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Analyses of real-world data on patient outcomes in South Yorkshire for patients with metastatic Non-Squamous Lung Cancer treated with Pembrolizumab plus Pemetrexed-Platinum-based chemotherapy

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Introduction

In 2019, NICE recommended Pembrolizumab with Pemetrexed and Platinum-chemotherapy for untreated, metastatic, non-squamous NSCLC in adults whose tumours are EGFR and ALK negative. We have audited patient outcomes and CDF compliance.

Method

Patients who commenced treatment between March 2019-March 2022 were identified using an electronic database. Descriptive statistical analyses were conducted using Excel and Graph Pad Prism.

Results

40 patients were identified. The median age of patients was 67 years (range 35-79), all had baseline performance status of 0 or 1 and were diagnosed with stage IIIB or IV disease. 60% (24) had PDL-1 <1% while 18% (7) had PDL-1 >50%. 83% (33) completed all 4 cycles of induction treatment. The median number of maintenance cycles was 6 (range 1-26). 65% (26) achieved a partial response (PR), 25% (10) had stable disease (SD) and 10% (4 patients) progressed on induction treatment (PD). 25% (1) stopped induction therapy following progression. Median OS was 18.2 months (CI? 4.2-44.4). Median PFS was 12.5 months (CI? 2.8- 41.5). Median follow-up was 17.8 months (4.3 -43.5 CI). During induction therapy, 40% (16) experienced toxicities of grade 2 or above. 28% (11) needed steroids to manage their toxicities during induction. 13% (5) did not complete induction cycles and only 1 patient stopped all treatment altogether due to toxicities.

Conclusion

Pembrolizumab combination therapy an effective first line treatment in advanced non-squamous NSCLC. While our median progression-free survival of 12.5 months is encouraging relatively small numbers preclude a meaningful comparison of survival outcomes with the KEYNOTE-189 trial ^[1].

Citation:

[1] Gadgeel S et al Updated Analysis From KEYNOTE-189: Pembrolizumab or Placebo Plus Pemetrexed and Platinum for Previously Untreated Metastatic Nonsquamous Non-Small-Cell Lung Cancer. J Clin Oncol. 2020 May 10;38(14):1505-1517.

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