

# Oncolytics KOL Presentation Biomarkers & Oncolytics Viruses

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## Introductions



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Matt Coffey, PhD	President and CEO
Kirk Look, CA	Chief Financial Officer
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Agenda







Biomarkers and Their Impact on Regulatory Approval



REO 024: Efficacy & Biomarker Data



Impact of Biomarkers on Clinical & Business Development



# Pelareorep Overview





### What is Pelareorep?





Non-pathogenic proprietary isolate of the unmodified reovirus

Unarmed IV delivered double stranded RNA (dsRNA) oncolytic virus that creates an inflamed phenotype in tumor tissue

### Pelareorep at a Glance: Immune Stimulation





### Pelareorep at a Glance: Efficacy and Safety



Time in Months

First IV delivered immuno-oncolytic virus to demonstrate overall survival benefit in a randomized study in metastatic breast cancer

et.al. Abstract CT131. AACR 2017

8

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# Pelareorep treatment has shown an enhanced overall survival benefit across cancer indications



Tolerable and safe with encouraging benefit in 2y-survival in single arm Ph 2 studies:



Systemically delivered pelareorep in combination with chemotherapy achieves 1 & 2 year-survival rates of 46% & 24% in pancreatic cancer patients

Biomarkers and Their Impact on Regulatory Approval





# What is a Biomarker and Why is a Biomarker Important



# A biomarker is an indicator of biological processes or a characteristics that either:

- Can identify or characterize a disease or its severity or prognosis
- Can identify patients that may need a specific treatment
- May serves as a guide to optimize treatment
- Is subject to change during a disease or an intervention
- Can be used as surrogate endpoint in clinical studies to accelerate approval of a new compound



The **importance** of **biomarkers** continues to grow in all areas of clinical practice and, whether to predict, diagnose, or monitor disease, **biomarkers** are useful and important in every step of patient care!

### Prognostic Versus Predictive







### FDA: Biomarker Evaluation Program





"...we need a whole new generation of biomarkers that are more informative and that can tell developers earlier whether or not their drug may have toxicity or .....may not work at all, and to get that early read on what's going to be successful. And so those biomarkers are ones that have yet to be developed".

- J. Woodcock FDA

### Susan McCune, MD, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, FDA:

"Biomarker-based strategies allow for a more biology-targeted approach to drug development and may enable time and cost savings through leaner, more focused clinical trials that have a higher overall probability of success with respect to both efficacy and safety."

### "Biomarkers can be used to identify the mechanism of action of a drug..."

"FDA recognizes biomarker development as a high priority area for future research and collaboration among stakeholders and is taking action to better understand biomarkers used in drug development."



### **Conventional clinical study approach:**

Is using clinical outcomes such as survival or disease progression. Collection of information on these endpoints take many years.....

# Biomarker-driven clinical study approach:

may **predict drug efficacy more quickly** than conventional endpoints.

"Potential to accelerate product development"



# Next Generation: Biomarker-guided Personalized Medicine



### Infected with pelareorep and anti-PD-1/PD-L1 added



T cells recognize infected cancer cells, increased T cell killing and increased memory effect (via checkpoint inhibitor)

### **On-Treatment Biomarker: Influence on Clinical Treatment Decisions**

### **On-treatment biomarkers**

- offer the potential for **monitoring** of treatment response, treatmentassociated toxicity, and onset of treatment resistance
- markers for response to available cancer therapies move treatment toward a fully individualized therapeutic approach
- can be detected in blood or in tissue

### On-Treatment Biomarker: Influence on Clinical Treatment Decisions







CRICKET trial: Phase 2 single-arm study of <u>re-challenge</u> with cetuximab + irinotecan as 3<sup>rd</sup>-line therapy in *RAS* and *BRAF* WT pts with acquired resistance to 1<sup>st</sup>-line cetuximab- and irinotecan-containing therapy





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## **On-Treatment Effect**



### Pelareorep's Promotion of an Inflamed Phenotype





# REO 024: *Efficacy & Biomarker Data*

A Phase Ib study of pembrolizumab in combination with pelareorep and chemotherapy in patients with advanced pancreatic adenocarcinoma





### Detailed results were presented last week at AACR



Exploratory analysis of T cell repertoire dynamics upon systemic treatment with the oncolytic virus pelareorep in combination with pembrolizumab and chemotherapy in patients with advanced pancreatic adenocarcinoma (Abstract #2272)

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#### Abstract

#### Background: Pelareorep is an immuno-oncolytic virus that induces an inflamed tumor phenotype ir metastatic adenocarcinoma of the pancreas (MAP). Systemically delivered pelareorep in combination with chemotherapy achieves 1 & 2 year-survival rates of 46% & 24% in MAP patients (pts) respectively<sup>1</sup>. Analysis of tumor tissue from pts treated with pelareorep, chemotherapy and anti-PD-L1 have shown reovirus RNA and protein replication, T cell infiltration, and upregulation of PD-L1, highlighting that effective T cell recognition of tumor antigens may be critical to success for this combination therapy2. Thus, we hypothesized that pelareorep in combination with chemotherapy and pembrolizumab in pts with MAP would alter the peripheral T cell repertoire, creating new T cell clones

via the release of novel neoantigens in addition to expanding existing T cell clones. Methods: A phase 1b study enrolled 11 MAP pts who progressed after first-line treatment. Pts received pelareorep (4.5e10 TCID<sub>50</sub> IV, D1 & D2), plus pembrolizumab (2 mg/kg IV, D8) plus either 1) 5-FU (LV 200 mg/m<sup>2</sup>, 5-FU 200 mg/m<sup>2</sup> IV bolus, 5-FU 1200mg/m<sup>2</sup> continuous IV infusion D1) or 2) gemcitabine (1000 mg/m2 IV, D1), or 3) irinotecan (125 mg/m2 IV, D1) q3w, until disease progression/unacceptable toxicity. DNA from peripheral blood mononuclear cells from nine patients at cycle 1 day 1 (C1D1) & C2D1 (approx. 3 weeks later) was analyzed using the immunoSEQ® Assay (Adaptive Biotechnologies, Seattle) sequencing the T cell receptor beta chain region to interrogate changes in the T cell repertoire. Results: The median Morisita index between C2D1 and C1D1 was 0.83 with three samples below 0.6 indicative of significant peripheral repertoire turnover. The median number of expanded clones equated to 45.7 per 100.000 cumulative templates: normal variation over 4 weeks is ~ 5-10 expanded clones Strikingly, most (median: 86%) peripheral clonal expansion occurred in clones below the limit of detection at C1D1. Cox regression analysis revealed that high peripheral clonality correlates with progression free survival at C1D1 (HR = 0.053, p = 0.01). Moreover, high clonality correlates with overall survival at both C1D1 (HR = 0.124, p = 0.013) and C2D1 (HR = 0.079, p = 0.010).

Conclusions: High levels of peripheral T cell repertoire turnover occur between C1D1 and C2D1 Repertoire turnover is accompanied by significant clonal expansion, mostly by expansion of new clones (i.e. undetected in C1D1). Higher peripheral clonality is associated with better progression free survival at C1D1, and overall survival at C1D1 and C2D1. This research highlights the potential utility of T cell clonality as a predictive and prognostic biomarker to pelareorep therapy and warrants further clinical investigation

#### Background

#### Study Design and Schedule<sup>2</sup>



#### 126 days, respectively o Nine pts have died secondary to progressive to disease (PD)

#### Background cont.

#### Safety Findings<sup>2</sup>

Treatment was safe and tolerable in all patients without an increase in Grade 4 toxicity (n = 11).

Preferred Term	Any grade	Grade 1/2	Grade 3	Grade 4
Any event, n (%)	10 (90.1)	10 (90.1)	1 (9.1)	1 (9.1)
Fever	9 (81.8)	8 (72.7)	1 (9.1)	0
Chills	6 (54.5)	5 (45.5)	1 (9.1)	0
Fatigue	3 (27.3)	3 (27.3)	0	0
Headaches	3 (27.3)	3 (27.3)	0	0
Anemia	2 (18.2)	2 (18.2)	0	0
Emesis	2 (18.2)	2 (18.2)	0	0
Flu-like Symptoms	2 (18.2)	2 (18.2)	0	0
Hypotension	2 (18.2)	2 (18.2)	0	0
Nausea	2 (18.2)	2 (18.2)	0	0
Neutropenia	2 (18.2)	2 (18.2)	0	1 (9.1)
Leukopenia	1 (9.1)	0	0	1 (9.1)

Treatment-related adverse events occurring at any grade in  $\ge 10\%$  of patients or grade  $\ge 3$ in any patient

#### **Study Hypothesis**

We hypothesized that pelareorep in combination with chemotherapy and pembrolizumab in pts with MAP would alter the peripheral T cell repertoire, specifically we asked: If pelareorep (oncolytic virus) treatment creates novel T cell clones via release of

neoantigens, or

If pelareorep treatment expands existing T cell clones.

#### Methods

Immuno sequencing of the CDR3 regions of human TCRB chains was performed using the ImmunoSEQ® Assay developed by Adaptive Biotechnologies, Seattle, WA. DNA for this assay was isolated from PBMCs collected at cycle 1 day 1 (C1D1), C1D8, and C2D1. Diversity is calculated as Shannon's Entropy by: × ( ) Dive

$$persity = H = -\sum_{i=1}^{n} p_i \log_2(p_i)$$

Where p is the proportional abundance of clone i, and N is the total number of unique receptor gene rearrangements. Clonality is defined as 1 - Pielou's evenness metric and is calculated by  $1 - H/\ln(N)$ . Where indicated, Simpson Clonality is defined as  $\sum p_i^2$  where  $p_i$ is the frequency of each rearrangement in the repertoire.

#### Results

- Low Morisita Indices Between C1D1 and C2D1 Suggests High Repertoire Turnover
- Morisita Index takes into account both repertoire overlap and clonal frequencies between the two samples. A
- perfectly identical repertoire is 1, and two completely disparate samples would be 0
- Normal variation over a month is ~0.9- 0.95
- The median Morisita between C2D1 and C1D1 is 0.83 with 3 samples below 0.6. This suggests significant peripheral
- repertoire turnover Significant Peripheral Clonal Expansion Over Treatment
- Peripherally expanded clones were determined between C1D1 and C2D1. Normal variation over 4 weeks is ~ 5-10 expanded clones. Median values are greater than 40 in both cases. Only 1
- sample had less than 18 expanded clones

#### Most Peripherally Expanded Clones are Newly Identified at C2D1

- Peripherally expanded clones can be either expansion of existing clones or newly identified clones (i.e. undetected in the first time point)
- Most peripheral clonal expansion is observed from new clones (Median: 86%).

#### Results cont.



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#### Peripheral Clonality and Diversity at C1D1 and C2D1 Correlate



Long Term Survivors Have Greater Peripheral Clonality at C2D





Both high numbers of early and durable clone are associated with longer overall survival times.

The strongest correlation is seen with the number of early expanded clones. Early vs. late clonal expansion may be influenced by the type of response pelareorep is eliciting

#### Conclusion

Median: 59 Median: 457

Higher peripheral clonality and lower diversity are associated with better overall survival. High levels of peripheral repertoire turnover occur between C1D1 and C2D1. Repertoire turnover is accompanied by significant clonal expansion, mostly by increases in "new" clones (clones that were undetected in C1D1).

The number of early expanded clones (prior to pembrolizumab) is associated with longer overall survival. There is no correlation with either durable or late expanded clones and clinical outcome

A study by Hopkins et al. has also shown that peripheral T cell repertoire associates with survival in MAP pts treated with nivolumab and a pancreatic cancer vaccine3

#### References



# Characterizing T Cell Clonality with immunoSEQ<sup>®</sup>



### T cell receptors (TCRs) contain both constant and variable domains

- The <u>variable domains</u> confer antigen specificity and allow the adaptive immune system to continually recognize new targets
- Within the variable domain, the most highly variable region is the CDR3 and this is what we target for immune repertoire sequencing
- The immunoSEQ assay allows for the quantification of <u>clonality</u>



## Clonal Expansion or Clonality is a Critical Marker of Immune Activation



**Purely diverse = 0** 

Monoclonal = 1

- Clonality indicates how evenly distributed the abundances of unique clones are in a sample.
- Values range on a scale from 0 to 1

Relative abundance of top 25 clones in a sample:





22

A Phase 1b Study of Pembrolizumab in Combination with Pelareorep and Chemotherapy in Patients with Advanced Pancreatic Adenocarcinoma

### Hypothesis:

Pelareorep in combination with chemotherapy and pembrolizumab alters the peripheral T cell repertoire.

• Does pelareorep create novel T cell clones via release of neoantigens?

### and/or

 Does pelareorep expand existing T cell clones ?





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A Phase 1b Study of Pembrolizumab in Combination with Pelareorep and Chemotherapy in Patients with Advanced Pancreatic Adenocarcinoma

### **Efficacy findings**

6 efficacy evaluable patients:

- One patient: Partial Response (PR), starting 6.5 mos. after the start of therapy, lasting 17.4 mos.
- Two patients: Stable Disease (SD), for 6 and 9.5 mos. respectively



Disease control was achieved in **50%** of the 6 efficacy-evaluable patients

## Low Morisita Indices Over Time Suggests High Repertoire Turnover with Significant Creation of New Clones





- Morisita Index (MI)
  - takes into account both repertoire overlap and clonal frequencies between the two samples.
  - A perfectly identical repertoire is 1, and two completely disparate samples would be 0.
  - Normal variation over a month is ~0.9– 0.95.

Between baseline and c2 d1:

- Median MI is 0.83 with 3 samples below 0.6. This suggests significant peripheral repertoire turnover.
- 86% of peripheral clonal expansion is observed from new clones
- $\rightarrow$  indicative of T cell priming.



## Peripheral Clonality at Baseline: Correlates with Progression Free Survival



- Variables were treated as continuous variables for cox regression
  - Clonality was scaled to a unit of 0.1
- Clonality is correlated with progression free survival and show a stronger p-value at baseline
- Higher peripheral clonality is associated with longer progression free survival





## Peripheral Clonality at Baseline: Correlates with Overall Survival



- Variables were treated as continuous variables for cox regression.
  - Clonality was scaled to a unit of 0.1
- Clonality is correlated with overall survival and show a stronger p-value at cycle two, day 1.
- Higher peripheral clonality is associated with better outcome.







Patients with a clinical response or longer survival: Higher Peripheral Clonality after one cycle of treatment (at cycle 2, day 1)



Long term survivors: >6 months Short term survivors: <6 months







- Both high numbers of early and durable clone are associated with longer overall survival times
- The strongest correlation is seen with the number of early expanded clones
- Early vs. late clonal expansion may be influenced by the type of response of the virus is eliciting

# Summary & Next Steps



Patients classified as

- "Long term survivors" have higher levels of T cell clonality
- "Short term survivors" have lower levels of T cell clonality

in peripheral blood after one cycle of treatment

All the observations of this initial study will be validated in randomized P2 studies in BC and GI cancer



A study by Hopkins et al. has also shown that on-treatment peripheral T cell clonality associates with survival in MAP pts treated with nivolumab and a pancreatic cancer vaccine (Hopkins, A.C., et al. JCI Insight, 2018. **3**(13)).



Impact of Biomarkers on Clinical & Business Development





## Influence on Oncolytics' Clinical Development Program



WHY

Increase the number of patients that can be safely and successfully treated with an immunotherapy combination

Overcome resistance of current checkpoint indication

Potentially offer a chemo – limiting/free treatment approach Include a prospective biomarker program in our clinical studies

HOW

Work closely with academia (thought leaders) and FDA

Prospectively collect biomarker and correlate them with overall response rate For metastatic breast cancer optimize our registration study – Identify patients that derive the best benefit from the treatment

WHAT

Expand in multiple indications





Programs		Indication	Preclinical	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3		
Breast Cancer								
pelareorep + co	ombination	mBC						
pelareorep +		Early BC	Window of opp	portunity study				
Gastro-Intestinal Cancer								
pelareorep +	(pembrolizumab) injection 100 mg	Pancreatic Cancer						
Multiple Myeloma								
pelareorep +	(pembrolizumab) vijection 100 mg	R/R MM						
pelareorep +		R/R MM						











# Thanks for your time

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