**Single cell discrimination of immunotherapy-induced changes in the prostate tumor microenvironment**

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**Background:** The therapeutic benefit of immunotherapy in earlier stages of prostate cancer, in particular the metastatic hormone-sensitive state, remains unclear. Also, the phenotype and specificities of T cells that may confer benefit, and whether these represent enhancement of existing responses versus de novo responses only found in prostate tumors, are unknown.

**Methods:** To address these questions, we have continued single-cell analysis combining whole-transcriptome RNA sequencing and paired T cell receptor (TCR) analysis. This characterizes known or unanticipated T cell populations modulated by immunotherapy in an ongoing phase II trial testing combinations of immunotherapy (anti-PD-1 +/- the Toll-like receptor 9 agonist SD-101) with radiation (SBRT to prostate tumor) and combined androgen deprivation therapy (GnRH-directed therapy + abiraterone/prednisone) for newly diagnosed oligometastatic hormone-sensitive prostate cancer. By interrogating serial biopsies from prostate tumors and paired normal prostate taken before and after immunotherapy, we are determining which T cell populations are enriched in tumor, and which are pre-existing versus newly induced by immunotherapy.

**Results:** In this ongoing phase II trial, we have treated 10 patients, including multiple veterans, without additional safety signals. We have successfully obtained prostate tumor biopsies from 7 treated patients, most which include collections of paired tumor and adjacent normal tissue as well as paired pre- and on-treatment tissues. Preliminary analyses identify non-cytotoxic T cells and macrophages which are enriched in tumor across multiple patients, as well as cytotoxic T cells which express a highly polyclonal repertoire. Further progress in pooled analyses of T cell phenotypes and repertoire, and how these are modulated by immunotherapy, will be presented.

**Conclusions:** Using unbiased analytic approaches for identifying known and novel cell populations, we identify conserved, tumor-enriched non-cytotoxic T cells and macrophages. Further analysis of this high-dimensional data set will allow us to determine which immune responses are enhanced by immunotherapy.

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