

Transitioning Engineered T Cells From Discovery to Manufacturing to Regulatory Approval

Bruce Levine, Ph.D.

Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

Center for Cellular Immunotherapies

Abramson Cancer Center

University of Pennsylvania

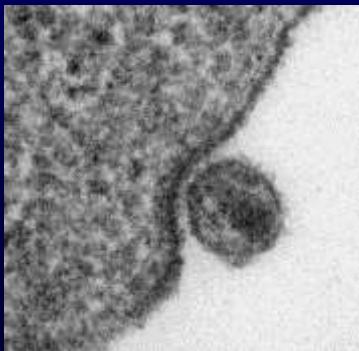
Philadelphia, PA



Conflict of Interest Statement

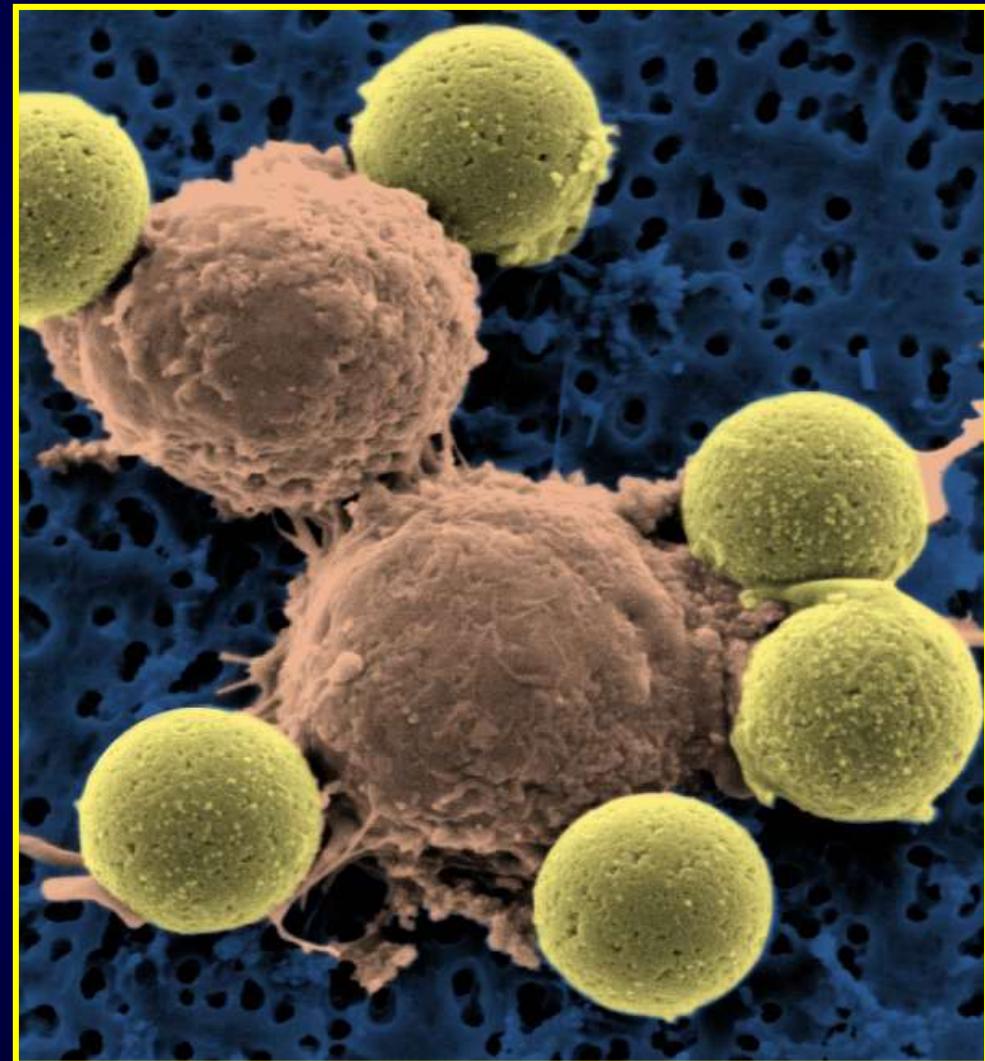
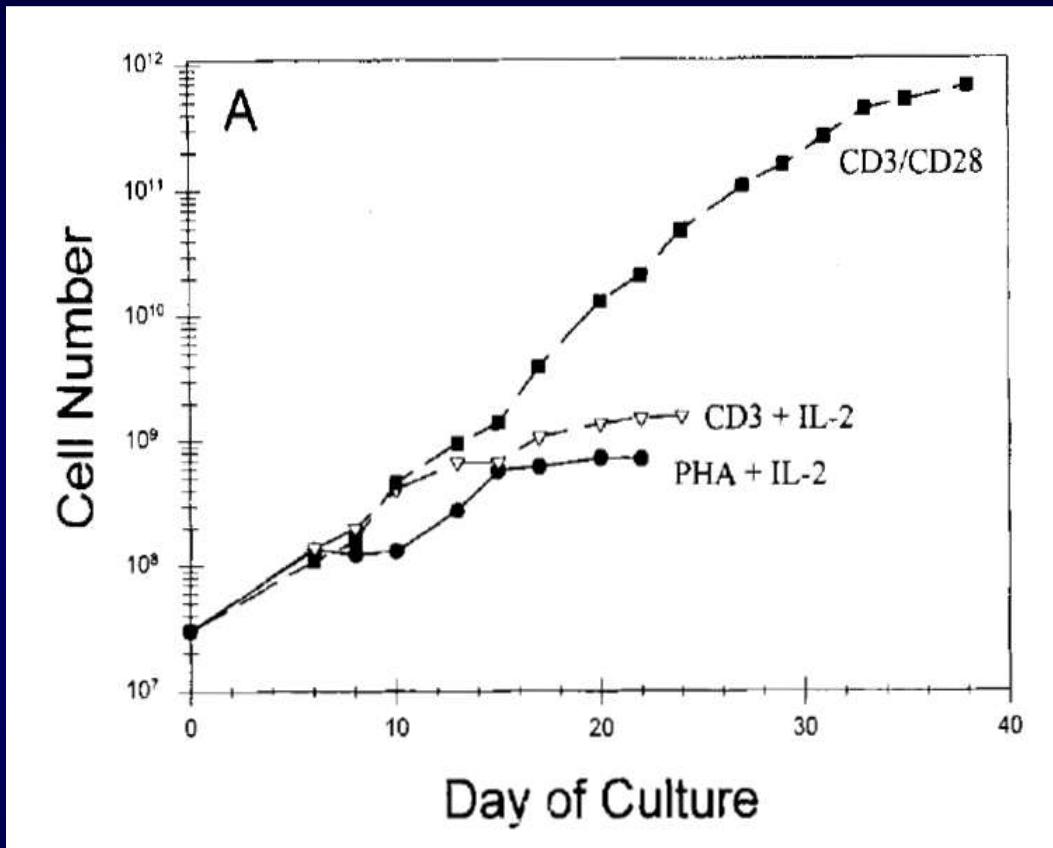
- Declaration of financial interest due to intellectual property and patents in the field of cell and gene therapy.
- Univ. Penn. Alliance with Novartis
- Consultant for GE Healthcare
- Consultant for Brammer Bio
- Founder Tmunity Therapeutics
- Conflict of interest is managed in accordance with University of Pennsylvania policy and oversight

The Fall of a Wall, Navy Research Priorities, and HIV Led to the First Cellular Gene Therapy BLA Accepted by the FDA



Goal: Improved T Cell Culture System for Adoptive Immunotherapy

Result: 10-100X Improved Growth and Function



J Immunol 1997; 159: 5921

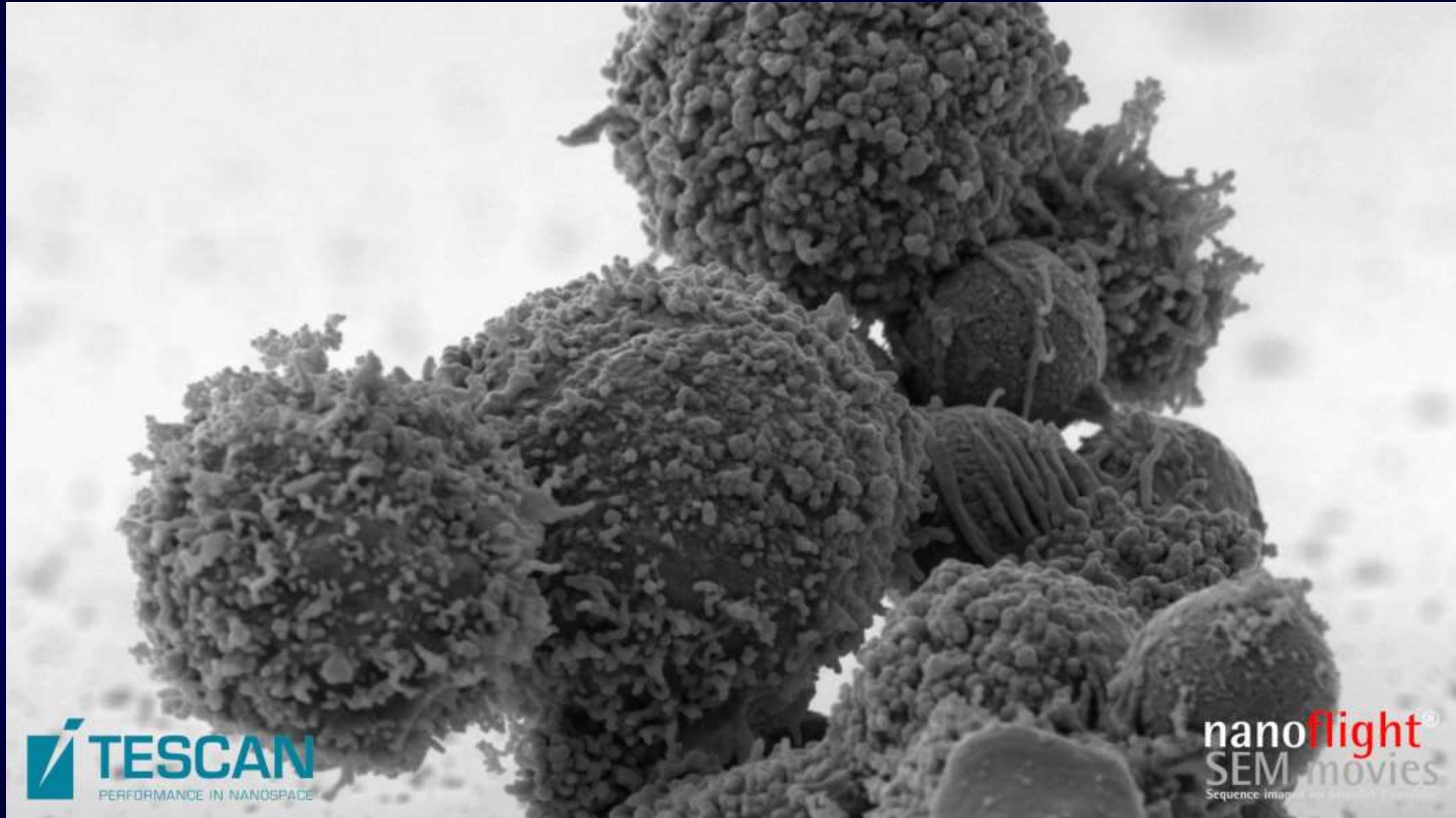
Science 1997; 276: 273

Immunol. Rev. 1997; 160: 43

Mol. Ther. 2004; 9: 902

Exp. Opin. Biol. Ther. 2008; 8: 475

T Cells Embrace Enhanced Stimulation



TESCAN
PERFORMANCE IN NANOSPACE

nanoflight
SEM-movies
Sequence imaging. Sequence movies.

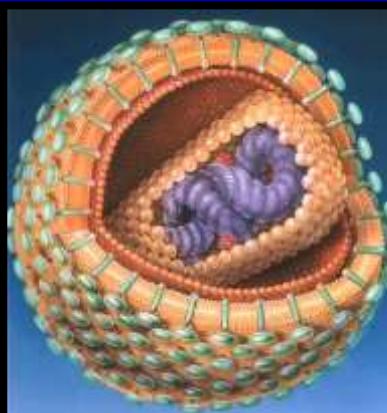
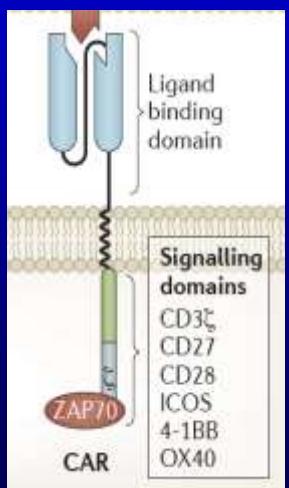
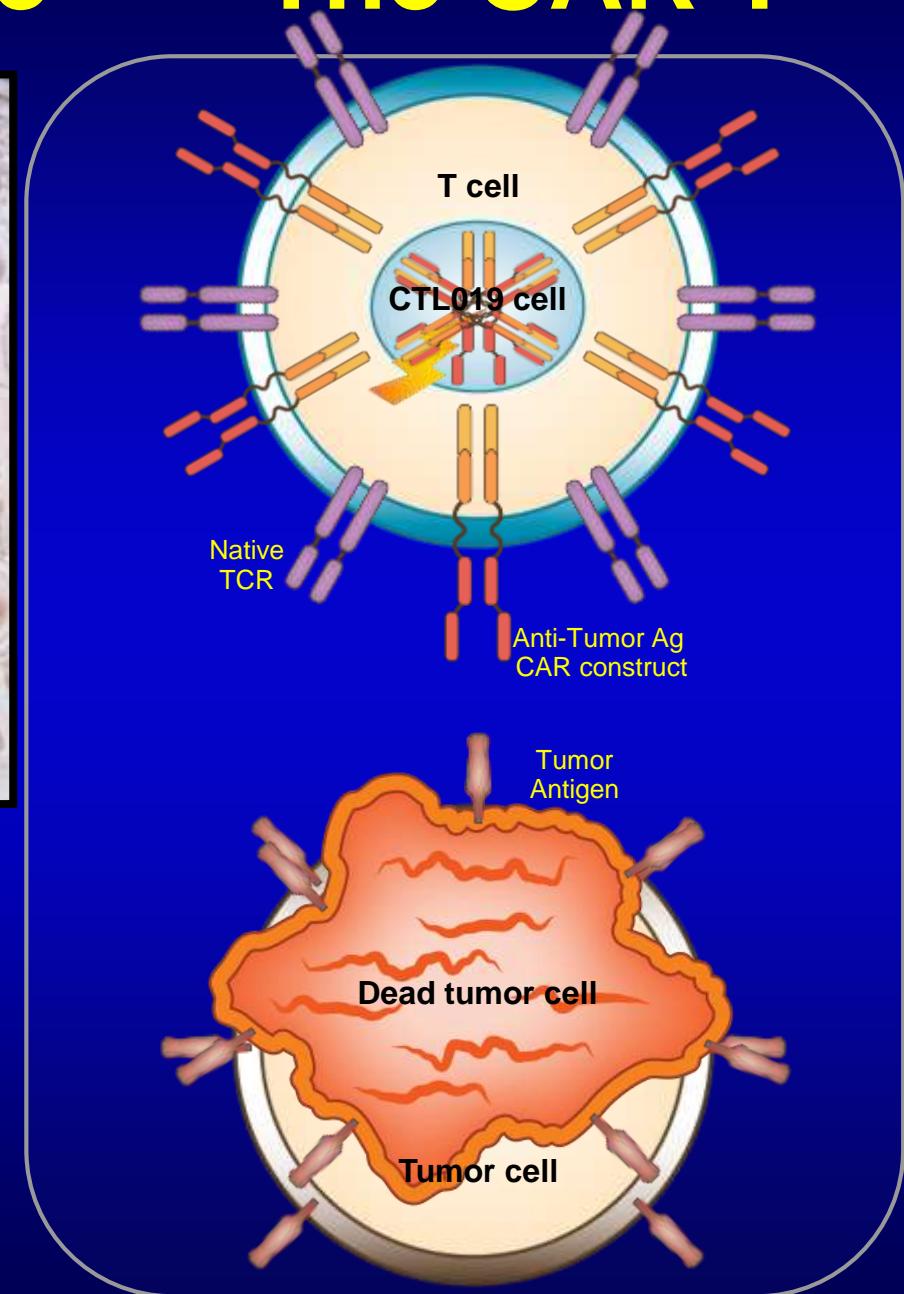
If we could design T cells for the treatment of disease, they would be:

- Be Numerous (Effector to Target Ratio)
- Potent
- Be Persistent
- Have a Good Memory

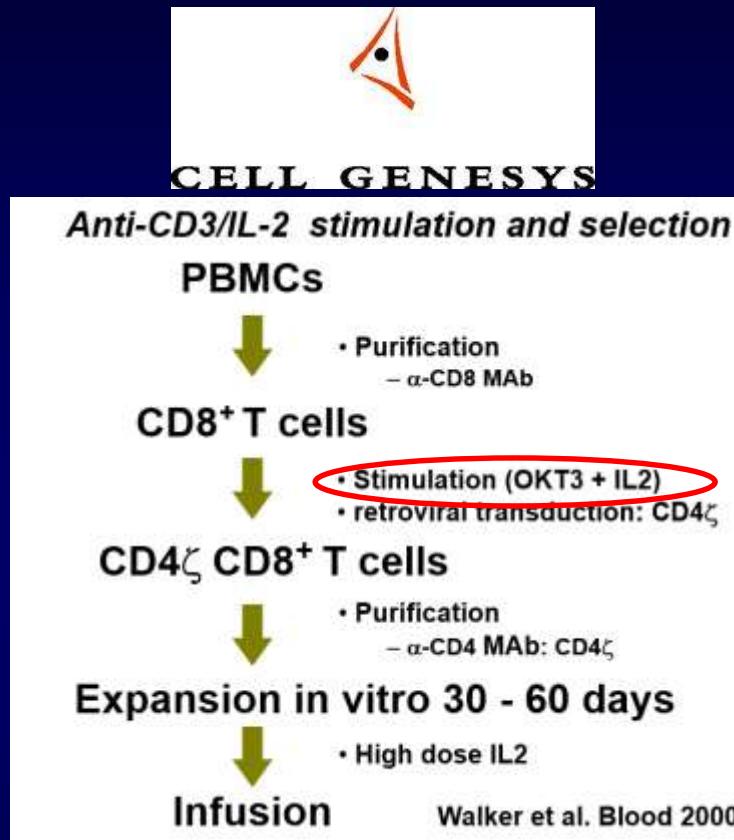
But, in HIV and Cancer →



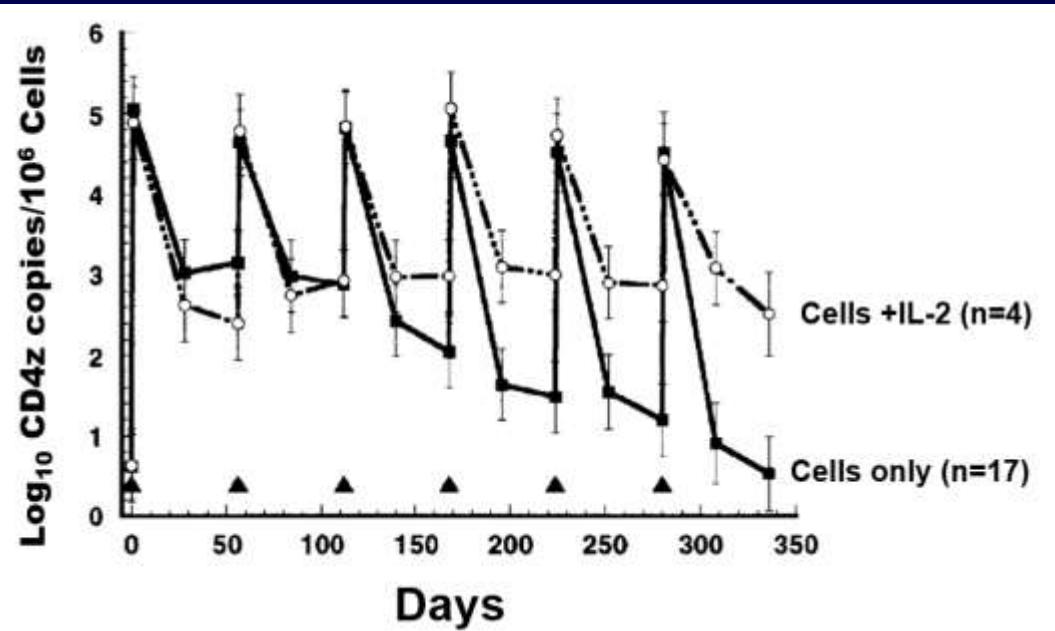
The Chimera + The Trojan Horse = The CAR T



First CAR Clinical Trial (Was in HIV!)



Persistence of CD4z-modified CD8 CAR T Cells in Blood

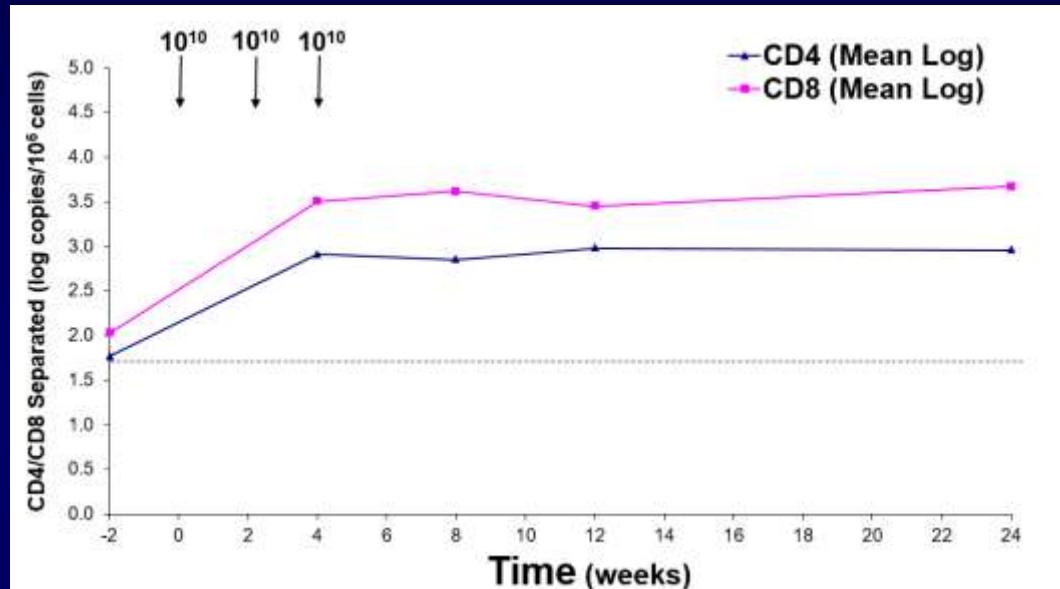
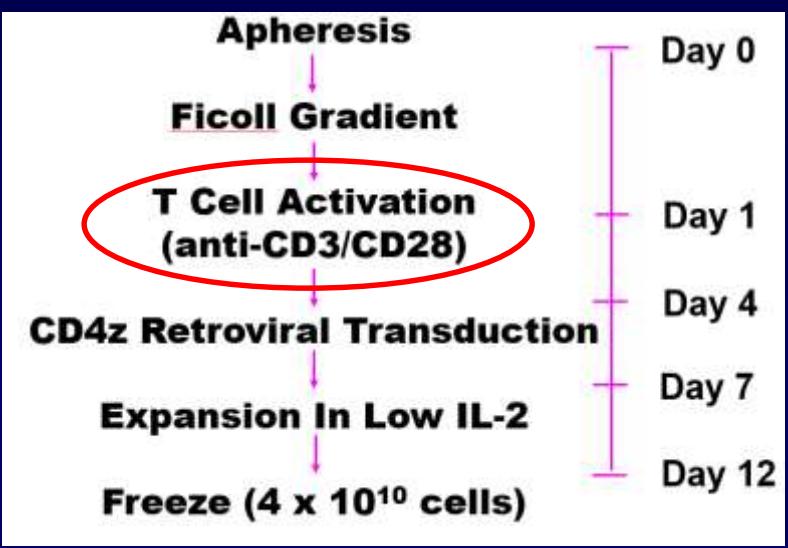


Long-term in vivo survival of receptor-modified syngeneic T cells in patients with human immunodeficiency virus infection

Robert E. Walker, Christine M. Bechtel, Ven Natarajan, Michael Baseler, Kristen M. Hege, Julia A. Metcalf, Randy Stevens, Allison Hazen, R. Michael Blaese, Clara C. Chen, Susan F. Leitman, Jolie Palensky, Janet Witten, Richard T. Davey Jr, Judith Falloon, Michael A. Polis, Joseph A. Kovacs, David F. Broad, Bruce L. Levine, Margo R. Roberts, Henry Masur, and H. Clifford Lane

Improved Persistence of CD4z-modified CD8 CAR T Cells in Blood

Second Generation Trial Manufacturing



Prolonged survival and tissue trafficking following adoptive transfer of CD4 ζ gene-modified autologous CD4 $^+$ and CD8 $^+$ T cells in human immunodeficiency virus-infected subjects

Ronald T. Mitsuyasu, Peter A. Anton, Steven G. Deeks, David T. Scadden, Elizabeth Connick, Matthew T. Downs, Andreas Bakker, Margo R. Roberts, Carl H. June, Sayeh Jalali, Andy A. Lin, Rukmini Pennathur-Das, and Kristen M. Hege

BLOOD, 1 AUGUST 2000 • VOLUME 96, NUMBER 3

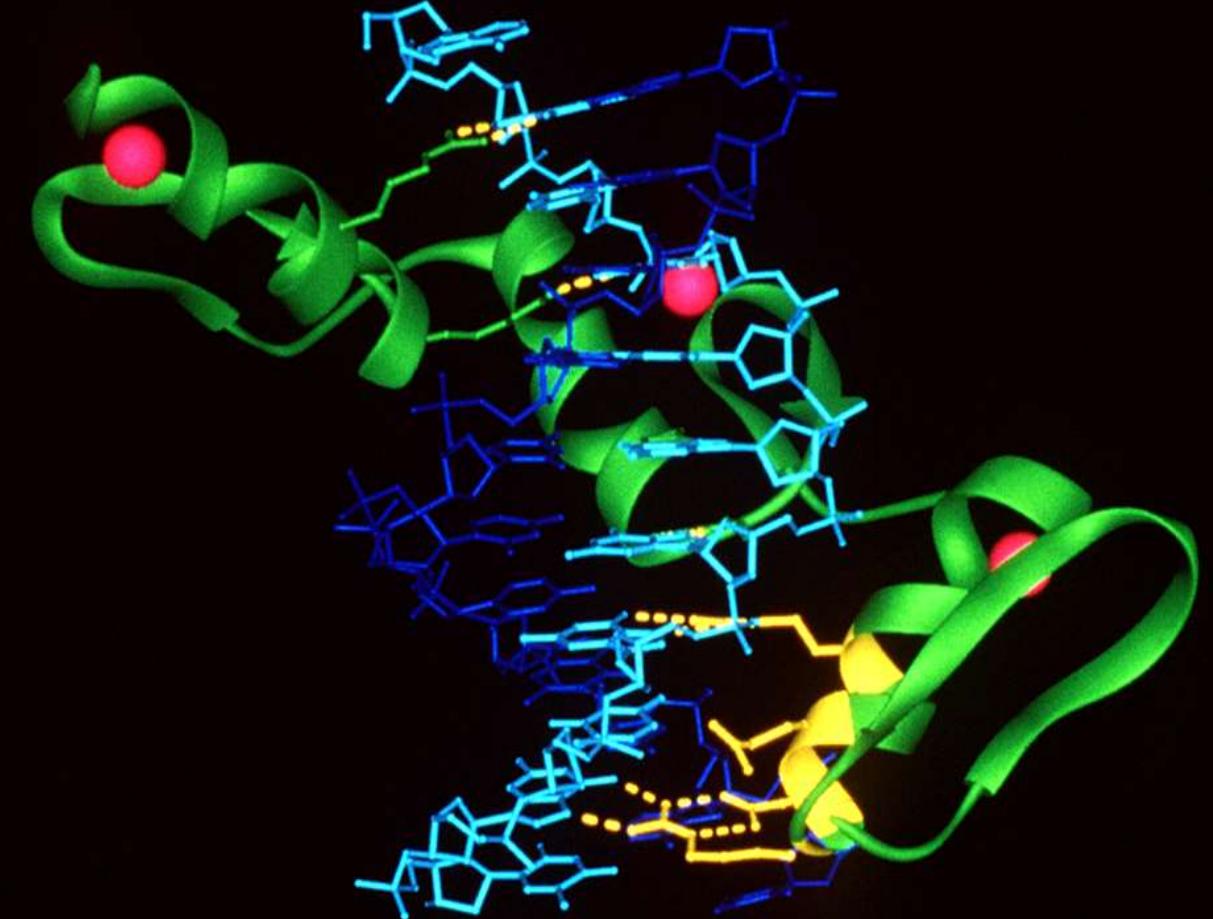
Translation of Targeted Gene Editing
to Humans
(circa 2004)

Dale Ando, MD



SANGAM

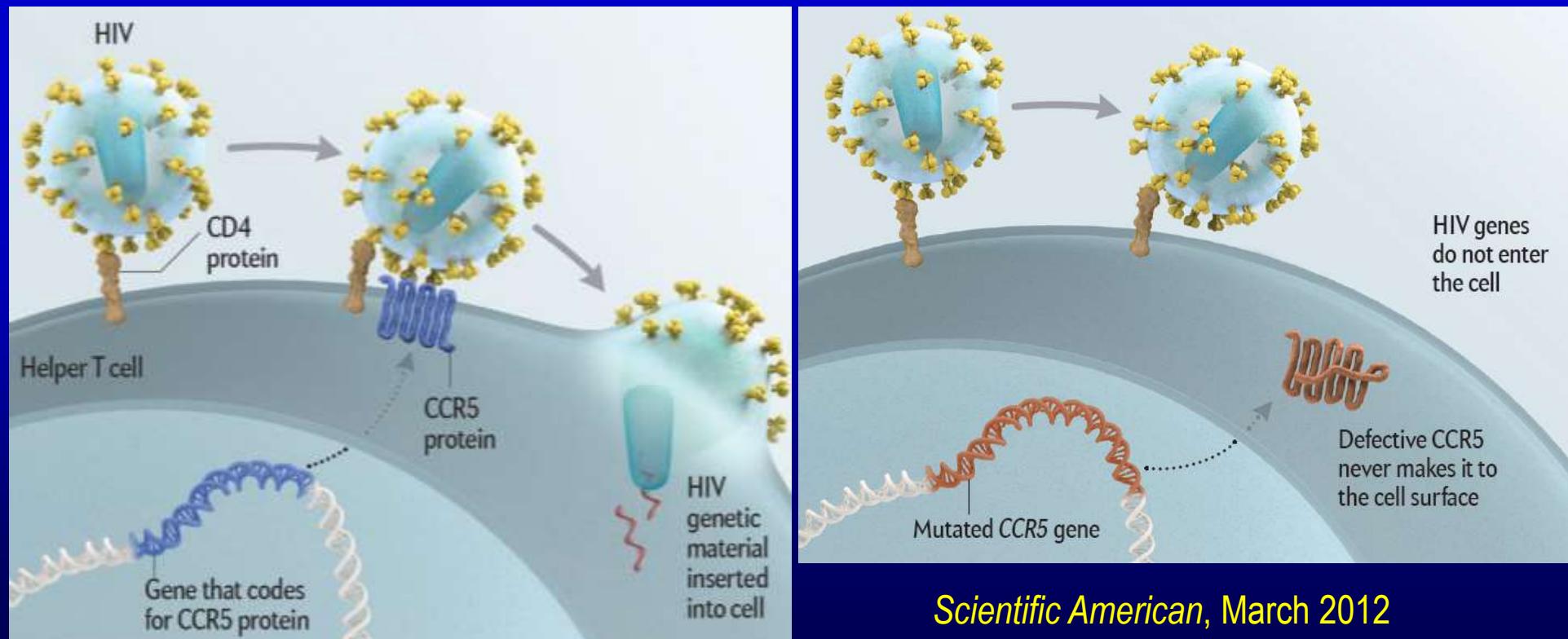
What are Zinc Finger Proteins?
-specific DNA binding proteins, e.g transcription factors
and other regulatory proteins



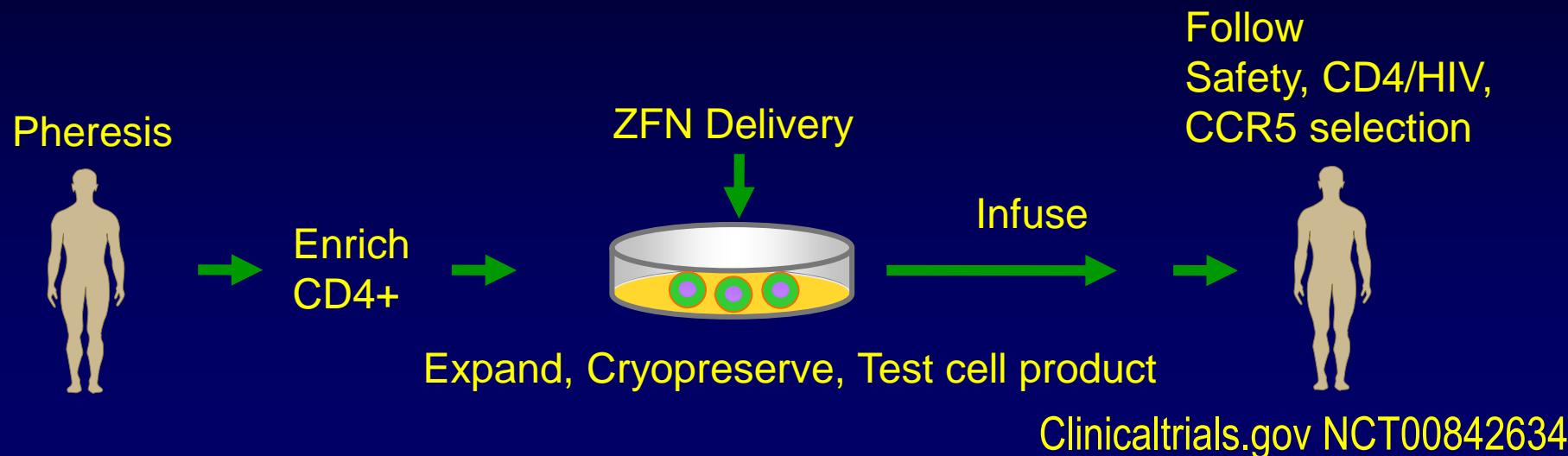
Zinc Finger-DNA Recognition

Why Target CCR5 in HIV?

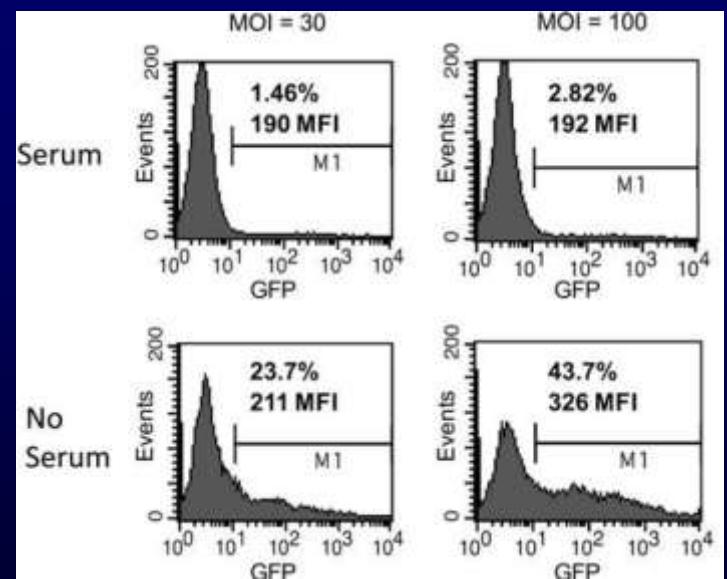
- HIV (R5 virus) targets CD4 T-cells by binding to CCR5, one of the major co-receptors for HIV entry
- CCR5 delta-32 mutation produces a nonfunctional protein
 - Homozygotes are resistant to HIV infection
 - Heterozygotes have slower disease progression



What unique challenges have you faced as you prepared your product for clinical application?



- Research Lab Process 1: electroporation of plasmid DNA
 - feasible but toxic, low cell yield, viability
- Research Lab Process 2: adenovirus transduction
 - very efficient in research media, bombs in clinical media
- Clinical Process 1: serum free during adenovirus transduction
 - very efficient



The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ESTABLISHED IN 1812

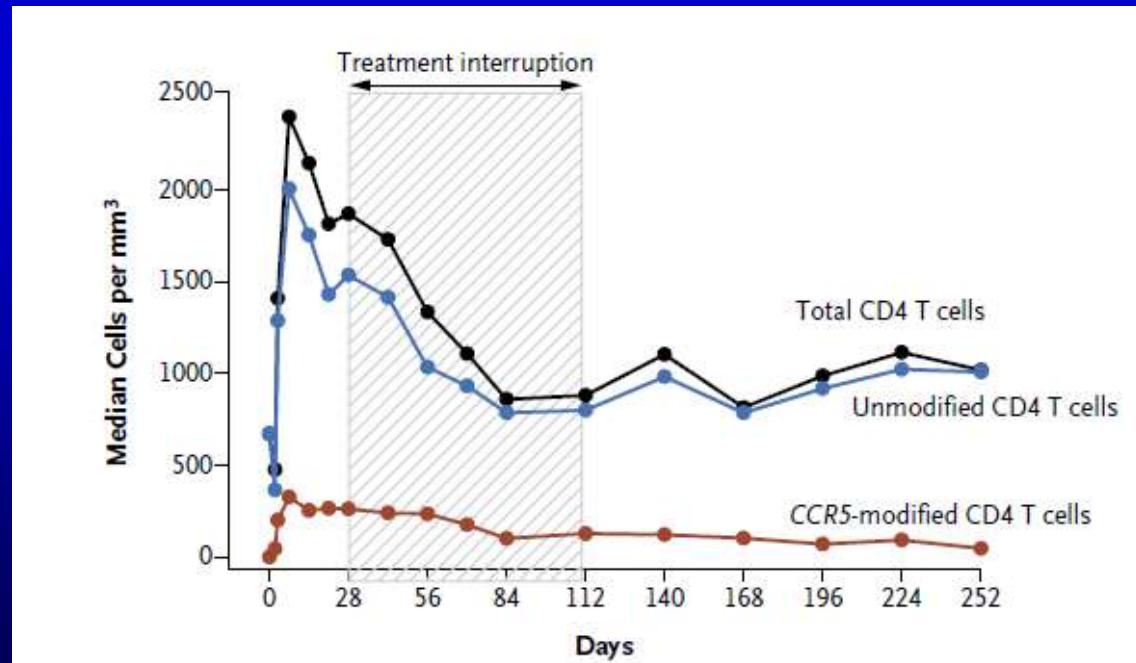
MARCH 6, 2014

VOL. 370 NO. 10

Gene Editing of CCR5 in Autologous CD4 T Cells of Persons Infected with HIV

Pablo Tebas, M.D., David Stein, M.D., Winson W. Tang, M.D., Ian Frank, M.D., Shelley Q. Wang, M.D., Gary Lee, Ph.D., S. Kaye Spratt, Ph.D., Richard T. Surosky, Ph.D., Martin A. Giedlin, Ph.D., Geoff Nichol, M.D., Michael C. Holmes, Ph.D., Philip D. Gregory, Ph.D., Dale G. Ando, M.D., Michael Kalos, Ph.D., Ronald G. Collman, M.D., Gwendolyn Binder-Scholl, Ph.D., Gabriela Plesa, M.D., Ph.D., Wei-Ting Hwang, Ph.D., Bruce L. Levine, Ph.D., and Carl H. June, M.D.

- Engraft, expand, and persist (>1 yr) in circulation
- CCR5-modified CD4 T cells detected in gut mucosa, demonstrating homing and persistence
- Survival advantage of CCR5-modified cells during ARV treatment interruption



2004- present: Clinical Translation of HIV CAR's in 1990's Informs Cancer CAR's

RESEARCH ARTICLE

LEUKEMIA

T Cells with Chimeric Antigen Receptors Have Potent Antitumor Effects and Can Establish Memory in Patients with Advanced Leukemia

Michael Kalos,^{1,2*} Bruce L. Levine,^{1,2*} David L. Porter,^{1,3} Sharyn Katz,⁴ Stephan A. Grupp,^{5,6} Adam Bagg,^{1,2} Carl H. June^{1,2†}

The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

BRIEF REPORT

Chimeric Antigen Receptor-Modified T Cells in Chronic Lymphoid Leukemia

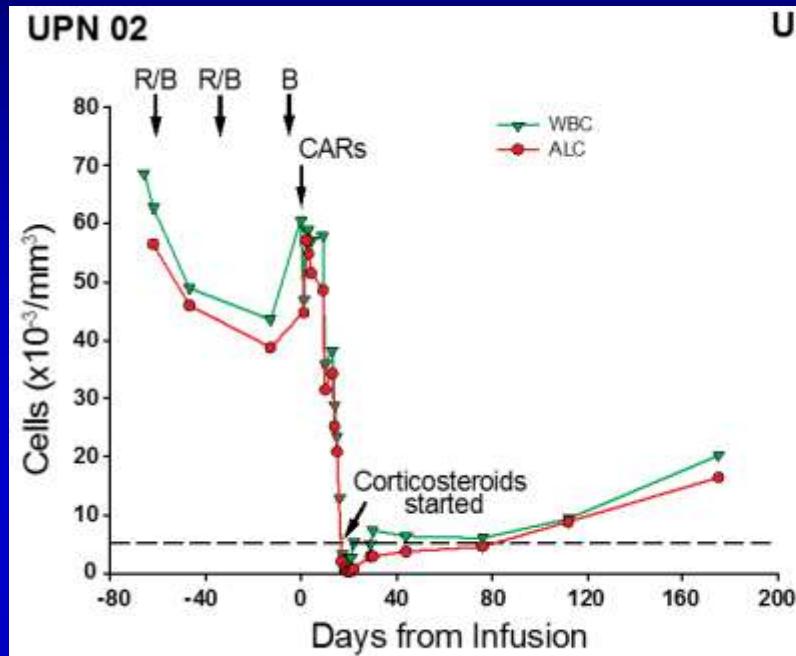
David L. Porter, M.D., Bruce L. Levine, Ph.D., Michael Kalos, Ph.D.,
Adam Bagg, M.D., and Carl H. June, M.D.

2010 CLL trial

Advanced, chemotherapy-resistant CLL, 2 of 3 patients had p53-deficient CLL

1 Partial & 2 Complete Responses in Relapsed/Refractory CLL

(3.5)

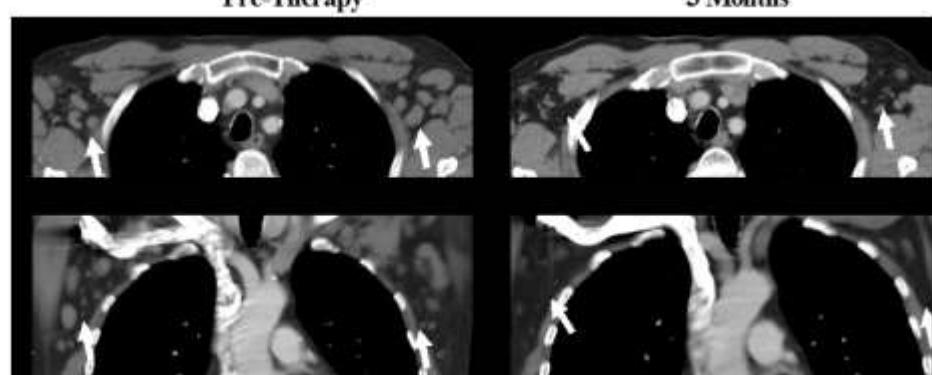


UPN 01



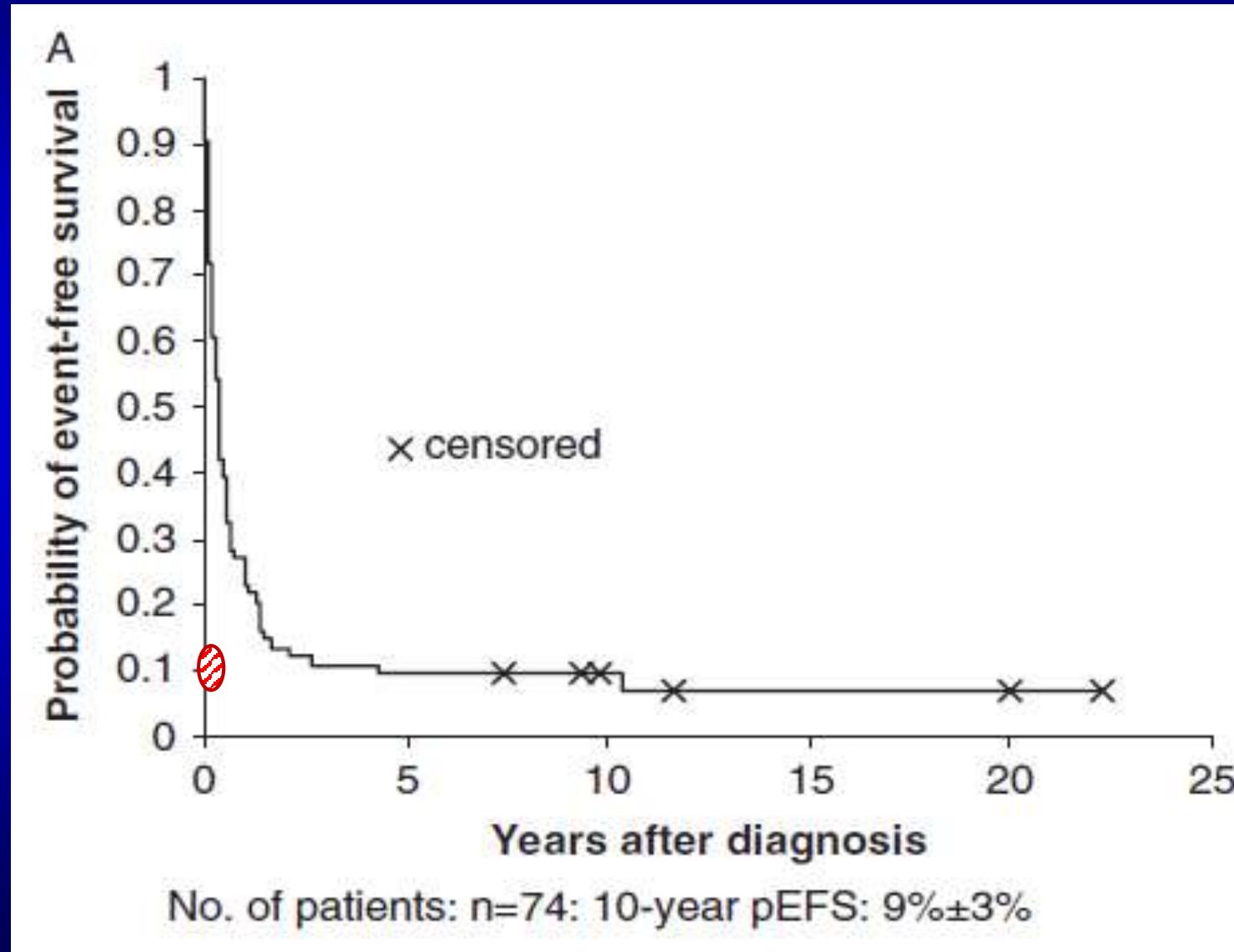
(2.5)

UPN 03

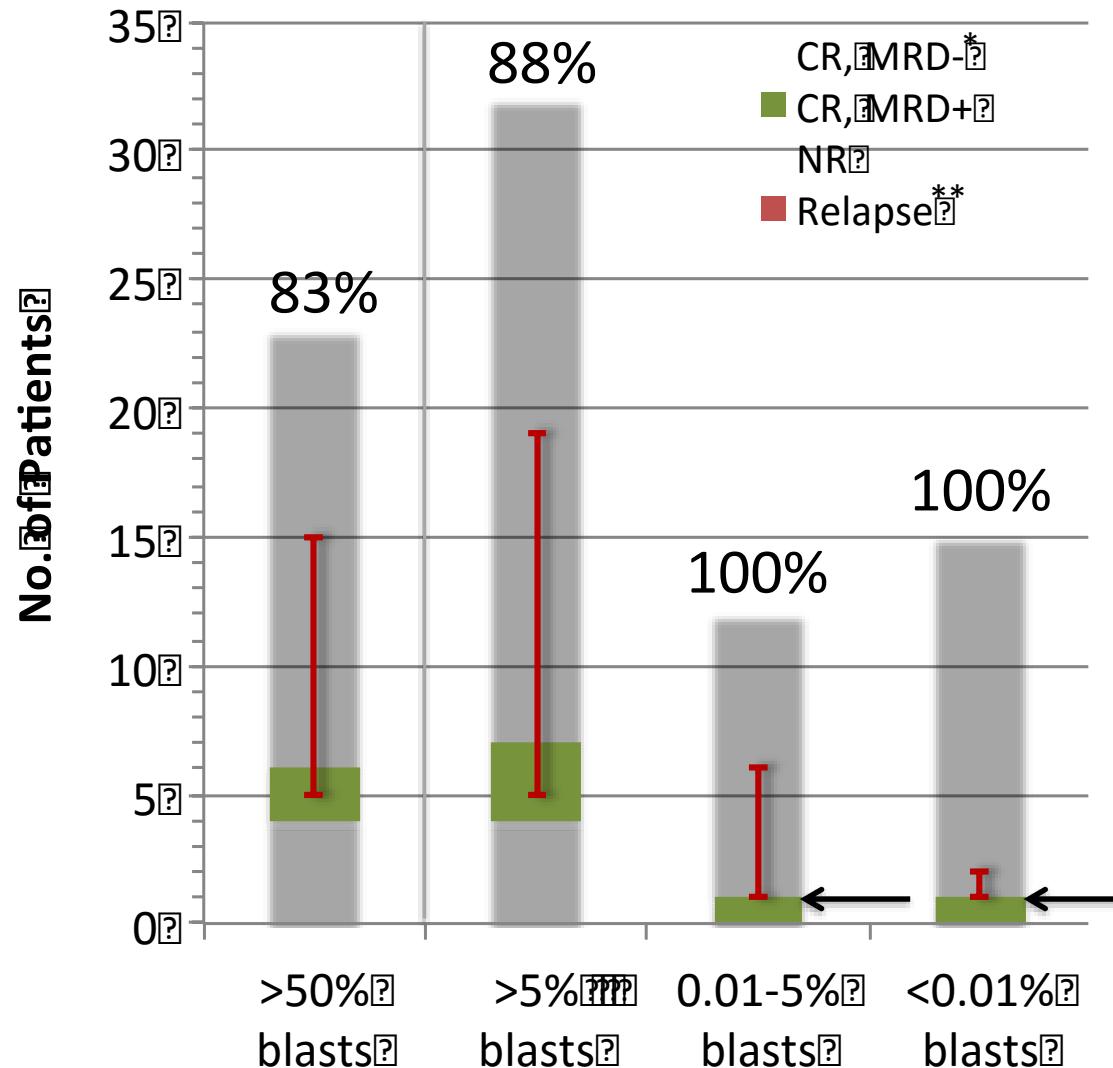


(1.3)

Dismal Outcomes for 2nd Relapse ALL



CART19 in Ped ALL: Response similar at high and low disease burdens



Patient population

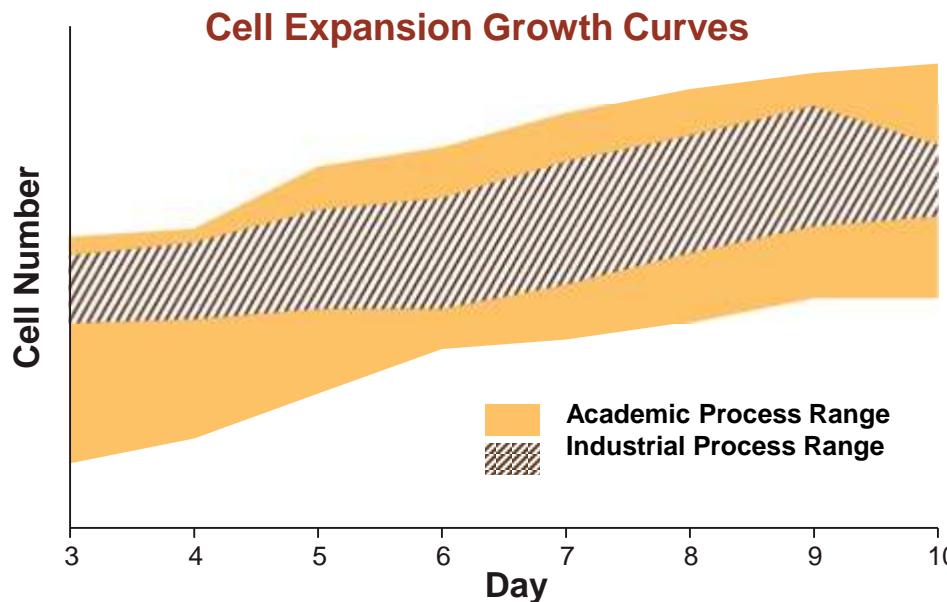
- $\geq 2^{\text{nd}}$ relapse or refractory
- Majority refractory to multiple prior therapies

* $<0.01\%$ MRD by flow cytometry

** $\frac{1}{3}$ CD19+, $\frac{2}{3}$ CD19-

MRD- by 3 months without further therapy

Successful Technology Transfer of CAR T Cell Processing from Academia to Industry Enabled Scale-Up to Support Global Clinical Trials



- **Further enhancement in control and consistency of the process**
 - Closing of process steps
 - Some manual processes replaced with automation solutions
- **Analytics - validation and implementation of more robust and/or faster methods**
 - New quantitation method for expression of CTL019 transgene
 - Rapid mycoplasma testing

Final product control through Analytical Specifications

Specifications



Product Release Tests

Identity

- Appearance
- Vector integration

Purity

- %T Cells (Flow)
- Cell viability
- Transduction efficiency

Impurities

- Residual beads
- B cells
- Vector residuals

Potency

- CAR expression
- Cytokine production

Safety

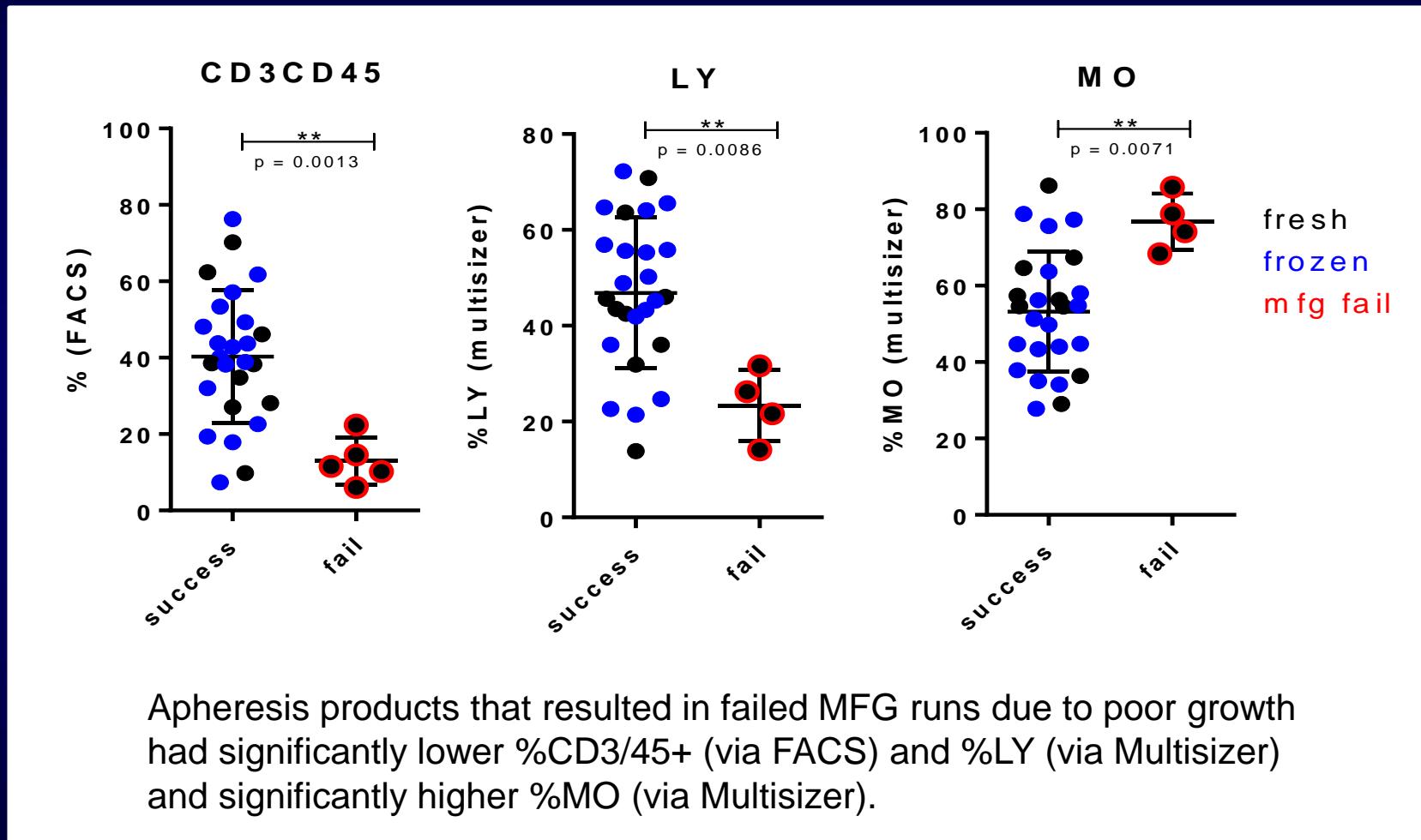
- Sterility
- Endotoxin
- Mycoplasma
- RCL / vector residuals

Release specifications (and in-process controls) ensure:

- ✓ Consistency of manufacturing
- ✓ Adherence to Health Authority requirements
- ✓ Appropriate safety profile
- ✓ Desired product CQAs

What challenges do you face when defining source cell populations?

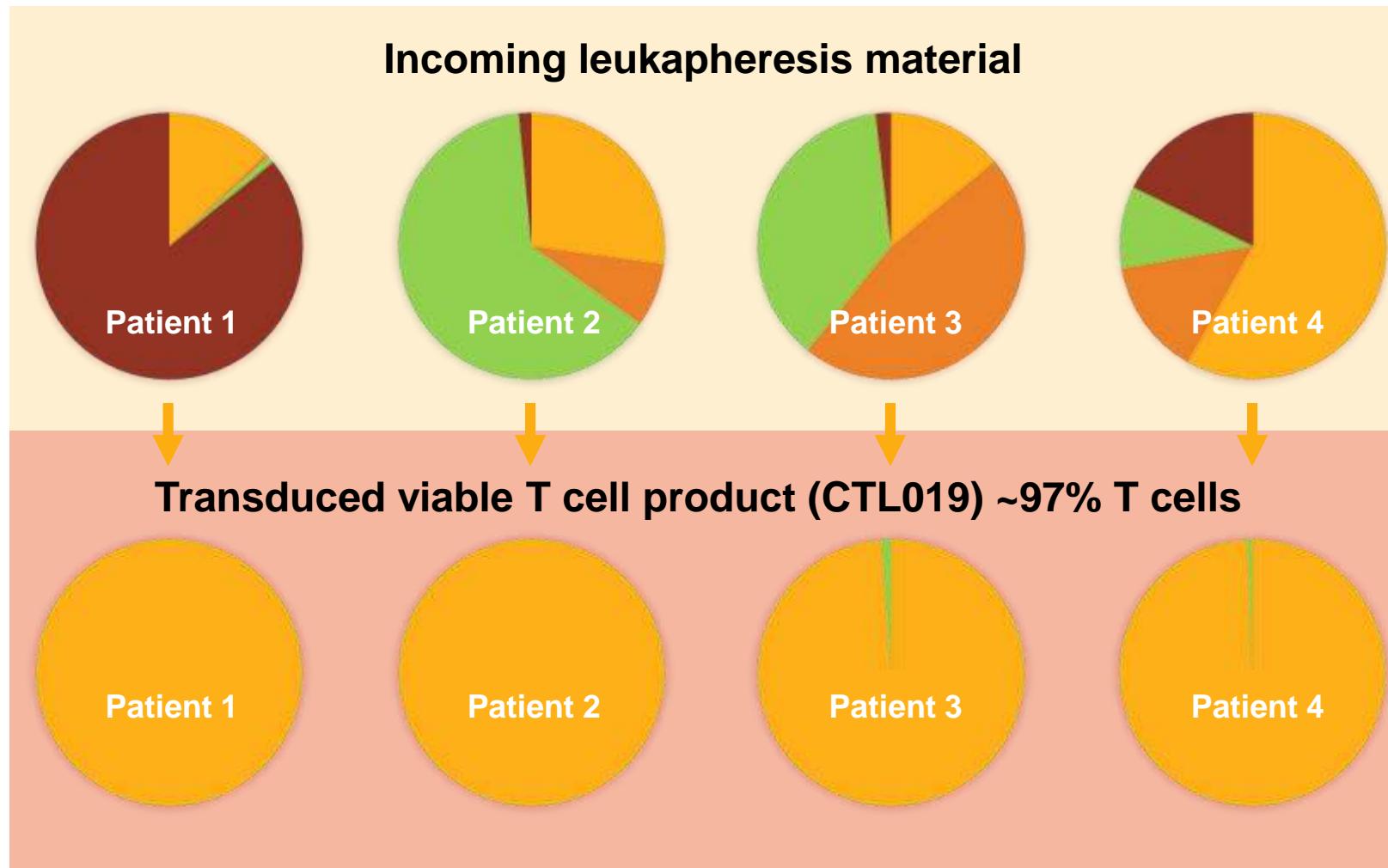
High variability of (patient derived) raw material



Solution: Conditional manufacturing pathways

Consistent CTL019 T-cell product from individual patient material

■ T cells ■ NK cells ■ Monocytes ■ B cells



Determine Efficacy and Safety of CTL019 in Pediatric Patients with Relapsed and Refractory B-cell ALL (ELIANA)

Country	Institution
USA*	The Childrens Hospital of Phil
	Cincinnati Childrens Hospital
	University of Wisconsin Hospit
	University of Michigan
	University of Utah Clinical Tr
	University of Minnesota
	Childrens Mercy Hospital
	Stanford University Medical Ce
	Duke University Medical Center
	Childrens Healthcare of Atlant
	Childrens Medical Center of Da
	Oregon Health & Science Univer
	Childrens Hospital Los Angeles

Country	Institution
Canada	CHU Hopital Ste. Justine
	The Hospital for Sick Children
Japan	National Cancer Center Hospital
	Kyoto University Hospital
Germany	Universitaetsklinikum Frankfur
Italy	Az.Ospedaliera San Gerardo Uni
France	Hopital Robert Debre
	Hopital Saint Louis
Spain	HOSPITAL SANT JOAN DE DEU
Belgium	UZ Gent
Austria	St. Anna Kinderspital
Norway	Oslo Universitetssykehus (University Hospital, Oslo)
Australia	Royal Childrens Hospital VIC

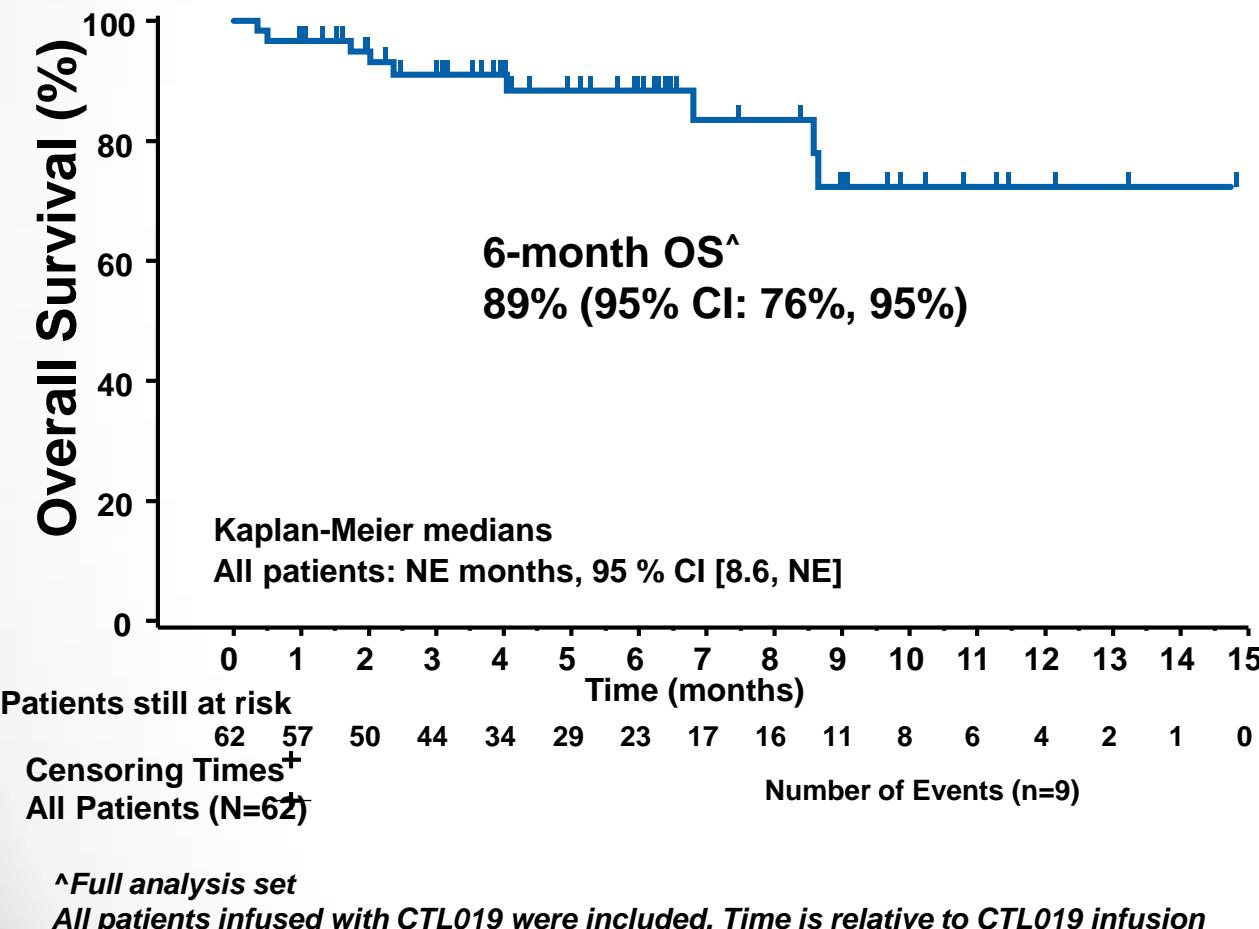
Clinicaltrials.gov NCT02435849
Closed to enrollment

25 Site 11 Country 4 Continent Global Biologistics



- **Scheduling**
- **Collection**
- **Shipping – cold chain management**
- **Manufacturing – supply chain management**
- **Testing**
- **Shipping – cold chain management**
- **Administration**

ELIANA: CTL019 Phase II global trial in Ped ALL

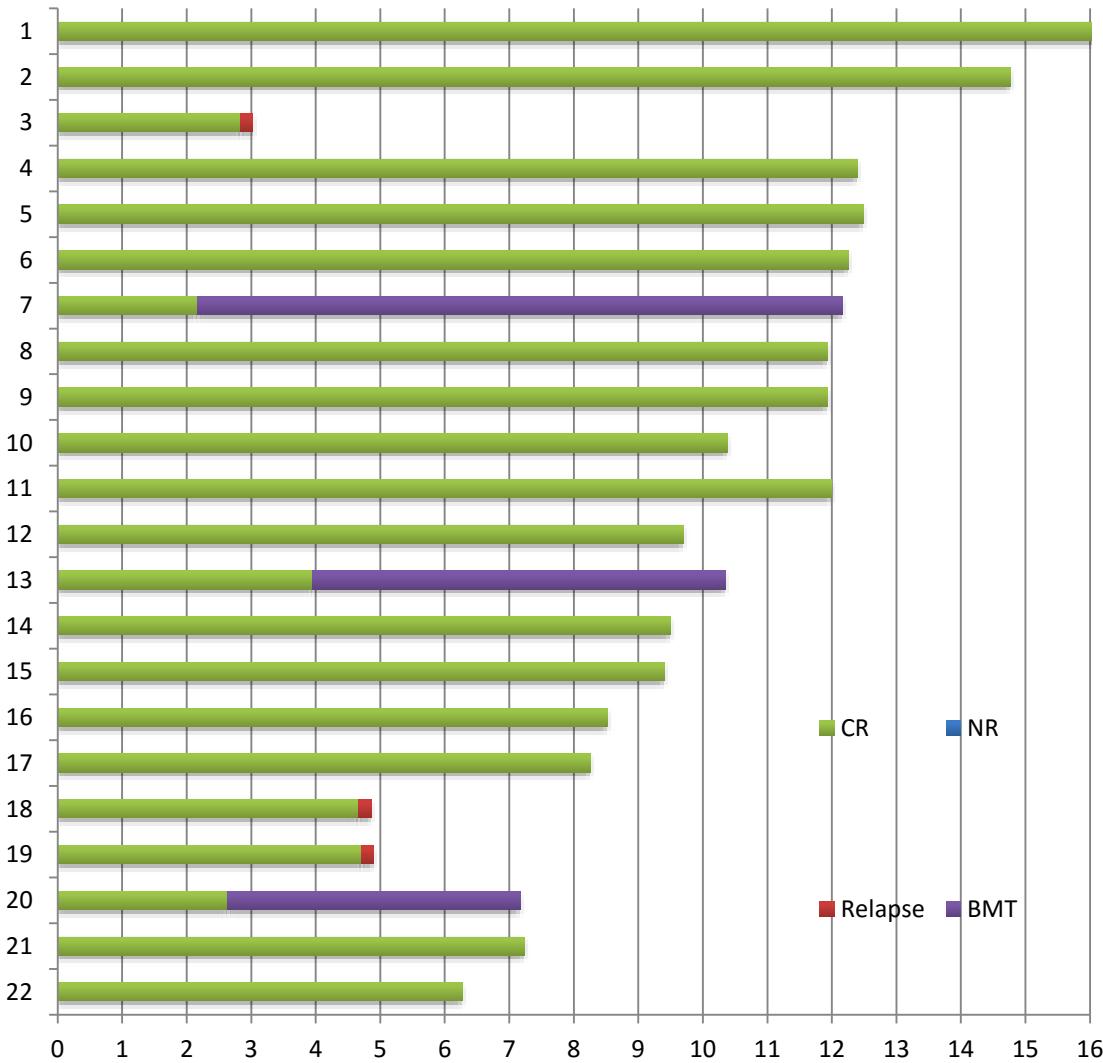


Overall remission rate (CR+CRi) within 3 mos	82 (41/50)
Best overall response (BOR)	
CR	68
CRi	14

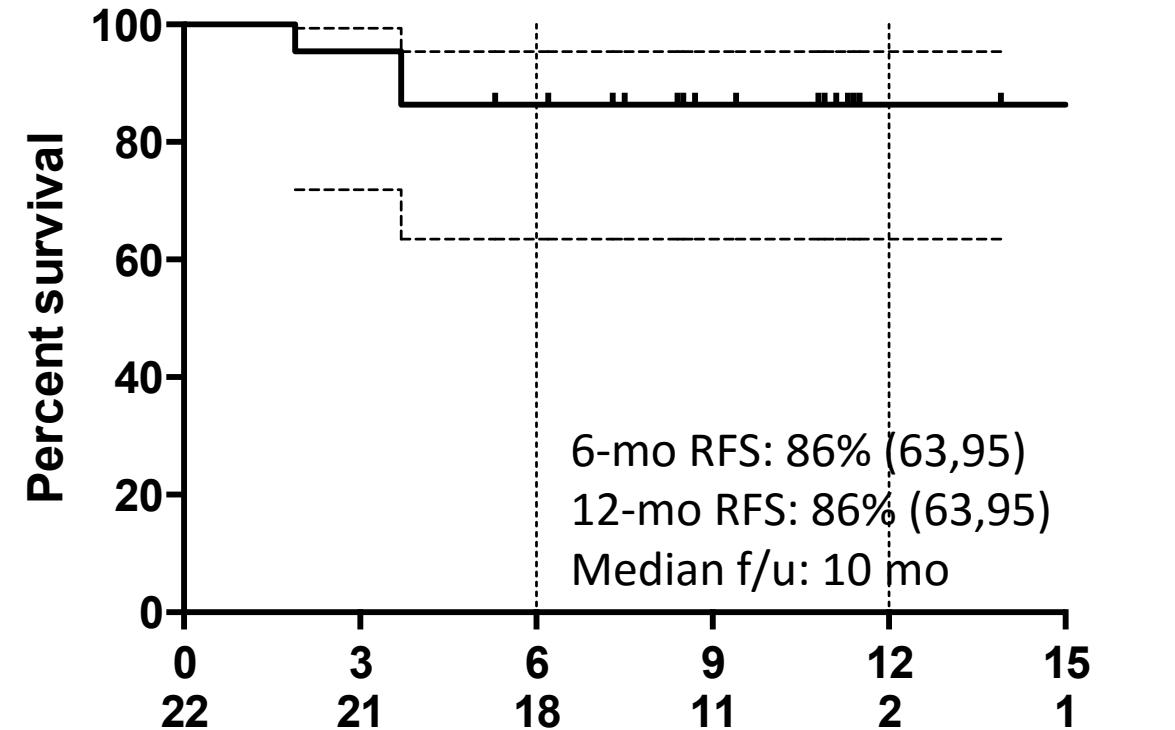
- Novartis announced PedALL BLA accepted by FDA 3/29/17
- Granted Priority Review (FDA goal – 6 months)
- FDA ODAC Ad Comm 7/12/17
- PDUFA Date – not yet announced
- Filings for DLBCL in US and EU later in 2017

Humanized CART19 (CTL119) Response Rate

CAR-naïve cohort: 22/22 CR (100%)



Relapse-free Survival



Presented at ISCT 2017

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jcyt.2017.02.011>

Shannon Maude
Stephan Grupp



Single Arm, Open-Label, Multi-Center, Phase II Study of Efficacy and Safety of CTL019 in Adult DLBCL Patients (JULIET)

US sites

- Emory Winship Cancer Institute
- University of Chicago
- University of Kansas
- University of Michigan
- University of Minnesota
- Duke University
- Ohio State James Cancer Hospital
- Oregon Health Sciences University
- MD Anderson Cancer Center

Ex- US

(Canada, Japan, EU)

- Montreal
- Sapporo
- Oslo

Single Arm, Open-Label, Multi-Center, Phase II Study of Efficacy and Safety of CTL019 in Adult DLBCL Patients (JULIET)

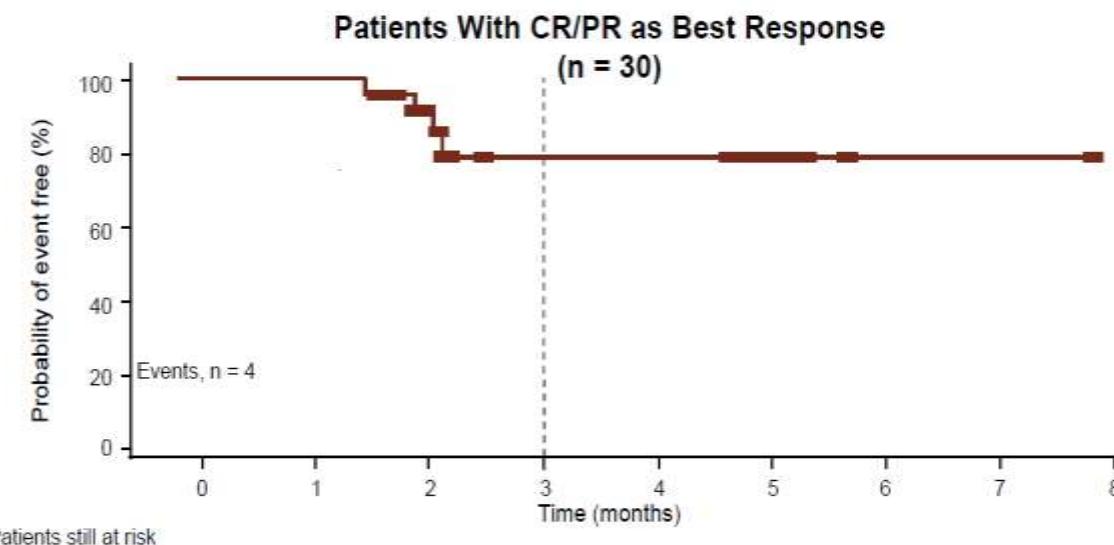
- 27 sites in 10 countries across North America, Europe, Australia, and Asia



Primary Endpoint Was Met

Response Rate	Patients (N = 51) ^a	
Best overall response (CR + PR)	59%	$P < .0001^b$ (95% CI, 44-72)
CR	43%	
PR	16%	
SD	12%	
PD	24%	

Duration of Response: 79% Relapse-free at 6 Months



- All responses at 3 months were ongoing at the time of cut-off
 - No responding patients went on to SCT
- Median DOR and OS not reached

(Some) Lessons Learned in Developing First in Human Clinical Trials

- Cells from healthy humans are not the same as cells from patients with advanced disease
- Demand your research laboratories begin working with clinical grade materials and methods early
- Currently, variable cell material requires human judgement and intervention
- More human intervention = opportunity for deviations = more training required
- A few very well studied patients can radically accelerate clinical development
- An academic scientist can learn to speak Novartian



(Some) Critical Path Issues for Commercialization and Wider Patient Access

- Securing Supply Chain – hundreds of complex components
 - Serum free media with comparable growth/potency
- Reducing COGS and Labor
 - Viral vector → electroporation/nanoparticle delivery
- Increasing Consistency, Comparability, managing challenging cases
- Rapid and Modified Release Test Development
 - Bacterial, Fungal, Mycoplasma
 - RCR, RCL testing of vector lots
- Recruiting, Training, Retaining Skilled Technologists/Engineers
- Near Term Clinical Trial/Post-Approval Allocation Ethics
 - AZT, Imatinib, Zmapp (Ebola)
- Near Term Outscaling, Mid to Long Term Automation

