## Exploiting the Immunomodulatory Properties of Radiation Therapy



# **JT SOUTHWESTERN**

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS Southwestern Medical Center At Dallas Puneeth Iyengar, MD, PhD Assistant Professor Thoracic Radiation Oncology Chief Department of Radiation Oncology

### Immunomodulation by Radiation Therapy



### Immunomodulation by Radiation Therapy



Apoteh et al, Can. Res. 2008; Apoteh et al, Nat Med, 2007

## Outline

Immunomodulation by radiation therapy (RT)

- -Pre-clinical evidence
- -Limited clinical evidence

- The i-SAbR approach at UTSW as a paradigm for IO and RT
  - -Pre-clinical models
  - -Clinical Trial Design
  - -Translational studies

### Immunomodulation by RT

- Cancers are Immunogenic
  - -Multiple TAAs described for different cancer sub-sites
  - -Tumors travel to LN—a primary immune organ
  - -Tumor immuno-editing hypothesis

#### ■RT

- -As a focal therapy, keeps the host completely immunocompetent
  - -Stereotactic Ablative Radiation (SAbR) also spares the regional draining lymph nodes
- -Keeps the antigen depot within the host and induces an immunogenic cell death

### Immunomodulation by RT



- RT leads to the translocation and release of Danger (or Damage)-Associated Molecular Patterns (DAMPS)
  - HMGB1, HSP70, Calreticulin, ATP
  - DAMPS recruit Dendritic Cells into the tumor-microenvironment
  - RT increases pro-inflammatory cytokine release
  - RT increases the permeability of the tumor -microenvironment

#### IONIZING RADIATION INHIBITION OF DISTANT UNTREATED TUMORS (ABSCOPAL EFFECT) IS IMMUNE MEDIATED

IJROBP 2004 Mar 1;58(3):862-70

Sandra Demaria, M.D.,\* Bruce NG, M.S.,<sup>†</sup> Mary Louise Devitt, A.A.S.,<sup>‡</sup> James S. Babb, Ph.D.,<sup>§</sup> Noriko Kawashima, M.S.,\* Leonard Liebes, Ph.D.,<sup>†</sup> and Silvia C. Formenti, M.D.<sup>‡</sup>



## Immunomodulation by RT:

### Proposed mechanism



Lugade et. al. J Immunol 2005



### The Efficacy of Radiotherapy Relies upon Induction of Type I Interferon–Dependent Innate and Adaptive Immunity

Byron C. Burnette<sup>1</sup>, Hua Liang<sup>2</sup>, Youjin Lee<sup>1</sup>, Lukasz Chlewicki<sup>1</sup>, Nikolai N. Khodarev<sup>2</sup>, Ralph R. Weichselbaum<sup>2</sup>, Yang-Xin Fu<sup>1</sup>, and Sogyong L. Auh<sup>1</sup>







### STING-Dependent Cytosolic DNA Sensing Promotes Radiation-Induced Type I Interferon-Dependent Antitumor Immunity in Immunogenic Tumors

Liufu Deng,<sup>1,3</sup> Hua Liang,<sup>1,3</sup> Meng Xu,<sup>2</sup> Xuanming Yang,<sup>2</sup> Byron Burnette,<sup>1,3</sup> Ainhoa Arina,<sup>1,3</sup> Xiao-Dong Li,<sup>4</sup> Helena Mauceri,<sup>1,3</sup> Michael Beckett,<sup>1,3</sup> Thomas Darga,<sup>1,3</sup> Xiaona Huang,<sup>1</sup> Thomas F. Gajewski,<sup>2</sup> Zhijian J. Chen,<sup>4,5</sup> Yang-Xin Fu,<sup>2,3,\*</sup> and Ralph R. Weichselbaum<sup>1,3,\*</sup>



Immunity

**Article** 

#### Immunogenic properties of SAbR





#### Can RT immunomodulation be exploited for therapeutic benefit?



# **IT+RT Pre-Clinical Data**

Tumor Model	RT Dose	Immunotherapy	Reference
Lung (LLC)	60 Gy	Flt3-Ligand	Chakravarty et. al. Can. Res. 1999
Fibrosarcoma	10-35 Gy	IL-3 gene therapy	Chiang et. al. Can Gen Ther 2000
Colon(MC38)	2-30 Gy	Vaccia/Avipox-CEA	Chakravarty et. al. Can Res 2004
Breast (67NR)	2-6 Gy	Flt3-Ligand	Demaria et. al IJROBP 2004
Fibrosarcoma (MCA-102), Lymphoma (EL4), Colon (CT-26)	15 Gy	DC	Kim et. al. Int. J. Cancer 2004
Breast (4T1)	12-24 Gy	Anti-CTLA-4	Demaria et. al. CCR 2005
Colon(MC38)	20-30 Gy	Anti-CTLA-4	Dewan et. al. CCR 2009
Gliosarcoma (9L)	10 Gy	DC+GM-CSF	Driessens et. al. CII, 2011
Breast (AT-3)	12-30 Gy	Anti-PD-1, Anti-CD137	Verbrugge, et. al. Can Res 2012
Lymphoma (EL4, EG7), Lung (LLC) Melanoma (B16)	2, 15 Gy	Th1 Cell Therapy	Takeshima et al. Can Res 2012
Prostate (TRAMP-C1)	10 Gy	Listeria –PSA Vaccine	Hannan et. al, CII 2012
Lymphoma (A20, EL4, EG7)	10, 25Gy	TLR-7 agonist	Dovedi et. al. Blood 2013
Breast (TUBO), colon (MC38)	12Gy	Anti-PD-L1	Deng and Fu et. al. JCI 2014

# **Pre-Clinical Data**

## Synergy between RT and IT:



Hannan et. al., Cancer Immunol Immunother, May 2012

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#### Abscopal Response



#### BRIEF REPORT

#### Immunologic Correlates of the Abscopal Effect in a Patient with Melanoma



Postow et. al. NEJM March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2012

#### BRIEF REPORT

#### Immunologic Correlates of the Abscopal Effect in a Patient with Melanoma



Postow et. al. NEJM March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2012

### IT + RT Clinical Data: Abscopal Effect

Tumor-type	Treatment	Abscopal effect	Mediator of abscopal effect	Reference
CLINICAL REPORTS				
Hepatocellular carcinoma	RT of thoracic vertebral bone metastases, <i>dose</i> : 36 Gy	Regression of primary tumor	TNF-alpha	Ohba et al. (1998)
Hepatocellular carcinoma	RT of mediastinum, <i>dose</i> : 27 × 2.25 Gy	Regression of lung metastases		Okuma et al. (2011)
Renal cell carcinoma	RT of primary tumor, <i>dose</i> : 12 × 8Gy	Regression of enlarged lymph nodes and lung lesions		Wersall et al. (2006)
Mammary carcinoma	RT of primary tumor	Regression of metastatic lymph nodes	CD8+ and CD4+T cells	Konoeda (1990)
NK-ENKL	RT of eyelid tumor	Regression of NK cell lymphoma	CD8+T cells	Isobe et al. (2009)

#### Rubner et. al. Front Oncol 2012



Phase 1 Study of Stereotactic Body Radiotherapy and Interleukin-2— Tumor and Immunological Responses Steven K. Seung *et al. Sci Transl Med* **4**, 137ra74 (2012); DOI: 10.1126/scitransImed.3003649

Eligibility:

- -Metastatic RCC or melanoma
- -no previous medical therapy
- SAbR 20Gy/fx for 1-3 fractions
- IL-2 (600,000 IU/kg IV bolus) Q8h x 14 doses
  - -Started three days after last SABR
- Treated 12 patients (5 mRCC)
- Evaluate safety/feasability
- Evaluate for immune response





#### Phase 1 Study of Stereotactic Body Radiotherapy and Interleukin-2— Tumor and Immunological Responses Steven K. Seung *et al.*

*Sci Transl Med* **4**, 137ra74 (2012); DOI: 10.1126/scitranslmed.3003649



**Fig. 1.** Waterfall plot of best tumor response by RECIST criteria of all target lesions not treated with SBRT. Each bar represents the response of an individual patient. A dashed line is placed at 30% to indicate the minimum regression of tumor to qualify for a PR by RECIST criteria of target lesions.

# 8 (66.3%) patients had an overall response 60% of mRCC patients had a PR



**Fig. 2.** Before and after PET imaging in a patient with widely metastatic melanoma. Two liver lesions were treated with SBRT.

# **Abscopal Response**

Local radiotherapy and granulocyte-macrophage colonystimulating factor to generate abscopal responses in patients with metastatic solid tumours: a proof-of-principle trial

Encouse B Golden, Arpit Chhabra, Abraham Chachoua, Sylvia Adams, Martin Donach, Maria Fenton-Kerimian, Kent Friedman, Fabio Ponzo, James S Babb, Judith Goldberg, Sandra Demaria, Silvia C Formenti

12 further patients were enrolled Abscopal responses occurred in eight 27.6%, 95% CI 12.7-47.2) of the first 29 patients, and 11 (26.8%, 95% CI 14.2-42.9) of 41 accrued patients (specifically in four patients with non-small-cell lung cancer, five with breast cancer, and two with thymic cancer). The most common grade 3-4 adverse events were fatigue (six patients) and baematological (ten patients). Additionally, a serious adverse event of grade 4 pulmonary

#### www.thelancet.com/oncology Vol 16 July 2015

### The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

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#### Durvalumab after Chemoradiotherapy in Stage III Non–Small-Cell Lung Cancer

S.J. Antonia, A. Villegas, D. Daniel, D. Vicente, S. Murakami, R. Hui, T. Yokoi, A. Chiappori, K.H. Lee, M. de Wit, B.C. Cho, M. Bourhaba, X. Quantin, T. Tokito, T. Mekhail, D. Planchard, Y.-C. Kim, C.S. Karapetis, S. Hiret, G. Ostoros, K. Kubota, J.E. Gray, L. Paz-Ares, J. de Castro Carpeño, C. Wadsworth, G. Melillo, H. Jiang, Y. Huang, P.A. Dennis, and M. Özgüroğlu, for the PACIFIC Investigators\*

#### CONCLUSIONS

Progression-free survival was significantly longer with durvalumab than with placebo. The secondary end points also favored durvalumab, and safety was similar between the groups. (Funded by AstraZeneca; PACIFIC ClinicalTrials.gov number, NCT02125461.)



Figure 1. Progression-free Survival in the Intention-to-Treat Population.

Shown are Kaplan-Meier curves for progression-free survival (PFS), defined according to the Response Evaluation Criteria in Solid Tumors, version 1.1, and assessed by means of blinded independent central review. Tick marks indicate censored observations, and vertical lines indicate the times of landmark PFS analyses. The intention-to-treat population included all patients who underwent randomization.

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### The i-SAbR approach at UTSW



### The i-SAbR approach at UTSW



### How does RT change the tumor immuno-microenvironment?



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### How does RT change the tumor immuno-microenvironment?



### **RT Induces Tumor Neutrophilic Infiltration**





 Radiation-induced neutrophils (RT-N) play a significant role in the anti-tumor effect of RT

### **RT** induced Neutrophils (RT-Ns)

- How does RT-Ns induce tumor growth delay?
- Why does RT-Ns infiltrate tumor after RT?
- Can this be exploited for therapeutic benefit?

#### Mechanism of RT-N Therapeutic Effect?



#### NATURE REVIEWS | IMMUNOLOGY VOLUME 6 | MARCH 2006 | 173

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### Does RT-Ns Induce Apoptosis in the Tumor?



20 -

Normal



50



**UT**Southwestern Medical Center

**No Neutrophils** 

### **RT** induced Neutrophils (RT-Ns)

- How does RT-Ns induce tumor growth delay?
- Why does RT-Ns infiltrate tumor after RT?
- Can this be exploited for therapeutic benefit?

### Why does RT-Ns infiltrate tumor after RT?



### **RT** induced Neutrophils (RT-Ns)

- How does RT-Ns induce tumor growth delay?
- Why does RT-Ns infiltrate tumor after RT?
- Can this be exploited for therapeutic benefit?

### Can G-CSF Increase ROS production by RT-Ns?

FACS of RT-Ns after staining with Dihydrorhodamine 123 (DHR 123)



### Does RT-Ns Induce Apoptosis in the Tumor?



### G-CSF Increases RT-N Induced Tumor Growth Delay



### Conclusion

- RT induces the infiltration of neutrophils (RT-Ns) in the tumor
  - Early event that happens within 24-48 hours
- RT-Ns play a role in increasing the therapeutic effect of RT
- This increase is likely mediated by ROS induced apoptosis
- G-CSF likely plays a role in the recruitment of RT-Ns
- G-CSF can further increase the potency of RT-Ns via ROS
- G-CSF + RT increases tumor-specific CTLs
- G-CSF + RT may be a promising therapeutic strategy to increase RT efficacy and the immunomodulatory effect of RT

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### The i-SAbR approach at UTSW



### Immunotherapy + SAbR = i-SAbR

i-SAbR Clinical Trials

- i-SAbR Sipuleucel-T Trial
- i-SAbR IL-2 Trial
- i-SAbR Nivolumab Trial

### i-SAbR Sipuleucel-T Trial



- Primary End-point: Time to disease progression (TTP)
- Continue until progression of disease or interim analysis shows a clear TTP/OS benefit.

- Combines SAbR with Sipuleucel-T for mCRPCa pts.
- Phase II single arm trial with the historic control being IMPACT
  - Kantoff et. al, NEJM 2010
- SAbR of 1 (21-27Gy) or 3 (26.5-33Gy)
  fraction to 1-6 sites of disease
- Primary end-point TTP
  - Immune RECIST
- Accrual goal 41

### i-SAbR IL-2 Trial



### i-SAbR IL-2 Trial:

### Target lesion abscopal response per patient by irRECIST



### i-SAbR IL-2 Trial:

Target lesion abscopal response per patient by irRECIST



#### i-SAbR Nivolumab Trial Rationale

#### **Clinical Rationale:**

- SAbR is non-invasive metastasectomy
  - Tumor debulking  $\rightarrow$  decreases overall burden of disease
- Bulky metastases are more resistant to systemic therapy
- Larger mets are likely sources of
  - Additional metastases
  - Produces immunosuppresive factors

#### Immunologic Rationale:

- SAbR induces tumor-specific CTLs
  - Lugade et. al. J Immunol 2005; Tekeshima et. al Can Res 2011; Hannan et. al. Cl/2012
- SAbR induces PD-L1 expression
  - Deng and Fu et. al. JCI 2014
- SAbR induced CTL has increased PD-1
  - Filatenkov et. al. CCR, 2015

## Irradiation and anti–PD-L1 treatment synergistically promote antitumor immunity in mice

The Journal of Clinical Investigation http://www.jci.org Volume 124 Number 2 February 2014 Liutu Deng, ' Hua Liang, ' Byron Burnette, ' Michael Beckett, ' Thomas Darga,<sup>1</sup> Ralph R. Weichselbaum,<sup>1</sup> and Yang-Xin Fu<sup>2</sup>









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### Acquired Resistance to Fractionated Radiotherapy Can Be

#### Overcome by Concurrent PD-L1 Blockade

Cancer Res; 74(19) October 1, 2014

Simon J. Dovedi<sup>1</sup>, Amy L. Adlard<sup>2</sup>, Grazyna Lipowska-Bhalla<sup>1</sup>, Conor McKenna<sup>1</sup>, Sherrie Jones<sup>1</sup>, Eleanor J. Cheadle<sup>1</sup>, Ian J. Stratford<sup>2</sup>, Edmund Poon<sup>3</sup>, Michelle Morrow<sup>3</sup>, Ross Stewart<sup>3</sup>, Hazel Jones<sup>3</sup>, Robert W. Wilkinson<sup>3</sup>, Jamie Honeychurch<sup>1</sup>, and Tim M. Illidge<sup>1</sup>

### PD-1 Restrains Radiotherapy-Induced

Abscopal Effect Cancer Immunol Res; 3(6) June 2015

Sean S. Park<sup>1</sup>, Haidong Dong<sup>2,3</sup>, Xin Liu<sup>3</sup>, Susan M. Harrington<sup>3</sup>, Christopher J. Krco Michael P. Grams<sup>1</sup>, Aaron S. Mansfield<sup>4</sup>, Keith M. Furutani<sup>1</sup>, Kenneth R. Olivier<sup>1</sup>, and Eugene D. Kwon<sup>2,3</sup>

# Radiation and dual checkpoint blockade activate non-redundant immune mechanisms in cancer

Christina Twyman–Saint Victor<sup>1,2</sup>\*, Andrew J. Rech<sup>2</sup>\*, Amit Maity<sup>3,4</sup>, Ramesh Rengan<sup>3,4</sup>†, Kristen E. Pauken<sup>5,6</sup>, Erietta Stelekati<sup>5,6</sup>, Joseph L. Benci<sup>2,3</sup>, Bihui Xu<sup>2,3</sup>, Hannah Dada<sup>2,3</sup>, Pamela M. Odorizzi<sup>5,6</sup>, Ramin S. Herati<sup>1,6</sup>, Kathleen D. Mansfield<sup>5,6</sup>, Dana Patsch<sup>3</sup>, Ravi K. Amaravadi<sup>1,4</sup>, Lynn M. Schuchter<sup>1,4</sup>, Hemant Ishwaran<sup>7</sup>, Rosemarie Mick<sup>4,8</sup>, Daniel A. Pryma<sup>4,9</sup>, Xiaowei Xu<sup>4,10</sup>, Michael D. Feldman<sup>4,10</sup>, Tara C. Gangadhar<sup>1,4</sup>, Stephen M. Hahn<sup>3,4</sup>†, E. John Wherry<sup>4,5,6</sup>§, Robert H. Vonderheide<sup>1,2,4,6</sup>§ & Andy J. Minn<sup>2,3,4,6</sup>§ 16 APRIL 2015 | VOL 520 | NATURE | 373

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#### Phase II Randomized Trial of Nivolumab and SAbR versus Nivolumab Alone for mRCC



1:2 Randomization: 58 and 29 patients required

#### in the arms respectively

### The i-SAbR approach at UTSW



## NRG-LU002

Maintenance Systemic Therapy Versus Consolidative Stereotactic Body Radiation Therapy (SBRT) Plus Maintenance Systemic Therapy For Limited Metastatic Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer (NSCLC): A Randomized Phase II/III Trial

Puneeth Iyengar MD, PhD, UT Southwestern	PI
Daniel Gomez MD, MDAnderson Cancer Center (MDACC)	Co-Pl
Robert Timmerman MD <i>UT Southwestern</i> Hak Choy MD, <i>UT Southwestern</i> Clifford Robinson MD, <i>Washington University of St. Louis</i> Charles Simone MD, <i>Maryland Proton Center</i>	Co-Chairs
David Gerber MD, <i>UT Southwestern</i> Saiama Waqar MD, <i>Washington University of St. Louis</i>	Med Oncology
Michael Weldon MSc, DABR <i>, Ohio State University</i> Jackie Wu PhD, <i>Duke</i>	Physics
Ben Movsas MD, Henry Ford Hospital	Quality of Life
Kirk Jones MD, University of California at San Francisco	Pathology
Adam Dicker MD, PhD, <i>Jefferson</i> Max Diehn MD, PhD, <i>Stanford</i> John Heymach, MD, MDACC	Translational
Chen Hu, PhD, Johns Hopkins University/NRG Oncology	Statistics

Patients with metastatic NSCLC having completed 4 cycles or courses of first-line/induction systemic therapy

**Restaging studies reveal no** evidence of progression and limited (≤ 3 discrete sites) metastatic disease, all of which must be amenable to SBRT +/-Surgery

Histology: Squamous vs. Non-squamous	
Systemic Therapy:	
Cytotoxic Chemotherapy	

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**Arm 1: Maintenance systemic therapy** alone

#### **Arm 2:**

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SBRT or SBRT and Surgery to all sites of metastases (≤ 3 discrete sites) plus irradiation (SBRT or Μ hypofractionated RT) of the primary site followed by Ζ maintenance systemic therapy. All Arm 2 patients, even if treated with Surgery, must have one site of disease (metastasis or primary) treated with radiation.

### i-SAbR Trial Translational Correlates

 Patient tissue, sera and PBMC collected before (and occasionally after) treatment.

-PBMCs are frozen with Serum/DMSO for functional assay

#### **Goals of Translational Correlatives**

- Identify mechanisms of synergy
  - -Can we improve on the current regimen?
- Identify mechanisms of resistance
  - -About 50% of patients are still expected to fail!
- Predictive Biomarker?
  - -Can we better select patients who will respond?

### The i-SAbR approach at UTSW



### Thank You Questions/suggestions?

