Skin dendritic cells in melanoma are key for successful checkpoint blockade therapy

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- Melanoma progression is accompanied by a decrease in skin cDC2 and upregulation of PD-L1 and Galectin-9 in the tumor microenvironment.
- Responsiveness to checkpoint blockade can be restored by boosting DC function and activation in the tumors.
- Upon DC boost therapy, migratory skin cDC1 and cDC2 can prime melanoma-specific CD8+ T cells in the tumor-draining lymph nodes.