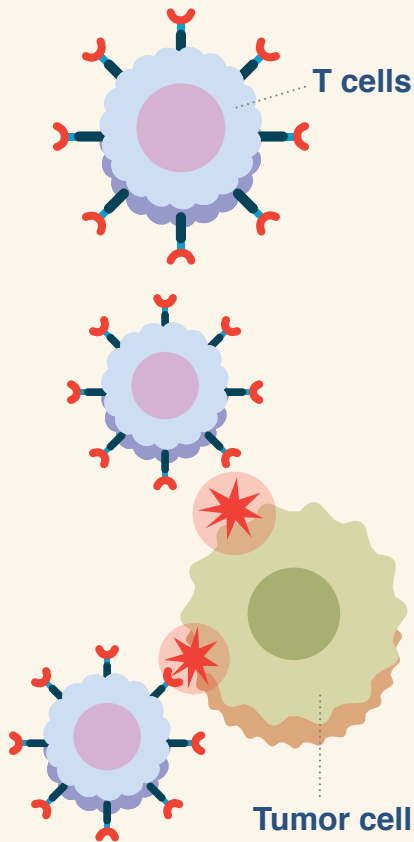


# What is immunotherapy?

Immunotherapy is a type of cancer treatment that helps the patient's own immune system fight cancer.

## 1. Normal immune system

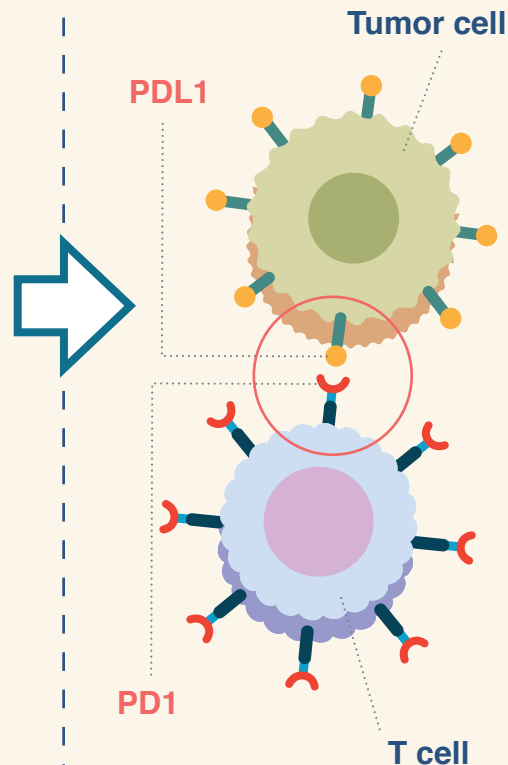
T cells are the cells of the immune system that identify tumor cells and combat them.



## 2. Tumor cells fight back

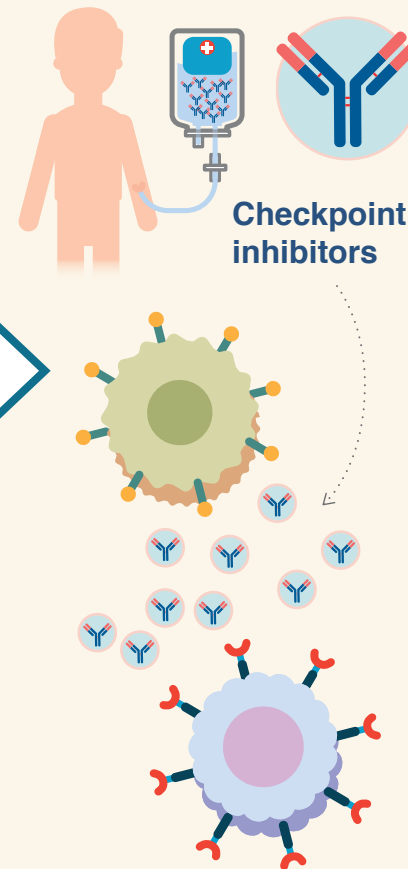
Some tumor cells develop a shield of molecules called **PDL1**.

These bond to the T cells' **PD1** receptors and deactivate them.



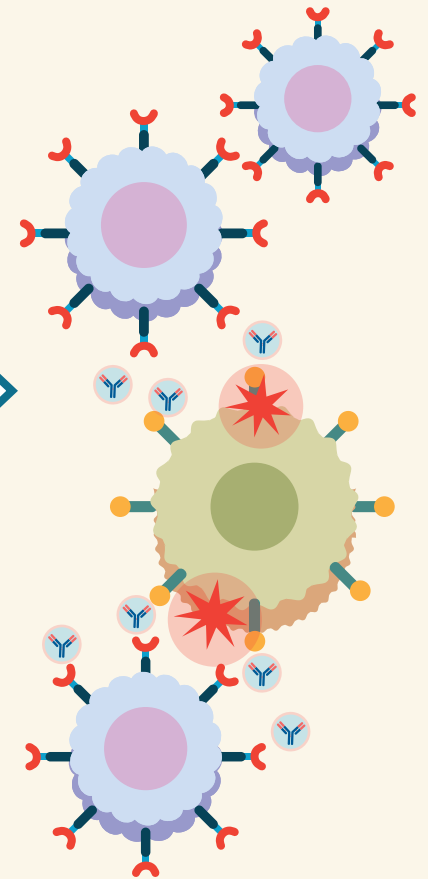
## 3. Checkpoint inhibitors

In this type of immunotherapy, drugs are given to reduce the cancer cell's ability to trick the immune system.



## 4. Restored defenses

Checkpoint inhibitor drugs block the **PDL1** and **PD1** from binding to each other, allowing the T-cells to attack tumor cells.



### SOURCES

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