

Mining for Tomorrow's Cures

Intratumoral administration and retention of IL-2 and IL-12
bifunctional fusion proteins to drive a systemic immune response

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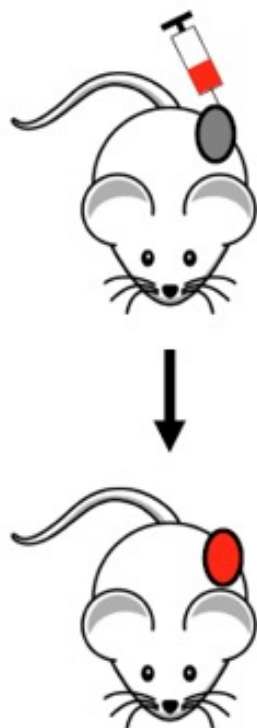
Amber First Principles

- 1 Cytokines are autocrine/paracrine in nature, *not endocrine*
➡ Cytokines should be administered locally rather than systemically
- 2 A protein injected locally will not stay local without *retention*
➡ A retention domain is key to enhancing local bioavailability
- 3 Natural responses consist of a *cytokine milieu*, not individual cytokines
➡ Synergistic cytokines should be co-delivered

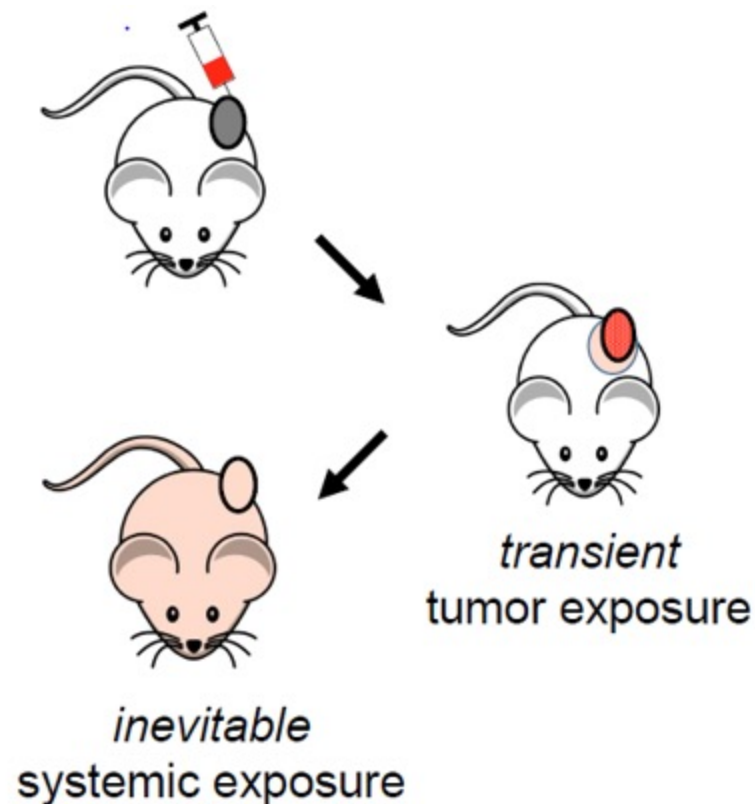
Intratumoral Delivery of Drug Does Not Guarantee Retention in Tumor

Intratumoral Drug Delivery

Expectation



Reality



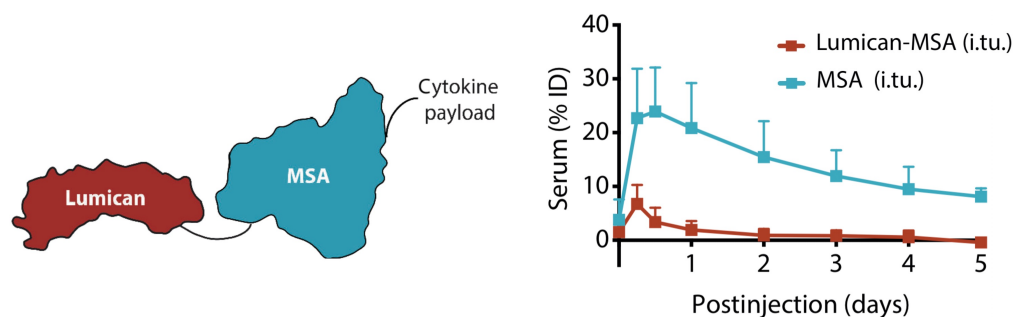
IL-2 + IL-12 Is A Highly Synergistic Cytokine Combination

- IL-2 and IL-12 combine to potently induce orthogonal JAK and STAT signaling pathways
- IL-2 upregulates the IL-12 receptor, thereby poising effector cells for enhanced Th1 signaling
- The two cytokines synergize to enhance production of anti-tumoral cytokines (e.g., IFN γ , TNF α), proliferation of effector cells, and anti-tumoral killing activity
- IL-2 and IL-12 have shown synergistic activity in a variety of preclinical tumor models, whether administered through gene therapy, oncolytic viruses or recombinant protein injection

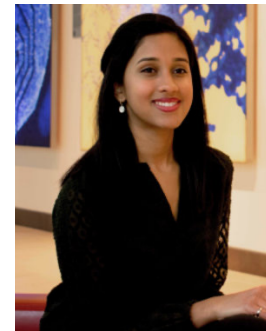
However, systemic toxicities have limited opportunities to explore combination of the two potent antitumor cytokines

IT Injection of Collagen-Anchored Cytokine Fusions Are Retained, Improving Therapeutic Index

- The Cullinan Amber platform is based on technology from the Wittrup lab at MIT
- Lumican, a collagen binding protein, and mouse serum albumin, a bulky spacer domain, were fused to cytokines to promote retention following IT delivery



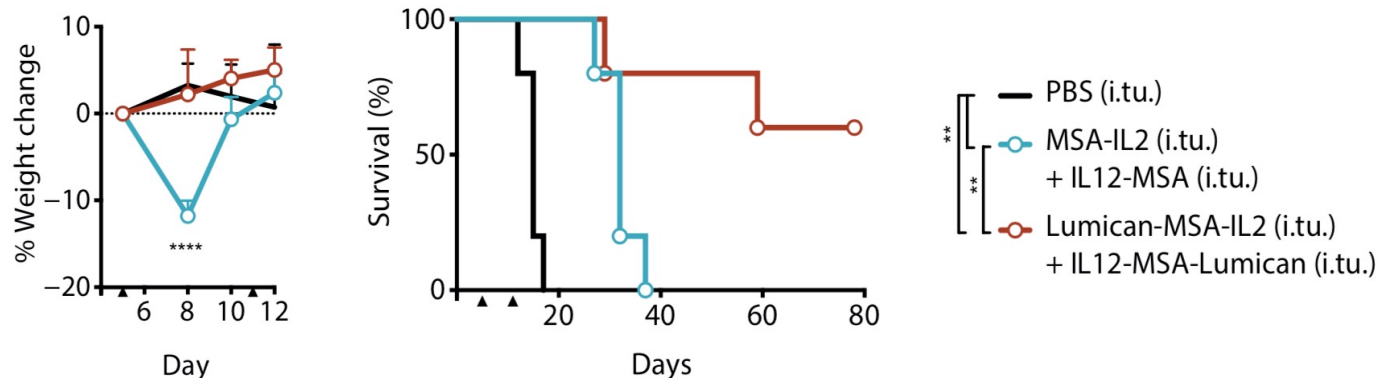
Dane Wittrup



Noor Momin

- Locally retained cytokine fusions had improved safety and efficacy relative to unretained fusions

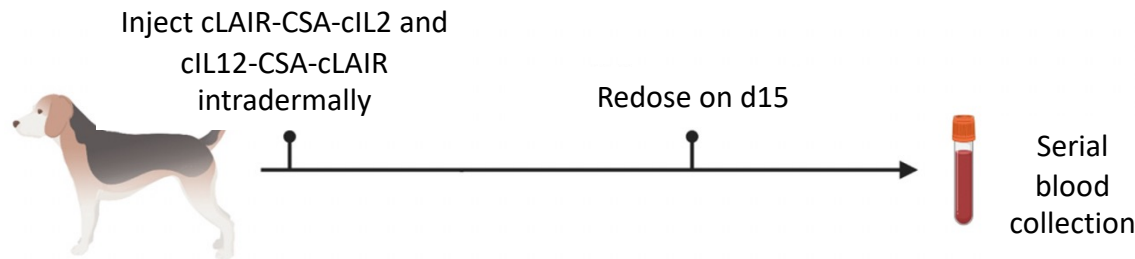
B16F10 Tumors:



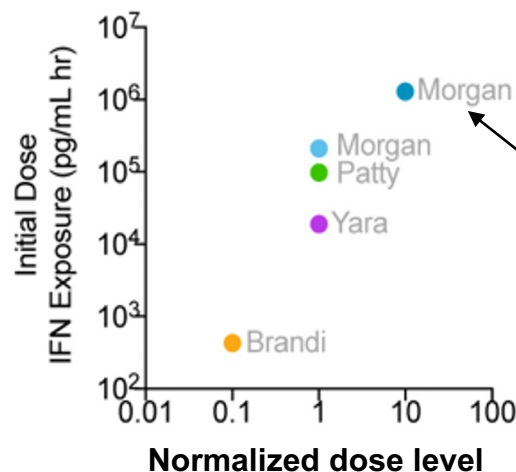
The goal of Cullinan Amber is to generate multifunctional constructs with robust single-agent antitumor activity

Proof of Concept in Dogs: Local Administration of Retained Cytokines - Safety

- Canine surrogates of LAIR-MSA-2 and 12-MSA-LAIR were tested in healthy beagles
- Cytokines injected intradermally; likely overestimates toxicity due to more systemic leakage than IT



- Systemic IFN γ Levels correlated with dose and toxicity



- Only dog at highest dose level exhibited transient CRS symptoms
- Dose was 10x higher than standard cytokine MTD

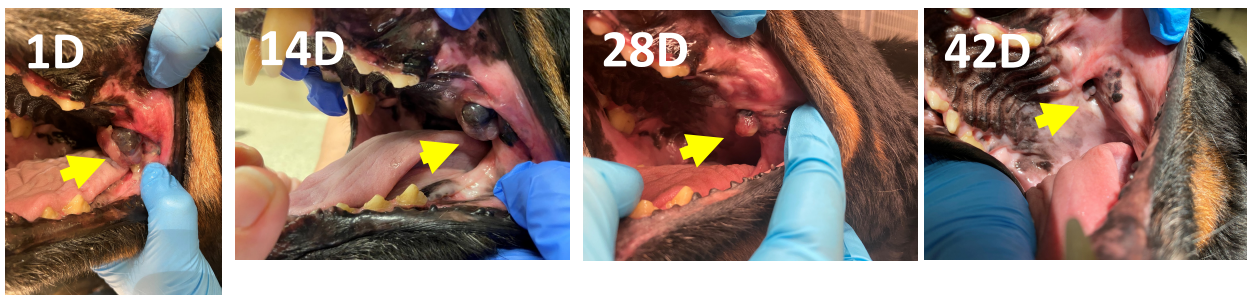
➤ Study demonstrated the safety and tolerability of collagen-anchored cytokines in larger mammals

K. Dane Wittrup (MIT) and Timothy M. Fan (Illinois, Urbana-Champaign)

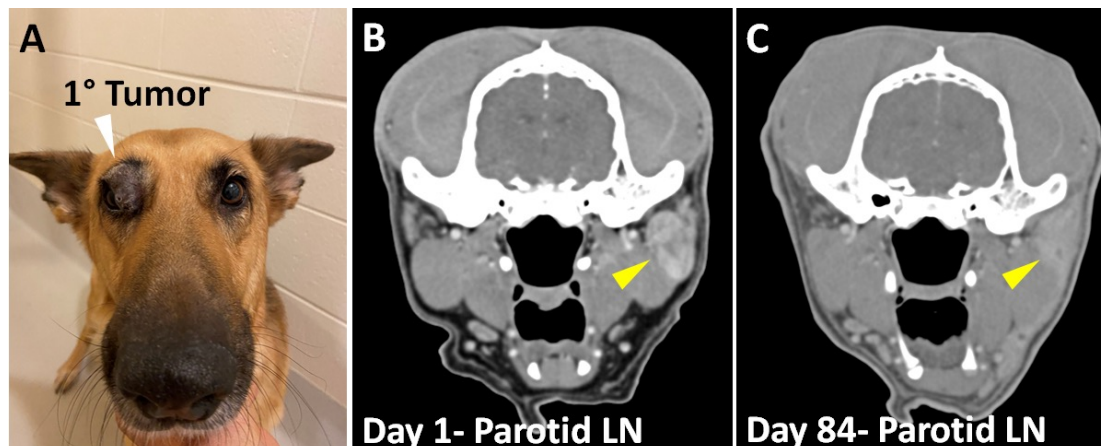
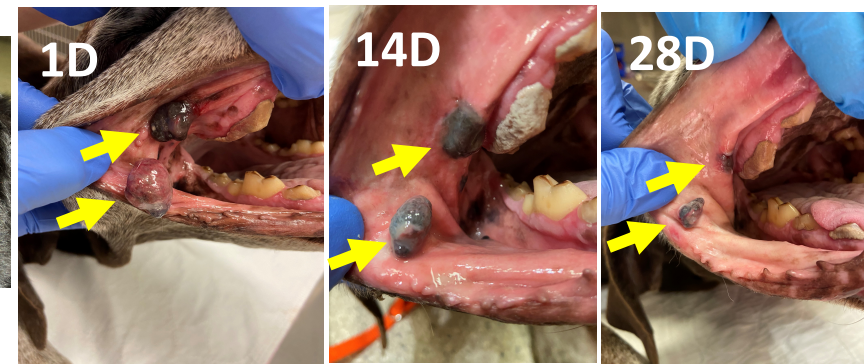
Proof of Concept in Dogs: Local Administration of Retained Cytokines - Efficacy

- Ongoing dose escalation studies in dogs with malignant melanoma and soft tissue sarcoma
- First cohort complete (n=3 per cohort); enrolling second cohort at double the dose

Examples from first cohort:



Example from second cohort:

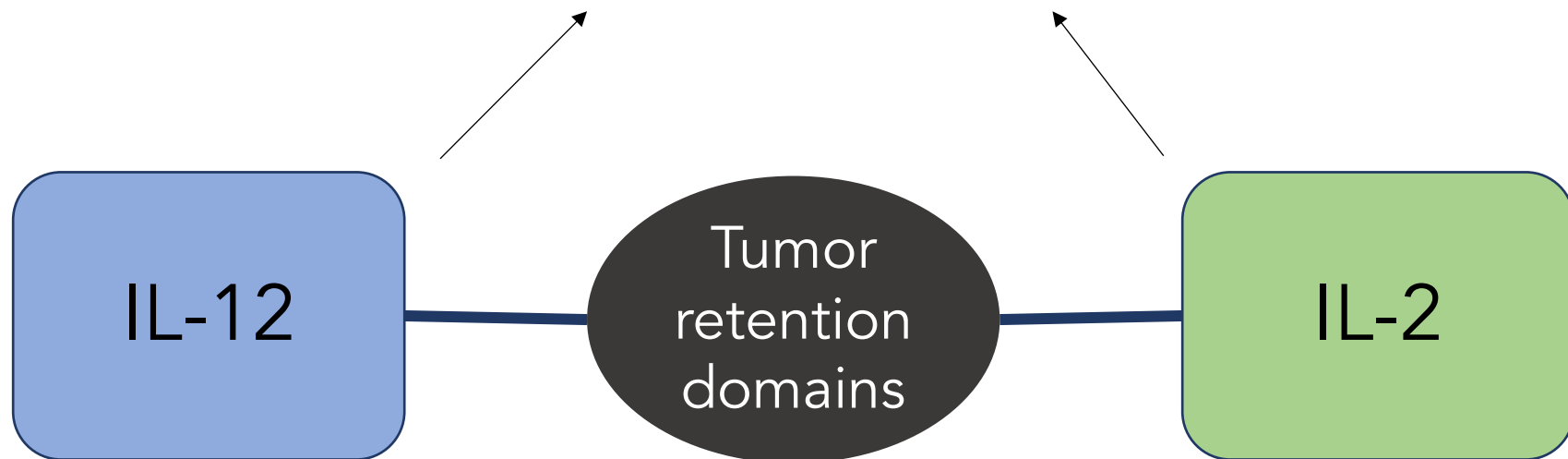


- In some dogs, ulceration and inflammation may be indicative of pseudo-progression
- Local vaccine-like effect may be sufficient to drive regional immunosurveillance

K. Dane Wittrup (MIT) and Timothy M. Fan (Illinois, Urbana-Champaign)

The Cullinan Amber Approach: Intratumoral Delivery of Dual Cytokine Fusion

IL-12 and IL-2 act synergistically in promoting Th1 anti-tumor immunity



Two mechanisms of retention:

- By collagen binding
- By bulky overall size

Amber is single-chain polypeptide to aid in manufacturing

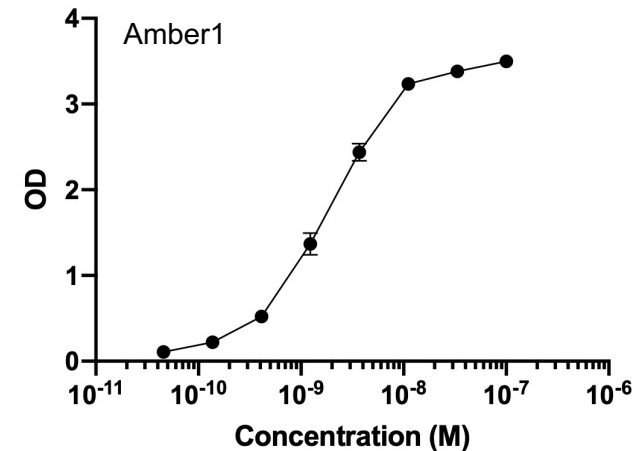
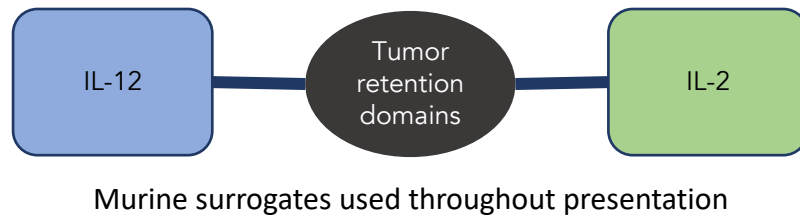
Cullinan Amber is a First-In-Class Cytokine Delivery Product



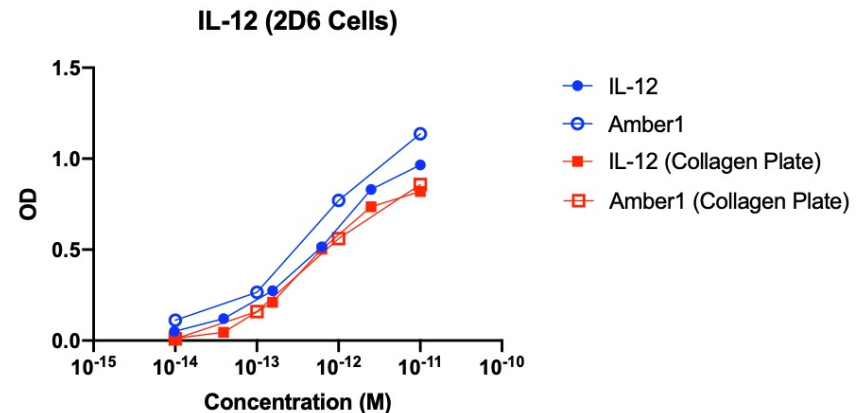
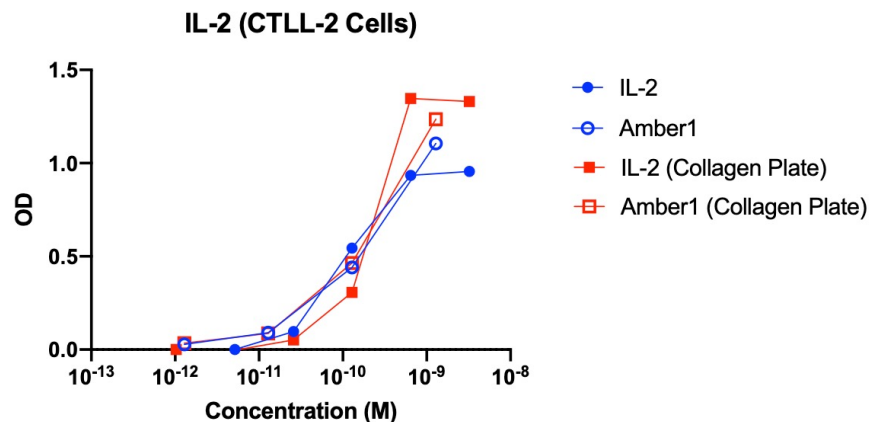
- 1 Only Amber co-delivers IL-2 and IL-12 as a single agent
- 2 No other cytokine fusion proteins are being developed for IT delivery to maximize safety/efficacy
- 3 Retention domains are encoded into the polypeptide chain without the need for additional biomaterials

Functionality of Cytokines in Amber

Amber binds to collagen with nM affinity

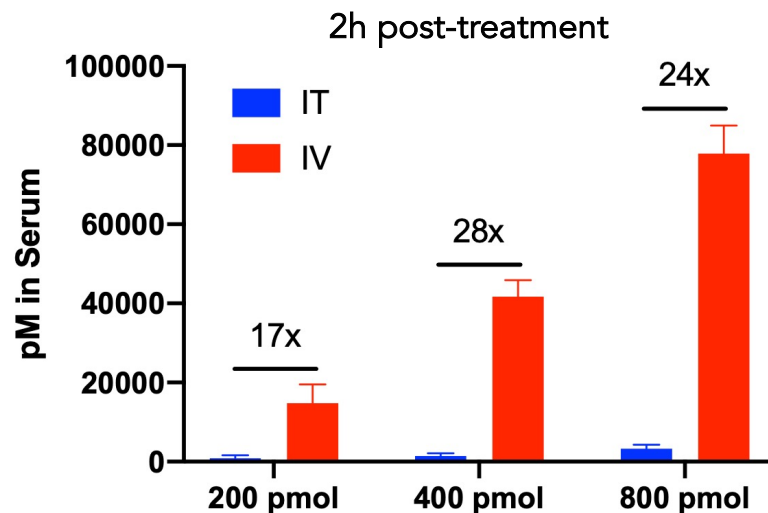


Both IL-2 and IL-12 remain functional in Amber, even when pre-bound to collagen-coated plates

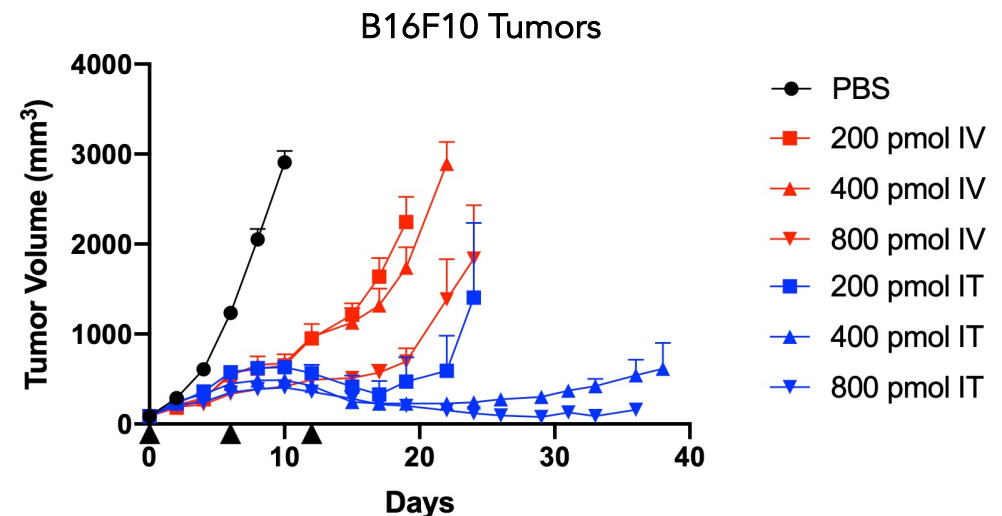


IT Administration Reduces Systemic Exposure and Enhances Anti-Tumor Response

Levels of Amber following IT vs IV treatment



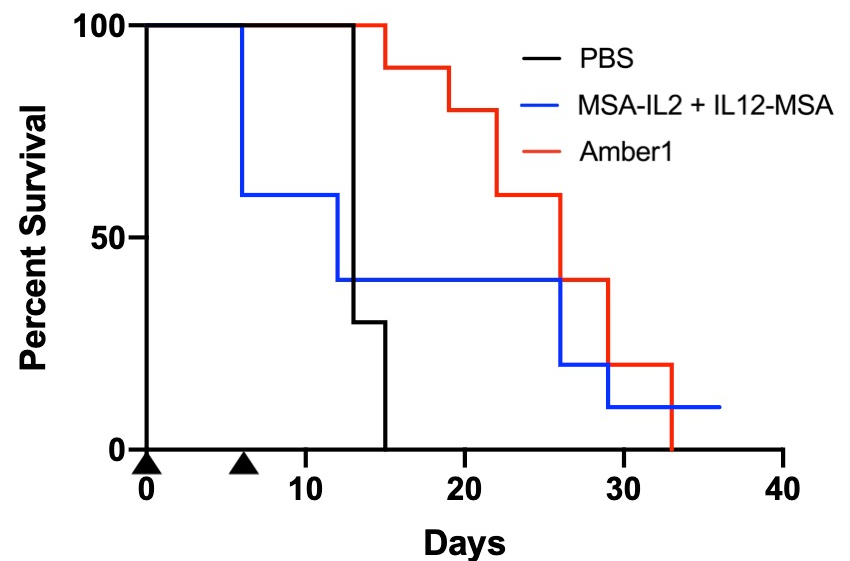
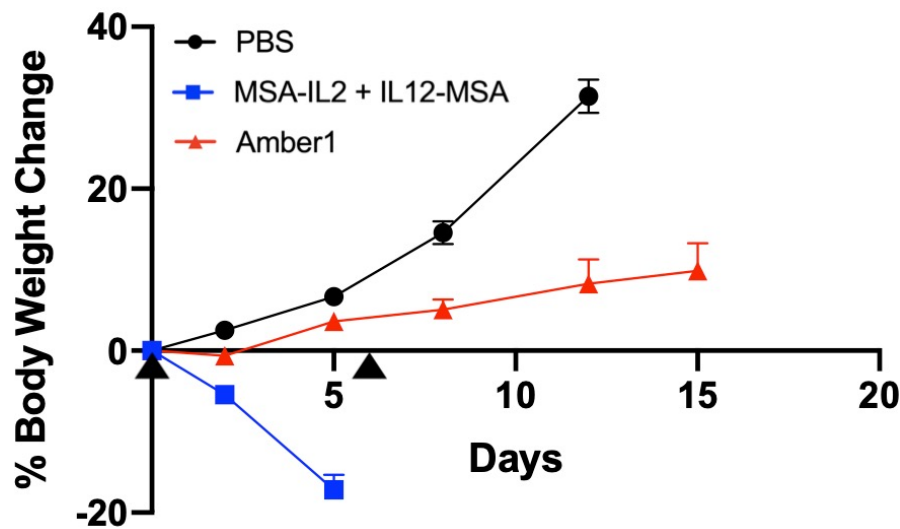
Efficacy advantage of IT delivery



Retention of IT-Administered Cytokines Is **cullinan** AMBER Key to Reducing Toxicity

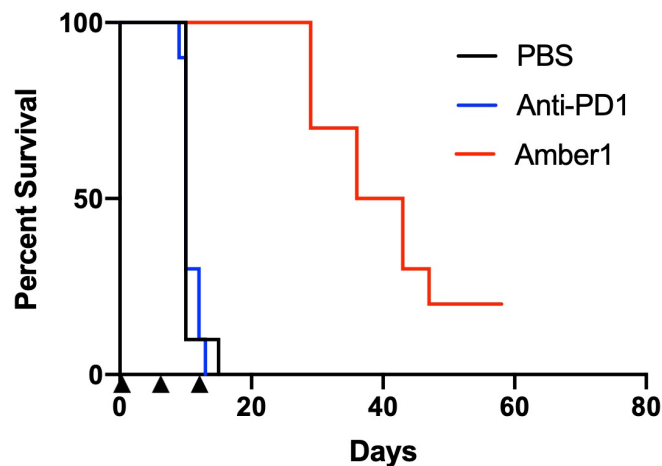
IT treatment with and without retention domain

B16F10 Tumors

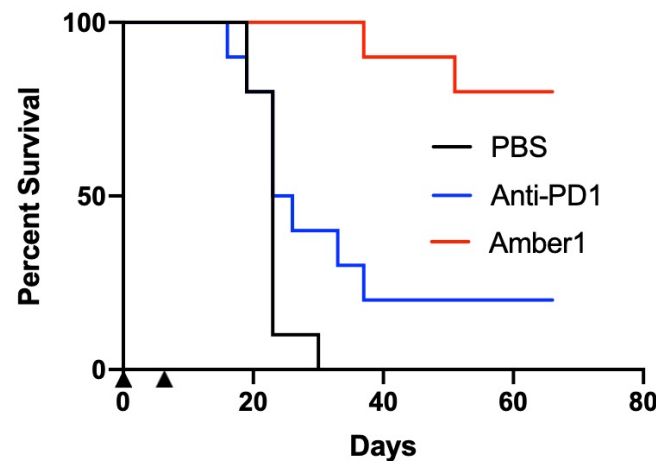


Robust Control of Checkpoint-Refractory Tumors in Mice

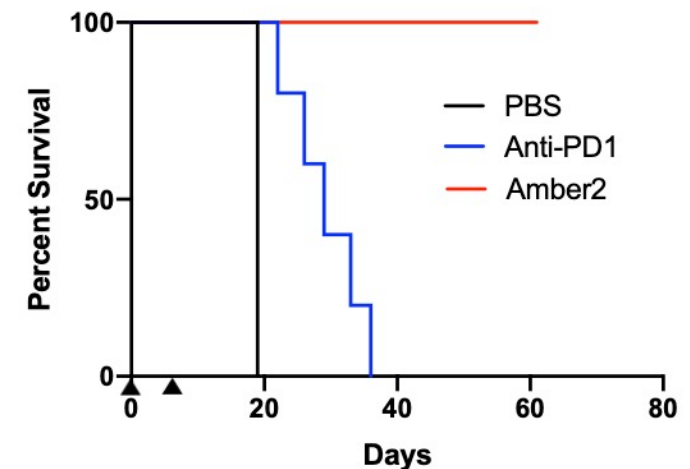
B16F10



CT26

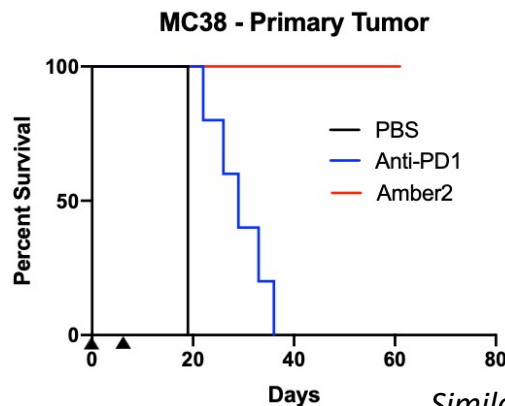


MC38



Systemic and Memory Responses as Monotherapy or in Combination with Anti-PD1 in MC38 Model

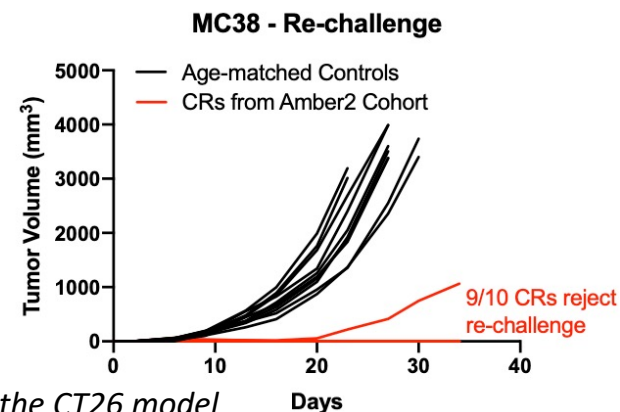
Primary Tumor Results



Rechallenge
Amber CR's

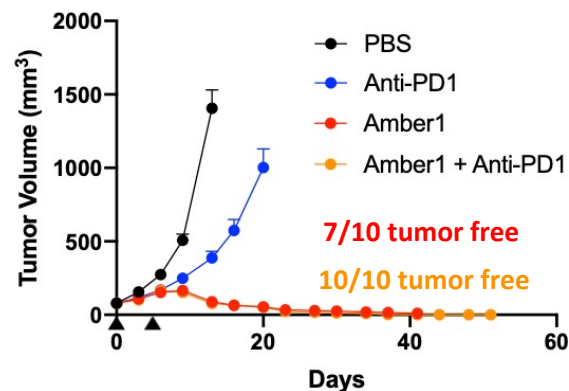
Similar data observed in the CT26 model

Re-challenge Study

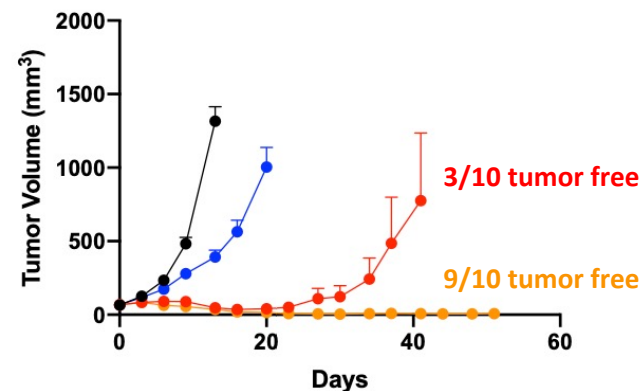


Treatment of Dual Flank Tumors: Monotherapy + Combination with Anti-PD1 CPI

MC38 - Treated Tumor



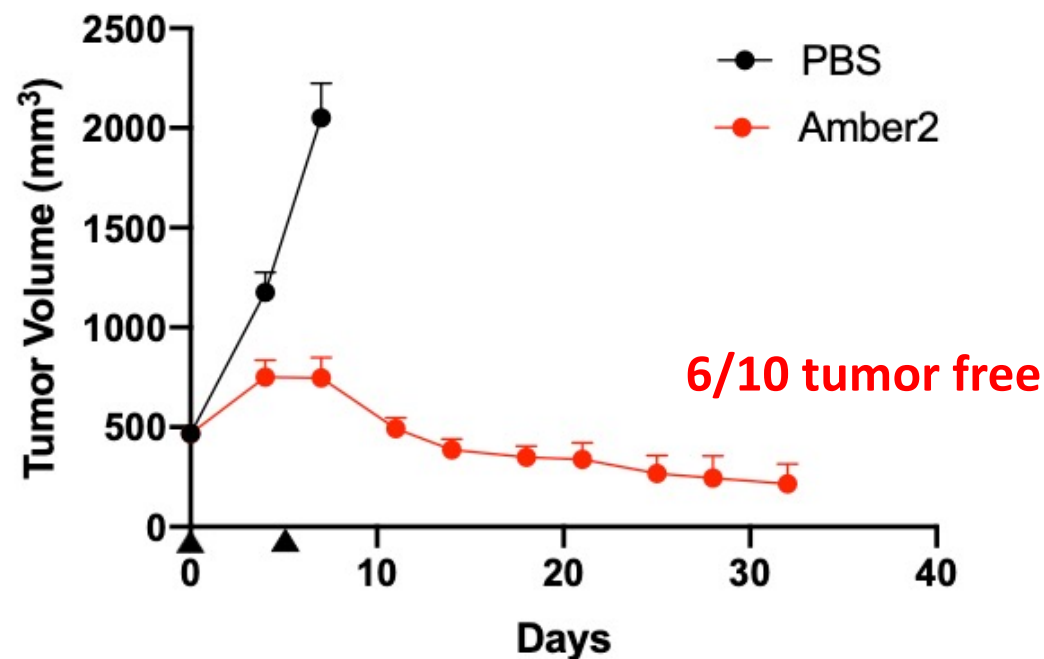
MC38 - Untreated Tumor



Synergy with anti-PD1 checkpoint inhibitor

Responses With Treatment of Large Established Tumors in the MC38 Model

Large Established Tumors (500 mm³)



Cullinan Amber is a first-in-class bifunctional agent that locally co-delivers IL-2 and IL-12 in a safe and effective manner



- 1 Cytokines are autocrine/paracrine in nature, *not endocrine*
➔ Amber is administered locally
- 2 A protein injected locally will not stay local without *retention*
➔ Amber is retained via bulky size and collagen binding
- 3 Natural responses consist of a *cytokine milieu*, not individual cytokines
➔ Amber delivers both IL-2 and IL-12 in a safe and effective manner



- Preclinical data suggests that single-agent activity is expected in the clinic across multiple tumor types
- An IND filing is anticipated in 2022

Acknowledgments

Cullinan Amber Team

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