Combination therapies augment the anti-tumor activity of agonist anti-CD27 mAb in human CD27 transgenic mouse models

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Introduction
- CD27 is a potent co-stimulatory molecule that drives T cell activation and survival through interaction with its ligand, CD70
- Monoclonal antibodies to the CD27 molecule have been shown to enhance immune responses and promote antitumor immunity in preclinical models (French RR et al. 2007 Blood, Roberts, DJ et al. 2010 J. Immunotherapy)
- CDX-1127 is an agonist anti-CD27 IgG1 fully human mAb that induces activation and proliferation of human T cells when combined with T-cell receptor stimulation that is currently being evaluated in a Phase 1 trial of hematologic (poster 144) and solid tumors (poster 146).
- We have previously shown that CDX-1127 can be effective in syngeneic murine tumor models when dosing is initiated early. In this study, using more challenging tumor models we investigated combinations with conventional and checkpoint blockade therapies.
- There is strong rationale for combining an immune activating agent (CDX-1127) with other therapies, in particular agents that induce tumor killing to provide a source of antigen and agents that block T cell inhibitory molecules.

Combination of CDX-1127 with cyclophosphamide

Synergistic activity of CDX-1127 and cyclophosphamide in aggressive E.G7 tumor model

Combination of CDX-1127 with anti-PD-L1 mAb

Improved survival in CT26 and E.G7 models with CDX-1127 and anti-PD-L1 mAb

CT26 model (colon carcinoma)

Combination of CDX-1127 with anti-CTLA-4 mAb

E.G7 model (thymoma)

Conclusions:
- We observed significant anti-tumor activity in challenging tumor models when CDX-1127 was combined with either cyclophosphamide or checkpoint blocking antibodies.
- Combination of CDX-1127 with cyclophosphamide resulted in durable immunity against rechallenge and an increase in the T_{eff} to T_{reg} ratio among the tumor associated lymphocytes.
- Optimization of combination therapy may require variation of dose and timing of the regimen. These studies are on-going.
- These studies, together with the favorable safety profile and activity data from the Phase 1 trial with CDX-1127, support the initiation of combination trials with conventional and immune-based therapies.

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