Plasma gene conversions after 1 cycle abiraterone acetate(AA) for metastatic castrationresistant prostate cancer (mCRPC): a biomarker analysis of a multi-centre, international trial

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Background

A number of genomic alterations detected in plasma DNA have been associated with worse outcome in mCRPC. We hypothesized that patients (pts) who harbored a genomic alteration that decreased after 1 cycle (C) treatment derived clinical benefit and this would distinguish them from truly resistant pts.

Methods

Plasma DNA (128 C1 day (D)1, 134 C2 D1, and 41 progression [PD] from chemotherapy-naïve mCRPC pts in a Phase 2 study of AA (NCT01867710), were subjected to custom targeted-capture NGS. Assay was optimised to detect pathogenic point mutations (PM), deletions and copy number alterations (CNA) in AR, TP53, RB1, PIK3CA and DNA repair deficient genes (DRD): BRCA1, BRCA2, FANCA, ATM, CHEK2, HDAC2, BRIP1, and PALB2. Pts were followed up for overall survival (OS) and radiographic progression-free survival (rPFS) (48 months).

Results

Pts were classified into 4 groups based on whether a gene alteration was detectable (+) or not (-) at C1D1 and C2D1 respectively. At C1D1 49pts (37.5%) had + alterations. Pts who converted from + to - (+/-) had similar outcomes as pts who remained - (-/-) and those that did not convert had worst outcomes (+/+) (Table). In matched C1D1 and PD samples pts with AR gain (G) at C1D1 were more AR G at PD (p=<0.01) while AR PM were only detected in PD samples that were AR normal (N) at C1D1. DRD + pts at C1D1 were more likely DRD + at PD (p=<0.1).

	C2 Conversion (%)	rPFS				OS			
Gene conversion (N)		р	HR	95.0% CI		р	HR	95.0% CI	
C1D1 + vs -		<0.01	2.0	1.23	3.30	<0.01	2.5	1.51	4.27
TP53									
-/- (85) vs +/- (16)	60.7	0.23	1.4	0.74	2.77	0.7	1.2	0.55	2.51
+/+(8) vs +/-		0.07	2.2	0.73	6.7	< 0.01	4.2	1.10	16.44
AR									
-/-(88) vs +/-(16)	69.6	0.46	1.3	0.61	2.7	0.09	1.8	0.79	3.91
+/+(7) vs +/-		<0.01	3.3	0.9	11.4	0.07	2.5	0.65	9.84
RB1									
-/-(92) vs +/- (12)	66.67	0.79	1.1	0.5	2.4	0.37	1.4	0.60	3.27
+/+6) vs +/-		<0.01	5.7	1.11	29.1	< 0.01	5.6	0.92	34.26
DRD									
-/-(96) vs +/-(10)	73.3	0.85	0.9	0.44	2.0	1.0	1.0	0.43	2.36
+/+(4) vs +/-		0.03	4.4	0.29	69.1	< 0.01	4.7	0.72	30.39
PIK3CA									
+/+(100) vs +/-(5)	50	0.02	2.7	0.65	11.37	0.06	2.6	0.54	12.33
+/+(5) vs +/-		0.29	1.9	0.51	6.85	0.7	1.3	0.32	5.2

Conclusions

These findings suggest that tracking gene aberrations in plasma DNA could be an early marker of treatment efficacy.

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Conflicts of Interest

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Alfredo Berruti: Consulting or Advisory Role: Janssen-Cilag, Astellas Pharma

Speakers' Bureau: Janssen-Cilag Research Funding: Astellas Pharma (Inst), Janssen-Cilag (Inst)

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Honoraria: Pfizer, Astellas Pharma, Sanofi, Ipsen, AstraZeneca. Janssen

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