



# IO AND TARGETED THERAPY IN NSCLC: SEQUENCE, TOXICITY

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Endorsed by



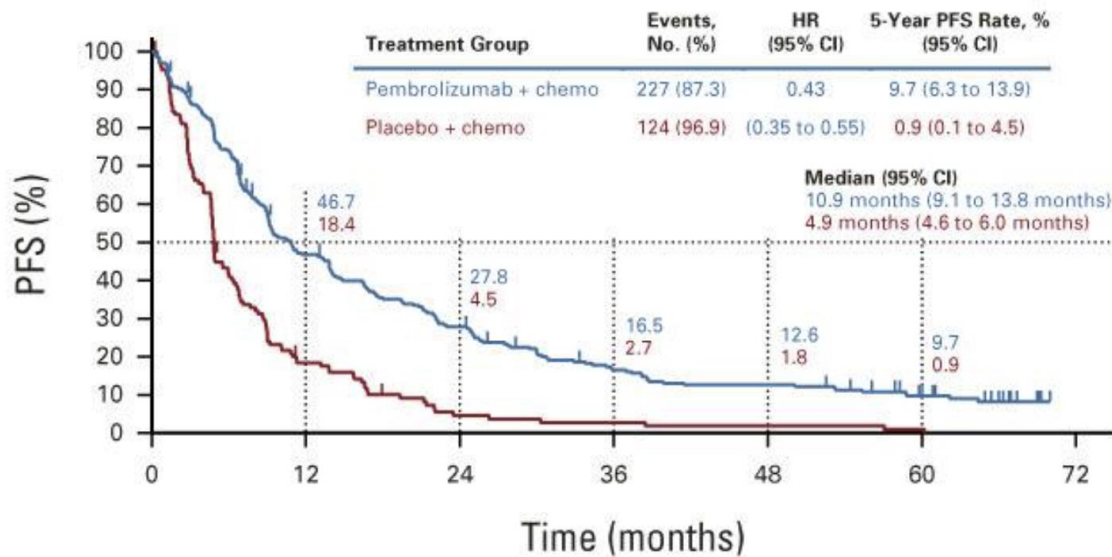
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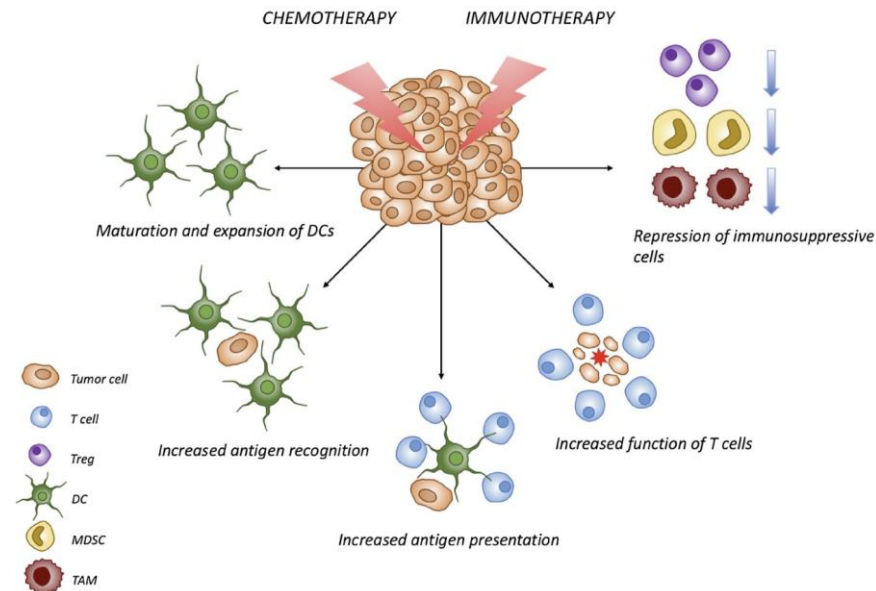
# Chemo/ICI combinations have improved outcomes



Improved 5-year PFS rate with addition of pembrolizumab to first-line platinum doublet in KEYNOTE-189

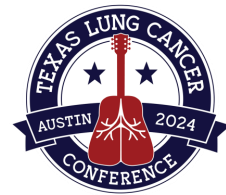
Garassino et al. J Clin Oncol. 2023; Leonetti et al. Drug Resist Update, 2019

# Preclinical – impact of chemotherapy on immunogenicity of disease



**Will similar combinations with targeted therapies be possible for patients with actionable oncogene driven cancers?**

**Can we safely transition from ICI to targeted therapies?**



# There are FDA-approved Targeted Therapy + ICI Combinations in RCC, melanoma

## Atezolizumab + Vemurafenib/Cobimetinib in BRAFm melanoma

- **Safety profile tolerable**, 50% vs 35% rates of pyrexia

## Pembrolizumab + Lenvatinib (multikinase VEGFR, PDGFR, FGFR, RET, KIT) in RCC

- Safety profile tolerable
- **Toxicities similar to expected for monotherapy safety profiles**

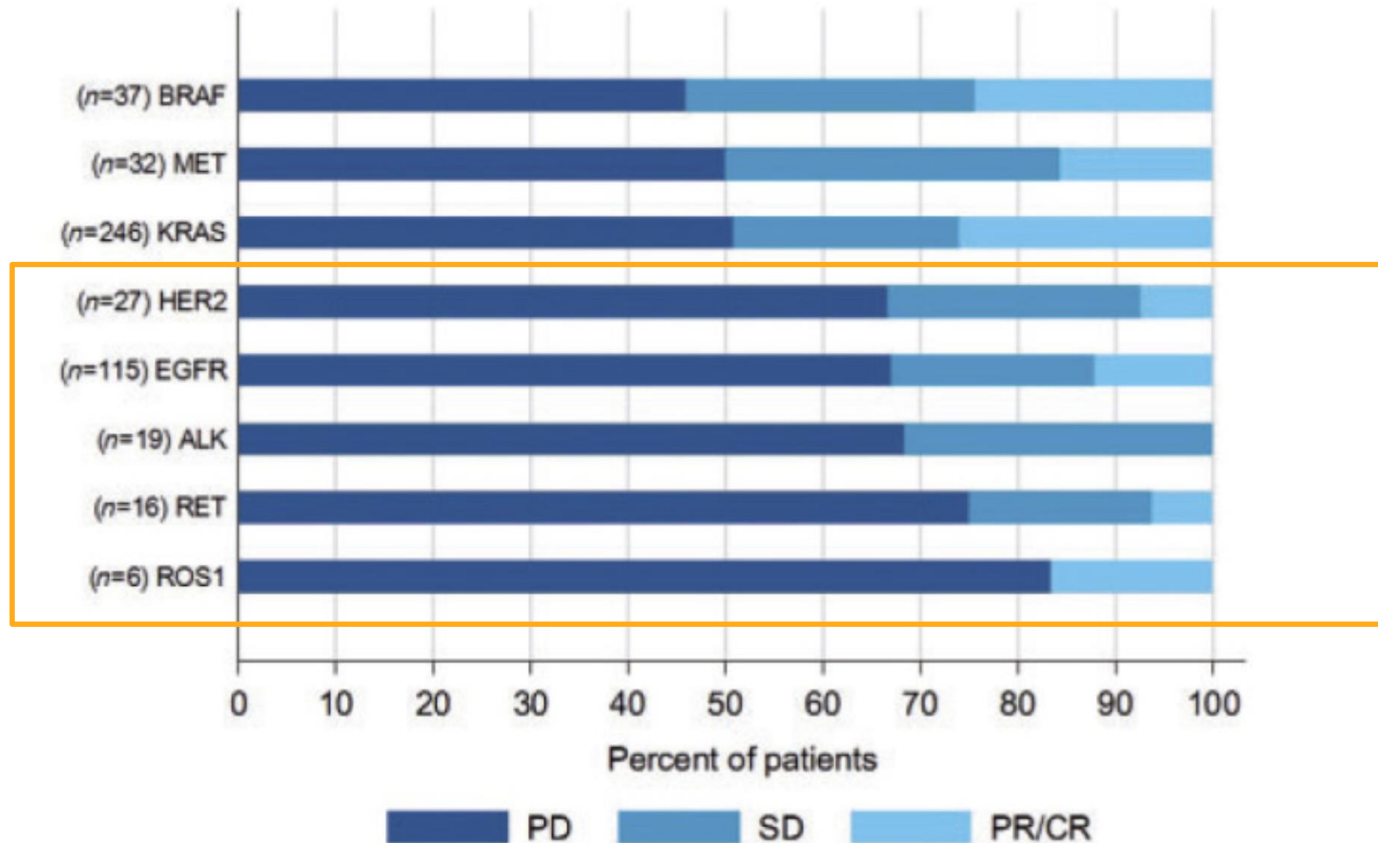
## Pembrolizumab + Cabozantinib (MET, multikinase) in RCC

- Safety profile tolerable
- **Toxicities felt similar to expected monotherapy safety profiles**

Ascierto et al, Lancet Oncol. 2023; Choueiri et al NEJM 2021;384:829-841; Motzer et al NEJM 2021;384:1289-1300

# In NSCLC ICI monotherapy activity is limited for the non-smoking associated driver mutations

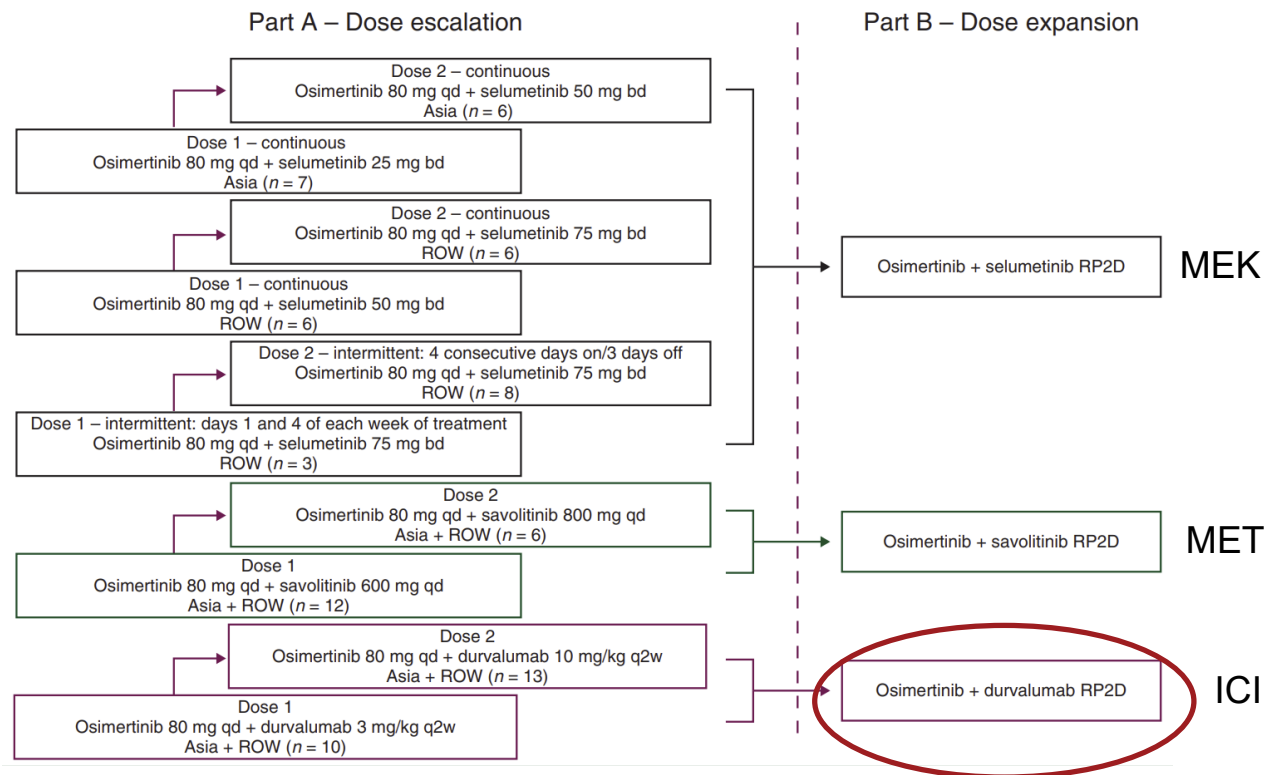
Data from the IMMUNOTARGET Registry



Mazieres et al Ann Oncol. 2019

# Early efforts to combine ICIs and TKIs in NSCLC

## Osimertinib + Durvalumab: Lessons learned from the TATTON study

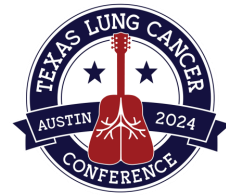


**Table 4. Most common all-causality adverse events, reported in ≥20% of patients in the osimertinib plus durvalumab arm**

	<b>Durvalumab</b>			
	3 mg/kg q2w (n = 10)		10 mg/kg q2w (n = 13)	
	Any grade	Grade ≥3	Any grade	Grade ≥3
Patients with any AE	10 (100.0)	6 (60.0)	13 (100.0)	5 (38.5)
Rash <sup>a</sup>	5 (50.0)	1 (10.0)	6 (46.2)	0
Vomiting	7 (70.0)	1 (10.0)	3 (23.1)	0
Diarrhea	3 (30.0)	0	6 (46.2)	0
Nausea	4 (40.0)	0	4 (30.8)	0
Decreased appetite	3 (30.0)	1 (10.0)	4 (30.8)	0
Dry skin <sup>a</sup>	3 (30.0)	0	4 (30.8)	0
Anemia	4 (40.0)	0	2 (15.4)	1 (7.7)
Constipation	3 (30.0)	0	3 (23.1)	0
Fatigue	3 (30.0)	0	3 (23.1)	0
<b>ILD<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>2 (20.0)</b>	<b>1 (10.0)</b>	<b>3 (23.1)</b>	<b>1 (7.7)</b>
Pyrexia	2 (20.0)	0	3 (23.1)	1 (7.7)

**Excess risk of ILD when osimertinib given concurrently with durvalumab (22% on study vs ~3% historical rate), development of this combination was discontinued**





# First- or Second-Generation EGFR TKIs + ICIs?

**Afatinib + pembrolizumab for squamous NSCLC (LUX-Lung-IO), n = 24**

- **4 patients (17%) had TRAEs of pneumonia or pneumonitis**, 1 patient had immune-mediated hepatitis

**Erlotinib or gefitinib + pembrolizumab 1L for EGFRm NSCLC (KEYNOTE-021, cohorts E and F)**

- **Gefitinib: G3/G4 hepatotoxicity in 5 out of 7 patients (71.4%)**, onset at 29-65 days treatment
- **Erlotinib: G3 hepatotoxicity in 1 out of 12 patients**

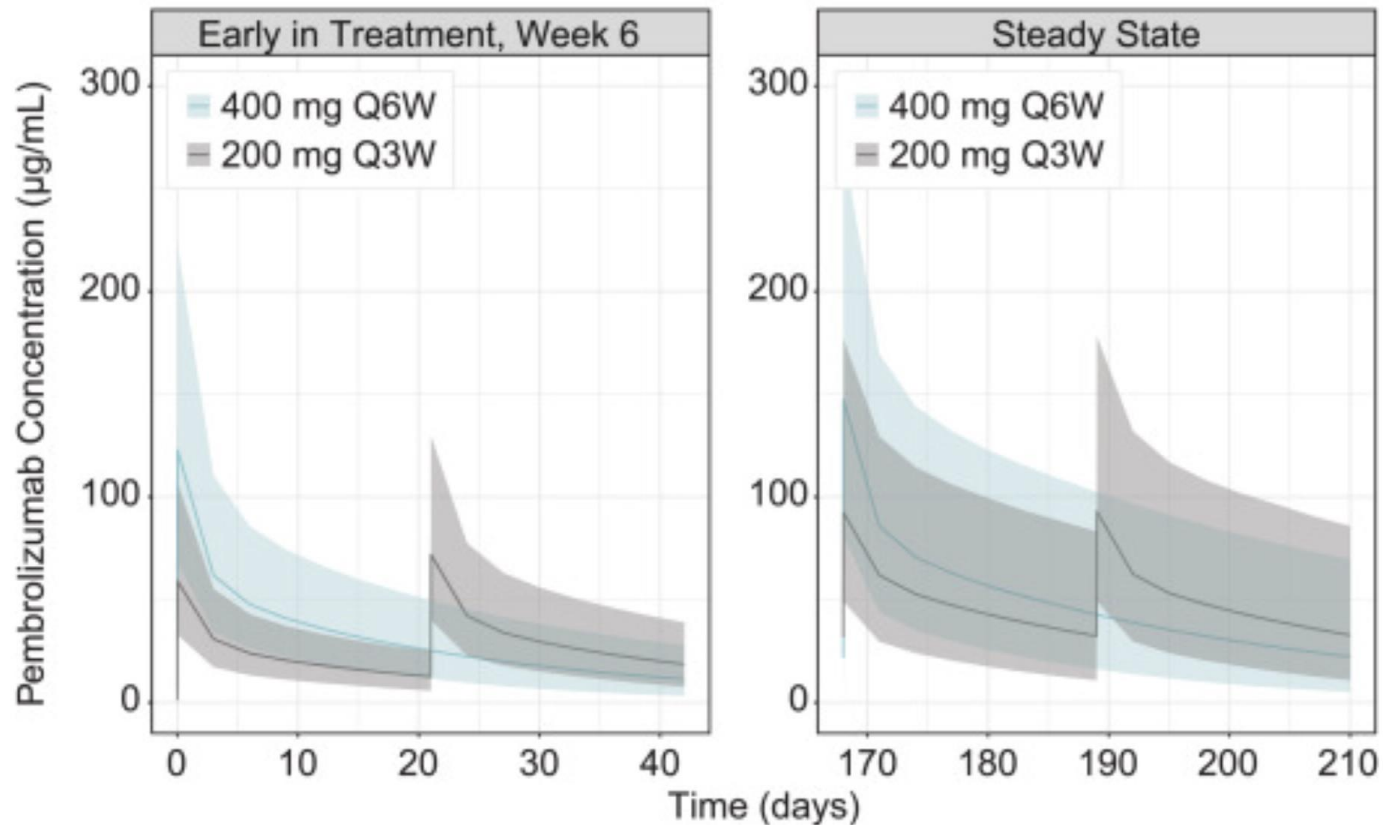
**Erlotinib + atezolizumab (EGFR wt and EGFRm NSCLC), n = 28**

- **One patient (4%) with G1 pneumonitis**
- **One patient (4%) with G3 elevated ALT**

***Clinical benefits have not been demonstrated and these combinations are not used in clinical practice***

Levy et al. Lung Cancer. 2022;166:107-113; Yang et al. J Thorac Oncol. 2019;14(3):553-559; Rudin et al. ESMO Open. 2023;8(2):101160.

# Current checkpoint inhibitor immunotherapies remain in circulation for many months, creating potential de facto combination therapy with next-line therapy

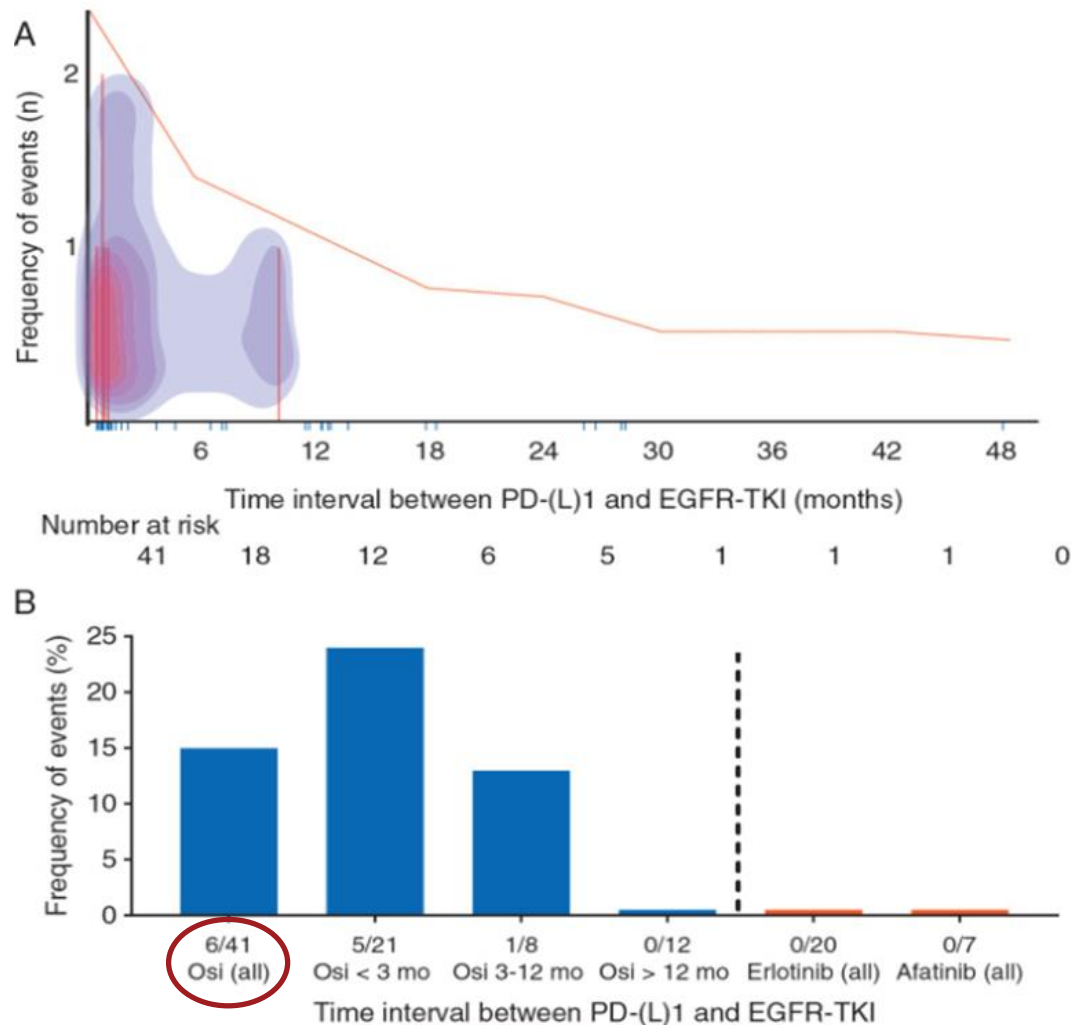


Pembrolizumab  $t_{1/2}$  is 22 days → five half lives requires >3.5 months

Creates opportunity for long dosing intervals, Q3W vs Q6W modeling shown here

Pembrolizumab package insert; Lala et al Eur J Cancer. 2020;131:68-75.

# EGFR TKIs given sequentially after ICI therapy



**Six of 41 patients treated with osimertinib post-ICI had a severe irAE, all but one in the first three months treatment**

- Pneumonitis (n=3, 7%), colitis (n=1), hepatitis (n=4)
- Four additional patients had dyspnea treated with steroids empirically, indeterminate for an irAE, not included in the figure → ?17% rate
- Median 20 days to onset

## Rechallenge with TKI post irAE?

- 4 of 5 patients successfully rechallenged, all successful rechallenges either with >2 month delay or with earlier generation TKI

**No patients treated with erlotinib or afatinib had irAEs**

Schoenfeld et al. Annals of Oncology. 2019;30:839-44



# Safety of ALK inhibitors in combination with ICIs



## Crizotinib

- Crizotinib + nivolumab (CheckMate 370, n = 13): **38% G3+ hepatotoxicity**
- Crizotinib + pembrolizumab: Excess hepatotoxicity/DLTs, **early closure**
- Crizotinib + avelumab (JAVELIN 101, n = 12), **42% DLT rate**



## Ceritinib

- Ceritinib + nivolumab, n = 36, 14-32% G3+ increased transaminates, 64% rash, 14% G3+ lipase. **Discontinued for intolerability.**



## Alectinib

- Alectinib + atezolizumab, n = 21. **10% G3 elevated ALT or bilirubin, 19% G3 rash**
- Grade 3 AE rate 67% (vs 30% expected for monotherapy)



## Lorlatinib

- Lorlatinib + Avelumab (JAVELIN 101), n = 15; 11% rash, 11% G3 GGT increase. Combination felt comparable to expected monotherapy toxicities

Spigel et al. J Thorac Oncol (2018) 13(5):682–8; Felip et al. J Thorac Oncol (2020) 15(3):392–403; Kim et al. JTO Clin Res Rep. 2022;3(8):100367; Shaw et al J Clin Oncol (2018) 36:9008; Patel et al Oncologist 2020 25(7):561-e1012.

# Sequential ALK inhibitors? Crizotinib after ICI Exposure

**Table 2. Increase in ALT/AST Level with Crizotinib after an ICI versus with Crizotinib Alone**

Increase in ALT/AST Level	Patients, n		Cumulative Incidence of Liver Toxicity		
	Total	Liver Toxicity	Point Estimate, %	(95% CI)	p Value
Grade 3/4 increase in ALT level					<0.0001
ICI → TKI	11	5	45.5	(14.9-72.2)	
TKI	442	34	8.1	(5.7-11.0)	
Grade 4 increase in ALT level					<0.0001
ICI → TKI	11	3	27.3	(5.8-55.4)	
TKI	442	4	0.9	(0.3-2.2)	
Grade 3/4 increase in AST level					<0.0001
ICI → TKI	11	4	36.4	(10.0-64.2)	
TKI	442	14	3.4	(1.9-5.5)	
Grade 4 increase in AST level					<0.0001
ICI → TKI	11	3	27.3	(5.8-55.4)	
TKI	442	1	0.2	(0.02-1.3)	

Note: Grading is per the Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events, version 4.0. Point estimate is reported at the time of last observed event.

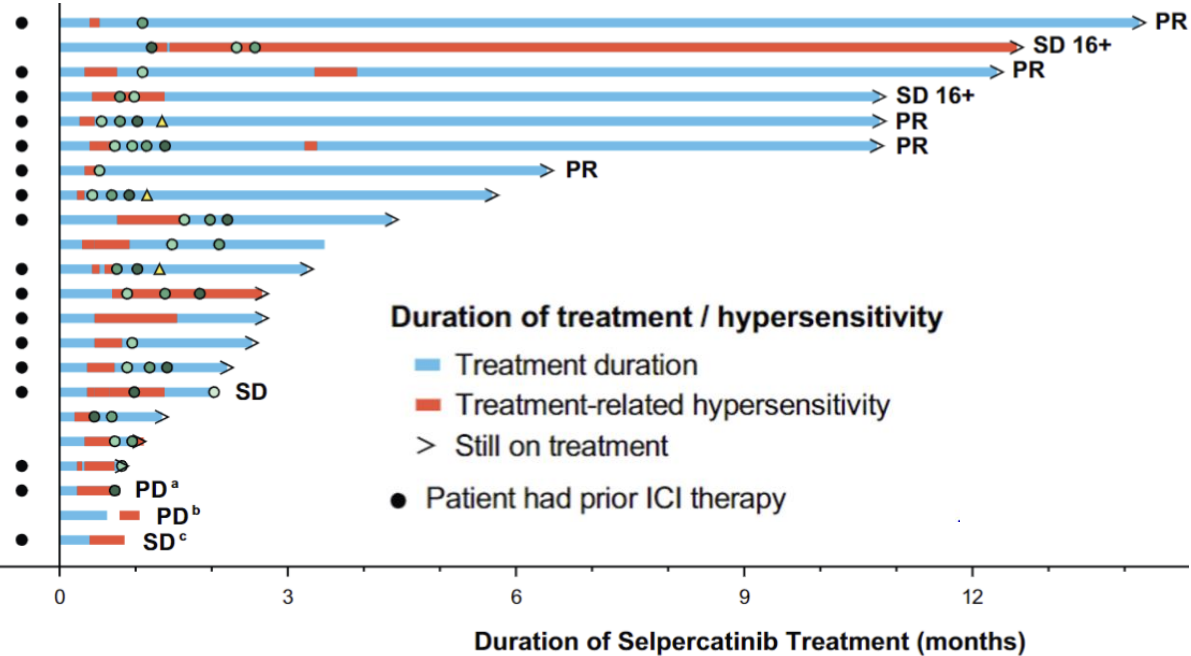
ALT, alanine transaminase; AST, aspartate transaminase; TKI, tyrosine kinase inhibitor; ICI, immune checkpoint inhibitor; CI, confidence interval.

Lin et al. J Thorac Oncol. 2019;14(1):135-140.



# RET Inhibitors

## Data from LIBRETTO-001, Selpercatinib for RET+ Solid Tumors



**Hypersensitivity (n=22)**

**Serious TEAE Hypersensitivity (n = 9)**

	Prior ICI	No Prior ICI
Hypersensitivity (n=22)	11.2%	2.8%
Serious TEAE Hypersensitivity (n = 9)	5.3%	2.3%

***There was a modest increase hypersensitivity reactions to selpercatinib when given following checkpoint inhibitors. These were generally manageable and did not prevent subsequent ongoing therapy.***

McCoach et al. J Thorac Oncol. 2022;17(6):768-778

# BRAF/ICI Combinations Tolerable in Melanoma

## KEYNOTE-022: Dabrafenib/Trametinib + Pembrolizumab

G3+ AST Elevation (8.3% vs 5.0%), AST 6.7% vs 5%, Fever 11.7 vs 5%, pneumonitis 6.7 vs 1.7%

**COMBI-i: Dabrafenib/trametinib + Spartalizumab:** G3+ TRAES 17% pyrexia, 11% lipase, 8% GGT inc, 8% CPK increase, 11% neutropenia

## DREAMseq:

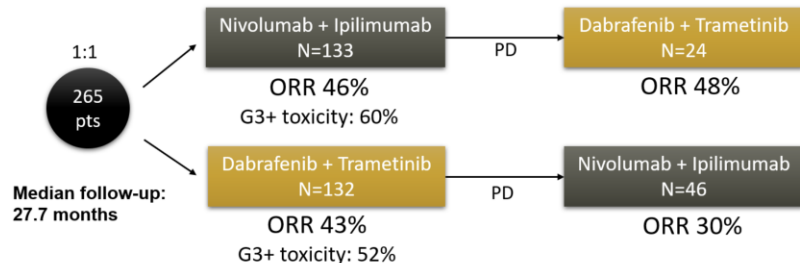
**DREAMseq (Doublet, Randomized Evaluation in Advanced Melanoma Sequencing): A phase III trial—ECOG-ACRIN EA6134**

@pawel\_sobczuk

#ASCOPlenarySeries

**AIM:** to compare the efficacy and toxicity of the sequence of nivolumab/ipilimumab followed by dabrafenib/trametinib to the converse sequence

**PATIENTS:** treatment-naive BRAFV600-mutant advanced melanoma, ECOG 0-1



2-year OS

72%

vs

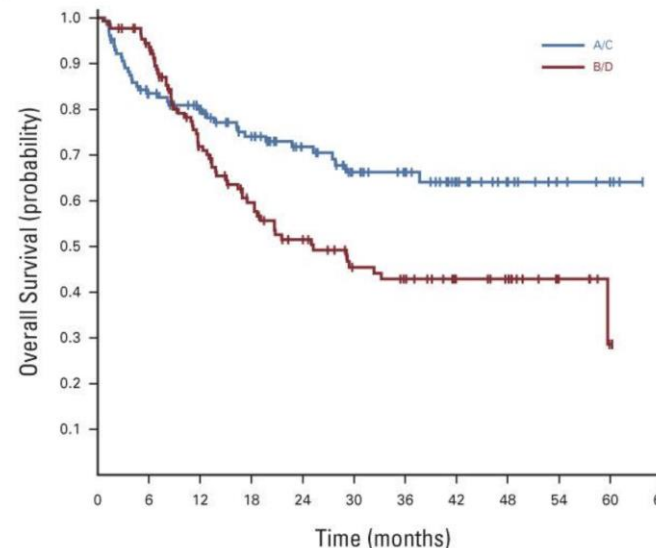
52%

p=0.0095

**CONCLUSION:**

- the treatment sequence beginning with Nivolumab+Ipilimumab resulted in superior OS
- The difference became evident at 10 months

### Overall Survival

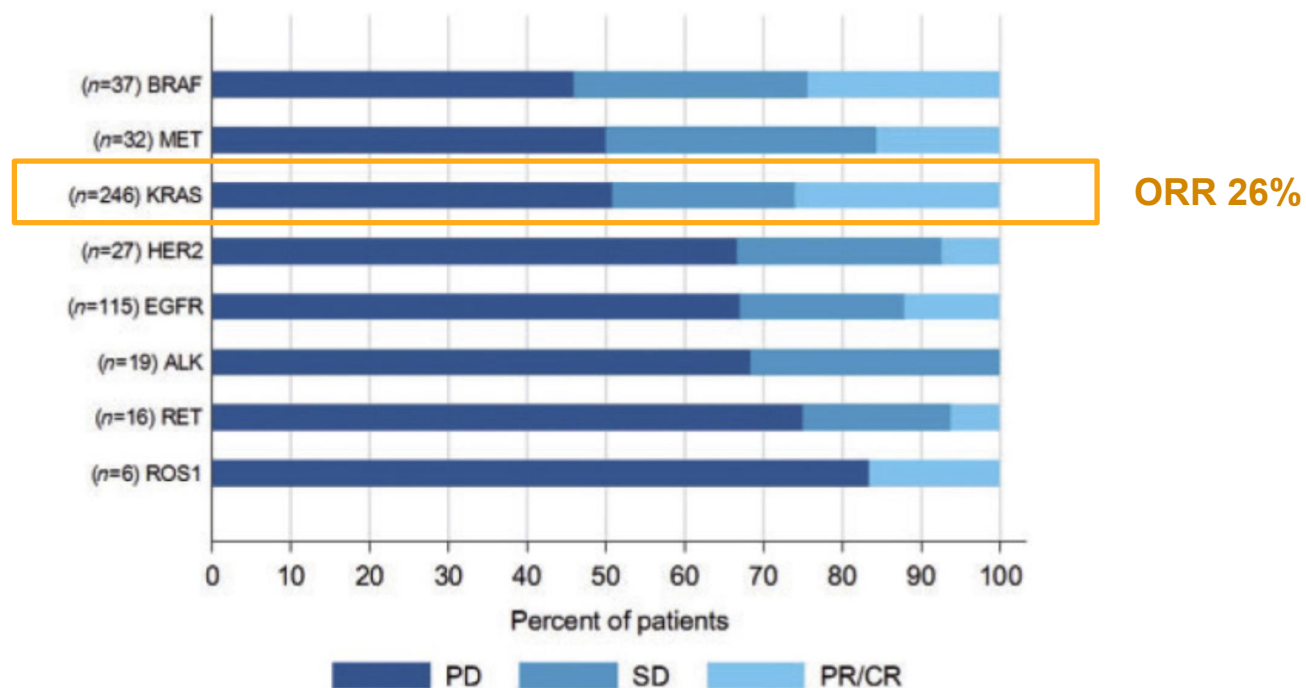


Ascierto et al Nat Med 25:941-946, 2019; Dummer et al. Nat Med 26:1557-1563, 2020; Atkins et al. J Clin Oncol. 2023;41(2):186-197; Atkins et al J Clin Oncol 2023..

# What about KRAS inhibitor combinations, where ICI activity is expected?

Do sequential toxicity concerns apply for KRAS inhibitors in the second line setting?

Can RAS inhibitors replace chemotherapy in first-line ICI combinations?



Mazieres et al Ann Oncol. 2019





# CodeBreaK 100/101: Sotorasib + Pembrolizumab

TRAE, n (%)	Sotorasib 120 mg (N = 5)		Sotorasib 360 mg (N = 8)		Sotorasib 720 mg (N = 2)		Sotorasib 960 mg (N = 4)	
	Any	Grade ≥ 3	Any	Grade ≥ 3	Any	Grade ≥ 3	Any	Grade ≥ 3
All TRAEs	5 (100)	4 (80)	7 (88)	6 (75)	2 (100)	2 (100)	3 (75)	3 (75)
Hepatotoxicity	2 (40)	2 (40)	3 (38)	2 (25)	2 (100)	2 (100)	3 (75)	3 (75)
ALT increased	2 (40)	1 (20)	3 (38)	1 (13)	2 (100)	2 (100)	3 (75)	3 (75)
AST increased	2 (40)	2 (40)	3 (38)	0	2 (100)	2 (100)	3 (75)	1 (25)

**Excess hepatotoxicity with concurrent pembrolizumab**



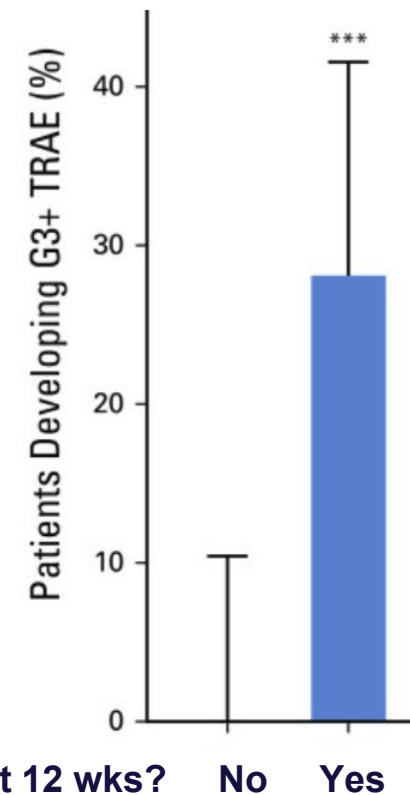
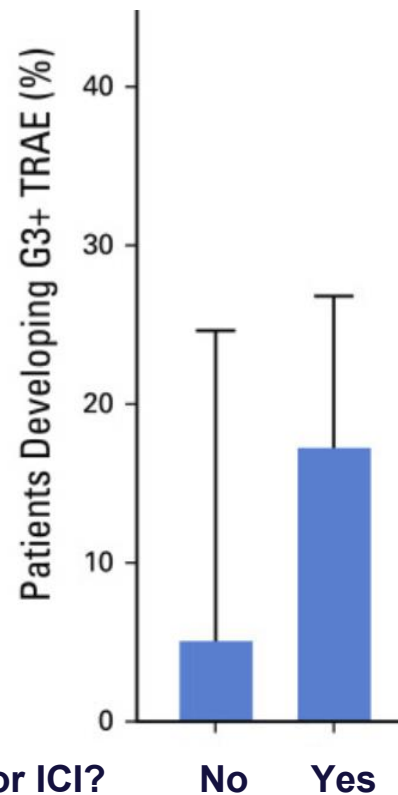
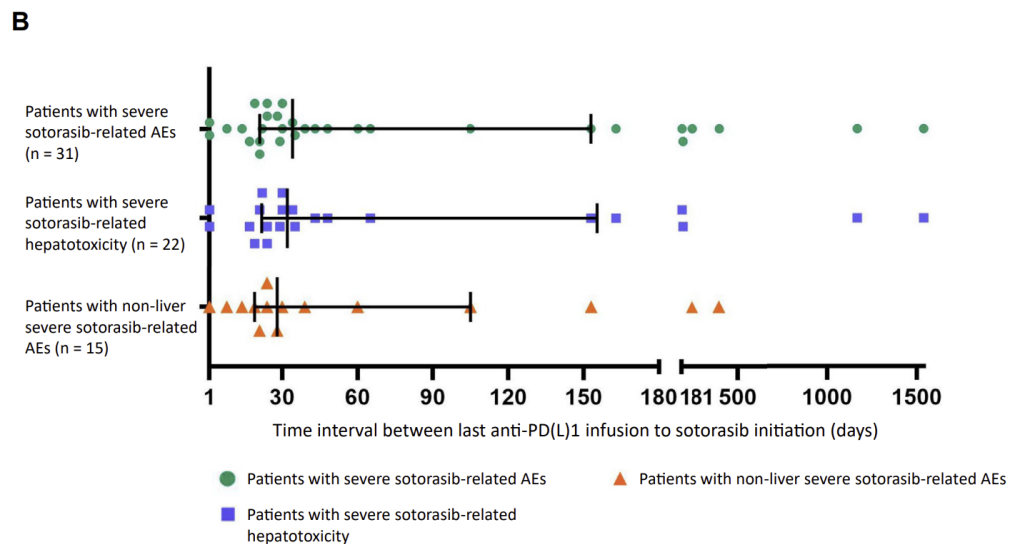
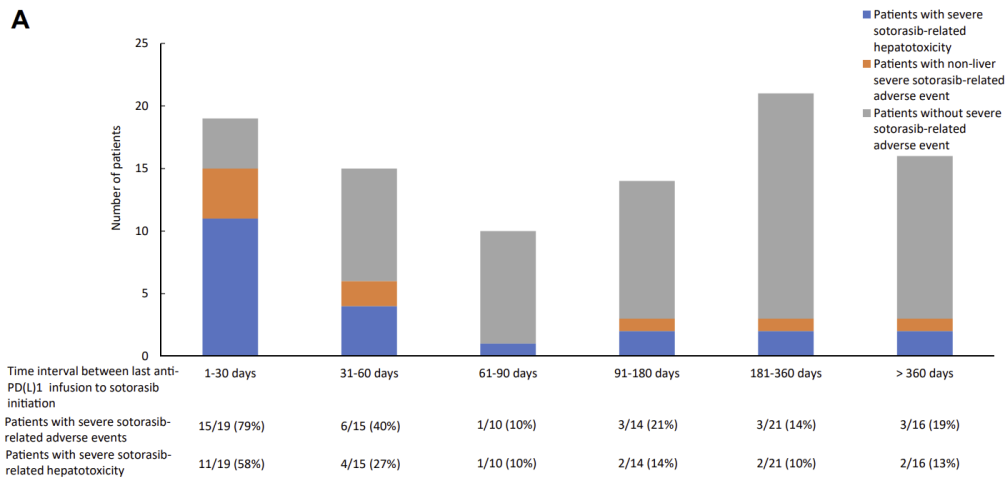
## Safety for Sotorasib Lead-in + Pembrolizumab

TRAE*, n (%)	Sotorasib 120 mg (N = 3)		Sotorasib 240 mg (N = 5)		Sotorasib 360 mg (N = 11)	
	Any	Grade ≥ 3	Any	Grade ≥ 3	Any	Grade ≥ 3
All TRAEs	3 (100)	3 (100)	3 (60)	1 (20)	9 (82)	6 (55)
ALT increased	2 (67)	2 (67)	1 (20)	1 (20)	6 (55)	3 (27)
AST increased	2 (67)	2 (67)	1 (20)	1 (20)	6 (55)	2 (18)
ALP increased	2 (67)	0	0	0	3 (27)	2 (18)
Diarrhea	1 (33)	0	1 (20)	0	6 (55)	1 (9)
Arthralgia	1 (33)	0	0	0	2 (18)	0
Nausea	0	0	0	0	4 (36)	0
Fatigue	0	0	0	0	4 (36)	0
Hypokalemia	0	0	0	0	3 (27)	2 (18)
Decreased appetite	0	0	0	0	3 (27)	0
Headache	0	0	0	0	2 (18)	0
Hepatotoxicity	2 (67)	2 (67)	2 (40)	1 (20)	6 (55)	5 (45)

**A lower dose sotorasib lead-in produced a tolerable AE profile**

Li B et al, IASLC WCLC 2022

# Increased hepatotoxicity with sotorasib immediately following ICI exposure

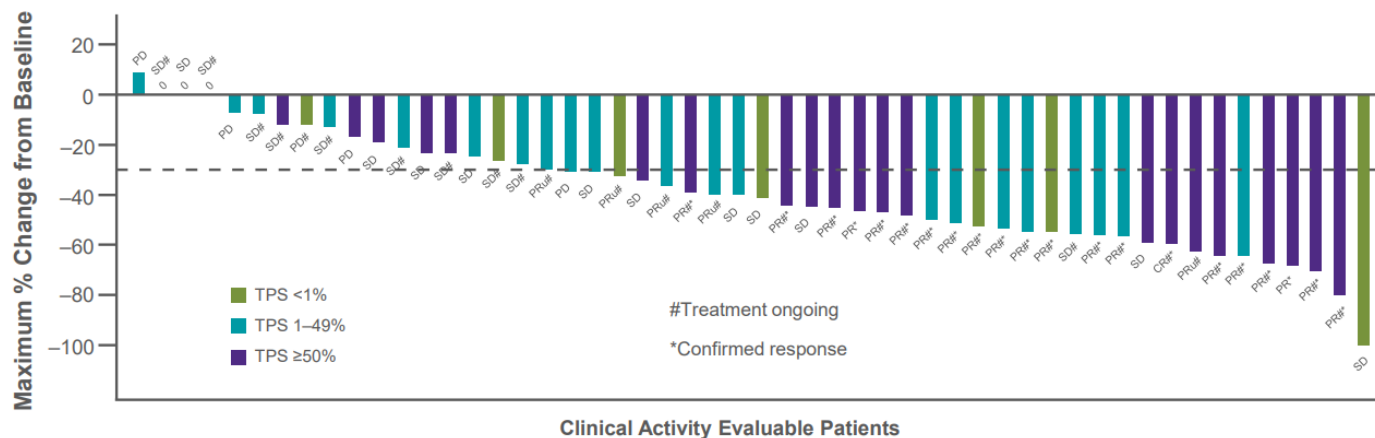


Chour et al. J Thorac Oncol. 2023;

Adapted from Thummalapalli et al JCO Precis Oncol 2023



# KRYSTAL-7: First-line Adagrasib + Pembrolizumab in KRAS G12C+ NSCLC

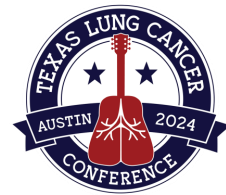


**Unconfirmed ORR (all PD-L1 scores) 49%**

- **Combination with acceptable side effect profile**
- **10-14% rate of G3+ AST, ALT increase**

Most Frequent Liver TRAEs, %	Concurrent 400 mg BID Adagrasib + Pembrolizumab (N=148)				
	Any grade	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4
ALT increase	38	15	13	9	1
AST increase	32	10	8	13	1
Hepatitis	4	0	2	2	0
Hepatotoxicity <sup>a</sup>	1	0	1	1	0
Liver injury	1	0	1	0	0
Drug-induced liver injury	1	1	0	0	0
Hepatic failure	1	0	0	1	0
Acute hepatitis	1	0	1	0	0
Immune-mediated hepatitis	1	0	0	1	0

Jänne et al, ESMO IO 2022



## Take Away Points

- The use of oncogene-targeted therapies in the initial months following checkpoint inhibitor immunotherapy can carry increased risk of toxicity. This risk appears greatest in the first three months following ICI treatment.
- Risk assessment likely must be assessed at the drug level rather than by drug target
- **Identifying actionable oncogenes prior to immunotherapy initiation remains essential to avoid treatment with ineffective regimens and reduce risk of toxicity**