SAFETY AND EFFICACY OF IMMUNE CHECKPOINT INHIBITORS (ICI) IN PATIENTS LIVING WITH HIV (PLWH) AND METASTATIC NON- small cell lung cancer (NSCLC): A MATCHED COHORT STUDY FROM THE INTERNATIONAL CATCH-IT CONSORTIUM

Talal El Zanfi, Amin Nassar, Elio Abd, Bailey Fitzgerald, Jaming Huang, Tarek Moussiedine, Taylor Nomoto, Rana McKay, Mingjia Li, Arjun Mitra, Dwight Owen, Michael Lorentzen, Christopher Dittus, Nazli Dizman, Brinda Erum, Adewumi Fabahun, Noha Abdel-Wahab, Anand Bankapur, Alexandra Reed, Ryan Dobbs, Chul Kim, Akikriti Arora, Neil Shah, Edward El-Am, Elie Kozaily, Wassim Abdallah, Ahmad Al-Hader, Batool Abu Ghazel, Anwar Saeed, Claire Doren, Melissa Lechner, Javier Espinat, Caroline Nebhan, Douglas Johnson, Tarek Haykal, Michael Morse, Alessio Cortellini, David Pinato, Alessia Dalla Pria, Mark Bowler, Evan Hall, Veli Bakalov, Nathan Bahary, Aarthi Rajkumar, Ankita Mangla, Vishal Shah, Parminder Singh, Frank Aboubakar Nana, Nerea Lopetegui Lia, Danai Dima, Pauline Funchain, Rachel Woodford, Giorgia Long AO, Alexander Menzies, Carlo Genova, Giulia Barletta, Amin Nassar, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston, MA, United States; Yale University School of Medicine, New Haven, CT, United States; Brigham and Women’s Hospital, Boston, MA, United States; Tisch Cancer Institute, Mount Sinai, New York, NY, United States; University of California San Diego, La Jolla, CA, United States; The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, United States; University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC, United States; MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX, United States; Cook County Hospital, Chicago, IL, United States; Georgetown University, Washington, DC, DC, United States; Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, NY, United States; Indiana University, Indianapolis, IN, United States; Emory University, Atlanta, GA, United States; Kansas University Cancer Center, Kansas City, KS, United States; University of California Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA, United States; Doce de Octubre University Hospital, Madrid, Spain; Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, TN, United States; Duke University Medical Center, Durham, NC, United States; Imperial College London, London, UK; University of Washington, Seattle, WA, United States; Allegheny Health Network, Pittsburgh, PA, United States; University Hospitals Cleveland, OH, United States; Mayo Clinic, Tucson, AZ, United States; Université catholique de Louvain (UCL), Brussels, Belgium; Cleveland Clinic Foundation, Cleveland, OH, United States; Oklahoma University Stepenhson Cancer, Oklahoma, OK, United States; Melanoma Institute of Australia, Sydney, Australia; ICRS Ospedale Policlinico San Martino, Genova, Italy; Huntsman Cancer Institute, Salt Lake City, UT, United States; University of California San Francisco, San Francisco, CA, United States; IEO European Institute of Oncology Milan, Milan, Italy; Geneva University Hospitals, Geneva, Switzerland; University Hospital of Parma, Parma, Italy; Center for Cancer Research Bethesda, MD, United States; Catholic School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York, NY, United States; Oklahoma University, Oklahoma City, OK, United States.

Background Due to limited inclusion of PLWH in most ICI clinical trials, there is a paucity of data evaluating their safety and efficacy in this unique population, especially among HIV+ vs. HIV- patients. In our cohort, median age was 60 years, 77% were males, 61% received ICI as 1st line therapy, 89% received anti-PD-1 based therapy, and 46% received concurrent chemotherapy. Blacks/African Americans were more represented among HIV+ vs. HIV- patients (42% vs 23%, p <0.01). At baseline, HIV+ patients had a median CD4 count = 386 cells/uL (range: 6 - 1,721), 19/31 had undetectable HIV viral load (VL) while 12/31 had a median detectable VL= 60 copies/mL (range: 10 – 223,408). Grade 3 immune-related adverse events occurred in 11% HIV+ vs. 9% HIV- patients. Overall response rate was similar between both groups (28% HIV+ vs. 37% HIV-, p=0.25). Comparing HIV+ vs. HIV- pts, the adjusted RMST difference within 42 months was 1.75 months (95% CI: -4.13, 7.63, p=0.56) for OS, and 0.35 months (95% CI: -4.83, 5.56, p=0.90) for PFS (figures 1 and 2). In addition, the 24-month OS rates were 41.7% for HIV+ vs. 42.9% for HIV- patients while the 24-month PFS rates were 18.1% HIV+ vs 18.7% HIV- patients.

Results In our cohort, median age was 60 years, 77% were males, 61% received ICI as 1st line therapy, 89% received anti-PD-1 based therapy, and 46% received concurrent chemotherapy. Blacks/African Americans were more represented among HIV+ vs. HIV- patients (42% vs 23%, p <0.01). At baseline, HIV+ patients had a median CD4 count = 386 cells/uL (range: 6 - 1,721), 19/31 had undetectable HIV viral load (VL) while 12/31 had a median detectable VL= 60 copies/mL (range: 10 – 223,408). Grade 3 immune-related adverse events occurred in 11% HIV+ vs. 9% HIV- patients. Overall response rate was similar between both groups (28% HIV+ vs. 37% HIV-, p=0.25). Comparing HIV+ vs. HIV- pts, the adjusted RMST difference within 42 months was 1.75 months (95% CI: -4.13, 7.63, p=0.56) for OS, and 0.35 months (95% CI: -4.83, 5.56, p=0.90) for PFS (figures 1 and 2). In addition, the 24-month OS rates were 41.7% for HIV+ vs. 42.9% for HIV- patients while the 24-month PFS rates were 18.1% HIV+ vs 18.7% HIV- patients.

Conclusions In this matched cohort study, PLWH and metastatic NSCLC had similar toxicity profiles and clinical outcomes to HIV-counterparts receiving ICI supporting their use in PLWH and their inclusion in clinical trials. Larger
prospective studies are needed to inform a broader usage of ICI among PLWH presenting with other cancer types, low CD4 counts (i.e., <200 cells/μL) and high VL.

Ethics Approval

Our study was exempt from institutional review board (IRB) review at DFCI (Protocol #21-342) and was approved by local IRBs at participating sites per institutional policy, according to the principles of the Declaration of Helsinki.