



Overcoming PD-1/L1 Resistance: Translational Insights with Plinabulin

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Mechanism of Acquired Resistance to Immune Checkpoint Inhibitors (ICI)



Immune Checkpoint Inhibitors (ICIs, PD-1/L1 Inhibitors) Have Transformed Cancer Care

- Approved in 20+ cancer types
- Have redefined first-line treatment in NSCLC and other solid tumors

“Acquired Resistance” to ICI

- >60% patients develop “**acquired resistance**” due to **T cell exhaustion and/or antigen presenting cell (APC) pathway alterations**.¹
- After progression, ICIs are no longer recommended alone owing to limited efficacy

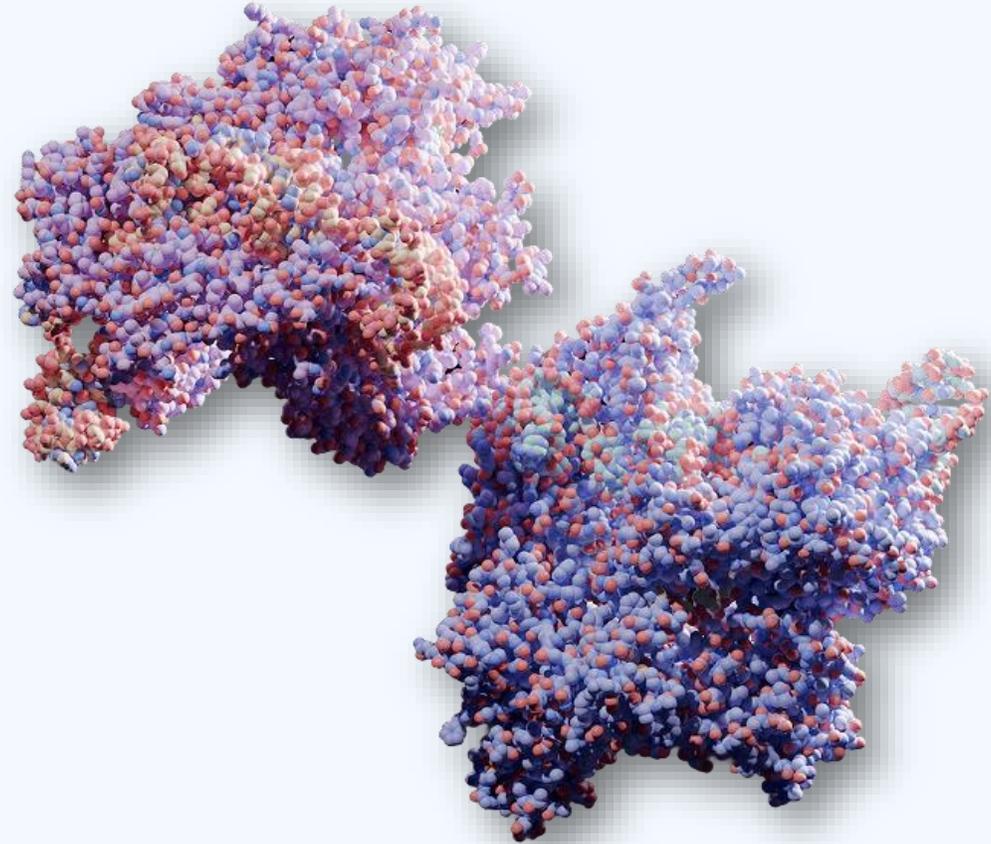
Urgent Opportunity

- Current options include chemotherapy, which is associated with severe neutropenia
- Significant clinical and commercial opportunity

1. Memon et al. Cancer Cell 42, 209–224 (2024).



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Plinabulin: Unique Dual Mechanism with Immune and Safety Benefits

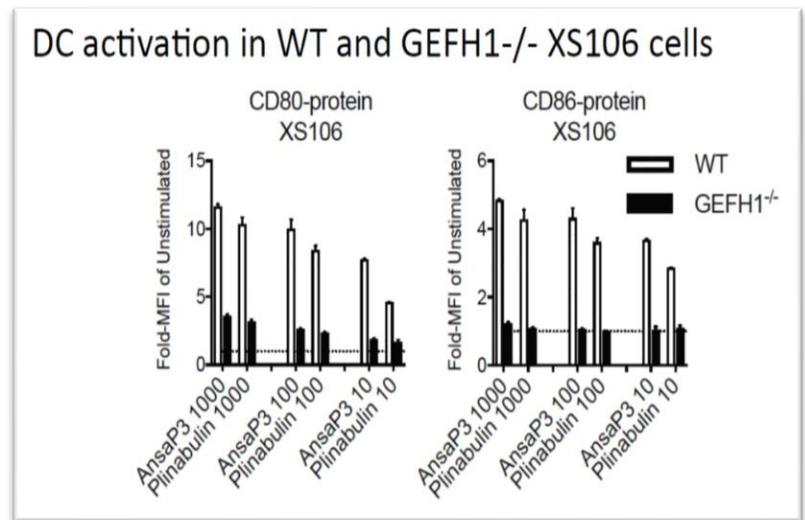
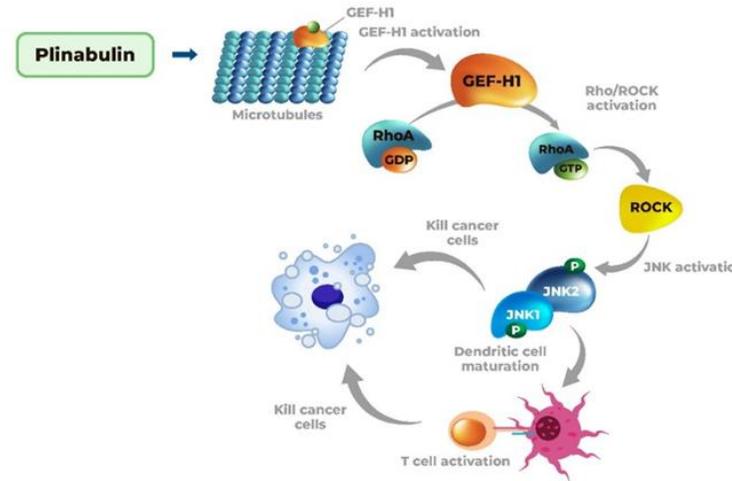
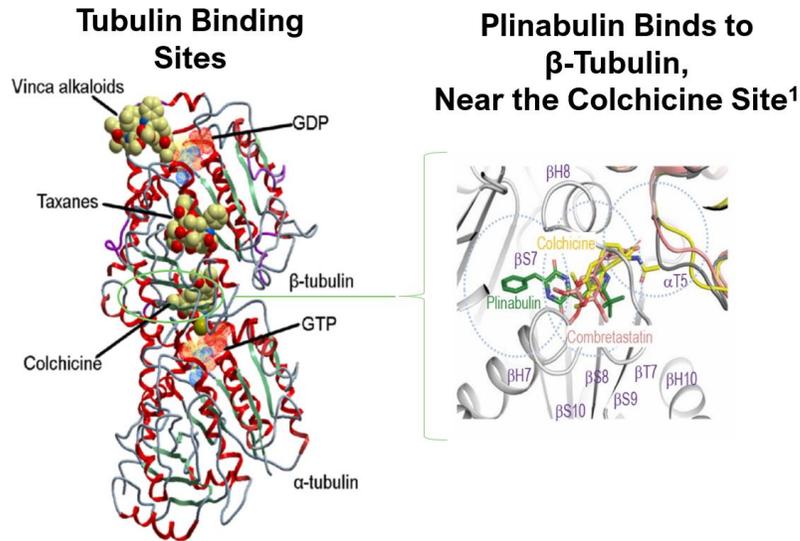
- **Reversible tubulin binder** – distinct from taxanes, vincas, or colchicine; does not disrupt microtubule dynamics
- **Immune modulation** – induces **dendritic cell maturation** and primes T cells by activating GEF-H1
- **Neutropenia mitigation** – reduces chemotherapy-induced neutropenia by stimulating GMP progenitor cells

Plinabulin Monohydrate is a Brain-Penetrant, Unique Tubulin Depolymerizing Agent which induces “Dendritic Cell or DC Maturation via GEF-H1 release”

Plinabulin Monohydrate is a unique tubulin binder¹

Plinabulin release GEF-H1 from microtubule, activates RhoA/ROCK pathway, leading to DC Maturation^{2,3}

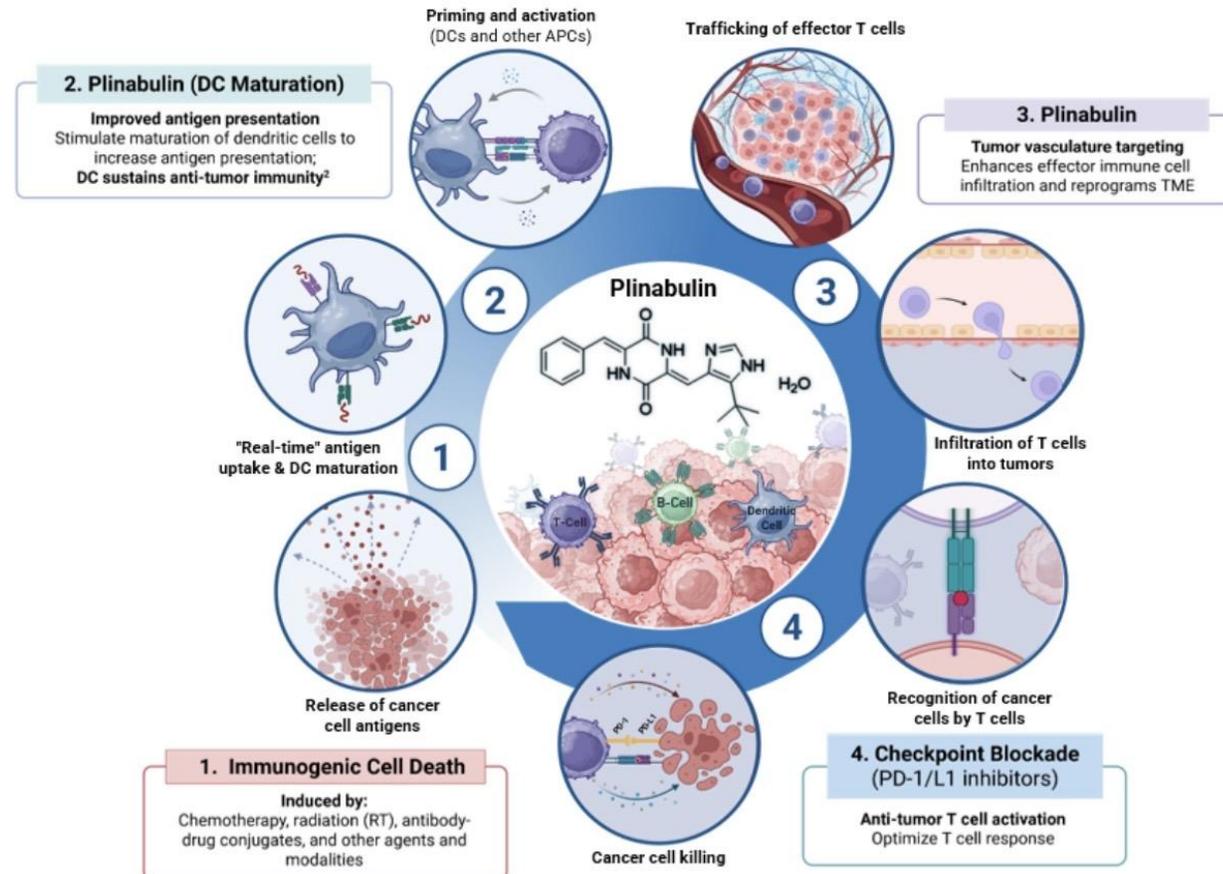
In WT DC cells, plinabulin can induce DC maturation, but not in GEF-H1 deleted DC cells²



1. La Sala et al., Chem 5(11): 2969-2986 (2019); 2. Kashyap et al., Cell Reports 28(13): 3367-3380 (2019); 3. Choi et al. Cell 189 (2): 461-477 (2026)

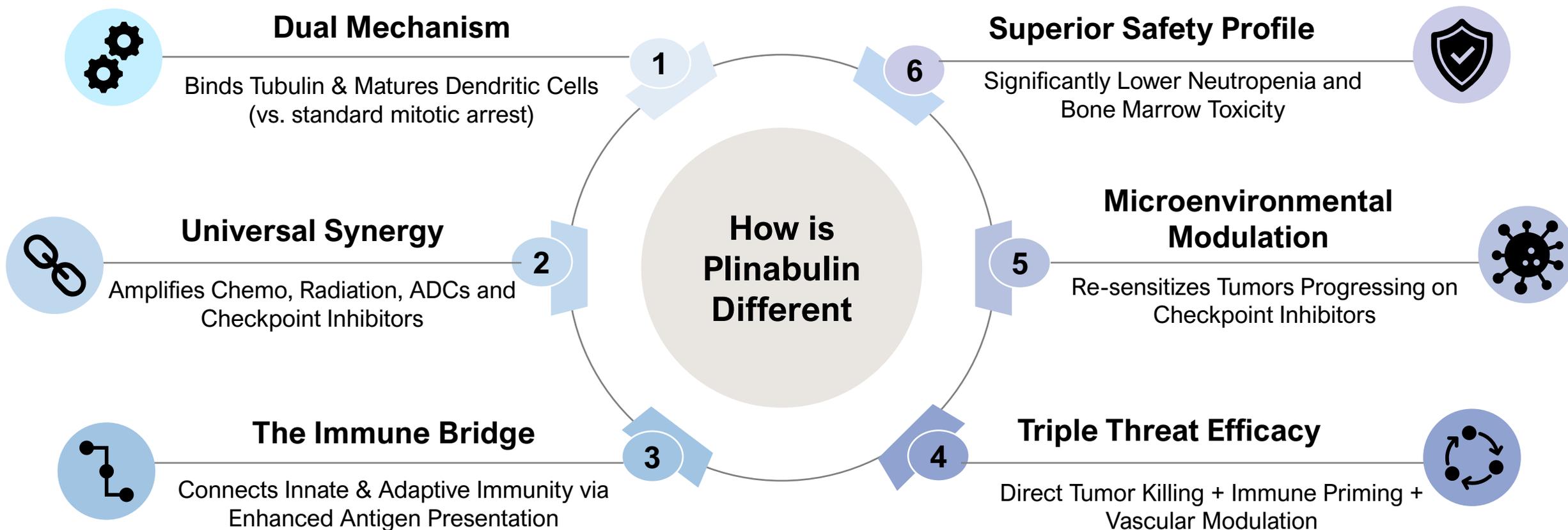
Plinabulin's DC Maturation MoA has the Potential to Mitigate Acquired Resistance to PD-1/L1 Inhibitors

- **Plinabulin MoA DC maturation:** Dendritic cells (DCs) are the most potent antigen-presenting cells and can prime T cell function to strengthening the cancer-immunity cycle.
- **Synergistic anti-cancer benefit** by combining with chemo, ADC, or radiation to take advantage of the real-time tumor antigen from these agents.



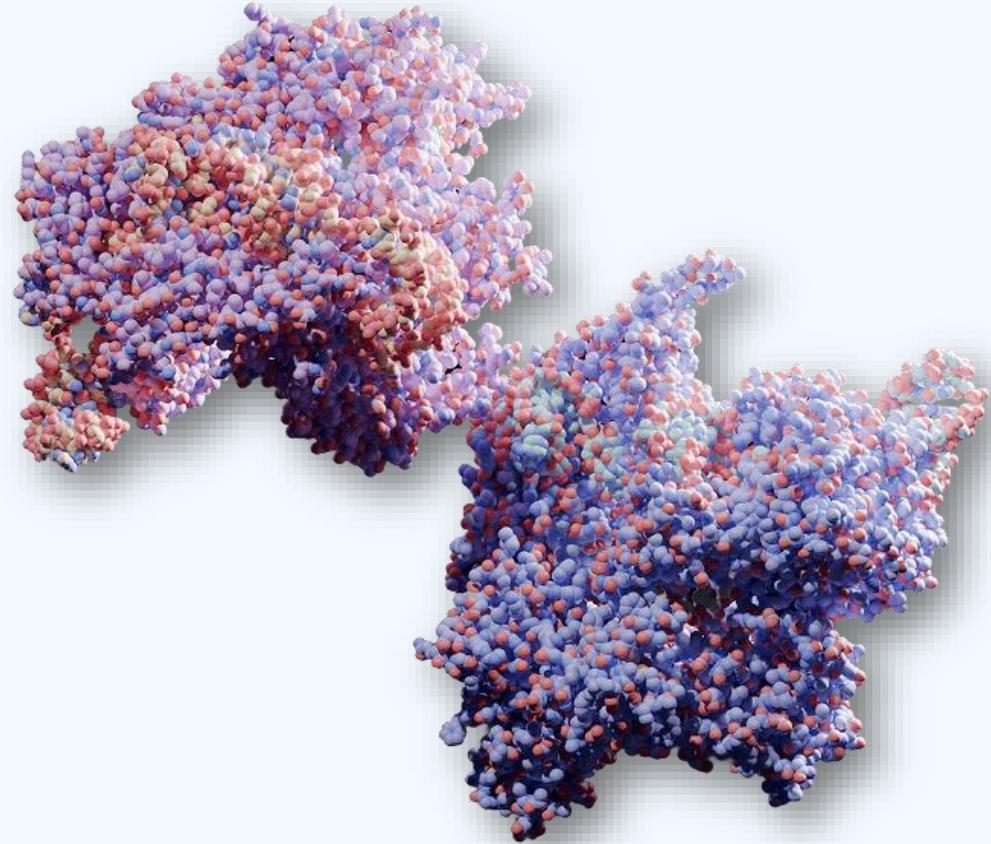
Plinabulin Differentiated Profile

Mechanism Supported | Clinically Validated | Favorable Safety | Scalable Opportunity





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Post-ICI NSCLC: A Large, Growing and Unmet Clinical Challenge

- Limited treatment options after PD-1/L1 inhibitor progression
- Chemotherapy remains the main option, with poor outcome and high toxicity
- Urgent need for differentiated therapy with immune re-sensitization

Docetaxel Remains a Global Standard of Care (SOC) in Post-ICI NSCLC, EGFR WT, Despite Limited Benefit and Substantial Toxicity

Current Standard of Care

Docetaxel Overview

- Approved >25 years ago
- Remains the NCCN-recommended standard of care for 2L/3L NSCLC with no targetable alterations
- Used after progression on anti-PD-(L)1 antibody ± chemotherapy
- Used in real world practice across U.S., EU, Japan, and China

Limitations

- Median OS: ~9-11 months
- 40% experience severe neutropenia

Industry-wide Phase 3 Trials Summary

11 Phase 3 Studies: no OS Benefit vs. Docetaxel

- **7 global trials** including ADCs and anti-PD-(L)1 combos did not improve OS vs. docetaxel ¹
- **#8 global trial** PRAGMATICA-LUNG (SWOG S2302) — ASCO 2025 ²
 - N=838, randomized 1:1, Ramucirumab + pembrolizumab (mOS 10.1 Mo) vs. SOC (mOS 9.3 Mo), HR 0.99, p=0.46
- **#9 global trial** COSTAR (GSK) – 07/2025
 - N=758, TIM-3 + PD-1 + docetaxel vs. PD-1 + docetaxel vs. docetaxel. Triple combo & combo did not improve OS vs. docetaxel
- **#10 global trial** LATIFY (AZ) – 12/2025
 - N=594, Durvalumab + Ceralasertib (ATR inhibitor) did not improve OS vs. docetaxel.
- **#11 trial ended** **ABBIL1TY** (Genmab) – 12/2025
 - N=702, Acasunlimab (PD-L1x4-1BB) + Pembro vs Doc

1. Malinou J et al., ASCO 2024; 2. Dragnev KH et al. ASCO 2025

Dublin-3: “Plinabulin and Docetaxel” vs. Docetaxel in a Global Phase 3 Study with Stage IIIb/IV NSCLC EGFR WT Patients

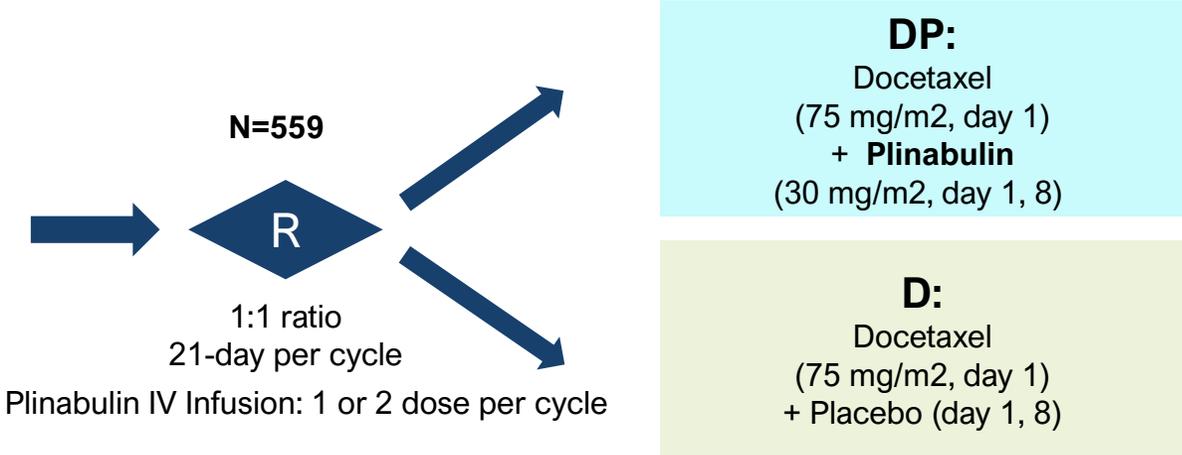
Docetaxel + Plinabulin vs. Docetaxel + Placebo in Patients with EGFR Wild-Type NSCLC

Study Plan
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global, randomized, single-blinded (to patients) Stratified by region (Asia/non-Asia), prior line (2L or 3L), ECOG (0-1/2), Prior PD-1/PD-L1 (yes/no)

Primary endpoint
<p>Overall survival (OS)</p>

Secondary endpoints
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ORR, PFS Percent of patients without severe neutropenia (Day 8, cycle 1) Month 24 and 36 OS rate DoR Q-TWiST; QoL Proportion of patients who received docetaxel >8 cycles, >10 cycles and >12 cycles

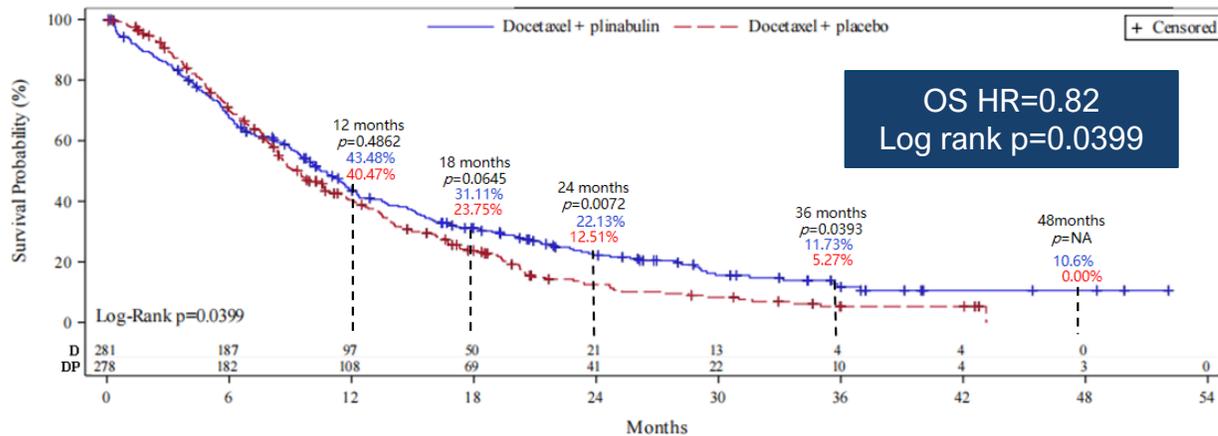
Inclusion Criteria:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-squamous or squamous NSCLC Stage IIIb/IV ECOG ≤ 2 Progression during or after treatment with one or two treatment regimens containing a platinum Must have at least one measurable lung lesion Prior checkpoint inhibitor therapy allowed



Publication: Lancet Respir Med 12(10): 775-786 (2024)

Plinabulin + Docetaxel vs. Docetaxel (n=559) Met its Primary Endpoint of OS and Secondary Endpoints of PFS, ORR, and Grade 4 Neutropenia Reduction

Plinabulin and Docetaxel Showed Significant Improvement in Long-term OS Rate - Double 2-year, 3-year OS Rate



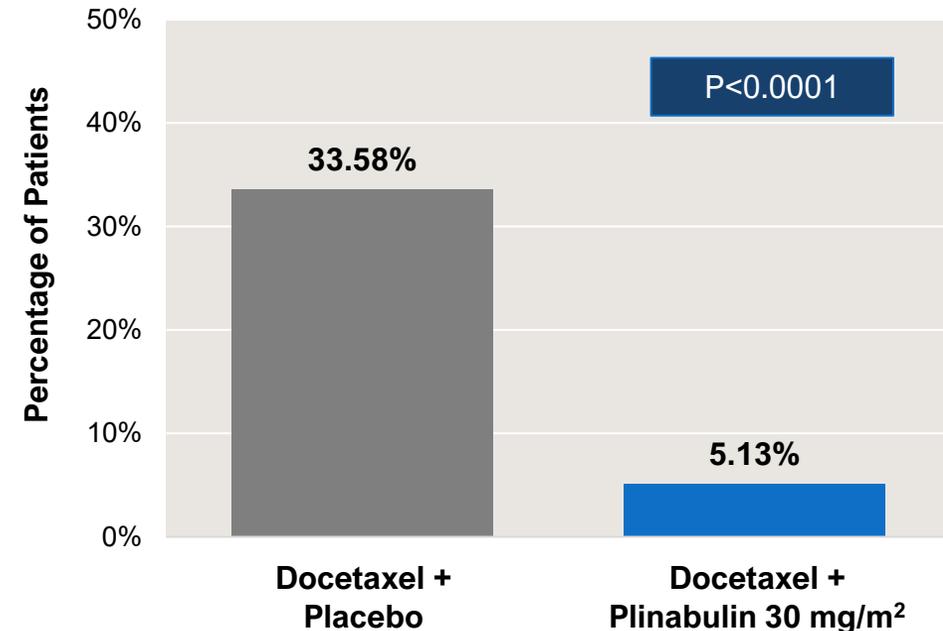
Treatment	Subjects	Event	Censored	Median (95% CI)	HR (95% CI)
Docetaxel + placebo	281	230 (81.9%)	51 (18.1%)	9.40 (8.38, 10.68)	
Docetaxel + plinabulin	278	214 (77.0%)	64 (23.0%)	10.49 (9.34, 11.87)	0.822(0.681, 0.991)

	Mean OS (SE)	Median OS (95% CI)	HR
Docetaxel	12.77 (0.676)	9.4 (8.4, 10.7)	
Plinabulin + Docetaxel	15.05 (0.848)	10.5 (9.3, 11.9)	0.82 (0.68, 0.99)

Publication: Lancet Respir Med 12(10): 775-786 (2024)

Plinabulin Significantly Reduced Grade 4 neutropenia of Docetaxel

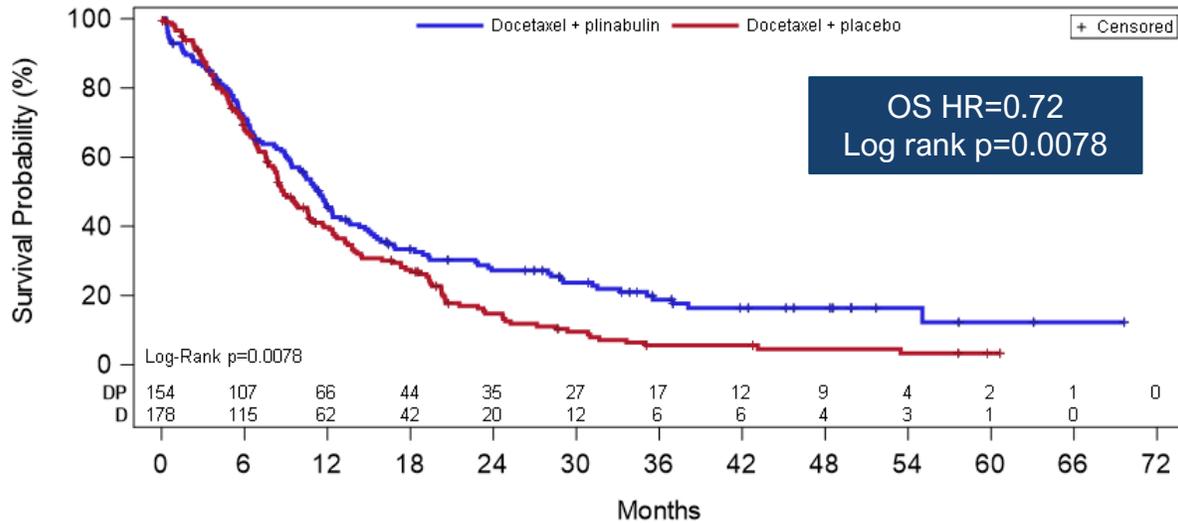
Grade 4 neutropenia, All Cycles Day 8



Similar results for Grade 4 neutropenia on Cycle 1 Day 8
- Day 8 is ANC Nadir for Docetaxel

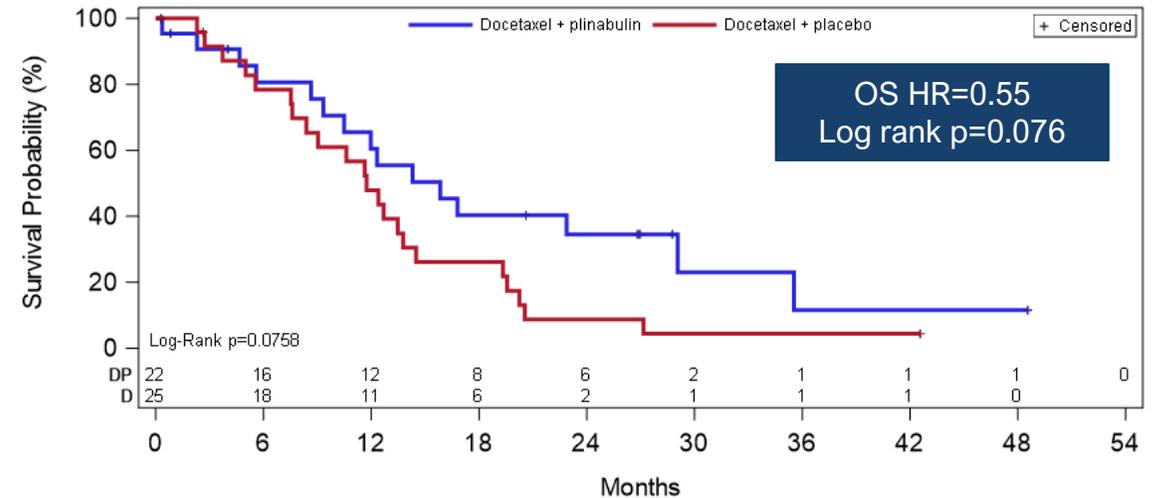
Dublin-3: Post-hoc Analysis in Plinabulin Mechanism-Based Population in 2L/3L Non-squamous EGFR WT NSCLC, Progressed on PD-1/L1 Inhibitors

Non-squamous
 mOS extension of 2.5 months
 (DP 11.4 vs. D 8.8 months, HR 0.72)



Non-squamous	N	Median OS (95% CI)	HR	Log rank P value
Docetaxel	178	8.81 (7.73, 10.65)		
Plinabulin + Docetaxel	154	11.37 (9.37, 12.95)	0.72 (0.57, 0.92)	P = 0.0078

Non-squamous, Progressed on ICI
 mOS extension of 4.1 months
 (DP 15.8 vs. D 11.7 months, HR 0.55)



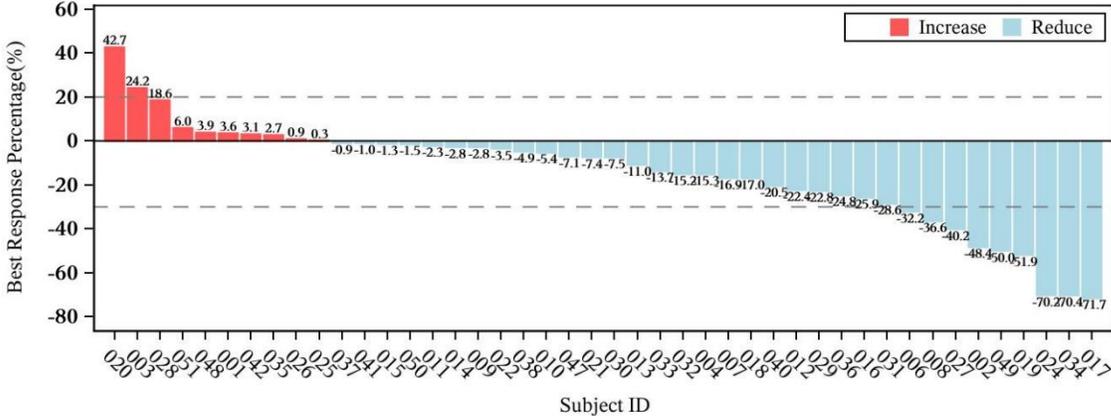
Non-squamous, post-ICI	N	Median OS (95% CI)	HR	Log rank P value
Docetaxel	25	11.7 (7.59, 13.77)		
Plinabulin + Docetaxel	22	15.8 (9.34, 29.06)	0.55 (0.28, 1.07)	P = 0.076

Publication: Lancet Respir Med 12(10): 775-786 (2024); NACLC 2025

Study 303 (Plinabulin + Docetaxel + PD-1) in 2L/3L Metastatic NSCLC, Immediately Progressed on PD-1/L1 Inhibitors – Phase 2 IIT Study with Merck

Primary Endpoint (n=47)	
Confirmed ORR (RECIST 1.1)	18.2%
Secondary Endpoint	
Median PFS (RECIST 1.1)	7.0 months
Median OS	16 months+, Not reached
Median DoR (RECIST 1.1)	7.2 months
Disease Control Rate (DCR)	85.1%
12 months OS%	79%
24 months OS%	66%

Best Change (%) in Target Lesions



Presentation at SITC 2025:

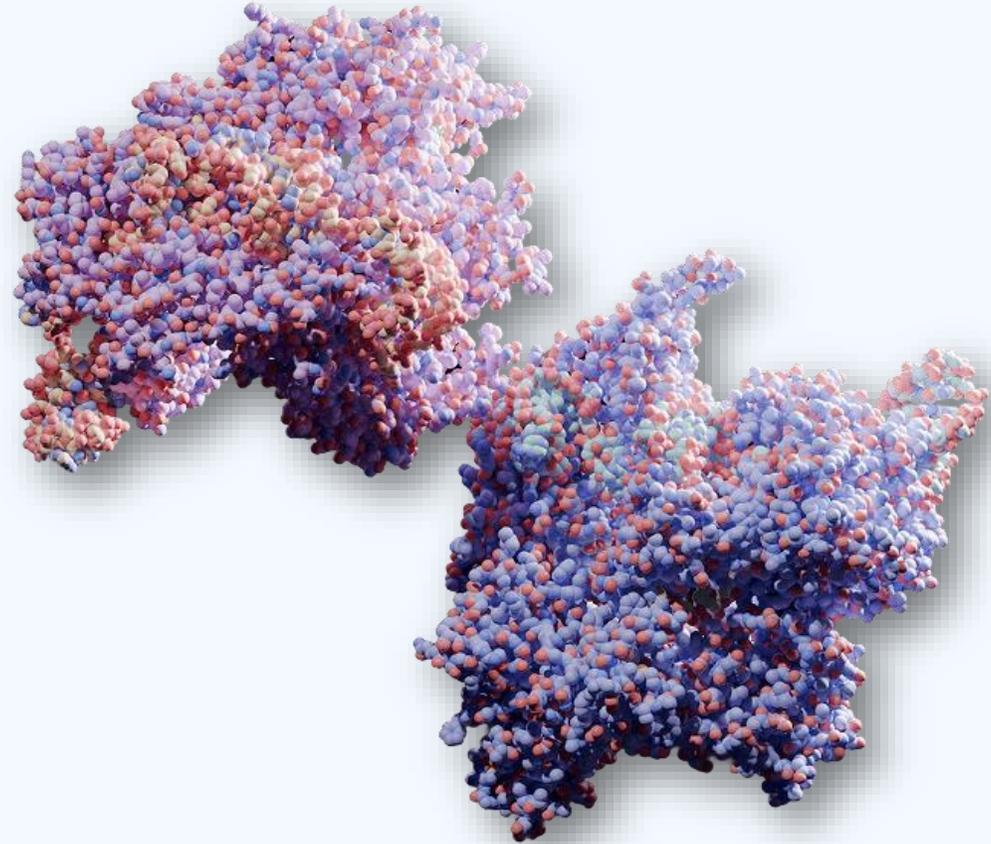
- Median follow-up at data cutoff (30 September 2025) was 14.3 months.
- Median age was 67 (44-83); 80.9% male and 19.1% female. 72.3% were current or former smokers.
- Histology included 63.8% with non-squamous cell carcinoma, 36.2% with squamous cell carcinoma.

Plinabulin + Docetaxel: Addressing Unmet Needs in 2L/3L NSCLC, EGFR WT, After Prior PD-1/L1 Failure with Positive Benefit/Risk Ratio

Severity of Unmet Need	Current SOC - Docetaxel	Potential Solution - Plinabulin + Docetaxel
	Lack of durable response post-immunotherapy	Strong immune re-priming, durable OS benefit
	Immune exhaustion, “cold” tumors	Converts tumors to “hot”
	Limited efficacy with Docetaxel	More cycles and more dose of docetaxel; Improved OS, PFS, and ORR
	High chemo-induced neutropenia	Reduces Grade 4 neutropenia
	EGFR wild-type population underserved	Target EGFR and other wild-type patients



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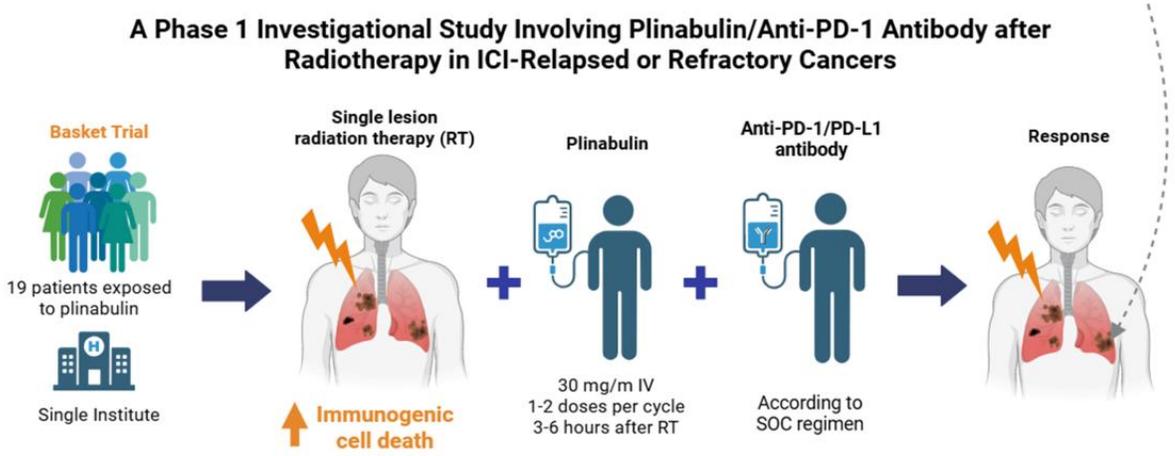
Translational Biomarker: DC maturation in Responding Patients in Multiple Cancers who Failed ICI

- Collaboration with MD Anderson
- Publication: Lin et al., Med 6(10):100752 (2025)

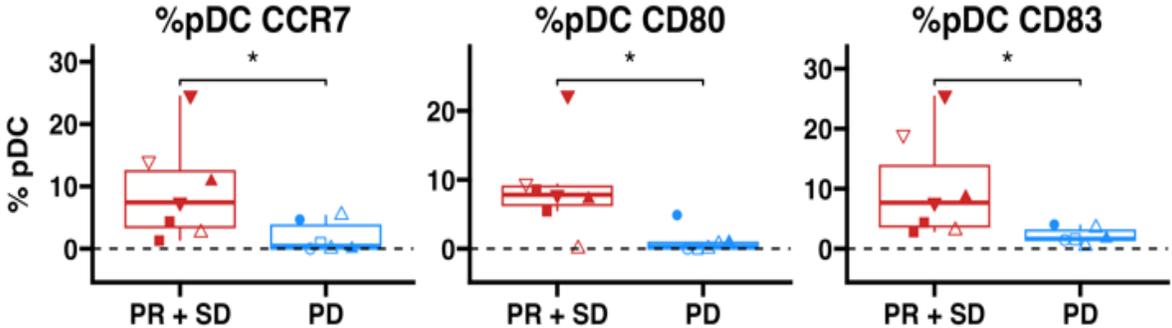
Plinabulin-Responding Patients Show Early Immune Activation Evidenced by Rapid DC Maturation in the Peripheral Blood

CCR7, CD80 and CD83 are rapidly upregulated at cycle 1 Day 4 in responding (PR + SD) patients¹

A Phase 1 Investigational Study Involving Plinabulin/Anti-PD-1 Antibody after Radiotherapy in ICI-Relapsed or Refractory Cancers

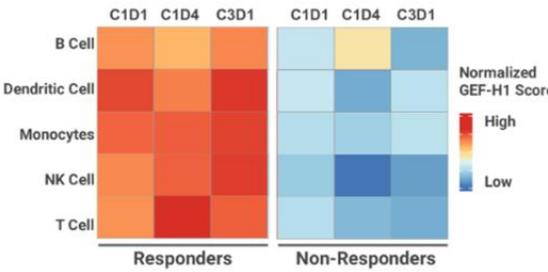


Dendritic Cell Maturation & Migration



Safety
Tolerance

Disease control rate
54%



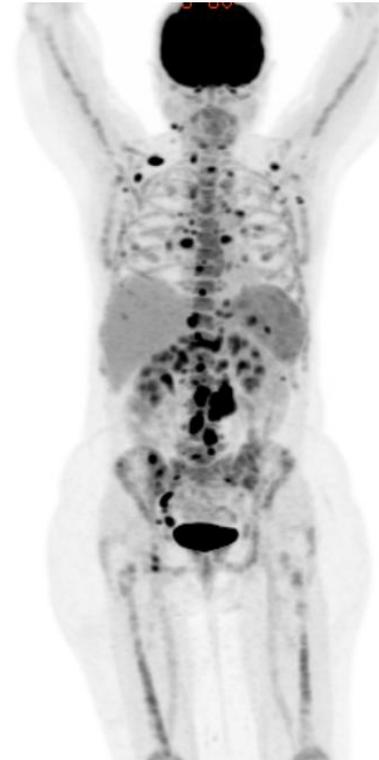
- ▽ Fibrolamellar HCC
- Melanoma
- MSI-H CRC
- △ RCC
- Hodgkin lymphoma
- Merkel Cell Carcinoma
- ▽ NSCLC
- ▲ SCCHN

- PD
 - PR + SD
1. Lin et al., Med 6(10):100752 (2025)

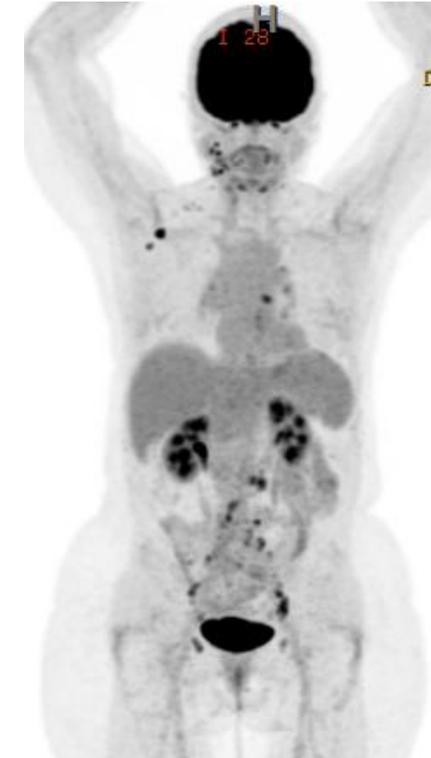
Clinically Meaningful Responses in the Non-Irradiated Tumor in Hogkins Lymphoma, with Prolonged Duration of Response

Patient #2: 59yoF relapsed refractory cHL diagnosed 2005. Prior treatments (**16 prior lines**) including ABVD x 8, ICE x 3, **autoSCT** with Bu/Mel, brentuximab, sirolimus and vorinostat, **nivolumab**, Revlimid, bendamustine, Ibrutinib, ADCT 301, CD30 CAR-T, HMPL-523, gemcitabine

- Plinabulin/Nivolumab C1D1 2/2023 - C14 3/2024, RT 20Gy in 5 fractions to LT axilla (2/2023)
- Best response PR/irPR
- EOS 3/2024: Treatment discontinued by pt choice
- Progressive disease 9/2024
- **Duration of response 19 months**

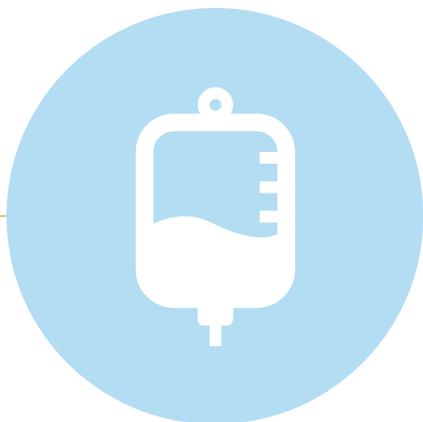


Pre-treatment
PET



PR/irPR with
plinabulin/RT/nivo

First-in-Class Agent Plinabulin: Potentially Transforming Oncology Treatment with Novel Mechanisms and Clinically Meaningful Benefits in ICI-Progressed Patients in NSCLC and Beyond



SIMPLE

Easy to use

Day 1 or Day 1+ 8 use in a cycle, intravenous infusion of 30-60 minutes



SAFE

Safety Benefit

Reduce AEs including chemotherapy-induced neutropenia



DURABLE

Clinical Benefit

Overall survival and durable response

thank you!

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