



14:30 – 15:30 Parallel session

Diagnostics: New diagnostics, precision medicine and advanced therapies

A revolution in healthcare treatments is just around the corner. What does the future of healthcare look like and what are the barriers to delivering new therapies from research into clinic and practice?



Daryl Fernandes

Ludger
Chief Executive

Precision Medicine at Ludger: Glycomics, patient stratification and fat bellies



Paul Seaman

Midatech Pharma
Head of Sustained Delivery

Right Time, Right Place; Exploiting Micro and Nano Particulates for Drug Delivery



Fred Jacobs

Astrimmune
CEO

Targeting cancer at every stage



14:30 – 15:30 Parallel session

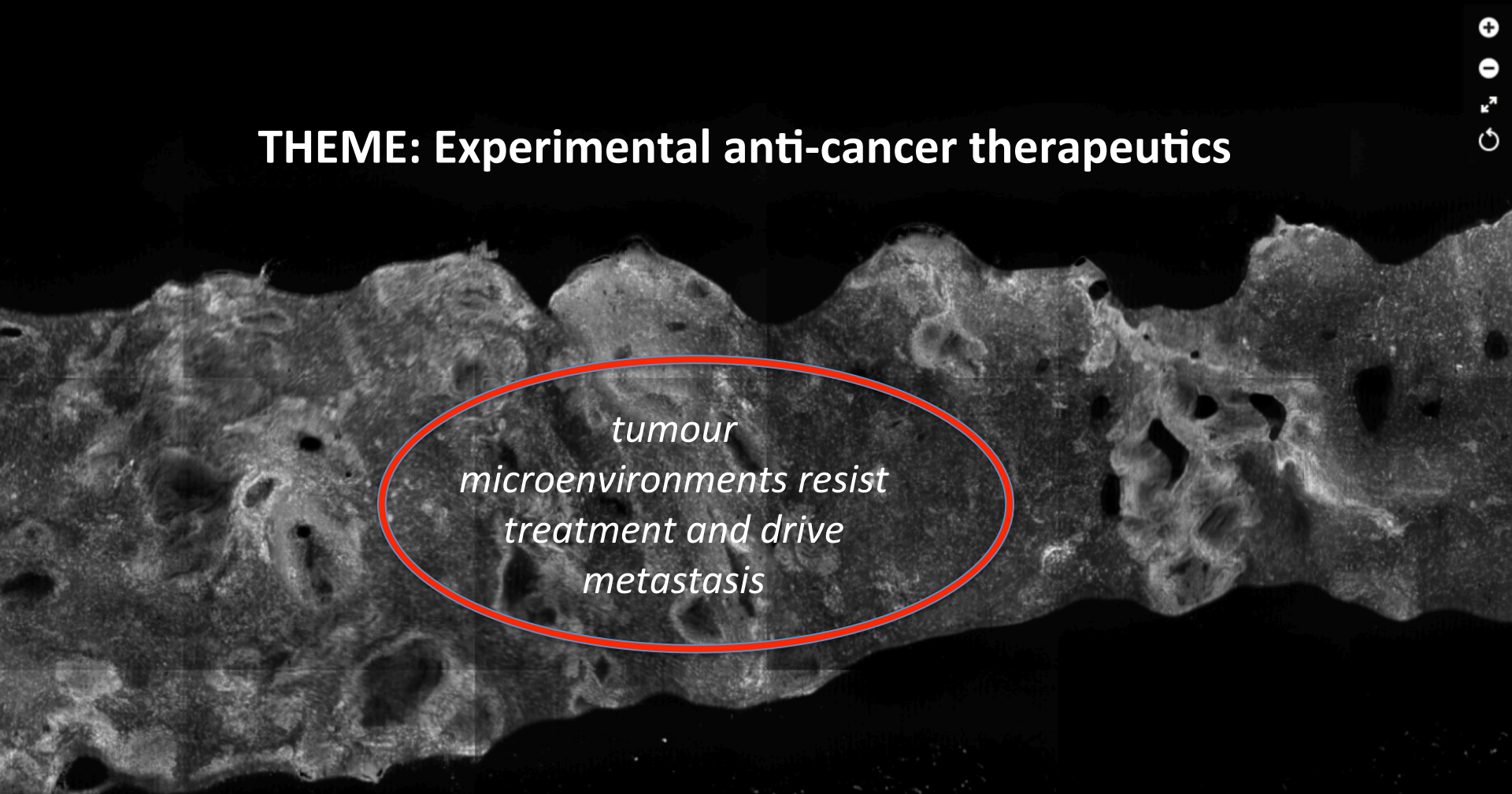
Introduction: Chair Paul J Smith^{1,2,3}

Precision Medicine in the Microenvironment

¹Cardiff Univ, Cardiff, UK,
²Biostatist Ltd, UK,
³Oncotherics Ltd, UK,



THEME: Experimental anti-cancer therapeutics



*tumour
microenvironments resist
treatment and drive
metastasis*

*SIM image for potentially cancerous fresh
prostate needle-core biopsy.*



SNAPSHOTS



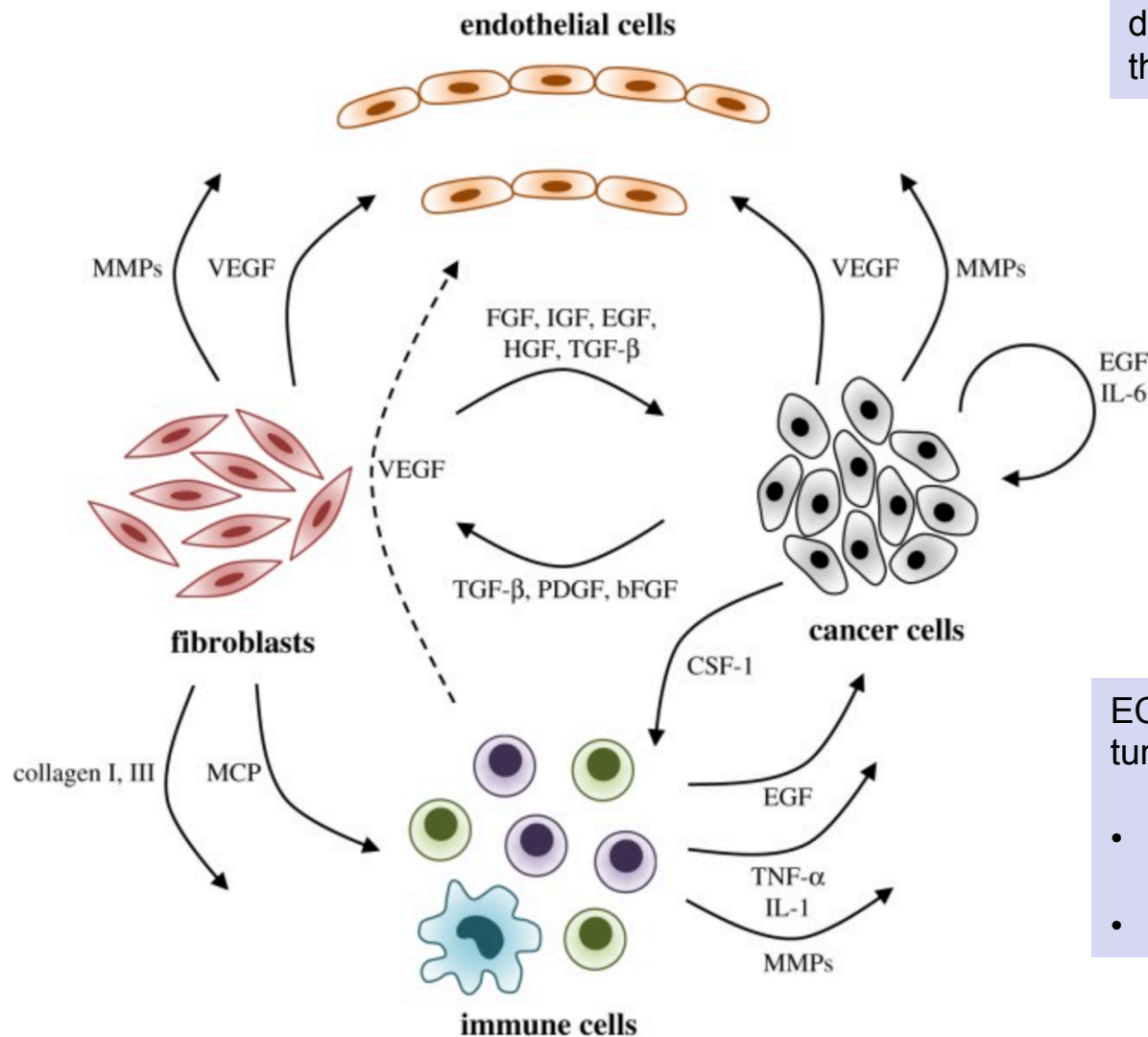
EXPLORE MORE

GigaPan[®]

David Tulman

Size 0.08 Gigapixels Views stitched 191

The stromal-tumour microenvironment: A new target horizon



Competitive environment rarely duplicated even in current state-of-the-art 3-D models

tumours can contain tissue-specific cell types

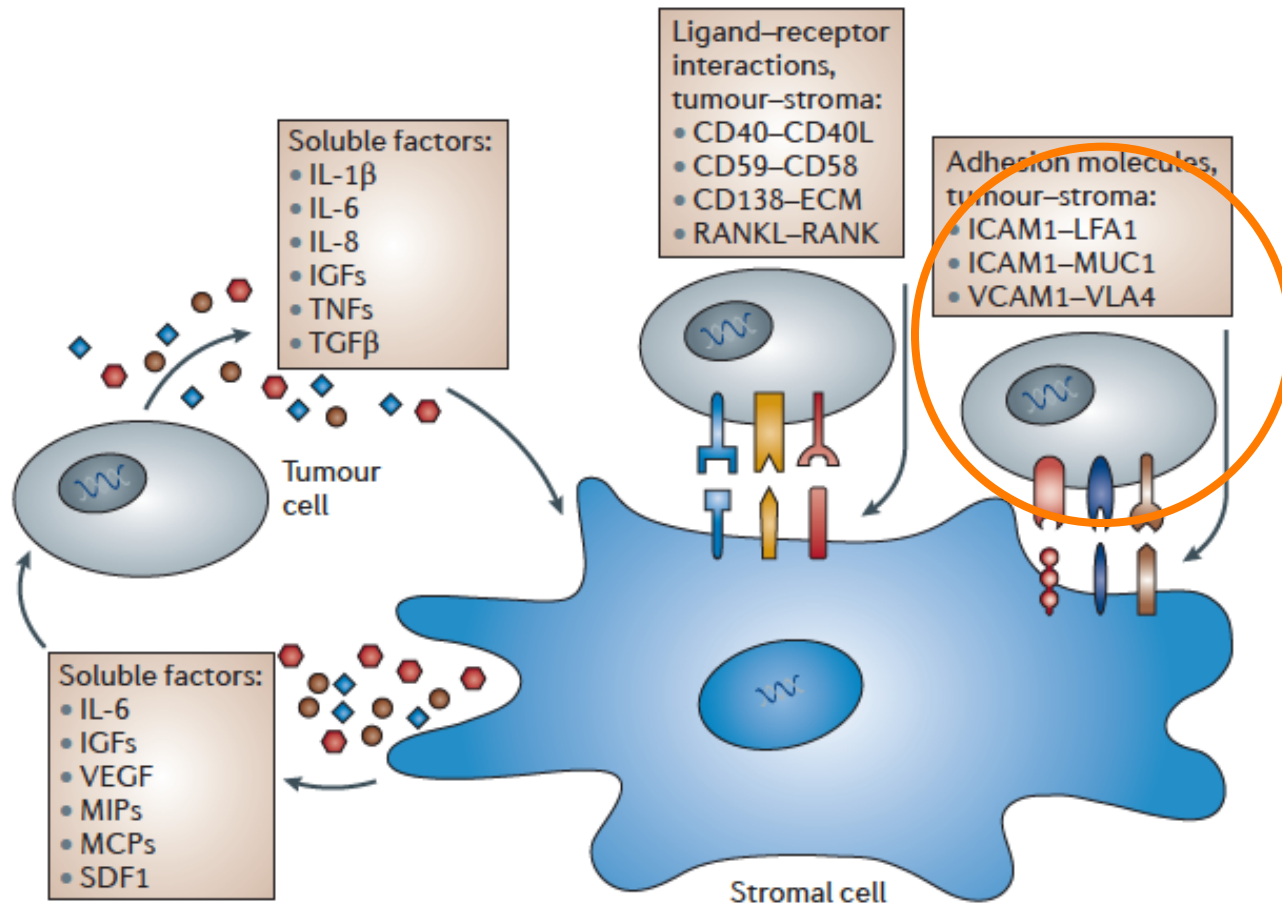
- pancreatic stellate cells in pancreatic cancers
- adipocytes in ovarian and breast cancers

ECM can be uniquely altered in tumours

- *tumour associated collagen signatures (TACS)*
- collagen remodelling in PDAC

Extracellular tumour-microenvironment interactions: New horizon for diagnostics - challenge of complexity

- **soluble**
- **membrane-bound** mediators
- **mediators can be shared** by both the tumour and stroma



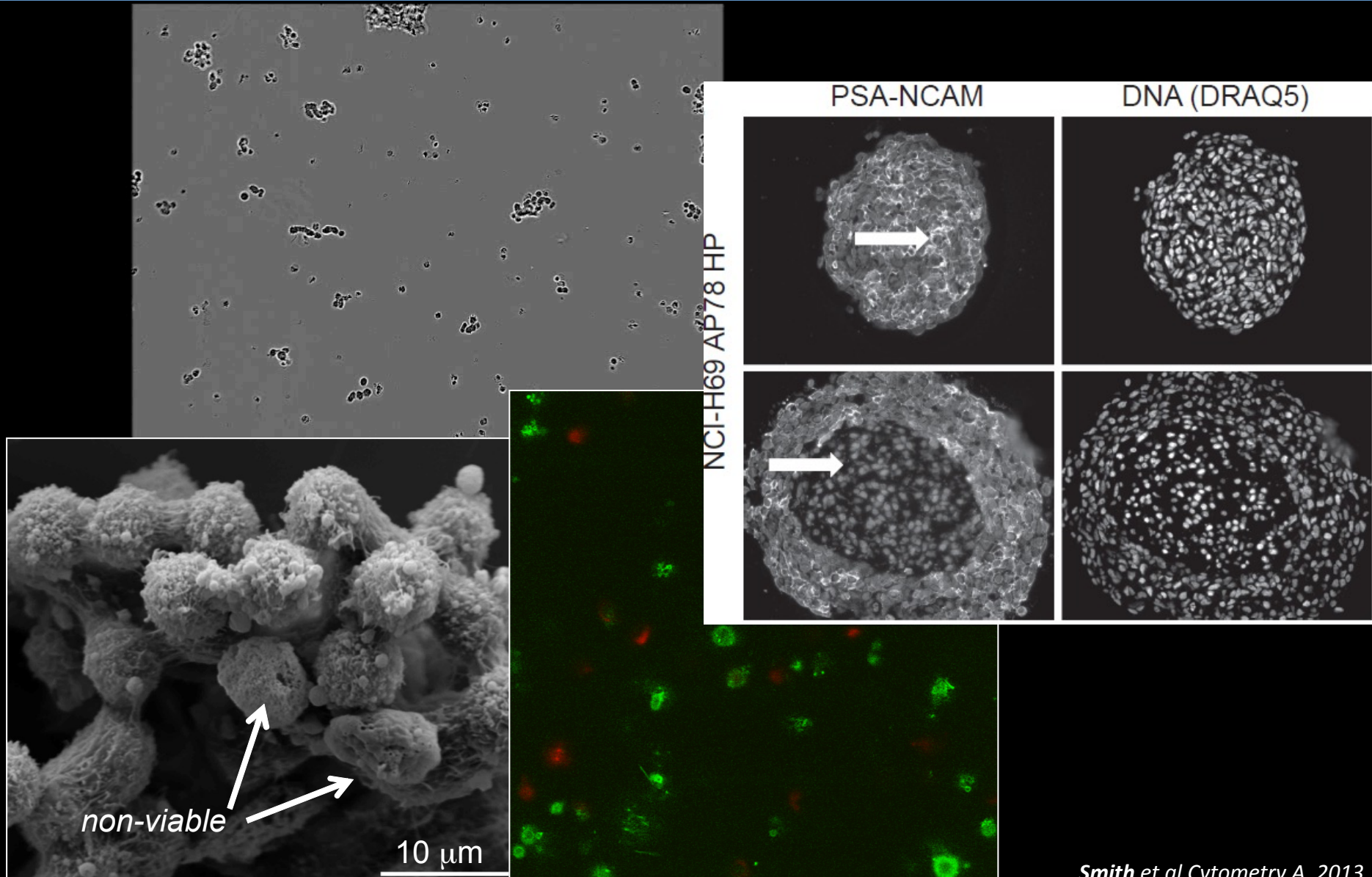
modulation of migration & spread by glycosylation

eg polysialylation NCAM in small cell lung cancer

Cell surface glycome affects:

- substrate adherence
- cell-cell contacts
- matrix interactions
- migration
- immune recognition
- membrane apposition
- lectin binding etc
- cell surface protein & receptor function

3D culture models increasingly used in drug discovery: Problem of re-capitulating the tumour microenvironment?

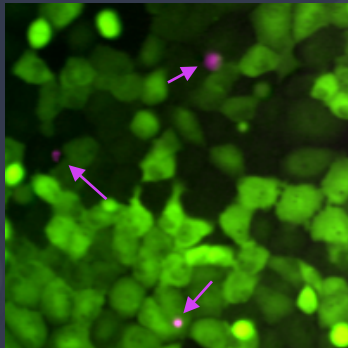


Real Time Screens Capture Dynamic Events in Drug Discovery Screens: Viability screens with DRAQ7 technology

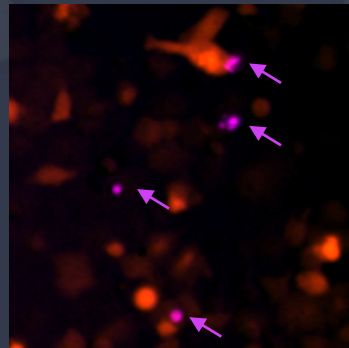
DRAQ7 Dead dye can help monitor kinetic viability of GFP or RFP transfected cell lines

DRAQ7 dye can be used with Hoechst as an end point assay for measuring percentage of dead cells

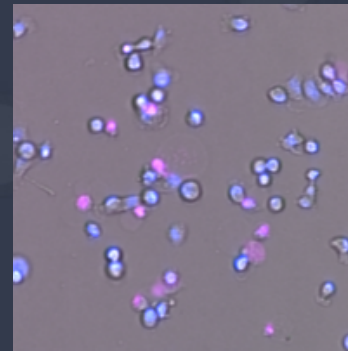
MCF7 GFP



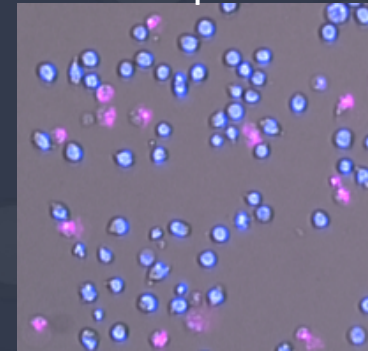
MDA-MB-231 RFP



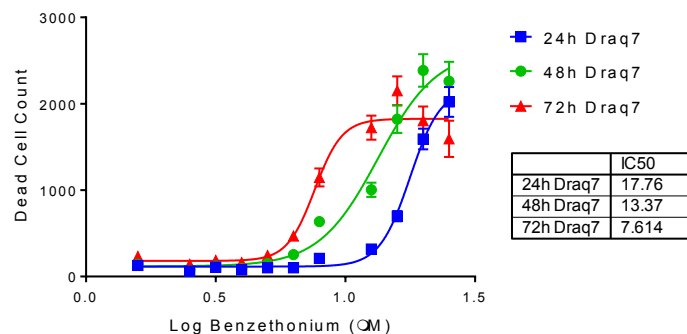
MDA-MB-231 Adherent



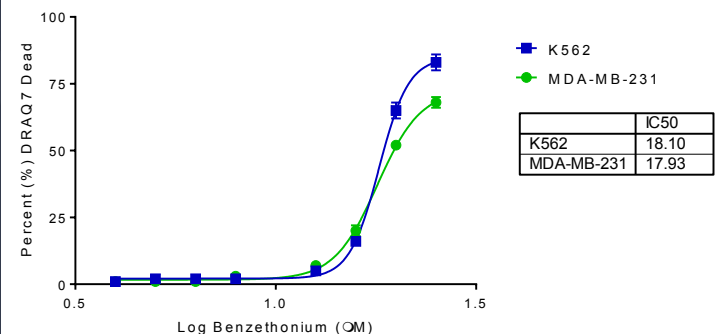
K562 Suspension



MDA-MB-231 Kinetic



Viability after 24 hour Benzethonium Treatment



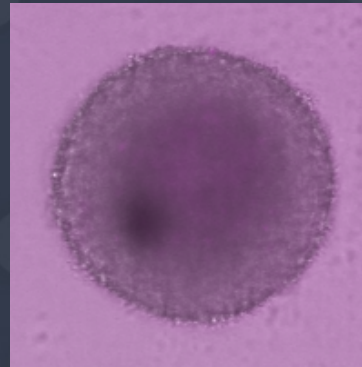
Assays moving to 3D MCTS: Real-time monitor necrotic core formation using DRAQ7

U87MG spheroids : 500 cells 4 day formation of MCTS and stained with D7 1.5uM
DRAQ7 dye can be used to detect the development of the necrotic core

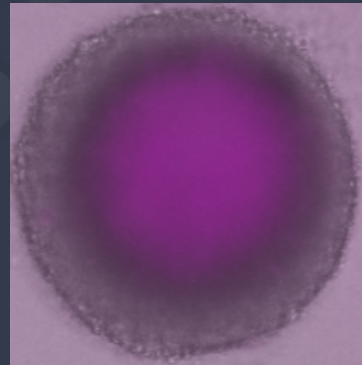
Far Red



Far Red and Bright field merge

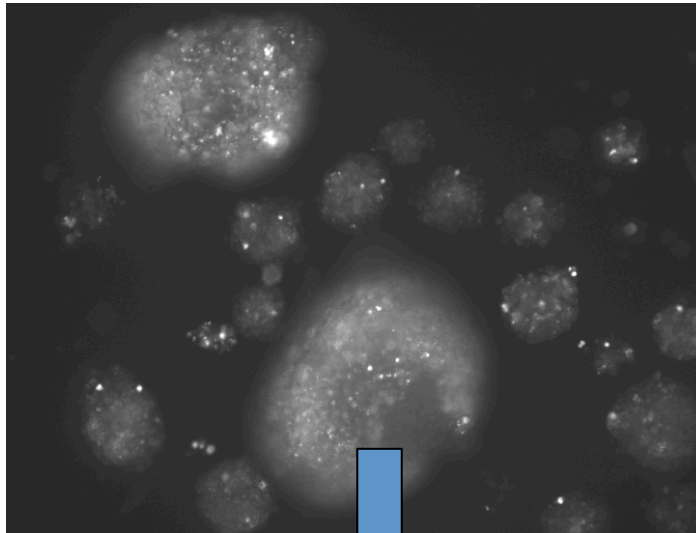


1 hour



18 hour

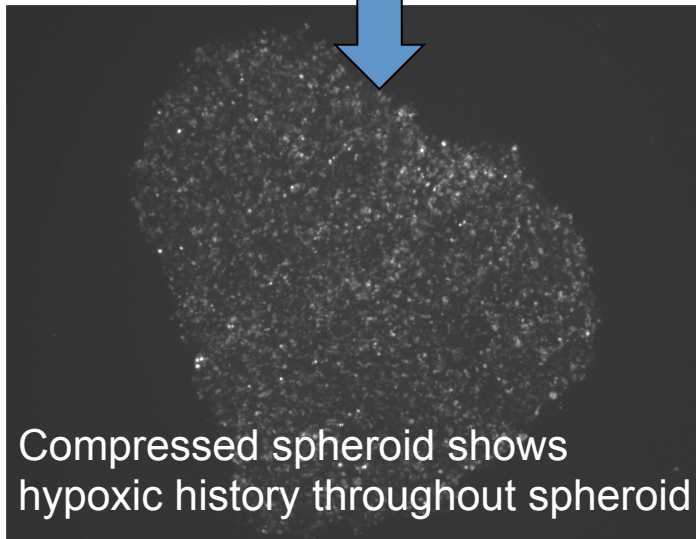
SCLC spheroids: sensing the microenvironment in 3D systems



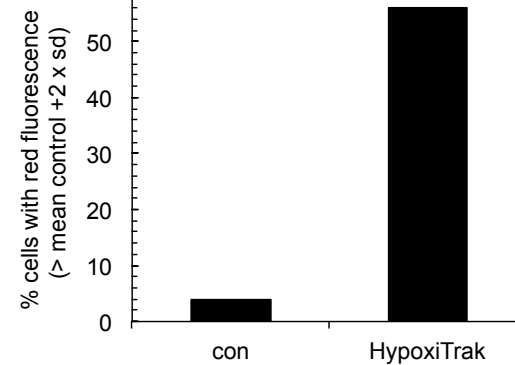
far-red camera image: AP78 microspheroid images

7 days plus 5 day treatment with HypoxiTrak

Hypoxic fraction by *HypoxiTrak* flow cytometry

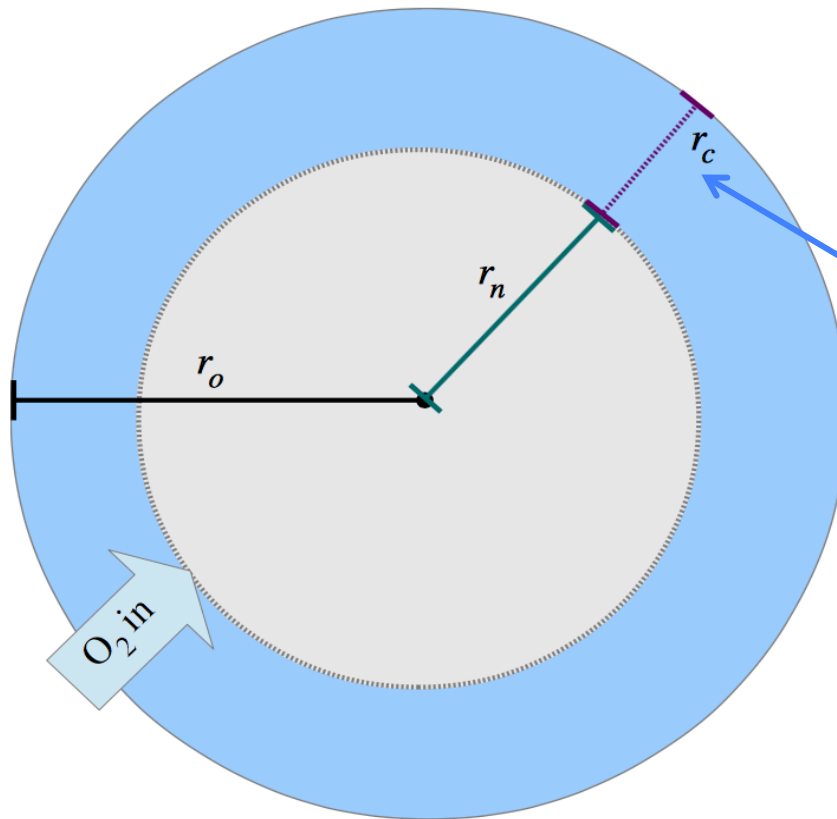


% hypoxia positive cells in NCI-H69 spheroids
(8 day pre-formed under normoxia)
then exposed the sensor *HypoxiTrak*
(4 days under normoxia)



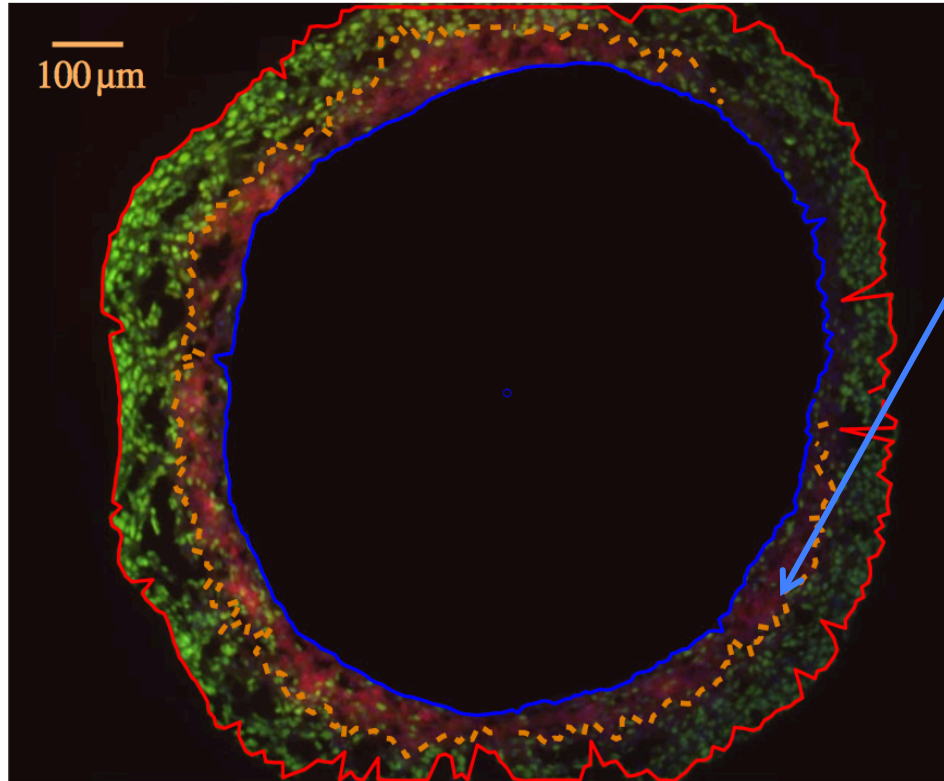
monitoring cell health in 3D systems

Oxygen consumption rate in multicellular tumour spheroids



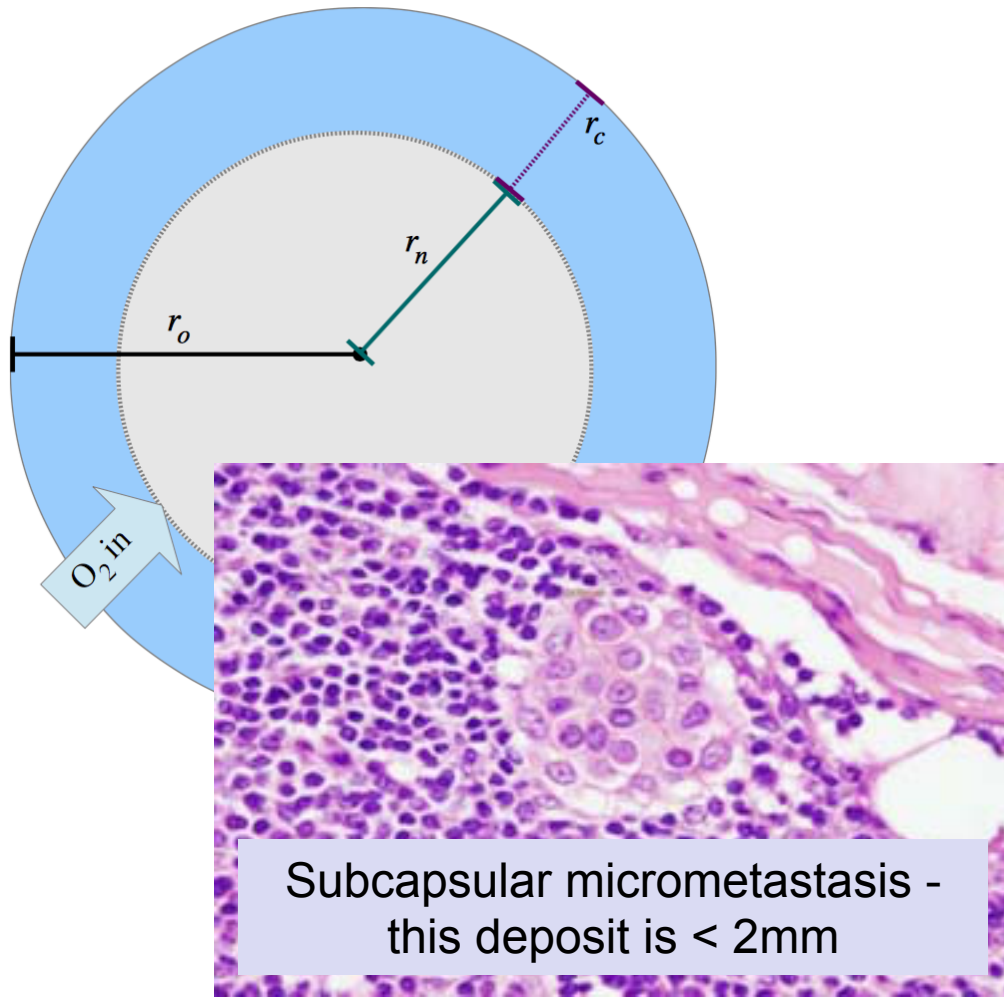
- Cross section of a tumour spheroid of radius r_o .
- Oxygen partial pressure is non-zero in the region r_c .
- **region r_c comprises all viable cells both hypoxic and oxic.**
- Oxygen cannot penetrate into region r_n , which is anoxic.

Oxygen consumption rate in multicellular tumour spheroids




- semi-automatic detection on the boundary between proliferating and hypoxic regions on a **day 17 spheroid**

Oxygen consumption rate in multicellular tumour spheroids



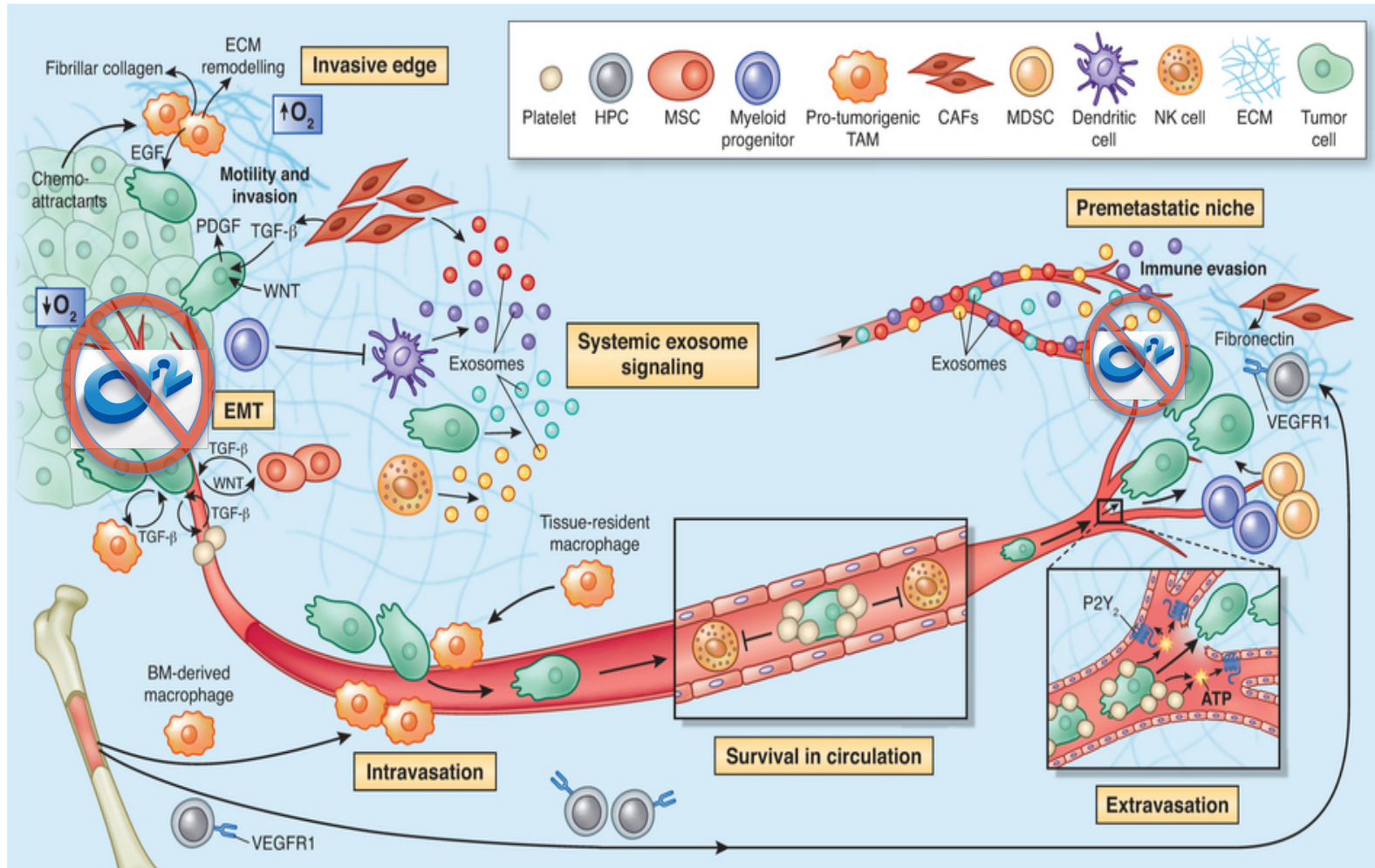
- O_2 consumption rate of $7.29 \pm 1.4 \times 10^{-7} \text{ m}^3 \text{ kg}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$
- constant experimentally derived **diffusion limit of $0.232 \pm 0.022 \text{ mm}$**

Micrometastases are defined as **$> 0.2 \text{ mm} - < 2 \text{ mm}$**

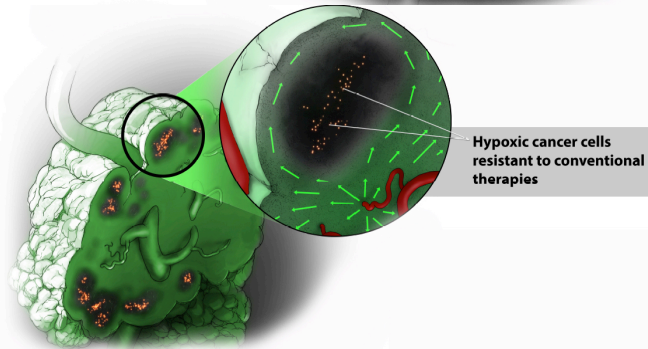
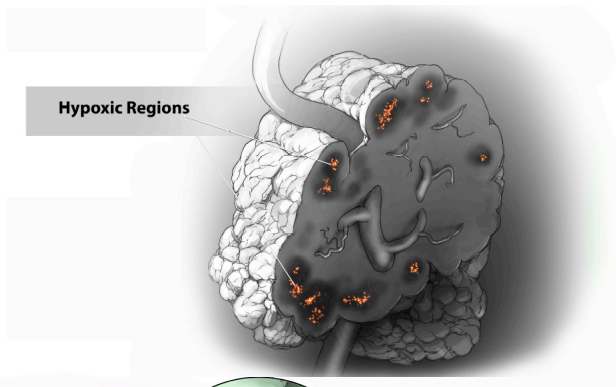
A scanning electron micrograph (SEM) showing a cross-section of a blood vessel. The vessel lumen is filled with numerous red blood cells, which appear as bright red, biconcave discs. The vessel wall is visible as a textured, brownish structure. In the lower right portion of the vessel, several spherical, textured cells are clustered together, representing tumor cells. The overall scene is set against a dark background, highlighting the cellular structures.

HYPOXIA - context of cancer therapeutics

Cellular niches - low oxygen micro-environments

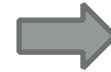


CLINICAL PROBLEM vs OPPORTUNITY: hypoxia



ORIGINS?

- Modified metabolism
- Loss of vascularity
- **Therapy-induced**
- High proliferation rates



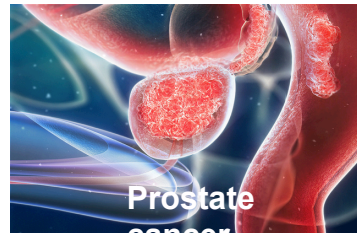
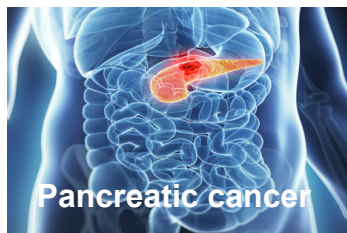
IMPACT?

- immunosuppressive
- POOR drug penetration
- Modified drug metabolism
- **Radiation/chemoresistance**
- **Reservoir for origins of relapse**
- Modified biological responses



TARGETING?

- **Overcoming SOC resistance**
- Combination or neoadjuvant settings?
- Reducing metastasis drivers
- Cancer stem cell niche targeting
- Delaying early relapse
- Extending the window for surgery
- Novel targeting
- **PRECISION MEDICINE**

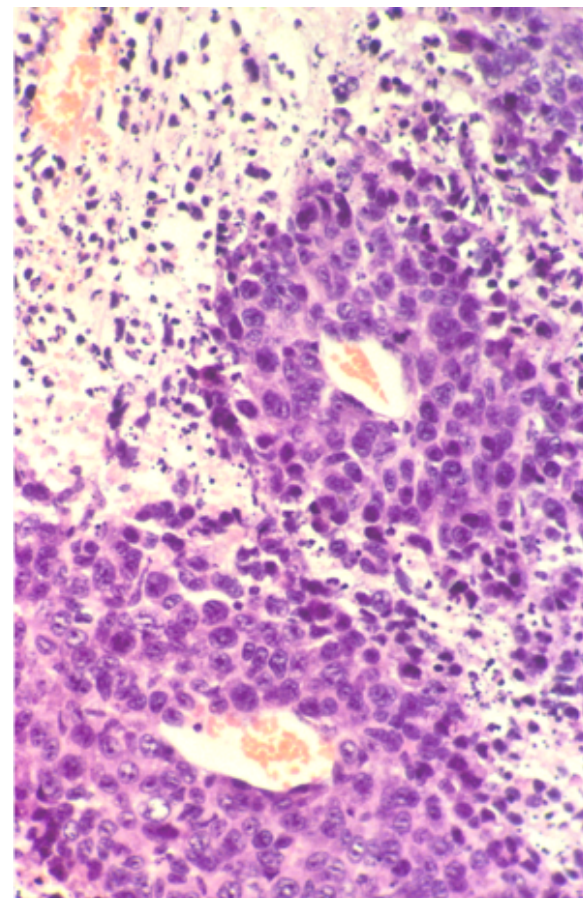


pO₂ tumour/norm (mmHg)
2.7/51 2.4/30

HYPOXIC CANCERS: PRIORITY INDICATIONS



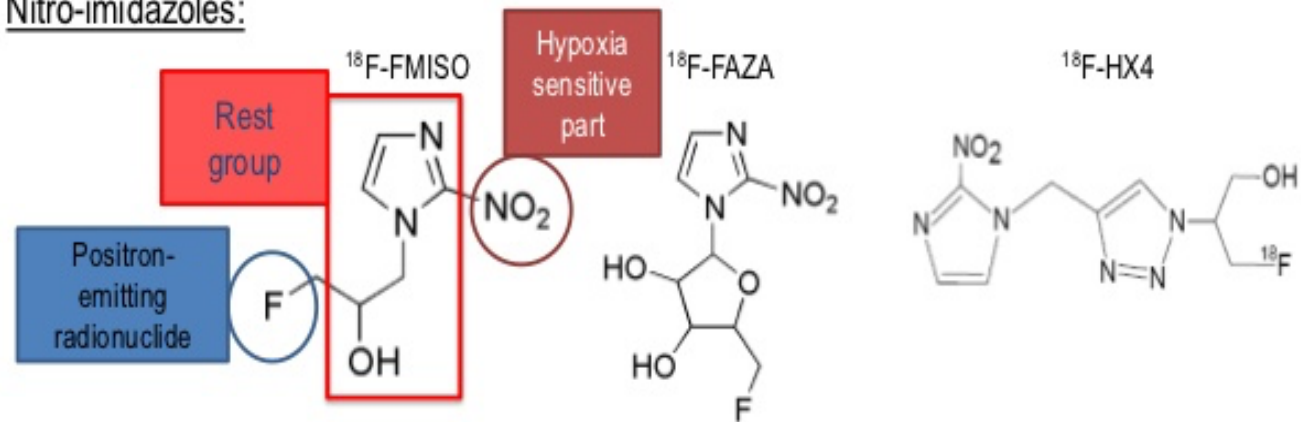
tumor type	Median tumor pO ₂ (mmHg) (number of patients)	Median normal pO ₂ * (number of patients)	Fold reduction average pO ₂
Glioblastoma	4.9 (10) 5.6 (14)	ND (not determined) ND	-
Head and neck carcinoma	12.2 (30) 14.7 (23) 14.6 (65)	40.0 (14) 43.8 (30) 51.2 (65)	3.3 3.0 3.5
Lung cancer	7.5 (17)	38.5 (17)	5.1
Breast cancer	10.0 (15)	ND	-
Cervical cancer	5.0 (8) 5.0 (74) 3 (86)	51 (8) ND ND	10.2
Pancreatic cancer	2.7 (7)	51.6 (7)	19.1
Prostate cancer	2.4 (59)	30.0 (59)	12.5
Soft-tissue sarcoma	6.2 (34) 18 (22)	ND ND	-



pO₂ 7.5 mmHg approx. 1 % oxygen
In vitro studies @ 1% & 3% O₂

Hypoxia PET tracers

Nitro-imidazoles:

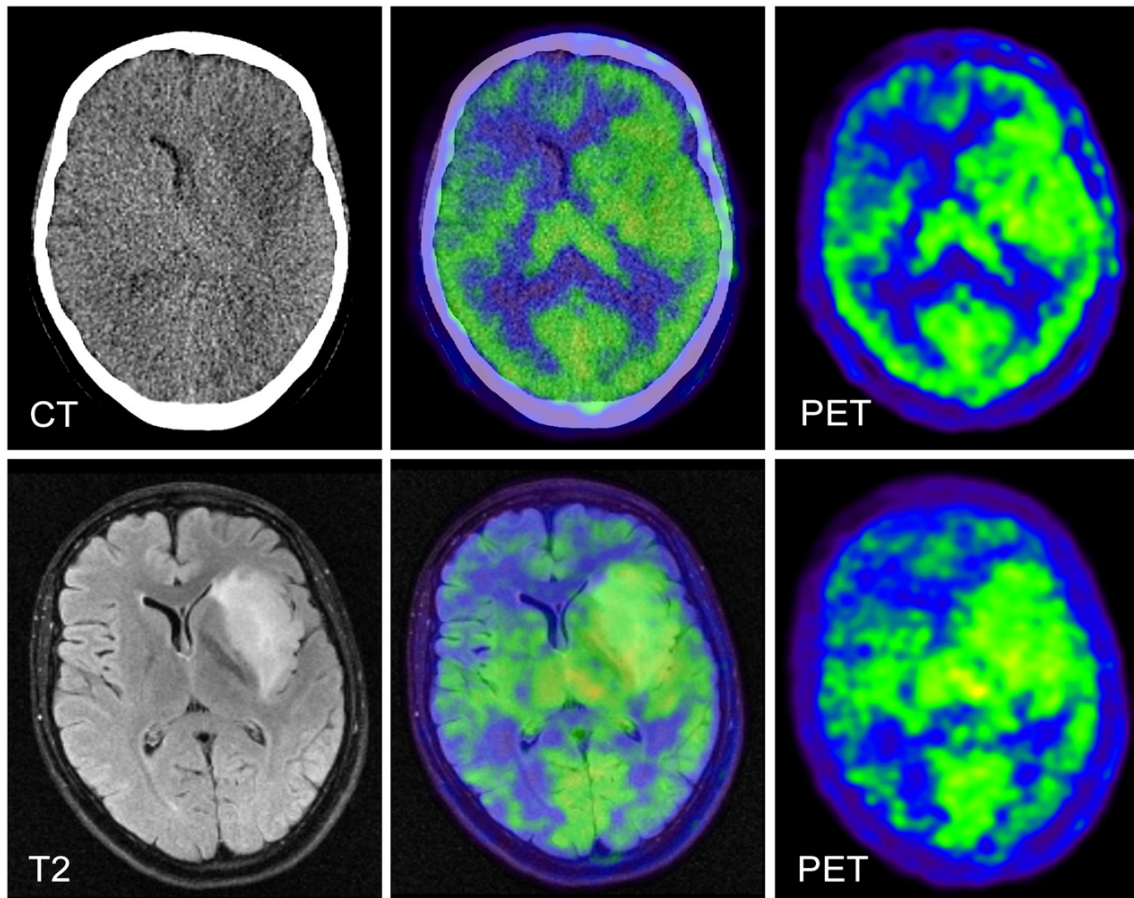


• Clearance: Liver –intestine – kidney Kidney – intestine – liver Kidney – bladder

• Hydrophilicity:



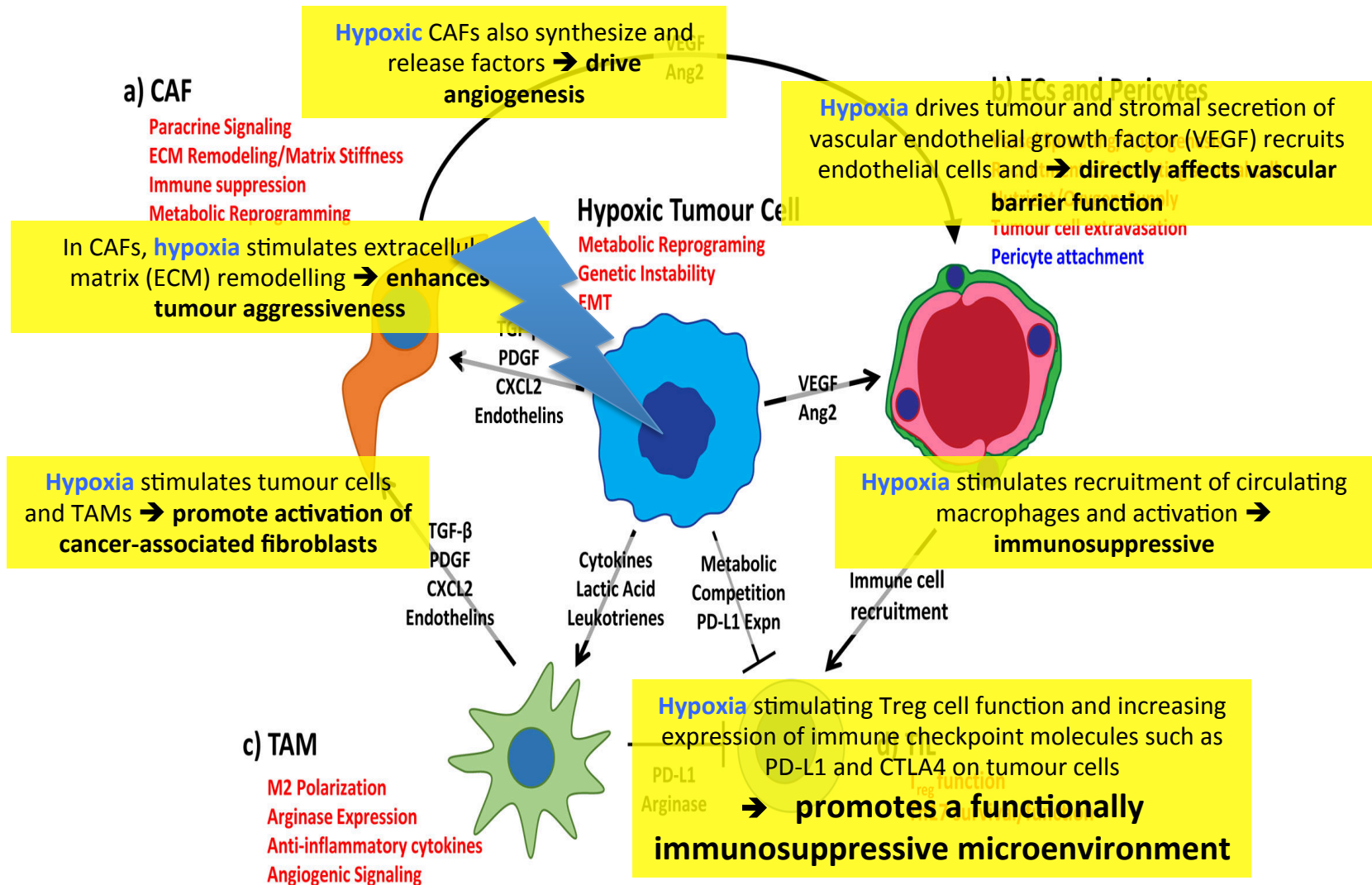
- clinical practice is changing



Hybrid PET/MRI of Intracranial Masses

PET/MR and PET/CT images of 30-y-old patient with low-grade glioma (patient 6) extending on left side from insular cortex to temporal lobe and frontal operculum. Andreas Boss et al. J Nucl Med 2010;51:1198-1205

Meeting the needs of new generation therapeutics: Tumour hypoxia co-opts the stroma to potentiate tumourigenesis



The logo for OncoTherics, featuring the word "Onco" in white and "Therics" in grey, with a teal circle behind the "O".

OncoTherics



novel **u**nidirectional **H**ypoxia-
Activated **P**rodrugs (uHAPs)
for the treatment of Cancer



contact us: enquiry@oncotherics.com

OncoTherics TEAM: A blend of expertise in science, clinical delivery, commercial drug development, & regulatory approval



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Prof. Paul Smith
CSO



Mike Leyland
Finance



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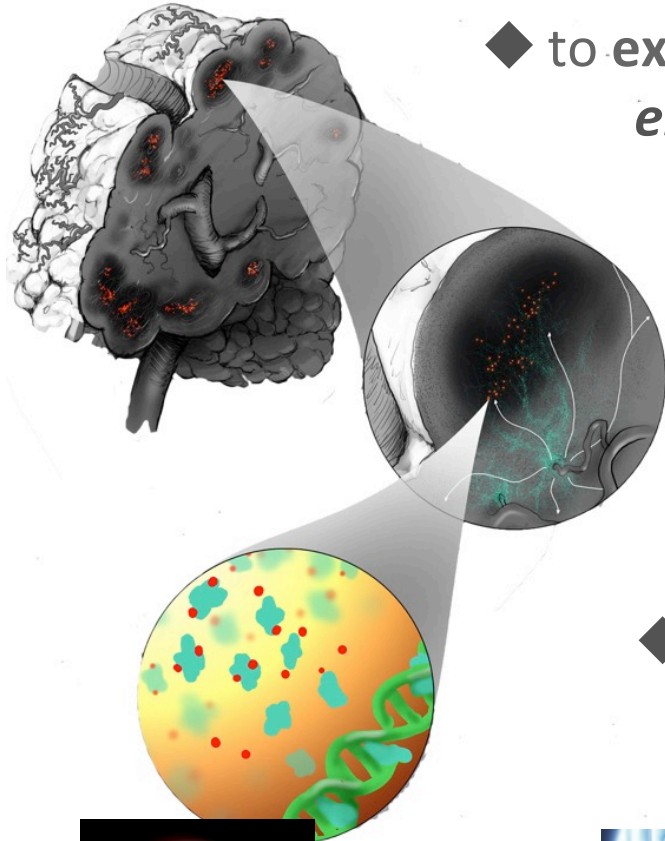
Prof. Laurence Patterson
Chairman Medicinal Chemistry

ACADEMIC AND CLINICAL COLLABORATORS

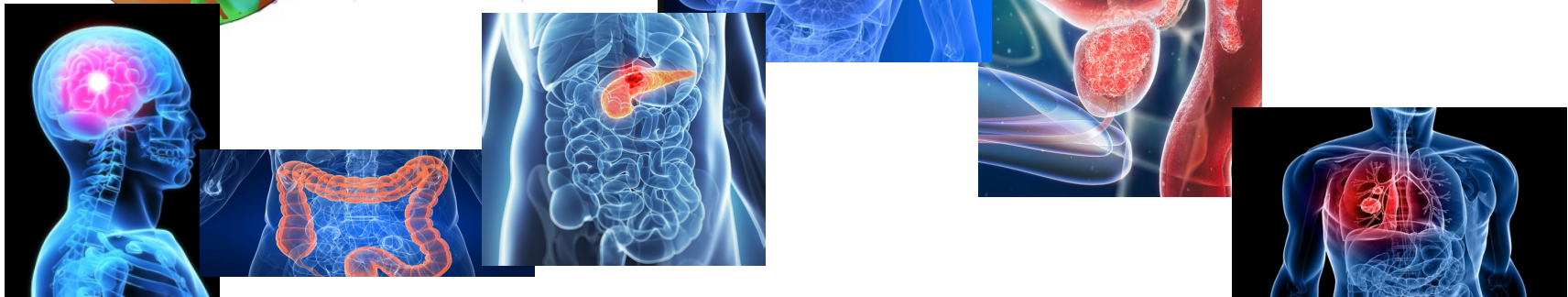
Princess Margaret Cancer Center, Toronto

University of Cambridge
University of Bradford

University of Ulster
Cardiff University
University of Manchester

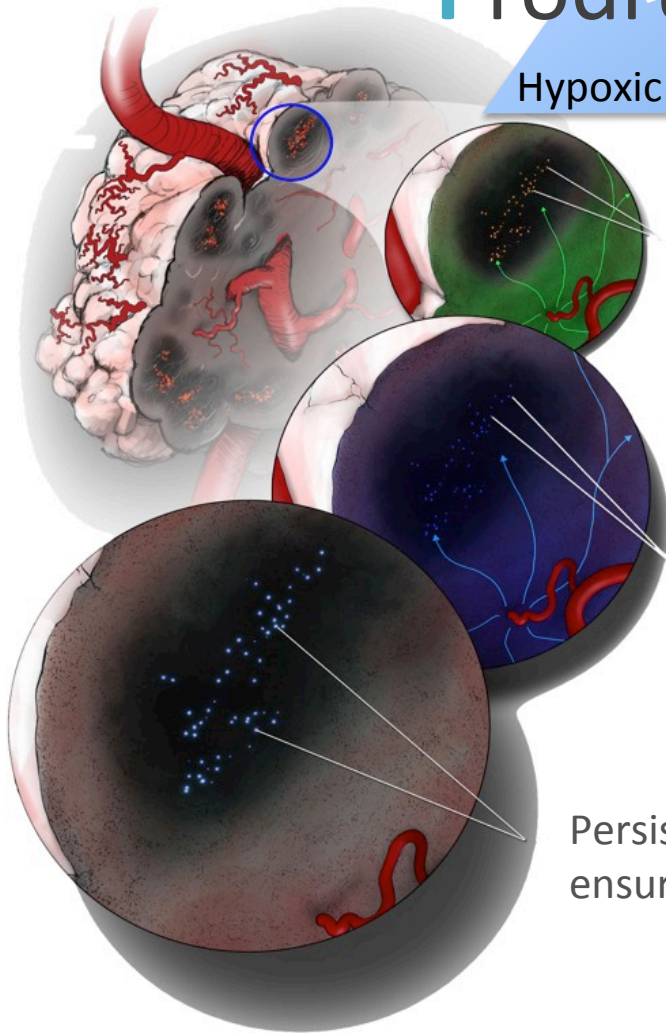
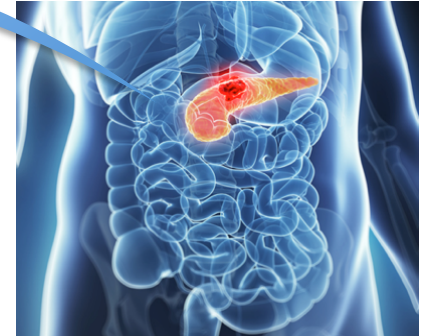


- ◆ to **exploit** new insights into *tumour HYPOXIC micro-environments* and its widespread role in tumour progression and treatment resistance
- ◆ to **collaborate** with world-leading centres
 - ◆ to **identify** novel drug targeting opportunities that can be easily combined with current & new targeted therapies
- ◆ to **deliver** better drugs for a WIDE RANGE OF cancers



novel **u**nidirectional **H**ypoxia-**A**ctivated **P**rodrugs (uHAP's)

Hypoxic regions of tumours are **treatment resistant**



uHAP given alongside conventional chemotherapy

Non-Toxic – fewer side effects than conventional drugs

uHAP penetrates the whole tumour and is irreversibly activated to a highly effective **Topoisomerase II inhibitor** in Hypoxic tumour cells

Persistent **activated drug** targets cells in the hypoxic regions - ensuring effective treatment of the whole tumour

1. nitro(hetero)cyclic compounds
extensive exploration in the clinic (PR-104A a dinitrobenzamide mustard withdrawn) and TH-302 (evofosfamide) fails at Phase III
2. aromatic N-oxides
early entry N-oxide tirapazamine (TPZ; SR4233) ends in failure highlighting the need for patient selection
3. quinones
EO9 (Apaziquone) failed to show activity in phase II clinical trials

4. aliphatic N-oxides
OCT1004 & OCT1002

5. metal complexes
have the potential to be used as hypoxia-selective agents, but to date, none have been developed for clinical use.

INNOVATIVE drug design of our lead investment opportunity

DNA affinic
cytotoxic DNA
topoisomerase
inhibitor

Inactivation

Non-toxic
prodrug
platform

*Modify key
bioreduction
sites*

OCT1002

OCT1002
a novel uHAP
with modified bioreduction properties
but retaining high tissue penetration
and potentially offering a modified PK
profile

The non-toxic uHAP COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE?

- ❑ FAR FEWER SIDE EFFECTS than conventional HAP's
- ❑ HIGHER DOSES possible due to unidirectional conversion
- ❑ EXCELLENT PENETRATION across all tissues
- ❑ HIGHLY SPECIFIC TARGETING for tumour site conversion
- ❑ EXPLOITS NEW EVIDENCE on impact of hypoxia on cancer treatments

....tumour targeting with
unique mechanism of action

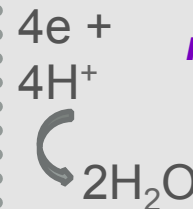


targets tumour growth &
metastasis and overcoming drug
resistance

OCT1001

Active drug
OCT1001
with enhanced
intracellular
persistence
properties

....unique mechanism of action



....*unique
mechanism of
activation in
hypoxic cells*

OCT1002

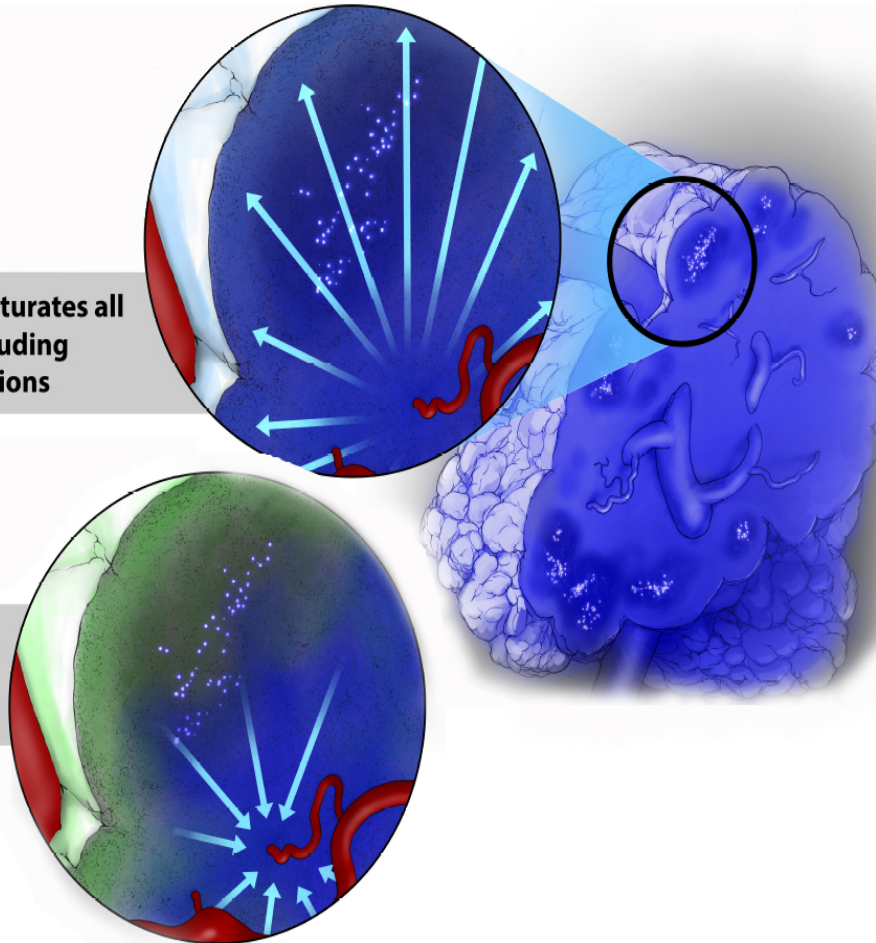
a novel uHAP

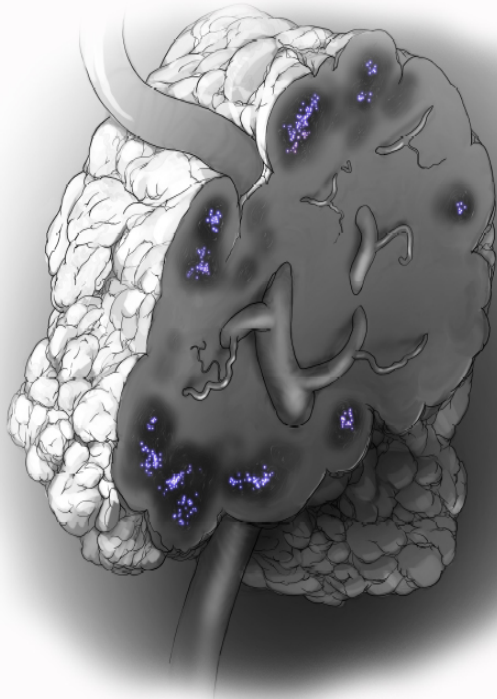
unidirectional Hypoxia Activated Pro-drug



OCT1002 saturates all tissues, including hypoxic regions

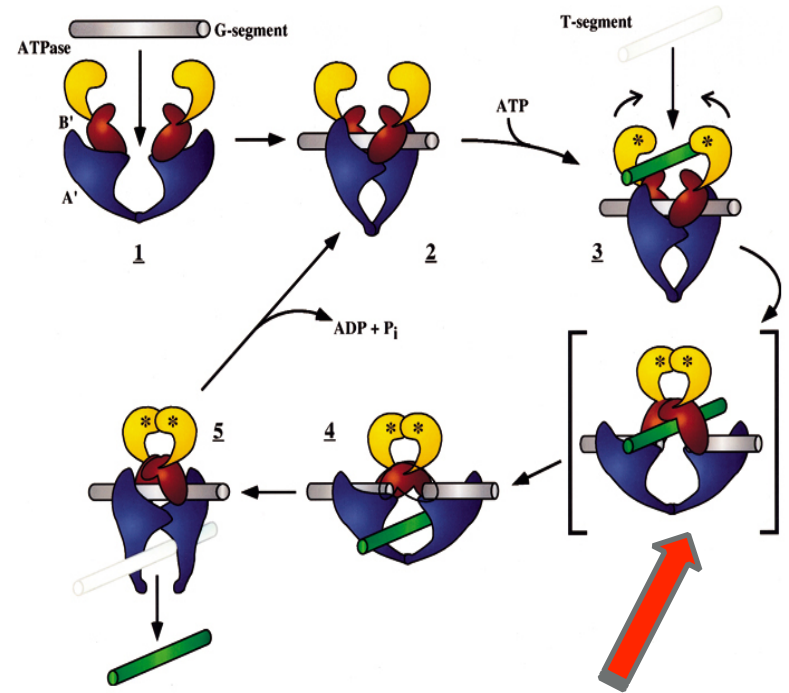
OCT1002 is rapidly cleared from oxygenated tissues





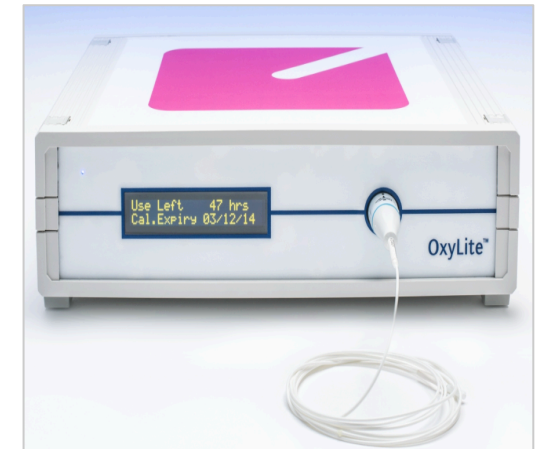
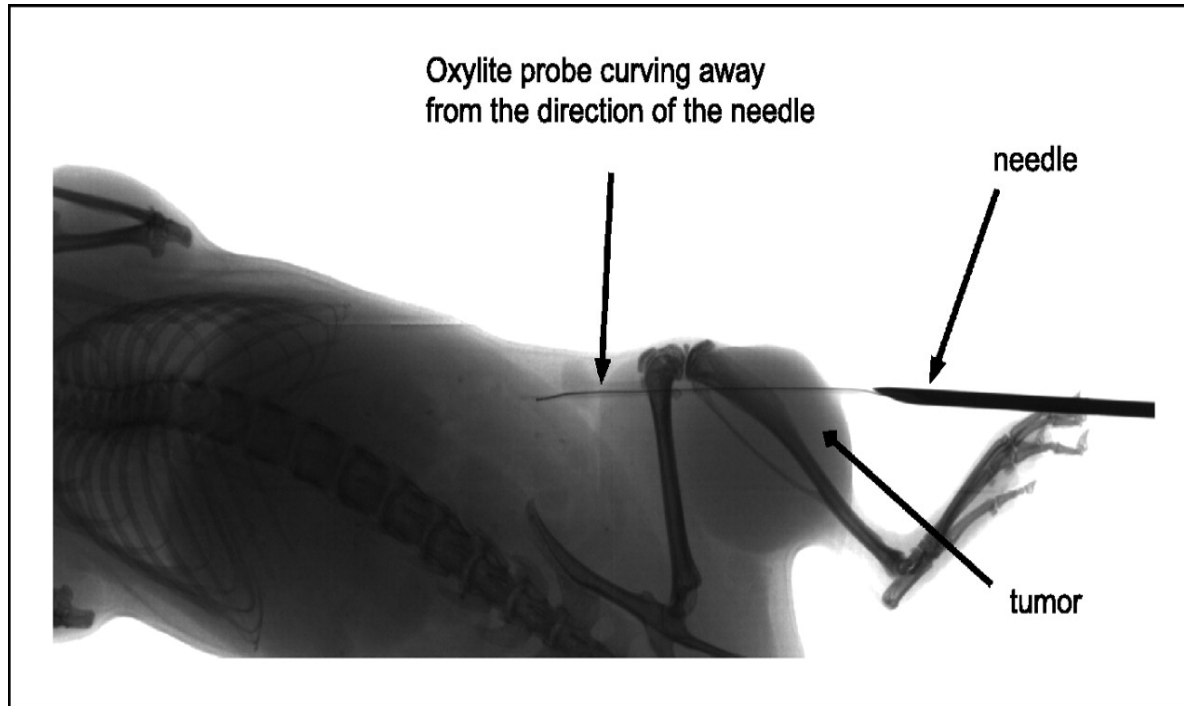
OCT1002 converts to highly toxic OCT1001 in hypoxic cells and kills the cells when they become active

•OCT-1001 acts as a potent DNA topoisomerase II inhibitor



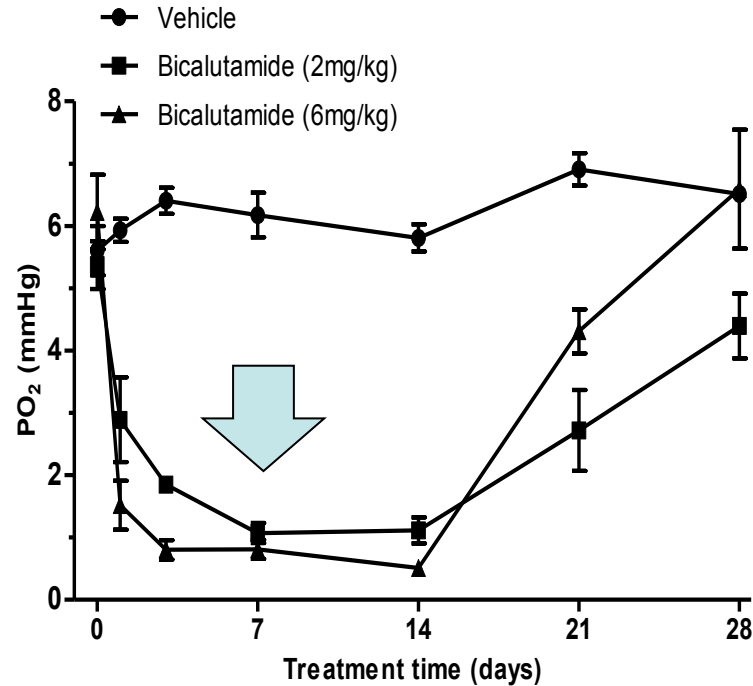
Courtesy of Stephen Harrison and James Wang, Harvard University. Copyright 1999 John Wiley and Sons, Inc. All rights reserved.

Accessible in vivo systems: X-ray image of C3H mouse with Oxylite probe in a tumour



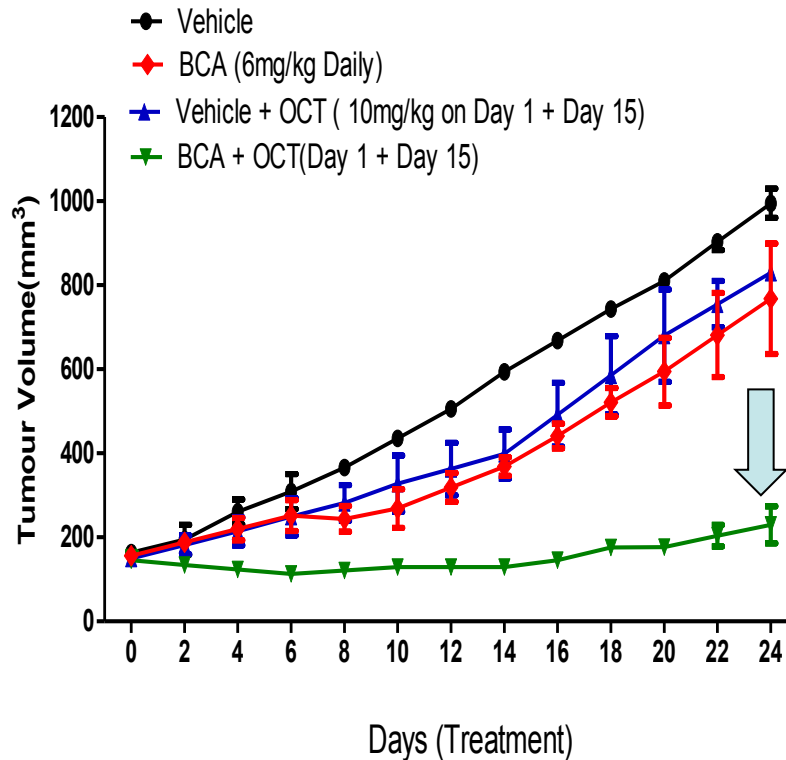
- The needle guides the Oxylite to the tumor. The Oxylite protrudes from the needle and is seen curving away from the direction of the needle.
- The actual optic fiber is seen as a faint shadow accompanying a thin, well-resolved filament (the thermocouple for temperature correction for the Oxylite)

pO₂ readings of prostate LNCaP tumours during Bicalutamide (anti androgen; BCA) treatment



LNCaP xenografts were grown to ~100-150mm³. Results are mean ± S.E.M (n=5)

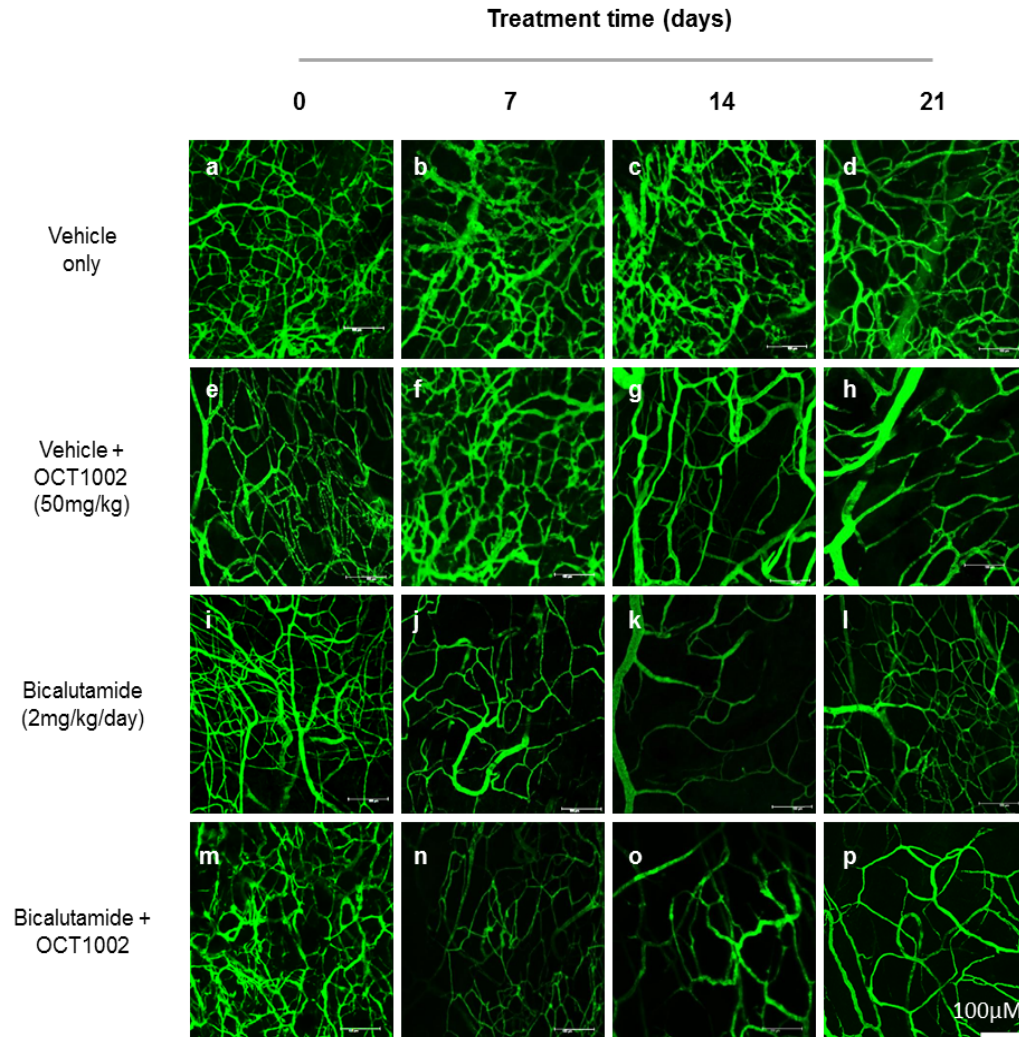
Very low but double dosing with OCT-1002 (10mg/kg) in combination + BCA



Double dosing with OCT1002 in combination with BCA controls LNCaP tumour

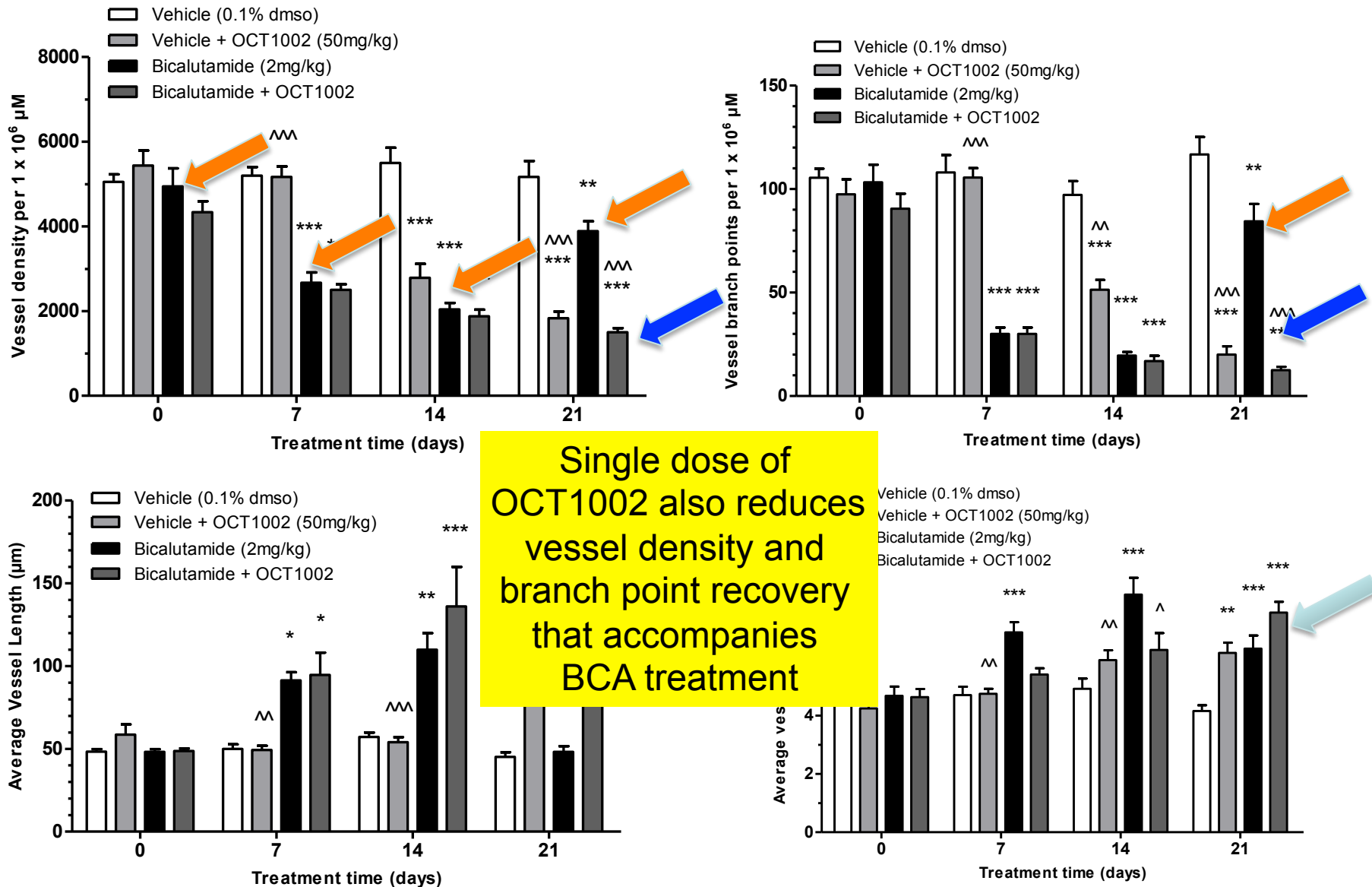
SCID mice were implanted with 4×10^6 LNCaP-Luc cells. When tumours reached 150 mm^3 mice were treated with a range of combinations: vehicle (1% DMSO), BCA (6mg/kg Daily), vehicle + OCT1002 (10mg/kg Day 1 & 15), BCA + OCT-1002 (Day 1 & 15).

Vascular changes induced by BCA in combination with the OCT1002 on LNCaP-Luc tumours xenografts

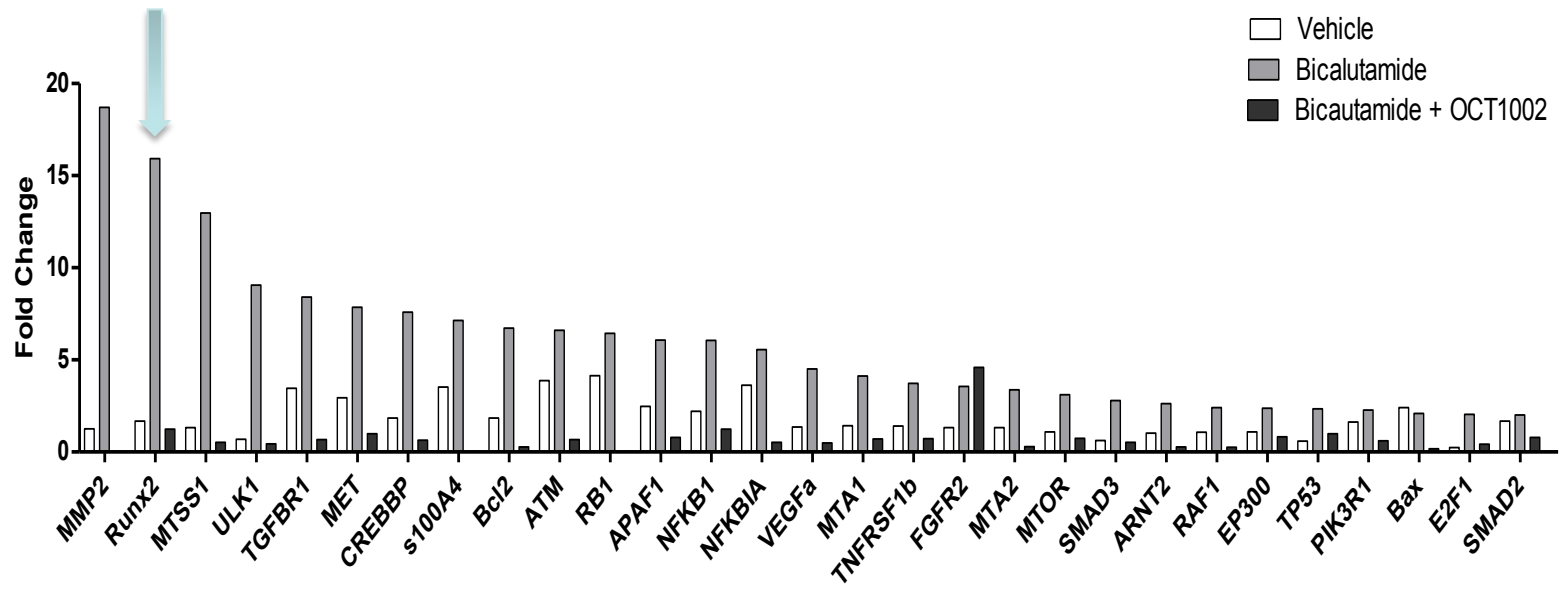


- Vehicle (1% DMSO in corn oil p.o.)
- OCT1002 (50mg/kg in PBS i.p. day 7)
- BCA (2mg/kg in vehicle p.o.).

Stereological assessment of the effect of bicalutamide ± OCT1002 on vascular parameters in LNCaP tumours

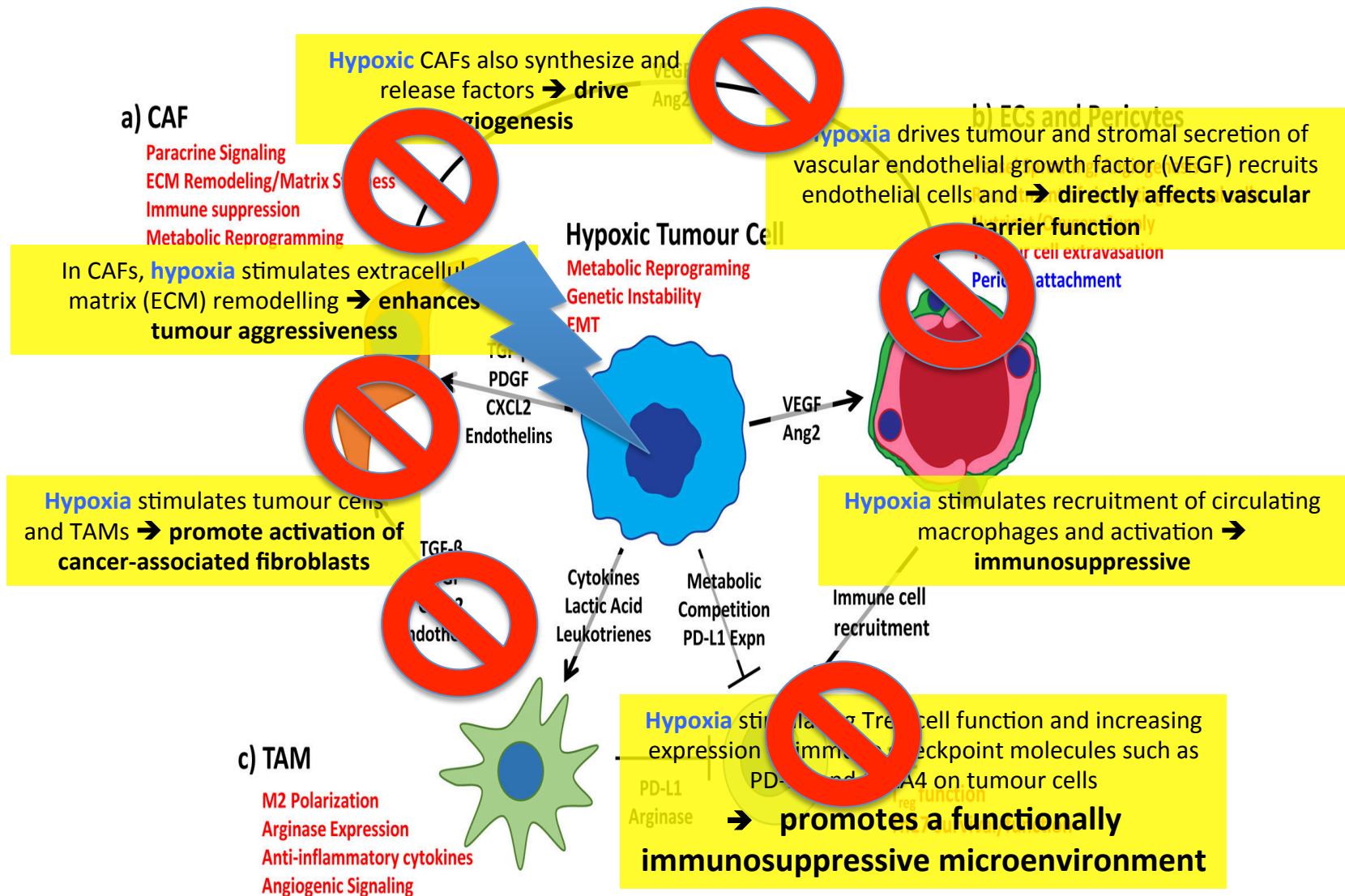


Up-regulation of pro-survival genes induced by bicalutamide is blocked by OCT1002



- link between hypoxic stress and *RUNX2*
- *RUNX2* expression is up-regulated in prostate, breast and colon cancer
- thought to contribute to a more aggressive, metastatic phenotype by altering expression of many genes involved in migration, invasion, metastasis, apoptosis and angiogenesis

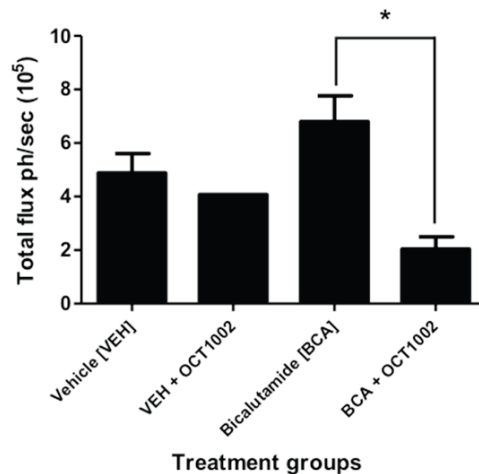
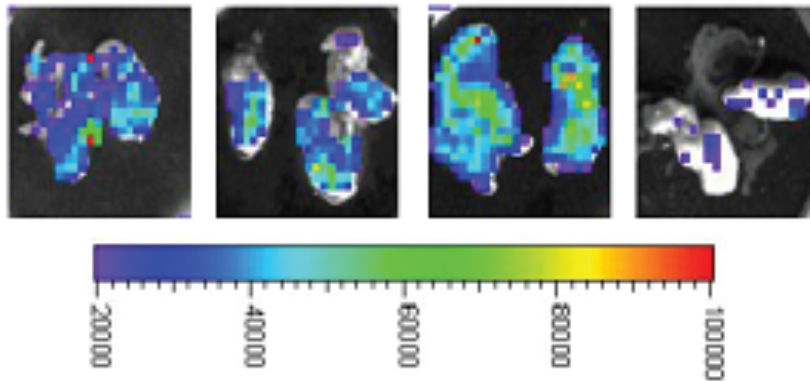
Tumour hypoxia co-opts the stroma to potentiate tumourigenesis



Single dose OCT1002 inhibits lung metastasis & tumour growth in hypoxic prostate tumours

Lung lobe bioluminescence imaging

Vehicle Vehicle Bicalutamide Bicalutamide
 OCT1002 (2mg/kg) +OCT1002



- LNCaP-Luc xenografts in SCID mice (≥ 8 week old) bearing 100-200mm³ tumours
- oral vehicle or bicalutamide every day x 28 days with 2mg/kg \pm OCT1002 (50mg/kg i.p. day 7).
- At day 28, mice injected with luciferin. At 15 min lungs excised and luminescence quantified

- OCT1002 inhibition of metastasis * $p = \leq 0.05$ (two-tailed t-test)

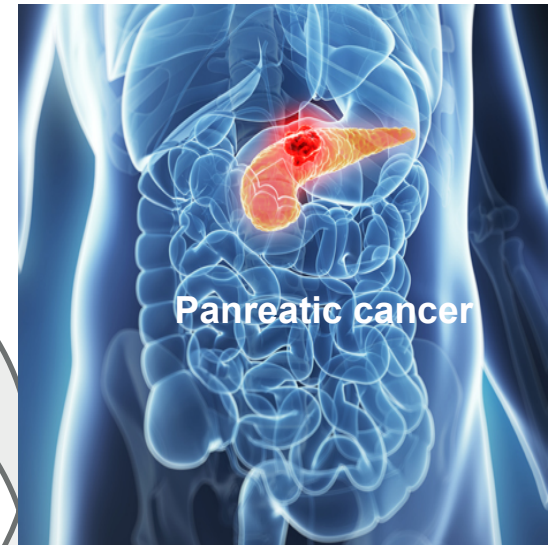
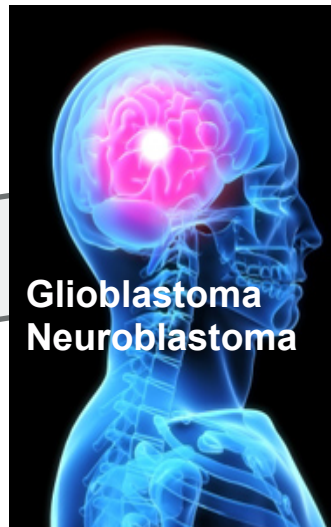
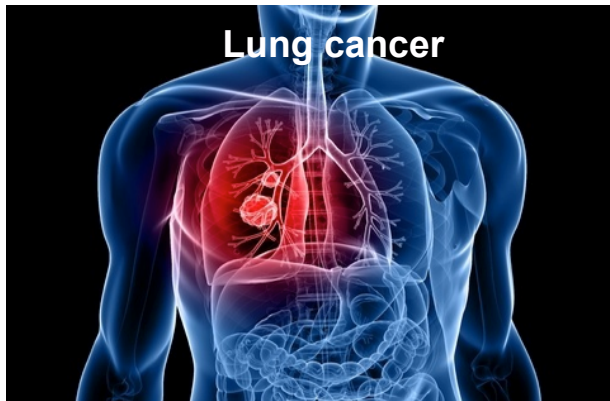
+Radiotherapy
+Anti-hormonal



- Scandinavian SPCG-7 trial & MRC PR07 trial
- locally advanced prostate cancer at high risk of occult metastatic disease
- ADT or ADT plus prostate RTx.
- radiotherapy dramatically improved 10-year outcomes: **mortality halved.**
- benefit **started to emerge as early as 3 years** from randomisation
- seems **improbably early** if the benefit of local treatment is mediated via the prevention of subsequent disease dissemination.
- *.....more consistent with local treatment impacts rate of progression **of existing micrometastatic disease.***
- *That very concept challenges how micro-communities distant from a primary treatment site respond and how cytometry could evaluate the dynamics and nature of that response - and what in vivo model systems are needed*

Microenvironment targeting complements multiple modalities in multiple indications

+Radiotherapy
+Anti-hormonal
+Anti-proliferative
+Immunotherapy
+Cytotoxic & prodrug





Daryl Fernandes

Ludger
Chief Executive

Precision Medicine at Ludger: Glycomics, patient stratification and fat bellies

Ludger is a bioscience company specialising in analytical technology for medical applications of glycobiology



Paul Seaman

Midatech Pharma
Head of Sustained Delivery

Right Time, Right Place; Exploiting Micro and Nano Particulates for Drug Delivery

An international specialty pharmaceutical company focused on developing and commercialising products in oncology and other therapeutic areas.



Fred Jacobs

Astrimmune
CEO

Targeting cancer at every stage

Astrimmune was incorporated in 2011 to house newly created intellectual property related to the treatment of gastrointestinal cancers in general