Evidence has recently emerged indicating that thermal ablative regimens function as an effective adjuvant to harness the antitumor activity of the immune system. These observations have spurred interest in understanding the mechanisms by which thermal medicine targets various cellular and molecular components of adaptive immunity. The objectives of this presentation are to:

- Provide an overview of the cytotoxic T lymphocyte arm of the immune system in tumor immunology and cancer immunotherapy.

- Define immune suppressive cellular networks that present obstacles to the antitumor immune system.