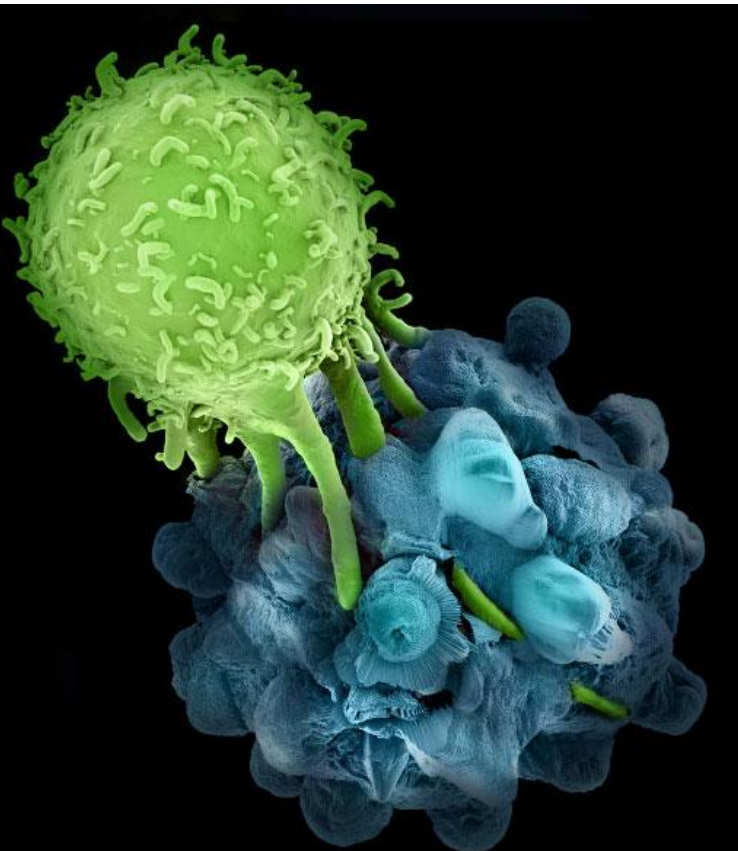


Cancer Immunotherapy Trials Network

“Update: 2019”

(November 8, 2019)



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CURES START HERE®



cancer
immunotherapy
trials network

CITN: Origin

- **AAI/AACR Extramural Immunology Expert Steering Committee**
 - Worked with NCI to query: “Why have basic scientists invented so many potentially effective immunotherapy agents that are not being tested in patients?”
 - Jim Allison, Mac Cheever, Olivera Finn, Ira Melman, Drew Pardoll, Ralph Steinman
- **NCI Immunotherapy Workshop (2007)**
 - Prioritized: Agents that could cure cancer patients if we (the field) could get our hands on the agents to learn how to use them!
- **CITN formed** to bring together foremost immunotherapists to bring an essential focus on the high priority agents.

Focus on High Priority Agents Central to Effective Immune Responses

- Dendritic cell growth factor (Flt3L)
- Dendritic & APC activator (anti-CD40)
- Dendritic & APC activator (poly ICLC)
- Innate immune response activator (IFN-gamma)
- Homeostatic T-cell growth factor (IL-7)
- T-cell and NK cell activator & growth factor (IL-15)
- Checkpoint inhibitor (anti-PD1)
- Agent to inhibit suppressive enzymes (IDO inhibitor)

“Building Blocks for Constructing Effective Immune Responses”

**Remarkably few academic initiated trials
except anti-PD1/PD-L1**

Progress: CITN Trials with 8 Core Agents

- **Changed standard of care with anti- PD1 (4 diseases)**

- Merkel Cell carcinoma
- Mycosis fungoides/Sezary Syndrome
- Advanced cancer with HIV
- Pancreas cancer (by extrapolation)

- **Established or confirmed pharmacodynamics (5 agents)**

- IL-7
- IL15
- IL15:IL15Ra-Fc
- Flt3L
- IDO inhibitor

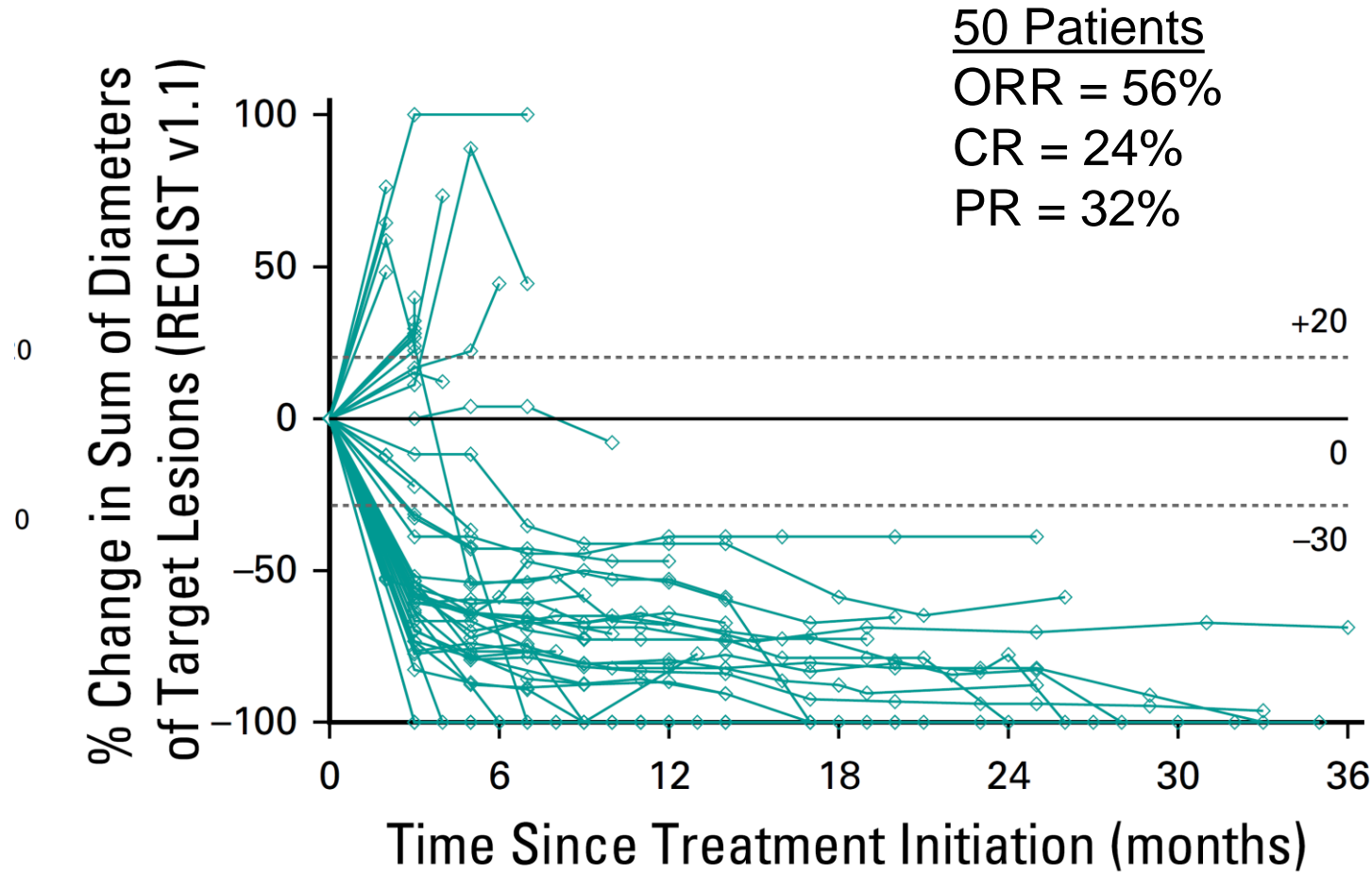
- **Established doses for taking forward in combination regimens (6 agents)**

- IL-7
- IL-15
- IL-15:IL-15Ra-Fc
- Flt3L
- Anti-CD40
- IFN-gamma

- **Motivated several companies to develop agents (3 agents)**

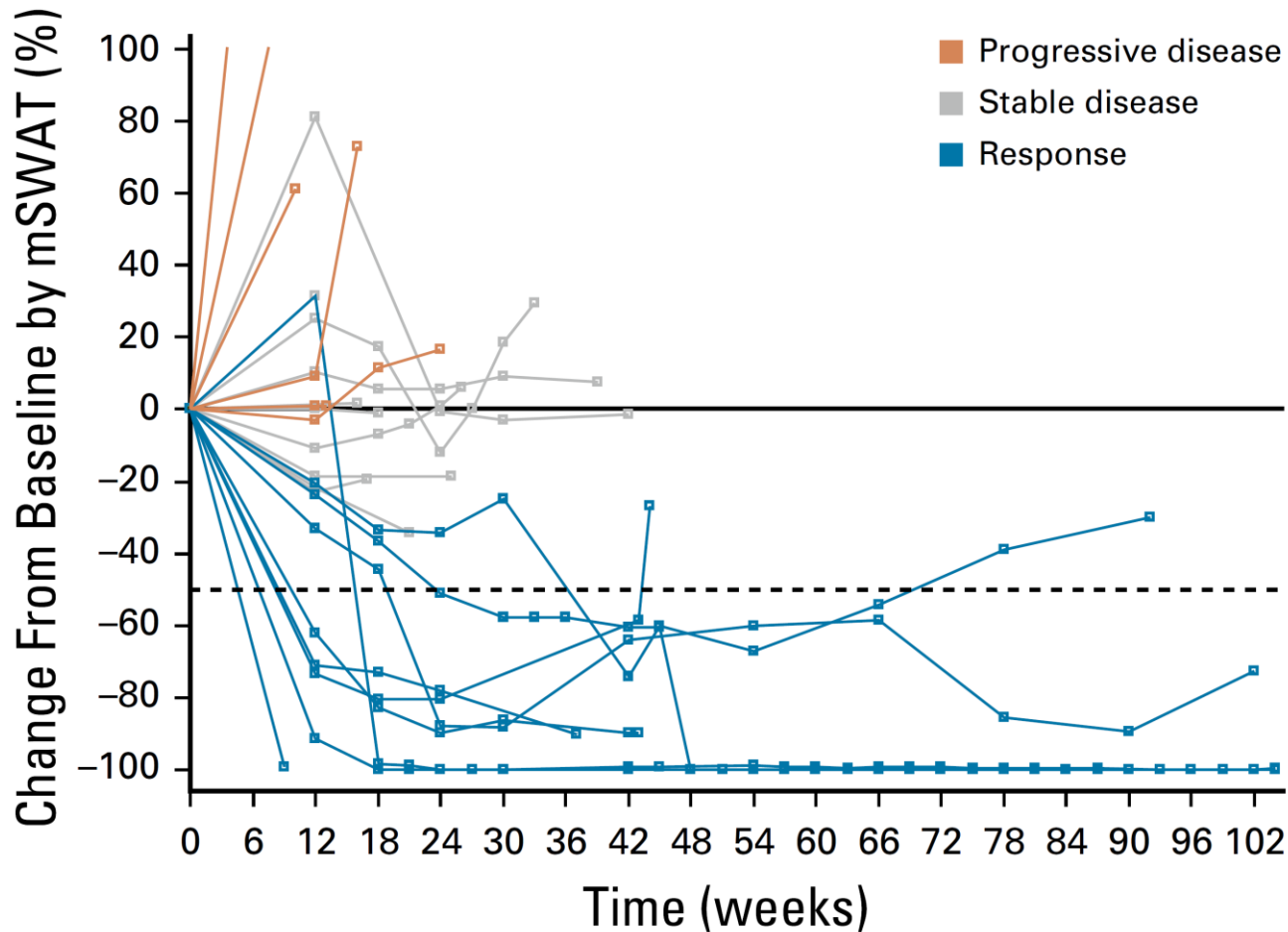
- IL-7
- IL-15
- Flt3-L

CITN-09: Advanced Merkel Cell Carcinoma Receiving Pembrolizumab as First-Line Therapy



[Nghiem et al, JCO Feb 2019]

CITN-10: Pembrolizumab in Relapsed & Refractory Mycosis Fungoides and Sézary Syndrome



24 patients
ORR 38%
2 CR
7 PR

CITN-12: Assessment of the Safety of Pembrolizumab in Patients With HIV & Advanced Cancer

30 Patients (3 CD4 level cohorts)

6 Kaposi sarcoma (KS),

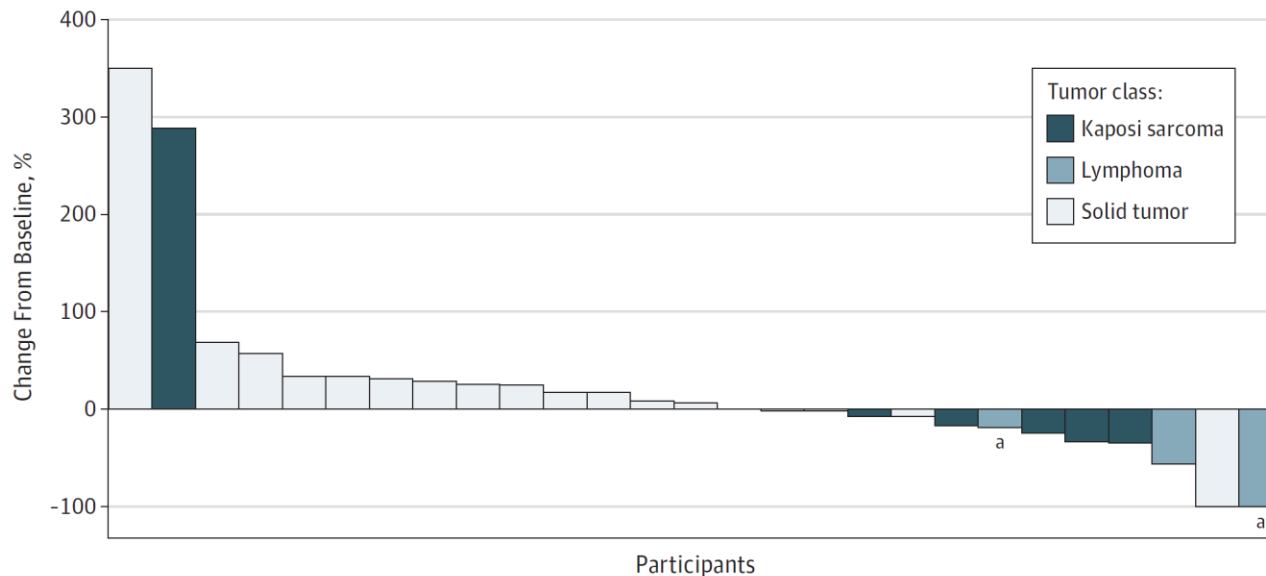
5 non-Hodgkin lymphoma (NHL)

9 non-AIDS-defining cancers.

Safety was observed over 183 cycles of pembrolizumab

One participant with pretreatment KS herpesvirus (KSHV) viremia developed polyclonal KSHV-associated B-cell lymphoproliferation & died.

A Change in measurements of target lesions



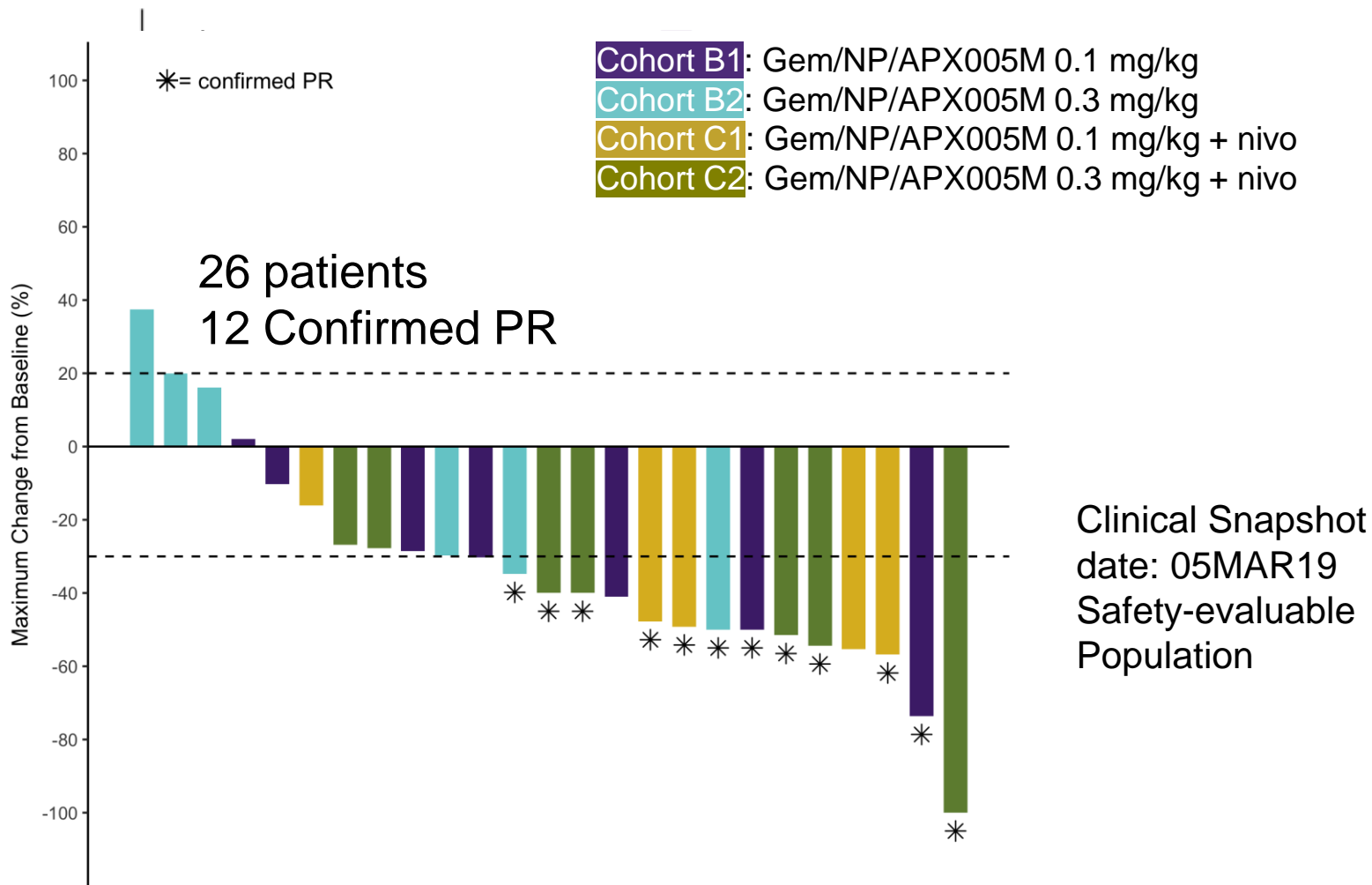
**Responses at
all CD4 levels**

[Uldrick et al. JAMA Oncol. Sept 2019]

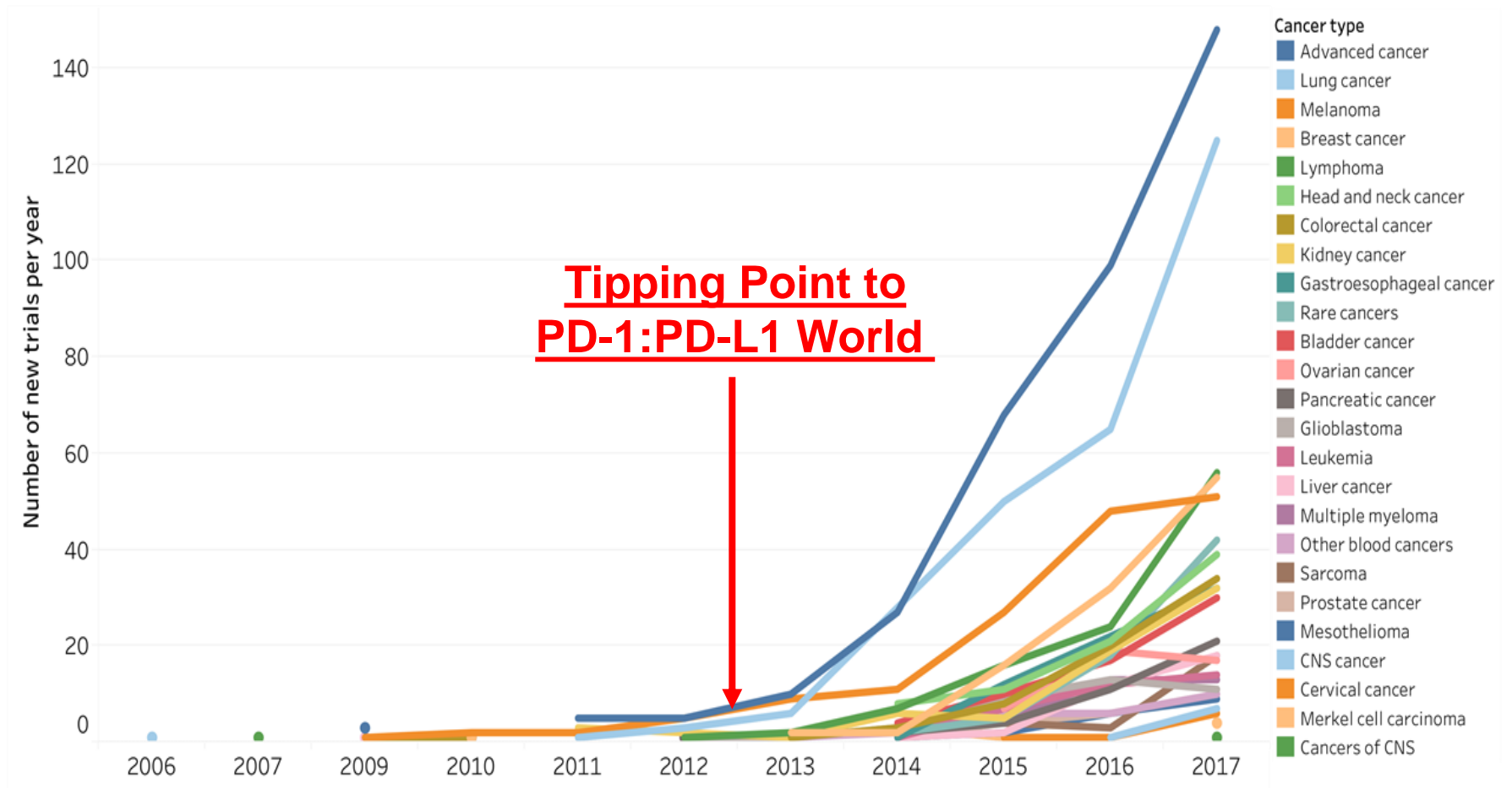
Parker Institute Trial:

Vonderheide/CITN/SU2C Regimen (anti-CD40 + Gemcitabine + nab-Paclitaxel) with or without Nivolumab for Untreated Metastatic Pancreatic Ductal Adenocarcinoma

Percent Change in Sum of Target Lesions (Best Response)



Evolution of PD-1/PD-L1 trials by different cancer type



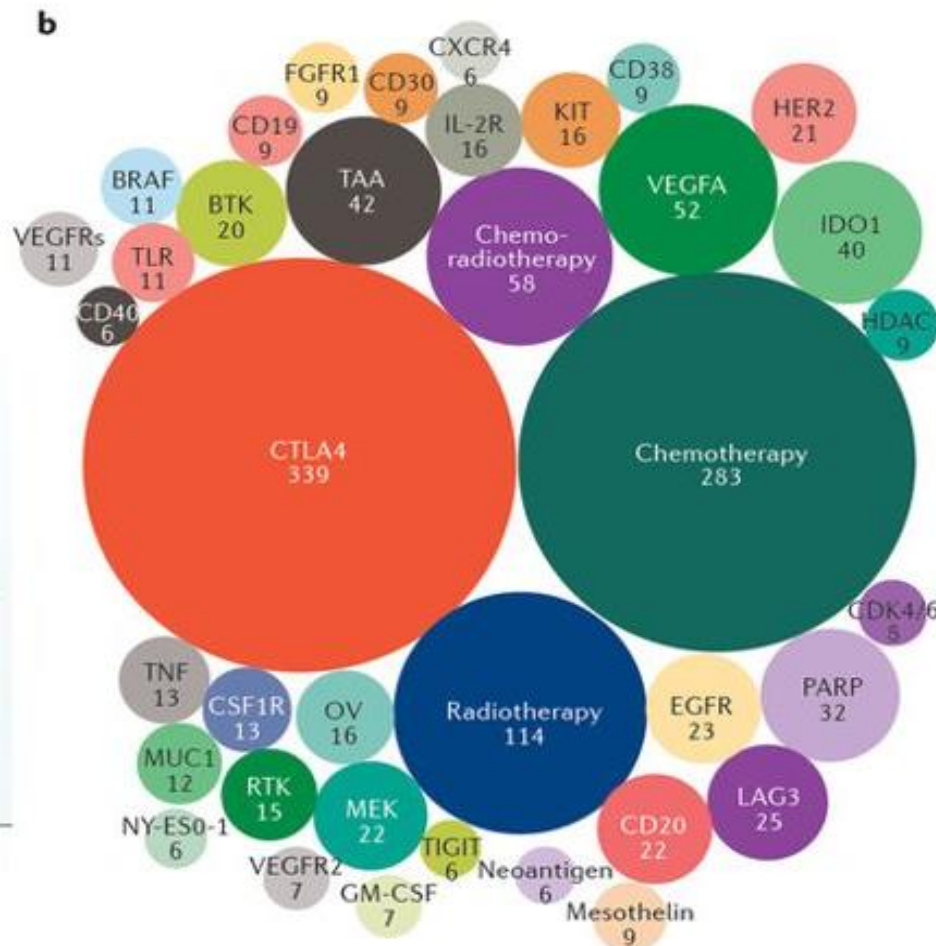
[Tang et al. [Nat Rev Drug Discov.](#) Nov 28;17(12) 2018]

Anti-PD1 & anti-PD-L1: The Core of Cancer Immunotherapy as single agents

- Objective tumor regressions (single agent):
 - Hodgkin lymphoma (65-87%)
 - Merkel cell Ca (32-64%)
 - Melanoma (17-50%)
 - Lung cancer (10-30%)
 - Kidney cancer (12-29%)
 - Bladder cancer (15-30%)
 - Head & neck cancer (20-25%)
 - Colon with many mutations (~50%)
 - Liver Ca (~15%)
 - Gastric Ca (~15%)
 - Ovarian cancer, nasopharyngeal Ca, TNBC, mesothelioma, ...

Original AAI/AACR Extramural Immunology Expert Steering Committee Question Leading to CITN - **RESOLVED**

- Why have basic scientists invented so many potentially effective immunotherapy agents that are not being tested in patients"
- **240 agents in 1,716 PD-1 combination trials (2018)**



Number of clinical trials are indicated by size of bubble

[Tang et al. [Nat Rev Drug Discov.](#)
Nov 28;17(12) 2018]

Targets in ≥ 6 PD-1 combination trials

339	CTLA4	16	OV	7	VEGFR2
283	Chemotherapy	15	RTK	6	CD40
114	Radiotherapy	13	CSF1R	6	CXCR4
58	Chemo-radiotherapy	13	TNF	6	Neoantigen
		12	MUC1	6	NY-ES)-1
52	VEGFA	11	BRAF	6	TIGIT
42	TAA	11	TLR		
40	IDO	11	VEGFRs		
32	PARP	9	CD19		
23	EGFR	9	CD30		
25	LAG3	9	CD38		
22	CD20	9	FGFR1		
22	MEK	9	HDAC1		
21	HER2	9	Mesothelin		
20	BTK	8	CDK4/6		
16	KIT	7	GM-CSF		
16	IL-2R				

CITN Trial Agents

1	IL-7 (CITN)
3	IL-15 (2 at NCI)
0	Flt3-L (1 pending)
0	CD47
3	TGFbi (1 recruiting)

[From: Tang et al. [Nat Rev Drug Discov.](#) & [clinicaltrials.gov](#)]

Despite Responses with Anti-PD-1 Single Agents & Combinations, Most Don't Respond or Relapse

glass half full



- Patients on anti-PD-1 combinations with growing tumors are likely the commonest single category of patient

CITN Goals: (1) Identify Actionable Causes of PD1 Failure, (2) Develop Panel of Agents Effective for Specific Causes of Failure

- **CITN “Template” trial sequence**

1. Biopsy to assess possible actionable causes of failure
2. Continue anti-PD1/PD-L1
3. Administer putative “rescue” agent(s)
4. Timed biopsy to assess agent biological activity
5. Follow clinical response to determine whether changes in tumor result in patient benefit

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- **Initial “Rescue” Agent Trials (to begin accrual momentarily)**

<u>Agent</u>	<u>Putative Role</u>
– IL-7	Tumors with too few T cells
– IL-2/IL-15	Tumors with too few activated T cells
– TGFb inhibitor	Tumors with TGFb signature

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- **237 other agent possibilities with CITN prioritization based on functions central to effective immune response**

Three Pediatric Trials in Development

- **Checkpoint inhibition**

- Identify children with anti-PD1 responsive cancers
 - Anti-PD1 Combination Immunotherapy in Children, Adolescent and Young Adult Patients with Relapsed/Refractory Hypermutant Cancers

- **Synthetic immunity**

- GD2-CAR T Cells for sarcoma and neuroblastoma
- Anti-CD47 plus anti-GD2 in Children with Relapsed and Refractory Neuroblastoma and Osteosarcoma to facilitate infiltrating macrophage function

Foreseeable Future

- Majority of patients with advanced cancer will be treated with combinations of current standard of care plus anti-PD1/PD-L1
- Combinations will increase responses & survival, but most will relapse
 - **Development of regimens to rescue failures is perhaps the greatest opportunity for academic trials to contribute substantively to patient benefit**

Thanks!!!

- Patients – Past, current & future!
- CITN Site PIs & Investigators
- SITC Presidents
 - Bernie Fox
 - Tom Gajewski
 - Franco Marincola
 - Howard Kaufman
 - Lisa Butterfield
 - Mario Sznol
 - Tara Withington - Executive Director
- CTEP
 - William Merritt – ex Project Officer
 - Percy Ivy - Project Officer
 - Malcolm Smith – Project Officer
 - Howard Streicher - Senior Investigator
 - Elad Sharon – Senior Investigator

