

# Deciphering Anticancer Drugs

The Increasing Role of Pharmacogenomics and  
Pharmacogenetics in Treatment Optimization

Danica Wasney

November 18, 2022

# Presenter Disclosure

- Faculty/Speaker: Danica Wasney
- Relationships with financial sponsors:
  - Speaker Honoraria: Apobiologix

# Mitigating Potential Bias

- Not Applicable

# Equity Commitment

- In preparing for this presentation, I have considered the Health Equity Resource for Presenters provided by the conference planning committee.
- This was provided to help presenters reflect on how these topics and content can have good effects or bad effects on people or populations that are underserved.

# Genes Tested

A total of 97 regions of interest from 31 genes were assessed for point mutations and small indels.

Gene (transcript)	Exon(s)	Amino acids	Gene (transcript)	Exon(s)	Amino acids
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ALK (NM_004304.4)	21-23,25	1120-1215; 1248-1279	IDH2 (NM_002168.3)	4	126-178
AP (NM_000064.4)	5,8	725-773; 870-920	KIT (NM_000222.2)	2,9-11,13-15,17	23-112;411-592;624-745; 798-828
BRAF (NM_004333.5)	11,16	438-678; 581-620	KRAS (NM_004985.4)	2-4	1-150
CTNNT1 (NM_001098209.1)	3	5-81	MAP2K1 (NM_002735.3)	2,11	27-97; 357-394
EGFR (NM_005228.4)	18-21	688-875	MAP2K2 (NM_030662.3)	22	31-101
ERBB2 (NM_004448.3)	8	301-541	MET (NM_001127300.2)	11-16,20-21	807-1132; 1285-1409
ESR1 (NM_001122742.1)	8	518-595	NRAS (NM_002524.4)	2-4	1-150
FGFR1 (NM_023110.2)	12,14	518-555; 619-658	PDOFRA (NM_005206.5)	12,14-15,18,23	552-696;631-719;814-854;904-1089
FGFR2 (NM_000141.4)	7,12,14	251-313;522-558;622-662	PIK3CA (NM_006218.3)	10,21	514-555; 979-1068
FGFR3 (NM_000142.4)	7,12,14	247-310;512-549;615-653	PTEN (NM_00314.6)	1-9	1-408 (full CDS)
FOXO2 (NM_023067.3)	1	1-376 (full CDS)	RET (NM_020875.5)	11,16	628-712; 911-934
GNAI1 (NM_002087.4)	5	202-245	SMD (NM_005631.4)	6,9	381-422; 489-551
GNAQ (NM_002072.4)	5	202-245	STAT1 (NM_000455.4)	1-9	1-433 (full CDS)
GNA5 (NM_000516.5)	8	196-230	TP53 (NM_000546.5)	2-11	1-394 (full CDS)
HRAS (NM_005343.3)	2-3	1-97			

# Learning Objectives

- 1) Describe the importance of certain genetic mutations for optimizing selection of anticancer therapies
- 2) Differentiate between somatic and germline genetic mutations and their relevance to anticancer drugs
- 3) Identify potential eligible medications for a patient based on a Next Generation Sequencing (NGS) report
- 4) Using case-based examples, list recent PODP formulary additions based on high microsatellite instability (MSI-H)/deficiency in mismatch repair (dMMR), BRCA mutation, NTRK mutation, etc.

# Question # 1

- Let's get to know the attendees!

My profession is:

- A. Pharmacist/Pharmacy Tech or Assistant
- B. Physician
- C. Nurse
- D. Allied Health

# Question #2

- Chemotherapy is standard of care for 1<sup>st</sup> line treatment of patients with metastatic colorectal cancer (mCRC) that is deficient in Mismatch Repair (dMMR).
  - A. True
  - B. False



# Definitions

# Pharmacogenetics

- The study of variability in drug response due to heredity
- Examples in Hem-Onc:
  - **CYP2D6 polymorphism**
    - CYP2D6 “poor metabolizers” receiving tamoxifen for early breast cancer have poorer clinical outcomes (PFS, OS) than “extensive” or “intermediate” metabolizers
  - **DPYD genotype variant**
    - DPYD gene variants associated with DPD deficiency are linked to a 25.6 times increased risk of fluoropyrimidine-related mortality

Schroth W, et al. JAMA 2009  
Sharma BB, et al. The Oncologist 2021

# Pharmacogenomics

- **Genome:** entire set of DNA instructions found in a cell
- **Genomics:** biology field studying all of the DNA of an organism; identifies and characterizes all the genes and functional elements in an organism's genome
- **Pharmacogenomics:** Using a patient's genomic information to tailor drug selection used in medical management, providing a more individualized approach

[genome.gov/genetics-glossary](https://genome.gov/genetics-glossary)

# Germline Mutations

- “**From the patient**”
- **Inherited** genetic alteration from occurring in the germ cells
- Present in every cell in the body
- Can be passed on to future children
- May be present in other family members
- Testing aims to identify mutations that predispose to later-onset diseases (e.g. breast, ovarian, prostate cancers)
- Tested via cheek swab or blood sample (not tumour tissue)

BRCA1  
BRCA2

# Somatic Mutations

- “From the Cancer”
- Acquire mutations in DNA with EGFR
- Occur in somatic cell ALK
- Neither inherited nor transmitted
- Can be prognostic and predictive of clinical course of diagnosis and response to therapy ROS-1
- Testing aims to identify “drivers” of cancer growth that may have therapeutic targets (e.g. NTRK drugs) BRAF
- Tested via sample of malignant tissue (e.g. IHC, FISH, NGS)

# Testing Modalities

- Goal: finding an “actionable mutation/target” for which there is a drug of known clinical activity/benefit/tolerability

# Immunohistochemistry (IHC)

- Most common application of immunostaining
- Involves the process of selectively identifying target antigens (proteins) in cells of a tissue section by exposing the cell to select antibodies (probes)
- Staining the cell then shows presence of/intensity of uptake in the tissue sample of the target antigen
- Example: estrogen receptor/ progesterone receptor expression in breast cancer tissue



# In Situ Hybridization

- Technique that localizes a sequence of DNA or RNA in a sample (affixed to a glass slide) then exposes the sample to a fluorescent “probe” – a small piece of single stranded DNA tagged with a dye designed to adhere to a specific target section of DNA
  - The labeled probe finds and binds to its matching sequence in the sample

Example: HER2/neu amplification in breast cancer tissue

# Next Generation Sequencing (NGS)

- Laboratory technique for determining the exact sequence of nucleotides in a DNA molecule
  - key to understanding the function of genes and other parts of the genome
- “Next generation” sequencing is a version of DNA sequencing that is more efficient/less expensive version of original
- Can look at 1000s of genes up to the whole genome; can evaluate DNA or RNA; DNA tends to be used most but requires the most cells to evaluate; 2-4 weeks turnaround time
- Example: Q31 Hotspot Tumour Panel

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## SUMMARY OF TEST RESULTS

Positive

### Individual Variant Interpretations

Gene **EGFR**

Exon # 19

Nucleotide NM\_005228.5  
c.2252\_2275delCATCTCCGA  
AAGCCAACAAGGAAA

Amino Acid p.Thr751\_Glu758del  
(p.T751E758del)

Allelic Fraction 36.0%

Classification Tier 1A

Assessment Pathogenic

#### Interpretation

EGFR encodes the Epidermal growth factor receptor (Egfr), a receptor tyrosine kinase that functions as an oncogene. Egfr activates signaling pathways, such as the Ras/Raf/MAPK and PI3K pathways, and stimulates the cell to grow and divide [13]. Amplification, mutation, and overexpression of EGFR may cause excessive proliferation and tumor formation [3, 2]. EGFR activating mutations or amplification may predict sensitivity to Egfr-targeted therapies, including inhibitors of multiple ErbB family members, and several have received FDA approval in some tumor types [9, 12, 14]. Small in-frame deletions in exon 19 and the exon 21 missense mutation L858R account for approximately 40% of all EGFR alterations in non-small cell lung cancer [7, 4]. In-frame insertions within exon 20 of EGFR are found in over 4% of non-small cell lung cancer and associated with resistance to tyrosine kinase inhibitors [1, 8, 10, 16, 17].

# Question #3:

- Clinical trials that evaluate actionable driver mutations and targeted therapies have historically underrepresented people from racial or ethnic-minority populations
  - A. True
  - B. False

PRECISION MEDICINE

Integrating genomics into clinical oncology: Ethical and social challenges from proponents of personalized medicine

2014

By Latrice G. Landry, Nadya Ali, David R. Williams, Heidi L. Rehm, and Verónica

**Lack Of Diversity In Genomic Databases Is A Barrier To Translating Precision Medicine Research Into Practice**

2018

JAMA Network | **Open.**

2020

Original Investigation | Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

**Racial and Ethnic Disparities Among Participants in Precision Oncology Clinical Studies**

**Increasing Racial and Ethnic Diversity in Cancer Clinical Trials: An American Society of Clinical Oncology and Association of Community Cancer Centers Joint Research Statement**

2022

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# ASCO-ACCC Joint Statement - 2022

- *“Increasing Racial and Ethnic Diversity in Cancer Clinical Trials”*
- 2-8% of adults with cancer enroll onto trials
  - Tend to be younger, healthier, urban, less diverse racially/ethnically
  - Are results generalizable to all if not representing all?
- Greatest barrier to enrollment: clinicians are not routinely offering clinical trials as a treatment option to all potentially eligible patients
- Barriers are many and include selection bias by clinicians, social determinants of health for patients (logistics, costs, exclusion criteria), institutional barriers (travel)

*J Clin Oncol 2022; 40:2163-71.*

# Access to Testing

- If a new therapy requires confirmation of a driver mutation, cost of testing to identify potentially eligible patients must be integrated into funding
- Differs by tumour type/mutation:
  - Those with established actionable driver mutations likely have reflexive testing in place (e.g. NSCLC)
  - Those with emerging actionable driver mutations likely require reactive/requested testing in place (e.g. NTRK)
  - Funding for testing for systemic therapies that are not provincially funded differs
    - Some tests are covered by manufacturer access programs
    - Some tests require self-funding by patients (including third party insurance coverage)



# Patient Cases

- Sources for potential directed-treatment options:
  - **Pathology Report(s)** ([ARIA](#))
    - Surgical Pathology (histologic diagnosis)
    - Next Generation Sequencing Report (“Q31 Hotspot”)
    - Immunohistochemistry (IHC)
  - **PODP Formulary** ([SharePoint](#))
    - Searchable database to identify treatments by DSG, drug, regimen, ID#
    - Provides criteria for use, direct links to RRO, drug dose alerts
  - **PODP Funding Algorithms** ([SharePoint](#))
    - Emerging library of algorithms providing an overview of funded therapies and sequences for specific diagnoses



# Patient Case - Lung Cancer

- 77 y.o. male
- Prior Stage IIIA NSCLC (right lung) 2 years ago; ALK, EGFR negative; PD-L1 TPS: 60-70%
- Received 1 cycle of adjuvant PEMEtrexed-CISplatin
  - discontinued due to acute nephrotoxicity (CISplatin)
- May 2022: recurrent disease identified on routine follow-up CT (contralateral lung [left])
- June 2022: CT-guided biopsy of left lung lesion
- July 2022: PET: Intense uptake left lower lobe, right lung, right scapula, bilateral hilar and subcarinal lymph nodes

# NGS @ CCMB: "Q31 Hotspot"



Diagnosis: Non-small cell lung carcinoma

Specimen Type: FFPE Tissue

Primary Tumour Site: Lung

Tumour content (%): 40

Test Performed: Q31 Hotspot Tumour Panel

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GNA5 (NM_000516.5)	9	196-229			
HRAS (NM_000543.3)	2-3	1-97			

**SUMMARY OF TEST RESULTS** **Negative**

**EGFR negative,  
ALK negative,  
MET negative,  
RET negative**

**PD-L1 BIOMARKER RESULTS**

**(Tumour Proportion Score TPS): <1%**

# Patient Case - Lung Cancer

- Based on Q31 Hotspot and IHC results, targeted therapy is not appropriate
- From past treatment, chemotherapy-induced nephrotoxicity persists (**CrCl = 23 mL/min**)
- All other baseline hematology/biochemistry unremarkable
- Medical Oncologist offers:
  - Triplet therapy with **pembrolizumab, PACLitaxel, and CARBOplatin (PODP Formulary ID: 477)**
    - **100% dose for pembrolizumab, PACLitaxel**
    - **80% dose for CARBOplatin**
- Two cycles so far; no delays or worsening labs

## Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer, Advanced; 1st Line

### Indication Medications

CISplatin gemcitabine pembrolizumab CARBOplatin PACLitaxel DOCetaxel

### FORMULARY

**pembrolizumab plus platinum-doublet chemotherapy**, for the first-line treatment of patients with:

- Advanced/Metastatic Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer (NSCLC), Non-Squamous or Squamous cell histology **AND**
- No known epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) or anaplastic lymphoma kinase (ALK) genomic tumour aberrations **AND**
- Any PD-L1 expression level (including unknown) **AND**
- Good performance status

Treatment with pembrolizumab plus platinum-doublet chemotherapy is intended for 4 cycles.

Following this, pembrolizumab should continue to a maximum of 2 years from start of treatment with chemotherapy, OR until confirmed disease progression or unacceptable toxicity, whichever comes first.

### Exclusion criterion:

- Disease relapse within 6 months of completing durvalumab for Stage IIIB disease

### Important Notes:

1. Funded dosing for this indication is pembrolizumab 2 mg/kg (up to a maximum of 200 mg) every 21 days. After completing chemotherapy, pembrolizumab maintenance may also be prescribed at a dose of 4 mg/kg (up to a maximum of 400 mg) every 6 weeks.
2. For patients with PD-L1 of 50% or greater, the choice of 1st line treatment with either single-agent pembrolizumab or pembrolizumab in combination with platinum doublet chemotherapy is left at the physician's discretion.
3. Re-Treatment: Patients who complete pembrolizumab treatment (either at the end of the 2-year treatment duration or earlier) with stable disease or better are eligible for re-treatment with up to 17 additional doses of pembrolizumab (e.g. one additional year) if they subsequently experience disease progression.

Id: 477

### Regimens:

LUNG - [pembro + DOCetaxel + CARBOplatin]

LUNG - [pembro + PACLitaxel + CARBO]

LUNG - [pembro + gemcitabine + CARBOplatin]

LUNG - [pembrolizumab q 21 days  
(maintenance)]

LUNG - [pembro + gemcitabine + CISplatin]

LUNG - [pembrolizumab q 42 days  
(maintenance)]

**Regimen Details** ×

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**LUNG - [pembro + PACLitaxel + CARBO]**  
Regimen

**Regimen Reference Orders**

- [thoracic/THOR-pembrolizumab-PACLitaxel-CARBOplatin.pdf](#)

Drug Name	Alert

ADULT Updated: November 1, 2022

**Regimen Reference Order**

**THOR – pembrolizumab + PACLitaxel + CARBOplatin**

ARIA: LUNG - [pembro + PACLitaxel + CARBO]  
 LUNG - [pembrolizumab q 21 days (maintenance)]  
 LUNG - [pembrolizumab q 42 days (maintenance)]

**Planned Course:**      pembrolizumab + PACLitaxel + CARBOplatin every 21 days for 4 cycles, followed by pembrolizumab every 21 days up to 31 cycles or until disease progression or unacceptable toxicity (maximum 2 years of therapy)

OR

   pembrolizumab + PACLitaxel + CARBOplatin every 21 days for 4 cycles, followed by pembrolizumab every 42 days up to 16 cycles or until disease progression or unacceptable toxicity (maximum 2 years of therapy)

**Indication for Use:**      Lung Cancer Non-Small Cell Squamous Metastatic

# Patient Case – Colorectal Cancer



- 78 y.o. female
- Abdominal pain in Spring 2021 led to imaging which confirmed a large pericolic mass into transverse colon
  - Necrotic – differential: lymphoma vs. primary CRC vs. GIST
- Concern for bowel perforation with neoadjuvant chemotherapy
- Biopsy via colonoscopy confirmed poorly differentiated carcinoma
- Extended right hemicolectomy led to further pathological assessment: IHC for MMR



# Mismatch Repair (MMR) and Microsatellite Instability (MSI)

- Genetic subset of colorectal cancer tumors with mismatch-repair deficiency (dMMR)
  - 15% of all patients with colorectal cancer (both sporadic and hereditary)
    - Sporadic dMMR: methylation of the *MLH1* gene promoter
    - Hereditary dMMR: germline mutations in the *MLH1* and *MSH2* genes



# Mismatch Repair (MMR) and Microsatellite Instability (MSI)

- Results in the inability of cells to recognize and repair spontaneous mutations, resulting in a very high tumor mutation burden and altered microsatellite sequences that render these tumors high in microsatellite instability (MSI-H)
- Mounting evidence suggests that MSI-H–dMMR tumors are less responsive to conventional chemotherapy

*The* NEW ENGLAND  
JOURNAL *of* MEDICINE

ESTABLISHED IN 1812

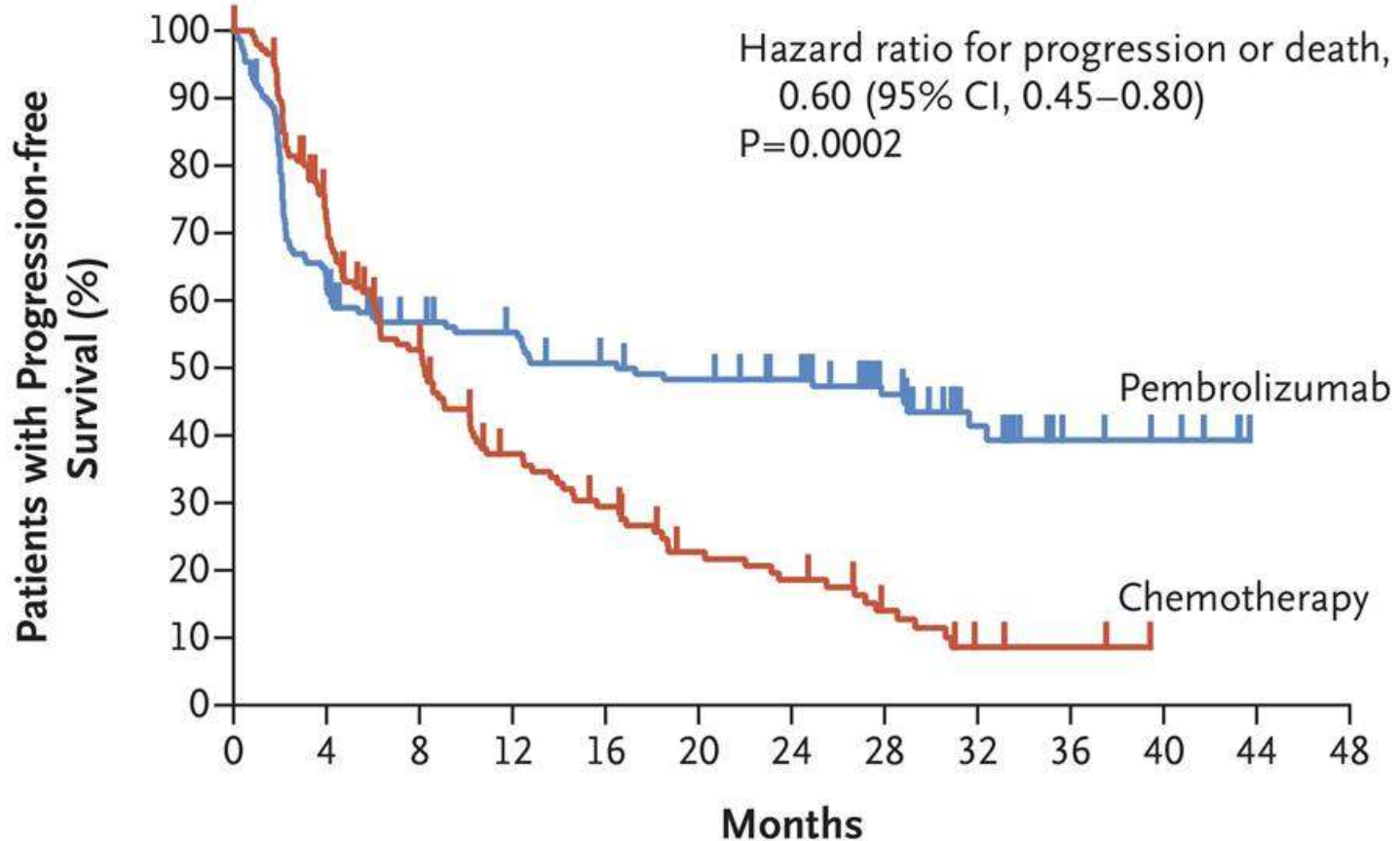
DECEMBER 3, 2020

VOL. 383 NO. 23

Pembrolizumab in Microsatellite-Instability–High Advanced  
Colorectal Cancer

- KEYNOTE 177
- Compared pembrolizumab to various chemotherapy options (FOLFIRI, FOLFOX6, bevacizumab + FOLFIRI or FOLFOX6, cetuximab + FOLFIRI or FOLFOX6) for 1<sup>st</sup> line treatment of mCRC

# KEYNOTE 177



## No. at Risk

Pembrolizumab	153	96	77	72	64	60	55	37	20	7	5	0	0
Chemotherapy	154	100	68	43	33	22	18	11	4	3	0	0	0

# Back to our Case: dMMR

- Performed via Immunohistochemistry (IHC) of surgical specimen
- Tests expression of 4 MMR proteins that work in pairs (MSH2 with MSH6; MLH1 with PMS2); if one is lost, the other is usually lost; confirms dMMR

## ADDENDUM

### COLORECTAL CARCINOMA RESECTION MISMATCH REPAIR (MMR) PROTEIN EXPRESSION

**NATURE OF SPECIMEN:** Colon

**IHC performed on block:** A13

## RESULTS:

MLH1: **Loss** of nuclear positivity, tumor cells

PMS2: **Loss** of nuclear positivity, tumor cells

MSH2: Intact nuclear positivity, tumor cells

MSH6: Intact nuclear positivity, tumor cells

## Interpretation:

...this tumor is MSI high, showing loss of nuclear staining for MLH1 and PMS2.

BRAF immunohistochemistry (anti-BRAF V600E, clone VE1) has been ordered and results will be reported as a supplemental report.

# Questions

- Do we have enough information to select a 1<sup>st</sup> line treatment?
- Which 1<sup>st</sup> line treatment is optimal for this patient?

# PODP Formulary ID: 570

Colorectal Cancer, Advanced/Metastatic; MSI-High/dMMR; 1st line

FORMULARY

**pembrolizumab monotherapy**, for the first line treatment of patients with:

- Metastatic microsatellite instability-high (MSI-H) or mismatch repair deficient (dMMR) colorectal cancer **AND**
- No prior treatment for metastatic MSI-H/dMMR colorectal cancer **AND**
- Good performance status

Treatment should continue until confirmed disease progression or unacceptable toxicity to a maximum of 2 years or 35 doses, whichever comes first.

## **Regimens:**

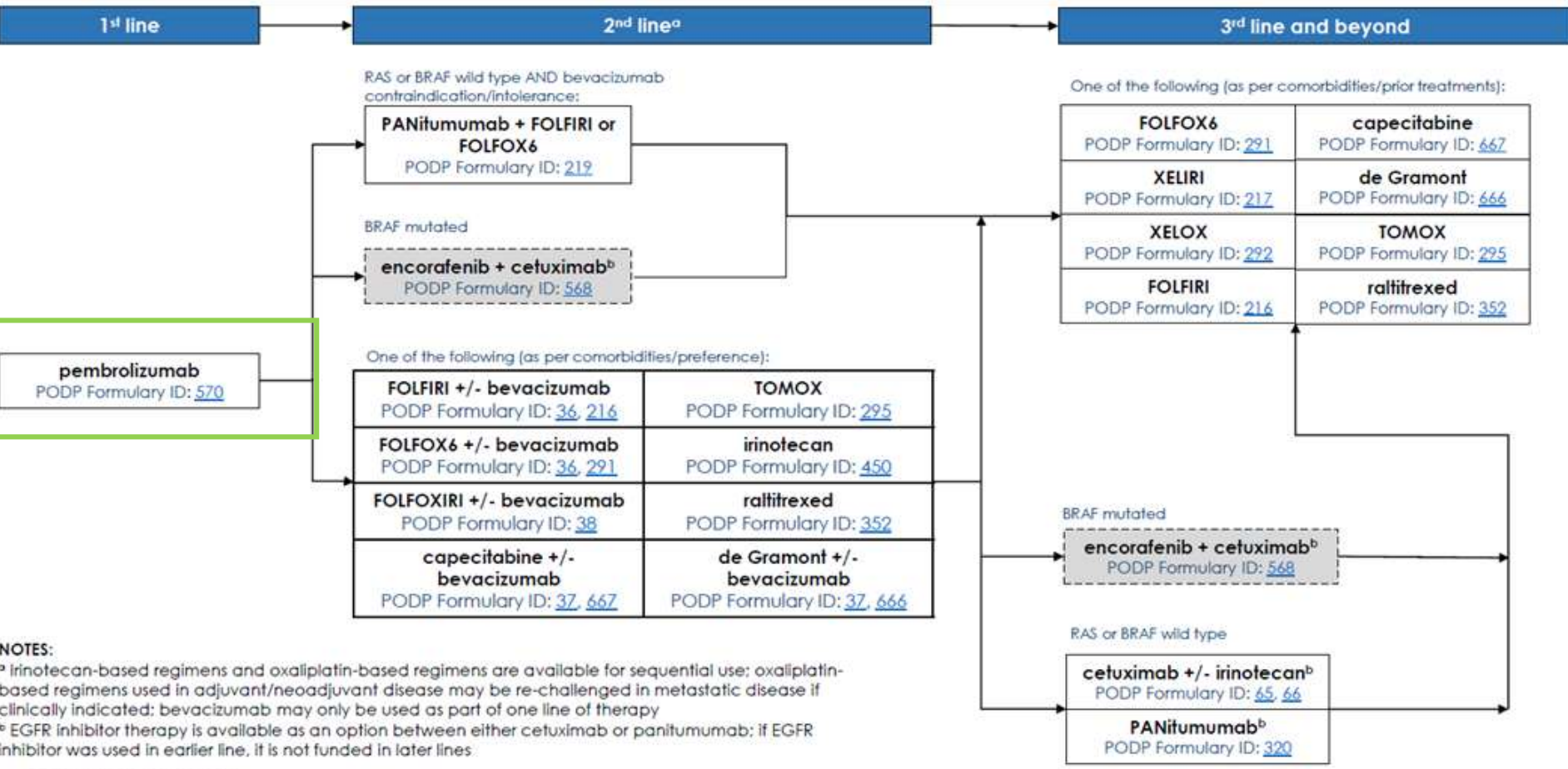
GAST - [pembrolizumab q 21 days]

Reference:

Andre T, Shiu KK, et al. "Pembrolizumab in Microsatellite-Instability-High Advanced Colorectal Cancer." *N Engl J Med* 2020; 383 (23):2207-18.

# mCRC Funding Algorithm - dMMR

## CCMB Funding Algorithm: Advanced/Metastatic Colorectal Cancer, MSI-H/dMMR



**NOTES:**

<sup>a</sup> Irinotecan-based regimens and oxaliplatin-based regimens are available for sequential use; oxaliplatin-based regimens used in adjuvant/neoadjuvant disease may be re-challenged in metastatic disease if clinically indicated; bevacizumab may only be used as part of one line of therapy

<sup>b</sup> EGFR inhibitor therapy is available as an option between either cetuximab or panitumumab; if EGFR inhibitor was used in earlier line, it is not funded in later lines

Provincial funding under review

Version Date: March 2022

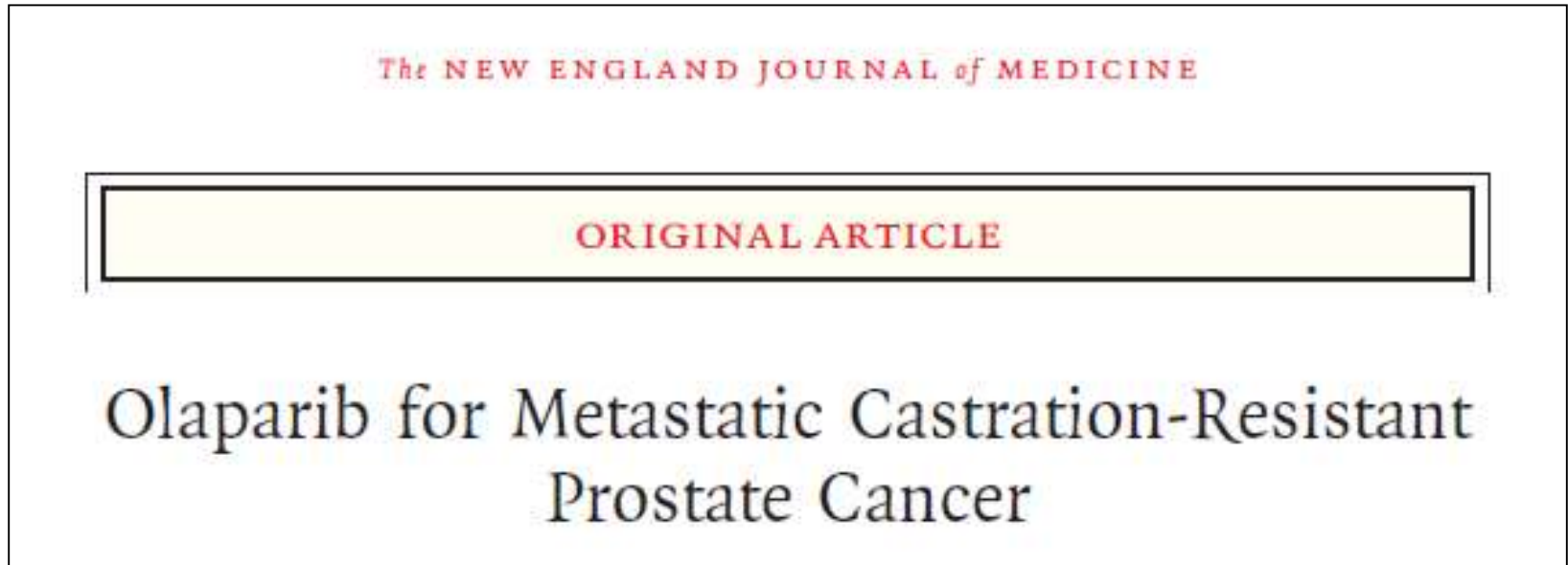


# BRCA mutation

- BRCA1 and BRCA2 are tumor suppressor genes
- Common functional link between BRCA1/2 proteins is the homologous recombination repair (HRR) pathway
  - Promotes DNA double-strand break (DSB) repair
- Deleterious mutations in BRCA gene are known to be pathogenic
  - Interfere with BRCA1/2's DNA repair function
- Alteration can occur in germline or somatic cells
- BRCA1 or BRCA2 mutations are mutually exclusive
- Associated with ovarian, breast, and prostate cancers



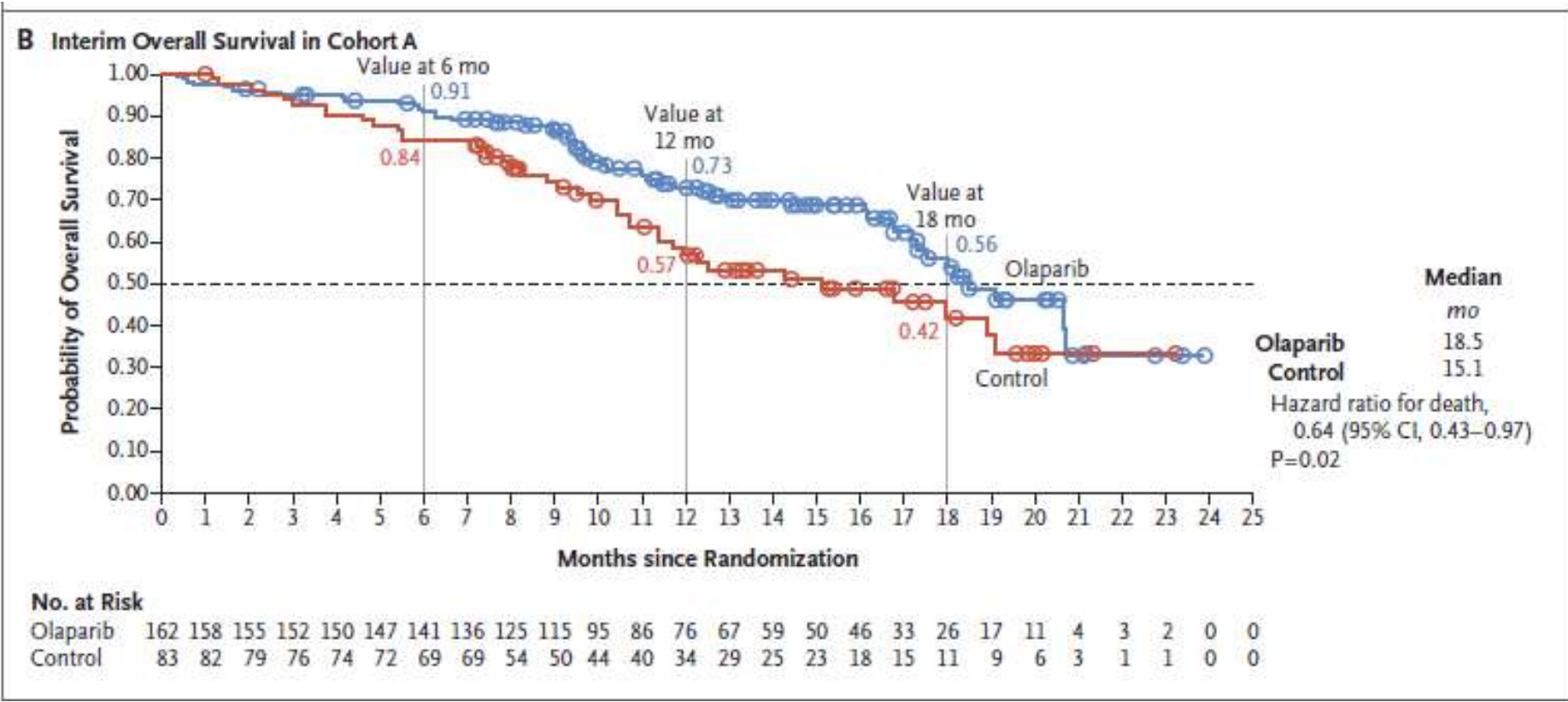
# BRCA mutation



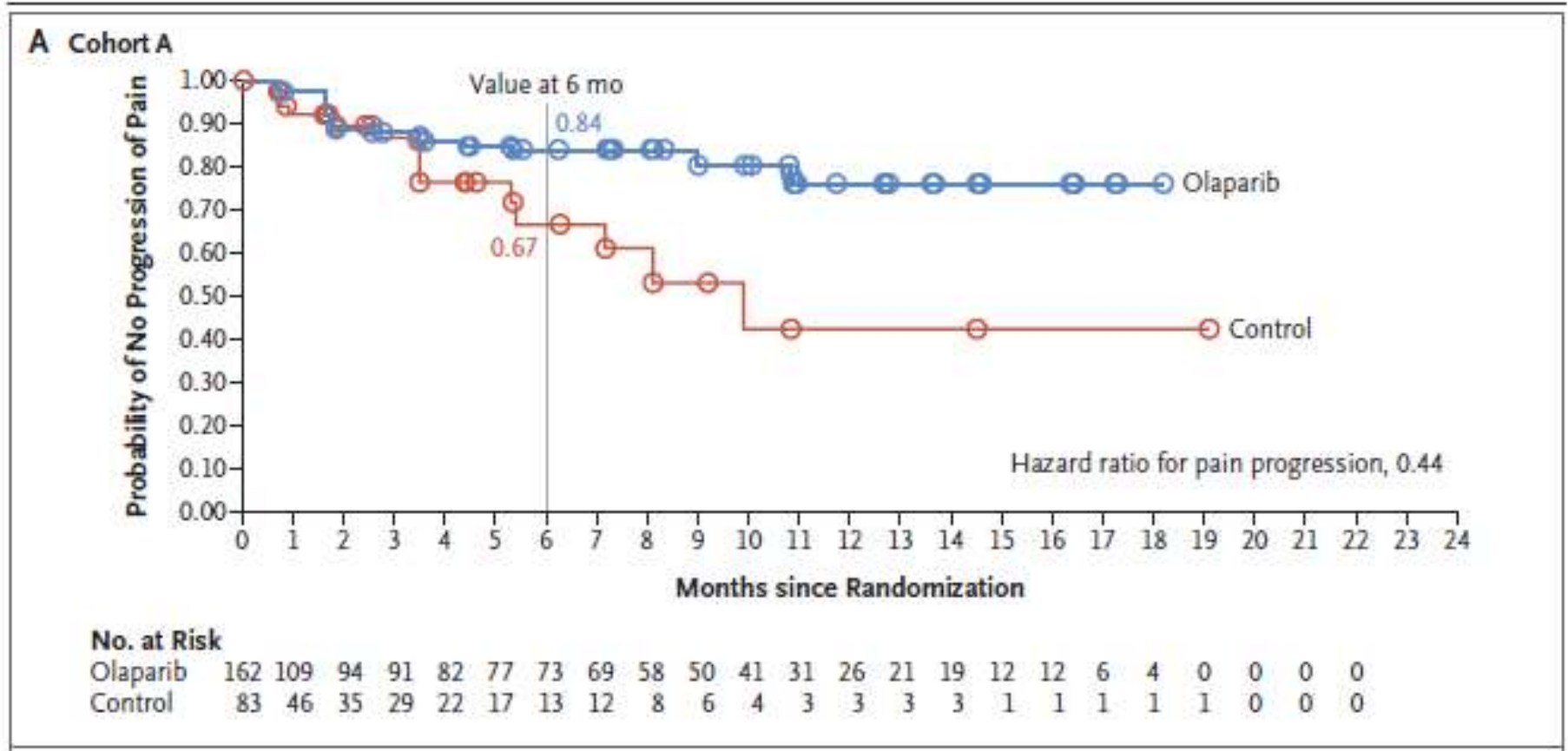
*Cohort A: Patients with at Least One Alteration in BRCA1, BRCA2, or ATM (Cohort A)*

olaparib tablets (300 mg twice daily) or the prespecified physician's choice of enzalutamide (160 mg once daily) or abiraterone (1000 mg once daily, plus prednisone at a dose of 5 mg twice daily) (control group).

# BRC A mutation



# BRC A mutation



# Patient Case – Prostate Cancer



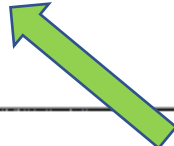
- 62 y.o. male
- Diagnosed with locally advanced prostate cancer in 2020; initiated ADT with goserelin and RT
- 2021: retroperitoneal recurrence; initiated enzalutamide for metastatic castrate-resistant prostate cancer (mCRPC)
- Summer 2022: enlarging retroperitoneal disease; PSA increase; screened for clinical trial enrollment – includes NGS testing assessment for potential BRCA, ATM mutations

# “FoundationOne Liquid CDx”

FoundationOne Liquid CDx CTA interrogates 324 genes, including the complete exonic sequence of 309 genes and select introns of 15 genes (indicated with an \*); 75 genes (indicated in bold) are captured with increased sensitivity across the entire coding region unless otherwise noted.

**STUDY**  
Partner Name **Clovis Oncology**  
Partner Study ID **CO-338-063 FACT CF3**  
FMI Study ID **FoundationOneLiquidDx-BPA-PRO-20-2011**

**TEST**  
FMI Test Order # **ORD-1100289-01**  
Test Type **FoundationOne Liquid AB1**  
Report Date **04 Jun 2021**



**STUDY-RELATED DELETERIOUS ALTERATION(S)**

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GENE	ALTERATION
BRCA1	None
BRCA2	K2472fs*7



# Prostate Cancer, Metastatic, Castration-Resistant (mCRPC); BRCA/ATM mutation

## Indication Medications

olaparib

RESTRICTED

**olaparib monotherapy**, for the treatment of patients with:

- Metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer (mCRPC) **AND**
- Deleterious or suspected deleterious germline and/or somatic mutations in the homologous recombination repair (HRR) genes *BRCA* or *ATM* **AND**
- Disease progression following prior treatment with a new hormonal agent / androgen receptor-axis-targeted agent (ARTA) **AND**
- Good performance status

Treatment should continue until confirmed disease progression or unacceptable toxicity.

## Request Information

Request Form

- *HCD Program Eligible*

**Request Form to Use:** "Restricted Drug Form - GENITOURINARY DSG"

**Supporting Documentation:** Confirmation of BRCA/ATM mutation

**Reviewed by:** Genitourinary DSG Chair, or Designate

**Usual Duration of Approval:** 5 years, then reassess

**\*\*olaparib dispensed by CancerCare Manitoba Pharmacy\*\***

**Regimen Details** ×

## GENU - [olaparib]

Regimen

**Regimen Reference Orders**

- [genitourinary/GENU-olaparib.pdf](#)

Drug Name	Alerts
olaparib	<div style="display: flex; gap: 10px;"> <div style="background-color: #d1c4e9; padding: 2px 5px; border-radius: 3px;">Hepatic Alert</div> <div style="background-color: #fff9c4; padding: 2px 5px; border-radius: 3px;">Renal Alert</div> </div>

ADULT ORAL
Updated: May 31, 2022


### Regimen Reference Order – GENU – olaparib

ARIA: GENU - [olaparib]

**Planned Course:** Twice daily until disease progression or unacceptable toxicity  
(1 cycle = 30 days)

**Indication for Use:** BRCA or ATM Mutated Castration-Resistant Prostate Cancer

2022 Provincial Cancer Care Conference



# NTRK

- Neurotrophic Tyrosine Kinase (NTRK) is an oncogene whose gene products (the TRK family of receptors) express cell surface receptor tyrosine kinases that bind to neurotrophic ligands.
- TRK activation results in the autophosphorylation of intracellular tyrosine residues (signals MAPK, PI3K, PKC pathways downstream)
- Somatic NTRK mutations have been identified in multiple tumour types – colorectal, lung, breast, melanoma, AML, neuroblastoma
- Fusions involving *NTRK1*, *NTRK2*, *NTRK3* proteins is common mechanism for TRK oncogenic activation





# NTRK

- Two NTRK tyrosine kinase inhibitors under review for funding:
  - Entrectinib
  - Larotrectinib
- Studies for NTRK inhibitors have been “tumour agnostic”
  - Basket trials of small numbers of patients of different diagnoses
- Place in therapy is after “all other satisfactory treatment options” have been used (interpretation of that definition is variable)
- Only larotrectinib has approval in pediatrics

# NTRK

- Not included in Q31 Hotspot
- Both agents have manufacturer access programs at this time
- NTRK NGS testing is not provincially funded at this time

	100 International Blvd, Toronto, ON M9W 6J6 Tel: 1-877-849-3637 Fax: 905-795-9891
SPECIALIZED DIAGNOSTICS REPORT	

<b>MOLECULAR PATHOLOGY RESULTS</b>
<b>NTRK NGS RESULTS: NTRK fusion detected</b> 
<b>NTRK FUSION PARTNER: NTRK3</b>
<b>OTHER FUSION PARTNER: ERC1</b>
<b>BREAKPOINT: chr12:1250953,chr15:88669604</b>

# Question #4

- Which drug is “mismatched” with its intended mechanism/target:
  - A. Entrectinib – NTRK fusion mutation
  - B. Olaparib – BRCA mutation
  - C. Pembrolizumab – CTLA-4
  - D. Pembrolizumab – deficiency in MMR

# Question #5

- In the electronic health record (e.g. ARIA), pertinent diagnostic information about potential gene mutations/drug targets can be found in:
  - A. Surgical Pathology
  - B. “Q31 Hotspot” Tumour Panel
  - C. Immunohistochemistry
  - D. All of the above

# Take Home Messages

- Terms pharmacogenetics, pharmacogenomics, are often used interchangeably
- Available clinical trial evidence in pharmacogenomics often underrepresents the diversity in the general population
- More and more systemic therapies listed on PODP Formulary have demonstrated evidence of benefit when patient-specific and tumour-specific targets are identified
- Current access to testing varies by tumour type and mutation/target

# Resources

- **oncoKB.org**
  - US-based website documenting therapeutic level of evidence for various systemic therapies (MSKCC)
- **genome.gov**
  - US-based website with glossary of terms related to genomic topics
- **CPICGx.org**
  - Clinical Pharmacogenetics Implementation Consortium
  - Guidelines for implementing pharmacogenetic testing into clinical practice
- **CADTH.ca**
  - Canadian agency providing evidence-based reviews of emerging anticancer drugs for Canadian jurisdictions
- **My pathologyreport.ca**
  - Canadian website with patient-directed information to understand pathology reports; content created by Canadian pathologists and patients