



Bispecifics in AML

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Disclosures

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Challenges of T cell-based Immunotherapy in AML



Target Antigens for Bispecifics in AML: Inter- & Intra Patient Heterogeneity



Target Antigens for Bispecifics in AML: On-Target-Off-Leukemia Toxicity

A small Therapeutic window



Dual Targeting Strategy in AML: Construct Design determines Specificity vs Escape

T-Cell

CD123 Ref mAB

🛨 CyCAT1

- CyCAT2

FLT3 Ref mAB

Work in progress



Bispecific Antibody Formats Targeting Surface & Intracellular Antigens





Adpated from You et al, Vaccines 2021, Augsberger et al, Blood 2021

A New Universe of Targets: Bispecific "TCR Mimickry" Molecules

Selected TCR and TCR-like dispecifics in development							
Drug	Sponsor	Target	Lead indication	Status			
TCR-based target binder							
Tebentafusp	Immunocore	Gp100	Unresectable or metastatic uveal melanoma	Approved			
IMC-F106C	Immunocore	PRAME	Various solid tumours	Phase I/II			
IMC-C103C	Immunocore/Roche	MAGE-A4	Various solid tumours	Phase I/II			
IMC-I109V	Immunocore	Env	Hepatitis B virus	Phase I			
IMA401	Immatics/BMS	MAGE-A4/8	Various solid tumours	CTA filed"			
IMA402	Immatics	PRAME	Various solid tumours	Preclinical			
ABBV-189	AbbVie/Harpoon Therapeutics	Survivin	Cancer	Preclinical			
Antibody-based target binder							
RG6007	Roche	WT1	Acute myeloid leukaemia	Phase I			
RG6129	Roche	MAGE-A4	Various solid tumours	Phase I			
Unnamed candidate	Gritstone	СТ86	Various solid tumours	Preclinical			

Colocted TCD and TCD like bispecifies in development

First Approved T-Cell Recruiting Bispecific directed against an intracellular TAA Tebentafusp (gp100-TCRxCD3)

• Indication: HLA-A*02:01-positive Adults with inoperable/metastatic uvea Melanoma

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Selected TCR and TCR-like bispecifics in development

Intracellular Antigens as Targets for Bispecific Antibodies "2+1"

HLA-A2⁺-WT1_{RMF} specific Antibody

Fc dead domain: extended half-life/ IgG-like PK properties

WT1_{RMF} is Presented on HLA-A*02⁺ AML Cells and is Specifically Recognized by WT1-TCB

Augsberger C.*, Hänel G.* et al. Blood (2021)

Initiation of a Phase I trial in HLA-A2⁺patients with r/r AML & MRD⁺ (> 0.1%)

Augsberger, Hänel et al, Subklewe, Blood 2021

Evolving Intracellular Target Antigens in AML: Neoantigens – AML specificity

EMBARGOED UNTIL 11:00AM US ET, MONDAY 1 MARCH 2021

Science

RESEARCH ARTICLES

Cite as: E. H. Hsiue *et al.*, *Science* 10.1126/science.abc8697 (2021).

Targeting a neoantigen derived from a common *TP53* mutation Using TCR Tg T cells or Bispecifics

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JCI The Journal of Clinical Investigation

CBFB-MYH11 fusion neoantigen enables T cell recognition and killing of acute myeloid leukemia

Melinda A. Biernacki, ..., Anthony Rongvaux, Marie Bleakley

J Clin Invest. 2020;130(10):5127-5141. https://doi.org/10.1172/JCI137723.

Research Article Immunology Oncology

Proteins created from recurrent fusion genes like *CBFB-MYH11* are prevalent in acute myeloid leukemia (AML), often necessary for leukemogenesis, persistent throughout the disease course, and highly leukemia specific, making them attractive neoantigen targets for immunotherapy. A nonameric peptide derived from a prevalent CBFB-MYH11 fusion protein was found to be immunogenic in *HLA-B*40:01⁺* donors. High-avidity CD8⁺ T cell clones isolated from healthy donors killed *CBFB-MYH11⁺ HLA-B*40:01⁺* AML cell lines and primary human AML samples in vitro. CBFB-MYH11– specific T cells also controlled *CBFB-MYH11⁺ HLA-B*40:01⁺* AML in vivo in a patient-derived murine xenograft model. High-avidity CBFB-MYH11 epitope–specific T cell receptors (TCRs) transduced into CD8⁺ T cells conferred antileukemic activity in vitro. Our data indicate that the CBFB-MYH11 fusion neoantigen is naturally presented on AML blasts and enables T cell recognition and killing of AML. We provide proof of principle for immunologically targeting AML-initiating fusions and demonstrate that targeting neoantigens has clinical relevance even in low–mutational frequency cancers like fusion-driven AML. This work also represents a first critical step toward the development of TCR T cell immunotherapy targeting fusion gene–driven AML.

> Cancers (Basel). 2021 Oct 27;13(21):5390. doi: 10.3390/cancers13215390.

An HLA-A*11:01-Binding Neoantigen from Mutated NPM1 as Target for TCR Gene Therapy in AML

Dyantha I van der Lee ¹, Georgia Koutsoumpli ¹, Rogier M Reijmers ¹, M Willy Honders ¹, Rob C M de Jong ¹, Dennis F G Remst ¹, Tassilo L A Wachsmann ¹, Renate S Hagedoorn ¹, Kees L M C Franken ², Michel G D Kester ¹, Karl J Harber ¹, Lisanne M Roelofsen ¹, Annemiek M Schouten ¹, Arend Mulder ², Jan W Drijfhout ², Hendrik Veelken ¹, Peter A van Veelen ³, Mirjam H M Heemskerk ¹, J H Frederik Falkenburg ¹, Marieke Griffioen ¹

Immune Evasion by Antigen Escape unter Immunological Pressure

Jan et al, Blood Advances 2019

Lahman et al, Science Translational Medicine 2022

Challenges of T cell-based Immunotherapy in AML

LYMPHOID NEOPLASIA

Long-term survival and T-cell kinetics in relapsed/refractory ALL patients who achieved MRD response after blinatumomab treatment

Gerhard Zugmaier,¹ Nicola Gökbuget,² Matthias Klinger,¹ Andreas Viardot,³ Matthias Stelljes,⁴ Svenja Neumann,⁵ Heinz-A. Horst,⁵ Reinhard Marks,⁶ Christoph Faul,⁷ Helmut Diedrich,⁸ Albrecht Reichle,⁹ Monika Brüggemann,⁵ Chris Holland,¹⁰ Margit Schmidt,¹ Hermann Einsele,¹¹ Ralf C. Bargou,¹² and Max S. Topp¹¹

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In BiTE & CART alike: T cell Fitness & Composition Determines Response Rate

Signatures of CD8⁺ T-cell Dysfunction

Characterization of T cells during AML Progression

Phase I Clinical Trials in r/r AML: CD33-BiTE & CD33-BITE-HLE: Response to Treatment

CD123 DART – Flotetuzumab: Phase I/II Study Design

Flotetuzumab Phase 1/2 Study Design

Expansion in primary induction failure & early relapsed AML patients

Key Entry Criteria (refractory AML population)

- Primary induction failure (PIF): refractory to 2 induction attempts
- Early relapse: First relapse with initial CR duration of 6 months or any prior unsuccessful salvage
- No prior allogeneic hematopoietic cell transplant

Study Objectives

- Safety and preliminary clinical activity
- Optimize delivery and supportive care
- Define PK, PD and PK/PD relationships

Immune Infiltration and response to Flotetuzumab

Immune:	Infiltrated (n=17)	Depleted (n=13)
CR	29.4% (5)	0
CRh	5.9% (1)	7.7% (1)
CRi	5.9% (1)	0
CR/CRh/CRi	41.2%	7.7%
% BM change (avg)	-48%	+37%

Clinical trials of Bispecifics in AML

Target, Construct	N	CR	CRS
CD123 ^{4, Flotetuzumab}	30	30%	100%
CD33 ^{5, AMG330}	55	19%	60%
CD33 ^{6, AMG673}	30	44 % withBlastreduction	50%
CD123 ^{7, XmAb14045}	104	14%	59%

AMG 673: Exposure-Baseline Patient Characteristics–Efficacy Relationships

• A trend towards better clinical responses was observed in patients with lower baseline leukemic burden in bone marrow, higher AMG 330 exposures, and higher baseline Effector (CD3): Target (blasts) cell ratio

Reversing T-cell Dysfunction: Providing Positive Costimulation by a FAP-4-1BBL biAb

Hänel et al, ASH 2021

Combination of CD20-Bispecific + CD19-4-1BBL induces Complete Tumor Regression

Venetoclax improves T-cell mediated cytotoxicity in AML

CD3 x CD123 BiAb + Ven/AZA in Pt with R/R AML or high Risk MDS

The most common APVO436-related AEs were IRRs occurring in 13 (28.3%) patients and CRS occurring in 10 (21.7%) patients

Swimmer Plot of Best Overall Responses of the 8-Patient Favorable Response Population of R/R AML Patients. The onset and duration of SD, PR, CR, clearance of peripheral blasts (PBB-C), bone marrow relapse (BM REL) and onset of PD are indicated with specific symbols. Arrow: Alive.

Survival Outcome of AML Patients According to Response to APVO436. Depicted are the overall survival curves of the 8 patients favorable responses, 31 patients who did not respond, and all 39 patients combined. Favorable responses of CR, PR or SD≥3 months is associated with improved overall survival in R/R AML patients treated with APVO436 monotherapy.

- In this trial a bivalent aCD123 x aCD3 bispecific was tested, kDA 161, given 1 x week i.v., in conjunction with chemo, AZA + Ven
- Safety profile better than in other early trials reported, not clear how CRS was mitigated
- In this trial 46 R/R AML pts included, of the 34 evaluable pts, 8 had SD, PR or CR, median OS of 300 d

Challenges of T cell-based Immunotherapy in AML

Continuous Blinatumomab Exposure Induces T-cell Exhaustion

Zieger et al, ASH 2021

Mimicking the Clinical Application in an *in vitro* model system: Continous BisAb Exposure

Treatment-Free Intervals Ameliorate T-cell Exhaustion Induced by Bispecifics

TFI ameliorate exhaustion & maintain T-cell function

Experimental set-up Day 14 Cytotoxicity Proliferation Day 0 3 10 14 17 21 24 28 *** **** AMG 562 AMG 562 AMG 562 100 AMG 562 CD2⁺ fold change specific lysis 60-AMG 562 TEL TEL Ē 40- \Box % **Functional Testing** Continuous AMG 562 TFI MAG 562 re-exposure after TFI

Treatment-Free Intervals Ameliorate T-cell Exhaustion Induced by Bispecifics

TFI=treatment-free interval

Comparison to Allogeneic Stem Cell Transplantation: also not successful in MRD & Relapse

Majority of Clinical Trials of Bispecifics in R/R AML post > 3 prior treatment lines are prone to fail: dysfunctional T cells; immunosuppressive TME, high tumor burden

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50 Years – Research for A Life Without Cancer

KLINIKUM

DER UNIVERSITÄT MÜNCHEN

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