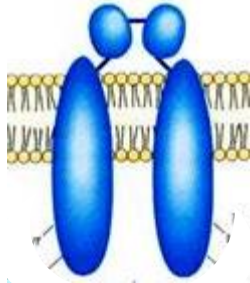


RANK PATHWAY INHIBITORS FOR BREAST CANCER PREVENTION AND TREATMENT

Eva Gonzalez Suarez, PhD

**Head of the Transformation and Metastasis group
CNIO (Madrid)/ IDIBELL (Barcelona)
Spain**

Clinically relevant factors in breast cancer



Estrogen receptor

Luminal.
60% of the cases



Aromatase inhibitors.

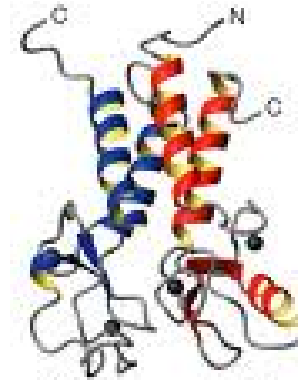


HER2

30% of the cases.
Homodimerization and
ligand-independent
activation.
Cell transformation.



Trastuzumab



BRCA1

High-penetrance gene
Decrease in sporadic tumors.
Genomic stability.
Mutations induce breast and
ovarian cancer.

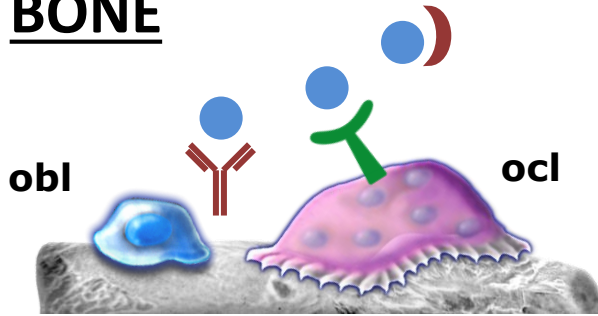


PARP inhibitors

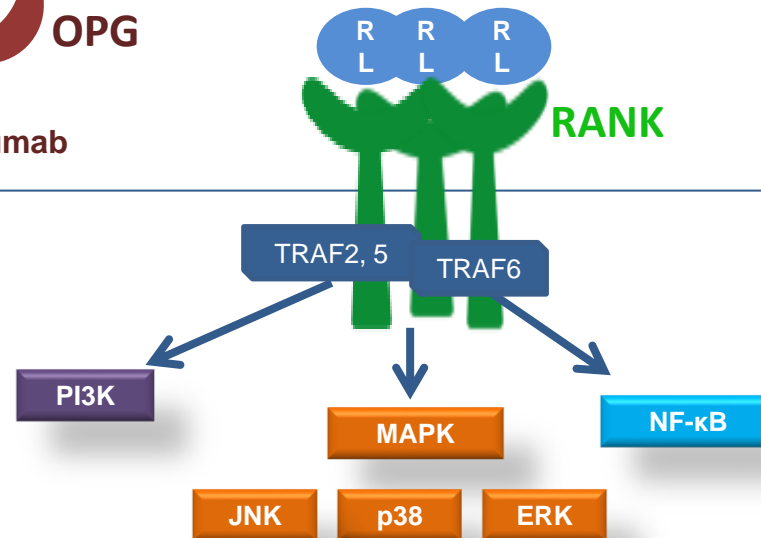
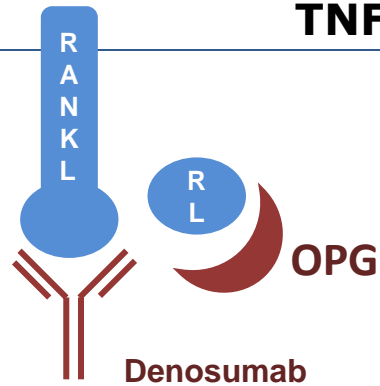
RANK-RANKL pathway inhibition: a promising novel strategy for breast cancer prevention and treatment



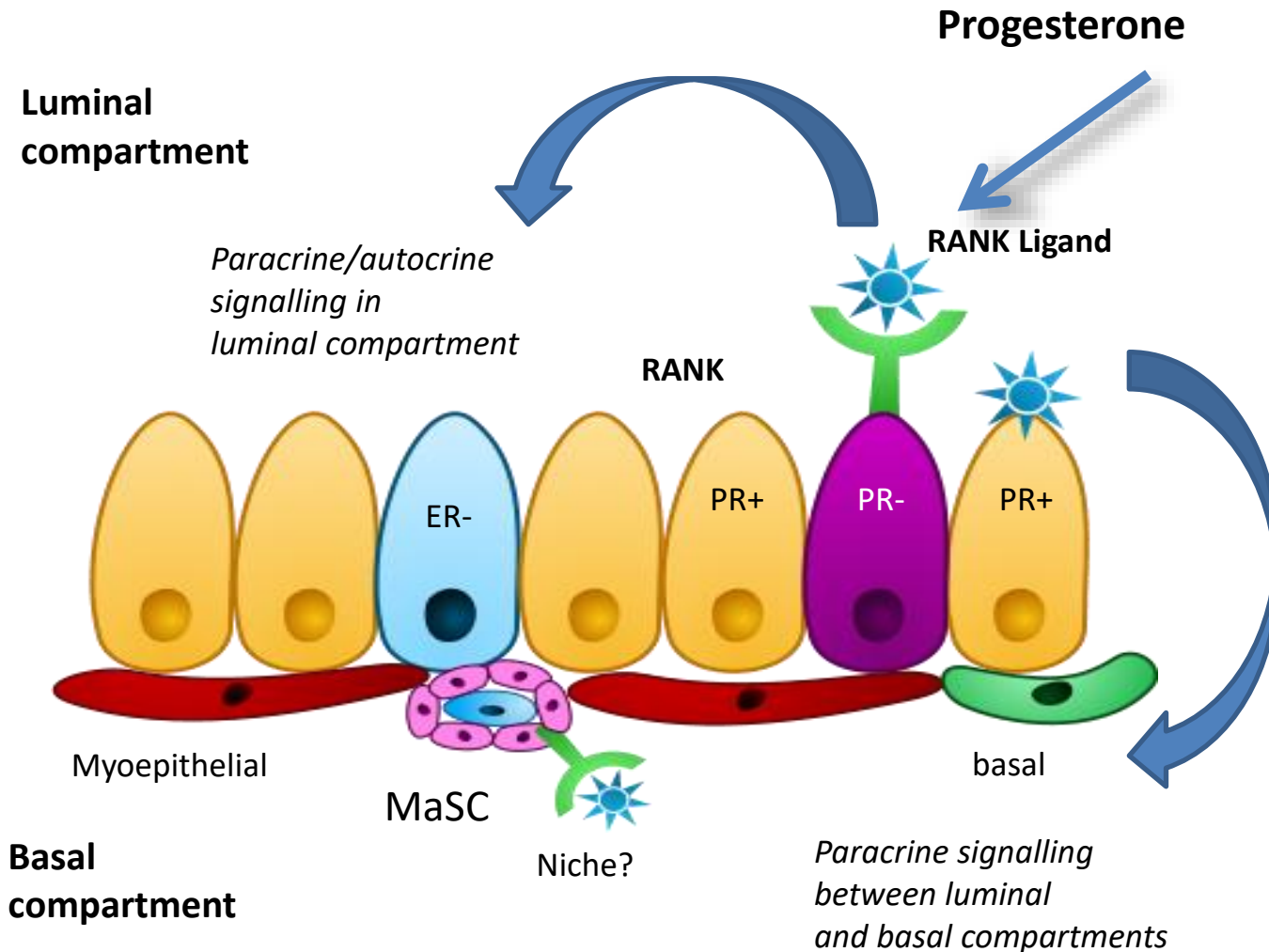
BONE



TNF superfamily



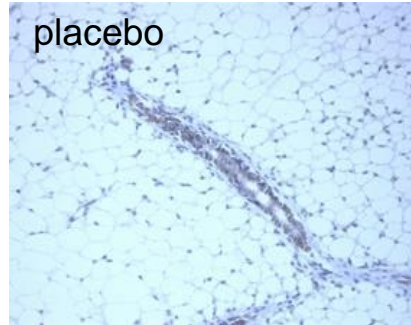
RANKL IS AS A PARACRINE MEDIATOR OF PROGESTERONE IN THE MAMMARY GLAND



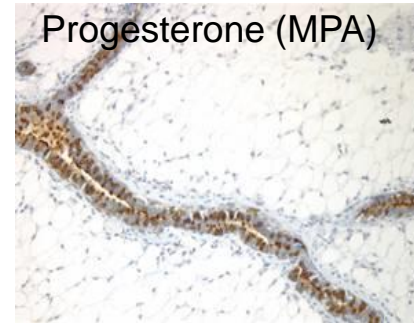
Progesterone induces RANKL expression in mouse and human mammary epithelia



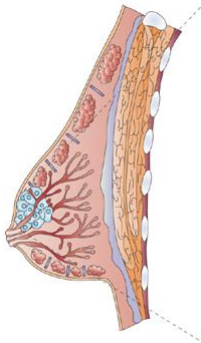
RANKL



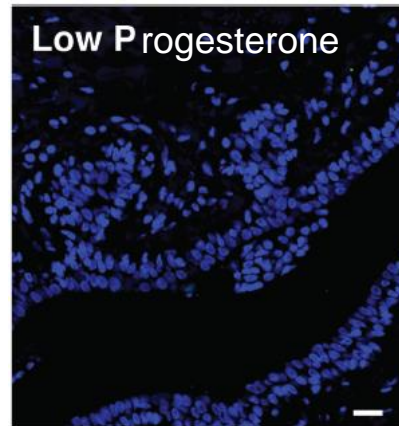
placebo



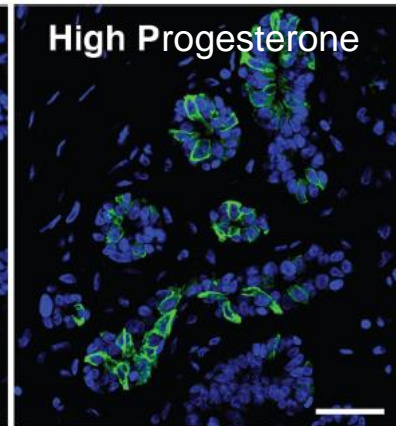
Progesterone (MPA)



RANKL



Low Progesterone



High Progesterone

RANK pathway is the main mediator of the pro-tumorigenic role of progesterone in the mammary gland

GOF

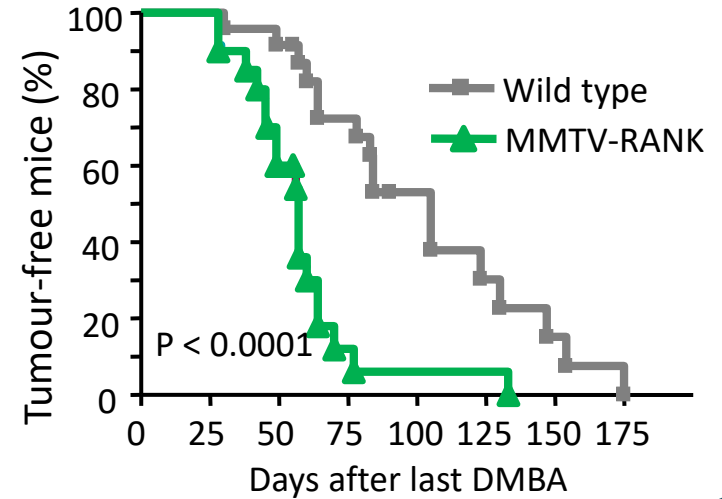


RANK $tg/+$



MPA+
DMBA

**DECREASED
TUMOR LATENCY
INCREASED
INCIDENCE**



RANK pathway is the main mediator of the pro-tumorigenic role of progesterone in the mammary gland

GOF



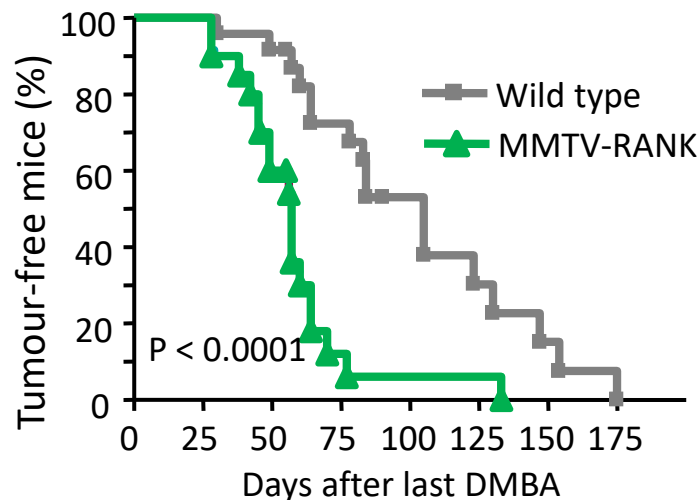
RANK ^{tg/+}



MPA+
DMBA

**DECREASED
TUMOR LATENCY
INCREASED
INCIDENCE**

**RANK PROMOTES MAMMARY
TUMORIGENESIS DRIVEN BY
PROGESTERONE**



LOF



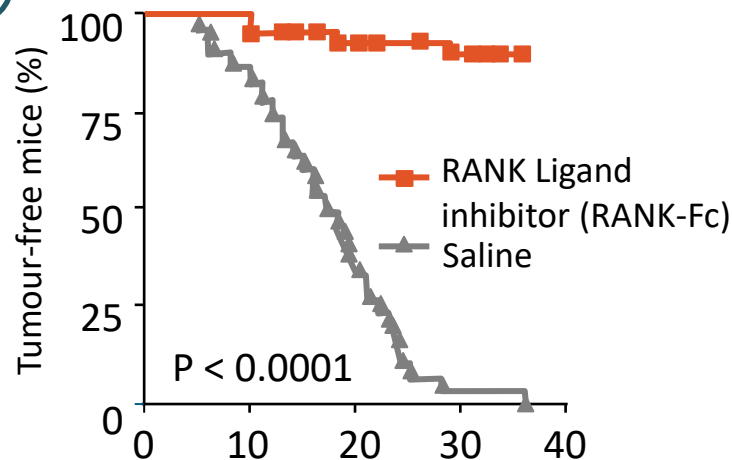
WT

anti-RANKL



MPA+
DMBA

**NO TUMOR
FORMATION**



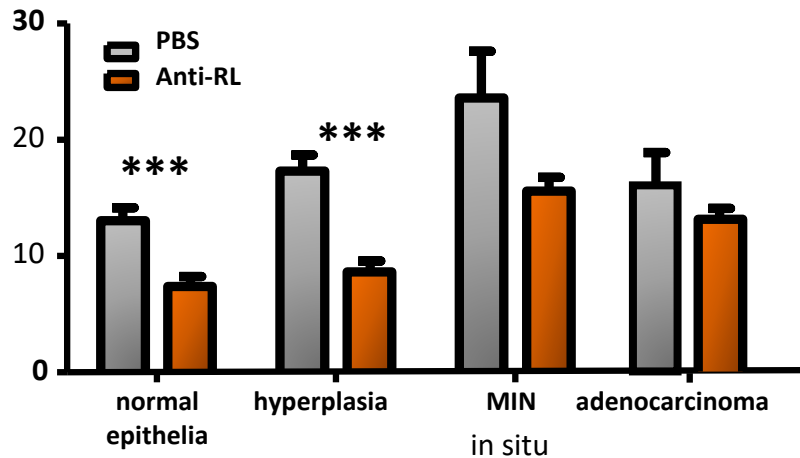
DMBA, 2,4-dimethoxybenzaldehyde (carcinogen); MPA, medroxyprogesterone acetate (progesterone derivative).

Inhibition of RANKL decreases proliferation and survival in mammary preneoplastic lesions



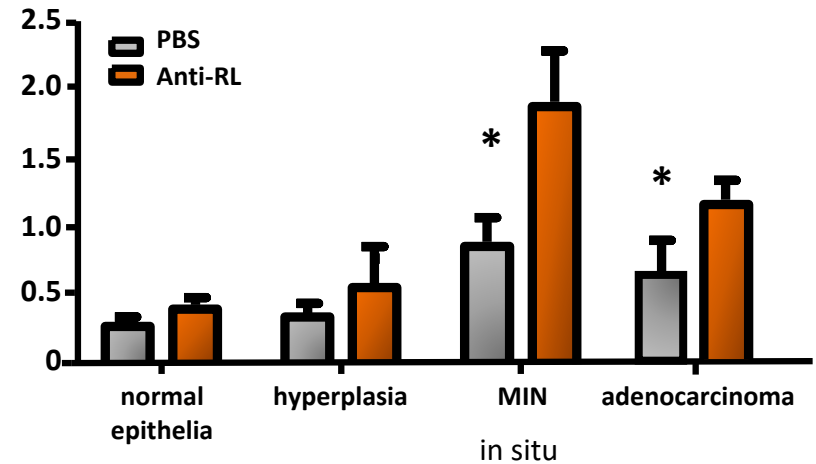
Proliferation

% BrdU positive nuclei



Apoptosis

% cleaved caspase 3 positive nuclei



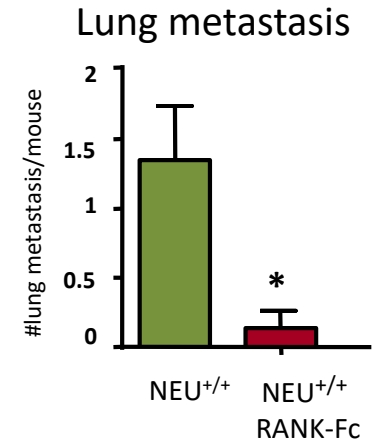
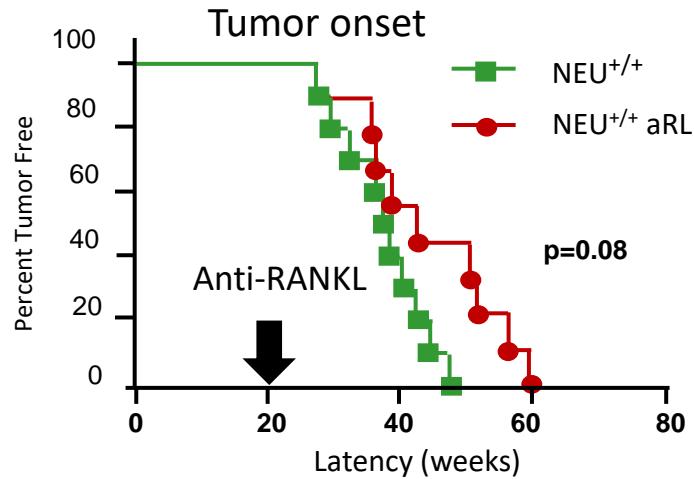
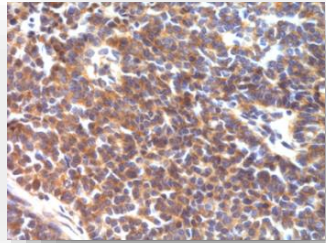
MIN: mammary intraepithelial neoplasia

Preventive inhibition of RANK signaling decreases mammary tumor incidence and lung metastasis in oncogene driven models

LOF: pharmacologic
anti-RANKL

RANK

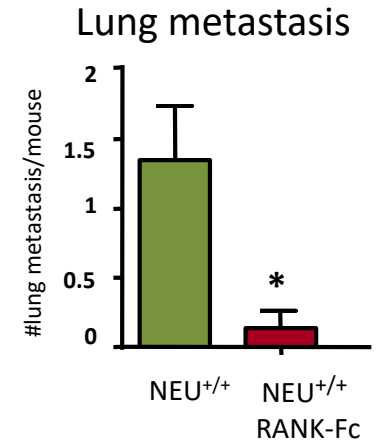
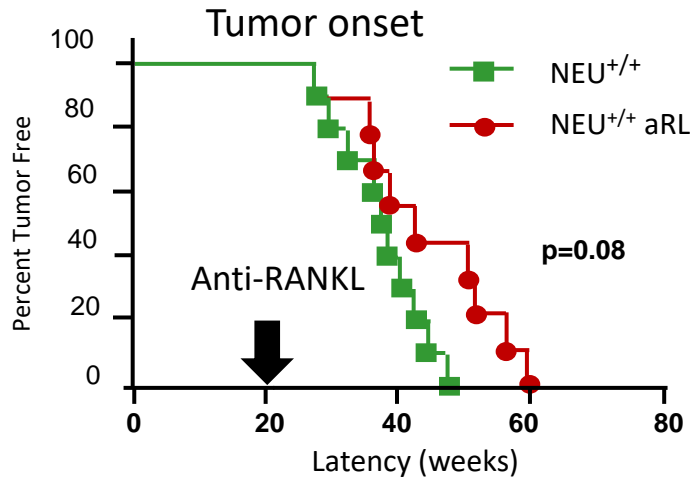
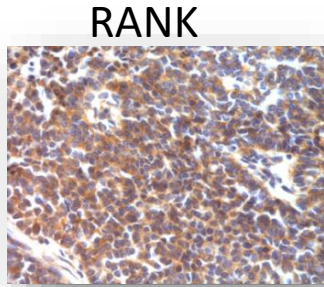
MMTV-Neu



Preventive inhibition of RANK signaling decreases mammary tumor incidence and lung metastasis

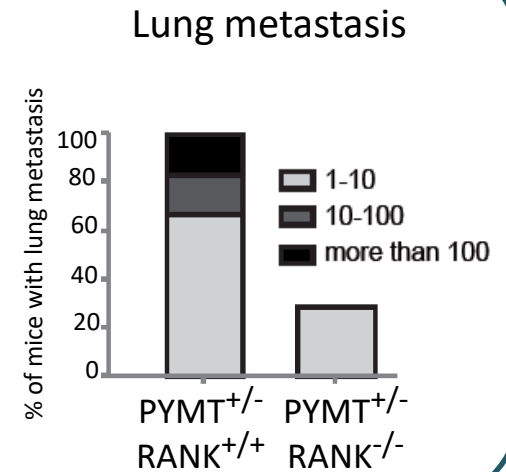
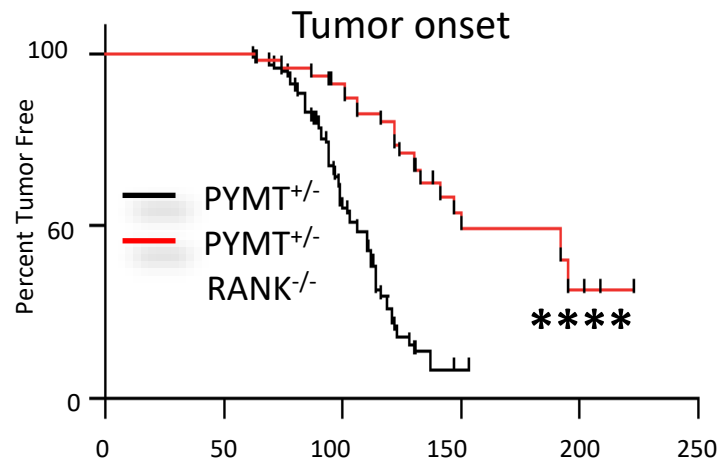
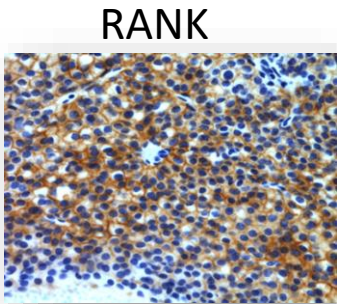
LOF: pharmacologic anti-RANKL

MMTV-Neu



LOF: genetic RANK^{-/-}

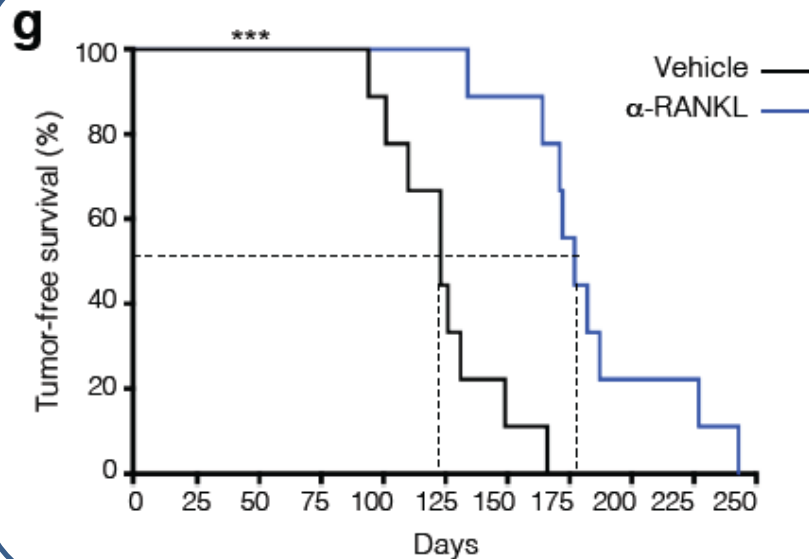
MMTV-PyMT



Preventive inhibition of RANK signaling delays mammary tumor onset and mediates mammary epithelial proliferation in Brca1 mutant models

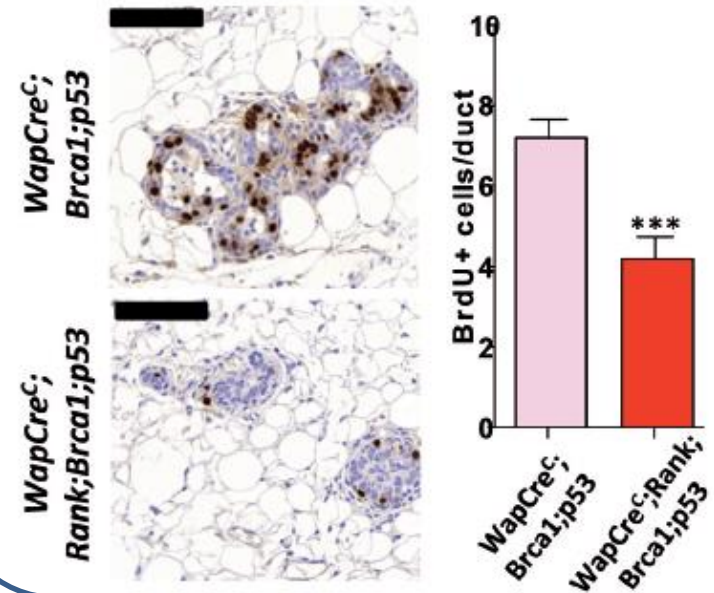


Tumor onset

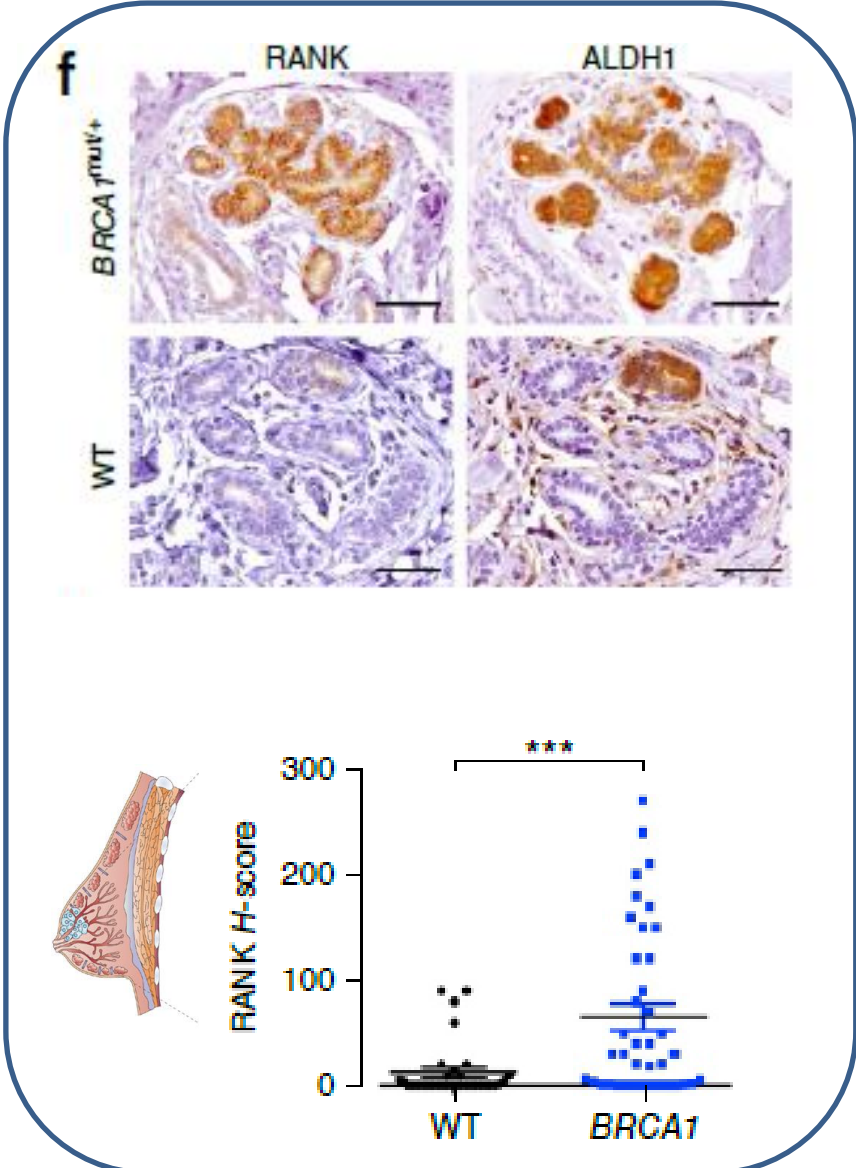


MMTV-cre BRCA1 floxed p53^{+/-}

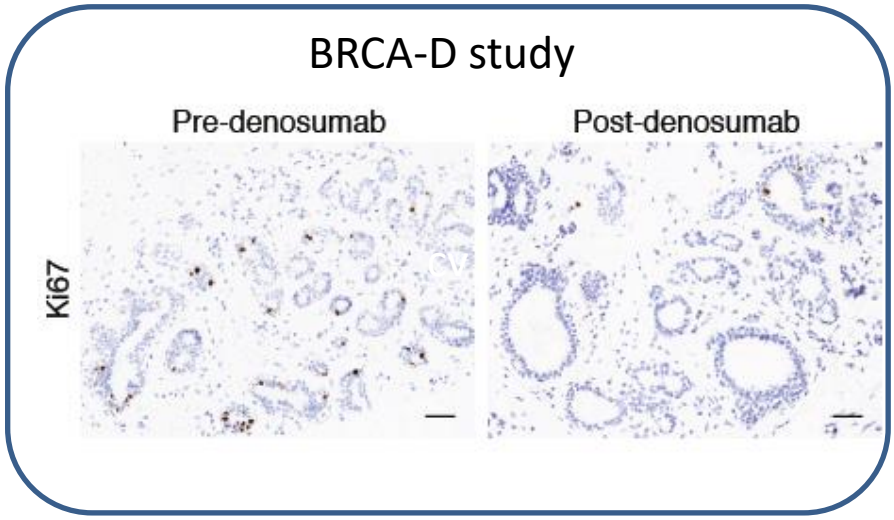
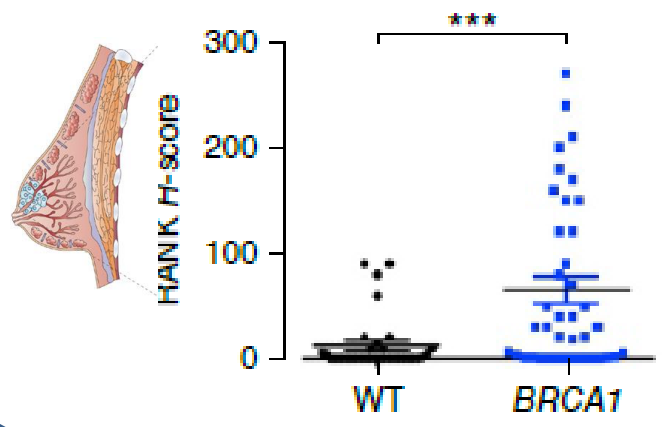
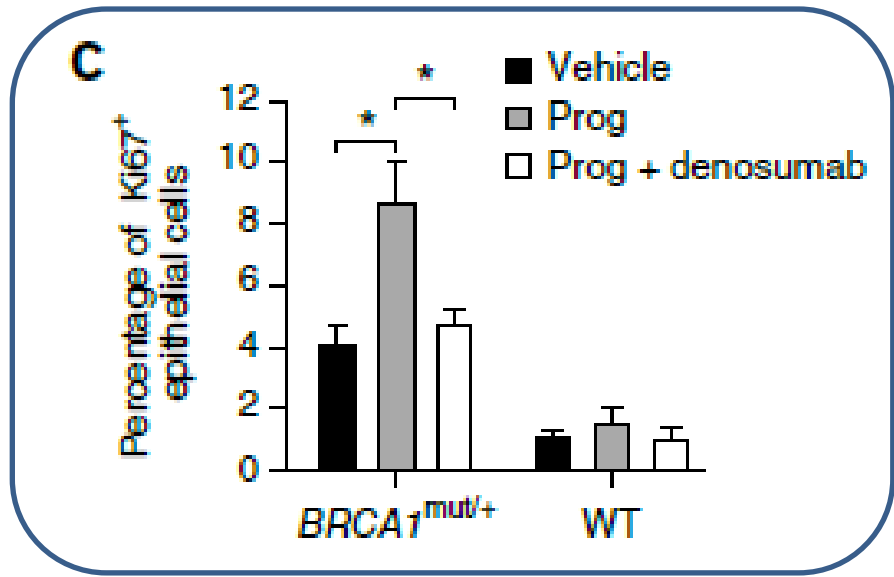
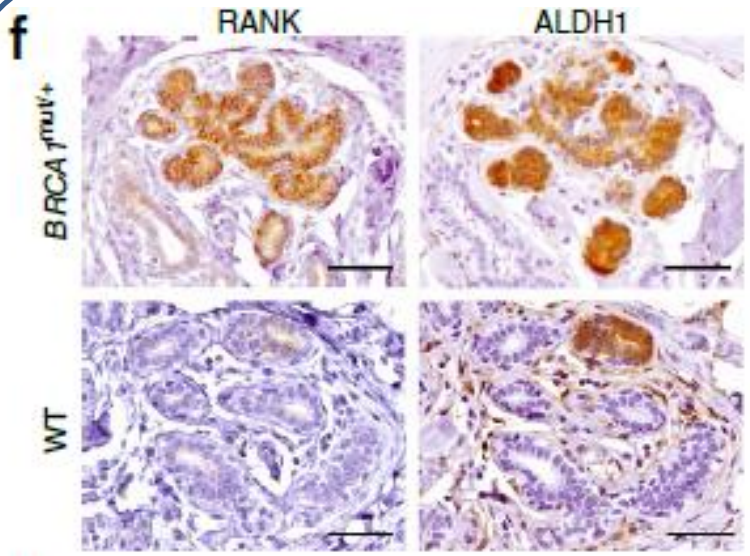
Proliferation



RANK is expressed in the mammary epithelia of BRCA1 mutation carriers and mediates progesterone-induced proliferation



RANK is expressed in the mammary epithelia of BRCA1 mutation carriers and mediates progesterone-induced proliferation and organoids

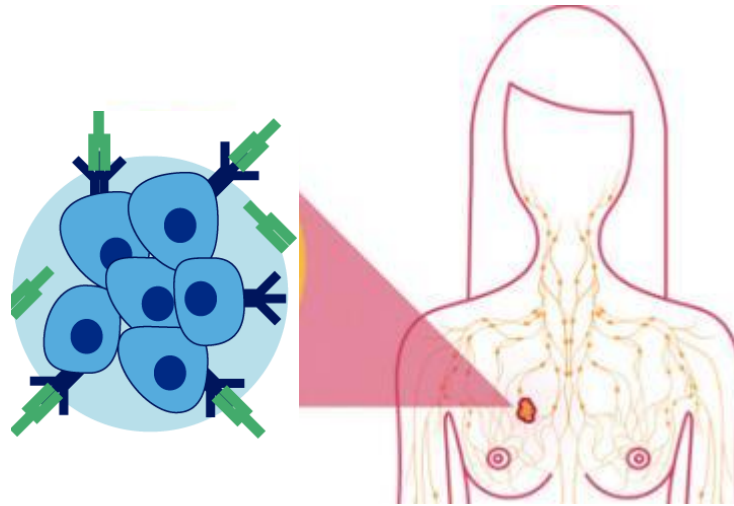


**RANK PATHWAY
INHIBITORS FOR
BREAST CANCER
PREVENTION**

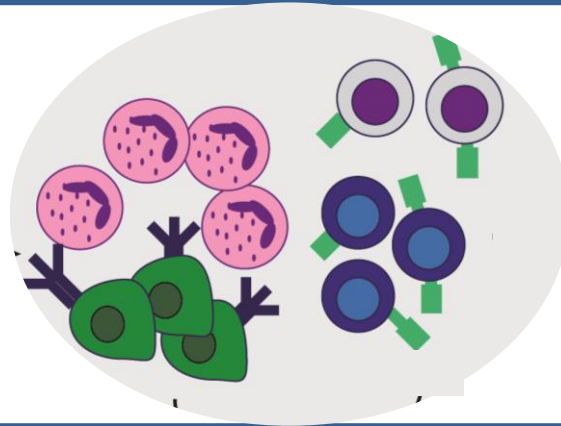
...but TREATMENT?

RANK in breast cancer and immunosurveillance

Breast Cancer



Immune system

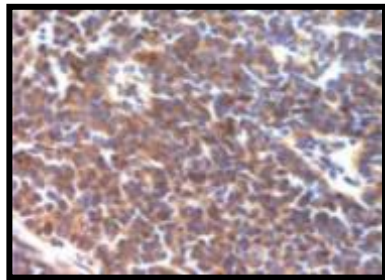


RANK and RANKL expression follow similar patterns in MMTV_PyMT mouse model and in breast cancer patients

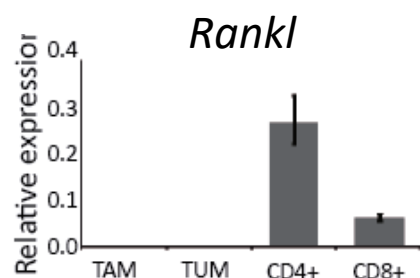
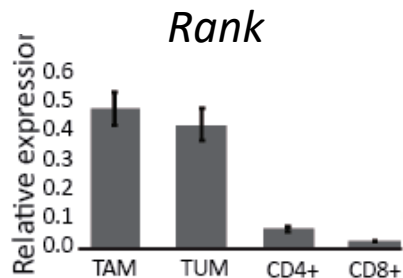
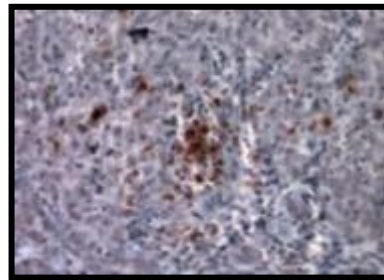


MMTV-PYMT mouse model

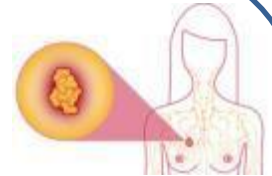
RANK



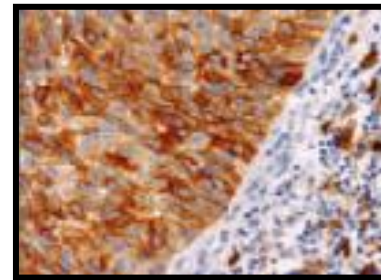
RANKL



Breast Cancer Patient sample

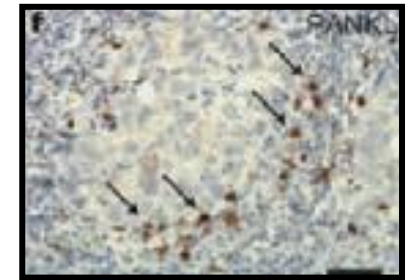


RANK



Tumor cells and TAMs

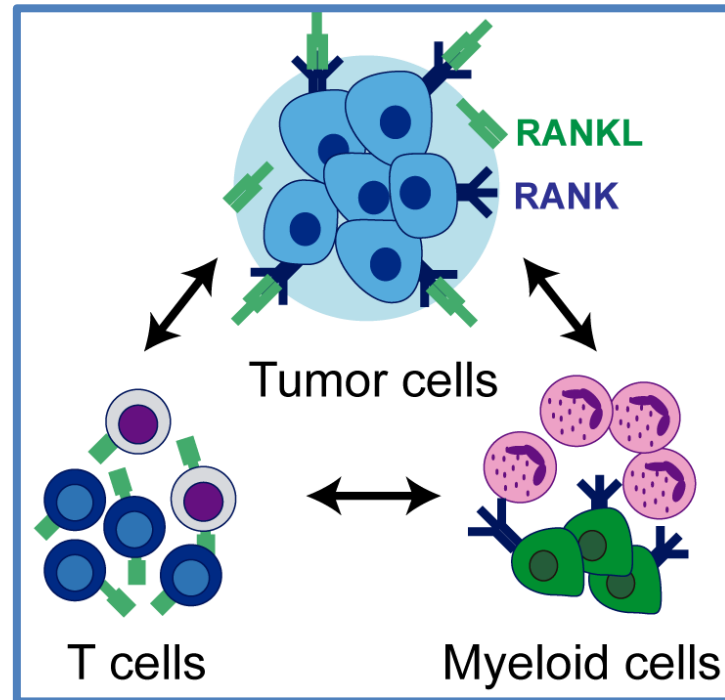
RANKL



Lymphocytes

TUM: Tumor cells, TAM: Tumor associated macrophages

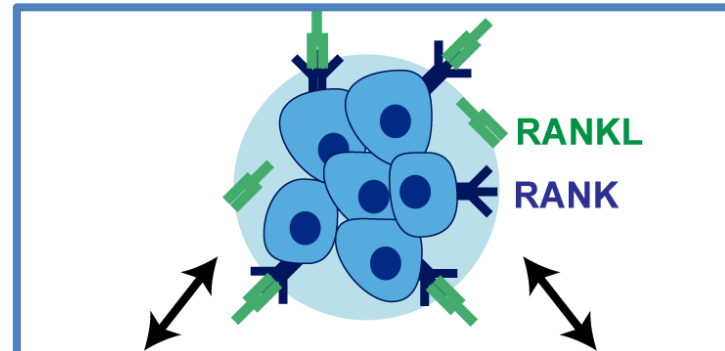
Therapeutic RANK inhibition?



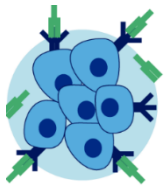
Tumor cell intrinsic

Tumor cell extrinsic

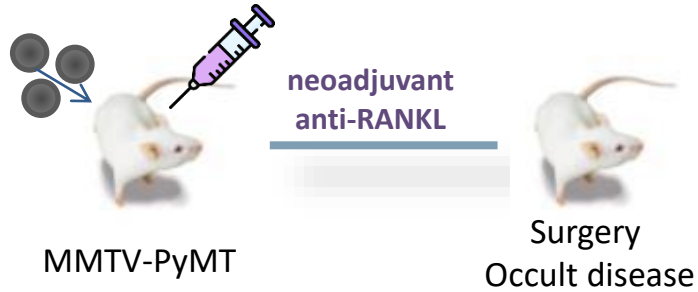
Therapeutic RANK inhibition?



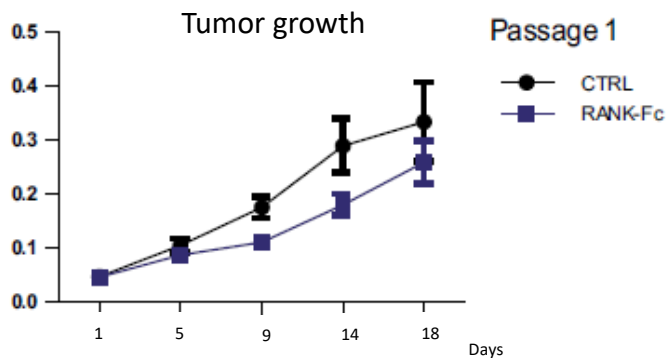
Tumor cell intrinsic

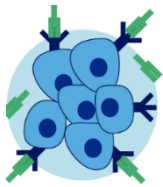


RANKL inhibition decreases cancer stemness and induces tumor cell differentiation

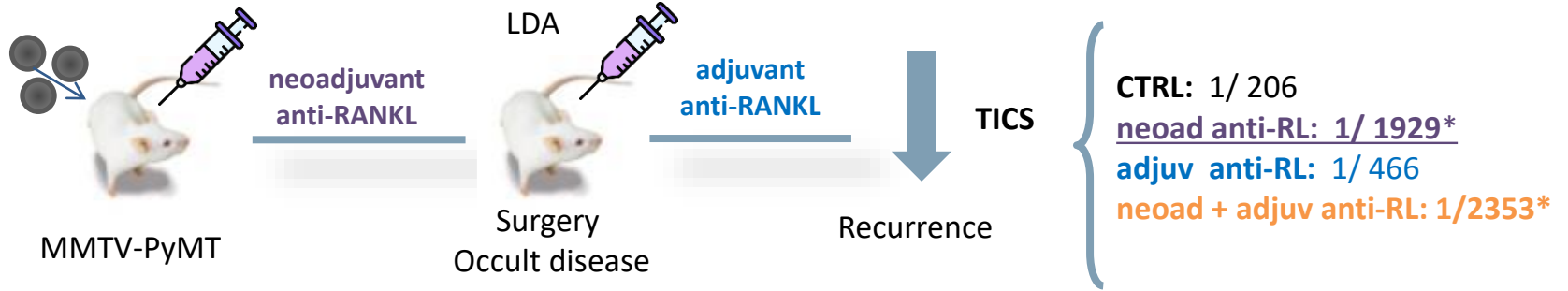


MMTV-PyMT
Anti RANKL treatments in mice



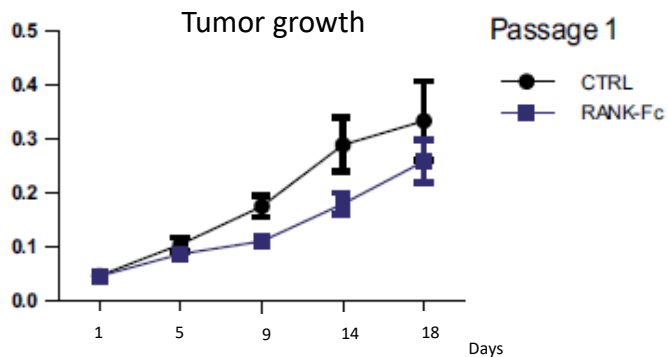


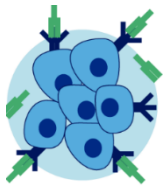
RANKL inhibition decreases cancer stemness and induces tumor cell differentiation



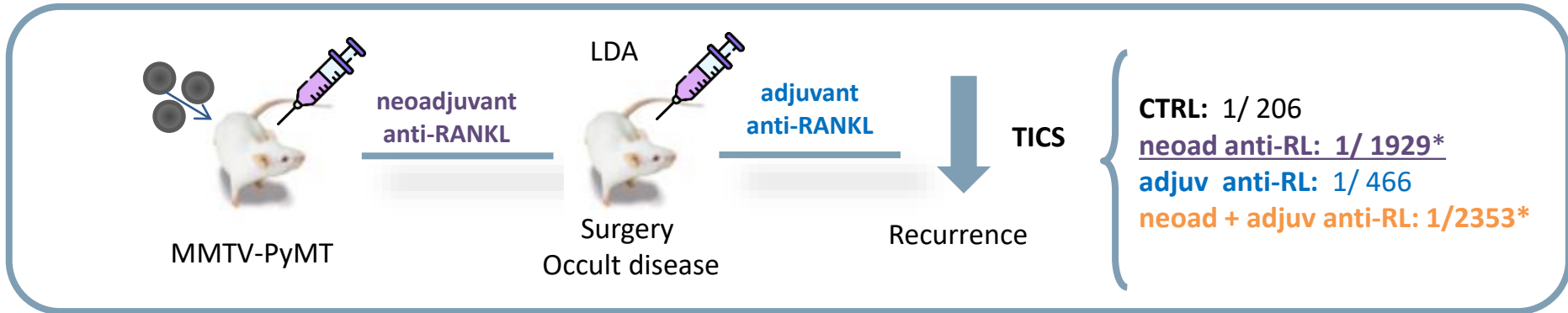
LDA: Limiting Dilutions Assays

MMTV-PyMT
Anti RANKL treatments in mice

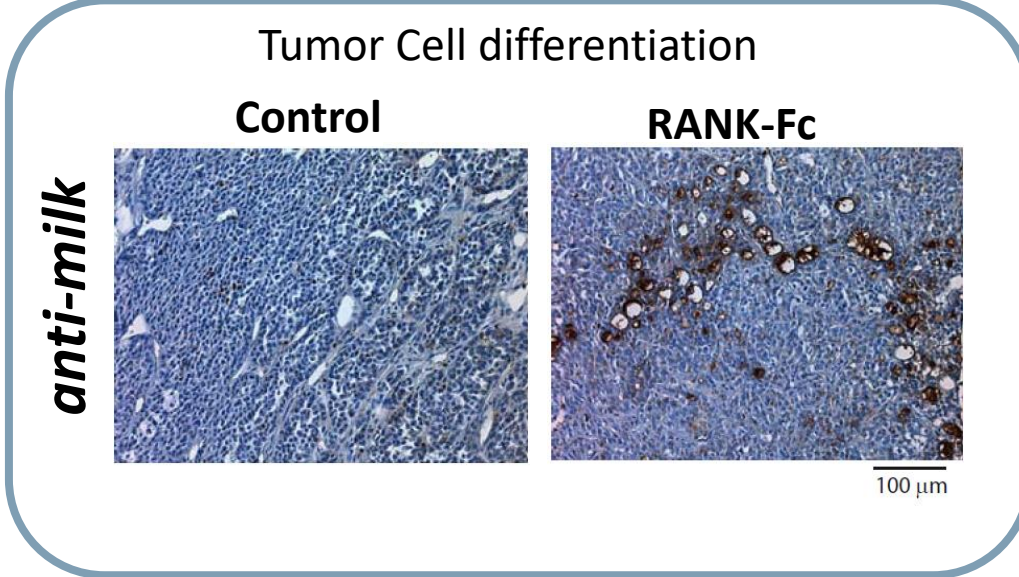
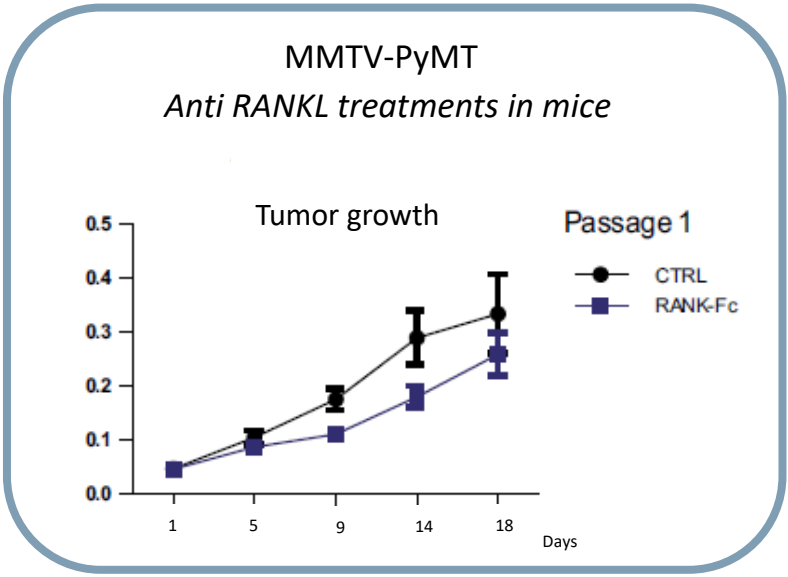




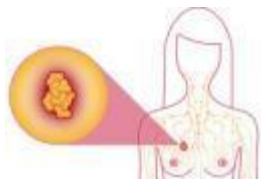
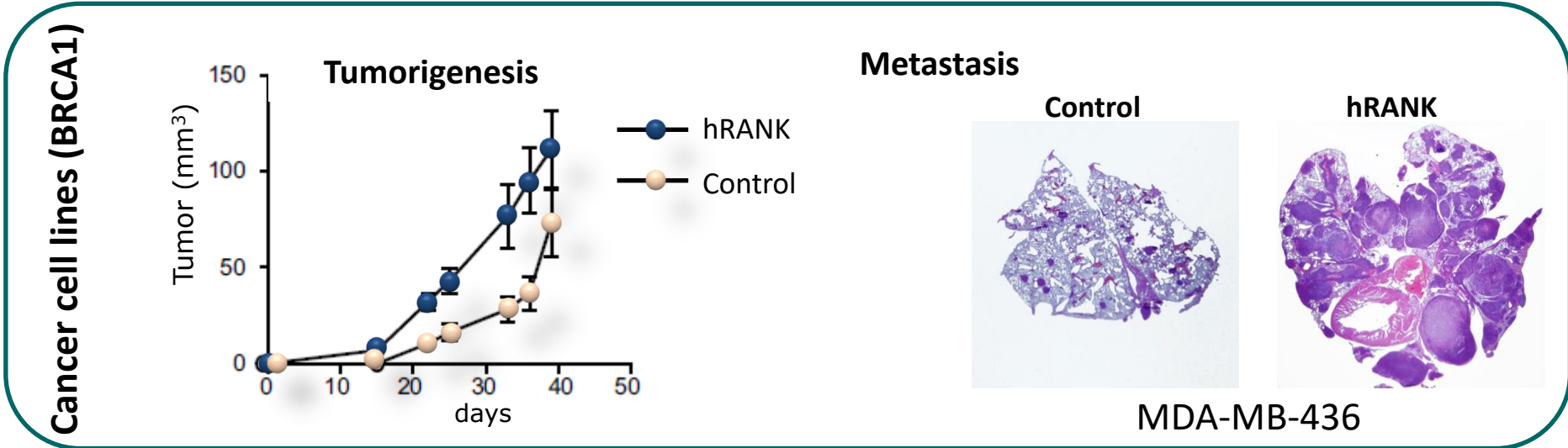
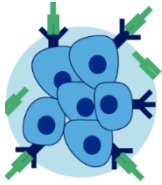
RANKL inhibition decreases cancer stemness and induces tumor cell differentiation



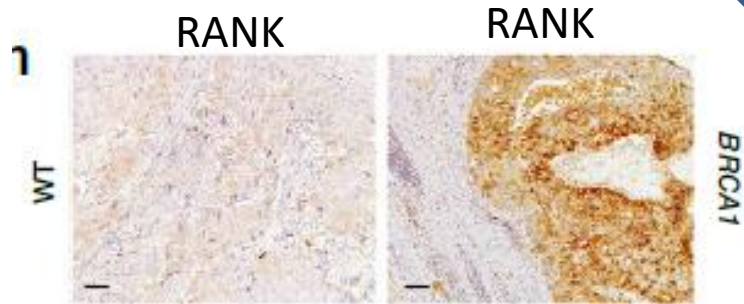
LDA: Limiting Dilutions Assays



RANK overexpression induces stemness & increases tumorigenesis & metastasis in BRCA1 mutant breast cancer cell lines

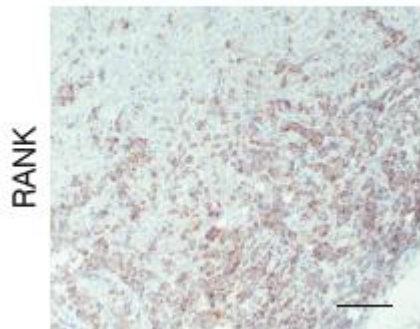


RANK is expressed in a subset of BRCA1 mutant breast cancer PDX & RANKL inhibition enhances the response to docetaxel

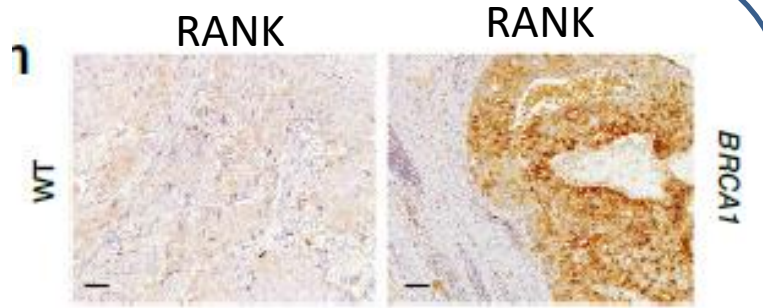


RANK+ (40% of BRCA1 mutated tumors)

b BRCA1 mutant PDX

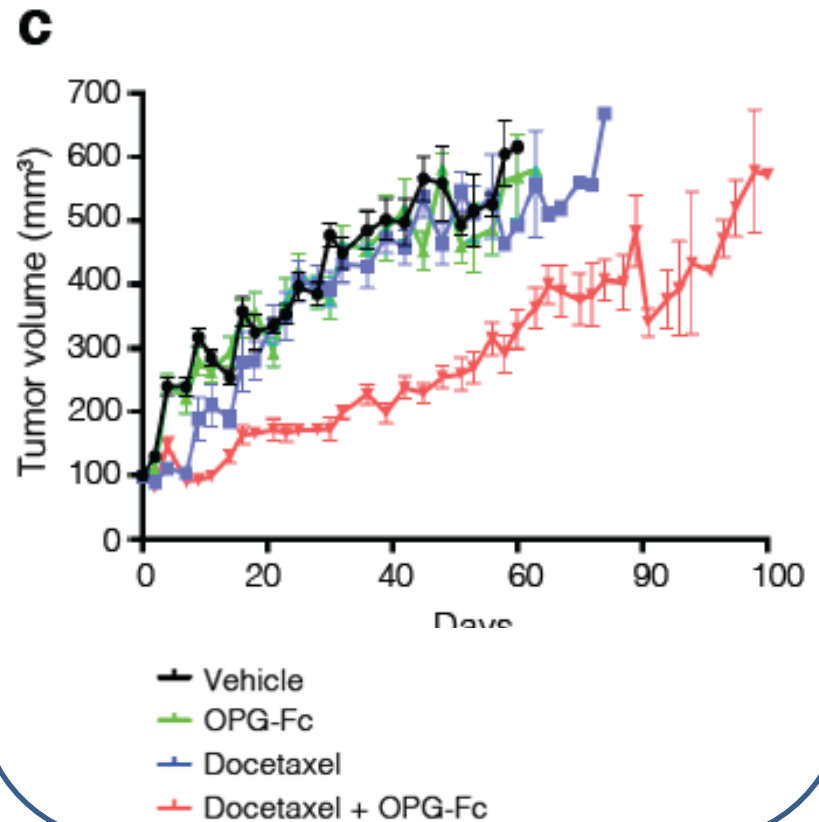
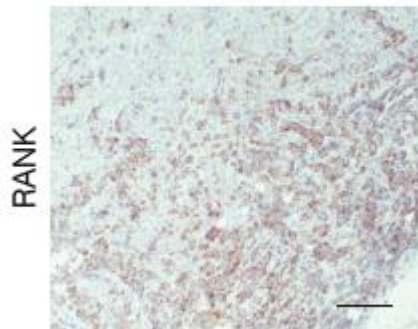


RANK is expressed in a subset of BRCA1 mutant breast cancer PDX & RANKL inhibition enhances the response to docetaxel



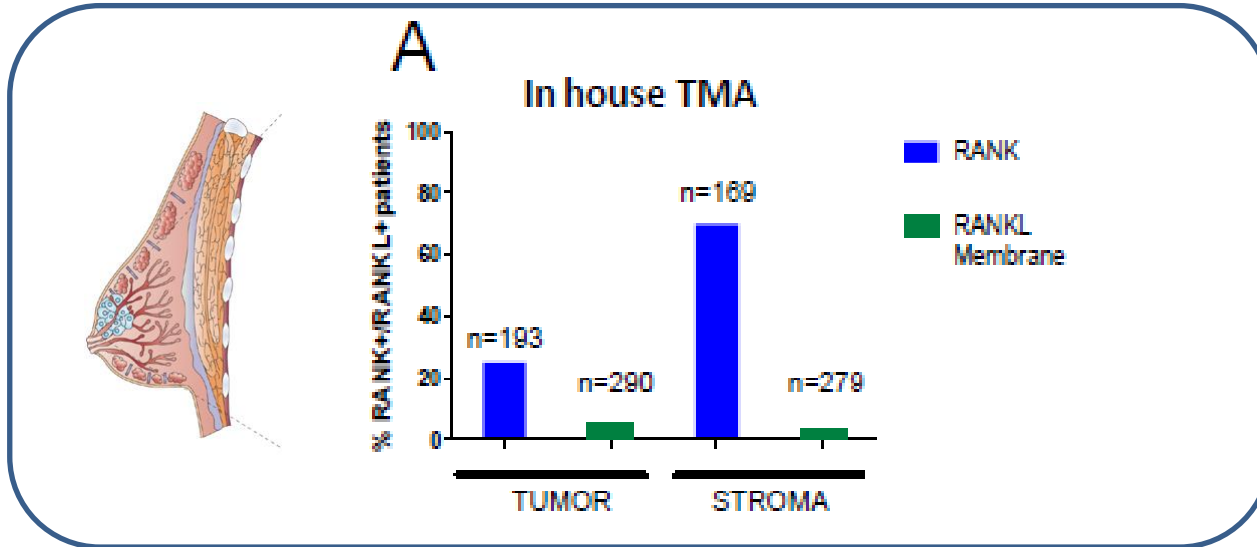
RANK+ (40% of BRCA1 mutated tumors)

b BRCA1 mutant PDX

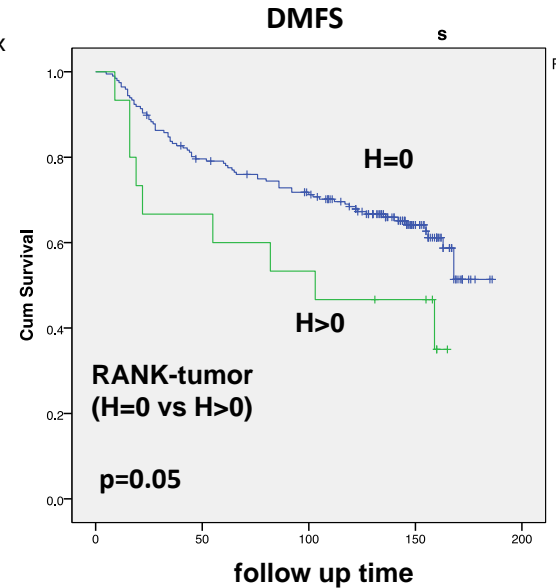
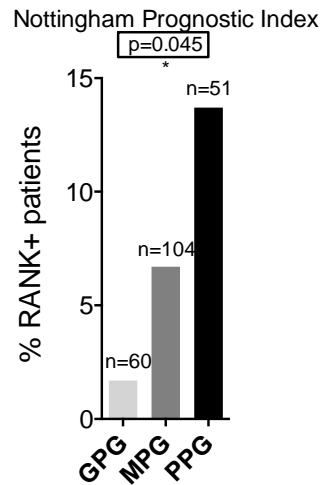
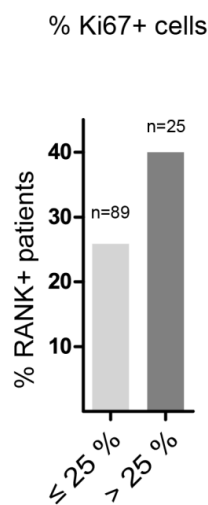
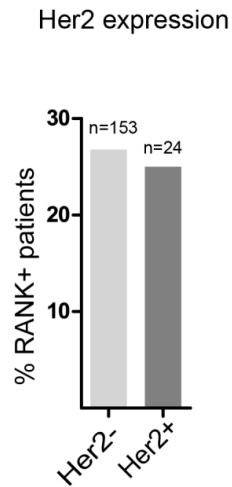
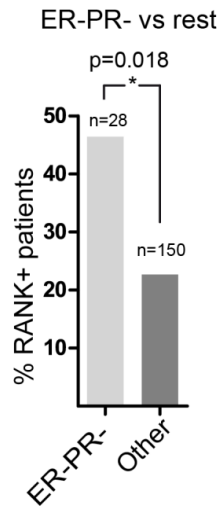


RANK is expressed in a subset of ER+ and ER- tumors and associates with TNBC disease

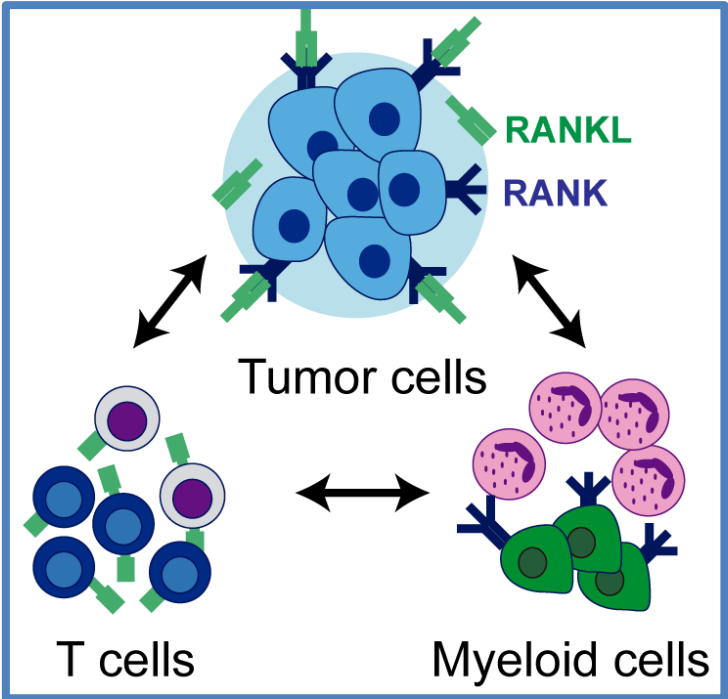
DO NOT POST



IN HOUSE/METABRIC TMA

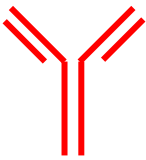
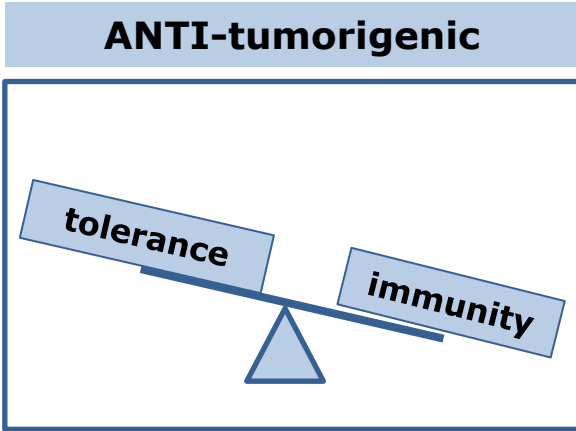
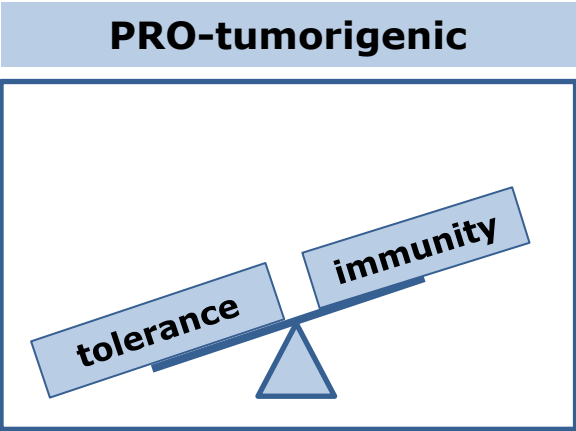


RANK in tumor immune-surveillance



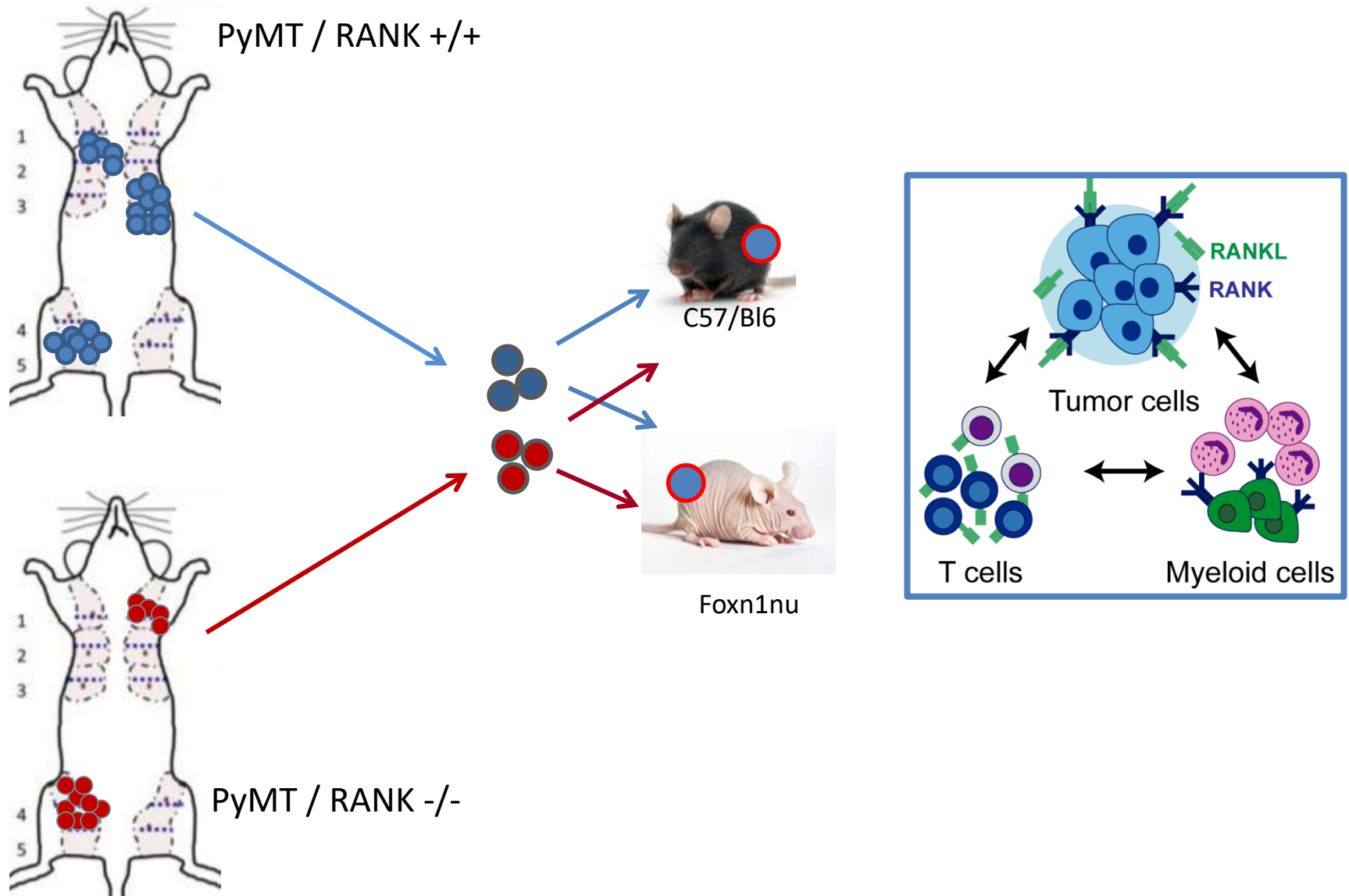
Tumor cell intrinsic

Tumor cell extrinsic



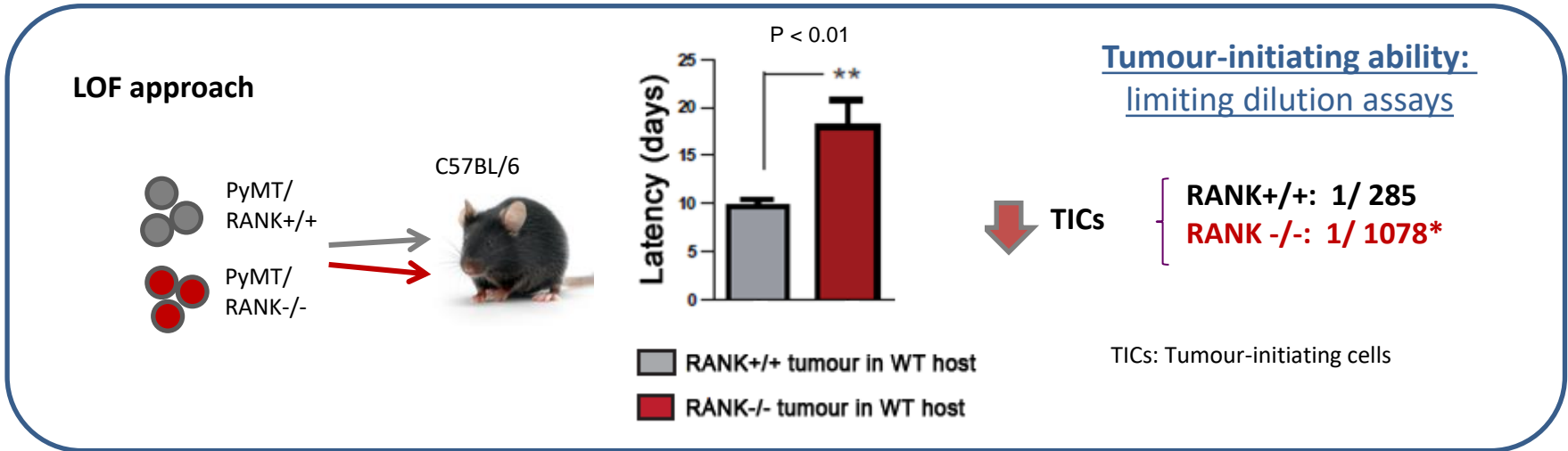
Denosumab

MMTV_PYMT tumor transplants



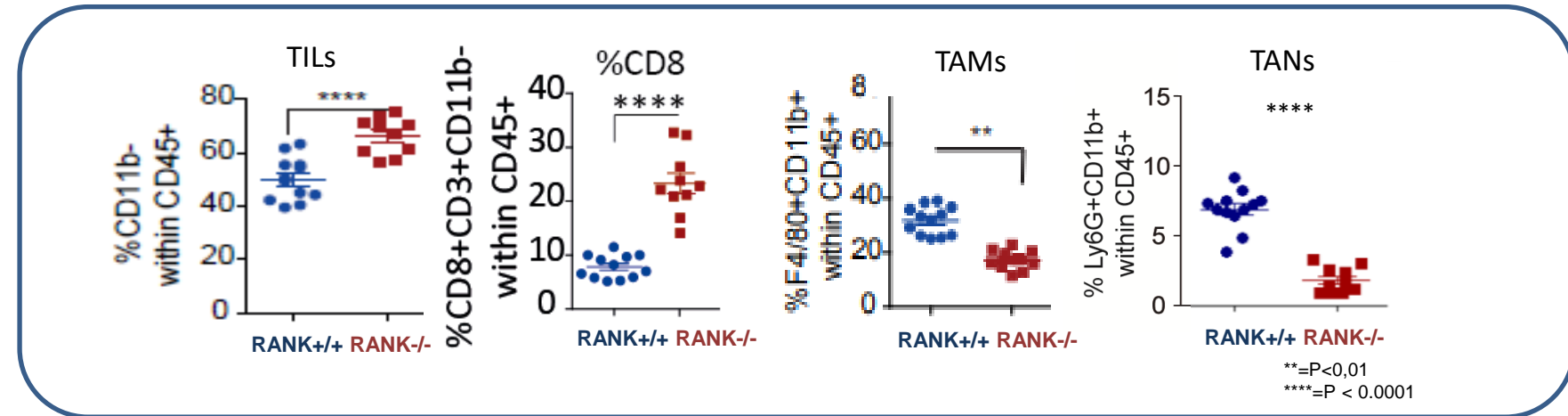
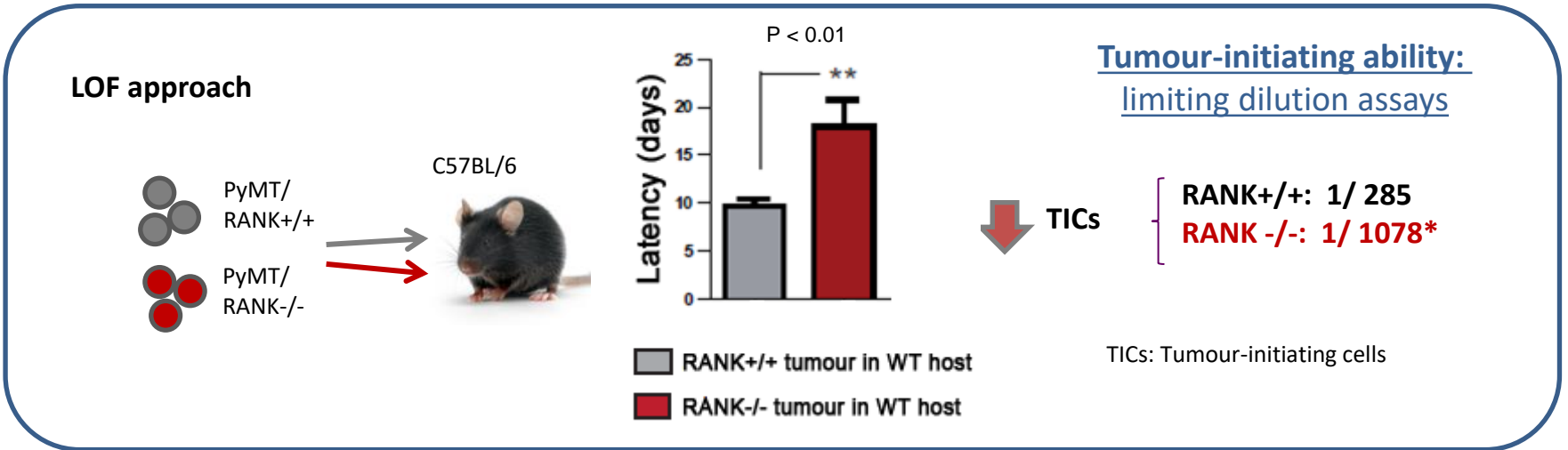
RANK^{-/-} tumour cells show delayed latency and reduced tumour-initiating ability in syngenic hosts

RANK^{-/-} tumours are infiltrated by more TILs and CD8⁺ T cells



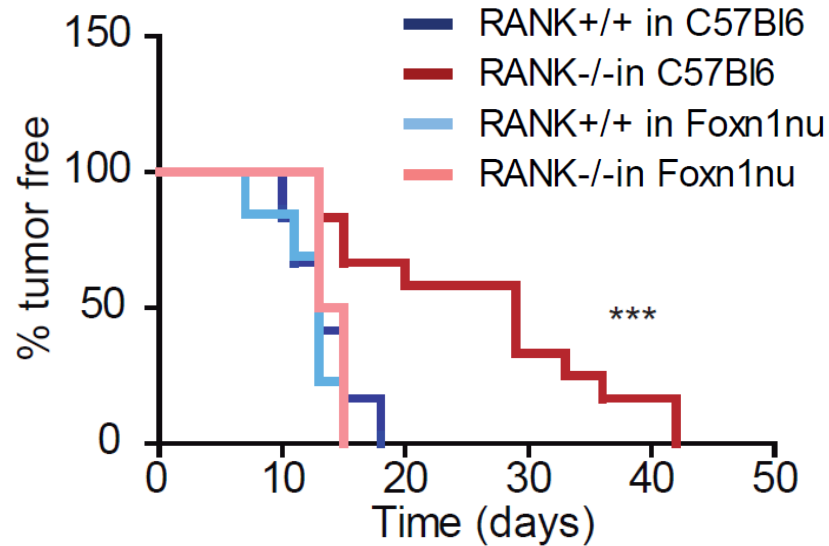
RANK^{-/-} tumour cells show delayed latency and reduced tumour-initiating ability in syngenic hosts

RANK^{-/-} tumours are infiltrated by more TILs and CD8⁺ T cells



TILs: Tumour-infiltrating lymphocytes
 TANs: Tumour-associated neutrophils
 TAMs: Tumour-associated macrophages

RANK-/- tumor cells show delayed latency and reduced tumor initiating ability when transplanted in syngeneic hosts



Tumor Initiating Ability: limiting dilution assays



TICS

RANK+/+: 1/ 285

RANK -/-: 1/ 1078*

p-value = 0.05 $\chi^2=3.58$



TICS

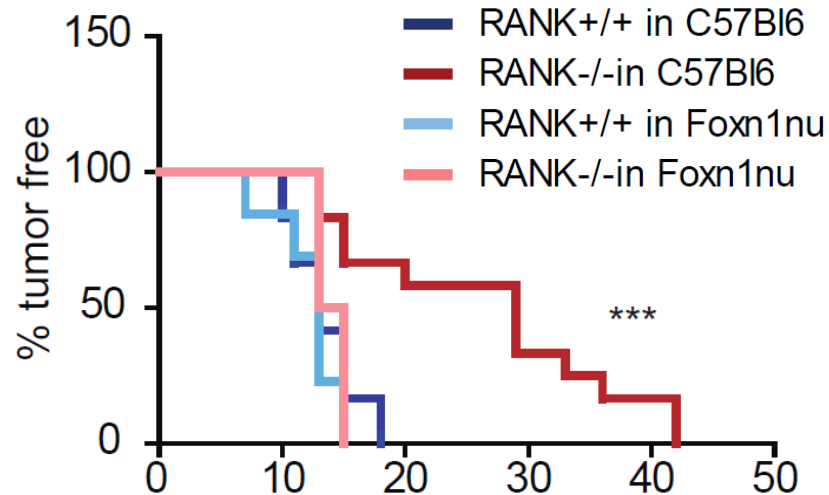
RANK+/+: 1/ 47

RANK -/-: 1/ 16

p-value = 0.196 $\chi^2=1.67$

TICs: Tumor initiating cells

RANK-/- tumor cells show delayed latency and reduced tumor initiating ability when transplanted in syngeneic hosts



The immune system mediates the differences in tumor latency and tumor initiation in RANK-/- tumors

Tumor Initiating Ability: limiting dilution assays



TICS

RANK+/+: 1/ 285
RANK -/-: 1/ 1078*

p-value = 0.05 $\chi^2=3.58$



TICS

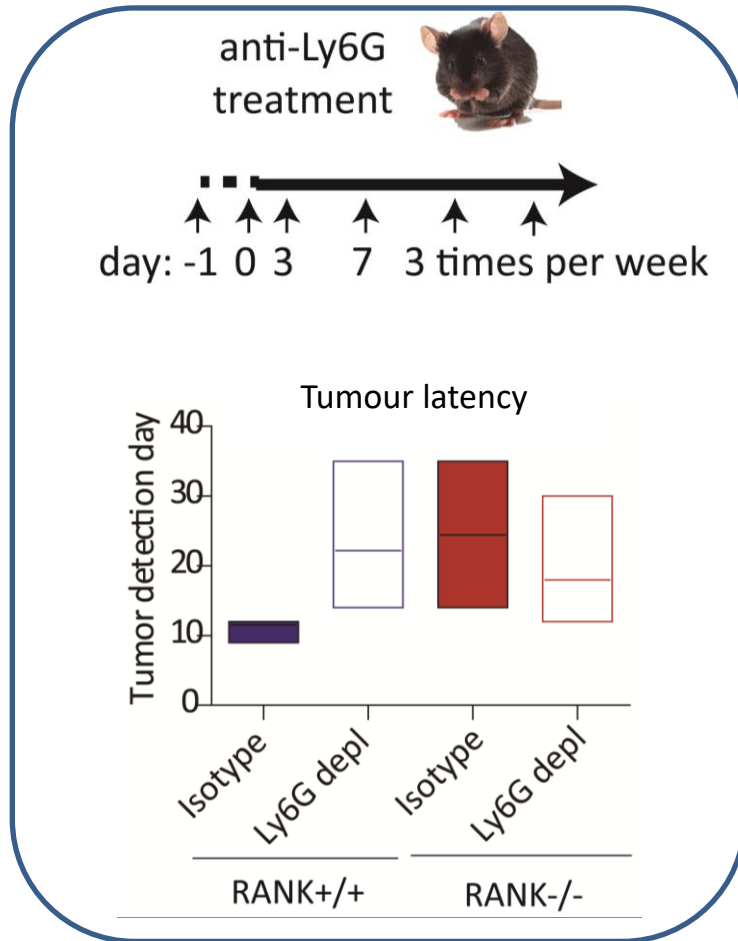
RANK+/+: 1/ 47
RANK -/-: 1/ 16

p-value = 0.196 $\chi^2=1.67$

TICs: Tumor initiating cells

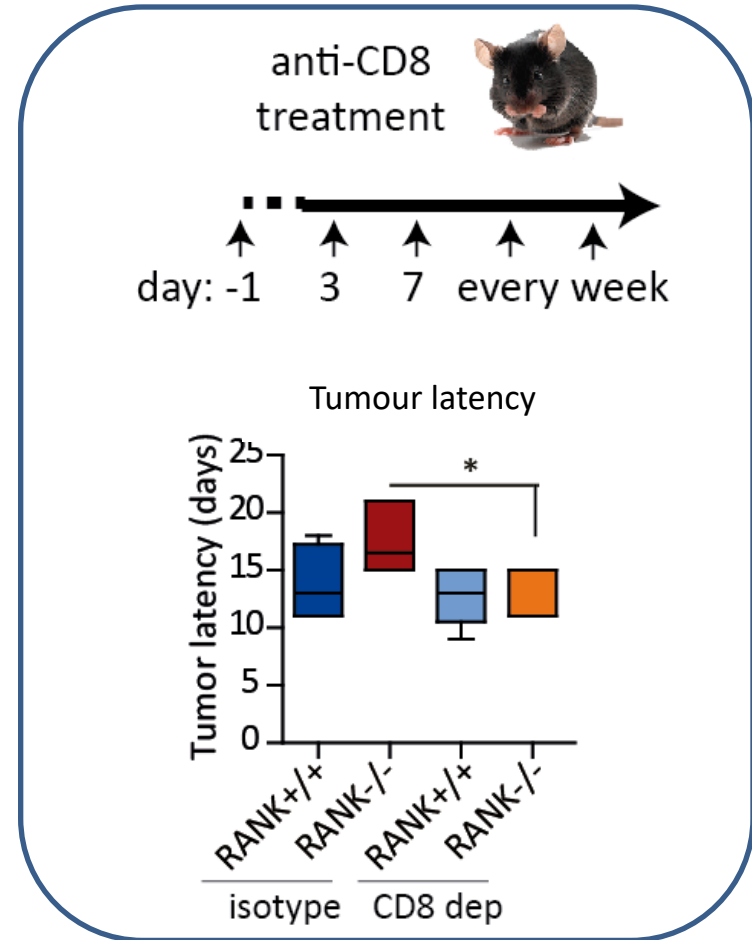
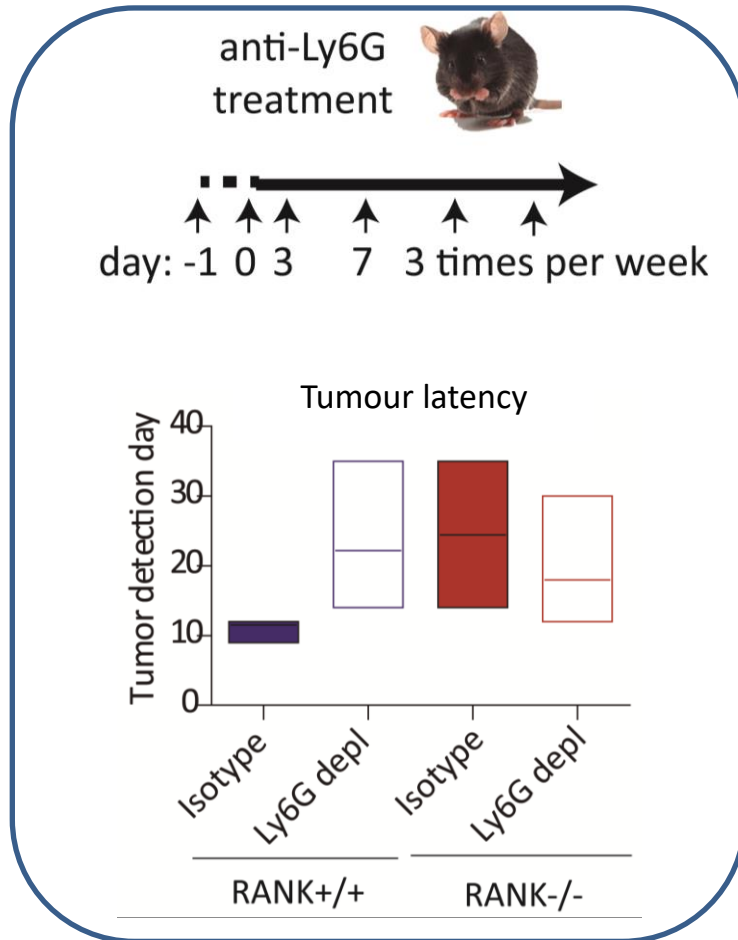
RANK^{-/-} tumour delayed latency is mediated by neutrophils and CD8⁺ T cells

LOF approach



RANK^{-/-} tumour delayed latency is mediated by neutrophils and CD8⁺ T cells

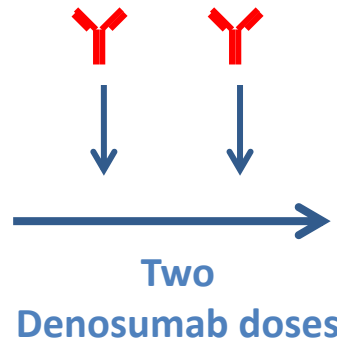
LOF approach



D-BIOMARK: neoadjuvant denosumab in early BC.
(60 patients, pre/postmenopausal, lum/TNBC)

D-BEYOND: neoadjuvant denosumab in luminal, premenopausal early
BC (24 patients, pre, lum)

Biopsy (pre-denosumab)



Surgery



A Vethencourt, EM Trinidad
C Faló, S Pernas
A Urruticoechea
T Soler, A Petit
M Garcia, V Navarro



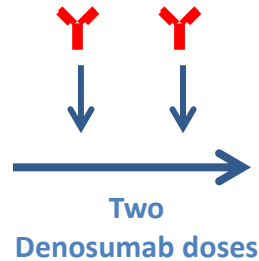
Collaboration:
C Sotiriou
B Nguyen
M Piccard

D-BEYOND: neoadjuvant denosumab in premenopausal early BC (luminal) does not change tumor cell proliferation

Patients

■ LumA	10
■ LumB	9
■ HER2	4
■ Basal	1

Biopsy (pre-denosumab)

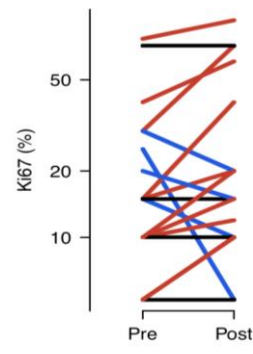
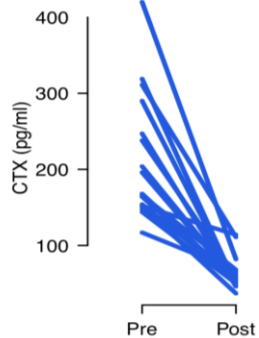


Surgery



CTX (bone)

Ki67 (proliferation)



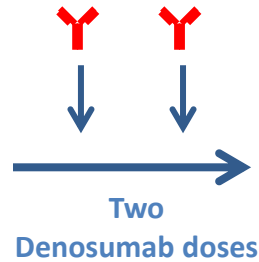
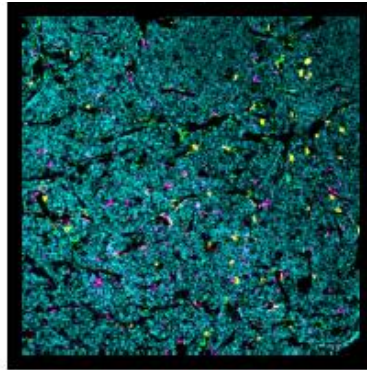
Collaboration:
C Sotiriou
B Nguyen
M Piccard

D-BEYOND: neoadjuvant denosumab increases tumor immune infiltration in premenopausal early BC (luminal)

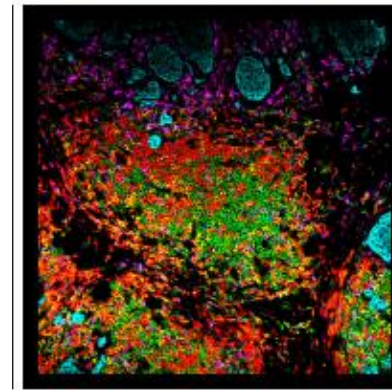
Patients

- LumA 10
- LumB 9
- HER2 4
- Basal 1

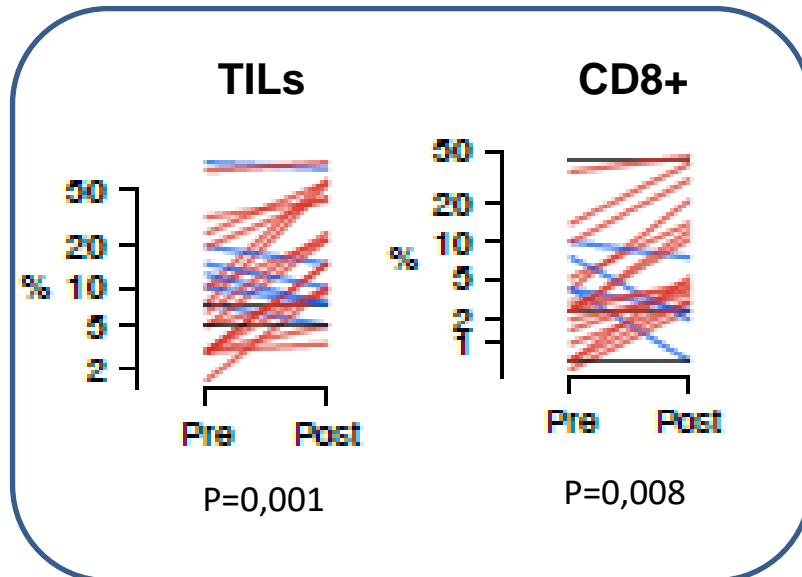
Biopsy (pre-denosumab)



Surgery



Collaboration:
C Sotiriou
B Nguyen
M Piccard

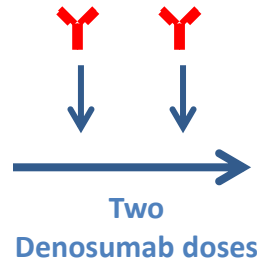
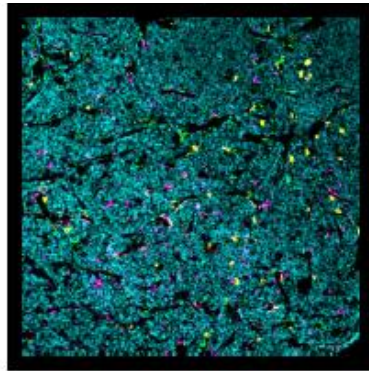


D-BEYOND: neoadjuvant denosumab increases tumor immune infiltration in premenopausal early BC (luminal)

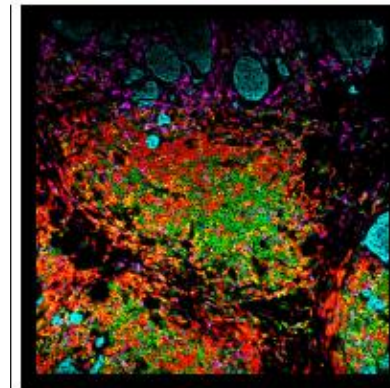
Patients

■ LumA	10
■ LumB	9
■ HER2	4
■ Basal	1

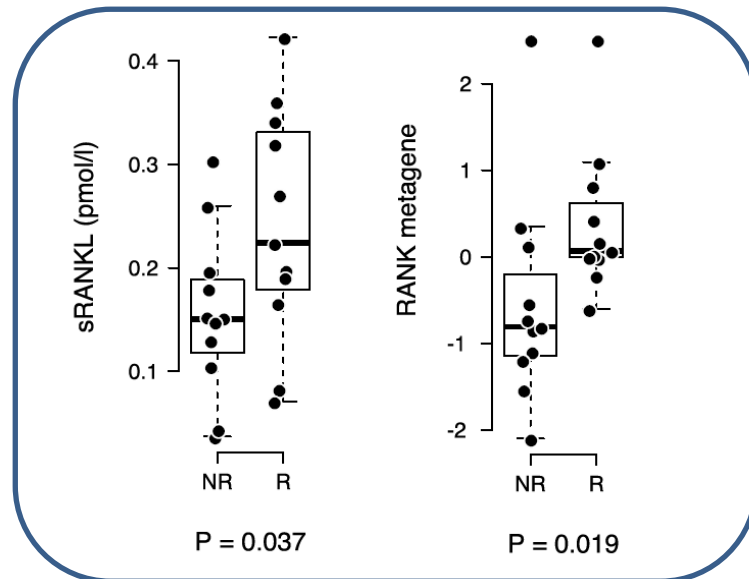
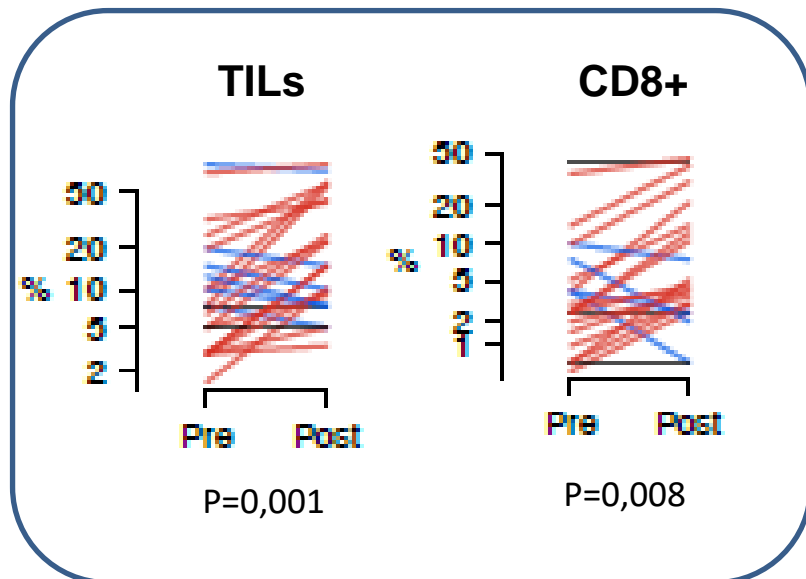
Biopsy (pre-denosumab)



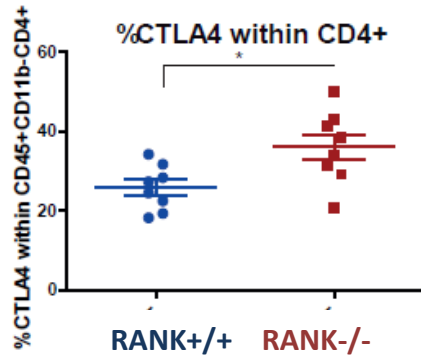
Surgery



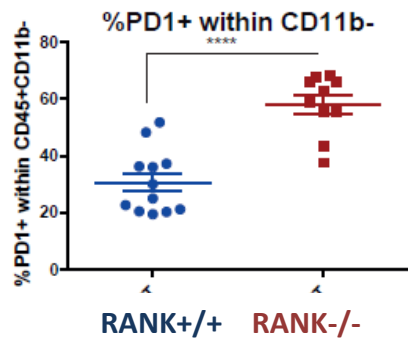
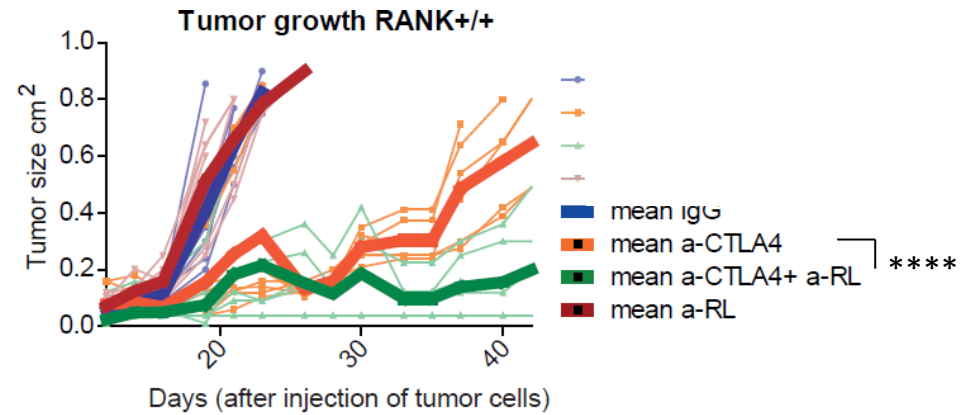
Collaboration:
C Sotiriou
B Nguyen
M Piccard



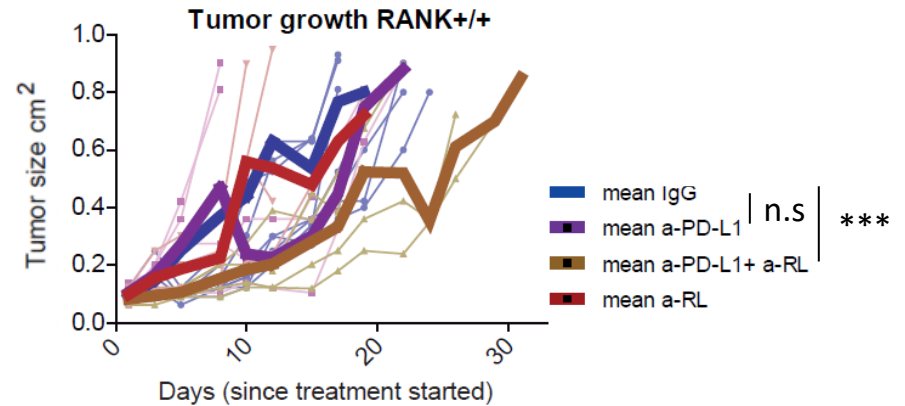
Rankl inhibition improves response to immunotherapy in breast cancer



Early setting:



Late setting:



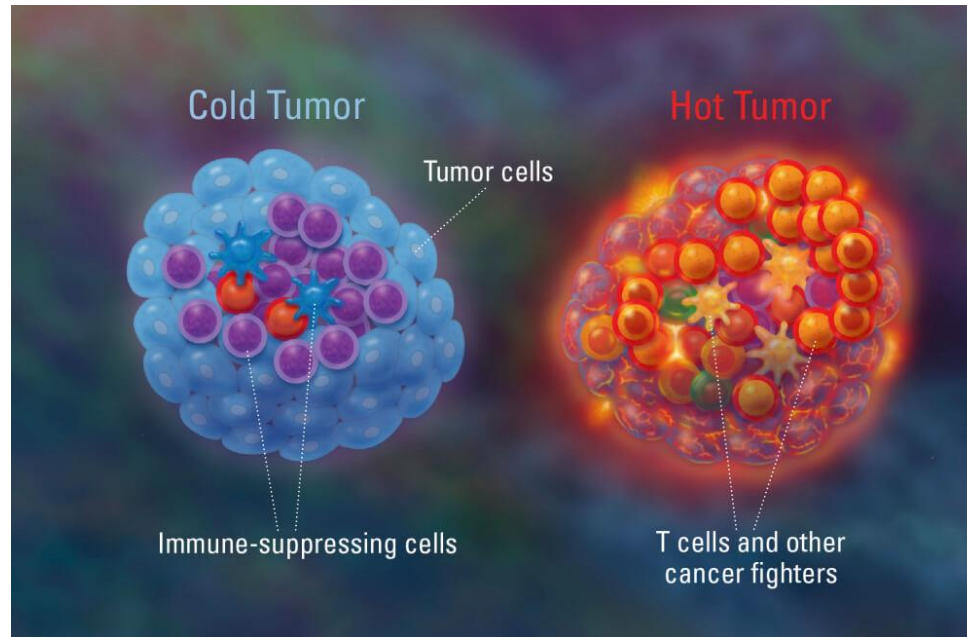
**RANK PATHWAY
INHIBITORS FOR**

**BREAST CANCER
PREVENTION**

AND TREATMENT

not only for BRCA1!

Denosumab → immunomodulator



Post-menopausal?

NCT03691311

TNBC?

D-BIOMARK

Enrollment : 60 patients

- 24 post /pre-menopausal
- 12 TNBC

Control arm?



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Héctor P Montoyo
Adrian Sanz
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Kim Pedersen
Sandra Benitez
Enrique Hernández
Pasquale Pellegrini
Alex Cordero
Marta Palafox
Manuel Gris
Ilaria DiBenedictis



Bastien Nguyen & Christos Sotiriou
Thierry Walzer; Lourdes Planelles
M Collado, I Palmero, M Serrano

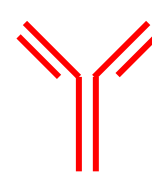
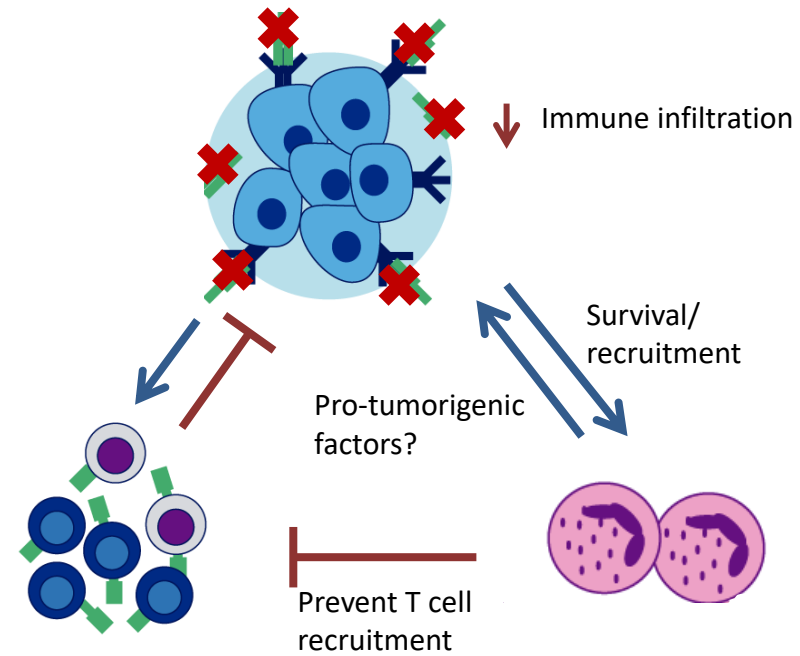
Clinical team
Catalina Faló &
Teresa Soler &
Anna Petit (APA)
Sonia Pernas
Ander Urruticoechea



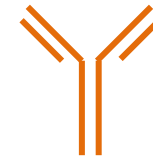
AGAUR

Conclusions

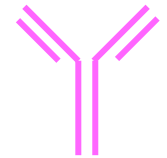
RANK PATHWAY INHIBITORS FOR IMMUNOTHERAPY IN BREAST CANCER



a-RL



a-CTLA4



a-PDL1

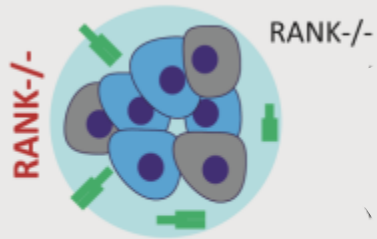
Denosumab + immunotherapy

Summary

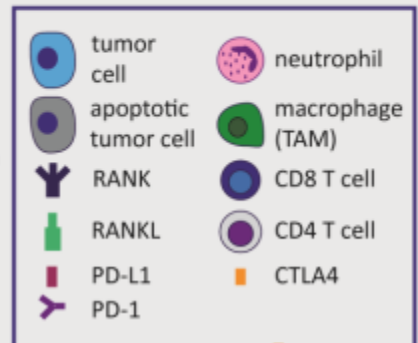
Conclusions



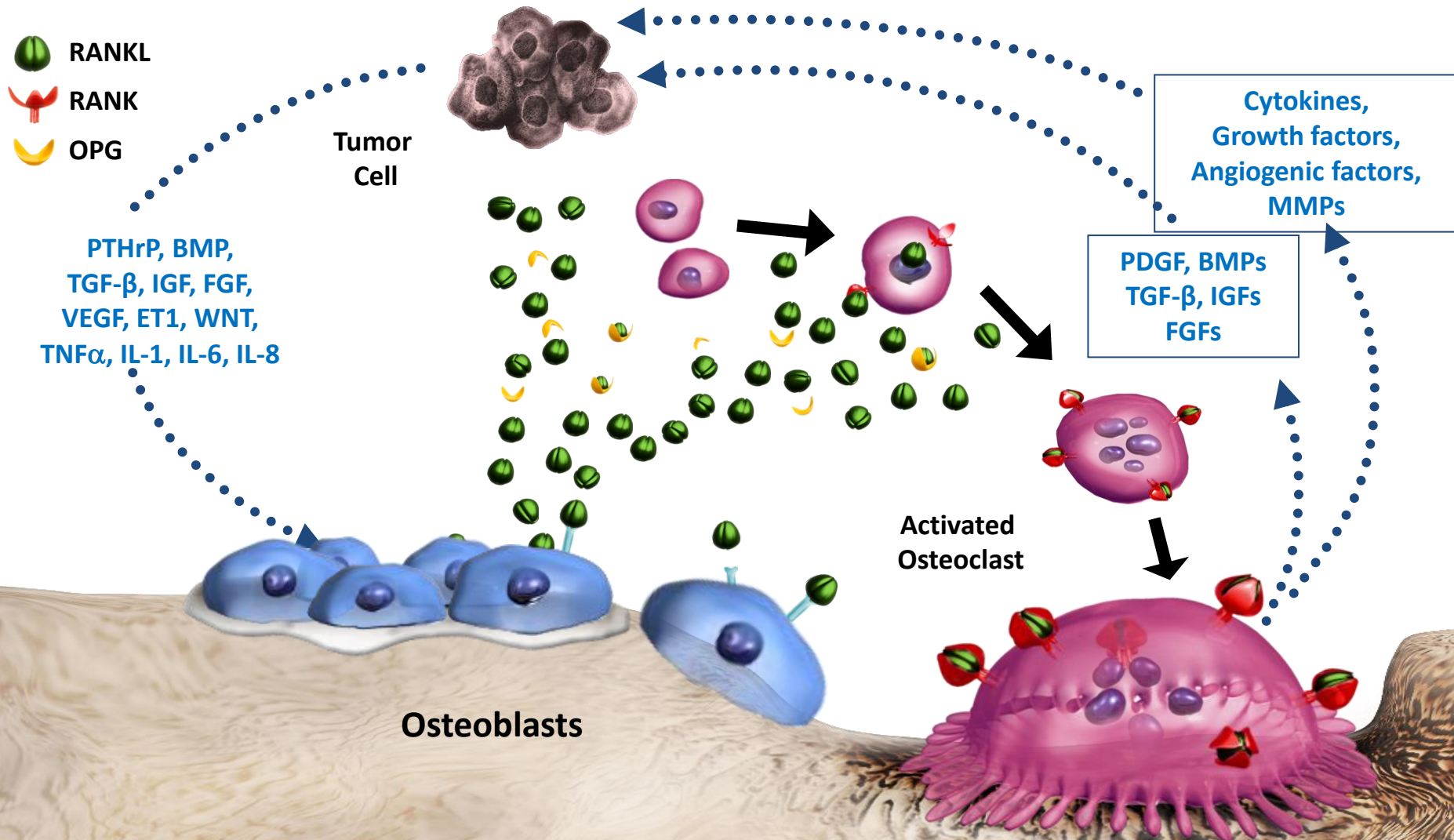
↓ immune infiltration
"cold tumor"



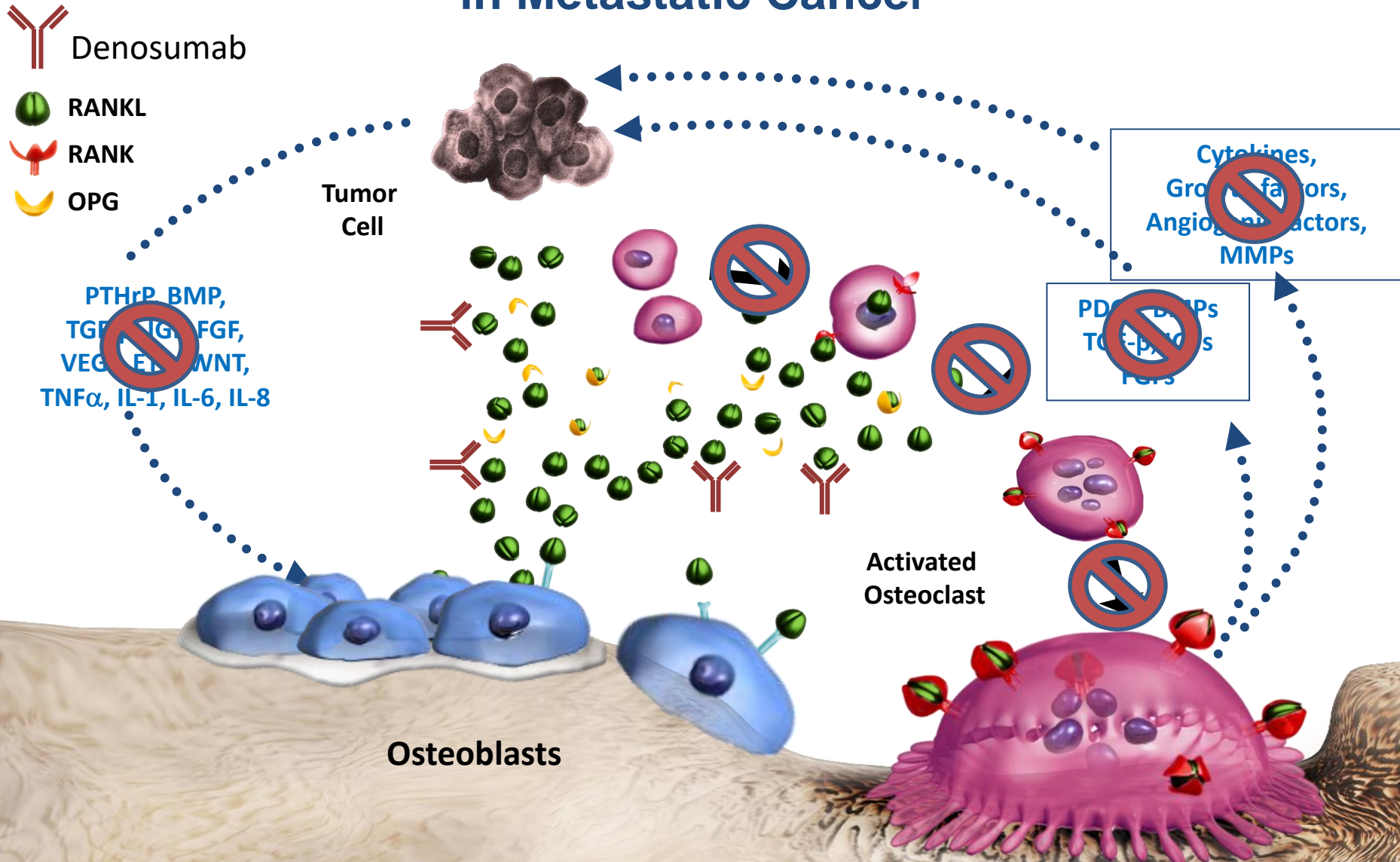
↑ immune infiltration
"hot tumor"



The “Vicious Cycle” Hypothesis of Bone Destruction in Metastatic Cancer



The “Vicious Cycle” Hypothesis of Bone Destruction in Metastatic Cancer



Denosumab Binds RANK Ligand and Inhibits Osteoclast Formation, Function and Survival

