

Conclusion

Nivolumab showed improved quality of life as compared to docetaxel and chemotherapy alone. The addition of ipilimumab to a combination of nivolumab ± chemotherapy did not provide an extra benefit in terms of PROs.

Background

- For several decades, lung cancer has been the leading cause of cancer death Globally¹
- In 2018, an estimated 2.1 million lung cancer diagnoses were reported, accounting for 12% of cancer deaths worldwide²
- In the management of lung cancer, Nivolumab has emerged as a promising immunotherapeutic agent
- However, measuring the impact of Nivolumab on patient quality of life (QoL) requires a comprehensive assessment beyond traditional clinical analysis
- There is unmet need in terms of precise analyses of the longitudinal effects of Nivolumab on patient-reported outcomes (PROs)

Objective

- The systematic literature review aims to evaluate the existing literature on patient-reported outcomes with Nivolumab across lung cancers.

Methodology

- The review followed the standard methodology for conducting reviews as per National Institute for Health and Care Excellence³ (NICE), Cochrane Handbook⁴, and PRISMA guidelines⁵
- Embase® and MEDLINE® were searched from database inception to June 2023 for all randomized controlled studies reporting PROs with Nivolumab across lung cancers. The SLR followed two review and quality control process as recommended by various HTAs

Population: Adult patients with lung cancer

Intervention: Nivolumab
Comparator: No restriction

Study design: Randomised controlled trials

Outcome: Patient-reported outcomes

PICOS

Figure 1: Presents the eligibility criteria for the selection of evidence

Results

- A PRISMA diagram for the screening process is presented in Figure 2.
- Out of 1278 screened publications, seven studies assessing advanced non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) met the inclusion criteria

Identification

Screening

Eligibility

Included

Publications identified during database searching (n=1278)
Embase (n=1229)
PubMed Inprocess (n=49)

Copy duplicate (n=14)

Publications screened based on title and abstract (n=1264)

Publications excluded (n=1072)
Review/editorial (n=253)
Relevant review (n=21)
Animal/In-vitro (n=8)
Study design (n=766)
Intervention (n=25)

Full text publications assessed for eligibility (n=192)

Publications excluded (n=179)
Outcome not of interest (n=96)
Study design (n=7)
Disease not of interest (n=76)

Included studies (n=7 studies from 13 publications)

Figure 2: Flow of studies through the systematic literature review

Results (Cont'd)

- Sample size of the included studies ranged from 272 to 1739

Number of studies

5
5
5
2
2
1
1

Global
US Canada
LOT 2L+
LOT 1
Monotherapy
Combination
Both mono & combination

Country
LOT
Nivolumab

Figure 3: Study details reported across the included studies

- Time points of assessment were 102 weeks for LOT1 and ranged from 42-84 weeks for LOT≥2
- LCSS ASBI (n=6), LEQ5D VAS (n=6), CSS 3-IGI (n=5), EQ-5D UI (n=5) were the commonly assessed Qol instruments.
- Clinically meaningful improvement (CMI) in EQ-5D VAS (cut-off 7) and EQ-5D UI (cut-off 0.08) was observed with nivolumab (LOT≥2: 2 studies each) and nivolumab + ipilimumab (LOT1: n=1 each)
- Three studies showed CMI (cut-off 10) in LCSS ASBI and delayed time to first symptom deterioration with nivolumab ± ipilimumab against chemotherapy/docetaxel. Similar findings were observed with LCSS 3-IGI scale (cut-off 30)
- Significant differences in Qol scores between nivolumab and chemotherapy groups were observed at very few time points across the studies.

PRO Scale	Trial	Nivolumab Monotherapy	Nivolumab + IPI	Nivolumab + IPI + CT	Placebo/CT	Docetaxel
LCSS-Meso ASBI (CMI: 10)	CheckMate 227	-	-14.64 (-28.36, -1.95)	-	0.30 (-6.99, 6.64)	-
	CheckMate 9LA	-	-	-7.93 (-3.96, -11.83)	-8.99 (-2.60, -15.27))	-
	CheckMate 057	-5.8 (-11.14, -0.79)	-	-	-	1.63 (-7.13, 10.14)
	CheckMate 017	-14.49 (-1.57, -27.41)	-	-	-	10.41 (-17.89, 38.59)
	CheckMate 153	-4.41 (-6.61, -2.64)	-	-	-	-
LCSS-3IGI (CMI: 30)	CheckMate 227	-	55.96 (38.14, 73.62)	-	8.24 (-10.37, 26.69)	-
	CheckMate 9LA	-	-	27.16 (42.68, 11.64)	5.50 (-23.91, 35.28)	-
	CheckMate 057	9.17 (-10.85, 29.19)	-	-	-	-26.24 (-65.65, 14.01)
	CheckMate 017	36.04 (-15.42, 88.99)	-	-	-	-70.46 (-140.07, -1.14)
EQ-5D UI (CMI: 0.08)	CheckMate 227	-	0.16 (-0.02, 0.35)	-	0 (-0.14, 0.15)	-
	CheckMate 9LA	-	-	0.04 (-0.04, 0.12)	0.05 (-0.02, 0.11)	-
	CheckMate 057	0.03 (-0.05, 0.10)	-	-	-	0.09 (-0.31, 0.49)
	CheckMate 017	0.13 (0, 0.25)	-	-	-	-0.07 (-0.32, 0.17)
EQ-5D VAS (CMI: 7)	CheckMate 227	-	12.06 (7.22, 12.06)	-	3.17 (-3.22, 8.89)	-
	CheckMate 9LA	-	-	4.44 (-0.58, 9.45)	2.05 (-3.45, 7.3)	-
	CheckMate 057	4.94 (-3.40, 12.85)	-	-	-	-7.57 (0.68, -16.09)
	CheckMate 017	24 (15.95, 31.68)	-	-	-	-6.52 (-28.14, 15.02)
	CheckMate 153	8.76 (11.50, 6.2)	-	-	-	-

Table 1: Change from baseline (mean (95% CI)) values for various PRO scales with nivolumab mean (95% CI)

ASBI: Average Symptom Burden Index; CI: Confidence interval; CMI: Clinical meaningful improvement; CT: Chemotherapy; EQ-5D: Euro Qol-5 dimension; IPI: Ipilimumab; LCSS: Lung cancer symptom scale; PRO: Patient-reported outcomes; UI: Utility Index; VAS: Visual analogue scale; 3IGI: Three-item global index

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Disclosure

GK, GB, BS, the authors, declare that they have no conflict of interest

