



MD Anderson
~~Cancer Center~~



Allogeneic CAR T cell expansion and rejection

Sattva S. Neelapu, M.D.

Professor and Deputy Chair

Department of Lymphoma and Myeloma

The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

Houston, Texas, USA

New Drugs in Hematology

Bologna, Italy

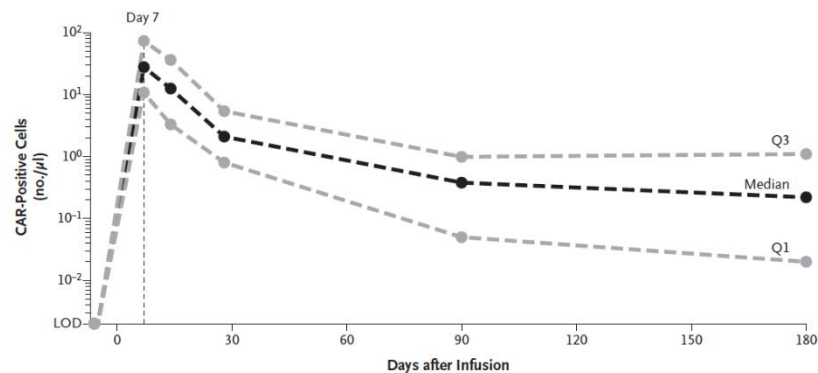
January 15-17, 2024

Disclosures

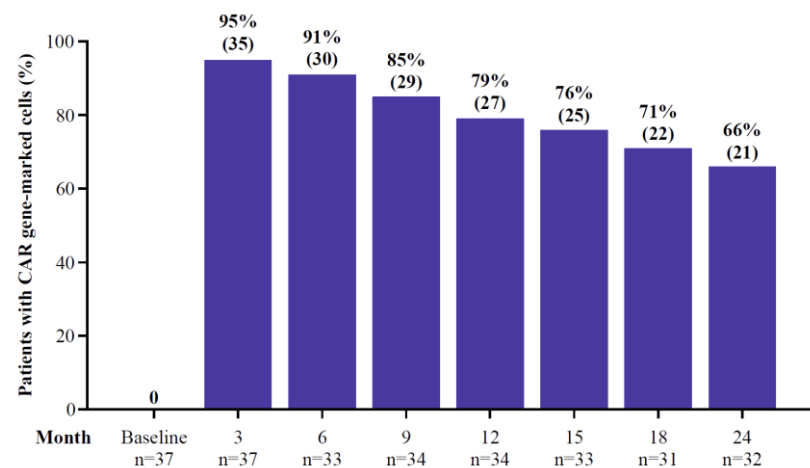
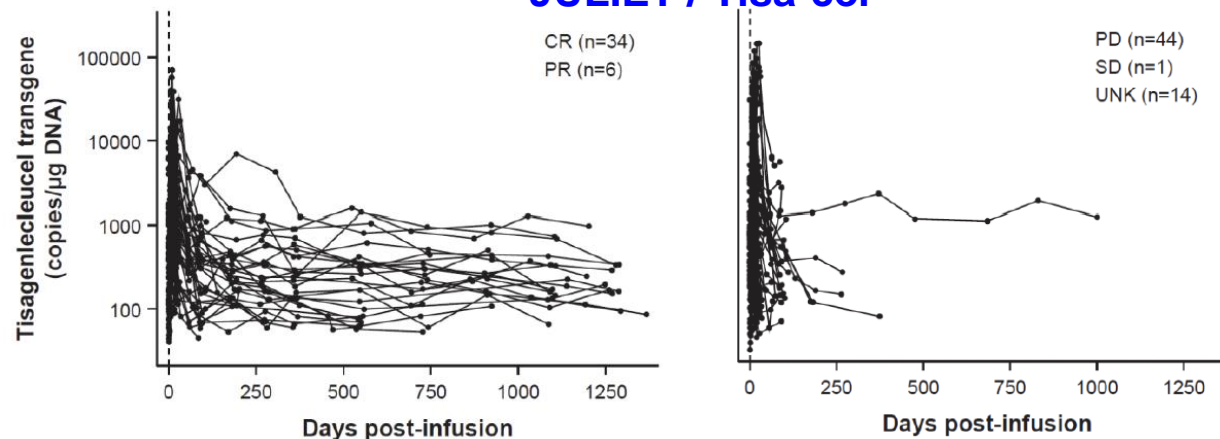
Disclosure	Company name
Research Support	Kite/Gilead, BMS, Allogene, Precision Biosciences, Adicet Bio, Sana Biotechnology, Cargo Therapeutics
Advisory Board / Consultant	Kite/Gilead, Sellas Life Sciences, Athenex, Allogene, Incyte, Adicet Bio, BMS, Bluebird Bio, Fosun Kite, Sana Biotechnology, Caribou, Astellas Pharma, Morphosys, Janssen, Chimagen, ImmunoACT, Orna Therapeutics, Takeda, Synthekine, Carsgen, Appia Bio, GlaxoSmithKline, Galapagos
Honoraria	MJH Life Sciences, PeerView, MD Education
Speaker's Bureau	None
Employment	None
Royalties	None
Stocks / Stock Options	Longbow Immunotherapy
Patents	Related to cell therapy

CAR T cell expansion and persistence after autologous CD19 CART

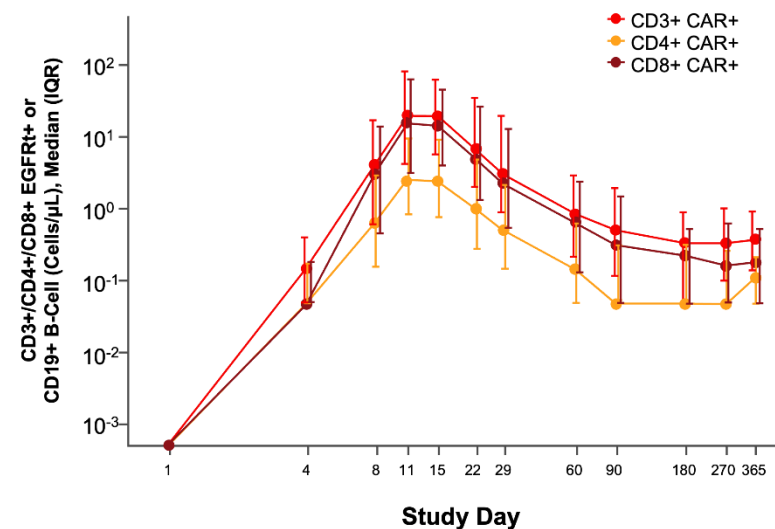
ZUMA-1 / Axi-cel



JULIET / Tisa-cel

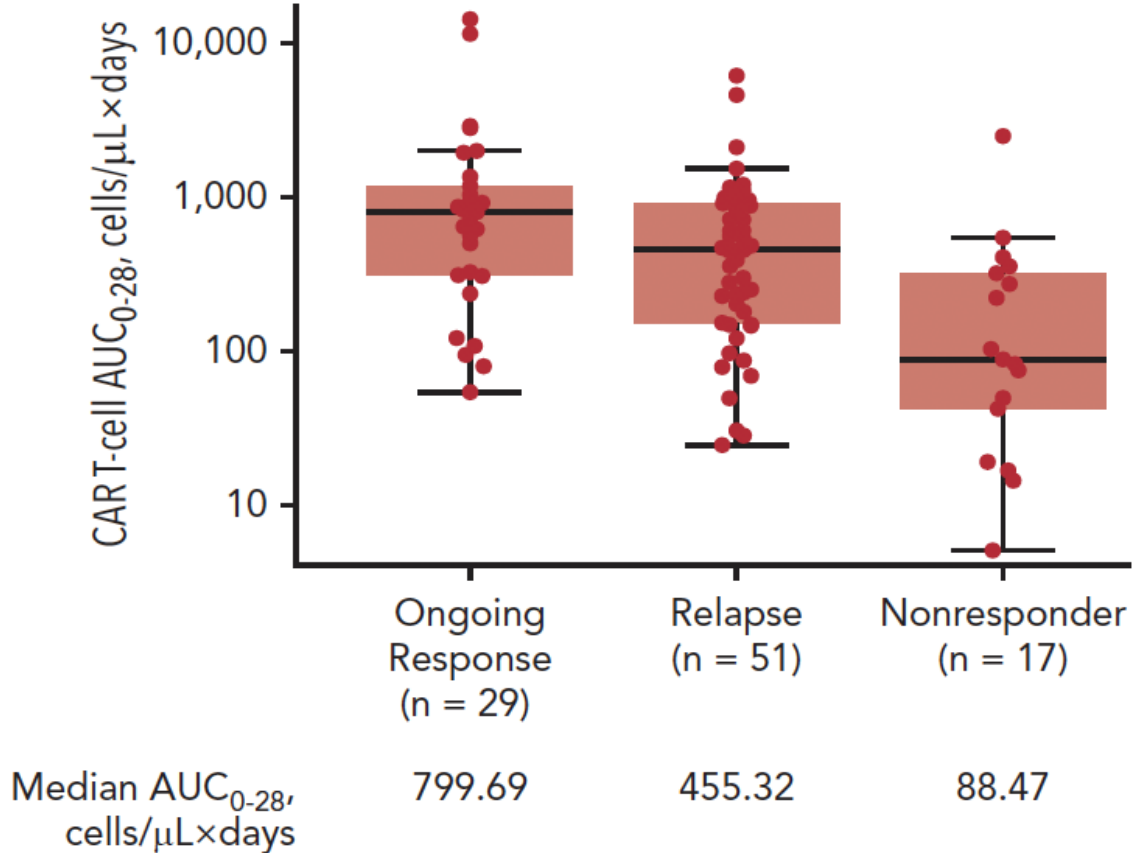


TRANSCEND / Liso-cel



Neelapu et al. *N Eng J Med*, 2017
 Locke et al, *Lancet Oncol*, 2019
 Schuster et al, *Lancet Oncol*, 2021
 Abramson et al, ASH 2019, Abstract 241

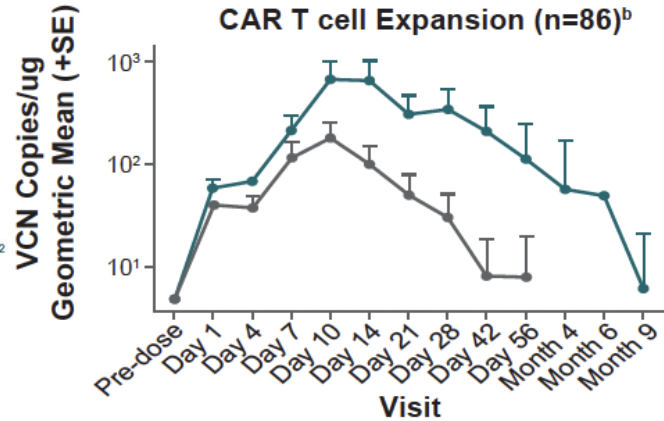
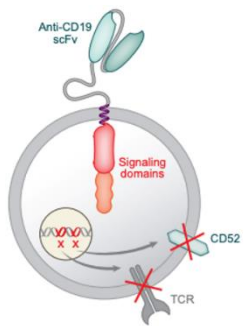
ZUMA-1: CAR AUC₀₋₂₈ days associates with ongoing response at 5 years



CAR T cell expansion and persistence after allogeneic CART

(With intensified lymphodepletion)

ALPHA / Cema-cel (ALLO-501)



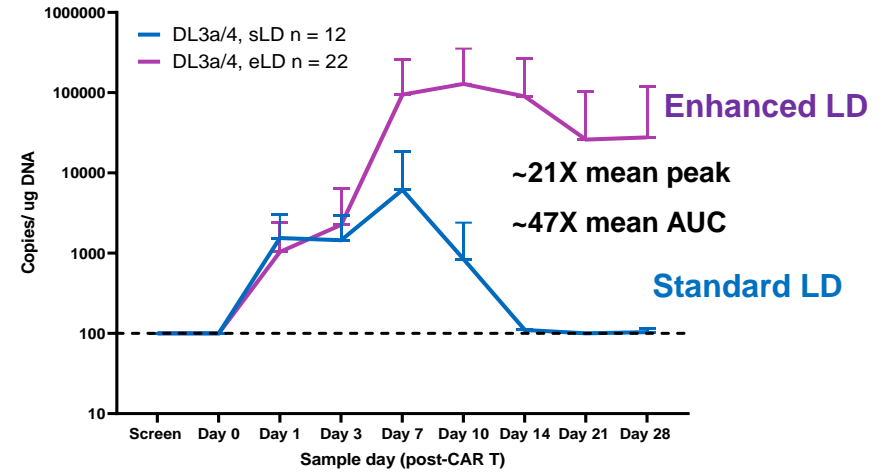
Persistence up to Month 4

Non-Responder (n=46)

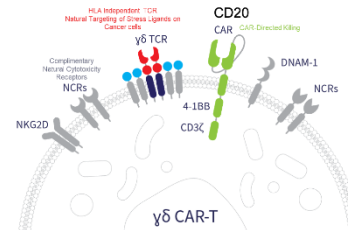
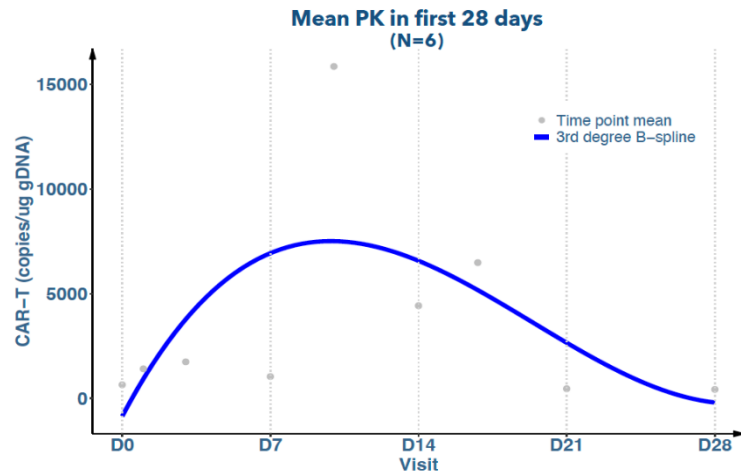
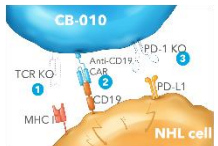
Responder (n=40)



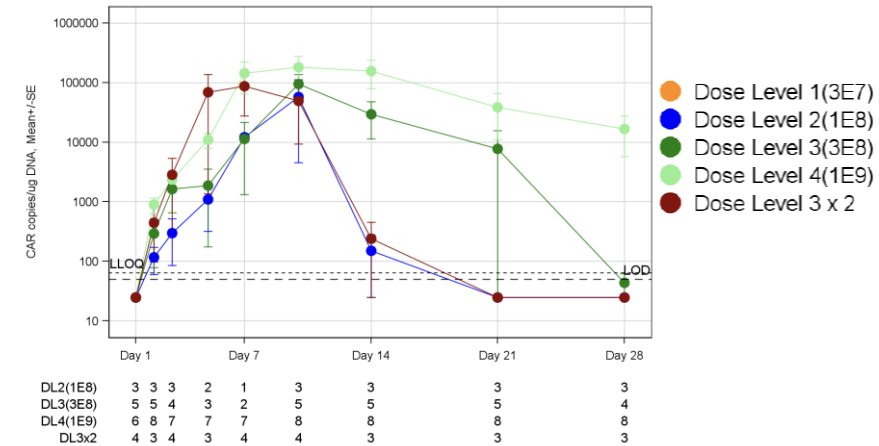
PBCAR0191



CB-010



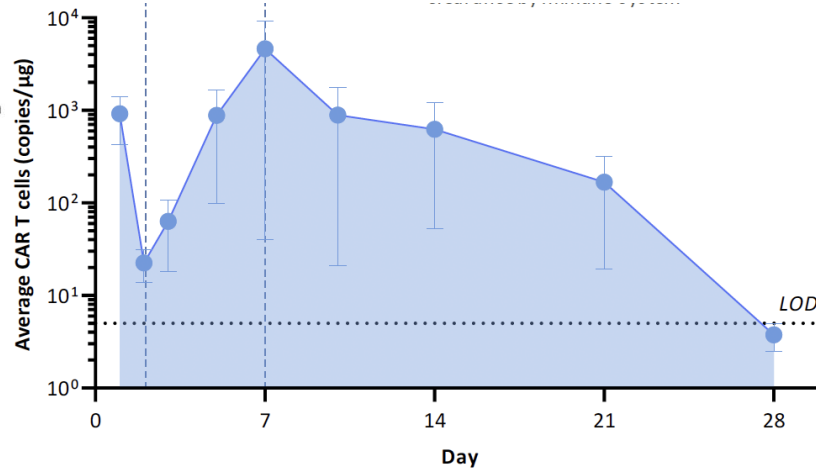
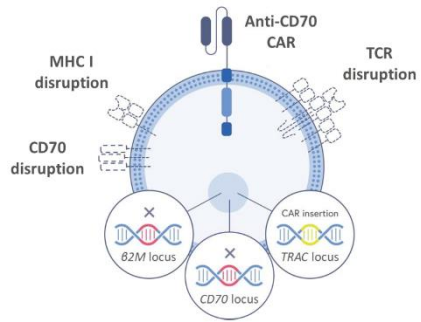
ADI-001 / $\gamma\delta$ CD20 CART



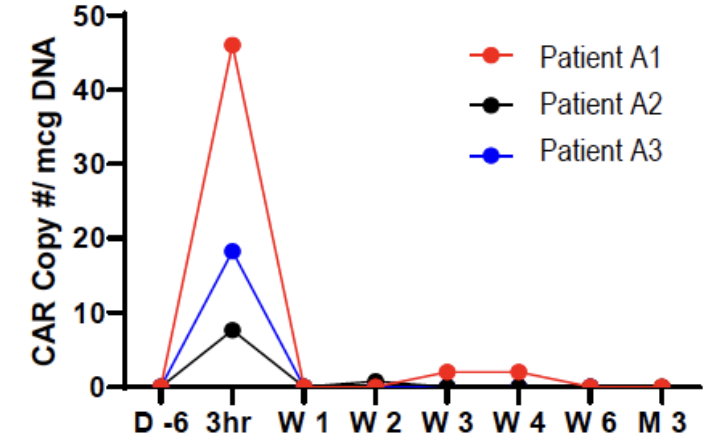
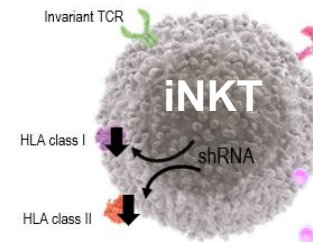
CAR T cell expansion and persistence after allogeneic CART

(With built-in immune evasion and standard lymphodepletion)

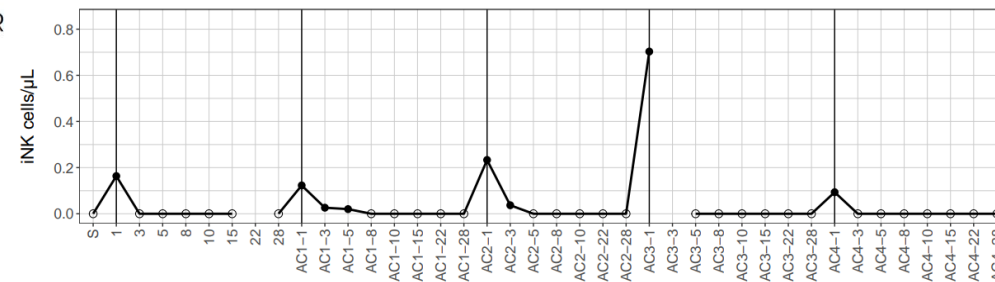
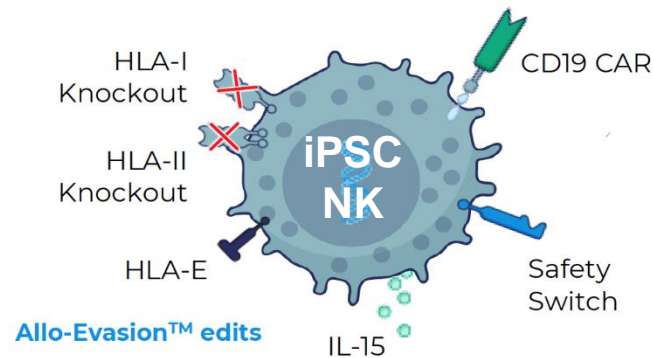
CTX130



KUR-502

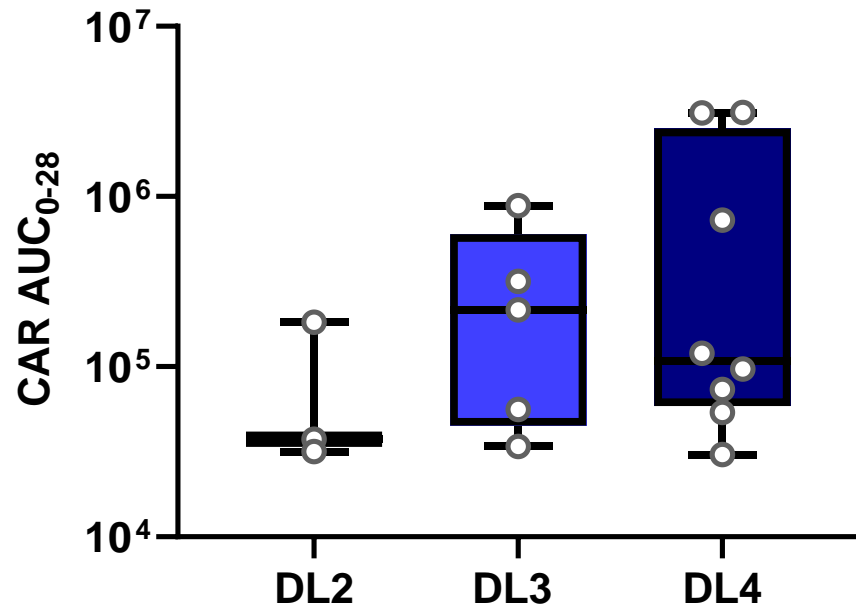


CNTY-101

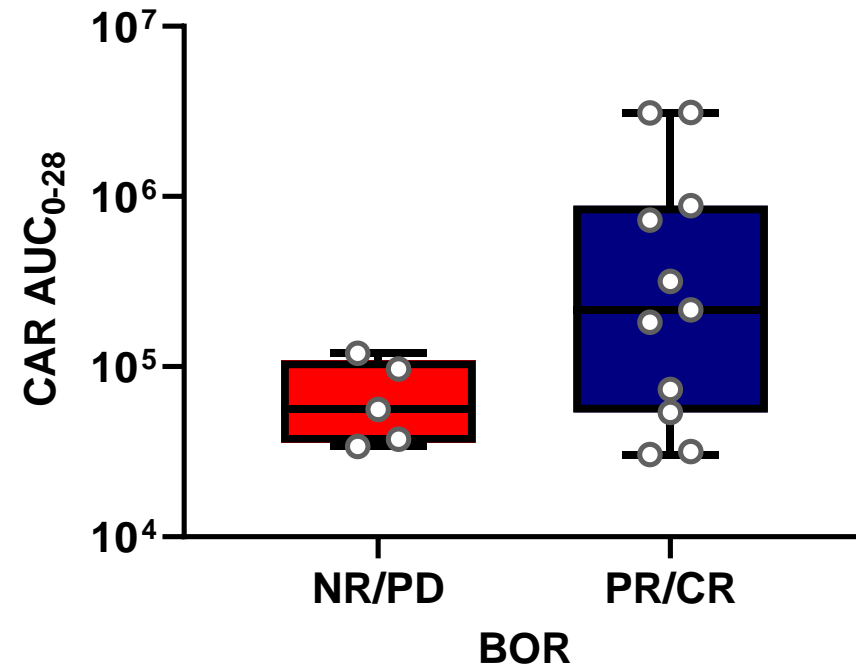


ADI-001: Association of AUC_{0-28} with dose level and response

AUC_{0-28} associates with dose level



Response associates with AUC_{0-28}

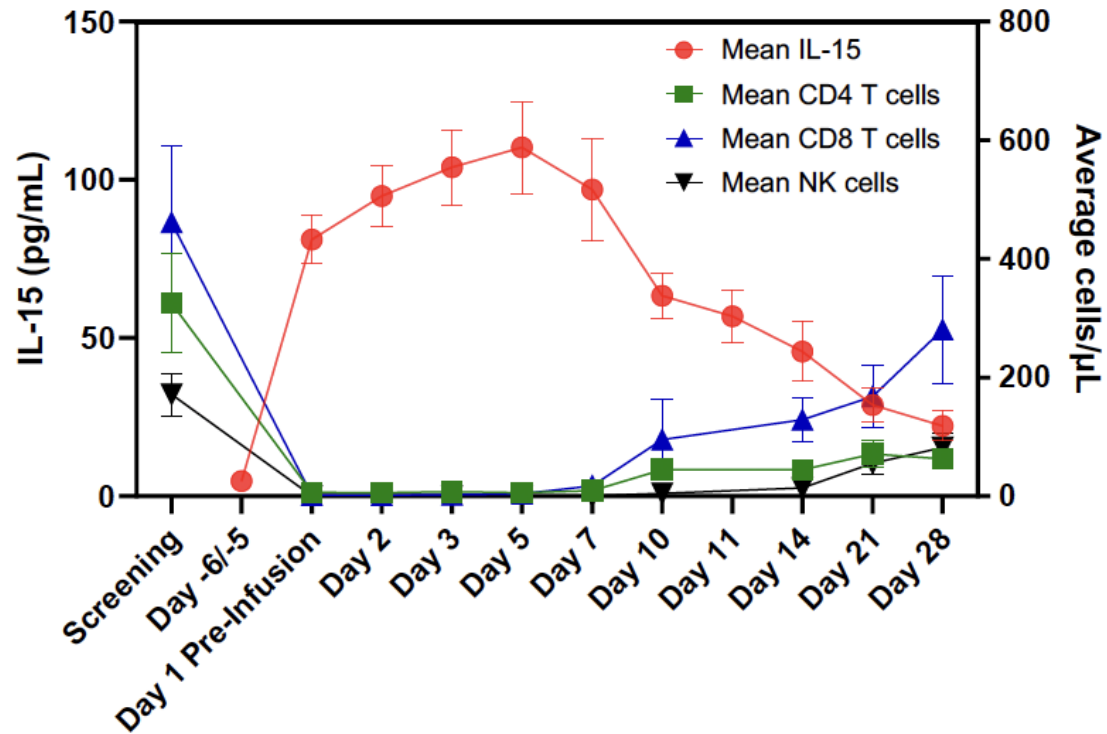


- Similar results observed in other allogeneic CART studies

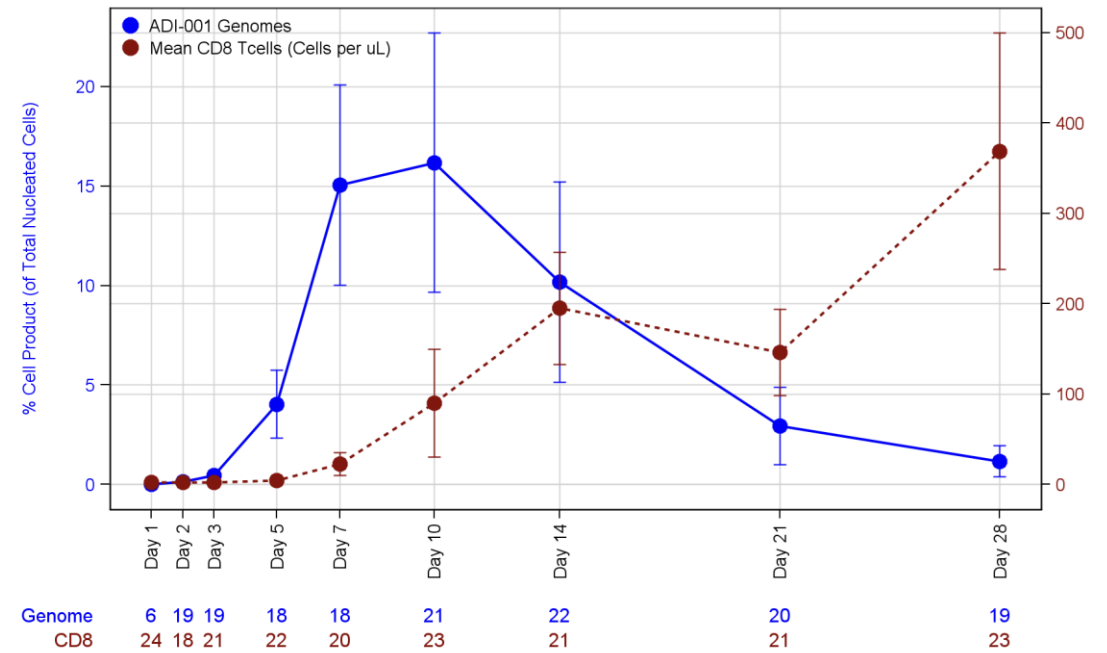
Loss of allogeneic CAR T persistence associates with host lymphocyte recovery

ADI-001 Study ($\gamma\delta$ CD20 CART)

Host T and NK recovery



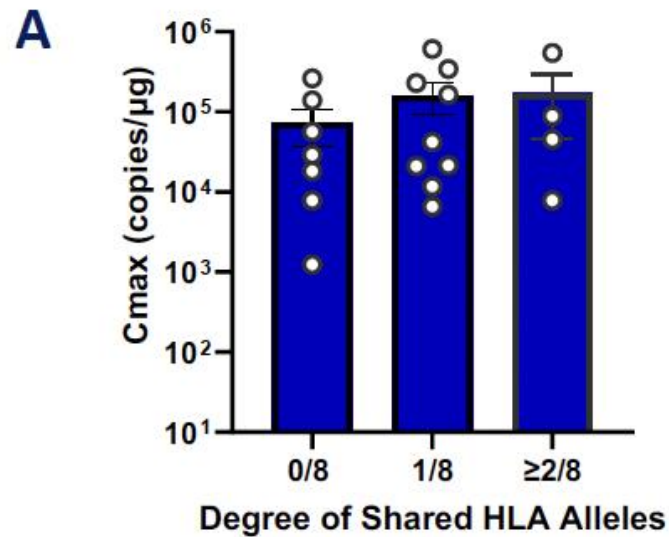
CAR persistence vs. CD8 T cell recovery



- Similar results observed in other allogeneic CART studies

Cellular kinetics and response are not associated with degree of shared HLA alleles

ADI-001 Study
($\gamma\delta$ CD20 CART)



B

Shared HLA Alleles	CR/PR Rate n/N (%)
0/8	7/8 (87.5)
1/8	7/11 (63.6)
≥2/8	3/5 (60.0)

- Similar results observed in other allogeneic CART studies

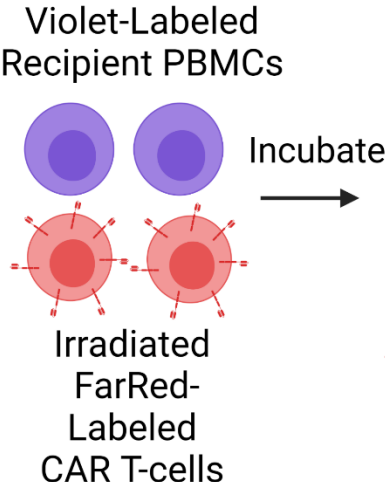
Allogeneic CAR-T cellular kinetics

- Expansion and persistence remain challenges in clinical implementation of allogeneic CAR T cell therapy
- Despite the use of products derived from the same donor, CAR T cell expansion and clinical responses are heterogeneous

- Can we identify alloreactive T cell clones against the donor CAR-T product in patients a priori at baseline?
- Does the degree of host alloreactivity at baseline correlate with donor CAR-T expansion and clinical efficacy *in vivo*?
- What are the kinetics of expansion of alloreactive T cell clones following donor CAR T cell infusion?

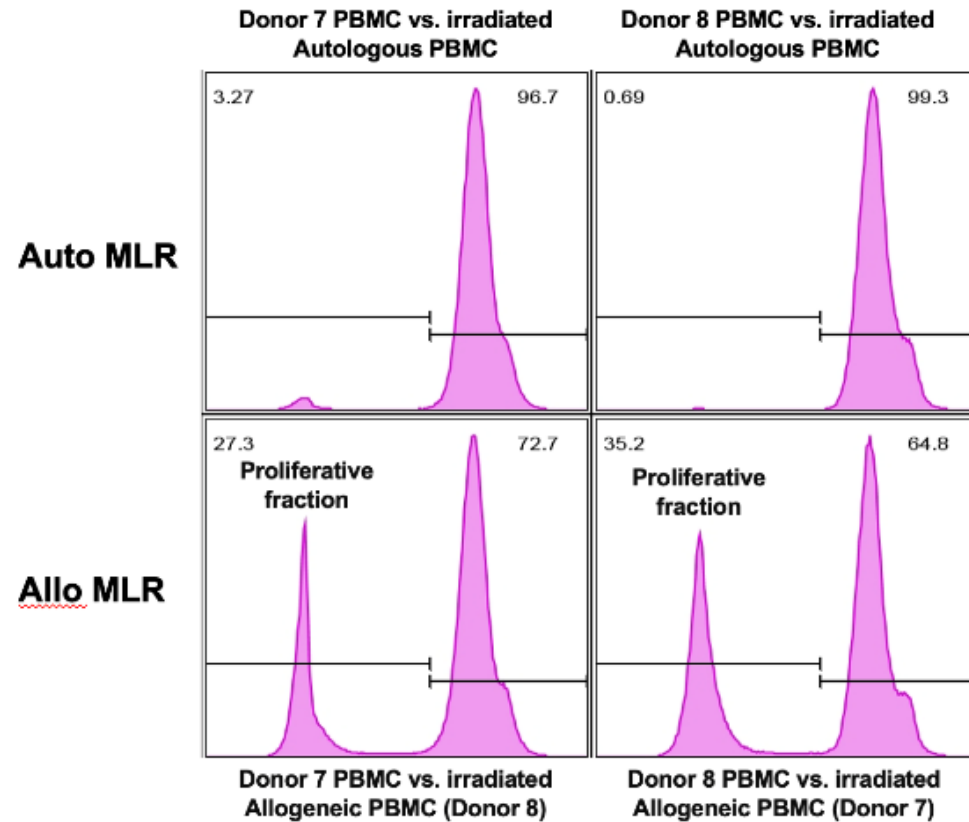
Identifying alloreactive T cell clones against donor CAR T cells

Mixed Lymphocyte Reaction (MLR) Assay (9 days)

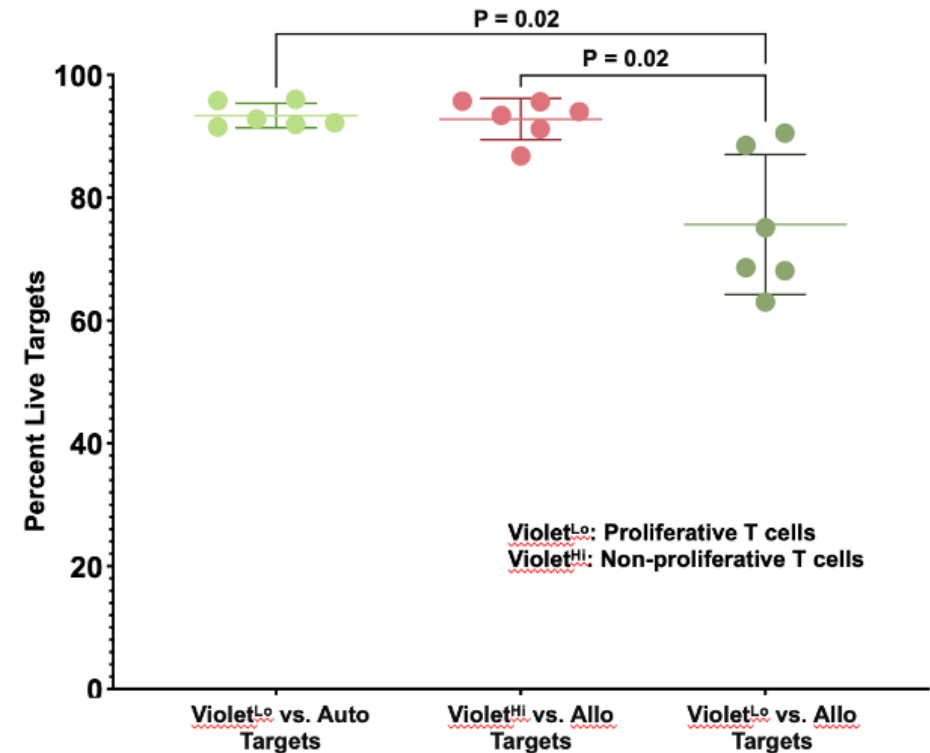


Alloreactive T cell identified by MLR mediate cytotoxicity against donor targets

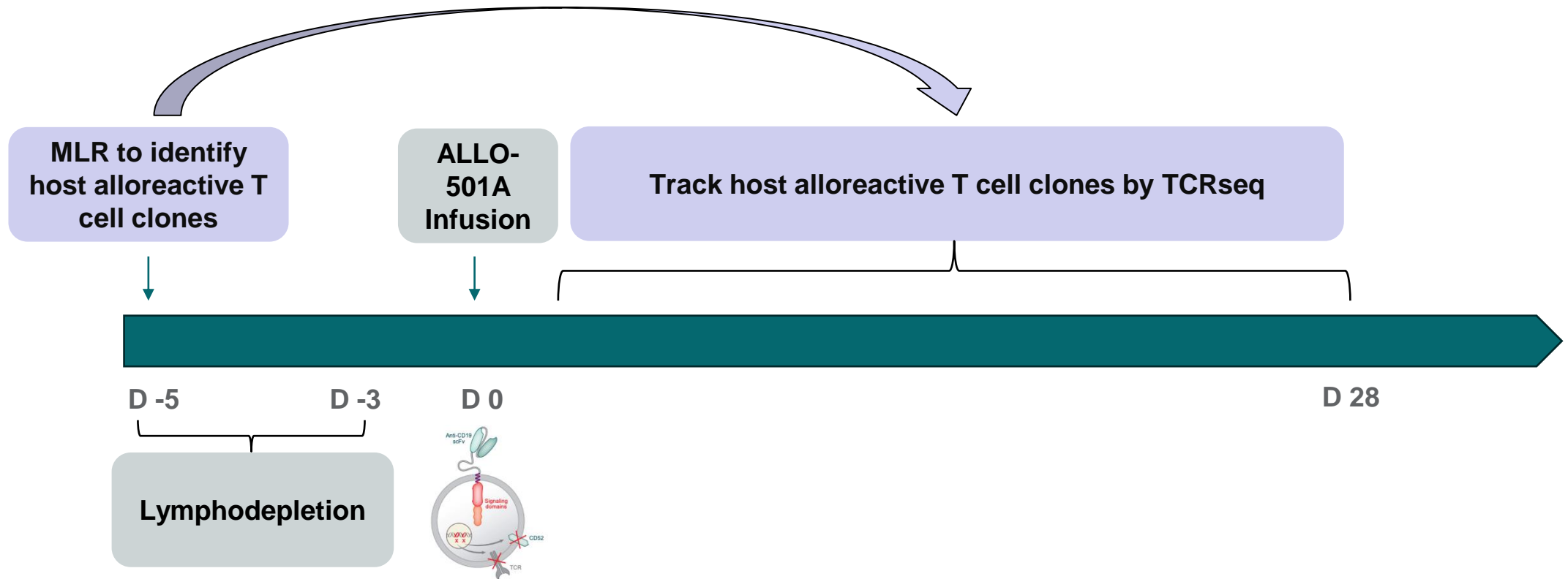
Assay to identify alloreactive T/NK cells



Cytotoxicity by alloreactive T cells (24 h)

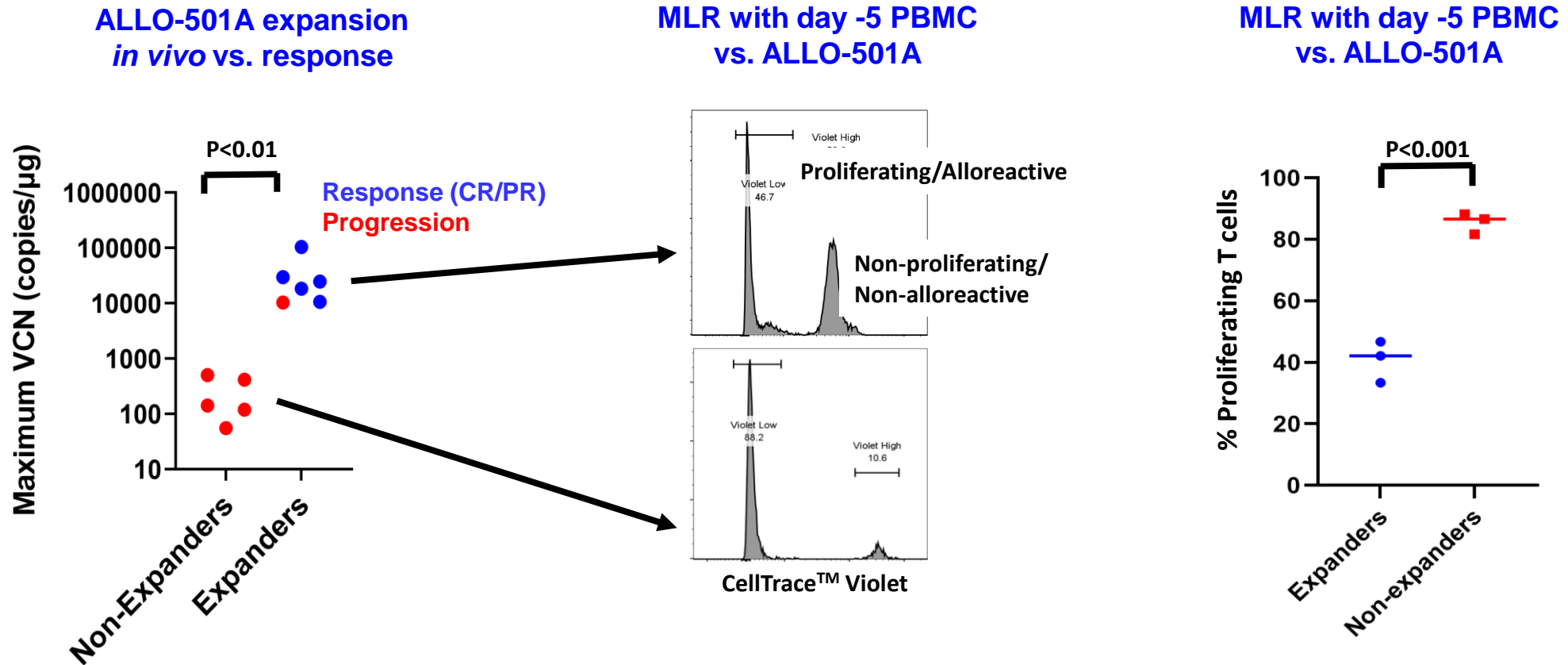


Identifying and tracking alloreactive T cell clones



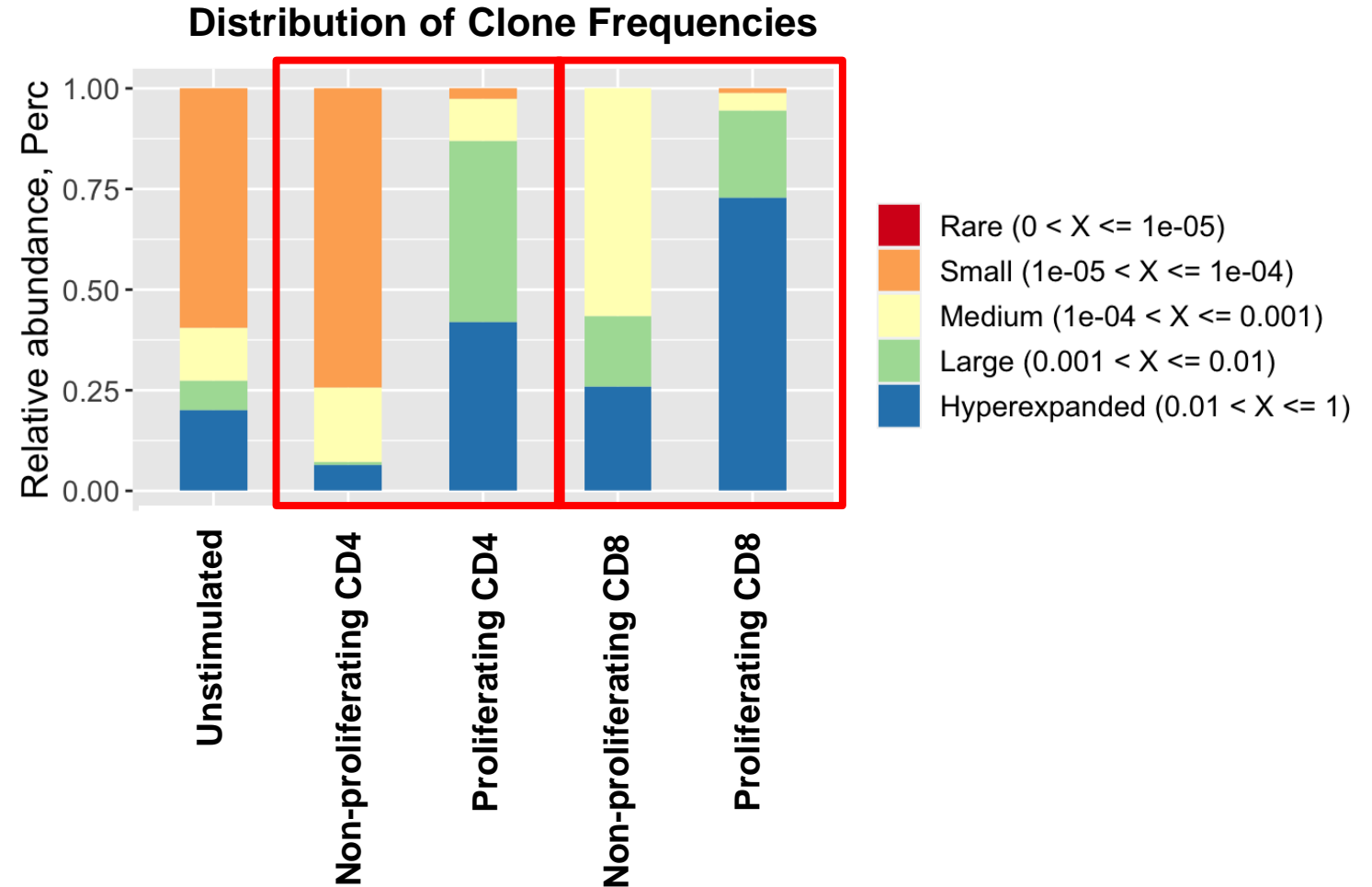
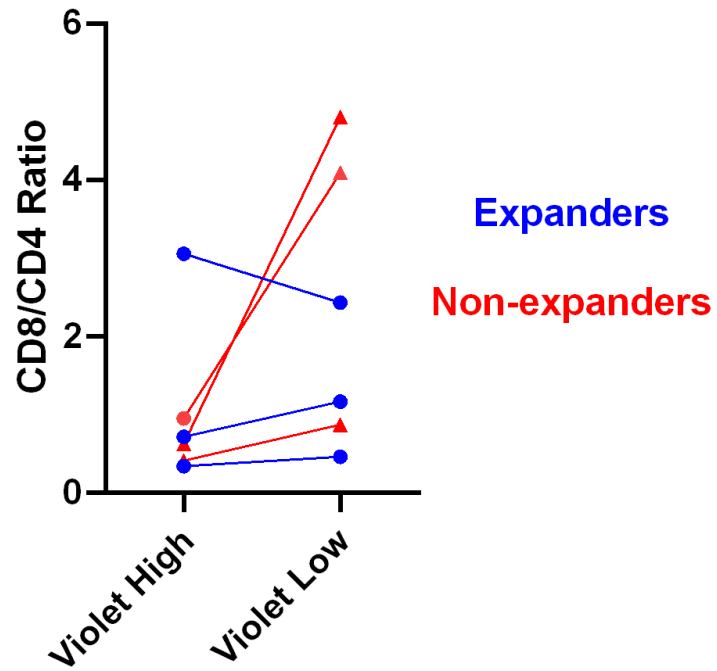
Fludarabine 30 mg/m²/day; day -5 to day -3
Cyclophosphamide 300-500 mg/m²/day; day -5 to day -3
ALLO-647 from 30 mg/day from day -5 to day -3

Low CAR T expansion *in vivo* is associated with progressive disease and increased alloreactivity in MLR at baseline

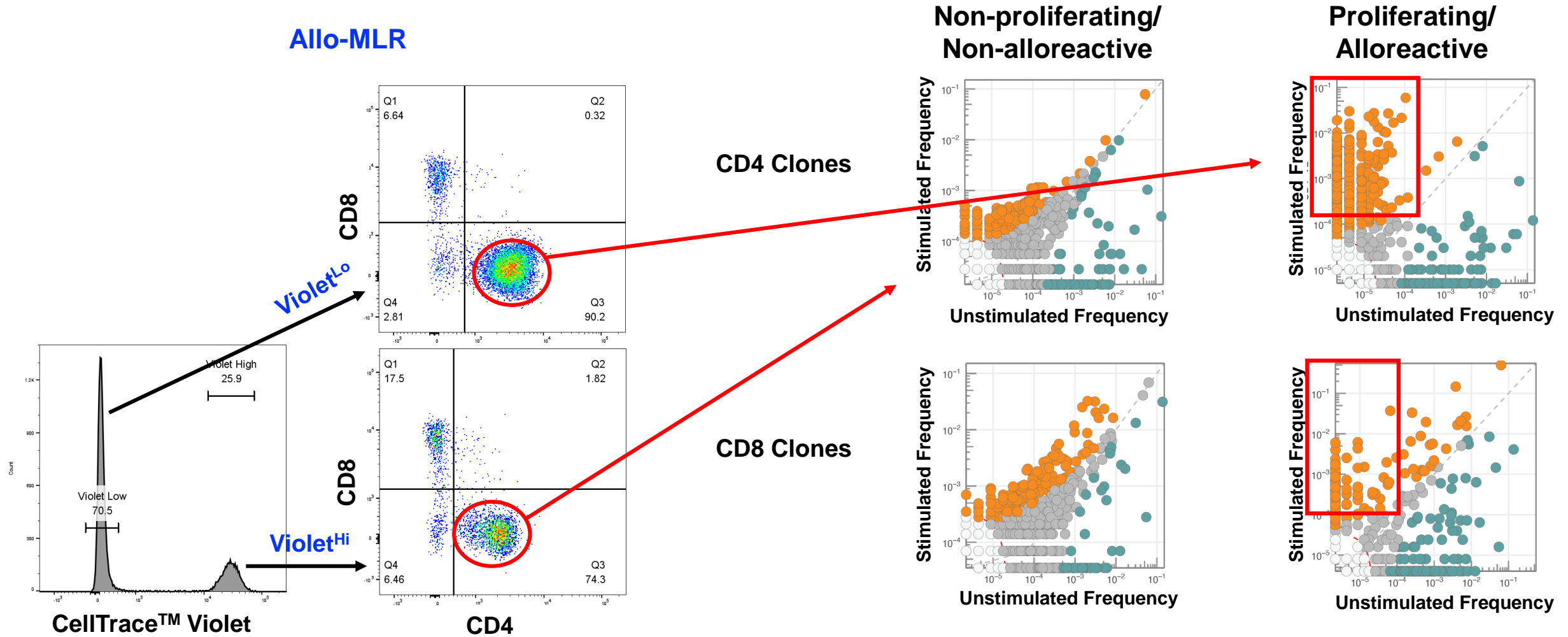


- All patients were treated with the same donor CAR-T lot.

Proliferating/Alloreactive T cells are disproportionately CD8⁺ and exhibit increased clonality

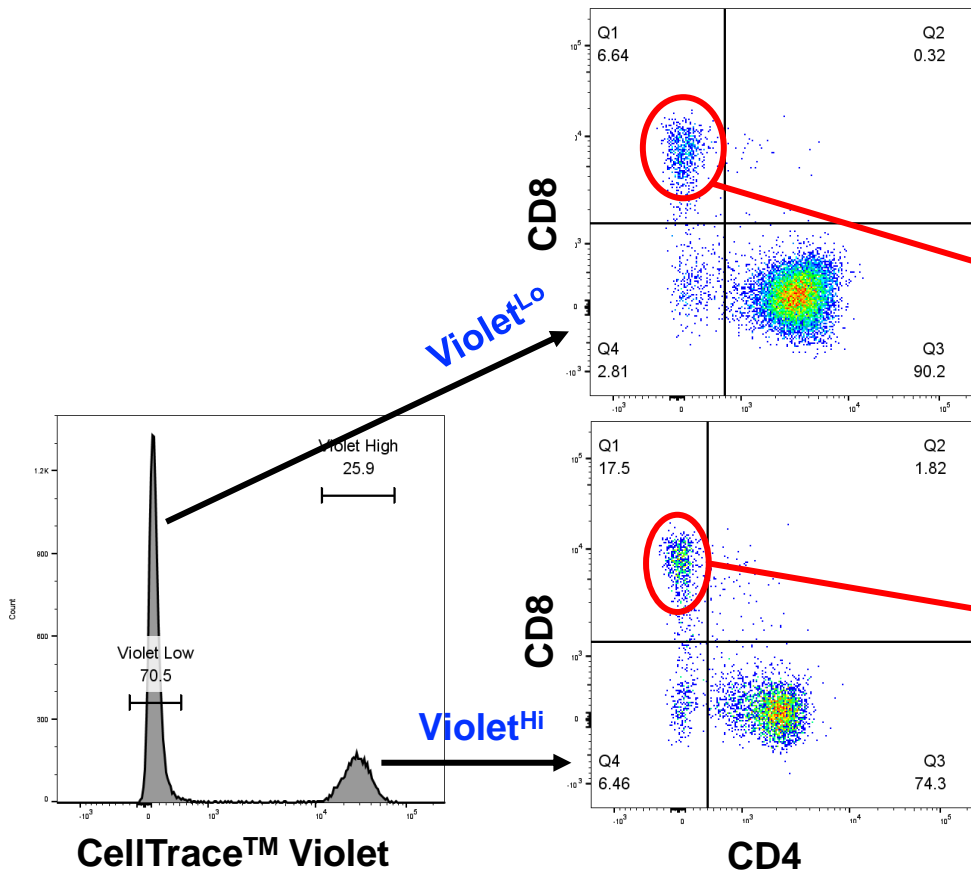


Proliferating/Alloreactive populations from MLR have distinct pattern of clonotype enrichment



Proliferating/Alloreactive populations from MLR have distinct pattern of clonotype enrichment

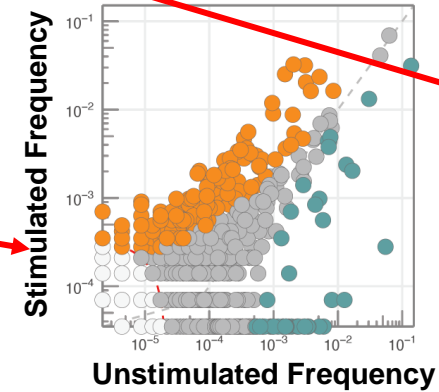
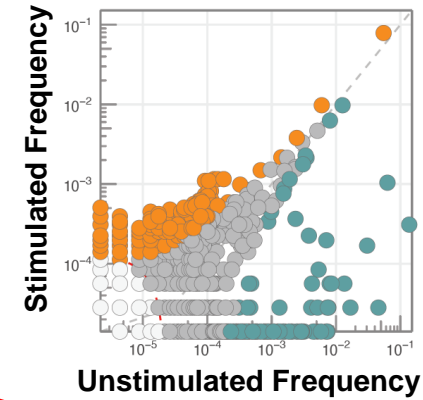
Allo-MLR



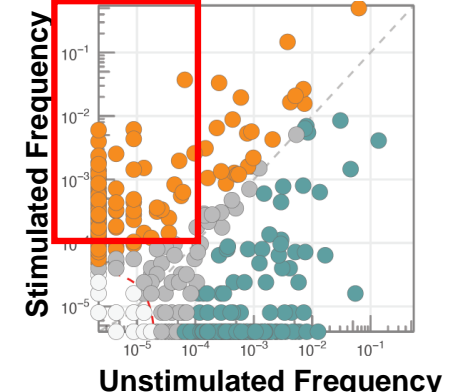
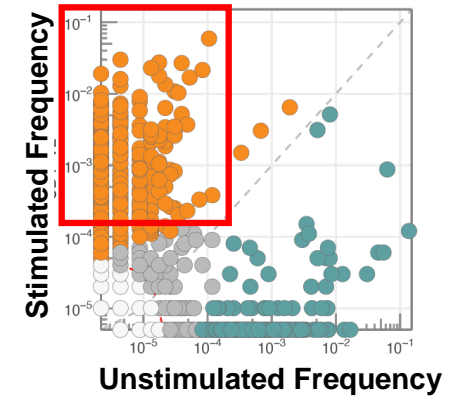
CD4 Clones

CD8 Clones

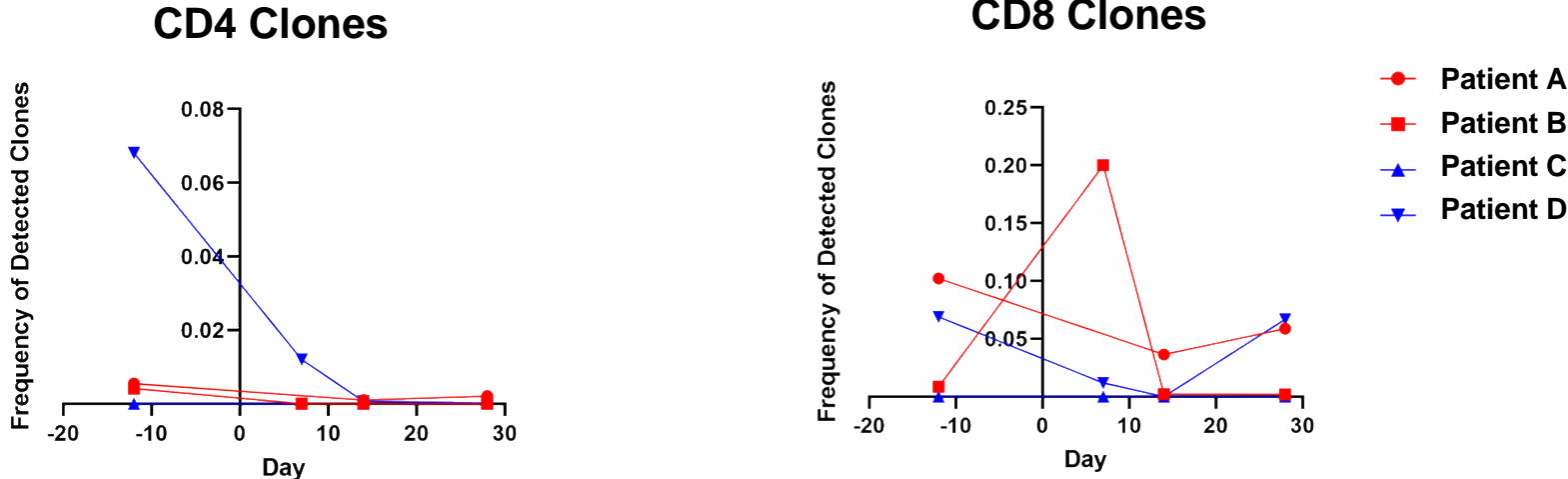
Non-proliferating/
Non-alloreactive



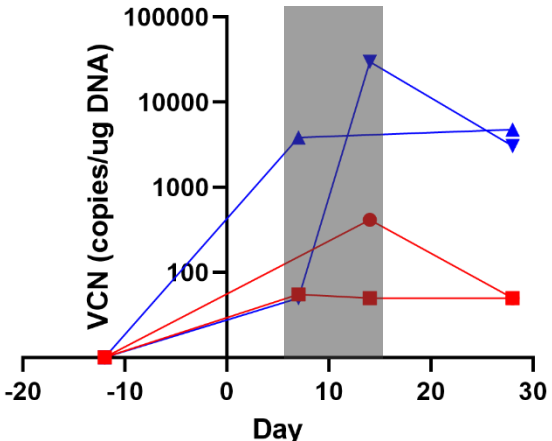
Proliferating/
Alloreactive



Alloreactive CD8+ clones are enriched in non-expanders



CAR vector copy number

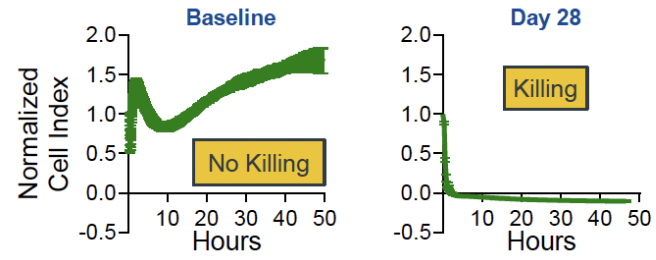


Allogeneic CAR-T expansion and rejection: Summary

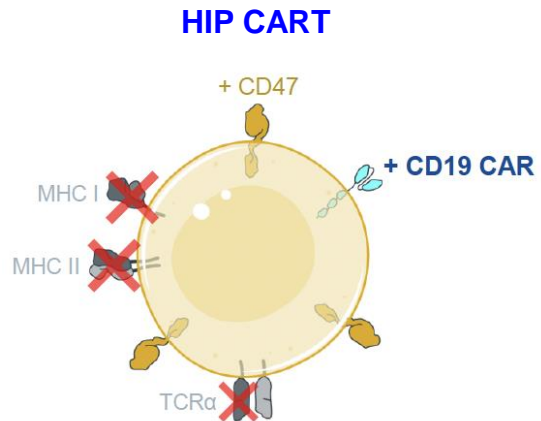
- A 9-day MLR assay can be used to identify alloreactive CD4⁺ and CD8⁺ T cell clones at baseline
- Subjects with more robust *in vitro* T cell proliferation upon exposure to allogeneic CAR-T product have poor CAR-T expansion *in vivo*
 - Suggests that MLR assay may recapitulate some aspects of expander vs. non-expander phenomenon
- Higher frequencies of alloreactive CD8⁺ clones following treatment associates with poor CAR-T expansion *in vivo*
 - Similar pattern not apparent for CD4⁺ clones
 - Suggests that alloreactive CD8⁺ clones may be involved in early rejection of allogeneic CAR T cells

SC291: Immune evasion by host T and NK cells

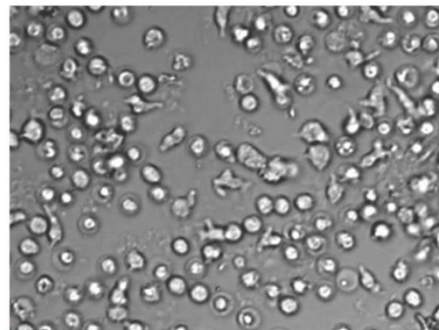
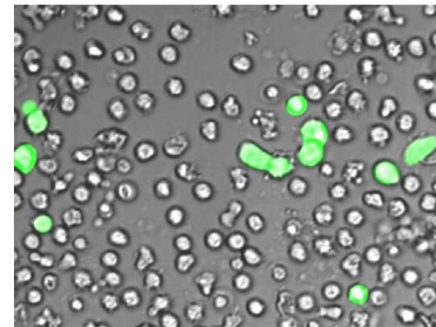
Patients T cells kill WT CART



Patients NK cells kill MHC I/II^{KO} CART

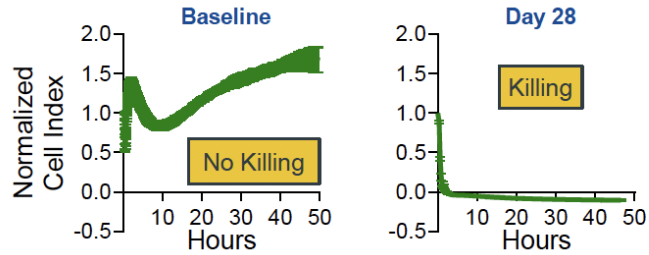


HIP – Hypoimmune platform

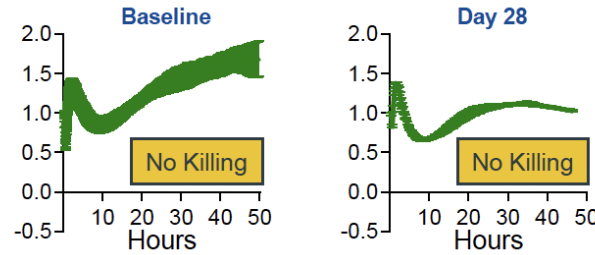


SC291: Immune evasion by host T and NK cells

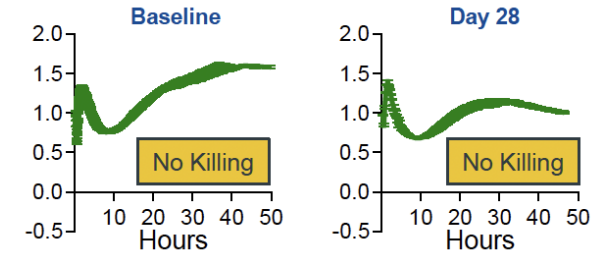
Patients T cells kill WT CART



Patients T cells do not kill MHC I/II^{KO} CART



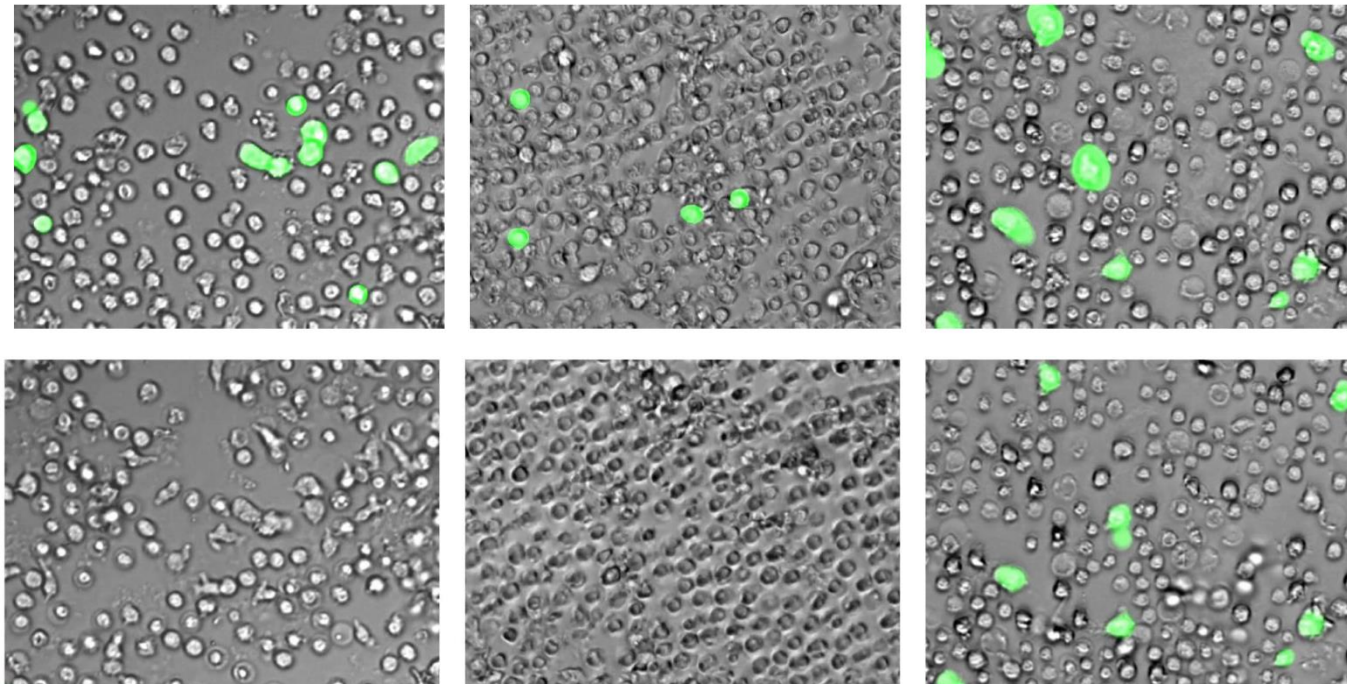
Patients T cells do not kill HIP CART



Patients NK cells kill MHC I/II^{KO} CART

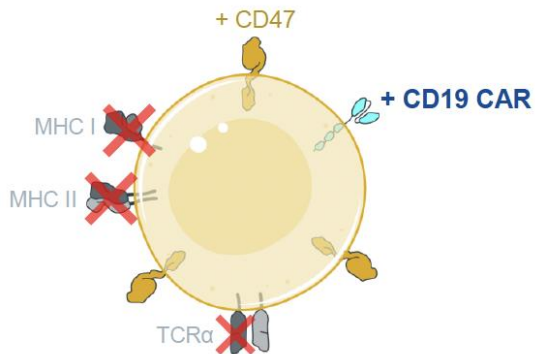
Patients NK cells kill MHC I/II^{KO} + HLA-E CART

Patients NK cells do not kill MHC I/II^{KO} + CD47 CART



4-hour assay

HIP CART



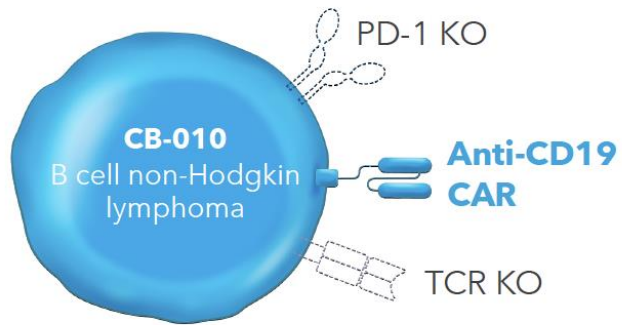
HIP – Hypoimmune platform

Baseline

Day 13

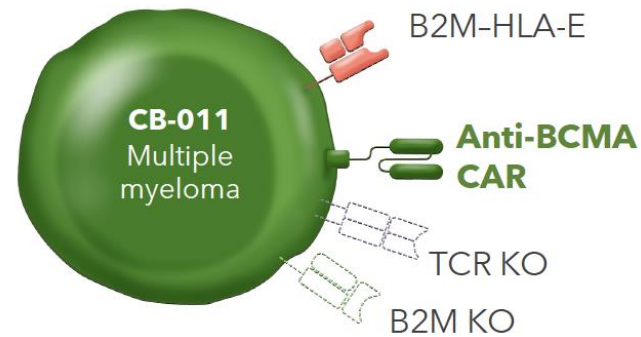
Next generation allogeneic CAR T

3 Edits



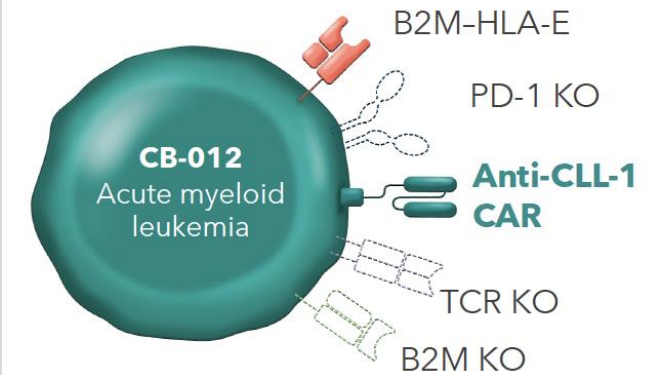
1st allogeneic anti-CD19 CAR-T cell therapy in the clinic with **checkpoint disruption** via PD-1 knockout (KO)¹ to reduce CAR-T cell exhaustion

4 Edits



1st allogeneic anti-BCMA CAR-T cell therapy with **immune cloaking** via B2M KO and insertion of B2M-HLA-E fusion protein¹

5 Edits

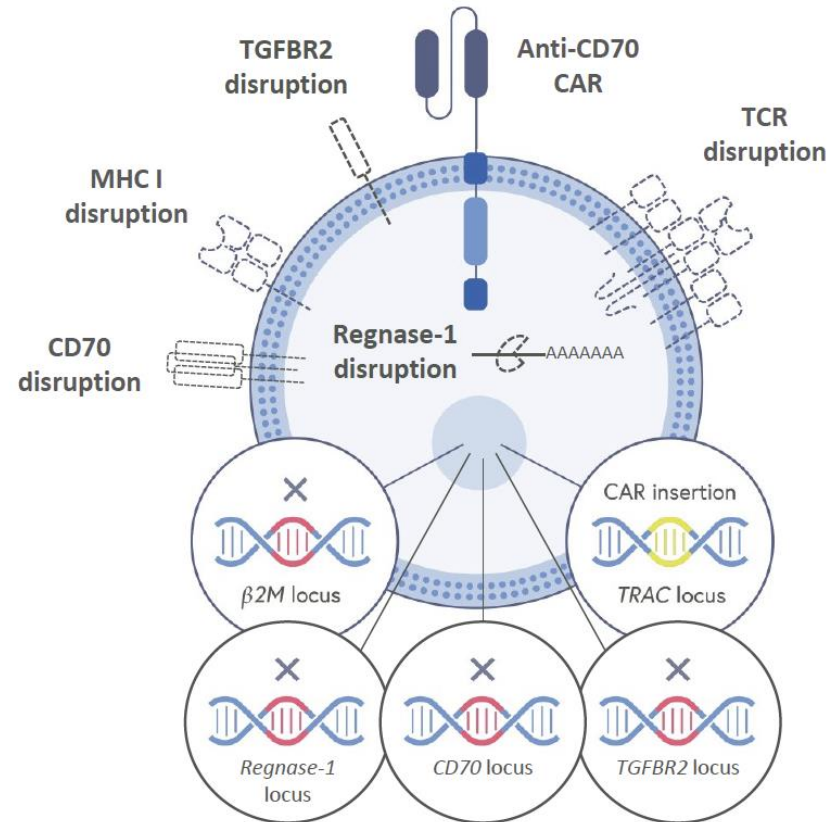


1st allogeneic CAR-T cell therapy with both **checkpoint disruption** and **immune cloaking**¹

Next generation CD70 allogeneic CAR T

CTX131 (6 edits)

- **Regnase-1:** Removes intrinsic “brake” on T cell function
- **Increases functional persistence, cytokine secretion and sensitivity, effector function on tumors**



- **TGFBR2 KO:** Removes key extrinsic “brake” on T cell anti-tumor activity
- **Reduces TME inhibition of multiple CAR-T cell functions**

Thank you for your attention!

Email: sneelapu@mdanderson.org