



Submitted by:

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June 6, 2018

**NCCN Guidelines® Panel: Head and Neck Cancers**

Dear Panel Members,

On behalf of Bristol-Myers Squibb Company, I respectfully submit the enclosed OPDIVO® (nivolumab) prescribing information and clinical data from the CheckMate-141 randomized trial of nivolumab or investigator's choice chemotherapy as first-line (1L) therapy for recurrent or metastatic (R/M) squamous cell carcinoma of the head and neck (SCCHN).<sup>1-4</sup> This information is being sent to the NCCN® Head and Neck Cancers Panel for your consideration.

**Specific Changes:** We request consideration of adding nivolumab to the list of First-Line, Single Agent Options for Recurrent, Unresectable, or Metastatic H&N cancer (see CHEM-A 2 OF 5).

**FDA Clearance of OPDIVO® (nivolumab) (indication in Squamous Cell Carcinoma of the Head and Neck):**

- OPDIVO is indicated for the treatment of patients with recurrent or metastatic squamous cell carcinoma of the head and neck (SCCHN) with disease progression on or after platinum-based therapy.<sup>1</sup>

**Rationale:** The FDA-approved indication was based on results from CheckMate-141, a phase 3 study that evaluated the efficacy and safety of nivolumab monotherapy or standard single-agent therapy of the investigator's choice (methotrexate, docetaxel, or cetuximab) in 361 patients with stage III/IV recurrent SCCHN, who progressed on or within 6 months of platinum-based chemotherapy.<sup>1</sup> This study included 78 (21.6%) patients who received 1L R/M nivolumab (n=52) or investigator's choice chemotherapy (n=26) after platinum-based therapy in the primary/adjuvant setting. Data from this subgroup of patients has been published as a separate analysis and shows a comparable degree of efficacy.<sup>2-4</sup>

The addition of lines of therapy on CHEM-A (2 OF 5) may cause misunderstanding or confusion that nivolumab is recommended only if progression on platinum containing chemotherapy occurred in the recurrent, unresectable, or metastatic setting. This is not consistent with the data from our study or the FDA-approved indication for nivolumab. Consideration could also be given to modifying the categories relative to platinum-sensitivity rather than line of therapy to address this concern.

As part of this submission, the above mentioned data presentation and OPDIVO® (nivolumab) prescribing information are enclosed for your review.<sup>1-4</sup>

1. Product Information, OPDIVO® (nivolumab) injection for intravenous infusion. Bristol-Myers Squibb Company, Princeton, NJ. April 2018.

2. Gillison ML, Blumenschein G, Fayette J, et al. CheckMate 141: 1-year update and subgroup analysis of nivolumab as first-line therapy in patients with recurrent/metastatic head and neck cancer [published online June 6, 2018]. *Oncologist*. 2018;23:1-4. doi: 10.1634/theoncologist.2017-0674.
3. Gillison ML, Blumenschein G, Fayette J, et al. CheckMate 141: 1-year update and subgroup analysis of nivolumab as first-line therapy in patients with recurrent/metastatic head and neck cancer [Supplementary Figures] [published online June 6, 2018]. *Oncologist*. 2018;23:1-4. doi: 10.1634/theoncologist.2017-0674.
4. Gillison ML, Blumenschein G, Fayette J, et al. CheckMate 141: 1-year update and subgroup analysis of nivolumab as first-line therapy in patients with recurrent/metastatic head and neck cancer [Supplementary Tables] [published online June 6, 2018]. *Oncologist*. 2018;23:1-4. doi: 10.1634/theoncologist.2017-0674.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Awny Farajallah". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Awny Farajallah, MD, FACP  
Vice President, Head US Medical  
Bristol-Myers Squibb Company