



Immunotherapy for the Treatment of Head and Neck Cancers

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Disclosures

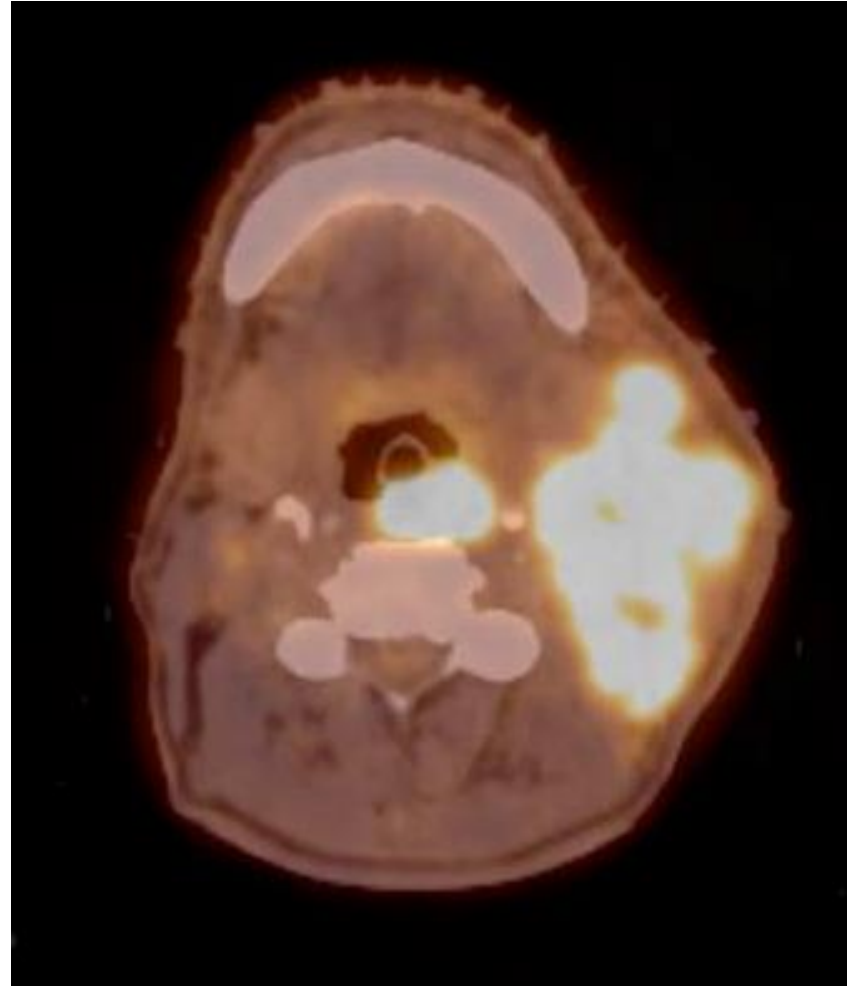
- No relevant financial relationships to disclose

Pt WS

- 78 yo M with a history of CAD, HTN, HLD
- Presents with painful L sided neck mass
- Lost 30 lbs due to anorexia

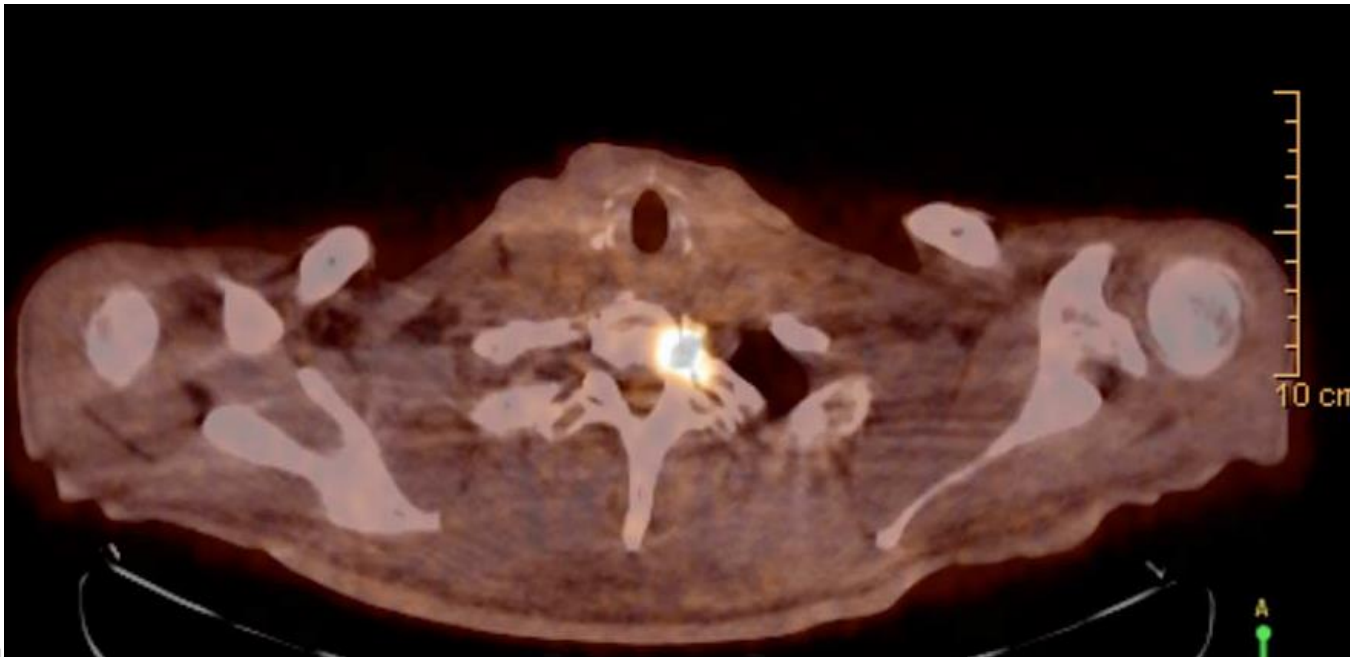
11/2014

- PET CT
 - Large L sided cervical mass
 - Periepiglottic tumor with no airway compromise
 - Multiple cervical osseous metastases
- Palliative hypofractionated XRT initiated



1/2015

- Cervical disease decreased – pain improved
- Carboplatin/paclitaxel 1st line
- PET CT revealed new osseous and axillary mets
- Started on cetuximab 2nd line



6/2015

- Progression in cervical nodes
 - Reirradiation not an option
- Started on pembrolizumab
 - Enrolled in KEYNOTE 055



10/2015

- Patient experienced near CR
- Response lasted 1 year
- No side effects of note



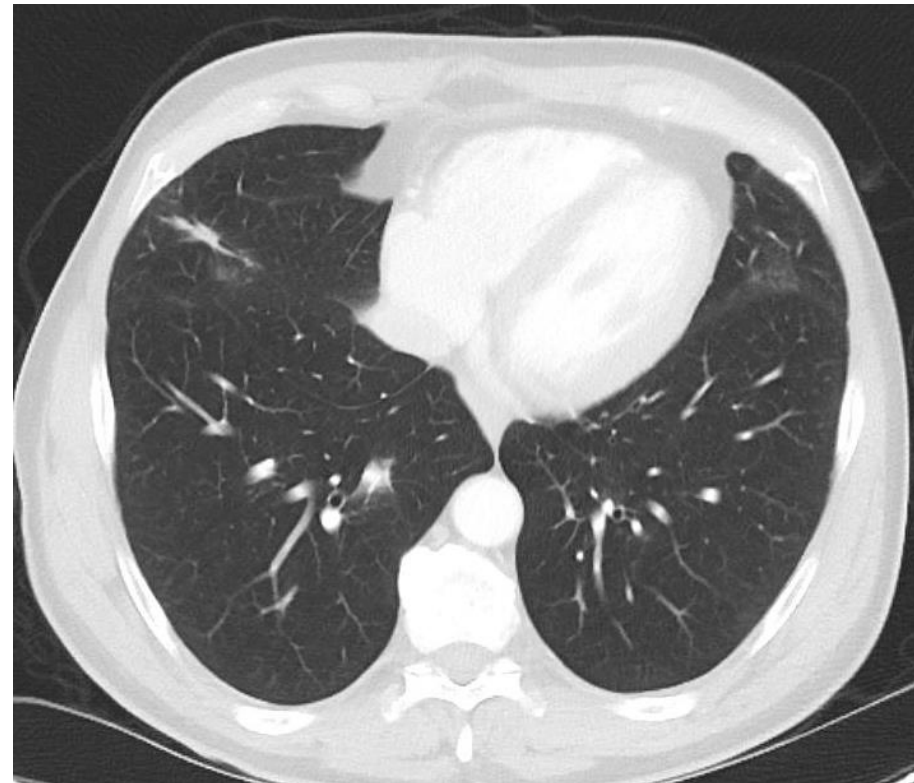
Pt SG

- 65 yo, prior smoker (10ppy)
- Presented with a large mass in the R oropharynx
 - Underwent carboplatin/paclitaxel/cetuximab induction
 - Concurrent Chemoradiotherapy with high dose cisplatin
- 3 months after CRT, presented with multiple pulmonary nodules
- Cetuximab in metastatic setting



2/2015

- Started on pembrolizumab (Enrolled in KEYNOTE 055)
- Experienced a near CR



An atypical cause of nausea

- 6 months into therapy presented with nausea/vomiting
- BMP revealed glucose 532, anion gap of 18
- Patient was diagnosed with autoimmune diabetes
- Started on insulin replacement
- Continued to enjoy an excellent response (ongoing) to pembrolizumab, 2.5 years on therapy

IO Agents approved and in development for HNC

1. Pembrolizumab

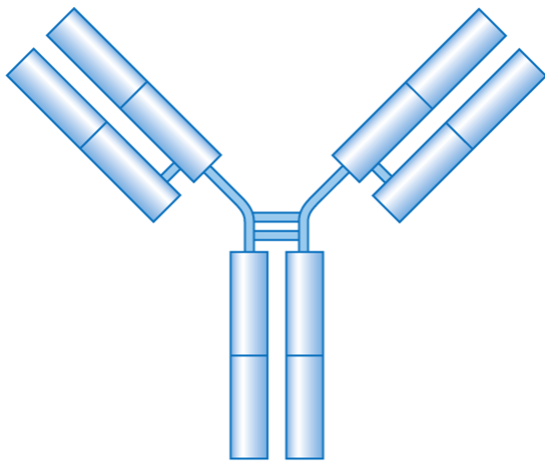
- IgG4
- Humanized
- High Affinity for PD-1 ($K_D \sim 29$ pM)
- Approved for Melanoma, NSCLC, **HNC**

2. Nivolumab

- IgG4
- Fully human
- High Affinity for PD-1 ($K_D \sim 2.6$ nM)
- Approved for Melanoma, NSCLC, RCC, **HNC**

3. Durvalumab

- IgG1
- Humanized
- High Affinity for PD-L1 ($K_D \sim 29$ pM)
- In Development for Head and Neck Cancer, Lung Cancer, others



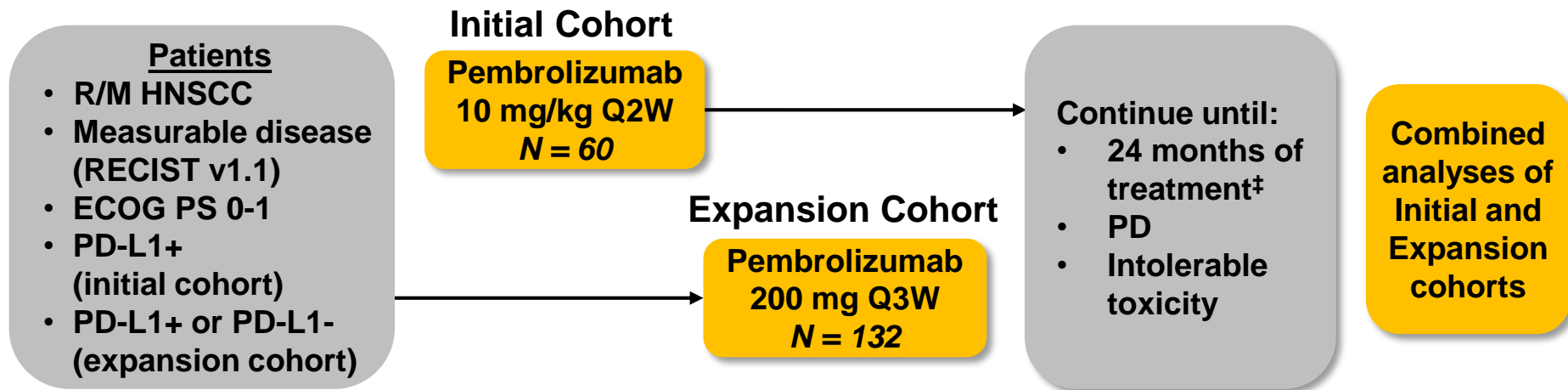
4. Other PD-1/PD-L1 agents in development:

- PD-L1 agents – Atezolizumab (bladder, NSCLC approval), Avelumab
- PD-1 agents: R2810, PRD001, Tesaro

5. CTLA-4 agents:

- Ipilimumab,
- Tremelimumab

HNSCC Cohort of Phase 1b KEYNOTE-012



Response assessment: Every 8 weeks

Primary end points: ORR (RECIST v1.1, central imaging vendor), safety

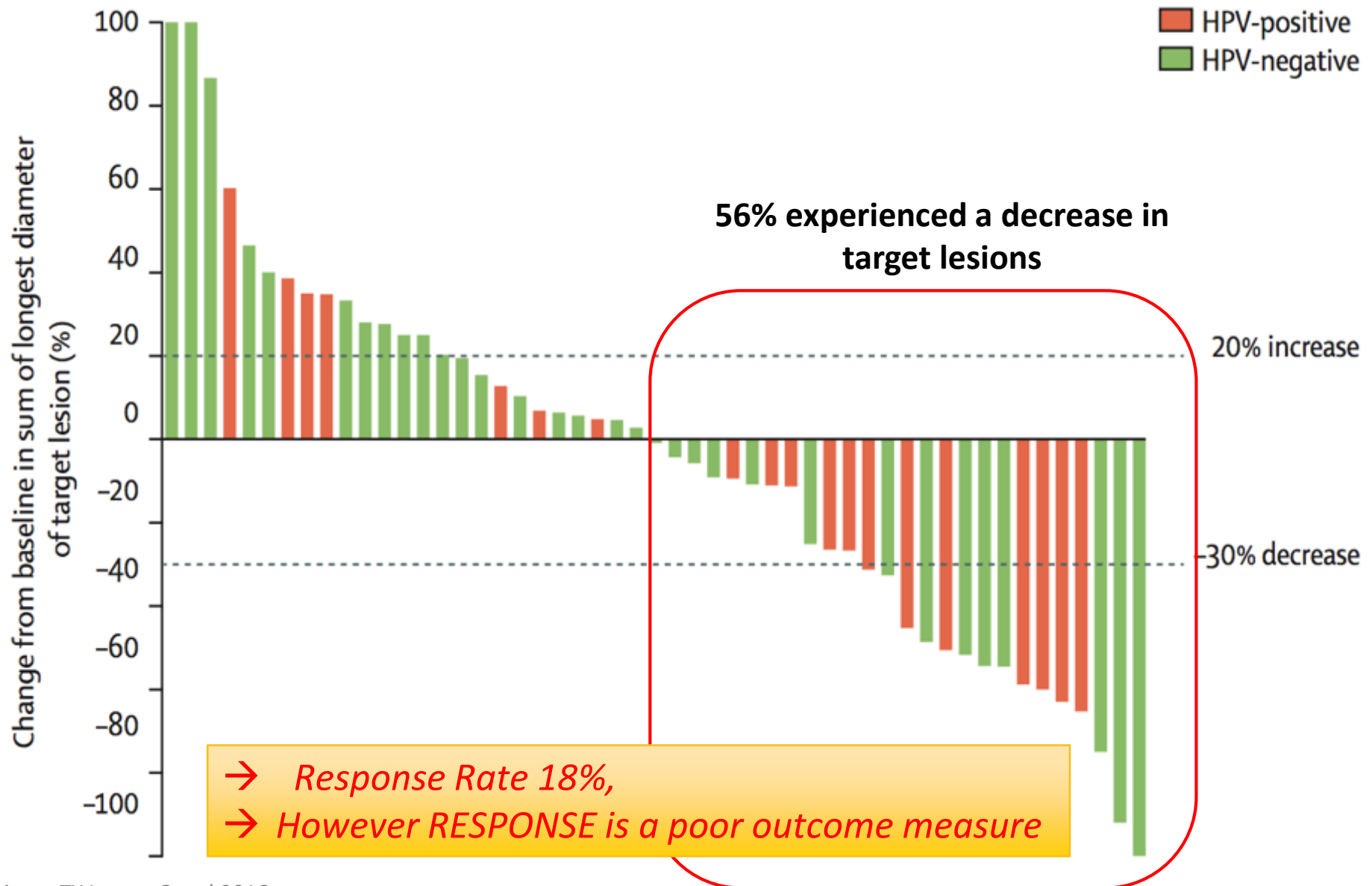
Secondary end points: ORR (investigator), PFS, OS, response duration, ORR in HPV+ patients[§]

[†]Additional cohorts included bladder cancer, TN breast cancer, and gastric cancer.

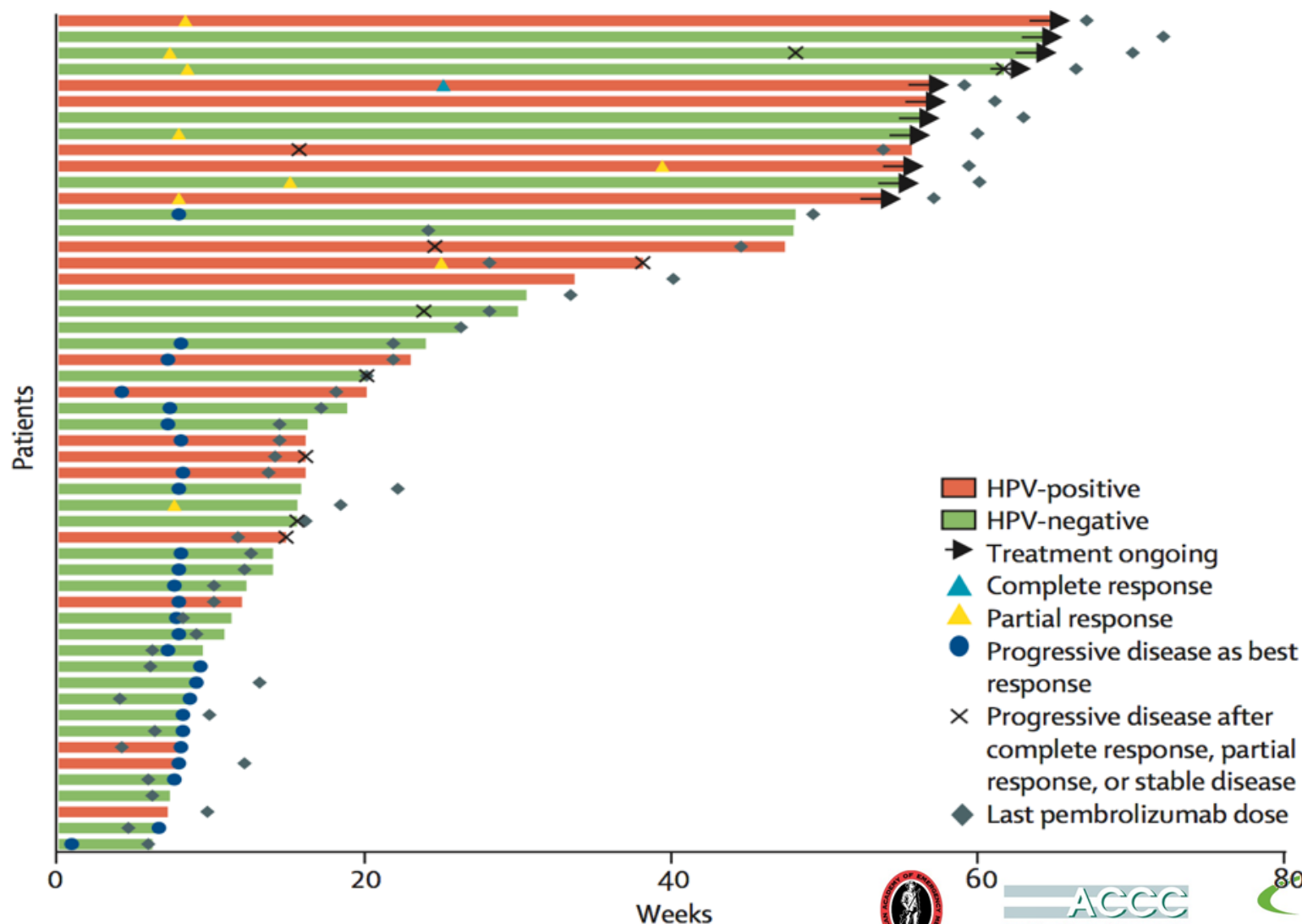
[‡]Treatment beyond progression was allowed.

[§]Initial cohort only.

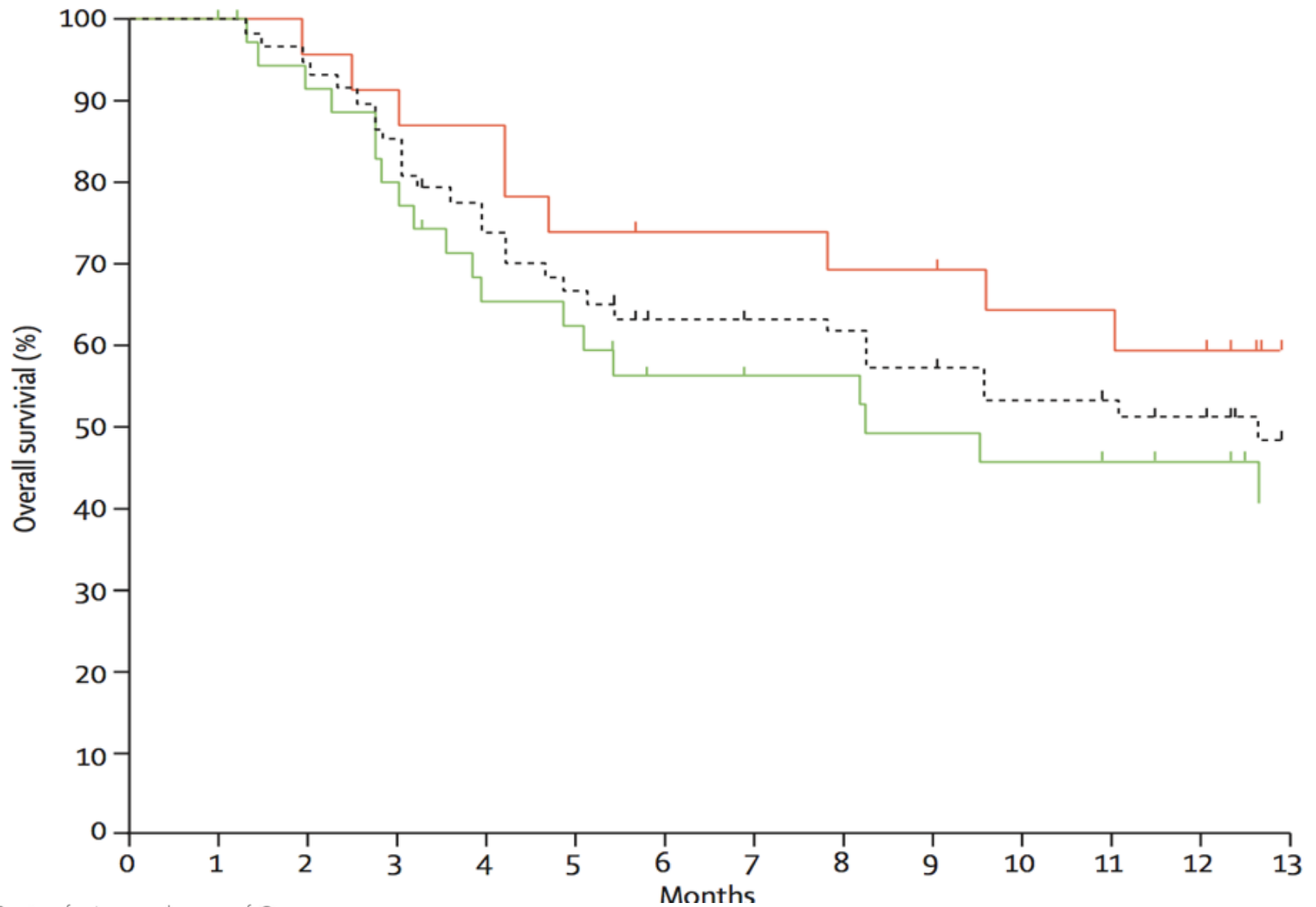
Tumor Shrinkage (KEYNOTE 12)



Durability (KEYNOTE 12)



Overall Survival



KEYNOTE-055

KEYNOTE-055: Single Arm Phase 2 Trial in R/M HNSCC After Progression on Platinum/Cetuximab

Patients

- Recurrent/metastatic HNSCC
- Resistant to platinum and cetuximab*
- Measurable disease (RECIST v1.1)
- ECOG PS 0-1

Pembrolizumab
200 mg Q3W
Fixed Dose

Continue until:

- 24 months of treatment
- PD
- Intolerable toxicity
- Investigator/patient decision

Safety and
Survival
Follow-up

N=171

- ORR = 16%
- mOS = 8 months
- mDOR= 8 months

Baseline
HNSCC with
extensive skin
infiltration
and lung
metastases



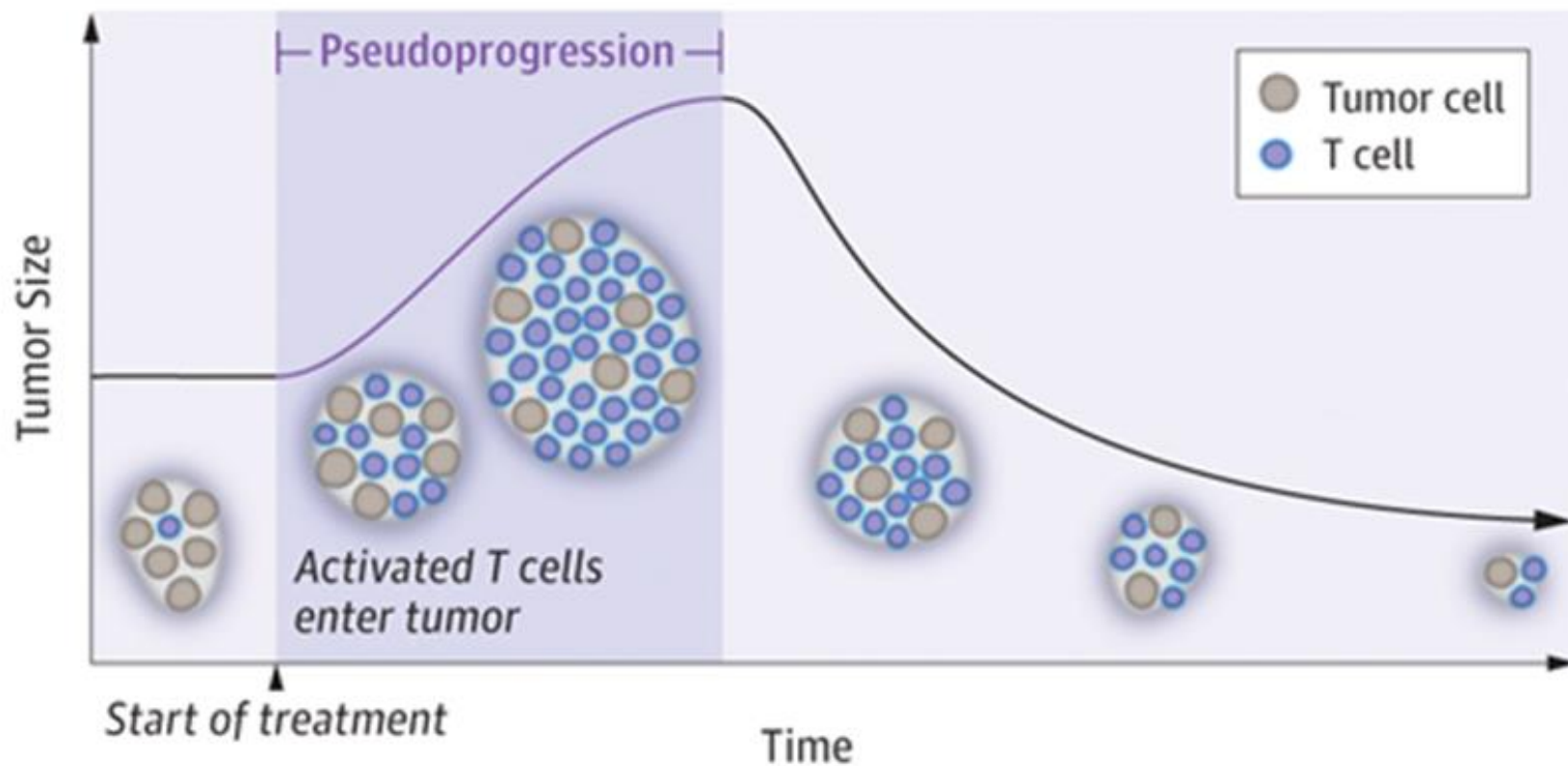
1 month:
Tumor Flare
Marked local
symptoms, edema,
hospital admission



6 month
Near CR



**Response to immune checkpoint inhibitor treatment
with brief increase in tumor size (pseudoprogression)**

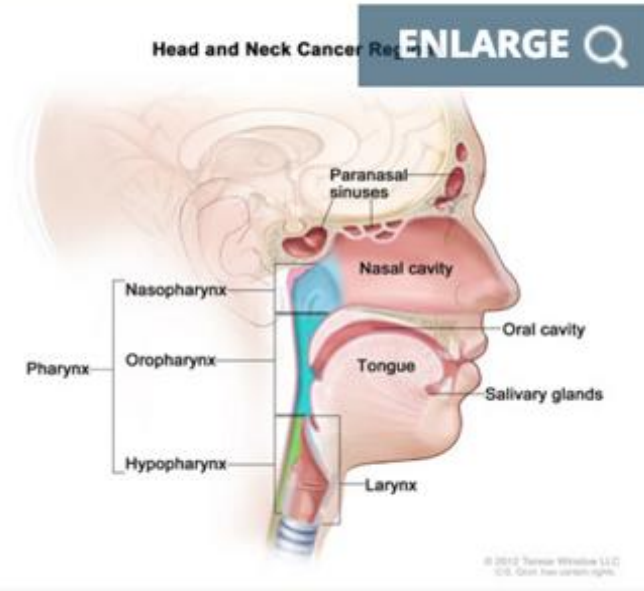


FDA Approves Pembrolizumab for Head and Neck Cancer

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August 24, 2016 by NCI Staff

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved **pembrolizumab (Keytruda®)** on August 5 for the treatment of some patients with an advanced form of head and neck cancer. The approval is for patients with recurrent or metastatic head and neck squamous cell carcinoma (HNSCC) that has continued to progress despite standard-of-care treatment with chemotherapy.



Phase 3 CheckMate 141

Nivolumab in R/M HNSCC After Platinum Therapy

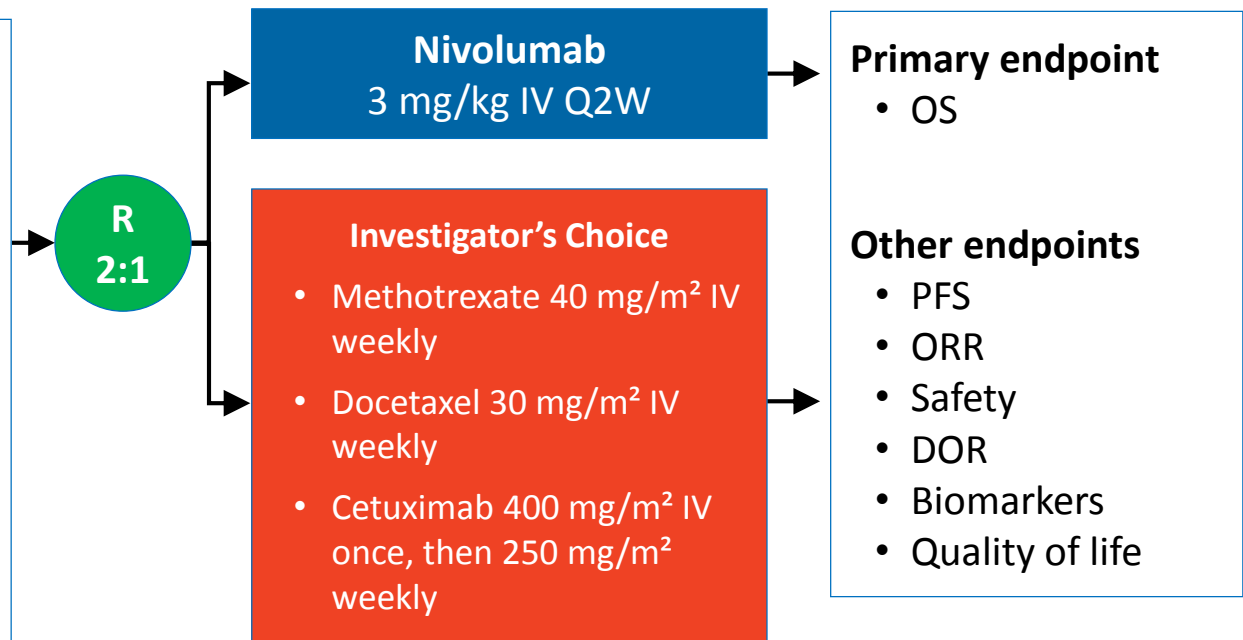
Randomized, global, phase 3 trial of the efficacy and safety of nivolumab vs investigator's choice in patients with R/M SCCHN

Key Eligibility Criteria

- R/M SCCHN of the oral cavity, pharynx, or larynx
- Progression on or within 6 months of last dose of platinum-based therapy
- Irrespective of no. of prior lines of therapy
- Documentation of p16 to determine HPV status (oropharyngeal)
- Regardless of PD-L1 status^a

Stratification factor

- Prior cetuximab treatment



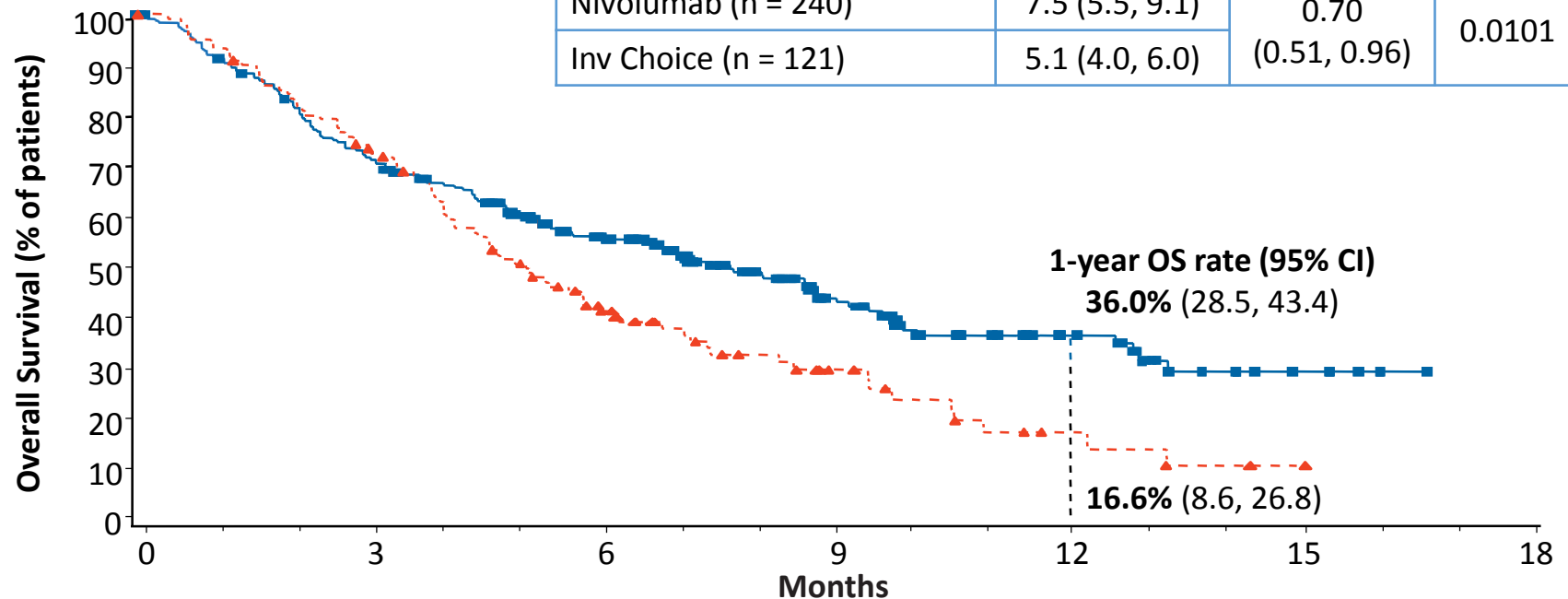
DOR = duration of response; IV = intravenous; ORR = objective response rate; PFS = progression-free survival; Q2W = once every 2 weeks; R = randomized. Clinicaltrials.gov NCT02105636.

^aTissue required for testing

Overall Survival

Nivolumab in R/M SCCHN After Platinum Therapy

	Median OS, mo (95% CI)	HR (97.73% CI)	P-value
Nivolumab (n = 240)	7.5 (5.5, 9.1)	0.70 (0.51, 0.96)	0.0101
Inv Choice (n = 121)	5.1 (4.0, 6.0)		



No. at Risk

Nivolumab

Inv Choice

240	167	109	52	24	7	0
121	87	42	17	5	1	0

→ Response Rate only 13%, but major impact on **Survival**

FDA Approves Nivolumab for Head and Neck Cancer

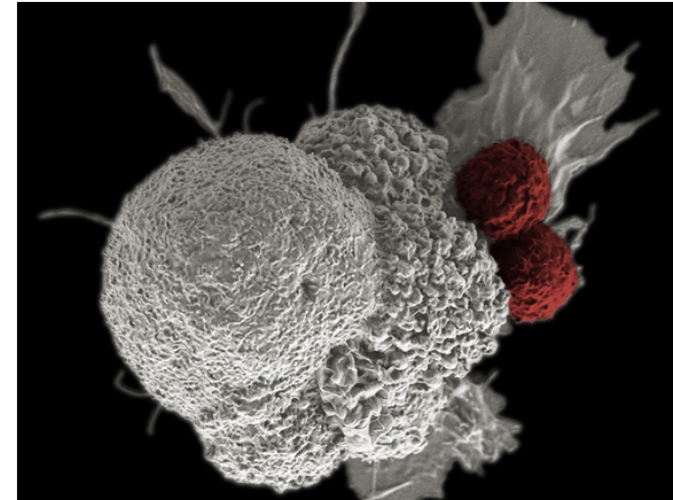
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December 1, 2016, by NCI Staff

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved [nivolumab \(Opdivo®\)](#) on November 10 for the treatment of [squamous cell cancer of the head and neck \(SCCHN\)](#).

Nivolumab is already approved for the treatment of several other cancers. This new approval is for the use of nivolumab in patients with SCCHN that has progressed during chemotherapy with a [platinum-based drug](#) or that has recurred or metastasized after platinum-based chemotherapy.

Nivolumab is the second [immunotherapy drug](#) approved to treat SCCHN. In August of this year, the FDA [approved pembrolizumab \(Keytruda®\)](#) for patients with SCCHN whose disease has progressed during or after platinum-containing chemotherapy. Both nivolumab and pembrolizumab are [immune checkpoint inhibitors](#), drugs that prevent tumor cells from blocking attack by the immune system.



Cytotoxic T cells (red) attacking an oral squamous cancer cell (white). Immune checkpoint inhibitors like nivolumab prevent tumors from turning off T cells, allowing them to attack and kill the tumor cells.

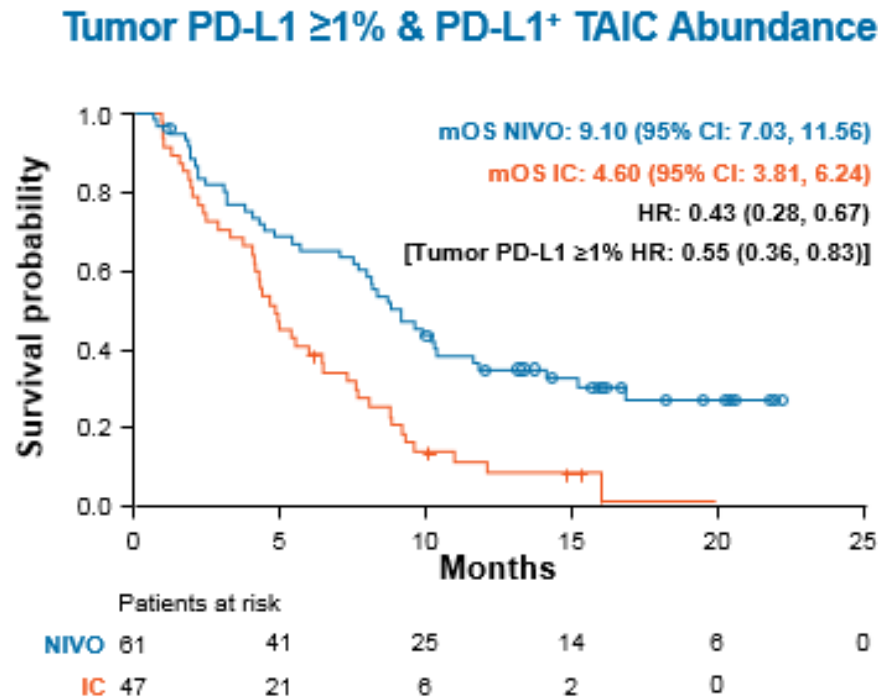
Credit: National Cancer Institute

Biomarkers in HNSCC

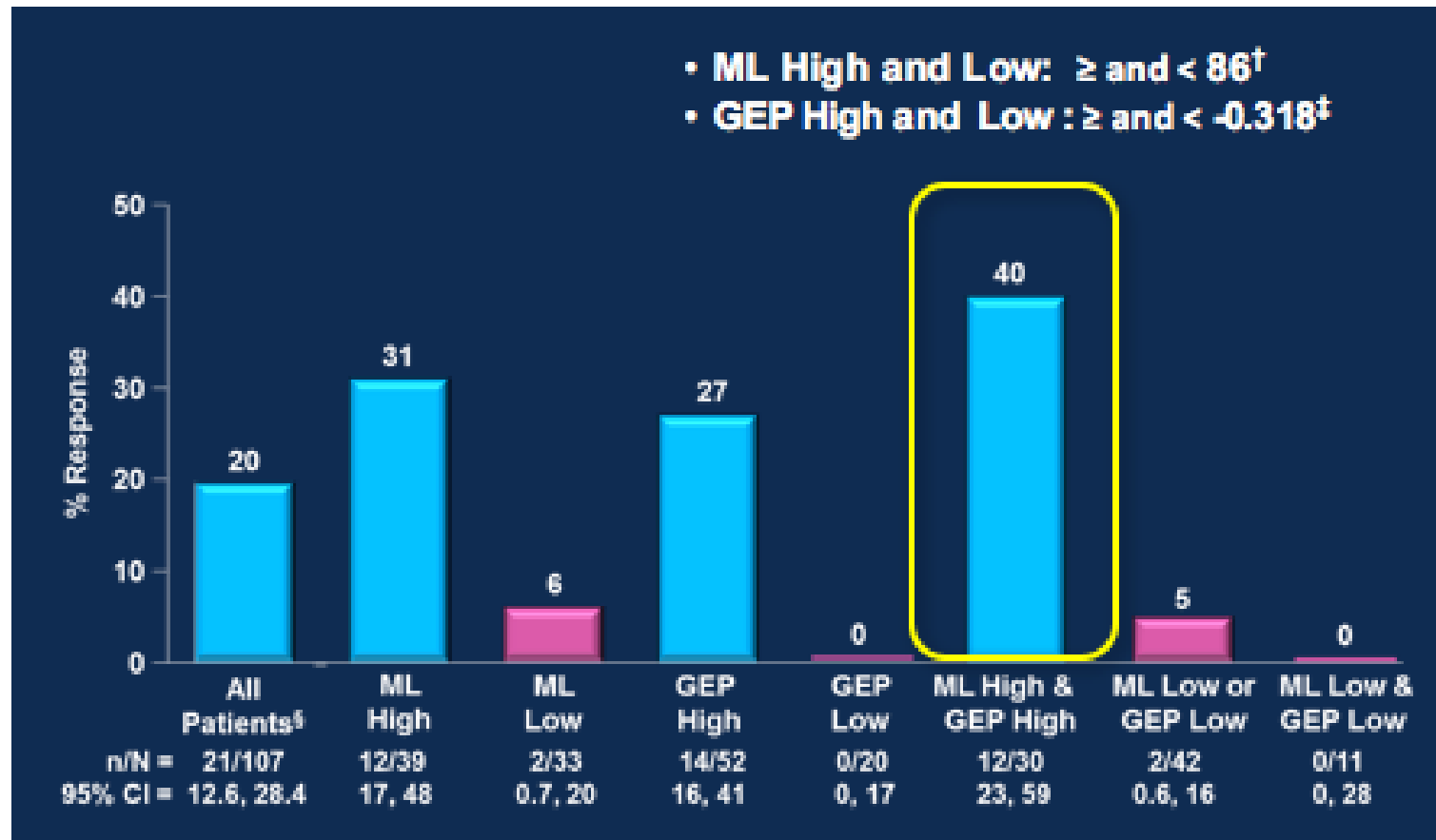
- Current FDA approval of pembrolizumab and nivolumab is NOT contingent upon PD-L1 IHC
 - In KN012 and KN055 response rates were not significantly different on the basis of tumor PD-L1 staining
 - IN CM141 most benefit was seen in PD-L1 positive tumors

PD-L1 Staining: Think Outside the Tumor?

- PD-L1 staining is not limited to tumor, though the approved assays only look there
- In KEYNOTE and CHECKMATE 141, inclusion of tumor associated PD-L1+ immune cells improves diagnostic performance



Other biomarkers: GEP/ML



Conclusions for Head and Neck Cancer

1. Chemotherapy offers short survival with many side effects
2. PD-1 antibodies nivolumab and pembrolizumab are approved in *platinum-refractory* recurrent / metastatic HNSCC.
3. Most patients have fewer side effects on PD-1 Abs than on chemotherapy
4. Clinical trials are underway to improve immunotherapy response rates