



Vaccini genetici basati su neoantigeni tumorali

Prof. Gennaro Ciliberto

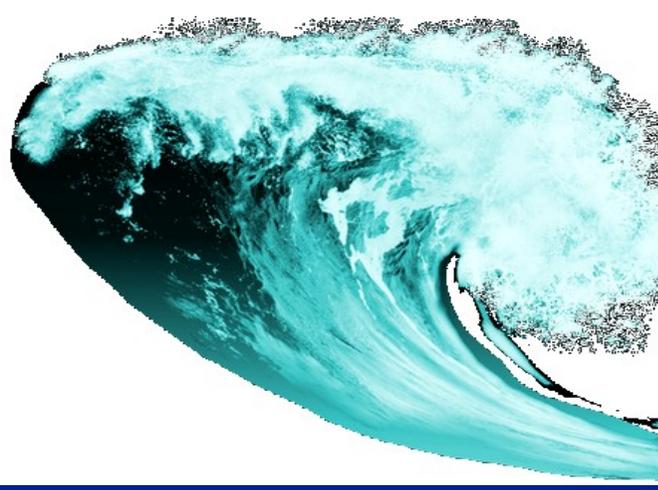
Direttore Scientifico Istituto Nazionale Tumori Regina Elena

Roma 17 Maggio 2017

Convegno: "Le nuove sfide della ricerca oncologica: verso una partnership tra Enti Pubblici e Industria nella regione Lazio"

Immunoterapia: La terza ondata nella storia della terapia farmacologica dei tumori

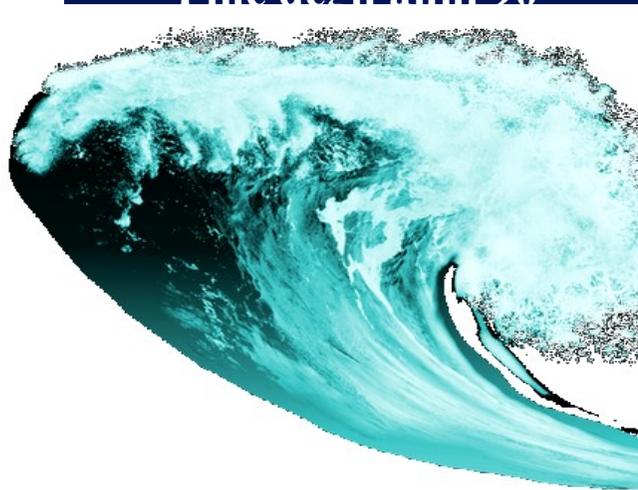
1940



Chemioterapia

Alchilanti, antimetaboliti,
CDDP, tassani,

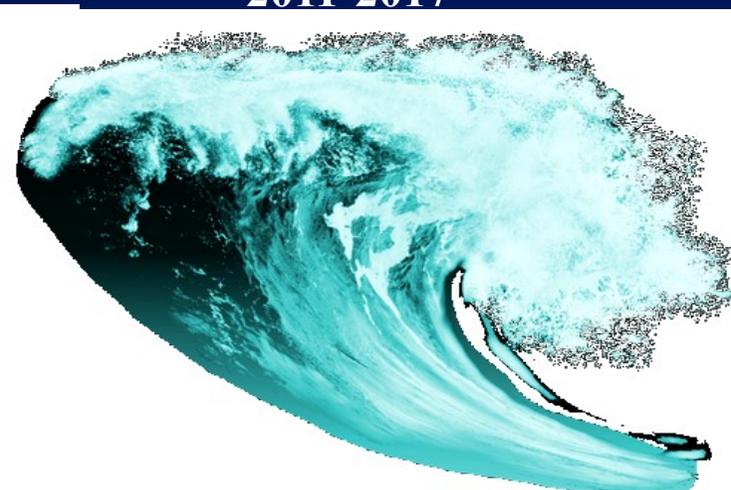
Fine degli anni 90



Target Therapy

rituximab, trastuzumab,
imatinib, ...

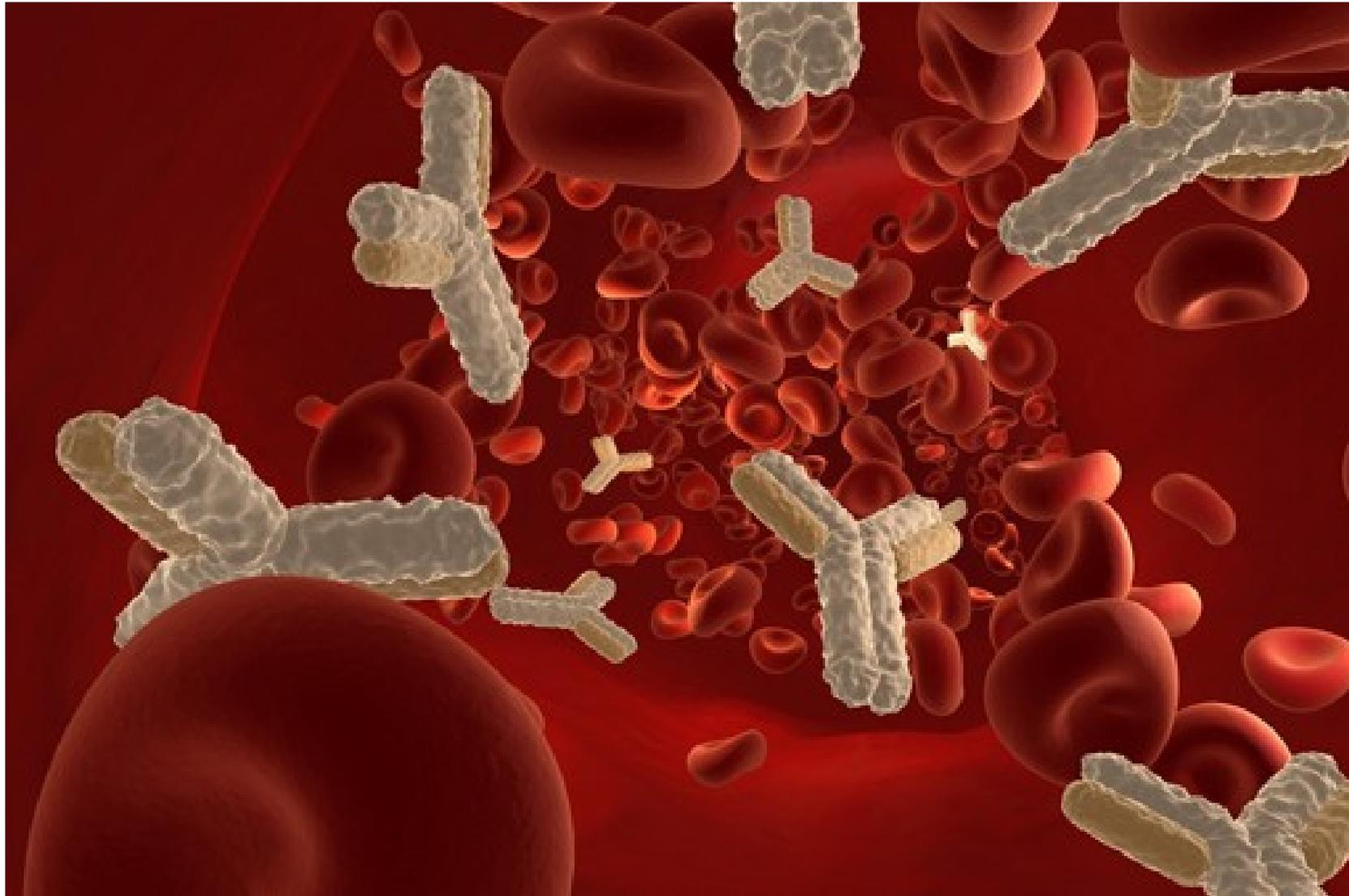
2011-2017



Immunoterapia

ipilimumab, nivolumab,
pembrolizumab,

Protagonisti indiscussi sono gli anticorpi monoclonali inibitori dei checkpoint



Principale limite

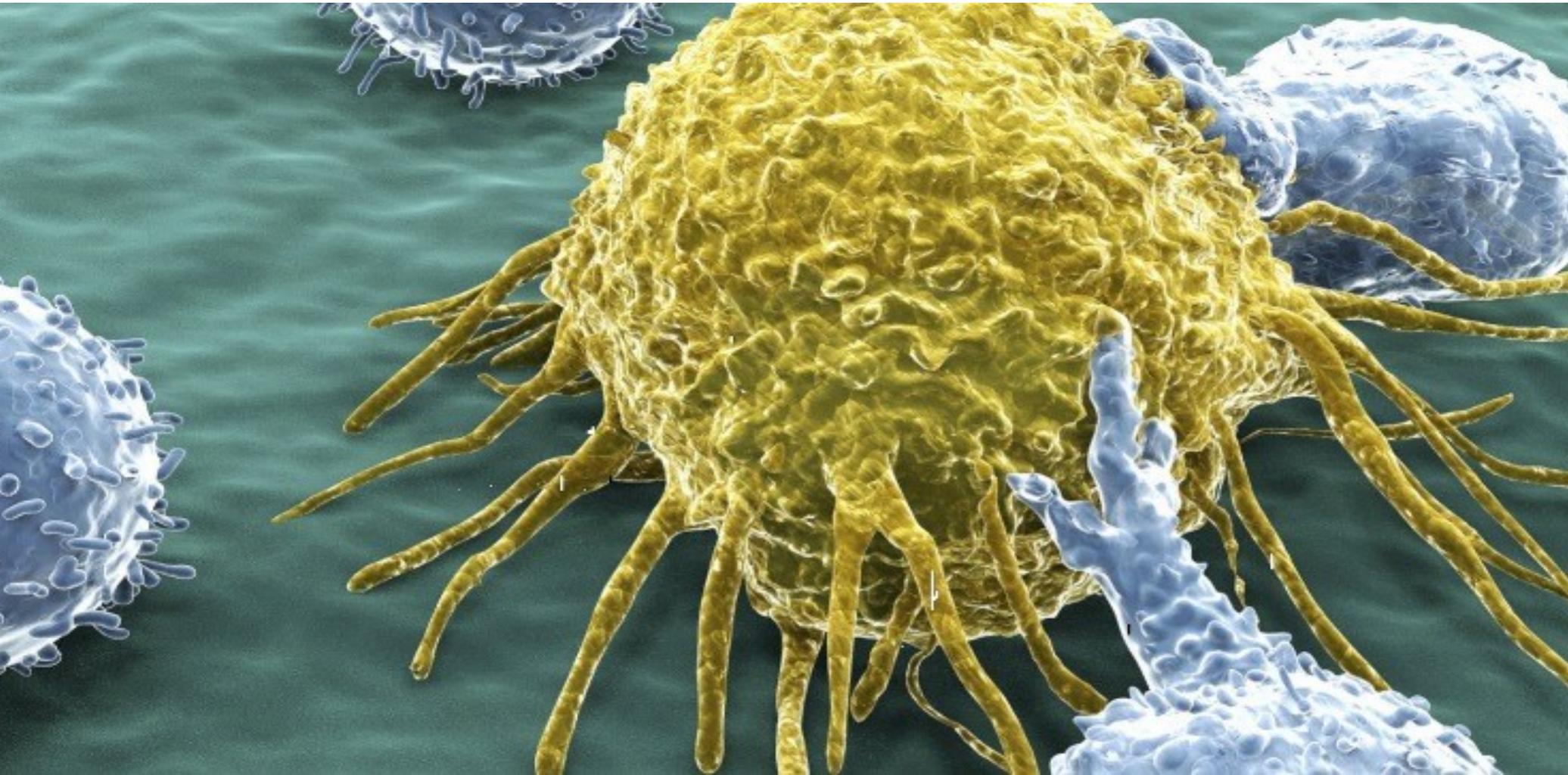
**La percentuale di pazienti che risponde è
in genere bassa e varia a seconda del
tipo di tumore**

Cosa occorre fare?

- **Sviluppare biomarcatori capaci di riconoscere i pazienti «responders»**
- **Aumentare le percentuali di «responders»**

Meccanismo di azione:

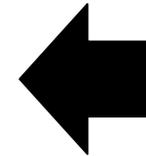
Gli anticorpi inibitori dei checkpoint inducono i linfociti T a riconoscere come «estraneae» le cellule tumorali e a distruggerle



Ma cosa riconoscono i linfociti T sulle cellule tumorali?

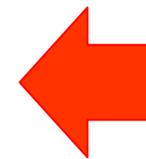
- **Gli antigeni tumorali:**

- TAA - tumor associated antigens
- CTA - cancer testis antigens



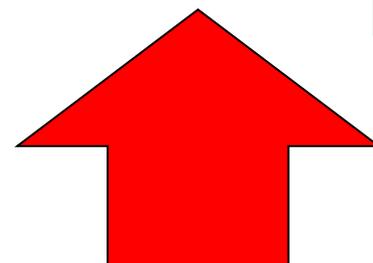
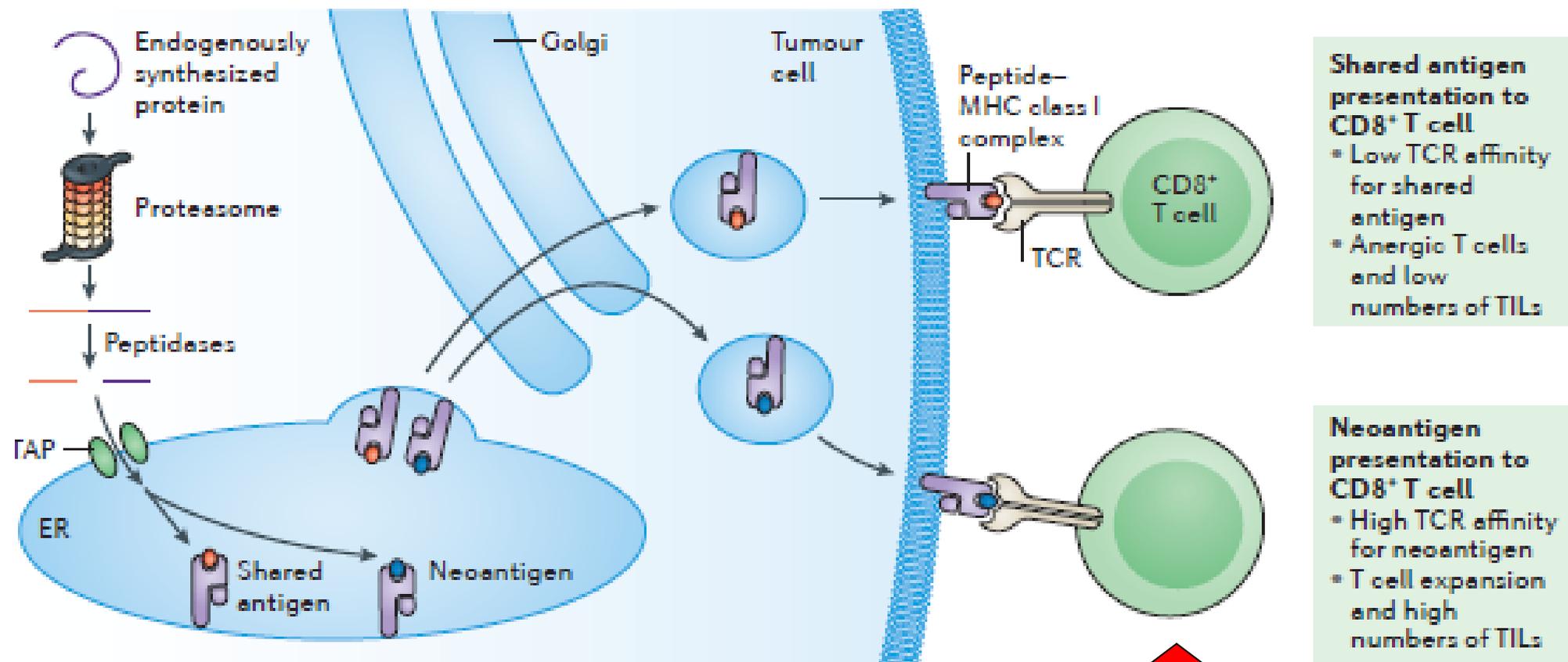
Universali

- TSA - tumor specific antigens (neoantigeni – sono la conseguenza delle mutazioni)

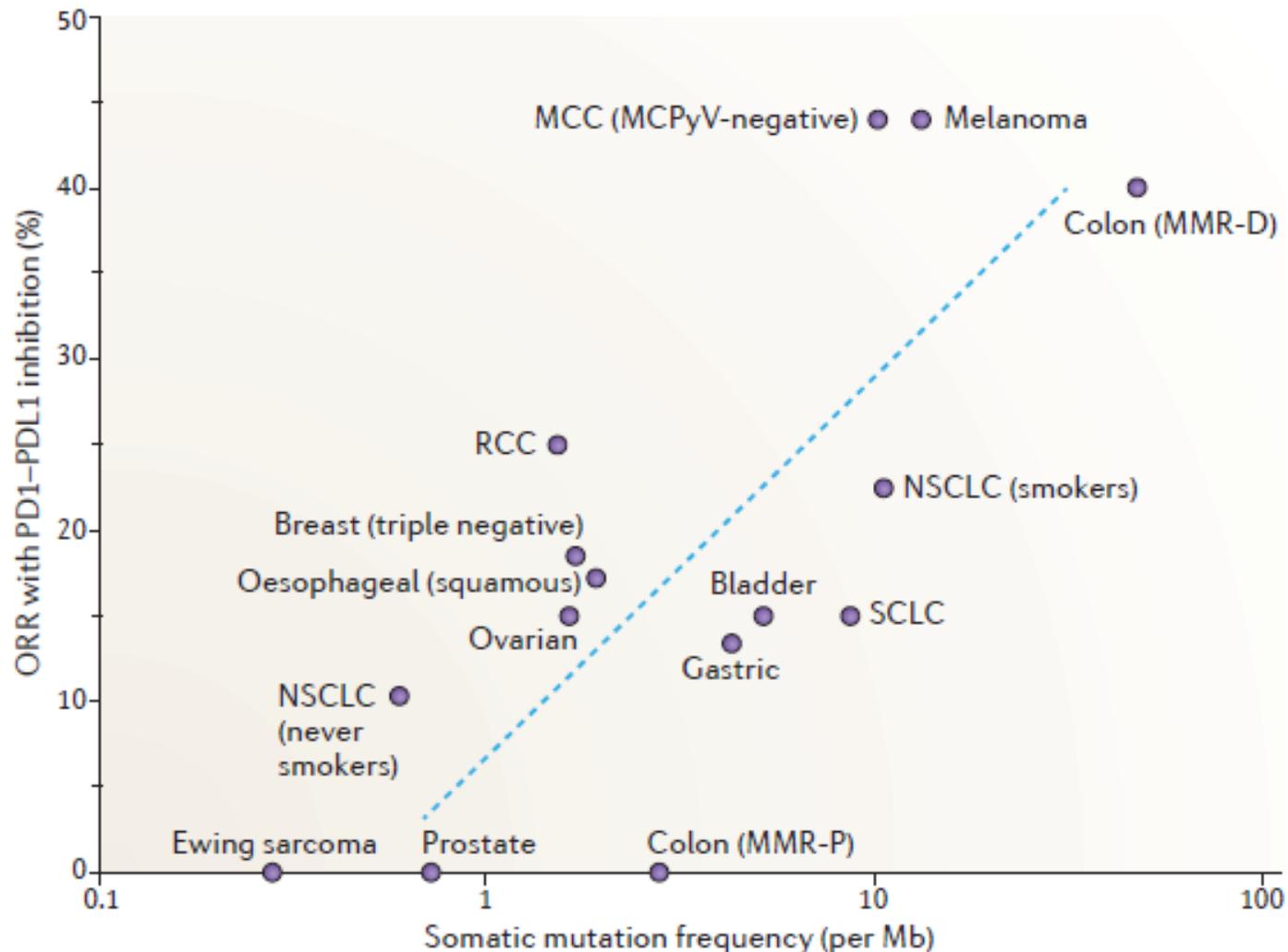


Individuali

L'immunoterapia con gli inibitori dei checkpoint slatentizza la risposta contro i neoantigeni

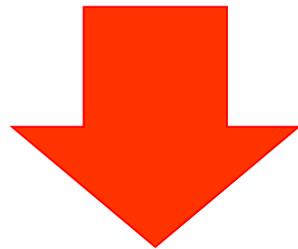


In genere, quanto più alto è il carico mutazionale, migliore è la risposta agli inibitori dei checkpoint



Strategia

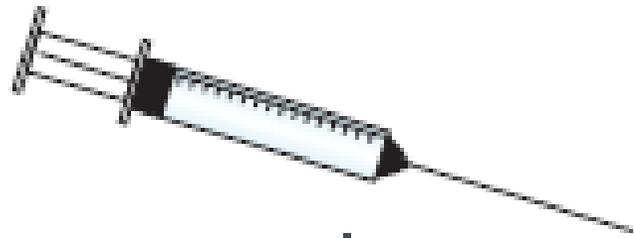
**Aumentare numero e capacità
«offensive» dei linfociti T diretti
contro i neoantigeni tumorali**



Sviluppo di vaccini antitumorali

L'identificazione dei neoantigeni

E' facilitata dall'abbattimento dei costi del sequenziamento del DNA e dello sviluppo di algoritmi predittivi sempre più sofisticati



Obtain tumour biopsy

Intratumour heterogeneity may be underestimated in a single core tumour biopsy



Identify expressed somatic mutations

Whole-exome sequencing of tumour and normal cells



Neoantigen prediction and prioritization

- Mutation leads to altered amino acid sequence
- Somatic mutation in an expressed gene
- Abnormal amino acid sequence expressed on MHC
- Abnormal amino acid sequence confers increased MHC binding
- Antigen sufficiently different from non-mutated counterpart

**A seconda del tipo di tumore
possiamo identificare da decine a
centinaia di neoantigeni per tumore**

- **Ma come li possiamo utilizzare?**
 - **Generazione di minigeni e costruzione di vaccini genetici**

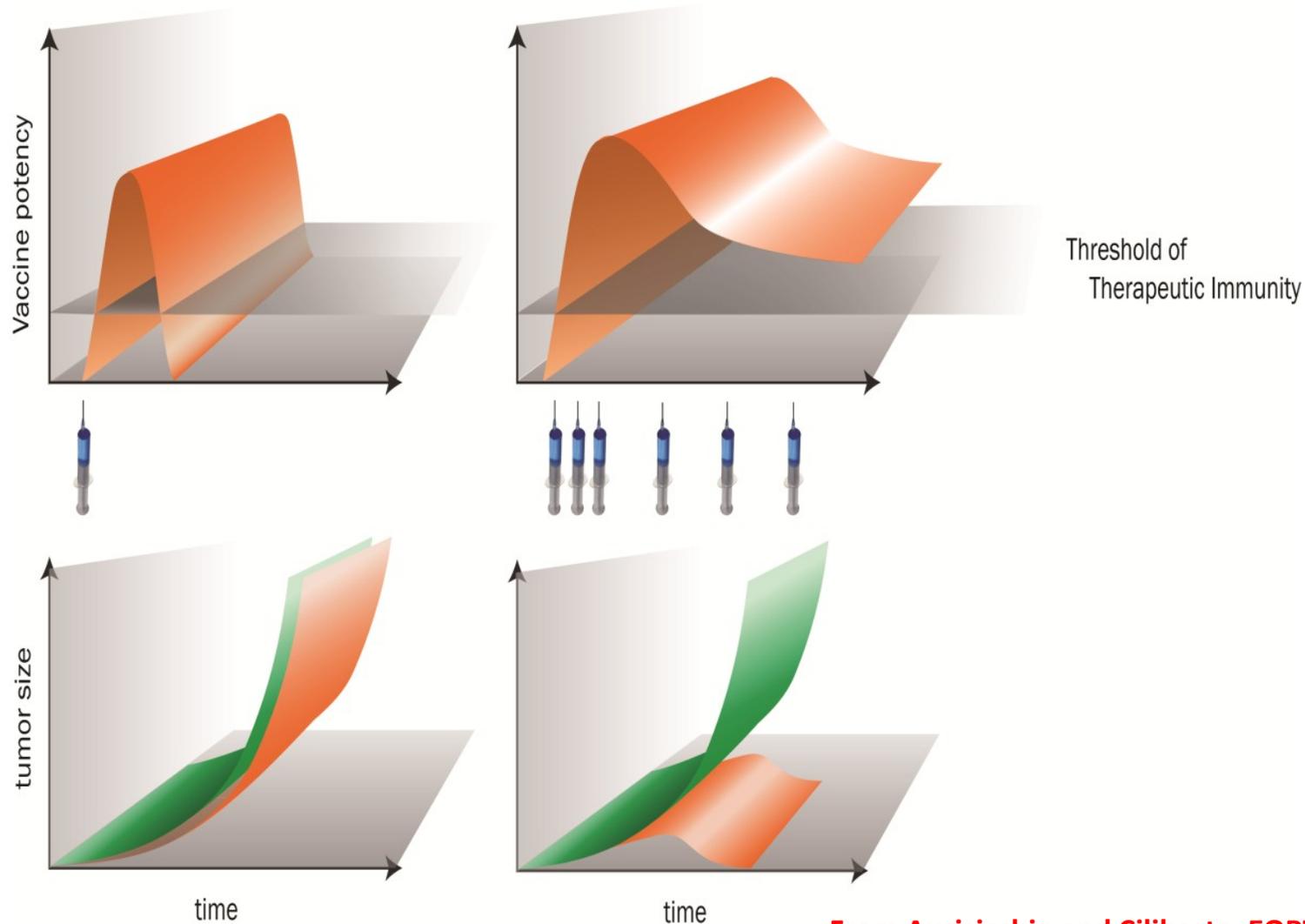
Vaccini genetici

- **Acidi nucleici**
 - DNA vaccines
 - RNA vaccines
- **Vettori virali**
 - Poxvirus vectors
 - Alphavirus vectors
 - Adenovirus vectors

Vaccini Genetici

- **Prime-boost eterologo**
 - **Combinazione di due diversi vettori somministrati sequenzialmente**
 - **Viral Vector A**  **Viral vector B**
 - **Plasmid DNA**  **Viral Vector**
 - **Viral Vector**  **Plasmid DNA**
 - **Self replicating RNA**  **Plasmid DNA**
 - **Etc Etc.....**

Il prime-boost eterologo permette trattamenti prolungati e genera più forti risposte immunitarie



From Aurisicchio and Ciliberto, EOBT 2012

2012

Review

EXPERT OPINION

1. Introduction
2. Three distinct avenues to cancer immunotherapy and the first success for a therapeutic cancer vaccine

Genetic cancer vaccines: current status and perspectives

Luigi Aurisicchio¹ & Gennaro Ciliberto

¹Talis, via di Castel Romano 100, Rome, Italy

Introduction: The recent approval of the first therapeutic cancer vaccine by the US Regulatory Agency represents a breakthrough event in the history of cancer treatment. The past scepticism towards this type of therapeutic intervention is now replaced by great expectations. The field is now moving

2012

Short Communication

DOI: 10.1111/vco.12006

Electro-gene-transfer as a new tool for cancer immunotherapy in animals

J. A. Impellizeri¹, G. Ciliberto² and L. Aurisicchio³

EXPERT
REVIEWS

Cancer vaccination by electro-gene-transfer

Expert Rev. Vaccines 12(10), 1127–1137 (2013)

Luigi Aurisicchio^{1,2},
Rita Mancini^{3,4} and
Gennaro Ciliberto^{4,5}

Therapeutic vaccination could become an important modality to fight cancer. Efficacious immune responses against cancer cells have to be directed simultaneously against multiple epitopes belonging to tumor-associated antigens and will require the involvement of both CD4⁺ and CD8⁺ cells as well as antibodies. The inoculation of a nucleic acid coding for a

2013



Safety and Efficacy of a Genetic Vaccine Targeting Telomerase Plus Chemotherapy for the Therapy of Canine B-Cell Lymphoma

2013

Alessandra Gavazza,¹ George Lubas,¹ Arthur Fridman,² Daniela Peruzzi,³ Joseph A. Impellizeri,⁴ Laura Luberto,^{5,6} Emanuele Marra,⁶ Giuseppe Roscilli,⁶ Gennaro Ciliberto,⁷ and Luigi Aurisicchio^{8,8}

Diaz et al. *Journal of Translational Medicine* 2013, 11:62
<http://www.translational-medicine.com/content/11/1/62>



JOURNAL OF
TRANSLATIONAL MEDICINE

RESEARCH

Open Access

Phase 1 studies of the safety and immunogenicity of electroporated HER2/CEA DNA vaccine followed by adenoviral boost immunization in patients with solid tumors

2013

Claudia Marcela Diaz^{1,5†}, Alberto Chiappori^{2†}, Luigi Aurisicchio^{3,7}, Ansuman Bagchi⁴, Jason Clark^{4,8}, Sherif Dubey⁴, Arthur Fridman⁴, Jesus C. Fabrega⁵, John Marshall⁶, Elisa Scarselli^{3,9}, Nicola La Monica^{3,10}, Gennaro Ciliberto^{3,11} and Alberto J. Montero^{1,2†}

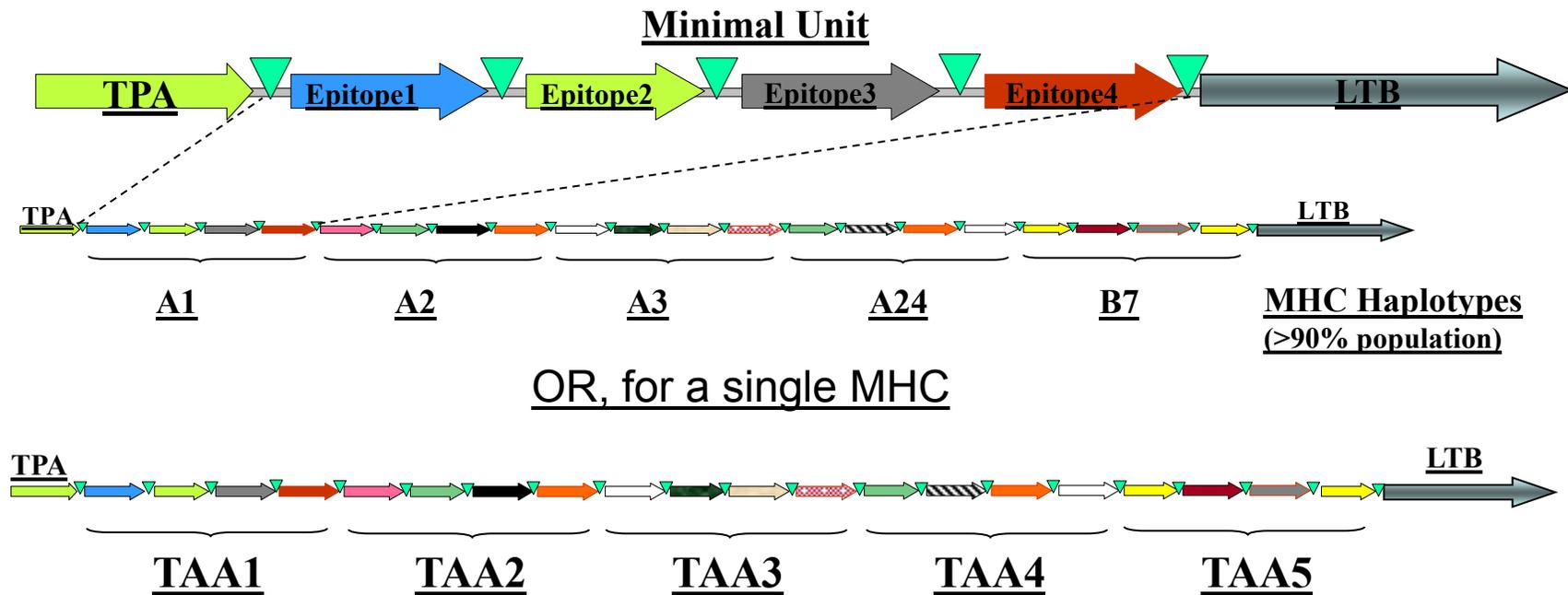


A novel minigene scaffold for therapeutic cancer vaccines

2014

Luigi Aurisicchio^{1,2*}, Arthur Fridman³, Ansuman Bagchi⁴, Elisa Scarselli⁵, Nicola La Monica⁶, and Gennaro Ciliberto⁷

¹Talko, Rome, Italy; ²BIOGEM, scrl, Ariano Irpino (Av), Italy; ³Merck & Co., Inc., West Point, PA USA; ⁴Merck & Co., Inc., Rahway, NJ USA; ⁵Verres, Rome, Italy; ⁶Johnson & Johnson Innovation Center, Boston, MA USA; ⁷IRCCS, Istituto Nazionale Tumori Fondazione G. Pascale, Napoli, Italy



Capacità e competenze IRE

- **Materiale bioptico per l'identificazione di neoantigeni**
- **Tecnologia avanzata di sequenziamento MPS**
- **Bioinformatica**
- **Diagnostica Immunologica**