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Optimizing Treatment with Immune Checkpoint Inhibitors: The Collaborative Care of Patients with Triple Negative Breast Cancer

FACULTY

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Director and Lead, Breast Center of Advanced Oncology Medical Oncologist and Hematologist Cancer Treatment Centers of America Philadelphia, PA

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

This case-based live virtual activity will cover the treatment and management of patients with triple negative breast cancer.

TARGET AUDIENCE

This initiative is designed to meet the educational needs of U.S.-based nurse practitioners, physician assistants, clinical nurse specialists, advanced degree nurses, oncology and hematology nurses, pharmacists, and physicians involved in the treatment of patients with triple negative breast cancer (TNBC).

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of the program, attendees should be able to:

- Explain the complementary mechanisms found with the combination of chemotherapy and immunotherapy agents in the treatment of TNBC
- Apply evidence-based data derived from clinical trials to optimize combination regimens for the treatment of patients with metastatic TNBC
- Describe patient-centered shared decision-making approaches intended to optimize oncology care in patients with TNBC
- Discuss the roles that oncology nurses can play in the management of patients with metastatic TNBC who are treated or eligible for treatment with immunotherapy

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Purpose: This program would be beneficial for nurses involved in the management or treatment of patients with triple negative breast cancer. **CNE Credits:** 1 ANCC Contact Hour.

CNE ACCREDITATION STATEMENT

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CME Content Review

The content of this activity was independently peer-reviewed.

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CNE Content Review

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The reviewer of this activity has nothing to disclose.

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- 1. Read the CME/CNE information and faculty disclosures
- 2. Participate in the live virtual activity
- 3. Complete the posttest and online evaluation form

You will receive your certificate as a downloadable file.

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Optimizing Treatment with Immune Checkpoint Inhibitors: The Collaborative Care of Patients with Triple Negative Breast Cancer

I. Primer in Triple-Negative Breast Cancer

- a. Molecular and immunogenic characteristics of TNBC
 - 1. What is triple-negative breast cancer?
 - 2. Tumor infiltrating lymphocytes and their role
 - 3. ASCO-CAP classification of TNBC
- b. Pathologic and clinical characteristics of TNBC
 - 1. The TNBC phenotype
 - 2. Antitumor immunity and the tumor microenvironment
- c. Standard of care treatments
 - 1. Unmet needs

II. Combination Therapy for Metastatic TNBC - Revealing the Additive or Synergistic Effects

- a. Understanding the complementary mechanisms found with the combination of chemotherapy and immunotherapy treatment
 - 1. How does chemotherapy augment tumor immunity?
 - 2. Preclinical and clinical data of chemotherapy/IO immunogenic effects
- b. Mechanisms of immune modulation by chemotherapy
- c. Combined anti-tumor effects of chemotherapy with checkpoint inhibition on TNBC

III. Rational Integration of Distinct Treatment Modalities for Metastatic TNBC

- a. Checkpoint inhibition and its efficacy, safety in TNBC
- b. Combination of IO and chemotherapy in the systemic treatment of TNBC
- c. Review of current IO and chemotherapy combination clinical trials results and their use in metastatic disease

IV. Case studies

V. Multidisciplinary Oncology Team – Optimizing Patient Care and Survivorship Through Shared Decision Making

- a. Benefits for patients and providers
- b. Use of SDM in oncology
- c. Barriers and facilitators to SDM
- d. Oncology nurses as integral members of the cancer care team

VI. Conclusions and Questions and Answers

Optimizing Treatment With Immune Checkpoint Inhibitors: The Collaborative Care of Patients With Triple-Negative Breast Cancer

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Disclosures

- Dr. Aithal is on the Speakers Bureau for Pfizer, Puma, Novartis and Seattle Genetics.
- She has consulted for PSI-CRO.
- During the course of this lecture, Dr. Aithal may mention the use of medications for both FDA-approved and non-approved indications.

This activity is supported by an educational grant from Merck.

Learning Objectives

- Explain the complementary mechanisms found with the combination of chemotherapy and immunotherapy agents in the treatment of TNBC
- Apply evidence-based data derived from clinical trials to optimize combination regimens for the treatment of patients with mTNBC
- Describe patient-centered shared decision-making approaches intended to optimize oncology care in patients with TNBC
- Discuss the roles that oncology nurses can play in the management of patients with mTNBC who are treated or eligible for treatment with immunotherapy

mTNBC = metastatic TNBC; TNBC = triple-negative breast cancer.

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Triple-Negative Breast Cancer: An Overview

- ≈ 10%-15% of all breast cancers
- ≈ 2 times more likely in African American women before 40 years of age as compared with Caucasian or Hispanic women
- Up to 20% of TNBCs have germline BRCA mutation
- Shorter PFS and median survival in TNBC compared with other subtypes
- TNBC has a high likelihood of visceral metastasis, including in the brain

5-year relative survival rates in TNBC (2010-2016)			
SEER Stage	5-Year Relative Survival Rate		
Localized	91.2%		
Regional	65.0%		
Distant	11.5%		

PFS = progression-free survival; SEER = Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results.

Foulkes WD, et al. N Engl J Med. 2010;363:1938-1948. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention 2019 (https://www.cancer.org/cancer/breast-cancer/understanding-a-breast-cancer-diagnosis/types-of-breast-cancer/triple-negative.html). Accessed August 27, 2020. National Institutes of Health Cancer Stat Facts (https://seer.cancer.gov/statfacts/html/breast-subtypes.html). Accessed August 28, 2020. Khosravi-Shahi P, et al. Asia Pac J Clin Oncol. 2018;14:32-39.

ASCO/CAP Classification of TNBC 2018 ASCO/CAP dual-probe HER2 ISH interpretation Hormone receptor status HER2 Group HER2/CEP17 Interpretation **Further Workup and** – Receptor positive: > 1% of tumor cells Ratio Signals/ Interpretation are positive for ER or PR Cell ≥ 2 ISH positive ≥ 4 Receptor negative: ER and/or PR IHC Correlate with IHC; if 2+, count additional ISH cells ≥ 2 Further workup expression of 0 HER2 NEGATIVE unless • HER2 amplification status IHC 3+ Correlate with IHC; if 2+, count additional ISH cells - HER2+: IHC protein expression of 3+ ≥ 6 Further workup HER2 POSITIVE unless - HER2-: IHC expression of 0 or 1+ IHC 0 or 1+ Correlate with IHC; if 2+, count additional ISH cells - If IHC result is 2+ (equivocal), perform ≥ 4 and Further workup < 6 dual-probe ISH HER2 NEGATIVE unless IHC 3+ • TNBC: ER-, PR-, and HER2-

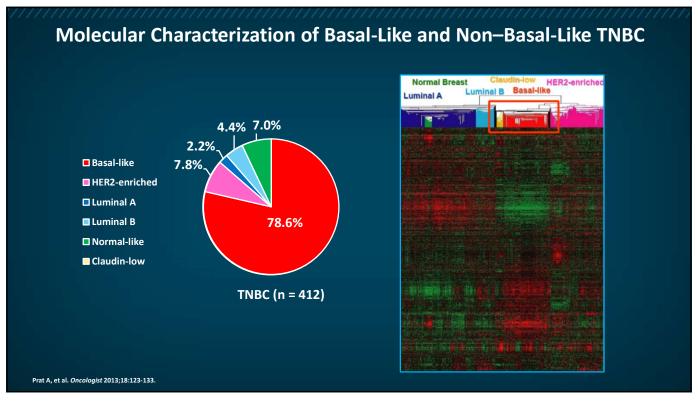
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ISH negative

ER = estrogen receptor; IHC = immunohistochemistry; ISH = in situ hybridization; PR = progesterone receptor.

Hammond MEH, et al. J Clin Oncol. 2010;28:2784-2795. Wolff AC, et al. J Clin Oncol. 2018;36:2105-2122. Wolff AC, et al. Arch Pathol Lab Med. 2018;142:1364-1382. Foulkes WD, et al. N Engl J Med. 2010;363:1938-1948.

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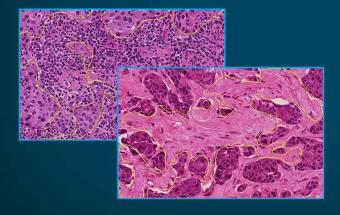


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Tumor-Infiltrating Lymphocytes (TILs)

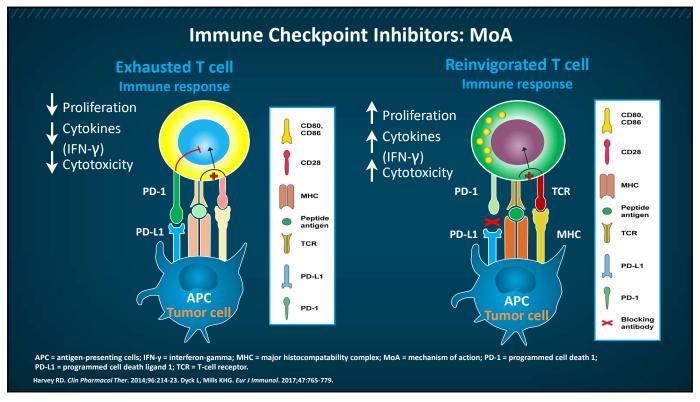
- Approximately 11% of breast cancers demonstrate LPBC
- TILs are most commonly found in highly proliferative cancers such as TNBC and HER2+ tumors
- TNBCs have the highest incidence of LPBC (range: 4%-37%)



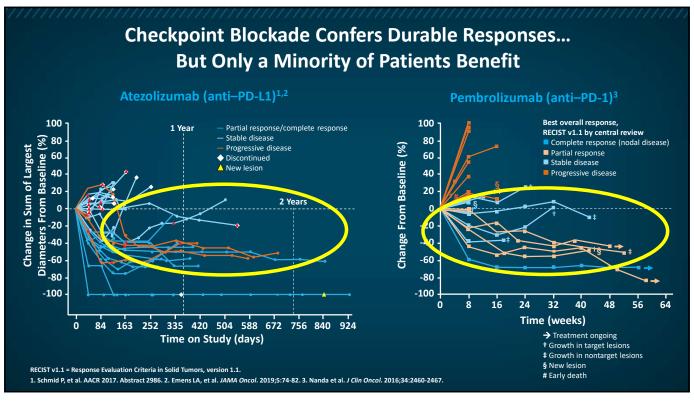
- GeparDuo and GeparTrio trials
 - Phase 3 trials of docetaxel, doxorubicin, and cyclophosphamide combination regimens
- LPBC was defined as patients with > 60% intratumoral or stromal lymphocytes
- The percentage of intratumoral lymphocytes
 was a significant independent predictor of pCR,
 with an OR of 1.38 (95% CI: 1.08, 1.78; P= .012)
 for every 10% increase in lymphocyte infiltrate

LPBC = lymphocyte-predominant breast cancer; OR = odds ratio; pCR = pathological complete response.

Stanton SE, et al. JAMA Oncol. 2016;2:1354-1360. Loi S, et al. J Clin Oncol. 2013;31:860-867. Denkert C, et al. J Clin Oncol. 2010;28:105-113. Images courtesy of Carsten Denkert.



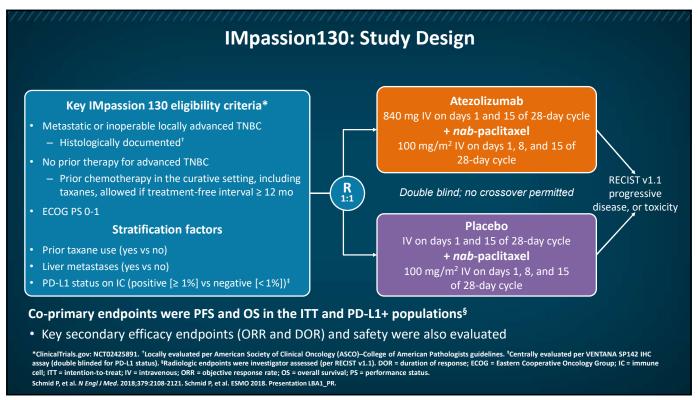


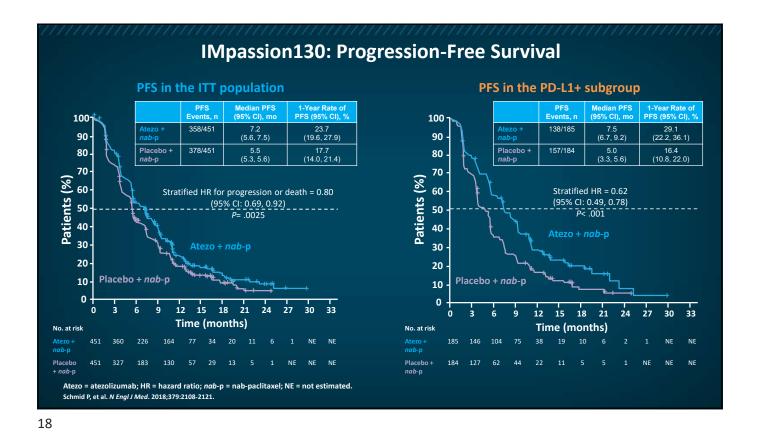


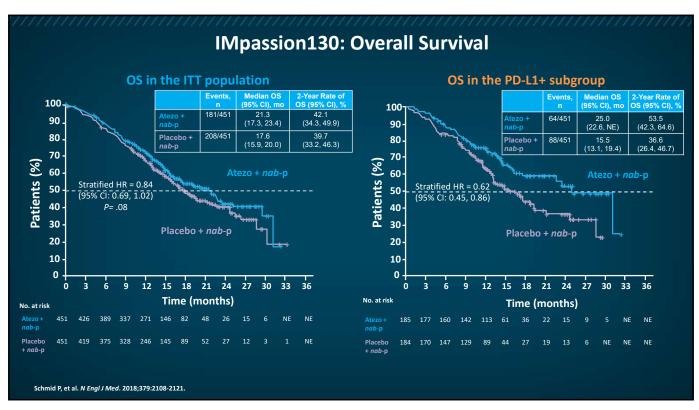
Chemotherapy Can Sensitize Tumors to Checkpoint Blockade Although chemotherapy can be immune suppressive, the *right* agents in the *right* doses Drug-induced Durable at the *right* time can induce T-cell infiltration CD8+ T cell cancer into tumors: infiltration control Cyclophosphamide - Platinums Anthracyclines Immuno-Immune checkpoint genic Taxanes drug(s) blockade Lung adenocarcinoma cell CD8+

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TLR4 = toll-like receptor 4.
Pfirschke C, et al. *Immunity*. 2016;44:343-354.







IMpassion130: Adverse Events

	Atezolizumab + <i>nab</i> -Paclitaxel (n = 452) Any Grade Grade 3 or 4		Placebo + <i>nab</i> -Paclitaxel (n = 438)		
			Any Grade	Grade 3 or 4	
Event	Number of patients with event (%)				
Alopecia	255 (56.4)	3 (0.7)	252 (57.5)	1 (0.2)	
Nausea	208 (46.0)	5 (1.1)	167 (38.1)	8 (1.8)	
Cough	112 (24.8)	0	83 (18.9)	0	
Peripheral neuropathy	98 (21.7)	25 (5.5)	97 (22.1)	12 (2.7)	
Neutropenia	94 (20.8)	37 (8.2)	67 (15.3)	36 (8.2)	
Pyrexia	85 (18.8)	3 (0.7)	47 (10.7)	0	
Hypothyroidism	62 (13.7)	0	15 (3.4)	0	

Shown are the single most frequent AEs of any grade, AEs of any grade for which the rates differed by ≥ 5 percentage points between groups, and AEs of grade 3 or 4 for which the rates differed by ≥ 2 percentage points between groups

AE = adverse event. Schmid P, et al. N Engl J Med. 2018;379:2108-2121.

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Pembrolizumab Monotherapy in Metastatic TNBC

- · Pembrolizumab monotherapy showed durable antitumor activity and manageable safety in patients with mTNBC1-4
- Improved clinical responses observed in patients with higher PD-L1 expression⁴
- Responses to pembrolizumab monotherapy were more durable than those to chemotherapy⁴

Study	Population	N	ORR	Median DOR (range), mo	Median PFS (95% CI), mo	6-Month PFS	12-Month OS
KEYNOTE-012 ¹	Heavily pretreated PD-L1–positive*	27	18.5%	NR (3.4 to 10.8+)	1.9 (1.7, 5.5)	24.4%	43.1%
KEYNOTE-086A ²	Previously treated PD-L1–unselected	170	5.3%	NR (1.2+ to 21.5+)	2.0 (1.9, 2.0)	14.9%	39.8%
KEYNOTE-086B ³	Previously untreated PD-L1–positive†	84	21.4%	10.4 (4.2 to 19.2+)	2.1 (2.0, 2.2)	27.0%	61.7%
KEYNOTE-119 ⁴	Previously treated PD-L1–selected	312	9.6%	12.2 (2.2 to 32.5+)	2.1 (2.0, 2.1)	14.7%	42.8%

^{*}Expression in stroma or ≥ 1% of TCs by IHC and the 22C3 antihuman PD-1 antibody (Merck & Co., Kenilworth, NJ). *Assessed at a central laboratory using the PD-L1 IHC 22C3 pharmDx

assay defined as the CPS, the number of PD-L1—positive cells (TCs, lymphocytes, macrophages) divided by total number of TCs x 100; PD-L1—positive = CPS ≥ 1.

CPS = combined positive score; NR = not reached.

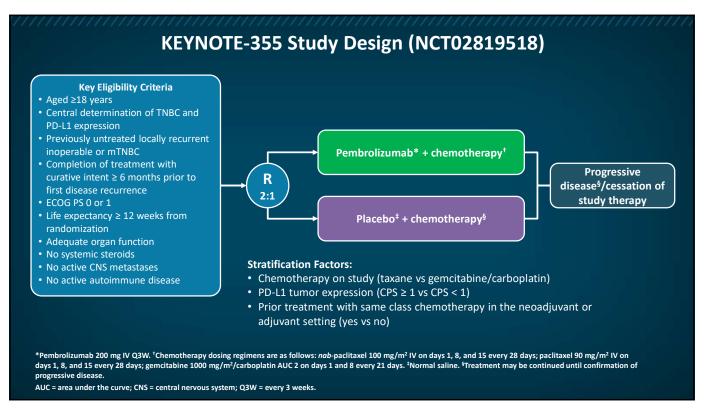
1. Nanda R, et al. J Clin Oncol. 2016;34:2460-2467. 2. Adams S, et al. Ann Oncol. 2019;30:397-404. 3. Adams S, et al. Ann Oncol. 2019;30:405-411. 4. Cortes J, et al. Ann Oncol. 2019;30(suppl 5):v859-v860. Cortes J, et al. ASCO 2020: presentation 1000.

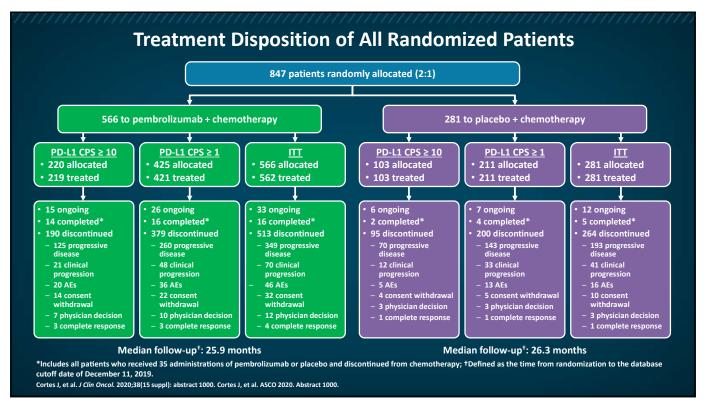
Pembrolizumab Plus Chemotherapy

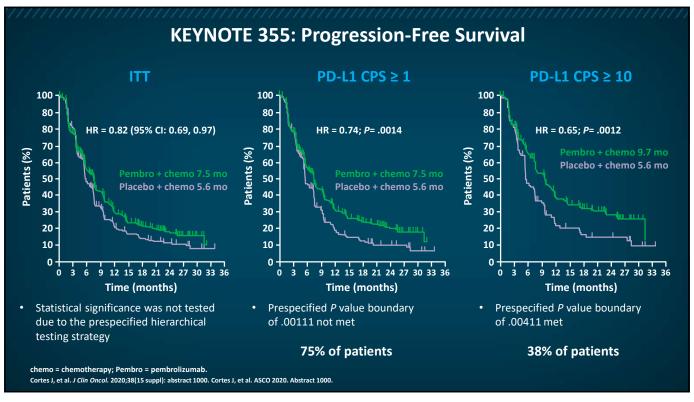
- Chemotherapy is a rational combination partner for anti–PD-1 therapy¹
 - Disrupts tumor architecture and may overcome immune exclusion
 - Results in antigen shedding
 - Induces rapid disease control
- Pembrolizumab + standard neoadjuvant chemotherapy
 - Demonstrated a pCR rate of 60% across all cohorts in KEYNOTE-173²
 - More than doubled estimated pCR rates for HR-positive/ERBB2-negative and TNBC in I-SPY23
 - Statistically significant increase in pCR of 13.6 percentage points (P= .001) vs chemotherapy alone in KEYNOTE-522⁴
 - Manageable toxicity with no unexpected safety signals²⁻⁴
- Pembrolizumab + chemotherapy was granted FDA breakthrough therapy designation for neoadjuvant treatment of patients with high-risk, early stage TNBC

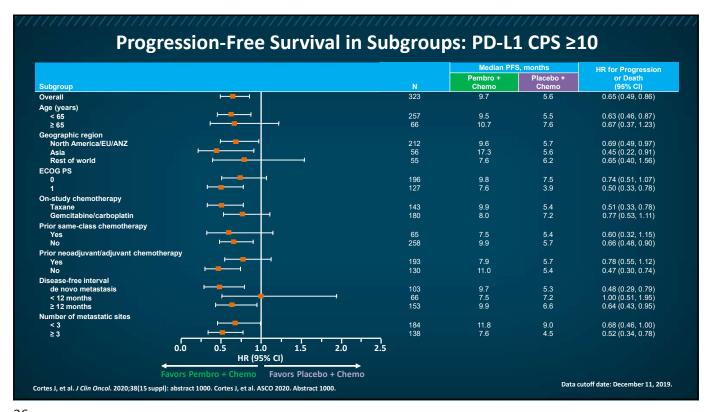
FDA = US Food and Drug Administration; pCR = pathologic complete response.

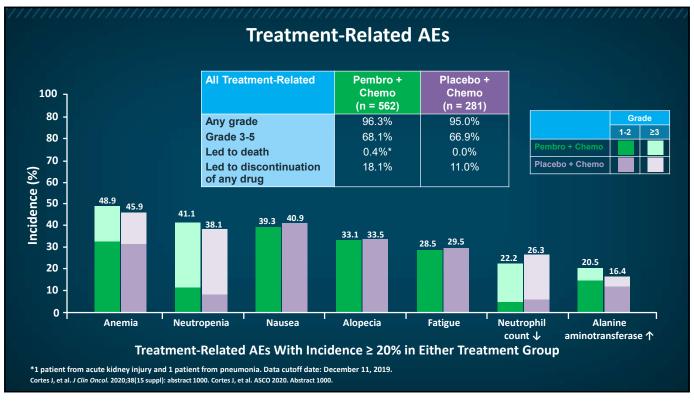
1. Economopoulou P, et al. Ann Oncol. 2016;27:1675-1685. 2. Schmid P, et al. Ann Oncol. 2020;31:569-581. 3. Nanda R, et al. JAMA Oncol. 2020;6:1-9. 4. Schmid P, et al. N Engl J Med. 2020;382:810-821.

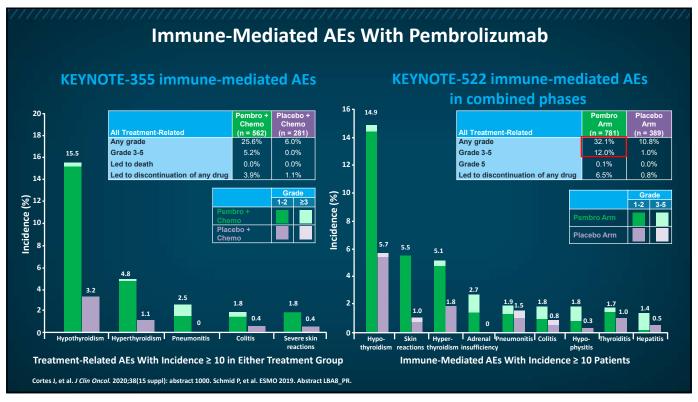








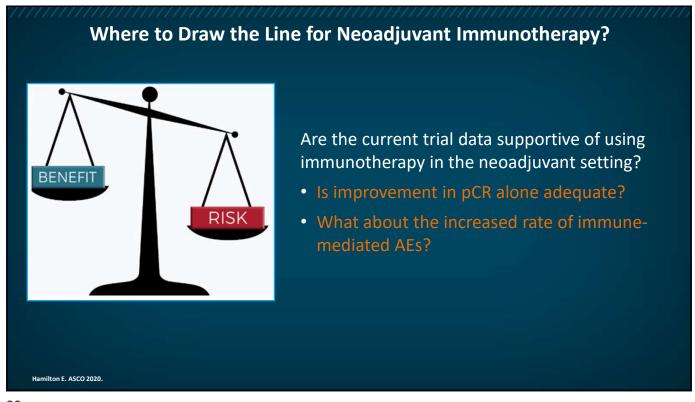


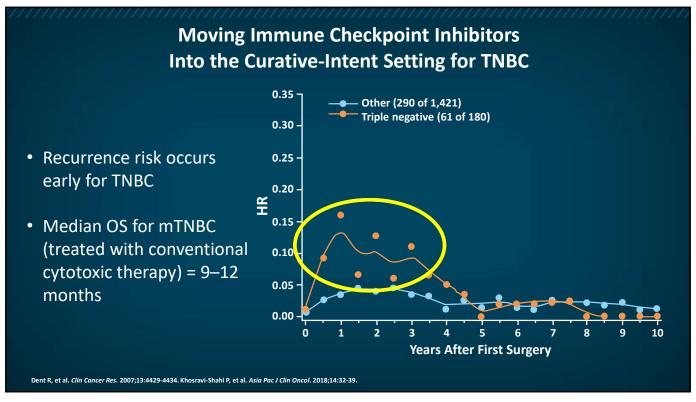


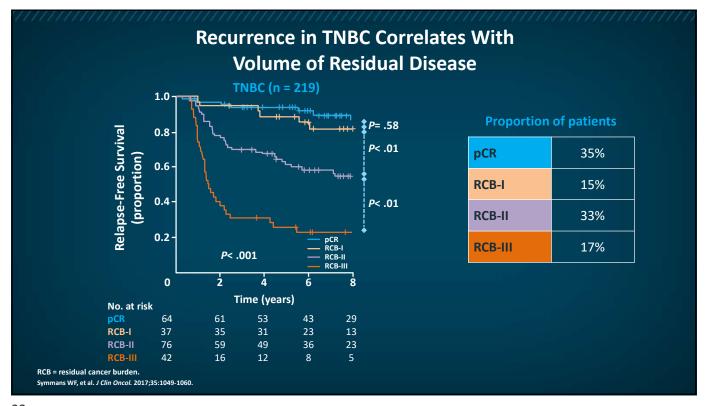
KEYNOTE-355: Summary

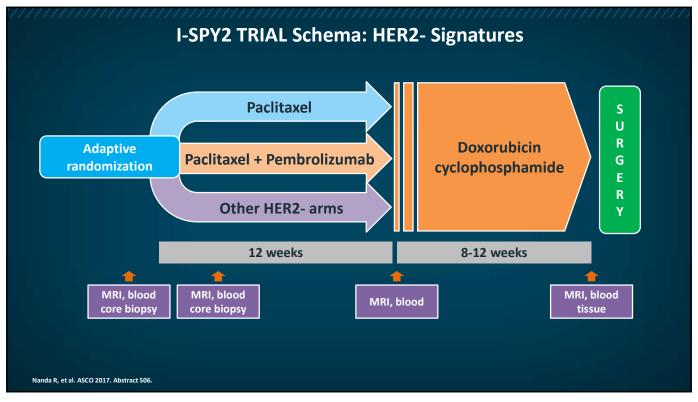
- Pembrolizumab + chemotherapy resulted in a statistically significant and clinically meaningful improvement in PFS vs chemotherapy alone for the first-line treatment of PD-L1-positive (CPS ≥ 10) mTNBC
- A trend toward improved efficacy with PD-L1 enrichment was observed in patients treated with pembrolizumab + chemotherapy
- Improvement in PFS was observed across patient subgroups
- Safety was consistent with the known profiles of each regimen
- These findings suggest a role for the addition of pembrolizumab to standard chemotherapy for the first-line treatment of mTNBC

Cortes J, et al. J Clin Oncol. 2020;38(15 suppl): abstract 1000. Cortes J, et al. ASCO 2020. Abstract 1000.







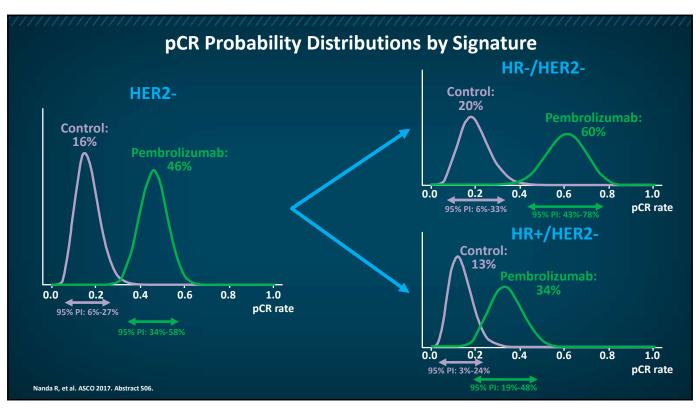


Pembrolizumab Graduated in All HER2- Signatures: Both HR+/HER2- and Triple Negative

Signature		pCR Rate 6 PI)	Probability Pembrolizumab	Predictive Probability of	
Signature	Pembrolizumab	Control	Is Superior to Control	Success in Phase 3	
All HER2-	0.46 (0.34-0.58)	0.16 (0.06-0.27)	> 99%	99%	
TNBC	0.60 (0.43-0.78)	0.20 (0.06-0.33)	> 99%	> 99%	
HR+/HER2-	0.34 (0.19-0.48)	0.13 (0.03-0.24)	> 99%	88%	

- The Bayesian model estimated pCR rates appropriately adjust to characteristics of the I-SPY2 population
- The raw pCR rates (not shown) are higher than the model estimate of 0.604 in TNBC

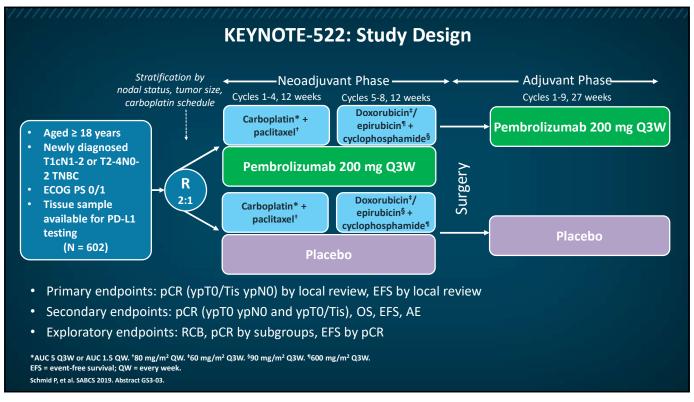
PI = probability interval. Nanda R, et al. ASCO 2017. Abstract 506.

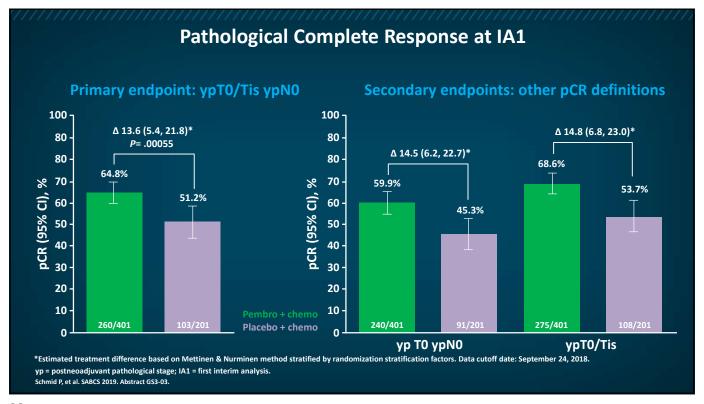


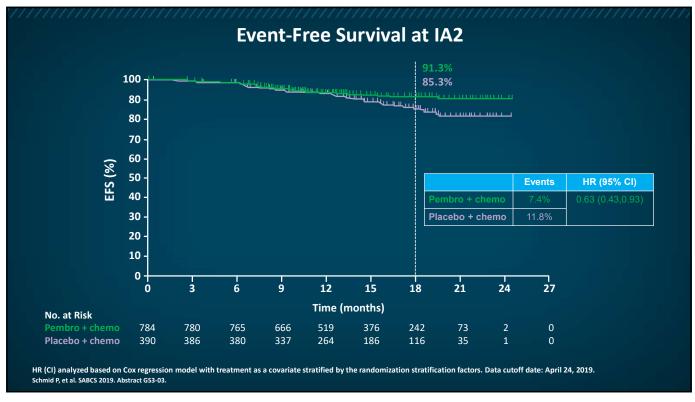
I-SPY2: Summary

- Pembrolizumab x 4 cycles + paclitaxel has graduated for all HER2- signatures studied
 - Tripling of the estimated pCR rate in TNBC (60% vs 20%)
 - Near tripling of the estimated pCR rate in HR+/HER2- (34% vs 13%)
 - First agent to graduate in HR+/HER2- signature
- Adrenal insufficiency was observed at a higher rate than previously reported in advanced cancer; patients are doing well on replacement therapy; follow-up of patient outcomes is ongoing
- This is the first report regarding the incidence and time course of immune-mediated toxicities in early stage breast cancer

Nanda R, et al. ASCO 2017. Abstract 506.







KEYNOTE-522: pCR by Key Patient Subgroups

pCR, % (n/N)		Pembrolizumab + Chemotherapy (n = 401)	Placebo + Chemotherapy (n = 201)	Δ (95% CI)
Disease stage	IIAIIBIIIAIIIB	73.1 (133/182) 56.2 (68/121) 66.7 (40/60) 48.6 (18/37)	62.1 (54/87) 48.4 (30/62) 42.1 (16/38) 23.1 (3/13)	11.0 (-0.7, 23.2) 7.8 (-7.4, 22.8) 24.6 (4.3, 43.1) 25.6 (-6.1, 48.9)
Lymph node involvement	NegativePositive	64.9 (124/191) 64.8 (136/210)	58.6 (58/99) 44.1 (45/102)	6.3 (-5.3, 18.2) 20.6 (8.9, 39.1)
PD-L1 expression	CPS < 1CPS ≥ 1CPS ≥ 10CPS ≥ 20	45.3 (29/64) 68.9 (230/334) 77.9 (162/208) 81.7 (103/126)	30.3 (10.33) 54.9 (90/164) 59.8 (55/92) 62.5 (40/64)	18.3 (-3.3, 36.8) 14.2 (5.3, 23.1) 17.5 (6.2, 29.1) 18.5 (5.0, 32.7)
Chemotherapy exposure*	Full exposure< Full exposure	69.7 (314/307) 51.1 (46/90)	55.3 (88/159) 35.7 (15/42)	14.4 (5.1, 3.6) 15.4 (-3.0, 32.1)

^{*}Full exposure comprised paclitaxel weekly 10-12 doses, carboplatin weekly 10-12 doses or Q3W 4 doses, doxorubicin or epirubicin Q3W 4 doses, and cyclophosphamide Q3W 4 doses, regardless of exposure to pembrolizumab.

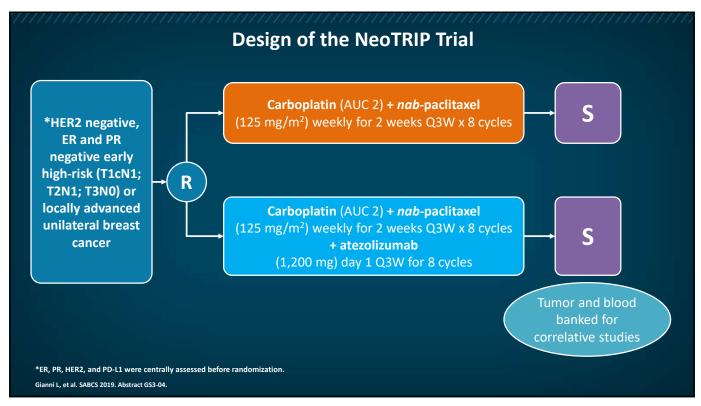
Schmid P, et al. SABCS 2019. Abstract GS3-03.

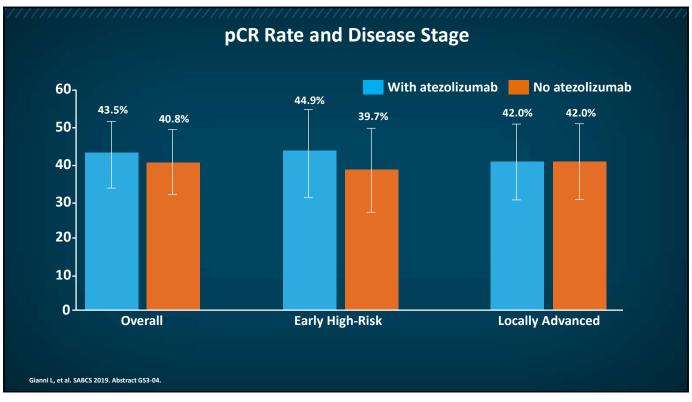
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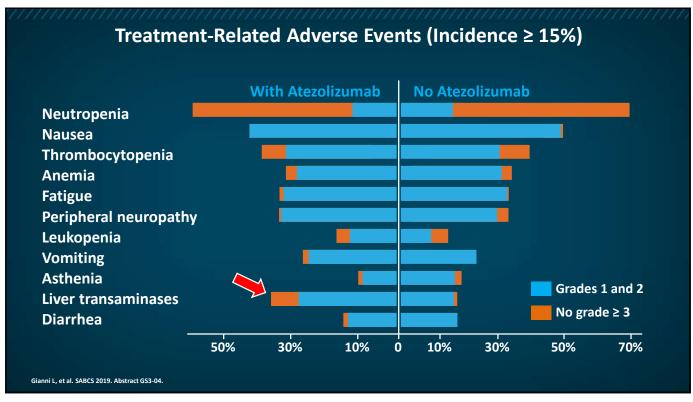
KEYNOTE-522: Summary

- In TNBC stage II and III, neoadjuvant therapy with pembrolizumab + chemotherapy is associated with larger pCR benefit than chemotherapy alone
- Benefit is noted regardless of PD-L1 expression or completion of chemotherapy
- No new safety signals observed in the arm that received immunotherapy and side effects were consistent with prior studies
- Additional follow-up studies are necessary to confirm EFS benefit and long-term safety profile

Schmid P, et al. SABCS 2019. Abstract GS3-03.







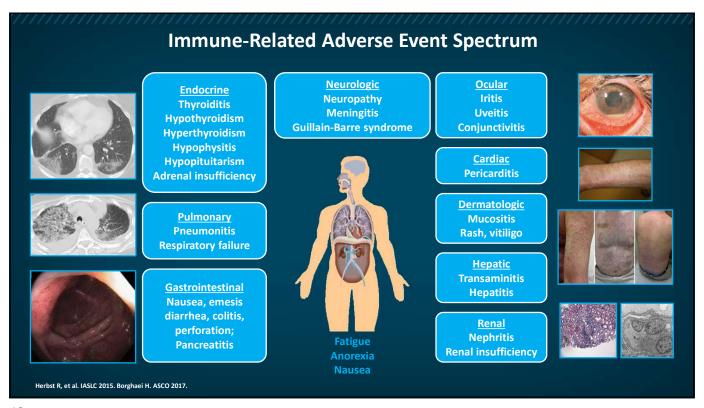
NeoTRIPaPDL1: Summary

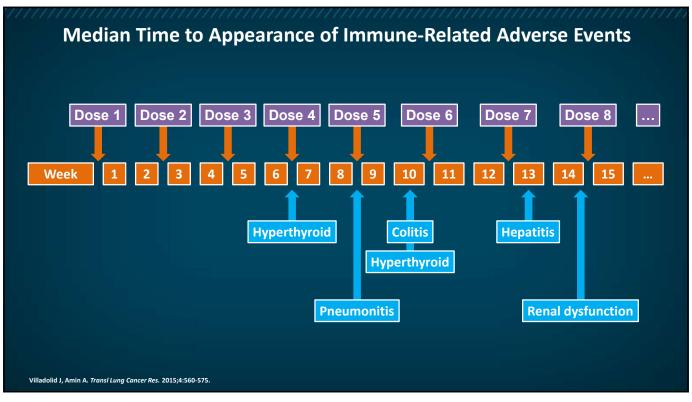
- The addition of atezolizumab to neoadjuvant chemotherapy resulted in slightly higher rates of pCR when compared with neoadjuvant chemotherapy alone in the ITT population (43.5% vs 40.8%); however, the increase was not statistically significant
- Among patients whose tumors tested positive for PD-L1, 51.9% of patients in the atezolizumab + chemotherapy arm had pCR compared with 48.0% in the chemotherapyonly arm
- PD-L1 does not predict who benefits from adding checkpoint inhibitor

Gianni L, et al. SABCS 2019. Abstract GS3-04.

Setting	Study Name	Study Treatment		Outcome: ITT
	VEVNOTE 5221	Paclitaxel + carboplatin AC/EC Pembrolizumab/		✓
Neoadjuvant	KEYNOTE-522 ¹ eoadjuvant	Pembrolizumab/placebo (24 weeks)	placebo (29 weeks)	pCR 64.8% with pembrolizumab vs 51.2%
NeoTF	Na - TDID - DDI 42	Nab-paclitaxel + carboplatin	AC/EC/FEC	pCR 43.5% with
	NeoTRIPaPDL1 ²	Atezolizumab/placebo (24 weeks)	(12 weeks)	atezolizumab vs 40.8%
1L	IMpassion 130 ^{3,†}	<i>Nab</i> -paclitaxel ± atezoliz	PFS: HR = 0.80, P = .0021	
metastatic	KEYNOTE-355⁴	Pembrolizumab vs <i>nab</i> -pa paclitaxel/carboplatin + gen		PFS: HR = 0.82 (0.69-0.97)
2L-3L metastatic	KEYNOTE-119 ⁵	Pembrolizumab vs capeci eribulin/gemcitabine/vino	No significant improvement in OS with pembrolizumab	
Surgery				







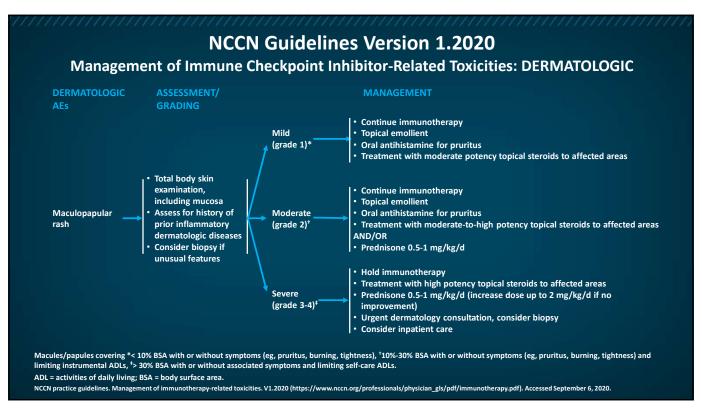
Immune-Related Adverse Events: Grading and Management Principles

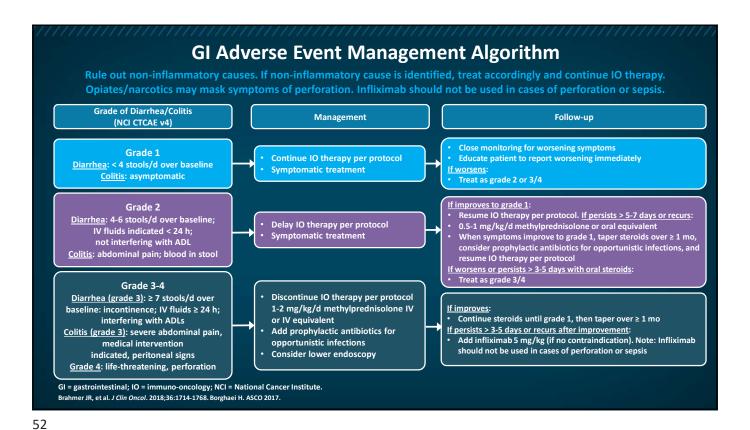
Severity— CTCAE Grade	Ambulatory vs Inpatient Care	Corticosteroids	Other Immunosuppressive Drugs	Immunotherapy
1 Mild	Ambulatory	Not recommended	Not recommended	Continue with close monitoring (exception neurologic/some hematologic and cardiac toxicities)
2 Moderate	Ambulatory	Topical steroids <i>or</i> systemic steroids oral (low-dose) 0.5-1 mg/kg/d	Not recommended	Suspend temporarily* until symptoms and/or laboratory values revert to grade 1 levels or lower
3 Severe	Hospitalization	Systemic steroids (high-dose) Oral or IV 1-2 mg/kg/d x 3 days, then reduce to 1 mg/kg/d; long taper (≥1 month)	To be considered for unresolved symptoms after 3-5 days of steroids Organ specialist referral advised	Suspend and discuss resumption based on risk/benefit ratio with patient
4 Very severe	Hospitalization; consider intensive care unit	Systemic steroids (high dose) IV methylprednisolone 1-2 mg/kg/d x 3 days, then reduce to 1 mg/kg/d; long taper (≥1 month)	To be considered for unresolved symptoms after 3-5 days of steroids Organ specialist referral advised	Discontinue permanently
5 Death				

Some dysimmune toxicities may follow a specific management; this must be discussed with the organ specialist.

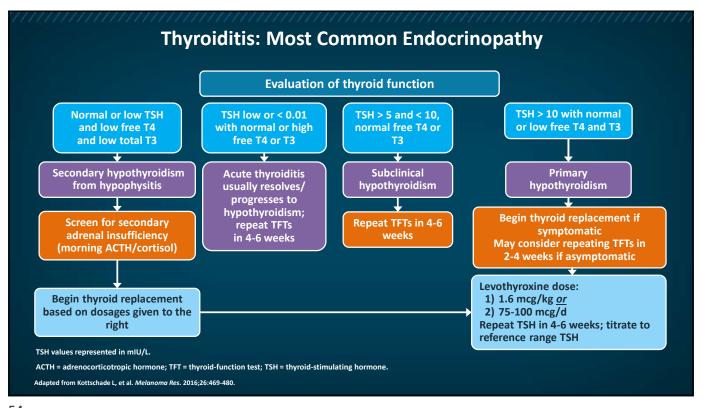
*In the case of skin or endocrine disorders, immunotherapy can be maintained. CTCAE = Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events.

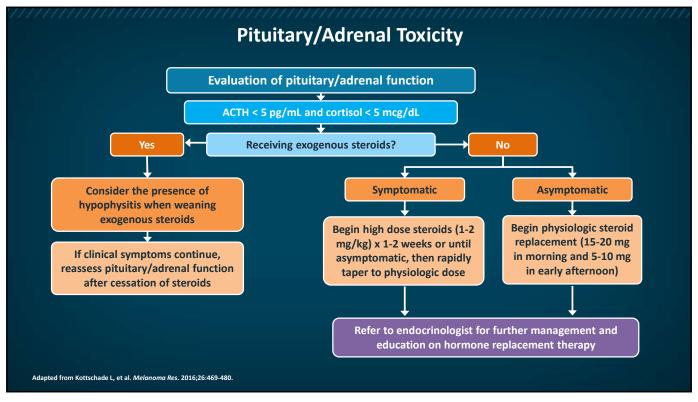
Champiat S, et al. *Ann Oncol*. 2016;27:559-574. Brahmer JR, et al. *J Clin Oncol*. 2018;36:1714-1768.

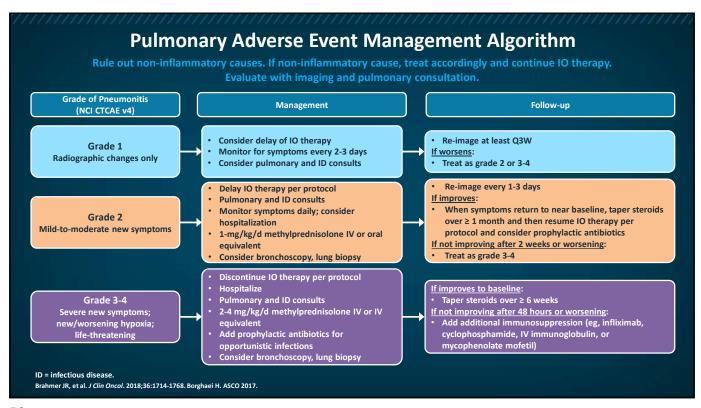


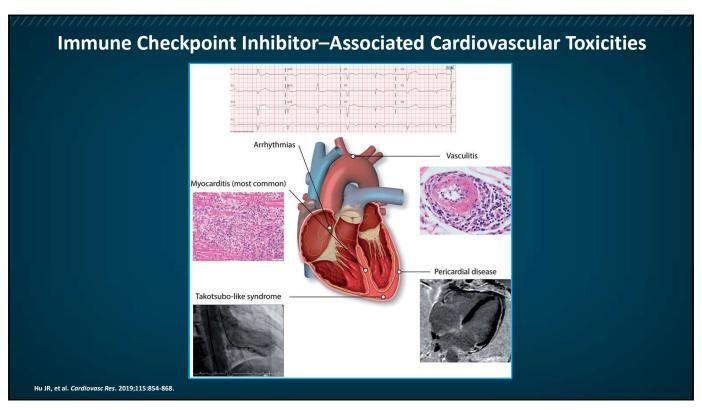


NCCN Guidelines Version 1.2020 Management of Immune Checkpoint Inhibitor-Related Toxicities: HEPATIC HEPATIC AES Mild Continue immunotherapy, consider holding immunotherapy for (grade 1) Rule out viral etiology, diseaseconcerning laboratory value trend Assess transaminases and bilirubin with increased frequency < 3 x ULN related hepatic dysfunction, Hold immunotherapy Moderate other drug-induced Monitor liver function tests every 3-5 days transaminase elevations (grade 2) • Consider prednisone 0.5-1 mg/kg/d 3-5 x ULN Consider GI evaluation **Transaminitis** Ultrasound Permanently discontinue immunotherapy without Consider magnetic resonance Initiate prednisone 1-2 mg/kg/d elevated Severe Consider inpatient care cholangiopancreatography if bilirubin (grade 3) Monitor liver enzymes every 1-2 days normal ultrasound Hepatology consultation Limit/discontinue hepatotoxic > 5-20 x ULN If steroid refractory or no improvement after 3 days, consider adding mycophenolate medications (assess · Infliximab should not be used for hepatitis acetaminophen, dietary supplement, and alcohol use) Permanently discontinue immunotherapy Initiate prednisone/methylprednisolone 2 mg/kg/d Life-Inpatient care Grade > 1 threatening Monitor liver enzymes daily transaminitis (grade 4) Hepatology consultation with bilirubin > ➤ See ICI GI-4 > 20 x ULN Liver biopsy if no contraindications 1.5x ULN (unless If steroid refractory or no improvement after 3 days, consider adding mycophenolate Gilbert's Infliximab should not be used for hepatitis syndrome) ULN = upper limit of normal. NCCN practice guidelines. Management of immunotherapy-related toxicities. V1.2020 (https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician_gls/pdf/immunotherapy.pdf). Accessed September 6, 2020.









Case Study 1: Question 1

Sandra B is a 54-year-old postmenopausal woman who was diagnosed with early stage invasive ductal carcinoma of the right breast 2 years ago with a 3-cm lesion and no nodal involvement, triple-negative, high-grade histology, BRCA1- and BRCA2-negative. She declined neoadjuvant chemotherapy, underwent bilateral mastectomy, received adjuvant chemotherapy and no radiation, and had minimal side effects. She remained without disease free for 23 months and presented with right hip pain, weight loss, and fatigue. Imaging studies showed a 2-cm right acetabular lesion, iliac and sacral metastasis, besides lung nodules and liver lesion. Brain MRI was negative. Biopsy of the lung lesion confirmed mTNBC, and PD-L1 was positive with SP-142 antibody. She is open to treatment options including clinical trials.

Which treatment regimen would you consider for this patient?

- A. Capecitabine
- B. Carboplatin and gemcitabine
- C. Pembrolizumab and nab-paclitaxel
- D. Paclitaxel

MRI = magnetic resonance imaging.

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Case Study 1: Question 2

The patient receives pembrolizumab and *nab*-paclitaxel. After 3 months of therapy, she presents with anorexia, vomiting, abdominal pain, weakness, lethargy, and intermittent fever. Laboratory findings showed hyponatremia, low blood sugars, low morning cortisol levels, and elevated ACTH. She is diagnosed with primary adrenal insufficiency as an adverse effect of immunotherapy.

You manage this patient with all of the following except:

- A. Reduce the dose and continue with immunotherapy
- B. Request an endocrine consultation
- C. Add prednisone or hydrocortisone and titrate the doses based on symptoms
- D. Obtain an MRI of the brain

Case Study 2

Katie B is a 60-year-old postmenopausal woman who is diagnosed with stage III TNBC and is on pembrolizumab + chemotherapy on a clinical trial. She has no past medical history. After 4 cycles of therapy, she presents with worsening shortness of breath on exertion and a dry, nonproductive cough. She denies any fevers or chills or recent sick contacts. She has a drop in oxygen level to 94% at walking; however at rest, she is breathing comfortably and fully conversant.

What is the most appropriate next step in management?

- A. Hold chemoimmunotherapy and emergently initiate corticosteroids for immune-related pneumonitis
- B. Hold chemoimmunotherapy, obtain a chest CT, and consider additional workup for immune-related pneumonitis
- C. Continue chemoimmunotherapy treatment and refer the patient to a pulmonary specialist for further workup and management
- D. Hold chemoimmunotherapy and begin oral antibiotics for bacterial pneumonia

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The Multidisciplinary Oncology Team

Optimizing Patient Care and Survivorship Through Shared Decision-Making

Role of Oncology Nursing in IO Management

- Nurses should be aware of the mechanisms of immunotherapy and safe administration, which is different from that of cytotoxic agents
- Immunotherapy is often given in combination with chemotherapy or during radiation; dose reduction is not necessary
- Onset of immune-related AEs occurs later than the infusion time; nurses should be well versed and assess and monitor for possible immune-related AEs
- Nurses should educate patients about side effects of IO and encourage them to be engaged in informing them of the side effects
- Safety standards set by ASCO and Oncology Nursing Society guidelines should be the basis for policies and procedures for IO administration

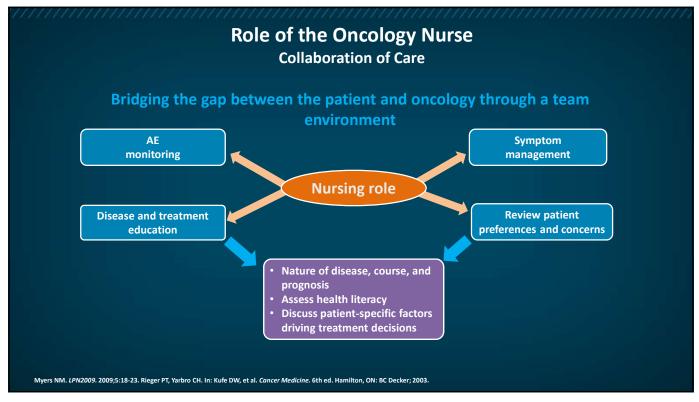
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• A dynamic process in which both patients and oncologists have complimentary roles during and outside the medical encounter • Patients play an active role • SDM should not be imposed on patients, but encouraged through supportive means SDM = shared decision-making.

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Bomhof-Roordink H, et al. Psycho-Oncology. 2019;28:139-146.





Summary

- TILs have prognostic and predictive value in the treatment of TNBC
- IMpassion 130 is the first phase 3 study to show immune checkpoint inhibition in combination with *nab*-paclitaxel has significant improvement in PFS and OS for patients with locally advanced or metastatic TNBC whose tumors express PD-L1
- KEYNOTE-355 trial also confirmed pembrolizumab + chemotherapy improved PFS compared with chemotherapy alone across all patent subgroups
- Neoadjuvant therapy with pembrolizumab + chemotherapy is associated with larger pCR benefit than chemotherapy alone in stage II and III TNBC, as shown in KEYNOTE-522
- All organs can be affected by IO therapies, risk factors are unknown, and high-dose steroids are the main stay of treatment for non-endocrine immune-related AEs, with infliximab for steroid-refractory cases

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Thank you!

Questions and Answers

