

## Targeting Tumor Glycans for Cancer Therapy

### Description

Aberrant glycosylation, a characteristic feature of cancer, plays a pivotal role in shaping tumor behavior. Glycans, emerge as promising targets for novel clinical biomarker development, offering a specific repertoire of targets for therapeutic intervention. Various mechanisms of aberrant glycosylation culminate in the formation of tumor-associated carbohydrate antigens (TACAs), which present viable targets for selective cancer-targeting therapies. Notable TACAs include truncated O-glycans (such as Tn, TF, and sialyl-Tn antigens), gangliosides (including GD2, GD3, GM2, GM3, and fucosyl-GM1), globo-series glycans (like Globo-H, SSEA-3, and SSEA-4), Lewis antigens, and polysialic acid.

### mAb based therapies

#### Drug delivery targeting

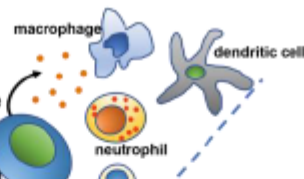
GD2  
Tn  
STn  
Globo H  
SLeA  
SLeX  
LeY

Antibody drug conjugated  
Nanoparticles cytotoxic cargo  
Immunotoxins  
Radiolabeled mAbs

#### CAR-T

GD2  
MUC1-Tn  
STn  
LeY

IL release  
Immune response activation



#### Naked mAbs targeting

GD2  
MUC1-Tn  
Tn  
GD3  
Fucosyl-GM1  
GloboH  
SLeA  
LeY

Effector cell  
ADCC  
ADCP

Complement CDC activation

Tumor cell

anti-GD2

anti-LeY

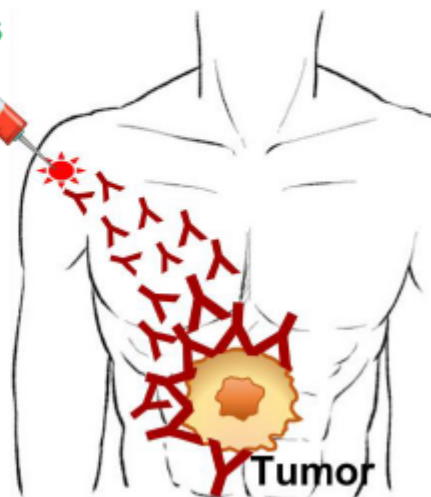
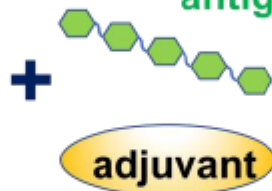
#### Bispecific mAbs

### Vaccines

GD3 (Neu5Gc) GM3  
Globo H  
Tn antigen  
STn antigen  
TF antigen  
SLeA  
Polyvalent vaccines

Anti-idiotypic  
Anti-idiotypic  
Synthetic vaccine  
Synthetic vaccine  
Synthetic vaccine  
Synthetic vaccine

#### Carbohydrate antigens



**Figure .** Schematic representation of antitumor strategies based on antibodies and vaccines targeting TACAs (Tumor Associated Carbohydrate Antigens). mAbs (monoclonal antibodies); CAR-T (Chimeric antigen receptor-T); STn (sialyl Tn); SLeA (sialyl Lewis A); SLeX (sialyl Lewis X); LeY (Lewis Y); ADCC (Antibody-Dependent Cell-mediated Cytotoxicity); ADCP (Antibody-Dependent Cellular Phagocytosis); CDC (complement-dependent cytotoxicity).

This comprehensive review delves into the strategies employed in cancer immunotherapy targeting TACAs. It encompasses diverse approaches, ranging from the development of antibodies tailored to specific TACAs, the formulation of vaccines, to the engineering of chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) T cells. Notably, certain approaches, such as anti-GD2 antibodies, have already received approval for clinical use.

Furthermore, the review provides insights into the antitumor mechanisms underlying various TACA-targeting strategies, showcasing findings from selected clinical trials. It underscores the promising horizons that have unfolded due to recent advancements in cancer control technologies, highlighting the potential of TACA-targeted immunotherapies in reshaping the landscape of cancer treatment.

## Category

1. News