

High-Dimensional Analysis of Translational Samples from the NSGO-OV-UMB1 UMBRELLA Clinical Trial of Combined Anti-CD73 and Anti-PD-L1 Immunotherapy in Ovarian Cancer

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UNIVERSITY OF BERGEN
Faculty of Medicine



Centre for
Cancer Biomarkers
Norwegian Centre of Excellence – University of Bergen



*Innovative Novel
Ovarian cancer
treatment approaches*

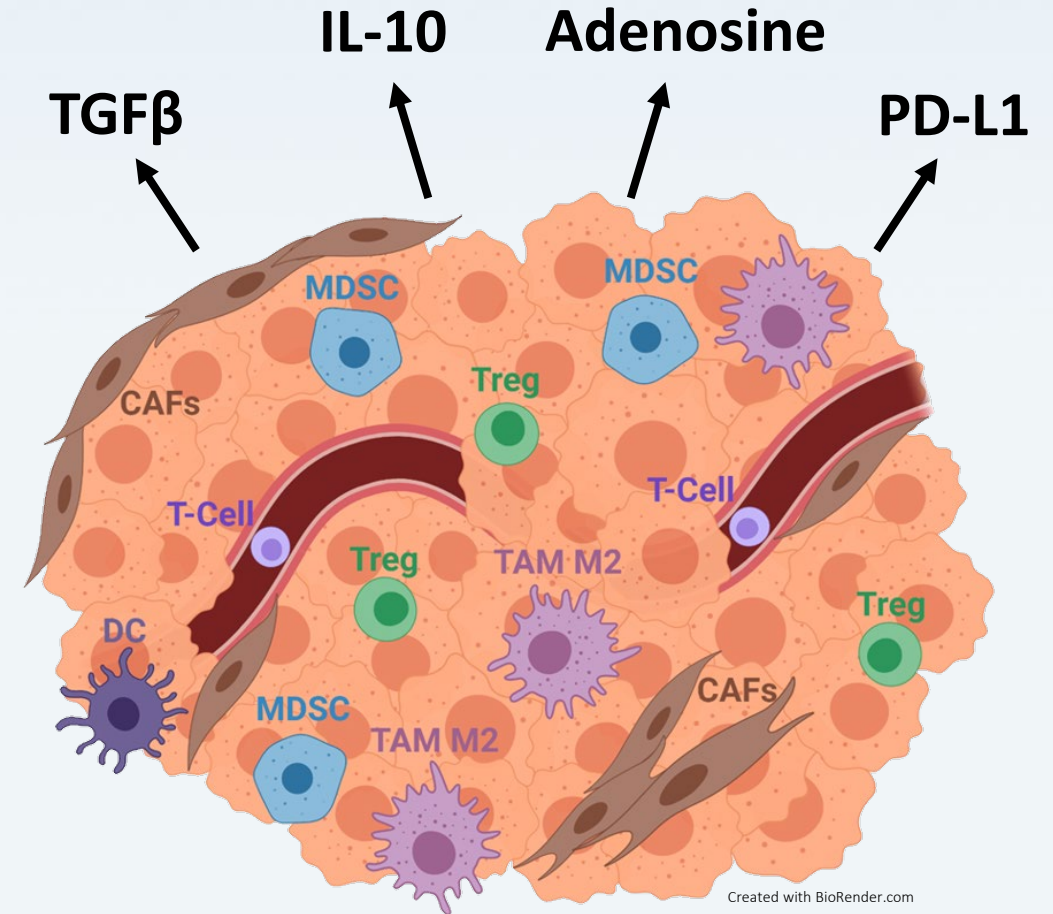
Disclosures:

- AstraZeneca – Research grant

Immunotherapy in OC

- Standardized OC treatment
 - Cytoreductive surgery + carboplatin/paclitaxel
 - 70-80% relapse rate

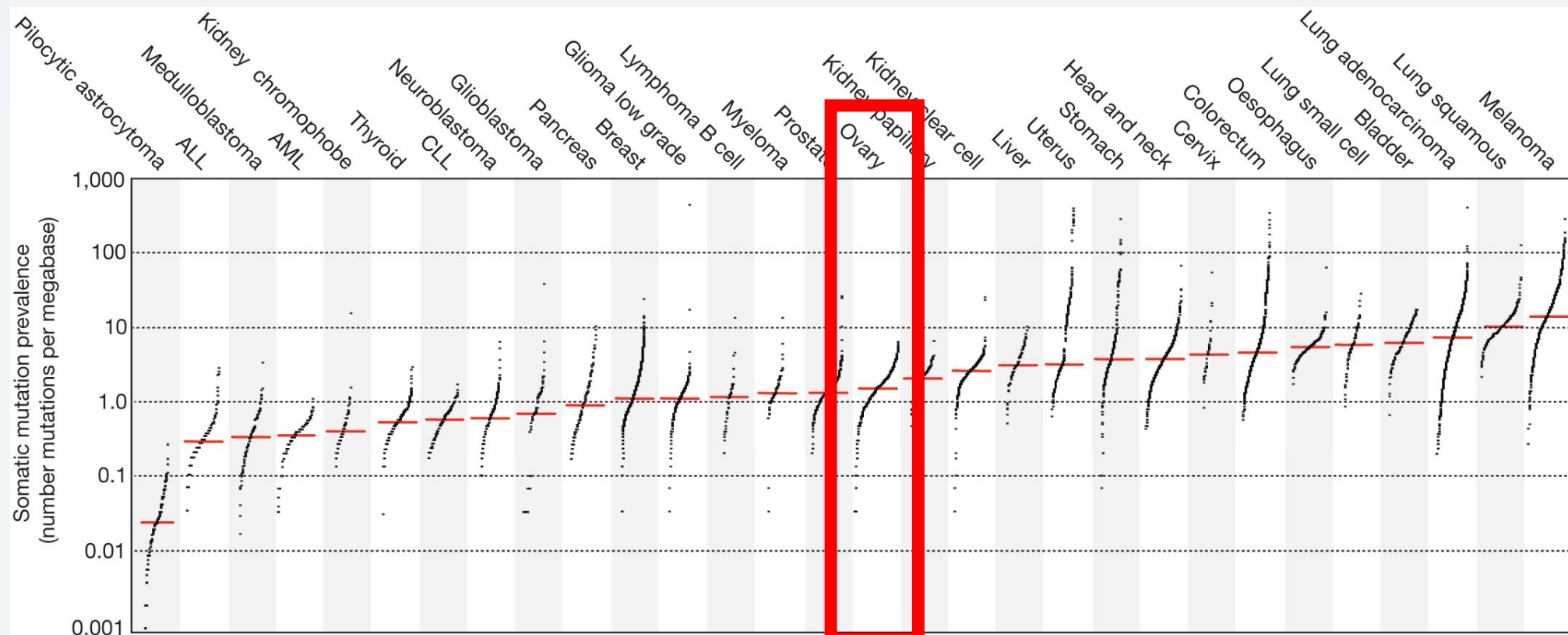
- Immunotherapy in OC
 - Shift to personalized medicine - immunotherapy
 - “Hot” tumor → amenable to immunotherapy
 - Single-agent failure
 - ICI + chemo failure



Immunosuppressive tumor microenvironment

Immunotherapy in OC

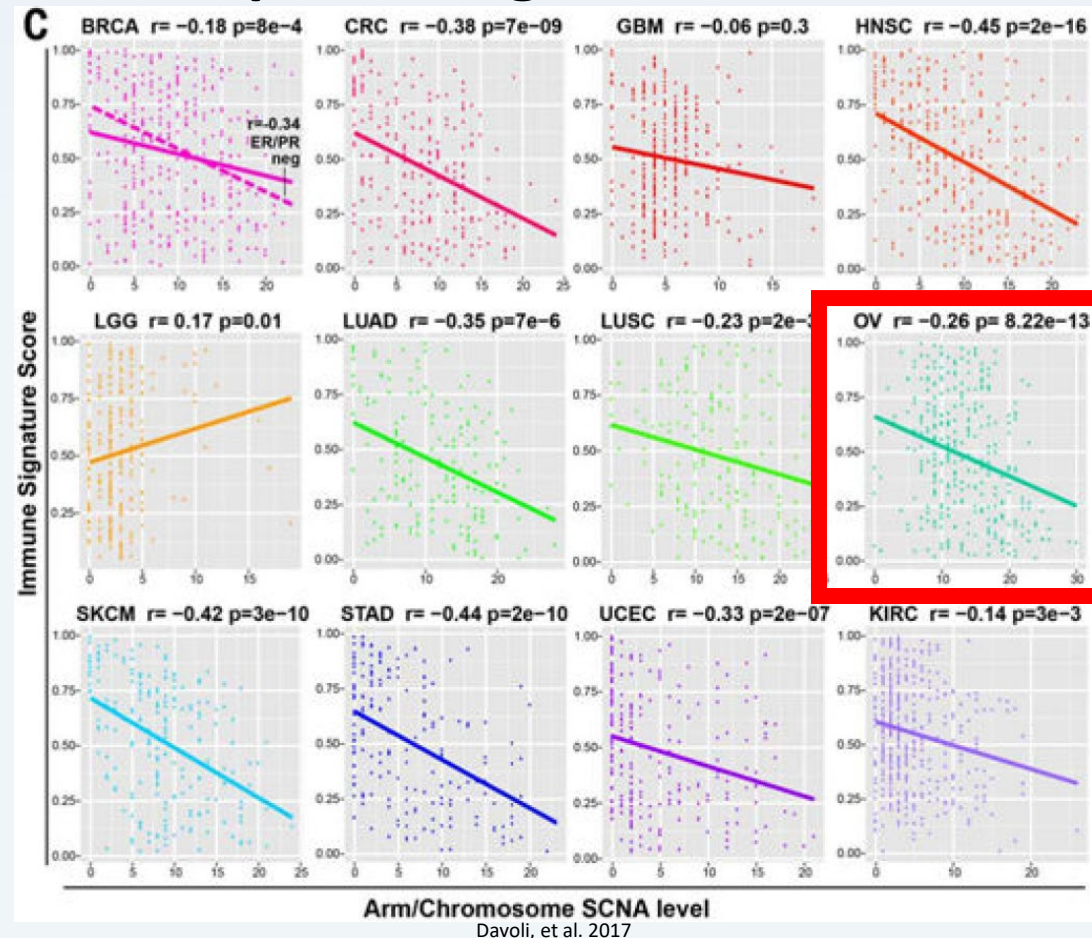
Low-to-intermediate mutational load



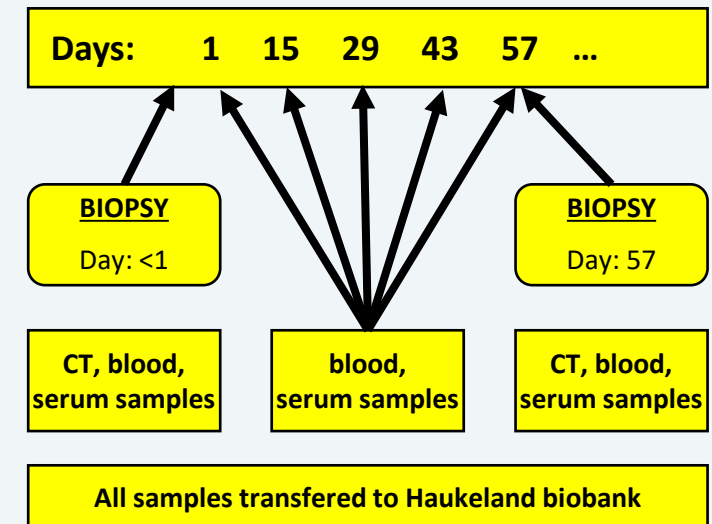
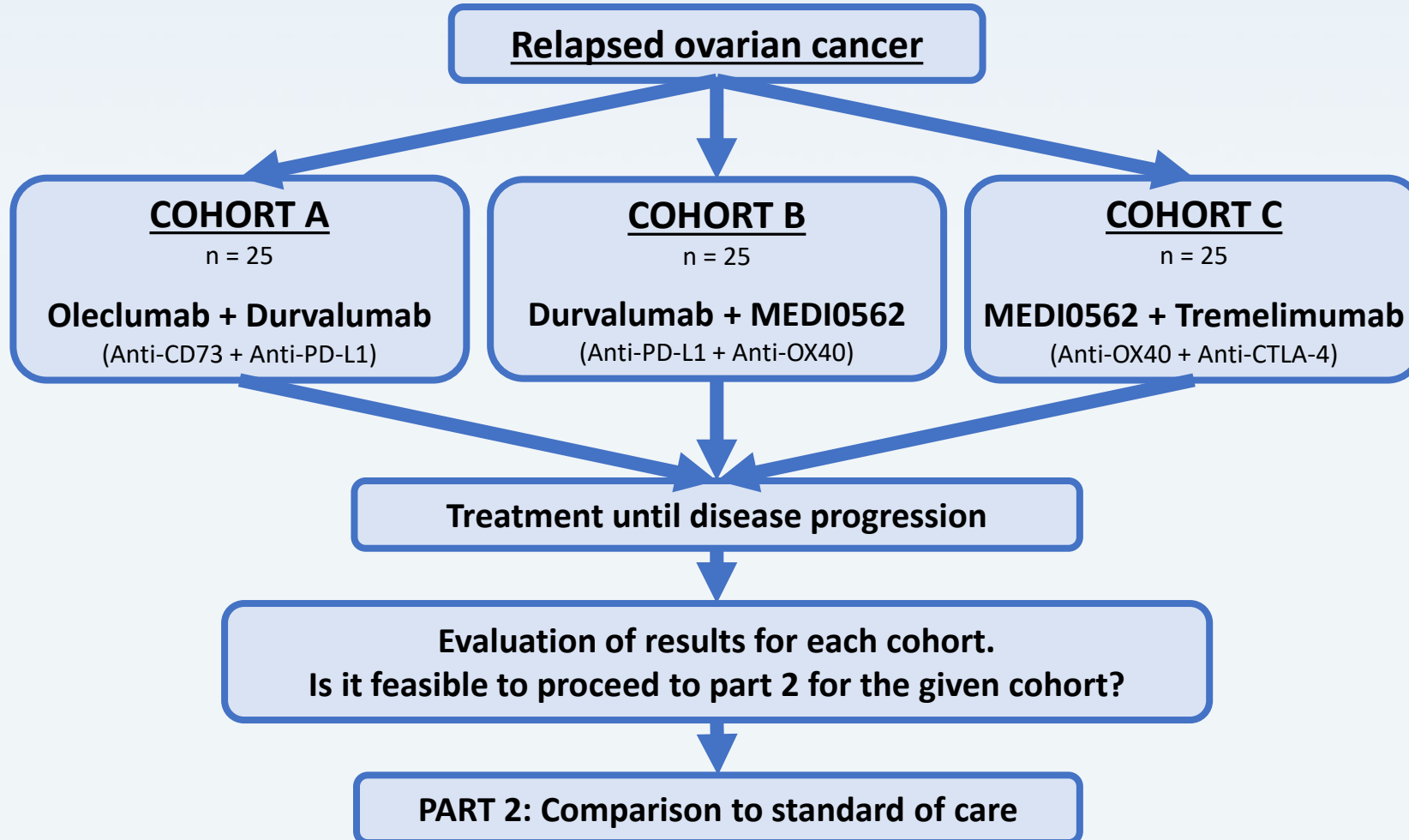
Alexandrov, et al. 2013

Immunotherapy in OC

Frequent large-scale SCNAs



NSGO-OV-UMB1/ENGOT-OV30



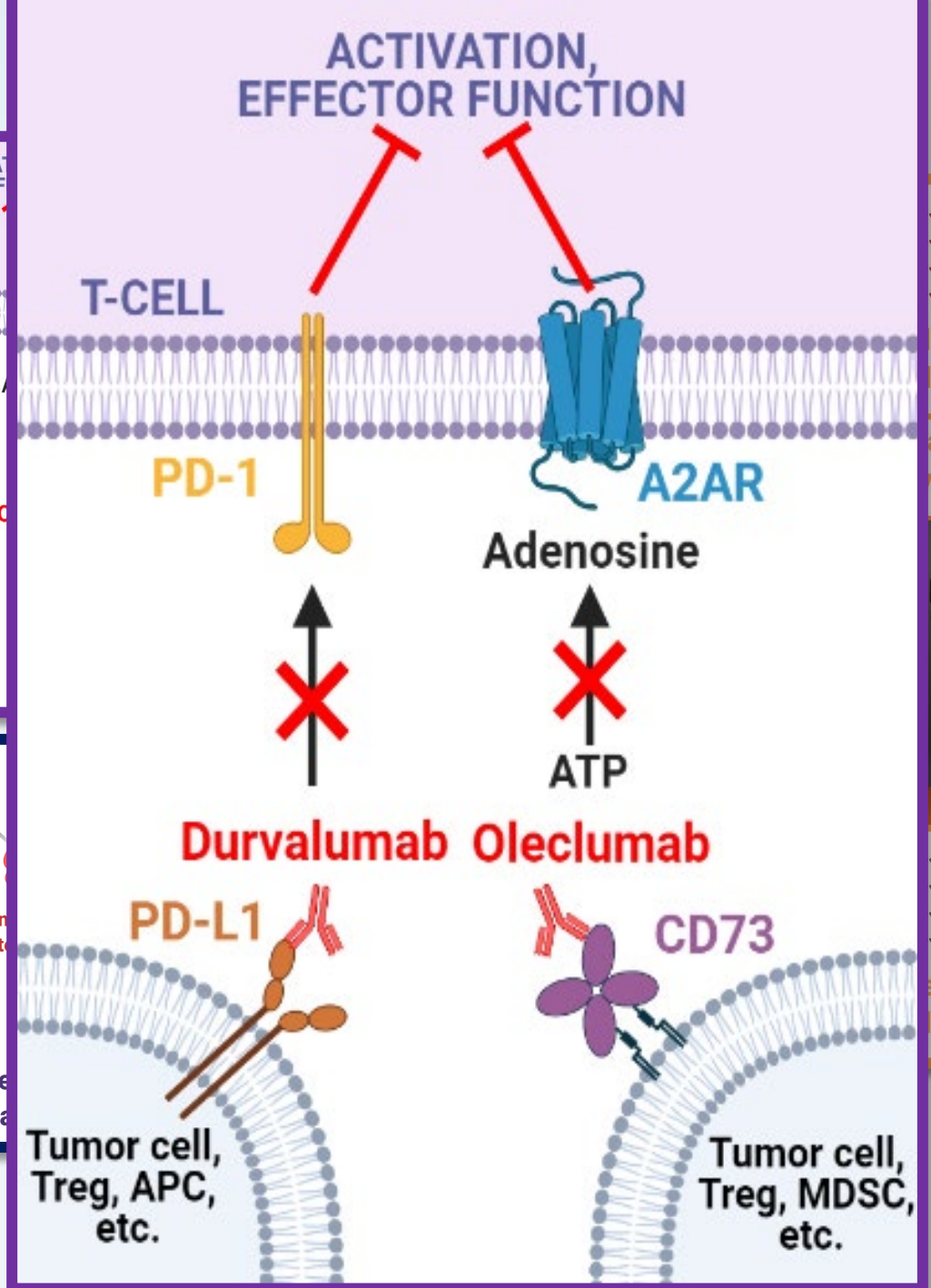
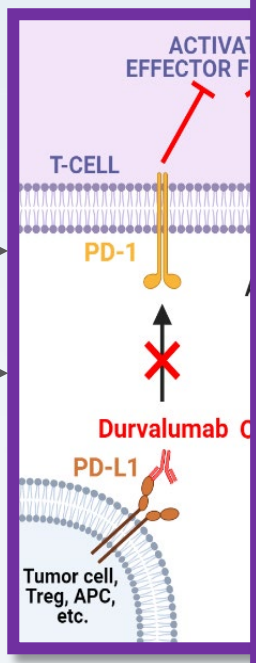
Patient Criteria

- 25 relapsed HGSOc patients
 - Included between April 2018 and May 2019
- Inclusion criteria:
 - Histologically confirmed and relapsed ovarian cancer
 - Measurable disease by RECIST 1.1
 - CD73+ archival tumor tissue
 - >10% positive tumor cells OR
 - >50% positive tumor stroma
 - Mandatory tumor biopsy before treatment and at day 56
 - Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group (ECOG) performance status 0-1

Characteristic (n = 25)	n (%)
Mean age, years (SD)	64.7 (8.2)
Prior chemotherapy	
Only first-line	4 (16)
1 line for relapse	11 (44)
2 lines for relapse	3 (12)
3 lines for relapse	1 (4)
>3 lines for relapse	6 (24)
ECOG Performance Status	
0	10 (40)
1	15 (60)
BRCA mutation	
Yes	3 (12)
No	19 (76)
Missing	3 (12)

Mirza, MR, et al. ESGO 2021

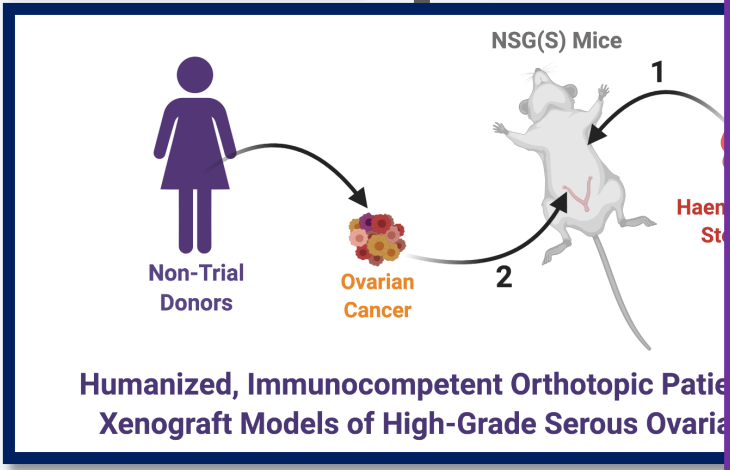
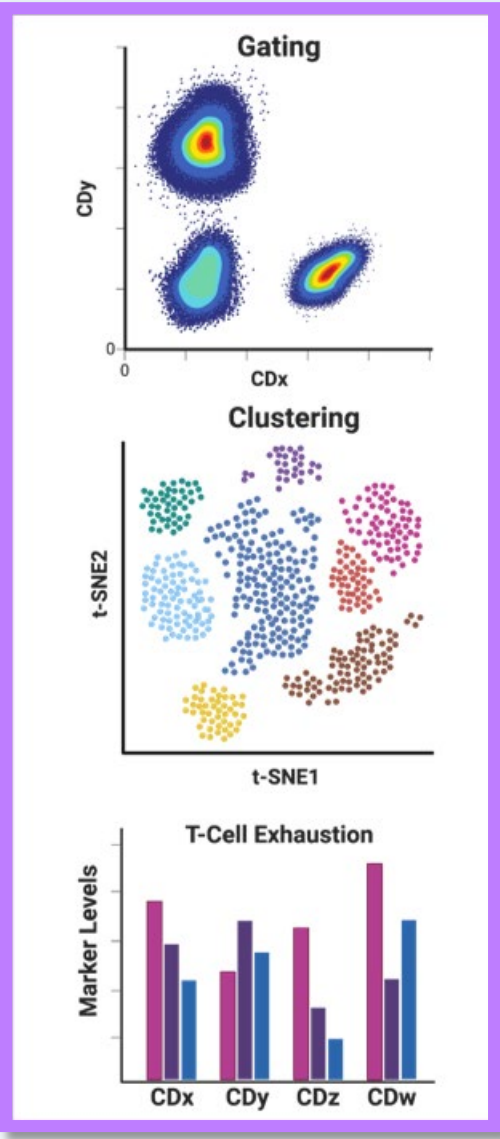
Relapsed High-Grade Serous Ovarian Cancer - 25 Patients



Flow Cytometry and Imaging Cytometry

Antibody Panel

Antibody Panel



Project Objectives

- **GENERAL OBJECTIVE:** Describe the value of combined CD73 and PD-L1 blockade in patients with relapsed HGSOC.

- **TRANSLATIONAL OBJECTIVES:**
 - Identify biomarkers associated with clinical outcome parameters:
 - **Primary endpoint:** DCR at 16 weeks
 - **Secondary endpoints:** PFS at 6 and 12 mos.; OS; ORR; DoR; Safety and tolerability

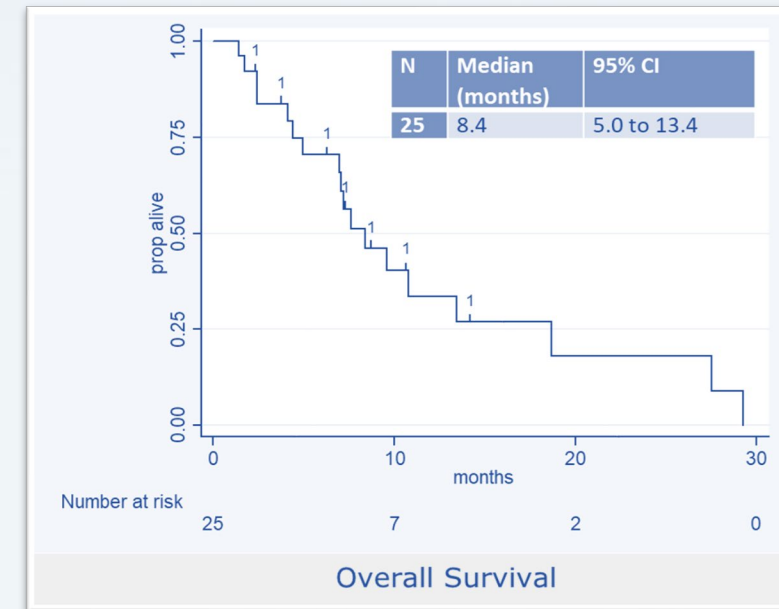
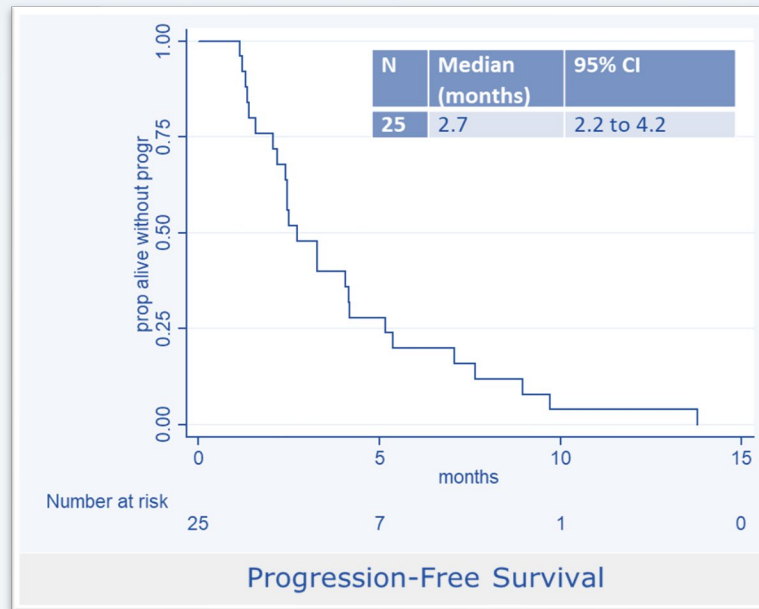
 - Establish criteria for improved patient selection for studied treatment.
 - Test combinatorial immunotherapy in preclinical ovarian cancer mouse models.
 - Portray the *in vivo* activity of the study drugs (oleclumab & durvalumab).

Study Endpoint Results

- Efficacy (week 16):
 - Disease control – 6/22 (27%)
 - Response – 1/22 (5%)
 - Progressed – 16/22 (73%)

- Manageable toxicity

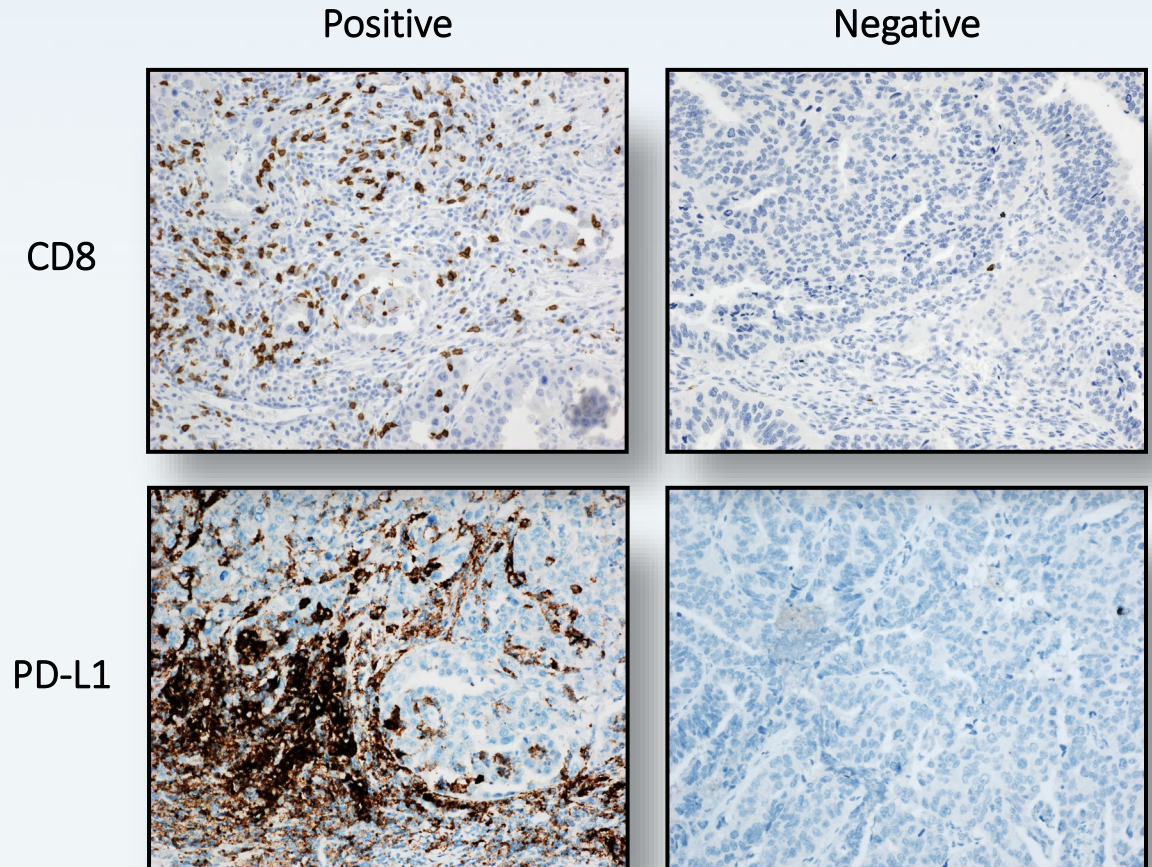
- Phase III recommendation



Mirza, MR, et al. ESGO 2021

Evaluation of Primary Tumor Biomarkers

- Correlation of CD8 / PD-L1 expression to response (DCR at week 16).
- Primary tumors (archival)
 - 3 slides from each patient (CD8, PD-L1, ctrl.)
- **74% CD8⁺, 42% PD-L1⁺, 37% double-positive**
- Spearman's rank correlation coefficient = 0,1707; $p = 0,5124$
 - Not significant.



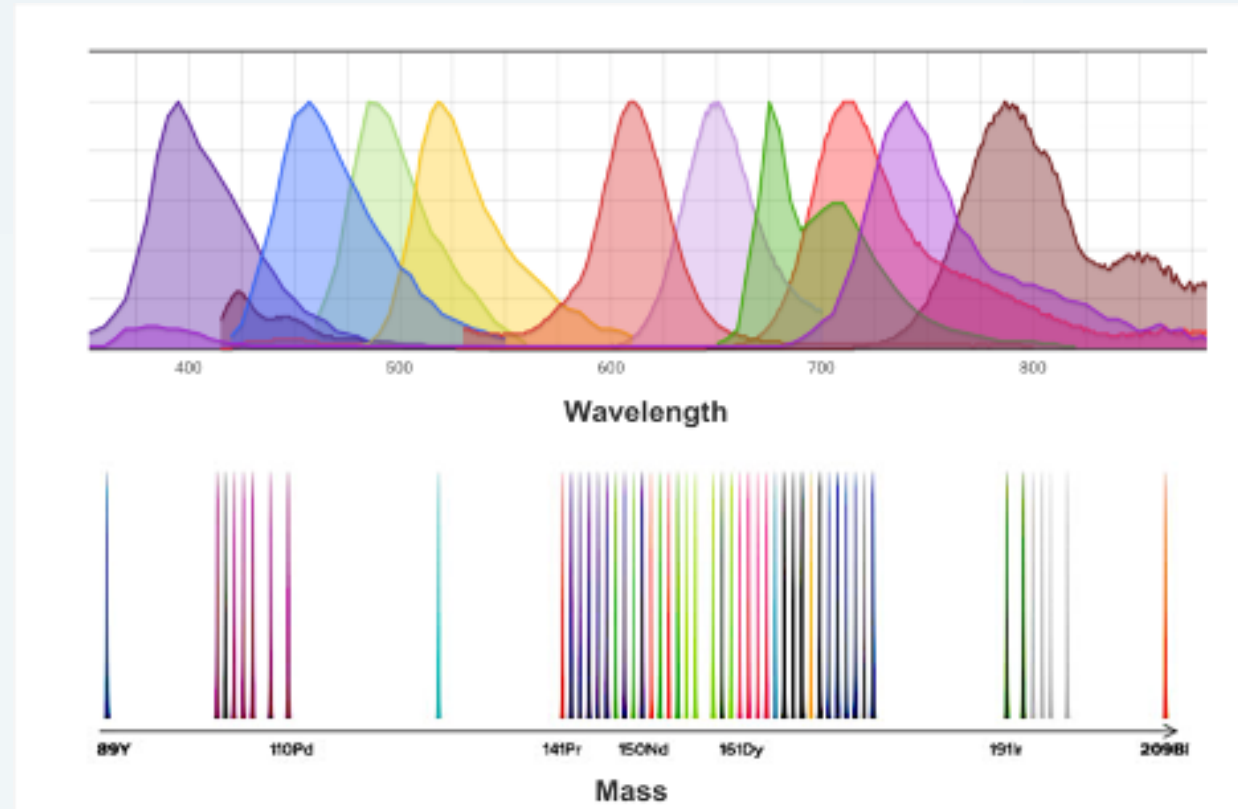
Positivity thresholds: PD-L1: $\geq 5\%$ positive cell frequency; CD8: $\geq 5\%$ area occupied by CD8+ cells

Mirza, MR, et al. ESGO 2021

Blood Biomarker Discovery – Suspension Mass Cytometry



CyTOF[®]XT[™] mass cytometer
Standard BioTools Inc., 2021



Celars, S. et al., 2022

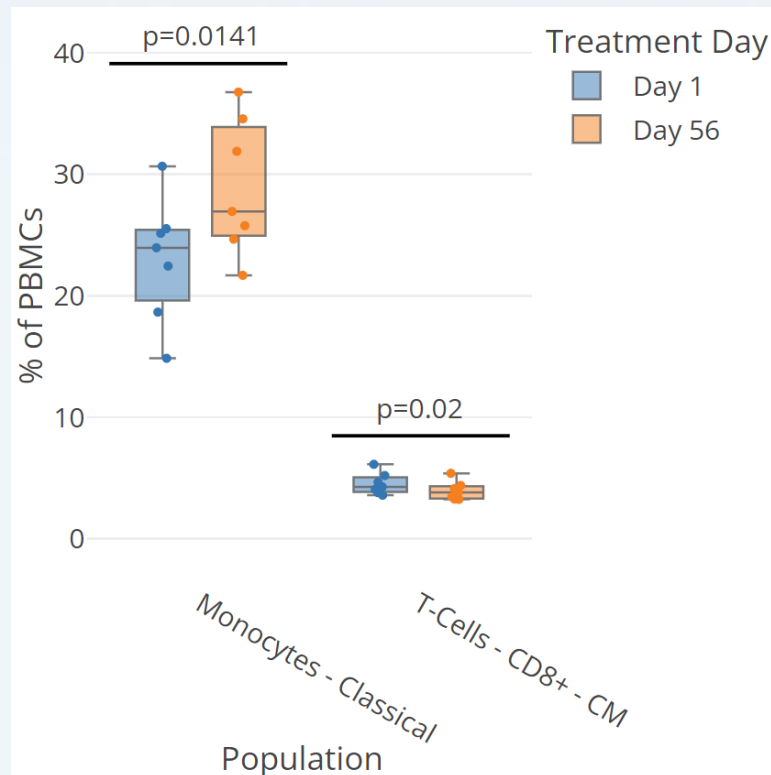
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89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103
Ac	Th	Pa	U	Np	Pu	Am	Cm	Bk	Cf	Es	Fm	Md	No	Lr
[227]	232.03806	231.03688	238.02891	[237]	[244]	[243]	[247]	[247]	[251]	[252]	[257]	[258]	[259]	[262]

Blood Biomarker Discovery – 40-Marker Panel

CD1c	CD3	CD4	CD8	CD11b
CD11c	CD14	CD16	CD19	CD20
CD25	CD27	CD33	CD34	CD38
CD39	CD45	CD45RA	CD45R0	CD56
CD57	CD66b	CD73	CD86	CD123
CD141	CTLA-4	FoxP3	GranB	HLA-DR
IDO1	LAG-3	OX40	PD-1	PD-L1
p-CREB	p-S6	TCRgd	TIGIT	TIM-3

-  T-Lymphocytes
-  B-Lymphocytes
-  Myeloid Lineage
-  Other Leukocytes
-  Exhaustion / Activation

Blood Biomarker Discovery – Preliminary Results

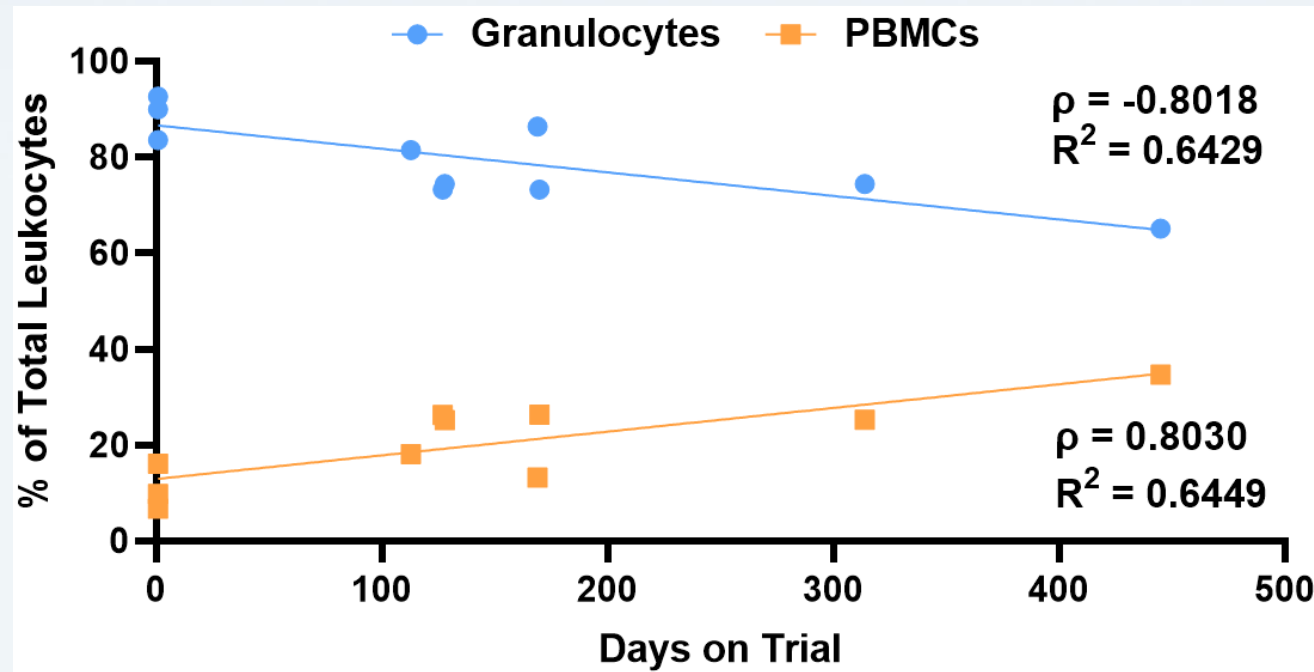


Baseline (Day 1) vs. Day 56 of treatment

- Significantly higher proportions of:
 - Classical monocytes
 - Central memory CD8+ T-cells

- Immunological response to immunotherapy

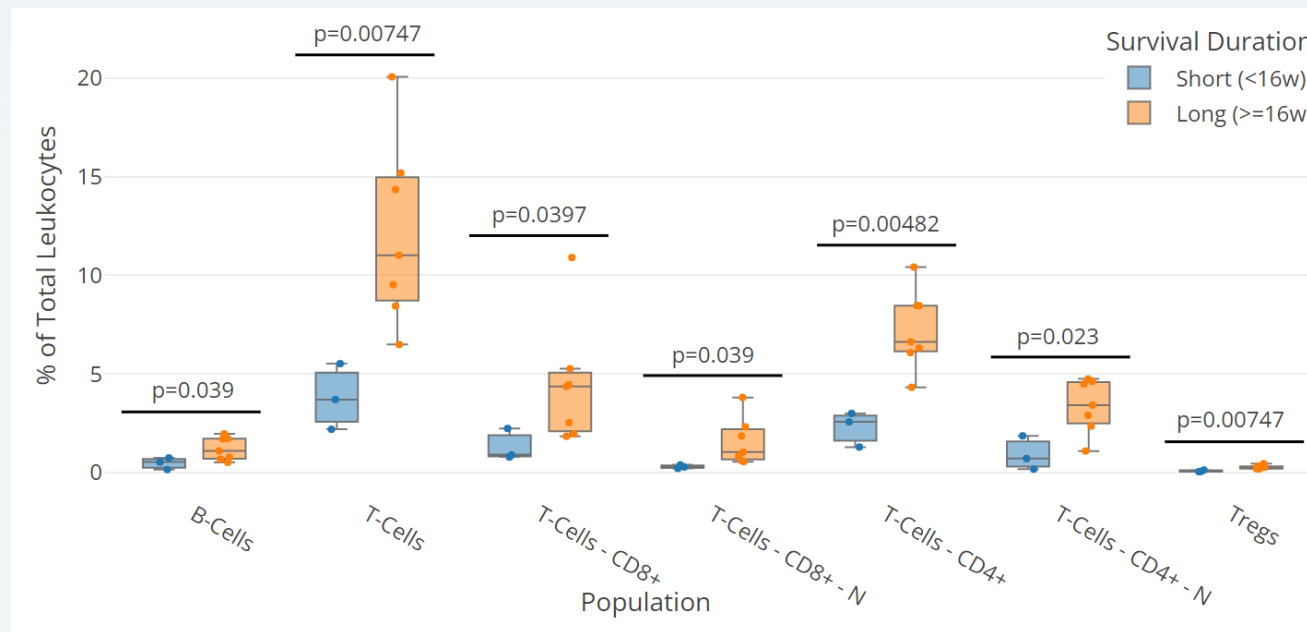
Blood Biomarker Discovery – Preliminary Results



Strong correlation (+ 0,8) between treatment length and proportion of PBMCs at baseline (Day 1)

Potential predictive biomarker

Blood Biomarker Discovery – Preliminary Results



Baseline (Day 1) PBMCs vs. Survival

- Long-term survivors (≥ 16 wks) show higher proportions of:
 - B-cells
 - Total T-cells
 - Total and Naïve CD4+ & CD8+ T-cells
 - Tregs

- Potential predictive biomarkers

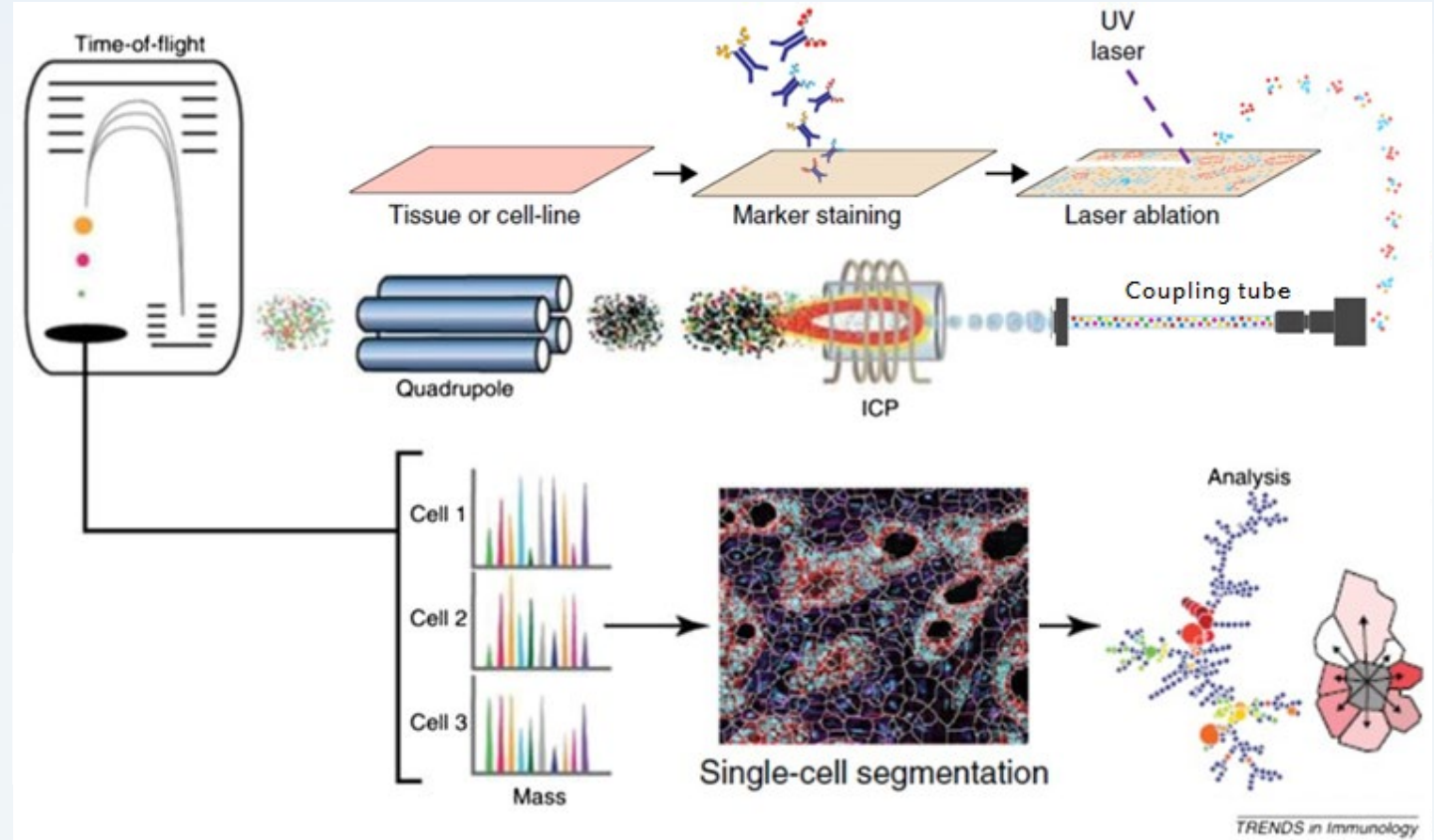
Tissue Biomarker Discovery – Imaging Mass Cytometry

- Tissue section
- Laser ablation
- Spatial data



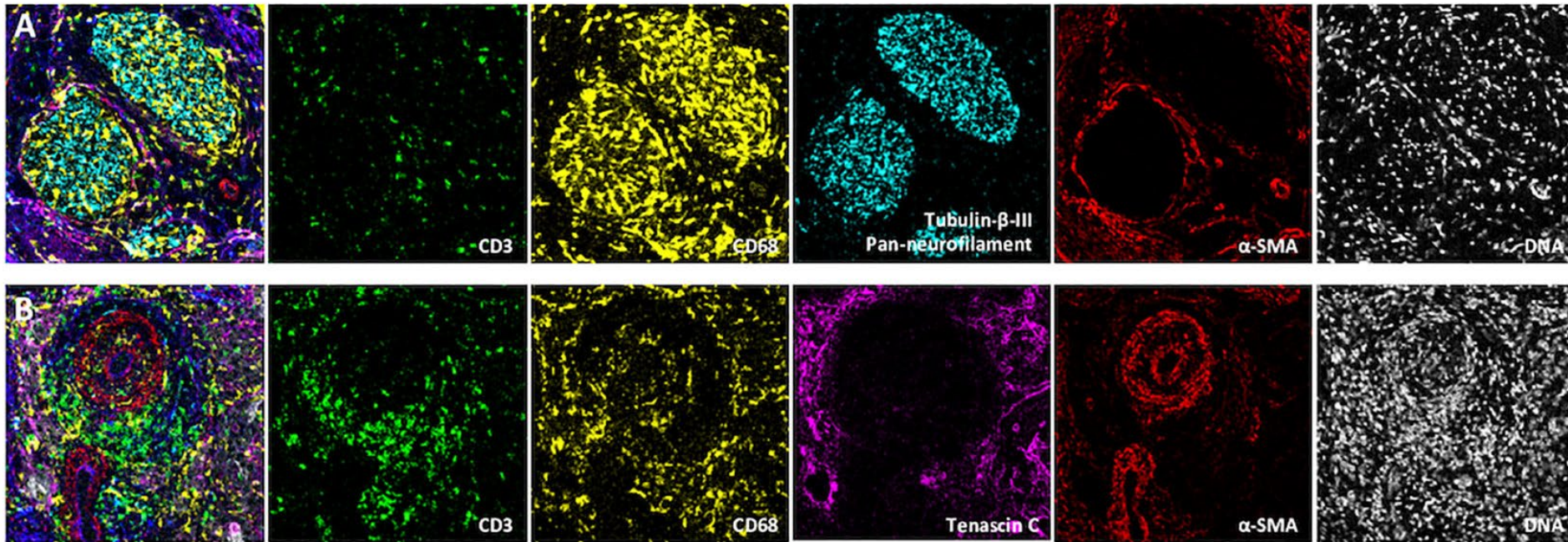
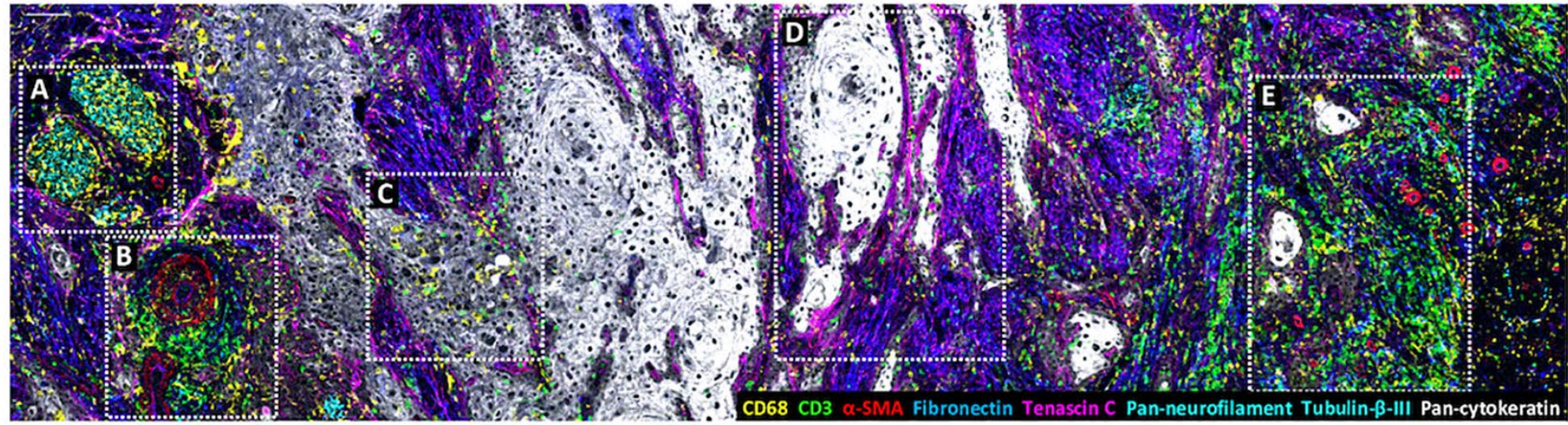
Hyperion™ mass cytometer

Standard BioTools Inc., 2019



Adapted from Kondala et al., 2015









TRENDS in Immunology



Elaldi et al., 2021

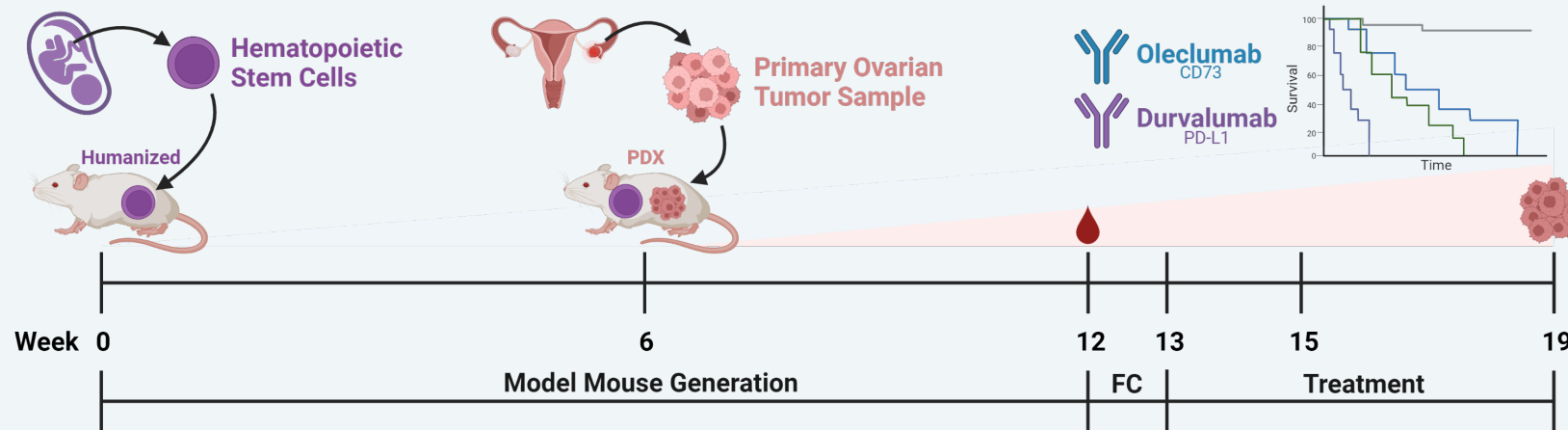
Tissue Biomarker Discovery – 38-Marker Panel

CD3	CD4	CD8	CD11b	CD11c
CD14	CD15	CD16	CD19	CD25
CD27	CD28	CD31	CD39	CD45
CD45R0	CD56	CD68	CD73	CD103
CD123	CD206	CD298	CTLA-4	EpCAM
FAPa	Fibronect.	FoxP3	GranB	HLA-DR
LAG3	PAX8	PD-1	PD-L1	aSMA
TIGIT	TIM-3	Vimentin		

-  T-Lymphocytes
-  B-Lymphocytes
-  Myeloid Lineage / Macrophages
-  Other Leukocytes
-  Exhaustion / Activation
-  Tumor
-  Stroma / Fibroblasts
-  Vasculature

Humanized Mouse Models

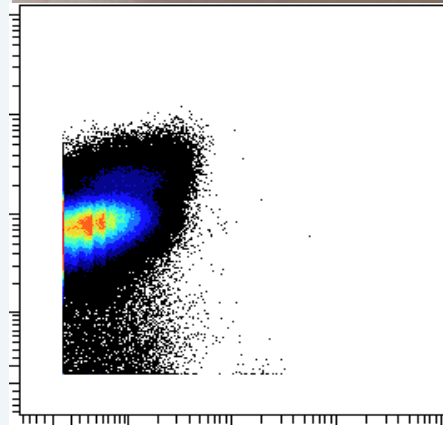
- Two orthotopic PDX models
 - Previously established, ready for xenotransplantation
 - Non-trial, therapy-naïve HGSOC
 - Known CD73 and PD-L1 status
- Humanized mice (18 mice per PDX model)
 - NSGS strain (highly immunodeficient)
 - HSC from umbilical cord blood
- Oleclumab + durvalumab treatment
 - Combinatorial (n=5), single (n=5 x 2), saline control (n=3)
 - 20 mg/kg, IP
- Tumor sampling at endpoint
- Analysis with imaging mass cytometry panel with added anti-mouse antibody.



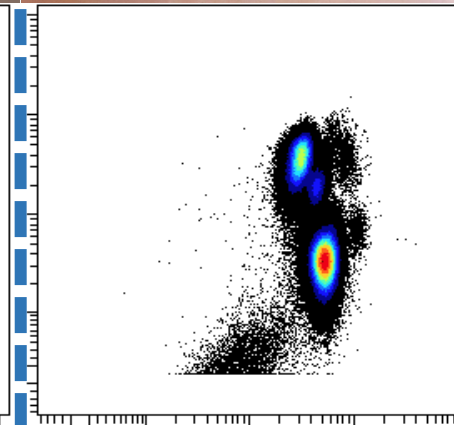
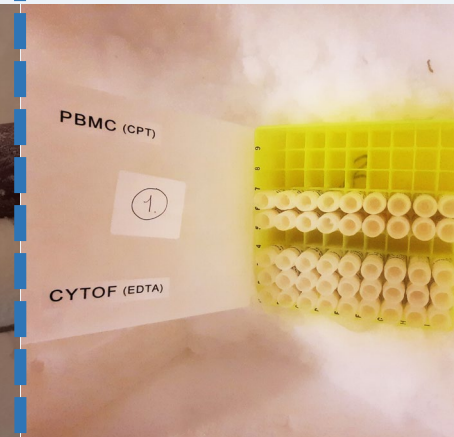
Sample Inconsistency

- Same instructions for all sites – different results.
- Sampling issues
 - 50% (40/77) improperly processed or not taken at all.
 - 50% (37/77) in pristine condition.
 - 10 / 25 patients.
- Significant loss of statistical power.

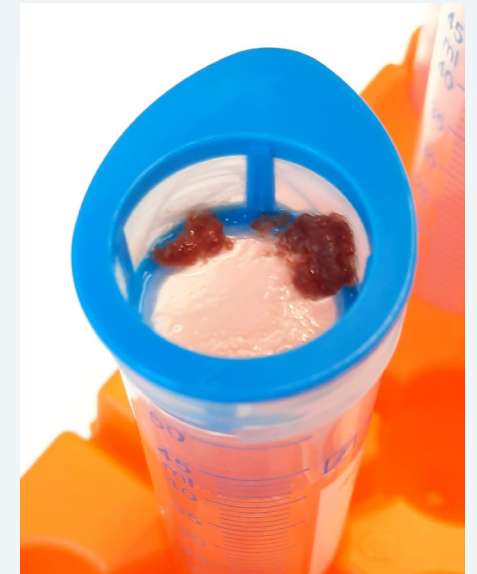
IMPROPER
(frozen directly)



PROPER
(processed according to protocol)



Large clots in improperly processed samples

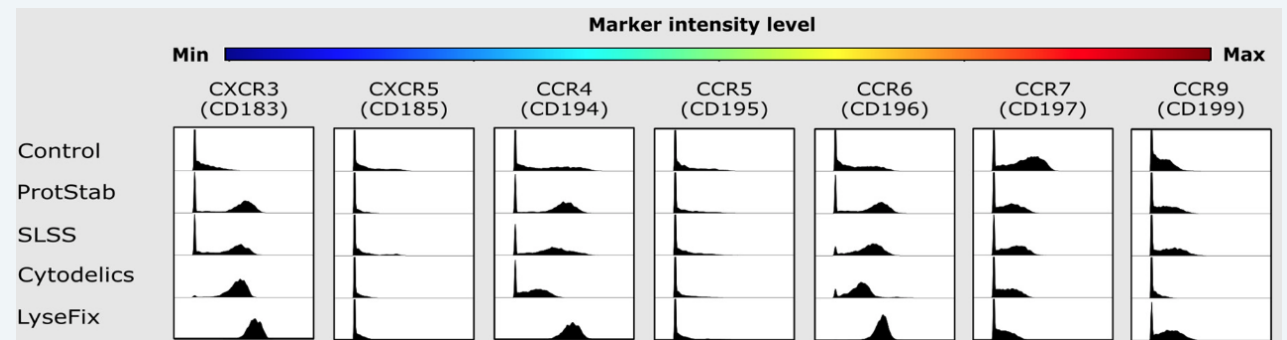


Sample Inconsistency - Prevention

- Protocol writing
 - Prioritize clarity
 - Remove presumptions of previous knowledge
 - Translation into native language
 - Demonstration meetings
 - Tutorial videos
 - Time / quality ratio
- Feasible study nurse scheduling

Choice of Sample Preservation Method

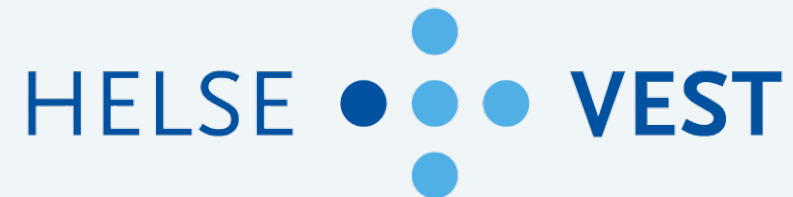
- Evaluate preservation method beforehand
 - Loss of information vs. protocol complexity
- UMBRELLA trial: Lyse/Fix
 - Simple protocol, but harsh fix
 - (4% PFA, 1,5% MeOH, diH₂O)
 - Epitope destruction
- SmartTube ProtStab
 - Add to blood → freeze.



Sakkestad et al., 2019

Thank you for your attention.

FUNDING:



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