

# Combination Immunotherapies: Melanoma

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# Objectives

- Understand how combination immunotherapies are currently being used to treat patients with metastatic Melanoma
- Understand the clinical evidence supporting the use of combination immunotherapies to treat patients with metastatic Melanoma
- Be informed and updated on combination immunotherapies in development focusing on metastatic Melanoma

# Immunotherapies are being used today to treat a number of different tumor types

## Prostate Cancer

- e.g. Sipuleucel-T

## Melanoma

- e.g. Ipilimumab, pembrolizumab, nivolumab, T-Vec

## Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer

- e.g. Nivolumab, pembrolizumab

## Renal Cell Carcinoma

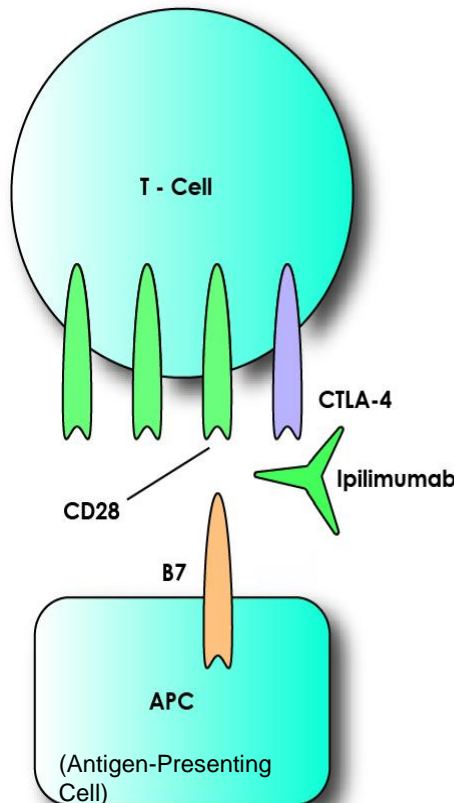
- Nivolumab

# Immunotherapy – Checkpoint Inhibitors

Tumors escape detection from the immune system by expressing “checkpoint” proteins on their cell surface; targeting and inhibiting these cell surface proteins enhances the immune response to the tumor

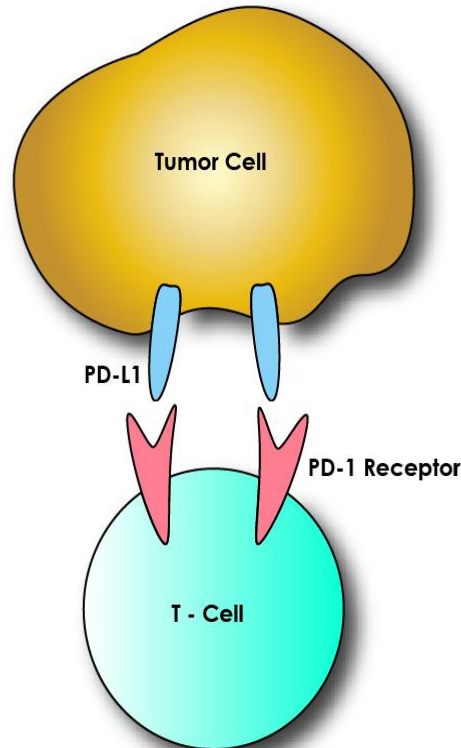
*CTLA-4 Inhibition*

**ACTIVATION**

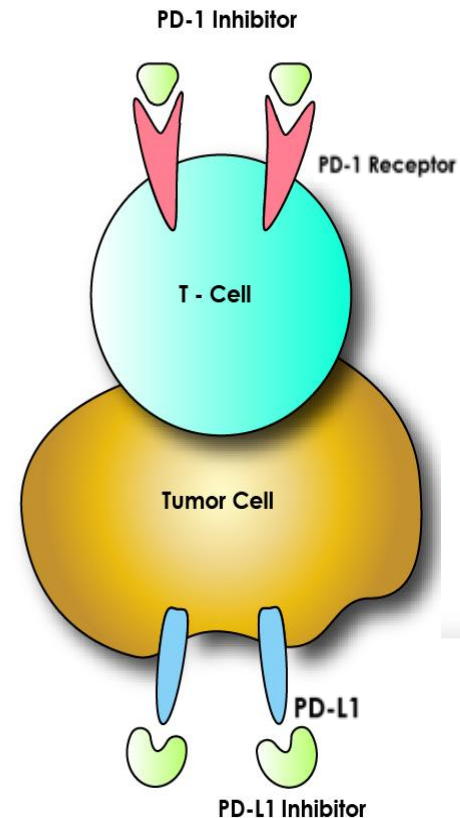


*PD-1/PD-L1 Inhibition*

**INHIBITION**



**ACTIVATION**



# Checkpoint inhibitors ipilimumab, nivolumab, and pembrolizumab are FDA approved to treat patients with metastatic melanoma

## *Yervoy (ipilimumab)*

**Mechanism of Action:** human, monoclonal antibody that binds to the cytotoxic T-lymphocyte-associated antigen 4 (CTLA-4) on T cells

**Melanoma Indication:** the treatment of unresectable or metastatic melanoma

## *Opdivo (nivolumab)*

**Mechanism of Action:** human, monoclonal antibody directed against the programmed death-1 (PD-1) receptor of the T Cell

**Melanoma Indication:**

- Monotherapy: the treatment of patients with BRAF V600 wild-type or BRAF V600 mutation positive unresectable or metastatic melanoma
- Combination: in combination with ipilimumab for unresectable or metastatic melanoma

## *Keytruda (pembrolizumab)*

**Mechanism of Action:** human, monoclonal antibody directed against the programmed death-1 (PD-1) receptor of the T Cell

**Melanoma Indication:** the treatment of patients with unresectable or metastatic melanoma

# Combination immunotherapy is recommended for both 1<sup>st</sup> line and 2<sup>nd</sup> line/subsequent metastatic or unresectable melanoma

Metastatic or Unresectable Melanoma <sup>δ</sup>	
1 <sup>st</sup> Line	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Immunotherapy               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Anti PD-1 monotherapy                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Nivolumab</li> <li>○ Pembrolizumab</li> <li>➤ <b>Combination immunotherapy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Nivolumab/ipilimumab</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>
2 <sup>nd</sup> Line or subsequent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Immunotherapy               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Monotherapy                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Nivolumab</li> <li>○ Pembrolizumab</li> <li>○ Ipilimumab</li> <li>➤ <b>Combination immunotherapy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Nivolumab/ipilimumab</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• Combination therapy*               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Dabrafenib/trametinib</li> <li>➤ Vemurafenib/cobimetinib</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Single agent therapy*               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Vemurafenib</li> <li>➤ Dabrafenib</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Combination therapy*               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Dabrafenib/trametinib</li> <li>➤ Vemurafenib/cobimetinib</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Single agent therapy*               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Vemurafenib</li> <li>➤ Dabrafenib</li> </ul> </li> <li>• High-dose IL-2 or Biochemotherapy or cytotoxic agents or imatinib (patients with C-KIT mutations)</li> </ul>

(source: NCCN Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology, Melanoma, Version 2.2016)

\* Targeted therapy if BRAF mutated

<sup>δ</sup> Additional systemic therapies not represented include the following cytotoxic regimens: dacarbazine, temozolomide, paclitaxel, albumin-bound paclitaxel, carboplatin/paclitaxel; Biochemotherapy: dacarbazine or temozolomide, and cisplatin or carboplatin with or without vinblastine or nitrosourea, and IL-2 and interferon alfa-2b; Biochemotherapy for adjuvant treatment of high risk disease: Dacarbazine, cisplatin, vinblastine, IL-2, and interferon alfa-2b; NCCN also recommends clinical trials for 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> line/subsequent therapy

# Melanoma - Nivolumab in combination with ipilimumab

***Use of nivolumab in combination with ipilimumab is supported by clinical evidence from Phase II and Phase III, double-blind, randomized trials in patients with previously untreated, unresectable or metastatic melanoma***

***Phase II, Multicenter, double-blind, randomized trial, nivolumab in combination with ipilimumab vs. ipilimumab:***

Patients previously untreated, unresectable, or metastatic melanoma, wild type BRAF V600	<u>Nivolumab</u> (1 mg/kg) and <u>ipilimumab</u> (3 mg/kg) every 3 weeks for 4 doses followed by single agent nivolumab (3 mg/kg) every 2 weeks (n=72)	Ipilimumab (3 mg/kg) every 3 weeks for 4 doses followed by placebo every 2 weeks (n=37)
Objective Response Rate	CR=17%; PR=43%	CR=0%; PR=11%
Median Progression-free Survival	8.9 months	4.7 months

***Similar results were observed in patients with the BRAF mutation***

(source: Hodi et al., 2015)

# Melanoma - Nivolumab in combination with ipilimumab

***Use of nivolumab in combination with ipilimumab is supported by clinical evidence from Phase II and Phase III, double-blind, randomized trials in patients with previously untreated, unresectable or metastatic melanoma***

***Phase III: Nivolumab in combination with ipilimumab vs. single agent nivolumab vs. ipilimumab in combination with placebo:***

Patients previously untreated, unresectable, or metastatic melanoma	<u>Nivolumab</u> (1 mg/kg) and <u>ipilimumab</u> (3 mg/kg) every 3 weeks for 4 doses followed by single agent nivolumab (3 mg/kg) every 2 weeks (n=314)	Nivolumab (3 mg/kg) every 2 weeks (n=316)	Ipilimumab (3 mg/kg) every 3 weeks for 4 doses followed by placebo every 2 weeks (n=315)
Median Progression-free Survival (PFS)	11.5 months	6.9 months	2.9 months
Objective Response Rate (ORR)	CR = 8.9%; PR = 41%	CR = 8.5%; PR = 31%	CR = 1.9%; PR = 12%
Duration of Reponse: proportion $\geq$ months in duration	76%	74%	63%

(source: Opdivo (nivolumab) FDA approved label, Bristol-Myers Squibb; Larkin et al., 2015)



# Adverse events – nivolumab in combination with ipilimumab

*Phase III: Nivolumab in combination with ipilimumab vs. single agent nivolumab vs. ipilimumab in combination with placebo; previously untreated, unresectable or metastatic melanoma*

Treatment-related adverse events	Nivolumab + Ipilimumab (n=313)	Nivolumab (n=313)	Ipilimumab (n=311)
Grade 3 or 4	55.0%	16.3%	27.3%

Most Common Grade 3 or 4 treatment-related adverse events (>5% Nivolumab + Ipilimumab arm)	Nivolumab + Ipilimumab (n=313)	Nivolumab (n=313)	Ipilimumab (n=311)
Diarrhea	9.3%	2.2%	6.1%
Increase in alanine amino-transferase level	8.3%	1.3%	1.6%
Increase in aspartate amino-transferase level	6.1%	1.0%	0.6%
Colitis	7.7%	0.6%	8.7%

- Treatment-related adverse events of any grade that led to discontinuation of therapy was 36.4% in the nivolumab + ipilimumab group, 7.7% in the nivolumab group, and 14.8% in the ipilimumab group
- One death was reported in the nivolumab group (neutropenia) and the ipilimumab group (cardiac arrest), but none in the nivolumab + ipilimumab group

*According to investigators, “Adverse events were manageable with established treatment guidelines, and most select adverse events resolved with the use of immunomodulatory agents.”*

# In addition to melanoma, nivolumab in combination with ipilimumab is being studied in a number of tumor types

- Melanoma
- Lung Cancer
- Myelodysplastic Syndromes
- Lymphoma
- Multiple Myeloma
- Sarcomas
- Renal Cell Carcinoma
- Pancreatic Cancer
- Gastric Cancer
- Bladder Cancer
- Ovarian Cancer
- Glioblastoma
- Colorectal Cancer
- Liver Cancer
- Breast Cancer

# Case Report 1:

## Metastatic Mucosal Melanoma

- 88-year-old white female
- Left-nasal bloody discharge and pain in March 2014
- Left ethmoid mass resection 3/23/14-mucosal melanoma pT3N0M0, 13 mitoses/mm<sup>2</sup>
- Adjuvant XRT for close margins
- Re-resection 10/23/13 for in situ residual melanoma-followed by radiographic surveillance

# Case Report 1:

## Metastatic Mucosal Melanoma

- Developed new pain in RUQ, April 2015
- Required 120 mg of long-acting morphine 3X daily
- ECOG performance status=2
- PET/CT scan 05/08/2015

LDH = 499 (normal <225)

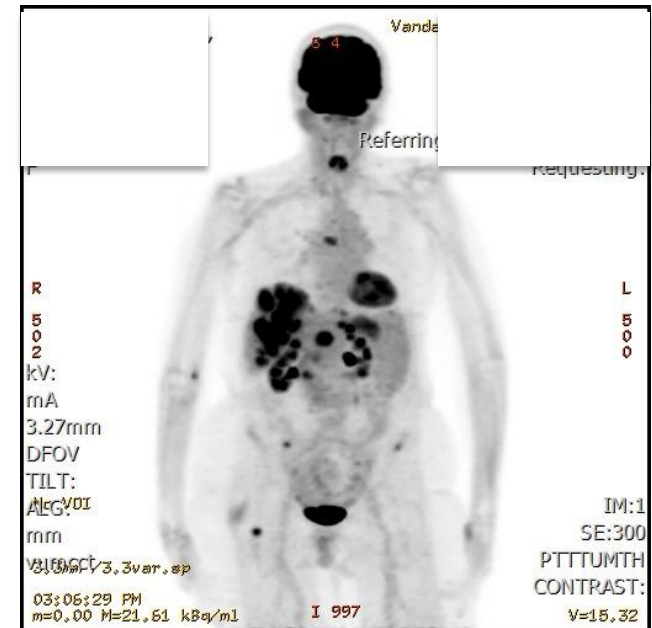
WBC = 13.6, ANC=11.9,

HCT = 40, Plt = 554

Alk Phos = 225 (<110),

AST = 36, ALT = 19

PET/CT: bones, liver, lung,  
soft tissue, nasal cavity



# Case Report 1:

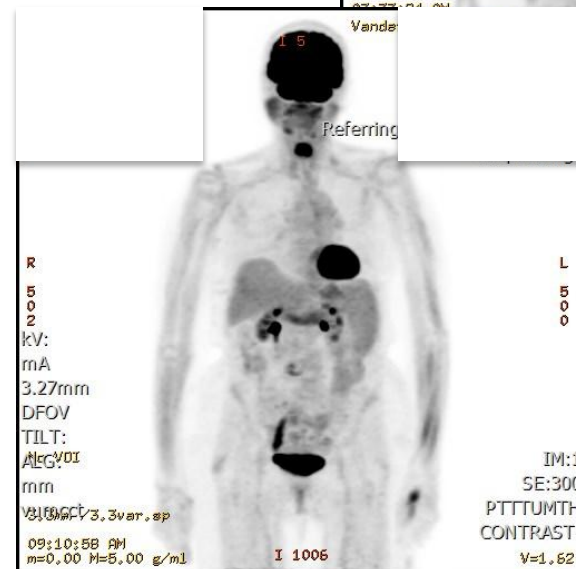
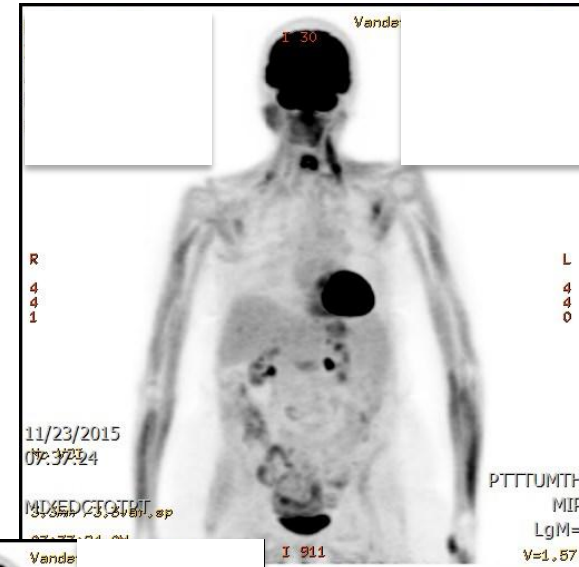
## Metastatic Mucosal Melanoma

- BRAF, c-kit, NRAS wt
- Ipilimumab 3 mg/kg+  
Nivolumab 1mg/kg (05/21/15)
- C2D1 06/15/15
- C3D1 held for grade 2  
mucositis, arthralgias,  
AST 160 (grade 2), ALT 90
- Steroid taper 4 weeks, starting 1 mg/kg daily  
po, PPI bid, Bactrim DS TIW x 2 weeks

# Case Report 1:

## Metastatic Mucosal Melanoma

- Toxicity resolved in 2 weeks on steroids, finished taper
- PET/CT 08/19/2015-CR
- Started nivolumab 3 mg/kg (09/30/15)-now 11 more doses
- Continues with grade 1 mucositis, arthralgias, LFTs nl.
- PET/CT 11/23/15-CR



# Conclusions:

## Rapidly Progressing Metastatic Melanoma including Mucosal Melanoma

- Ipilimumab/Nivolumab combination may be as fast acting as targeted BRAF or c-kit targeted therapies
- Age should not play decisive role (biologic age may)
- Close surveillance for novel toxicities:
  - 2 recent cases at Vanderbilt of rapidly fatal myocarditis after 1 dose ipi/nivo (12 and 17 days), more cases being discovered of myocarditis, rhabdomyolysis
  - 1 patient survived with steroids and early infliximab therapy (Dr. Hamid, personal communication)
  - recommending weekly CPK, Troponin x 12 weeks of ipi/nivo (ECOG, BMS trials)
- Biomarkers in development (PDL-1, MHC Class II expression)

# Talimogene laherparepvec, or T-Vec, was approved to treat patients with melanoma

## *Imlygic (talimogene laherparepvec)*

### ***Mechanism of Action:***

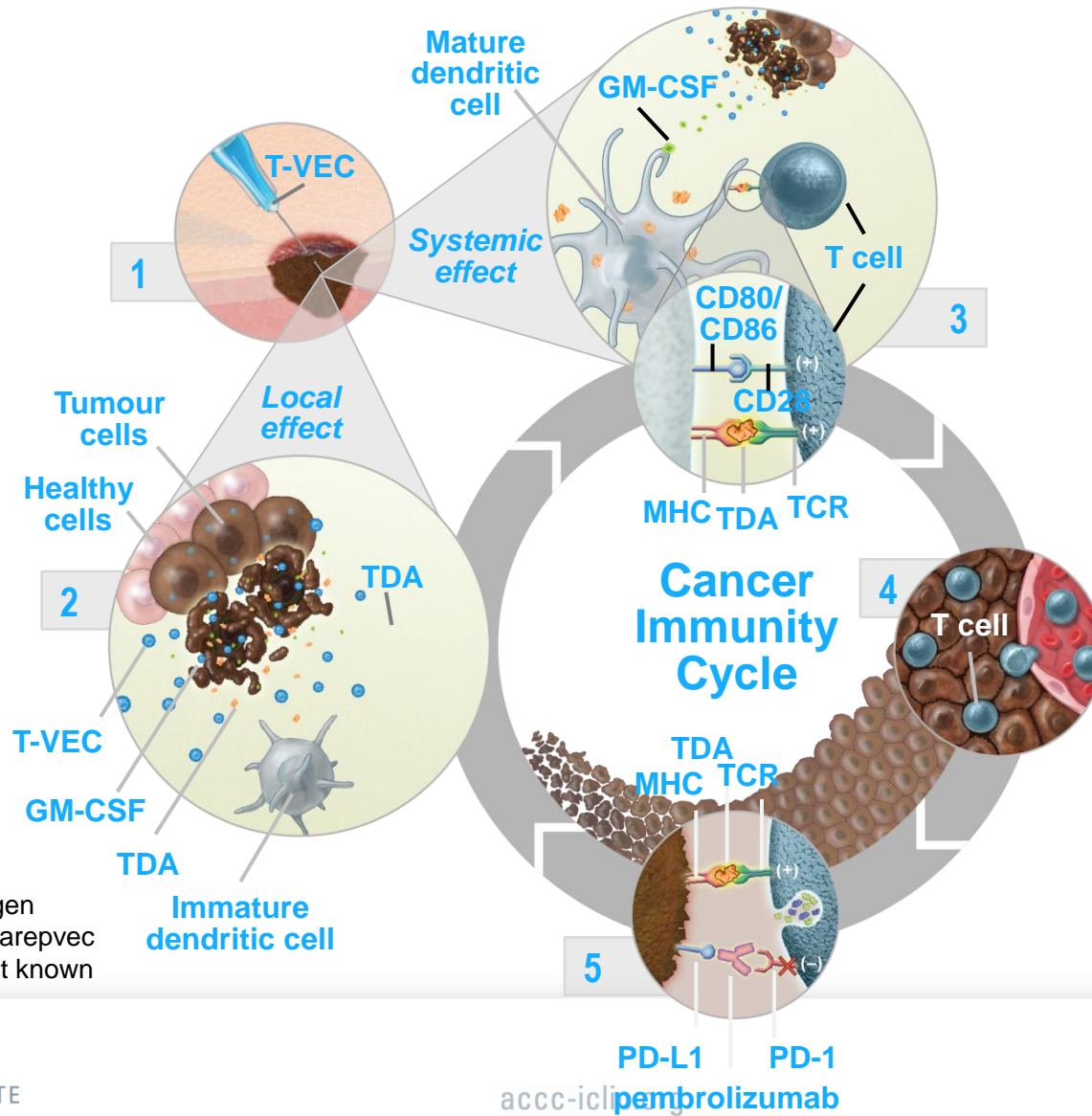
- T-Vec, a modified herpes virus type 1 oncolytic, replicates within tumors and produces the immune stimulatory protein GM-CSF; T-Vec causes the tumor cell to lyse releasing tumor-derived antigens which, along with GM-CSF, promotes an anti-tumor immune response

### ***Melanoma Indication:***

- Monotherapy: local treatment of unresectable cutaneous, subcutaneous, and nodal lesions in patients with melanoma recurrent after initial surgery



# Proposed Mechanism of Action of T-VEC With PD-1 Inhibitor



TDA: tumour-derived antigen  
 T-VEC: talimogene laherparepvec  
 Exact MoA of T-VEC is not known

# Melanoma - T-Vec in combination with ipilimumab

***Phase Ib, multicenter, open-label trial of T-Vec in combination with ipilimumab in patients with previously untreated, unresected stage IIIB-IV melanoma***

**Dose:** T-Vec administered intralesionally at  $\leq 4$  mL of  $10^6$  PFU/mL at week 1, then  $10^8$  Plaque Forming Units (PFU)/mL at week 4, and then once every two weeks; ipilimumab 3 mg/kg once every 3 weeks as 4 infusions starting week 6

Patients previously untreated, unresected stage IIIB-IV melanoma	T-Vec in combination with ipilimumab (n=18)
Objective Response Rate (ORR)	56% (CR = 33%)
Durable Response Rate (DRR)	44%
Median Progression-free Survival (PFS)	10.6 months
Median Overall Survival (OS)	Not reached

- 12 month and 18 month survival were 72.2% and 67%, respectively
- Grade 3 or 4 treatment-emergent adverse events = 32%; Grade 3 or 4 immune-related adverse events occurred in 2 patients; no treatment-related deaths

# Melanoma - T-Vec in combination with pembrolizumab

## ***Phase Ib trial of T-Vec in combination with pembrolizumab in patients with previously untreated, unresected stage IIIB-IV melanoma***

**Dose:** T-Vec injected into cutaneous, subcutaneous or nodal lesions at up to 4 mL of  $10^6$  PFU/ml day 1, then at up to 4 mL of  $10^8$  PFU/ml day 22 and once every 2 weeks (Q2W). Pembrolizumab is given at 200 mg IV Q2W from day 36

Patients previously untreated, unresected stage IIIB-IV melanoma	T-Vec in combination with pembrolizumab (n=16 evaluable)
Objective Response Rate (ORR)	56.3% (CR = 12.5%, PR = 43.8% )
Disease Control Rate (DCR)	68.8%

- All patients enrolled (n=21) had at least one adverse event
  - Adverse events occurring in at least 30% of patients of any grade: fatigue (52%), pyrexia (48%), chills (43%), rash (38%), headache (33%), and nausea (33%)
  - Grade 3 adverse events: headache (5%) and diarrhea (5%)
  - Treatment-related Grade 3 adverse events occurring in 5 patients: anemia, hyperglycemia, hypoglycemia, hypophosphatemia, headache, macular rash and generalized rash.
- No dose-limiting toxicities

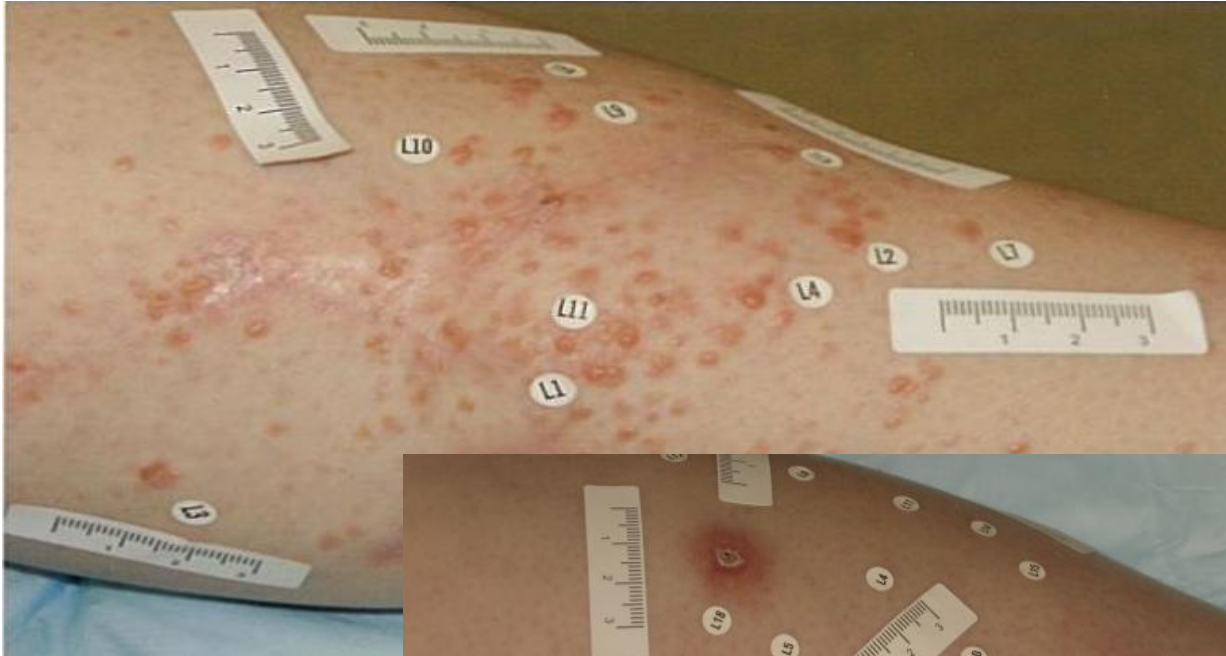
# Case Report 2:

## Metastatic Melanoma with Injectable Lesions

- 64-year-old white female
- Left-leg primary melanoma 06/15/12-superficial spreading melanoma pT3aN0M0, 3 mitoses/mm<sup>2</sup>
- Surveillance until
- Developed multiple in-transit metastases, lung and soft tissue distant metastases
- LDH 156 (<226)
- Stage IV, pT3aN2cM1b

# T-VEC+Pembrolizumab

Stage IV M1b: In-Transit Lt Leg



Response After 6 Weeks of Treatment



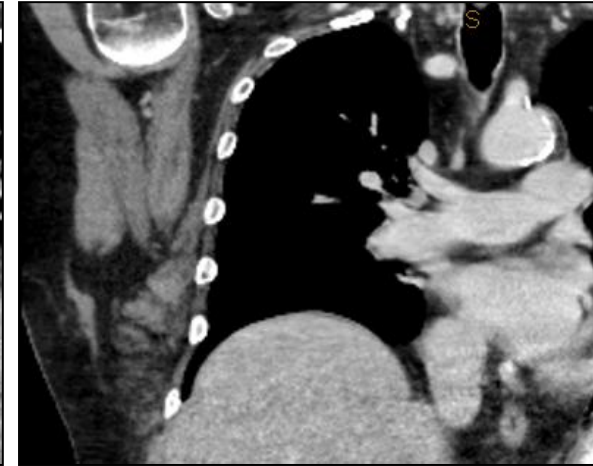
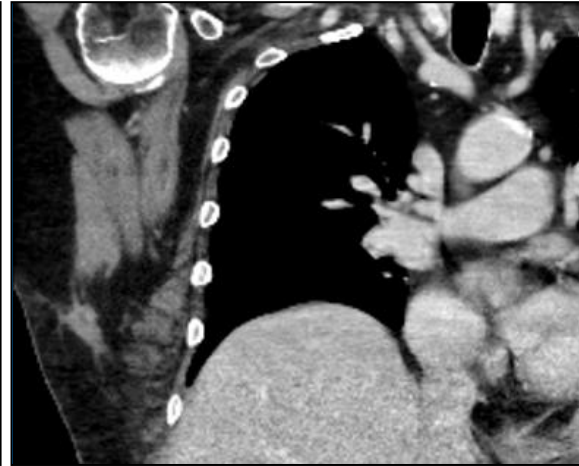
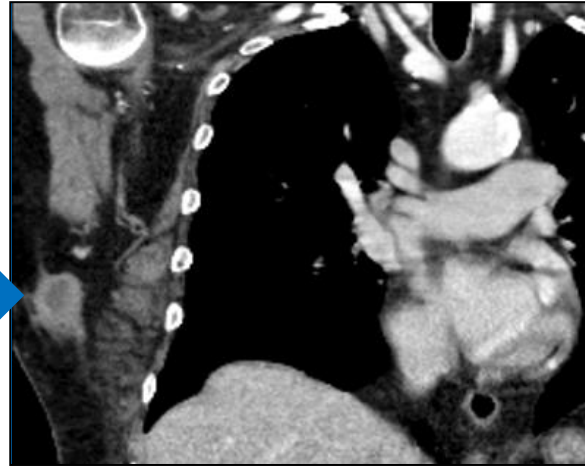
# Response in Non-Injected Tumors

Baseline (Week -5)

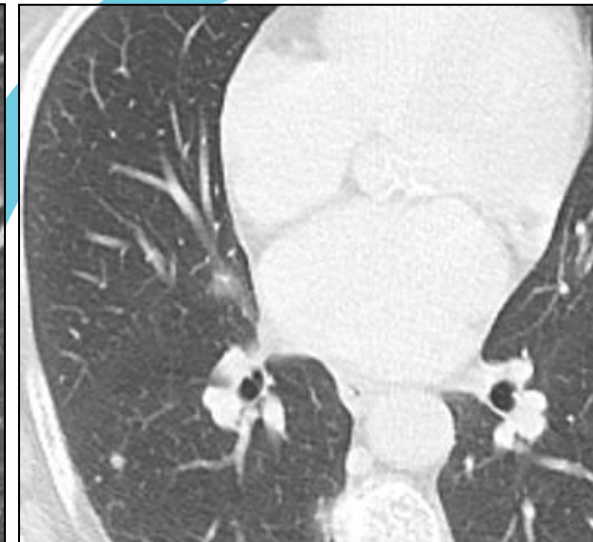
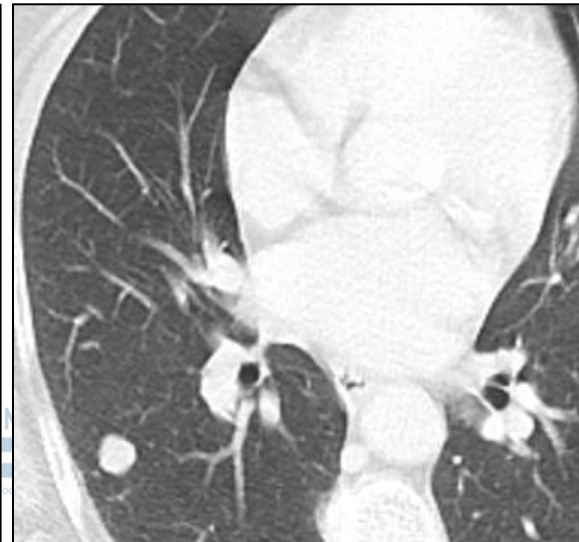
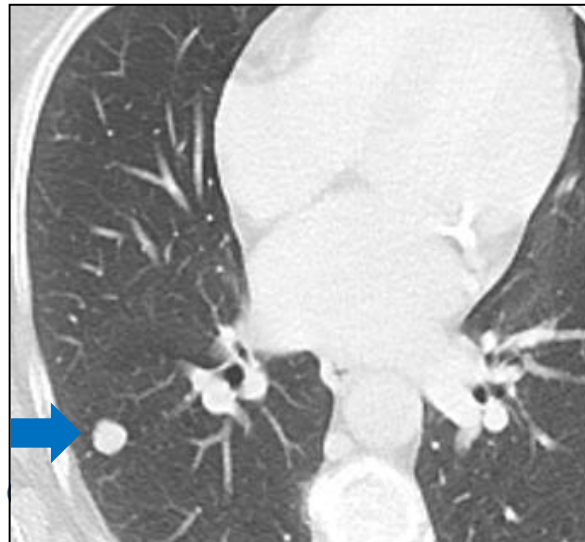
Week 0

Week 12

Soft tissue

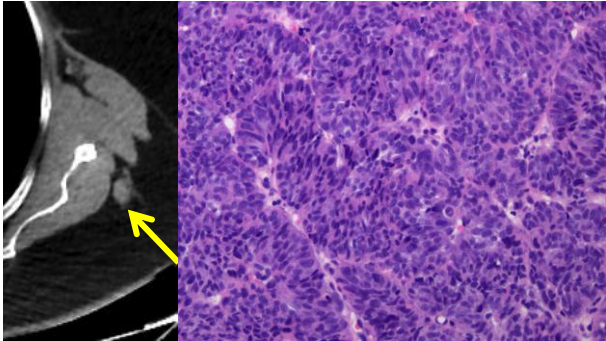


Lung lesion

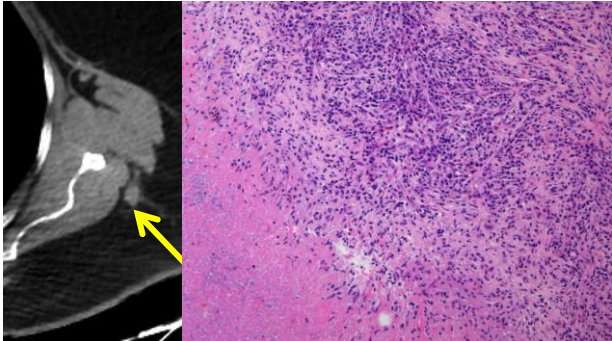


# Pathological Evaluation of a persistent injected lesion

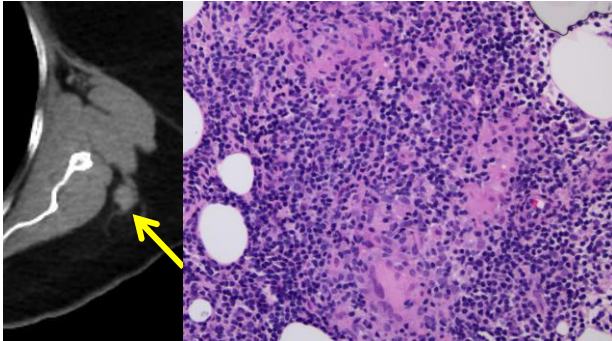
Baseline  
(Week -5)



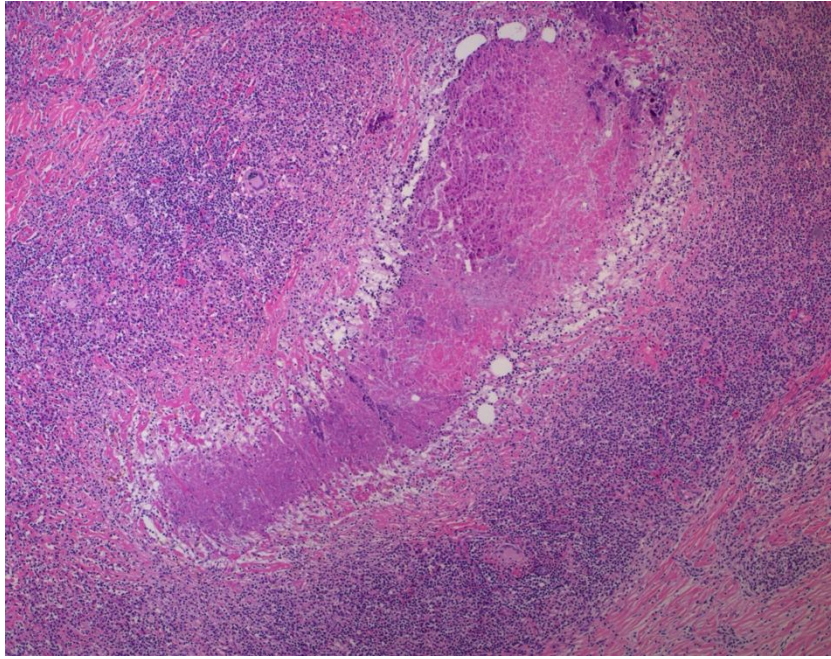
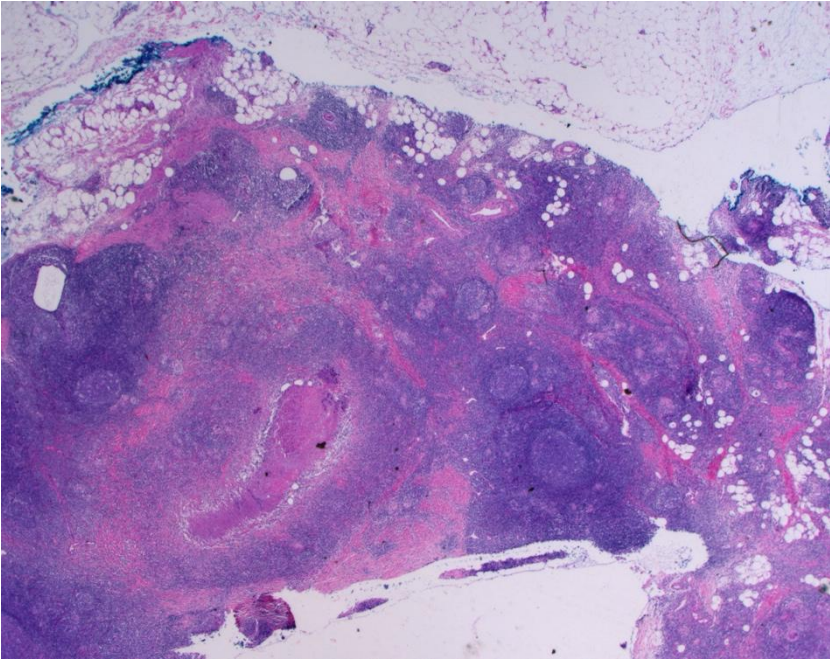
Week 0



Week 24



Week 30 tumor resection



# Conclusions:

## Metastatic Melanoma with Injectable Lesions

- T-VEC+Ipilimumab or T-VEC+Pembrolizumab combination may be a good option for patients with injectable tumors
- Favorable toxicity profile
- Data from Phase Ib in 1<sup>st</sup> line patients
- Residual lesions may be scar tissue only
- Will need to add data or at least capture experience in pretreated patients as an addition upon progression on ipi/pembro
- Role of T-VEC injected into liver lesions currently explored for multiple tumor types (melanoma, HCC, breast, lung, gastric etc.)



# Melanoma Combination Immunotherapies

## Key Takeaways

- Because of their clinical effectiveness, immunotherapies are being developed in combination with each other for use in a number of tumor types
- Nivolumab in combination with ipilimumab is approved to treat patients with unresectable or metastatic melanoma
- T-Vec / ipilimumab and T-Vec / pembrolizumab are promising combination immunotherapies in development for the treatment of patients with previously untreated, unresected stage IIIB-IV melanoma



# Questions?



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# References

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Opdivo (nivolumab) FDA approved label, Bristol-Myers Squibb

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