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## Immunotherapy for Germ Cell Tumors and Penile Cancer

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### **Disclosures**

- Research support from AstraZeneca (Inst), Genentech/Roche (Inst), Decibel Therapeutics (Inst), Immunai (Inst), and Adaptive (Inst)
- Consultant/advisory board member for Merck and BioNTech
- Stock/equity ownership in Urogen, Allogene Therapeutics, Neogene Therapeutics, Kronos Bio, 76Bio, Vida Ventures, Ginkgo Bioworks, Inconovir, and Doximity.

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A 39 y/o man with poor-risk nonseminomatous germ cell tumor of the left testis has been treated with 4 cycles of bleomycin, etoposide and cisplatin (BEPx4), 4 cycles of paclitaxel, ifosfamide, and cisplatin (TIPx4), and high dose carboplatin and etoposide (TI-CE regimen). He is currently progressing in multiple lung and liver metastases with a rising serum HCG. Which of the following is not an appropriate next step in management?

- A. Gemcitabine and oxaliplatin chemotherapy
- B. Clinical trial
- C. Next generation sequencing
- D. Ipilimumab and nivolumab

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Does immunotherapy play a role in the management of patients with germ cell tumors?





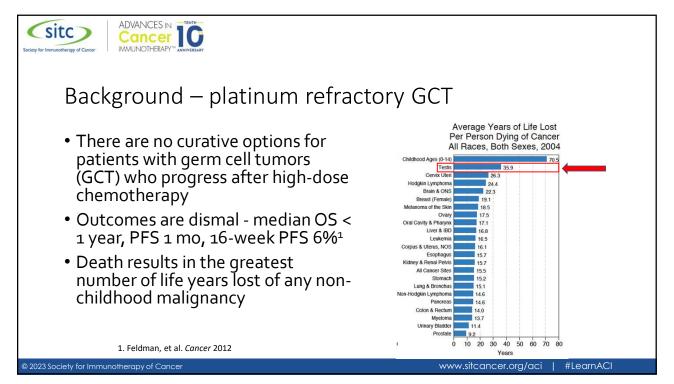
### Background – germ cell tumors (GCTs)

- 95% of GCTs are testicular primary tumors, but GCTs may also arise in the retroperitoneum, mediastinum, and pineal gland.
- The incidence is rising steadily and is highest in white and Hispanic men and lowest in Asian and black men.
- Seminoma and nonseminomatous germ cell tumor (NSGCT) each comprise approximately 50% of germ cell tumor cases.
- >80% of patients with metastatic GCTs are cured with cisplatinbased combination chemotherapy and International Germ Cell Cancer Collaborative Group (IGCCCG) risk-adapted treatment, but...

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### Rationale – immune checkpoint inhibition (ICI) for platinum refractory GCT

- Despite low tumor mutation burden, GCT thought to be immune recognized as evidenced by:
  - Immune cell infiltration<sup>1,2</sup>
  - Anti-tumor humoral responses<sup>3,4</sup>
  - Thymic hyperplasia after chemotherapy<sup>5,6</sup>
  - Spontaneous regression<sup>7,8</sup>
  - Expression of immunogenic cancer testis antigens<sup>8,9</sup>
  - Immune-related genes associated with a favorable outcome<sup>10</sup>
- - A T cell-inflamed tumor microenvironment was present in >50% of GCT specimens including seminoma and non-seminoma<sup>11</sup>
  - Degree of PD-L1 and CD8A RNA expression is similar to melanoma<sup>12</sup>
- Seminoma and NSGCT frequently stain positive for PD-L1 by IHC13,14
- Anecdotal reports of response to immune checkpoint blockade 11,15,16

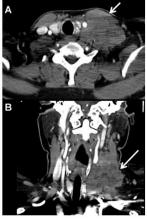
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### Clinical response of a patient with testicular cancer (embryonal carcinoma) to anti-PD-1 therapy



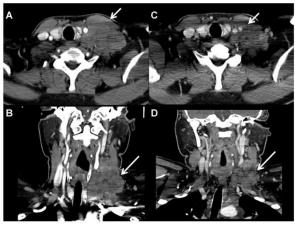
Shah, et al. Cancer Immunol Res 2016

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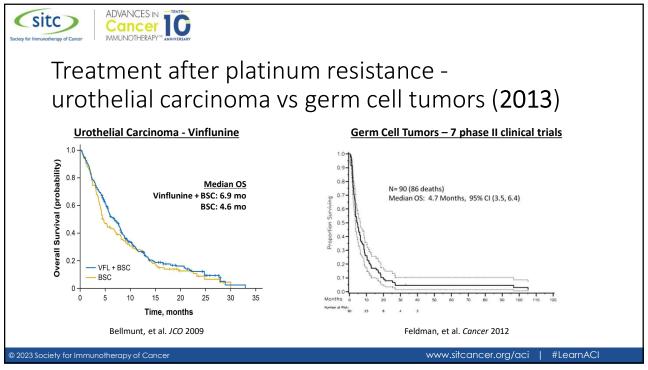


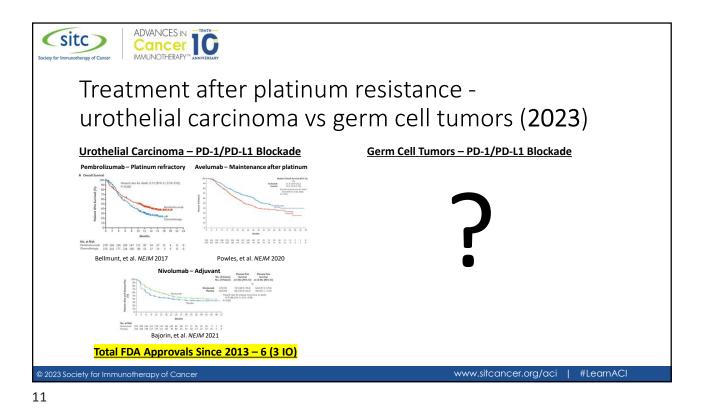
Shah, et al. Cancer Immunol Res 2016

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Phase II trials of PD-1/L1 inhibition in patients with platinum refractory GCTs — patient characteristics

	GU14-206 <sup>1</sup>	APACHE (A) <sup>2</sup>	Slovakia <sup>3</sup>	Japan <sup>4</sup>	MDACC <sup>5</sup>
Total Patients	12	11	8	17	12 (2 women)
Drug	Pembrolizumab	Durvalumab	Avelumab	Nivolumab	Pembrolizumab
Location of Primary					
Testis	11 (92%)	8 (73%)	7 (88%)	12 (71%)	7 (58%)
Other	0 (0%)	3 (27%)	1 (12%)	2 (12%)	3 (25%)
Mediastinum	1 (8%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	3 (18%)	2 (17%)
Tumor Histology					
Seminoma	0 (0%)	1 (9%)	0 (0%)	3 (18%)	0 (0%)
Nonseminoma	12 (100%)	10 (91%)	0 (0%)	14 (82%)	12 (100%)
Prior High-Dose Chemo	6 (50%)	8 (73%)	2 (25%)	3 (18%)	NR
Non-Pulm Visceral Mets	5 (42%)	9 (82%)	5 (63%)	8 (47%)	6 (50%)

NR, not-reported

1. Adra, et al. Ann Oncol 2018; 2. Necchi, et al. Eur Urol 2019; 3. Mego et al. Invest New Drugs 2019; 4. Kawahara et al. Int J Urol 2022; 5. Tsimberidou, et al. Oncologist 2021

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#### Phase II trials of PD-1/L1 inhibition in patients with platinum refractory GCTs – response data

	GU14-206 <sup>1</sup>	APACHE-A <sup>2</sup>	Slovakia <sup>3</sup>	Japan <sup>4</sup>	MDACC <sup>5</sup>
<b>Total Evaluable Patients</b>	12	11	8	16	12 (2 women)
Best response					
Partial response	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (6)%	0 (0%)
Stable disease	2 (17%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	3 (19%)	3 (25%)
Progressive disease	10 (83%)	11 (100%)	8 (100%)	12 (75%)	0 (0%)
Median # doses (range)	2 (1-8)	NR	NR	3 (2-46)	3 (1-14)
Landmark PFS	12 wk – 17%	9 wk – 0%	12 wk - 0%	NR	3 mo – 33%
Median PFS, mo (CI)	NR	1.5 (NR)	0.9 (0.5-1.9)	1.5 (0-23.6)	2.4 (1.5-4.5)
Median OS, mo (CI)	NR	3.1 (NR)	2.7 (1.0-3.3)	4.1 (1.6-29.8)	10.6 (4.6-27.1)

NR, not-reported

1. Adra, et al. Ann Oncol 2018; 2. Necchi, et al. Eur Urol 2019; 3. Mego et al. Invest New Drugs 2019; 4. Kawahara et al. Int J Urol 2022; 5. Tsimberidou, et al. Oncologist 2021

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#### Phase II trials of PD-1/L1 inhibition in patients with platinum refractory GCTs – response data

	GU14-206 <sup>1</sup>	APACHE-A <sup>2</sup>	Slovakia <sup>3</sup>	Japan⁴	MDACC <sup>5</sup>	
Total Evaluable Patients	12	11	8	16	12 (2 women)	
Best response						
Partial response	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%) 0 (0%)	1 (6)%	0 (0%)	
Stable disease	2 (17%)	0 (0%)		3 (19%)	3 (25%)	
Progressive disease	10 (83%)	11 (100%)	8 (100%)	12 (75%)	0 (0%)	
Median # doses (range)	2 (1-8)	NR	NR	3 (2-46)	3 (1-14)	
Landmark PFS	12 wk – 17%	9 wk – 0%	12 wk - 0%	NR	3 mo – 33%	
Median PFS, mo (CI)	NR	1.5 (NR)	0.9 (0.5-1.9)	1.5 (0-23.6)	2.4 (1.5-4.5)	
Median OS, mo (CI)	NR	3.1 (NR)	2.7 (1.0-3.3)	4.1 (1.6-29.8)	10.6 (4.6-27.1)	

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#### Phase II trials of combination ICI in patients with platinum refractory GCTs – response data

	APACHE-B <sup>1</sup>	Alliance <sup>2</sup>	Alliance <sup>2</sup>	DFCI <sup>3</sup>	MSKCC⁴
<b>Total Evaluable Patients</b>	11	4	2	5	
Treatment	Durva + Treme	Nivo + Cabo	lpi + Nivo + Cabo	lpi + Nivo	Durva + Treme
Best response					
Partial response	1 (9%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	
Stable disease	1 (9%)	1 (17%)	0 (0%)	1 (20%)	
Progressive disease	9 (82%)	3 (83%)	2 (100%)	4 (80%	To be reported at
Median # doses (range)	NR	NR	NR	NR	upcoming meeting
Landmark PFS	9 wk – 18%	NR	NR	NR	
Median PFS, mo (CI)	1.7 (NR)	NR	NR	NR	
Median OS, mo (CI)	3.1 (NR)	NR	NR	NR	

NR, not-reported

1. Necchi, et al. Eur Urol 2019; 2. Apolo et al. JCO 2020; 3. McGregor et al. Cancer 2021; 4. NCT03158064

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#### Phase II trials of combination ICI in patients with platinum refractory GCTs – response data

	APACHE-B <sup>1</sup>	Alliance <sup>2</sup>	Alliance <sup>2</sup>	DFCI <sup>3</sup>	MSKCC⁴
<b>Total Evaluable Patients</b>	11	4	2	5	
Treatment	Durva + Treme	Nivo + Cabo	Ipi + Nivo + Cabo	lpi + Nivo	Durva + Treme
Best response					
Partial response	1 (9%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	
Stable disease	1 (9%)	1 (17%)	0 (0%)	1 (20%)	
Progressive disease	9 (82%)	3 (83%)	2 (100%)	4 (80%	To be reported at
Median # doses (range)	NR	NR	NR	NR	upcoming meeting
Landmark PFS	9 wk – 18%	NR	NR	NR	
Median PFS, mo (CI)	1.7 (NR)	NR	NR	NR	
Median OS, mo (CI)	3.1 (NR)	NR	NR	NR	

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## Phase II trials of immune checkpoint inhibition in patients with platinum refractory GCTs - <u>non-progressor characteristics</u>

Patient	Trial	Therapy	Best OR	Duration	Histology	1º Site	Prior HDCT	PD-L1	ТМВ
1	GU14-206 <sup>1</sup>	Pembro	SD	28 wks	NSGCT	Testis	No (late relapase)	Neg	NR
2	GU14-206 <sup>1</sup>	Pembro	SD	19 wks	NSGCT	Testis	No	Neg	NR
3	JAPAN <sup>2</sup>	Nivo	PR	90.1 wks	NSGCT	Testis	No	Neg	High
4	JAPAN <sup>2</sup>	Nivo	SD	68.4 wks	NSGCT	Testis	No	Neg	Low
5	JAPAN <sup>2</sup>	Nivo	SD	11.7 wks	Sem	Testis	No	Pos	Low
6	JAPAN <sup>2</sup>	Nivo	SD	5.9 wks	NSGCT	Testis	Yes	Neg	Low
7	MDACC <sup>3</sup>	Pembro	SD	10.9 mo	NSGCT	Testis	NR	Neg	NR
8	MDACC <sup>3</sup>	Pembro	SD	5.5 mo	NSGCT	Mediastin	NR	Neg	NR
9	MDACC <sup>3</sup>	Pembro	SD	4.5 mo	NSGCT	Mediastin	NR	Neg	NR
10	APACHE-B <sup>4</sup>	Durva+Treme	PR	6 mo (ongoing)	Sem	Testis	Yes	Neg	Low
11	APACHE-B <sup>4</sup>	Durva+Treme	SD	3 mo	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
12	Alliance <sup>5</sup>	Nivo + Cabo	SD	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
13	DFCI <sup>6</sup>	Ipi + Nivo	SD	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR

NR, not-reported

1. Adra, et al. Ann Oncol 2018; 2. Kawahara et al. Int J Urol 2022 3. Tsimberidou, et al. Oncologist 2021; 4. Necchi, et al. Eur Urol 2019; 5. Apolo et al. JCO 2020; 6. McGregor et al. Cancer 2021

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## Phase II trials of immune checkpoint inhibition in patients with platinum refractory GCTs - non-progressor characteristics

Patient	Trial	Therapy	Best OR	Duration	Histology	1º Site	Prior HDCT	PD-L1	ТМВ
1	GU14-206 <sup>1</sup>	Pembro	SD	28 wks	NSGCT	Testis	No (late relapase)	Neg	NR
2	GU14-206 <sup>1</sup>	Pembro	SD	19 wks	NSGCT	Testis	No	Neg	NR
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6	JAPAN <sup>2</sup>	Nivo	SD	5.9 wks	NSGCT	Testis	Yes	Neg	Low
7	MDACC <sup>3</sup>	Pembro	SD	10.9 mo	NSGCT	Testis	NR	Neg	NR
8	MDACC <sup>3</sup>	Pembro	SD	5.5 mo	NSGCT	Mediastin	NR	Neg	NR
9	MDACC <sup>3</sup>	Pembro	SD	4.5 mo	NSGCT	Mediastin	NR	Neg	NR
10	APACHE-B <sup>4</sup>	Durva+Treme	PR	6 mo (ongoing)	Sem	Testis	Yes	Neg	Low
11	APACHE-B <sup>4</sup>	Durva+Treme	SD	3 mo	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
12	Alliance <sup>5</sup>	Nivo + Cabo	SD	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
13	DFCI <sup>6</sup>	lpi + Nivo	SD	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR

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1. Adra, et al. Ann Oncol 2018; 2. Kawahara et al. Int J Urol 2022 3. Tsimberidou, et al. Oncologist 2021; 4. Necchi, et al. Eur Urol 2019; 5. Apolo et al. JCO 2020; 6. McGregor et al. Cancer 2021

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## Phase II trials of immune checkpoint inhibition in patients with platinum refractory GCTs - <u>non-progressor characteristics</u>

Patient	Trial	Therapy	Best OR	Duration	Histology	1º Site	Prior HDCT	PD-L1	TMB
1	GU14-206 <sup>1</sup>	Pembro	SD	28 wks	NSGCT	Testis	No (late relapase)	Neg	NR
2	GU14-206 <sup>1</sup>	Pembro	SD	19 wks	NSGCT	Testis	No	Neg	NR
3	JAPAN <sup>2</sup>	Nivo	PR	90.1 wks	NSGCT	Testis	No	Neg	High
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7	MDACC <sup>3</sup>	Pembro	SD	10.9 mo	NSGCT	Testis	NR	Neg	NR
8	MDACC <sup>3</sup>	Pembro	SD	5.5 mo	NSGCT	Mediastin	NR	Neg	NR
9	MDACC <sup>3</sup>	Pembro	SD	4.5 mo	NSGCT	Mediastin	NR	Neg	NR
10	APACHE-B <sup>4</sup>	Durva+Treme	PR	6 mo (ongoing)	Sem	Testis	Yes	Neg	Low
11	APACHE-B <sup>4</sup>	Durva+Treme	SD	3 mo	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
12	Alliance <sup>5</sup>	Nivo + Cabo	SD	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
13	DFCI <sup>6</sup>	Ipi + Nivo	SD	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR

NR, not-reported

1. Adra, et al. Ann Oncol 2018; 2. Kawahara et al. Int J Urol 2022 3. Tsimberidou, et al. Oncologist 2021; 4. Necchi, et al. Eur Urol 2019; 5. Apolo et al. JCO 2020; 6. McGregor et al. Cancer 2021

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9	MDACC <sup>3</sup>	Pembro	SD	4.5 mo	NSGCT	Mediastin	NR	Neg	NR
10	APACHE-B <sup>4</sup>	Durva+Treme	PR	6 mo (ongoing)	Sem	Testis	Yes	Neg	Low
11	APACHE-B <sup>4</sup>	Durva+Treme	SD	3 mo	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
12	Alliance <sup>5</sup>	Nivo + Cabo	SD	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
13	DFCI <sup>6</sup>	lpi + Nivo	SD	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR

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1. Adra, et al. Ann Oncol 2018; 2. Kawahara et al. Int J Urol 2022 3. Tsimberidou, et al. Oncologist 2021; 4. Necchi, et al. Eur Urol 2019; 5. Apolo et al. JCO 2020; 6. McGregor et al. Concer 2021

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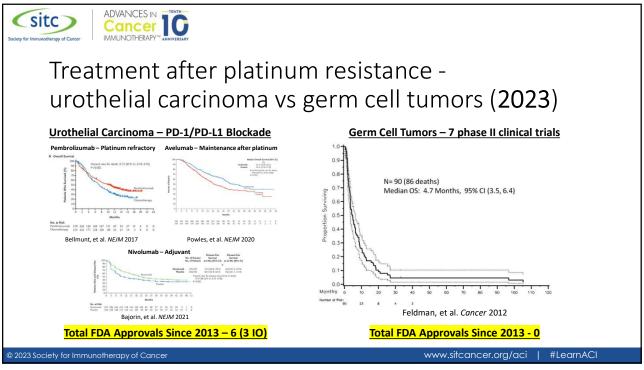




Conclusion - Immune checkpoint inhibition has limited activity in patients with platinum refractory GCTs and is not approved for this indication.

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#### What are other potential immunotherapeutic strategies in patients with GCTs?

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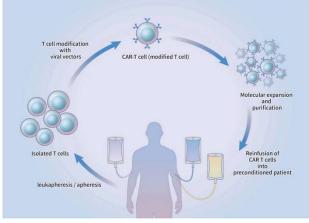
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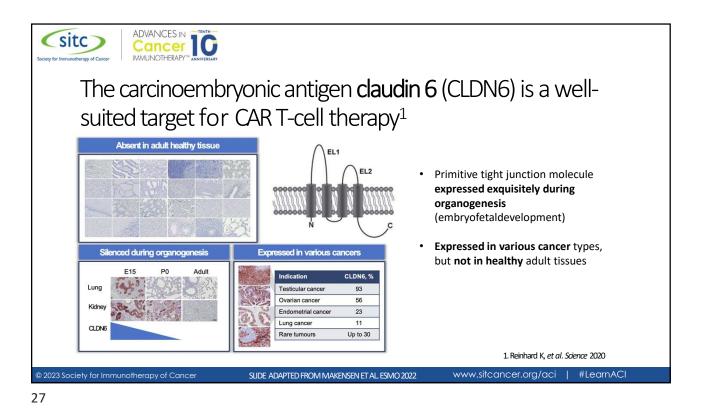


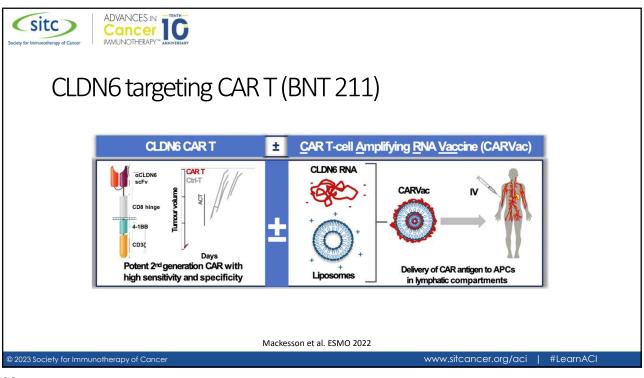
## Chimeric Antigen Receptor T Cells (CAR T)

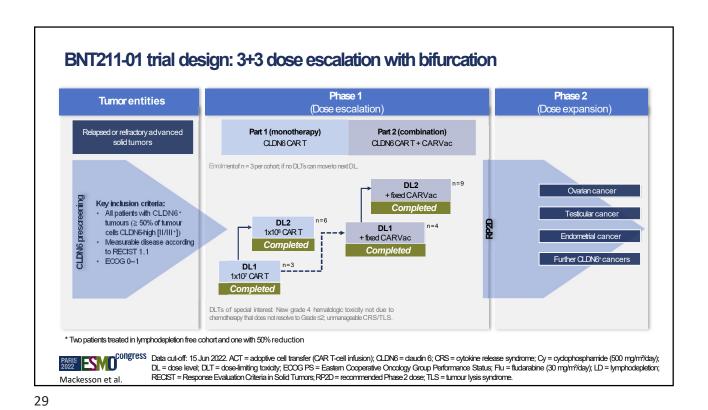


Yu and Kim. Int. J. Mol. Sci. 2021

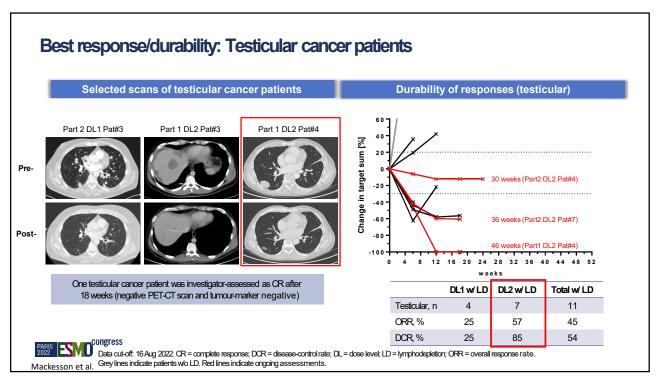
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Best response/durability: Testicular cancer patients Selected scans of testicular cancer patients **Durability of responses (testicular)** Part 1 DL2 Pat#4 Change in target sum [%] 36 weeks (Part2 DL2 Pat#7) Post--80 12 16 20 24 28 32 36 40 44 48 52 One testicular cancer patient was investigator-assessed as CR after DL1 w/LD DL2 w/LD Total w/ LD 18 weeks (negative PET-CT scan and tumour-marker negative) Testicular, n 4 7 11 ORR, % 25 57 45 DCR, % 54 25 85 PARIS Data cut-off: 16 Aug 2022. CR = complete response; DCR = disease-control rate; DL = dose level; LD = lymphodepletion; ORR = overall response rate. Mackesson et al. Grey lines indicate patients wo LD. Red lines indicate ongoing assessments.









### CD30 targeting CART (ATLCAR.CD30 cells)

- CD30 is expressed in up to 98% of testicular embryonal carcinoma, with positive staining present in > 50% of tumor cells.<sup>1</sup>
- In one study, CD30 expression was retained in patients with NSGCT after multiple lines of therapy.<sup>2</sup>
- Brentuximab vedotin has been used, but clinical responses were modest with SD in around 10% of patients.<sup>3</sup>
- Prior trials have shown safety & efficacy of autologous CD30.CAR T cells in patients with r/r CD30+ lymphomas.<sup>4</sup>
- LCCC2048-ATL: CD30 CAR for CD30+ NSGCT (NCT05634785; PI Matthew Milowsky at UNC)

1. Goplan et al. Mod Pathol 2009; 2. Silberstein, et al. J Urol 2013; 3. Ashkar, et al. Invest New Drugs 2021; 4. Ramos et al. JCO 2020

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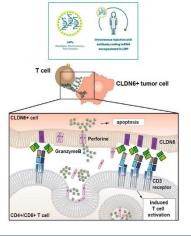
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### CLDN6 targeting lipid nanoparticle (BNT 142)



- The lipid nanoparticle is administered I.V. and the mRNA is translated in the liver to the encoded antibody (BNT 142)
- BNT142 targets CLDN6 on tumor cells and CD3 on T cells
- T cell activation → release of cytolytic molecules and inflammatory cytokines → target cell lysis and clonal T cell expansion
- BNT142-01 (NCT05262530) is currently accruing patients with platinum refractory GCTs in the United States and Spain

Slide/information provided by BioNTech

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### Is immune checkpoint blockage active in penile cancer?

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### Background –penile cancer

- Penile cancer is an uncommon malignancy which accounts for 2,300 new cases and 400 deaths annually worldwide.
- In low-income countries from South America, Asia and Africa, incidence corresponds to 10-20% of all malignancies in men.
- HPV is the most important known risk factor.
- Platinum-based chemotherapy has been the standard-of-care for advanced disease for 3 decades with poor outcomes (ORR 20-30%, PFS 3-4 months, OS 7-15 months).

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## Rationale – ICI for penile cancer

- Immune cell infiltration<sup>1</sup>
- Expression of PD-L1<sup>2</sup>
- ICI is active and approved in another HPV-associated cancers, such as cervical and oropharyngeal cancers.<sup>3,4</sup>
- Anecdotal reports of activity in case reports<sup>5,6</sup> and umbrella trials<sup>7,8</sup>

1. Chu et al. Cancers 2020; 2. Udager et al. Ann Oncol 2016; 3. Burtness. Lancet 2019; 4. Colombo et al. NEJM 2021; 5. Chahoud et al. Front Oncol 2020; 6. Trafalis et al. J Immunotherapy 2018; 7. Apolo et al. JCO 2020; 8. Hahn et al. Invest New Drugs 2021

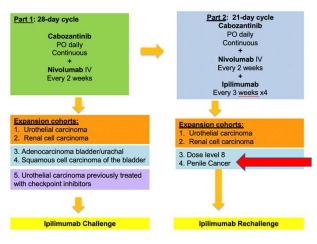
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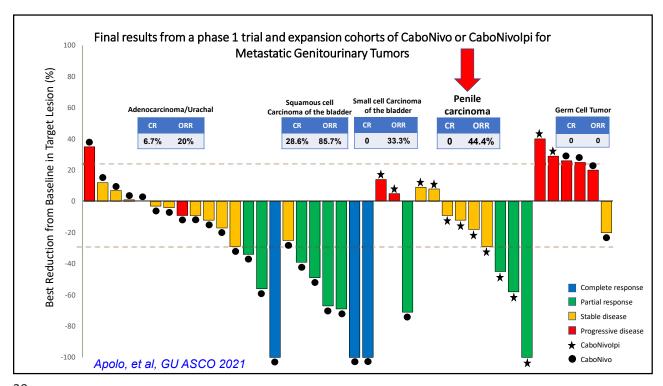


Phase I Study of Cabozantinib and Nivolumab Alone or With Ipilimumab for Advanced or Metastatic Urothelial Carcinoma and Other Genitourinary Tumors



Presented by Andrea Apolo et al. GU ASCO 2021

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Results from a recently reported trial of anti- PD-1/L1 therapy in locally advanced/metastatic penile cancer<sup>1</sup>

- 92 patients treated across North America (68%), Europe and Asia in the Global Society of Rare Genitourinary Tumors (GSRGT) network.
- 90% of patients had metastatic disease and 80% ≥ prior lines
- Treatments were pembrolizumab (28%), nivolumab (17%), cemiplimab (16%), ipi+nivo+cabo (13%), ipi+nivo (12%), other (13%)
- ORR overall was 13% CR 2.4%, PR 11%, SD 28%, PD 59%
- ORR with PD-1/L1 monotherapy was 9% CR 3.4%, PR 5.1%, SD 20%, PD 71%
- mPFS in months in overall cohort (95%CI) 3.2 (2.4 4.2)
- mOS in months in overall cohort (95% CI) 9.8 (7.7 12.8)
- HPV status not a predictor of survival outcomes

1. El Zarif et al on behalf of GSRGT. Presented a GU ASCO 2023

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How do we overcome the challenges?

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## How do we overcome the challenges? **SCIENCE**

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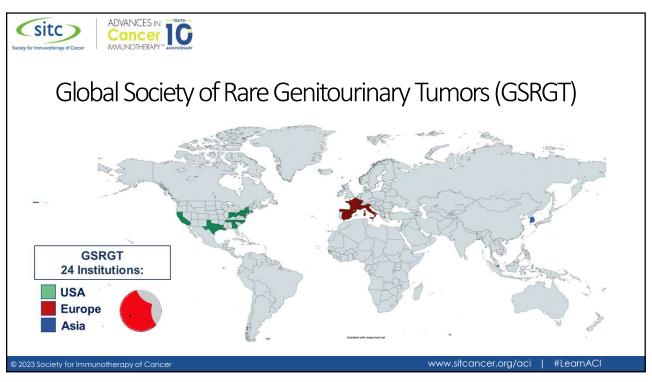


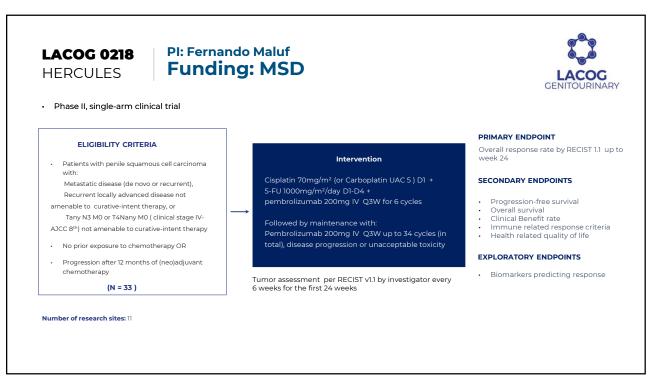


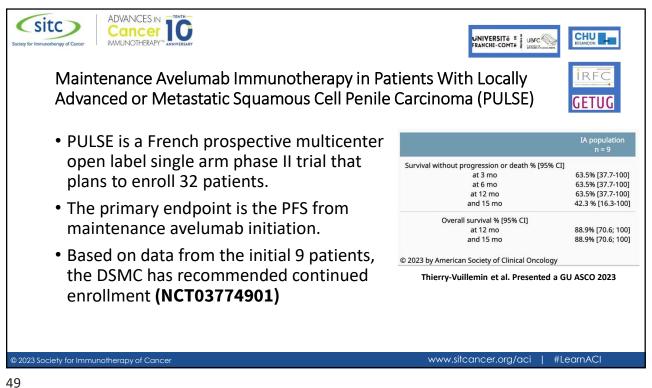
## How do we overcome the challenges? **SCIENCE**

**COLLABORATION** 

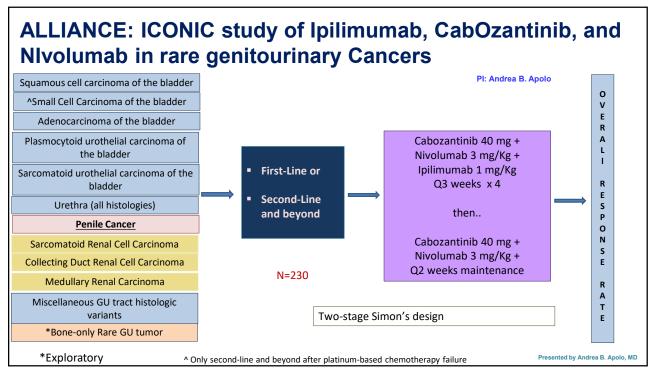
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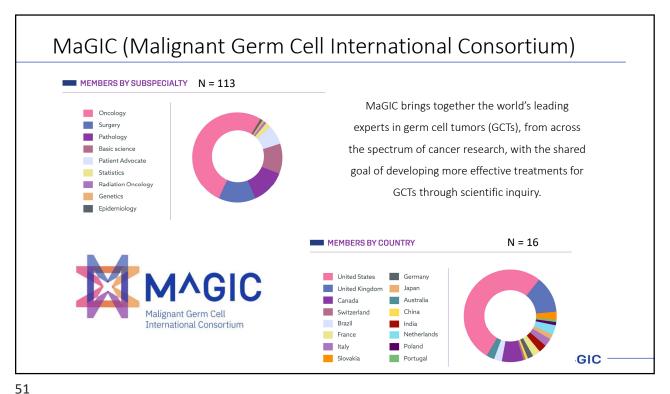






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A 39 y/o man with poor-risk nonseminomatous germ cell tumor of the left testis has been treated with 4 cycles of bleomycin, etoposide and cisplatin (BEPx4), 4 cycles of paclitaxel, ifosfamide, and cisplatin (TIPx4), and high dose carboplatin and etoposide (TI-CE regimen). He is currently progressing in multiple lung and liver metastases with a rising serum HCG. Which of the following <u>is not</u> an appropriate next step in management?

- A. Gemcitabine and oxaliplatin chemotherapy
- B. Clinical trial
- C. Next generation sequencing
- D. Ipilimumab and nivolumab

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