



# IMMUNOTHERAPY IN PROSTATE CANCER

## NASPC 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting 2019

**Adam R. Metwalli, MD**

Professor & Chief, Division of Urology  
Department of Surgery, Howard University Hospital  
Director of Urologic Oncology, Howard University  
Cancer Center

# Disclosures

none



# Acknowledgments

- James L. Gulley, MD, PhD
- Chief, Genitourinary Malignancies Branch
- Senior Investigator
- Head, Immunotherapy Section
- Director, Medical Oncology Service

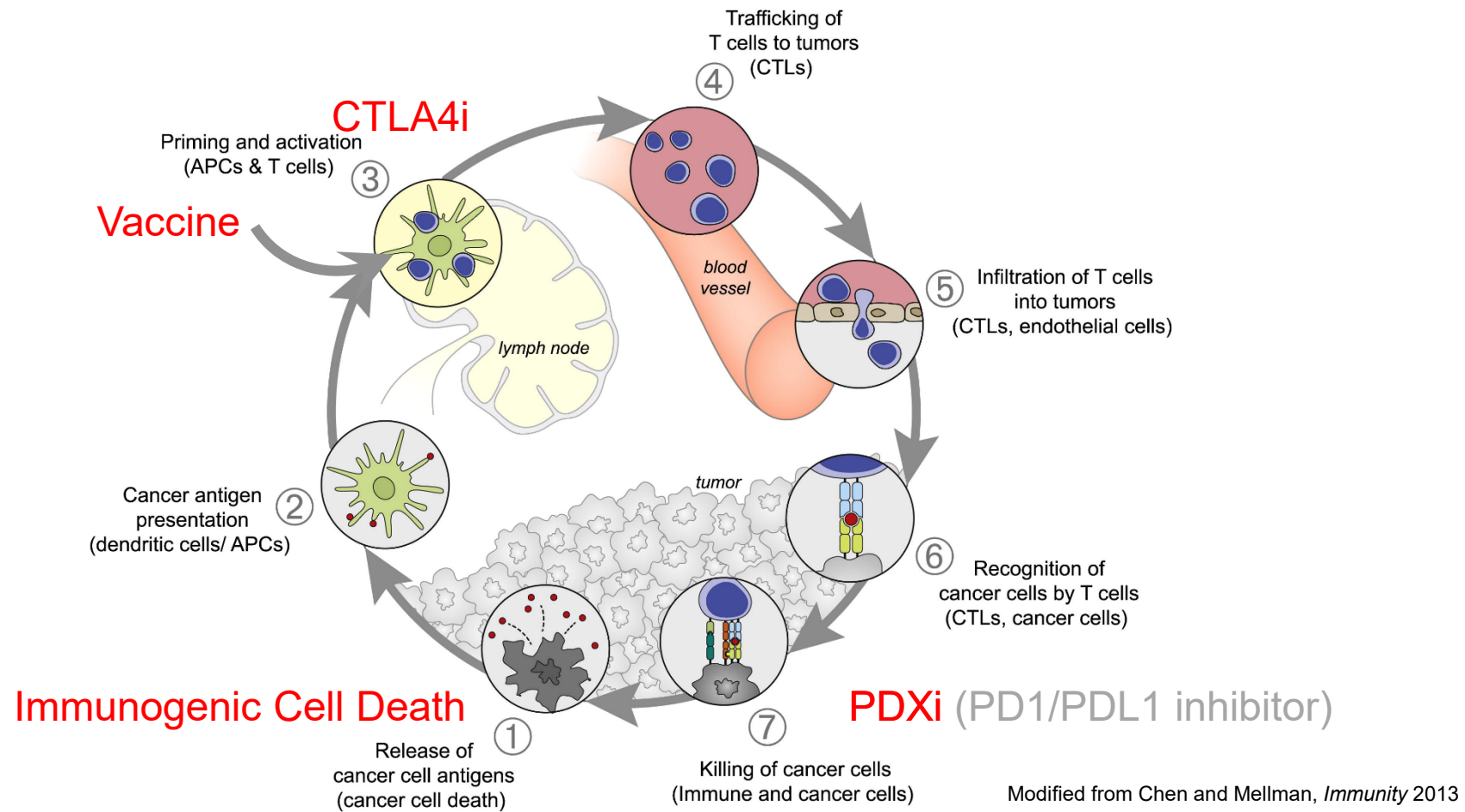


# Outline

- Prostate cancer immunotherapy- primer
- PD-1 and PDL-1 inhibition in prostate cancer
- Prostate Cancer Vaccines

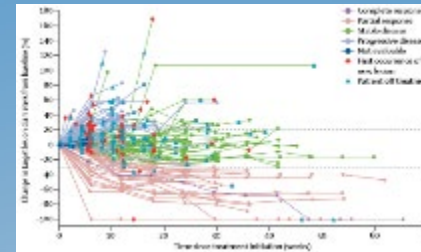


# Sites for Therapeutic Intervention

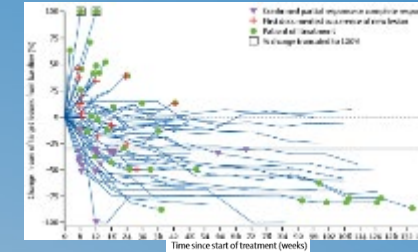


# PDX Inhibition Shows Promise

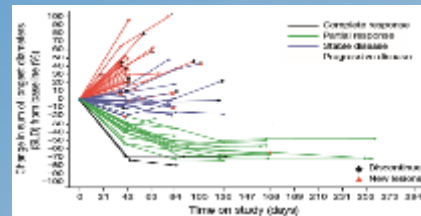
Rapid, deep,  durable  responses  
 Across a wide range of tumors  
 Seen in a subset of patients



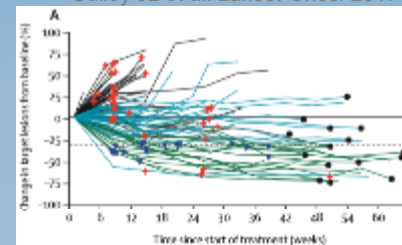
**NSCLC: avelumab**  
 Gulley JL et al. *Lancet Oncol* 2017



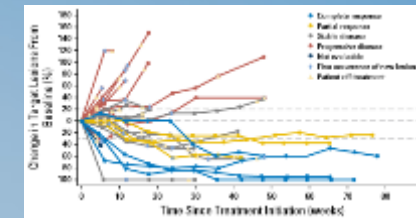
**MSI hi CRC: nivolumab**  
 Overman MJ et al. *Lancet Oncol* 2017



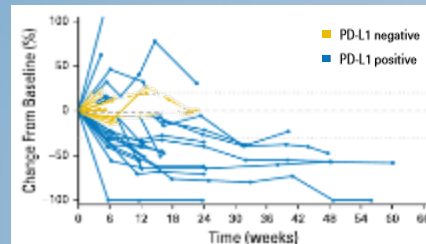
**Urothelial: atezolizumab**  
 Powles T et al. *Nature* 2014



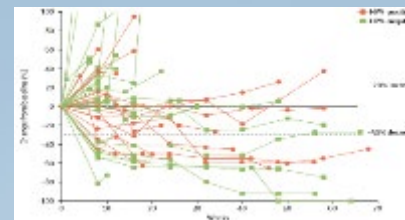
**NSCLC (squamous only): nivolumab**  
 Rizvi NA et al. *Lancet Oncol* 2015



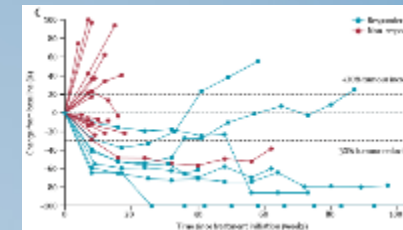
**Urothelial: avelumab**  
 Apolo AB et al. *J Clin Oncol* 2017



**Urothelial: durvalumab**  
 Massard C et al. *JCO* 2016



**HNSCC: pembrolizumab**  
 Seiwert TY et al. *Lancet Oncol* 2016



**Urothelial: pembrolizumab**  
 Plimack ER P et al. *Lancet Oncol* 2017

# 2018 Nobel Prize in Medicine



Jim Allison, MD Anderson

Tasuku Honjo, Kyoto University



# Immunotherapy Hits PRIMETIME!

- Pre-clinical m
- Early stage h  
of malignanc
- Nobel Prizes

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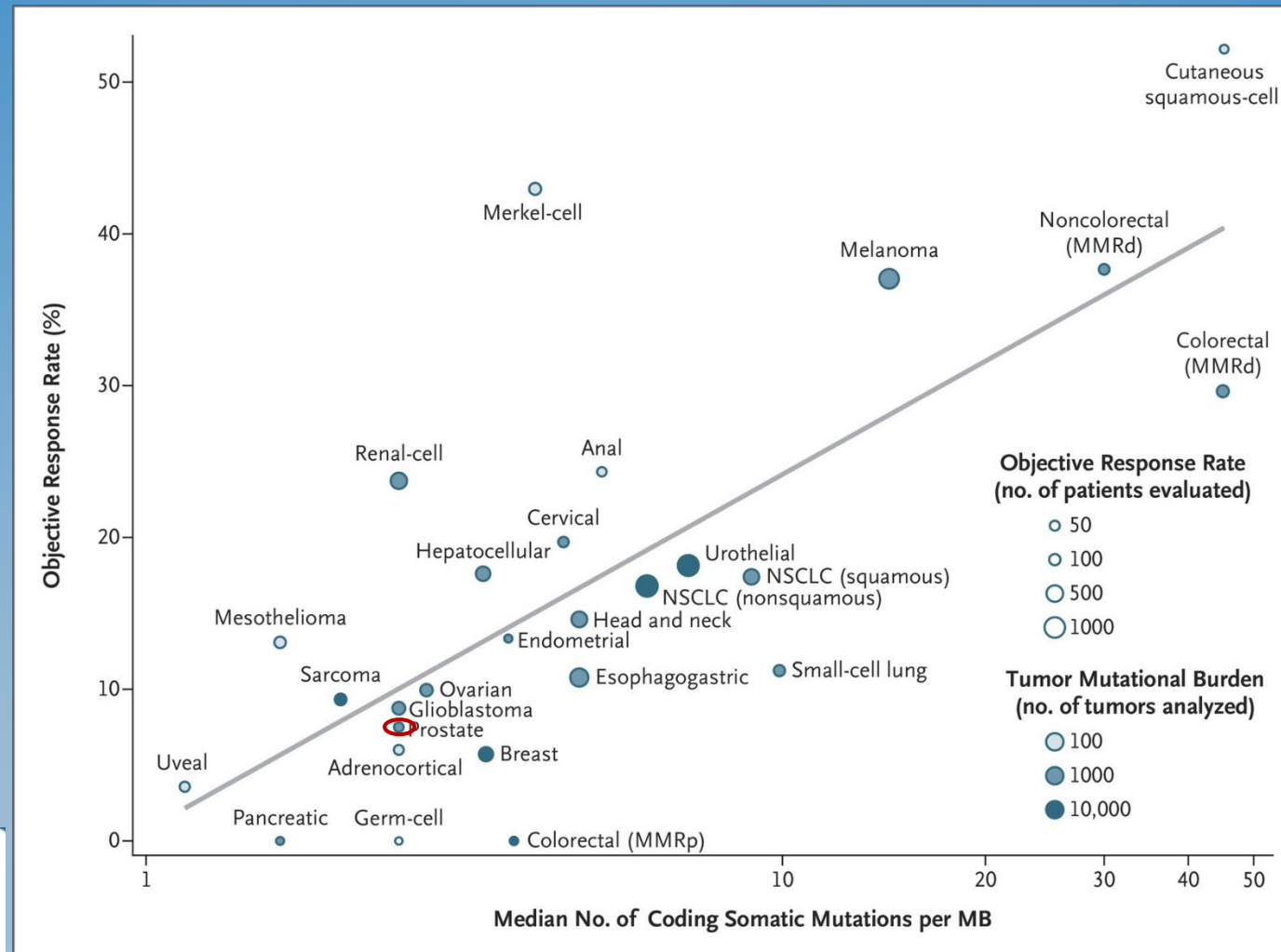
- An anti-PD/C  
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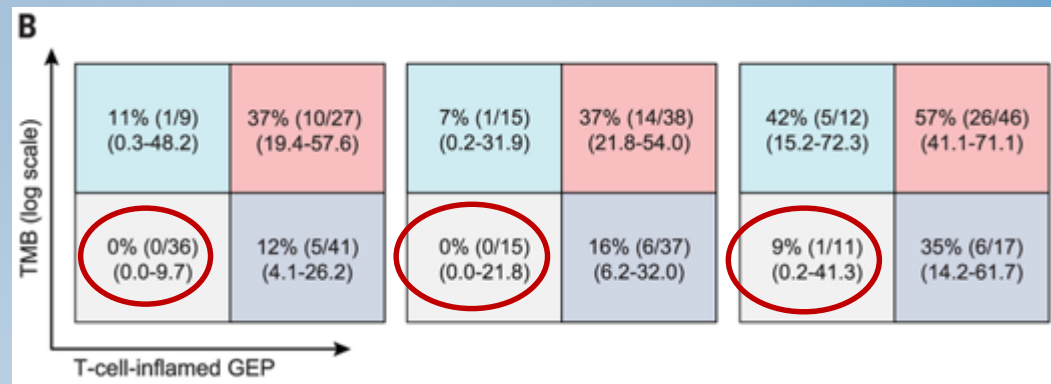
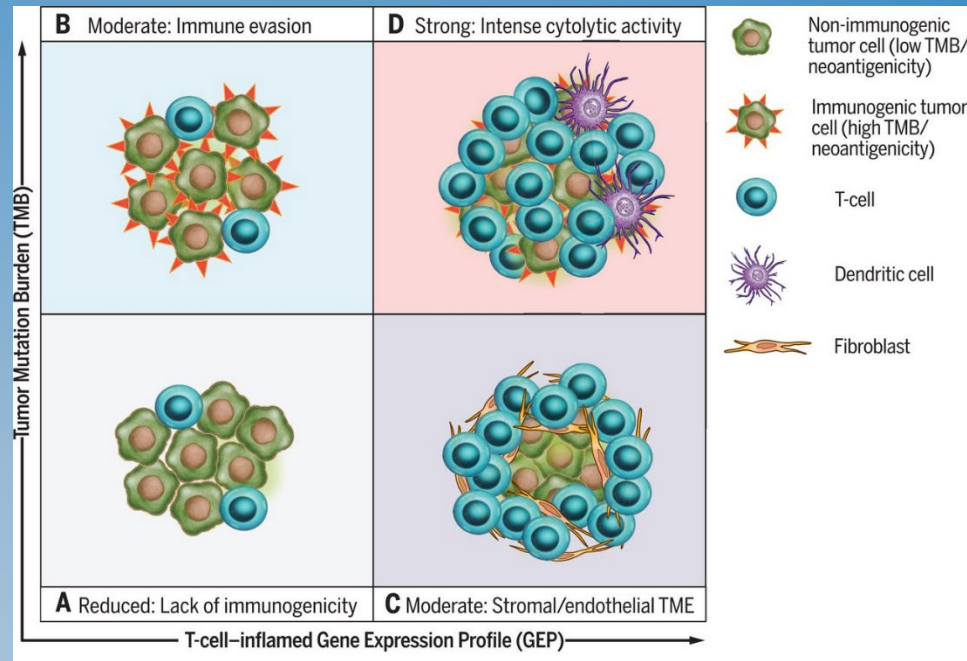
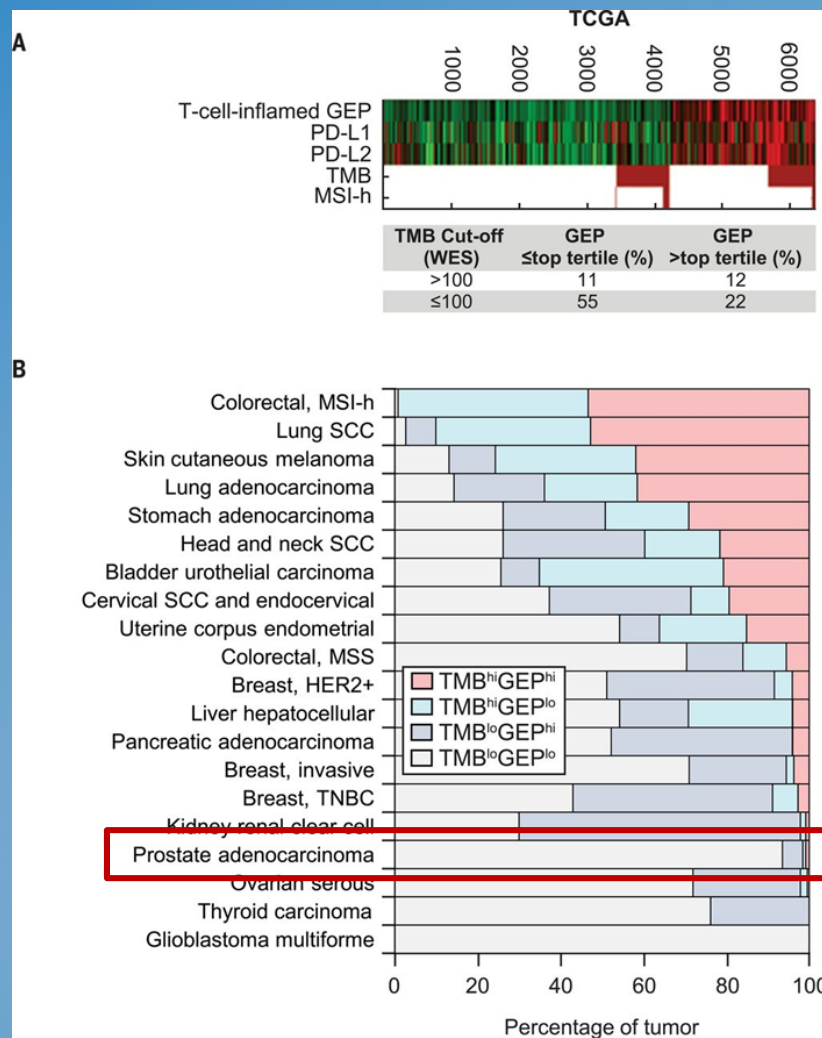
# Response to anti-PD1 Therapy



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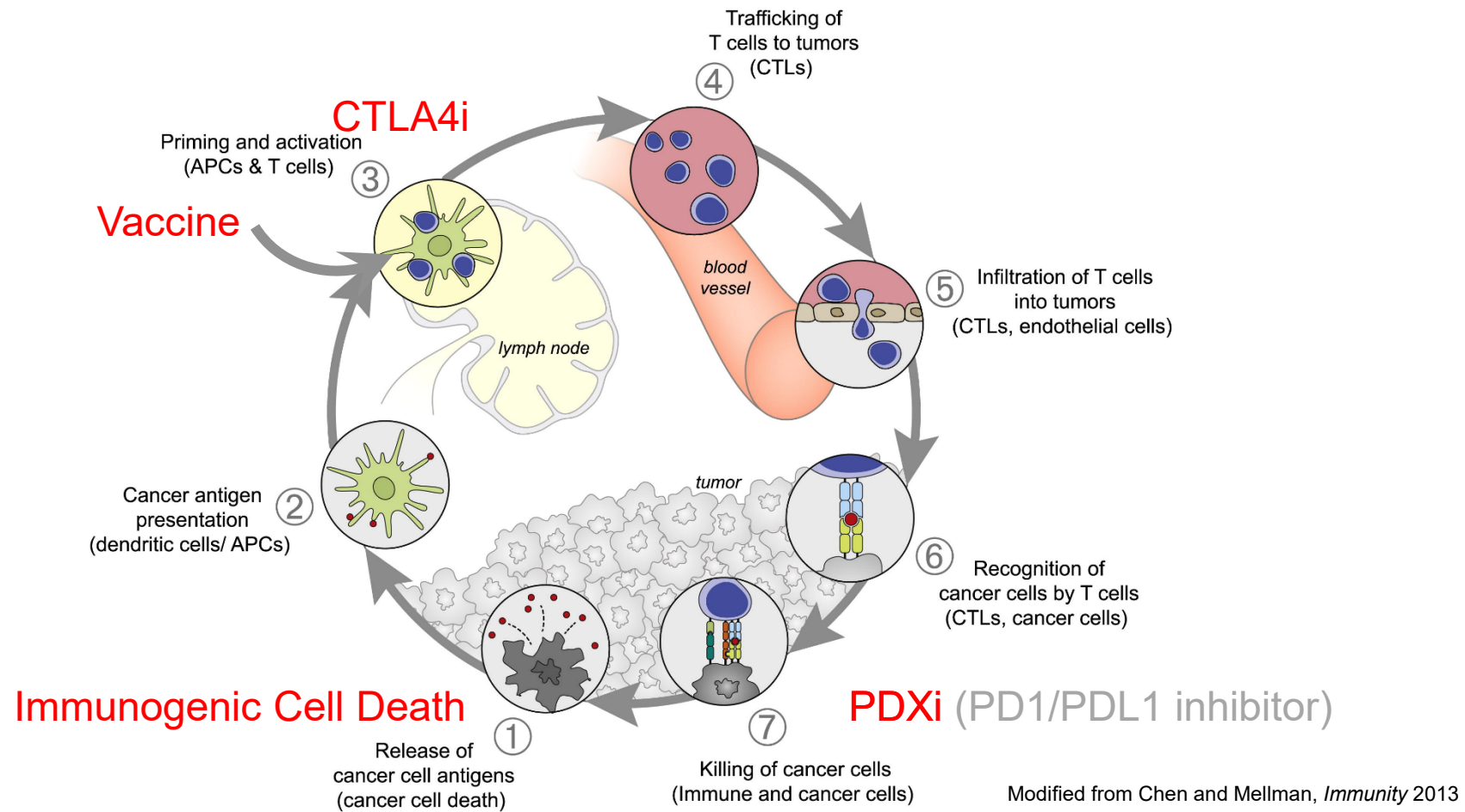
# Immunogenicity Profiles of Cancers



# Prostate Cancer and anti-PD-1 /PDL-1 Therapy

- PDL1 expression does not predict in prostate cancer
  - High TMB may be useful
- Predictive biomarkers for PD-1 /PD-L1 inhibition are rapidly evolving
- At this time Prostate Cancer is generally believed to be relatively unresponsive to PD-1 inhibition.

# Sites for Therapeutic Intervention



# Prostate Cancer Vaccines

## □ DNA based Vaccines

- Elicit immune response by transfection to produce immunogenic tumor associated antigens (PSA, PSMA, PAP, PSCA, TARP)

- Phase 1 trial: 9 of 22 responses; PSADT increased from 6.5mo to 9.3mo
- Currently in Phase II

## □ Peptide based Vaccines

- Immunize with tumor specific proteins to elicit cytotoxic T-cells

- Targets are HLA-A24+, PAP, PSA, PSMA
- Two Phase II studies showed improved PFS with combination therapy
- Ongoing Phase III trial

# Prostate Cancer Vaccines

- Viral Vector based Vaccines
  - Recombinant viral vectors carrying gene sequences to elicit immune responses against tumor antigens
    - Demonstrate anti-PSA antibodies and T-cell responses
    - Phase II trials ongoing
- Cell based Vaccines
  - Autologous or allogenic whole cells including Antigen Presenting Cells (APCs) to induce anti-tumor immune response
    - GVAX is whole cell CaP cell lines engineered to overexpress GM-CSF to activate dendritic cells
      - Promising results in Phase I and II but no efficacy in Phase III

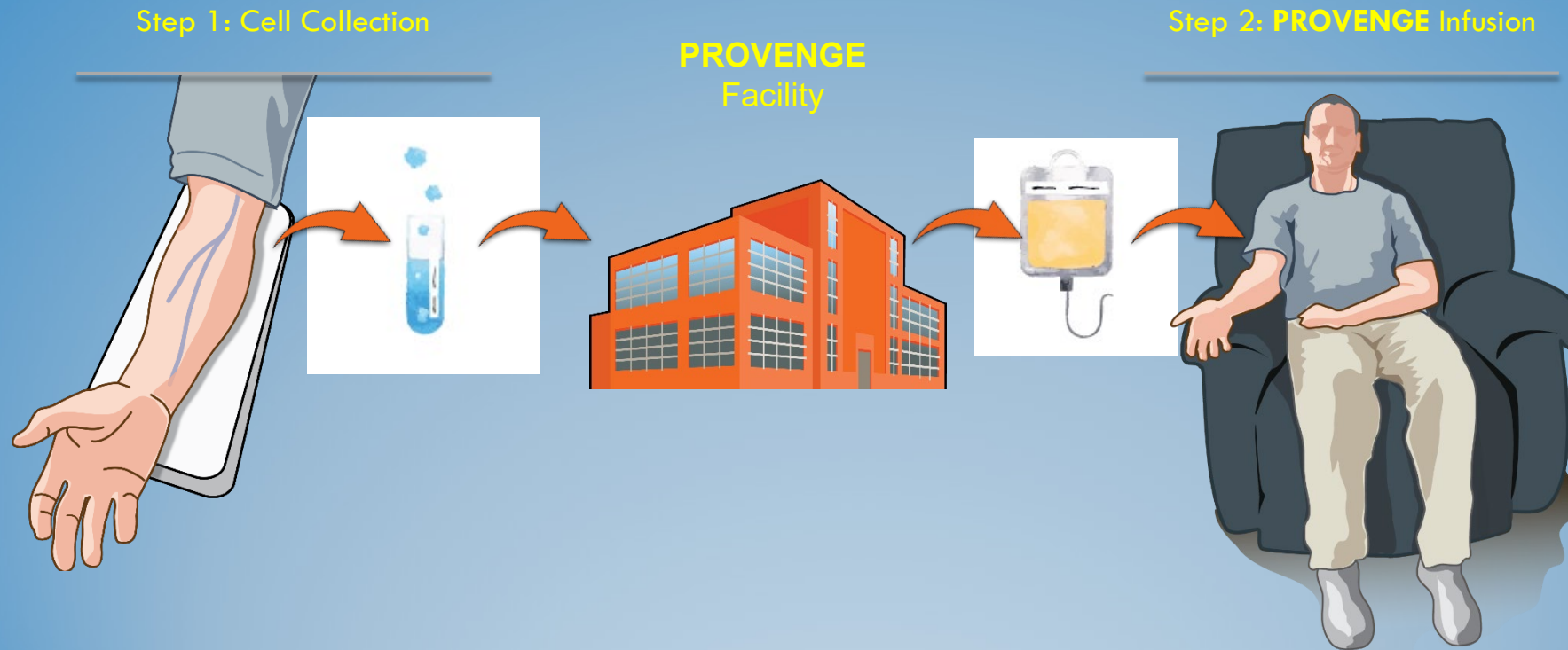
# Cell Based Vaccine

- PROVENGE® (sipuleucel-T):
  - FDA approved for the treatment of asymptomatic or minimally symptomatic metastatic castrate resistant (hormone refractory) prostate cancer<sup>1</sup>
    - The first FDA approved autologous cellular immunotherapy<sup>1</sup>
  - Designed to induce an immune response targeted against prostatic acid phosphatase (PAP), an antigen expressed in most prostate cancers<sup>1,2</sup>

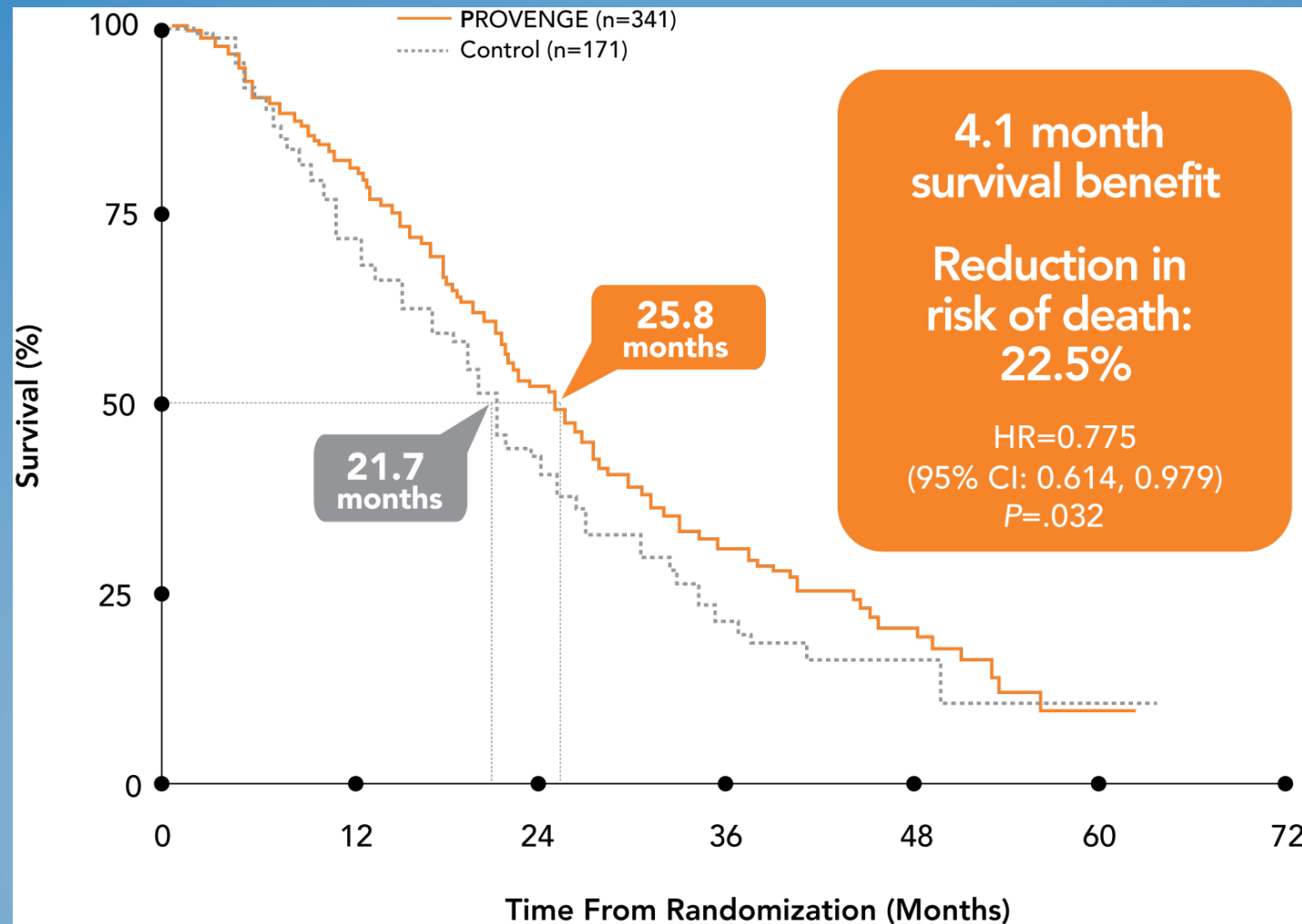
1. PROVENGE® [package insert]. Dendreon Pharmaceuticals LLC 2017  
2. Kantoff PW et al. *N Engl J Med*. 2010;363:411-422.

# Cell Based Vaccine: Sipuleucel –T (PROVENGE)

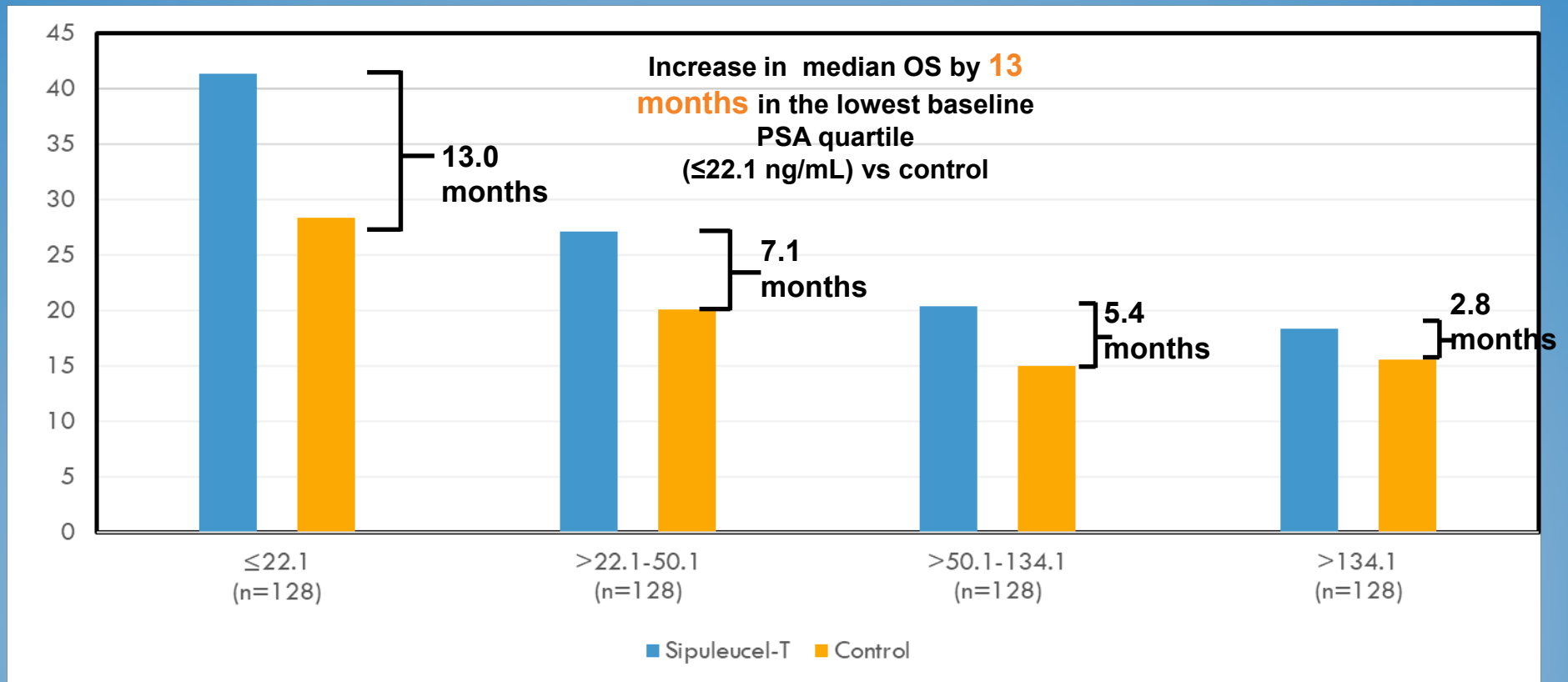
**PROVENGE** treatment is 3 cycles, each comprising 2 steps



# Cell Based Vaccine: Sipuleucel-T (PROVENGE)



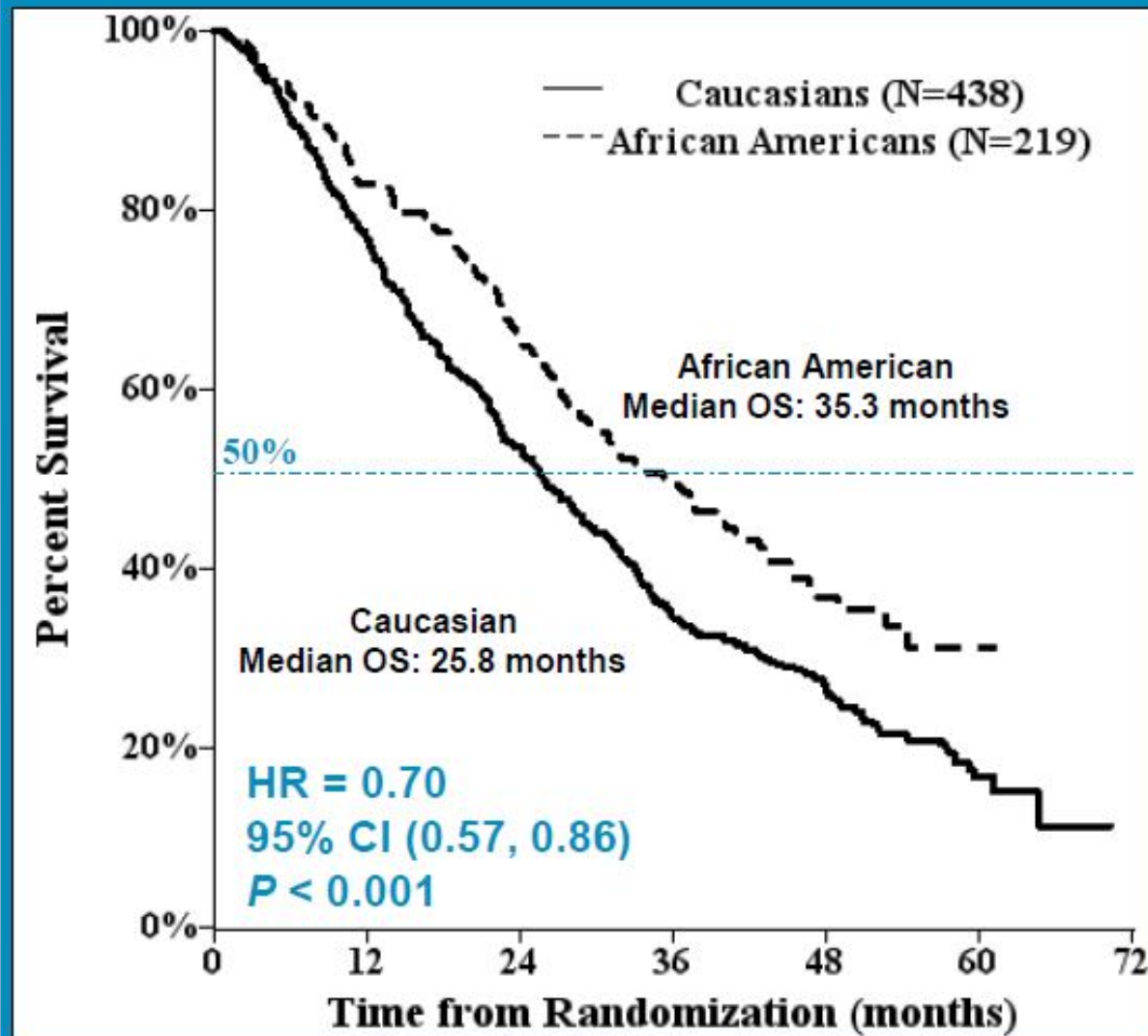
# Immunotherapy as an Early Step mCRPC?



Schellhammer PF, et al. *Urology*. 2013;81:1297-1302.

This exploratory analysis suggests that patients with lower baseline PSA levels experience the greatest magnitude of benefit with PROVENGE

# PROCEED: Overall OS of PSA-matched AA and CAU Patients Treated with Sipuleucel-T

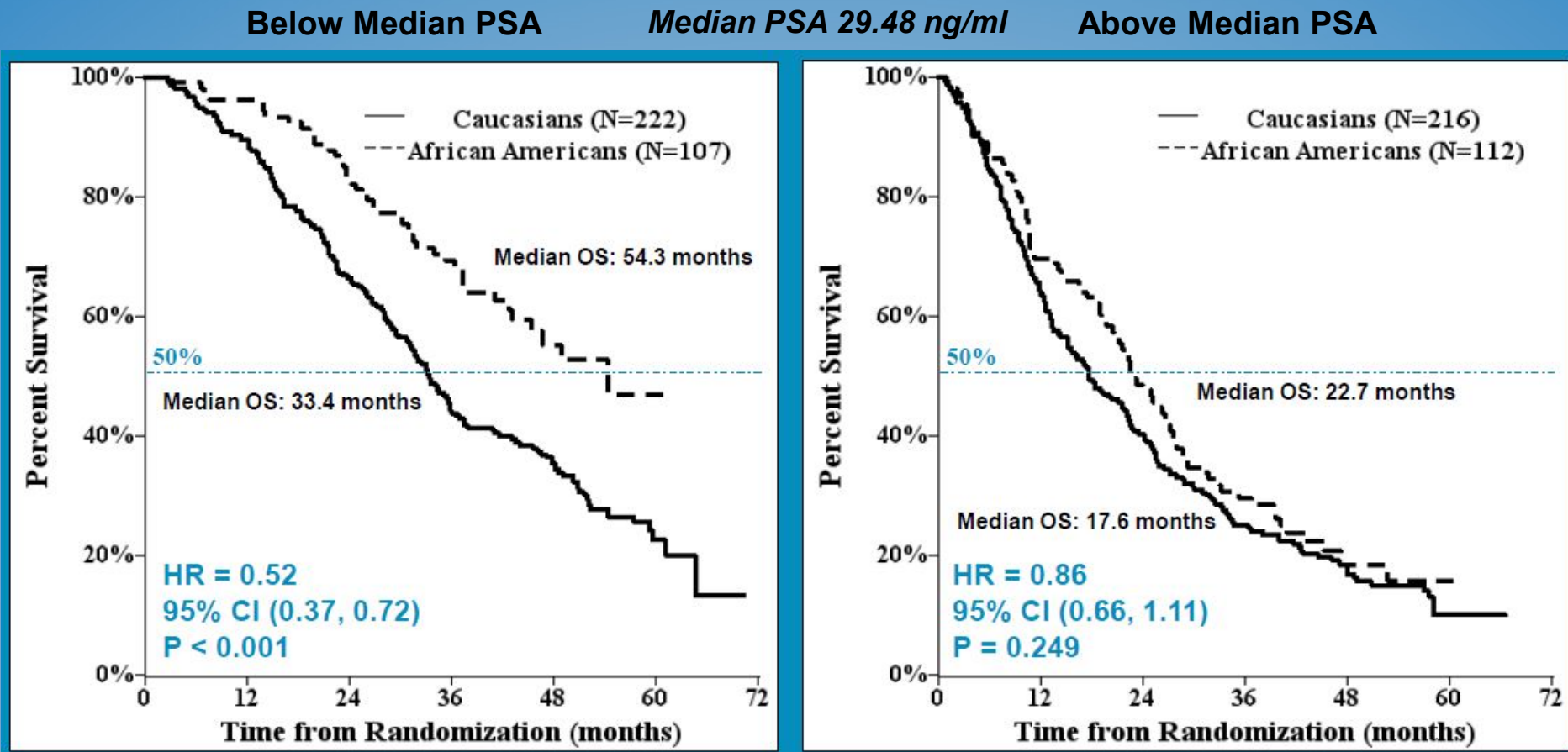


- **Median PSA = 29.48 ng/ml**

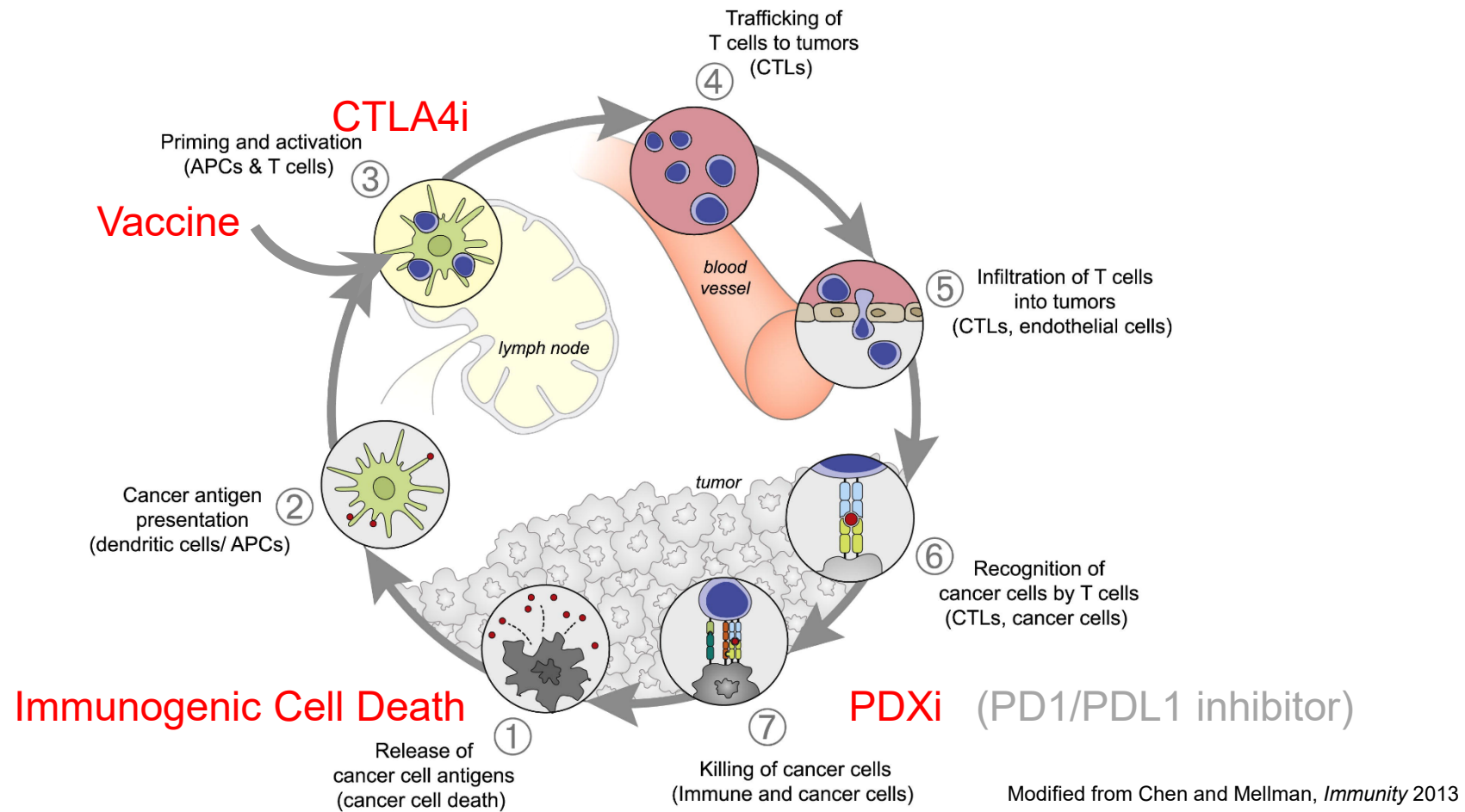
AA = African American;  
CAU = Caucasian;  
CI = confidence interval;  
HR = hazard ratio;  
OS = overall survival;  
PSA = prostate-specific antigen

ASCO poster presentation  
#147 by Oliver Sartor MD  
2019

# PROCEED: OS of PSA-matched AA and CAU Patients Treated with Sipuleucel-T



# Combination Therapy?





From 1995 to 2014, in fact, there was a sharp increase in the launch price of new cancer drugs—that is, the cost of a new drug being introduced to the market for the first time. Most cancer drugs launched between 2009 and 2014 were priced at more than \$100,000 per patient for one year of treatment. More recently, we've seen launch prices of more than \$400,000 for a year of treatment.

As a consequence of these increasing prices, according to one recent analysis, some patients may face [out-of-pocket costs of nearly \\$12,000 a year for one drug](#) [↗](#).

The [President's Cancer Panel](#) is an independent panel that was established under the National Cancer Act of 1971. The panel's charge under the law is to identify high-priority issues that are impeding progress against cancer, engage the relevant stakeholders, and develop recommendations for addressing each respective issue. The recommendations are included in a report that is submitted to the President.

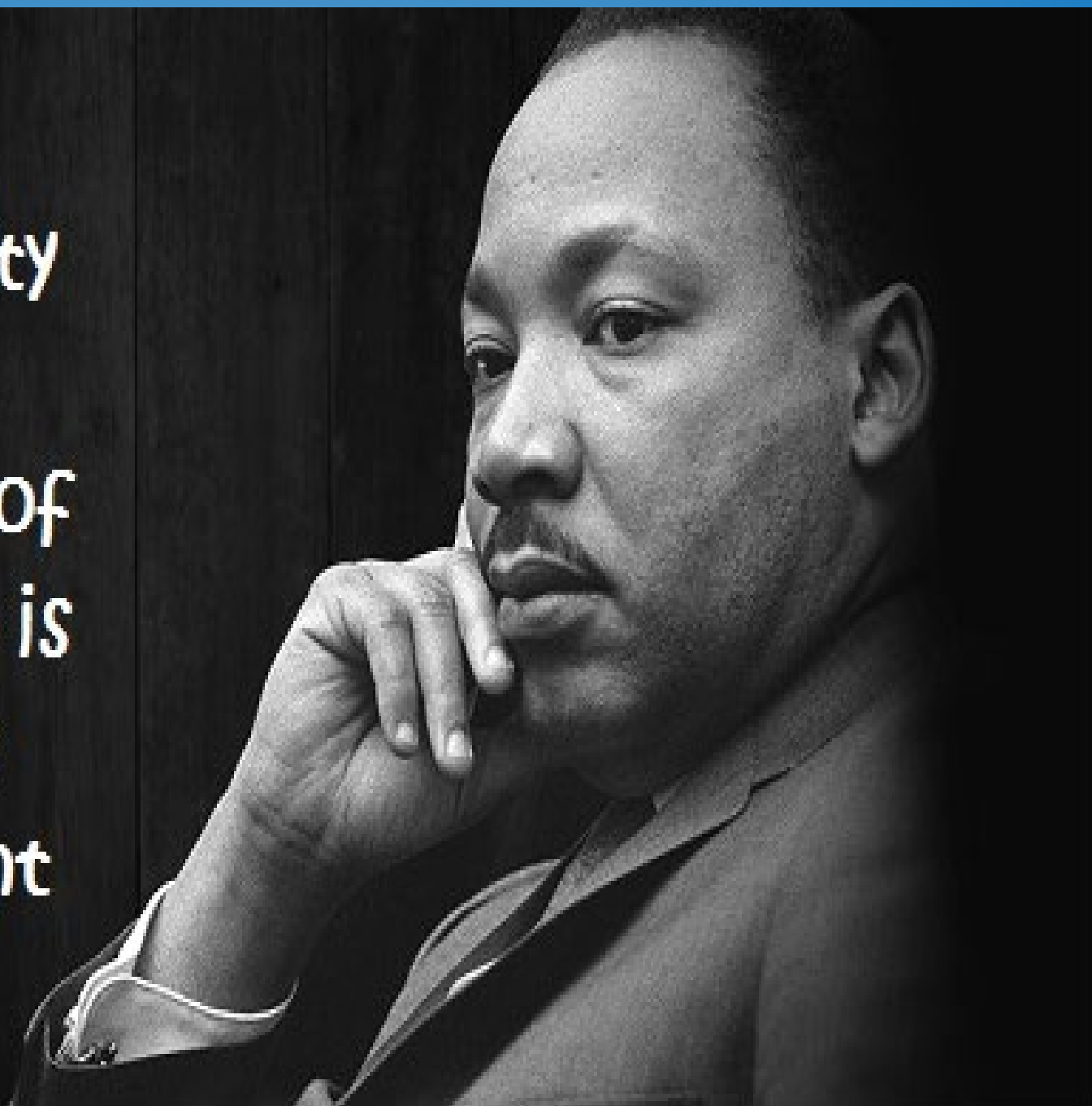
Barbara K. Rimer, Dr.P.H., dean of the University of North Carolina's Gillings School of Global Public Health, is the panel's chair.

# Conclusions

- Substantial progress being made in understanding the immuno-biology of prostate cancer
  - New therapeutic targets are being discovered
  - Combination approaches will be needed to enhance immune responses in prostate cancer patients
  - Interesting overall survival differences in AA patients in the sipuleucel-T analyses present exciting questions and areas for investigation
- Clearly more research is needed
- Economic feasibility research is needed as well

"The quality  
not the  
longevity of  
ones' life is  
what is  
important

Martin Luther King JR





**THANK YOU!**

Prostate Cancer Immunotherapy Update 2019