## IMMUNE-RELATED ADVERSE EVENTS: A NEW CLINICAL LEARNING CURVE

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## DISCLOSURES

• Scientific Consultant: Incyte, Inc.

## **TOXICITY**

CONSIDERING THE STATUS QUO IN MEDICAL ONCOLOGY

# STANDARDS OF CARE: HEAD AND NECK CANCER

### **PULA HNSCC: CRT**

Gr 3-5 Toxicity	RT alone N=98	CRT N=95
Mucositis	32 (33%)	43 (48%)
Leukopenia	1 (1%)	40 (42%)
Renal	1 (1%)	8 (8%)
Skin	13 (13%)	7 (7%)
All Grade 3-5	51 (52%)	85 (89%)
Toxic Death	2 (2%)	4 (4%)

"Toxicity was greater when chemotherapy was added to radiation....however, quite manageable, especially for a cooperative group setting."

Adelstein DJ et al. J Clin Oncol 2003;21:92-8.

### R/M HNSCC: EXTREME

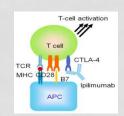
Gr 3-5 Toxicity	PF N=219	PF + Cetux N=215
Cardiac Events	16 (7%)	9 (4%)
Febrile Neutropenia	10 (5%)	10 (5%)
Sepsis	1 (<1%)	9 (4%)
Skin	1 (<1%)	20 (9%)
All Grade 3-5	164 (76%)	179 (82%)
Toxic Death	7 (3.3 %)	3 (1.4%)

"The AE profile in the chemotherapy-alone group was typical...and was not affected by the addition of cetuximab, except...sepsis... skin reactions."

Vermorken J et al. NEJM 2008;359:1116-27.

# IMMUNE-RELATED ADVERSE EVENTS: IPILIMUMAB AND A NEW KIND OF TOXICITY

Immune-related AE (irAE)	Ipilimumab Alone (N=131) Any Grade Grade 3-4		Ipilimumab + gp100 (N=380) Any Grade Grade 3-4			
Any irAE	80 (61%)	19 (14.5%)	221 (58%)	39 (10%)		
Dermatologic	57 (43.5%)	2 (1.5%)	152 (40%)	9 (2%)		
Gastrointestinal	38 (29%)	10 (8%)	122 (32%)	22 (6%)		
Endocrine	10 (8%)	5 (4%)	15 (4%)	4 (1%)		
Hepatic	5 (4%)	0 (0%)	8 (2%)	4 (1%)		
Other	6 (5%)	3 (2%)	12 (3%)	5 (1%)		
Treatment-related deaths	15 (2.1%) across the study; 7(1%) were immune-related					



Hodi FS et al. NEJM 2010; 363(8):711-23.

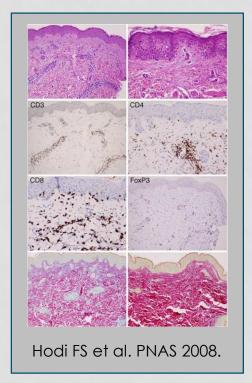
# DERMATOLOGIC ir AEs: MACULOPAPULAR RASH



- > Pruritis
- > Rash



**Physical Examination** 



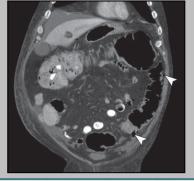
Histology

# GASTROINTESTINAL ir AES: DIARRHEA/COLITIS

### Clinical Presentation

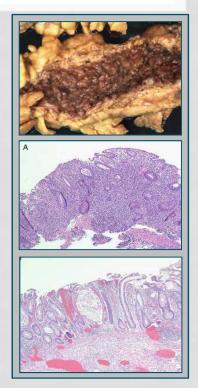
- > Diarrhea
- Abdominal Pain
- Distention
- Peritonitis
- 1. Won Kim K et al. AJR 2013.
- 2. Mitchell KA et al. J Clin Gastroenterol 2013.











**Imaging** 

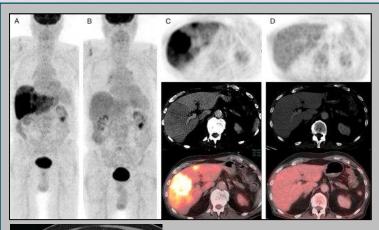
**Endoscopy** 

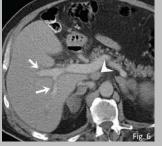
Histology

# GASTROINTESTINAL irAES: HEPATITIS

### Clinical Presentation

- ➤ Elevated LFTs: AST, ALT, TBili
- > RUQ Pain
- > Jaundice





### **Imaging**

- 1. Raad RA et al. Clin Nucl Med 2015.
- 2. Tirumani SH et al. Cancer Immunol Res 2015.



Histology: Panlobar hepatitis

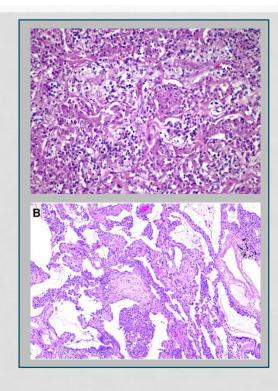
# PULMONARY ir AEs: PNEUMONITIS

#### Clinical Presentation

- Dyspnea
- Cough
- > Hypoxia
- Incidental finding on restaging CT
- 1. Barjaktarevic IZ et al. Chest 2013.
- 2. Berthod G. et al. J Clin Oncol 2012.





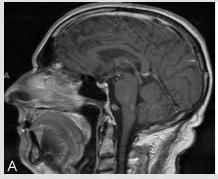


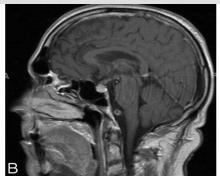
Histology

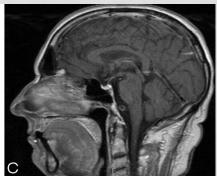
# ENDOCRINE irAEs: HYPOPHYSITIS

#### Clinical Presentation

- > Headache
- Visual disturbance
- Incidental lab findings: low TSH, low cortisol, hyperkalemia, hyponatremia







MRI

Carpenter KJ et al. AJNR 2009; 30:1751-3.

### IrTOXICITY: FIRST-LINE TREATMENT

## Corticosteroids

Prednisone 0.5 – 2 mg/kg/daySlow taper

## IMMUNE-RELATED PATTERN OF RESPONSE: TUMOR FLARE OR PSEUDOPROGRESSION

Courtesy of T Seiwert, MD





### PEMBROLIZUMAB (PD-1 mAB) IN R/M HNSCCC:

PRELIMINARY RESULTS FROM THE KEYNOTE-012 EXPANSION COHORT T. SEIWERT et al, ASCO 2015

AE in ≥5 % of Patients	N = 132* N (%)				
Any	79 (59.8)				
Fatigue	20 (15.2)				
Hypothyroidism	12 (9.1)				
Decreased appetite	10 (7.6)				
Rash	10 (7.6)				
Dry skin	9 (6.8)				
Pyrexia	9 (6.8)				
Arthralgia	7 (5.3)				
Nausea	7 (5.3)				
Weight decreased	7 (5.3)				

Grades 3-5 (≥2 patients)	N = 132* N (%)			
Any	13 (9.8)			
Swelling face	2 (1.5)			
Pneumonitis	2 (1.5)			

### No treatment-related deaths

\*Includes patients who received ≥1 dose of pembrolizumab Data cut off date: March 23, 2015.

# UNIQUE CONSIDERATIONS FOR MULTIMODALITY TRIALS

### **Toxicities from SOC**

- Radiation
  - Mucositis, Dermatitis
  - > Subacute thyroiditis, late hypothyroidism
  - > Lymphopenia
- Chemotherapy
  - Cisplatin
    - Cytopenias
    - Renal toxicity
    - Neuropathy
  - 5-FU
    - Cytopenias
    - Diarrhea
    - Mucositis
- Cetuximab
  - > Acneiform rash
  - Electrolyte wasting

### Grade 3 Cetuximab Skin Toxicity





Bauman JE et al. Arch Dermatol 2007;143(7):889-892.

## A PHASE IB STUDY OF CETUXIMAB, IPILIMUMAB & IMRT IN HIGH OR INTERMEDIATE RISK PULA HNSCC

UPCI 12-084; NCT01935921

	Week of Treatment									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	11	14
IMRT (70 Gy standard fx)		Χ	X	Χ	X	Х	X	Χ		
Cetuximab										
(400/250 mg/m²)	X	Χ	Х	Χ	X	X	X	Χ		
Ipilimumab					Х			Χ	Х	Х
Cohort -1: 1 mg/kg										
Cohort 1 (start): 3 mg/kg										
Cohort 2 (de-escalation										
only): 6 mg/kg										
Cohort 3: 10 mg/kg										
Immune Biomarkers	Х				Х			Χ	Х	Χ

Principal Investigator: Ferris Med Onc Co-Chair: Bauman

CTEP-sponsored

### PRELIMINARY TOXICITY DATA

N=6; IPILIMUMAB 3 mg/kg

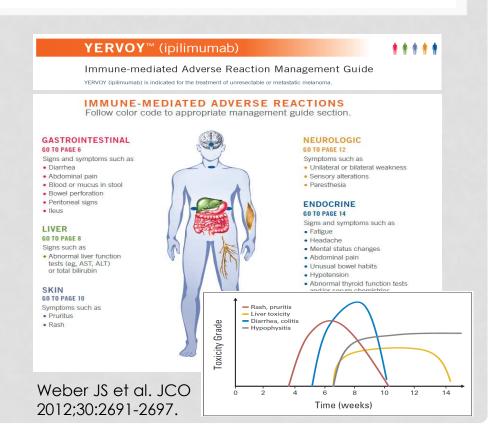
Immune-Related	Grade 1-2	Grade 3-4
Skin Rash	4/6 (67%)	2/6 (17%) <sup>†</sup>
Diarrhea/Colitis	0/6 (0%)	0/6 (0%)
Transaminitis	0/6 (0%)	0/6 (0%)
Regimen-related	Grade 1-2	Grade 3-4
Acute Thyroiditis	1/6 (20%)	0/6 (0%)
Late Hypothyroidism	1/6 (33%)	0/6 (0%)
Acute Radiation Dermatitis	0/6 (0%)	6/6 (100%)

† Dose-Limiting Toxicity: Grade 3 rash

### THE NEW COMFORT ZONE



"It appears to be a side effect of the herbal tea you're drinking."



### **CONCLUSIONS**

- Toxicity to immunotherapy occurs in unique but clinically recognizable patterns
  - Symptoms and signs
  - Kinetics
- Toxicities are responsive to immunosuppression
  - Corticosteroids in first line
- Tools are available to educate clinical investigators
- Combination trials must anticipate new and/or overlapping toxicities with conventional therapies

- True or False:
  - In recurrent or metastatic solid tumors, ipilimumab and other checkpoint inhibitors cause more treatment-related deaths than chemotherapy

- True or False:
  - In recurrent or metastatic solid tumors, ipilimumab and other checkpoint inhibitors cause more treatment-related deaths than chemotherapy
  - > False

- You are evaluating a 52 year old WM with metastatic melanoma, who initiated treatment with ipilimumab 3 mg/kg 3 weeks ago and presents for consideration of dose 2. His past medical history is significant for HTN and diverticulosis. He reports constipation of 3 days duration, left lower quadrant pain (LLQ), and a fever of 99°F. On examination, he is nontoxic with a temperature of 99.4°F. He has moderate tenderness to palpation in the LLQ. No rash or jaundice. You hold ipilimumab and take which of the following clinical steps?
  - Initiate prednisone at 0.5 mg/kg/day
  - Refer for colonoscopy
  - Perform contrasted CT of the abdomen/pelvis
  - Recommend stool softeners and senna

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- You are evaluated a 65 year old AAF with Stage IV adenocarcinoma of the lung, with metastatic disease to the liver, adrenal gland and bone. No history of CNS metastases. She initiated nivolumab 4 months ago, with initial stable disease, and now presents for restaging. Her past medical history is significant for 45 pack-years, HTN, and diverticulosis. She reports a new headache and visual hallucinations. You hold nivolumab and take which of the following clinical steps?
  - Initiate corticosteroids and follow up in one week.
  - Obtain serum TSH and cortisol. Initiate corticosteroids and admit the patient for urgent brain MRI.
  - Refer for EEG and start levetiracetam (Keppra).
  - Increase her fentanyl patch and breakthrough oxycodone, and follow up in one week.

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