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Phase II Trial of Neoadjuvant Nivolumab (Nivo) and Intra-Tumoral (IT) CMP-001 in High-Risk Resectable Melanoma (Neo-C-Nivo): Preliminary Results

Davar D, Karunamurthy A, Hartman D, Ka M, Menna C, Burkette J, Chauvin JM, Zhang S, Ding Q, Pagliano O, Rose A, Sellitto K, Choudry H, Holtzman M, Duvvuri U, Sridharan S, Pingpank J, Najjar Y, Mauro D, Wooldridge J, Labinger B, Krieg A, Kirkwood JM, and Zarour H.

University of Pittsburgh





Disclosure Information SITC Annual Meeting 2019

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CE Speakers' Bureau: None

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I will discuss the following investigational agents in my presentation:

Investigational drug CMP-001 in combination with nivolumab in patients with high-risk resectable melanoma.



PD-1 Blockade Is Efficacious in Inflamed Tumors





TLR9 Agonists Make Cold Tumors Hot

- TLR9 is an endosomal receptor, expressed by B cells and plasmacytoid DCs (pDCs) in humans that can be activated by unmethylated cytosine guanosine oligodeoxynucleotides (CpG ODN)
- TLR9 activation induces Type I IFN production via MyD88 and IRAK4 to activate IRF7 → make tumors hot
- TLR9 agonists have been used in melanoma
 - In combination with cancer vaccines with evidence of immunogenicity¹
 - In PD-1 naïve² and PD-1 R/R melanoma³ with evidence of response



¹Fourcade J, J Immunother 2008; ²Ribas A, Cancer Discov 2018; ³Kirkwood JM, SITC 2019



CMP-001 – A VLP With Two Components

CMP-001



Qb coat protein

G10: A CpG-A TLR9 agonist

- GGGGGGGGGGG<u>GACGATCGTC</u>GGGGGGGGGGG
- Poly G and CpG motifs mimic retroviral, viral DNA, induce systemic T cell responses
- **30 nm** CpG-A is strongest known activator of tumor-associated pDC for IFN, CTL induction¹⁻⁴
 - Synthetic native DNA (phosphodiester) drives strongest pDC response⁵
 - CpG-A induces pDC differentiation into distinct subset vs. other TLR9 agonists⁶
 - Lower induction of inflammatory cytokines vs. other innate immune activators⁷
- Capsid protein from Qb bacteriophage; 180 subunits form an icosahedral virus-like particle (VLP)
- Protects the G10 inside the VLP from degradation in vivo
- Immunogenic protein induces Ab response after first injection in humans and mice
- Anti-Qb Ab opsonize the VLP, facilitate its uptake into pDC via FcR with enhanced induction of systemic CD8 T cell response⁸

¹Hartmann E, Cancer Res 2003; ²Labidi-Galy SI, Cancer Res 2011; ³Sisirak V, Cancer Res 2012; ⁴Rothenfusser S, Blood 2004; ⁵Chan et al., Nature Comm. 2015; ⁶Alculumbre SG, Nat Immunol 2018; ⁷Checkmate, in preparation; ⁸Lemke et al., in revision



CMP-001/PD-1 Blockade is Efficacious In PD-1 R/R Melanoma

- CMP-001-001
 - Phase IB trial evaluating IT CMP-001 in PD-1 R/R advanced melanoma monotherapy or in combination with pembrolizumab
 - CMP-001 dosed 1-10 mg IT in two dosing schedules (weekly x7 → q3w; or weekly x2 → q3w)
 - ORR: 25% (21/83)
 - Median duration of response has not been reached (16.9+ mos)



Time from First Dose CMP-001 in Months

Kirkwood JM, SITC 2019



Neoadjuvant CMP-001/Nivolumab **Study Design**



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Neoadjuvant CMP-001/Nivolumab Primary Endpoint

- Primary endpoint:
 - Major pathologic response [defined as ≤10% residual viable tumor (RVT)]; assessed by blinded pathologist using irPRC¹⁻³
 - Regression bed and quantity of viable residual tumor were both assessed
- Pathologic response rates from recently reported studies in melanoma:
 - PD-1 monotherapy: 25%-30% complete or near-complete response⁴⁻⁶
 - PD-1/CTLA-4 combination: 45%-80% complete or nearcomplete response^{4,7}

¹Cottrell TR, Ann Oncol 2018; ²Tetzlaff MT, Ann Oncol 2018; ³Stein J, Ann Oncol 2019; ⁴Amaria RN, Nat Med 2018; ⁵Blank CU, Nat Med 2018; ⁶Huang AC, Nature 2019; ⁷Rozeman EA, Lancet Oncol 2019





Patient Characteristics

Patient Characteristics		
Enrolled Evaluable 	22 21*	
DemographicsMedian ageSex	60 (range 20-76) 10M, 12F	
Prior TherapyIpiBRAF/MEK	1 (5%) 1 (5%)	
AJCC Stage (8 th edition) • IIIB • IIIC • IIID	13 (59%) 6 (27%) 3 (14%)	
Mutation StatusBRAF	4 (18%)	
* At data and off 22 patients appelled 21 underwart appears and evaluable for mathelesis years and a stight applicable for		

*At data cut-off, 22 patients enrolled. 21 underwent surgery, and evaluable for pathologic response; 1 patient evaluable for imaging and pending surgery.

Data cutoff: 10/1/2019



Patient Characteristics (cont.)



Location (injected/measurable lesion)

- H&N:9
- Trunk (inguinal/axillary): 10
- Extremity: 3

Nature (injected/measurable lesion)

- LN: 17
- Satellite: 0
- In-transit: 5





Neoadjuvant CMP-001/Nivolumab Safety and Toxicity

	CMP-001/Nivolumab (N=22)			
AE Term, N (%)	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4-5
Sinus tachycardia	2 (8%)	0	0	0
Colitis	0	0	1 (4%)	0
Diarrhea	2 (8%)	0	0	0
Nausea/vomiting	4 (16%)	2 (8%)	0	0
Chills	5 (21%)	1 (4%)	0	0
Fever	3 (13%)	4 (17%)	0	0
Injection site reaction	0	2 (8%)	0	0
CRS-like syndrome	0	1 (4%)	0	0

Treatment-related AE (TRAE) Observed

No DLTs were observed

Delays and/or surgical complications related to therapy: 0%

Data cutoff: 10/1/2019



Neoadjuvant CMP-001/Nivolumab Radiographic Response

Pre-Treatment

Non-Responder



Left intra-parotid LN 21x15mm

Pre-Surgery



Left intra-parotid LN 26x22mm

Responder



Left calf soft tissue nodule 22x17mm



Left calf soft tissue nodule 11x10mm

Data cutoff: 10/1/2019





Radiographic Response (cont)

Radiographic Response Assessment		
Radiographic Results	22 evaluable	
Response		
Complete	0	
Partial	11	
Stable disease	7	
Progressive disease	4	

ORR (imaging, RECIST v1.1) = 50%



Neoadjuvant CMP-001/Nivolumab Features of Pathologic Response



7 involved LN 1 injected (top picture); all 7 LN shown below (bottom picture)

¹Cottrell TR, Ann Oncol 2018; ²Tetzlaff MT, Ann Oncol 2018; ³Stein J, Ann Oncol 2019

Ārivarasan Karunamurthy; Asst Prof of Pathology





Blinded Pathologic Response

Residual Viable Tumor (%)				
0% (pCR)	1-10% (pMR)	10-50% (pPR)	>50% (pNR)	
13 (62%)	2 (9%)	1 (5%)	5 (24%)	
 %RVT calculated using %tumor viable Pathologist blinded to clinical and radiographic outcome 				

• N=21 evaluable

MPR rate (pCR/pMR) = 71%

Arivarasan Karunamurthy; Asst Prof of Pathology





Neoadjuvant CMP-001/Nivolumab Blinded Pathologic Response

Complete/Near-Complete Responses in Injected and Uninjected Lesions (N=21 [#])			
Single lesion (injected)	Multiple lesions (1 injected)		
12/14	3/7		
*Number of evaluable patients at data cutoff: 21 *UOP-014 had 2 treated lesions with pPR (14% - %RVT) in both injected and uninjected lesion			

Arivarasan Karunamurthy; Asst Prof of Pathology



Neoadjuvant CMP-001/Nivolumab Biomarkers of Response





Neoadjuvant CMP-001/Nivolumab Changes in CD8 Density (cells/mm²)





Changes in CD8 Density (cells/mm²) (cont.)



Pathologic responders had greater mean fold change in CD8 T cells on therapy than pathologic non-responders (20.97 vs. 2.37)

Douglas Hartman; Asst Prof of Pathology





These cells were detectable as early as W3 on therapy.

Data from 12 patients (8 R; 4 NR) shown.





CD8⁺Ki67⁺ T cells were lytic as demonstrated by expression of Granzyme A/B. Levels were greater in pathologic responders (compared to non-responders); and detectable early.

In responders, CD8⁺ T cells expressing TIM-3 were decreased.



Pathologic Response and RFS

Median follow up:

• All evaluable pts: 6 months

Median RFS:

- Only 1 event
- Median RFS was not reached in either responders (not available) or non-responders (22.71, infinity) (p=0.055)





Neoadjuvant CMP-001/Nivolumab Conclusions

- 1. Neoadjuvant CMP-001/nivolumab is associated with high rates of pathologic response: **71% pCR/near pCR.**
- 2. Neoadjuvant CMP-001/nivolumab was well tolerated with a low incidence of Grade 3 AE. No patient had a delay in surgery as a result of therapy or TRAE.
- Responders to neoadjuvant CMP-001/nivolumab had increased CD8⁺ T cells <u>intra-tumorally</u> and increased circulating CD8⁺ Ki67⁺ T cells <u>peripherally.</u>
- 4. Responders to neoadjuvant CMP-001/nivolumab have durable RFS.
- 5. Further enrollment is ongoing.



