Evolving Therapies in the Clinical Management of Melanoma

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Learning Objectives

- 1. Interpret clinical data supporting emerging targeted therapies
- 2. Evaluate clinical data supporting immunotherapies used in the treatment of advanced/metastatic melanoma
- **3.** Formulate strategies to manage and mitigate potential adverse events of targeted therapies and immunotherapies used in the treatment of advanced/metastatic melanoma



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- Dr. Markovic has nothing to disclose.
- Off-label/investigational uses will not be discussed in this presentation.



Presentation Overview

- Changes in staging criteria with the release of AJCC v. 8.0
- Updates of the following in the management of stage III disease:
 - Surgery
 - Immunotherapy
 - Targeted therapy
- Advances in systemic therapy for metastatic disease
- Management of toxicity for patients undergoing immunotherapy or targeted therapy for melanoma



Updates in Staging

Lisa A. Kottschade, APRN, MSN, CNP



Updated Staging Criteria for Cutaneous Melanoma, AJCC v. 8.0

- Became effective January 1, 2018
- Most significant changes were with T1 lesions and stage III disease
- New sub-stage categories added for stage III and IV disease



Changes in T1 Lesions

- Mitotic rate removed as staging criterion for T1 tumors
- T1a is defined as
 - non-ulcerated and <0.8 mm in thickness
- T1b is defined as:
 - any melanoma 0.8 mm to 1.0 mm in thickness regardless of ulceration status OR
 - any ulcerated melanoma < 0.8 mm in thickness



Changes in Stage III

- Addition of "in-transit/satellite/microsatellite" to each of the "N" subcategories
- Addition of new stage IIID subcategory
- Narrowing of patients in stage IIIA with upstaging of most stage III patients

SLNB = sentinel lymph node biopsy



Changes in Nomenclature for Stage IV Disease

- Traditionally "M" stage in melanoma based on anatomic location
- Fourth "M" sub-stage added to staging
 - "M1d" added to account for the presence of any CNS disease
- Additionally serum lactate dehydrogenase (LDH) has been added to all anatomic site categories defined as:
 - (0) not elevated
 - (1) elevated



Impact on Practice

- May increase the number of patients undergoing SLNB?
- Will more patients be getting adjuvant therapy unnecessarily?
- What to do with the "new" IIIA patients?



Updates in Stage III Management: Surgery

Svetomir N. Markovic MD, PhD



Sentinel Lymph Node Biopsy



Figure 3. Sentinel lymph node biopsy

• MSLT-1: Is SLN biopsy necessary?

- 2001 patients with melanoma (Breslow 1.2 to 3.5 mm)
- Randomized to:
 - (1) WLE + OBS (delay CLND at relapse), vs
 - (2) WLE + SLN Bx + CLND
- Result: SLN biopsy arm results in improved 10-year disease-free survival

CLND = complete lymph node dissection; OBS = observation; WLE = wide local excision.



Morton DL et al, NEJM 2014;370:599-609

Updates in Management of Stage III Disease: Surgery

- MSLT-2: in SLN+ melanoma is CLND necessary?
 - 1934 patients with melanoma (1.2–3.5 mm) with SLN+ randomized to:
 - (1) Observation
 - (2) Completion lymph node dissection (CLND)
- Results
 - 3-year DFS: 63% vs 68% (p=0.05 in favor of CLND, primarily local Dz)
 - 3-year OS rate: 86% vs 86% (no difference)
 - Lymphedema: 6.3% vs 24.1% (worse with CLND)
 - Non SLN mets: powerful predictor of local recurrence (residual cancer)

DFS = disease-free survival; OS = overall survival.

Faries et al. N Engl J Med 2017;376:2211-2222



Updates in Management of Stage III Disease: Surgery

- MSLT-2, of note:
 - Size of SLN mets in >90% of cases is ≤ 1 mm
 - Breslow thickness in almost 80% of cases < 3.5 mm
 - Unknown: OS outcomes in patients with delayed CLND vs upfront CLND



Faries et al. *N Engl J Med* 2017; 376:2211-2222



Updates in Management of Stage III Disease: Impact on Practice

- Based on 3-year OS, immediate CLND is not superior to observation in SLN+ patients
- Based on 3-year RFS, immediate CLND primarily reduces risk of local (not systemic) relapse
- CLND → additional staging info in 6% patients¹
- CLND not routinely recommended to patients with SLN micrometastases (<1.0 mm)
- Close monitoring, sequential ultrasound follow-up
- Multidisciplinary evaluation and discussion with patients are needed

RFS = relapse-free survival

¹Madu et al. *Eur J Cancer* 2017;87:212-215



Updates in Stage III Management: Adjuvant Therapy

Lisa A. Kottschade, APRN, MSN, CNP



Approved drugs for the adjuvant therapy of stage III melanoma

Old Era (1996-2009)

High-Dose Interferon (IFN)-α2b (US, EU), Low-Dose IFN-α2a (EU), pegylated IFN-α2b (US)¹

New Era (2015-2018)

HR _{RFS} (Ipilimumab vs. Placebo)=0.75	(2015)
HR _{RFS} (Nivolumab vs. Ipilimumab)=0.65	(2017)
HR _{RFS} (Dab+Tra vs. Placebo)=0.47	(2018)
HR _{RFS} (Pembrolizumab vs. Placebo)=0.57	(EXP/2018
	HR _{RFS} (Ipilimumab vs. Placebo)=0.75 HR _{RFS} (Nivolumab vs. Ipilimumab)=0.65 HR _{RFS} (Dab+Tra vs. Placebo)=0.47 HR _{RFS} (Pembrolizumab vs. Placebo)=0.57

* Trials performed in identical patient populations at high risk of relapse: IIIA >1mm; IIIB/C

5-year relapse rates: stage IIIA, 37%; stage IIIB, 68%; stage IIIC, 89%6

¹Eggermont AM, et al. Lancet 2014;383:816-27; ²Eggermont AM, et al. Lancet Oncology 2015;16:522-30; ³Weber J, et al. N Engl J Med 2017;377:1824-35; ⁴Long GV, et al. N Engl J Med 2017;377:1813-23; ⁵Eggermont AM, et al. N Engl J Med 2018;375:1845-55: 15 March; ⁶Romano E, et al. J Clin Oncol 2010;28:3042-7.



Adjuvant Therapy With Nivolumab Versus Ipilimumab After Complete Resection of Stage III/IV Melanoma: Updated Results from a Phase 3 Trial (CheckMate 238)

Jeffrey Weber,¹ Mario Mandala,² Michele Del Vecchio,³ Helen Gogas,⁴ Ana M. Arance,⁵ C. Lance Cowey,⁶ Stéphane Dalle,⁷ Michael Schenker,⁸ Vanna Chiarion-Sileni,⁹ Ivan Marquez-Rodas,¹⁰ Jean-Jacques Grob,¹¹ Marcus Butler,¹² Mark R. Middleton,¹³ Michele Maio,¹⁴ Victoria Atkinson,¹⁵ Reinhard Dummer,¹⁶ Veerle de Pril,¹⁷ Anila Qureshi,¹⁷ Abdel Saci,¹⁷ James Larkin,^{18*} Paolo A. Ascierto^{19*}

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Key Eligibility Criteria

- At least 15 years of age
- Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group performance status score of 0 or 1
- Histologically confirmed melanoma metastatic to regional lymph nodes or with distant metastases surgically rendered free of disease
 - Stage IIIB, IIIC, or stage IV melanoma by the American Joint Committee on Cancer 2009 classification, 7th edition
 - Complete regional lymphadenectomy or resection was required within 12 weeks of randomization
- Patients with ocular/uveal melanoma, systemic corticosteroid use >10 mg/day of prednisone or equivalent, or previous systemic therapy for melanoma were excluded

Acral and mucosal melanoma were allowed

Weber et al. ASCO 2018



CheckMate 238: 24-Month Follow-Up

Primary Endpoint: RFS in All Patients Nivo Events/patients 171/453 2





CheckMate 238: 24-Month Follow-Up

IP

CheckMate 238: 24-Month Follow-Up

Subgroup Analysis of RFS: Disease Stage III and IV





CheckMate 238: 24-Month Follow-Up

Summary

- With extended follow-up, NIVO demonstrated a sustained efficacy benefit vs the active comparator of IPI at 10 mg/kg in patients with resected stage IIIB/C or stage IV melanoma at high risk for recurrence
 - HR = 0.66 (95% CI 0.54, 0.81; P < 0.0001) with estimated 24-month RFS rates of 63% for NIVO and 50% for IPI
 - Benefit for NIVO was observed across the majority of prespecified subgroups tested, including PD-L1 and BRAF mutation status
- NIVO showed a clinically and statistically significant improvement in DMFS vs IPI
- These more mature data continue to demonstrate durable clinical benefit with NIVO and further support its use for resected stage III or IV melanoma





Stratification factors:

✓ Stage: IIIA (>1 mm metastasis) vs. IIIB vs. IIIC 1-3 positive lymph nodes vs. IIIC ≥4 positive lymph nodes

Region: North America, European countries, Australia/New Zealand, other countries

Primary Endpoints:

RFS (per investigator) in overall population, and RFS in patients with PD-L1-positive tumors

- Secondary Endpoints:
- DMFS and OS in all patients, and in patients with PD-L1-positive tumors; Safety, Health-related quality of life





Key Eligibility Criteria

L. Eggermont AACR 2018

- At least 18 years of age
- Complete and adequate resection of stage III melanoma
- Histologically confirmed melanoma metastatic to lymph node
- Stage IIIA (if N1a, at least 1 metastasis >1 mm); stage IIIB or IIIC (no in transit meta)
- No prior systemic therapy for melanoma
- No autoimmune disease
- Documented NED following surgery
- Randomization within 13 weeks of surgery



Van der Ploeg, et al. Eur J Cancer 2014;50:111-20.



AAM Eggermont et al. AACR 2018



AAM Eggermont et al. AACR 2018



Summary/Conclusions

- Study EORTC1325/KEYNOTE-054 met its primary endpoint of a significant improvement in RFS with 200 mg I.V. Q3W pembrolizumab vs. placebo
 - ITT overall population: HR = 0.57, P<0.0001, 18 mos RFS difference: 18.2%
 - PD-L1+ population: HR = 0.54, P<0.0001, 18 mos RFS difference: 19.7%
- Consistent results across prespecified subgroups with HRs favoring pembrolizumab relative to placebo
- Favorable safety profile, where severe irAEs are rare, is generally consistent with that observed in advanced melanoma. There were many grade 1-2 thyroid events in about 1/5 pts, but severe endocrine events only in 9 pts (hypophysitis, diabetes, adrenal)
 - Most irAEs were managed and resolved with established treatment algorithms
- Data remain blinded for DMFS and OS (will be reported at future meetings)

AAM Eggermont et al. AACR 2018



Updates in Management of Stage III Disease: Adjuvant Dabrafenib/Trametinib

COMBI-AD

The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ESTABLISHED IN 1812

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Adjuvant Dabrafenib plus Trametinib in Stage III BRAF-Mutated Melanoma

Phase 3: Dabrafenib 150 mg bid/trametinib 2 mg vs. placebo x 12 months Primary end point: RFS Secondary end point: OS, DMFS, freedom from relapse, safety

Long et al.N Engl J Med 2017;377:1813-1823



Updates in Management of Stage III Disease: Adjuvant Dabrafenib/Trametinib



Impact on Practice

- Translating results to "new" patients that are IIIA?
- Lack of tissue available for BRAF testing?
- No direct head-to-head comparison in BRAFm population of targeted vs. immunotherapy in the adjuvant setting
- What to do with patients that relapse on adjuvant therapy?
- Risk for lifelong toxicity for patients on adjuvant immunotherapy



Updates in Systemic Therapy in Metastatic Disease

Svetomir N. Markovic, MD, PhD



Systemic Rx for Metastatic Melanoma

- Massive progress since 2011
- BRAF mutation guided therapy with BRAFi/MEKi:
 - vemurafenib + cobimetinib
 - dab<u>rafenib</u> + tra<u>metinib</u>
 - encorafenib + binimetinib
- Immunotherapy
 - Anti-CTLA4: ipilimumab
 - Anti-PD1: nivolumab, pembrolizumab



Systemic Therapy for Metastatic Disease

Overall Survival in COLUMBUS: A Phase 3 Trial of Encorafenib (ENCO) Plus Binimetinib (BINI) vs Vemurafenib (VEM) or ENCO in *BRAF*-Mutant Melanoma

Reinhard Dummer, Paolo A. Ascierto, Helen J. Gogas, Ana Arance, Mario Mandala, Gabriella Liszkay, Claus Garbe, Dirk Schadendorf, Ivana Krajsova, Ralf Gutzmer, Vanna Chiarion-Sileni, Caroline Dutriaux, Jan Willem B. de Groot, Naoya Yamazaki, Carmen Loquai, Laure A. Moutouh-de Parseval, Michael D. Pickard, Victor Sandor, Caroline Robert, Keith T. Flaherty



- BRAFi/MEKi combinations are established as a standard of care for the treatment of advanced BRAF^{V600}-mutant melanoma with median PFS (≈12 months) and OS (≈24 months)¹⁻³
- Approved combinations have unique toxicities that may impact the ability to deliver optimal treatment
 - Dabrafenib/trametinib is associated with pyrexia^{2,3}
 - Vemurafenib/cobimetinib is associated with photosensitivity⁴
- ENCO has a unique pharmacologic profile with an on-target dissociation half-life of >30 hours, leading to sustained target inhibition⁵
- BINI has a shorter half-life than other MEKi; dose modification may be easier⁶
- Promising clinical activity and tolerability were demonstrated with ENCO + BINI in a phase 1b/II study^{5,7}

BINI=binimetinib; BRAFi=BRAF inhibitor; ENCO=encorafenib; MEKi=MEK inhibitor; OS=overall survival; PFS=progression-free survival 1. Chapman PB, et al. N Engl J Med , 2013;84(26);2507-2516. 3. Long GV, et al . Lancet , 2015;388(9992);444-451. 2. Robert C, et al N Engl J Med , 2015;27(1);30-39. 4. Ascience PA, et al . Lancet , 2006;2016;17:1248-1260.

5. Delord JP, et al. Clin Cancer Res. 2017;23:5339-5548

Data on File. Array BioPharma Inc.
 Sullivan RJ, et al. J Clin Oncol. 2015;33:9007.





COMB0450=encordenib 450 mg QD + binimetinib 45 mg BID; ECOG PS=Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group performance status; OS=overall survival; PFS=progression-free survival; R=randomization; VEM=vemurafenib 960 mg BID *Amendmentrequested by FDA. fincluded in hierarchical testing approach.

*Median follow-up of patients assessed using reverse Kaplan-Meier approach (i.e. median potential follow-up).










Updates in Systemic Therapy: COLUMBUS





Dummer et al. ASCO 2018

Updates in Systemic Therapy: COLUMBUS





Dummer et al. ASCO 2018

Updates in Systemic Therapy: COLUMBUS

- COMBO450 showed improved OS vs VEM: 33.6 mo vs 16.9 mo (HR 0.61; nominal 2-sided P<0.0001)
- Updated PFS results remained the same as previously reported: median PFS 14.9 mo¹
- Performance of VEM in COLUMBUS was consistent with historical data for ORR, PFS, and OS^{2,3}
- Use of subsequent systemic therapies in COLUMBUS was similar to phase 3 studies of established BRAFi/MEKi therapies^{2,4}
- COMBO450 showed a favorable tolerability profile and no new safety concerns

Encorafenib plus binimetinib combination therapy provides a new efficacy benchmark for targeted therapy and it is a promising treatment option for patients with *BRAF*^{V600}-mutant melanoma

 BRAFi=BRAF inhibitor, COMB0450=encordeniio 450 mg QD + binimetinib 45 mg BlD, HR-hazard ratio, MEKi=MEKinhibitor, OS=overall survival; PFS=progression-free survival; VEM=vemurafenib 960 mg BlD.

 1.
 Dummer R, et al. Lancel Oncol. 2018;19:603-615.

 2.
 Asciento PA, et al. Lancel Oncol. 2016;17:1248-1260.

 4.
 Long GV, et al. Ann Oncol. 2017;28:1631-1639.



Dummer et al. ASCO 2018

Updates Systemic Therapy: Immunotherapy

Epacadostat Plus Pembrolizumab Versus Pembrolizumab Alone in Patients With Unresectable or Metastatic Melanoma: Results of the Phase 3 ECHO-301/KEYNOTE-252 Study

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> 2018 JADPRO ive

- Upregulation of IDO1 is a potential mechanism to evade immunosurveillance
 - $-\downarrow$ Tryptophan \uparrow Kynurenine
 - $\downarrow T_{eff}$ and NK cells
 - \uparrow T_{reg} cells, MDSCs, TAMs
- Epacadostat: IDO1 enzyme inhibitor
- Pembrolizumab: anti-PD-1 humanized antibody



IDO1, indoleamine 2,3 dioxygenase 1; IFNy, interferon gamma; MDSC, myeloid-derived suppressor cell; NK, natural killer; PD-1, programmed death 1; PD-L1, programmed death ligand-1; TAM, tumor-associated macrophage; T_{err}, effector T cell; T_{rep}, regulatory T cell.





BID, twice daily; MTD, maximally tolerated dose; PD-L1, programmed death ligand-1; Q3W, every 3 weeks. Hamid O, et al. Ann Oncol. 2017;28(suppl 5):1214O.

ECHO-202 / KEYNOTE-037

- Phase 1: Epacadostat 50, 100, or 300 mg PO BID + Pembrolizumab 200 mg IV Q3W
- MTD of epacadostat not reached
- Phase 2: Epacadostat 100 mg PO BID
- Phase 1/2 efficacy in treatmentnaive melanoma:
 - ORR = 55%
 - Median PFS = 22.8 mo (12.4 mo all melanoma)





BICR, blinded independent central review; CI, confidence interval; E, epacadostat; HR, hazard ratio; P, pembrolizumab; PFS, progression-free survival; RECIST, Response Evaluation Criteria In Solid Tumors. PFS defined as time from randomization to disease progression or death, whichever occurred first.





CI, confidence interval; E, epacadostat; HR, hazard ratio; NR, not reached; OS, overall survival; P, pembrolizumab.



- The addition of epacadostat to pembrolizumab did not result in greater clinical benefit than pembrolizumab alone
- Trial was recommended to be stopped since it did not meet primary endpoint of PFS, and OS was not expected to reach statistical significance
- Additional analyses
 - IDO1 expression; tumor mutational burden; RNAseq
 - Do we need randomized phase II trial prior to phase III trial?



Management of Toxicity

Lisa A. Kottschade, APRN, MSN, CNP





Immune-related Adverse Events (irAE)

- Definition: Adverse events that occur via the activation of a patient's immune system that can occur in any tissue, organ, or system
 - Can be SEVERE and sometimes FATAL



Kottschade, L, et al. Melanoma Res. 2016;26(5):469-480.



Frequency of irAEs

Table 1 Frequency of common immune-related adverse events of select pivotal clinical trials in melanoma

Toxicity	Anti-PD 1		Anti-CTLA-4	Combination
	Pembroliziumab	Nivolumab	lpilimumab	lpilimumab/nivolumab
Any irAE	72.9 (10.1) 79.5 (13.3)	82.1 (16.3)	73.0 (19.9) 37.0 (10.9) 80.2 (22.9)	95.5 (55)



Larkin, J, et al. N Engl J Med. 2015;373(1):23-34; Kottschade, L, et al. Melanoma Res. 2016;26(5):469-480.





Clinical Spectrum of irAEs

Dermatologic, gastrointestinal, hepatic, endocrine, pulmonary

Michot, JM, et al. Eur J Cancer. 2016;54:139-148.



A systematic review of immune-related adverse event reporting in clinical trials of immune checkpoint inhibitors[†]

T. W. Chen^{1,2}, A. R. Razak^{1,2}, P. L. Bedard^{1,2}, L. L. Siu^{1,2} & A. R. Hansen^{1,2*}

¹Division of Medical Oncology and Hematology, Princess Margaret Cancer Centre–University Health Network, Toronto; ²Department of Medicine, University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada



- Most commonly reported low-grade irAE: rash/pruritis
- irAE more commonly reported for anti-CTLA4 therapy
 - Diarrhea & colitis more common for anti-CTLA4 therapy



Kinetics of Appearance of irAEs



Weber, J. S., et al. (2012). J Clin Oncol 30(21): 2691-2697.



Less Commonly Reported irAEs

- Diabetic ketoacidosis
- Primary/secondary adrenal insufficiency
- Graves-like disease



- Pneumonitis
- ARDS

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- NSIP
- AEP
- Pleural inflammation
- Airway disease
- Sarcoid-like reaction

Neurologic

- Peripheral neuropathy
 - Autoimmune encephalitis
 - AIDP

Rheumatologic*



Michot, JM, et al. Eur J Cancer. 2016;54:139-148.

Clinical Pearls in the Management of irAEs From Immune Checkpoint Inhibitors





Dermatologic irAEs

- Most frequent for both anti-CTLA-4 and anti-PD-1 blockade (40% single agent-60% combo therapy)
 - Diffuse maculopapular rash and/or pruritis
 - Vitiligo
- Cases of Stevens-Johnson syndrome and toxic epidermal necrolysis reported
- Many patients will have pruritus in the absence of rash (10-30%)
- Can be just, if not more bothersome than physical rash

Michot, JM, et al. Eur J Cancer. 2016;54:139-148.



Management of Rash/Pruritus

- Based on amount of BSA involved
- For <20% of BSA involved
 - Manage symptomatically
 - Topical agents (steroids/emollients/antihistamine cream)
 - And/or oral antihistamines
 - Any progression or lack of resolution (see below)
 - Continue agent cautiously



Management of Rash/Pruritus (cont.)

For 20-50% of BSA involved

- As above with the addition of oral steroids
- Prednisone 0.5 mg-1 mg/daily (or equivalent)
- Consider dermatologic consult
- Hold agent
- For >50% of BSA involved
 - Steroid therapy at 1-2 mg/kg
 - Referral to dermatology
 - Hold agent, may need to discontinue



Management of Vitiligo

- Self-limiting, may be predictive of better outcomes and does not require intervention
- Likely permanent
- Patients should be cautioned about sun-protection in depigmented areas





Gastrointestinal

- Both diarrhea (increase in stool frequency) and colitis (diarrhea & abdominal pain with imaging/endoscopic evidence of colonic inflammation) more common with anti-CTLA-4 (30%)combo therapy (50%)
- Colitis: Shares histologic features
 of Crohn's disease
 - Fatal bowel perforation reported in 1% of patients treated with ipilimumab

Michot, JM, et al. Eur J Cancer. 2016;54:139-148.









Patient with grade 4 colitis from Ipi/Nivo. Self-medicated with loperamide. Presented to the ED with sepsis and hypotension, diagnosed with toxic megacolon. Required ICU admission and pressor support. Responded well to high-dose methylprednisolone and decompression.

Images courtesy of Lisa Kottschade, Mayo Clinic.





Hepatic irAEs

- Hepatotoxicity asymptomatic transaminitis and/or hyperbilirubinemia
 - 30% in combination therapy (15% grade 3-4)
 - <10% in monotherapy
 - 0.2% hepatic failure

Rule out new or progressive hepatic involvement by malignancy



Management of Hepatic Toxicity

- AST or ALT > 3x and $\leq 5.0x$ ULN and/or total bill $\leq 3.0 x$ ULN
 - Rule out other causes (infection, malignancy)
 - Monitor LFTs 1-2 weekly until resolution to < grade 2 (or baseline)
 - For patients continuing to trend up or no resolution within 2 weeks start steroids at 0.5-1.0 mg/kg prednisone

AST or ALT > 5.0x ULN and/or total bili > 3.0 x ULN

- As above
- Start steroids at 1-2 mg/kg prednisone
- * In patients with abnormal LFTs at baseline, monitor for increase of LFTs and treat based on the parameters above

**For patients with persistently elevated LFTs or that are refractory to steroids consider hepatobiliary consult, consider mycophenolate



Endocrine irAEs

- Thyroid dysfunction (0-15%)^{1,2}
 - Acute/inflammatory/painless thyroiditis associated thyrotoxicosis (↓TSH, ↑FT4 and/or T3)
 - Higher incidence in combination therapy (40%)
 - Resolution to euthyroid or progress to overt hypothyroidism (TSH >10); minority regain function

¹Corsello, SM, et al. *J Clin Endocrinol Metab* 2013;98(4):1361-1375. ²Delivanis, DA, et al. *J Clin Endocrinol Metab* 2017;102(8).





Endocrine irAEs (cont.)



Pre-ipilimumab

Post-ipilimumab

- Hypophysitis¹
 - Clinically present with fatigue (the "run over by a truck" phenomenon) abrupt onset headache, possible visual changes/nausea/vomiting
 - Low or undetectable ACTH & AM cortisol levels
 - Enlarged pituitary on MRI (75%)
 - Differential: must consider CNS involvement by malignancy

¹Ryder, M., et al. (2014). Endocr Relat Cancer **21**(2): 371-381.





Endocrinopathies (cont.)

• Primary adrenal insufficiency/Adrenal crisis

- Diagnosed by presence of volume depletion, electrolyte abnormalities, and low or undetectable am cortisol and high ACTH
- Hospitalize with fluid replacement, correct electrolytes and high dose steroids (1-2 mg/kg)
- Most PGA abnormalities do not resolve and patients require physiologic lifelong glucocorticoid replacement
- Patients need to be instructed in stress dose/sick day steroid dosing

* Patients who remain asymptomatic and are on maintenance dosing only can be rechallenged*



Pneumonitis

- May present asymptomatically (only seen radiographically)
- DOE, SOB at rest, orthopnea
- Dry nagging cough (deep in chest)
- Chest pain
- Afebrile
- Differential: pulmonary embolism, progression of disease, infection



Image courtesy of Lisa Kottschade, Mayo Clinic.



Radiological Manifestations of Immune Checkpoint Inhibitor Induced Pneumonitis



A. Acute inflammatory pneumonitis, B. Chronic fibrotic changes, C. FDG-avid peripheral infiltrates.

 Clinical spectrum varies ranging from asymptomatic radiographic changes to acute hypoxemic respiratory failure

Kottschade, L, et al. *Melanoma Res* 2016;26(5):469-480.



Rheumatologic irAEs



CORRESPONDENCE

Anti-CTLA4 Antibody–Induced Lupus Nephritis N Engl J Med 2009; 361:211-212 July 9, 2009 DOI: 10.1056/NEJMc0904283

Article Citing Articles (34)

Drug-Associated Dermatomyositis Following Ipilimumab Therapy A Novel Immune-Mediated Adverse Event Associated With Cytotoxic T-Lymphocyte Antigen 4 Blockade FREE

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Drug-associated polymyalgia rheumatica/giant cell arteritis occurring in two patients after treatment with ipilimumab, an antagonist of CTLA-4





Rheumatologic irAEs: Observations





- Can occur many months after initiation and even discontinuation of ICI
- Can be steroid-refractory and chronic
- Typical disease-associated autoantibodies not seen

Weber, JS, et al. J Clin Oncol. 2012;30(21):2691-2697.


Ongoing Challenges

- Inconsistent reporting of irAE
- Current grading of toxicities may not adequately capture/characterize severity of all irAE
 - Many irAEs likely underreported
- Relative novelty of ICI and toxicity spectrum = barrier to early recognition, referral and treatment



The Unknowns

- When/if to re-challenge with ICI
- Impact of chronic steroid use and/or immunosuppressive agent on overall survival/cancer regression
- Biomarkers for risk for, and pathologic basis of irAE development



Clinical Pearls in the Management of Adverse Events in Targeted Therapy



Background

- Approximately 40-60% of melanomas have a somatic mutation of BRAF at V600
- First approval in 2011 with most recent combo (3rd in class) approved in 2018.
- Significant improvement in PFS and OS with combinations vs BRAFi alone



Pyrexia

- One of most common AEs of combo therapy (more common with DT than VC or EB)
- Incidence
 - Around 50% all grades; 5% grade 3 or 4(DT)
 - Around 15% all grades; 4% grade 3; 0% grade 4 (EB)
- Severe reactions may include chills, rigors, hTN, dehydration, renal failure
- Patients may experience chills in absence of fever

VC = vemurafenib/cobimetinib; DT = dabrafenib/trametinib; EB = encorafenib/binimetinib.



Dermatologic AEs

- Varying types of rash presentation
 - Acneform type rash, most common
 - DT: 32% all grades; 1% grade 3-4
 - VC: 16% all grades; 2% grade 3-4
 - EB: 13% all grades; 1-2% grade 3-4
- Photosensitivity
 - DT and EB: not reported
 - VC: 46% all grades; 4% grade 3-4
- Steven's Johnson syndrome, TENS, and DRESS syndrome have been reported (more common with VC)
- Palmar-plantar erythrodysesthesia (hand-foot syndrome), more common with DT
- Risk for radiation recall and radiation dermatitis when used together



Secondary Cutaneous Malignancies

- Squamous cell carcinoma (cuSCC) and keratocanthoma (KA)-~6% in combo; significantly higher in monotherapy ~20%
- Basal cell carcinoma ~4.5% in combo; ~2.4% in monotherapy
- Secondary primary melanoma ~ 0.8% in combo; higher in monotherapy ~2.4%
 - Interestingly many are BRAF wild type



Hepatotoxicity

- Common AE of combo therapy
 - Usually presents as transaminitis
 - Present in up to 30-40% of patients all grades
 - ~5-8% grade 3-4
- Exercise caution in patients switching to targeted therapy who have recently been treated with immunotherapy
 - Fatal hepatotoxicity has been seen



Cardiac Toxicity

Prolonged QTc for patients on VC

- Exact incidence unknown
- Direct side effect from vemurafenib
- Not seen with DT, theoretical with EB
- Cardiomyopathy (LVEF)
 - Defined as \geq 10% decrease in LVEF from baseline
 - Incidence rate ~6%
 - Usually a class effect of MEKi, but isolated cases seen with BRAFi alone



Other Rare/Serious AEs

- Rhabdomyolysis
 - Asymptomatic increases in creatine phosphokinase
 - ~79% in VC therapy
 - 16% in EB therapy
 - Grade 3-4 in approximately 14%
- Uveitis/iritis/serous retinopathy
- Pneumonitis (interstitial lung disease (ILD): class effect of MEKi
- Hyperglycemia: Seen mostly with dabrafenib
- Hemorrhage and/or DVT
- Panniculitis



Pyrexia Management

For initial pyrexia episodes

- For fevers <101
 - Continue agents
 - Administer anti-pyretics as needed
 - Push fluids
- For fevers >101° but <104°
 - Hold dabrafenib until fever returns to normal (trametinib can be cautiously continued)
 - · Administer anti-pyretics as needed
 - Can restart BRAFi at half-dose (MEKi full dose) and dose escalate every few days as tolerated
 - May use anti-pyretics prophylactically when rechallenging
- For fevers >104° (without other complications, i.e., hypotension, dehydrations, etc.)
 - Hold agents until fever returns to normal
 - · Can restart agents at half-dose, do not dose escalate



Pyrexia Management (cont.)

- For refractory, complicated or subsequent febrile episodes:
- Rule out infection
- If pyrexia has not resolved within 3 days of onset; is accompanied by complications (i.e., hTN, dehydration, etc.), start prednisone 10 mg daily
- For patients with recurrent pyrexia, hold agents again; consider starting low dose prednisone (5-10 mg)
 - Once pyrexia is resolved, may rechallenge at half dose
 - Continue prednisone during rechallenge
 - If patient tolerates rechallenge- can taper steroids
 - *Note some patients will not tolerate steroid taper



Dermatologic Management Strategies

Rash

- Acneform rash can be managed with minocycline 100 mg BID, if progresses initiate steroids
- *Patients who have rash with any of the following: blistering skin, sores in their mouth, peeling, fever, or redness or swelling of hands, face, etc. should immediately be ruled out for SJS or TENS.

Photosensitivity

- · Very common, unique to vemurafenib
- · Can happen with only minutes of sun exposure
- Instruct patients to use good photoprotection (SPF 30+), cover up, tinted windows, etc.
- Manage symptomatically

Secondary cutaneous malignancies

- Manage as per standard of care
- Can continue agents
- Derm follow-up q 3-4 months



Cardiac Toxicity

- QTc management
 - For vemurafenib, repeat ECG 2 weeks after drug start, and monthly x3 and then every 3 months while on therapy
 - Hold vemurafenib for QTc >500 ms
 - May reinitiate once QTc <500 ms, at reduced dose
 - If QTc remains >500ms or increased >60 ms over baseline and all other risk factors are controlled for, permanently discontinue vemurafenib



Cardiac Toxicity (cont.)

Decreased LVEF

- Repeat ECHO at 1 month and every 3-4 months while on treatment.
- For asymptomatic LVEF decrease of 10% (from baseline) or LVEF of 40-50%, hold MEKi for 2 weeks and repeat ECHO, if recovered, can restart MEKi at next lower dose level
- For symptomatic LVEF; decrease of >20% (from baseline) or LVEF of 39-20%: hold MEKi for 4 weeks and repeat ECHO, if recovered (i.e., LVEF above LLN, symptoms resolved, and decrease from baseline <10%), can restart MEKi at next lower dose level
- If the above criteria are not met or patient is not recovered after 4 weeks, permanently discontinue MEKi
- In patients who have restarted MEKi after dx of cardiomyopathy, repeat ECHOs more frequently for the first 4 months



Take-Home Points

- Many side effects from BRAFi and MEKi therapy, will resolve or lessen with holding agent and/or dose reductions.
- Be very cautious in patients who have recently transitioned from immunotherapy as there may be cross-toxicity (i.e., diarrhea, rash, and hepatotoxicity).
- BRAFi and MEKi agents must be held during radiation (including SRS) and for a few days after completion, due to increased skin and/or organ toxicity.



A Brief Look to the Future

Svetomir N. Markovic MD, PhD





Chen et al, Immunity 39:1, 2013

Ongoing efforts:

- Resolve the complexity of the TME
- Understand systemic immune homeostasis of cancer
- Enable complex analysis of dynamic systems (time and space)
- Improve drug delivery platforms







S100B/CD8/CD4/CD68/FOXP3/CD20



Summary

- New AJCC staging substratified patients in stage III to provide better clarity.
- Patients with stage IV disease that includes CNS involvement are staged separately.
- Patients with SLN-positive disease do not benefit from CLND.
- Nivolumab is superior to ipilimumab for the adjuvant treatment of high-risk melanoma.



Summary (cont.)

- Pembrolizumab is superior to placebo for the adjuvant treatment of high-risk melanoma in terms of RFS. DMFS and OS benefit are still immature.
- Dabrafenib/trametinib are superior to placebo for the adjuvant treatment of high-risk melanoma in patients who harbor a BRAF mutation.
- Encorafenib/binimetinib represent a 3rd in class option for patients with metastatic melanoma, with a more favorable side-effect profile.
- The addition of epicadostat (IDO inhibitor) in combination with pembrolizumab did not improve PFS or OS in patients with metastatic melanoma.



Thank you!

QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION



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