# Cancer Immunotherapy

# TREATMENTS FOR CANCER THERAPY

Surgery

Radio-therapy

Chemo-therapy

### Advantages of immunotherapy

Specific action

Low side effects

Independent from genetic background of tumor cells

### Immune response against tumor cells

• Innate immunity Macrophages

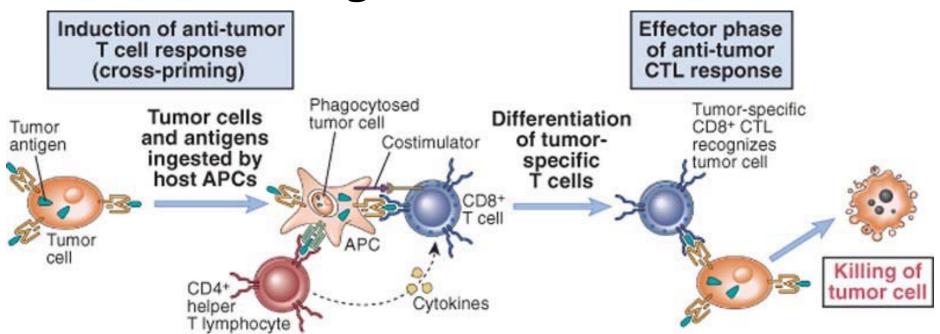
Complement system

• Adaptive immunity Cytotoxic T-lymphocytes

Antibodies

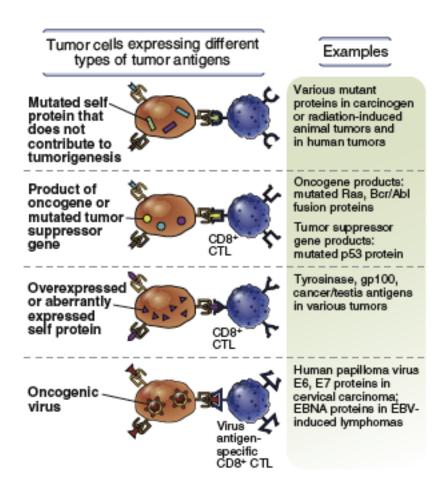
#### CANCER IMMUNOTHERAPY

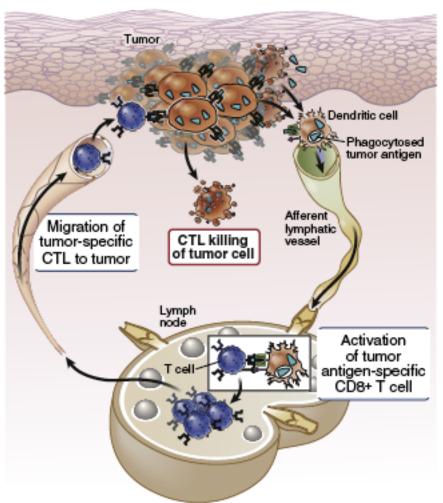
1. Enhancement of patient' immune response to cancer cells

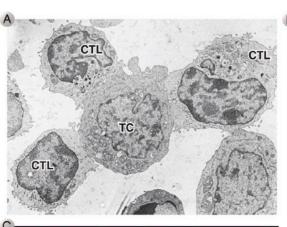


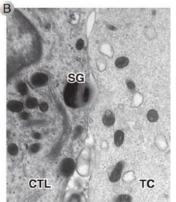
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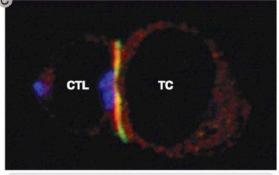
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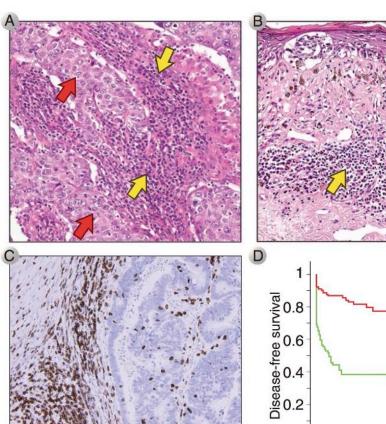








Cathepsins (blue) LFA-1 (green) Talin (red)

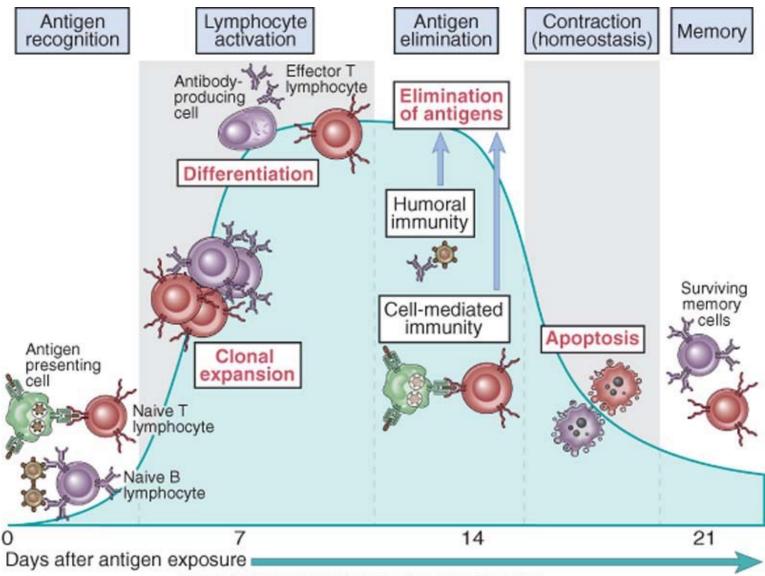


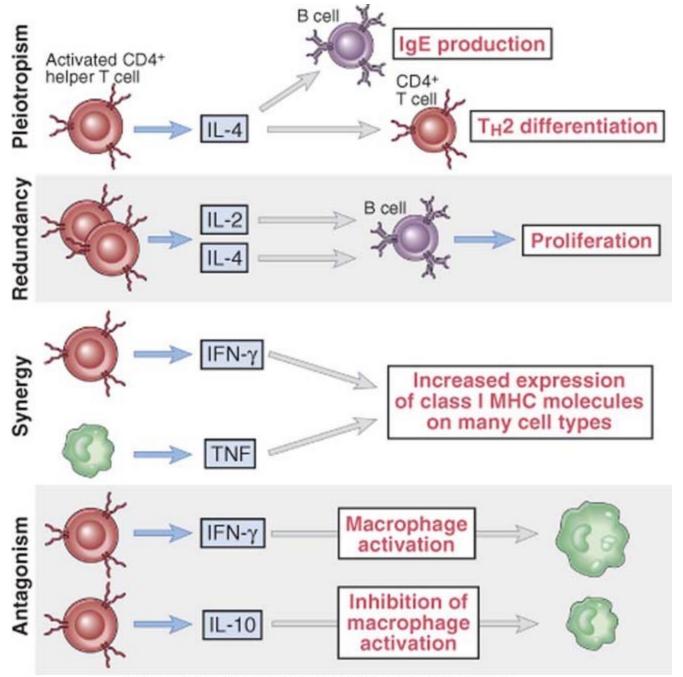
CD3-high

CD3-low

40 80 120 160 Survival (months)

### Phases of adaptive immune response



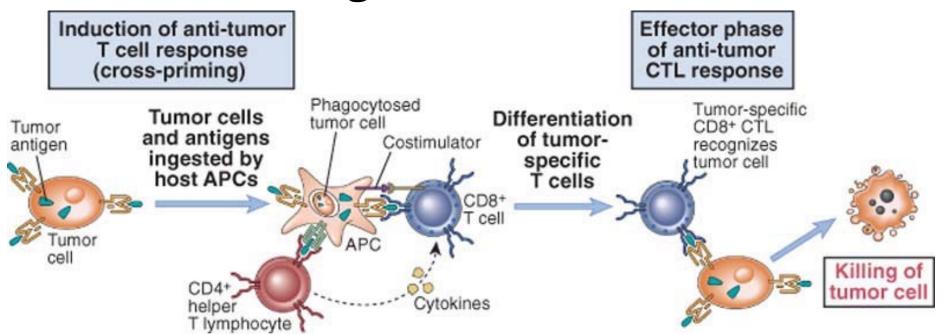


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## Systemic immunotherapy using cytokines and growth factors

Cytokine	Reject in animal models	Clinical studies	Toxicity
IL-2	yes	Melanoma, Renal and Colon carcinoma (response rate < 15%)	Vascular permeability, Shock, edema
IFN-gamma	No	Approved for melanoma	Fever
TNF	only after local administration	Sarcoma, melanoma (in local perfusion)	Septic shock syndrome
IL-12	Variable	Melanoma	Epatic Toxicity
GM-CSF	No	Bone marrow recovery	Bone pain



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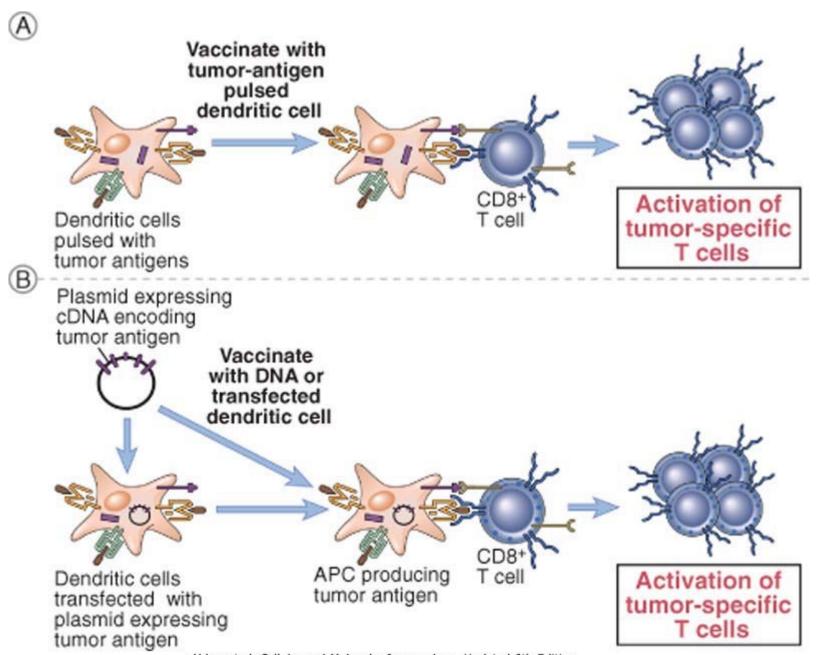
#### CANCER IMMUNOTHERAPY

1. Enhancement of patient' immune response to cancer cells

(VACCINATION)

### Antitumoral Vaccination

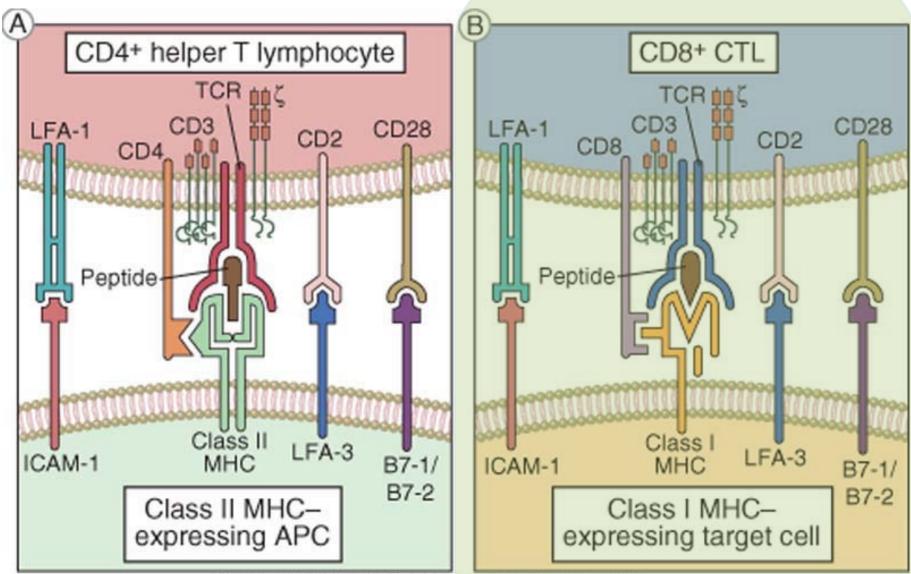
Type of vaccination	Vaccine preparation	Animal models	Clinical studies
Died cancer cells	a) Tumor cells + adjuvants. b) lyseted tumor cells + adjuvants	Melanoma, Colon carcinoma. Sarcomas	Melanoma, Colon carcinoma. Melanoma
Purified tumor antigens	a) Melanoma Ags b) Heat Shock Protein	Melanoma several different models	Melanoma. Melanoma, Renal carcinoma, Sarcomas
APC-Based vaccines	a) TAA primed DC  b) transfected DC (TAA-encoding vectors)	Melanoma, B linfoma, sarcoma Melanoma, Colon carcinoma	Melanoma, Non-Hodgkin linfoma, others Carcinomas



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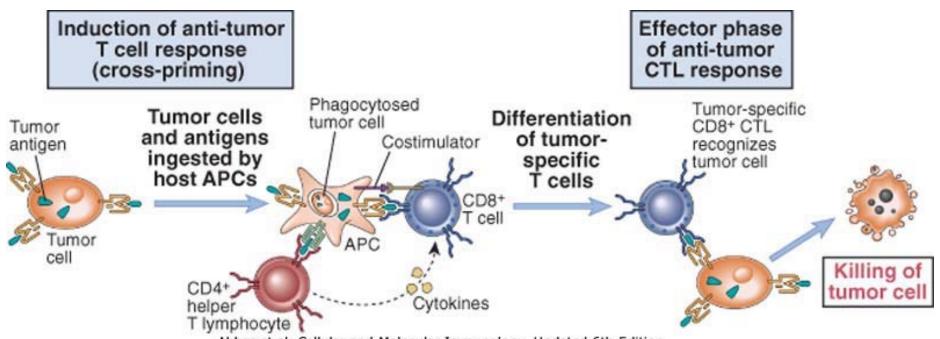
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APC-Based vaccines  a) TAA primed DC  b) transfected DC (TAA-encoding vectors)		Melanoma, B linfoma, sarcoma Melanoma, Colon carcinoma	Melanoma, Non-Hodgkin linfoma, others Carcinomas
Vaccination enhanced by cytokines or costimulatory molecules	a) Transfected tumor cells (vector encoding cytokines or B7) b) Transfected tumor cells (vector encoding cytokines or B7) and pulsed with TAA	Renal and pulmonary Carcinomas, Sarcomas, B-leukemies	Melanoma, sarcomas  Melanoma, Renal carcinoma



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Phagocytosis of apoptotic cells

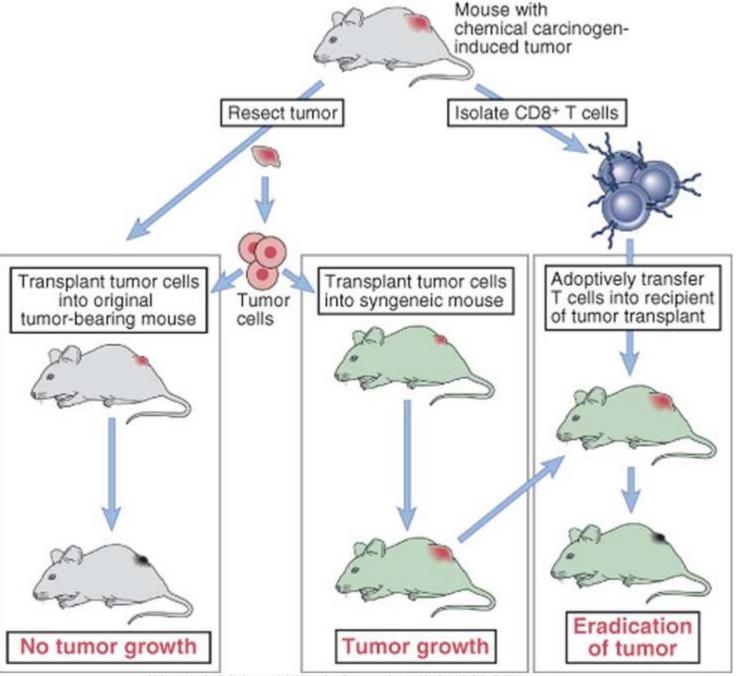
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DNA vaccination	Vectors encoding TAA	Melanoma	Melanoma
Viral vectors	Adenovirus encodingTAA + cytokines	Melanoma, sarcomas	Melanoma

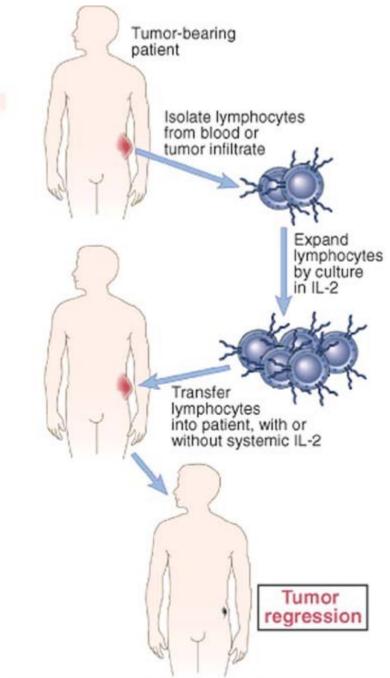
#### CANCER IMMUNOTHERAPY

1. Enhancement of patient' immune response to cancer cells

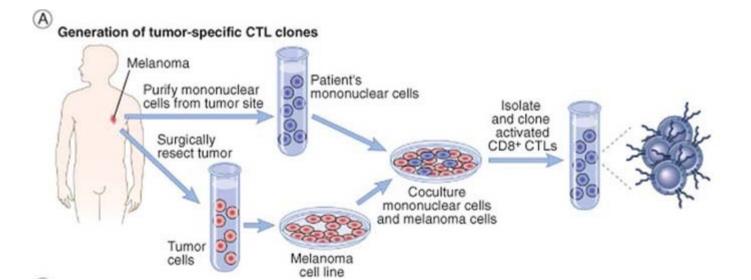
# 2. Passive immunotherapy using T lymphocytes

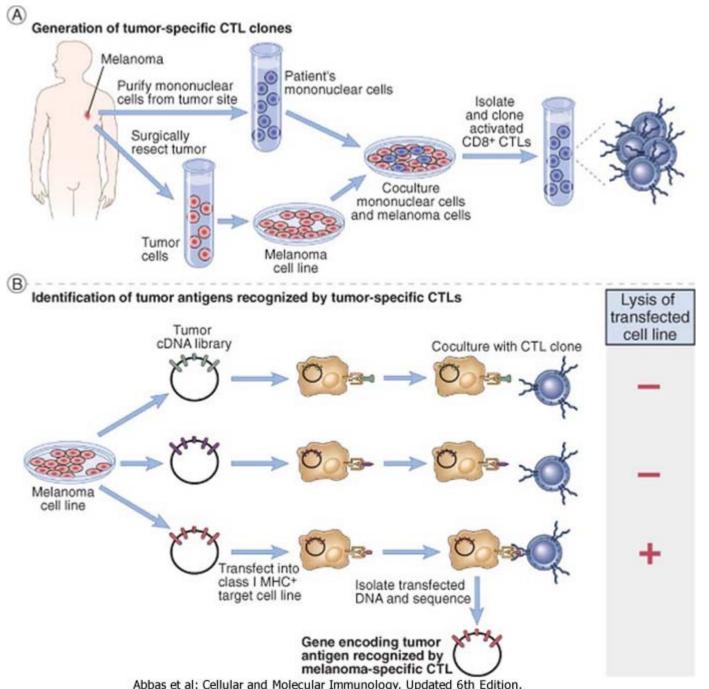


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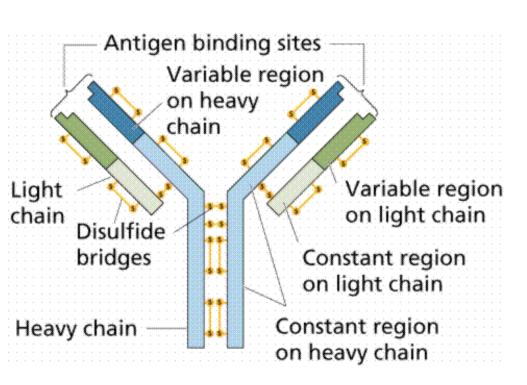
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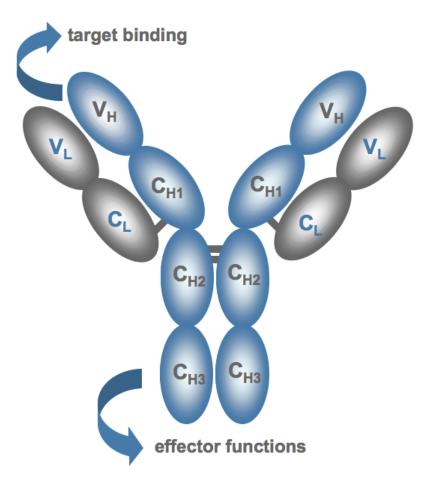
#### CANCER IMMUNOTHERAPY

- 1. Enhancement of patient' immune response to cancer cells
- 2. Passive immunotherapy using T lymphocytes

### 3. Passive immunotherapy using antibodies

#### **Antibodies**





isotiopo	Sottotipo	Concentrazione nel siero (mg/ ml)	Emivita nel siero (giorni)	Forma secreta
IgA	1,2	3,5	6	IgA Monomer, dimer, trimer (dimer) Ca1
lgD	-	-	3	-
IgE	-	0,05	2	IgE Cs1 C Monomer CDcs2 CDcs3 CDcs4
IgG	1-4	13,5	23	IgG1 VH Monomer
IgM	-	1,5	5	IgM сµI Pentamers, hexa mers

Antibody Isotope	Isotype-specific effector functions
I <i>gG</i>	<ul> <li>Opsonization of antigens for phagocytosis by macrophages and neutrophils</li> <li>Activation of the classical pathway of complement</li> <li>Antibody-dependent cell-mediated cytotoxicity mediated by natural killer cells</li> <li>Neonatal immunity: transfer of maternal antibody across the placenta and gut</li> <li>Feedback inhibition of B cell activation</li> </ul>
IgM	<ul><li>Activation of the classical pathway of complement</li><li>Antigen receptor of naive B lymphocytes</li></ul>
IgA	<ul> <li>Mucosal immunity: secretion of IgA into the lumens of the gastrointestinal and respiratory tracts</li> <li>Activation of complement by the lectin pathway or by the alternative pathway</li> </ul>
IgE	Mast cell degranulation (immediate hypersensitivity reactions)
IgD	Antigen receptor of naive B lymphocytes

FcR	Affinity for immunoglobulin	Cell Distribution	Function
FcγRI (CD64)	High (Kd ~ 10 <sup>-9</sup> M) binds IgG1 and IgG3	Macrophages, neutrophils; also eosinophils	Phagocytosis, activation of phagocytes
FcyRIIA (CD32)	Low (Kd > 10 <sup>-7</sup> M)	Macrophages, neutrophils; eosinophils, platelets	Phagocytosis; cell activation (inefficient)
FcγRIIB (CD32)	Low (Kd > 10 <sup>-7</sup> M)	B lymphocytes, dendritic cells, macrophages	Feedback inhibition of B cells, macrophages, dendritic cells
FcγRIIIA (CD16)	Low (Kd > 10-6 M)	NK cells	Antibody-dependent cell-mediated cytotoxicity
FcγRIIIB (CD16)	Low (Kd > 10 <sup>-6</sup> M)  GPI-linked protein	Neutrophils, other cells	Phagocytosis (inefficient)
Fc ε RI	High (Kd > 10 <sup>-10</sup> M) binds monomeric IgE	Mast cells, basophils, eosinophils	Cell activation (degranulation)
Fc ε RII (CD23)	Low (Kd > 10-7 M)	B lymphocytes, eosinophils, Langerhans cells	Unknown
Fc αR (CD89)	Low (Kd > 10-6M)	Neutrophils, eosinophils, monocytes	Cell activation?

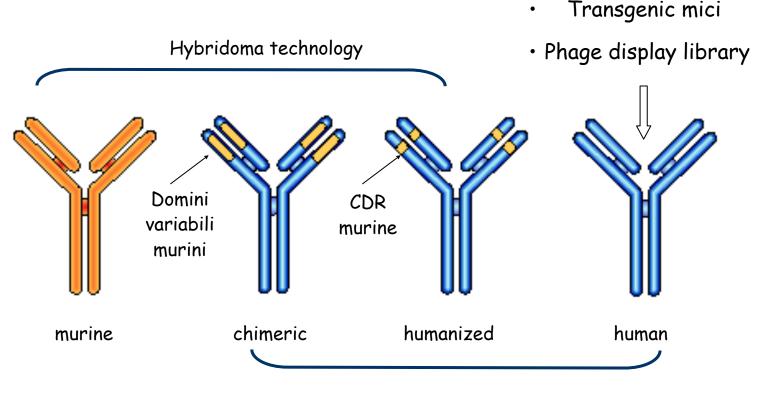
### Mechanisms of action of antitumor recombinant antibodies

CITOTOSSICITA' CELLULARE ANTICORPO DIPENDENTE (ADCC)	Mediata in particolare dalle cellule NK, che tramite il recettore FcgRIII riconosce la porzione Fc dell'anticorpo. Liberazione del contenuto dei granuli citoplasmatici (perforine, granzimi).
OPSONIZZAZIONE E FAGOCITOSI	Gli anticorpi rivestono la cellula tumorale e ne favoriscono l'internalizzazione da parte dei fagociti che riconoscono la porzione Fc mediante i recettori per Fc.
APOPTOSI	Da aggregazione dell'antigene sulla superficie cellulare.
ATTIVAZIONE DELLA VIA CLASSICA DEL COMPLEMENTO	Legame di C1q all'Fc dell'anticorpo; lisi cellulare (CDC); i prodotti generati dall'attivazione del complemento (anafilotossine e opsonine) inducono flogosi e promuovono la fagocitosi.

# Characteristics of recombinant antibodies

- Specificity
- · Activation of the immune system
- · Biodistribution/half life in the cisulation

### Antibody engineering



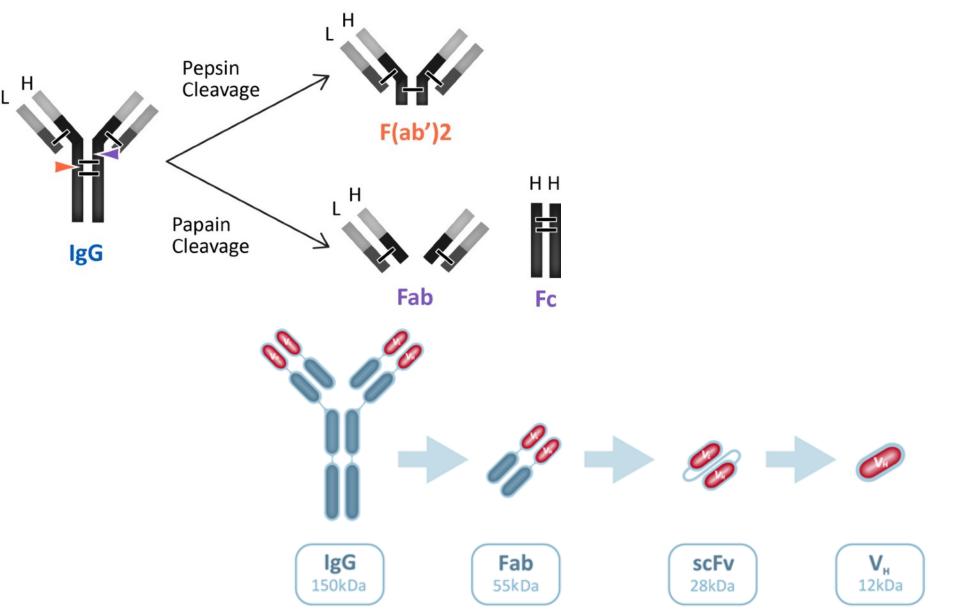


Immunogen; short halflife; mouse Fc region induces a low activation of human immune funtions

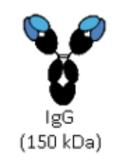


Less immunogenic;
long half-life in the serum;
guarantee the activation of Fcmediated effector functions

### Antibody fragments



### Antibody fragments













Fab (50 kDa)

F(ab')<sub>2</sub> (50 kDa)

Monospecific Fab<sub>2</sub> (50 kDa)

Bispecific Fab<sub>2</sub> (50 kDa)

Trispecific Fab<sub>3</sub> (150 kDa)



Monovalent IgG (75kDa)



scFv (25 kDa)



Bispecific Diabody (50 kDa)



Trispecific Triabody (75 kDa)



scFv-Fc (100 kDa)



Minibody (75 kDa)



₩ IgNAR V-NAR (175 kDa) (15 kDa)



hclgG (75 kDa)



VhH (15 kDa)

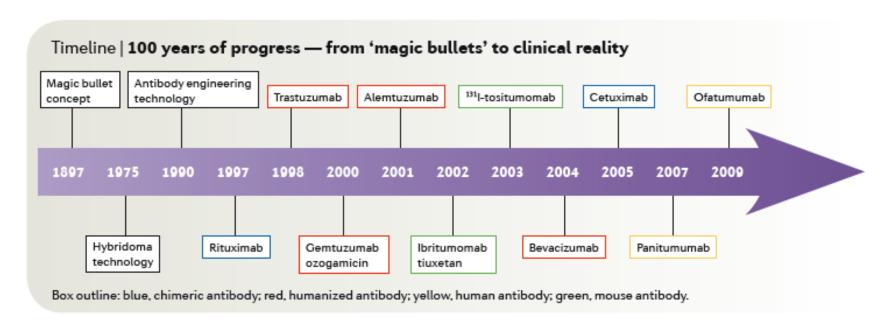
#### Market of anti-tumor antibodies

Generic name (trade name; sponsoring companies)	Target	Antibody Format	Cancer Indication	Refs
Unconjugated antibodies				
Rituximab (Rituxan/Mabthera; Genentech/Roche/Biogen Idec)	CD20	Chimeric IgG1	Non-Hodgkin lymphoma	74,105
Trastuzumab (Herceptin; Genentech/ Roche)	HER2	Humanized IgG1	Breast cancer	19,72
Alemtuzumab (Campath/ MabCampath; Genzyme/Bayer)	CD52	Humanized IgG1	Chronic lymphocytic leukaemia	58
Cetuximab (Erbitux; ImClone Systems/Bristol–Myers Squibb)	EGFR	Chimeric lgG1	Colorectal cancer	13,106
Bevacizumab (Avastin; Genentech)	VEGFA	Humanized IgG1	Colorectal, breast and lung cancer	71, 107,108
Panitumumab (Vectibix; Amgen)	EGFR	Human IgG2	Colorectal cancer	109
Ofatumumab (Arzerra; Genmab/ GlaxoSmithKline)	CD20	Human IgG1	Chronic lymphocytic leuakemia	110
Immunoconjugates				
Gemtuzumab ozogamicin (Mylotarg; Pfizer)	CD33	Humanized IgG4	Acute myelogenous leukaemia	111
<sup>90</sup> Y-Ibritumomab tiuxetan (Zevalin; Biogen Idec)	CD20	Mouse	Lymphoma	112
Tositumomab and <sup>151</sup> I-tositumomab (Bexxar; GlaxoSmithKline)	CD20	Mouse	Lymphoma	113

EGFR, epidermal growth factor receptor; HER2, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2; VEGF, vascular endothelial growth factor.

Weiner et al, Nature Review, 2010

# Therapeutic antibodies in oncology





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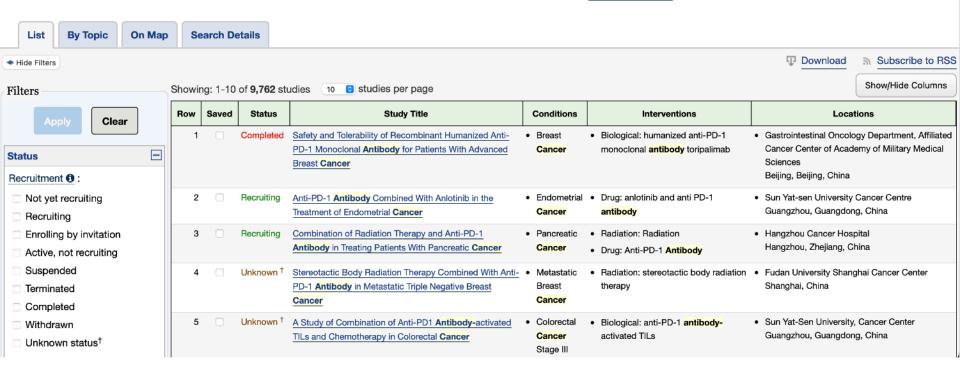
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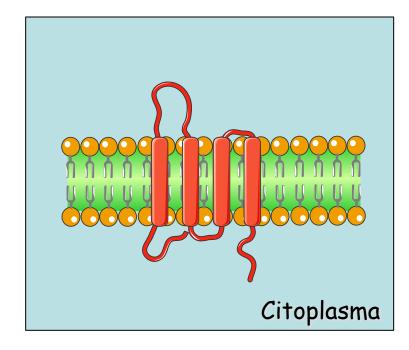


# Antigeni associati al Linfoma contro cui sono stati isolati anticorpi

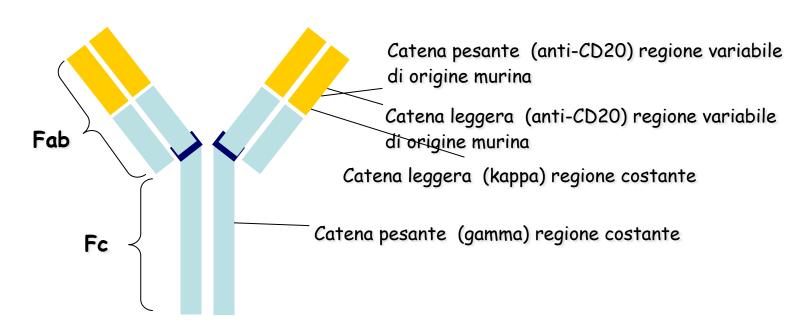
CD19	Hekman, Cancer Immunol Immunother, 1991
CD20	Davis, Clin Cancer Res, 1999
CD22	Leonard, J Clin Oncol, 2003
CD52	Dyer, Blood, 1989
Idiotipo	Kwak, N England J Med, 1992

### CD20

- Fosfoproteina transmembrana
- Dominio unico extracellulare
- Ligando naturale non identificato
- Funzione biologica ipotizzata: canale ionico al Ca ++
- Resistente ad internalizzazione e secrezione



# Rituximab (IDEC-C2B8; Rituxan®; MabThera®) Proprietà molecolari

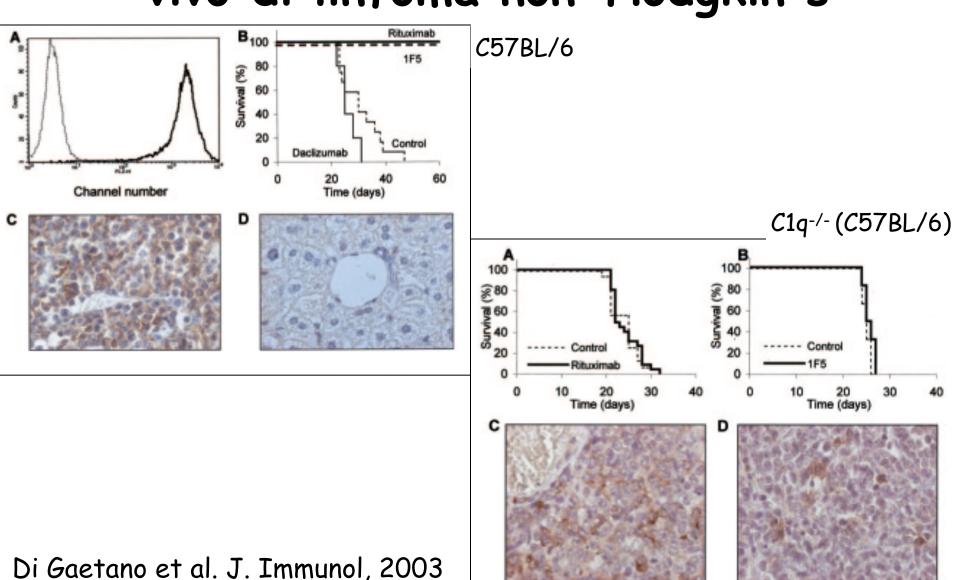


#### Anticorpo monoclonale anti CD20

Anticorpo chimerico:

Sito di legame antigenico di origine murina fuso a regioni costanti della catena pesante (H) umana IgG1k e della catena leggera (L) umana k.

# Effetto del Rituximab in un modello in vivo di linfoma non-Hodgkin's



### Associazione Rituximab-chemioterapia

Rituximab + Fludarabine	Di Gaetano, Br J Haematol, 2001	
Rituximab + Fludarabine	Byrd, Blood, 2003	
Rituximab + CHOP (insieme o come mantenimento)	Habermann, Blood, 2004	
Rituximab + FND	McLaughlin, Ann Oncol, 2005	

#### VALUTAZIONE FARMACOECONOMICA

	СНОР	R-CHOP	<u>Differenza</u>
Indice di Risposta	62,1%	75,4%	13,3%
Sopravvivenza in anni			
<u>Libera da malattia</u>	2,93	4,71	1,77
<u>Complessiva</u>	5,25	6,43	1,19
Post-progressione	2,10	1,54	-0,57
<u>Sopravvivenza</u> <u>complessiva media</u>	4,85	5,93	1,08
<u>QALYs</u>	3,08	4,23	1,15
Costi Terapia			
<u>Rituximab</u>		€13.631	€13.631
<u>CHOP</u>	€977	€1.033*	€56
Follow-up	€ 3.612	€4.764*	€1.151
<u>Totale</u>	€ 4.589	€19.427	€14.838
Costo/Eff			
<u>Per Life Years</u> guadagnata			€13.732
Per QALY guadagnata			€12.879

### Costi dell'immunoterapia con Rituximab

- Un ciclo di terapia con Rituximab costa circa 15.000 euro a paziente con linfoma Non-Hodgkin
- In Italia si spendono all'anno 200 milioni di euro solo per Rituximab

### Adding fresh frozen plasma to rituximab for the treatment of patients with refractory advanced CLL

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Received 6 May 2008 and in revised form 16 June 2008

#### **Summary**

**Background:** Many patients with chronic lymphocytic leukaemia (CLL) develop progressive, treatment-resistant disease. Rituximab (RTX), a monoclonal antibody targeting CD20 on B lymphocytes and widely used in other indolent B cell neoplasms is less efficacious in CLL, possibly due to associated complement deficiencies.

**Objective:** To examine in open trial whether providing complement by concurrent administration of fresh frozen plasma (FFP) will enhance the effect of RTX in CLL.

**Setting:** Outpatient haematology clinics in Israel and Greece.

Patients: Five patients with severe treatmentresistant CLL. All had been previously treated with fludarabine and three also failed treatment with RTX.

**Intervention:** Two units of FFP followed with RTX 375 mg/m<sup>2</sup> as a single agent, repeated every 1–2 weeks, as needed.

**Results:** A rapid and dramatic clinical and laboratory response was achieved in all patients. Lymphocyte counts dropped markedly followed by shrinkage of lymph nodes and spleen and improvement of the anaemia and thrombocytopenia. This could be maintained over 8 months (median) with additional cycles if necessary. Treatment was well tolerated in all cases.

**Conclusion:** Adding FFP to RTX may provide a useful therapeutic option in patients with advanced CLL resistant to treatment.