

# In vivo efficacy of a PD-L1 targeted Engineered Toxin Body (ETB) comprised of direct cytotoxicity and T-cell mediated tumor targeting

Brigitte Brieschke, Sara LeMar, Joseph D. Dekker, Garrett Cornelison, Asis Sarkar, Garrett L. Robinson, Jay Zhao, Aimee Iberg, Jack P. Higgins, Hilario J. Ramos, Erin K. Willert - Molecular Templates Inc., Austin, TX.

Abstract P804  
SITC 2019

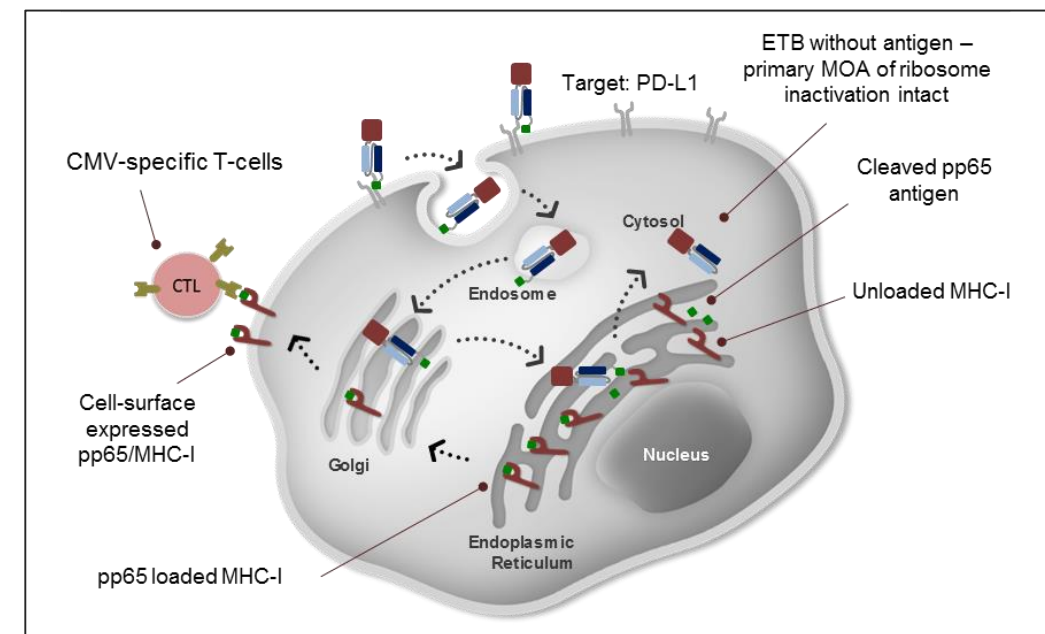
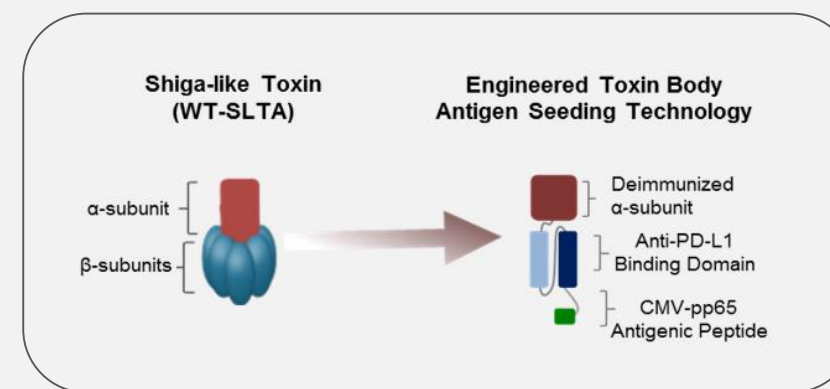


## Engineered Toxin Bodies – Unique dual mechanism of action approach to target PD-L1 expressing solid tumors

ETBs are comprised of a proprietary engineered form of Shiga-like Toxin A subunit (SLT-A) genetically fused to an antibody-like binding domain to deliver potent cell-kill via the enzymatic and permanent inactivation of ribosomes to targeted tumor cells

MTEM's PD-L1-ETB-AST, targets PD-L1 with a unique and dual cytotoxic approach to maximize response against solid tumors

- (i) Direct cell-kill via permanent inactivation of ribosomes
- (ii) Delivery of antigenic peptide to re-direct endogenous CMV-specific T-cells to the tumor – Antigen seeding technology (AST)



PD-L1-ETB-AST is designed for PD-L1 expressing solid tumor indications

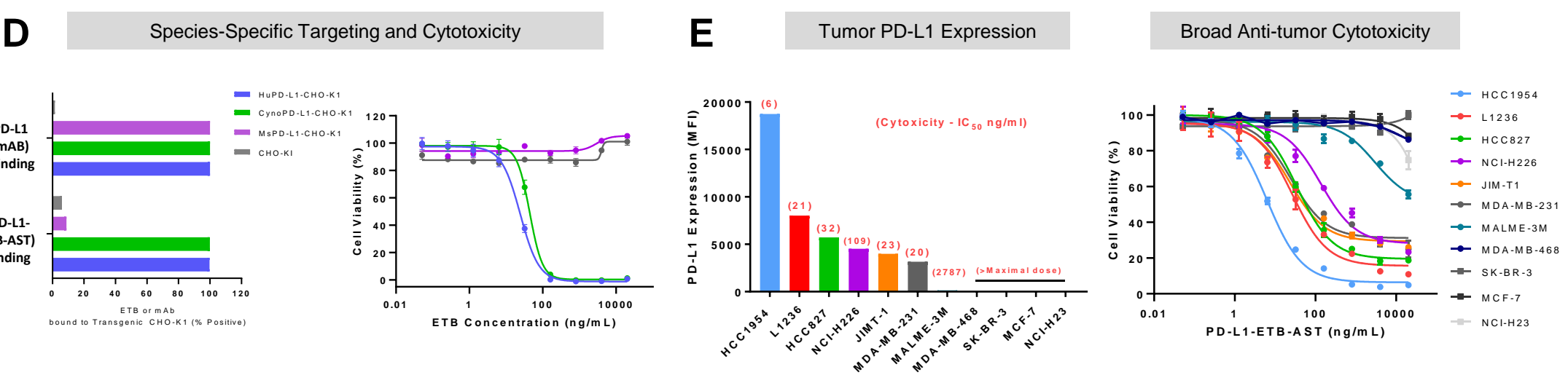
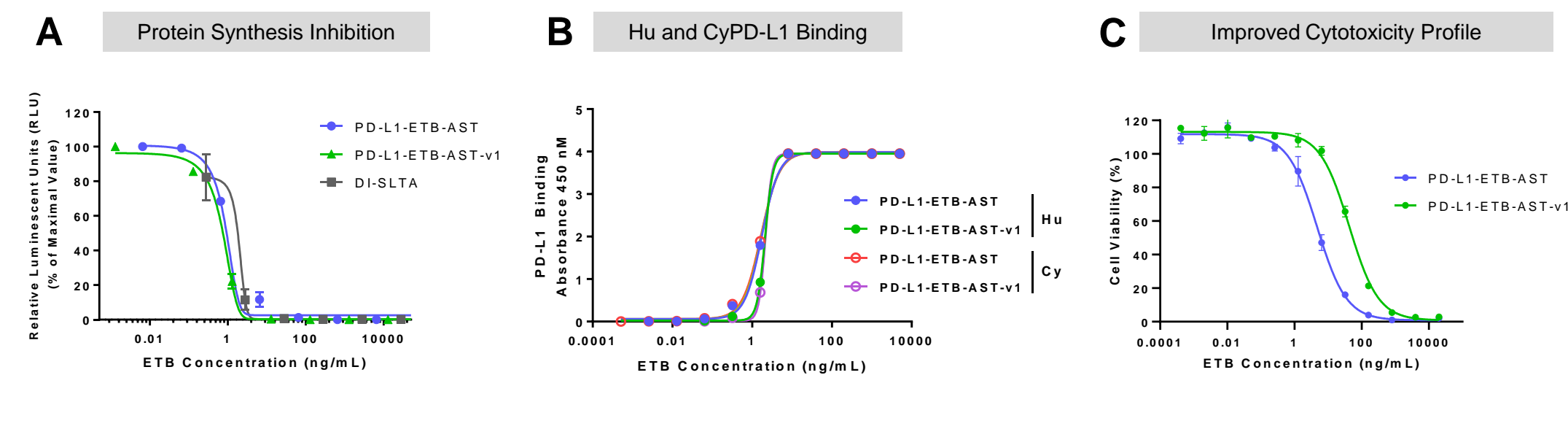
- Delivers potent and selective cytotoxicity to PD-L1 expressing tumors
- Limited targeting of peripheral blood mononuclear cell populations
- Recruitment of potent endogenous HCMV-specific CTL response
- Dual MOA allows for activity regardless of tumor immune status

## Optimized PD-L1 Targeting ETB delivers potent cytotoxicity to tumor target cells

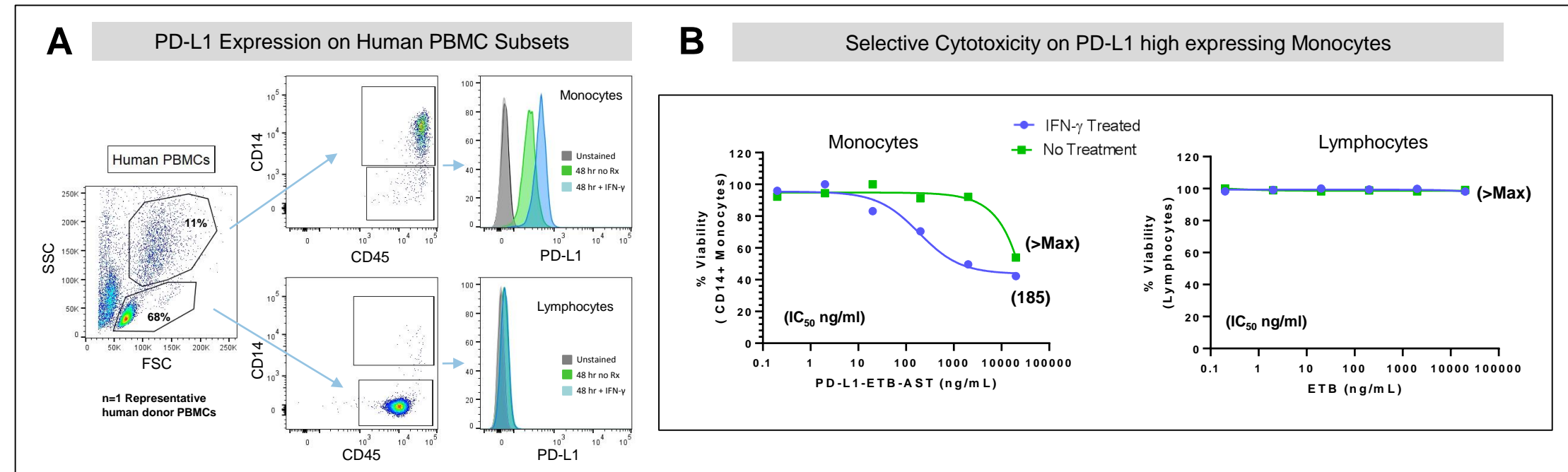
PD-L1-ETB-AST: Optimized for specificity and maximal anti-tumor effect

- (A) PD-L1-ETB-AST retains the potent protein synthesis inhibition of DI-SLTA
- (B) PD-L1-ETB-AST effectively binds Human (Hu) and Cyno (Cy) PD-L1 and drives potent-targeted cell kill against transgenic lines (D)
- (C) PD-L1-ETB-AST is optimized for cytotoxic potency vs previous versions (i.e. PD-L1 ETB-ASTv1)
- (D-F) PD-L1-ETB-AST is highly selective and targets clinically relevant tumor cells with a range of surface PD-L1 expression

Key Attributes	Profile	Potency (ng/ml)
Protein Synthesis Inhibition	(+)	IC <sub>50</sub> : 0.36
Target Binding (Species Specific PD-L1)	(+)	Kd: Human: 1.8 Kd: NHP: 1.7
Cellular Cytotoxicity (PD-L1 + Tumor Cells)	(+)	IC <sub>50</sub> : 1-110
Cellular Cytotoxicity (PD-L1 + Monocytes)	(+)	IC <sub>50</sub> : 2-200
Antigen Seeding – Cell Kill	(+)	IC <sub>50</sub> : 20-250

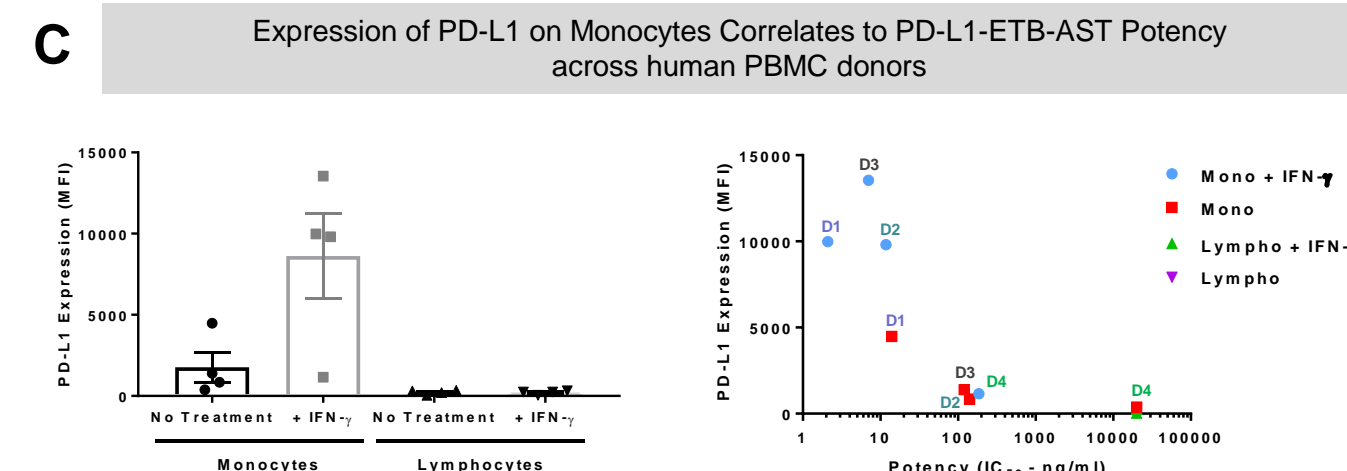


## PD-L1-ETB-AST Selectively targets subsets of PD-L1 positive immune cells



Higher PD-L1 Expression on immune subsets is necessary for PD-L1-ETB-AST Cytotoxicity

- (A) IFN-γ increases PD-L1 expression on Monocytes but not other immune subsets derived from human PBMCs
- (B) Cytotoxicity against immune cells is restricted to IFN-γ treated monocytes expressing higher levels of PD-L1
- (C) Correlation of PD-L1 expression and PD-L1-ETB-AST Cytotoxicity across human PBMC donors

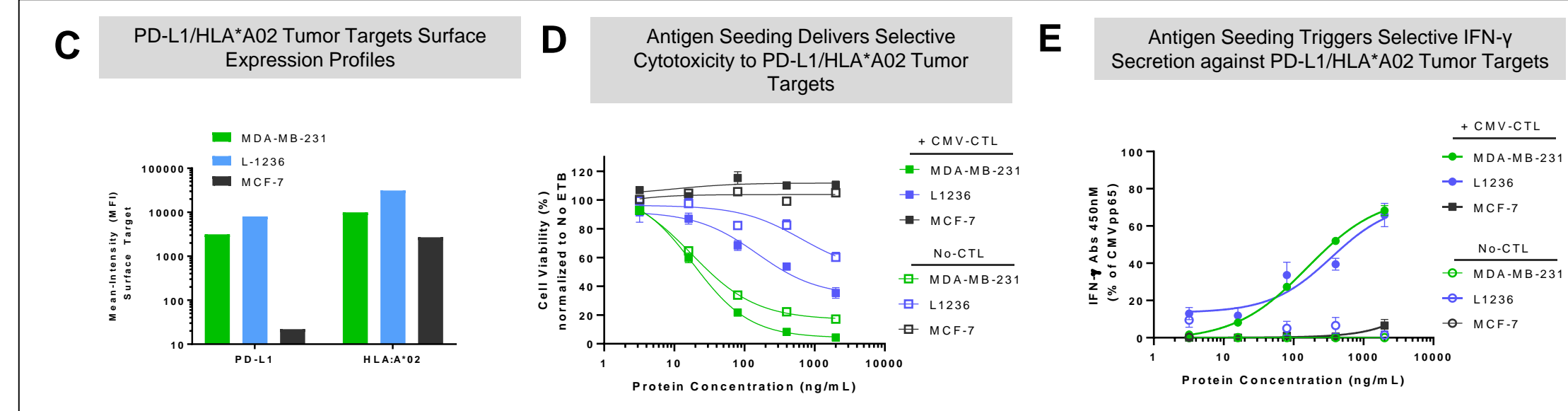
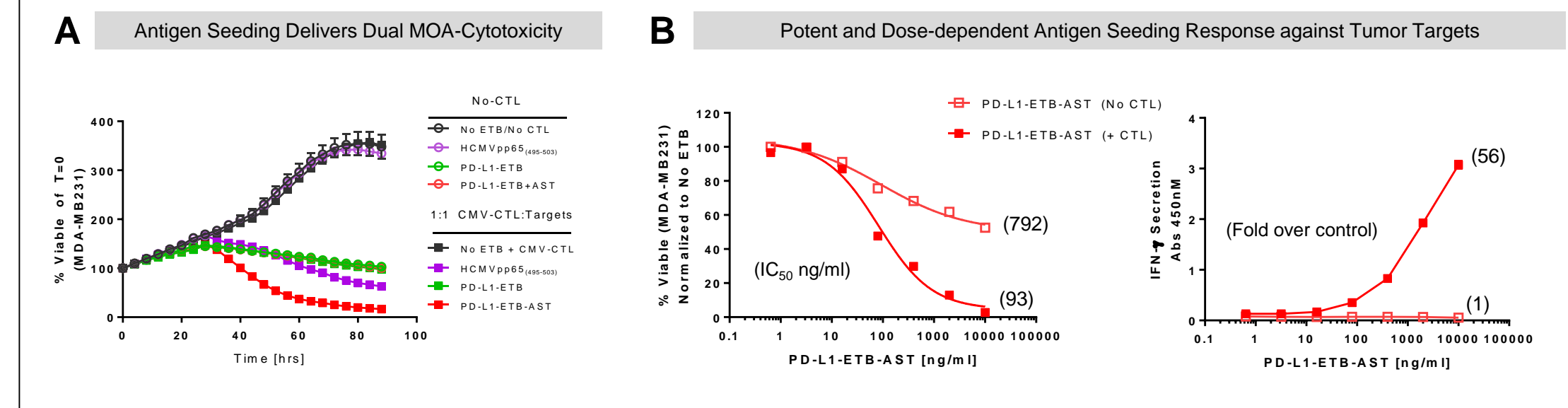


## PD-L1-ETB-AST provides unique MOA-2 for PD-L1 + Tumors

PD-L1-ETB-AST delivers antigen for potent dual MOA cytotoxicity profile

- (A) PD-L1-ETB-AST, but not a control ETB without AST function, demonstrates and enhanced cell kill of PD-L1/HLA:A02 targets in a co-culture setup with CMV-restricted effector CTLs present driven by PD-L1-ETB-AST antigen seeding properties
- (B) Dose-dependent enhancement of cell kill and T cell activation (IFN-γ secretion) by PD-L1-ETB-AST observed in the presence of CTLs
- (C-D) PD-L1 and HLA:A\*02 expression on tumor target cells and co-culture assays demonstrate that HLA:A02 expression is required but is not sufficient, without PD-L1 target expression, CTL activation and CTL mediated cytotoxicity by PD-L1-ETB-AST

Cell line	Antigen Seeding (Cell kill) IC <sub>50</sub> ng/ml	Antigen Seeding (IFN-γ secretion) Fold PD-L1-ETB-AST/No Ag control: 2000 ng/ml
MDA-MB-231	18.4	55
L-1236	253	38
MCF-7	> 20000	6.6

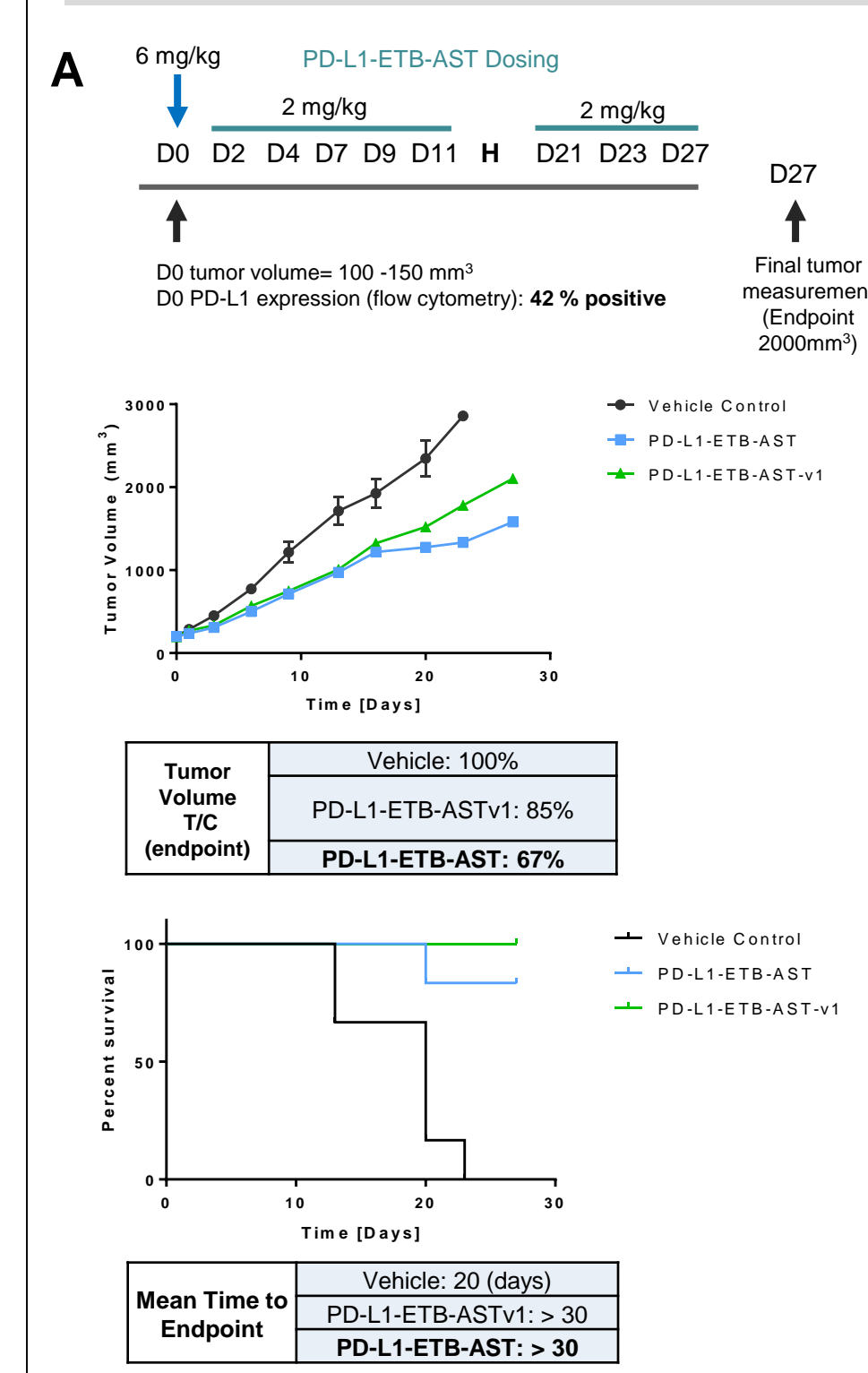


## PD-L1-ETB-AST Displays activity against human tumors in vivo

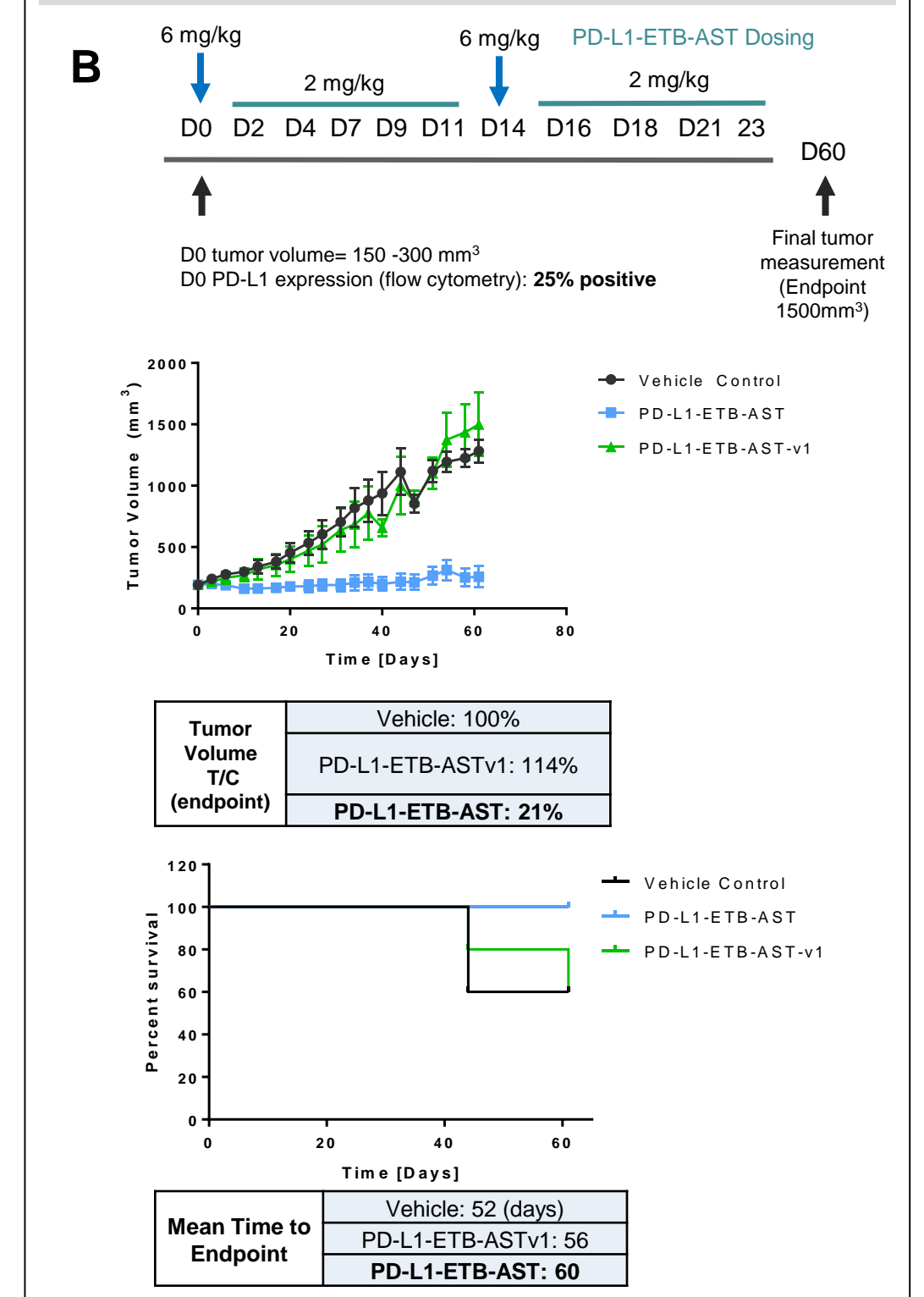
PD-L1-ETB-AST is effective against Human Patient Derived Xenografts (PDX) in vivo

- (A) – Model A: PD-L1-ETB-AST restricts tumor growth and prolongs endpoint survival against an aggressive NSCLC PDX Model
- (B) – Model B: PD-L1-ETB-AST promotes tumor regression and increased endpoint survival against a low PD-L1 expressing NSCLC Model

### In vivo Efficacy Against Aggressive PD-L1 Expressing NSCLC



### Potent and Sustained In vivo activity against PD-L1 Expressing NSCLC



## PD-L1-ETB-AST Safety and Pharmacodynamics in NHPs

- An exploratory study (n=2/ dose level) was conducted to inform a GLP toxicology study in the pharmacologically relevant cynomolgus monkey.
- Intravenous administration of PD-L1-ETB-AST once per week for 4 weeks was tolerated in monkeys up to the highest tested dose in this study, 450µg/kg. Minimal changes in clinical observations and serum testing were not considered adverse.
- Indication of T cell activation by PD-L1-ETB-AST was observed as a test article related increase in type I cytokines (TNF-alpha, IFN-gamma and IL-2) in 1 of 2 animals in each of the two higher dose cohorts.

## CONCLUSIONS

- PD-L1-ETB-AST is a PD-L1 targeted ETB with activity against clinically relevant cell lines
  - Designed to deliver a unique and dual MOA approach for directly targeting PD-L1 expressing tumors
  - Targeting of peripheral PBMCs limited to a small subset of PD-L1 expressing monocytes – limiting toxicity profile
  - Targeting high expressing PD-L1 immune cells may provide benefit at tumor site when these cells are present
  - Dual MOA allows for activity irrespective of tumor immune status – potential for hot and cold tumor efficacy
- PD-L1-ETB-AST displays safe and efficacious profile in vivo
  - Well tolerated in NHP at doses relevant to predicted potency
  - De-immunized NHP scaffold reduces CLS profile associated with immunotoxin class
  - Displays tumor growth and survival benefits in PDX in vivo models
- PD-L1-ETB-AST is slated for clinical development in 2020