

Precision cancer medicine

Balazs Halmos MD

Precision medicine- what is in it for the surgeon?

- Biomarkers to test to catch cancer earlier so surgery could be performed
- Biomarkers to test in a cancer patient to define if surgery is meaningful
- Biomarkers to test in a cancer patient to see what treatment they should receive pre-op to increase chance of cure
- Biomarkers to test post-op to define who might not need further therapy
- Biomarkers to test post-op to define what further therapy a patient might need and at what intensity

Breast cancer

- Most commonly diagnosed cancer in women, 210,000 cases, 40,000 deaths per year in US
- Role of surgery, radiation and chemotherapy unlikely to radically improve
- 15-30% of breast cancer produce a cell surface molecule HER2 (ERBB2) in excess typically secondary to an increase in the number of HER2 gene copies
- The HER2 protein itself plays a critical role in the malignant behavior of these cells
- Such cancers have a worse prognosis and more aggressive behavior than other breast cancers

ErbB2 targeting

- Trastuzumab- molecularly tailored antibody that binds to and thereby blocks the function of HER2
- In early studies it was shown to be overall quite safe with limited activity alone in HER2+ breast cancers
- More significantly it was shown to enhance the activity of chemotherapy when given alongside and thereby led to modest improvements in survival of patients with metastatic breast cancer



Herceptin treatment has modest activity in advanced breast cancer



Herceptin treatment dramatically improves outcomes of patients with ErbB2-positive breast cancer



Figure 2. Kaplan–Meier Estimates of Disease-free Survival (Panel A) and Overall Survival (Panel B).

The hazard ratios are for the comparison of the trastuzumab group with the control group.

Staggering improvements in outcomes (50% reduction in risk of recurrence) in early stage disease leading to many thousands of lives saved per year!!!!

Neosphere study- pathology can guide drug development

Study Eligibility and Objectives

- Eligibility:
 - Operable or locally advanced/inflammatory breast cancer
 - Centrally confirmed HER2-positive (IHC 3+ or FISH positive)
 - Chemotherapy naïve
 - Primary breast tumor >2 cm
 - No metastasis
- Objectives:
 - Primary: pathological CR (pCR) rates
 - Secondary: clinical response, disease-free survival, breast conservation rate, biomarker evaluation

	TH (n = 107)	THP (n = 107)	HP (n = 107)	TP (n = 96)	
pCR in breast	29.0%	45.8%	16.8%	24.0%	
pCR in breast and node negative at surgery	21.5%	39.3%	11.2%	17.7%	
pCR in breast and node positive at surgery	7.5%	<mark>6.5%</mark>	5.6%	6.3%	

The differences between the THP arm and other arms for pCR were statistically significant, with all the p-values being <0.05.

Targeted therapy

- Definition
 - Drug targets a well-defined molecular pathway
 - Preferably this pathway should be specific to tumor versus normal tissue
 - The activity of the pathway should be critical for the tumor
 - There should be a pharmacological way of inhibiting the target-"druggability"
 - If chosen well, targeted treatments should have low toxicity

Have we been using targeted treatments all along?

- About half of all breast cancers produce hormone receptors for estrogen and/or progesterone hormones
- These tumors are dependent on the activity of these receptors
- Hormone therapy with tamoxifen and other hormones has been the cornerstone of the treatment of such cancers with great success, especially in early-stage cancers- with minimal side effects

Chronic myeloid leukemia- case example





Targeted therapy

- Definition
 - Drug targets a well-defined molecular pathway
 - Close to 100% has BCR-ABL
 - Preferably this pathway should be specific to tumor versus normal tissue
 - Normal cells do not have this fusion product
 - The activity of the pathway should be critical for the tumor
 - Cells depend on its activity
 - There should be a pharmacological way of inhibiting the target- "druggability"
 - Kinase function can be blocked
 - If chosen well, targeted treatments should have low toxicity
 - Indeed, imatinib is fairly non-toxic



NEJM 2019



GIST sarcomas



Majority (90%) of GISTs carry oncogenic kit mutations (exons 9 and 11), imatinib highly effective

- 5% carry PDGFR mutations, mostly sensitive to imatinib
- 5% non-mutant- resistant to imatinib
- Interestingly, systemic mastocytosis patients have a D816V kit mutation that is resistant to imatinib



Oppelt, P. J., Hirbe, A. C., & Van Tine, B. A. (2017). Gastrointestinal stromal tumors (GISTs): point mutations matter in management, a review. Journal of Gastrointestinal Oncology, 8(3), 466–473. https://doi.org/10.21037/jgo.2016.09.15

Benefit of targeted treatment extends into adjuvant setting



Actionable mutations in non-small cell lung cancer **RESPONSE SURVIVAL**



Progression-free survival in EGFR mutation positive and negative patients

0.8

0.6*

0.4*

0.2

0.0

21

EGFR mutation negative

Gefitinib (n=91)

p<0.0001

Carboplatin / paclitaxel (n-85)

No. events gefitinib, 88 (96.7%)

No. events C / P, 70 (82.4%)

HR (95% CI) = 2.85 (2.05)



ALK-rearrangement in advanced NSCLC:

Dramatic benefit from ALK inhibition

Identification of the transforming *EML4-ALK* fusion gene in NSCLC



Tumor responses to crizotinib for patients with *ALK*-positive NSCLC



A Progression-free Survival

Acquired resistance to ALK inhibitors: A "matching" game



Gainor JF, et al. Cancer Discov. 2016;6(10):1118-33.



The era of multiplex testing is here



Molecular genotyping for advanced NSCLC

	EGFR	ALK	ROS	MET	B-RAF	NTRK	ErbB2	RET
Level of Evidence	1	1	1	2A	1	3A	2B	2В
1 st Line Treatment Options	Erlotinib Gefitinib Afatinib Dacomitinib Osimertinib	Crizotinib Alectinib Ceritinib Brigatinib	Crizotinib Ceritinib Entrectinib	Crizotinib Cabozantinib Capmatinib Glesatinib Tepotinib	Dabrafenib +/- trametinib Vemurafenib	Larotrectinib Entrectinib	T-DM1 Herceptin Afatinib Poziotinib TAE788	Cabozantinib Vandetanib LOXO-292 BIU 667
2 nd Line Treatment Options	Osimertinib	Brigatinib Lorlatinib	Lorlatinib					

- Green: FDA approved drug for indication
- Yellow: FDA approved drug for other indications
- Red: Experimental agent

Acquired resistance



Wild-type receptor: erlotinib (chemical structure) snugly fits into the ATP-binding pocket of EGFR blocking its function

T790M mutant receptor: methionine (M) 790 (orange) protrudes into the ATP-binding pocket, leads to steric hindrance disallowing erlotinib to bind Kobayashi...Halmos, NEJM 2005

Third-generation T790M-targeting TKIs

FLAURA

 These novel and highly promising drugs largely spare EGFR WT signaling and preferentially block mutant/T790M signaling, leading to potentially wider theraped indices

AURA-2: Osimertinib









ctDNA- basics



Table. Clinically Available Assays for Genotyping of Plasma Cell-Free DNA (cfDNA)

	Assays				
	PCR		NGS		
Characteristic	Allele-Specific	Emulsion	Amplicon-Based Targeted	Capture-Based Targeted	
Variants potentially detected	Known recurring mutations	Known recurring mutations	Any exonic mutations, copy number gains	Exonic mutations, intronic gene fusions, copy number gains	
Quantitation	Semiquantitative (against standard curve)	Absolute or relative quantitation, wide dynamic range	Quantitation of relative AF, but vulnerable to PCR amplification bias	Quantitation of relative AF	
Speed & complexity	Rapid, relatively easy to interpret	Rapid, relatively easy to interpret	Potentially rapid, less complex bioinformatics	Potentially slower, more complex bioinformatics	
Examples	Cobas (Roche) therascreen (Qiagen)	Droplet digital PCR (Biorad) BEAMing (Sysmex Inostics)	Tam-seq (Inivata)	Guardant360 (Guardant) cancerselect (Personal Genome Diagnostics)	

Oxnard JAMA Onc 2016



Corcoran/Chabner NEJM 2018

ctDNA usually in low allele frequency



Lanman PLOS One 2015

Types of assays

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Oxnard JAMA Onc 2016



Needle in the haystack

- 64 year old nurse with limited smoking history
- Admitted with massive stroke- found to have hypercoag state of malignancy
- Evaluation showed lung mass and diffuse nodal and bony mets
- EBUS showed adenocarcinoma, no tissue left for further testing
- Patient frail, hemiplegic and extremely discouraged, rebiopsy very difficult due to anticoagulation





August 2017



Incomplete genotyping

- Negative targeted testing (e.g., *EGFR* and *ALK* only)
- Negative cfDNA analysis only, without reflex to tumor genotyping

No genotyping

- No biomarker testing attempted
- PD-L1 IHC only

Effective genotyping

- Tumor NGS
- Negative cfDNA analysis, with reflex to tumor genotyping
- Targeting testing or cfDNA genotyping positive for actionable driver mutation

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AAGR

CCR Translations

Oxnard, CCR



HEALTH

A Simple Blood Test Is as Effective as a Biopsy in Detecting Lung Cancer Mutations

f 🕑 🖗 🙆



Blood first?



ctDNA- expanding uses







Testing the liquid biopsy for #cancer outcomes, a step forward for the molecular stethoscope nyti.ms/1alyuQl

Blood Test Shows Promise as Alternative to Cancer Biopsy

19 April 2015

Now the Australian researchers, Dr. Jeanne Tie and Dr. Peter Gibbs of the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research, are starting a study of 450 patients randomly assigned to have the blood test or not. Those who have it will get chemotherapy if the test finds cancer DNA. Those who do not have the blood test will get usual care, whatever their physician prescribes.

"This will be the first real test of whether circulating tumor DNA can be clinically useful," Dr. Vogelstein said. **The New Jork Times**

A Stethoscope for the Next 200 Years

The ability to see 'alien' DNA and RNA in the blood can detect cancers very early.



2 Jan 2015 By ERIC TOPOL And STEPHEN R. QUAKE THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.







Testing the liquid biopsy for #cancer outcomes, a step forward for the molecular stethoscope nyti.ms/1alyuQl

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A DnaVinci robot for the Next 200 Years

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FLAURA- early ctDNA clearance





- This analysis of FLAURA confirms prior studies showing that presence of EGFR mutation in plasma ctDNA at baseline is a poor prognostic factor
- Patients with plasma EGFR mutation clearance have improved PFS
- Clearance of EGFR mutation from ctDNA favors osimertinib in PFS

Zhou C. et al, ASCO 2019

ctDNA for risk stratification

Study Design:



Chaudhuri ASCO 2017

Overall survival
ctDNA- emerging uses



Volume			Estimation
MAF	1.4% (0.62–3.1%)	0.1% (0.06–0.18%)	0.008% (0.002–0.03%)
Nodule diameter	5.8 cm	2.6 cm	1.2 cm
Nodule volume	100 cm ³	10 cm ³	1 cm ³
T stage	T 3	T1c	T1b



Sholl, PeerView

Personalized- bespoke assay

TRACERx approach



ctDNA in the post-surgical setting- colorectal cancer





Immunotherapy – the basics



Checkmate-017: Major survival benefit in squamous NSCLC



Figure 1. Kaplan–Meier Curves for Overall Survival.

The analysis included all the patients who underwent randomization. Symbols indicate censored observations, and horizontal lines the rates of overall survival at 1 year.

CheckMate 017/057 5-Year Survive 006

5-Year Pooled PFS, DOR: Nivolumab vs Docetaxel^a



The ORR was 19.7% (84/427)^b for nivolumab and 11.2% (48/427) for docetaxel

4Par tocal investigator *Since the primary analysis of the CheckMate 057 study, 1 patient's response changed from SD to PR, and 1 from PR to CR.

CTLA-4 Checkpoint Inhibition

Lymphoid tissue CTLA-4 is a negative regulator of costimulation Without With Anti–CTLA-4 monoclonal Immunotherapy Immunotherapy required for activation of an antibodies block negative antitumor T cell in a lymph regulation by CTLA-4 node upon recognition of APC tumor antigen Anti-CD80/86 MHC CTLA-4 Antigen antibody CTLA-4 TCR T cell activated T cell inactivated Inactivation Activation of T Cell of T Cell Elimination of Tumor escape **Tumor attack** Tumor escape tumor cells Ipilimumab Anti-CTLA-4 Therapies Tremelimumab





Anti–PD-1 or anti–PD-L1 monoclonal antibodies block the interaction and negative regulation



Inflamed versus non-inflamed tumors



 74 year old African American lady with heavy smoking history presents in 9/2016 with a supraclavicular mass, evaluation reveals advanced K-ras mutated lung adenocarcinoma



Unfortunately brain MR revealed multiple small CNS mets suggestive of leptomeningeal disease



This report is issued to provide results of PD-L1 (22C3) pharmDx immunohistochemical staining, a companion test to identify tumors for treatment with KEYTRUDA(TM) (pembrolizumab).

Tissue Block Tested: A1-A

Tumor Proportion Score (TPS): 100%

Cell Membrane Stain Intensity: 1 - 3+



PD-L1 as a biomarker



No. at Risk

PS ≥50%	119	86	66	60	38	20	13	8	4	3	3	3	1	0
PS 1-49%	161	122	70	45	21	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PS <1%	76	52	29	17	11	6	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0



Figure 1. PD-L1 Expression in Non–Small-Cell Lung Cancers.

Results were reported as the percentage of neoplastic cells showing membranous staining of programmed cell death ligand 1 (PD-L1) (proportion score). Shown are tumor samples obtained from patients with a proportion score of less than 1% (Panel A), a score of 1 to 49% (Panel B), and a score of at least 50% (Panel C) (all at low magnification). Tumor samples with the corresponding proportion scores are shown at a higher magnification in Panels D through F. PD-L1 staining is shown by the presence of the brown chromogen. The blue color is the hematoxylin counterstain.



Garon et al NEJM

Reck et al WCLC 19

Lopes et al ASCO 2019

TMB as a biomarker for IO



	Whole Exome	Foundation NGS	MSKCC NGS
# Genes	~22,000	324 cancer-related genes	468 cancer-related genes
Coverage	~30 Mb	0.8 Mb	1.22 Mb
Types of mutations	Coding missense mutations	Coding, missense, and indel mutations per Mb	Coding missense mutation per Mb
Germline mutations	Subtracted using germline DNA	Estimated bioinformatically & subtracted	Subtracted using matched blood
TMB Definition	# somatic, missense mutations in the tumor genome	# somatic, coding mutations (synonymous and non-synonymous), short indels per Mb of tumor genome	# somatic, missense mutations per Mb of tumor genome
ТАТ	At least 4-6 weeks	2 weeks	2 weeks

Alexandrov, LB et al. Nature 2013;500: 415-21

TMB can outperform PD-L1 IHC?

NSCLC: CheckMate 026 (nivolumab)



Peters S, eta al. AACR 2017. Abstract CT082.

Table 1 Factors that predict response to immune checkpoint inhibitor therapy							
Factor	Association with favourable clinical outcome	Validated in phase III clinical trial?	Predictive versus prognostic*	Cancer type	Tissue type for biomarker assessment ^b	Possible assay type for biomarker assessment	
Tumour mutation burden	Positive	Yes	Predictive	Multiple cancer types	Blood or tumour tissue	NGS WES or targeted gene panel sequencing	
PDL1 expression	Positive	Yes	Predictive	Multiple cancer types	Tumourtissue	Immunohistochemistry	
Copy number variation	Negative	TBD	Prognostic, predictive or both	Multiple cancer types	Tumourtissue	NGS WES or targeted gene panel sequencing	
HLA class I diversity	Positive	TBD	Predictive	Melanoma and NSCLC	Blood	NGS WES or PCR-based typing	
LOH at HLA class I alleles	Negative	TBD	Predictive	Melanoma	Tumourtissue	TBD	
T cell repertoire clonality change	Positive	TBD	Predictive	Melanoma	Tumour tissue or blood	TBD	
T cell-inflamed microenvironment	Positive	TBD	Prognostic, predictive or both	Multiple cancer types	Tumourtissue	NGS RNA-seq or immunostaining	
SERPINB3 or SERPINB4 mutations	Positive	TBD	Predictive	Melanoma	Tumourtissue	NGS WES	
Gut microbial diversity	Positive	TBD	Predictive	Melanoma	Oral or gut	PCR or NGS	
Specific gut microbial species	Positive or negative	TBD	Predictive	Melanoma	Oral or gut	PCR or NGS	
TGFβ expression	Negative	TBD	Predictive	Colon cancer and urothelial cancer	Tumourtissue	NGS RNA-seq or expression panel	
Mutations in the β -catenin pathway	Negative	TBD	Predictive	Melanoma	Tumourtissue orblood	NGS WES, targeted gene panel sequencing or RNA-seq	
JAK2 mutations (rare) ^c	Negative	TBD	Predictive	Melanoma	Tumour tissue or blood	NGS WES or targeted gene panel sequencing	
B2M mutations (rare) ^c	Negative	TBD	Predictive	Melanoma	Tumourtissue or blood	NGS WES or targeted gene panel sequencing	
STK11 mutations (common)	Negative	TBD	Predictive	NSCLC	Tumourtissue or blood	NGS WES or targeted gene panel sequencing	

HLA, human leukocyte antigen; LOH, loss of heterozygosity; NSCLC, non-small-cell lung cancer; NGS, next-generation sequencing; PDL1, programmed cell death 1 ligand 1; RNA-seq, RNA sequencing; TBD, to be determined; TGF β , transforming growth factor- β ; WES, whole-exome sequencing. "Predictive refers to a given biomarker that has an effect dependent on the immune checkpoint inhibitor therapy, and prognostic refers to a biomarker that has a specific effect independent of the therapy. ^bBlood detection of mutations refers to cell-free DNA analysis. ^cJAK2 and B2M mutations are controversial. Responses have been seen in patients with these mutations. Intratumoural heterogeneity likely needs to be assessed along with these mutations.

Havel et al Nature Rev Cancer



Keynote 024



Reck WCLC 2019

^aEffective crossover rate from chemotherapy to anti–PD-L1 therapy, 64.9% (98 patients in total crossed over to anti–PD-[L]1 therapy: 83 patients crossed over to pembrolizumab during the study, and 21 patients received subsequent anti–PD-L1 therapy outside of crossover; patients may have received >1 subsequent anti–PD-L1 therapy). ^bNominal *P* value.

Efficacy of immunotherapy in MSI-deficient colorectal cancers



PD-1 Blockade in MSI-H Cancer- a new era of tissue agnostic approaches



Anti-PD1 (pembrolizumab) – 10 mg/kg every 2 weeks



Hopkins/MSKCC study- provocative preliminary/translational results





NADIM study



Table 1. Pathologic Response

	N	%
Major response Complete response	24 18	80.0 60.0
Less < 90%	6	20.0
Total	30	100.0

Precision medicine- an enlarging basket



- Non-squamous non-small cell lung cancer
 - EGFR, ALK
 - ROS, RET, B-raf, K-ras, MET, Erbb2
- Metastatic melanoma
 - B-raf
 - KIT, N-ras
- Colorectal cancer
 - K-ras exon 2
 - Extended K-ras, N-Ras, B-raf, PIK3CA, ErbB2
 - MSI testing
 - Breast cancer
 - ER, PR, ErbB2
 - BRCA testing
 - PIK3CA
- CNS tumors
 - MGMT promoter methylation
 - IDH1, IDH2, 1p/19q loss, ATRX
- What panel? Single gene? Multiplex platform? NGS?

Tumor types showing success with genomic testing

CRC: K-Ras as a negative selection marker for EGFR inhibition



Mutations in GIST



Melanoma: Braf V600E



Genomic Mechanisms (and Targeted Drugs) in Cancer





Jurgensmeier et al, CCR 2014

NTRK as a tissue agnostic treatment biomarker

Cancers enriched for TRK fusions

Cancers harbouring TRK fusions

Gastrointestinal stromal tumour (pan-negative)

Acute lymphoblastic leukaemia, acute myeloid leukaemia, histiocytosis, multiple myeloma and dendritic cell neoplasms

Cellular and mixed congenital mesoblastic nephromad

Frequency >90%

Infanfile fibrosarcoma

at lower frequencies

Thyroid cancer^c

Infantile sarcomad

Colorectal cancer Cholangiocarcinoma

High-grade gliomab Head and neck cancer

Pancreatic cancer

Renal cell carcinoma^a

Breast cancer

Lung cancer

Melanoma

Sarcoma

Secretory breast carcinomab

MASC



Maximum change in tumour size, according to tumour type

*One patient had a TRK solvent front resistance mutations (NTRK3 G623R) at baseline owing previous therapy; [†]One patient had a pathological complete response.

GIST, gastrointestinal stromal tumour; IFS, infantile sarcoma.

RET targeting- thyroid/lung

Newer RET inhibitors appear highly effective



Proc AACR, Chicago 14-18 April 2018; Oxnard WCLC Toronto 2018 OA12.07

FGFR targeting- cholangiocarcinomas







CHANGE FROM BASELINE IN TARGET LESION SIZE (COHORT A)



ES

Finding the Achilles heel- PARP inhibition in advanced ovarian/prostate cancer

Rucaparib in relapsed, platinum-sensitive high-grade ovarian carcinoma (ARIEL2 Part 1): an international, multicentre, open-label, phase 2 trial

Prostate cancer



PARP inhibitors

Repair by

homologous

recombination

Normal cell

DNA repaired

Cell survival



igure 1. Genomic Aberrations in DNA Repair in Patients with Metastatic, Castration-Resistant Prostate Cancer

rata are shown for the 49 patients who could be evaluated for a response. Mutations and deletions in DNA-repair genes were identified through next-generation sequencing stud es. Green shading indicates patients who were classified as having a response to olaparib in the clinical trial. Patients were considered to be biomarker-positive if homozygous d tions, deleterious mutations, or both were detected in DNA-repair genes (but not single copy deletions without events detected in the second allele). A star indicates that a parcular genomic event was detected in germline DNA. Archival tumor samples were used for the sequencing studies in Patients 13, 18, 21, 40, 41, and 49 because the biopsy amples obtained during the trial were negative for tumor content



Swisher E et al. Lancet Oncol. 2017;18(1):75-87.

Somatic mutation

Partial respons

Ingoing

Time from sta

csite disea

Personalizing immunotherapy- the next frontier







Precision cancer medicine







SABS update



San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium®, December 10-14, 2019

Overall Survival in the Total Study Population







Pre-specified analysis. PD-L1 assessed at a central laboratory using the PD-L1 IHC 22C3 pharmDx assay and measured using CPS; number of PD-L1-positive tumor cells, lymphocytes, and macrophages divided by total number of tumor cells x 100); PD-L1-positive = CPS 21. Estimated treatment difference based on Miettinen & Nurminen method stratified by nodal status (positive vs negative), tumor size (17172 vs 13714) and choice of carboplatin (C3W vs QW). Data cutoff date: September 24, 2018.

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Keynote -522

San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium®, December 10-14, 2019

KEYNOTE-522 Study Design (NCT03036488)



Adjuvant phase: starts from the first adjuvant treatment and includes radiation therapy as indicated (post treatment included)

*Must consist of at least 2 separate tumor cores from the primary tumor. *Carboplatin dose was AUC 5 Q3W or AUC 1.5 Q1W. *Paclitaxel dose was 80 mg/m² Q1W. ^aDoxorubicin dose was 60 mg/m² Q3W. ^aEpirubicin dose was 90 mg/m² Q3W. ¹Cyclophosphamide dose was 600 mg/m² Q3W.

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First Pre-planned Interim Analysis for EFS




