"NCI Immunotherapy Agent Workshop" (July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2007)

### iSBTc 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting

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#### **Presenter Disclosure Information**

#### Mac Cheever

#### The following relationships exist related to this presentation:

GlaxoSmithKline Merck Vaccinex Vaccinoma The Vaccine Company Dendreon Licensed Intellectual property rights Cancer Vaccine Consultant Consultant Consultant Data Monitoring Committee Mock FDA Panel Member

#### Workshop Goal:

• To develop a ranked list of agents with high potential for use in cancer therapy

#### Problem:

 Many agents have the potential to serve as immunotherapeutic drugs

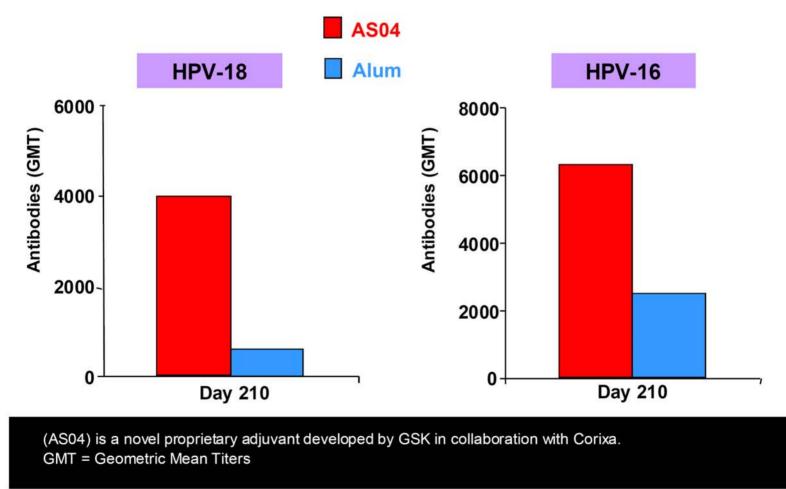
- Few are being tested in humans.

- Cancer vaccine example:
  - Agents needed to improve cancer vaccines are not commonly available
    - Adjuvants
    - T cell growth factors
    - T cell stimulating ligands & Ab
    - Immune checkpoint inhibitors
    - Agents to neutralize suppressive cells & cytokines

- Universal Truth
  - Adjuvants are needed to achieve highest levels of immune response

#### **HPV Vaccine**

#### Higher antibody levels with GSK Adjuvant (AS04) [AS04 = Alum + MPL (Monophosphoryl Lipid A)]



[JP Garnier, GSK CEO, Corporate Media Presentation Feb, 2005]

- By FDA policy & custom, adjuvants are approved only as components of vaccines
  - Accordingly
    - Commonest adjuvants used by academics
      - Dendritic cells
      - GM-CSF
    - If GM-CSF had activity only as an adjuvant, it would not be available for testing in cancer vaccines

- "Catch 22"
  - Adjuvants approved for non-adjuvant purposes are broadly available
  - Adjuvants that function only as adjuvants are not broadly available, regardless of potency

- "Majority of cancer drug development takes place post-approval"
  - Bob Capizzi
- Adjuvants are not approved and thus not available for cancer drug development

# Why aren't adjuvants available?

- NCI
  - ~ Billion(s) for vaccines & T cell therapy
    - Little for essential vaccine components
      - Researcher hands tied behind backs
- FDA
  - No clear path forward for broad testing & approval of adjuvants that aren't effective as monotherapy

# Why aren't adjuvants available?

- Industry
  - "Invisible hand of the market"
    - Rational decisions based on regulatory and commercial concerns
    - Don't see a clear path forward
    - Companies with great adjuvants
      - Develop them as monotherapy
      - Leave "on the shelf" if not successful as monotherapy

## Solution to agent availability?

- Small step
  - Developed an exceedingly well-vetted list with broad consensus of agents with "Highest Potential to Serve as Immunotherapeutic Drugs"
  - Purpose
    - To facilitate NCI discussions to address the availability of clinical grade immunotherapeutic drugs for human trials

#### BROAD INPUT & CONSENSUS Mandatory!

## BROAD INPUT: WEB Site to ask for agent suggestions

- Exceedingly well publicized
  - NCI
    - Immunotherapy grantees
    - RAID grantees
    - NCI Bulletin
  - Scientific societies
    - AAI
    - AACR
    - ASH
    - ASCO
    - iSBTc
    - CVC

## NCI WEB SITE: Submissions

- Total Agents Suggested = 124
  - All with demonstrated immunological or physiological function
- Broad desire for:
  - Vaccine adjuvants
  - T cell growth factors
  - Agents to inhibit immune checkpoint blockade
  - Functional antibodies, cytokines, ligands & receptors
    - To activate or augment T cell responses
    - To inhibit suppressor circuits
  - Agents "left on the shelf" by drug companies.

Workshop: July 12<sup>th</sup> 2007

- Ranked top 30 agents
  - Winnowed from 124 by organizing committee
- Focused on agents with greatest potential for broad usage
  - Excluded
    - Specific antigens for vaccines
    - Antigen-specific antibodies
    - Regardless of attractiveness or potential utility

- Criteria used for inclusion on ranked list
  - Potential for use in cancer therapy
  - Perceived need by multiple, independent clinical investigators
  - Potential use in more than one clinical setting
    - i.e., against different tumor types or as part of multiple therapy regimens
  - Not broadly available for testing in patients
  - Not commercially available or likely to be approved for commercial use in the near future
- <u>Criteria</u> not used
  - Prior failed attempts to commercialize
  - Intellectual property

#### **Organizing Committee**

- AAI/AACR Extramural Immunology Expert Steering <u>Committee</u>
- Martin A. "Mac" Cheever, M.D. Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center
- Jim Allison PhD Memorial Sloan-Kettering
- Olivera Finn PhD University of Pittsburgh
- Ira Melman MD PhD Yale/Genentech
- Drew Pardoll MD PhD Johns
  Hopkins
- Ralph Steinman PhD Rockefeller Institute
- Louis Weiner MD Fox Chase

- NCI DCB & DCTD
- Steve Creekmore, M.D., Ph.D. Biological Resources Branch
- Richard Camalier, RAID, DTP, DCTD, NCI
- Jerry Collins, Ph.D. Developmental Therapeutics Program
- Jill Johnson, DTP, DCTD, NCI
- **Toby Hecht, Ph.D.** Biological Resources Branch
- Kevin Howcroft, Ph.D. Division of Computational Bioscience
- Susan McCarthy, Ph.D. Division of Cancer Biology
- Robert Mufson, Ph.D. Division of Cancer Biology
- Howard Streicher, M.D. CTEP
- James Zwiebel, M.D. CTEP

#### Workshop Participants

- Selected from suggestions by – AACR, AAI, ASCO, ASH, CVC & iSBT
  - NCI intramural & extramural
- Broad representation
  - Academia
  - Industry
  - NCI
- Observers invited & asked to comment
  - Industry
  - NCI
  - FDA
- Workshop was open to the public

#### Workshop Participants

- Chairpersons
- Martin A. "Mac" Cheever, M.D. Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research
- Steve Creekmore, M.D., Ph.D. Biological Resources Branch, NCI
- Participants
- Jay Berzofsky, M.D., Ph.D. Vaccine Branch, CRC, NCI
- Frank Calzone, Ph.D. Amgen, Inc
- Mary Lenora Disis, M.D. University of Washington
- William Ho, M.D., Ph.D. Genentech, Inc.
- Alan Houghton, M.D. Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
- Elizabeth Jaffee, M.D. Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine
- Crystal Mackall, M.D. Pediatric Oncology Branch, NCI
- Kim Margolin, M.D. City of Hope
- Michael Morin, Ph.D. Pfizer
- Anna Karolina Palucka, M.D., Ph.D. Baylor Research Institute

#### Workshop Participants

- Drew Pardoll, M.D., Ph.D. Johns Hopkins University
- George Prendergast, Ph.D. Lankenau Institute for Medical Research
- Ellis Reinherz, M.D. Harvard Medical School
- Steven Rosenberg, M.D., Ph.D. Surgery Branch, CCR, NCI
- Jeffrey Schlom, Ph.D. Laboratory of Tumor Immunology and Biology, NCI
- Paul Sondel, M.D., Ph.D. University of Wisconsin
- Walter Urba, M.D., Ph.D. Robert W. Franz Cancer Research Center
- Thomas A. Waldmann, MD CCR, NCI
- Jeffrey Weber, M.D., Ph.D. H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center
- Louis Weiner, M.D. Fox Chase Cancer Center
- Theresa Whiteside, Ph.D. University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute
- Jon Wigginton, M.D. Merck and Co., Inc

### **Invited Observers**

- FDA
  - Kimberly Benton, Ph.D. CBER, FDA
  - Raj Puri, M.D., Ph.D. CBER, FDA
  - Amy Rosenberg, M.D. DTP, FDA
  - Daniel Takefman, Ph.D. CBER, FDA
- Industry
  - Lothar Finke, M.D. Argos Therapeutics, Inc.
  - Jesus Gomez-Navarro, M.D. Pfizer Global
  - Steve Herrman, Ph.D. Wyeth Research
  - David Urdal, Ph.D. Dendreon Corporation
- NCI
  - Robert Wiltrout, Ph.D. CCR, NCI

#### Process

- Agents presented by a Workshop Participant
  - PowerPoint slides based on a standard template
  - Comments by secondary and tertiary reviewer
- Agents ranked at end of each presentation by consensus
- Final Ranking by e-mail ballots – After e-mail comments/discussion
- Slides and Workshop report are available online

http://web.ncifcrf.gov/research/brb/site/home.asp

#### **Ranked List**

#### 1. IL-15 T Cell Growth Factor

- Made by DCs, macrophages, & stromal cells
  - Not by T cells
- Acts on CD8+ & CD4+ T cells, NK & mast cells.
  - Inhibits antigen-induced cell death T cells (in contrast to IL-2)
  - Promotes induction of longer-lived and higher-avidity CD8+ T cells

## 2. Anti-PD1 and/or anti–B7-H1 (PD1L) T-Cell Checkpoint Blockade Inhibitor

- PD1 (Programmed Death 1)
  - Structurally related to \*\*CTLA-4 and CD28
    - Member of the immunoglobulin super family
  - Up-regulated on activated T and B cells and monocytes.
- Abrogation of PD-1 increases the numbers of functional cytokine-secreting CTLs
- \*\*Anti-CTLA4 not ranked
  - Considered close to approval and thus soon to be "broadly available"

#### 3. IL-12 Vaccine Adjuvant

- Binds to IL-12 receptor on NK, T cells, DCs, & macrophages
  - Promotes IFN & induces Th1 polarization
- Exceedingly potent adjuvant

#### 4. Anti-CD40 and/or CD40L Antigen Presenting Cell Stimulator

- Antigen Presenting Cells (APC) activation & induction of T cell immunity
- Direct tumor inhibition (especially in CD40-bearing B-cell lymphomas)

#### 5. IL-7 T Cell Growth Factor / Adjuvant

- Required for T cell development & naive T cell survival in the periphery
- Phase I trials
  - Dramatic increases in total body CD4+ and CD8+ T cells
  - Modest increases in NK cells

#### 6. CpG Vaccine Adjuvant

- TLR-9 agonist
- Leads to B-cell proliferation and differentiation, maturation of plasmacytoid DCs, and activation NK cells

#### 7. 1-methyl tryptophan Enzyme Inhibitor

- Small molecule
- Inhibits immunosuppressive enzyme IDO (indoleamine 2,3-dioxygenase)
  - IDO suppresses T cell activation via tryptophan catabolism

#### 8. Anti-CD137 (anti–4-1BB) T-Cell Stimulator

- CD137 is a member of the TNF super family of receptors
  - On activated T cells, NK cells & NK T cells
- Co-stimulatory, anti-apoptotic & proliferative

#### 9. Anti–TGF-beta Signaling Inhibitor

- Complex biology
- Inhibits CTL-mediated tumor immunosurveilance

## 10. Anti–IL-10 receptor or anti–IL-10 Suppression Inhibitor

- Neutralization of IL-10
  - Complex biology
    - Both immunosuppressive & immunostimulatory activities
  - Blockade diminishes Treg effect

#### 11. Flt3 Ligand DC Growth Factor/Vaccine Adjuvant

- Hematopoietic growth factor
- Binds to the Flk2/Flt3 receptor tyrosine kinase in the c-kit/fms family
- Induces expansion and differentiation of DC progenitors in human clinical trials

#### 12. Anti-GITR T-Cell Stimulator

- Glucocorticoid-induced TNF receptor
  - Constitutively expressed at high levels by Tregs
    - Minimally by naïve CD4+ and CD8+ T cells
  - Signaling abrogates Treg suppressive activity in vitro
  - Co-stimulatory for effector CD4+ and CD8+ T cells.

#### 13. CCL21 Adenovirus T-Cell Attracting Chemokine

- Secondary lymphoid tissue chemokine
- Strong attractant of naïve T cells and mature DCs via CCR7

#### 14. MPL Vaccine Adjuvant

- Monophosphoryl lipid A
  - Component of lipopolysaccharide (LPS), or endotoxin
- TLR4 agonist
  - Used in >100,000 patients

## 15. Poly I:C and/or poly ICLC Vaccine Adjuvant

- Double-stranded polyinosinic:polycytidylic acid
- TLR-3 agonist
  - Strong activators of Th1 responses, CD8 T cells, and natural killer cells

#### 16. Anti-OX40 T-Cell Stimulator

- OX40 (CD134)
  - Co-stimulatory receptor for CD4+ and CD8+ T cells
  - Involved in signaling for T cell survival, generation of memory T cells, and reactivation of memory T cell responses
  - Seems to inhibit Tregs in vitro

#### 17. Anti–B7-H4 T-Cell Checkpoint Blockade Inhibitor

- B7-H4
  - Structure similar to B7-1,2
    - But lacks binding sequences for CTLA-4 or CD28
  - Expressed on activated T cells, B cells, DCs, monocytes, and tumor-associated macrophages
  - Increase expression on Tregs enable antigenpresenting cell-suppressive activity
    - A process that is IL-10 dependent.
- Blockade increases T cell proliferation & reduced tumor volumes in vivo

18. Resiquimod and/or 852A Vaccine Adjuvant

- TLR7/8 agonists
  - Biology is similar to imiquimod (TLR7 agonist)
- Induces production of IFN-alpha, IL- 6, IL-8, IL -12; TNF-alpha
  - Stimulates the innate immunity
    - Leads Th1 responses

#### 19. LIGHT and/or LIGHT vector T-Cell Stimulator

- TNF superfamily member
- Co-stimulatory activity on T cells through expression of herpes virus entry mediator (HVEM

- LIGHT-HVEM interactions mediate GVHD

#### 20. Anti–LAG-3 T-Cell Checkpoint Blockade Inhibitor

- Lymphocyte Activation Gene 3/ CD223
  - Negative regulator of activated T cells
    - Expressed on activated NK & T cells
    - Not on resting lymphocytes
  - Selectively up-regulated on Tregs

1. IL-15 2. Anti-PD1 and/or anti-B7-H1 (PD1L) 3. IL-12 4. Anti-CD40 and/or CD40L 5. IL-7 6. CpG 7. 1-methyl tryptophan 8. Anti-CD137 (anti-4-1BB) 9. Anti-TGF-beta 10. Anti-IL-10 receptor or anti-IL-10 11. Flt3L 12. Anti-GITR 13. CCL21 Adv 14. MPL 15. Poly I:C and/or poly ICLC 16. Anti-OX40 17. Anti-B7-H4 18. Resiguimod and/or 852A 19. LIGHT and/or LIGHT vector 20. Anti–LAG-3

T Cell Growth Factor **T-Cell Checkpoint Inhibitor** Vaccine Adjuvant **APC Stimulator** T Cell Growth Factor Vaccine Adjuvant **Enzyme Inhibitor T-Cell Stimulator Signaling Inhibitor** Suppression Inhibitor DC Growth Factor/Adjuvant **T-Cell Stimulator T-Cell Attracting Chemokine** Vaccine Adjuvant Vaccine Adjuvant **T-Cell Stimulator T-Cell Checkpoint Inhibitor** Vaccine Adjuvant **T-Cell Stimulator T-Cell Checkpoint Inhibitor** 

We have a well vetted list with broad in put.

• What next?

#### Possible positive outcomes

- Encouragement of RAID applications for manufacture
- NCI distribution of company-manufactured agents
- Reinvigoration of pharma/biotech efforts to develop agents
- Provide a benchmark for the strength & resolve of the national cancer therapy development enterprise