



Advancing Cancer Therapy: A Review of Recent Progress in Monoclonal Antibodies

**Buddadasari Snehitha ^a, Mopuri Jyothsna ^a,
Akula Ruchitha Sai ^a, Binaya Sapkota ^a, Bandaru Revanth ^a,
K Somasekhar Reddy ^a and Bhupalam Pradeep Kumar ^{a*}**

^a Department of Pharmacology, Raghavendra Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (RIPER) – Autonomous, KR Palli Cross, Chiyvedu (Post), Anantapur, Andhra Pradesh– 515721, India.

Authors' contributions

This work was carried out in collaboration among all authors. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

Article Information

DOI: 10.56557/AJOAIR/2024/v7i14046

Open Peer Review History:

This journal follows the Advanced Open Peer Review policy. Identity of the Reviewers, Editor(s) and additional Reviewers, peer review comments, different versions of the manuscript, comments of the editors, etc are available here: <https://prh.mbimph.com/review-history/3443>

Review Article

Received: 14/02/2024

Accepted: 18/04/2024

Published: 24/04/2024

ABSTRACT

A new era in cancer treatment has begun with the development of monoclonal antibodies (mAbs), which have improved therapeutic results and precision targeting to a great extent. Specialized monoclonal antibodies (mAbs) are engineered to attach specifically to cancer antigens, allowing them to directly target tumor cells and influence the immune system for therapeutic purposes. Significant advancements in this field include the approval and clinical efficacy of mAbs that target B-cell lymphomas and HER2-positive breast cancer. Notable cases like as trastuzumab and rituximab highlight the real benefits of these treatments, which include better patient outcomes and survival rates.

Furthermore, by triggering the body's immunological defenses against cancer cells, immune checkpoint inhibitors like pembrolizumab have completely changed the way that cancer is treated.

*Corresponding author: Email: bhupalampradeep@gmail.com;

For individuals with previously difficult-to-treat illnesses, this innovative technique has shown extraordinary success across a variety of cancer types. Innovative approaches including antibody-drug conjugates and bispecific antibodies have also been produced by ongoing developments in mAb engineering. These technical miracles improve the overall safety profile of monoclonal antibodies (mAb) therapeutics by compensating for off-target effects and optimizing therapeutic efficacy. There are still issues, such as toxicity and the emergence of drug resistance, in spite of significant progress. Even Nevertheless, continued research and development initiatives highlight the enormous potential of monoclonal antibodies in customized cancer treatment plans. These advances promise a better future for cancer patients everywhere by highlighting the quick evolution of cancer therapies and encouraging increased research and innovation in this vital area of medicine.

Keywords: Immunotherapies; Her2-positive breast cancer; targeted antigens; oncology; Car T Cell treatment.

1. INTRODUCTION

A wide variety of medical procedures are included in cancer treatment with the goal of identifying, treating, and, hopefully, eliminating cancers [1]. Historically, radiation therapy, chemotherapy, and surgery have all been used as therapies. Significant breakthroughs in the field of monoclonal antibodies (mAbs) for cancer therapy have been demonstrated in recent studies. In a noteworthy study, Smith et al.'s 2023 publication examined the effectiveness of a novel bispecific antibody in concurrently targeting numerous antigens, showing encouraging outcomes in preclinical models of solid tumors. A clinical trial by Johnson et al. in 2024 also looked at a next-generation antibody-drug combination and showed promising response rates and tolerable safety profiles in patients with refractory hematologic malignancies. These new findings highlight continuous efforts to improve the safety and effectiveness of mAbs in customized cancer therapy modalities.

Targeted treatments, immunotherapies, and precision medicine have changed the face of cancer treatment in recent times. In the continuous fight against cancer, finding more individualized and potent treatments remains a top priority [2].

Current developments in cancer research represent a paradigm change in scientific knowledge and approaches to treatment. A complex and individualised approach to cancer treatment is embodied by precision medicine, immunotherapy, and targeted medicines, especially monoclonal antibodies [3].

When used in cancer therapy, monoclonal antibodies (mAbs) exhibit a variety of therapeutic

processes and target specificities, underscoring their versatility and effectiveness in treating various cancer forms. "Naked" monoclonal antibodies (mAbs), such as rituximab, bind to cancer cells directly and trigger the immune system to fight them. This strategy makes effective use of the immune system's built-in mechanisms to target and eradicate cancer cells.

[4] Trastuzumab emtansine is an example of a conjugated monoclonal antibody that carries cytotoxic payloads that selectively destroy cancer cells while sparing healthy tissue. By delivering harmful substances specifically, this approach reduces unintended consequences and improves treatment accuracy. Bispecific monoclonal antibodies (mAbs) like blinatumomab are designed to bind to two different targets at the same time. Bispecific mAbs provide effective tumor cell killing by connecting immune cells and cancer cells, hence facilitating immune cell-directed cytotoxicity.

Pembrolizumab and other immune checkpoint inhibitors work by removing the immune system's restraints, enabling it to more successfully identify and combat cancer cells. This immunomodulatory strategy improves the body's capacity to fight cancer in a variety of tumor forms [5]. These several mAb varieties demonstrate how cancer therapy is developing, with each one intended to take advantage of particular pathways and mechanisms for more precise and effective treatment results. The adaptability of mAbs highlights the significance of customized strategies in the fight against cancer and enhancing patient outcomes. It also reflects the larger trend in oncology toward personalized and targeted medicines [6].

These discoveries many of which are based on genetic and molecular understanding open the door to more effective treatments with fewer adverse effects. The convergence of genomes, technology, and creative medication development ushers in a new age in cancer treatment by offering patients individualized and more efficient therapies [7]. These developments provide new hope in the fight for increased patient survival and well-being and highlight the revolutionary influence of modern scientific discoveries on cancer outcomes.

Monoclonal antibodies (mAbs): are categorized according to several therapeutic modalities used in the treatment of cancer:

Targeted antigens include: A. Surface antigens, which are proteins on the surface of cancer cells that mAbs attach to, such as HER2 in breast cancer [8] (e.g., trastuzumab)

Intracellular antigens: These antigens target proteins inside cancer cells and must be internalized in order to have a therapeutic impact.

Mechanisms of Action:

- Inhibiting Signaling
- Routes: These routes are essential for the growth and survival of cancer.
- Increasing the immune system's capacity to identify and eradicate cancer cells is known as immune system activation.

Drug Conjugates: Cytotoxic chemicals are attached to cause direct cell death.

Grouping according to Therapeutic Approaches:

- Antibody-Drug Conjugates (ADCs): mAbs and cytotoxic medications combined [9].
- immunological Checkpoint Inhibitors: These agents trigger the immunological response by obstructing inhibitory signals.
- Bispecific and trispecific Antibodies: These antibodies target several antigens at once for maximum effectiveness [10].
- Radiolabeled Antibodies: Directly exposing cancer cells to radiation.

2. ANTIBODY STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION

Y-shaped proteins called antibodies, also known as immunoglobulins, are essential to the immune

system's operation [11]. Antibodies, which consist of two heavy and two light polypeptide chains joined by disulfide bonds, display certain regions:

2.1 Area of Variability (Fab)

Antigen binding site: Found at the ends of the Y, this site precisely identifies and binds particular antigens [12].

Diversity: The ability of antibodies to recognize a broad variety of antigens is made possible by variable domains in the heavy and light chain.

2.2 Constant Region (FC)

Effector Functions: Establishes the class of the antibody (IgG, IgA, IgM, IgD, or IgE) and mediates effector actions such complement system interaction and immune cell activation [13].

Structure Stability: Preserves the antibody's structural integrity.

Antibodies operate via multiple mechanisms.

The process of neutralization prevents poisons or pathogens from interacting with host cells.

By designating pathogens for engulfment, opsonization improves phagocytosis.

Pathogen lysis is the result of complement activation, which starts the complement cascade. Antibody-Dependent Cellular Cytotoxicity (ADCC): Immune cells cause the demise of target cells [14].

3. MONOCLONAL ANTIBODY IMMUNOTHERAPY

Immunotherapy using monoclonal antibodies (mAbs) is one of the most promising areas of modern anticancer treatment. This strategy targets proteins that are closely linked to the growth of tumor cells by administering monoclonal antibodies with remarkable selectivity [15]. Many approved monoclonal antibody treatments are now being used in clinical settings. These treatments work by carefully targeting molecular elements that are essential to the pathways controlling the growth of tumors. Monoclonal antibody immunotherapy's effectiveness and precision demonstrate how far

the field of cancer treatment has come, highlighting the treatment's potential as a focused and effective approach to cancer [16].

The following cases—TACE/ADAM17, Cathepsin S, and Urokinase Plasminogen Activator—describe how the proteins exhibit unusually elevated expression in cancerous cells. Because of this, they are ideal targets for suppression with monoclonal antibodies.

In addition, we examine Herceptin, the only FDA-approved antibody therapy that targets the human epidermal growth receptor 2 protein, and Rituximab, one of the main antibodies used in anti-cancer therapy [17].

Transarterial Chemoembolization (TACE): Is a localized treatment for some kinds of liver cancer, mainly hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC), and is not commonly regarded as an immunotherapy. TACE targets malignant cells in the liver by combining chemotherapy with embolization [18].

Chemotherapy medications are given directly to the tumor in TACE via the hepatic artery, which is the major blood channel supplying the liver. In doing so, systemic exposure is reduced and a greater concentration of the medication at the tumor site is possible. Embolic drugs are frequently used to stop the blood vessels supplying the tumor after chemotherapy has been infused, causing ischemia and further harm to the malignant tissue [19].

TACE is regarded as a major development in the field of interventional oncology and has shown promise in some liver cancer cases, especially when the tumor is not amenable to surgical excision [20]. However, it is not immunotherapy. Conversely, immunotherapies use the body's immune system to specifically target and eradicate cancer cells.

4. CATHEPSINS

An additional intriguing target is the proteolytic enzyme Cathepsin S. Under acting as an endopeptidase in the endolysosomal vesicles of healthy cells, this protein is engaged in a number of physiological processes, including apoptosis, degradation, turnover of proteins, and differentiation.

Patients with colorectal cancer may be susceptible to antibody-dependent cellular

cytotoxicity due to Cathepsin S's association with the cell membrane [21]. Indeed, the application of a humanized antibody with an immune effector function to target Cathepsin S in this instance has led to natural killer cell-targeted tumor destruction, with a 22% cytotoxic effect. Additionally, by focusing on Cathepsin specifically [22].

4.1 Rituximab

Rituximab, a monoclonal antibody, is one of the anti-cancer treatments now in use that has shown some success, it is also targeted at non-Hodgkin's lymphomas that express the B-cell-specific antigen CD20 [23]. This monoclonal antibody is a chimeric human–mouse one, which attaches itself to the CD20 antigen on the surface of both healthy and malignant B cells. It is vital to consider the unknown but potential development of cancers with Rituximab administration when thinking about people with autoimmune illnesses [24]. This is particularly problematic for senior people, as it may take longer for their B-cell counts to return to normal.

Rituximab administration causes the complement system to activate quickly, which releases cytokines [25]. This then triggers the release of cytokines by macrophages and mast cells as well as complement activation products, which have the potential to behave as anaphylatoxins.

5. HERCEPTIN

The groundbreaking monoclonal antibody Herceptin (trastuzumab) was created especially for HER2-positive breast cancer and is a major advancement in cancer immunotherapy [26]. HER2 receptor binding on cancer cells is how this targeted therapy works; it blocks signaling pathways that are essential for cell division and proliferation. Herceptin targets HER2-overexpressing cancer cells by stimulating complement-dependent cytotoxicity (CDC) and antibody-dependent cellular cytotoxicity (ADCC) [27]. With improved results and survival rates, its success has completely changed the therapy environment. Whether administered either in alone or in conjunction with chemotherapy, Herceptin is a prime example of the customized and focused character of monoclonal antibody immunotherapies, providing a model for adjusting therapeutic regimens according to structural traits. Herceptin is still a vital weapon in the fight against HER2-positive breast cancer, despite

obstacles, proving the revolutionary power of immunotherapeutic therapies [28].

6. UROKINASE PLASMINOGEN ACTIVATOR

One important enzyme implicated in the development of cancer, especially in metastasis and tissue invasion, is urokinase plasminogen activator (uPA) [29]. Despite not being a monoclonal antibody in and of itself, uPA is relevant to immunotherapy because it may be a target for therapeutic monoclonal antibodies. Proteolytic mechanisms linked to the spread of cancer can be impeded by monoclonal antibodies that are engineered to block uPA activity [30]. These antibodies have the ability to reduce tumor invasiveness and metastatic potential by inhibiting uPA. This strategy highlights the adaptability of monoclonal antibodies in cancer treatment by focusing on particular biochemical targets that are essential for the progression of the disease. One intriguing direction in the continuous quest to improve patient outcomes by tailoring cancer immunotherapies is the creation of uPA-targeted monoclonal antibodies [31].

Mechanism of action: The majority of clinically effective mAbs that are now on the market target tumor cells with lethal effects by means of many mechanisms. The majority use complement-dependent cytotoxicity (CDC) or ADCC to interact with immune system components [32,33]. Many also modify tumor cell signal transduction or work to remove important cell-surface antigens.

Additionally, monoclonal antibodies can be directed against payloads (such as medicines, radioisotopes, or poisons) in order to directly destroy tumor cells or initiate prodrugs inside of the tumor (a process known as antibody-directed enzyme prodrug therapy, or ADEPT) [34]. Lastly, mAbs that can be employed in combination with conventional chemotherapy therapies to attack tumors by complementary modes of action. These mechanisms may include the production of antibodies by cytons of chemotherapeutic medical products that express anti-tumor immune responses [35] that may have been had diminished.

Antibody-Dependent Cell-Mediated Cytotoxicity (ADCC): Antibody-Dependent Cellular Cytotoxicity (ADCC) is a crucial process in cancer immunotherapy, whereby immune

effector cells, mainly Natural Killer (NK) cells [36], are activated to eradicate malignant cells identified by particular antibodies. This procedure depends on monoclonal antibodies accurately identifying antigens on the surface of cancer cells. Antibodies undergoing conformational changes in their Fc region are able to engage Fc receptors (FcγRIIIa) on the surface of NK cells upon involvement to certain antigens [37].

The Fc portion of the antibody binds to FcγRIIIa receptors, initiating a series of biological processes that lead to NK cell activation. Subsequently, activated natural killer cells identify and adhere to the designated cancer cells, creating an immunological barrier. Following this, NK cells release cytotoxic granules that contain protein and perforin, which cause the targeted cancer cells to undergo apoptosis [38].

6.1 Identifying and Labeling Cancer Cells

Monoclonal antibodies (mAbs) attach themselves to particular antigens found on the outside of cancer cells [39].

By attaching to the cancer cells, it essentially "marks" them so that the immune system can recognize them.

6.2 How Immune Cells Activate

Neutrophils, macrophages, and Natural Killer (NK) cells are among the immune cells that are signaled and activated by the attached antibodies [40].

The attachment of the antibody's Fc region to the Fc receptors on these immune cells causes activation.

6.3 Effector Cell Recruitment

The targeted immune cell migration and coordinated chemotaxis mechanism are used by effector cells to draw activated immune cells to the location of identified cancer cells.

6.4 Formation of Immunological Synapses

An immunological synapse forms at the junction between the designated cancer cell and the immune cell.

The immune cell and the cancer cell can properly interact and communicate because to this synapse [41].

6.5 Methods of Cytotoxicity

Antibody-Dependent Cytotoxicity of Cells (ADCC):

Because of the attached antibodies, NK cells are able to identify the indicated cancer cells.

When NK cells recognize a cancer cell, they release cytotoxic granules that contain granzymes and perforin, [38] which cause the cancer cell to undergo apoptosis.

Macrophages and neutrophils destroying: Macrophages and neutrophils identify antibody-bound cancer cells, [42] engulfing and eliminating them by phagocytosis.

6.6 Cell Destruction and Clearance

Targeted cancer cells identified by monoclonal antibodies undergo apoptosis, or cell death, as a result of various cytotoxic procedures carried out by activated immune cells. To destroy the indicated cancer cells, these immune effectors—which include neutrophils, macrophages, and Natural Killer (NK) cells—use particular processes include phagocytosis, antibody-dependent cellular cytotoxicity (ADCC) [43], and the release of cytotoxic chemicals. Phagocytic cells assist in tissue repair by identifying and eliminating debris. Immune responses are triggered by monoclonal antibodies, which destroy cancer cells to regulate tumor growth.

6.7 Ways to Enhance ADCC

a. Fc engineering

To improve an antibody's ability to connect to Fc receptors on immune cells, Fc engineering entails making exact modifications to the antibody's Fc region [44]. The immune cell's ability to trigger antibody-dependent cellular cytotoxicity is enhanced by this alteration (ADCC). The modified antibodies enhance the interaction between Fc regions and immune cell receptors, hence increasing their capacity to attract and activate these cells, by means of particular modifications to amino acids or changes to phosphorylation. This enhancement heightens ADCC, enabling immune effectors such as natural killer cells to effectively target and eliminate cells identified by the altered antibodies, hence enhancing the antibody's effectiveness in fighting cancer and other illnesses.

Particular modifications of amino acids within the Fc region of the antibody, such as those at positions 234 and 235 (referred to as "LS" or "LE") [45], have been designed to enhance interactions between the Fc receptor and FcγR11a on natural killer (NK) cells. These changes improve NK cell activation and antibody-dependent cellular cytotoxicity (ADCC) via increasing affinity for the FcγR11a [46] receptor. Furthermore, FcγR11a binding is influenced by glycosylation patterns, specifically afucosylation, which modifies the N-linked glycan composition of the Fc region. This heightens ADCC by improving immune cell engagement and reaction against target cells identified by the modified antibodies.

b. Combination with Immune Modulators

The synergistic combination of monoclonal antibodies plus checkpoint inhibitors or cytokines enhances ADCC and immune cell activation. By maximizing immune cell potential and increasing their cytotoxicity [43] against specific cells, this combination strengthens treatment efficiency against illnesses like cancer.

c. Bispecific Antibodies

Bispecific antibodies increase the efficiency of ADCC by directing the immune response specifically against the targeted cancer cells for accurate eradication [47]. They establish a link between cancer and immune cells

6.8 Complement Cytotoxicity Dependent (CCD)

Recent research indicates that in mAb-based therapy, the complement protein C1q binds to the Fc domain of mAbs and attaches to a target cell to initiate the CDC process. The complement cascade is triggered by C1q binding [48], and this leads to the formation of holes by the membrane attack complex (MAC), which lyses target cells. While the IgG2 isotype and antibodies from the IgG4 isotype have no impact at all, the Fc domains of IgM and IgG1 mAbs effectively cause CDC.

It's unclear if the CDC influences how well mAb therapy patients respond to treatment. For instance, depending on the animal model employed, the decrease of B cells by CD20 mAbs may be both CDC independent and CDC dependent [49]. But as seen by the superior CDC activity produced by the next-generation CD20

antibody ofatumumab over rituximab, mAbs' ability to activate CDC is relevant for therapeutic purposes. selective CD46 downregulation and targeting, The activation of CDC produced by rituximab can be further enhanced by a membrane-bound complement activation regulatory protein, which suppresses CDC at the C3 level. In conclusion, treatment with the small protein Ad35K++ specifically downregulated rituximab-induced surface-expressed CD46 and enhanced CDC in vivo. As a result, Ad35K++ served as an adjuvant to boost the CDC activity of rituximab—a potentially helpful strategy for other therapeutic mAbs as well [50]. This benefit, however, might only apply in specific circumstances, like the rituximab scenario, because complement activation typically results in proinflammatory reactions that could have negative off-target effects.

6.9 Recent Advances in cancer Treatment

6.9.1 Immunotherapy

One kind of treatment for cancer is immunotherapy. It boosts immunity and helps the body find and destroy cancer cells by using substances made in a lab or by the body itself [51]. Immunotherapy has applications in the treatment of several forms of cancer. It can be taken either alone or in combination with chemotherapy and other cancer treatments. Immunotherapy is one kind of cancer treatment that boosts your immune system's capacity to combat cancer. The immune system is a tool your body utilizes to fight off infections and other illnesses. It is made up of white blood cells, tissues of the lymphatic system, and organs. Immunotherapy is a type of treatment that is part of biological therapy [52]. One type of cancer treatment that uses chemicals produced from living organisms is called biological therapy.

6.10 What are the Types of Immunotherapy?

Several types of immunotherapies are used to treat cancer. These include:

Inhibitors of immune checkpoints: Immunotherapy comes in many forms and is used to treat cancer [53]. Among them are: 1. immunological checkpoint inhibitors, which are medicines that inhibit the function of immunological checkpoints. These immune system checkpoints are typical and prevent the body from generating an excessively forceful

defense. These medications enable a stronger immune cell response to malignancy by inhibiting them [54].

In what way do checkpoint inhibitors on immunity function in preventing tumors?:

Immune system checkpoints are a typical component. Their function is to keep the immune system from responding and destroying the body's healthy cells.

T cell proteins, which are on the surface of immune cells, identify and bind to partner proteins on other cells, including some tumor cells, to initiate immunological checkpoints. Immune checkpoint proteins are the name assigned to these proteins. T cells receive a "off" signal when the partner proteins and checkpoint bind together [55]. This could prevent the cancer from being destroyed by the immune system.

Immunotherapy treatments known as immune checkpoint inhibitors function by inhibiting the conjugation of checkpoint proteins with their protein partners. As a result, the "off" signal is not sent, enabling the T cells to destroy the tumor cells.

As one example medication targeting the CTLA-4 checkpoint protein [56]. Further immune checkpoint drugs work against the related protein PD-L1 or the checkpoint protein PD-1. Some types of cancer suppress the T cell response by excessive production PD-L1.

A few immune checkpoint inhibitors are: dostarlizumab (Jemperli), Atezolizumab (Tecentriq), velumab (Bavencio), durvalumab (Imfinzi), and ipilimumab (Yervoy).

Immune checkpoint inhibitor adverse effects frequently include: nausea, rash, and diarrhea.

Therapy with T cells/T-cell transfer therapy:

Therapy with T cells is a medical procedure that enhances your T cells' innate capacity for fighting cancer [57]. Your tumor's immune cells have been extracted for this treatment. The medications that are most effective in fighting your cancer are either modified or chosen in a lab to more effectively target your cancer cells, and finally they are produced in large quantities and introduced into your body via a vein injection. T-cell transfer therapy is also known as immune cell therapy, adoptive immunotherapy, and adoptive cell treatment [58].

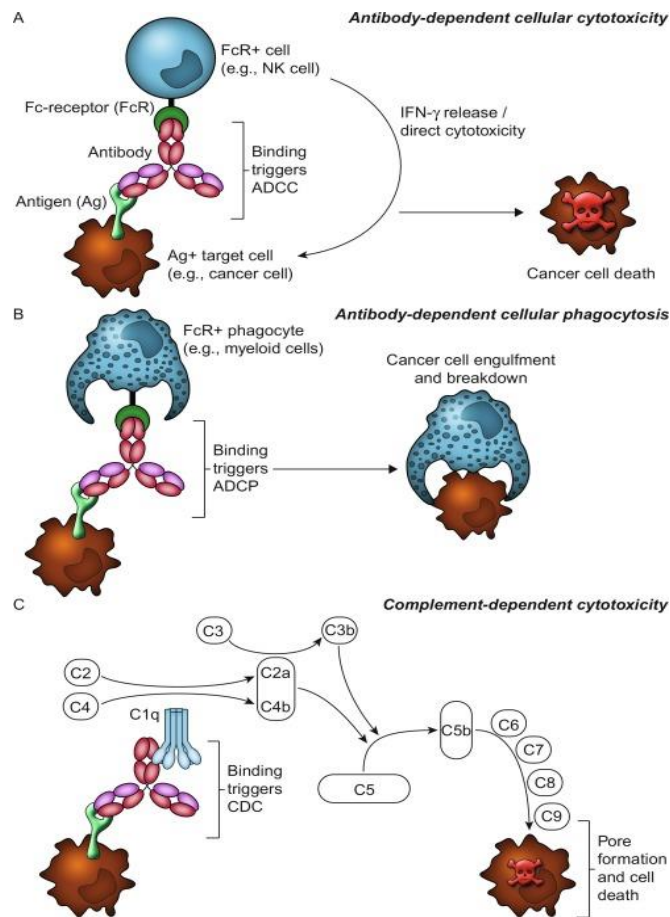


Fig. 1. Cellular cytotoxicity

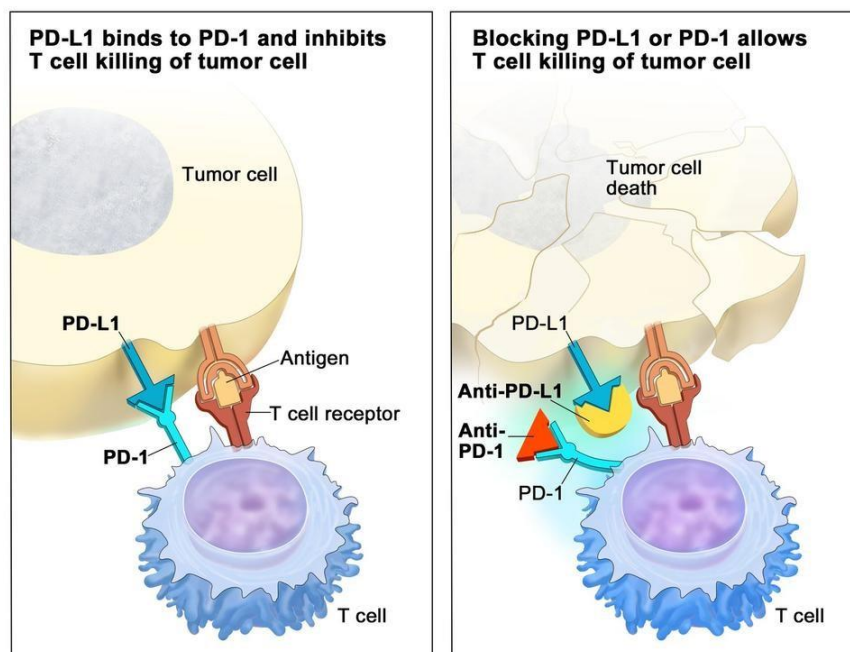


Plate 1a. PD-L1 binds to PD-1 and inhibits T cell killing of tumor cell. 1(b). Blocking PD-L1 or PD-1 allows T cell killing of tumor cell

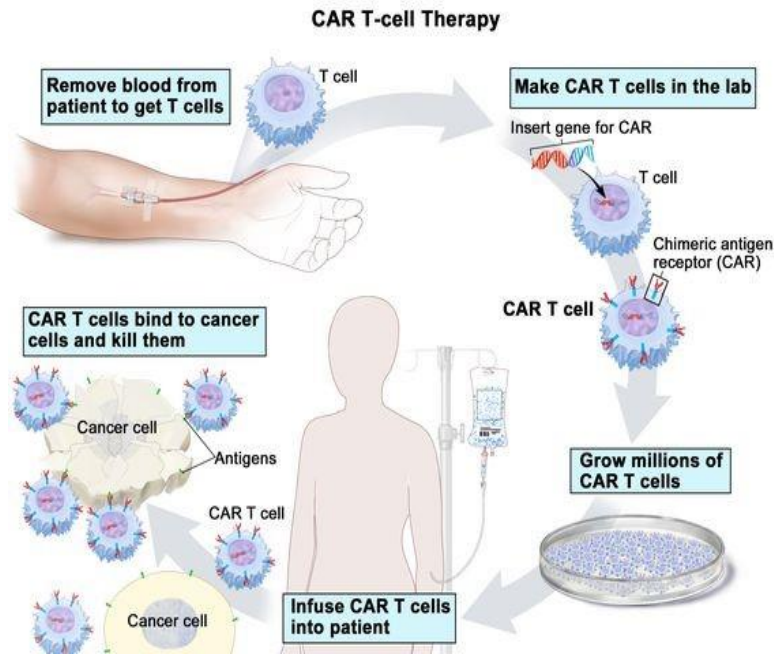


Plate 2. CAR T- cell therapy

In what way does T-cell transplantation fight cancer?: One form of immunotherapy that increases the capacity of your own immune cells to combat cancer is T-cell transfer treatment.

CAR T-cell therapy, tumor-infiltrating lymphocytes (TIL) therapy [59], and are the two major types of T-cell transfer therapy. In both cases, you select your own immune cells, culture them in great quantities in the laboratory, and ultimately receive your cells back via an intravenous needle. Adoptive cell treatment, adoptive immunotherapy, and immune cell therapy are additional names for T-cell transfer therapy. TIL therapy uses T cells called tumor-infiltrating lymphocytes that are found in your tumor [60].

The theory supporting this method is that your tumor cells have been detected by lymphocytes present in or close to the tumor. However, the amount they produce can be insufficient to eradicate the tumor or neutralize the signals it releases to weaken the immune system [61]. To assist you get through these challenges, we can give you a lot of the lymphocytes that interact with the tumor in the best way possible.

CAR T-cell treatment: Is comparable to TIL therapy, but before your T cells are enlarged and transferred to you, they are modified in the lab to produce a particular kind of protein called CAR

[62]. Chimeric antigen receptor is referred to as CAR. The purpose of CARs is to enable T cell adhesion.

6.10.1. Vaccines

How do immunizations against vaccines function as cancer treatments?: Immunotherapy in the form of cancer treatment vaccines boosts the immune system's response against cancer [63]. Cancer treatments and vaccines, in comparison with cancer prevention vaccines, are intended to be administered to individuals who already have the disease; they target cancer cells immediately, rather than the cancer-causing agent.

Treatment vaccines are based on the assumption that cancer cells have chemicals called tumor-associated antigens that are eliminated from normal cells or present at reduced concentrations [64]. Treatment vaccines can assist in teaching the immune system to identify these antigens, respond to them, and eliminate tumor cells.

There are three main approaches to developing a cancer vaccine.

To manufacture them, you might utilize your own tumor cells. This suggests that they were created

especially to trigger an immune reaction against traits unique to your cancer.

They could be made using tumor-associated antigens, which are found on the cancer cells of many individuals with a certain type of cancer. Such a vaccine may be effective for any patient whose cancer produces that antigen. These kinds of vaccines are still being researched.

They might have originated from the dendritic cells in your own immune system. Immunotherapy directed against dendritic cells stimulates your body's defenses against an antigen found on tumor cells. Pulmoneucel is the only licensed dendritic cell vaccination available [65].

7. EXPLORATION OF NEW TARGETS AND ANTIGEN SPECIFIC ANTIBODIES

Finding novel targets on cancer cells for monoclonal antibody therapy has been the focus of recent advances in cancer research. This entails identifying and characterizing particular proteins or antigens that are expressed either abundantly or specifically on cancer cells. These targets may include growth factors, surface receptors, or other substances essential to the survival or growth of cancer cells.

Technological developments in genomics, proteomics, and high-throughput screening have sped up the process of finding these targets. Furthermore, novel strategies like immune checkpoint inhibitors and bispecific antibodies have created new opportunities for concurrently targeting several antigens or activating immune cells to more successfully assault cancer cells.

For example, research on tumor microenvironment-associated antigens or tumor-specific alterations known as neoantigens has resulted in the creation of individualized monoclonal antibodies that are particular to the cancer profiles of individual patients.

7.2 Combination Therapy for Monoclonal Antibodies and Additional Therapies

In order to improve efficacy and circumvent resistance mechanisms, recent research has highlighted the possible advantages of combining monoclonal antibodies with other cancer treatment techniques [66]. Preclinical and clinical

trials have demonstrated encouraging outcomes when combinations of immunotherapies, targeted treatments, radiation, and chemotherapy are used.

When monoclonal antibodies are used in conjunction with other treatments, synergistic effects are frequently seen. For instance, a more thorough blocking of cancer cell survival pathways can be achieved by combining an antibody that targets a particular receptor on cancer cells with a small molecule inhibitor that inhibits a related signaling pathway [67].

In addition, immune-stimulation combination medicines, such the combination of checkpoint inhibitors and monoclonal antibodies, try to boost the immune system's ability to fight cancer cells while decreasing the likelihood of immune evasion.

7.2.1 Safety and side effects

Immunogenicity and infusion reactions: The term "immunogenicity" describes how the body reacts to therapeutic proteins and whether this could result in infusion responses when undergoing therapy [68]. From moderate to severe, these reactions affect safety and tolerance, requiring close observation and control for the best possible therapeutic results and the well-being of patients.

Long term effects and Toxicities: Treatment-related side effects can include a range of toxicities that could impact different organs or systems [69]. Long-term drug use can result in cumulative toxicities that can harm a patient's health. In order to enhance treatment outcomes and long-term well-being, monitoring for late-onset adverse events is essential for comprehensive patient care. This ensures early detection and management of harmful effects.

Management of Adverse Events: Preventative steps are taken to reduce treatment-related problems as part of the management of adverse events. This covers early detection, evaluation, and intervention techniques adapted to particular negative consequences. Depending on the nature and degree of adverse effects, treatment modifications, dose adjustments, supportive care, and close patient monitoring may be used [70]. Assuring rapid and effective management, enhancing patient tolerance, treatment adherence, and overall therapeutic outcomes, and protecting patient safety and well-being

throughout the treatment journey all depend on patient education, active communication, and collaborative effort among healthcare providers.

8. FUTURE DIRECTION

The use of monoclonal antibodies (mAbs) to treat cancer will likely require novel ways to improve immunotherapies. Increasing mAb specificity, lowering treatment resistance, and minimizing immune-related side effects [71] are a few examples of this. Furthermore, creating combination treatments that work well with immune checkpoint inhibitors and targeted therapies in addition to mAbs is becoming increasingly important.

Furthermore, new paradigms for individualized cancer treatment may be advanced by investigating novel targets and incorporating cutting-edge technology like genomics and artificial intelligence [72]. This would ultimately enhance patient outcomes and quality of life.

9. CONCLUSION

In summary, new developments in monoclonal antibodies (mAbs) offer tailored, focused therapeutic alternatives with lower toxicity and increased efficacy, marking a revolutionary turning point in the field of cancer therapy. Progress in the sector is still being driven by continual research and innovation, despite obstacles like resistance and negative effects. To fully utilize mAbs in oncology and help patients everywhere, we must continue to improve mAb therapies, look for new targets.

COMPETING INTERESTS

Authors have declared that no competing interests exist.

REFERENCES

1. Afrah AK, Seta AS. An Immunohistochemical Expressions of BAD, MDM2, and P21 in Oral Squamous Cell Carcinoma. *J Bagh Coll Dentistry* 2016;28(2):34-39.
2. Rodríguez-Antona C, Taron M. Pharmacogenomic biomarkers for personalized cancer treatment. *J Intern Med*. 2015 Feb;277(2):201–17.
3. Sun H, Yang H, Mao Y. Personalized treatment for hepatocellular carcinoma in the era of targeted medicine and bioengineering. *Front Pharmacol*. 2023 May 5;14:1150151.
4. Tarcic G, Yarden Y. Antibody-Mediated Receptor Endocytosis: Harnessing the Cellular Machinery to Combat Cancer. In: Yarden Y, Tarcic G, editors. *Vesicle Trafficking in Cancer* [Internet]. New York, NY: Springer New York; 2013 [cited 2024 Apr 11]. p. 361–84. Available: https://link.springer.com/10.1007/978-1-4614-6528-7_17
5. Marin-Acevedo JA, Kimbrough EO, Lou Y. Next generation of immune checkpoint inhibitors and beyond. *J HematolOncolJHematol Oncol*. 2021 Mar 19;14(1):45.
6. Marshall HT, Djamgoz MBA. Immuno-Oncology: Emerging Targets and Combination Therapies. *Front Oncol* [Internet]. 2018 Aug 23 [cited 2024 Apr11];8. Available:<https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/oncology/articles/10.3389/fonc.2018.00315/full>
7. Al-Dewik NI, Younes SN, Essa MM, Pathak S, Qoronfleh MW. Making Biomarkers Relevant to Healthcare Innovation and Precision Medicine.Processes.2022 Jun;10(6):1107.
8. Fatima I, Rahdar A, Sargazi S, Barani M, Hassanisaadi M, Thakur VK. Quantum Dots: Synthesis, Antibody Conjugation, and HER2-Receptor Targeting for Breast Cancer Therapy. *J FunctBiomater*. 2021 Dec;12(4):75.
9. Li W, Guo H, Li L, Zhang Y, Cui J. The promising role of antibody drug conjugate in cancer therapy: Combining targeting ability with cytotoxicity effectively. *Cancer Med*. 2021 Jul;10(14):4677–96.
10. Thakur A, Huang M, Lum LG. Bispecific antibody based therapeutics: Strengths and challenges. *Blood Rev*. 2018 Jul 1;32(4):339–47.
11. Little M. Generation, Structure, and Function of Antibodies. In: *Antibodies for Treating Cancer* [Internet]. Cham: Springer International Publishing; 2021 [cited 2024 Apr 11]:35–46. Available:https://link.springer.com/10.1007/978-3-030-72599-0_4

12. Sela-Culang I, Kunik V, Ofran Y. The Structural Basis of Antibody-Antigen Recognition. *Front Immunol* [Internet]. 2013 Oct 8 [cited 2024 Apr 11];4. Available:<https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/immunology/articles/10.3389/fimmu.2013.00302/full>
13. Megha KB, Mohanan PV. Role of immunoglobulin and antibodies in disease management. *Int J Biol Macromol*. 2021 Feb 1;169:28–38.
14. Gómez Román VR, Murray JC, Weiner LM. Chapter 1 - Antibody-Dependent Cellular Cytotoxicity (ADCC). In: Ackerman ME, Nimmerjahn F, editors. *Antibody Fc* [Internet]. Boston: Academic Press; 2014 [cited 2024 Apr 11]:1–27. Available: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/B9780123948021000017>
15. Zahavi D, Weiner L. Monoclonal Antibodies in Cancer Therapy. *Antibodies*. 2020 Sep;9(3):34.
16. Taefehshokr N, Baradaran B, Baghbanzadeh A, Taefehshokr S. Promising approaches in cancer immunotherapy. *Immunobiology*. 2020 Mar 1;225(2):151875.
17. Behl A, Wani ZA, Das NN, Parmar VS, Len C, Malhotra S, et al. Monoclonal antibodies in breast cancer: A critical appraisal. *Crit Rev Oncol Hematol*. 2023 Mar 1;183:103915.
18. Rasheed RH, Al-Delaimi T N, Khalil AA. Immunohistochemical Expression of CD20, CD43, and CD79 in Burkitt's Lymphoma. *The N Iraqi J Med* April 2010; 6(2): 66-69
19. Tam KY, Leung KCF, Wang YXJ. Chemoembolization agents for cancer treatment. *Eur J Pharm Sci*. 2011 Sep 18;44(1):1–10.
20. Pelizzaro F, Haxhi S, Penzo B, Vitale A, Giannini EG, Sansone V, et al. Transarterial Chemoembolization for Hepatocellular Carcinoma in Clinical Practice: Temporal Trends and Survival Outcomes of an Iterative Treatment. *Front Oncol* [Internet]. 2022 Jan 31 [cited 2024 Apr 11];12. Available: <https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/oncology/articles/10.3389/fonc.2022.822507/full>
21. Neves H, Kwok HF. Recent advances in the field of anti-cancer immunotherapy. *BBA Clin*. 2015 Jun 1;3:280–8.
22. Thakkar S, Sharma D, Kalia K, Tekade RK. Tumor microenvironment targeted nanotherapeutics for cancer therapy and diagnosis: A review. *Acta Biomater*. 2020 Jan 1;101:43–68.
23. Tzankov A, Zimpfer A, Pehrs AC, Lugli A, Went P, Maurer R, et al. Expression of B-Cell Markers in Classical Hodgkin Lymphoma: A Tissue Microarray Analysis of 330 Cases. *Mod Pathol*. 2003 Nov 1;16(11):1141–7.
24. Lucchini E, Zaja F, Bussel J. Rituximab in the treatment of immune thrombocytopenia: What is the role of this agent in 2019? *Haematologica*. 2019 Jun;104(6):1124–35.
25. Taylor RP, Lindorfer MA. Drug Insight: The mechanism of action of rituximab in autoimmune disease—the immune complex decoy hypothesis. *Nat Clin Pract Rheumatol*. 2007 Feb;3(2):86–95.
26. Selepe CT, Dhlamini KS, Tshweu L, Moralo M, Kwezi L, Ray SS, et al. Trastuzumab-based nanomedicines for breast cancer therapy: Recent advances and future opportunities. *Nano Sel*. 2024 Feb 17;2300191.
27. Akbari V, Chou CP, Abedi D. New insights into affinity proteins for HER2-targeted therapy: Beyond trastuzumab. *BiochimBiophys Acta BBA - Rev Cancer*. 2020 Dec 1;1874(2):188448.
28. Raghani NR, Chorawala MR, Mahadik M, Patel RB, Prajapati BG, Parekh PS. Revolutionizing cancer treatment: comprehensive insights into immunotherapeutic strategies. *Med Oncol*. 2024 Jan 9;41(2):51.
29. Su SC, Lin CW, Yang WE, Fan WL, Yang SF. The urokinase-type plasminogen activator (uPA) system as a biomarker and therapeutic target in human malignancies. *Expert Opin Ther Targets*. 2016 May 3;20(5):551–66.
30. Vasiljeva O, Menendez E, Nguyen M, Craik CS, Michael Kavanaugh W. Monitoring protease activity in biological tissues using antibody prodrugs as sensing probes. *Sci Rep*. 2020 Apr 3;10(1):5894.
31. Yang D, Severin GW, Dougherty CA, Lombardi R, Chen D, Van Dort ME, et al. Antibody-based PET of uPA/uPAR signaling with broad applicability for cancer imaging. *Oncotarget*. 2016 Oct 8;7(45):73912–24.

32. The Best IgG Subclass for the Development of Therapeutic Monoclonal Antibody Drugs and their Commercial Production: A Review - ProQuest [Internet]. [cited 2024 Apr 11]. Available:<https://www.proquest.com/openview/537d50af38a14eabc7ecc92bb8c6db92/1?pq-origsite=gscholar&cbl=54870>
33. Elter A, Yanakieva D, Fiebig D, Hallstein K, Becker S, Betz U, et al. Protease-Activation of Fc-Masked Therapeutic Antibodies to Alleviate Off-Tumor Cytotoxicity. *Front Immunol* [Internet]. 2021 Aug 3 [cited 2024 Apr 11];12. Available:<https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/immunology/articles/10.3389/fimmu.2021.715719/full>
34. Denny WA. Prodrug strategies in cancer therapy. *Eur J Med Chem*. 2001 Aug 1;36(7):577–95.
35. Esperante D, Flisser A, Mendlovic F. The many faces of parasite calreticulin. *Front Immunol* [Internet]. 2023 Mar 10 [cited 2024 Apr 11];14. Available:<https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/immunology/articles/10.3389/fimmu.2023.1101390/full>
36. Gauthier M, Laroye C, Bensoussan D, Boura C, Decot V. Natural Killer cells and monoclonal antibodies: Two partners for successful antibody dependent cytotoxicity against tumor cells. *Crit Rev Oncol Hematol*. 2021 Apr 1;160:103261.
37. Snyder KM, Hullsiek R, Mishra HK, Mendez DC, Li Y, Rogich A, et al. Expression of a Recombinant High Affinity IgG Fc Receptor by Engineered NK Cells as a Docking Platform for Therapeutic mAbs to Target Cancer Cells. *Front Immunol* [Internet]. 2018 Dec 6 [cited 2024 Apr 11];9. Available:<https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/immunology/articles/10.3389/fimmu.2018.02873/full>
38. Prager I, Watzl C. Mechanisms of natural killer cell-mediated cellular cytotoxicity. *J Leukoc Biol*. 2019 Jun 1;105(6):1319–29.
39. Barbet J, Bardiès M, Bourgeois M, Chatal JF, Chérel M, Davodeau F, et al. Radiolabeled Antibodies for Cancer Imaging and Therapy. In: Chames P, editor. *Antibody Engineering* [Internet]. Totowa, NJ: Humana Press; 2012 [cited 2024 Apr 11]. p. 681–97. (Methods in Molecular Biology; vol. 907). Available:https://link.springer.com/10.1007/978-1-61779-974-7_38
40. Muntjewerff EM, Meesters LD, Bogaart G van den, Revelo NH. Reverse Signaling by MHC-I Molecules in Immune and Non-Immune Cell Types. *Front Immunol* [Internet]. 2020 Dec 15 [cited 2024 Apr 11];11. Available:<https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/immunology/articles/10.3389/fimmu.2020.605958/full>
41. Dustin ML. The Immunological Synapse. *Cancer Immunol Res*. 2014 Nov 2;2(11):1023–33.
42. Jaiswal S, Chao MP, Majeti R, Weissman IL. Macrophages as mediators of tumor immunosurveillance. *Trends Immunol*. 2010 Jun 1;31(6):212–9.
43. Wang W. NK cell-mediated antibody-dependent cellular cytotoxicity in cancer immunotherapy. *Front Immunol* [Internet]. 2015 [cited 2024 Apr 11];6. Available:<http://journal.frontiersin.org/Article/10.3389/fimmu.2015.00368/abstract>
44. Liu R, Oldham RJ, Teal E, Beers SA, Cragg MS. Fc-Engineering for Modulated Effector Functions—Improving Antibodies for Cancer Treatment. *Antibodies*. 2020 Dec;9(4):64.
45. Saunders KO. Conceptual Approaches to Modulating Antibody Effector Functions and Circulation Half-Life. *Front Immunol*. 2019 Jun 7;10:1296.
46. Vietzen H, Danklmaier V, Zoufaly A, Puchhammer-Stöckl E. High-affinity FcγRIIIa genetic variants and potent NK cell-mediated antibody-dependent cellular cytotoxicity (ADCC) responses contributing to severe COVID-19. *Genet Med*. 2022 Jul 1;24(7):1449–58.
47. Del Bano J, Chames P, Baty D, Kerfelec B. Taking up Cancer Immunotherapy Challenges: Bispecific Antibodies, the Path Forward? *Antibodies*. 2016 Mar;5(1):1.
48. Golay J, Taylor RP. The Role of Complement in the Mechanism of Action of Therapeutic Anti-Cancer mAbs. *Antibodies*. 2020 Dec;9(4):58.
49. Bojarczuk K, Siernicka M, Dwojak M, Bobrowicz M, Pyrzynska B, Gaj P, et al. B-cell receptor pathway inhibitors affect CD20 levels and impair antitumor activity of anti-CD20 monoclonal antibodies. *Leukemia*. 2014 May;28(5):1163–7.

50. Wang H, Liu Y, Li ZY, Fan X, Hemminki A, Lieber A. A recombinant adenovirus type 35 fiber knob protein sensitizes lymphoma cells to rituximab therapy. *Blood*. 2010 Jan 21;115(3):592–600.
51. Dhar R, Seethy A, Singh S, Pethusamy K, Srivastava T, Talukdar J, et al. Cancer immunotherapy: Recent advances and challenges. *J Cancer Res Ther*. 2021 Sep;17(4):834.
52. Schirmacher V. From chemotherapy to biological therapy: A review of novel concepts to reduce the side effects of systemic cancer treatment (Review). *Int J Oncol*. 2019 Feb 1;54(2):407–19.
53. Lee L, Gupta M, Sahasranaman S. Immune Checkpoint inhibitors: An introduction to the next-generation cancer immunotherapy. *J Clin Pharmacol*. 2016 Feb;56(2):157–69.
54. Hargadon KM, Johnson CE, Williams CJ. Immune checkpoint blockade therapy for cancer: An overview of FDA-approved immune checkpoint inhibitors. *Int Immunopharmacol*. 2018 Sep 1;62:29–39.
55. Myers DR, Wheeler B, Roose JP. MTOR and other effector kinase signals that impact T cell function and activity. *Immunol Rev*. 2019 Sep;291(1):134–53.
56. Zhang H, Dai Z, Wu W, Wang Z, Zhang N, Zhang L, et al. Regulatory mechanisms of immune checkpoints PD-L1 and CTLA-4 in cancer. *J Exp Clin Cancer Res*. 2021 Jun 4;40(1):184.
57. Raskov H, Orhan A, Christensen JP, Gögenur I. Cytotoxic CD8+ T cells in cancer and cancer immunotherapy. *Br J Cancer*. 2021 Jan;124(2):359–67.
58. Kaeuferle T, Krauss R, Blaeschke F, Willier S, Feuchtinger T. Strategies of adoptive T -cell transfer to treat refractory viral infections post allogeneic stem cell transplantation. *J HematolOncolJHematol Oncol*. 2019 Feb 6;12(1):13.
59. Katiyar V, Chesney J, Kloecker G. Cellular Therapy for Lung Cancer: Focusing on Chimeric Antigen Receptor T (CAR T) Cells and Tumor-Infiltrating Lymphocyte (TIL) Therapy. *Cancers*. 2023 Jan;15(14):3733.
60. GeukesFoppen MH, Donia M, Svane IM, Haanen JBAG. Tumor-infiltrating lymphocytes for the treatment of metastatic cancer. *Mol Oncol*. 2015 Dec 1;9(10):1918–35.
61. Park CG, Hartl CA, Schmid D, Carmona EM, Kim HJ, Goldberg MS. Extended release of perioperative immunotherapy prevents tumor recurrence and eliminates metastases. *Sci Transl Med*. 2018 Mar 21;10(433):eaar1916.
62. Martinez M, Moon EK. CAR T Cells for Solid Tumors: New Strategies for Finding, Infiltrating, and Surviving in the Tumor Microenvironment. *Front Immunol*. 2019 Feb 5;10:128.
63. Riley RS, June CH, Langer R, Mitchell MJ. Delivery technologies for cancer immunotherapy. *Nat Rev Drug Discov*. 2019 Mar;18(3):175–96.
64. Aikins ME, Xu C, Moon JJ. Engineered Nanoparticles for Cancer Vaccination and Immunotherapy. *Acc Chem Res*. 2020 Oct 20;53(10):2094–105.
65. Saleh RO, Ibrahim FM, Pallathadka H, Kaur I, Ahmad I, Ali SHJ, et al. Nucleic acid vaccines-based therapy for triple-negative breast cancer: A new paradigm in tumor immunotherapy arena. *Cell BiochemFunct*. 2024;42(3): e3992.
66. Zhu S, Zhang T, Zheng L, Liu H, Song W, Liu D, et al. Combination strategies to maximize the benefits of cancer immunotherapy. *J HematolOncolJHematol Oncol*. 2021 Sep 27;14(1):156.
67. Eder JP, Vande Woude GF, Boerner SA, LoRusso PM. Novel Therapeutic Inhibitors of the c-Met Signaling Pathway in Cancer. *Clin Cancer Res*. 2009 Apr 1;15(7):2207–14.
68. Rosenberg AS, Sauna ZE. Immunogenicity assessment during the development of protein therapeutics. *J Pharm Pharmacol*. 2018 May 1;70(5):584–94.
69. Kroschinsky F, Stölzel F, von Bonin S, Beutel G, Kochanek M, Kiehl M, et al. New drugs, new toxicities: severe side effects of modern targeted and immunotherapy of cancer and their management. *Crit Care*. 2017 Apr 14;21(1):89.
70. Schneider BJ, Naidoo J, Santomaso BD, Lacchetti C, Adkins S, Anadkat M, et al. Management of Immune-Related Adverse Events in Patients Treated With Immune Checkpoint Inhibitor Therapy: ASCO Guideline Update. *J Clin Oncol*. 2021 Dec 20;39(36):4073–126.
71. Diesendruck Y, Benhar I. Novel immune check point inhibiting antibodies in cancer therapy—Opportunities and challenges.

- Drug Resist Updat. 2017 Jan 1;30: 39–47.
72. Bertolaccini L, Casiraghi M, Uslenghi C, Maiorca S, Spaggiari L. Recent advances in lung cancer research: Unravelling the future of treatment. Updat Surg [Internet]. 2024 Apr 6 [cited 2024 Apr 11]; Available: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13304-024-01841-3>

© Copyright (2024): Author(s). The licensee is the journal publisher. This is an Open Access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0>), which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.

Peer-review history:
The peer review history for this paper can be accessed here:
<https://prh.mbimph.com/review-history/3443>