



# SITC 2017

November 8-12  
NATIONAL HARBOR  
MARYLAND

Gaylord National Hotel  
& Convention Center



Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer

SITC  
2017

# Acquired Resistance in Melanoma

- following its genetic evolution -

**Annette Paschen**



Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer

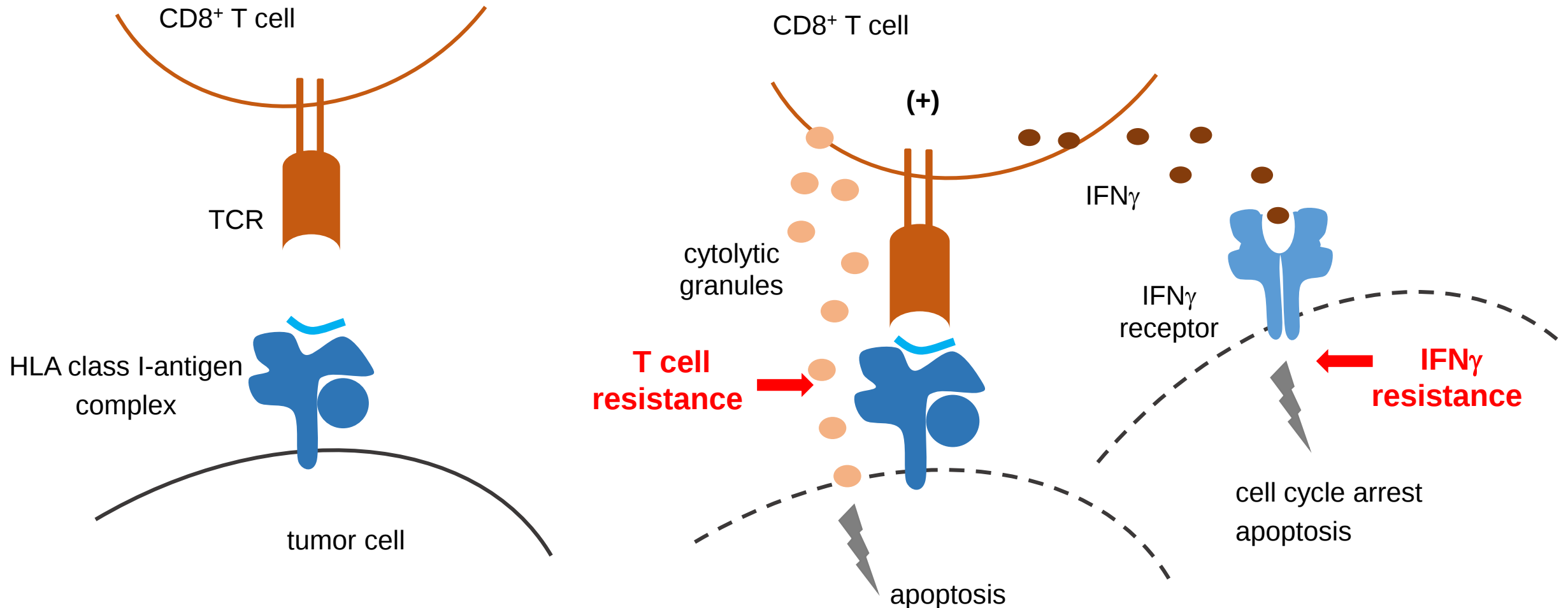
#SITC2017

# Presenter Disclosure Information

**Annette Paschen**

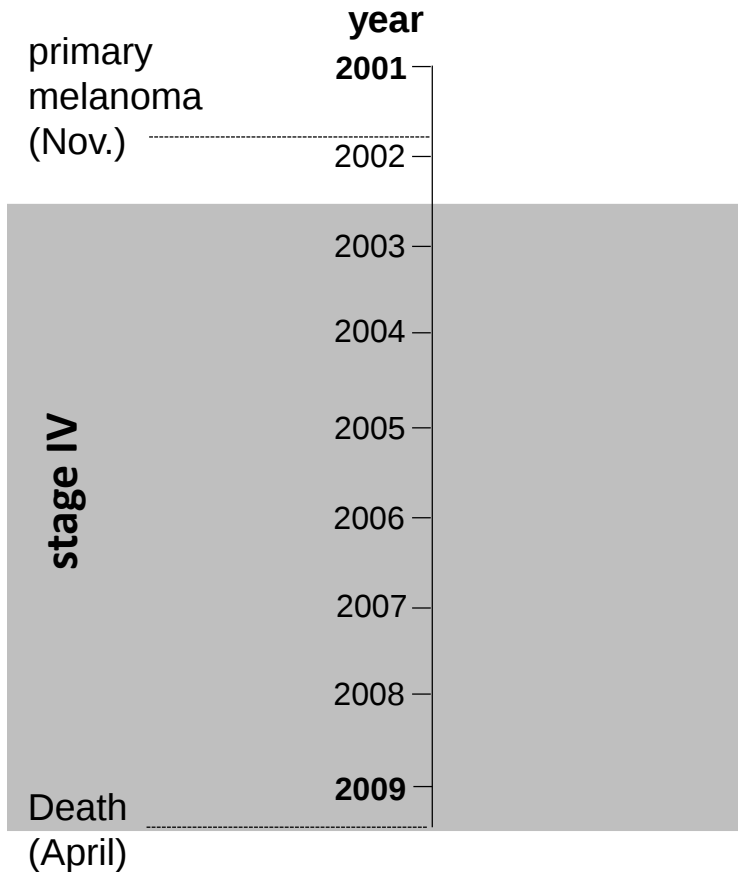
No Relationships to Disclose

## Tumor Cell Killing by Cytotoxic CD8<sup>+</sup> T Cells



## Clinical History of Patient Ma-Mel-86

### Patient Ma-Mel-86



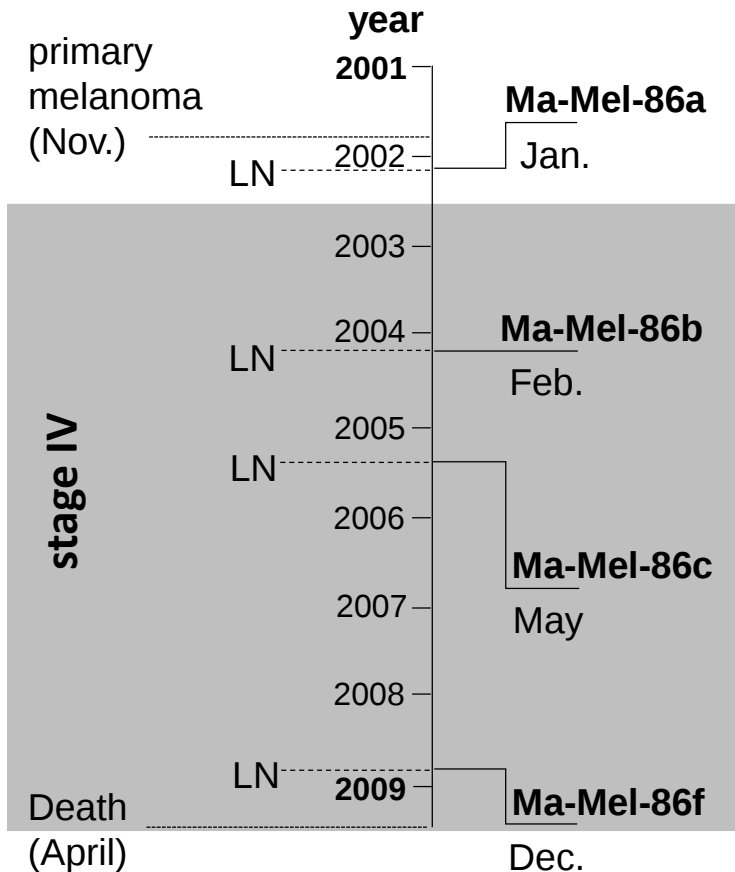
2001, November: primary melanoma diagnosed  
 2002, January: stage III  
 2002, September: stage IV  
  
 2002/2003: multiple brain metastases, regression upon irradiation  
  
 2005: colon metastases  
  
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 2009: recurrent metastases, death

### Long-term survivor !

Immunotherapy: IFN $\alpha$ , peptide-based vaccine,  
 tumor lysate-loaded DC vaccine

## Clinical History of Patient Ma-Mel-86

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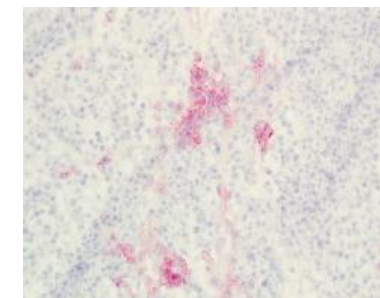
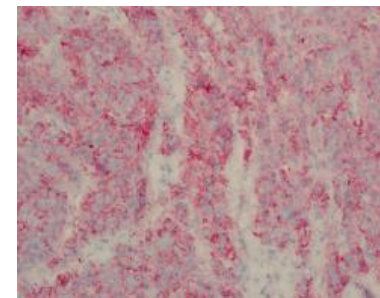
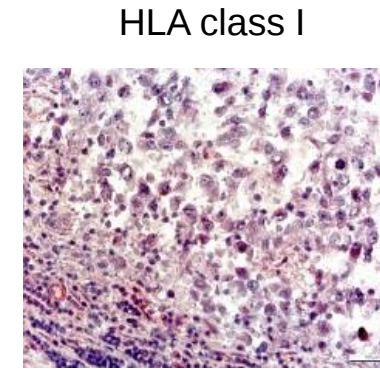
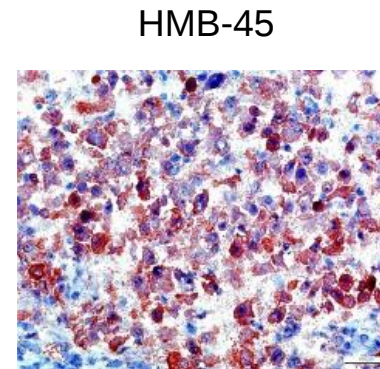
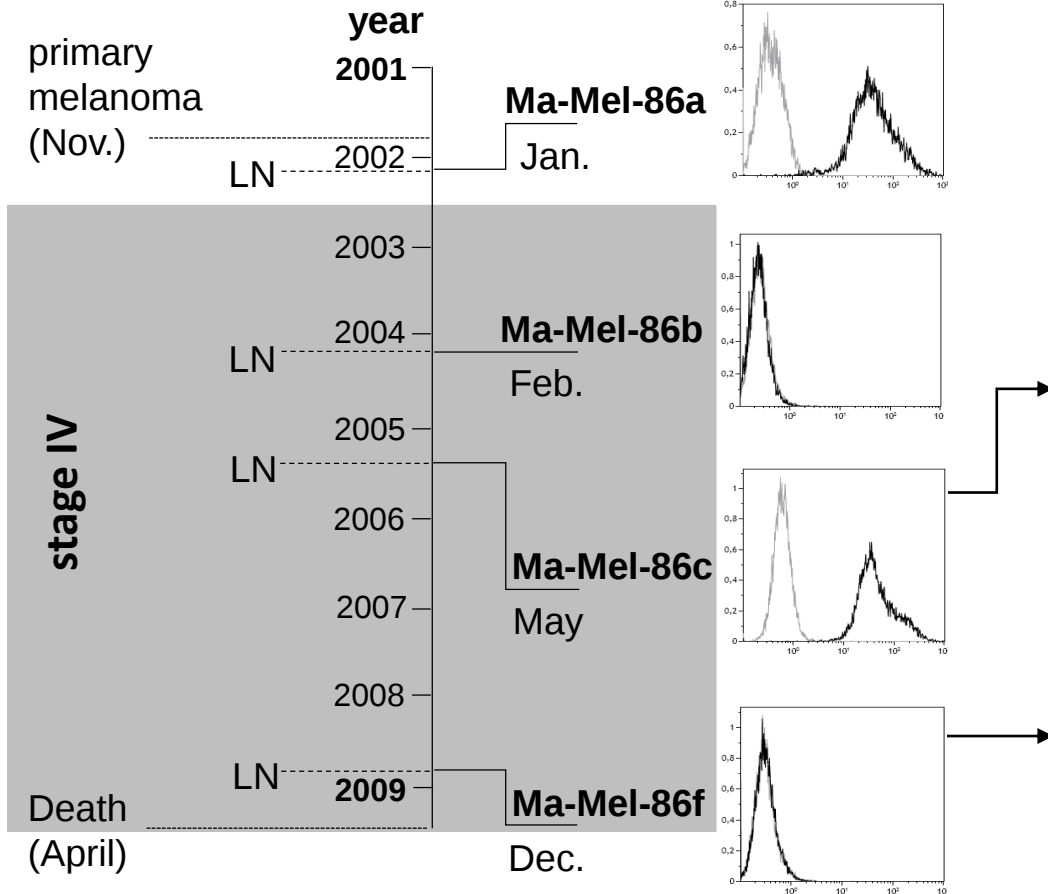
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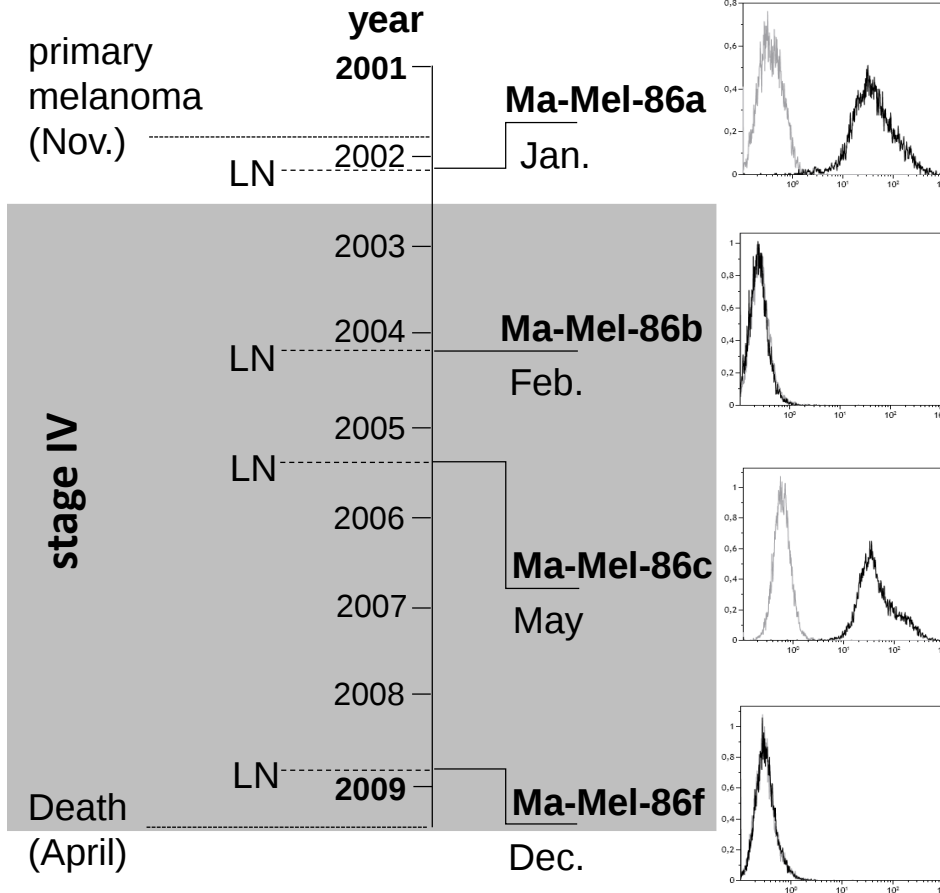
## Heterogenous HLA Class I expression

### Patient Ma-Mel-86



## Detection of Neoantigen-specific CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells (Tc)

### Patient Ma-Mel-86



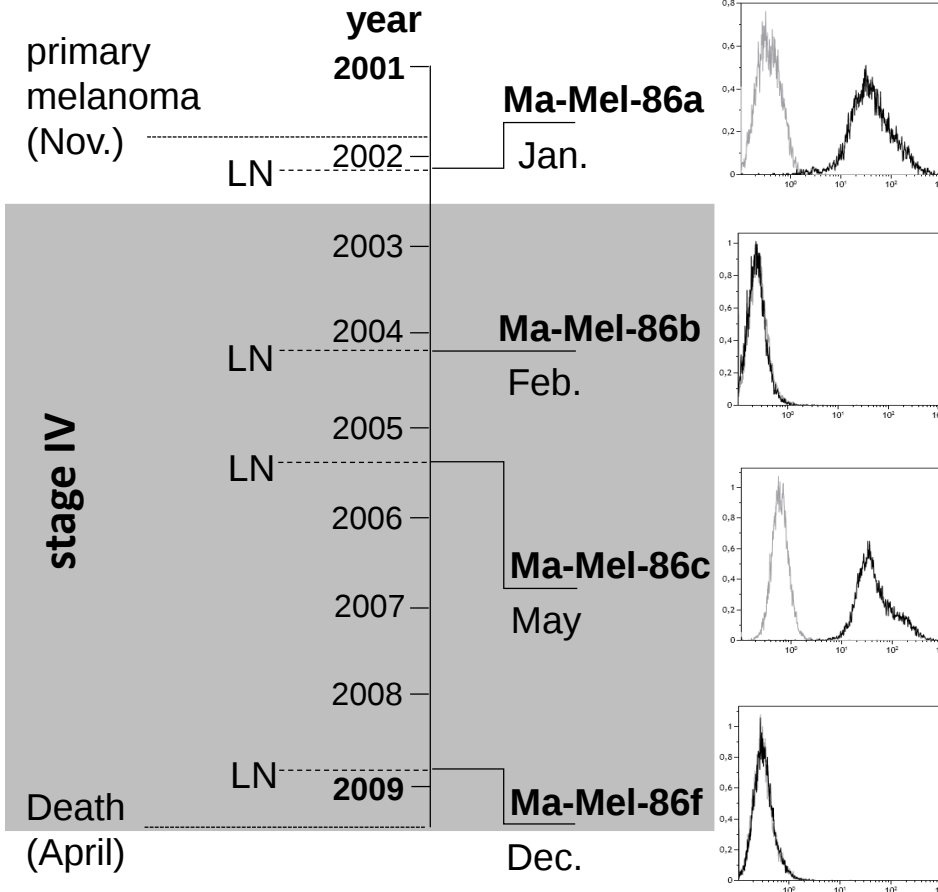
| neoantigen    | HLA restriction | Expression         |
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Thomas Wölfel (University Mainz, Germany)

Schrörs et al., Oncotarget 2017  
Zhao et al., Cancer Res 2016

## Detection of Neoantigen-specific CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells (Tc)

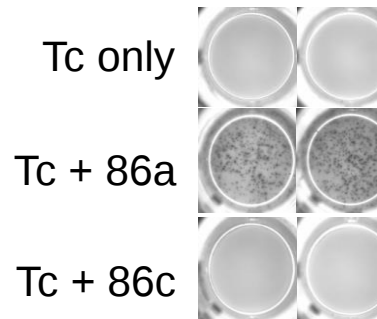
### Patient Ma-Mel-86



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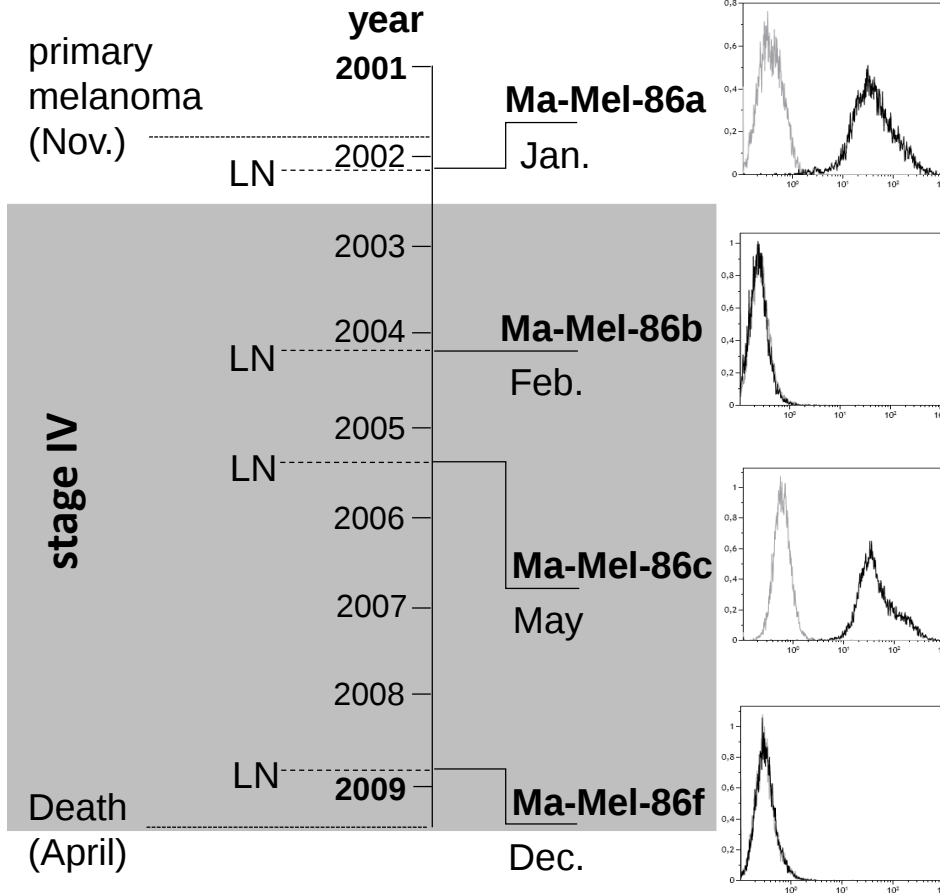
### HERPUD1<sup>G161S</sup>-specific Tc



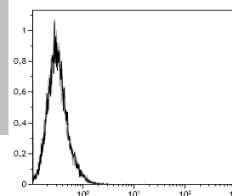
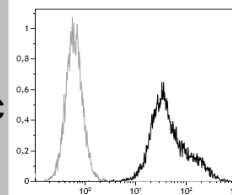
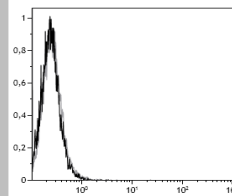
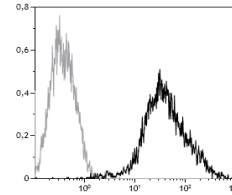
Schrörs et al., Oncotarget 2017  
Zhao et al., Cancer Res 2016

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### Patient Ma-Mel-86



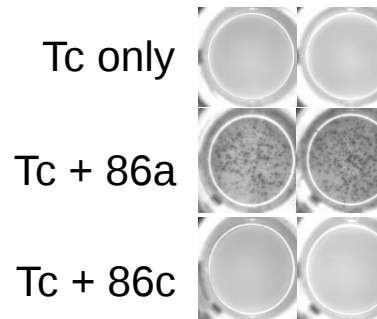
HLA class I



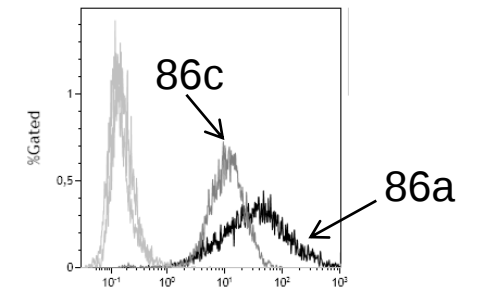
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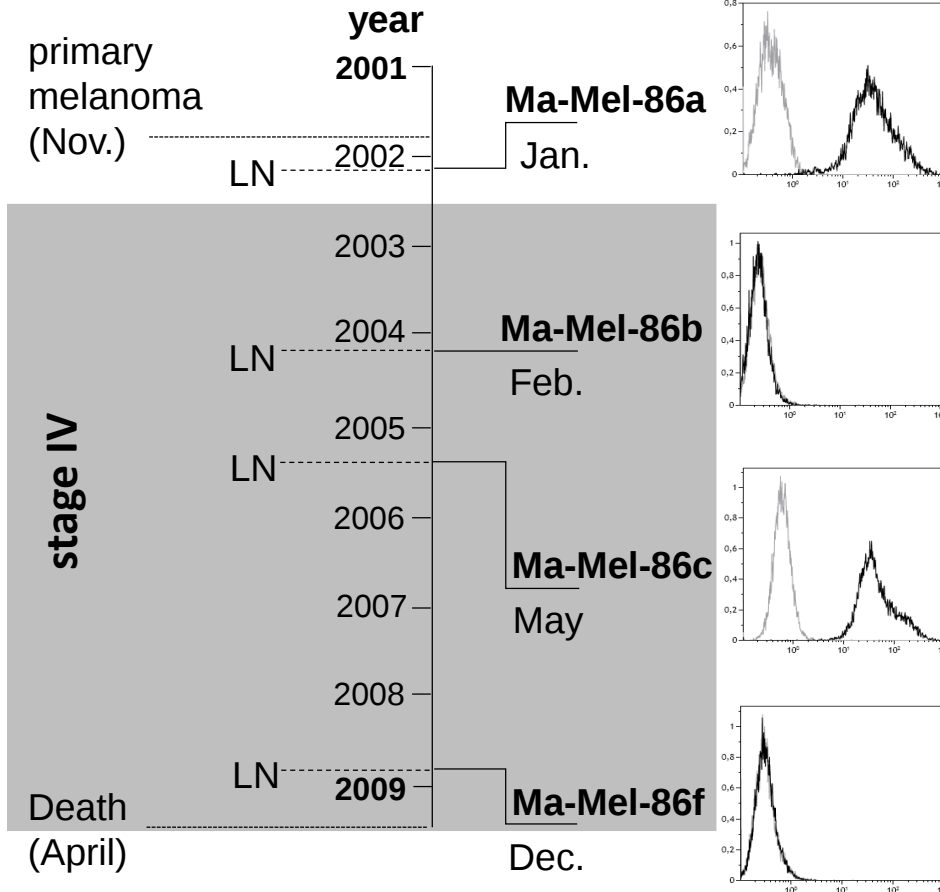
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Schrörs et al., Oncotarget 2017  
Zhao et al., Cancer Res 2016

# HLA Haplotype Loss Protects from Neoantigen-specific Tc

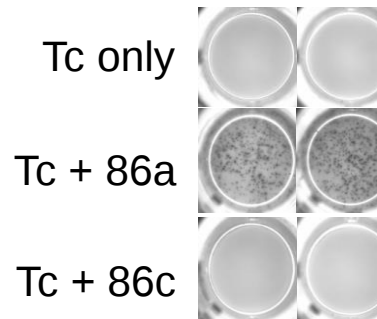
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## HERPUD1<sup>G161S</sup>-specific Tc



## Ma-Mel-86a

HLA-A \*01:01 / \*24:02

HLA-B \*08:01 / \*15:01

HLA-Cw \*07:01 / \*03:03

## Ma-Mel-86c

HLA-A \*01:01 / -

HLA-B \*08:01 / -

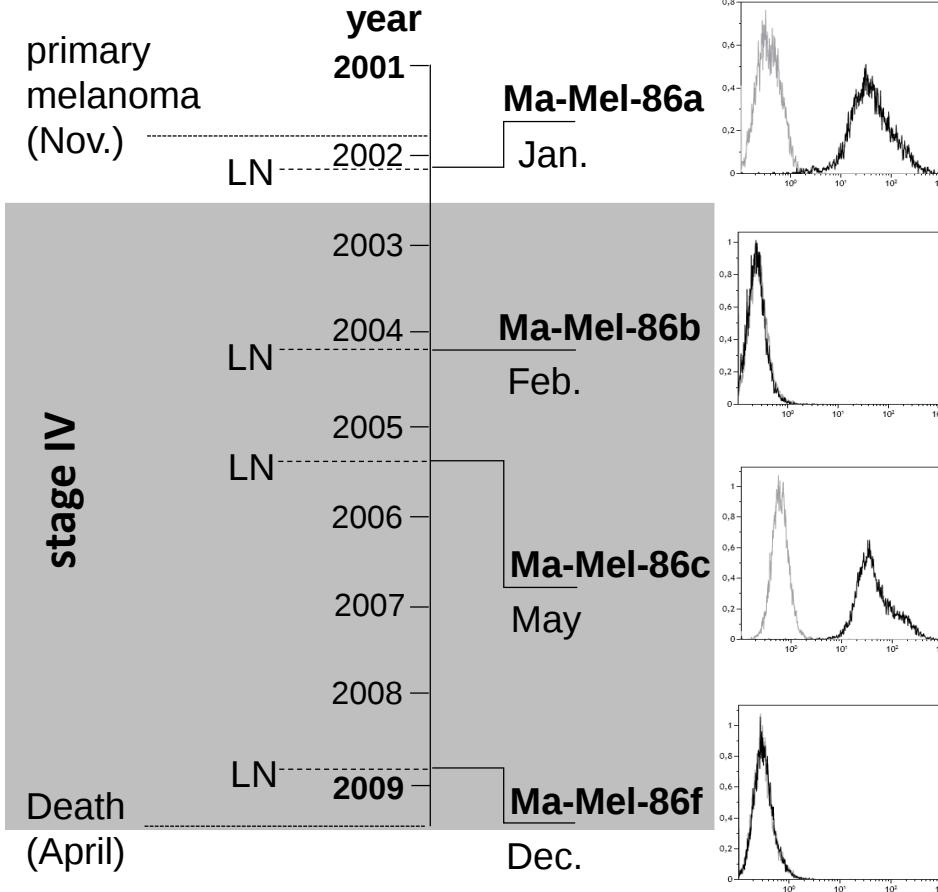
HLA-Cw \*07:01 / -

Schrörs et al., Oncotarget 2017

Zhao et al., Cancer Res 2016

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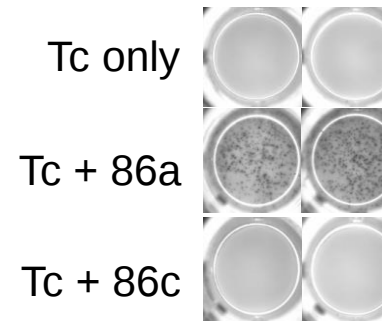
## Patient Ma-Mel-86



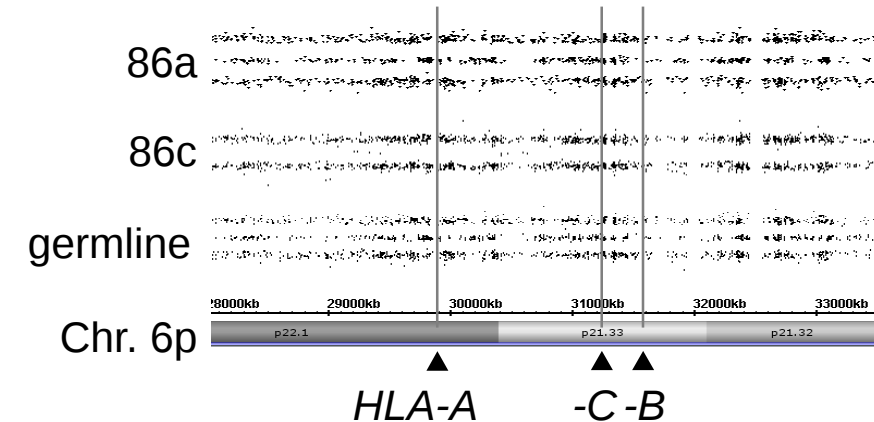
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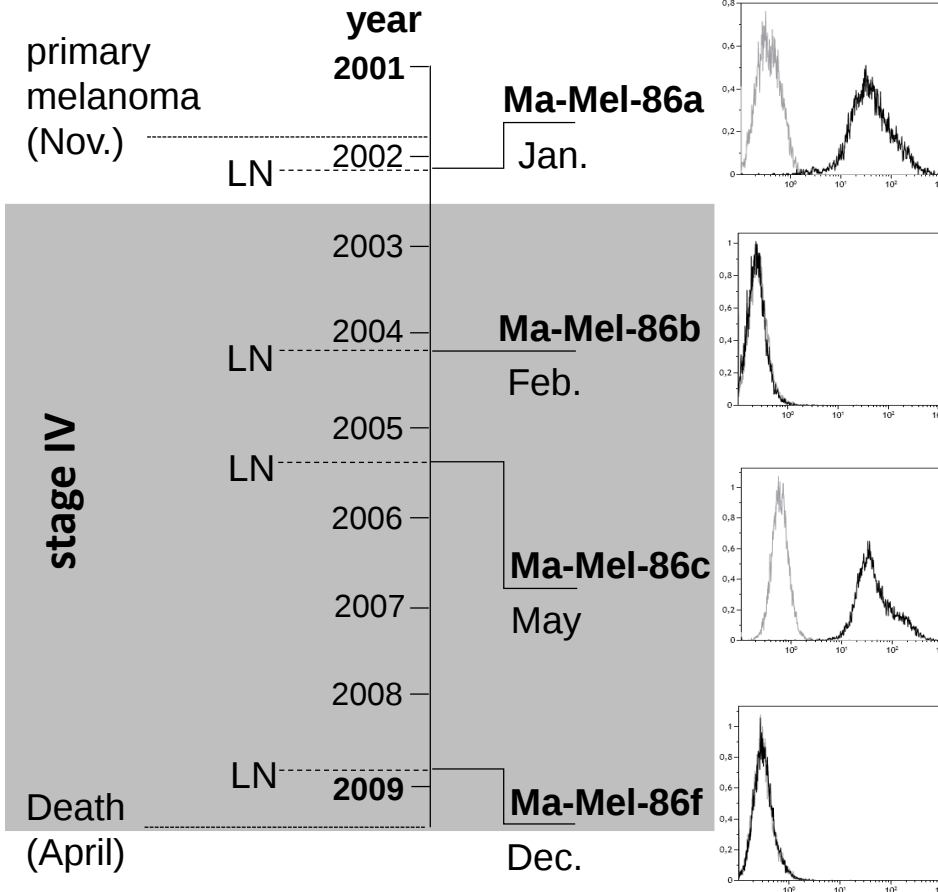
## Allelic distribution



Schrörs et al., Oncotarget 2017  
Zhao et al., Cancer Res 2016

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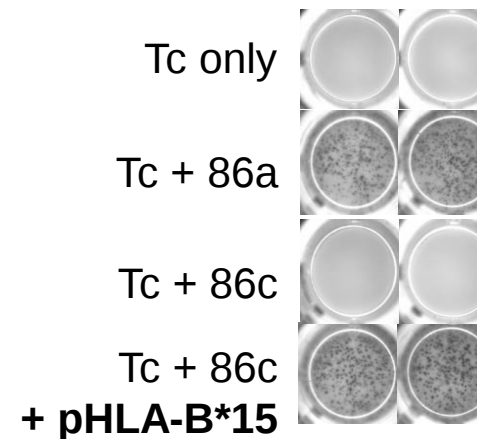
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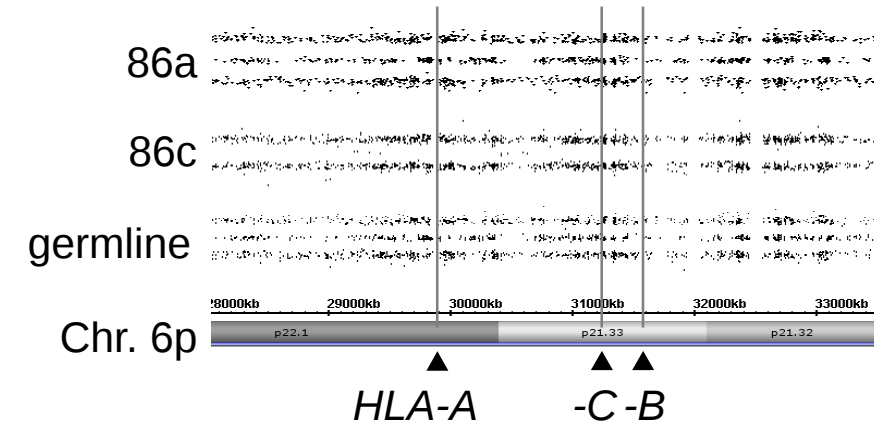
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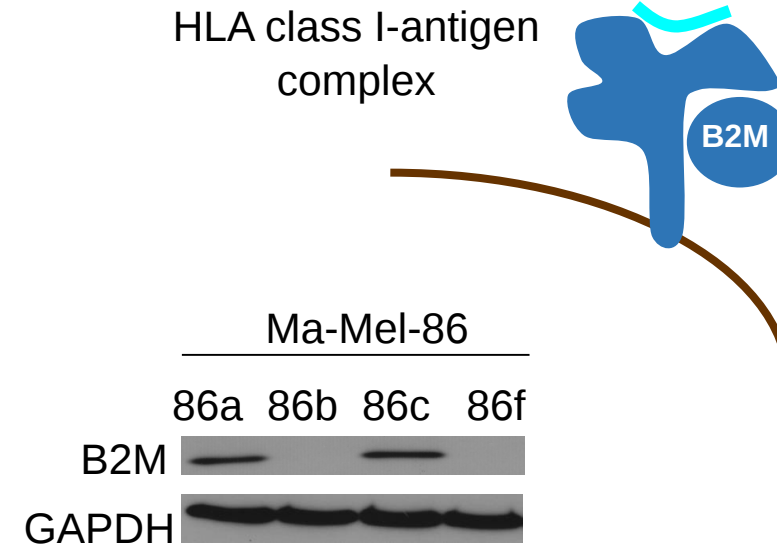
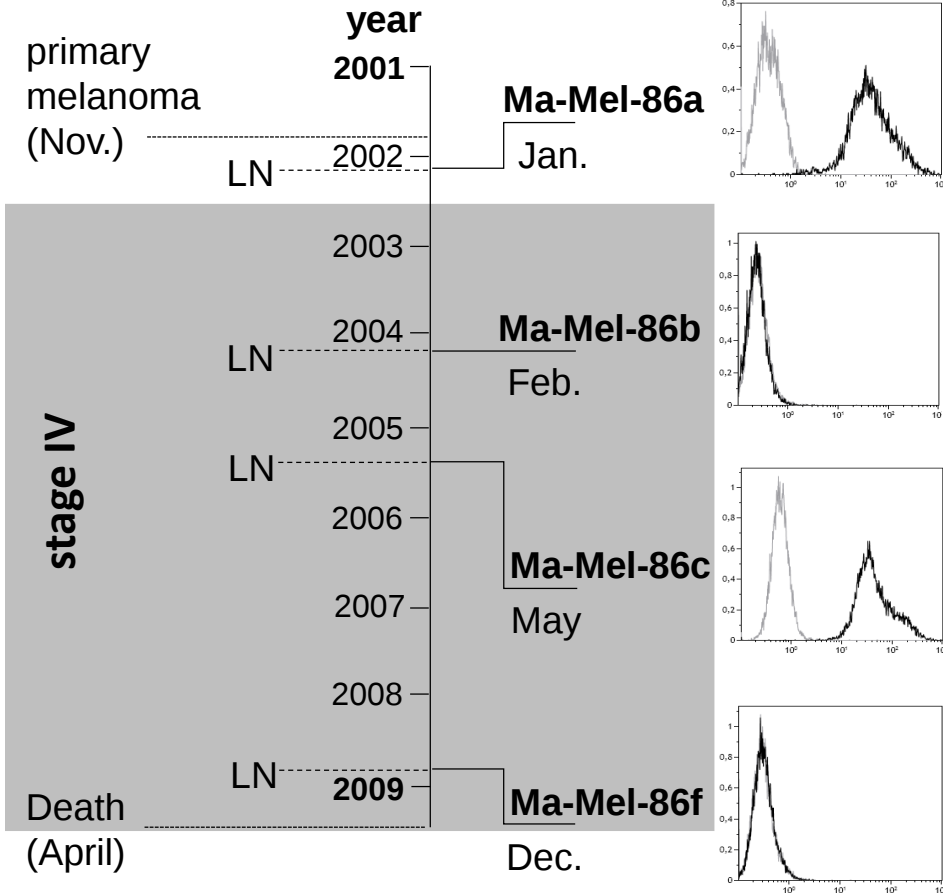
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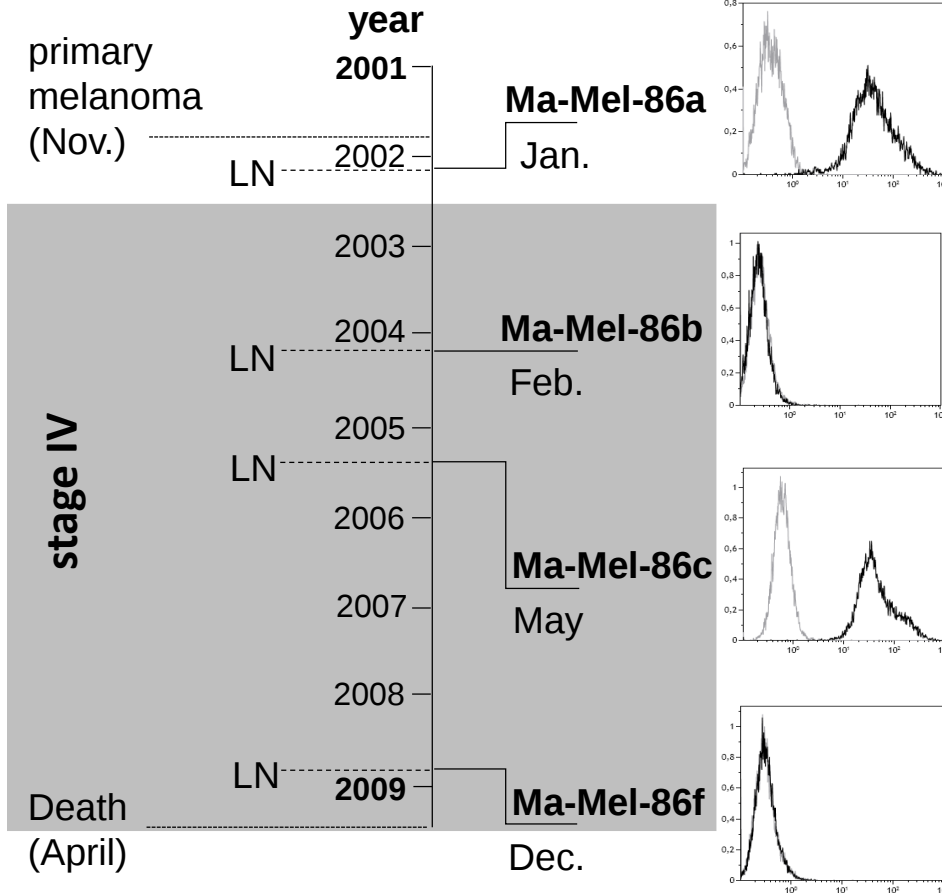
## T Cell Resistance by Acquired B2M Deficiency

### Patient Ma-Mel-86

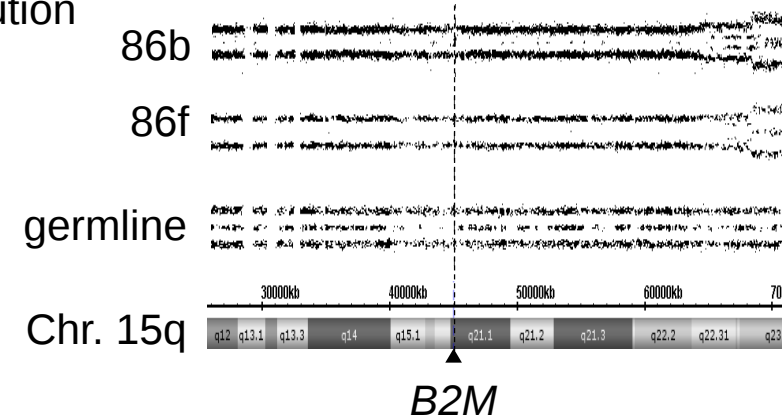


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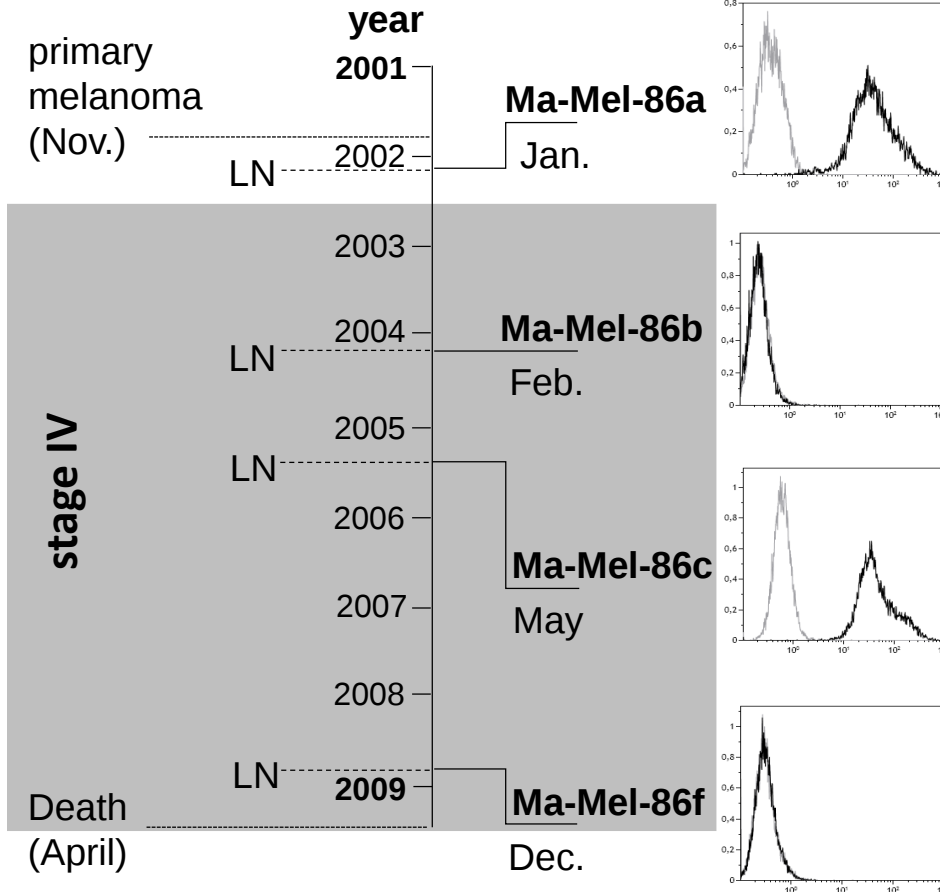


## Allelic distribution

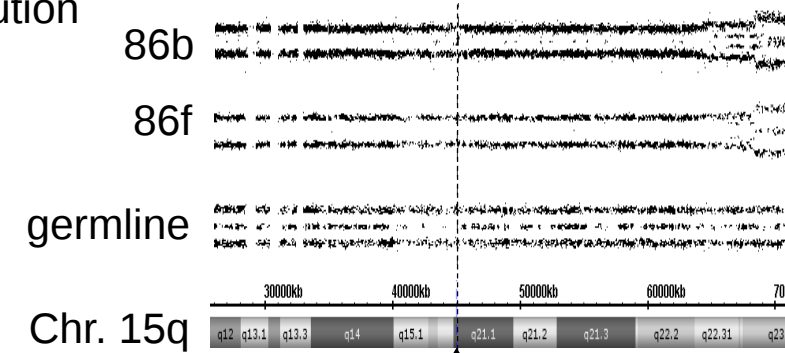


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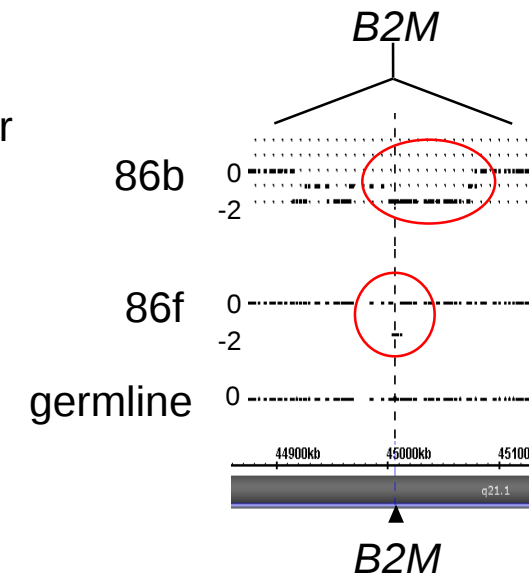
## Patient Ma-Mel-86



## Allelic distribution

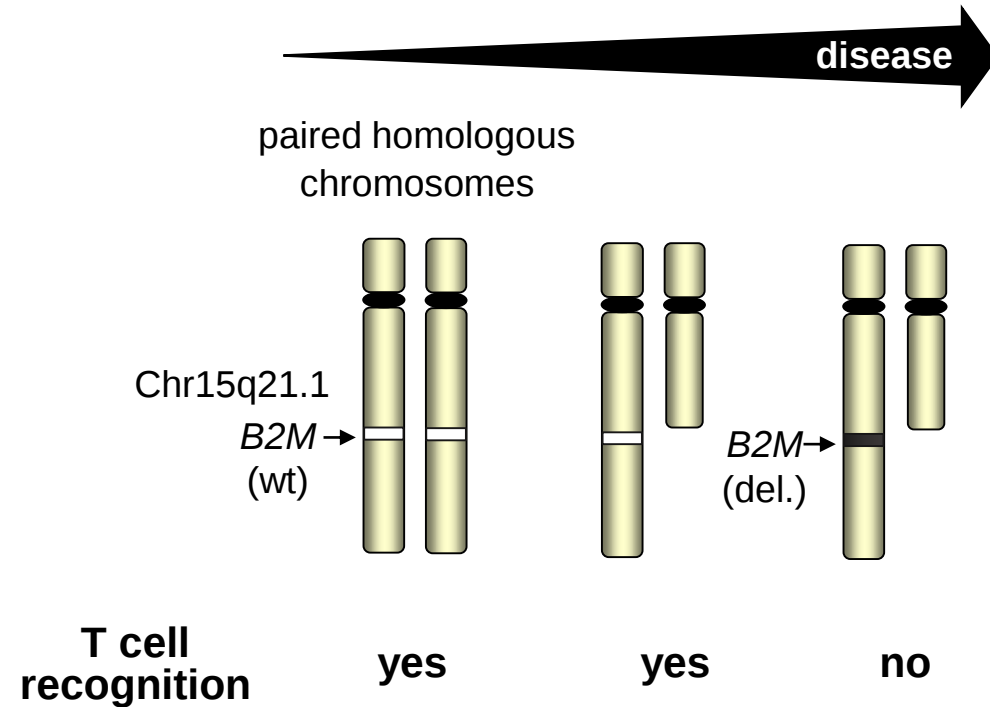
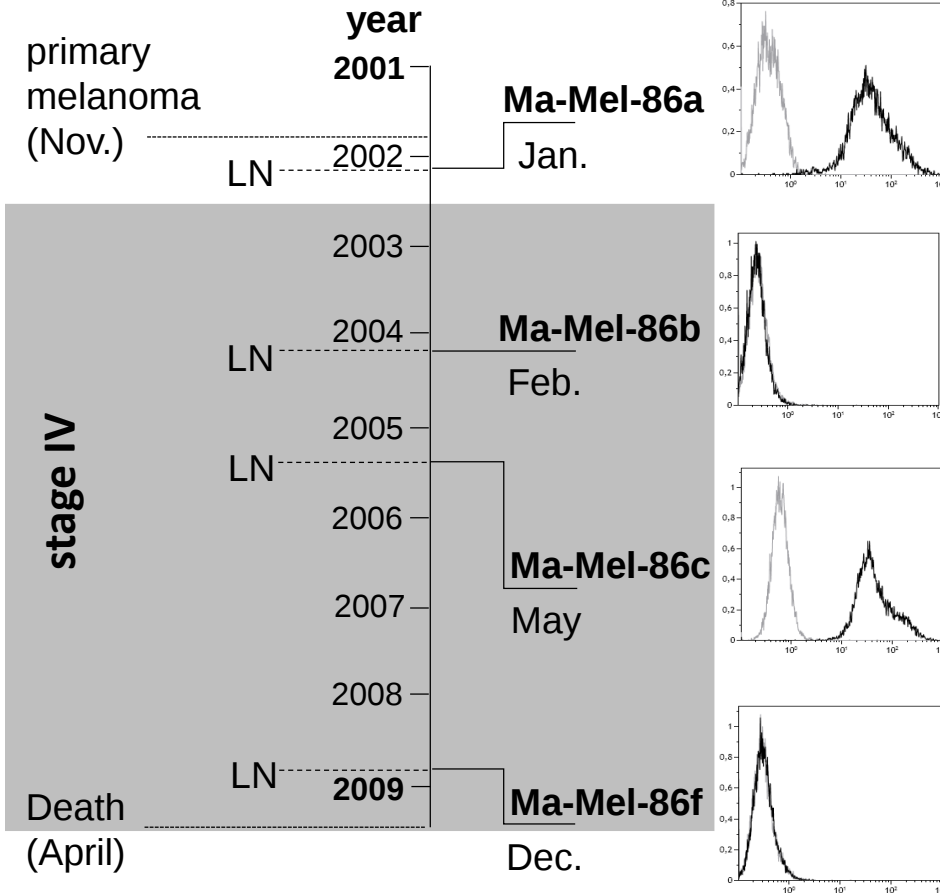


## Copy number



## Evolution of T Cell Resistance

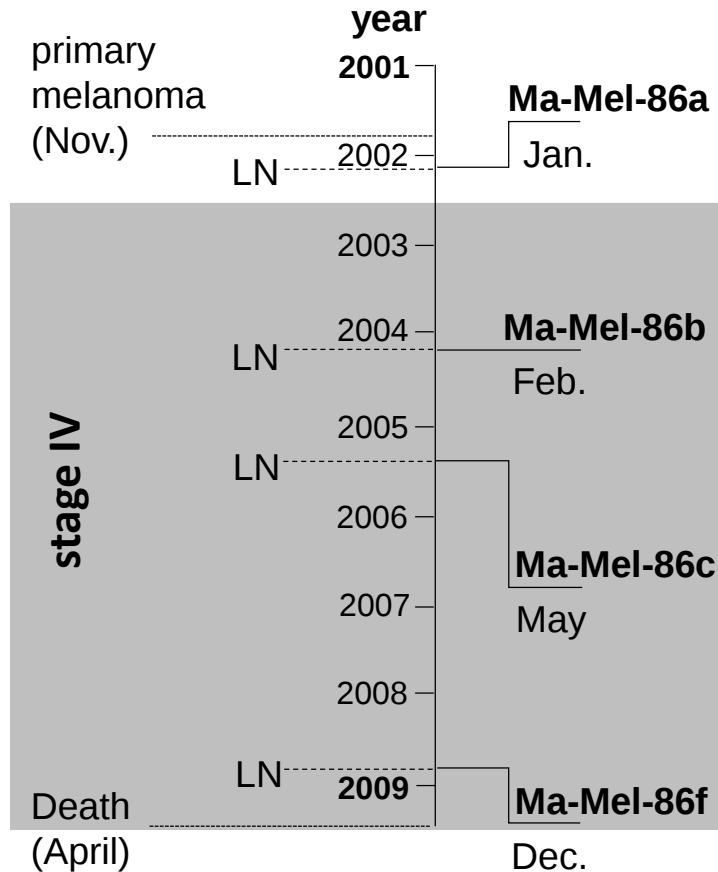
### Patient Ma-Mel-86



Similar evolution in two additional patient models  
(Sucker et al., Clin Cancer Res. 2014)

## Multiple Acquired Resistance Mechanisms in Ma-Mel-86

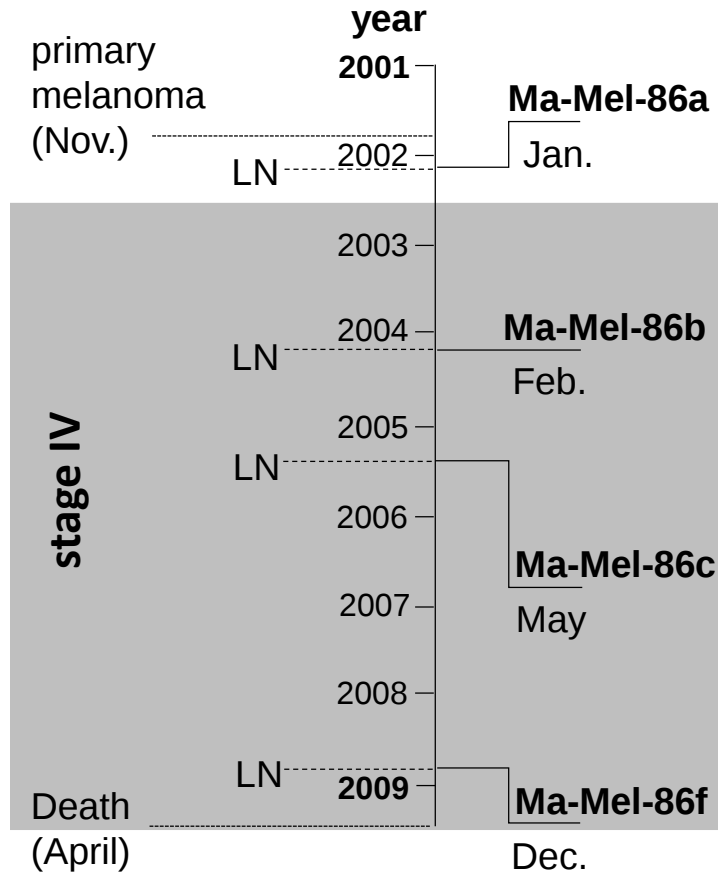
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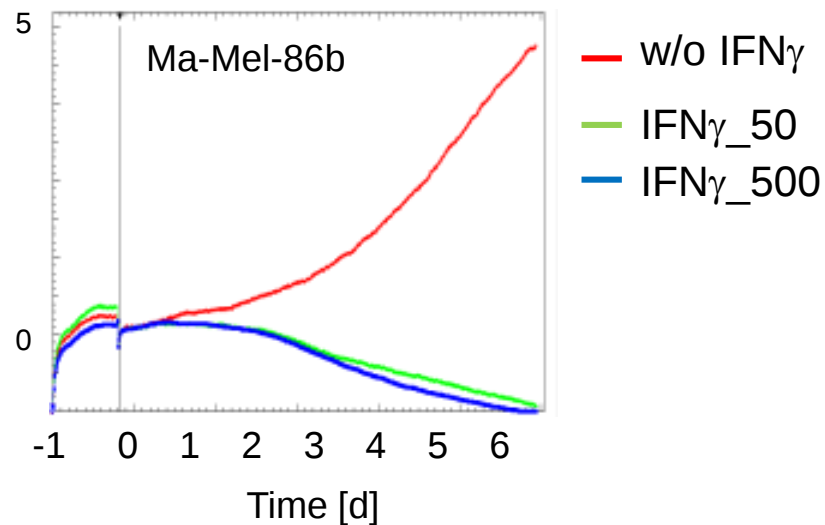
- Resistance to neoantigen-specific T cells by HLA haplotype loss due to chromosome 6p aberrations
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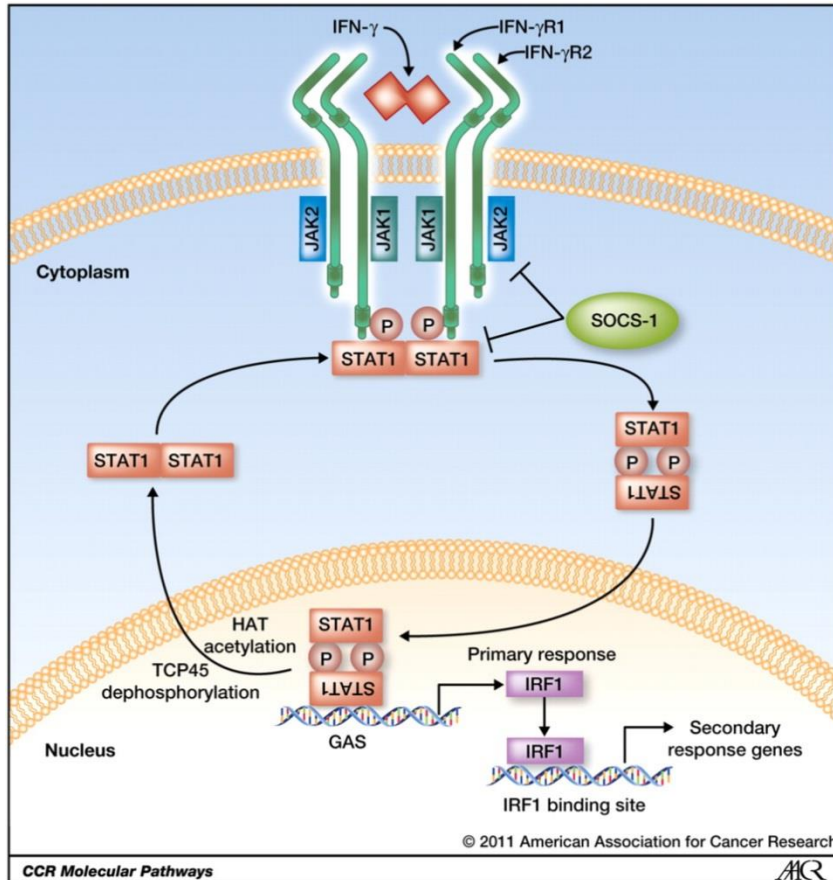
HLA class I loss protects from bystander killing by IFN $\gamma$  !

## IFN $\gamma$ Signaling Pathway

- enhanced antigen presentation
- proliferation arrest
- apoptosis

### Pathway genes

*IFNGR1*  
*IFNGR2*  
*JAK1*  
*JAK2*  
*STAT1*  
*IRF1*



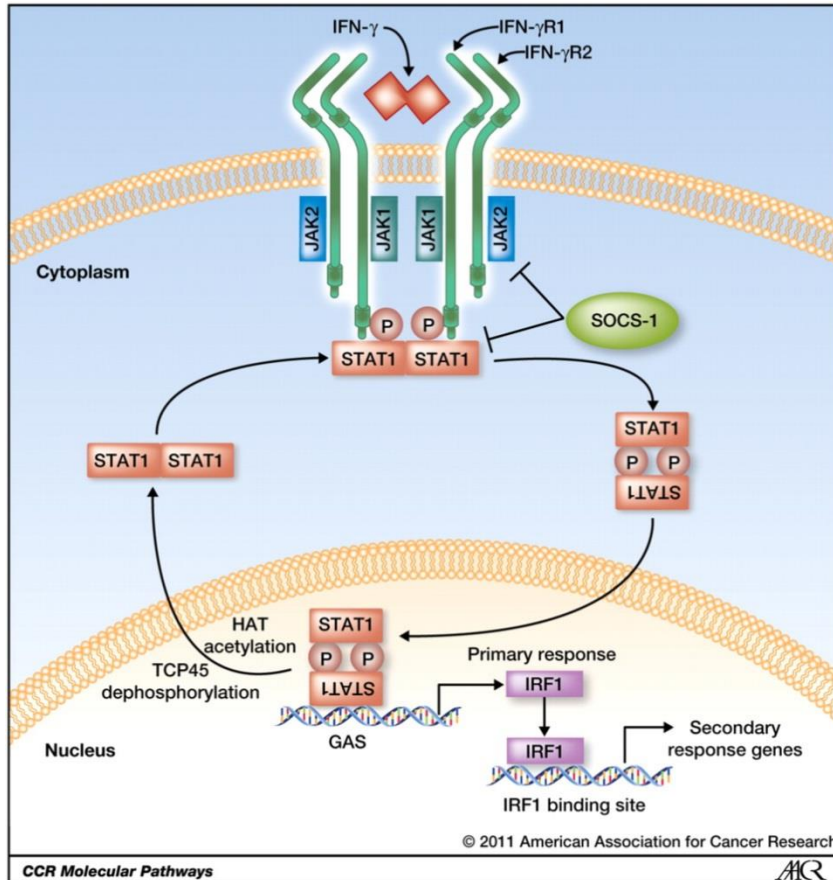
Zaidi & Merlino, Clin Cancer Res 2011

anti-tumorigenic

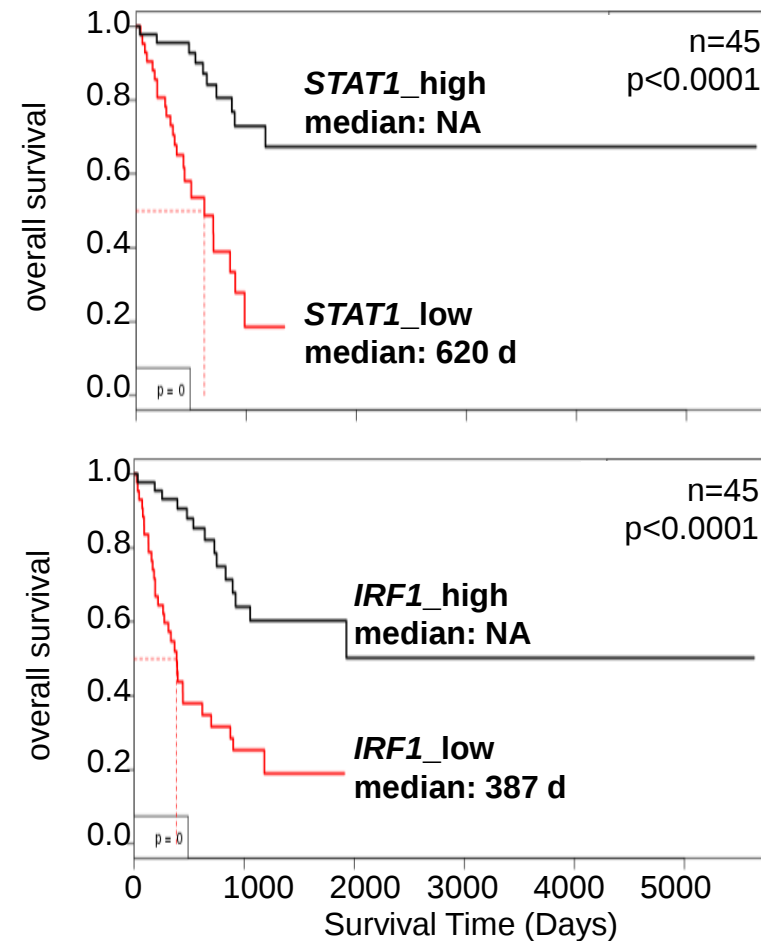
pro-tumorigenic

- checkpoint ligand upregulation (e.g. PD-L1)

## IFN $\gamma$ Signaling Impacts on Patient Survival



Zaidi & Merlino, Clin Cancer Res 2011

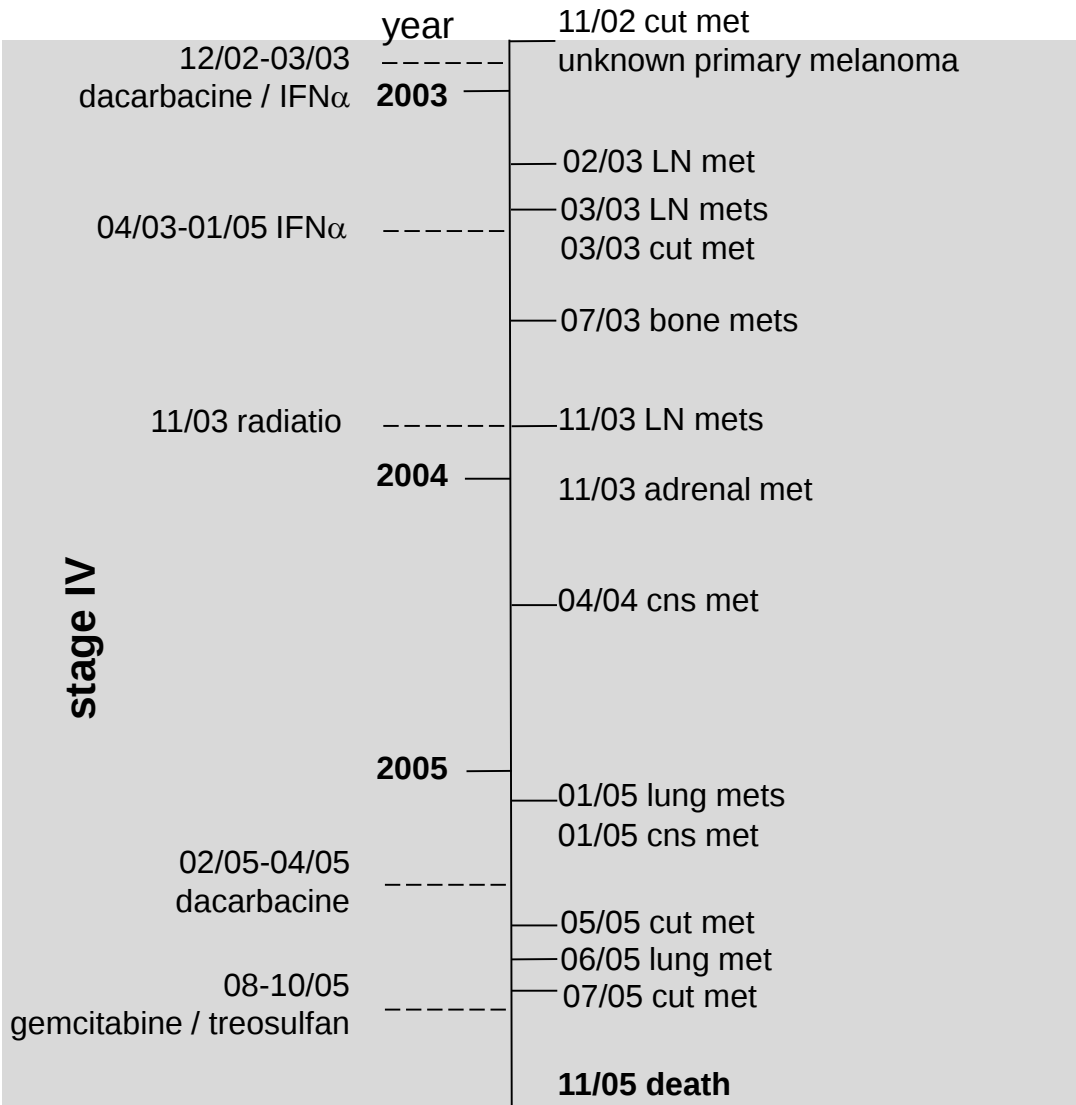


### Pathway genes

*IFNGR1*  
*IFNGR2*  
*JAK1*  
*JAK2*  
*STAT1*  
*IRF1*

Sucker et al., Nat Comm 2017

Patient Ma-Mel-61



Clinical History of Patient Ma-Mel-61

2002, November: stage IV melanoma diganosed

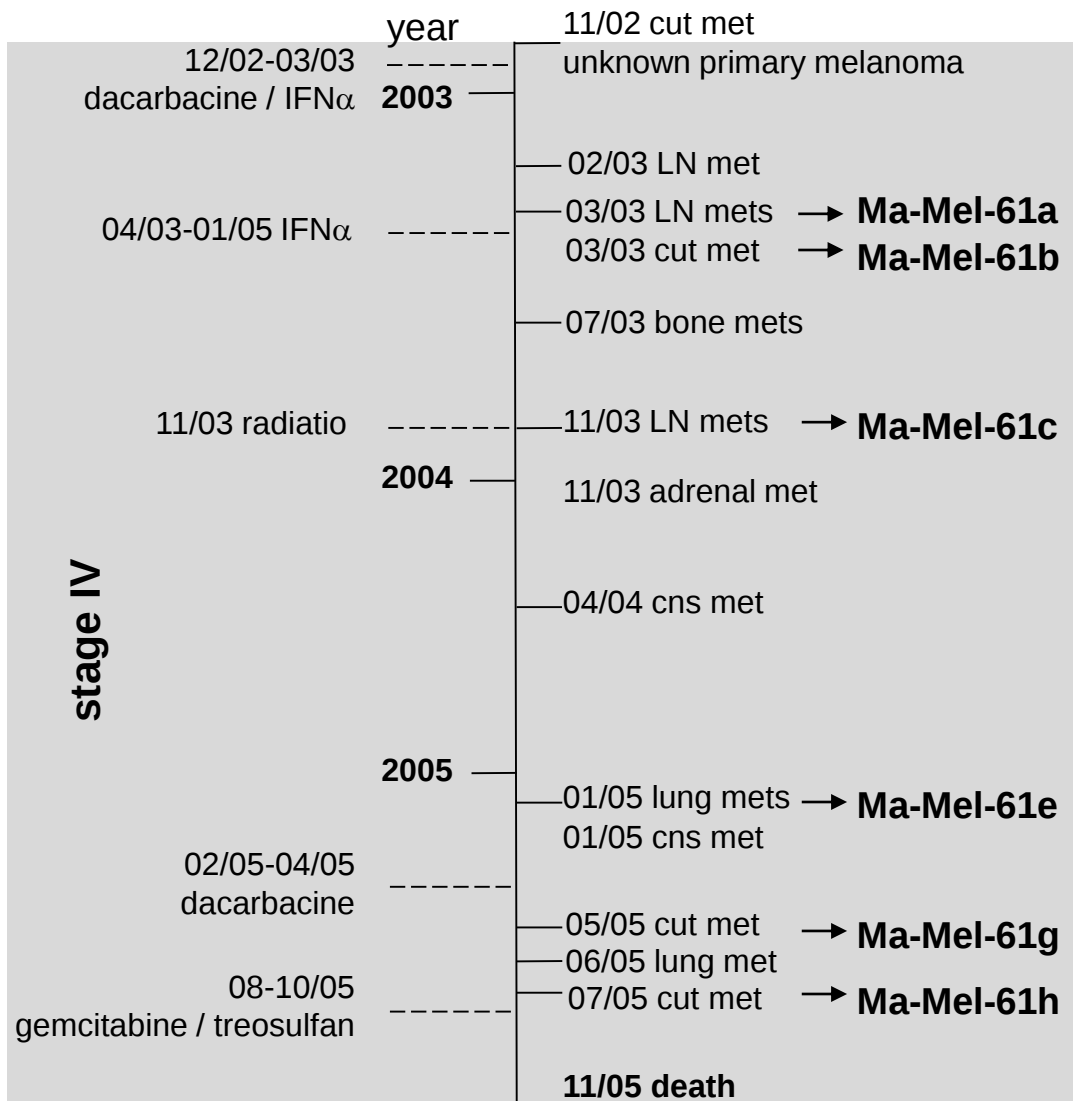
2003-2005: multiple visceral metastases

2005, November: death

Immunotherapy

2002, Dec. - 2005, Jan: IFN $\alpha$

## Patient Ma-Mel-61



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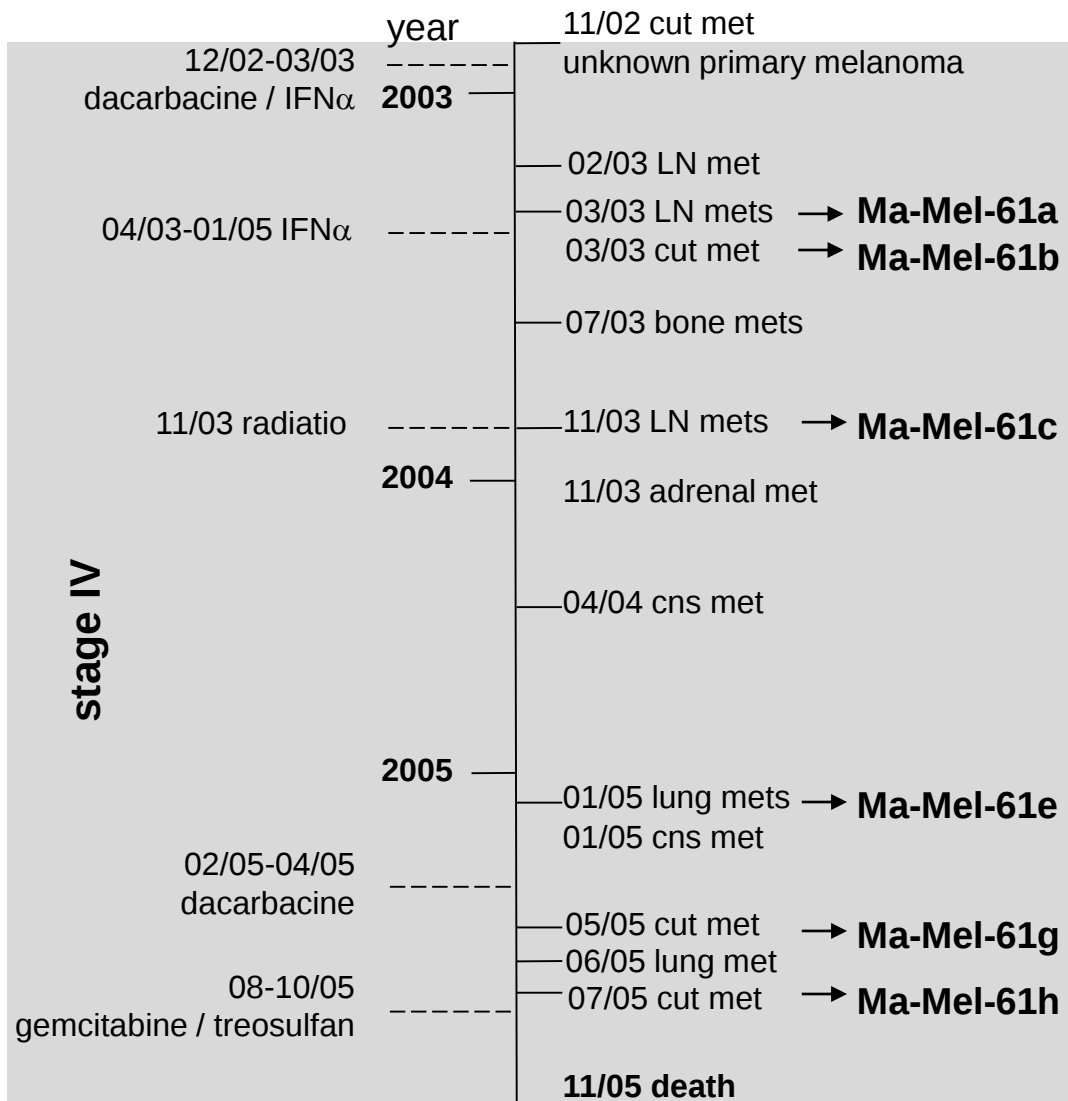
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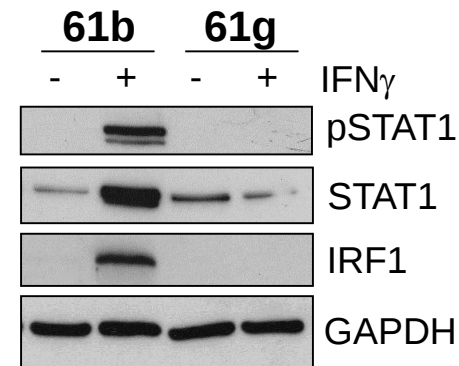
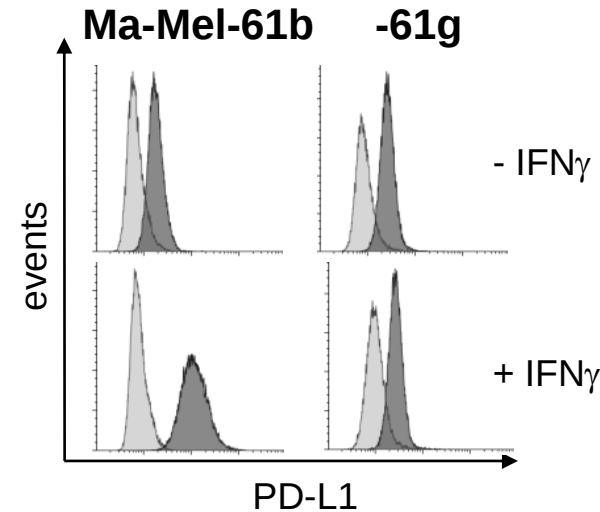
2002, Dec. - 2005, Jan: IFN $\alpha$

no response to IFN $\gamma$  !

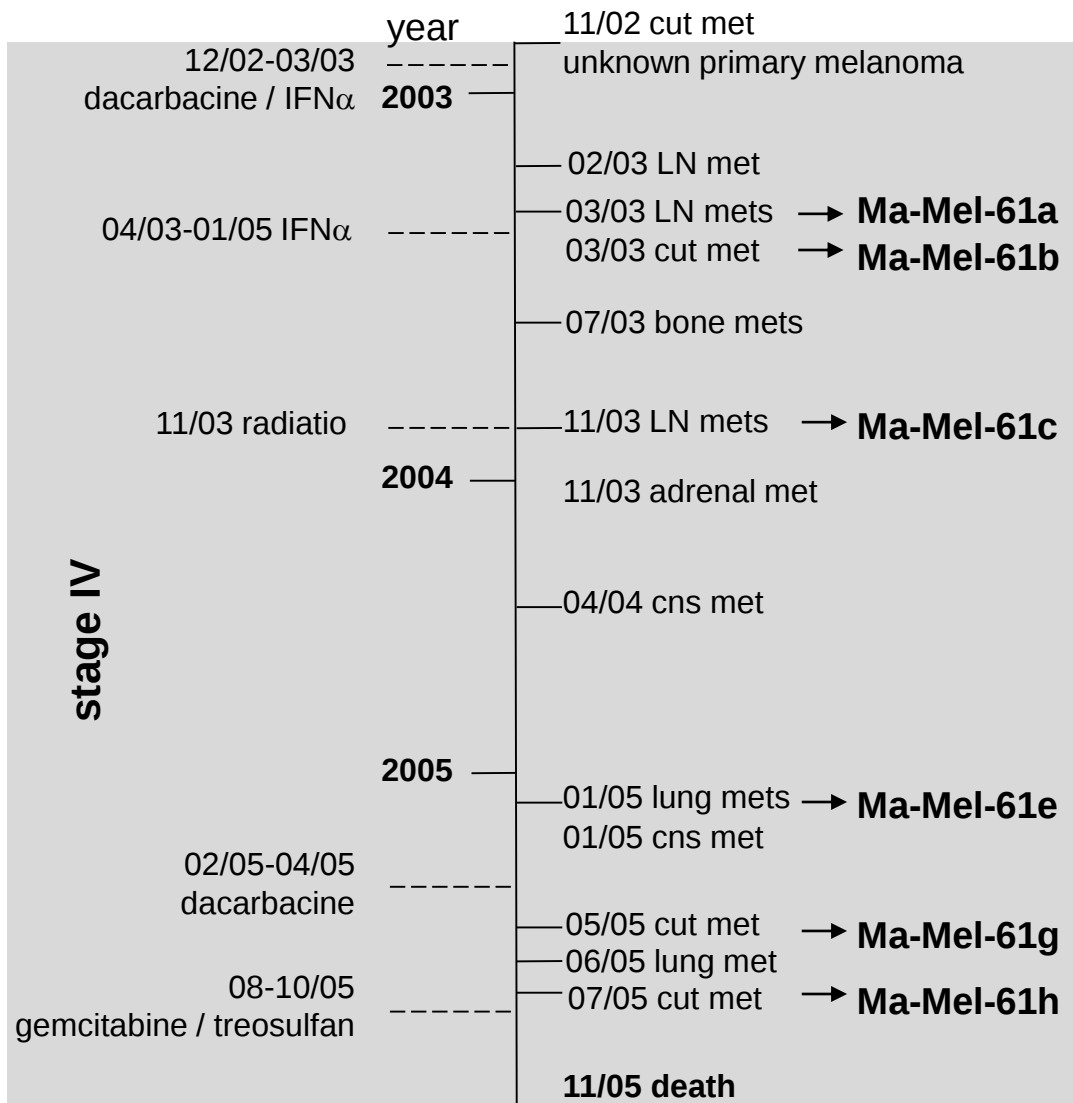
## Patient Ma-Mel-61



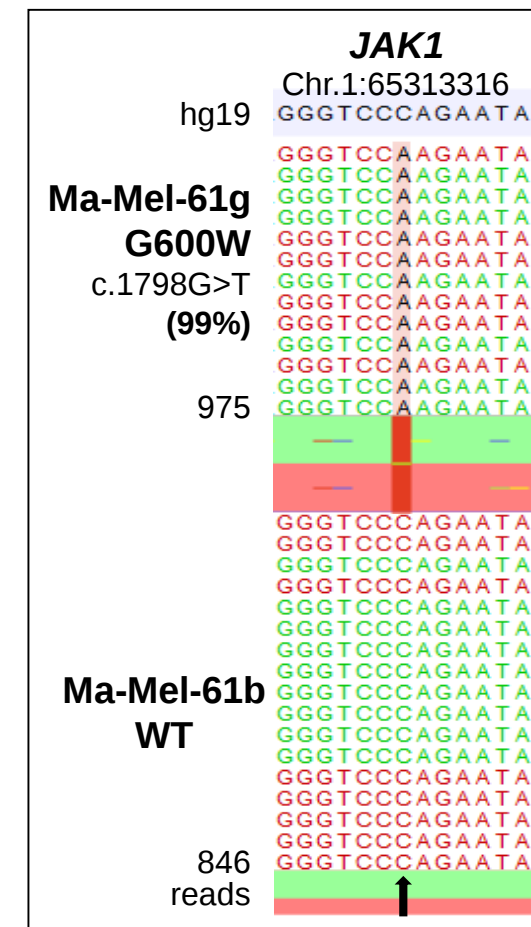
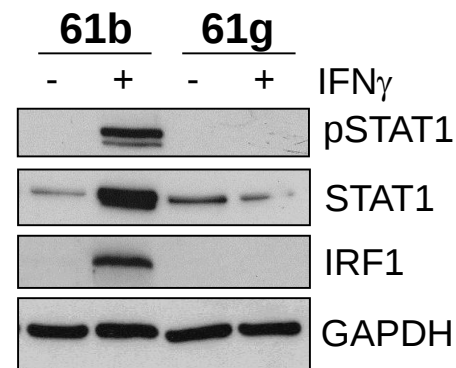
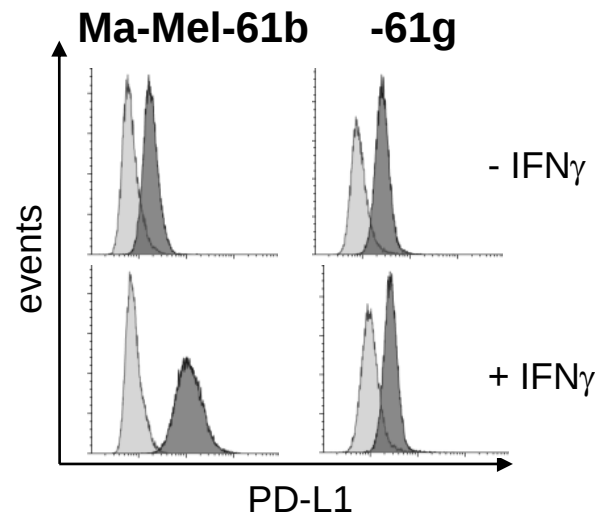
## JAK1 Mutation in Ma-Mel-61g cells



## Patient Ma-Mel-61

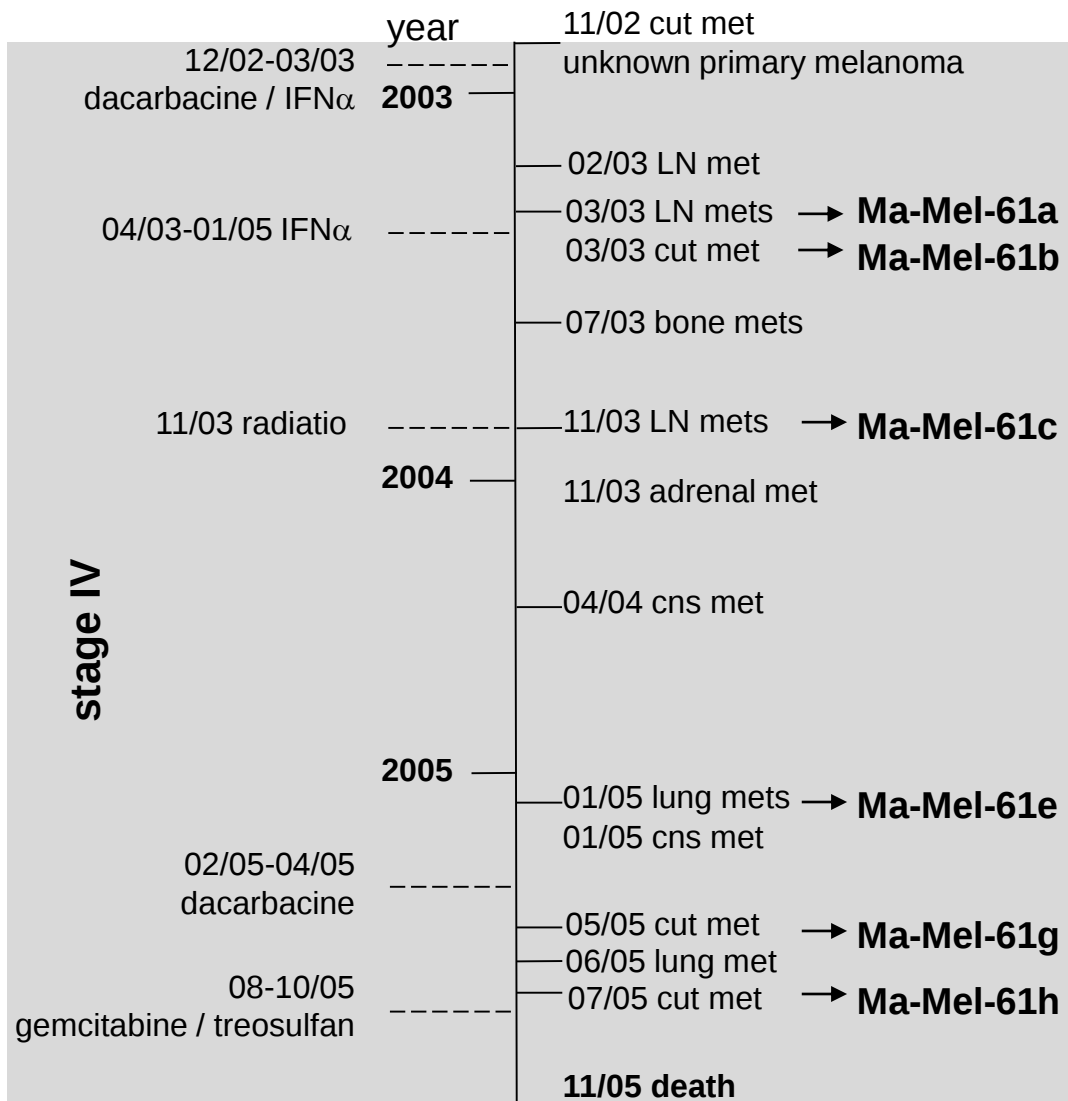


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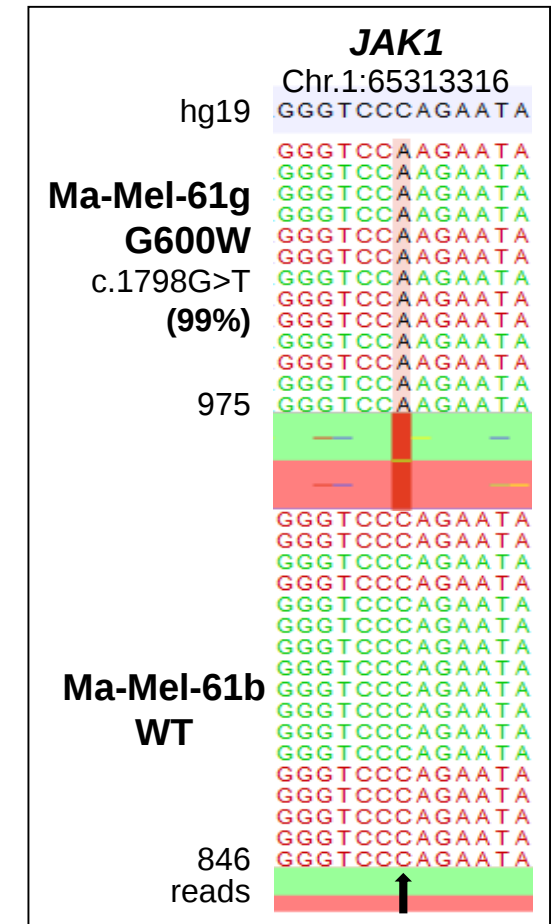
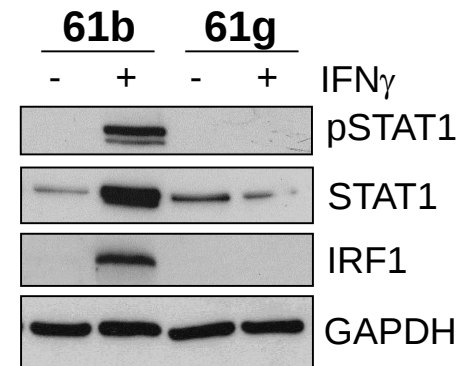
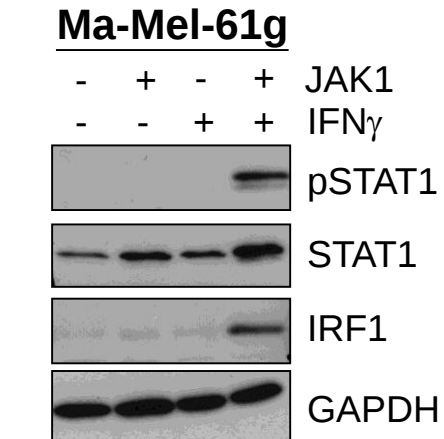


Sucker et al., Nat Comm 2017

## Patient Ma-Mel-61

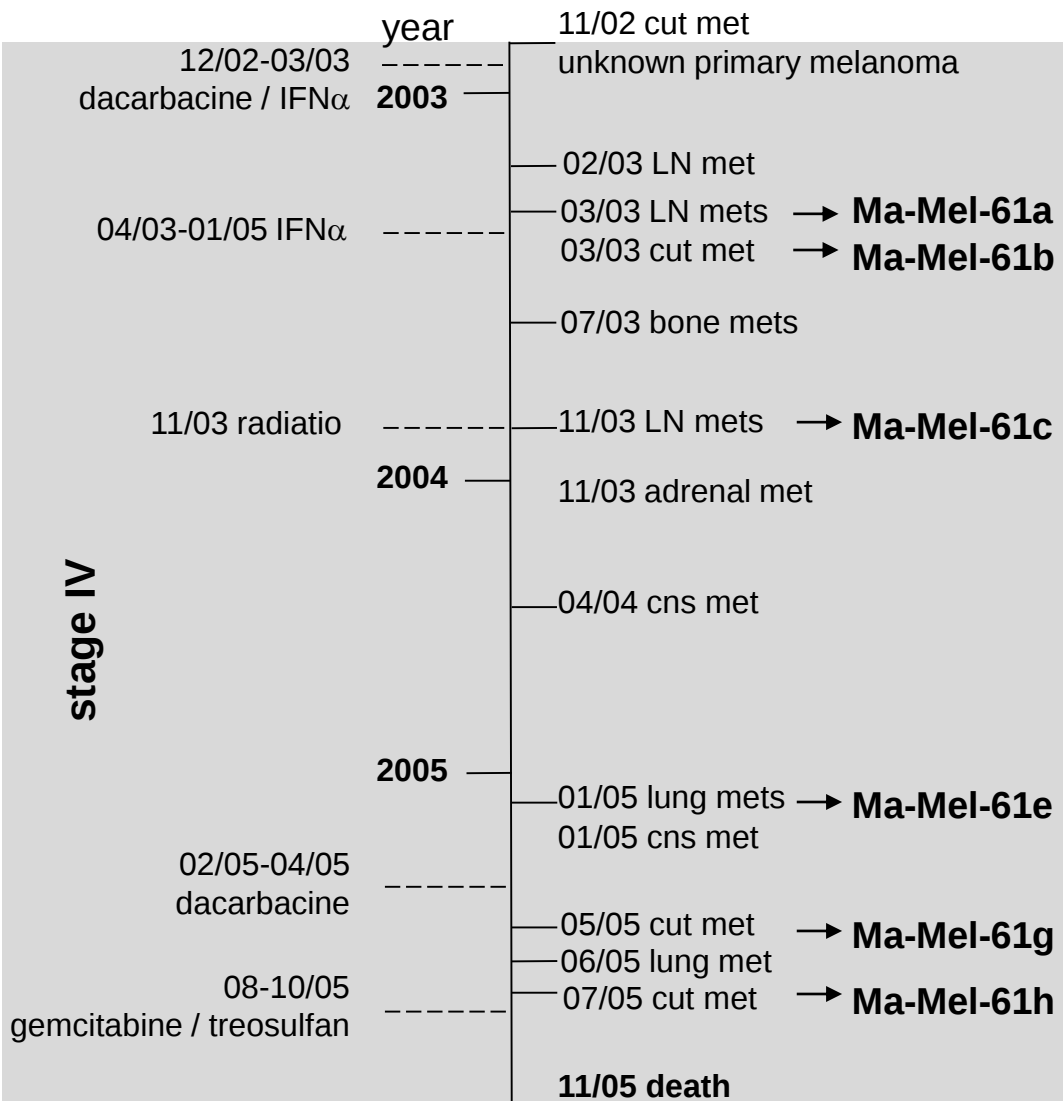


## JAK1 Mutation in Ma-Mel-61g cells



Sucker et al., Nat Comm 2017

## Patient Ma-Mel-61



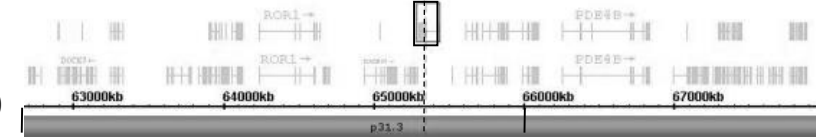
## Evolution of JAK1 Deficiency

### Allelic distribution



### Germline

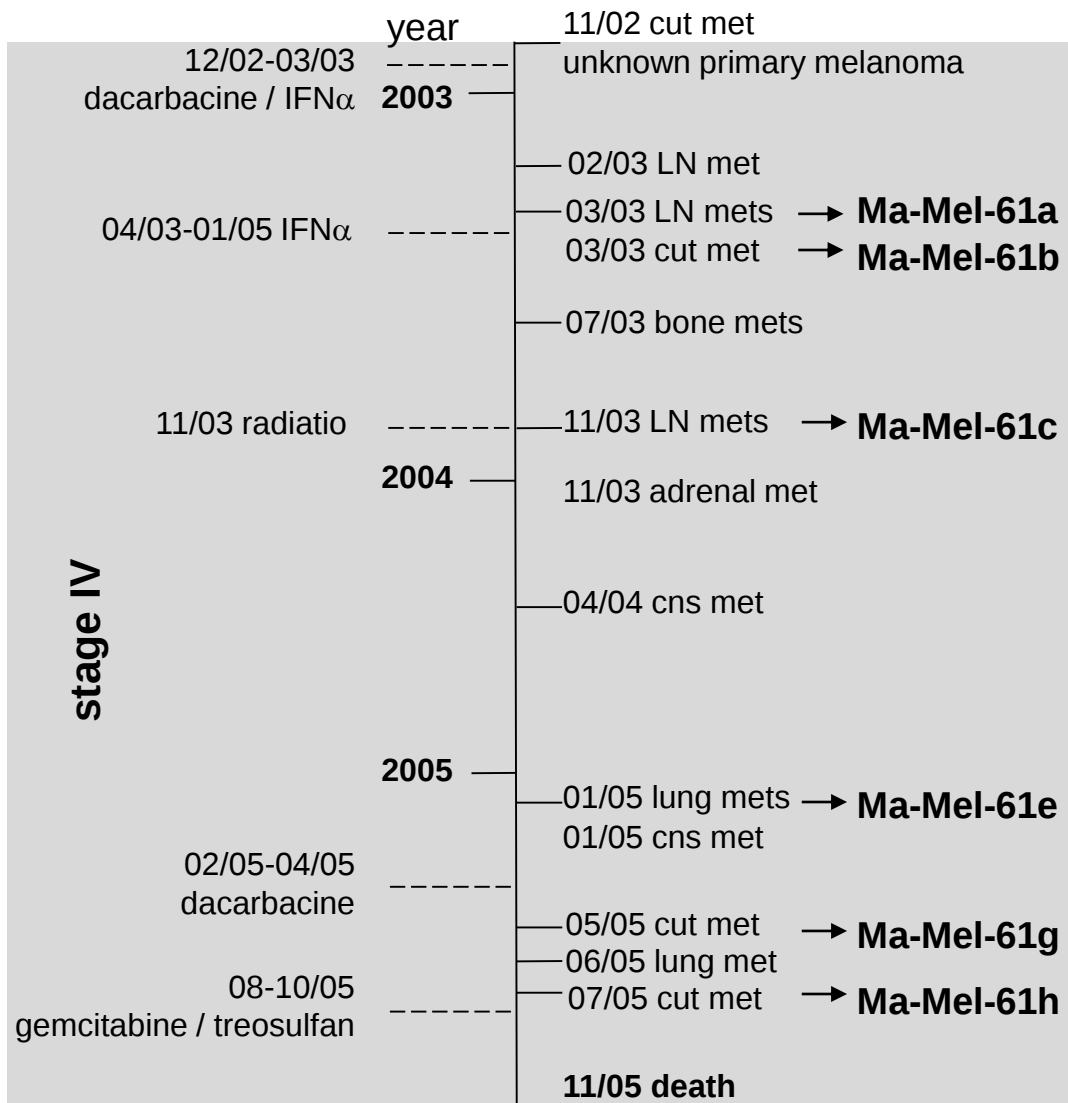
Chr.1p



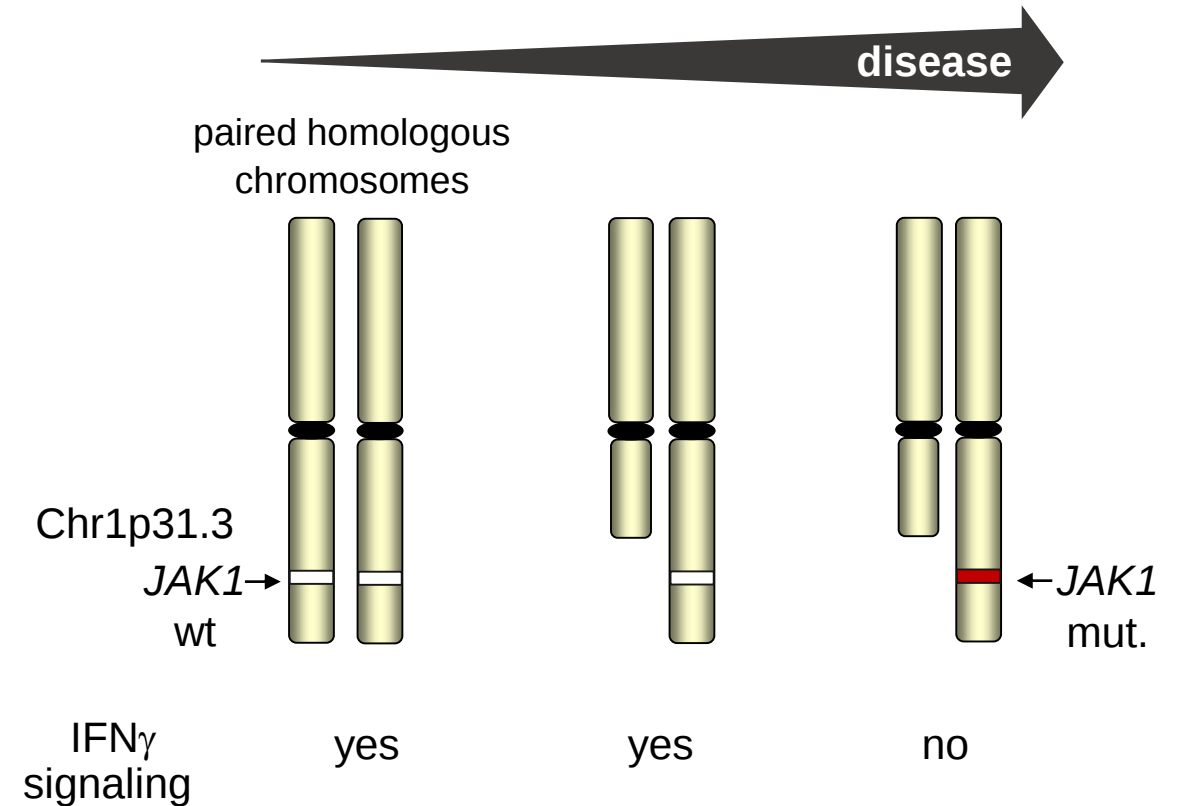
JAK1

Sucker et al., Nat Comm 2017

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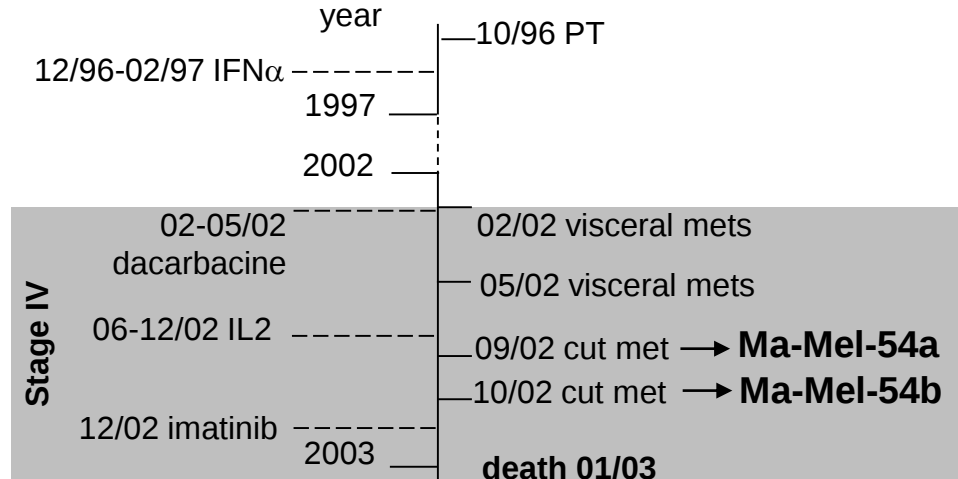


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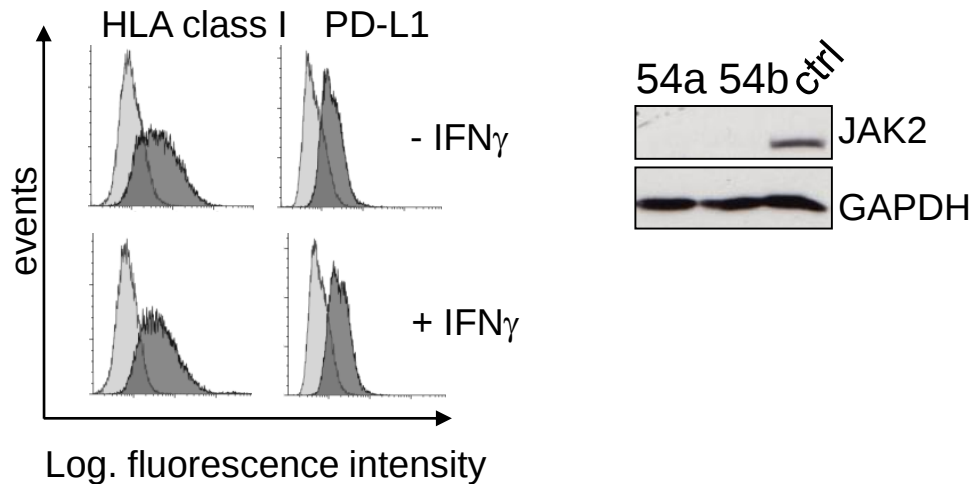
Sucker et al., Nat Comm 2017

## Patient Ma-Mel-54

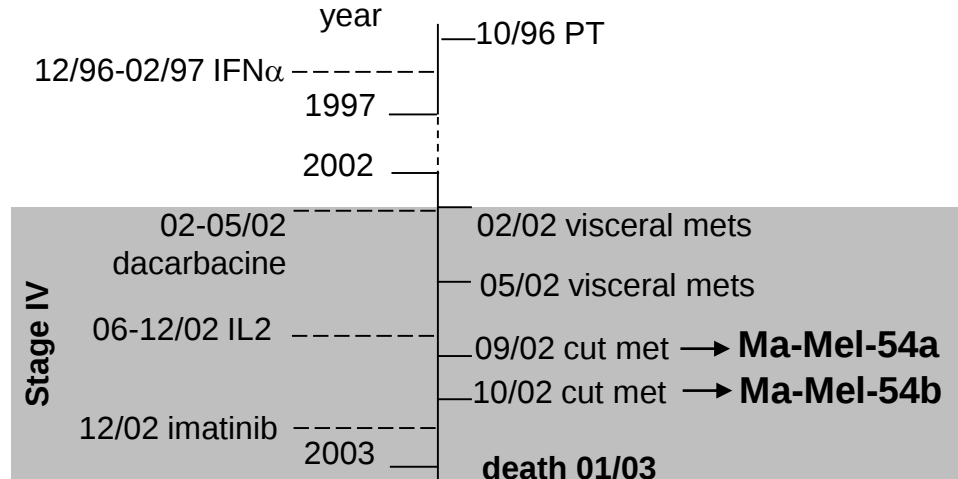


## JAK2 Deficiency in Ma-Mel-54

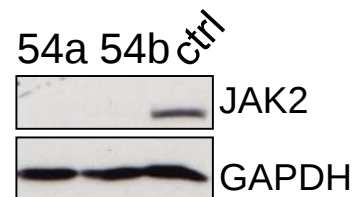
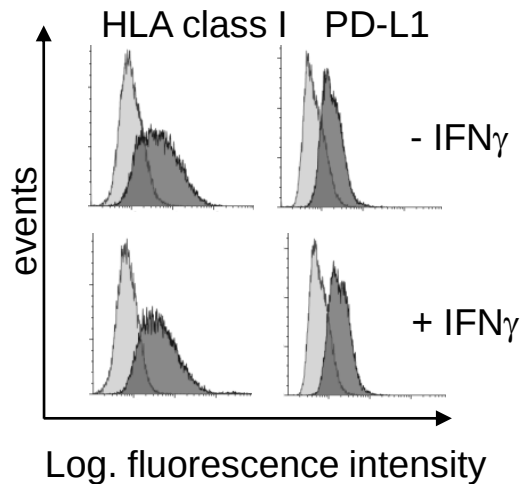
### Ma-Mel-54a



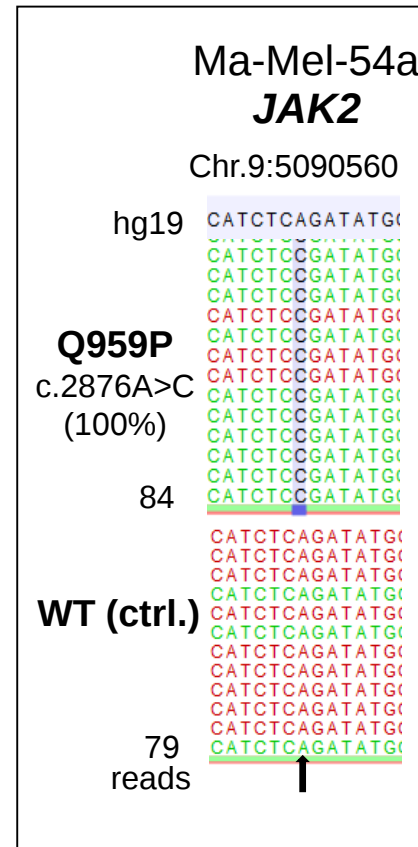
## Patient Ma-Mel-54



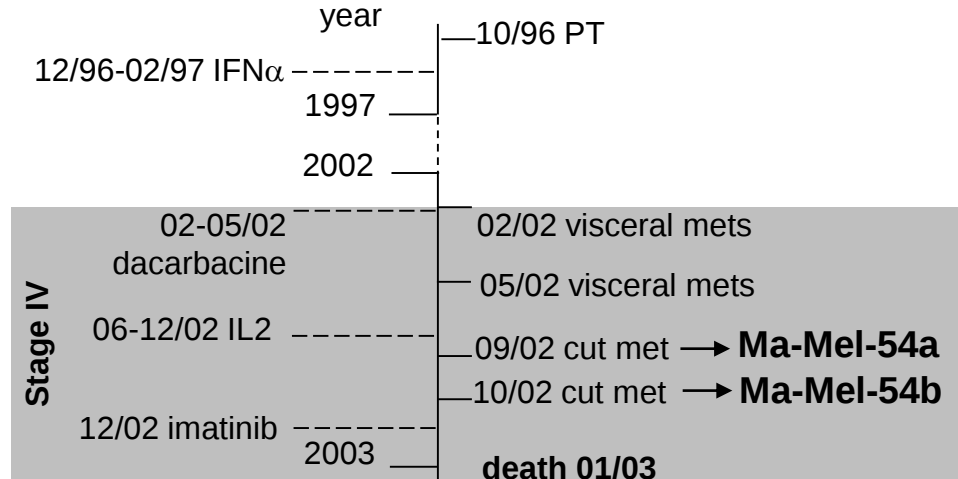
### Ma-Mel-54a



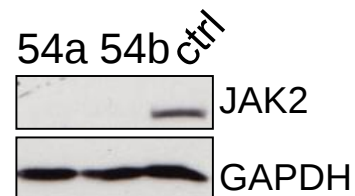
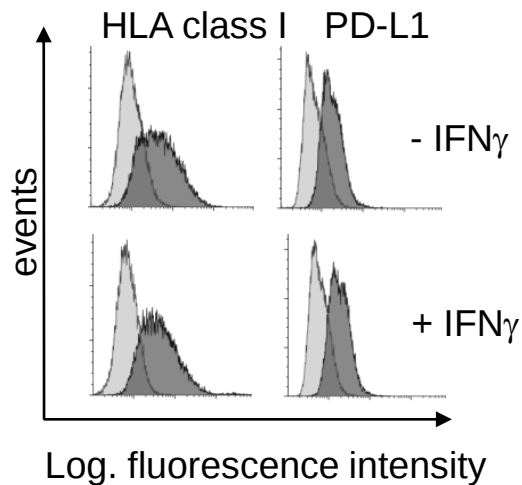
## JAK2 Deficiency in Ma-Mel-54



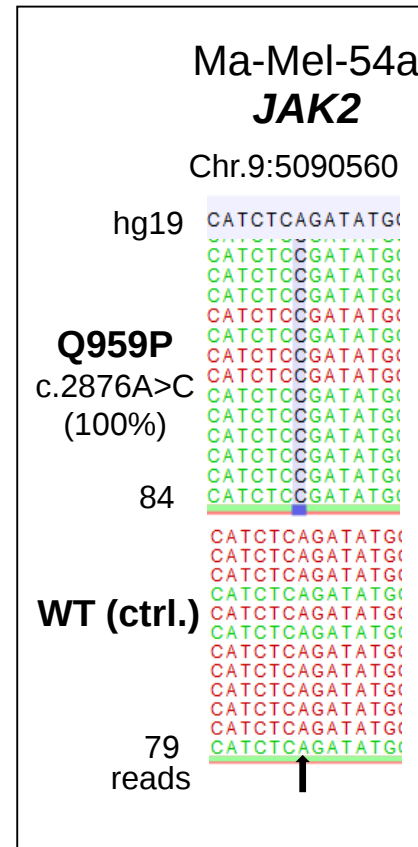
## Patient Ma-Mel-54



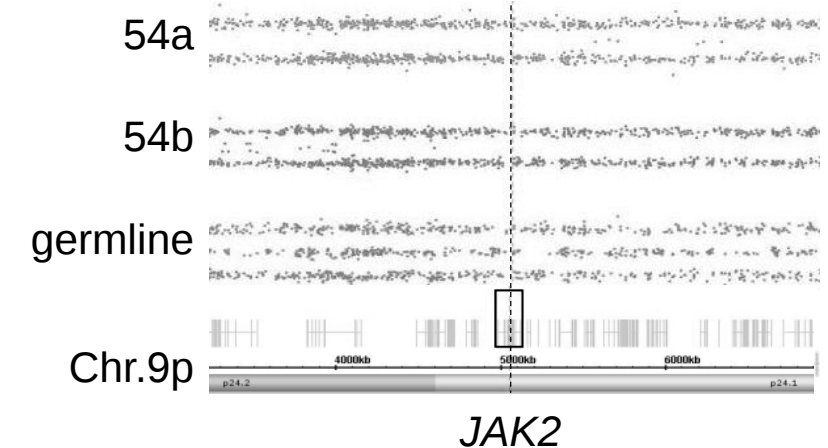
### Ma-Mel-54a



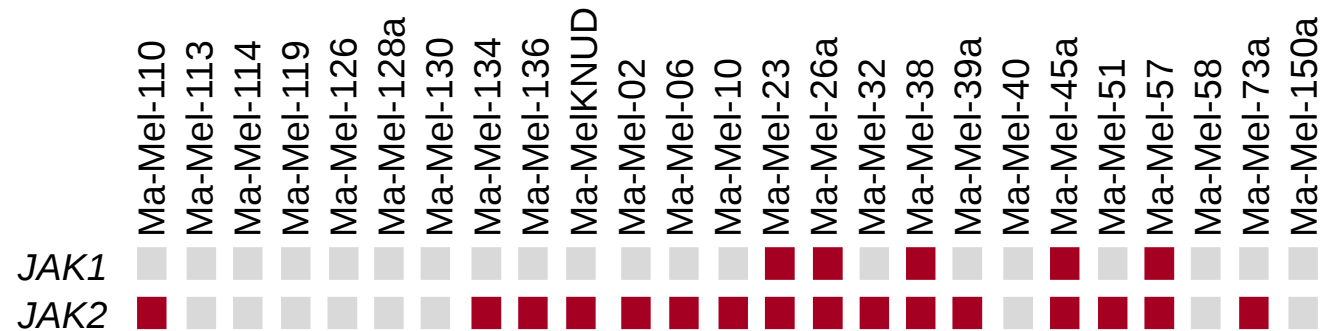
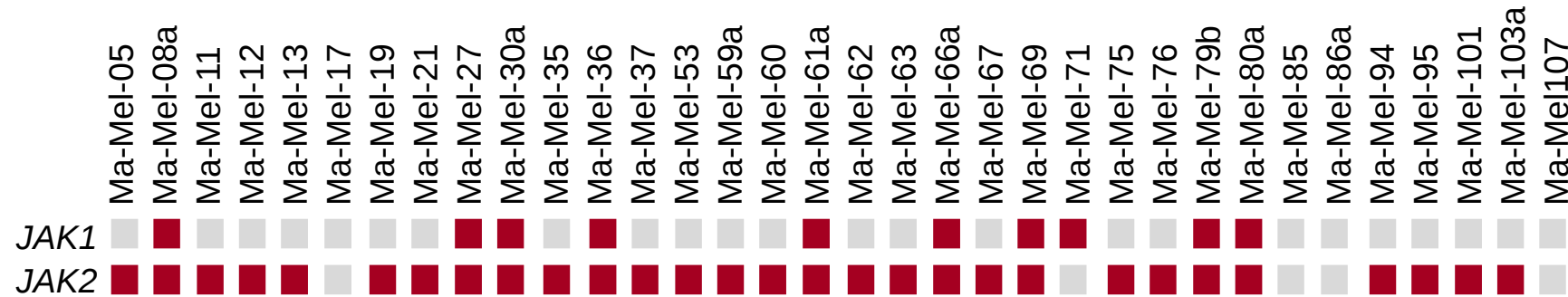
## JAK2 Deficiency in Ma-Mel-54



### Allelic distribution



## Frequency of *JAK1/2* Allelic Losses in Melanoma Cells



■ LOH

■ Not changed

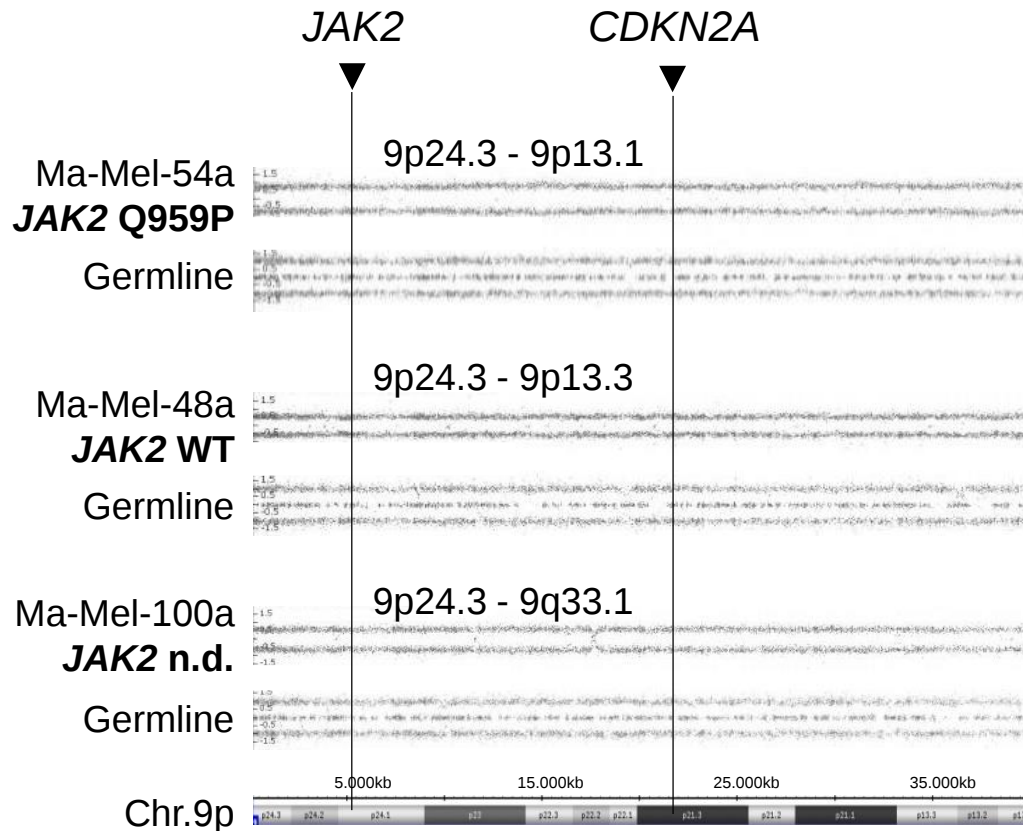
SNP array data of “in house” cell lines

Allelic loss frequency

*JAK1*: 25% (15 of 59)

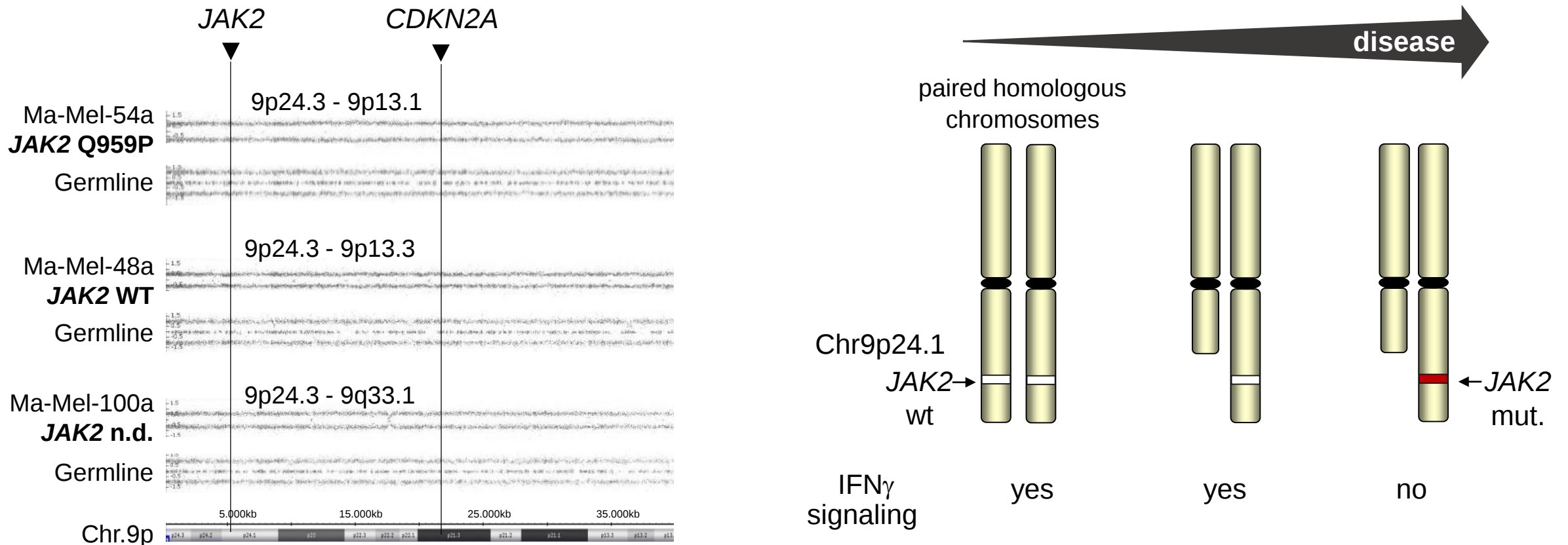
*JAK2*: 76% (45 of 59)

# Frequent Codeletion on Chromosome 9p of *JAK2* and *CDKN2A* Alleles



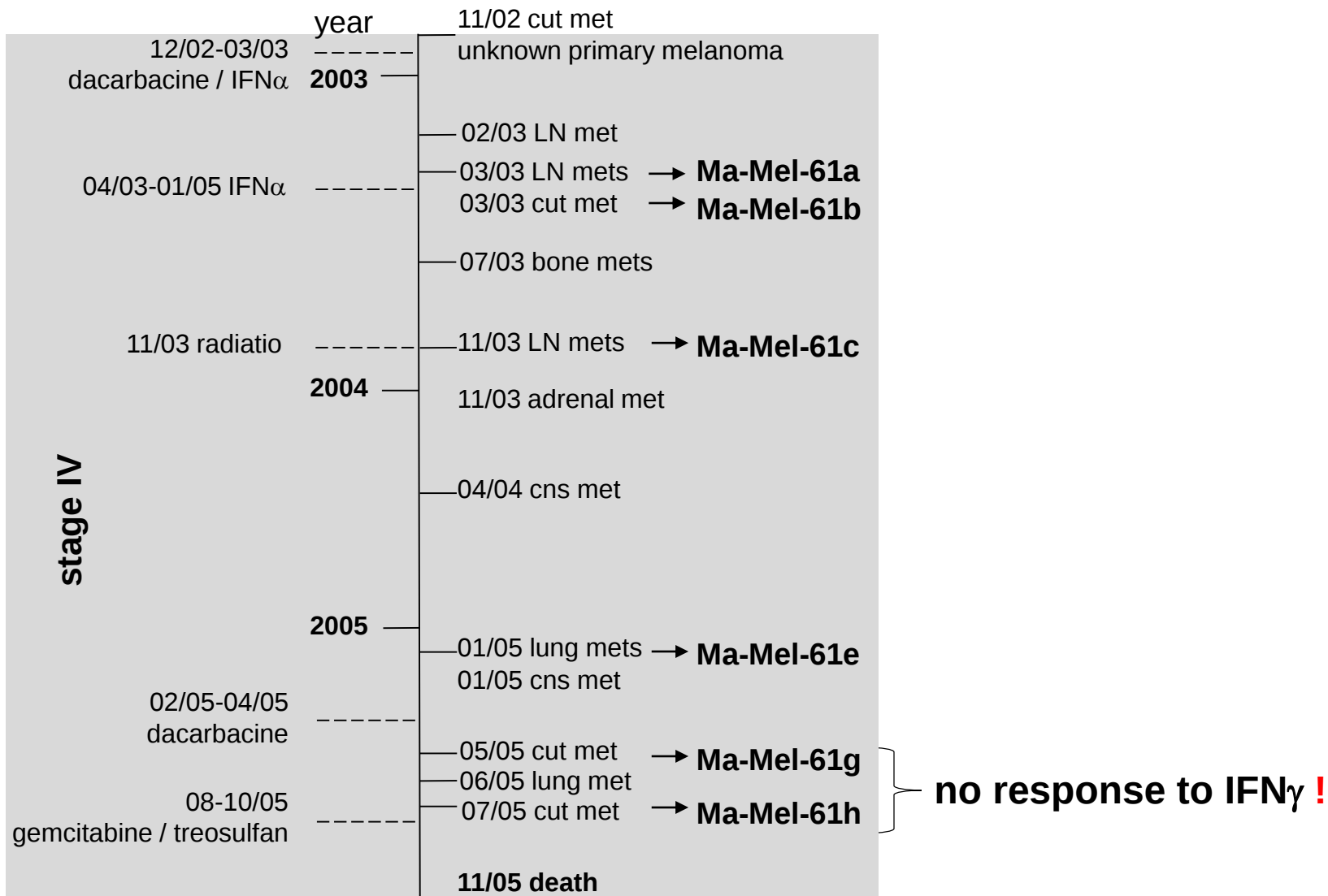
Horn\*, Leonardelli\* et al., unpublished  
\*equal contribution

# Frequent Codeletion on Chromosome 9p of *JAK2* and *CDKN2A* Alleles

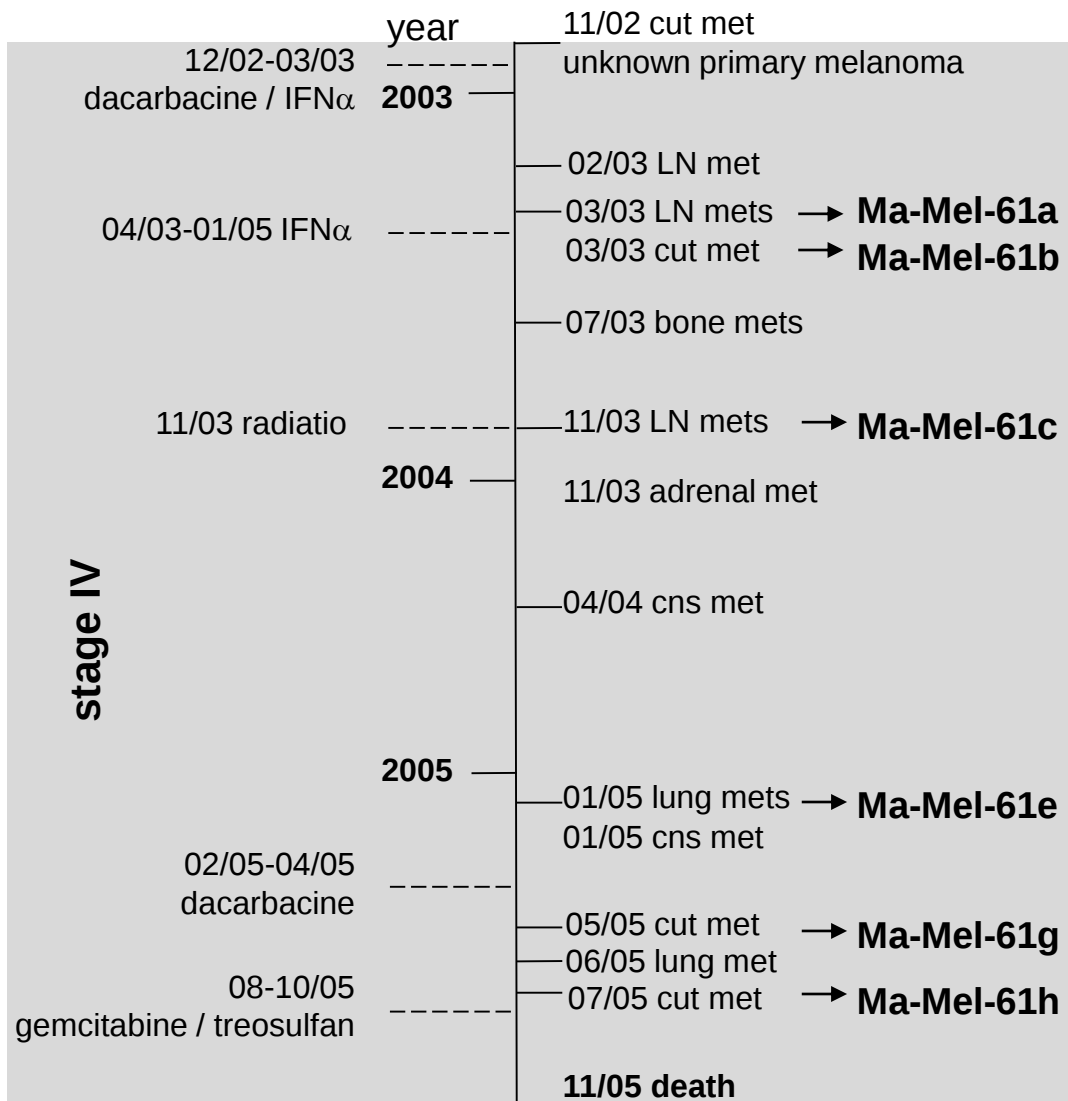


Horn\*, Leonardelli\* et al., unpublished  
\*equal contribution

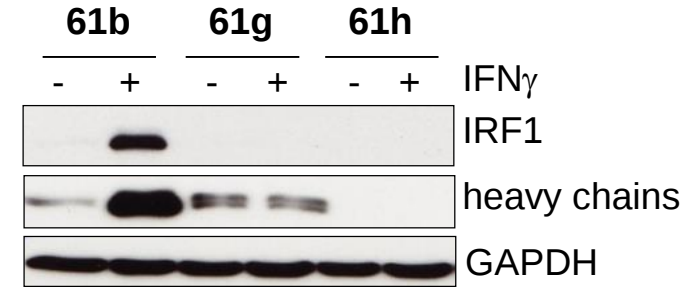
## Patient Ma-Mel-61



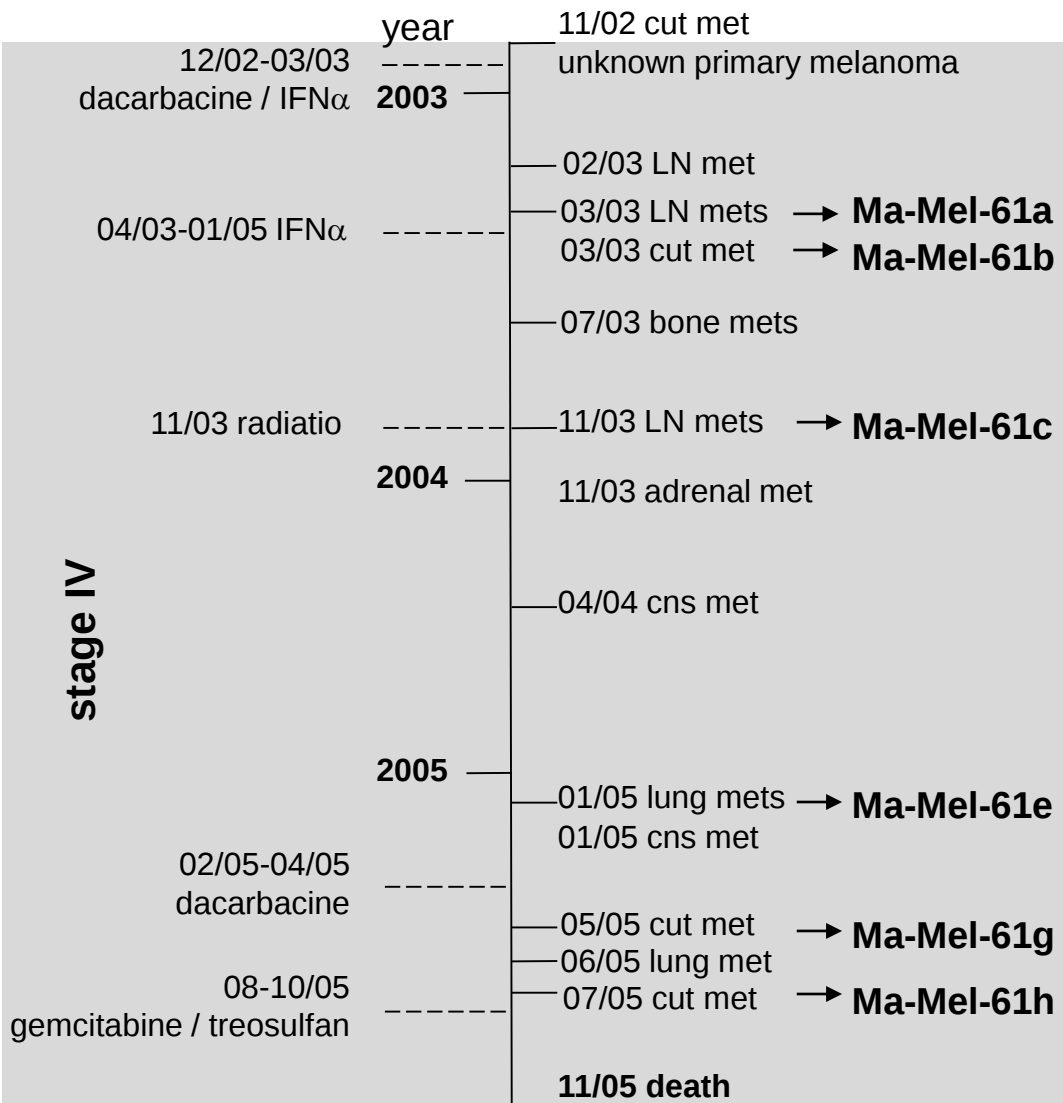
## Patient Ma-Mel-61



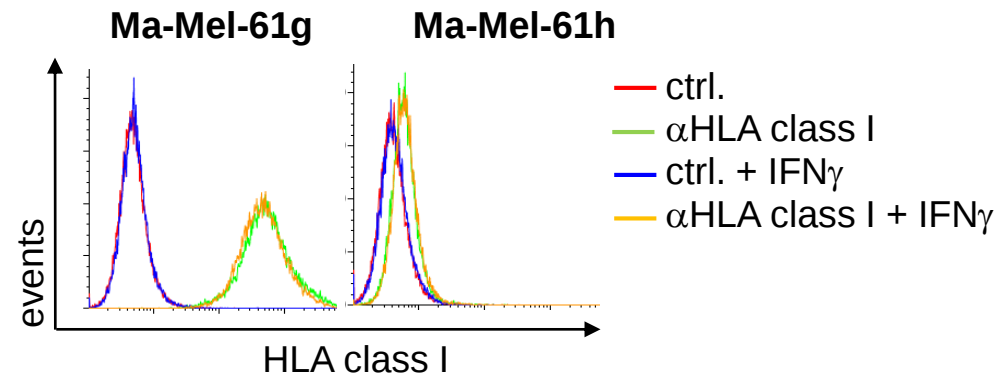
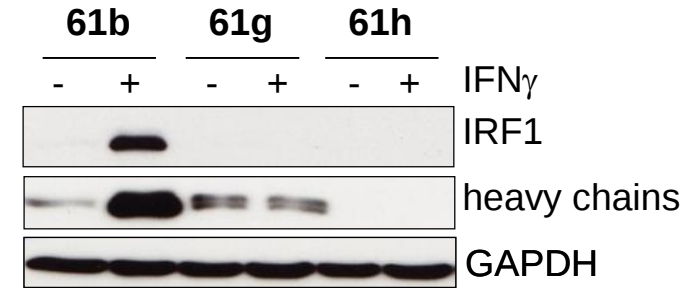
## Lack of HLA class I Expression on Ma-Mel-61h



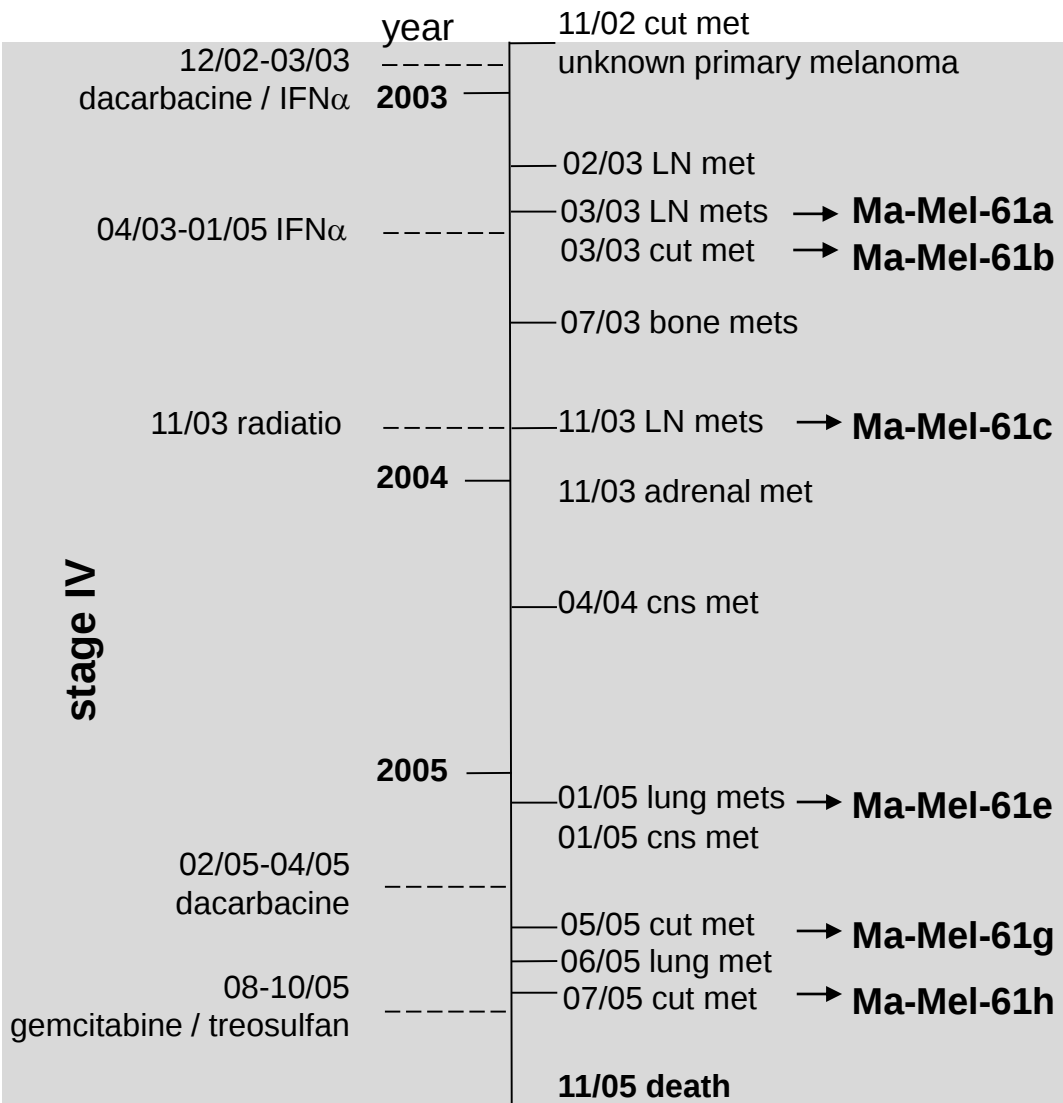
## Patient Ma-Mel-61



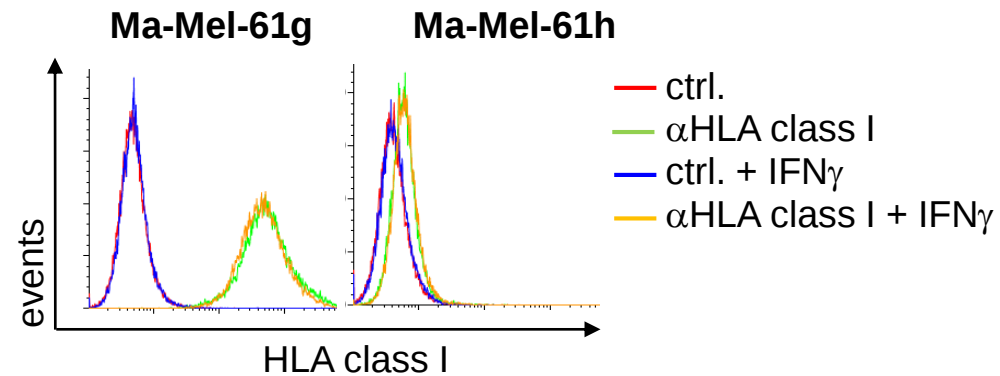
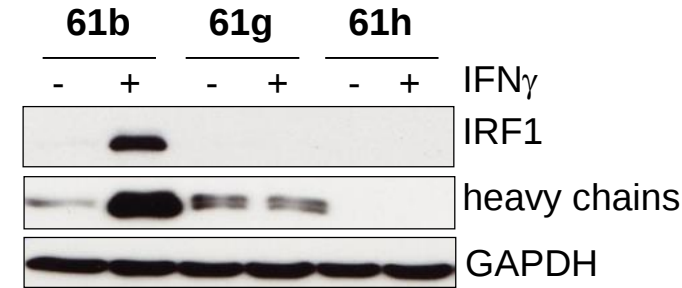
## Lack of HLA class I Expression on Ma-Mel-61h



## Patient Ma-Mel-61

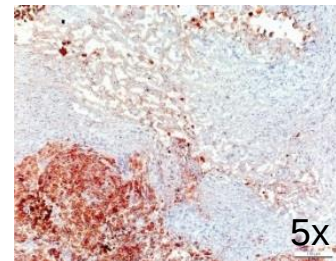


## Lack of HLA class I Expression on Ma-Mel-61h

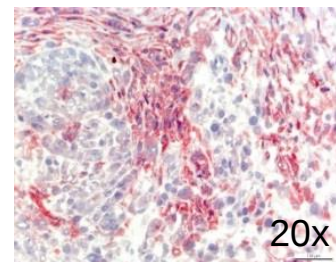
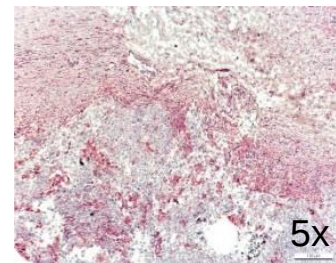


### Ma-Mel-61g

HMB45

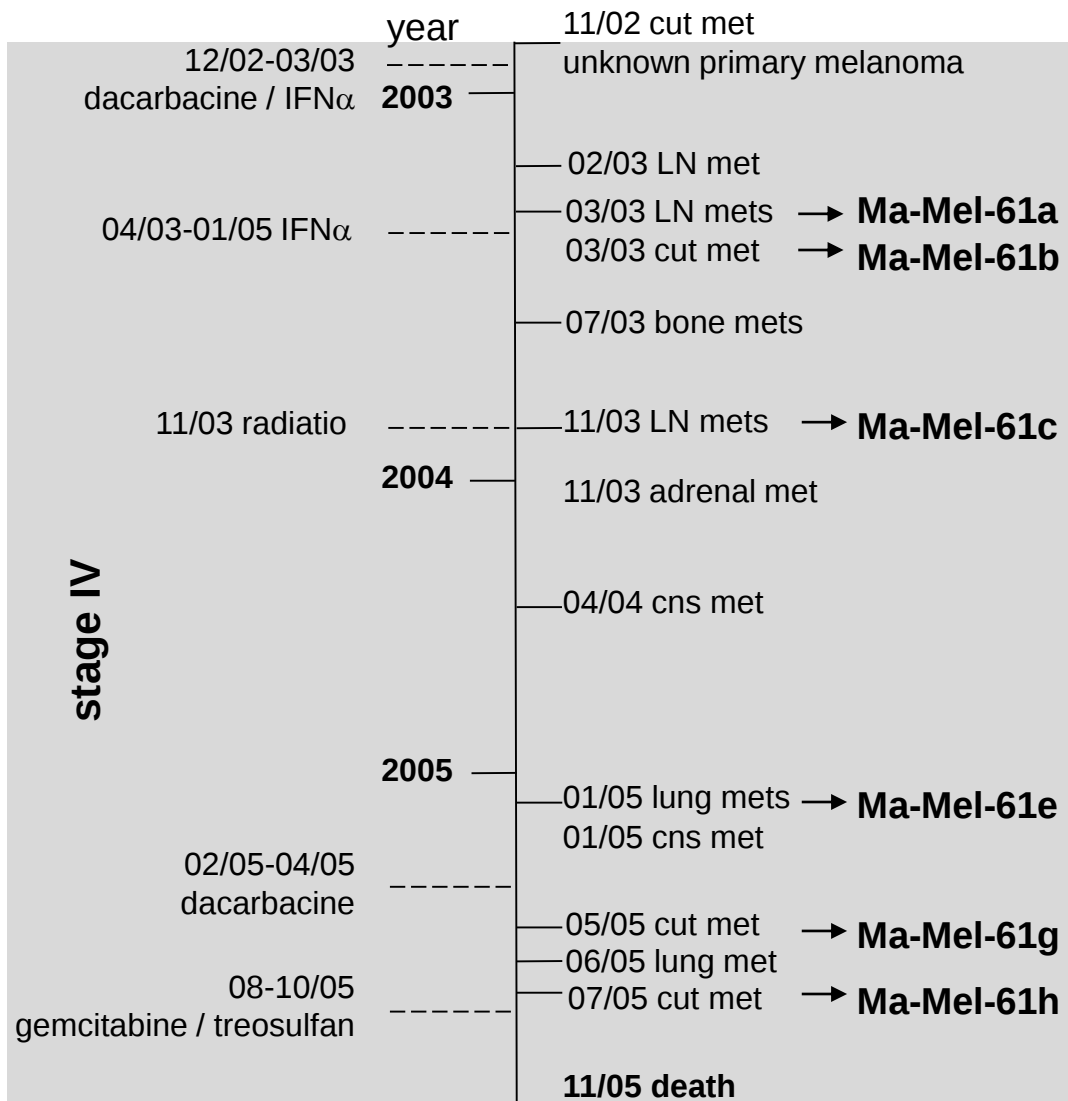


HLA class I

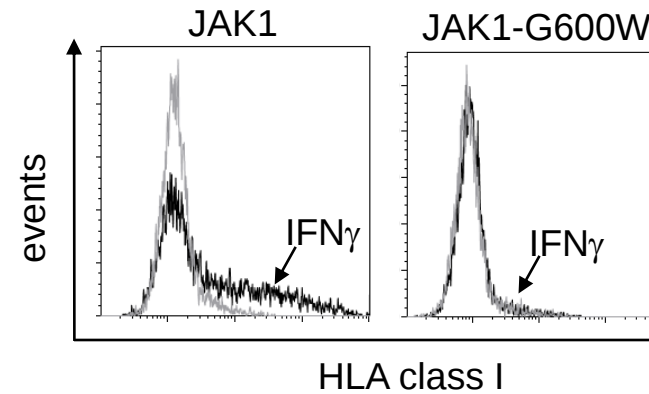


Sucker et al., Nat Comm 2017

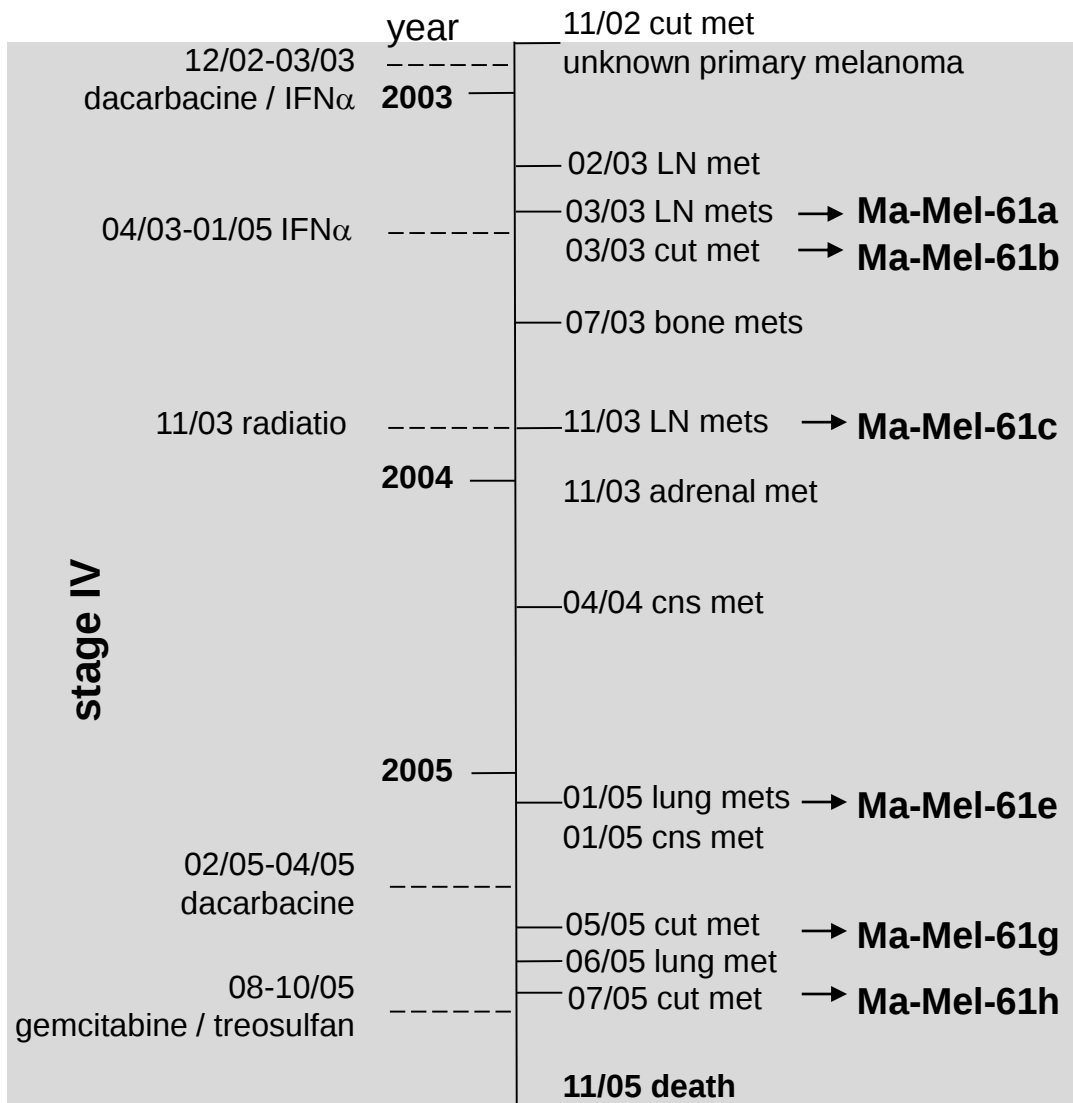
## Patient Ma-Mel-61



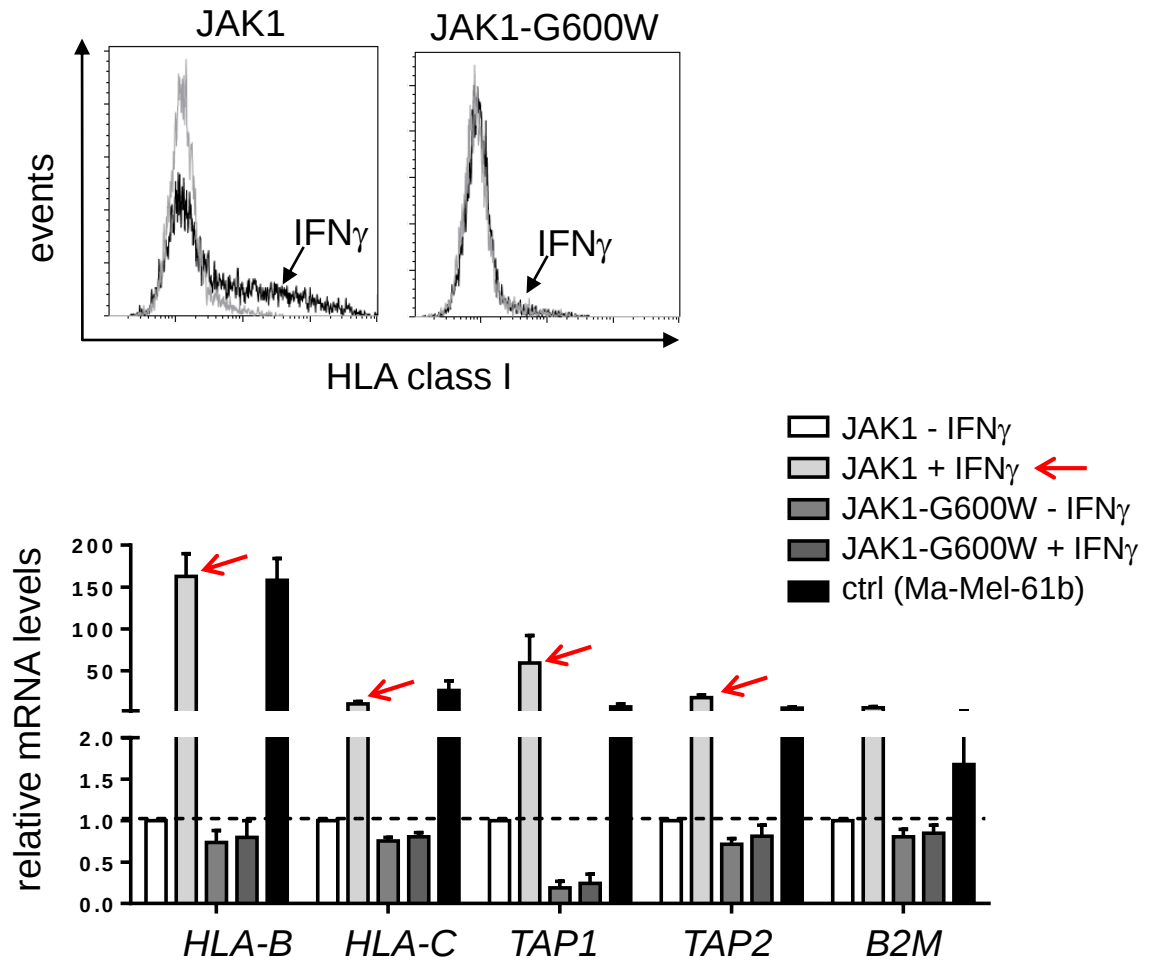
## Silencing of Antigen Presentation Genes



## Patient Ma-Mel-61

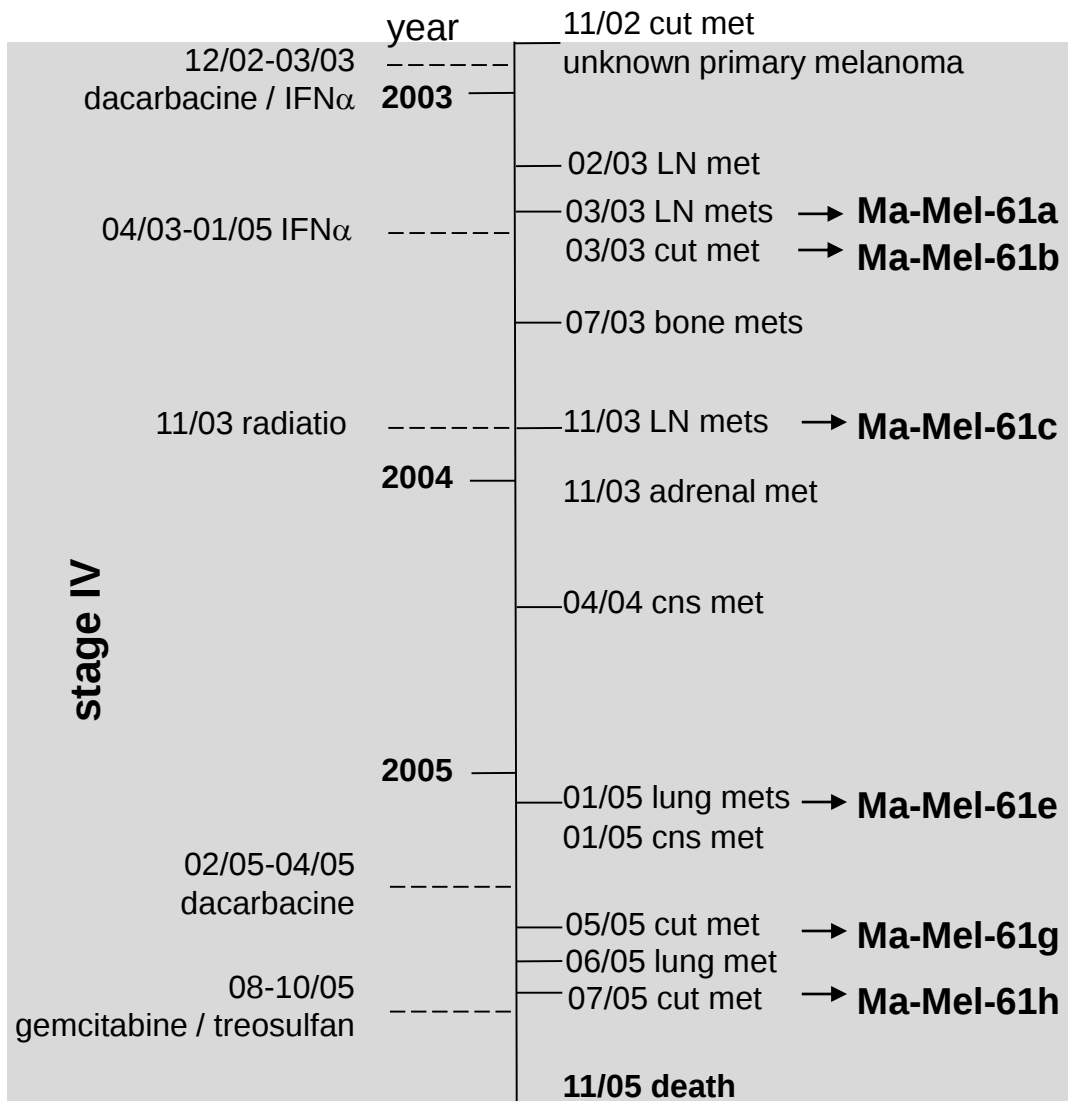


## Silencing of Antigen Presentation Genes

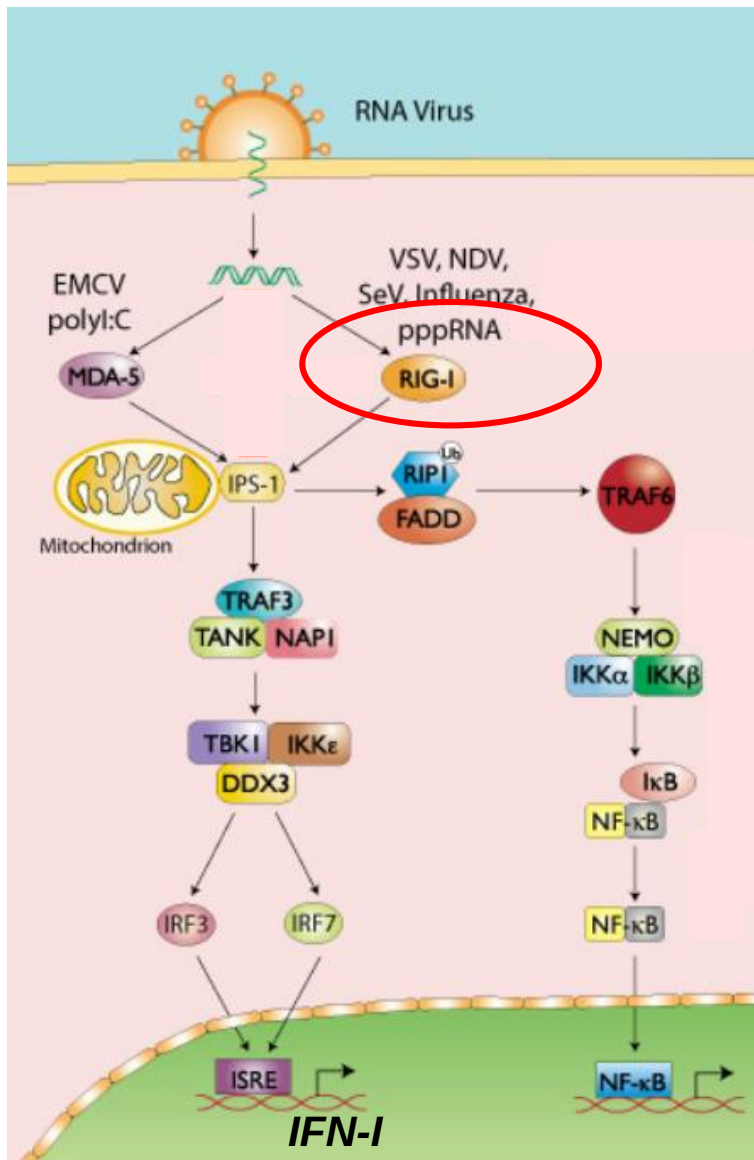


Sucker et al., Nat Comm 2017

## Patient Ma-Mel-61



**How to restore HLA class I antigen presentation in Ma-Mel-61h?**

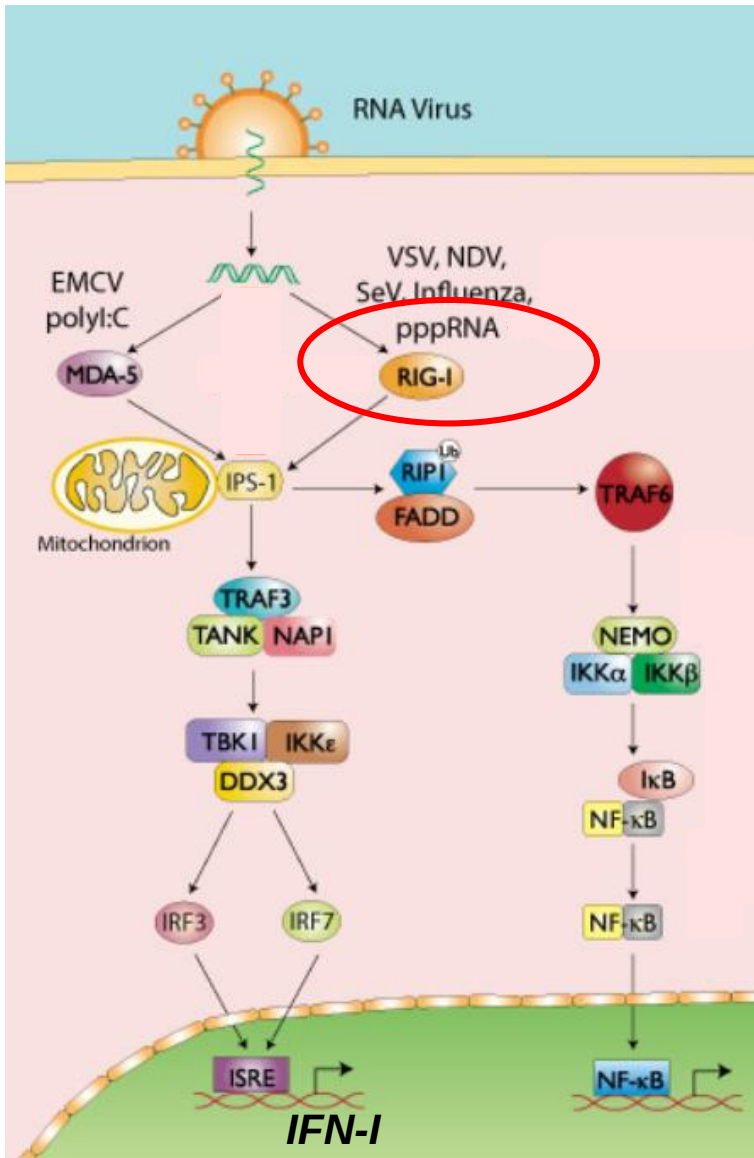
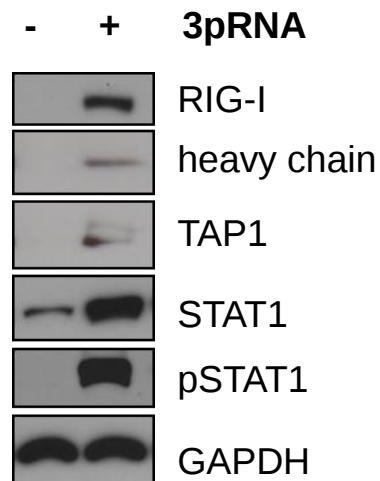


## RIG-I (retinoic acid inducible gene I)

- Ubiquitous innate cytosolic pattern recognition receptor
- RNA helicase binds short double-stranded viral pppRNA
- RIG-I activation in tumor cells by transfection with synthetic 3pRNA

## RIG-I Signaling Restores HLA class I Expression

Ma-Mel-61h  
(JAK1-G600W)

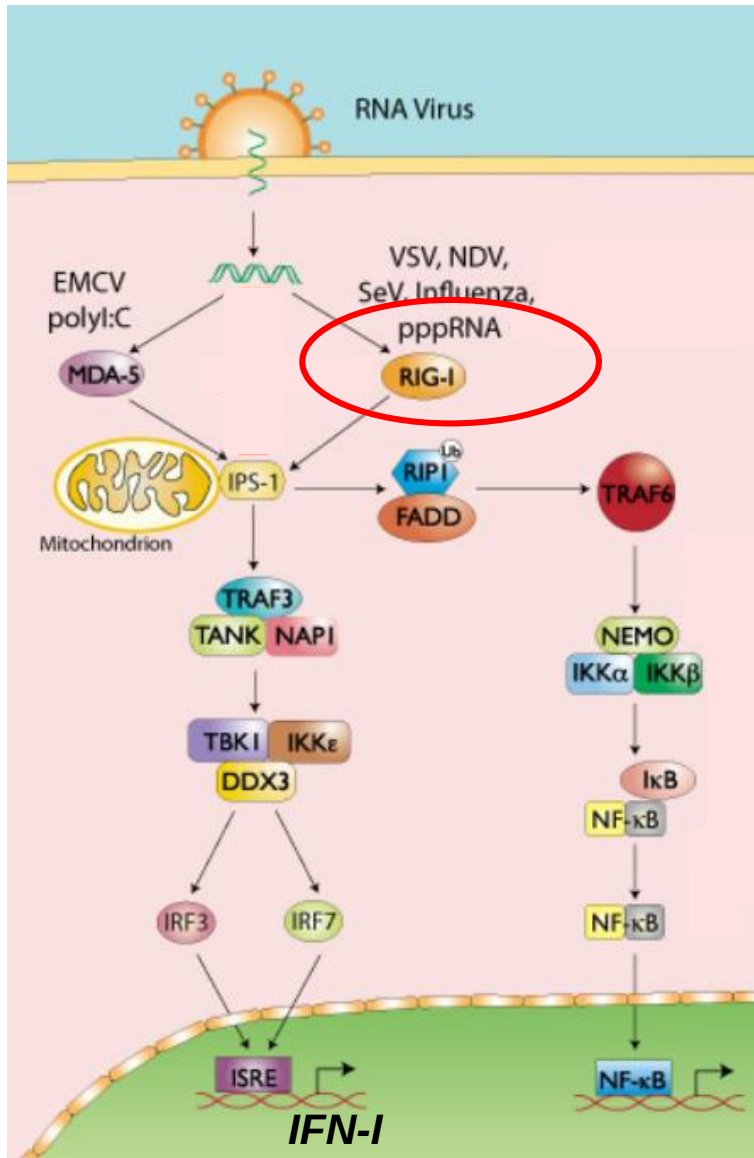


adapted from  
<http://www.invivogen.com/review-rlr>

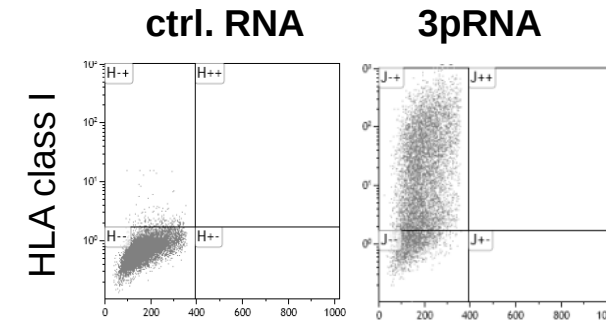
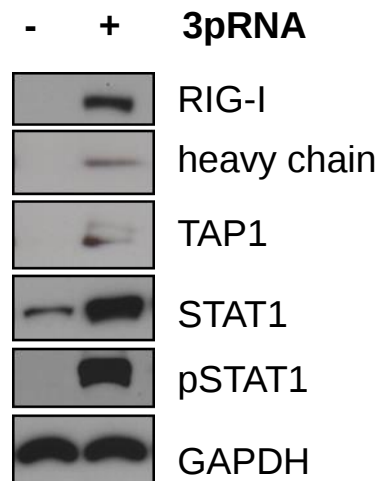
ADVANCING CANCER IMMUNOTHERAPY WORLDWIDE

Such et al., unpublished

## RIG-I Signaling Restores HLA class I Expression



Ma-Mel-61h  
(JAK1-G600W)

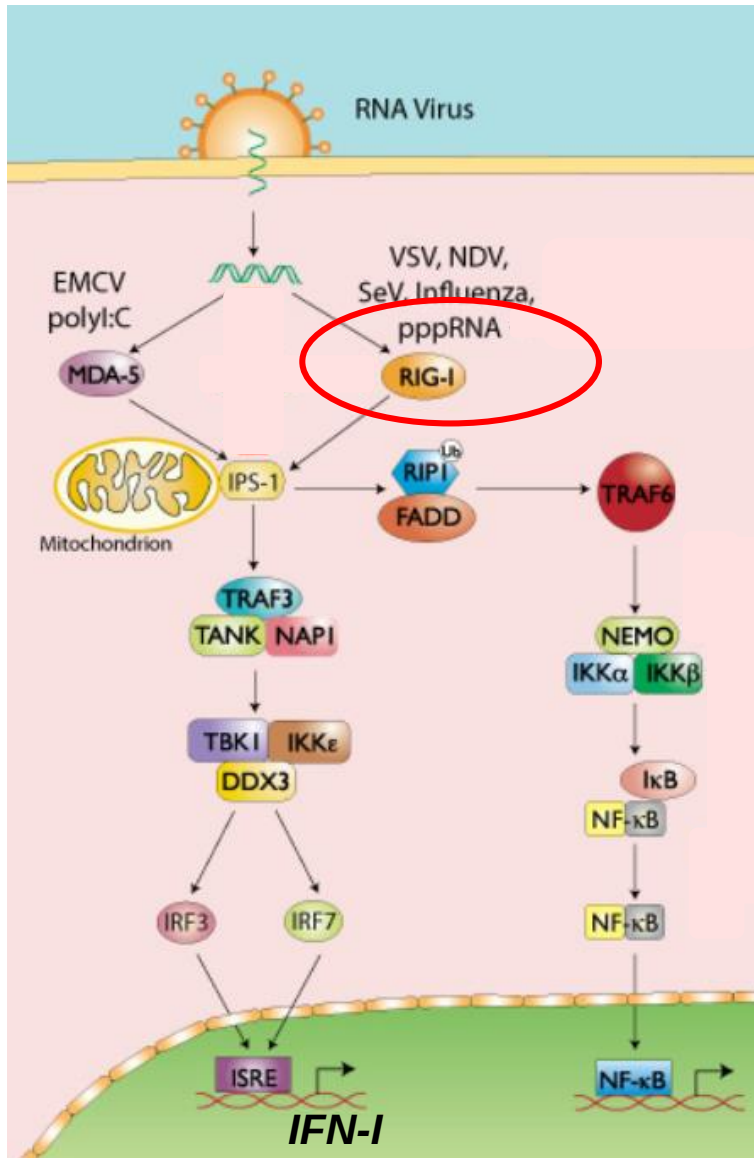


adapted from  
<http://www.invivogen.com/review-rlr>

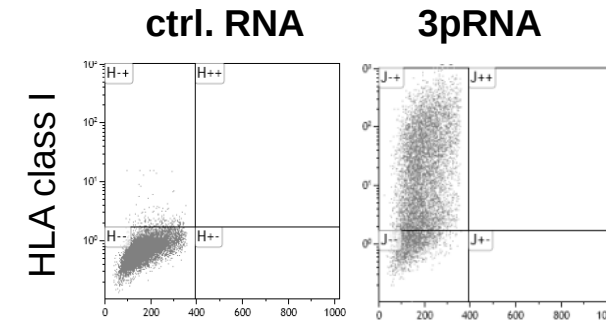
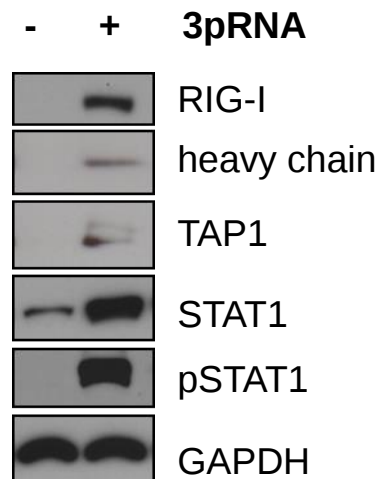
ADVANCING CANCER IMMUNOTHERAPY WORLDWIDE

Such et al., unpublished

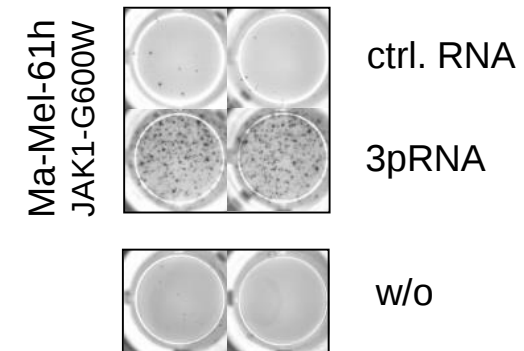
## RIG-I Signaling Restores HLA class I Expression



### Ma-Mel-61h (JAK1-G600W)

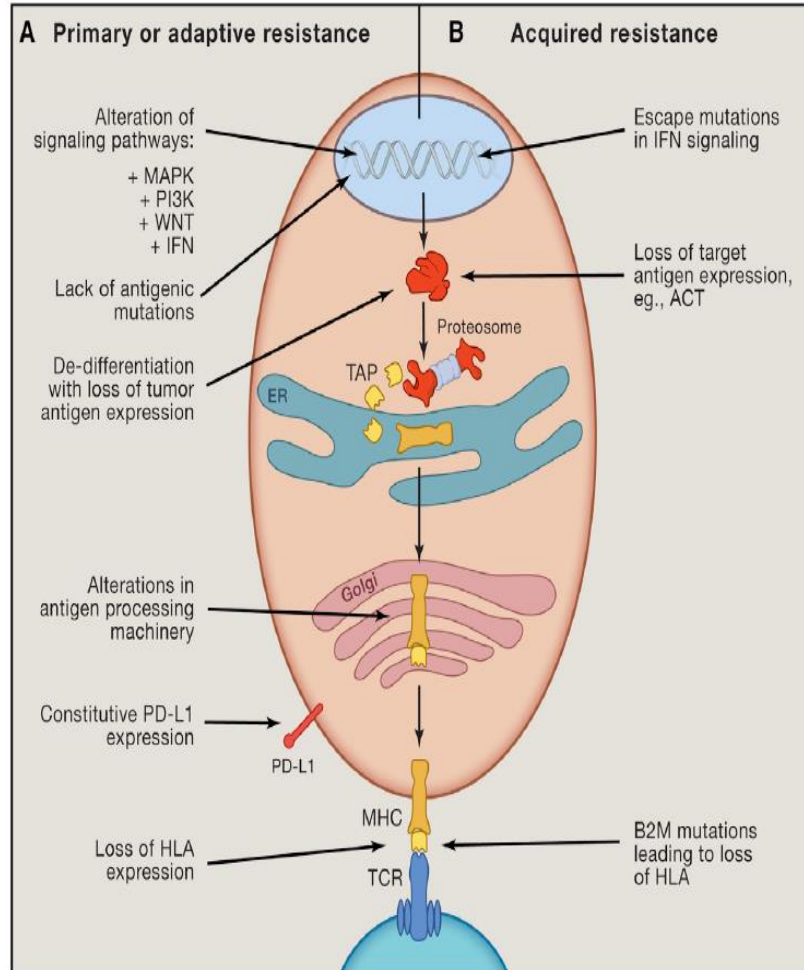


### auto. CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells



## Multiple Acquired Resistance Mechanisms in Ma-Mel-61 and Ma-Mel-54

- Acquired IFN $\gamma$  resistance due to chromosomal aberrations and concomitant inactivation of *JAK1/2* genes
- T cell resistance due to silencing of genes involved in antigen presentation
- RIG-I activation in tumor cells overcomes silencing of antigen presentation genes in IFN-resistant melanoma cells and re-sensitizes tumor cells to autologous CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells



Sharma et al., *Cell* 2017

## Resistance mechanisms

### IFN $\gamma$ pathway mutations

Zaretsky et al., *NEJM* 2016  
Gao et al., *Cell* 2016  
Shin et al., *Cancer Discov* 2017  
Sucker et al., *Nat Commun* 2017

Melanoma - ICB  
Melanoma - ICB  
Melanoma - ICB  
Melanoma – non-ICB

### Loss of neoantigen expression

Anagnostou et al., *Cancer Discov* 2017

Lung

### HLA haplotype loss

McGranahan et al., *Cell* 2017  
Zhao et al., *Cancer Res* 2016

Lung - ICB  
Melanoma - non-ICB

### B2M deficiency

Zaretsky et al. *NEJM* 2016  
Gettlinger et al., *Cancer Discov* 2017  
Sade-Feldman et al., *Nat Commun* 2017  
Zhao et al., *Cancer Res* 2016  
Sucker et al., *Clin Cancer Res* 2014

Melanoma - ICB  
Lung - ICB  
Melanoma - ICB  
Melanoma – non-ICB  
Melanoma – non-ICB

## **Take home message**

- Early chromosomal aberrations predispose to acquired IFN $\gamma$  resistance and T cell resistance in melanoma
- Screening of patient metastases for chromosomal aberration and gene mutations prior to immunotherapy to define the risk of resistance development

## ‘Molecular Tumor Immunology’



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**Director: Dirk Schadendorf**

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Harvard Medical School, Medical Oncology, Boston, USA  
**Soldano Ferrone**

## Funding!

