

Advanced Immuno-Oncology (I-O) ChangeMakers

Action Learning Projects to Improve Cancer Care

Project Title	Expanding treatment considerations for patients with esophageal carcinoma
Problem/Challenge	Certain patients with esophageal carcinoma (EC) may benefit from immune checkpoint inhibitor therapy. Our organization has been reviewing the data to assess when immunotherapy should be offered to patients with EC.
Aim/Goal	Develop a framework to review the evidence and draft a standard operating procedure for PD-L1 testing in patients with EC.
Key Interventions	We reviewed recent publications and FDA approvals. In recent years, the FDA has approved pembrolizumab and nivolumab for EC based on clinical trials such as: ATTRACTION-3 (NCT02569242), CHECKMATE-577 (NCT02743494), CHECKMATE-649 (NCT02872116), KEYNOTE-180 (NCT02559687), KEYNOTE-181 (NCT02564263), and KEYNOTE-590 (NCT03189719). Some of these trials have not reached completion yet. PD-L1 testing is required for certain indications for EC, so oncologists and pathologists should be discussing when PD-L1 testing should be performed in patients with EC. We reviewed the latest evidence around the use of immunotherapy for patients with EC and checked to see whether additional results had been published from some of the clinical trials listed above.
Summary of Results	As of Jan 2022, our pathologists and oncologists have worked together to map out ways to identify which patients with EC should receive PD-L1 testing. However, we are still waiting to formalize our process. This project strengthened leadership skills in the areas of developing consensus among different stakeholders, team building, and sharing clinical updates with colleagues.
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