# HCC 2022

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# Disclosures

- Bayer
- Taiho
- Pfizer
- Daichii
- AstraZeneca
- Merck
- Caris
- Indivumed



# What a difference a decade makes....

# 2010

- Cancer is clonal
- All cancer is the same
- Immune therapies will never work
- Gene testing for some
- Randomized phase 3 trials
- Microbiome is disgusting
- Cancer treatment is expensive
- We love our jobs

# 2020

- Cancer is polyclonal
- All cancer is different
- Immune therapies are miraculous
- Broad testing for many
- Small single arm trials
- Microbiome is beautiful
- Cancer treatment is more expensive
- Highest burnout and suicide in medicine

## MDTs and MDCs Improve Survival, Impact Treatment Plans, Increase Early Detection and Curative Treatment Receipt for Patients With HCC<sup>1-5</sup>



MDC, multidisciplinary clinic; MDLC, multidisciplinary liver clinic; MDT, multidisciplinary team; tx, treatment; VA, Veterans Affairs. 1. Sinn DH, et al. *PLoS One*. 2019;14(1):e0210730. 2. Serper M, et al. *Gastroenterology*. 2017;152(8):1954-1964. 3. Yopp AC, et al. *Ann Surg Oncol*. 2014;21(4):1287-1295. 4. Zhang J, et al. *Curr Oncol*. 2013;20(2):e123-e131. 5. Chang TT, et al. *HPB (Oxford)*. 2008;10(6):405-411.

# History of Treatment Landscape in HCC



. second line; AFP, alpha-fetoprotein; BGLC, Barcelona Clinic Liver Consortium; EMA, European Medicines Agency; FDA, Food and Drug Administration; HCC, hepatocellular carcino Solid Tumors; NE, not estimable; ORR, overall response rate; OS, overall survival; PD, disease progression; TACE, transarterial chemoembolization; Y-90, Yttrium-90. NCCN Flash Update. Available at: https://www.nccn.org/about/news/ebulletin/e

# The 1<sup>st</sup> line treatment for patients with advance stage HCC



# Sorafenib improves survival for advanced HCC



# Several subsequent negative HCC trials

Drug	Treatment	Patients	Trial results
Sunitinib	1 <sup>st</sup> line	1074	7.9 vs. 10.2 months
Brivanib	1 <sup>st</sup> line	1150	9.5 vs. 9.9 months
Linafinib	1 <sup>st</sup> line	1035	9.1 vs. 9.8 months
Erlotinib/sorafenib	1 <sup>st</sup> line	720	9.5 vs. 8.5 months
Brivanib	2 <sup>nd</sup> line	395	9.4 vs. 8.2 months
Everolimus	2 <sup>nd</sup> line	546	7.6 vs. 7.3 months

# Lenvatinib is non-inferior to sorafenib in OS but provides better response rates



Kudo et al Lancet 2018



# IMbrave150: Study Design



- OS
- **IRF-assessed PFS per RECIST 1.1** •

- IRF-assessed ORR per RECIST 1.1
- IRF-assessed ORR per HCC mRECIST

BID, twice daily; ECOG, Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group; EHS, extrahepatic spread; IRF, independent review facility; IV, intravenous; MVI, macrovascular invasion; ORR, objective response rate; PFS, progression-free survival; PS, performance status; Q3W, every 3 weeks; R, randomized; RECIST, response evaluation criteria in solid tumors.

Cheng AL, et al. Presented at: ESMO Asia Congress; November 22-24, 2019; Singapore. Abstract LBA3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>Japan is included in rest of world. <sup>b</sup>An additional 57 Chinese patients in the China extension cohort were not included in the global population/analysis.

#### IMbrave150: Atezolizumab + Bevacizumab Combination in 1L HCC Significant Benefits in Both Coprimary Endpoints



	Median OS (95% CI), mo	
Atezo + bev	NE	
Sorafenib	13.2 (10.4–NE)	
HR (95% CI)	0.58 (0.42–0.79) <i>P</i> =0.0006	

Data cutoff, 29 Aug 2019; median survival follow-up, 8.6 mo.



Jorarenno	0.59 (0.47-0.76)	
Atezo + bev Sorafenib	6.8 (5.7–8.3) 4.3 (4.0–5.6)	

Data cutoff, 29 Aug 2019; median survival follow-up, 8.6 mo.

1

OS, overall survival; PFS, progression-free survival.

Cheng AL, et al. Presented at: ESMO Asia Congress; November 22-24, 2019; Singapore. Abstract LBA3.

# Tremelimumab plus Durvalumab in Unresectable Hepatocellular Carcinoma- HIMALAYA

#### **HIMALAYA** study design



#### HIMALAYA was an open-label, multicenter, global, Phase 3 trial

\*Treatment continued until disease progression. Patients with progressive disease who, in the investigator's opinion, continued to benefit from treatment and met the criteria for treatment in the setting of progressive disease could continue treatment. <sup>+</sup>The T75+D arm was closed following a preplanned analysis of a Phase 2 study. Patients randomized to this arm (n=153) could continue treatment following arm closure. Results from this arm are not reported in this presentation.

BID, twice a day; EGD, esophagogastroduodenoscopy; Q4W, every 4 weeks.

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#### Primary objective: overall survival for T300+D vs sorafenib



Data cut-off: August 27, 2021. Median duration of follow-up was 33.10 (95% CI, 31.74–34.53) months for T300+D and 32.23 (95% CI, 30.42–33.71) months for sorafenib. CI, confidence interval; HR, hazard ratio; OS, overall survival; T300+D, tremelimumab 300 mg × 1 dose + durvalumab 1500 mg Q4W.

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Sorafenib (n=389)

#### Secondary objective: overall survival for durvalumab vs sorafenib



Data cut-off: August 27, 2021. Median duration of follow-up was 32.56 (95% CI, 31.57–33.71) months for durvalumab and 32.23 (95% CI, 30.42–33.71) months for sorafenib. CI, confidence interval; HR, hazard ratio; NI, noninferiority; OS, overall survival.

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Durvalumab is recommended on NCCN guideline

## COSMIC-312: Cabozantinib Plus Atezolizumab Improves Progression-Free Survival in Advanced Hepatocellular Carcinoma ESMO Asia 2021



#### Stratification

- Disease etiology (HBV, HCV, other)
- · Region (Asia, other)
- Presence of extrahepatic disease and/or macrovascular invasion (yes/no)

#### **Primary Endpoints**

 PFS and OS of cabozantinib plus atezolizumab vs sorafenib

#### Secondary Endpoint

PFS of single-agent cabozantinib vs sorafenib

\*Every 6 weeks for the first 48 weeks then every 12 weeks thereafter

<sup>†</sup>Patients may be treated beyond progression if there is a clinical benefit in the opinion of the investigator.

# **Primary Study Objectives: PFS – HR 0.63**

Primary Endpoint of PFS: Final Analysis Cabozantinib + Atezolizumab vs Sorafenib



# Primary Study Objectives: OS- HR 0.90

Median overall survival was 15.4 months with cabozantinib/atezolizumab and 15.5 months with sorafenib (HR = 0.90; P = .438).

## **Impact of ADAs in Cancer**

- Systemic administration of humanized monoclonal antibodies can induce production of ADAs in patients with HCC<sup>1</sup>
- ADAs may cause loss of drug activity via mechanisms including<sup>2</sup>:
  - Blockade of the drug target binding (neutralizing antibodies)
  - Increasing the clearance of the ADA-drug complex



#### ADAs May Affect the Efficacy of Atezolizumab + Bevacizumab in HCC



ADAs to durvalumab were observed in 9 (3.1%) and 7 (2.5%) of patients receiving STRIDE or durva monotherapy, respectively, in the HIMALAYA trial<sup>3</sup>

ADA, anti-drug antibody; HR, hazard ratio; PI, prescribing information.

1. Atezolizumab [Prescribing Information]. South San Francisco, CA: Genentech, Inc; 2021. 2. Chon HJ, et al. Presented at: ASCO Annual Meeting; June 3-7, 2022; Chicago, IL. 3. Abou-Alfa GK, et al. NEJM Evid. 2022;0(0):EVIDoa2100070.

## **ADA Incidence By Immunotherapeutic Agent**



EMA, European Medicines Agency; FDA, US Food and Drug Administration; ICI, immune checkpoint inhibitor. Enrico D, et al. *Clin Cancer Res.* 2020;26(4):787-792.

The Subsequent lines of therapy in HCC patients who progressed or not tolerating 1<sup>st</sup> line therapy



# New agents can improve survival as 2<sup>nd</sup> line therapy for advanced HCC



Median survival: 10.6 vs. 7.8 months (HR 0.63, 95% 0.50-0.79)



Bruix et al Lancet 2017



BSC, best-supportive care; CI, confidence interval; HR, hazard ratio; Ram, ramucirumab Zhu AX, et al. Lancet Oncol 2019;20:282-96

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## Sequential therapy can provide prolonged survival

#### Exploratory analysis of time (months) from start of sorafenib to death on RESORCE



Survival	Sorafenib- regorafenib (n- 379)	Sorafenib- placebo (n=194)
6 months	97%	97%
12 months	82%	76%
24 months	53%	42%
36 months	31%	20%
48 months	19%	12%
60 months	16%	3%
72 months	10%	3%

Finn et al J Hepatology 2018

Pembrolizumab leads to durable responses and likely meaningful survival as shown in a phase I study

Best Response	Patients (n=104)	100
Objective response Complete Partial	17.3% 1% 16.3%	
Stable disease	44.2%	
Progression	32.7%	O 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16 18 20   Time since start of treatment (months)   Number at risk   (number at risk

- Most common grade 3-4 TRAEs were increased AST (7%), increased ALT (4%), fatigue (4%)
- One death due to ulcerative esophagitis attributed to treatment

Zhu et al ASCO 2018

However, phase III study Keynote 240 did not meet primary study endpoint

- Pembrolizumab did not show significant OS improvement over placebo treatment.

## **ASCO GI 2022**

Pembrolizumab Plus Best Supportive Care Versus Placebo Plus Best Supportive Care as Second-line Therapy in Patients in Asia With Advanced Hepatocellular Carcinoma: Phase 3 KEYNOTE-394 Study

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#### Overall Survival Based on Meta-Analysis of KEYNOTE-394 and KEYNOTE-240



**Met Primary Study Objective** 



# Nivolumab leads to durable responses and likely meaningful survival – as shown in a phase I study

Probability of survival

1.0 - 1.0 · 1.0 · 0.9 · 0.8 ·

0.7

0.6

0.4

0.2

0.1

Sorafenib Experienced (EXP)

Median OS (95% Cl), mo = 15.6 (13.2-18.9)

12

	SOR naïve	SOR experience
Objective response Complete Partial	20% 1% 19%	15% 1% 14%
Stable disease	31%	38%
Progression	40%	37%

Tumor response is durable! Median duration of response 16.6 months, with 55% having response > 12 months Lack of predictive biomarker for response: No difference in response by tumor PDL1 expression. MSI high rare (<2%) in HCC

15 18 21 24 27 30

33 36

Sorafenib Naive (ESC + EXP)

ledian OS (95% CI) mo = 28.6 (16.6-NE)

orafenib Experienced (ESC

El-Khoueiry et al Lancet 2017

However, phase III study Checkmate 459 did not meet primary study endpoint - Nivolumab did not show **significant** OS improvement over Sorafenib treatment.

# Figure 1. CheckMate 040 NIVO+IPI combination cohort study design



#### <sup>a</sup>Using RECIST v1.1.

Minimum follow-up at time of data cutoff: 28 months.

BICR, blinded independent central review; BOR, best overall response; DCR, disease control rate; DOR, duration of response; IPI1, ipilimumab 1 mg/kg; IV, intravenous; NCI CTCAE, National Cancer Institute Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events; NIVO3, nivolumab 3 mg/kg; PFS, progression-free survival; R, randomization; TTP, time to progression; TTR, time to response.



## Response, Disease Control, and Durability

	Arm A NIVO1+IPI3 Q3W
	n = 50ª
ORR by BICR using RECIST v1.1, <sup>b</sup> n (%)	16 (32)
BOR, n (%)	
CR	4 (8)
PR	12 (24)
SD	9 (18)
PD	20 (40)
Unable to determine	3 (6)
DCR, <sup>c</sup> n (%)	27 (54)
Median TTR (range), <sup>d</sup> months	2.0 (1.1–12.8)
Median DOR (range), <sup>d</sup> months	17.5 (4.6 to 30.5+)

• Four patients had a CR and the DCR (CR + PR + SD + non-CR/non-PD) was >50%

<sup>a</sup>NIVO1/ IPI3 Q3W × 4 followed by nivolumab 240 mg IV Q2W flat dose; <sup>b</sup>Defined as CR + PR; <sup>c</sup>Defined as CR + PR + SD + non-CR/non-PD; <sup>d</sup>Patients with CR or PR. CR, complete response; PD, progressive disease; PR, partial response; SD, stable disease. Yau T, et al. Presented at the American Society of Clinical Oncology Annual Meeting 2019; May 31–June 4, 2019; Chicago, IL. Poster 4012.



## **Overall Survival**



 Median OS was 22.8 months, with an OS rate of 44% through 30 months

 $^{\circ}$ NIVO1/ IPI3 Q3W × 4 followed by nivolumab 240 mg IV Q2W flat dose. mo, month; NA, not achieved; NE, not estimable.

 Median OS for patients with PR + CR (2/16 events) was not reached

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# Summary

#### First Line

- 1. Bevacizumab + Atezolizumab (IMBRAVE 150) 2020
- 2. Lenvatinib (REFLECT) 2018
- 3. Sorafenib (SHARP) 2007
- 4. Durvalumab 2022 (NCCN)
- 5. Durvalumab + Tremelimumab (pending FDA approval)

Subsequent lines:

- 1. Regorafenib 2017
- 2. Cabozantinib 2019
- 3. Ramucirumab 2019
- 4. Pembrolizumab 2018
- 5. Nivolumab + Ipilimumab 2020

## **Immunotherapy-Based Regimens on the Horizon for Advanced HCC**



1EP, primary endpoint; 2EP, secondary endpoint; BCLC, Barcelona Clinic Liver Cancer; BM, brain metastases; DCR, disease control rate; DoR, duration of response; HCC, hepatocellular carcinoma; LRT, locoregional therapy; ORR, objective response rate; OS, overall survival; PFS, progression-free survival; R, randomization; STRIDE, Single Tremelimumab Regular Interval Durvalumab; TTP, time to disease progression; TTSD, time to symptom deterioration.

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1. ClinicalTrials.gov. NCT03298451. Accessed March 28, 2022. https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT03298451. 2. ClinicalTrials.gov. NCT03713593. Accessed March 28, 2022. https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT03798451. 2. ClinicalTrials.gov. NCT04039607. Accessed March 28, 2022. https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT04039607.



Dr. John and Liza Marshall. Off Our Chests – A Candid Tour Through the World of Cancer.