# Clinical research challenges: the role of Oncodistinct network



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# **Disclosures (2015-2019)**

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  - Astra Zeneca
  - Novartis
  - Pfizer
  - Roche







## **Outline**

- Clinical research in modern oncology: opportunities and challenges
- Oncodistinct network : general objectives and main features
- Oncodistinct network : first ongoing trials
- Perspectives

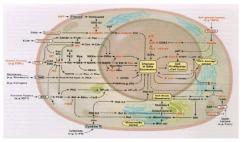






# Clinical research in oncology ... Opportunities (1)

## A wealth of novel therapeutic strategies ...



### **Molecular targeted therapies (MTT)**

Oncogenic drivers "de-addiction" Inhibition of critical signaling pathways Specific cytotoxicity

- Targets = RAS, RAF, MAPK, PI3k/Akt/mTOR, cell cycle inhibitors, DNA repair, Angiogenesis, Epigenetic, Apoptosis, Invasion/metastasis, Metabolism/energy

- Agents = TKIs, Mab, ADC ...







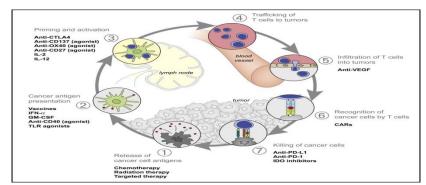


# Clinical research in oncology ... Opportunities (2)

A wealth of novel therapeutic strategies

Immuno-oncology agents (IOA)

T cells



- Other Immune effectors = NK cells, APC, MDSC, Endoth cells, CAF, Macrophages, Treg...
- Adoptive cell transfer immunotherapy
  CAR T and others









# Clinical research in oncology ... Challenges (1)

Therapeutic development is evolving... Phase III Phase II Phase I Accelerated Approval (e.g., Crizotinib in ALK translocated NSCLC) Phase Phase I/II ~5 years

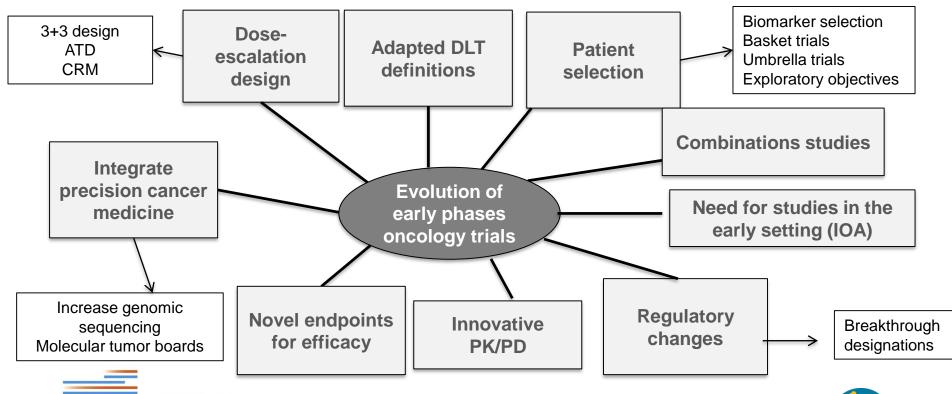
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# Clinical research in oncology ... Challenges (2)

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Methodological issues



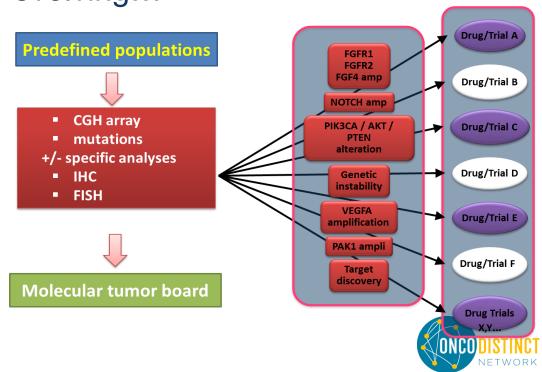
# Clinical research in oncology ... Challenges (3)

Therapeutic development is evolving...

### **Precision medicine trials**

- Molecular screening (tumor, blood)
- Validated biomarkers
- Access to drugs, combo
- Heterogeneity (spatial, temporal)
- Mechanisms of resistance
- Adaptive design
- Statistical challenges





# Clinical research in oncology ... Challenges (4)

## Therapeutic development with IO agents...

- 1. Optimal dose and schedule selection?
  - > Minimal immunologically active dose (dose is not linearly associated with efficacy and toxicity)
  - > Optimal dose for prolonged exposure
- 2. Optimal sequence/duration/rechallenge?
  - > Maximize benefit for patients and minimize economic burden
- 3. Identify resistant/sensitive disease to immunological approaches?
  - > Biomarkers (immunoscore, Immunomics, ...)
- 4. New patterns/definitions of tumor assessment and disease progression?
- 5. Combinations issues importance of testing in early setting?
- 6. Competitives trials and redundancy ++++?









# Clinical research in oncology ... Challenges (5)

# Strategic issues

Drug development may be more commercially-driven than patient-centered

Biomarker-driven studies
Collecting tumor samples
= to identify/validate biomarkers?

Rare "orphan" diseases
Rare genomic entities
"Underserved" clinical
entities: CNS mets, CUP...

appropriate/pertinent control arms?

Dose, duration, sequence, side effects, QOL, de-escalation strategies?









Combinations between drugs from concurrent pharmas?

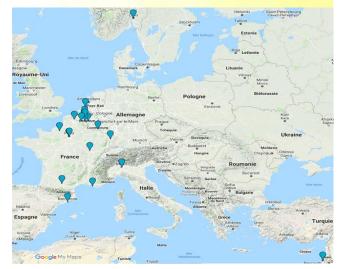


## **Oncodistinct network**

# "Accelerating Oncology drug Development and Innovative strategies in Clinical Trials"

- 1. A. Awada (IJB, Brussels)
- 2. G. Argiles (Vall d'Hebron)
- 3. A. Gonçalves (IPC)
- 4. L. Decoster (UZB, Brussels)
- 5. J-P. Delord (ICR, Toulouse)
- 6. L. Teixera (Saint Louis, Paris)
- 7. N. Penel (COL, Lille)
- 8. E. Raymond (Saint Joseph, Paris)
- 9. F. Clatot (H.Bequerel, Rouen)
- 10. P. Barthélemy (CHU, Strasbourg)
- 11. N. Isambert (JF Leclercq, Dijon)
- 12. C. Le Tourneau (I.Curie, Paris)
- 13. A. Shamseddine (AUB, Beirut)
- 14. T. Kyrre Guren (UH, Oslo)
- 15. M. Lolkema (Erasme, Rotterdam)
- 16. P. Vuylsteke (St Elisabeth, Namur)
- 17. G. Berchem (CH, Luxembourg)
- 18. J-P. Machiels (UCL, Brussels)
- 19. S. Holbrechts (AP, Mons)
- 20. H. Prenen (UZA, Anvers)

- 21. J-L. Canon (GHC, Charleroi)
- 22. G. Curigliano (IEO, Milan)
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- 24. D. Tosi (Institut régional du cancer, Montpellier)
- 25. P. Cassier (Centre Léon Bérard, Lyon)
- 26. E. Coquan (Centre François Baclesse, Caen)
- 27. A. Stathis (OI, Bellinzona)
- 28. N. Massimo (I. Dei Tumori, Milan)
- 29. T. Silovski (UHC, Zagreb)
- 30. N. Isambert (CHU Poitiers)
- 31. S. Rottey (UZ Gent, Gent)
- 32. R. Bartsch (Medical University of Vienna)











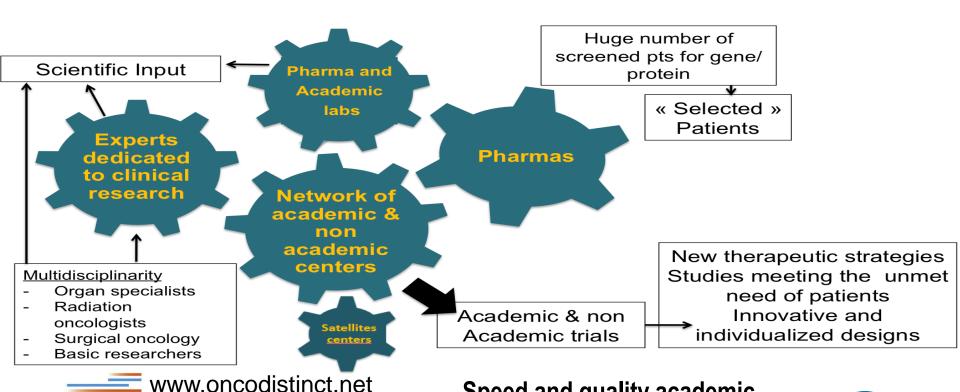


## **Oncodistinct network**

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# ACADEMIC MODEL OF CLINICAL RESEARCH COLLABORATION BASED ON THE PROGRESS ON MOLECULAR BIOLOGY AND METHODOLOGICAL ISSUES



Speed and quality academic and non academic trials



## Oncodistinct network: which clinical trials?

- ➤ New drug development from phase I to later phases trials
- ➤ Innovative trial designs
- ➤ Unmet medical need projects

  (e.g. rare tumors, oligometastasis, brain metastasis, inflammatory breast cancer,...)
- Early setting projects (e.g. development of immunotherapy)
- ➤ Biomarkers studies with high potential for clinical practice
- >"Proof of concept" studies

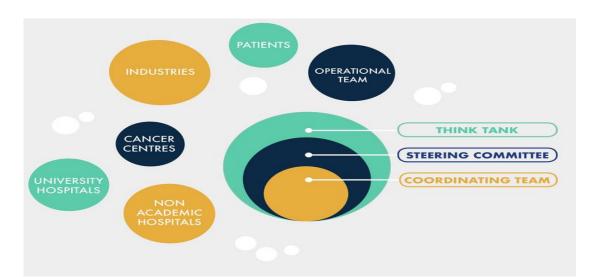








# **Oncodistinct network: organization**



#### Think tank

The driving force of the Oncodistinct Network is firmly its **Investigators' Think Tank**. It is the forum for scientific discussions, ideas and strategies which brings innovative clinical research projects. The think tank is composed by a large panel of experts in cancer care (investigators, scientists...) involved in drug development.







#### **Operational Team**

The role of the Operational Team is to manage the day-to-day management of activities.

#### **Steering Committee**

The Steering Committee has the responsibility of strategic decisions and is composed of one representative per Oncodistinct center.

#### **Coordinating Team**

The Coordinating Team is composed of physicians elected by the Steering Committee and implements the decisions of the Steering Committee.



# **Oncodistinct network: organization**

# Working subgroups

## **Early Settings**

Non metastatic, treatment-naive

- peri-operative setting
- baseline and post-XT tumor collection for biomarkers
- Minimally immune-exhausted patient population







### **Unmet needs**

Rare or underserved diseases:

- CNS mets
- IBC
- CUP
  - Sarcoma
- Rare histo-clnical, molecular entities

•

## Early Drug Development

#### Novel drugs:

- Innovative associations
- Molecularly selected patient
- Innovative design/endpoints
- Specific translational programs



# **Oncodistinct Translational Research group**

## Missions

Expertise and participation to the TR activities in Oncodistinct studies

## Composition

- Research groups related to Oncodistinct sites
- Steering core of 2-3 persons
  - Review of the Oncodistinct study proposals and evaluation of the needed expertise
  - Select appropriate oncodistinct TRG members







# **Oncodistinct Patient Advisory Panel**

Advisory group of patients "trained" in clinical research and available to :

- Review and provide opinions on research protocols under development
- 2. Proofread patient information documents and consent forms







# **Involving Junior Oncologists**

 Taking part in the education and training of young oncologists, physicians and scientists, sharing the knowledge of the panel of experts involved in the network

 Provide opportunities for young investigators by taking leading roles and participating into the WG







# **Ongoing Oncodistinct studies**

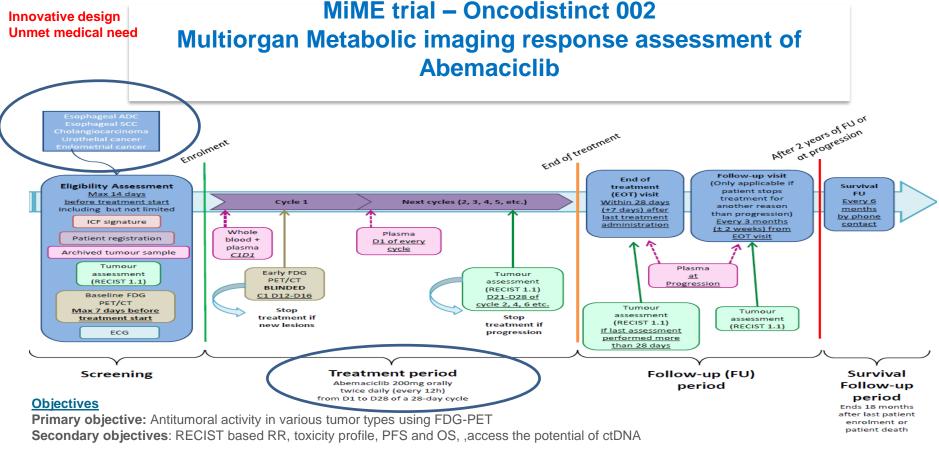
ODN N°	Setting	Sponsor	Study drug	Pharma	n =	Countries	FPI	Pts
002 MIME L.Polastro A.Hendlisz	Platinium-R CholangioK Endometrial C Bladder C ADK/SCC eso	IJB	Abemaciclib	Lilly	Min 75 Max 175	• Belgium • France (11/2019)	01/2019	51
003 PELICAN A.Gonçalves	T4d BC	IPC	Pembrolizumab	MSD	81	• France	07/2018	15
004 AURA N.Martinez A.Awada	MBIC eligible for NAC cT2-T4 N0/x M0	IJB	Avelumab	Merck	178	• Belgium • France	06/2018	35
005 A.Shamseddine	LA potentially resecable rectal ADK	AUB (CRO)	Avelumab	Merck	36	• Lebanon/ Jordan	06/2018	13











#### **Statistics**

Optimal 2-stage Simon design used independently in each stratum.

H0: Rate of treatment success is less or equal to 20% versus the one-sided alternative that this rate is >20%.

•First stage: If ≤2 metabolic responses (class I/II)/13: stop Second stage: 16 additional evaluable patients (29).

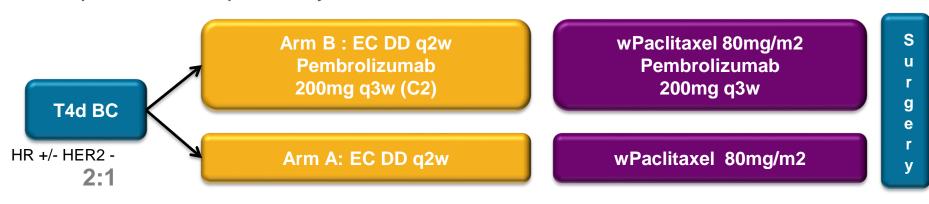
H0 rejected if ≥9 responses/29 pts (α10% power 85% if true metabolic response rate is 40%)

# Early setting Unmet medical need

## **PELICAN trial - Oncodistinct 003**

Study of Immunotherapy in Combination With Chemotherapy in HER2-negative Inflammatory Breast Cancer

#### Non comparative randomized phase II study



Primary Endpoints: pCR + Safety run-in 6pts HR +/-

#### **Statistics:**

H0: pCR <= 20% with 5% error risk and 90% power assuming a true pCR rate of 40%. Simon 2 stage design = 54 pts (Arm B (19+35) / 27 pts Arm A





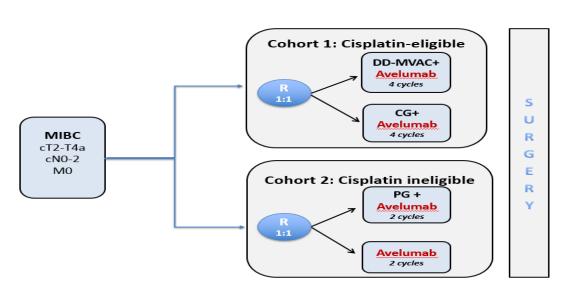




#### **Early setting**

## **AURA trial - Oncodistinct 004**

Avelumab as Neoadjuvant Therapy in Subjects With Urothelial Muscle Invasive Bladder Cancers



#### **Primary endpoint:**

PCR rate (ypT0ypN0)







#### Statistics:

#### **CDDP** eligible

- H0= PCR rate ≤ 25%
- one-sided test 0.5%, power 90% if true RR  $\geq 50\%$
- >> Two stage Flemming design / arm
- •if  $\leq$  0/28 PCR or 16/49 = STOP for futility
- •if > 13/28 = STOP for early rejection of H0
- Otherwise accrual will go on up to 49 pts
   If ≥ 17/49 PCR avelumab is considered worthy of further study.

#### CDDP ineligible: assuming PCR ≥ 5%

Simon 2 stage / arm

- •lf < 1/12 = STOP for futility
- •if > 13/28 = STOP for early rejection of H0
- Otherwise accrual will go on up to 26 pts



# **Oncodistinct 005**

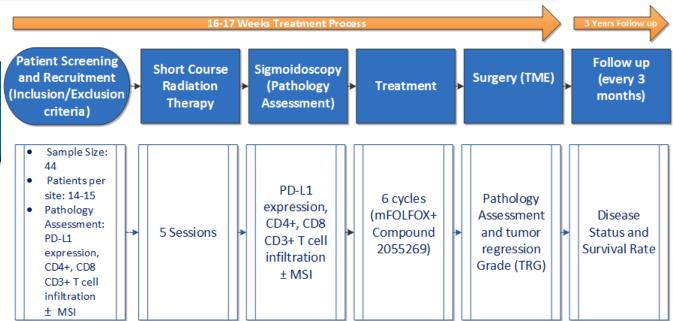
Short-course RT followed by mFOLFOX6 + Avelumab agent for LA rectal ADK

Single-arm phase II study

LA potentially resectable rectal adenocarcinoma

cT2 N1-3, cT3 N0-3, evidence of extramural vascular or mesorectal fascia involvement

N = 31 Interim analyses



Primary objective: pCR rate

**Secondary objectives:** 3-year DFS, Safety and tolerability, QoL, explore

Aix\*Marseille changes in PD-L1 expression and T-cell infiltration







# **Perspectives**

- Improving internal organization (clinical trials support units, SOP and follow-up on trials, young investigator fellowship, novel legal structure?)
- Increase multidisciplinary partnership and develop translational research group
- Further develop collaboration with Pharma and CROs (« meet the industry » meetings)
- Novel tools and novel issues
  - ctDNA , immuno-monitoring
  - Big data and Al
  - Toxicity and PROMs





