

Emerging Trends in Immunotherapy for Solid Tumors



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COI: None

CME Objectives

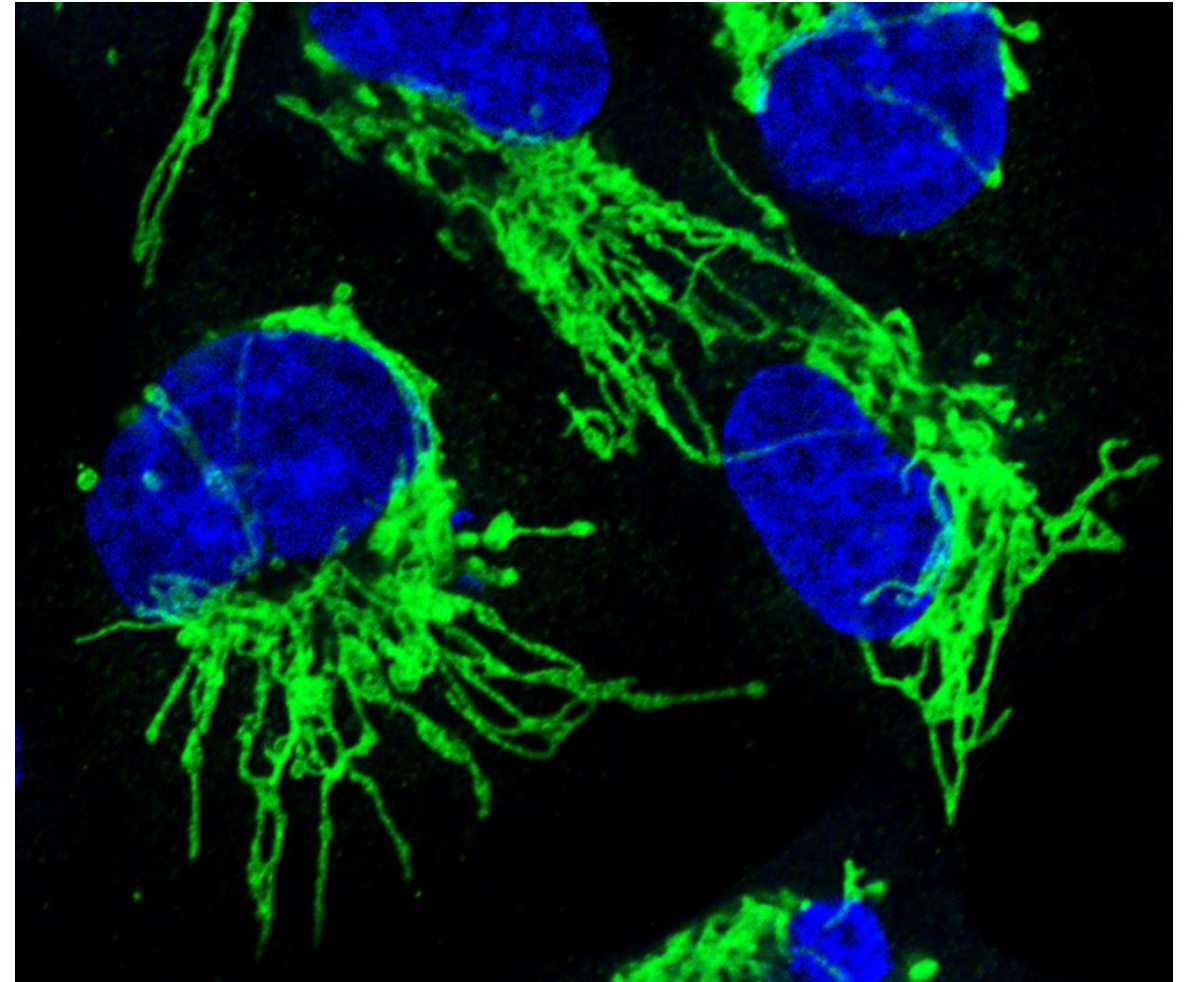
- Recognize emerging trends in solid tumor immunotherapy
- Identify common and rare immune related adverse events and resources for safe management
- Understand mechanisms of emerging bispecific therapies for solid tumor and unique toxicities

Outline

- Part 1: the checkpoint inhibitors
 - Indication & utilization
 - Toxicity management
 - How long?
 - Nutritional optimization
 - Site of care
 - New checkpoints
- Part 2: new approaches
 - Bispecifics including TCR based bispecifics
 - TIL therapy
 - Vaccine
 - TCR-T

Impact of cancer

- 1.71 million newly dx cancers in US in 2018 alone
 - 38,000 of these in Washington state
- 600,000 cancer deaths
 - 2nd leading cause of death in the US
 - 1 in 4 deaths due to cancer
- Each year, one in 200 people diagnosed
- Current lifetime risk of developing cancer in US
 - Men: 1 in 2.5 (40% lifetime risk)
 - Women: 1 in 3 (38% lifetime risk)



Data: US Cancer Statistics Public domain image: NCI.gov, author D. Kashtatus

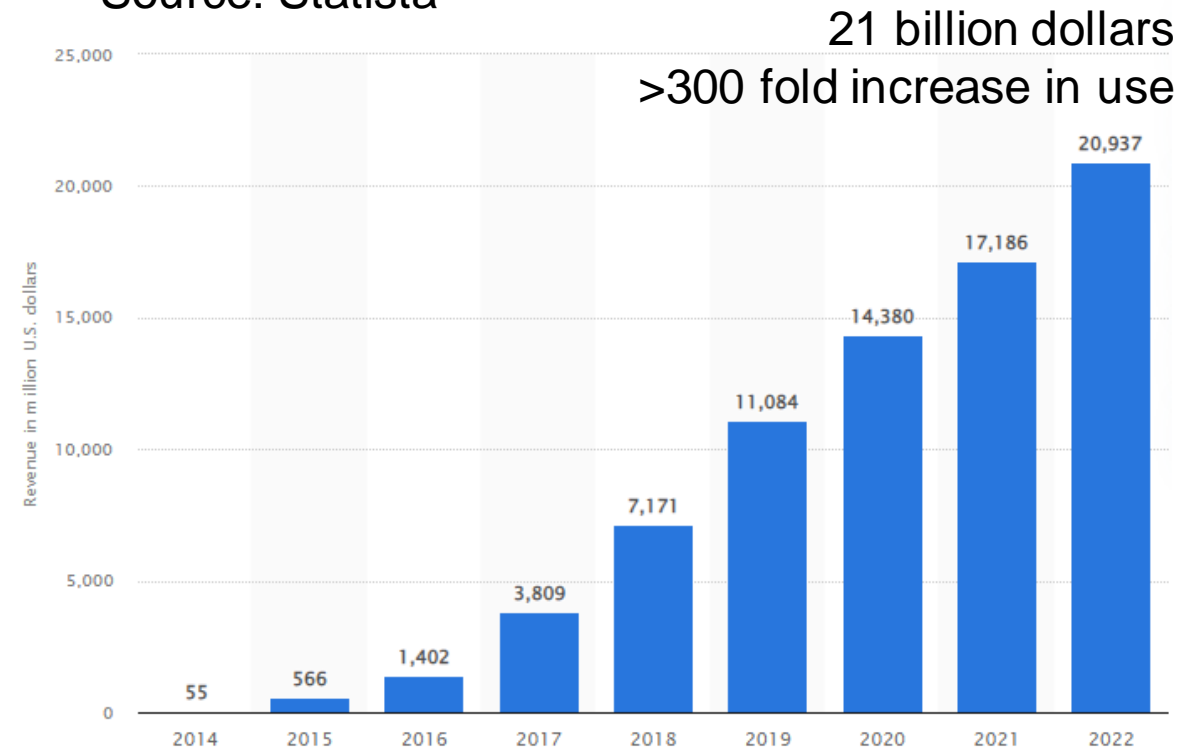
Solid Tumor Immunotherapy in 2023

- anti-PD1/PDL1
 - 7-8 drugs: pembrolizumab, nivolumab, atezolizumab, durvalumab, avelumab, cemiplimab, dostarlimab, retifanlimab
 - 20+ solid tumor indications: melanoma, NSCLC, RCC, HNSCC, MCC, MSI-H, CRC (MSI-H), gastric, HCC, cervical, SCLC, cSCC, BCC, bladder, breast, dMMR, endometrial, esophageal, mesothelioma, **TMB-high**
- Other checkpoint inhibitors: anti-CTLA4, anti-LAG3
- Intralesionals/topicals: T-Vec, imiquimod, BCG, others
- Dendritic vaccine (Provenge)
- Bispecifics: tebentefusp
- (cytokines: IL2, interferon)

Source: CRI

Pembrolizumab annual sales: 2014-2022

Source: Statista



[Additional Information](#)

© Statista

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FDA-Approved anti-PD(L)1 in 2023

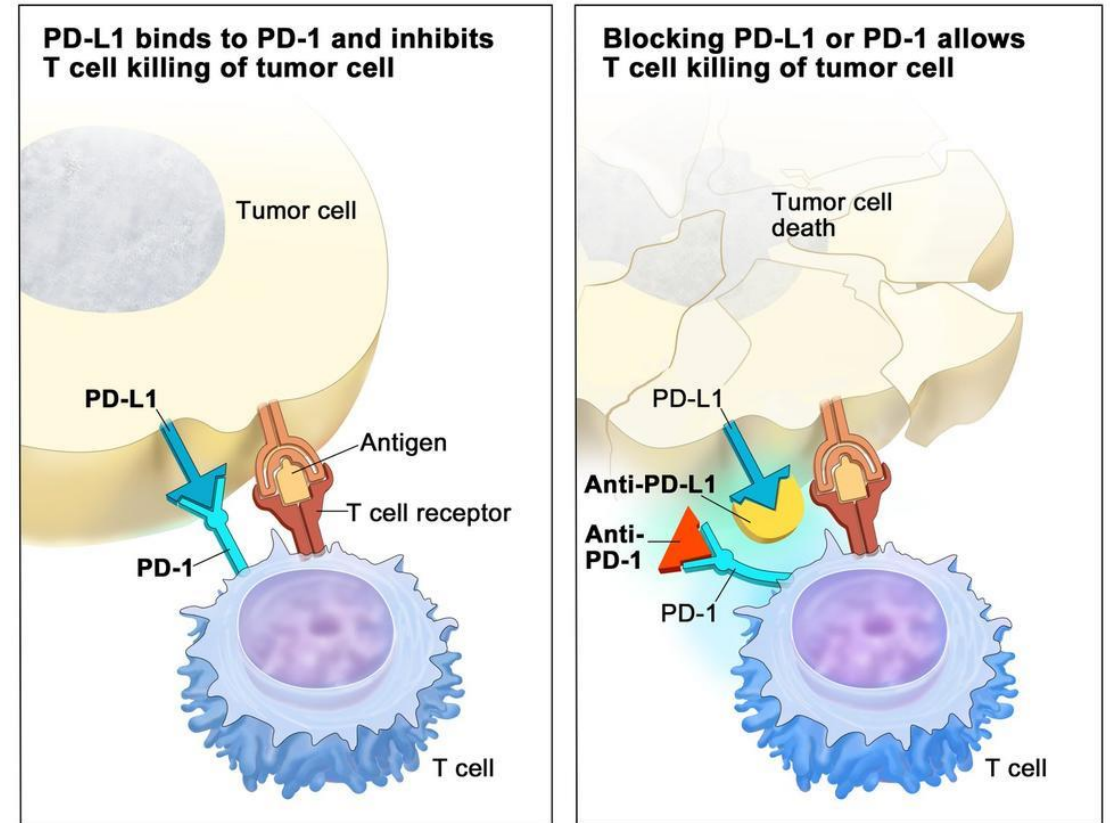
8 drugs: pembrolizumab, nivolumab, atezolizumab, durvalumab, avelumab, cemiplimab, dostarlimab, retifanlimab

(Some) Recent anti-PD(L)1 indications:

- Nivolumab adjuvant esophageal
- Pembrolizumab TMB-high
- Pembrolizumab NSCLC adjuvant
- nivolumab (+ chemo) Neoadjuvant NSCLC
- Retifanlimab Merkel cell carcinoma
- Atezolizumab ASPS
- Dostarlimab endometrial dMMR

Anti-PD(L)1 indication withdrawn:

2020-2023: nivolumab (SCLC), pembrolizumab (SCLC), atezolizumab (TNBC, bladder), pembrolizumab (gastric/GEJ), nivolumab (HCC), durvalumab (bladder)



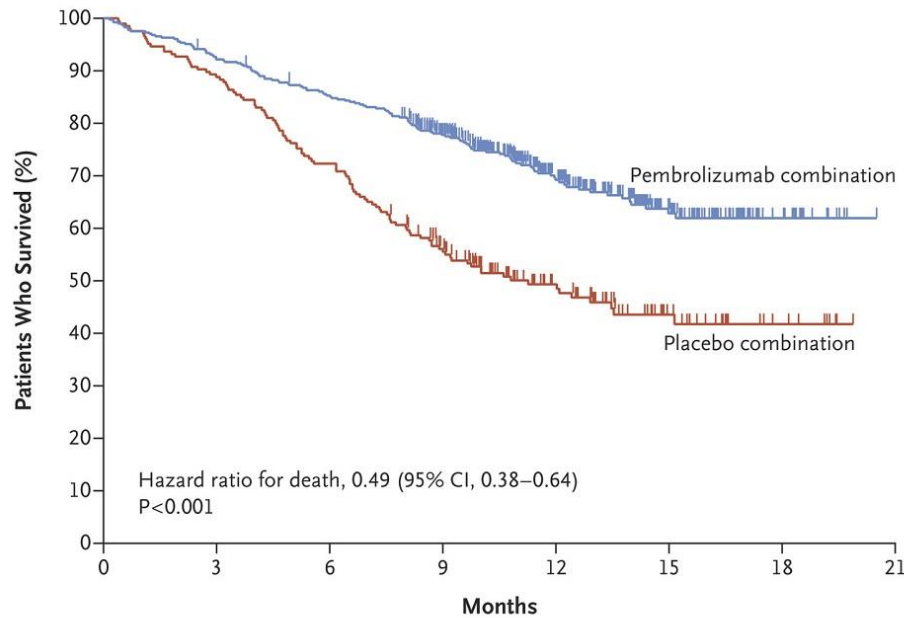
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Outcomes dramatically improved with imtx across many solid tumors

NSCLC

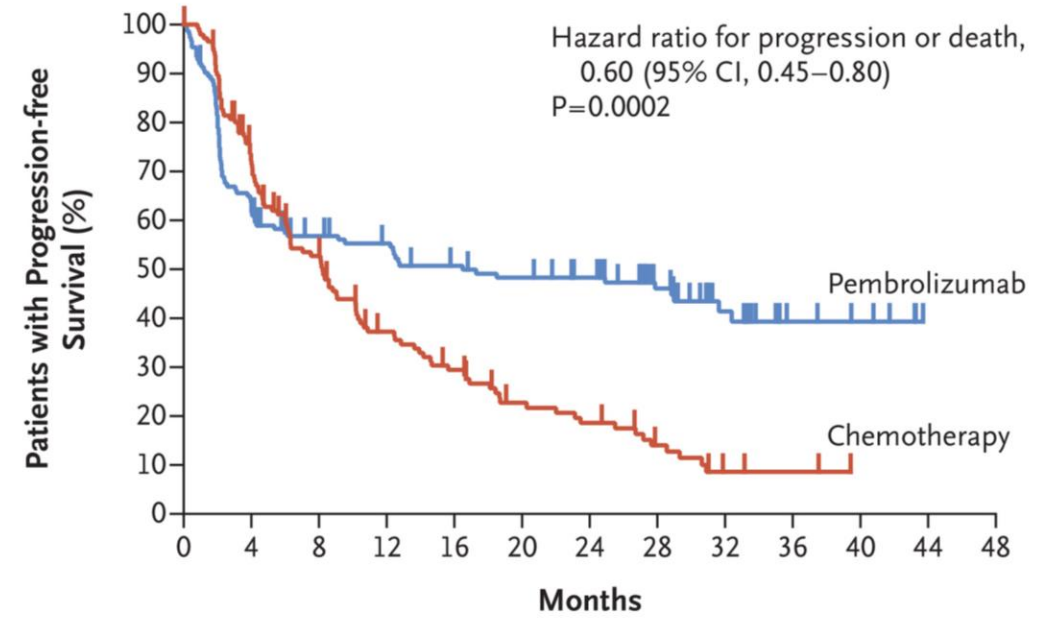
MSI-High Colon

A Overall Survival



No. at Risk

	0	3	6	9	12	15	18	21
Pembrolizumab combination	410	377	347	278	163	71	18	0
Placebo combination	206	183	149	104	59	25	8	0

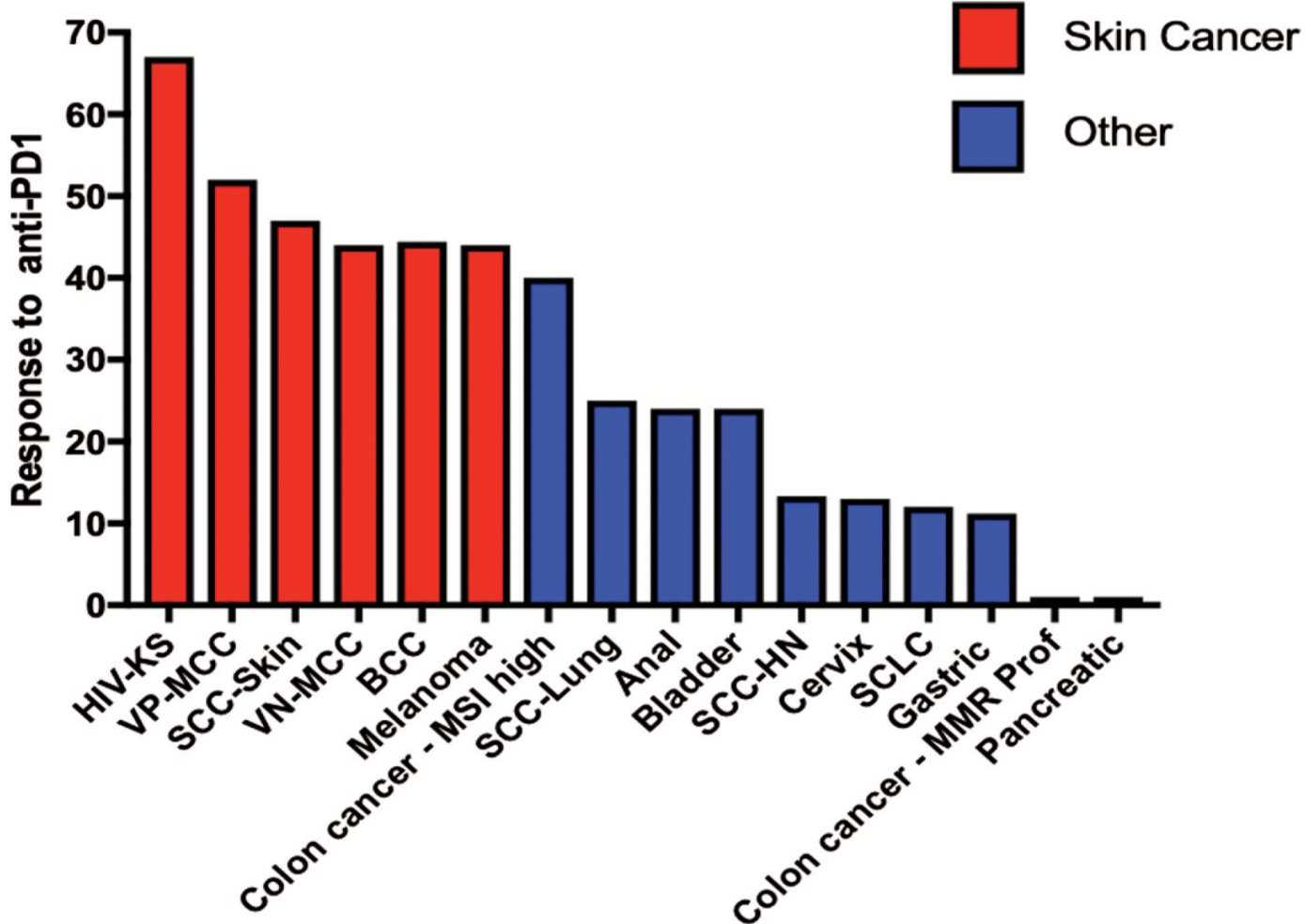


No. at Risk

	0	4	8	12	16	20	24	28	32	36	40	44	48
Pembrolizumab	153	96	77	72	64	60	55	37	20	7	5	0	0
Chemotherapy	154	100	68	43	33	22	18	11	4	3	0	0	0

Keynote 189 NEJM 2018; Keynote 177 NEJM 2020

But we still have a lot of work left to do



Paulson KG et al, Int Immunol 2019

Pembrolizumab in TMB-High cancers

- 10 mut/Mb or higher
- Foundation 1 as companion diagnostic
- "Adult or pediatric patients whose tumors have a high TMB, defined as 10 or more mutations per megabase as determined by an FDA-approved test, can be treated with pembrolizumab after disease progression following prior treatment and if they have no satisfactory alternative treatment options"



There is now an indication for comprehensive genomic profiling in essentially all patients with advanced cancer

Duration of anti-PD1 IMTX – rethinking elective discontinuation

In 2018, we saw this data from CR patients with melanoma: Robert et al JCO 2018 and the field started moving towards limiting duration of therapy

Optimal Duration of Checkpoint Inhibition in Melanoma Is **No More Than 2 Years**. For patients with advanced melanoma, the concept of treating to disease progression does not always apply. Dec 25, 2018

<https://ascopost.com> > issues > december-25-2018 > optim... ⋮

[Optimal Duration of Checkpoint Inhibition in Melanoma Is No ...](#)

[Duration of Anti-Programmed Death-1 Therapy in Advanced Melanoma: How Much of a Good Thing Is Enough?](#)

Khushalani NI.

J Clin Oncol. 2018 Jun 10;36(17):1649-1653. doi: 10.1200/JCO.2017.76.8275. Epub 2018 Feb 1.

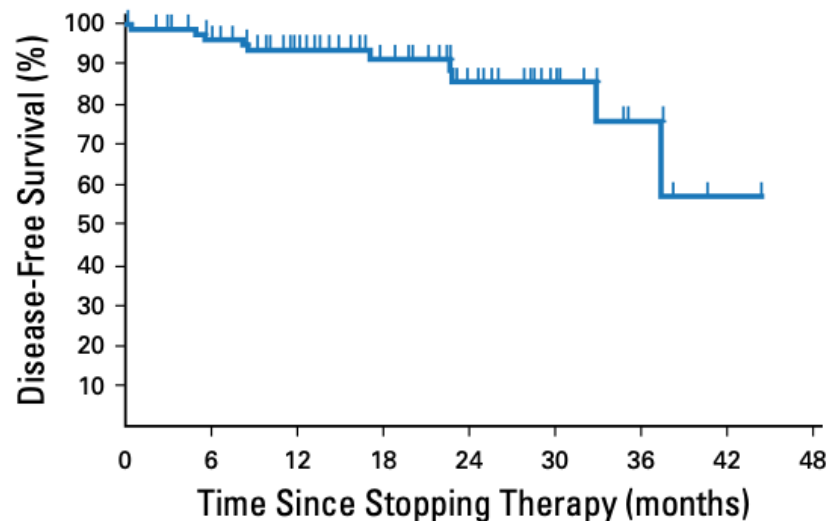
PMID: 29389234

<https://www.nature.com> > ... > comment ⋮

[Are we over-treating with checkpoint inhibitors? - Nature](#)

by S Danson · 2019 · Cited by 14 — We challenge the need for long-term treatment **duration**, using evidence from **melanoma** research, both published and in process.

B

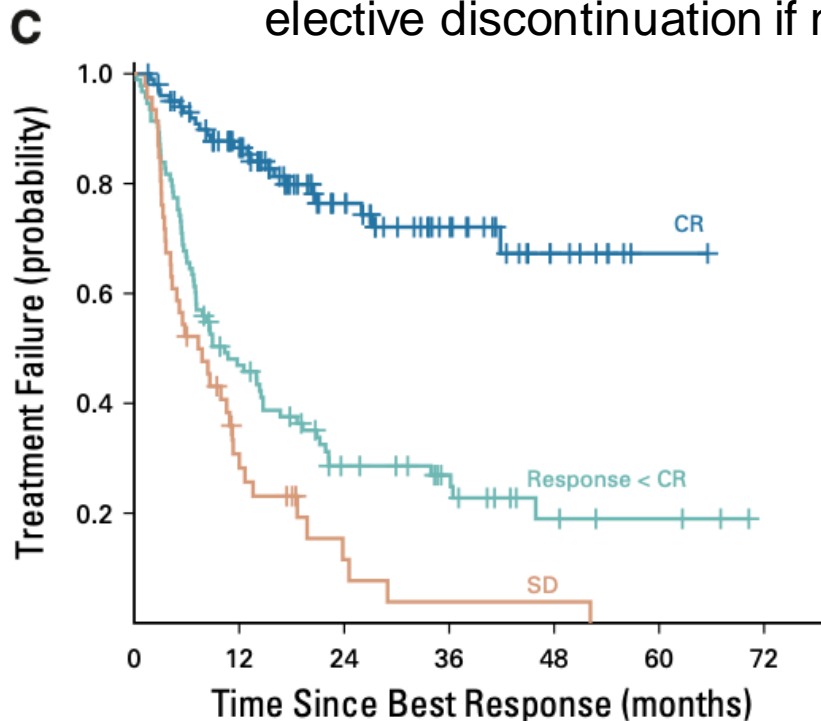


No. at risk:

All patients 89 75 56 42 26 12 5 1 0

Duration of anti-PD1: new data muddy waters

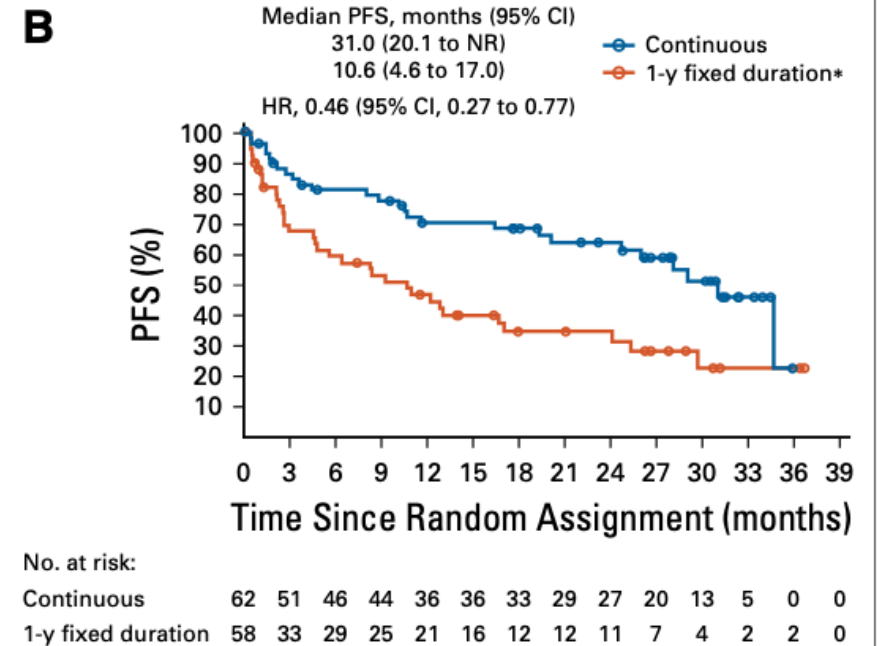
Melanoma: frequent relapse after elective discontinuation if not in CR



No. at risk:	0	12	24	36	48	60	72
CR	102	73	39	22	8	1	0
Response < CR	93	41	20	13	5	3	0
SD	46	12	3	1	1	0	0

Betof Warner et al JCO 2020

NSCLC: >1 year better than 1 year anti-PD1 in RCT



No. at risk:	0	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30	33	36	39
Continuous	62	51	46	44	36	36	33	29	27	20	13	5	0	0
1-y fixed duration	58	33	29	25	21	16	12	12	11	7	4	2	2	0

Waterhouse et al JCO 2020

For many diseases we now have a mismatch: NSCLC shown as an example

The screenshot shows a search result for 'Initial management of advanced non-small cell lung cancer lacking a driver...'. The article title is 'Non-small cell lung cancer, metastatic, nonsquamous, first-line combination therapy'. The text describes a treatment regimen: 'Non-small cell lung cancer, metastatic, nonsquamous, first-line combination therapy: IV: 200 mg once every 3 weeks (in combination with pemetrexed and either cisplatin or carboplatin) for 4 cycles, followed by pembrolizumab monotherapy of 200 mg once every 3 weeks (with or without optional indefinite pemetrexed maintenance therapy) until disease progression, unacceptable toxicity, or (in patients without disease progression) for a total duration of pembrolizumab therapy of up to 35 cycles or 24 months (Ref). Pembrolizumab 400 mg once every 6 weeks has been approved as an additional dosing option.'

The 'DURATION OF THERAPY' section states: '→ Immunotherapy — In general, we continue treatment with a programmed cell death protein 1 (PD-1) axis inhibitor until progression or unacceptable toxicity occurs, although discontinuation after two years of treatment may be a reasonable alternative. For patients whose initial regimen includes platinum-based chemotherapy, duration of chemotherapy is discussed below (see 'Chemotherapy' below). The approach to duration of immunotherapy is based upon the randomized clinical trials leading to US Food and Drug Administration approval of PD-1 axis inhibitors in which respective agents were continued until progression.'

FDA approval is 24 months

UpToDate suggest indefinite

BUT: extended ICI comes with toxicity

Financial: cost of anti-PD1 = approximately \$180K per year

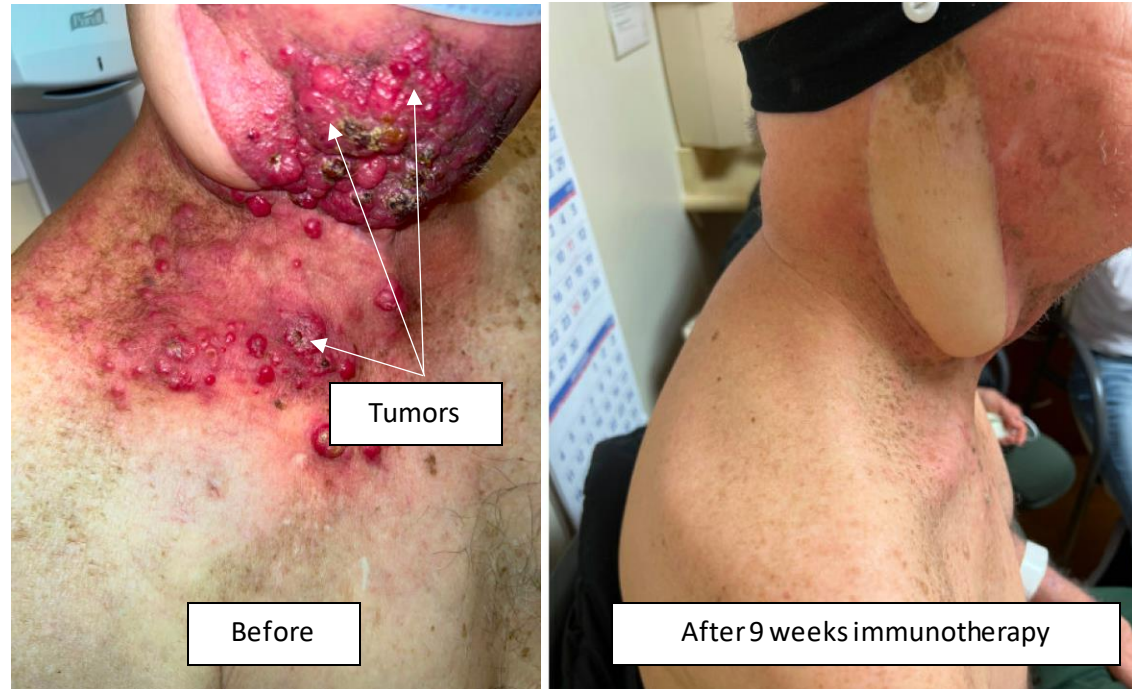
list price (keytruda.com) pembrolizumab \$11,115.04 per 3 week dose

17 doses * \$11k = ~180K per year

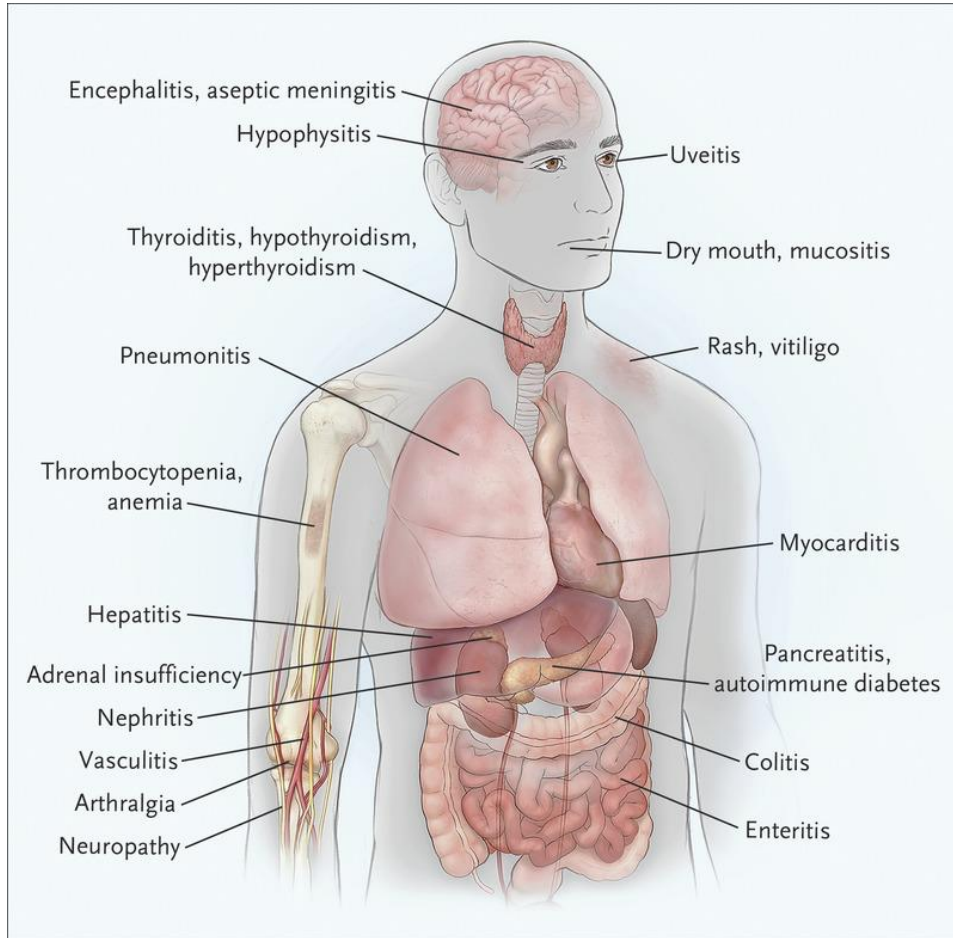
other manufacturers pricing is very similar

Physical: Late iRAEs can and do happen

These drugs are miraculous when they work



These drugs have a big problem: iRAE



1. LATE
2. NOT ON TREATMENT DAY
3. PATIENT CAN HAVE HAD NO SIDE EFFECTS

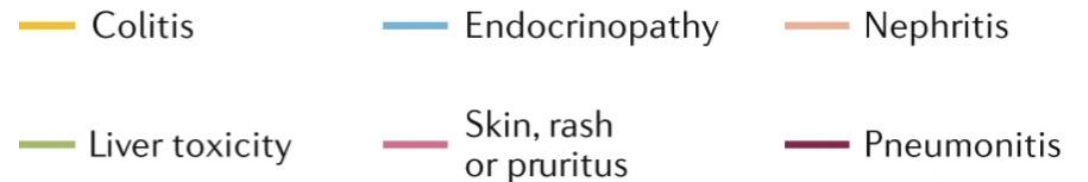
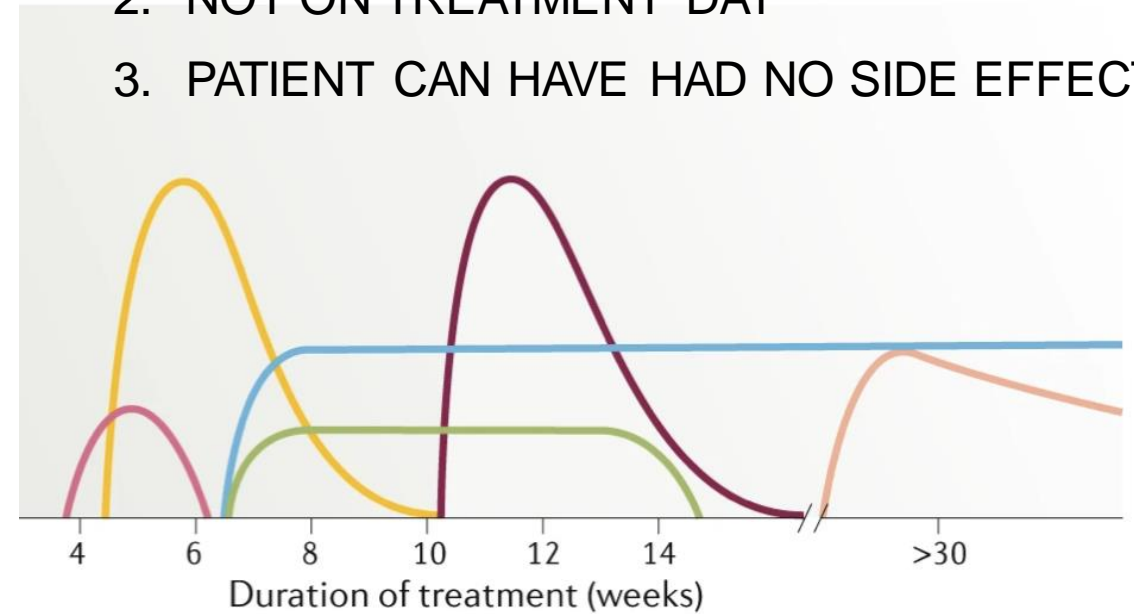


Image: NEJM. Image Martins et al Nature Reviews Clin Oncol

iRAEs can be VERY late

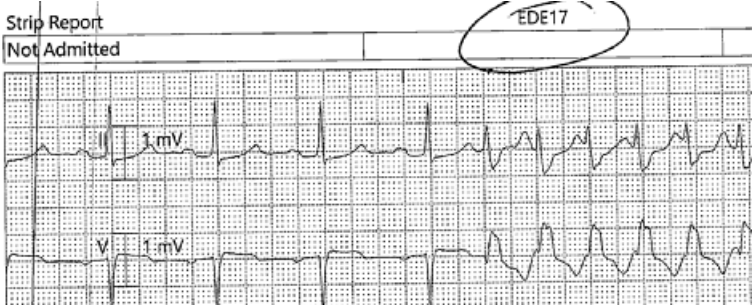
Qin et al ASCO 2020

IRAE group (n)	Subtype (n)	SS	ICI DC	HP	Time to IRAE (w, median [range])
Cardiac (3)	Myocarditis (3)	3 (100%)	2 (67%)	1 (33%)	6 [1.5-54]
Endocrine (43)	Adrenal insufficiency (10)				14.5 [1.5-130]
	Autoimmune Pancreatitis /Diabetes (4)	17 (40%)	8 (19%)	8 (19%)	
	Hypophysitis (6)				
	Thyroiditis (23)				
GI (40)	Colitis (20) Enteritis (1) Hepatitis (19)	19 (48%)	13 (33%)	7 (18%)	8 [1-107.5]
Kidney (2)	Nephritis (2)	0	0	0	14 [6.5-21]
Lung (11)	Pneumonitis (11)	10 (91%)	7 (64%)	7 (64%)	34 [1.5-127]
Musculoskeletal (11)	Inflammatory arthritis (8) PMR (3)	8 (73%)	3 (27%)	0	38 [1-127]
Skin (35)	Dermatitis (31) Mucositis (3) Conjunctivitis (1)	8 (23%)	6 (17%)	1 (3%)	7 [2-149.5]

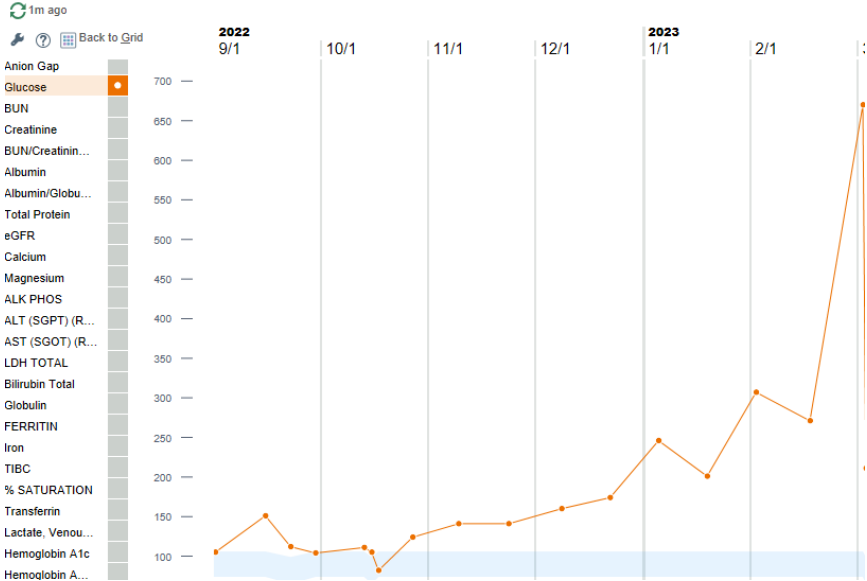
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Example acute late iRAE from recent patients

Myocarditis – 7 months



T1DM with DKA: 8 months



Retinitis resulting in 20/400 vision – 29 months

OCT Macula: Findings OD: Reason for Testing: Monitor Progression. Comparative Data: Worsening Compared to Prior Study. Retinal Thickening Consistent with Macular Edema. Parafoveal outer retinal loss, loss of RPE layer/ellipsoid zone IS/OS Junction. Foveal Thickness 351 (was 314, 320, 368) microns. **Findings OS:** Reason for Testing: Monitor Progression. Comparative Data: No Significant Change Compared to Prior Study. Parafoveal outer retinal loss, loss of RPE layer/ellipsoid zone IS/OS Junction. Foveal Thickness 277 microns.

Or even months or years after treatment (“DIRE”)

Couey et al. *Journal for ImmunoTherapy of Cancer* (2019) 7:165
<https://doi.org/10.1186/s40425-019-0645-6>

Journal for ImmunoTherapy
of Cancer

RESEARCH ARTICLE

Open Access

Delayed immune-related events (DIRE) after discontinuation of immunotherapy: diagnostic hazard of autoimmunity at a distance



Marcus A. Couey¹, R. Bryan Bell¹, Ashish A. Patel¹, Meghan C. Romba², Marka R. Crittenden³, Brendan D. Curti¹, Walter J. Urba¹ and Rom S. Leidner^{1*}

iRAE management

- Usually steroids
- ASCO guidelines: <https://ascopubs.org/doi/10.1200/JCO.21.01440>
- Can't miss: hypophysitis, myocarditis, encephalitis, T1DM, hepatitis
- General rules for restarting a checkpoint inhibitor:
 - The risk to the patient of the cancer needs to be higher than the risk to the patient of the checkpoint inhibitor
 - Toxicity well controlled
 - Do you actually need the checkpoint inhibitor?
 - Toxicity not previously life threatening (or if it was, going in with eyes wide open)

Current status re: anti-PD1 duration in 2023:

- If a patient is in CR or stable PR, PD-1 discontinuation for TOXICITY is appropriate and strong consideration should be given to reserving rechallenge for relapse
- If a patient is in CR at 2-3 years (depending on indication), ELECTIVE discontinuation is likely indicated
- If patient is NOT in CR but is responding, ELECTIVE discontinuation is not straightforward, however need to discuss with patient and also note continuation differs from FDA label
- It is reasonable to consider alternate dosing strategies/treatment schedules in our long-term survivors

Nutritional requirements for anti-PD1



High fiber diet (Trinchieri et al Science 2021) (***vegetables!!!***)

Avoid no-sugar diets: CD8+ effector T cells eat glucose (Ma et al Immunity 2019)

Fermented and fiber foods for gut bacteria health, NOT probiotics!!!!

Avoid unnecessary abx (Pinato et al JAMA oncology 2019)

Site of care



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- 4. The member has severe venous access issues that require the use of a special intervention.††
- 5. The member has significant behavioral issues and/or physical or cognitive impairment that would impact the safety of the administration AND the patient does not have access to a caregiver.
- 6. For members receiving an immune checkpoint inhibitor (Bavencio, Imfinzi, Jemperli, Keytruda, Libtayo, Opdivo, Opdualag, Tecentriq, Yervoy and Zynyz), ANY of the following additional criteria also apply:
 - a. The member is within the initial 6 months of starting therapy;
 - b. The member is continuing on a maintenance regimen that includes provider administered combination chemotherapy including but not limited to: i. Tecentriq used in combination with bevacizumab for non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC); ii. Tecentriq used in combination with paclitaxel protein-bound for breast cancer; iii. Keytruda in combination with pemetrexed for NSCLC;
 - c. The member is experiencing severe toxicity requiring continuous monitoring (e.g., Grade 2-4 bullous dermatitis, transaminitis, pneumonitis, Stevens-Johnson syndrome, acute pancreatitis, primary adrenal insufficiency aseptic meningitis, encephalitis, transverse myelitis, myocarditis, pericarditis, arrhythmias, impaired ventricular function, conduction abnormalities).



Other FDA-Approved Checkpoints

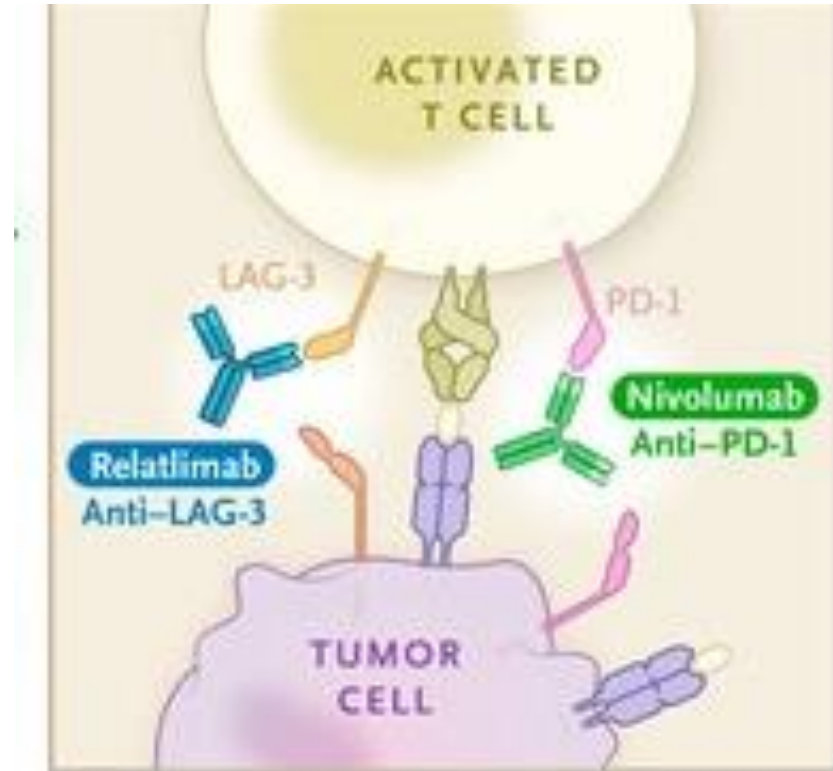
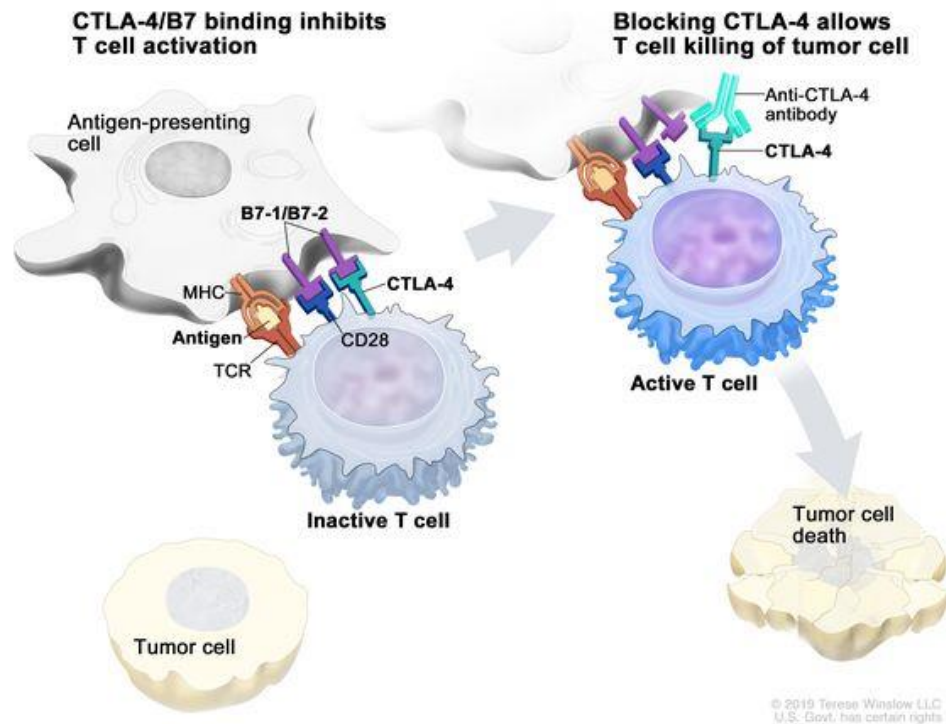


Image: NEJM

CTLA4 checkpoint

- Ipilimumab (w/nivo)
- Tremelimumab (w/durva)

NEW: LAG3

- Relatlimab (w/ nivo)

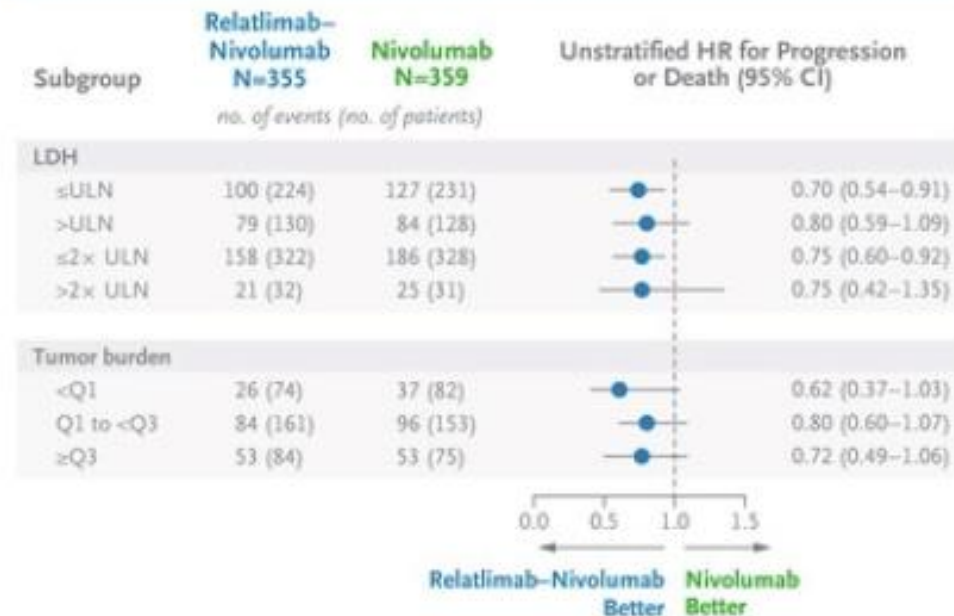
Relatlimab (+ nivo)

Lower reported toxicity rates than ipilimumab (+ nivo)

Improves PFS & likely OS compared to nivolumab (Tawbi et al ASCO 2023)

Who it is good for: low burden melanoma pts who you are worried about ipilimumab toxicity

Who it is less ideal for: progression after PD-1 monotherapy, brain mets, young fit pt

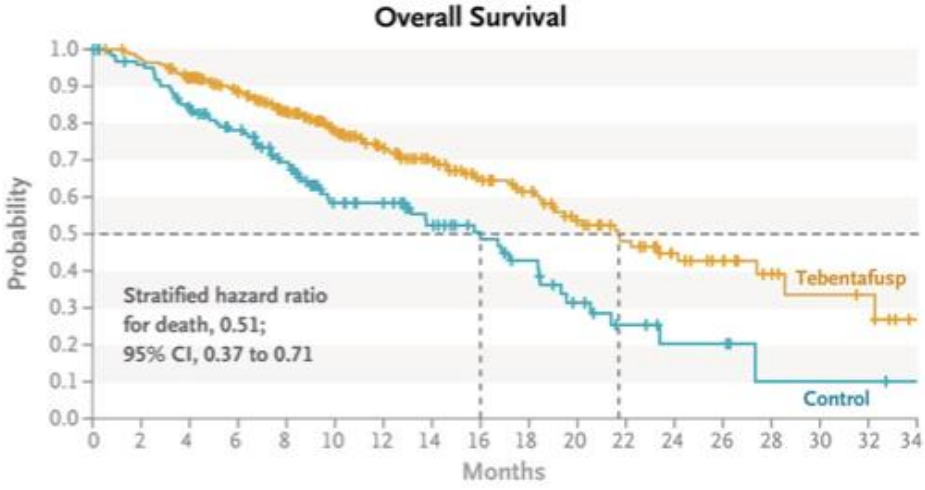
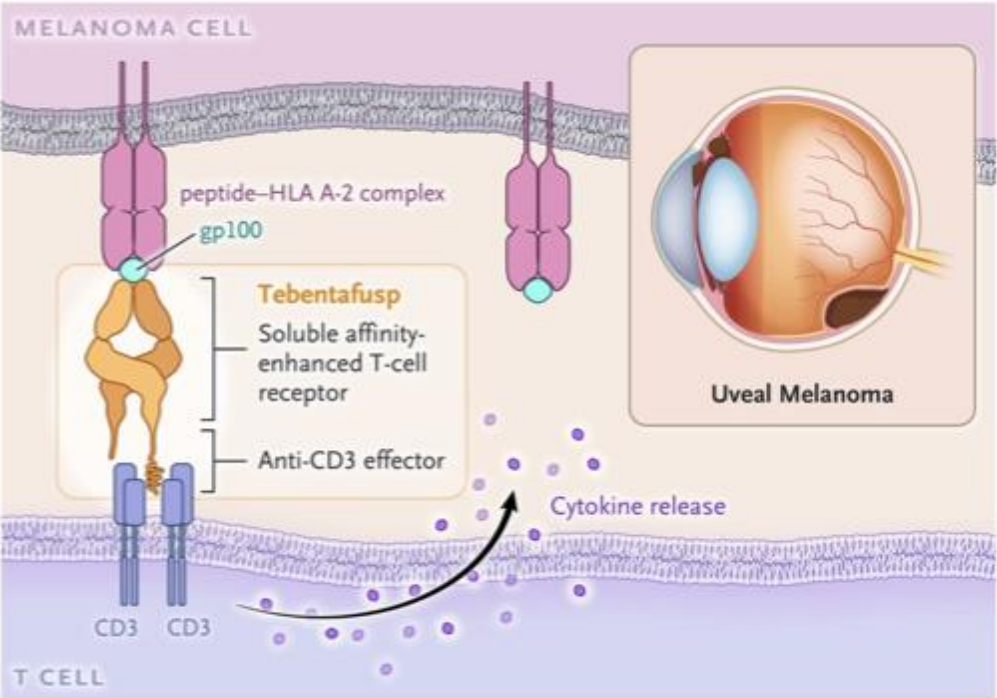


RELATIVITY: NEJM 2022

Outline

- Part 1: the checkpoint inhibitors
 - Indication & utilization
 - How to make them work better
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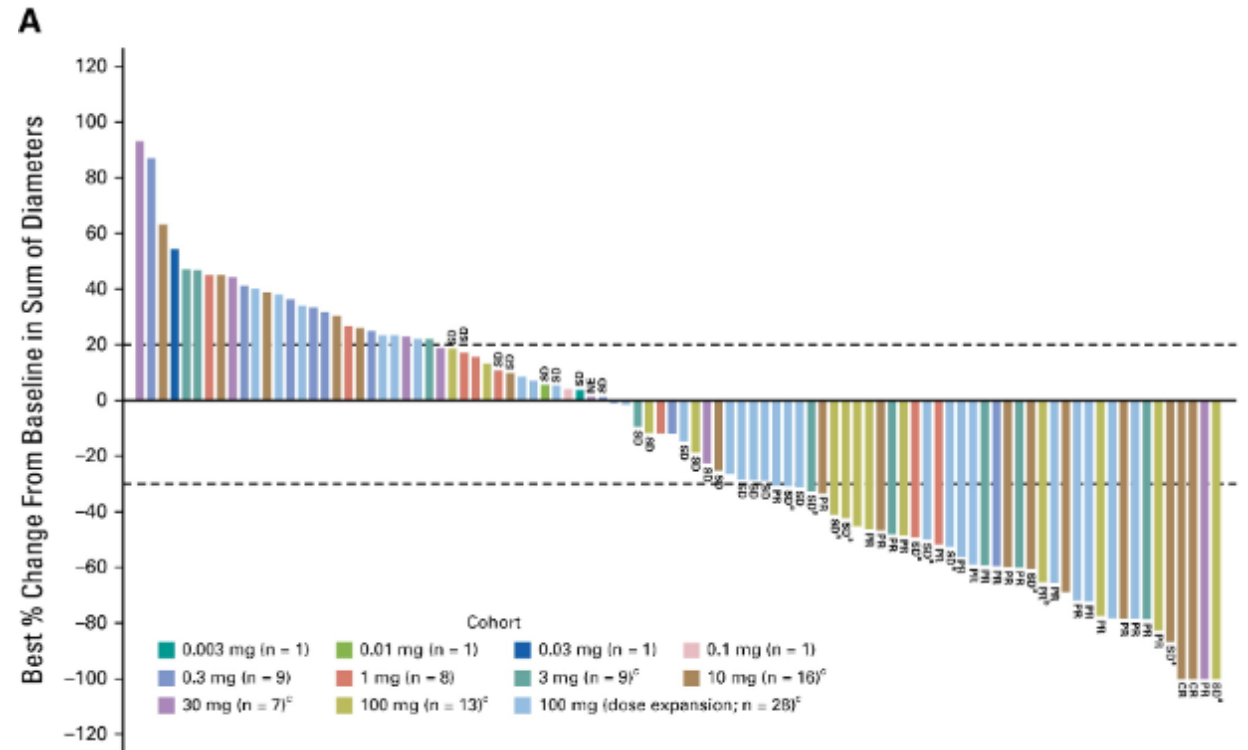
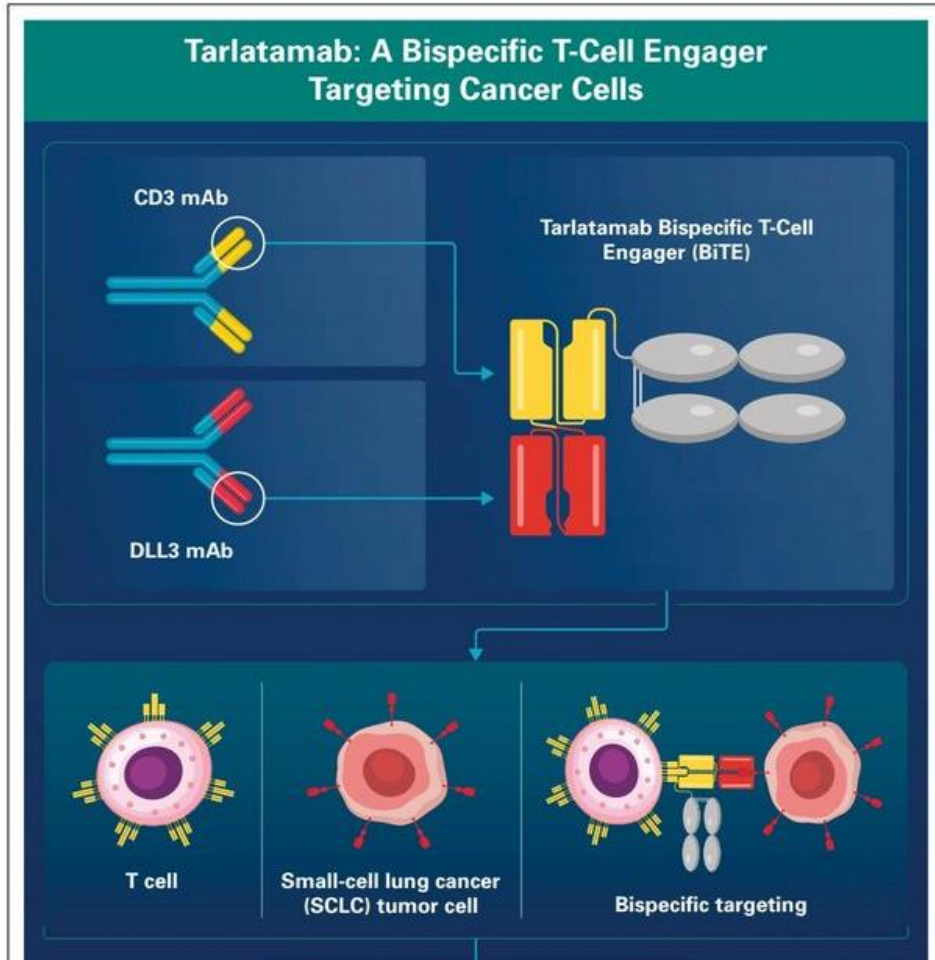
Uveal melanoma: tebentafusp TCR-CD3



1-Year Survival		
Tebentafusp Group	73%	95% CI, 66 to 79
Control Group	59%	95% CI, 48 to 67

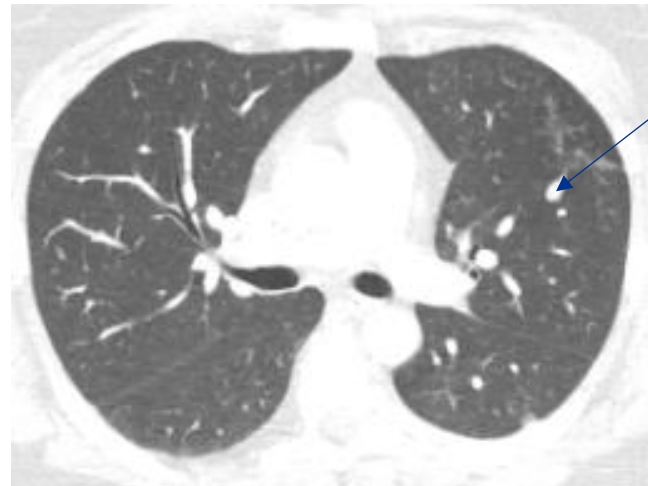
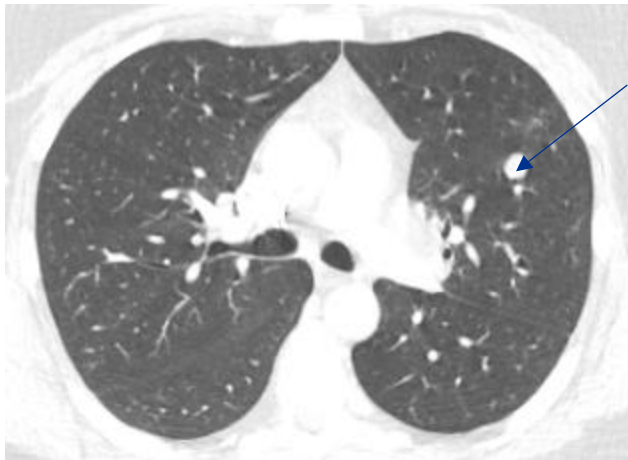
Images: Nathan et al NEJM 2021

Small cell lung cancer: tarlatamab (investigational)



Paz-Ares et al JCO 2023

CRS happens but responses can be deep & durable



TIL therapy: lifileucel T (investigational)

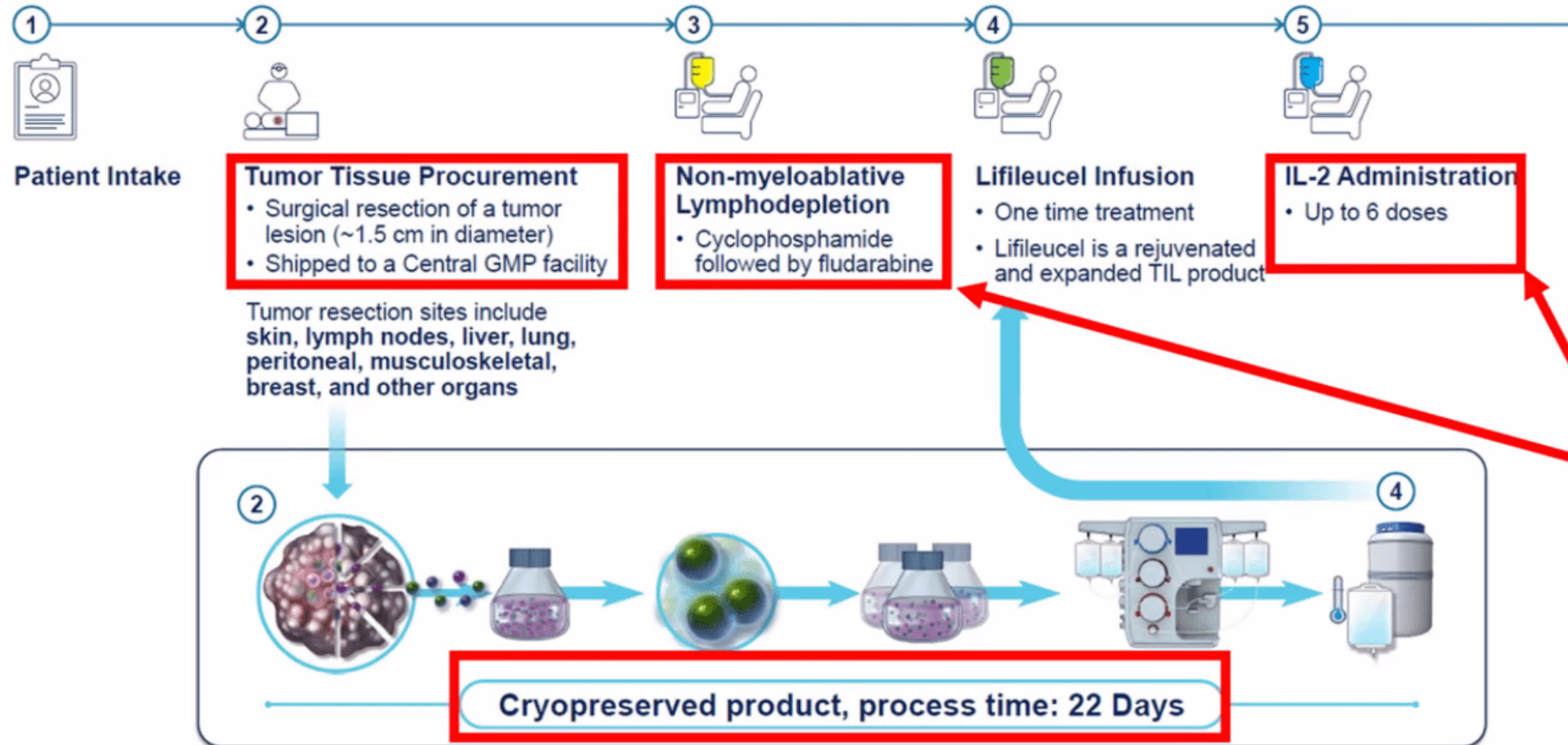


Image: Cancer connect

TIL therapy: lifileucel T (investigational)

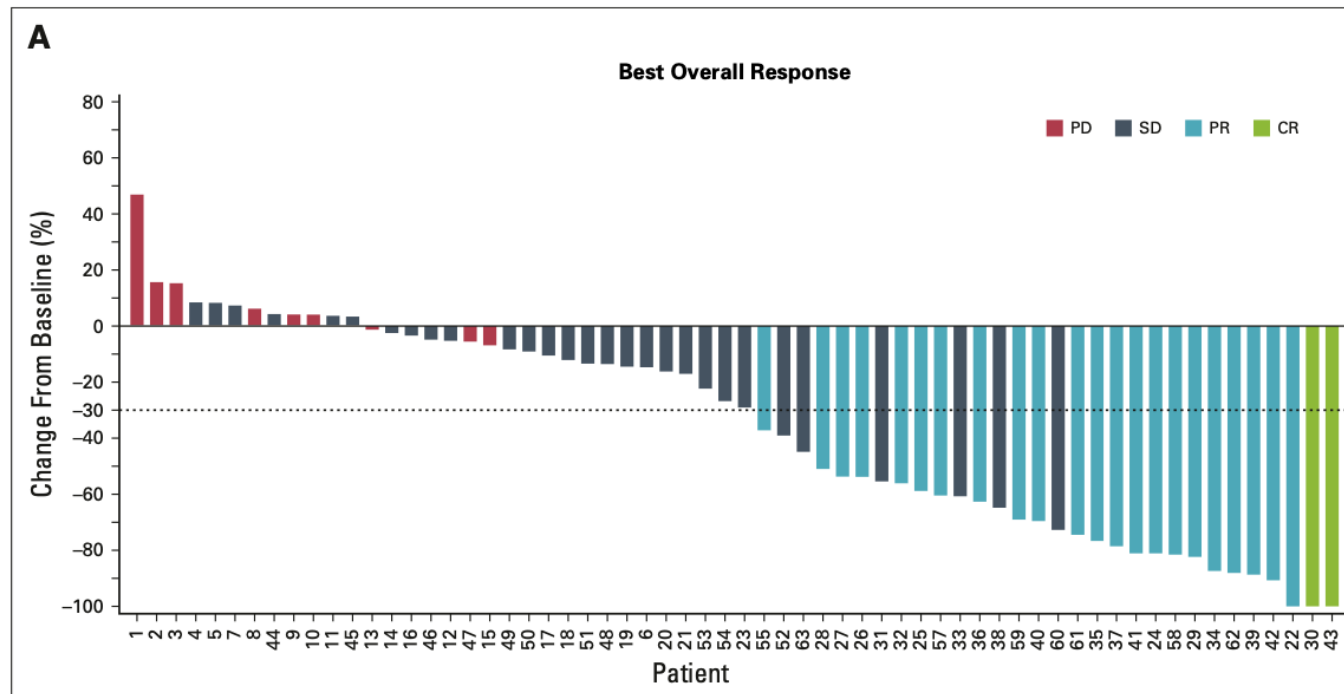
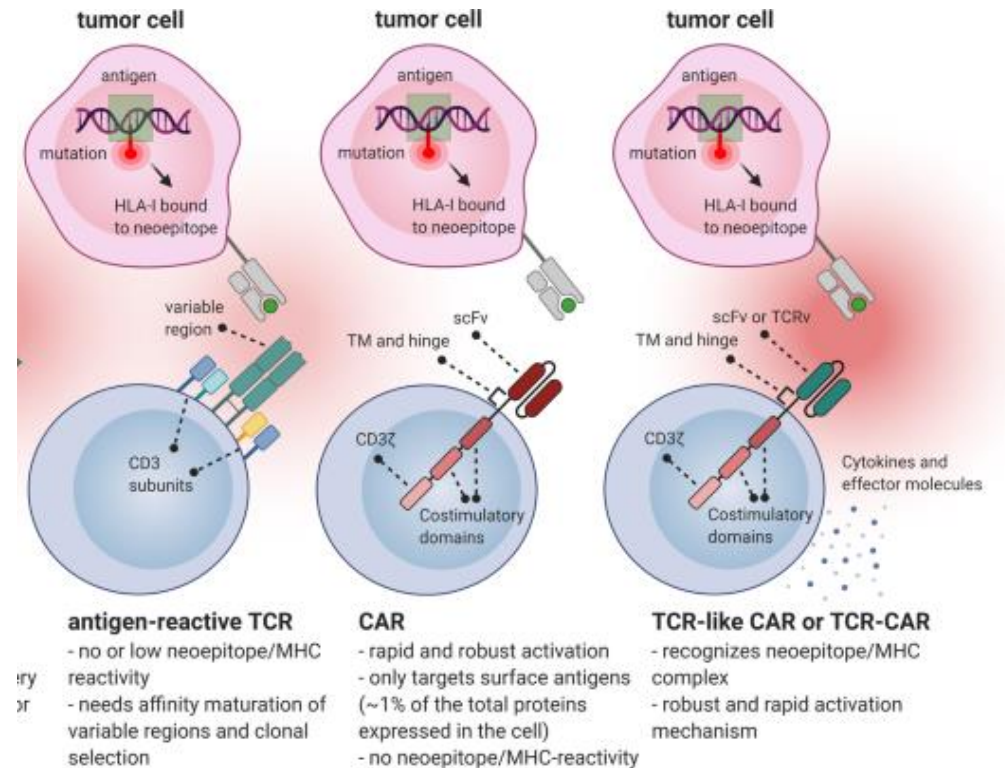
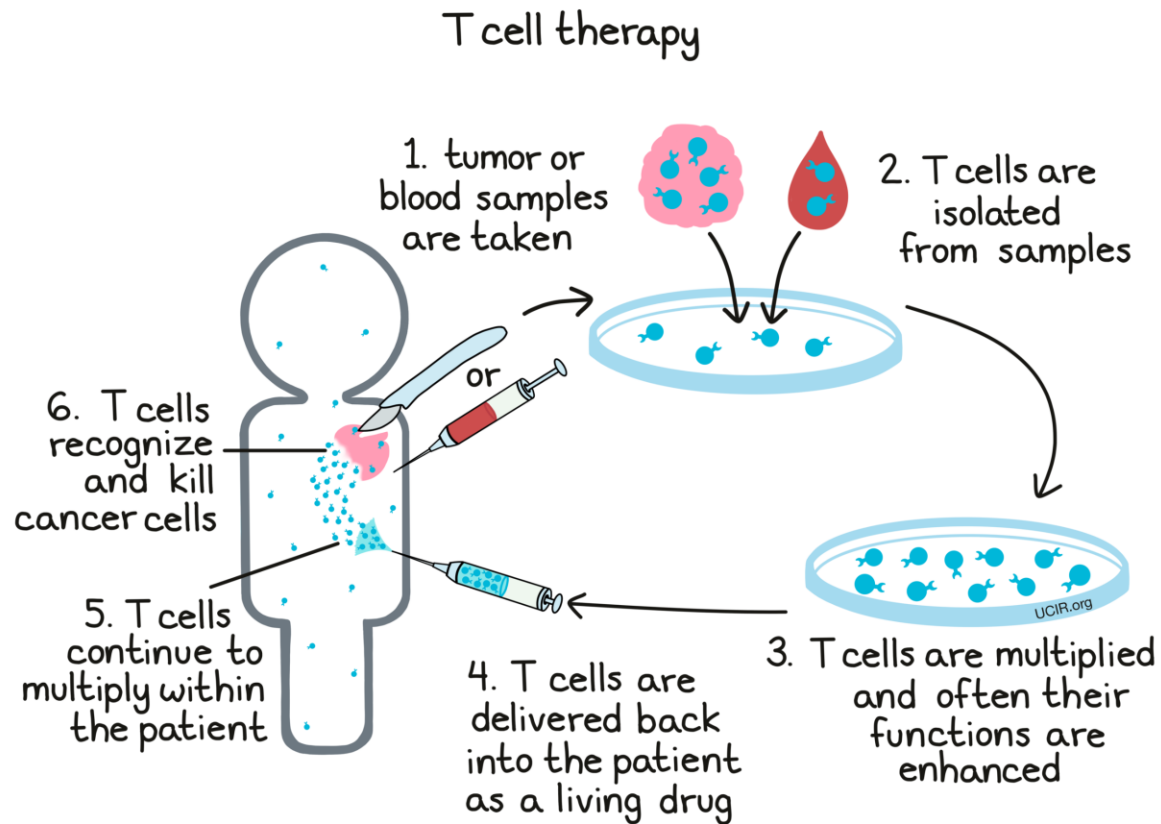


FIG 1. Change in tumor burden of target lesions, response by subgroup, and response assessment in individual patients. (A) Waterfall plot depicting BOR as assessed by investigator and the best change from baseline in the SOD of the target lesions (per RECIST v1.1 criteria) in the FAS. A change of -100% from baseline is presented for CR assessment that includes lymph node lesions that resolved to < 10 mm. The horizontal dashed line indicates a 30% reduction in the tumor burden in the target lesions. Twelve patients had an increase in the SOD of the target lesions, whereas 50 patients had a decrease in the SOD of the target lesions. Thirty patients (two CR, 22 PR, and six SD) had $> 30\%$ reduction in the SOD of the target lesions. Three patients had no post-TIL assessments because of early death. One patient had no post-TIL assessment because of start of new anticancer therapy before day 42. (continued on next page)

Engineered T cell based cellular immunotherapy



What about the melanoma vaccine?

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Session CTPL01 - Harnessing the Immune System in the Clinic

CT001 - A personalized cancer vaccine, mRNA-4157, combined with pembrolizumab versus pembrolizumab in patients with resected high-risk melanoma: Efficacy and safety results from the randomized, open-label Phase 2 mRNA-4157-P201/Keynote-942 trial

April 16, 2023, 12:45 PM - 1:00 PM

Chapin Theater - Convention Center

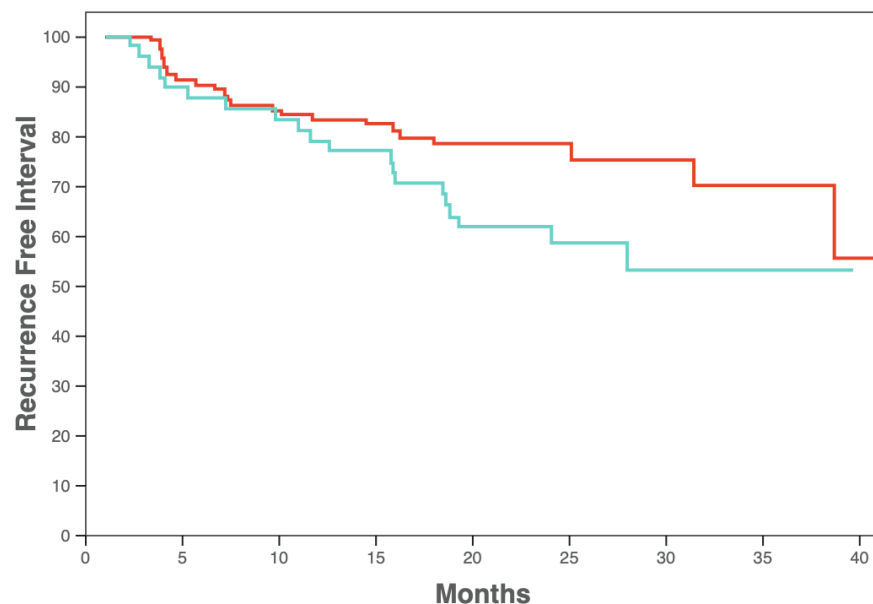
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What about the melanoma vaccine?

Keynote-942 - An Efficacy Study of Adjuvant Treatment With the Personalized Cancer Vaccine mRNA-4157 and Pembrolizumab in Participants With High-Risk Melanoma (KEYNOTE-942)

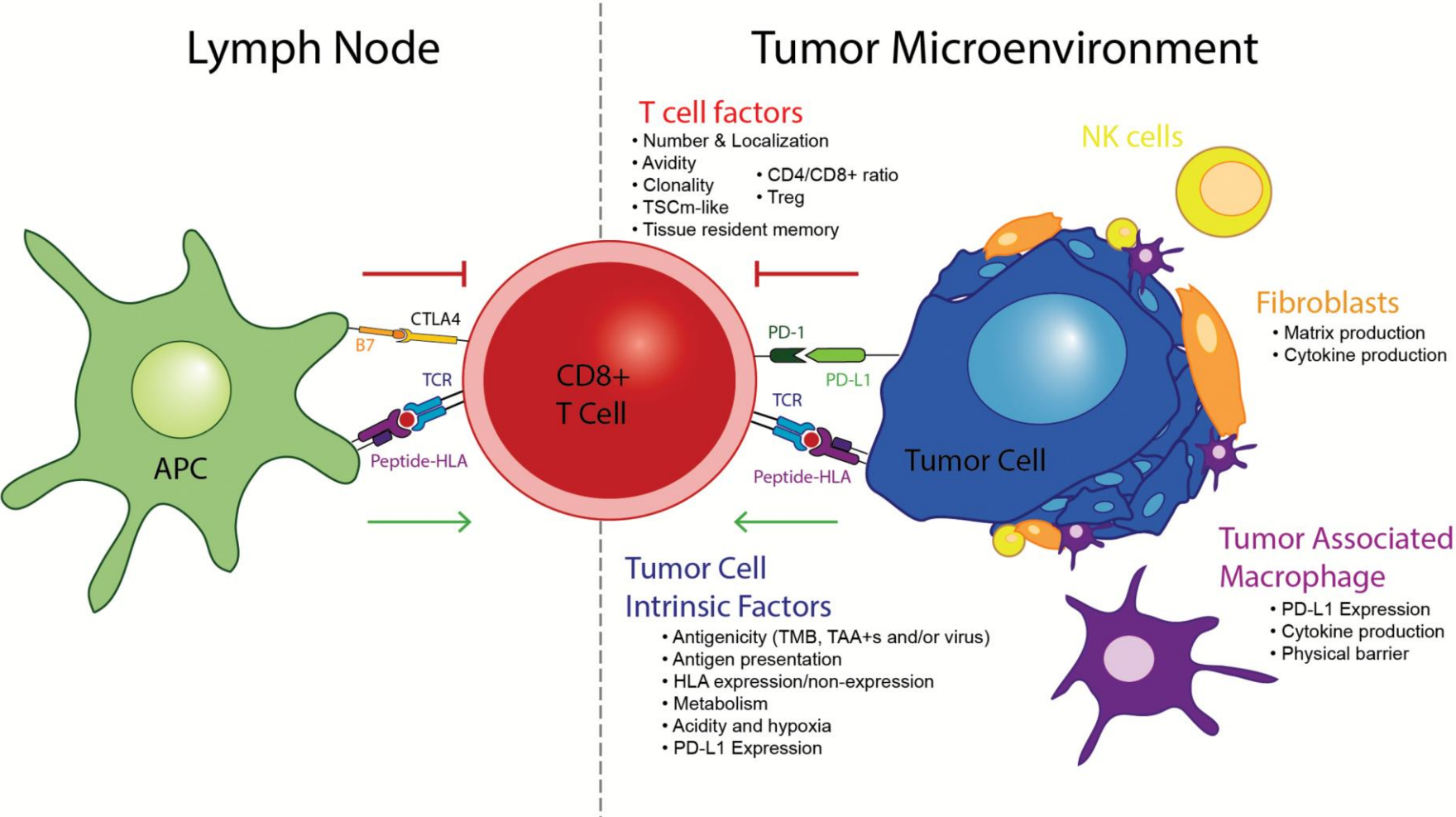
Recurrence-free survival



Curves	N
mRNA-4157 (V940) + Pembrolizumab	107
Pembrolizumab	50

	HR (95% CI)	P-value
mRNA-4157 (V940) + Pembrolizumab vs Pembrolizumab	0.56 (0.31 - 1.02)	0.0266

IMTX Response Mechanisms Complex



Thank you!

KASCO/ACCC team

Dr. Jay Lopez & WSMOS team

Dr. Sara Jo Grethlein

Doug Kieper, Lauren Garvey, Dr. Chuck Drescher, Dr. Hank Kaplan & Paul G Allen
Research Center Team

Dr. Phil Gold, Evonne Lackey, Sam Megrath, Andrew Smith & Swedish Research

Dr. Bin Xie, Dr. Min Park, & Melanoma team at SCI

Oncology RNs!!!

Surgical and dermatology and radiology and palliative care colleagues

Collaborators

Patients & family members

Questions?

