

SAVE YOUR SKIN FOUNDATION APPLAUDS HEALTH CANADA FOR APPROVAL OF LIBTAYO® (CEMIPLIMAB) FOR LOCALLY ADVANCED BASAL CELL CARCINOMA (LaBCC) PATIENTS

Toronto, ON: Nov 5, 2021 - Save Your Skin Foundation is pleased to announce that Health Canada has approved Libtayo® (cemiplimab) for patients with locally advanced basal cell carcinoma (LaBCC), previously treated with a hedgehog pathway inhibitor (HHI).

About Basal Cell Carcinoma

Basal cell carcinoma (BCC) is the most common cancer in the world, with incidence exceeding that of all other cancers combined. BCC represents approximately 80% of all cases of non-melanoma skin cancer, and predominantly affects the Caucasian and older population. BCC can develop anywhere, though it is most commonly found in sun exposed areas. It is estimated that one in 8 people will develop basal cell carcinoma in their lifetime.¹

It is rare but possible for BCC to spread, or metastasize. It is estimated that around 1% of BCCs can be classified as advanced BCC.² Locally advanced basal cell carcinoma (LaBCC) often includes large, aggressive, or recurrent tumors or those with deeper penetration into the underlying skin and surrounding tissues.

“Canadians living with advanced basal cell carcinoma urgently need new treatment options for this aggressive and potentially life-threatening cancer,” says Kathy Barnard, skin cancer survivor and founder of Save Your Skin Foundation. “We applaud Health Canada’s approval of Libtayo® (cemiplimab), which provides new hope for patients and their loved ones. “

About Libtayo

Libtayo® (cemiplimab) is a fully human monoclonal antibody targeting the immune checkpoint receptor PD-1 on T-cells. By binding to PD-1, Libtayo has been shown to block cancer cells from using the PD-1 pathway to suppress T-cell activation. Libtayo is being jointly developed by Sanofi and Regeneron under a global collaboration agreement.

For more information about basal cell carcinoma and other types of skin cancer, visit www.saveyourskin.ca

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¹ Government of Canada. Non-Melanoma Skin Cancer. Available at: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/chronic-diseases/cancer/non-melanoma-skin-cancer.html> (accessed Nov 1, 2021).

² Mohan SV & Chang ALS. Curr Derm Rep 2014;3:40–5