



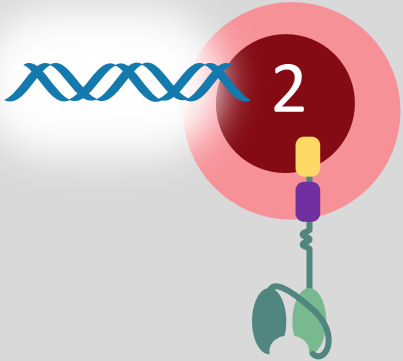
# Genterapi – nye muligheter utviklet i Norge

Johanna Olweus

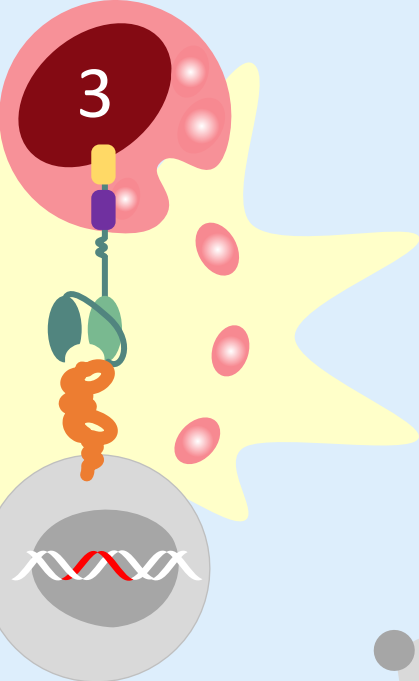
*Seksjon for kreftimmunologi, Institutt for kreftforskning,  
Oslo Universitetssykehus og Universitetet i Oslo*

# Background: CAR19 T cell-therapy can cure 40% of B cell malignancies

Insert of  
CAR-encoding  
gene construct  
targeting CD19  
*in vitro*

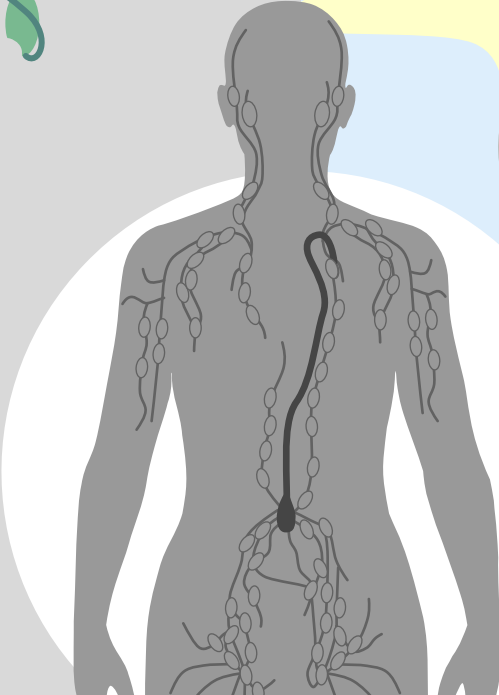
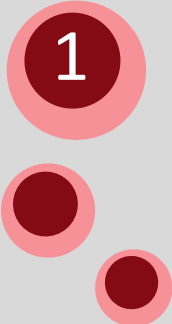


Reinfuse into  
patient



CD19 positive  
malignant **and**  
normal B cell  
killed

Harvest  
patient T cells

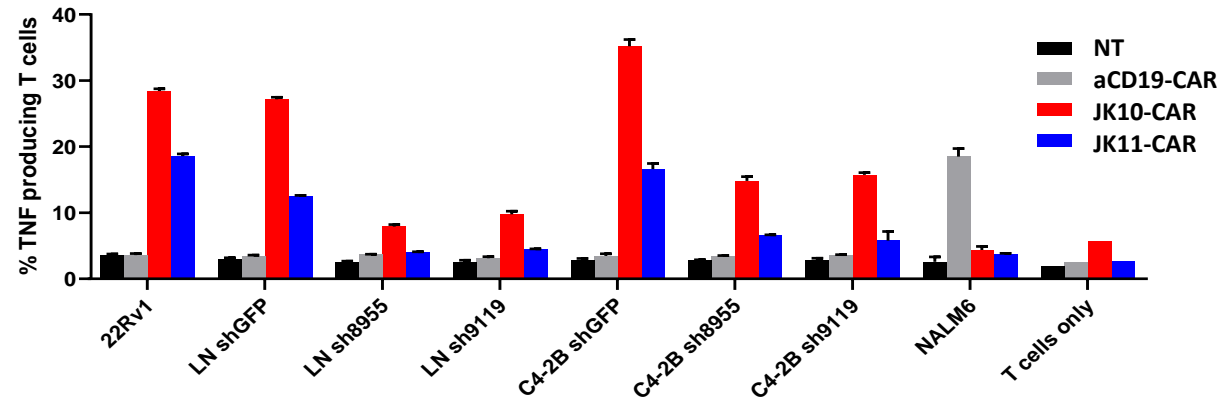


Patient with:  
B-acute lymphoblastic leukemia  
B-cell lymphoma (DLBCL)

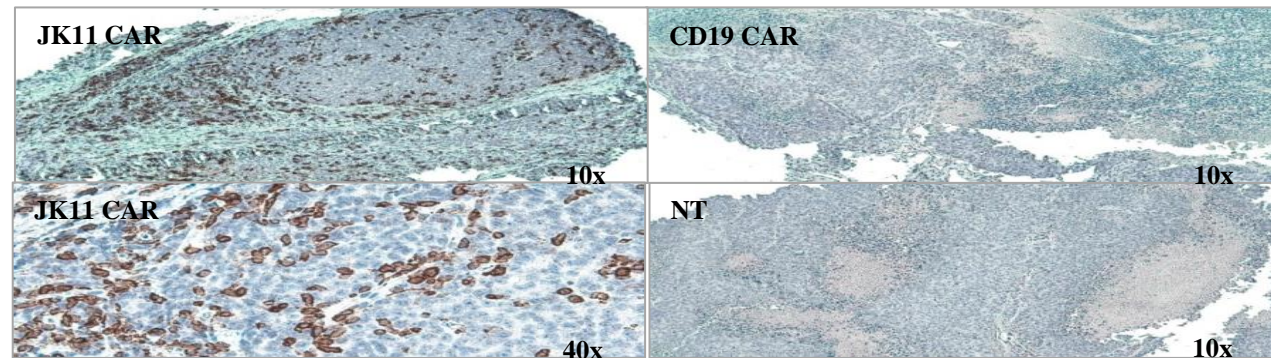
# CAR T for treatment refractory prostate cancer

- Target antigen associated with tumor metastasis
- CAR T cells are highly specific, no cross-reactivity
- CAR T cells show potent anti-tumour activity in vitro and in mouse model

CAR T cells respond to tumor cells expressing the target, while control T cells do not



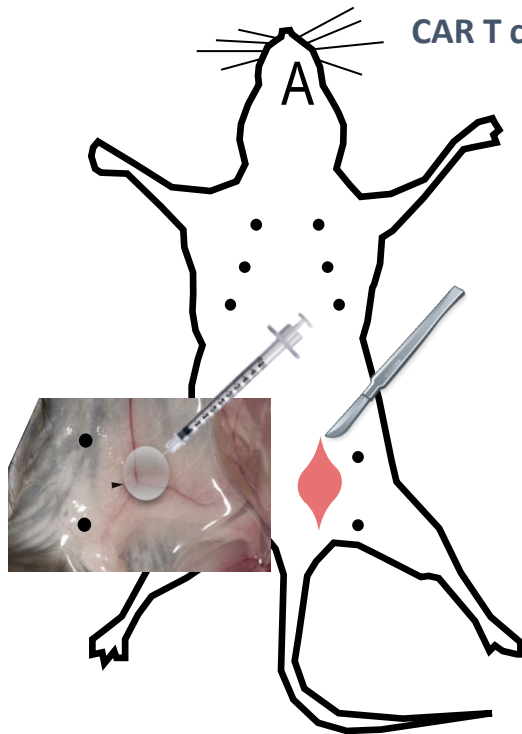
Animal model: JK11 CAR T cells infiltrate tumor, while control T cells do not



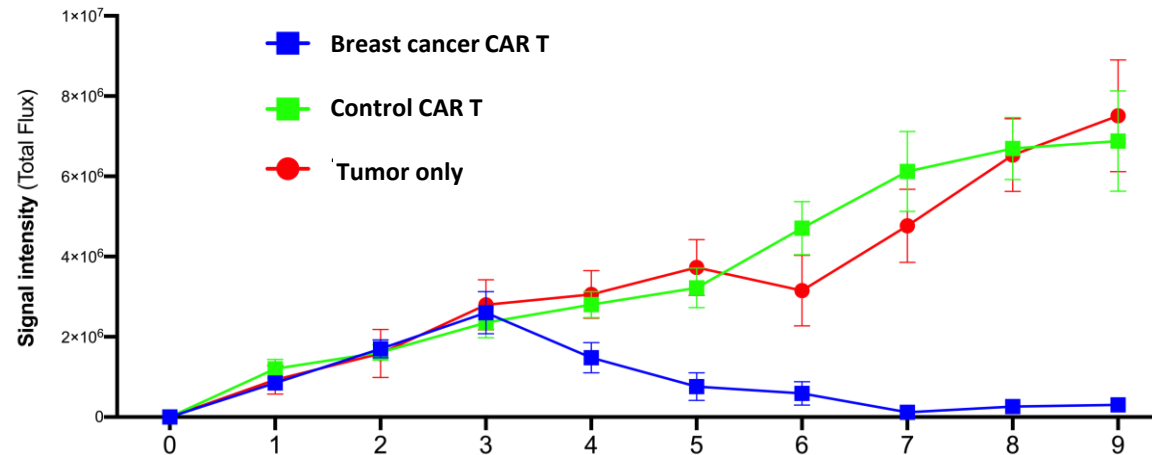
Experiments by Y Jin, Kyte Group

# CAR T cells targeting tumor-specific antigen expressed in aggressive and treatment refractory breast cancer

- Target antigen associated with tumor metastasis
- CAR T cells are highly specific, no cross-reactivity
- CAR T cells show potent anti-tumour activity in vitro and in mouse model



CAR T cells eliminates cancer in orthotopic (mammary fat pad) model of human breast cancer



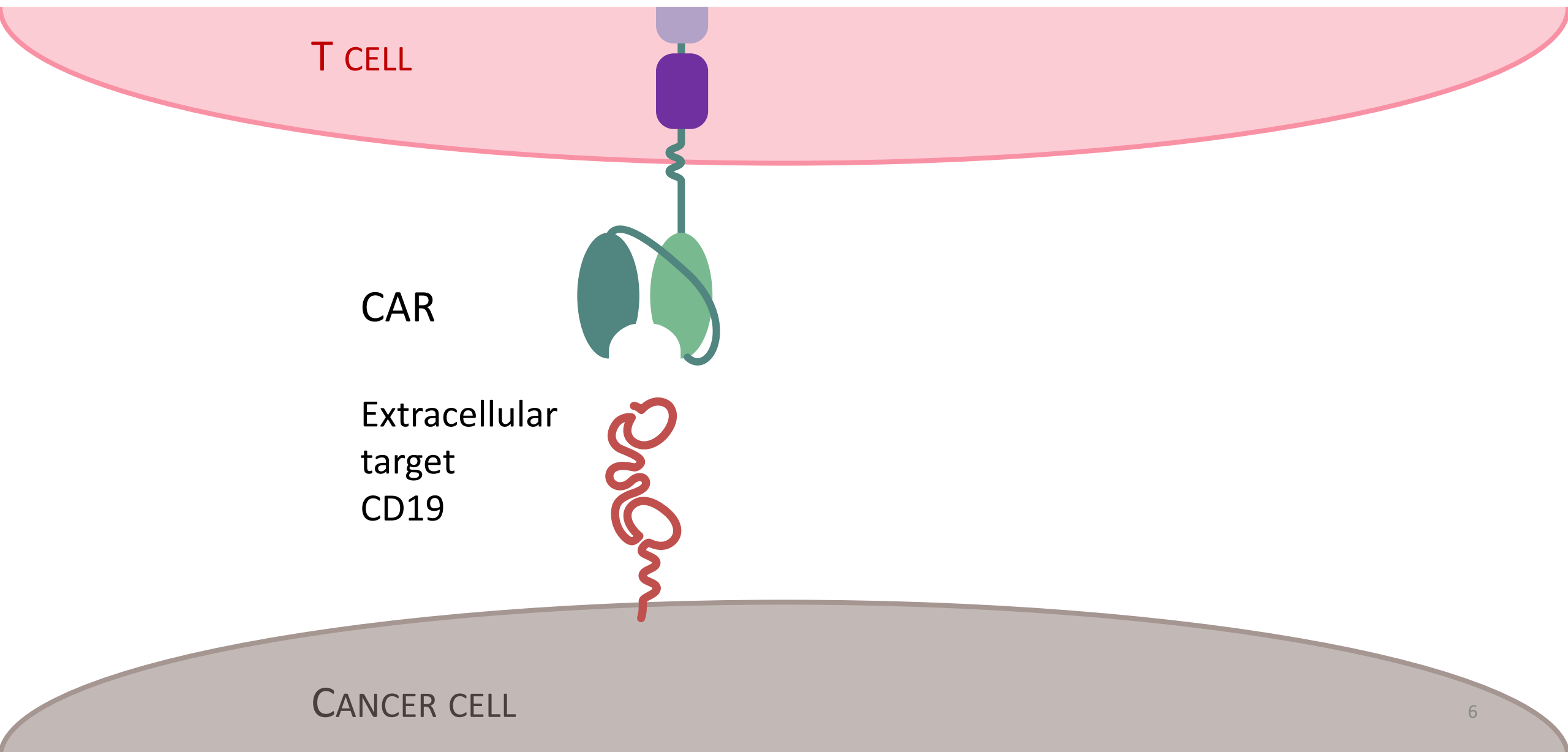
Experiment by E Dorraji, Kyte Group

IMMUNOBIOLOGY AND IMMUNOTHERAPY | APRIL 12, 2019

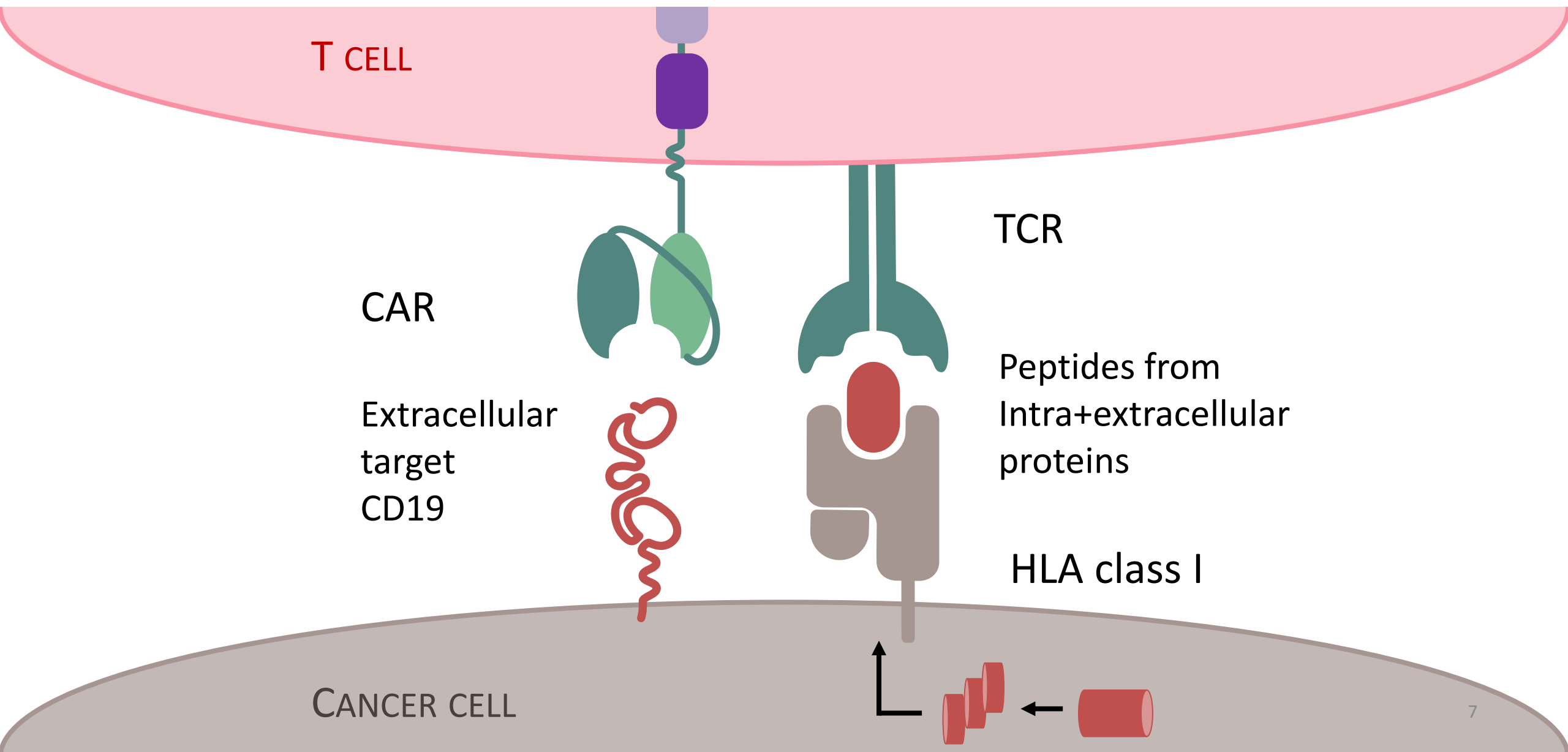
## Preclinical development of CD37CAR T-cell therapy for treatment of B-cell lymphoma

Hakan Köksal, Pierre Dillard, Sarah E. Josefsson, Solrun Melkorka Maggadottir, Sylvie Pollmann, Anne Fåne, Yngvild Nuvin Blaker, Klaus Beiske, Kanutte Huse, Arne Kolstad, Harald Holte, Gunnar Kvalheim, Erlend B. Smeland, June H. Myklebust, Else Marit Inderberg, Sébastien Wälchli

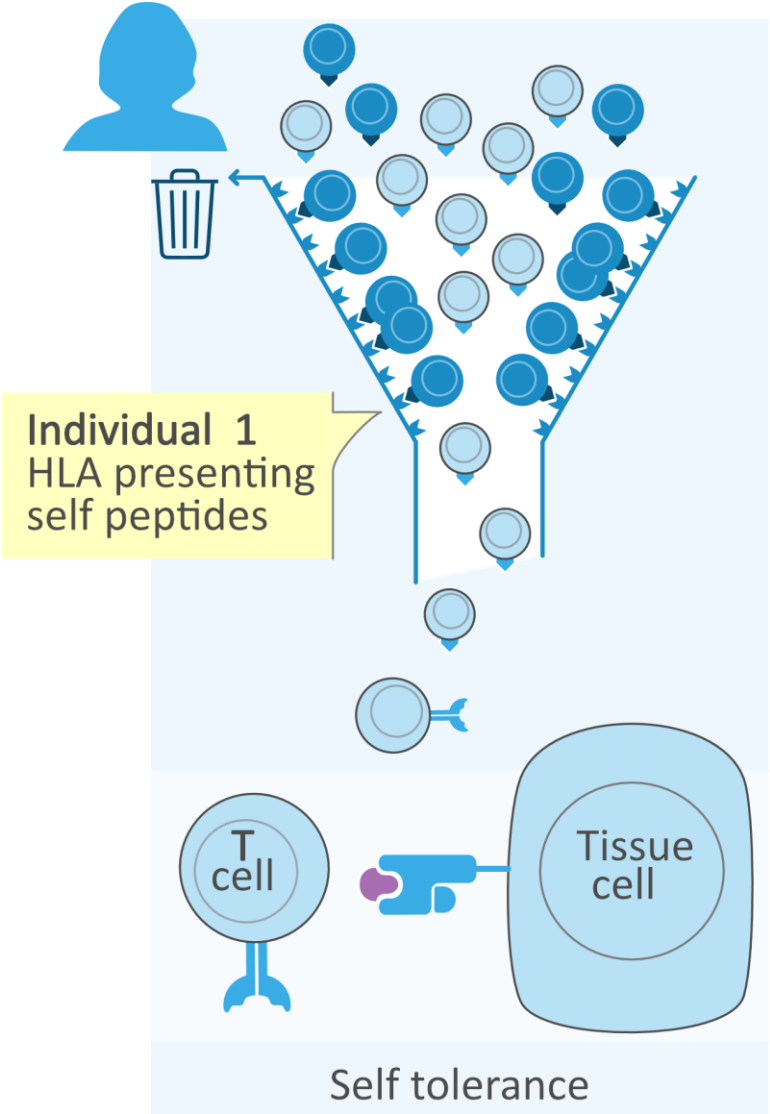
# Tissue-specific self-antigens on the cell surface are rare



# Can the success of targeting self be translated from CARs to T-cell receptors (TCRs)?

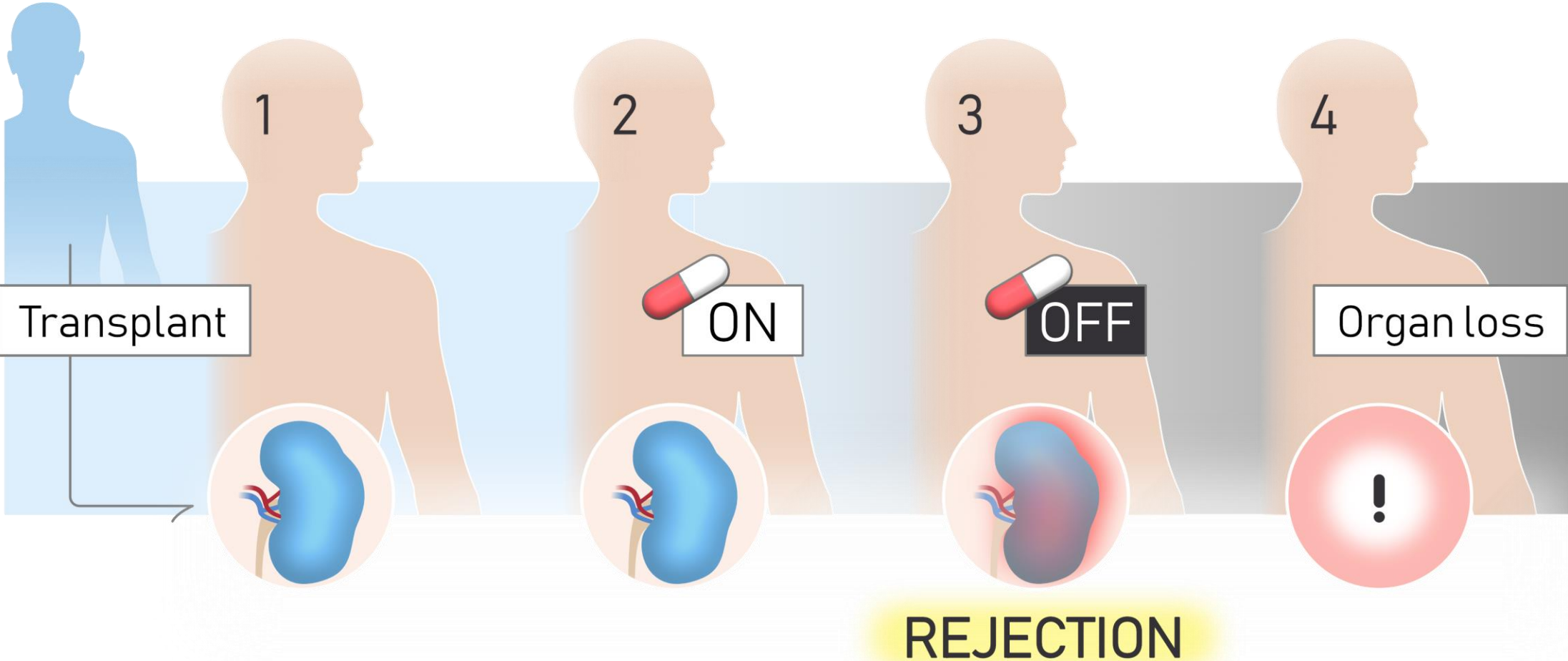


# Self-reactive T cells are deleted in the thymus during development

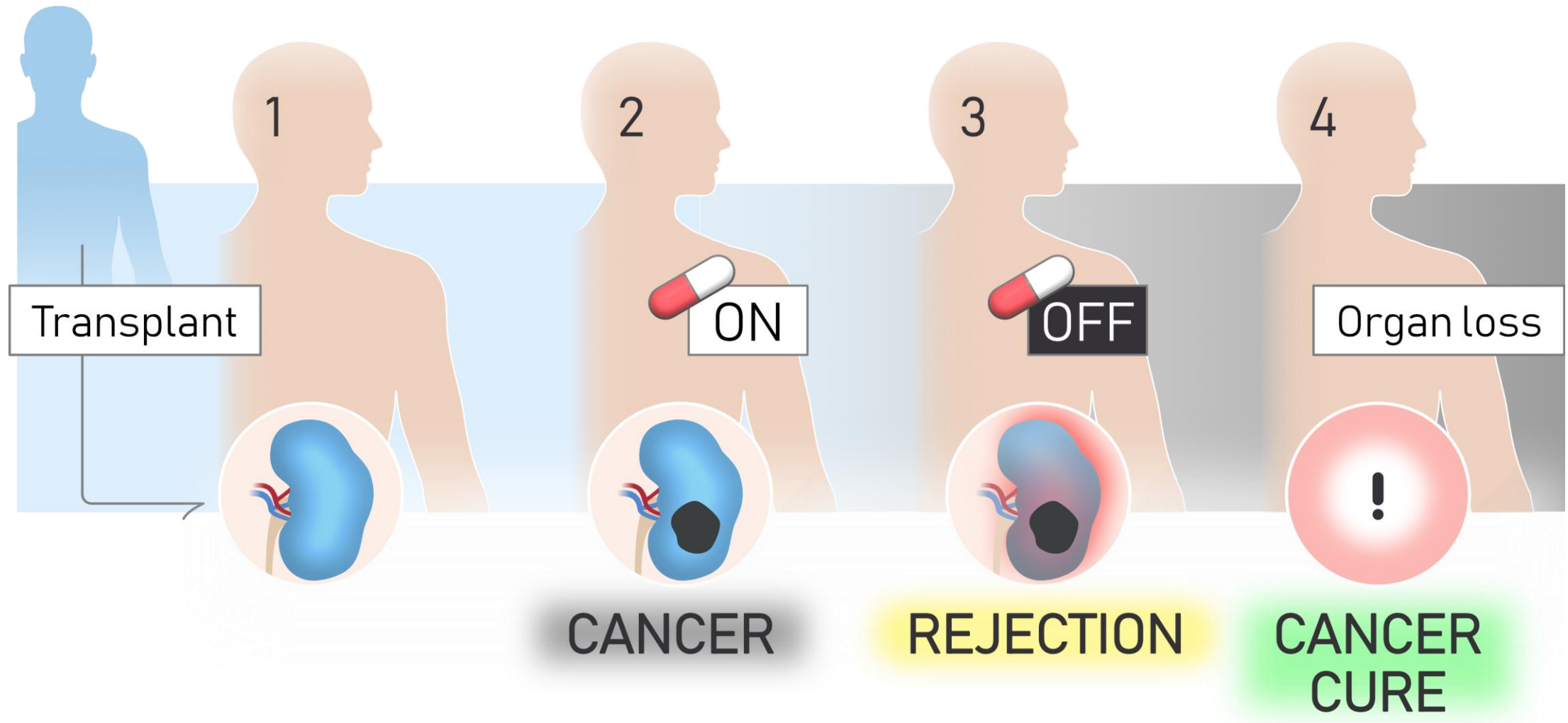




# Organ rejection – a strong T cell response



# Rejecting cancer



Exploit mechanism of organ rejection:  
T cells rejecting a single cell type

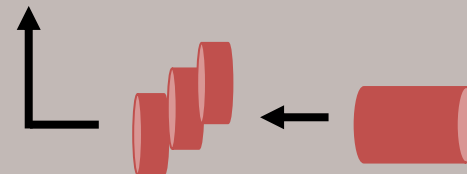
PATIENT T CELL

TCR

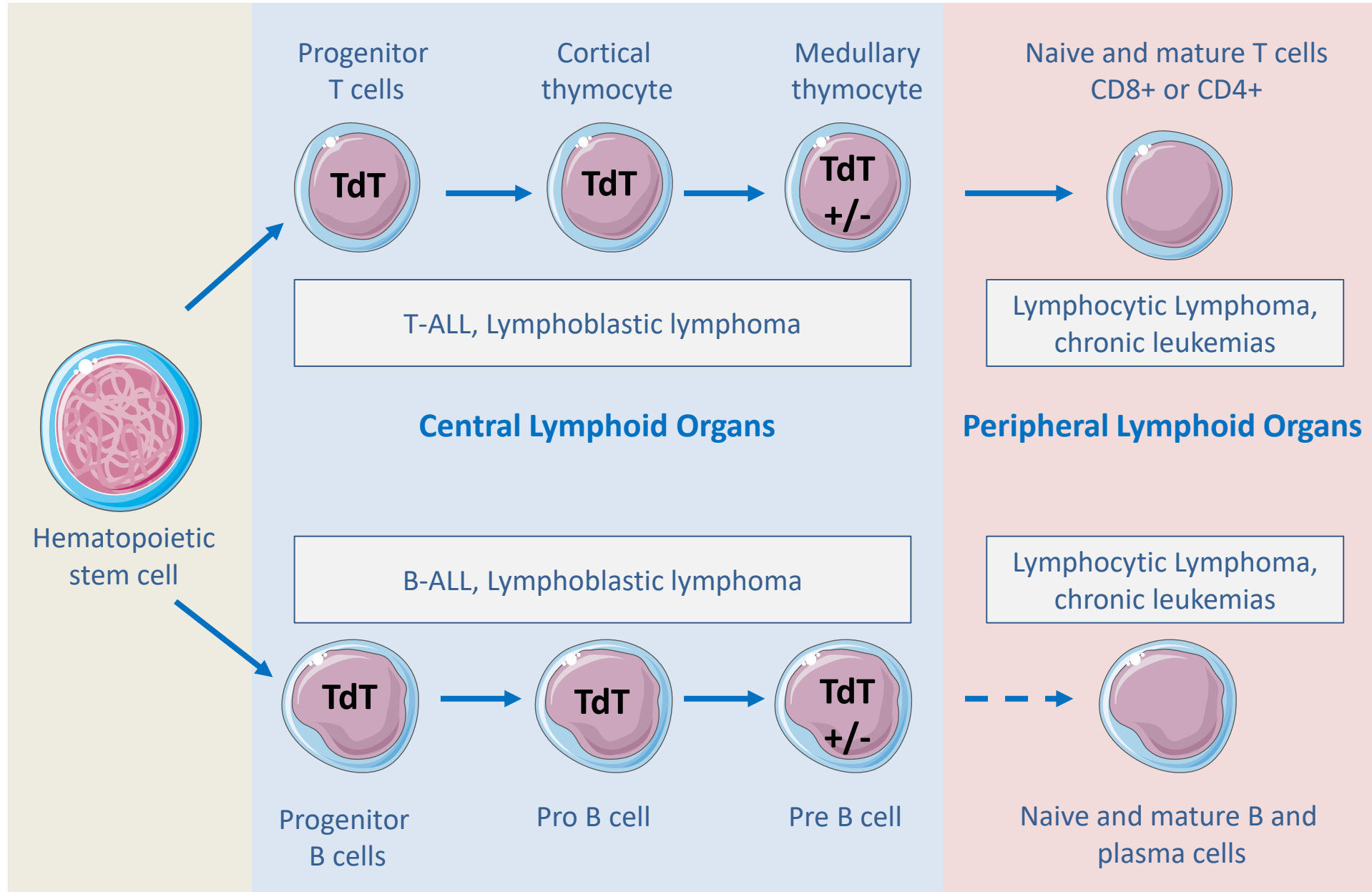
Self-peptide

Foreign HLA

DONOR TISSUE CELL



# Terminal deoxynucleotidyl transferase (TdT) – a target for immunotherapy of B- and T-ALL

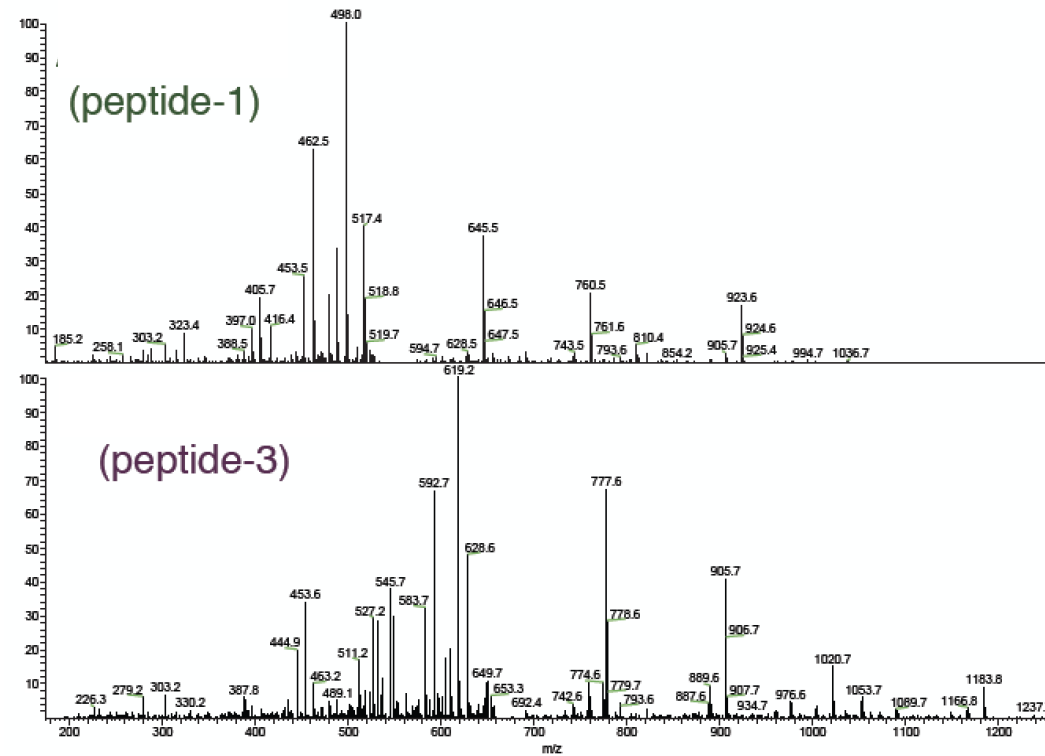
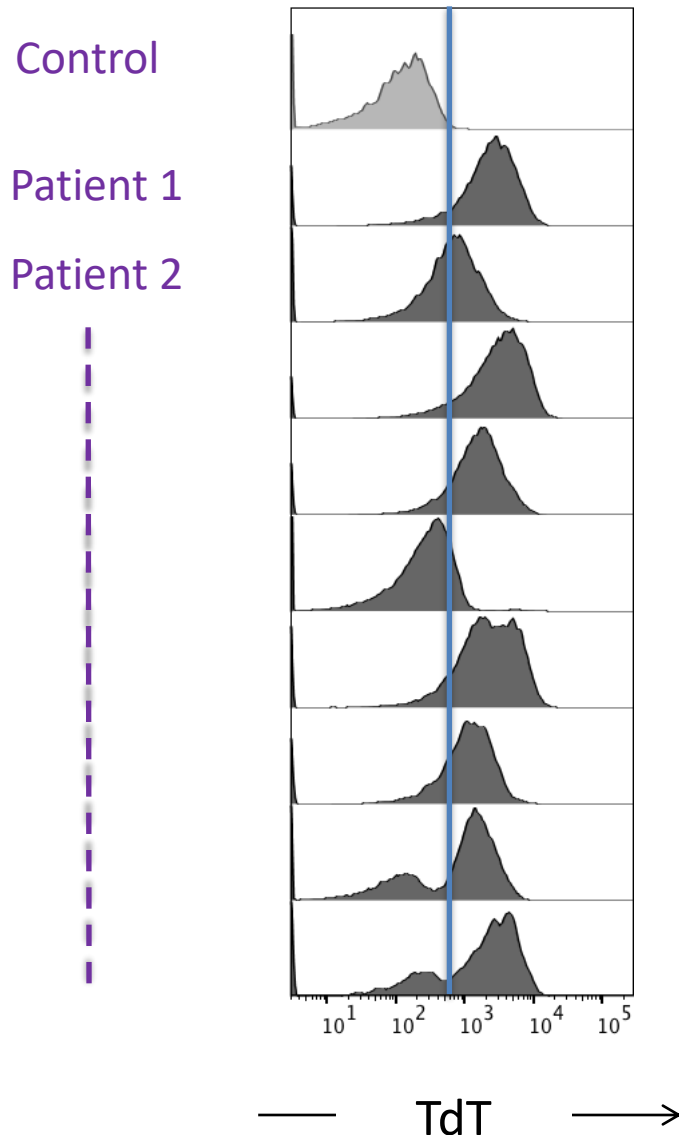


# The majority of primary ALL are TdT+ and TdT-derived peptides are presented on HLA-A\*02:01

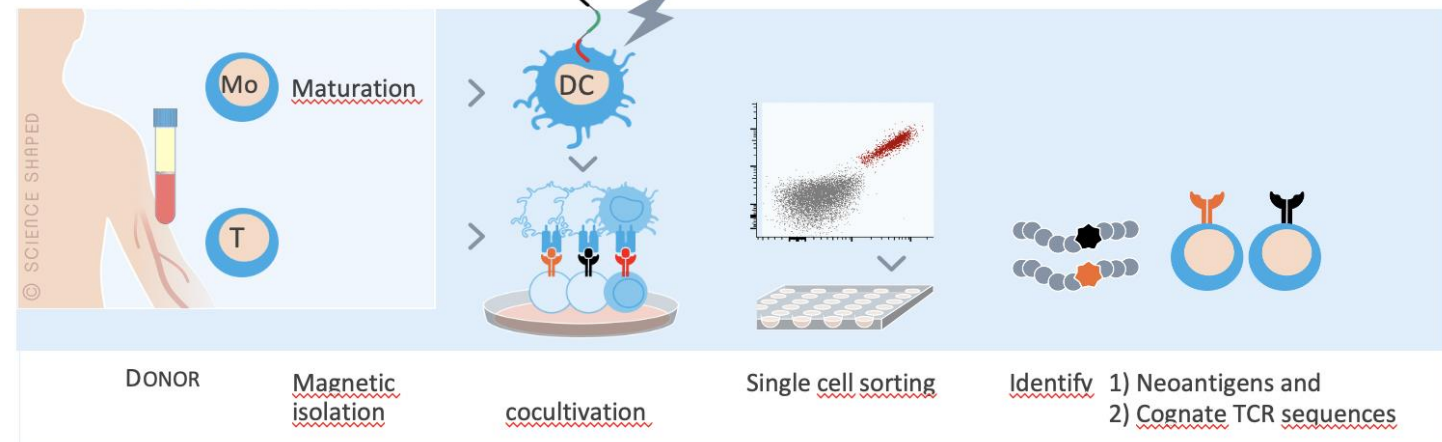
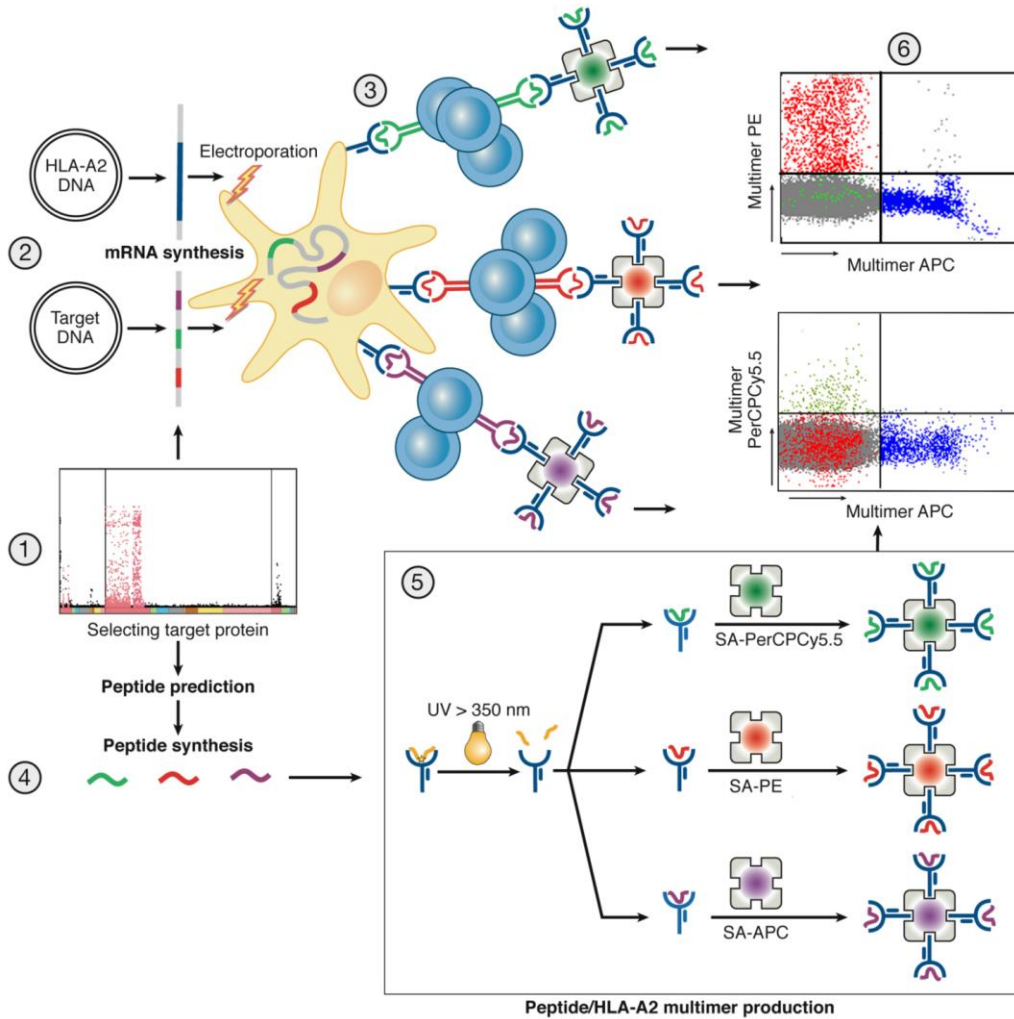


Muhammad Ali

Eirini Giannakopoulou



# Identification of donor-derived TCRs that recognize TdT in context of foreign HLA-A\*02:01

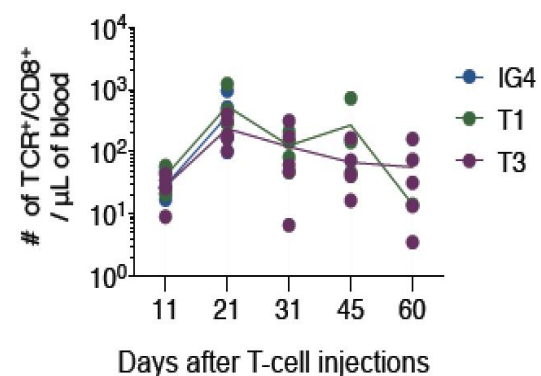
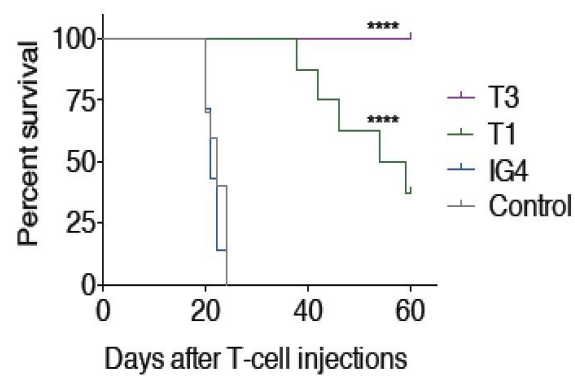
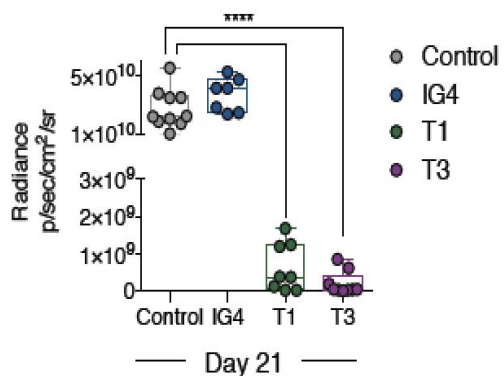
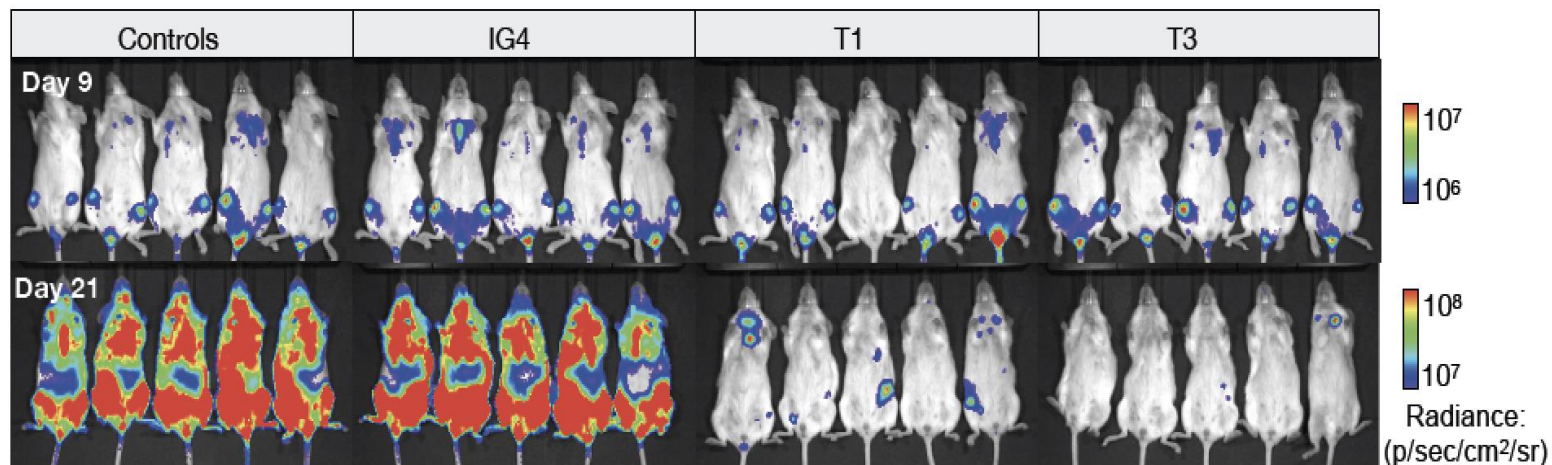
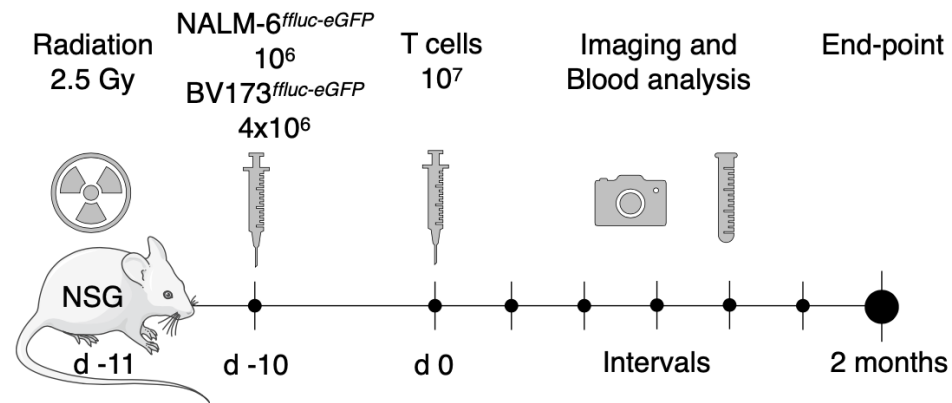


Strønen et al, Science 2016

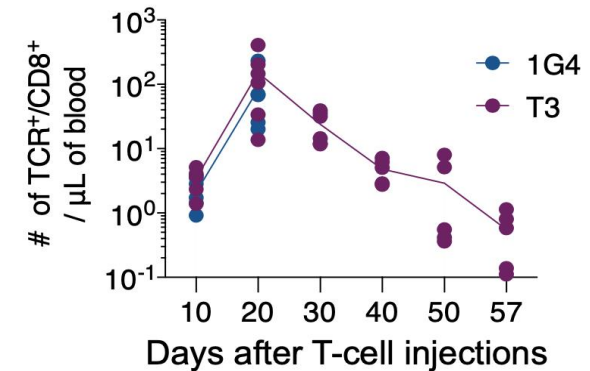
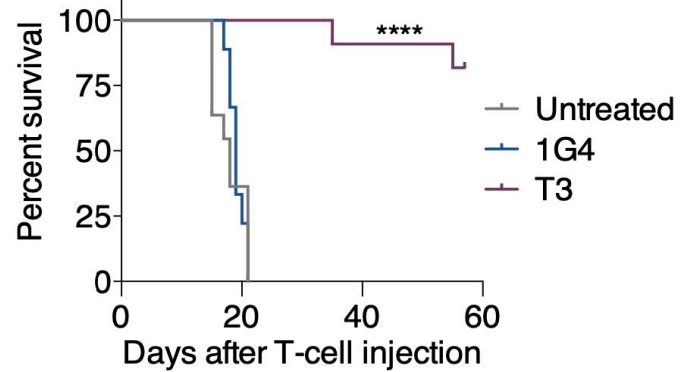
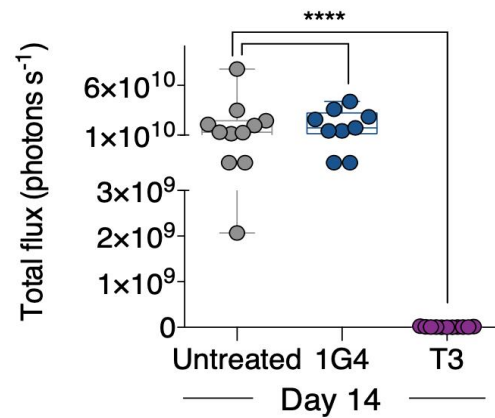
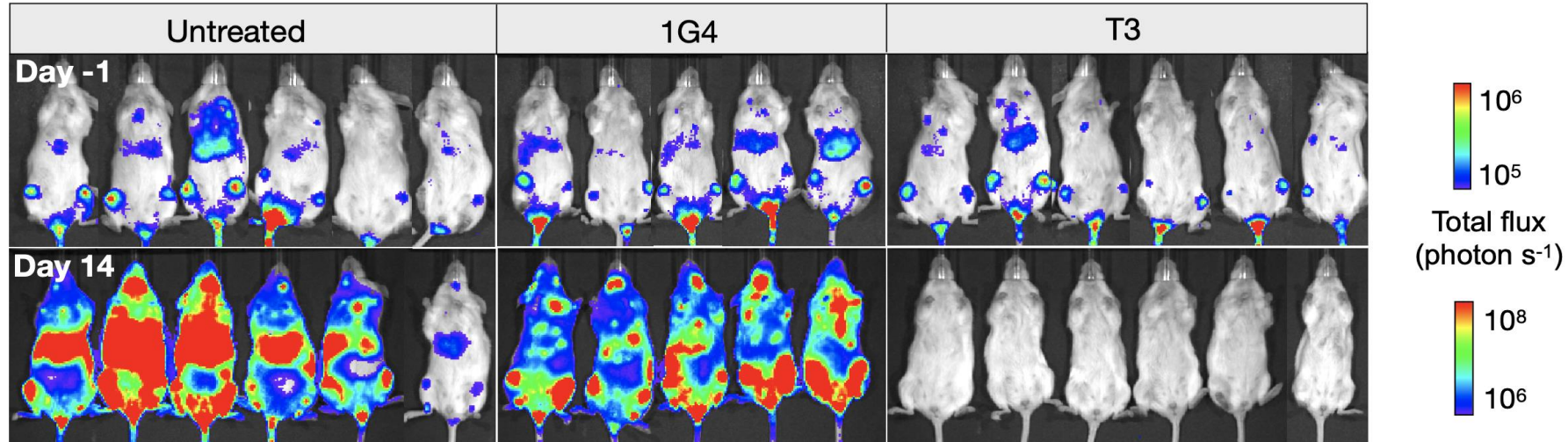
Kumari et al, PNAS 2014

Ali/Foldvari/Giannakopoulou et al, Nature Protocols, 2019

# TdT TCRs mediate rejection of human leukemia *in vivo* (BV173)



# TdT TCRs eradicate human leukemia *in vivo* (NALM-6)





# TdT TCRs efficiently eliminate primary B-ALL *in vivo*



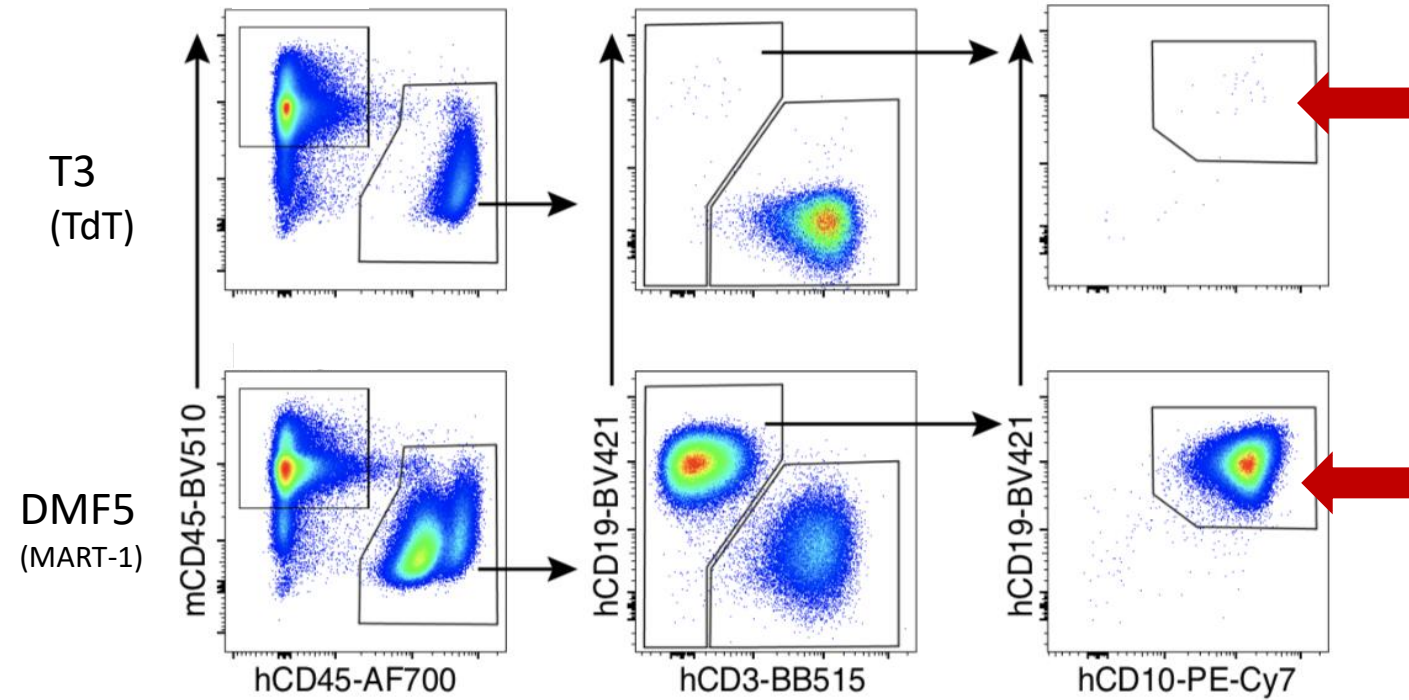
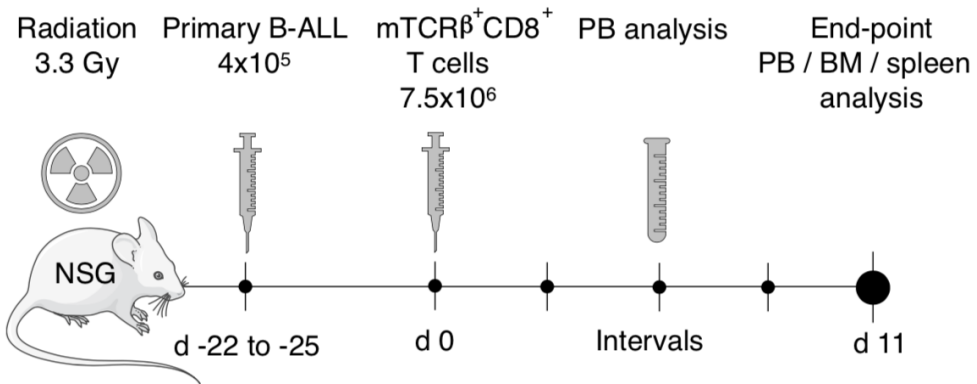
Sten Eirik  
W. Jacobsen

Petter Woll

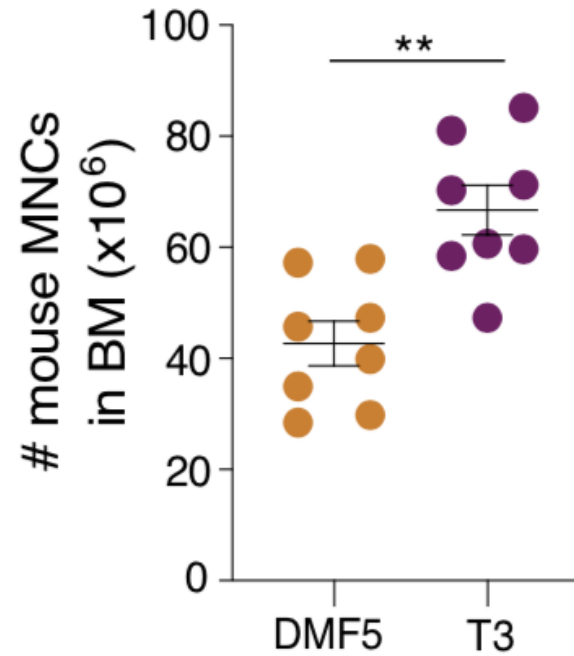
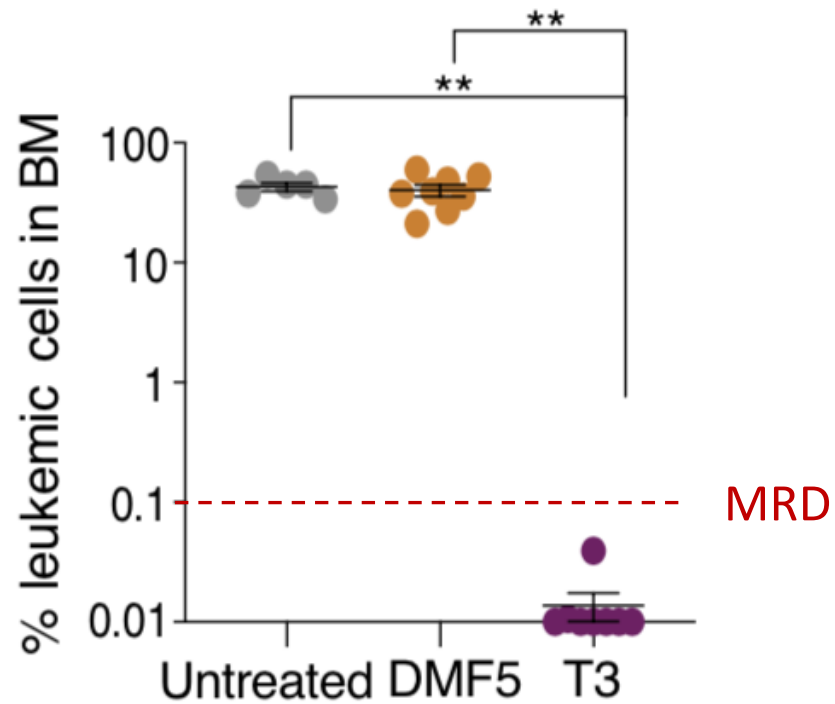
Madeleine  
Lehander

Stina Virding  
Culleton

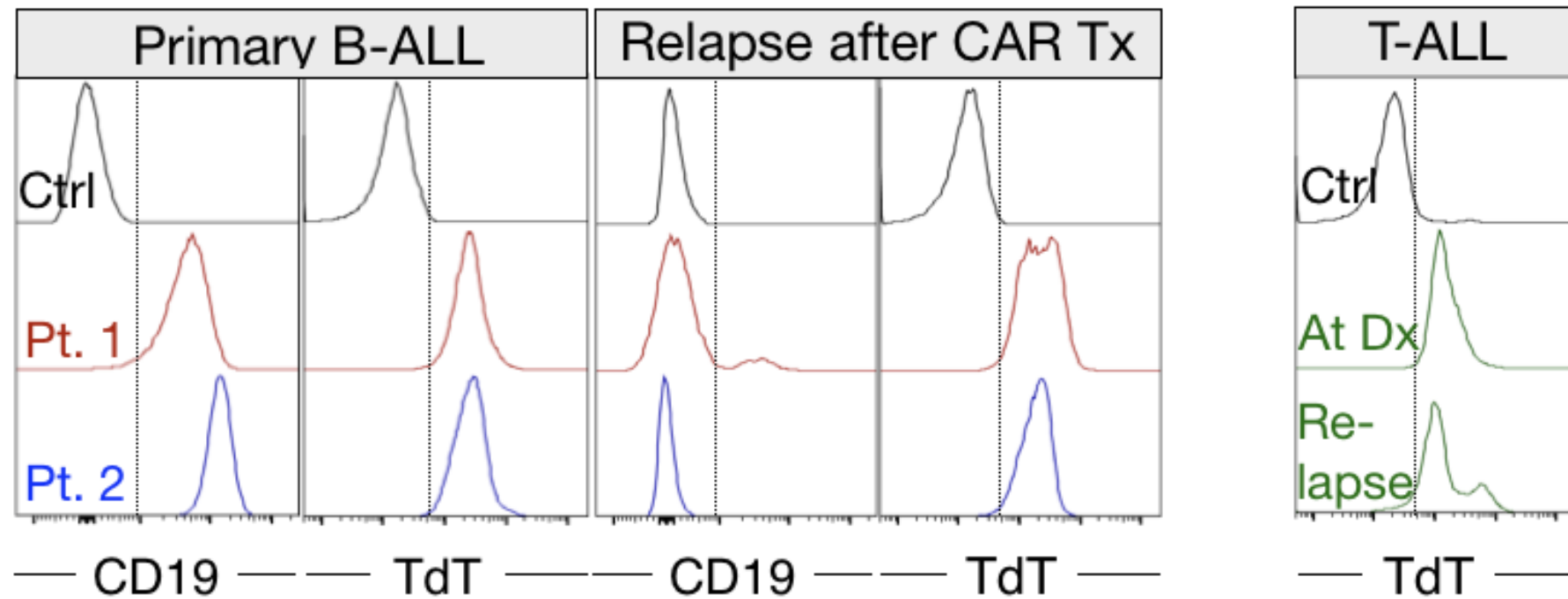
## Bone marrow analysis – end of experiment



# TdT TCRs efficiently eliminate primary B-ALL *in vivo* to minimal residual disease (MRD) negative levels in 11 days

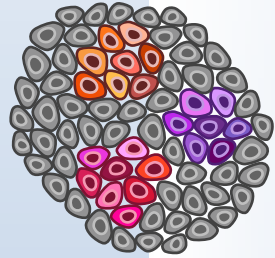
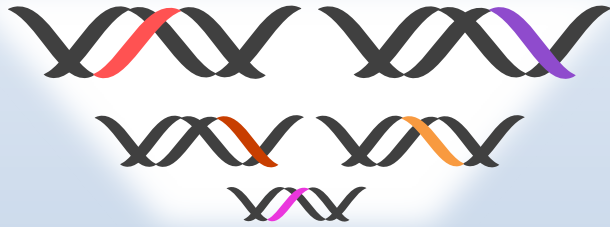


Patients relapsing from CAR19 T cell therapy with CD19 negative B-ALL, and relapsed T-ALL express high levels of TdT

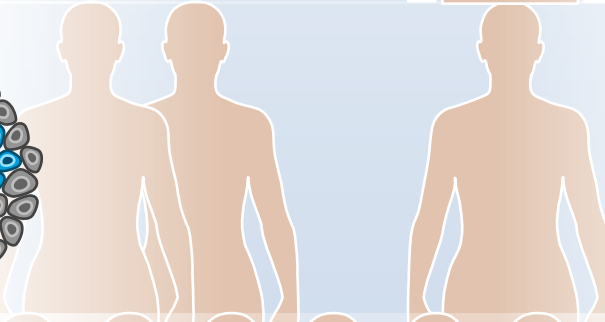
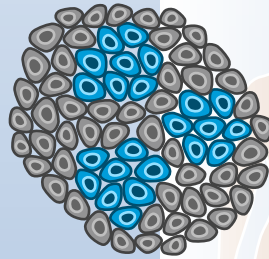


# Selecting TCR targets

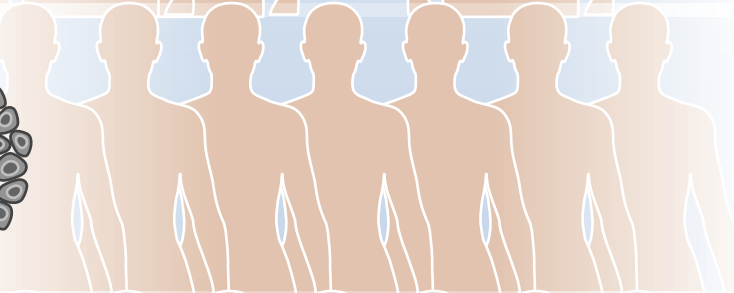
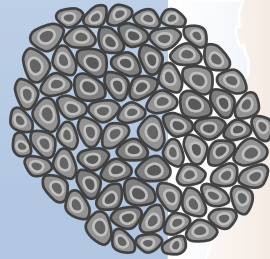
Private  
neoantigens



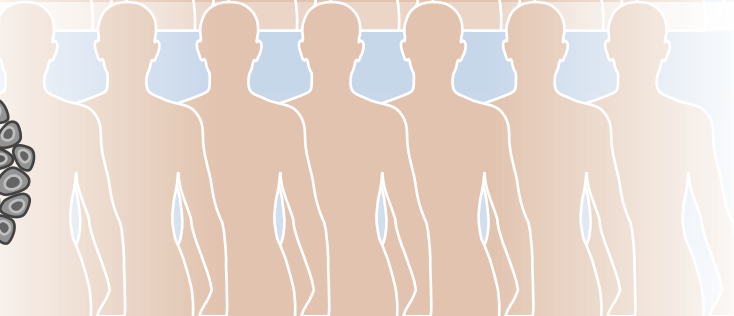
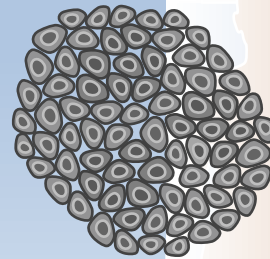
Shared  
neoantigens



Cancer/testis  
antigens



Tissue specific  
antigens



- Private
- Heterogeneous
- Low expression
- Low immunogenicity

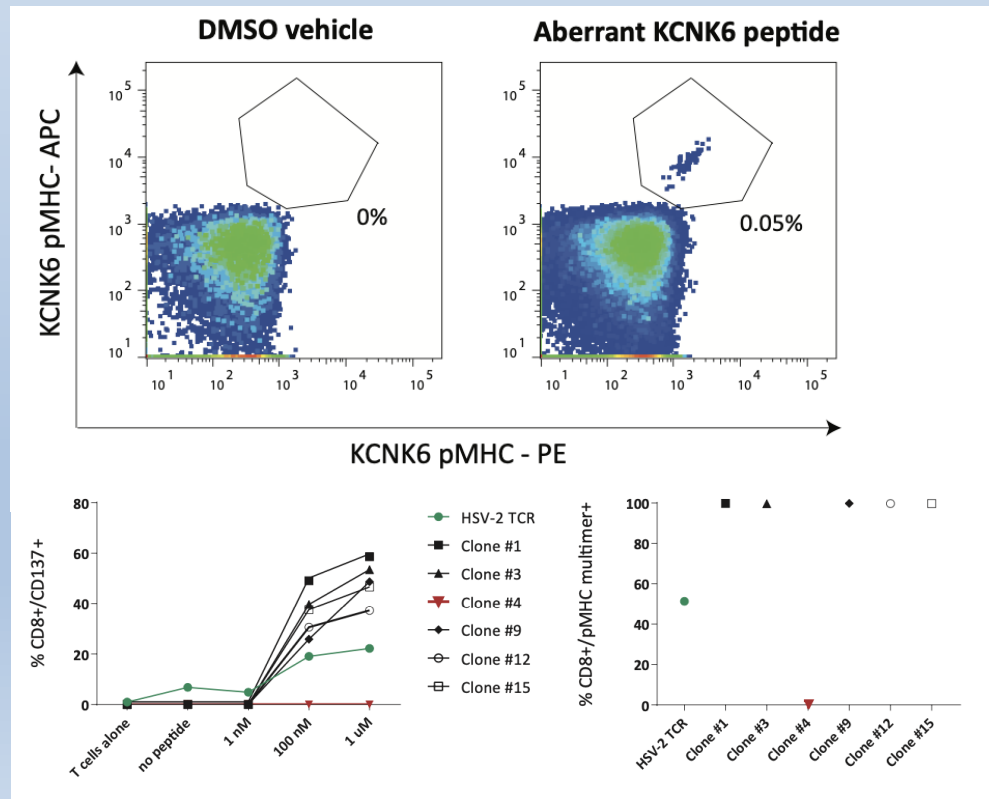
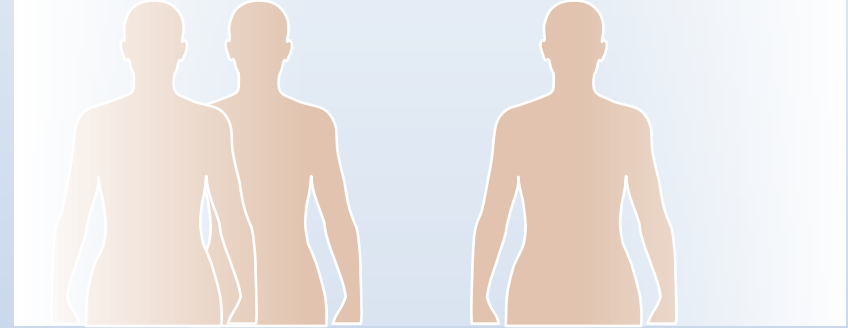
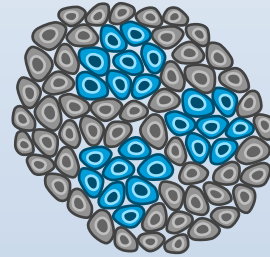
- Rare
- Heterogeneous
- Low expression
- Low immunogenicity

- Shared
- Heterogeneous
- Low expression

- Shared
- Homogeneous
- High expression

# New shared targets? Translational mistakes

Translational mistakes



*Bartok et al, Nature 2021*

*Pataskar et al, Nature 2022, in press*



Morten M Nielsen



Maarja Laos

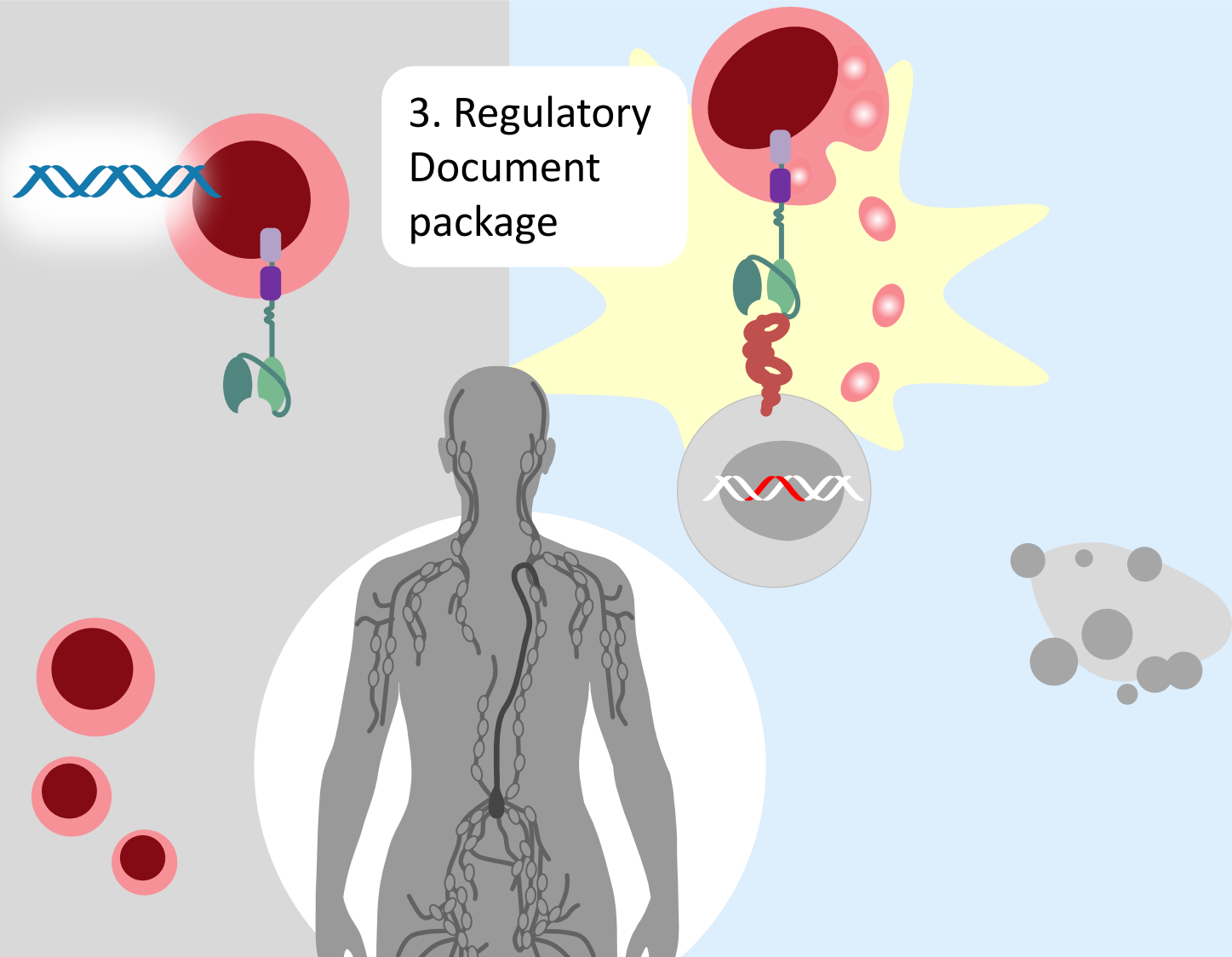
# In house generated gene therapy – bottle necks

2. Production of gene modified cells

1. Virus production  
*10-20 mill NOK*

Harvest patient T cells

3. Regulatory Document package



15. februar, 2022

nature biotechnology

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Career Feature | [Published: 15 February 2022](#)

CAREER FEATURE

## Assessing workforce needs for the emerging CAR-T cell therapy industry

[Linda D. Ho](#), [Hadassah L. Robbins](#) & [Aaron D. Levine](#) 

[Nature Biotechnology](#) **40**, 275–278 (2022) | [Cite this article](#)

4 Altmetric | [Metrics](#)

“By 2025, the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) expects to approve 10 to 20 cell and gene therapies annually<sup>1</sup>. However, development and, especially, manufacturing of these novel therapies is complicated and labor-intensive<sup>2,3</sup>, which raises concerns that the lack of a skilled workforce may hinder growth of this field — potentially slowing development, raising costs and limiting the availability of novel therapies.”

# New Centre for Advanced Cell Therapy hosted by Division of Cancer Medicine, OUH



Cell and gene therapy form two of the most dynamic research areas world-wide and provide fundamentally new therapies for diseases without available treatment. Advanced Therapy Medicinal Products (ATMPs) typically target the underlying biology of the disease rather than the symptoms and therefore offer the possibility of cure. The development of new cell and gene therapies is spearheaded by the unprecedented clinical success of cancer immunotherapy, such as chimeric antigen receptor (CAR)-T cell therapy for B cell malignancies. In parallel, new advances in

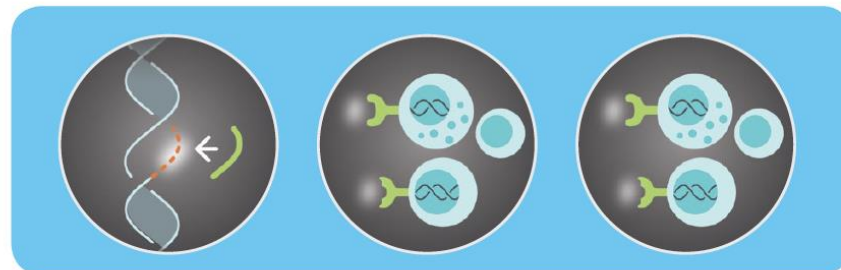
stem cell biology, including the possibility for differentiation of mesenchymal stem cells (MSCs), and of induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSC) reprogrammed from somatic cells, open up new possibilities to regenerate cells and tissues for the treatment of chronic diseases such as diabetes as well as various organ failures, including liver diseases. However, clinical-grade cell engineering and manufacturing represents a key bottleneck for the development of new cell and gene therapies. *"..clinical-grade cell engineering represents a key bottleneck for the development of new cell and gene therapies.."*

The academic leadership at ICR and the Department of Cancer Immunology has, together with the leadership at the OUH-CCC and the Department of Oncology and Section for Cell Therapy, outlined a path to restructure the cell therapy unit at OUH to meet the demands of the future and ensure that Norway stays at the international forefront

in the development of cell and gene therapies. This effort has moreover been strengthened by the formation of a strategic research area in cell therapy at OUH (StratCell).

## CRITICAL CONTRIBUTION FROM A PRIVATE DONOR CONSORTIUM

A donor consortium consisting of Svanhild and Arne Must's Foundation for Medical Research (lead donor), RADFORSK oncology research fund and the Norwegian Cancer Society, has committed 50 MNOK to form a Centre for Advanced Cell therapy (ACT Centre) located in clean room facilities at the OUH. The investment is dedicated to the establishment of a center that will provide a new national service for the manufacturing of genetically engineered cells for therapy, under full-scale good manufacturing practices (GMP). The center will moreover include existing local competence in cell differentiation and manufacturing for production of other ATMPs to OUH.



# Privat donasjon: 50 mill NOK til genterapi

Kreftforeningen  
Ingrid Stenstadvold Ross

Erik Must



Hans Peter Bøhn



Svanhild og Arne  
Musts fond for  
medisinsk forskning

RadForsk  
Jonas Einarsson





**Dept of Cancer Immunology  
Oslo University Hospital**

**Johanna Olweus group**

(present and former members)

**Muhammad Ali**

**Eirini Giannakopoulou**

Yingqian Li

Weiwen Yang

Cathrine Knetter Hoel

Ravi Chand Bollineni

Zsofia Foldvari

Maxi-Lu Böschen

Maarja Laos

Saskia Meyer

Morten Milek Nielsen

Marina Delic-Sarac

Thea Gjerdingen

Isaac Blaas

Eli Taraldsrud

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Structural Biology, Stanford University**

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Xinbo Yang

**Dept. of Oncology, Oslo University Hospital Radiumhospitalet**

Arne Kolstad

**Dept. of Pediatric Hematology and Oncology**

**Oslo University Hospital**

Jochen Buechner

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Stefania Mazzi

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Edwin Chari

Ellen Markljung

Kari Högstrand

**Patient material and clinical data**

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**Department of Hematology, Leiden University Medical Center**

Marieke Griffioen

**Department of Medical Sciences, Uppsala University Hospital**

Sören Lehmann

**Department of Haematology, Oslo University Hospital**

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**Division of Oncogenomics, Onco institute, The**

**Netherlands Cancer Institute**

**Reuven Agami, Abhijeet Pataskar, Remco Nagel**

**Department of Molecular Cell Biology,**

**Weizmann Institute of Science**

**Yardena Samuels, Osnat Bartok**



**KREFTFORENINGEN**



**The Research Council  
of Norway**





THANK YOU!



