Metastatic Melanoma treatment

Dr Khanyile RM

Department of Medical Oncology,
University of Pretoria

Metastatic melanoma

 Usual sites: distant skin, subcutaneous nodules, L/nodes Lung/liver/other visceral organs/brain

Prognosis

- Very poor
- Median survival 6 9 mnths with lung/
 L/node/ skin only may be up to 15 mnths
- Surgical treatment should always be considered

Chemotherapy

- Melanoma is generally resistant to chemotherapy
- Dacarbazine is FDA approved
 - Response rate of 7% but other clinical trial have reported higher RR of up to 15%
 - OS 8 mnths

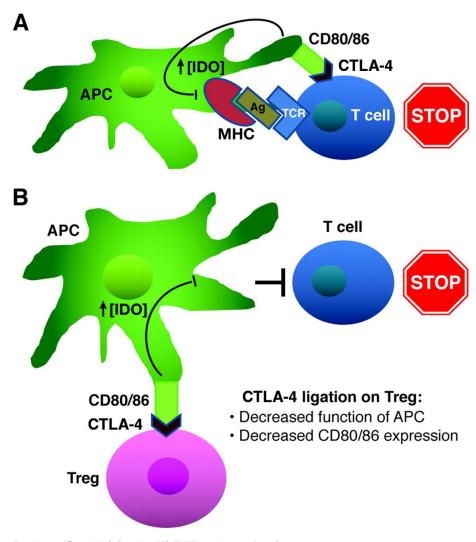
Immunotherapy

- Interleukin-2: FDA approved
 - RR of 6 9%
 - Atkins et al, in 199 published in
 - JCO HD IL-2 data
 - 720 000iu/kg iv bolus
 - OOR 15,5%
 - Brain mets were excluded

- Durability of CR is the hallmark of IL-2 therapy
- 80% of complete responders are likely cured
- Toxicity: very toxic –e.g capillary leak syndrome
- Need ICU

IPILIMUMAB

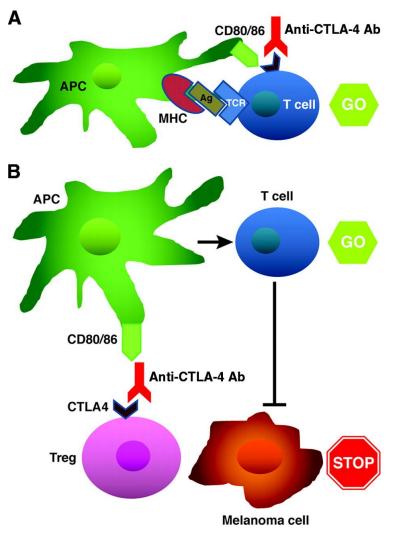
CTLA-4 blockade prevents downregulation of T cells.



Robert C, Ghiringhelli F The Oncologist 2009;14:848-861



Antitumor effects of CTLA-4 blockade.



Robert C, Ghiringhelli F The Oncologist 2009;14:848-861



Ipilimumab: FDA approved

Anti-CTLA-4 Monoclonal

antibody

ORR 10 - 15%

Disease control rate of 30%

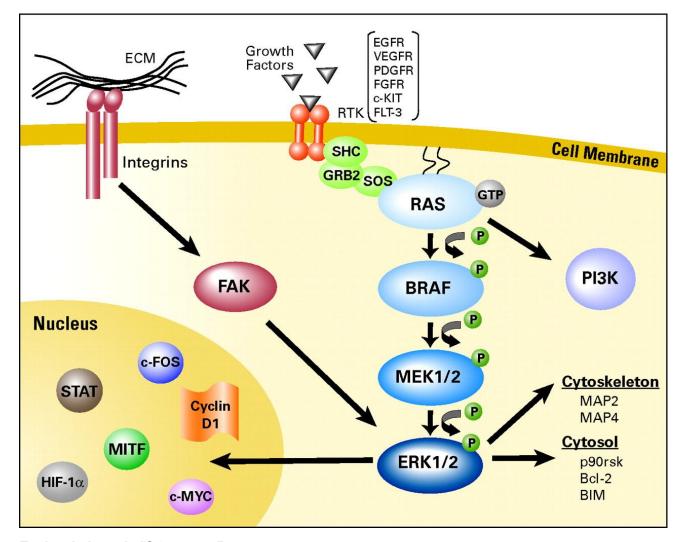
Toxicity is manageable

Induce long-term responses in

minority of pts



The mitogen-activated protein kinase (MAPK) signaling cascade.



Fecher L A et al. JCO 2007;25:1606-1620

 Vemurafenib: TKI, BRAF inhibitor BRAF activating mutation is found in approx 40-60% of melanoma pts Response is seen within 2 wks but PD of disease is notice at 6 months

Vemurafenib: Important mutation is V600E

Combination Chemotherapy

- Only in Clinical trials
- None has shown better results

• Immunotherapy plus targeted therapies?

THANK YOU

References

To be added later