# Case Studies in Immunotherapy for the Treatment of Breast Cancer

December 1, 2021

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. ET







# Webinar faculty



Jennifer Litton, MD – The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center



Kevin Kalinsky, MD, MS– Winship Cancer Insitute, Emory University



**Heather McArthur, MD, MPH** – *UT Southwestern* 

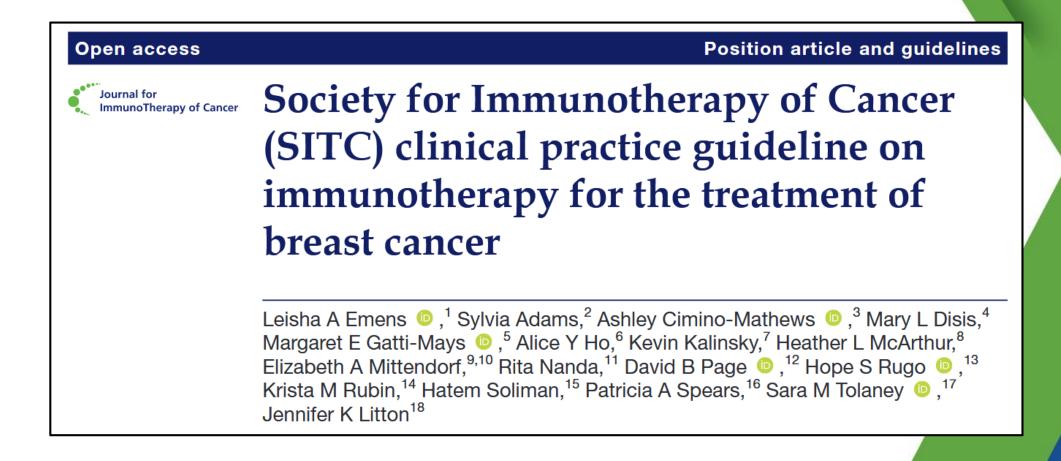
# Learning objectives

- Plan immunotherapy treatment regimens for challenging patient populations
- Select appropriate treatment strategies for patients with early and metastatic triple negative breast cancer
- Identify management strategies for uncommon and/or atypically responsive toxicities

## Webinar outline

- Development of the guideline
- Toxicity timeframes
  - How IO differs from chemo
- Case 1: Neoadjuvant therapy- Dr. Kevin Kalinsky
- Case 2: First-line metastatic Dr. Heather MacArthur
- Key takeaways

# Development of the Guideline



# Development of the Guideline

- Developed according to the Institute of Medicine's Standards for Developing Trustworthy Clinical Practice Guidelines
- Panel consisted of 17 experts in the field
- Recommendations are based upon published literature evidence, or clinical evidence where appropriate
- Consensus was defined at 75% approval among voting members

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# Toxicities Associated With Immune Checkpoint Inhibitors

Chemotherapy Imi

**Immunotherapy** 

**Incidence (moderate/severe AEs)** 

Almost all patients

**Majority without** 

**AE profile** 

Well described

**Variable** 

Affected systems/organs

Few organs affected

**Any organ** 

Time course

Well established

Variable (even after end of Tx)

**Predictable** 

Relatively unpredictable



# Organs/Systems Affected by Immune-Related Side Effects

Blood:

Haemolytic Anaemia

**Thromocytopenia** 

Neutropenia

Haemophilia



- Hyper/Hypothyroidism
- **Hypophysitis**
- Adrenal insufficiency
- **Diabetes**

#### Respiratory:

- Pneumonitis
- **Pleuritis**
- Sarcoid

#### Liver:

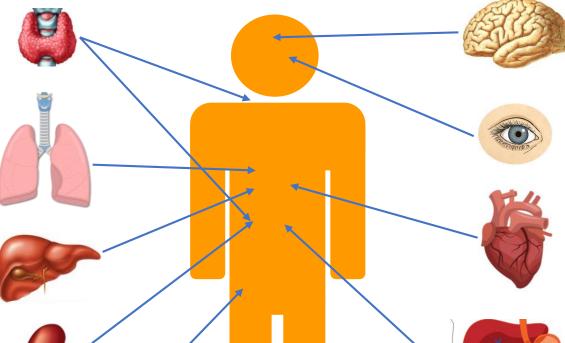
- Hepatitis

#### Renal:

- Nephritis

#### Musculoskeletal:

- **Dermatomyositis**



#### **Neurologic:**

- Meningitis/Encephalitis
- **Guillain Barre**
- Myelopathy/neuropathy
- Myasthenia

#### Eye:

- **Uveitis/Scleritis**
- Conjunctivitis/Blepharitis
- Retinitis

#### Cardiovascular:

- **Myocarditis**
- **Pericarditis**
- **Vasculitis**

#### **Gastrointestinal:**

- **Colitis**
- **Ileitis**
- **Pancreatitis**
- Gastritis

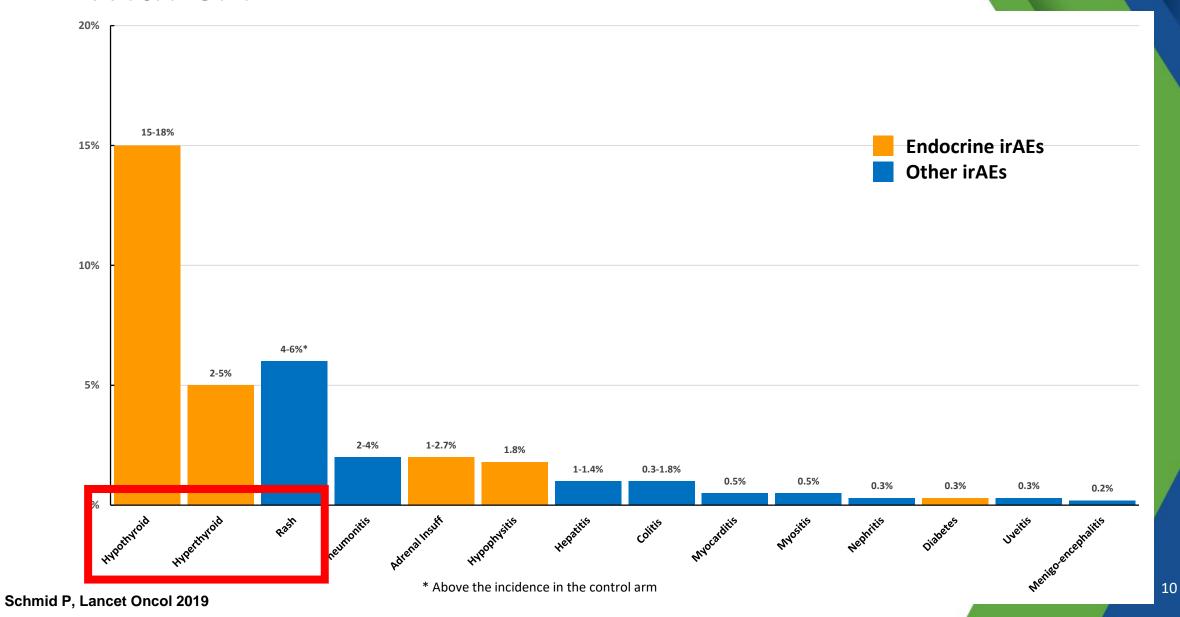
**Arthritis** 

Rash/Pruritus

Skin:

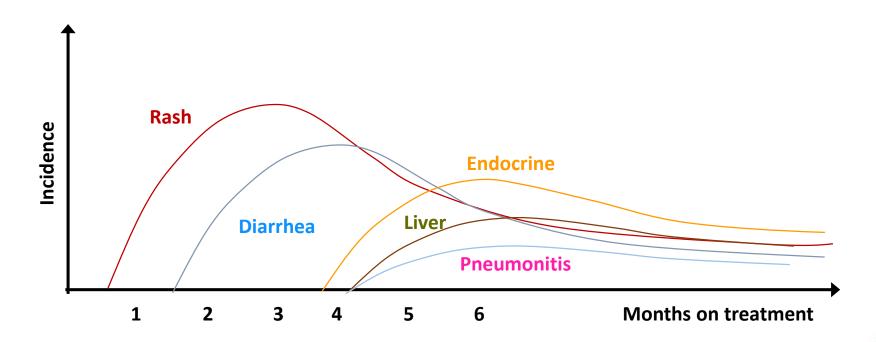
- **Psoriasis**
- Vitiligo
- **Stevens Johnston**

# Immune-Related AEs in Phase 3 TNBC Trials With CPI

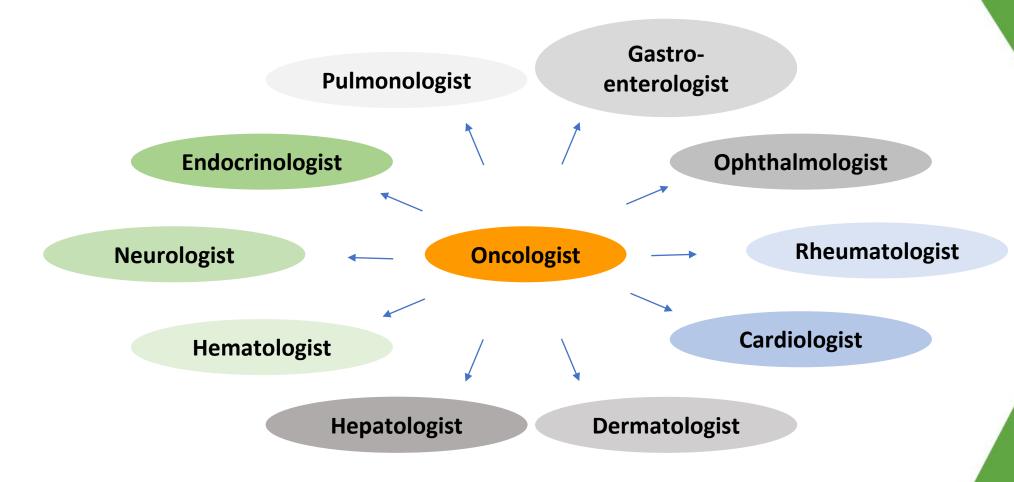


# Toxicities With Immune Checkpoint Inhibitors

- Timing can be highly variable
- irAE can occur months or even a year after the end of treatment
- Time course might be even more variable with novel combinations



# Multidisciplinary Management Coordinated by Oncologist





#### Open access

#### Position article and guidelines



# Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer (SITC) clinical practice guideline on immune checkpoint inhibitor-related adverse events

Julie R Brahmer, Hamzah Abu-Sbeih, Paolo Antonio Ascierto , Jill Brufsky, Laura C Cappelli, Frank B Cortazar, David E Gerber, Lamya Hamad, Eric Hansen, Douglas B Johnson, Mario E Lacouture, Gregory A Masters, Jarushka Naidoo, Michele Nanni, Miguel-Angel Perales, Igor Puzanov, Bianca D Santomasso, Satish P Shanbhag, Rajeev Sharma, Dimitra Skondra, Jeffrey A Sosman, Michelle Turner, Marc S Ernstoff

## Webinar outline

- Development of the guideline
- Toxicity timeframes
- Case 1: Neoadjuvant therapy
- Case 2: First-line metastatic
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# Case 1: Neoadjuvant therapy

- 44 year old woman presents with a newly diagnosed cT2N1 TNBC.
- She currently is a surgical candidate.
- What do you recommend next?

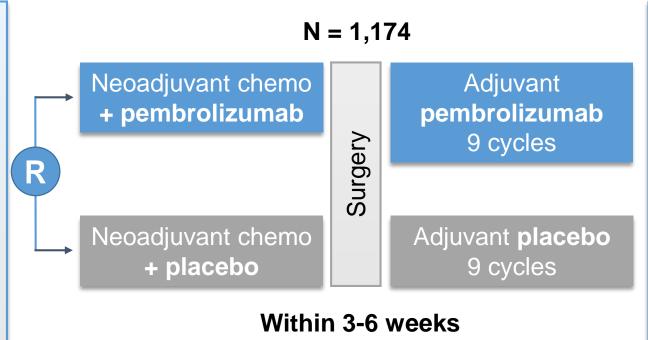
# Neoadjuvant Studies: KEYNOTE-522

#### **Eligibility**

- Newly diagnosed TNBC (central confirmation)
- T1c N+ or T≥2 N0-2
- PD-L1+ or PD-L1-

#### **Stratification**

- T1/T2 vs T3/T4
- N0 vs N+
- Carboplatin Q1W vs Q3W



#### **Primary endpoints**

- pCR rate (ypT0/Tis ypN0)
- EFS

#### **Secondary endpoints**

- Alternative pCR rate (ypT0 ypN0)
- pCR rate in PD-L1+
- EFS in PD-L1+
- OS

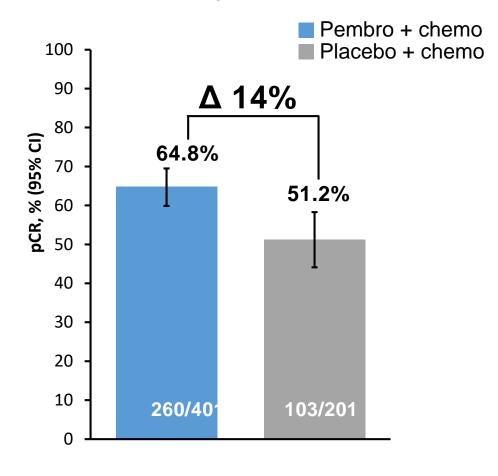
#### **Study Treatment**



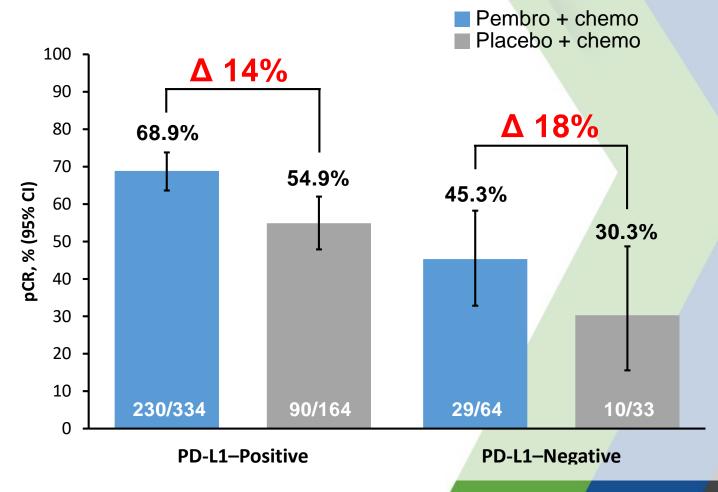
Paclitaxel 80 mg/m² IV weekly
Carboplatin weekly (AUC 1.5) or Q3W (AUC5)
Doxorubicin 60 mg/m² IV Q3W
(Epirubicin 90 mg/m² IV Q3W)
Cyclophosphamide 600 mg/m² IV Q3W
Pembrolizumab 200 mg IV Q3W

# KEYNOTE-522: pCR at IA1<sup>1</sup>

#### **Primary Endpoint**

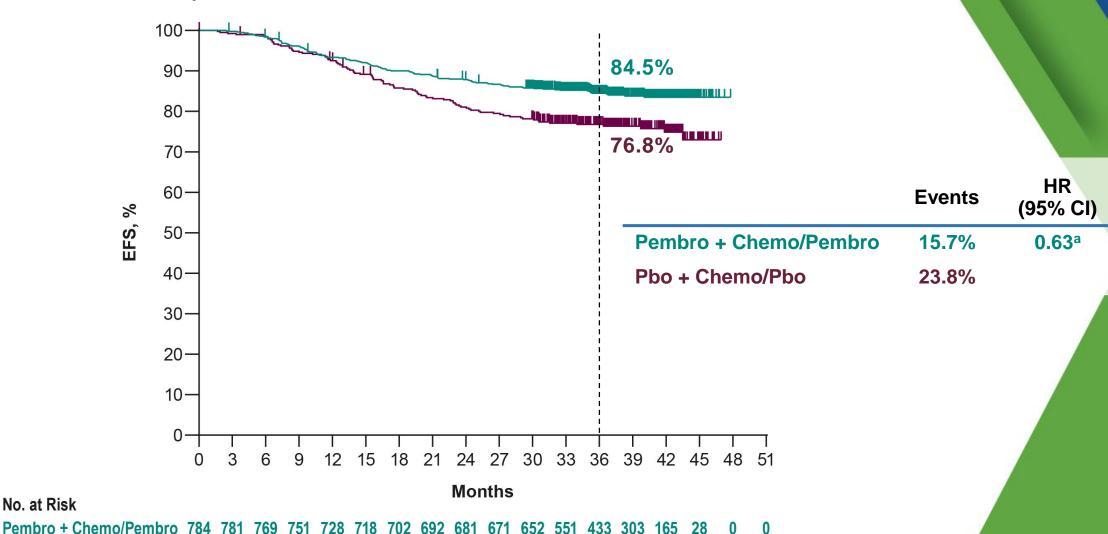


#### By PD-L1 Status



# EFS update at IA4 (39.1mo)

390 386 382 368 358 342 328 319 310 304 297 250 195 140 83



P-value

0.00031b

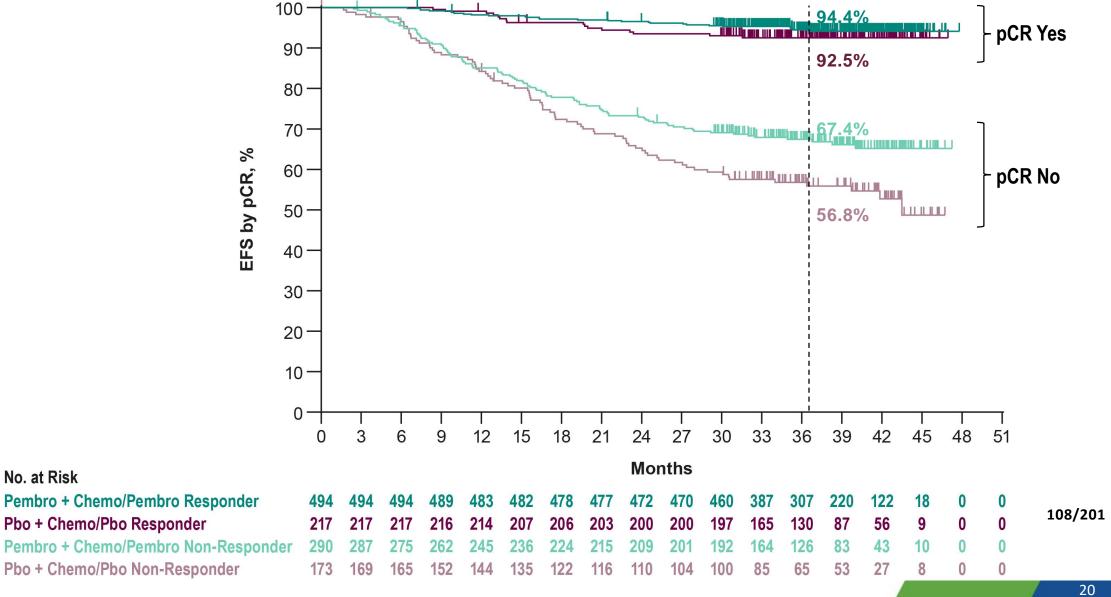
No. at Risk

Pbo + Chemo/Pbo

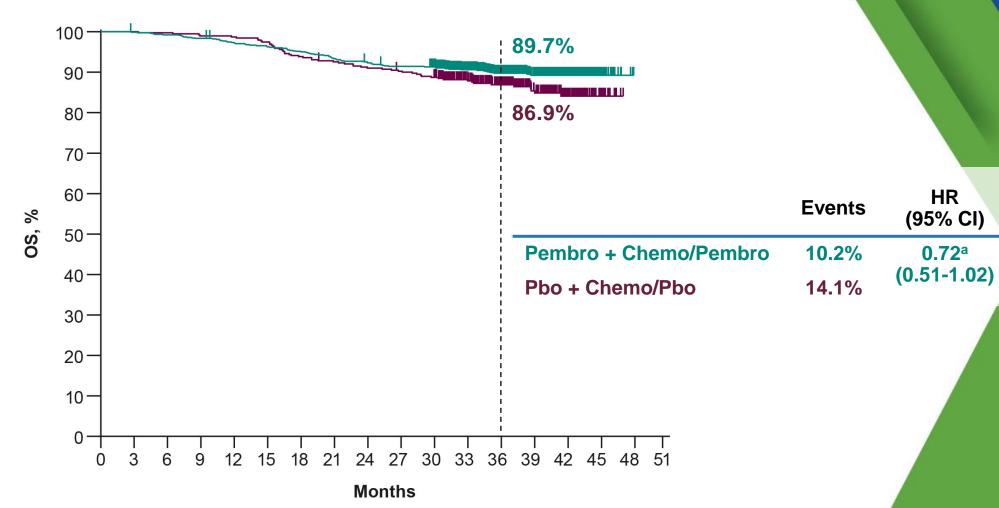
# Summary of First EFS Events by Category

	All Subjects, N = 1174	
Event	Pembro + Chemo/Pembro N = 784	Pbo + Chemo/Pbo N = 390
Any EFS event	123 (15.7%)	93 (23.8%)
Progression of disease that precludes definitive surgery	14 (1.8%)	15 (3.8%)
Local recurrence <sup>a</sup>	28 (3.6%)	17 (4.4%)
Distant recurrence	60 (7.7%)	51 (13.1%)
Secondary primary malignancy <sup>b</sup>	6 (0.8%)	4 (1.0%)
Death	15 (1.9%)	6 (1.5%)

# EFS by pCR (ypT0/Tis ypN0)



## Overall Survival



No. at Risk

Pembro + Chemo/Pembro 784 782 777 770 759 752 742 729 720 712 701 586 461 323 178 30 0 0 Pbo + Chemo/Pbo 390 389 386 385 380 366 360 354 350 343 286 223 157 89 17 0 0

P-value

0.03214

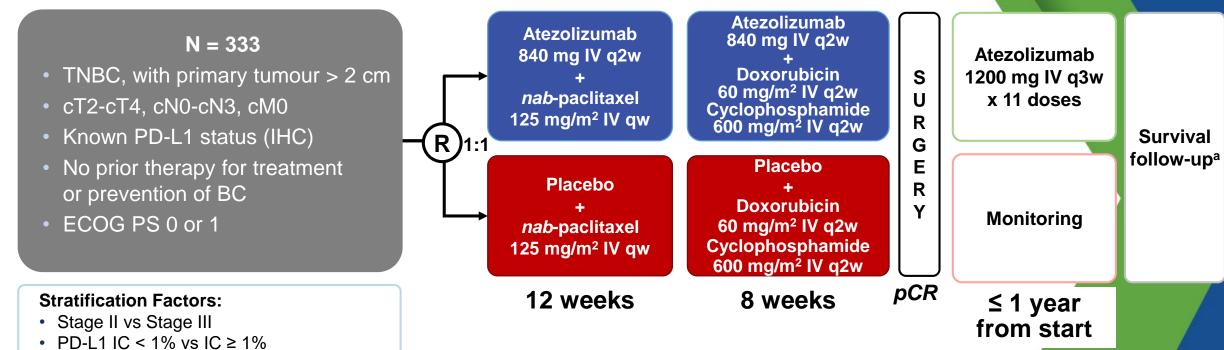
# FDA-Approval<sup>1</sup>

 On July 27, 2021, the FDA approved pembrolizumab for highrisk early-stage TNBC with chemotherapy as neoadjuvant treatment and then continued as a single agent as adjuvant treatment after surgery

 Based on KEYNOTE-522, the indication for palliative pembrolizumab was converted from accelerated to full approval

# IMpassion031: Phase III atezolizumab neoadjuvant study in eTNBC

A randomized, multicenter, international, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial

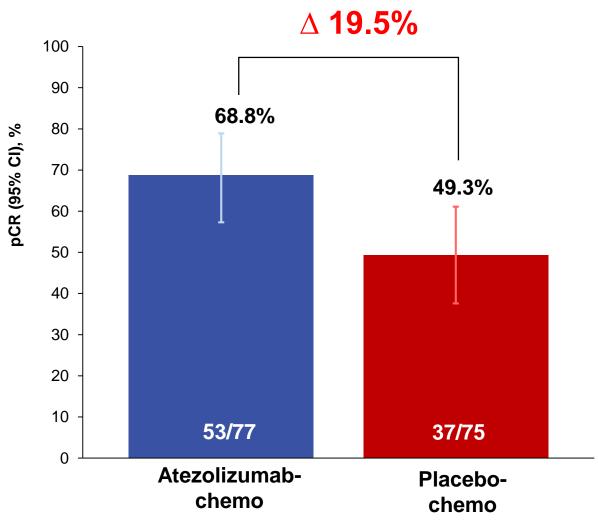


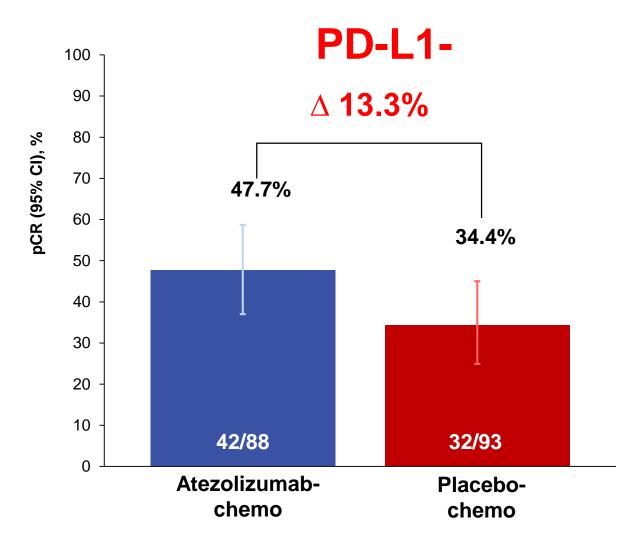
**Co-primary endpoints:** Pathologic complete response (pCR, ypT0/is ypN0) in ITT and PD-L1–positive (IC ≥ 1%) subpopulation

Secondary endpoints: EFS, DFS, and OS in ITT and in PD-L1-positive subpopulation, safety, PROs

# Co-primary endpoint pCR by PD-L1 status







Harbeck et al ESMO 2020 Mittendorf et al. 2020 Oct 10;396(10257):1090-1100.

# Adjuvant Studies: IMpassion030

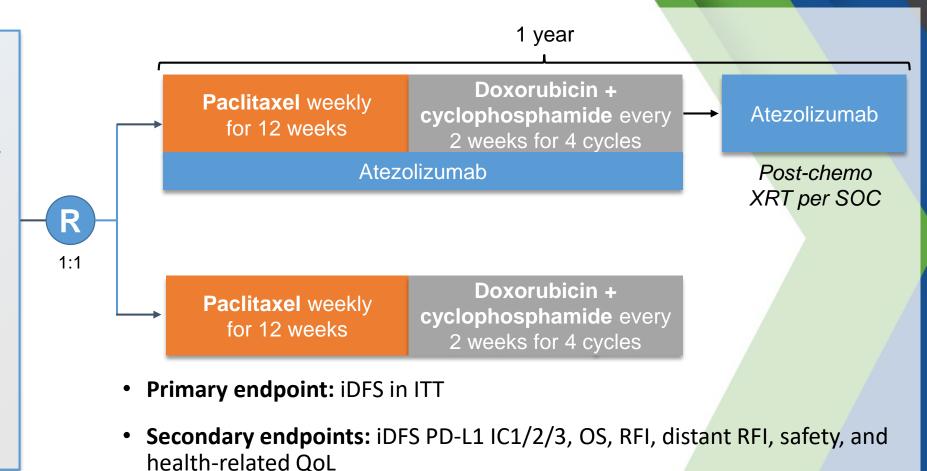
#### **Eligibility**

 Adequately excised primary invasive TNBC (stage II/III)
 50:50 node negative/positive enriched population

#### **Stratification**

- Axillary nodal status
   (0 vs 1-3 vs ≥4 positive
   lymph nodes)
- Surgery (breast conserving vs mastectomy)
- PD-L1 IC0 vs IC1/2/3

N = 2,300



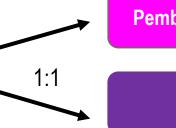
25

### Post NAC Residual Disease: SWOG 1418

TNBC with ≥ 1 cm residual invasive breast cancer or any +

LN after neoadjuvant chemotherapy

N=100



Pembrolizumab 200 mg IV q 3 weeks x 1y

**Observation** 

- Registration:
  - Central PD-L1 testing
- Stratification:
  - Nodal stage ypNo vs ypN+
  - Residual tumor ≥2 vs < 2cm</li>
  - PD-L1 pos vs neg
  - Prior adjuvant chemo yes vs no

- Hypothesis:
  - Pembrolizumab reduces IDFS by 33% c/w observation alone
- Primary Endpoint:
  - Invasive DFS in PD-L1-positive and overall cohort
- Secondary Endpoints:
  - Toxicity
  - OS
  - DRFS
  - QOL (PROMIS, PRO-CTCAE forms, inflammatory markers)
  - Tissue banking

# Case 1, continued

- She receives neoadjuvant pembrolizumab + paclitaxel x 12 cycles followed by ddAC
- Post treatment- reveals a pCR
- Post-operatively, she develops confusion and is unable to answer questions appropriately.
- A brain MRI is unremarkable?
- What are your next steps?

# Case 1, continued

- CMP, cortisol, ACTH, FSH, LH, TSH, T4
- Morning serum cortisol = 1.8 mcg/dL (Normal 10–20 mcg/dL)
- Plasma ACTH = 21 pg/mL (Normal 20–52 pg/mL)
- Very low cortisol, low-to-normal ACTH
- DS is diagnosed with secondary adrenal insufficiency (hypophysitis) and receives hydrocortisone indefinitely

# Primary adrenal insufficiency

- Evaluate morning cortisol and ACTH levels
- Comprehensive metabolic panel (Na, K, CO<sup>2</sup>, glucose)

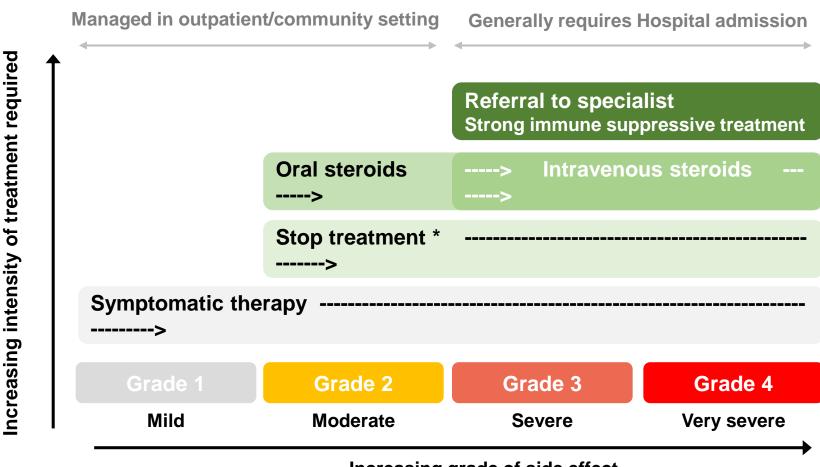
#### Evaluate

- Morning cortisol and ACTH
- FSH, LH, TSH, free T4, testosterone in men, estrogen in premenopausal women
- MRI brain ± contrast with pituitary/sellar cuts, if symptomatic

**Hypophysitis** 



- Majority of irAEs are mild to moderate
- Severity can be asymptomatic to life-threatening; prompt recognition is crucial
- Most reversible with steroids; some require discontinuation of therapy
- Important to educate care team, patient, and caregivers on signs and symptoms of irAEs



Steroids (PO/IV): 1-2 mg/kg/d prednisone or equivalent, slow taper over 4-6/52

\* For some AEs, treatment can be restarted after resolution (e.g. rash); CPI generally continued with endocrinopathies once managed

Increasing grade of side effect

## Webinar outline

- Development of the guideline
- Toxicity timeframes
- Case 1: Neoadjuvant therapy
- Case 2: First-line metastatic
- Key takeaways

## Case 2: First-line metastatic

- 41 year old woman with a BRCA1 mutation was treated with ddAC and weekly paclitaxel 2 years ago for an early stage TNBC
- She now presents with new cough and CT chest identifies multiple new lung nodules
- Biopsy of a 1.5 cm RLL nodule is consistent with metastatic TNBC
- What should you do next?

## Case 2: First-line metastatic, continued

- You check PD-L1 status
  - What should you check?

# IMpassion130

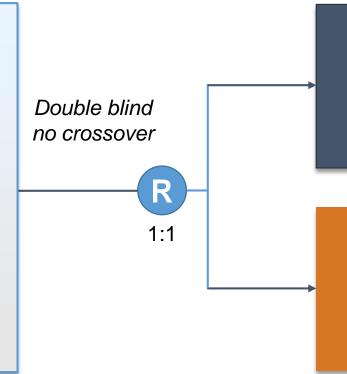
IMpassion130 (NCT02425891): A Global, Randomized, Double-Blind, Phase 3 Study of Atezolizumab + Nab-Paclitaxel vs Placebo + Nab-Paclitaxel in Treatment-Naïve Locally Advanced or Metastatic TNBC

- Previously untreated metastatic or inoperable locally advanced TNBC<sup>a</sup>
- ECOG PS 0-1

#### **Stratification**

- Prior taxane use
- Liver metastases
- PD-L1 on IC<sup>b</sup>

N = 902

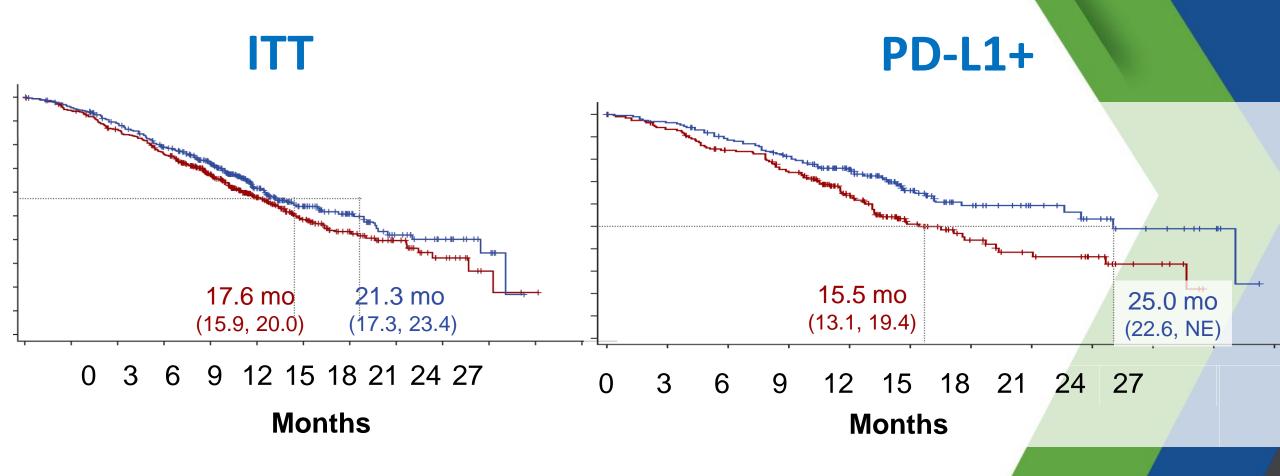


Atezolizumab 840 mg IV on d 1 and 15
+ nab-P 100 mg/m² IV on d 1, 8, and 15
of 28-d cycle until RECIST v1.1 PD
ITT population: n = 451
PD-L1 IC+ patients: n = 185 (41%)

Placebo 840 mg IV on d 1 and 15
+ nab-P 100 mg/m² IV on d 1, 8, and 15
of 28-d cycle until RECIST v1.1 PD
ITT population: n = 451
PD-L1 IC+ patients: n = 184 (41%)

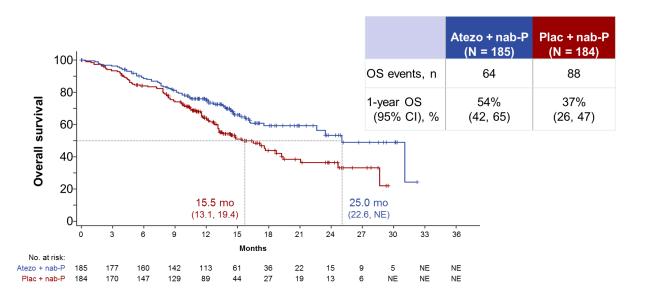
- Co-primary endpoints: PFS and OS in the ITT and PD-L1 populations
- Key secondary endpoints: ORR, DOR, and safety

# Interim OS Analysis

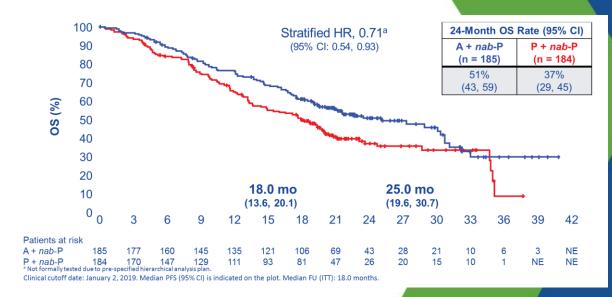


# IMpassion 130: Overall Survival

#### Interim OS in PD-L1+ Group



#### **ASCO 2019 OS Update**



Schmid P, et al. *NEJM* 2018;379:2108-2121 Schmid P, et al. ASCO 2019

# FDA-Approval

 On 3/8/19, the FDA granted accelerated approval to atezolizumab in combination with protein-bound paclitaxel for patients with unresectable locally advanced or metastatic TNBC whose tumors express PD-L1 (PD-L1 stained tumorinfiltrating immune cells [IC] of any intensity covering ≥1% of the tumor area), as determined by an FDA-approved test.

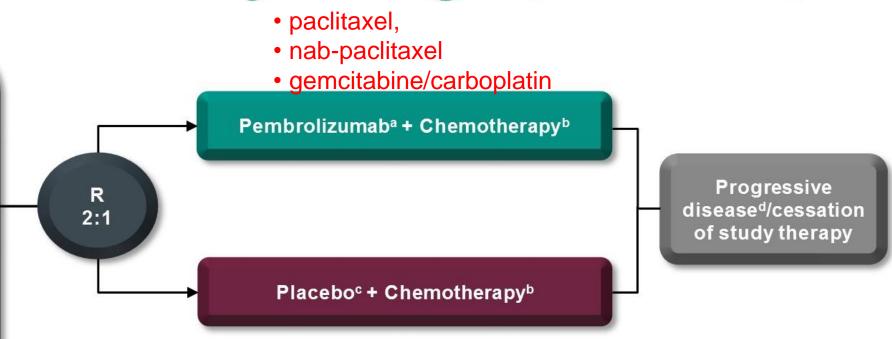
# FDA-Approval

- On 08/27/21, Roche withdrew the indication for atezolizumab for mTNBC
- Continued approval was contingent upon IMpassion131 trial meeting the primary PFS end point
- A potential alternative pre-market requirement is being explored

# KEYNOTE-355 Study Design (NCT02819518)

#### **Key Eligibility Criteria**

- Age ≥18 years
- Central determination of TNBC and PD-L1 expression
- Previously untreated locally recurrent inoperable or metastatic TNBC
- Completion of treatment with curative intent ≥6 months prior to first disease recurrence
- · ECOG performance status 0 or 1
- Life expectancy ≥12 weeks from randomization
- Adequate organ function
- No systemic steroids
- No active CNS metastases
- · No active autoimmune disease



#### **Stratification Factors:**

- Chemotherapy on study (taxane vs gemcitabine/carboplatin)
- PD-L1 tumor expression (CPS ≥1 vs CPS <1)</li>
- Prior treatment with same class chemotherapy in the neoadjuvant or adjuvant setting (yes vs no)

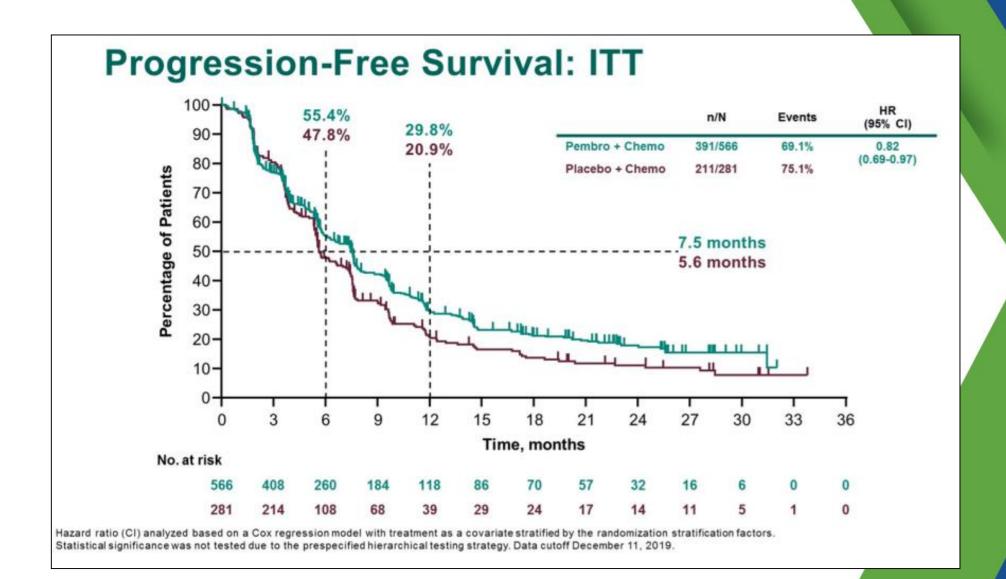
# **Baseline Characteristics, ITT**

Characteristic, n (%)	All Subjects, N = 847	
	Pembro + Chemo N = 566	Placebo + Chemo N = 281
Age, median (range), yrs	53 (25-85)	53 (22-77)
ECOG PS 1	232 (41.0)	108 (38.4)
PD-L1–positive CPS ≥1	425 (75.1)	211 (75.1)
PD-L1–positive CPS ≥10	220 (38.9)	103 (36.7)
Chemotherapy on study		
Taxane	255 (45.1)	127 (45.2)
Gemcitabine/Carboplatin	311 (54.9)	154 (54.8)
Prior same-class chemotherapy		
Yes	124 (21.9)	62 (22.1)
No	442 (78.1)	219 (77.9)
Disease-free interval		
de novo metastasis	167 (29.5)	84 (29.9)
<12 months	126 (22.3)	50 (17.8)
≥12 months	270 (47.7)	147 (52.3)

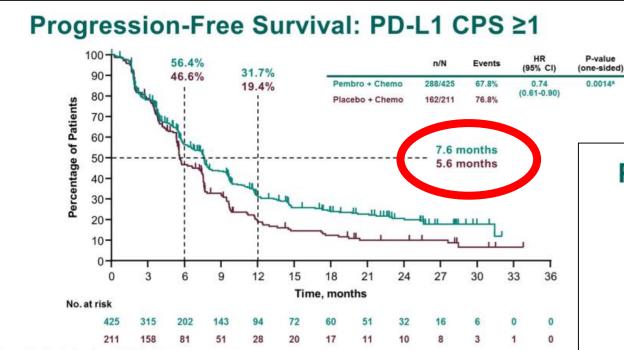
Baseline Characteristics, ITT

Data cutoff date: December 11, 2019.

# KEYNOTE-355: PFS

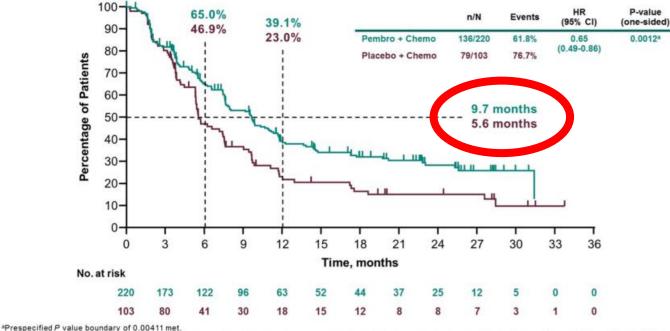


# KEYNOTE-355: PFS



Hazard ratio (CI) analyzed based on a Cox regression model with treatment as a covariate stratified by the randomization stratification factors. Data cutoff Decemb

#### Progression-Free Survival: PD-L1 CPS ≥10



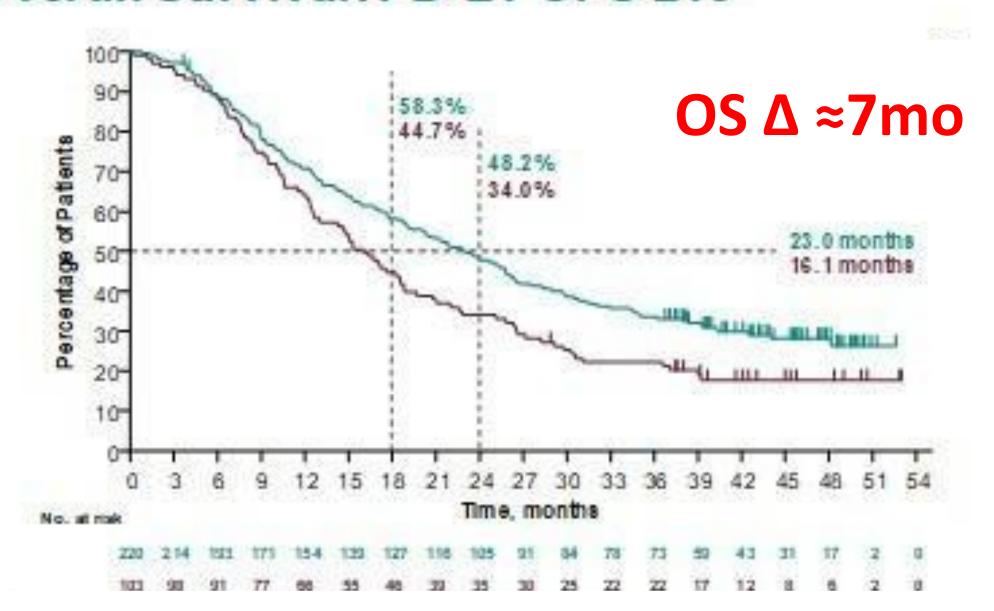
Hazard ratio (CI) analyzed based on a Cox regression model with treatment as a covariate stratified by the randomization stratification factors. Data cutoff December 11, 2019.

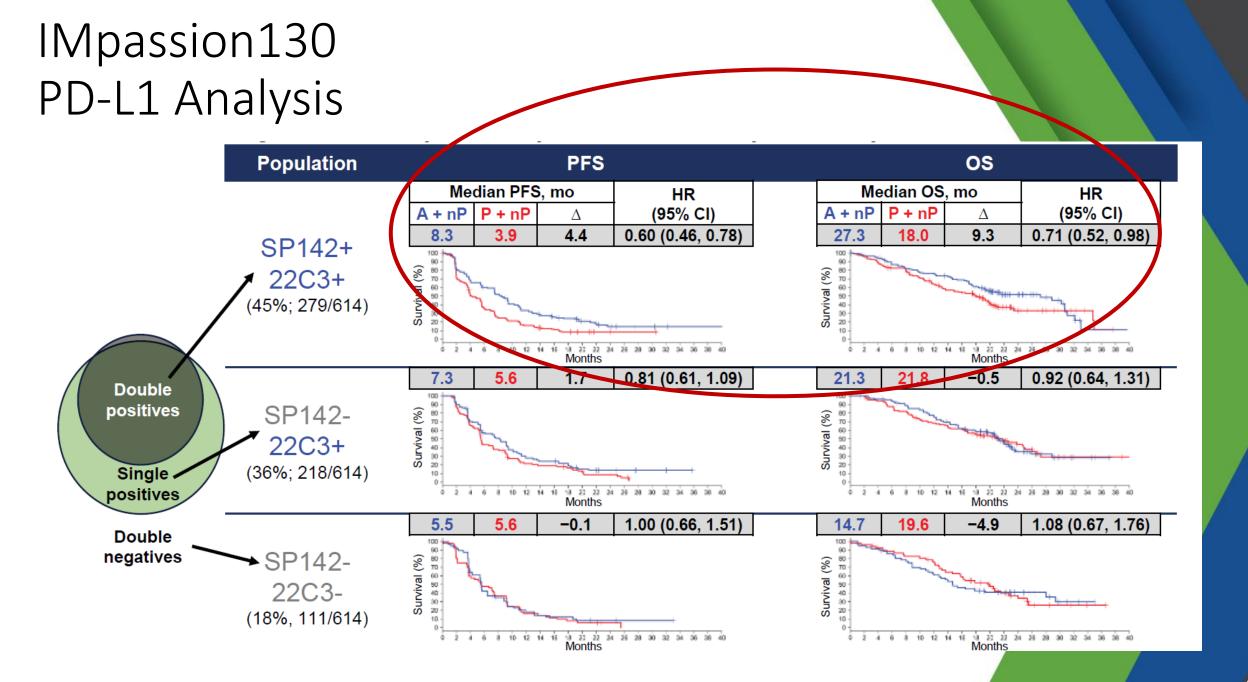
\*Prespecified P value boundary of 0.00111 not met

# FDA-Approval<sup>1</sup>

 On 11/13/20, the FDA granted accelerated approval to pembrolizumab in combination with chemotherapy for patients with unresectable or metastatic TNBC whose tumors express PD-L1 (CPS ≥10) as determined by an FDA-approved test.

## Overall Survival: PD-L1 CPS ≥10





Rugo H, et al. ESMO 2019. Abs LBA20.

# Which PD-L1 Assay Should I Use?

Atezolizumab<sup>[a]</sup> SP142 Pembroluzimab<sup>[b]</sup>

TMB > 10 MSI-H/dMMR CPS\* score >10

\* Combined Positive Score =  $\frac{\text{# of PD-L1+ staining cells (tumor cells, lymphocytes, macrophages}}{\text{total number of viable tumor cells}} x 100$ 

a. Atezolizumab [PI]. Approved 2016. Revised March 2019; b. Pembroluzumab [PI]. Approved 2014. Revised November 2020.

## Case 2: First-line metastatic- continued

• She has a mild rash and call your office to get instructions



- 1.
- 2. Antihistamines
- 3. Topical steroids

4.

Paclitaxel +

anti-PD/PD-L1



After 3 weeks patient presents with G1 rash

What would you do? 2. Antihistamines 4. Oral steroids

2 days later rash deteriorated to G3

Patient with good PR until 06/2019

What to do now?

1. Restart CPI

9

Rash completely resolves after 1 week

03/2018

Metastatic TNBC with lung & LN metastases

#### 63 y/o woman

#### Patient presenting with new rash several weeks after starting on CPI



Advice was given

### to observe

#### 4 weeks later



#### What to do?

- Observe
- Topical steroids Oral steroids











# Key Takeaways

• Immunotherapy has improved pCR and long term outcomes in early stage TNBC and should be considered.

 For metastatic TNBC – using as early as possible has shown improvement in PFS and OS

- Immunotoxicity patterns are different in many cases from standard expected chemotherapy toxicities.
  - Have a low threshold for evaluation as they can escalate quickly.



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https://www.sitcancer.org/CPG-webinars

# Practical Management Pearls for Immunotherapy for the Treatment of Hepatocellular Carcinoma

December 6, 2021, 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. ET

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# Thank you for attending the webinar!

Questions or comments: connectED@sitcancer.org





