



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS

MD Anderson
Cancer Center

Making Cancer History®



Casey Ager

Curran Lab

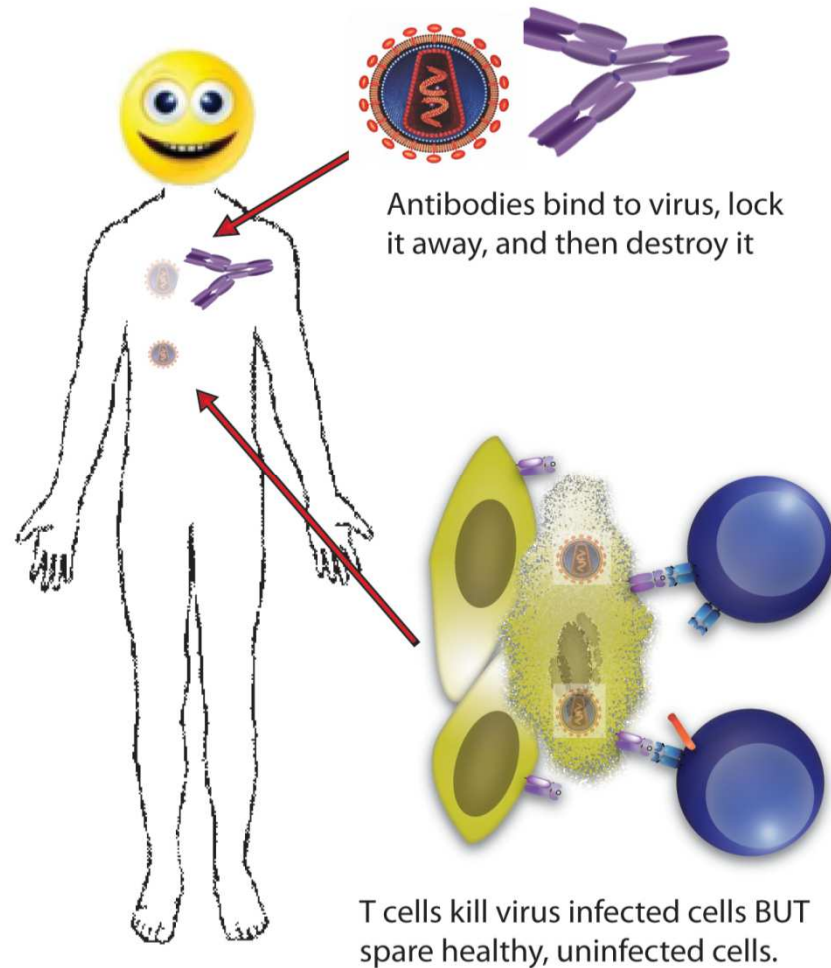
Department of Immunology

Presenter Disclosure Information

Casey Ager

I have no conflicts to disclose.

How does your immune system work?



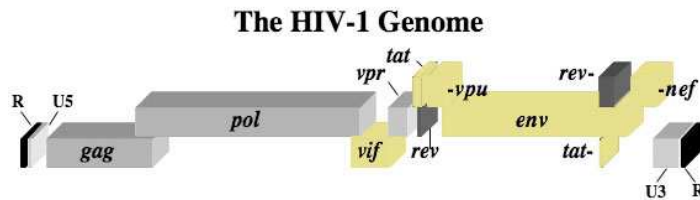
Why does the immune system fail to eliminate cancer?

Antigenic Cancer Cells Grow Progressively in Immune Hosts without Evidence for T Cell Exhaustion or Systemic Anergy

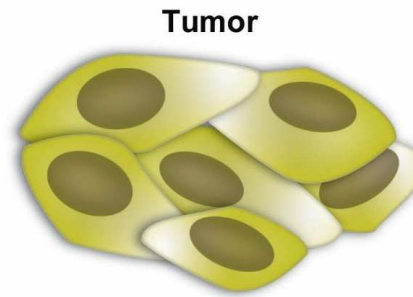
By Maresa Wick,^{*} Purnima Dubey,^{*} Hartmut Koeppen,^{*}
Christopher T. Siegel,[‡] Patrick E. Fields,[§] Lieping Chen,^{||}
Jeffrey A. Bluestone,[§] and Hans Schreiber^{*}

J. Exp. Med. © The Rockefeller University Press
Volume 186, Number 2, July 21, 1997 229–238

Like pathogens, tumors deploy multigenic immune evasion programs

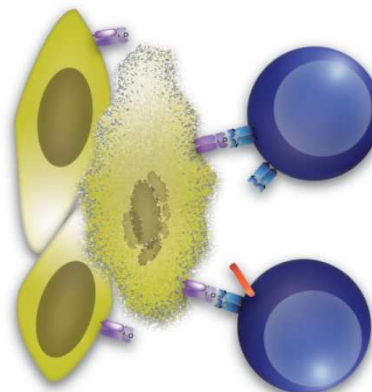
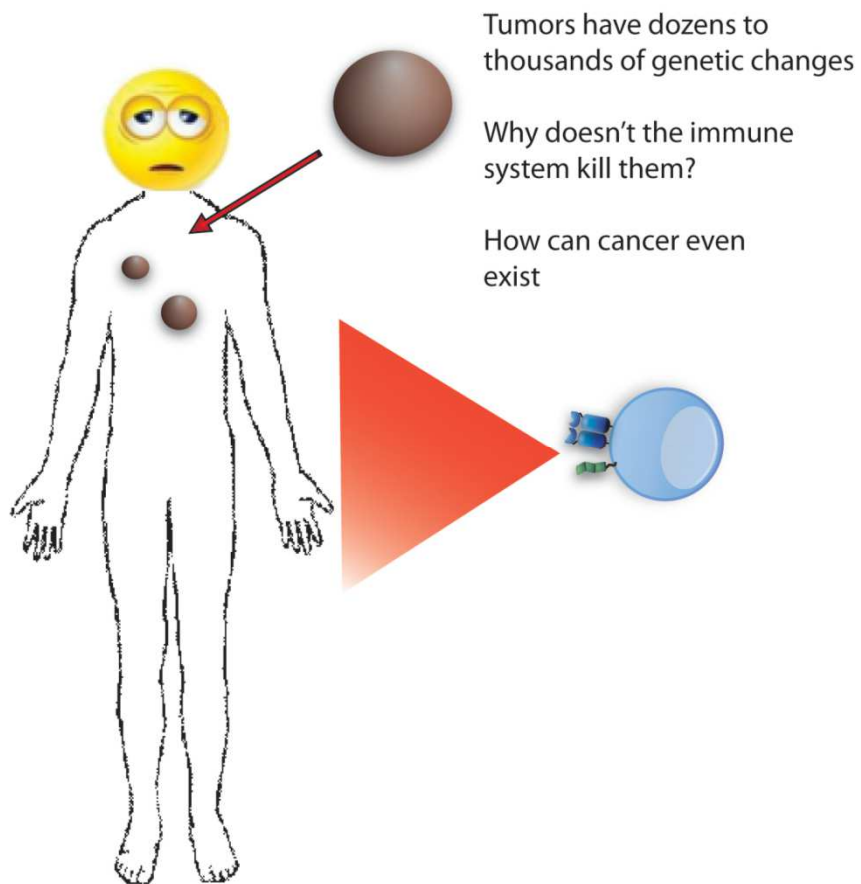


With < 9.8 kB of genome space HIV, like many other viruses devotes a large percentage of its genome to immune evasion.

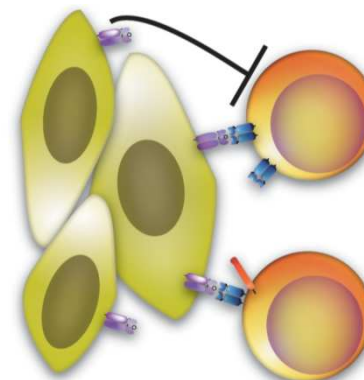


Can access the entire 3×10^9 base genome for evolutionary as well as adaptive immune evasion.

Why is there cancer?



The immune system has the potential to recognize and eliminate cancer, BUT...



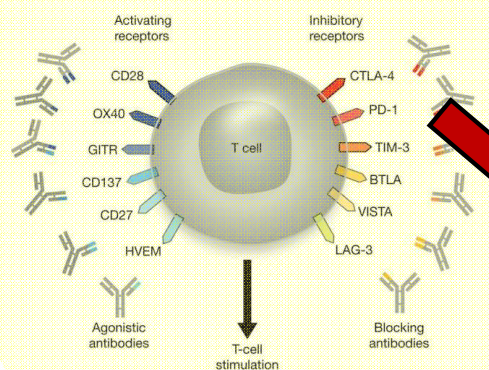
Tumors actively cripple the immune system, creating a shield against elimination.

To exist, tumors must evolve mechanisms to locally disable and/or evade the immune system.

The goal of immunotherapy, then, is to restore the capacity of the immune system to recognize and reject cancer.

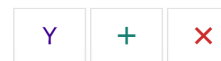
Types of Immunotherapy

T Cell Checkpoint Modulation



Jimmy Carter says he no longer needs cancer drug treatment

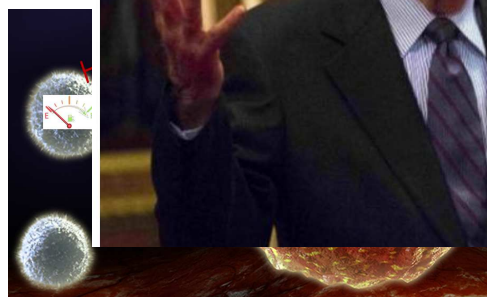
AP By KATHLEEN FOODY
 March 6, 2016 6:47 PM



Therapeutic Cancer Vaccines



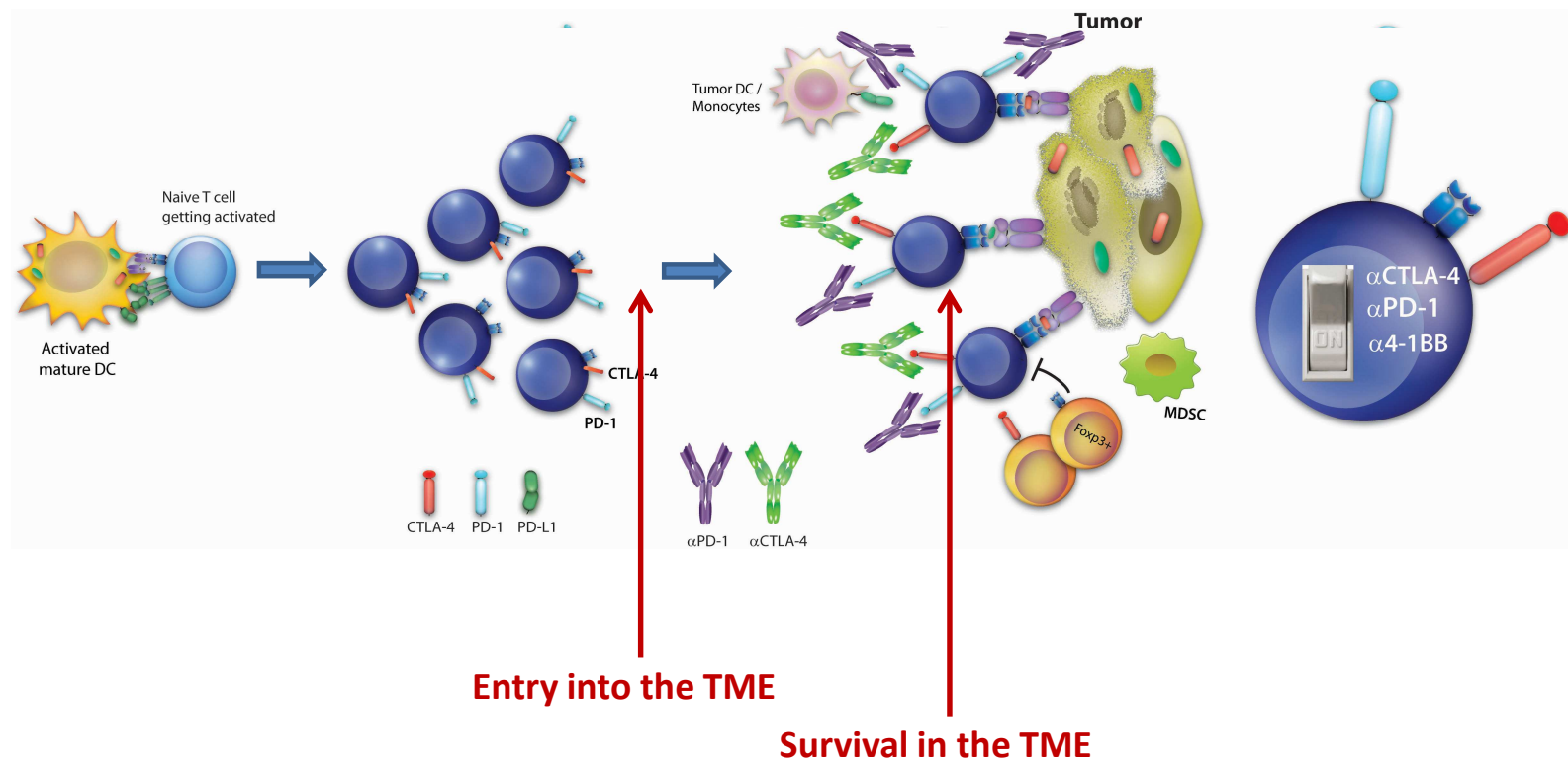
Me



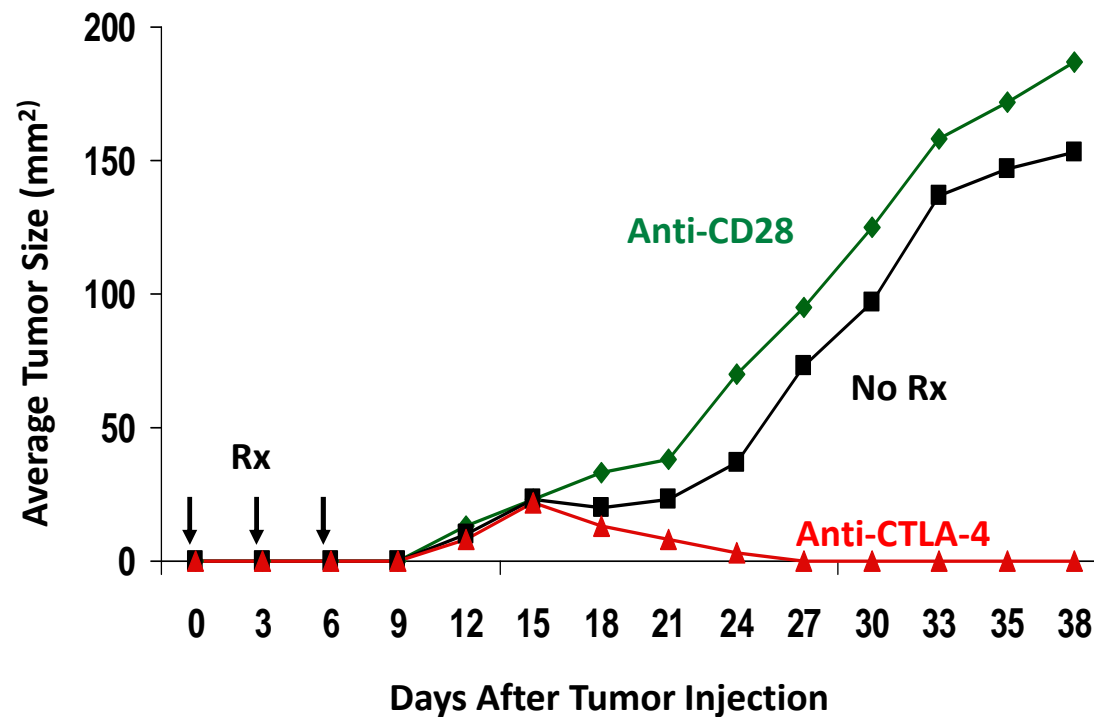
DCs



How do “immune checkpoint” antibodies like α CTLA-4 (Yervoy) and α PD-1 (Opdivo/Keytruda) treat cancer?



Antibodies that block immune checkpoints can cure murine tumors

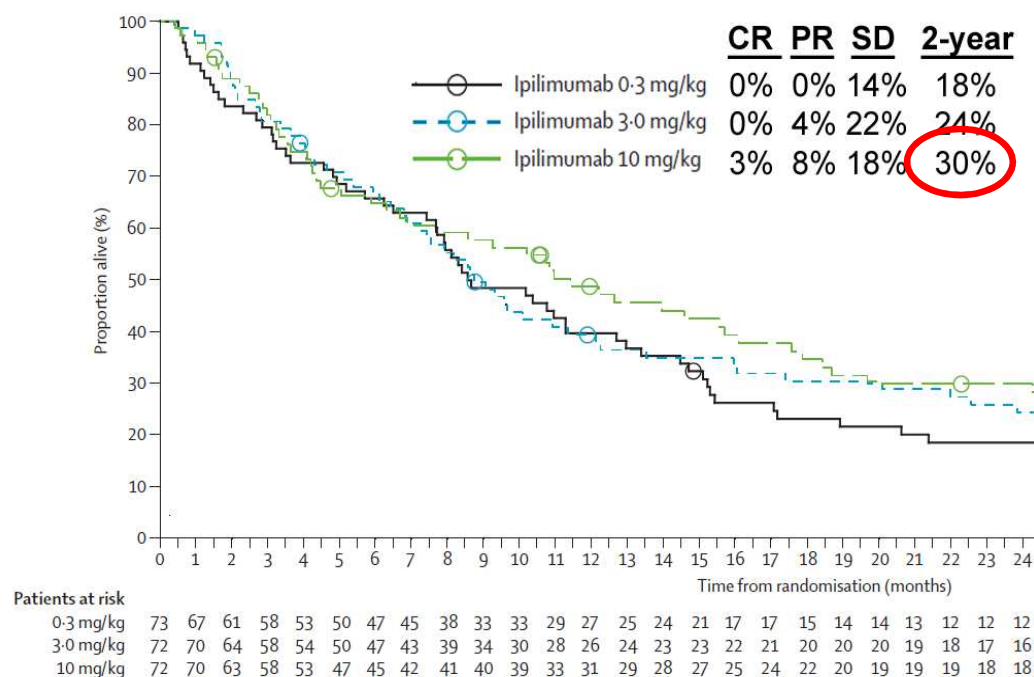


[Science](#). 1996 Mar 22;271(5256):1734-6.

Enhancement of antitumor immunity by CTLA-4 blockade.

[Leach DR¹](#), [Krummel MF](#), [Allison JP](#).

Ipilimumab (α CTLA-4) was approved for the treatment of melanoma by the FDA in 2010



Temodar:

CR: 2.5%

PR: 11%

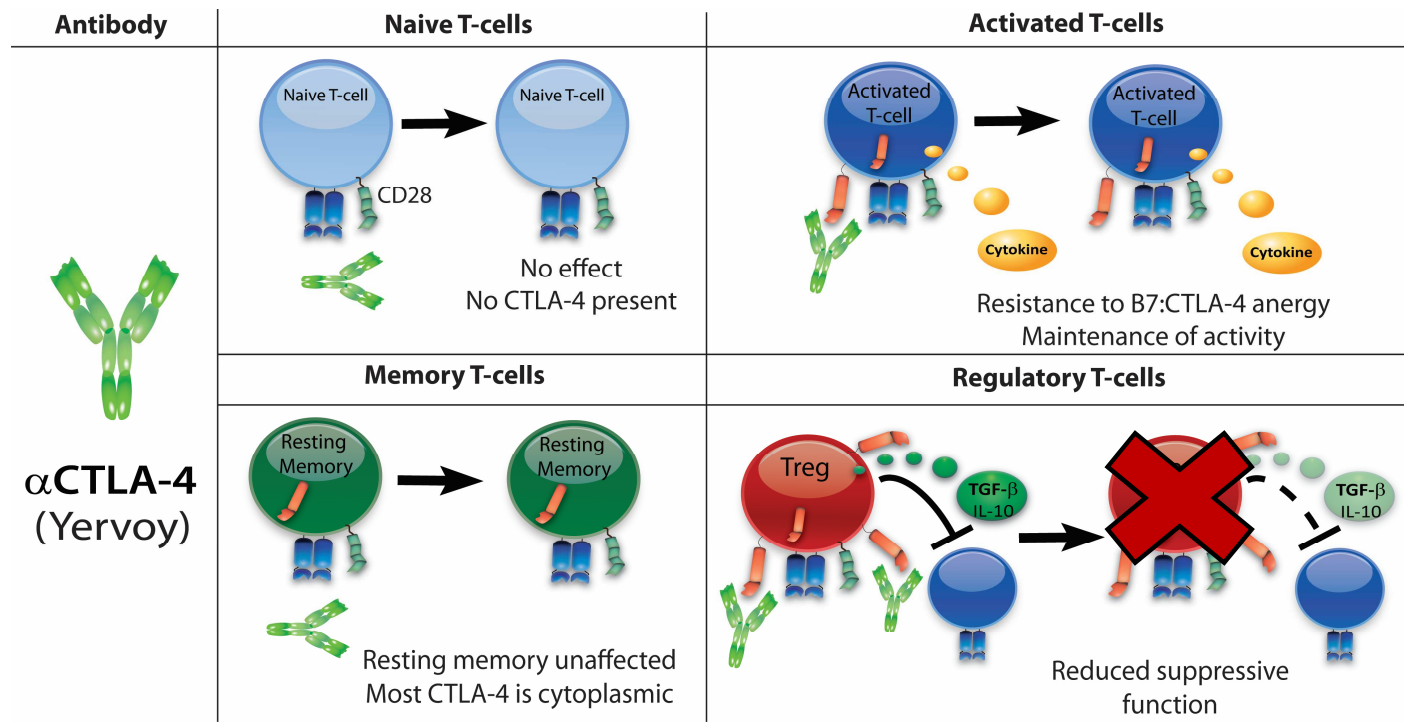
SD: 18%

2yr: 18%

Middleton et.al,
J Clin Oncol, 2000

woicnok et al, *Lancet Oncol*,
 2010

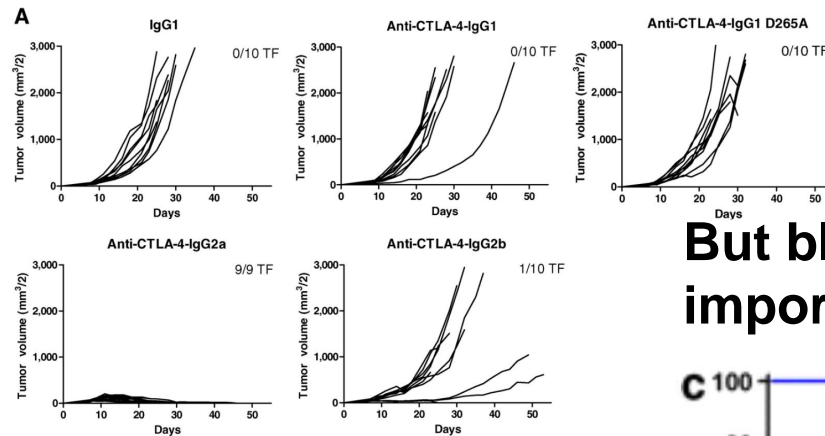
Which T-cells are affected by Ipilimumab(α CTLA-4)?



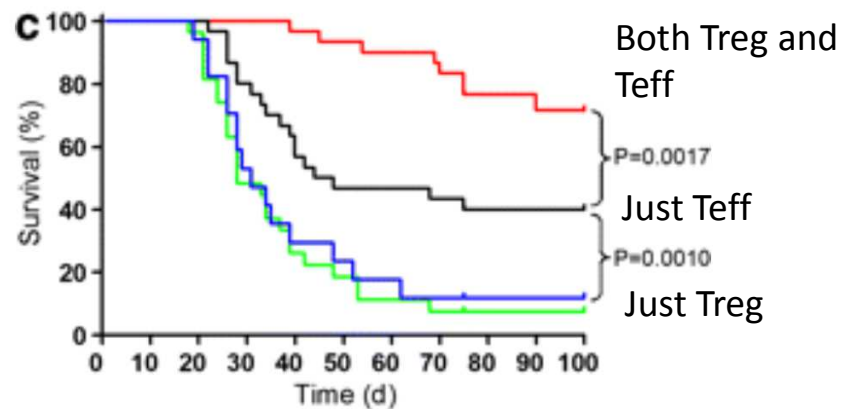
The greater the percentage of active T-cells in a patient targeting the tumor when α CTLA-4 is initiated, the greater the efficacy and selectivity should be.

How do CTLA-4 antibodies potentiate tumor immunity?

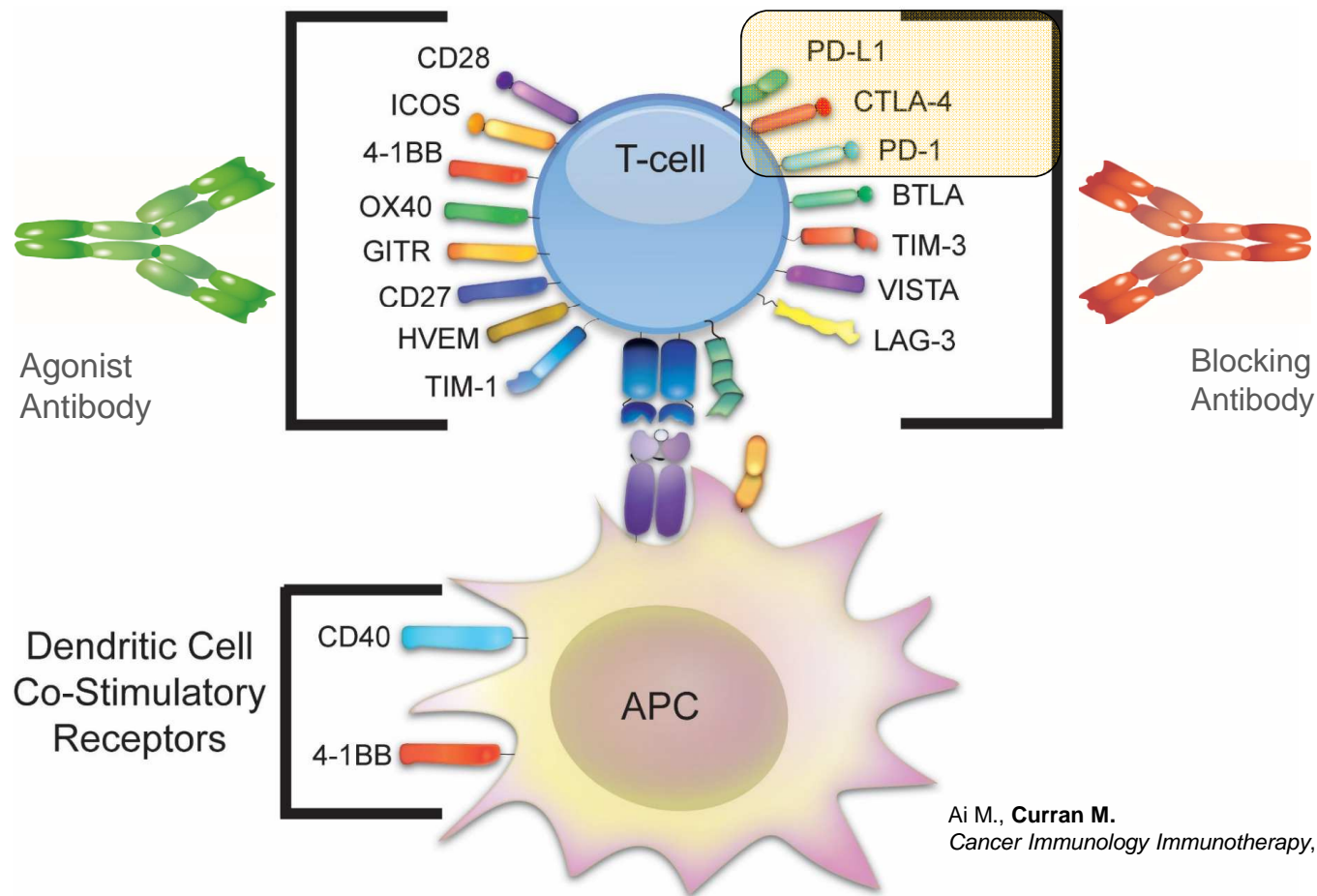
Treg depletion is critical



But blockade is also important



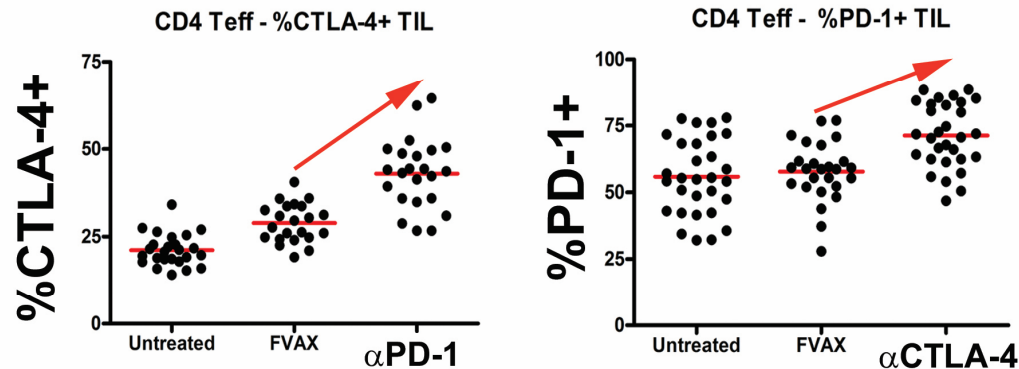
T cell co-stimulatory and co-inhibitory receptors



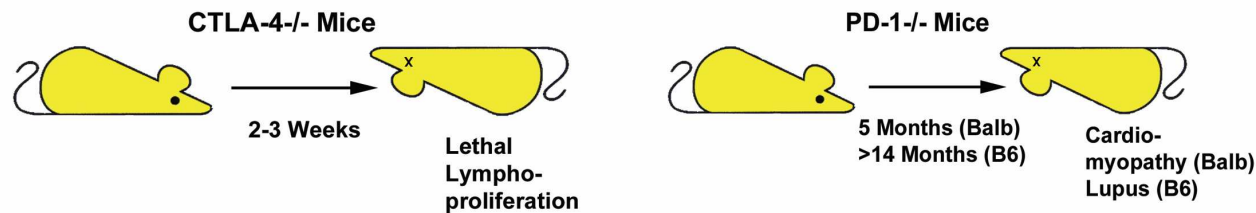
Ai M., Curran M.
Cancer Immunology Immunotherapy, 2015.

Why choose to block the PD-1 pathway in addition to CTLA-4?

**Blocking one co-inhibitory receptor leads
 to reciprocal upregulation of the other**



CTLA-4 and PD-1 inhibitory signals are non-redundant



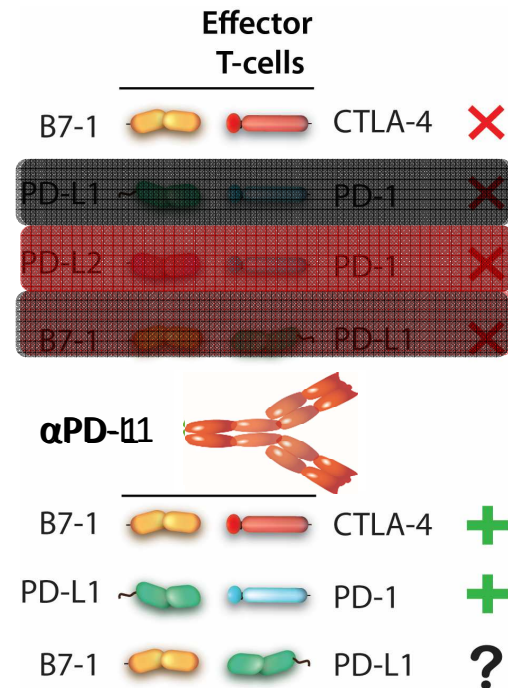
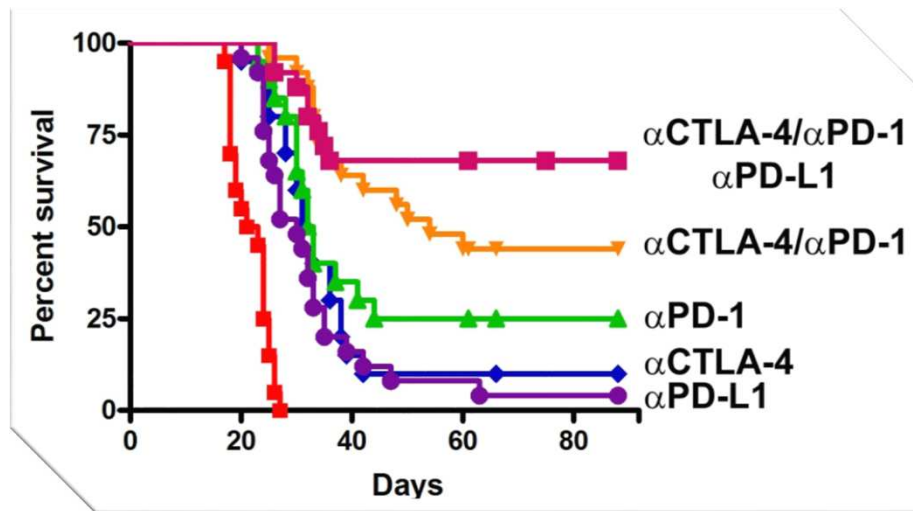
Curran M A et al. PNAS 2010; 107(9):4275-80.

PD-1 and CTLA-4 combination blockade expands infiltrating T cells and reduces regulatory T and myeloid cells within B16 melanoma tumors

Michael A. Curran^a, Welby Montalvo^a, Hideo Yagita^b, and James P. Allison^{a,1}

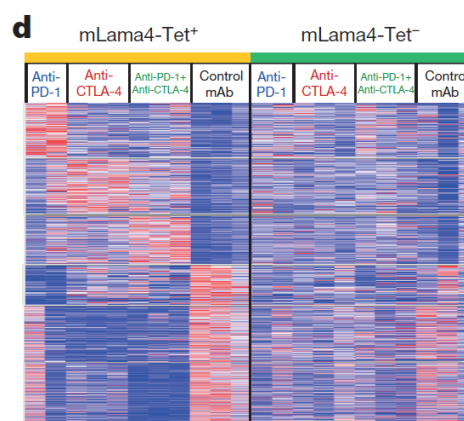
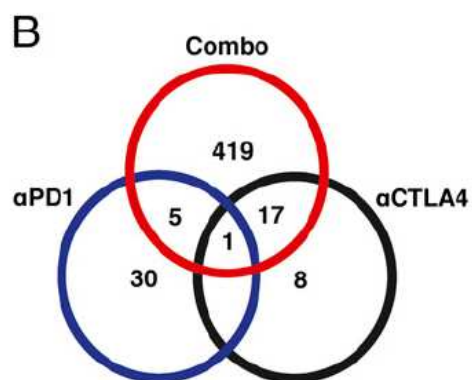
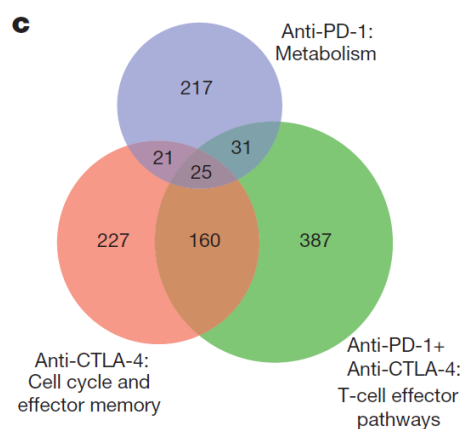
^aHoward Hughes Medical Institute, Department of Immunology, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York, NY 10065; and ^bDepartment of Immunology, Juntendo University School of Medicine, 2-1-1 Hongo, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 113-8421, Japan

Contributed by James P. Allison, January 19, 2010 (sent for review December 17, 2009)



Curran M A et al. PNAS 2010; 107(9):4275-80.

Combination checkpoint blockade = More than the sum of the parts



Checkpoint blockade cancer immunotherapy targets tumour-specific mutant antigens

Matthew M. Gubin¹, Xindi Zhang², Heiko Schuster³, Brienne Canon⁴, Jeffrey P. Ward^{4,5}, Takuro Noguchi¹, Vukla Ivanova¹, Jasreet Hundal⁶, Cora D. Arthur⁷, Willem-Jan Krebber⁸, Gwenn E. Mulder⁹, Mireille Toebes⁸, Matthew D. Vesely¹, Samuel S. K. Lam¹, Alan J. Korman⁸, James P. Allison¹⁰, Gordon J. Freeman¹¹, Arlene H. Sharpe¹², Erika L. Pearce¹, Ton N. Schumacher¹³, Ruedi Aebersold¹⁴, Hans-Georg Rammensee¹⁵, Cornelis J. M. Melief¹⁶, Elaine R. Mardis^{8,15}, Willem E. Gillanders¹, Maxim N. Artyomov¹ & Robert D. Schreiber¹

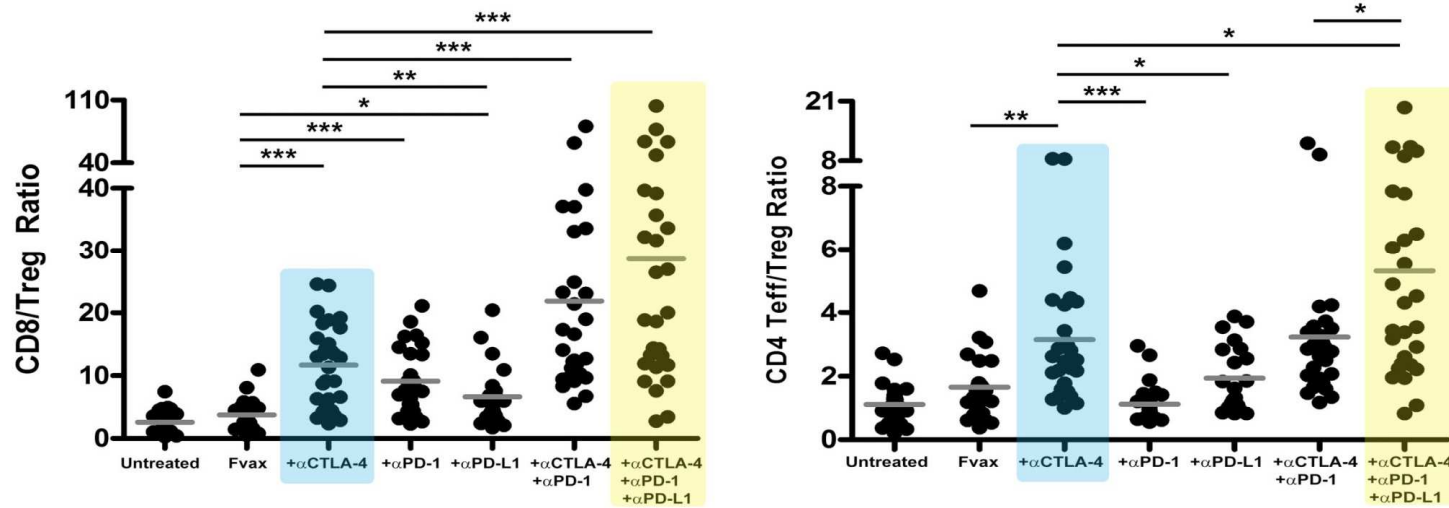


This information is current as of January 3, 2015.

Combination Therapy with Anti-CTLA-4 and Anti-PD-1 Leads to Distinct Immunologic Changes In Vivo

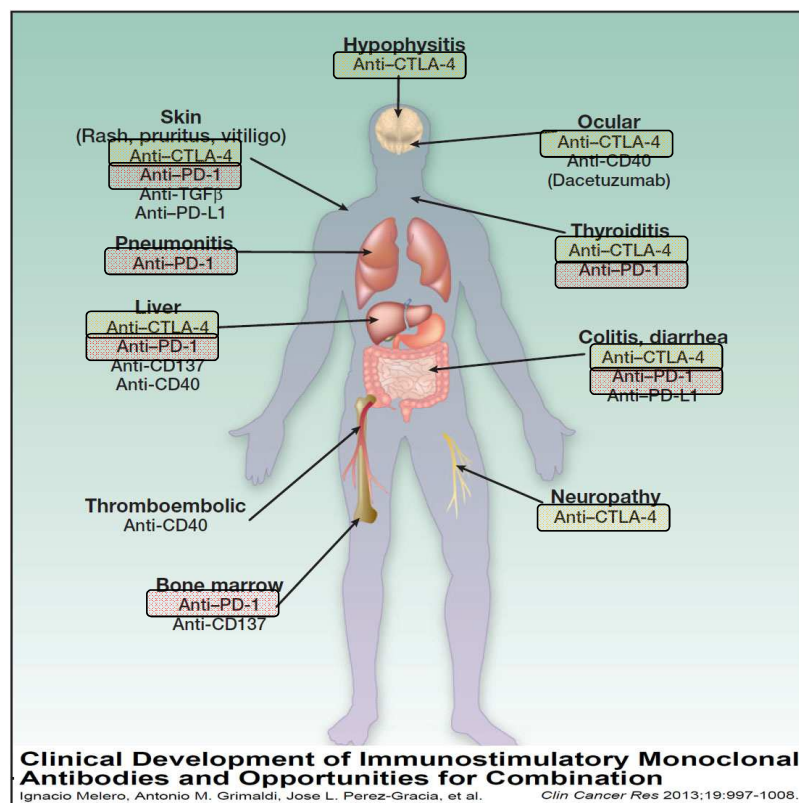
Rituparna Das, Rakesh Verma, Mario Sznol, Chandra Sekhar Boddupalli, Scott N. Gettinger, Harriet Kluger, Margaret Callahan, Jedd D. Wolchok, Ruth Halaban, Madhav V. Dhodapkar and Kavita M. Dhodapkar

Conversion of the tumor micro-environment from suppressive to inflammatory



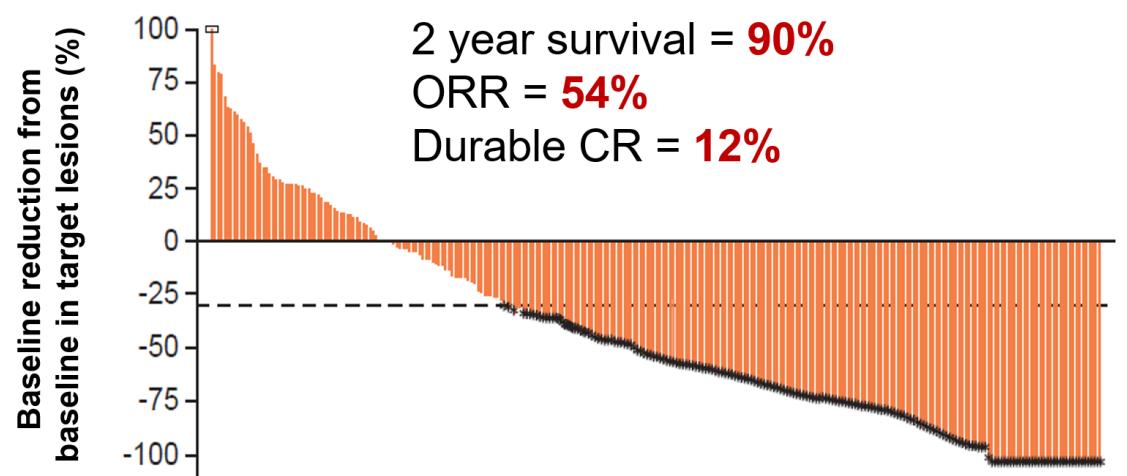
Curran M A et al. PNAS 2010; 107(9):4275-80.

Risk/Benefit: α PD-1 monotherapy IrAE were less severe but largely overlapping with α CTLA-4



Transformative outcomes with Ipilimumab/ Nivolumab in metastatic melanoma and NSCLC

Metastatic Melanoma



Wolchok et al. ASCO 2015 and NEJM

Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer

Outcome	NIVO 1 + IPI 1 q3w	NIVO 1 q2w + IPI 1 q6w	NIVO 3 q2w + IPI 1 q12w	NIVO 3 q2w + IPI 1 q6w
Treatment-related AEs leading to discontinuation, any grade, %	13	8	5	10
Treatment-related AEs leading to discontinuation, grade 3–4, %	10	8	3	10
Confirmed overall response, %	13	25	39	31
Median PFS, months	10.6	4.9	8.0	8.3

Rizvi et al. J Thorac Oncol 2015; 10 (suppl 2): ORAL02.05

The first FDA approved immunotherapy combination

FDA approves nivolumab plus ipilimumab for BRAF wild-type melanoma

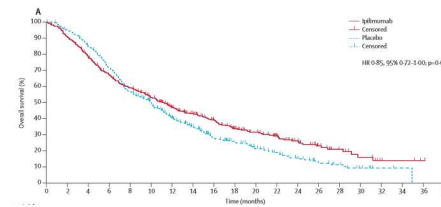
01 Oct 2015

The [Melanoma Research Alliance](#) (MRA) welcomes the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) decision to approve the use of Bristol-Myers Squibb's (BMS) nivolumab and ipilimumab in combination as a treatment for patients with unresectable or metastatic melanoma without a BRAF mutation, known as BRAF wild-type melanoma.



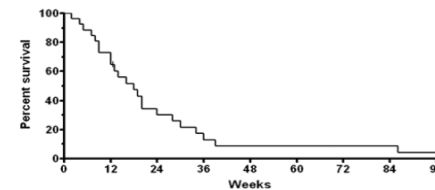
Many solid tumors fail to respond to immune checkpoint blockade

Castration-Resistant Prostate Cancer
(no significant benefit α CTLA-4 or α PD-1)



Lancet Oncol 2014; 15: 700-12

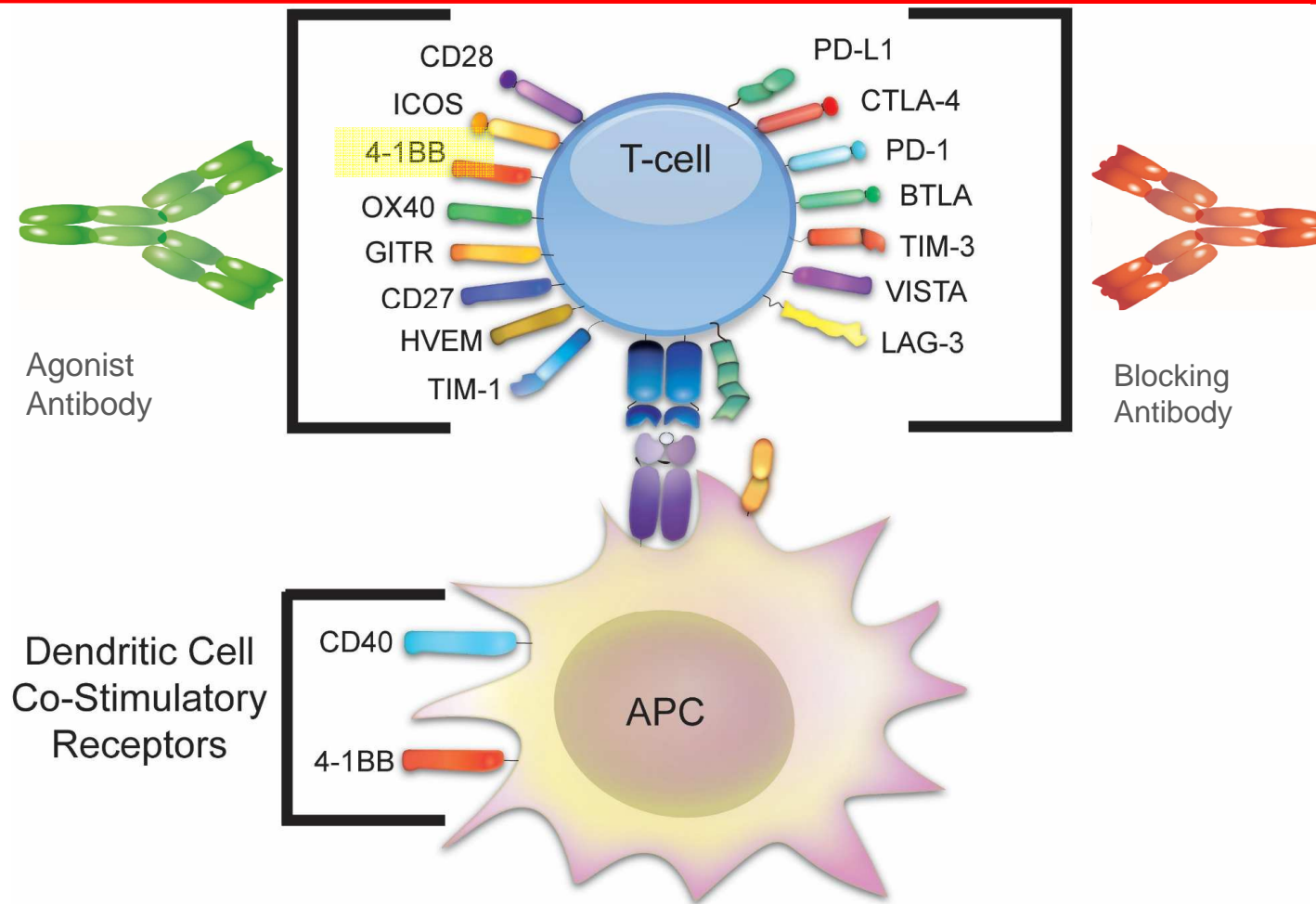
Pancreatic Ductal Adenocarcinoma
(no significant benefit α CTLA-4 or α PD-L1)



J Immunother • Volume 33, Number 8, October 2010

MSI-low Colorectal Cancer
(no significant benefit α CTLA-4 or α PD-L1)

T cell Checkpoint Modulation



4-1BB : Favorable expression profile for immunotherapy

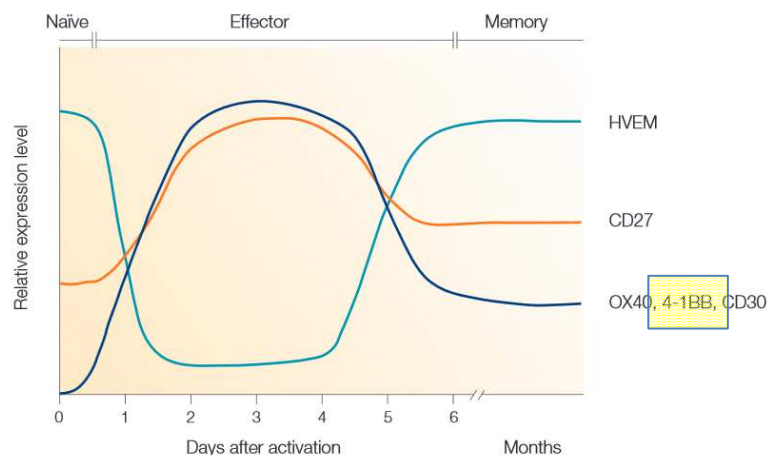


Table 1 | **Expression characteristics of TNFR and TNF molecules by T cells and APCs**

Molecule	T cells			APCs	
	Naïve	Effector	Memory	Resting	Activated
CD27	++	+++	++/-	-	B*
CD70	-	+++*	-	-	B, DC, MØ
HVEM	+++	+	+++	B, DC*	B, MØ*
LIGHT	-	+++	-	DC	-
OX40	-	+++	+/-	-	B, DC*
OX40L	-	+++*	-	-	B, DC, MØ
4-1BB	-	+++	+/-	-	B, DC*
4-1BBL	-	+++*	-	-	B, DC, MØ
CD30	-	+++	+/-	-	-
CD30L	-	+++*	-	-	B, MØ

Nature Reviews Immunology 3, 609-620 (August 2003) | doi:10.1038/nri1148

Co-stimulatory members of the TNFR family: keys to effective T-cell immunity?

Michael Croft¹ [About the author](#)

Table 1 | **Co-stimulatory and co-inhibitory receptor function in stages of T cell differentiation**

Receptor	T cell type	Priming	Cell growth	T _H cell differentiation	Effector function	Survival	Memory
4-1BB	CD4 ⁺	ND	(+)	ThEO	(+)	(+)	(+)
	CD8 ⁺	ND	(+)	TcEO	(+)	(+)	(+)

Adapted from: **Molecular mechanisms of T cell co-stimulation and co-inhibition**

Lieping Chen & Dallas B. Flies *Nature Reviews Immunology* 13, 227-242 (April 2013)

4-1BB targets multiple arms of the immune system

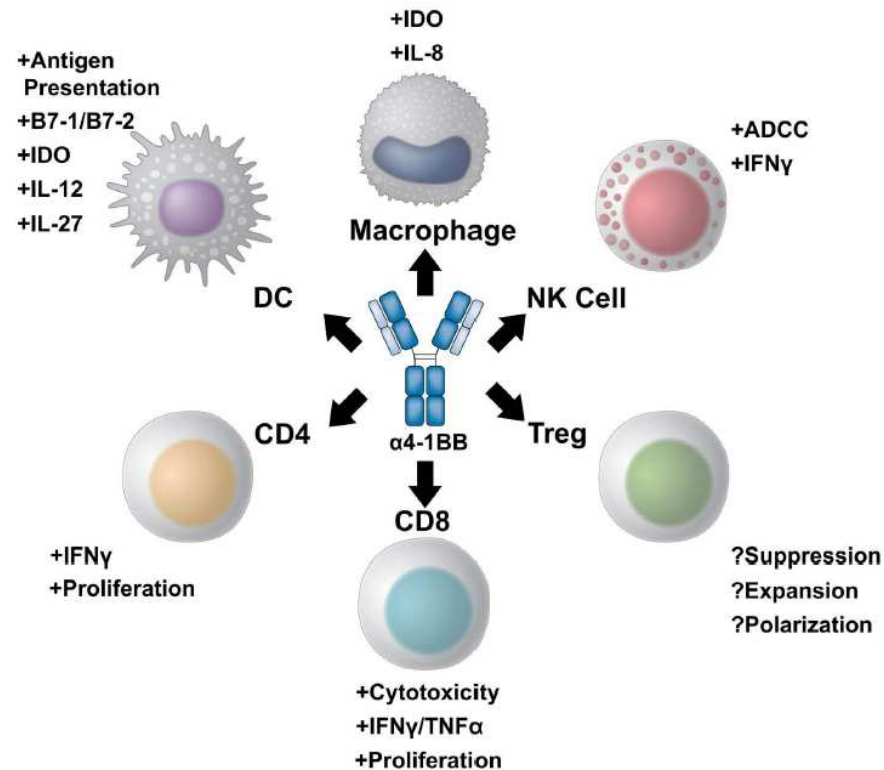


FIGURE 1 | A multi-potent role for 4-1BB targeted immunotherapy.

[4-1BB Agonists: Multi-Potent Potentiators of Tumor Immunity.](#)

Bartkowiak T, Curran MA.

Front Oncol. 2015 Jun 8;5:117. doi: 10.3389/fonc.2015.00117. eCollection 2015. Review.

4-1BB antibodies cure murine cancers

Monoclonal antibodies against the 4-1BB T-cell activation molecule eradicate established tumors

IGNACIO MELERO, WALTER W. SHUFORD, STEPHANIE ASHE NEWBY, ALEJANDRO ARUFFO, JEFFREY A. LEDBETTER, KARL ERIK HELLSTRÖM, ROBERT S. MITTLER & LIEPING CHEN

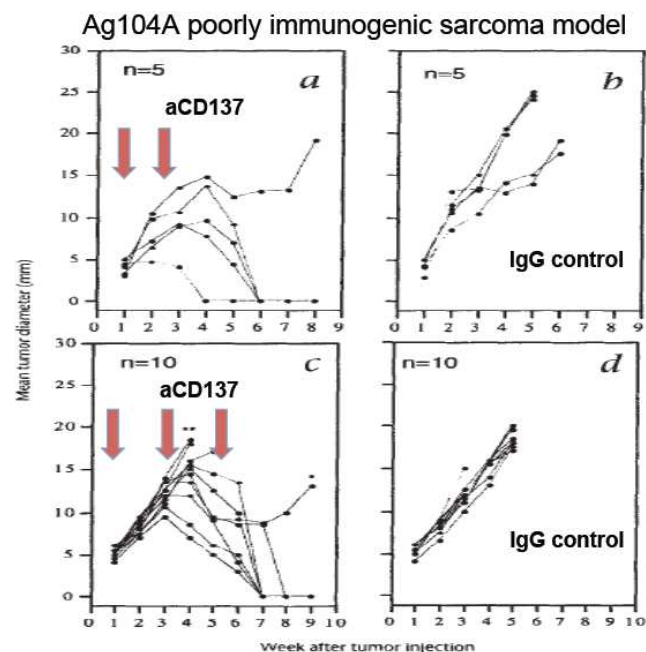


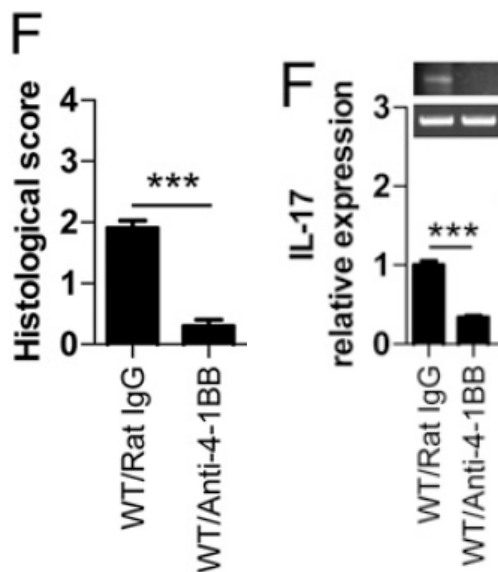
Table 1. Suppression of various tumors by targeting the 4-1BB–4-1BBL pathway

Agent	Cancer type suppressed
Anti-4-1BB mAb	Ag104A sarcoma MCA205, GL261 glioma C3 tumors, TC1 carcinoma J558 tumors A549 tumors
Variants of anti-4-1BB	K1735 melanoma M108 tumors K562 erythroleukemia FR α tumors
Anti-4-1BB combination therapy	B16 melanoma Renal cell carcinoma K1735 melanoma CT26 colon carcinoma MCA205 tumors MC38 tumors
4-1BBL and its variants	M109, EMT6 tumors Liver metastases Cholangiosarcoma Neuroblastoma AML, Wilms tumor 1 Colon 2A and 26 tumors P815 plasmacytoma K562/AO2 tumors Mouse forestomach carcinoma

4-1BB antibodies can suppress autoimmune disease

4-1BB Triggering Ameliorates Experimental Autoimmune Encephalomyelitis by Modulating the Balance between Th17 and Regulatory T Cells *The Journal of Immunology*, 2011, 187: 1120–1128.

Young H. Kim,* Beom K. Choi,* Su M. Shin,* Chang H. Kim,* Ho S. Oh,* Sang H. Park,*
 Don G. Lee,* Myoung J. Lee,* Kwang H. Kim,* Dass S. Vinay,[†] and Byoung S. Kwon^{*,†}

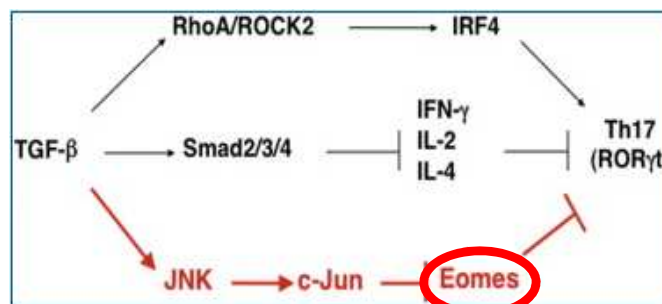


Published April 1, 2013
 JEM

Systemic 4-1BB activation induces a novel T cell phenotype driven by high expression of Eomesodermin

Article

Michael A. Curran,¹ Theresa L. Geiger,² Welby Montalvo,²
 Myoungjoo Kim,² Steven L. Reiner,^{3,4} Aymen Al-Shamkhani,⁵
 Joseph C. Sun,² and James P. Allison^{1,2}

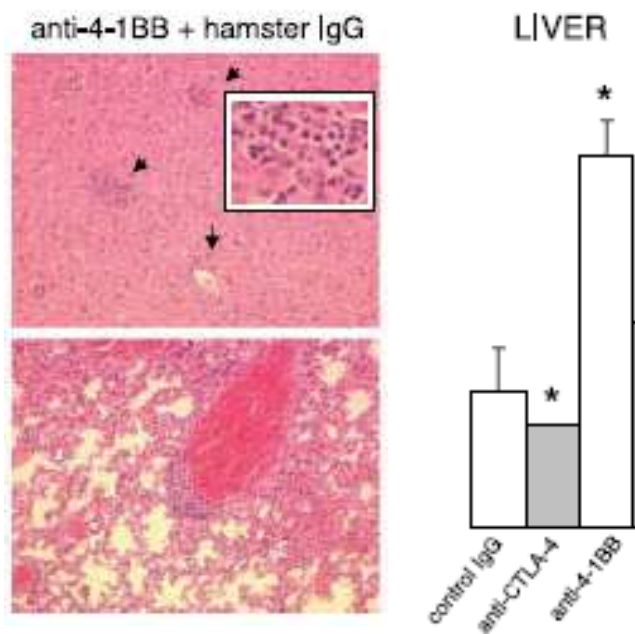


4-1BB agonist antibodies cause liver inflammation

Cancer Res. 2006 Jul 15;66(14):7276-84.

Combination therapy with anti-CTL antigen-4 and anti-4-1BB antibodies enhances cancer immunity and reduces autoimmunity.

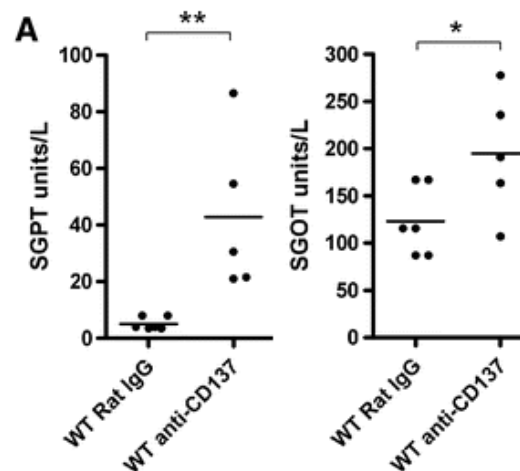
Kocak E¹, Lute K, Chang X, May KF Jr, Exten KR, Zhang H, Abdessalam SF, Lehman AM, Jarijouna D, Zheng P, Liu Y.



Cancer Immunol Immunother. 2010 Aug;59(8):1223-33. doi: 10.1007/s00262-010-0846-9. Epub 2010 Mar 25.

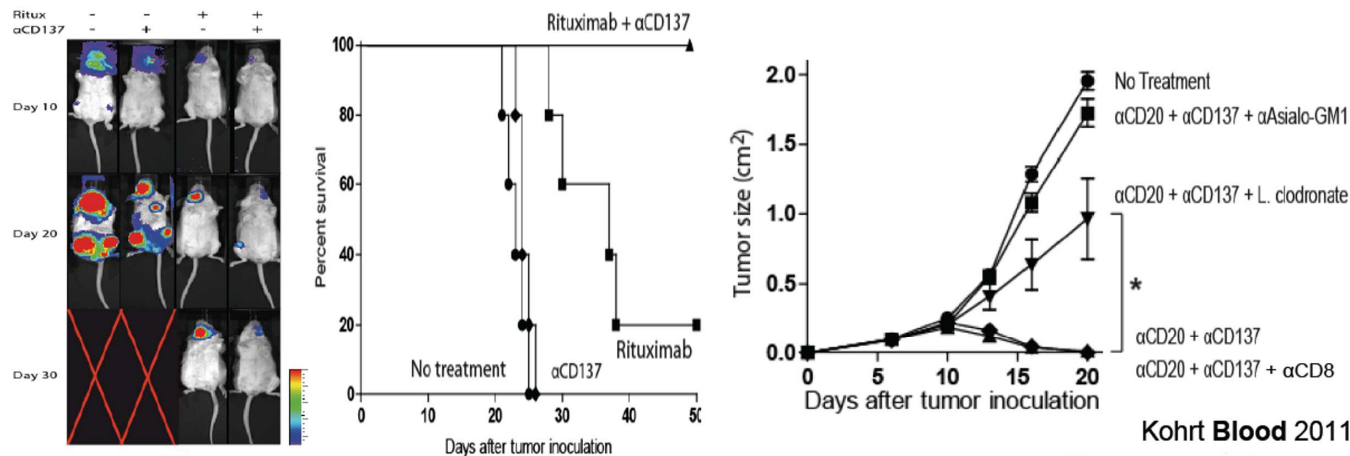
Treatment with anti-CD137 mAbs causes intense accumulations of liver T cells without selective antitumor immunotherapeutic effects in this organ.

Dubrot J¹, Milheiro F, Alfaro C, Palazón A, Martínez-Forero I, Pérez-Gracia JL, Morales-Kastresana A, Romero-Trevello JL, Ochoa MC, Hervás-Stubbs S, Prieto J, Jure-Kunkel M, Chen L, Melero I.



Urelumab (BMS): a potent clinical 4-1BB agonist limited by liver toxicity

1. In an open label, dose escalation study, achieved monotherapy Recist PR in melanoma (~10%) and SD >6m in 17% of melanoma and 14% of RCC (2005).
2. During a Phase II follow-up trial in melanoma, multiple instances of Grade 4/5 liver toxicity led to an FDA hold (2009).
3. Urelumab trials resumed in 2011 at lower doses as a companion antibody to enhance the efficacy of ADCC-based antibody therapeutics such as Rituximab.



Utomilumab (Pfizer): A new 4-1BB agonist without significant liver toxicity

No liver toxicity > Grade 2
Can be safely dosed to 10mg/kg

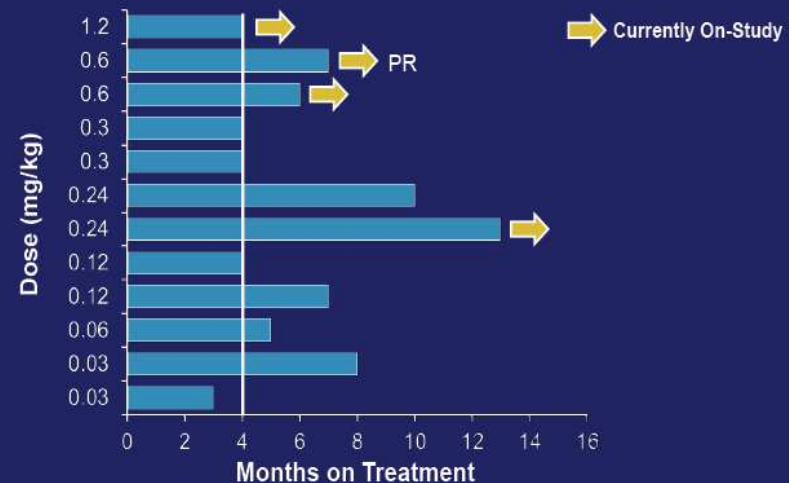
Efficacy as monotherapy in Merkel Cell, but less than Urelumab in metastatic melanoma

Currently being tested with α PD-1, α PD-L1, and α OX-40 in checkpoint combination trials.

Also being tested with Rituximab and cetuximab in ADCC combination trials.

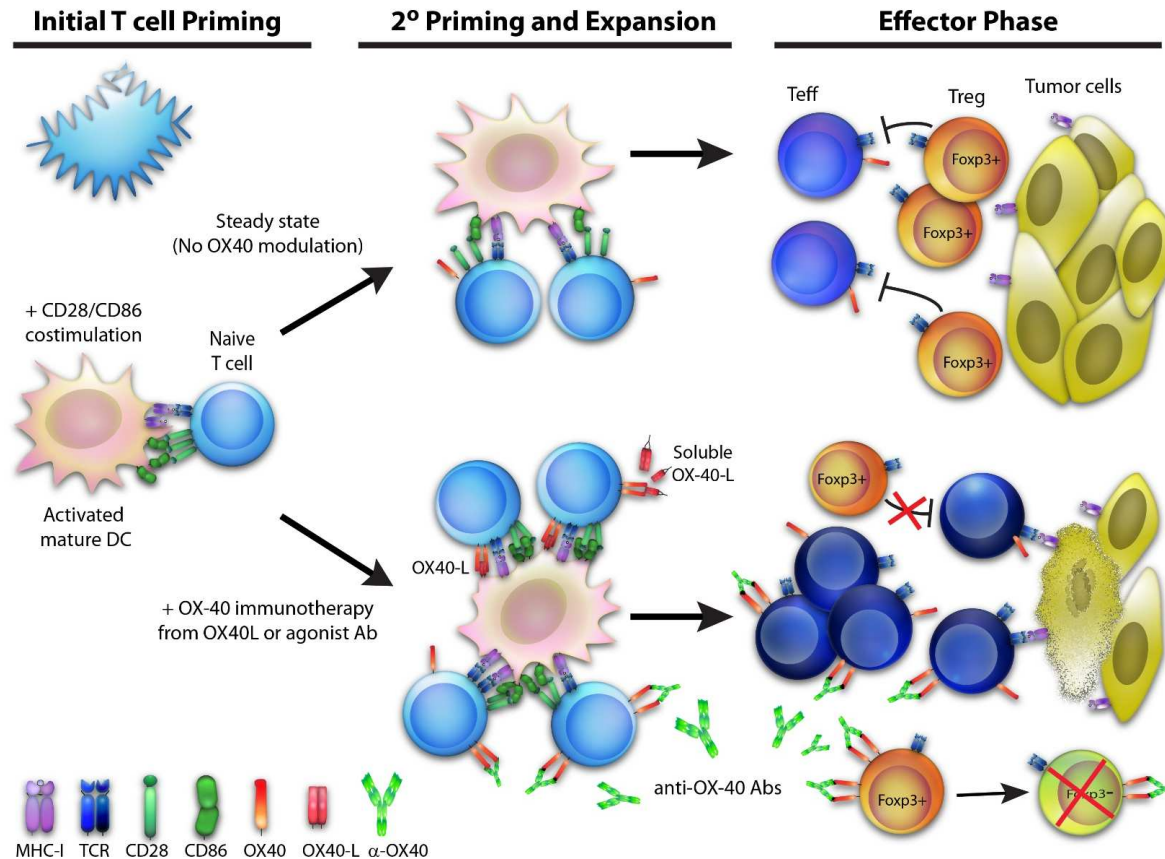
Utomilumab, Anti-CD137, Fully human, IgG2, Agonist

Duration of Treatment in Patients with Measurable Disease



None of these patients discontinued due to adverse events attributed to the study drug.
Data as of May 19, 2014

OX-40 antibody boosts effector T cells, can kill Tregs, and has a very favorable safety profile

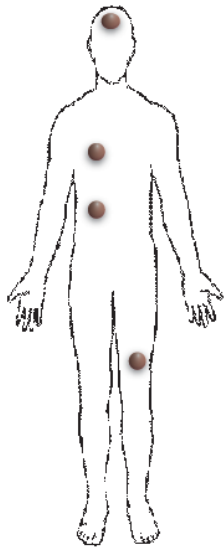


Proprietary and Confidential

OX-40 Agonist Pros and Cons

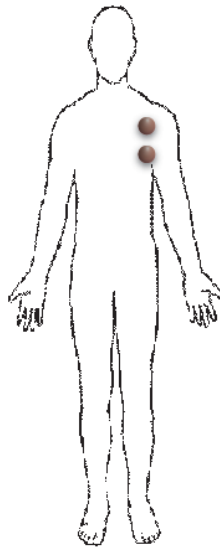
- In mouse OX-40 antibodies target only CD4 T cells but in humans both CD4s and CD8s can be activated
- OX-40 agonists have a very mild safety profile making them attractive for combination regimens as well as adjuvant therapy
- Unlike 4-1BB antibodies, OX-40 activation does not augment APC function or strongly augment T / NK cell cytotoxicity

One (combination) shoe doesn't fit all



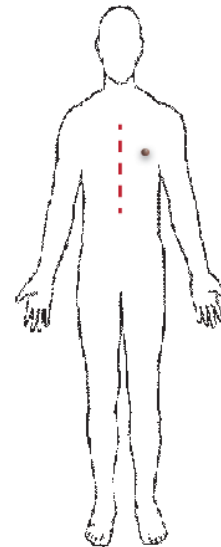
Advanced Metastatic disease

α CTLA-4/ α PD-1
+Rad or drug or
Anti-stromal therapy
or STING



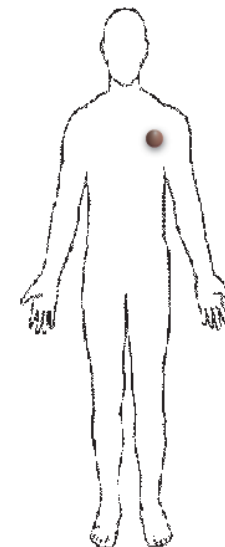
Locally advanced disease

α PD-1 or α PD-L1
+Rad or drug or
Anti-stromal therapy
or STING



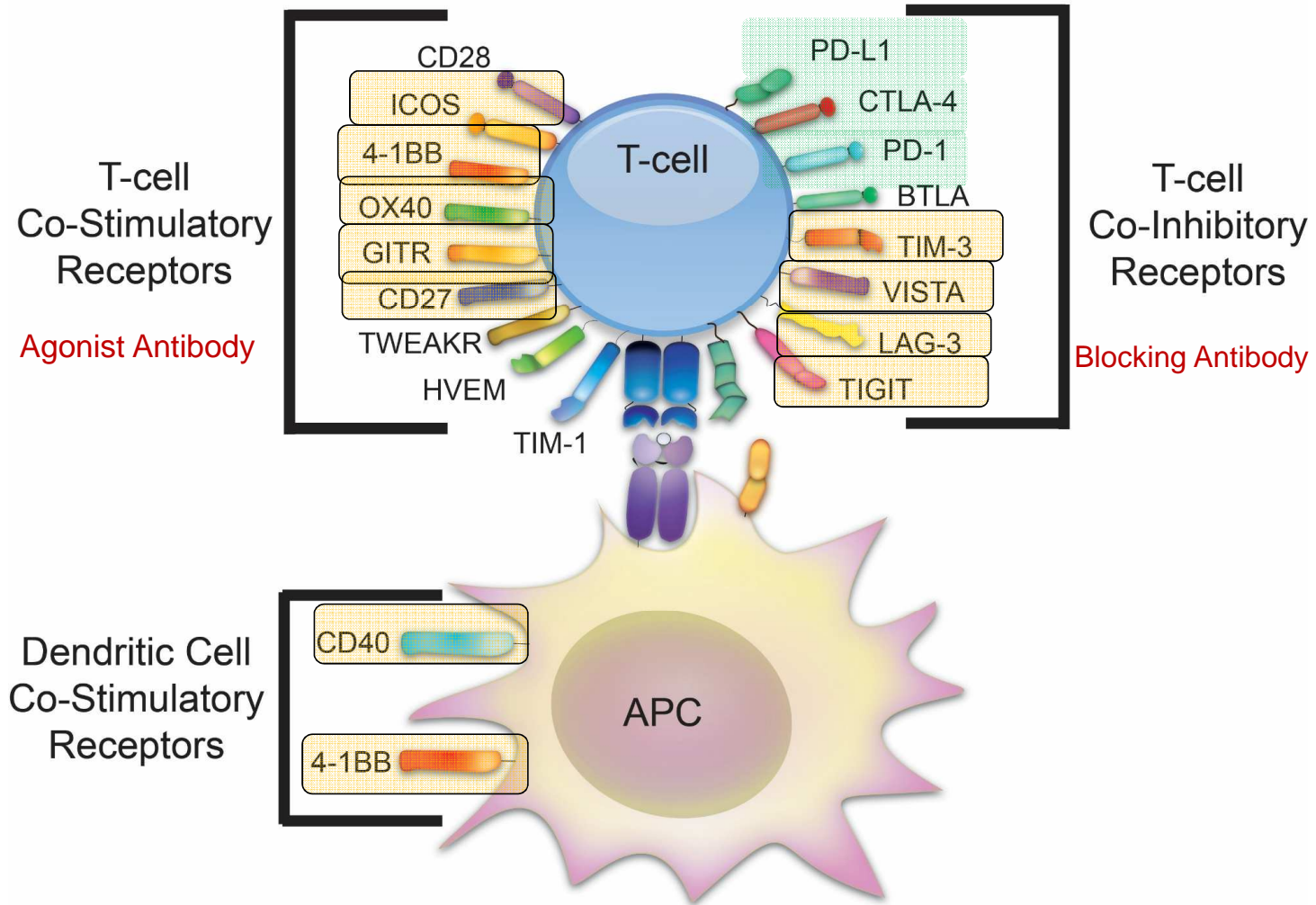
MRD post-surgery

α OX40/ α PD-L1
or
 α OX40/ α MDSC
or
 α OX-40/TLR



Localized, accessible disease

Local α CTLA-4,
 α 4-1BB or α CD40
or
Local STING/TLR



Ai M., **Curran M.A.** Immune checkpoint combinations from mouse to man.
Cancer Immunology Immunotherapy, 2015.

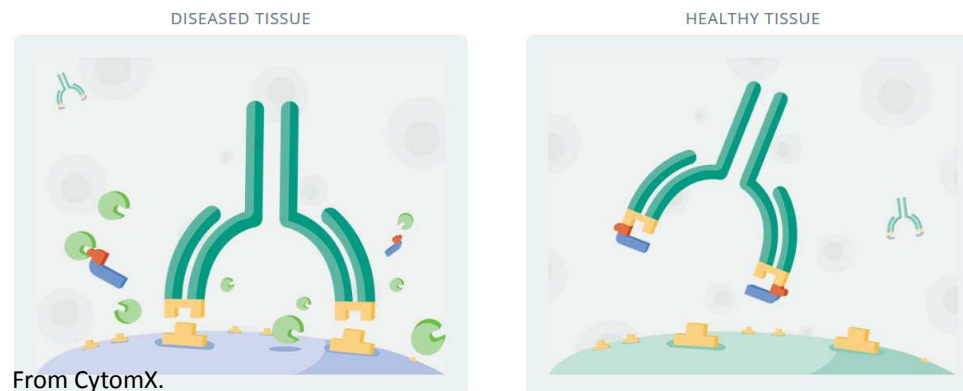
Future checkpoint antibodies with reduced toxicity will be well-suited for multi-drug therapy

1. Current CTLA-4, 4-1BB, CD40 and possible PD-1 antibodies are under dosed and sub-optimally engineered relative to their murine counterparts to achieve tolerability.
2. Combinations of checkpoint antibodies are toxicity-limited in terms of dosing and complexity (e.g. 1I Q12W + 3N Q2W dosing for Ipilimumab/Nivolumab).
3. Emerging technologies which reduce off-target immune-related adverse events by selectively targeting checkpoint receptors in the tumor microenvironment will enable higher potency monotherapy dosing and high order combinations of multiple drugs.

THE SCIENCE OF PROBODY THERAPEUTICS

Probody therapeutics are designed to bind selectively to tumors, and not to healthy tissue, to minimize toxicity and create safer, more effective cancer therapies.

Traditional antibodies bind to unique antigens that exist in abundance on diseased tissue. However, many of these antigen targets also are found on healthy tissue. This is a critical challenge for today's highly potent next-generation antibody therapies, including immunotherapy combinations, antibody drug conjugates, T-cell engaging bispecific antibodies and ProCAR-NK cell therapies.



To exist, tumors must evolve mechanisms to locally disable and/or evade the immune system.

The goal of T cell checkpoint blockade is block the switches on T cells being engaged by the tumor to shut them down and in so doing to restore tumor-specific immunity.

Lessons and Take Home Messages

- The immune system has the potential to recognize and reject most cancers, but tumors locally suppress immunity.
- Antibodies which block T cell immune checkpoint receptors protect these cells from being attenuated in the tumor microenvironment allowing them to regress tumors.
- Antibodies which activate (agonists) T cell co-stimulatory receptors can expand, protect, and increase the per cell effector function of tumor-specific T cells.
- Optimal combinations will be those which 1) activate non-redundant pathways, 2) target multiple cell types within the tumor microenvironment, 3) do not worsen the severity of immune related adverse events.
- The field is moving toward more effective and less toxic checkpoint modulating antibodies which can be used in double or triple combinations or rationally sequenced.