

IN BRIEF

 KIDNEY CANCER**Combining targeted and immunotherapy**

The phase Ib JAVELIN Renal 100 study evaluates combination treatment comprising axitinib and avelumab in patients with advanced renal cell carcinoma. At the cut-off date in April 2017, 58% of a total of 55 patients had confirmed objective responses. Among all patients, 58% had grade ≥ 3 treatment-related adverse events. Five patients died owing to disease progression and one patient died of treatment-related autoimmune myocarditis. The maximum tolerated combination dose was 5 mg twice daily for axitinib and 10 mg/kg every 2 weeks for avelumab.

ORIGINAL ARTICLE Choueiri, T. K. et al. Preliminary results for avelumab plus axitinib as first-line therapy in patients with advanced clear-cell renal-cell carcinoma (JAVELIN Renal 100): an open-label, dose-finding and dose-expansion, phase 1b trial. *Lancet Oncol.* [https://doi.org/10.1016/S1470-2045\(18\)30107-4](https://doi.org/10.1016/S1470-2045(18)30107-4) (2018)

 PROSTATE CANCER**Quality of life during chemohormonal therapy**

A study in 790 men with metastatic hormone-sensitive prostate cancer treated with either androgen deprivation therapy (ADT) only or ADT plus docetaxel shows that quality of life (assessed, for example, using the Functional Assessment of Cancer Therapy - Prostate (FACT-P) questionnaire) of those receiving the combination therapy was worse at 3 months but better at 12 months than that of men receiving ADT only. Both patient groups reported a similar minimally changed quality of life over time.

ORIGINAL ARTICLE Morgans, A. K. et al. Quality of life during treatment with chemohormonal therapy: analysis of E3805 chemohormonal androgen ablation randomized trial in prostate cancer. *J. Clin. Oncol.* <https://doi.org/10.1200/JCO.2017.75.3335> (2018)

 ERECTILE DYSFUNCTION**Neurotrophins to recover erectile function**

Galanin has neuroregenerative effects in dorsal root ganglion neurons. Researchers have now evaluated the effects of the compound in nitergic neurons and the major pelvic ganglion after bilateral cavernous nerve injury. *In vitro*, galanin had neurotrophic effects and inhibition of endogenous galanin impaired neurite outgrowth in nitergic neurons. In corpus cavernosum muscle strips, galanin did not act as a direct vasodilator. Rats that received a galanin receptor 2 agonist after nerve injury had partial recovery of erectile function.

ORIGINAL ARTICLE Weyne, E. et al. Galanin administration partially restores erectile function after cavernous nerve injury and mediates endogenous nitergic nerve outgrowth *in vitro*. *J. Sex. Med.* <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jsxm.2018.02.013> (2018)

 PROSTATE CANCER**Validating radiographic progression-free survival**

The robustness of radiographic progression-free survival (rPFS), as defined by the Prostate Cancer Clinical Trials Working Group 2 (PCWG2), as a trial end point was evaluated in 1,717 patients with metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer. The findings of the PREVAIL trial show that enzalutamide significantly reduced the risk of radiographic progression or death in all performed sensitivity analyses ($P < 0.001$). Overall survival and rPFS were positively correlated (Spearman ρ 0.89 and Kendall τ 0.72).

ORIGINAL ARTICLE Rathkopf, D. E. et al. Radiographic progression-free survival as a clinically meaningful end point in metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer: the PREVAIL randomized clinical trial. *JAMA Oncol.* <https://doi.org/10.1001/jamaoncol.2017.5808> (2018)