

### Microenvironment and metastatic cascade Clinical Perspectives

Giuseppe Curigliano MD, PhD
Breast Cancer Program
Division Experimental Cancer Medicine

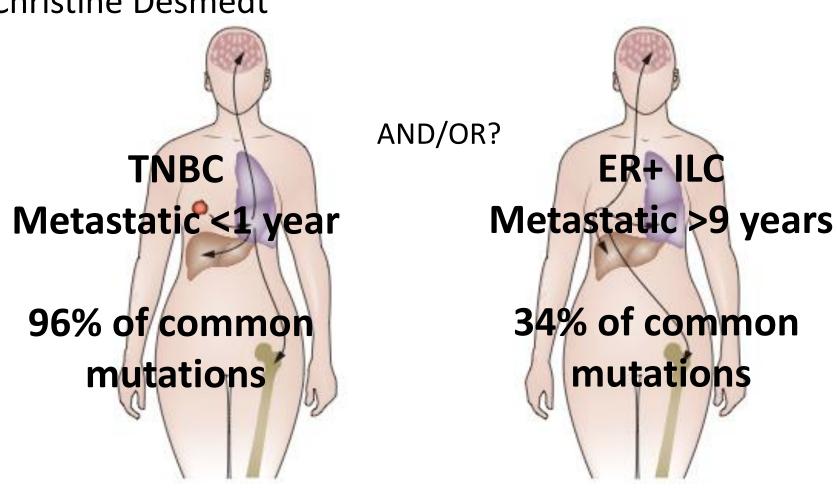






### Tumor evolution in the metastatic setting

Christine Desmedt



Metastatic cascade

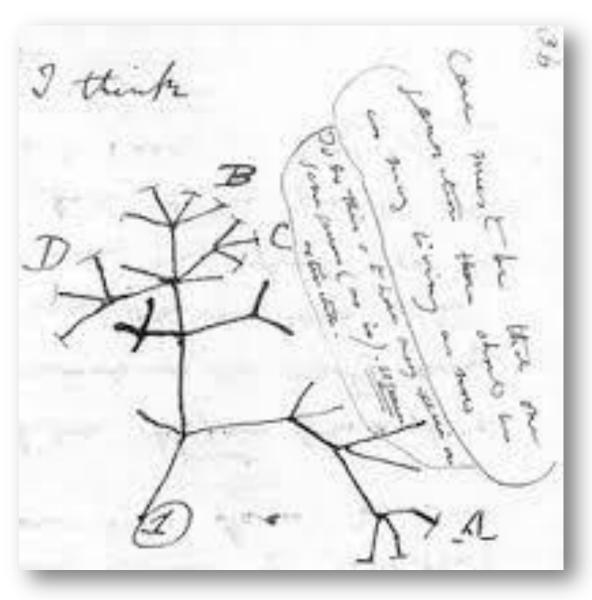
Parallel progression

### Tumor evolution in the metastatic setting

- Autopsies 

  reconstruction of breast cancer progression.
- Different progression trajectories are possible in breast cancer (parallel and in cascade).
- Metastases can differ from their primary tumor, especially if the patients developed their metastases many years after initial diagnosis.

# Tumor Evolution under Selective Therapeutic Pressure



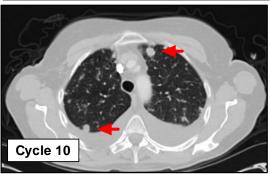
### Tumor Evolution under Selective Pressure PI3Kα Inhibitor BYL719

1. WGS of new lesion and primary

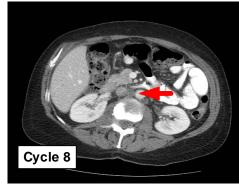
- 2. WES of new, responding lesions and primary
- 3. Targeted exome sequencing of all metastases and primary

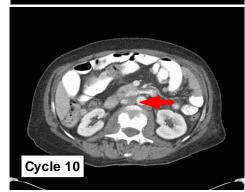
#### **PROGRESSION**

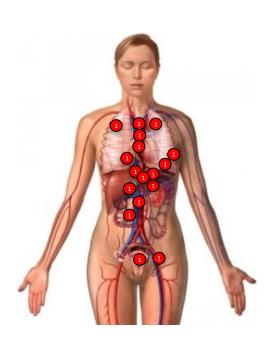




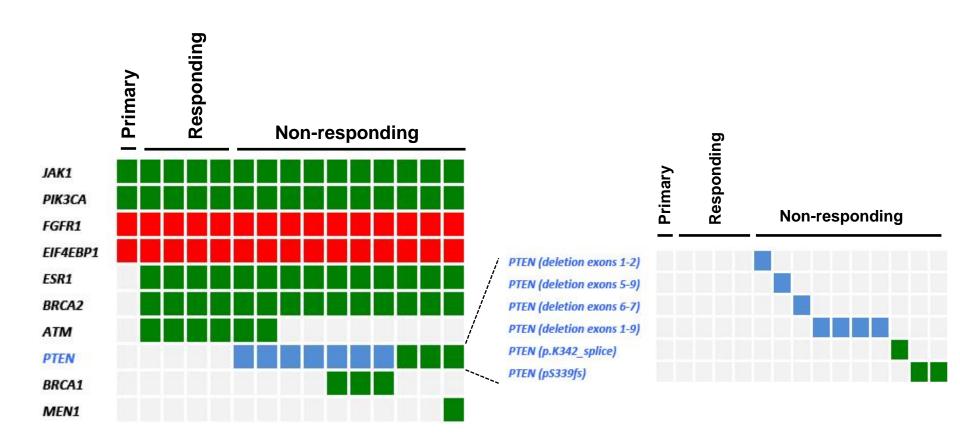
#### **RESPONDING**







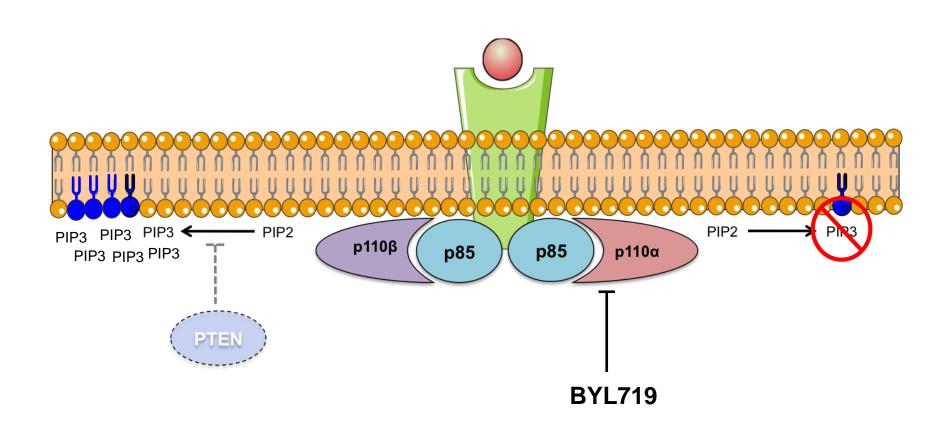
## Targeted exome sequencing reveals multiple PTEN alterations in all resistant lesions





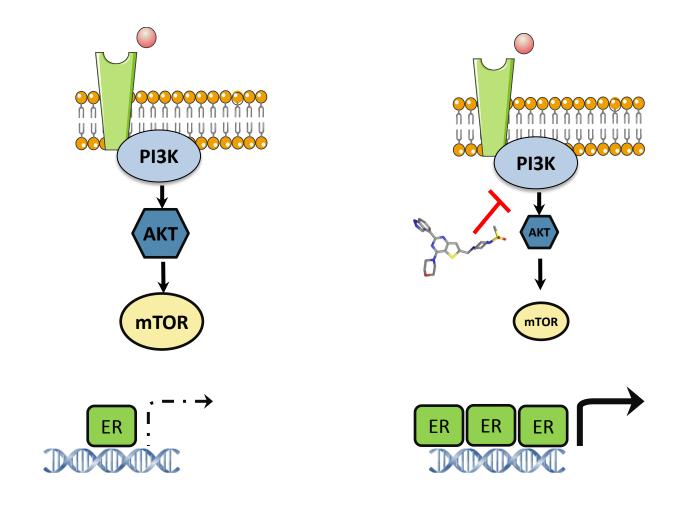


## PTEN loss tumors activate AKT pathway through p110β

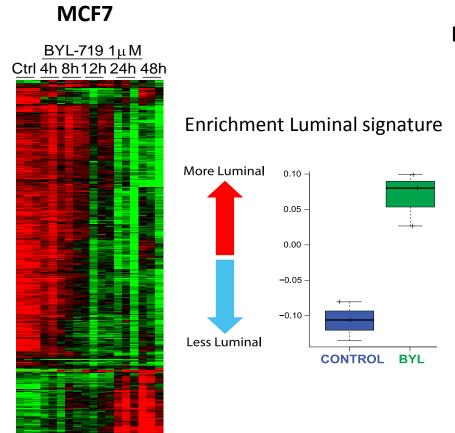


Jia et al. 2008, Nature Wee et al. 2008, PNAS

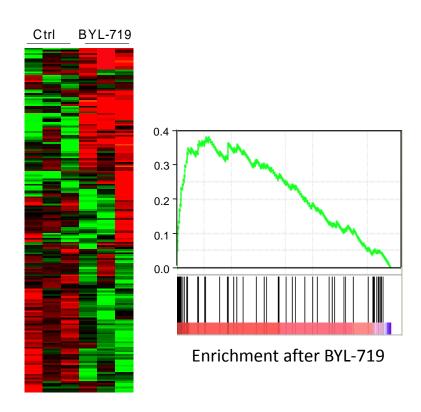
### PI3K inhibition augments estrogen receptor function and dependence in hormone receptor-positive breast cancer



## PI3Kα inhibition induces a transcriptome switch towards a more luminal (ER-driven) phenotype



#### **Patient Derived Xenograft**



### Clinical implications of tumor evolution

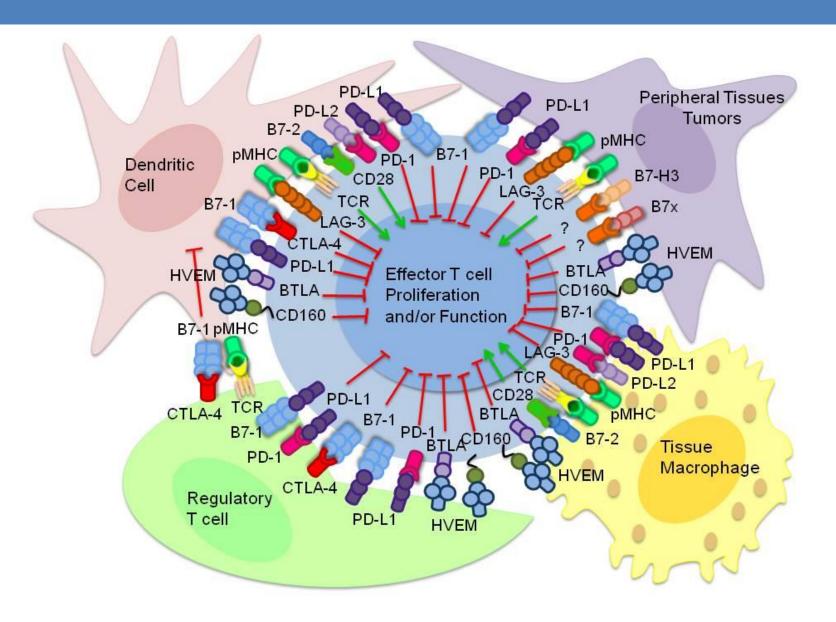
- PI3K mutations are frequent
- Selective PI3Kα inhibitors active in phase I in tumors with PI3Kα mutations
- Adaptive activation of ER occurs upon PI3k pathway inhibition
- $\bullet$  SERDs and PI3K $\alpha$  inhibitors in combination are very active. Registration trials under way
- Tumor evolution under selective pressure to be addressed

## The impact of tumor genetics on host immune response

#### Matthew Hellmann

- Mutation burden, specific neoantigens, and patterns of neoepitopes may be a prediction tool
- Exome data can be used to identify neoantigen-specific T cell responses
- Neoantigen-specific T cells may mediate response to PD-1 blockade

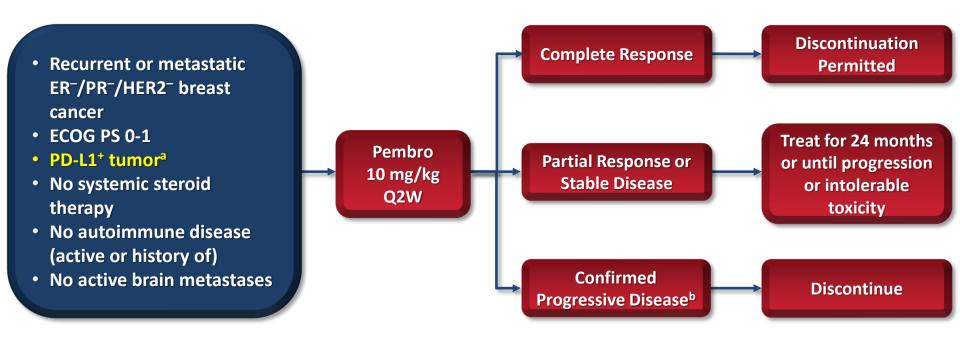
### Predicting response



# PD-L1 analysis: differences in evaluation and interpretation

Agent	Assay	Analysis	Definition of positivity	PD-L1 expression	
Nivolumab (anti-PD-1) <sup>1–4</sup>	Dako automated IHC assay (28-8 rabbit Ab) Analytically validated	Archival FFPE	<ul> <li>1% and 5% cut-off among &gt;100 evaluable tumour cells</li> </ul>	• 56%: 1% cut-off • 49%: 5% cut-off	
Pembrolizumab (anti-PD-1) <sup>5,6</sup>	Dako automated IHC assay (22C3 mouse Ab)	Archival FFPE	<ul> <li>Tumour dependent:         <ul> <li>Melanoma &gt; 1%</li> <li>NSCLC</li> <li>PD-L1 (+): Strong</li> <li>(≥50%) and weak</li> <li>staining (1–49%)</li> <li>PD-L1 (-): no staining</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul> <li>~25%: ≥50% staining</li> <li>~45–70%: ≥1% staining</li> </ul>	
MPDL3280A (anti-PD-L1) <sup>7,8</sup>	Ventana automated clinical research IHC assay	Archival FFPE	<ul> <li>PD-L1 (+):</li></ul>	• 11%: IHC 3 • 75%: IHC 1, 0	
MEDI-4736 (anti-PD-L1) <sup>9</sup>	First-generation or Ventana IHC Automated Assay (in dev.)	Archival FFPE	Not reported	Not reported	

### The immune checkpoint inhibitors



- **PD-L1 positivity:** 58% of all patients screened had PD-L1-positive tumors
- Treatment: 10 mg/kg IV Q2W
- Response assessment: Performed every 8 weeks per RECIST v1.1

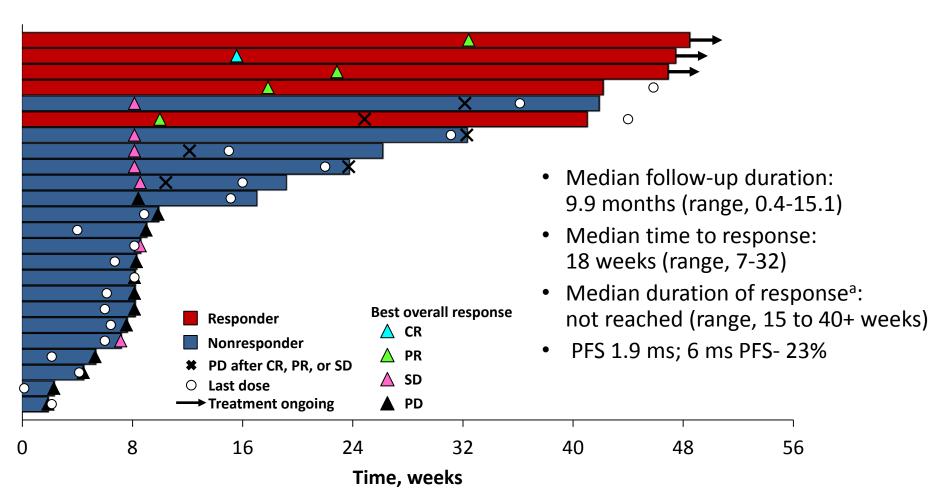
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>PD-L1 expression was assessed in archival tumor samples using a prototype IHC assay and the 22C3 antibody. Only patients with PD-L1 staining in the stroma or in ≥1% of tumor cells were eligible for enrollment.

bif clinically stable, patients are permitted to remain on pembrolizumab until progressive disease is confirmed on a second scan performed ≥4 weeks later. If progressive disease is confirmed, pembrolizumab is discontinued. An exception may be granted for patients with clinical stability or improvement after consultation with the sponsor.

### Pembrolizumab in TN breast cancer

	Patients Evaluable for Response <sup>a</sup> n = 27				
Overall response rate	5 ( <b>18.5</b> %)				
Best overall response					
Complete response <sup>b</sup>	1 (3.7%)				
Partial response <sup>b</sup>	4 (14.8%)				
Stable disease	7 (25.9%)				
Progressive disease	12 (44.4%)				
No assessment <sup>c</sup>	3 (11.1%)				

### Pembrolizumab in TN breast cancer



<sup>a</sup>Kaplan-Meier estimate. Analysis cut-off date: November 10, 2014.

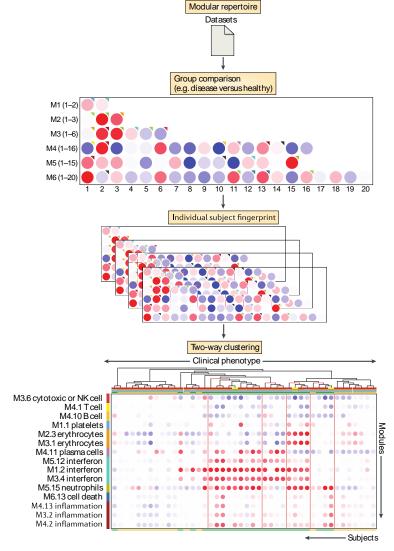
### PD-L1 as a biomarker

Drug/	Nivolumab		Pembrolizumab		MPDL3280A			MEDI4736		
Sponsor	BMS		MSD (Merck)		Genentech			MedImmune		
Assay	28-8		22C3		Dako			SP263		
Cells scored	Tumor cell membrane		Tumor cell (and stroma)		Infiltrating immune cells		Tumor cells			
Tissue	Archival		Recent		Arch./Recent		Arch./Recent			
Cut- point	5%	1%	5%	1%	1%	50%	1%	5%	10%	10%
ORR in PD-L1 +	50% N=10	13% N=38	15% N=33	26-47% N=45	19-23% N=177	37% N=41	31% N=26	46% N=13	83% N=6	39% N=13
ORR in PD-L1 -	0% N=7	17% N=30	14% N=35	???	9-13% N=40	11% N=88	20% N=20	18% N=33	18% N=40	5% N=19

#### Clinical Considerations

- PD-L1 expression is dynamic
- PD-L1 is heterogeneous within tissue
- PD-L1 "threshold" is to be defined (tumour material, mAB, technique, sampling, criteria)
- Importance of co-localization with TILs

# Democratizing systems immunology with modular transcriptional repertoire analyses



Mapping perturbations of the modular repertoire across individual samples.

Mapping perturbations of the modular repertoire for a group of subjects does not account for the heterogeneity observed at the individual level.

Modular fingerprints can be derived for individual subjects using a reference set of samples.

# Modulate the Immune System in Cancer: Checkpoint inhibitors

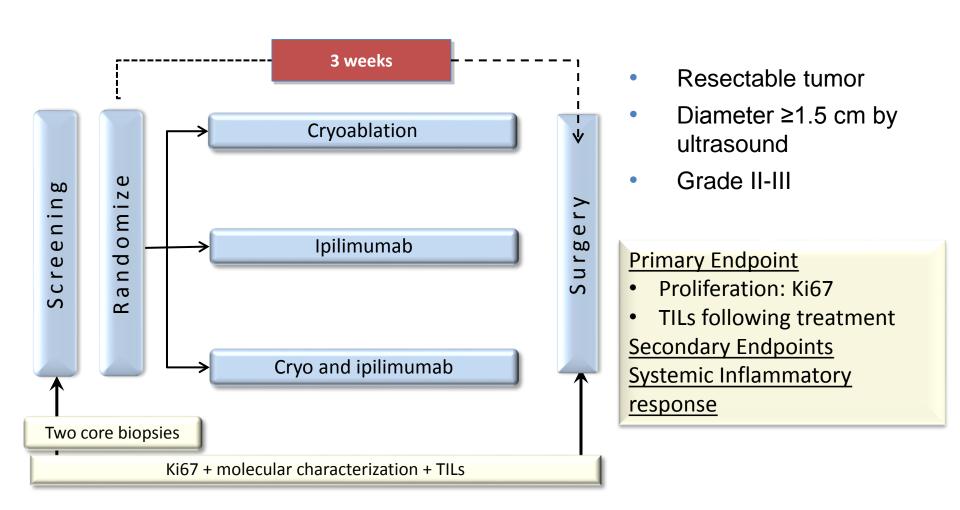
Karen Willard-Gallo

Tertiary Lymphoid Structures (TLS) produce memory T and/or B cells that function to reject allografts

Vaccinated patients form TLS in the stroma adjacent to their lesion

TILhi cancer patients with TLS have a better prognosis (due to quality as well as quantity of memory T and B cells?)

# Can TLS be induced in the tumor site? "Abscopal effect" in breast cancer



# Activating antitumor immunity with cryoablation and ipilimumab in EBC

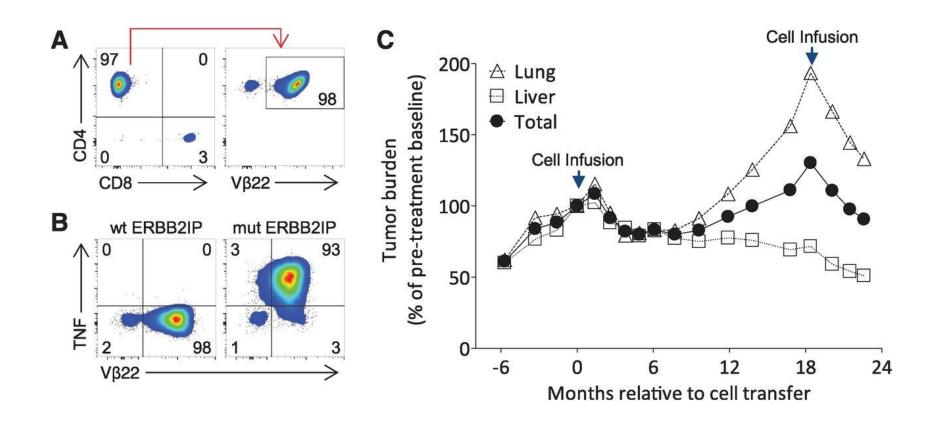
- Tissue biopsies and cryoablation were performed 7-10 days prior to surgery.
   Ipilimumab was administered 8-15 d prior to mastectomy
- Pre-operative cryo-alone, ipi-alone and the combination were well tolerated and the primary safety endpoint was achieved.

# Activating antitumor immunity with cryoablation and ipilimumab in EBC

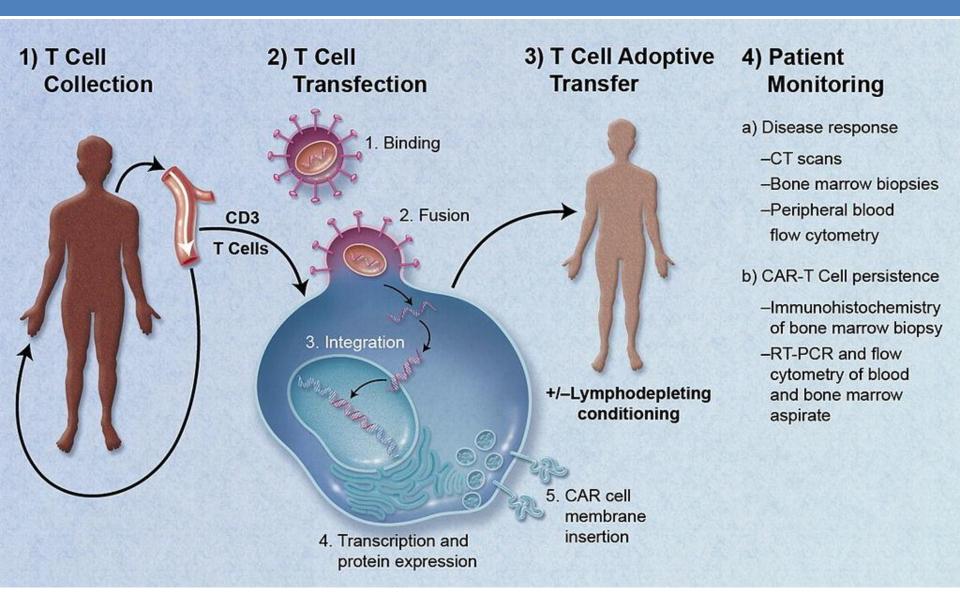
 Tumor necrosis/infarction was observed in 9/12 pts who underwent cryoablation.

 Analysis of TILs in the TM specimens suggested a higher ratio of CD8+Ki67+ T-cells to CD4+CD25+FOXP3+ (T-regulatory) cells in group C (cryo+ipi) when compared with cryo alone and ipilimumab alone.

#### T-cell therapy against cancer mutations



### Chimeric T cell receptors



# Predicting immune-response in breast cancer

The more "immunogenic" → higher likelihood to respond

```
    How to define "immunogenic"?:
        TILs (which cut-off?)
        TLS present or absent?
        Immune determinants (neo-antigens)?
        PD1/PD-L1 expression (unclear)?
```

#### **Clinical Considerations**

- Somatic neo-epitopes are shared by patients with a prolonged benefit from ICPI and are absent in those without a prolonged benefit
- We need for an expanded definition of the previous categories of "driver" and "passenger" mutations.
- Neoantigens may represent "immune determinants."
- Mapping perturbations of the modular immunotrascriptomic repertoire to address subjects heterogeneity

### Thank you



Path and Stat
Giancarlo Pruneri
Giuseppe Viale
Davide Disalvatore
Nicole Rotmensz



Med Onc

Carmen Criscitiello Angela Esposito Marzia Locatelli Ida Minchella Patrizia Winkler Alina Muller

Research Nurses
Alessandra Milani

Maria Di Leo

Teresa Profeta

**Data Managers** 

Rita Liuzzi Maria Angela Massaro Concetta Riviello







