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CTX112 and CTX131: Next-generation CRISPR/Cas9-engineered allogeneic (allo) CAR T cells incorporating novel edits that increase potency and efficacy in the treatment of lymphoid and solid tumors

Session Type: Drug Development Special Track Session

Session Title: New Drugs on the Horizon: Part 1

Jon Terrett, Ph.D.

CRISPR Therapeutics, Boston, MA



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Disclosure Information

Jon Terrett

I have the following relevant financial relationships to disclose:

Employee of: CRISPR Therapeutics

Stockholder in: CRISPR Therapeutics

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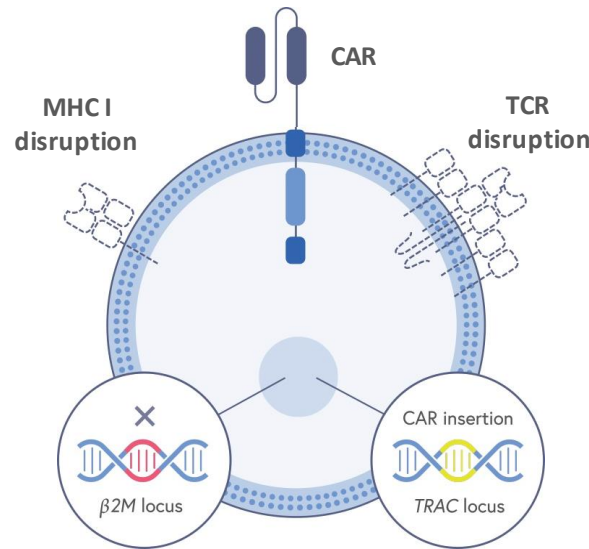
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Our Allogeneic CAR T Cells Share the Same Core Chassis

Allogeneic CAR T chassis:

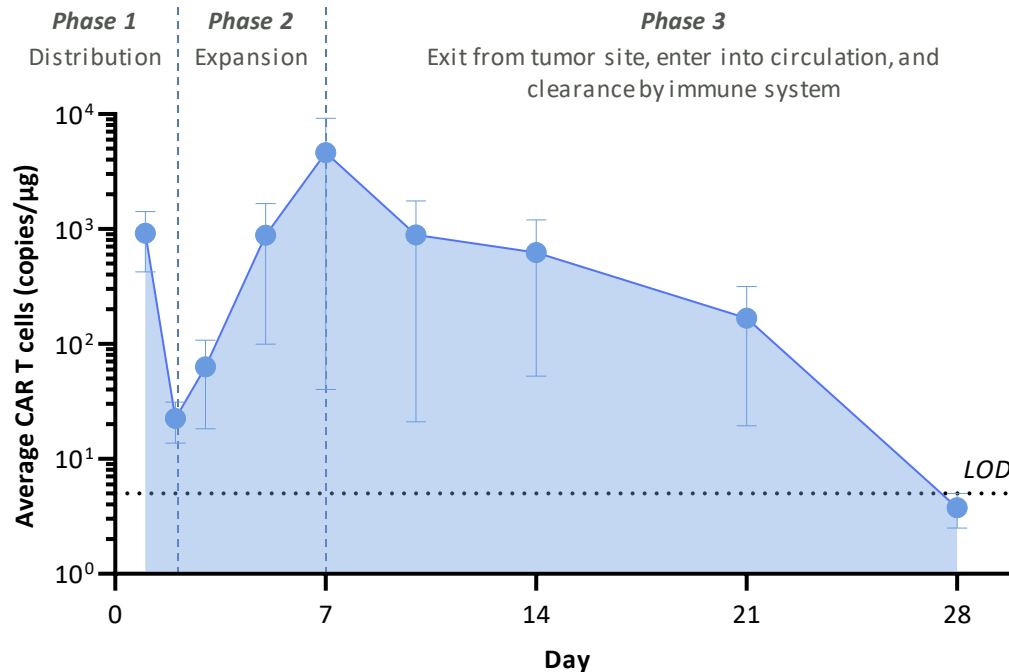
- **Improve persistence in the allo setting** via B2M knock-out to eliminate MHC I expression
- **Avoid need** for more toxic lymphodepletion regimens



- **Reduce risk of GvHD** via TCR disruption
- **Improve consistency and safety by precise insertion** of CAR construct into *TRAC* locus without using lentivirus or retrovirus

Allo CAR T Cells Show Classic “Tri-phasic” PK

Mean of CTX130 pharmacokinetics (n=5 DL4 subjects, first infusions only)



Durable remissions do not require long lived CAR T cell persistence, i.e., >28 days

- CAR T cells produce rapid responses: tumor regression in the first week after infusion and radiographic CRs at D28
- Allogeneic CAR T cells do not routinely persist beyond 28 days

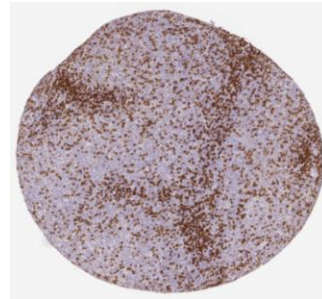
Patient NK Cells Unlikely to Limit Allogeneic CAR T Function at the Tumor Site

Tumor samples stained for NK and T cells show absence of NK cells at the tumor site

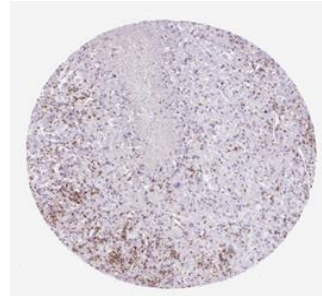
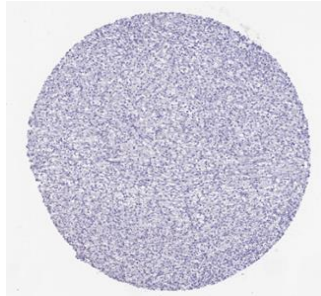
NK cells (CD56)

T cells (CD3E)

Non-Hodgkin lymphoma



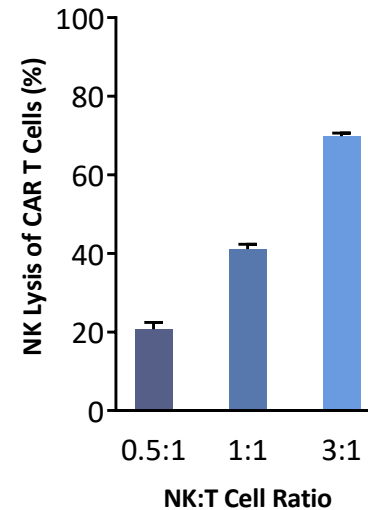
Renal cell carcinoma



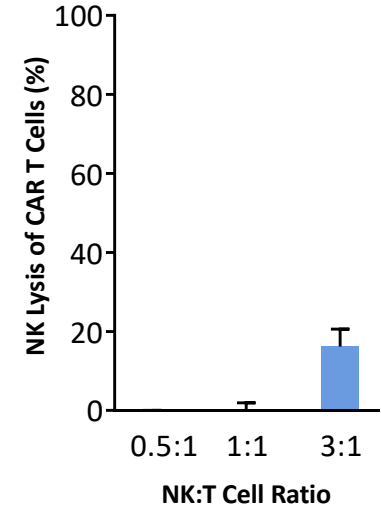
Source:
Protein Atlas

CAR T expansion and activity following target cell engagement far outpaces NK killing capacity *in vitro*

CTX130 + NK cells



CTX130 + NK cells + RCC cells (A498)

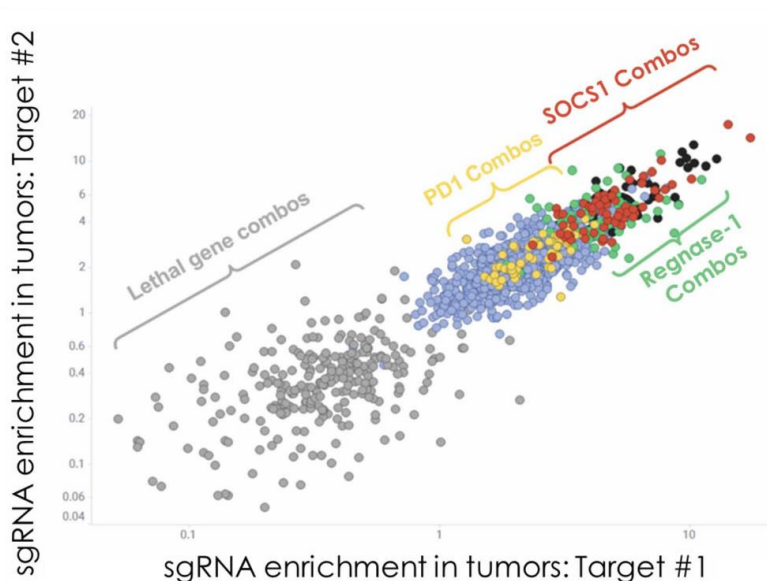


Learnings from CTX110 and CTX130 Support Development of Next-Generation Candidates

- Efficacy and PK data from CTX110 and CTX130 indicate that **durable remissions do not require long-lived CAR T cell persistence**
- NK cells not observed in significant numbers at tumor sites, **suggesting that increased immune evasion will have limited impact on antitumor activity**
- In contrast, internal and external data (e.g., Mai, et al. 2023) suggest that **edits to enhance T cell function have the potential to improve efficacy**
- As a result, our next-generation strategy focuses on **improving CAR T potency**
- Through systematic CRISPR screening, we identified **two synergistic potency edits** that we have incorporated into our next-generation CTX112 and CTX131 programs

CRISPR Screening Revealed the Most Synergistic Potency Edit Combinations

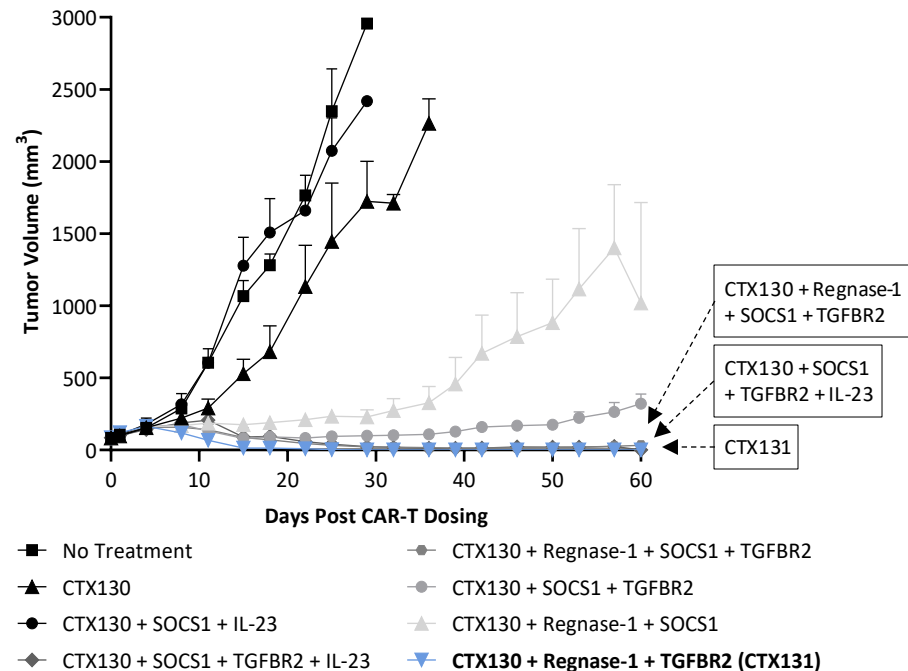
In vivo murine T cell screen identified gene edit combinations that boost potency against solid tumors¹



(1) Wrocklage et. al. KSQ Therapeutics, Presented at Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer, 2021

Comprehensive empirical evaluation of >50 edit combinations performed *in vivo*

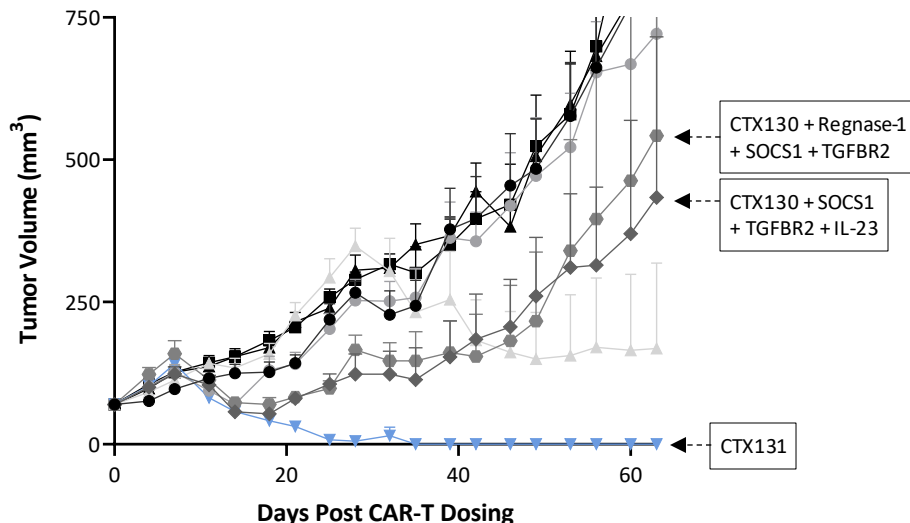
Example of select combos in H1975 lung cancer xenograft model



Regnase-1 + TGFBR2 Double KO Consistently Outperformed Other Combinations

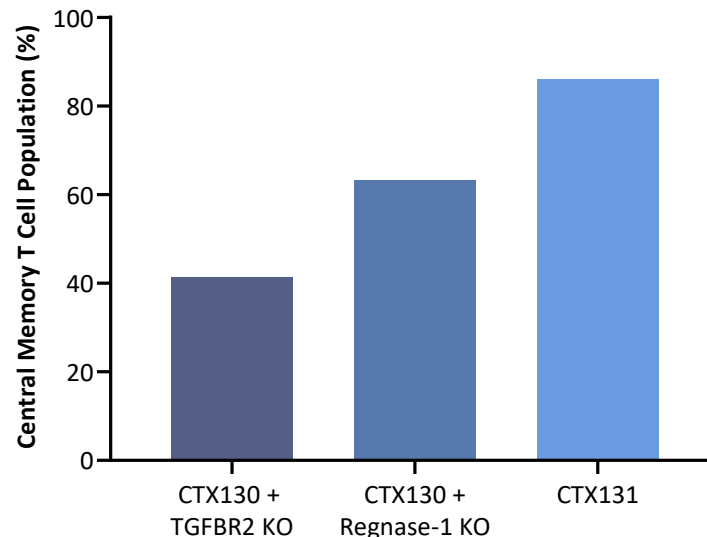
Regnase-1 + TGFBR2 KO proved the most potent combo across multiple different tumor models and antigens

CAKI-1 RCC xenograft



- No Treatment
- ▲ CTX130
- CTX130 + SOCS1 + IL-23
- ◆ CTX130 + SOCS1 + TGFBR2 + IL-23
- CTX130 + Regnase-1 + SOCS1 + TGFBR2
- CTX130 + SOCS1 + TGFBR2
- ▲ CTX130 + Regnase-1 + SOCS1
- ▼ CTX130 + Regnase-1 + TGFBR2 (CTX131)

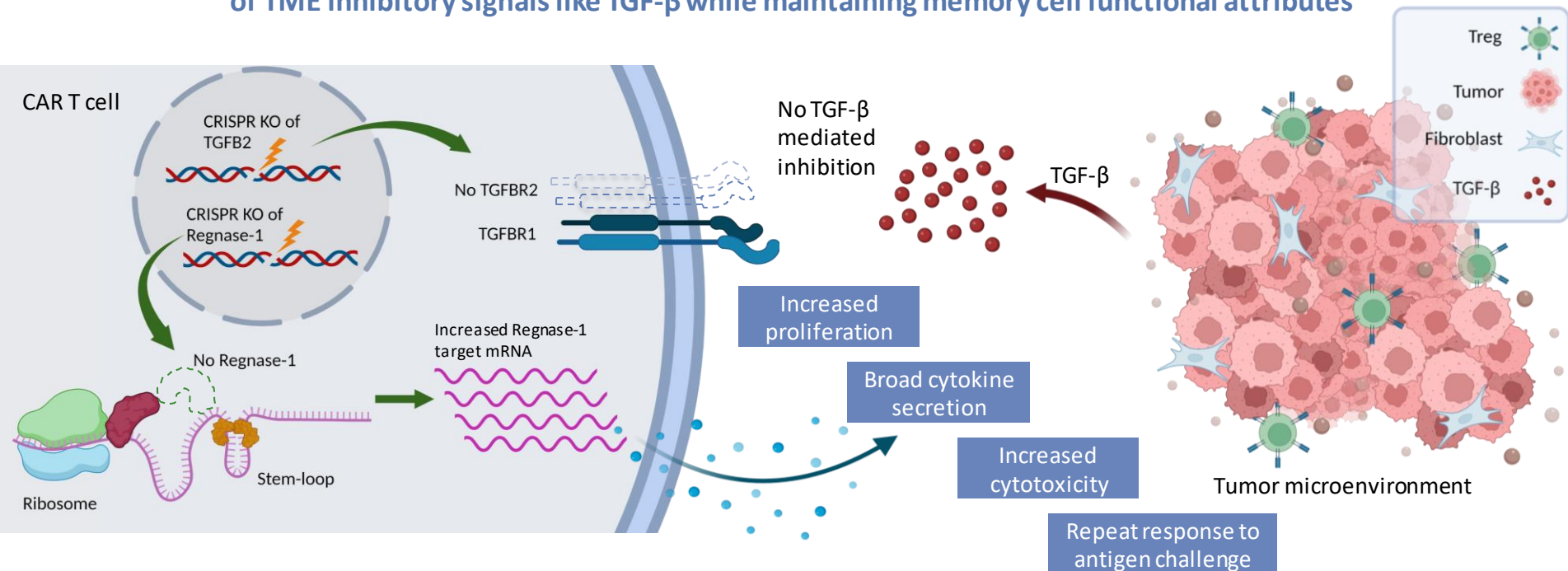
T_{CM} phenotype maintained longer with Regnase-1 + TGFBR2 double KO



Maintenance of memory cell properties allows for greater expansion and anti-tumor activity

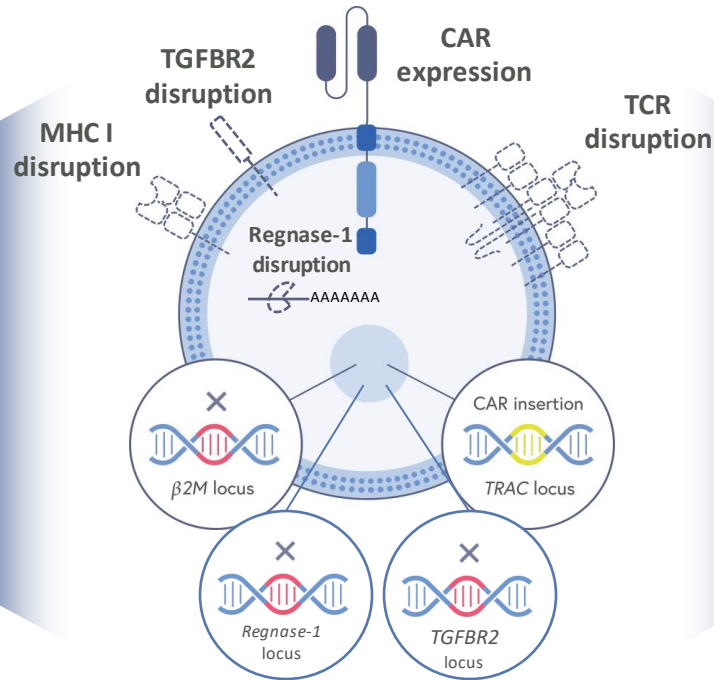
Regnase-1 and TGFB2 KO Address Both Intrinsic and Extrinsic “Brakes” on T Cell Activity

Regnase-1 and TGFB2 KO work synergistically to increase effector function in the presence of TME inhibitory signals like TGF- β while maintaining memory cell functional attributes



Next-Gen Allogeneic CAR-T Candidates Build on Core Chassis

Generation 2.0 allogeneic CAR T chassis:



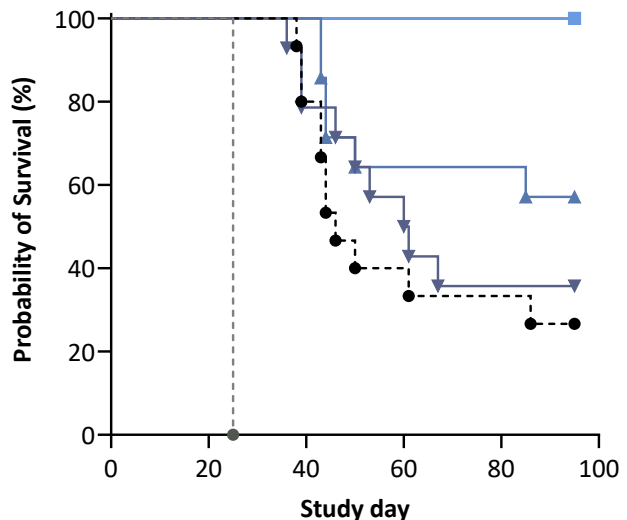
- **Regnase-1:** Removes intrinsic “brake” on T cell function
- **Increases functional persistence, cytokine secretion and sensitivity, effector function on tumors**

- **TGFBR2 KO:** Removes key extrinsic “brake” on T cell anti-tumor activity
- **Reduces TME inhibition of multiple CAR-T cell functions**

CTX112 and CTX131, our next-gen CD19 and CD70 targeting therapies, contain these additional edits (CTX131 also contains a CD70 locus knockout) – details in patent ID US 11,497,773

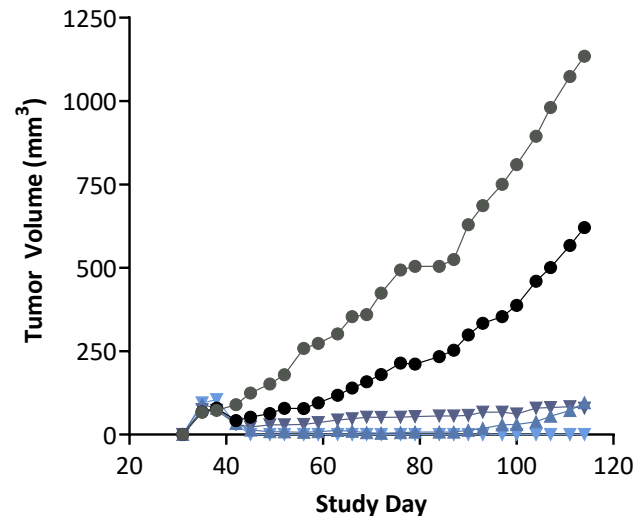
Prolonged Survival and Consistent Tumor Reduction Observed in CD19+ and CD70+ Malignancies *In Vivo*

CTX112 extends survival in Nalm6-Luc mice



● Untreated ● CTX110 ▾ CTX110 + TGFBR2 KO
 ▲ CTX110 + Regnase-1 KO ■ CTX112

CTX131 eliminates tumors in tumor rechallenge with ACHN (RCC)

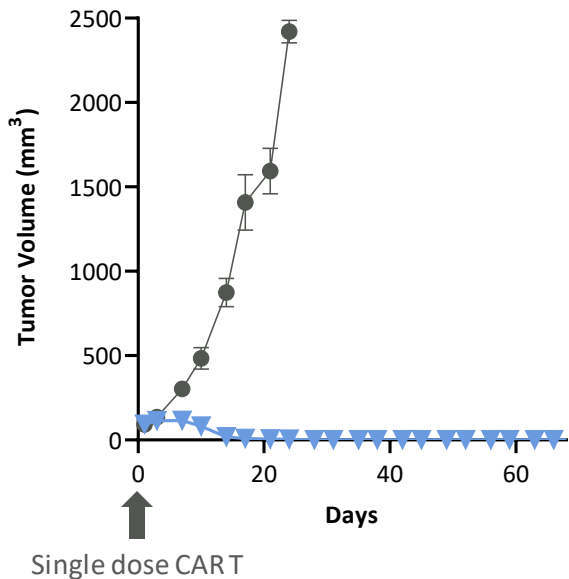


● Untreated ● CTX130 ▾ CTX130 + TGFBR2 KO
 ▲ CTX130 + Regnase-1 KO ▾ CTX131

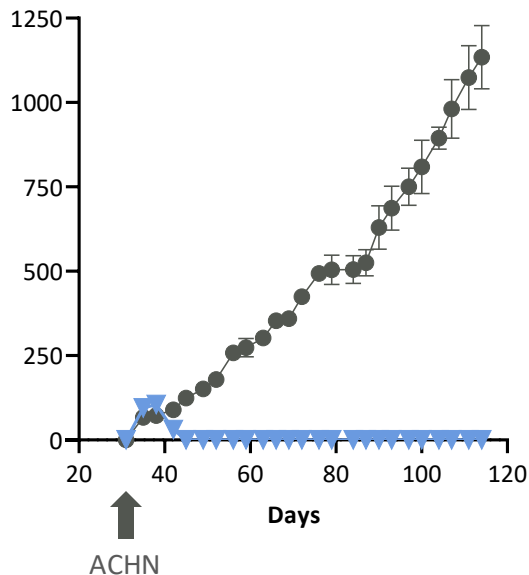
Regnase-1 + TGFBR2 double KO outperforms either KO alone regardless of CAR construct or cancer model

A Single Dose of CTX131 Eliminates 3 Different Tumor Models in Succession Without Loss of Function

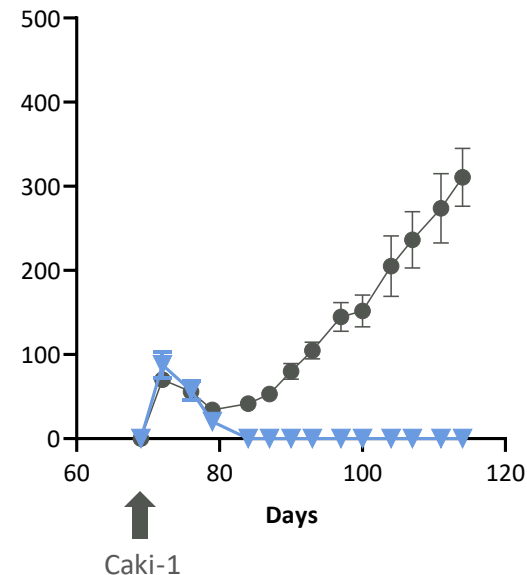
Tumor 1: NCI-H1975 (Lung)



Tumor 2: Rechallenge 1 with ACHN (RCC)

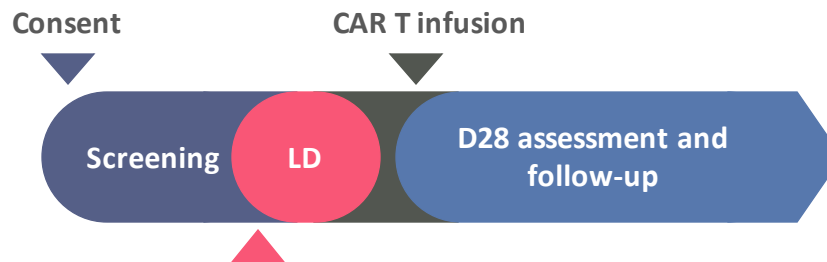


Tumor 3: Rechallenge 2 with Caki-1 (RCC)



● Untreated ▼ CTX131

Trials for CTX112 and CTX131 Follow Similar Protocols as Our CARBON and COBALT Trials



Standard lymphodepletion regimen of
Flu 30mg/m² + Cy 500mg/m² for 3 days

Candidate	NTC	Trial Name
CTX110	NCT04035434	A Safety and Efficacy Study Evaluating CTX110 in Subjects With Relapsed or Refractory B-Cell Malignancies (CARBON)
CTX112	NCT05643742	A Safety and Efficacy Study Evaluating CTX112 in Subjects With Relapsed or Refractory B-Cell Malignancies
CTX130	NCT04502446	A Safety and Efficacy Study Evaluating CTX130 in Subjects With Relapsed or Refractory T or B Cell Malignancies (COBALT-LYM)
CTX131	NCT05795595	A Safety and Efficacy Study Evaluating CTX131 in Adult Subjects With Relapsed or Refractory Solid Tumors

Preclinical Data of Our Next-Gen Allo CAR T Candidates Supports Development for Hard-to-Treat Cancers

- Clinical data with CTX110 and CTX130 demonstrate that **allogeneic CAR T efficacy and durable remissions do not require intense immune suppression or long-lived CAR T persistence**
- Regnase-1 + TGFBR2 double KO **increases cell killing and functional persistence, provides resistance to environmental suppression, and preserves memory functions to enhance anti-tumor activity**
- Furthermore, the robustness and proliferation capacity of CAR T cells bearing these edits **simplifies manufacturing and increases production capacity**
- Addition of these next-generation edits to our core chassis could enable allogeneic CAR T **use in the most challenging patients and toughest indications, including solid tumors**
- We have advanced this next-generation **CAR T chassis into the clinic with CTX112 and CTX131 for CD19+ and CD70+ malignancies, respectively**

Acknowledgments

Thank you to all the patients, families and investigators involved in our clinical trials!