

Combinations of Immunotherapy Agents in Advanced NSCLC: Current Status

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TRANSCRIPT

Combination immunotherapeutic approaches in metastatic non-small cell lung cancer today predominantly rest in combinations of chemotherapy with anti PD-1 agents such as chemotherapy plus Keytruda for non-squamous non-small cell lung cancer. Increasingly there's been interest in combinations of immunotherapies such as drugs like Yervoy which target the CTLA-4 axis of t-cells and Opdivo which target the PD-1 axis. Combining these agents as has been done in metastatic melanoma and clear cell renal cell carcinoma a type of kidney cancer may be effective in a subset of patients with non-small cell lung cancer who have a high tumor mutational burden on their tissue based next generation sequencing testing.

As we await more data to determine whether these drugs in combination (Yervoy and Opdivo) have an overall survival benefit for these patients the idea that next-generation sequencing in addition to providing us crucial information about targeted therapy targets for our patients can also provide tumor mutation burden which could help select patients for combination immunotherapeutic strategies.

Additionally, a variety of clinical trials are looking at novel agents targeting unique aspects of t-cells or other immune cells within the tumor microenvironment to help patients who progressed on anti PD-1 directed strategies. I think as we look forward to the new drugs that are being developed in non-small cell lung cancer a lot of these novel approaches I think will hold promise for patients who don't benefit from traditional strategies combining immunotherapies that currently exist targeting PD-1 CTLA-4 axis or chemotherapy plus PD-1 approaches.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=45RqjRVA1zI&feature=youtu.be