

#### ONCOLOGIA AL FEMMINILE 2015

Un filo sottile per coniugare i progressi scientifici con la pratica clinica, le linee guida e l'etica



## Immunotarget Therapy Risultati e Prospettive nel carcinoma mammario

## Alessandra Fabi Oncologia Medica A



ISTITUTI DI RICOVERO E CURA A CARATTERE SCIENTIFICO

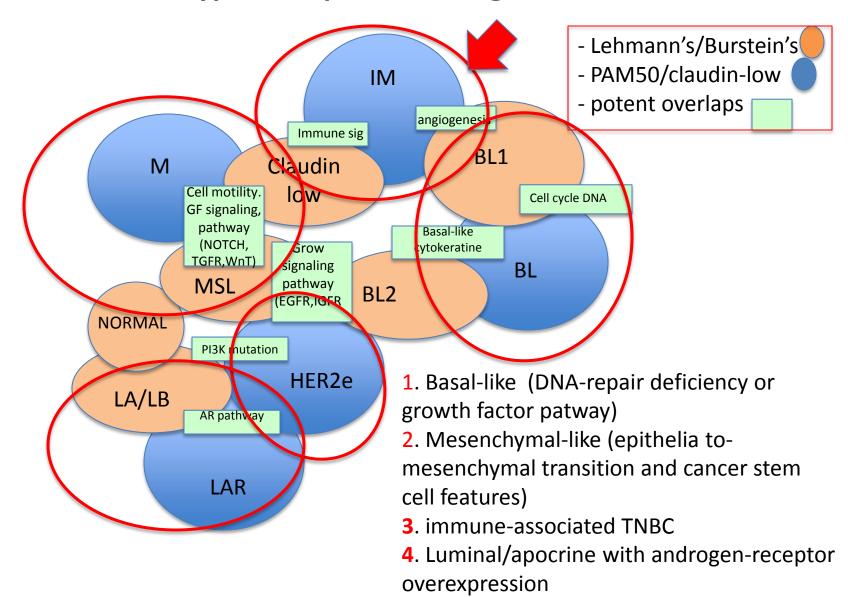
## To make our lives more difficult... came the Immunology



## Mrs & Mr.....

## THE TRIPLE NEGATIVE

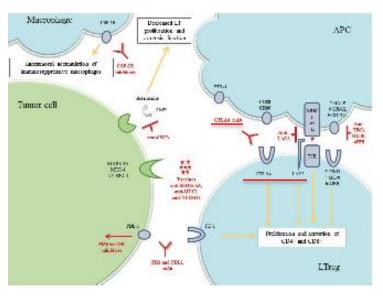
## TNBC Classification molecular subtypes and potential targets for treatments



5. HER2-enriched

#### Immune - modulatory/associated TNBC

#### IMMUNE CHECKPOINT



- Immune cell signaling (B, T and NK cells), citokine signaling, antigen processing-presentation and core immune signaling trasduction pathway are enriched in the immune cell process
- The immune response signature is correlates with enhanced levels of immune cell infiltration and resulted in good clinical outcome in TNBC
- Tumor-infiltrating lymphocytes seem predictive of neoadjuvant CT response

Inhibition of checkpoint and enhancing T-cell activity against tumor cell could be therapeutic

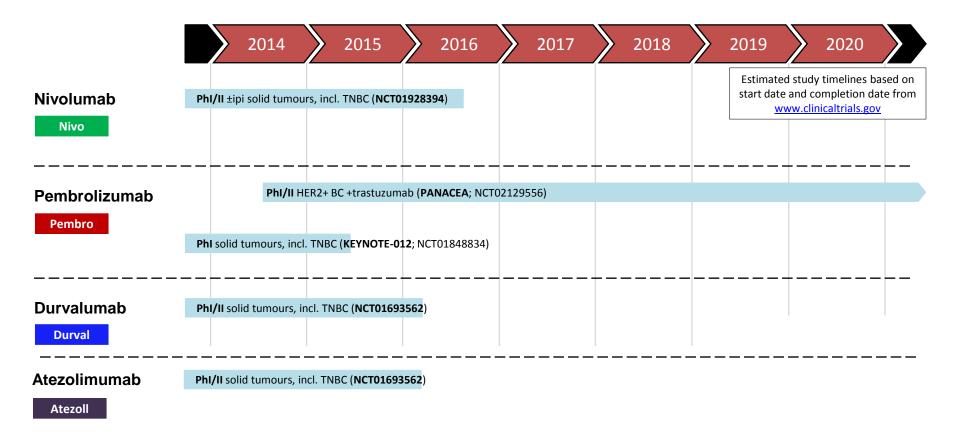
Activation of CTLA-4, the cell surface receptor of Lymphocyte T regulators down-modulates the amplitudine of T-cell activation

PD-1 and its ligand PD-L1 is a potent mechanism by which immunogeic tumors evade host immune response, through enhencing T-cell immune response. PD-L1 expression appears to be a potential predictive biomarker of response

## Checkpoint inhibitors: at which phase study are?

**Anti-PD1 therapies Anti-CTLA4** therapies **Anti-PDL1** therapies Few Results in BC but **Many Prospectives** Phase I Phase I/II or II Phase III

## Overview of key studies in breast cancer

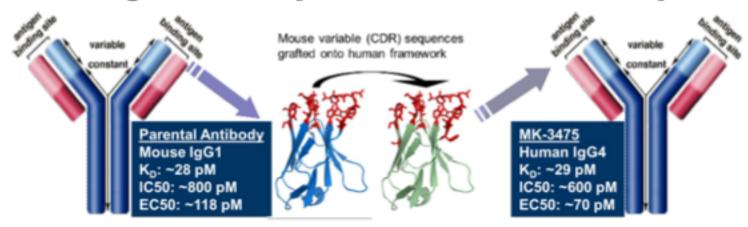


All PD-1/PD-L1 inhibitors are being investigated in breast cancer as part of early phase I or I/II studies in solid tumours.

#### Biomarkers of the PD-1 Pathway in BC

- Reported rates of PD1 and/or PD-L1 expression by TILs or carcinoma cell is <u>vary</u> (differences in tumor sample size, sampling and detection)
- PD-1 + TILs associated to <u>aggressive phenotype</u>, high tumor grade, ER-. Worse survival in Luminal B and basal-like
- PD-L1 espressed in TNBC ranges 19%-59%
- PD1 + TILs and PD-L1+ carcinoma cells more present in TNBC than other subtypes
- PD-L1 by FISH : <u>30% BC</u>
- High PD-L1 expression + higher levels of TILs <u>predict pCR to</u> <u>neoadjCT</u>

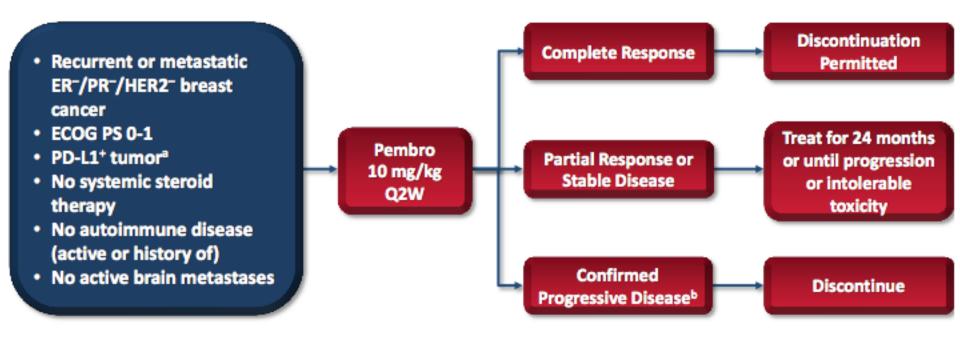
## Pembrolizumab (MK-3475) Is a Humanized IgG4, High-Affinity, Anti-PD-1 Antibody



- High affinity for the PD-1 receptor (KD ≈ 29 pM)
- Dual ligand blockade of PD-L1 and PD-L2
- No cytotoxic (ADCC/CDC) activity
- PK supports dosing every 2 weeks (Q2W) or every 3 weeks (Q3W)
- Demonstrated clinical activity in multiple tumor types<sup>1-6</sup>
- Recently approved in the United States for the treatment of patients with unresectable or metastatic melanoma and disease progression following ipilimumab and, if BRAF V600 mutation positive, a BRAF inhibitor



# KEYNOTE-012: Triple-Negative Breast Cancer Cohort



- PD-L1 positivity: 58% of all patients screened had PD-L1-positive tumors
- Treatment: 10 mg/kg IV Q2W
- Response assessment: Performed every 8 weeks per RECIST v1.1

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>PD-L1 expression was assessed in archival tumor samples using a prototype IHC assay and the 22C3 antibody. Only patients with PD-L1 staining in the stroma or in ≥1% of tumor cells were eligible for enrollment.

If clinically stable, patients are permitted to remain on pembrolizumab until progressive disease is confirmed on a second scan performed ≥4 weeks later. If progressive disease is confirmed, pembrolizumab is discontinued. An exception may be granted for patients with clinical stability or improvement after consultation with the sponsor.



## **Baseline Characteristics**

Characteristic	N = 32
Age, mean (range), years	51.9 (29-72)
Female	32 (100.0%)
Race	
Black or African American	7 (21.9%)
White	25 (78.1%)
ECOG PS	
0	15 (46.9%)
1	16 (50.0%)
Unknown	1 (3.1%)
History of brain metastases	4 (12.5%)

Characteristic	N = 32	
No. prior therapies for metastatic of	lisease	
0	5 (15.6%)	
1	6 (18.8%)	
2	6 (18.8%)	
3	5 (15.6%)	
4	3 (9.4%)	
≥5	7 (21.9%)	
Previous neoadjuvant or adjuvant therapy	28 (87.5%)	
Any previous chemotherapy		
Taxane	30 (93.8%)	
Anthracycline	25 (78.1%)	
Capecitabine	21 (65.6%)	
Platinum	19 (59.3%)	
Eribulin	7 (21.9%)	



Arthralgia

Fatigue

Myalgia

Nausea

ALT increased

AST increased

Diarrhea

Erythema

Headache

## **Treatment-Related**

Adverse Events \

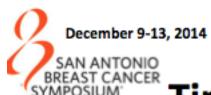
### Summary of Exposure and Treatment-Related AEsa

	N = 32
Any grade	18 (56.3%)
Grade 3	4 (12.5%)
Grade 4	1 (3.1%)
Serious	3 (9.4%)
Resulted in death*	1 (3.1%)

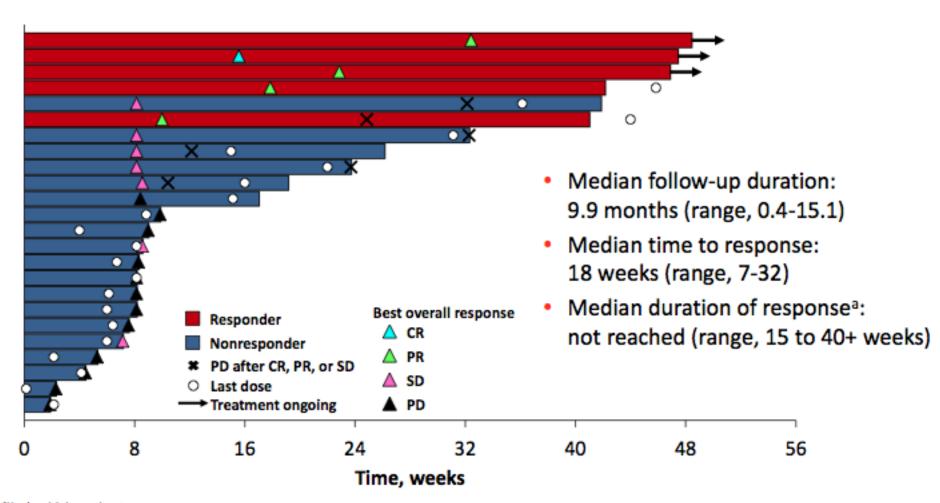
- Median time on pembrolizumab: 59.5 days (range, 1-383)
- Grade 3 treatment-related AEs were anemia, headache, aseptic meningitis, and pyrexia (n = 1 each)
- Grade 4 treatment-related AE was decreased blood fibrinogen (n = 1)
- The AE attributed to treatment that resulted in death was disseminated intravascular coagulation (DIC)
  - This was the only treatment-related AE that led to discontinuation
- Adverse events of a potentially immune-n pruritus (n = 3; all grade 1-2), hepatitis<sup>b</sup> (r Analysis cut-off date: November 10, 2014.

<sup>3</sup>Reported during treatment or within 30 days thereafter.

Not considered to be related to treatment by the investigator.



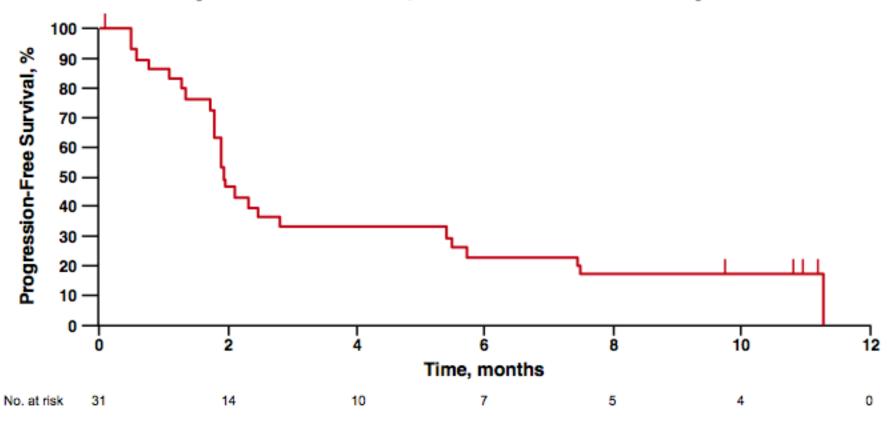
# Time to and Durability of Response (RECIST v1.1, Central Review)



<sup>3</sup>Kaplan-Meier estimate.
Analysis cut-off date: November 10, 2014.



# **Kaplan-Meier Estimate of PFS** (RECIST v1.1, Central Review)



- Median PFS: 1.9 months (95% CI, 1.7-5.4)
- PFS rate at 6 months: 23.3%



## **Best Overall Response By**

## Previous Therapy (RECIST v1.1, Central Review)

	Evaluable Patients N = 27°	CR or PR <sup>b</sup>	SD	PD or No Assessment <sup>c</sup>
Neoadjuvant or adjuvant	24	4 (16.7%)	7 (29.2%)	13 (54.2%)
No. of lines for metastatic	disease			
0	4	0 (0.0%)	1 (25.0%)	3 (75.0%)
1	4	1 (25.0%)	1 (25.0%)	2 (50.0%)
2	6	0 (0.0%)	2 (33.3%)	4 (66.7%)
3	4	1 (25.0%)	1 (25.0%)	2 (50.0%)
4	3	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	2 (66.7%)
≥5	6	2 (33.3%)	2 (33.3%)	2 (33.3%)

Previous therapy among the 5 patients with CR or PR

Capecitabine: 5 (100.0%)
 Platinum: 3 (60.0%)

Taxane: 5 (100.0%)
 Eribulin: 1 (20.0%)

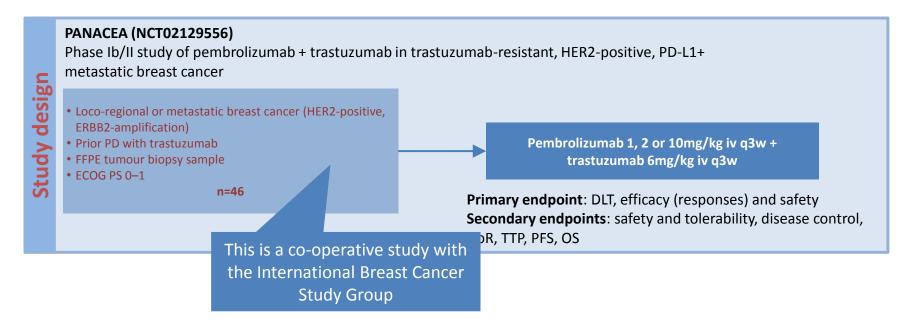
Anthracycline: 4 (80.0%)

Includes patients with measurable disease at baseline who received ≥1 pembrolizumab dose and who had ≥1 post-baseline scan or discontinued therapy before the first scan due to progressive disease or a treatment-related AE. 5 patients were excluded because they did not have any assessments per central review (n = 2) or because they did not have measurable disease per central review at baseline (n = 3).

Confirmed responses only.

<sup>&</sup>quot;No assessment" signifies patients who discontinued therapy before the first scan due to progressive disease or a treatment-related AE. Analysis cut-off date: November 10, 2014.

## Phase Ib and phase Ib/II ongoing studies of Pembro in mBC

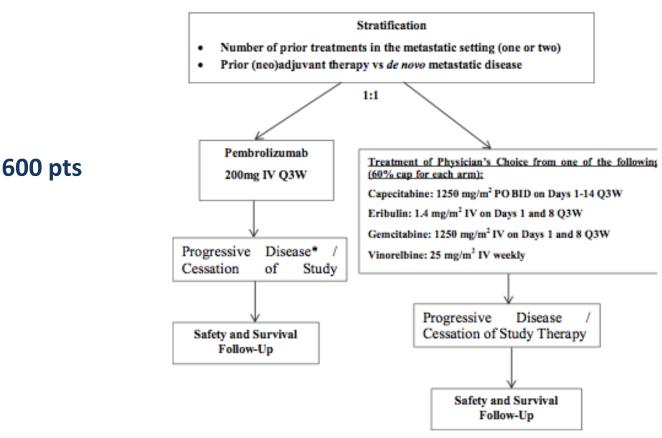


Molecule	Companion	Phase Study	n. Study
Pembro	Eribulin	lb/II	NCT02513472

## Phase III Pembrolizumab in MBC

A Randomized Open-Label Phase III Study of Single Agent Pembrolizumab versus Treatment of Physician's Choice Monotherapy for Metastatic Triple Negative Breast Cancer (mTNBC) – (KEYNOTE-119)

The trial design is depicted in Figure 1 Imaging Process.



**Primary aim PFS** 

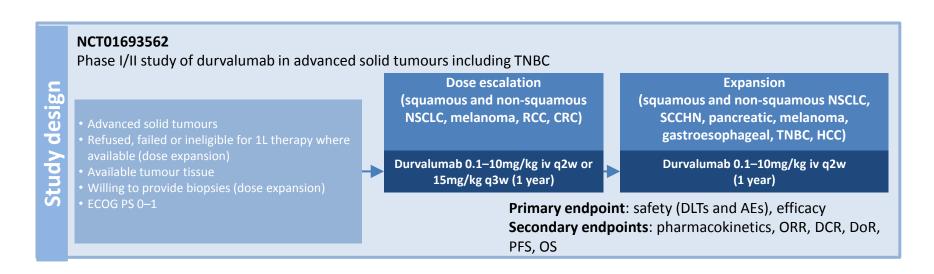
## **Nivolumab Investigations for TNBC phase I/II trials**

Molecule	Companion	Phase Study	n. Study
Nivolumab (TONIC study)	Alone	Π	NCT02499367
Nivolumab	Ipilimumab, Entinostat	II	NCT02453620
Nivolumab	Nab-paclitaxel	1-11	NCT02309177
Nivolumab	Trastuzumab*	lb-II	NCT02129556

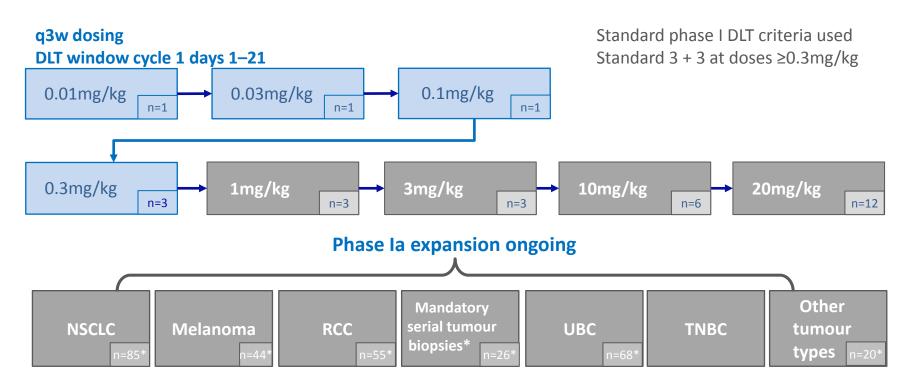
# Phase I/II study of nivolumab ± ipilimumab in advanced or metastatic solid tumours including TNBC Locally advanced or metastatic tumours TNBC, GC, pancreatic, SCLC or bladder cancer ECOG PS 0-1 Nivolumab 1mg/kg iv q3w + ipilimumab 3mg/kg iv q3w (4 doses) Primary endpoint: ORR Secondary endpoints: AEs

<sup>\*</sup>Patients With Trastuzumab-resistant, HER2-positive MBC

## A phase I/II study is investigating the safety and efficacy of **Durvalumab** in TNBC



# **Atezolizumab**: PCD4989g phase Ia study Dose escalation and expansion



Patients enrolled at 10, 15 and 20mg/kg

# Atezolizumab: PCD4989g phase Ia study all tumour types Patient demographics and disease characteristics

Characteristic	All patients (n=277)
Median age, years (range)	61 (21–88)
Male/female, %	63/37
Tumour type, n (%)	
Melanoma	45 (16)
RCC	68 (25)
NSCLC	85 (31)
Other <sup>‡</sup>	79 (29)
ECOG PS, n (%)	
0	140 (50)
1	137 (50)
Prior radiotherapy, n (%)	129 (47)
Prior systemic regimens, n (%)*	
0	33 (12)
1	57 (21)
2	61 (22)
≥3	126 (45)

# Atezolizumab: PCD4989g phase Ia study all tumour types Safety summary

		Treatment-r (n=2	
Adverse event*		Any grade	Grade 3/4
Any AE		194 (70)	35 (13)
Fatigue		67 (24)	5 (2)
Decreased appetite	Most AEs were grade 1 or 2	33 (12)	0 (0)
Nausea	and did not require intervention	32 (12)	1 (<1)
Pyrexia		32 (12)	0 (0)
Diarrhoea		29 (11)	0 (0)
Rash		29 (11)	1 (<1)
Pruritus		23 (8)	0 (0)
Arthralgia		22 (8)	0 (0)
Headache		21 (8)	1 (<1)
Chills		19 (7)	0 (0)
Influenza-like illness		16 (6)	1 (<1)

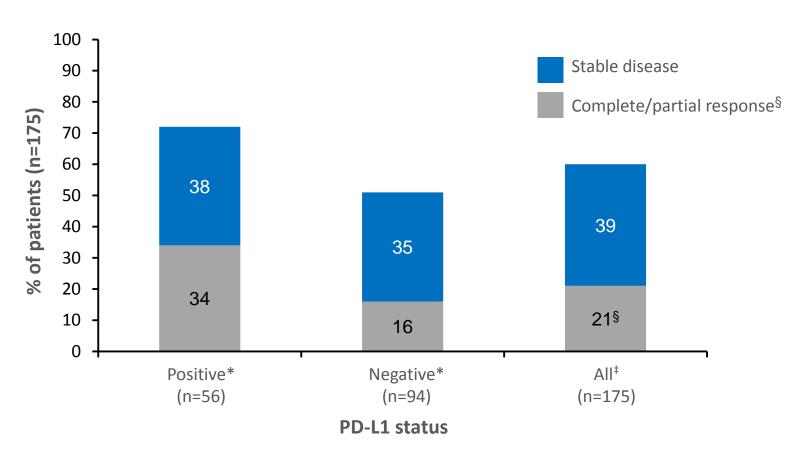
- One treatment-related death (cardiorespiratory arrest).<sup>‡</sup>
- Treatment-related grade 3/4 AEs in 35 patients (13%).
- Immune-related grade 3/4 AEs in 3 patients (1%).
- No DLTs or grade 3–5 pneumonitis; MTD not reached.

Adapted from Hodi FS, et al. ECC 2013, Poster 880P available at <a href="http://www.poster-submission.com/board/">http://www.poster-submission.com/board/</a> - Last access

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>‡</sup>Patient had sinus thrombosis and cardiac/great vessel invasion by tumour at baseline; event suspected to be caused by treatment, disease under study and concurrent illness.

# Atezolizumab - phase la study all tumour types Proportion of patients with stable disease or a complete/partial response by PD-L1 immunohistochemistry status

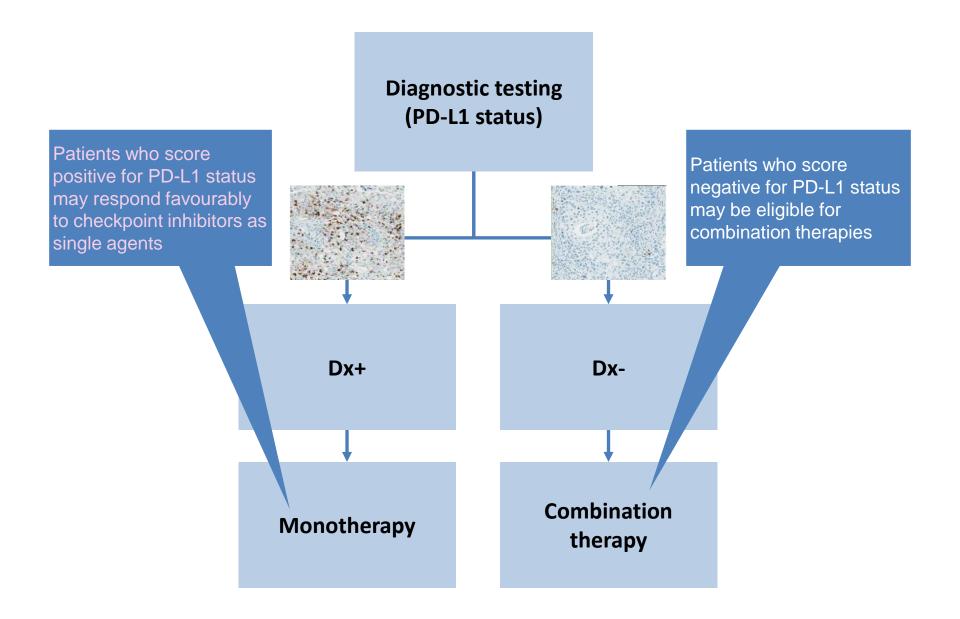
*Is there the target?* 



<sup>\*</sup>PD-L1+ defined as patients with ≥5% tumour-infiltrating immune cells positive for PD-L1; PD-L1- is defined as patients with <5% tumour-infiltrating immune cells positive for PD-L1; <sup>‡</sup>All patients include PD-L1+, PD-L1- and patients with unknown tumour PD-L1 status; <sup>§</sup>One patient (PD-L1+ RCC) had a complete response.

Adapted from Hodi FS, et al. ECC 2013, Poster 880P available at <a href="http://www.poster-submission.com/board/">http://www.poster-submission.com/board/</a> - Last access March 2015.

## Diagnostic-based treatment decisions



## Biomarker programme in development

#### Goal is to evaluate

- Predictive biomarkers of response
- · Biomarkers of progression, mechanisms of resistance
- PD-L1/PD-1 pathway and relevant immune biology.

#### Current biomarker analysis in tumour tissue

PD-L1 expression by IHC: development of a diagnostic assay.

#### Exploratory biomarkers

- In tumour tissue
  - PD-L1 gene expression levels
  - Driver mutations in disease (e.g. EGFR, KRAS)
  - The tumour immune microenvironment.
- In blood
  - Immune cell subpopulations (e.g. Tregs, memory T-cells)
  - Cytokines
  - Other exploratory markers (e.g. ctDNA).

# Anti – CTLA-4 Mabs Ipilimumab

Wolchok JD. A pilot study of preoperative (Pre-op), single-dose ipilimumab (Ipi) and/or cryoablation (Cryo) in women (pts) with early-stage/resectable breast cancer (ESBC). J Clin Oncol [Internet]. 2014; [cited 2014 Jun 6]; 32:5s. Available from: http://meetinglibrary.asco.org/ content/132420-144. Preoperative 1-Cryo - alone, 2- Ipi - alone 3-Combination

- -Tumor necrosis/infarction was observed in 9/12 pts who underwent cryo. A trend toward an increased frequency of blood CD4+ICOS+, CD8+ICOS+, CD4+Ki67+ and CD8+Ki67+ T-cells was observed at TM compared with baseline in the Ipi treated groups only.
- -TILs in the TM specimens suggested a higher ratio of CD8+Ki67+ T-cells to CD4+CD25+FOXP3+ (T-regulatory) cells in group C when compared with A&B.

Pre-op cryo and ipi, alone or in combination, are safe/tolerable in pts with ESBC. Immune correlates revealed activation of T-cells in the blood in single-dose ipi treated pts and a modest increase in the ratio of tumor CD8+Ki67+ T-cells to T-regulatory cells after combination therapy only. A Phase II study ongoing

#### Anti – CTLA-4 Mabs Tremelimumab

Tremelimumab in Combination with Exemestane in Patients with Advanced Breast Cancer and Treatment-Associated Modulation of Inducible Costimulator Expression on Patient T Cells

26 pts

Table 2. Treatment-related AEs

	28-d	28-d cycle		90-d cycle	
	3 mg/kg tremelimumab + 25 mg/d exemestane (n = 6)	6 mg/kg tremelimumab + 25 mg/d exemestane (n = 1)	6 mg/kg tremelimumab + 25 mg/d exemestane (n = 13)	10 mg/kg tremelimumab + 25 mg/d exemestane (n = 6)	
AEs	43	5	41	35	
Patients with AEs	5	1	10	5	
Patients with SAEs	0	0	0	1	
Patients with grade 3 AEs	2	1	2	2	
Patients with grade 4 AEs	0	0	0	0	

Best ORR: NC 42% for 12 weeks

Table 3. Treatment-related AEs in two or more patients or in group with one patient receiving tremelimumab 6 mg/kg Q28D

AE, n (%)	Any grade, n (%)	Grade 3, n (9
3 mg/kg tremelimu	mab Q28D + 25 mg/c	i exemestane,
n = 6		
Pruritus	3 (50)	0
Diarrhea	3 (50)	1 (17)
Fatigue	3 (50)	0
Constipation	2 (33)	0
Abdominal pain	2 (33)	0
Nausea	2 (33)	0
Dry mouth	2 (33)	0
Bone pain	2 (33)	0
6 mg/kg tremelimu	mab Q28D + 25 mg/c	d exemestane,
n = 1		
Diarrhea	1 (100)	1 (100)
Lipase increased	1 (100)	1 (100)
Pruritis	1 (100)	0
6 mg/kg tremelimu	mab Q90D + 25 mg/c	d exemestane,
n = 13		
Pruritus	5 (39)	0
Constipation	4 (31)	0
Diarrhea	4 (31)	0
Fatigue	3 (23)	0
Anorexia	3 (23)	0
Rash	3 (23)	1 (8)
10 mg/kg tremelim n = 6	umab Q90D + 25 mg	/d exemestane,
Diarrhea	4 (67)	2 (33)
Anorexia	2 (33)	o
Headache	2 (33)	0
Pruritus	2 (33)	0

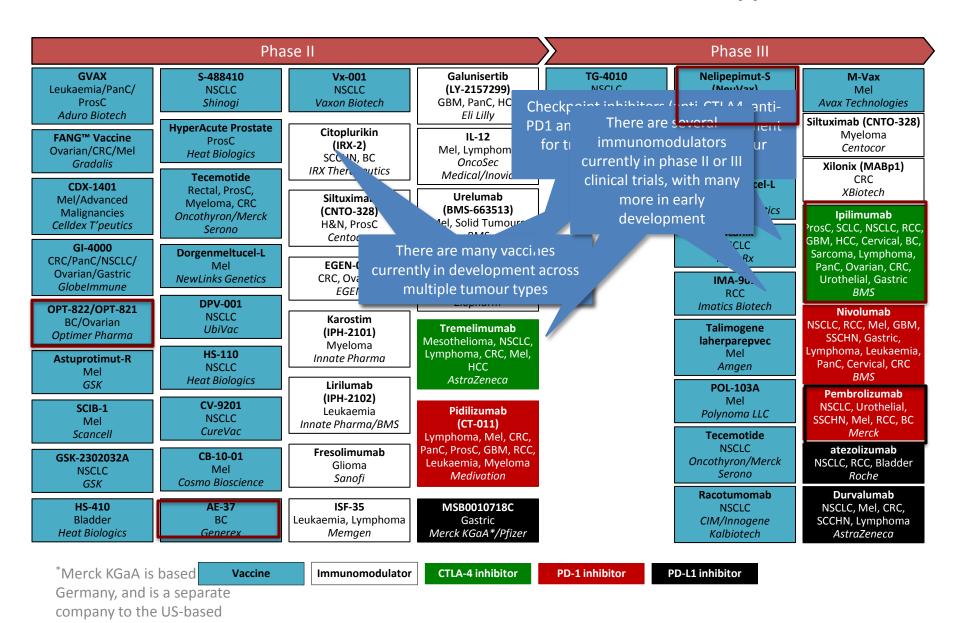
Abbreviations: ALT, alanine aminotransferase; AST, aspartate aminotransferase.

## Tumor Vaccines Target in BC

#### **Antigen specific vaccines**

- Her2 peptide and proteins vaccines given with adjuvant GM-CSF in HER2 + BC
- HER2 peptide-based vaccination with standard trastuzumab therapy
   22 pts mBC HER2+
   survival not reached (median follow up 3 yrs)
- HER2 protein vaccin with Lapatinib
   12 pts mBC HER2+ refractory to trastuzumab (100% antobody, 8% T-cell specific
  - MUC1 (aberrantly glycosilate protein derived from secretory tissue + low dose of Cyclophosfamide: higher antibody levels and longer median survival

# The immunotherapy landscape for cancer is diverse and includes treatments for most tumour types



Merck www.clinicaltrials.gov



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