ONCOLOGISTS’ PERSPECTIVES ON EVOLUTION OF FIRST-LINE IMMUNE CHECKPOINT INHIBITOR MAINTENANCE THERAPY IN MANAGEMENT OF ADVANCED UROTHELIAL CARCINOMA IN THE US

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Background Avelumab, a PD-L1 immune checkpoint inhibitor (ICI), was recently approved as first-line (1L) maintenance therapy for locally advanced/unresectable or metastatic urothelial carcinoma (aUC) after disease control with platinum-based chemotherapy.1 Given the evolving treatment landscape, the study aim was to gain real-world insights into clinical decision-making among oncologists for patients with aUC.

Methods In March 2021, a cross-sectional web-based survey was administered to a sample of US oncologists treating patients with aUC. Oncologists’ demographics, practice characteristics, and treatment patterns were obtained; descriptive statistics were used.

Results The study included 151 medical oncologists, who reported that 54% and 31% of their patients, on average, would be classified as cisplatin or carboplatin eligible for their 1L treatment, respectively. Approximately 78% of oncologists considered using ICI maintenance in 40% of their patients following disease control with platinum chemotherapy and were categorized as the “high-consideration” group, for further exploratory analysis; the rest (22%) were in the low-consideration group (See table 1). Approximately, 31% and 27% of oncologists in the high- and low-consideration groups reported administering ICI maintenance with a 2–3-week gap after chemotherapy, while 45% and 46% reported administering it with a 4–6-week gap after chemotherapy, respectively.

Conclusions Surveyed oncologists reported that 85% of patients with aUC in US may be eligible for platinum-based chemotherapy. Further, 78% of the surveyed oncologists would consider 1L ICI maintenance therapy after disease control with platinum-based chemotherapy for over 40% of their patients. Future studies are warranted to evaluate real-world treatment patterns, barriers, and utilization of ICI maintenance therapy as the new 1L standard of care.

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REFERENCE

Ethics Approval The study was reviewed and determined to be exempt by Advarra IRB.

Consent All survey participated signed a consent form.

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