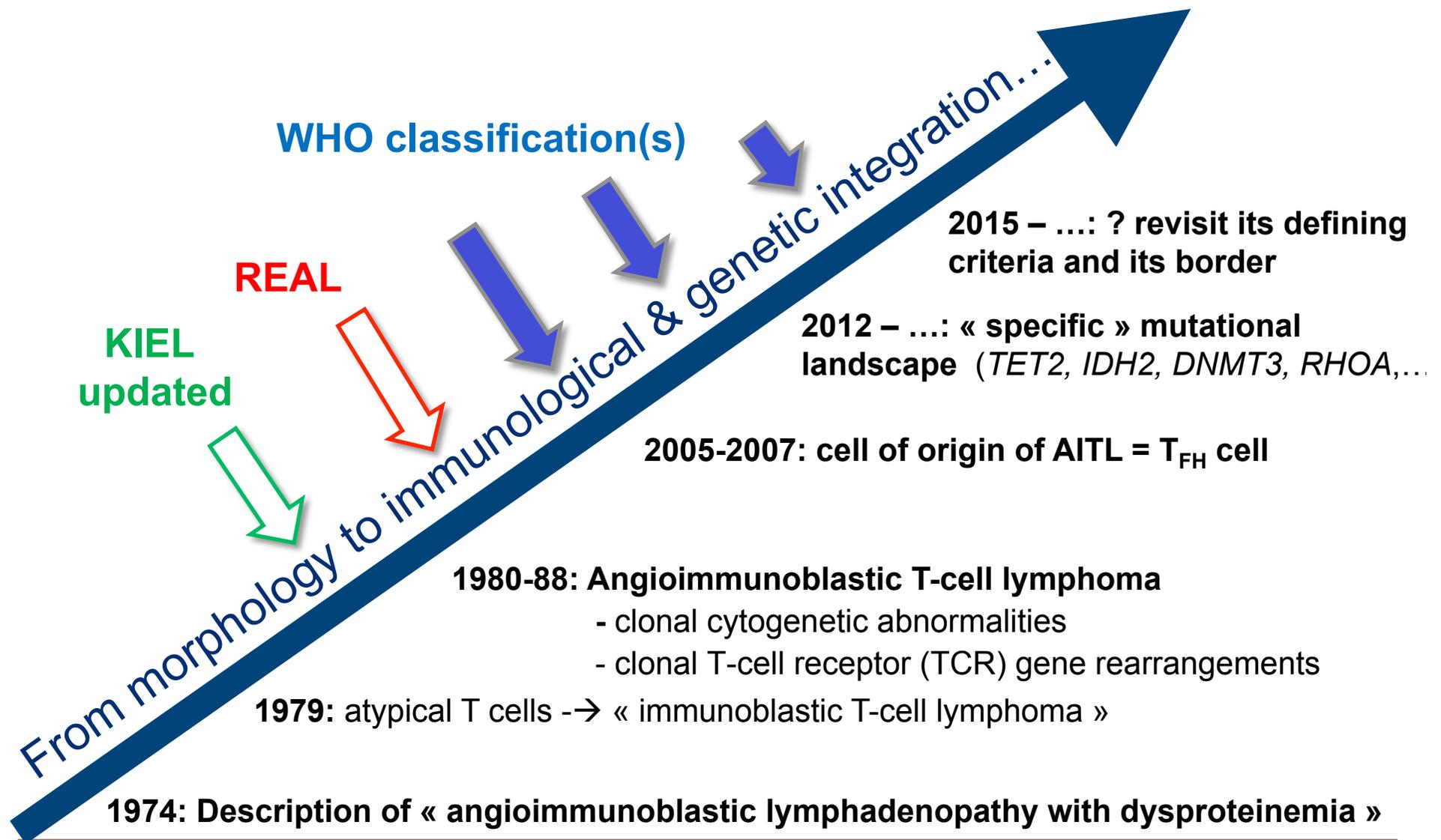


Angioimmunoblastic T-cell lymphoma (AITL) and other Follicular Helper cell (TFH)-related PTCL

Bologna
April 27-29, 2015

Philippe Gaulard
Département de Pathologie & Inserm U955
Hôpital Henri Mondor, Créteil, France

From angioimmunoblastic lymphadenopathy to angioimmunoblastic T-cell lymphoma...!



Angioimmunoblastic T-cell lymphoma (AITL) : empiric therapies are not working...!

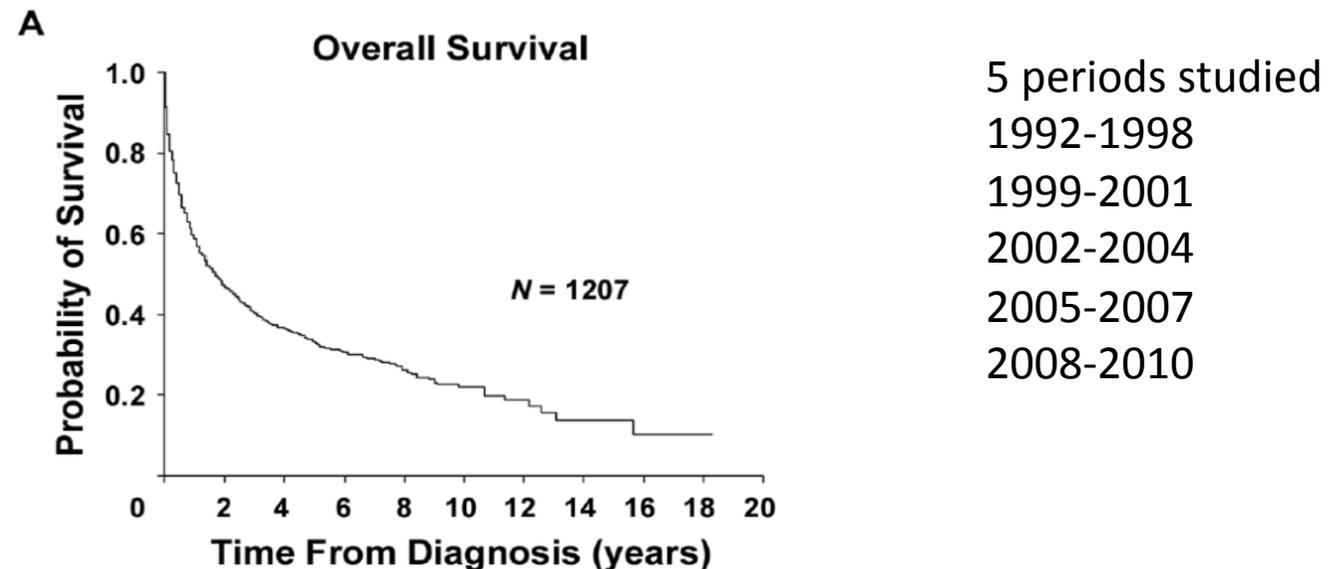
OPEN ACCESS Freely available online

PLOS ONE

No Survival Improvement for Patients with Angioimmunoblastic T-Cell Lymphoma over the Past Two Decades: A Population-Based Study of 1207 Cases

Bei Xu¹, Peng Liu^{2*}

¹ Department of Medical Oncology, the First Affiliated Hospital of Nanjing Medical University, Nanjing, PR China, ² Department of Hematology, the First Affiliated Hospital of Nanjing Medical University, Nanjing, PR China



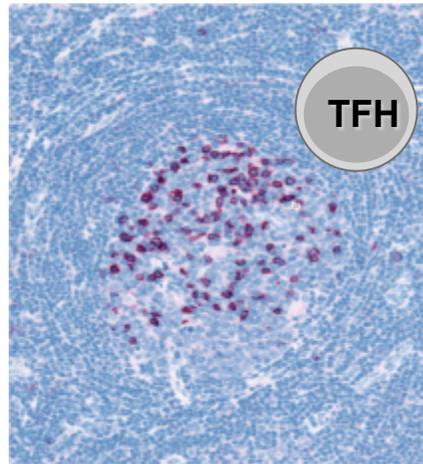
« No survival differences overtime (1992 – 2010).. »

The good, the bad and the ugly — T_{FH} cells in human health and disease

Stuart G. Tangye^{1,2}, Cindy S. Ma^{1,2}, Robert Brink^{1,2} and Elissa K. Deenick^{1,2}

412 | JUNE 2013 | VOLUME 13

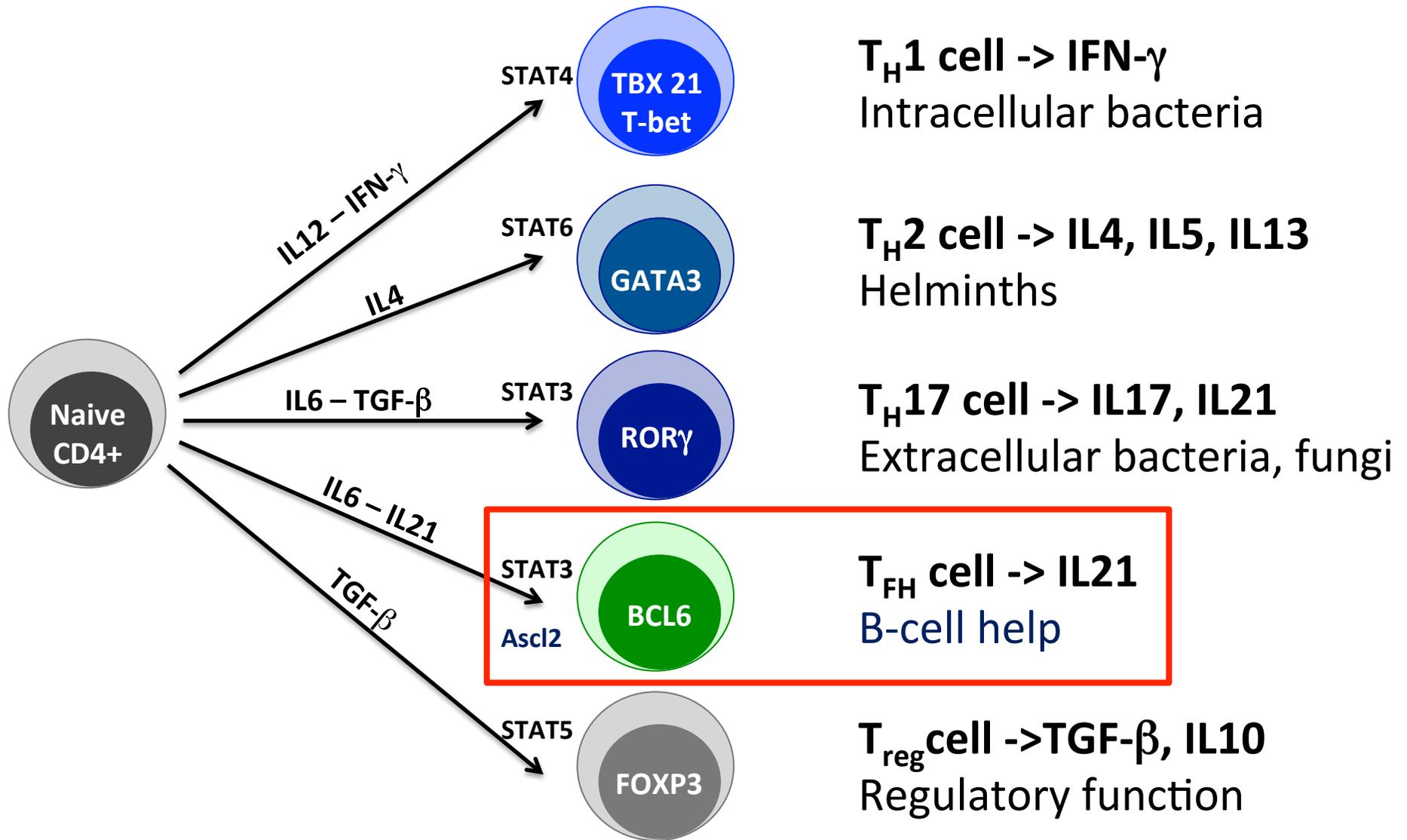
www.nature.com/reviews/immunol



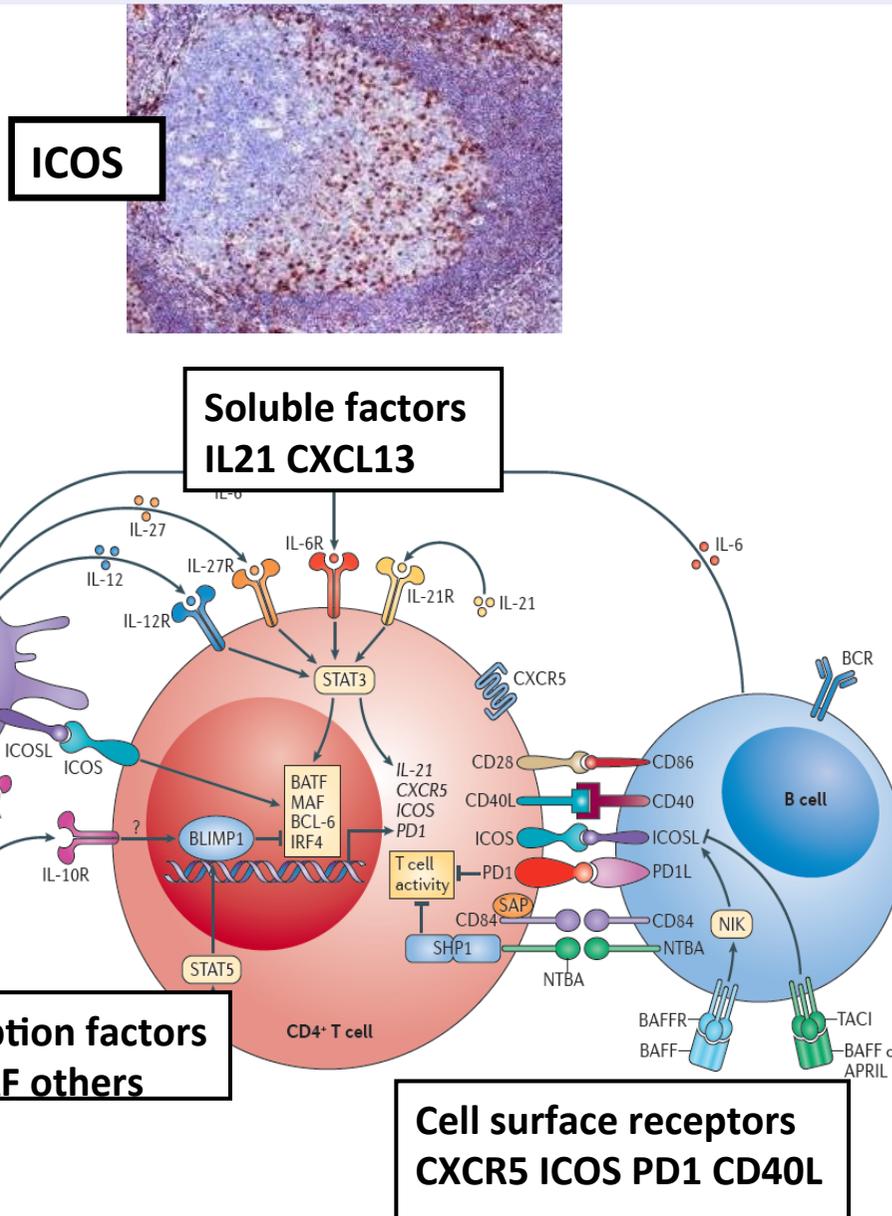
Germinal center B and follicular helper T cells: siblings, cousins or just good friends?

Stephen L Nutt^{1,2} & David M Tarlinton^{1,2}

The main Th cell subsets

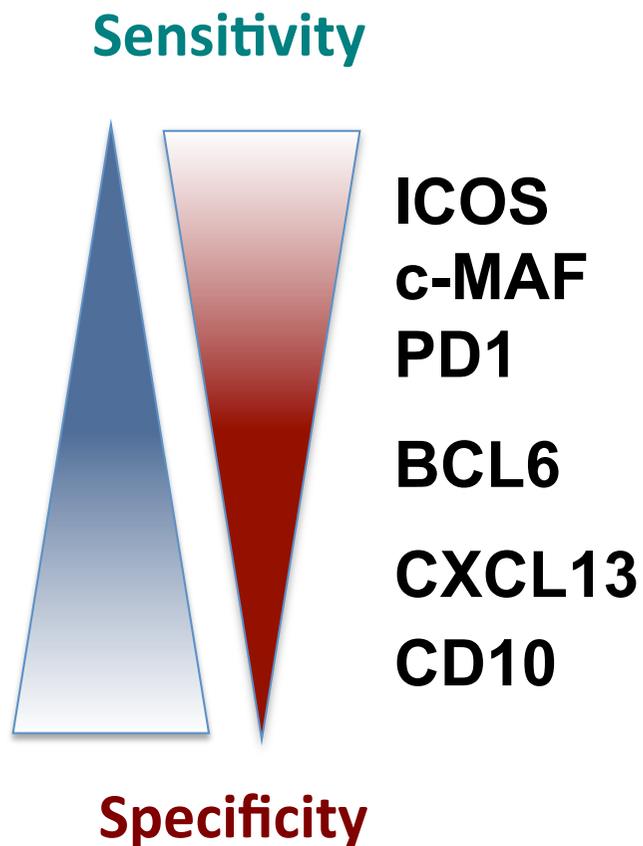


T_{FH} cells: a unique T-cell subset



- ✓ A specific function: interaction with B cells to provide help and allow antibody responses
- ✓ A unique transcriptional profile
- ✓ Express Bcl-6 and secrete IL-21
- ✓ CXCL13⁺, CXCR5^{high}, ICOS^{high}, PD1^{high}, low levels of T-bet, Gata-3, Rorγt and FoxP3
- ✓ Plasticity : Heterogeneous T_{FH} cell subsets ...

Criteria to postulate a T_{FH} derivation in a given tumor



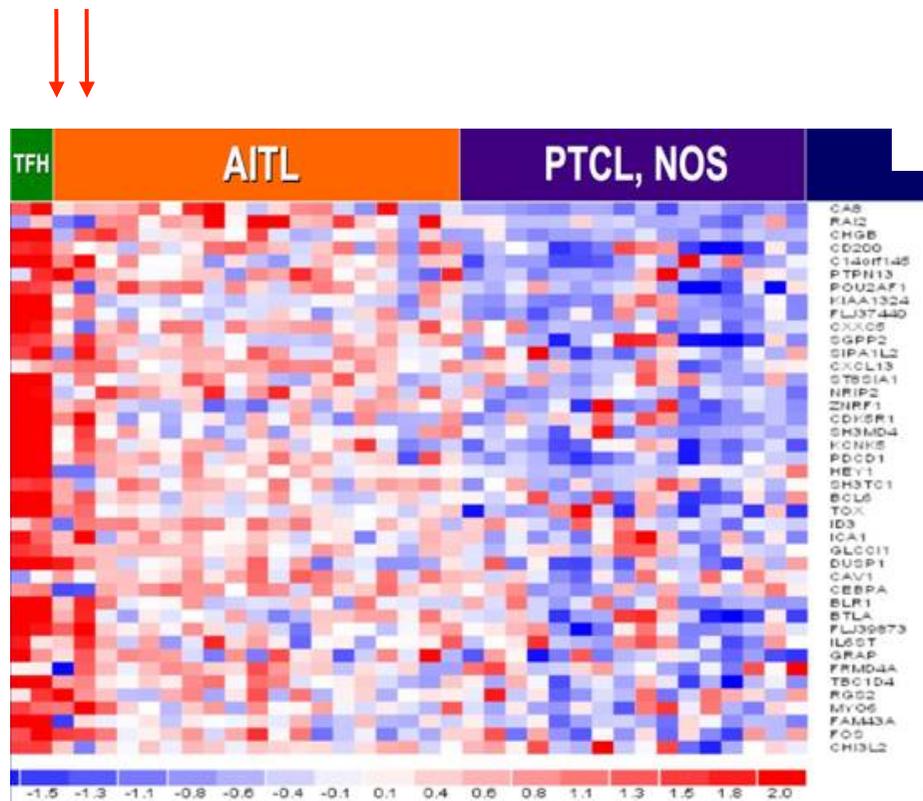
- ✓ No single marker is 100% sensitive, or 100% specific
- ✓ **ICOS and PD1 are sensitive but less specific and CXCL13 and CD10 more specific but less sensitive**
- ✓ CD10 stains only a proportion of tumor cells
- ✓ !! Some are expressed by other subtypes of PTCL (incl ALCL-ICOS, PD1/CD10 MF/SS)
- ✓ **A combination of several markers (at least 2 or 3?) to be recommended (incl CD10)?**

Grogg et al 2005; Dupuis et al 2006; Grogg et al 2006; Dorfman et al 2006; Krenacs et al 2006; Roncador et al 2007; Ortonne et al 2007; Xerri et al 2008; Yu et al 2009; Rodriguez-Justo et al 2009; Marafioti et al 2009; Dorfman et al. 2011; Bisig B Histopathol 2011; Agostinelli C et al. Histopathol 2011, Attygalle Histopathology 2014; Ame-Thomas et al. Blood 2015

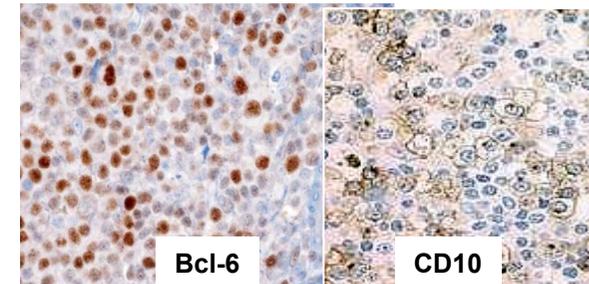
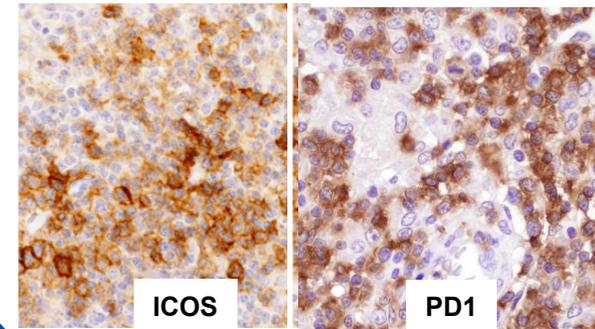
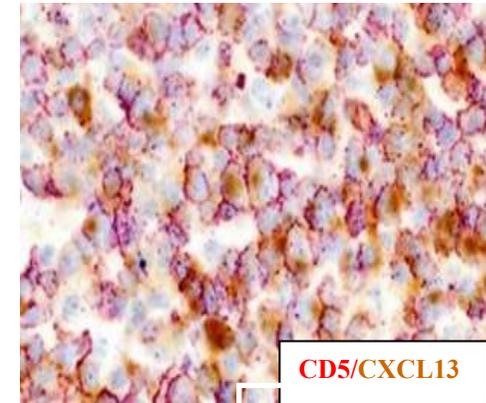
T_{FH} cells and human diseases

- Immune deficiencies (Primary, HIV)
- Autoimmune diseases (*SLE, Sjogren's Sme, RA,..*)
- Lymphoid neoplasms
 - B-cell neoplasms /Hodgkin lymphoma
 - **Lymphomas derived from T_{FH} cells**

The cellular origin of AITL from follicular *helper* T cells (T_{FH})

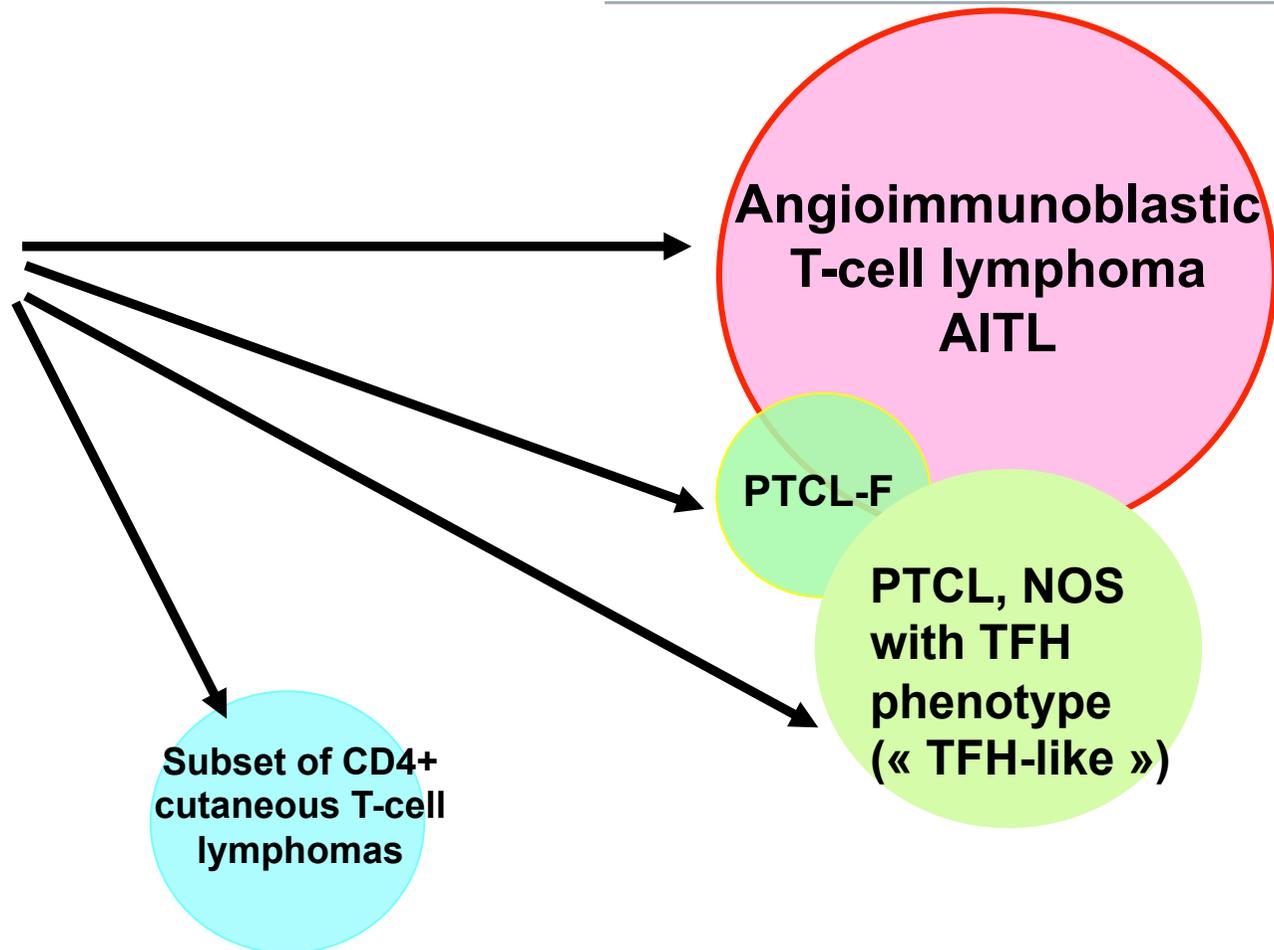
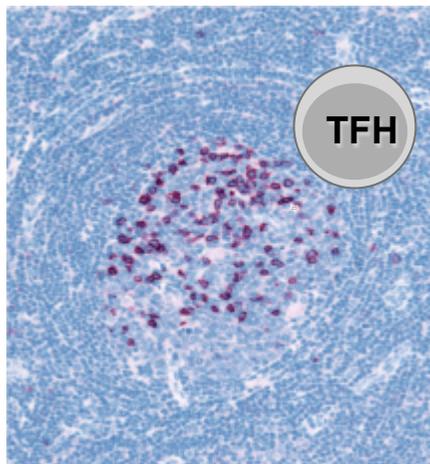


de Leval et al. Blood, 2007



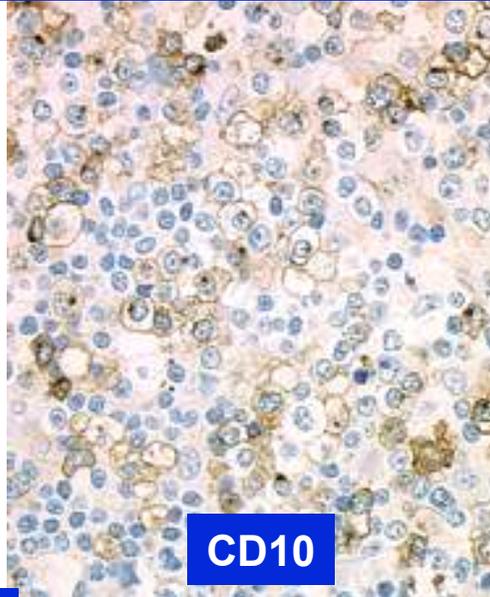
AITL: the prototype of T_{FH}-derived lymphoma

1. Described as a “dysimmune” non neoplastic condition
2. Distinctive clinical features, with immunologic abnormalities
3. Peculiar pathological aspects

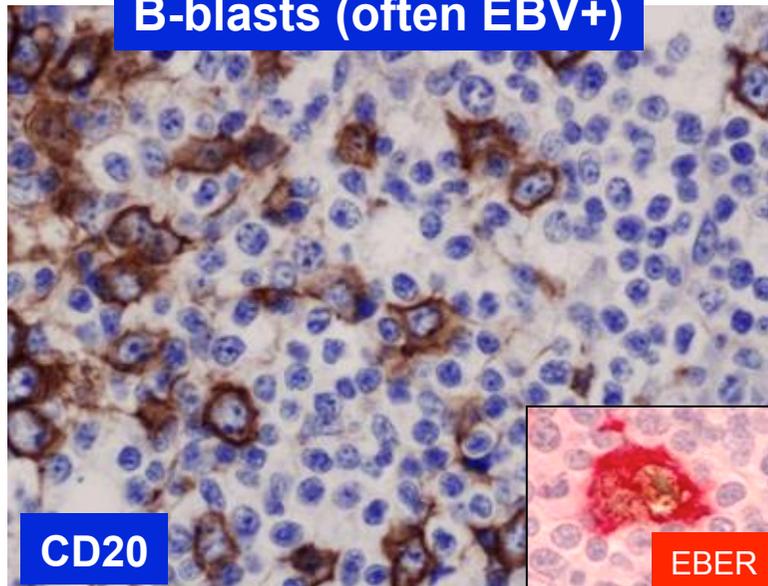


Pathological aspects of AITL

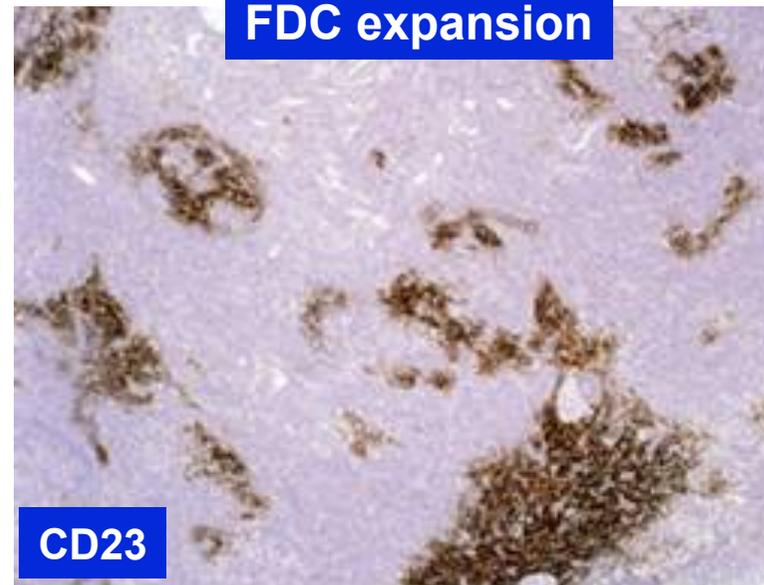
CD4+ $\alpha\beta$ T cells (T_{FH}), often CD10+



B-blasts (often EBV+)



FDC expansion

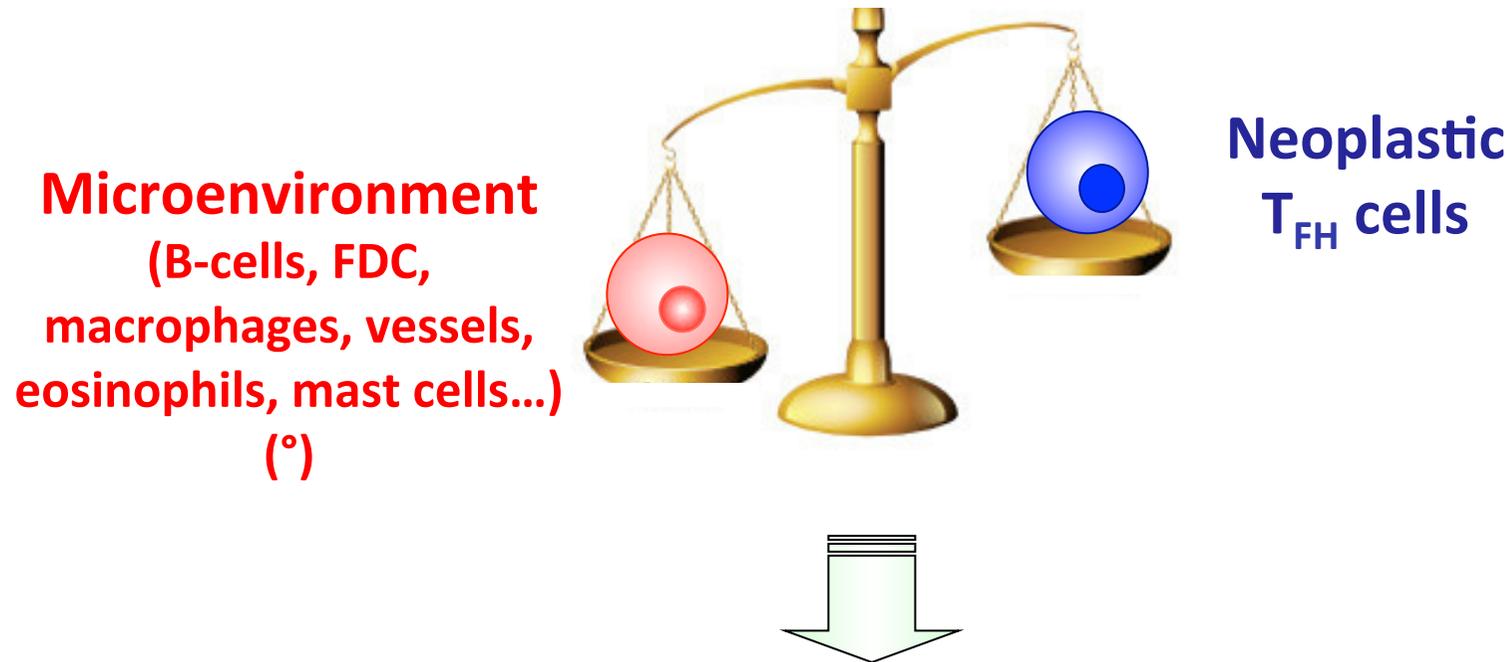


AITL: clinical & biological features

- Median age 57 - 68 yrs
- Advanced stage (III/IV) 68 – 94 %
- **B symptoms** **52 – 86 %**
- Polyadenopathy 81 – 100%
- Skin rash 38 – 58 %
- Bulky mass 5 – 26 %
- **Hyperglobulinemia** **30 – 83 %**
- **Positive Coombs test** **32 – 75 %**
- **Monoclonal gammopathy** **10 – 20 %**

Manifestations of immune dysregulation are typical of AITL, but not universal and therefore not mandatory for the diagnosis

Importance of the microenvironment in AITL



- **Variable morphology: wide spectrum+++**
 - **Clinical presentation/outcome?**

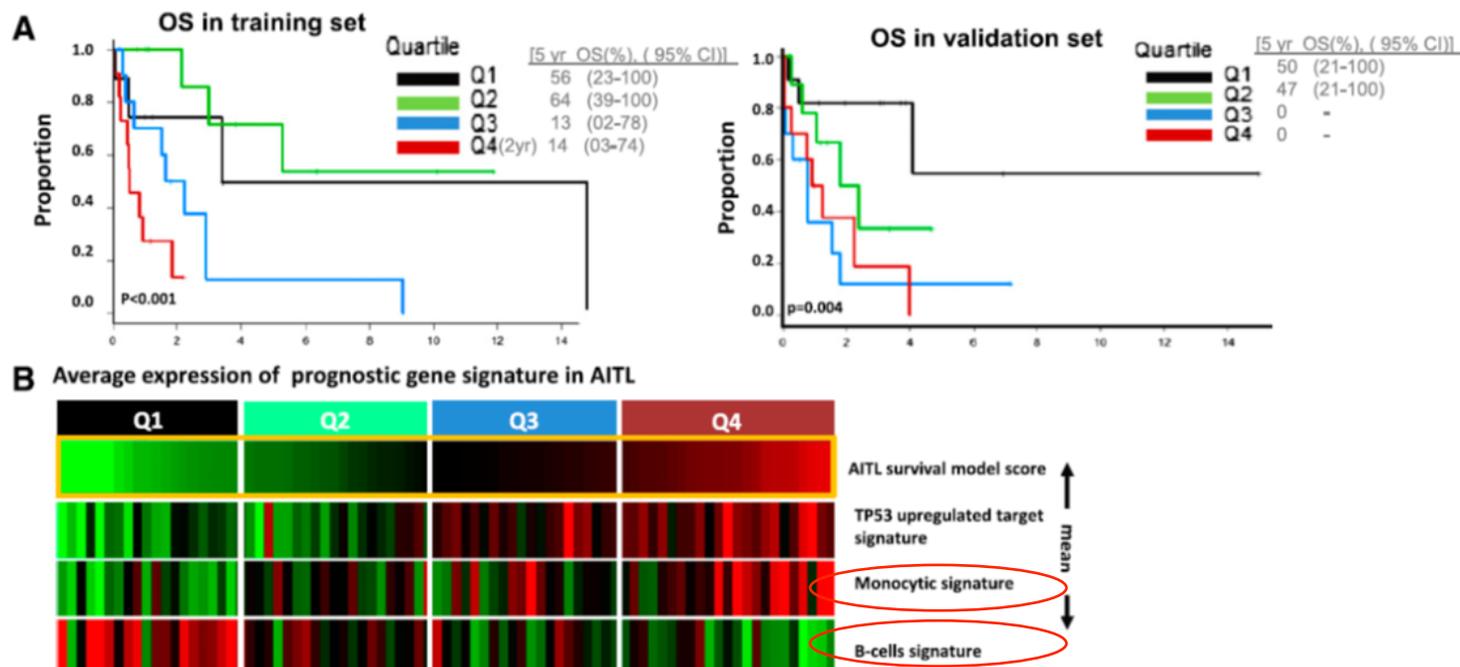
(°) Critical in sustaining tumor cells (no cell lines)

(°) May vary over time in a single case and from case to case

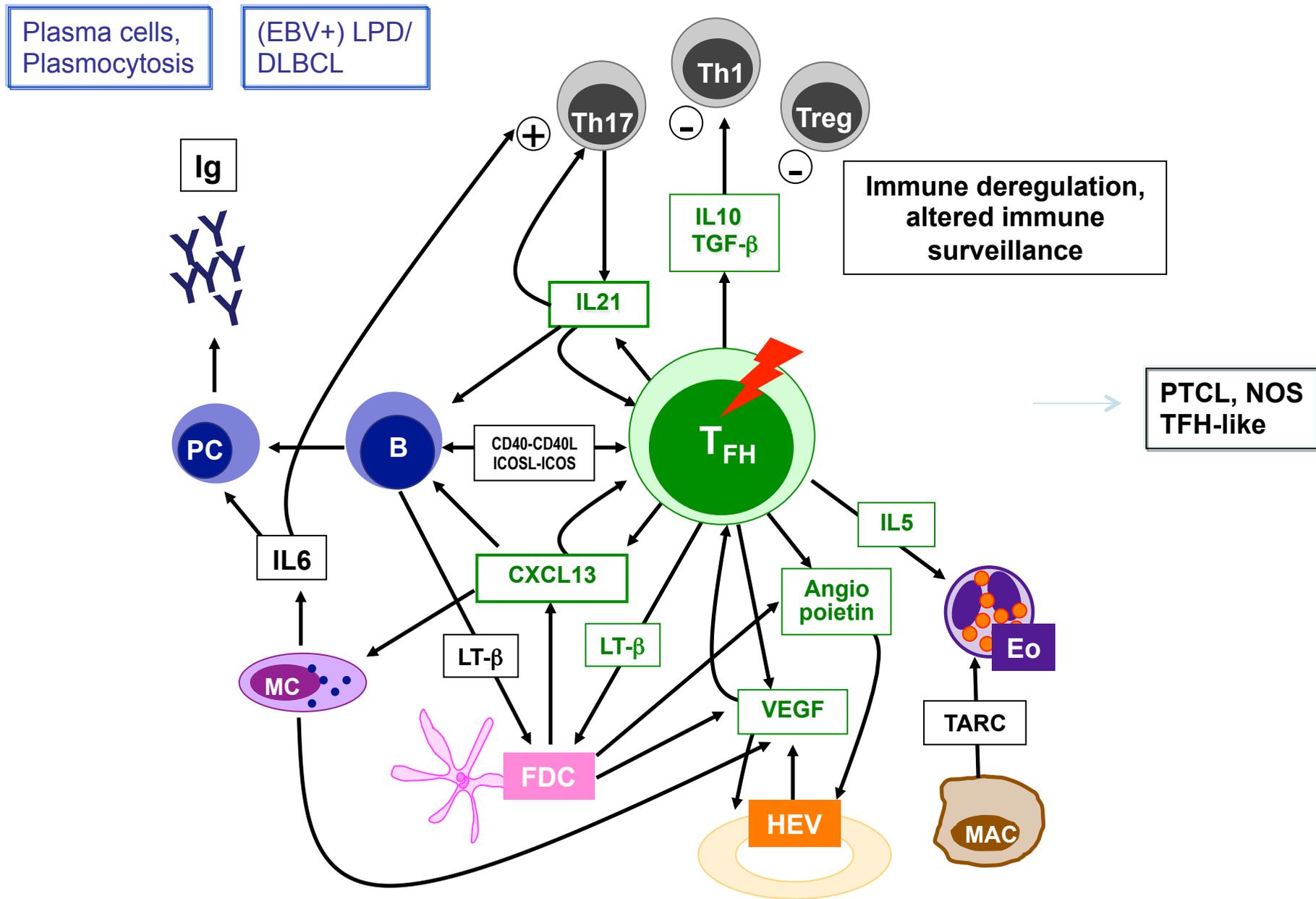
Microenvironment in AITL may have a prognostic impact

✓ M2 macrophages, Th17/mast cells, VEGF expression or vascular density, plasma EBV DNA (B Cells) related with prognosis (*Niino et al. Pathol Intern 2010; Tripodo. Am J Pathol 2012; Zhao et al. Lab Invest 2004; Ganjoo et al. Leuk Lymphoma 2014; Au et al. Blood 2014*)

✓ **Molecular prognosticator in AITL**

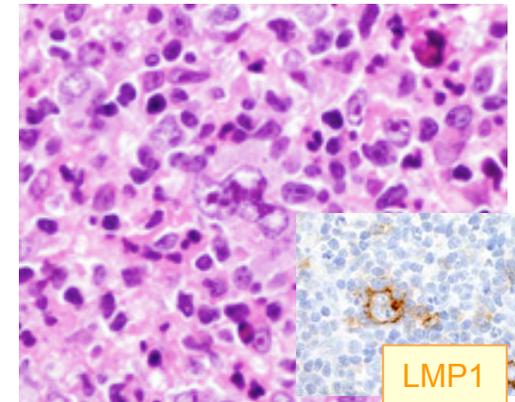
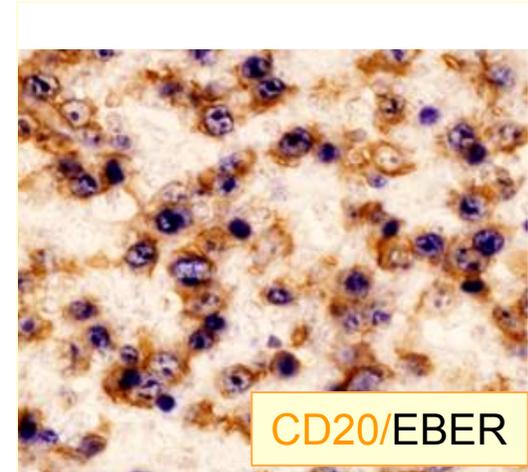


Iqbal et al. Blood 2010
Iqbal et al. Blood 2014



Spectrum of B-cell proliferations is broad in AITL

1. From scattered to “increased” B blasts to DLBCL-like
2. HRS-like cells may be seen; should not be misdiagnosed as cHL or composite !
3. EBV positive (more often) or EBV negative
4. Plasma cell proliferation (monotypic or not)
5. Up to one third of AITL show clonal B-cell population : clonality analysis may be misleading!
6. Mechanisms:
 - favoured by T_{FH} help and decreased immune surveillance
 - Hypermutated Ig genes with destructive mutations



Targeting intratumoral B cells with rituximab in addition to CHOP in angioimmunoblastic T-cell lymphoma. A clinicobiological study of the GELA

Marie-Hélène Delfau-Larue,^{1,2,3} Laurence de Leval,^{4*} Bertrand Joly,^{5*} Anne Plonquet,^{1,2,3} Dominique Challine,^{1,6} Marie Parrens,⁷ Alain Delmer,⁸ Gilles Salles,⁹ Franck Morschhauser,¹⁰ Richard Delarue,¹¹ Pauline Brice,¹² Reda Bouabdallah,¹³ Olivier Casasnovas,¹⁴ Hervé Tilly,¹⁵ Philippe Gaulard,^{1,2,16} and Corinne Haioun^{1,17}

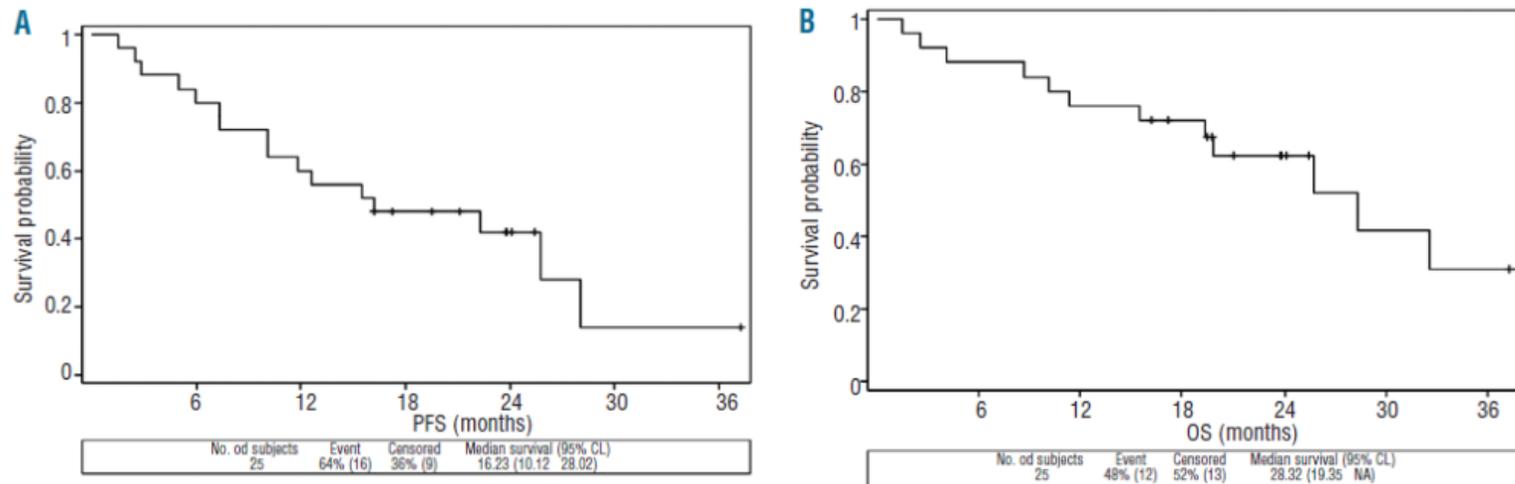
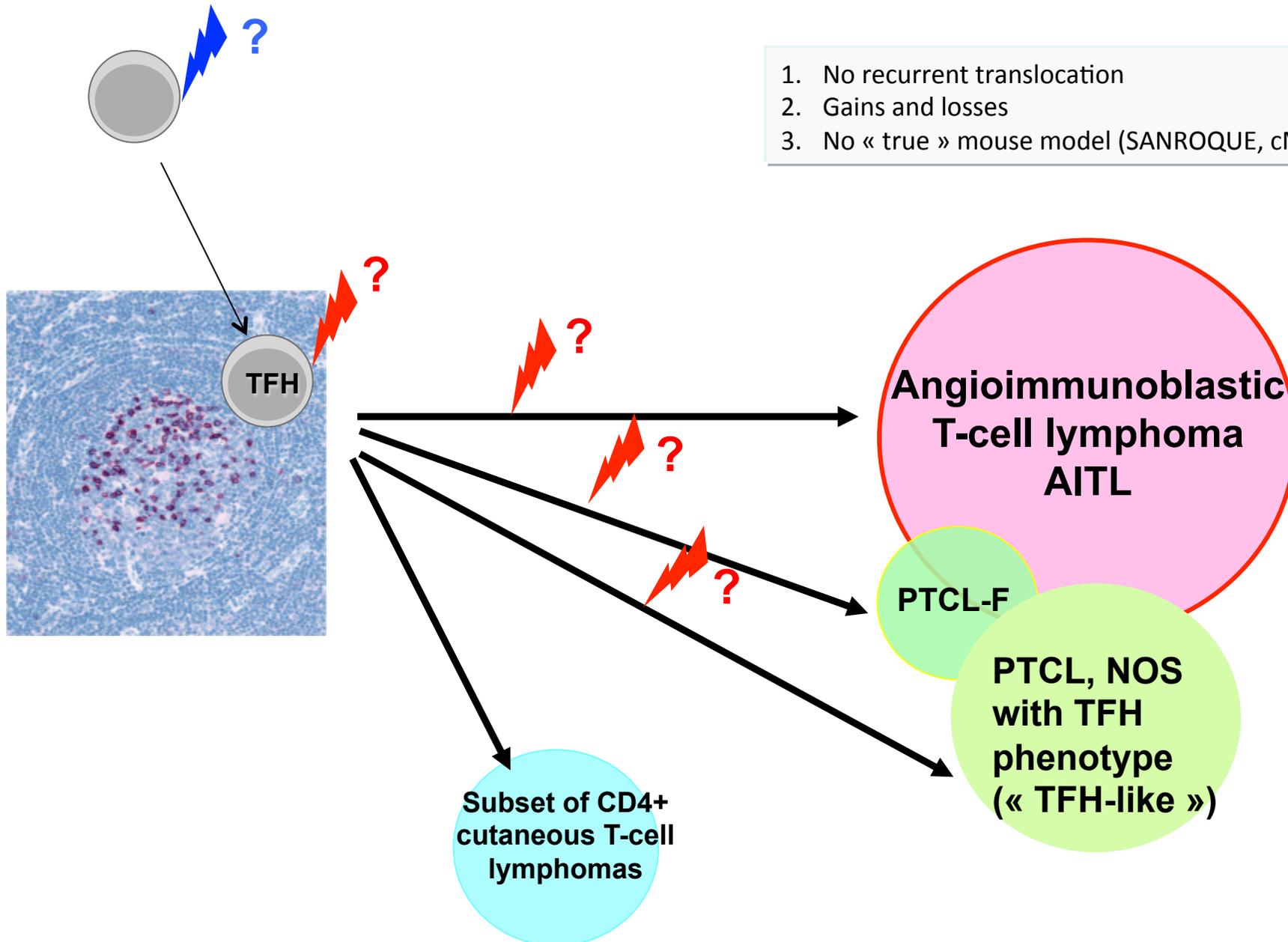
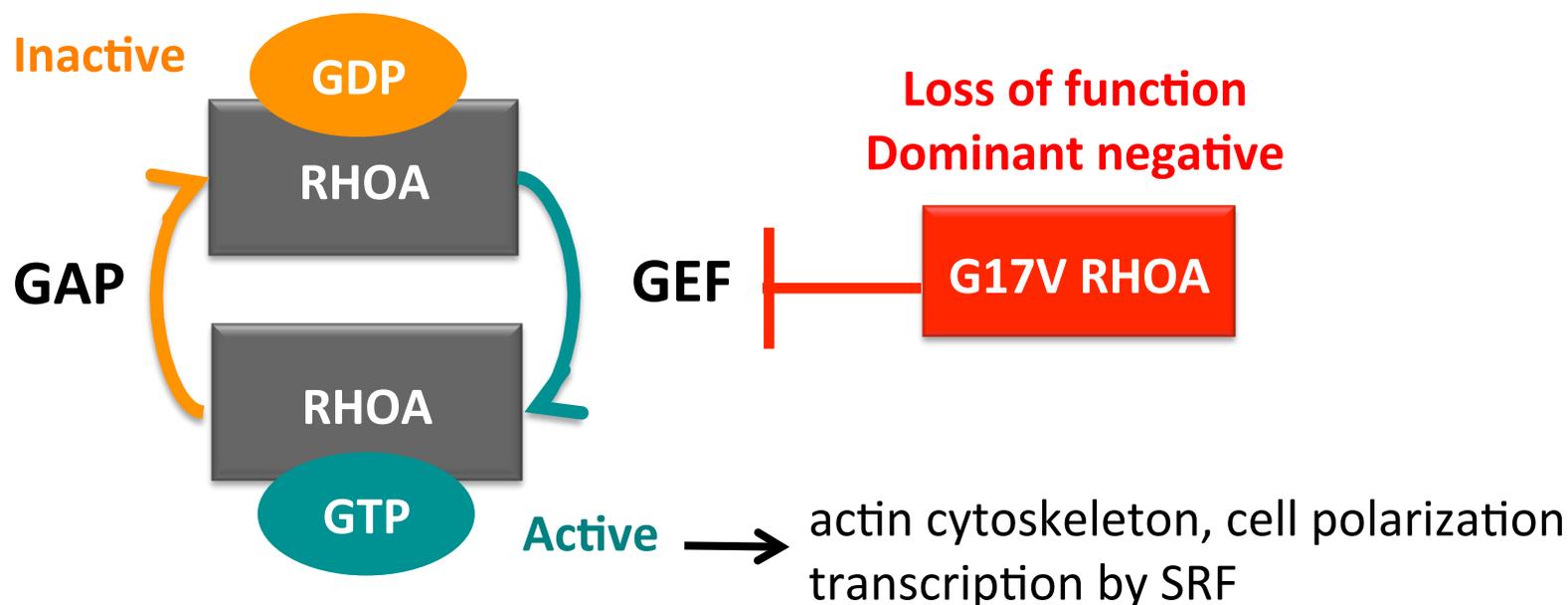


Figure 5. Clinical outcome. (A) Progression-free survival (PFS). (B) Overall survival (OS).

Oncogenic pathways...?



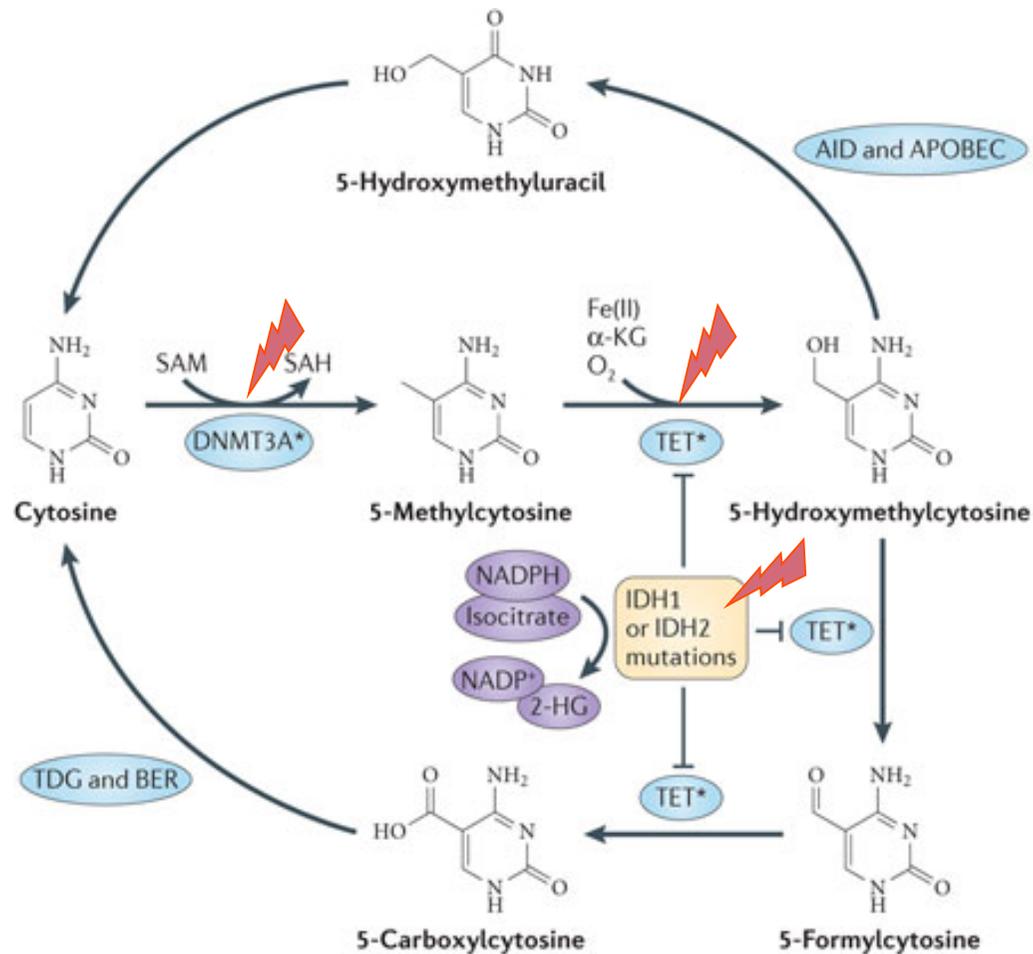
Recurrent *RHOA* mutations discovered by NGS



- **Up to 70% AITLs and a subset of PTCL, NOS with T_{FH} like features**
- Absent in myeloid, **confined to tumor cells**
- **RHOA G17V** in most cases, **association with *TET2* mutations**
- Inducibly expressed G17V RHOA does not affect the growth or cell cycle progression in Jurkat cells
- Could also act as a TSG in ATLL (*Sakata-Yanagimoto, 2014 EHA meeting*), gastric carcinoma (*Wang, Nat Genet 2014, Kakiuchi, Nat Genet 2014*) and Burkitt lymphoma (*Rhode, GCC, 2014*)

*Palomero et al, Sakata-Yanagimoto et al, Yoo H-Y et al Nat Genetics 2014;
L de Leval & P Gaulard, unpublished [RHOA mut: AITL (65%, n=76); PTCL, TFH-like (46%, n=13)]*

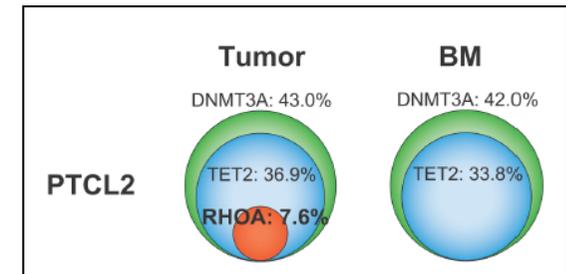
TET2, DNMT3A & IDH2 are involved in DNA methylation



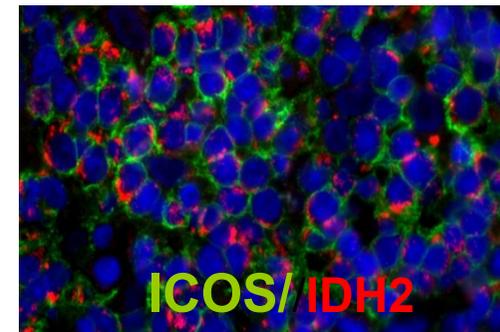
In AITL, the 3 mutations are commonly associated

Adapted from Shih et al. Nat Rev Can.2012

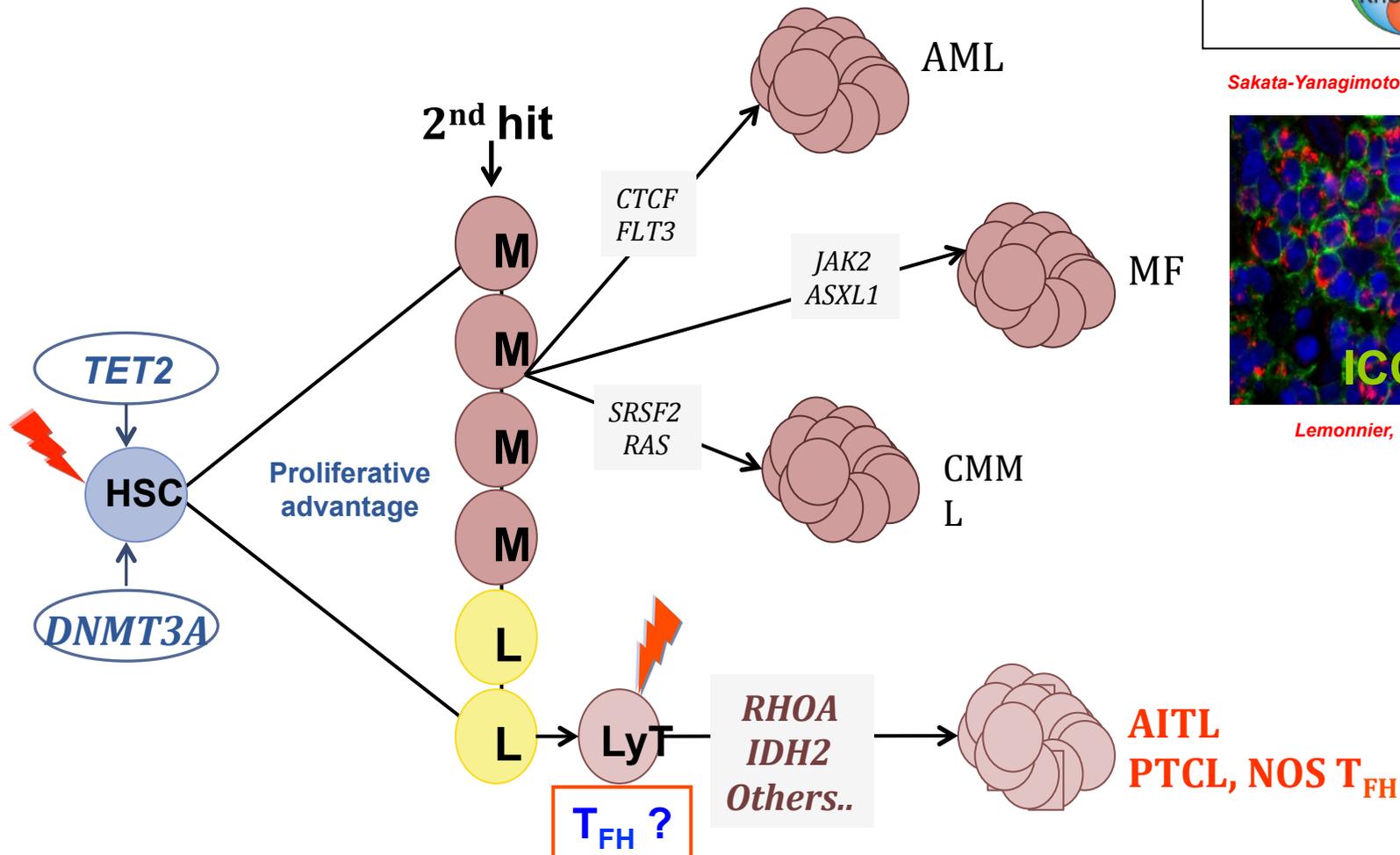
A peculiar model of lymphomagenesis....



Sakata-Yanagimoto et al. Nat Genetics 2014

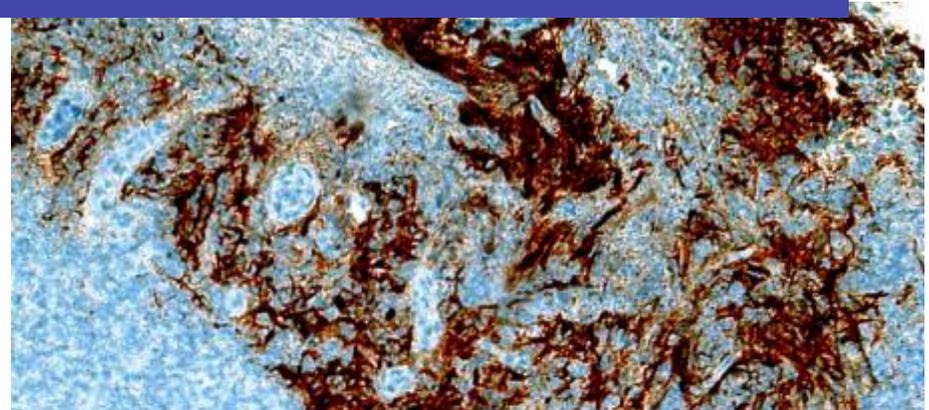
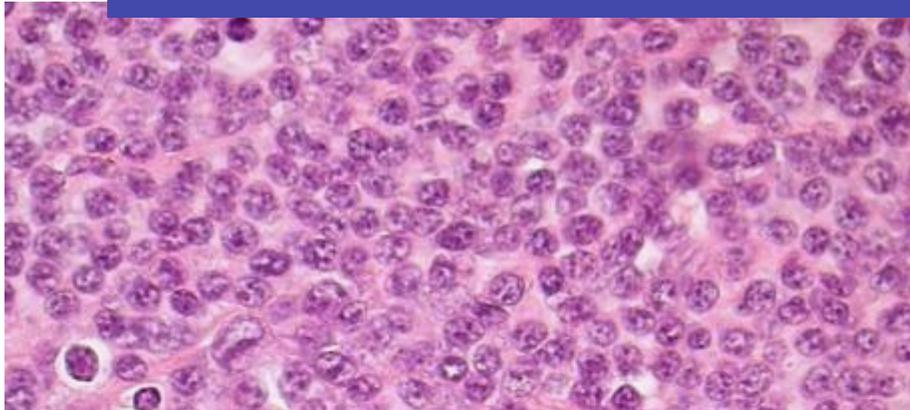


Lemonnier, Dupuy et al. unpublished

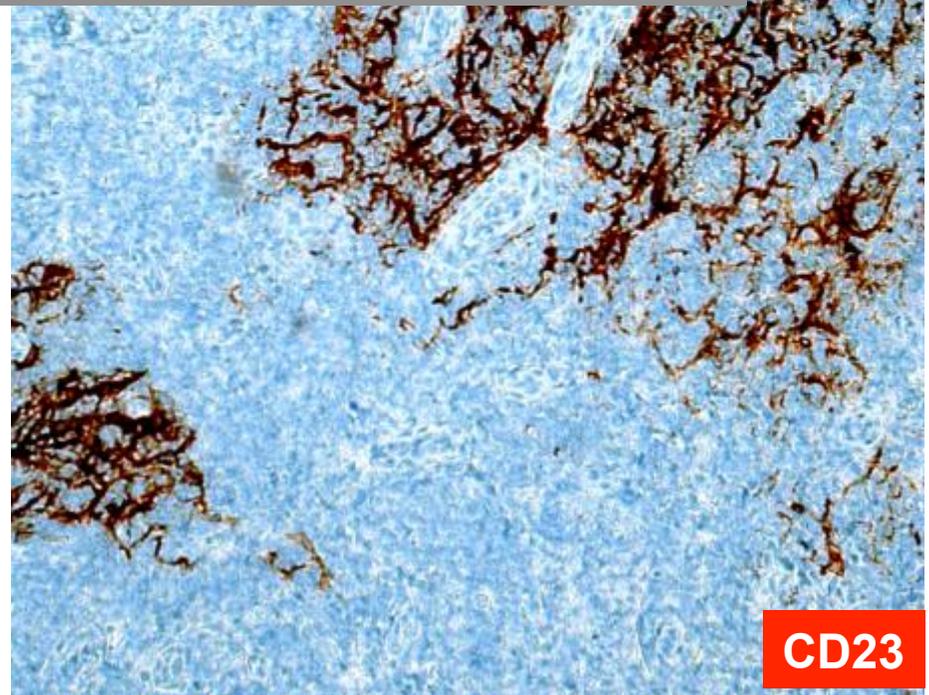
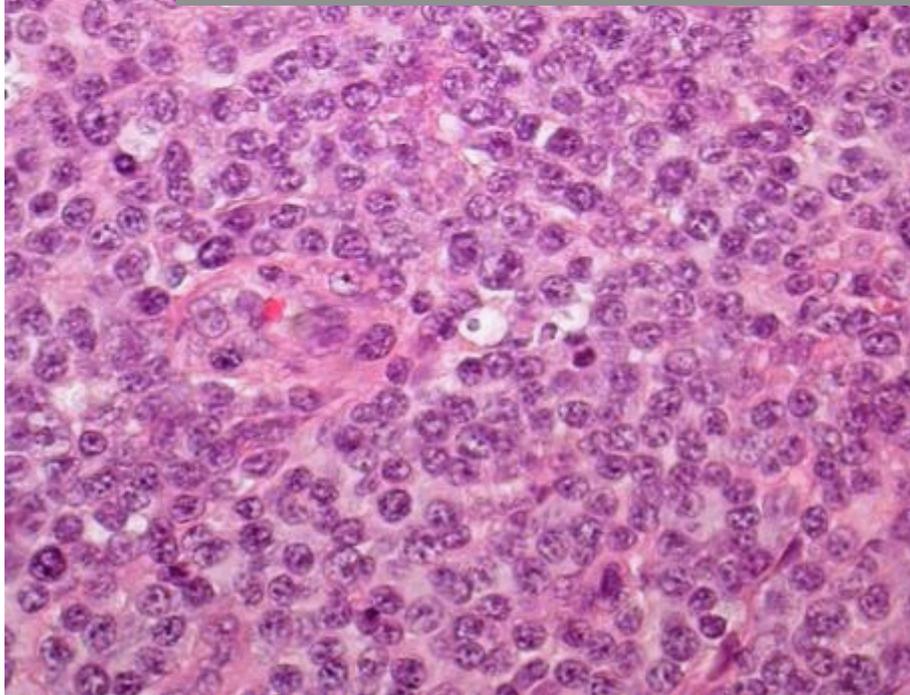


Quivoron, Couronné et al. Cancer Cell 2011
Sakata-Yanagimoto et al. Nat Genetics 2014

PTCL,NOS or AITL « tumour-cell rich ?

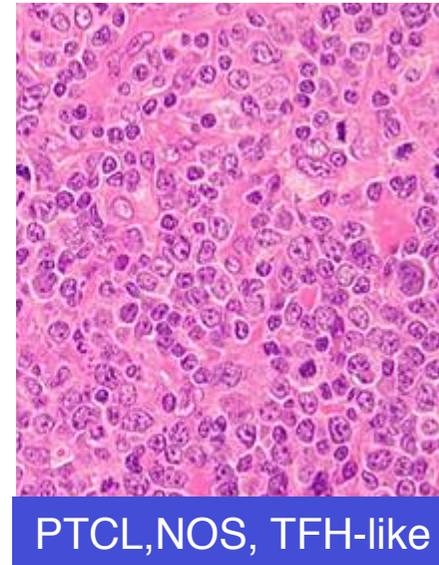
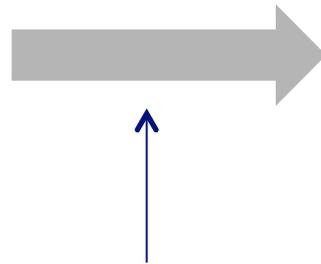
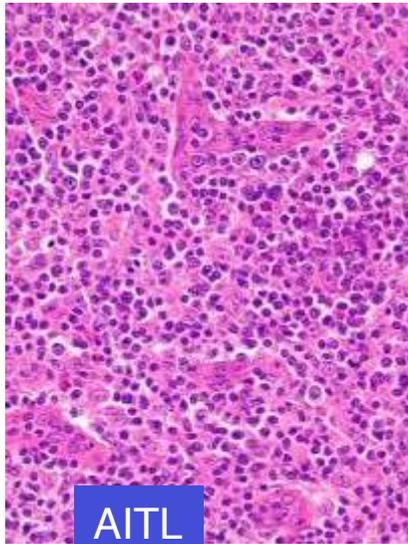


A patient with a past history of AITL



CD23

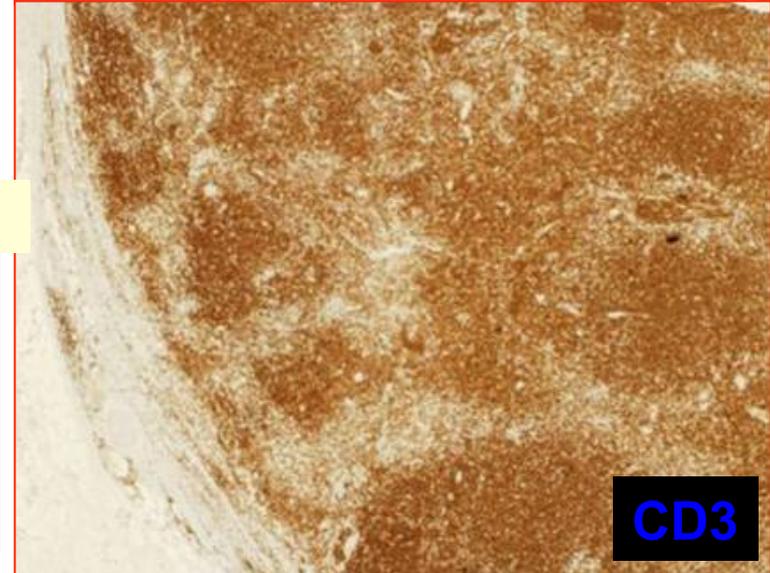
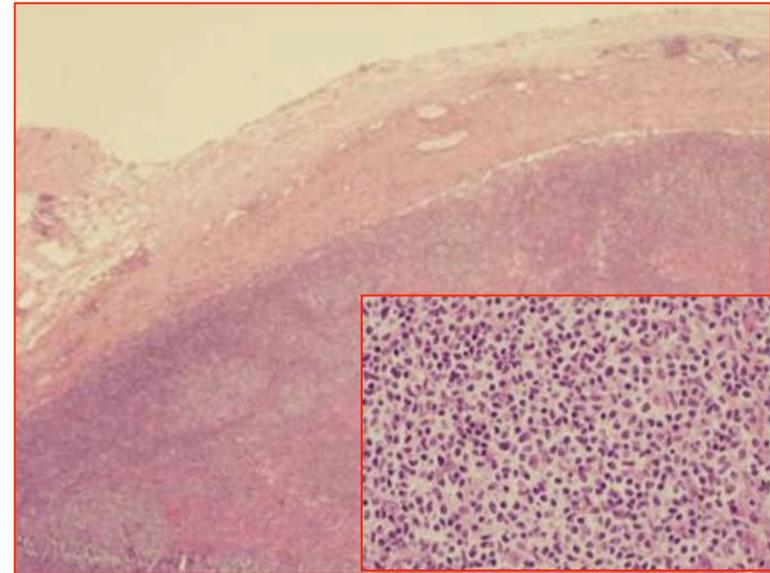
Revisit the diagnostic criteria of AITL ?



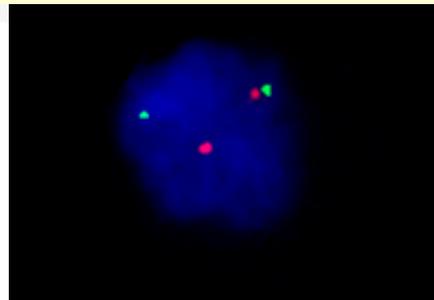
- Loss of the microenvironment (inflammatory component, ↓vascularity, ↓FDC)
- Enrichment in large neoplastic cells

Follicular PTCL

- Nodular growth pattern
- small/medium sized T cells
- CD4+, CD10_±
- Expression of T_{FH} markers (BCL6, CXCL13, PD1, ICOS), CD57_±
- **t(5;9) translocation (SYK-ITK fusion) in 20-30% of cases**
- *TET2* mutations
- Relationship to AITL?



23: t(5;9) positive



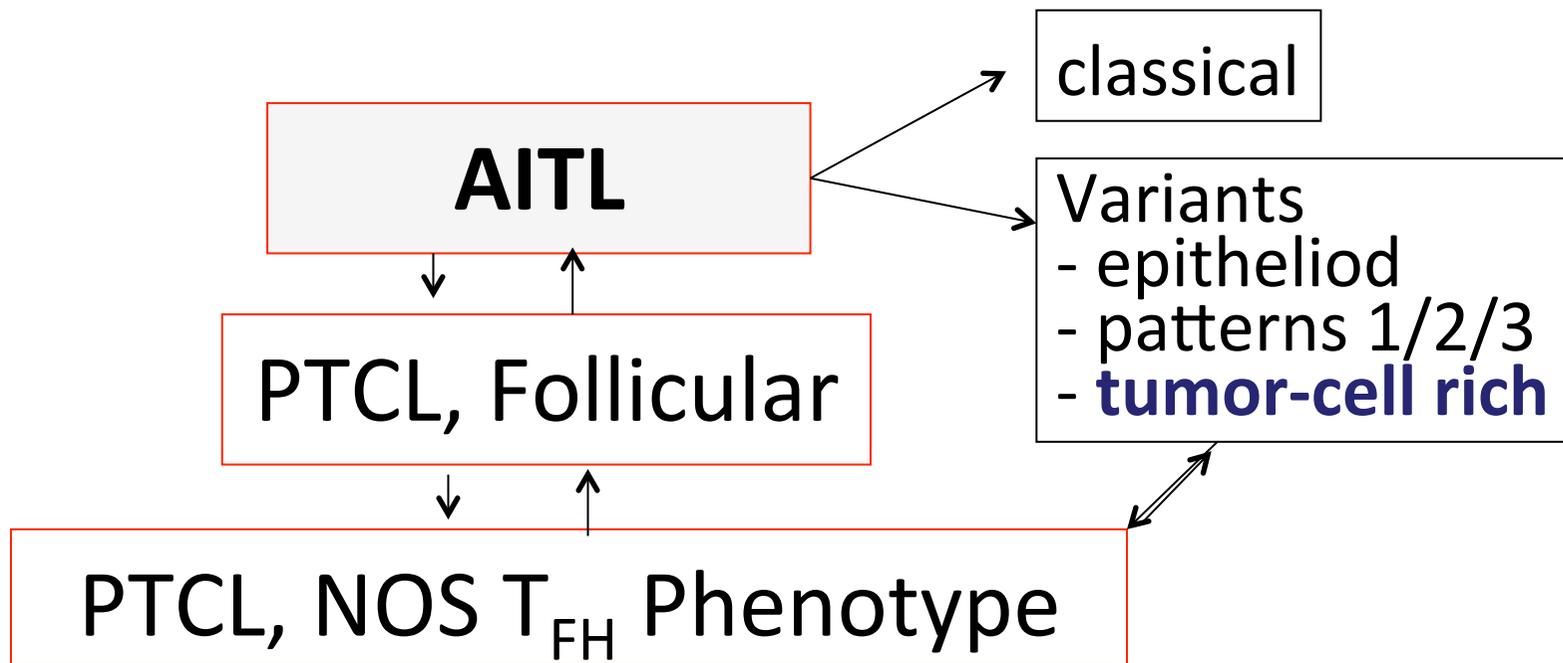
de Leval L et al. AJSP 2001; Streubel B et al. Leukemia 2006; Bacon C et al. Br J Haematol 2008; Qubaja M et al. Human Pathol 2008; Huang L et al. AJSP 2009



Courtesy: Louise Galmiche-Rolland

Nodal T_{FH}-related PTCL

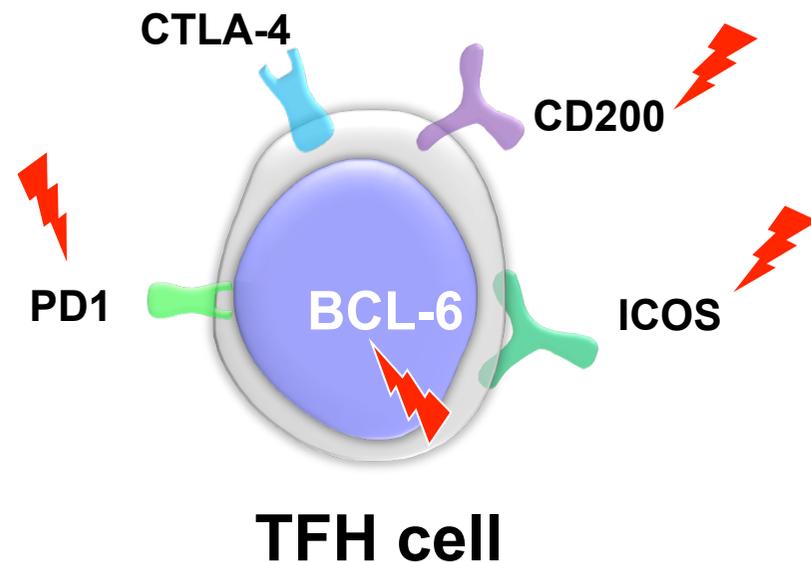
Future evolutions of the WHO classification



- ✓ Despite a different morphology, share a similar TFH profile, likely similar genetic alterations and GEP
- ✓ Recommendation: extensively investigate any case of « PTCL, NOS » for FDC, CD10, T_{FH} markers, EBV.....
- ✓ In the next future, may influence the clinical management & therapy

Nodal T_{FH}-related PTCL : implications for therapy...?

- **Microenvironment:**
anti-angiogenic (thalidomide, anti-VEGF/Bevacizumab),
macrophages ?, B-blasts (Rituximab),...
- **Immunomodulatory**
compounds: IFN γ ,
cyclosporine, lenalinomide,.....
- **Neoplastic T_{FH} antigens**
(campath, TFH antigens,
cytokines (IL21, IL6),
chemokines (CXCL13)
- **Specific pathways** (PDGFRA,
SYK, IDH2 inhibitors,
demethylating agents...)



Pathologically and biologically-oriented clinical trials.....

The lymphoma classification will continue to evolve!

2014 WHO CAC Meeting, Chicago

