SMi Presents the 5th Annual Conference on...

Cancer Vaccines

Holiday Inn Kensington Forum, London, UK

Looking at the latest advances in vaccine development whilst preparing for commercialisation of the next cancer therapy breakthrough

Chairs for 2016:
- Farzin Farzaneh, Professor of Molecular Medicine, Kings College London
- Michael G. Hanna Jr, Founder and Chairman Emeritus, Vaccinogen Inc.

Featured Speakers:
- Roy Baynes, Senior Vice President and Head, Global Clinical Development, MSD
- Christina Derleth, Medical Director, Genentech
- Mustafa Diken, Deputy Vice President of Immunotherapies and Preclinical Research, Biontech RNA Pharmaceuticals GmbH
- Andrew Gengos, President & CEO, ImmunoCellular Therapeutics, Ltd.
- John Castle, Senior Director, Computational Biology and Genomics, Agenus
- Campbell Bunce, SVP Scientific Operations, Abzena

Exclusive Highlights in 2016:
- Development of RNA-based vaccines and optimising their efficacy
- The provocative issues of tumour heterogeneity in immunotherapy
- Case Study: Clinical development of TroVax (MVA-5T4) and identification of biomarkers predictive of response
- Omics and big data for cancer vaccines

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PLUS TWO INTERACTIVE HALF-DAY PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS
Tuesday 20th September 2016, Holiday Inn Kensington Forum, London, UK

A: Cancer Vaccines and Combination Therapies
08.30 – 12.30
Workshop Leader:
John Maudsley, Chief Executive Officer, Cancer Vaccines

B: Active Immune Therapy of Cancer – Emerging Strategies
13.30 – 17.30
Workshop Leader:
Farzin Farzaneh, Professor of Molecular Medicine, Kings College London

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08.30 Registration & Coffee

09.00 Chairman’s Opening Remarks
Farzin Farzaneh, Professor of Molecular Medicine, Kings College London

OPENING ADDRESS
09.10 Vaccination induced cellular immunity against cancer antigens
• Survey of the most prominent immune therapy strategies – including therapeutic antibodies, checkpoint blockades, CAR T cells
• Whole cell vaccines – dendritic cells and gene modified cancer cells
• New adjuvants for the induction of cellular immunity
• Combination of high throughput genomics, identification of cancer specific neo-antigens, and new adjuvants for the induction of therapeutic, cancer specific, cellular immunity
Farzin Farzaneh, Professor of Molecular Medicine, Kings College London

09.50 Biomarker strategies for cancer vaccine trials
• Case study: Biomarker strategies for dendritic cell vaccine
• Blood-based Biomarker correlation with tumour response
• Challenges of immune monitoring
Stephanie Traub, Biomarker Development Specialist at the Centre for Drug Development (CDD), Cancer Research UK

10.30 Morning Coffee

11.00 Case Study: Reaching the optimal design for the ICT-107 phase III dendritic cell immunotherapy trial for treating newly diagnosed glioblastoma
• Phase II trial results and immune monitoring insights
• Learnings and improvements identified to optimise Phase III design
• Phase III execution
Andrew Gengos, President & CEO, ImmunoCellular Therapeutics, Ltd.

11.40 Immunotherapy in cancer: Product design and in vitro assessment
• Immunogenicity and Immunotherapy
• Epitope identification and manipulation
• Immune profiling of immunotherapies
Campbell Bunce, SVP Scientific Operations, Abzena

12.20 Networking Lunch

13.30 DCVax®: Novel personalised immune therapies for solid tumours
• DCVax® is a fully personalised precision medicine, tailored to the individual patient and their tumour
• DCVax® mobilizes many active agents of the immune system to hit many targets on the cancer, unlike conventional cancer drugs and some other immune therapies, which generally use a single active agent to hit a single target on the cancer
• Full course of DCVax® doses can be manufactured in a single batch within about a week, and can be stored frozen until needed (including for years).
Linda Powers, CEO, Northwest Biotherapeutics

INNOVATIONS IN VACCINE DEVELOPMENT
14.10 Cancer Vaccines: Addressing logistical issues
• How critical are logistic issues
• How to get your vaccine past phase 3 trials
• Where are the main pitfalls and how to overcome these
Eric Leire, CEO, DanDrift Biotech

14.50 Afternoon Tea

15.20 Targeting Prostate Cancer through peptide based vaccine therapy
• Considerations of cancer heterogeneity and targeting cancer stem cells
• Epitope identification and the need to target MHC class I and II T-cell responses
• The choice of tumour antigens
• Stratifying patients for immunotherapy and the optimising vaccine response
Robert Rees, Professor of Tumour Biology and Director of the John van Geest CRC, Nottingham Trent University

16.00 Development of RNA-based vaccines and optimising their efficacy
• Developing RNA vaccines for cancer (RNA and delivery optimization)
• Individualised vaccines against cancer (IVAC)
• Proof of concept (PoC) and mechanism of action studies in the preclinical setting
• Clinical trial development
Mustafa Diken, Deputy Vice President of ImmunoTherapies and Preclinical Research, Biontech RNA Pharmaceuticals GmbH

16.40 Epitope identification and clinical immune monitoring in immune oncology programmes: considerations and opportunities to ensure success
• Case studies detailing: Tandem mass spectrometry for T cell epitope identification
• Practical learnings from the use of MHC multimers and ELISPOT in clinical immune monitoring
• Checkpoint blockade immune characterisation assays
Jeremy Fry, Director of Sales, ProImmun Limited

17.20 Chairman’s Closing Remarks and Close of Day One
Farzin Farzaneh, Professor of Molecular Medicine, Kings College London

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Abzena offers a suite of complementary services and technologies. Its range of technologies include immunogenicity assessment, antibody drug conjugation, protein engineering, PEGylation, cell line development, GMP manufacturing and a range of bespoke services to enable the development of better biopharmaceuticals which will have a greater chance of reaching the market. [www.abzena.com](http://www.abzena.com)

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08.30 Registration & Coffee

09.00 Chairman’s Opening Remarks
Michael G. Hanna Jr, Founder and Chairman Emeritus, Vaccinogen Inc.

OPENING ADDRESS
The provocative issues of tumour heterogeneity in immunotherapy
- The biological limitations and reasons for failure of targeted therapeutic approaches for cancer treatment
- You cannot treat a heterogeneous disease with a homogeneous treatment
- The “inside out” approach versus the “outside in” approach to immunotherapy
- The greater benefit of treatment or prevention of occult disease in immuno-oncology
Michael G. Hanna Jr, Founder and Chairman Emeritus, Vaccinogen Inc.

09.50 The impact of the HPV vaccine in Scotland - a changing landscape
- Uptake of HPV vaccine approximates 90% for all doses in young Scottish women
- Vaccine associated with significant reductions in HPV 16, 18 and other oncogenic types
- Vaccine associated with significant reductions in all grades of cervical intraepithelial neoplasia
- Herd protection vs HPV 16 and 18 in those who are unimmunised
Kevin Pollock, Senior Epidemiologist, Vaccine Preventable Diseases, NHS/ Health Protection Scotland

10.30 Morning Coffee

11.00 Omics and big data for cancer vaccines
- Immune checkpoint modulators show durable responses in cancer patients
- Omics platforms enable identification of exploitable vaccine targets
- Omics platforms enable identification of patients likely to benefit
- Next step is to combine checkpoint modulators with patient-specific vaccines for patient-optimised treatment
John Castle, Senior Director, Computational Biology and Genomics, Agenus

11.40 PD-1 Blockade: A broad spectrum anticancer therapeutic
- Update the development of Pembrolizumab monotherapy across tumour types
- Precision medicine as a key component of optimised immune-oncology therapy
- Development of strategies to address primary resistance and treatment failure
Ray Boyes, Senior Vice President and Head, Global Clinical Development, MSD

12.20 Networking Lunch

13.30 Irrigating the immune desert: Historical perspective and path forward in GU malignancies
- GU Malignancies have become an ideal platform for cancer immunotherapy development
- A minority of patients respond to monotherapy checkpoint inhibition
- Gene expression profiling of responders and non-responders identifies potential resistance mechanisms
- Personalising immunotherapy is necessary to optimise selection of combination therapy to improve response rates and salvage disease progression
Christina Betti, Medical Director, Genentech

14.10 Case Study: Clinical development of TroVax (MVA-ST4) and identification of biomarkers predictive of response
- Cancer vaccines are believed to have a delayed therapeutic effect, therefore an early marker of efficacy would be valuable
- Few immunotherapy compounds have demonstrated a clear link between the predicted mode of action of the product and clinical benefit
- Data from a phase III trial of TroVax in renal cancer patients has enabled a detailed investigation of early predictors of treatment benefit and demonstrated that antibodies, induced by vaccination, against the tumour antigen ST4 correlated strongly with enhanced patient survival
- We describe the development of a simple biomarker using pre-treatment factors which are readily measured in patients. The biomarker showed a significant correlation with the magnitude of the induced ST4 antibody response and enhanced survival
Richard Harrop, Head of Clinical Analysis, Oxford BioMedica

14.50 Afternoon Tea

15.20 Development and optimisation of self-adjuvanting protein vaccines
- Strengths and weaknesses of protein vaccines
- Cell penetrating peptides to enhance antigen delivery
- TLR peptide agonist as new class of adjuvant
- Epitopes derived from IDO- or PD-L1 are exciting
Richard Harrop, Head of Clinical Analysis, Oxford BioMedica

16.00 Activation of anti-regulatory T cells: A novel immuno-oncology approach
- It was remarkable to discover T cells that apparently lacked tolerance to important self-proteins, e.g. IDO, PD-L1 and FoxP3, expressed in regulatory immune cells
- We recently described that these naturally-occurring specific T cells recognize both regulatory immune cells as well as malignant cells
- The ability of self-reactive T cells to react to and eliminate regulatory immune cells can influence general immune reactions
- Epitopes derived from IDO- or PD-L1 are exciting cancer vaccine targets
- It was recently suggested to term these T cells self-reactive T cells (anti-regs)
Mads Hald Andersen, Vice-director, Center for Cancer Immune Therapy (CCIT) & Co-Founder, RhoVac and IO Biotech

16.40 IVAC® MUTANOME – A first-in-human phase I clinical trial targeting individual mutant neoantigens for the treatment of melanoma
- Individualised vaccines against cancer (IVAC®)
- Harnessing mutation-derived neoantigens for the manufacture of RNA-based vaccines for malignant melanoma
- First-in-human clinical trial
- Clinical development of IVAC® MUTANOME
Matthias Miller, Project Manager, BioNTech AG

17.20 Chairman’s Closing Remarks and Close of Day Two
Michael G. Hanna Jr, Founder and Chairman Emeritus, Vaccinogen Inc.
Overview of Workshop:
Cancer vaccines have the potential to cure cancer without the unpleasant side effects of other therapies. Ideally therefore cancer vaccines work without other treatments, but can they be more effective if combined with other vaccines, or with adjuvants, PKIs or CPIs? An overview of potential synergies with other treatments will be given. Ways to maximise the efficacy of cancer vaccines without combination with other therapies will also be addressed. It will provide the opportunity for discussion and the potential to explore synergies with fellow participants.

Programme:

09.00  Registration and Coffee

09.15  Overview of cancer therapy and the immune system

09.30  Role of cancer vaccines: potential efficacy and safety

10.00  Potential advantages and disadvantages of combination therapies with cancer vaccines
   • Potential benefits of combining with a second cancer vaccine
   • Potential benefits and risks of combination with adjuvants, PKIs, CPIs, others

10.45  Coffee Break

11.00  How to maximise vaccine efficacy without combination with other therapies

11.30  Drawbacks and disadvantages of combining therapies

11.45  Discussion and Opportunities for collaboration with other cancer vaccine developers

12.30  Close of workshop

About the Workshop Leader:
John Maudsley, Chief Executive Officer, Cancer Vaccines
John Maudsley has a background in cellular Immunology having done his PhD with Avrion Mitchison FRS and Sir Marc Feldmann at the Imperial Cancer Research Fund Tumour Immunology Unit at University College London. He was a senior research fellow at the University of Warwick and the founding Chairman of the British Society’s West Midland Immunology Group. In 1999 he founded Cancer Vaccines Ltd to develop cell based allogeneic immunotherapies for treating cancer. He is responsible for the company’s scientific and technological direction. Cancer Vaccines has made considerable progress in developing cell based immunotherapies and is currently in the early stages of a clinical trials programme. John Maudsley is also involved in a company developing technology to protect and immunise people against airborne infections with particular potential in the event of a pandemic.

About the Organisation:
Cancer Vaccines is developing allogeneic-cell-based immunotherapies for treating cancer. Current development focuses on pancreatic cancer however the technology platform holds potential across the full range of cancer types, both solid tumours and leukaemias. Pre-clinical studies suggest that cell based vaccines are safe and show greater efficacy than other forms of vaccine. Furthermore allogeneic vaccines have the potential for greater efficacy than syngeneic or autologous vaccines. Hence it is thought that these vaccines will show clinical benefit.
Overview of Workshop:
After years of preclinical efforts and numerous clinical studies, therapeutic cancer vaccines remain elusive. This workshop explores the application for the induction of cellular immunity including chimeric antigen receptors (CARs) therapy. Artificial T cell receptors are under investigation as a promising therapy for cancer, we explore this utilisation of this therapy in combination with active vaccination.

The workshop also looks at the new class of tumour-specific antigens, these “neoantigens”. Although challenges remain in producing and testing neoantigen-based vaccines, a neoantigen vaccine offers a promising new approach at eradicating cancer cells.

Programme:
13.30  Registration and Coffee
14.00  Session 1 Strategies for the induction of cellular immunity
    a.  Adaptive cellular therapies, including CARs and “armoured” CART cells
    b.  Active vaccination
    c.  Antibody based induction of cellular immune responses
15.00  Session 2 Identification of Immunogenic Cancer Targets
    a.  Classical differentiation antigens, oncogenes, etc.
    b.  Cancer and patient specific neo-antigen mutations
    c.  Antibody based inhibition of negative immune regulators
16.00  Afternoon Tea
16.30  Session 3 Therapeutic implications of the emerging immune oncology knowledge
    a.  Synthetic personalised neo-antigen vaccination strategies
    b.  In vitro expansion of cancer specific T cells, including “armoured” gene specific cytolytic cells
    c.  Conversion of cancer specific immune inhibitors into cancer specific immune activators
    d.  Other new immune therapy strategies
17.00  Closing remarks
17.30  Close of Workshop

About the Workshop Leader:
Fazin Farzaneh, Chair of Molecular Medicine,
King’s College London
Fazin studied at the universities of Aberdeen and Sussex, followed by a number of fellowships (Beit, EMBO and MRC), in UK and the Netherlands. He joined King’s College London as a lecturer in Molecular Genetics in 1985, founded the Molecular Genetics Unit in 1986 and was appointed the founding Head of the Department of Molecular Genetics in 1993. Fazin has published over 200 scientific papers and two edited books on the Functional Analysis of the Genome and Cancer Gene Therapy. He is a Qualified Person (QP – for cell and gene therapy based investigational medicinal products) and has, since 2001 been the director of a GMP facility at King’s, manufacturing products for clinical studies in regenerative medicine and immune therapy of cancer. He leads an active research group with a current funding of over £2M per annum from Leukaemia Lymphoma Research (now Bloodwise), CRUK, National Institute for Health Research, UK Research Councils, as well as the biotech and pharmaceutical industry.

About the Organisation:
King’s College London is a public research university located in London, United Kingdom, and a constituent college of the federal University of London. King’s was founded in 1829 by King George IV and the Duke of Wellington and received its royal charter in the same year. King’s is known for its noted alumni and staff, including 12 Nobel laureates amongst its alumni and current and former faculty. King’s alumni and academics have contributed to a number of important discoveries and advances in many fields, including the discovery of DNA structure, Hepatitis C.
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