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First-line pembrolizumab-based regimens for advanced clear cell renal cell carcinoma: KEYMAKER-U03 substudy 03A

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Background

Substudy 03A (NCT04626479) of the umbrella phase 1/2 KEYMAKER-U03 trial evaluates novel pembrolizumab (pembro)-based regimens in the first line for pts with advanced clear cell renal cell carcinoma (ccRCC).

Methods

Adults with advanced ccRCC and no prior systemic therapy were randomized 2:1 to open investigational arms or the reference (ref): coformulated quavonlimab (qmab; anti-CTLA-4)/pembro + lenvatinib (lenva; VEGFR-TKI); coformulated favezelimab (fave; anti-LAG-3)/pembro + lenva; pembro + lenva + belzutifan (bel; HIF-2 α inhibitor); coformulated vibostolimab (vibo; anti-TIGIT)/pembro + bel; ref, pembro + lenva. Investigational arms each had a safety lead-in phase of ≥ 10 pts. Primary endpoints were safety (in all pts with ≥ 1 dose study therapy) and ORR per RECIST v1.1 by blinded independent central review (BICR). Secondary endpoints included DOR and PFS per RECIST v1.1 by BICR, and OS. Efficacy was evaluated in all randomized pts. Efficacy comparisons to ref were exploratory with no formal statistical testing; HR estimates were ad hoc. Data cutoff date was Mar 31, 2025.

Results

Substudy 03A enrolled 393 pts (353 in the efficacy phase). Median follow-up for randomized pts across arms ranged from 16 to 39 mo; efficacy is shown in the table. Grade ≥ 3 TRAEs occurred in 66/90 pts (73%) with qmab/pembro + lenva, 53/61 (87%) with fave/pembro + lenva, 63/90 (70%) with pembro + bel + lenva, 62/90 (69%) with vibo/pembro + bel, and 44/62 (71%) in the ref arm. Table: LBA96

	Qmab/pembro + lenva n = 80	Fave/pembro + lenva n = 51	Pembro + bel + lenva n = 80	Vibo/pembro + bel n = 80	Ref n = 62
ORR (95% CI), %	71 (60–81)	63 (48–76)	78 (67–86)	42 (32–54)	81 (69–90)
CR (95% CI), %	6 (2–14)	10 (3–21)	12 (6–22)	5 (1–12)	6 (2–16)
DOR median (range), mo	25.0 (2.4–37.1+)	26.3 (1.4+–34.4+)	33.4 (2.6–37.6+)	14.0 (2.7+–18.2+)	25.6 (1.4+–41.2+)
PFS median, mo (95% CI)	18.0 (11.6–34.3)	26.0 (8.2–31.8)	31.8 (26.3–NR)	15.2 (12.4–NR)	26.3 (15.3–39.8)
PFS HR (95% CI) ^a	0.96 (0.57–1.61)	1.26 (0.65–2.42)	0.45 (0.25–0.83)	1.42 (0.75–2.67)	-
24-mo OS rate, % (95% CI)	73 (60–83)	76 (62–86)	86 (73–92)	NR	77 (60–87)

NR, not reached. ^aHR for each arm estimated against concurrently enrolled pts in the ref.

Conclusions

Pembrolizumab + lenvatinib + belzutifan showed promising early efficacy and is being explored in the randomized phase 3 LITESPARK-012 study. Other regimens did not show improved ORR and PFS compared with pembrolizumab + lenvatinib, yet the duration of follow-up was insufficient to detect long-term contributions to OS. Safety profiles were consistent with the profiles of the individual drugs in each regimen.

Clinical trial identification

NCT04626479.

Editorial acknowledgement

Editorial assistance was provided by Ryan Staudt, PhD, an employee of Merck Sharp & Dohme LLC, a subsidiary of Merck & Co., Inc., Rahway, NJ, USA.

Legal entity responsible for the study

Merck Sharp & Dohme LLC, a subsidiary of Merck & Co., Inc., Rahway, NJ, USA.

Funding

Merck Sharp & Dohme LLC, a subsidiary of Merck & Co., Inc., Rahway, NJ, USA.

Disclosure

C. Suarez Rodriguez: Financial Interests, Institutional, Research Grant: Pfizer; Financial Interests, Personal and Institutional, Advisory Board: Ipsen, Bristol Myers Squibb (Inst), MSD, Astellas, AstraZeneca; Financial Interests, Personal and Institutional, Speaker's Bureau: Ipsen, Bristol Myers Squibb (Inst), MSD, Astellas, AstraZeneca; Financial Interests, Personal and Institutional, Research Grant: Ipsen, Bristol Myers Squibb (Inst), Roche, MSD; Financial Interests, Personal and Institutional, Invited Speaker: Bristol Myers Squibb (Inst), MSD; Financial Interests, Personal and Institutional, Expert Testimony: Bristol Myers Squibb (Inst), MSD; Financial Interests, Personal and Institutional, Other, Travel accommodation: Bayer. C.I. 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Miller: Financial Interests, Personal, Other, Consultant fees: Merck, BMS, Roche, GSK, Novartis, Amgen, Mylan, EMD Serono, Sanofi; Financial Interests, Personal, Other, Honoraria/speaker's bureau: BMS, Merck; Financial Interests, Personal, Other, Honoraria/Speaker's Bureau: Roche, GSK, Novartis, Amgen, Mylan, EMD Serono, Sanofi; Financial Interests, Institutional, Research Grant, Grant: Merck, CIHR, CRS, Terry Fox Research Institute, SWCRF, CCSRI; Financial Interests, Institutional, Other, Clinical Trial: Merck, MiMic, Astellas, BMS, Novartis, GSK, Incyte, Pfizer, Sanofi, Ocellaris Pharma, Alkermes, Genentech, Array, Exelixis, VelosBio, Esperas Pharma, Erasca; Financial Interests, Institutional, Other, Clinical Trial_funded by the Weston Family Foundation: CHUM. T.S. Waddell: Financial Interests, Personal, Stocks or ownership: The Christie Clinic LLP; Financial Interests, Personal, Other, Honoraria: Pfizer, Ipsen, Bristol Myers Squibb, EUSA Pharma; Financial Interests, Personal,

Advisory Role: Pfizer, Ipsen, Merck Sharp & Dohme LLC, a subsidiary of Merck & Co., Inc., Eisai Europe, Merck; Financial Interests, Institutional, Research Funding: Bristol Myers Squibb, Pfizer, Ipsen, Merck Sharp & Dohme LLC, a subsidiary of Merck & Co., Inc., Roche, Eisai; Financial Interests, Personal, Other, Travel, Accommodations, Expenses: EUSA Pharma, Bristol Myers Squibb, Ipsen. V. Neiman: Financial Interests, Personal, Advisory Board, educational lecture: MSD, Astellas, Bayer; Financial Interests, Personal, Advisory Board: Pfizer; Financial Interests, Personal, Other, educational lecture: AstraZeneca, Merck Serono. D. Kejzman: Financial Interests, Personal, Advisory Board, And lectures: Astellas, AstraZeneca, MSD, BMS, Bayer, Novartis, Pfizer, Roche; Financial Interests, Research Funding: Merck Sharp & Dohme LLC, a subsidiary of Merck & Co., Inc. A. Zwenger Kloster: Financial Interests, Research Funding: Merck Sharp & Dohme LLC, a subsidiary of Merck & Co., Inc. A.J. Weickhardt: Financial Interests, Personal, Advisory Board: Merck, Ipsen, Pfizer, BMS, Johnson and Johnson, Astellas, Bayer, Eisai; Financial Interests, Personal, Invited Speaker: MSD, Astellas, Bayer; Financial Interests, Personal, Coordinating PI, PCR MIB funding: Merck. R. Dziadziuszko: Financial Interests, Personal, Advisory Board: Roche, AstraZeneca, Pfizer, MSD, Bristol Myers-Squibb, GSK, Jansen, Amgen; Financial Interests, Personal, Officer, Member of Scientific Board: Polish Agency for Medical Research (ABM); Financial Interests, Personal and Institutional, Coordinating PI: Roche, AstraZeneca; Financial Interests, Personal and Institutional, Local PI: MSD, Amgen, Celon Pharma, Pfizer, Novartis, Bristol Myers-Squibb, Eli Lilly, Loxo, Ryvu Therapeutics, Boehringer Ingelheim; Financial Interests, Personal and Institutional, Other, Subinvestigator and ad hoc Consultant: PDC* line Pharma; Financial Interests, Local PI: OSE Immunotherapeutics; Non-Financial Interests, Institutional, Product Samples: Pfizer, Novartis; Non-Financial Interests, Member: American Society of Clinical Oncology, Polish Society of Oncology, Polish Society of Clinical Oncology, Polish Society of Radiation Oncology, Academia Europea, European Society for Radiotherapy and Oncology. L. Suttner: Financial Interests, Personal, Full or part-time Employment: Merck Sharp & Dohme LLC, a subsidiary of Merck & Co., Inc; Financial Interests, Personal, Stocks/Shares: Merck Sharp & Dohme LLC, a subsidiary of Merck & Co., Inc. M. Sharma: Financial Interests, Personal, Full or part-time Employment: Merck Sharp & Dohme LLC, a subsidiary of Merck & Co., Inc.; Financial Interests, Personal, Stocks/Shares: Merck Sharp & Dohme LLC, a subsidiary of Merck & Co., Inc. J. Burgents: Financial Interests, Personal, Full or part-time Employment: Merck Sharp & Dohme LLC, a subsidiary of Merck & Co., Inc.; Financial Interests, Personal, Stocks/Shares: Merck Sharp & Dohme LLC, a subsidiary of Merck & Co., Inc. T.B. Powles: Financial Interests, Personal, Advisory Board: AstraZeneca, Bristol Myers-Squibb, Exelixis, Incyte, Ipsen, Merck, Novartis, Pfizer, Seattle Genetics, Merck Serono, Astellas, Johnson & Johnson, Eisai, Roche, MSD; Financial Interests, Personal, Other, Travel/Accommodation/Expenses: Roche, Pfizer, MSD, AstraZeneca, Ipsen; Financial Interests, Personal, Other, Sponsorship for Uromigos Podcast: Mashup Ltd; Financial Interests, Institutional, Other, honoraria: Gilead; Financial Interests, Institutional, Research Grant: AstraZeneca, Roche, Bristol Myers-Squibb, Exelixis, Ipsen, Merck, MSD, Seattle Genetics, Novartis, Pfizer, Merck Serono, Astellas, Johnson & Johnson, Eisai; Financial Interests, Institutional, Other, Honoraria: Gilead.

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