824P: Patterns of response/progression and management following progressive disease with anti-PD-(L)1 therapy in patients with advanced Merkel Cell Carcinoma

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Background

- Merkel cell carcinoma has historically demonstrated sensitivity to chemotherapy however response is short-lived[1].
- Anti-Programmed-Death Ligand 1 (PD-L1) and Anti-Programmed Death 1 (PD-1) monoclonal antibodies have become first-line therapy for advanced Merkel Cell Carcinoma as they have been shown to provide durable response[2,3].
- More than half of patients will experience Innate Resistance (upfront progression or within 6 months) or Acquired Resistance (progression following initial response or stable disease of 6 months)[2,3,4].

Objectives

(1) Evaluate site-specific patterns of response to anti-PD-(L)1 therapy.
(2) Study the management following progression to anti-PD-(L)1 therapy.

Methods

- Retrospective observational study of patients with advanced MCC who received anti-PD-1 therapy or anti-PD-L1 therapy.
- Patient data was collected from 13 international centres.
- Data included demographics, baseline characteristics, outcomes and subsequent treatments.
- Descriptive Analyses were performed using standard methods and survival analyses using the Kaplan-Meier Method.

TABLE 1. PATIENT CHARACTERISTICS

Variable	Patients (N=171)
Sex	
Male	111 (66%)
Female	60 (35%)
Age	75 yrs (range 38-92)
History of malignancy, other than complex skin cancer	52 (30%)
Immunosuppression	23 (14%)
Sites	
Visceral metastases	86 (50%)
Nodal metastases	126 (74%)
Subcutaneous	79 (46%)

Results

FIGURE 1. Site specific response and progression to anti-PD-(L)1 therapy

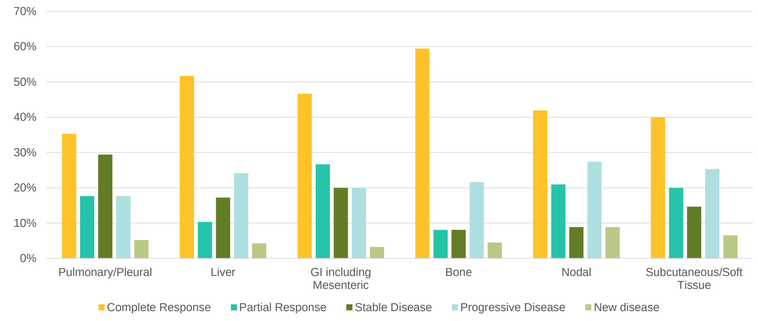


FIGURE 2. Best Objective Response to anti-PD-(L)1 therapy

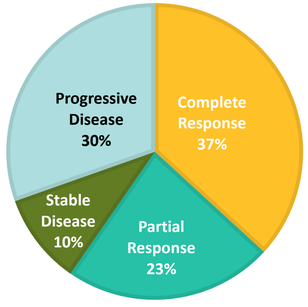
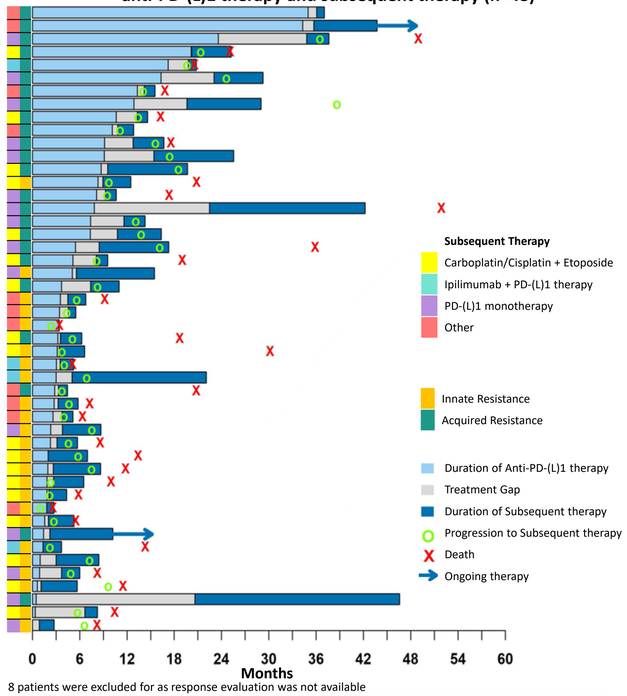


FIGURE 3. Swimmer plot of duration of therapy for anti-PD-(L)1 therapy and subsequent therapy (n=48)



8 patients were excluded for as response evaluation was not available

Therapy	ORR	Median Duration of Response
Carb/Etop	65% (n=11/17)	5.03 months (range 3.26-44.47 months)
IR	60% (n=6/10)	3.71 months (range 3.26-9.31 months)
AR	71% (n=5/7)	6.25 months (range 5.03-44.47 months)
PD-(L)1	53% (n=8/15)	15.38 months (range 4.87-44.34 months)
Ipi + PD-(L)1	50% (n=2/4)	9.92 months (range 2.34-17.5 months)

FIGURE 4. Progression-Free Survival (PFS) for anti-PD-(L)1 therapy

	12 month	24 month
PFS	52% (95% CI 45%-61%)	37% (95% CI 30%-46%)

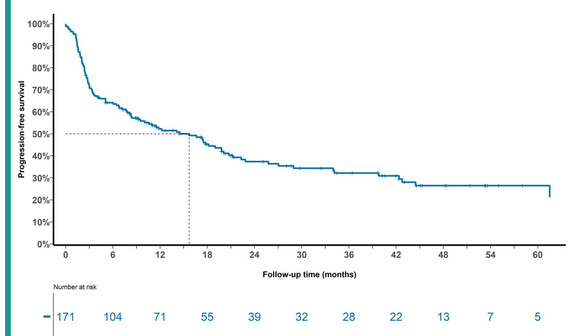
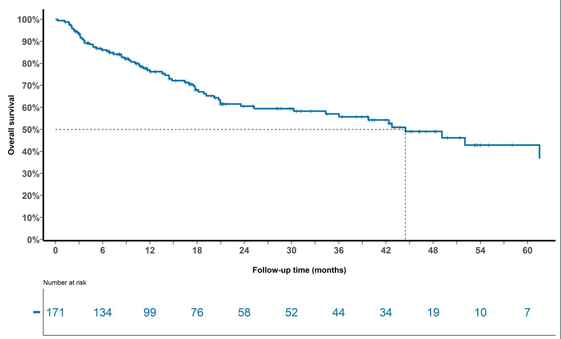


FIGURE 5. Overall Survival (OS) for anti-PD-(L)1 therapy

	12 month	24 month
OS	76% (95% CI 70%-83%)	61% (95% CI 53%-70%)



Conclusions

- Patterns of response to anti-PD(L)1 therapy in Merkel Cell Carcinoma differs from other skin cancers[5] with greater response in liver and bone metastases versus nodal and subcutaneous disease, suggesting unique Merkel Cell Carcinoma biology.
- Subsequent therapy with either Carboplatin/Etoposide or re-challenge with anti-PD-(L)1 therapy demonstrated good response rates with re-challenging with anti-PD-(L)1 therapy having more durable response.

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