COM701 PLUS NIVOLUMAB DEMONSTRATES PRELIMINARY ANTITUMOR ACTIVITY AND IMMUNE MODULATION OF TUMOR MICROENVIRONMENT IN PATIENTS WITH METASTATIC MSS-CRC AND LIVER METASTASES

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Background COM701 a novel, 1st in-class, humanized IgG4 monoclonal antibody binds with high affinity to PVRIG, blocking its interaction with its natural ligand PVRL2 expressed in tumor cells and antigen-presenting-cells. We have reported antitumor and pharmacodynamic activity of COM701. Anti-PD1/L1 therapies have limited to no activity in MSS-CRC. Therefore, novel ICI are urgently needed for the treatment of pts with MSS-CRC particularly pts with liver metastasis. We present preliminary clinical and translational results of the combination in pts with MSS-CRC.

Methods This is a phase 1 clinical trial of COM701 and nivolumab. Key objectives were safety/tolerability [primary], preliminary antitumor activity, immune-related changes [secondary/exploratory]. Key inclusion criteria: Age ≥18 yrs, histologically/cytologically confirmed advanced malignancy who have exhausted all available standard therapy or not a candidate for standard therapy, MSS-CRC determination per local testing. Pre- and on-treatment biopsies were obtained and analyzed by IHC for PDL1, CD8 expression and omics profiling.

Results Twenty two pts were enrolled: 2 pts combination dose-escalation [COM701 0.3,1mg/kg + nivolumab 360 mg] both IV Q3W and 20 pts dose-expansion cohort [COM701 20mg/kg + nivolumab 480mg IV Q4W]. Age ≤65 17/22, [77%], male 16/22 [73%], median [Min, Max] of 3 (2, 10) prior lines of therapy, 17/22 [77%] had liver metastases. Overall, ORR 9% (2/22 pts, PRs); ORR 12% [2/17] in pts with liver metastases [1 PR, PFS 44 weeks; 1 PR, PFS 16 weeks due to brain metastasis, however, response of target and non-target lesions still maintained]; DCR (CR+PR+SD) 27% (6/22). No new safety findings are reported. In 13 paired biopsy samples, 9 demonstrated induction in PD-L1 expression (mean 16.3+/−7% PD-L1 CPS-score increase, p<0.05), suggesting TME immune-modulation following treatment. In pts with PR or SD >6months greater induction in PD-L1 expression was seen (49.7+/−14.9%). CD8 T-cell quantification was available in 12 paired biopsies with increase >1% in 8 pts (mean% CD8 increase of 9.1+/−4.4%, p=0.08), with substantial increases in responders (36.5% and 44.7%CD8 increase). In responding pts IFNγ signature up-regulation, increased T-cell clonality and specific clonal expansion, were demonstrated between baseline and on-treatment biopsies.

Conclusions COM701 + nivolumab demonstrates preliminary antitumor activity in pts with heavily pretreated metastatic MSS-CRC with 12% ORR in pts with liver metastases [typically unresponsive to ICI]. TME immune modulation observed in the majority of pts, substantial in responders, suggests unique potential of COM701 in less inflamed tumors such as MSS-CRC. The combination warrants further development. Datacut June 17, 2022.

Acknowledgements The study is sponsored by Compugen Ltd and is in collaboration with Bristol Myers Squibb.