

# Clinical evaluation of response to immunotherapy

John Haanen MD PhD Netherlands Cancer Institute Amsterdam



### Disclosures

- Consultancy role:
   BMS; MSD; GSK; Roche
- Research grants:
  - BMS; GSK; MSD



### Aim of presentation

- Highlight the differences in MOA of IT compared to targeted therapy of chemotherapy
- Summarize the response types observed with IT
- Discuss the evaluation possibilities



#### MOA of cancer treatments





#### MOA of cancer treatments

**Targeted agents** VEGF Bevacizumab Trastuzumab Alemtuzumab VEGF receptor **CD52** Erb2 & Her2 Inhibition of mutated or Her1 receptor Bcr-Abl Imatinib mesylate overexpressed Gefitinib proteins in Cetuximab Erlotinib CD20 Rituxumab HCI cancer cells 26S proteasome -**Bortezomib** Her1 receptor

#### Cell death or stop of cell growth



#### **MOA of cancer treatment**



Chen & Mellman Immunity 2013



#### **MOA of cancer treatment**





### IT versus TT or CT

- Targeted and chemotherapy work directly

   Target tumor cells (and normal cells)
- Immunotherapy works indirectly
  - Stimulates cells from the immune system
    - Anti-CTLA4
    - Anti-PD1/PD-L1
    - DC vaccination or other vaccine platforms
  - Augments the pool of tumor-specific T cells
    - TIL therapy
    - TCR of CAR gene therapy

MADRID 2014 ESKO<sup>congress</sup> Time-to-response to treatment

- Chemotherapy: if present usually within 6 weeks (2 courses)
- Targeted therapy:
  - BRAFi (+MEKi) within days, mostly within 2 weeks
     (PET)
- Immunotherapy: highly variable
  - Ipilimumab: weeks to months
  - Anti-PD1/PD-L1: weeks to months
  - TIL: weeks to months



#### Patterns of response to ipilimumab





#### Response patterns with ipilimumab

#### **Before treatment**



#### During treatment; week 12



#### After treatment; week 24









Ledezma et al. J Clin Oncol Nurs 2011





Saenger and Wolchok Cancer Immunity 2008

#### **Before treatment**

During treatment; week 12



After treatment; week 16



After treatment; week 24





After treatment; week 20



After surgery; week 28



*Note.* The lesion remained relatively stable in size throughout treatment. No lesion was evident following resection.

#### Response pattern following ipilimumab treatment



#### Dense infiltrate of T cells in resected lesion

esmo.org

Ledezma et al. J Clin Oncol Nurs 2011

## MADRID ESTO Congress Is progression truly progression?



Ribas et al. Clin Canc Res 2009



#### **Cancer Therapy: Clinical**

#### Guidelines for the Evaluation of Immune Therapy Activity in Solid Tumors: Immune-Related Response Criteria

Jedd D. Wolchok,<sup>1</sup> Axel Hoos,<sup>2</sup> Steven O'Day,<sup>3</sup> Jeffrey S. Weber,<sup>4</sup> Omid Hamid,<sup>3</sup> Celeste Lebbé,<sup>5</sup> Michele Maio,<sup>6</sup> Michael Binder,<sup>7</sup> Oliver Bohnsack,<sup>8</sup> Geoffrey Nichol,<sup>9</sup> Rachel Humphrey,<sup>2</sup> and F. Stephen Hodi<sup>10</sup>



#### Immune related Response Criteria

|   | WHO  | irRC   |
|---|--|--|
| New, measurable lesions (i.e., $\geq 5 \times 5 \text{ mm}$ ) | Always represent PD  | Incorporated into tumor burden   |
| New, nonmeasurable lesions (i.e., $<5 \times 5$ mm)           | Always represent PD  | Do not define progression<br>(but preclude irCR)   |
| Non-index lesions   | Changes contribute to defining<br>BOR of CR, PR, SD, and PD  | Contribute to defining irCR<br>(complete disappearance required)   |
| CR  | Disappearance of all lesions in two consecutive<br>observations not less than 4 wk apart   | Disappearance of all lesions in two consecutive observations not less than 4 wk apart  |
| PR  | ≥50% decrease in SPD of all index lesions<br>compared with baseline in two observations<br>at least 4 wk apart, in absence of new lesions or<br>unequivocal progression of non-index lesions | ≥50% decrease in tumor burden compared<br>with baseline in two observations at<br>least 4 wk apart   |
| SD  | 50% decrease in SPD compared with baseline<br>cannot be established nor 25% increase<br>compared with nadir, in absence of new lesions or<br>unequivocal progression of non-index lesions    | 50% decrease in tumor burden<br>compared with baseline cannot be established<br>nor 25% increase compared with nadir                           |
| PD  | At least 25% increase in SPD compared with<br>nadir and/or unequivocal progression of non-index<br>lesions and/or appearance of new lesions<br>(at any single time point)                    | At least 25% increase in tumor burden compared<br>with nadir (at any single time point) in two<br>consecutive observations at least 4 wk apart |



### ....simplify irRC from bidimensional

#### WHO based irRC

|                             | Bidimensional assessment (the original irRC (7))  |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Measurable lesions          | $\geq$ 5 $\times$ 5 mm <sup>2</sup> by bidimensional measurements   |
| Measurement of each lesion  | The longest diameter $\times$ the longest perpendicular diameter (cm <sup>2</sup> )   |
| The sum of the measurements | The sum of the bidimensional measurements of  |
|                             | all target lesions and new lesions if any   |
| Response assessment         | PD: $\geq$ 25% increase from the nadir  |
|                             | PR: ≥50% decrease from baseline   |
|                             | CR: Disappearance of all lesions  |
| New lesions                 | The presence of new lesion(s) does not define progression. The measurements of the new lesion(s) are included in the sum of the measurements. |
| Confirmation                | Confirmation by 2 consecutive observations not less than 4 weeks apart was required for CR, PR, and PD  |

Nishino et al., Clin Canc Res 2013



# ....simplify irRC from bidimensional to unidimensional...

#### WHO based irRC

#### RECIST 1.0 based irRC

|                             | Bidimensional assessment (the original irRC (7))  | Unidimensional assessment  |  |
|-----------------------------|---|--|--|
| Measurable lesions          | $\geq$ 5 $\times$ 5 mm <sup>2</sup> by bidimensional measurements   | $\geq$ 10 mm in the longest diameter   |  |
| Measurement of each lesion  | The longest diameter × the longest perpendicular diameter (cm <sup>2</sup> )  | The longest diameter (cm)  |  |
| The sum of the measurements | The sum of the bidimensional measurements of<br>all target lesions and new lesions if any   | The sum of the longest diameters of<br>all target lesions and new lesions if any |  |
| Response assessment         | PD: $\geq$ 25% increase from the nadir  | PD: ≥20% increase from the nadir   |  |
|                             | PR: $\geq$ 50% decrease from baseline   | PR: $\geq$ 30% decrease from baseline  |  |
|                             | CR: Disappearance of all lesions  | CR: Disappearance of all lesions   |  |
| New lesions                 | The presence of new lesion(s) does not define progression. The measurements of the new lesion(s) are included in the sum of the measurements. |  |  |
| Confirmation                | Confirmation by 2 consecutive observations not less than 4 weeks apart was required for CR, PR,<br>and PD                                     |  |  |
|                             |   |  |  |

Nishino et al., Clin Canc Res 2013



#### Best immune related response according to 2dimensional vs 1-dimensional measurement

| Best response by | Best response by bidimensional<br>assessment |      |      |      |
|------------------|--|------|------|------|
| assessment       | irCR   | irPR | irSD | irPD |
| irCR             | 1  | 0    | 0    | 0    |
| irPR             | 0  | 7    | 0    | 0    |
| irSD             | 0  | 0    | 41   | 3    |
| irPD             | 0  | 0    | 1    | 4    |

NOTE:  $\kappa_{\rm w} = 0.881$ .

Nishino et al., Clin Canc Res 2013



### RECIST 1.0 vs RECIST 1.1

- 10 lesions
- Max 5 per organ
- Min. size clinical lesion: 20 mm
- Not mentioned

- 5 lesions
- Max 2 per organ
- Min. size clinical lesion 10 mm
- LN target lesion ≥15 mm



#### irRC, but now based on RECIST 1.1



Nishino et al., J Immunother Cancer 2014



# RECIST 1.1 based irRC capture patterns of response to immunotherapy



Nishino et al., J Immunother Cancer 2014



Which parameter should we measure for response evaluation to IT

- Objective response?
- Progression free survival?
- Overall survival?
  - Median
  - Survival at 3 years
  - -?



### Chemotherapy

NO. AT RISK





#### Saltz et al., NEJM 2000



# Targeted therapy



Chapman et al., N Engl J Med 2011



#### Short duration of response



McArthur Lancet Oncol 2014



### Survival in BRIM-3 trial



Mc Arthur Lancet Oncol 2014



| Evaluation of therapy                        |                  |                                |                 |
|--|------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| Induction                                    |                  |                                |                 |
| Best overall response — no. (%)              | $\frown$         |                                |                 |
| Complete response                            | 1 (0.2)          | 2 (1.5)                        | 0               |
| Partial response                             | 22 (5.5)         | 13 (9.5)                       | 2 (1.5)         |
| Stable disease                               | 58 (14.4)        | 24 (17.5)                      | 13 (9.6)        |
| Progressive disease                          | 239 (59.3)       | 70 (51.1)                      | 89 (65.4)       |
| Not evaluated                                | 83 (20.6)        | 28 (20.4)                      | 32 (23.5)       |
| Best overall response rate — % (95% CI)      | 5.7 (3.7-8.4)    | 10.9 (6.3–17.4)                | 1.5 (0.2–5.2)   |
| P value for comparison with gp100 alone      | 0.04             | 0.001                          |                 |
| P value for comparison with ipilimumab alone | 0.04             | _                              |                 |
| Disease control rate — % (95% CI)†           | 20.1 (16.3–24.3) | 28.5 <mark>(</mark> 21.1–36.8) | 11.0 (6.3–17.5) |
| P value for comparison with gp100 alone      | 0.02             | <0.001                         | _               |
| P value for comparison with ipilimumab alone | 0.04             | _                              | _               |
|  |                  |                                |                 |

Hodi et al., NEJM 2010



#### **Progression Free Survival**









|                 | Overall survival rate, % [95% CI] |             |             |             |             |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Treatment Group | 1-year                            | 2-year      | 3-year      | 4-year      | 5-year      |
| lpi + DTIC      | 47.6                              | 28.9        | 21.3        | 19.1        | 18.2        |
| (N=250)         | [41.2-53.7]                       | [23.3-34.7] | [16.3-26.6] | [14.4-24.3] | [13.6-23.4] |
| Placebo + DTIC  | 36.4                              | 17.8        | 12.1        | 9.7         | 8.8         |
| (N=252)         | [30.4-42.4]                       | [13.3-22.8] | [8.4-16.5]  | [6.4-13.7]  | [5.7-12.8]  |

Maio et al ESMO 2013



#### **Objective response of pembrolizumab**



**Individual Patients** 



# **ESNO**<sup>congress</sup> Ipilimumab + nivolumab



After ~13 months of follow-up, for all concurrent cohorts, 90% of all responding patients still in response Wolchok et al. N Eng J Med 2013





Ribas et al., ASCO 2014









### Conclusions

- Immunotherapy's mechanism of action is very different from classical chemotherapy or targeted therapy
- This is reflected by very different patterns and kinetics of response (mostly seen in ipi, much less in anti-PD1/PDL1 and ipi + nivo combination)
- In order to capture these different responses during clinical evaluations irRC have been developed (recently simplified to RECIST 1.1 based irRC)
- For anti-CTLA4 not ORR, PFS, nor median OS, but long-term survival was the most meaningful endpoint for clinical evaluation
- For anti-PD1/PD-L1 or ipi + nivo ORR and duration of response may be good endpoints, but long-term OS remains the most important endpoint for clinical evaluation