



Immunotherapy

Danielle Brooks | DNP, AGACNP-BC | Georgia Cancer Center

Conflict of Interest Statement

I have no conflict of interest to disclose and no financial or other interest associated with patient privacy or any entity that has a pecuniary or tangible interest in patient privacy or the use of patient information for gain of any kind.

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Immunotherapy Learning Objectives

- Discuss history of immunotherapy
- Identify at least two types of immunotherapy
- Describe common side effects associated with immunotherapy
- Name one famous person associated with immunotherapy

Immunotherapy Theory.....

- Works to boost the immune system to attack the cancer
- Cancer cells can hide from the immune system: multiple techniques.....
- Cancer cells trick the immune system
- Potential to remain effective long after end of treatment

History of Immunotherapy

- It all began in 1890.....
 - Dr. William Coley
 - Coley's Toxins
- 1956:
 - Tumor-specific cell antigens discovered
- 1984:
 - Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer founded
- 2014:
 - Nivolumab (Opdivo) & Pembrolizumab (Keytruda), approved for advanced melanoma

Types of Immunotherapy

- Nonspecific Immune Stimulation
- T-Cell Therapy
- Immune Checkpoint Inhibitors
- Cancer Vaccines
- Monoclonal Antibodies
- Oncolytic Virus

Nonspecific Immune Stimulation

- Strategy that gives the immune system a boost
- Types:
 - Cytokine
 - Interleukins
 - Interferons
 - Granulocyte-macrophage-colony stimulating factor (GM-CSF)
 - Modified Bacteria
 - Ex. BCG (Bacillus Calmette Guerin)
 - Toll-like receptor agonists

Adoptive T-Cell Therapy

- Involves enhancing the body's own T-cells to fight cancer:
 - 1) tumor-infiltrating lymphocytes
 - 2) chimeric antigen receptor T-cells (CAR-T)
- T-cells multiply, seek, and destroy the cancer cells
- Only available through clinical trials

Immune Checkpoint Inhibitors

- Blocks the checkpoint from being engaged → Turns the immune response back on
- Types:
 - Anti-CTLA-4 antibodies
 - Tremelimumab
 - Ipilimumab
 - Anti-PD-1 drugs
 - Nivolumab
 - Pembrolizumab
 - Anti-PD-L1 molecules
 - Avelumab
 - Durvalumab
 - Atezolizumab

Immunotherapy Video Demonstration

Immunotherapy: How the Immune System Fights Cancer
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iDdL2bMQXfE>

- Non-Specific Immune Treatment
- T-Cell Therapy
- Immune Checkpoint Inhibitors

Cancer Vaccines

- Prophylactic: HPV & HBV
- Therapeutic:
 - Can be developed from patient's own tumor
 - Usually "off-the-shelf"
 - 1 to 100 antigens common to type of cancer
- Types:
 - Tumor cell vaccines
 - Antigen vaccines
 - Dendritic cell
 - Vector-based vaccine

Monoclonal Antibodies

- Antibodies designed to target specific tumor antigens (mAbs)
 - Flagging, blocking, delivering
 - Carry drugs, particles, proteins directly to cancer cells
- 3 Different Types:
 - Naked mAbs
 - Conjugated mAbs
 - Bispecific mAbs

Oncolytic Virus

- Uses viruses to attack the cancer cells
- Only 1 approved by FDA
 - Herpes-simplex virus contains GM-CSF, drug called T-VEC
 - Melanoma
- Duke University (Tisch Brain Tumor Center)
 - Poliovirus therapy for recurrent GBM
 - Polio to treat cancer? 60 minutes report aired 3/29/15

Common Side Effects

- Fatigue
- Mild Skin
- Diarrhea
- Flu-like Symptoms
- Immune-Mediated Adverse Reactions:
 - Endocrine, GI, Neurologic, Pulmonary, Renal, Severe Skin

Notable People & Immunotherapy

- Former President Jimmy Carter
 - "I want what he had".....
 - Type of Cancer: Melanoma
- 2018 Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine
 - James Allison: in 1980s identified CTLA-4 on T cell receptors
 - Tasuku Honjo: in 1992 identified PD-1 on T cell receptors

Clinical Trials

- Phase I, II, & III
- Immunotherapy: alone & combined with SOC
 - www.clinicaltrials.gov
- Eligibility Requirements: specific for each trial
 - Type of Cancer
 - Previous Treatment
 - ECOG status
 - Tumor Burden

Research is Promising.....

"If we knew what we were doing, it wouldn't be called research, would it?"



~Albert Einstein

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