



# Radioterapia ed immunoterapia: quali frontiere

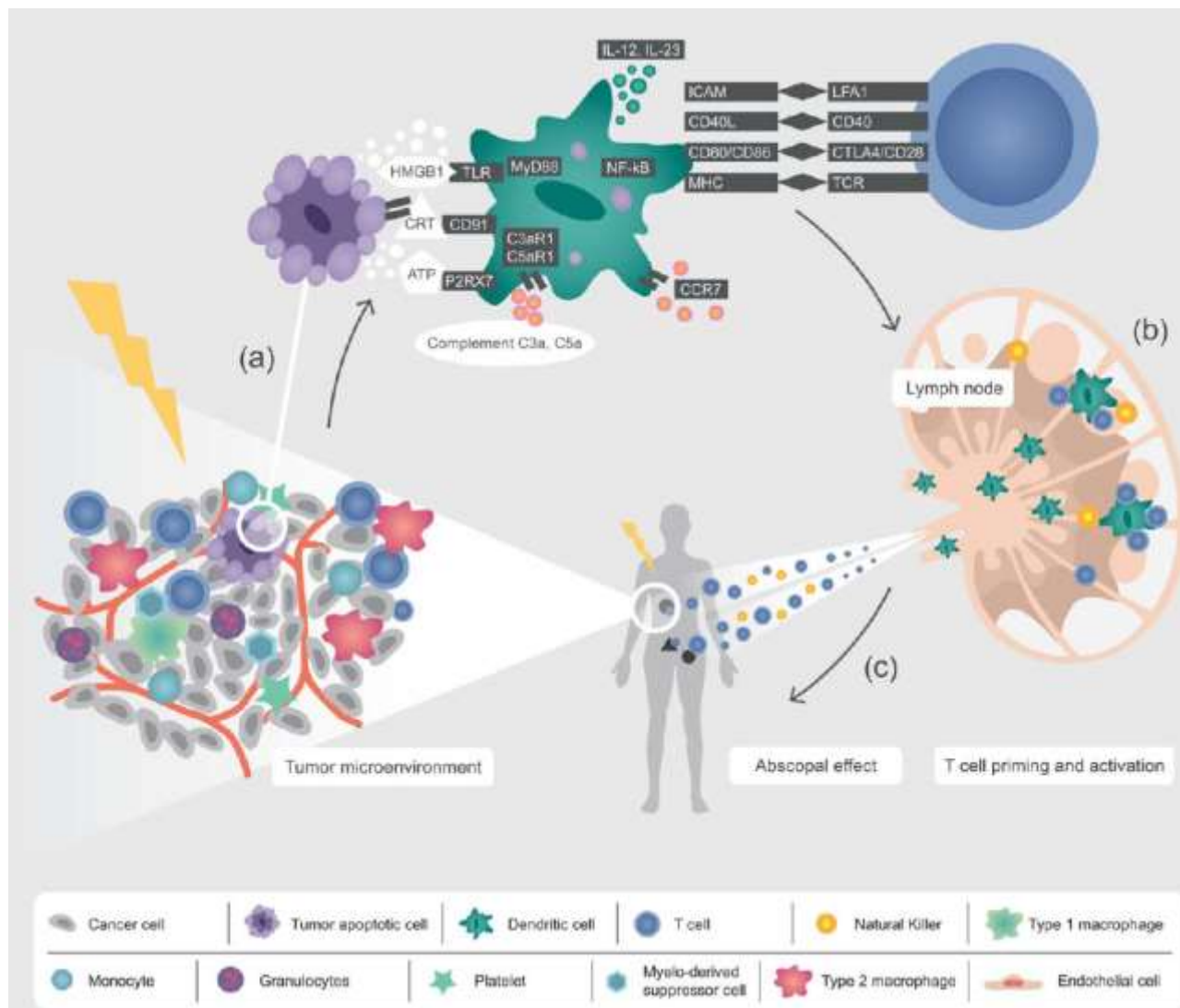
# Modulo dichiarazione conflitto di interessi

Tutti i rapporti finanziari intercorsi negli ultimi due anni devono essere dichiarati.

- Non ho rapporti (finanziari o di altro tipo) con le Aziende del farmaco
- Ho / ho avuto rapporti (finanziari o di altro tipo) con le Aziende del farmaco

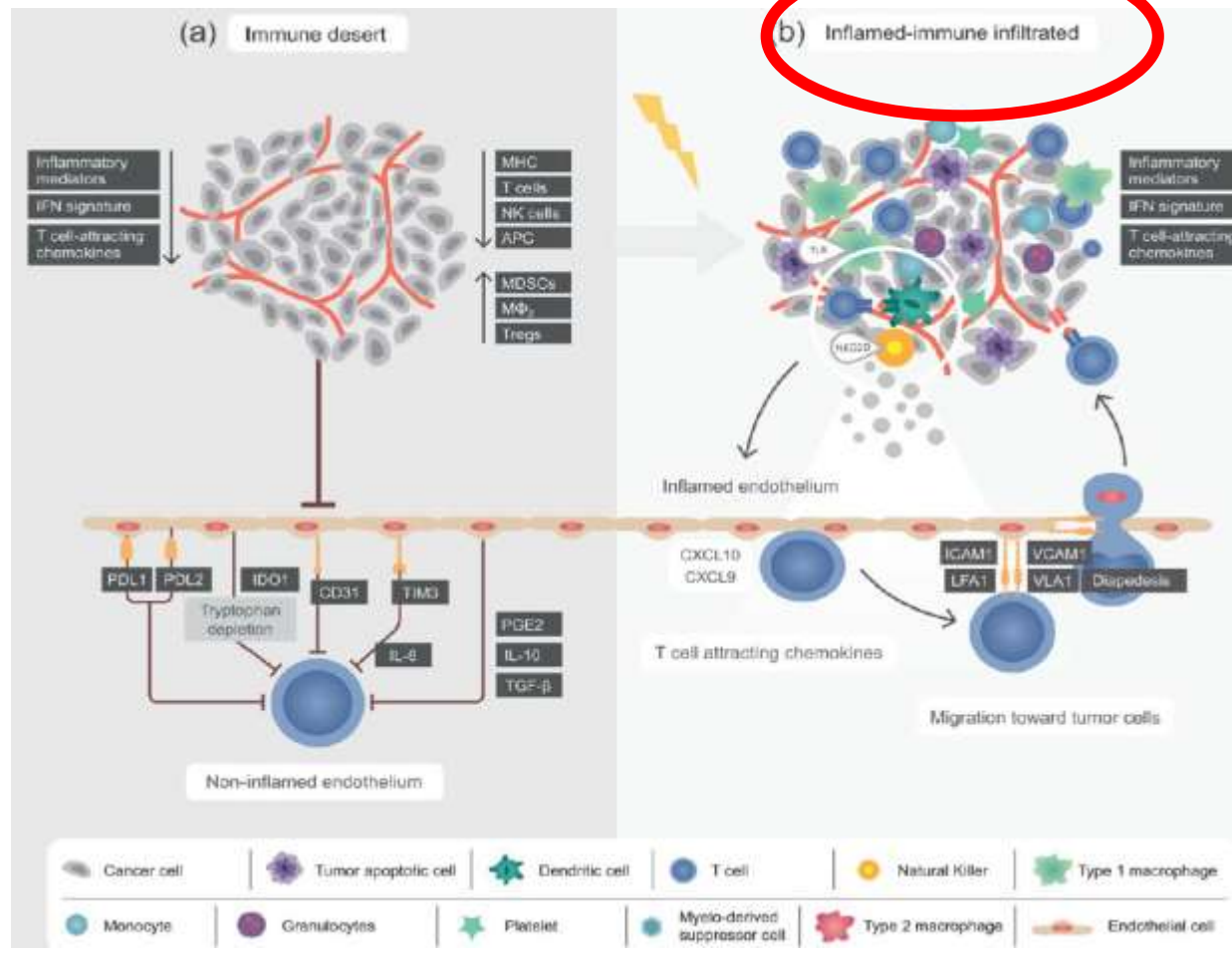
Relationship	Company/Organization
Clinical trials, speaker	Astra Zeneca, Pfizer, MSD
Travel grants	Merck, Ipsen, MSD

# RT → In situ vaccination



# RT → Reprogramming of tumor microenvironment

## COLD TUMOR

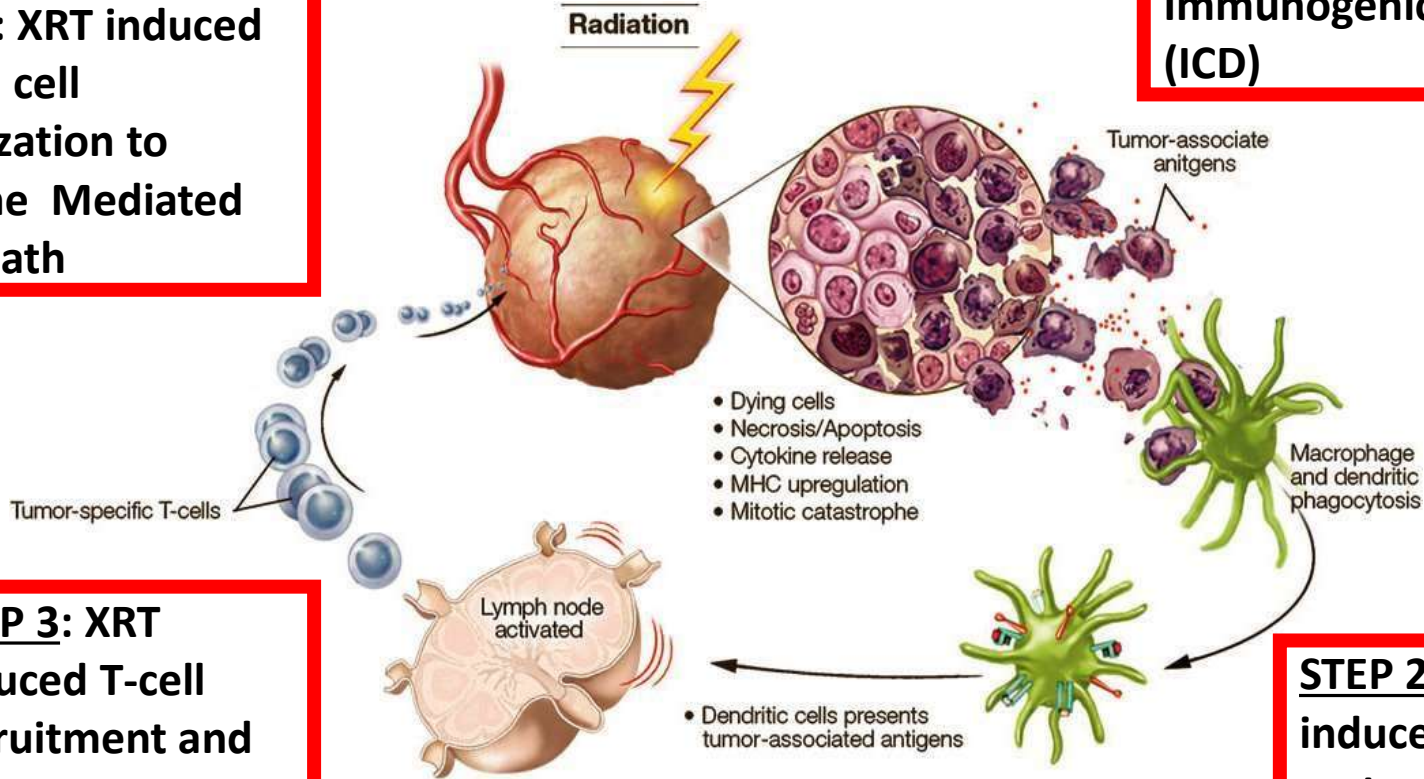


# Combination of radiotherapy and immunotherapy



**STEP 1: Radiation Induced Antigen Release and Immunogenic Cell Death (ICD)**

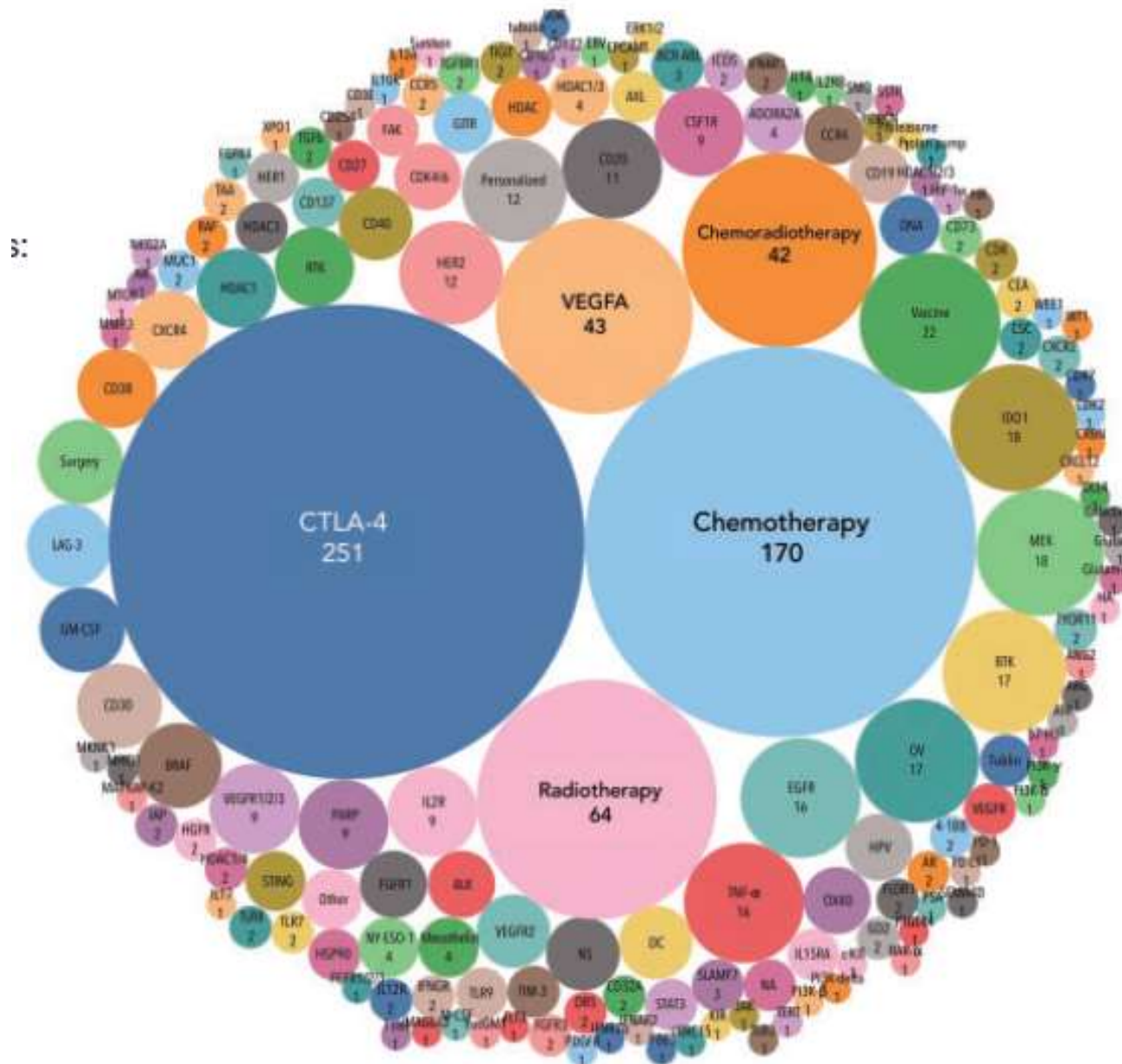
**STEP 4: XRT induced Tumor cell Sensitization to Immune Mediated Cell Death**



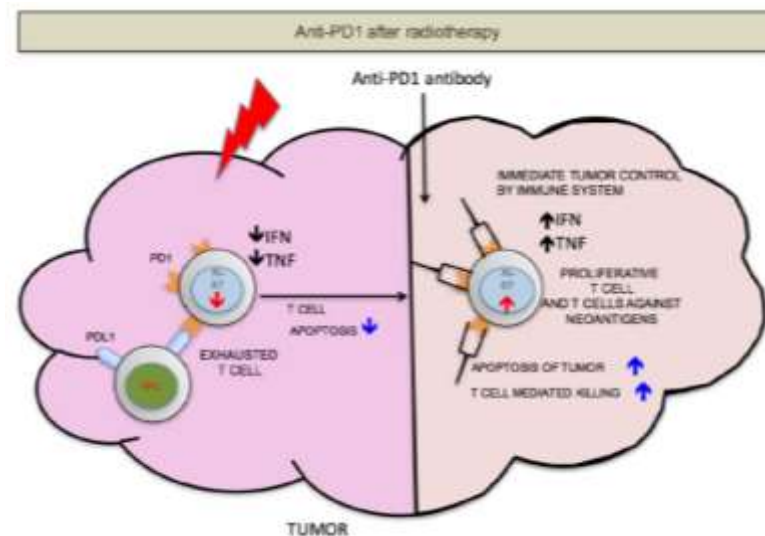
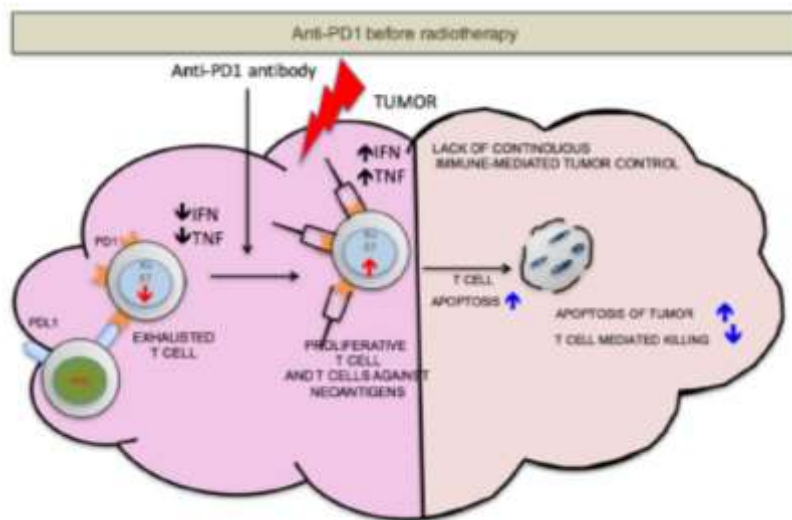
**STEP 3: XRT induced T-cell recruitment and infiltration**

**STEP 2: Radiation induced APC maturation and Antigen Presentation**





# The right way? Timing



RT just before Immunotherapy or concurrently...

But timing depends on the mechanism of action of the Immunotherapy (CTLA4 and OX40 agonist)

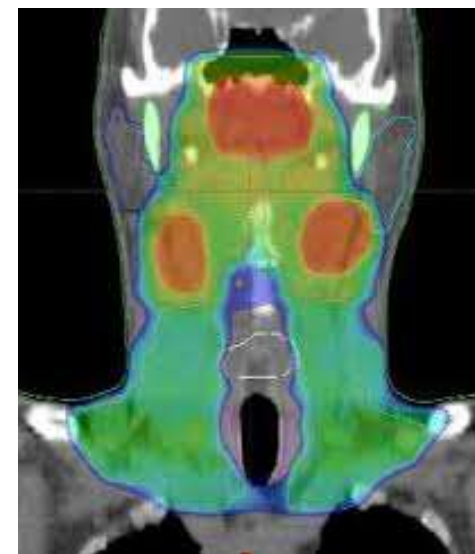
# The right way? Volume

## Volume effect in ...curative settings

Is it useful elective nodal irradiation when combining radiotherapy with immunotherapy ?



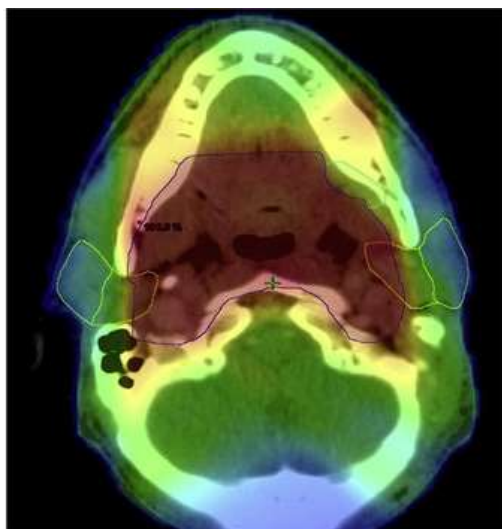
Use of large radiation fields encompassing substantial volumes of bone marrow, pronounced reductions in blood counts were seen, thus reinforcing the notion that radiation is generally immunosuppressive





# The right way?

## Volume effect in ...curative settings



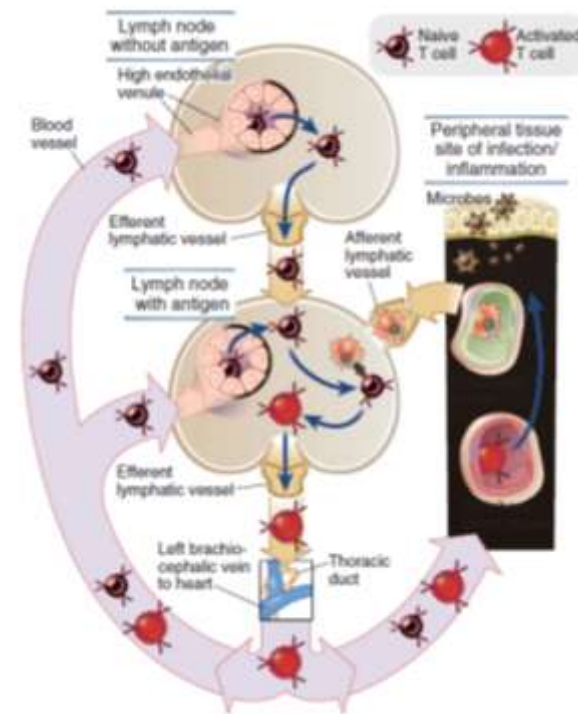
Low-dose bath to a large part of tissue

SKIN

LYMPHOCYTE



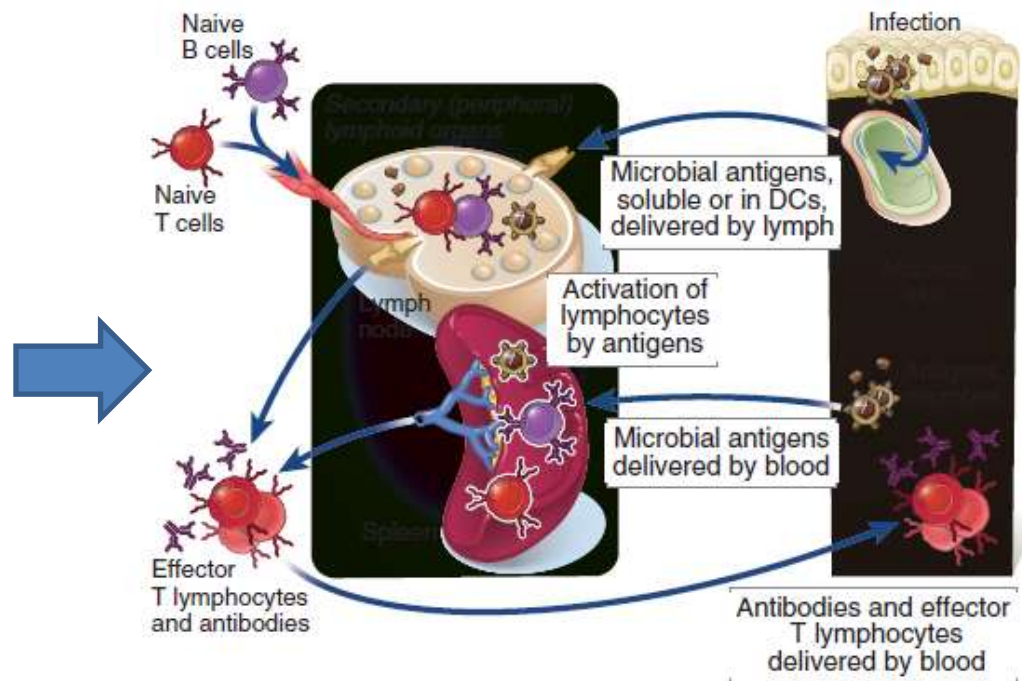
Dose is of less importance than field volume and hypofractionation generally spares these cells by limiting time, i.e., volume blood passing through, compared to a conventional 6-week delivery. (2Gy inactive LyT)



# The right way?

## Volume effect in ...curative settings

RT induced cross-presentation of tumor-associated epitopes by DCs **take place in the draining lymph nodes**

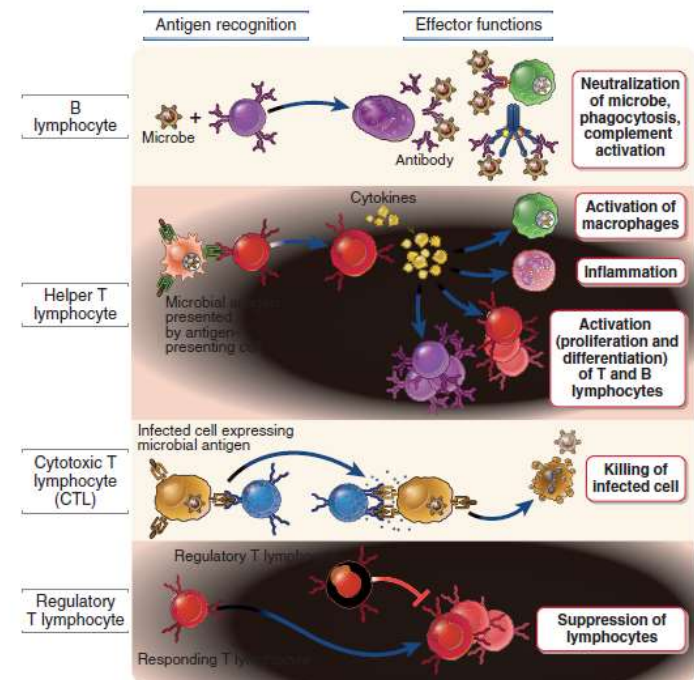


# The right way?

## Volume effect in ...curative settings

In preclinical models RT reduce the proportion and absolute numbers of **tumor-infiltrating CD8+ T cells**.

**Tregs**, a sub-set of CD4+ T-cells involved in the **suppressive** microenvironment, are more radioresistant to fractionated schedules than other T-cell subsets, potentially mitigating the immune response induced by RT when **treating large volumes**

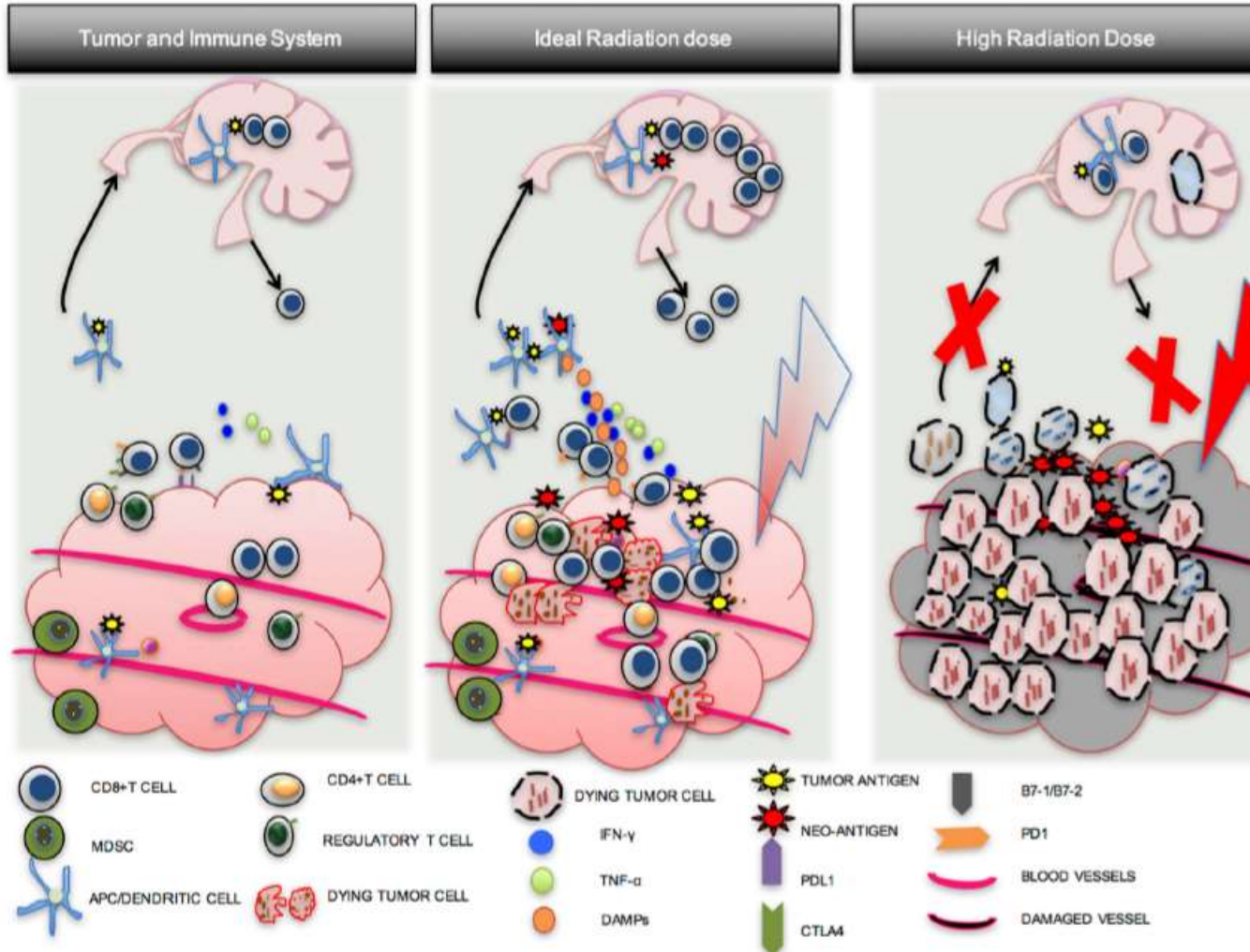


Hietanien T. Anticancer Res 2015

## The right way? Dose and fractionation

- 1- meta-analysis of pre-clinical study showed that a BED>60Gy is associated to 50% probability of abscopal effect
- 2- in vivo? TME... so IED
- 3---no comparison different schedules
- 4---High dose per fraction induces tumor cell death...but
- 5---pre-clinical evidence dose greater 12 Gy is less immunogenic (cytosol DNA increase until 12 Gy and this activate cGAS-STING complex and immune response) and induce vascular damage and reduced vascular flow...
- 5---repeated conventional dose: lymphopenia, increased TGFb and Treg, reduced IL-1b, increased expression PD-L1 and TIGIT....but normalizing tumor vasculature...
- 6---a dose and fractionation regimen optimized for a robust local response may be expected to differ from that optimized for a distant abscopal response

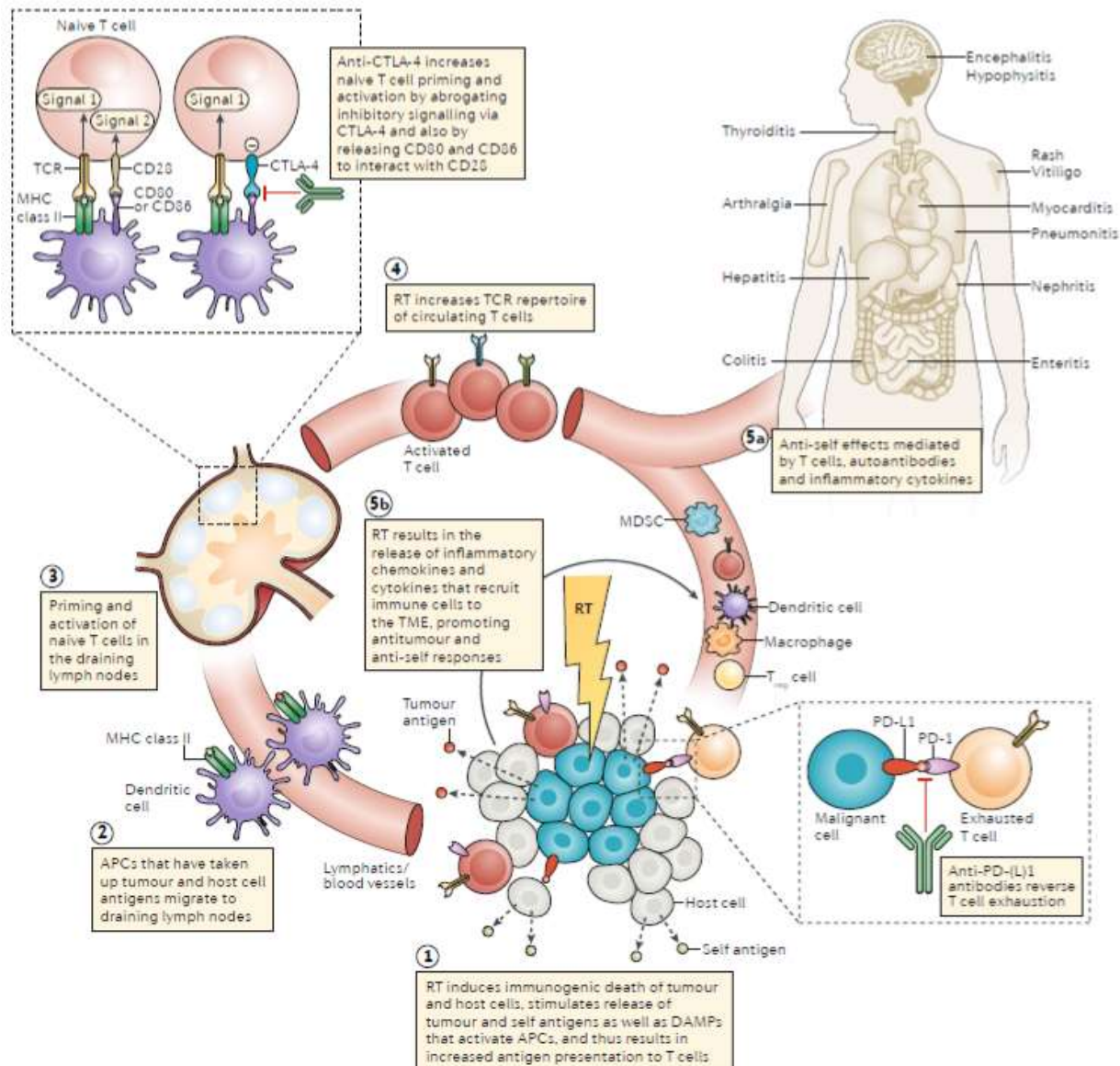
# The right way? Dose and fractionation



8-10 Gy per fraction repeated 2-3 times.... in metastatic disease



# Safety for combination RT and ICI ???????





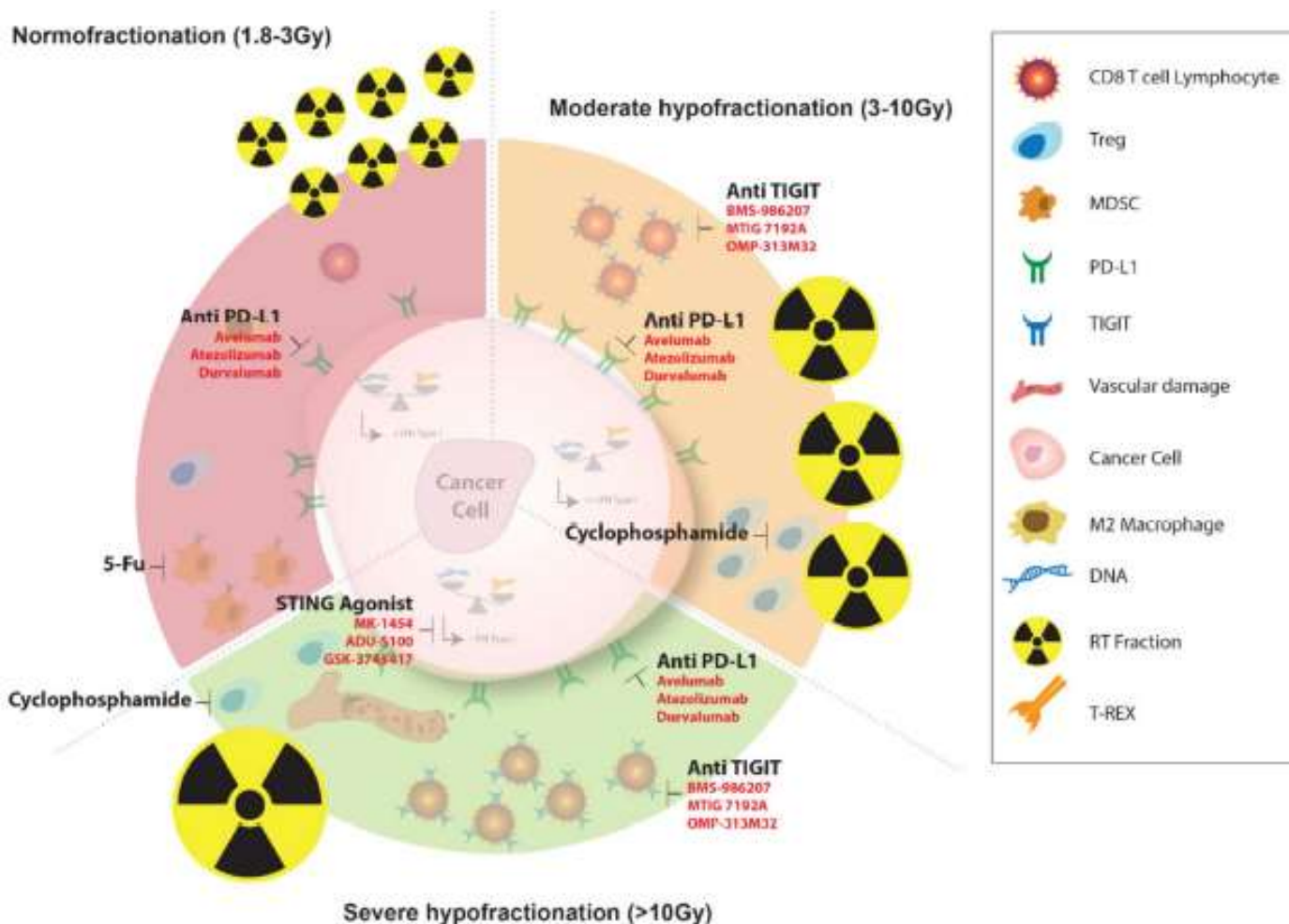


# Safety for combination RT and ICI ???????

Study	characteristics	Exposure	Toxicity outcomes
Barker, 2013	Single- institution, retrospective study involving 29 patients with unresectable stage III–IV melanoma	Ipilimumab + concurrent extracranial RT	Grade $\geq 3$ irAEs in 31% of patients including 0% of patients receiving an RT dose (EQD2) $\leq 100$ Gy versus 44% in those receiving $>100$ Gyy; mFUP 11 mo
Fang, 2017	Single- institution, retrospective study involving 137 patients with brain metastases from melanoma	Intracranial SRT + CT and/or ICI	TABN in 27% on multivariate analysis, risk of RN was associated with CT $< 6$ months and with an increased number of lesions treated ,but was not associated with ICI type, ICI doses, or timing of ICI relative to SRT; mFUP 9.8 months
Antonia, 2017	Multicentre, randomized, placebocontrolled phase III trial involving 713 patients with locally advanced, unresectable NSCLC	Anti- PD-1 and/or anti- PD-L1 antibody $\pm$ thoracic RT (n = 73)	irAEs in 15.4% of patients receiving ICI vs 13.7% of patients receiving ICI + thoracic RT ; all- grade PNS in 5.5% of patients receiving ICI vs 8.2% of patients receiving ICI + thoracic RT; grade $\geq 2$ PNS in 3.3% of patients receiving ICI ves 4.1% of patients receiving ICI + thoracic RT
Shaverdian, 2017	Single- institution, prospective secondary analysis involving 97 patients with advanced-stage NSCLC	Pembrolizumab $\pm$ preceding thoracic RT (n = 24)	All- grade PNS in 1% of patients receiving pembrolizumab vs 13% receiving pembrolizumab + thoracic); grade $\geq 3$ PNS in 1% of patients receiving pembrolizumab versus 4% receiving pembrolizumab + thoracic RT ; mFUP 32.5 months in survivors

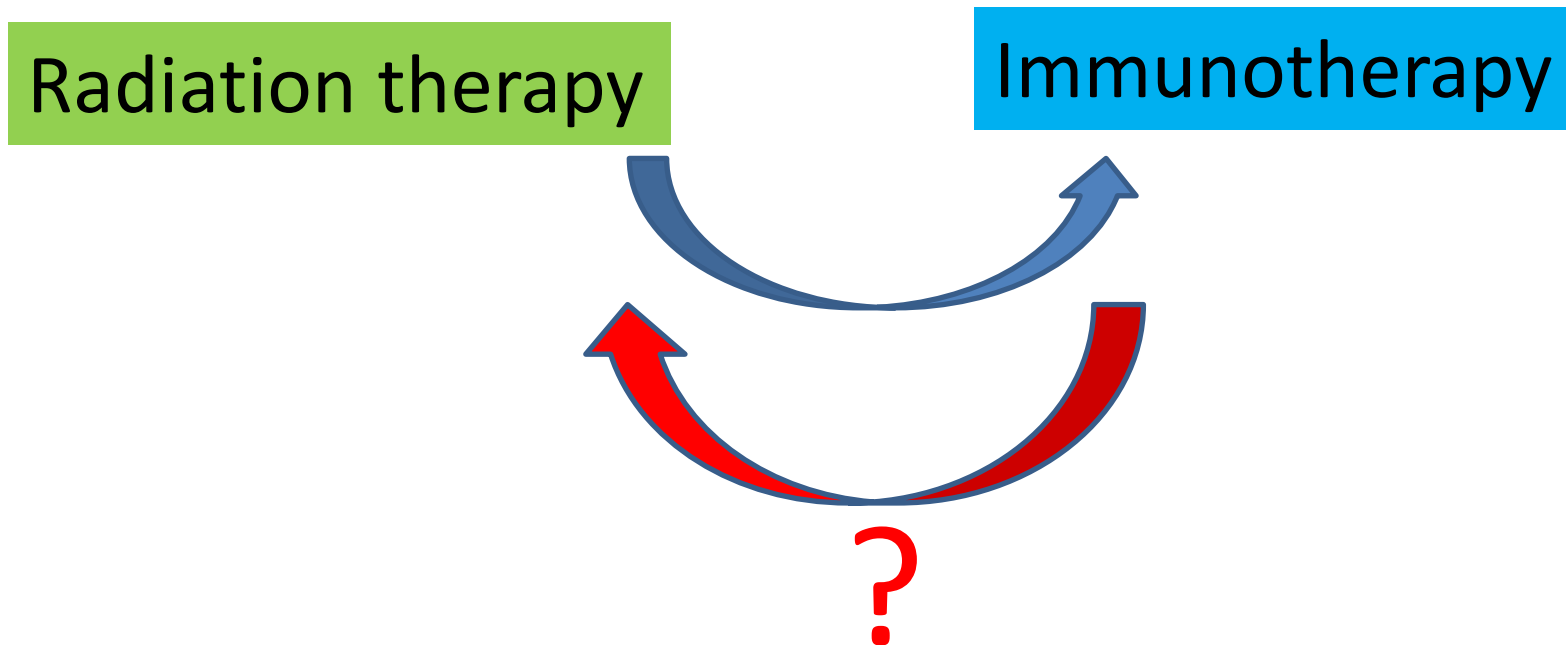
# Quali frontiere?

## Combination RT and biotherapies



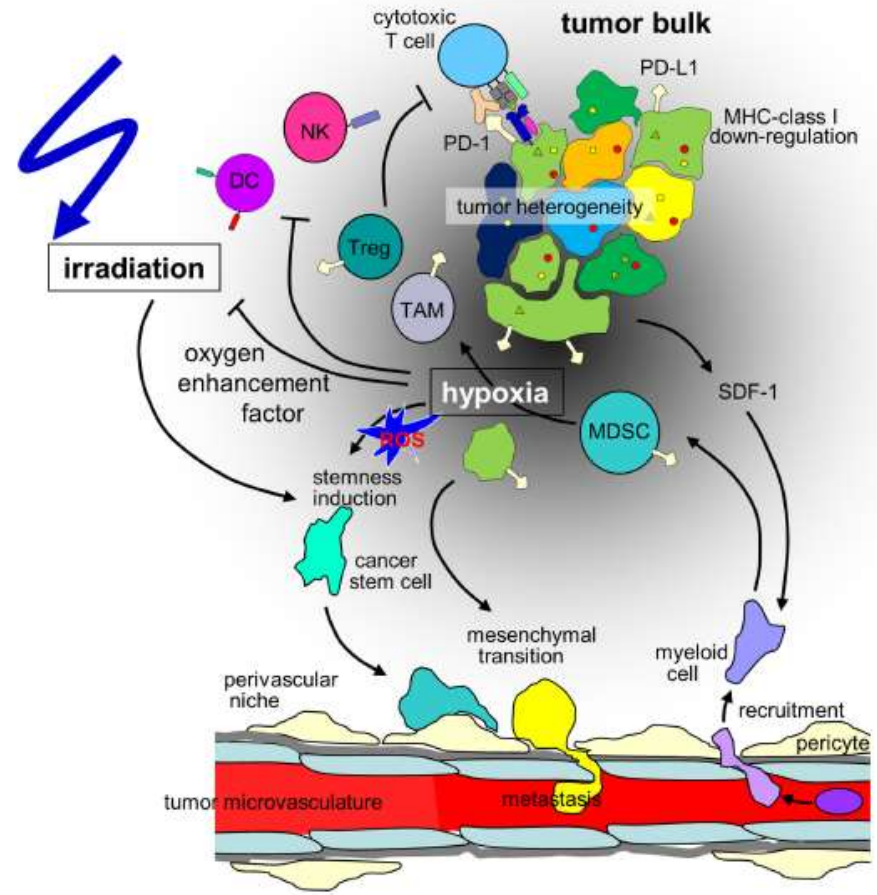
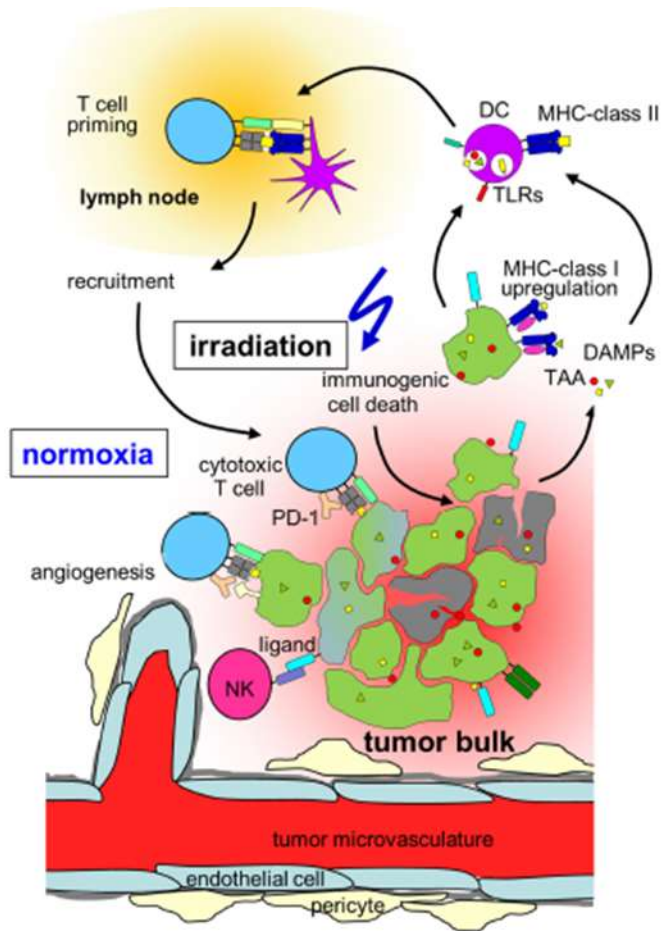
## Quali frontiere?

Could immunotherapy be a radiation sensitizer?

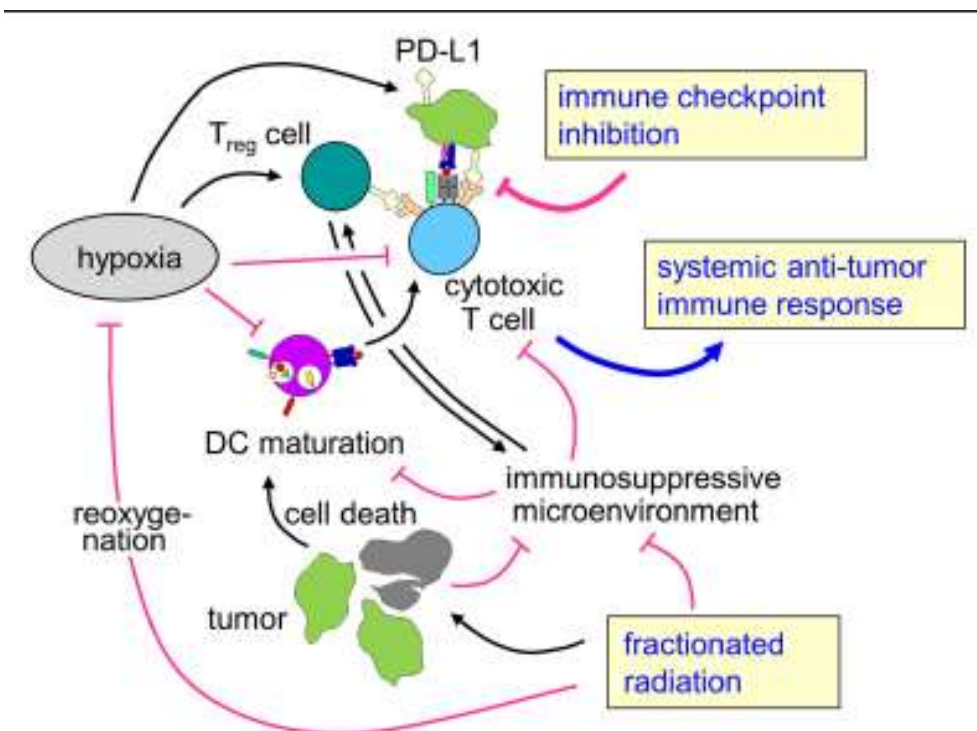


- Regulators of both radiosensitivity and immune checkpoints have been identified (PARP inhibitors may act by upregulating PDL1 expression and inducing immunosuppression)
- ICI may influence the tumor microenvironment by regulating cytokine secretion and by remodeling tumor vasculature

# Quali frontiere? Ipoxyia



# Quali frontiere? Rationale for combination RT and IO hypoxic tumors



# Multiple partial irradiation?

## **Safety and Clinical Activity of Pembrolizumab and Multisite Stereotactic Body Radiotherapy in Patients With Advanced Solid Tumors.**

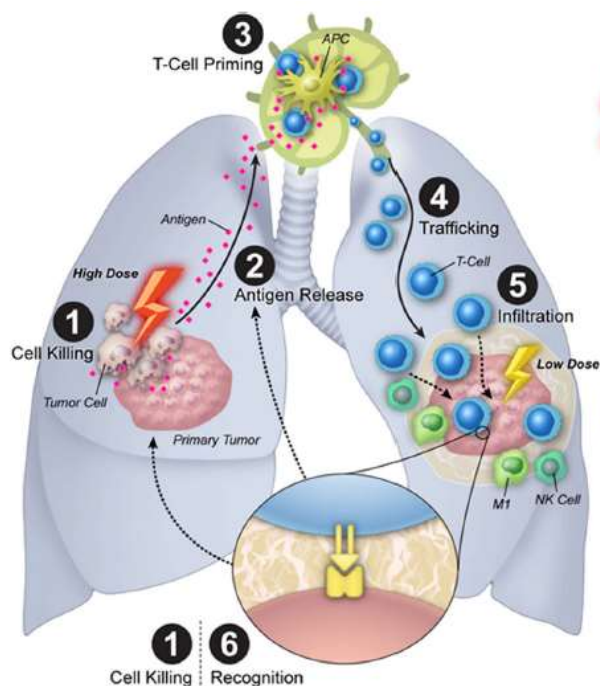
Anti-PD-1-treatment outcomes may be improved with lower disease burden

Patients progressing on standard treatment received SBRT to two to four metastases. Not all metastases were targeted, and metastases > 65 mL were partially irradiated. SBRT dosing varied by site and ranged from 30 to 50 Gy in three to five fractions with predefined dose de-escalation if excess dose-limiting toxicities were observed. Pembrolizumab was initiated within 7 days after completion of SBRT

Excellent local control, both in partially and full irradiated lesion; median overall survival of 9.6 months despite a PFS of 3.1 months



# Quali frontiere? Low dose



Visual Art: © 2018 The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

**HIGH DOSE**

**POSITIVE EFFECTS:**

- ↑ Antigen release
- ↑ DAMPs
- ↑ MHC1
- ↑ ICOS

**NEGATIVE EFFECTS:**

- ↑ MDSCs
- ↑ Tregs
- ↑ TGF-β

**LOW DOSE**

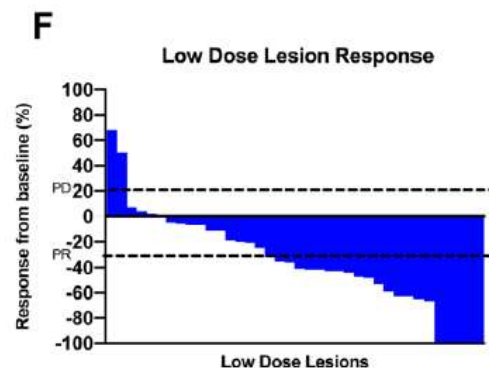
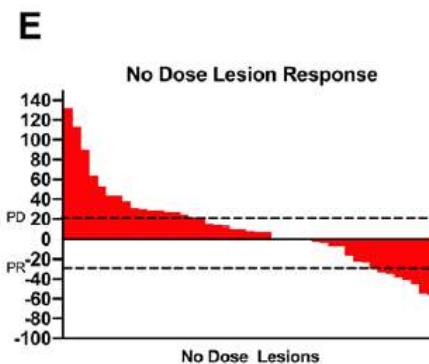
**POSITIVE EFFECTS:**

- ↑ M<sub>1</sub> TAMs
- ↑ Chemokines
- ↑ NK cell recruitment
- ↑ Tcell recruitment
- ↓ TGF-β

**NEGATIVE EFFECTS:**

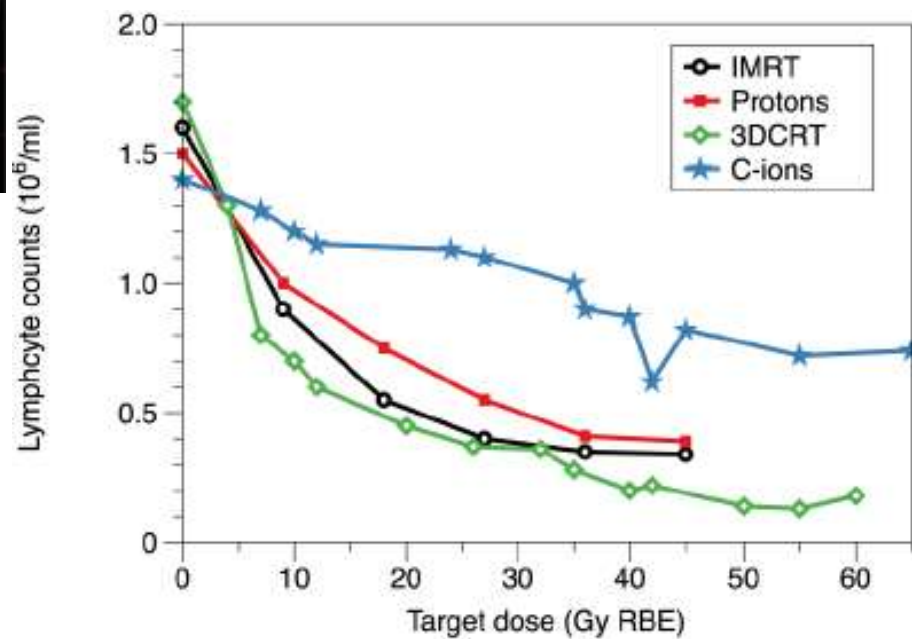
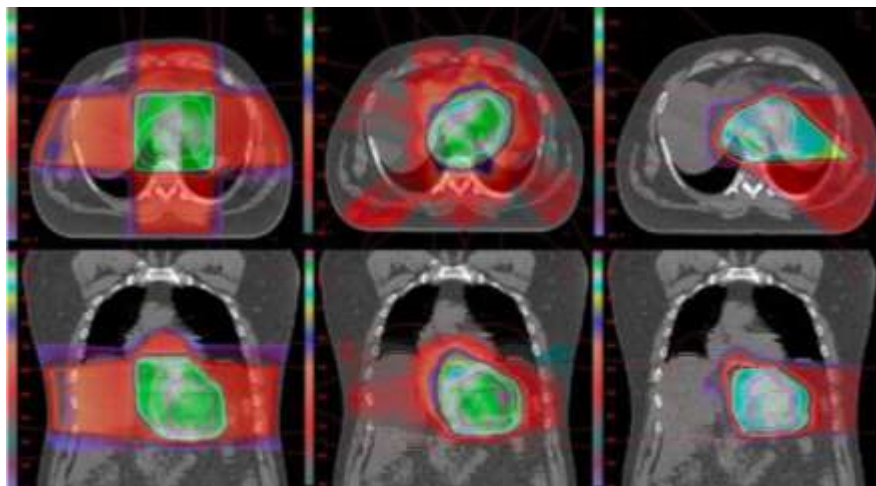
- ↓ ICOS
- Tregs

low-dose radiation may convert the stroma to a more favorable environment that induces homing of T lymphocytes, perhaps via reducing TGF-β signaling, which in turn results in decreased immunosuppressive cell signaling.



# Quali frontiere?

## Particle radiation therapy is better?



## Quale frontiera?

# Radiotherapy is different from radioimmunotherapy

Dose escalation

One dose fits all

Irradiate large volume

Prophylactic lymph node irradiation

Whole pelvis radiotherapy

Standard dose-volume histograms

Include chemotherapy

Dose de-escalation

Non-ablative personalised doses

Minimise irradiated volume

Spare lymph nodes

Spare small and large bowel for microbiome optimisation

Redefine dose-volume histograms

Avoid chemotherapy?

# Take home messages

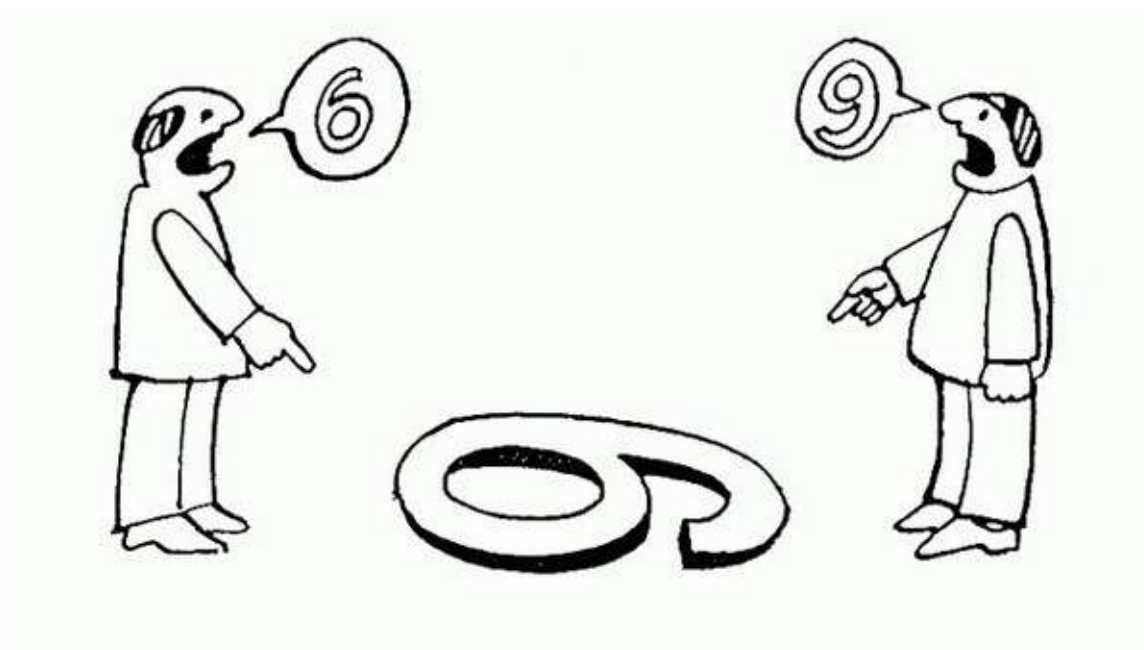
1. Setting (curative/oligometastatic/polimetastatic)
2. Need for strong pre-clinic rationale: Know thy enemy and your friend
3. Disease are not equal
4. Site disease are not equal
5. Only for radiation oncologists: remember **radiobiology**
6. Immune system is equal...and dynamic
7. **Safety also for long term**

**Need of «tumor»**

**What's future for postoperative radiation therapy?**

**Neoadjuvant perspective**

# A paradigm that needs to be reconsidered when associating RT and immunotherapy !





**How far that little candle throws his beams!**

W. Shakespeare

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