Can CAR-T cell therapy tackle solid tumors too?

Last summer, [Cecelia] Barron's cancer went from stage 2 to stage 3 oligodendroglioma. <u>Behnam Badie</u>, her surgeon at City of Hope, told her that she qualified for an experimental treatment in which her own T cells would be engineered to recognize an antigen on the surface of her tumor cells, then would be injected into her brain.

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Five months after the CAR T treatment in September 2018, Barron is feeling well, and her MRIs and PET scans show no signs of Junior's return. Positive signs like these have Badie and others optimistic that CAR T technology will be effective at killing solid tumors, as it has been for certain liquid cancers. There are a now a number of clinical trials in early stages pursuing the therapy for pancreatic cancer, mesothelioma, lung cancer, breast cancer, and others.

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Now that a number of clinical trials have demonstrated that CAR Ts can be safely given to patients with solid tumors, just about all investigators working on these immunotherapies for solid tumors are moving toward multiple agents as a next step, whether that's drug combos, CAR Ts that secrete immune-boosting agents, or T cells engineered to carry more than one type of CAR.

Read full, original post: <u>The Next Frontier of CAR T-Cell Therapy: Solid Tumors</u>