

Activation of the Innate Immune Response as Therapy for CTCL

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GREETINGS FROM PENN



Mycosis Fungoides

Treatment of varying skin manifestations



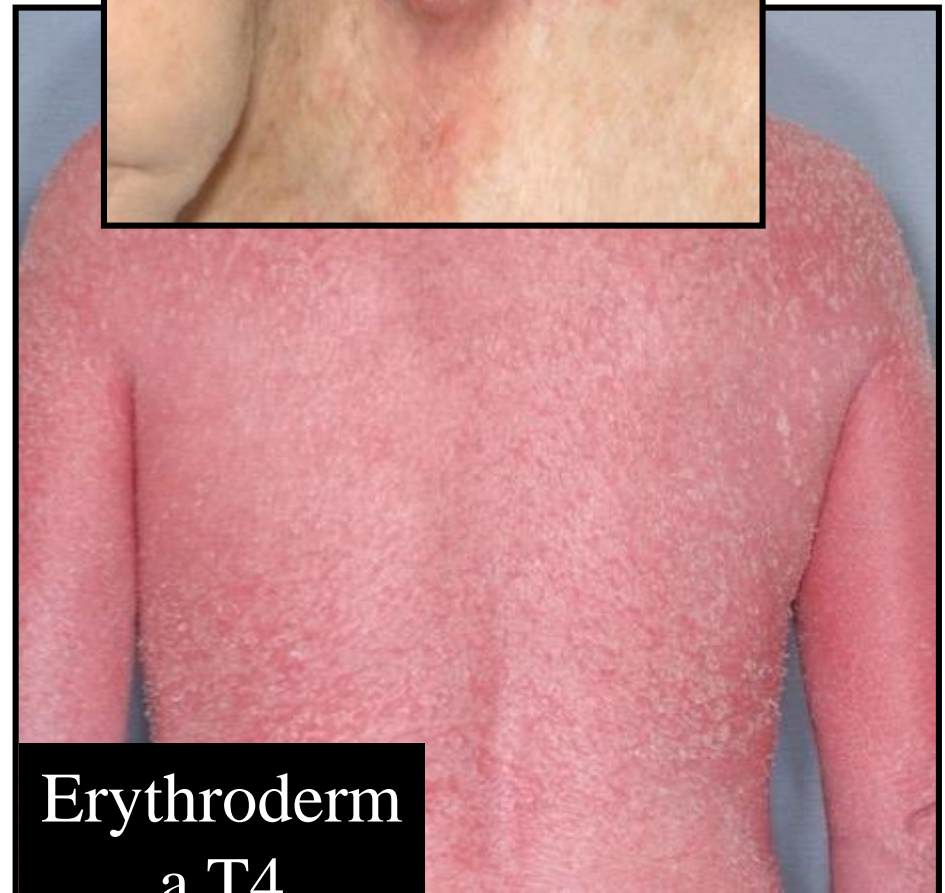
Patch
T1-2



Tumor
T3



Plaque
T1-2



Erythroderma
T4

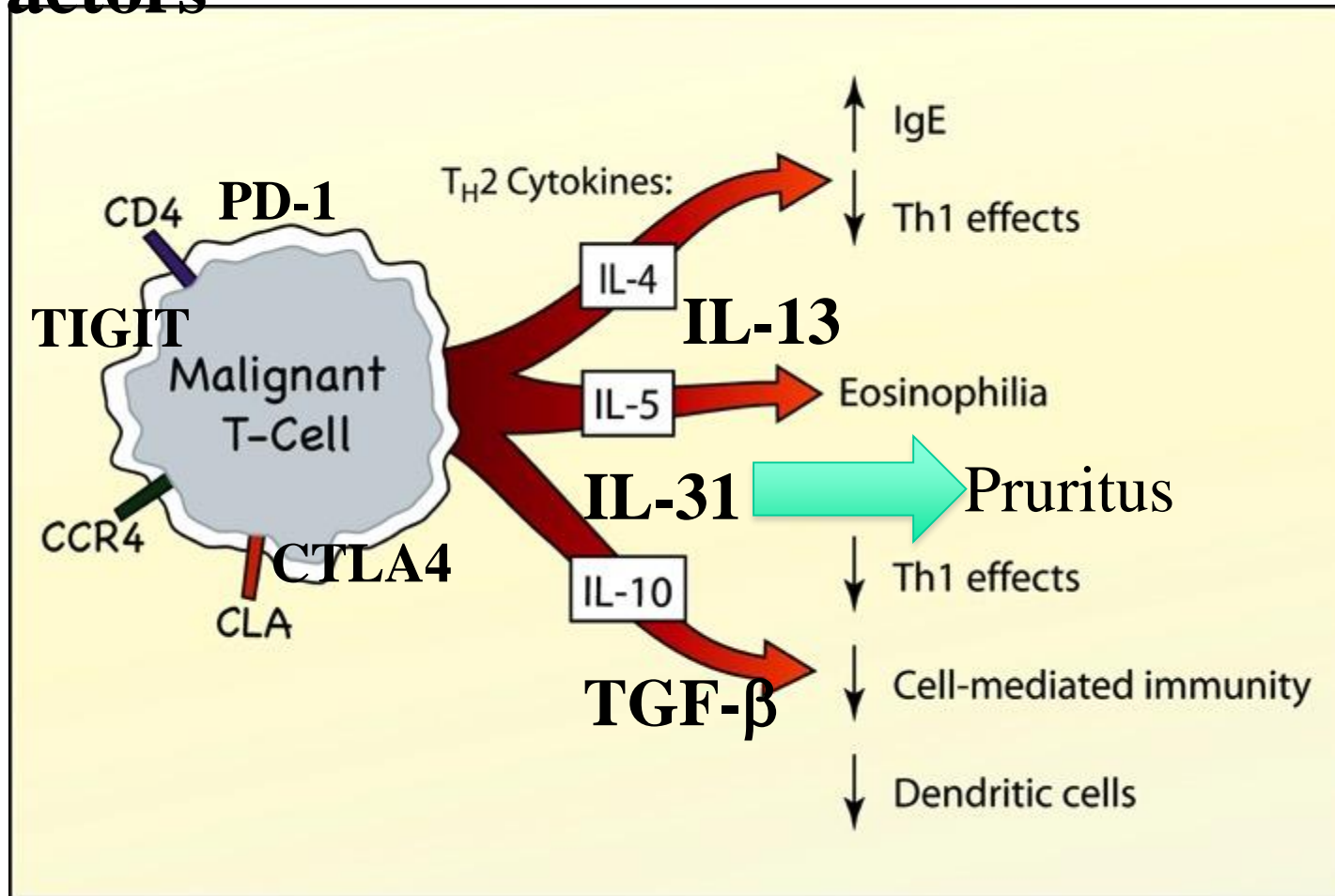
Refractory Tumor Stage CTCL



Sezary Cell



Sezary Cell: Receptors and Soluble Factors



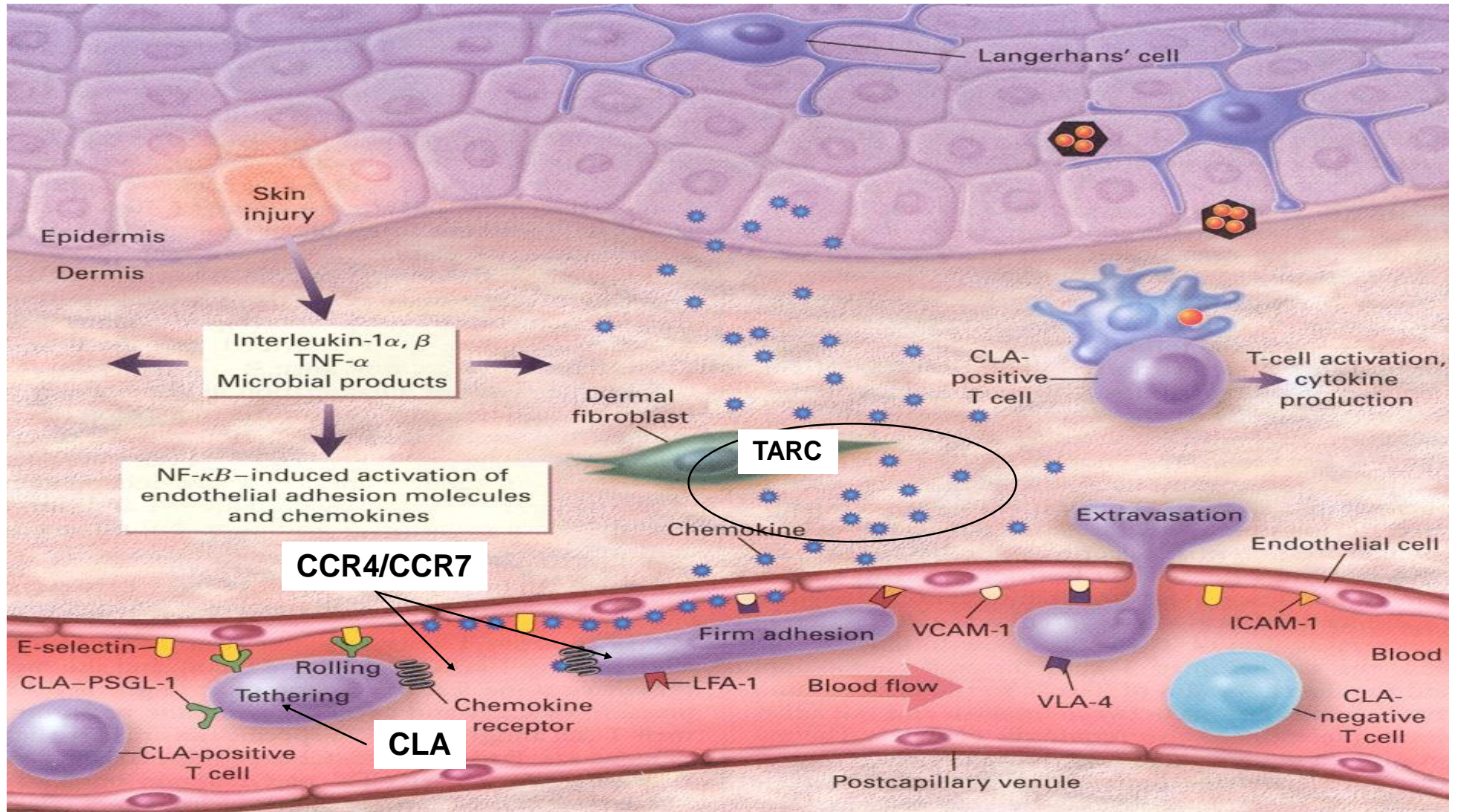
Anti-tumor Immunity Vs. Tumor Th2 and T-Reg Effects

**Th1
immunity**
(anti-tumor)



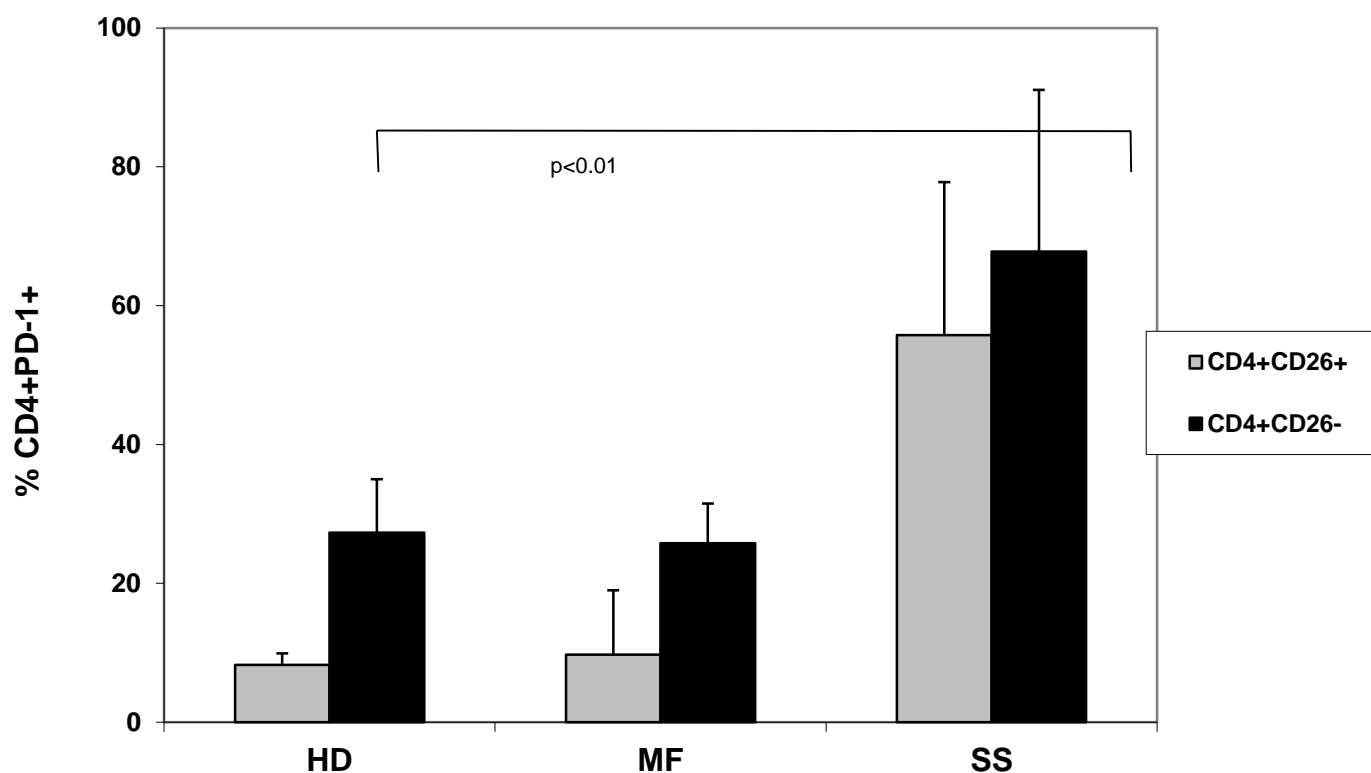
**Tumor cells (Th2)
and T-regulatory
cells**
(allograft tolerance)

Skin Trafficking T-Cells



TS Kupper. *Inflammatory Skin Diseases, T Cells, & Immunosurveillance*. NEJM 2000 341:1817-28

Increased circulating PD-1+CD4+ T-cells in SS patients compared to MF patients or healthy volunteers

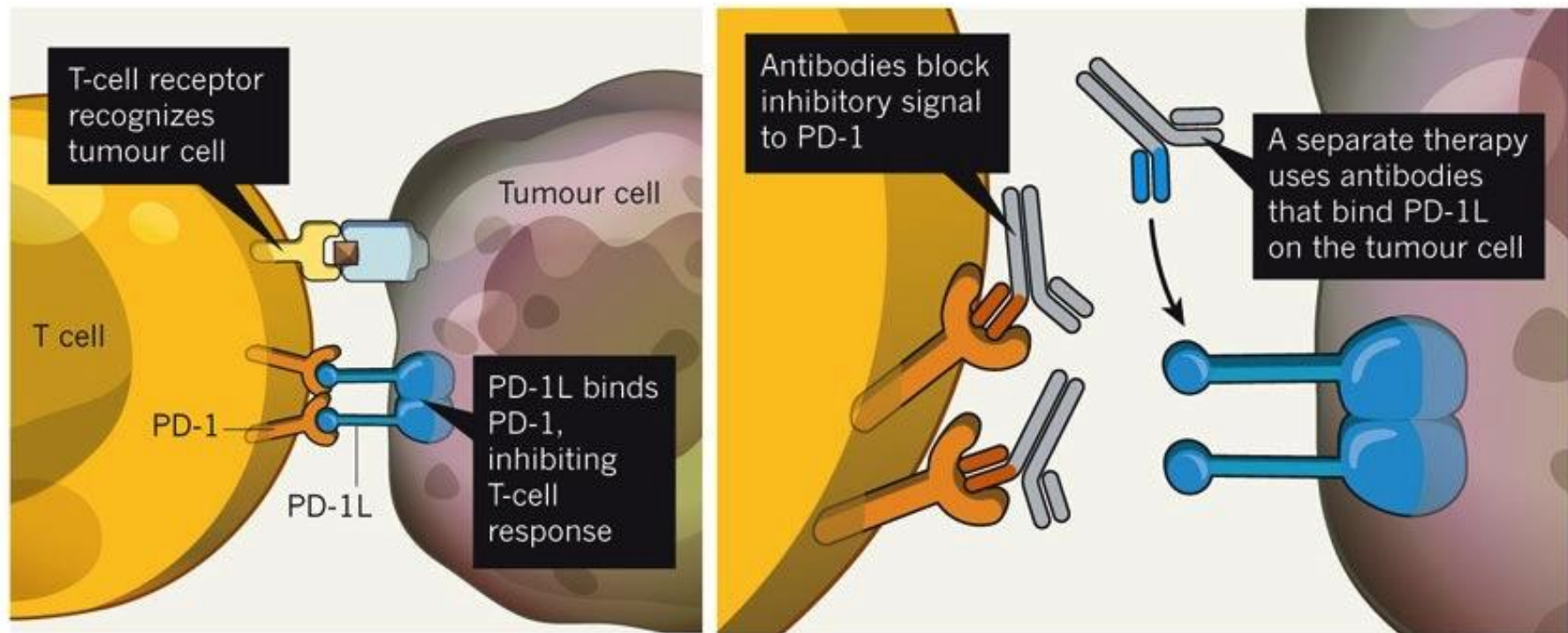


S. Samimi , et al

PD-1 Engagement Results in T-Cell “Anergy”

WAKING UP THE BODY’S DEFENCES

Tumour cells can inhibit the body’s immune response by binding to proteins, such as PD-1, on the surface of T cells. Antibody therapies that block this binding reactivate the immune response.



Cancer Immunotherapy Trials Network
NCI Protocol # CITN-10

**A Phase 2 Study of MK-3475 (pembrolizumab) for the
Treatment of Relapsed/Refractory MF/SS**

Coordinating Center: M Cheever
CITN, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center

Principal Investigator: H Kohrt
Y Kim (Co-PI)
Stanford University SOM

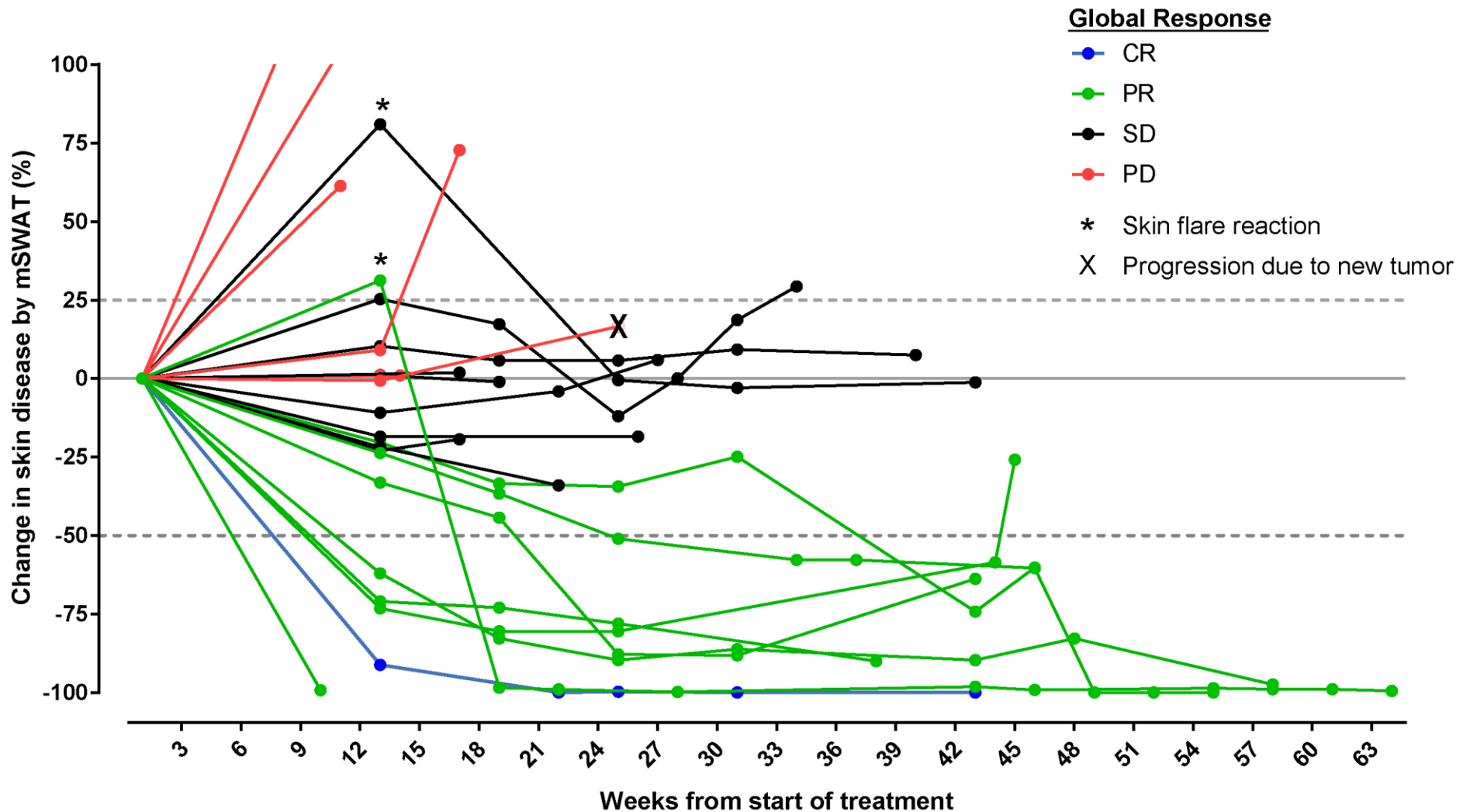
Investigative sites/site PI:

A Rook (U Penn), F Foss (Yale), PG Porcu (OSU), A Moskowitz (MSKCC), A Shustov (SCCA), L Sokol (Moffitt), S Shanbhag (Johns Hopkins)

Refractory Stage IIB: Response to Anti-PD-1 After Progression on 9 Previous Treatments



Change in Skin Disease from Baseline

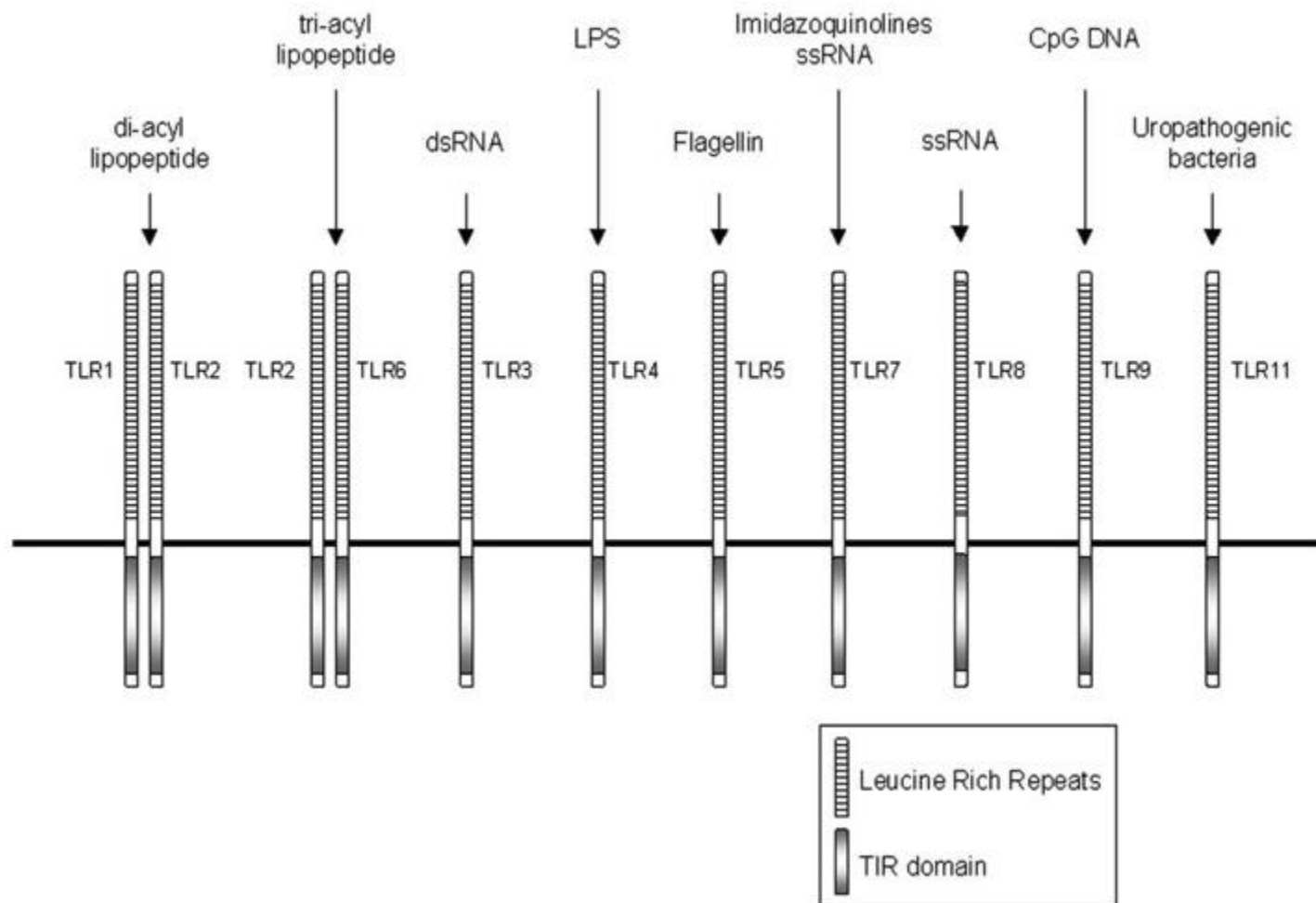


**The Immune Response Plays a Critical Role
in Control of Cutaneous T-Cell Lymphoma in
Early Stage Disease, and, Likely, in Late Stage
Disease**

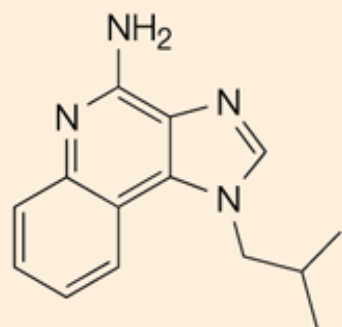
Products of the Innate Immune Response Are Active for CTCL

- **Interferon alpha (plasmacytoid DCs)**
- **Interleukin-12 (myeloid DCs)**
- **Interferon gamma (natural killer cells)**

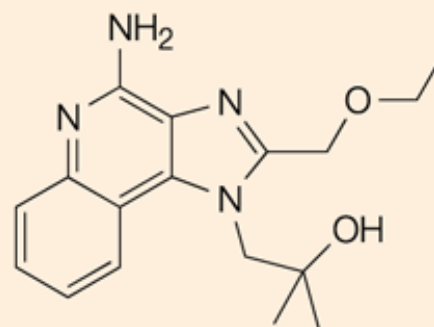
Toll Like Receptors



Imidazoquinolines Are Powerful TLR Agonists

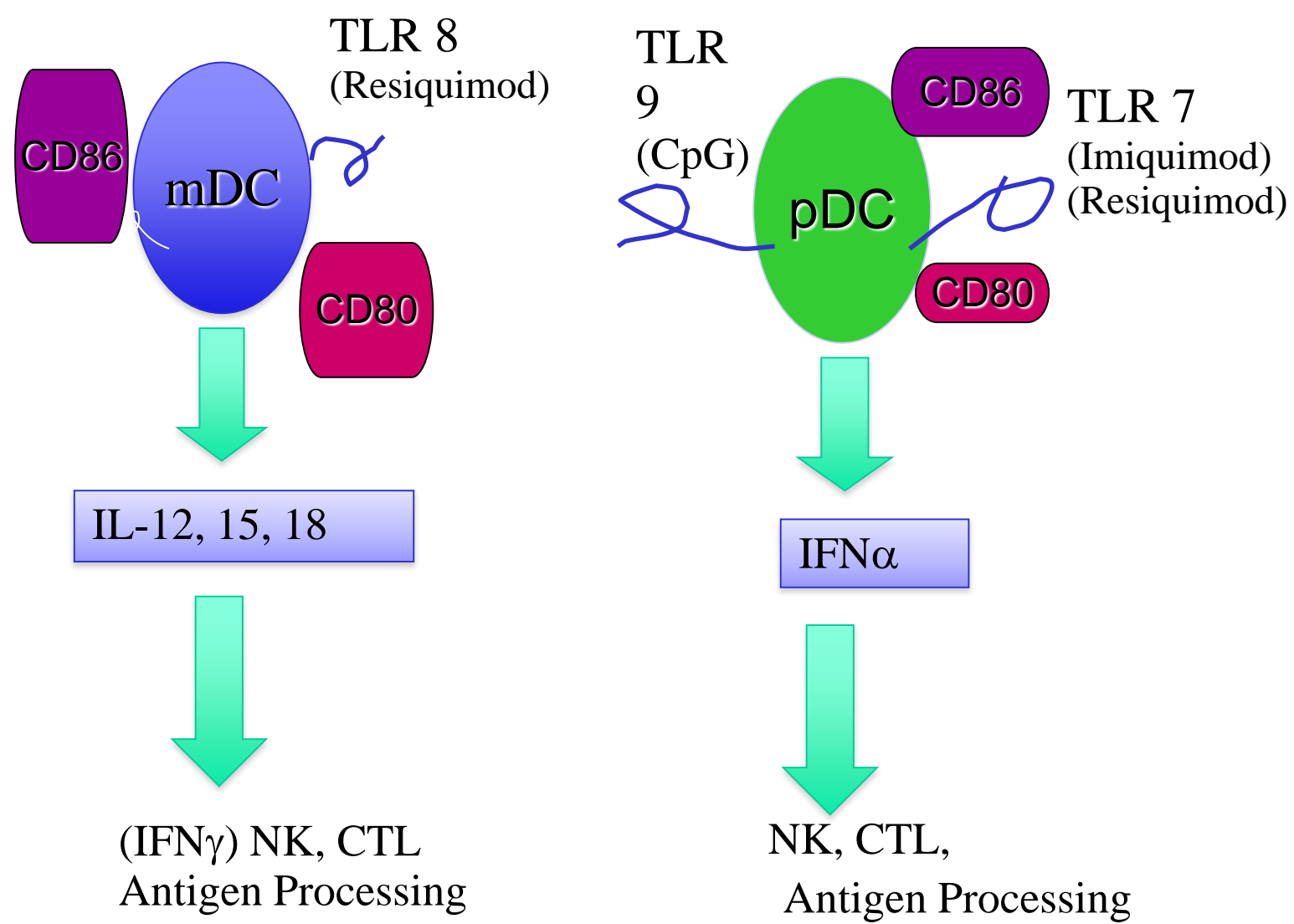


Imiquimod (R-837)



Resiquimod (R-848)

Toll Like Receptor Agonists Are Therapeutically Active for Cutaneous T-Cell Lymphoma



Site A before treatment measured 4.0 x 2.4 cm



Suchin, K. R. et al. Arch Dermatol 2002;138:1137-1139.

Site A after 2 months of therapy



Suchin, K. R. et al. Arch Dermatol 2002;138:1137-1139.

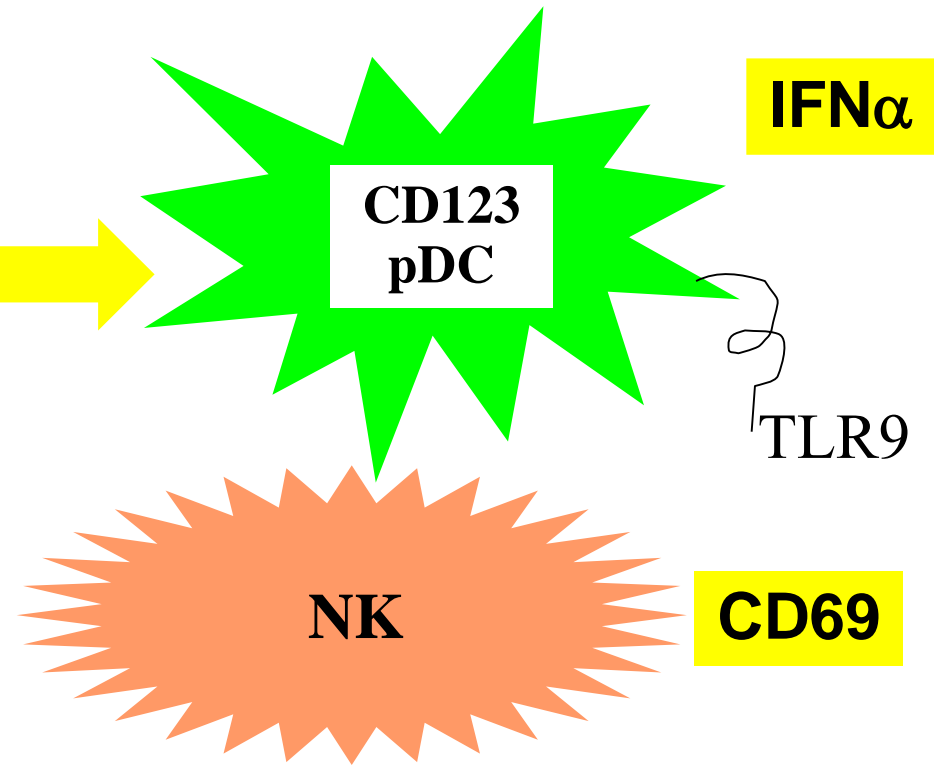
Effects of Imiquimod

- **Low bioavailability**
- **Efficacy dependent upon duration of use**
- **Variable numbers of plasmacytoid DCs**
- **Topical steroids and other therapies can reduce pDCs**
- **Synergism *in vitro* with IFN gamma**

CpG A

CpG oligonucleotide 2216
(Phosphodiester bond)

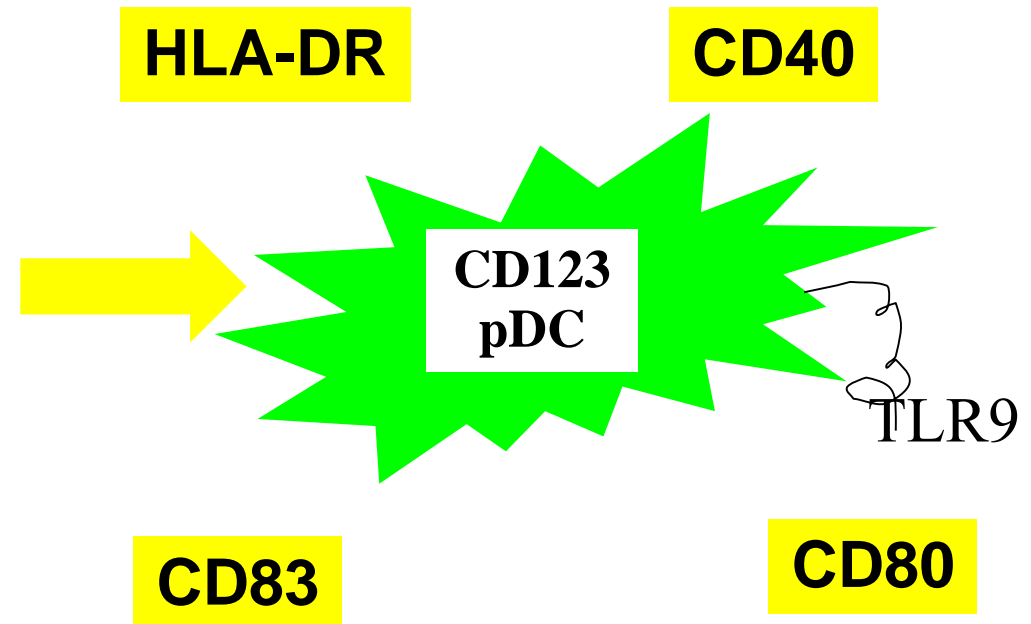
Stimulates NK activity , IFN α production



CpG B

CpG oligonucleotide 2006
(Phosphorothioate bond)

Promotes survival and maturation



Phase I trial of a Toll-like receptor 9 agonist, PF-3512676 (CPG 7909), in patients with treatment-refractory, cutaneous T-cell lymphoma.

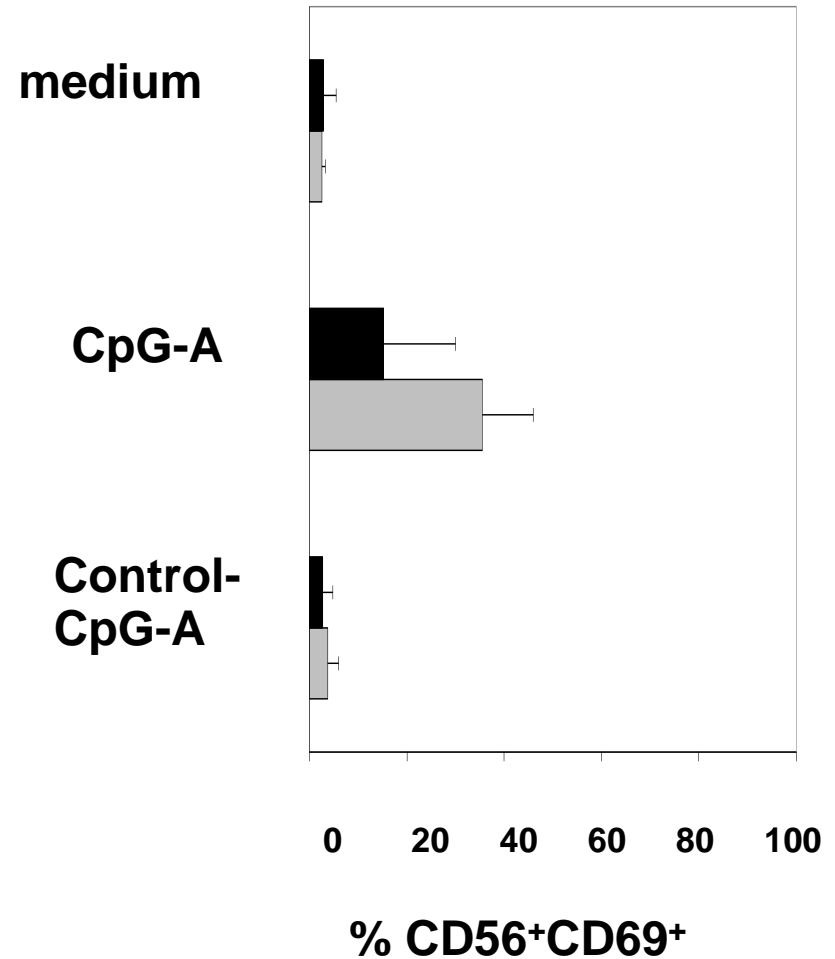
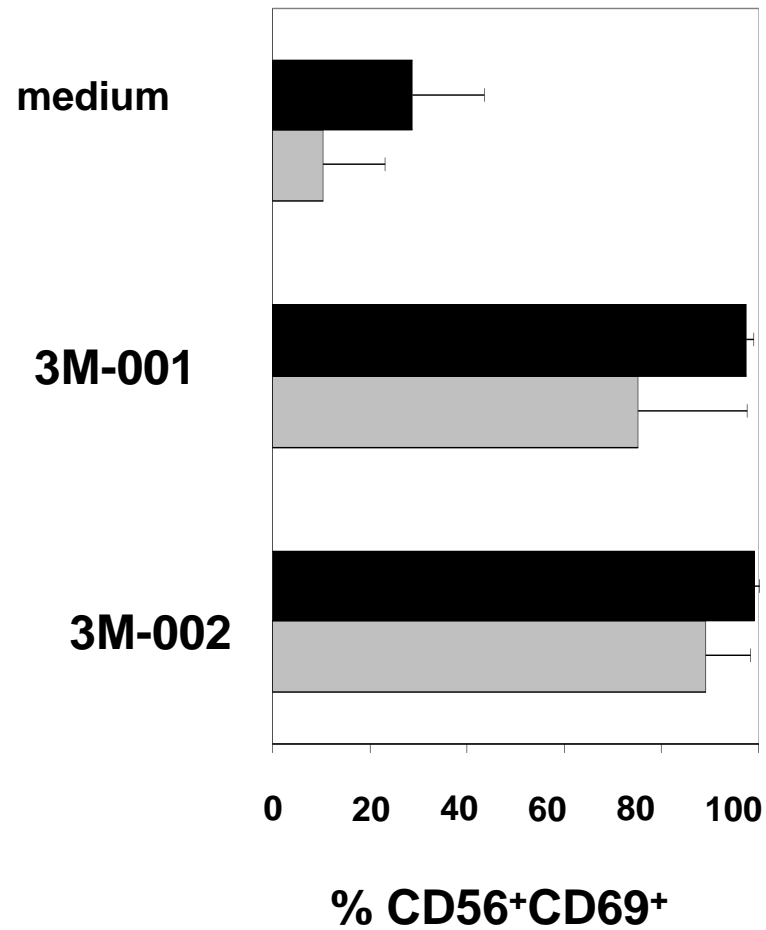
Kim YH¹, Girardi M, Duvic M, Kuzel T, Link BK, Pinter-Brown L, Rook AH.

- **A phase I designed to test safety but not efficacy with weekly Sub Q injections**
- **Dose escalation trial with low concentrations not effective**
- **High concentrations produced responses even at stage IV**

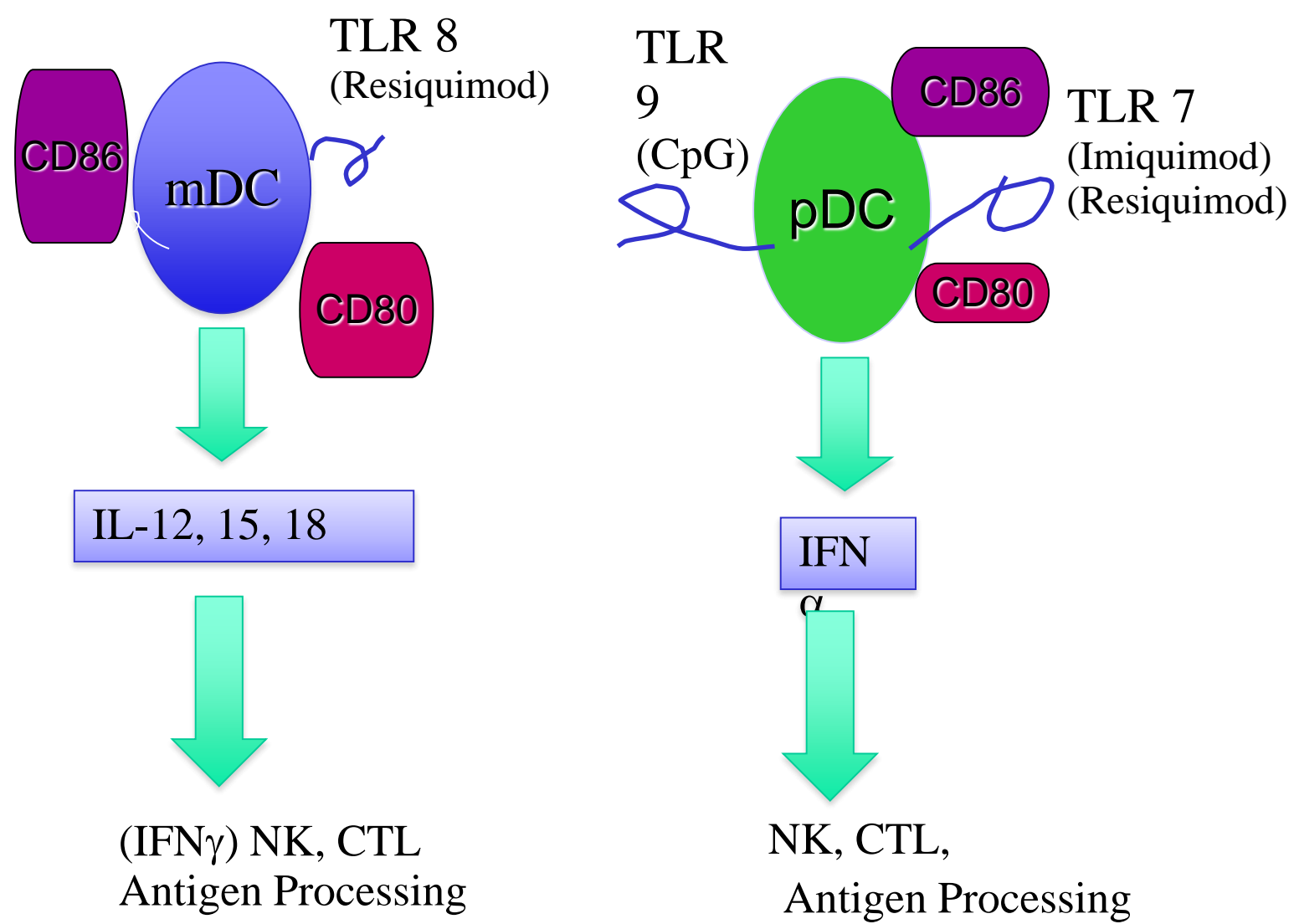
Phase I Trial of CpG 7909

- **28 patients with highly refractory CTCL**
- **9 responses**
- **3 complete responses (including 2 with late stage disease)**
- **Significant activity in advanced CTCL:future trials are warranted**

3M-001 Is A Significantly More Potent Activator Of NK Cells Than Type A CpG



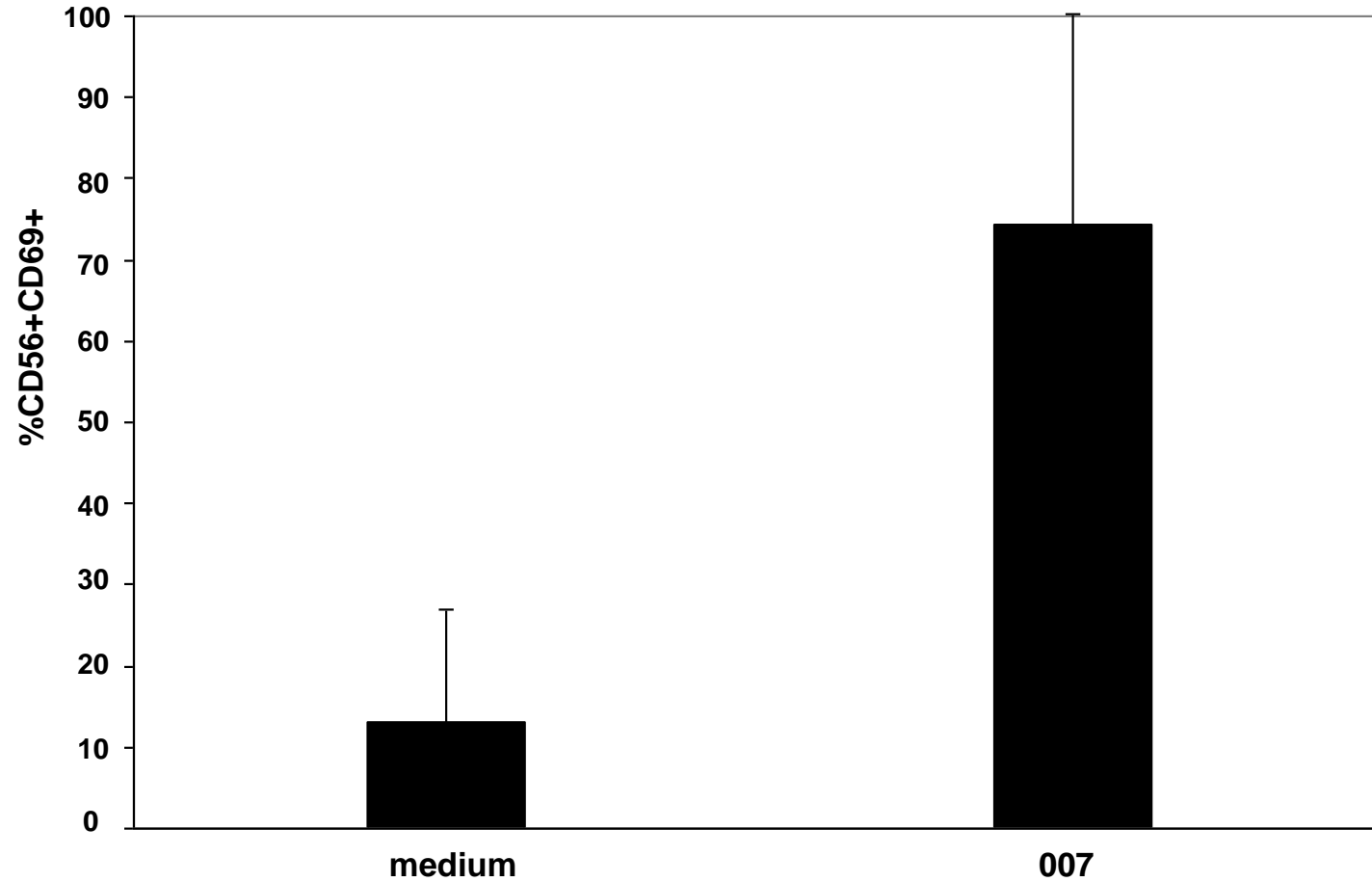
Toll Like Receptor Agonists Are Therapeutically Active for Cutaneous T-Cell Lymphoma

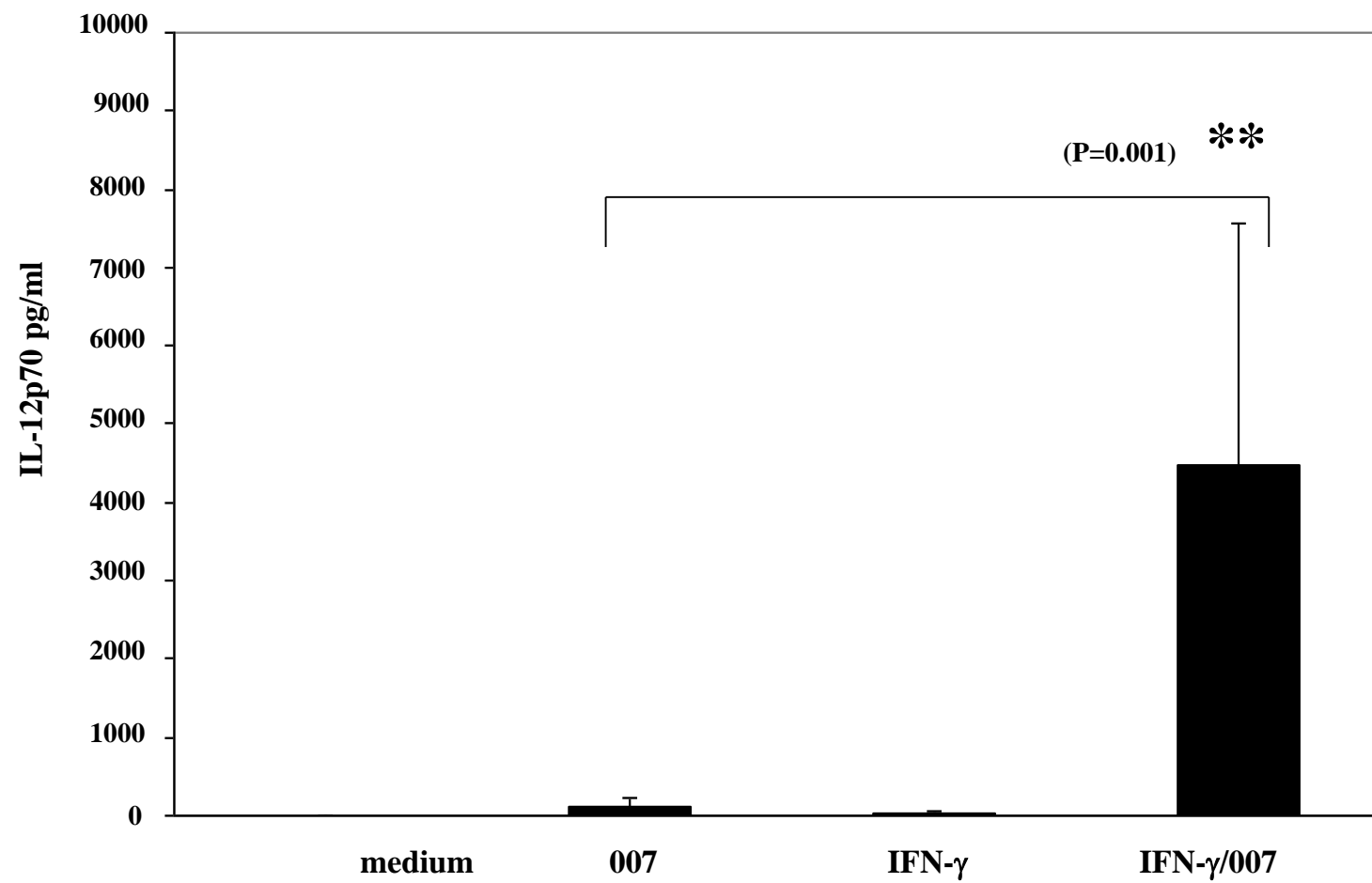


Resiquimod(007)

- **Combined TLR 7 & 8 agonist**
- **Bioavailability 10 times > imiquimod**
- **Potency up to 100 times > imiquimod**
- **1g application induces a systemic IFN alpha response**

Resiquimod Activates a High Percentage of NK Cells That are in the Blood of Sezary Syndrome Patients





N=8

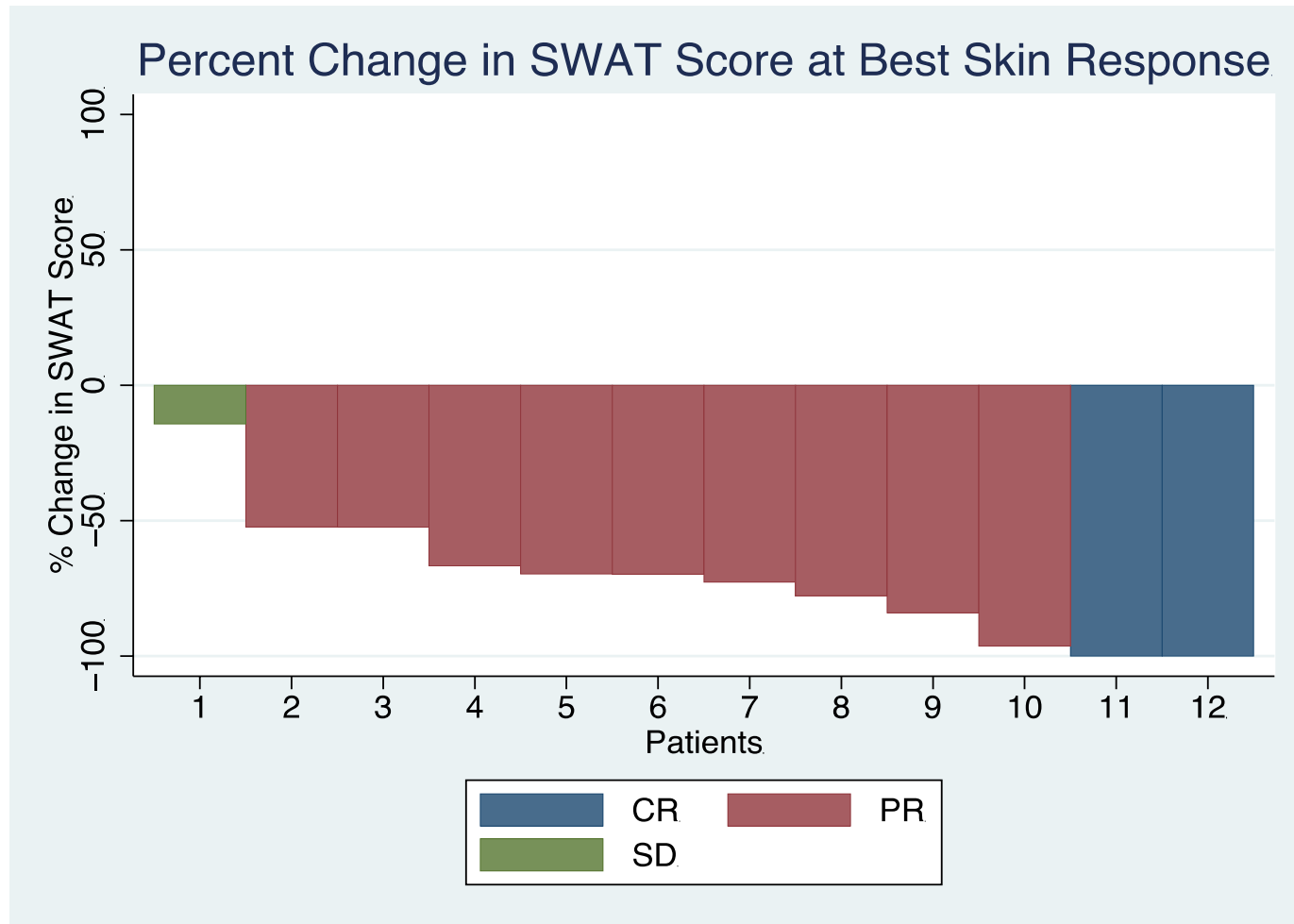
Resiquimod Protocol

- **Stage IA, IB, IIA cutaneous T-cell lymphoma**
- **Two cohorts: 0.06% and 0.03% topical gel**
- **Commence three times weekly and increase or decrease every 2 weeks based upon tolerance**
- **Treat for 8 weeks; 4 week hiatus; treat for 8 weeks; 4 week hiatus**
- **Those with partial response can restart drug for an additional 12 weeks**
- **Safety assessments every two weeks for AEs and SAEs and CBC and CMP**
- **Efficacy assessments every 4 weeks: Skin scores including SWAT, CAILS as well as Global Assessment and lesion photography**
- **Skin scores and photographs reviewed by CTCL expert (Dr. Ellen Kim)**
- **Data and safety monitoring committee evaluates data after each set of 4 patients**

Patient Characteristics

- **1 Stage IA**
- **10 Stage IB (2 on treatment for only two weeks)**
- **1 Stage IIA**
(8 on 0.06% with 4 on 0.03%)
- **Median number of previous treatments 6**
- **Range 2-11 treatments**

Resiquimod Phase I Trial Responses



Rook, et al. Blood. Sept 17, 2015

Clinical Response to Resiquimod

Pre-Resiquimod

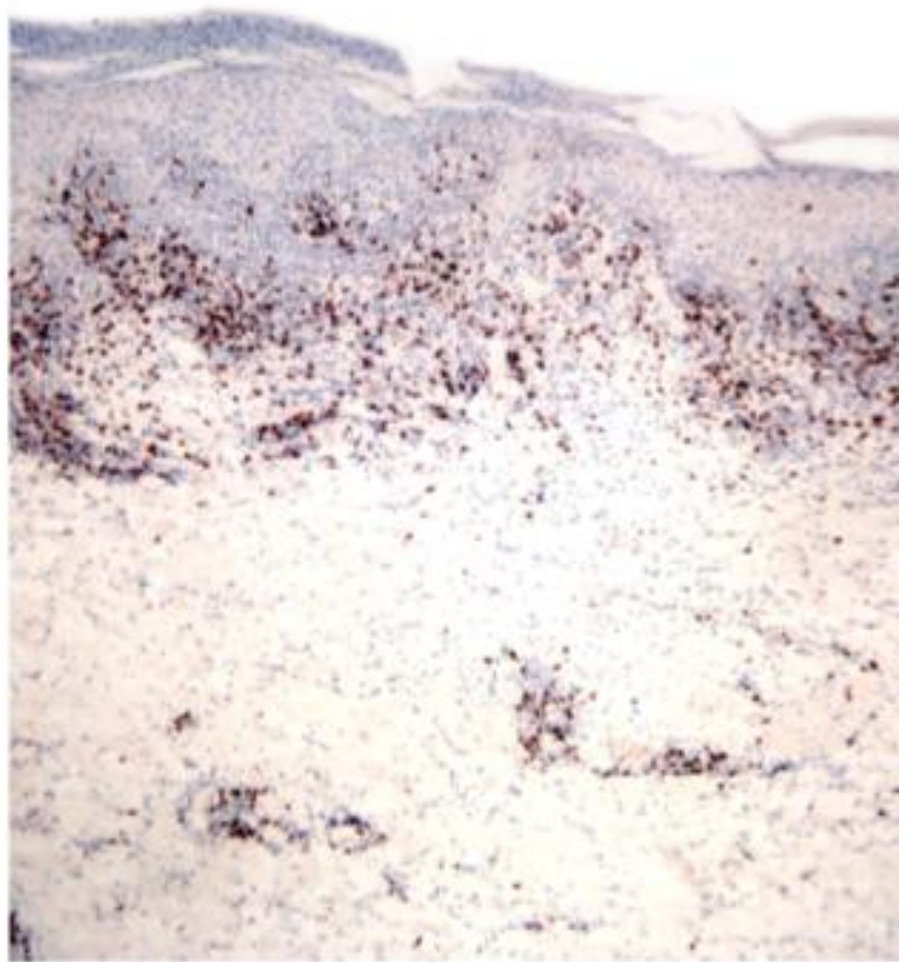
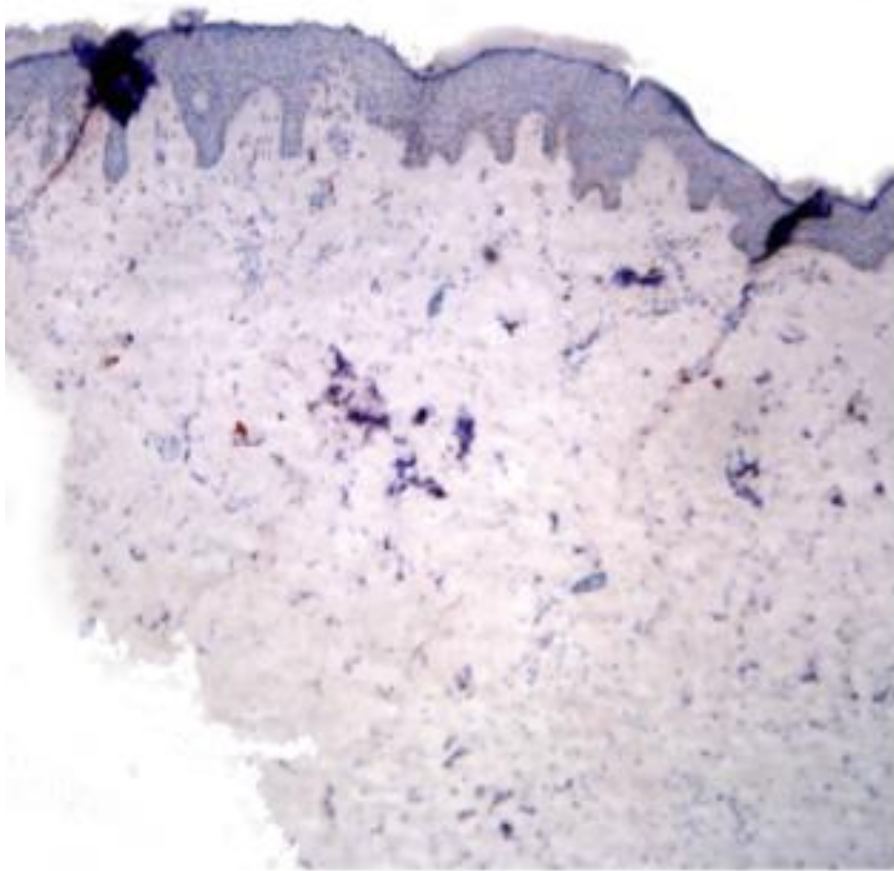


Week 12 Resiquimod



Proinflammatory Effects of Resiquimod: Week 8





Resiquimod Clears Treated Lesions and Induces Resolution of Distant Lesions

Pre-Resiquimod



Week 8



Patient #2 Baseline



Patient #2 Week 16 (Response In Untreated Lesion)



Patient #3 Baseline



Patient #3 Week 24



Activation of Circulating Dendritic Cells by Topical Resiquimod

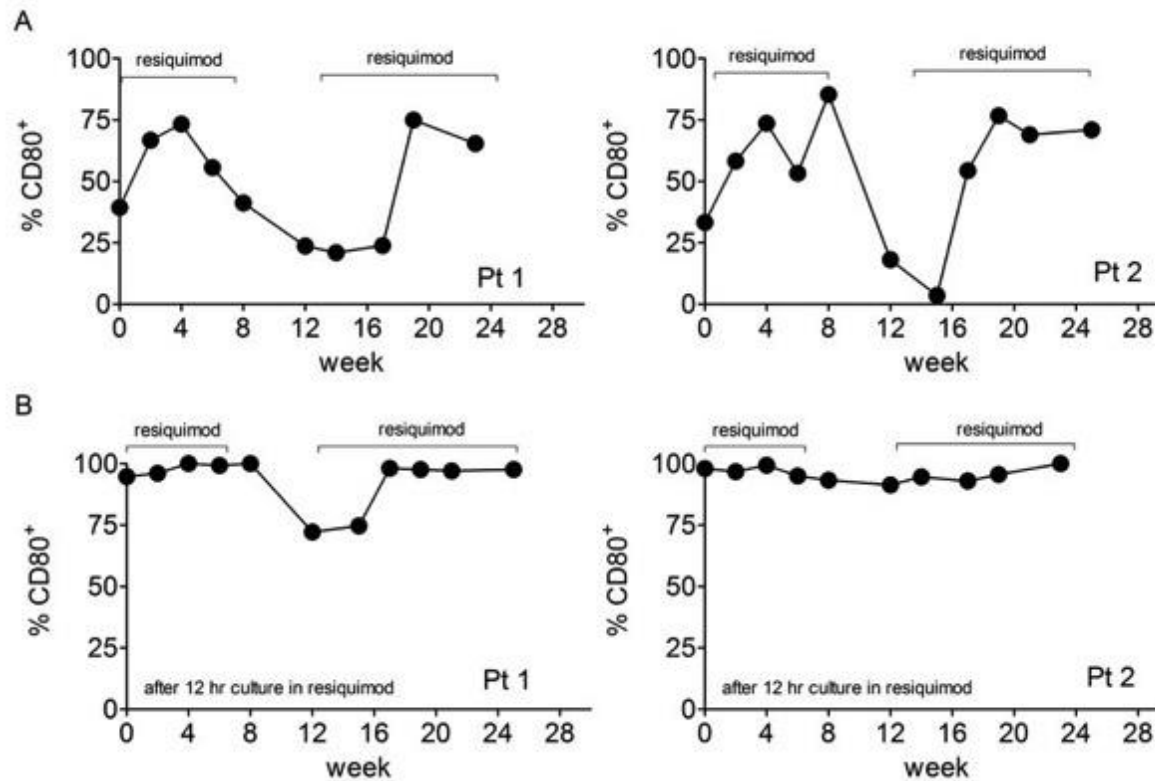


Figure 8

Patient #11

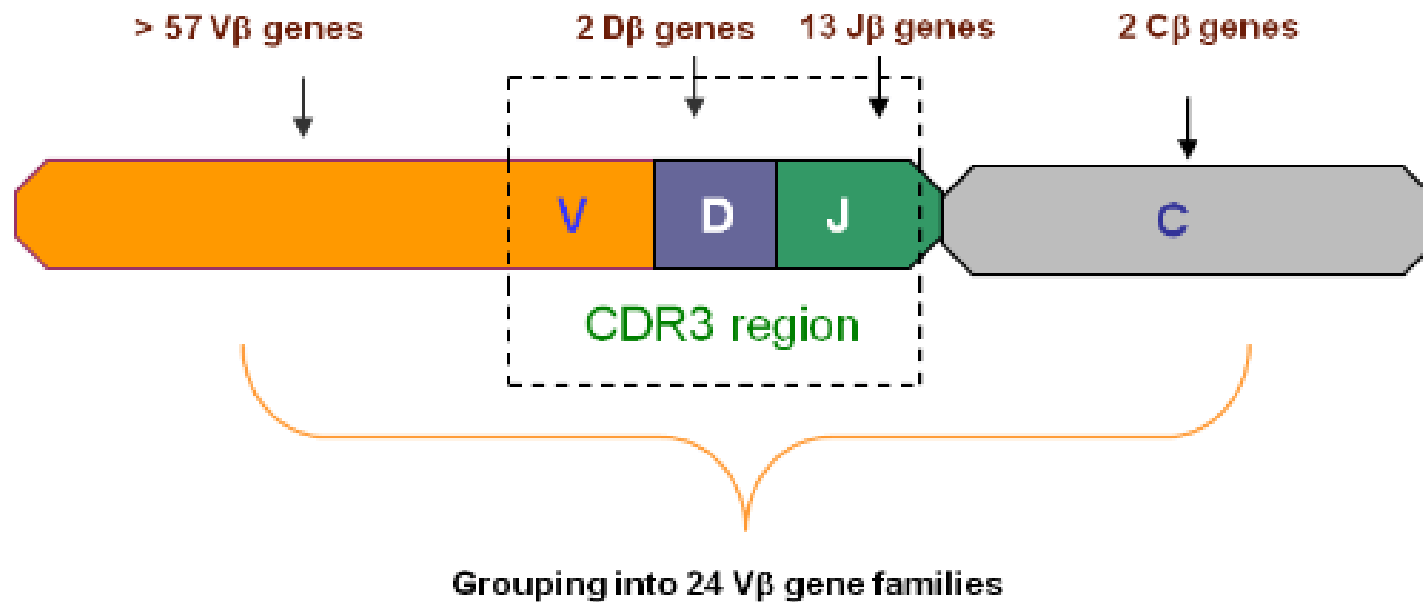
Baseline Pre-Treatment



Week 8 of Treatment



High throughput TCR CDR3 Sequencing (HTS): T cell fingerprinting

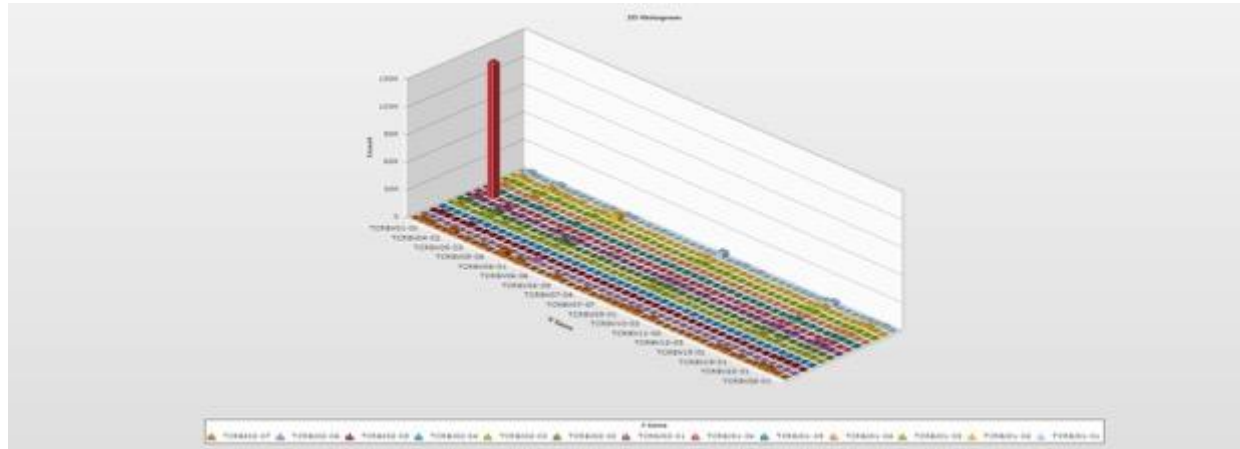


Every T cell has a unique CDR3 sequence

Patient 11

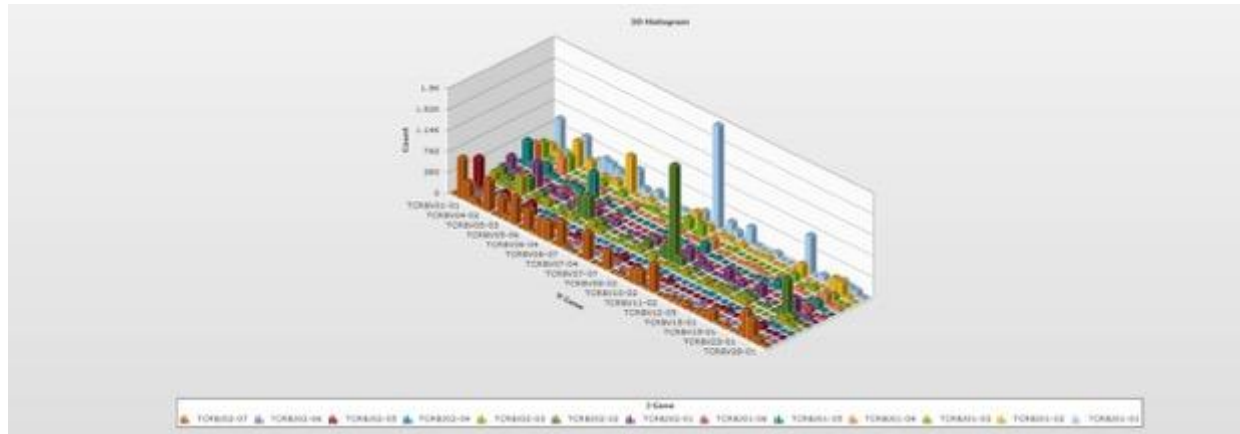
Clearance of Malignant Clone and Restoration of Clonal Diversity

Pre-treatment



Clone:
19% T cells

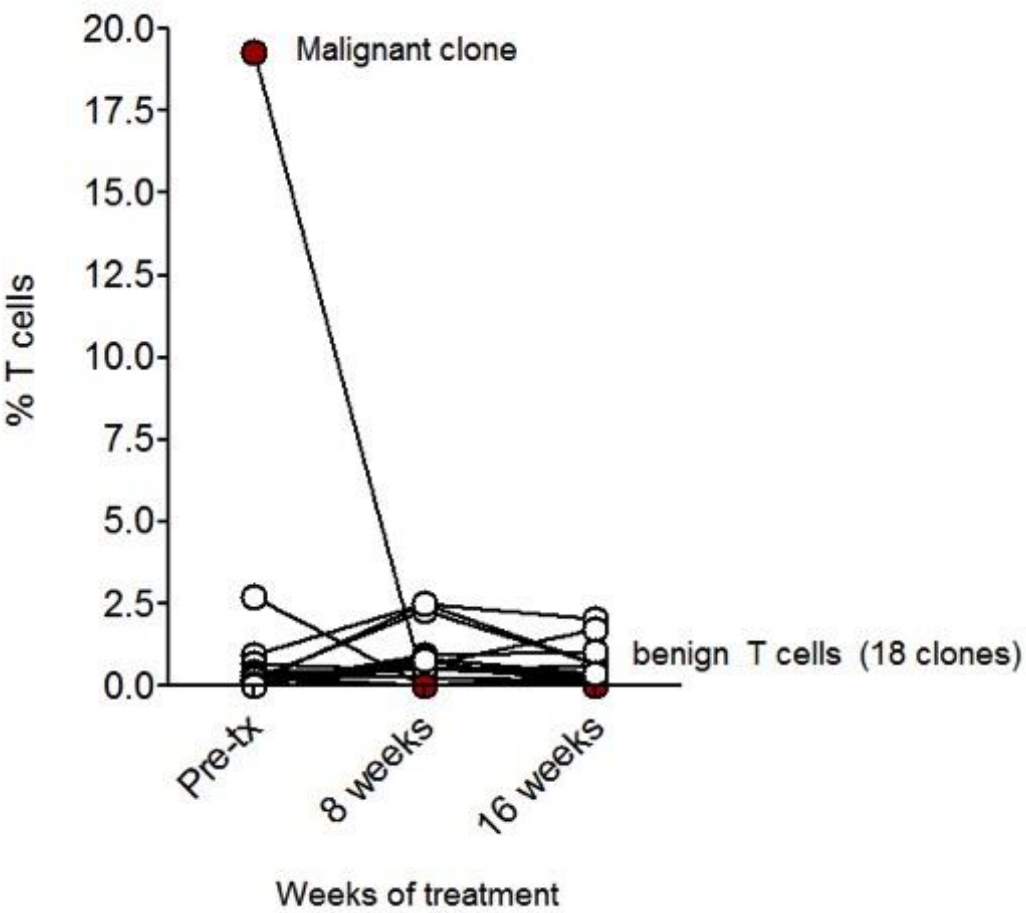
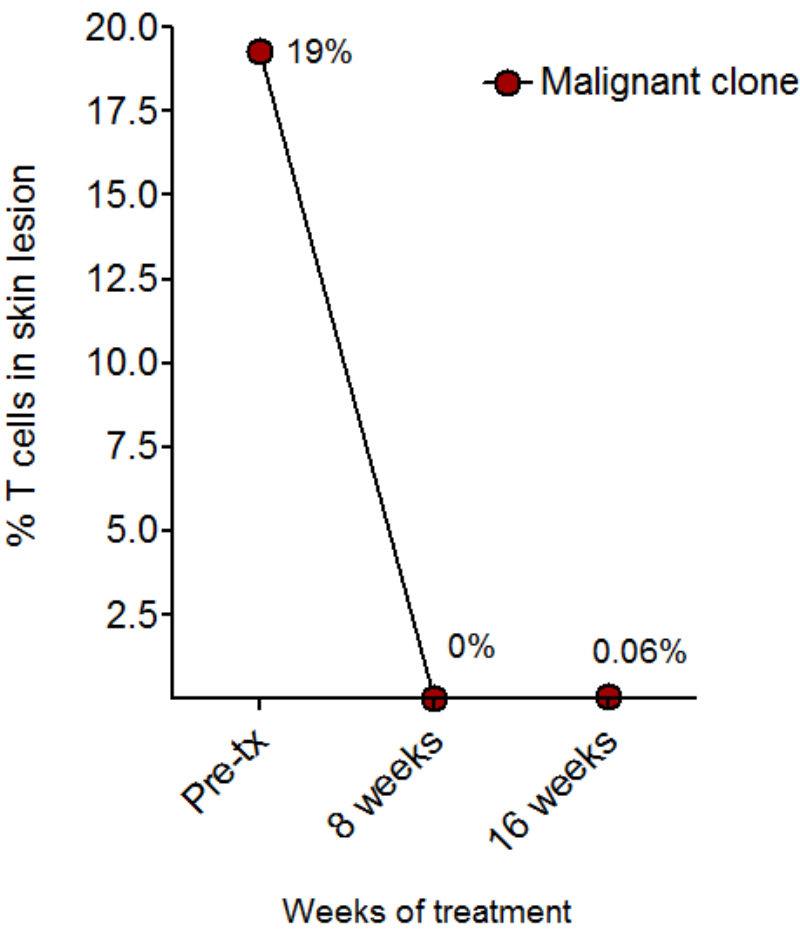
8 weeks



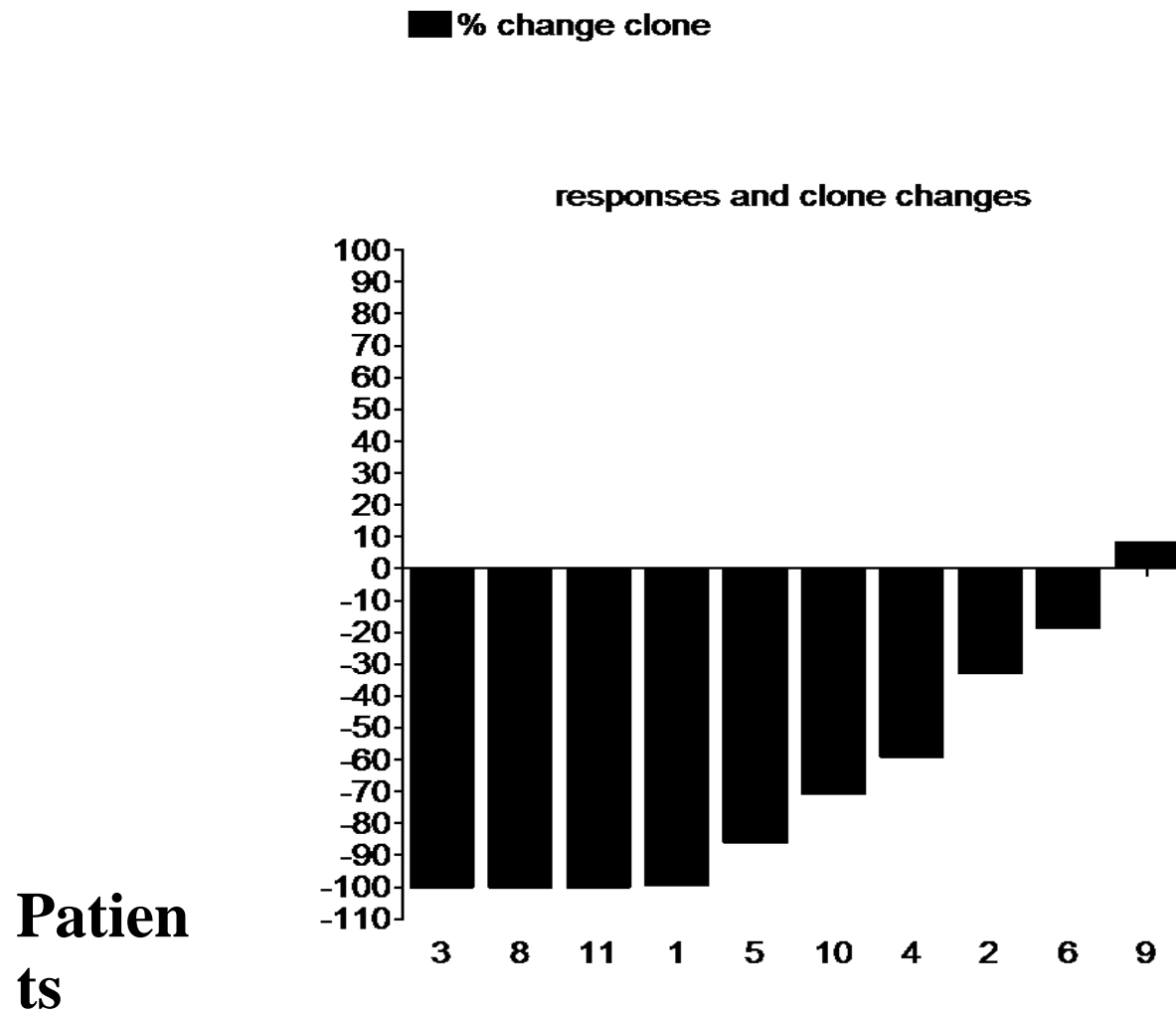
Clone:
0% T cells

Patient 11

Patient 11



Percent Change in Malignant Clone During Therapy



Resiquimod Trial for CTCL

- **Well tolerated topical drug with grade I skin toxicity**
- **Ease of application**
- **High clinical response rates of both treated and untreated lesions among refractory early stage CTCL**
- **Among 12 patients 10/12 responses (7 PR; 3CR; 2 stable disease)**
- **Evidence for systemic immune activation**
- **Phase II, multicenter, placebo controlled trial planned**

Adverse Events (CTCAE Version 4.0)

- **No serious adverse events recorded**
- **No patient drop outs**
- **11 patients with grade I skin AEs which resolved within 3-7 days (inflammation; pain; erosions).**
- **2 patients (both on 0.06%) with less than grade I fever for two days**

Potential Role of TLR Agonists in CTCL Therapy

Single-agent immunostimulator

Effective agent in combination regimens

- **Photopheresis**
- **Cytokines (particularly IFN gamma)**
- **Retinoids**
- **PUVA**
- **Electron beam**
- **Anti-PD-1**

***In situ* vaccination therapy**

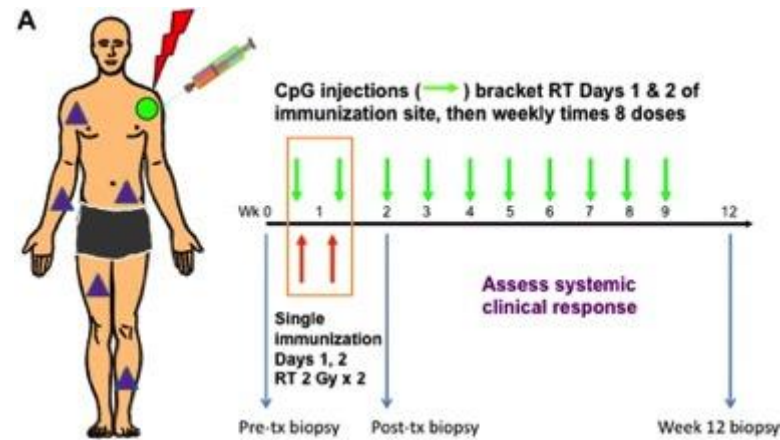
- **Low-dose RT + intratumoral CPG**

(Ongoing clinical trial at Stanford)

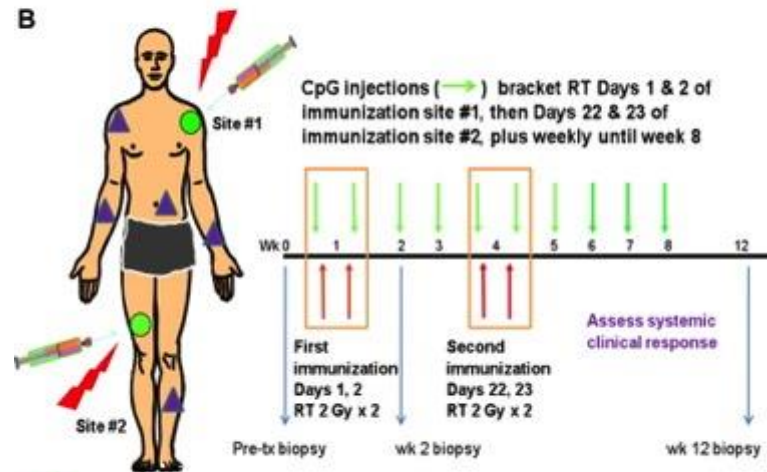
**IN SITU VACCINATION AGAINST MYCOSIS
FUNGOIDES BY INTRATUMORAL INJECTION OF
A TLR9 AGONIST COMBINED WITH RADIATION:
A PHASE 1/2 STUDY**

Youn H. Kim, Blood, 2012

Treatment schema.



- Immunization site (CpG + RT)
- ▲ MF lesions assessed for response



- Immunization site #1 (CpG + RT)
- Immunization site #2 (CpG + RT)
- ▲ MF lesions assessed for response

Kim Y H et al. Blood 2012;119:355-363