IMMUNO-ONCOLOGY IN POLE POSITION

FRIDAY, 7 OCTOBER 2016
18:00-19:30

COPENHAGEN DENMARK
ROOM: BRUSSELS

Chairs
Jean-Yves Douillard, Lugano, Switzerland
John Haanen, Amsterdam, Netherlands
The ESMO Colloquia are innovative new sessions within the Congress programme that bring together top experts to discuss evolving areas of interest to the oncology community. The Colloquia are organised by ESMO and supported by the industry and are a unique collaboration offering early access to ground-breaking studies, making them the perfect complement to the scientific and education programme of the Congress.

This ESMO Colloquium will be awarded 1 ESMO MORA point.
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RATIONALE

Immuno-oncology (IO) is a fast evolving field with recent development in immunotherapy and approval of new drugs in a variety of high incidence adult cancer types.

Unmet needs remain high in the field of education in basic tumour immunology and recent immunotherapy progress.

ESMO in the past years has developed educational programmes in tumour immunology and immunotherapy and within its missions offers a Colloquium on basic tumour immunology, translational research on corresponding biomarkers and present clinical application as well as developing clinical research.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

• To understand the biology and role of the immune system in tumour development and proliferation

• To understand tumour escape mechanisms and the therapeutic options to manage such scenarios

• To understand the present status of biomarkers in guiding patient selection

• To understand the current role of immunotherapies in the context of the standard of care

• To understand the settings for the clinical application of immunotherapies and their practical application

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18:00 Introduction
Jean-Yves Douillard, Lugano, CH

18:05 Biology of the immune response: The immune balance and immune escape mechanisms
John Haanen, Amsterdam, NL

18:25 Personalised immunotherapy: Is there a role of biomarkers in patient selection?
Keith Kerr, Aberdeen, UK

18:45 Integration of immunotherapy into the current standards of care, challenges and opportunities, combination with other approaches, best sequence of use, recent development in various tumour types
Jaafar Bennouna, St. Herblain, FR

19:05 Questions and discussions
All faculty

19:25 Conclusions
John Haanen, Amsterdam, NL
Professor Jaafar Bennouna is a medical oncologist at the “Institut de Cancérologie de l’Ouest” (ICO), Nantes, France, where he is head of the Department of Medical Oncology, and Professor of Medical Oncology at the University of Nantes. He received his medical degree from the University of Nantes in 1996 and is board certified as an oncologist physician. After qualifying, Prof. Bennouna completed a number of training courses including PhD in life science at the University of Nantes, France. From 1999 to 2001, he was research associate in Immunologic Monitoring and Cellular products laboratory at the University of Pittsburgh (USA).

Professor Bennouna's main research interests include all types of solid tumors, especially non-small-cell lung carcinoma and colorectal cancer. He is also involved in early clinical development, phase I trials. From 2010 to 2016, he was PI for the ICO of 44 phase I and II studies. In 2015, he received a grant from the French Clinical Research Hospital Program to conduct a randomized phase III trial in high risk stage III colon cancer (IROCAS study). He has published numerous papers in national and international journals and presented the results of his research at international conferences. Professor Bennouna is a member of a number of societies including the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO), European Society of Medical Oncology (ESMO), and “Institut Francophone de Cancérologie Thoracique”. He is the past president of UNICANCER GI (2013 – 2016). From 2012 to 2015, as the President of the CME (institutional medical conference) at the ICO, Professor Bennouna was highly involved in hospital management in collaboration with administrative team and medical partners, public and private.
Professor Jean-Yves Douillard received his medical training at the University of Nantes Medical School and completed his PhD in 1993. He was the recipient of a fellowship from the French Ministry of Health and the US National Institutes of Health John E. Fogarty International Center for Advanced Study in the Health Sciences.

He completed two years as a visiting Fellow at the National Cancer Institute’s Laboratory of Immunodiagnosis, before returning to France to accept the position of Assistant Professor in Medical Oncology at the University of Nantes. He spent a further two years as a visiting scientist at the US Food and Drug Administration Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research at the National Institute of Health, Bethesda and Rockville, MD, USA. Previously, he was Head of the Department of Medical Oncology (2000–2009) and Director of Clinical and Translational Research (2009–2011) at the Integrated Centres of Oncology R. Gauducheau, and then was Professor of Medical Oncology and Senior Staff Physician at the Integrated Centres of Oncology R. Gauducheau and the University of Nantes Medical School, Nantes, France.

His clinical trial involvement focuses mainly on lung cancer and gastrointestinal tumours, and has included investigations of several new drugs, as well as targeted therapies.

In March 2016 he was appointed ESMO’s first Chief Medical Officer. He is a member of ASCO, AACR, ESMO and the French Co-Operative Thoracic Intergroup. He is an Associate Editor for *ESMO Open* and has published numerous articles in prestigious scientific journals, including *The Lancet*, *the New England Journal of Medicine*, the *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, *The Lancet Oncology*, the *British Journal of Cancer*, *Cancer Research*, the *European Journal of Cancer*, *Annals of Oncology* and the *Journal of Thoracic Oncology*.
Professor Haanen received his medical degree from the University of Leiden, then completed a PhD on human CD4+ helper T cells at the Department of Immunohematology and the Blood Bank of the Leiden University Medical Centre and the DNAX Research Institute in California, USA. He then trained in internal medicine at Leiden University Medical Centre and at Bronovo Hospital in The Hague, the Netherlands. He did a postdoctoral fellowship in tumour immunology at the division of immunology, followed by training in medical oncology at the Netherlands Cancer Institute.

His research focuses on the translation of novel immunotherapy strategies into the clinical practice, especially adoptive cell transfer programs and immune checkpoint blockade. His clinical medical oncology practice is focused on melanoma and renal cell carcinoma patients.

Professor Haanen is a Co-founder of the Amsterdam Biotherapeutics Unit and was Chairman of The Dutch Tumor Immunology Working Party for oncology for many years. He serves on various national and international advisory boards and committees, including the editorial board of *Current Oncology Reports* and *ESMO Open*. 
Professor Keith Kerr has been a Consultant Pathologist in Aberdeen since 1989, following under and post-graduate education in Edinburgh. He was awarded an Honorary Chair in Pulmonary Pathology at the University of Aberdeen in 2006. Research interests include lung pre-neoplasia and carcinogenesis, lung tumour diagnosis and classification, and therapy biomarkers.

He is a member of numerous national and international lung cancer clinical advisory and research groups - BTOG steering group, Pulmonary Pathology Society Council, ETOP Foundation Council, ESMO Educational Faculty (thoracic tumours), and is an elected Board member of the IASLC. He is former Pathology Chair of EORTC lung group, and is Pathology lead for ETOP Lungscape project. He is a member of the IASLC Pathology committee, the WHO panel for lung cancer classification and the International Mesothelioma panel. He works on UK, European and North American committees for developing guidelines for management of, and molecular pathology testing in, lung cancer.
SUGGESTED READING MATERIAL

• Kerr KM, Hirsch FR. Programmed Death Ligand-1 Immunohistochemistry: Friend or Foe? Arch Pathol Lab Med 2016;140,326

• Padmanee Sharma and James P. Allison. The future of immune checkpoint therapy. SCIENCE, Vol 348, 56 (2015), ISSUE 6230

• Pennock GK et al The evolving role of immune checkpoint inhibitors in cancer treatment. The Oncologist 2015; 20, 812

• Schumacher D et al Neoantigens in cancer immunotherapy. Science 2015; 348, 69