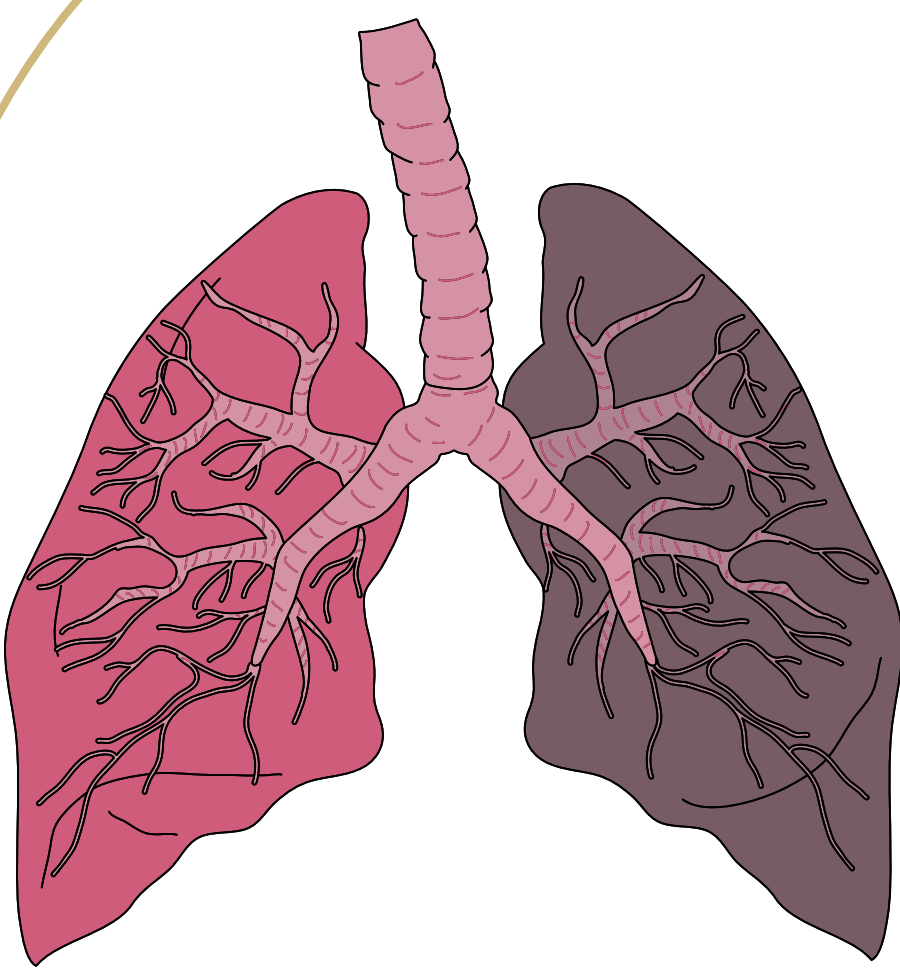


Modeling lung cancer to understand the interactions between immune and tumor cells

Carol M. Amato, Erin Schenk

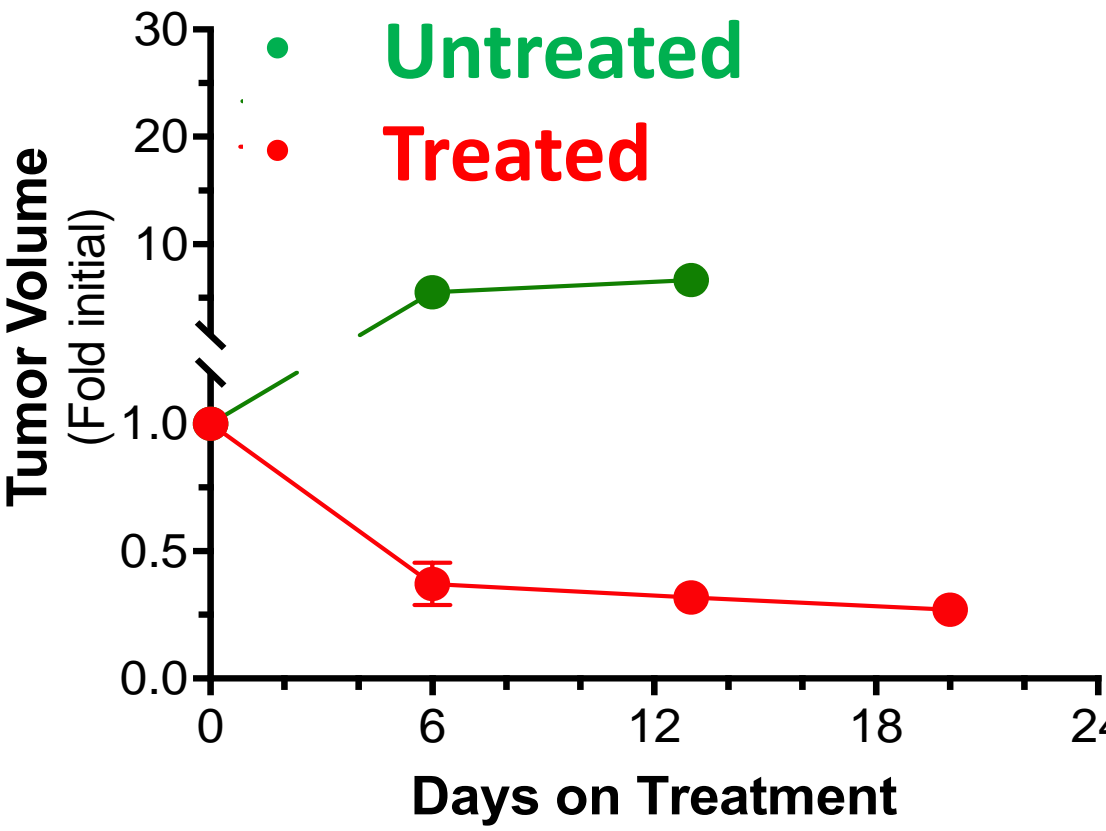
Division of Medical Oncology, School of Medicine, University of Colorado Denver Anschutz Medical Campus

Lung Cancer



- Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer related deaths in the United States.
- In Colorado, it is estimated that 2,500 new cases and 1,300 deaths will occur this year.

Our Approach



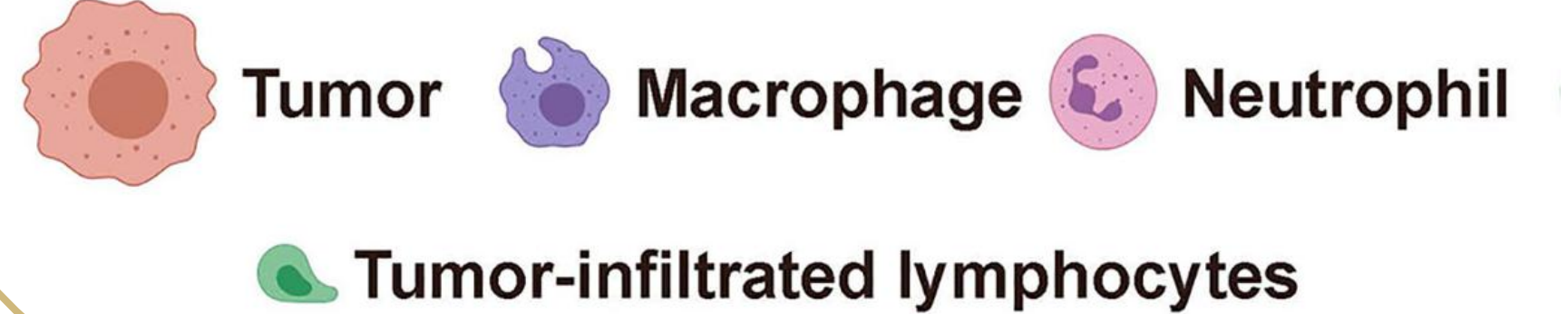
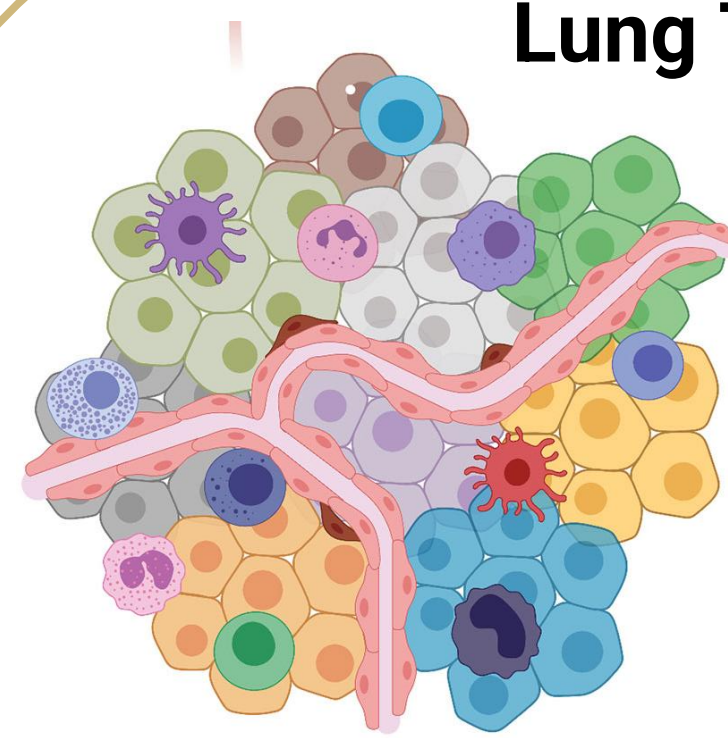
- Our lab uses mouse models that reflect patient molecular characteristics and treatment outcomes.
- Treatments such as targeted therapy, are a category of drugs that block the growth and spread of cancer cells.
- Most patients respond positively to these treatments. However, tumor shrinkage is incomplete and persistent, residual disease remains.

Lung Cancer: non-smokers



- 10% to 20% of lung cancers happen in people classified as never-smokers.
- Lung tumors in never-smokers have different molecular features.
- These molecular characteristics can determine treatment options.

Identify cancer-cell and immune cell states



- We study the cancer cell, immune cell, and stromal cell states before, during, and after treatment.
- Our goal is to better understand how tumor and immune cells interact to improve patient response to targeted therapy.