

DC vaccination: Dendritic cells (DC) were generated from bone marrow cells. DC co-cultured with the same number of irradiated tumour cells (5,000 cGy) or synthesized DDX3X were inoculated subcutaneously (s.c.) as vaccine.

Results: We found that vaccination with CD133⁺ tumour cells evoked specific T-cell priming and that CD133⁺ tumour-specific LN T cells mediated potent antitumour therapeutic efficacy, thereby curing parental melanomas that comprised <1% CD133⁺ tumour cells. Proteome analyses revealed that DDX3X is one of CD133⁺ melanoma-specific proteins. The LN T cells draining DDX3X vaccines exhibited specific IFN γ and IL-17 release upon CD133⁺ tumour stimulation. A DDX3X vaccination induced antitumour therapeutic immunity against parental melanoma. In contrast, vaccination with CD133⁺ tumour cells that lost DDX3X expression failed to induce antitumour immunity. We examined DDX3X expression in human cancer cell lines and normal human cells. All of the examined human cancer cells expressed DDX3X. HCT116, 87.5 and MCF-7 cells that showed CSC-like phenotypes highly expressed DDX3X.

Conclusion: These results indicate that anti-CSC, especially anti-DDX3X, immunotherapy is a promising treatment option in the clinical setting.

1109

POSTER

Personalized Cancer Immunotherapy With Oncolytic Adenoviruses Armed With Immunostimulatory Molecules GM-CSF or CD40L

A. Hemminki¹, L. Kangasniemi², T. Ranki², S. Pesonen¹, A. Koski¹, S. Escutenaire¹, I. Diaconu¹, T. Joensuu³, M. von Euler², V. Cerullo¹.
¹University of Helsinki, Cancer Gene Therapy Group, Helsinki, ²Oncos Therapeutics Ltd, R&D, Helsinki, ³International Comprehensive Cancer Center Docrates, Helsinki, Finland

Background: The adenovirus genome is rather well characterized, easy to engineer and tolerates multiple modifications. Therefore, the approach lends itself well to individually personalized medicine including personalized immunotherapy. This has been recognized also by EU legislators and patient-by-patient treatments are regulated by the Advanced Therapies regulation (EU 1394/2007), which has allowed us to treat more than 250 patients in an Advanced Therapy Access Program (also known as "hospital exemption" or "named patient basis").

Materials and Methods: Following extensive preclinical testing, 10 different viruses have been used. The optimal virus capsid, tumour specific promoter and arming device are selected based on preclinical and clinical data, taking into account the nature of the clinical problem in each patient (local vs systemic), while capsid switching has been utilized to enhance systemic delivery. Three schedules of low-dose cyclophosphamide have been used to reduce regulatory T-cells, induce TH2 \rightarrow TH1 switch and enhance anti-tumour immunity. Autophagy induction with low-dose pulse temozolomide has been used with or without low-dose cyclophosphamide. Injections have been performed in ultrasound, visual or CT guidance, intratumorally, intracavitary and/or intravenously on an individual basis. Both archival and fresh pretreatment tumour samples have been studied for selecting the optimal virus and for prediction of efficacy.

Results: Based on more than 250 patients treated, the side effect profile is generally mild with slight variation between different viruses. Serious adverse events possibly related to treatment are seen in circa 6% of treatments, while mild to moderate fever, flu-like symptoms, tumour pain and fatigue are common. There has been no treatment related mortality. Evidence of possible efficacy (radiological stable disease or better in patients progressing prior to therapy) has been seen in 48% of patients overall and up to 77% with the optimized schedule. With the best schedule, more than half survive for a year or longer which is unusual in this difficult patient population and compares well to historical controls. Preclinical, clinical and immunological data will be presented. A clinical phase 1-2 trial is in progress.

Conclusions: The EU Hospital Exemption allows personalization of oncolytic adenovirus therapy on a patient-by-patient basis.

1110

POSTER

BPR1K653, a Novel Aurora Kinase Inhibitor, Exhibits Potent Anti-proliferative Activity in P-gp170 (MDR1)-mediated VX680-resistant Cancer Cells in Vitro and in Vivo

H.P. Hsieh¹, C.H.A. Cheung², W.H. Lin¹, T.A. Hsu¹, M.S. Coumar¹, Y.S. Chao¹, J.Y. Chang². ¹National Health Research Institutes, Institute of Biotechnology and Pharmaceutical Research, Zhunan Miaoli County, ²National Health Research Institutes, National Institute of Cancer Research, Tainan, Taiwan

Background: Mitosis is a key step in cell cycle that is tightly regulated by many proteins. Abnormal expression or activation of these regulatory proteins could result in aberrant mitosis, leading to the development of cancer [1]. At the molecular level, Aurora kinases (Aurora-A, Aurora-B

and Aurora-C) are serine/threonine kinases that function as key regulators of mitosis. In this study, a novel pan-Aurora kinase inhibitor entitled BPR1K653 was developed and its potency against various MDR1-negative and MDR1-positive cancer cells was evaluated. Our data revealed that unlike the well characterized Aurora kinase inhibitors VX680 and PHA-739358, BPR1K653 is effective in targeting both MDR1-negative and -positive cancer cells *in vitro* and *in vivo*.

Materials and Methods: *In vitro* kinase activity assay was used to determine the activity and target specificity of BPR1K653. Anti-proliferative activity of BPR1K653 was evaluated in various cancer cell lines. Flow cytometric analysis, immunofluorescence microscopy, Western blot analysis, real-time caspase-3/-7 activity imaging, and the TUNEL assay were used to follow mechanisms of action of BPR1K653. Efficacy of BPR1K653 was determined in different xenograft mice models.

Results: BPR1K653 specifically inhibited the activity of Aurora-A/-B kinase *in vitro*. It showed potent activity in a variety of human tumour cell lines regardless to the tissue origin, p53 status, and expression of the common drug efflux pump MDR1 (P-gp-170). In contrast, clinically tested Aurora kinase inhibitors, VX680 and PHA-739358, were ineffective in targeting the MDR1-expressing cancer cells. Interestingly, MDR1-expressing cancer cells treated with BPR1K653, but not with VX680, showed reduced-MDR1 activity. BPR1K653 induced cell endo-replication and the reduction of phosphor-histone H3, which are classical phenotypes of Aurora kinase inhibition. BPR1K653 also showed potent activity against the growth of xenograft tumours of the human cervical carcinoma KB and KB-derived MDR1-expressing VX680/vincristine-resistant KB-VIN10 cells in nude mice. **Conclusion:** BPR1K653 is a promising anti-cancer compound that has potential for the management of various malignancies, particularly for patients with MDR1-related drug resistance after prolonged chemotherapeutic treatments.

1111

POSTER

Adoptive T Cell Therapy Enhances the Secretion Ability of Cytokines to Th1 and Reduces the Number of Tregs

N. Sakamoto¹, S. Kokura², T. Ishikawa², T. Matsumoto², K. Uno³, Y. Naito², T. Yoshikawa². ¹Hyakumanben Clinic, Internal Medicine, Kyoto, ²Kyoto Prefectural University of Medicine, Molecular Gastroenterology and Hepatology Graduate School of Medical Science, Kyoto, ³Louis Pasteur Center for Medical Research, Interferon & Hostdefence Research Laboratory, Kyoto, Japan

Background: It was reported that not only the secretion ability of cytokines from PBMC, but also the number of peripheral blood Tregs are related to advanced cancer patient's prognosis. We investigated the secretion ability of cytokines and the number of peripheral blood Tregs before and after adoptive T cell therapy (CD3-LAK) to assess the correlation with the immunological responses and the effect of the treatment. In addition, we examined the effect on the population of Tregs in tumour-bearing mice treated by adoptive T cell transfer (ACT). We also evaluated the effect on the induction of cytokines caused with lymphokine-activated killer cells(LAK) *in vitro* model.

Method: Seventy six patients who were treated by CD3-LAK more than four times were enrolled this study. We conducted this study after having obtained the informed consent of the study for these patients. We measured the secretion ability of cytokines from PBMC using the peripheral blood collected from the patients before the initiation of CD3-LAK and two weeks later after the 4th CD3-LAK. The methods we measured the secretion ability of cytokines are shown as follows. IFN-alpha: We stimulated the whole blood by Sendai virus for 20 hours, and IFN-alpha of supernatant was measured by bioassay. The other cytokines (IL-2, IL-4, IL-10, TNF-alpha, IFN-gamma etc): We stimulated the whole blood by PHA for 48 hours, and the cytokines of supernatant were measured by BioPlex assay. In terms of the change of the number of peripheral blood Tregs, we analyzed Foxp3 and CD4 positive T cells by flow cytometry. *In vivo* model: ACT treatments were performed on days 7 and 10 following the subcutaneous injection of 1.0×10^6 colon26 cells. The Treg phenotype of lymphocytes in the draining lymph nodes and splenocytes was analyzed by flow cytometry. *In vitro* model: LAK cells were transferred to above the membrane that separated each well and CD4-positive cells were cultured under the membrane. IFN-gamma in the culture supernatant was assayed by ELISA.

Result: The values of IFN-gamma and TNF-alpha were markedly increased after CD3-LAK. The number and the population of Tregs were significantly lower compared to pre-treatment values. There was a significant longer overall survival in patients who had increased IFN-gamma, TNF-alpha secretion after CD3-LAK. *In vivo* model, the accumulation of Tregs in the draining lymph nodes and tumour was significantly suppressed after LAK treatment. *In vivo* model, the concentration of IFN-gamma in the culture solution was increased by LAK treatment.

Discussion: We found that the therapeutic intervention of CD3-LAK enhances the secretion ability of cytokines shifts to Th1, and reduces the