

The Role of AR-V7 in the Management of Metastatic Castration-Resistant Prostate Cancer

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Important milestones in the treatment of prostate cancer

- 1941: Use of androgen deprivation therapy
- 1947: First radical prostatectomy for the treatment of prostate cancer
- 2004: Docetaxel approved for treatment of metastatic prostate cancer
- 2010: Provenge (immunotherapy) approved by FDA
- The targeted therapy era (ARSi):
 - 4/2011: Initial approval of abiraterone (ZYTIGA®)
 - 8/2012: Enzalutamide approved (XTANDI®)
 - 2/2018: Apalutamide approved (Erlead™)



How do these targeted therapies work? And what is AR-V7??

- Prostate cells (and most tumor cells) need androgen to grow and function.
- *Androgen Receptor Signaling Inhibitors* (ARSis) work either by targeting and inhibiting the androgen binding receptors in tumor cells or by preventing creation of androgen.
- **These drugs slow tumor growth.**
- AR-V7 is a variant of the normal androgen receptor and can allow prostate tumor cells to remain active and growing even *without* androgen.
 - It seems to develop as a resistance mechanism when men are exposed to ARSi therapy.



Why is it important to know AR-V7 status and who should be tested?

- The presence or AR-V7 in the nucleus of circulating tumor cells can tell us about prognosis and predict which treatment is better – ARSi or chemotherapy.
 - AR-V7 is measured in a blood sample.
- *Who should be tested?*
 1. Men with metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer
 2. Men who have taken an ARSi in the past
 3. Men who are trying to determine their next treatment (chemotherapy or another ARSi)



Why is it important to have taken an ARSi in the past?

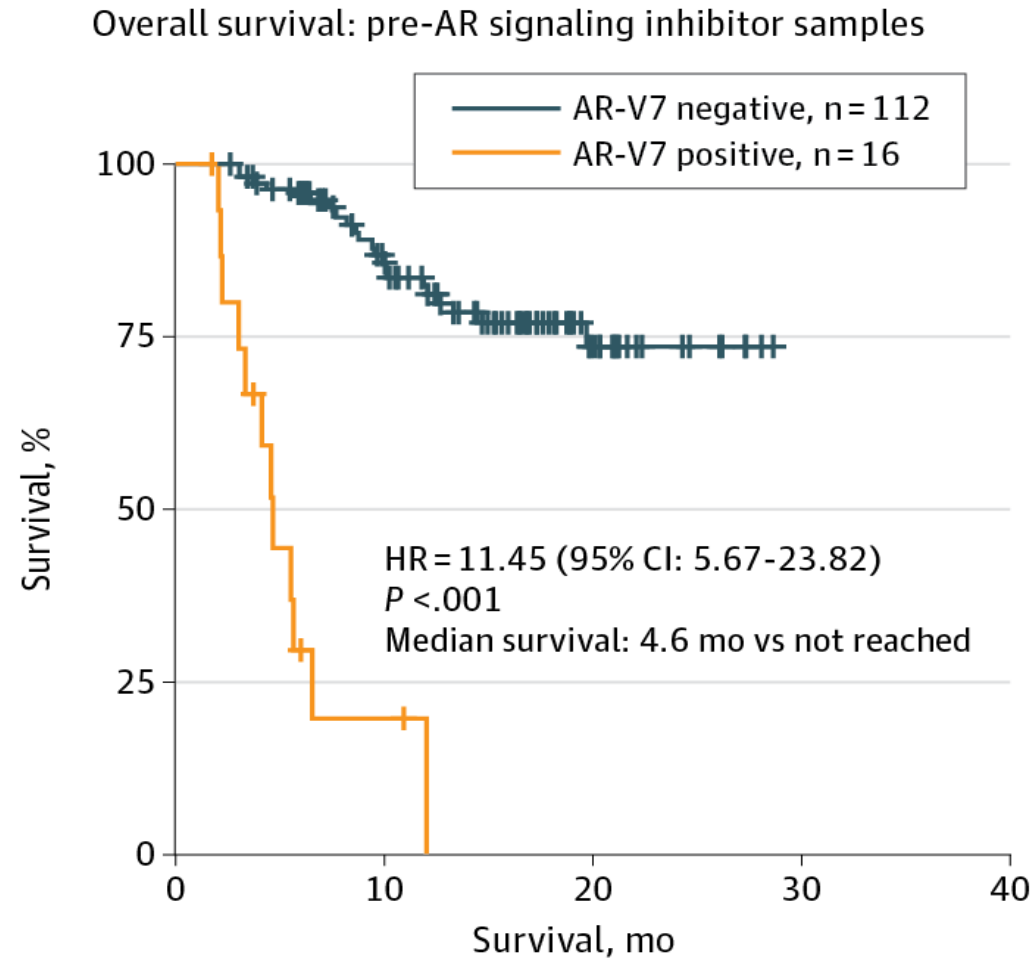
Line of Treatment in mCRPC setting	First (n=67)	Second (n=50)	Third or greater (n=74)
Samples with AR-V7-positive CTCs n (%)	2 (3%)	9 (18%)	23 (31%)



AR-V7–androgen receptor splice variant 7; CTC–circulating tumor cells

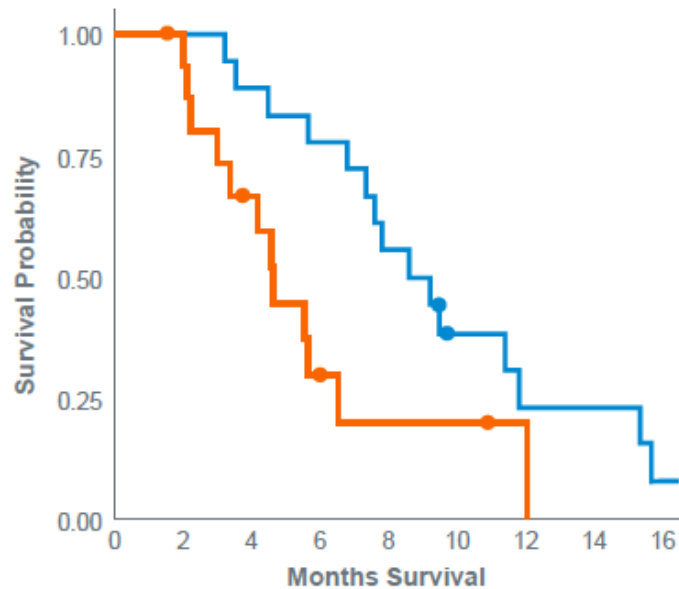
Scher HI et al. *JAMA Oncol.* 2016;2(11):1441-1449.

Men with AR-V7 nuclear-positive disease do worse on ARSi therapy...

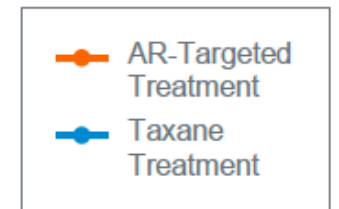
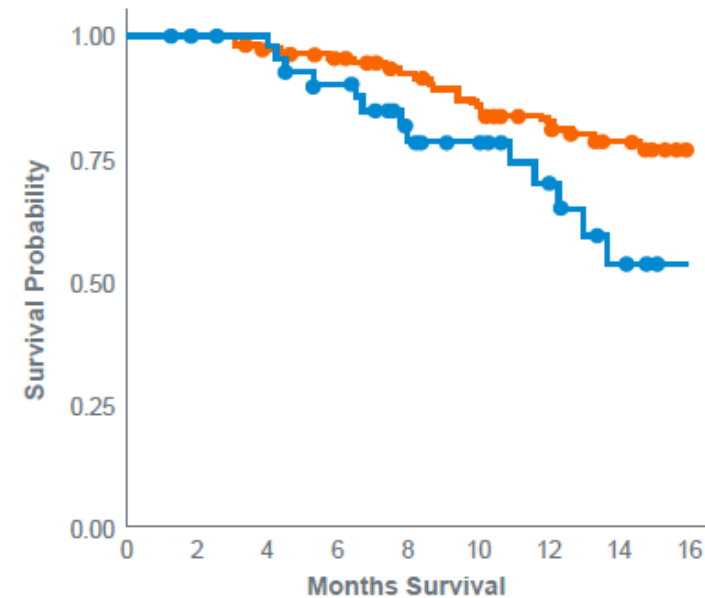


...but do better with chemotherapy

AR-V7 Positive Patients Do Better with Taxane Treatment



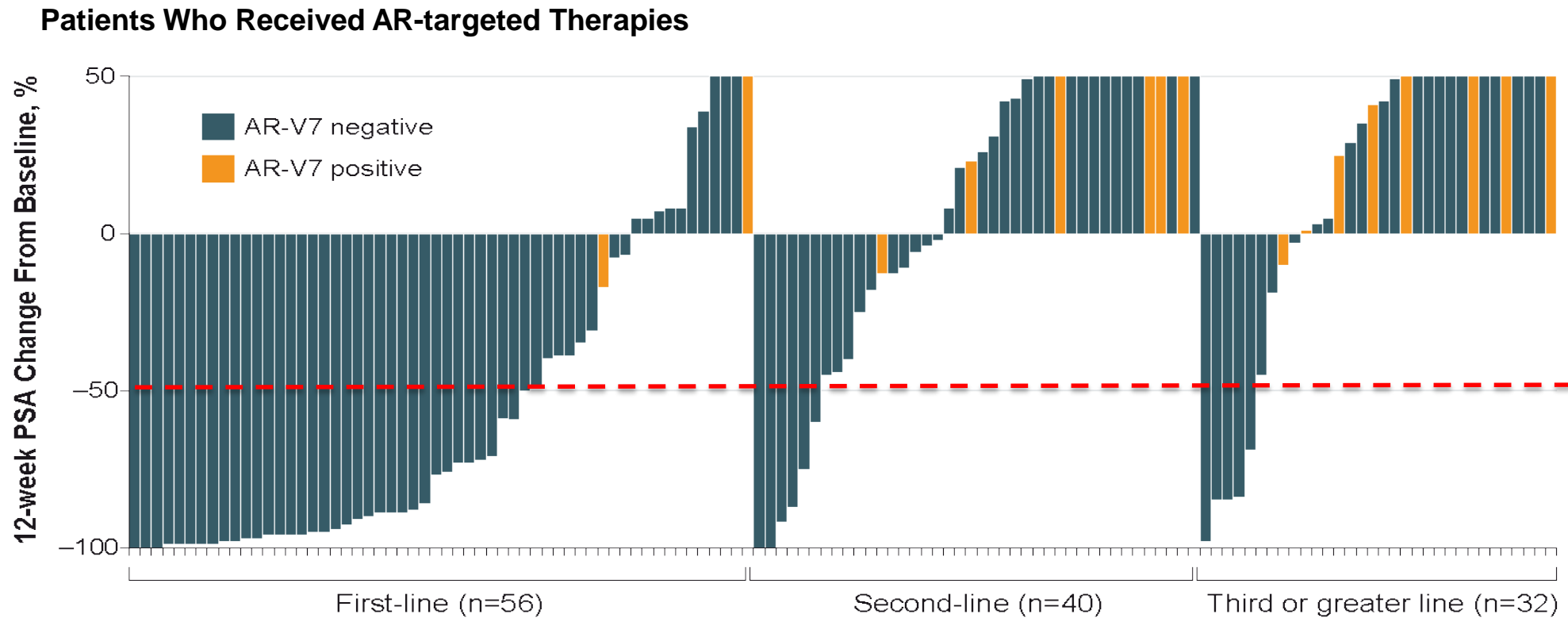
AR-V7 Negative Patients Do Better with AR-Targeted Treatment



JAMA Oncology



Men with AR-V7 nuclear-positive disease do not respond to ARSi therapy



AR-androgen receptor; AR-V7-androgen receptor splice variant 7; PSA-prostate-specific antigen

Scher HI et al. *JAMA Oncol.* 2016;2(11):1441-1449.



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What should we remember?

- ARSi drugs have made a great impact on survival and quality of life for men with metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer.
- If an ARSi seems to be losing its beneficial effect, another therapy may be required to maintain control of disease.
 - This could be another ARSi or chemotherapy.
- Knowing the nuclear AR-V7 status at this point is important to determine the best course of therapy and prolong survival.
- ZERO patients with nuclear AR-V7-positive disease respond to ARSi therapy but may get significant benefit from chemotherapy.



Patient Report

AR-V7 Nucleus Detect Report

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AR-V7 Nucleus Detect[™]
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[LAST NAME], [FIRST NAME] [INITIAL]

Date Of Birth: 01-Jan-1950

Gender: Male

Report Number: OR000123456

Report Date: 23-Oct-2016

Ordering Physician: Dr. First-Name I. Ordering-Physician-Last-Name

Medical Record/Patient #: 1234567-01

Client: XXXX

Specimen Source/ID: Blood/SP-16_0123456

Study #: XXXX

Date of Collection: 20-Jun-2016

Specimen Received: 23-Jun-2016

Additional Recipient: Dr. Additional

Results

Additional Comments

Nuclear AR-V7

Positive



None

Positive: One or more nuclear localized AR-V7 positive CTCs identified

Clinical Interpretation

In large clinical studies, patients with a positive test result were¹:

- Not likely to respond to or benefit from abiraterone or enzalutamide
- Substantially more likely to live longer when treated with a taxane chemotherapy.

Intended Use

The AR-V7 Nucleus Detect test is intended for use in patients with metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer (mCRPC) who are considering androgen receptor signaling inhibitors (eg, abiraterone, enzalutamide). The test identifies the presence of AR-V7 protein in the nucleus of circulating tumor cells (CTCs) in blood samples from mCRPC patients to inform clinical decision-making.

AR-V7 Nucleus Detect Report

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Study #: XXXX

Date of Collection: 20-Jun-2016

Specimen Received: 23-Jun-2016

Additional Recipient: Dr. Additional

Results

Additional Comments

Nuclear AR-V7

Negative



None

Negative: No nuclear localized AR-V7 positive CTCs identified

Clinical Interpretation

In large clinical studies, patients with a negative test result¹:

- May have clinical response to and benefit from abiraterone or enzalutamide regardless of prior line(s) of therapy.

Intended Use

The AR-V7 Nucleus Detect test is intended for use in patients with metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer (mCRPC) who are considering androgen receptor signaling inhibitors (eg, abiraterone, enzalutamide). The test identifies the presence of AR-V7 protein in the nucleus of circulating tumor cells (CTCs) in blood samples from mCRPC patients to inform clinical decision-making.

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Why Nuclear AR-V7

Ryan Dittamore

Chief of Medical Innovation

Epic Sciences, Inc.

Who is Epic Sciences? Where is my blood sample going?



Goal: To make *predictive, personalized* and *precise* tests designed around *clinical decisions* to improve patient survival.





- San Diego, CA
- 40,000 sq ft facility
- CAP accredited /CLIA registered lab



2008
founded

75
employees

Partnerships

- Academic: 35
- Biopharma: 48
- Commercial:  Genomic Health
LIFE. CHANGING.
- Consortium:  BloodPAC
BLOOD PROFILING ATLAS IN CANCER

Clinical Research

- 175+ clinical trials
- 35,000+ patient blood samples

It started with the question?



In 2012, I visited Dr. Howard Scher at MSKCC in NY.



Dr. Scher posed a question to me:

Can we develop a blood test that can help guide therapy decisions between AR signaling therapies (Abiraterone & Enzalutamide) vs. taxane chemotherapy?

Why is this question important?

Prior therapy history, therapy response didn't predict which drug would work best. In short, there was no way for him to predict which drug to give a patient

Our Goal:

Could a single, simple tube
of blood **and Epic's
technology**



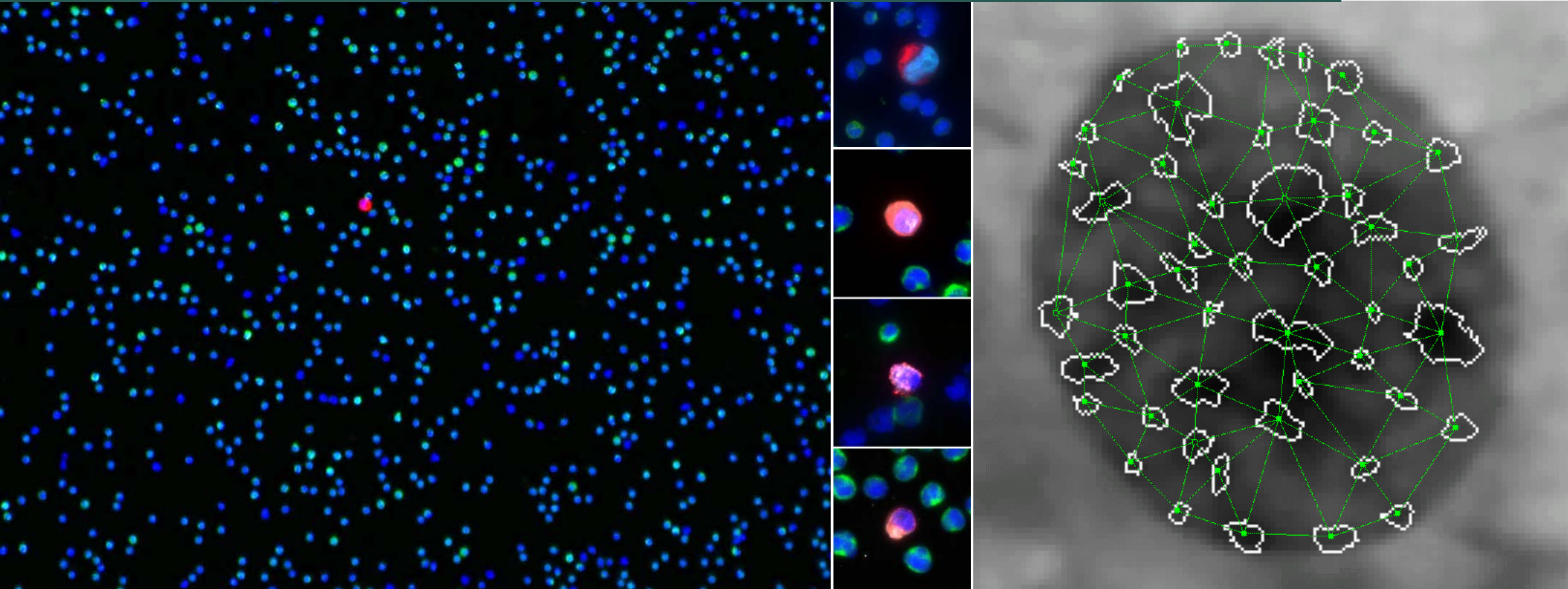
inform treatment
decisions and
extend lives



As good as Abiraterone or
Enzalutamide?



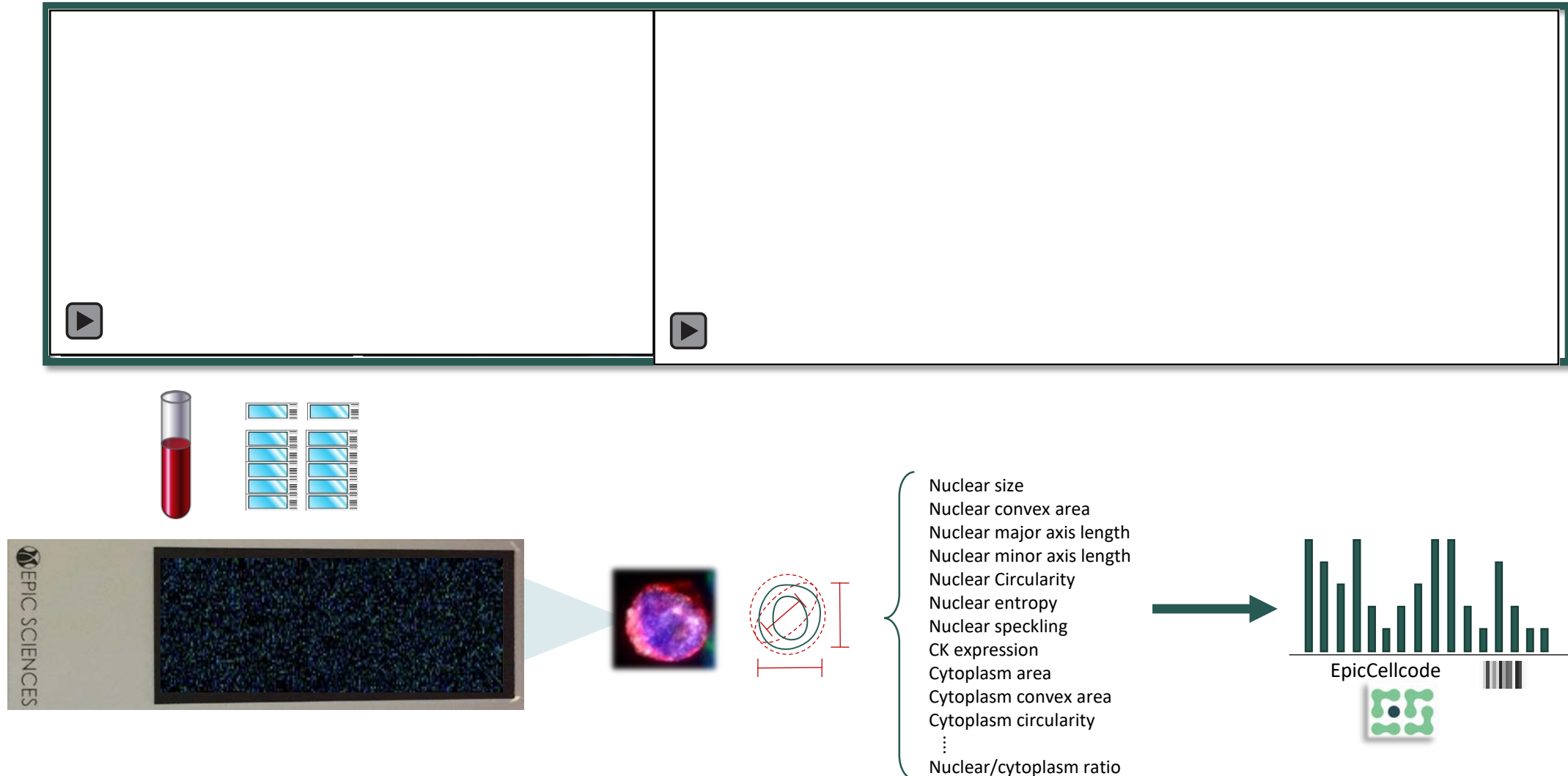
Query the cell – find 1 in 50 million with deep, advanced analysis



Epic's *no cell left behind*TM technology was founded with computer vision and machine learning.
We look at **6 million cells** per patient to find rare circulating tumor cells

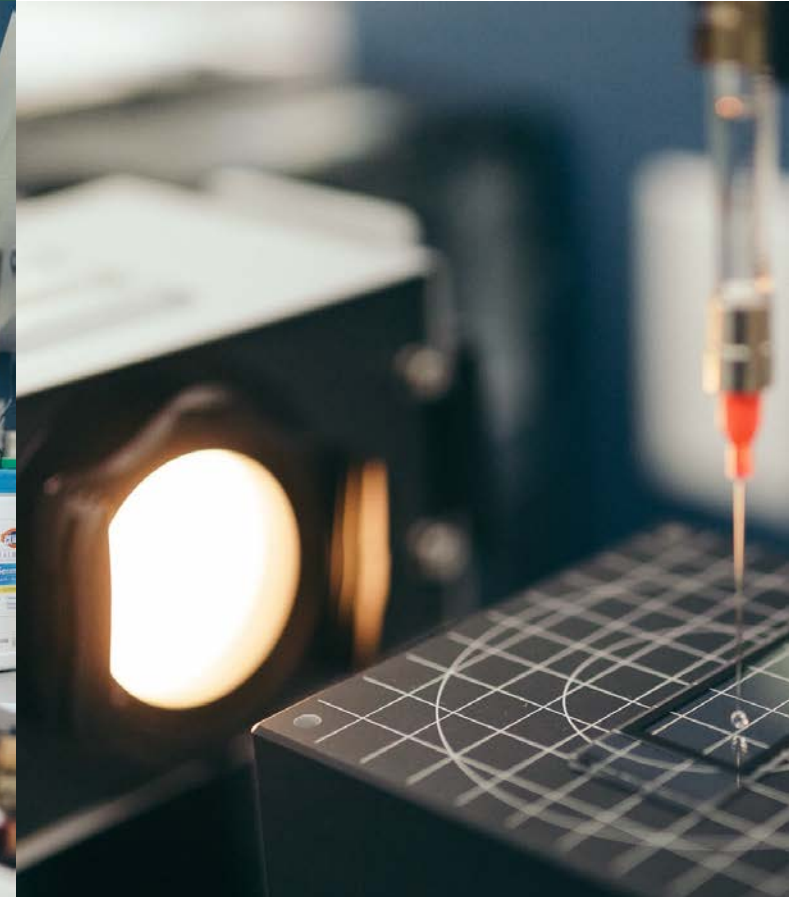
Disruptive platform for finding patterns of cells that matter

Tagging proteins in cells with fluorescence to analyze morphology and functional status



>12,000 prostate cancer
patients samples

Billions of cells analyzed with
clinical context




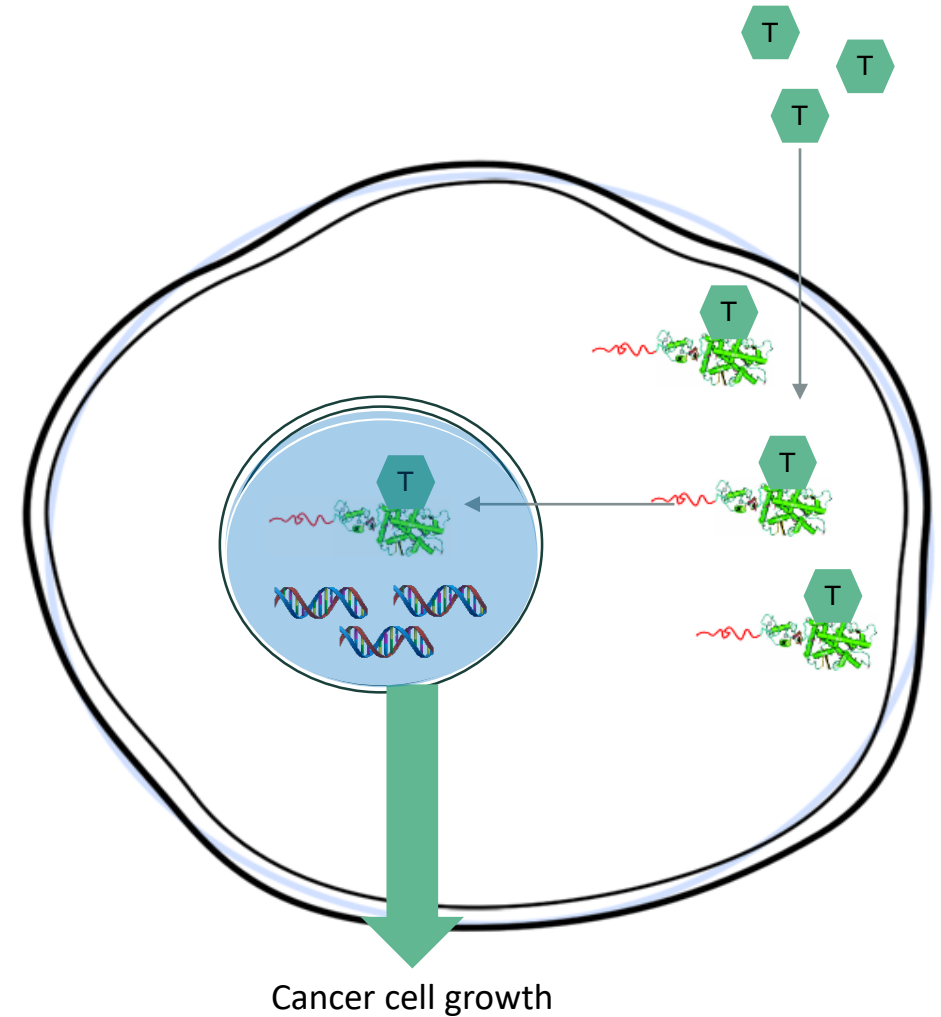
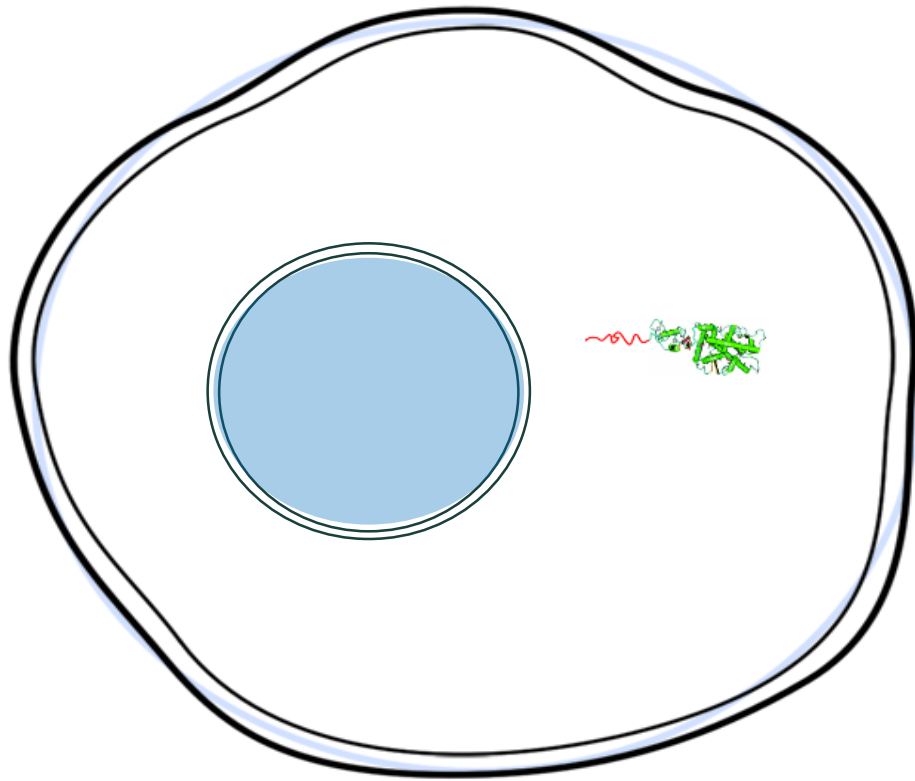
Over the last 6 years we have accumulated the largest biobank of mCRPC patient blood samples. Specifically to ensure we can answer the question

The biology of metastatic prostate cancer drugs – I



Androgen receptor (AR),
full length protein


 Testosterone
hormone

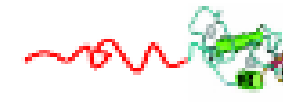


The biology of metastatic prostate cancer drugs – II

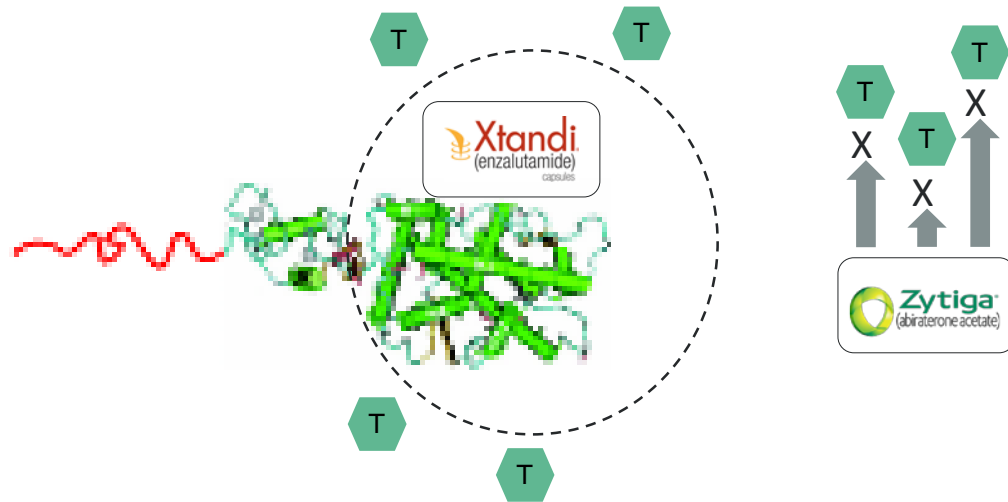


Androgen receptor (AR),
full length protein

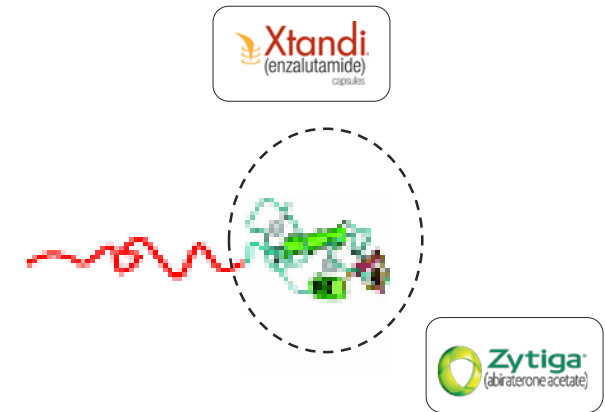
 Testosterone
hormone




Truncated androgen
receptor protein (AR-V7)

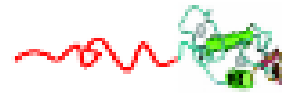


No  binding
AR can't get to the nucleus

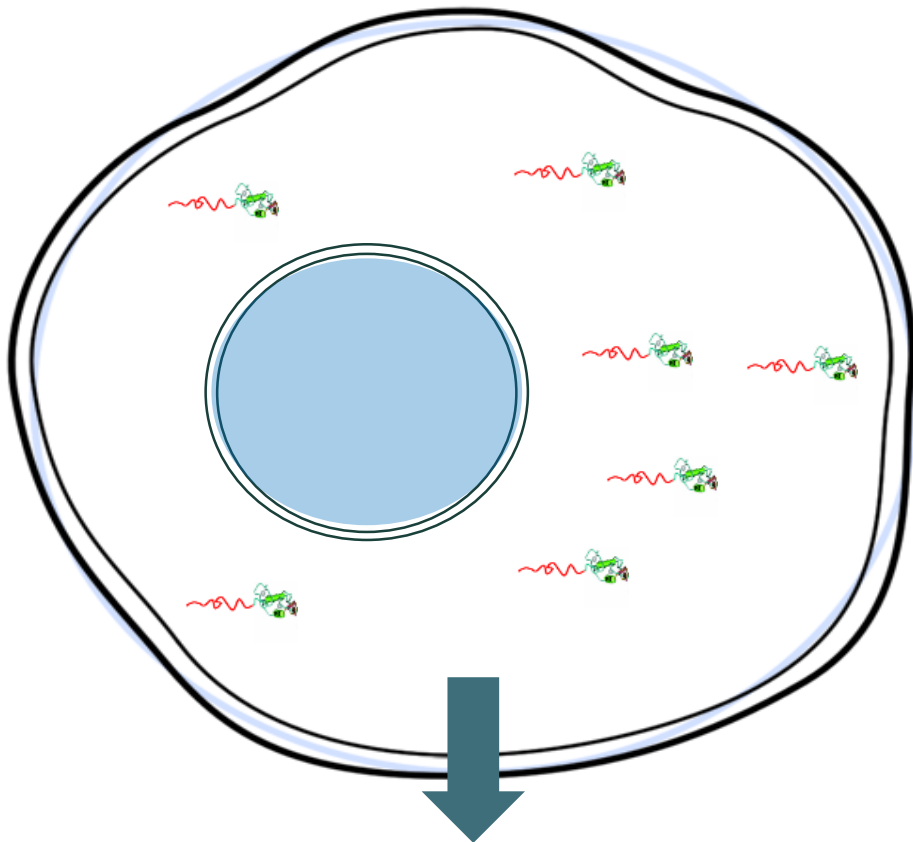


Don't need  binding, drugs can't bind
AR-V7 can go to the nucleus and be active

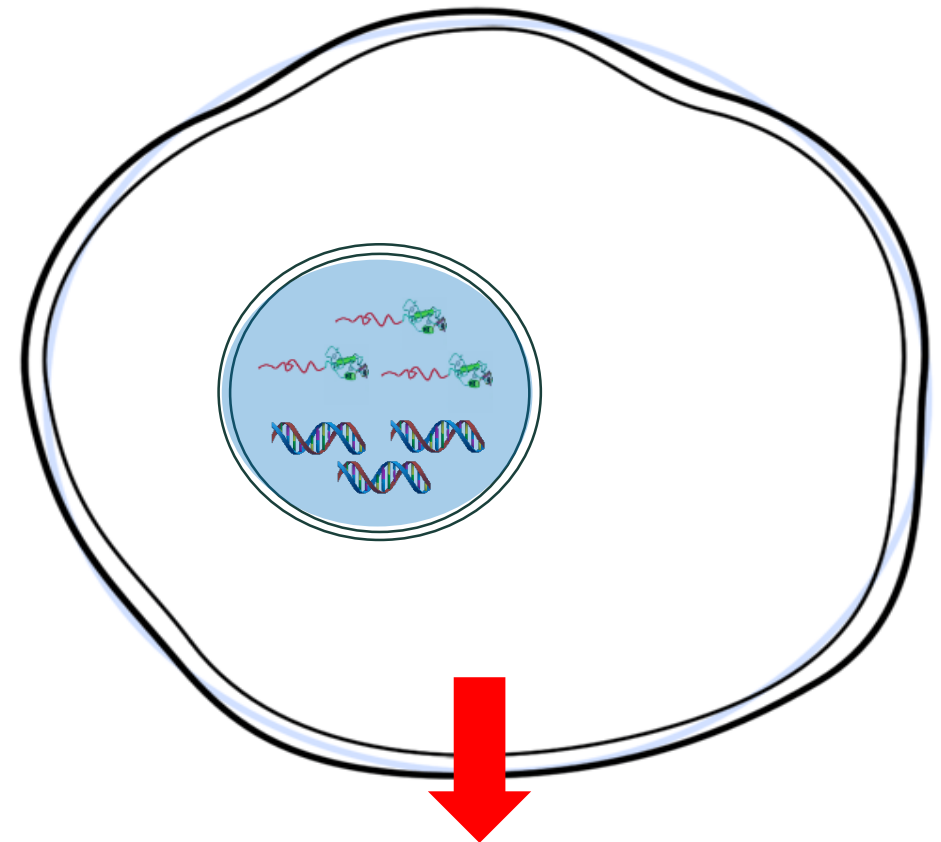
The biology of metastatic prostate cancer drugs – III



Truncated androgen receptor protein (AR-V7)

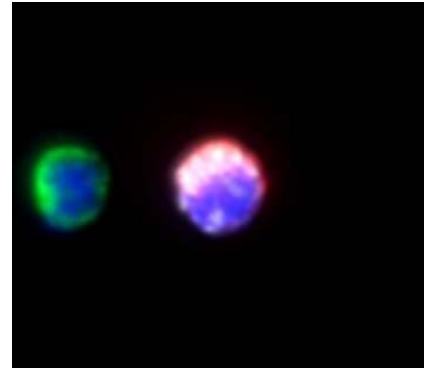
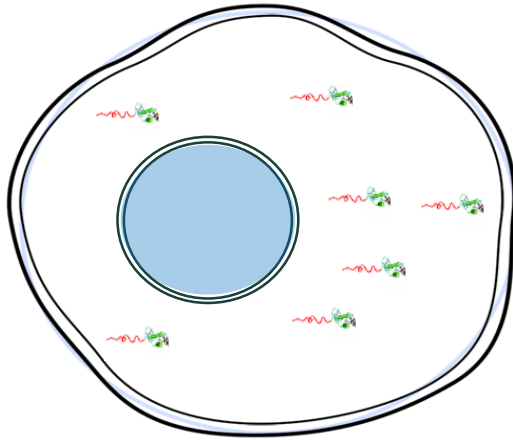


- AR-V7 is in the cytoplasm.
- Functionally **INACTIVE**.
- No resistance to Enzalutamide (Xtandi) or Abiraterone (Zytiga).

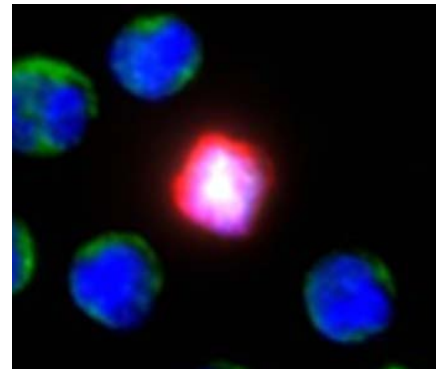
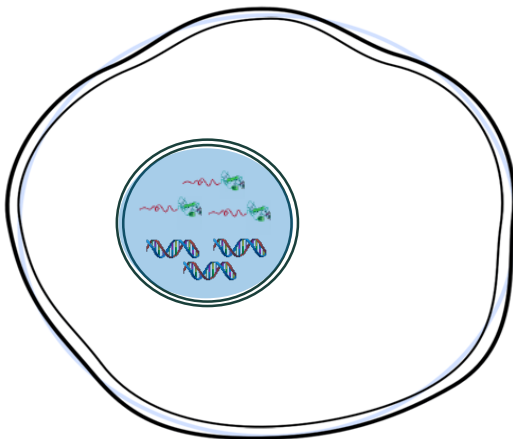


- AR-V7 is in the nucleus.
- Functionally **ACTIVE**.
- **RESISTANT** to Enzalutamide (Xtandi) or Abiraterone (Zytiga).

AR-V7 – Nuclear Localization Matters!



= AR-V7 negative;
may benefit from
another ARSi



= AR-V7 positive;
chemotherapy may
be the better
option



AR-V7 Nucleus Detect Test is superior to AR-V7 mRNA tests

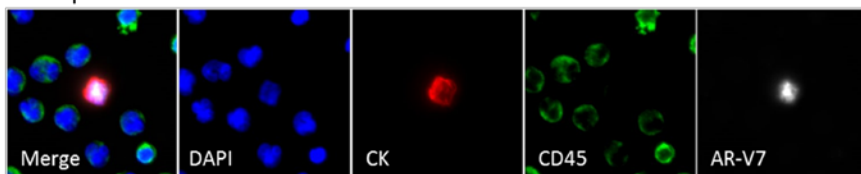


Nuclear-specific AR-V7 Protein Localization is Necessary to Guide Treatment Selection in Metastatic Castration-resistant Prostate Cancer

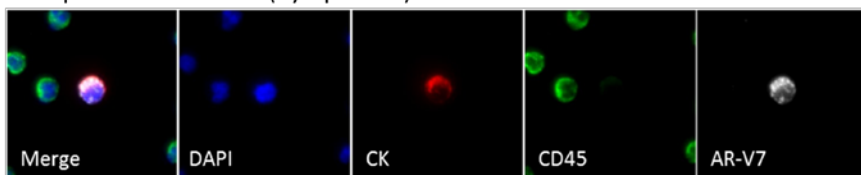
Howard I. Scher^{a,b,*}, Ryon P. Graf^c, Nicole A. Schreiber^a, Brigit McLaughlin^a, David Lu^c, Jessica Louw^c, Daniel C. Danila^{a,b}, Lyndsey Dugan^c, Ann Johnson^c, Glenn Heller^d, Martin Fleisher^e, Ryan Dittamore^c

AR-V7 can be nuclear or cytoplasmic

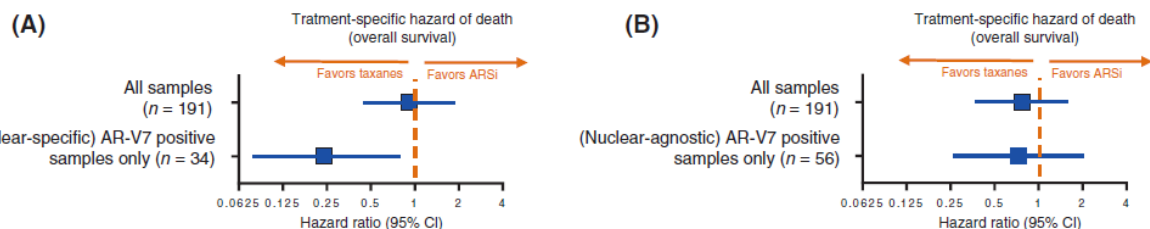
Example of Nuclear AR-V7 Protein Localization



Example of Non-Nuclear (Cytoplasmic) AR-V7 Protein Localization

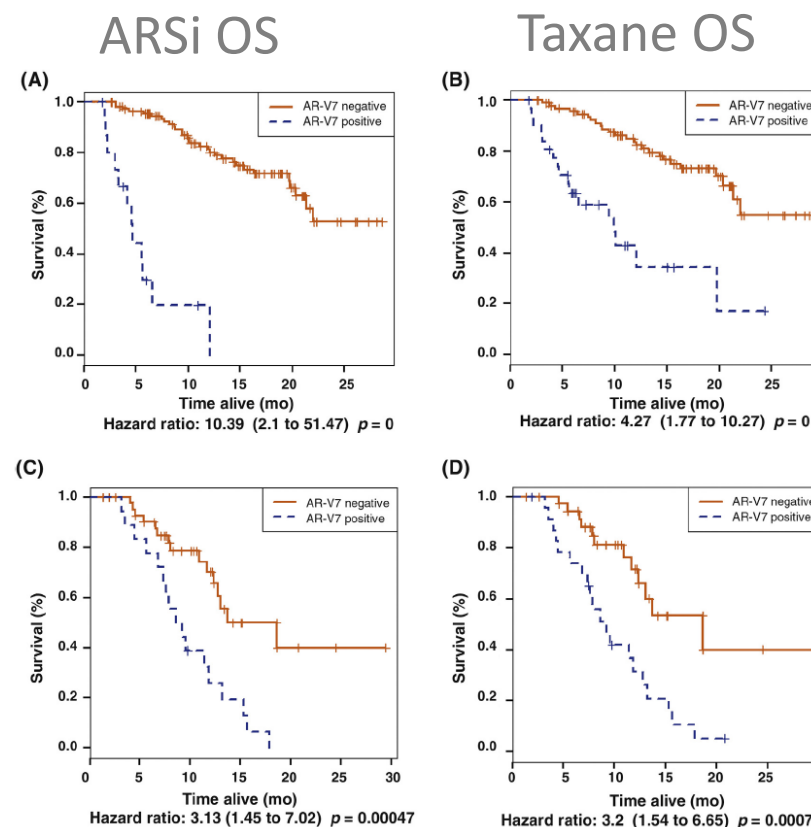


Nuclear AR-V7 is only PREDICTIVE Test



Outcome difference between:
Nuclear and Any AR-V7

Nuclear AR-V7



Any AR-V7

What about other studies?



2nd Blinded Clinical Utility Validation



- Patients who had already received a systemic therapy (Abiraterone, Enzalutamide, Docetaxel) were received from:
 - MSKCC (New York)
 - ICR (Sutton, UK)
 - LHS (London, Canada)
- Physicians were blinded of nuclear AR-V7 status; Epic Sciences was blinded of patient outcomes
- 84 patients had received Abiraterone or Enzalutamide
- 84 patients had received taxane chemotherapy

Patient Overall Survival was the endpoint!!!

Nuclear AR-V7 Overall Survival Results



Patient Median Overall Survival:

ARSi= 8.6 months

Taxane= 14.3 months



Patient Median Overall Survival:

ARSi= 22.3 months

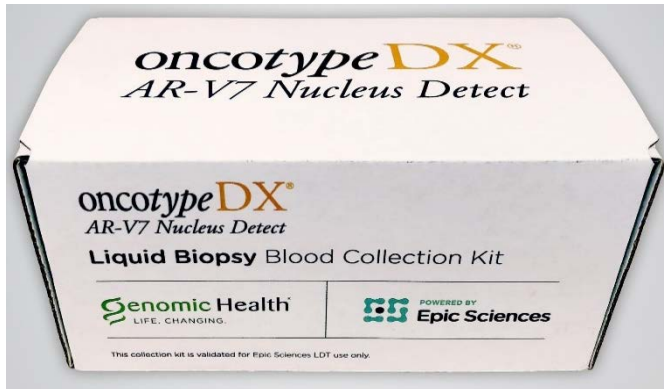
Taxane= 12.9 months

Either results has the ability to add ~
1.7X life expectancy

Medicare Reimbursement is expected very soon!



Launched February 2018



~4-5 months



Expected Medicare Reimbursement
~ July 2018



Acknowledgements

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Dana Rathkopf

Karen Autio

Herbert Vargas

Lauryn Slavin

Ethan Barnett

Martin Fleischer

Ryan Brennan

ICR

Gerhardt Attard

Anuradha Jayaram

LHS

Alison Allan

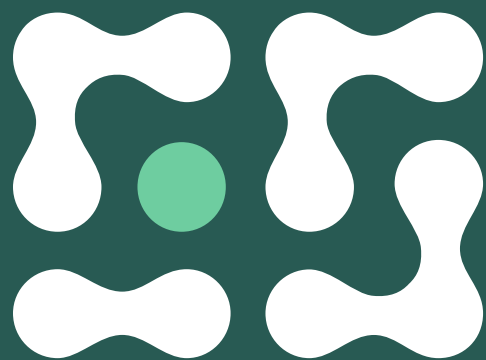
Eric Winkquist

Lori Lowes

Acknowledgements



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