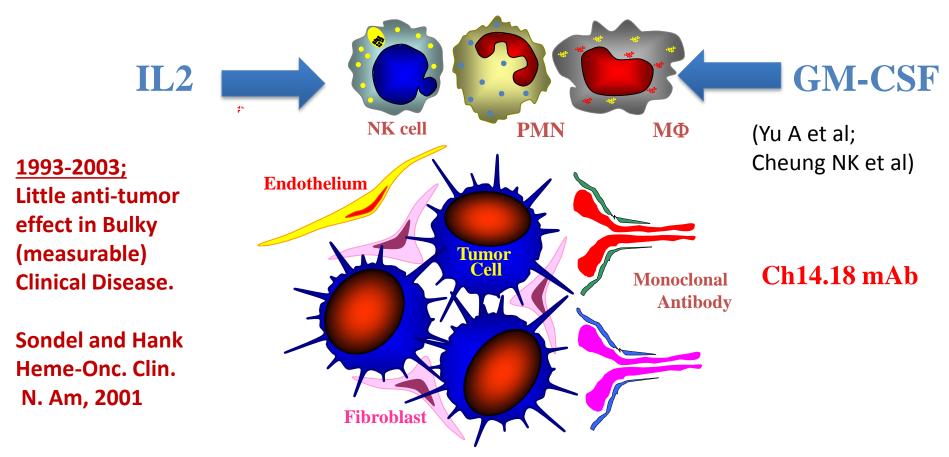
- 1. NK cells from healthy donors kill best with IL2 AND anti-GD2 mAb
- 2. NK cells from cancer patients receiving IL2, kill best with anti-tumor antibody AND IL2



These in vitro studies showed that adding IL2 + mAb augments NK-mediated <u>Antibody Dependent</u> <u>Cell-mediated Cytotoxicity (ADCC)</u>

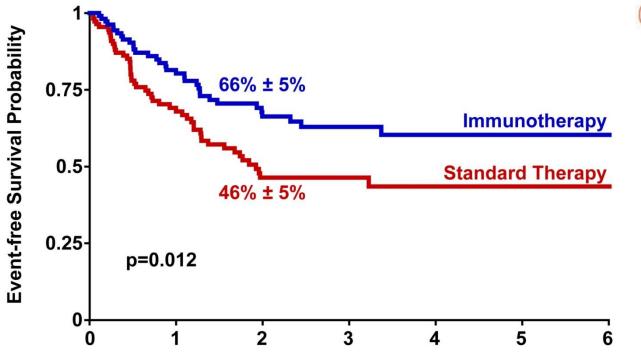
#### How to move this into effective clinical treatment? (Phase I/II studies at UWCCC and COG)

#### COG's approach to Innate Immunity and ADCC for NBL (ANBL0032)



 Activate Multiple Pathways of ADCC (ie: stimulate and engage several different populations of ADCC effector Cells)
Administer Immunotherapy in Minimal Residual Disease [ie: patients in remission, at risk of relapse, *to circumvent poor penetration, Tregs, myeloid derived suppressor cells (MDSCs)*]

### EFS for 226 Children: Immunotherapy vs No Immunotherapy





Yu AL, Gilman AL, Ozkaynak MF, London WB, Kreissman S, Chen H, Smith M, Anderson B, Villablanca J, Matthay KK, Shimada H, Grupp SA, Seeger R, Reynolds CP, Buxton A, Reisfeld RA, Gillies SD, Cohn SL, Maris JM, Sondel PM.

New Eng. J. Med. 335: 1324, 9/30/10

Years from Post-transplant Randomization

- New Standard (Dinutuximab-FDA approved 2015) post-consolidation for Neuroblastoma
- Event-free survival (for patients that enter remission) still only 50-60%
- 30-40% of patients don't achieve remission (are not eligible)
- More improvements needed (for patients in remision, and those that don't achieve remission) !

### Melanoma or Neuroblastoma

Hu14.18-IL2 a genetically engineered fusion protein linking IL2 to hu14.18 mAb

#### S. Gillies and R. Reisfeld PNAS 89:1428, 1992

A "Tri-functional" agent: Anti-GD2 binding; Fc effector function; IL2 Function

Sondel PM + Gillies SD, Antibodies, 1; 149, 2012 Neri D + Sondel P, Cur. Op. Imm. 40:96, 2016 Perez-Horta et al. Oncolmmunology, In Press, 2016

**IL-2** 

# hu14.18-IL2 Immunocytokine (IC)

**IL-2 Receptor** 

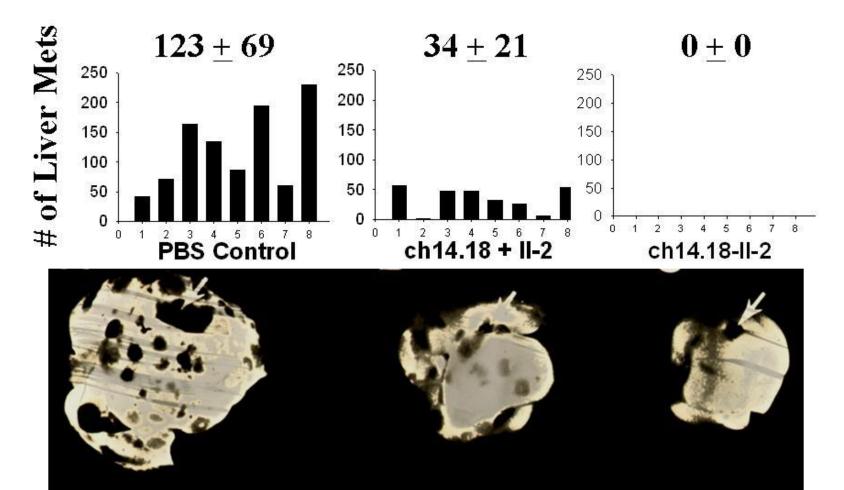
GD2 ` Antigen

**Tumor Cell** 

T Cell or NK Cell Improving outcome in the setting of minimal residual disease (MRD; remission):

## Efficacy of ch14.18-IL2 Immunocytokine against Murine Neuroblastoma Liver Metastases

Lode et al: J. Natl. Cancer Inst. 89:1586, 1997



# Effective anti-GD2 Immunotherapy: Dependence on Minimal Tumor Status (IV admin). Neal ZC, et al Clinical Cancer Research, 10:4839, 2004 250 Number of Liver Metastases 200 150 100 Dr. Zane Neal Dr. Sasha **Rakhmilevich** 50 0

hu14.18-IL2 (10ug/d) for 5 days starting on day 5, 7, 9, or 11 following 5 X  $10^5$  NXS2 cells injected on day 0, and harvested on day 28.

Day 9

Day 7

Day 5

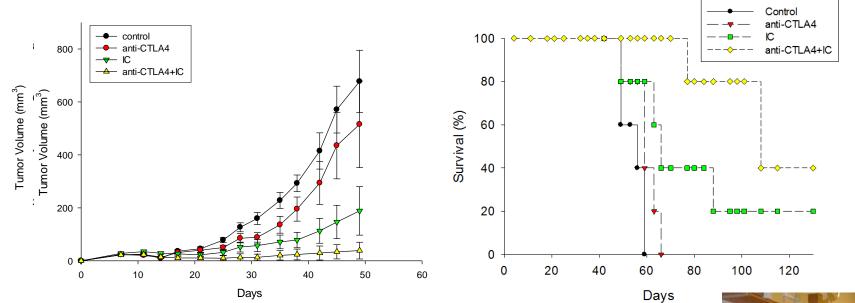
Anti-tumor activity seen clinically in "non-bulky" Neuroblastoma (2 COG Phase-2 Trials): Shusterman S et al. J.Clin. Oncol. 28:4969, 2010, and ASCO abstract 2015 (not shown)

Day 11

**PBS Rx** 

### Can Intratumoral Injection (IT) + Checkpoint Blockade enhance this Immunocytokine (IC) response?

[ALL SUBSEQUENT SLIDES WITH B78 (GD2+B16) MEL (weakly immunogenic)] Effect of anti-CTLA-4 mAb and IT-IC are synergistic on d-7 B78 (<50mm<sup>3</sup>) tumors



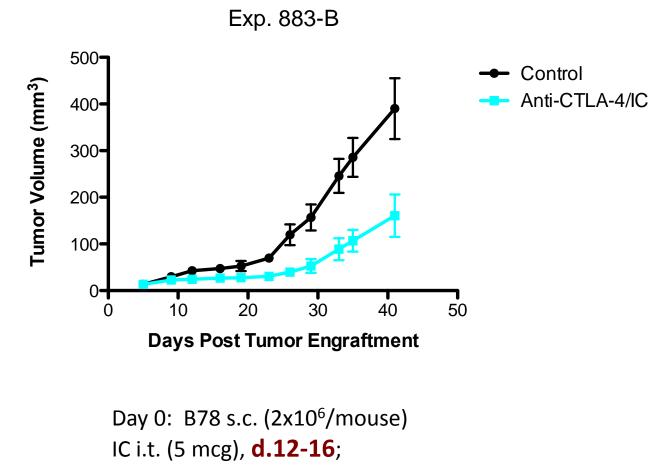
Day 0: B78 s.c. (2x10<sup>6</sup>/mouse) **Day 7-11**: 14.18-IL2 i.t. (5 mcg/mouse) Day 7,9,11,14,16,18: anti-CTLA4 i.p. (200 mcg/mouse)

Alexander Rakhmilevich MD PhD et al, in revision, 2016;



#### Beneficial effect of IT-IC + anti-CTLA-4 is LESS EVIDENT on more advanced (d12) B78 tumors

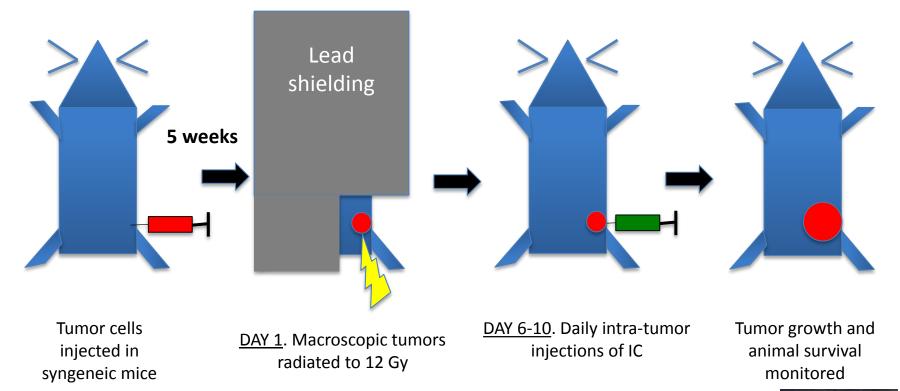
Larger (d-12) tumors grow more slowly (but still grow)



anti-CTLA-4 i.p., d. 12,14,16,19,26,33

Alexander Rakhmilevich MD PhD et al, in revision, 2016

Can augmented activity to <u>macroscopic disease</u> be obtained by combination with immunomodulatory radiation therapy (RT)?



### <u>Tumor cells</u>

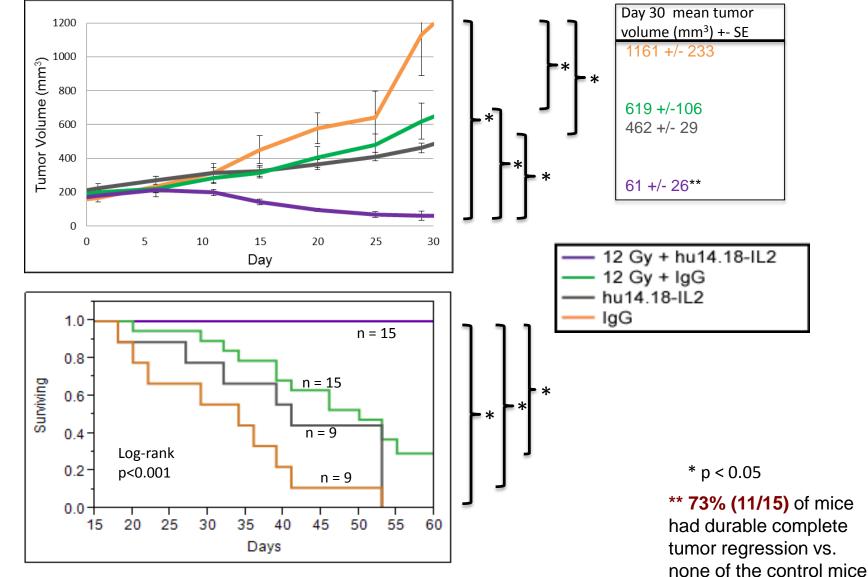
#### **B78** melanoma – poorly immunogenic **B16**

#### melanoma that expresses GD2

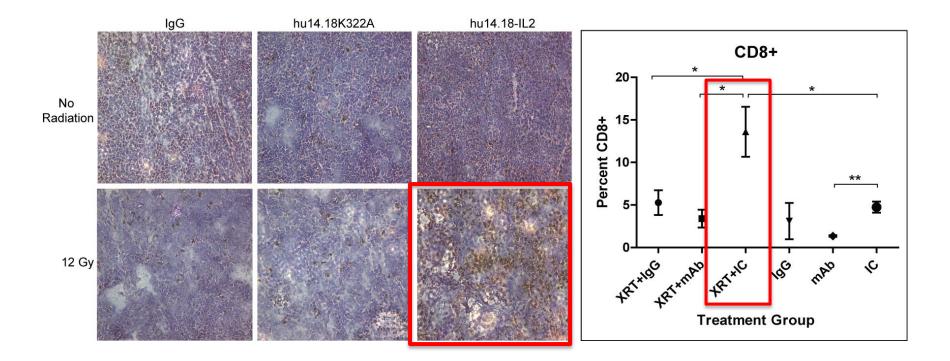
(transfected with β-1,4-Nacetylgalactosaminyltransferase) Zach Morris MD PhD et al Can. Res. May, 2016



# Radiation and IT hu14.18-IL2 results in cure of most <u>5-week (200mm<sup>3</sup>)</u> B78 tumors

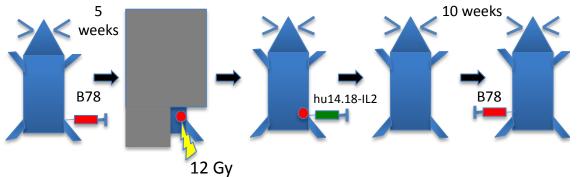


# RT + IT-IC increases tumor infiltration by CD8+ T cells

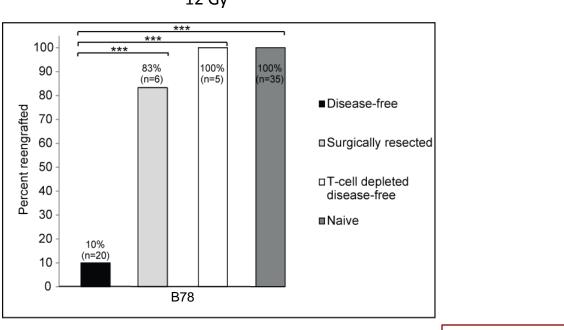


### RT + IT-IC induces a tumor-specific memory T cell response

(In Situ Vaccine Effect)



. . . .

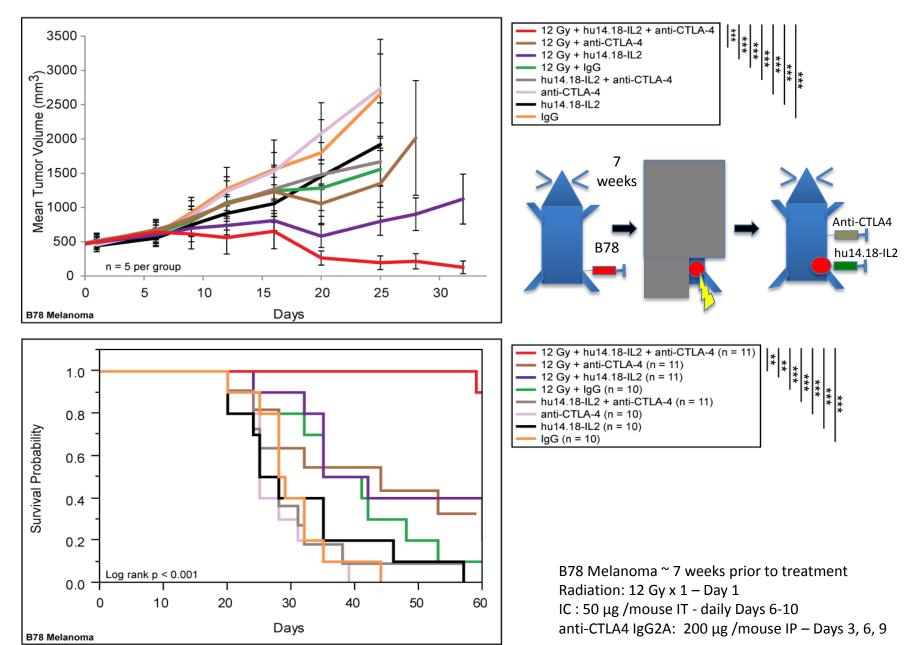


\*\*\* p < 0.001

B16 is parent to B78, but is GD2-(9 of 12 mice that resist B78 now resist B16-"epitope spread")

Panc02 is syngeneic to but a distinct tumor from B16/B78

#### For very large (**7-week, 500 mm<sup>3</sup>**) tumors combining radiation, hu14.18-IL2 and anti-CTLA4 checkpoint blockade improves tumor response and animal survival



# First clinical testing of the combination of: 1. Radiation; 2. Anti-tumor Antibody/IL2 Immunotherapy & 3. Taking off the brakes (checkpoint blockade)

In development: A. In childhood cancer (neuroblastoma) B. In Melanoma

# Lessons and Take Home Messages

### •Key points

–Multiple different types (mechanisms) of immunotherapy, already showing antitumor benefit

-Side effects of immunotherapy are distinct from those with prior standard care (immune mediated, more akin to auto-immunity)

## •Potential impact on the field

-Virtually all tumors that are not curable by surgery alone are (or soon will be) targets for immunotherapy

-This will change the nature of oncology care (and training)

Lessons learned

–Immunotherapy in combination has synergistic anti-tumor effects

### **Collaborators in our Immunotherapy Research: 2016**

- UWCCC (partial list)
  - J Hank
  - A Rakhmilevich
  - A Erbe
  - Z Morris
  - KM Kim
  - M Albertini
  - E Ranheim
  - M Patankar
  - K DeSantes
  - C Capitini
  - M Otto
  - R Yang
  - P Harari
  - K McDowell
  - W Wang
  - Z Perez-Horta
  - A Hofges
  - M Merdler
  - J Weiland
  - Jacob Goldberg
  - Tyler Van Der Voort
  - Patrick Reville
  - Several Energetic Undergrads
  - INBRACED Consortium
    - J. Gray
    - M. Gaze
    - H. Lode

- C.O.G. (Many Pediatric Oncologists)
  - S Shusterman
  - AYu
  - J Maris
  - J Park
  - W London
  - R Seeger
- St. Jude
  - F Navid
  - V Santana
  - W Furman
- Provenance
  - S Gillies
- BMS
  - Alan Korman
- Apeiron
  - H Loibner
- Scripps
  - R Reisfeld

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- Solving Kid's Cancer (SKC)
- Hyundai Hope on Wheels
- St. Baldrick's Foundation
- Alex's Lemonade Stand
- MACC Fund
- University of Wisconsin ICTR Grant
- UWCCC-pilot grant

# University of Wisconsin's Childhood Cancer Reunion KIDS WITH COURAGE V

September 29, 2013 Kalahari Resort and Convention Center Wisconsin Dells, WI

**PROOF THAT CANCER RESEARCH MAKES A DIFFERENCE!** 



Our Goal: Use Improved Therapy (like Immunotherapy) to help cure cancer for many more children (and adults)!



