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# PEVO basket trial, combining immunotherapy with an epidrug in squamous cell carcinomas

February 13th 2023, Bled

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## Introduction

PEVO: Pembrolizumab Vorinostat:

- Combination Therapie:
  - ▶ combining multiple drugs in one therapy approach
- Basket trial:
  - ▶ including multiple cancer “types” in one study approach (i.e. different sites of origins)
- Individualised/personalised medicine:
  - ▶ designing an individual, patient suited therapy approach on the basis of known biomarkers

## Introduction

Combining immunotherapy with an epidrug: -> increasing the ORR (overall response rate)

- Pembrolizumab:
  - ▶ immunodrug, Checkpoint inhibitor
  - ▶ humanized antibody used in cancer immunotherapy that treats melanoma, lung cancer, head and neck cancer, Hodgkin lymphoma, stomach cancer, and cervical cancer.
  - ▶ targets the programmed cell death protein/ligand interaction (PD-1/PD-L1) between lymphocytes and cells (binds and blocks PD-1 located on lymphocytes)

# Introduction

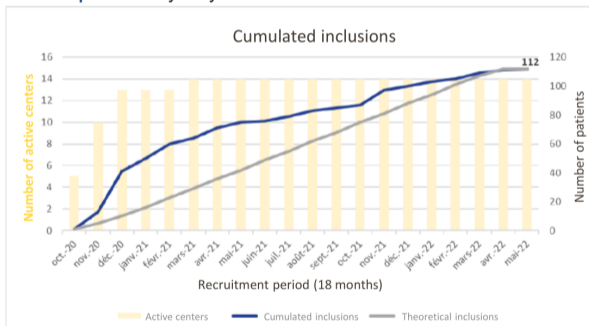
- Vorinostat:
  - ▶ epidrug
  - ▶ Histone deacetylase inhibitors (HDI)
  - ▶ Vorinostat's inhibition of histone deacetylases results in the accumulation of acetylated histones and proteins, including transcription factors crucial for the expression of genes

# PEVO trial study design

## Patientinclusion:

### PEVO<sup>SQ</sup> inclusions

✓ Inclusions **completed** Early May 2022



## **further reading:**

E de Guillebon et al.:

Combining immunotherapy with an epidrug in squamous cell carcinomas of different locations: rationale and design of the PEVO basket trial biomarkers following the pembrolizumab and vorinostat treatment

PMID: 33865192 PMCID: PMC8066350 DOI: 10.1016/j.esmoop.2021.100106

# Snakemake:

DAG:



# Pipelines:

RNAseq	
Task	Tool
trimming	Trimgalore
quality check	fastqc
mapping counting alignments for each FLAG mark duplicates	STAR samtools flagstat picard markdup
variant calling variant annotation variant interpretation	bcf-tools mpileup/ varscan2 ensemble vep + SnpEff Annovar
gene counting	featurecounts
fusions sequence classification	fusioncatcher + arriba Kraken2
circular rnas	ciri2

WES	
Task	Tool
trimming	Trimgalore
quality check	fastqc
mapping counting alignments for each FLAG mark duplicates ( Base Quality Score Recalibration	BWA-MEM samtools flagstat picard markdup GATK - BQSR )
variant calling variant annotation variant interpretation	deepvariant + bcf-tools + lofreq neusomatic + mutect2 + lofreq_somatic ensemble vep Annovar
cnv calling	cn.Mops Excavator 2 cnv_kit
coverage sequence classification	mosdepth Kraken2



## preliminary results:

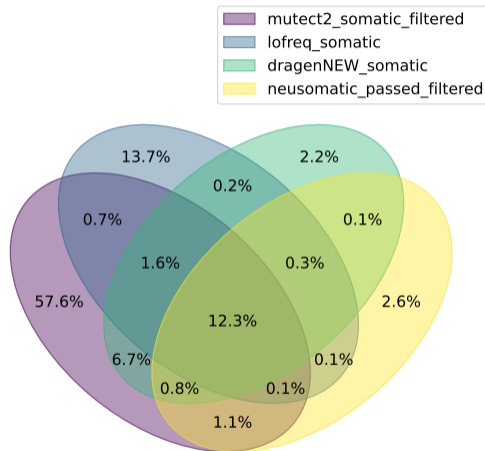
- WES-SNP
  - ▶ somatic:
    - ▶ lofreq\_somatic
    - ▶ neusomatic
    - ▶ mutect\_2
    - ▶ dragen\_somatic

## preliminary results:

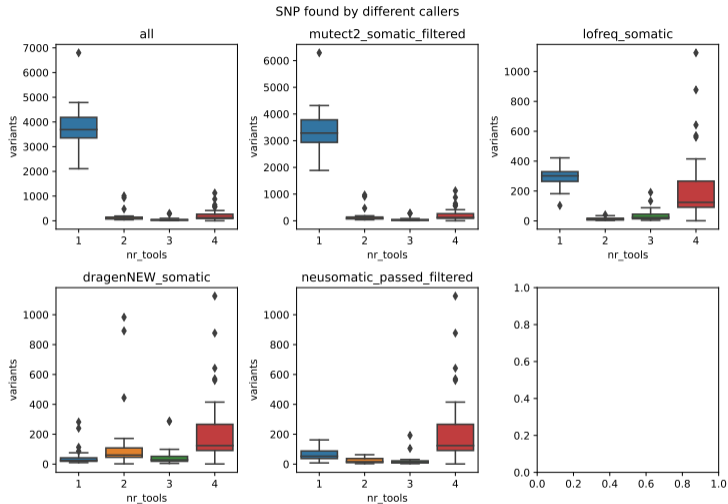
- WES-SNP
  - ▶ somatic:
    - ▶ lofreq\_somatic
    - ▶ neusomatic
    - ▶ mutect\_2
    - ▶ dragen\_somatic
  - ▶ germline:
    - ▶ deepvariant
    - ▶ bcf\_tools
    - ▶ lofreq
    - ▶ dragen\_germline

## somatic SNPs:

Venn Diagram for snps:  
mutect2\_somatic\_filtered, lofreq\_somatic, dragenNEW\_somatic, neusomatic\_passed\_filtered

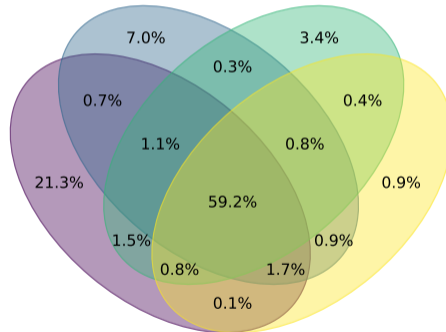
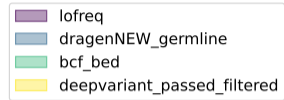


# somatic SNPs:



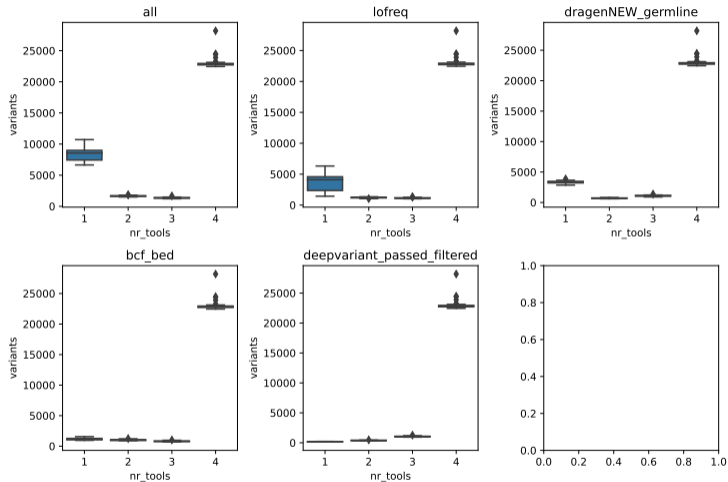
# germline SNP:

Venn Diagram for snps:  
lofreq, dragenNEW\_germline, bcf\_bed, deepvariant\_passed\_filtered



# germline SNP:

SNP found by different callers, germline



## **Fusion tools:**

- StarFusion
- FusionCatcher
- Arriba
- Dragen

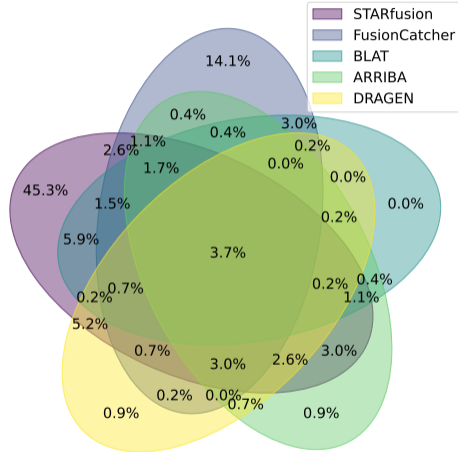
## Fusion tools:

- StarFusion
- FusionCatcher
- Arriba
- Dragen
- all of them are validated with FusionInspector
- semiautomated BLAT verification

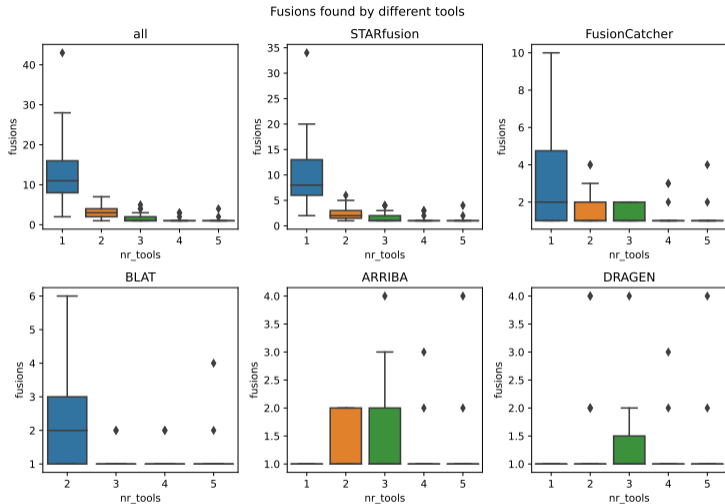


# preliminary results:

Venn Diagram for Fusions:  
STARfusion, FusionCatcher, BLAT, ARRIBA, DRAGEN



# preliminary results:





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# Thank You!

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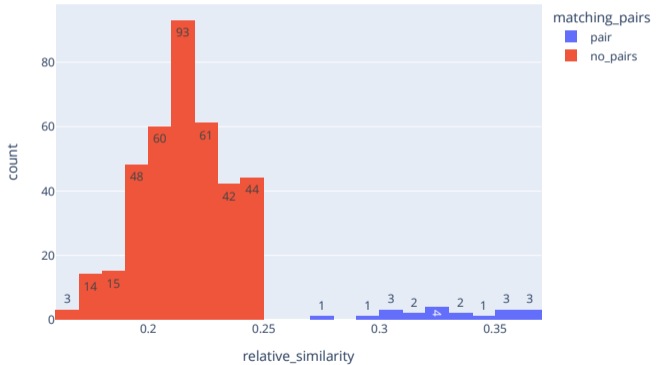
`https://www.bioinf.uni-leipzig.de`



# our preliminary results:

TIS-DNA – TIS-RNA sample pairing:

relative shared variants between DNA and RNA





# our preliminary results:

DNA BLD-TIS sample pairing:

relative shared variants between BLD and TIS

