



# ANNUAL MEETING ON WOMENS' CANCER<sup>®</sup>

**BUILDING BRIDGES // BREAKING BARRIERS**

SGO // PHOENIX, ARIZONA // MARCH 18 – 21, 2022

# Clinical outcomes of ovarian cancer patients treated with the novel engineered cytokine nemvaleukin alfa in combination with the PD-1 inhibitor pembrolizumab: recent data from ARTISTRY-1

Ira Winer, MD, PhD,<sup>1</sup> Ulka N. Vaishampayan, MD,<sup>1\*</sup> Lucy Gilbert, MD,<sup>2</sup> Seth D. Rosen, MD,<sup>3</sup> Shipra Gandhi, MD,<sup>4</sup> Yan Wang, PhD,<sup>5</sup> Yangchun Du, PhD,<sup>5</sup> Lei Sun, PhD,<sup>5</sup> Rita Dalal, MBBS, MPH,<sup>5</sup> Monali Desai, MD, MPH,<sup>5</sup> Julie R. Graham, PhD,<sup>5</sup> Vamsidhar Velcheti, MD,<sup>6</sup> James F. Strauss, MD<sup>7</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI; <sup>2</sup>Division of Gynecologic Oncology, McGill University Health Centre, Montréal, QC, Canada; <sup>3</sup>Hematology Oncology Association of the Treasure Coast, Port St. Lucie, FL; <sup>4</sup>Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center, Buffalo, NY; <sup>5</sup>Alkermes, Inc., Waltham, MA; <sup>6</sup>Perlmutter Cancer Center, New York University Langone Health, New York, NY; <sup>7</sup>Mary Crowley Cancer Research, Dallas, TX

\*At the time of the study

# Financial Disclosures

- I have no financial relationships with ACCME defined ineligible companies to report over the past 24 months

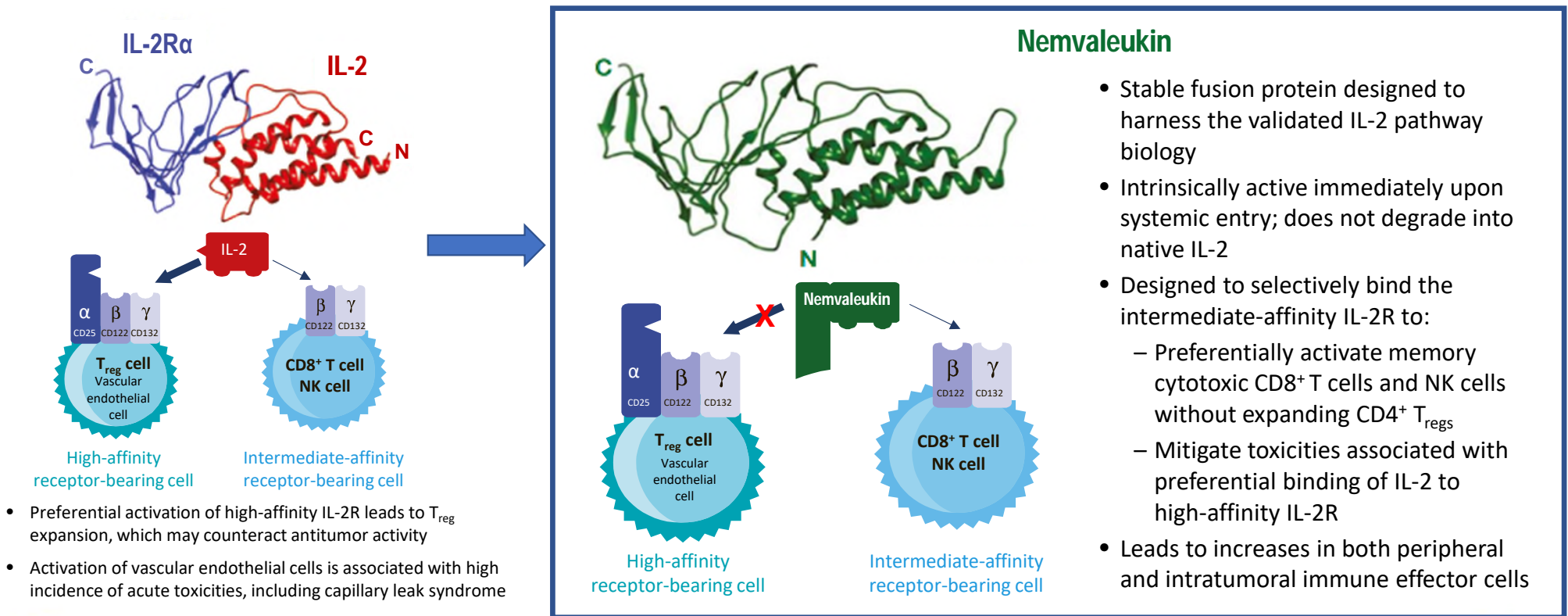
# Unlabeled/Investigational Uses

- I will be discussing unlabeled or investigational use of a pharmaceutical product, namely, nemvaleukin, in combination with pembrolizumab for the treatment of patients with ovarian cancer

# Unmet medical need for patients with PROC

- Most patients have advanced disease at diagnosis<sup>1-3</sup> and undergo surgery followed by platinum-based chemotherapy<sup>3,4</sup>
- Many tumors become resistant to or are refractory to platinum-based chemotherapy; prognosis is poor for patients with PROC<sup>3-5</sup>
- Ovarian cancer does not typically respond to single-agent checkpoint inhibitor therapy<sup>5</sup>
- Median progression-free survival for patients is ~3.5 months with systemic chemotherapy regimens<sup>6</sup>

# Nemvaleukin alfa is a novel, engineered cytokine



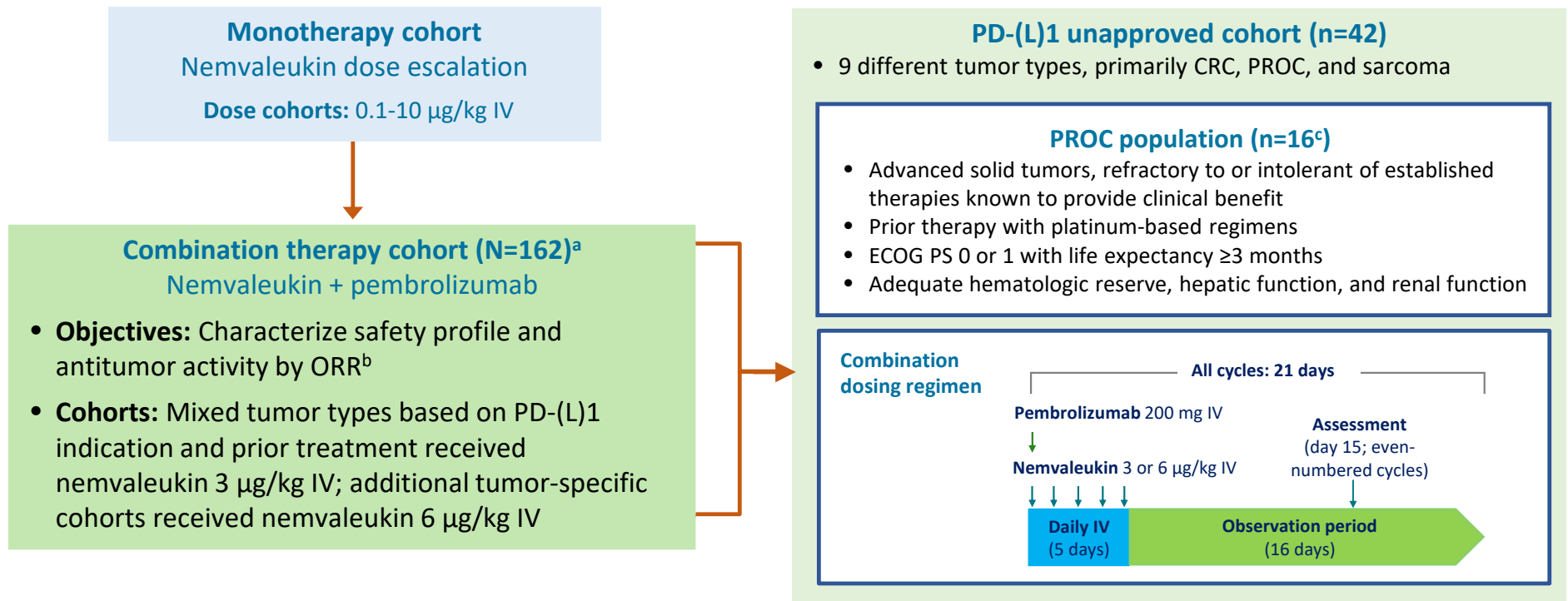
- Preferential activation of high-affinity IL-2R leads to T<sub>reg</sub> expansion, which may counteract antitumor activity
- Activation of vascular endothelial cells is associated with high incidence of acute toxicities, including capillary leak syndrome

IL-2, interleukin-2; IL-2R, IL-2 receptor; NK, natural killer; T<sub>reg</sub>, regulatory T cell.  
Lopes JE, et al. *J Immunother Cancer*. 2020;8(1):e000673.

# Potential for nemvaleurin in PROC

- Preclinical antitumor activity of multiple agents, including chemotherapy, CPIs, and TKIs, is enhanced when each is used in combination with nemvaleurin<sup>1-3</sup>
- ARTISTRY-1 (NCT02799095): phase 1/2 trial evaluating nemvaleurin alone and in combination with pembrolizumab in patients with advanced solid tumors, including PROC
- We describe findings from nemvaleurin plus pembrolizumab in patients with PROC enrolled in ARTISTRY-1

# ARTISTRY-1 study design and PROC cohort





# Patient baseline characteristics and prior regimens

Characteristic	N=15 <sup>a</sup>
Age, years, median (range)	63 (48-83)
Race, white, n (%)	11 (73)
ECOG PS, 0 / 1, n (%)	4 (27) / 11 (73)
CA125, U/mL, mean (range)	779 (11-1958)
Histology, HGSOc / Other, n (%)	12 (80) / 3 (20)
PD-L1 status, n (%)	
Positive	2 (13)
Low	2 (13)
Negative	5 (33)
Unknown	6 (40)
Tumor mutational burden, n (%)	
Low	7 (47)
Intermediate	2 (13)
High	0 (0)
Unknown	6 (40)
Microsatellite stable / Unknown, n (%)	11 (73) / 4 (27)
BRCA mutant, n (%)	3 (20)

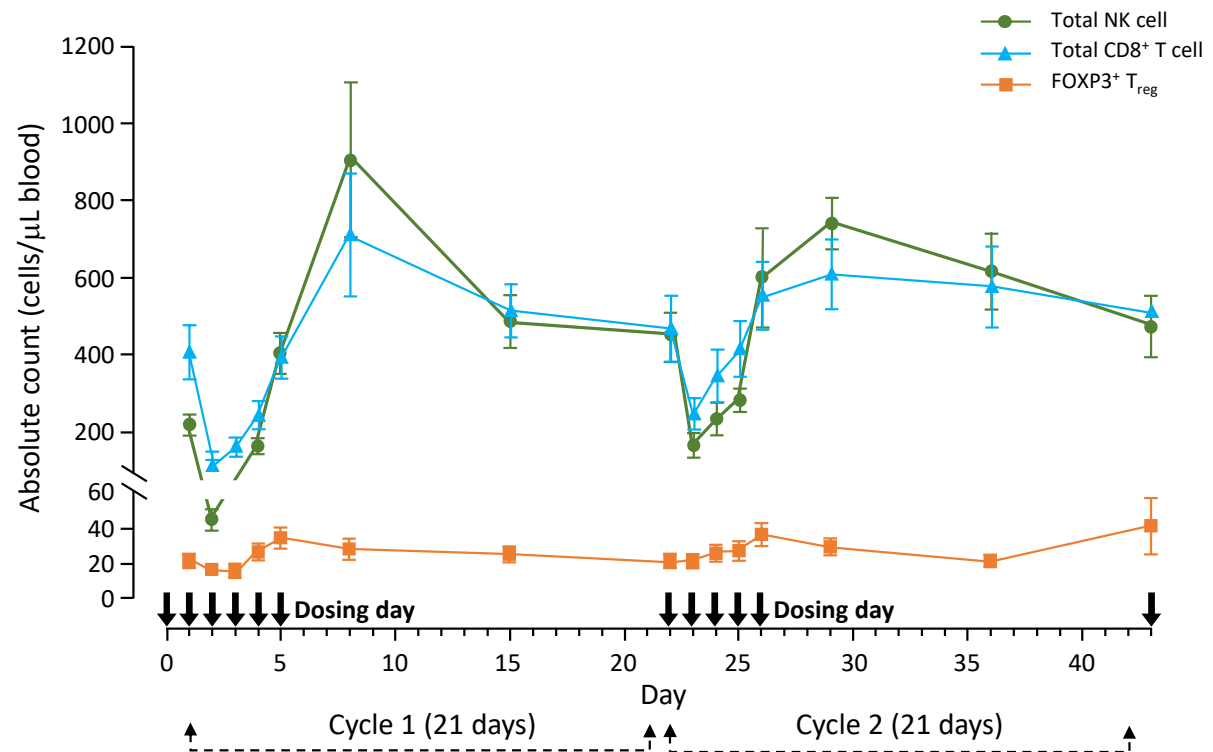
Prior regimens	N=15 <sup>a</sup>
Prior lines of therapy, median (range)	5 (2-6)
Number of prior lines of therapy, n (%)	
<5	7 (46)
≥5	8 (53)
Prior platinum-based therapy, n (%)	15 (100)
Prior bevacizumab, n (%)	9 (60)
Prior PARP inhibitor, n (%)	6 (40)
Prior anti-PD-(L)1 CPI, n (%)	3 (20)
BOR to last line of therapy, n (%)	
CR or PR	3 (20)
SD	4 (27)
PD	8 (53)

<sup>a</sup>Excludes 1 patient who received nemvaleukin 1 µg/kg.

BOR, best overall response; BRCA, breast cancer gene; CA125, cancer antigen 125; CR, complete response; HGSOc, high-grade serous ovarian cancer; PARP, poly ADP ribose polymerase; PD, progressive disease; PR, partial response; SD, stable disease.

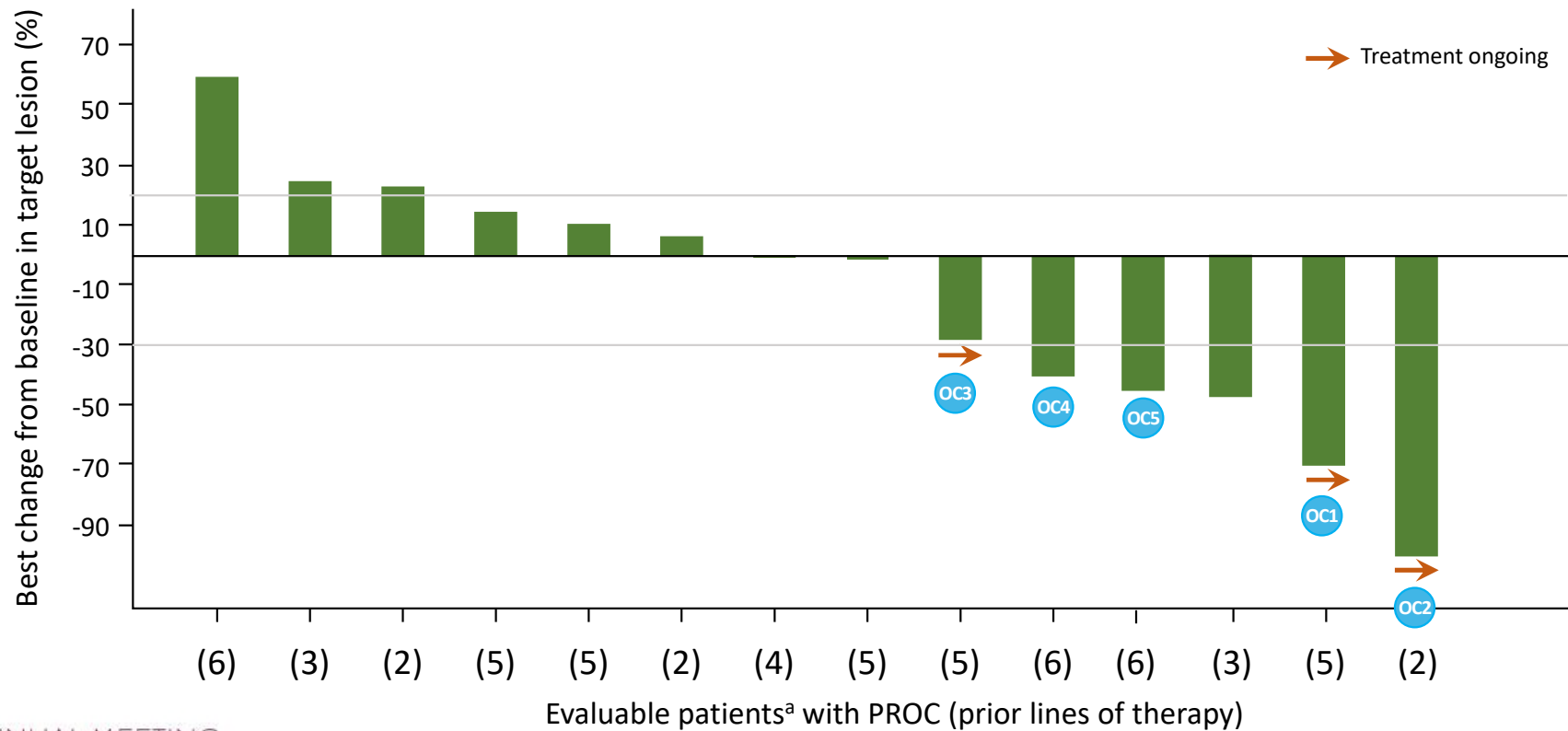
# Nemvaleukin + pembrolizumab induced robust expansion of CD8<sup>+</sup> T and NK cells, with minimal effect on T<sub>regs</sub>

- 15 patients with PROC who received nemvaleukin 3 µg/kg IV + pembrolizumab



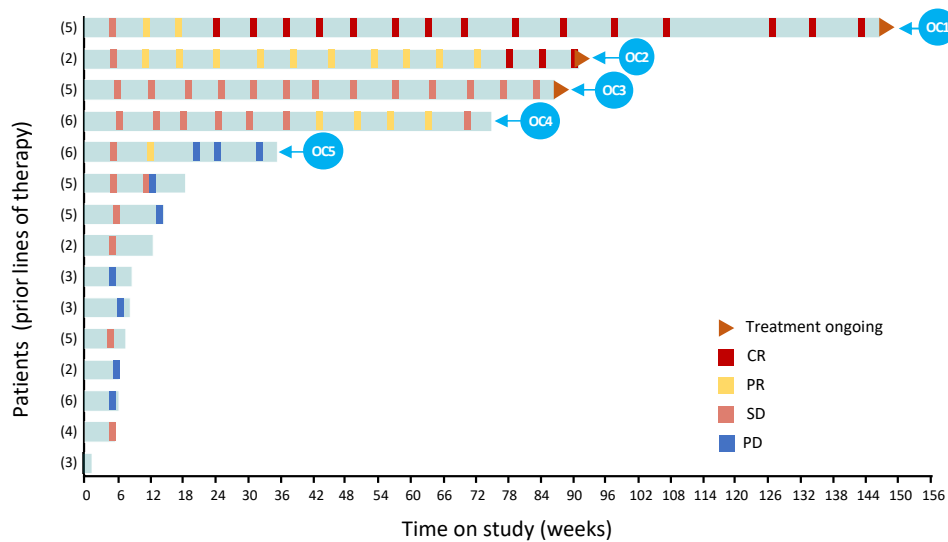
Bars represent standard error.  
FOXP3, Forkhead box P3.

# Best change from baseline of target lesion sum



<sup>a</sup>n=14 evaluable patients with PROC who received nemvaleukin 3 µg/kg IV + pembrolizumab and ≥1 post-baseline scan. Response per RECIST v1.1. Data cutoff October 29, 2021.

# Antitumor activity of nemvaleukin + pembrolizumab



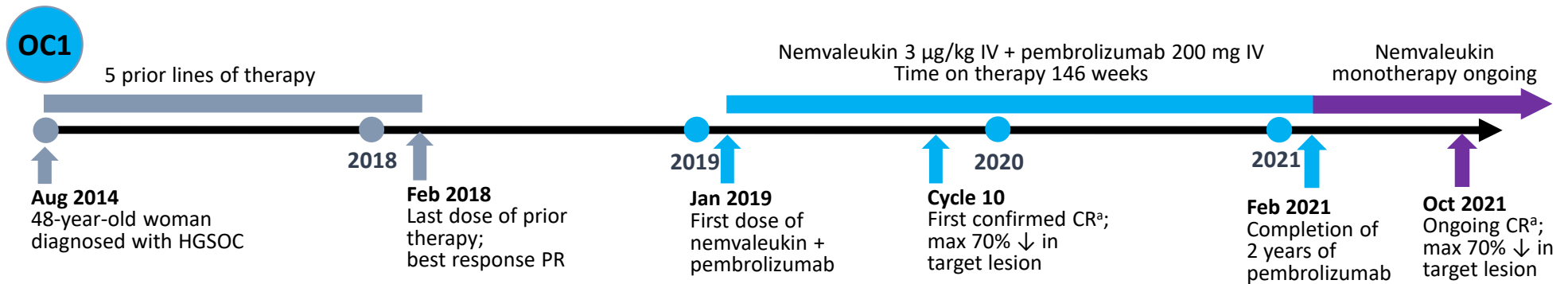
## Summary of patient experience

Patient	Age (years)	Number of prior regimens/ Prior therapies	Best overall response <sup>a</sup>	Maximum change in target lesions (%)	Time on therapy (weeks)
OC1	48	5: CBP/PAC/BEV, CDDP/GEM, CBP/ PLD, PCA, CBP/DOC	CR	↓ 70	146 ▶
OC2	83	2: CBP/PAC/DOC, CBP/DOC/NIR/TAM	CR	↓ 100	90 ▶
OC3	83	5: CBP/PAC, CBP, CBP/PAC/CAP, CBP/PLD/PEG, CBP/PLD	SD	↓ 28	86 ▶
OC4	75	6: CBP/PAC, NIR, PLD/BEV, CBP/GEM, TOP, NIR	PR	↓ 41	75
OC5	60	6: CBP/PAC, CBP/PLD, CBP/BEV, PAC/BEV, BEV, PLD	uPR	↓ 45	36

▶ Treatment ongoing.

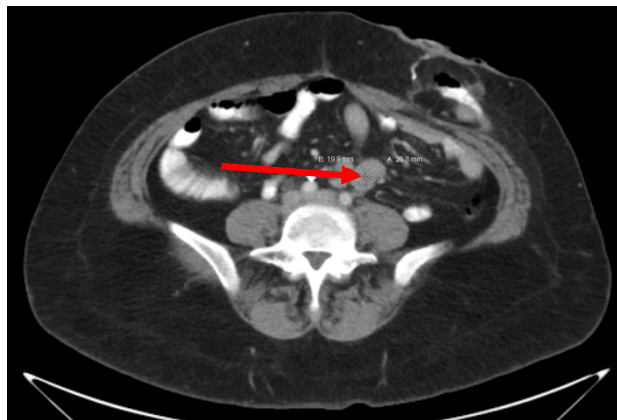
- 5 patients with PROC had clinically meaningful benefit, 4 of whom were on treatment >1 year
  - 4 objective responses: 2 CRs, 2 PRs (1 unconfirmed); 1 SD for >1.5 years
  - 3 of these patients remain on treatment
- ORR was 28.6% and DCR was 71.4% in 14 evaluable patients<sup>b</sup> who received nemvaleukin 3 µg/kg IV + pembrolizumab

# Complete response in patient OC1

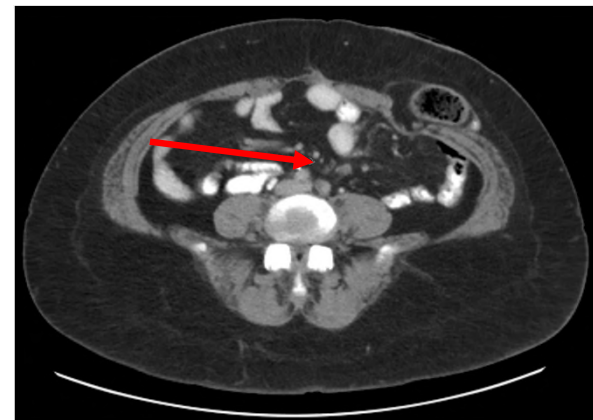


- The combination therapy was well tolerated

Lymph node



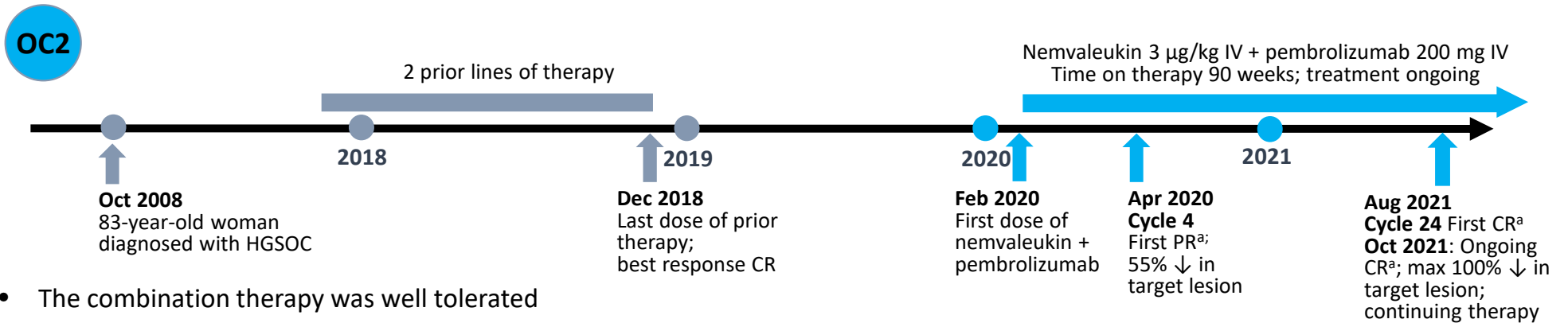
Baseline  
27DEC2018



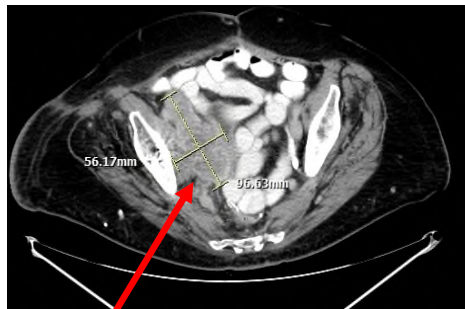
Cycle 50<sup>b</sup>  
13DEC21

<sup>a</sup>Response per RECIST v1.1. <sup>b</sup>Beyond data cutoff date.

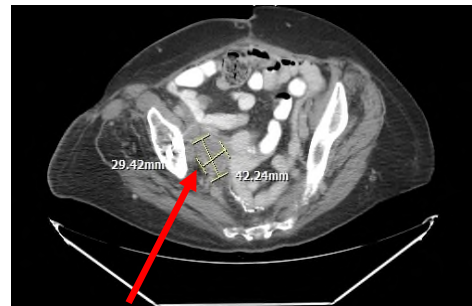
# Complete response in patient OC2



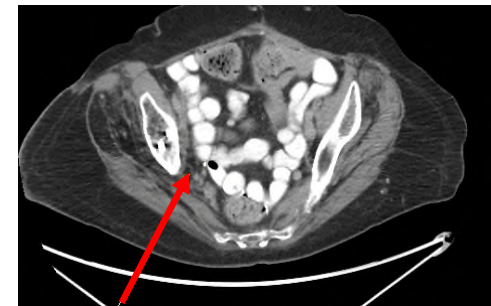
Right hemipelvic lesion



Baseline  
29JAN2020



Cycle 4  
21APR2020  
PR



Cycle 24  
03AUG2021  
CR

# Safety of nemvaleukin + pembrolizumab

Event, n (%)	N=162
Any AE	156 (96.3)
Serious AEs	66 (40.7)
Nemvaleukin-related AEs	146 (90.1)
Grade 1 or 2	144 (88.9)
Grade 3 or 4	76 (46.9)
AEs leading to discontinuation	16 (9.9)
Nemvaleukin-related AEs leading to discontinuation	6 (3.7)
Nemvaleukin-related AEs leading to death	1 (1)

## Combination treatment cohort<sup>a</sup> (N=162)

- Most frequent nemvaleukin-related Grade 3-4 AEs: anemia (9.9%), neutropenia (9.3%), and decreased neutrophil count (9.3%)
- 1 nemvaleukin-related AE leading to death (inanition) in a heavily pretreated patient with pancreatic cancer

# Conclusions

- Nemvaleukin + pembrolizumab combination showed evidence of tumor response and disease control in patients with heavily pretreated PROC
  - Includes 2 durable complete responses among 14 evaluable patients with PROC; both still on treatment after ~2 years
- Combination therapy was generally well tolerated
  - Safety profile in patients with PROC was consistent with that in the overall safety population
- Antitumor activity also observed in PROC cohort of phase 1/2 ARTISTRY-2 trial of subcutaneous nemvaleukin + pembrolizumab<sup>1</sup>
- US FDA granted Fast Track Designation to nemvaleukin + pembrolizumab for treatment of PROC
- Phase 3 ARTISTRY-7 trial in patients with PROC will further evaluate nemvaleukin + pembrolizumab; trial is ongoing and recruiting (**see Herzog et al. Abstract 119031 at this congress<sup>2</sup>**)



# Acknowledgments

- The authors would like to thank all of the patients who are participating in this trial and their families
- Many thanks to all of the investigators and site personnel for their participation in this study. Special gratitude to the following individuals for help obtaining radiology, pathology, and genetic profiling reports: Jana Adams, Rachael Gorney, Christine Gerdes, Taylor Grant, Phoebe Hannon, Ashley Jackson, Stephanie Stamatis, and Nithin Thummala
- The trial is sponsored by Alkermes, Inc.
- Medical writing and editorial support was provided by Parexel and funded by Alkermes, Inc.