

Chinese American Hematologist Oncologist Network (CAHON)

News from the 35th ESMO Annual Meeting (cont')

Vectibix Results Disappoint in Phase III Head and Neck Cancer Trial (SPECTRUM Study)

Result of a randomized Phase III trial evaluating Vectibix (panitumumab) as a first-line treatment in patients with recurrent and/or metastatic squamous cell head and neck cancer showed the addition of Vectibix to platinum-based chemotherapy did not result in a statistically significant improvement in overall survival [mOS 11.1 versus 9.0 months, hazard ratio 0.87 (95% CI: 0.73-1.05)]. The study did not meet its primary endpoint. Secondary endpoints of progression-free survival [mPFS 5.8 versus 4.6 months, hazard ratio 0.78 (95% CI: 0.66-0.92)] and objective response rate (36 % versus 25 p%) were numerically improved but were not tested for statistical significance.

658 patients were enrolled and randomized to receive a standard chemotherapy (cisplatin and 5-FU), with or without Vectibix (9 mg/kg) every three weeks. The primary endpoint was overall survival. The secondary endpoints included progression-free survival, objective response rate, duration of response, time to progression, time to response, patient reported outcomes and safety.

The most frequently reported adverse events in the Vectibix plus chemotherapy arm included nausea, rash, neutropenia and vomiting, as anticipated for this combination therapy.

Sunitinib with Erlotinib Misses Primary Endpoint in Phase III Trial for Advanced NSCLC

Pfizer Inc. announced that the SUN 1087 trial of sunitinib in combination with erlotinib versus erlotinib demonstrated a statistically significant improvement in Progression-Free but not in Overall Survival in patients with previously treated advanced non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC). Overall survival was the primary endpoint of the study and Progression-Free Survival was a secondary endpoint of the study. No new or unexpected types of adverse events were observed in the study.

Biweekly News
and Information
Updates for
Members

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Highlights:

- *Vectibix Results Disappoint in Phase III Head and Neck Cancer Trial (SPECTRUM Study)*
- *Sunitinib with Erlotinib Misses Primary Endpoint in Phase III Trial for Advanced NSCLC*
- **Fewer Physicians Are Setting up Their Own Practices**
- *UnitedHealth announces pilot program to change cancer therapy reimbursement*
- *FDA Update*
- *Obama's Deficit Commission Proposes Medicare Curbs, Reduced Doctor Payments*
- **[CAHON Gathering at ASH](#)**

Meet and Make Friends at
ASH, 2010

Dear CAHON Members:

The annual meeting of American Hematology Society (ASH) is coming. And it's the time of year to meet our old friends and make new friends. We are planning for a dinner gathering at ASH in Orlando, FL. It will be held on **Friday December 3 at 6pm at Maggiano Little Italy, 9101 International Dr Ste 2400, Ste. 2400, Orlando, FL 32819, Phone: 407-241-8650.**

Due to various restrictions, the cost of foods will be paid by attendees. The dinner will be served in a special Italian family style at the cost of \$27.95 per person plus beverages and gratitude. All CAHON members and their friends are welcome. Please call or email [Jing-Zhou Hou \(412-996-2530, houj@upmc.edu\)](mailto:Jing-Zhou.Hou@upmc.edu) to reserve your chair (s). RSVP ASAP or by November 25, 2010. And we look forward to seeing you in Orlando.

CAHON Executive Committee