

Novel cell therapies for sarcoma

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Disclosures

Consulting /Advisory Role

- Adaptimmune, GI Innovation Inc, Ratio therapeutics, Replimmune, Incyte, Medendi, Piper Sandler & Co

Objectives

Current data with T cell therapy in sarcoma

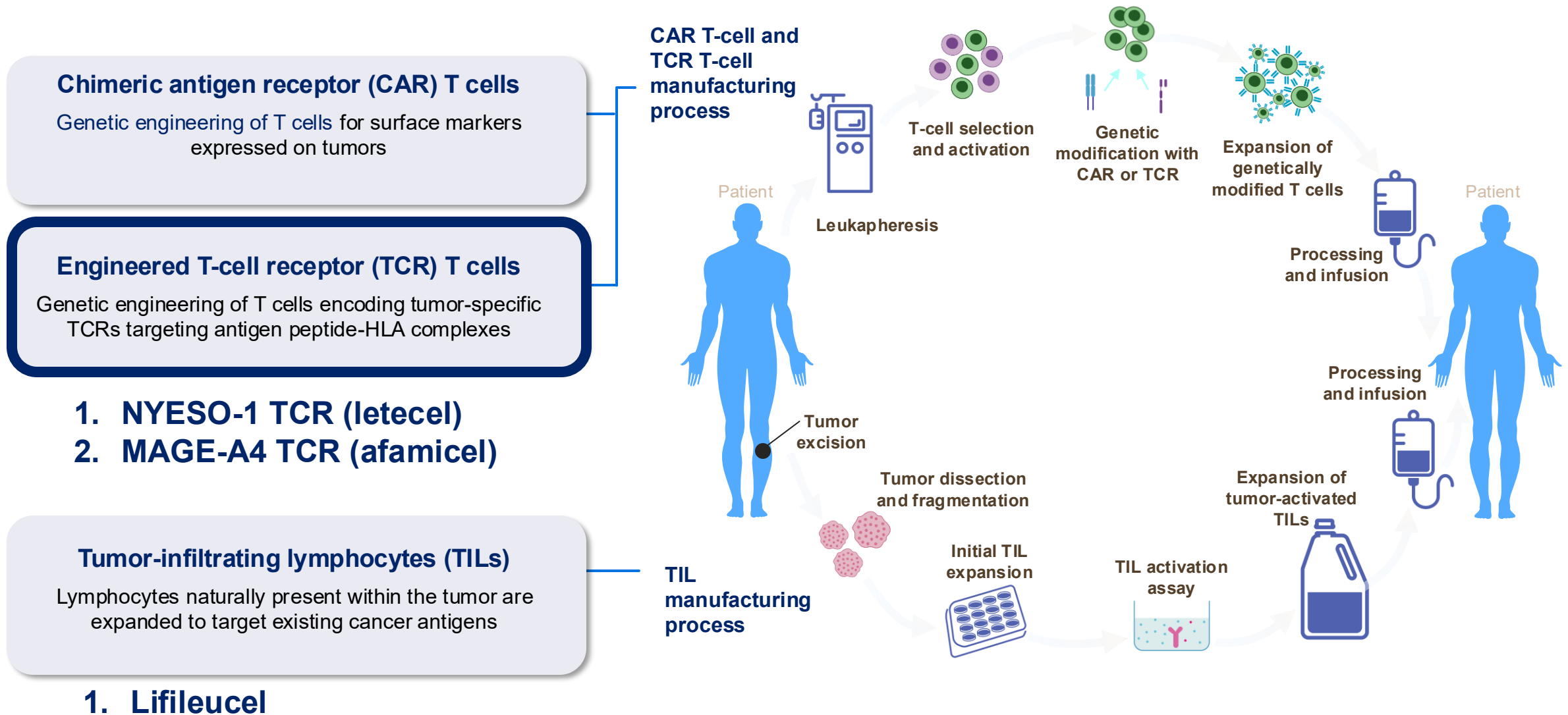
Determining mechanisms of response / resistance

- What do we know
- How can we learn more

Future alternative options

- Novel targets
- Alternative approaches (TIL)

Adoptive cell therapy (ACT): Expanding immunotherapy options to cold tumors



Cancer Testis Antigens (CTAs) Are Proteins That Are Aberrantly Expressed in Many Different Cancers

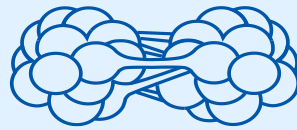
Normal expression pattern of CTA^{2,3}



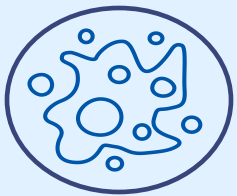
Embryos



Placenta

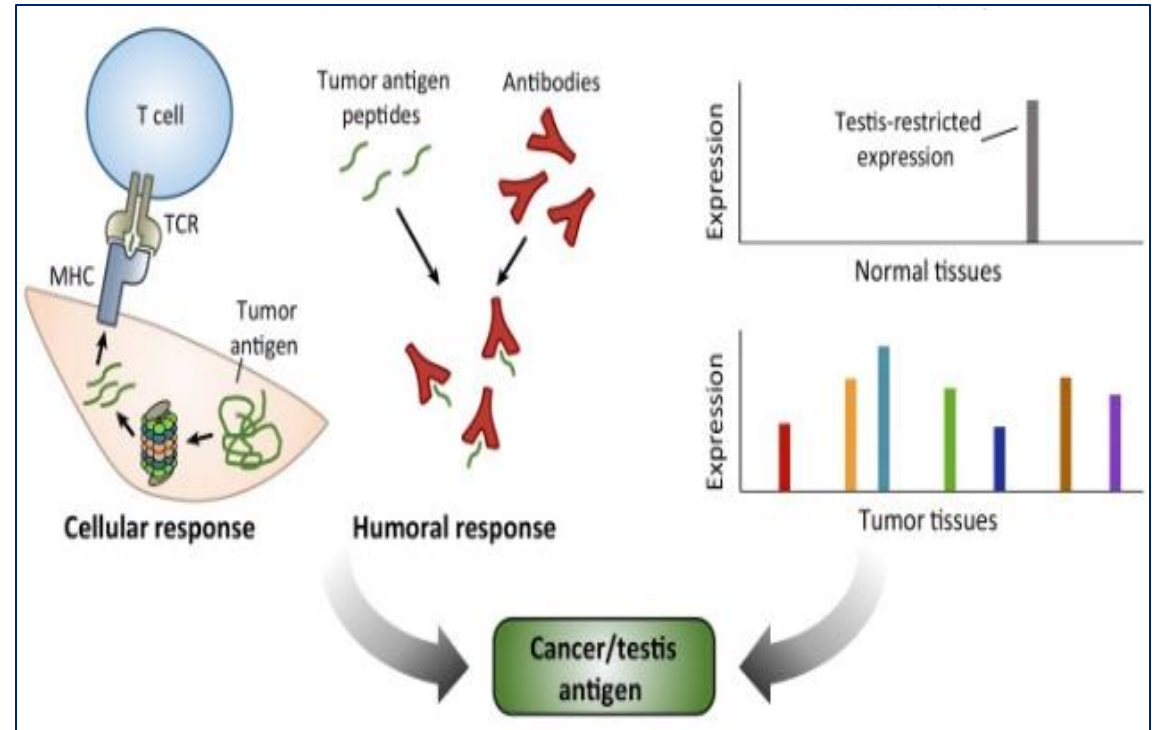


Testicular germ cells



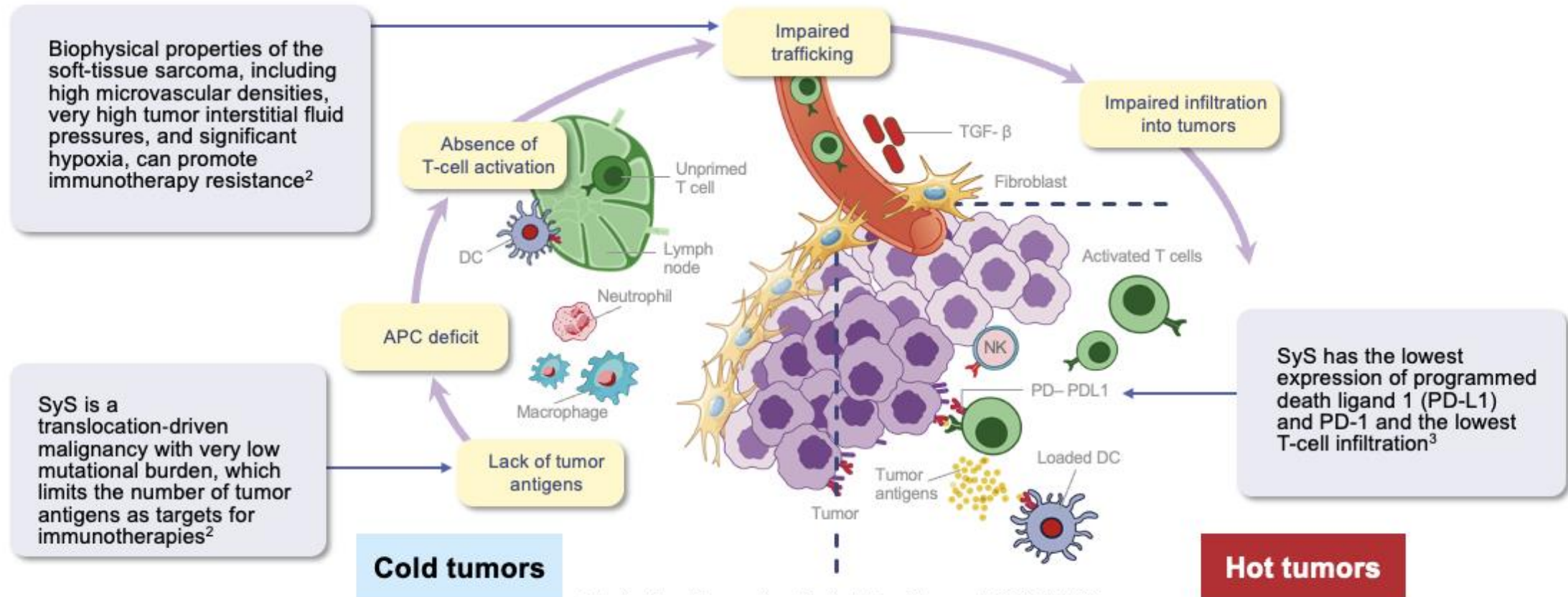
No or low expression in normal adult somatic cells

Cancer testis antigens are promising therapeutic targets



Synovial sarcoma is the prototypical immunologically “cold” solid tumor serving as an ideal model to explore T cell therapy

Characteristics distinguishing “cold” tumors and hot tumors



50% of patients with melanoma/synovial sarcoma treated with NYESO TCR + IL2 had decrease in tumor burden

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JOURNAL OF CLINICAL ONCOLOGY

ORIGINAL REPORT

Tumor Regression in Patients With Metastatic Synovial Cell Sarcoma and Melanoma Using Genetically Engineered Lymphocytes Reactive With NY-ESO-1

Paul F. Robbins, Richard A. Morgan, Steven A. Feldman, James C. Yang, Richard M. Sherry, Mark E. Dudley, John R. Wunderlich, Azam V. Nahvi, Lee J. Helman, Crystal L. Mackall, Udai S. Kammula, Marybeth S. Hughes, Nicholas P. Restifo, Mark Raffeld, Chyi-Chia Richard Lee, Catherine L. Levy, Yong F. Li, Mona El-Gamil, Susan L. Schwarz, Carolyn Laurencot, and Steven A. Rosenberg

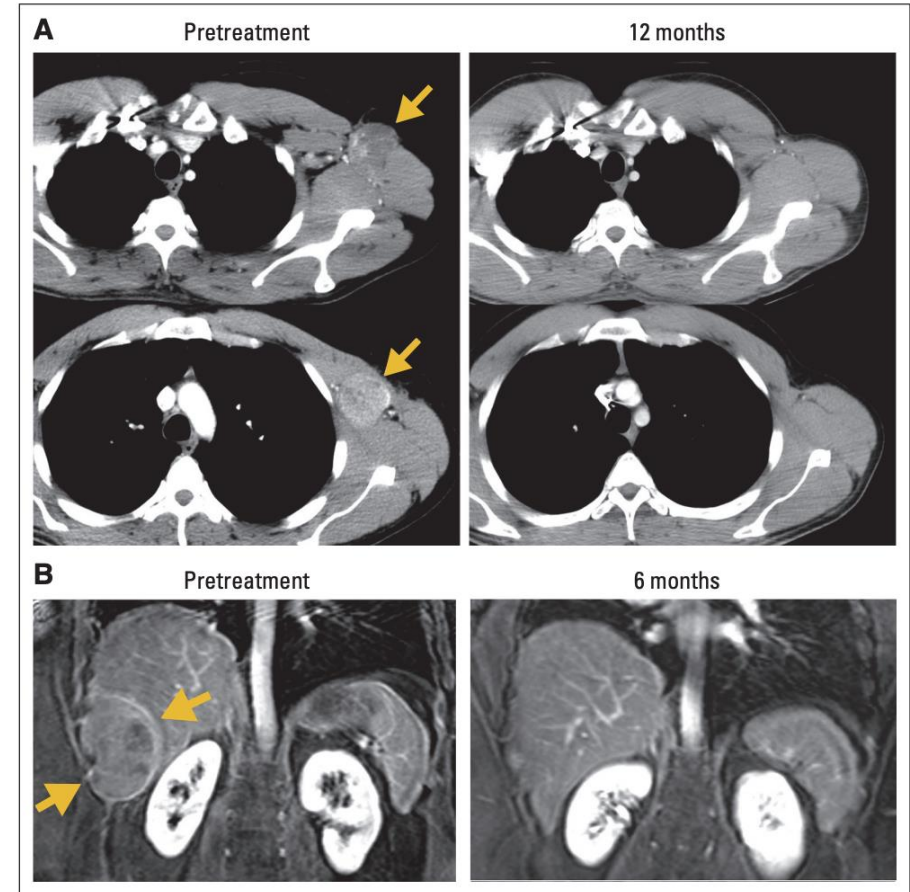
Synovial cell sarcoma														
12‡	20	M	lu, bo	R, S, C, I	83	5	82	8	77	64	91	10,065	117	PR (10)
13‡	37	F	lu	R, S, C	50	8	90	5	78	78	93	11,656	94	PR (18)
14‡	47	F	lu, ln	R, S, C	56	8	89	11	81	76	91	10,836	50	PR (5)
15‡	19	M	lu	R, S, C, I	16	5	46	40	67	63	89	5,371	< 30	PD
16	30	M	pl, hi	S, C	59	5	92	8	74	57	88	6,512	199	PR (8)
17	40	M	pl, hi	R, S, C	52	5	81	18	78	69	92	8,098	< 30	PD

Abbreviations: IL-2, interleukin-2; IFN- γ , interferon gamma; M, male; ln, lymph node; R, radiation; S, surgery; I, immunotherapy; PR, partial response; F, female; sc, subcutaneous; lu, lung; PD, progressive disease; bo, bone; panc, pancreas; sb, small bowel; ki, kidney; CR, complete response; C, chemotherapy; br, brain; ND, not done; spl, spleen; pl, pleura; hi, hilum.

*Overnight cocultures of infusion samples were carried out with HLA-A*0201-positive tumor cell lines that either expressed (624 mel) or did not express (526 mel) NY-ESO-1.

†In parentheses are the durations of response in months from the day of cell infusion.

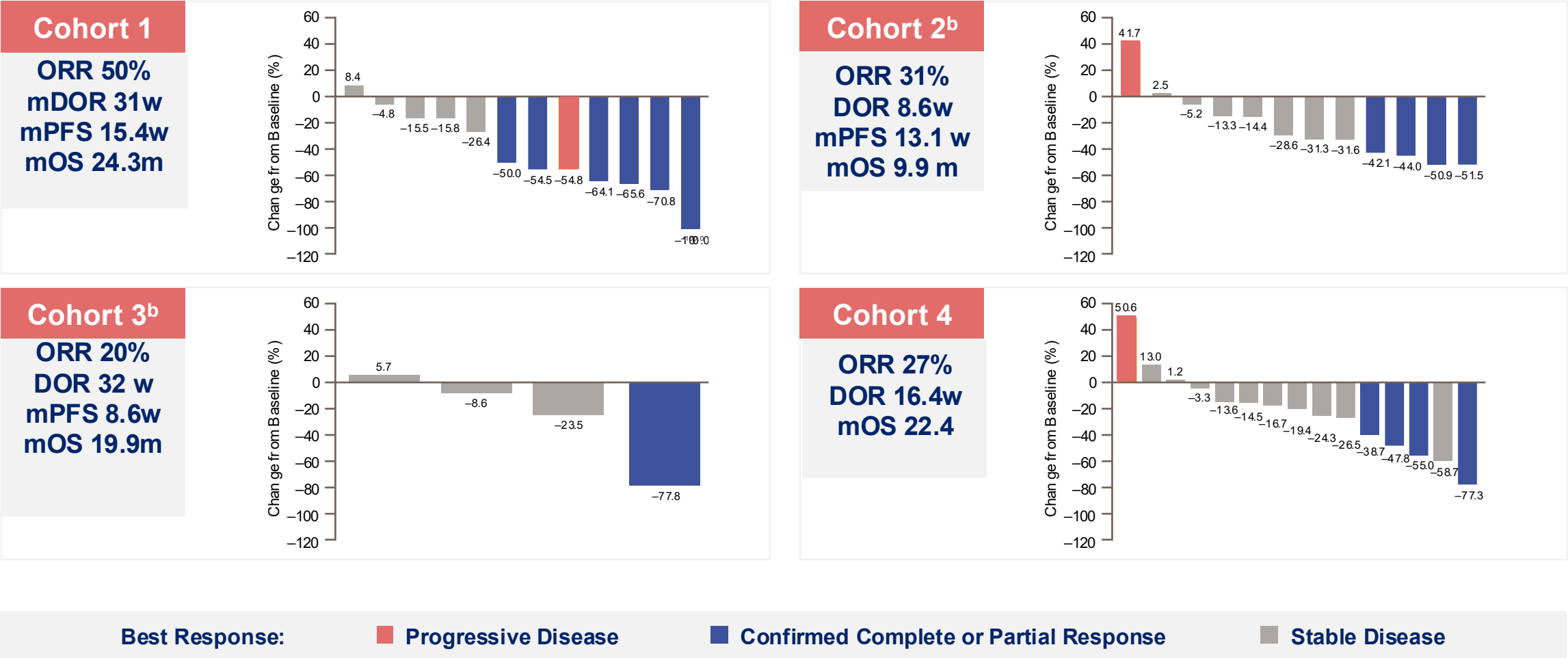
‡Patients 12, 14, and 15 received one (patients 14 and 15) or two (patient 12) additional infusions of 1G4- α 95LY-transduced T cells but did not respond to the treatments. Patient 13 received a second infusion of transduced T cells 9 months after the initial treatment and demonstrated a partial response lasting 18 months from the time of the initial treatment with transduced T cells.



Pilot study of NY-ESO-1 TCR (lete-cel) in synovial sarcoma

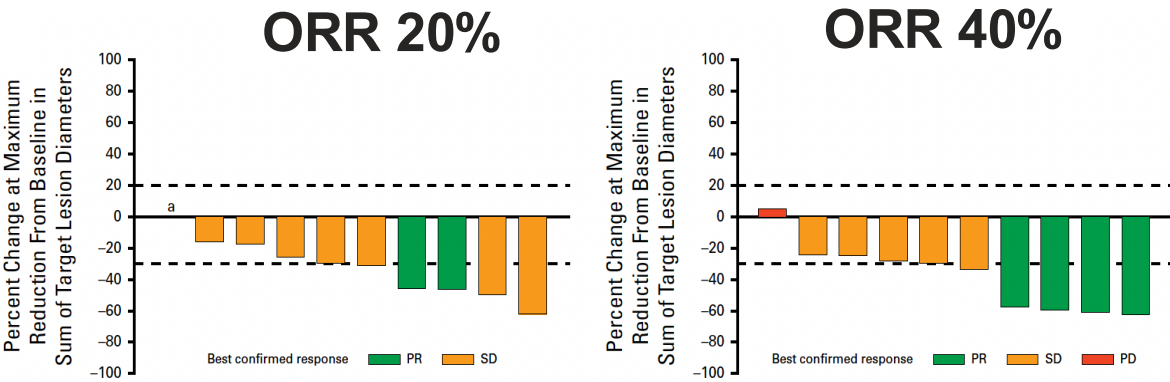
Cohort	NY-ESO-1 expression	Lymphodepletion regimen
1 (n=12)	HIGH	HIGH doses of fludarabine and cyclophosphamide
	IHC score 2+ or 3+ in ≥50% of tumor cells	Fludarabine 120 mg/m ² Cyclophosphamide 3600 mg/m ² IV
2 (n=13)	LOW	HIGH doses of fludarabine and cyclophosphamide
	IHC score ≥1+ in ≥1% cells but not exceeding 2+ or 3+ in ≥50% cells	Fludarabine 120 mg/m ² IV Cyclophosphamide 3600 mg/m ² IV
3 (n=5)	HIGH	HIGH dose of cyclophosphamide only
	IHC score 2+ or 3+ in ≥50% of tumor cells	Cyclophosphamide 3600 mg/m ² IV
4 (n=15)	HIGH	LOW doses of fludarabine and cyclophosphamide
	IHC score 2+ or 3+ in ≥50% of tumor cells	Fludarabine 90 mg/m ² Cyclophosphamide 1800 mg/m ²

ORR ranges from 20-50%, DOR 8-32 weeks

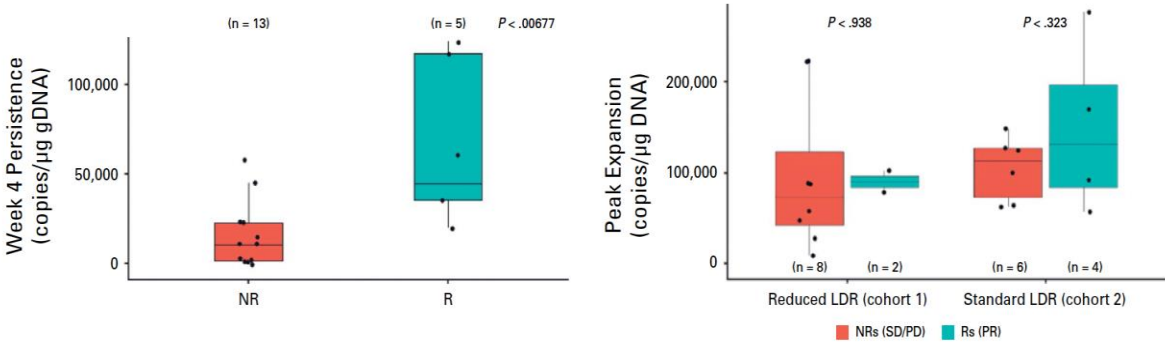


Letecel in myxoid round cell liposarcoma demonstrates promising efficacy

Parameter	Cohort 1: Reduced-Dose LDR (n = 10)	Cohort 2: Standard-Dose LDR (n = 10)
Sex, No. (%)		
Female	4 (40)	3 (30)
Male	6 (60)	7 (70)
Age, years, median ^a	52.5	41.0
Race, No. (%)		
White	9 (90)	10 (100)
Black	1 (10)	0
Disease stage at screening ^b		
No.	10	9 ^c
Stage IIIb, No. (%)	1 (10)	3 (33)
Stage IV, No. (%)	9 (90)	6 (67)
Range of tumor cells positive for NY-ESO-1 (2+/3+ per IHC) ^d	30-100	70-100
Range of H score for NY-ESO-1 expression	110-300	185-300
Percent of round cells, median (range)	22.5 (0-30) (n = 6)	16 (0-90) (n = 9)
Previous systemic therapy, ^{e,f} No. (%)	10 (100)	10 (100)
Median lines of systemic therapy before leukapheresis ^e	2.5	1
Type of chemotherapy before leukapheresis, No. (%) ^g		
Doxorubicin-based	8 (80)	8 (80)
Doxorubicin/ifosfamide	5 (50)	3 (30)
Trabectedin	7 (70)	4 (40)
Type of chemotherapy before diagnosis of advanced/metastatic disease (neoadjuvant/ adjuvant), No. (%)		
Doxorubicin-based	4 (40)	2 (20)
Doxorubicin/ifosfamide	4 (40)	2 (20)
Previous systemic therapy between apheresis and lymphodepletion, ^g No. (%)		
Chemotherapy	7 (70)	3 (30)
No chemotherapy	3 (30)	7 (70)
Type of bridging chemotherapy, ^g No. (%)		
Doxorubicin	3 (30)	2 (20)
Trabectedin	4 (40)	1 (10)
Eribulin	1 (10)	—
Median No. of transduced T cells in 10 ⁹ cells	4.7	4.6



Persistence and Expansion higher in responders



SPEARHEAD-1: Phase 2 Trial of Afami-cel in Patients With Advanced Synovial Sarcoma or MRCLS

Key eligibility

- Previously received either an anthracycline- or ifosfamide-containing regimen
- ECOG 1-2
- Age ≥ 16 and ≤ 75
- **HLA Screening** followed by **MAGE-A4 IHC testing**

Screening and key eligibility

Eligibility Assessment, Leukapheresis, and Manufacturing of Afami-cel

Baseline Tumor Measurements
Study Enrollment

Lymphodepletion

Afami-cel Infusion

Trial Assessments

- **Primary endpoint:** ORR by RECIST v1.1[†]
- Safety Monitoring
- Translational Studies

Long-term Follow-up

Years 1–15

Days
–7 to –4

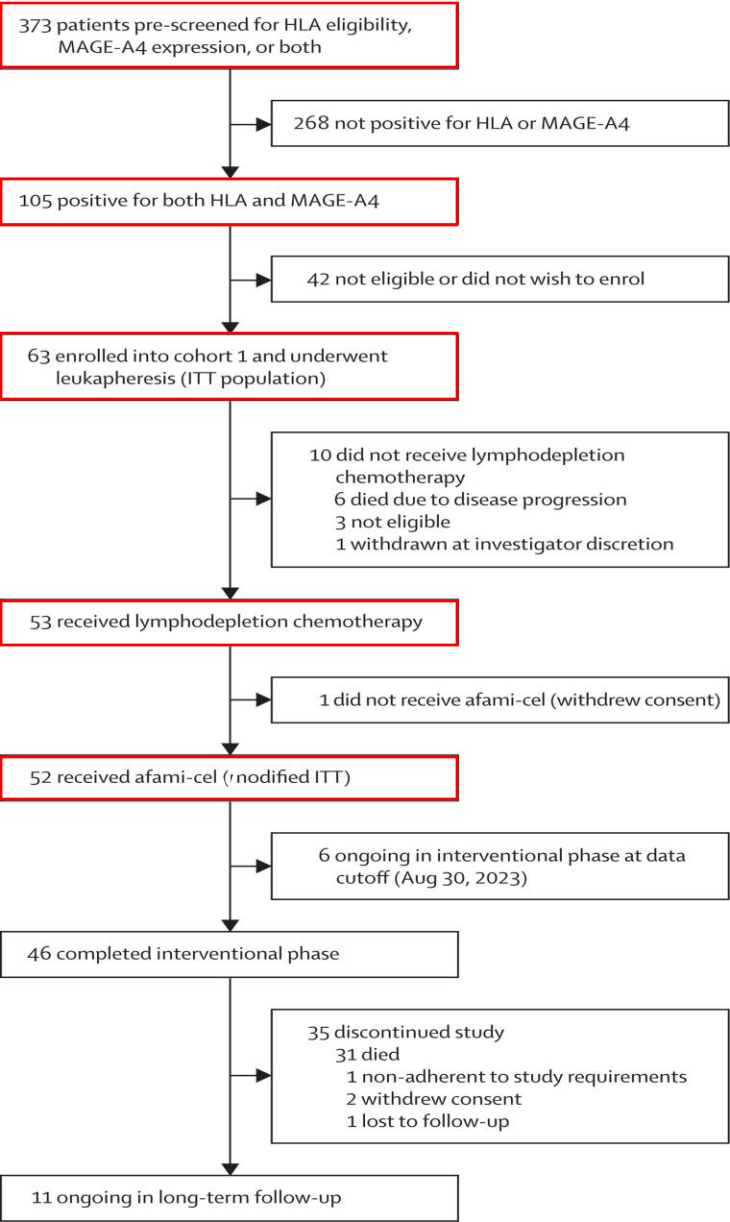
Day 1*

Day 2 Until End of
Interventional Phase

Approximately 90 patients are planned to be treated

- Cohort 1: 45 patients (enrollment complete)
- Cohort 2: 45 patients (recruiting SyS patients only)

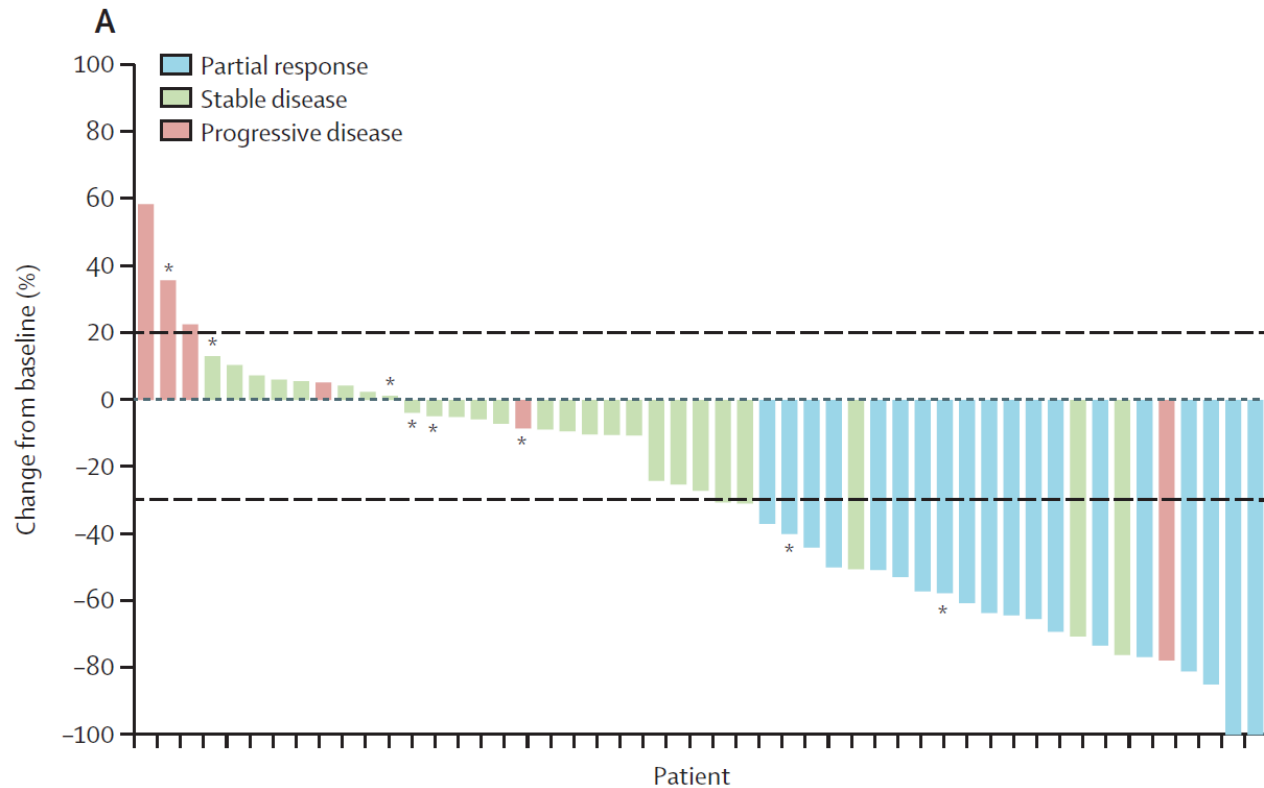
Afami-cel in synovial sarcoma



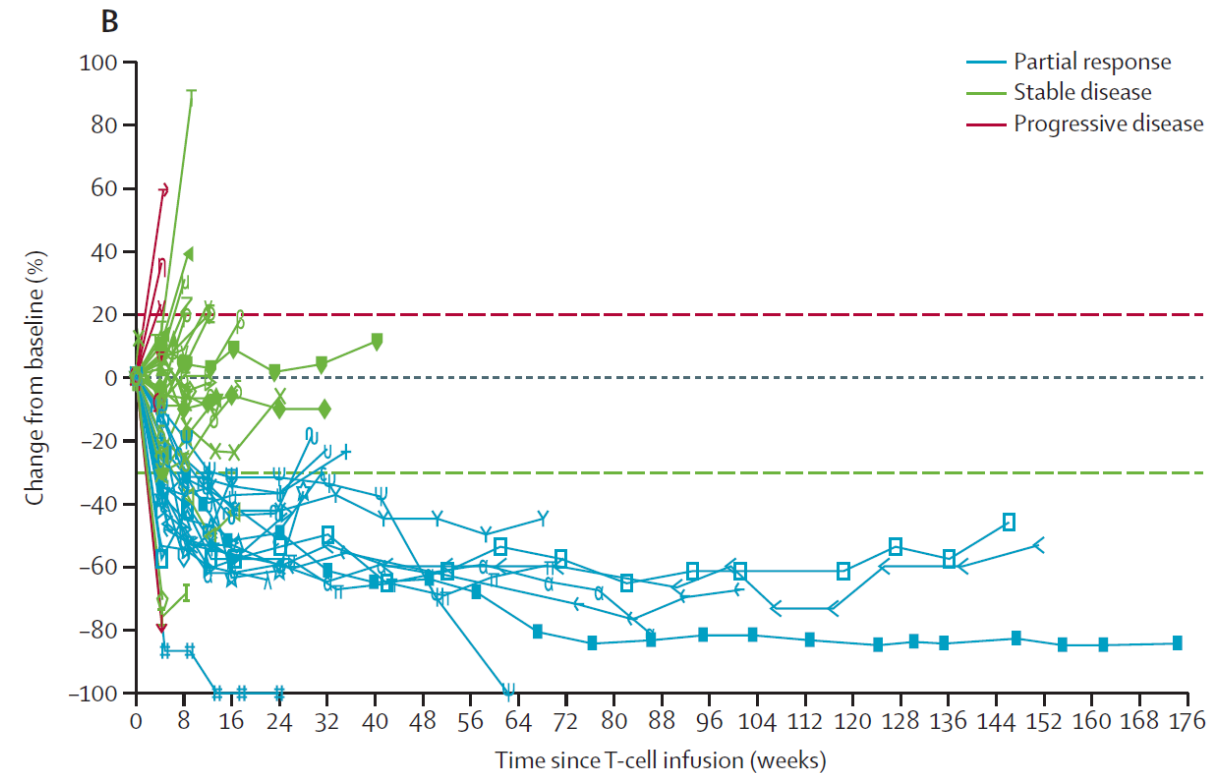
	Patients with synovial sarcoma (n=44)	Patients with myxoid round cell liposarcoma (n=8)	All patients (n=52)
Age at consent, years	40.5 (31.0–46.0)	43.5 (32.5–54.5)	41.0 (31.0–46.5)
Sex			
Female	22 (50%)	2 (25%)	24 (46%)
Male	22 (50%)	6 (75%)	28 (54%)
Race			
Asian	3 (7%)	0	3 (6%)
Black or African American	2 (5%)	0	2 (2%)
White	39 (89%)	6 (75%)	45 (87%)
Unknown	0	2 (25%)	2 (4%)
Ethnicity			
Hispanic or Latino	2 (5%)	0	2 (4%)
Not Hispanic or Latino	38 (86%)	5 (63%)	43 (83%)
Not reported	4 (9%)	2 (25%)	6 (12%)
Unknown	0	1 (13%)	1 (2%)
Geographical region			
Europe	12 (27%)	1 (13%)	13 (25%)
Canada and the USA	31 (70%)	6 (75%)	37 (71%)
UK	1 (2%)	1 (13%)	2 (4%)
Histological grade			
Well differentiated	0	2 (25%)	2 (4%)
Moderately well differentiated	9 (25%)	0	9 (17%)
Poorly differentiated	22 (50%)	4 (50%)	26 (50%)
Undifferentiated	4 (9%)	1 (13%)	5 (10%)
Unknown	9 (20%)	1 (13%)	10 (19%)
Stage of cancer at last staging			
II	2 (5%)	0	2 (4%)
III	1 (2%)	0	1 (2%)
IV	35 (80%)	6 (75%)	41 (79%)
Unknown*	6 (14%)	2 (25%)	8 (15%)
Previous lines of systemic therapy			
1	7 (16%)	3 (38%)	10 (19%)
2	14 (32%)	1 (13%)	15 (29%)
3	9 (20%)	0	9 (17%)
≥4	14 (32%)	4 (50%)	18 (35%)
Received bridging therapy			
Yes	16 (36%)	4 (50%)	20 (38%)
Pazopanib	11 (25%)	0	11 (21%)
Trabectedin	1 (2%)	2 (25%)	3 (6%)
Ifosfamide	3 (7%)	0	3 (6%)
Doxorubicin	1 (2%)	1 (13%)	2 (4%)
Docetaxel	0	1 (13%)	1 (2%)
No	28 (64%)	4 (50%)	32 (62%)
ECOG performance status			
0	23 (52%)	4 (50%)	27 (52%)
1	20 (45%)	4 (50%)	24 (46%)
2†	1 (2%)	0	1 (2%)

(Table 1 continues on next page)

Afami-cel in synovial sarcoma

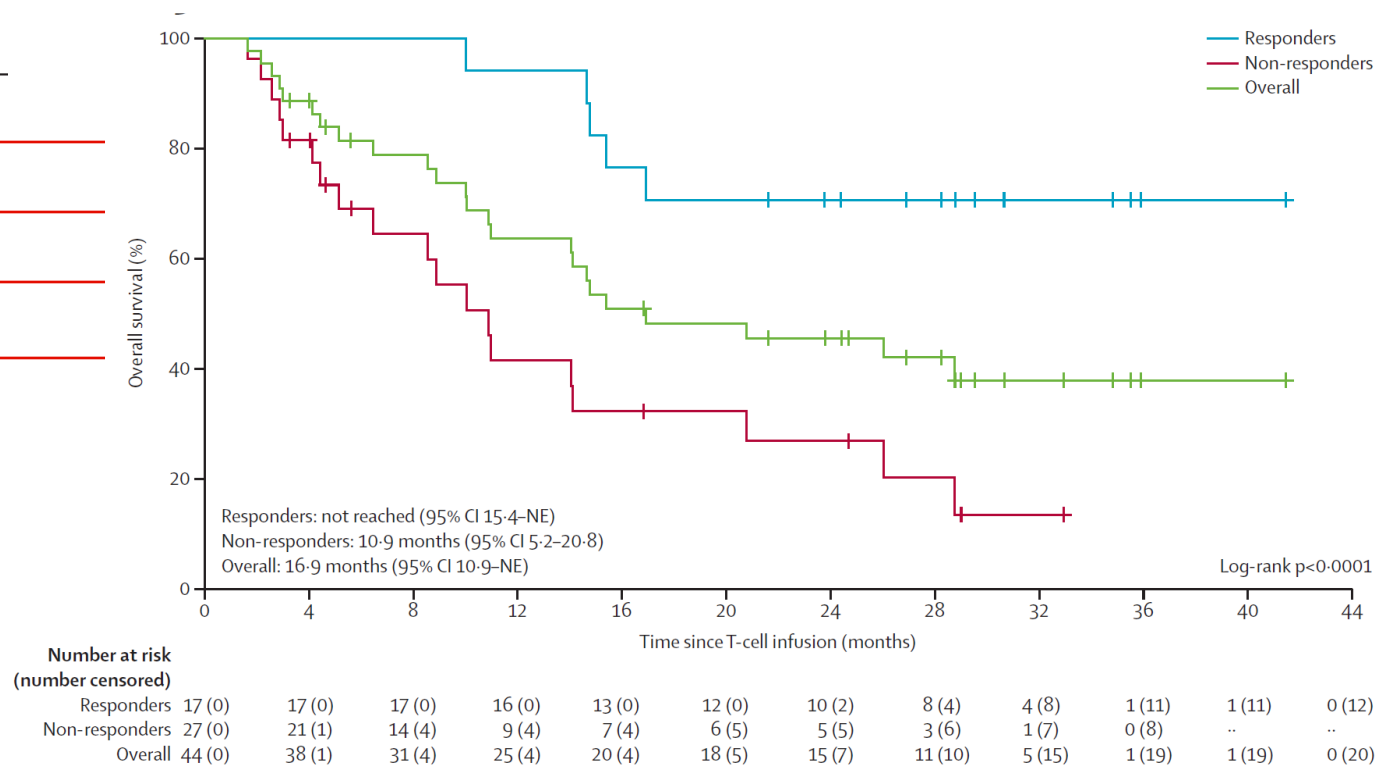
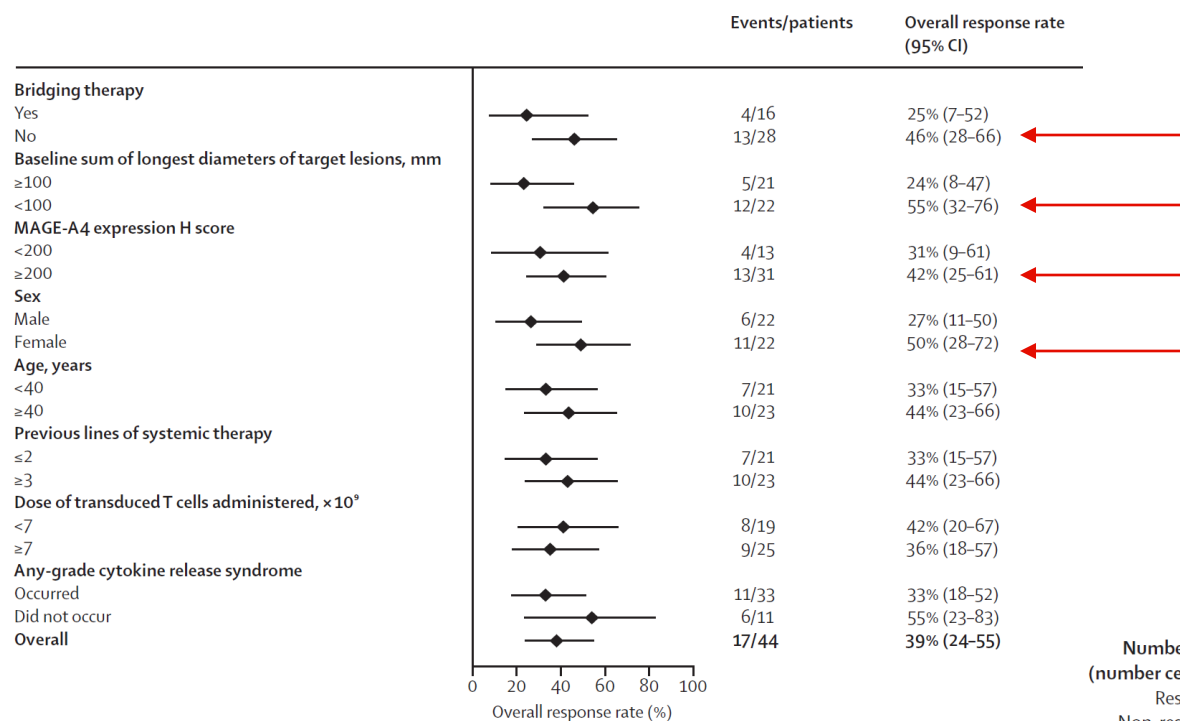


ORR 39% (17/44)



Median duration of response
12 months

Afami-cel in synovial sarcoma: trend towards improved efficacy in those with lower disease burden, lack of bridging, higher MAGE4 expression



Median overall survival 16.9 months

Median overall survival for responders not yet reached

Afamicel adverse events

	Grade 1–2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Overall
Cytokine release syndrome	36 (69%)	1 (2%)	0	37 (71%)
Decreased white blood cell count or leukopenia	1 (2%)	8 (15%)	5 (10%)	14 (27%)
Pyrexia	10 (19%)	1 (2%)	1 (2%)	12 (23%)
Decreased neutrophil count or neutropenia	1 (2%)	5 (10%)	6 (12%)	12 (23%)
Decreased lymphocyte count or lymphopenia	0	3 (6%)	6 (12%)	9 (17%)
Nausea	6 (12%)	0	0	6 (12%)
Fatigue	6 (12%)	0	0	6 (12%)
Decreased platelet count or thrombocytopenia	3 (6%)	1 (2%)	2 (4%)	6 (12%)
Weight loss	2 (4%)	1 (2%)	0	3 (6%)
Febrile neutropenia	1 (2%)	2 (4%)	0	3 (6%)
Decreased haemoglobin or anaemia	1 (2%)	2 (4%)	0	3 (6%)
Pancytopenia	0	1 (2%)	1 (2%)	2 (4%)
Dyspnoea	1 (2%)	1 (2%)	0	2 (4%)
Hyponatraemia	0	1 (2%)	0	1 (2%)
Pleural effusion	0	1 (2%)	0	1 (2%)
Pleuritic pain	0	1 (2%)	0	1 (2%)
Pulmonary embolism	0	1 (2%)	0	1 (2%)
Deep vein thrombosis	0	1 (2%)	0	1 (2%)
Superior vena cava occlusion	0	1 (2%)	0	1 (2%)
Empyema	0	1 (2%)	0	1 (2%)
Anuria	0	1 (2%)	0	1 (2%)
Hepatic cytolysis	0	1 (2%)	0	1 (2%)

Data are n (%). Grade 1–2 events are reported here if they occurred in more than 10% of patients. All grade 3 and 4 events are shown. No treatment-related deaths (grade 5 events) occurred.

Table 2: Adverse events related to T-cell infusion in the modified intention-to-treat population (n=52) as of March 29, 2023

CRS occurred in 71% (33/44) patients, including Grade ≥ 3 in 2% (1/44) of patients

Median time to onset of 2 (range: 1–5) days

Median time to resolution of 3 (range: 1–14) days

One patient experienced immune effector cell–associated neurotoxicity syndrome ICANS resolved in 1 day

Cyopenias (leukopenia, neutropenia, lymphopenia, thrombocytopenia, anemia) occurred in up to 27% of patients

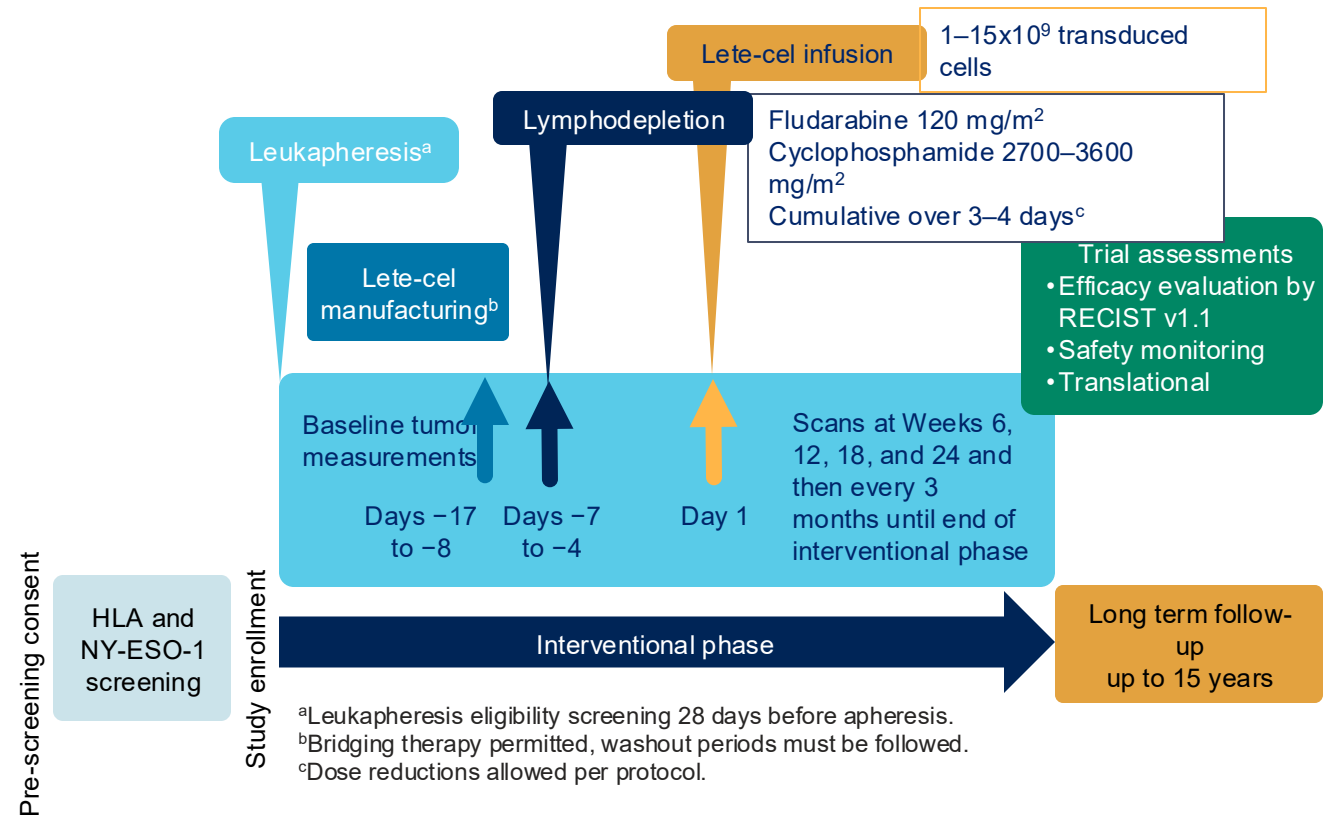
IGNYTE-ESO Study: Letecel in synovial sarcoma/MRCLS

Eligibility

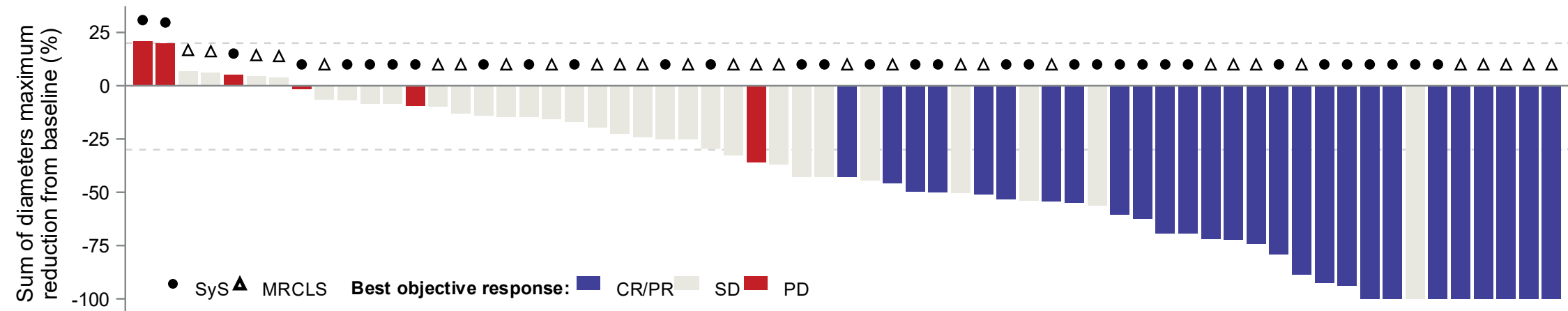
- HLA-A*02:01, *02:05, or *02:06 positive
- Aged ≥ 10 years
- NY-ESO-1–expressing ($\geq 30\%$ staining at 2+/3+ per IHC) metastatic or unresectable SyS or MRCLS
- ECOG PS 0–1
- Must have started/received anthracycline-based chemotherapy before apheresis
- Must have progression on their last prior line of therapy (bridging therapy excluded) and measurable disease per RECIST v1.1 before lymphodepletion

Endpoints

- Primary: ORR per RECIST v1.1 by central independent review
- Secondary include: Safety, time to response, duration of response, disease control rate, PFS, OS

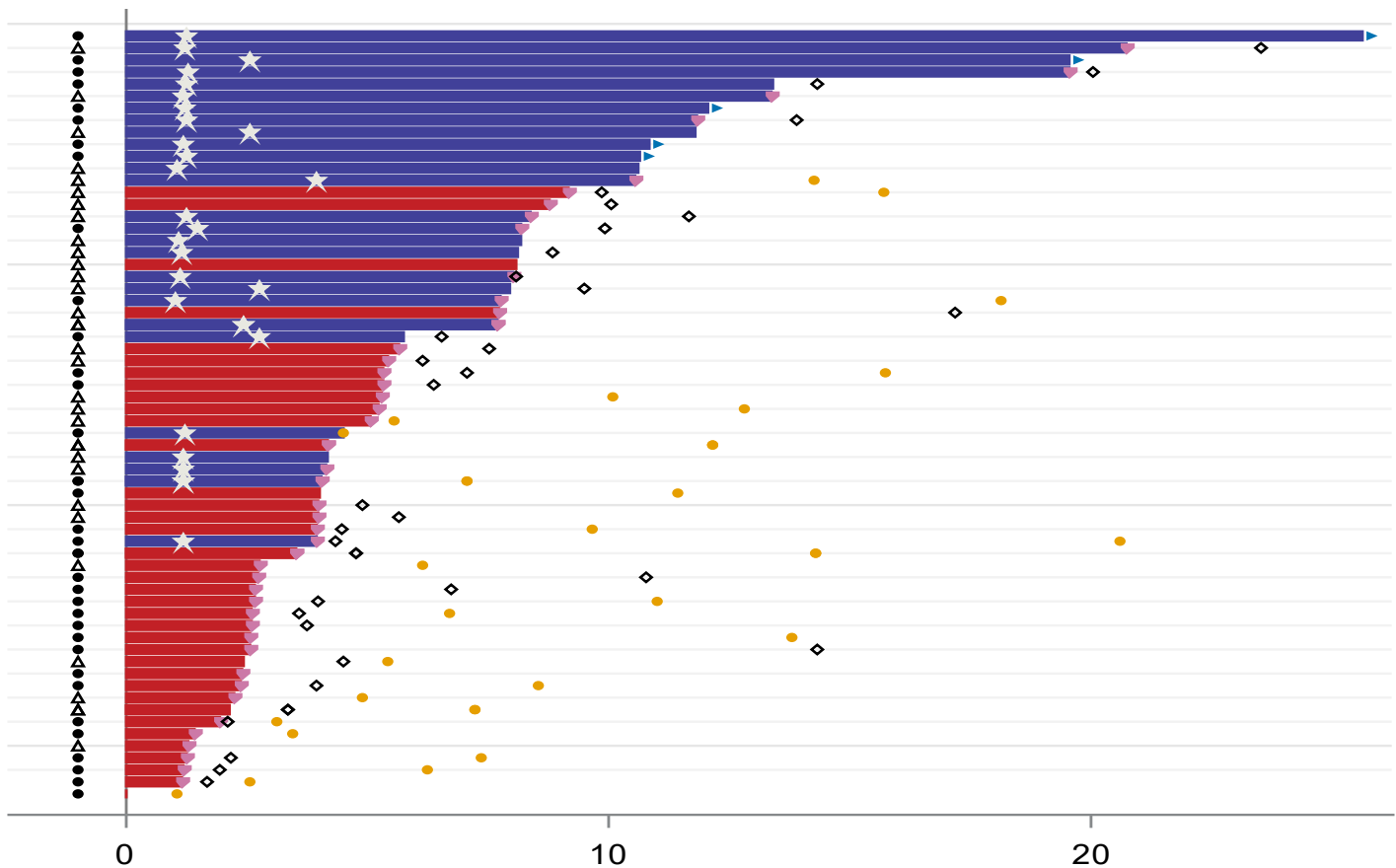


ORR at Primary Analysis: 42%



Best overall response, n (%)	Overall (N=64)	SyS (n=34)	MRCLS (n=30)
CR	6 (9)	3 (9)	3 (10)
PR	21 (33)	11 (32)	10 (33)
SD	30 (47)	14 (41)	16 (53)
PD	6 (9)	5 (15)	1 (3)
NE	1 (2)	1 (3)	0
ORR [95% CI]	27 (42) [29.9–55.2]	14 (41) [24.6–59.3]	13 (43) [25.5–62.6]

Median duration of response 12.2 months



	Overall (N=64)	SyS (n=34)	MRCLS (n=30)
Duration of response, months, median (95% CI)	12.2 (6.8, 19.5)	18.3 (3.3, -)	12.2 (5.3, -)
Progression-free survival, months, median (95% CI)	5.3 (4.0, 8.0)	3.9 (2.6, 7.8)	7.7 (5.2, 9.2)

- Death
- ▲ Ongoing
- ▼ RECIST progression
- ★ First confirmed response
- ◆ Anti-cancer therapy
- SyS
- ▲ MRCLS
- Response
- Responder
- Non-responder

Treatment-Emergent Lymphodepletion-Related AEs

Lymphodepletion-related AEs in >15% of patients, N=66

Adverse event, n (%)	Any grade	Grade ≥3
Any event	65 (98)	59 (89)
Neutropenia	48 (73)	48 (73)
Thrombocytopenia	42 (64)	32 (48)
Anemia	41 (62)	29 (44)
Leukopenia	32 (48)	31 (47)
Febrile neutropenia	19 (29)	18 (27)
Fatigue	14 (21)	0
Alopecia	13 (20)	0
Diarrhea	13 (20)	0
Decreased appetite	12 (18)	2 (3)
Nausea	12 (18)	0
Aspartate aminotransferase increased	11 (17)	6 (9)
Hypophosphatemia	11 (17)	2 (3)

- There was one Grade 5 treatment-emergent lymphodepletion-related AE of pulmonary alveolar hemorrhage in the setting of pancytopenia, and a platelet count of 0 despite HLA-matched platelets and platelet-stimulating agents

Treatment-Emergent T Cell–Related AEs

T cell–related AEs in ≥15% of patients, N=66

Adverse event, n (%)	Any grade	Grade ≥3
Any event	64 (97)	56 (85)
Cytokine release syndrome	61 (92)	8 (12)
Rash (and associated terms)	42 (64)	23 (35)
Neutropenia	30 (45)	28 (42)
Anemia	26 (39)	22 (33)
Thrombocytopenia	23 (35)	20 (30)
Alanine aminotransferase increased	21 (32)	11 (17)
Pyrexia	20 (30)	2 (3)
Aspartate aminotransferase increased	19 (29)	6 (9)
Diarrhea	16 (24)	0
Leukopenia	16 (24)	15 (23)
Nausea	16 (24)	0
Hypophosphatemia	13 (20)	0
Febrile neutropenia	12 (18)	11 (17)
Pruritus	12 (18)	0
Dyspnea	11 (17)	3 (5)
Headache	10 (15)	0

Cytokine release syndrome (CRS)^a

- Median time of onset: 2 days (range 1 to 9)
- Median duration: 7 days (range 2 to 51)
- Among the patients with CRS, 79% required tocilizumab, 27% corticosteroids, and 6% anakinra

Rash (and associated terms)^a

- “Rash maculopapular” was most common rash AE reported
- Median time of onset: 7 days (range: 2–332)
- Median duration: 22 days (range: 1–498)

Neurological

- ICANS occurred in four (6%) patients, all Grade 1

Grade 5 related AE

- There was one T cell-related AE of cardiac arrest, attributed primary pulmonary etiology

More than a decade of T cell therapy in sarcoma: Lessons learned

2013

Protocol 13:236
Lete-cel (NYESO-1) TCR in
synovial sarcoma

ORR 20-50%
DOR 15-30 weeks

- **Higher LDR impacts efficacy (Flu 120mg/m² + Cy 2700mg/m²)**
- **Bridging therapy is essential option**
- Correlates of response: expansion, persistence, IL15 levels, depletion of lymphocytes
- Correlates of resistance: loss of HLA expression & Ag presenting machinery

2016

Protocol 16:1406
Lete-cel (NYESO-1) TCR in
myxoid round cell
liposarcoma

ORR 20-40%
DOR 5-7m

- Correlates of response: Expansion, persistence, IL15 levels, depletion of lymphocytes
- **Tocilizumab doesn't appear to impact efficacy**

2019

Protocol 19:316
Afami-cel (MAGE-A4 TCR) in
synovial sarcoma + MRCLS

ORR 39% (SS), 25% (MRCLS)
DOR 12m (SS), 4m MRCLS)

- Clinical correlates: Lower disease burden, higher MAGEA4 expression, lack of bridging therapy
- **Higher cell dose may impact efficacy**
- **Integrating cells early is likely better**

FDA approved in 2024

2020

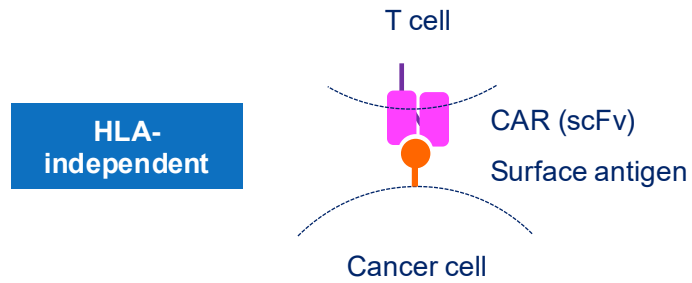
Protocol 20:055
Lete-cel (NYESO-1) TCR in
synovial sarcoma + MRCLS

ORR 43%
DOR 12.2m

- Primary endpoint met

BLA planned for 2025

Expanding our targets

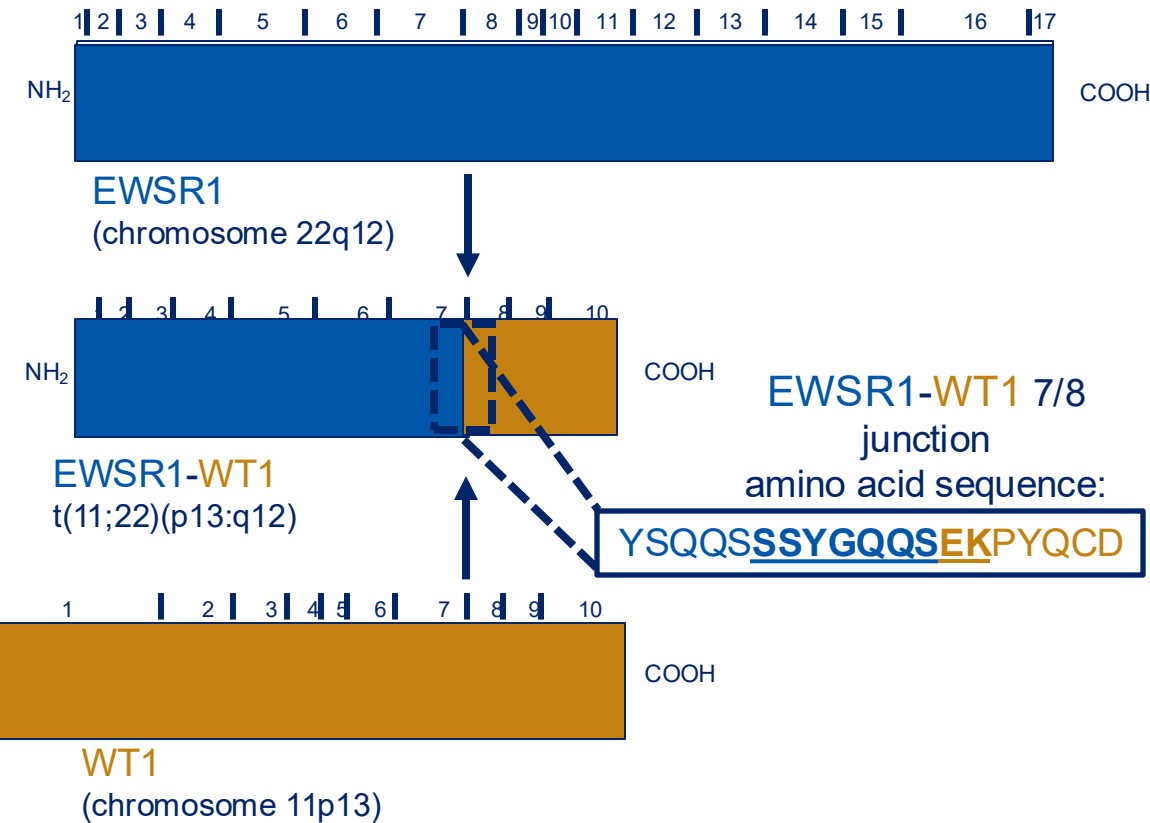
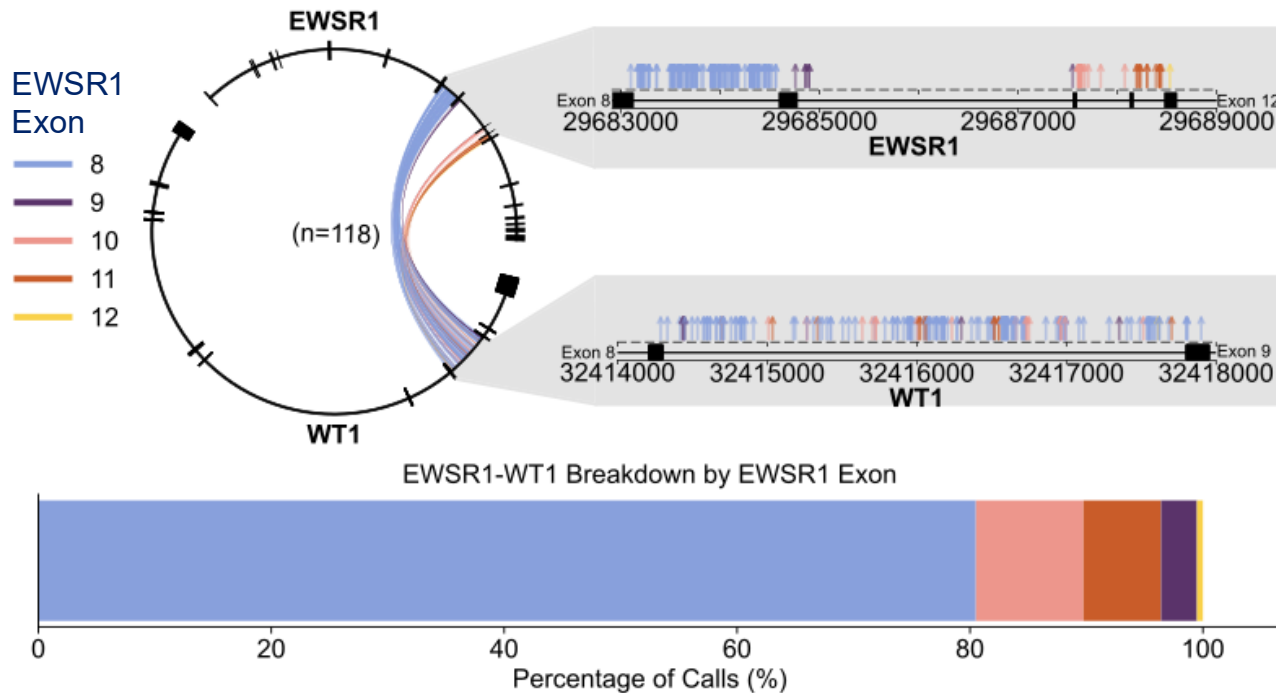


Membrane-associated proteins

~11% of the proteome

- Potential antibody and CAR targets
- Examples:
CD19, BCMA, mesothelin, HER2, B7H3

EWSR1-WT1: a recurrent oncogenic driver with intronic breakpoints



Central Hypothesis: Recurrent oncogenic fusion proteins generate immunogenic public NeoAgs that can serve as the foundation for T cell-based immunotherapies.

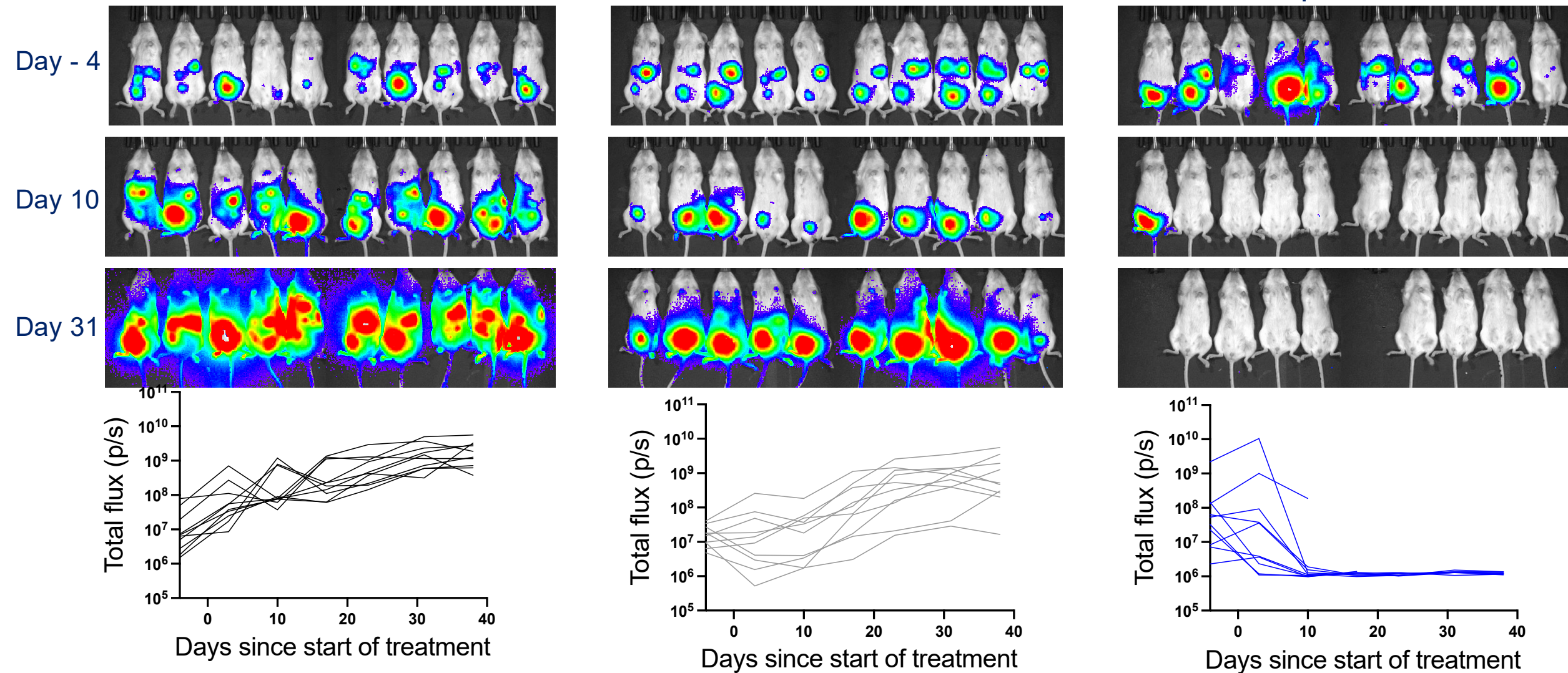
*Led by Lauren Banks, MD PhD

Tumor regression in mice harboring DSRCT tumors treated with CD8 T cells expressing fusion-specific TCRs

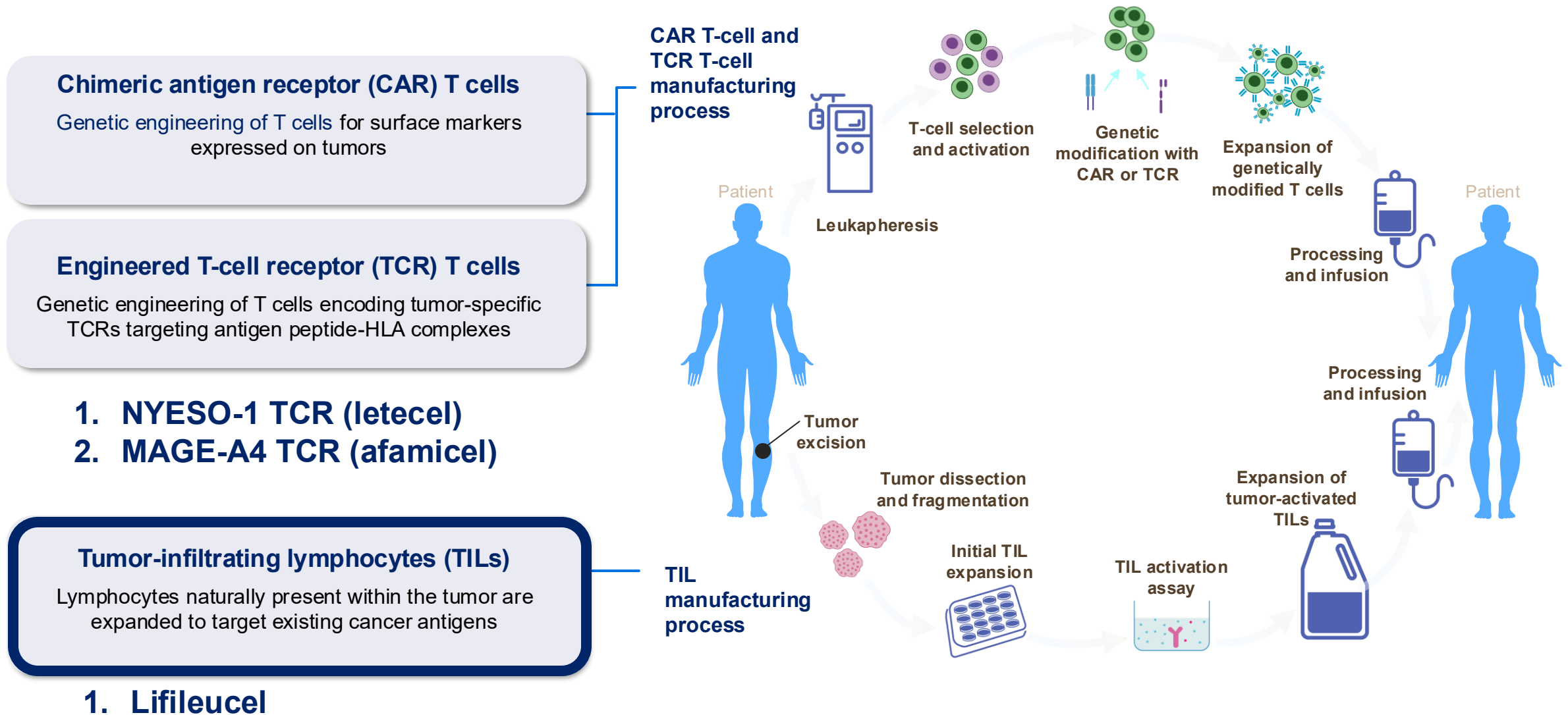
Untreated

Viral TCR

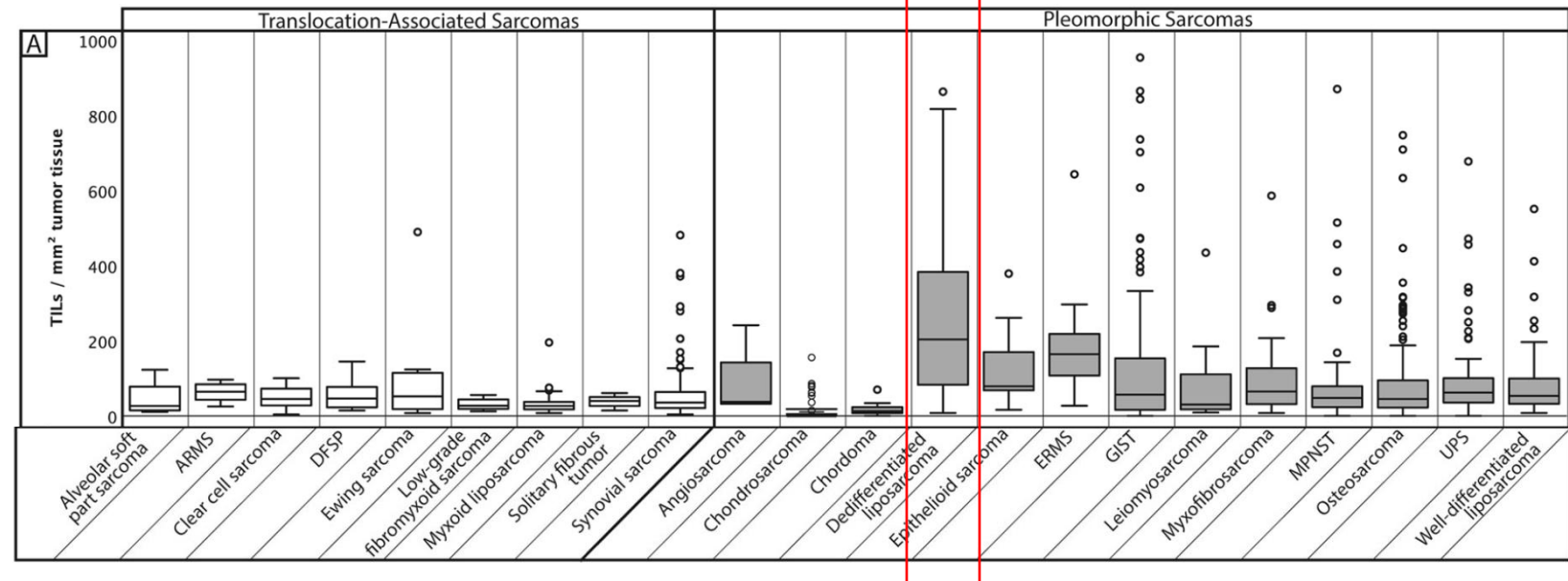
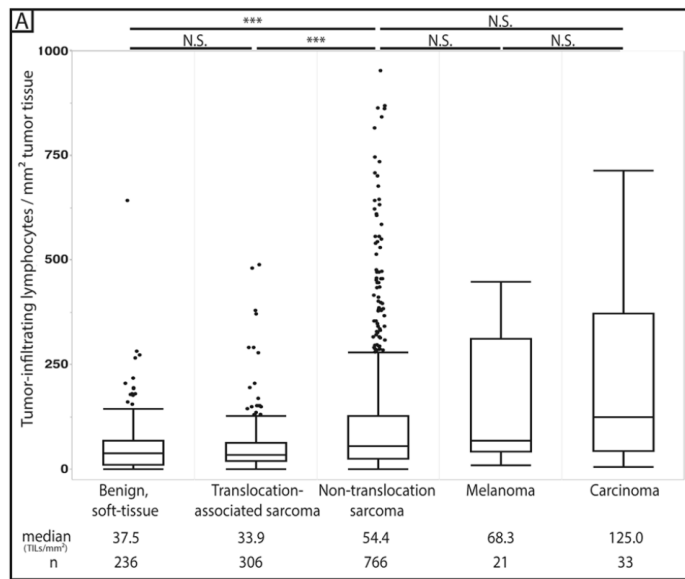
Fusion-specific TCR



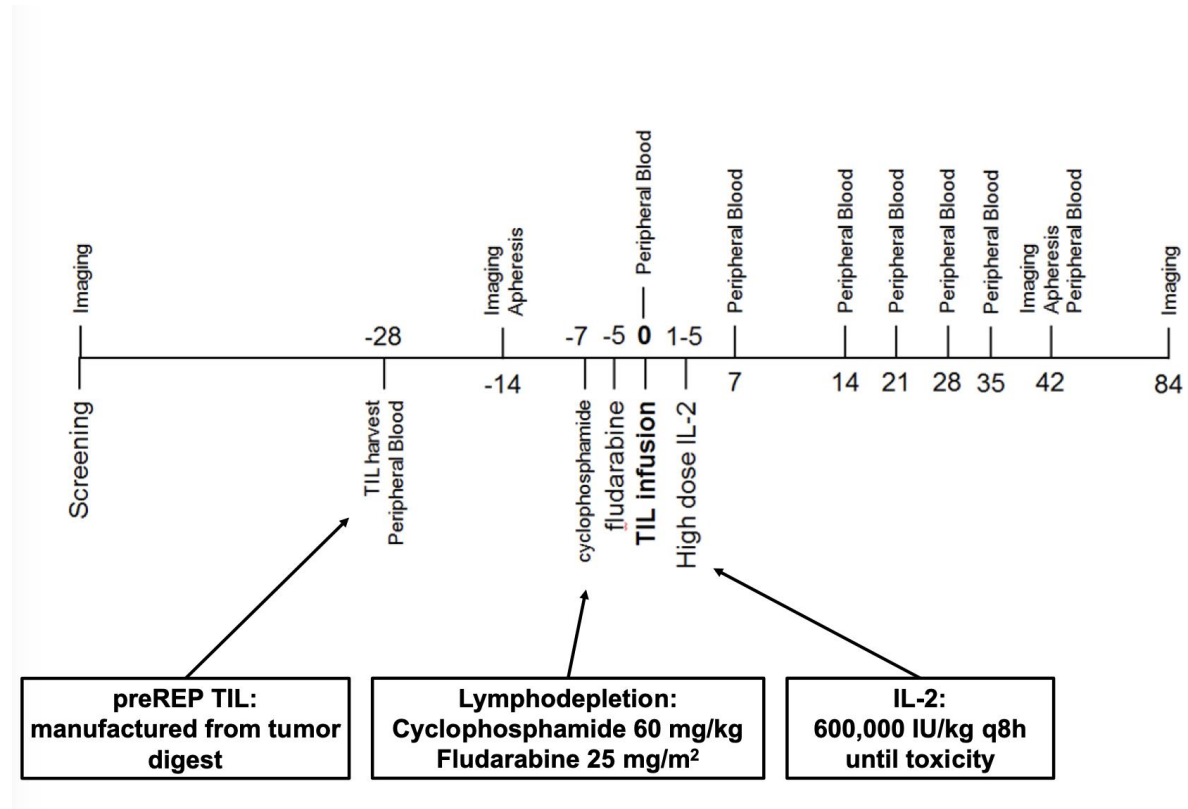
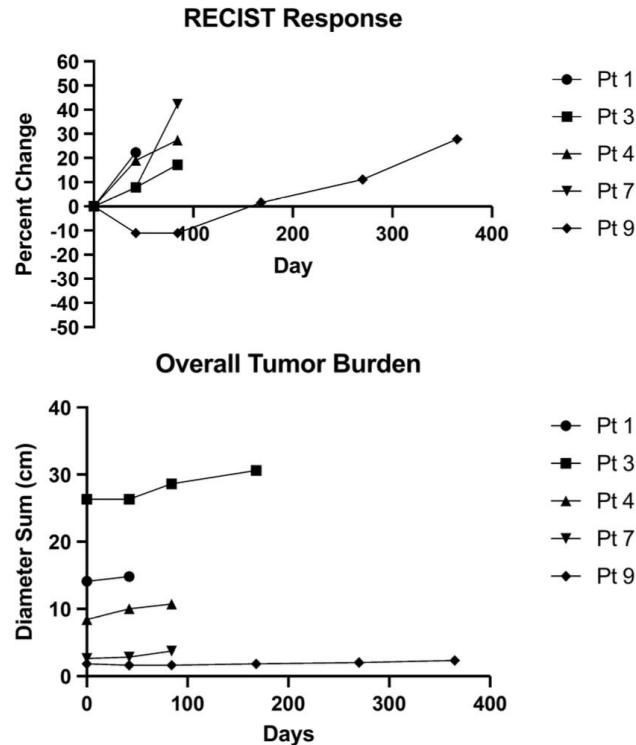
Adoptive cell therapy (ACT): Expanding immunotherapy options to cold tumors



TILs are present in complex > fusion-associated sarcomas



TIL harvest/expansion/infusion is feasible in STS



Phase I study in AYA sarcoma

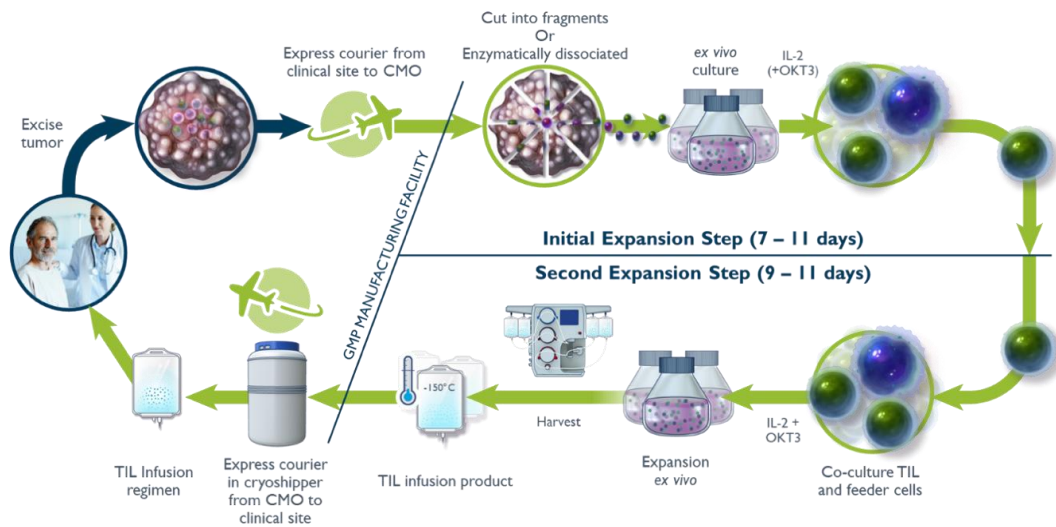
Primary endpoint: feasibility (>33% manufacturing success) and safety (>G3 treatment related toxicity) in <20%)

All eligible patients with expanded product (n = 5) completed TIL-ACT regimen

No TIL-related toxicity

Ongoing pilot study of lifileucel in uveal melanoma

- Primary endpoint: Feasibility, # patients who undergo TIL infusion
- Secondary endpoint: Proportion of patients who achieve successful manufacturing of lifileucel, Overall response rate



Diagnosis of advanced UPS or DDLPS

No contraindication to IL-2 or fludarabine/cyclophosphamide conditioning therapy

Progressed on ≥ 1 line of prior therapy

One lesion $\geq 1.5\text{cm}$ in size, 2nd measurable target lesion

Primary endpoint: safety and feasibility

At least **5 of 10** patients who undergo tumor harvest must undergo TIL infusion

Early stopping rule for Grade 5 toxicity or unacceptable proportion of Grade 4 non-heme tox due to TIL

Secondary endpoints:

Objective response rate

Screening Period

≤ 28 days
from ICF
signature

Enrollment

Tumor Harvest

Treatment Period

LDR (Day -5 to Day -1)

LN-144 infusion (Day 0)

IL-2 therapy (Day 0 to Day 4; max
6 doses)

Assessment Period

Every 6 weeks for first 6 months
Every 3 months thereafter (starting
Month 6)

OS Follow-up Period

Up to 2
years

PI: Evan Rosenbaum MD
Lauren Banks, MD PhD

Conclusions

Afamicel and letecel have shown promise in synovial sarcoma and myxoid round cell liposarcoma

There is a pressing need to identify biomarkers of response/resistance

Exploring alternate adoptive cell approaches, ie TIL, as new targets, ie fusions will contribute to novel and exciting therapeutic options in the future

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