

Optimizing PD-1 Agonist Signaling With Membrane Proximal Binding of Rosnilimab, a Clinical Stage PD-1 Agonist IgG1 Antibody

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Disclosures: All authors are employees and stockholders of Anaptys

Checkpoint Receptors Modulate Immune Cells

Checkpoint antagonists:
“release the brakes”

Checkpoint receptors
(e.g., PD-1, BTLA)



Immune cells
(e.g., T, B,
dendritic cells)

Checkpoint agonists:
“tap the brakes”

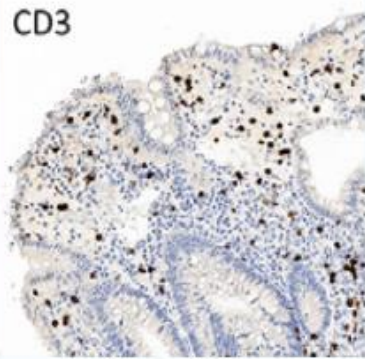
Treat cancers:
Unleash immune response

Treat inflammation:
Attenuate overactive/persistent immune response

PD-1 Pathway is Dysregulated in Ulcerative Colitis

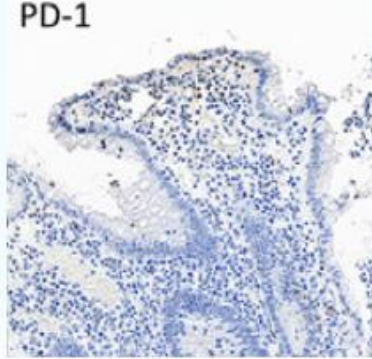
~40% Of T Cells Are PD-1+ In UC Lamina Propria¹

CD3

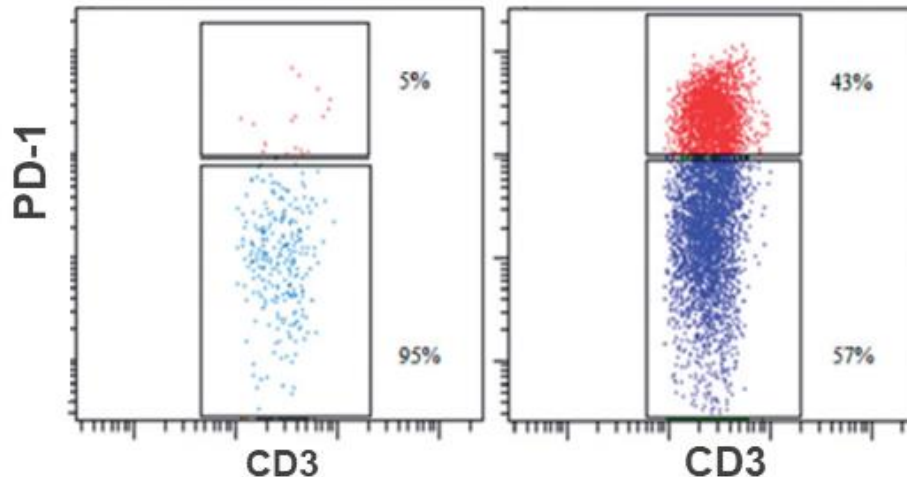


Healthy

PD-1



UC

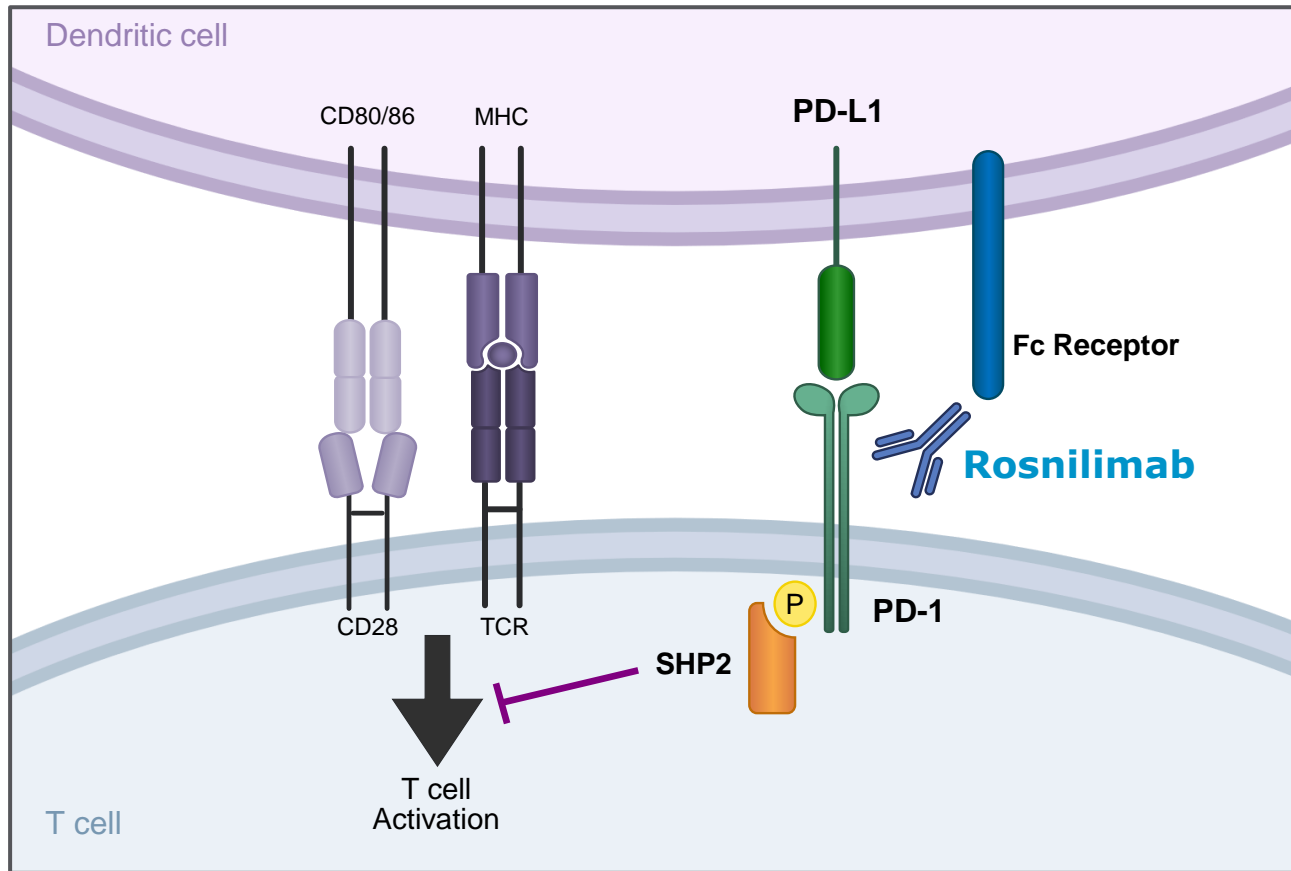


- Elevated PD-1 high Tfh and Tph cells in the peripheral circulation in UC positively correlate with Mayo clinical score, erythrocyte sedimentation rate, C-reactive protein ^{2,3,4}
- Diarrhea and colitis are frequently reported AEs with PD-1 antagonists⁵
- PD-1 pathway gene expression is dysregulated in UC tissues, similar to RA synovium⁶

Opportunity: Leverage endogenous immune cell regulatory mechanisms to restore homeostasis via PD-1 agonism

- PoC for PD-1 agonism has been achieved in rheumatoid arthritis⁷
- Reduction of elevated PD-1 high Tph cells in both UC colon and periphery correlates with remission ^{3,4}

Rosnilimab (PD-1 agonist, IgG1)



Antibody Characteristics

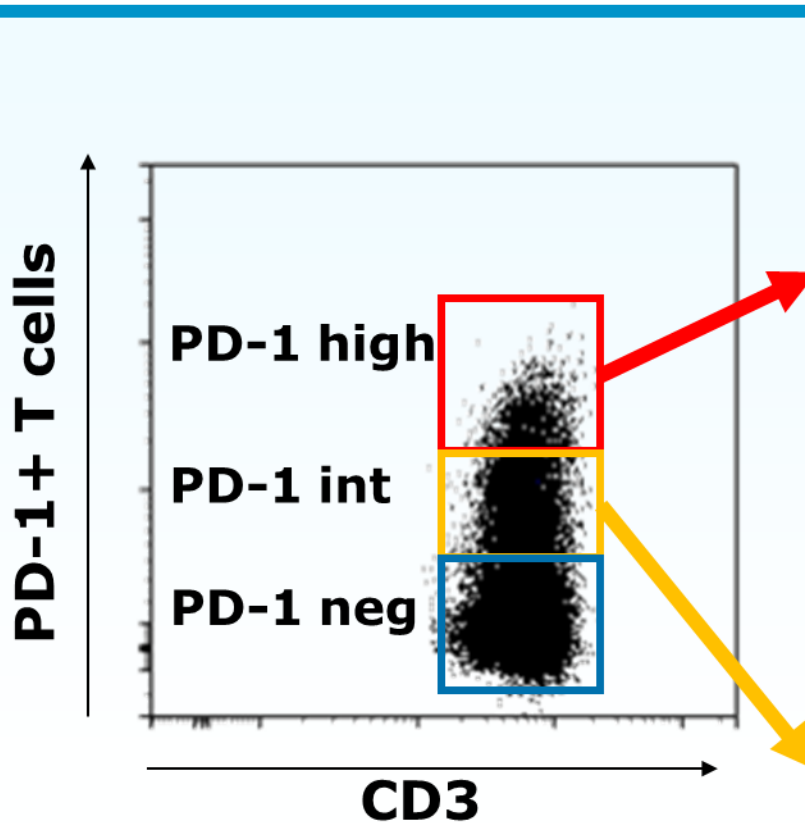
- Checkpoint ligands bind to receptors, forming tight synapses to enable clustering and exclusion of large phosphatases resulting in checkpoint agonism¹
- Rosnilimab binds to PD-1 at a membrane proximal epitope²
- Fc Receptor engagement via the IgG1 Fc domain potentiates agonism and depletion activity³

Mechanism of Action

- Depletes PD-1 high T cells and agonizes remaining PD-1+ T cells, in tissue and in the periphery
- Broader T cell targeting agents, such as abatacept, have not demonstrated a safety risk for infection or cancer.

1. Suzuki K, et al. Sci Immunol 2023;8(79):eadd4947. 2. Parmley S, et al. Arthritis Rheumatol 2023;75(suppl 9):Abstract 0086. 3. Cleary K, et al. J Immunol 2017;198(10):3999-4011.

Rosnilimab has Dual Mechanisms of Depletion and PD-1 Agonism



Rosnilimab depletes PD-1 high

Tfh (follicular helper)

Tph (peripheral helper)

Teff (effector)

- Defined by PD-1 high
- Secrete CXCL13 and IL-21, to recruit and mature B cells into “autoantibody secreting” plasma cells
- Induced in response to stimulation, **highly** activated (PD-1 high)

Rosnilimab agonizes PD-1 int

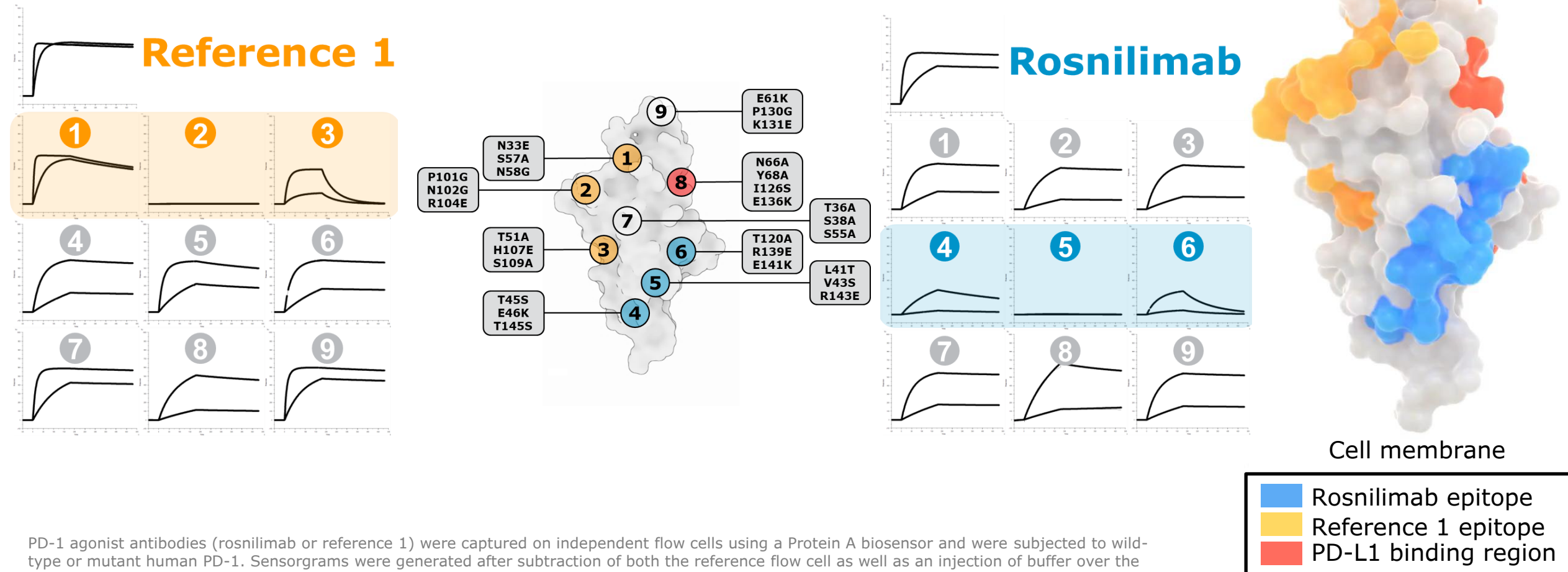
Teff (effector)

- Induced in response to stimulation, **moderately** activated (PD-1 int)
- Secrete inflammatory cytokines, cause tissue damage and perpetuate inflammatory cycle

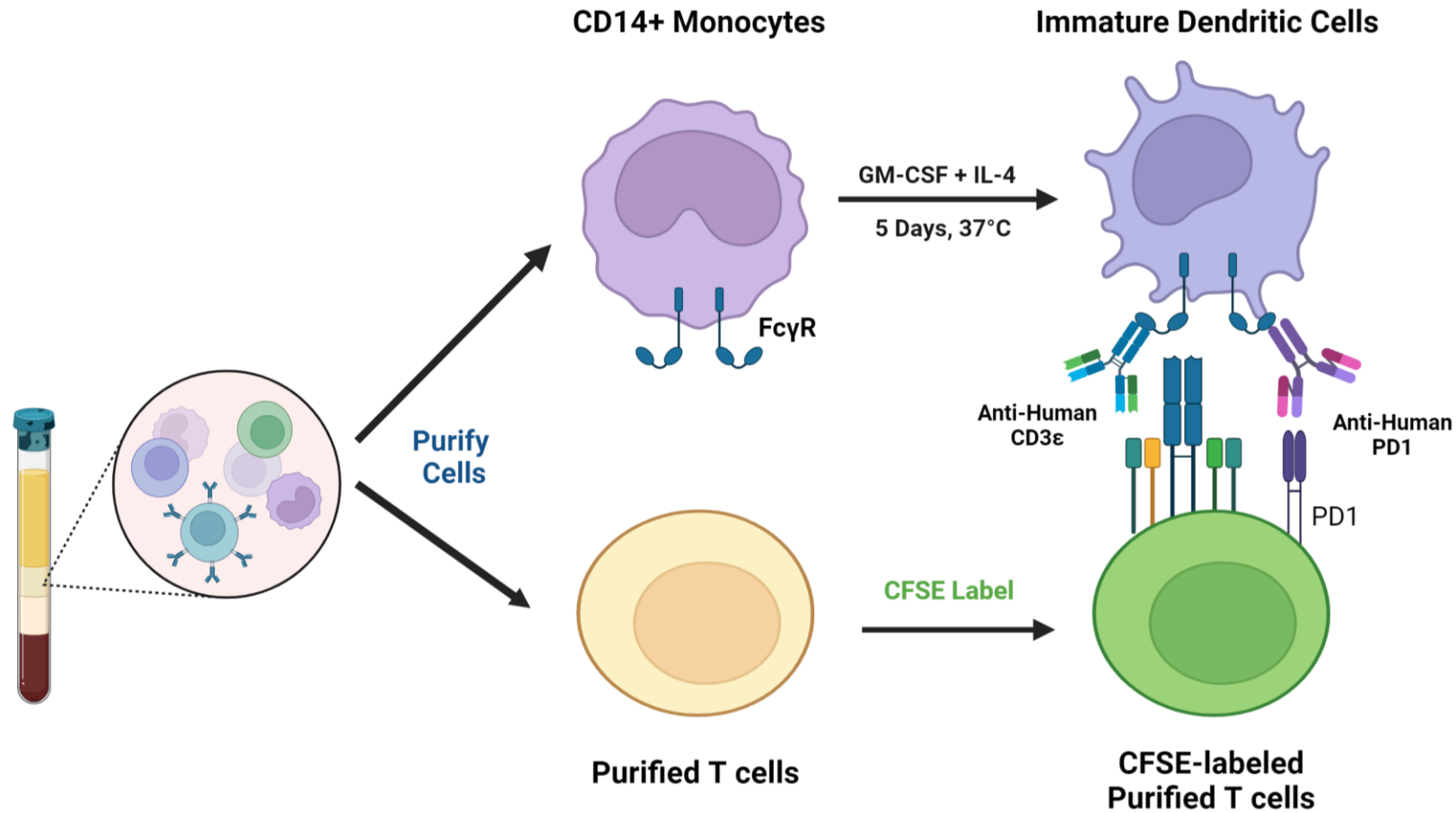
- Targeted approach to T cells already affected by approved, safe and efficacious MOAs such as anti-TNF α , anti- α 4 β 7, and S1P modulators

Rosnilimab Binds to a Membrane Proximal Epitope of PD-1, Distinct from Binding Epitope of PD-L1 and Membrane Distal Binding Epitope of Reference 1

Epitope mapping using wild-type or mutant human PD-1

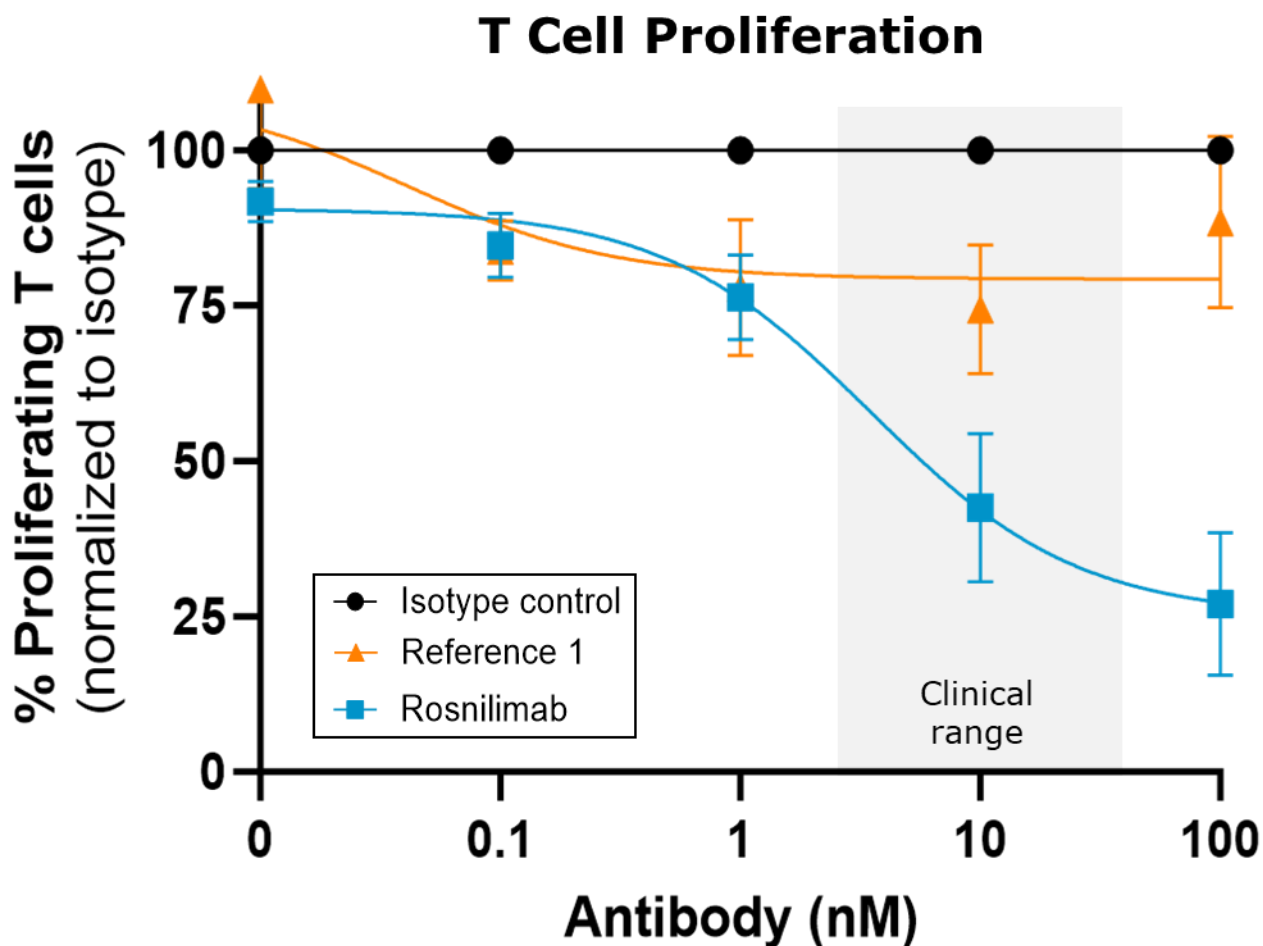


Evaluating PD-1 Agonism Using Primary Immune Cells



- Objective: Evaluate the contribution of PD-1 membrane proximal binding and FcR engagement to PD-1 agonism, when there are no cells capable of mediating depletion in this assay

Greater Potency of Agonism (Reduced T cell Proliferation) by Membrane Proximal Binding Rosnilimab



Test Article	PD-1 Membrane Binding	T Cell Proliferation Reduction*
Reference 1	Distal	~20%
Rosnilimab	Proximal	~75%

*Compared to isotype control

Membrane Proximal Binding Mediates Greater Depletion Mechanisms

Common mechanisms seen in antibodies, T cell engagers, and CART

Antibody distance from the cell membrane regulates antibody effector mechanisms

Kirstie L.S. Cleary, H.T. Claude Chan, Sonja James, Martin J. Glennie, and Mark S. Cragg
Antibody & Vaccine Group, Cancer Sciences Unit, Faculty of Medicine, University of Southampton, Southampton General Hospital, Southampton, SO16 6YD, UK

J Immunol. 2017 May 15; 198(10): 3999–4011. doi:10.4049/jimmunol.1601473

Targeting a membrane-proximal epitope on mesothelin increases the tumoricidal activity of a bispecific antibody blocking CD47 on mesothelin-positive tumors

Eric Hatterer, Xavier Chauchet, Françoise Richard, Leticia Barba, Valéry Moine, Laurence Chatel, Lucile Broyer, Guillemette Pontini, Tereza Bautzova, Flora Juan, Sebastien Calloud, Nicolas Bosson, Maud Charreton, Krzysztof Masternak, Vanessa Buatois & Limin Shang

MABS 2020, VOL. 12, NO. 1, e1739408 (13 pages)

Membrane-Proximal Epitope Facilitates Efficient T Cell Synapse Formation by Anti-FcRH5/CD3 and Is a Requirement for Myeloma Cell Killing

Ji Li,¹ Nicola J. Stagg,¹ Jennifer Johnston,¹ Michael J. Harris,² Sam A. Menzies,² Danielle DiCara,¹ Vanessa Clark,¹ Maria Hristopoulos,¹ Ryan Cook,¹ Dionysos Slaga,¹ Rin Nakamura,¹ Luke McCarty,¹ Siddharth Sukumaran,¹ Elizabeth Luis,¹ Zhengmao Ye,¹ Thomas D. Wu,¹ Teiko Sumiyoshi,¹ Dmitry Danilenko,¹ Genee Y. Lee,¹ Klara Totpal,¹ Diego Ellerman,¹ Isidro Hötzel,¹ John R. James,² and Teemu T. Junttila^{1,3,*}

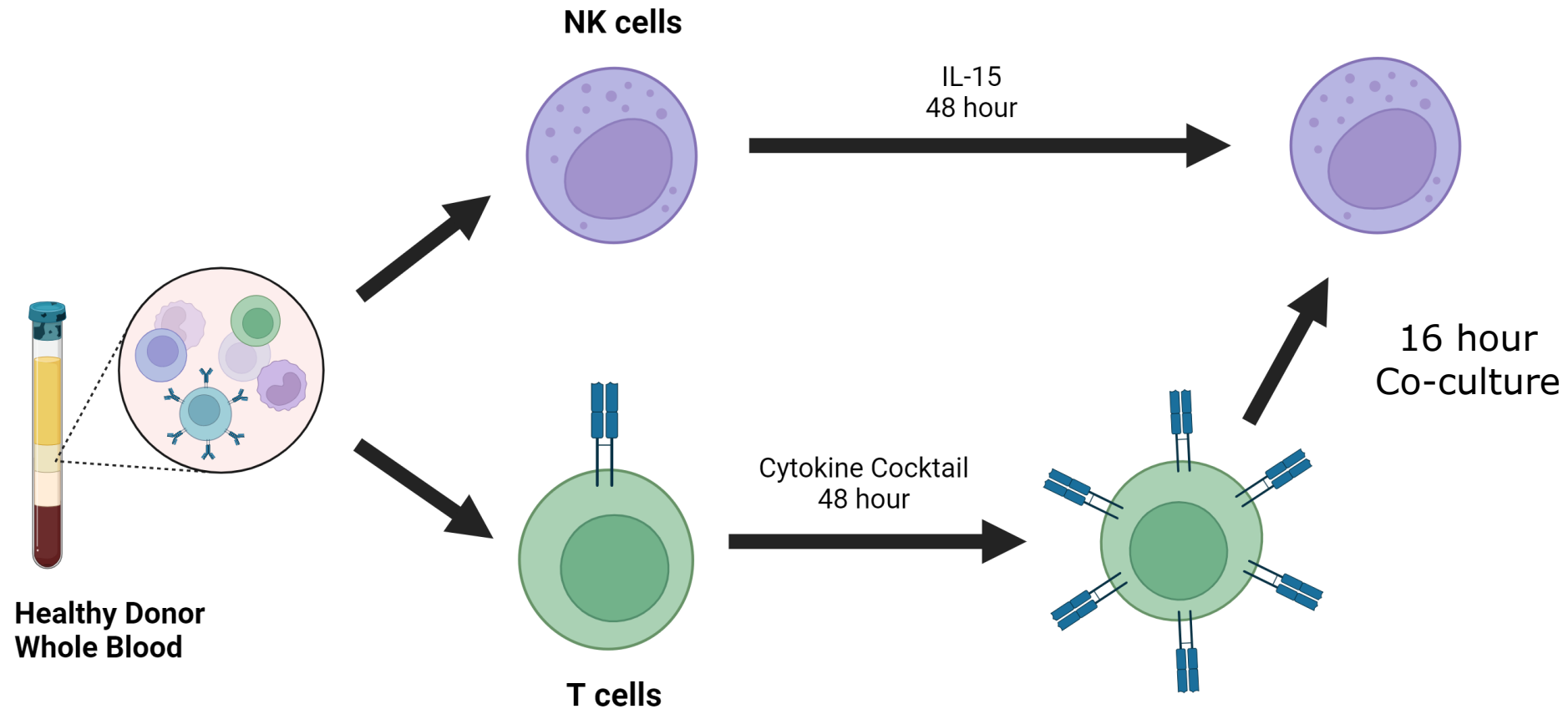
Cancer Cell 31, 383–395, March 13, 2017

Anti-PD-1 antibodies recognizing the membrane-proximal region are PD-1 agonists that can down-regulate inflammatory diseases

Kensuke Suzuki^{1,2†}, Masaki Tajima^{1,3†}, Yosuke Tokumaru^{1,2}, Yuya Oshiro^{1,2}, Satoshi Nagata⁴, Haruhiko Kamada⁴, Miho Kihara⁵, Kohei Nakano⁵, Tasuku Honjo⁶, Akio Ohta^{1*}

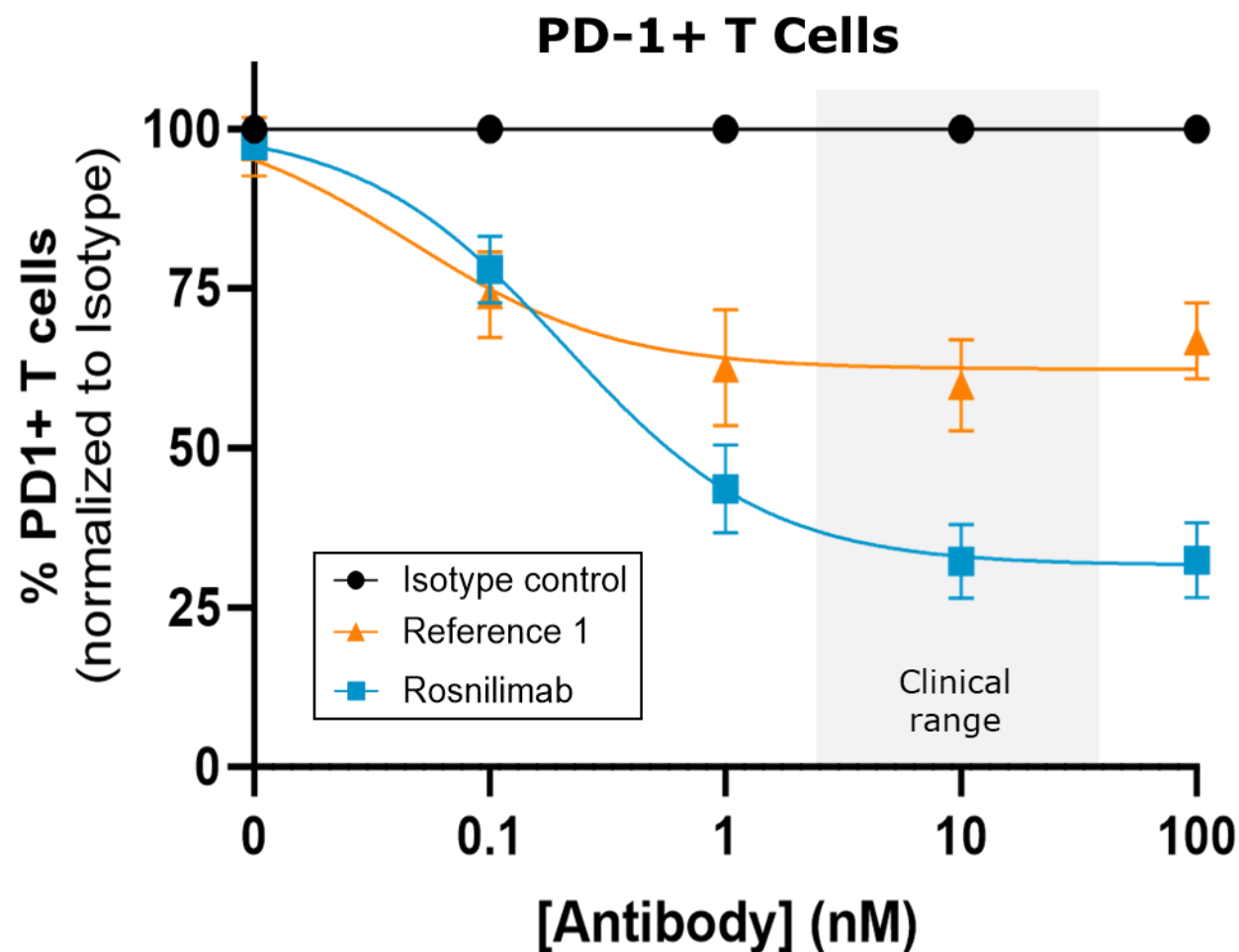
Suzuki et al., Sci. Immunol. 8, eadd4947 (2023) 13 January 2023

Evaluating Depletion (ADCC) of PD-1+ T Cells Using Primary Immune Cells



- Objective: Evaluate the contribution of PD-1 membrane proximal binding and FcR engagement to depletion of PD-1+ T cells

Greater Potency in Depletion of PD-1+ T Cells by Membrane Proximal Binding Rosnilimab

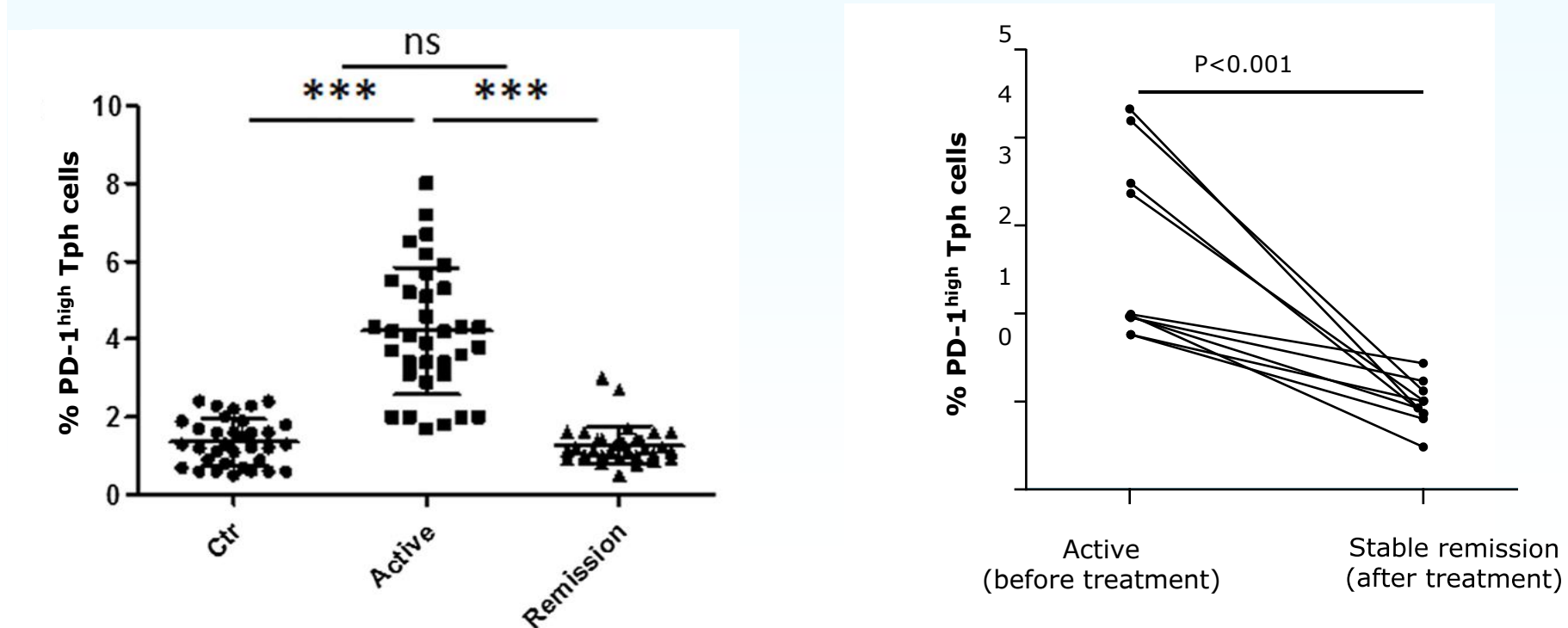


Test Article	PD-1 Membrane Binding	PD-1+ T Cell Reduction*
Reference 1	Distal	~40%
Rosnilimab	Proximal	~70%

*Compared to isotype control

Reduction of Elevated PD-1 high Tph Cells Correlates with Remission

PD-1 high Tph cells are reduced with remission

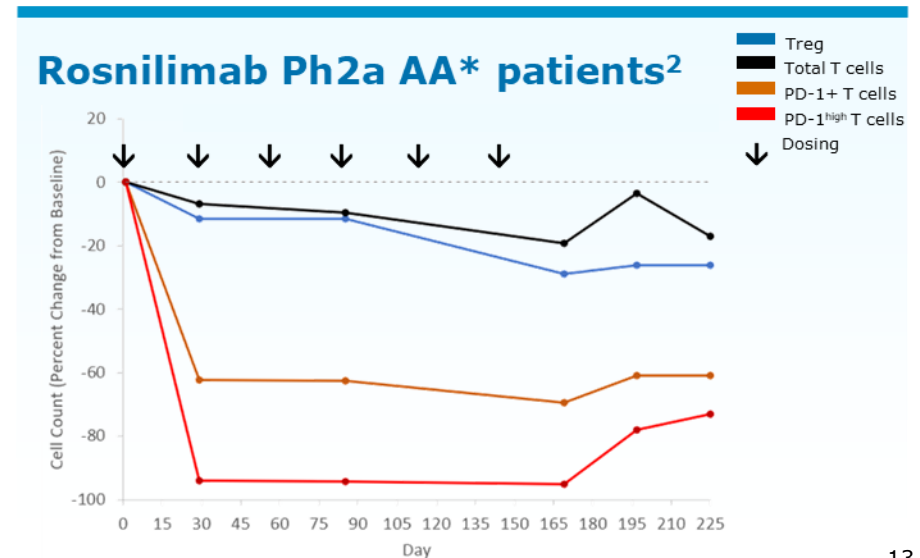
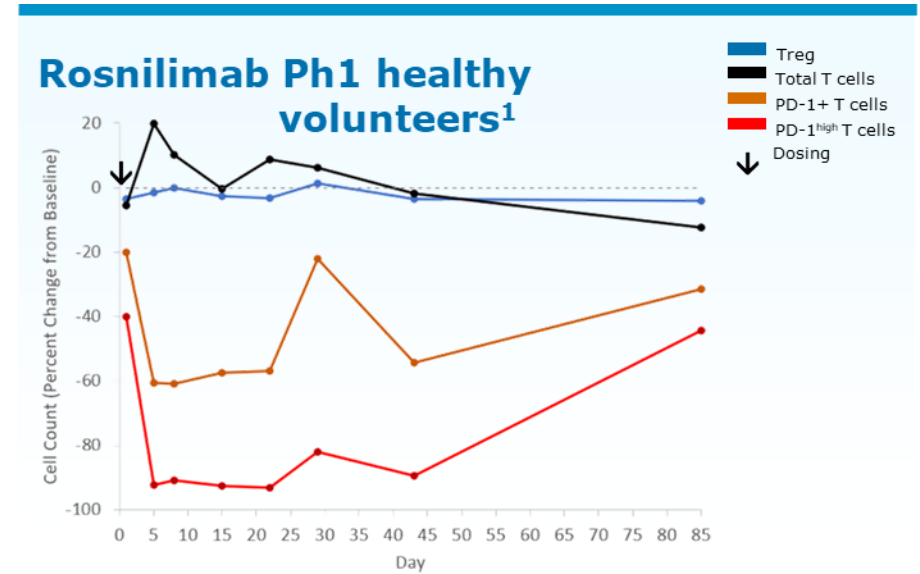
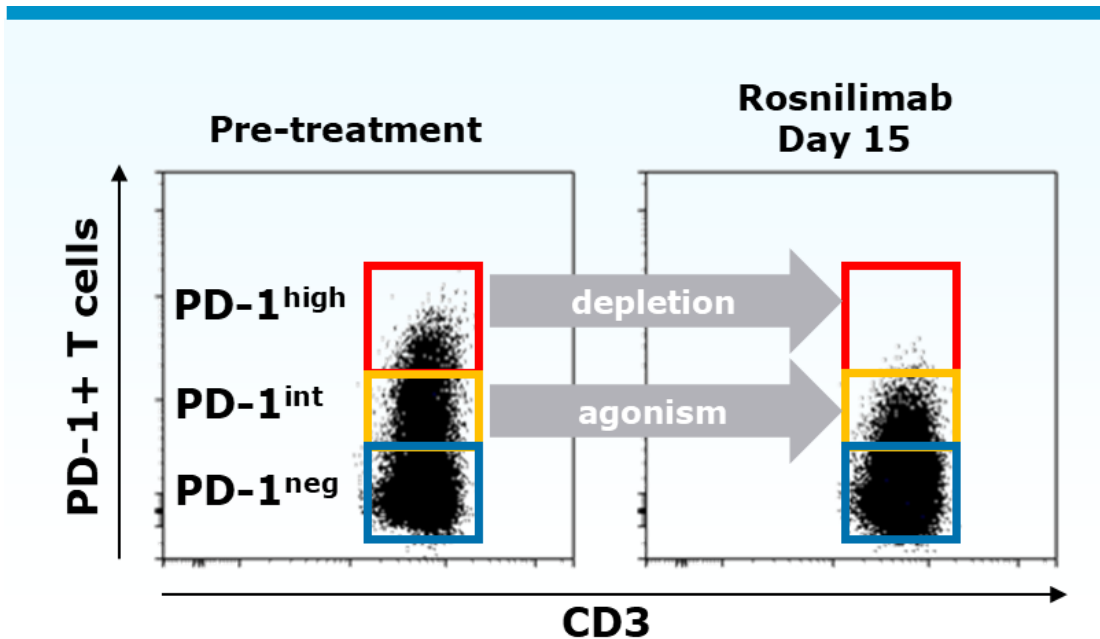


Reduction of plasma cell generation & autoantibody levels, including anti-microbial IgG antibodies contributing to colonic inflammation and barrier disruption

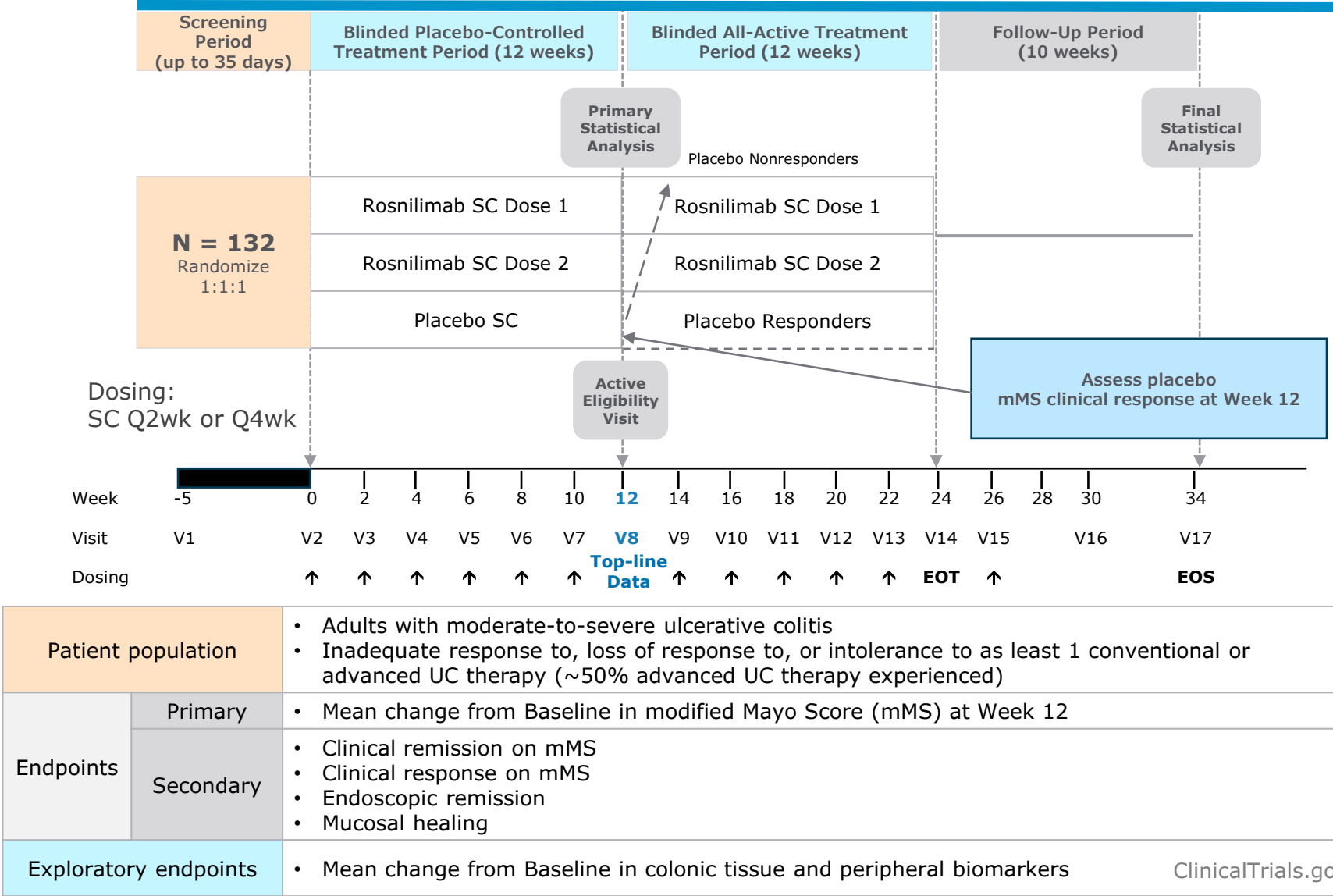
Rosnilimab Demonstrated Reduction of Peripheral PD-1 high and PD-1+ T Cells in Humans

Safety, Tolerability, and PK

- Rosnilimab was well tolerated; no dose-limiting toxicities
- No carcinogenic events observed; no infection risk signal
- Favorable PK with 2 wk half-life in IV and SC injections
- Receptor occupancy increased in a dose-dependent manner and consistent with PK



ROSETTA: Rosnilimab Phase 2 in Moderate-to-Severe UC



Conclusions

- Rosnilimab binds to a membrane proximal region of PD-1 while reference 1 binds to a more membrane distal region
- Optimization of rosnilimab's binding characteristics results in more potent agonism and deeper depletion of PD-1 expressing T cells compared to reference 1
- Results were consistent with published studies that demonstrate membrane proximal binding of PD-1 antibodies improve PD-1 agonistic activity and enhance target cell depletion
- PoC for PD-1 agonism has been demonstrated in RA
- The class of PD-1 agonists, including rosnilimab, have not demonstrated increased safety risks in terms of infection or cancer, in numerous phase 1 and phase 2 studies
- These mechanistic data, translational in vivo and in vitro data, robust Phase 1 healthy volunteer data (see Su1784), and unmet needs in UC provide rationale for an ongoing global Phase 2 study of rosnilimab in participants with UC (NCT06127043)