In The Spotlight

Same Name, Different Game: EGFR Drives Intrinsically KRASG12C Inhibitor Resistance in Colorectal Cancer .......... 1094
M.K. Koleilat and L.N. Kwong

See article, p. 1129

Pegylated Engineered IL2 plus Anti–PD-1 Monoclonal Antibody: The Nectar Comes from the Combination ............... 1097
M. Rouanne, L. Zitvogel, and A. Marabelle

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All Myeloid-Derived Suppressor Cells Are Not Created Equal: How Gender Inequality Influences These Cells and Affects Cancer Therapy ............... 1100
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Biological Mechanisms and Clinical Significance of BAP1 Mutations in Human Cancer ............... 1103

Impact of PD-1 Blockade on Severity of COVID-19 in Patients with Lung Cancers .......... 1121
J. Luo, H. Rizvi, J.V. Egger, I.R. Preeshagul, J.D. Wolchok, and M.D. Hellmann

Précis: In 69 patients with lung cancer who developed COVID-19, disease severity and mortality were high, but prior PD-1 blockade was not a risk factor for poor outcomes in this group, suggesting the therapy should be used when indicated.

Overcoming Genetically Based Resistance Mechanisms to PD-1 Blockade .......... 1140

Précis: Loss-of-function mutations in JAK1, JAK2, or B2M conferred resistance to anti–PD-1 treatment, but mechanism-informed treatment with a TLR9 agonist (for JAK1/2-mutant tumors) or an IL2 pathway agonist (for B2M-mutant tumors) could overcome resistance.

Bempegaldesleukin (NKTR-214) plus Nivolumab in Patients with Advanced Solid Tumors: Phase I Dose-Escalation Study of Safety.
Efficacy, and Immune Activation (PIVOT-02) ............................ 1158


Précis: In a phase I trial of 38 patients with advanced melanoma, renal cell carcinoma, or non–small cell lung cancer, the IL2 pathway agonist bempegaldesleukin plus nivolumab was safe, and characteristics of responders reflected bempegaldesleukin’s mechanism.

See commentary, p. 1097

The Genomic Landscape of Intrinsic and Acquired Resistance to Cyclin-Dependent Kinase 4/6 Inhibitors in Patients with Hormone Receptor–Positive Metastatic Breast Cancer .................. 1174


Précis: Genomic alterations in several genes were associated with resistance to CDK4/6 inhibition in patients with HR+ HER2− breast cancer; for the majority of tumors profiled, there is a targeted therapy that could overcome or prevent resistance.

Antitumor Activity of Amivantamab (JNJ-61186372), an EGFR–MET Bispecific Antibody, in Diverse Models of EGFR Exon 20 Insertion–Driven NSCLC ................................. 1194


Précis: The EGFR–cMET-targeted bispecific antibody amivantamab inhibited growth of EGFR exon 20 insertion–driven non–small cell lung cancer cells, organoids, and xenografts as well as showing hints of clinical efficacy.

ON THE COVER

Patients with cancer may be more susceptible to severe COVID-19, perhaps in part because of the effects of cancer treatments. In light of this, Luo and colleagues investigated whether PD-1 blockade was associated with COVID-19 severity in patients with lung cancer. In 69 patients at a single institution in New York City, there was no significant association between PD-1 blockade and COVID-19 severity, even when the immunotherapy had been administered recently prior to COVID-19 diagnosis. This work suggests that PD-1 blockade should be used when clinically indicated despite the pandemic, a finding that will be further investigated in follow-up studies with greater numbers of patients. For more information, see the article by Luo and colleagues on page 1121.
**CANCER DISCOVERY**

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