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TREATMENT SEQUENCING IN METASTATIC RENAL CELL CARCINOMA (mRCC)

Dr. Roberto Iacovelli MD., PhD

Medical Oncologist University Hospital of Verona, Italy

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BACKGROUND



- Landscape of treatment for mRCC has radically changed in the last few years
- Treatment with **cabozantinib increased PFS and OS** when **compared with everolimus** in patients previously treated with VEGFR tyrosine kinase inhibitors (TKI)¹
- Treatment with nivolumab increased OS when compared with everolimus in patients previously treated with antiangiogenic therapies²
- The combination of nivolumab plus ipilimumab resulted in longer PFS and OS when compared with sunitinib in treatment naïve patients with intermediate and poor prognosis based on the IMDC prognostic group³
- The combination of axitinib plus pembrolizumab resulted in longer PFS and OS when compared with sunitinib in treatment naïve patients irrespectively of the IMDC prognostic group⁴
- The combination of axitinib plus avelumab resulted in longer PFS when compared with sunitinib in treatment naïve patients irrespectively of the IMDC prognostic group⁵
- No evidence from prospective studies are available for treatment of patients who have progressed after immunotherapy in first line setting

IMDC, International Metastatic Renal Cell Carcinoma Database Consortium; mRCC, metastatic renal cell carcinoma; OS, overall survival;
PFS, progression free survival; TKI, tyrosine kinase inhibitors; VEGFR, vascular endothelial growth factor receptor
1. Choueiri TK, et al. Lancet Oncol. 2016;17:917-927; 2. Motzer RJ, et al. N Engl J Med. 2015;373:1803-1813; 3. Motzer RJ, et al. N Engl J Med. 2018;378:1277-90; 4. Rini BI, et al. N Engl J Med. 2019;380:1116-27; 5. Motzer RJ, et al. N Engl J Med. 2019;380:1103-15.

VEGFR-TKI AFTER IO: THE FRENCH EXPERIENCE



SECOND-LINE THERAPIES AFTER NIVOLUMAB-IPILIMUMAB FAILURE IN mRCC

- Retrospective analysis of patients treated with nivolumab-ipilimumab who received subsequent TKI as part of the Checkmate 214 study
- Overall 33 patients received subsequent TKI after nivolumab-ipilimumab failure
- Median follow-up from start of subsequent TKI is 22 months (95% CI: 19 -NR)
- **Best response** was assessed in 30 patients: 12 partial responses (36%), 13 stable diseases (39%) and five progressive diseases (15%)



PFS BY TYPE OF TKI

| Type of TKI | Median PFS |
|--|----------------------|
| 1 st generation (suni/pazo) | 8 months |
| 2 nd generation (axi/cabo) | 7 months |
| | 95% CI: 5-NA, p=0.66 |

Axi, axitinib; cabo, cabozantinib; CI, confidence interval; IDMC, International Metastatic Renal Cell Carcinoma Database Consortium; IO, immuno-oncology; mRCC, metastatic renal cell carcinoma; NA, not available; NR, not reached; pazo, pazopanib; PFS, progression free survival; suni, sunitinib; TKI, tyrosine kinase inhibitors; VEGFR, vascular endothelial growth factor receptor

Auvray M, et al. Eur J Cancer. 2019;108:33-40.

VEGFR-TKI AFTER IO: THE FRENCH EXPERIENCE



SECOND-LINE THERAPIES AFTER NIVOLUMAB-IPILIMUMAB FAILURE IN mRCC



OVERALL SURVIVAL BY TYPE OF TKI

| Type of TKI | Median OS |
|--|-----------------------|
| 1 st generation (suni/pazo) | 11 months |
| 2 nd generation (axi/cabo) | NR |
| | 95% CI: 11-NR, p=0.11 |

Axi, axitinib; cabo, cabozantinib; CI, confidence interval; IDMC, International Metastatic Renal Cell Carcinoma Database Consortium; IO, immuno-oncology; mRCC, metastatic renal cell carcinoma; NR, not reached; OS, overall survival; pazo, pazopanib; suni, sunitinib; TKI, tyrosine kinase inhibitors; VEGFR, vascular endothelial growth factor receptor

Auvray M, et al. Eur J Cancer. 2019;108:33-40.

VEGFR-TKI AFTER IO: THE US EXPERIENCE



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SECOND-LINE THERAPIES AFTER IMMUNE CHECKPOINT INHIBITOR FAILURE IN mccRCC

• Retrospective study of mccRCC patients treated with second line VEGFR-TKI after progressive disease with first line immune checkpoint inhibitor

| Patient characteristics | | Patient characteristics | |
|---|---------------------|--|--------------------|
| Variable | N (%) | Variable | N (%) |
| Gender Male Female | 50 (71) 20 (29) | Sites of metastatic disease at TKI start Lung Bone | 61 (87) 35 (50) |
| Median age mRCC diagnosis | 59 | Liver | 12 (17) |
| Years (range) | (43.6–74.8) | Lymph node | 48 (69) |
| Stage at initial diagnosis of RCC Stage I–III Stage IV | 27 (39) 43 (61) | First-line ICI Anti–PD-(L)1 single agent | 12 (17) |
| IMDC risk score at time of 2L TKI start Favourable Intermediate | 8 (11) 48 (69) | (followed by maintenance anti-PD-1) PD-(L)1 + anti-VEGF therapy | 25 (36) |
| Poor | 14 (20) | Reason for discontinuation of 1L ICI | FQ (02) |
| Nephrectomy status | 60 (86) | Toxicity | 12 (17) |
| Primary in situ | 10 (14) | Median duration on ICI, months (range) | 5.9 (0.4– |
| Histology Clear cell Sarcomatoid dedifferentiation | 70 (100) 14 (20) | | 23.2) |

1L, first line; 2L, second line; CTLA-4, cytotoxic T-lymphocyte associated protein 4, ICI, immune checkpoint inhibitor; IMDC, International Metastatic Renal Cell Carcinoma Database Consortium; IO, immuno-oncology; mccRCC, metastatic clear cell renal cell carcinoma; mRCC, metastatic renal cell carcinoma; PD-1, programmed death-1; PD-(L)1, programmed death ligand-1; RCC, renal cell carcinoma; TKI, tyrosine kinase inhibitors; VEGF(R), vascular endothelial growth factor (receptor) Shah AY, et al. Eur J Cancer. 2019;114:67-75.

VEGFR-TKI AFTER IO: THE US EXPERIENCE



SECOND-LINE THERAPIES AFTER IMMUNE CHECKPOINT INHIBITOR FAILURE IN mccRCC



| Best overall response to second line TKI (n=68) | Patients (n,%) |
|---|-------------------|
| CR | 1 (1.5%) |
| PR | 27 (39.7%) |
| SD | 36 (52.9%) |
| PD | 4 (6%) |
| DCR | 94% |

CR, complete response; DCR, disease control rate; mccRCC, metastatic clear cell renal cell carcinoma; mRCC, metastatic renal cell carcinoma; PD, progressive disease; PR, partial response; SD, stable disease; TKI, tyrosine kinase inhibitors Shah AY, et al. Eur J Cancer. 2019;114:67-75.

BEST OVERALL RESPONSE BY SECOND LINE TKI

VEGFR-TKI AFTER IO: *THE US EXPERIENCE*



SECOND-LINE THERAPIES AFTER IMMUNE CHECKPOINT INHIBITOR FAILURE IN mccRCC



PROGRESSION-FREE SURVIVAL

OVERALL SURVIVAL

Cl, confidence interval; IO, immuno-oncology; mccRCC, metastatic clear cell renal cell carcinoma; NA, not available; OS, overall survival; PFS, progression free survival; TKI, tyrosine kinase inhibitors; VEGFR, vascular endothelial growth factor receptor Shah AY, et al. Eur J Cancer. 2019;114:67-75.

VEGFR-TKI AFTER IO: CABOZANTINIB AFTER IO



OUTCOMES BASED ON PRIOR THERAPY IN THE METEOR TRIAL IN ADVANCED RCC

- A post hoc analysis of patients enrolled in the METEOR trial who received cabozantinib or everolimus after progression on a VEGFR TKI or anti-PD1/PD-L1 therapy
- In the prior anti-PD-1/PD-L1 subgroup, cabozantinib retained its activity over everolimus in terms of PFS, while data are not mature for OS



PROGRESSION-FREE SURVIVAL

Cl, confidence interval; IO, immuno-oncology; NR, not reached; OS, overall survival; PD-1, programmed death-1; PD-L1, programmed death ligand-1; PFS, progression free survival; RCC, metastatic renal cell carcinoma; TKI, tyrosine kinase inhibitors; VEGFR, vascular endothelial growth factor receptor Powles T, et al. Br J Cancer. 2018;119:663-9.

OVERALL SURVIVAL

AXITINIB AFTER IO: A PROSPECTIVE STUDY



- A prospective study of patients with mRCC who received checkpoint inhibitor therapy as the most recent treatment. There was no limit on number of previous therapies received
- Patients received oral axitinib at a starting dose of 5 mg twice daily with dose titration every 14 days in 1 mg increments (up to 10 mg twice daily maximum dose)

| Previous therapies and response to immune checkpoint inhibitor | Participants, n=40 response to immune checkpoint inhibitor | | Participants, n=40 |
|---|--|---|---------------------------------------|
| Number of previous therapies* 1 2 3 4 | 11 (28%) 19 (48%) 9 (23%) 1 (3%) | Duration on previous checkpoint inhibitor <6 months ≥6 months Median duration, months | 25 (63%) 15 (38%) 4.8 (2.0-8.7) |
| Most recent therapy Nivolumab25 (63%)Ipilimumab plus nivolumab6 (15%)Nivolumab plus hypoxia-inducible3 (8%)factor inhibitor2 (5%)Atezolizumab2 (5%)Bevacizumab plus atezolizumab1 (3%)Durvalumab plus tremelimumab1 (3%) | Reason for checkpoint inhibitor discontinuation Disease progression Toxicity [‡] | 37 (93%) 3 (8%) | |
| | Time from checkpoint inhibitor discontinuation to axitinib initiation, months | 1.1 (0.7-1.7) | |
| Best response to checkpoint inhibitor therapy ⁺ Partial response Stable disease Progressive disease | 8 (20%) 21 (53%) 10 (25%) | Values are n (%) or median (IQR). *The majority of patients (28 [70 VEGF-directed therapy. ¹ Unknown for one patient. *One patient each: fatigue, pneumonitis and colitis. | %]) received previous |

IO, immuno-oncology; IQR, interquartile range; mRCC, metastatic renal cell carcinoma; VEGF, vascular endothelial growth factor

Ornstein MC, et al. Lancet Oncol. 2019;20:1386-94.

AXITINIB AFTER IO: A PROSPECTIVE STUDY



PROGRESSION-FREE SURVIVAL



BEST RESPONSE

| Best response to axitinib treatment (N=40) | Patients n (%) |
|---|-------------------|
| Complete | 1 (3%) |
| Partial | 17 (43%) |
| Stable | 18 (45%) |
| Progression | 4 (10%) |

Cl, confidence interval; FU, follow up; IO, immuno-oncology; IQR, interquartile range Ornstein MC, et al. Lancet Oncol. 2019;20:1386-94.

VEGFR-TKI AFTER IO: THE LENVATINIB/EVEROLIMUS COMBINATION



• Retrospective analysis of mRCC patients with lenvatinib alone, or in combination with everolimus, after at least 2 prior lines of therapy, including ICI and VEGFR-TKI

| Baseline Patient and Disease Characteristics | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| Median age, year (range) | 59 (34- 76) | | |
| Sex, no. (%) Male Female | 25 (62.5) 15 (37.5) | | |
| ECOG performance status, no. (%) 0 1 2 3 | 4 (10) 21 (52.5) 14 (35) 1 (2.5) | | |
| IMDC prognostic risk, no. (%) Favorable Intermediate Poor | 1 (2.5) 35 (87.5) 4 (10) | | |
| Clear cell histology, no. (%) | 31 (77.5) | | |
| Prior nephrectomy, no. (%) | 34 (85) | | |
| Three or more sites of metastatic disease, no. (%) | 38 (95) | | |

| Baseline Patient and Disease Characteristics | | |
|---|----------------------------------|--|
| Three or more sites of metastatic disease, no. (%) | 38 (95) | |
| Prior immune checkpoint inhibitor treatment, no. (%) Nivolumab Nivolumab + Ipilimumab Other ICI combination therapy | 28 (70) 4 (10) 8 (20) | |
| Prior cabozanitinib treatment, no. (%) | 35 (87.5) | |
| Prior lines of therapy, no. (%) 2-3 4-5 6-10 | 15 (37.5) 17 (42.5) 8 (20) | |
| Treatment received, no. (%) Lenvatinib with everolimus Lenvatinib alone | 30 (75) 10 (25) | |

ECOG, Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group; ICI, immune checkpoint inhibitor; IMDC, International Metastatic Renal Cell Carcinoma Database Consortium; IO, immuno-oncology; mRCC, metastatic renal cell carcinoma; TKI, tyrosine kinase inhibitors; VEGFR, vascular endothelial growth factor receptor

VEGFR-TKI AFTER IO: THE LENVATINIB/EVEROLIMUS COMBINATION





| Antitumor Activity of Lenvatinib +/– Everolimus | | | |
|---|-----------|--|--|
| Best overall response – no. (%) | | | |
| Complete response | 0 (0) | | |
| Clinical benefit | 27 (67.5) | | |
| Partial response | 12 (30) | | |
| Stable disease | 15 (37.5) | | |
| Progressive disease | 13 (32.5) | | |

RENAL CELL CARCINOMA: ESMO CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINES





1L, first line; 2L, second line; ccRCC, clear cell renal cell carcinoma; ESMO, European society for medical oncology; TKI, tyrosine kinase inhibitors; VEGFR, vascular endothelial growth factor receptor

Escudier B, et al. Annals of Oncology 2019;30:706-20.

NCCN GUIDELINES – KIDNEY CANCER



 NCCN guidelines do not recommend specific treatment for patients who progressed on an IO-based first-line and simply report the available options for first and subsequent lines.

| FIRST-LINE THERAPY FOR CLEAR CELL HISTOLOGY | | | |
|---|--|---|---|
| Risk | Preferred regimens | Other recommended regimens | Useful under certain circumstances |
| Favorable ^a | • Axitinib + pembrolizumab • Pazopanib • Sunitinib | • Ipilimumab + nivolumab • Cabozantinib (category 2B) • Axitinib + avelumab | Active surveillance^b Axitinib (category 2B) High-dose IL-2^c |
| Poor/ intermediate ^a | Ipilimumab + nivolumab (category 1) Axitinib + pembrolizumab (category 1) Cabozantinib | • Pazopanib • Sunitinib • Axitinib + avelumab | • Axitinib (category 2B) • High-dose IL-2 ^c • Temsirolimus ^d |

PRINCIPLES OF SYSTEMIC THERAPY FOR RELAPSE OR STAGE IV DISEASE

| SUBSEQUENT THERAPY FOR CLEAR CELL HISTOLOGY | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| Preferred regimens | Other recommended regimens | Useful under certain circumstances | |
| Cabozantinib (category 1) Nivolumab (category 1) Ipilimumab + nivolumab | Axitinib (category 1) Lenvatinib + everolimus (category 1) Axitinib + pembrolizumab Everolimus Pazopanib Sunitinib Axitinib + avelumab (category 3) | Bevacizumab or biosimilar^e (category 2B) Sorafenib (category 2B) High-dose IL-2 for selected patients^c (category 2B) Temsirolimus^d (category 2B) | |

IL-2, interleukin-2; IO, immuno-oncology; NCCN, national comprehensive cancer network NCCN guidelines for kidney cancer v 2.2020 August 5,2019.

CONCLUSIONS



- No prospective data for second-line of therapy after progression on an IO-based first-line therapy
- The difference in reimbursement regulations in each country might increase the heterogeneity in clinical approach to treatment of mRCC and sequencing of agents across multiple lines of treatment
- The VEGFR TKIs retain their activity after IO with a PFS from 7 to 13 months and a response rate of 35-40%^{1, 2}
 ...but available studies are heterogeneous for type of TKI used
- Enrolment of patients in clinical trial should be encouraged
- In clinical practice, based on data from the CABOSUN³ and METEOR⁴ trials, cabozantinib can be considered the best TKI after progression on an IO-based first-line therapy

IO, immuno-oncology; mRCC, metastatic renal cell carcinoma; PFS, progression-free survival; TKI, tyrosine kinase inhibitors; VEGFR, vascular endothelial growth factor receptor

^{1.} Auvray M et al. Eur J Cancer. 2019;108:33-40; 2. Shah AY et al. Eur J Cancer. 2019;114:67-75; 3. Choueiri TK, et al. JCO 2017;35(6):591-597; 4. Powles T, et al. Br J Cancer. 2018;119:663-9

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HCC CONNECT Bodenackerstrasse 17 4103 Bottmingen **SWITZERLAND**

Dr. Antoine Lacombe Pharm D, MBA Phone: +41 79 529 42 79 antoine.lacombe@cor2ed.com

Dr. Froukje Sosef MD Phone: +31 6 2324 3636 froukje.sosef@cor2ed.com

