CAR-T and Other Immunotherapies in Myeloma

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bb2121: BCMA CAR T Cell Design



- Autologous T cells transduced with a lentiviral vector encoding a CAR specific for human BCMA
- Optimal 4-1BB costimulatory signaling domain: associated with less acute toxicity and more durable CAR T cell persistence than CD28 costimulatory domain¹

1. Ali SI, et al. Blood. 2016;128(13):1688-700.



CAR-T Toxicities



Clinical Efficacy of CAR-T Therapy in Patients Not Achieving a CR





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Treatment History

Parameter	Esca (N:	Escalation (N=21)		Expansion (N=22)	
Median (min, max) prior regimens	7 (3	7 (3, 14)		, 23)	
Prior autologous SCT, n (%)	21 (21 (100)		19 (86)	
0		0		3 (14)	
1	15	15 (71)		14 (64)	
>1	6 (6 (29)		5 (23)	
	Escalati	Escalation (N=21)		Expansion (N=22)	
Parameter	Exposed	Refractory	Exposed	Refractory	
Prior therapies, n (%)					
Bortezomib	21 (100)	14 (67)	22 (100)	16 (73)	
Carfilzomib	19 (91)	12 (57)	21 (96)	14 (64)	
Lenalidomide	21 (100)	19 (91)	22 (100)	18 (82)	
Pomalidomide	19 (91)	15 (71)	22 (100)	21 (96)	
Daratumumab	15 (71)	10 (48)	22 (100)	19 (86)	
Cumulative exposure, n (%)					
Bort/Len	21 (100)	14 (67)	22 (100)	14 (64)	
Bort/Len/Car/Pom/Dara	15 (71)	6 (29)	21 (96)	7 (32)	

Data cutoff: March 29, 2018. SCT, stem cell transplant.



Cytokine Release Syndrome

Cytokine Release Syndrome Parameters				
Parameter	Dosed Patients (N=43)			
Patients with a CRS event, n (%)	27 (63)			
Maximum CRS grade ^a None 1 2 3 4	16 (37) 16 (37) 9 (21) 2 (5) 0			
Median (min, max) time to onset, d	2 (1, 25)			
Median (min, max) duration, d	6 (1, 32)			
Tocilizumab use, n (%)	9 (21)			
Corticosteroid use, n (%)	4 (9)			



Cytokine Release Syndrome By Dose Level

Data cutoff: March 29, 2018. a CRS uniformly graded according to Lee DW, et al. Blood. 2014;124(2):188-195. b 3 patients were treated at the 50 x 10⁶ dose level for a total of 43 patients.



bb2121 CAR+ T Cell Expansion



Patients with a post-baseline vector copy value were included. One patient was dosed at 205 \times 10⁶ CAR+ T cells instead of the planned 450 \times 10⁶ and was included in the 450 \times 10⁶ dose group.

	Month 1	Month 3	Month 6	Month 12
At risk, n	32	26	16	10
With detectable vector, n (%)	31 (97)	22 (85)	7 (44)	2 (20)

Data cutoff: March 29, 2018. C_{max}, maximum serum concentration; LLOQ, lower limit of quantitation.

Peak bb2121 Vector Copies in Responders vs Nonresponders



Patients with ≥ 2 months of response data and 1 month of vector copy data (N=36). *P* value based on a 2-sided Wilcoxon rank sum test.

- Comparable C_{max} in active dose cohorts (≥150 × 10⁶ CAR+ T cells)
- Durable bb2121 persistence (≥6 months) in 44%
- · Higher peak expansion in patients with response



Tumor Response: Deep MRDnegative responses observed

Response	50 × 10 ⁶	150 × 10 ⁶	450 × 10 ⁶	800 × 10 ⁶	Total
MRD- evaluable responders	0	4	11	1	16
MRD-neg ^a	0	4 (100)	11 (100)	1 (100)	16 (100)

Data cutoff: March 29, 2018. ^aOf 16 MRD-negative responses: 4 at 10⁻⁶, 11 at 10⁻⁵, 1 at 10⁻⁴ sensitivity by Adaptive next-generation sequencing assay.

- All responding patients evaluated for MRD were MRD negative at 1 or more time points
- 2 nonresponders evaluated for MRD were MRD positive at month 1



Progression-Free Survival

- mPFS of 11.8 months at active doses (≥150 × 10⁶ CAR+ T cells) in 18 subjects in dose escalation phase
- mPFS of 17.7 months in 16 responding subjects who are MRD-negative



Data cutoff: March 29, 2018. Median and 95% CI from Kaplan-Meier estimate. NE, not estimable. ^aPFS in dose escalation cohort.



Marrow Infiltrating Lymphocytes



MILs Persist in the Bone Marrow and Eradicate Myeloma



First MILs Clinical Trial

Figure 1: Study Schema





Tumor Specificity of aMILs Product



Tumor-specific Response in the BM Correlates with Clinical Outcomes



(Noonan et al. STM 2015; 7:288)

41BB Expression with Expansion





Hypoxia Enhances Function in 4-1BB+ T cell Subset



JOHNS HOPKINS

In vivo MILs Expansion



Superior Killing by MIL-CARs Compared to PBL-CARs



N.B: 8226 cells was added on days 3 or 7 days after the primary 8226 challenge

MIL CARs: More Data Showing Superior Killing via the CAR in MIL CARs vs. PBL CARs



MIL CARs: Preserve the Endogenous TCR-mediated Killing

Tumor Specificity Assay Testing ability of Native TCR to Recognize Tumor Ag:



Conclusions

- Tumor specificity of MILs correlates with clinical outcomes
- Memory phenotype, broad antigenic specificity are properties unique to MILs and not found on PBLs
- T cell persistence correlates with responses
- Hypoxia augments T cell function of MILs through
 - upregulation of 4-1BB
 - increase in anti-apoptotic proteins and survival cytokines
 - Enhance ex vivo and in vivo expansion
- The absence of a PFS plateau with BCMA CARs limits the longterm efficacy of this approach in MM
- MILs appear to show better anti-tumor activity as a source of CAR-modified T cells than PBLs



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