

Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

# MDM<sub>2</sub> (HDM)Inhibition

Eytan M. Stein, MD Associate Attending Physician Director, Program for Drug Development in Leukemia Leukemia Service Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center New York, New York

#### **Disclosures**

*Advisory Board*: Novartis, PinotBio, Janssen, Bristol Myers Squibb, Agios, Jazz, Menarini, Genentech, Genesis, Abbvie, Neoleukin, Gilead, Syndax, OnCusp, CTI Biopharma, Foghorn, Servier, Calithera, Daiichi, Aptose, Syros, Astellas, Ono Pharma, Blueprint *Honoraria:* Kura. *Safety Monitoring:* Epizyme, Cellectis. *Research Funding*: Eisai, Bristol Myers Squibb *Equity*: Auron.

# MDM<sub>2</sub> (HDM)

- MDM2 is a negative regulator of p53.
- Functions as an E3 ubiquitin ligase that targets p53 for degradation.
- Inhibits p53 transcriptional activation.
- Inhibiting MDM2 allows for increased amount/activity of p53 thereby leading to apoptosis in myeloid malignancies
  - MDM2 inhibitors would be predicted to have minimal/no activity in p53 mutant myeloid malignancies.
- When MDM2 inhibitors are used in the clinic, a common pathway of resistance is that p53 mutations arise.

# **Preclinical Rationale for MDM2 Inhibition**



Fig. 1 Activation of p53 by MDM2 inhibition. Inhibiting the MDM2-p53 interaction with an MDM2 antagonist leads to reactivation of p53 in cancers with wild-type or functional p53.

Konolpeva M, et. al , Leukemia 2020

#### **Preclinical Rationale for MDM2 Inhibition**

#### EXTRACELLULAR SPACE



Hemorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

Konolpeva M, et. al , Leukemia 2020

### Phase 1 Study of Siremadlin – Novel MDM2 Inhibitor



Stein EM, et. al, Clinical Cancer Research, 2022

# Phase 1 study of Siremadlin - Novel MDM2 Inhibitor

	High-dose 1A		High-dose 1B		Low-dose 2A	Low-dose 2C	All patients
	RDE (250 mg) <i>N</i> = 15	Other doses (350– 400 mg) N = 12	RDE (120 mg) <i>N</i> = 24	Other doses (150 mg) <i>N</i> = 6	(20–30 mg) N = 7	RDE (45 mg) <i>N</i> = 27	N = 91
Best overall							
response, n (%)							
CR	1 (6.7)	1 (8.3)	1 (4.2)	0	0	2 (7.4)	5 (5.5)
CRi	2 (13.3)	0	0	1 (16.7)	0	4 (14.8)	7 (7.7)
TF	9 (60.0)	7 (58.3)	15 (62.5)	5 (83.3)	6 (85.7)	16 (59.3)	58 (63.7)
TF-resistant disease	5 (33.3)	6 (50.0)	15 (62.5)	4 (66.7)	4 (57.1)	16 (59.3)	50 (54.9)
TF-indeterminate cause	4 (26.7)	1 (8.3)	0	1 (16.7)	2 (28.6)	0	8 (8.8)
Unknown	0	0	2 (8.3)	0	0	1 (3.7)	3 (3.3)
Overall response rate (CR+CRi+PR), n (%) [95% CI]	3 (20.0) [4.3–48.1]	1 (8.3) [0.2–38.5]	1 (4.2) [0.1–21.1]	1 (16.7) [0.4–64.1]	0 [0—41.0]	6 (22.2) [8.6–42.3]	12 (13.2) [7.0–21.9]

Stein EM, et. al, Clinical Cancer Research, 2022

# Idasantulin – MIRROS Trial – Relpased and Refractory AML



	Idasa-C (n = 232)	Placebo-C (n = 123)	Odds ratio or hazard ratio (95% CI)	<i>p</i> value (HR)
ORR [CR, CRp, CRi], n (%)	90 (38.8)	27 (22.0)	2.25 (1.36-3.72)	.0008
CR, n (%) <sup>*</sup>	47 (20.3)	21 (17.1)	1.23 (0.70-2.18)	.408
CRp, n (%)	23 (9.9)	4 (3.3)		
CRi, n (%)	20 (8.6)	2 (1.6)		
Median EFS, $wk^{\dagger}$	6.3	4.4	0.65	.0005
	n = 28	n = 10		
DOR, median (95% CI), mo <sup>‡</sup>	13.9 (6.4, 21.1)	29.4 (8.2, NE)		—

Konopleva M, et. al, Blood Advances 2022





Hemorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

Konopleva M, et. al, Blood Advances 2022

3A



Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

Konopleva M, et. al, Blood Advances 2022

- Authors of the MIRROS trial offer the following reasons that no benefit to Idasanutlin with chemo in R/R AML.
  - Increased toxicity (neutropenia) in the idasanutlin arm
  - Higher rate of gastrointestinal AEs in the idasanutlin arm
  - Higher use of salvage chemotherapy in placebo arm
  - Higher use of consolidation in placebo arm
- What authors don't say is that perhaps MDM2 inhibition is only relevant in a subset
  of patients with WT p53. To improve outcomes there needs to be a a better patient
  selection strategy.

# Conclusions

- MDM<sub>2</sub>, a negative regulator of p<sub>53</sub>, can be inhibited and leads to "reactivation" of WT p<sub>53</sub> to induce apoptosis in myeloid leukemia cells.
- Single agent MDM2 inhibitors are active in relapsed and refractory AML, which is a remarkable feat!
- However, in a randomized phase III study adding an MDM2 inhibitor to cytarabine for patients with relapsed and refractory AML, there was no benefit in overall survival compared to cytarabine and placebo (despite increased overall response rates).
- Multiple studies are evaluating the use of various MDM2 inhibitors in a variety of clinical settings.
   Both with intensive chemotherapy for newly diagnosed AML and with HMA/venetoclax
- The key to success? Finding the right patient population amongst those pts who are p53 wild type!

#### Thank You!



steine@mskcc.org