#### RCC in 2025: What's New for the Practicing Oncologist?

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Mantia, CM, McDermott, DF. Cancer. 2019. 125:4148-4157





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### CheckMate 214: Trial Design

- NIVO+IPI is approved for first-line treatment of IMDC intermediate/poor-risk aRCC, based on superior OS and ORR over SUN in the randomized, phase 3 CheckMate 214 trial<sup>1-3</sup>
- NIVO+IPI has demonstrated durable survival and response benefits versus SUN across a broad range of patients, providing the opportunity to conduct long-term survival analyses<sup>4-6</sup>
- With a median follow-up of 8 years in the CheckMate 214 trial, we present updated efficacy and safety outcomes, and exploratory subgroup analyses in patients by organ sites of metastasis at baseline



Median (range) follow-up for OS, 99.1 (91.0-107.3) months

Primary endpoints: OS, PFS and ORR (both per IRRC) in IMDC intermediate/poor-risk patients Secondary endpoints: OS, PFS and ORR (both per IRRC) in ITT patients; safety in all treated patients Exploratory endpoints: OS, PFS and ORR (both per IRRC) in IMDC favorable-risk patients







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## CheckMate 214: Overall Survival by IMDC Risk Subgroup

Favorable risk

Intermediate/poor risk





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#### CheckMate 214: Progression Free Survival by IMDC Risk Subgroup







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### We made some progress over the years!



#### IL-2

Survival of 156 patients with metastatic renal cell cancer randomly assigned to receive high-dose bolus interleukin-2



#### Yang, J. C. et al. J Clin Oncol; 24:5576-5583 2006

#### Ipilimumab + Nivolumab

ITT



Tannir NM, et al. ASCO GU 2024. Abstract 363.

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### **KEYNOTE-426:** Trial Design



• Other secondary: DOR (RECIST v1.1, BICR), safety



#### Rini et al, ASCO 2023 #LBA4501



#### **KEYNOTE-426:** Efficacy in Favorable Risk RCC



Rini et al, ASCO 2023 #LBA4501





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### KEYNOTE-426: Efficacy in Intermediate/Poor Risk RCC



Includes 1.7% NE and 4.4% NA. Includes 1.3% NE and 6.7% NA. Data cutoff: January 23, 2023.

Rini et al, ASCO 2023 #LBA4501





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### **KEYNOTE-426:** Tcell<sub>inf</sub>GEP, Angiogenesis, PD-L1

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	Peml	brolizumab + a	xitinib	Sunitinib			
Biomarker	ORR	PFS	os	ORR	PFS	os	
Tcell <sub>inf</sub> GEP	<0.0001(+)	<0.0001(+)	0.002(+)	NS	NS	NS	
Angiogenesis	NS	NS	0.004(+)	0.002(+)	<0.001(+)	<0.0001(+)	
PD-L1 CPS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	0.025(-)	

- Higher Tcell<sub>inf</sub>GEP was associated with improved clinical outcome within the pembrolizumab + axitinib arm
- · Higher angiogenesis gene expression was associated with improved clinical outcome within the sunitinib arm
- PD-L1 CPS was negatively associated with OS within the sunitinib arm



#### Rini et al, ASCO 2024 #4505



## **KEYNOTE-426:** ORR by Molecular Subtype

- Pembro + axitinib showed improved ORR across molecular subtypes
- Within pembro + axitinib arm, ORR highest in immune/proliferative subtype
- Within sunitinib arm, ORR highest in angiogenic subtype



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Rini et al, ASCO 2024 #4505





### CheckMate 9ER: Trial Design

- NIVO+CABO demonstrated superior PFS, OS, and ORR and better HRQoL versus SUN in patients with previously untreated aRCC in the primary analysis (18.1 months median follow-up for OS) of the phase 3 CheckMate 9ER trial<sup>1</sup>
- With extended follow-up, NIVO+CABO maintained efficacy and HRQoL benefits versus SUN (44.0 months median follow-up for OS)<sup>2,3</sup>
- Here, we report updated efficacy in ITT patients with 55.6 months median follow-up for OS, by IMDC risk and organ sites of metastases, and HRQoL and safety



Key exploratory endpoint: HRQoL

55.6 (48.1-68.1) months (ITT population)

Maria Bourlon, ASCO GU 2024, Abstract #362





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#### CheckMate 9ER: Efficacy in Favorable Risk RCC



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#### CheckMate 9ER: Efficacy in Intermediate/Poor Risk RCC



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#### CheckMate 9ER: Efficacy by Baseline Organ Metastases

• PFS, OS, and ORR favored NIVO+CABO versus SUN in subgroups by baseline organ sites of metastases shown here

	Live	er <sup>a,b</sup>	Bon	e <sup>a,b</sup>	Lung <sup>a,b</sup>	
Outcome	NIVO+CABO (n = 73)	SUN (n = 55)	NIVO+CABO (n = 79)	SUN (n = 73)	NIVO+CABO (n = 241)	SUN (n = 251)
Median PFS (95% CI), mo	10.9 (7.0-15.2)	6.2 (2.9-8.3)	13.8 (8.3-20.1)	4.4 (3.8-8.2)	16.4 (12.3-21.4)	8.3 (6.9-9.7)
HR (95% CI)°	0.54 (0.36-0.81)		0.45 (0.30-0.66)		0.56 (0.46-0.69)	
Median OS (95% CI), mo	37.6 (23.5-49.9)	22.1 (9.8-29.3)	34.8 (21.4-NE)	20.7 (12.5-25.7)	47.5 (40.6-56.1)	32.6 (24.9-39.7)
HR (95% CI) <sup>c</sup>	0.62 (0.41-0.95)		0.57 (0.38-0.84)		0.73 (0.58-0.92)	
ORR (95% CI), %	52.1 (40.0-63.9)	21.8 (11.8-35.0)	49.4 (37.9-60.9)	9.6 (3.9-18.8)	57.3 (50.8-63.6)	28.3 (22.8-34.3)

Maria Bourlon, ASCO GU 2024, Abstract #362





## **CLEAR:** Trial Design





<sup>a</sup>Patients could receive a maximum of 35 pembrolizumab treatments. <sup>b</sup>Per independent imaging review by RECIST v1.1 <sup>c</sup>Nominal *P*-value

Viktor Grunwald, ASCO 2024, Abstract #4524





#### **CLEAR:** Overall Survival by IMDC Subgroup





Motzer et al. JCO. 2024





#### **CLEAR:** Progression Free Survival by IMDC Subgroup





Motzer et al. JCO. 2024





### **CLEAR:** Change in Tumor Bulk at Baseline to Progression





The median decreases in percent changes in sums of diameters of target lesions were greater with lenvatinib-plus-pembrolizumab versus sunitinib treatment.

Viktor Grunwald, ASCO 2024, Abstract #4524





## Balancing Endpoints for Selection of Frontline Therapy

Improved OS Improved PFS Improved response rate Limited PD rate Durability of response Depth of response Complete response Treatment-free survival Improved QOL



No benefit in QOL



\*One prior systemic adjuvant therapy allowed for completely resected RCC and if recurrence occurred ≥6 months after the last dose of adjuvant therapy; adjuvant PD-1 or PD-L1 inhibitor in combination with a CTLA-4 inhibitor not permitted. <sup>†</sup>Nivolumab given for a maximum of 2 years. <sup>‡</sup>Tumor assessment (RECIST v1.1) at week 10, then every 8 weeks through week 50, then every 12 weeks thereafter. <sup>§</sup> Discontinuation of one agent did not mandate discontinuation of all agents.



## Progression-Free Survival: Final Analysis (PITT Population)



PFS per RECIST v1.1 by BIRC.

Date of the 249<sup>th</sup> event: Aug 23, 2021

## Tumor Response (PITT Population)

	Cabo+Nivo+Ipi (N=276)	Pbo+Nivo+Ipi (N=274)
Objective response rate (95% CI), %	43 (37.2–49.2)	36 (30.1–41.8)
Best overall response, n (%)		
Complete response	7 (3)	9 (3)
Partial response	112 (41)	89 (32)
Stable disease	119 (43)	100 (36)
Progressive disease	23 (8)	55 (20)
Not evaluable	15 (5)	21 (8)
Disease control rate, %	86	72
Median time to objective response (range), mo	2.4 (1.5–17.1)	2.3 (1.9–16.8)
Median duration of response (95% CI), mo	NR (20.2–NE)	NR (NE-NE)

Tumor response per RECIST v1.1 by BIRC

Disease control rate = complete response + partial response + stable disease

Data cut-off: Jan 31, 2022

## **Treatment Exposure and Discontinuation**

	Cabo+Nivo+Ipi (N=426)	Pbo+Nivo+lpi (N=424)
Median duration of exposure of study treatment (range), mo	10.9 (0.2–28.5)	10.3 (0.1–28.1)
Median average daily dose (range) of Cabo or Pbo, mg	23.2 (3.6–40.0)	36.1 (0.8–40.0)
Median Nivo infusions (range) received, no	10 (1–27)	9 (1–27)
Doses of Ipi received, %		
4	58	73
3	13	14
2	22	7
1	7	6
Any dose hold due to an AE, %	90	70
Any dose reduction of Cabo or Pbo due to an AE, %	54	20
Treatment-related AE leading to discontinuation, %		
Any study treatment	45	24
Cabo or Pbo	28	14
Nivo	26	18
lpi	30	12
All treatment components (due to the same AE)	12	5

Data cut-off: Jan 31, 2022

# **Ongoing Clinical Trials**

#### NCT04736706







## Second Lone and Beyond

## VEGF TKI in Refractory mRCC

	Study/Trial		Prior	<b>Overall Survival</b>	Objective	<b>Progression Free</b>	Grade 3 or 4
Treatment	Design	N	Therapies		<b>Response Rate</b>	Survival or TTF*	Toxicity
	Phase III vs. everolimus, METEOR	658 (330 vs. 328)	1+TKI (5% prior ICI)	21.4 vs. 16.5 months (HR 0.66)	17% vs3%	7.4 vs. 3.9 months (HR 0.51)	71% vs 60%
Cabozantinib	Phase II control arm, CANTATA	223	TKI or dual ICI		28%	9.2 months	79%
	Phase II, BREAKPOINT NCT03744585	48	Adjuvant or first line ICI		43%	9.3 months	34%
Lenvatinib + Everolimus	Phase II vs. everolimus, NCT01136733	91 (51 vs. 50)	ТКІ	25.5 vs. 15.4 months (HR 0.51)	43% vs. 6% (RR 7.2)	14.6 vs. 5.5 months (HR 0.40)	71% vs. 50%
Tivozanib	Phase III vs. Sorafenib, TIVO-3	350 (175 vs. 175)	2+ systemic therapies	At 22.8 months, HR 0.89, (Cl 0.70-1.14)	18% vs. 8%	5.6 vs. 3.9 months (HR 0.73)	11% vs. 10%
Axitinib	Phase III vs. Sorafenib, AXIS	723 (361 vs. 362)	Sunitinib or other *	20.1 vs. 19.2 months (HR 0.969)	8.3 vs. 5.7 months (HR 0.66)	23% vs. 12%	17% vs. 12% HTN*
Belzutifan	Phase III vs. everolimus, Litespark-005	746 (374 vs 372)	1-3 prior, 1 TKI + 1 PD(L)1	21 vs. 21.4 months (HR 0.87)	21.9% vs 3.5%	5.6 vs 5.6 months (0.75)	

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\*TTF—time to treatment failure; D/C—discontinue; SD—stable disease; HTN—hypertension.\*\*Cytokines, bevacizumab with interferon, or temsirolimus.

## Salvage PD-L1 Inhibitor is not superior to TKI alone

## **CONTACT-03**

- Histologically confirmed advanced, metastatic ccRCC or nccRCC
- Radiographic progression during or following ICI treatment



No crossover allowed



#### Treatment until progression

- Primary endpoint: PFS, OS
- Secondary endpoint: PFS, ORR, DoR, Safety and Tolerability

## TINIVO-2

- Histologically/cytologically confirmed recurrent/ metastatic RCC
- ECOG PS 0 or 1
- Progressed following immediate prior immunotherapy treatment in first or second line
- Stratified by IMDC and prior TKI



#### Negative Trial: ESMO 2024

#### **Treatment until progression**

- Primary endpoint: PFS
- Secondary endpoint: OS, ORR, DoR, Safety and Tolerability

## Moving systemic therapy earlier in the course..



Trial	Arms	Years	N	Primary Endpoint	Clear Cell Only	Eligibility	Hazard Ratio Confidence Interval
ASSURE (Hass, Lancet 2016)	Sunitinib vs Sorafenib vs Placebo*	1	1943	DFS	No	pT1bG3-4N0, pT2-4GxN0, TxGxN+	Sunitinib: 1.02 (97.5% CI, 0.85-1.23) Sorafenib: 0.97 (97.5% CI, 0.80-1.17)
STRAC (Ravaud, N Engl J Med 2016)	Sunitinib vs Placebo	1	615	DFS	Yes	pT3-4GxN0-x TxGxN1-2	0.76 (95% Cl, 0.59-0.98)
PROTECT (Motzer, J Clin Oncol 2017)	Pazopanib vs. Placebo*	1	1538	DFS	Yes	pT2G3-4N0 pT3-4N0 pTxN1	0.86 (95% CI, 0.70-1.06)
ATLAS (Gross-Goupil, Ann Oncol 2018)	Axitinib vs Placebo	1-3	724	DFS	Yes	pT2-4GxN0 pTxN1	0.87 (95% CI, 0.66-1.147)
SOURCE (Eisen, J Clin Oncol 2020)	Sorafenib vs Placebo*	1-3	1711	DFS	No	Leibovich Score: 3-11	1.01 (95% CI, 0.83-1.23)
EVEREST (Ryan C, J Clin Oncol 2022)	Everolimus vs Placebo	1	1545	RFS	No	pT1bG3-4N0 pT2-4N1	HR, 0.85 (95% CI, 0.72-1.00)



Haas NB et al. *Lancet.* 2016;387(10032):2008-2016; Ravaud A et al. *N Engl J Med.* 2016; 375(23):2246-2254; Motzer RJ et al. *J Clin Oncol.* 2017;35(35):3916-3923; Gross-Goupil M, et al. *Ann Oncol.* 2018;29(12):2371-2378; Tacconi EMC, et al. *Onco Targets Ther.* 2020;13:12301-12316; Ryan C, et al. *J Clin Oncol.* 2022;40(17\_suppl): Abstract LBA4500.





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Trial	Sample Size	Inclusion Criteria	Treatment	Primary Endpoint	Results
Keynote-564 <sup>1</sup>	994	pT2G4, pT3aG3-4, pT3b-T4Gx, pTxN1, pTxNxM1 (resected to NED within 1 year); clear cell	Pembrolizumab vs placebo	DFS	ASCO GU 2022 HR 0.63; p < 0.0001
IMmotion010 <sup>2</sup>	778	pT2G4, pT3aG3-4, pT3b-T4Gx, pTxN1, pTxNxM1 (resected to NED*); clear cell	Atezolizumab vs placebo	DFS	ESMO 2022 NS DFS HR 0.93; P=0.4950
CheckMate-914 <sup>3</sup>	1600	pT2aG3-4N0, pT2b-T4GxN0, pTxGxN1; clear cell	Nivolumab + ipilimumab vs. nivolumab + placebo vs placebo (6 <i>months</i> )	DFS	ESMO 2022 <i>Part A (Nivo+Ipi)</i> NS DFS HR, 0.92; P=0.5347
PROSPER RCC⁴	766	cT2Nx, cTxN1, cTxNxM1 (resected to NED); any RCC histology	Nivolumab vs observation	EFS	ESMO 2022 NS DFS HR, 0.97; P=0.43 Trial stopped for futility

\*Metachronous pulmonary, lymph node, or soft tissue recurrence >12 months from nephrectomy. DFS, disease-free survival; EFS, event-free survival; NED, no evidence of disease; RCC, renal cell carcinoma; OS, overall survival; NS, non-significant. Powles T, et al. *Lancet Oncol.* 2022;23;1133-1144.; Choueiri TK, et al. ASCO GU 2022. Abstract 290.; 2. NCT03024996. 3. NCT03138512. 4. NCT03055013.







#### KEYNOTE-564 Study (NCT03142334)

#### Key Eligibility Criteria

- Histologically confirmed clear cell RCC with no prior systemic therapy
- Surgery ≤12 weeks prior to randomization
- Postnephrectomy intermediate-high risk of recurrence (M0):
  - pT2, grade 4 or sarcomatoid, N0
  - pT3, any grade, N0
- Postnephrectomy high risk of recurrence (M0):
  - pT4, any grade, N0
  - Any pT, any grade, N+
- Postnephrectomy + complete resection of metastasis (M1 NED)
- ECOG PS 0 or 1



#### **Stratification Factors**

- M stage (M0 vs. M1 NED)
- M0 group further stratified:
  - ECOG PS 0 vs. 1
  - US vs. non-US

#### **Primary Endpoint**

· Disease-free survival by investigator

#### **Key Secondary Endpoint**

Overall survival

#### **Other Secondary Endpoints**

Safety

NED, no evidence of disease.



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#### KEYNOTE-564 DFS & OS benefit Not By Chance!

91.2% 86.0%

45

60

	June 2021	Sep 2022	Jan 2024
Analysis	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Median follow up, months	24.1	30	57.2
Disease free survival (HR, CI 95%), p-value	0.68 <i>P=0.0010</i>	0.63 <i>P&lt;0.0001</i>	0.72 NE
DFS events	109 vs 151	114 vs 169	174 vs 224
Overall survival (HR, Cl 95%)	0.54 <i>P=0.0164 <mark>(int)</mark></i>	0.52 <i>P=0.0048 <mark>(int)</mark></i>	0.62 <b>P=0.002</b> *
OS events	18 vs 33	23 vs 43	55 vs 86

1<sup>st</sup> ICI to improve DFS in RCC 1<sup>st</sup> ICI to improve OS in any GU tumor













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# **Closing Remarks**

• The treatment landscape for advanced renal cell carcinoma has been rapidly evolving and patients are living longer and better;

• Both IO/IO and IO/VEGF are suitable frontline treatments for patients;

 Treatment options in the subsequent line space are expanding with the introduction of novel targets in development;

• We're seeing progress in the non-metastatic setting with impact in the management of advanced disease





# My take on adjuvant pembro



- It is positive trial, encouraging to see OS data.
- I discuss it with all my eligible clear cell patients.
- But might not push it stage T2 G4, especially older with comorbidities.
- Higher risk III, sarcomatoid.
- Rarely do metastectomy in my practice.
- Not for Non- clear cell RCC.



