Márcio Augusto Diniz

Biostatistics and Bioinformatics Research Center Samuel Oschin Comprehensive Cancer Institute Cedars Sinai Medical Center

### Cancer Vaccine

- ► The human epidermal growth factor receptor (HER) family, consisting of HER1 (also known as EGFR), HER2, HER3, and HER4, drives the progression of many epithelial malignancies;
- ► HER3 is overexpressed in breast, lung, gastric, head and neck, and ovarian cancers and melanoma, associating with poor prognosis;
- ► Therefore, HER3 is an attractive therapeutic target;
- Challenges for immunotherapies, in general, and cancer vaccines in particular are host and tumor factors that limit antitumor immune responses;
- Among these are the interaction of CTLA4 on activated T cells and CD80/CD86 on antigen presenting cells, which limits the proliferation of antigen-specific T cells.
- Upregulation of other immune checkpoint ligands such as PD-L1 on tumor cells or infiltrating immune cells and their receptors such as PD-1 on effector T cells limit antitumor T-cell function.

### Cancer Vaccine

- Osada, T., Morse, M. A., Hobeika, A., Diniz, M. A., Gwin, W. R., Hartman, Z., ... & Kaneko, K. (2017). Vaccination targeting human HER3 alters the phenotype of infiltrating T cells and responses to immune checkpoint inhibition. Oncolmmunology, e1315495.
  - Human HER3 transgenic mouse models of breast cancer;
  - A recombinant adenoviral vector expressing full length human HER3 (Ad-HER3-FL) was created;
  - In addition, a combination of the Ad-HER3-FL vaccine with either anti-CTLA4 or anti-PD-L1 antibodies were studied:
  - Questions:
    - ► Does the vaccine Ad-HER3-FL shrink tumor size?
    - Do the checkpoint inhibitors anti-CTLA4 pr anti-PD-L1 shrink tumor size?
    - Which combination of vaccine and antibodies is the most effective shrinking tumor size?

- ► Mice were first immunized with the Ad-HER3-FL vaccine, tumor was then implanted, and tumor implantation was followed by anti-PD-1 or anti-PD-L1 antibody administration;
- ► Groups:
  - ► Ad-GFP + IgG;
  - ► Ad-GFP + anti-PD1:
  - ► Ad-GFP + anti-PD-L1:
  - ► Ad-HER3-FL + IgG;
  - Ad-HER3-FL + anti-PD1;
  - ► Ad-HER3-FL + anti-PD-L1.

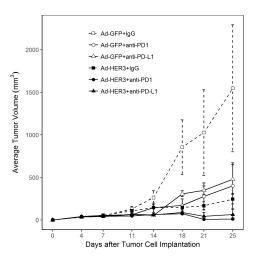
- ► Mice were first immunized with the Ad-HER3-FL vaccine, tumor was then implanted, and tumor implantation was followed by anti-PD-1 or anti-PD-L1 antibody administration;
- ► Comparisons of interest are:

- ▶ Mice were first immunized with the Ad-HER3-FL vaccine, tumor was then implanted, and tumor implantation was followed by anti-PD-1 or anti-PD-L1 antibody administration;
- Comparisons of interest are:
  - 1. Ad-GFP + IgG vs Ad-HER3-FL + IgG;
  - 2. Ad-GFP + anti-PD1 vs Ad-HER-FL + anti-PD1;
  - 3. Ad-GFP + anti-PD-L1 vs Ad-HER3-FL + anti-PD-L1;

- ► Mice were first immunized with the Ad-HER3-FL vaccine, tumor was then implanted, and tumor implantation was followed by anti-PD-1 or anti-PD-L1 antibody administration;
- Comparisons of interest are:
  - 1. Ad-GFP + IgG vs Ad-HER3-FL + IgG;
  - 2. Ad-GFP + anti-PD1 vs Ad-HER-FL + anti-PD1;
  - 3. Ad-GFP + anti-PD-L1 vs Ad-HER3-FL + anti-PD-L1;
  - 4. Ad-HER3-FL + IgG vs Ad-HER-FL + anti-PD1;
  - 5. Ad-HER3-FL + IgG vs Ad-HER3-FL + anti-PD-L1;

- ▶ Mice were first immunized with the Ad-HER3-FL vaccine, tumor was then implanted, and tumor implantation was followed by anti-PD-1 or anti-PD-L1 antibody administration;
- Comparisons of interest are:
  - 1. Ad-GFP + IgG vs Ad-HER3-FL + IgG;
  - 2. Ad-GFP + anti-PD1 vs Ad-HER-FL + anti-PD1;
  - 3. Ad-GFP + anti-PD-L1 vs Ad-HER3-FL + anti-PD-L1;
  - 4. Ad-HER3-FL + IgG vs Ad-HER-FL + anti-PD1;
  - 5. Ad-HER3-FL + IgG vs Ad-HER3-FL + anti-PD-L1;
  - 6. Ad-HER-FL + anti-PD1 vs Ad-HER3-FL + anti-PD-L1.

- Mice were first immunized with the Ad-HER3-FL vaccine, tumor was then implanted, and tumor implantation was followed by anti-PD-1 or anti-PD-L1 antibody administration;
- Comparisons of interest are:
  - 1. Ad-GFP + IgG vs Ad-HER3-FL + IgG;
  - 2. Ad-GFP + anti-PD1 vs Ad-HER-FL + anti-PD1;
  - 3. Ad-GFP + anti-PD-L1 vs Ad-HER3-FL + anti-PD-L1;
  - 4. Ad-HER3-FL + IgG vs Ad-HER-FL + anti-PD1;
  - 5. Ad-HER3-FL + IgG vs Ad-HER3-FL + anti-PD-L1;
  - 6. Ad-HER-FL + anti-PD1 vs Ad-HER3-FL + anti-PD-L1.
- FWER =  $1 (1 0.05)^6 = 0.2649$



Mean  $\pm$  2 SE

- ► Tumor-bearing mice were immunized with the Ad-HER3-FL vaccine followed by anti-PD-L1 or anti-CTLA4 antibody administration;
- ► Groups:
  - ► Ad-GFP + IgG;
  - ► Ad-HER3-FL + IgG;
  - Ad-HER3-FL + anti-PD-L1;
  - Ad-HER3-FL + anti-CTLA4;
  - ► Ad-HER3-FL + anti-PD-L1 + anti-CTLA4.

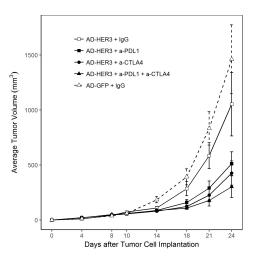
- ► Tumor-bearing mice were immunized with the Ad-HER3-FL vaccine followed by anti-PD-L1 or anti-CTLA4 antibody administration;
- ► Comparisons of interest are:

- ► Tumor-bearing mice were immunized with the Ad-HER3-FL vaccine followed by anti-PD-L1 or anti-CTLA4 antibody administration;
- Comparisons of interest are:
  - 1. Ad-GFP + IgG vs Ad-HER3-FL + IgG;
  - 2. Ad-HER3-FL + IgG vs Ad-HER3-FL + anti-PD-L1;
  - 3. Ad-HER3-FL + IgG vs Ad-HER3-FL + anti-CTLA4;
  - 4. Ad-HER3-FL + IgG vs Ad-HER3-FL + anti-PD-L1 + anti-CTLA4;

- ► Tumor-bearing mice were immunized with the Ad-HER3-FL vaccine followed by anti-PD-L1 or anti-CTLA4 antibody administration;
- Comparisons of interest are:
  - 1. Ad-GFP + IgG vs Ad-HER3-FL + IgG;
  - 2. Ad-HER3-FL + IgG vs Ad-HER3-FL + anti-PD-L1;
  - 3. Ad-HER3-FL + IgG vs Ad-HER3-FL + anti-CTLA4;
  - 4. Ad-HER3-FL + IgG vs Ad-HER3-FL + anti-PD-L1 + anti-CTLA4;
  - 5. Ad-HER3-FL + anti-PD-L1 vs Ad-HER3-FL + anti-CTLA4;

- ► Tumor-bearing mice were immunized with the Ad-HER3-FL vaccine followed by anti-PD-L1 or anti-CTLA4 antibody administration;
- Comparisons of interest are:
  - 1. Ad-GFP + IgG vs Ad-HER3-FL + IgG;
  - 2. Ad-HER3-FL + IgG vs Ad-HER3-FL + anti-PD-L1;
  - 3. Ad-HER3-FL + IgG vs Ad-HER3-FL + anti-CTLA4;
  - 4. Ad-HER3-FL + IgG vs Ad-HER3-FL + anti-PD-L1 + anti-CTLA4;
  - 5. Ad-HER3-FL + anti-PD-L1 vs Ad-HER3-FL + anti-CTLA4;
  - 6. Ad-HER3-FL + anti-PD-L1 vs Ad-HER3-FL + anti-PD-L1 + anti-CTLA4;
  - 7. Ad-HER3-FL + anti-CTLA4 vs Ad-HER3-FL + anti-PD-L1 + anti-CTLA4.

- ► Tumor-bearing mice were immunized with the Ad-HER3-FL vaccine followed by anti-PD-L1 or anti-CTLA4 antibody administration;
- Comparisons of interest are:
  - 1. Ad-GFP + IgG vs Ad-HER3-FL + IgG;
  - 2. Ad-HER3-FL + IgG vs Ad-HER3-FL + anti-PD-L1;
  - 3. Ad-HER3-FL + IgG vs Ad-HER3-FL + anti-CTLA4;
  - 4. Ad-HER3-FL + IgG vs Ad-HER3-FL + anti-PD-L1 + anti-CTLA4;
  - 5. Ad-HER3-FL + anti-PD-L1 vs Ad-HER3-FL + anti-CTLA4;
  - 6. Ad-HER3-FL + anti-PD-L1 vs Ad-HER3-FL + anti-PD-L1 + anti-CTLA4;
  - 7. Ad-HER3-FL + anti-CTLA4 vs Ad-HER3-FL + anti-PD-L1 + anti-CTLA4.
- FWER =  $1 (1 0.05)^7 = 0.3016$



Mean  $\pm$  2 SE

## **Endpoints**

- Investigators are interested in the tumor growth rate;
- A common strategy is to compare tumor volume at each time point, without taking into account multiple testing;
- ► There are statistical methods that consider the repeated measures over time that require more complex statistical methods;

## Alternative strategy

- ► All mice do not have tumor in the beginning of the experiment, therefore, the tumor size after the study period is a proxy to tumor growth rate;
- Another proxy to tumor rate growth is the area under the curve;
- If tumor volume at baseline is not homogeneous, then a possible solution is to standardize by baseline tumor volume.



8 / 27

### Notation

- $\triangleright$   $X_{Ai}$ : tumor size growth curve for mice i from the group A;
- $\triangleright$   $X_{Bi}$ : tumor size growth curve for mice *i* from the group B;
- $\triangleright$   $X_{Ci}$ : tumor size growth curve for mice i from the group C;

## Assumptions

- $ightharpoonup X_{A1}, \ldots, X_{An_A} \sim \text{Normal}(\mu_A, \sigma_A^2);$
- $ightharpoonup X_{B1}, \ldots, X_{Bn_B} \sim \operatorname{Normal}(\mu_B, \sigma_B^2);$
- $ightharpoonup X_{C1}, \ldots, X_{Cn_C} \sim \text{Normal}(\mu_C, \sigma_C^2);$
- ► Independent samples;

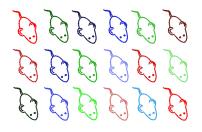


## Hypothesis

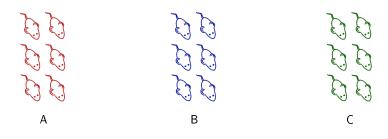
- $ightharpoonup H_0: \mu_A = \mu_B = \mu_C$  (all means are equal);
- $ightharpoonup H_1: \exists \mu_i \neq \mu_i \text{ for } i \neq j \text{ (at least one mean is different)}.$

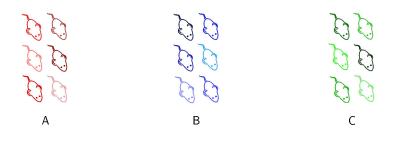
## Multiple comparisons

- It is possible to verify that all the means are equal if we compare means pairwise;
- ▶ Three comparisons will be performed, then a multiple comparison procedure should be applied. Otherwise, the error type I inflates to 22.6% if each test has a significance level of 5%;
- ► There are specific procedures that have higher power for multiple groups than pairwise comparisons with p-values corrections.



Total Variability

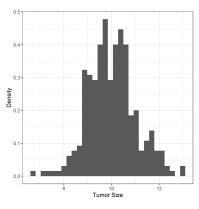




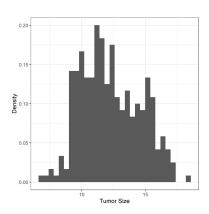
Variability within groups

 $Total\ Variability = Within-group\ variability\ +\ Between-group\ variability$ 

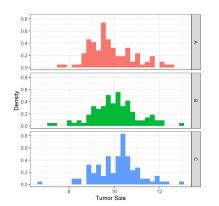
12 / 27

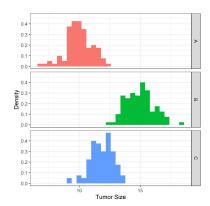


Total Variability = 1



Total Variability = 5





Within-group variability =1Between-group variability = Total variability - Within-group variability

## Within-group variability

- ► If the null hypothesis is true, then three samples can be considered as only one group;
- The sampling variance for the total sample can be calculated,

$$MSE = \frac{1}{n-3} \sum_{i=1}^{3} \sum_{j=1}^{n_i} (X_{ij} - \bar{X}_i)^2$$
$$= \frac{1}{n-3} \left( \sum_{j=1}^{n_A} (X_{Aj} - \bar{X}_A)^2 + \sum_{j=1}^{n_B} (X_{Bj} - \bar{X}_B)^2 + \sum_{j=1}^{n_C} (X_{Cj} - \bar{X}_C)^2 \right)$$

▶ The expected value for MSE is  $\sigma^2$ , i.e., MSE is a good estimator for  $\sigma^2$ .

## Between-group variability

- ▶ If the null hypothesis is true, then three averages  $(\bar{X}_A, \bar{X}_B, \bar{X}_C)$  can be considered as samples from  $\bar{X} \sim N\left(\mu, \frac{\sigma^2}{n}\right)$ ;
- The sampling variance for the averages can be calculated,

$$MSB = \frac{1}{3-1} \sum_{i=1}^{3} (\bar{X}_i - \bar{X})^2$$

► The expected value for MSE is  $\frac{\sigma^2}{n}$ . Then, nMSB is a good estimator for  $\sigma^2$ .

#### Test Statistic

► There are several ways to present:

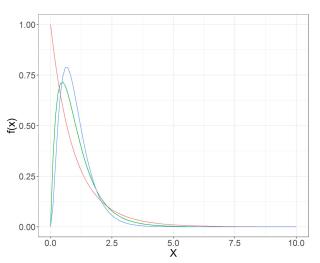
$$F\text{-ratio} = \frac{\text{variability of the group means}}{\text{variability of the sample}}$$

$$= \frac{\text{between-group variability}}{\text{within-group variability}}$$

$$= \frac{\text{explained variance}}{\text{unexplained variance}}$$

- ► F-ratio  $\sim F Snedecor_{g-1,n-g}$  where n is the total sample size and g is the number of groups;
- Under the H<sub>0</sub>, F-ratio will be closer to 1;
- ightharpoonup p-value = P(F > k), where k = F-ratio evaluated for a specific sample.

### Test Statistic



F-Snedecor - (2, 27) - (4, 36) - (6, 74)

## How to evaluate the assumptions?

- ► We could evaluate the normality for each our groups as well as the homoscedasticity;
- ► An easier way is to rewrite the probabilistic model:

$$X_{ij} = \mu + \alpha_j + \epsilon_{ij}$$

#### where

- $ightharpoonup \mu$  is a general effect for all groups;
- $ightharpoonup \alpha_j$  is a specific effect for the group j for j=A,B,C;
- $ightharpoonup \epsilon_i j \sim Normal(0, \sigma^2);$
- ▶ In this way,  $\mu_i = \mu + \alpha_i$ .

## How to evaluate the assumptions?

▶ Considering a sample, it is possible to estimate  $\mu$  and  $\alpha_j$  for j = A, B, C as follow

$$\hat{X}_{ij} = \hat{\mu} + \hat{\alpha}_j$$

where

- $\hat{\mu} = \bar{X}$ ;
- $\hat{\alpha}_j = \bar{X}_j \bar{X} \text{ for } j = A, B, C;$
- In this way, residuals can be calculated,

$$e_{ij} = X_{ij} - \hat{X}_{ij}$$

such that residuals are possible estimates for  $\epsilon_{ij}$ ;

▶ The assumptions can be verified using the residuals.



18 / 27

### **Alternatives**

- ▶ Welch ANOVA if the homoscedasticity is not verified;
- Kruskal-Wallis if the normality is not verified. The null hypothesis will be defined in terms of medians:
- ▶ If the normality and homoscedasticiy are not verified, Kruskal-Wallis is still applied. However, the hypothesis will be defined based on the distributions of probability, i.e.,
  - ►  $H_0: P(X_i > X_i) = P(X_i < X_i)$  for all  $i \neq j$
  - $\qquad \qquad H_1: P(X_j > X_i) \neq P(X_j < X_i) \text{ for at least one } i \neq j.$

## What is the follow-up question?

▶ If p-value is smaller than 0.05, then the null hypothesis is reject in favor of the alternative hypothesis;

## What is the follow-up question?

- ▶ If p-value is smaller than 0.05, then the null hypothesis is reject in favor of the alternative hypothesis;
- ▶ We have enough evidence to say that there is at least one group that is different to the others.

## What is the follow-up question?

- ▶ If p-value is smaller than 0.05, then the null hypothesis is reject in favor of the alternative hypothesis;
- ▶ We have enough evidence to say that there is at least one group that is different to the others.
- ► Which groups are different?

## What is the follow-up question?

- ▶ If p-value is smaller than 0.05, then the null hypothesis is reject in favor of the alternative hypothesis;
- ▶ We have enough evidence to say that there is at least one group that is different to the others.
- ► Which groups are different?
- ► Post-Hoc tests

## **ANOVA**

#### Post-Hoc tests

- Pairwise t-test using a pooled variance from ANOVA:
  - It requires some multiple comparisons correction like Bonferroni or Holm;
- ► Tukey Honest Significance test:
  - It performs all comparisons;
  - It is essentially a t-test, but rearranging the means for each comparison such that the FWER is corrected:
- Dunnet:
  - It performs all comparisons against a control group.

## Welch ANOVA

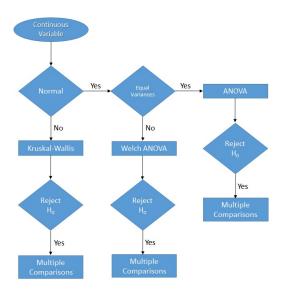
#### Post-Hoc tests

- ▶ Pairwise t-test using different variances:
  - It requires some multiple comparisons correction like Bonferroni or Holm;
- ► Games-Howell test:
  - ► It performs all comparisons similarly the Tukey HS test.

## Kruskal-Wallis

#### Post-Hoc tests

- Dunn's test:
  - It has the assumption of the same shape;
  - It performs comparisons taking in account the pooled variance from Kruskal-Wallis:
  - ▶ It requires multiple comparisons correction such as Bonferroni or Holm;
- Conover's test:
  - It has the assumption of the same shape;
  - ▶ It requires multiple comparisons correction such as Bonferroni or Holm;
  - It is stricly more powerful than Dunn's and Kruskal-Nemenyi test;
- Munzel-Hothorn test:
  - It does not have the assumption of the same shape.



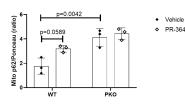
### Sources of Variation

- One-Way ANOVA
  - Vaccine + Checkpoint inhibitor;
  - ► Total variability = Treatment variability + Within Variability;
- ► Two-Way ANOVA
  - Vaccine (main effect);
  - Checkpoint inhibitor (main effect);
  - Vaccine × Checkpoint inhibitor (interaction);
  - Total variability = Vaccine variability + Checkpoint inhibitor Variability + Within Variability;

### Sources of Variation

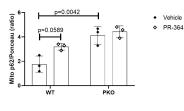
- One-Way ANOVA
  - Vaccine + Checkpoint inhibitor;
  - ► Total variability = Treatment variability + Within Variability;
- ► Two-Way ANOVA
  - Vaccine (main effect);
  - Checkpoint inhibitor (main effect);
  - Vaccine × Checkpoint inhibitor (interaction);
  - Total variability = Vaccine variability + Checkpoint inhibitor Variability + Within Variability;

## Example 01



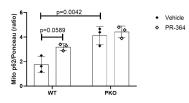
- Two mouse type: Wild Type (WT) and Parkin (PKO);
- ► Two treatments: PR-364 and Vehicle
- Hypothesis: WT mice will show accumulation of p62 protein when receiving PR-364, while this will not happen with PKO mice;
- How can we test this hypothesis?

## Example 01



- Investigator approach:
  - ► WT+Vehicle vs WT+PR364;
  - PKO+Vehicle vs PKO+PR-364;
  - ► WT+PR364 vs PKO+PR-364;
  - ► WT+Vehicle vs PKO+Vehicle.

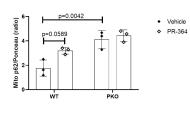
## Example 01



- ► Four groups: WT+Vehicle, WT+PR364, PKO+Vehicle, PKO+PR-364;
- Is there differences between WT and PKO?
  - ► (WT+Vehicle + WT+PR364) (PKO+Vehicle + PKO+PR-364);
- Is there differences between PR364 and Vehicle?
  - ► (WT+PR364 + PKO+PR-364) (WT+Vehicle + PKO+Vehicle).

27 / 27

## Example 01



- Is the difference between PR364 and Vehicle different between WT and PKO?
  - ► For WT, difference between PR364 and Vehicle:
    - WT+PR364 WT+Vehicle;
  - ► For PKO, difference between PR364 and Vehicle:
    - PKO+PR-364 PKO+Vehicle;
  - The difference of the differences between WT and PKO:
    - (WT+PR364 WT+Vehicle) (PKO+PR-364 PKO+Vehicle).