

Getting Ahead of irAEs: Fostering Change in Structural Systems for Disadvantaged Populations

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Learning Objective

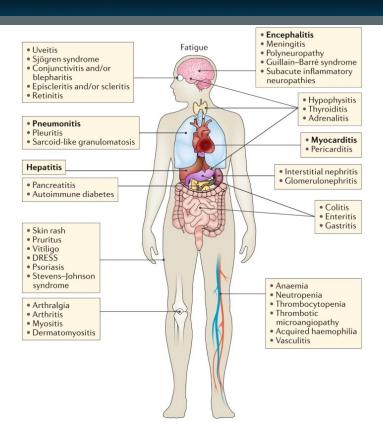
Recommend improvements to structural systems to better support irAE management in historically disadvantaged patient populations

Immunotherapy is a "Double-edged Sword"





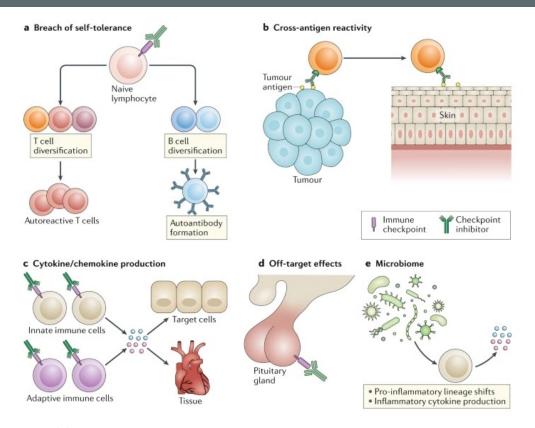
Overview of irAEs



- Disruption of the homeostatic mechanisms induces a unique spectrum of side effects called irAEs
- irAEs reported in 70-88% and ≥3 grade in 5-25% of patients
- Most common irAEs: dermatitis, enterocolitis, transaminitis, and endocrinopathies
- Most commonly reported irAEs of any grade: dermatologic toxicities
- Higher incidence of ≥grade 3 irAE: gastrointestinal toxicity
- If untreated, they can rapidly progress to lifethreatening conditions and may also be fatal



Possible Mechanisms Underlying irAEs





Polling Question

How confident are you in promoting structural changes that mitigate care disparities for patients receiving immunotherapies?

- A. Not confident at all
- B. Somewhat confident
- C. Confident
- D. Extremely confident



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Results



General ASCO Guidelines

High level of suspicion that new symptoms are treatment-related.

Grade 1:

- •ICI therapy should be continued with close monitoring.
- Exception of some neurologic, hematologic, and cardiac toxicities.

Grade 2:

- ·Hold ICI for most grade 2 toxicities.
- •Consider resuming when symptoms and/or laboratory values revert to grade 1 or less.
- Corticosteroids (initial dose of 0.5 to 1 mg/kg/d of prednisone or equivalent) may be administered.

Grade 3:

- ·Hold ICI.
- •Initiate high-dose corticosteroids (prednisone 1 to 2 mg/kg/d or methylprednisolone IV 1 to 2 mg/kg/d). Corticosteroids should be tapered over the course of at least 4 to 6 weeks.
- •If symptoms do not improve with 48 to 72 hours of high-dose corticosteroid, infliximab may be offered for some toxicities.
- •When symptoms and/or laboratory values revert to grade 1 or less, rechallenging with ICI may be offered; however, caution is advised, especially in those patients with early-onset irAEs.

Grade 4:

•Permanent discontinuation of ICI, with the exception of endocrinopathies that have been controlled by hormone replacement.

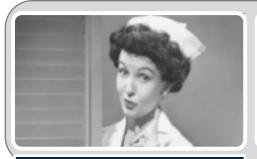


Action Items

- Educating patients, care givers, and health care providers
- Refining irAE management guidelines
- Standardizing reporting of irAEs
- Optimizing the choice of immunosuppressive agents
- Pursuing better understanding of irAEs
- Including high-risk patients
- Incorporating diagnostic tools to personalize irAE management
- Utilizing wireless technology and digital health
- Providing a platform to hear the missing patient's voice
- Sharing evolving data



Action Item 1: Educating Patients, Caregivers, and Health Care Providers





Old Model
Discharge instructions:
List of do's and don'ts
Medication reminders
Instructions to see your
doctor in a few weeks
Problem: Does not work.

New Model
Patient assessment begins at admitting.

Assess often to determine patient's knowledge

- Use of drug-specific wallet cards, educational apps, social network, support group to provide information regarding irAEs and symptom monitoring
- Tailor patient education resources to preference, emotional, literacy and cultural needs of the patient



Action Item 2: Refining irAE Management Guidelines

- Convene irAE Management Summit
- Develop toxicity-specific management committees to create an evidence-based expert consensus guideline
- Publish the outcomes of the activities of the proposed summit
- Make it a regularly planned effort
- Bring in underrepresented groups



NCCN Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology (NCCN Guidelines®)

Journal of Clinical Oncology Journal

An American Society of Clinical Oncology Journal

Management of Immunotherapy-Related
Toxicities

Enter words / phrases / DOI / ISBN / authors / keywords / etc



Batchare. Blancia D. Santom Position article and guidelines | Open Access | Published: 21 November 2017
Tripolona Wans. Effers. S. W Hanaging toxicities associated with immune checkpoint inhibitors: consensus recommendations
from the Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer (SITC)
Toxicity Management Working Group

L.Puzanov, A. Diab, K. Abdallah, C. O. Bingham III. C. Brogdon, R. Dadu, L. Hamad, S. Kim, M. E. Lacouture, N. R. LeBourf, D. Lenihan, C. Onofrei, V. Shannon, R. Sharma, A. W. Silk, D. Skondra, M. E. Suarez-Almazor, V. Wang, K. Wiley, H. L. Kaufman, M. S. Ernstoff ¹²³ & on behalf of the Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer Toxicity, Management Working, Group



Action Item 3: Standardizing Reporting of irAEs

CTCAE does not capture all the irAEs adequately

Need for addition of more terms to the CTCAE for standardized capture of all irAEs.

Incorporate SITC CTCAE Task Force irAEspecific module into future versions of CTCAE.



Action Item 3: Approaches to Improved Screening and Identification of irAEs

Electronic medical health record alerts

Raise awareness of symptoms potentially related to their treatment outside of oncology-

specialized centers (such as emergency rooms)

Immunotherapy wallet cards

Wallet cards clearly communicate who the patient is, current medications, and who should be contacted if needed.

Patients should be instructed to show the card to all health

care providers they see

adverse events.







Action Item 3: Standardize Screening for irAEs and Coordination of Care



Standardize screening measures within the oncology clinic



Standardize nursing assessments



Standardize documentation and assessment of adverse events related to immunotherapy



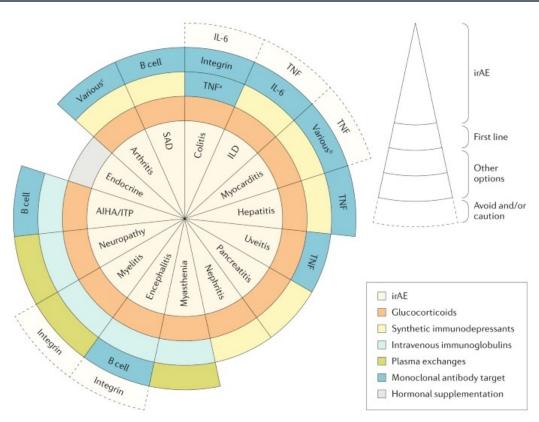
Standardize screening timeframes



Standardize coordination of care



Action Item 4: Optimizing the Choice of Immunosuppressive Agents



- Data is evolving
- Conduct prospective studies to evaluate
 - Safety and efficacy of immunosuppressant agents in irAE management and their impact on response to immune checkpoint inhibitor therapy
 - Optimize the choice, dosing and duration of use of immunosuppressants in management of irAE



Action Item 5: Pursuing Better Understanding of irAEs

Knowledge gaps include:

- After adjustment for factors such as class of the drug, tumor type, age, race, and sex, why do patients have same irAE but different severity, or different irAEs of the same severity or different irAEs of different severity?
- What makes some patients more susceptible to irAEs, and what are organspecific/tissue-specific immune microenvironments that could drive specific irAE?
- As mechanisms underlying irAEs are thought to be driven by autoimmunity, does germline genetic variation affect risk of irAEs?
- Is it possible that in some cases the toxic effect results from the immune system's attacking what most resembles the tumor due to shared expression of antigens between tumor and normal cells (e.g., vitiligo in patients with melanoma)?



Action Item 5: Pursuing Better Understanding of irAEs

Additional knowledge gaps:

- Will characterization of immune-effector pathways driving irAEs inform the choice of immunomodulatory agents used in management of irAEs?
- What is the relationship between irAEs and response to ICIs?
- Understand the risk and effectiveness of vaccination of patients on immunotherapybased treatment?
- What is the role of antiviral, antibacterial, or antifungal prophylaxis as there are several concerns about the risk of infections?
- Will greater inclusion of non-White patients change our understanding of irAEs and their management?



Action Item 6: High-risk Patients

Risk factors for irAEs remain unclear

Transplant recipients

High body mass index

Pre-existing autoimmune diseases

History of primary or secondary immune deficiencies

Women on CTLA4 and men on PD-1/PD-L1 agents

History of HIV, hepB or hepC infection

Past history of irAE

Age < 60 yrs

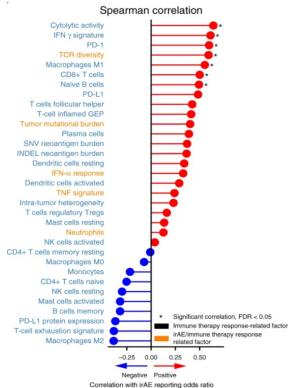
White patients *may* have higher overall incidences of irAEs, but non-White patients have greater severity

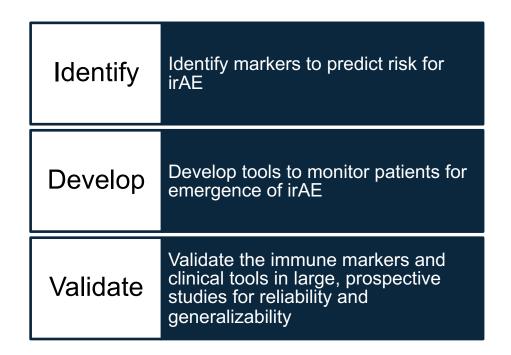
Need to assess patients individually and consider treating with ICI when deemed most appropriate (first-line vs second-line or later)



Action Item 7: Incorporating Diagnostic Tools to Personalize irAE management

Association between irAE and related factors







Action Item 8: Utilizing Wireless Technology and Digital Health

Efficient use of wireless technology and digital resources to equip health care providers

For use of digital health tools, patient access to technology becomes paramount

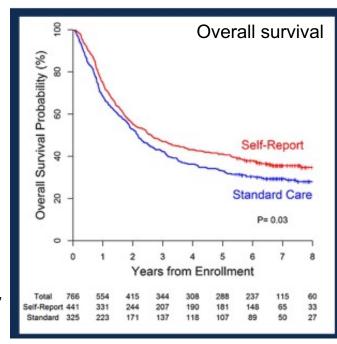
- Socioeconomic status
- Technology aptitude
- Device access
- Internet access





Self-reporting of Symptoms Improved Overall Survival

- Patients received routine outpatient chemotherapy for metastatic solid tumors at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
- Compared to standard chemotherapy, median survival was 5 months longer among patients in the self-reporting arm (31.2 vs 26.0 months, P=0.03)
- Remained significant in multivariable analysis: Adjusted hazard ratio 0.83, 95% CI 0.70 – 1.0

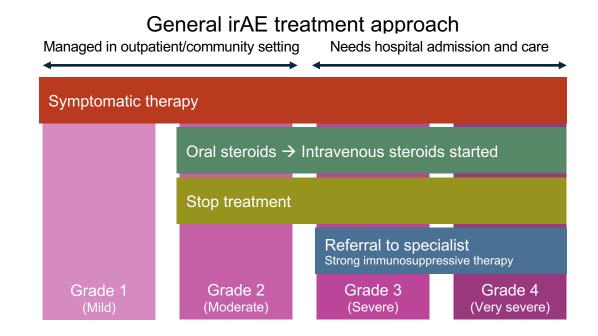


- Proactive monitoring prompts clinician to intervene early, before symptoms worsen and cause serious downstream complication
- Symptoms control enables patients to stay more functional, which is associated with better survival
- Symptom monitoring improves control of toxicities, enabling longer duration of cancer treatment



Patient Education in Identifying irAEs

- irAEs are often treatable with steroids but must be correctly identified
- Patients must know:
 - The potential immune related side effects
 - When to discuss side effects with a medical professional (always and early)

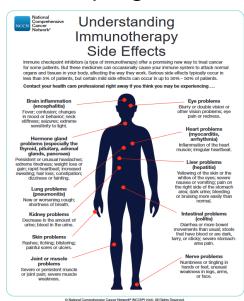


Emphasize to patients that it is extremely important for them to inform their medical care team as soon as possible if they experience any unusual symptoms during or after treatment with cancer immunotherapy



Existing and Possible Patient Education Tools

- Online educational tools that educate patient and caregivers about immune-mediated adverse events
- Print material developed by cancer program or drug company
- Patient education videos
- Patient educational guides
 - ESMO
 - ASCO
 - NCCN







Action Item 9: Providing a Platform to Hear the Missing Patient's Voice

Monitor longitudinal changes in symptoms for early detection of irAEs

Open access Original research



Evaluating the psychometric properties of the Immunotherapy module of the MD Anderson Symptom Inventory

Tito Mendoza ¹, Ajay Sheshadri, Mehmet Altan, Kenneth Hess, Agoldy George, Bettzy Stephen, Lilibeth Castillo, Enedelia Rodriguez, Sling Gong, Christine Peterson, Alordi Rodon Ahnert, Siqing Fu, Sarina A Piha-Paul, Shubham Pant, Ecaterina Dumbrava, Timonthy A Yap, Filip Janku, Apostolia M Tsimberidou, Vivek Subbiah, Daniel D Karp, Abdulrazzak Zarifa, Lacey M McQuinn, Charles Cleeland, David S Hong, Aung Naing

Date: / (day) / (year)	
Participant Initials:	
Study Subject #:	TimePoint:

M. D. Anderson Symptom Inventory - Immunotherapy

Part I. How severe are your symptoms?

People with cancer frequently have symptoms that are caused by their disease or by their treatment. We ask you to rate how severe the following symptoms have been *in the last one* week. Please select a number from 0 (symptom has not been present) to 10 (the symptom was as bad as you can imagine it could be) for each time.

ea	cn item.												
		Not Present										As Bad As You Can Imagine	
		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
1.	Your pain at its WORST?	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
2.	Your fatigue (tiredness) at its WORST?	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
3.	Your nausea at its WORST?	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
4.	Your disturbed sleep at its WORS1?	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
5.	Your feelings of being distressed (upset) at its WORST?	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
6.	Your shortness of breath at its WORS1?	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
7.	Your problem with remembering things at its WORST?	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
8.	Your problem with lack of appetite at its WORST?	e ()	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
9.	Your feeling drowsy (sleepy) at its WORST?	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
10	Your having a dry mouth at its WORST?	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
11	. Your feeling sad at its WORST?	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
12	. Your vomiting at its WORST?	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
13	. Your numbness or tingling at its WORS1?	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	



Action Item 10: Sharing Evolving Data

Disseminate the results of clinical and translational studies to the scientific community in a timely manner





Summary

- Increase irAE awareness through education
- Solidify the irAE management guidelines
- Acquire knowledge by performing preclinical, translational, and clinical studies in diversified populations
- Share the knowledge gained



SMART Goals Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, Timely

- Deliver culturally-sensitive patient education, tailored to the needs and capabilities of the patient and caregiver
- Encourage "call early, call often" approach to symptom reporting
- Maintain a low threshold for suspecting irAEs in patients receiving immunotherapies
- Review CTCAE grading of irAEs, in order to personalize management



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