



# Melanoma as a Paradigm for the Future of Immunotherapy

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### Melanoma landscape



### Patient characteristics affecting immune surveillance



## Melanoma landscape



# **RFS curves in the recent adjuvant studies**



Hauschild et al. ASCO 2020 Weber et al SMR 2021 Eggermont et al ESMO 2020

# **RFS curves in the recent adjuvant studies**



Hauschild et al. ASCO 2020 Weber et al SMR 2021 Eggermont et al ESMO 2020

# CheckMate 915 study design



- 122 sites across 19 countries
- Database lock Sept 8, 2020
- Minimum follow-up of approximately 24 months (median 28 months)

<sup>a</sup>Or indeterminate; <sup>b</sup>Until recurrence, unacceptable toxicity, or 1 year of treatment; <sup>c</sup>In November 2019, the data monitoring committee indicated that the dual primary endpoint of RFS in patients with tumor PD-L1 < 1% was not met; the study remained blinded until the ITT endpoint was evaluable. AJCC, American Joint Committee on Cancer; DMFS, distant metastasis-free survival; NED, no evidence of disease; PD-L1, programmed death-ligand 1.

# **Dual primary endpoint:**

#### RFS in ITT population

	NIVO + IPI (n = 920)	NIVO (n = 924)	
Events, n	327	347	
Median, mo (95% Cl)	NR	NR	
HR (97.295% CI) <sup>a</sup>	0.92 (0.77–1.09)		
Pb	0.269		



#### RFS in patients with tumor PD-L1 < 1%

	NIVO + IPI (n = 349)	NIVO (n = 351)	
Events, n	159	166	
Median, mo (95% CI)	33.2 (22.2–NR)	25.3 (19.8–NR)	
HR (95% CI) <sup>a</sup>	0.91 (0.73–1.14)		



# THE IMMUNED STUDY



#### Data cut-off date Sep 23, 2021 Median follow-up time: 49.2 months

<sup>1</sup>NR: not reached

# THE IMMUNED STUDY

### Primary endpoint: RFS in all patients

	NIVO+IPI (n=56)	NIVO (n=59)	Placebo (n=52)
Median RFS, mo (95% Cl)	NR <sup>1</sup> (25.0, NR)	12.3 (5.3, 23.9)	6.3 (3.3, 9.6)
HR (97.5% CI) vs placebo	0.25 (0.13, 0.48)	0.60 (0.36, 1.00)	-
HR (97.5% CI) vs NIVO	0.41 (0.22, 0.78)	· ·	





# THE IMMUNED STUDY

### Key secondary endpoint: OS in all patients

Data cut-off date Sep 23, 2021 Median follow-up time: 49.2 months

	NIVO+IPI (n=56)	NIVO (n=59)	Placebo (n=52)
Median OS, mo (95% CI)	NR <sup>1</sup>	NR <sup>1</sup>	NR1 (38.59,NR)
HR (95% CI) vs placebo	0.41 (0.17, 0.99)	0.75 (0.36, 1.56)*	•
HR (95% CI) vs NIVO	0.55 (0.22, 1.38)	· · · ·	•



PARIS ESMO

36 events (22%) within 167 patients of the intention-to-treat population

**Dirk Schadendorf** 

Key Elegibility Criteria >> 18 Years of Age Completely resected melanoma Stage IIIA (>1mm tumor in LN) Stage IIIB/C/D, or Stage IV NED Melanoma -no prior immuno-oncology agents -ECOG 0-1 -Submission of FFPE tissue block or 20 unstained slides from surgical/biopsy speciment within 3 months of randomization.

# CA224-098 Study: Nivolumab plus relatlimab vs Nivolumab plus placebo



# Harmony-Adjuvant Study Design (Study 2055 – Phase 3)





#### Stratification

- 1. Stage: IIIA vs IIC- IIIB-IIIC vs IIID-IV[M1a/b] vs IV[M1c/d]
- 2. Geographical region: North America vs Europe vs Rest of World
- The study will be conducted globally, at approximately 220 sites in Europe, North America, LATAM, and Australia.
- The study started enrolling in January 2023

A Phase 2 Randomized Study of Adjuvant Immunotherapy With the Personalized Cancer Vaccine mRNA-4157 and Pembrolizumab Versus Pembrolizumab Alone After Complete Resection of High-Risk Melanoma

#### Key Elegibility Criteria:

- Resectable cutaneous melanoma metastatic to a lymph node and at high risk of recurrence
- Complete resection within 13 weeks prior to the first dose of pembrolizumab
- Disease free at study entry (after surgery)
- Has an FFPE tumor sample available
- PS 0 or 1



Pt may continue until disease recurrence, unacceptable toxicity, or they undergo up to 18 total cycles (approximately 1 year of treatment.

NCT03897881

mRNA-4157-P201



# Melanoma landscape



# Ongoing Trials of Adjuvant Anti–PD-1 Antibodies for Stage IIB/C Melanoma



 Carlino MS et al. 2019 American Society of Clinical Oncology Annual Meeting (ASCO 2019). Abstract TPS9596. 2. https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT040992/ https://www.clinicaltrialsregister.eu/ctr-search/trial/2019-001230-34/AT.

# **RFS With Longer Follow-up at IA3**



HR for RFS with pembrolizumab versus placebo was 0.65 at IA1 and 0.61 at IA2; Median follow-up of 27.4 months (range, 14.0-39.4) at IA3; Data cut-off January 4, 2022. PRESENTED BY: Georgina V. Long, MD, PhD





The number needed to treat (NNT) is defined as the number of patient, on average, that needs to be treated to prevent one bad outcome (progression, death, ...)

Courtesy of Olivier Michielin

# HR alone is not sufficient, absolute benefit also required to take a decision



Courtesy of Olivier Michielin

# Is there an absolute OS benefit to start discussing adjuvant?

- What is the absolute OS benefit needed to start discussing adjuvant with our patients?
- To answer this question, ESMO has organized a consensus conference, where experts were asked to vote on unresolved issues in the management of locoregional melanoma
- Recommendation 8.1 addresses the absolute benefit deemed necessary to start discussing adjuvant
- 5% was selected as the cutoff, level of consensus 100%:
  - A 5% absolute gain correspond to an NNT of 20
  - For a treatment with OS HR of 0.5, this translates to stages with a mortality of 10% or higher





#### SPECIAL ARTICLE

ESMO consensus conference recommendations on the management of locoregional melanoma: under the auspices of the ESMO Guidelines Committee

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O. Michielin<sup>1*</sup>, A. van Akkooi<sup>2</sup>, P. Lorigan<sup>3</sup>, P. A. Ascierto<sup>4</sup>, R. Dummer<sup>5</sup>, C. Robert<sup>6,7</sup>, A. Arance<sup>8</sup>, C. U. Blank<sup>9</sup>, V. Chiarion Sileni<sup>10</sup>, M. Donia<sup>11,12</sup>, M. B. Faries<sup>13</sup>, C. Gaudy-Marqueste<sup>14</sup>, H. Gogas<sup>15</sup>, J. J. Grob<sup>14</sup>, M. Guckenberger<sup>16</sup>, J. Haanen<sup>9</sup>, A. J. Hayes<sup>17</sup>, C. Hoeller<sup>18</sup>, C. Lebbé<sup>19,20</sup>, I. Lugowska<sup>21</sup>, M. Mandalà<sup>22</sup>, I. Márquez-Rodas<sup>23</sup>, P. Nathan<sup>24</sup>, B. Neyns<sup>25</sup>, R. Olofsson Bagge<sup>26,27,28</sup>, S. Puig<sup>29,30,31</sup>, P. Rutkowski<sup>32</sup>, B. Schilling<sup>33</sup>, V. K. Sondak<sup>34</sup>, H. Tawbi<sup>35</sup>, A. Testori<sup>36</sup> & U. Keilholz<sup>37</sup>
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**Recommendation 8.1.** An absolute survival benefit of 5% at 5 years would be considered strong evidence to recommend adjuvant therapy in stage III melanoma. However, surrogate markers of OS benefit are currently acceptable. Level of evidence: I Strength of recommendation: A Level of consensus: 100% (30) yes (30 voters)







Median follow-up of 27.4 months (range, 14.0-39.4); Data cut-off January 4, 2022.



We need to find biomarkers to further refine the risk classification provided by the AJCC v8.



PRESENTED BY: Georgina V. Long, MD, PhD

# Study design



DMFS, distant metastasis-free survival; FFR, freedom from relapse (with censoring patients who died from causes other than disease); OS, overall survival; PFS2, progression-free survival through next-line therapy.

Presented by Georgina V Long

# Primary endpoint: RFS



# Secondary endpoint: DMFS



# NivoMela: Adjuvant Treatment of High-Risk Stage II Melanoma<sup>1</sup>

• Adjuvant NIVO treatment in stage II high-risk melanoma: a randomized, controlled, phase 3 trial with biomarker-based risk stratification (investigator-initiated trial; sponsor: University Hospital Essen, Prof. Dr. Dirk Schadendorf; CA209-7DL)

#### Key eligibility criteria

- Aged ≥18 years
- Histologically confirmed, stage II (AJCC-8) cutaneous melanoma
- Negative SLNB
- Randomization ≤12 weeks after SLNB
- ECOG PS 0-1
- Adequate organ function
- Available tissue for MelaGenix test<sup>2-4,a</sup>

(N = ≈ 374)



- Stratification: tumor stage (IIA vs IIB vs IIC), gender, and site of primary tumor (extremities vs trunk vs head and neck)
- Primary endpoint: RFS (at 36 and 60 months)
- Secondary endpoints: DMFS, MSS, and OS (at 36 and 60 months); safety; and clinical utility of the MelaGenix GEP score

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> MelaGenix is an 11-gene prognostic signature.<sup>2-4</sup>

<sup>1.</sup> https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT04309409. 2. Brunner G et al. *J Cancer Res Clin Oncol*. 2013;139:249-258. 3. Brunner G et al. 2018 American Society of C Oncology Annual Meeting (ASCO 2018). Abstract 9582. 4. Garbe C et al. ASCO 2019. Abstract 9518.

Identification of stage I/II melanoma patients at high risk for recurrence using a model combining clinicopathologic factors with gene expression profiling (CP-GEP)<sup> $\star$ </sup>

Teresa Amaral <sup>a,b,\*,1</sup>, Tobias Sinnberg <sup>a,b,1</sup>, Eftychia Chatziioannou <sup>a</sup>, Heike Niessner <sup>a,b</sup>, Ulrike Leiter <sup>a</sup>, Ulrike Keim <sup>a</sup>, Andrea Forschner <sup>a</sup>, Jvalini Dwarkasing <sup>c</sup>, Félicia Tjien-Fooh <sup>c</sup>, Renske Wever <sup>c</sup>, Lukas Flatz <sup>a</sup>, Alexander Eggermont <sup>c,d,e,2</sup>, Stephan Forchhammer <sup>a,2</sup>





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Analysis of the 543 stage I/II patients, stratification by CP-GEP classification.

Survival endpoints were relapse-free survival, distant metastasis-free survival and overall survival at five years of follow-up.

# EORTC 2135 : Stage IIB/C

# 12 Months Adjuvant Encorafenib + Binimetinib vs Placebo



\* Detailed in protocol (and synopsis)

#### TR side project: All Stages IIA-B/C: CP-GEP algorithm prospectively

Courtesy of Dr Eggermont

# Melanoma landscape



# Neoadjuvant superior to adjuvant immunotherapy



Versluis, Long, and Blank, Nat Med 2020





# INMC pooled analysis: Pathologic response better surrogate marker for immunotherapy than for targeted therapy



Menzies et al., Nat Med 2021

A. Menzies

#### Immunotherapy



c) Targeted therapy cohort (all pathological response categories)

**Targeted Therapy** 



\*No patient had a near-pCR



### Melanoma landscape



### Melanoma landscape

![](_page_37_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_38_Picture_0.jpeg)

# Neoadjuvant versus adjuvant pembrolizumab for resectable stage III-IV melanoma (SWOG S1801)

**Sapna P. Patel**<sup>1</sup>, Megan Othus<sup>2,3</sup>, Victor G. Prieto<sup>1</sup>, Michael C. Lowe<sup>4</sup>, Elizabeth I. Buchbinder<sup>5</sup>, Yuanbin Chen<sup>6</sup>, John Hyngstrom<sup>7</sup>, Christopher Lao<sup>8</sup>, Thach-Giao Truong<sup>9</sup>, Sunandana Chandra<sup>10</sup>, Kari Kendra<sup>11</sup>, Craig Devoe<sup>12</sup>, Aparna Hegde<sup>13</sup>, Ankit Mangla<sup>14</sup>, Elad Sharon<sup>15</sup>, Larissa Korde<sup>15</sup>, James Moon<sup>2,3</sup>, Vernon K. Sondak<sup>16</sup>, Antoni Ribas<sup>17</sup>

1- University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX; 2-SWOG Statistics and Data Management Center, Seattle, WA; 3-Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Seattle, WA; 4-Emory University, Atlanta, GA; 5-Dana-Farber Cancer Institute/Harvard Cancer Center, Boston, MA; 6-Cancer and Hematology Centers of Western Michigan/ CRC West MI NCORP, Grand Rapids, MI; 7-University of Utah Huntsman Cancer Institute, Salt Lake City, UT; 8-University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI; 9-Kaiser Permanente NCAL, Vallejo, CA; 10-Northwestern University, Chicago, IL; 11-Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center, Columbus, OH; 12-Northwell Health Cancer Institute, Lake Success, NY; 13-University of Alabama, Birmingham, AL; 14-University Hospitals Seidman Cancer Center, Cleveland, OH; 15-National Cancer Institute Cancer Therapy Evaluation Program, Bethesda, MD; 16-Moffitt Cancer Center, Tampa, FL; 17-UCLA/Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, Los Angeles, CA

#### 11 September 2022

![](_page_38_Picture_5.jpeg)

![](_page_38_Picture_6.jpeg)

# S1801 Study Schema

# **Primary endpoint: Event-free survival**

![](_page_39_Figure_2.jpeg)

I radiographic assessment
(scans)

Additional criteria: strata included AJCC 8<sup>th</sup> ed. stage and LDH, adjuvant radiation allowed, concomitant radiation & pembrolizumab was not allowed, brain metastasis excluded, uveal melanoma excluded Surgery type and extent was required to be pre-specified and carried out regardless of radiologic response to therapy

![](_page_39_Picture_5.jpeg)

# S1801 primary endpoint: Event-free survival

NCI S

![](_page_40_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_40_Picture_2.jpeg)

# **Overall survival**

![](_page_41_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_41_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_42_Picture_0.jpeg)

# INMC pooled analysis of neoadjuvant immunotherapy and targeted therapy

![](_page_42_Picture_2.jpeg)

A. Menzies

![](_page_42_Figure_4.jpeg)

![](_page_43_Figure_0.jpeg)

# Melanoma landscape

![](_page_44_Picture_1.jpeg)

# Long-term OS in clinical trials with immuno-oncology agents and targeted therapies in patients with advanced melanoma.

![](_page_45_Figure_1.jpeg)

# The best sequencing ...

#### SECOMBIT: 4-year survival

![](_page_46_Figure_2.jpeg)

Adapted from Ascience PA This material may include Information about Investigational products and / or uses that are not approved for use in any country or in the country of your residence. Therefore, before prescribing information and / or uses that are not approved for use in any country or in the country of your residence. Therefore, before prescribing information and / or uses that are not approved for use in any country or in the country of your residence. Therefore, before prescribing information and / or uses that are not approved for use in any country or in the country of your residence. Therefore, before prescribing information and / or uses that are not approved for use in any country of your residence. Therefore, before prescribing information of your country, approvals may vary. Refer to each country's local guidance for specific therapeutic strategies. Median follow-up was 43 months (estimated with the reverse Raglan-Meler method), "Exploratory analysis. OS, overall survival, PFS, progression-free survival. Ascietro PA et al. Presentation at the ESMO Congress, September 9-13, 2022; Paris, France, Abstract LBA41.

DREAMseq: overall survival (step 1 ± step 2)

P value

0.13

0.22

54

- 61

![](_page_46_Figure_5.jpeg)

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Atkins NB. Presentation at the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) Annual Meeting; June 3-7, 2022; Chicago, IL. Updates on abstract 356154.

# PFS, OS, and ORR in all randomized patients

![](_page_47_Figure_2.jpeg)

DBL date: October 28, 2021. Median follow-up: 19.3 mo

Statistical model for HR and *P* value: stratified Cox proportional hazard model and stratified log-rank test. Stratified by LAG-3, *BRAF* mutation status, and AJCC M stage. PD-L1 was removed from stratification because it led to subgroups with < 10 patients; OS boundary for statistical significance was *P* < 0.04302 (2-sided) analyzed at 69% power; target HR, 0.75; ORR could not be formally tested and was descriptively analyzed. Minimum potential follow-up (time from last patient randomized to last patient last visit) was 8.7 mo.

Long GV, et al. Oral presentation at the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) 2022 March Plenary Series; March 15, 2022; Virtual. Abstract 360385.

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Tawbi et al.

Asco 2022

# Melanoma landscape

![](_page_48_Figure_1.jpeg)

# Best option is still a clinical trial!

![](_page_50_Picture_0.jpeg)

### Treatment with tumor-infiltrating lymphocytes (TIL) versus ipilimumab for advanced melanoma: results from a multicenter, randomized phase 3 trial

John B.A.G. Haanen, Maartje W. Rohaan, Troels Holz Borch, Joost H. van den Berg, Özcan Met, Marnix H. Geukes Foppen, Joachim Stoltenborg Granhøj, Bastiaan Nuijen, Cynthia Nijenhuis, Jos H. Beijnen, Inge Jedema, Maaike van Zon, Inge Mansfield Noringriis, Rob Kessels, Sofie Wilgenhof, Johannes V. van Thienen, Ferry Lalezari, Alexander C.J. van Akkooi, Marco Donia, Inge Marie Svane

#### John B.A.G. Haanen

Paris, France, 10<sup>th</sup> September 2022

**Presentation number LBA3** 

![](_page_50_Picture_6.jpeg)

# **Results (1)** Progression-free survival according to RECIST 1.1 in the ITT population

![](_page_51_Figure_1.jpeg)

John B.A.G. Haanen

**Results (4)** Overall survival in the ITT population

![](_page_52_Figure_1.jpeg)

Median 2 year overall survival 95% CI overall survival 95% CI (months) (%) 25.8 18.2 – NR 54.3 43.9 - 67.2 13.8 – 32.6 44.1 33.6 - 57.8 18.9

John B.A.G. Haanen

# New emerging pathways for future combination with anti-PD-1 / PD-L1 compounds

![](_page_53_Figure_1.jpeg)

GITR, glucocorticoid-induced TNFR-related protein; HDAC, histone deacetylases; IDO1, indoleamine 2, 3-dioxygenase 1; LAG-3, lymphocyte-activation gene 3; PD-1, programmed death 1; PD-L1, programmed death ligand 1. Ascierto PA, McArthur JA. *J Transl Med*. 2017;15:173.

Adapted with permission from J Transl Med.

# CA224-048 study design: RELA + NIVO + BMS-986205 (IDO1 inhibitor) or RELA + NIVO + IPI in advanced disease<sup>1,2</sup>

![](_page_54_Figure_1.jpeg)

<sup>a</sup>Including but not limited to anti–PD-1 / PD-L1 and anti–CTLA-4 treatment. CTLA-4, cytotoxic T-lymphocyte antigen 4; DCR, disease control rate; DOR, duration of response; I-O, immuno-oncology; IDO1, indoleamine 2, 3-dioxygenase 1; IPI, ipilimumab; NIVO, nivolumab; ORR, objective response rate; PD-1, programmed death 1; PD-L1, programmed death ligand 1; PFS, progression-free survival; PS, performance status; RELA, relatlimab. 1. ClinicalTrials.gov. Accessed August 10, 2022. https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT03459222. 2. Ascierto PA. Metastatic melanoma treatment. Accessed August 30, 2022. https://oncologypro.esmo.org/content/download/434503/8350411/1/E-Learning-Metastatic-Melanoma-Treatment.pdf

# CA209-048: patien

![](_page_55_Picture_1.jpeg)

Baseline - cycle 1, day 1 IPI / NIVO / RELA Date: 29 April, 2019

![](_page_55_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_56_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_57_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_57_Picture_1.jpeg)

# Thank you!

![](_page_58_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_58_Picture_2.jpeg)

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