

Expansion of natural killer cells for viral infection and cancer



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SUMMARY

The immune system has evolved different strategies to prevent and fight cancer and infections. Natural Killer (NK) cells are an innate immune cell type able to kill tumor and/or infected cells.

The team identified a specific peptide present in a human virus and certain tumors that leads to the expansion of a specific NK cell type.

The project aim is the preclinical development of a vaccine prototype for the treatment of these tumors as well as the respective human viral infection. This approach enables cancer patients to benefit from boosting the immune system to not only fight this viral infection but also relapsing tumors.

PROJECT GOALS

- *In vivo* Proof-of-Concept
- Preclinical development of vaccine candidate

LONG-TERM GOALS

- Conduct Phase I/II clinical trials
- License to Pharma or Start-Up

PREVIOUS SPARK FUNDING

- Track 1 2018, Track 1 2020