



Metro North Health's vision

Creating healthier futures together—
where innovation and research meets
compassionate care and community
voices shape our services.

RBWH Cancer Care Services

Melanoma case based discussion

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Metro North
Health
acknowledges
the Traditional
Custodians of the
land upon which
we live, work and
walk, and pay our
respects to Elders
past and present.

Metro North
Health



Queensland
Government

Melanoma –Australian Stats

- Australia and NZ have the highest rates of melanoma in the world
- 4180 new cases in Qld each year
- 1 Australian Dx every 30 minutes
- 2nd most common cancer in men and women



55-60% of cases
age < 40 yrs
Can start as new
brown/black spot or
an existing spot that
demonstrates change
Trunk, slow growing

10-15% of cases
age > 65 yrs
Round, raised firm lump
that is pink /red / brown /
black. Can have crusty
surface w/ tendency to
bleed
Head and neck, fast growing

10-15 % of cases
age > 40 yrs
Large coloured spot in
sun-damaged skin.
Face, ears, neck, head.
Can grow slowly and
superficially

1-2% of cases
age > 40 yrs
Palms, soles,
fingernails/toenails.
Colourless or lightly
coloured, long streak
of pigment in nails.

Metastatic melanoma

up to 10% have unknown ¹⁰

M1a: mets to distant skin, subcutaneous or LN sites

M1b: lung mets

M1c: non-CNS visceral mets

M1d: CNS mets with/without other sites involved

Prognosis:

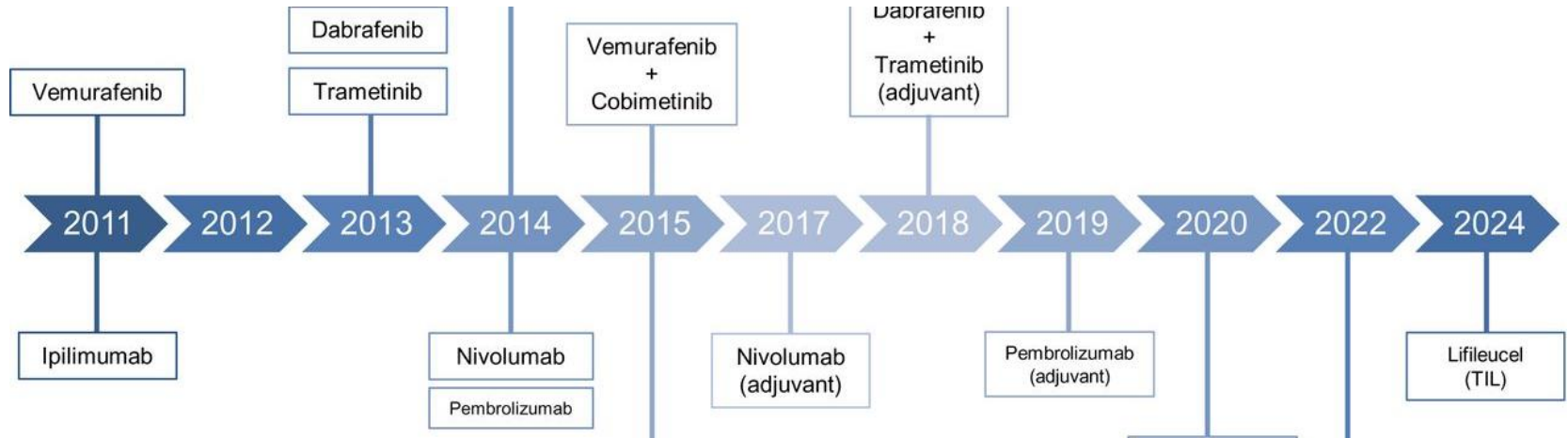
- mOS of untreated stage IV melanoma: <12 mo, 5yr OS: 10%
- M1a Prognosis: up to 15 mo
- M1c Prognosis: 6-9 mo
- M1d Prognosis: ~ 3 months
- Poor prognostic features: high tumour burden, elevated LDH, poor PS

1. DeVita et al

2. Davies et al. Prognostic factors for survival in melanoma patients with brain mets. Cancer 2011; 117(8):1678-96

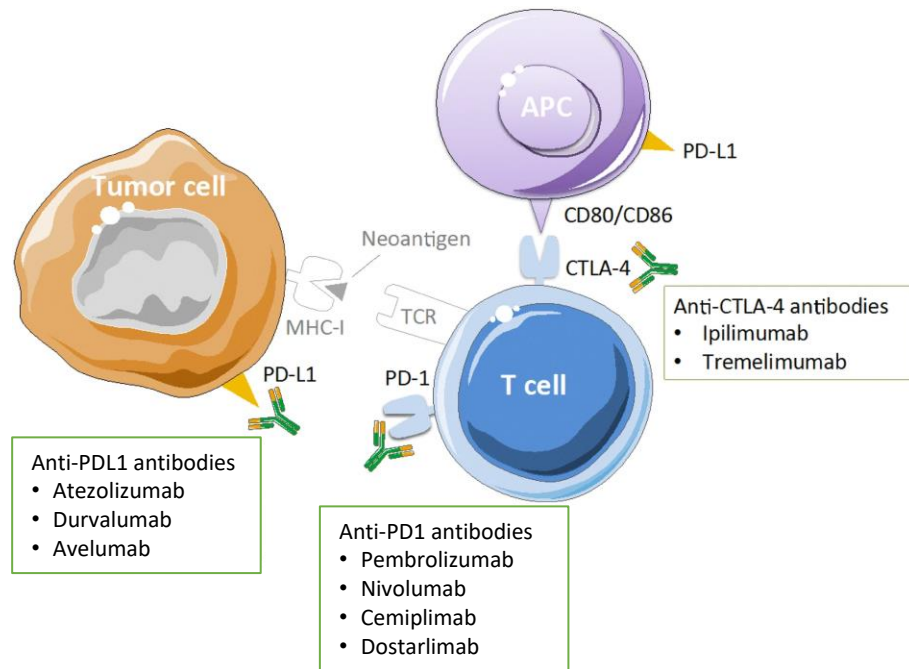
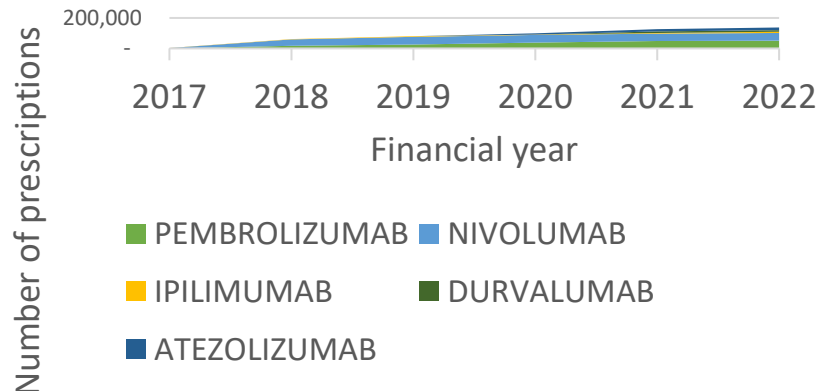
3. Vecchio et al. The treatment of melanoma brain mets before the advent of targeted therapies. Melanoma Res. 2014;24(1):61-7.

Metastatic melanoma treatments



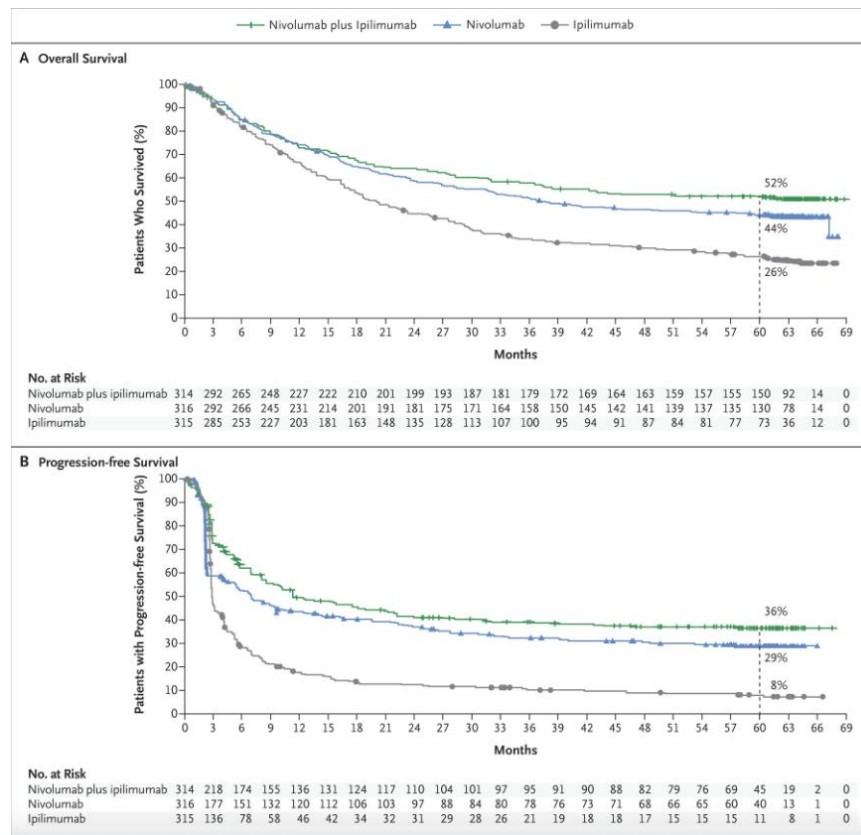
Immune checkpoint inhibitors

Number of PBS prescriptions annually
for
immune-checkpoint inhibitors in
Australia



Checkmate 067 (2017, 2022) - Efficacy

	Ipi + Nivo	Nivo	Ipi
mOS (mo)	72.1	36.9	19.9
PFS (mo)	11.5	6.9	2.9
5yr OS	52%	44%	26%
6.5yr MSS	NR	58.7	21.9
ORR	58%	45%	19%
CR	23%	19%	6%
PR	36%	26%	13%
SD	12%	9%	22%
PD	24%	38%	50%
mDOR (mo)	NR (61.9-NR)	NR (45.7 –NR)	19.2 (8.8 – 47.4)



M1d Melanoma –Brain mets

- mOS of melanoma brain mets (MBM): 2.8-4 mo
- 2 trials: ABC (n=76) and CM 204 (n=94)
- ABC-X trial underway: Ipi/Nivo + SRT vs Ipi/Nivo

A: asymptomatic brain mets, no local Rx: Ipi/Nivo then Nivo

B: asymptomatic brain mets, no local Rx: Nivo

C: brain mets failed local Rx, neuro Sx, leptomeningeal disease:

Nivo

	A (ipi+nivo)	B (nivo)	C (nivo)
All patients	n=35	n=25	n=16
ICR	51%	20%	6%
5-yr IC PFS	46%	15%	6%
5-yr OS	51%	34%	13%
Rx naïve	n=27	n=19	n=4
ICR (Rx naïve)	59%	21%	25%
5-yr IC PFS (Rx naïve)	52%	14%	.
5-yr OS (Rx naïve)	55%	40%	25%
TRAE G3/4	63%	20%	13%

CM 204 schema

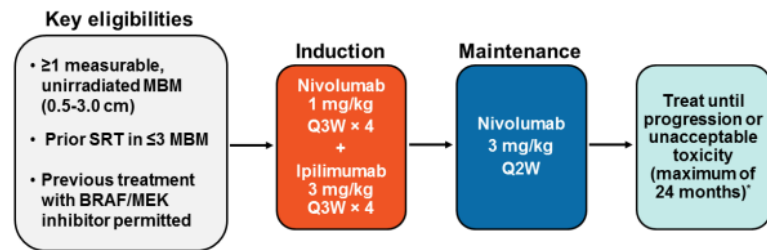


Table 2. Response to Treatment.

Variable	Intracranial (N=94)	Extracranial (N=94)	Global (N=94)
Best overall response — no. (%)*			
Complete response	24 (26)	7 (7)	8 (9)
Partial response	28 (30)	40 (43)	40 (43)
Stable disease for ≥6 mo	2 (2)	6 (6)	5 (5)
Progressive disease	31 (33)	28 (30)	33 (35)
Could not be evaluated†	9 (10)	13 (14)	8 (9)
Objective response‡			
No. of patients	52	47	48
Percent of patients (95% CI)	55 (45–66)	50 (40–60)	51 (40–62)
Clinical benefit§			
No. of patients	54	53	53
Percent of patients (95% CI)	57 (47–68)	56 (46–67)	56 (46–67)

Stage 3 melanoma

Survival Endpoints at 5 Years of Follow-Up

Endpoint	COMBI-AD ¹	KEYNOTE-054 ²	CHECKMATE-238 ³
Population	Dabrafenib + trametinib (n=438) vs placebo (n=432) <i>BRAF</i> V600E/K only	Pembrolizumab (n=514) vs placebo (n=505)	Nivolumab (n=453) vs ipilimumab (n=453)
Melanoma stage	AJCC 7 th edition Stage IIIA-C	AJCC 7 th edition Stage IIIA-C	AJCC 7 th edition Stage IIIB-C/IV
RFS	52% vs 36% HR: 0.51 95% CI: 0.42, 0.61	55% vs 38% HR: 0.61 95% CI: 0.51, 0.72	50% vs 39% HR: 0.72 95% CI: 0.60, 0.86
DMFS	65% vs 54% HR: 0.55 95% CI: 0.44, 0.70	61% vs 44% HR: 0.62 95% CI: 0.52, 0.75	58% ^a vs 51% ^b HR: 0.79 95% CI: 0.63, 0.99
OS	Not analyzed ^c	Not analyzed	76% vs 72% HR: 0.86 95% CI: 0.66, 1.12

^an=370; ^bn=366; ^cInadequate number of events to trigger the final analysis.



1. Dummer R, et al. *N Engl J Med*. 2020;383:1139-1148. 2. Eggermont A, et al. *NEJM Evidence*. 2022;1:EVIDoA2200214. 3. Larkin J, et al. *Clin Cancer Res*. 2023;29:3352-3361.

Neoadjuvant therapy

ORIGINAL ARTICLE



Neoadjuvant–Adjuvant or Adjuvant-Only Pembrolizumab in Advanced Melanoma

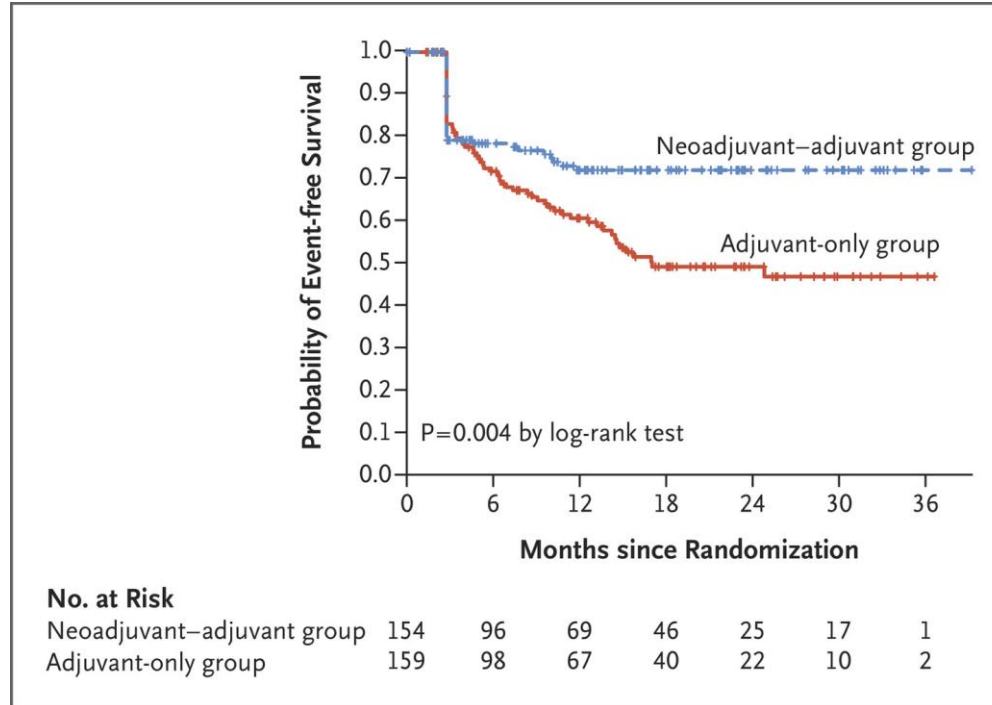
Authors: Sapna P. Patel, M.D. , Megan Othus, Ph.D., Yuanbin Chen, M.D., Ph.D., G. Paul Wright, Jr., M.D., Kathleen J. Yost, M.D., John R. Hyngstrom, M.D., Siwen Hu-Lieskovan, M.D., Ph.D.,  +45, and Antoni Ribas, M.D., Ph.D. [Author Info & Affiliations](#)

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Neoadjuvant therapy



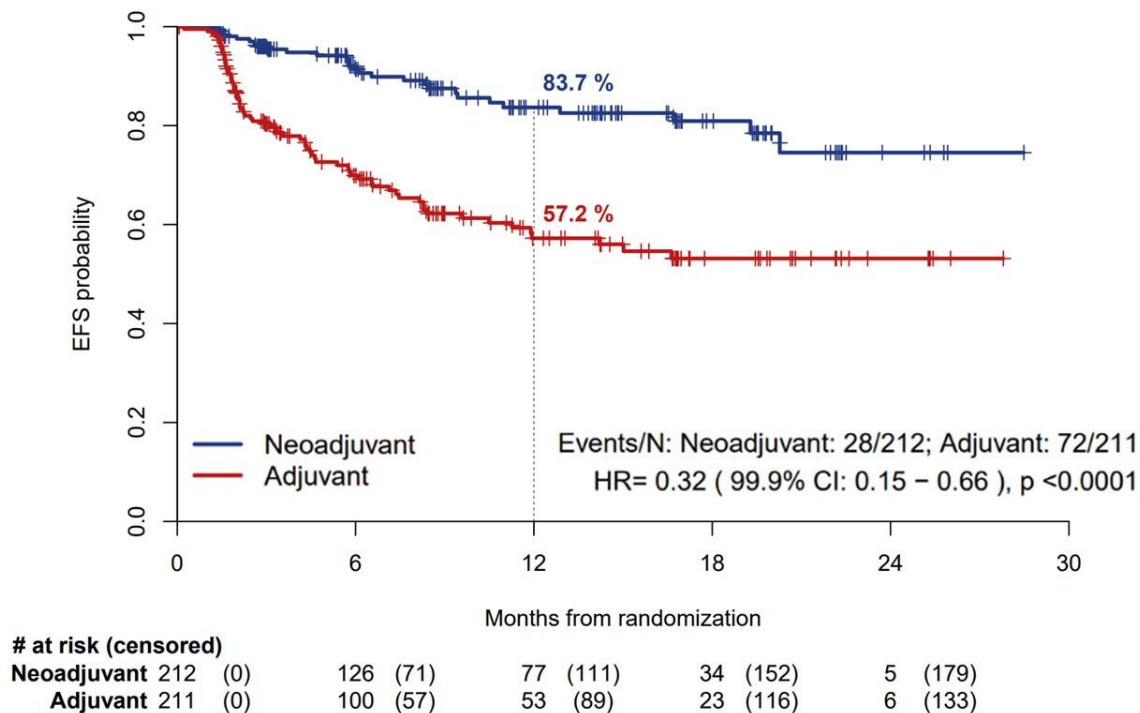
Neoadjuvant Nivolumab Plus Ipilimumab Versus Adjuvant Nivolumab in Macroscopic, Resectable Stage III Melanoma: The Phase 3 NADINA Trial

Christian U. Blank, M.W. Lucas, R.A. Scolyer, B.A. van de Wiel, A.M. Menzies, M. Lopez-Yurda, A.C.J. van Akkooi, W.J. van Houdt, R.P.M. Saw, A. Torres-Acosta, S.N. Lo, G.A.P. Hospers, M.S. Carlino, J.W.B. de Groot, E. Kapiteijn, K.P.M. Suijkerbuijk, P. Rutkowski, S. Sandhu, A.A.M. van der Veldt, G.V. Long



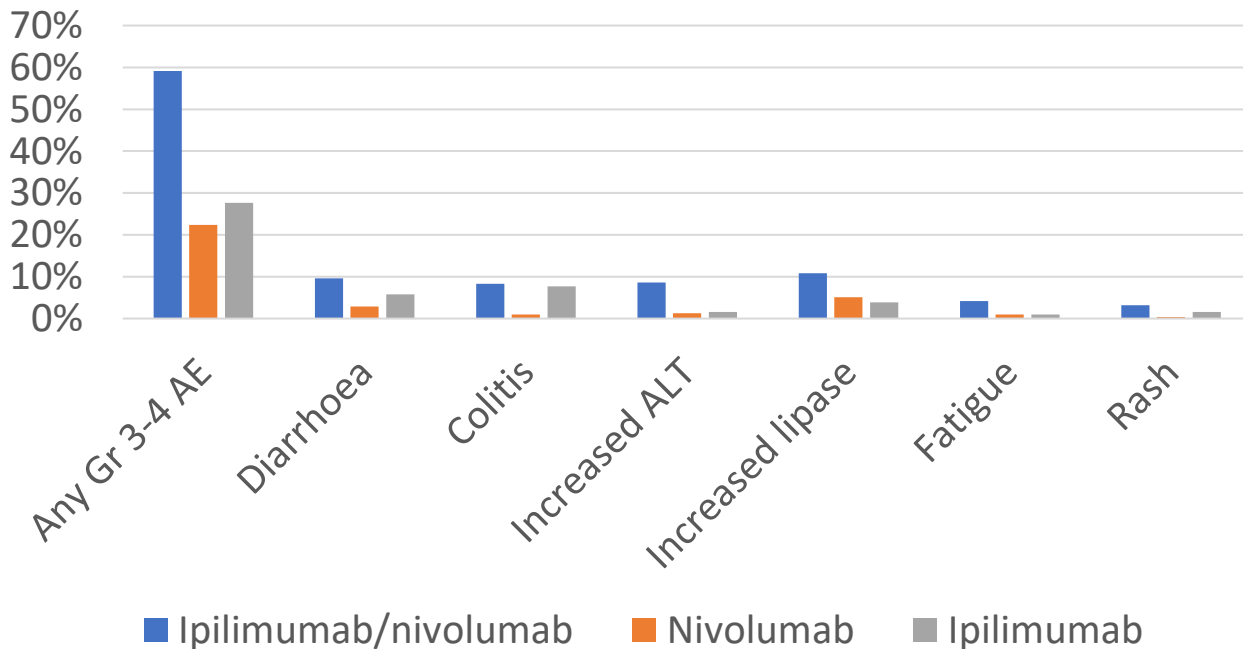
lay abstract

NADINA – Primary Endpoint: Event-Free Survival (EFS)

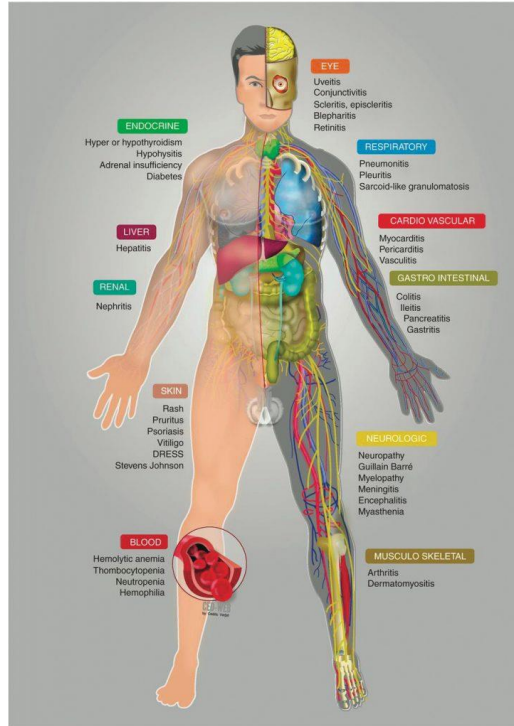


Immune checkpoint inhibitors

Selected grade 3-4 toxicities from Checkmate-067 study in metastatic melanoma



Immunotherapy toxicity



Champiat et al, Ann Oncol, 2016

Gastrointestinal toxicity

- Lower GI toxicity most common – diarrhea/colitis
- Upper GI toxicity uncommon but does occur
 - Symptoms include:
 - Nausea/vomiting (50-100%)
 - Abdominal pain (30-75%)
 - Dyspepsia (38%)
 - Bleeding (18% in one case series)
 - Concomitant lower GI symptoms eg. diarrhoea up to 50%
- Management steroids and anti-TNF- α agents in refractory cases

Endocrinopathies

- Clinically significant endocrinopathies in up to 10% patients
 - Most commonly hypothyroidism
 - Can include: hypoadrenalism, hypopituitarism / hypophysitis, diabetes
 - Incidence of ICI-associated diabetes <1%
- Irreversible
- Steroids rarely indicated
- Do not preclude further immunotherapy

Fever and systemic inflammatory syndromes

- Fever and systemic inflammatory complications of immunotherapy can occur including cytokine release syndrome (CRS) and haemophagocytic lymphohistiocytosis (HLH)
- Requires usual workup to exclude infectious causes
- Limited data to guide management but can be steroid responsive

Metastasectomy

- For palliation of symptoms
- May be associated with improved long-term survival following complete curative resection
- Generally, best outcomes in pts with indolent disease, fewer metastatic sites and metastatic disease that can be completely resected
- In pts with major response to systemic therapy, complete resection of residual mets may contribute to improved DFS and potential for cure
- Lung: 22% 5 yr survival, 16% 10 yr survival cf 0% after incomplete resection, SBRT is an option
- Liver: mOS 24.8mo vs 8mo (highly selected group, n= 58/1078)

Summary

- Metastatic Melanoma outcomes have vastly improved since IO + TT became available
- BRAF WT Melanoma:
 - Ipi / Nivo
 - Relatlimab / Nivo –available on PBS
 - Nivo
- BRAF MT Melanoma
 - IO then TT > TT then IO (Dream-Seq, SECOMBIT)
 - ? Ipi /Nivo over Relat/Nivo
 - D+T; Enco / Bini; Vemurafinib + Cobimetinib
- Brain mets
- Metastasectomy
- Questions:
 - Ipi / Nivo vs Rela / Nivo
 - Does Ipi / Nivo still have activity following PD on Relat/Nivo (currently not allowed on PBS)

Summary

- Systemic therapies are moving further forward in the patient journey

Clinical cases

Case 1

66 F

November 2020 – Chest wall melanoma excised 1.3mm, T2a

Sept 2023 – Presented to GP with L axilla pain, USS showed pathologically enlarged LN

L axillary LN dissection – 50mm nodal deposit

PET no metastatic disease

Feb 24 – Stage 3B melanoma resected, BRAF mutant

Started adjuvant nivolumab 15/2/24

Saw GP 4/3/24 – itchy skin, pale stools, dark urine

What would you do next?

Case 1 cont'd

Bloods done – Bilirubin 84

What would you do next?

[STRY			
06/02/23	10/11/23	04/03/24	
07:20	08:12	12:28	
72220811	74517234	74519449	
FASTING	RANDOM	RANDOM	RANDOM
140	141	139	mmol/L (137-147)
4.6	4.9	4.6	mmol/L (3.5-5.0)
103	105	105	mmol/L (96-109)
30	29	26	mmol/L (25-33)
12	12	13	mmol/L (4-17)
5.4	5.2	5.8	mmol/L (3.0-7.7)
5.8	4.9	5.2	mmol/L (2.5-7.5)
66	68	79	umol/L (50-120)
84	81	68	mL/min (over 59)
0.38	0.37	0.41	mmol/L (0.14-0.35)
8	12	84	umol/L (2-20)
		64	umol/L (0-8)
81	76	516	U/L (30-115)
29	16	440	U/L (0-45)
20	20	655	U/L (0-45)
19	21	346	U/L (0-41)
156	223	360	U/L (80-250)
2.37	2.47	2.41	mmol/L (2.15-2.60)
2.33	2.40	2.37	mmol/L (2.15-2.60)

Case 1 cont'd

- Repeat bloods a week later
 - Bili 177
- CT liver NAD

10/11/23	04/03/24	11/03/24	11/03/24
08:12	12:28	10:10	10:10
74517234	74519449	75735534	75735533
RANDOM	RANDOM	FASTING	FASTING
141	139	140	138
4.9	4.6	4.2	4.0
105	105	105	103
29	26	25	25
12	13	14	14
5.2	5.8	5.2	4.8
4.9	5.2	3.4	3.3
68	79	68	58
81	68	81	> 90
0.37	0.41	0.32	0.33
12	84	177	181
	64	140	138
76	516	561	558
16	440	417	422
20	655	378	382
21	346	197	197
223	360	256	254
2.47	2.41	2.44	2.37
2.40	2.37	2.34	2.33
1.1	1.1	1.0	1.0
68	70	72	71
45	44	46	44
23	26	26	27
	6.0	7.8	
	2.1	2.7	

Case 1 cont'd

- Started oral pred as an outpatient
- Admitted to hospital
- High dose steroids – IV methylpred then 90 mg pred daily
- USS nad

Date	Alanine Transaminase U/L	Albumin g/L	Alkaline Phosphatase U/L	Anion Gap mmol/L	Aspartate Transaminase U/L	Bicarbonate mmol/L	Bilirubin (Conj.) μmol/L	Bilirubin (Total) μmol/L	C
11-Jun-2024	598	36	538	7	377	28	6	15	n
28-May-2024	98	35	357	6	63	29	< 4	9	
30-Apr-2024	219	34	583	5	118	28	7	17	
18-Apr-2024	232	33	382	4	93	30	11	23	
04-Apr-2024	328	34	254	7	85	30	31	48	
18-Mar-2024	299	29	393	9	129	26	124	162	
16-Mar-2024	283	33	412	9	172	26	131	169	
14-Mar-2024	226	36	496	9	109	21	139	182	
07-Feb-2024	22	36	95	6	19	28	< 4	9	

Case 2

72F

Metastatic clear cell renal cell carcinoma

- Ipilimumab/nivolumab x4 from June 2021
- Complicated by gr 2 hepatitis post C4
 - Responded to prednisone
- Maintenance nivolumab from Oct 21
- Complicated by rash
 - Responded to further low dose prednisone
- Treatment continued with stable disease radiologically
- Distal pancreatectomy Nov 2022 for presumed pNET
 - Histology, met RCC
 - Loose BM post – on Creon



Case 2 cont'd

- Presented to ED 4.1.23 with:
 - Abdominal and 'burning' chest pain worsening over weeks
 - Nausea and vomiting
 - 3 loose bowel motions / day stable over months
- CT: multiple new enlarged abdominal lymph nodes and mesenteric stranding. Suggestive of nodal metastases from RCC. Enteritis with reactive lymphadenopathy is thought less likely. Fluid in pancreatic bed
- Admitted 48 hours, analgesia and antiemetics for symptomatic management

Sample Appearance	Clear		
Sodium	137	mmol/L	(135 - 145)
Potassium	3.7	mmol/L	(3.5 - 5.2)
Chloride	103	mmol/L	(95 - 110)
Bicarbonate	28	mmol/L	(22 - 32)
Anion Gap	6	mmol/L	(4 - 13)
Glucose	8.1	mmol/L	(3.0 - 7.8) (Fasting 3.0 - 6.0)
Urea	5.2	mmol/L	(2.9 - 8.2)
Creatinine	76	umol/L	(36 - 73)
Urea/Creat	68		(40 - 100)
GFR (estimated)	68	mL/min/1.73m ²	(> 90)
Urate	0.31	mmol/L	(0.15 - 0.45)
Protein (Total)	56	g/L	(60 - 80)
Albumin	30	g/L	(35 - 50)
Globulin	26	g/L	(25 - 45)
Bilirubin (Total)	7	umol/L	(< 20)
Bilirubin (Conj.)	< 4	umol/L	(< 4)
Alkaline Phosphatase	114	U/L	(30 - 110)
Gamma-GT	82	U/L	(< 38)
Alanine Transaminase	37	U/L	(< 34)
Aspartate Transaminase	30	U/L	(< 31)

Case 2 cont'd

- Re-presented 48 hours after discharge; family frustrated
- Ongoing nausea, vomiting and abdominal pain

What next?

- CT Brain with contrast
- Endoscopy
- Palliative care consult to manage refractory nausea
- Psychology input

Case 2 cont'd

- Symptoms escalated during hospital stay with worsening vomiting and minimal oral intake. Now 20 bowel motions/24 hours

Sample Appearance	Clear	Clear		
Sodium	135	137	mmol/L	(135 - 145)
Potassium	3.1	2.8	mmol/L	(3.5 - 5.2)
Chloride	96	100	mmol/L	(95 - 110)
Bicarbonate	26	23	mmol/L	(22 - 32)
Anion Gap	13	14	mmol/L	(4 - 13)
Glucose	7.1	6.1	mmol/L	(3.0 - 7.8)
			(Fasting	3.0 - 6.0)
Urea	7.4	6.3	mmol/L	(2.9 - 8.2)
Creatinine	74	73	umol/L	(36 - 73)
Urea/Creat	100	87		(40 - 100)
GFR (estimated)	70	71	mL/min/1.73m ²	(> 90)
Urate	0.32	0.31	mmol/L	(0.15 - 0.45)
Protein (Total)	60	51	g/L	(60 - 80)
Albumin	28	23	g/L	(35 - 50)
Globulin	32	27	g/L	(25 - 45)
Bilirubin (Total)	9	8	umol/L	(< 20)
Bilirubin (Conj.)	< 4	< 4	umol/L	(< 4)
Alkaline Phosphatase	133	100	U/L	(30 - 110)
Gamma-GT	79	61	U/L	(< 38)
Alanine Transaminase	31	23	U/L	(< 34)
Aspartate Transaminase	18	13	U/L	(< 31)
Lactate Dehydrogenase	214	187	U/L	(120 - 250)
Calcium	2.23	2.01	mmol/L	(2.10 - 2.60)
Calcium (Alb. Corr.)	2.47	2.34	mmol/L	(2.10 - 2.60)
Phosphate	1.28	1.25	mmol/L	(0.75 - 1.50)
Lipase (Serum)	26		U/L	(< 60)
Magnesium	0.68	0.91	mmol/L	(0.70 - 1.10)
Osmolality (Calculated)	290	293	mmol/L	(275 - 295)



5



6

Reduced folds in duodenum, flattening
Colon macroscopically normal appearance

- Duodenum 1: This specimen shows mild villous blunting. There is diffuse hypercellularity of the lamina propria with increased plasma cells and neutrophils. There is also surface epithelial injury with increased intraepithelial neutrophils and lymphocytes. Viral cytopathic changes and parasites have not been identified.

SUMMARY

- Duodenum 1: Moderate active duodenitis.
- Duodenum 2: Moderate active duodenitis.
- Colon random colon: Mild active inflammation with epithelial lymphocytosis and increased apoptosis.

COMMENT

Given the clinical history, the inflammatory changes in the duodenum and random colonic biopsies are highly suspicious for immune checkpoint inhibitor enterocolitis. Severe coeliac disease could conceivably cause the duodenal changes, but the histological features are atypical for that diagnosis.

Case 2 cont'd

- IV methylpred 2mg/kg commenced
- Improvement but not resolution of symptoms
- Infliximab 5mg/kg on D5 of methylpred with ongoing resolution of symptoms

Case 3

69M

- Resected stage IIIC (pT3bN2bM0) melanoma
- BG: AF with prior tachycardia induced CMP, asthma
- Treated with adjuvant nivolumab from June 2022
- Presented for cycle 9 treatment, reporting:
 - Fatigue/lethargy
 - Postural dizziness
 - Anorexia, abdominal pain, nausea/vomiting
 - No diarrhoea

Case 3 cont'd

What do you think this is likely to be?

Non specific immunotherapy toxicity

Gastritis/duodenitis

Brain metastasis

New onset diabetes

Pituitary dysfunction

Case 3

Sample Appearance	Clear		
Sample Integrity			
Status	Fasting		
Sodium	130	mmol/L	(135 - 145)
Potassium	5.5	mmol/L	(3.5 - 5.2)
Chloride	99	mmol/L	(95 - 110)
Bicarbonate	15	mmol/L	(22 - 32)
Anion Gap	16	mmol/L	(4 - 13)
Glucose	19.1	mmol/L	(3.0 - 7.8)
		(Fasting)	3.0 - 6.0
Urea	4.7	mmol/L	(2.9 - 8.2)
Creatinine	98	umol/L	(64 - 108)
Urea/Creat	48		(40 - 100)
GFR (estimated)	68	mL/min/1.73m ²	(> 90)
Urate	0.44	mmol/L	(0.15 - 0.50)
Protein (Total)	77	g/L	(60 - 80)
Albumin	39	g/L	(35 - 50)
Globulin	38	g/L	(25 - 45)
Bilirubin (Total)	6	umol/L	(< 20)
Bilirubin (Conj.)	< 4	umol/L	(< 4)
Alkaline Phosphatase	72	U/L	(30 - 110)
Gamma-GT	90	U/L	(< 55)
Alanine Transaminase	22	U/L	(< 45)
Aspartate Transaminase	16	U/L	(< 35)
Lactate Dehydrogenase	179	U/L	(120 - 250)
Calcium	2.30	mmol/L	(2.10 - 2.60)
Calcium (Alb. Corr.)	2.32	mmol/L	(2.10 - 2.60)
Phosphate	0.85	mmol/L	(0.75 - 1.50)
Lipase (Serum)		U/L	(< 60)
Magnesium	0.82	mmol/L	(0.70 - 1.10)
Osmolality (Calculated)	290	mmol/L	(275 - 295)

- Diagnosed with immunotherapy related diabetes mellitus
- IV rehydration, IV insulin and IV dextrose
- Vomiting and abdominal pain resolved with correction of ketoacidosis

[illegible]

anti-Pancreatic Islet Cell	Negative
GAD Ab	< 5.0
IA2 Ab	<15.0
C-Peptide	<0.1