

Radiotherapy and immunotherapy

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Propositions

Radiotherapy and immunotherapy: the perfect partnership

Nicolle Rekers

1. Radiotherapy converts solid tumours into a powerful in situ vaccine which forms the perfect basis for immune modulating therapies (this thesis)
2. The addition of immunotherapy extends the local effects of radiotherapy towards a powerful systemic anti-tumour response (this thesis)
3. If triggered and stimulated in an optimal way, the immune system prevents tumour formation even months after cure (this thesis)
4. The anti-tumour effects of radiotherapy and L19-IL2 relies on NK cells in absence of MHC1 expression (this thesis)
5. Interplay and communication catalyze the process of valorization
6. Get the antigens from the tumour itself and let the patient's own body decide what to attack - adapted from Linda M. Liau
7. Radiotherapy enhances anti-tumour immunity, but can also induce immunosuppressive responses - adapted from Ralph R. Weichselbaum
8. In the era of immunotherapy, it is becoming essential to start classifying cancer patients based on immune parameters - Jérôme Galon
9. Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world - Nelson Mandela
10. In the realm of ideas everything depends on enthusiasm... in the real world all rests on perseverance - Johann Wolfgang von Goethe
11. Listen to yourself first and last