

Immunotherapy- What is in the Future?

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Disclosure

**Abbvie
Astra Zeneca
Boehringer Ingelheim
Bristol Myers Squibb
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Novartis
Pfizer
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Takeda**

Astra Zeneca

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Advisory Board and Honorarium:

Research Funding:

DSMB

Agenda

- Review of novel immunotherapy targets in mesothelioma
 - Mesothelin
 - Tumour associated macrophages, myeloid derived suppressor cells and Treg
 - Immune checkpoint including PD(L)1.

Mesothelin

- Mesothelin is 40 KDa glycoprotein expressed in
 - Mesothelioma
 - Adenocarcinoma of the lung
 - Pancreatic cancer
 - Ovarian cancer
 - Gastric cancer.
 - Limited expression in normal cells, including pleura, peritoneum and pericardium
 - Of unknown biological function
 - A 32KDa cleavage NH₂-terminal of unknown function.

Mesothelin

- Soluble mesothelin is a 41-45 KDa with NH₂-terminal amino acid sequence identical to that of the membrane-bound portion of mesothelin.

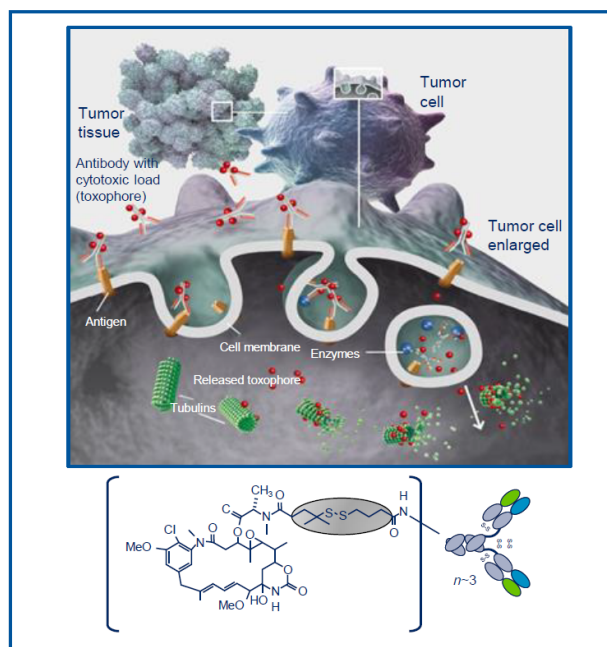
Table 2. Studies assessing treatment response or survival using serial serum SM during treatment

Author (year)	Treatment (no. of patients)	Outcome measure	Threshold for SM change	Results
Hooper <i>et al</i> (2015)	P/C – 58, BSC – 15	Mod RECIST CT OS, TTP	0%	Chemotherapy group; a falling serum SM at 6–8 weeks was associated with longer time to progression ($P < 0.001$), and a falling SM post chemotherapy was associated with improved OS ($P = 0.031$)
Hassan <i>et al</i> (2014)	P/C and Im – 20	Mod RECIST CT	15%	Fall in serum SM correlated with radiological response with 70% accuracy ($P = 0.003$)
Nowak <i>et al</i> (2013)	Bio – 53	Mod RECIST CT FDG-PET OS, TTP	0%	Median change in serum SM correlated with sum change in tumour bulk on FDG-PET ($P < 0.05$). % change in serum SM was associated with TTP ($P < 0.001$) but not OS
Franko <i>et al</i> (2012)	G/C – 56, P/C – 8, BSC – 4, Surg – 10	Mod RECIST CT	n/a	Significantly lower mean serum SM in partial response or stable disease compared to progressive disease ($P = 0.001$)
Hollevoet <i>et al</i> (2011)	P/C – 57, Surg – 5	Mod RECIST CT	15%	Partial response to chemotherapy correlated with a 34% fall in SM ($P = 0.010$) compared with a 54% rise in progressive disease ($P < 0.001$)
Creaney <i>et al</i> (2011)	Chemo – 61, BSC – 25, Surg – 8	Mod RECIST CT FDG-PET OS	25%	Chemotherapy group; correlation between change in serum SM and CT ($P = 0.023$) and FDG-PET ($P < 0.001$). Also, a falling SM was associated with better OS (19 months) compared with static (13 months) or rising levels (15 months). ($P = 0.001$)
Wheatley-Price <i>et al</i> (2010)	Chemo – 21, BSC – 13, Surg – 8	Mod RECIST CT RECIST CT CT report	10% or 5 nmol l^{-1}	Chemotherapy and BSC groups; relative change in serum SM from baseline significantly associated with disease progression ($P < 0.010$)
Grigoriu <i>et al</i> (2009)	Chemo – 20, Im – 16, BSC – 4	Mod RECIST CT	10%	In patients with raised SM at baseline ($> 1 \text{ nM l}^{-1}$), rising level correlated with progressive disease in 12 out of 16 patients. OS higher in patients with stable SM compared with increasing ($P = 0.012$)

Abbreviations: Bio = biological therapy; BSC = best supportive care; C = cisplatin; Chemo = chemotherapy (not specified); G = gemcitabine; Im = immunotherapy; Mod RECIST CT = modified response evaluation criteria in solid tumors CT; OS = overall survival; P = pemetrexed; Surg = surgery; TTP = time to progression.

Mesothelin- antibody drug conjugate

Anetumab ravtansine (BAY 94-9343): an anti-mesothelin antibody-drug conjugate



- Mesothelin is a membrane-associated differentiation antigen that is overexpressed in a number of solid tumors, including the vast majority of mesotheliomas^{1,2}
- Anetumab ravtansine (BAY 94-9343) is a novel, fully humanized anti-mesothelin immunoglobulin G1 antibody conjugated to a ravtansine, a maytansine-derivative DM4 anti-tubulin cytotoxic agent

Mode of action:

- Targeted delivery of the potent anti-proliferative toxophore DM4 (tubulin inhibitor) to cancer cells expressing the tumor-associated antigen mesothelin

Here we report results from a Phase I open-label study of anetumab ravtansine in patients with advanced solid tumors, with a particular focus on patients with mesothelioma

1. Hassan et al. *Clin Cancer Res* 2004; 10: 3937-3942; 2. Hassan, Ho. *Eur J Cancer* 2008; 44: 46-53



Randomized Phase II Study of Anetumab Ravtansine or Vinorelbine in Patients with Malignant Pleural Mesothelioma

**HL Kindler,¹ S Novello,² D Fennell,³ G Blumenschein, Jr.,⁴ A Bearz,⁵ GL Ceresoli,⁶ JG Aerts,⁷
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¹⁰Freeman Hospital, Newcastle Upon Tyne, UK; ¹¹KU Leuven, University Hospitals, Leuven, Belgium;

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¹⁴Epworth Healthcare, Richmond, Victoria, Australia; ¹⁵Bayer, Milan, Italy; ¹⁶Bayer AG, Berlin, Germany;

¹⁷Bayer HealthCare Pharmaceuticals, Whippany, NJ, USA; ¹⁸National Cancer Institute, Bethesda, MD, USA.



Trial Design

Patient selection criteria

- Unresectable/metastatic MPM
- One prior line of chemotherapy
- Mesothelin-overexpression ($\geq 30\%$ of cells medium and strong) by central lab
- ECOG PS 0–1
- Age ≥ 18 years
- No/mild corneal epitheliopathy

N=248

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2:1

Anetumab ravtansine
6.5 mg/kg Q3W
(n=166)

Stratification factors:

- Geographical region
- TTP on 1L therapy

Vinorelbine
30 mg/m² QW
(n=82)

Endpoints

Primary

- PFS (central review; HR 0.50, 90% power)

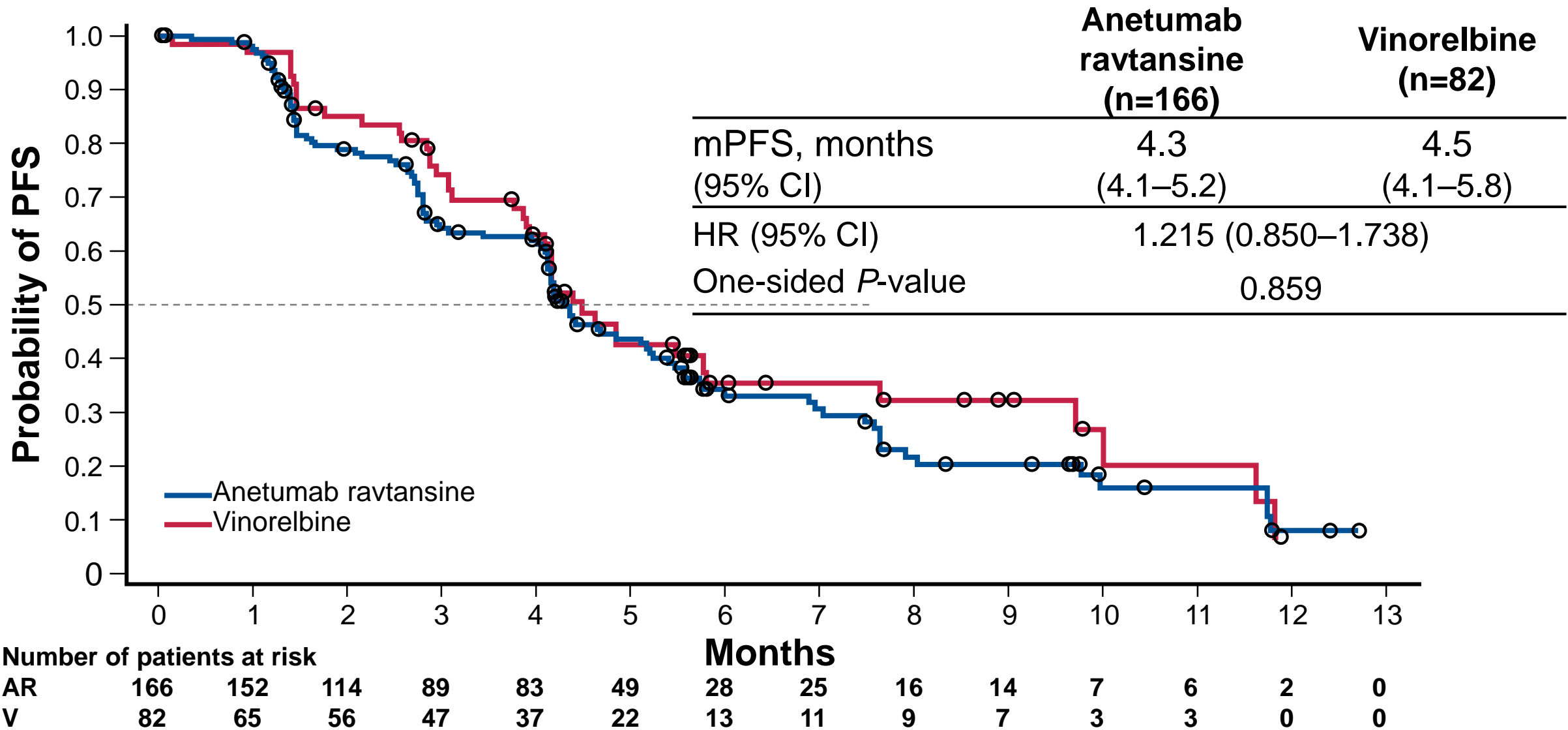
Secondary

- OS
- Response (ORR, DCR, DOR)
- PROs
- Safety and tolerability

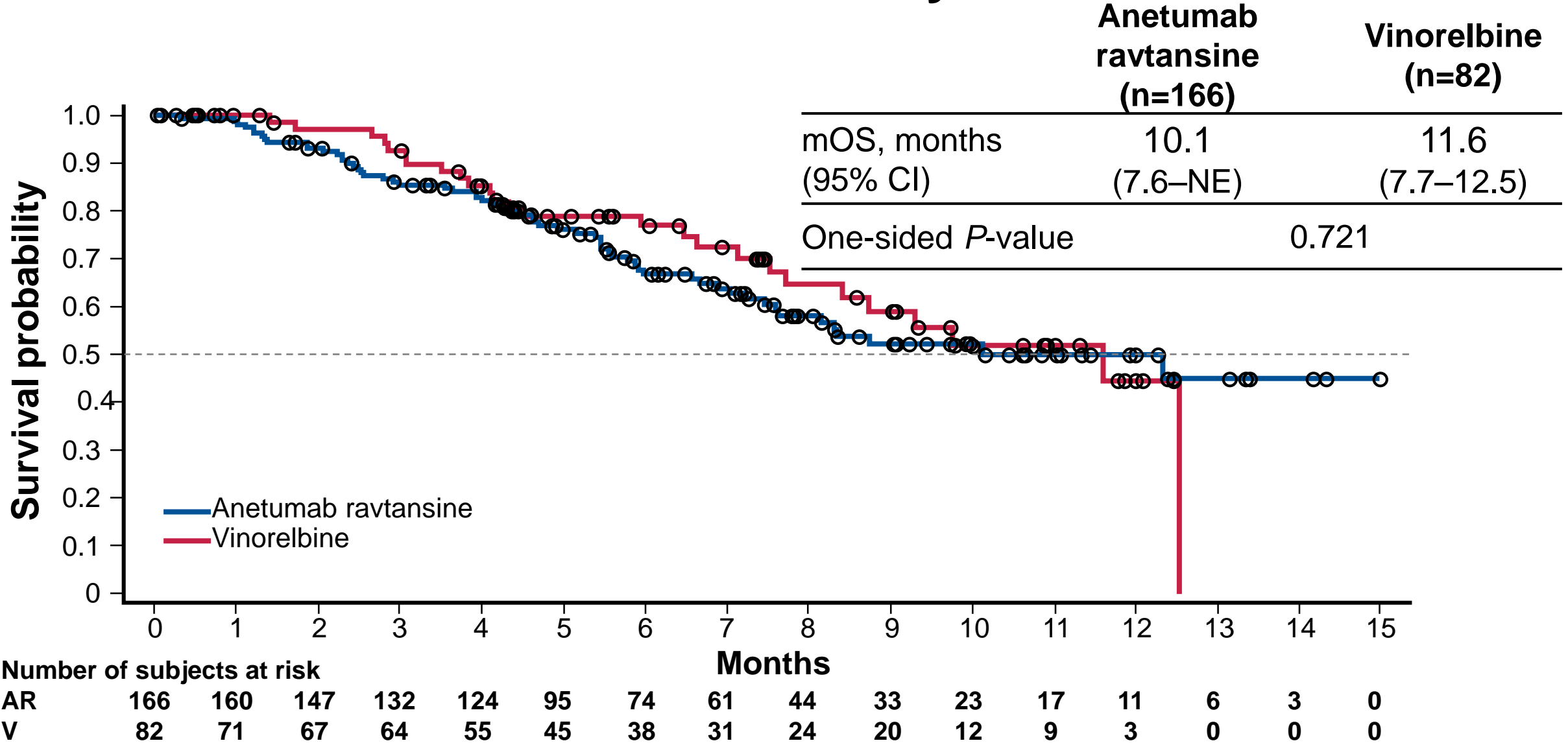
Other

- Pharmacokinetics
- Immunogenicity
- Biomarkers

Primary Endpoint: PFS



OS – Interim Analysis*



mOS, median overall survival; NE, not estimable.

*87 of 159 target events for OS analysis had occurred at the time of primary PFS analysis.

Response

Best overall response, n (%)	Anetumab ravtansine (n=166)	Vinorelbine (n=82)
Complete response	0 (0)	0 (0)
Partial response	14 (8)	5 (6)
Stable disease	108 (65)	51 (62)
Progressive disease	24 (14)	9 (11)
Not available	20 (12)	17 (21)
Overall response rate	14 (8)	5 (6)
Disease control rate	122 (73)	56 (68)

ORR = CR + PR; DCR = CR + PR + SD.

CR, complete response; PR, partial response; SD, stable disease.

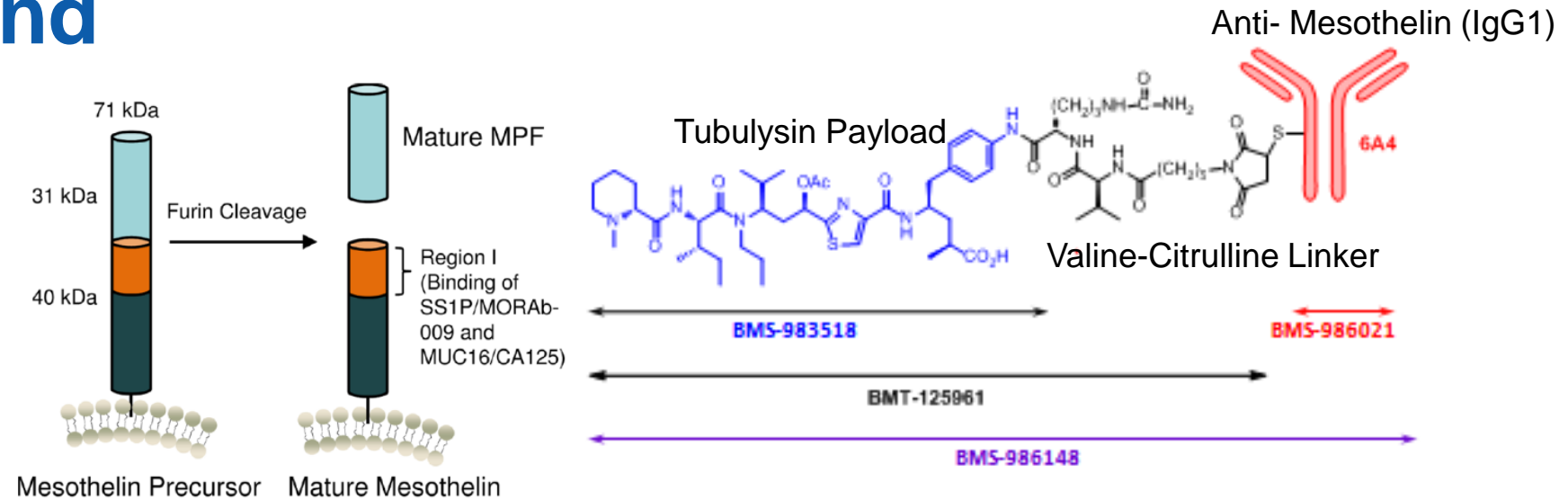
Most Frequent Treatment-Emergent Adverse Events

TEAE, %	Anetumab ravtansine (n=163)		Vinorelbine (n=72)	
	Any grade	Grade 3–4	Any grade	Grade 3–4
Nausea	41.1	0	31.9	0
Corneal epitheliopathy	39.3	1.8	0	0
Fatigue	35.0	4.3	30.6	5.6
Decreased appetite	34.4	1.8	23.6	2.8
Diarrhea	33.1	2.5	18.1	1.4
Vomiting	20.9	0	6.9	0
Asthenia	20.2	4.3	22.2	1.4
Dyspnea	19.6	4.3	29.2	4.2
Chest pain	17.2	2.5	15.3	1.4
Constipation	16.0	0.6	48.6	1.4
Peripheral neuropathy	15.3	3.7	6.9	0
Fever	14.1	0.6	18.1	1.4
Anemia	9.2	1.8	27.8	6.9
Neutropenia	2.5	0.6	51.4	38.9

≥15% in either cohort. Three patients in the anetumab ravtansine group and 10 patients in the vinorelbine group did not receive study drug and were not included in the safety population.

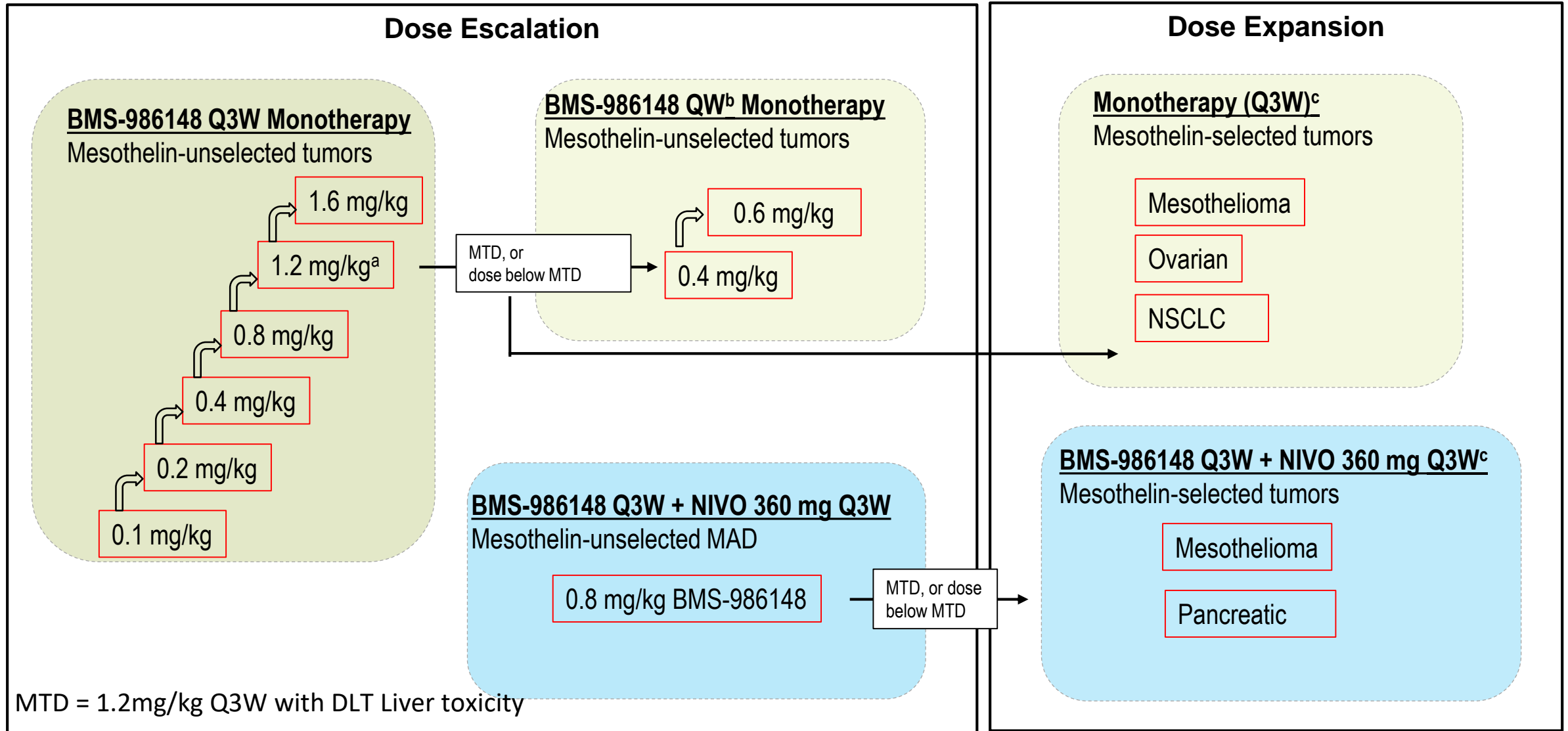
BMS-986148, an Anti-Mesothelin Antibody-Drug Conjugate (ADC), Alone or in Combination with Nivolumab Demonstrates Clinical Activity in Patients with Select Advanced Solid Tumors

Background



- Traditional cancer chemotherapy is often accompanied by systemic toxicity to the patient
 - Antibody–drug conjugates (ADCs) use antibodies to deliver a potent cytotoxic compound selective to tumor cells, thus improving the therapeutic index of chemotherapeutic agents⁵
- BMS-986148 is a fully human IgG1 anti-mesothelin monoclonal ab conjugated to tubulysin to promote selective cytotoxic delivery to tumor cells
 - Tubulysins disrupt microtubule assembly, leading to impaired cell division and subsequent apoptosis⁶
 - In preclinical models, combination of anti–mesothelin-tubulysin with anti–PD-1 promoted a synergistic antitumor response and influx of tumor-infiltrating lymphocytes⁷
- Here, we present initial data for BMS-986148 ± nivolumab (NIVO; anti–PD-1) from a phase 1/2a trial in a biomarker-defined population of patients (pts) with select advanced solid tumors (NCT02341625)⁸

Study Design



^aIntermediate dose; ^bQW for 3 weeks followed by 1 week off; ^cCohorts clinically evaluated.

Best Overall Response

	Monotherapy				Combination	
	All Escalation (n = 45)	All Expansion (n = 51)	Meso Expansion (n = 25)	Ovarian Expansion (n = 22)	All (n = 30) ^a	Meso (n = 13) ^b
ORR, n (%) [95% CI]	1 (2) ^c [NA]	3 (6) ^d [1, 16]	1 (4) [0, 20]	2 (9) [1, 29]	6 (20) [NA]	3 (23) ^e [5, 54]
Best overall response, n (%)						
CR	0	0	0	0	0	0
PR	1 (2)	3 (6)	1 (4)	2 (9)	6 (20)	3 (23)
SD	12 (27)	24 (47)	12 (48)	11 (50)	13 (43)	8 (61.5)
PD	27 (60)	16 (31)	8 (32)	6 (27)	6 (20)	1 (8)
Not evaluable	0	0	0	0	0 (0)	0
Not reported	5 (11)	8 (16)	4 (16)	3 (14)	5 (17)	1 (8)
DCR, n (%)	13 (29)	27 (53)	13 (52)	13 (59)	19 (63)	11 (85)
PFS, median, mo [95%CI]	NA	3 [2, 4]	4 [1, 9]	3 [1, 4]	NA	7 [3, 12]

CR, complete response; DCR, disease control rate; NA, not available; ORR, overall response rate; PFS, progression-free survival; PR, partial response; SD, stable disease.

^aIncludes patients from dose escalation and expansion groups. ^bIncludes only patients from expansion group. An additional n=3 mesothelioma patients were treated in escalation, with n=2 reporting a confirmed partial response lasting 9.69 and 10.41 months, respectively. ^cN=1 with mesothelioma assigned to 0.8 mg/kg Q3W had a confirmed partial response lasting 10.22 months. ^dORR was 0% for NSCLC. ^eMean ORR was 31% with combo in escalation and expansion cohorts with mesothelioma (n= 16).

Treatment-Related Adverse Events

	Mono Q3W ^a (n = 84)		Mono QW ^{a,b} (n = 12)		Combo Q3W (n = 30)	
	Any Gr	Gr 3-4	Any Gr	Gr 3-4	Any Gr	Gr 3-4
Any TRAE, n (%)	72 (86)	42 (50)	11 (92)	3 (25)	27 (90)	10 (33)
TRAEs in ≥ 10% of all pts, n (%)						
AST increased	41 (49)	20 (24)	4 (33)	1 (8)	9 (30)	1 (3)
ALT increased	39 (46)	17 (20)	5 (42)	2 (17)	8 (27)	1 (3)
Fatigue	34 (40)	6 (7)	5 (42)	0	8 (27)	0
Nausea	27 (32)	0	2 (17)	0	7 (23)	0
Decreased appetite	22 (26)	1 (1)	2 (17)	0	4 (13)	0
Blood alkaline phosphatase increased	20 (24)	5 (6)	1 (8)	0	2 (7)	0
Diarrhea	14 (17)	2 (2)	2 (17)	0	2 (7)	0
Vomiting	15 (18)	0	0	0	2 (7)	0
Abdominal pain	11 (13)	1 (1)	2 (17)	0	2 (7)	0
Pleuritic pain	9 (11)	2 (4)	2 (17)	1 (8)	3 (10)	1 (3)
Dyspnea	10 (12)	2 (2)	2 (17)	0	0	0
Dysgeusia	6 (7)	0	3 (25)	0	3 (10)	0
TRAEs leading to treatment discontinuation, n (%)	15 (18)	11 (13)	0	0	4 (13)	3 (10)

- Serious TRAEs were reported in 15 patients (18%) in the mono Q3W group, 2 patients (17%) in the mono QW group, and 7 patients (23%) in the combination group
- One treatment-related death occurred in the mono Q3W group (1.2 mg/kg Q3W; pneumonitis)
- The majority of ophthalmic AEs were mild and manageable with topical treatments when indicated:
 - One subject in the mono Q3W group (1.2 mg/kg Q3W) experienced Grade 3 keratopathy and Grade 3 reduced visual acuity
 - One subject in the mono Q3W group (1.2 mg/kg Q3W) experienced Grade 3 cataracts (left and right eyes)

Mesothelin antibody drug conjugate

- Other agents in development:
 - LMB-100:
 - Mesothelin antibody with an immunotoxin.

Mesothelin CAR-T cell Therapy

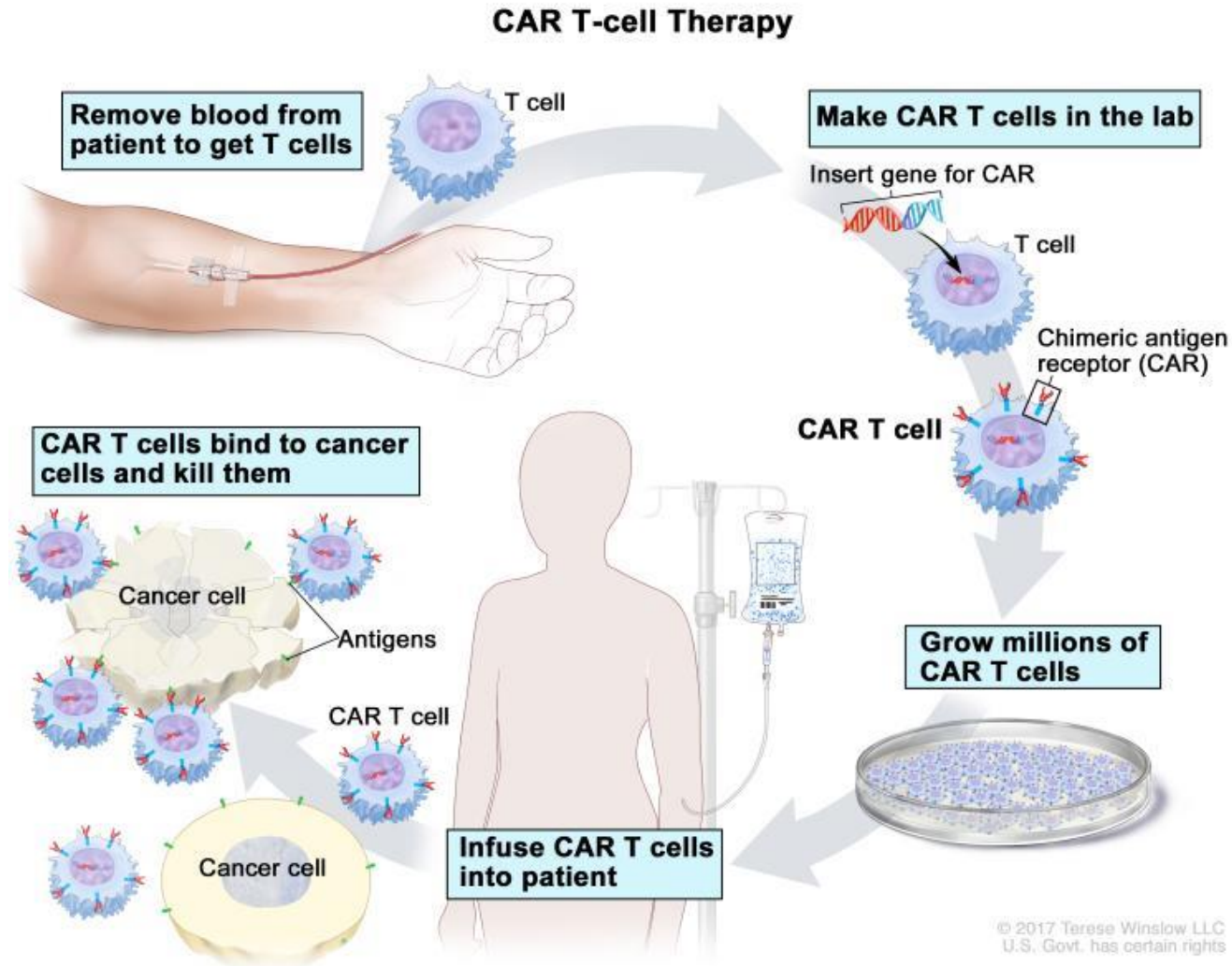


Image of courtesy of the National Cancer Institute

Tumour Associated Macrophages and Myeloid Derived Suppressor Cells

- T-regs, myeloid derived suppressor cells and tumour associated macrophages in the tumour stroma induce CD8 cells apoptosis and tolerance.
- TAMs can be divided into 2 groups:
 - M1 in the tumour islets:
 - Anti-tumour
 - Induces TH1 response.
 - M2 in the tumour stroma:
 - Promotes scavenging of debris
 - Promotes angiogenesis
 - Remodels and repairs.
 - High expression of
 - Cytokines: IL-10, CCL17, CCL22 and CCL2
 - MMP
 - CD206 (mannose receptor), CD163 (scavenger receptor), and galactose type receptor
 - Loss of antigen presentation function.

Tumour Associated Macrophages and Myeloid Derived Suppressor Cells

- Ujiie et al. examined 8 infiltrating immune cells and 5 cytokines and receptors in tumours and stroma:
 - Univariate analysis found
 - High CD4 T cell and CD20 B-Cell are associated with good prognosis
 - High IL-17R on CD8 T cell is associated with poor prognosis.
 - Multivariate analysis found
 - CD20 (Mature B-cell) is associated with good prognosis
 - High CD163 (M2) is associated with poor prognosis.
 - TAMs lead to increase IL10 and B7-H3 expression on tumour cells which inhibit T-cell immune response.^{1, 2}

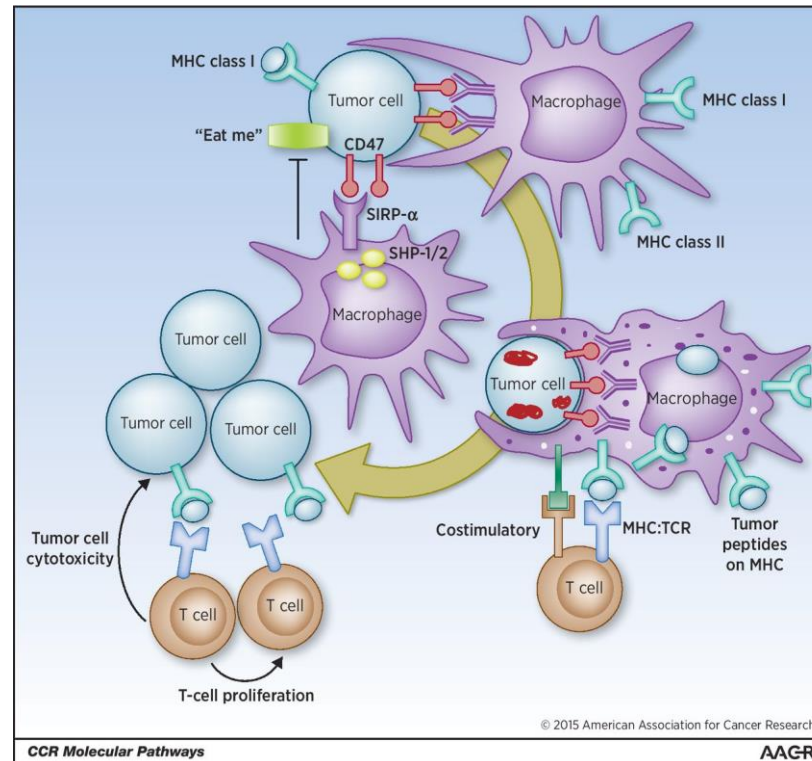
Tumour Associated Macrophages and Myeloid Derived Suppressor Cells

- In hypoxic environment, M1 is converted to M2, leading to angiogenesis and lymphogenesis via VEGF and MMP-9 overexpression.
- Mesothelioma cells secrete prostaglandin E2 which activates macrophages to M2 and, in turn, leads to differentiation of T-cell to T-reg and decrease in CD8 cells proliferation.^{1, 2, 3}

1. Lievens et al. JTO 2016;11:1755-64
2. Izzi et al. Cancer Lett 2012;322:18-34
3. Izzi et al. Int J Oncol 2009;34:543-50

Tumour Associated Macrophages and Myeloid Derived Suppressor Cells

- CD47 or SIRP-alpha:



- Inhibition of CD47 or SIRP-alpha leads to activation of M1, and anti-tumour activity.¹

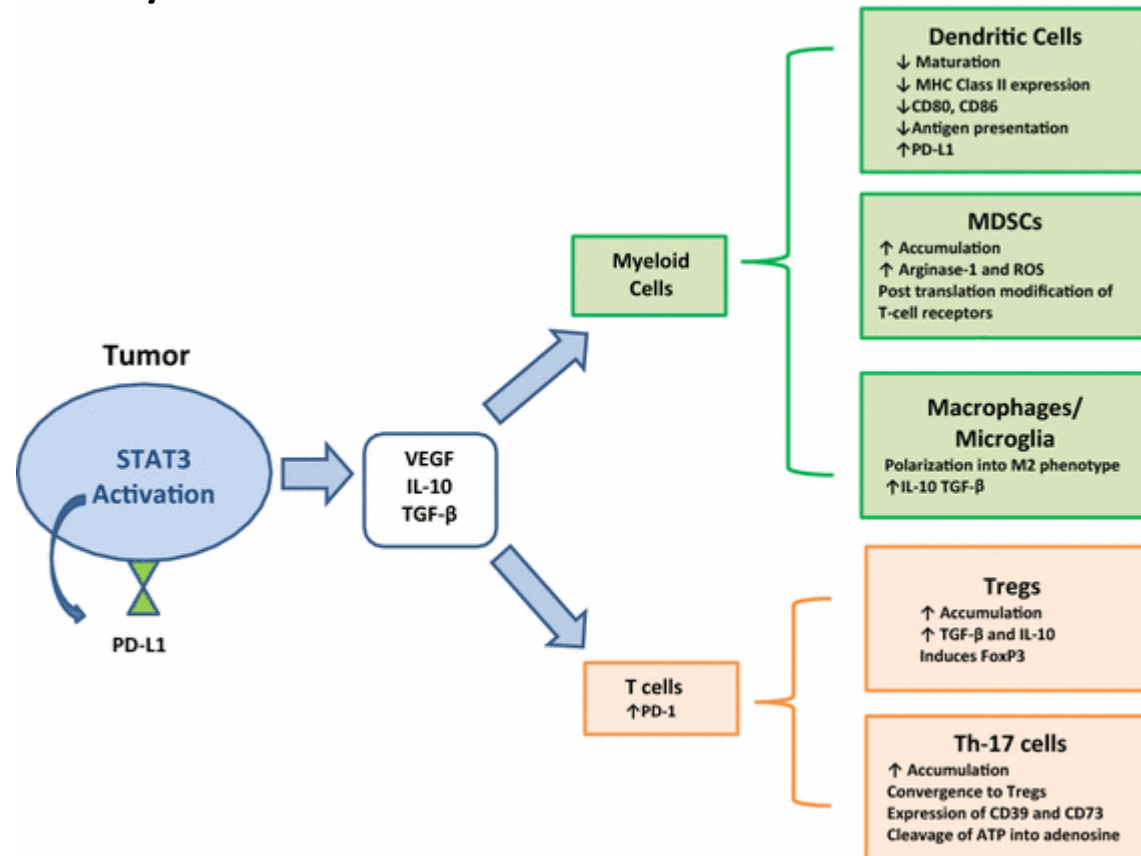
Tumour Associated Macrophages and Myeloid Derived Suppressor Cells

- CSF-1:
 - Responsible for recruitment of TAMs and MDSC
 - Inhibition of CSF-1 leads to reprogramming of TAMs and thus anti-tumour inflammatory response and CD8 activation.¹

1. Hores et al. J Exp Med 2018;215:859-76.

Tumour Associated Macrophages and Myeloid Derived Suppressor Cells

- IL6/IL6-R and STAT3



- Responsible for MDSC proliferation, increase in Treg, decrease in CD8 cells and maturation of dendritic cell.¹
- Increase in PDL-1 expression on tumour cells and Treg
- Increase in IDO1 and thus kynurenine and other immunosuppressive secretory factors: Arginine and adenosine^{1,2,3}
- Associated with increase phosphoesterase 5 expression.⁴

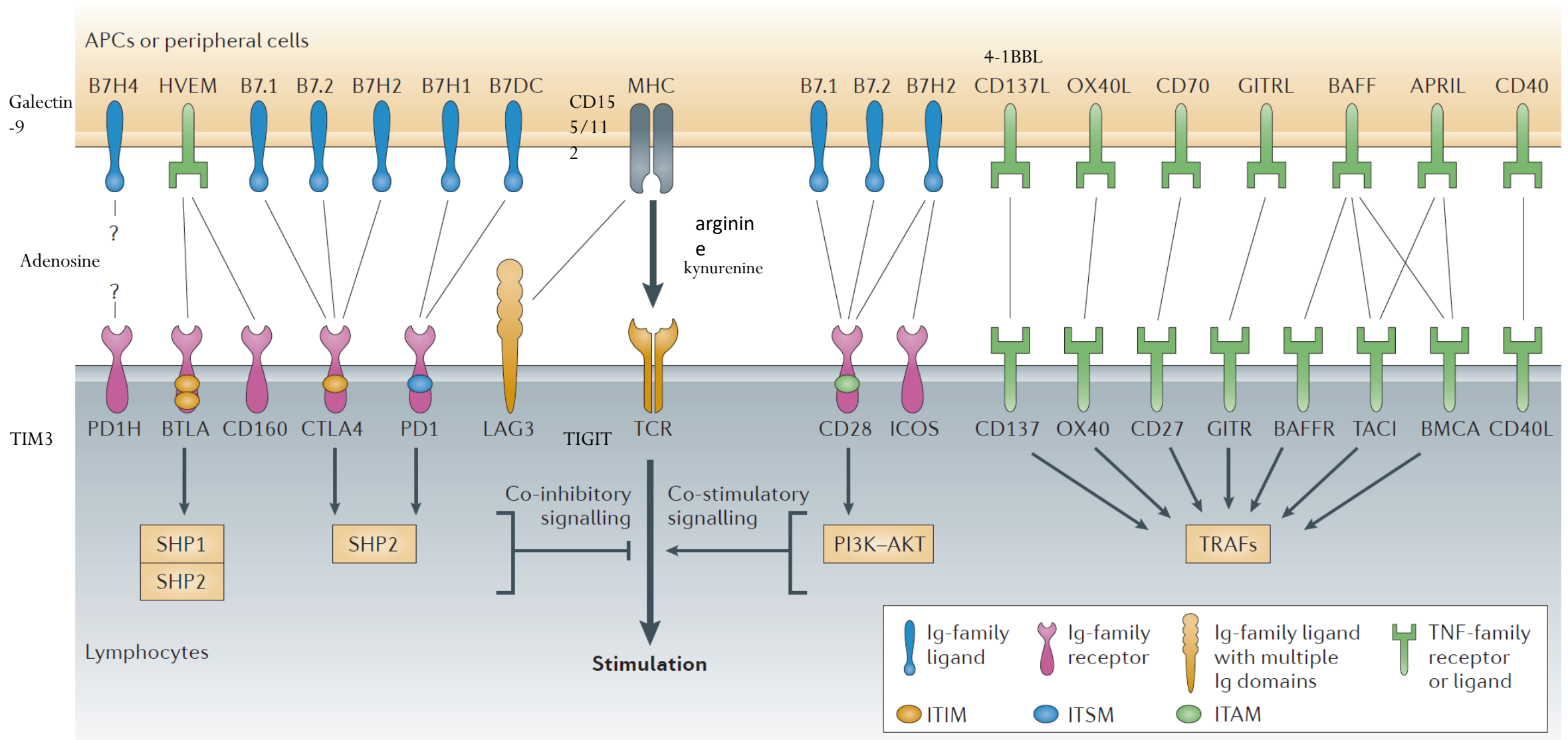
1. Caetano et al. Cancer Res 2016;76:3189-99.
2. Chen MF et al. Oncotarget 2014;5:8716-28.
3. Yu et al. K Immunol 2014;193:2574-86.
4. Isiam BN et al. Cancer Prev Res 2017;10:377-388
5. Ferguson J Neuro-Oncol 2015; 123:381-394.

Tumour Associated Macrophages and Myeloid Derived Suppressor Cells-

- CCR5:
 - Increase in CCR5 expression on MDSC by upregulation of CCR5 ligands, IL6, GM-CSF and other inflammatory factors and increase infiltration of MDSC.¹
 - Important for Treg differentiation and its migration to inflammatory sites²
 - Increase resistance to DNA damaging agents and thus increase in metastases and stemness of cancer cells. ²

1. Umansky et al. Cancer Immunol Immunother 2017;60:1015-23
2. Jiao X et al. Cancer Res 2019;79:4801-7.

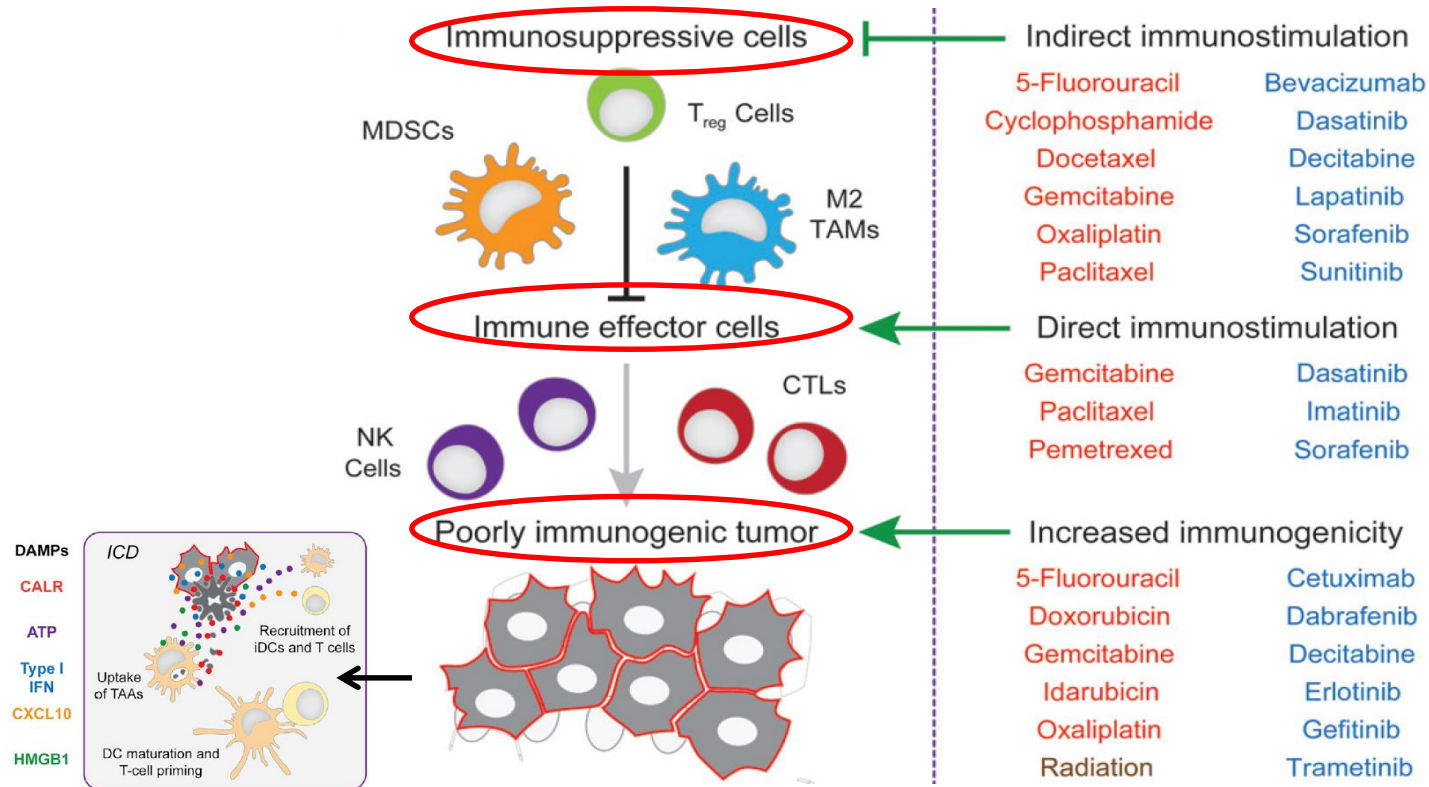
Immune Checkpoints



PD1/PDL-1 and Chemotherapy

Chemotherapy can promote tumor immunity in two major ways

1. Inducing immunogenic cell death as part of its intended therapeutic effect
2. Disrupting strategies that tumors use to evade the immune response

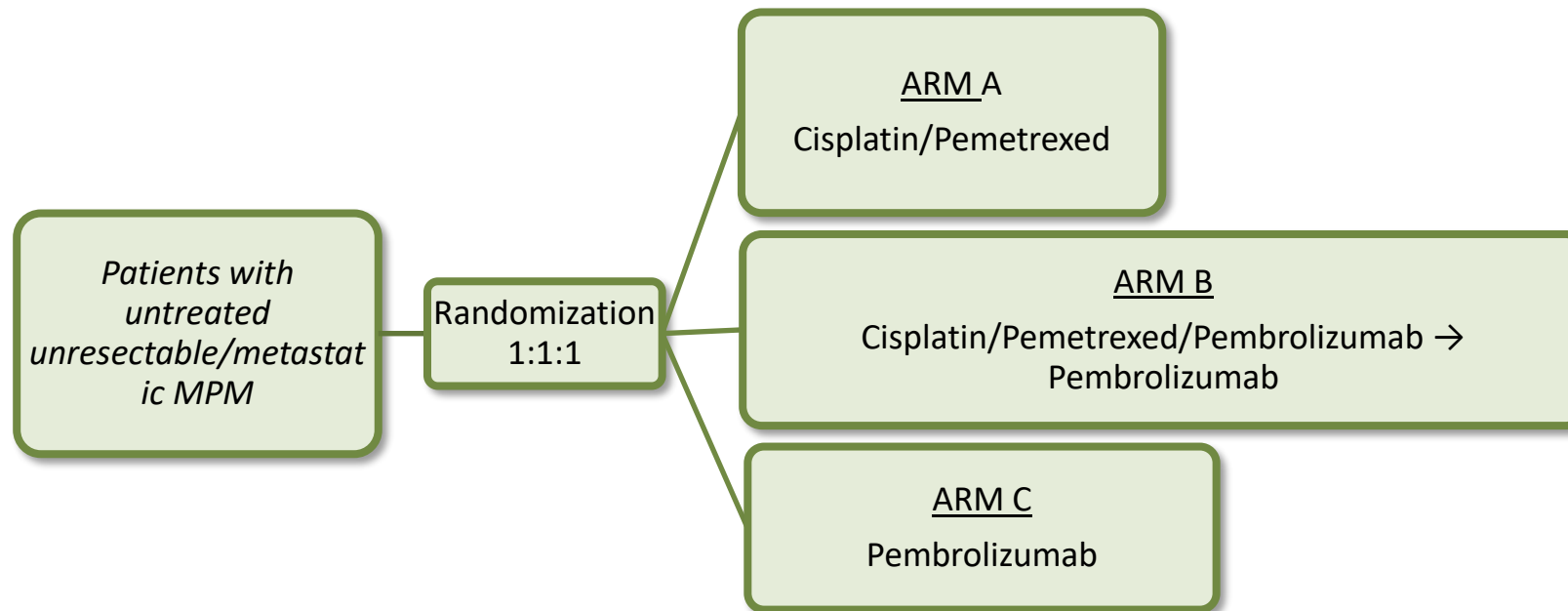


TL, CD8 cytotoxic T lymphocyte; MDSC, myeloid-derived suppressor cell; NK, natural killer; TAM, tumor-associated macrophage

Lorenzo Galluzzi et al, cancer Immuno Res 2016

IND 227 Trial Schema

- This is an academic open-label, multicentre, phase II randomized study in patients with malignant pleural mesothelioma (MPM) receiving first-line treatment for incurable advanced or metastatic disease.
- Patients will be stratified by histological subtype (epithelioid vs. other histology). PD-L1 tumour status will be used retrospectively at the time of clinical outcome analysis.



Phase 3

Primary Objective

- To evaluate whether pembrolizumab improves overall survival when added to standard chemotherapy in malignant pleural mesothelioma compared to standard chemotherapy.

Secondary Objectives

- To evaluate the tolerability of pembrolizumab, alone and given to patients receiving standard chemotherapy.
- To assess antitumour activity of pembrolizumab given to patients receiving standard chemotherapy.
- To evaluate whether pembrolizumab improves progression-free survival when added to standard chemotherapy.
- To evaluate the quality of life impact of pembrolizumab given to patients receiving chemotherapy.
- To explore predictive and prognostic value of PDL-1 expression and presence of T-cells subsets within the tumour microenvironment.
- To explore health economics when adding pembrolizumab to standard chemotherapy.

Exploratory Objective

- To explore predictive and prognostic value of exploratory blood based biomarkers.
- To explore predictive and prognostic value of other immune cells in tumour microenvironment.

First IND International Phase 2/3 Trial



Marilina Piccirillo, Napoli



Quincy Chu

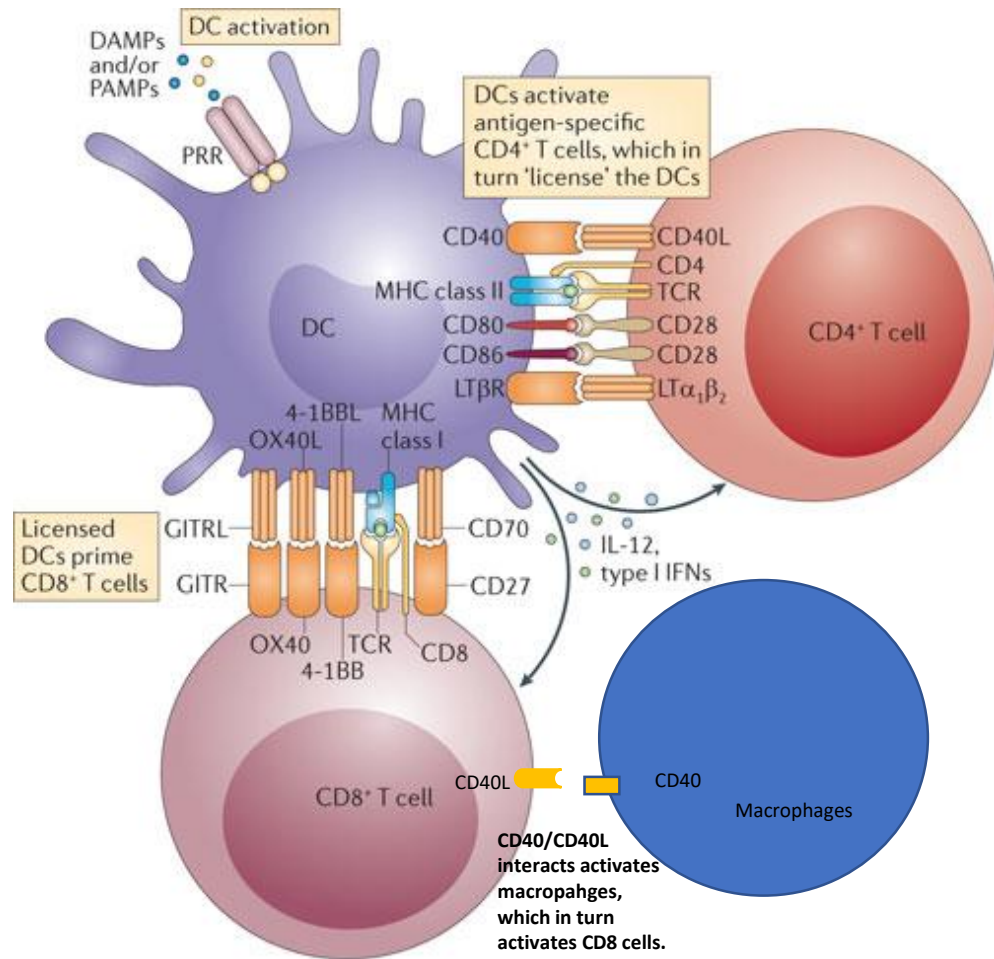


Laurent Greillier, Marseille



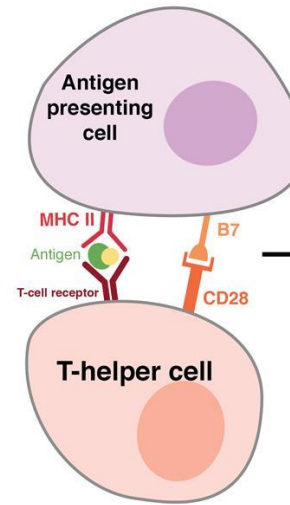
Dean Fennell, Leister

CD40



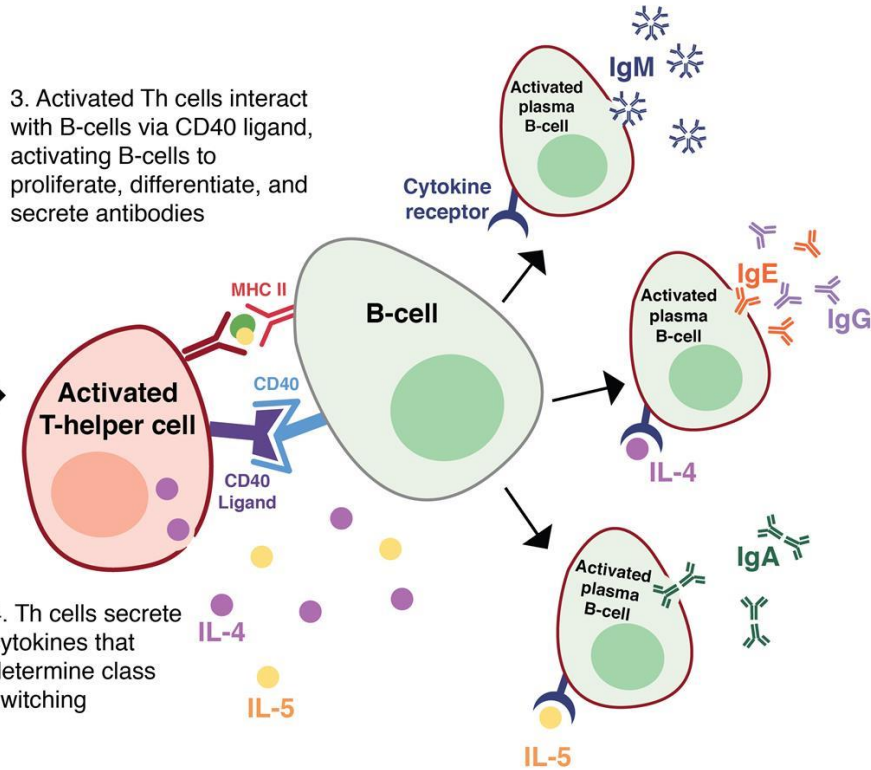
Activation and Class-switching of B-cells

1. APC presents antigen to T-helper cells



2. B7 is expressed and interacts with CD28, activating T-helper cells

3. Activated Th cells interact with B-cells via CD40 ligand, activating B-cells to proliferate, differentiate, and secrete antibodies



4. Th cells secrete cytokines that determine class switching

© Lineage

Lucy Liu

1. DeLuca LS et al. Nat Rev Immunol. 2012;12:339-351
2. Hores et al. J Exp Med 2018;215:859-76
3. Jackaman C et al. Immunol Cell Biol 2011;89:255-67.
4. Jackaman et al. Int Immunol 2012; 245:357-68.

Immune Checkpoints

- Salaroglio et al. demonstrated increase in
 - Treg and MDSC (granulocyte or macrophage derived) which is a negative predictor for PFS and OS
 - Increase in LAG3 and TIM3 expression on CD8 cells associated to negative OS.
 - MHC1 mutation in 59% of mesothelioma associated dendritic cells or antigen presenting cells.¹
- B7-H3:
 - A member of B7 family, which interacts with CD28 family molecules such as PD1, CD28, CTLA4 and ICOS, as a co-inhibitory signal leading to immune suppression.²
 - Expressed on antigen presenting cells and mesothelioma cell lines
 - High expression in 54% of epithelioid subtype of mesothelioma and uncommon in sarcomatoid subtypes.³

1. Salaroglio et al. JTO 2019;44:1458-71.

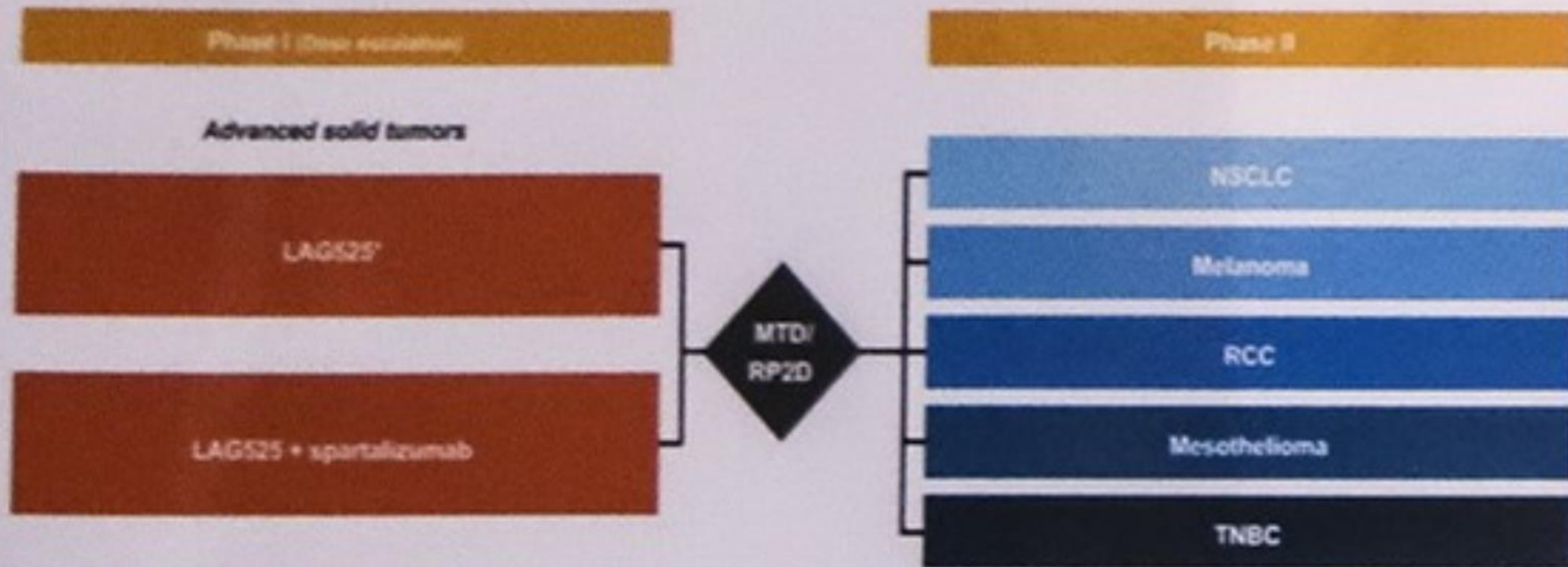
2. Castellanos JR et al. Am J Clin Exp Immunol 2017;6:66-75.

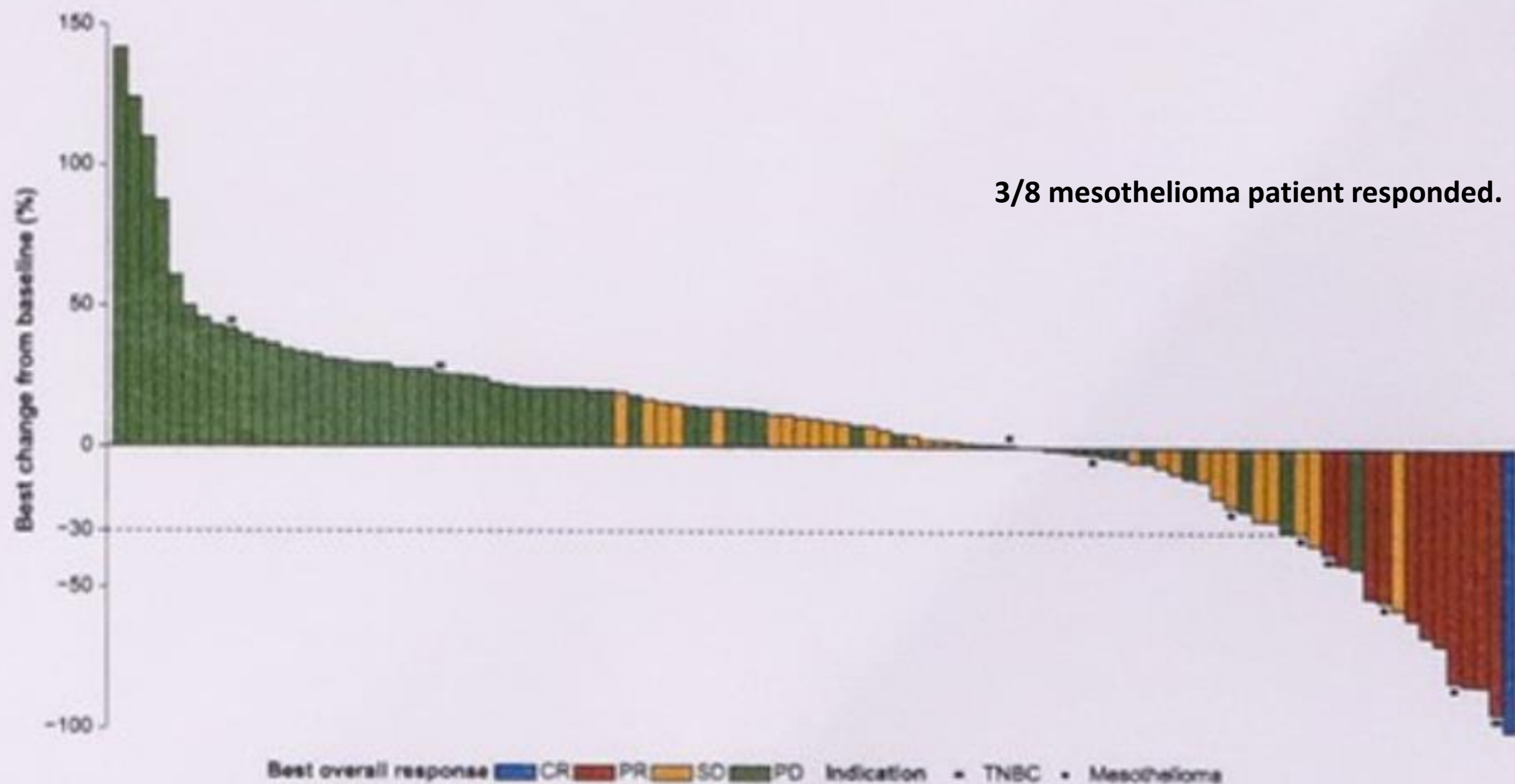
3. Calabro L, et al. J Cell Physiol 2011;226:2595-600.

Study design

LAG525X2101C is an open-label, Phase I/II study of cohorts with single-agent LAG525 or the combination of LAG525 and spartalizumab (NCT02460224, Figure 2).

Figure 2. LAG525X2101C Study Design





3/8 mesothelioma patient responded.

CR, complete response; PD, progressive disease; PR, partial response; SO, stable disease; TNBC, triple-negative breast cancer.
 *The additional PR reported in a patient with mesothelioma after the data cut-off is color coded as SO in this figure. N=101 evaluable; 20 patients (including 2 with mesothelioma and 1 with TNBC) were not evaluable due to postbaseline assessment not yet performed, discontinuation prior to first postbaseline assessment, or missing tumor measurements.

Immune Checkpoints

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3. Calabro L, et al. J Cell Physiol 2011;226:2595-600.

TGF-Beta

- Exposure to chrysotile leads to activation of the MAPK/ERK pathway and thus p38, which in turn leads to increase in TGF-B1 expression and Treg infiltration and immune suppression.¹
- Loss of NF2 or other component of the Hippo pathway is common in mesothelioma which leads to over-expression and activation of TGF-beta 1 receptor and thus mesothelioma formation.^{2, 3}
- In part leads to infiltration of CD8+, CD4+ and FOXP3+/CD4+/CD25+ Treg into the tumour and thus immune suppression.⁴

1. Maeda M et al. Int J Oncol 2014;45:2522-32.
2. Cho JH et al. Mol cancer Ther 2018;17:2271-2284.
3. Fujii M et al. J Exp Med 2012;209:479-94.
4. Hegamns JP et al. Eur Resp J 2006;27:10866-95.

Conclusions

- With further understanding of the mutational and immune landscapes of mesothelioma:
 - Biology
 - Targets
 - Therapeutics.
- Mesothelioma may
 - A collection of different subtypes
 - Novel therapeutics should be moving forward based on biology and efficacy in preclinical models, particularly immune competent mouse models.
 - Novel clinical trial designs with international collaboration will be needed.

Thank you