



# Vaccines for Breast Cancer

BCEA Annual Education Conference  
Oct. 05, 2019

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Professor of Immunology  
Department of Immunology

# Conflict of Interest

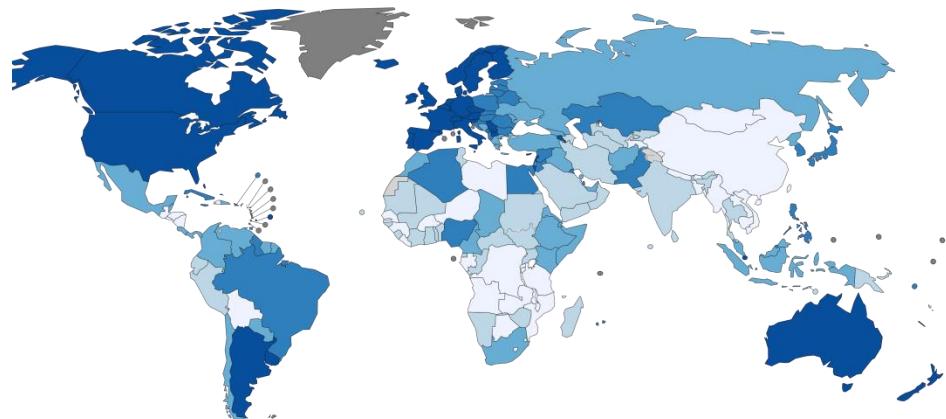
- **Marker Therapeutics, Inc.**
  - Cancer Vaccines and T Cell Therapy – Houston Tx
  - Scientific Advisory Board (unpaid)
  - Several Patent Licensing Agreements (Mayo)
- **Kiromic, Inc.**
  - Cancer Vaccines – Lubbock, TX
  - Scientific Advisory Board (Stock)
- **Antigen Express, Inc.**
  - Cancer Vaccines – Cambridge, MA
  - Scientific Advisory Board (Paid)
- **Macrogenics, Inc.**
  - Biologics – Bethesda, MD
  - Grant funding



# Breast Cancer

**Worldwide: 1950K cases/year, 650K deaths/year**

**USA BREAST: 240K cases/year, 40K deaths/year**  
**USA OVARIAN: 22K cases/year, 14K deaths/year**



**Estimated USA Breast Cancer Costs: \$ 180,000,000,000  
1% of the GDP**

# The adaptive immune system in the body's drug making machinery

## CD4 "helper" T cells

- Inflammation (macrophages and neutrophils)
- Antibodies
- Induce/Enhance cytotoxic T cells
- Immune-surveillance
- Epitope-spreading

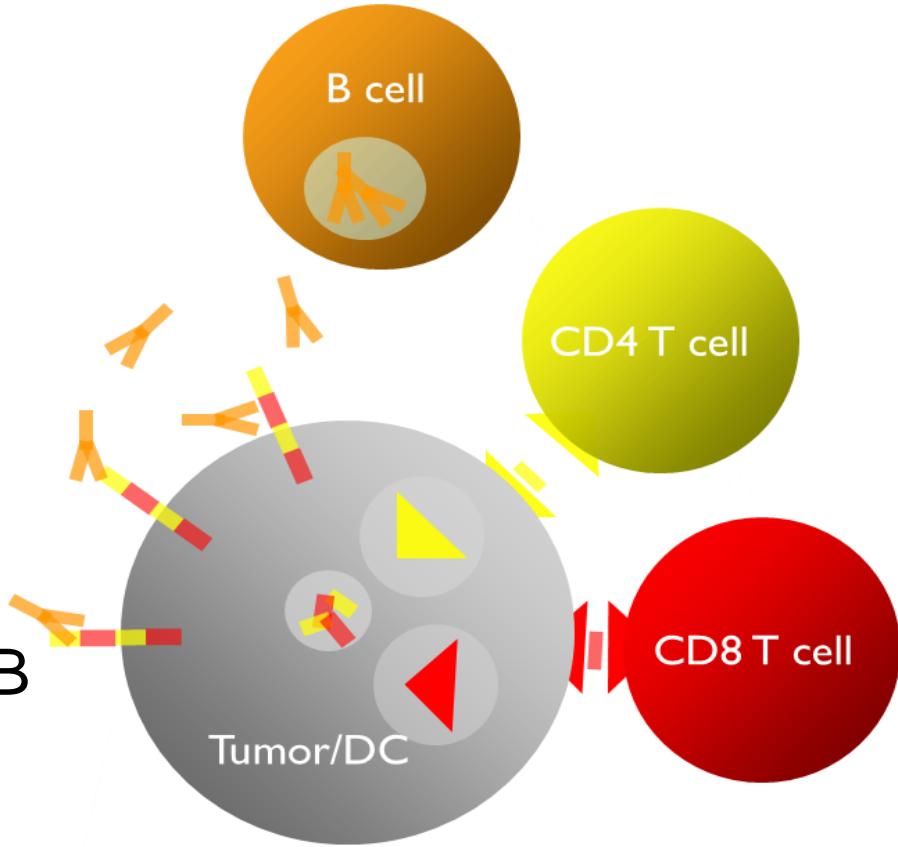
## CD8 "cytolytic" T cells

- Tumor lysis

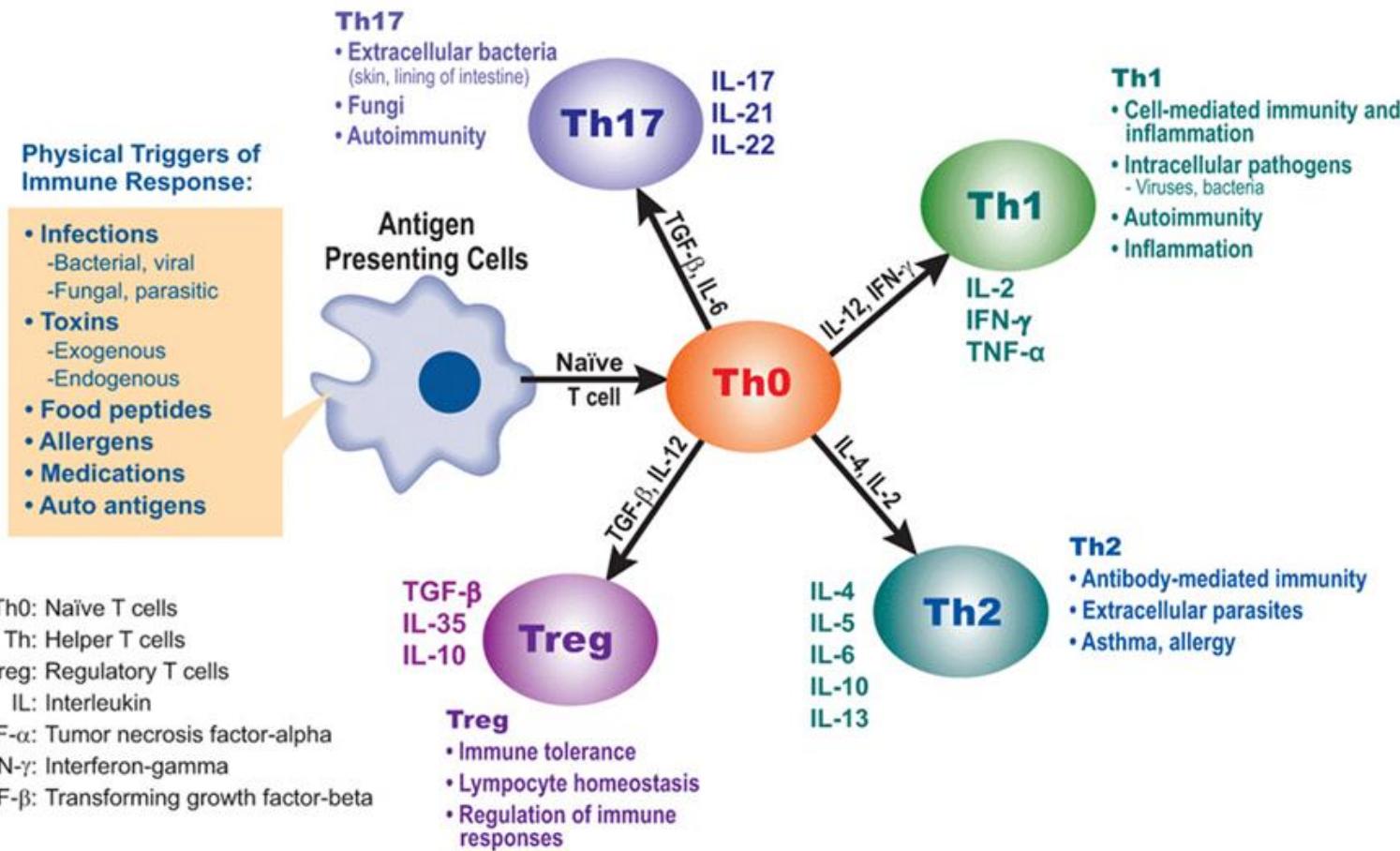
## B cells

- Antibodies
- Signaling
- ADCC
- Complement

12 million  
unique T and B  
cells per  
teaspoon of  
blood



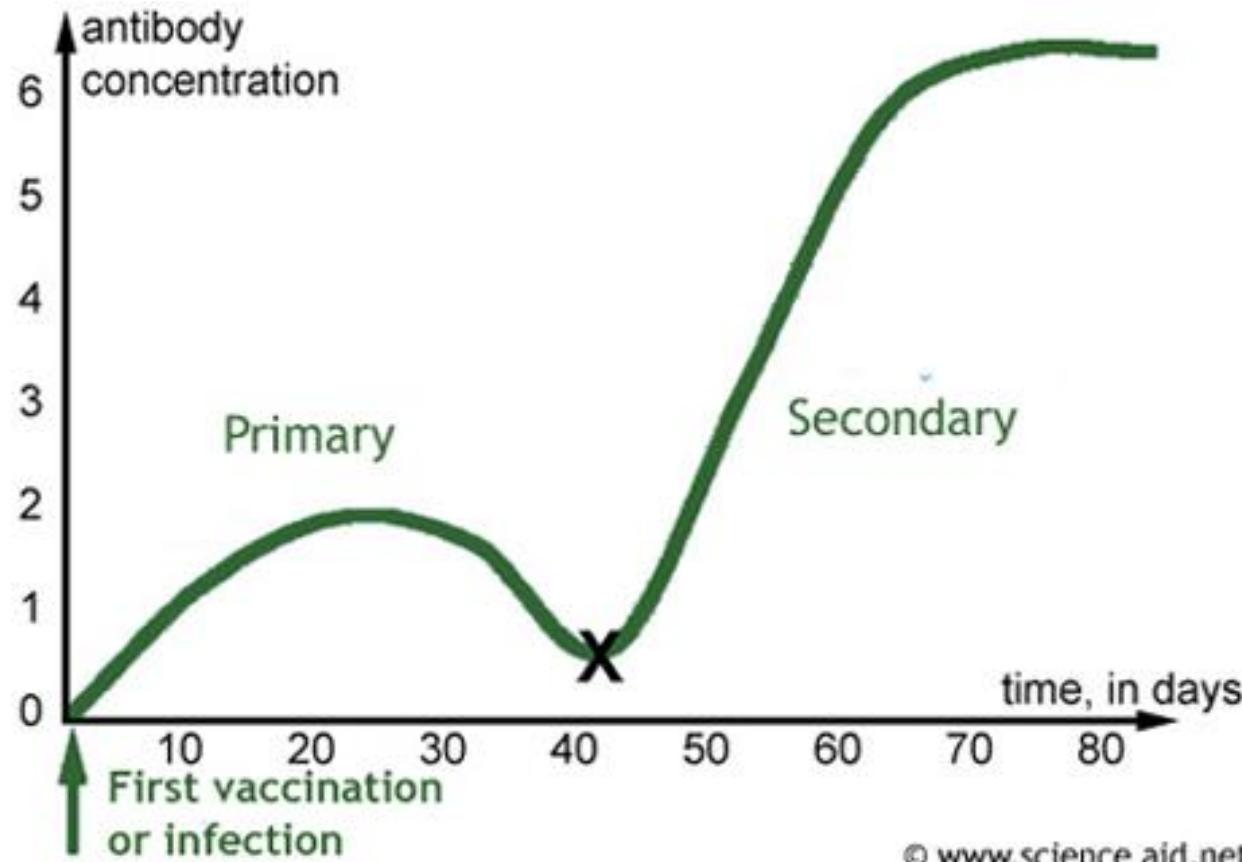
# Differentiation of the adaptive immune response



# Immune-based approaches for cancer

- Cancer vaccines
- Monoclonal and other antibodies
- Adoptive T cell therapies
- Immune checkpoint blockade and reversal of immune suppression

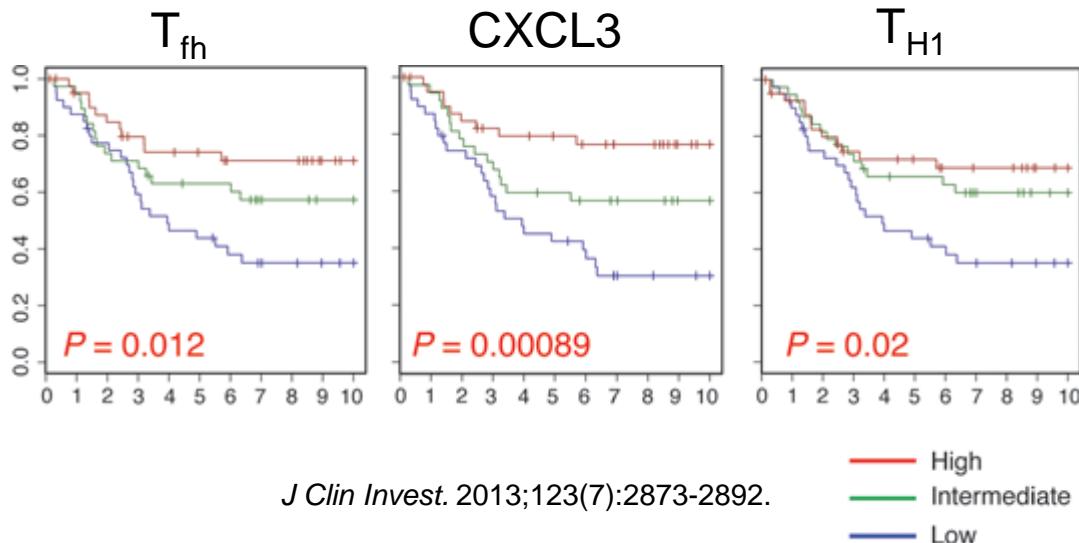
# Vaccination is used to heighten the sensitivity of the immune system to tumor antigens



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# The Immune System Naturally Responds to Breast Cancer – The T Cell Response is Associated with Improved Survival

## HER-2 Breast Cancer – 10 Year Survival Analysis



Patients with Breast Cancer Demonstrate Elevated T cell and Antibody Immunity to Several Tumor Antigens

Disis et al., 2000, *Breast Cancer Research and Treatment*

Kalli et al., 2008, *Cancer Research*

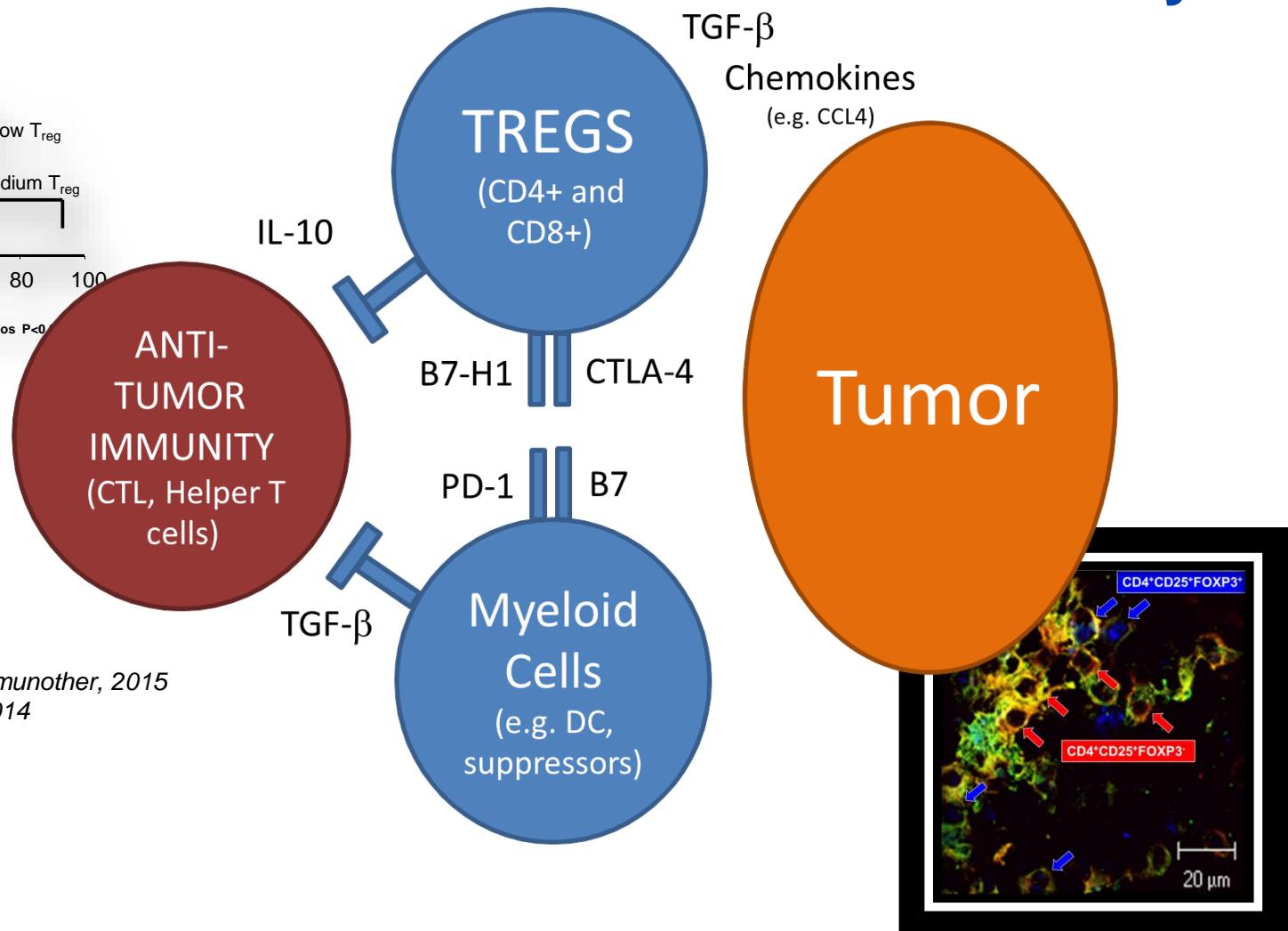
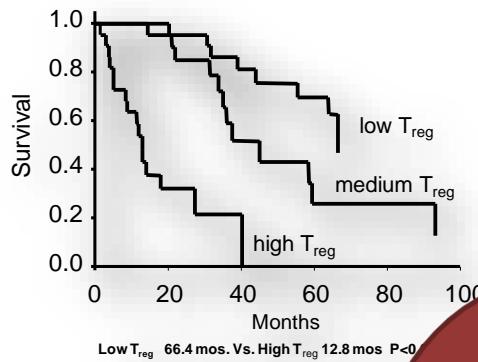
Karyampudi et al., 2013, *Plos One*

Krempski, et al. 2011, *Journal of Immunology*

Karyampudi, et al., 2014, *Cancer Research*

Knutson, et al., 2006, *Journal of Clinical Oncology*

# Immune suppression in the cancer microenvironment blocks anti-tumor immunity



Cancer Res, 2016

Cancer Immunol and Immunother, 2015

Cancer Immunol Res, 2014

Plos One, 2013

Plos One, 2011

J Immunol 2013

J Immunol 2009

J Immunol 2006

Nature Med 2004

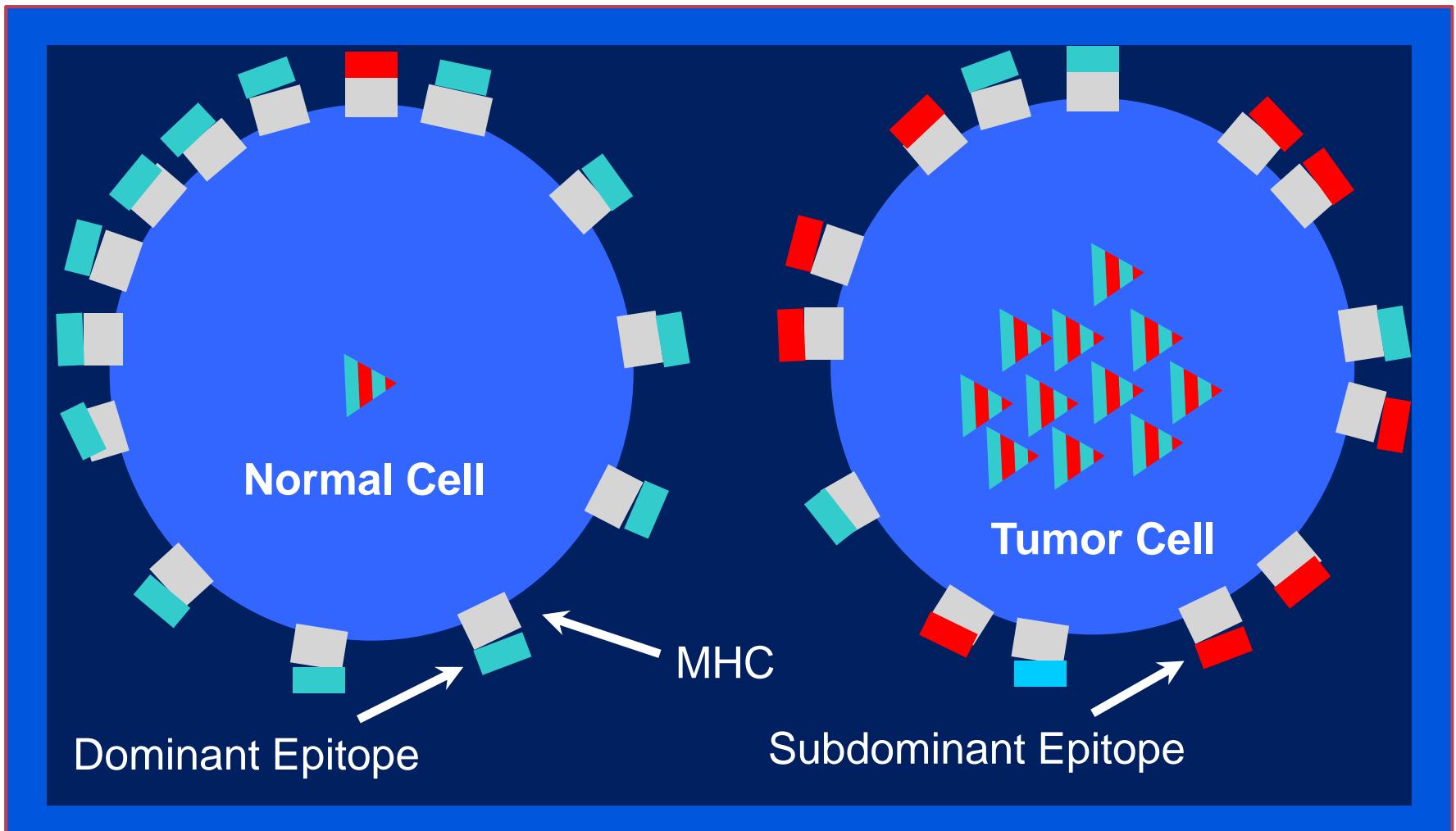
Nature Med 2003

# Target neoantigen choices for a cancer vaccine

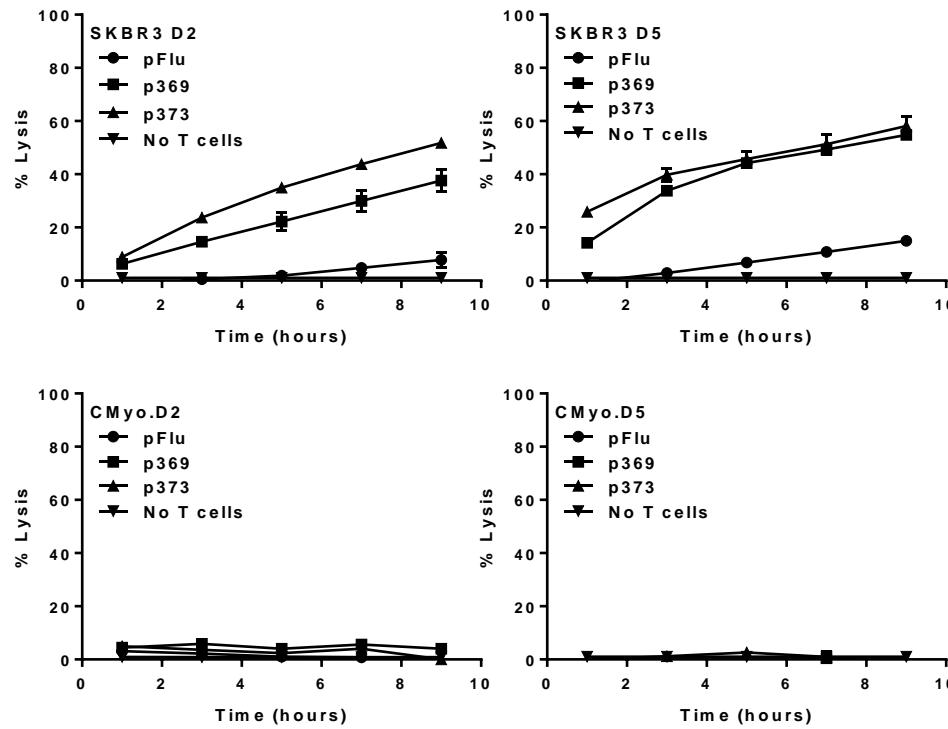
- **Microbial neoantigens**
- **Amino acid mutation neoantigens.**
- **Frameshift / fusion neoantigens**
- **Splicing variant neoantigens**
- **Indel neoantigens**
- **Nonmutated ‘self’ antigens (subdominant neoantigens)**

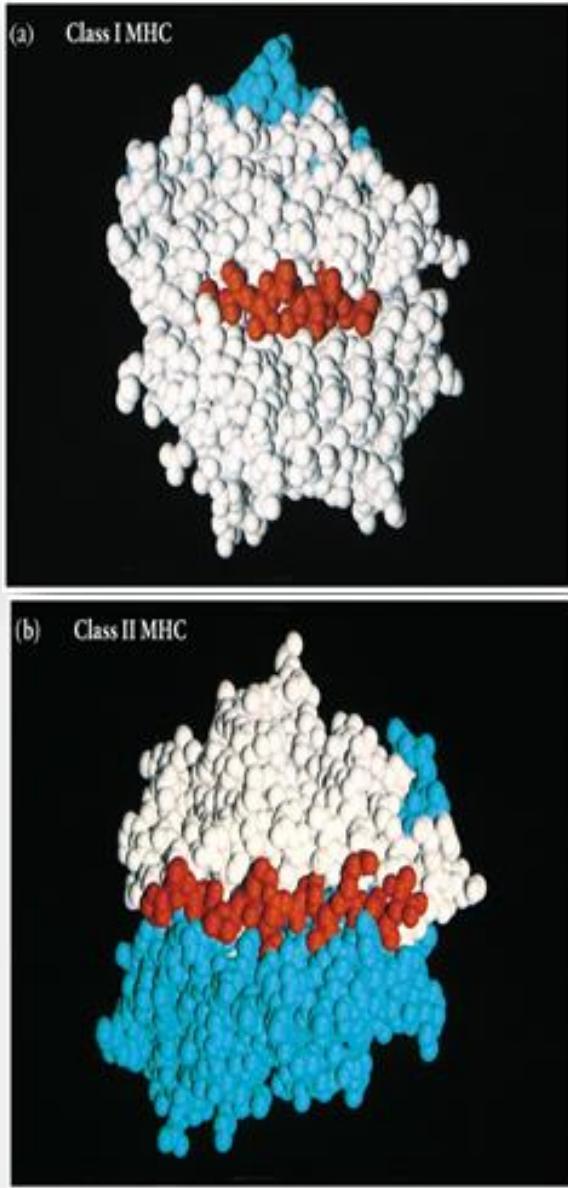
Mutation derived

# Overexpressed self proteins as a source of tumor neoantigens



# Normal healthy HER2+ cardiomyocytes are not recognized by HER2 neoepitope specific T cells

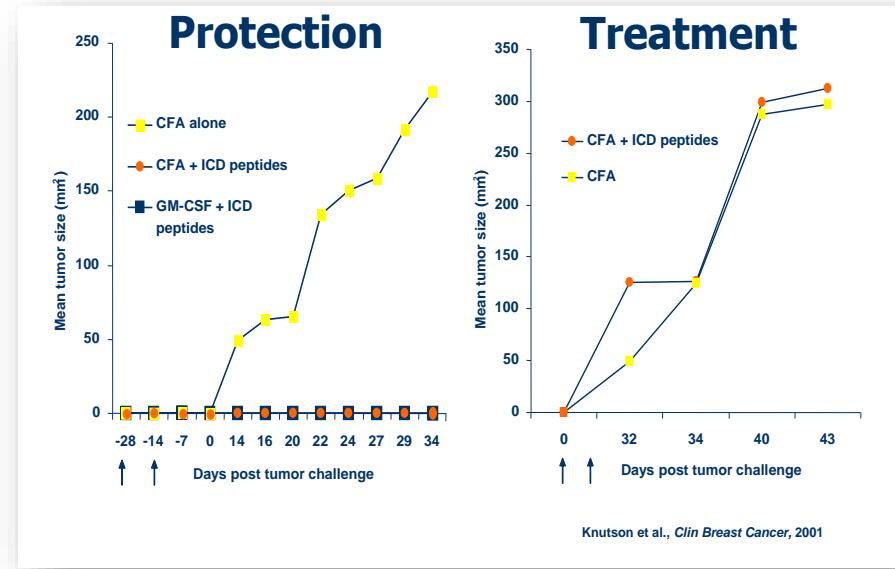




# Early generation HER2 vaccines

- ECD Vaccine
- ICD Vaccine (Phase I/II)
- HLA-A2 Vaccine (Phase II)
- E75 Vaccine

Knutson KL, et al., JCI 2001  
 Disis ML, et al., JCO, 2002  
 Knutson KL, et al., Clin Cancer Res, 2002



# HER2 vaccines to protect against disease recurrence in breast cancer

## Ag-Specific Vaccines for Prevention of Recurrence

*JCI* 2001  
*JCO*, 2002  
*Clin Cancer Res*, 2002  
*Clin Cancer Res*, 2010  
*CII*, 2010  
*JCO*, 2007  
*J Clin Immunol*, 2004  
*JCO*, 2004  
*Blood*, 2004



UW-Phase I  
HER2-CD4  
rintatolimod  
Salazar

UW-Phase I  
HER2-CD4  
Polysaccharide  
K  
Salazar

Ag Express –  
Phase III  
HER2 CD4  
MD Anderson  
Knutson (SAB)

Sellas – Phase II  
E75  
MD Anderson

Moffitt – Phase  
II  
ICD  
Czernieki

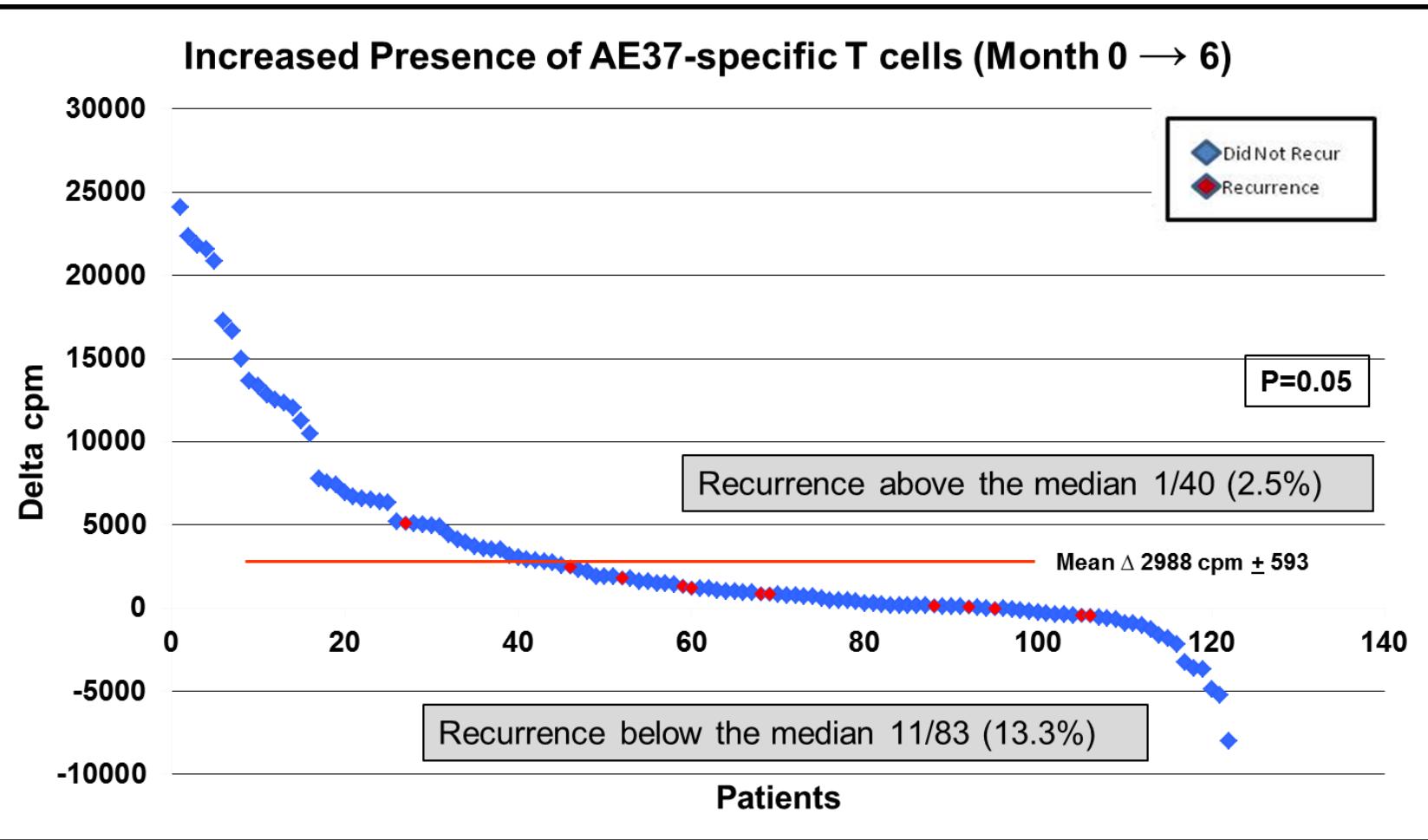
TapImmune –  
Phase I  
HER2 CD4  
Mayo  
Knutson

TapImmune –  
Phase II  
HER2 CD4/8  
Knutson

UW-Phase I  
HER2-CD4  
Salazar

UW-Phase II  
HER2-CD4  
Disis

# Development of immunity to vaccine is associated with reduced relapse increased response – reduced relapse



Courtesy of Eric von Hofe

# Vaccine Prolongs Remission in Triple-Negative Breast Cancer

SAN FRANCISCO -- Treatment with a novel peptide vaccine appeared to delay disease recurrence in triple-negative breast cancer (TNBC) patients with low HER2 expression, a subgroup analysis of a phase II trial found.

At a median follow-up of 26.1 months, disease recurrence occurred in 7.5% of TNBC patients who received nelipepimut-S (NeuVax) compared with 26.7% in the control arm (HR 0.26, 95% CI 0.08-0.81,  $P=0.01$ ), reported Guy T. Clifton, MD, of San Antonio Military Medical Center in Texas.

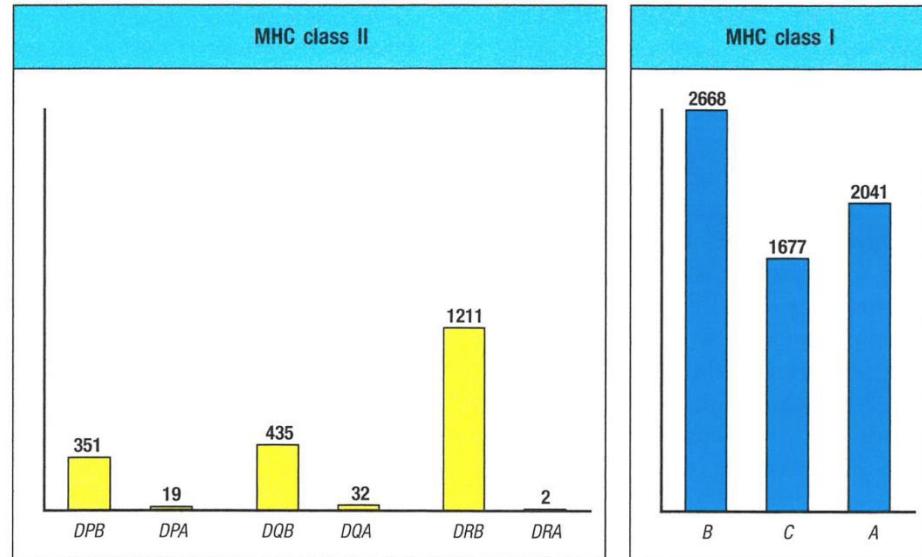
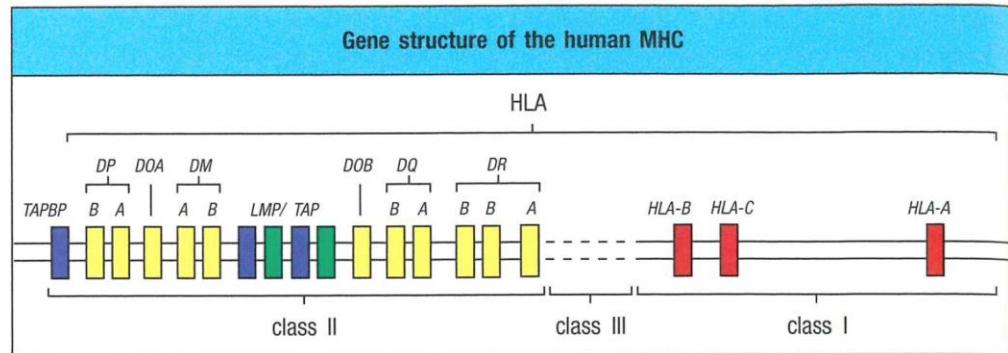
"We think the results are intriguing in light of what we now understand as far as triple-negative breast cancer being a more immunogenic subtype of breast cancer that's more responsive to immunotherapy," he said during his presentation here at the [ASCO-SITC Clinical Immuno-Oncology Symposium](#).

In the NeuVax and control arms, respectively, rates of disease-free survival (DFS) among the 97 TNBC patients were:

- 92.6% versus 70.2% at 24 months
- 82.3% versus 70.2% at 36 months

# Human MHC Locus

DRB1\*0101, DRB1\*0301  
DRB1\*0401, DRB1\*0404  
DRB1\*0405, DRB1\*0701  
DRB1\*0802, DRB1\*0901  
DRB1\*1101, DRB1\*1201  
DRB1\*1302, DRB1\*1501  
DRB3\*0101, DRB4\*0101  
DRB5\*0101



Janeway, 9<sup>th</sup> Ed

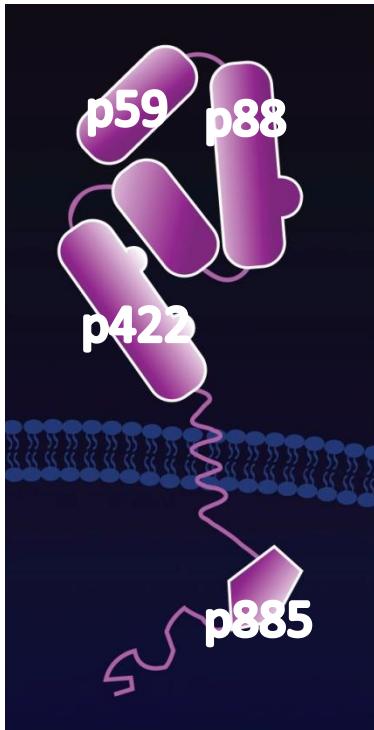
# Binding of predicted HER2 neoantigens to purified HLA-DR

Sequence	Peptide Name	Position <sup>1</sup>	IC <sub>50</sub> nM to purified HLA															
			DRB1 *0101	DRB1 *0301	DRB1 *0401	DRB1 *0404	DRB1 *0405	DRB1 *0701	DRB1 *0802	DRB1 *0901	DRB1 *1101	DRB1 *1201	DRB1 *1302	DRB1 *1501	DRB3 *0101	DRB4 *0101	DRB5 *0101	
NELTYLPTNASLSF	HER-2/neu.59	59	<b>4.9</b>	<b>7356</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>3055</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>23</b>	ND	<b>29</b>	<b>189</b>	
LTYLPTNASLSFLQD	HER-2/neu.62	62	9.7	3364	19	16	80	15	426	4081	213	150	47	132	141	1633	173	
IQEVQGYVIAHNQV	HER-2/neu.77	77	57	7763	111	178	102	35	213	302	165	3438	103	75	13,508	546	1361	
YVIAHNQVRQVPLQ	HER-2/neu.83	83	28	454	53	104	1185	92	300	358	208	302	1.9	679	649	124	18	
<b>HNQRQVPLQLRIV</b>	<b>HER-2/neu.88</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>950</b>	<b>971</b>	<b>840</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>1303</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>6644</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>340</b>	ND	<b>18</b>	<b>173</b>	
MEHLREVRAVTSANI	HER-2/neu.347	347	9.6	2970	533	12	200	9.7	95	4345	262	221	23	86	ND	81	216	
LREVRAVTSANIEF	HER-2/neu.350	350	17	3913	43	8.2	50	12	456	5187	661	161	1.5	27	ND	163	94	
<b>LSVFQNLQVIRGRIL</b>	<b>HER-2/neu.422</b>	<b>422</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>345</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>859</b>	<b>9.6</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>33</b>	ND	<b>67</b>	<b>17</b>	
RGRILHNGAYSLTQ	HER-2/neu.432	432	2.4	710	480	129	2845	5.6	5077	430	773	40	1.3	5.4	358	562	82	
LRSLRELGSGLALIH	HER-2/neu.455	455	7.1	ND	896	14	603	142	1075	594	309	498	16	24	16,142	549	726	
VLGVVFGILIKRRQQ	HER-2/neu.666	666	67	2449	177	335	101	17	35	ND	12	268	17	185	ND	958	38	
SRLLGICLTVQLV	HER-2/neu.783	783	80	2923	85	13	90	9.0	634	137	80	446	4.7	39	3567	481	392	
<b>PIKWMMALESILRRRF</b>	<b>HER-2/neu.885</b>	<b>885</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>664</b>	<b>312</b>	<b>3620</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>349</b>	<b>3.3</b>	ND	<b>62</b>	<b>3.4</b>	
IKWMALESILRRFT	HER-2/neu.886	886	16	10	37	1075	435	1795	515	9282	136	241	1118	11	ND	340	3.3	
FSRMARDPQRFVVIQ	HER-2/neu.976	976	29	35	512	2224	855	1423	798	1481	49	6867	240	1408	901	227	45	

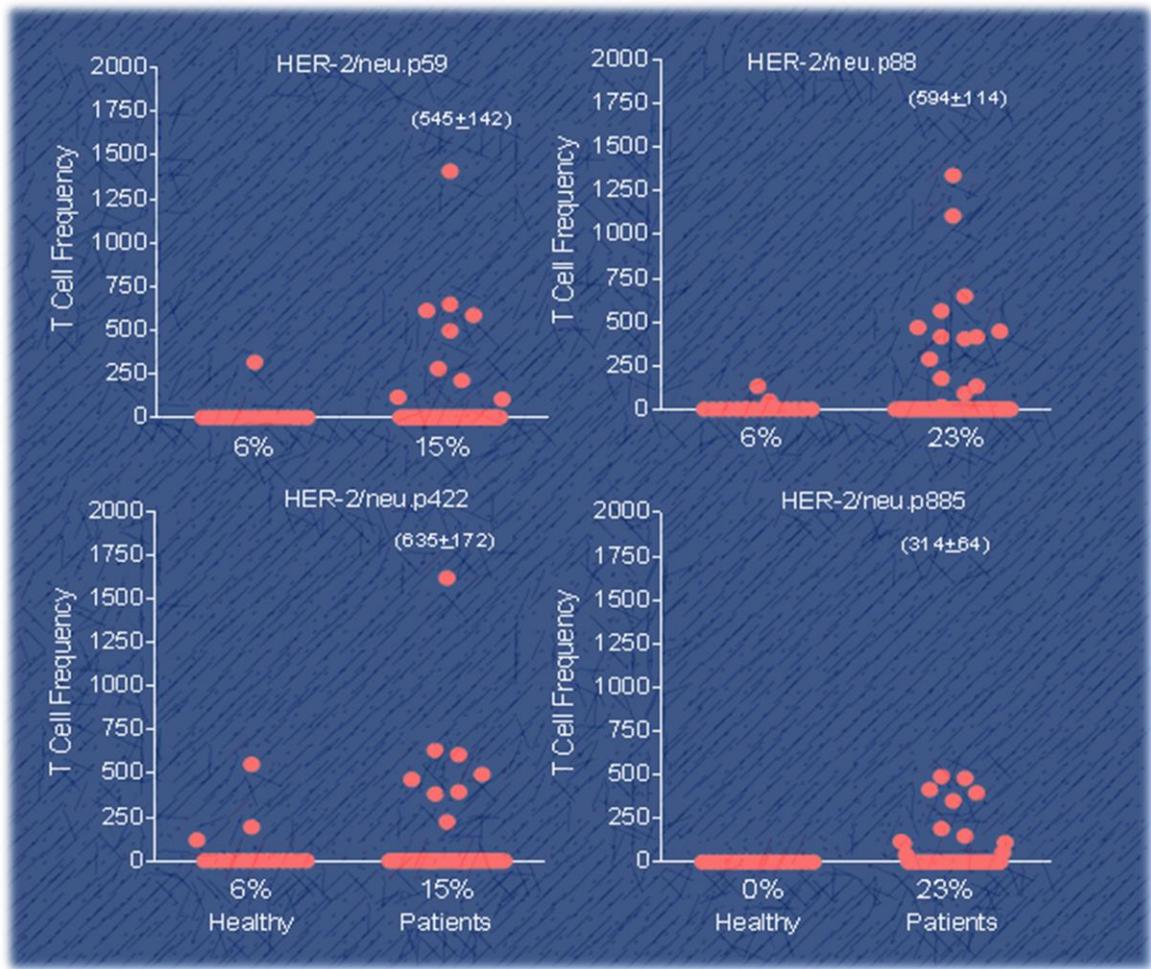
<sup>1</sup>Position of N-terminal amino acid; ND=not determined; Peptides that constitute degenerate pool are in bold

Karyampudi, *Cancer Res*, 2010

# Detection of pre-existent immunity



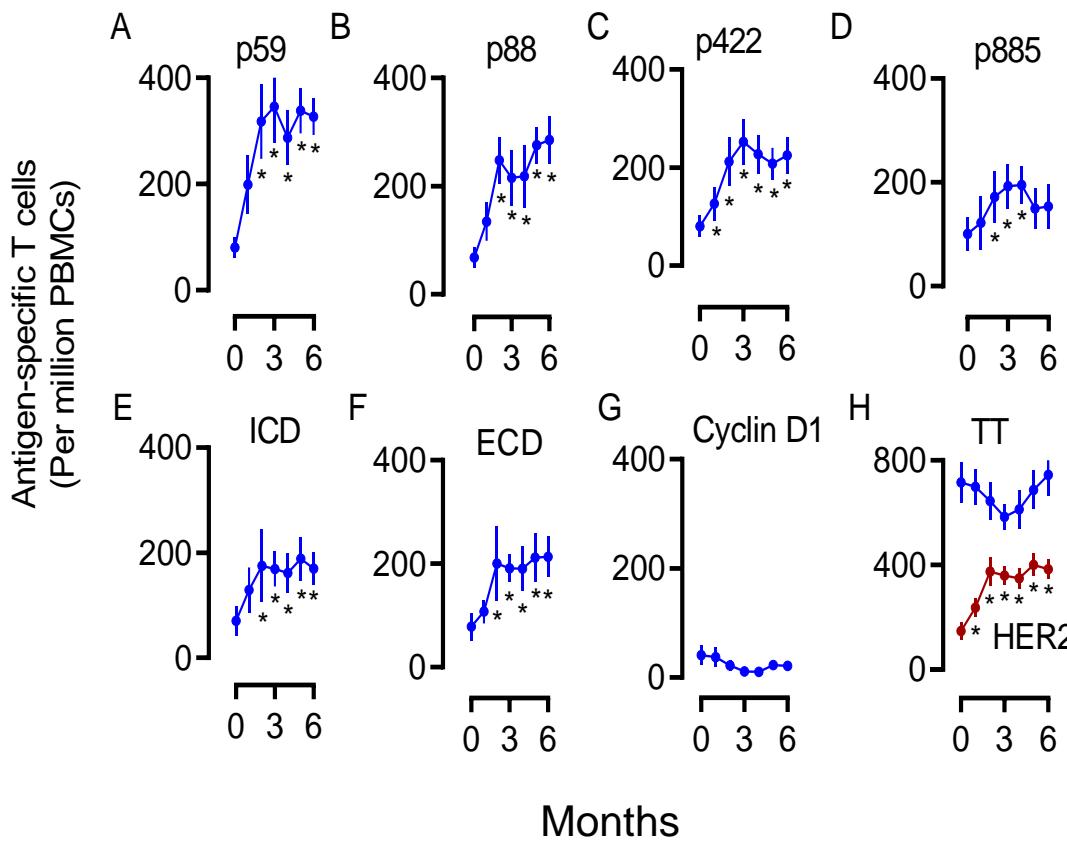
DRB1\*0101, DRB1\*0301  
DRB1\*0401, DRB1\*0404  
DRB1\*0405, DRB1\*0701  
DRB1\*0802, DRB1\*0901  
DRB1\*1101, DRB1\*1201  
DRB1\*1302, DRB1\*1501  
DRB3\*0101, DRB4\*0101  
DRB5\*0101



Karyampudi et. al., Clin Cancer Res. 2010

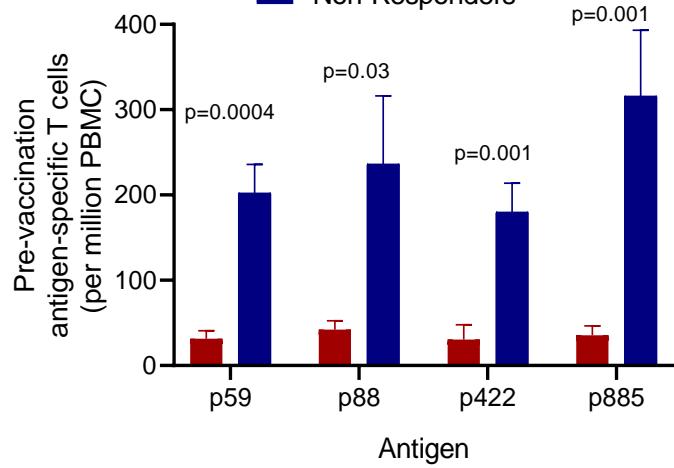
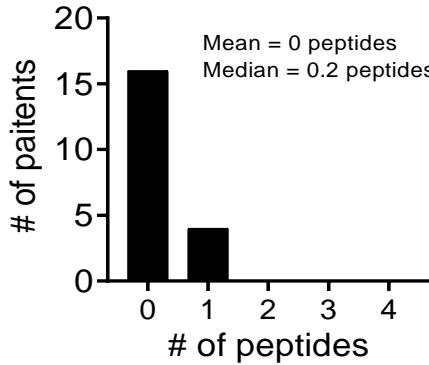
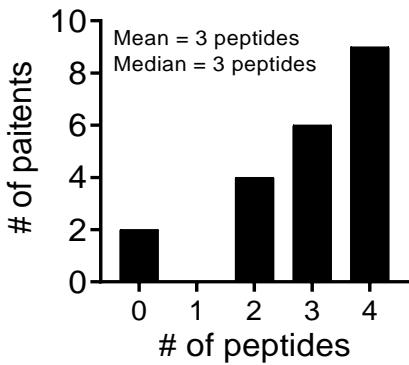
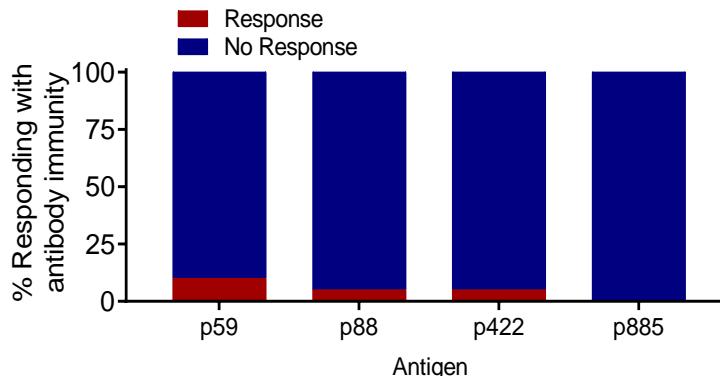
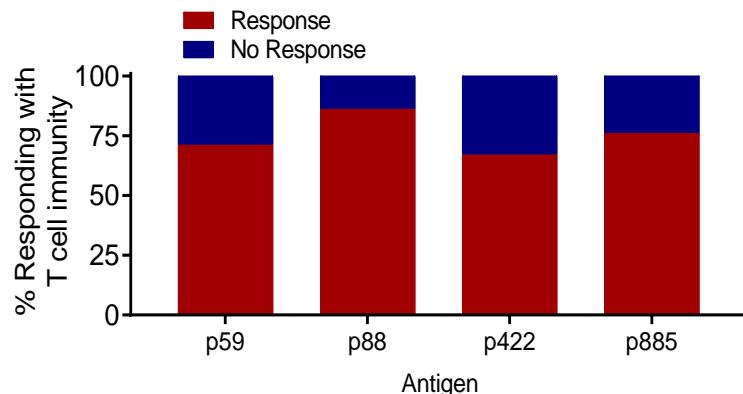
Knutson KL and Ishioka G, 2007, HLA DR binding peptides and their uses. Patented 12/740,562.

# Vaccine induces immunity to naturally processed antigens

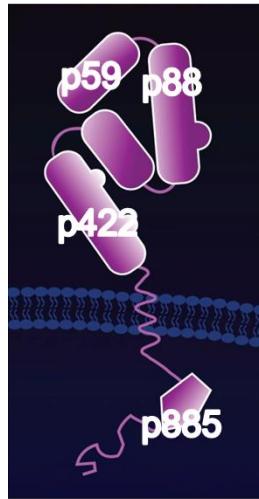


Knutson et. al., 2019 under review

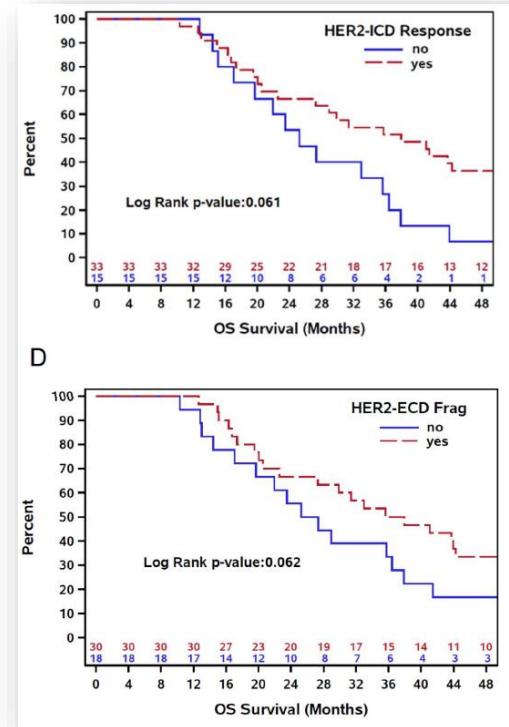
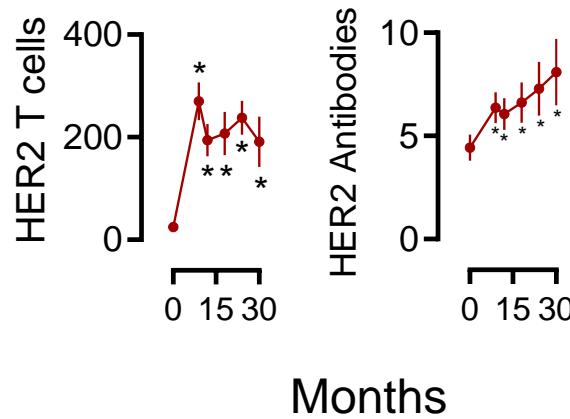
# Majority of patients can be vaccinated



# Generation of durable HER2-specific T cells in majority of patients with resected HER2 breast cancer



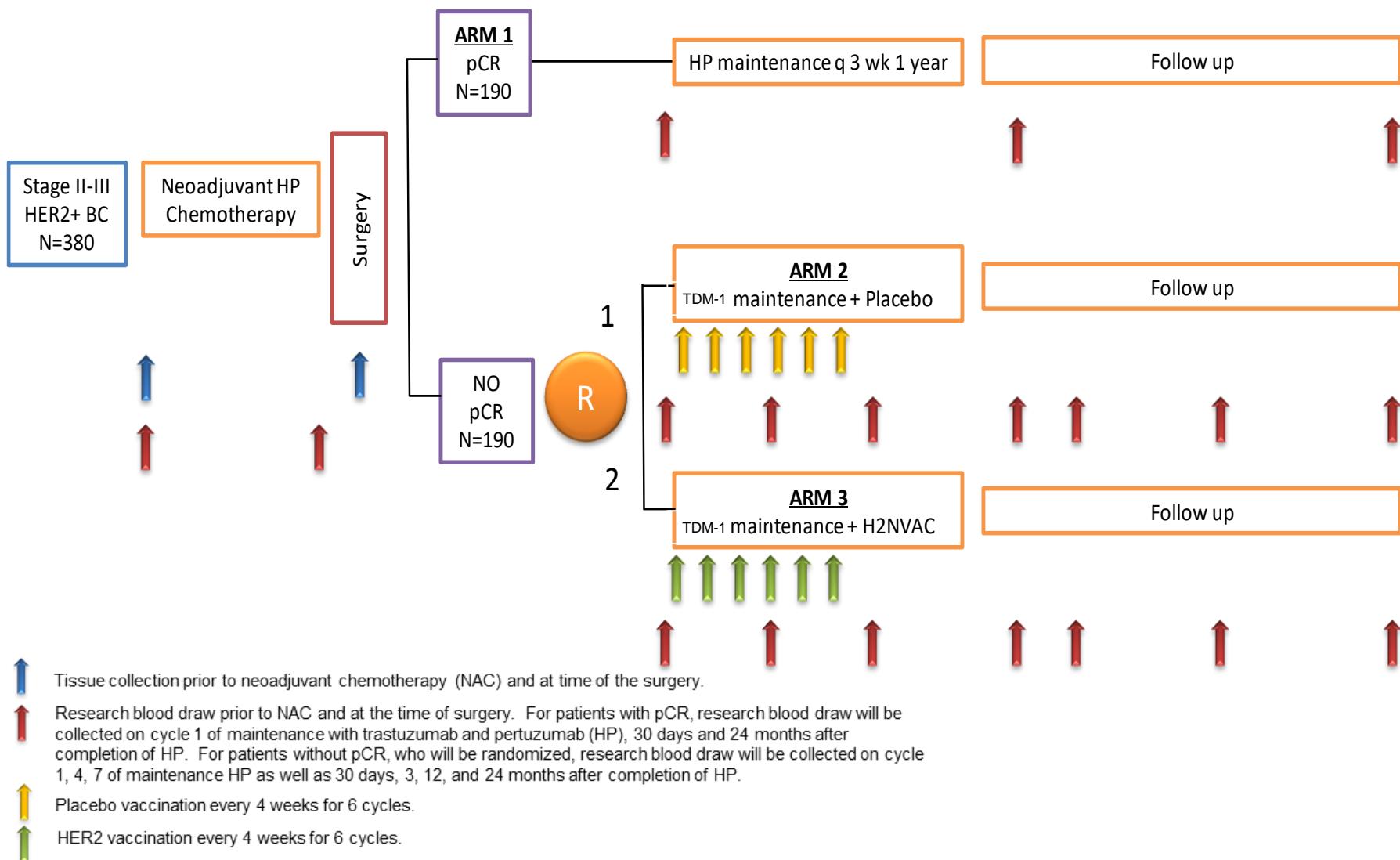
DRB1\*0101, DRB1\*0301  
DRB1\*0401, DRB1\*0404  
DRB1\*0405, DRB1\*0701  
DRB1\*0802, DRB1\*0901  
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DRB1\*1302, DRB1\*1501  
DRB3\*0101, DRB4\*0101  
DRB5\*0101



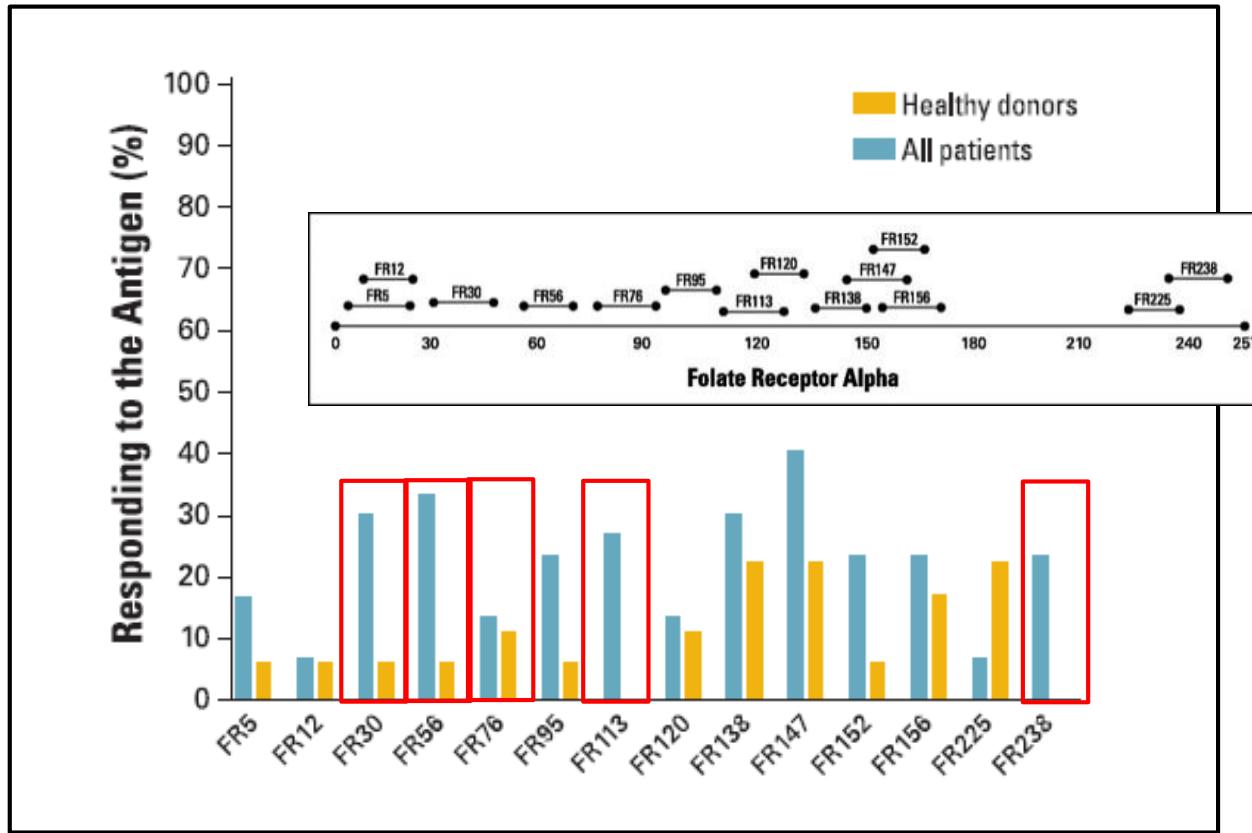
Knutson et. al., 2019 under review

Norton, *Breast Cancer Res Treat*, 2018  
Knutson, *Cancer Res* 2016  
Taylor, *Clin Cancer Res*, 2007

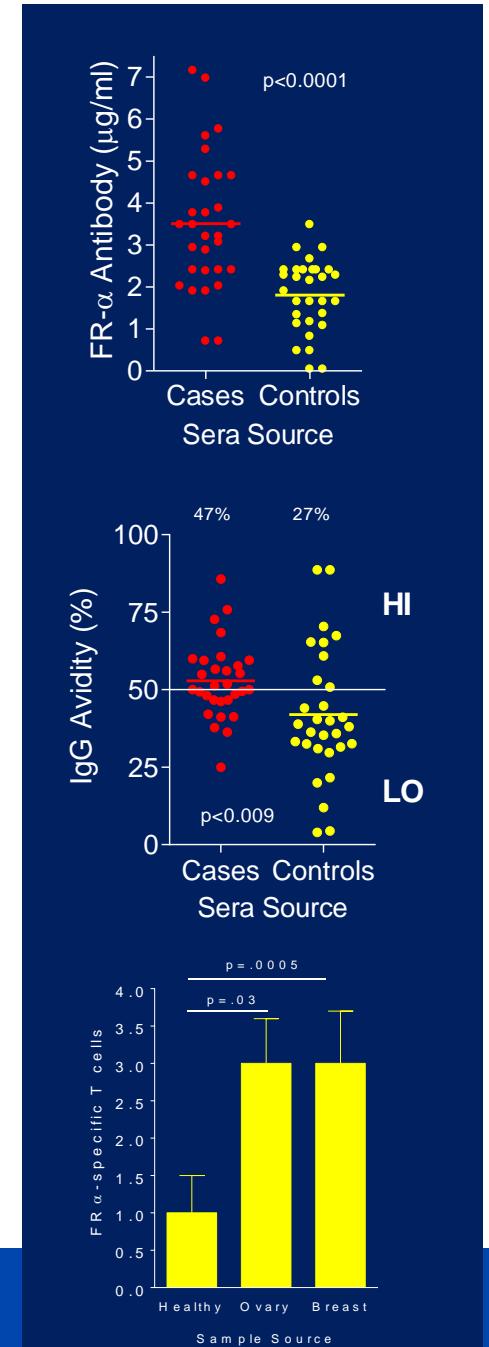
# BC170530: Phase II resected advanced HER2+ breast cancer



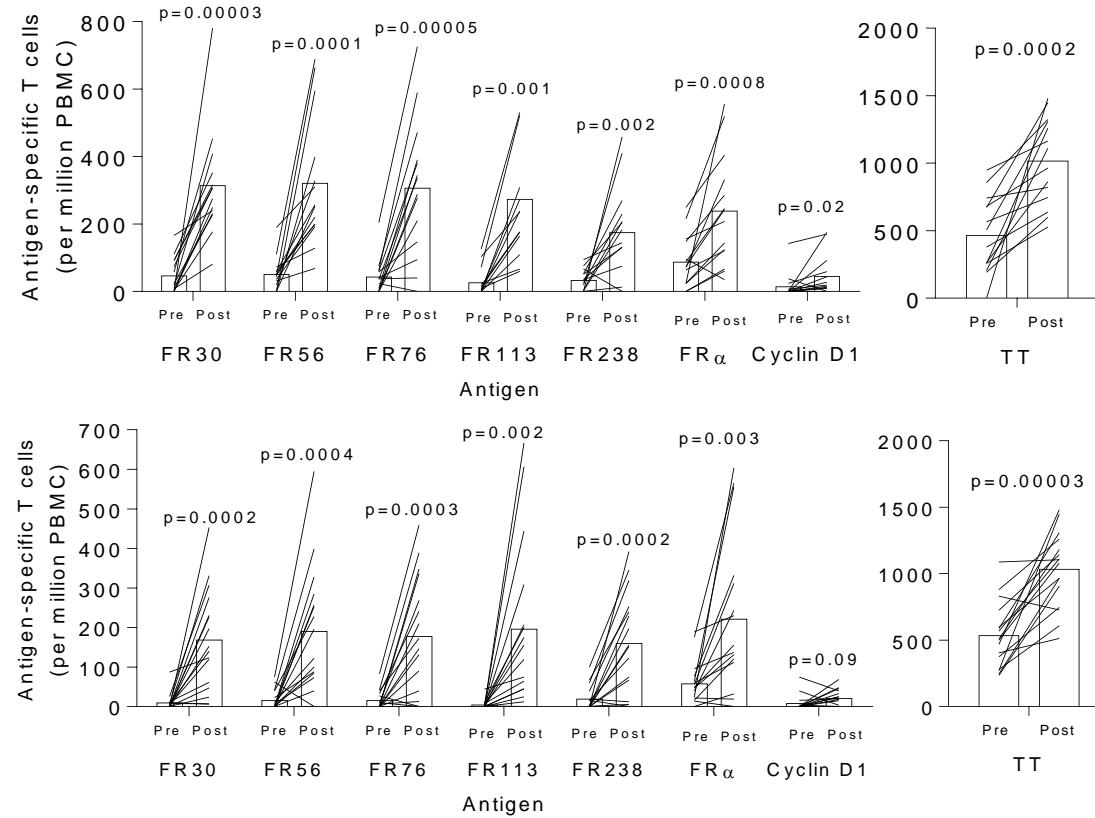
# Spontaneous immunity to the folate receptor alpha in cancer patients



Knutson, K. L. et al. JCO; 24:4254-4261 2006



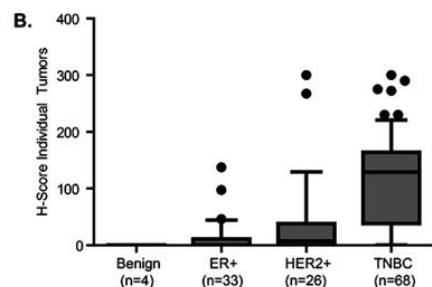
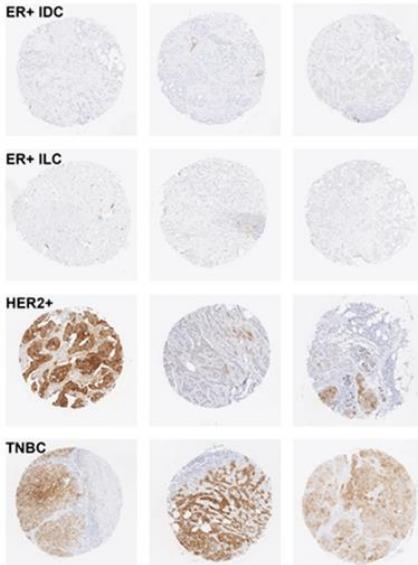
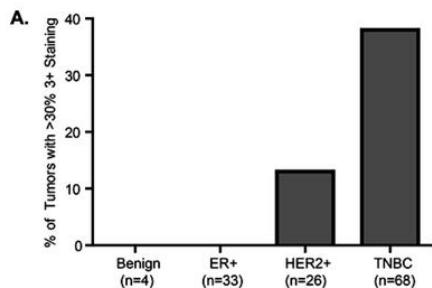
# Folate receptor alpha peptide vaccine generates immunity in breast and ovarian cancer patients



Kallli, Block *Clin Cancer Res*, 2018

# BC141410: FRa Vaccination to Prevent Progression of Triple Negative Breast Cancer

FRa is preferentially overexpressed in TNBC



Necela BM, PLoS ONE 10(3): e0122209. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0122209

Stages  
IIb/III  
TNBC



Convention  
al Therapy

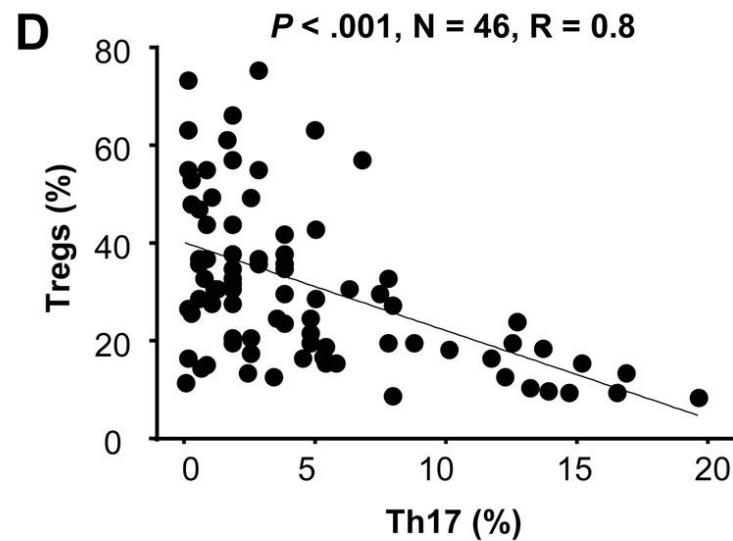
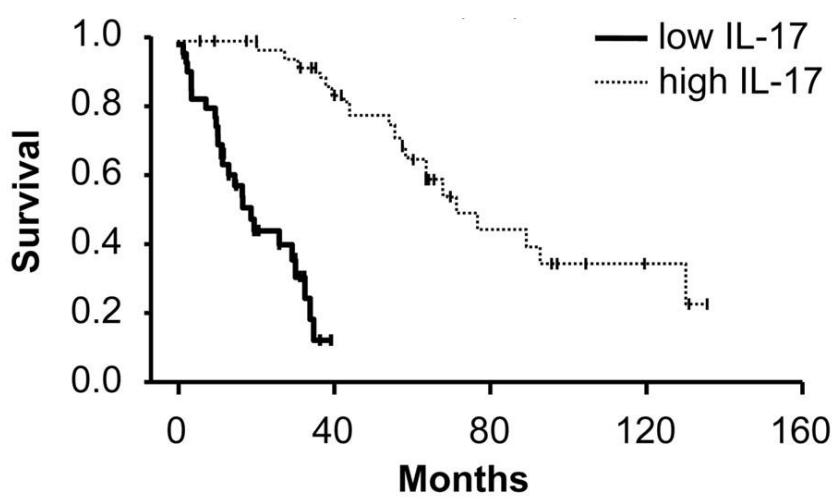


Placebo  
N=93

Vaccine  
N=187

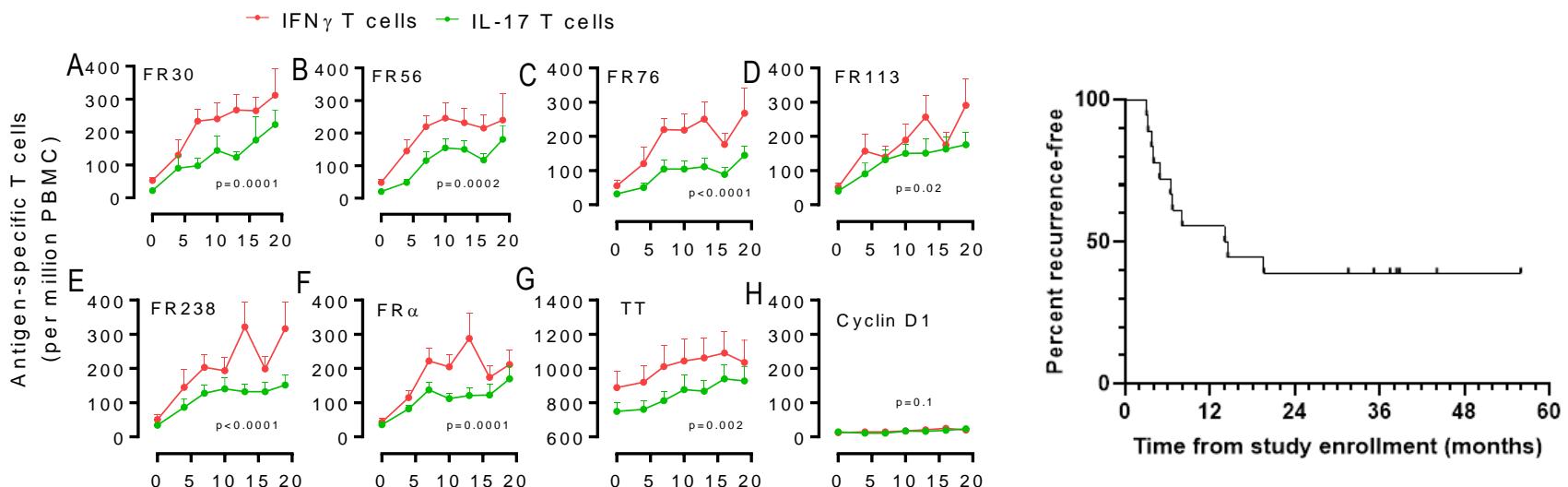
- Multicenter Phase II Trial to Test Whether Vaccine Prevents Recurrence in Patients Diagnosed and Treated for TNBC

# IL-17 association with improved survival in ovarian cancer



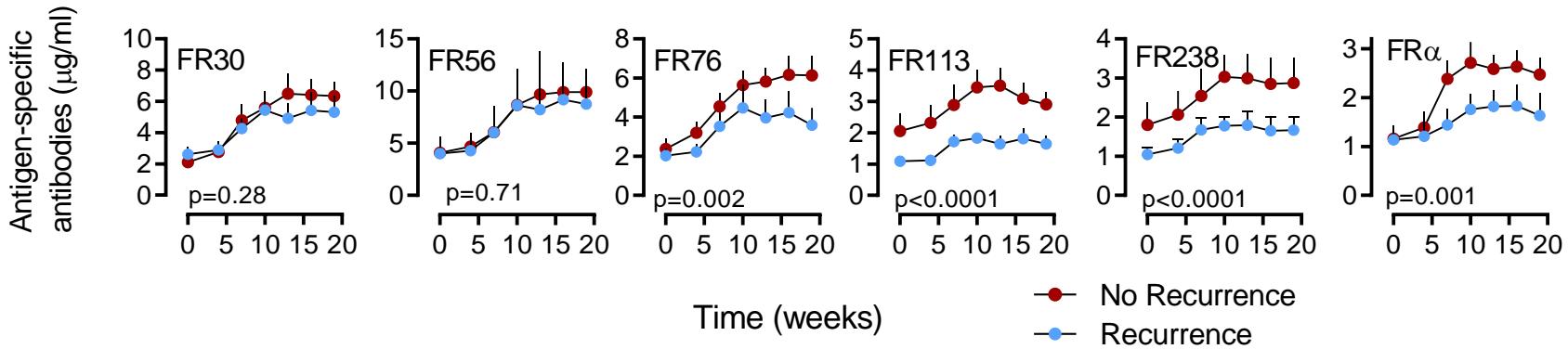
Kryczek et al., JI 2011

# Th17-inducing vaccines generate Th1 and Th17 immunity



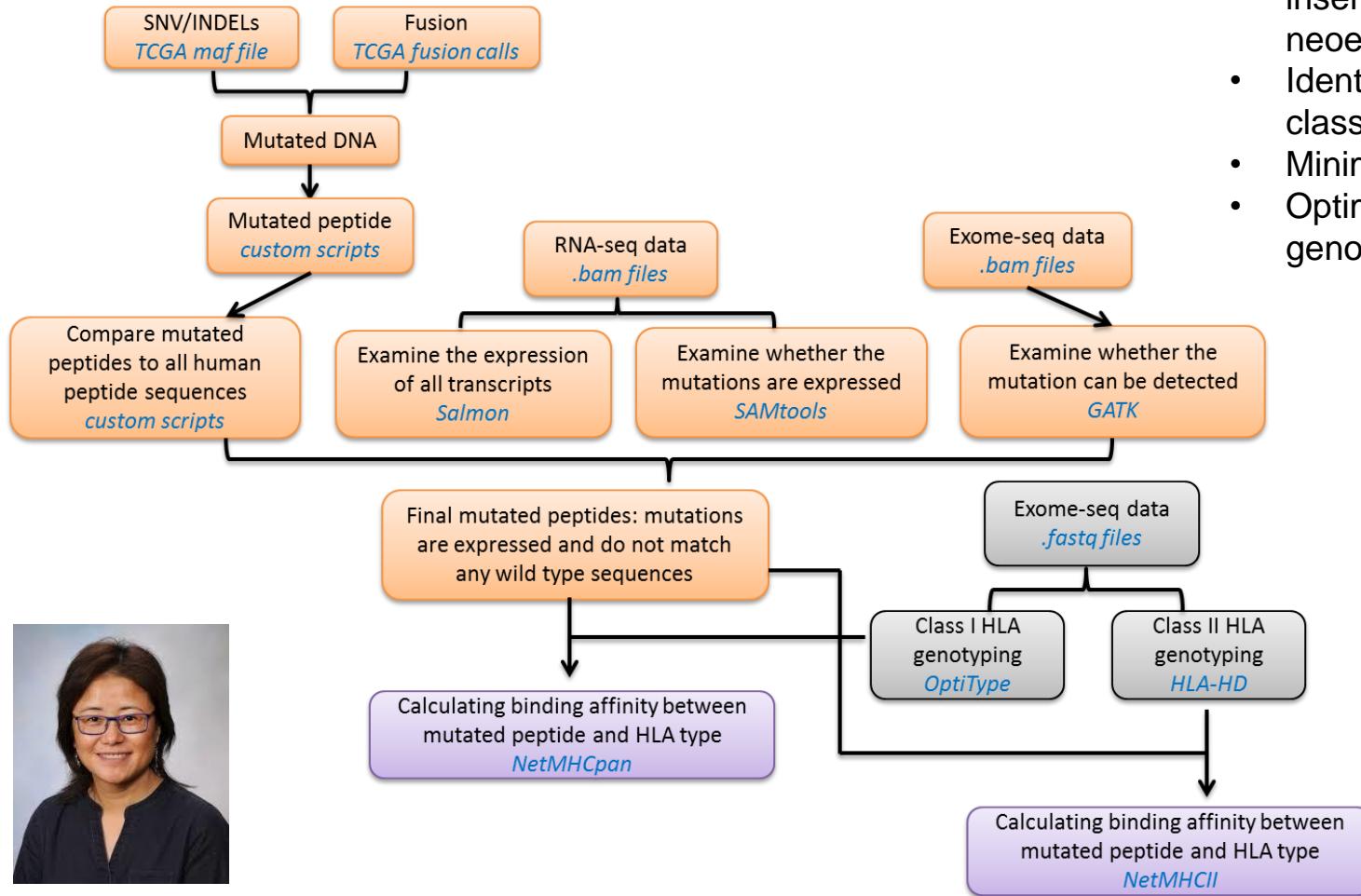
Block, 2017, Unpublished  
Observations, SPORE P8

# The generation of antibody immunity is associated with improved survival



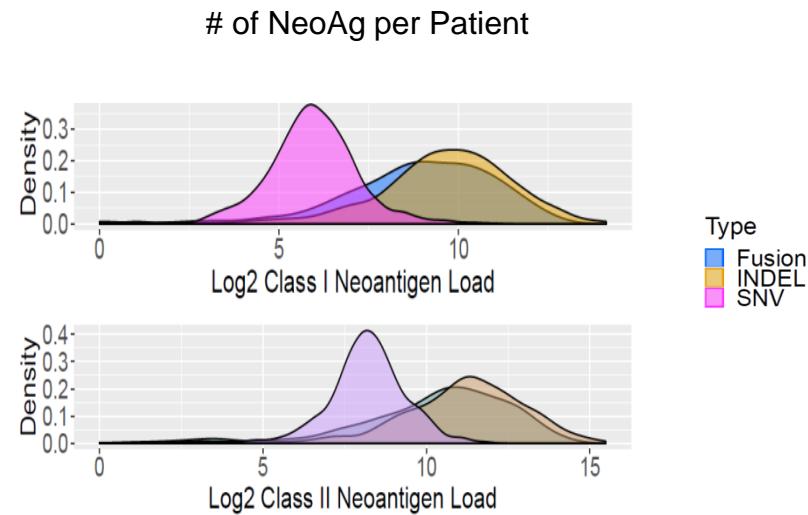
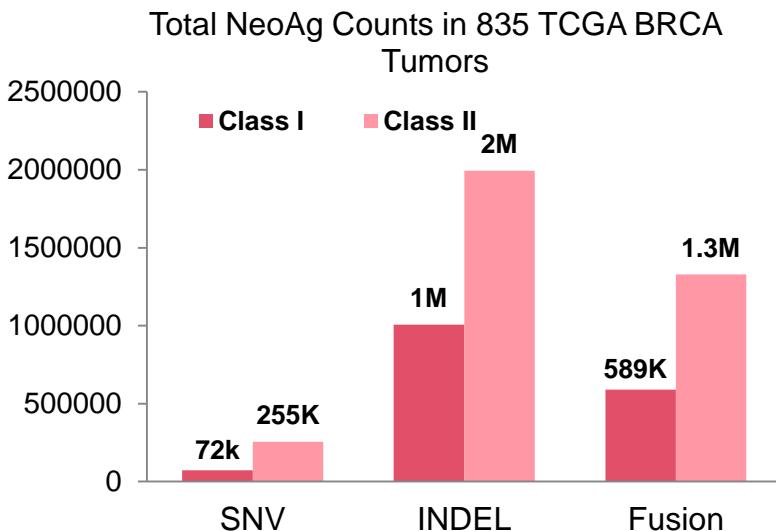
Block, 2017, Unpublished  
Observations, SPORE P8

# Neoantigen discovery bioinformatics pipelines

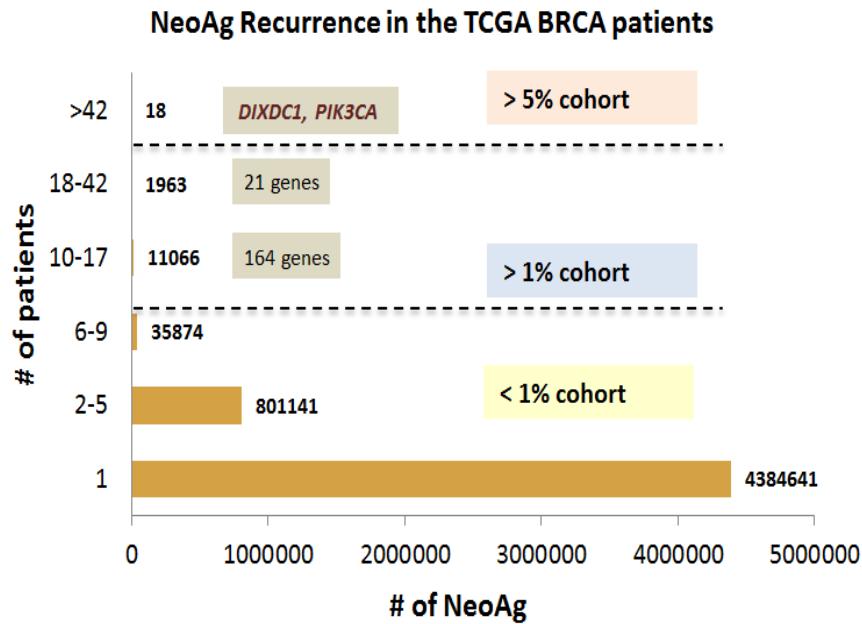


- Maximized discovery of insertional and deletional neoepitopes
- Identification of MHC class I and class II
- Minimized cross-reactivity
- Optimized HLA genotyping

# Breast cancer appears to be enriched in the type of neoantigens that are highly immunogenic



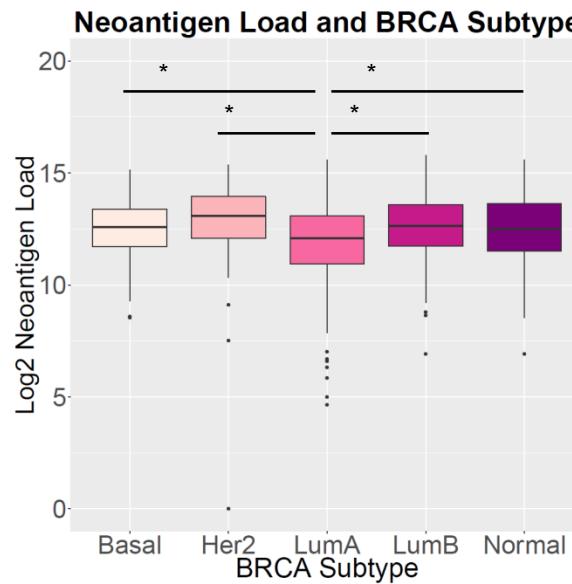
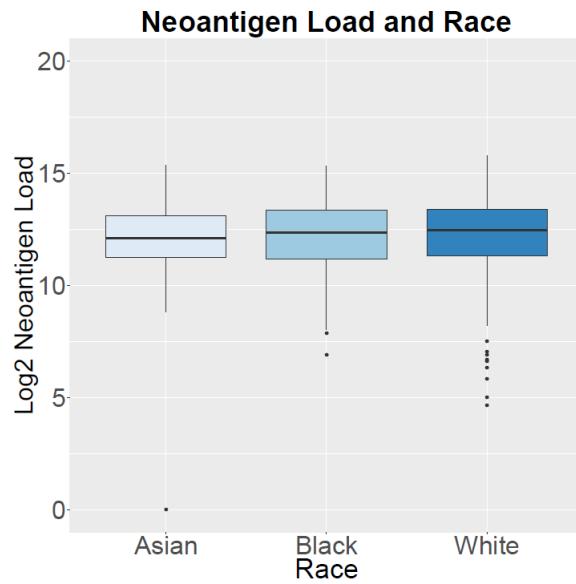
# Neoantigens are largely private making every product different



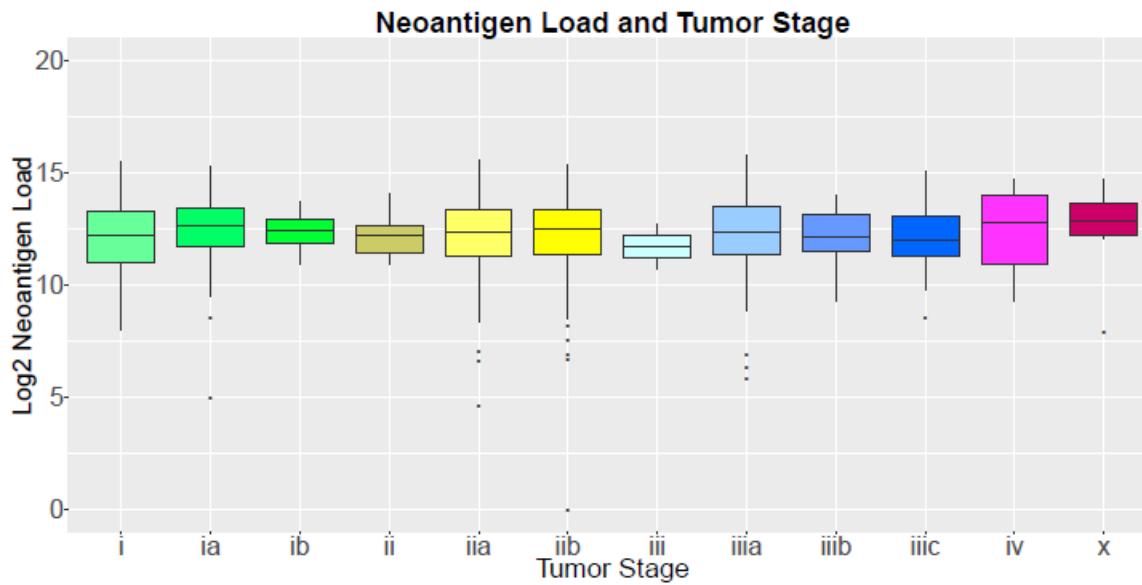
7

Peptide	# Patients	Gene	Mutation type	Mutation
EALEYFMKQMNDARH	71	PIK3CA	SNV	p.M1004I, p.H1047R
ALEYFMKQMNDARHG	70	PIK3CA	SNV	p.M1004I, p.H1047R
LEYFMKQMNDARHGG	70	PIK3CA	SNV	p.M1004I, p.H1047R
QEALEYFMKQMNDAR	68	PIK3CA	SNV	p.M1004I, p.H1047R
EYFMKQMNDARHGGW	66	PIK3CA	SNV	p.M1004I, p.H1047R
YFMKQMNDARHGGWT	57	PIK3CA	SNV	p.M1004I, p.H1047R
FMKQMNDARHGGWTT	47	PIK3CA	SNV	p.M1004I, p.H1047R
GRTAVGTTTRIFRKRN	48	DIXDC1	FS INDEL	p.S60fs, p.P61fs, p.S271fs, p.P272fs
MGRTAVGTTTRIFRKRR	48	DIXDC1	FS INDEL	p.S60fs, p.P61fs, p.S271fs, p.P272fs
VTYALHGQY	48	DIXDC1	FS INDEL	p.S60fs, p.P61fs, p.S271fs, p.P272fs
KQWFSPSNGRKRSYF	47	DIXDC1	FS INDEL	p.S60fs, p.P61fs, p.S271fs, p.P272fs
LSKQWFSPSNGRKRS	47	DIXDC1	FS INDEL	p.S60fs, p.P61fs, p.S271fs, p.P272fs
RTAVGTTTRIFRKRN	47	DIXDC1	FS INDEL	p.S60fs, p.P61fs, p.S271fs, p.P272fs
SKQWFSPSNGRKRSY	47	DIXDC1	FS INDEL	p.S60fs, p.P61fs, p.S271fs, p.P272fs
QWFSPSNGRKRSYFS	46	DIXDC1	FS INDEL	p.S60fs, p.P61fs, p.S271fs, p.P272fs
RIFRKRNNGSKENDI	45	DIXDC1	FS INDEL	p.S60fs, p.P61fs, p.S271fs, p.P272fs
TRIFRKRNNGSKEND	45	DIXDC1	FS INDEL	p.S60fs, p.P61fs, p.S271fs, p.P272fs
LMGRTAVGTTTRIFRK	44	DIXDC1	FS INDEL	p.S60fs, p.P61fs, p.S271fs, p.P272fs

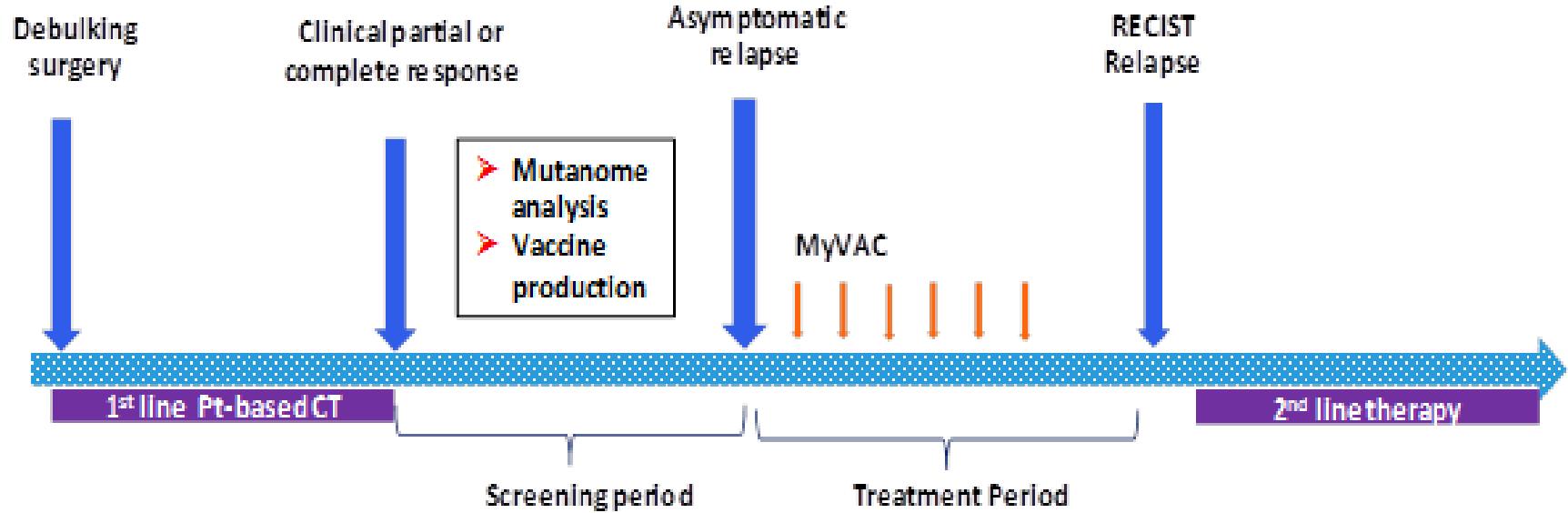
# Mutation rates in different types of breast cancer



# Mutation rates in different types of breast cancer

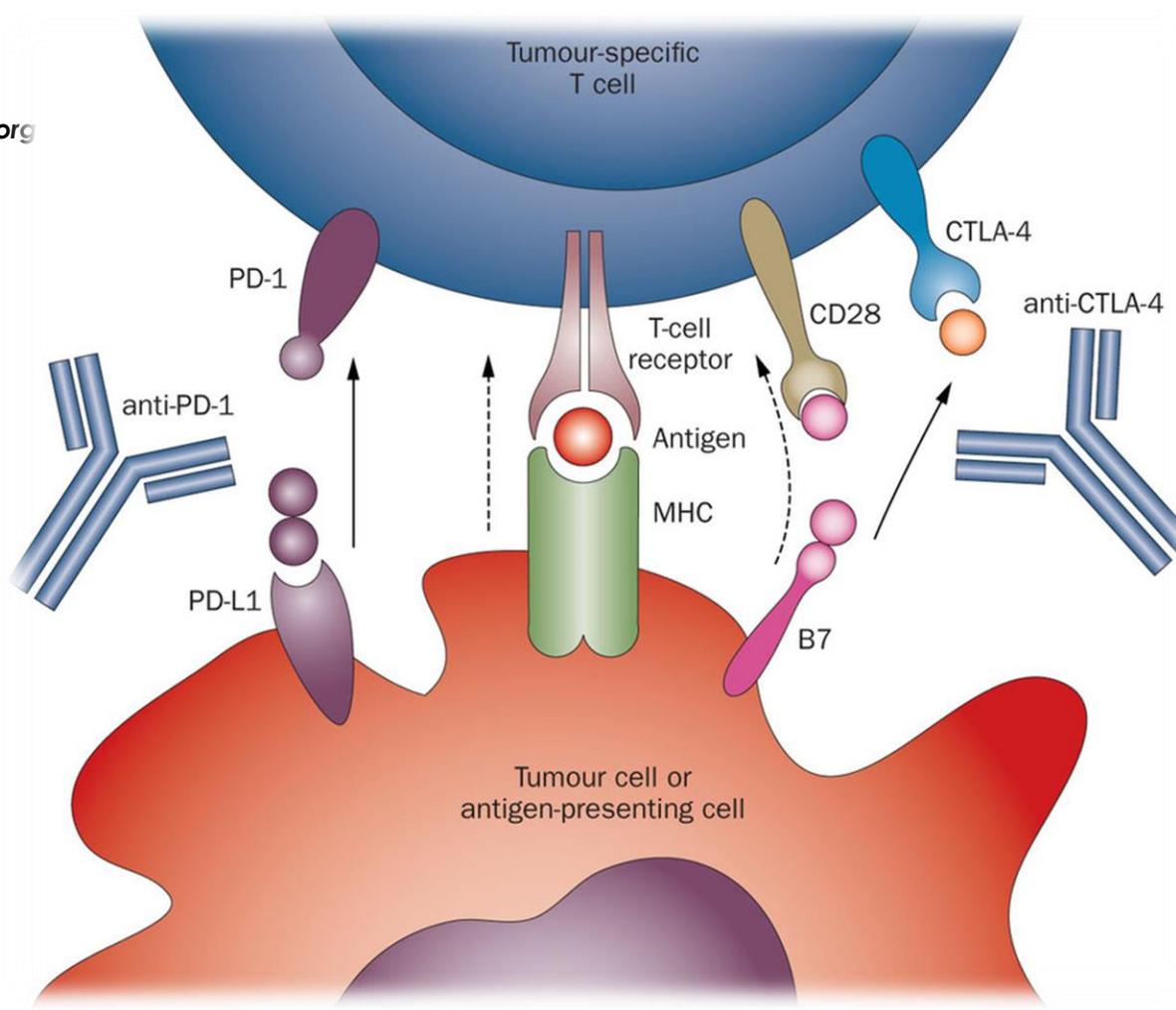


# Neoantigen-based trial



# The Checkpoint Blockade Revolution

Lymphomation.org



# Immune checkpoint blockade for TNBC

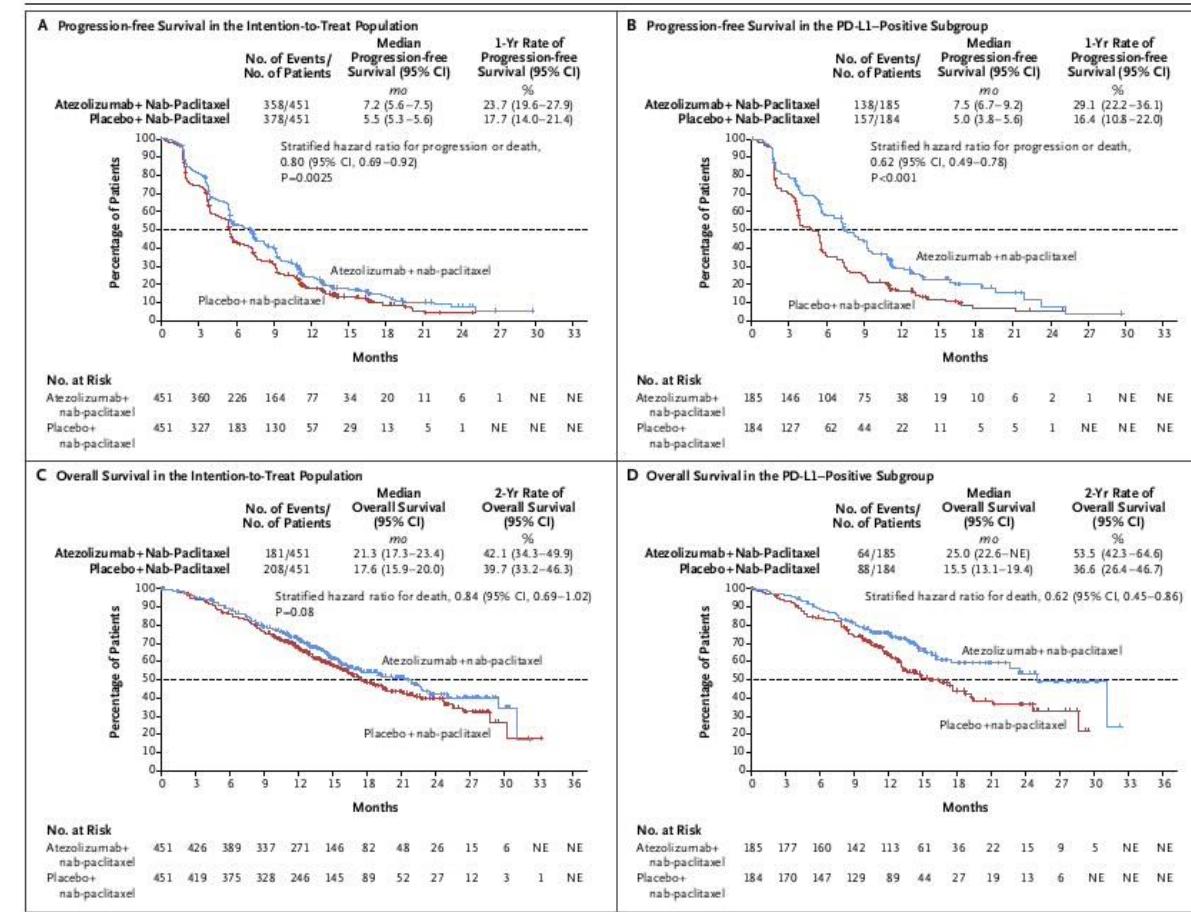
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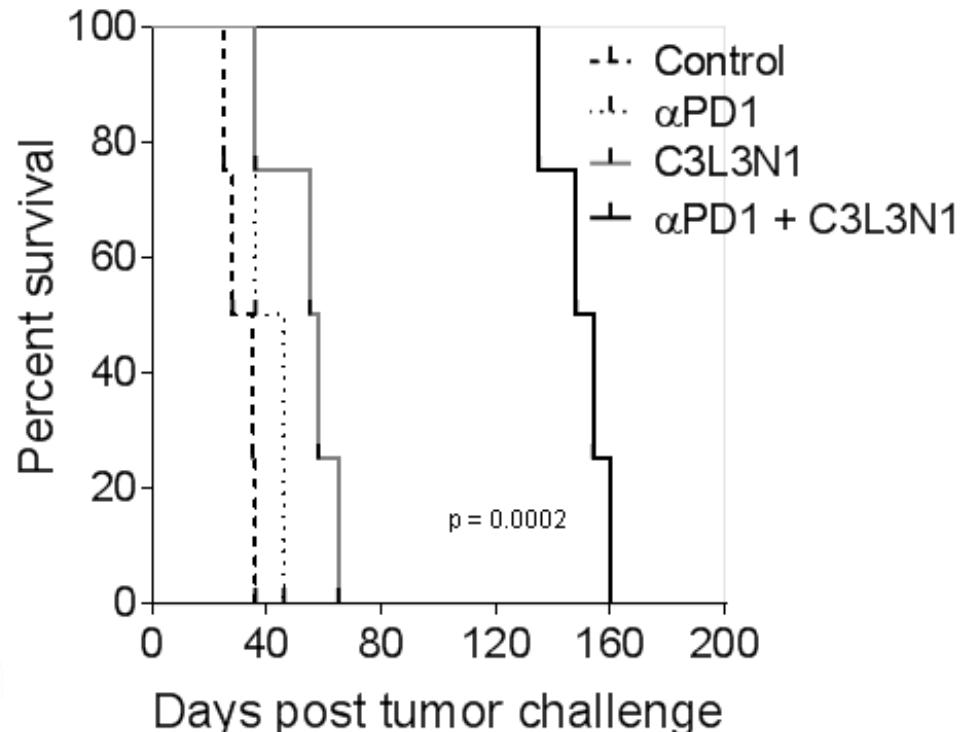
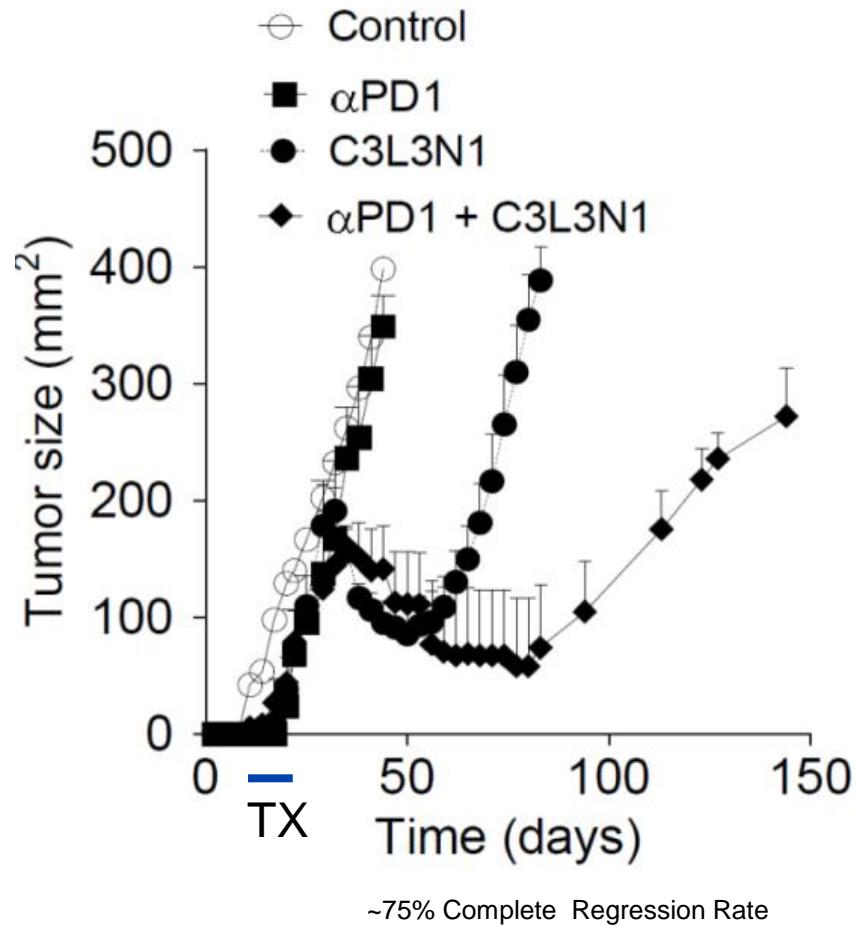
29, 2018



The

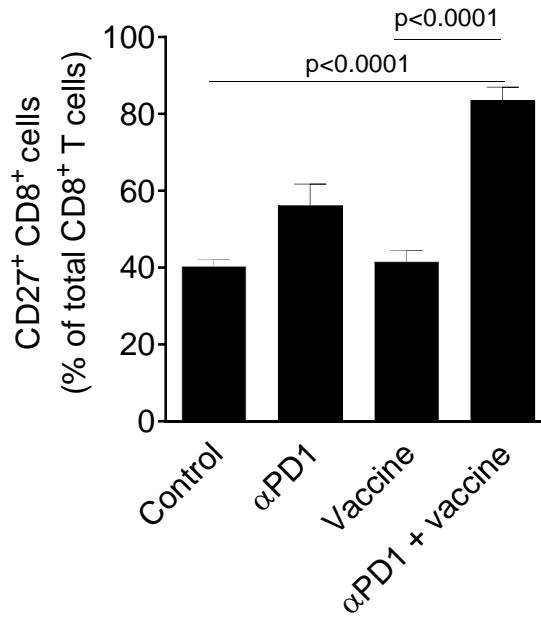
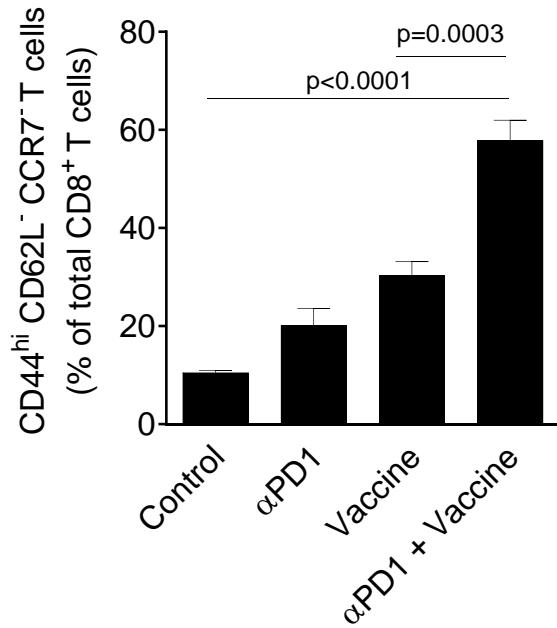
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# Combination therapy results in complete regression and sustained progression free survival



Karyampudi, et al. *Cancer Res.* 2014

# Combination therapy results higher infiltration of memory effector T cells



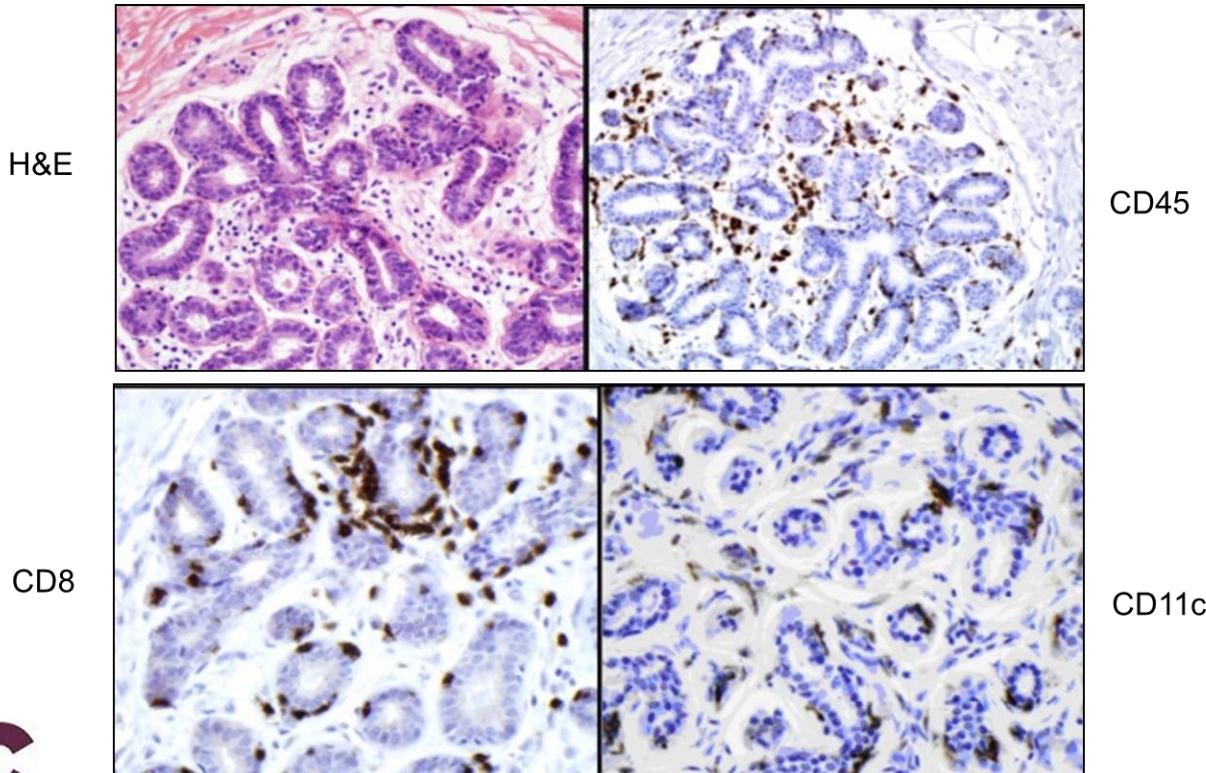
Karyampudi, et al. *Cancer Res.* 2014

# Goals

- To develop a vaccine that targets all three major subsets of breast cancer
- To develop a vaccine that reduces the incidence of breast cancer
- To develop a vaccine that prevents death from breast cancer
- To develop a safe and cost-effective vaccine



# The mammary gland has a mucosal immune system



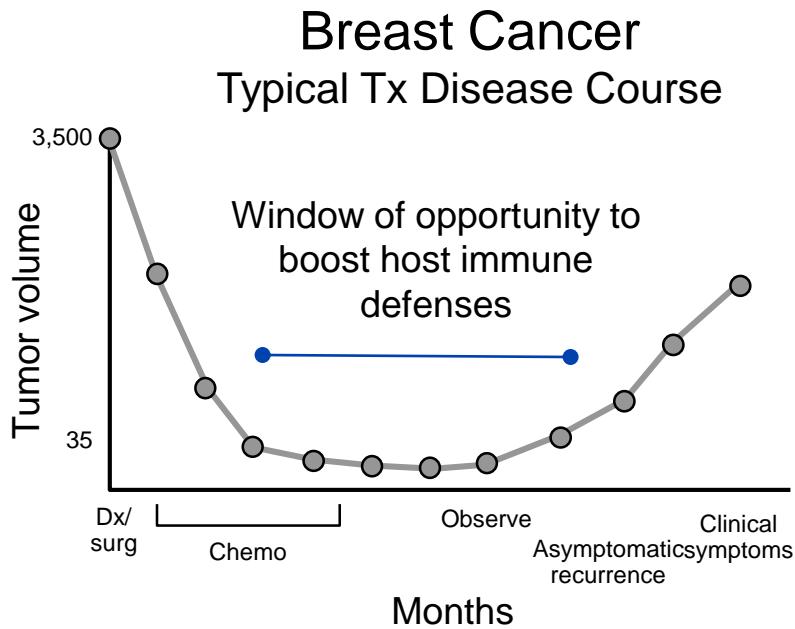
**NBCC**  
National Breast Cancer Coalition

- **HER2/neu (185 kDa) (OC 30%)**
  - Cell surface growth factor receptor.
  - Angiogenesis, proliferation, embryonic development.
  - Expressed in majority of breast cancers and amplified in 20%.
  - Associated with aggressive behavior.
- **MAGE3 (34 kDa) (OC 100%)**
  - Limited to placental trophoblast cells and germ cells of the testes
  - Function is not known.
  - Expressed in ~50% of breast cancers.
- **MUC1 (225-500 kDa) (OC 95%)**
  - Large membrane glycosylated protein – lubrication/hydration.
  - Overexpressed and aberrantly glycosylated in 90% of breast cancer.
- **Survivin (16 kDa) (OC 85%)**
  - Anti-apoptosis protein.
  - Extensive expression in fetal and embryonic development. Not expressed in normal differentiated cells.
  - Expressed in more than 90% of breast cancer.
- **Mammaglobin A (10 kDa) (OC ?)**
  - Secretory protein of unknown function.
  - Very limited expression in normal healthy tissue and expressed 10 fold-higher in 40-80% of breast cancers.
- **hTERT (126 kDa) (OC 100%)**
  - Main protein component of the telomerase enzyme, an enzyme that maintains the length of chromosomes.
  - Not expressed in dividing cells but overexpressed in more than 90% of breast cancer.

- 1) To develop a vaccine that targets all three major subsets of breast cancer
- 2) To develop a vaccine that reduces the incidence of breast cancer
- 3) To develop a vaccine that prevents death from breast cancer
- 4) To develop a safe and cost-effective vaccine

Product	Indication	Preclinical	Phase 1	Phase 2
FR with anti-PD-L1	Ovarian Cancer			
FR DC Vaccine	DC			
FR	Triple-Negative Breast Cancer			
FR	Platinum-Sensitive Ovarian Cancer (Fast Track)			
HER2/neu	Surgically Resected Breast Cancer			
HER2/neu	DCIS			
HER2/neu, MUC1, hTERT, MammA, Survivin, MAGEA3	Prophylactic			

# Conclusions

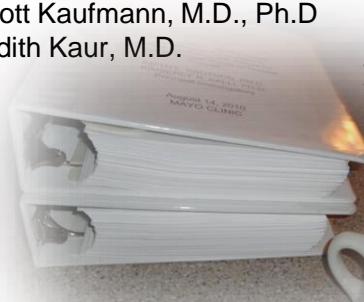


- More needs to be done in the disease free period to boost host immunity against cancers at high risk for relapse
- Vaccines can be developed that target aberrantly expressed proteins. Useful for preventing disease recurrence?
- Repolarizing immune response may improve outcomes.
- Checkpoint activity appears to be limited for TNBC but may be improved by inclusion of vaccines.

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