

**USE THE SCANTRON FOR QUESTIONS 1-45. Multiple choice/true-false/open answer: there is only one correct choice per question: 2 pts each**

1. Which of the following is **NOT** one of the 3 major types stem cells?
  - a. adult stem cells
  - b. bone marrow cells
  - c. embryonic stem cells
  - d. induced pluripotent stem cells
2. Which of the following is **TRUE** regarding human embryonic stem cells?
  - a. they are transient
  - b. they exist in adults
  - c. they cannot be reprogrammed to produce various cell types
  - d. they reside in the intestinal crypt
3. Adult stem cell can be found in all of the following anatomic locations **EXCEPT**:
  - a. skin
  - b. heart
  - c. lung
  - d. gut
4. Cells that proliferate subsequent to stem cell differentiation are termed:
  - a. transit amplifying cells
  - b. transitionally proliferating cells
  - c. pluripotent cells
  - d. differentiated cells
5. Dolly the cloned sheep was produced by:
  - a. inserting an embryonic egg cell nucleus into an enucleated adult sheep skin (body) cell
  - b. inserting an adult skin (body) cell nucleus into an enucleated adult sheep egg cell
  - c. fusing a female egg cell with a male sperm cell
  - d. fusing a male sperm cell with an enucleated adult female skin (body) cell
6. Induced Pluripotent Stem Cells (iPSCs) are created by:
  - a. inserting specific genes into adult somatic cells
  - b. fusing adult somatic cells
  - c. inserting embryonic nuclei into adult somatic cells
  - d. fusing an adult cell nucleus with an embryonic cell
7. Adult stem cells that undergo somatic mutations may do all of the following EXCEPT:
  - a. replicate / propagate
  - b. give rise to mutant daughter cells
  - c. undergo malignant transformation
  - d. differentiate into normal cells

8. Cancer stem cells can be identified by which of the following:
- a. specific cell surface markers
  - b. their genetic make-up
  - c. their association with other kinds of cells
  - d. their appearance
9. The two signaling pathways that promote cancer stem cell self renewal are:
- a. Hippo and Campus
  - b. Wnt and Hedgehog
  - c. MAPK and PI3K
  - d. Akt and NFkB
10. In the absence of Wnt, all of the following are true for beta-catenin **EXCEPT**:
- a. it is serially phosphorylated
  - b. it is ubiquitinated
  - c. it is degraded in the protosome
  - d. it is available to associate with TCF/LEF
11. Intestinal (colon) stem cells require which of the following to keep from differentiating?
- a. hepatocyte growth factor
  - b. fibroblast growth factor
  - c. epidermal growth factor
  - d. keritinocyte growth factor
12. Which of the following is **FALSE** regarding the sequence of events after hedgehog binds Patched?
- a. Inhibition of Smoothened is relieved
  - b. Sufu and PKA release Gli
  - c. Gli target genes are transcribed
  - d. Gli target genes are repressed
13. All of the following are true regarding the PML-RAR $\alpha$  fusion protein **EXCEPT**:
- a. it induces the self-renewal of Acute Promyelocytic Leukemia (APL) cells
  - b. it blocks differentiation
  - c. it can be blocked by high pharmacological levels of retinoic acid (RA)
  - d. it can be blocked by physiological levels of retinoic acid (RA)
14. The basement membrane can be breached by:
- a. collagens
  - b. nidogens
  - c. proteases
  - d. laminins

15. Loss of the basement membrane is associated with:
- a. a high probability of developing distant metastases
  - b. a low probability of developing distant metastases
  - c. tumor withdrawal
  - d. extravasation
16. Epithelial Mesenchymal Transition (EMT) requires all of the following **EXCEPT**:
- a. the breaking of adherens junctions
  - b. the up-regulation of E-cadherin
  - c. the down-regulation of N-cadherin
  - d. vascularization
17. The process of intravasation requires all of the following **EXCEPT**:
- a. attachment of tumor cells to the exterior ('stromal') surface of a blood vessel
  - b. attachment of tumor cells to the internal ('luminal') surface of a blood vessel
  - c. secretion of proteases
  - d. degradation of extracellular matrix (ECM)
18. Lymph nodes, lung, liver, brain and bone marrow are frequent sites of metastasis because:
- a. tumor cells have affinity for those sites
  - b. these are the first places reached by tumor cells
  - c. these are the sites of tiny capillaries
  - d. none of these sites are frequent sites of metastasis
19. Extravasation requires all of the following **EXCEPT**:
- a. tissue parenchyma
  - b. platelets
  - c. proteases
  - d. tumor cell proliferation
20. All of the following are true about Angiogenesis **EXCEPT**:
- a. it is the process of forming new blood vessels
  - b. it is not essential for metastasis
  - c. it occurs through 'sprouting'
  - d. it occurs because tumors must be within the diffusion limit of oxygen to survive
21. Components of the Angiogenic Switch include all of the following **EXCEPT**:
- a. angiostatin
  - b. E-cadherin
  - c. VEGF
  - d. anti- and pro-angiogenic factors

22. The VEGF Receptors are:
- a. steroid receptors
  - b. cytokine receptors
  - c. tyrosine kinase receptors
  - d. G-protein coupled receptors
23. Under hypoxic conditions, which of the following is **FALSE**?
- a. prolyl-4-hydroxylase is activated
  - b. HIF $\alpha$  is activated
  - c. the VEGF gene is transcribed
  - d. Angiogenesis is activated
24. Tumors can be vascularization by all of the following **EXCEPT**:
- a. Angiogenesis
  - b. Vascoxia
  - c. Vascular Mimicry
  - d. Vasculogenesis
25. Which of the following tumor imaging modalities requires ionizing radiation?
- a. PET
  - b. CT (CAT)
  - c. MRI
  - d. X-rays
26. Which of the following is **NOT** part of the pre-metastatic niche?
- a. white blood cells
  - b. bone marrow cells
  - c. exosomes
  - d. tumor cells
27. An MMP inhibitor used to treat metastatic cancer is:
- a. vinblastin
  - b. tamoxifen
  - c. doxycycline
  - d. cisplatin
28. Anti-angiogenic drugs used to treat metastatic cancer include all of the following **EXCEPT**:
- a. avastin (bevacizumab)
  - b. sunitinib
  - c. gefitinib
  - d. cabozantinib

29. Which of the following regarding Adaptive Immunity is **FALSE**?
- a. it is mediated by neutrophils
  - b. it requires the activity of Antigen Presenting Cells (APCs)
  - c. it is characterized by immunological memory
  - d. it helps kill cancer cells
30. Activated cytotoxic T-Cells kill cancers by all of the following mechanisms **EXCEPT**:
- a. responding to tumor antigens 'presented' by APCs and T-Helper Cells
  - b. phagocytosis of cancer cells
  - c. secrete perforins that poke holes in tumor cell membranes
  - d. secrete granzymes that digest and kill tumor cells
31. Tumor cells can 'evade' detection by the immune system through:
- a. killing immune cells
  - b. staying in areas of the body where immune cells can't go
  - c. pretending to be immune cells
  - d. expressing checkpoint inhibitors on their cell membranes
32. Which ligand/receptor pair prevents T-cell activation?
- a. MHC I /MHC II
  - b. PD-1/PDL-1
  - c. EGF/EGFR
  - d. VEGF/VEGFR
33. The T-cell receptor targeted by Ketruda or Opdivo is:
- a. MHCII
  - b. EGFR
  - c. PD-1
  - d. VEGFR
34. The overall strategy for drug development includes all of the following EXCEPT:
- a. identifying a molecular target
  - b. optimization and formulation
  - c. pre-clinical studies
  - d. inoculation
35. A 'lead compound' in drug development is the:
- a. optimized compound
  - b. final version of the compound
  - c. first active compound identified
  - d. formulated compound

36. Pharmacokinetics is:

- a. what the body does to the drug
- b. what solubility characterizes the drug
- c. what the drug does to the body
- d. what the melting point is of the drug

37. Pharmacodynamics is:

- a. what the body does to the drug
- b. what solubility characterizes the drug
- c. what the drug does to the body
- d. what the melting point is of the drug

38. Which of the following is **TRUE** regarding a drug's Therapeutic Window?

- a. it is the dosage range that provides maximal results with minimal side effects
- b. it is the maximal dosage tolerable by the body
- c. it is the minimal effective dose
- d. it is the dose with the highest cytostatic and cytotoxic effects

39. All of the following are TRUE regarding Phase I Clinical Trials **EXCEPT**:

- a. they measure safety
- b. they typically enroll <100 participants
- c. they are intended to determine the minimal tolerable dose (MTD) of a drug
- d. they are intended to determine the maximal tolerable dose (MTD) of a drug

40. The typical Phase I study design is termed a:

- a. 3 + 3 design
- b. 2 + 2 design
- c. preliminary design
- d. experimental design

41. All of the following are true regarding of Phase II Clinical Trials **EXCEPT**:

- a. they test drug efficacy
- b. they determine the drug response in specific types of cancer
- c. they determine whether a drug can replace the standard of care
- d. they extend our knowledge of the drug's pharmacogenomics and pharmacokinetics profiles

42. Which of the following is **NOT** part of a blinded clinical trial design?

- a. patients are randomized into experimental drug and placebo groups
- b. the patient does not know if he/she is receiving the drug or placebo
- c. the patient knows if he/she is receiving the drug or placebo
- d. neither the patient nor clinician/researcher knows whether the patient is receiving the drug or placebo

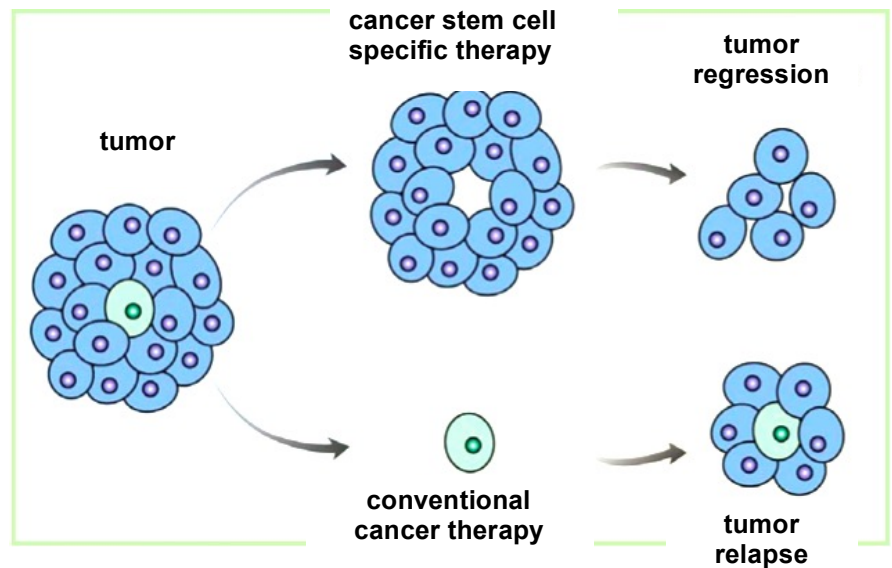
43. The primary endpoint of a Phase II Clinical Trials is:
- a. tumor size reduction
  - b. the drug tolerability at a specific dose
  - c. a molecular correlate (biomarker)
  - d. patient survival
44. The 'gold standard' endpoint of a Phase III Clinical Trial is:
- a. increased progression-free survival
  - b. increased overall survival
  - c. disease stabilization
  - d. tumor regression
45. A limiting factor in deciding whether a drug can replace standard of care is:
- a. limited accessibility
  - b. high cost
  - c. high percentages of Grade 3 or 4 adverse events
  - d. the length of time it takes to gain FDA approval

**ESSAY (10 pts):** Choose **ONE** of the following essays to answer out of the two provided. Do not answer both, I will only grade the first one.

**ESSAY ONE**

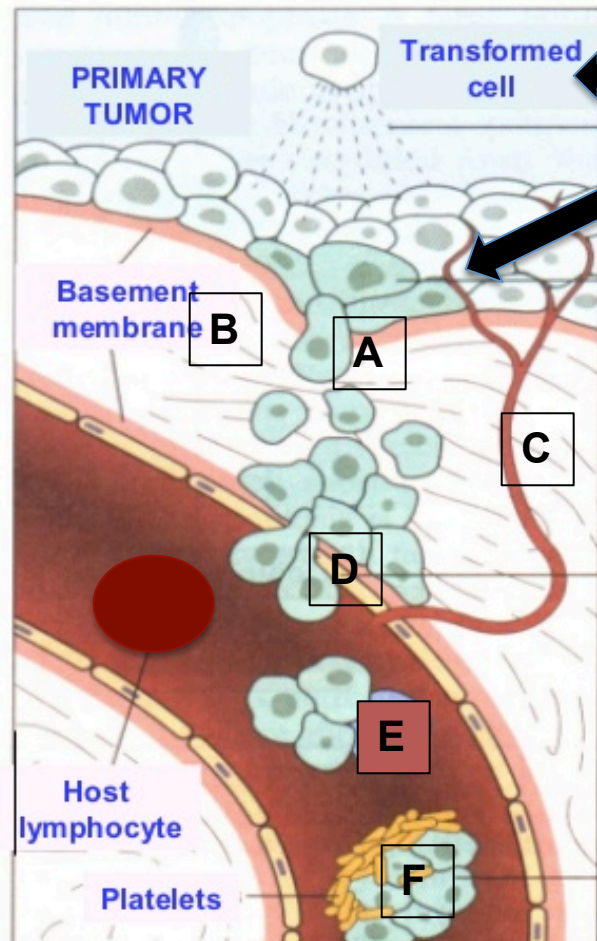
Explain what's going on in this diagram:

- a. Which cell(s) is/are the cancer stem cell(s)? Describe some properties of these cells that make them unique.
- b. What are the other non-stem cells? How did they originate?



- c. How do the differences between cancer stem and cancer non-stem cells affect therapeutic strategies and efficiencies (refer to the figure to answer)?



**ESSAY TWO**

As shown, this initial TRANSFORMED CELL has grown into a sizable PRIMARY TUMOR. This tumor is now in the process of METASTASIS.

For each of the labeled areas - A, B, D, D, E and F - describe the composition (what is it) and what aspect of metastasis it represents (is this a specific step in metastasis? What are the cells doing in this step? How is this step contributing to the metastatic process?

**BE SPECIFIC!**