

## Immunotherapy for The Treatment of Hematologic Malignancies

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Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer



## Disclosures

- Novartis AG, Contracted Research
- I will be discussing non-FDA approved treatments during my presentation.



ACCC





## Objectives

- Familiarize with clinical data on the efficacy and mechanism of action of approved therapies
- Recognize patient selection criteria for approved therapies
- Select appropriate dosing and sequencing of approved therapies





## Immunotherapy in Heme Malignancies

- Antibody Therapies
  - "naked" antibodies
  - Antibodies with payload
  - Bispecific antibodies
- Cell-based Therapies
  - Allogeneic Stem cell Transplantation
  - CART Cells
  - EBV-CTLs
- Vaccines

- IMiDS
  - Thalidomide
  - Lenalidomide
  - Pomalidomide
- Checkpoint Inhibitors
- Targeted Agents
  - Ibrutinib
  - Ruxolitinib









## Recently Approved Therapies

- NHL/CLL
  - Obinutuzumab
  - Ibrutinib
- Myeloma
  - Daratumumab
- ALL
  - Blinatumumab
- Hodgkin Lymphoma
  - Nivolumab
  - Pembrolizumab







### ADVANCES IN Cancer

## Daratumumab

- CD38 is highly and ubiquitously expressed on myeloma cells<sup>1,2</sup>
- DARA is a human IgG1 monoclonal antibody that binds CD38-expressing cells
- DARA binding to CD38 induces tumor cell death through direct and indirect mechanisms<sup>3-5</sup>





 DARA was approved by the FDA on November 16, 2015, based on these studies





## **Clinical Safety**

Treatment-emergent adverse event, n (%)	Any grade N = 148	Grade ≥3 N = 148
Fatigue	61 (41)	3 (2)
Nausea	42 (28)	0
Anemia	41 (28)	26 (18)
Back pain	36 (24)	3 (2)
Cough	33 (22)	0
Neutropenia	30 (20)	15 (10)
Thrombocytopenia	30 (20)	21 (14)
Upper respiratory tract infection	30 (20)	1 (<1)

- AEs were consistent with the individual GEN501 and SIRIUS studies; no new safety signals were identified
- 48% of patients had infusion-related reactions
  - 46%, 4%, and 3% occurred during the first, second, and subsequent infusions, respectively ACCC





# ADVANCES IN Cancer Efficacy in Combined Analysis



- ORR = 31%
- ORR was consistent in subgroups including age, number of prior lines of therapy, refractory status, or renal function

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Adapted from: Nagorsen D et al; Blood 2009; 114: 2723







## **TOWER in B-ALL: Overall Survival**



Kantarjian H et al. N Engl J Med 2017;376:836-847



## Best Hematologic Response Within 12 Weeks after Treatment Initiation

Table 2. Best Hematologic Response Within 12 Weeks after Treatment Initiation.*						
Response Category	Blinatumomab Group (N = 271)Chemotherapy Group (N = 134)		notherapy Group (N = 134)	Treatment Difference (95% CI)	P Value∵	
	no.	% (95% CI)	no.	% (95% CI)	percentage points	
Complete remission with full hemato- logic recovery	91	33.6 (28.0–39.5)	21	15.7 (10.0–23.0)	17.9 (9.6–26.2)	<0.001
Complete remission with full, partial, or incomplete hematologic recovery	119	43.9 (37.9–50.0)	33	24.6 (17.6–32.8)	19.3 (9.9–28.7)	<0.001
Complete remission with partial hema- tologic recovery	24	8.9 (5.8–12.9)	6	4.5 (1.7–9.5)		
Complete remission with incomplete hematologic recovery	4	1.5 (0.4–3.7)	6	4.5 (1.7–9.5)		

\* Data are summarized for all patients who underwent randomization (intention-to-treat population). Complete remission was defined as 5% or less bone marrow blasts and no evidence of disease and was further characterized according to the extent of recovery of peripheral blood counts as follows: complete remission with full recovery (platelet count of >100,000 per microliter and absolute neutrophil count of >1000 per microliter), complete remission with partial recovery (platelet count of >50,000 per microliter and absolute neutrophil count of >500 per microliter), or complete remission with incomplete recovery (platelet count of >100,000 per microliter or absolute neutrophil count of >1000 per microliter).

† Rates were compared with the use of a Cochran–Mantel–Haenszel test, with adjustment for the following stratification factors: age (<35 vs. ≥35 years), previous salvage therapy (yes vs. no), and previous allogeneic stem-cell transplantation (yes vs. no).



## **Adverse Events**

Table 3. Adverse Events.*		
Event	Blinatumomab Group (N=267)	Chemotherapy Group (N=109)
	no. of patie	nts (%)
Any adverse event	263 (98.5)	108 (99.1)
Event leading to premature discontinuation of trial treatment	33 (12.4)	9 (8.3)
Serious adverse event	165 (61.8)	49 (45.0)
Fatal serious adverse event	51 (19.1)	19 (17.4)
Any adverse event of grade ≥3	231 (86.5)	100 (91.7)
Grade ≥3 adverse event of interest reported in at least 3% of patients in either group		
Neutropenia	101 (37.8)	63 (57.8)
Infection	91 (34.1)	57 (52.3)
Elevated liver enzyme	34 (12.7)	16 (14.7)
Neurologic event	25 (9.4)	9 (8.3)
Cytokine release syndrome	13 (4.9)	0
Infusion reaction	9 (3.4)	1 (0.9)
Lymphopenia	4 (1.5)	4 (3.7)
Any decrease in platelet count	17 (6.4)	13 (11.9)
Any decrease in white-cell count	14 (5.2)	6 (5.5)

\* Data are summarized for all patients who received at least one dose of trial treatment.



## Chimeric Antigen Receptor T-cells



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#### **ZUMA-1: Patient Characteristics**

Characteristic	DLBCL (n=73)	TFL/PMBCL (n=20)	All Patients (n=93)
Median age (range), years Age ≥60 years, n (%)	59 (25-76) 36 (49)	58 (28-76) 9 (45)	59 (25-76) 45 (48)
Male, n (%)	47 (64)	15 (75)	62 (67)
ECOG performance status 1, n (%)	48 (66)	8 (40)	56 (60)
Median number of prior therapies (#)	3 (1-7)	4 (2-12)	3 (1-12)
IPI 3-4, n (%)	32 (44)	9 (45)	41 (44)
Disease stage III/IV, n (%)	64 (88)	15 (75)	79 (85)
Refractory subgroup, n (%)* Refractory to 2 <sup>nd</sup> or later-line therapy Relapse post-ASCT	56 (77) 15 (21)	16 <mark>(</mark> 80) 4 (20)	72 (77) 19 (20)





Neelapu\_ZUMA-1 P2 LBA ASH 5Dec2016\_Press[1].pdf (SECURED)

#### **Summary of Adverse Events**

Adverse Event, n (%)	Cohort 1 (n=73)	Cohort 2 (n=20)	Total (N=93)
Grade ≥3 adverse event	68 (93)	18 (90)	86 (92)
Grade ≥3 cytokine release syndrome	10 (14)	2 (10)	12 (13)
Grade ≥3 neurologic events (NE)	18 (25)	9 (45)	27 (29)
Fatal events excluding PD	1 (1)	2 (10)	3 (3)
2 of 3 KTE-C19-related			

- CRS and NE were generally reversible
  - All CRS events resolved except 1 cardiac arrest (Cohort 2)
  - 3 NEs ongoing at data-cut (Gr 1 memory impairment, Gr 1 tremor, Gr 2 tremor)
  - 1 patient died due to PD with NE ongoing
  - 38% received tocilizumab, 17% received corticosteroids, 17% received both
- No cases of cerebral edema
- Grade 5 events occurred in 3 patients (3%)
  - KTE-C19-related: HLH (Cohort 1) and cardiac arrest (Cohort 2) in the setting of CRS
  - KTE-C19-unrelated: pulmonary embolism (Cohort 2)





Neelapu\_ZUMA-1 P2 LBA ASH 5Dec2016\_Press[1].pdf (SECURED)

## ZUMA-1 Pivotal Trial Met Primary Endpoint of ORR At the Interim Analysis (P<0.0001)\*

Best Overall Response in Patients with ≥3 Month Follow-up

Subgroup	n	ORR	CR
DLBCL	51	76%*	47%
TFL / PMBCL	11	91%	73%
Total	62	79%	52%

\*P<0.0001 (exact binomial test comparing observed ORR to a historical control assumption of 20%)

- At month 3 assessment the CR rate was 39%
- 7 patients with SD/PR at 1 mo converted to CR at 3 mo
- Complete Response in key subgroups:
  - •75% (n=9/12) CR relapsed post-ASCT
  - •47% (n=23/49) CR refractory to  $\geq 2^{nd}$  line





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#### Patient Case: Ongoing 9+ mo Durable CR in Refractory DLBCL

- 62-yo M with DLBCL
- Prior therapies
  - R-CHOP
  - R-GDP
  - R-ICE
  - R-lenalidomide
- No response to last
  3 lines of therapy



#### Day 90











## Adverse Events in CD19-trageted therapies

- Cytokine release syndrome (CRS)
  - Fever
  - Hypotension
  - Respiratory insufficiency
- Neurological changes
  - Delirium
  - Global encephalopathy
  - Aphasia
  - Seizure-like activities/seizure







## **Immune Checkpoint Inhibition**



## **Response In Hodgkin Lymphoma**

#### B Change in Tumor Burden





## Conclusions

- As new therapies enter the clinic, it is important to understand their emerging toxicity profiles
- Appropriate patient selection is key to safe and effective delivery
- Traditional chemotherapy sensitivity no longer applies to downstream treatment selection
- Limited information on comparative therapy selection and sequencing





## Where to begin?

 <u>http://www.sitcancer.org/research/cancer-</u> <u>immunotherapy-guidelines/hematologic</u>







