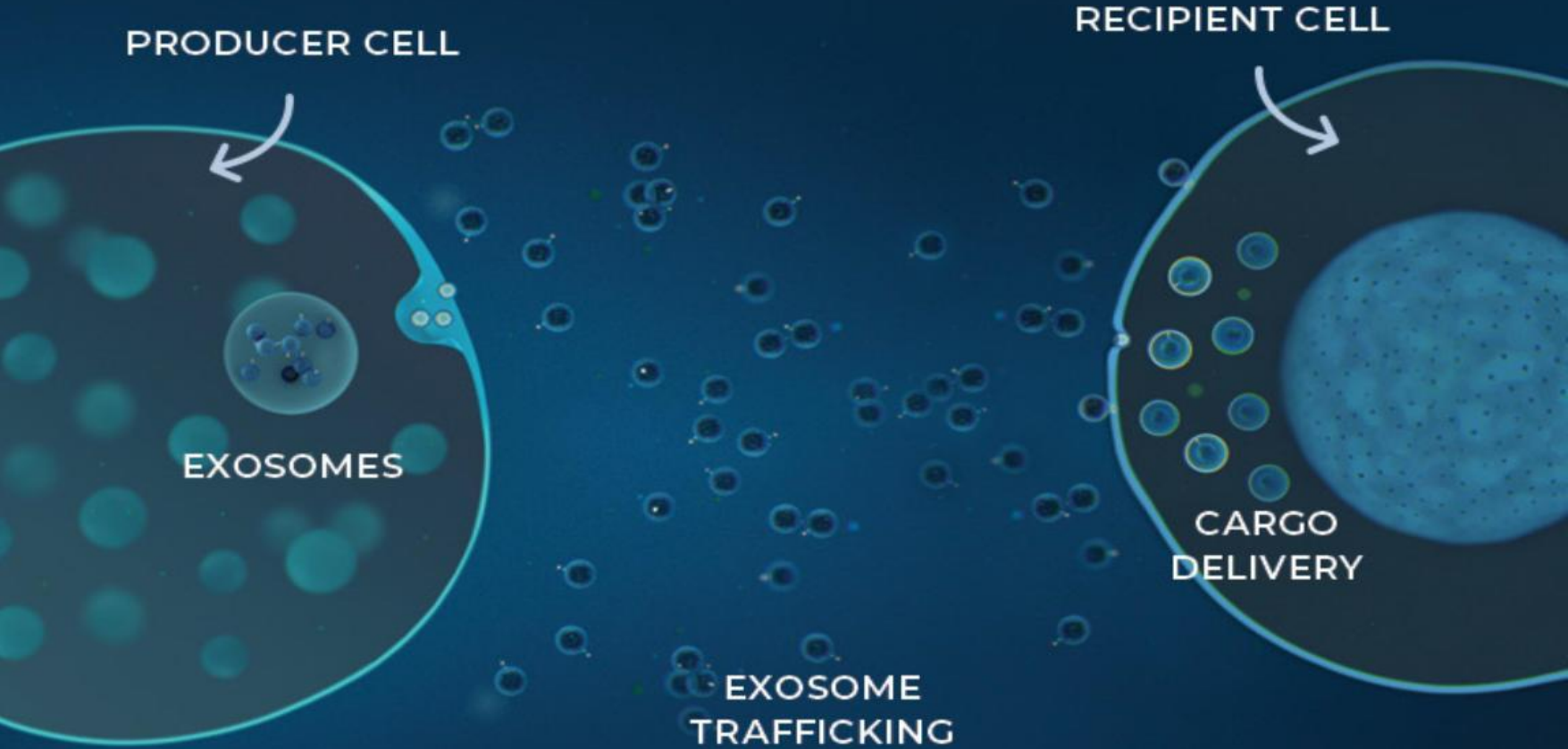


Dark side of Exosome

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Fellowship of surgical oncology

SBMU



- **The "next cell hypothesis" supports the notion that exosomes constitute communication vehicles between neighboring cells.**

- **Exosomes are nano-sized (30–150 nm) extracellular vesicles released virtually by all types of cells and their content robustly mirrors that of the parental cells.**

- **Body fluid exosome:**

- **Urine**

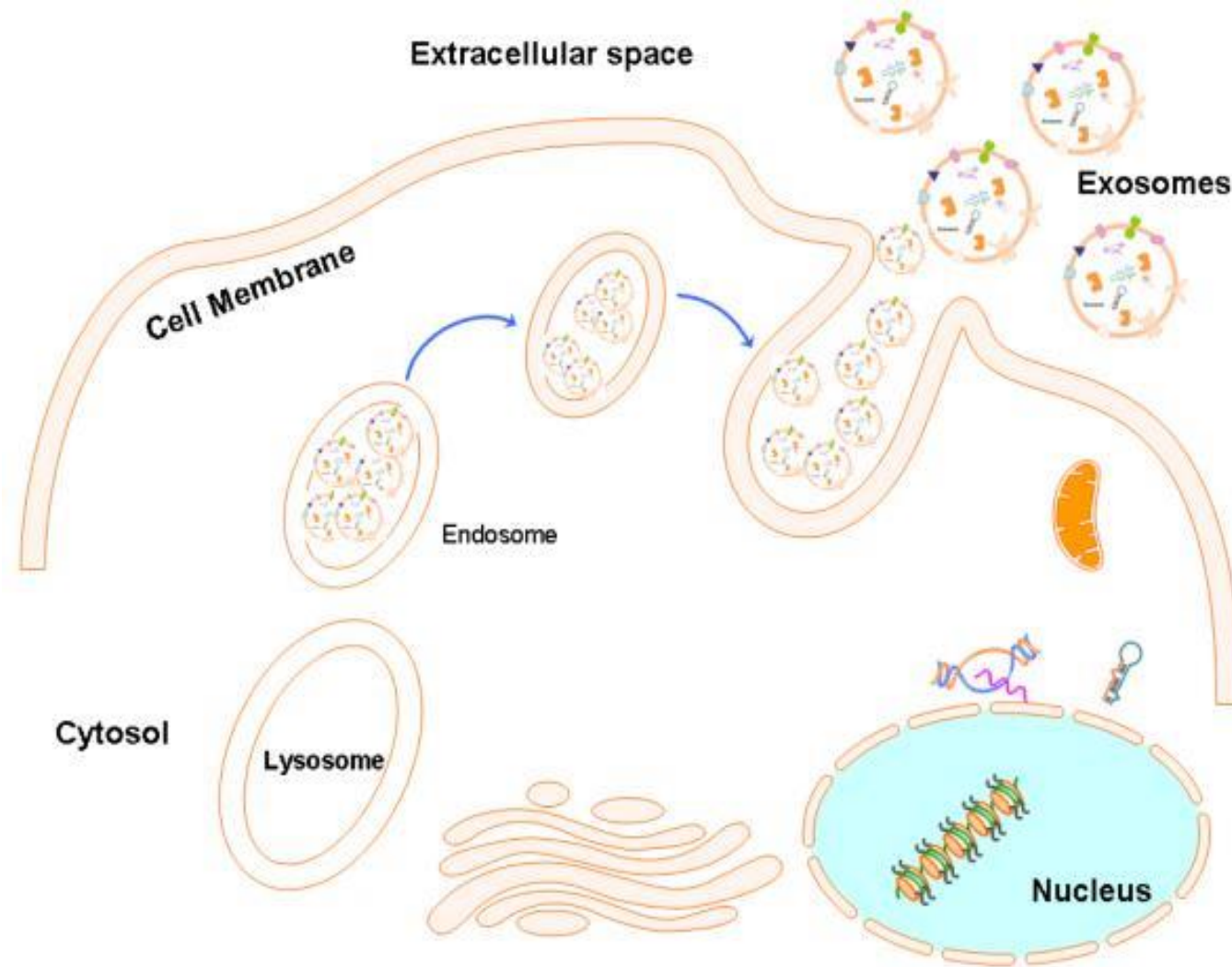
- **Breast milk**

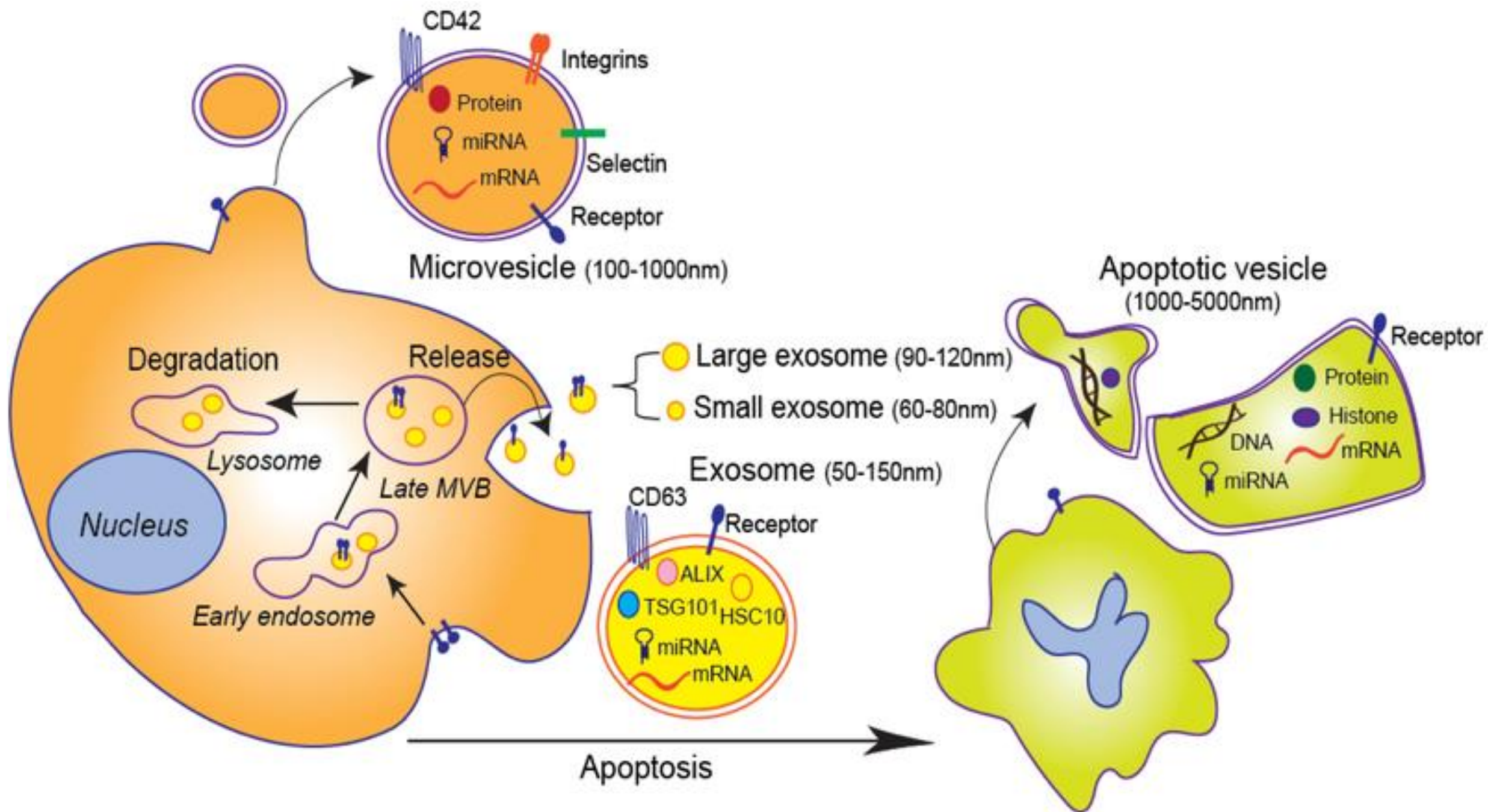
- **CSF**

- **Bile**

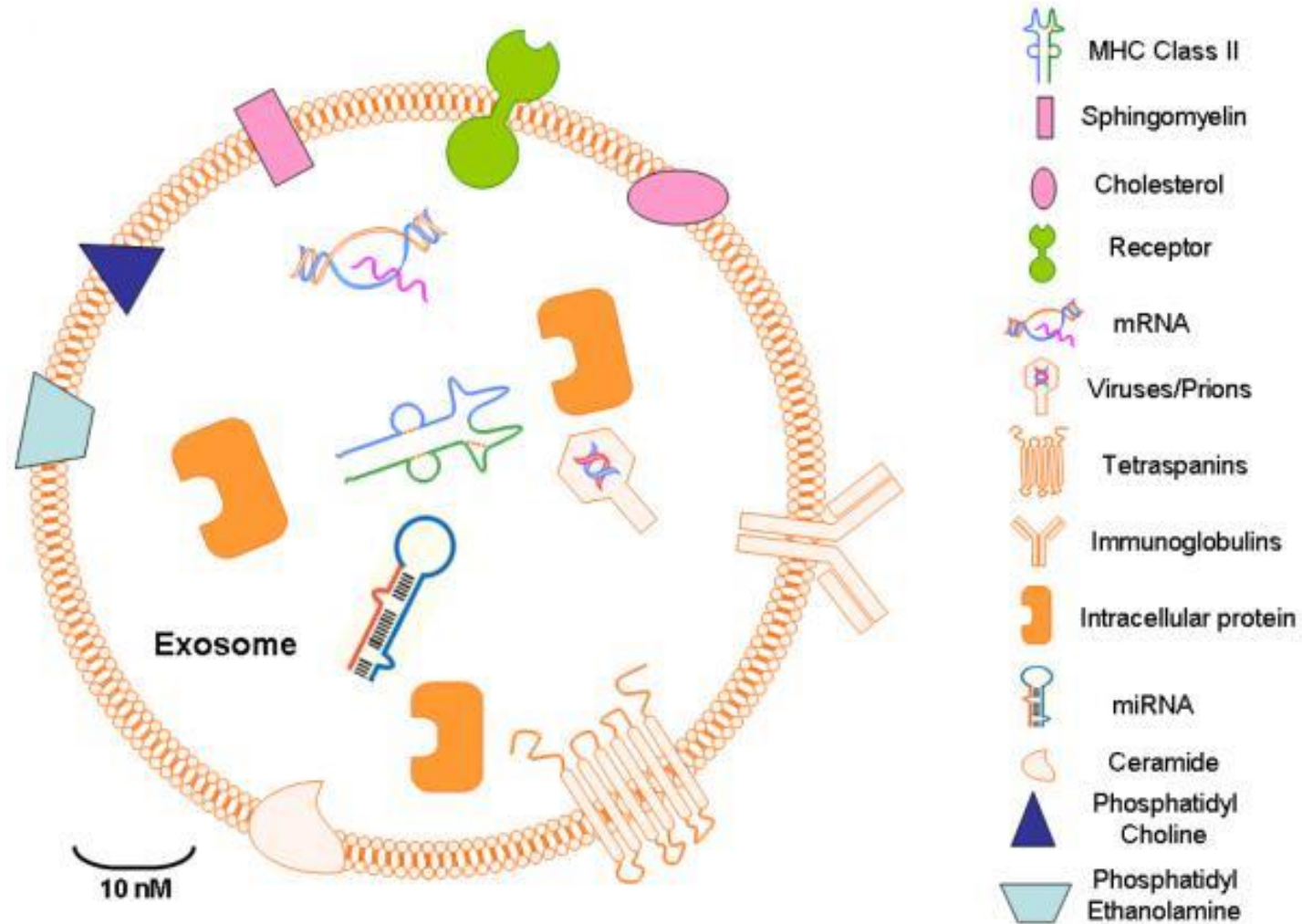
- **Blood**

Exosomes

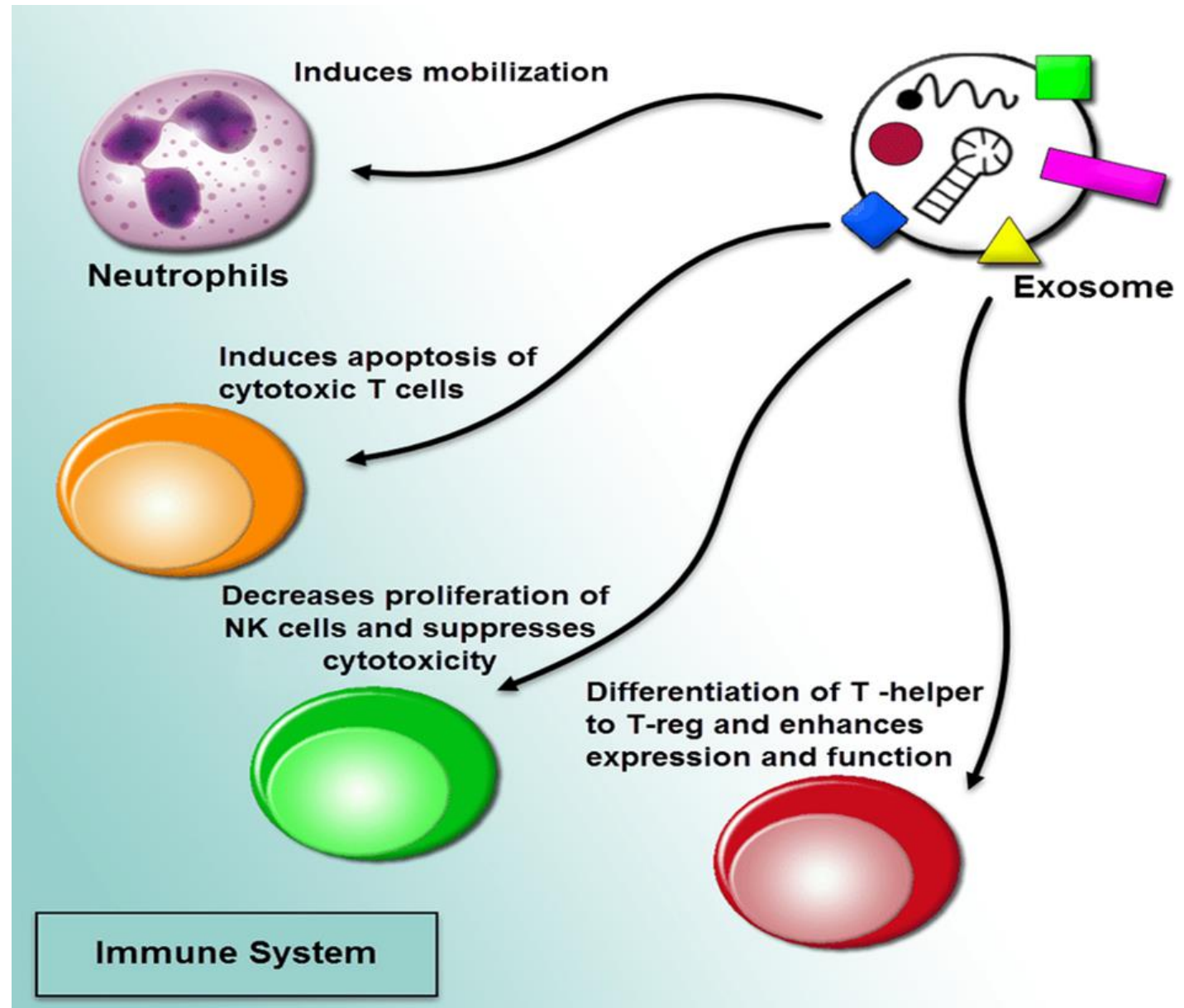




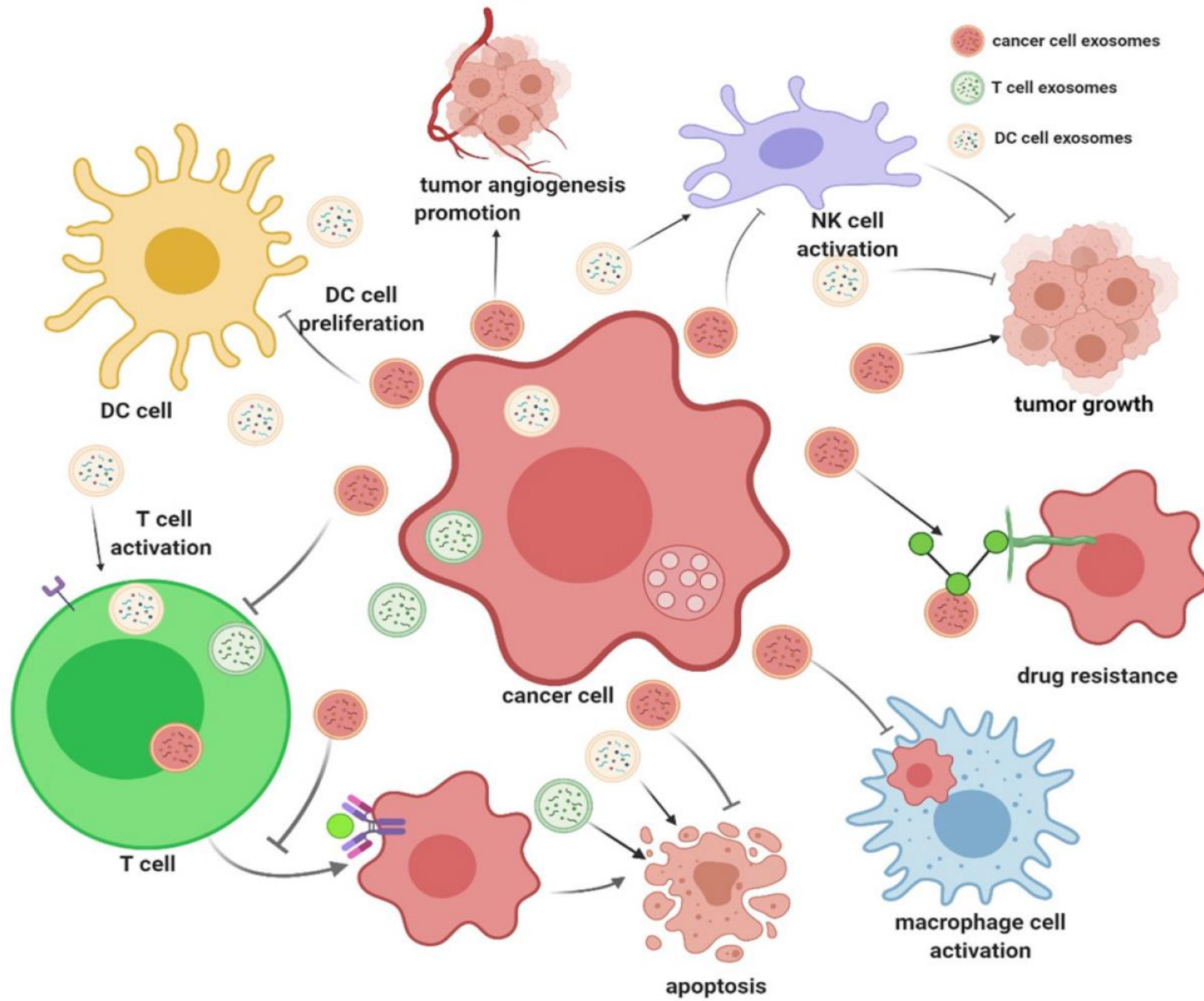
Exosome Structure



exosome-immune suppression" concept



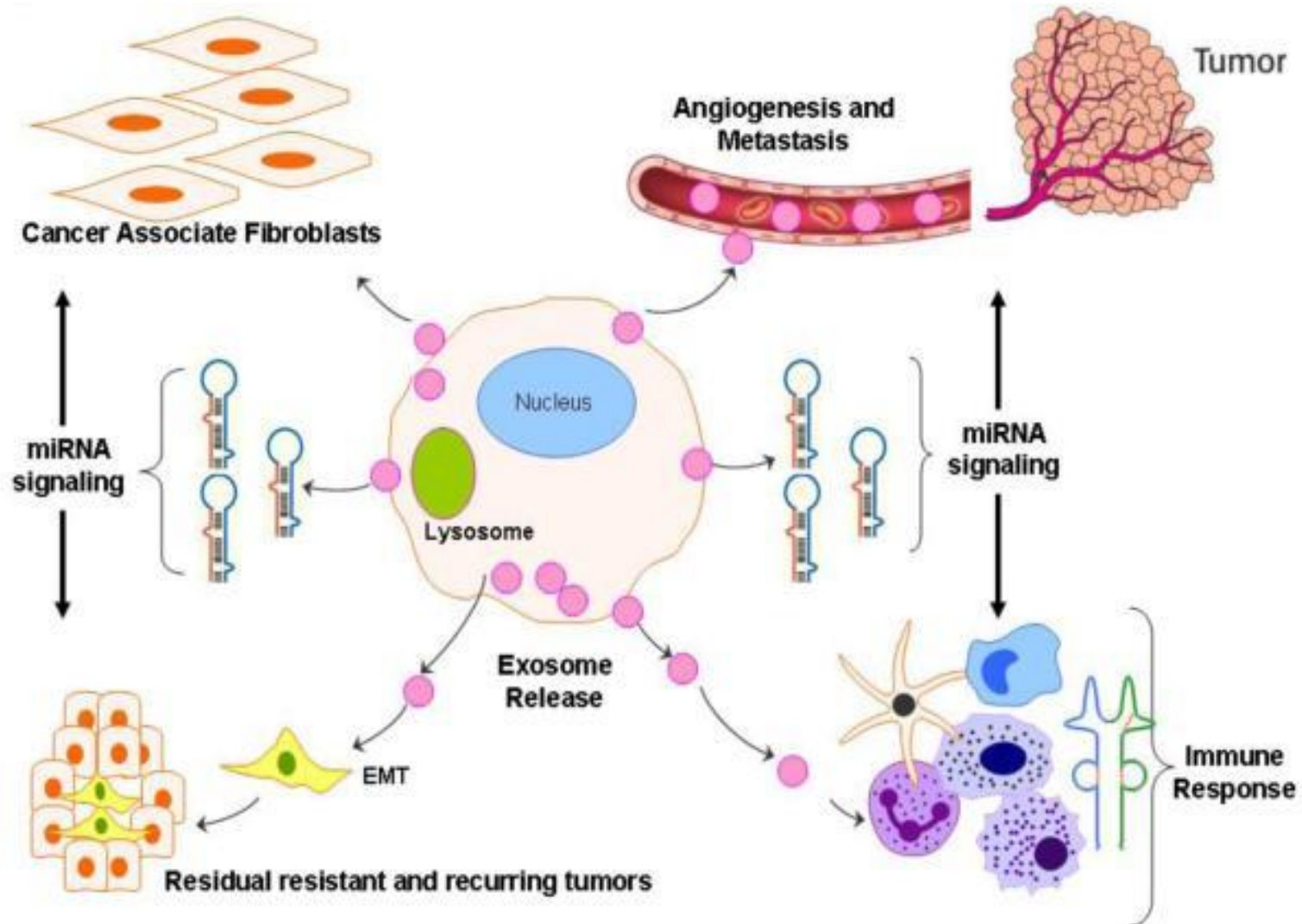
Dual role of exosomes in cancer progression



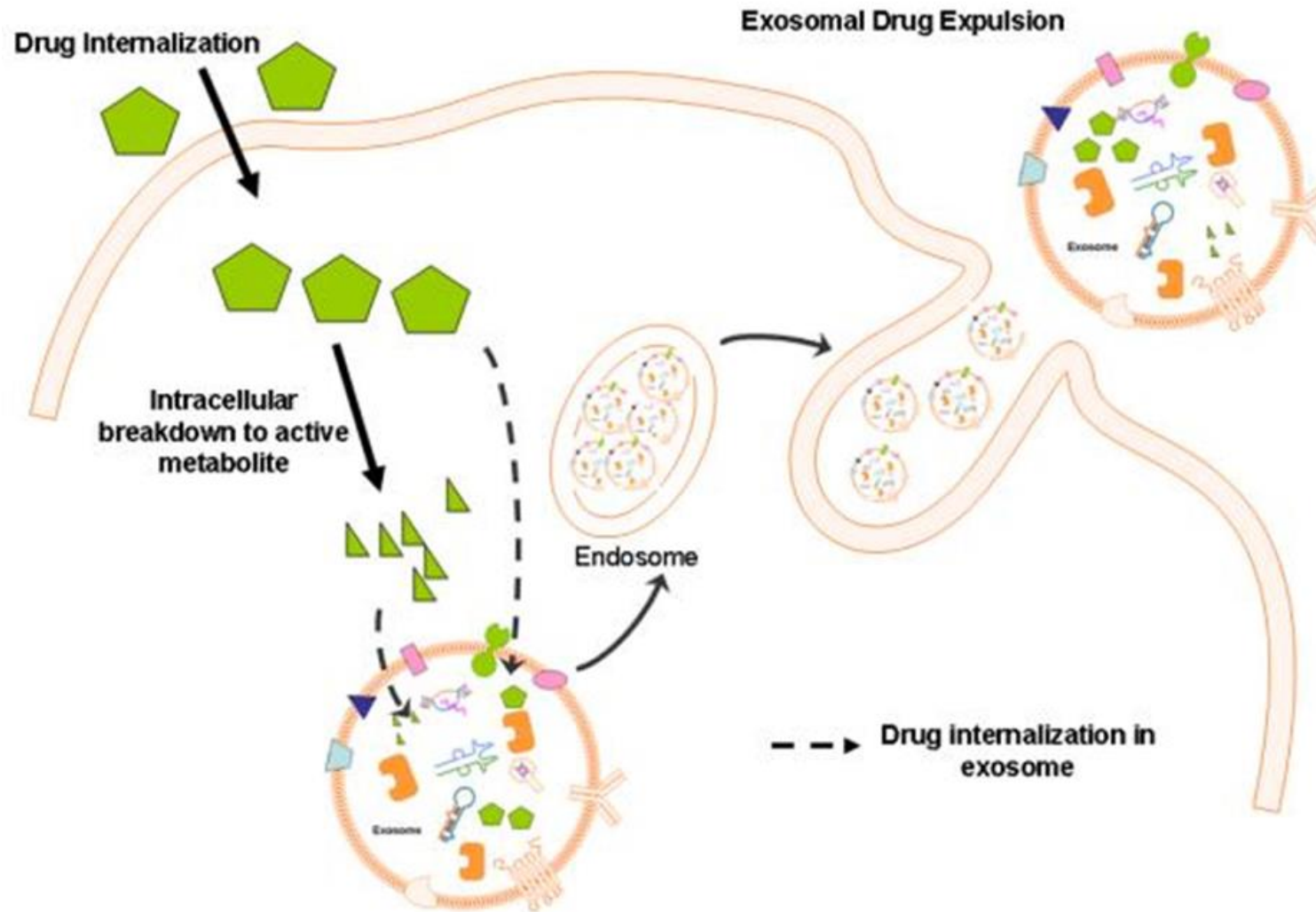
Desmoplastic reaction?

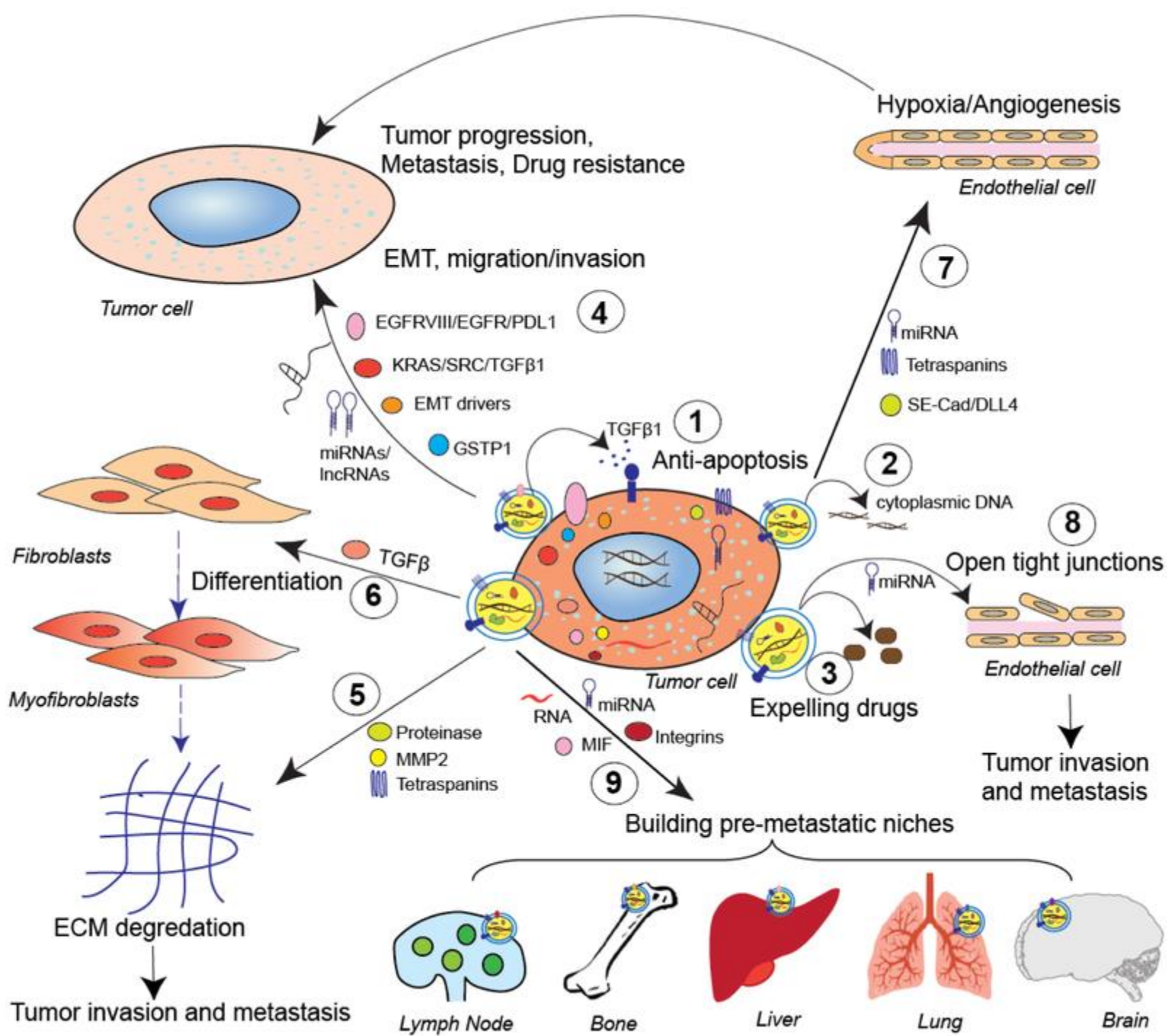
- Over the last decade, a number of studies have revealed that exosomes **cross-talk** and/or influence major tumor related pathways such as **hypoxia** driven EMT, cancer stemness, **angiogenesis and metastasis** involving many cell types within the tumor microenvironment. Emerging evidence suggest that exosome secreted proteins can also propel fibroblast growth, resulting in **Desmoplastic reaction (DR)**; a major barrier in effective cancer drug delivery.

Exosomes in Cancer Resistance



Drug exclusion mechanism of Exosome



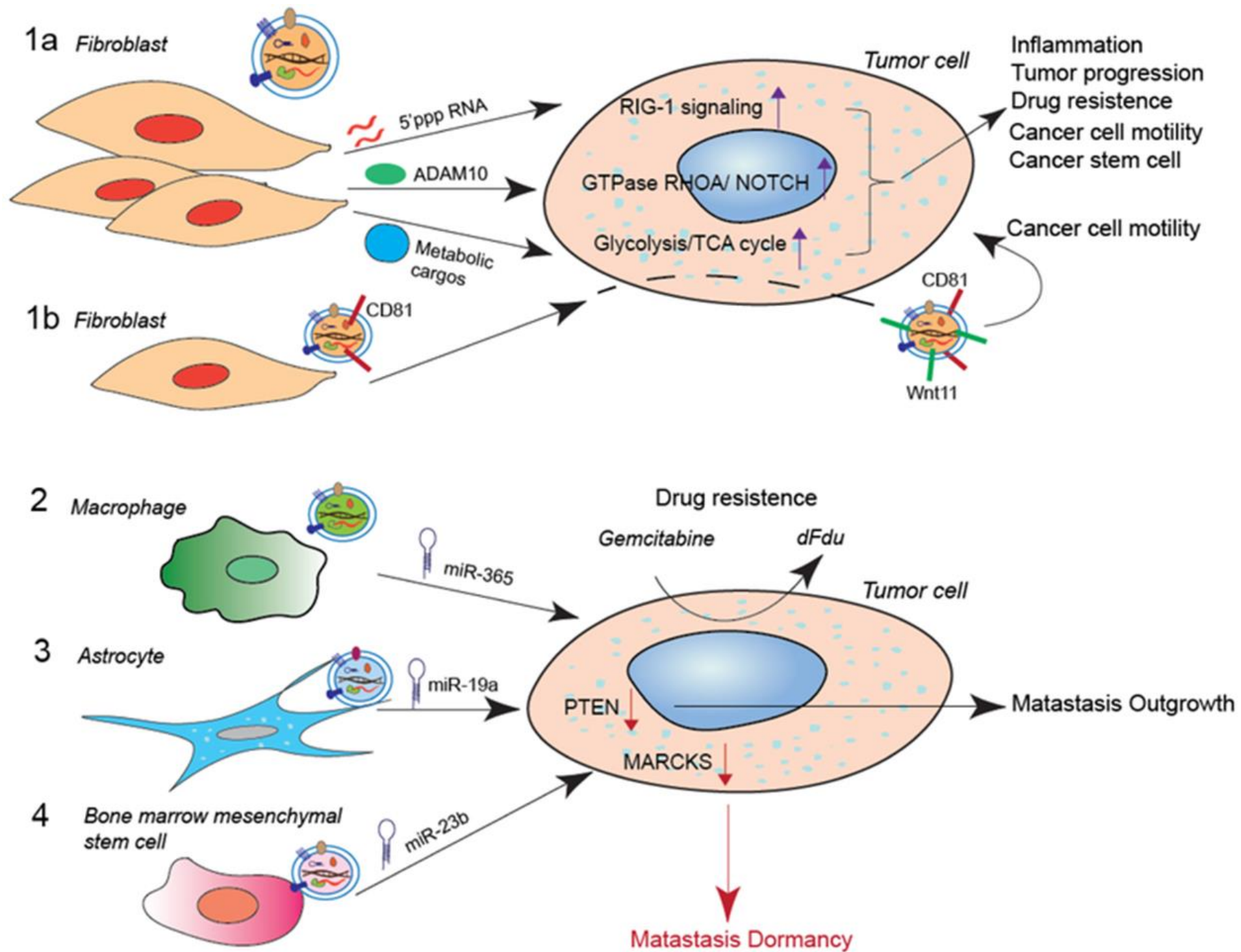


- presence of a sub-population of **highly resistant cancer stem like cells with enhanced plasticity** such as epithelial-to-mesenchymal transition (**EMT**) phenotype, low drug penetrance (due to **Desmoplastic reaction** or **DR** in the tumor microenvironment)

- **Most cancer deaths are the result of metastasis which in is generally refractory to any form of available therapies.**

messages from dying cells

- **apoptosis is not just a 'silent' type of cell death but an active form of communication from dying cells to live cells through exosomes.**



- Researchers are still grappling to understand the underlying drivers of migratory cells and their ability to **escape the site of origin in primary tumors**. Exosomes are known mobile elements that function as escape routes for proteins and miRNAs (some of which can be promoters of metastatic pathways) from one cell (site of origin) to distant locations.

- **Hypoxia** is an emerging area that is a critical component promoting the sustenance and spread of epithelial tumors. The seeding of tumor stroma [**Desmoplastic reaction (DR)**], a **barrier** to efficient drug delivery, has been clearly linked to be supported by hypoxia and related pathways. The **hypoxic environment (a niche within tumor)** is recognized to harbor cells that are drug resistant (compared to the bulk of the tissue) carrying markers that are reminiscent of **epithelial-to-mesenchymal transition** (a **hall mark** of cancer stem like cells) . It was recently documented that hypoxia promotes the secretion of various tumor promoting factors that influence adjacent tissues in the tumor microenvironment.