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PATHOLOGISTS

# PD-L1: Immune checkpoint blockade in cancer

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**Nov 3, 2016**

# Webinar Host

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# Kenneth J. Bloom, MD, FCAP

- **President and Head of oncology and immunotherapy at Human Longevity, Inc**
- **Has published over 50 peer-reviewed articles, more than 100 abstracts, and several book chapters**



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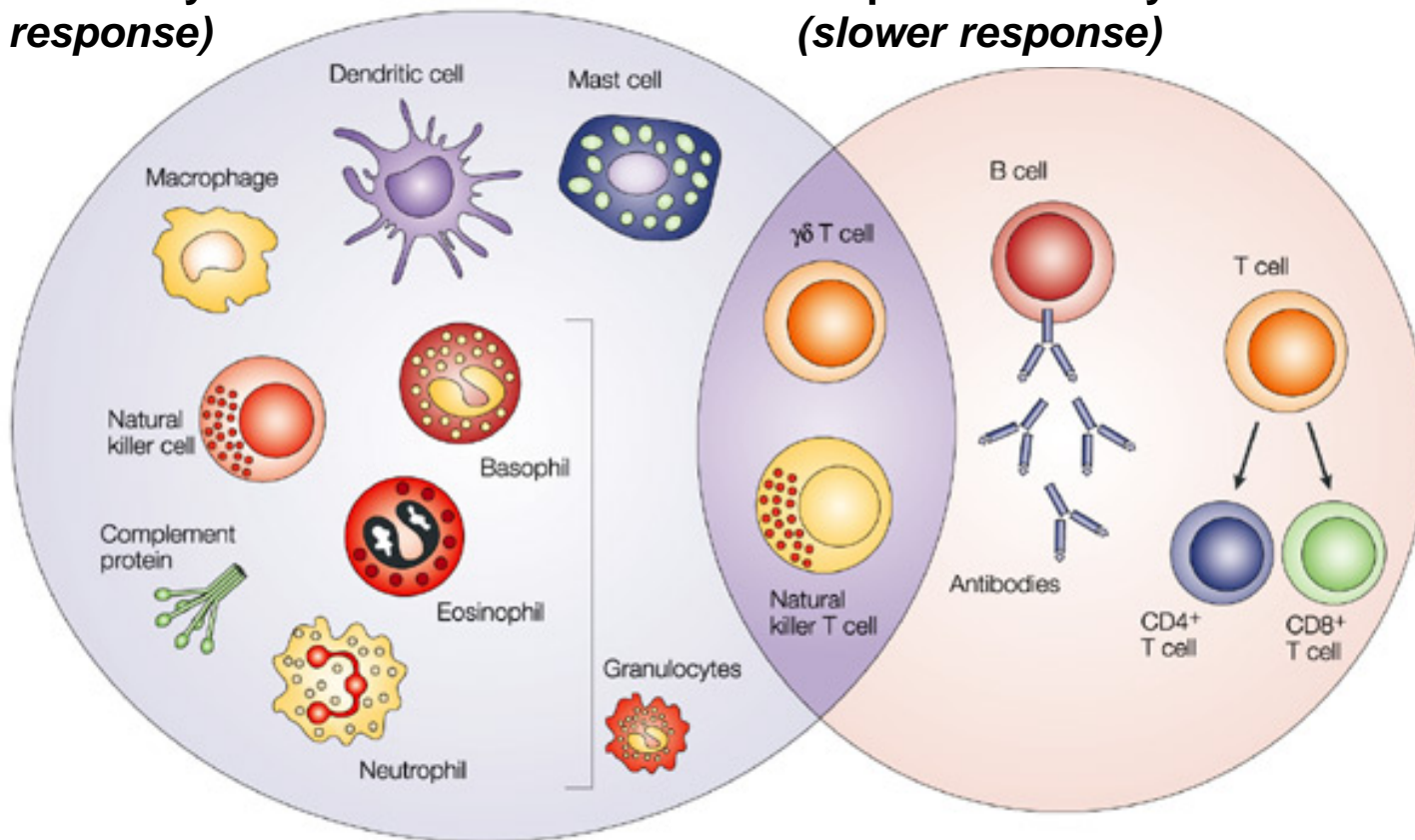
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# Your Immune System has two main ways to respond to foreign invaders:

## Innate versus adaptive

**Innate Immunity**  
*(rapid response)*

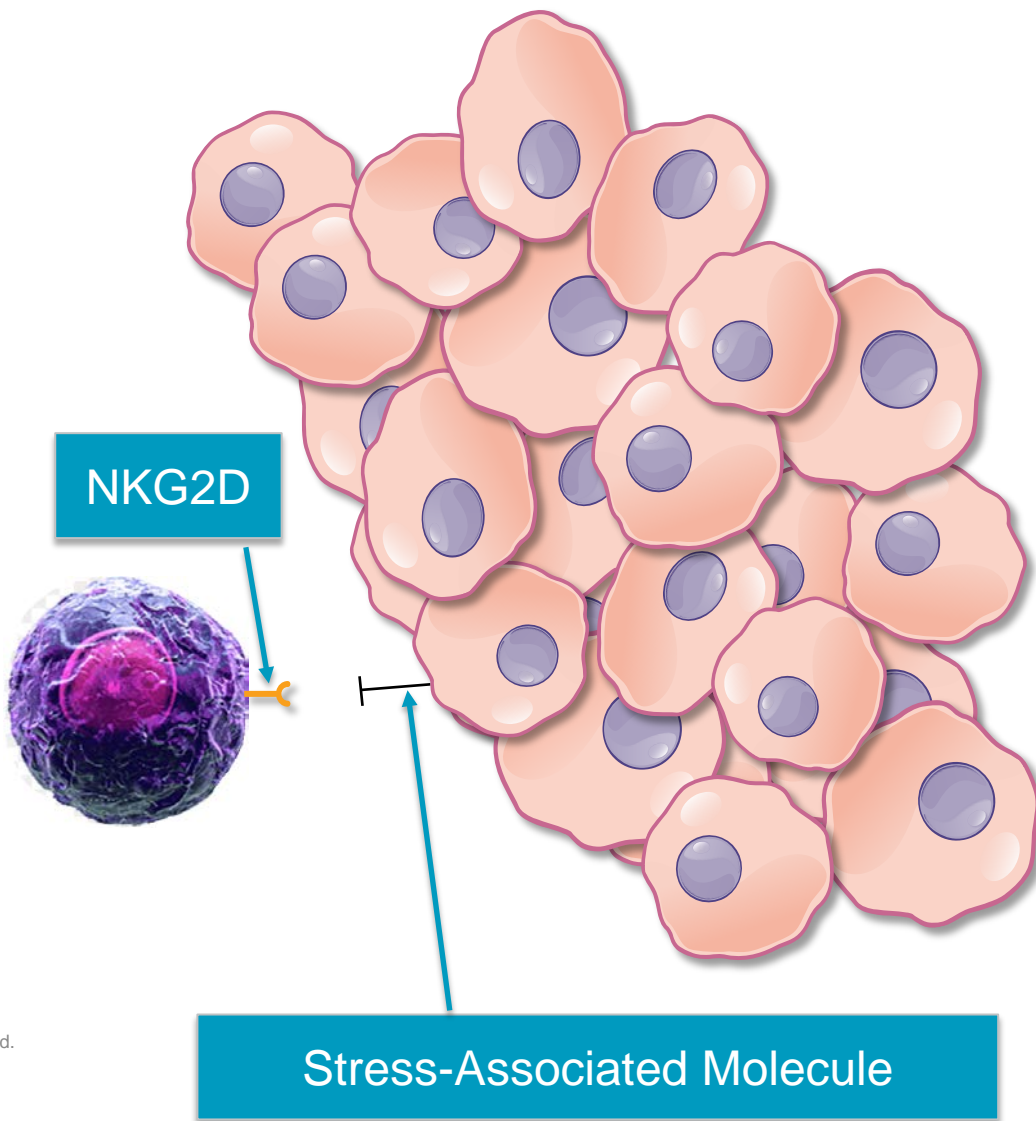
**Adaptive Immunity**  
*(slower response)*



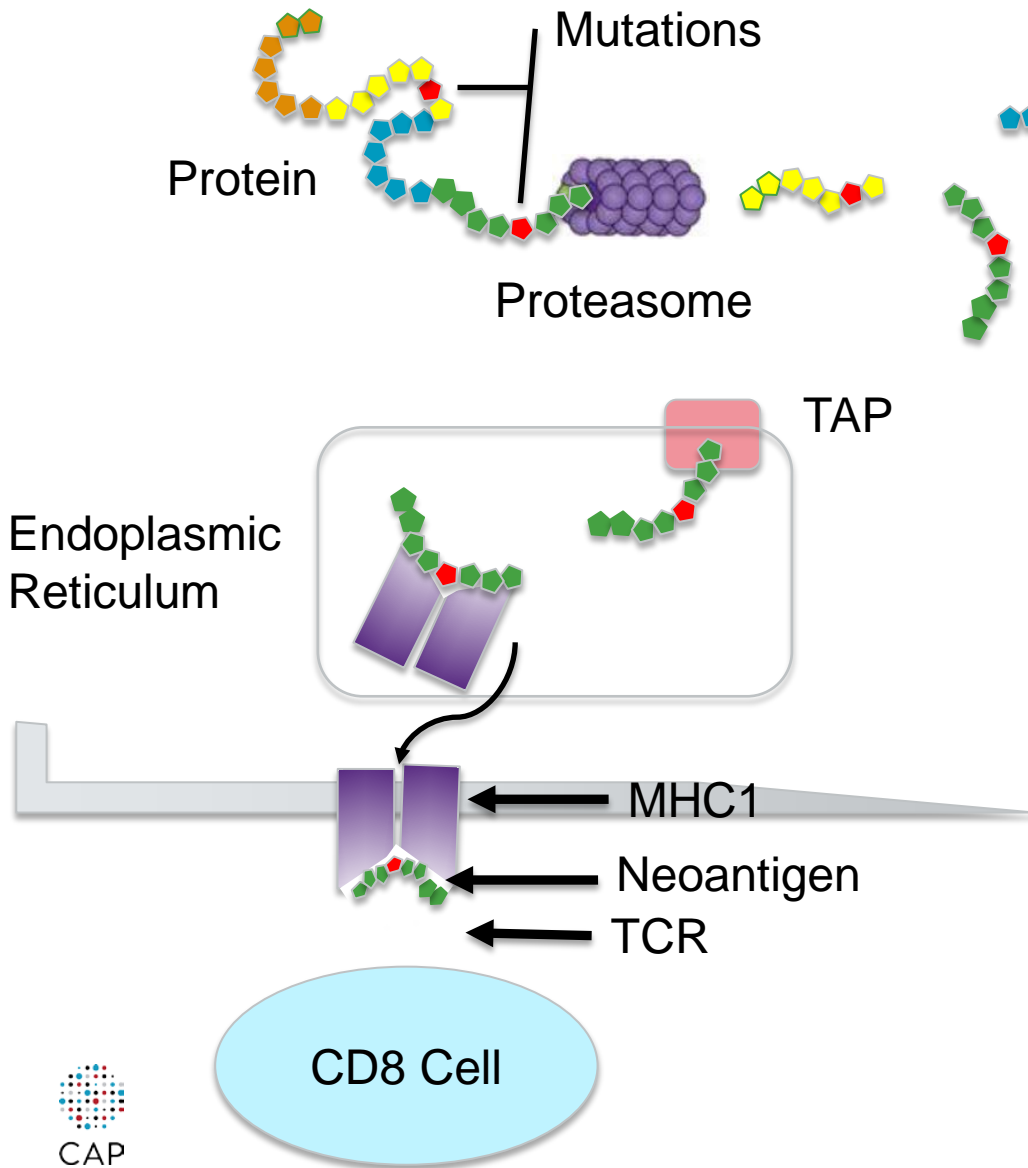


# The Cells of Our Immune System Are Constantly Monitoring Our Tissues

Natural Killer cells or NK cells sense stress associated molecules on the surface of cancerous and damaged cells

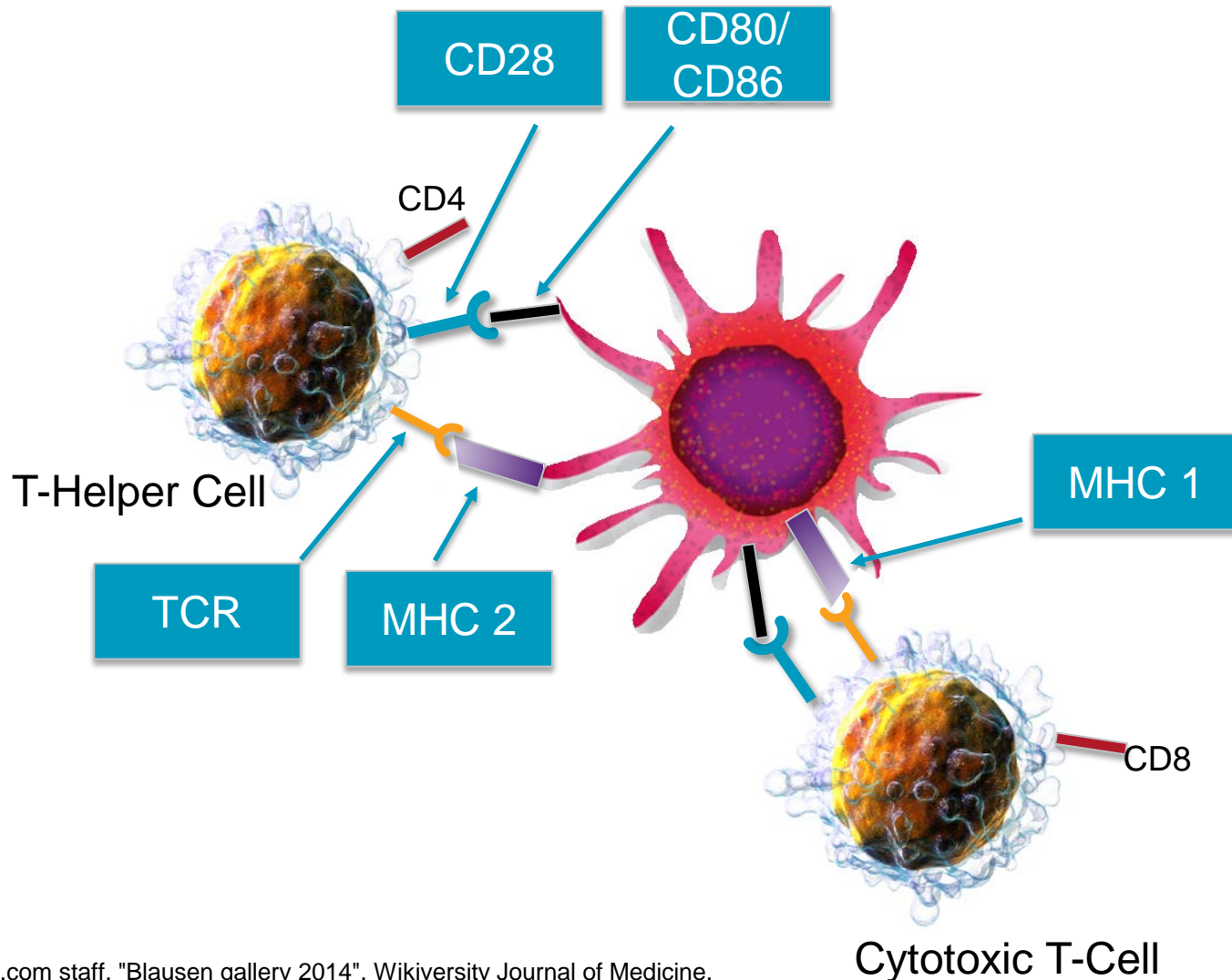


# Tumor Mutations Create Neoantigen T-Cell Targets

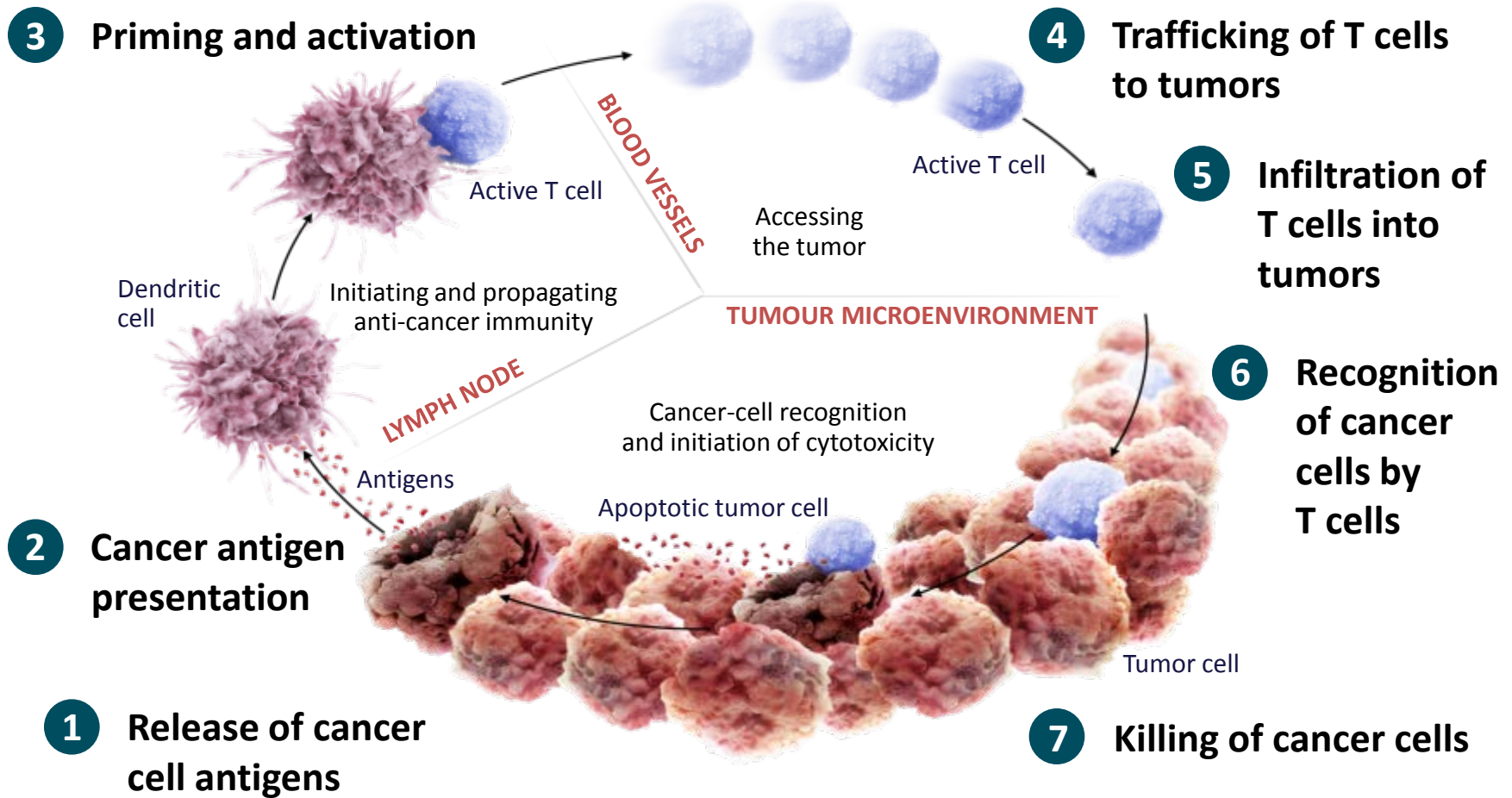


- The proteasome degrades intracellular proteins into short peptides that will be transported to the ER via TAP transport. Most peptides won't bind to MHC class 1 molecules but if a peptide binds with high affinity, the stable complex will be transported to the membrane surface.

# Dendritic Cells Activate Cytotoxic T-Cells

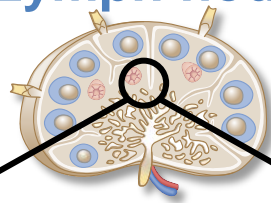


# The Cancer-immunity Cycle

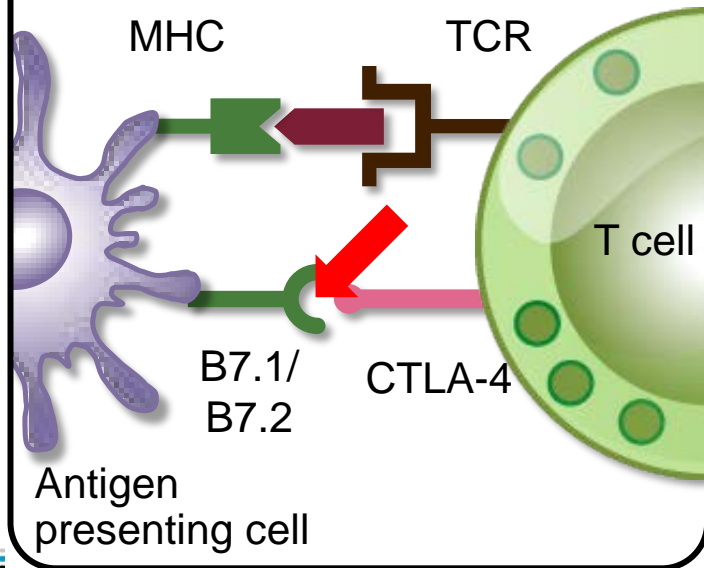


# From theory to practice

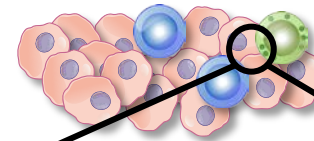
Lymph node



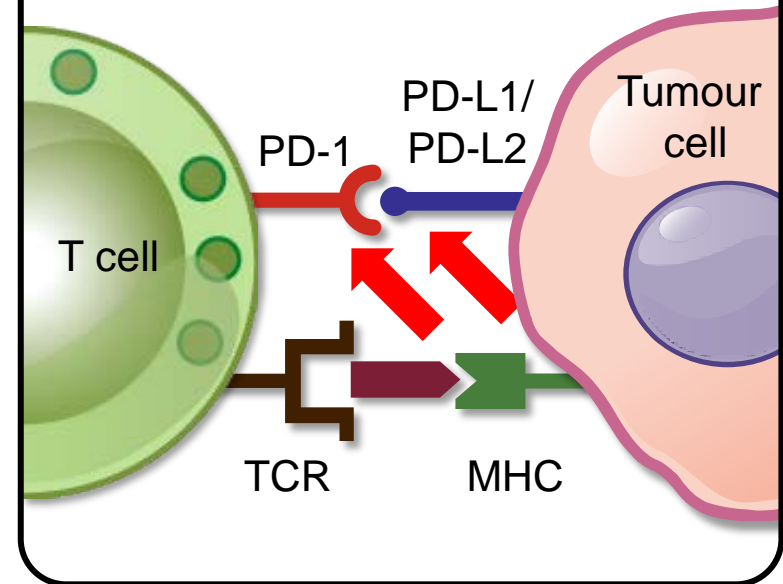
CTLA-4 pathway



Tumour microenvironment



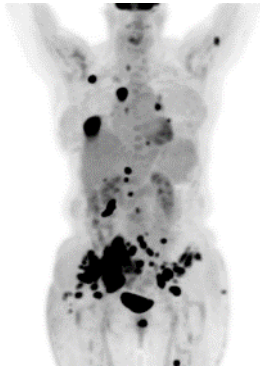
PD-1 pathway



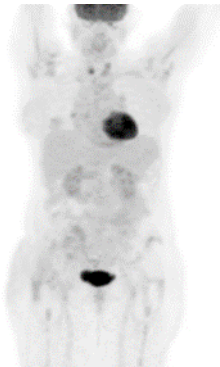
# Immunotherapies targeting PD-L1 and PD-1 are having a dramatic impact in the clinic

Patient with NSCLC treated with atezolizumab (FIR study)<sup>1</sup>

Baseline



Post C2 (Week 6)



Patient with RCC treated with nivolumab (NCT00730639)<sup>2</sup>

Baseline

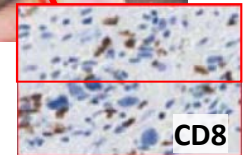


23 months

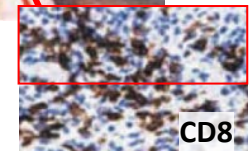


Patient with melanoma treated with pembrolizumab (KEYNOTE-001)<sup>3</sup>

Baseline



Day 90





# Key Differences Between Targeted Therapy and Immunotherapy

## Targeted Therapy

Tends to be organ specific

Patients negative for biomarker get no benefit

Benefits seen early

Duration of benefit limited

Impact on survival limited

Biomarker in tumor cells

## Immunotherapy

Pan tumor potential

Patients negative for biomarker still get benefit

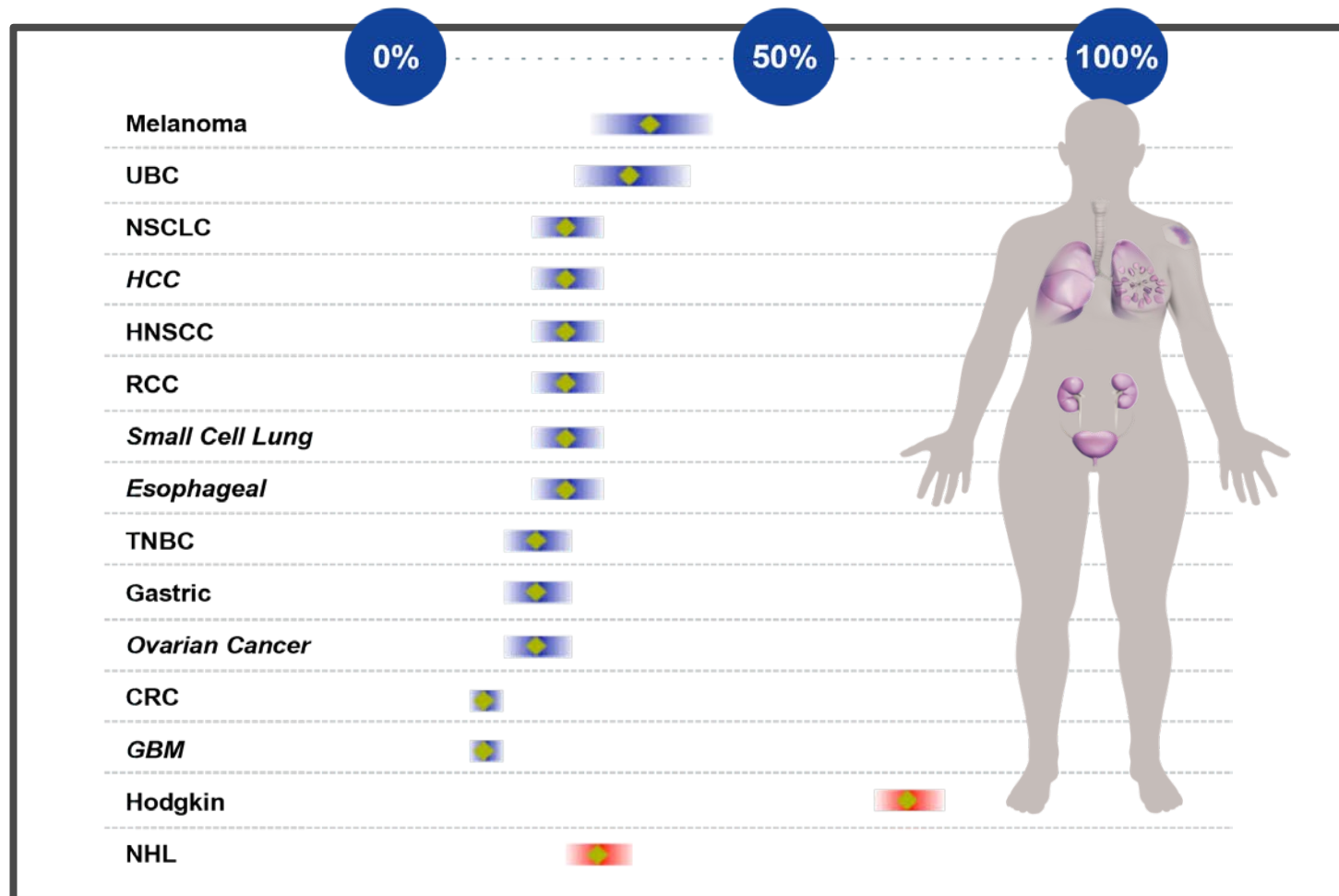
Benefit not always seen early

Extended duration of benefit

Impact on overall survival

Tumor cells + TME

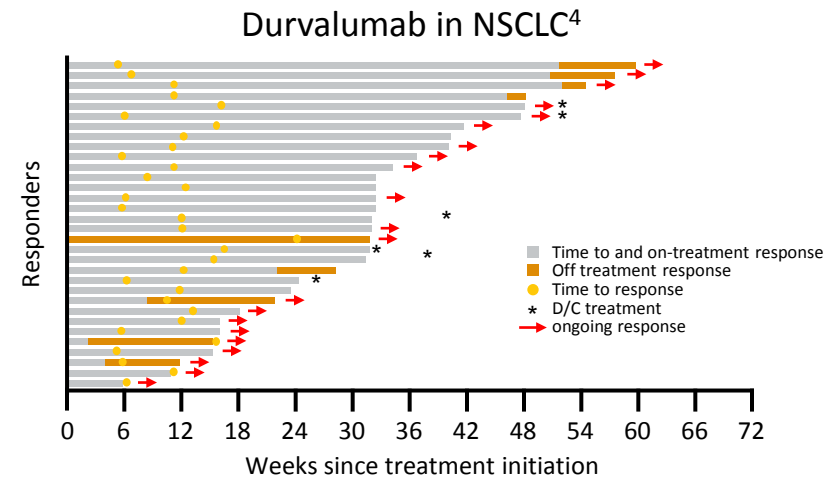
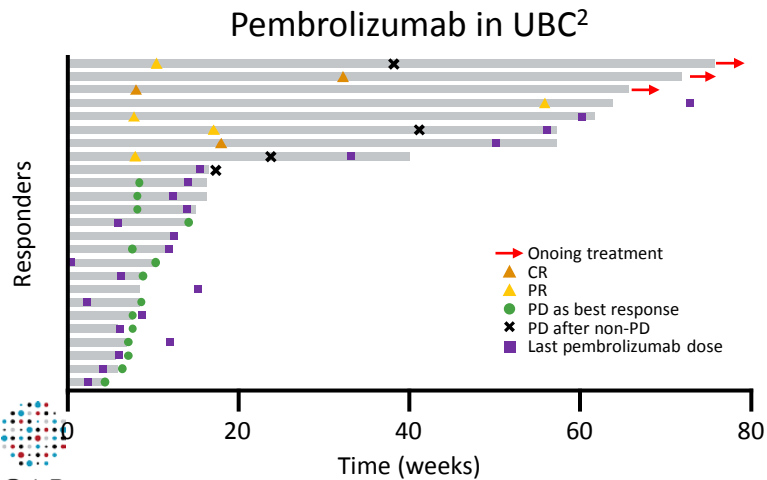
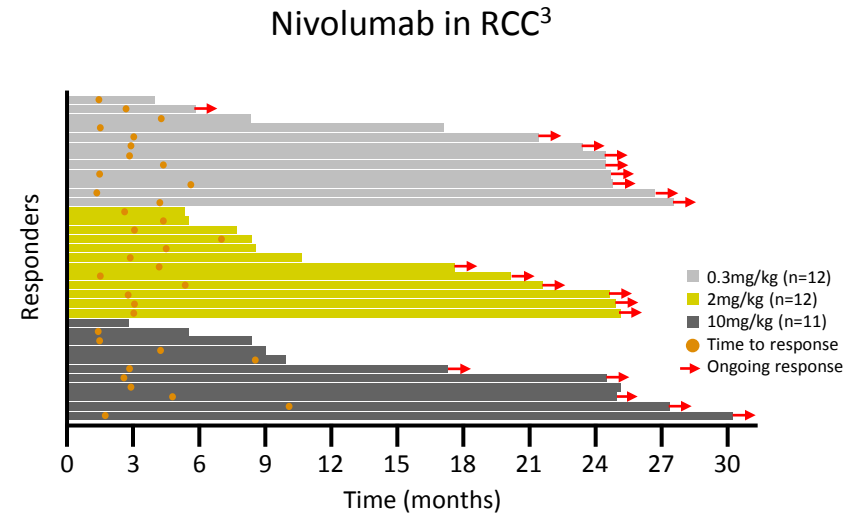
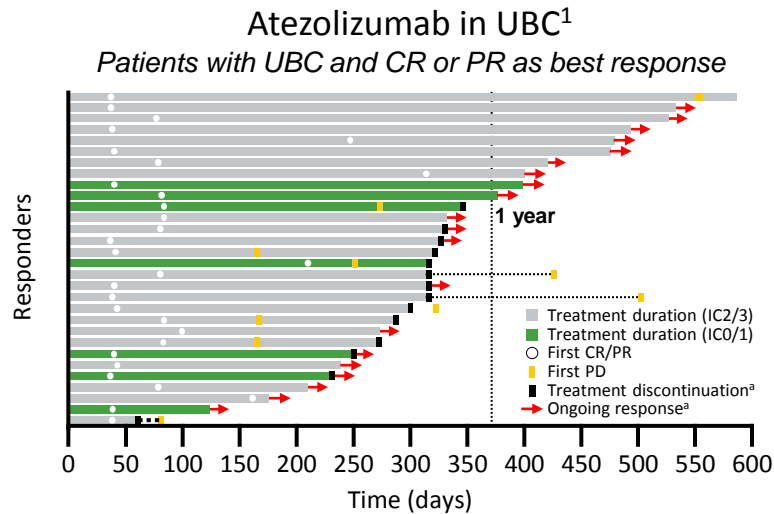
# Broad pan-tumor potential with anti-PDL1/PD1 inhibitors: approximate ORR in all-comers with monotherapy





# Durable responses for PD-L1/PD-1 inhibitors

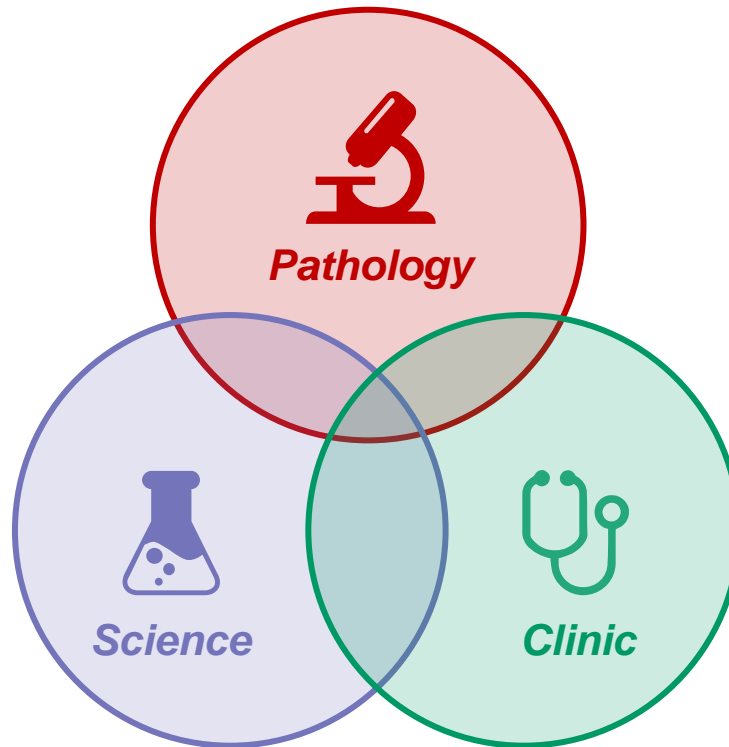
Durable responses have been seen across a range of tumour types



1. Petrylak et al. ASCO 2015; 2. Plimack et al. ASCO 2015; 3. Motzer et al. ASCO 2014; 4. Spigel et al. ASCO 2015

# How can we realise the promise of cancer immunotherapy?

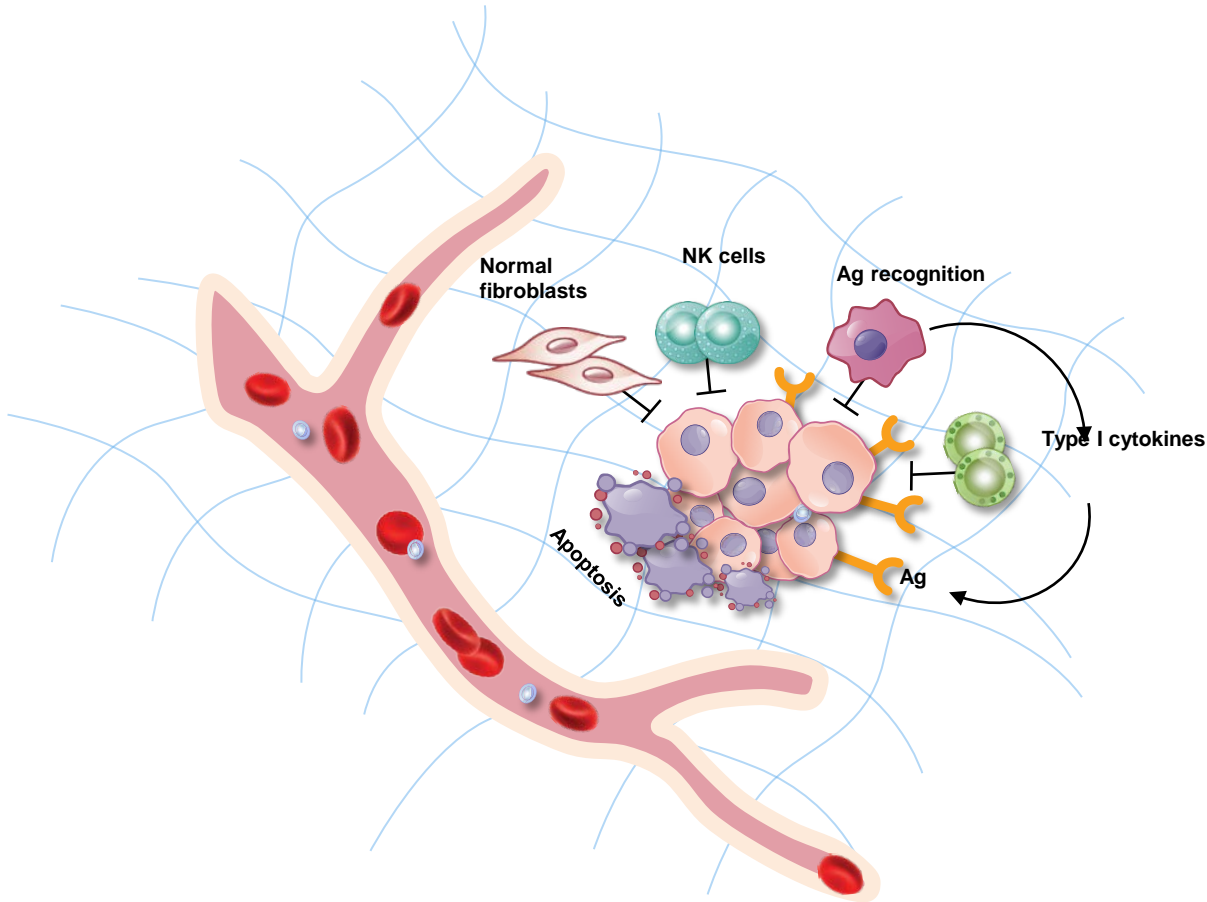
**More comprehensive analysis of tumor and tumor microenvironment**



**Better understand the underlying immune response to tumor cells**

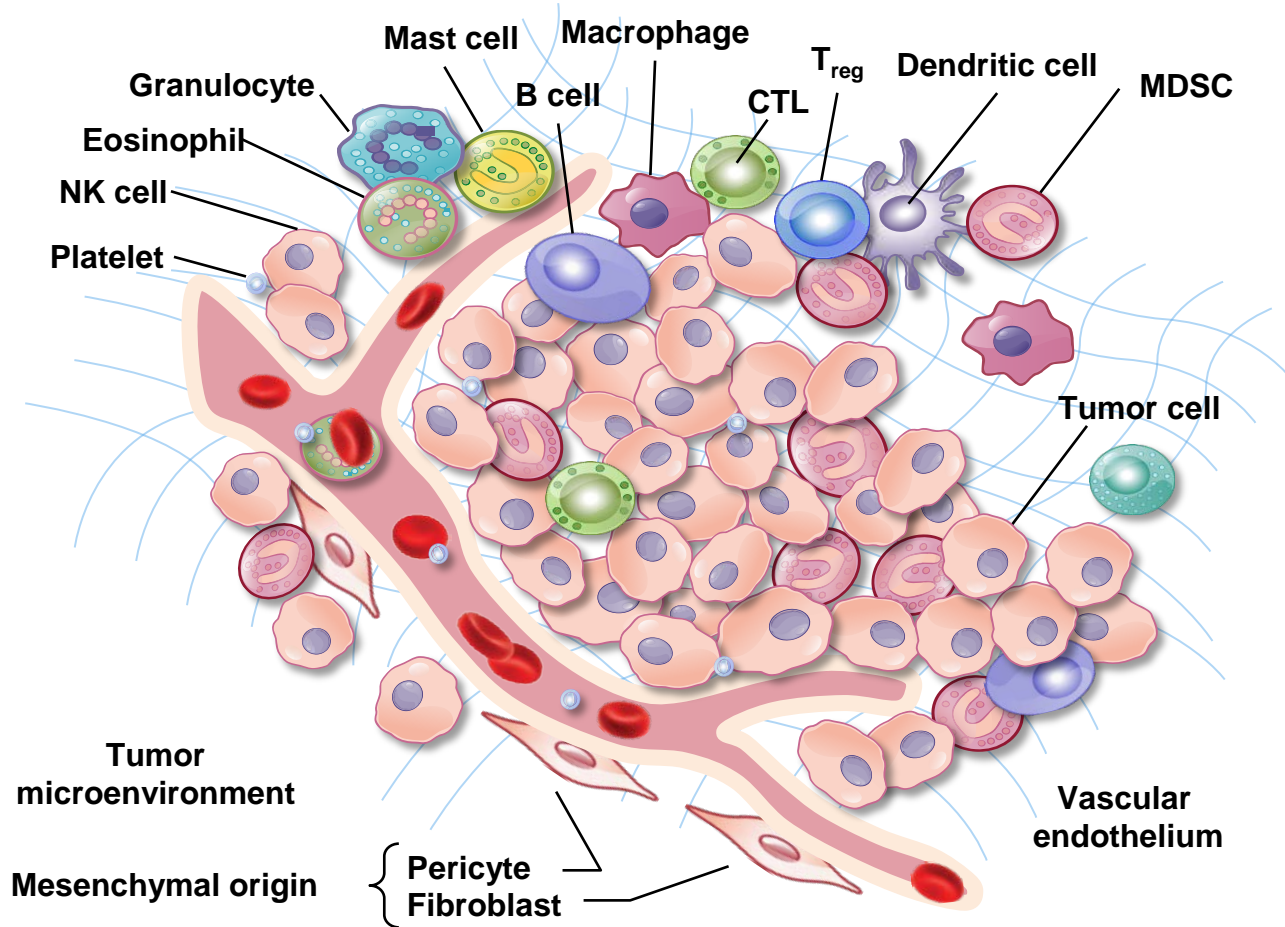
**Personalize cancer immunotherapy to improve patient outcomes**

# The Tumor Microenvironment (TME) Shapes Tumor Evolution

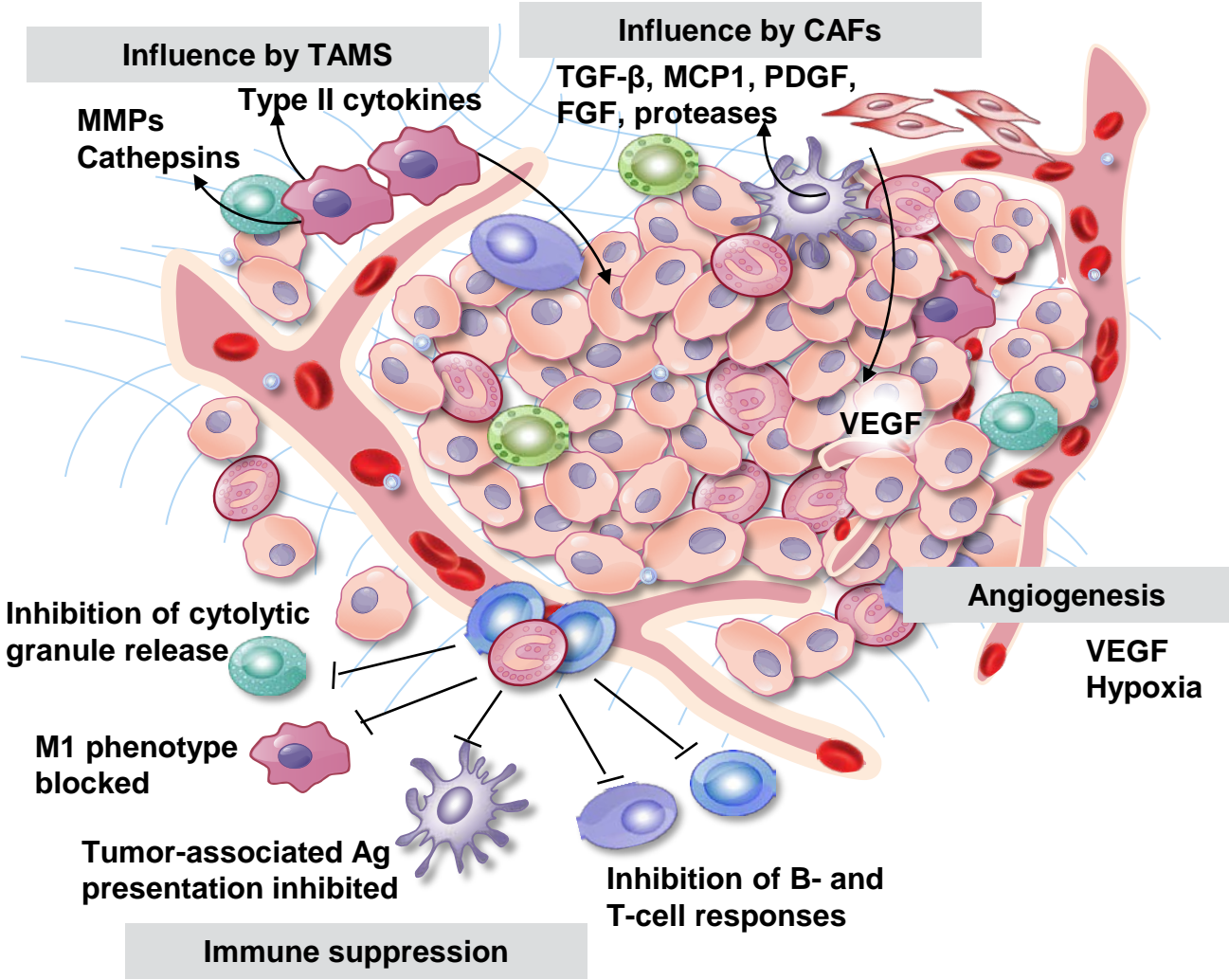


- The immune system naturally identifies and eliminates cancerous cells

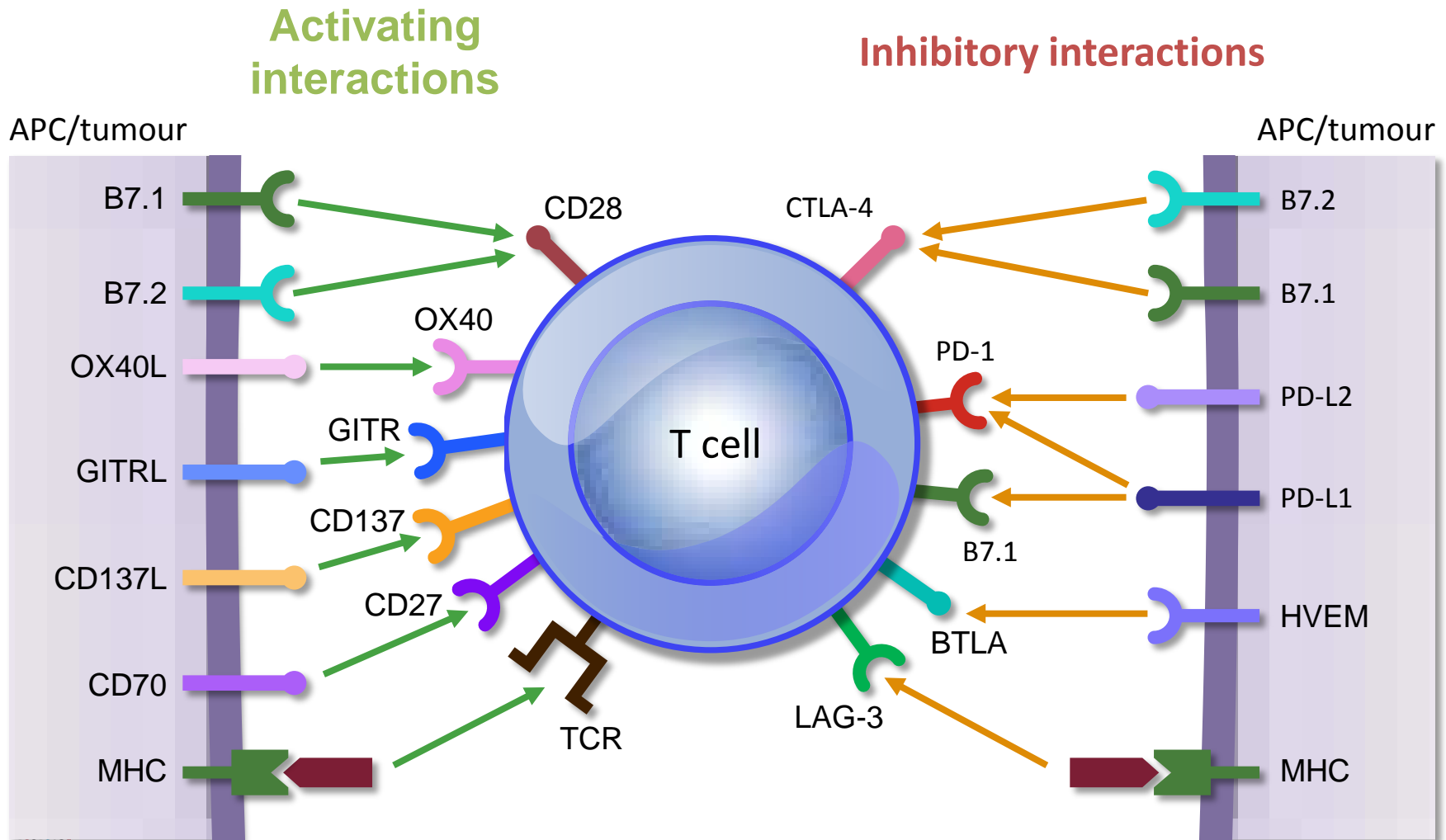
# The TME Aids T-Cell Tolerance Contributing to Uncontrolled Tumor Growth



# Tumors Exploit Different Pathways to Evade the Immune System

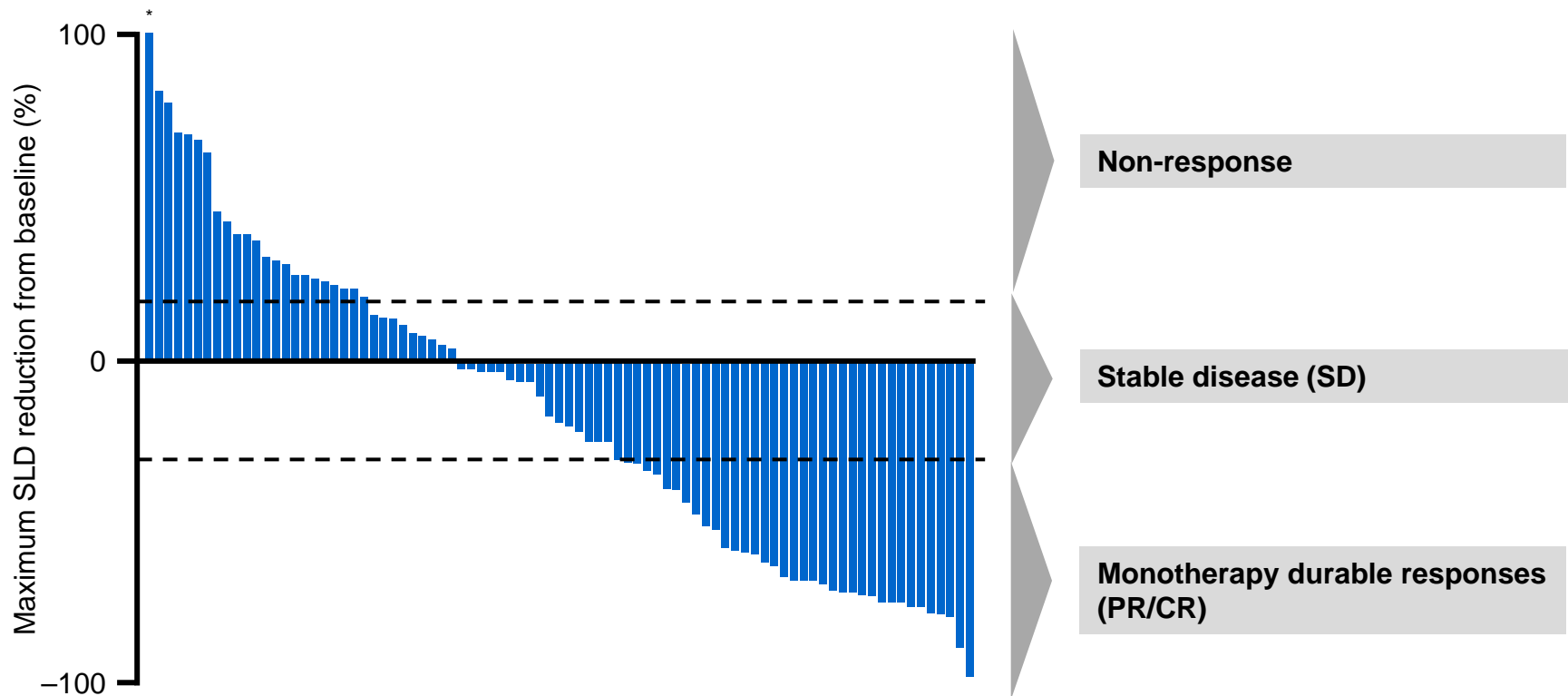


# Checkpoint pathways



# Why do some patients not respond?

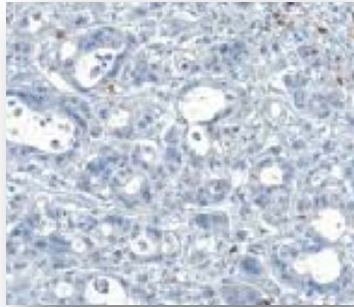
Atezolizumab phase II data: UC IC2/3 patients



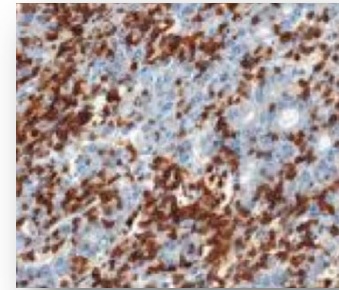
SLD, sum of longest diameters. \* >100% increase.

Per RECIST v1.1 (independent review). Data cutoff September 14, 2015. Patients without post-baseline tumor assessments included those who discontinued before the first tumour assessment and are not plotted. Several patients with CR had <100% reduction due to lymph node target lesions. All lymph nodes returned to normal size per RECIST v1.1. Rosenberg et al. Lancet 2016

# Pathology assessment for anti-PDL1/PD1 therapy



Is the tumor  
inflamed?



NO

YES

No recognizable antigen

Immune compromised

Lack of presentation

Lack of priming

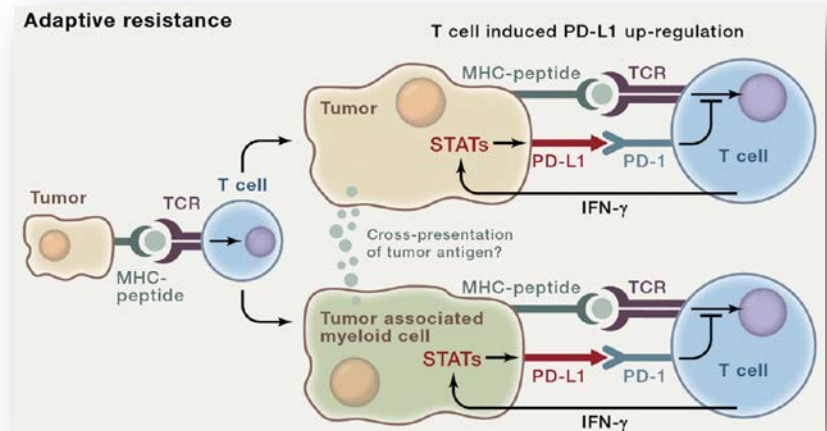
Trafficking of CD8 cells

Infiltration of T cells

Other TME issues

Is there evidence of an adaptive  
immune response?

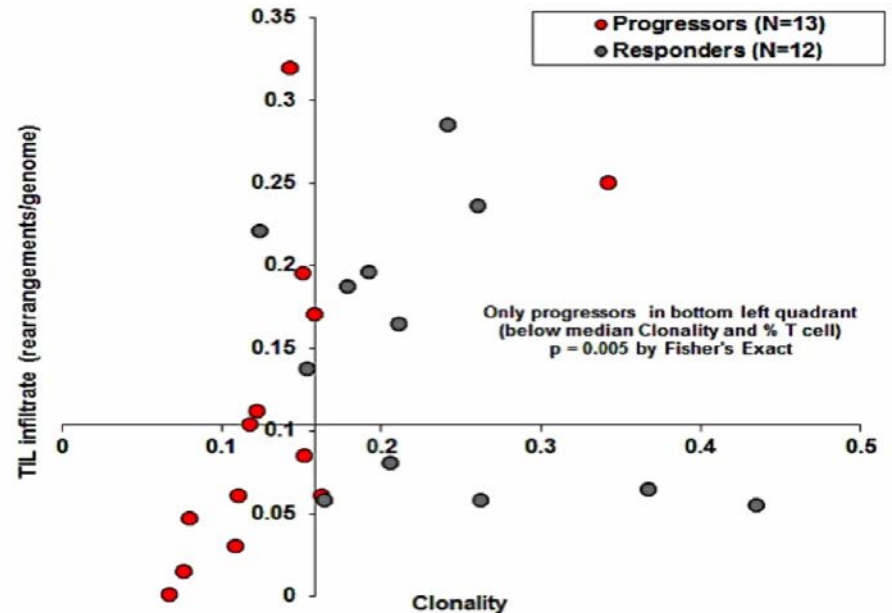
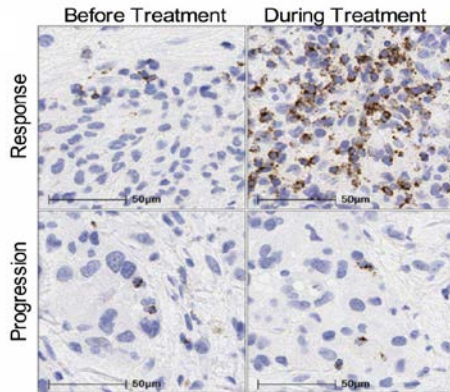
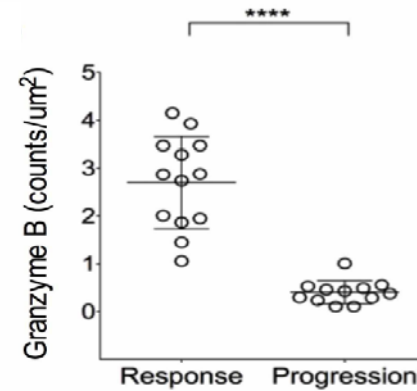
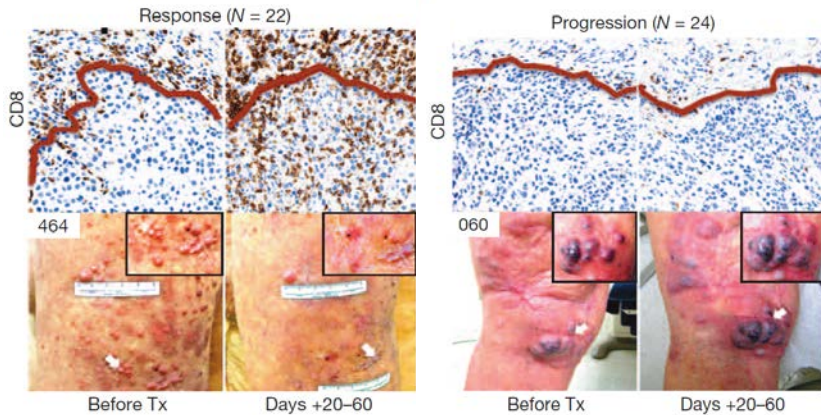
?PD-L1 expression




Topalian SL, Taube JM, Anders RA, Pardoll DM. Mechanism-driven biomarkers to guide immune checkpoint blockade in cancer therapy. Nat Rev Cancer. 2016;16(5):275-87.



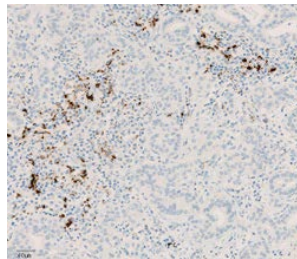
# TILs and TIL clonality as a predictor of response in melanoma patients receiving PD-1 therapy




 Tume PC, Harview CL, Yearley JH, et al. PD-1 blockade induces responses by inhibiting adaptive immune resistance. *Nature*. 2014;515(7528):568-71.

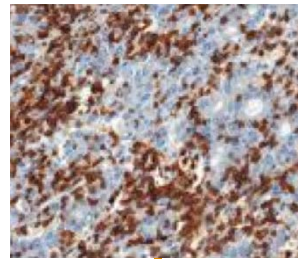
# Inflamed versus non-inflamed tumors

**Inflamed**



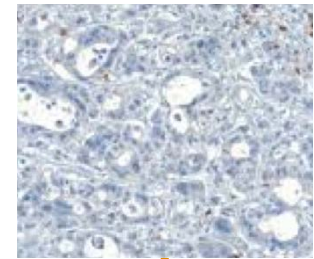
Respond poorly to  
checkpoint inhibition

**Inflamed**



Respond favourably to  
checkpoint inhibition

**Non-inflamed**



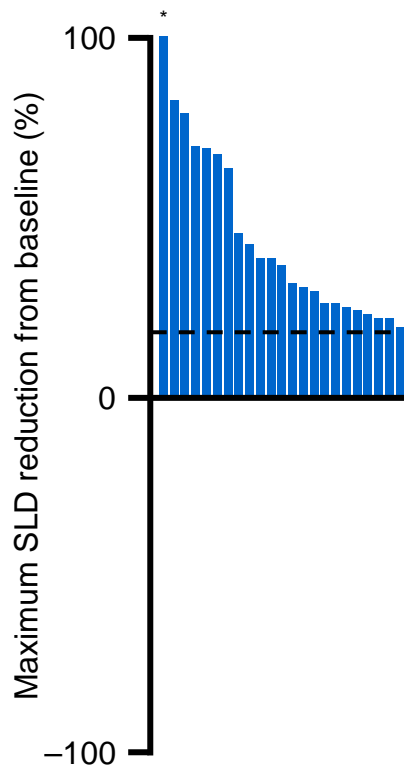
Least likely to respond  
to checkpoint inhibition

How can we further  
enhance T cell function?

How can we convert  
these tumours to  
become inflamed?

# Why do some patients not respond?

Atezolizumab phase II data: UC IC2/3 patients



Non-response

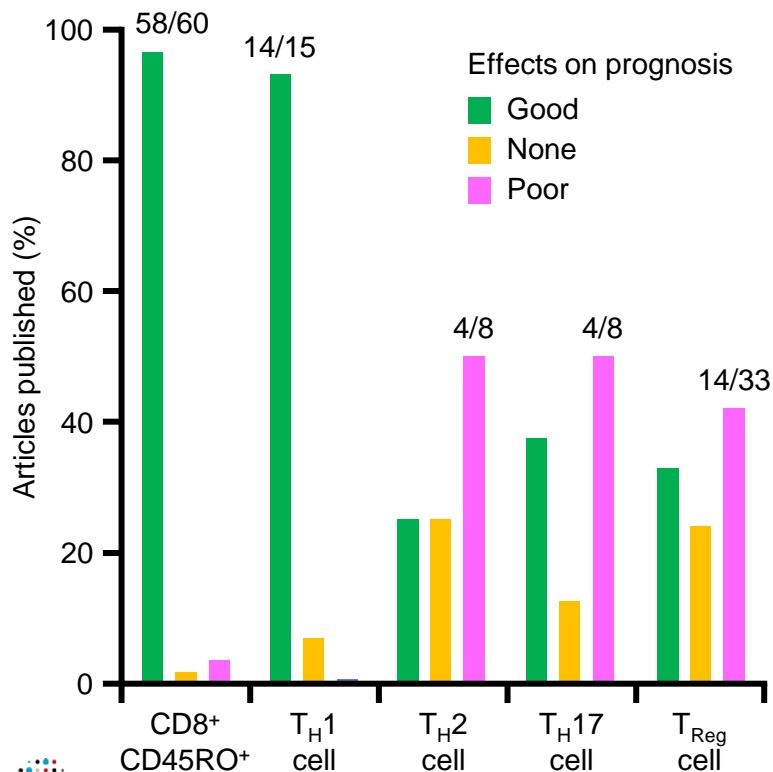
Tumour infiltrating lymphocytes?

PD-L1 expression?

Mutational load?

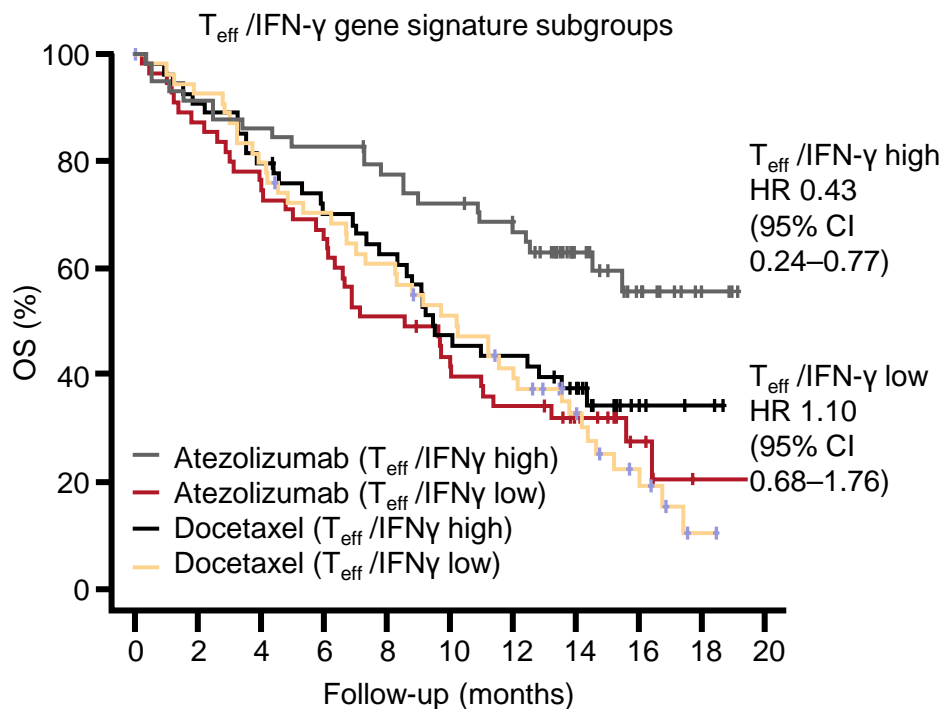
# Presence of tumor infiltrating lymphocytes influences outcome

The association of immune cell infiltrates with prognosis in cancer<sup>1</sup>



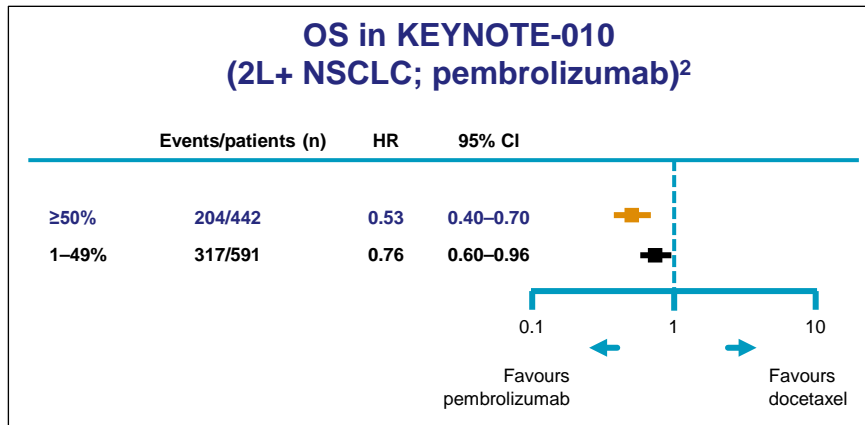
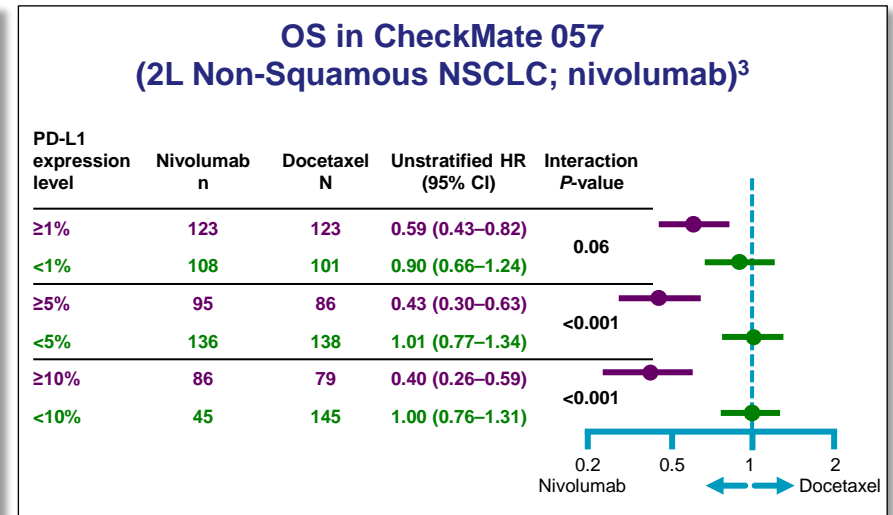
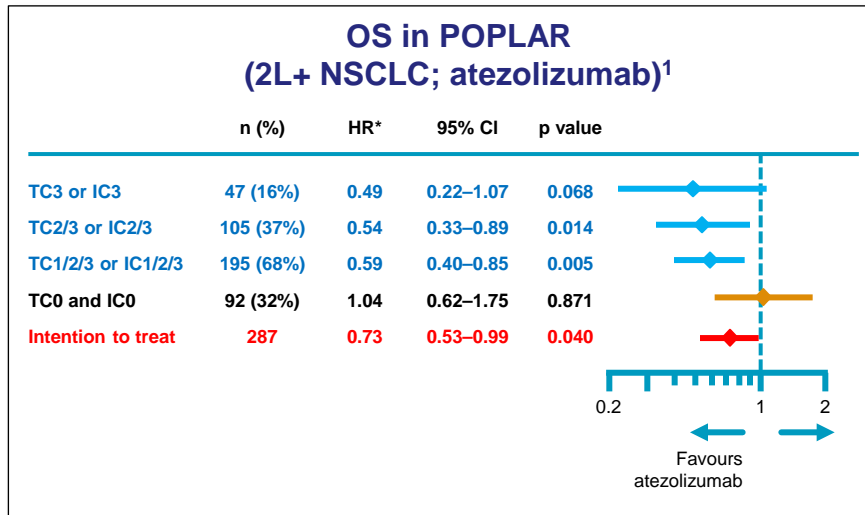
Patients with a pre-existing immune response derive the most benefit from checkpoint inhibitors<sup>2</sup>

OS association for IFN $\gamma$ -signature for atezolizumab in NSCLC (POPLAR)<sup>2</sup>



T<sub>eff</sub>/IFN- $\gamma$ : CD8A, GZMA, GZMB, CXCL9, EOMES, IFN $\gamma$ , CXCL10, T-bet  
 1. Fridman et al. Nat Rev Cancer 2012; 2. Fehrenbacher et al. Lancet 2016

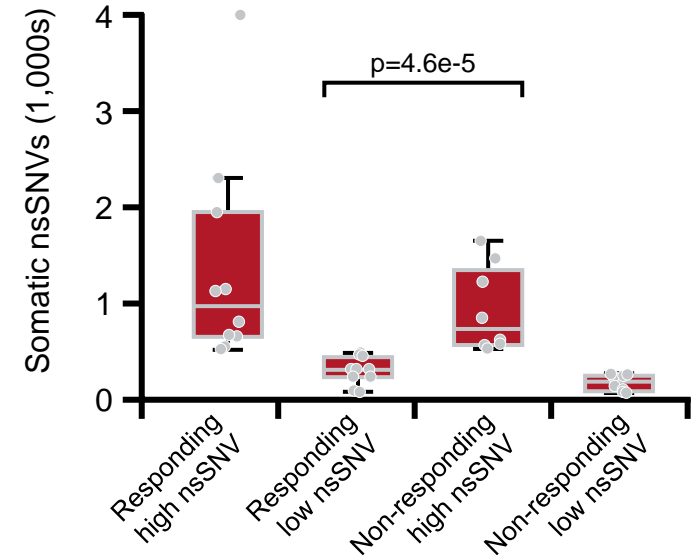
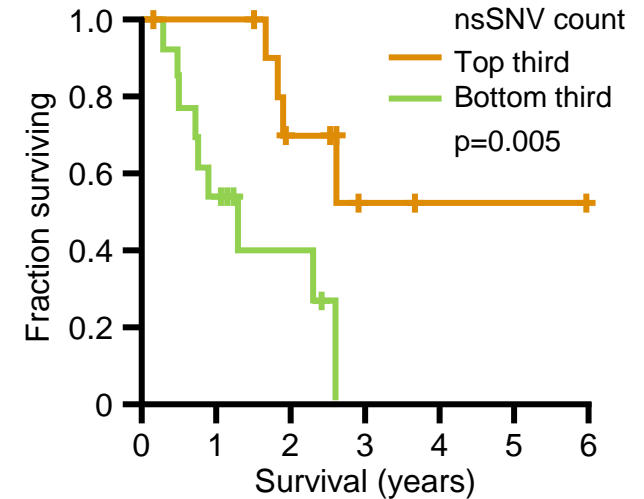
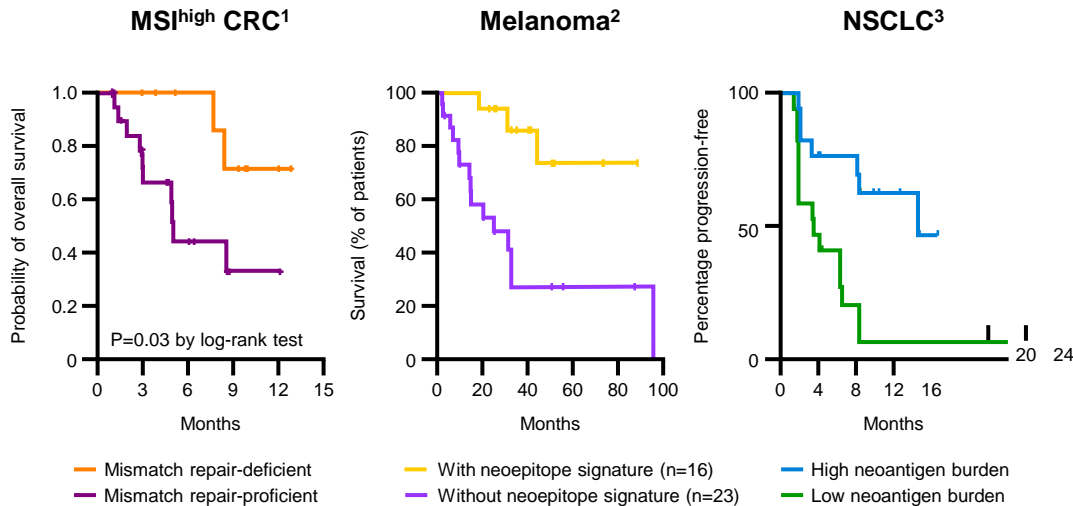
# Higher levels of PD-L1 expression associated with improved OS



1. Fahrenbacher et al. Lancet 2016; 2. Herbst et al. Lancet 2015  
3. Borghaei et al. N Engl J Med 2015 (suppl)

# Mutational load may influence outcomes

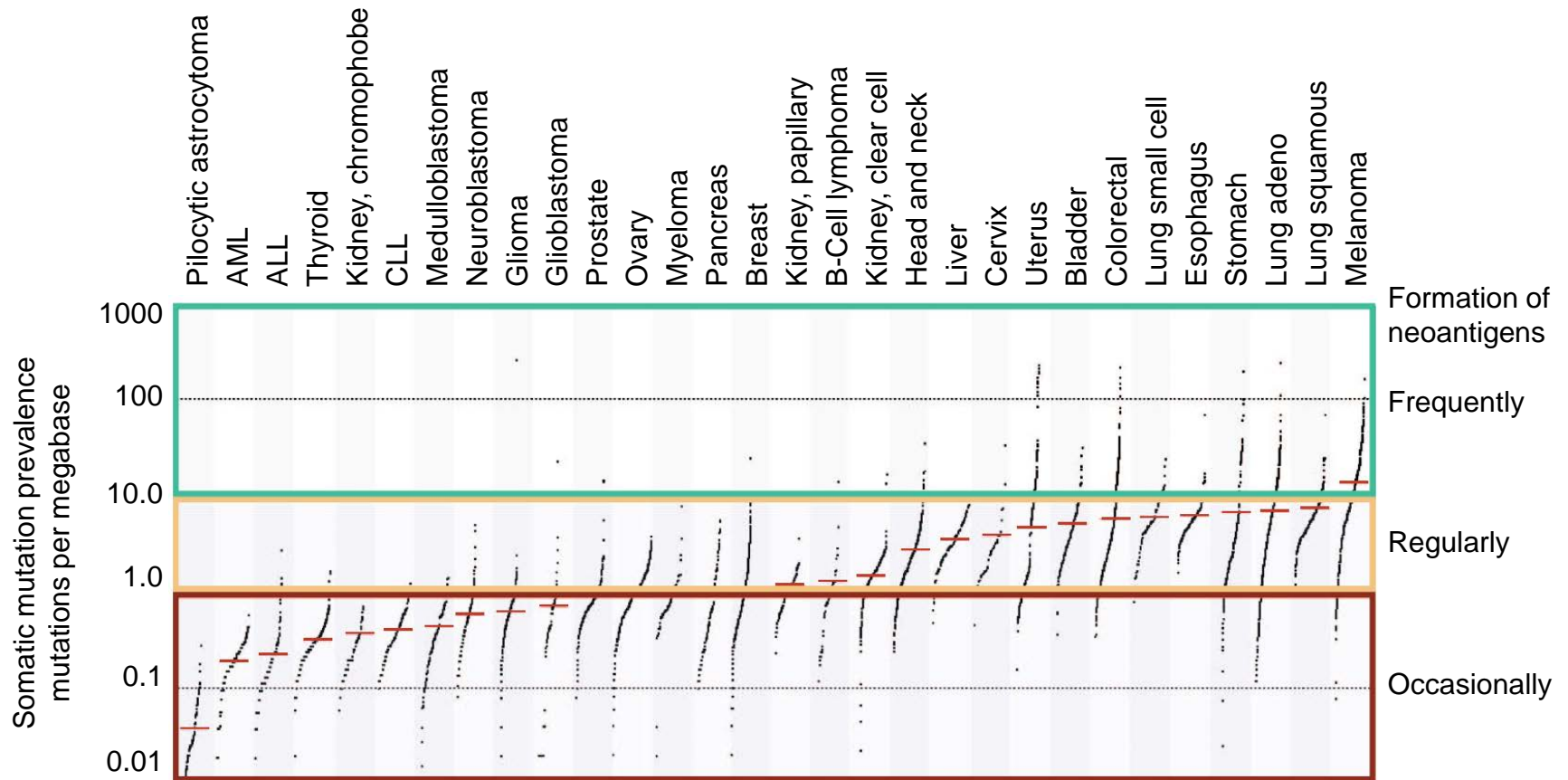
For a given tumor type, mutations/neo-antigens correlate with clinical benefits



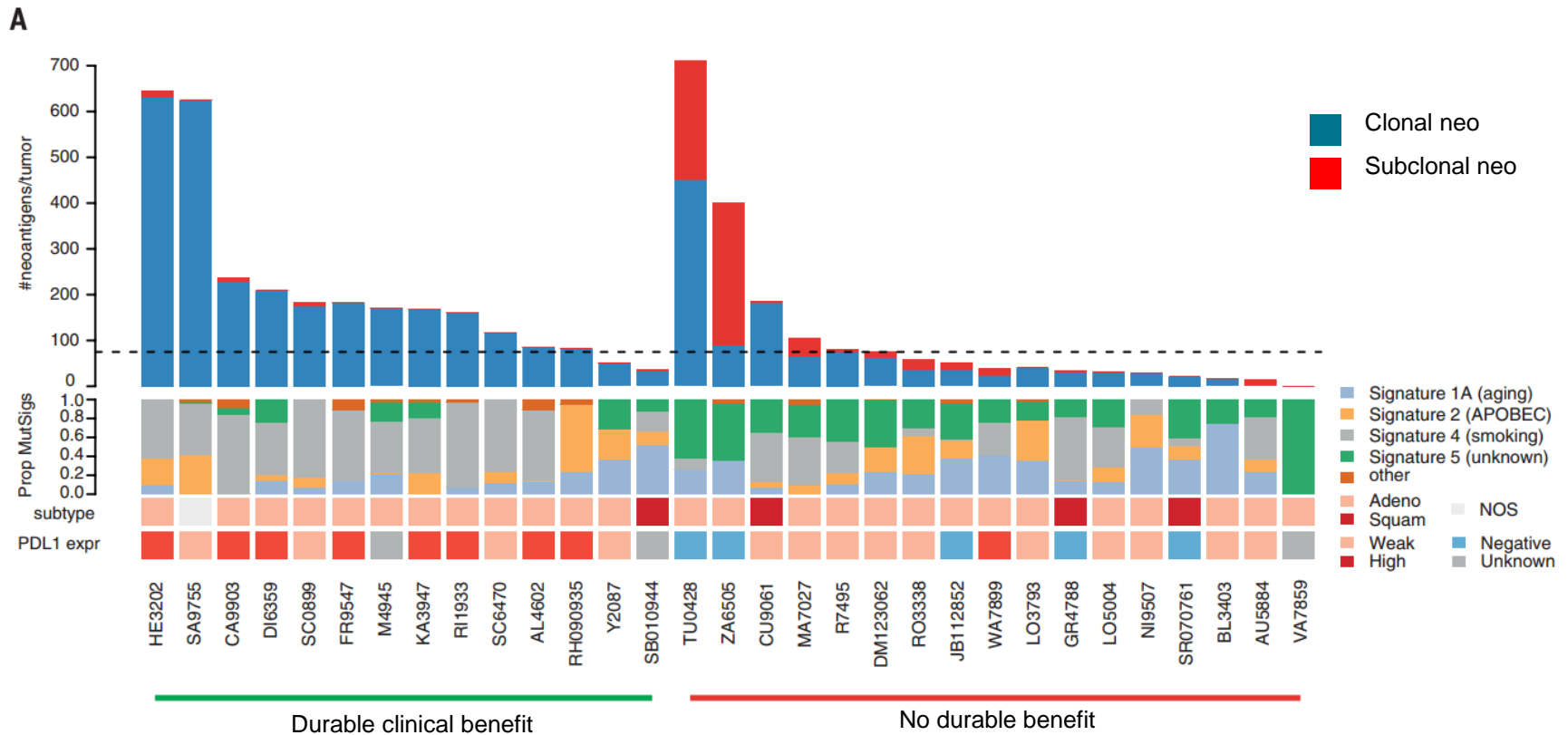
\*p=0.017

1. Le et al. N Engl J Med 2015;
2. Snyder et al. N Engl J Med 2014;
3. Rizvi et al. Science 2015;
4. Madore et al. Clin Cancer Res 2016;
5. Hugo et al. Cell 2016

# Likelihood of neoantigen expression by human cancer



# Clonal neoantigens show responsiveness to immunotherapy in NSCLC<sup>1</sup>

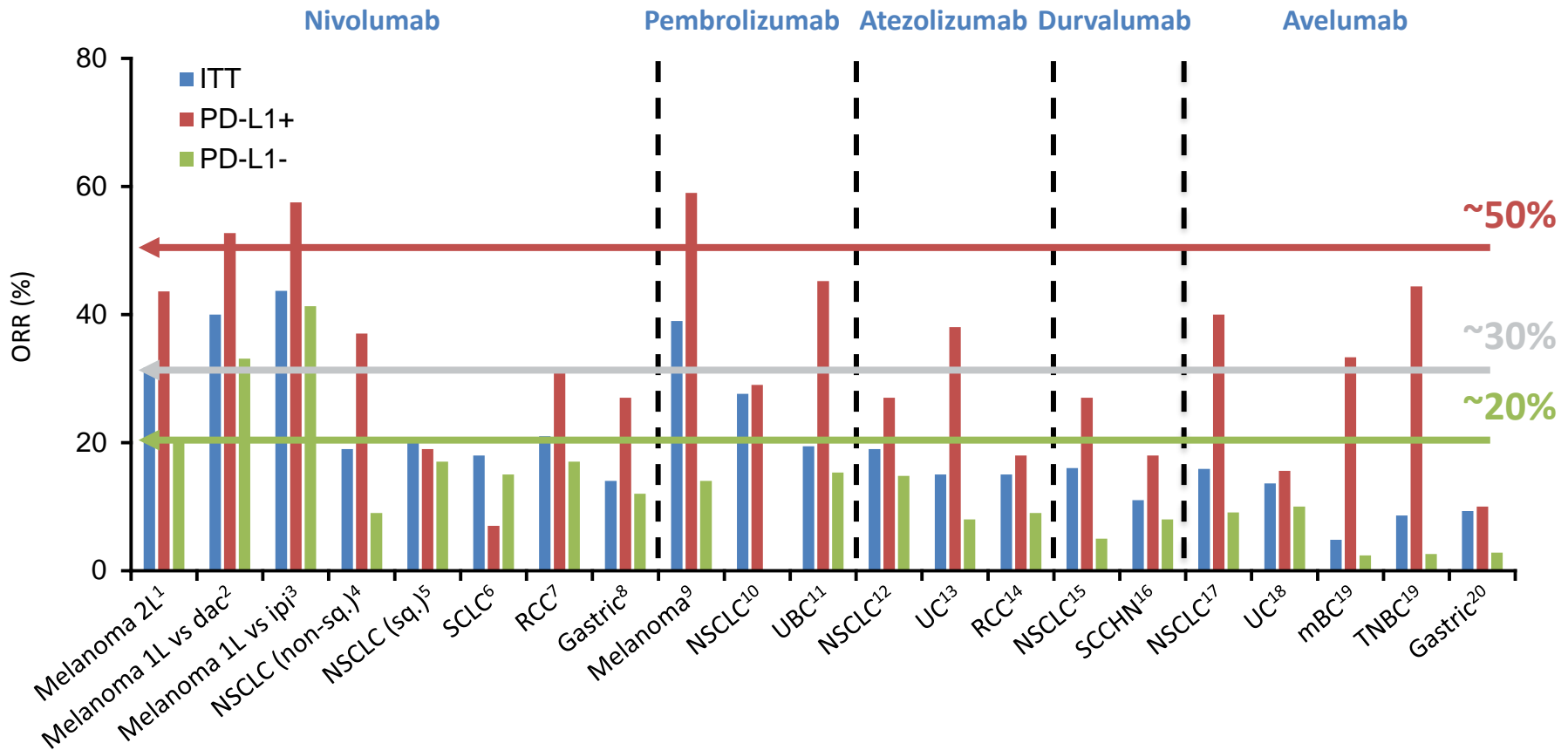


CAP

1. McGranahan et al. Science 2016; 2. Rizvi et al. Science 2015



# PD-L1 is not good enough



Non-sq.=non-squamous; sq.=squamous

- Weber et al. Lancet 2015;
- Robert et al. Lancet 2015;
- Larkin et al. N Engl J Med 2015;
- Borghaei et al. N Engl J Med 2015
- Brahmer et al. N Engl J Med 2015;
- Antonia et al. ASCO 2015;
- Motzer et al. J Clin Oncol 2015;
- Le et al. ASCO GI 2016
- Kefford et al. ASCO 2014;
- Garon et al. N Engl J Med 2015;
- Plimack et al. ASCO 2015;
- Vansteenkiste et al. ECC 2015
- Rosenberg et al. Lancet 2016;
- McDermott et al. J Clin Oncol 2015;
- Rizvi et al. ASCO 2015;
- Segal et al. ASCO 2015
- Gulley et al. ASCO 2015;
- Apolo et al. ASCO GU 2016;
- Dirix et al. SABCS 2015;
- Chung et al. ASCO GI 2016

# What are the limitations of PD-L1 as a biomarker?

Agent	Atezolizumab <sup>1,2</sup> (Genentech/Roche)	Nivolumab <sup>3,4</sup> (BMS)	Pembrolizumab <sup>5,6</sup> (Merck)	Durvalumab <sup>7</sup> (AZ/MedImmune)
<b>Therapeutic Target</b>	PD-L1	PD-1	PD-1	PD-L1
<b>PD-L1 IHC Assay</b>	Ventana SP142	Dako 28-8	Dako 22C3	Ventana SP263
<b>Class III IVD in the market</b>	No (RUO available)	Yes	Yes	No (Class I available)
<b>Cell types scored</b>	NSCLC – TC/IC UBC – IC	NSCLC - TC	NSCLC – TC UBC – TC/IC	NSCLC - TC
<b>Cut-off definitions (NSCLC)</b>	TC or IC≥1% TC or IC≥5% TC≥50% or IC≥10%	TC≥1% TC≥5% TC≥10%	TC=1%-49% TC≥50%	TC≥25%
<b>Cut-off definitions (UBC)</b>	IC≥10%; IC≥5%; IC≥1%	NA	≥1% TC or any stromal staining	NA



1. Fehrenbacher, et al. Lancet 2016; 2. Rosenberg, et al. Lancet 2016; 3. Borghaei, et al. N Engl J Med 2015 4. Brahmer, et al. N Engl J Med 2015; 5. Herbst, et al. N Engl J Med 2015; 6. Plimack, et al. ASCO 2015; 7. Rebalatto, et al. ASCO 2015

# PD-L1 confusion

## Different drugs

## Different assays

- Clones
- Staining protocols
- Platforms and scoring methods
- Clinical decision points
- Tumor indications
- The use of tumor cells or TILs or both

## Different tissues

- Different cut-offs in the same tissue for first- and second-line indications

**PD-L1 biomarker is dynamic and heterogeneous both spatially and temporally**

# Differences in Scoring IHC assays

## Dako 28-8/Ventana SP263

Staining pattern	Result
<1% of the viable tumor cells exhibit complete circumferential or partial linear plasma membrane staining at any intensity	PD-L1 expression <1%
>1% of the viable tumor cells exhibit complete circumferential or partial linear plasma membrane staining at any intensity	PD-L1 expression ≥1%
>5% of the viable tumor cells exhibit complete circumferential or partial linear plasma membrane staining at any intensity	PD-L1 expression ≥5%
>10% of the viable tumor cells exhibit complete circumferential or partial linear plasma membrane staining at any intensity	PD-L1 expression ≥10%

## Dako 22C3

Staining pattern	Result
Partial or complete membrane staining (≥1+) in <1% of viable tumor cells	No PD-L1 expression
Partial or complete membrane staining (≥1+) in 1-49% of viable tumor cells	Low PD-L1 expression
Partial or complete membrane staining (≥1+) in ≥50% of viable tumor cells	High PD-L1 expression

## Ventana SP142

Staining pattern	Result
IC ≥10%	IC3
IC ≥5% and <10%	IC2
IC ≥1% and <5%	IC1

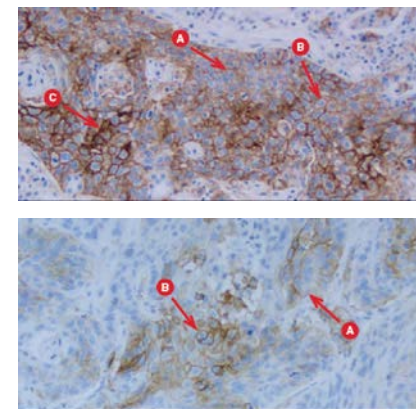
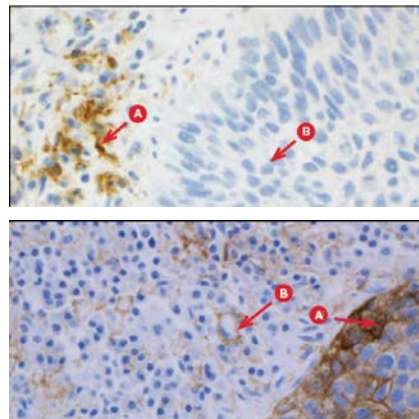
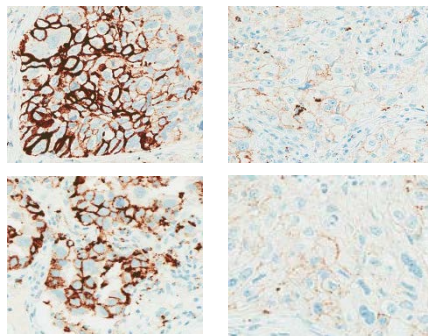
Staining pattern	Result
TC ≥50%	TC3
TC ≥5% and <50%	TC2
IC ≥1% and <5%	TC1



IC = Immune cells    TC = Tumor cells

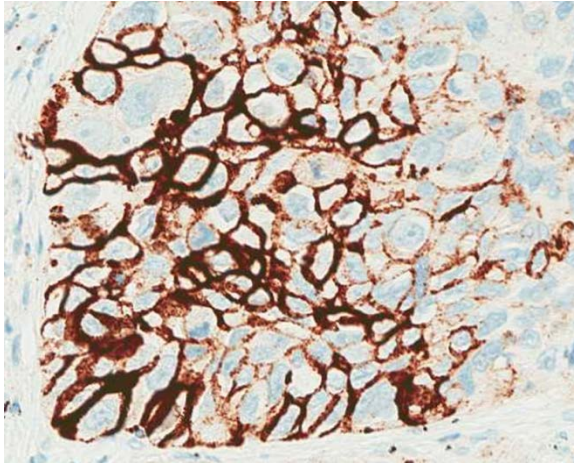
# Appropriate Training is Essential for Proper Interpretation

- **Staining patterns can be difficult to interpret**
- **Must distinguish tumor cells from tumor associated immune cells**
- **Some assays score only tumor cells while other assays score tumor cells + immune cells**
- **Weak staining can be difficult to interpret**

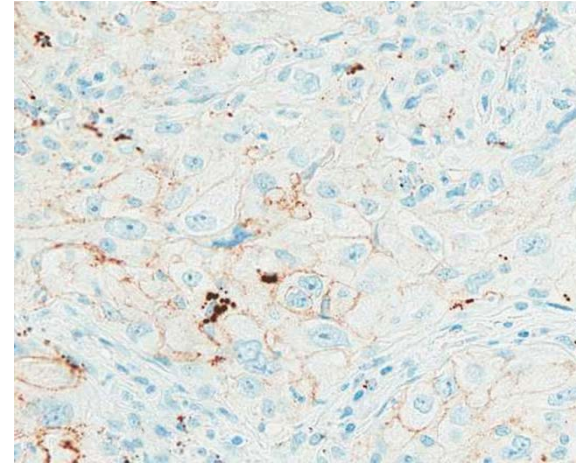


# Staining Patterns Can be Difficult to Interpret

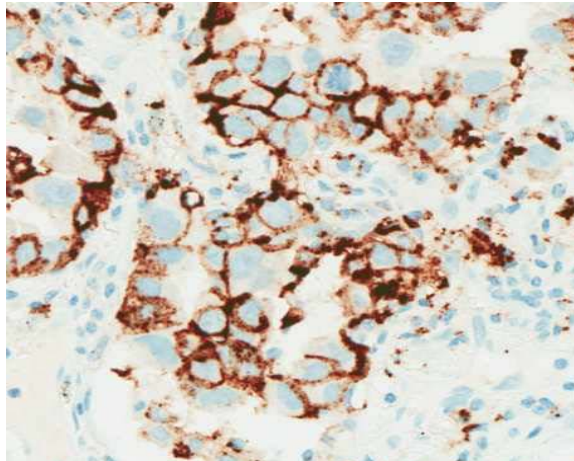
**Moderate to strong circumferential**



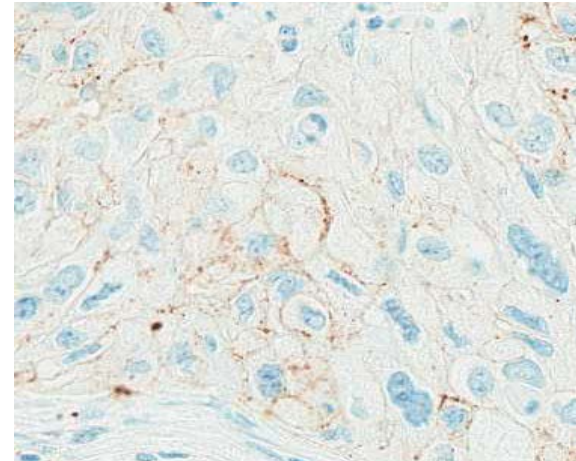
**Weak circumferential**



**Basolateral**

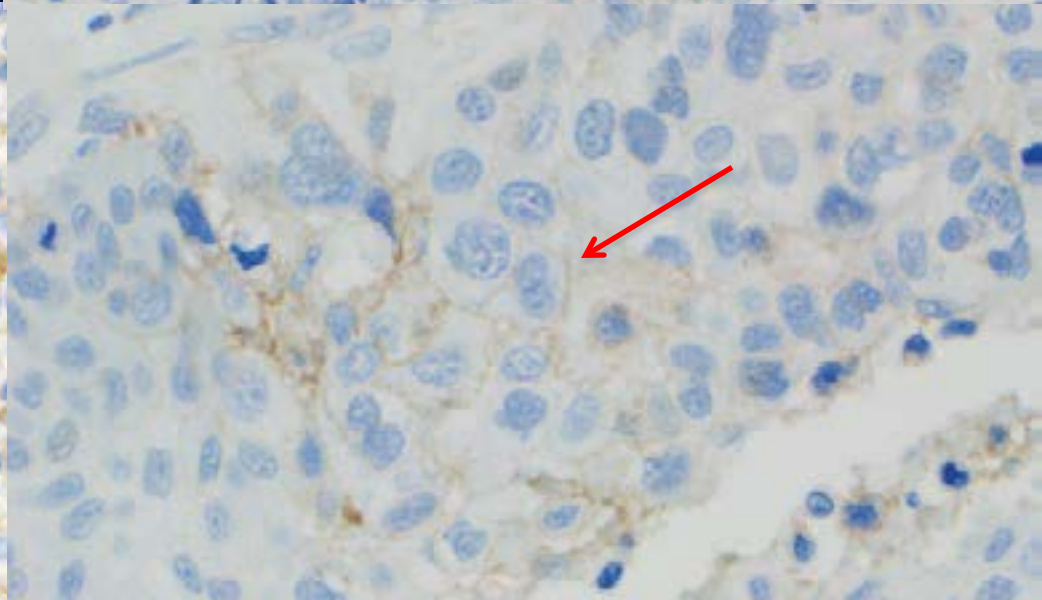
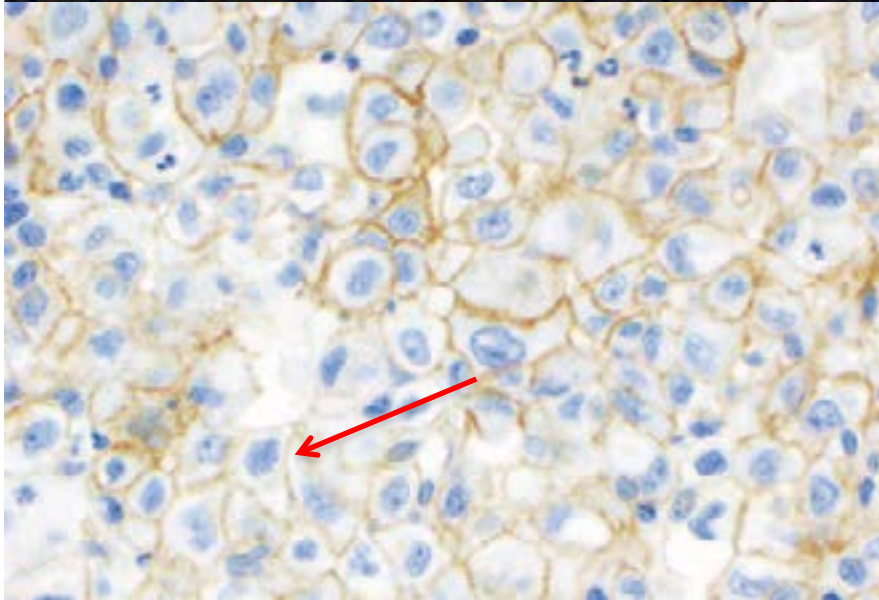
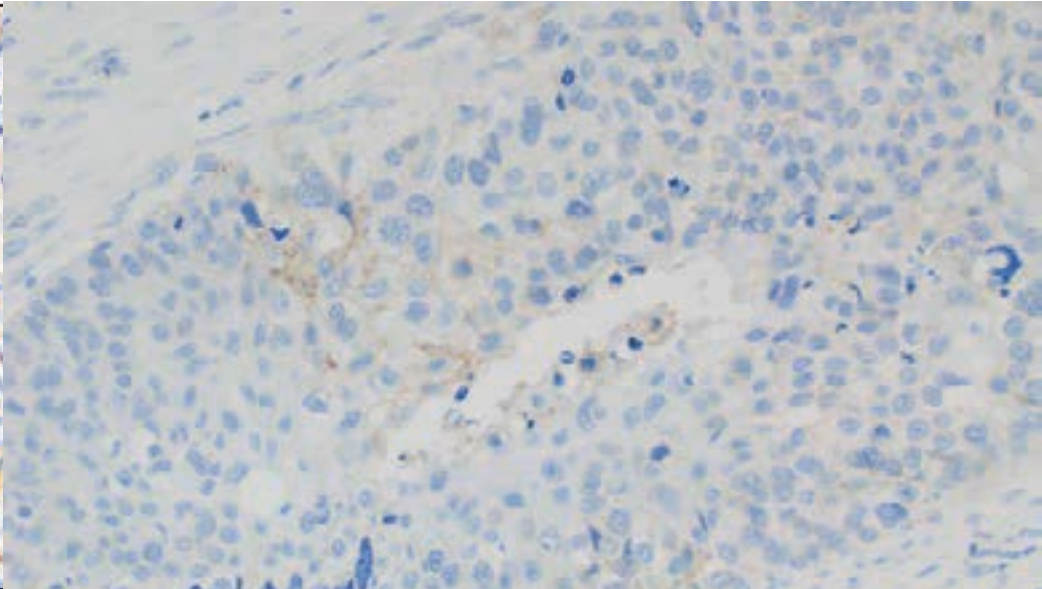
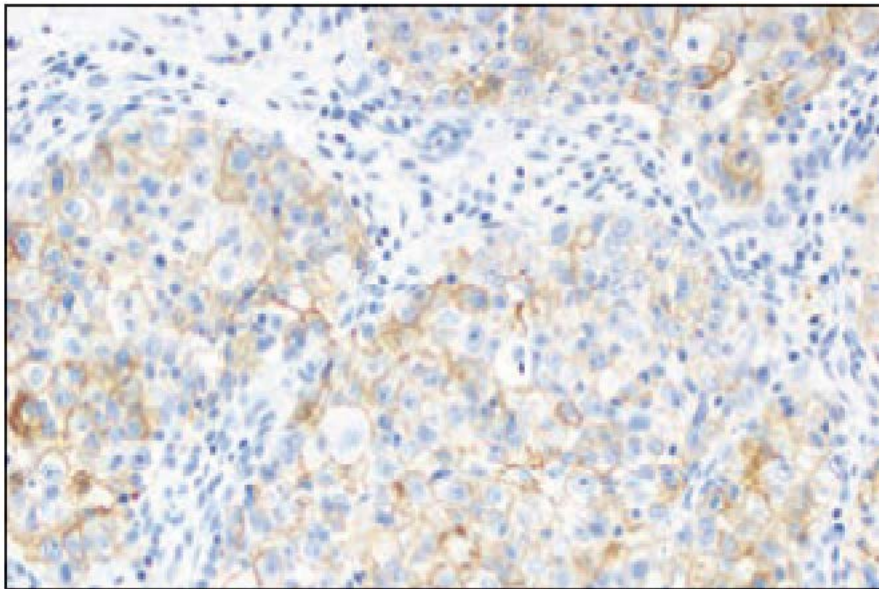


**Granular membrane**



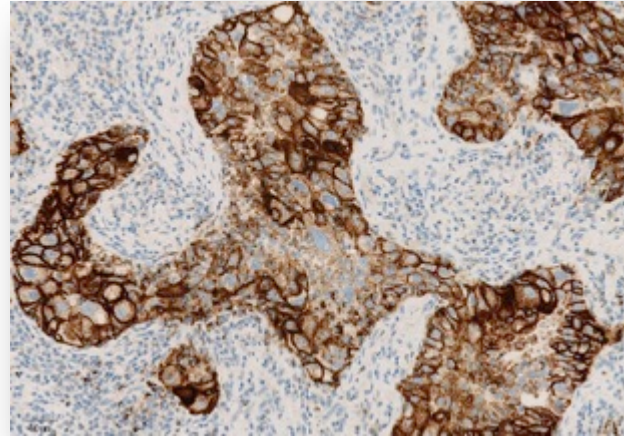


# Examples of weak expression

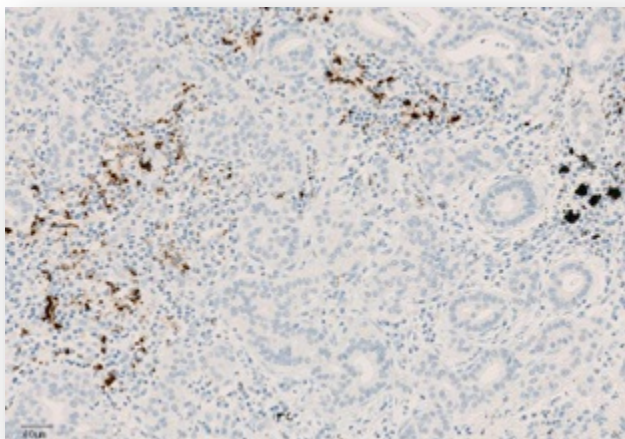


# PD-L1 staining can be observed in tumor cells, immune cells or both

**Tumor cells  
(TCs)**

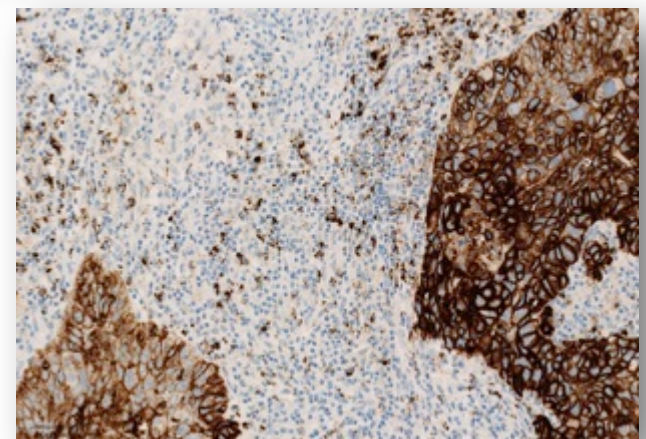


**Immune cells  
(ICs)**



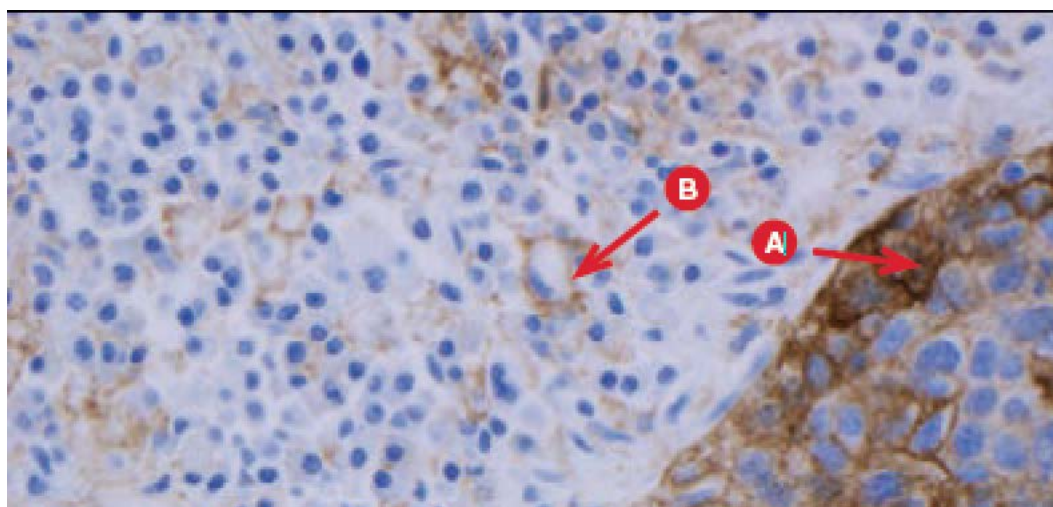
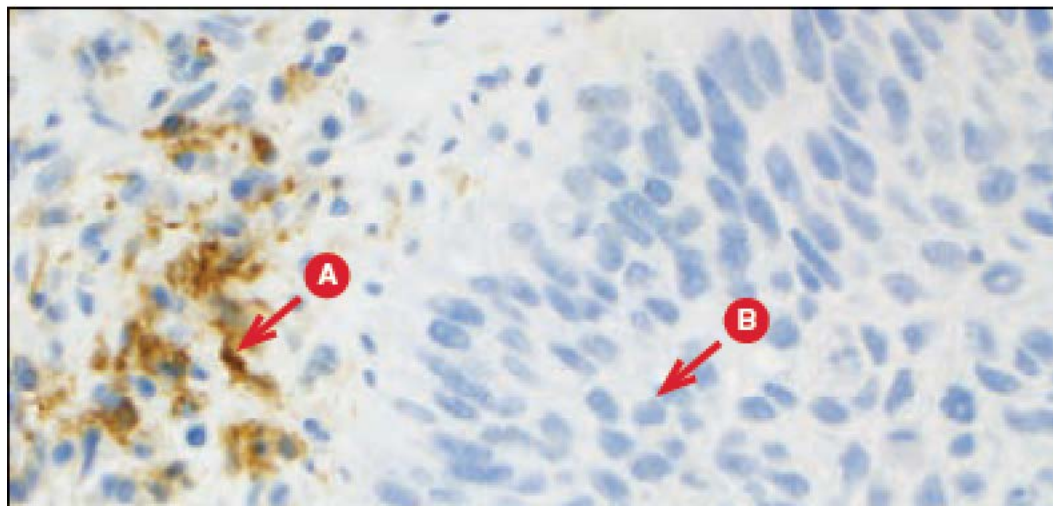
CAP

**Tumor and immune cells  
(TCs and ICs)**

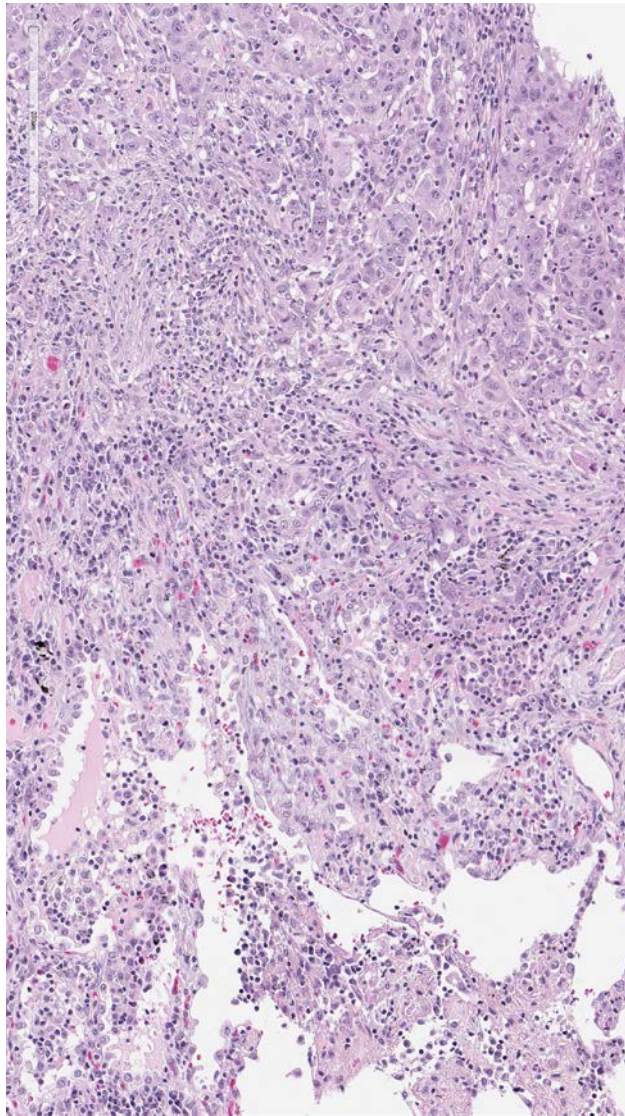
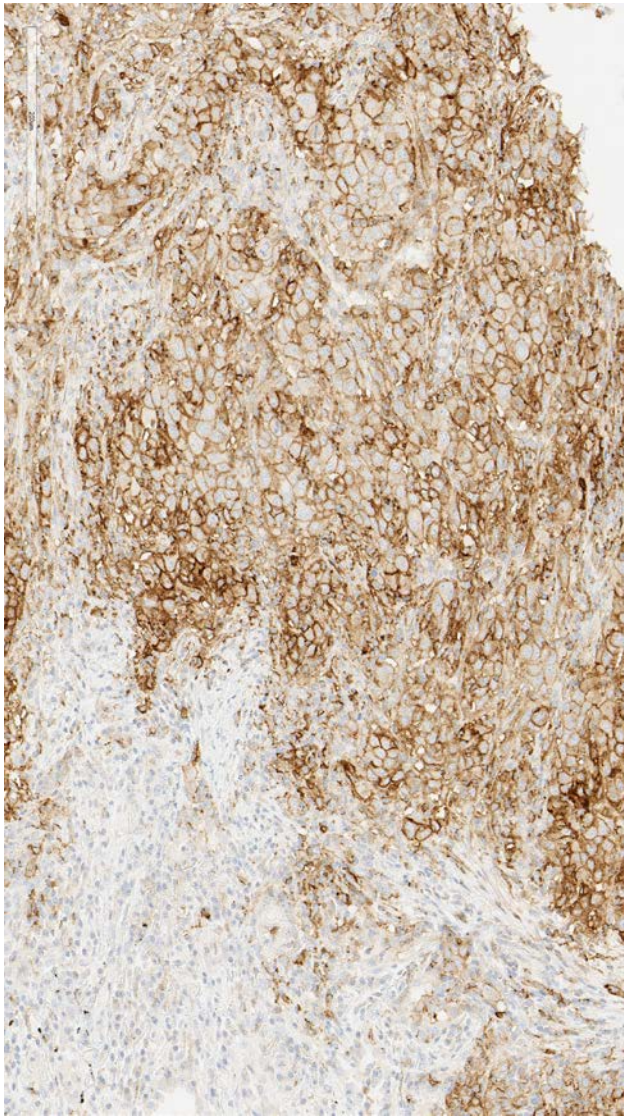




# Distinguishing tumor associated immune cells

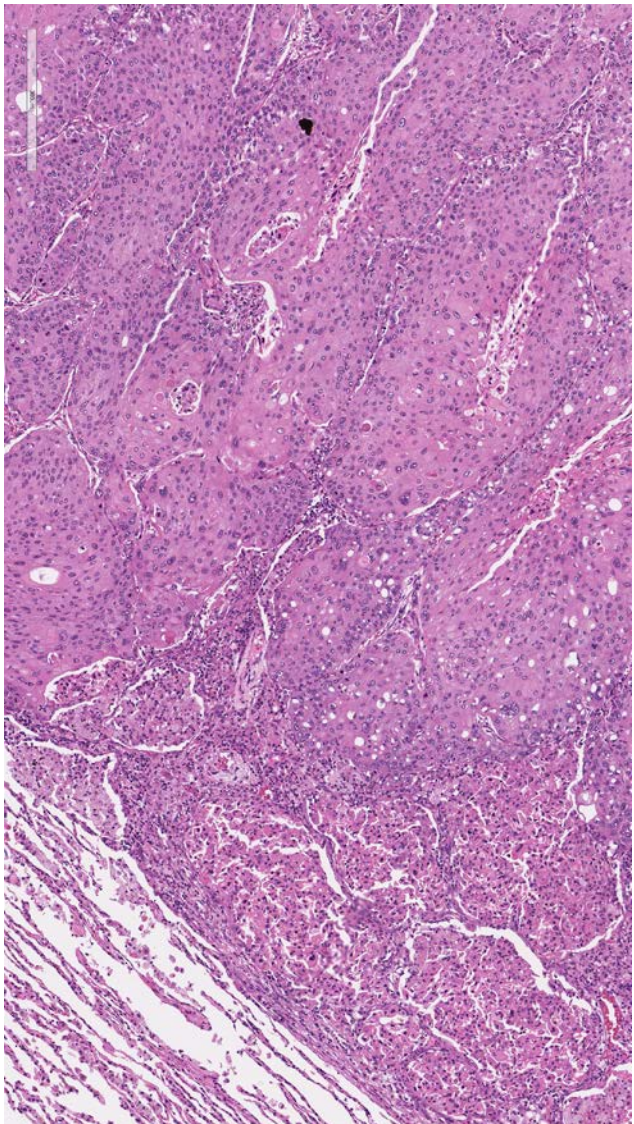
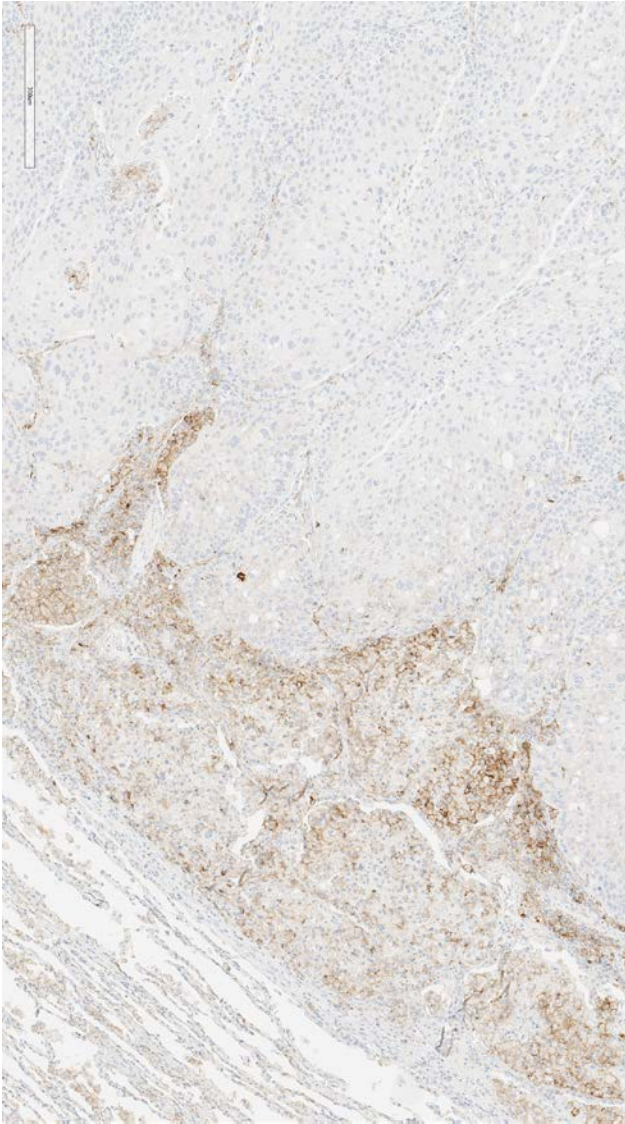


# PD-L1 Positive Lung Cancer



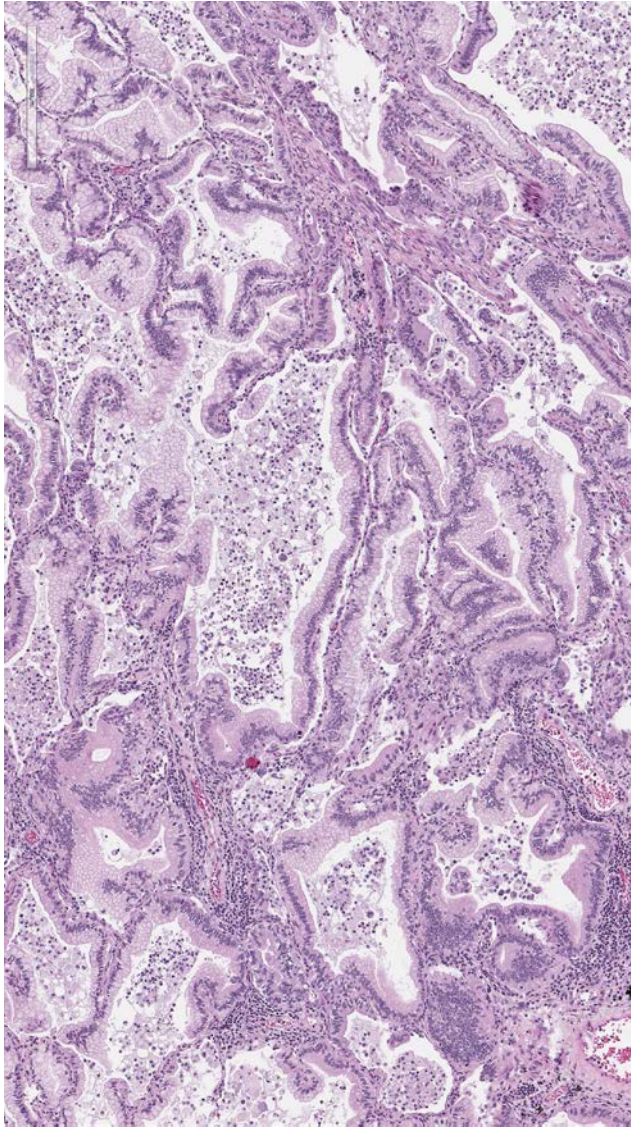
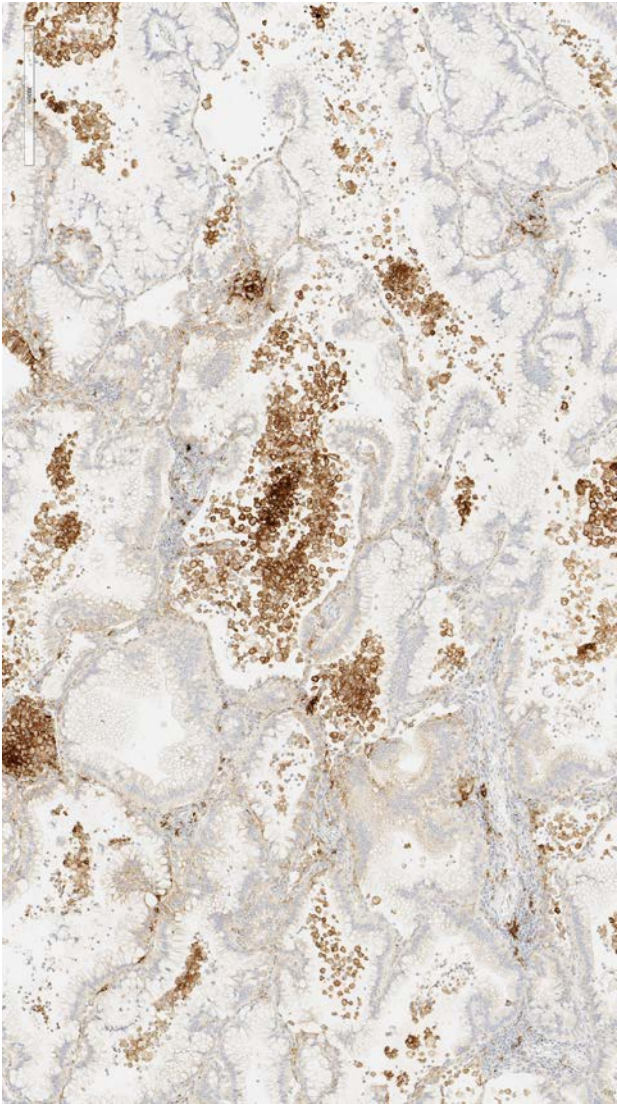


# PD-L1 Negative Lung Cancer



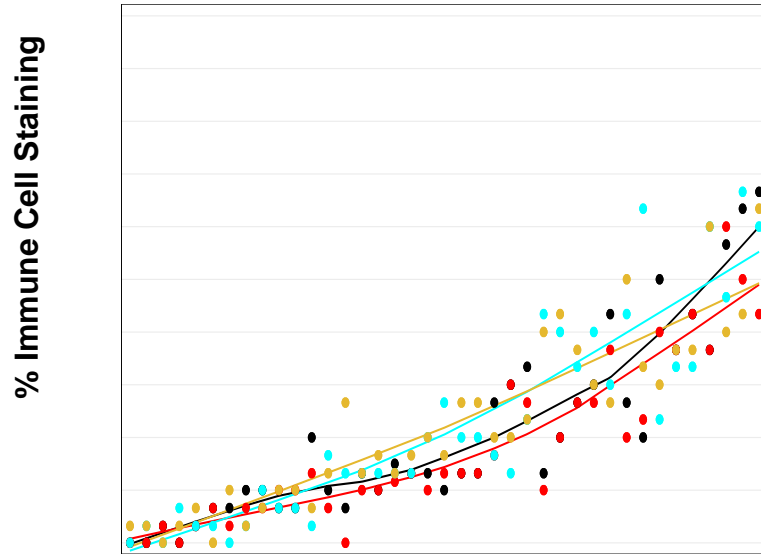


# PD-L1 Negative Lung Cancer



# IC Scoring Unique for SP142 and New for Pathologists *Underscores need for pathologist training*

## Blueprint study Immune Cell Scoring



## German Harmonization Study Immune Cell Scoring

“Scoring of the tumor-associated immune cells yielded low concordance levels.

Given that the SP142 assay has been used reproducibly in published clinical trials, we assume that specific instructions and training may raise concordance of immune cell scoring.”



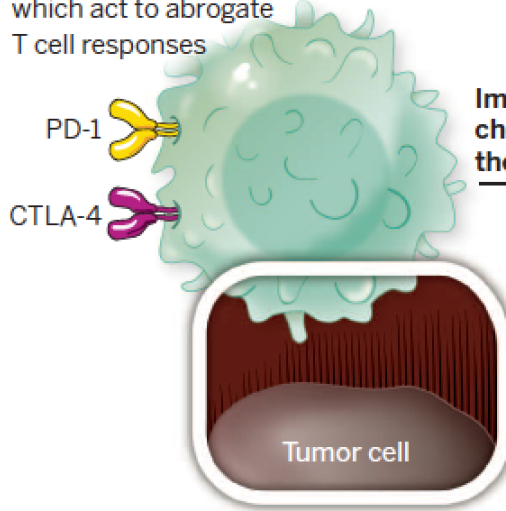
# Structured Pathologist Training Produces Excellent Results

## Pathologist Training Proficiency Test Scores *Results from 129 pathologists*

Indication	Proficiency Test Score
UC	97.0%
NSCLC	95.0%

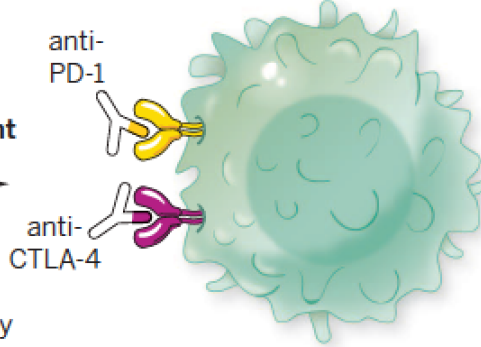
# PD-L1 expression can be temporal and heterogeneous

Activated T cells up-regulate immune checkpoint molecules such as CTLA-4 and PD-1, which act to abrogate T cell responses



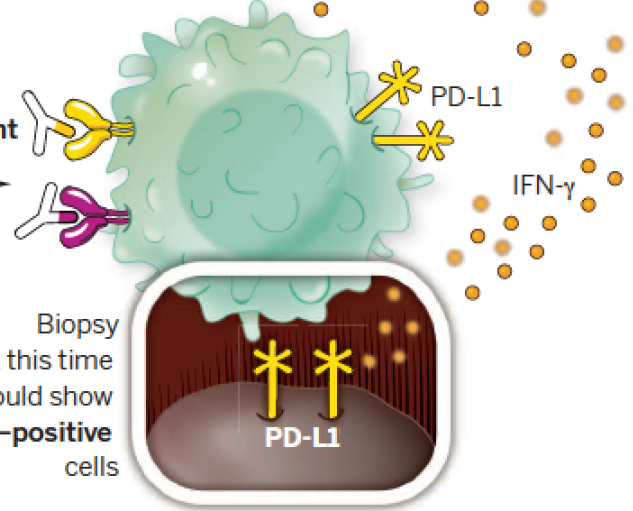
Immune checkpoint therapy

Antibody blockade of immune checkpoints enhances T cell responses



Immune checkpoint therapy

Activated T cells make IFN- $\gamma$  which increases PD-L1 expression



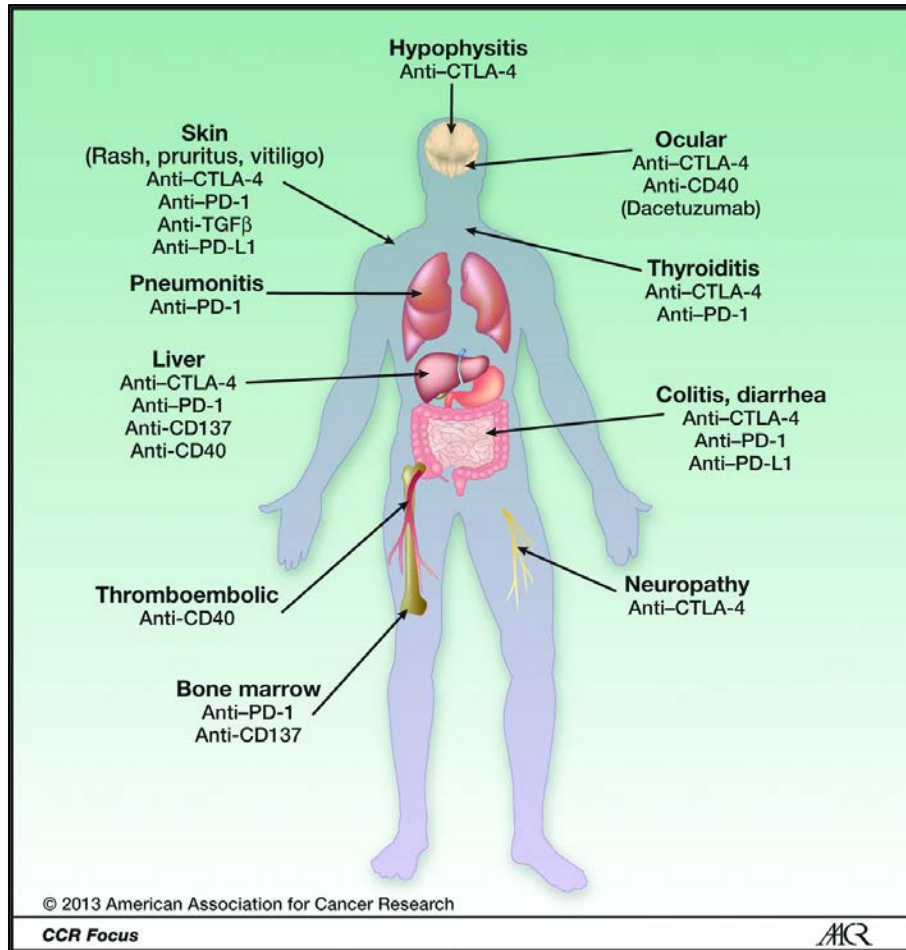
Tumor cell initially PD-L1 Negative

Tumor cell expressed PD-L1 after T-cell activation



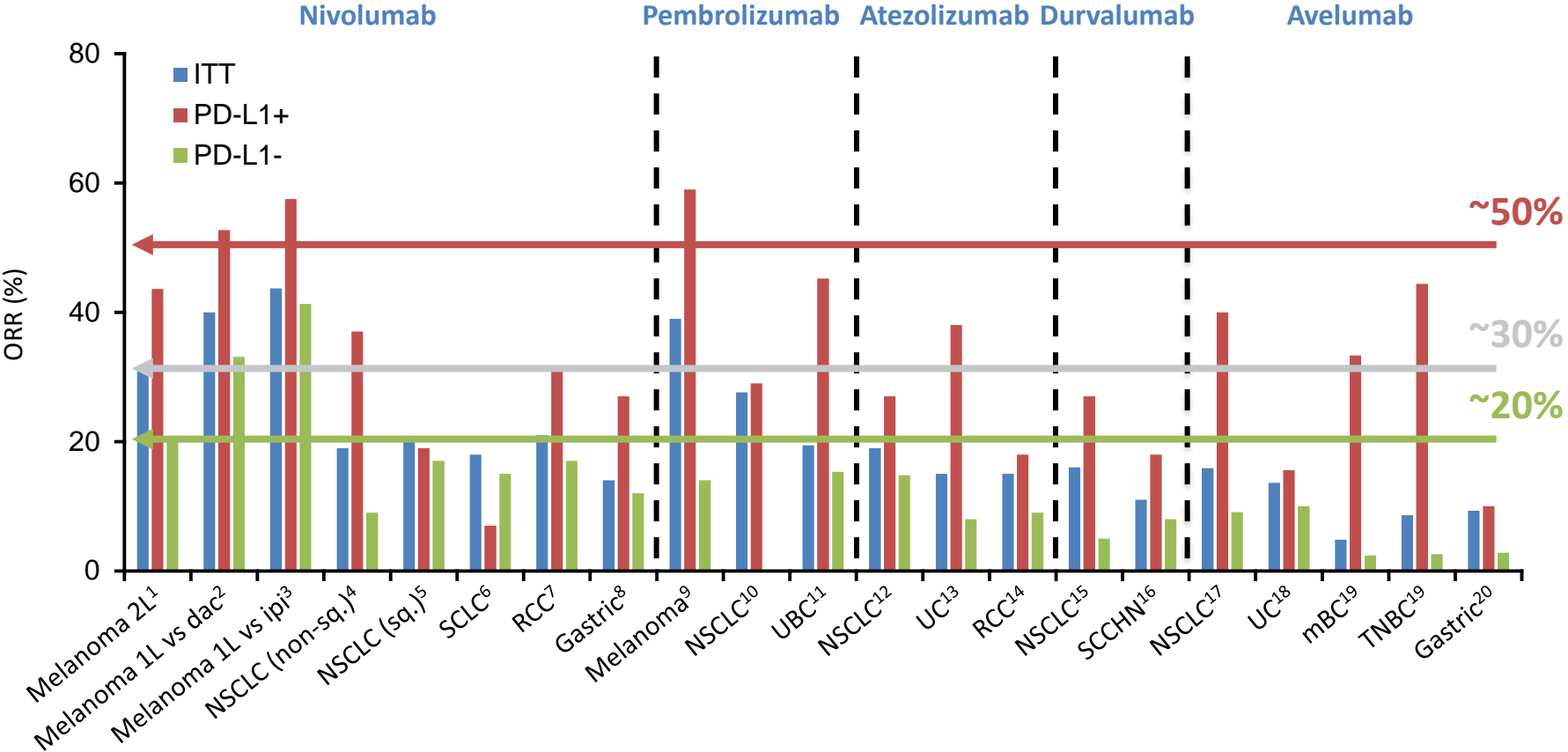


# Side effects of cancer immunotherapy may impact prognosis



In general, the side effect profile of PD-L1 therapy is favorable compared to chemotherapy

# The ORR for 2<sup>nd</sup> line PD-L1 negative patients is similar to chemotherapy



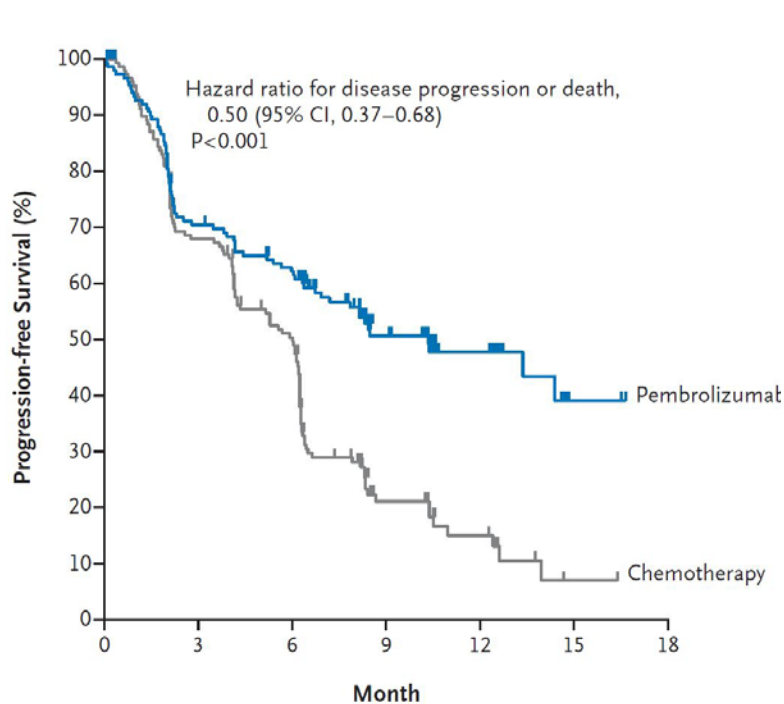
Non-sq.=non-squamous; sq.=squamous

1. Weber et al. Lancet 2015; 2. Robert et al. Lancet 2015; 3. Larkin et al. N Engl J Med 2015; 4. Borghaei et al. N Engl J Med 2015  
 5. Brahmer et al. N Engl J Med 2015; 6. Antonia et al. ASCO 2015; 7. Motzer et al. J Clin Oncol 2015; 8. Le et al. ASCO GI 2016  
 9. Kefford et al. ASCO 2014; 10. Garon et al. N Engl J Med 2015; 11. Plimack et al. ASCO 2015; 12. Vansteenkiste et al. ECC 2015  
 13. Rosenberg et al. Lancet 2016; 14. McDermott et al. J Clin Oncol 2015; 15. Rizvi et al. ASCO 2015; 16. Segal et al. ASCO 2015  
 17. Gulley et al. ASCO 2015; 18. Apolo et al. ASCO GU 2016; 19. Dirix et al. SABCS 2015; 20. Chung et al. ASCO GI 2016

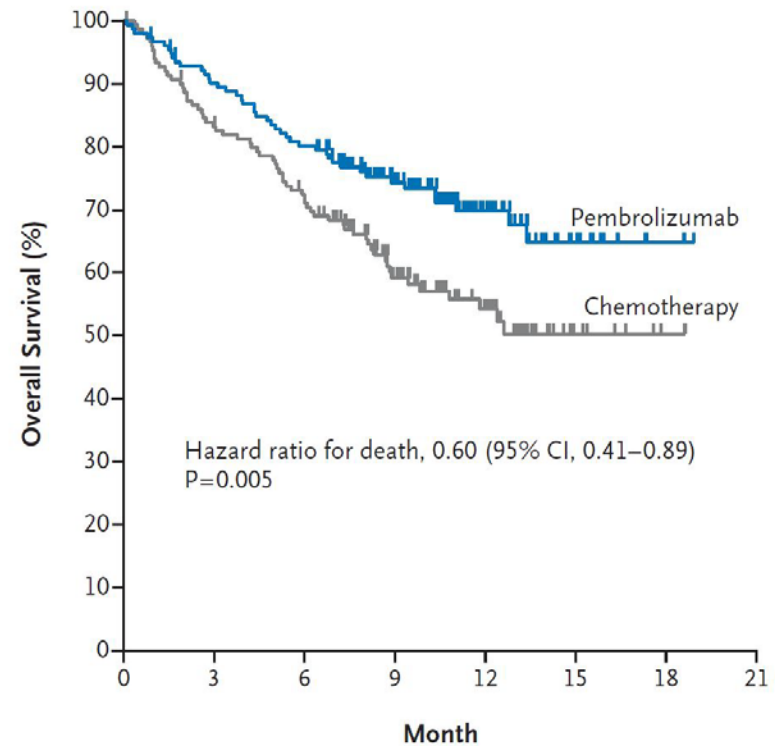


# Pembrolizumab in Front-line NSCLC

PD-L1 expression in >50% of tumor cells



No. at Risk	Month						
Pembrolizumab	154	104	89	44	22	3	1
Chemotherapy	151	99	70	18	9	1	0



No. at Risk	Month							
Pembrolizumab	154	136	121	82	39	11	2	0
Chemotherapy	151	123	106	64	34	7	1	0



Reck M, Rodríguez-Abreu D, Robinson AG, Hui R, Csőszi T, Fülöp A, Gottfried M, Peled N, Tafreshi A, Cuffe S, O'Brien M, Rao S, Hotta K, Leiby MA, Lubiniecki GM, Shentu Y, Rangwala R, Brahmer JR; KEYNOTE-024 Investigators.. Pembrolizumab versus Chemotherapy for PD-L1-Positive Non-Small-Cell Lung Cancer. N Engl J Med. 2016 Oct 8.

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DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa1606774

# Not Much Progress with Traditional Chemotherapy: 1975–2011

	Response Rate	1-Year Survival	2-Year Survival
No Chemotherapy	0%	10%	0%
Single Agent	15%	20%	10%
2 Agents	25%	35%	20%
3 Agents	35%	35%	20%
2 Agents + Bevacizumab	35%	50%	22%

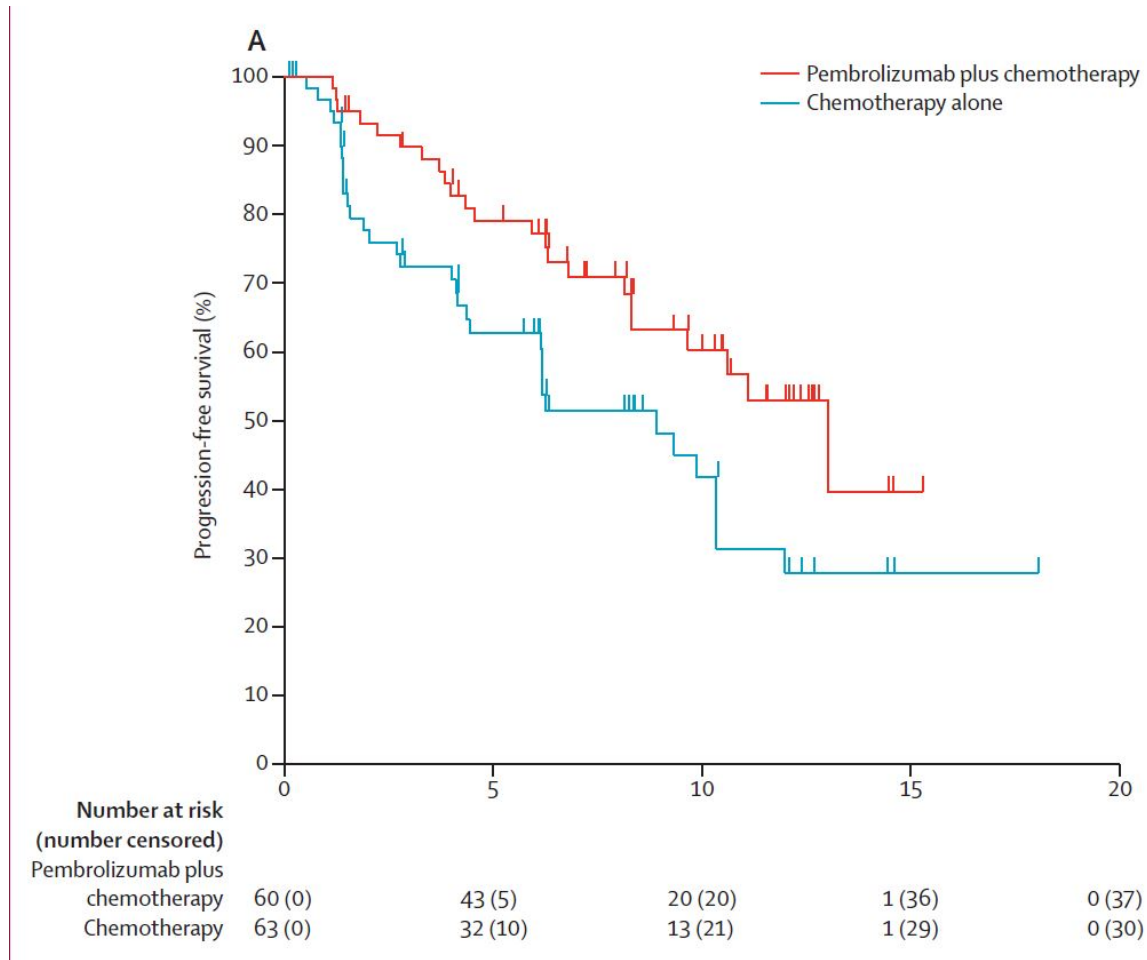


## Current regimens:

**Squamous: Gemcitabine with cisplatin/carboplatin; paclitaxel with carboplatin**

**Adenocarcinoma: Pemetrexed with cisplatin/carboplatin**

# Addition of Pembrolizumab to Carboplatin and Pemetrexed Improves Efficacy in NSCLC



Langer CJ, Gadgeel SM, Borghaei H, et al. Carboplatin and pemetrexed with or without pembrolizumab for advanced, non-squamous non-small-cell lung cancer: a randomised, phase 2 cohort of the open-label KEYNOTE-021 study. *Lancet Oncol.* 2016; S1470-2045(16)30498-3

[http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S1470-2045\(16\)30498-3](http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S1470-2045(16)30498-3)

# The Opportunity for Pathologists:

**How do we use our understanding of the tumor microenvironment to choose the right therapy?**

**We need to better understand  
immune response and tumor biology**

**We need to understand causes of failure and  
convert them to clinical benefit**

**We need to personalize cancer immunotherapy treatment**

# Save the Date for Upcoming Complimentary CAP PHC Webinars

DATE	TOPIC	SPEAKER
Dec 14, 2016  11 AM CT	<b>Preanalytics and Biospecimen Quality Imperative</b>	<b>Carolyn Compton, MD, PhD, FCAP</b>

Register for upcoming webinars:  
[www.CAP.org](http://www.CAP.org) > Calendar > Webinars

The screenshot shows the CAP website's 'Calendar of Events' page. The top navigation bar includes 'CALENDAR', 'NEWS & MEDIA', 'CAREERS AT THE CAP', 'SHOP', and 'CONTACT & SUPPORT'. A red box labeled '1.' highlights the 'CALENDAR' menu item. Below the navigation bar, the page title is 'THE CAP CALENDAR OF EVENTS'. The 'Featured Events' section displays three event cards: 'House of Delegates and Residents Forum Meetings' (Mar 21, 2015), '2015 CAP Policy Meeting' (May 04, 2015), and 'CAP '15 - THE Pathologists' Meeting' (Oct 04, 2015). Below this, a calendar view for February 2015 is shown. A red box labeled '2.' highlights a 'Webinars' sidebar widget on the right, which includes the text 'Attend our interactive and engaging webinars featuring industry experts' and a 'REGISTER NOW' button.





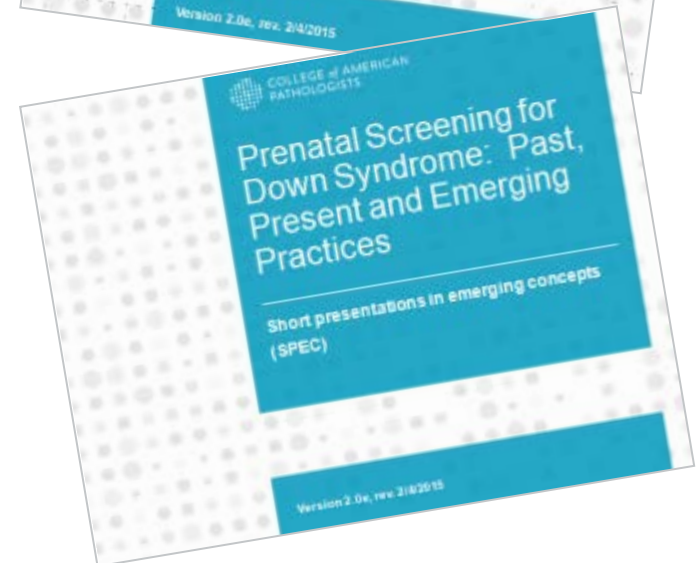
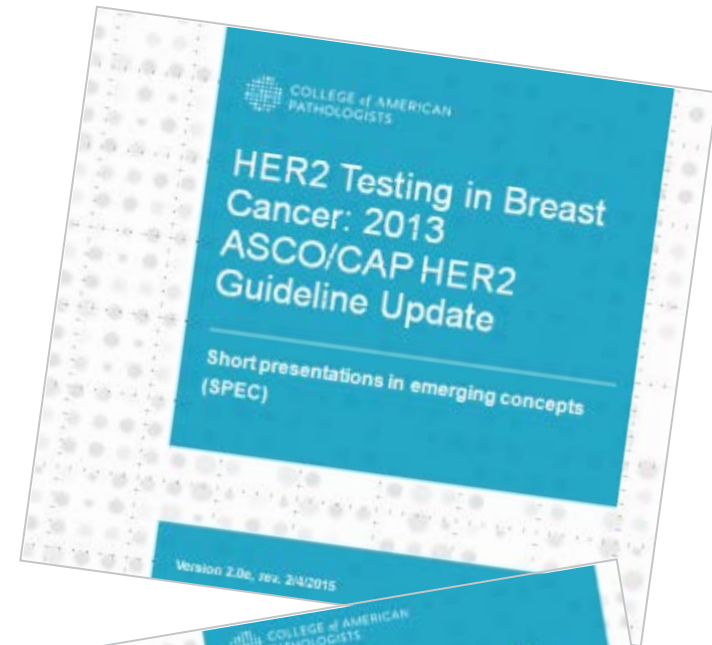
# CAP's Pathology Resource Guide: Precision Medicine

- The CAP has created the Pathology Resource Guides to assist pathologists in understanding key emerging technologies.
  - Printed guides are now available for members (\$39) and non-members (\$69)
  - The digital copy of the Resource Guides are a complimentary member benefit
  - Access them [www.cap.org](http://www.cap.org) > Resources and Publications



# Short Presentations on Emerging Concepts (SPECS)

- Pathology SPECs are:
  - short PowerPoints, created for pathologists
  - Focused on diseases where molecular tests play a key role in patient management
- **New topics** are Renal Tumors, cell free DNA (cfDNA), and PD-L1 as well as other emerging topics
- Access them [www.cap.org](http://www.cap.org) > Resources and Publications



# New Survey for 2017

## Cancer Biomarker and Companion Diagnostic Testing



- **PD-L1 Immunohistochemistry (PDL1)**
  - Program includes one 10-core tissue microarray slide
  - One shipment per year
  - Program ships November 13, 2017



PDL1 PDL1		
Procedure	Program Code	Challenges/Shipment
	PDL1	
PDL1	■	10

**Order by December 1, 2016 to ensure material availability**



## **See, Test & Treat<sup>®</sup> brings cancer screenings to women in need!**

- See, Test & Treat is a CAP Foundation-funded program that brings free, same-day cervical and breast cancer screening, diagnoses and follow-up care to women in medically underserved communities across the U.S.
- CAP member pathologists' partner with gynecologists, radiologists and other medical professionals to lead See, Test & Treat programs in hospitals, clinics and other facilities
- Women learn the importance of preventive care through annual exams, a Pap test, Mammogram and a healthy lifestyle

**See, Test & Treat Needs Your Financial Support**

**Visit [foundation.cap.org](http://foundation.cap.org) and click on DONATE!**

# THANK YOU!

- Thank you for attending our webinar, “**PD-L1: Immune Checkpoint Blockade in Cancer**” by **Kenneth J. Bloom, MD, FCAP**.
- For comments about this webinar or suggestions for upcoming webinars, please contact [phcwebinars@cap.org](mailto:phcwebinars@cap.org).
- **NOTE:** There is no CME/CE credit available for today’s free webinar. The PDF of the presentation will be sent out in a week.





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PATHOLOGISTS