Immunotherapy for the Treatment of Skin Cancers

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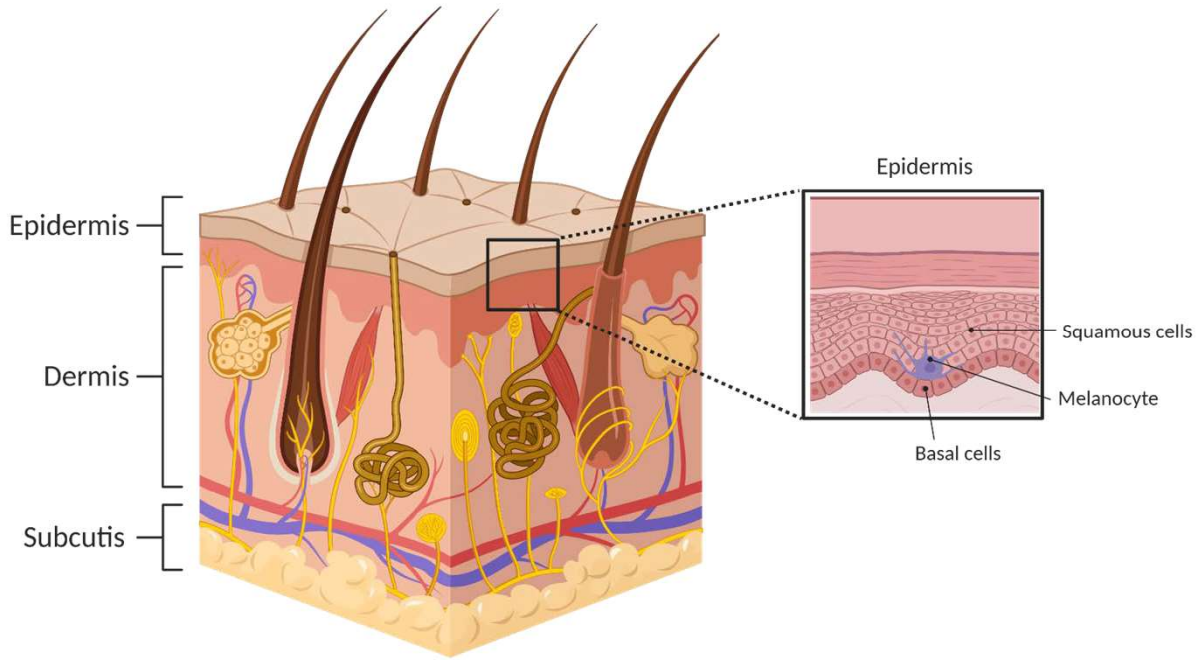
Disclosures

- Consulting Fees: Regeneron, Sanofi Genzyme

- I will be discussing non-FDA approved indications during my presentation.

Background

- Skin cancer is the most common type of cancer
- Three most common types of skin cancers:
  - Basal cell carcinoma
  - Squamous cell carcinoma
  - Melanoma
- Melanoma was one of the tumor types for which immunotherapy was tested and provided proof of concept



Outline

- Melanoma
  - Front-line treatment
  - Second-line or later
  - Adjuvant and neoadjuvant settings
- Merkel cell carcinoma
- Squamous cell carcinoma
- Future areas of research

Immunotherapy treatment options for metastatic melanoma

Treatment	Indication	Dose
Ipilimumab	Unresectable/Metastatic melanoma: newly diagnosed or after progression, all patients ≥ 12 yr	3 mg/kg Q3W for 4 doses
Pembrolizumab	Unresectable/metastatic melanoma	200 mg Q3W or 400 mg Q6W
Nivolumab	Unresectable/metastatic melanoma	240 mg Q2W or 480 mg Q4W
Nivolumab + ipilimumab	Unresectable/metastatic melanoma	1 mg/kg nivo followed by 3 mg/kg ipi Q3W, Maintenance: nivolumab 240 mg Q2W or 480 mg Q4W
Atezolizumab + cobimetinib + vemurafenib	BRAF V600 mutation-positive unresectable/metastatic melanoma	28-day cycle of cobi/vem, then atezolizumab 840 mg every 2 weeks with cobimetinib 60 mg orally once daily (21 days on/7 days off) and vemurafenib 720 mg orally twice daily
Talimogene laherparepvec (T-Vec)	Local treatment of unresectable cutaneous, subcutaneous, and nodal lesions in recurrent melanoma after surgery	Intralesional injection: ≤4 mL at 10^6 PFU/mL starting; 10^8 PFU/mL subsequent

Trials leading to initial approvals

Trial	Treatment arms	n	Patient selection criteria	ORR	Median OS (months)	Median PFS (months)
NCT00094653	Ipilimumab + gp100	403	Pretreated advanced melanoma	5.7%	10.0	2.76
	Ipilimumab	137		10.9%	10.1	2.86
	Gp100	136		1.5%	6.4	2.76
KEYNOTE-006	Pembrolizumab	368	Advanced melanoma, ≤1 prior treatment	33.7%, 32.9%	32.7	8.4
	Ipilimumab	181		11.9%	15.9	3.4
CheckMate 037	Nivolumab	272	Melanoma with progression on ipilimumab	27%	16	3.1
	Chemotherapy	133		10%	14	3.7
OPTiM	T-VEC	295	Unresectable stage IIIB-IV melanoma	26.4%	23.3	TTF: 8.2
	GM-CSF	141		5.7%	18.9	TTF: 2.9

Robert, N Engl J Med 2015; Robert, Lancet 2019; Hodi, N Engl J Med 2010; Larkin, J Clin Oncol 2018.

Trials in front-line melanoma

Trial	Treatment arm(s)	N	Patient selection criteria	ORR	Median PFS (months)	Landmark OS rate	Grade 3+ adverse events (%)
KEYNOTE-001	Pembrolizumab	655	Front-line	52%	16.9	5-year: 41%	17%
			ITT	41%	8.3	5-year: 34%	
CheckMate 067	Nivolumab + ipilimumab	314	Untreated stage III or IV melanoma	58%	11.5	5-year: 52%	59%
	Nivolumab	316		45%	6.9	5-year: 44%	23%
	Ipilimumab	315		19%	2.9	5-year: 26%	28%
CheckMate 066	Nivolumab	210	Untreated BRAF WT advanced melanoma	42.9%	5.1	3-year: 51.2%	15%
	Dacarbazine	208		14.4%	2.2	3-year: 21.6%	17.6%
IMspire150	Atezolizumab + cobimetinib + vemurafenib	256	*BRAF* V600 mutation-positive advanced/ metastatic melanoma	66.3%	15.1	2-year: 60%	79%
	Cobimetinib + vemurafenib	258		65.0%	10.6	2-year: 53%	73%

Choosing appropriate regimens

- Consider combination ipilimumab/nivolumab up-front for patients with:
  - Brain metastases
  - Mucosal melanoma
  - High disease burden

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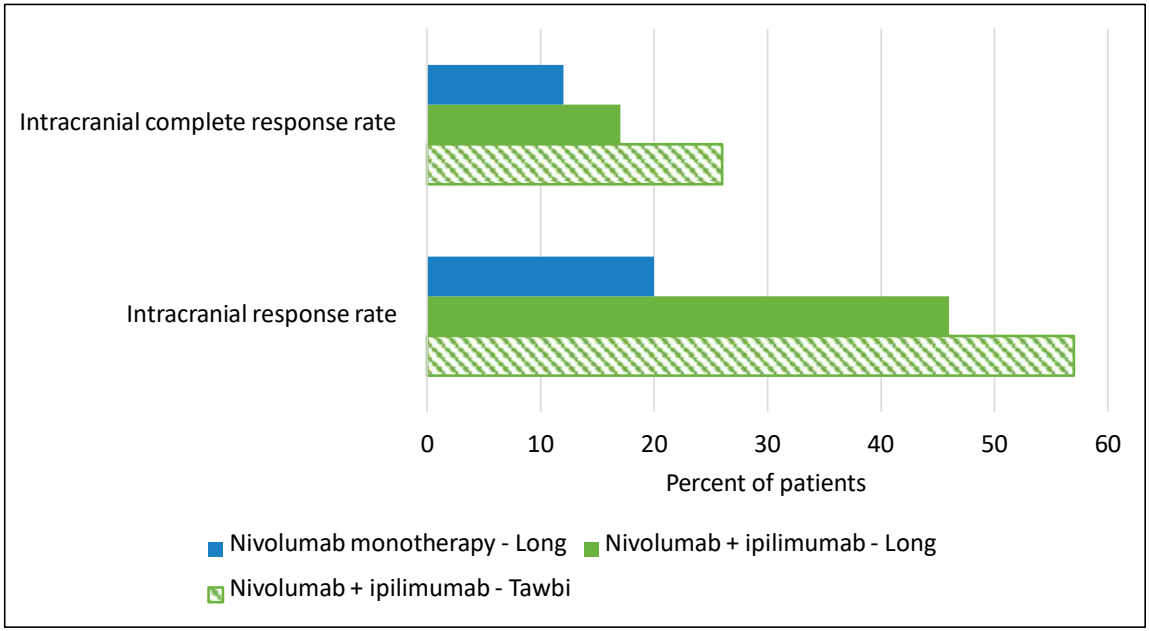

Long, Lancet Oncol 2018; Tawbi, N Engl J Med 2018.

Choosing appropriate regimens

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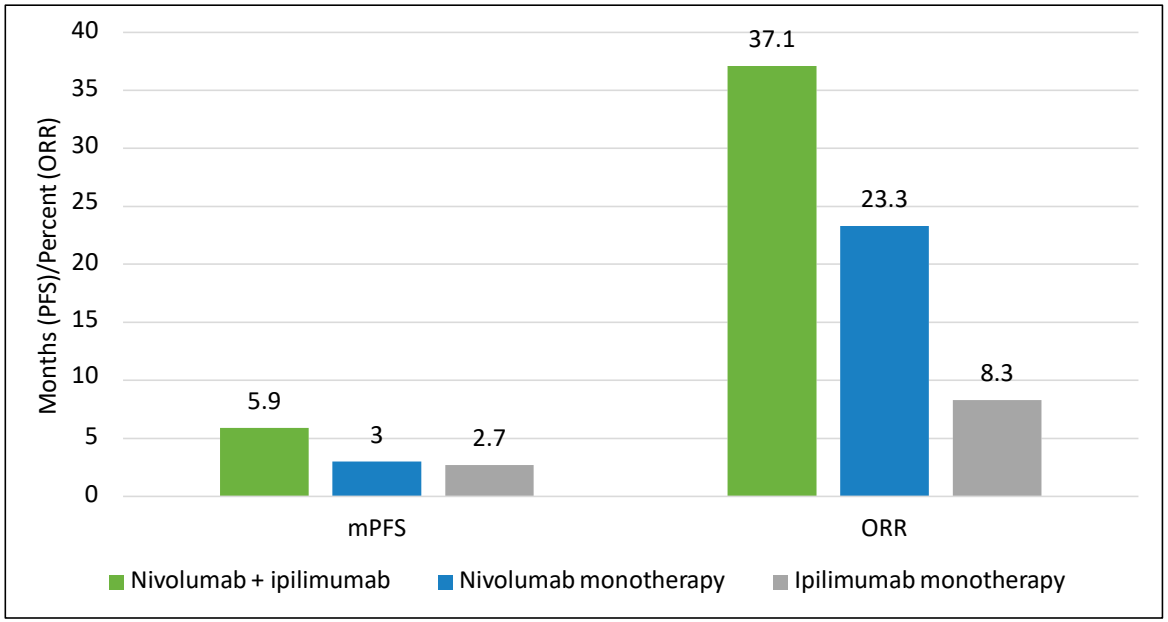

D'Angelo, J Clin Oncol 2016.

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Choosing appropriate regimens

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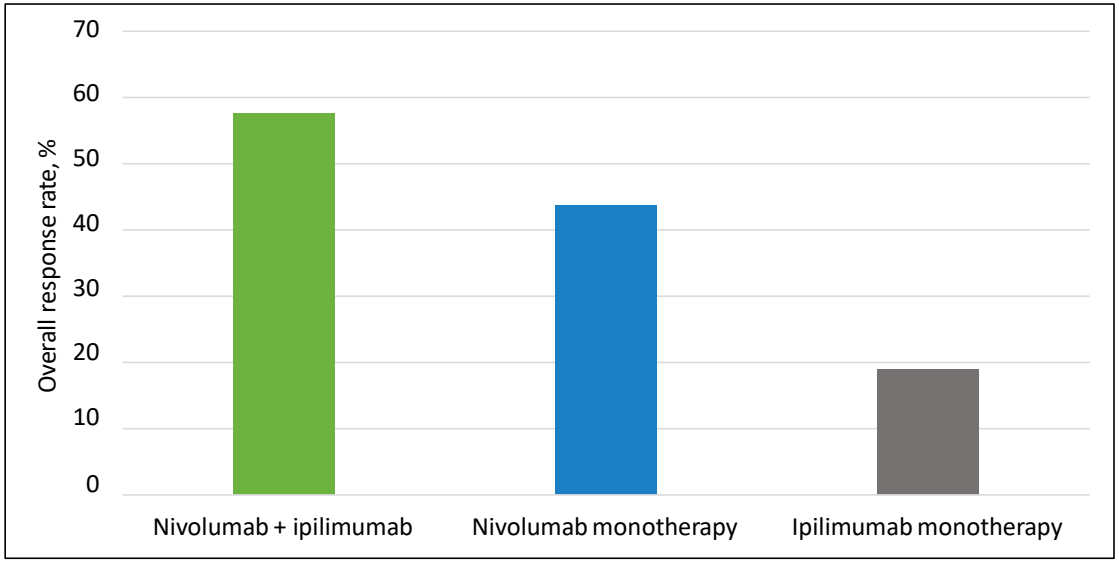
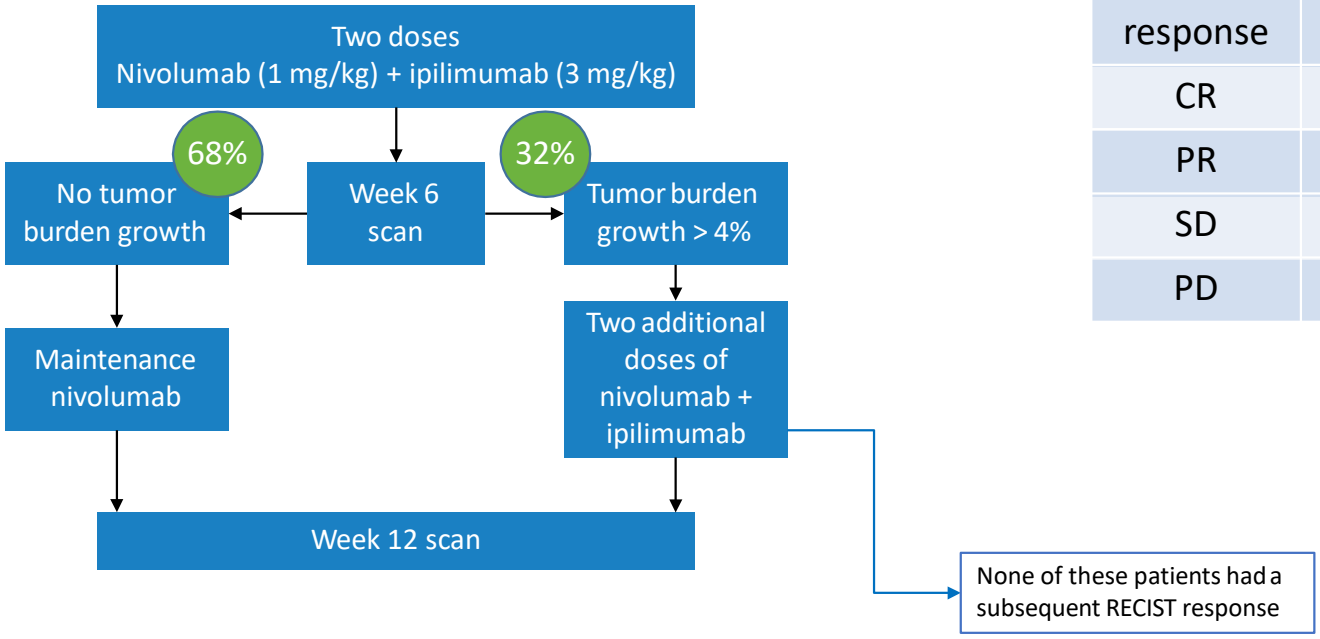


Larkin, N Engl J Med 2015.

Question: How many combination doses to give



N=60	Week 6	Week 12	Best overall response rate
Overall response	35%	48%	57%
CR	0	5%	18%
PR	35%	43%	38%
SD	43%	18%	22%
PD	22%	30%	22%

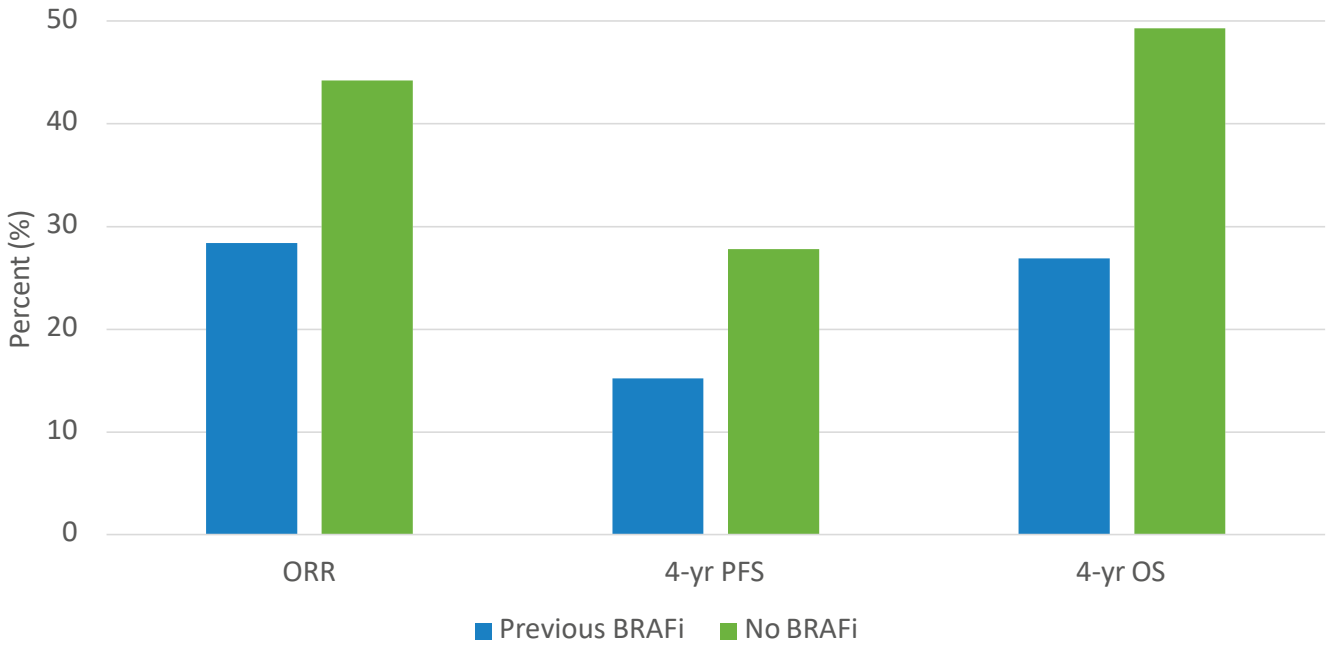
Adverse events

- 100% of patients had any-grade irAEs, regardless of how many doses received
- 57% had grade 3-4 irAEs

Postow, ASCO 2020.

Question: Does the sequence of targeted therapy and immunotherapy impact response?

Retrospective data suggests that patients who received BRAF inhibitors prior to treatment with pembrolizumab tended to have poorer outcomes on pembrolizumab therapy than those patients without prior BRAF inhibitor exposure.



Puzanov, JAMA Oncol 2020.

Question: what to do after PD-1 progression

Stage III/IV melanoma patients (n=355)

Anti-PD-1 monotherapy

Adjuvant or metastatic setting

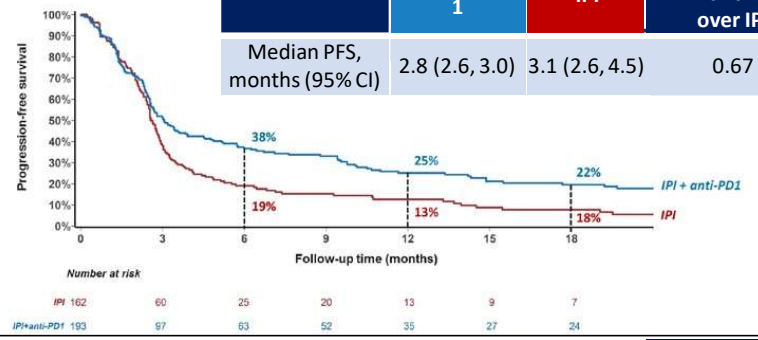
Recurrence or progression

- Ipilimumab (n=162)
- Ipilimumab + anti-PD-1 (n=193)

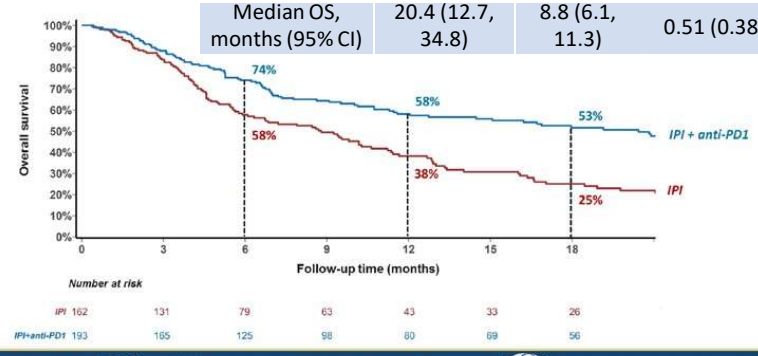
Retrospective study

Overall response rates:
IPI + PD-1: 32%
IPI: 13%
Grade 3+ adverse events:
IPI + PD-1: 31%
IPI: 33%

	IPI + anti-PD-1	IPI	HR (95% CI) IPI + anti-PD-1 over IPI	*p-value*
Median PFS, months (95% CI)	2.8 (2.6, 3.0)	3.1 (2.6, 4.5)	0.67	0.0005



	IPI + anti-PD-1	IPI	HR (95% CI) IPI + anti-PD-1 over IPI	*p-value*
Median OS, months (95% CI)	20.4 (12.7, 34.8)	8.8 (6.1, 11.3)	0.51 (0.38, 0.67)	<0.0001



Pires da Silva, ASCO 2020.

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Adjuvant treatment options for melanoma

Drug	Indication	Dose
Dabrafenib + trametinib[+]	Adjuvant BRAF+ melanoma with lymph node involvement following complete resection	Dabrafenib 150 mg twice daily + trametinib 2 mg daily
High-dose interferon alfa-2b*	Adjuvant – high risk for systemic recurrence	Induction: 20m IU/m^2 IV 5x/wk for 4 wks Maintenance: 10m IU/m^2 s.c. 3x/wk for 48 wks
Ipilimumab*	Adjuvant therapy in stage III melanoma after complete resection	10 mg/kg Q3W for 4 doses, then 10 mg/kg Q12W for 3 years
Pembrolizumab	Adjuvant therapy of melanoma following complete resection – 1 year	200 mg Q3W or 400 mg Q6W
Nivolumab	Adjuvant treatment of melanoma after complete resection – 1 year	240 mg Q2W or 480 mg Q4W

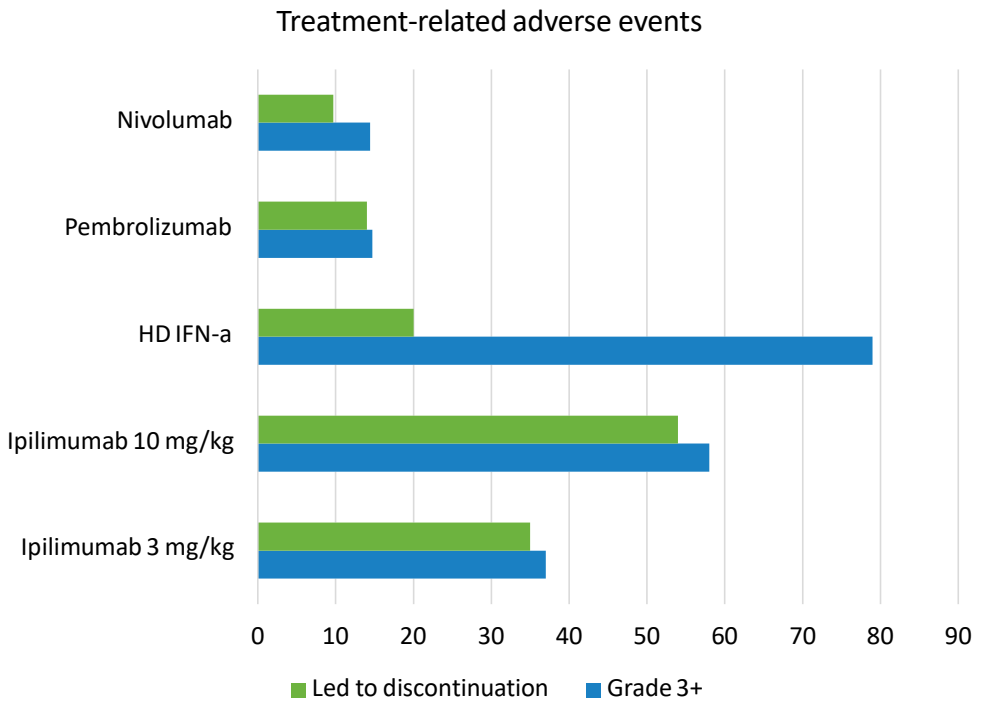
[+]Not an immunotherapy; for reference
**not commonly used in this setting; historical reference*

Trials of adjuvant immunotherapy

Trial	Arms	Patient population	N	Key outcomes
EORTC 18071	Ipilimumab	Completely resected stage III melanoma	475	RFS HR: 0.76 OS HR: 0.72
	Placebo		476	
EORTC 1325-MG/KEYNOTE-054	Pembrolizumab	High risk resected stage III melanoma	514	RFS HR: 0.56
	Placebo		505	
CheckMate 238	Nivolumab	Resected stage IIIb or IV melanoma	453	RFS HR: 0.66
	Ipilimumab		453	
E1609	Ipilimumab 3 mg/kg	Resected stage IIIb-M1b melanoma	523	RFS HR: 0.85 OS HR: 0.78
	Ipilimumab 10 mg/kg		511	RFS HR: 0.84 OS HR: 0.88
	High-dose interferon alfa		636	

Adjuvant treatment considerations

- Goals of adjuvant treatment are different than goals of primary treatment
- Toxicity and quality of life are important considerations

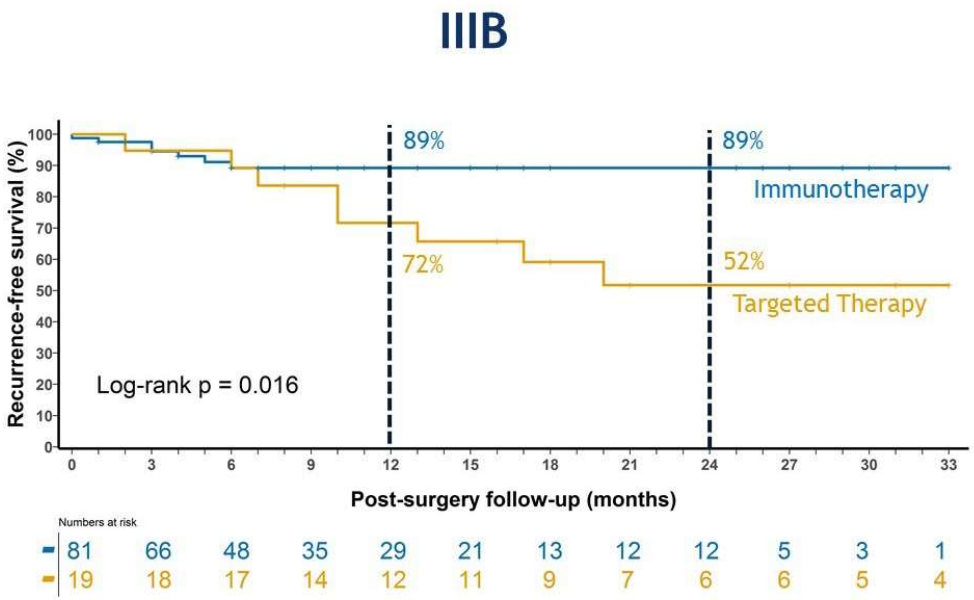


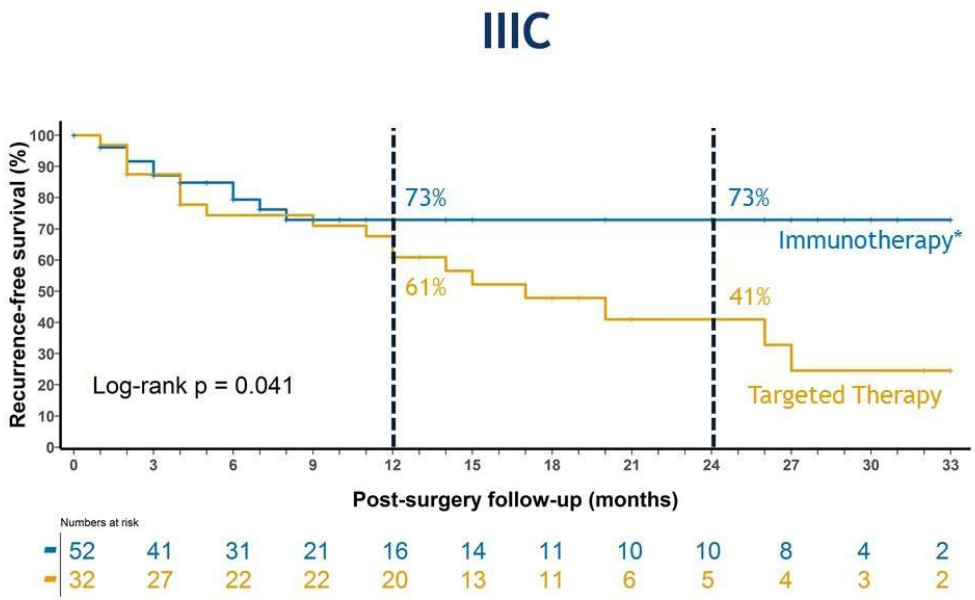
In development: Neoadjuvant immunotherapy in advanced melanoma

Trial	Regimen	N	pCR (%)	Median RFS (months)	Median follow-up (months)
Amaria Lancet Oncol 2018 (reference non-IO trial)	*Dabrafenib + trametinib*	*21*	*58*	*19.7*	*18.6*
Long Lancet Oncol 2019 (reference non-IO trial)	*Dabrafenib + trametinib*	*35*	*49*	*23.0*	*27.0*
Blank Nat Med 2018	Ipilimumab + nivolumab	10	33	NR	32
Amaria Nat Med 2018	Nivolumab	12	25	NR	20
	Ipilimumab + nivolumab	11	45	NR	
Huang Nat Med 2019	Pembrolizumab	30	19	NR	18
Rozeman Lancet Oncol 2019	Ipilimumab + nivolumab	86	57	NR	8.3

Menzies ASCO Annual Meeting 2019.

In development: Neoadjuvant immunotherapy in advanced melanoma





Menzies ASCO Annual Meeting 2019.

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- Merkel cell carcinoma
- Squamous cell carcinoma
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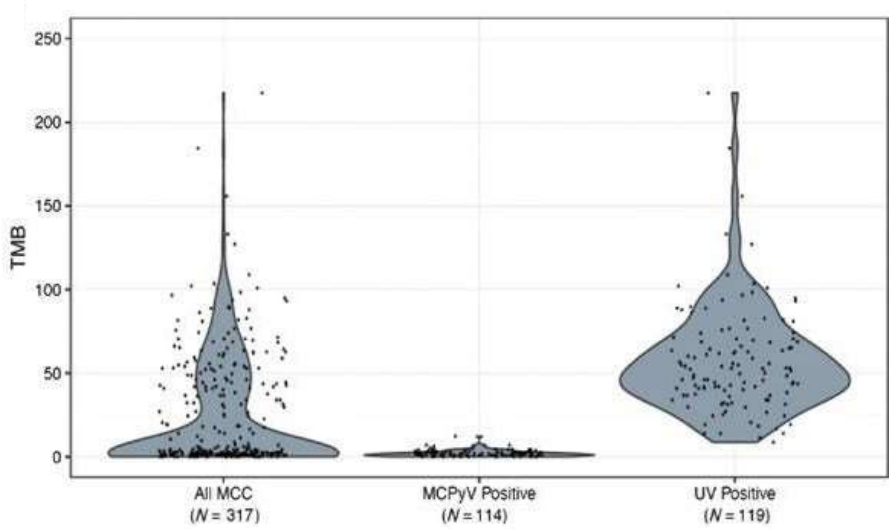
Merkel cell carcinoma

- Associated with Merkel cell polyomavirus infection
- Higher incidence with weakened immune system (HIV, immunosuppressives) and increased age
- Distinct genomic profiles for UV- and virus-driven carcinomas
- Median PFS with chemo: ~90 days



Knepper, Clin Cancer Res 2019.

Approved checkpoint inhibitors in Merkel cell carcinoma

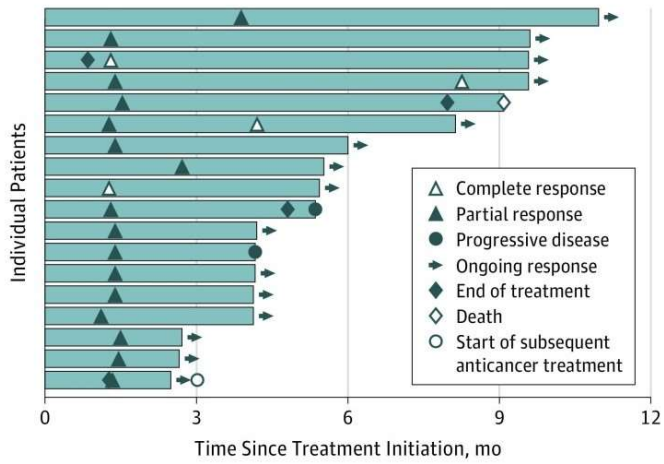
Drug	Indication	Dose
Avelumab*	Patients >12 yr with metastatic **Merkel cell carcinoma**	800 mg Q2W + premedication (first 4 cycles)
Pembrolizumab	Adult/pediatric with recurrent advanced/metastatic **Merkel cell carcinoma**	Adults: 200 mg Q3W or 400 mg Q6W Pediatric: 2 mg/kg (up to 200 mg) Q3W

**Requires premedication with an antihistamine and acetaminophen prior to first four infusions*

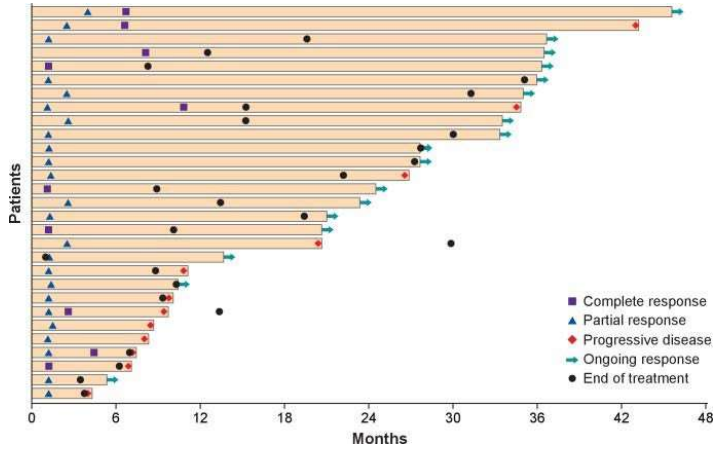
Avelumab in Merkel cell carcinoma

Setting	N	ORR	Median PFS	Median OS
First line	39	62.1%	9.1 months	
Second+ line	88	33.0%		12.6 months

First line



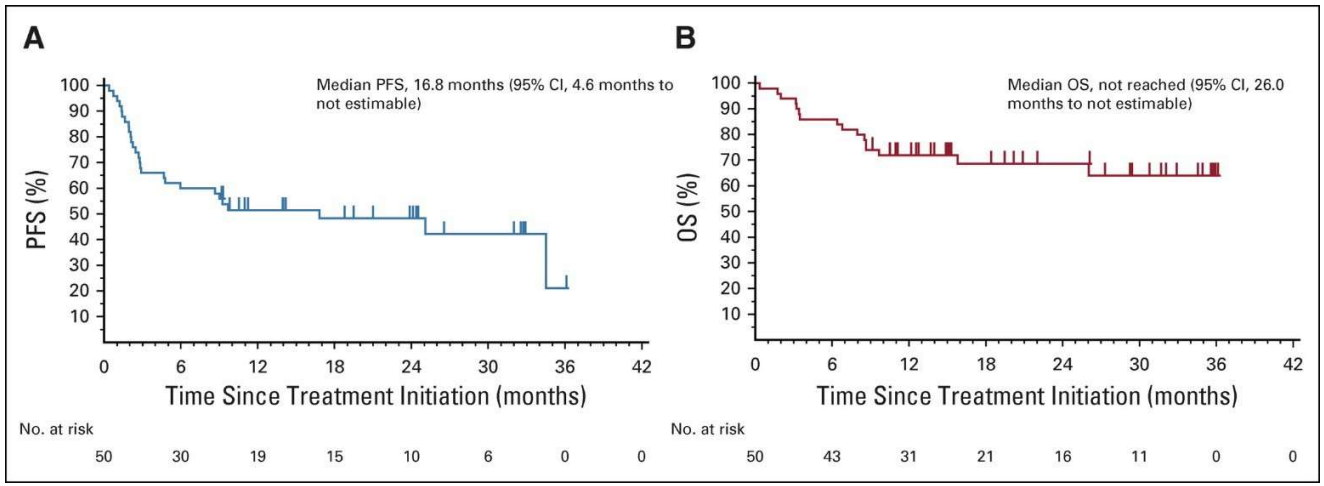
Second+ line



D'Angelo, JAMA Oncol 2018.
D'Angelo, J Immunother Cancer 2020.

Pembrolizumab in 1st-line advanced Merkel cell carcinoma

Study	N	ORR	Median OS	Median PFS
KEYNOTE-017	50	56%	NR	16.8 months



Also an ongoing trial of adjuvant pembrolizumab for Merkel cell carcinoma (NCT03712605).

Nghiem, J Clin Oncol 2019.

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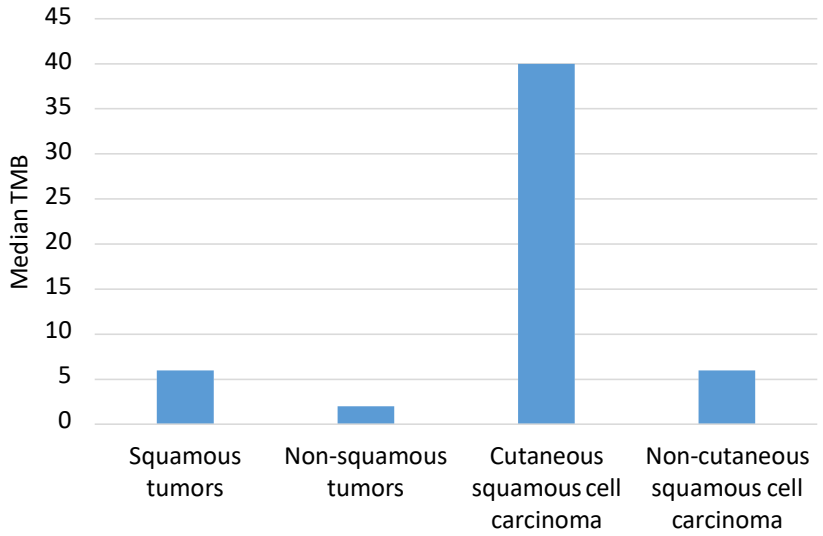
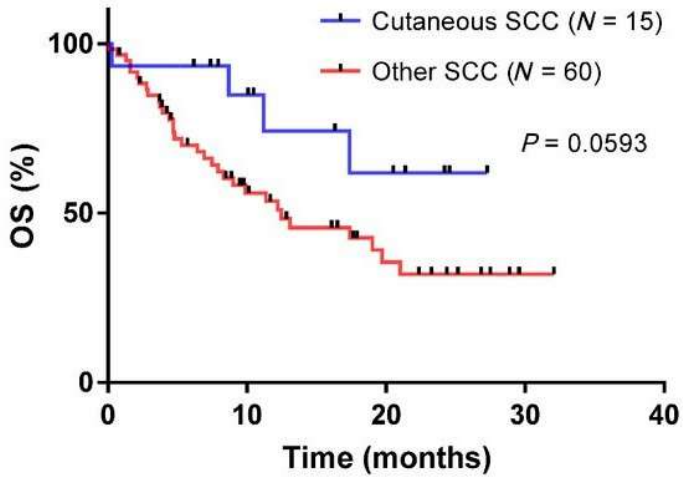
Cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma

- Second-most common skin cancer
- Associated with high TMB and immunotherapy responsiveness





Goodman, Cancer Immunol Res 2019.

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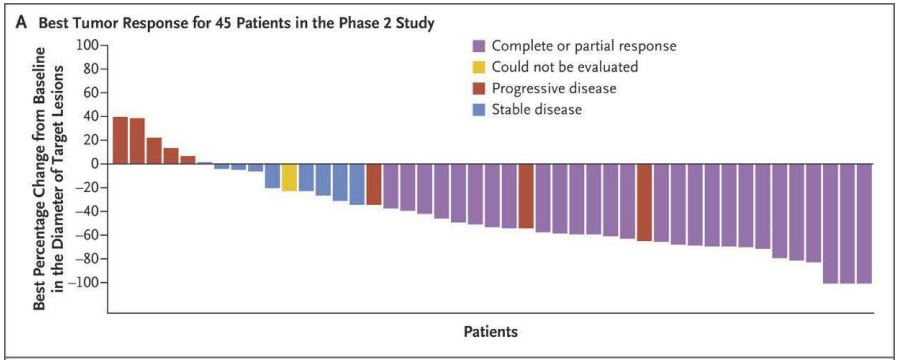
Approved checkpoint inhibitors for cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma

Drug	Indication	Dose
Cemiplimab-rwlc	Metastatic cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma, not candidate for curative therapies	350 mg Q3W
Pembrolizumab	Metastatic cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma	200 mg Q3W or 400 mg Q6W

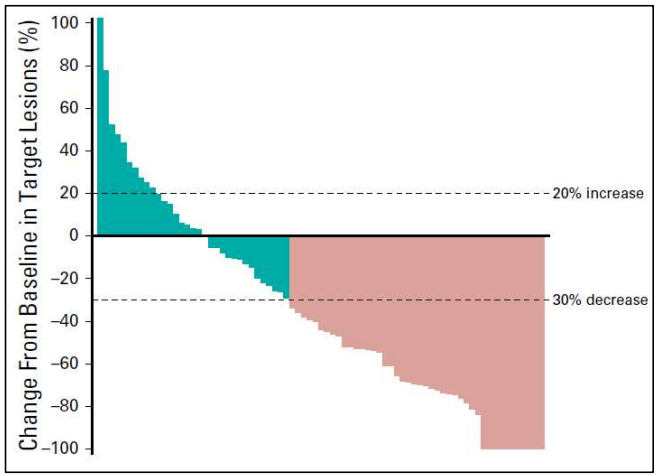
Trials for R/M cutaneous SCC

Trial	Treatment	N	ORR	Median OS	Median PFS
KEYNOTE-629	Pembrolizumab	105	34.3%	NR	6.9 months
NCT02760498	Cemiplimab	59	47%	NR	NR

Cemiplimab



Pembrolizumab



Grob, J Clin Oncol 2020.
Migden, N Engl J Med 2018.

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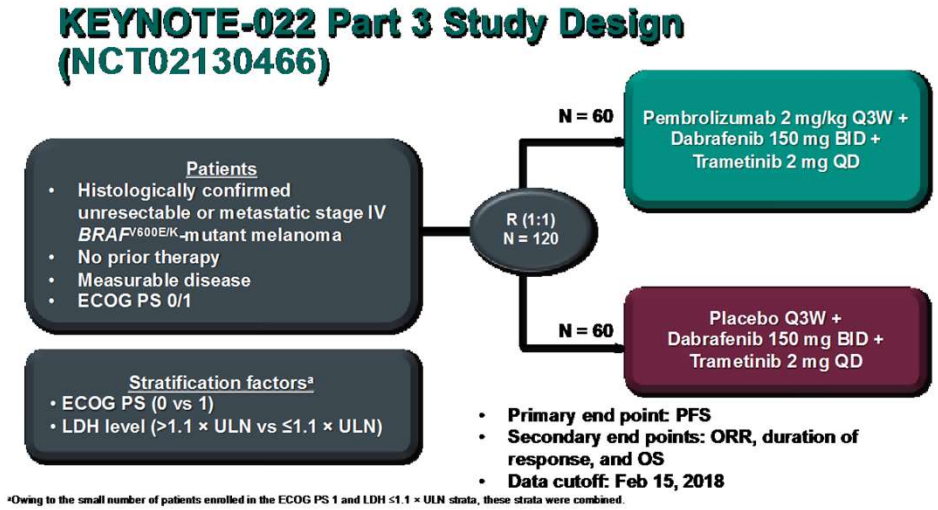
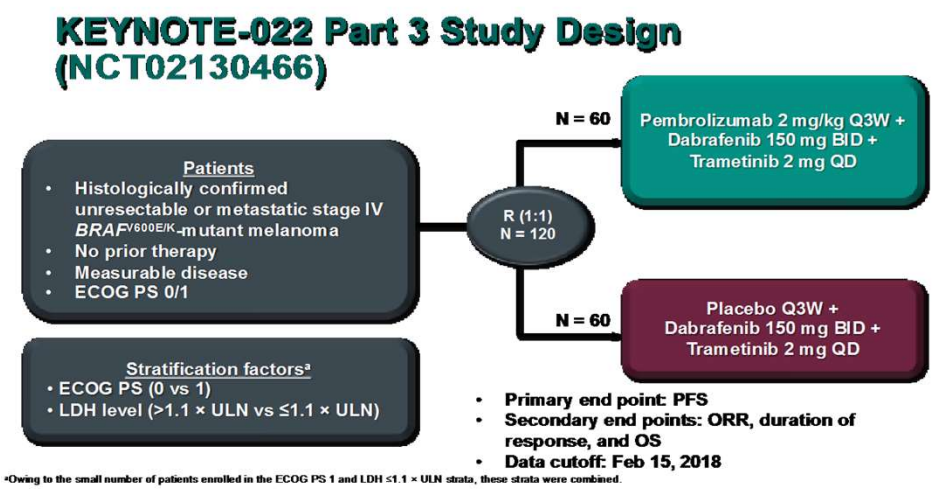
In development: Combination IO with BRAF targeted therapy

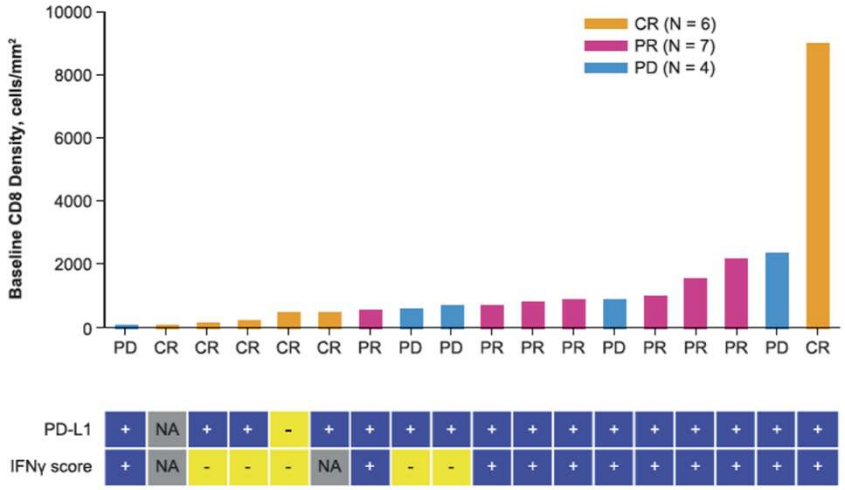




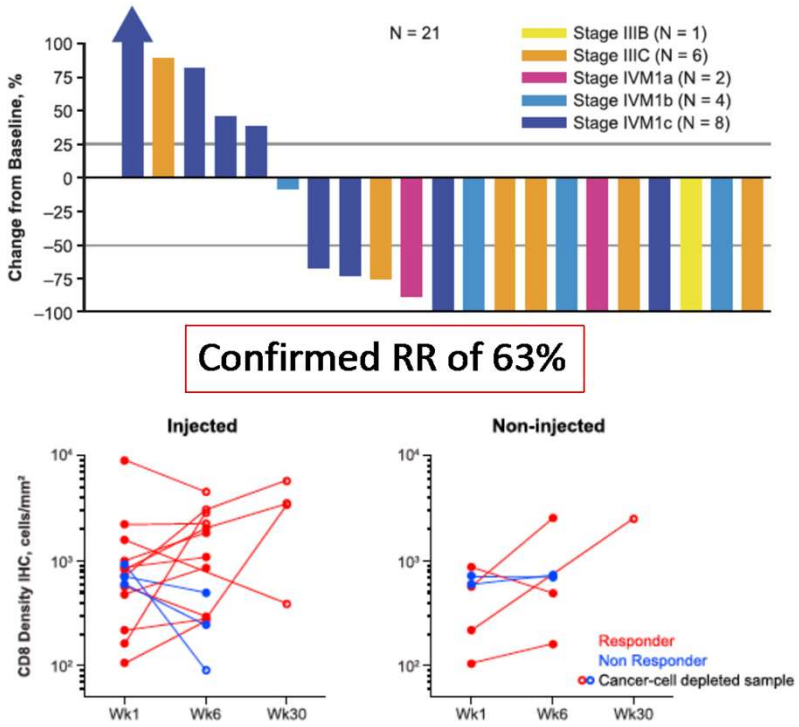
Multiple other triplet regimens are being tested.

Ascierto et al, *Nature Med* 2019.

In development: Combination IO with oncolytic virus



Phase I: Pembrolizumab + TVEC

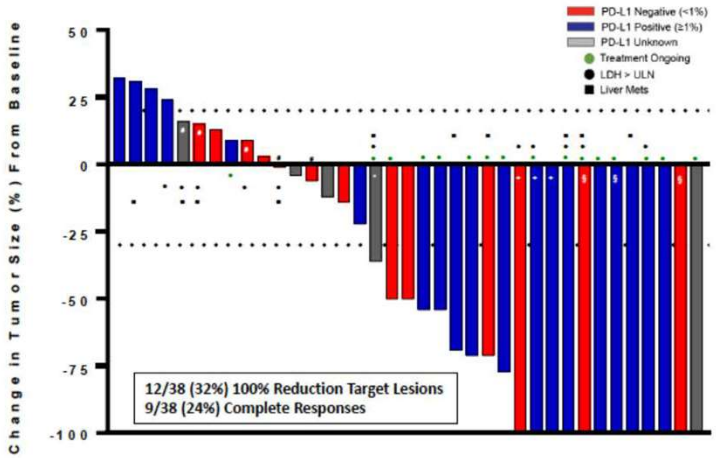


Ribas et al Cell 2017

In development: Combination IO with pegylated IL-2 (NKTR-214)

Efficacy (response rate) data from non-randomized cohorts of urothelial bladder cancer, renal cell carcinoma, and melanoma looks promising

Stage IV IO-Naïve 1L Melanoma Cohort at RP2D Best Overall Response by Independent Radiology



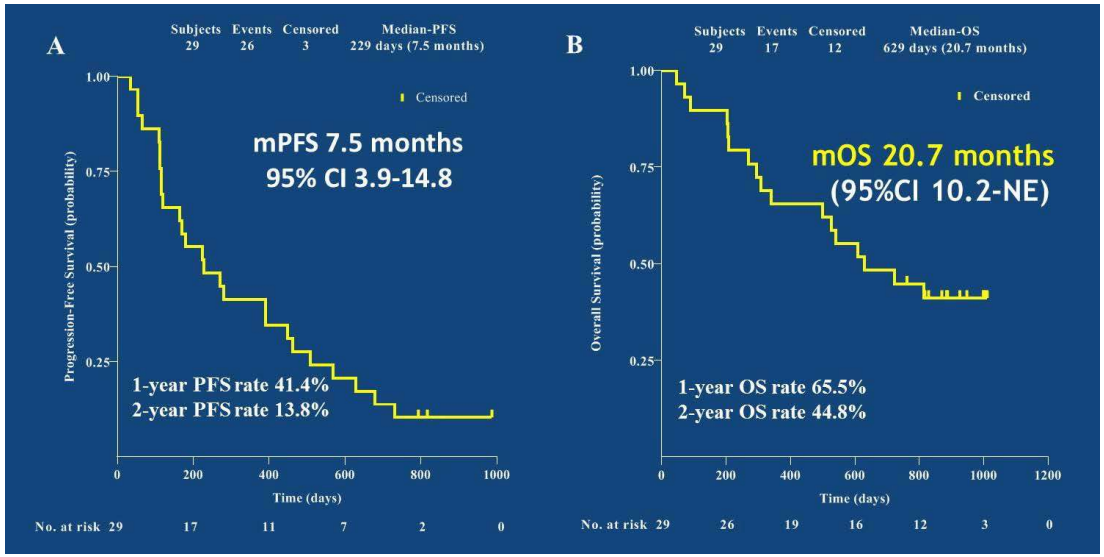
1L Melanoma (n=38 Efficacy Evaluable)	Overall Response Rate
Confirmed ORR (CR+PR)	20 (53%)
CR	9 (24%)
DCR (CR+PR+SD)	29 (76%)
PD-L1 negative (n=14)	6 (43%)
PD-L1 positive (n=19)	13 (68%)
PD-L1 unknown (n=5)	1 (20%)
LDH > ULN (n=11)	5 (45%)
Liver metastases (n=10)	5 (50%)

High level of concordance in ORR between independent central radiology (53%) and investigator-assessed 19/38 (50%).

Diab et al, ASCO 2018.
Diab et al, SITC 2018.

In development: Combination IO and TKI in mucosal melanoma

Treatment	N	ORR	Median PFS	Median OS
Toripalimab + axitinib	33	48.5%	7.5 months	20.7 months



Guo, ASCO 2020.

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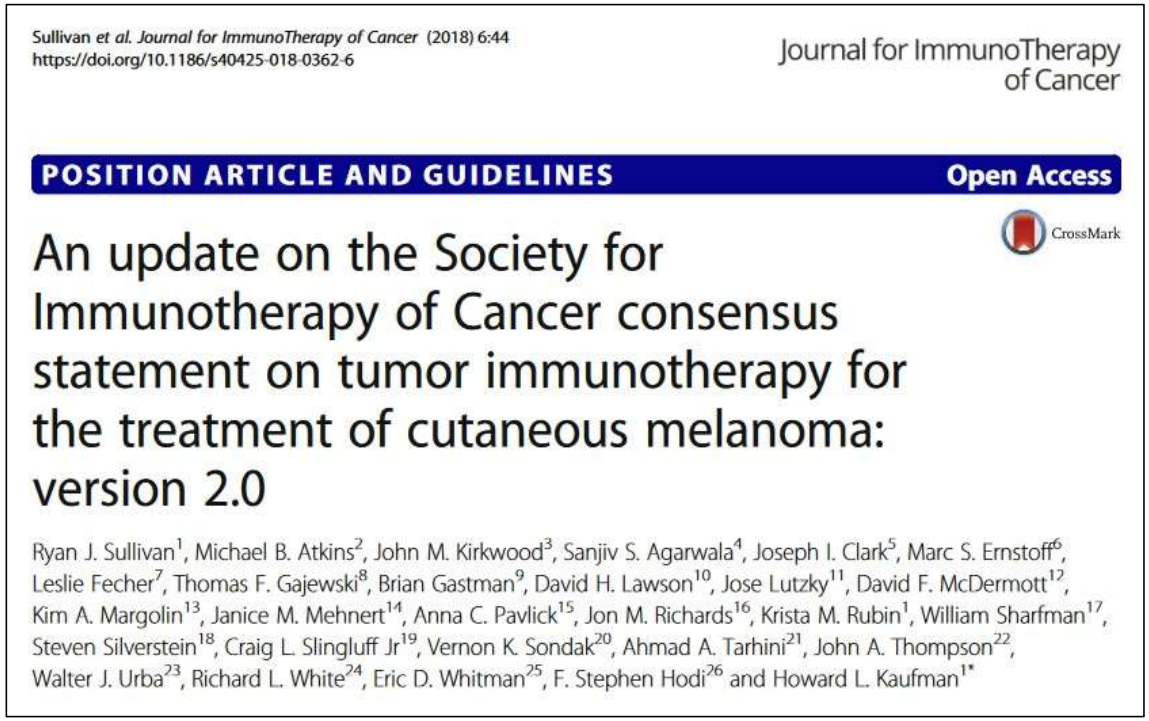
Conclusions

- Melanoma was one of the foundational disease states for testing immunotherapies
- Avelumab and pembrolizumab are now approved for Merkel cell carcinoma, and cemiplimab and pembrolizumab are approved for cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma
- Combination immunotherapies may lead to higher response rates and more durable responses

Additional Resources



Sullivan et al. Journal for ImmunoTherapy of Cancer (2018) 6:44
https://doi.org/10.1186/s40425-018-0362-6

Journal for ImmunoTherapy of Cancer

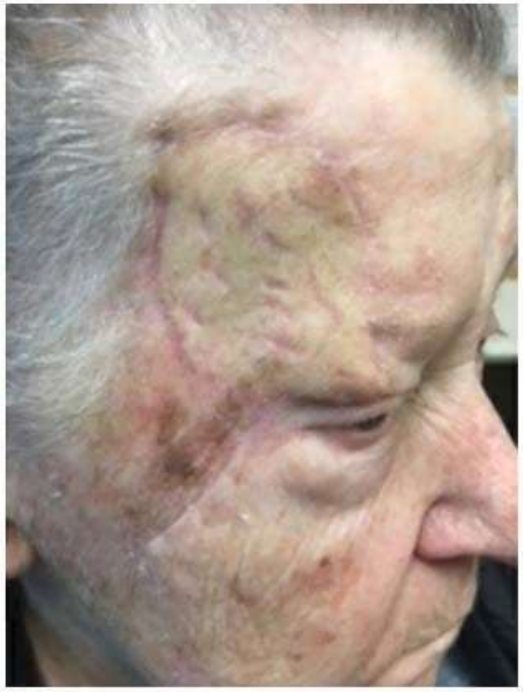
POSITION ARTICLE AND GUIDELINES Open Access

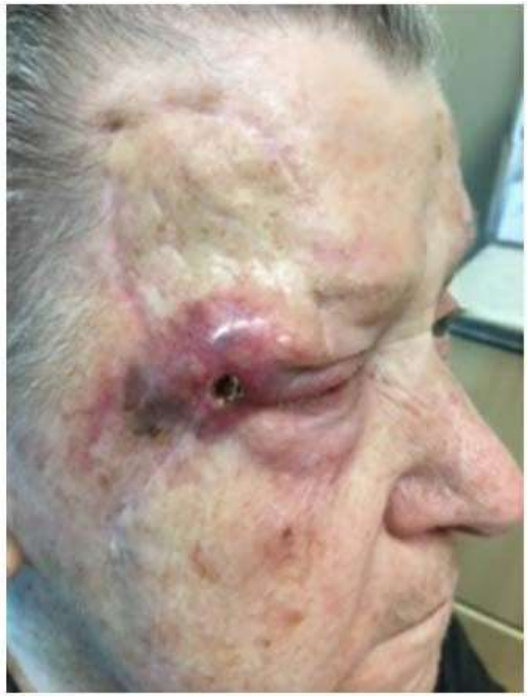
An update on the Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer consensus statement on tumor immunotherapy for the treatment of cutaneous melanoma: version 2.0

Ryan J. Sullivan[1], Michael B. Atkins[2], John M. Kirkwood[3], Sanjiv S. Agarwala[4], Joseph I. Clark[5], Marc S. Ernstoff[6], Leslie Fecher[7], Thomas F. Gajewski[8], Brian Gastman[9], David H. Lawson[10], Jose Lutzky[11], David F. McDermott[12], Kim A. Margolin[13], Janice M. Mehnert[14], Anna C. Pavlick[15], Jon M. Richards[16], Krista M. Rubin[1], William Sharfman[17], Steven Silverstein[18], Craig L. Slingluff Jr[19], Vernon K. Sondak[20], Ahmad A. Tarhini[21], John A. Thompson[22], Walter J. Urba[23], Richard L. White[24], Eric D. Whitman[25], F. Stephen Hodi[26] and Howard L. Kaufman[1*]

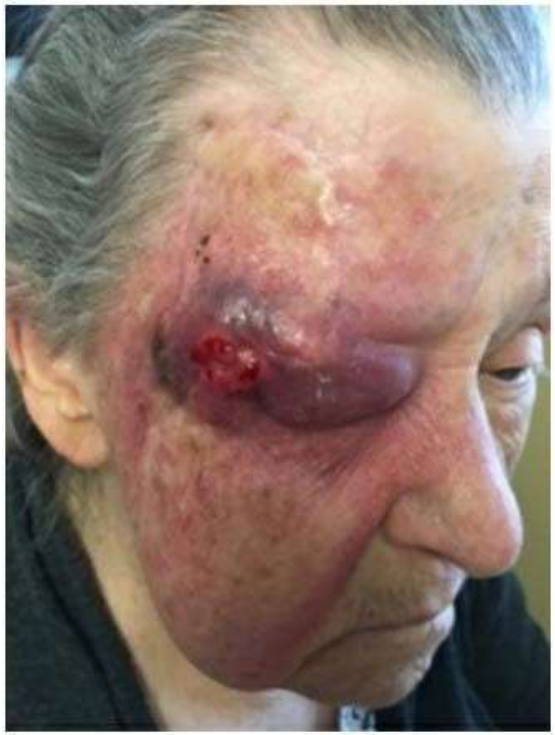
Case Studies

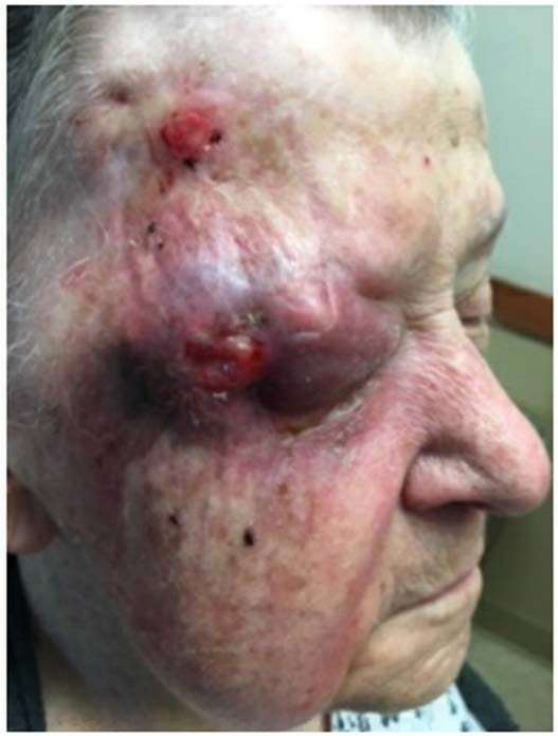
88 year old female patient with desmoplastic melanoma with local recurrence one year after initial resection





Patient declined additional surgery, no systemic metastases, planned for TVEC + XRT

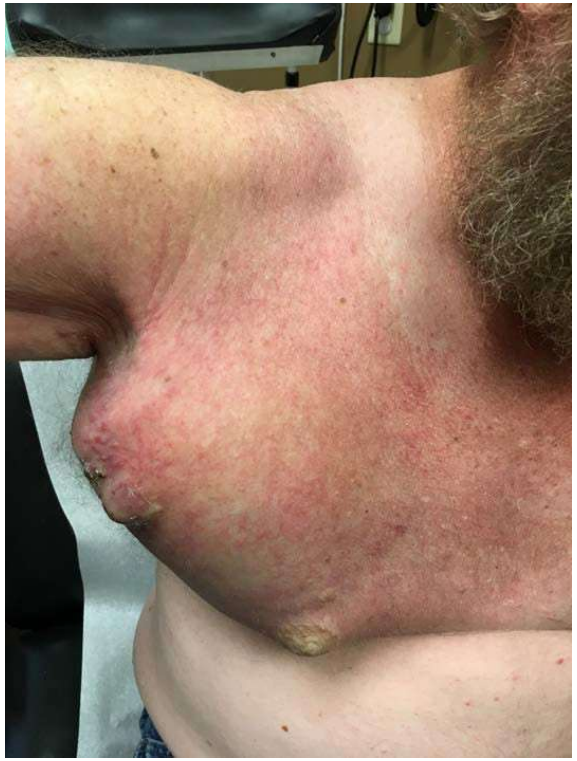


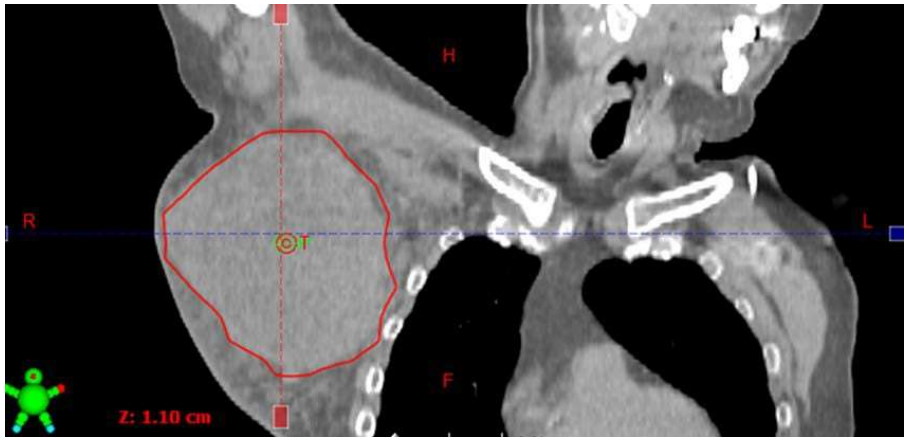


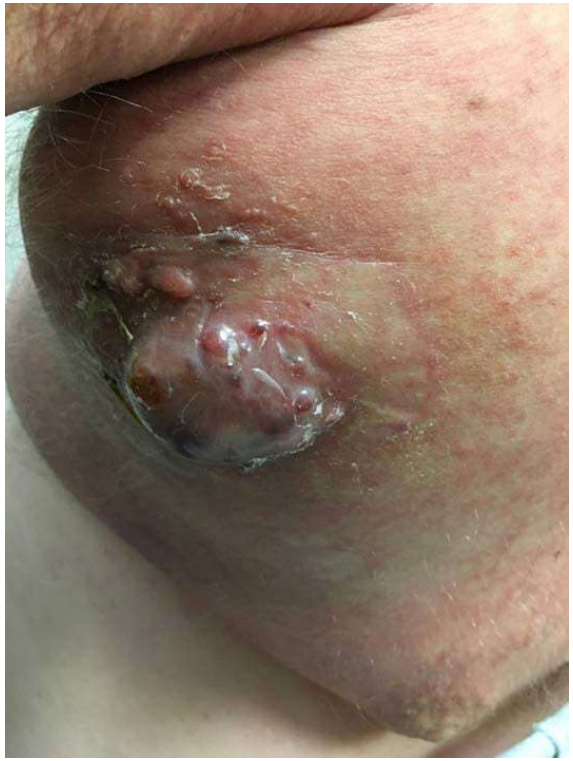
TVEC Cycle 4

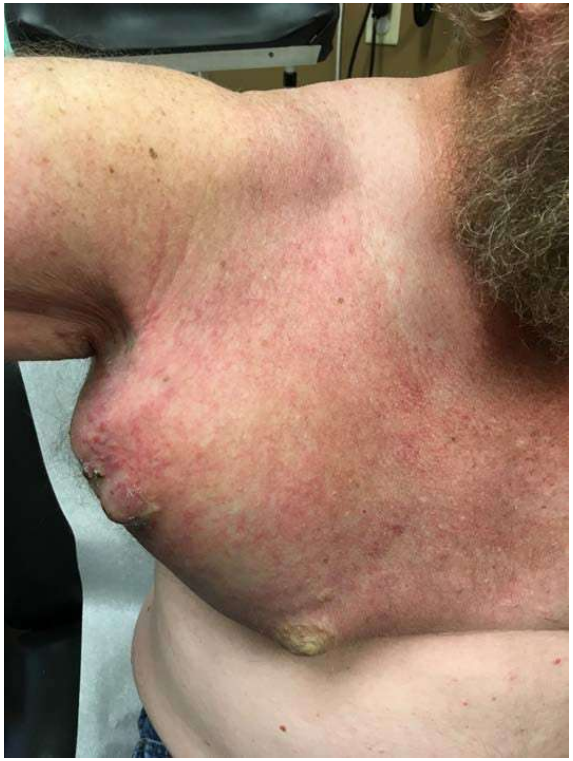
TVEC Cycle 12, complete clinical response, follow up ~ 2 years

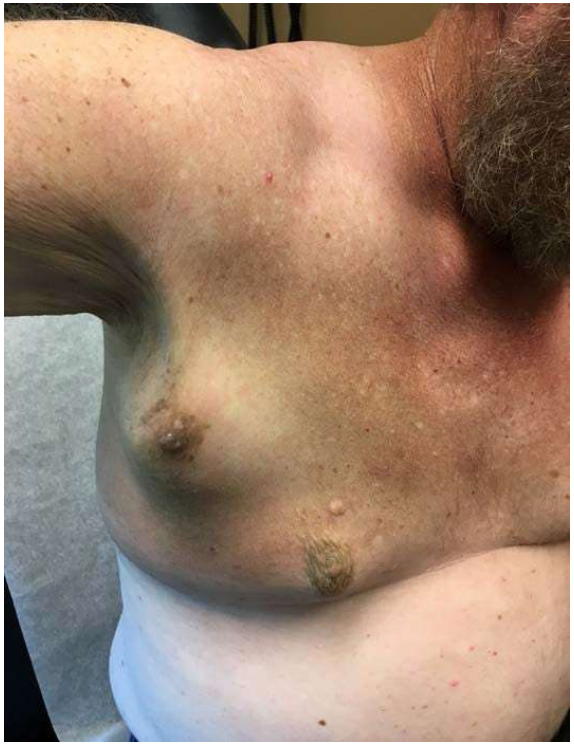
Progression after nivo/ipi



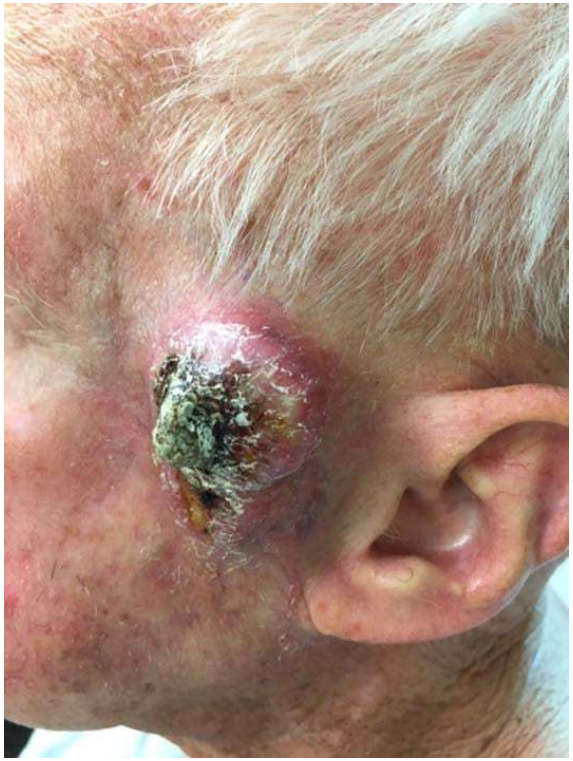


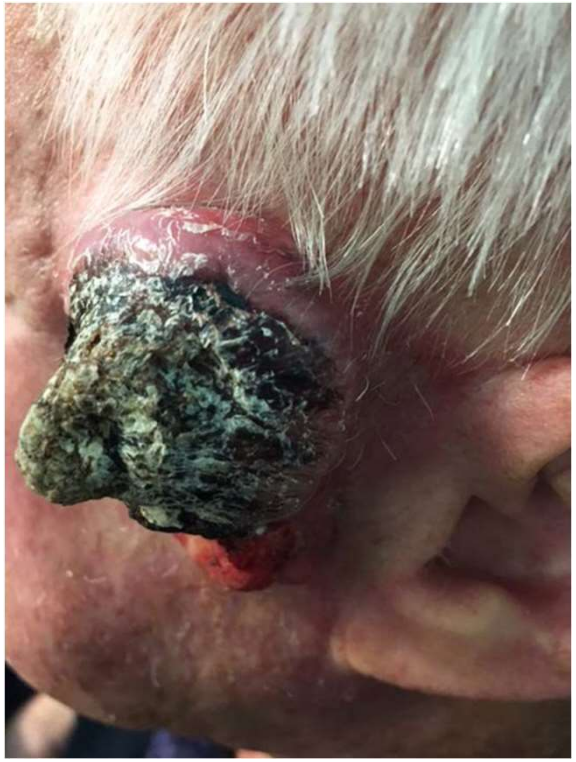




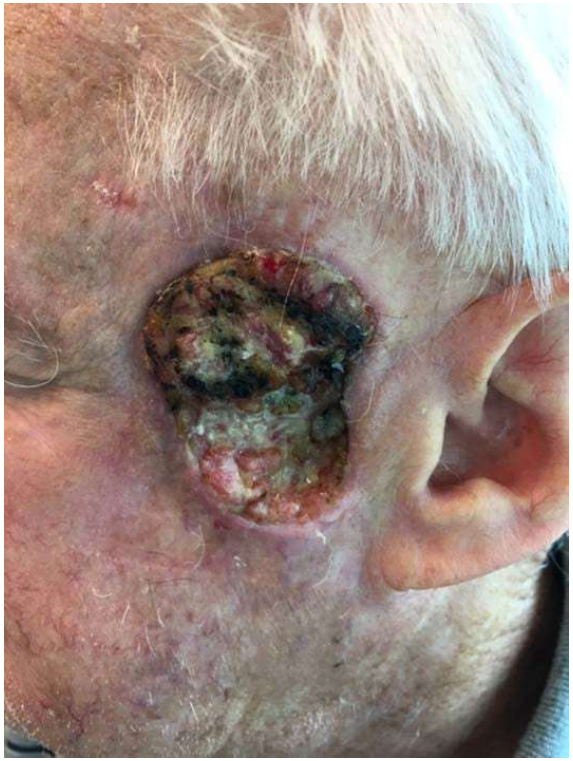


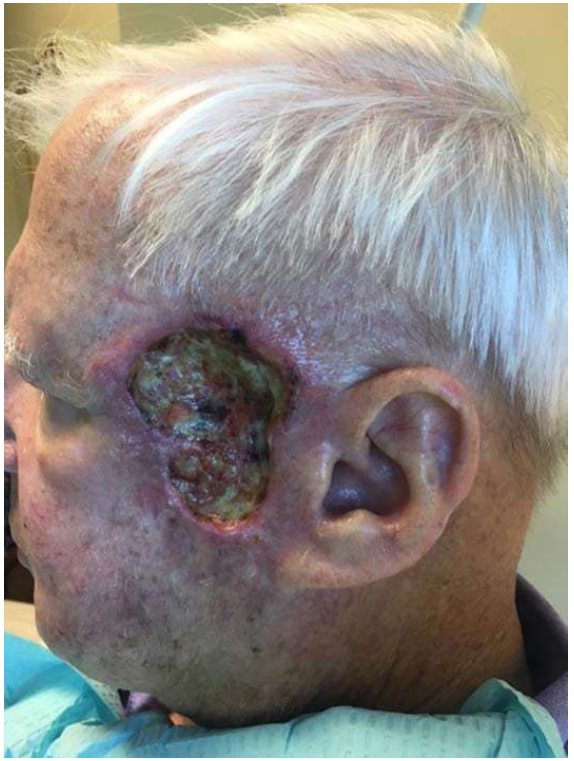
Cutanaeous SCC, failed surgery, radiation, nivolumab



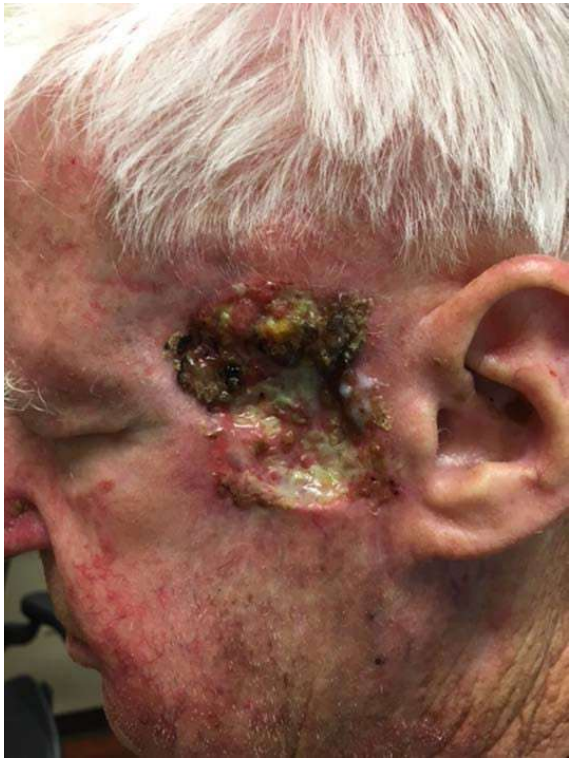


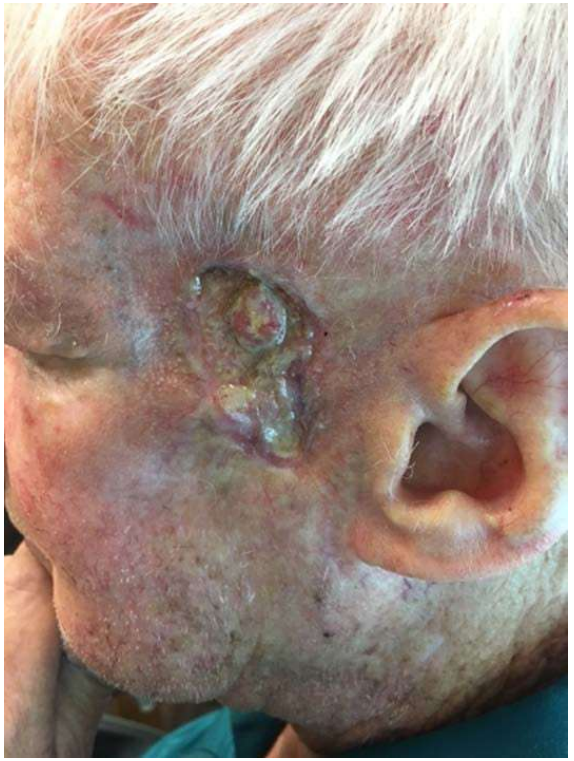
Surgical debulking, cryotherapy and topical imiquimod





NGS: ERBB3 mutation, started lapatinib, oral targeted HER2 therapy





sitc Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer

ADVANCES IN Cancer IMMUNOTHERAPY™

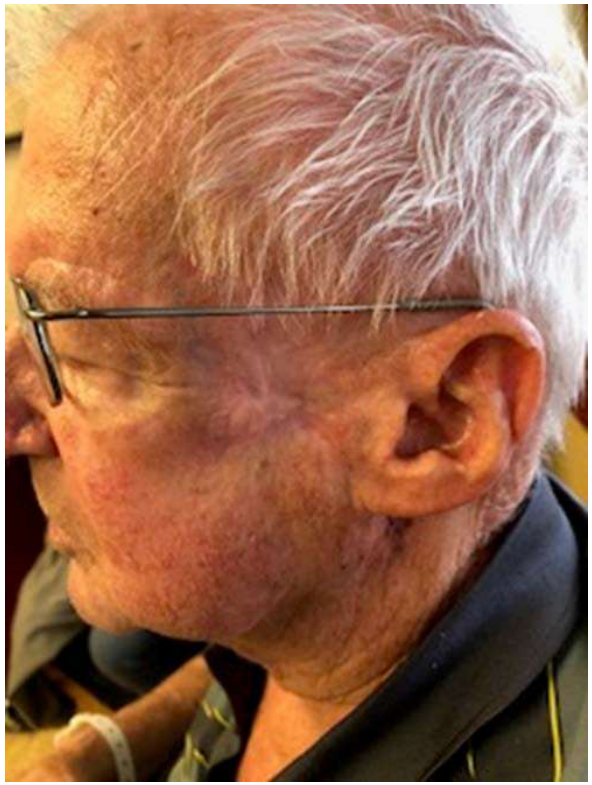
AAEM American Academy of Emergency Medicine

ACCC Association of Community Cancer Centers

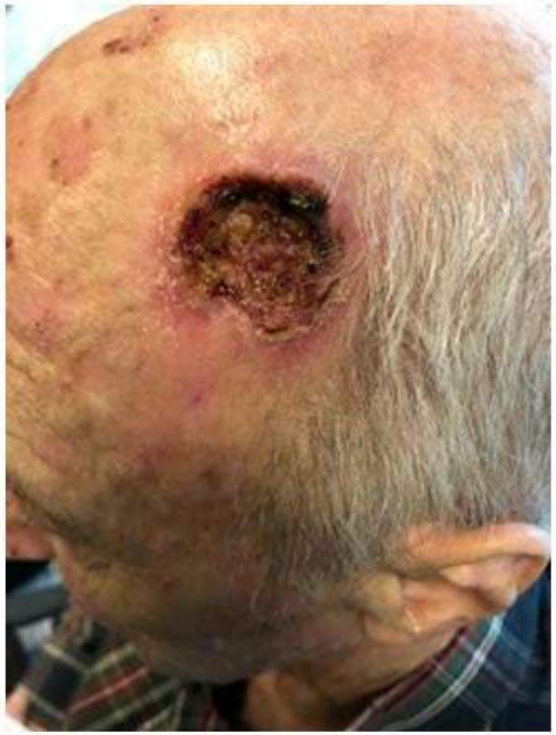
HOPA Hematology/Oncology Pharmacy Association

sitc Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer

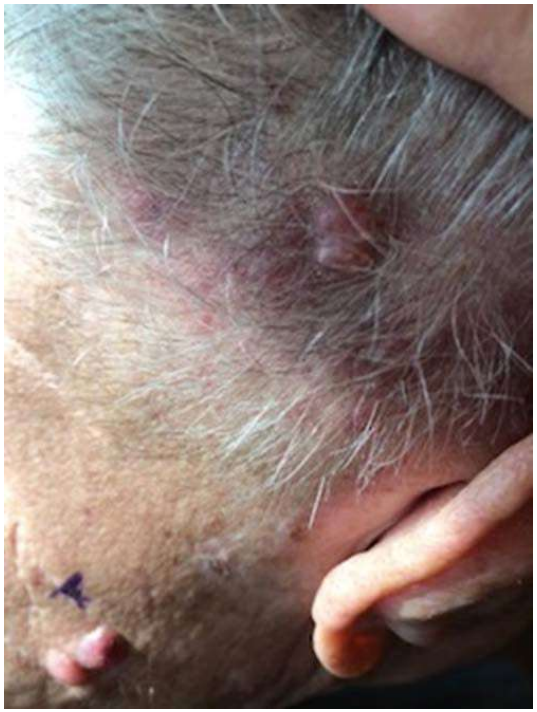
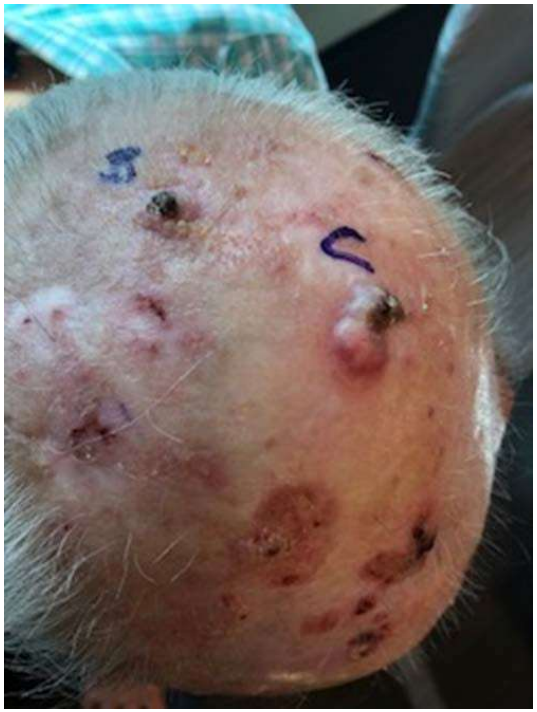
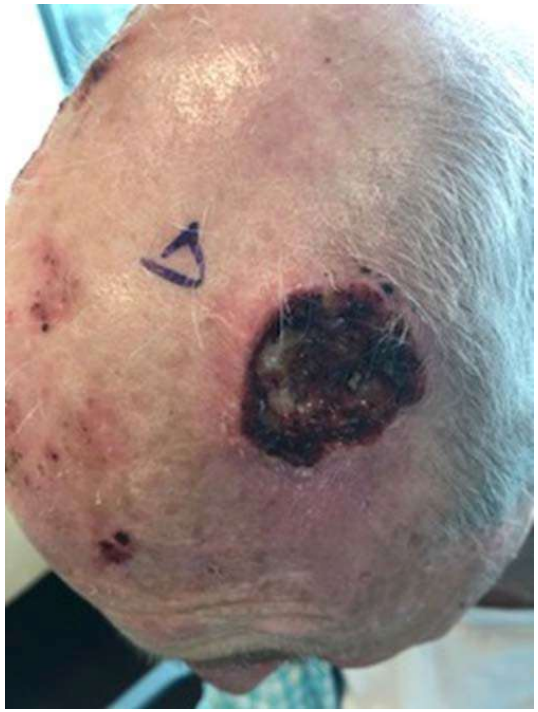
Complete response
Follow up ~ 3 years



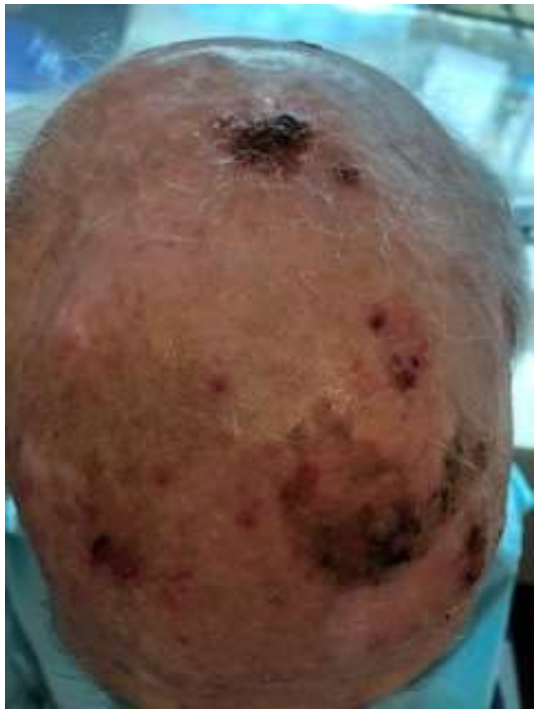
Cutaneous SCC and CLL

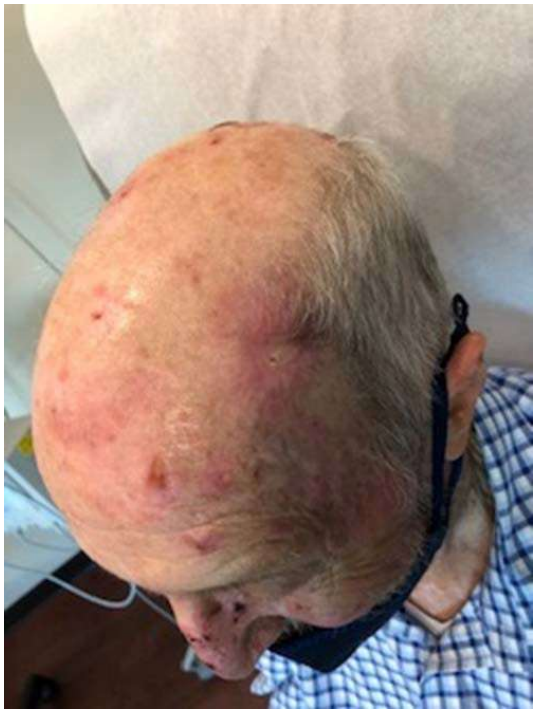


Dermal and nodal metastases on Cemiplimab

Improvement after adding ibrutinib





Acknowledgements

- Some figures created using Biorender.com