# HODGKIN LYMPHOMA – New Combinations

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# **Disclosures for**

Stephen Ansell, MD, PhD

*In compliance with ACCME policy, Mayo Clinic requires the following disclosures to the activity audience:* 

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|---------------------------|--|
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| Consultant                | N/A  |
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N/A = Not Applicable (no conflicts listed)

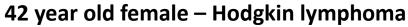
### <u> Aims -</u>

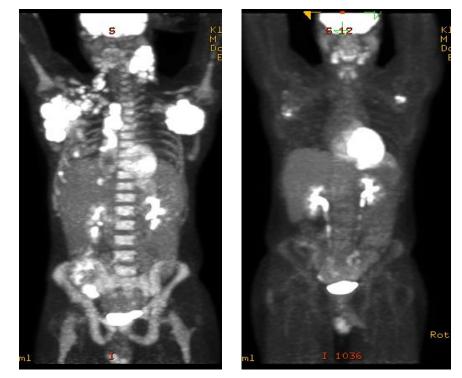
- Why do we need combinations in Hodgkin lymphoma?
- Four combination approaches
  - With other checkpoints
  - With bispecific antibodies
  - With antibody drug conjugates
  - With chemotherapy

# Blocking PD-1 signalling Highly effective in Hodgkin lymphoma



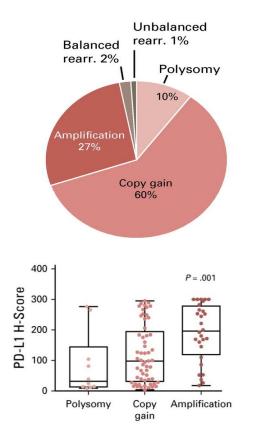


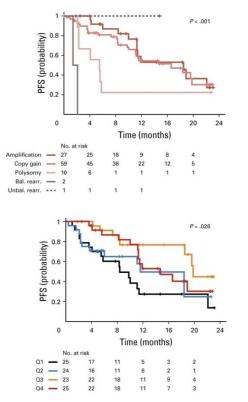




26 year old male – Hodgkin lymphoma

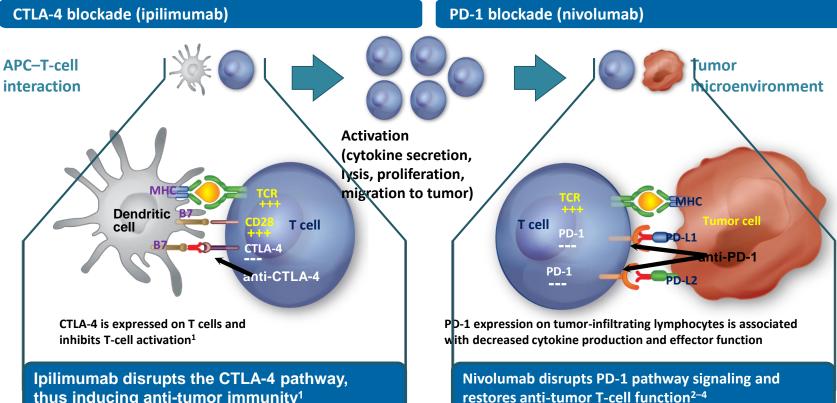
# PD-L1 Expression Predicts Outcome After PD-1 Blockade: BUT NO ONE SEEMS TO BE CURED





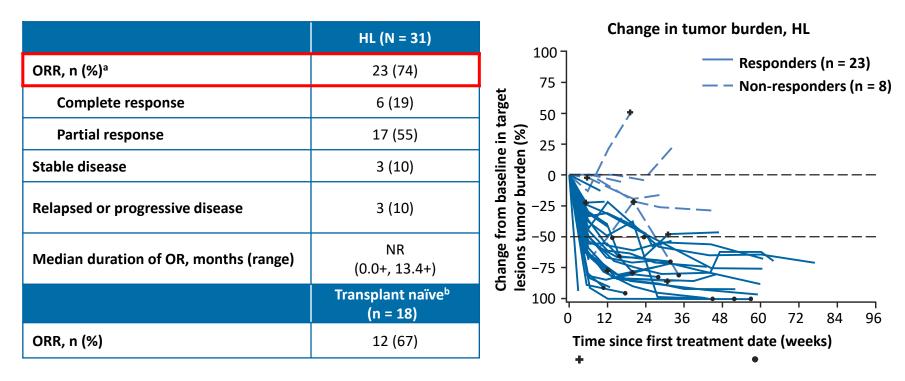
#### Roemer et al. J Clin Oncol. 2018 Apr 1;36(10):942-950.

# **1.** Combination Approaches – **Nivolumab and Ipilimumab in cHL**



thus inducing anti-tumor immunity<sup>1</sup>

# <u>1. Combination Approaches –</u> Nivolumab and Ipilimumab in cHL



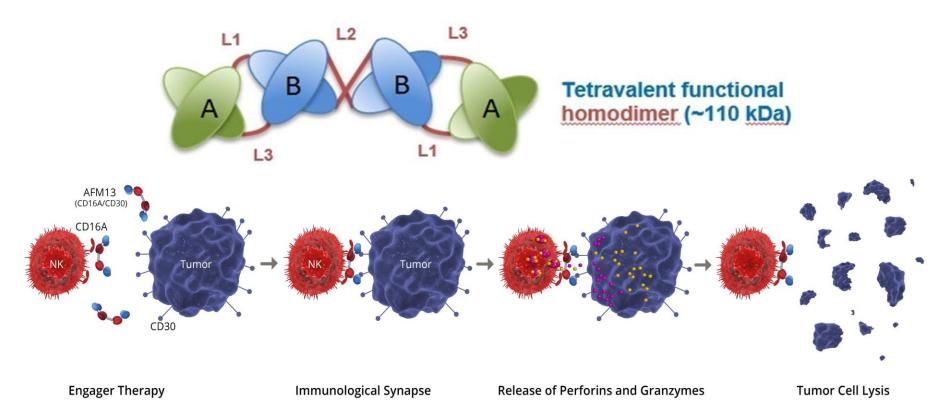
<sup>a</sup>Response was not reported for 2 (6%) patients with HL

bTransplant-naïve patients are a subset of the total number of patients with HL; a total of 13 transplant-naïve patients were chemoresistant and 3 were ineligible for the procedure NR = not reached; + = censored value

Ansell et al. ASH 2016 abstract #183

### **2. Combination Approaches - Bispecific antibodies**

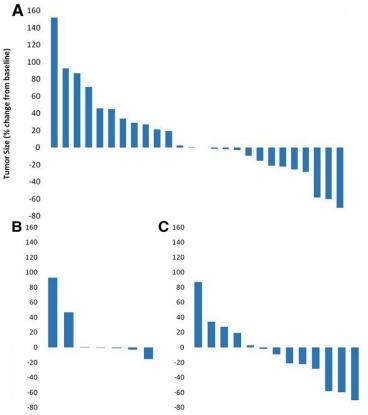
AFM13: a first-in-class tetravalent bispecific anti-CD30/CD16A antibody



Wu et al. J Hematol Oncol. 2015 Aug 1;8:96.

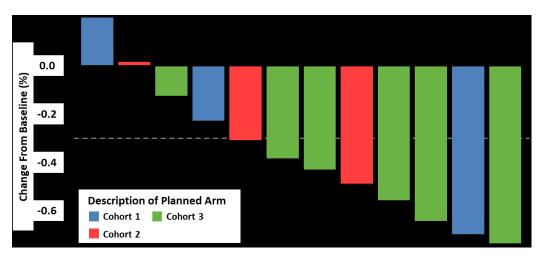
# 2. Targeting CD30 with AFM13 - a bispecific anti-

#### **CD30/CD16A antibody construct**



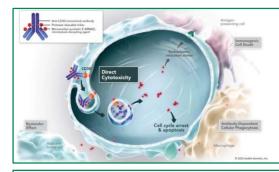
- 28 cHL patients in a phase I study.
- Overall, 12% and 50% of patients achieved a PR and SD, respectively.
- Considering only patients that received higher doses, the PR and SD rate improved to 23 and 54%, respectively

# 2. A Phase 1 Study of AFM13 and Pembrolizumab in Hodgkin Lymphoma after Brentuximab Vedotin <u>Failure</u>

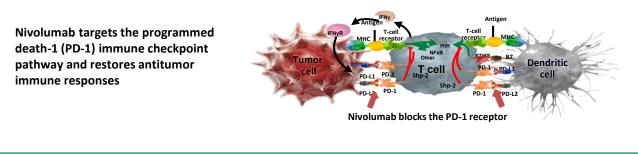


- 12 patients enrolled into the dose escalation phase were evaluable for efficacy at 3 months.
- In Cohort 1, there were 2 PRs and 1 progression. In Cohort 2, 1 CR, 1 PR and 1 Progression. In Cohort 3, 5 PRs and 1 progression.
- The ORR for the dose selected for the extension cohort was 83% (5/6).

# 3. Combination Approaches - Brentuximab vedotin (BV) plus nivolumab as Salvage Therapy

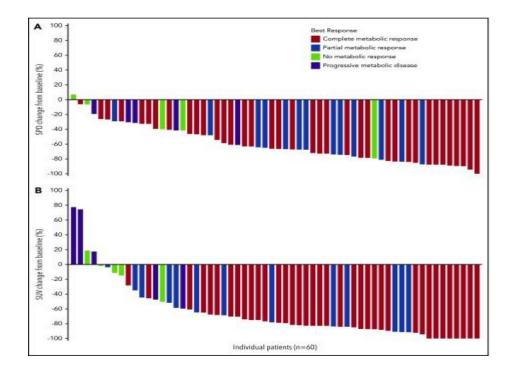


Brentuximab vedotin disrupts the microtubule network and triggers an immune response through the induction of endoplasmic reticulum stress<sup>a</sup>



- Both agents are well tolerated with high single-agent response rates in patients with R/R HL (BV=72% ORR, 33% CR; Nivo=73% ORR, 28% CR)
- Together, they could yield improved CR rates and improved durability of responses, and potentially lead to better long-term outcomes

# 3. Brentuximab vedotin plus nivolumab in patients with relapsed Hodgkin lymphoma



- 62 patients received up to 4 cycles of brentuximab vedotin (BV) and nivolumab (Nivo). Patients could then proceed to ASCT.
- The CR rate (n = 61) was 61%, with an objective response rate of 82%.
- The combination of BV plus Nivo was an active and well-tolerated first salvage regimen, potentially providing patients with R/R HL an alternative to traditional chemotherapy.

Herrera et al. Blood. 2018 Mar 15;131(11):1183-1194.

# 3. BV+Nivolumab for Relapsed Patients E4412 Schema: (Arms D-F)

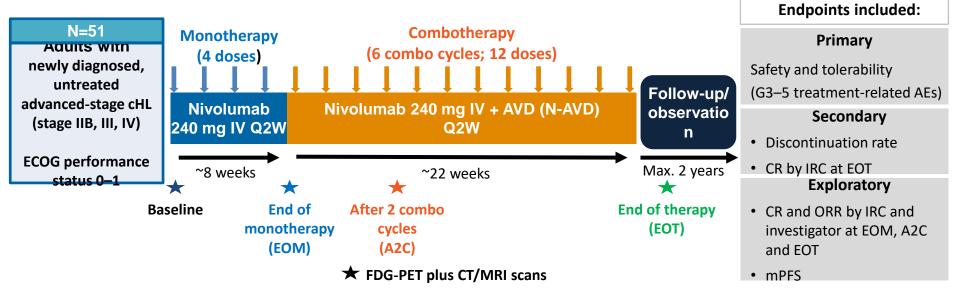
| Evaluable Patients (n = 12)                 | ORR          |  |
|---|--------------|--|
| ORR   | 12/12 (100%) |  |
| CR  | 8/12 (66%)   |  |
| PR  | 4/12 (34%)   |  |
| 2 of 2 patients with prior BV evaluable= CR |              |  |



Diefenbach et al. ASH 2016 abstract #1106

## 4. Combination Approaches – PD-1 Blockade with

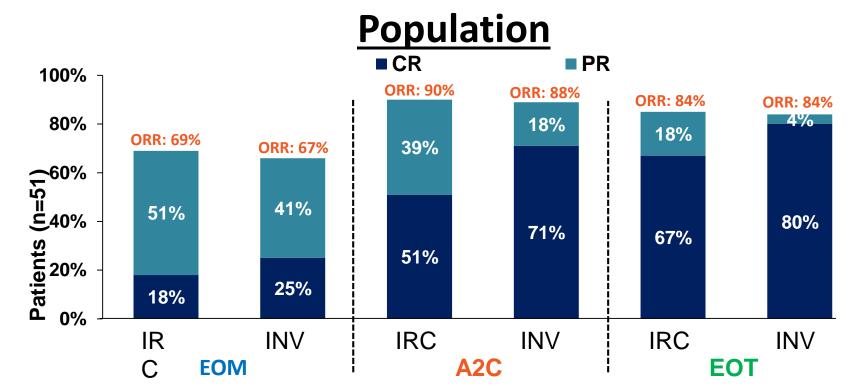
### **Chemotherapy**



- Responses were assessed using the IWG 2007 criteria
- Median duration of follow-up was 11.1 months (database lock: 12 October 2017)
- Bleomycin was excluded due to potential overlapping pulmonary toxicity

AE, adverse event; AVD, doxorubicin (25 mg/m<sup>2</sup>)/vinblastine (6 mg/m<sup>2</sup>)/dacarbazine (375 mg/m<sup>2</sup>); CR, complete remission; ECOG, Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group; FDG-PET, fluorodeoxyglucose–positron emission tomography; G, grade; IRC, Independent Radiology Review Committee; IWG, International Working Group; mPFS, modified progression-free survival; OS, overall survival; Q2W, every 2 weeks

### **<u>4. Response Per IRC and Investigator – ITT</u>**



• At EOT, ORR per investigator in the ITT population was 84%, with 80% of patients achieving CR

Response assessed using IWG 2007 criteria. Five patients were non-evaluable at end of therapy. Biopsies were not required for patients to be considered to have progressive disease. Values may not total ORR due to rounding. INV, investigator; PR, partial remission

# What does this teach us?

- Efficacy of PD-1 blockade in Hodgkin lymphoma is high but may not be durable
- Combination approaches are safe but it is not clear whether additional benefit is seen with other immune therapies
- New combinations with chemotherapy may be the most promising