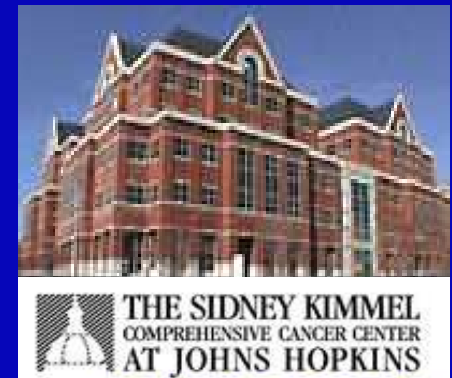


# Harnessing the Immune System via Checkpoint Blockade

**Julie R. Brahmer, M.D., M.Sc.**

**Associate Professor of Oncology**

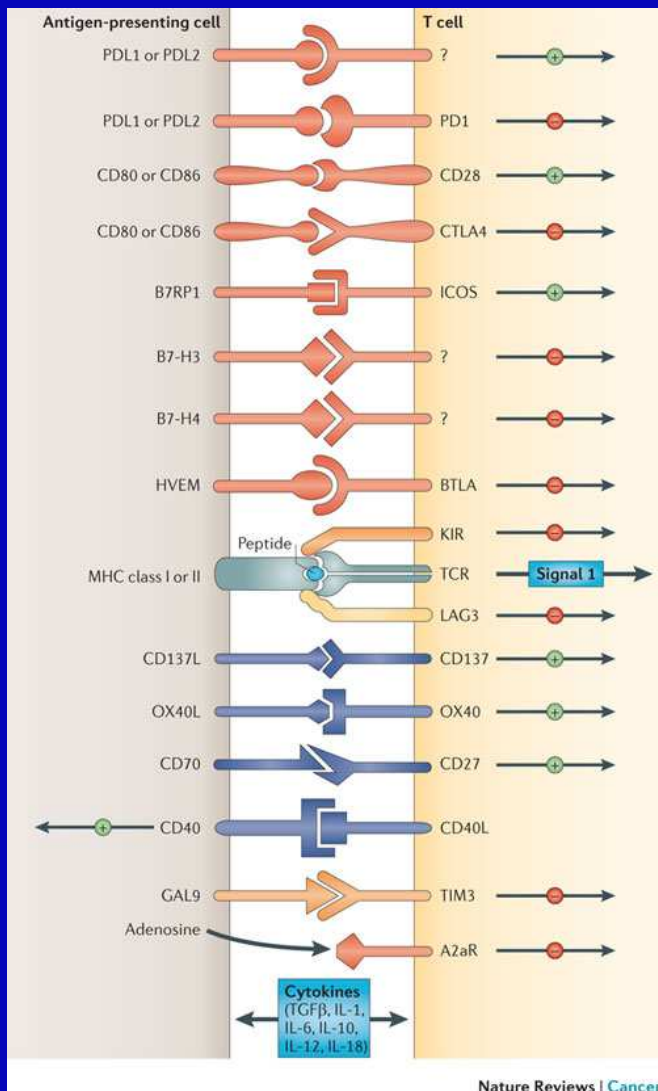
**The Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer  
Center at Johns Hopkins**



# Disclosures

- **Bristol Myers Squibb**
  - **Advisory Board member – uncompensated**
  - **Institutional Research Support**
- **Merck**
  - **Advisory Board member - compensated**

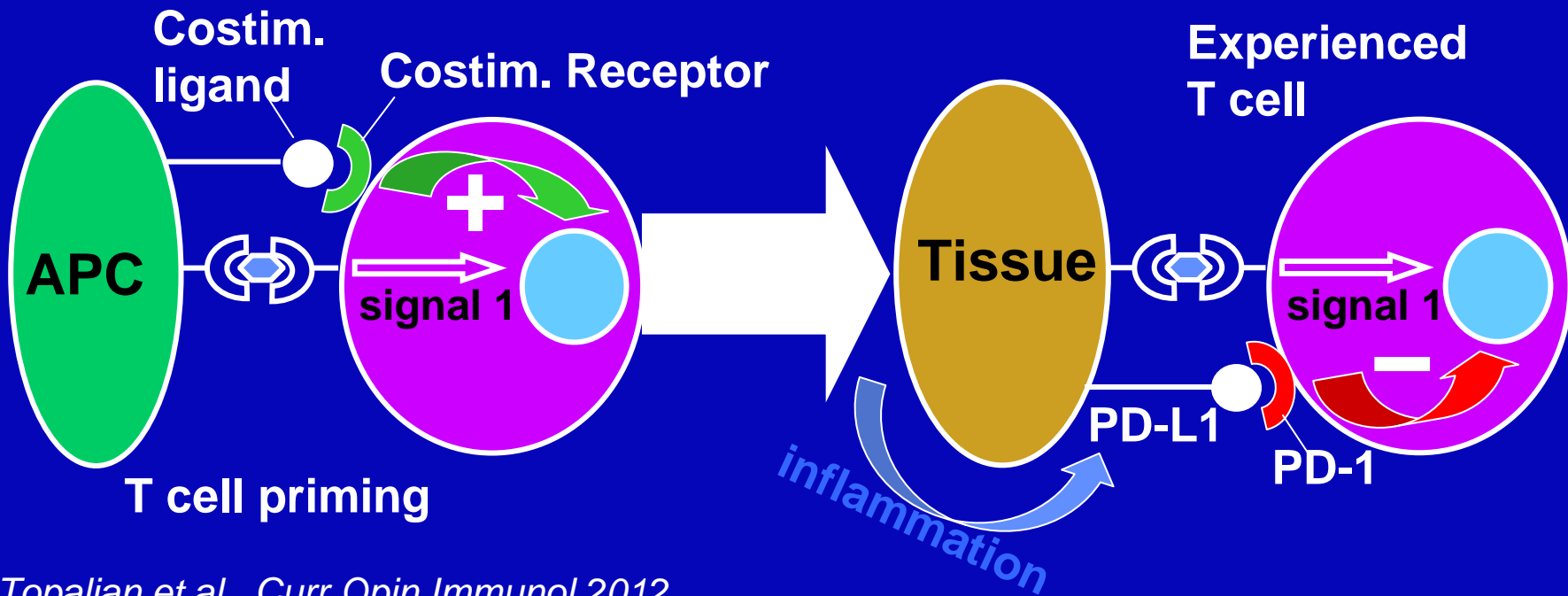
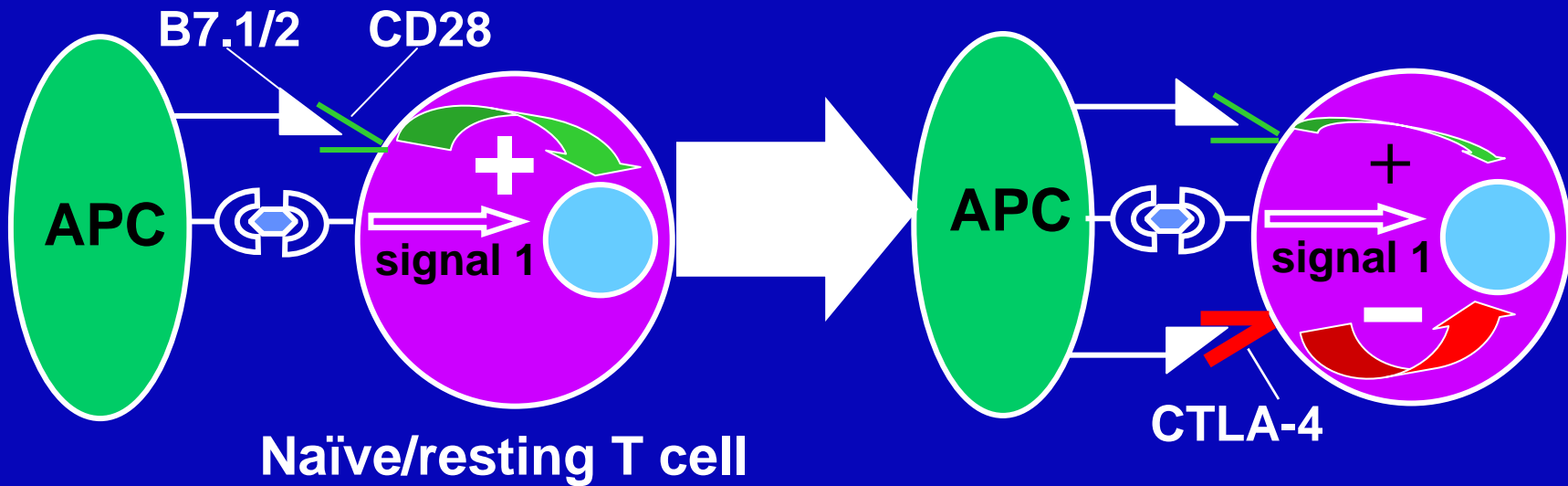
# Regulation of T Cell Responses Via Multiple Co-Stimulatory and Inhibitory Interactions



- ✧ T cell response to antigen is mediated by peptide-MHC recognized by TCR (first signal – specificity)
- ✧ B7 family of membrane-bound ligands bind both co-stimulatory and inhibitory receptors (second co-stimulatory signal)

Pardoll DM Nature Rev Cancer 12, 252, 2012

# CTLA-4 vs. PD-1: Distinct Immune Checkpoints



# Comparison of CTLA-4 versus PD-1

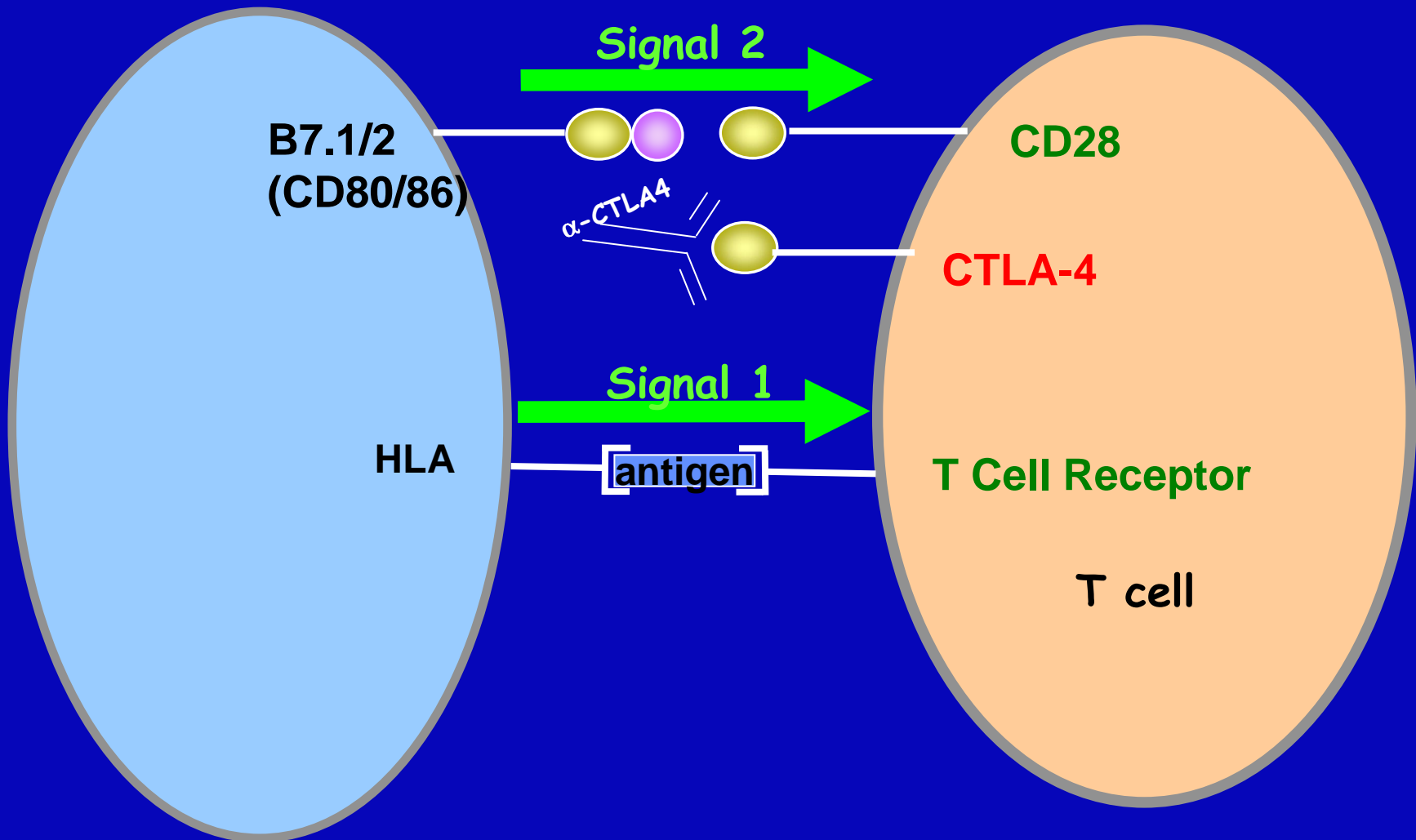
## CTLA-4 Pathway

- Exclusively on T cells
- Ligands – CD 80 & 86
- Ligands only expressed on APCs
- CTLA-4 deficient mice suffer early, fatal autoimmune syndrome
- Blockade enhances proliferation of CD4 and CD8 T cells with increase in ratio to regulatory T cells

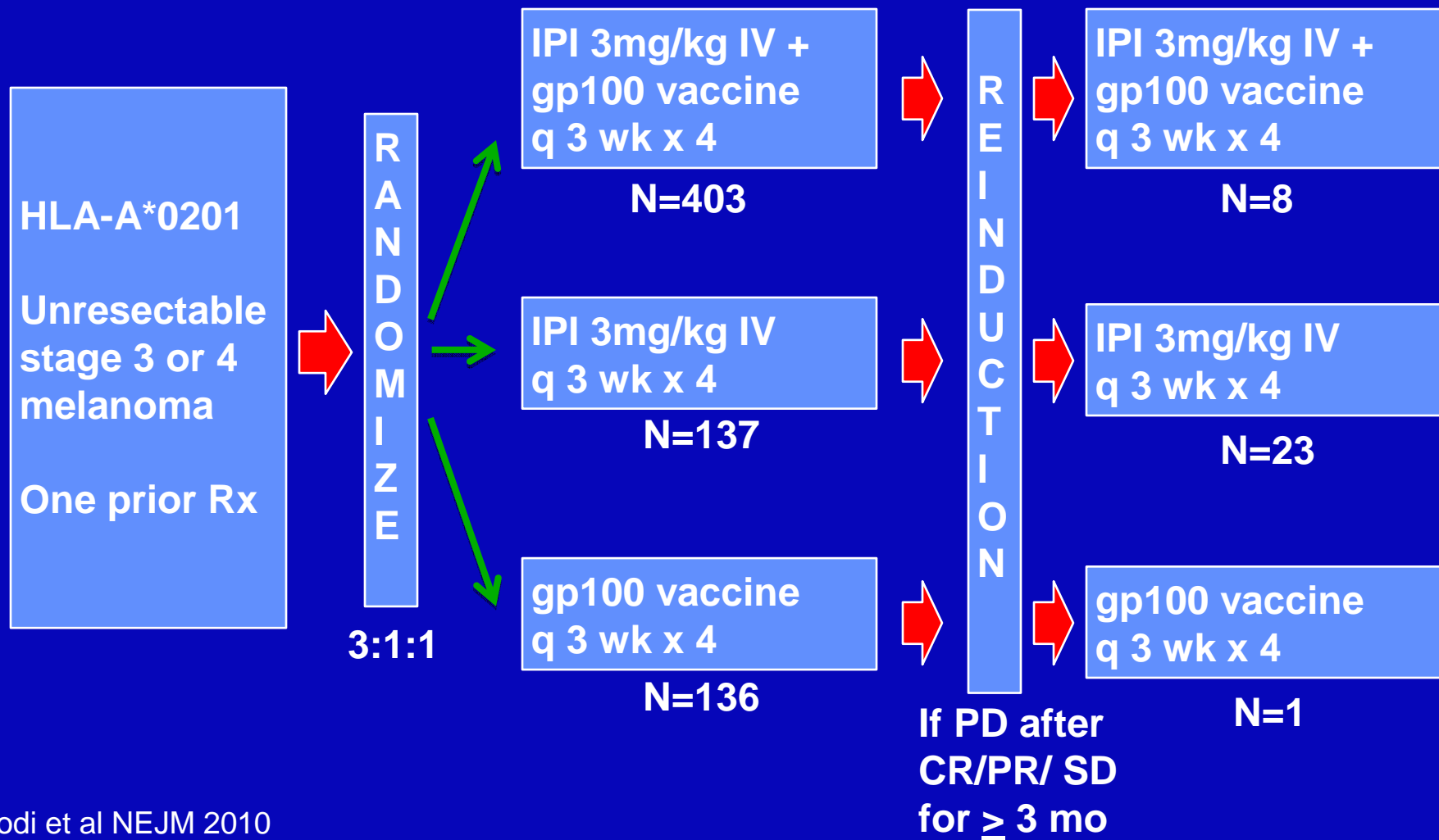
## PD-1 Pathway

- On T, B and NK cells
- Ligands - PD-L1 & PD-L2
- Ligand expressed on APCs and tumor cells
- PD-1 deficient mice develop strain-specific autoimmunity late in life
- Blockade enhances CD8 T cells greater than CD4 with increase of CD8 to T regs & cytotoxicity of CD8

# Blocking the Immune Checkpoint CTLA-4 - Ipilimumab



# Phase 3 Trial of Ipilimumab in Patients with Previously Treated Melanoma



# Phase 3 Trial of Ipilimumab in Patients with Previously Treated Melanoma

Treatment	BORR	Median OS	2 yr OS	HR
Ipi + gp 100	5.7%	10 mo	21.6%	0.68 p<0.001 to gp100
Ipi	10.9%	10.1 mo	23.5%	0.66 p=0.003 to gp 100
gp100	1.5%	6.4 mo	13.7%	

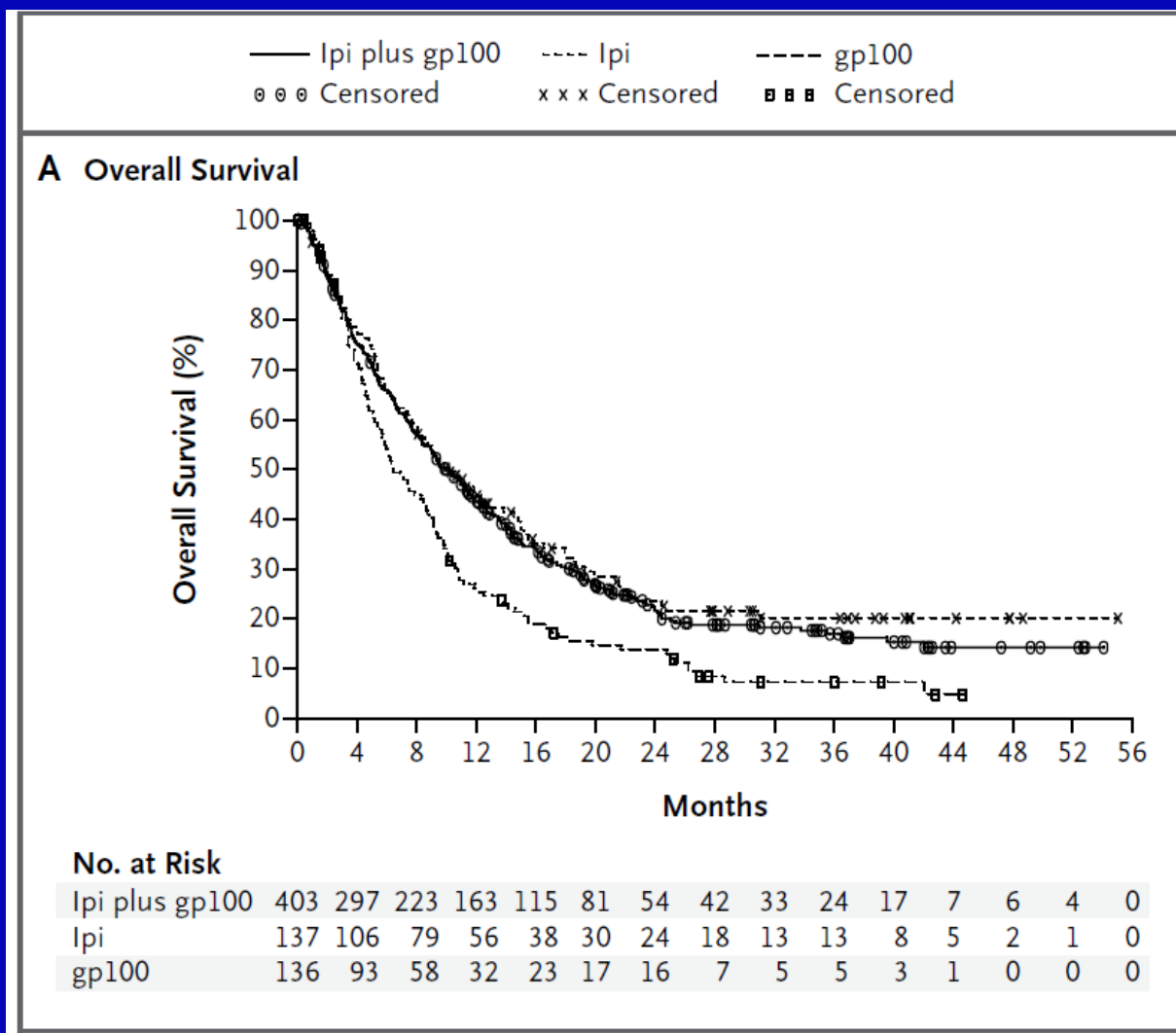
- **Most common toxicities – Rash and diarrhea**
- **Grade 3 / 4 immune related toxicities – 10-15%**
- **14 deaths, 7 due to immune related toxicites**

BORR – best overall response rate, OS=overall survival

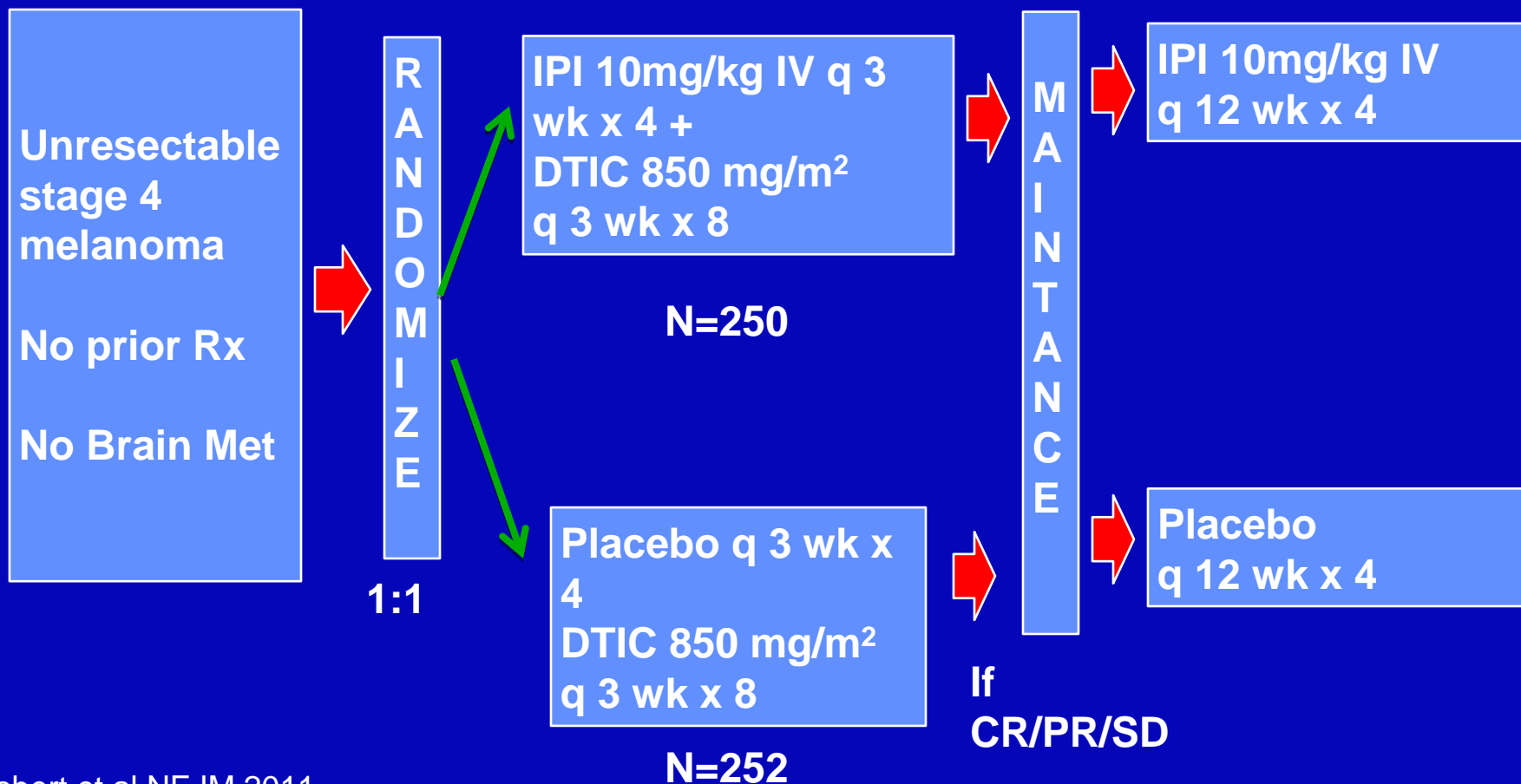
Hodi et al NEJM 2010



# Ipilimumab: Survival Benefit in Metastatic Melanoma



# Phase 3 Trial of DTIC +/- Ipilimumab in Patients with Advanced Melanoma



# Phase 3 Trial of DTIC +/- Ipilimumab in Patients with Melanoma

Treatment	BORR	Median OS	2 yr OS	HR
DTIC + Ipi	15.2%	11.2 mo	28.5%	0.72 p<0.001
DTIC	10.3%	9.1 mo	17.9%	

- Most common toxicities – Rash, diarrhea, and elevated LFTs
- Grade 3 / 4 immune related toxicities – 38.1% vs 4.4%
- Most common grade 3 / 4 immune related toxicity - Hepatitis
- Drug related discontinuation rate – 34% vs 4%
- No deaths

BORR – best overall response rate, OS=overall survival

Robert et al NEJM 2011

# Ipilimumab Toxicity Management

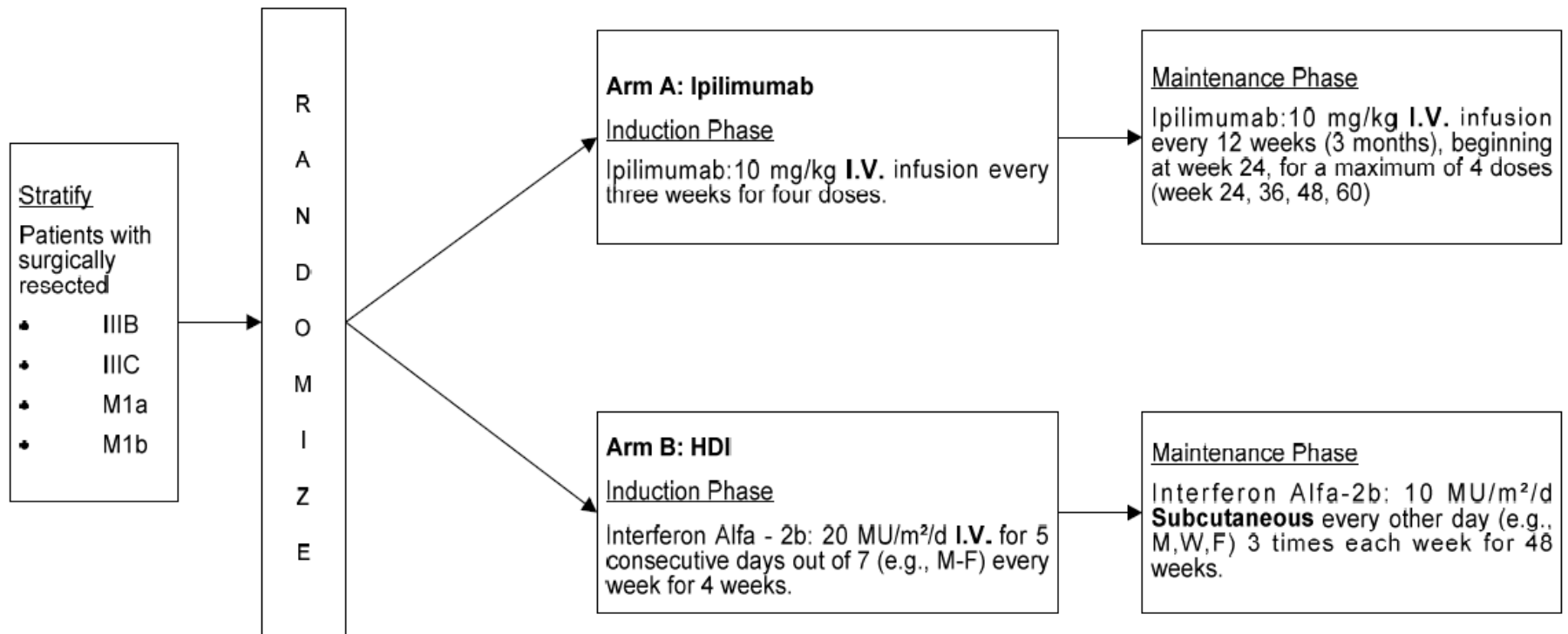
- Grade 1 – supportive care & close observation
- Symptomatic Grade  $\geq 2$  – hold treatment
  - Consider moderate dose steroids (prednisone 0.5 to 1.0 mg/kg)
  - Taper over 4 weeks
  - Retreat if  $\leq$  grade 1, prednisone tapered to  $\leq 7.5$  mg
- Grade  $\geq 3$ 
  - Permanently stop ipilimumab (except dermatologic)
  - Consider high dose steroids (prednisone 1-2 mg/kg or methylprednisone 1g IV daily)
  - Supportive care, specialist consultation
  - Additional immunosuppressive therapy – infliximab or mycophenolate

*Weber JS et. al. JCO 30:2691-7, 2012,*

*Kaehler KC et. al. Seminars in Oncology, 37(5), October 2010*

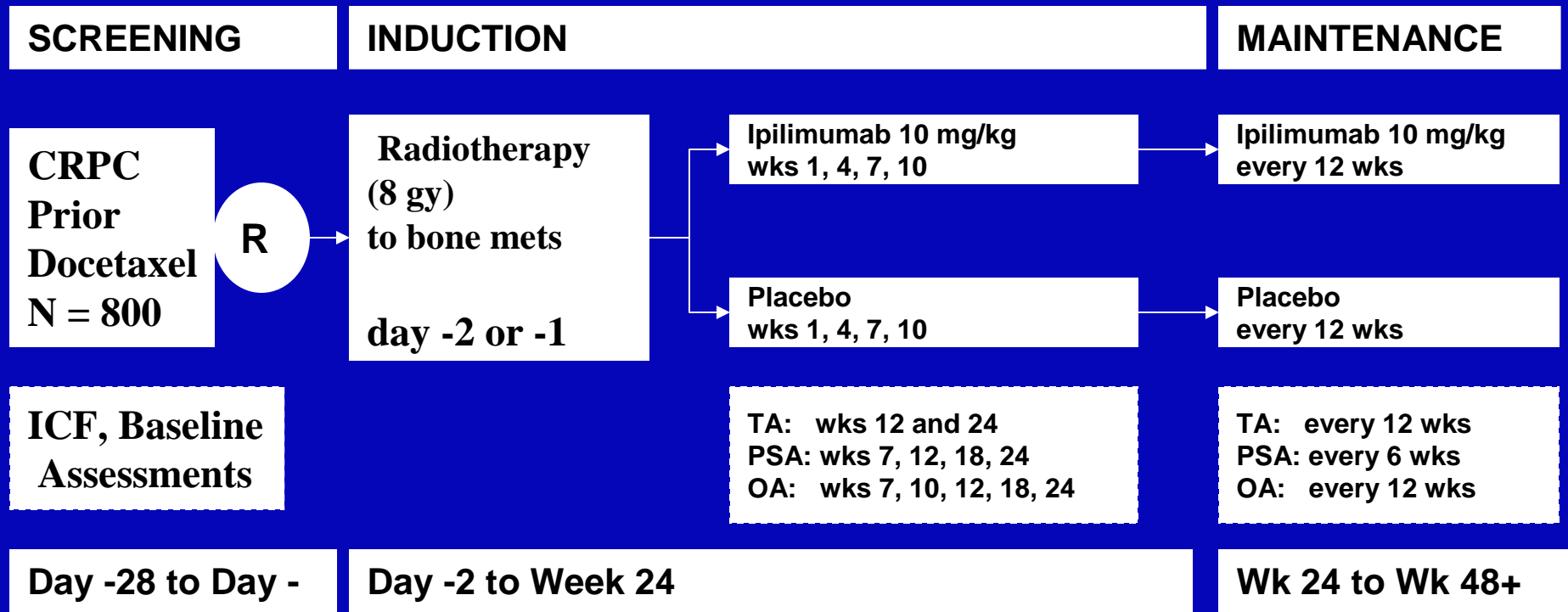
# E1609 Schema

## Schema



Accrual = 1,000

# Randomized, Double-Blind, Phase III Trial Comparing Ipilimumab vs. Placebo Following Radiotherapy in Subjects with Castration Resistant Prostate Cancer that Have Received Prior Treatment with Docetaxel (CA184-043)

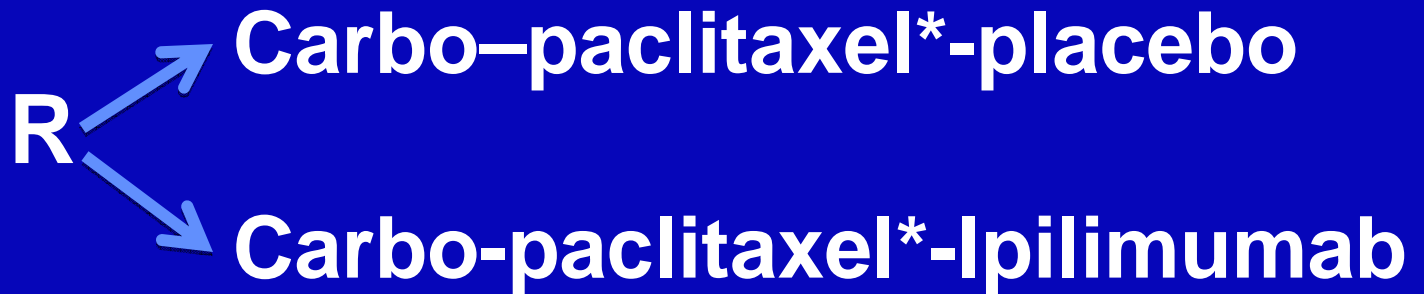


TA = tumor assessment  
PSA = prostate specific antigen  
OA = outcome assessment

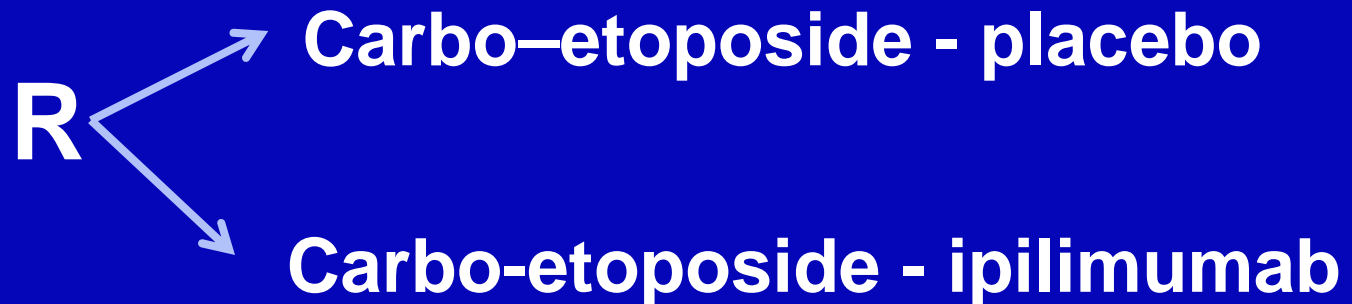
**Completed Accrual 1/2012**

# Ongoing Phase III Trials of Ipilimumab in Lung Cancer

Squamous cell  
Subtype  
only



Small cell  
lung  
cancer

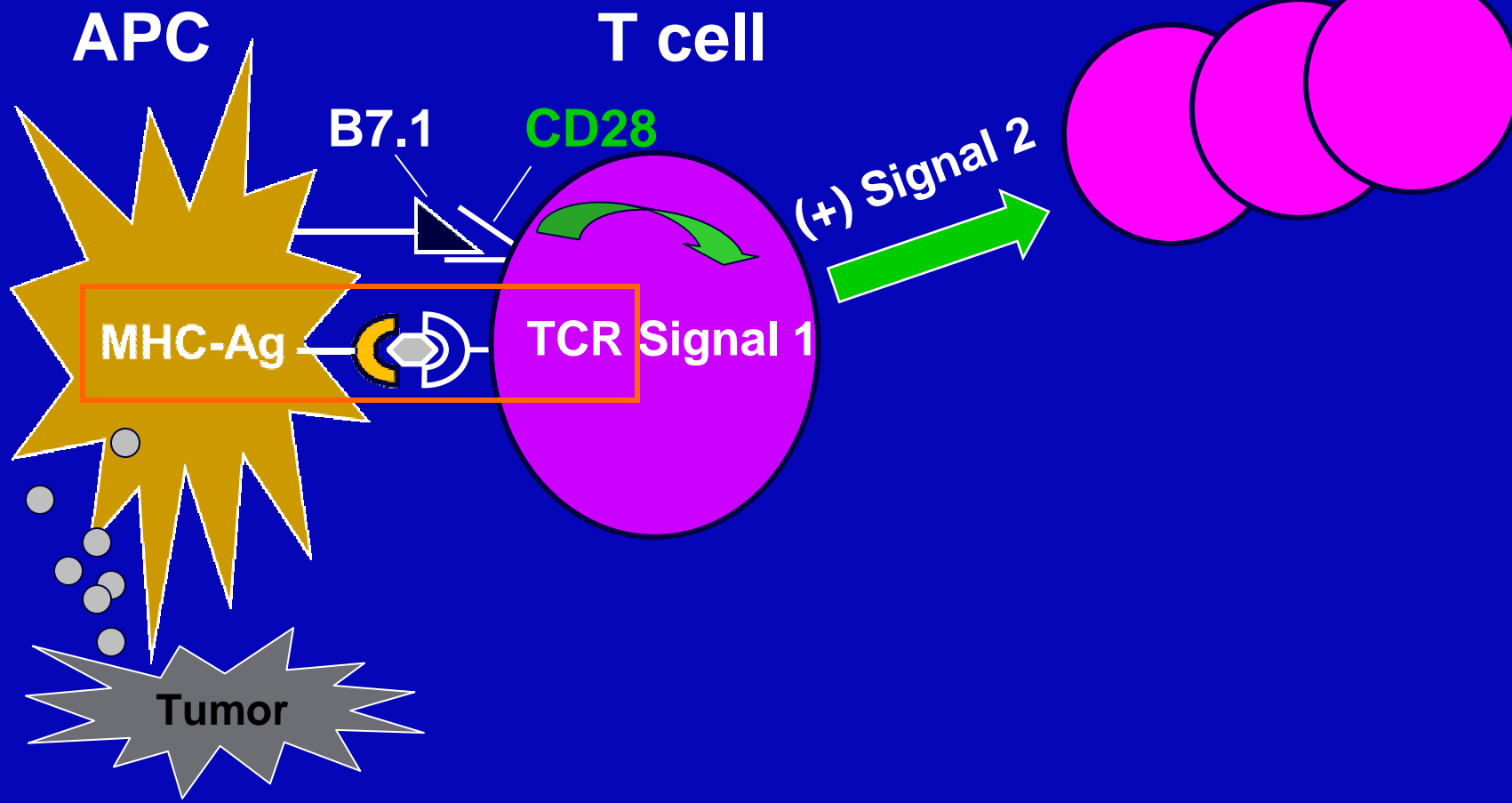


\*Carboplatin (AUC 6); paclitaxel (175 mg/m<sup>2</sup>); ipilimumab (10 mg/kg q3w)

# Role of PD-1 in Suppressing Antitumor Immunity

Activation

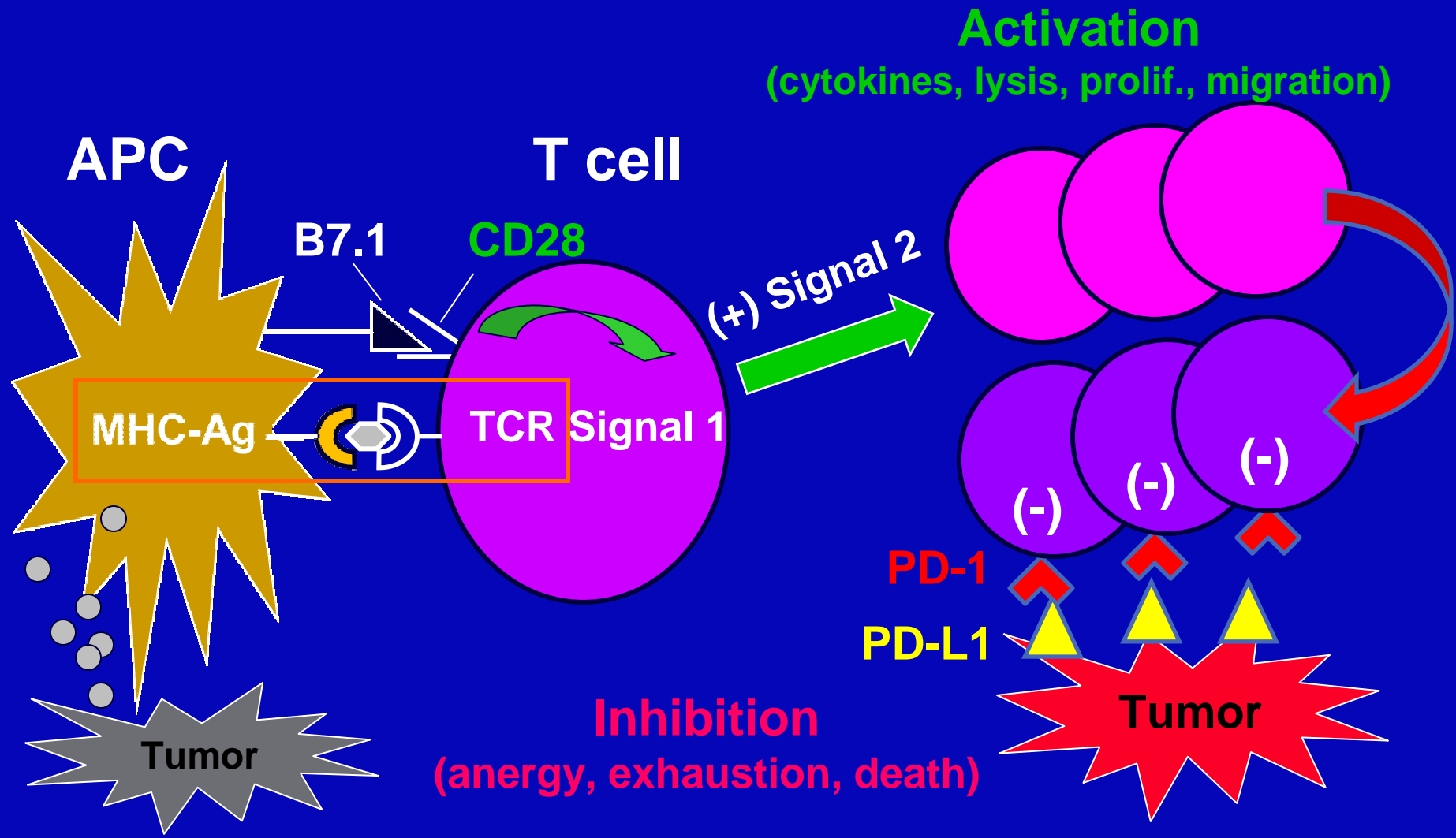
(cytokines, lysis, prolif., migration)



*Keir ME et al, Annu Rev Immunol 2008; Pardoll DM, Nat Rev Cancer 2012*



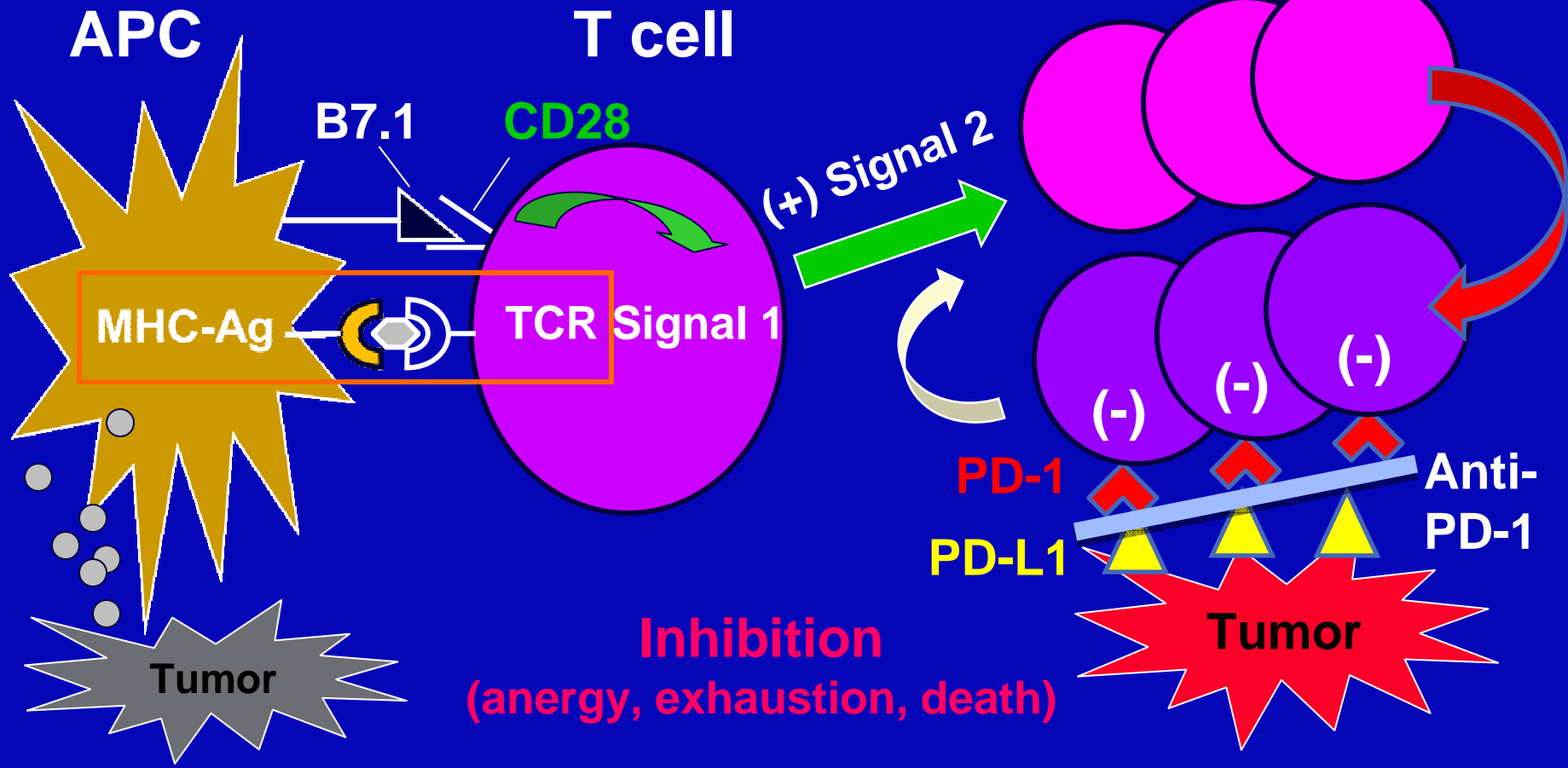
# Role of PD-1 in Suppressing Antitumor Immunity



# Role of PD-1 in Suppressing Antitumor Immunity

**Activation**

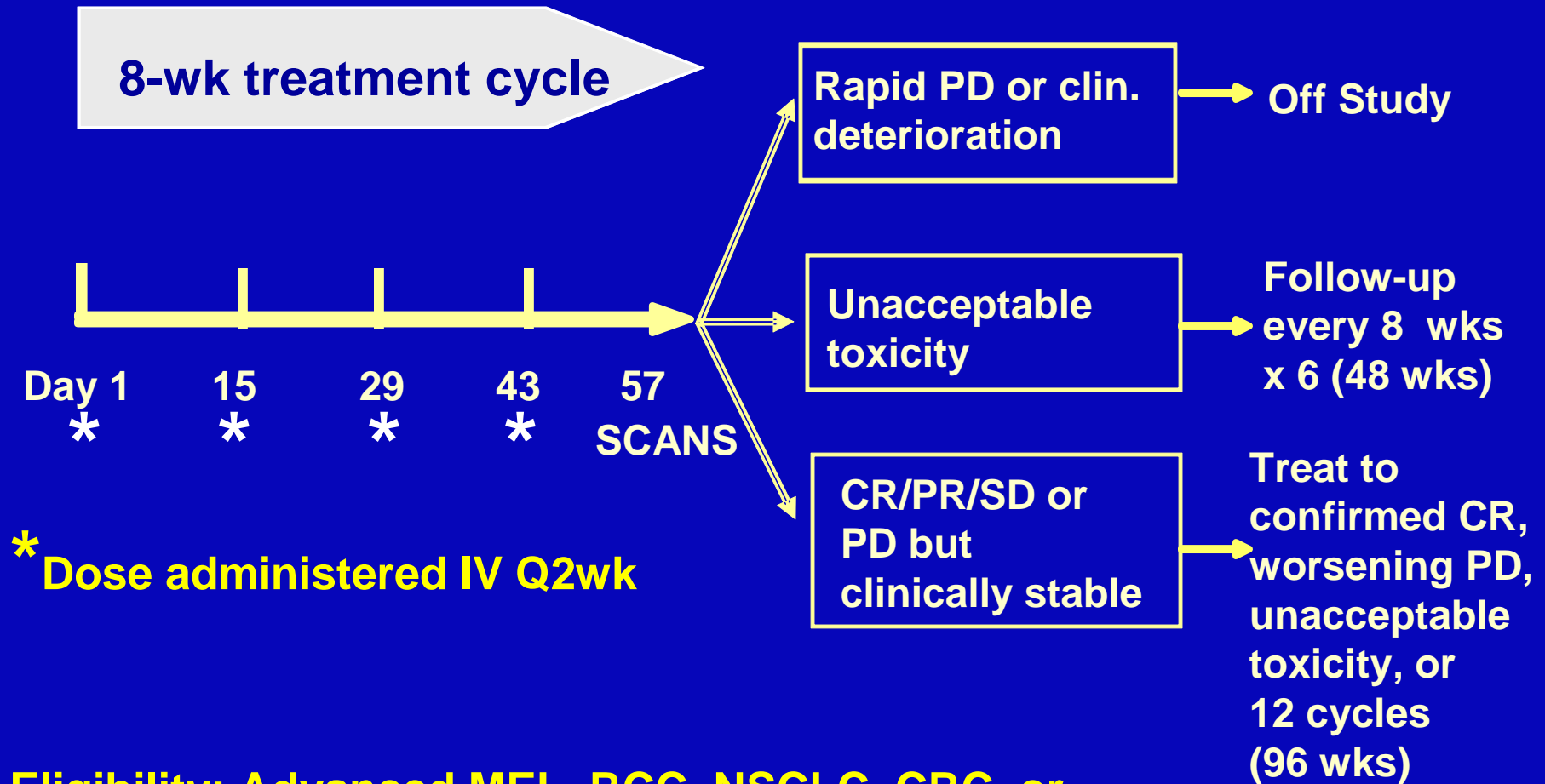
(cytokines, lysis, prolif., migration)



# Clinical Development of Inhibitors of PD-1 Immune Checkpoint

Target	Antibody	Molecule	Company	Development stage
PD-1	Nivolumab/ BMS-936558/ MDX-1106/ ONO-4538	Fully human IgG4 mAb	Bristol-Myers Squibb	Phase III multiple tumors
	Pidilizumab CT-011	Humanized IgG1 mAb	CureTech	Phase II multiple tumors
	Lambrolizumab MK-3475	Humanized IgG4 mAb	Merck	Phase I-II
PD-L1	BMS-936559/ MDX-1105	Fully human IgG4 mAb	Bristol-Myers Squibb	Phase I
	Medl-4736	Fully human IgG1 mAb	MedImmune	Phase I
	MPDL-3280A	Fully human IgG1 mAb	Genentech	Phase I-II

# Nivolumab Study Design: Phase I Multi-Dose Regimen



**Eligibility:** Advanced MEL, RCC, NSCLC, CRC, or CRPC with PD after 1-5 systemic therapies

# Safety of Nivolumab-Multi-dose Phase I Trial

- 220 (72%) patients experienced drug-related AEs
  - Fatigue (26%), rash (14%), diarrhea (12%), and pruritus (10%) were the most common
  - Grade 3–4 AEs were experienced by 15% of patients
  - 18/304 (6%) patients discontinued treatment because of drug-related AEs
- AEs of special interest (AEOSI), defined as AEs with a potential immune-related etiology, were observed in 138 (45%) of study patients
  - Majority of AEOSI were low grade; 6% Grade 3–4
  - The most common AEOSI of any grade included rash (14%), diarrhea (12%), and pruritus (10%)
    - AEOSI occurring in  $\leq 1\%$  of patients included colitis, hepatitis, hypophysitis, and thyroiditis
- There were 3 (1%) deaths in patients with pneumonitis (2 NSCLC, 1 CRC)

# Clinical activity of Nivolumab

Tumor Type	Dose (mg/kg)	No. of Patients	ORR (CR/PR) No. of Patients (%)	SD ≥24 Weeks No. of Patients (%)
MEL	0.1–10	106	33 (31)	6 (6)
NSCLC	1–10	122	20 (16)	11 (9)
RCC	1 or 10	34	10 (29)	9 (27)

- 28 responses (16 MEL, 6 RCC, and 6 NSCLC) lasted ≥1 year among 54 patients with treatment initiation prior to 1 year
- 13 patients (4 MEL, 6 NSCLC, 3 RCC) demonstrated non-conventional patterns of response but were not included as responders

# Partial regression of metastatic RCC (Nivolumab, 1 mg/kg)

## Case studies

- 57-year-old male patient
- Developed progressive disease following radical surgery and treatment with sunitinib, temsirolimus, sorafenib, and pazopanib

Pretreatment

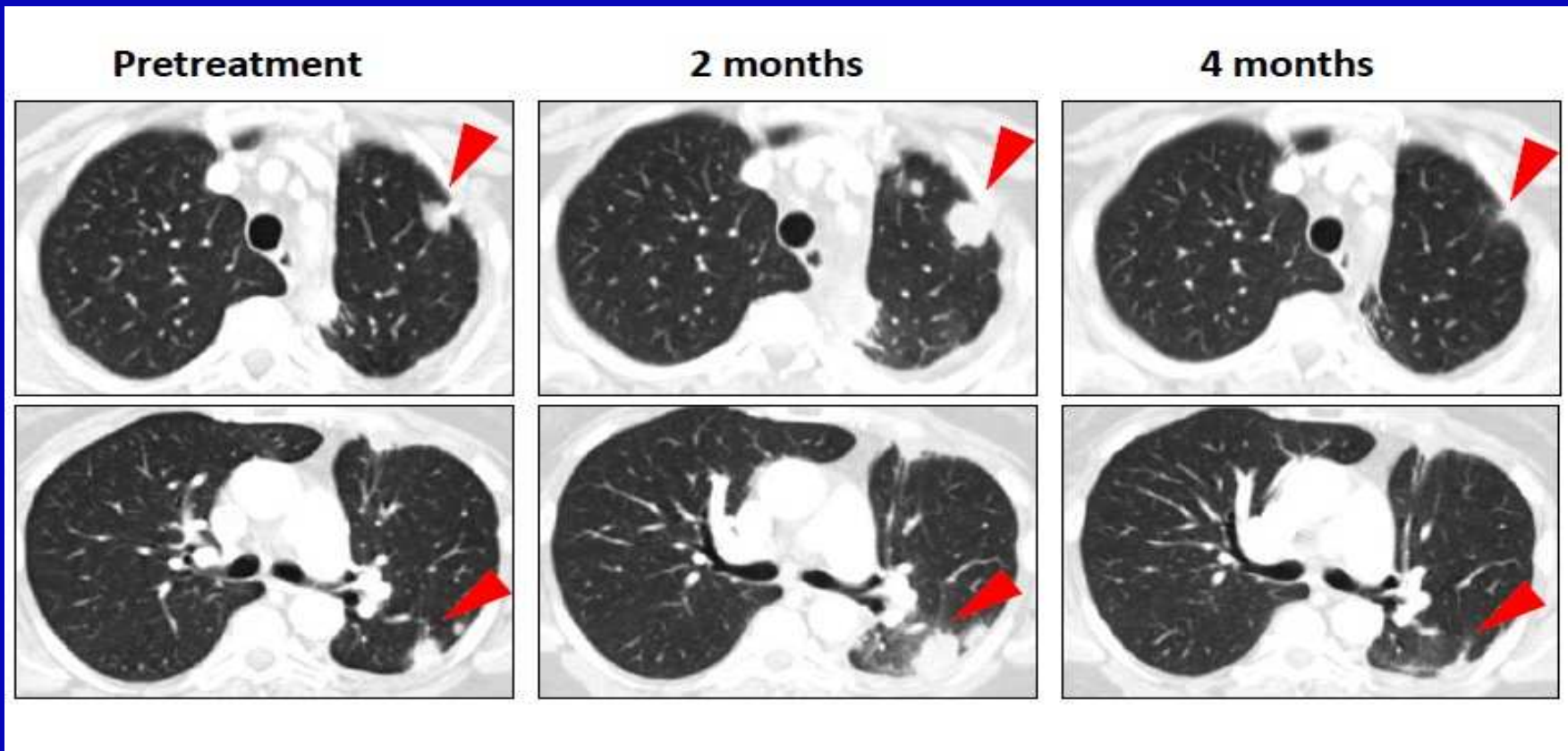


6 Months



RCC = renal cell cancer

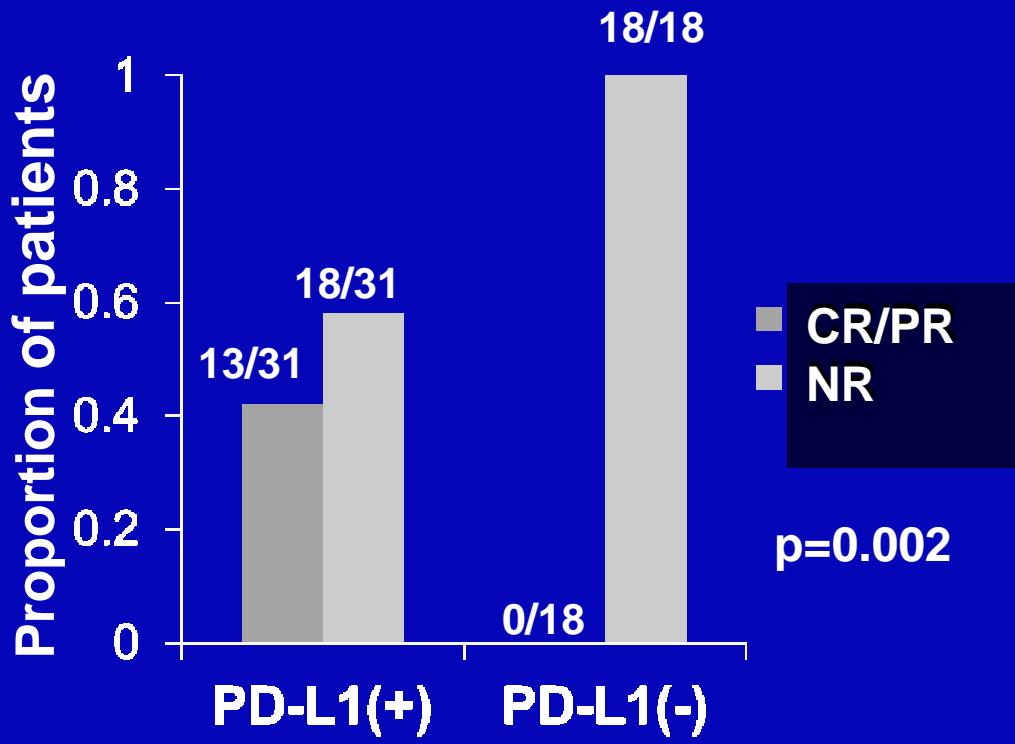
# Response of Metastatic NSCLC (Nivolumab, 10mg/kg)



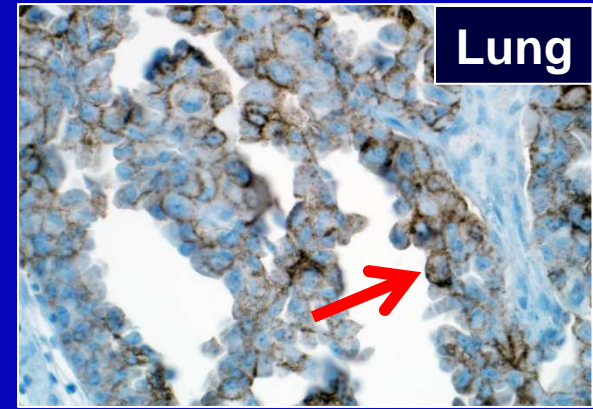
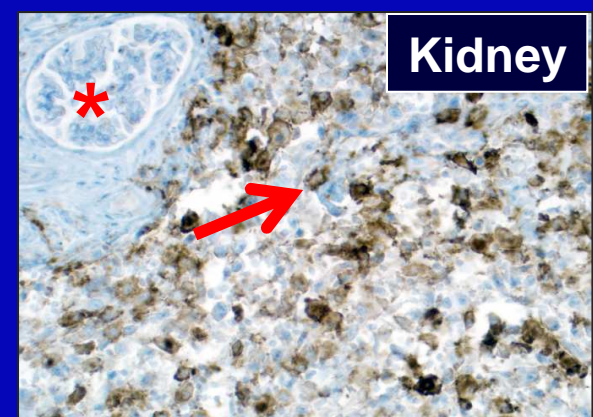
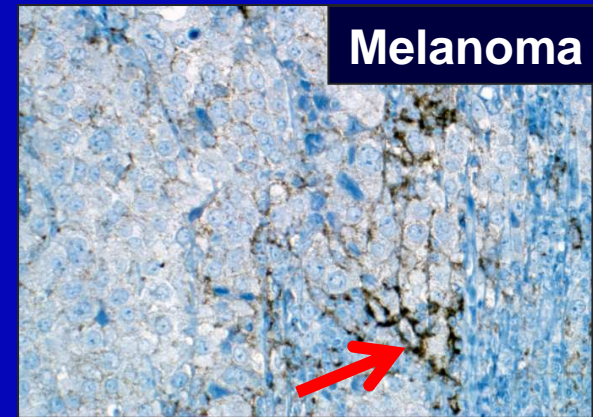
- Initial progression in pulmonary lesions of a NSCLC patient with non-squamous histology was followed by regression
- Dx '04, EGFR mutation +; Rx Gem/carbo, erlotinib, erlotinib + LBH589 (trial for T790 mutation), and lastly pemetrexed



# Preliminary molecular marker studies: Correlation of PD-L1 expression in pretreatment tumor biopsies with clinical response to anti-PD-1

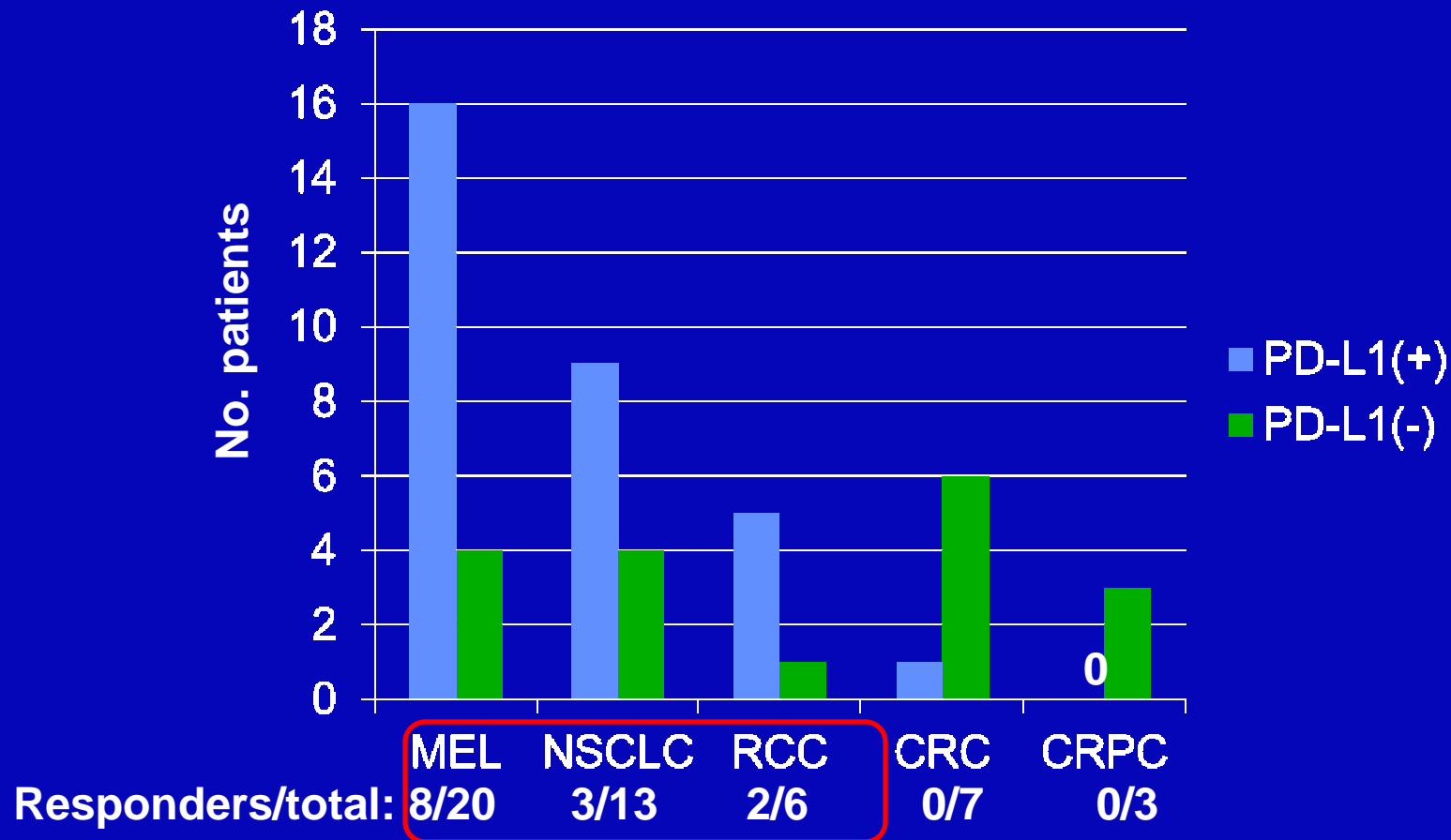


49 patients include 20 with melanoma, 13 NSCLC, 7 colon, 6 kidney, and 3 prostate cancer.



\* Normal renal glomerulus

## Correlation of PD-L1 expression with tumor type in 49 patients treated with anti-PD-1



Patients were “PD-L1+” if  $\geq 5\%$  of tumor cells in *any* tumor biopsy expressed cell surface PD-L1, using mAb 5H1 and manual staining technique.

# Nivolumab Ongoing Phase 3 Trials

- **NSCLC**
  - Nivolumab vs. Docetaxel in the 2<sup>nd</sup> line setting in patients with squamous cell carcinoma
  - Nivolumab vs. Docetaxel in the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> line setting in patients with non-squamous cell
- **RCC**
  - Nivolumab vs. Everolimus who have received prior anti-angiogenic therapy
- **Melanoma**
  - Nivolumab vs. Nivo + Ipi vs. Ipi in untreated pts
  - Nivolumab vs. Physicians' Choice (taxol/carbo or dacarbazine) after Ipi progression
  - Nivolumab vs. Dacarbazine in untreated (outside-US)

# MK-3475: Phase I Trial Design

MK-3475 - Humanized IgG4 antibody binds to PD-1

## Part A – Dose escalation

- 3+3 design 1, 3, and 10 mg/kg
  - Administered every 2 or 3 weeks
- Advanced solid tumors



## Part B – Melanoma expansion cohort

- Single arm, open label
- 2 mg/kg and 10 mg/kg
  - Administered every 2 or 3 weeks
- Advanced Melanoma
  - Naïve to Ipilimumab (IPI)
  - Previously treated with IPI

# MK-3475: Summary of Dose Escalation Phase

- MK-3475 is well tolerated at all dose levels tested - (1mg/kg, 3mg/kg, and 10 mg/kg; administered every 2 or 3 weeks):
  - No DLTs
  - Majority of AEs are Grade 1-2
    - Common AEs were fatigue, pruritus, dyspnea, and nausea
- Early evidence of anti-tumor activity
  - Two melanoma patients with confirmed partial responses by RECIST 1.1 at 3 mg/kg and 10 mg/kg
  - One NSCLC patient with unconfirmed partial response by RECIST 1.1 at 1 mg/kg

## MK-3475: Preliminary Best Overall Response in Advanced Melanoma Patients

	Complete Response (N, 95% CI)	Objective Response (N, 95% CI)	Disease Control Rate (N, 95% CI)
All MEL N=83	5% (4; 2%-13%)	47% (39; 34%-56%)	60% (50; 48% - 70%)
IPI Naïve N=58	7% (4; 2%-18%)	50% (29; 35%-61%)	67% (39; 51%-76%)
IPI Treated N=25	0%	40% (10; 17%-59%)	44% (11; 24%-68%)

-All patients were dosed at 10 mg/kg

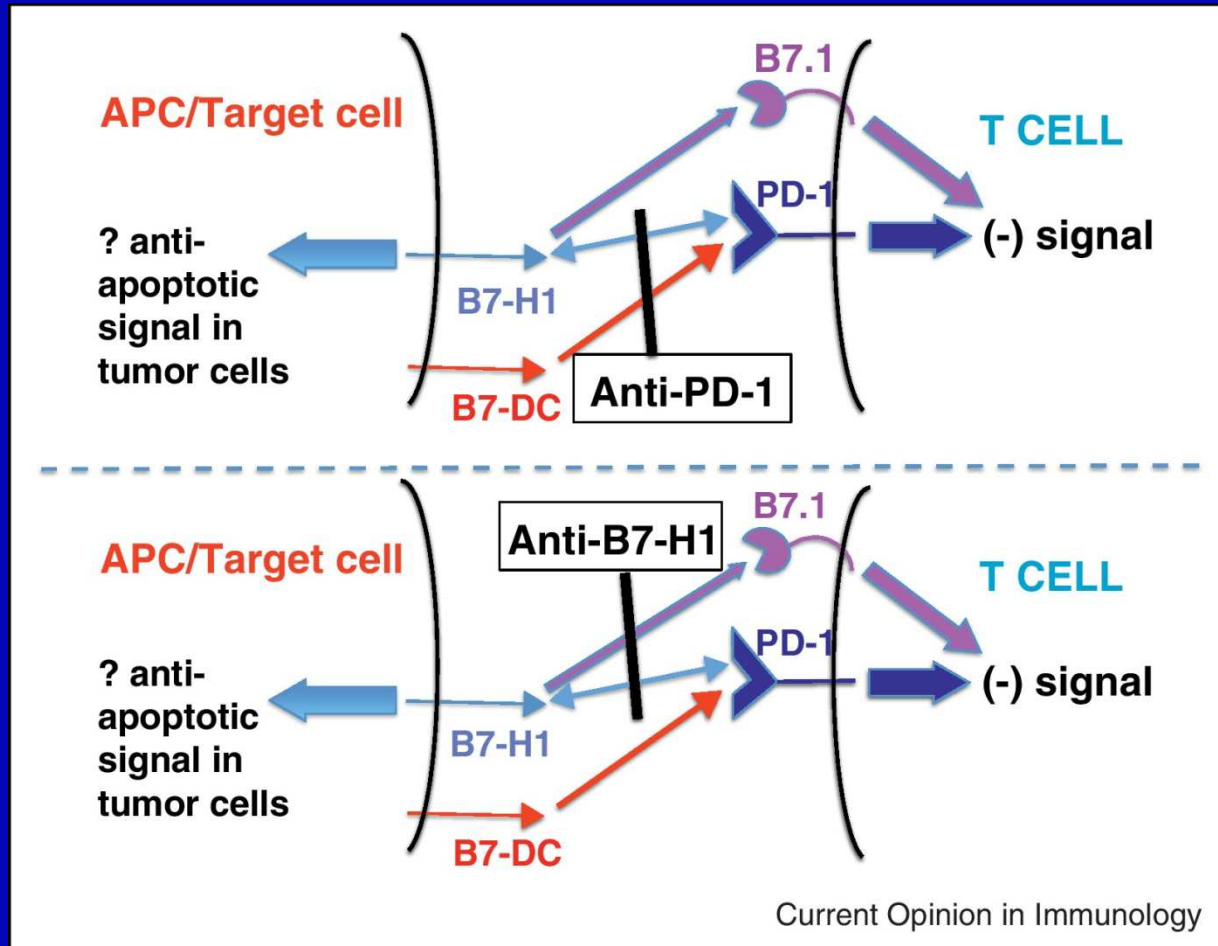
-7 Grade 3 / 4 immune related events including thyroid disease, pneumonitis, nephritis etc

-Disease control rate = objective response + stable disease

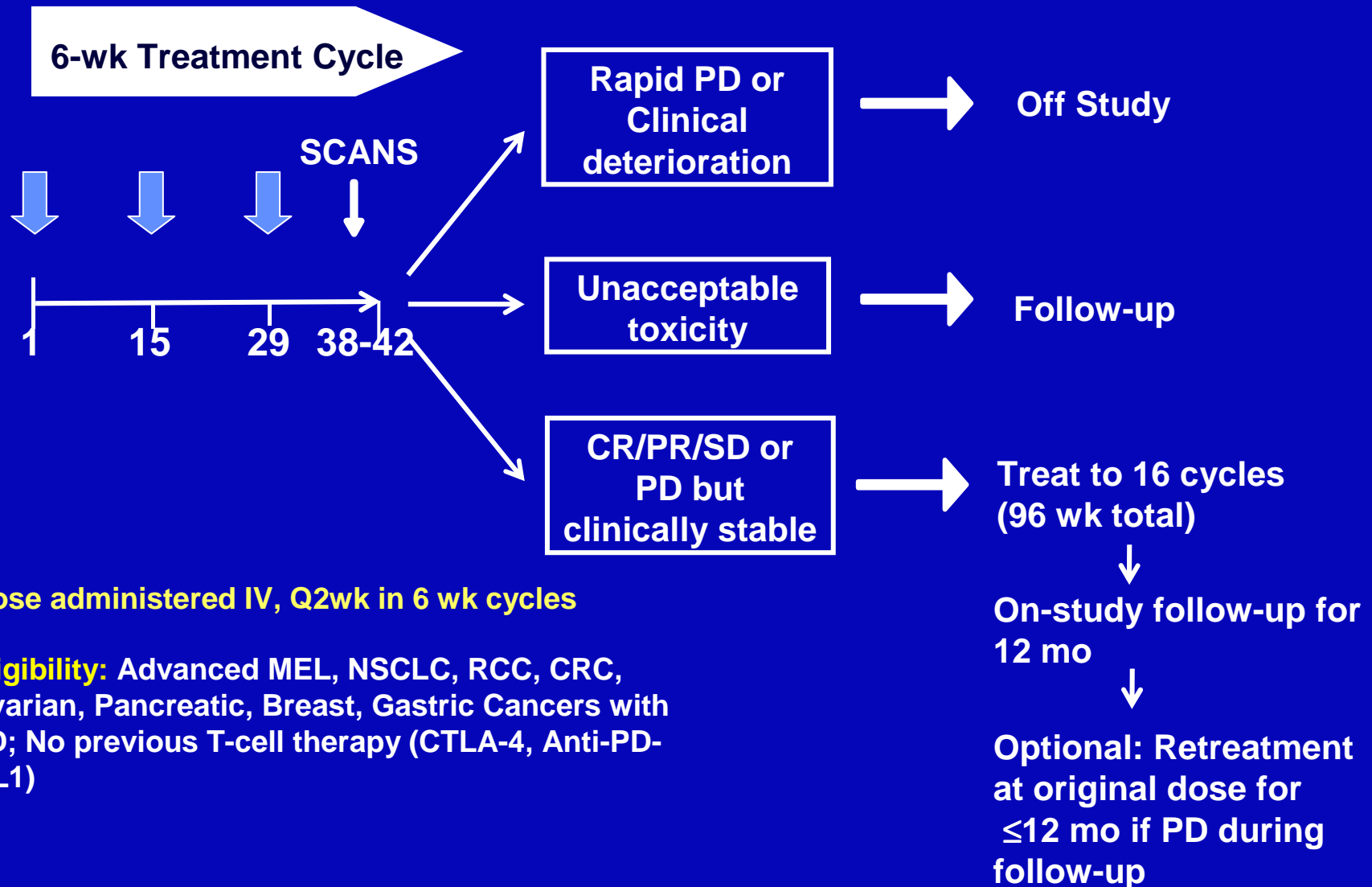
Randomized phase II trial for 2<sup>nd</sup> line therapy enrolling

– High dose vs. low dose vs. chemo

# Potential Differences in PD-1 vs. PD-L1 Blockade



# Study Design: First-in-Human Trial of BMS-936559 (anti-PD-L1 Ab)



Dose administered IV, Q2wk in 6 wk cycles

**Eligibility:** Advanced MEL, NSCLC, RCC, CRC, Ovarian, Pancreatic, Breast, Gastric Cancers with PD; No previous T-cell therapy (CTLA-4, Anti-PD-1/L1)



# BMS 936559 - Safety

- A maximum tolerated dose was not identified at doses up to 10 mg/kg
- There was no apparent relationship between drug dose and AE frequency in all treated patients
- Median duration of therapy was 12 weeks (range 2.0–111.1 weeks)
- 12 of 207 (6%) patients discontinued treatment due to a BMS-936559-related adverse event (AE)
- Drug-related AEs in 126 of 207 patients (61%)
  - Most AEs were low grade (grade 1/2 in 107 of 207 patients, 52%)
  - Grade 3/4 drug-related AEs in 19 of 207 patients (9%)
- No drug-related deaths

# Clinical activity of BMS-936559 in 160 response-evaluable patients<sup>a</sup>

Tumor Type <sup>b</sup>	Dose (mg/kg)	No. Patients (N=160)	ORR <sup>c</sup> No. Patients (%)	Duration of Response Range, Months	SD <sub>≥24</sub> Weeks No. Patients (%)	PFSR at 24 Weeks (%)
Melanoma	0.3-10	52	9 (17) <sup>d</sup>	2.8-23.5+	14 (27)	42
NSCLC	1-10	49	5 (10)	2.3+-16.6+	6 (12)	31
All Squamous		13	1 (8)	-	3 (23)	43
All Non-squamous		36	4 (11)	-	3 (8)	26
RCC	10	17	2 (12)	4-17	7 (41)	53
Ovarian	3 and 10	17	1 (6)	1.3+	3 (18)	22

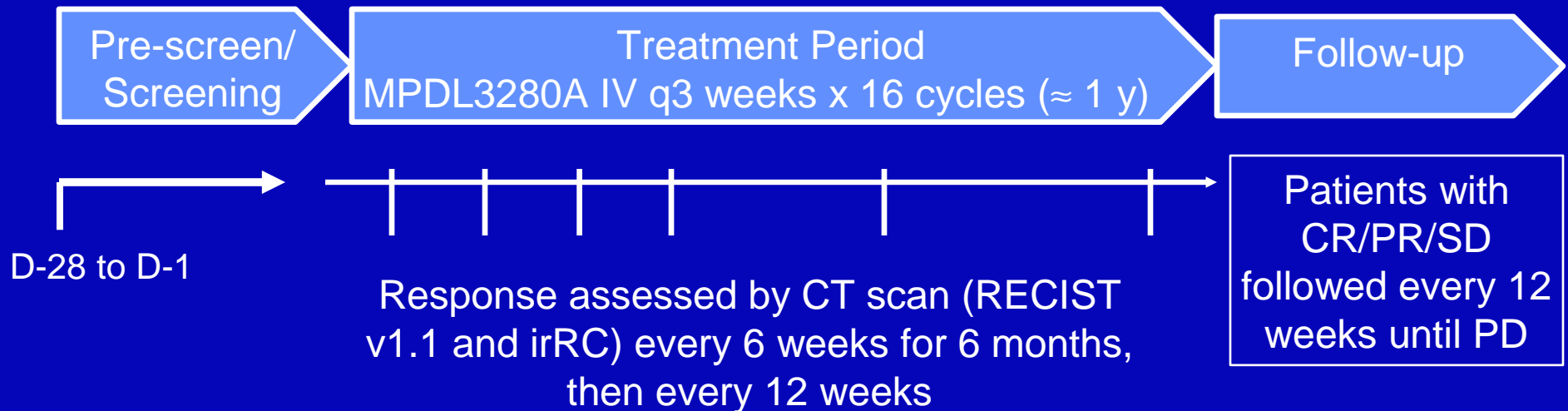
<sup>a</sup> Response-evaluable patients who initiated treatment by August 1, 2011

<sup>b</sup> To date there have been no objective responses in patients with colorectal or pancreatic cancer; no patients with gastric or breast cancer were evaluable as of the date of data analysis

<sup>c</sup> ORR was assessed using modified RECIST v1.0 criteria

<sup>d</sup> Includes 3 CRs

# MPDL3280A, Anti-PD-L1: Phase I Schema



## Key Eligibility Criteria

- *Incurable or metastatic solid tumor or hematologic malignancy*
- *Measureable disease per RECIST v1.1*
- *ECOG PS 0 or 1*

# MPDL3280A: Phase I trial

- **MPDL3280A safety and PK profile**
  - **Generally well tolerated**
    - **Most common side effects: fatigue, nausea and diarrhea**
    - **No dose-limiting toxicities up to 20 mg/kg**
  - **No MTD identified**
- **Activity observed in multiple solid tumor types, with responses continuing in all responders**
- **Expansion phases in NSCLC, melanoma, RC and other tumor types are ongoing**
- **Phase Ib trials in combination with bevacizumab, chemotherapy and vemurafenib are ongoing**
- **Phase II trials in NSCLC initiated**

# Conclusions

- Checkpoint inhibitors have promising anti-tumor activity
  - Ipilimumab is the first checkpoint inhibitor approved for use in cancer
- Checkpoint inhibitors have a unique set of side effects consistent with the immune mechanism of action
- Patient selection (biomarker) are being sought
- Phase 3 trials are ongoing