



*Unlocking the potential of innovative medicines*

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# ***PCI Biotech***

*PCI – Enhancing delivery in oncology*

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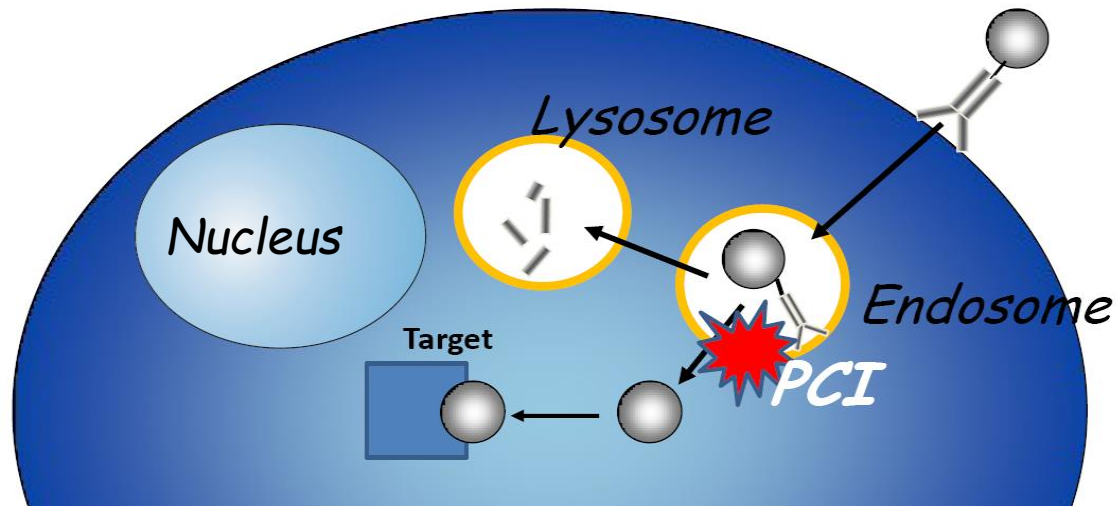
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# PCI Biotech at a glance

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- A listed cancer-focused biotech company (PCIB, Oslo exchange)
  - Market cap ~\$10 mill.
  - Lean organisation: 10 employees
  - Photochemical internalisation (PCI) technology originates from the Norwegian Radium Hospital
    - Continued close collaboration
  - Collaboration with ETH and University Hospital Zurich
- Clinical Program
    - Phase I/II with the photosensitiser Amphinex<sup>®</sup> for the orphan indication inoperable bile duct cancer
  - Pre-clinical programs
    - Vaccine delivery technology to enhance T-cell responses
    - Efficient delivery of nucleic acid therapeutics

# PCI technology – enabling drugs to reach intracellular therapeutic targets



● Therapeutic molecule

- mAb, protein toxins
- Peptides, mRNA
- DNA (gene encoding)
- Certain small molecules
- Oligonucleotides
- mAb, peptides, polymers, nanoparticles, liposomes



- Therapeutic proteins
- Cancer vaccines
- Gene therapy
- Chemotherapy
- Gene silencing
- Targeting, delivery

# Photochemical internalization (PCI) technology – general principle

## PCI mechanism of action – triggered endosomal escape through light activation



### The active molecule

- Peptide: e.g. antigen
- Oligonucleotide, e.g. siRNA
- Anticancer agent, e.g. gemcitabine
- Protein, e.g. antibody-drug conjugate



### The PCI component

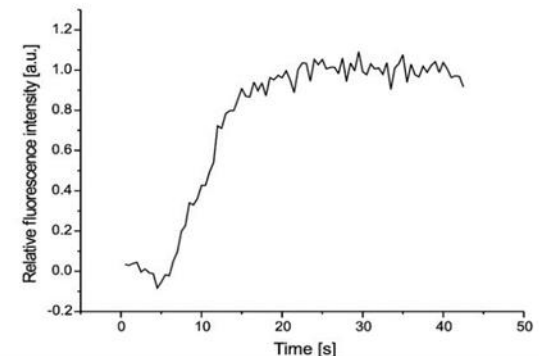
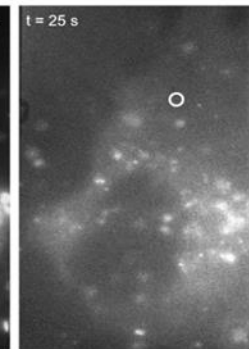
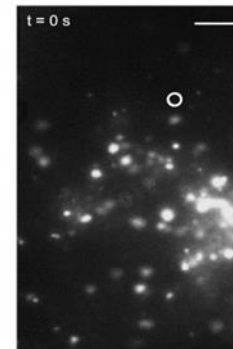
- Fimaporfin (TPCS<sub>2a</sub>)



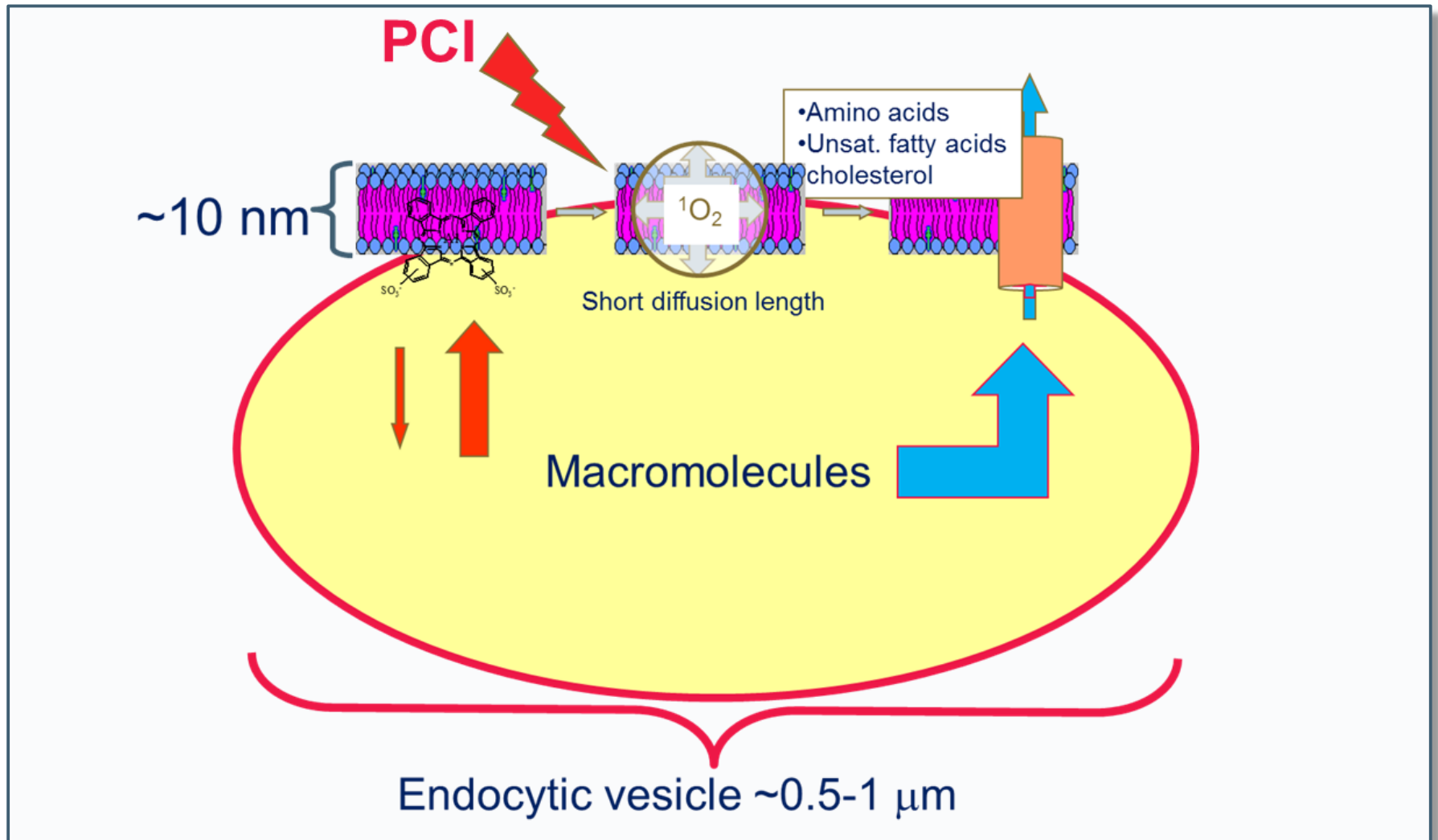
### The target

- Target for the active molecule
- E.g. DNA, mRNA, enzyme, microtubuli

Before illumination      After illumination



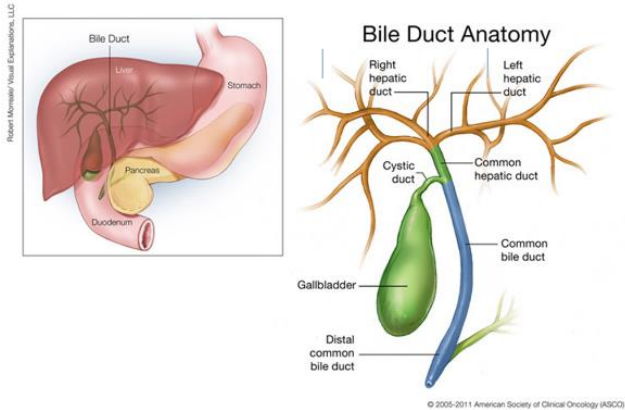
# PCI technology – mode of action



# PCI – a versatile technology with a pipeline of partnering opportunities

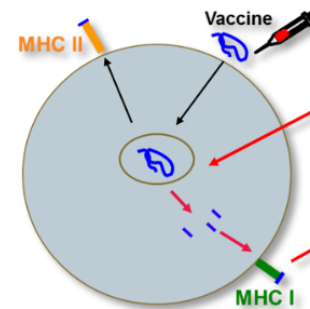
## Local cancer treatment

### ■ Bile duct cancer



## Cancer vaccination

### ■ Intradermal and intratumour vaccination

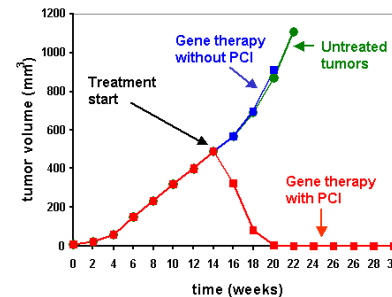


PCI – induce presentation on MHC class I

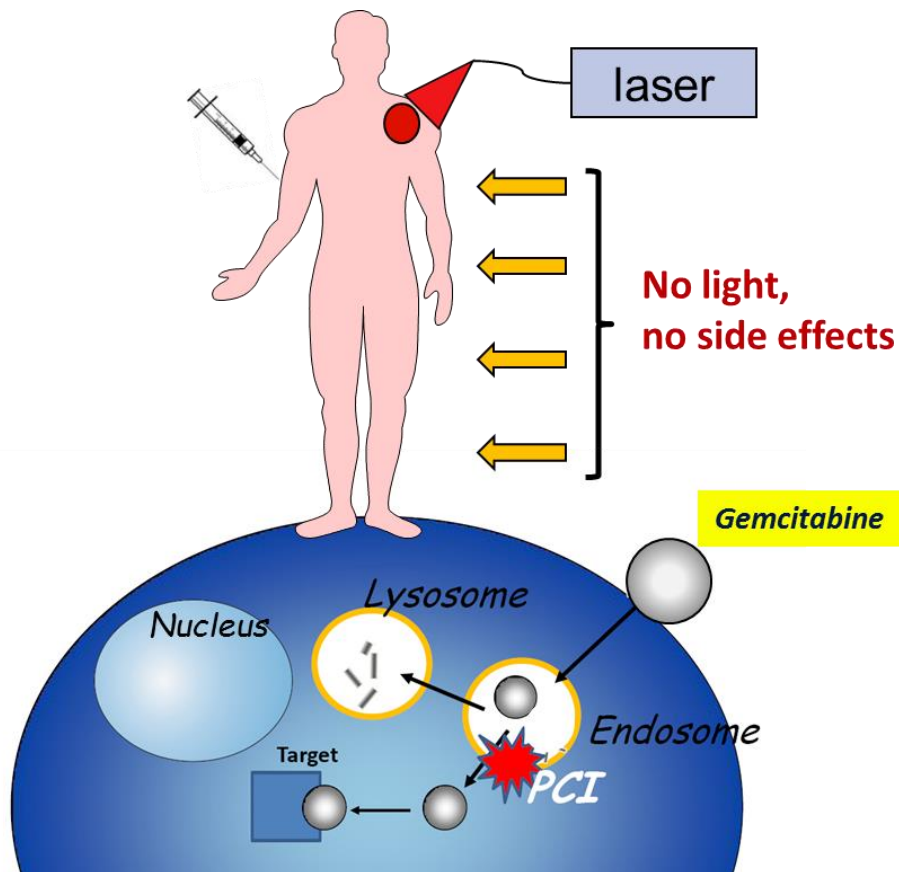
- Make it possible to achieve cytotoxic T-cell response with protein/ peptide vaccines
- Can solve a key challenge for many vaccine approaches

## Nucleic acids delivery

- siRNA
- mRNA
- Gene therapy



# Clinical applications - enhancement of systematically administered chemotherapeutics



## Phase Ib/II in advanced bile duct cancer – PCI-induced enhancement of gemcitabine

- Single treatment of locally advanced inoperable bile duct cancer
- Multi-site adaptive phase Ib/II in up to 45 patients
- Primary endpoint phase II: PFS

## Phase I completed – providing excellent safety results and promising early tumour response

- Single treatment: i.v. fimaprofin and bleomycin + surface illumination of metastatic/recurrent tumour
- Single site study (University College London Hospital) in 22 patients
- Including head & neck, breast (skin mets), sarcoma and skin adnexal cancer



# Clinical Phase I/II study PCIA202/12 – design

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## Phase I

▪ **Objective:** to find a tolerable dose, and establish the safety profile of Amphinex-induced PCI of gemcitabine followed by systemic gemcitabine and cisplatin\*

- 3+3 dose escalation design (light and/or Amphinex)
- Cohort review committee evaluates each cohort
- window lasts until end of first 21 day cycle with gem/cis
- PCI + up to 8 cycles of gem/cis
- Endpoints: DLTs, safety (AEs, labs, physical findings), PK

| Cohort   | Amphinex dose | Light dose |
|----------|---------------|------------|
| Cohort 1 | 0.06 mg/kg    | 15 J/cm    |
| Cohort 2 | 0.06 mg/kg    | 30 J/cm    |
| Cohort 3 | 0.12 mg/kg    | 30 J/cm    |
| Cohort 4 | 0.25 mg/kg    | 30 J/cm    |

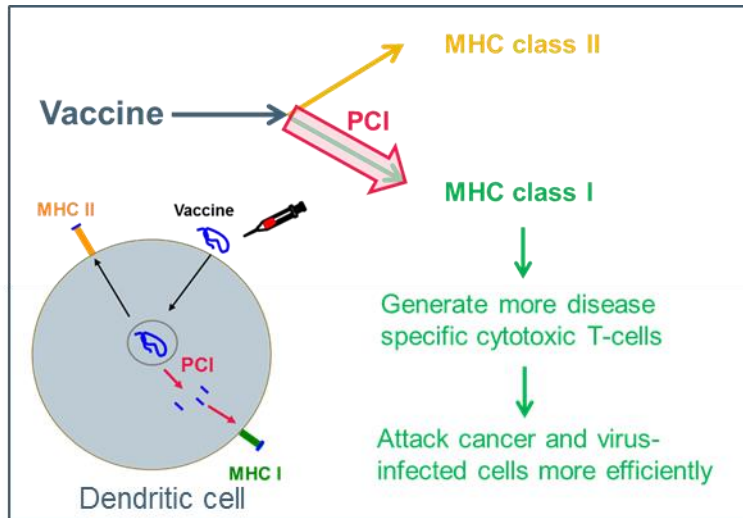
## Phase II

▪ **Objective:** to make a preliminary assessment of the efficacy of Amphinex-induced PCI of gemcitabine followed by systemic gemcitabine and cisplatin

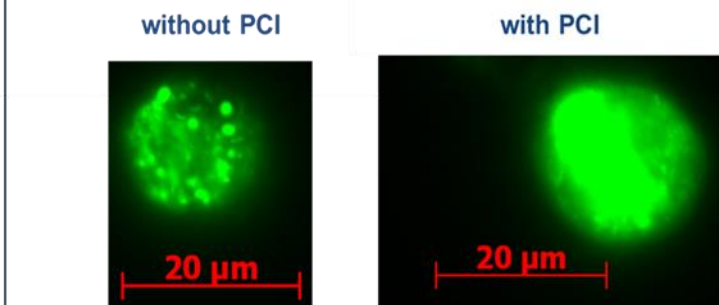
- 5:2 randomization, PCI+stenting +gem/cis vs. stenting+gem/cis. Up to 8 cycles of gem/cis, 35 patients
- Endpoints: PFS, ORR, DCR, OS

# PCI for vaccination – enhancing cytotoxic T-cell response by light-induced cross presentation

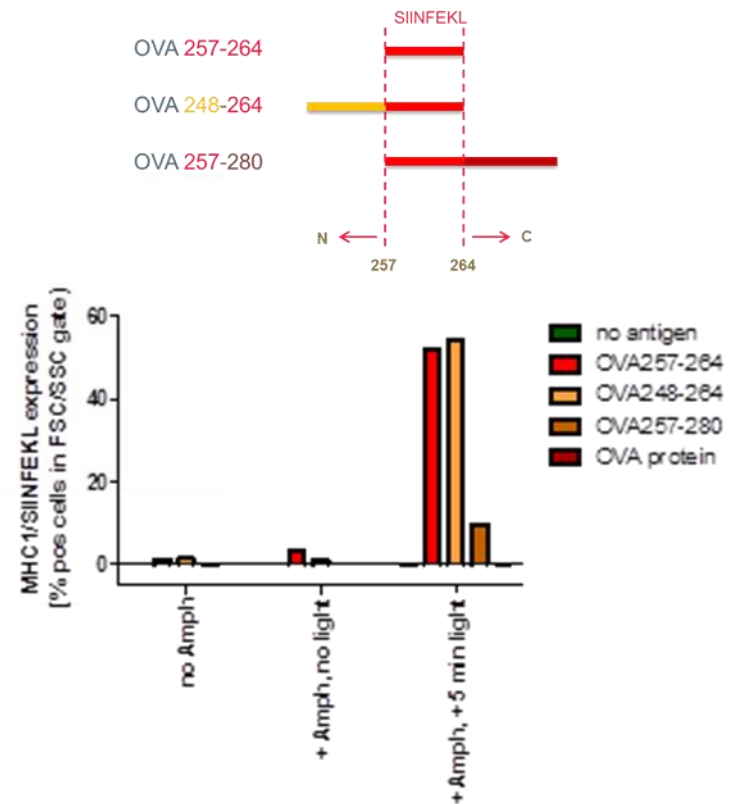
Well characterized mode of action



## PCI of OVA-Alexa488 in JAWSII Dendritic cells



## MHC1/SIINFEKL expression in B6 macrophage



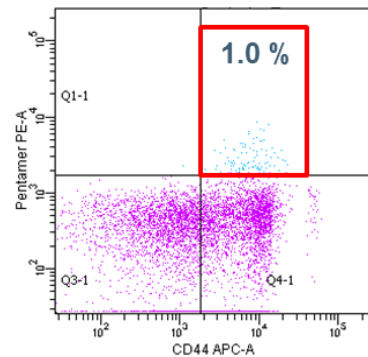
# Intradermal setting with HPV peptide + PCI + poly(IC)

## HPV peptide – intradermal vaccination with Poly(IC)

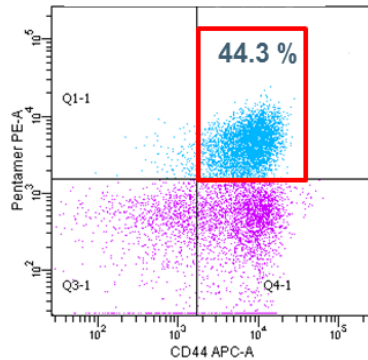
(3 i.d. vaccinations)

Without PCI:

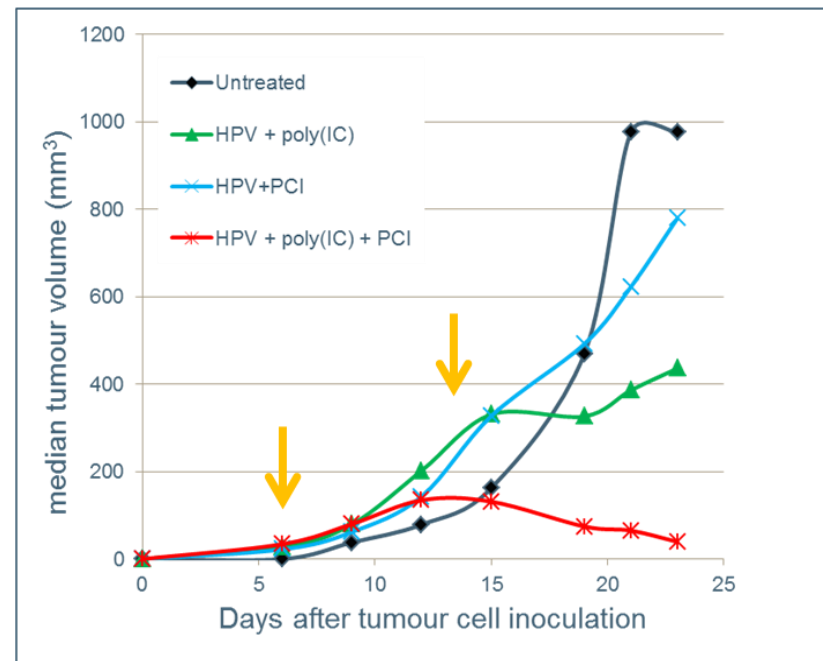
Antigen specific CD8 T-cells in blood



With PCI:



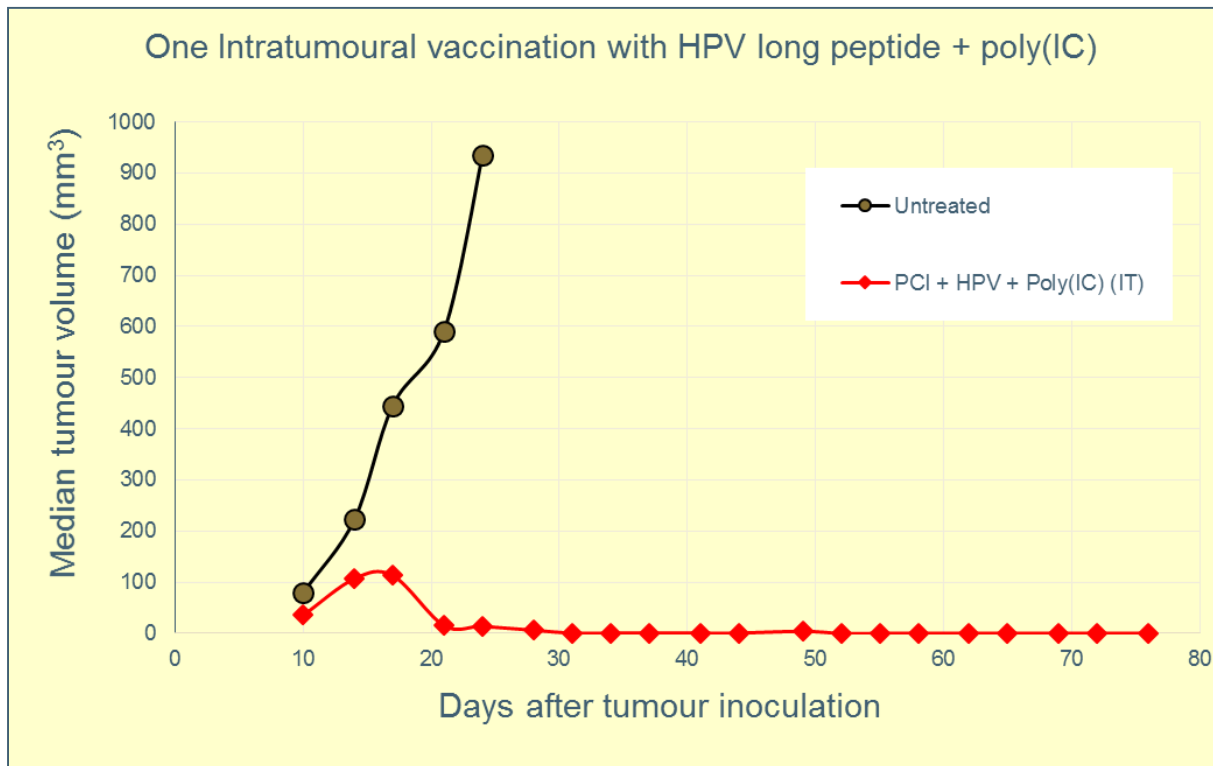
TC-1 mouse tumour model



- Intradermal vaccination at days 6 and 13 after tumour cell inoculation
- 5 animals per group

antigen specific CD8 T-cells in blood and tumour regression

# Intratumoural setting with HPV peptide + PCI + poly(IC)



## Intratumoural vaccination

- Tumour accessibility
- Tumour «vaccine factory», neoantigens
- More efficient
  - Immune cells present in tumours
  - Immunogenic cell death
  - Tumour cell lysing

# Cancer therapeutic vaccines – competitive advantages and user-friendly PCI solutions



**Clinical safety and preclinical efficacy evidence, combined with a comprehensive patent estate on PCI-mediated CTL-induction (products, uses and devices)**

**Safety** – TPCS<sub>2a</sub> tested in Phase I study (i.v. inj)

**Stability** – TPCS<sub>2a</sub> is stable at room temperature, also in solution

**Innovation** – Unique mode of action

**Light activation** – User friendly blue LED light

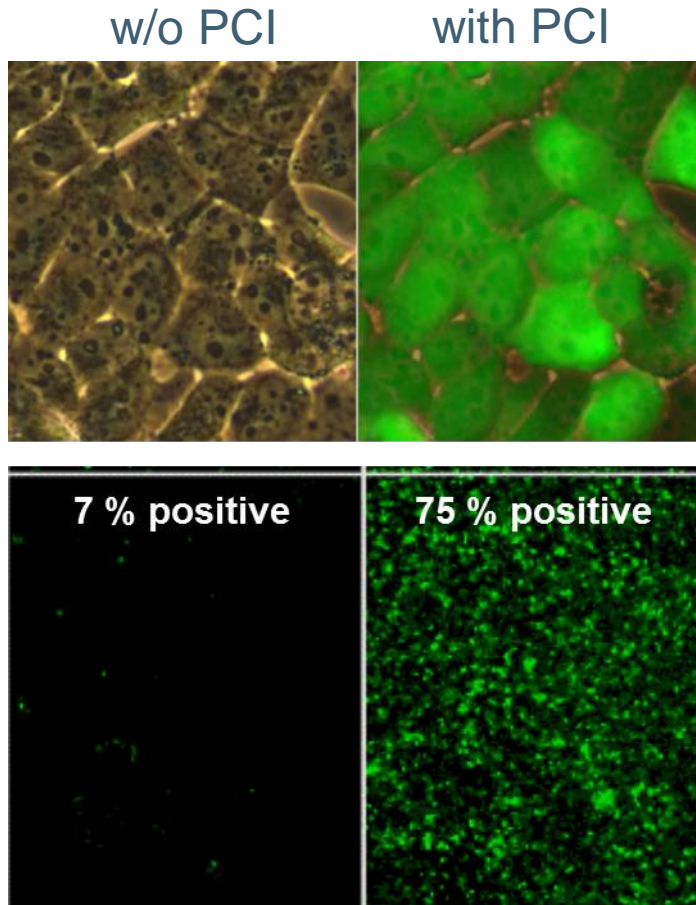
**Cost effectiveness** – Simple synthesis of TPCS<sub>2a</sub>

**Broad applicability**

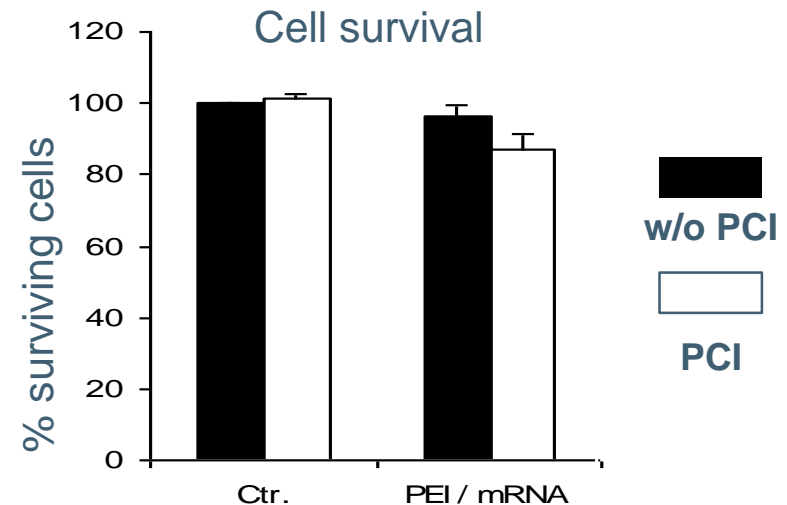
- Peptide and protein antigens as well as particulate
- Intradermal and intratumoural vaccination
- In vivo and autologous possible



# PCI strongly improves mRNA delivery by a PEI vehicle

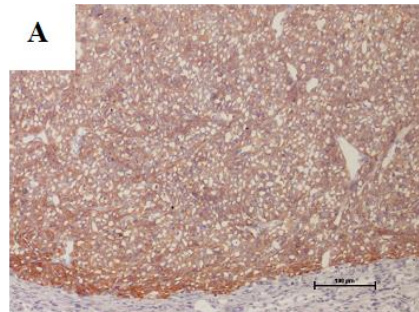


- EGFP mRNA
- Polyethylenimine (PEI) vehicle
- N/P ratio 2/1

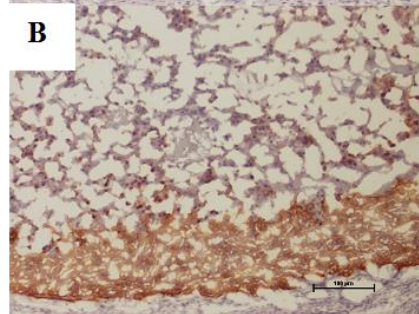


# In vivo siRNA – EGFR siRNA Lipofectamine

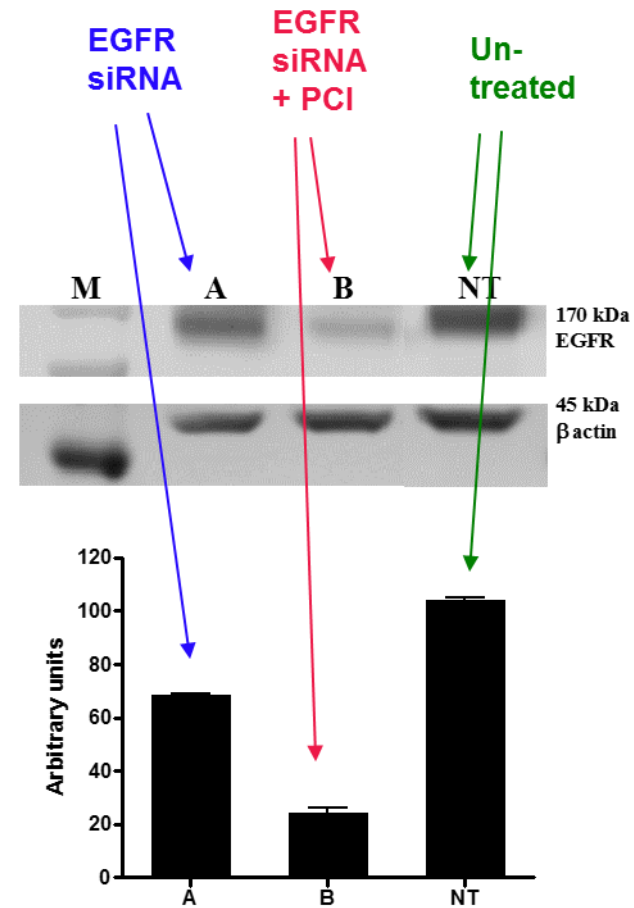
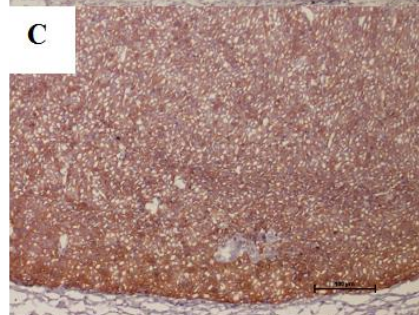
EGFR siRNA



EGFR siRNA + PCI



Non-specific siRNA + PCI



# Contacts

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