## "The role of immunotherapy in Gynecological Malignancy"

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## Outline

- Introduction
- Standard treatment of gynaecological malignancies
- Novel strategies
- Immunotherapy in gyneacological tumors
  - Cervical cancer
  - Endometrial cancer
  - Ovarian cancer
- Where are we going next?
- How to do a better assessment?

# Incidence and mortality of women's cancer



# Standard treatment of gynaecological malignancies

 Standard treatment of advanced gynaecological malignancies is based on cytoreductive surgery, followed by chemotherapy which remained the same over the past decades, and radiation therapy.

• However, the overall survival rate, in metastatic breast cancer, has not been improved...

https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6141595/

#### We definitely need Novel strategies

- To overcome chemoresistance and have better response:
  - Anti-angiogenic agents
  - PARP inhibitors
  - Immunotherapy

https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6141595/

# Immunotherapy in gyneacological tumors

## •Where are we now?

## Two FDA approvals

- In cervical Cancer (june 2018)
  Accelerated FDA approval since 17 September
- 2019 for endometrial cancer

Cervical cancer

#### **Cervical cancer**

- Fourth most common cancer in women worldwide with 99.7% of cases associated with HPV infection.
- Standard of care for recurrent/metastatic (R/M) disease without systemic therapy is cisplatin/paclitaxel + Bevacizumab (median OS <17 mo)</li>

#### Cervical cancer

- Upregulation of PD-1 and PD-L1 expression has been reported in cervical cancer making this tumor type likely to respond to PD-1/PD-L1 based therapy
- CTLA-4 is an inhibitory checkpoint that regulates adaptive immunity

#### Emerging strategies in recurrent cervical ca immune checkpoint inhibitors

#### Pembrolizumab in patients with advanced cervical Ca

#### Phase 1b Keynote-028 study



# Pembrolizumab in advanced cervical cancer

#### KEY NOTE 028 results

Patients treated (n=24)	(%)	Antitum	or activity (%)	Grade 3 TRAE	: (%)
Metastatic disease	100	ORR	17	Any	75
Prior RT	92	PR	17	Rash	21
Prior lines CT (≥3) 38		SD	13	Colitis	4
Prior Bev	42	PD	67	Guillain Barrè	4
Median response: Median OS:		duration: 5.4 mo (4.1-7.5) duration: 11 mo (95% CI: 4-15)			

Median follow up: 11 mo (1.3-32.2)

Frenel, JCO 2017

Recent FDA approval

# Pembrolizumab in advanced cervical cancer (FDA)

#### Phase II KEY NOTE 158 results

Patients treated (n=82)	Antitumor activity (pts number)	PD-L1+ (%)
OR	10	10
CR	3	3
PR	7	7
SD	17	14
PD	44	37

#### Pembrolizumab granted FDA approval for PD–L1+ Cervical Cancer 12 June 2018

# Pembrolizumab in advanced cervical cancer (FDA)

#### Phase II KEY NOTE 158 results



#### 90 % of responders Still respond after 6 months

At 11 months of follow up: median duration of response Not Reached



Pembrolizumab granted FDA approval for PD–L1+ Cervical Cancer 12 June 2018

Ongoing Trial Combination Immunotherapy

## Nivo/Ipi

## • Randomized cervical cancer cohorts of CheckMate 358 testing 2 combination regimens of nivolumab + ipilimumab for R/M disease



Study start date: October 2015 Estimated Completion date Decdember 2-10 Primary endpoint: investigator assessed ORR by RECIST 1.1 Secondary endopoints: OS, PFS, duration of response

## Progression Free survival

- In the nivo1 + ipi3 arm → 8.5 months (95% CI, 3.7-not reached) in the patients with no prior systemic therapy for R/M disease and 5.8 months (95% CI, 3.5-17.2) in those who had received prior systemic therapy for R/M disease.
- The probability of PFS at 6 months was 60.9% in those with no prior systemic therapy for R/M disease and 47.6% in those with prior systemic therapy, and at 12 months, these percentages were 43.5% and 38.1%, respectively.

#### Median overall survival

• Median overall survival (OS) was **not reached** in the nivo3 + ipi1 group that had no prior systemic therapy for R/M disease and 10.3 months in those with prior systemic treatment for R/M disease.

- The corresponding median OS values in the nivo1 + ipi3 arm were not reached and 25.4 months, respectively
- Nivo1 + Ipi3 (ORR 45%)> Nivo3 + Ipi1(ORR 30%) with more toxicities

#### **Checkmate 358 : Conclusion**

- The combination of nivo + ipi suggests a clinical benefit in patients with R/M cervical cancer.
- Median duration of response was not reached.
- The treatment protocol had a Tolerable safety profile.
- We are still waiting for the long term follow up

## Ongoing IO studies in Cervical Cancer

	Patient Population	Agent	Results
Single-Agent Immunotherapy			
Frenel et al (2017), KEYNOTE 028 <sup>53</sup>	PD-L1 <sup>+</sup> recurrent diagnosis	Pembrolizumab	ORR, 17%; DOR, 6 months
Chung et al (2018), KEYNOTE 158 <sup>54</sup>	PD-L1 <sup>+</sup> recurrent diagnosis	Pembrolizumab	ORR, 14.3%; DOR, not reached at 11.7 months
Lheureux et al (2018) <sup>55</sup>	Recurrent diagnosis	Ipilimumab	ORR, 2.9%
Hollebecque et al (2017), CheckMate 35855	Recurrent diagnosis	Nivolumab	ORR, 5%
Santin et al (2018), NRG-GY002 <sup>57</sup>	Recurrent diagnosis	Nivolumab	ORR, 4%
GOG 3016, NCT03257267	Recurrent diagnosis	Cemiplimab (PD-1i)	Ongoing
Chemotherapy + Immunotherapy			
KEYNOTE 826, NCT03635567	First line	Chemotherapy + pembrolizumab	Ongoing
BEATcc, NCT03556839	First line	Chemotherapy + atezolizumab	Ongoing

### **Endometrial cancer**

### **Endometrial Cancer**

#### Epidemiology

- The most common gy cancer in Western countries
- Incidence 13/100'000 women/yr Europe
- Mortality 2-3/100'000 women/yr
- > 80-90% post menopausal; 5% in <40 yrs old
- Median age 63 yrs
- > 80% Stage | 5yr survival 95%
- 10 % stage IV 5 yr survival 17%

	unopposed / excessive oestrogen exposure metabolic syndrome (obesity, hypertension):
Risk factors	RR 1.89
	nulliparity, early menarche/late menopause, diabetes
	treatment with tamoxifen in postmenopause
Genetic susceptibility	Lynch syndrome/ Hereditary Non-Polyposis
	Colorectal Cancer: 40-60% lifetime risk of both endometrial and CRC

#### Cancer Genome Atlas Research Network

#### **Comprehensive genomic and transcriptomic analysis of endometrial cancer**

#### Four genomic classes

	POLE (ultramutated)	MSI (hypermutated)	Copy-number low (endometrioid)	Copy-number high (serous-like)
Copy-number aberrations	Low	Low	Low	High
MSI/MLH1 methylation	Mixed MSI high, low, stable	MSI high	MSI stable	MSI stable
Mutation rate	Very high (232×10 <sup>-6</sup> mutations/Mb)	High (18×10 <sup>-6</sup> mutations/Mb)	Low (2.9×10 <sup>-6</sup> mutations/Mb)	Low (2-3×10 <sup>-6</sup> mutations/Mb)
Genes commonly mutated (prevalence)	POLE (100%) PTEN (94%) PIK3CA (71%) PIK3R1 (65%) FBXW7 (82%) ARID1A (76%) KRAS (53%) ARID5B (47%)	PTEN (88%) RPL22 (37%) KRAS (35%) PIK3CA (54%) PIK3R1 (40%) ARID1A (37%)	PTEN (77%) CTNNB1 (52%) PIK3CA (53%) PIK3R1 (33%) ARID1A (42%)	TP53 (92%) PPP2R1A (22%) PIK3CA (47%)
Histological type	Endometrioid	Endometrioid	Endometrioid	Serous, endometrioid, and mixed serous and endometrioid
Tumour grade	Mixed (grades 1-3)	Mixed (grades 1-3)	Grades 1 and 2	Grade 3
Progression-free survival	Good	Intermediate	Intermediate	Poor
	7%	28%	39%	26%

#### Murali R, Lancet Oncol, 2014

#### ENDOMETRIAL CANCER

Potential changes in practice through molecular categorization of EC

	Immediate?
Overall	<ul> <li>Reproducible categorization</li> <li>Stratification of trials: past and future, e.g. GOG 210, PORTEC4a</li> </ul>
MMR-D	<ul> <li>Referred for hereditary cancer counselling and testing</li> <li>Options in immunotherapy</li> </ul>
POLE EDM	<ul> <li>Options in immunotherapy (for rare recurrence or advanced disease unresponsive to conventional Rx)</li> </ul>
p53 wt	<ul> <li>Lower likelihood metastatic disease: hysterectomy/BSO, managed in community (?)</li> </ul>
p53 abn	<ul> <li>Fertility sparing Rx not recommended</li> <li>Complete/aggressive surgical staging</li> <li>High likelihood will require adjuvant chemotherapy +/- radiation</li> </ul>

Gynecol. Oncol. Pract., 2016

## Highest rate of MSI-H observed in endometrial cancer



Le D, et al. Science June 8, 2017

#### **Endometrial cancer**

- PD-1/PD-L1 inhibitors : active in metastatic MMRd cancers (Keynote-028: 13% PR, 13% SD)
- Pembrolizumab: Monotherapy for MSI-H endometrial cancer following prior treatment failure
- Lenvatinib : Oral multikinase inhibitor that targets VEGFR1-3, FGFR 1-4, PDGFRα, RET, and KIT
- KEYNOTE-146/Study 111: phase 1b/2 study: lenvatinib with pembrolizumab in patients with advanced EC regradless of MSI status.

## Study Design



-Life expectancy≥12 weeks

Lenvatinib 20mg/day(oral)

-

Pembrolizumab 200mg Q3W (IV) Primary End Point
ORR at week 24
Key Secondary End Point
Overall ORR
DOR/PFS/OS/DCR/BR
Safety and tolerability

#### Tumor response



## Accelerated approval

FDA Approves KEYTRUDA® (pembrolizumab) plus LENVIMA® (lenvatinib) Combination Treatment for Patients with Certain Types of Endometrial Carcinoma

SEPTEMBER 17, 2019

Combination Treatment Approved for Patients with Advanced Endometrial Carcinoma That Is Not Microsatellite Instability-High (MSI-H) or Mismatch Repair Deficient (dMMR), Who Have Disease Progression Following Prior Systemic Therapy and Are Not Candidates for Curative Surgery or Radiation

Under New FDA-Initiated Program, Combination Treatment Is the First to Receive Simultaneous Review Decisions in the U.S., Australia and Canada

#### Simultaneous review decisions for pembrolizumab plus lenvatinib in Australia, Canada and US

## PD-(L)1 trials in endometrial cancer (EC) Mono IO

Drug	Patients	Response
Pembrolizumab	Most MMRp/MSS EC, all PDL1	13% ORR (N=3 of 23)metastat
Avelumab	Recurrent/persistent EC	27% ORR in MSI-H/POLE (N=4 of 15) 6% ORR in MSS (N=1 of 16)
Durvalumab	Advanced EC	43% ORR in dMMR (N=15 of 35) 3% ORR in MMRp (N=1 of 35)
Atezolizumab	Recurrent EC	13% ORR overall (N=2 of 15)

### Ongoing studies in Endometrial Cancer IO Combinations

Antiangiogenesis + Immunotherapy			
Makker et al (2018), KEYNOTE 775 <sup>50</sup>	Metastatic EC	Lenvatinib + pembrolizumab	ORR, 48%; DCR, 96%
NCT03526432	Recurrent EC	Bevacizumab + atezolizumab	Ongoing
NCT03367741	Recurrent EC	Nivolumab ± cabozantinib	Ongoing
Chemo + Immunotherapy			
NCT02549209	Advanced recurrent EC	Chemotherapy + pembrolizumab	Ongoing
NCT03276013	Recurrent EC	Doxorubicin + pembrolizumab	Ongoing
NCT03603184 (AtEND)	Advanced recurrent EC	Chemotherapy ± atezolizumab	Ongoing
NCT03503786 (MITO-END3)	Advanced recurrent EC	Chemotherapy ± avelumab	Ongoing

### Ovarian cancer

#### **Ovarian Cancer: Immunogenicity**

- The presence of intratumoral T cells is a prognostic factor in ovarian cancer
- PD-L1 is expressed in ovarian cancer although its role as prognostic factor contradictory



#### **TILs improve OS and PFS**



After CR with chemotherapy, only patients with TILs survive or are in remission long-term

## IO Monotherapy in OC

Study/Author	Study Type	Agent	Patient Population	Overall Response Rate
Brahmer et al (2012) <sup>6</sup>	Phase I	PD-L1	Advanced diagnosis; multiple tumor types	6% (1/16)
Hamanashi et al (2015) <sup>7</sup>	Phase II	PD-1 nivolumab	Platinum resistant	15% (3/20)
JAVELIN, Disis et al (2019) <sup>8</sup>	Phase Ib	PD-L1 avelumab	Recurrent/refractory	10% (12/124)
Infante et al (2016) <sup>9</sup>	Phase la	PD-L1 atezolizumab	Recurrent/metastatic	22% (9/12)
KEYNOTE 28, Varga et al (2017) <sup>10</sup>	Phase Ib	Pembrolizumab	PD-L1 <sup>+</sup> tumors	11.5% (3/26)
KEYNOTE 100, Matulonis et al (2018) <sup>11</sup>	Phase II	Pembrolizumab	Recurrent diagnosis	9% (PD-L1+ CPS ≥ 1 [8/59]; PD-L1+ CPS > 10 25% [5/20])

→ Response in unselected EOC only ≈ 10-15%

#### Javelin study: Chemo-IO

Avelumab alone or in combination with pegylated liposomal doxorubicin vs pegylated liposomal doxorubicin alone in platinum-resistant or refractory epithelial ovarian cancer: primary and biomarker analysis of the phase 3 JAVELIN Ovarian 200 trial

Table 1 Avelumab alone or in combination with pegylated liposomal doxorubicin vs pegylated liposomal doxorubicin alone in platinum-resistant or refractory epithelial ovarian

cancer: primary and biomarker analysis of the phase 3 JAVELIN Ovarian 200 trial

All patients	Ave (N=	=188)	Ave+PLI	O (N=188)	PLD (	N=190)
OS						
Median (95% CI), mo	11.8 (8.9; 14.1)		15.7 (12.7; 18.7)		13.1 (11.8; 15.5)	)
Stratified hazard ratio vs PLD (repeated CI [RCI])	1.14 (0.948; 1.580)		0.89 (0.744; 1.241)		-	
P value vs PLD,1-sided log-rank test	0.8253(significance leve	e1, <0.0095)	0.2082(significance	level, <0.0103)	-	
PFS						
Median (95% CI), mo	1.9 (1.8; 1.9)		3.7 (3.3; 5.1)		3.5 (2.1; 4.0)	
Stratified hazard ratio vs PLD (RCI)	1.68 (1.320; 2.601)		0.78 (0.587; 1.244)		-	
P value vs PLD,1-sided log-rank test	>0.999(significance leve	el, <0.0003)	0.0301(significance	level, <0.0002)	-	
	Ave		Ave+PLD	1	PLD	
PD-L1 evaluable	PD-L1+ (N=91)	PD-L1-(N=62)	PD-L1+ (N=92)	PD-L1-(N=58)	PD-L1+ (N=73)	PD-L1-(N=66)
OS						
Median (95% CI), mo	13.7(9.6; not estimable)	10.5(6.8; 15.3)	18.4(13.7; 22.0)	12.7(7.8; 18.7)	13.8(10.5; 17.7)	13.1(10.9; 15.7)
Hazard ratio vs PLD(95% CI)	0.797 (0.526; 1.207)	1.374 (0.879; 2.147)	0.719 (0.478; 1.079)	1.105 (0.685; 1.783)	-	-
P value vs PLD,2-sided log-rank test	0.2828	0.1617	0.1098	0.6822	-	-
PFS						
Median (95% CI), mo	1.9(1.8; 2.3)	1.8(1.8; 1.9)	3.7(2.2; 5.6)	3.9(1.9; 5.5)	1.9(1.9; 3.6)	3.7(3.2; 5.5)
Hazard ratio vs PLD(95% CI)	1.263 (0.881; 1.812)	1.776 (1.194; 2.641)	0.588 (0.406; 0.853)	0.924 (0.601; 1.421)	-	-
P value vs PLD,2-sided log-rank test	0.2026	0.0041	0.0048	0.7174	-	-

### **Promising Strategies in OC**

PARPi + Immunotherapy			
Konstantinopoulos et al (2018), TOPACIO-KEYNOTE 162 <sup>29</sup>	Platinum resistant	Niraparib + pembrolizumab	ORR, 25%; DOR, 9.3 months
Drew et al (2018), MEDIOLA <sup>30</sup>	Platinum sensitivity, BRCA <sup>+</sup>	Olaparib + durvalumab	DCR, 81%
Lee et al (2018) <sup>31</sup>	86% platinum resistant	Olaparib + durvalumab	ORR, 14%; DCR, 37%
Javelin 100, PARP NCT03642132	First line	Chemotherapy + PARP <sub>m</sub> vs. chemotherapy/avelumab + PARP/ avelumab <sub>m</sub> vs. chemotherapy/ bevicizumab + bevicizumab <sub>m</sub>	Ongoing
ENGOT-ov43, NCT03740165	First line	Chemotherapy vs. chemotherapy/ olaparib/pembrolizumab	Ongoing
ENGOT-ov44 (FIRST), NCT03602859	First line	Chemotherapy vs. chemotherapy/ niraparib/TSR-042	Ongoing
ATHENA (ENGOT-ov45), NCT03522246	First-line maintenance	PARPi/nivolumab vs. PARPi vs. nivolumab vs. placebo	Ongoing
ENGOT-ov41 (ANITA), NCT03598270	Platinum sensitive	Chemotherapy + PARP <sub>m</sub> vs. chemotherapy/atezolizumab + PARP/ atezolizumab <sub>m</sub>	Ongoing
PARP + Antiangiogenesis + Immunotherapy			
ENGOT-ov46/DUO-0, NCT03737643	First line	Chemo/bevacizumab/durvalumab + bevacizumab/olaparib/durvalumab <sub>m</sub>	Ongoing

## Where are we going next?

Better patient selection and search for more efficient biomarkers!!!

### Actual Biomarkers are they efficient???

Indicative of a T cell-inflamed tumor environment	Related to tumor neoantigen burden
PD-L1 protein expression on tumor and immune cells	Microsatellite instability (MSI)
Gene signatures of activated T cells (Le T cell-inflamed gene expression profile, GEP)	High tumor mutational burden (TMB)

# Novel combination strategies are in development

- VEGFi + T cell modulators
- PARPi + I/O agents
  - > PARP inhibition may increase immunogenicity
- I/O + chemotherapy
- I/O + I/O
- Triple Combos

....Waiting for the results!!!

## Conclusion

- Immunotherapy is already a major player in gynaecological malignancies
- Two FDA approvals for cervical and endometrial cancer
- Many studies to come in ovarian, endometrial and cervical cancer
- Ovarian cancer: A little behind !!!

## My Deep Request for the MEMAGO Let us do together our own research and trials!!!



#### Vive le 4eme MEMAGO

#### A la Santé Du 5eme!!!

Thank you for your attention!!





