

Health Canada Approves First-ever Combination of Two Immuno-Oncology Agents for Metastatic Melanoma

Health Canada approves the OPDIVO® + YERVOY® regimen for previously untreated patients with unresectable or metastatic melanoma

VANCOUVER – October 31, 2016 – Canadians battling metastatic melanoma have new hope with a new treatment option just approved by Health Canada. This new treatments includes the first-ever combination of two immuno-oncology agents. Health Canada has granted conditional approval for the OPDIVO® + YERVOY® Regimen for the treatment of previously untreated adults with unresectable or metastatic melanoma.

This latest approval comes following the pivotal study, CheckMate -067, which demonstrated that treatment with the combination of OPDIVO® and YERVOY® or with OPDIVO® alone resulted in significantly longer progression-free survival and higher objective response rates than did treatment with YERVOY® alone. Cancer cells may exploit "regulatory" pathways, such as checkpoint pathways, to hide from the immune system and shield the tumor from immune attack. OPDIVO® and YERVOY® are immune checkpoint inhibitors that target separate, distinct and complementary checkpoint pathways.

"This is good news for patients with metastatic melanoma who may benefit from this novel treatment combination," says Dr. David Hogg, medical oncologist and CheckMate -067 clinical trial investigator. "Since the introduction of immuno-oncology treatments for metastatic melanoma, survival expectations have improved."

"With advances in treatment, we are seeing people with metastatic melanoma, a deadly disease, actually surviving," said Kathy Barnard, Founder of the Save Your Skin Foundation and herself a survivor of metastatic melanoma. "This new treatment combination is yet another advance, one that may help even more patients live longer, to share more time with family, and have more hope for the future."

About the Save Your Skin Foundation

The Save Your Skin Foundation is a Canadian registered not-for-profit that supports those touched by skin cancer by helping patients to navigate their journey through informed, compassionate care and personalized support to those touched by melanoma and non-melanoma skin cancers. Through programs and outreach, we support education and ongoing awareness about skin cancer, from prevention to survivorship. The foundation also acts as a conduit for health care professionals and patients in the Canadian health technology assessment and reimbursement landscape. Please visit www.saveyourskin.ca for more information.

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