Lingering Questions in the Selection and Sequence of Therapy for Patients with mCRC

> John L Marshall, MD Chief, Hematology and Oncology Director, Ruesch Center for the Cure of GI Cancers Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center Georgetown University Washington, DC

What is your usual first-line treatment for a <u>65-yo</u> patient with extensive, moderately symptomatic, <u>left-sided</u>, MSS, pan-RAS WT, BRAF WT mCRC?



FOLFIRI/CAPIRI + panitumumab (2), FOLFOX/CAPOX + bevacizumab (2), FOLFOX + cetuximab (1), FOLFOXIRI (1), FOLFIRI/CAPIRI + erlotinib (1), FOLFIRI + panitumumab (1)

What is your usual first-line treatment for a <u>65-yo</u> patient with extensive, moderately symptomatic, <u>right-sided</u>, MSS, pan-RAS WT, BRAF WT mCRC?



Do you generally administer EGFR inhibitors to patients with right-sided mCRC?



## Sequencing of chemobiologic agents

- Tumor sidedness and use of EGFR antibodies
- Optimal dosing of regorafenib
- TAS-102: Neutropenia, use in combination with bevacizumab

Consider the last patient in your practice who died of mCRC. Did the patient receive...



When administering regorafenib to a <u>younger</u> <u>patient with a good performance status</u>, what is your usual starting dose, and do you generally escalate to 160 mg\*?



Have you or would you use TAS-102 in combination with bevacizumab outside of a clinical trial setting?



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# Disclosures

Advisory Committee,	Amgen Inc, Bayer HealthCare Pharmaceuticals, Caris
Consulting Agreements and	Life Sciences, Celgene Corporation, Indivumed GmbH,
Contracted Research	Roche Laboratories Inc, Taiho Oncology Inc
Speakers Bureau	Amgen Inc, Bayer HealthCare Pharmaceuticals, Celgene Corporation, Merck, Roche Laboratories Inc, Taiho Oncology Inc



## What influences treatment choices in mCRC?



Therapy tailored according to individual patient needs

# 2019: A classical case of mCRC



## Refractory Colon Cancer: Many options, new data

- EGFR targeted therapy
- BRAF targeted therapy
- TAS 102
- Regorafenib
- HER2 as a target
- Immune Therapy
- Precision Medicine
- Recycled chemotherapy
- Biologics beyond progression
- Maintenance therapy 1 and sometimes 2 and 3!

# Sequence and how to decide

- Do you have to be right?
- Biomarker or not?
- Do you need a response or is stable disease OK?
- Survival benefit proven?
- Likely toxicity
- Patient preferences, includes insurance issues



# **Basic Rules**

- Possible advantage to "induction" chemo but don't go too long
- Use EGFR therapy when you need a response
  - Only RAS and maybe BRAF WT
  - Only left sided?
- Maintenance therapy helps
- Unclear on stage IV NED
- Don't leave known survival on the table



## **Global Randomized Phase III Study** RECOURSE: <u>Refractory Colore</u>ctal Cancer <u>Study</u> (NCT01607957)

Metastatic colorectal cancer (mCRC)

- 2 or more prior regimens
- Refractory / Intolerable
  - fluoropyrimidine
  - irinotecan
  - oxaliplatin
- bevacizumab
- anti-EGFR if wild-type KRAS
- ECOG PS 0-1

 Age ≥ 18 (target sample size: 800)



- Treatment continuation until progression, intolerant toxicity or patient refusal
- Multicenter, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, phase III
  - Stratification: KRAS status, time from diagnosis of metastatic disease, geographical region
- Sites: 13 countries, 114 sites
- Enrollment: June 2012 to October 2013

Mayer et al., NEJM 2015

# **Overall Survival**



## **Progression-free Survival**



Mayer et al., NEJM 2015

# **Refractory mCRC: TASCO-1**

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## Multicenter, randomized, open-label Phase II study

Previously untreated mCRC not eligible for intensive therapy

### **TT-B** (35 mg/m<sup>2</sup> po bid d1–5 + 8–12 [TT]; 5 mg/kg d1 + 15 [B]) q28d

TT/B, trifluridine/tipiracil + bevacizumab

C-B (1250 or 1000 mg/m<sup>2</sup> bid d1–14 [C]; 7.5 mg/kg d1 [B]) q21d

C-B, capecitabine + bevacizumab

### Primary endpoint

• PFS

### Secondary endpoints

- OS, ORR, DCR, tumor response
- Safety, tolerability

• Median PFS was 9.2 months TT/B vs 7.8 months

- (HR) of 0.71 (95% confidence interval [CI] 0.48-1.06)
- Preliminary median OS was 18 months TT/B vs 16.2 months C-B
  - HR of 0.56 (95% Cl, 0.32-0.98)

BID, twice daily; CI, confidence interval; DCR, disease control rate; HR, hazard ratio; ORR, overall response rate; OS, overall survival; PFS, progression-free survival; PO, by mouth

# What comes next if this is 1L?

Lesniewski-Kmak K, et al. Ann Oncol. 2018;29 (suppl 5; abstr O-022).

## Phase I Study of Trifluridine/Tipiracil Plus Irinotecan and Bevacizumab in Advanced Gastrointestinal Tumors



Varghese AM1, Cardin DB2, Hersch J3, Benson A4, Hochster HS5, Makris L6, Hamada K7, Berlin J8, Saltz LB9.

# **CORRECT study design**



- Multicenter, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, phase III
  - 2:1 randomization
  - Strat. factors: prior anti-VEGF therapy, time from diagnosis of mCRC, geographical region
- Global trial: 16 countries, 114 active centers
  - 1,052 patients screened, 760 patients randomized within 10 months
- Secondary endpoints: PFS, ORR, DCR
- Tertiary endpoints: duration of response / stable disease, QOL, pharmacokinetics, biomarkers

Grothey et al., Lancet 2012

# **Overall survival (primary endpoint)**



Days from randomization

Primary endpoint met prespecified stopping criteria at interim analysis (1-sided p<0.009279 at approximately 74% of events required for final analysis)

Grothey et al. Lancet 2012

# **ReDOS design**



**1ary endpoint**: proportion of patients who complete 2 cycles of protocol treatment and initiate cycle 3 in arm A and arm B **2ary endpoints**: OS, PFS, TTP



## Phase II ReDOS Study: OS (secondary endpoint)





HR, hazard ratio; KM est, Kaplan-Meier estimate; OS, overall survival

Data on File, ACCRU.

# Alternative Regorafanib Dosing REARRANGE Study Design



#### Primary endpoint:

• Safety :% of patients having G3/G4 AEs during the entire course of the treatment

#### Secondary endpoints:

OS
PFS

DCR

- % of Patients starting C3 on each arm
- Dose intensity

#### DCR = disease control rate; IC/EC = inclusion criteria/exclusion criteria; PD = progressive disease

Argiles G, et al. Ann Oncol. 2019;30(Suppl 4): Abstract O-026.

## **Secondary Endpoints**



The Ruesch Center for the Cure of Gastrointestinal Cancers

## Napabucasin, First-in-Class Cancer Stemness Inhibitor

Courtesy J. Bendell GI ESMO 2017



## Why Target Cancer Cell Stemness?

## **Cancer Stem Cells & Cancer Stemness**

- Highly tumorigenic
- Fundamentally responsible for continued malignant growth
- Initiators (seeds) of metastases
- Resistant to chemotherapy and current targeted therapies



## **STAT3: A Target for CSC Inhibition**

Courtesy J. Bendell GI ESMO 2017

## <u>STAT3</u>

- Key regulator of cancer stemness
- STAT3 plays a key role in the survival and proliferation of PDAC cancer stem cells<sup>1,2,3</sup>



## **Signs of Anti-Cancer Activity**



Patient #

## CanStem303C: Global Phase III Study

Courtesy J. Bendell GI ESMO 2017



## **Primary Endpoints**

• OS

## Secondary Endpoints

- PFS
- ORR
- DCR
- Safety
- QoL