# Selective IDO1 Inhibition: Pharmacodynamic and Antitumor Activity of INCB24360

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## **Presenter Disclosure Information**

The following relationships exist related to this presentation:

Incyte Corporation: Employee



## **Negative Immune Regulation**

All inflammatory and immune responses are accompanied and limited by the generation of feedback inhibition

#### Major players:

- Tregs
- Immunosuppressive cytokines
  IL-10 and TGFβ
- Metabolic Enzymes
  - Arginase and IDO



Many tumors appear to have subverted these mechanisms to suppress immunity



## IDO1 – A Tryptophan Catabolizing Enzyme

- Converts tryptophan into kynurenine and other metabolites
  Two other family members: TDO and IDO2
- Upregulated in response to IFN- $\gamma$  during infection and tissue inflammation
- Predominantly expressed by antigen presenting cells
  - Tissue expression highest in gut, thymus, lung, placenta
- Plays an important role in the negative regulation of T cell responses
  - Low levels of tryptophan and high levels of kynurenine metabolites limit the proliferation of T cells
  - High IDO expression is associated with the induction of Tregs
  - Significant role in allogeneic fetal tolerance

### **Overview of Tryptophan Biochemistry**





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## **IDO Expression in Various Tumor Types**

| Tumor      | IDO+ Tumor<br>Samples | >50%<br>IDO+ Cells | 10-50%<br>IDO+ Cells | <10%<br>IDO+ Cells |
|------------|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| Prostate   | 11/11                 | 7                  | 3                    | 1                  |
| Colorectal | 10/10                 | 5                  | 3                    | 2                  |
| Pancreatic | 10/10                 | 8                  | 2                    | 0                  |
| NSCLC      | 9/11                  | 1                  | 1                    | 7                  |
| Ovarian    | 8/10                  | 0                  | 3                    | 5                  |
| Renal Cell | 5/10                  | 0                  | 1                    | 4                  |
| Melanoma   | 11/25                 | 0                  | 0                    | 11                 |

Uyttenhove, Nature Med, 2003

Elevated kynurenine levels in urine of patients with breast, prostate, bladder cancer and leukemia

## **IDO1 Is A Marker Of Poor Prognosis**

IDO1 expression in human tumors is associated with decreased survival

- Ovarian
- Melanoma
- Colon
- Pancreatic
- Endometrial
- Oral squamous cell carcinoma

## Kaplan-Meier survival curves in ovarian cancer based on IDO staining



Okamoto et al. Clin Cancer Res 2005;11:6030-39

### **IDO1 Inhibitor Identification Strategy**

Through a directed medicinal chemistry effort, identify a potent, selective, orally bioavailable IDO1 inhibitor that would:

- Reduce kynurenine levels both in vitro and in vivo
- Not impact TDO metabolic activity
- Allow for enhanced activation of the immune system
- Control the growth of tumors, alone and in combination regimens
- Meet ADME and safety criteria to allow safe dosing in humans

#### **INCB24360 identified as the clinical candidate**

# INCB24360: A Potent and Highly Selective IDO1 Inhibitor



Compound concentration (µM

| Assay                    | Cell type                   | IC <sub>50</sub> ± SD (nM) |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Tryptophan to kynurenine | HeLa                        | 7.1 ± 0.6 (n=56)           |
| conversion               | Human dendritic cells (DCs) | 12.7 ± 1.1 (n=3)           |
|                          | HEK293/MSR-human IDO1       | 15.0 ± 3.3 (n=4)           |
|                          | HEK293/MSR-mouse IDO1       | 52.4 ± 15.7 (n=8)          |
|                          | HEK293/MSR-mouse IDO2       | >5,000 (n=8)               |
|                          | HEK293/MSR-human TDO        | >10,000 (n=2)              |
|                          |                             |                            |
| Tryptophan transport     | THP-1                       | >30,000 (n=2)              |

INCB24360 (10 µM) exhibits little activity against a panel of 50 GPCRs, ion channels, transporters and enzymes

Liu et al Blood 2010



#### IDO1 Inhibition By INCB24360 Modulates T Cell Responses *in vitro*



#### T cell proliferation assay

 IDO1<sup>+</sup> dendritic cells block T cell proliferation *in vitro*

- INCB024360 treatment reverses inhibition and dosedependently promotes T cell proliferation
  - Similar effects on proliferation observed in CD4+, CD8+ and NK cells
  - Results in significant increases in IFN-γ production

-ight absorbance

## INCB24360 Reduces Kyn Levels In Wild Type Mice To Levels Present In IDO1<sup>-/-</sup> Mice



Kyn inhibition observed in multiple species In tumor-bearing mice, decreased kyn levels observed in plasma, tumor and LN



## INCB24360 Controls CT26 Tumor Growth Only In Immunocompetent Mice



—∎— Vehicle

| Dose<br>(mg/kg) | TGC<br>(Day 21) | Hours (per 24h)<br>>50% inh of Kyn |
|-----------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|
| 30              | 46%             | ~16                                |
| 100             | 66%             | ~24                                |

Associated with increased T cell percentages and activity and decreased percentage of Tregs

Koblish et al Mol Can Ther 2010



#### INCB24360 Enhances Doxorubicin Activity In CT26 Tumors



➡ Vehicle
→ 24360 (d10-24)
→ Doxorubicin (d11, 14, 18, 21)
→ 24360 + Doxorubicin

|                 | TGI (%, d24) |
|-----------------|--------------|
| INCB24360       | 25%          |
| Doxorubicin     | 33%          |
| INCB24360 + Dox | 65%          |

Similar data have been obtained with gemcitabine and cisplatin



# Chemotherapy induced Kyn generation correlates with enhanced efficacy in combination studies



24 hours, naïve mice

#### INCB 24360-101 Phase 1 Study

#### **Basic study design**

- Non-randomized, open-label, single agent dose escalation in advanced cancers (all tumor types) to assess safety and tolerability and to determine the maximum tolerated dose
- Safe Starting Dose of 960 mg, first cohort received 50 mg
- Endpoints to include:
  - Characterization of the pharmacokinetics of INCB24360
  - Analysis of PD markers
    - IDO whole blood assay and plasma tryptophan/kynurenine ratio
    - Markers of immune cell activation
    - Markers of inflammation
    - Correlation of effects with IDO1 expression in primary biopsy
  - Evidence of anti-tumor activity



# INCB24360 inhibits Kyn generation in patients

#### Day 15 PD:

- Dose dependent PD effect
- Consistent PD profile observed in all subjects in a cohort
- PD effects are consistent with the PK profile



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