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# **GI CONNECT**

# MEETING SUMMARY LOWER GI CANCER HIGHLIGHTS FROM ESMO 2022

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# PRACTICE-CHANGING DATA ESMO 2022

# NEOADJUVANT IMMUNE CHECKPOINT INHIBITION IN LOCALLY ADVANCED MMR-DEFICIENT COLON CANCER: THE NICHE-2 STUDY

Chalabi M, et al. ESMO 2022. Abstract #LBA7

MMR, mismatch repair

# NICHE-2: BACKGROUND AND STUDY DESIGN



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- Approximately 10-15% of colon cancers are mismatch repair deficient (dMMR)<sup>1,2</sup>
- There is a recurrence rate of 20-40% for stage III dMMR tumours despite standard of care chemotherapy<sup>1,2</sup>
- The NICHE-1 study showed that immune checkpoint blockade is highly effective in dMMR colon cancer
- NICHE-2 was an investigator-initiated, non-randomised, multicentre study



ctDNA, circulating tumour DNA; PBMC, peripheral blood mononuclear cells; w, weeks

1. Chalabi M, et al. Nat Med 2020, 26(4):566-576; 2. Verschoor Y, et al. J Clin Oncol 2022, 40: 3511-3511, 3. Chalabi M, et al. Ann Oncol. 2022; 33 (suppl\_7): S808-S869 (ESMO 2022, oral presentation)

# NICHE-2: RESULTS



- Grade 3-4 immune-related adverse events were observed in 4 (4%) patients. 98% of patients underwent timely surgery, meeting the safety primary endpoint
- In the PP population (n=107), baseline radiologic assessment revealed 89% stage III, 77% high-risk stage III, and 64% T4 tumours
- 95% of patients achieved a major pathological response; 67% a pathologic complete response
- With a median follow-up of 13.1 months (1.4-57.4), there have been no disease recurrences

Pathologic response (RVT)		Patients N=107 n (%)
Yes	(≤50%)	106 (99%)
Major	(≤10%)	102 (95%)
Complete	(0%)	72 (67%)
Partial	(10%-50%)	4 (4%)
No	(≥50%)	1 (1%)

PP, per protocol; RVT, residual viable tumour Chalabi M, et al. Ann Oncol. 2022; 33 (suppl\_7): S808-S869 (ESMO 2022, oral presentation)

### NICHE-2: SUMMARY



- 4 weeks of treatment resulted in 95% of patients with dMMR achieving a major pathological response, including 67% pathologic complete responses
- Treatment was well tolerated with only 4% of patients experiencing grade 3 or 4 immunerelated adverse events
- No disease recurrences after a median follow-up of 13.1 months

#### **Clinical Perspective**

• NICHE-2 results indicate that future treatment schedules for dMMR patients with early colon cancer, are likely to be with immunotherapy rather than chemotherapy

ADJUVANT HYPERTHERMIC INTRAPERITONEAL CHEMOTHERAPY IN LOCALLY ADVANCED COLON CANCER (HIPECT4): A RANDOMIZED PHASE 3 STUDY

Arjona-Sanchez A, et al. ESMO 2022. Abstract #3140

### HIPECT4: BACKGROUND AND STUDY DESIGN



- Peritoneal metastasis in locally advanced colon cancer is estimated around 25% at 3 years from surgical resection with a poor prognosis
- There is controversy about the results using prophylactic hyperthermic intraperitoneal chemotherapy (HIPEC) in this group of patients
- HIPECT4 is an open label, randomised, phase 3, controlled trial to determine the efficacy and safety of adjuvant HIPEC in patients with locally advanced colon cancer.



DFS, disease free survival; HIPEC, hyperthermic intraperitoneal chemotherapy; ITT, intent to treat; M0, non-metastatic; M1, metastatic; min, minute; MMC, mitomycin C; OS, overall survival; PP, per protocol

Arjona-Sanchez A, et al. Ann Oncol. 2022;33 (suppl\_7): S136-S196 (ESMO 2022 presentation)

### **HIPECT4: RESULTS**



- 184 patients were recruited and randomised (89 experimental vs 95 control) between November 2015 and January 2021
- Median follow-up of 36 (IQR 27-36) months
- Demographic, tumour features, surgical management and final pathology reports were similar between both groups
- The LC was improved in the experimental arm (35.3 ± 0.4 vs 33.2 ± 0.8 months) with a 3 years LC rate of 97% vs 87% (p=0.025)
- No differences were observed in DFS and OS
- The pT4 subgroup showed a clear benefit of LC in the HIPEC arm
- No differences in morbidity were observed between groups

### **HIPECT4: SUMMARY**



- The addition of hyperthermic intraperitoneal chemotherapy with mitomycin C to a complete surgical resection for locally advanced colon cancer improves the LC rate, without increasing morbidity
- This benefit is greatest in the subgroup of patients with pT4 colon cancer.

### **Clinical Perspective**

- Need to see additional data before making any changes to clinical practice
- Challenges previous negative perceptions of HIPEC due to prior negative trials
- Need to understand which patients are likely to respond

FRESCO-2: A GLOBAL PHASE 3 MULTIREGIONAL CLINICAL TRIAL EVALUATING THE EFFICACY AND SAFETY OF FRUQUINTINIB IN PATIENTS WITH REFRACTORY METASTATIC CRC

Dasari NA, et al. ESMO 2022. Abstract #LBA25

# FRESCO-2: BACKGROUND AND STUDY DESIGN



- Effective treatment options are limited for patients (pts) with refractory metastatic colorectal cancer
- Fruquintinib is a highly selective and potent oral tyrosine kinase inhibitor or VGFR-1, -2 and -3 and was approved in China in the 3L+ mCRC setting based on results from the FRESCO trial
- FRESCO-2 evaluated fruquintinib in more heavily pre-treated pts reflecting current global practices



#### **Stratification factors**

- Prior therapy (TAS-102 vs regorafenib vs TAS-102 and regorafenib)
- RAS mutational status (wild-type vs mutant)
- Duration of metastatic disease (≤18 months vs >18 months

Note: to ensure the patient population is reflective of clinical practice, the number of patients with prior regorafenib was limited to 344 patients (50%); TAS-102, trifluridine and tipiracil hydrochloride

3L, third line; BRAF, B-Raf; BSC, best supportive care; EFGR, endothelial growth factor; mCRC, metastatic prostate cancer; PO, orally; QD, once a day; RAS, rat sarcoma; R, randomisation; VEGFR, vascular endothelial growth factor receptor

Dasari NA, et al. Ann Oncol. 2022; 33 (suppl\_7): S808-S869 (ESMO 2022 presentation)

# **FRESCO-2: RESULTS**



### EFFICACY

Category	Fruquintinib	Placebo	
Overall survival			
Events/patients n/N (%)	317/461 (68.8)	173/230 (75.2)	
Stratified p-value (log-rank)	P<0.001		
Stratified HR (95% CI)	0.662 (0.549, 0.800)		
Median (mo), (95% CI)	7.4 (6.7, 8.2)	4.8 (4.0, 5.8)	
Median OS difference (mo)	2.6		
Progression-free survival			
Events/patients n/N (%)	392/461 (85.0)	213/230 (92.6)	
Stratified p-value (log-rank)	<0.001		
Stratified HR (95% CI)	0.321 (0.267, 0.386)		
Median (mo), (95% CI)	3.7 (3.5, 3.8)	1.8 (1.8, 1.9)	
Median PFS difference (mo)	1	.9	

- Median duration of follow-up:
  - 11.3 months fruquintinib vs 11.2 months placebo
- Patients were heavily pre-treated, with > 70% having received > 3 lines of prior therapy

### SAFETY

Category, n (%)	Fruquintinib (N=456)	Placebo (N=230)
Any TEAE	<b>451 (98.9)</b>	<b>213 (92.6)</b>
Grade ≥3	286 (62.7)	116 (50.4)
Treatment-related Grade ≥3	164 (36.0)	26 (11.3)
Leading to death	48 (10.5)	45 (19.6)
Any serious TEAE	<b>171 (37.5)</b>	<b>88 (38.3)</b>
Grade ≥3	162 (35.5)	85 (37.0)
<b>TEAEs leading to dose modifications</b> Dose interruption Dose reduction Dose discontinuation	247 (54.2) 110 (24.1)ª 93 (20.4) <sup>b</sup>	70 (30.4) 9 (3.9) 49 (21.3)

<sup>a</sup> Most common TEAEs leading to dose reduction in fruquintinib arm: hand-foot syndrome (5.3%), hypertension (3.7%), and asthenia (3.5%)

<sup>b</sup> Most common TEAE leading to dose discontinuation in the fruquintinib arm: asthenia (1.5%)

CI, confidence interval; CR, complete response; HR, hazard ratio; mo, months; ORR, objective response rate; OS, overall survival; PFS, progression free survival; PR, partial response; SD, stable disease; TEAE, treatment-emergent adverse event Dasari NA, et al. Ann Oncol. 2022; 33 (suppl\_7): S808-S869 (ESMO 2022 presentation)

### FRESCO-2: SUMMARY



- Fruquintinib had a significant and clinically meaningful improvement in OS and PFS in patients with refractory mCRC
- Fruquintinib was well tolerated, with a safety profile consistent with the established profile for monotherapy

#### **Clinical Perspective**

• FRESCO-2 results are consistent with FRESCO and should support a new treatment option in refractory mCRC

KRYSTAL-1: UPDATED EFFICACY AND SAFETY OF ADAGRASIB (MRTX849) WITH OR WITHOUT CETUXIMAB IN PATIENTS WITH ADVANCED CRC HARBOURING A KRASG12C MUTATION

Klempner S, et al. ESMO 2022. Abstract #LBA24

CRC, colorectal cancer; KRAS, Kirsten rat sarcoma

### KRYSTAL-1: BACKGROUND AND STUDY DESIGN



- KRAS<sup>G12C</sup> mutations are associated with poor prognosis compared with other mutations in patients with CRC and later-line treatment options are limited
- Adagrasib is a KRAS<sup>G12C</sup> inhibitor and when combined with cetuximab to cause a dual EGFR/KRAS<sup>G12C</sup> blockade may enhance inhibition of KRAS-dependent signalling and overcome adaptive feedback
- KRYSTAL-1 is a phase 1b/2 CRC cohort study evaluating the safety and efficacy of adagrasib in patients with KRAS<sup>G12C</sup>-mutated advanced solid tumours



<sup>a</sup> KRAS<sup>G12C</sup> mutation detected in tumour tissue and/or ctDNA per protocol. <sup>b</sup> Capsule, fasted. <sup>c</sup> Cetuximab dosing, 400 mg/m<sup>2</sup> followed by 250 mg/m<sup>2</sup> QW, or 500 mg/m<sup>2</sup> Q2W. <sup>d</sup> Response was analysed in the clinically evaluable population with local radiology review.

BD, twice a day; CRC, colorectal cancer; ctDNA, circulating tumour DNA; DCR, disease control rate; DOR, duration of response; KRAS, Kirsten rat sarcoma; ORR, objective response rate; OS, overall survival; Q2W, twice weekly; QW, once weekly; RECIST, Response Evaluation Criteria in Solid Tumours; RP2D, recommended phase 2 dose; PK, pharmacokinetics; PFS, progression-free survival Klempner S, et al. Ann Oncol. 2022; 33 (suppl\_7): S808-S869 (ESMO 2022, oral presentation)



#### **BASELINE DATA**

### EFFICACY

	Adagrasib N=44	Adagrasib + cetuximab N=32	Endpoint	Adagrasib N=44	Adagrasib + cetuximab N=32
Median follow-up, months	20.1 months	17.5 months	ORR, % (n/N)	19% (8/43)	46% (13/28)
Median age, years	59	60	DCR, % (n/N)	86% (37/43)	100% (28/28)
Females, %	50%	53%	Median PFS, months (95% CI)	5.6 months (95% CI: 4.1-8.3)	6.9 months (95% CI: 5.4-8.1)
Median prior lines of systemic therapy, n	3	3	Median OS, months (95% CI)	19.8 months (95% CI: 12.5-23.0)	13.4 months (95% CI: 9.5-20.1)
ECOG PS, %				· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
0	52%	44%	Median DOR, months (95% CI)	4.3 months (95% CI: 2.3-8.3)	7.6 months (95% CI: 5.7-NE)
1	48%	56%	Median TTR, months (95% CI)	1.5 months	1.4 months

### SAFETY

• Grade 1 or 2 and 3 or 4 TRAEs occurred in 59% and 34% of pts, respectively, in the monotherapy cohort, and 84% and 16% of pts, respectively, in the combination cohort. No grade 5 TRAE occurred.

CI, confidence interval; DCR, disease control rate; DOR, duration of response; ECOG PS, Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group performance status; NE, not estimable; ORR, objective response rate; OS, overall survival; PFS, progression-free survival; TRAE, treatment related adverse events; TTR, time to responseKlempner S, et al. Ann Oncol. 2022; 33 (suppl\_7): S808-S869 (ESMO 2022, oral presentation)

### **KRYSTAL-1: SUMMARY**



- Adagrasib is well tolerated as monotherapy and with cetuximab
- Both mono- and combination therapies showed clinical activity in heavily pretreated pts with KRASG12C mutated CRC, with more sustained responses with the combination
- Adagrasib + cetuximab is being investigated in 2L CRC in the Phase 3 KRYSTAL-10 trial (NCT04793958)

#### **Clinical Perspective**

• The role of these treatment combinations in mCRC needs to be better defined in larger, randomised trials

SOTORASIB IN COMBINATION WITH PANITUMUMAB IN REFRACTORY KRAS G12C-MUTATED CRC: SAFETY AND EFFICACY FOR PHASE 1B FULL EXPANSION COHORT (CodeBreak 101)

Kuboki Y, et al. ESMO 2022. Abstract #3150

CRC, colorectal cancer; KRAS, Kirsten rat sarcoma

### CodeBreaK 101: BACKGROUND AND STUDY DESIGN



- Early data from the CodeBreaK 101 phase lb dose exploration (n=8) and expansion (n=18) cohorts showed promising antitumour activity for the combination of sotorasib and panitumumab in chemorefractory KRAS<sup>G12C</sup>-mutated mCRC
- Results from the fully enrolled dose expansion cohort of 40 pts with refractory mCRC are reported

Phase 1b, multicentre study<sup>a</sup>: Sotorasib (KRASG12C inhibitor) + panitumumab (EGFR antibody) in chemorefractory KRAS<sup>G12C</sup>-mutated mCRC



Primary endpoint: Safety/tolerability

Secondary endpoints: Anti-tumour efficacy (ORR, DCR, DOR, TTR, PFS per RECIST v1.1, and OS) and PK

<sup>a</sup> NCT04185883; EudraCT 2020-004721-23. <sup>b</sup> For patients with tumours known to be microsatellite instability high, prior checkpoint inhibitor therapy is required if clinically appropriate and locally available for that indication. <sup>c</sup> Dose exploration is completed

DCR, disease control rate; DOR, duration of response; IV; intravenous; KRAS, Kirsten rat sarcoma; mCRC, metastatic castration resistant prostate cancer; ORR, objective response rate; OS, overall survival; Q2w, every 2 weeks; PFS, progression-free survival; PK, pharmacokinetics; PO, orally; pt, patient; RECIST, Response Evaluation Criteria in Solid Tumours; TTR, time to response Kuboki Y, et al. Ann Oncol. 2022; 33 (suppl\_7): S136-S196 (ESMO 2022 oral presentation)

### **CodeBreaK 101: RESULTS**

- **Baseline characteristics:** 75% female, median age 57.5 years, median prior lines of therapy was 2
- Safety findings were consistent with known profiles of the individual drugs. No TRAEs resulted in discontinuation of either drug
- Sotorasib PK exposures were consistent to those observed in monotherapy studies

### SAFETY

TRAE	N=40 n (%)
TRAE, any grade	37 (93)
Attributed to sotorasib	26 (65)
Attributed to panitumumab	37 (93)
Grade 3 TRAE <sup>a</sup>	9 (23)
Grade 4 TRAE	0
Fatal TRAE	0
TRAE leading to dose interuptions/reductions	
Attributed to sotorasib	6 (15)
Attributed to panitumumab	10 (25)
TRAE leading to discontinuation of either drug	0

#### Data cutoff: June 24, 2022.

<sup>a</sup>Grade 3 TRAEs were rash (n=2, 5%), anaemia, fatigue, peripheral oedema, cellulitis, pustular rash, salmonellosis, skin infection, hypomagnesaemia, malignant neoplasm progression, pulmonary embolism, dermatitis acneiform, and pruritis (n=1 patient each, 3%)

#### **EFFICACY**

Response by investigator assessment	N=40 n (%)
ORR confirmed (95% Cl)	<b>12 (30)</b> (16.6, 46.5)
Complete response	0
Partial response	12 (30)
Stable disease <sup>a</sup>	25 (63)
Progressive disease	3 (8)
DCR (95% CI)	<b>37 (93)</b> (79.6, 98.4)
Data cutoff: June 24, 2022.	

<sup>a</sup>Minimum requirement for stable disease was 5 weeks.

DCR, disease control rate; mCRC, metastatic colorectal cancer; ORR, objective response rate

#### ORR subgroup analysis by primary tumour location



CI, confidence interval; DCR, disease control rate; ORR, objective response rate; PK, pharmacokinetics; TRAEs, treatment related adverse events Kuboki Y, et al. Ann Oncol. 2022; 33 (suppl\_7): S136-S196 (ESMO 2022 oral presentation)



### CodeBreak 101: SUMMARY



- Sotorasib plus panitumumab was safe and tolerable in these chemorefractory patients with KRASG12C-mutated mCRC
- A 3-fold higher response rate (30% ORR) was observed than previously seen with sotorasib monotherapy, with no apparent difference based on tumour location

#### **Clinical Perspective**

• The global phase 3 study, CodeBreaK300 (NCT05198934) will provide further data on the combination of sotorasib plus panitumumab vs standard of care in patients with KRAS<sup>G12C</sup>-mutated mCRC

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