Harvard-MIT Division of Health Sciences and Technology

HST.525J: Tumor Pathophysiology and Transport Phenomena, Fall 2005

Course Director: Dr. Rakesh Jain

#### **Delivery of Molecular and Cellular Medicine to Tumors**



#### **Vascular Normalization**

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### Outline

- Paradox
- Normalization Hypothesis
- Preclinical Evidence
- Clinical Evidence
- Molecular Mechanisms
- Conclusions

# Paradox

Chemotherapy or radiation therapy







?

Anti-angiogenic therapy







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## **Normalization Hypothesis**



Figure by MIT OCW. After Jain, 2001.

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### Can Anti-Angiogenic Therapy Normalize Tumor Vessels?



Reference: Jain, Nature Med. (2001), Science (2005)

### Outline

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# Tumor relapse after regression



day 12



day 18



day 24



day 36, relapse





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sham

13 Source: Jain, Rakesh K., Nina Safabakhsh, Axel Sckell, Yi Chen, Ping Jiang, Laura Benjamin, Fan Yuan, and Eli Keshet, "Endothelial cell death, angiogenesis, and microvascular function after castration in an androgen-dependent tumor: Role of vascular endothelial growth factor." Proc Natl Acad Sci 95 (1998): 10820-10825. (c) National Academy of Sciences, U.S.A.

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# Normalization of tumor vasculature by hormone withdrawal



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Source: Jain, Rakesh K., Nina Safabakhsh, Axel Sckell, Yi Chen, Ping Jiang, Laura Benjamin, Fan Yuan, and Eli Keshet, "Endothelial cell death, angiogenesis, and microvascular function after castration in an androgen-dependent tumor: Role of vascular endothelial growth factor." *Proc Natl Acad Sci* 95 (1998): 10820-10825. (c) National Academy of Sciences, U.S.A.



# Can Herceptin normalize tumor vessels?

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See: Fig. 1a in Izumi, Y., L. Xu, E. di Tomaso, D. Fukumura, and R. K. Jain. "Tumour biology: herceptin acts as an anti-angiogenic cocktail." *Nature* 416 (2002): 279-280.



### **VEGF Blockade Normalizes Tumor Vasculature**



Day 2 – Normalized

Day 5 - Inadequate

Figure by MIT OCW. After Jain, 2001.

### DC101 fortifies tumor vessels



Normal arteriole



control



DC101



Reference: Tong et al. Cancer Research (2004)



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18 Source: Jain, Rakesh K., Nina Safabakhsh, Axel Sckell, Yi Chen, Ping Jiang, Laura Benjamin, Fan Yuan, and Eli Keshet, "Endothelial cell death, angiogenesis, and microvascular function after castration in an androgen-dependent tumor: Role of vascular endothelial growth factor." *Proc Natl Acad Sci* 95 (1998): 10820-10825. (c) National Academy of Sciences, U.S.A.

### **Normalization Hypothesis**



Figure by MIT OCW. After Jain, 2001.

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### **Protocol of Clinical Trial**



Reference: Willett et al. Nature Medicine (2004)

# Response to anti-VEGF treatment in colorectal cancer

### Endoscopic view

Surgical specimen





7 weeks post treatment

**Before treatment** 

12 days post Avastin infusion

Reference: Willett et al. Nature Medicine (2004)

### **Endoscopic IFP Measurements**

Human IFP data



### Tumor vascular parameters from histology



Reference: Willett et al. Nature Medicine (2004)

### PET Scan: Tumor FDG Uptake

#### Sagittal PET scans: Patient #1



Reference: Willett et al. Nature Medicine (2004)

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### Cranial Model – Orthotopic Tumor Model



# <sup>2005</sup>Mechanism of Vascular Normalization





Figure by MIT OCW.

### Inhibition of Ang-1/Tie2 Signalling Prevents Pericyte Recruitment to Tumor Vessels



#### Figure by MIT OCW.

### <sup>2005</sup> The thickened basement membrane (BM) of tumor vessels normalizes after VEGFR2 blockade

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Images removed for copyright reasons.

Source: Fig. 4a in Winkler, et al. "Kinetics of vascular normalization by VEGFR2 blockade governs brain tumor response to radiation: Role of oxygenation, angiopoietin-1, and matrix metalloproteinases." *Cancer Cell* 6 (2004): 553-563.



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## BM thickening is common in human GBMs

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Source: Fig. 4b in Winkler et al. "Kinetics of vascular normalization by VEGFR2 blockade governs brain tumor response to radiation: Role of oxygenation, angiopoietin-1, and matrix metalloproteinases." *Cancer Cell* 6 (2004): 553-563.

# 2005 MMP Inhibition (GM6001 i.p) Prevents Normalization of the BM rat IgG + MMP-I. DC101 + MMP-I.

Source: Fig. 5a in Winkler et al. "Kinetics of vascular normalization by VEGFR2 blockade governs brain tumor response to radiation: Role of oxygenation, angiopoietin-1, and matrix metalloproteinases." Cancer Cell 6 (2004): 553-563. rat IgG + MMP-I. DC101 + MMP-I. 3 Thickness of BM (µm) 0 Normal Brain U87 Tumor

#### Figure by MIT OCW.

# The Vascular Normalization Time Window



Figure by MIT OCW. After Winkler et al, 2004.

### DC101 Decreases Tumor Hypoxia During the Vascular Normalization Time Window

Images removed for copyright resons. Source: Fig. 1b in Winkler et al. "Kinetics of vascular normalization by VEGFR2 blockade governs brain tumor response to radiation: Role of oxygenation, angiopoietin-1, and matrix metalloproteinases." *Cancer Cell* 6 (2004): 553-563.



Figure by MIT OCW.

Radiation Therapy Acts Synergistically with VEGFR2 Blockade During the Normalization Time Window



Figure by MIT OCW. After Winkler et al, 2004.

# The Vascular Normalization Time Window



Figure by MIT OCW. After Winkler et al, 2004.

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### Tumor vasculature



Reference: Brown et al. Nature Medicine, 2001

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### Normal vasculature



Reference: Brown et al. Nature Medicine, 2001

### Pre-clinical and clinical data Effects of anti-angiogenic therapy

	<u>Pre-clinical data</u>	<u>Clinical data</u>
Blood volume	↓ (-72%)	↓ (-26%)
Vascular density	↓ (-19%)	↓ (-47%)
Permeability	↓ (-62%)	
PS product		- (no changes)
Interstitial fluid pressure	↓ (-49%)	↓ (-71%)
Perivascular cell coverage	↑ <i>(21%)</i>	↑ <i>(80%)</i>
Apoptosis	↑ <b>(190%)</b>	↑ <i>(112%)</i>
Plasma VEGF level	↑*	↑ <i>(1109%)</i>
Progenitor cells	↓ <b>(~-92%)</b> †	↓ (~-9%)

### Evidence from Other Labs Supporting Vascular Normalization

2005

Anti-angiogenic agent	Target/ action	Other therapies	Effects	Reference
A.4.6.1	VEGF	CPT-11	<ul> <li>Decreased vascular density</li> <li>Increased intratumoral CPT-11 conc.</li> <li>Increased tumor perfusion (Hoechst 33342)</li> </ul>	Wilders et al. 2003
Thalidomide	Inhibits bFGF and VEGF	X-ray	<ul> <li>Induced tumor reoxygenation</li> <li>Lower IFP</li> <li>Increased perfusion</li> <li>Radiosensitization within a time window</li> </ul>	Ansiaux et al. 2005
Bevacizumab	VEGF	SS1P and HA22 (immunotoxins)	• <i>Combination treatment</i> (additive anti-tumor activity)	Bang et al. 2005
SU11657	VEGFRs PDGFRs	Pemetrexed and radiation	<ul> <li>Decreased vascular density</li> <li>Lower IFP</li> <li>Radiation therapy given after SU11657 is more effective</li> </ul>	Huber et al. 2005
AG013736 VEGF-Trap	VEGFRs VEGF	N/A	<ul> <li>Decreased vascular density</li> <li>Decreased endothelial fenestrations</li> <li>Improved perivascular cell coverage</li> </ul>	Inai et al. 2004
<i>DC101</i> 43	VEGFR2	N/A	•Decreased vascular density •Increased perivascular cell coverage •Improved basement membrane coverage •Down-regulation of MMP9 and MMP13	Vosseler et al. 2005

# **Proposed Normalization Window**



Figure by MIT OCW. After Jain, 2005.

2005

### **Problems with anti-cancer treatments**



Physiological barriers impede drug delivery

Genetic & epigenetic mechanisms lead to drug resistance

Anti-angiogenic therapy has the potential to:

- overcome physiological and drug resistance
- normalize tumor vasculature

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" Much of the history of biology can be expressed metaphorically as a dynamic tension between unit and aggregate, between reduction and holism. An equilibrium in this tension is neither possible nor desirable... In tandem the two kinds of endeavors nudge the discipline forward."

> -Edward O. Wilson Pelegrino University Professor, Harvard

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