# IIT OR NOT IIT – A QUESTION FOR THE SINGAPORE BIOTECH ENTERPRISE



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#### 2000 – THE OXBURGH REPORT AND INTERNATIONAL ADVISORY PANEL

"Clearly staffing levels (in public hospitals) are very low by international standards and clinical loads are correspondingly very high."

"it is clear that at present Singaporean bio-industry is severely hampered by a lack of doctors trained in research. Without such people, Singapore <u>stands no chance</u> of becoming the bio-medical hub for the region."

"the time-scale for establishing a research base to support bio-industry in Singapore is much tighter and urgent action is required if Singapore is to grasp the commercial opportunities of biomedicine and derive full advantage from Biopolis."

"a number of valuable initiatives are placed to support the bio-industry in Singapore but these will not succeed without a profound cultural change in Singapore medicine, especially the recognition of the role of physician-scientist

# Early 2000s and Today – the Birth of Targeted Therapy to the Power of Immunotherapy





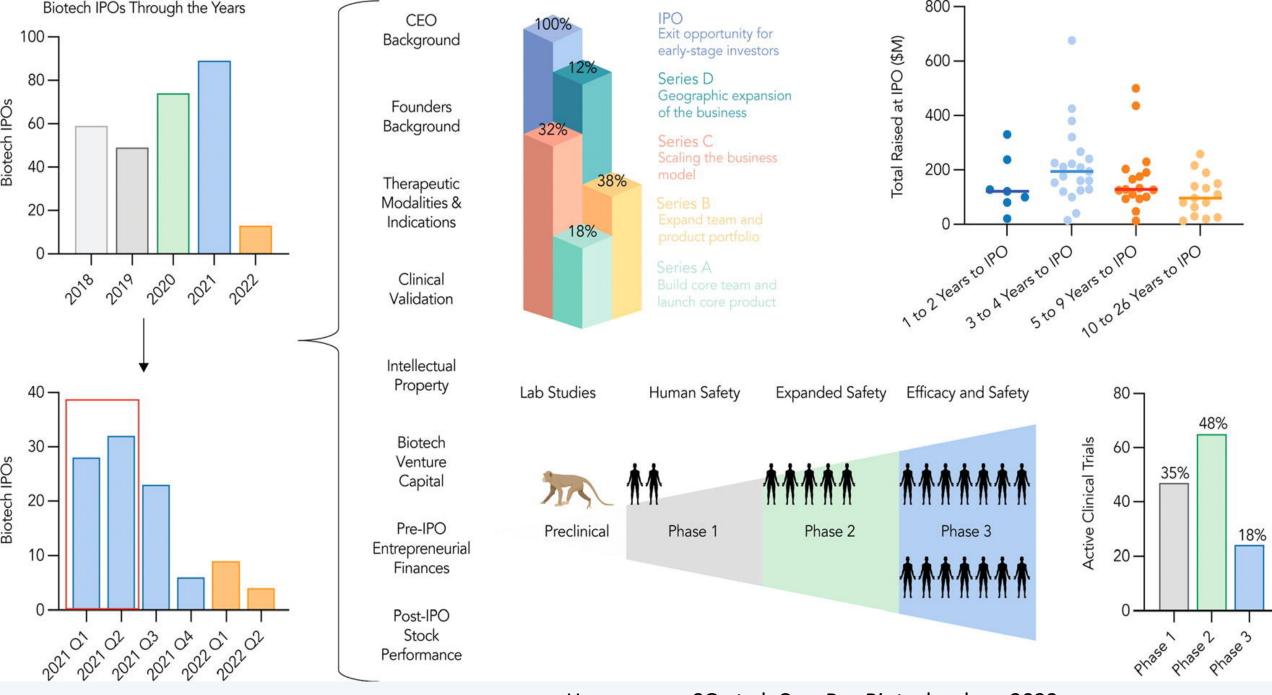








THE PANDEMIC CHANGED THE WAY WE LOOK AT THE BIOMEDICAL ECOSYSTEM



Huayamares SG et al. Curr Res Biotechnology 2022

### **DOCTORS AND MILITARY PERSONNEL / CEOS LIKE ACRONYMS**





**NMRC** 

**CSA** 

**CTG** 

IIT

**IRB** 

**HSA** 

**FDA** 

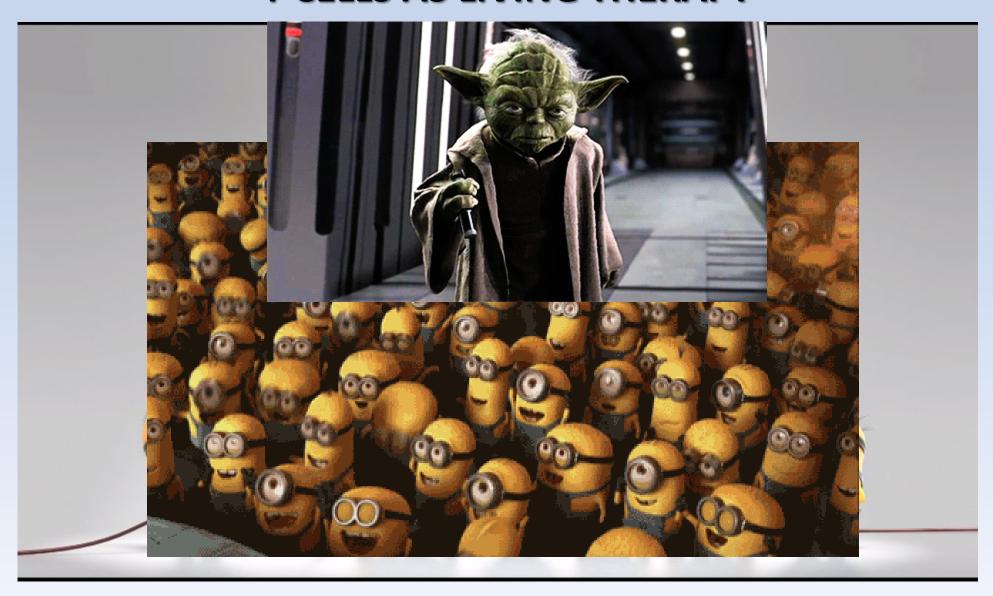
**EMA** 

**TGA** 

**CFDA** 

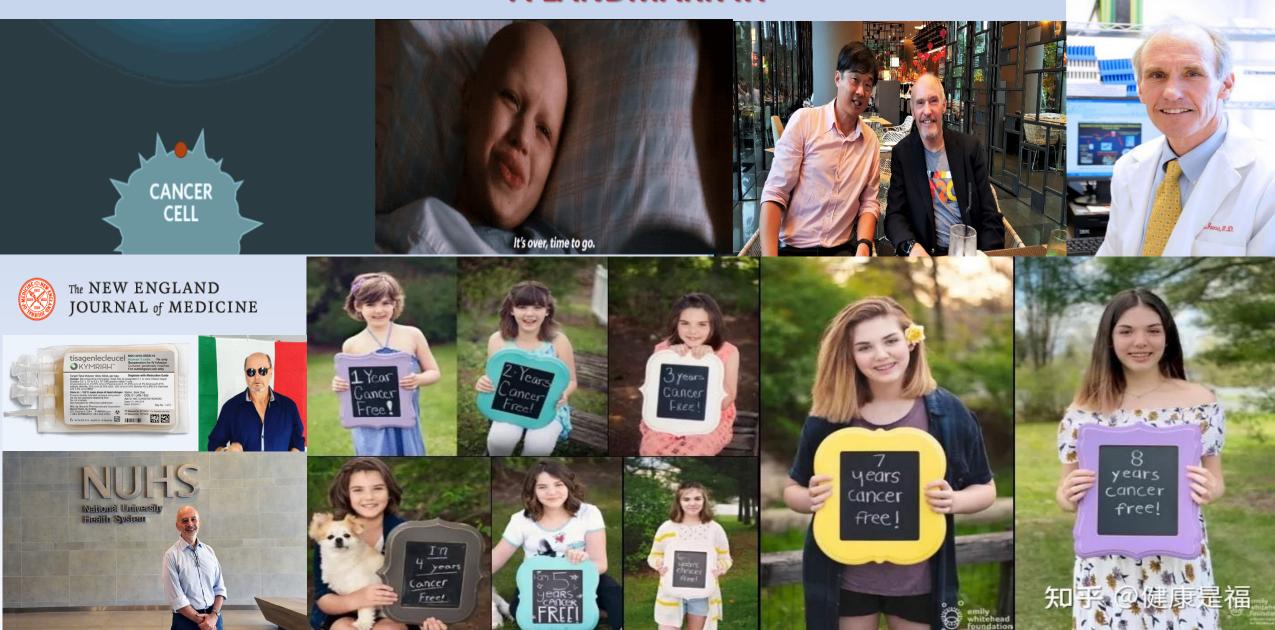


### T CELLS AS LIVING THERAPY



#### **2017**: ARRIVAL OF CAR T CELL THERAPY – A REMARKABLE BREAKTHROUGH





#### DEVELOPMENT OF EBV VIRUS-SPECIFIC T CELLS AGAINST SOLID TUMOUR – NASOPHARYNGEAL CANCER









1990s

2002-2007

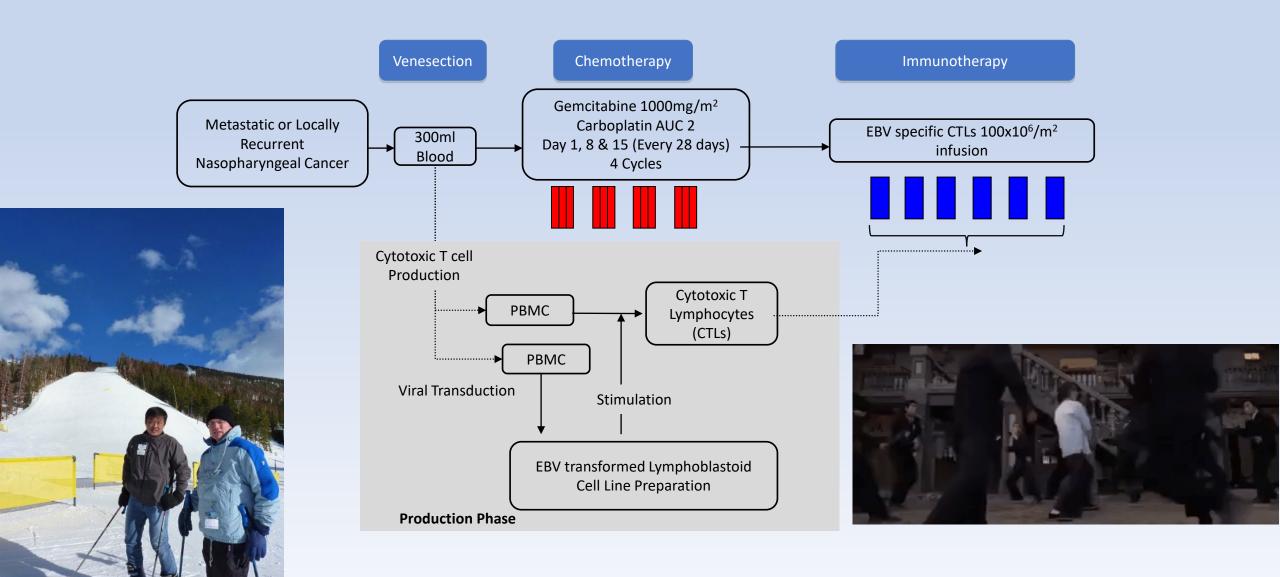
2008-2011

2012-2014

- Dr. Malcolm
   Brenner and his
   team at Center
   for Cell and Gene
   Therapy (CAGT)
   started studying
   body's natural
   anti-viral immune
   response to
   target cancer
- Phase I trials
  for patients
  with
  advanced
  Nasopharynge
  al cancer
  (NPC)
  conducted at
  Baylor College
  of Medicine
- Phase II trial at NCCS demonstrated best 2-year survival data in patients with advanced NPC
- Tessa founded
- Commencement of Tessa's Phase III trial recruiting 330 patients across 30 hospitals in 5 countries



### CELL THERAPY IIT: COMBINATION CHEMOTHERAPY & EBV CTL THERAPY IN ADVANCED NPC INVESTIGATOR-INITIATED TRIAL AT NCCS



## TESSA THERAPEUTICS - STARTING OUT IN A YOUNG BIOTECH GOING STRAIGHT INTO A LANDMARK PHASE III TRIAL

THIS IS LIKE ADOPTING A 1000 POUND GORILLA INSTEAD OF REARING YOUNG PUPPIES WHICH WHAT MOST BIOTECHS DO

SINGAPORE WAS THEN YOUNG TO THERAPEUTIC BIOTECH

CELL THERAPY WAS NOT FAMILIAR IN MANY COUNTRIES ESPECIALLY SE ASIA BEFORE THE ARRIVAL OF CAR T CELL THERAPY

HUMAN CAPITAL IN CELL AND GENE THERAPY WAS THEN LIMITED





#### BIOPHARMA IND TRIALS CAN BE LIKE THE ENGLAND FOOTBALL TEAM



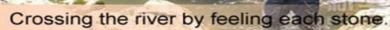




Only those who dare to fail greatly can ever achieve greatly.

(Robert Kennedy)





Mō zhe shítou guòhé.

摸着石头过河。



Pain and Suffering Builds Character & Greatness Comes From Character. --Jensen Huang(CEO Noidia)

izquotes.com





