

# Addressing Key Challenges in the Setting of Tumor-Agnostic Drugs: Meeting an Unmet Need?

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ISPOR 2024 Atlanta

Workshop 310

Wednesday, May 8, 2024

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# Disclosures

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No conflicts of interest related to this presentation

# Promise of a New Era!

**FDA grants accelerated approval to  
pembrolizumab for first tissue/site agnostic  
indication**

**May 30, 2017**

- > Microsatellite instability-high (MSI-H) or mismatch repair deficient solid tumors
- > Histology-independent therapies<sup>1</sup>
- > Potential advantages: lower trial costs, earlier patient access
- > Panel gene testing or NGS identifies patients likely to benefit.<sup>2</sup>

# It's Time for Our First Poll!

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**How many tissue-agnostic therapies has the FDA approved to date?**

- a) 1-2**
- b) 3-5**
- c) 6-9**
- d)  $\geq 10$**

# It's Time for Our First Poll! - Answer

How many tissue-agnostic therapies has the FDA approved to date?

a) 1-2

b) 3-5

c) 6-9

d)  $\geq 10$



EMA: 2 approvals<sup>2</sup>

NICE: 20+ in pipeline (2020)<sup>3</sup>

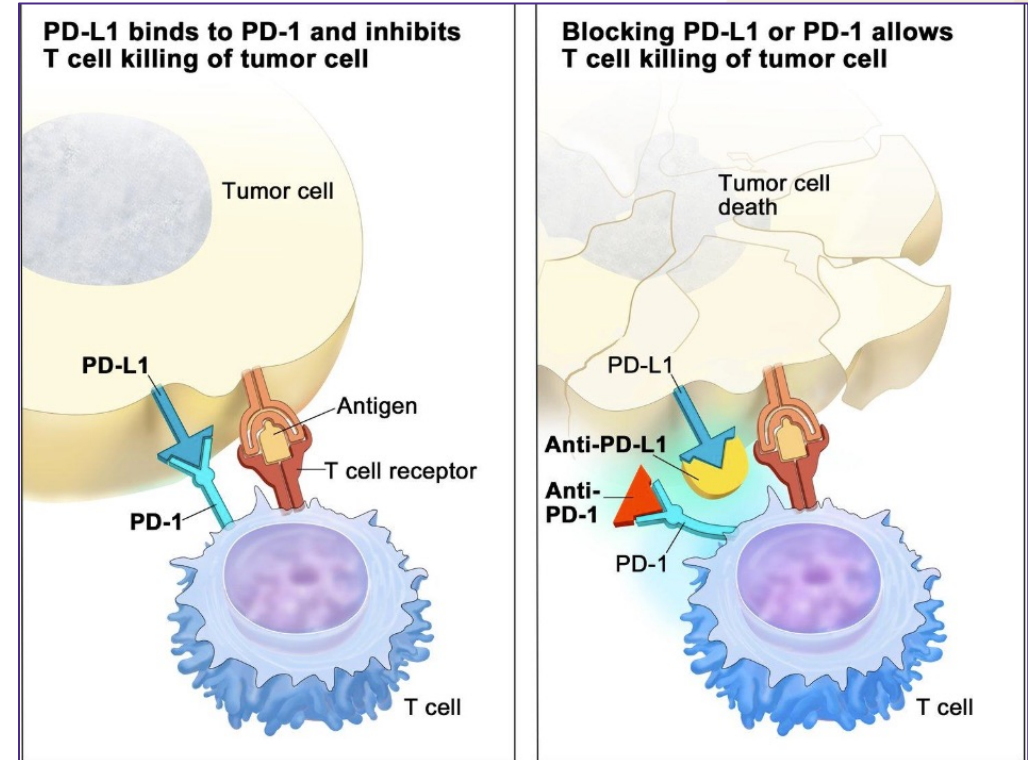
<sup>1</sup>FDA: <https://www.sabcsmeetingnews.org/tumor-agnostic-therapies-advance-possibilities-for-precision-medicine/>.

<sup>2</sup>EMA: <https://www.pharmaceutical-technology.com/news/ema-bayers-ntrk-vitrakvi/>.

<sup>3</sup>NICE: Accelerated Access Collaborative. NGS = Next generation sequencing

# New Era Fraught with Challenges - Biology

- > Incomplete understanding of functional/ pathological significance of biomarkers; not always prognostic drivers of disease.
- > Histologies differ in natural histories, treatment patterns, drug response.
- > Despite heterogeneity, equitable access at top of our minds.
- > Hazards of rapid drug approval are not new...



# New Era Fraught with Challenges - Methods

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- > Rare cancers (small sample sizes)
- > Infeasible to conduct randomized clinical trials
- > No comparison (control) group
- > 'Basket trials'
- > Heterogeneity – histologies, patient baseline risk, costs
- > Intermediate outcomes, may not predict survival
- > Need for novel therapeutic agents is great
- > Must provide robust clinical evidence

# FDA Center of Excellence Guidance Documents

Clinical Trial Endpoints  
for the Approval of  
Cancer Drugs and  
Biologics  
Guidance for Industry

December 2018

Tissue Agnostic Drug  
Development in  
Oncology  
Guidance for Industry

October 2022

**Master Protocols: Efficient  
Clinical Trial Design  
Strategies to Expedite  
Development of Oncology  
Drugs and Biologics  
Guidance for Industry**

March 2022

**Clinical Trial  
Considerations to  
Support Accelerated  
Approval of Oncology  
Therapeutics  
Guidance for Industry**

*DRAFT GUIDANCE*

March 2023



# Guidance from the United Kingdom



CANCER

*Final Research Report*

*Modelling approaches for histology-independent cancer drugs to inform NICE appraisals*

## **Modelling approaches for histology-independent cancer drugs to inform NICE appraisals**

### **Produced by**

CRD and CHE Technology Assessment Group, University of York,  
Heslington, York YO10 5DD

ScHARR Technology Assessment Group, University of Sheffield, Sheffield,  
S1 4DA

- **optimised** – the medicine is only available for certain people with a condition
- **recommended for use within the cancer drugs fund (CDF)** - the medicine can become available via the CDF so that we can be sure it is effective
- **only in research** – you can only have the medicine as part of a clinical trial, so researchers can collect more evidence about how well it works
- **not recommended** - the medicine should not be available

<sup>1</sup><https://www.cancerresearchuk.org/about-cancer/treatment/access-to-treatment/cancer-drugs-fund-cdf>.

<sup>2</sup><https://www.cancerresearchuk.org/funding-for-researchers/our-research-infrastructure/our-centre-for-drug-development/determine-overview>. <sup>3</sup>Murphy, et al.

# Guidance from the European Union



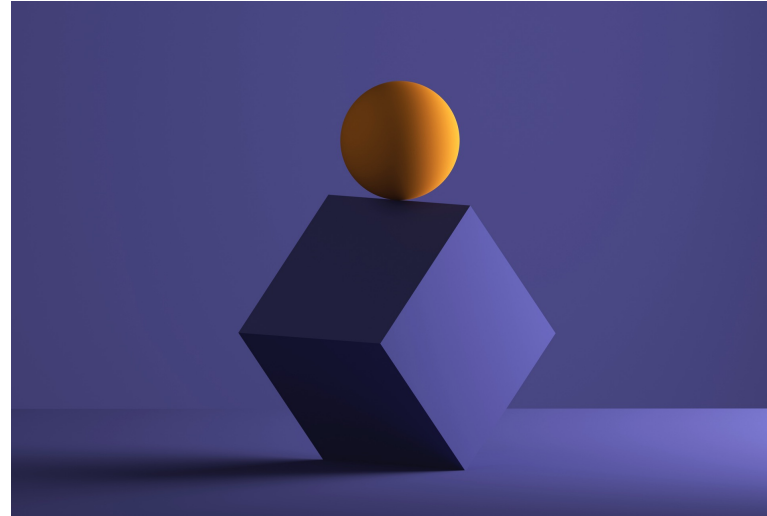
<sup>1</sup><https://www.ema.europa.eu/en/human-regulatory-overview/research-development/clinical-trials-human-medicines/accelerating-clinical-trials-eu-act-eu>

<sup>2</sup><https://www.ema.europa.eu/en/human-regulatory-overview/advanced-therapy-medicinal-products-overview>

<sup>3</sup>[https://health.ec.europa.eu/non-communicable-diseases/cancer/europes-beating-cancer-plan-eu4health-financed-projects/projects/pcm4eu\\_en#:~:text=PCM4EU%20%2D%20Personalised%20Cancer%20Medicine%20for%20all%20EU%20citizens&text=As%20PCM%20is%20based%20on,implementation%20of%20the%20PCM%20approach](https://health.ec.europa.eu/non-communicable-diseases/cancer/europes-beating-cancer-plan-eu4health-financed-projects/projects/pcm4eu_en#:~:text=PCM4EU%20%2D%20Personalised%20Cancer%20Medicine%20for%20all%20EU%20citizens&text=As%20PCM%20is%20based%20on,implementation%20of%20the%20PCM%20approach)

# Workshop Focus

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- > Leverage established and novel biostatistical and economic modeling methods...
- > to assess novel therapies...
- > to inform reimbursement decisions

# ISPOR Initiatives

#1 RWE

#4 Fostering innovation

#6 Accelerated drug  
approvals

#9 Precision medicine

...plus

upcoming Task Force  
Report on Surrogate  
Biomarkers

## 2024-2025 TOP 10 HEOR TRENDS

