Research group: Carine MICHIELS





Tumor hypoxia

Understanding the molecular mechanisms of cancer cell resistance to chemotherapy and radiation therapy

Laboratory of Cellular and Molecular Biology (URBC)



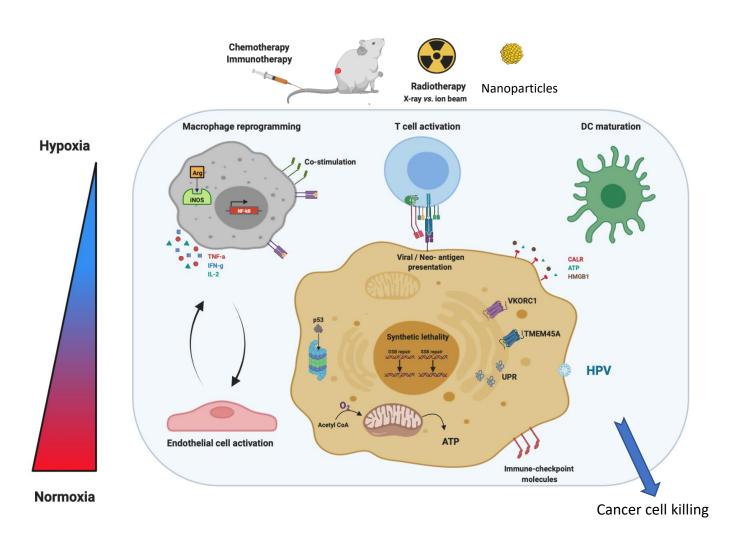


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The Tumor Hypoxia (TumHyp) group investigates the mechanisms of tumor progression and resistance to chemo-, radio- and immunotherapies, with the aim to develop novel strategies to overcome treatment resistance or relapse. In this context, the effect of several physical and cellular mechanisms of resistance and invasiveness are investigated, such as tumor hypoxia, cell death, inflammation and the interaction of cancer cells with the tumor microenvironment.

Numerous studies addressed the question on how to overcome intrinsic or acquired resistance of cancer cells to radiotherapy. In this context, current investigations aim to identify genes involved in intrinsic radiotherapy resistance of glioblastoma. Furthermore, the induction of cell death and cell cycle arrest following radiation treatment are under investigation in head and neck, pancreas and lung cancers. Of particular interest is the use of **charged particle radiotherapy**, alone or in combination with **gold nanoparticles** or immunotherapy to potentiate cancer cell killing, **synthetic lethality** or to promote an **inflammatory tumor microenvironment**.



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Group leaderCarine Michiels

Postdoc François Bulteau

PhD students
Karim Bouhjar (UNamur/ Umontreal)
Jia-Wei Chen
Hortence Parée
Christoph Schifflers (UNamur/DKFZ)

Master studentsArthur Bertozzi
Manon Van Den Abbeel









