



Animal models

2012...2015. T-Cell Lymphomas: We are illuminating the darkest of tunnels

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Why we need reliable pre-clinical models?

- Only **a handful number of compounds** reaches the clinical arena (1 of 10,000).
- Small numbers of poorly characterized tumor cell lines that inadequately recapitulate human disease
- 'Xenografts do not predict for human effects', with **90% of novel antineoplastic drugs failing** despite antitumor efficacy in classical preclinical models.
- Conventional **GEM mouse models** express/loose target genes in all cells under ectopic/forced promoters/enhancer, often with a constitutive modality
- Xenograft and/or GEM, PDX models do not fully recapitulate the human tumour environment
- Erroneous use and misinterpretation of preclinical data from cell lines and animal models.
- A poor appreciation of pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics, and the use of problematic endpoints and testing strategies.
- **Preclinical testing rarely includes predictive biomarkers** that, when advanced to clinical trials, will help to distinguish those patients who are likely to benefit from a drug.

C. Glenn Begley & Lee M. Ellis: *Nature* 483, 531–533 (29 March 2012)

What about reproducible PTCL models?

- Although several cell lines derived from T-ALL exist. Rare in vitro models for neoplastic post-thymic lymphocytes are available, with HTLV-I+, CTCL and ALK+ ALCL lines representing the exception.
- Few spontaneous (Roquinsan) or engineered (i.e. ITK-SYK, NPM-ALK) mouse models, faithfully reproducing their corresponding human counterparts, have been successfully used to define the pathogenetic mechanisms leading to T-cell transformation and/or design and validate therapeutic protocols.



Have we the right models ?: "2D versus 3D in vitro"



Rapidly evolving strategies for new mouse models



Humanized mouse models



B2m, β_2 -microglobulin; HSC, haematopoietic stem cell; Il2rg, interleukin-2 receptor γ -chain; NOD, non-obese diabetic; PBMC, peripheral-blood mononuclear cell; Prf1, perforin 1; Rag, recombination-activating gene; scid, severe combined immunodeficiency.

Shultz L.D. et al Nature Rev Immunol 2007, 7, 118-130



NOD/scid and NSG mice have been successfully used to study human CTL



Meyer L.H. et al 2011

Cancer Cell Article

Early Relapse in ALL Is Identified by Time to Leukemia in NOD/SCID Mice and Is Characterized by a Gene Signature Involving Survival Pathways

Brief Definitive Report

JEM Clappier E. et al 2011

Clonal selection in xenografted human T cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia recapitulates gain of malignancy at relapse

Experimental Dermatology, Krejsgaard T. et al 2010

A novel xenograft model of cutaneous T-cell lymphoma



Patient Derived Tumor Graft from fresh and/or cryopreserved tissue samples



Source of cancer samples: Fresh versus viable frozen tissues?



Can different implantation routes improve PDTX grafting?



Precision Therapeutic Medicine: new ideas at work





Biorepository



Tumor expansion





- WES
- RNAseq
- RRBs
- Proteomics













Representative ALCL tumorgraft expansion

ALCL-1



ALCL time curves along serial tumorgraft passages



ALCL tumorgraft on disseminate to secondary lymphoid and parenchymal

Α





Total body MRI scanning and therapeutic response assessments





🤣 aspectimaging

Total body MRI scanning and therapeutic response assessments



ALCL-PDT Day 0

ALCL-PDT day 14

ALCL-PDT day 14 treated



Do PDTX fully recapitulate their corresponding primary lesions

















Primary ALCL and matched ALCL tumorgrafts display identical immuno-profiles



SNP array identify analogous patient genomic defects in primary and corresponding tumorgrafts



Does clonal evolution take place in NSG models?



Evolutionary modes in $P\Sigma 3$.



Zairis S et al:Moduli spaces of phylogenetic trees describing tumor evolutionary patterns. In press

Can we discover novel hits?

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Gene expression profiling shows unique signature for each individual tumorgraft ALCL line



Gene expression signatures of ALCL-PDT identified unique subsets among PTCL patients



-1.0 0 +1

Host-lymphoma Interactions













NSG tumorgrafts respond to conventional treatments as matched primary ALCL

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tumor diameter (cm)

The efficacy of SGN-35 is related on the tumor burden





Days

Anti JAK1/2 inhibitors represent an alternative approach for pSTAT3+ ALK- ALCL



Treatment of ALK+ ALCL PDXT predicts clinical responses



Conclusions: hurtles and problems

- Low grade lymphoma do not successful implant
- Time of engraftment can be exceedingly long
- Many lymphoma require host support
- The relationship with the immune system is hardly reproducible in human reconstituted mice
- PDTX do not propagate successfully *in vitro*

Conclusions: advantages and benefits

- Lymphoma derived PDT represent novel and powerful tools for investigating high-grade/end stage processes
- Humanized NSG mice should facilitate the creation of broad PDT libraries
- Lymphoma derived PDT need extensive genetic and functional analyses
- Molecularly annotated PDT are powerful models for testing new compounds/therapeutic strategies which can be provided to selected cohorts of cancer patients.

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