CANCER IMMUNOLOGY RESEARCH

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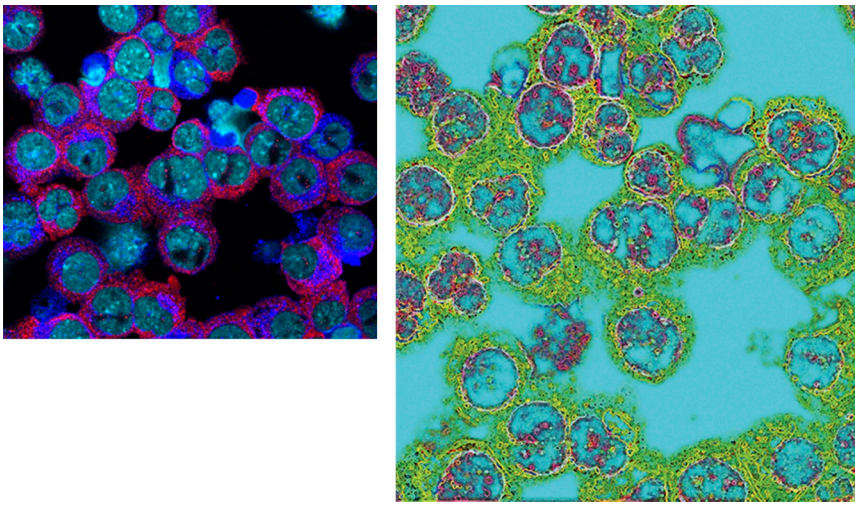

There is limited understanding of the biology of neuroendocrine prostate cancer (NEPC), which is a highly aggressive form of prostate cancer that can arise *de novo* or as tumors become resistant to hormone therapies. Through *in vitro* and *in vivo* preclinical analyses, Sulsenti and colleagues show that syndecan-1 is an NEPC-specific ligand for TLR2/4 on mast cells in the tumor and that activation of a TLR2/4–MyD88–intracellular osteopontin pathway leads to mast-cell production of TNFα, which limits NEPC growth. In human samples, the mast cell number decreases as NEPC progresses, highlighting the clinical relevance of the data and identifying new potential targets for mast cell–based immunotherapies for prostate cancer. Read more in this issue on page 1155. Original image from Fig. 2E. Artwork by Lewis Long.

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