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Abbvie Foundation Professor of Cancer Immunotherapy

**AREA(S) OF FOCUS:**

**Uncovering the link between cancer and the immune system**

The Gajewski lab studies anti-tumor immunity and strategies to enhance patient responses to immunotherapy, particularly in melanoma.

**KEY RESEARCH AREAS:**

**Human genetic diversity survey**

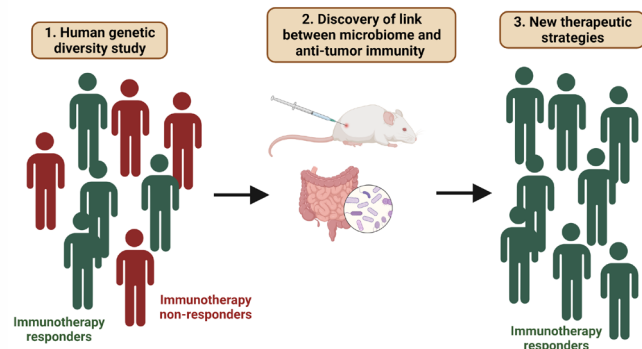
Establish a cancer patient biobank to identify biomarkers distinguishing immunotherapy responders from non-responders. Includes tumor, host, and microbiome genomics.

**Microbiome, cancer links**

Discover the link between gut bacteria *Bifidobacterium* and anti-melanoma immune response in mice. Human studies are currently ongoing.

**New immune therapeutic strategies**

Develop new therapeutic approaches based on tumor-fighting immune cells.



**ENTREPRENEURIAL SUCCESS:**



Pyxis Oncology develops monoclonal antibodies and antibody-drug conjugates for difficult-to-treat cancers:

- PYX-106 - monoclonal antibody targeting the immune suppressor Siglec-15. Siglec-15 could potentiate the activity of well-known immuno-oncology treatments called Checkpoint Inhibitors (CPIs) so more non-responding patients could gain CPI benefits
- PYX-201 - antibody-drug conjugate that, upon binding to a key molecule in tumor sites, releases a tumor-killing toxic drug and kickstarts immunity

Pyxis' pipeline is currently developed in partnership with: Pfizer, Alloy Therapeutics, LCB, and BiOSION.

Pyxis Oncology has raised \$174 million overall with an IPO (2021) of \$168 million - founded in Chicago (IL) moved to Cambridge (MA).



Dr. Gajewski is also a founder of Jounce which uses patient data to design monoclonal antibodies to enhance the anti-tumor immune response. Jounce has raised \$194.2 million in funding.