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STING normalizes tumor vasculatures and synergizes with anti-angiogenic therapy to enhance cancer immunity

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STING is highly expressed in tumor endothelial cells of human cancers



Endothelial STING expression correlates with CD8⁺ TILs and overall survival in human cancers



Endothelial STING expression in syngeneic mouse tumor models



STING agonist remodels tumor microenvironment



Angiogenesis \downarrow , Vascular maturation \uparrow , CD8+ T cell immunity \uparrow

STING is a negative regulator of sprouting tumor angiogenesis

Nanostring Analysis of LLC tumor





STING signaling regulates Vascular-immune network



STING expressing cells In tumor microenvironment

LLC tumor



STING CD31

STING **a-SMA**

STING pan-CK



Immune (myeloid) AND non-immune (esp. endothelial) Which is important?

STING in immune cell vs. non-immune cells ?



The efficacy of STING agonist depends on Type I IFN signaling and CD8⁺ T cells



Limitations of STING monotherapy



Potential resistance mechanism for STING monotherapy

1. Mutual antagonism of Type I IFN and VEGFR2 signaling



2. Upregulation of immune checkpoints after STING Tx.



Optimal Combination Immunotherapy: Beyond Immunologic Boiling Point

All or None Responses after immunotherapy



We can overcome intrinsic resistance to ICIs through optimal combination.

Triple Combination immunotherapy (STING+αVEGFR2+ICI) induced abscopal effects

MMTV-PyMT transgenic breast cancers



Triple Combination immunotherapy (STING+αVEGFR2+ICI) induced abscopal effects

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Triple Combination immunotherapy (STING+αVEGFR2+ICI) suppresses metastases

MMTV-PyMT transgenic breast cancers





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Triple Combination immunotherapy (STING+αVEGFR2+ICI) prolongs overall survival

MMTV-PyMT transgenic breast cancers



Optimal regulation of TME (esp. tumor vessels) is critical for STING-based immunotherapy





Yang, Chon, and Kim. J Clin Invest 2019

Thank You for listening !



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