COM701 plus nivolumab demonstrates preliminary antitumor activity and immune modulation of tumor microenvironment in patients with metastatic MSS-CRC and liver metastases.

Drew W. Rasco¹, Ecaterina Elena Dumbrava², Manish Sharma³, Dale Randall Shepard⁴, Daniel A. Vaena⁵, Gini F. Fleming⁶, Bartosz Chmielowski⁷, Erika P. Hamilton⁸, Ryan J. Sullivan⁹, Kyriakos P. Papadopoulos¹, Amita Patnaik¹, Eran Ophir¹⁰, Gady Cojocaru¹⁰, Chet Bohac¹¹, Adeboye H. Adewoye¹¹, Izar Benjamin¹², Manish Patel¹³, Michael Overman².

¹STOP-San Antonio, San Antonio, TX; ²START, San Antonio, TX; ³The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX; ⁴START-Midwest, Grand Rapids, MI; ⁵Cleveland Clinic Taussig Cancer Institute, Cleveland, OH; ⁶West Cancer Center and Research Institute, Memphis, TN; ⁷University of Chicago Medicine, Chicago, IL; ⁸UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, Los Angeles, CA; ⁹Sarah Cannon Research Institute and Tennessee Oncology, PLLC, Nashville, TN; ¹⁰Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA; ¹¹Compugen Ltd., Holon, Israel; ¹²Compugen USA Inc., South San Francisco, CA; ¹³Columbia University-Herbert Irving Comprehensive Cancer Center, New York, NY; Florida Cancer Center/ Sarah Cannon Research Institute, Sarasota, Florida.

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 [1]. 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 I clinical trial of COM701 and nivolumab (NCT03667716). 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, C8D expression and omics profiling.

Results: A total of 22 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%). C8D 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.

Conclusion: 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. Data cut June 17, 2022.