# Multiplex IHC & Pathology applications

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## CellCarta

MAPPING PRECISION MEDICINE

#### AGENDA

- 1. CellCarta Histopathology
- 2. Concept & principle of multiplexing
- 3. CD8 multiplexing examples
  - CD8/panCK
  - CD8/GZMB/FOXP3

#### **CellCarta: global CRO for end-to-end precision medicine**



#### Glimpse into the multiplex portfolio (IHC, mIHC, mIF, RNA ISH, FISH)



#### CONCEPT OF MULTIPLEXING

#### Doing more with less:

Simultaneous detection of multiple markers while preserving precious samples

- Spatial localization (identification & interpretation within the morphology context)
- cellular function/activation and
- cell-cell interactions

#### PRINCIPLE OF MULTIPLEXING



Use of automated staining platforms and detection kits lead to straightforward & robust assays

- Sequential staining provides flexibility to combine markers
  - Automated denaturing prevents cross reactivity
- Open or ready-to-use detection allows assay customization





## CD8/panCK

Numerous studies have described the relationship between the presence and spatial distribution of TILs and treatment benefit

• highlights the role of CTL biomarkers



#### SCORING

Image analysis

Single Section Topological Analysis (SSTA)



#### Pathologist scoring

Density Proportion Score (DPS)

#### IMAGE ANALYSIS WORKFLOW





#### Image analysis

Reportables:

- CD8 area relative to CD8 density within
- ...

Central tumor Invasive Margin Tumor stroma Carcinoma cell compartment

#### PATHOLOGIST (DENSITY PROPORTION SCORING) WORKFLOW



 Determine the general distribution of tumor cell nests, cell strands and stroma

- Score the % Immune Cells (IC) in each density bin (absent, low, moderate, high)
- Score the % IC in each density bin (absent, low, moderate, high)

 Combine scores to determine the overall immune phenotype (Desert – Excluded – Inflamed)

#### **DENSITY PROPORTION SCORE**

#### PanCK-CD8

### Pathologist - DPS







### CD8-GZMB-FOXP3

By combining CD8 with the cytolytic GZMB, the density and proportion of the activated CTLs can be assessed

FOXP3+ Tregs are immune suppressive cells, and their abundance/distribution in tumor infiltrates can be associated with unfavorable clinical prognosis

EPITHELIAL NESTS (LOW VS HIGH)





STROMA (LOW VS HIGH)





#### CD8-GZMB-FOXP3



#### APPLICATIONS

The IC phenotype is dynamic and will change as a tumor develops and in response to therapy. It is, therefore, a useful parameter to support treatment strategies at different stages of carcinogenesis.



#### **CONCLUDING THOUGHTS**

- As the transition from chemotherapy to targeted and immune therapies continues to develop, investigators will utilize more complex clinical trial designs to predict response or resistance to therapy regimens
- Multi-parametric approaches are needed to identify patients most likely to respond to ICI treatment
  - combination of targeted and immune therapies
  - combination of different ICI drugs
- Focus on TME characterization and analysis of the interaction between tumor and effector IC and between effector cells and APCs
  - Spatial relationships and distributions
  - Expression profiles (suggest activation or suppression/exhaustion of effector cells or may hint at mechanisms of resistance)
- Important to develop robust tissue-based multiplex technologies that can be adopted for routine clinical practice and if necessary successfully shepherded through regulatory approval.