



Con il Patrocinio di



# CORSO DI IMMUNOTERAPIA IN ONCOLOGIA “CARCINOMA DEL RENE E DELLA VESCICA”

**NEGRAR (VR)**  
**28/29 Novembre 2017**

Cancer Care Center  
“Sacro Cuore - Don Calabria”  
Centro Formazione - Aula 1



## La gestione della tossicità: carcinoma della vescica

**Veronica Prati**  
Oncologia Medica  
ASLCN2 Alba-Bra



# Currently Approved Immuno-Oncology Agents in Advanced Urothelial Carcinoma

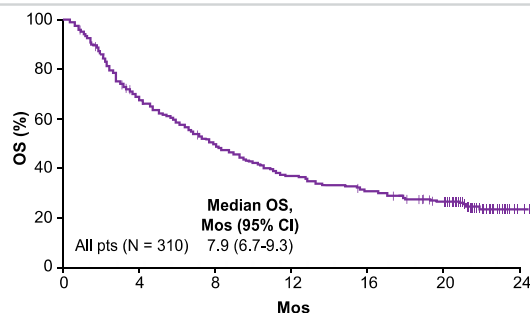
## Atezolizumab: Anti-PD-L1 Antibody

**First-line approval** for patients not eligible for cisplatin-containing chemo<sup>[1]</sup>

**ORR: 23%; median OS: 15.9 months**

**Second-line approval** on or after platinum-containing chemo or within 12 months of neoadjuvant or adjuvant chemo<sup>[2,3]</sup>

**ORR: 15%; median OS: 7.9 months**



**Dosing:** 1200 mg IV **every 3 weeks**, infuse over 1 hour; continue until PD or unacceptable AE

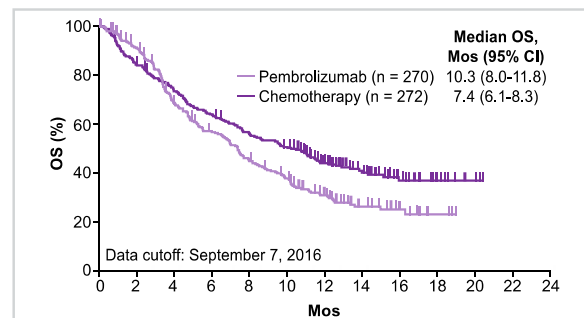
## Pembrolizumab: Anti-PD-1 Antibody

**First-line approval** for patients not eligible for cisplatin-containing chemo<sup>[4]</sup>

**ORR: 24%; OS data not yet mature**

**Second-line approval** on or after platinum-based chemo or within 12 months of neoadjuvant or adjuvant chemo<sup>[5]</sup>

**ORR: 21%; median OS: 10.3 months**



**Dosing:** 200 mg IV **every 3 weeks**, infuse over 30 minutes; continue until PD or unacceptable AE for up to 24 months

## 3-5% pts discontinued for AE

### General Immune-Related AE (irAE) Management

Grade	General Guidelines*
<b>1 (mild)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supportive care; may or may not withhold tx</li> </ul>
<b>2 (moderate)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Withhold therapy (except with certain endocrine AEs)</li> <li>Consider restarting tx if AE resolves to grade <math>\leq 1</math></li> <li>Begin low-dose corticosteroids if AE does not resolve in 1 wk (except with certain endocrine AEs)</li> </ul>
<b>3/4 (severe)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grade 3: consider hospital admission</li> <li>Grade 4: hospitalization recommended</li> <li>Discontinue tx (consider resuming for some grade 3 irAE if resolves to grade <math>\leq 1</math>)</li> <li>Begin IV or oral corticosteroid (depending on severity and type of irAE) followed by taper over at least 1 month</li> <li>If symptoms persist &gt; 3 days or recur, add noncorticosteroid immunosuppressive</li> </ul>

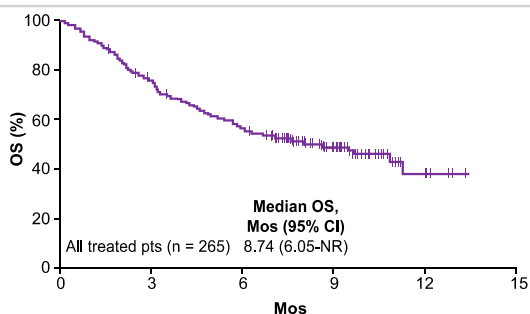
\*For specific guidance on managing irAEs, please use online resources such as CCO's **"Managing Immune-Related Adverse Events: An Interactive Algorithm Tool"** or other online AE management algorithms

<http://clinicaloptions.com/immuneAETool>

## Nivolumab: Anti-PD-1 Antibody

**Second-line approval** on or after platinum-containing chemo or within 12 months of neoadjuvant or adjuvant chemo<sup>[6]</sup>

**ORR: 20%; median OS: 8.7 months**

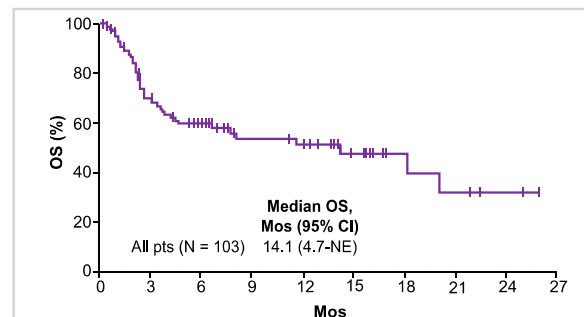


**Dosing:** 240 mg IV **every 2 weeks**, infuse over 1 hour; continue until PD or unacceptable AE

## Durvalumab: Anti-PD-L1 antibody

**Second-line approval** on or after platinum-containing chemo or within 12 months of neoadjuvant or adjuvant chemo<sup>[7]</sup>

**ORR: 20%; median OS: 14.1 months**



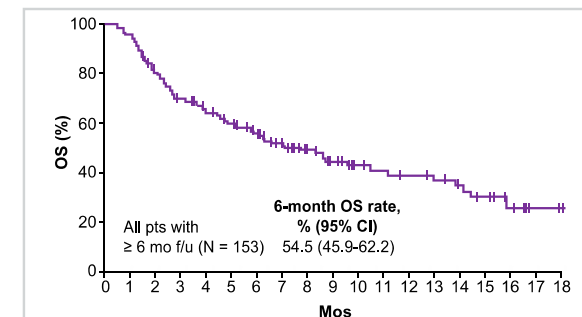
**NOTE:** Approval includes a complementary diagnostic assay for PD-L1 expression

**Dosing:** 10 mg/kg IV **every 2 weeks**, infuse over 1 hour; continue until PD or unacceptable AE

## Avelumab: Anti-PD-L1 antibody

**Second-line approval** on or after platinum-based chemo or within 12 months of neoadjuvant or adjuvant chemo<sup>[8]</sup>

**ORR: 18%; median OS: NR (6-Mo OS rate: 54.5%)**



**Dosing:** 10 mg/kg IV **every 2 weeks**, infuse over 1 hour; continue until PD or unacceptable AE

### References:

1. Balar AV, et al. Lancet. 2017;389:67-76. 2. Rosenberg JE, et al. Lancet. 2016;387:1909-1920. 3. Loriot Y, et al. ESMO 2016, Abstract 783P. 4. Balar AV, et al. ASCO GU 2017, Abstract 284. 5. Bellmunt J, et al. N Engl J Med. 2017;376:1015-1026. 6. Sharma P, et al. Lancet Oncol. 2017;18:312-322. 7. Powles T, et al. ASCO GU 2017, Abstract 286. 8. Patel MR, et al. ASCO GU 2017, Abstract 330.

# Atezolizumab: Anti-PD-L1 Antibody

## IMvigor210: Cohort 1

### Safety: Adverse Event Profile

#### Treatment-Related AEs

AE (N = 119) <sup>a</sup>	All Grade	Grade 3-4
Fatigue	30%	3%
Diarrhea	11%	1%
Pruritus	11%	1%
Decreased appetite	9%	1%
Hypothyroidism	6%	0%
Anemia	5%	1%
Chills	5%	0%
Nausea	5%	0%
Pyrexia	5%	0%
Rash	5%	1%
Vomiting	5%	0%
ALT increased	4%	3%
AST increased	3%	2%
Blood bilirubin increased	3%	2%
Hypophosphatemia	3%	2%
Renal Failure	2%	2%

## IMvigor210: Cohort 2

### Safety: Adverse Event Profile

#### Treatment-Related AEs

AE (N = 310) <sup>a</sup>	All Grade	Grade 3-4
Fatigue	31%	2%
Nausea	14%	0%
Decreased appetite	11%	1%
Pruritus	11%	< 1%
Pyrexia	9%	< 1%
Diarrhea	8%	< 1%
Rash	7%	< 1%
Vomiting	7%	< 1%
Arthralgia	7%	1%
AST increased	4%	1%
ALT increased	3%	1%
Hypertension	1%	1%

#### Immune-Mediated AEs Requiring Use of Systemic Corticosteroids

AE (N = 119) <sup>a</sup>	All Grade	Grade 3-4
Rash	3%	1%
Pruritus	3%	1%
ALT increased	2%	2%
Blood bilirubin increased	2%	2%
Rhabdomyolysis	2%	1%
AST increased	1%	1%
Autoimmune colitis	1%	1%
Colitis	1%	1%
Hyperglycemia	1%	1%
Liver disorder	1%	1%

No pts received systemic  
non corticosteroid immuno-  
modulatory drug  
(eg infliximab)

AE (N = 310) <sup>a</sup>	All Grade	Grade 3-4
Pneumonitis	2%	1%
AST increased	2%	1%
Dyspnea	1%	1%
ALT increased	1%	< 1%
Blood bilirubin increased	1%	< 1%
Rash	1%	< 1%
Hyperglycemia	1%	0%
Colitis	1%	1%
Diarrhea	1%	< 1%
Transaminases increased	1%	< 1%
Dry skin	1%	0%
Pruritus	1%	0%
Pyrexia	1%	0%

# Pembrolizumab: anti-PD1 Antibody

## KEYNOTE-052

	Grade 1–2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5
Any event	171 (46%)	52 (14%)	5 (1%)	1 (<1%)
Fatigue	54 (15%)	8 (2%)	0	0
Pruritus	51 (14%)	1 (<1%)	0	0
Rash	35 (9%)	1 (<1%)	0	0
Appetite decrease	29 (8%)	1 (<1%)	1 (<1%)	0
Diarrhoea	26 (7%)	2 (1%)	0	0
Nausea	27 (7%)	1 (<1%)	0	0
Asthenia	13 (4%)	2 (1%)	1 (<1%)	0
Pyrexia	13 (4%)	1 (<1%)	0	0
AST increase	10 (3%)	3 (1%)	0	0
ALT increase	8 (2%)	3 (1%)	0	0
Maculopapular rash	9 (2%)	1 (<1%)	0	0
Arthralgia	8 (2%)	1 (<1%)	0	0
Anaemia	7 (2%)	1 (<1%)	0	0
Colitis	3 (1%)	3 (1%)	1 (<1%)	0
Alkaline phosphatase increase	2 (1%)	5 (1%)	0	0
Creatinine increase	6 (2%)	1 (<1%)	0	0
Muscle weakness	1 (<1%)	4 (1%)	0	0
Pneumonitis	3 (1%)	2 (1%)	0	0
Arthritis	3 (1%)	2 (1%)	0	0
Dizziness	4 (1%)	1 (<1%)	0	0
Bilirubin increase	4 (1%)	1 (<1%)	0	0
Hyperglycaemia	3 (1%)	1 (<1%)	0	0
Hepatitis	0	2 (1%)	0	0

## KEYNOTE-045

Table 2. Adverse Events in the As-Treated Population.*				
Event	Pembrolizumab Group (N = 266)		Chemotherapy Group (N = 255)	
	Any Grade	Grade 3, 4, or 5	Any Grade	Grade 3, 4, or 5
	number of patients (percent)			
Treatment-related event†				
Any event	162 (60.9)	40 (15.0)	230 (90.2)	126 (49.4)
Event leading to discontinuation of treatment	15 (5.6)	12 (4.5)	28 (11.0)	16 (6.3)
Event leading to death	4 (1.5)	4 (1.5)	4 (1.6)	4 (1.6)
Event occurring in ≥10% of patients in either group‡				
Pruritus	52 (19.5)	0	7 (2.7)	1 (0.4)
Fatigue	37 (13.9)	3 (1.1)	71 (27.8)	11 (4.3)
Nausea	29 (10.9)	1 (0.4)	62 (24.3)	4 (1.6)
Diarrhea	24 (9.0)	3 (1.1)	33 (12.9)	2 (0.8)
Decreased appetite	23 (8.6)	0	41 (16.1)	3 (1.2)
Asthenia	15 (5.6)	1 (0.4)	36 (14.1)	7 (2.7)
Anemia	9 (3.4)	2 (0.8)	63 (24.7)	20 (7.8)
Constipation	6 (2.3)	0	52 (20.4)	8 (3.1)
Peripheral sensory neuropathy	2 (0.8)	0	28 (11.0)	5 (2.0)
Neutrophil count decreased	1 (0.4)	1 (0.4)	36 (14.1)	31 (12.2)
Peripheral neuropathy	1 (0.4)	0	27 (10.6)	2 (0.8)
Neutropenia	0	0	39 (15.3)	34 (13.3)
Alopecia	0	0	96 (37.6)	2 (0.8)
Event of interest§				
Any event	45 (16.9)	12 (4.5)	19 (7.5)	4 (1.6)
Hypothyroidism	17 (6.4)	0	3 (1.2)	0
Hyperthyroidism	10 (3.8)	0	1 (0.4)	0
Pneumonitis	11 (4.1)	6 (2.3)	1 (0.4)	0
Colitis	6 (2.3)	3 (1.1)	1 (0.4)	0
Infusion reaction	2 (0.8)	0	10 (3.9)	0
Nephritis	2 (0.8)	2 (0.8)	0	0
Severe skin reaction	2 (0.8)	1 (0.4)	3 (1.2)	3 (1.2)
Thyroiditis	2 (0.8)	0	0	0
Adrenal insufficiency	1 (0.4)	1 (0.4)	0	0
Myositis	0	0	1 (0.4)	1 (0.4)

## Nivolumab: Anti-PD-1 Antibody

### CheckMate 275

	Grade 1-2	Grade 3	Grade 4
<b>All treatment-related adverse events</b>			
Fatigue	40 (15%)	5 (2%)	0
Pruritus	25 (9%)	0	0
Diarrhoea	19 (7%)	5 (2%)	0
Decreased appetite	22 (8%)	0	0
Hypothyroidism	21 (8%)	0	0
Nausea	18 (7%)	1 (<1%)	0
Rash	13 (5%)	3 (1%)	0
Asthenia	12 (4%)	4 (1%)	0
Pyrexia	15 (6%)	0	0
<b>Select treatment-related adverse events</b>			
Skin	43 (16%)	4 (1%)	0
Endocrine	38 (14%)	1 (<1%)	0
Gastrointestinal	19 (7%)	6 (2%)	0
Pulmonary	7 (3%)	3 (1%)	0
Hepatic	5 (2%)	5 (2%)	0
Renal	2 (1%)	1 (<1%)	0

# Durvalumab: Anti–PD-L1 antibody

A phase 1/2 multicenter, open-label study

Adverse Event	No. (%)	
	UC Cohort (As-Treated Population) (n = 191)	
	All Grades <sup>c</sup>	Grade 3/4
Any	116 (60.7)	13 (6.8)
Occurring in ≥5% of patients in either population or with grade ≥3 severity in ≥1 patient in the UC cohort		
Fatigue	37 (19.4)	0
Decreased appetite	18 (9.4)	0
Diarrhea	16 (8.4)	1 (0.5)
Rash	14 (7.3)	0
Nausea	13 (6.8)	0
Arthralgia	11 (5.8)	0
Pyrexia	11 (5.8)	0
Pruritus	10 (5.2)	0
Increased ALT level	8 (4.2)	2 (1.0)
Increased AST level	6 (3.1)	3 (1.6)
Increased GGT level	6 (3.1)	2 (1.0)
Increased blood ALP level	4 (2.1)	1 (0.5)
Hypertension	3 (1.6)	2 (1.0)
Anemia	2 (1.0)	1 (0.5)
Maculopapular rash	2 (1.0)	1 (0.5)
Infusion-related reaction	2 (1.0)	1 (0.5)
Increased transaminases	2 (1.0)	1 (0.5)
Autoimmune hepatitis	2 (1.0)	1 (0.5)
Tumor flare	2 (1.0)	1 (0.5)
Acute kidney injury	1 (0.5)	1 (0.5)
Atrial fibrillation	1 (0.5)	1 (0.5)

# Avelumab: Anti-PD-L1 antibody

	1 mg/kg dose (n=4)			3 mg/kg dose (n=13)			10 mg/kg dose (n=15)			20 mg/kg dose (n=21)		
	Grade 1-2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 1-2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 1-2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 1-2	Grade 3	Grade 4
Fatigue	0	0	0	5 (39%)	0	0	10 (67%)	1 (7%)	0	5 (24%)	0	0
Influenza-like illness	1 (25%)	0	0	1 (8%)	0	0	3 (20%)	0	0	6 (29%)	0	0
Pyrexia	2 (50%)	0	0	2 (15%)	0	0	4 (27%)	0	0	0	0	0
Chills	2 (50%)	0	0	0	0	0	2 (13%)	0	0	2 (10%)	0	0
Allergic rhinitis	0	0	0	2 (15%)	0	0	1 (7%)	0	0	1 (5%)	0	0
Increased blood creatine phosphokinase	0	0	0	0	0	0	1 (7%)	0	0	1 (5%)	1 (5%)	1 (5%)
Diarrhoea	1 (25%)	0	0	0	0	0	2 (13%)	0	0	1 (5%)	0	0
Infusion-related reaction	0	0	0	0	0	0	1 (7%)	0	0	3 (14%)	0	0
Lymphopenia	0	0	0	2 (15%)	0	0	2 (13%)	0	0	0	0	0
Decreased lymphocyte count	0	0	0	2 (15%)	0	0	1 (7%)	1 (7%)	0	0	0	0
Myalgia	1 (25%)	0	0	1 (8%)	0	0	0	0	0	2 (10%)	0	0
Increased aspartate aminotransferase	1 (25%)	1 (25%)	0	0	0	0	0	1 (7%)	0	0	0	0
Autoimmune disorder	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1 (7%)	1 (7%)	0	1 (5%)	0
Hyperglycaemia	1 (25%)	0	0	0	0	0	2 (13%)	0	0	0	0	0
Increased lipase	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2 (10%)	1 (5%)	0
Nausea	0	0	0	0	0	0	2 (13%)	0	0	1 (5%)	0	0
Rash	1 (25%)	0	0	0	0	0	1 (7%)	0	0	1 (5%)	0	0
Increased alanine aminotransferase	1 (25%)	0	0	0	0	0	0	1 (7%)	0	0	0	0
Increased amylase	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1 (5%)	1 (5%)	0
Hypotension	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2 (10%)	0	0
Malaise	1 (25%)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1 (5%)	0	0
Increased blood alkaline phosphatase	0	1 (25%)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lower abdominal pain	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1 (7%)	0	0	0	0
Hypocalcaemia	1 (25%)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Insomnia	1 (25%)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Data are n (%). No grade 5 treatment-related adverse events occurred.

**Table 2: Treatment-related adverse events occurring at any grade in ≥10% of patients in any cohort or at grade ≥3 in any patient**



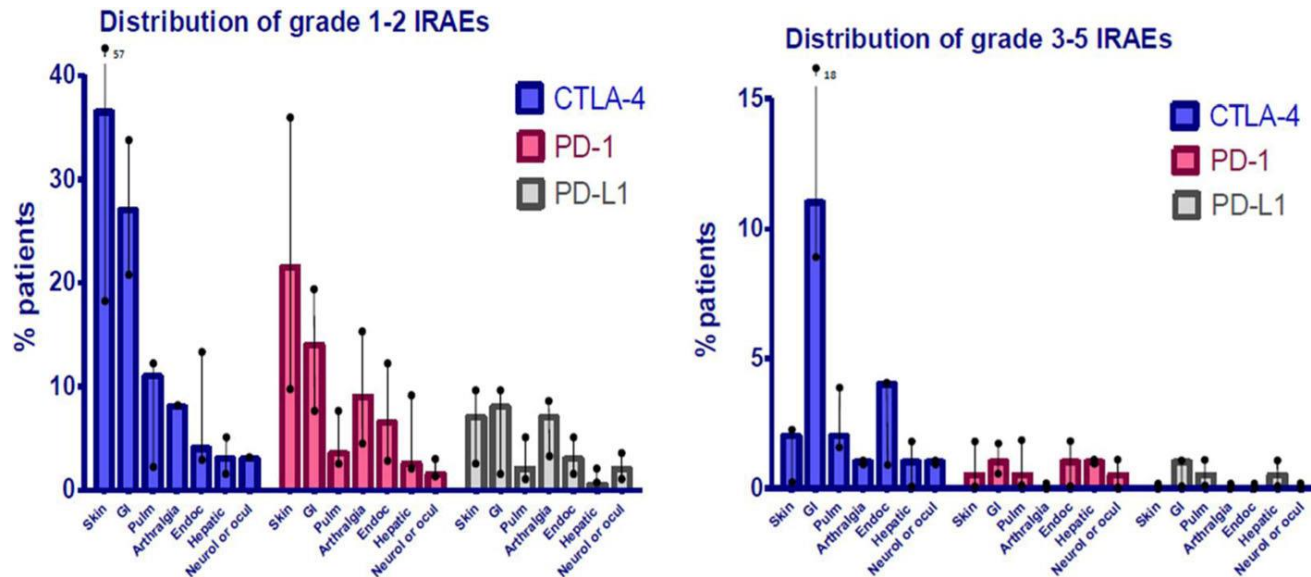
# General aspects of irAEs

- Depending on the immune checkpoint that is targeted, the incidence of toxicity varies.
- Toxicities from immune checkpoint inhibitors (ICPis) can be divided into
  - infusion reactions
  - immune-related adverse events (irAEs)
- The incidence of irAEs with IPI and PEMBRO is dose-dependent
- The exact pathogenesis of immunotoxicity is not clear
- Any organ or tissue can be involved, although some irAEs occur much more commonly than others
- The role of tissue biopsy in the diagnosis of immune-therapy related toxicity is not established.

Some recommendations suggest tissue biopsy in higher grade (3 and 4) toxicity [skin, gastrointestinal (GI), liver, kidney, lung] where there is diagnostic doubt about the aetiology of the complication and management would be altered by the outcome of the biopsy procedure.



# General aspects of irAEs



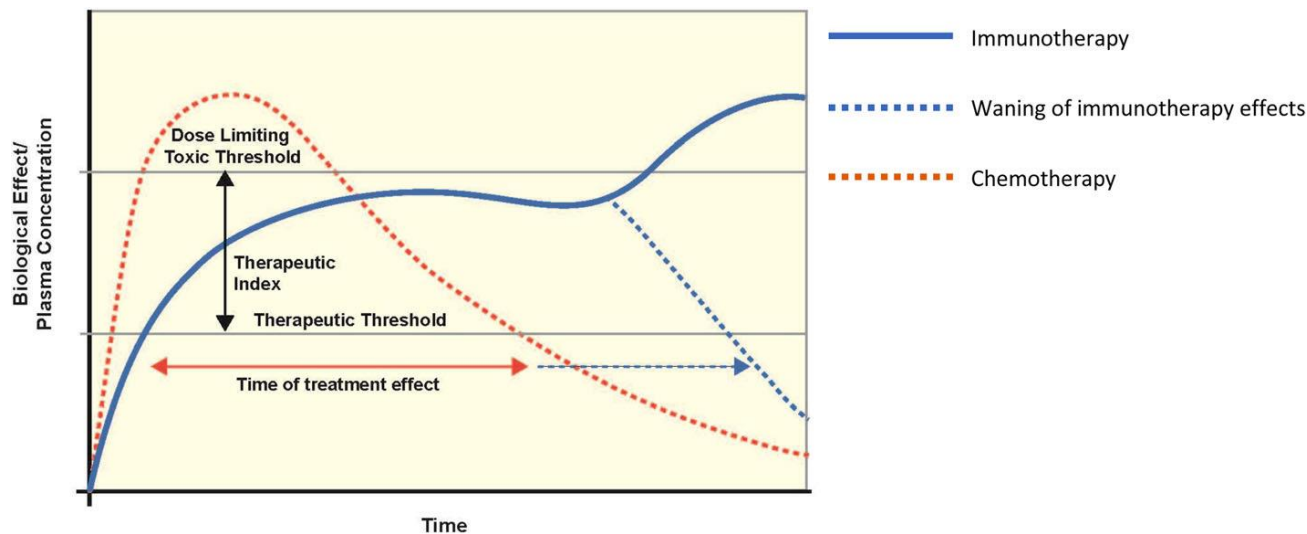
**Fig. 1** Distribution of mild and severe immune-related adverse events (irAEs) associated with immune checkpoint inhibitor therapy. [Adapted from [88]]

- The most frequently occurring irAEs affect skin, colon, endocrine organs, liver, lungs and musculoskeletal.

Others are very infrequent, but may be very serious, even lethal, such as neurological disorders and myocarditis.

# General aspects of irAEs

- In general, irAEs occur quite early, mostly within weeks to 3 months after initiation of immune checkpoint blockers.
- However irAEs resulting from immunotherapy can have a delayed onset and prolonged duration compared to adverse events resulting from chemotherapy, in part due to pharmacodynamic differences



**Fig. 2** Pharmacokinetic/pharmacodynamic differences between chemotherapy and immunotherapy. Reproduced with permission from [25]. Dotted blue line represents waning of the biological effects of immunotherapy over time, and solid blue line represents early or late toxic effects. Horizontal dotted blue arrow therefore represents duration of immunotherapy treatment benefit

# General aspects of irAEs

- Once irAEs have developed, prompt work-up is required and action should be taken to prevent further aggravation of AEs.

In many cases immunotherapy should be discontinued and immunosuppressive or immune modulating drugs are needed to overcome these toxicities.

**Table 2** General guidance for corticosteroid management of immune-related adverse events

Grade of immune-related AE (CTCAE/equivalent)	Corticosteroid management	Additional notes
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Corticosteroids not usually indicated</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue immunotherapy</li> </ul>
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If indicated, start oral prednisone 0.5-1 mg/kg/day if patient can take oral medication.</li> <li>If IV required, start methylprednisolone 0.5-1 mg/kg/day IV</li> <li>If no improvement in 2-3 days, increase corticosteroid dose to 2 mg/kg/day</li> <li>Once improved to ≤grade 1 AE, start 4-6 week steroid taper</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hold immunotherapy during corticosteroid use</li> <li>Continue immunotherapy once resolved to ≤grade 1 and off corticosteroids</li> <li>Start proton pump inhibitor for GI prophylaxis</li> </ul>
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Start prednisone 1-2 mg/kg/day (or equivalent dose of methylprednisolone)</li> <li>If no improvement in 2-3 days, add additional/alternative immune suppressant</li> <li>Once improved to ≤ grade 1, start 4-6-week steroid taper</li> <li>Provide supportive treatment as needed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hold immunotherapy; if symptoms do not improve in 4-6 weeks, discontinue immunotherapy</li> <li>Consider intravenous corticosteroids</li> <li>Start proton pump inhibitor for GI prophylaxis</li> <li>Add PCP prophylaxis if more than 3 weeks of immunosuppression expected (&gt;30 mg prednisone or equivalent/day)</li> </ul>
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Start prednisone 1-2 mg/kg/day (or equivalent dose of methylprednisolone)</li> <li>If no improvement in 2-3 days, add additional/alternative immune suppressant, e.g., infliximab</li> <li>Provide supportive care as needed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discontinue immunotherapy</li> <li>Continue intravenous corticosteroids</li> <li>Start proton pump inhibitor for GI prophylaxis</li> <li>Add PCP prophylaxis if more than 3 weeks of immunosuppression expected (&gt;30 mg prednisone or equivalent/day)</li> </ul>

Note: For steroid-refractory cases and/or when steroid sparing is desirable, management should be coordinated with disease specialists. AE, adverse event

- Long-term (> 6 weeks) treatment with immunosuppressive drugs or use of infliximab increases the chance of opportunistic infections; therefore, pneumocystis prophylaxis should be considered according to local guidelines.

**Table 1** Pre-treatment evaluation and diagnostic tests to consider in all patients prior to initiating checkpoint inhibitor therapy

---

Routine pre-treatment screening

History

- ◆ Detailed questioning for autoimmune, infectious disease, endocrine and organ-specific disease history
- ◆ History of base line bowel habit (frequency of bowel movements, usual stool consistency)

Blood tests

- ◆ CBC
- ◆ CMP
- ◆ TSH
- ◆ HbA1c
- ◆ Free T4
- ◆ Total CK
- ◆ Infectious disease screen: HBsAg, HBsAb, HBcAb, hCAb, CMV antibody, T-spot test, HIV antibody, HIV antigen (p24)<sup>a</sup>
- ◆ Fasting lipid profile

Dermatologic examination

- ◆ Full skin and mucosal exam, taking note of the extent and type of lesions present

Pulmonary tests

- ◆ Baseline oxygen saturation on room air and during ambulation

Cardiac tests

- ◆ ECG
- ◆ Troponin I or T: baseline and weekly for 6 weeks<sup>b</sup>

Additional screening tests recommended in patients with pre-existing organ disease/at risk of organ-specific toxicity

Endocrine tests

- ◆ 8 am cortisol
- ◆ 8 am ACTH

Cardiac tests

- ◆ Brain natriuretic peptide (BNP) or N-terminal pro B-type natriuretic peptide (NT pro-BNP)

Pulmonary tests

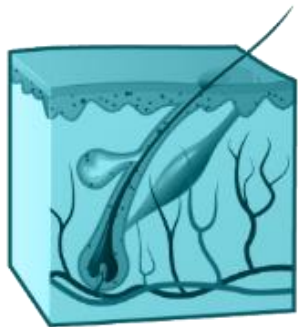
- ◆ PFTs<sup>c</sup>
- ◆ 6MWT<sup>c</sup>

**Before starting treatment**

**Patient selection**

**Baseline assessments**

**Patient education**



## Skin toxicity

**Dermatologic toxicity (all grades) is reported in 30-40% of pts taking PD1/PDL1 inhibitors**

**The most frequent skin AEs are rash, pruritus and vitiligo**

- **Rash**

24% of the patients treated with ipilimumab,  
15% of those receiving anti-PD-1 MoAbs  
40% with the combination of ipilimumab and nivolumab.

Grade 3 or 4 rashes are rare, with an incidence of <3% with monotherapy ipilimumab or anti-PD-1 and <5% with the combination

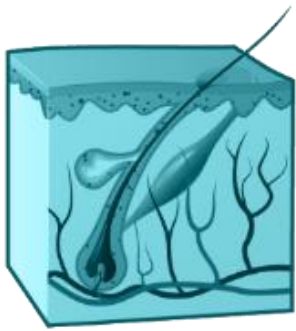
- **Pruritus**

25%–35% of the cases with ipilimumab  
13%– 20% with anti-PD-1  
33% with the combination

Grade 3 and 4 in <2.5%

- **Vitiligo** in about 8% of patients with melanoma treated with anti- PD-1 MoAbs or with the combination of checkpoint inhibitors, but is more rarely reported with ipilimumab alone. In a small prospective study, vitiligo was found in up to 25% of patients treated with pembrolizumab

Vitiligo seems to be associated with good clinical responses to anti-PD-1 MoAbs in patients treated for melanoma



## Skin toxicity

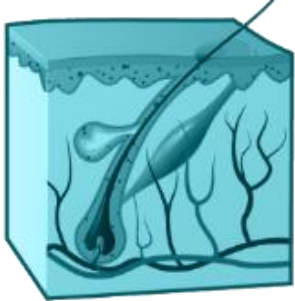
Histopathologically, skin reactions may be categorised into four broad groups

- Inflammatory skin disorders  
→ acute, subacute or chronic inflammation of various patterns
- Immunobullous skin lesions akin to dermatitis herpetiformis or bullous pemphigoid
- Keratinocyte alteration—Grover's disease/acantholytic dyskeratosis
- Immune-reaction mediated by alteration of melanocytes  
→ regression of nevi, prurigo nodularis, tumoural melanosis and vitiligo



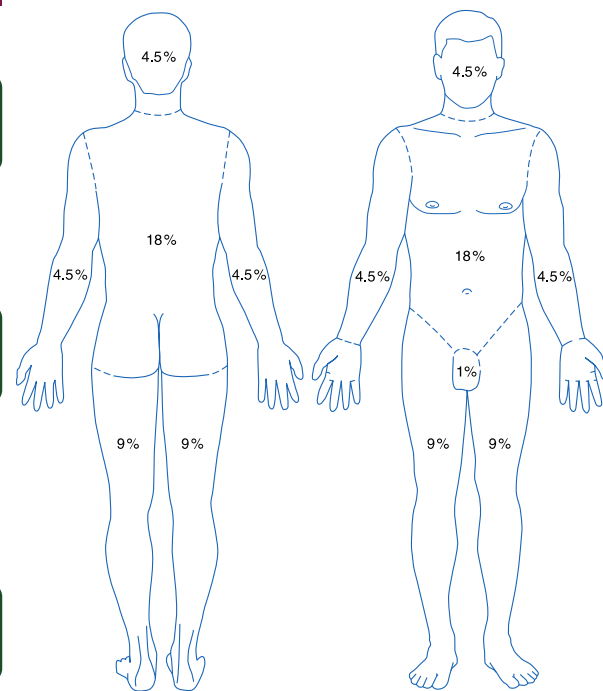
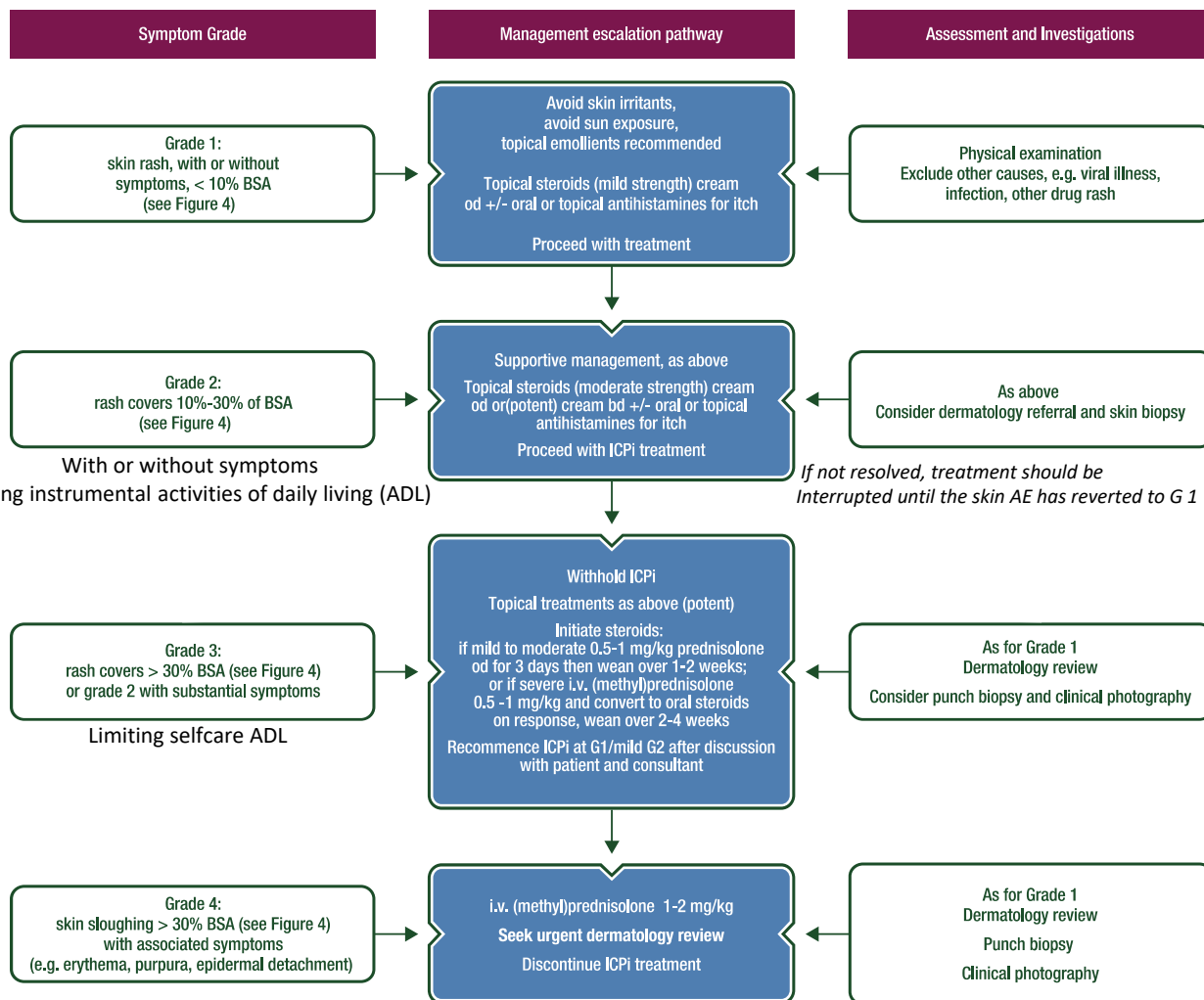
### Acute flare of bullous Pemphigus with pembro

*dermatologic assessments are warranted in patients with a known history of immune-related skin disorders such as psoriasis, bullous pemphigoid or lupus*



# Skin toxicity

Most dermatologic irAEs are low-grade and manageable, although rare, potentially life-threatening exfoliative dermatological conditions such as Stevens-Johnson Syndrome/toxic epidermal necrolysis (SJS/TEN), and drug rash with eosinophilia and systemic symptoms (DRESS) have been reported



Schematic of body surface area (BSA).

• If worsens in 48 hours, consider additional immunosuppression (infliximab, cyclophosphamide, mycophenolate mofetil) or supportive measures<sup>‡</sup>

Figure 3. ICPI-related toxicity: management of skin rash/toxicity.





# Endocrine Toxicities

---

- Hypophysitis is most commonly seen with anti CTLA-4 antibody and with combination ipi/nivo
- With anti-PD-1 (either pembrolizumab or nivolumab) or anti- PD-L1 (atezolizumab) therapy, the reported thyroid dysfunction rate varies from 5% to 10% (irrespective of tumour type). With combination immunotherapy the frequency of thyroid disorders increases to 20%
- Little is known about the pathogenesis of thyroid disorders following ICPis. It is thought to be mediated by T cells and not by B cell autoimmunity
- **Hypothyroidism** is more common.  
Symptoms: unexplained fatigue, weight gain, hair loss, cold intolerance, constipation, depression  
Lab: high TSH and low free T4
- **Thyroiditis** is the most frequent cause of thyrotoxicosis and is seen more commonly with anti-PD1/ PD-L1 drugs than with anti-CTLA-4 agents  
Symptoms: weight loss, palpitations, heat intolerance, tremors, anxiety, diarrhea and other symptoms of hypermetabolic activity  
Lab: high free T4 or triiodothyronine (T3) levels, with low/normal TSH

# Endocrine Toxicities



Baseline Endocrine Panel:  
TSH, FT4, T3\* TFTs

Baseline abnormal values do not preclude treatment; discuss with endocrinologist if uncertain  
\*when indicated

Monitoring during treatment:  
Anti-CTLA4 (including combination with anti-PD-1)  
• TFTs every cycle  
• TFTs 4-6 weeks after cycle 4 (i.e. with restaging)  
Late endocrine dysfunction can occur

Anti-PD-1/Anti-PD-L1  
• TFTs every cycle for first 3 months, every second cycle thereafter (in case of 2-weekly schedule)  
• Cortisol as indicated by symptoms/falling TSH

## Anti-PD-1/Anti-PD-L1

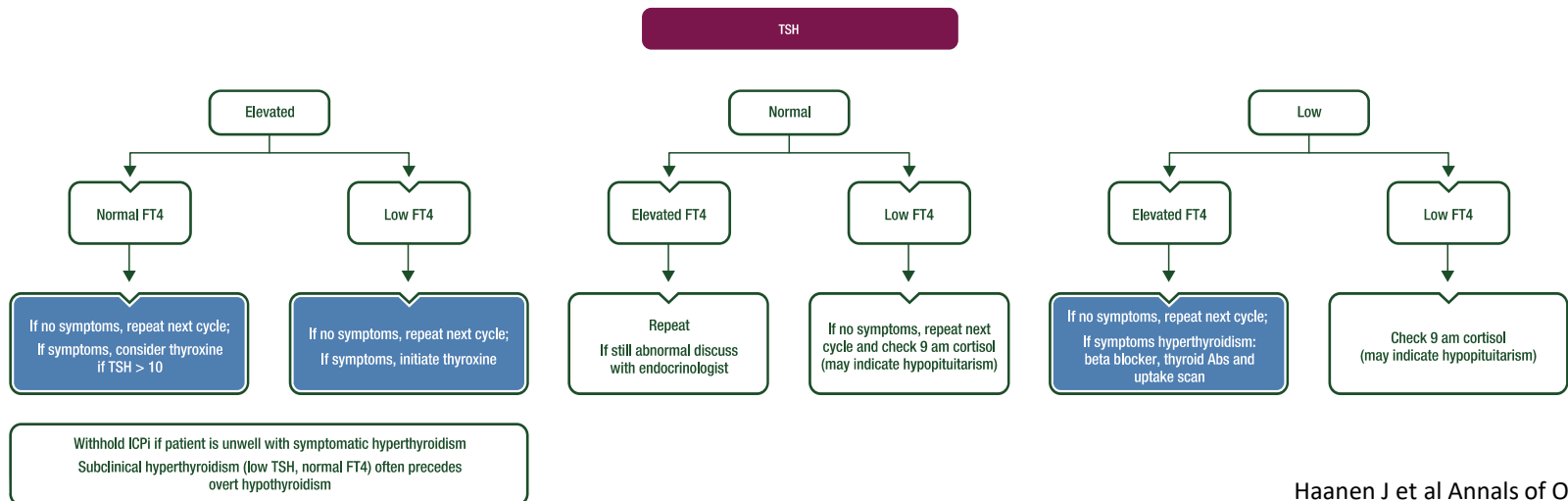
- TFTs every cycle for first 3 months, every second cycle thereafter (in case of 2-weekly schedule)
- Cortisol as indicated by symptoms/falling TSH

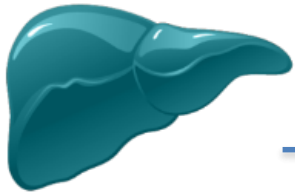
A falling TSH across two measurements with normal or lowered T4 may also suggest pituitary dysfunction and weekly cortisol measurements should be performed (see also Figure 6)

If TSH is abnormal, refer to algorithm below. Iodine from CT scans may impact TFTs

Hypothyroidism: Low FT4 with elevated TSH or TSH > 10 with normal FT4  
Treatment: Thyroxine 0.5-1.5 µg/kg (start low in elderly, if cardiac history)  
Continue ICPI

Thyrotoxicosis (DDx thyroiditis, Grave's disease):  
Investigations: Anti-TSH Receptor Ab, anti-TPO Ab, nuclear medicine thyroid uptake scan  
Treatment: Propranolol or atenolol for symptoms; consider carbimazole if anti-TSH Receptor Ab positive  
Painful thyroiditis – consider prednisolone 0.5 mg/kg and taper  
If unwell, withhold ICPI and consider restarting when symptoms controlled

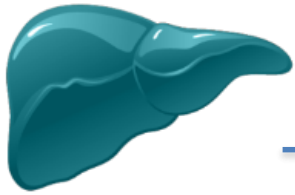




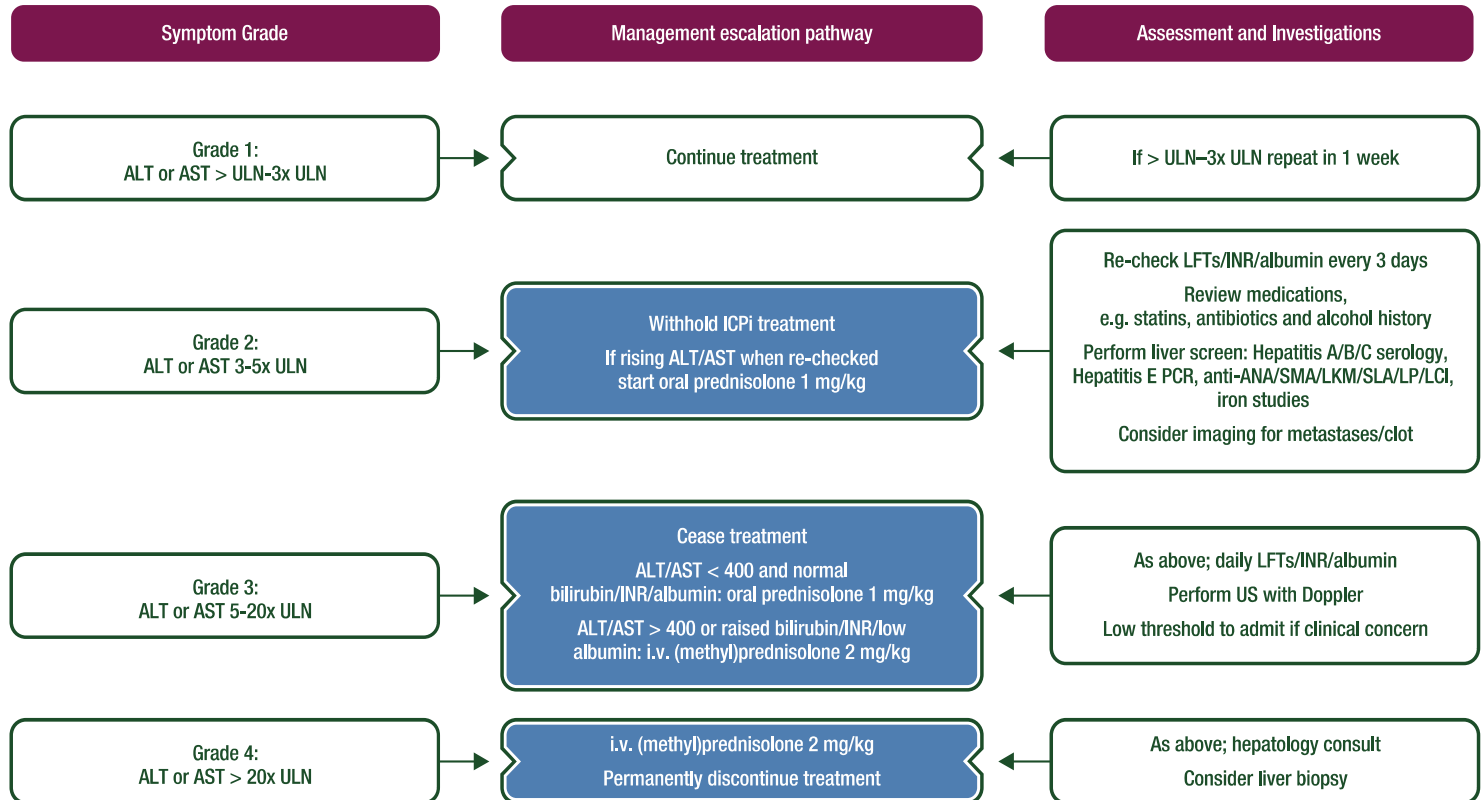
# Hepatotoxicity

---

- Hepatitis occurs in  
  
5%–10% (of which 1%–2% is grade 3) of patients during therapy with ipilimumab, nivolumab and pembrolizumab  
25%–30% (of which 15% is grade 3) of those treated with the combination of ipilimumab 3 mg/kg and nivolumab 1 mg/kg
- Hepatitis is usually asymptomatic and detected on such routine blood monitoring. If hepatitis develops, disease-related causes, concomitant drug administration (including alcohol) and infectious causes, particularly viral hepatitis, should be ruled out.
- Liver biopsy may be considered in assisting in the differential diagnosis of more severe hepatitic reactions. Lobular hepatitis indistinguishable from autoimmune hepatitis is most commonly reported



# Hepatotoxicity



## Steroid wean:

- G2: once G1, wean over 2 weeks; re-escalate if worsening; treatment may be resumed once prednisolone  $\leq 10$  mg
- G3/4: once improved to G2, can change to oral prednisolone and wean over 4 weeks; for G3, rechallenge only at consultant discretion

## Worsening despite steroids:

- If on oral change to i.v. (methyl)prednisolone
- If on i.v. add MMF 500-1000 mg bd
- If worse on MMF, consider addition of tacrolimus
- A case report has described the use of anti-thymocyte globulin in steroid + MMF-refractory fulminant hepatitis [31]



## Fatigue

---

# Cancer-Related Fatigue

Version 2.2017 — April 10, 2017

[NCCN.org](http://NCCN.org)

- The most frequently reported AE with anti-PD-1/PD-L1 is fatigue.
- Incidence of fatigue, of which the pathogenesis is poorly understood, across single drug studies, is 16%-37% for anti-PD-1 and 12%-24% for anti-PD-L1.
- Only in a minority of patients fatigue can be attributed to hypothyroidism
- **Cancer-related fatigue is a distressing, persistent, subjective sense of physical, emotional, and/or cognitive tiredness or exhaustion related to cancer or cancer treatment that is not proportional to recent activity and interferes with usual functioning.**
- **Fatigue is a subjective experience**
- Fatigue is rarely an isolated symptom and most commonly occurs with other symptoms, such as pain, emotional distress, anemia, and sleep disturbances, in symptom clusters. Therefore, patients should be screened for multiple symptoms that may vary according to diagnosis, treatment, and stage of disease.
- Patients and families should be informed that management of fatigue is an integral part of total health care
- **Health care professionals experienced in fatigue evaluation and management should be available for consultation in a timely manner.**



# Fatigue

## Cancer-Related Fatigue

Version 2.2017 — April 10, 2017

[NCCN.org](http://NCCN.org)



National  
Comprehensive  
Cancer  
Network®

### INTERVENTIONS FOR PATIENTS ON ACTIVE TREATMENT<sup>1,n</sup>

#### Patient/Family Education and Counseling

Information about known pattern of fatigue during and following treatment

- Reassurance that treatment-related fatigue is not necessarily an indicator of disease progression

#### General Strategies for Management of Fatigue

- Self-monitoring of fatigue levels
- Energy conservation
  - Set priorities and realistic expectations
  - Pace
  - Delegate
  - Schedule activities at times of peak energy
  - Assistive devices<sup>9</sup>
  - Postpone nonessential activities
  - Limit naps to <1 hour to not interfere with nighttime sleep quality
  - Structured daily routine
  - Attend to one activity at a time
- Use distraction (eg, games, music, reading, socializing)
- Find meaning in current situation
  - Emphasis on meaningful interactions
  - Promote dignity of patient
- Consider referral to appropriate specialist or supportive care provider

#### Nonpharmacologic

- Physical activity (category 1)
  - Maintain optimal level of activity
  - Cautions in determining level of activity:
    - ◇ Bone metastases
    - ◇ Thrombocytopenia
    - ◇ Anemia
    - ◇ Fever or active infection
    - ◇ Limitations secondary to metastases or other comorbid illnesses
    - ◇ Safety issues (ie, assessment of risk of falls)
  - Consider starting and maintaining an exercise program, as appropriate per health care provider, of both endurance (walking, jogging, or swimming) and resistance (light weights) exercises<sup>i</sup>
  - Yoga (category 1)
  - Consider referral to rehabilitation: physical therapy, occupational therapy, and physical medicine
- Physically based therapies
  - Massage therapy (category 1)
- Psychosocial interventions
  - Cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT)/Behavioral therapy (BT) (category 1)<sup>k</sup>
  - Psycho-educational therapies/Educational therapies (category 1)
  - Supportive expressive therapies<sup>l</sup>
- Nutrition consultation
- CBT<sup>l</sup> for sleep
  - Stimulus control/Sleep restriction/Sleep hygiene
- Bright white light therapy<sup>n</sup>

#### SPECIFIC INTERVENTIONS

#### Pharmacologic

- Consider psychostimulants<sup>m</sup> (methylphenidate) after ruling out other causes of fatigue
- Treat for pain, emotional distress, and anemia as indicated per NCCN Guidelines ([See appropriate NCCN Guidelines for Supportive Care](#))
- Optimize treatment for sleep dysfunction, nutritional deficit/imbalance, and comorbidities

Repeat screening and evaluation  
[See \(FT-3\)](#) and [\(FT-4\)](#)

# Integrating Supportive and Palliative Care in the Trajectory of Cancer: Establishing Goals and Models of Care

*Eduardo Bruera and David Hui*

**Patients with advanced cancer frequently develop devastating physical and psychosocial symptoms . These symptoms require individualized assessment and management.**

**Table 1.** Frequency of Common Symptoms in Patients With Advanced Cancer

Symptom	Frequency (%)
Anorexia	30-92
Pain	35-96
Fatigue	32-90
Dyspnea	10-70
Delirium	6-93
Depression	3-77

NOTE. Data adapted.<sup>1</sup>



**A**

**Hopeful and unrealistic attitude:** Nothing bad will happen!!

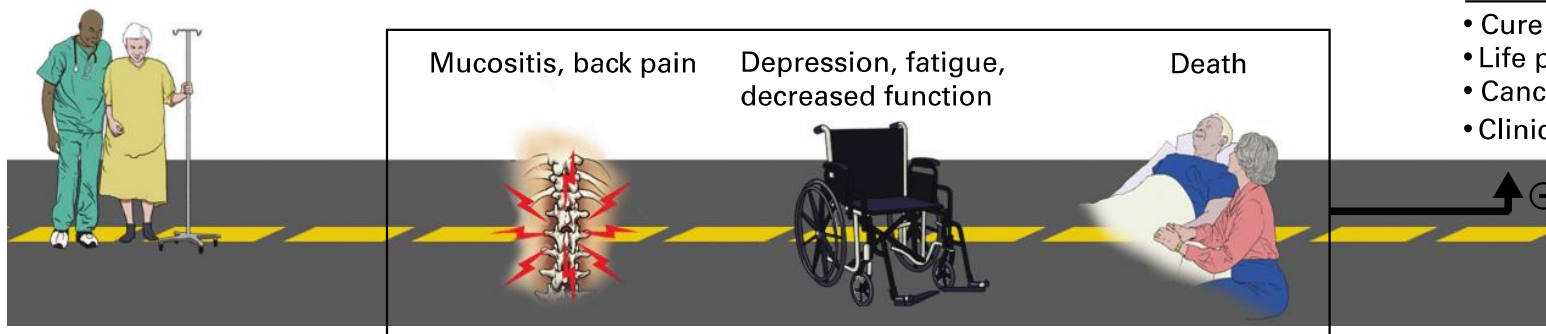
**No Supportive / Palliative Care**

- **No comfort measures** (e.g. treatment of pain, depression)
- **No safety features** (e.g. advance planning for living arrangements, transportation / mobility, bedroom / bathroom aids, family knowledge and support, advance directives, resuscitation status)

- Suboptimal symptom control, increased distress, poor quality of life
- Frequent ER / hospital visits, CPR, intubation, ICU stay, distressed patient and family.

↓ ⊖  
**Goals**

- Cure
- Life prologation
- Cancer treatments
- Clinical trials



**B**

**Hopeful and realistic attitude:** I want to ensure maximal comfort during my cancer journey. I also want to be prepared in case things do not go as planned.

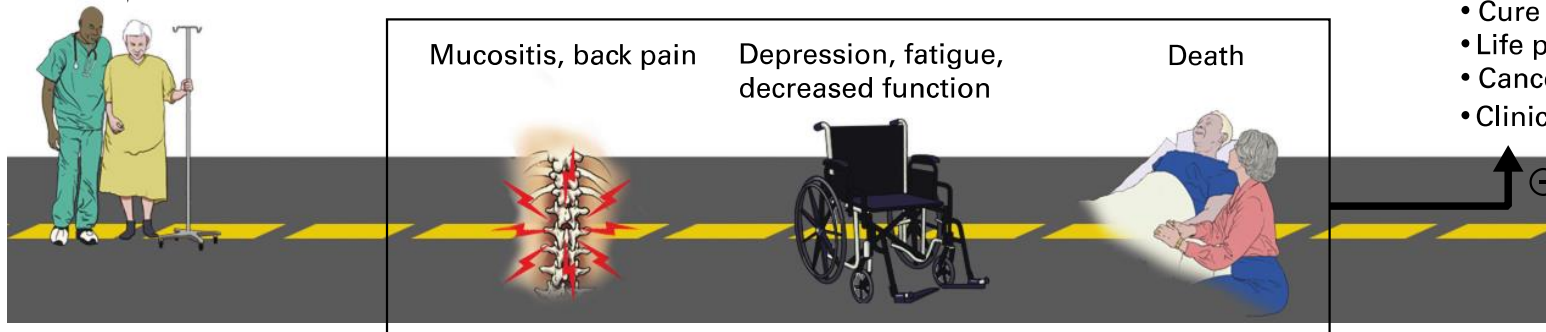
**Supportive / Palliative Care**

- **Comfort measures**
- **Safety features**

- Less distress, improved quality of life, increased adherence to cancer treatments.
- Minimizes patient and family distress at the end of life.

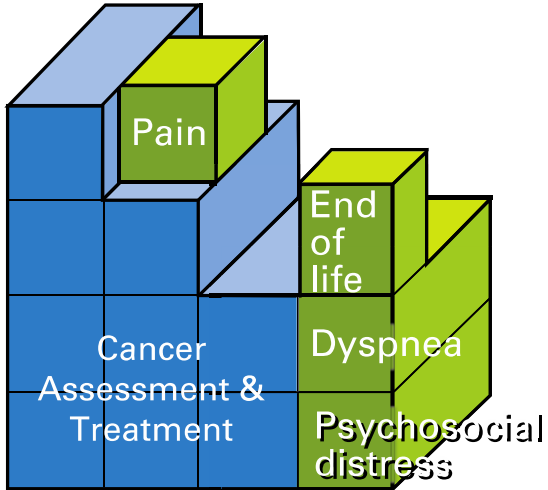
↓ ⊕  
**Goals**

- Cure
- Life prologation
- Cancer treatments
- Clinical trials



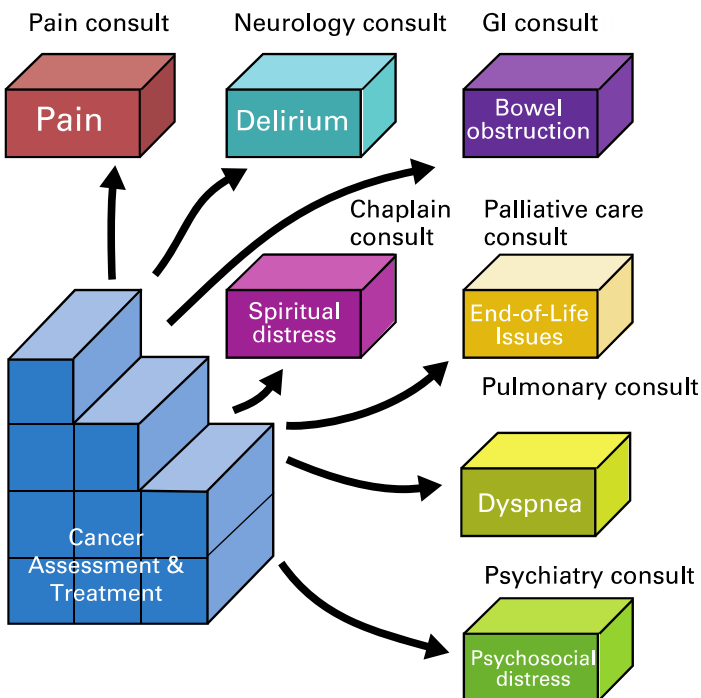
A

Solo Practice Model



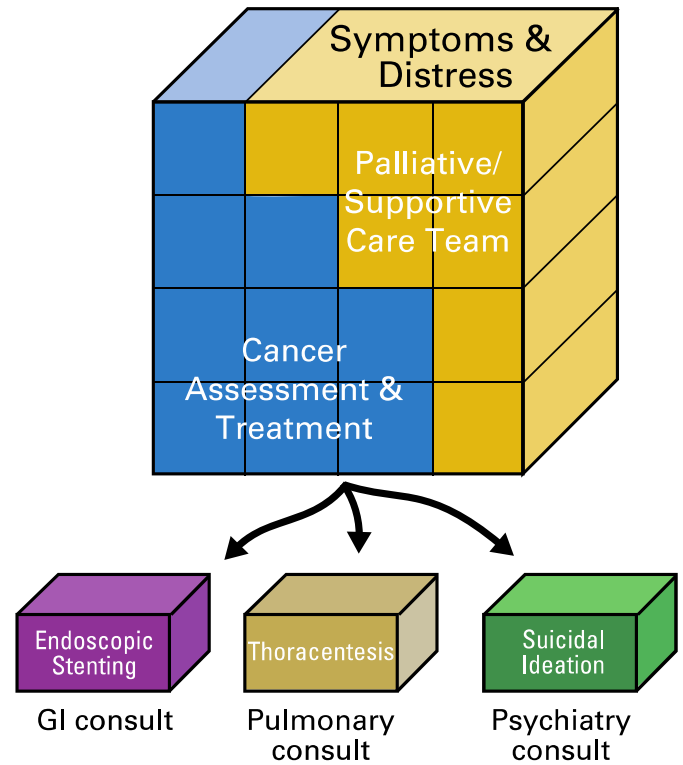
B

Congress Practice Model



C

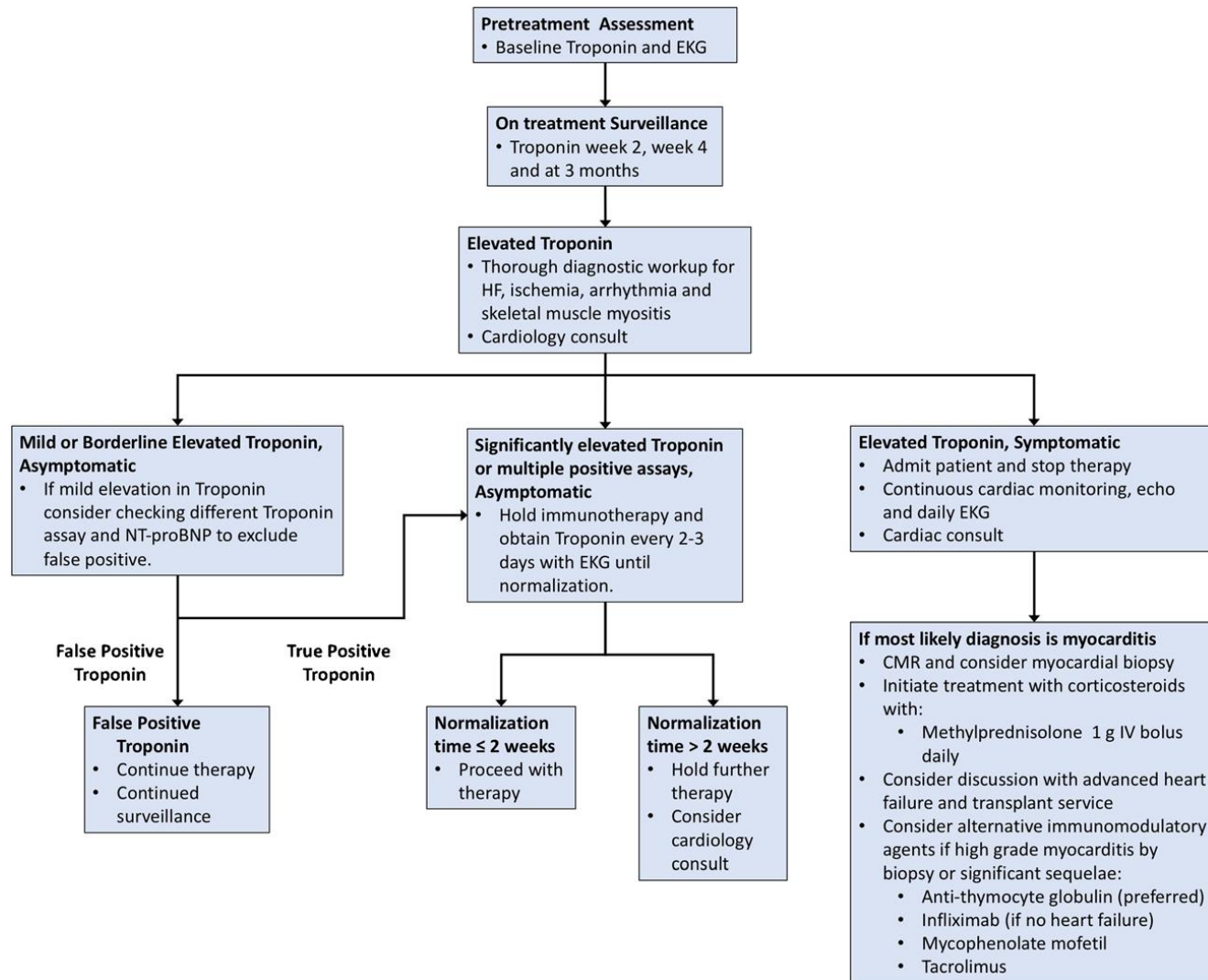
Integrated Care Model





# Cardiotoxicity of immune checkpoint inhibitors

Gilda Varricchi,<sup>1,2,3</sup> Maria Rosaria Galdiero,<sup>1,2,3</sup> Giancarlo Marone,<sup>4,5</sup>  
Gjada Criscuolo,<sup>1</sup> Maria Triassi,<sup>4</sup> Domenico Bonaduce,<sup>1,2,3</sup> Gianni Marone,<sup>1,2,3,6</sup>  
Carlo Gabriele Tocchetti<sup>1,2,3</sup>



# Immune-related Adverse Event Management

## SUMMARY

- Corticosteroids are a primary therapy for immuno-oncology drug-related adverse events
- Toxicity is often low (grade 1-2) in anti-PD1/PDL-1 antibodies; is higher in anti-CTLA4 antibodies and combined therapies
- For Grade >2 ieAE, treatment should be discontinued  
→ Remember the durability of response
- Toxicity can be managed with supportive treatment.
- Early diagnosis, patient education, rapid and aggressive intervention

# Immune-related Adverse Event Management

## SUMMARY

