

16^{ème} Congrès National AILA
9, 10 Octobre 2025 - Hôtel El Aurassi - Alger

Complications cardiovasculaires de l'immunothérapie

S. OUABDESSELAM - S. BENKHEDDA



Introduction

- Les immunothérapies (inhibiteurs des points de contrôle immunitaires) ont révolutionné le traitement du cancer.
- Progrès thérapeutiques significatifs, mais effets secondaires notables, y compris **cardiovasculaires**.
- Effets secondaires d'ordre auto-immuns.
- Rareté relative des effets secondaires mais **gravité** potentielle.
- Impact sur la **poursuite** du traitement.

Les traitements du cancer

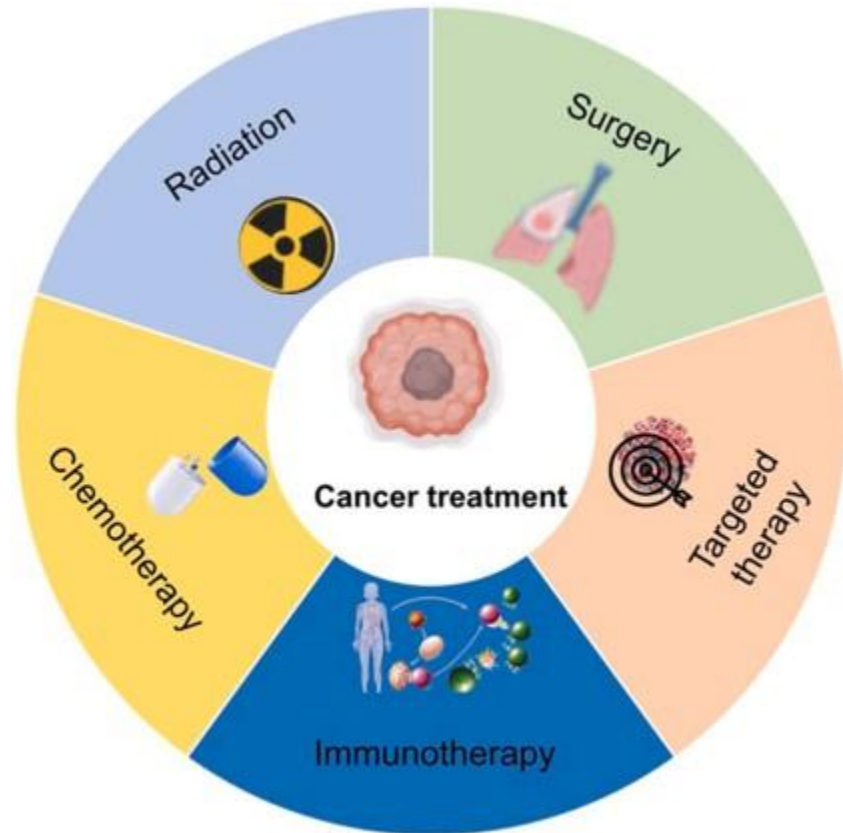
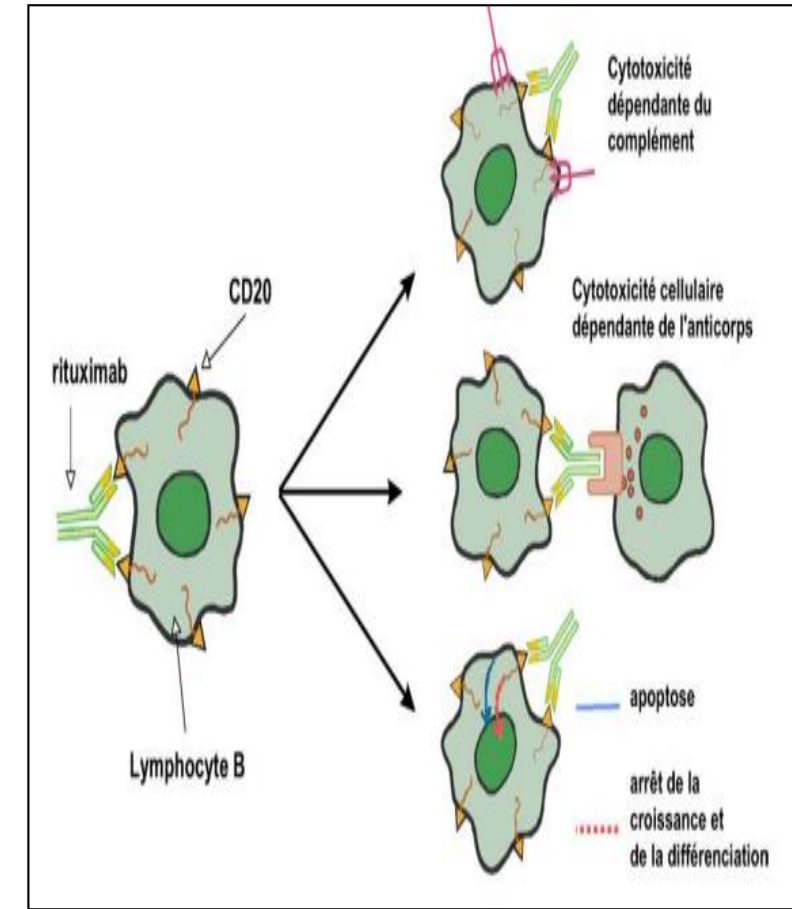
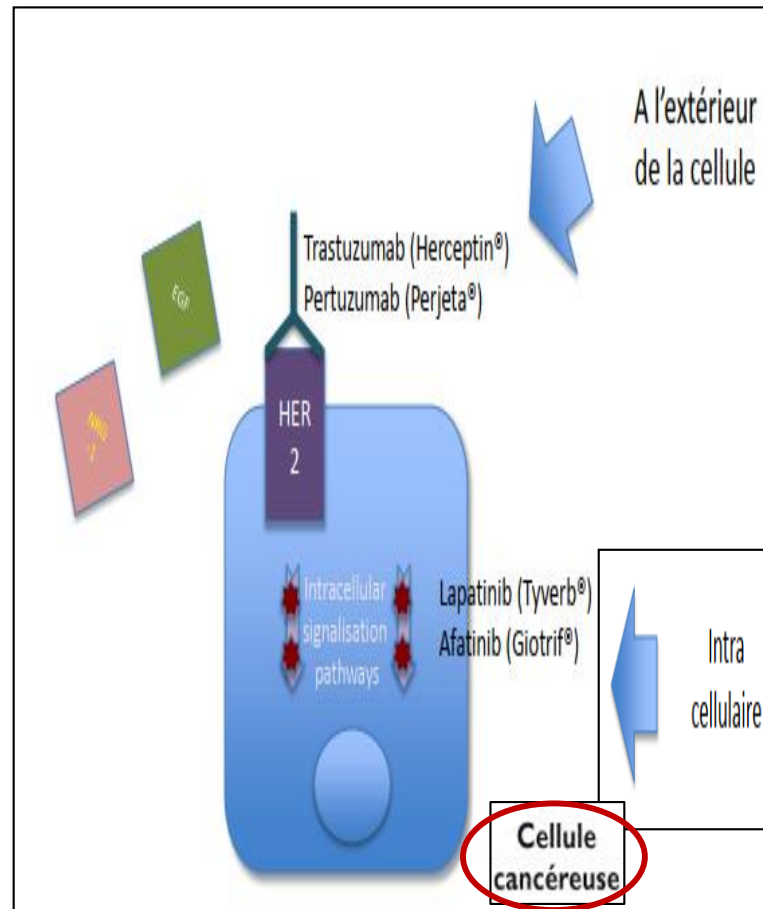
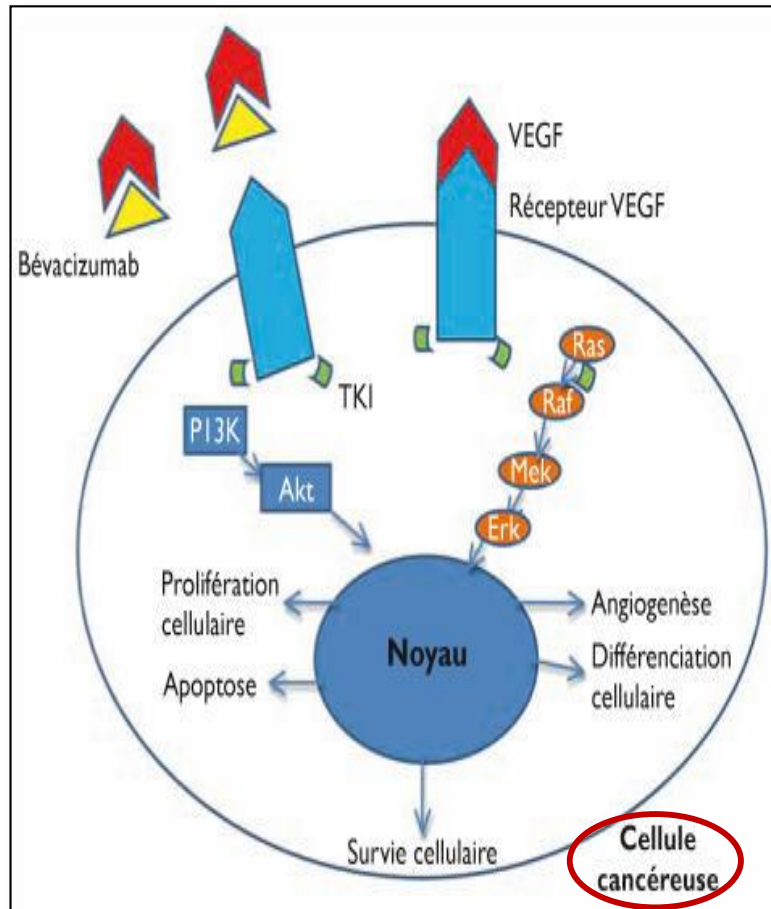


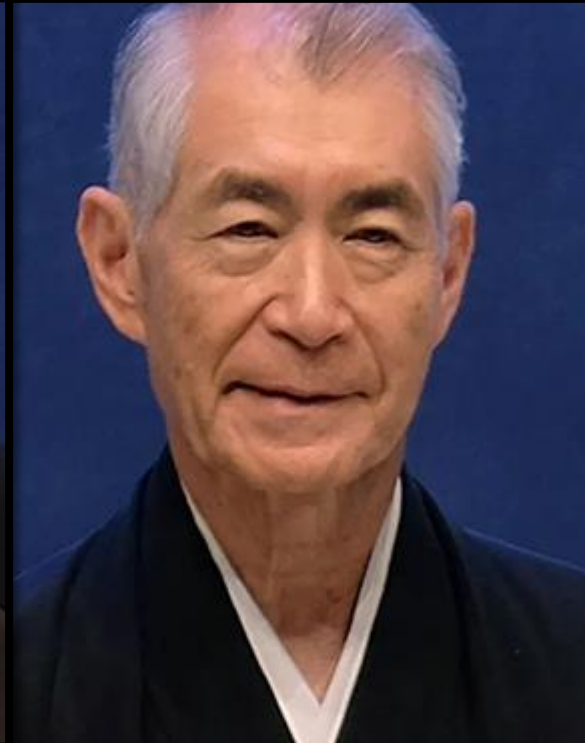
Table I Incidence of left ventricular dysfunction associated with chemotherapy drugs^{10–21}

Chemotherapy agents	Incidence (%)
Monoclonal antibodies	
Trastuzumab	1.7–20.1 ^{28a}
Bevacizumab	1.6–4 ^{14b}
Pertuzumab	0.7–1.2
Small molecule tyrosine kinase inhibitors	
Sunitinib	2.7–19
Pazopanib	7–11
Sorafenib	4–8
Dasatinib	2–4
Imatinib mesylate	0.2–2.7
Lapatinib	0.2–1.5
Nilotinib	1

Thérapies ciblées



THE NOBEL PRIZE
IN PHYSIOLOGY OR MEDICINE 2018



James P. Allison • Tasuku Honjo

“for their discovery of cancer therapy by inhibition
of negative immune regulation”

THE NOBEL ASSEMBLY AT KAROLINSKA INSTITUTET

Immunothérapies: les molécules

Anti-PD-1 Monoclonal Antibodies

- Nivolumab
- Pembrolizumab
- Cemiplimab-rwlc
- Dostarlimab-gxly

Anti-PD-L1 Monoclonal Antibodies

- Atezolizumab
- Avelumab
- Durvalumab

Anti-CTLA-4 Monoclonal Antibody




- Ipilimumab
- Tremelimumab

Anti-LAG-3 Monoclonal Antibody

- Relatlimab

Immunothérapies: les indications


PD-1/PD-L1 Inhibitor + VEGF Inhibitor or + TKI

-  Hepatocellular carcinoma
-  Endometrial carcinoma
-  Renal cell carcinoma

PD-L1 Inhibitor + BRAF Inhibitor + MEK Inhibitor

-  Melanoma







PD-L1 Inhibitor + Chemotherapy + VEGF Inhibitor

-  Non-small cell lung cancer







LAG-3 Inhibitor + PD-1 Inhibitor

-  Melanoma

PD-1/PD-L1 Inhibitor + CTLA-4 Inhibitor

-  Melanoma
-  MSI-H/dMMR colorectal cancer
-  Renal cell carcinoma
-  Hepatocellular carcinoma
-  Non-small cell lung cancer (± limited chemotherapy)
-  Pleural mesothelioma

PD-1/PD-L1 Inhibitor + Chemotherapy

-  Non-small cell lung cancer
-  Small cell lung cancer
-  Squamous cell carcinoma of the head and neck
-  Gastric, gastroesophageal junction, and esophageal cancers
-  Triple-negative breast cancer
-  Cervical cancer

Mécanisme d'action

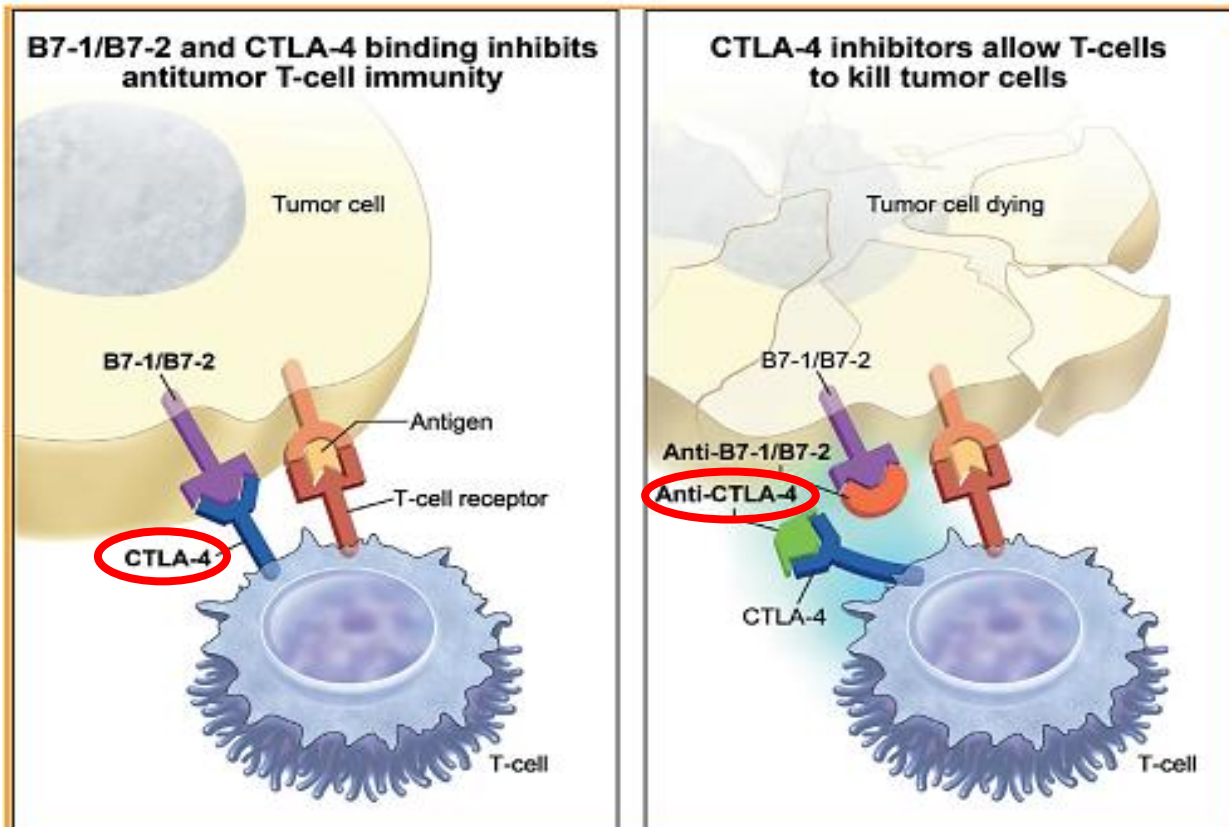


FIGURE 1. The action of cytotoxic T-lymphocyte-associated protein (CTLA) inhibitors. Ipilimumab is an anti-CTLA-4 antibody that causes blockade of CTLA-4, resulting in prolonged T-cell activation, proliferation, and antitumor response.

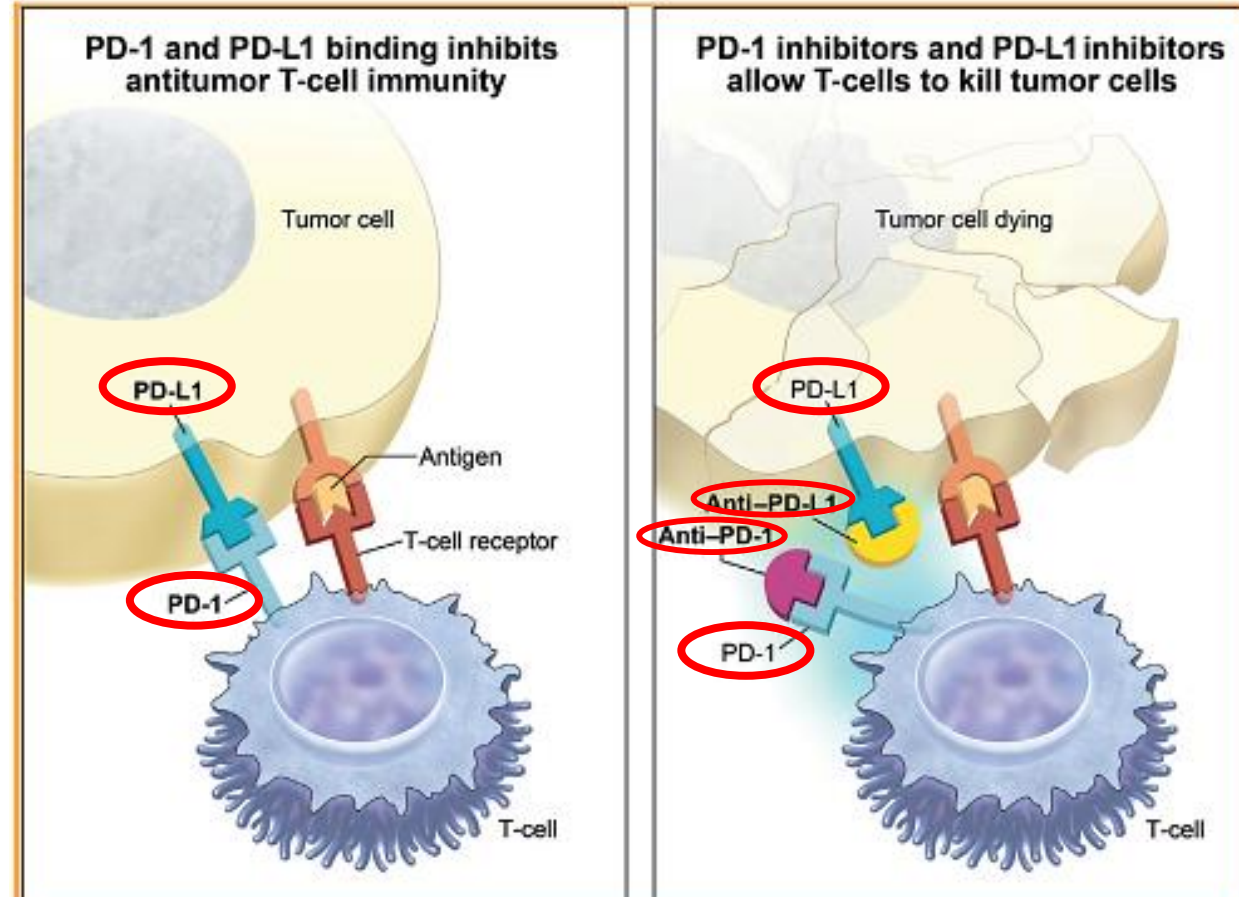
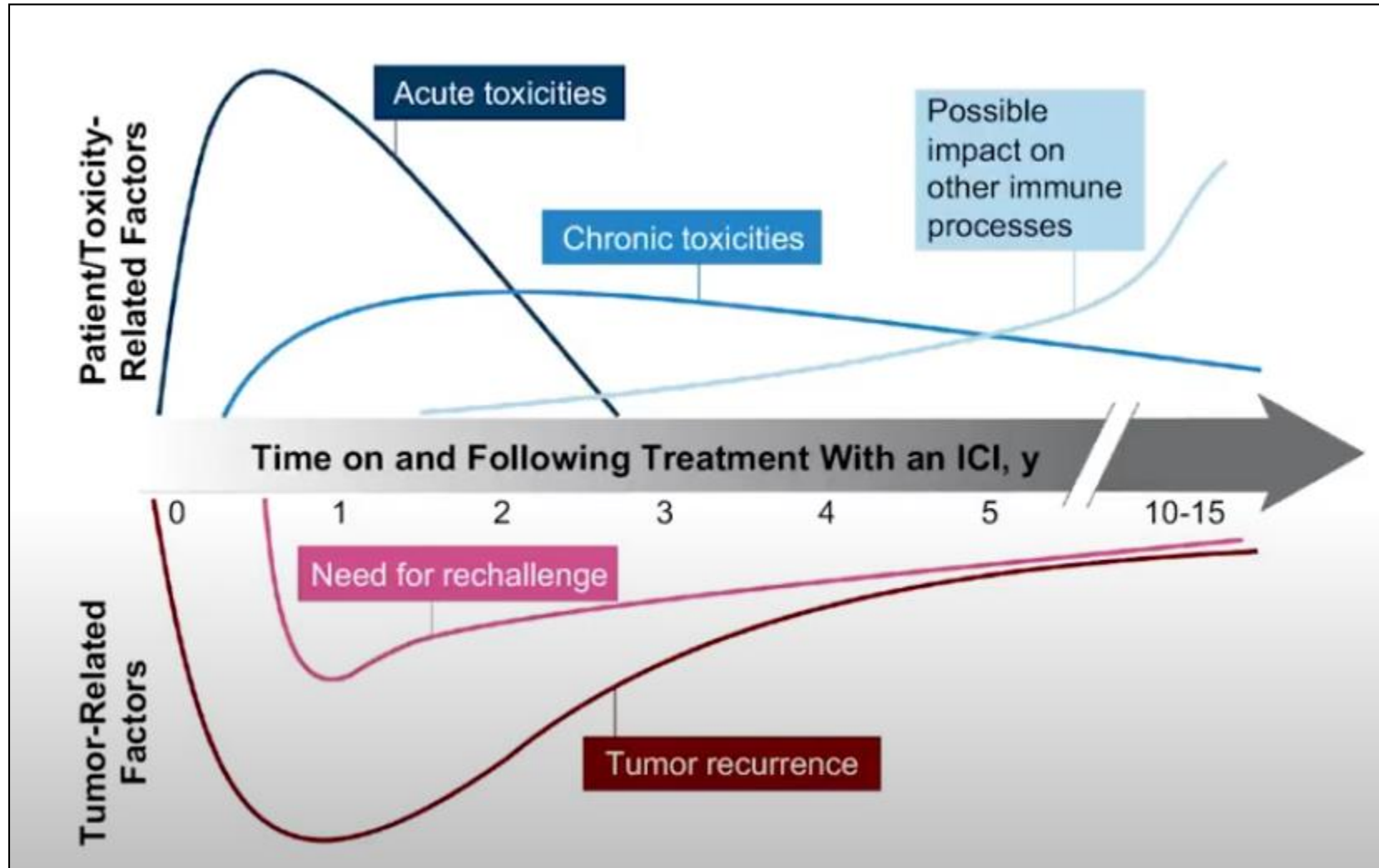


FIGURE 2. The action of anti-programmed cell death I (PD-1) and anti-programmed death ligand-I (PD-L1) blockers.

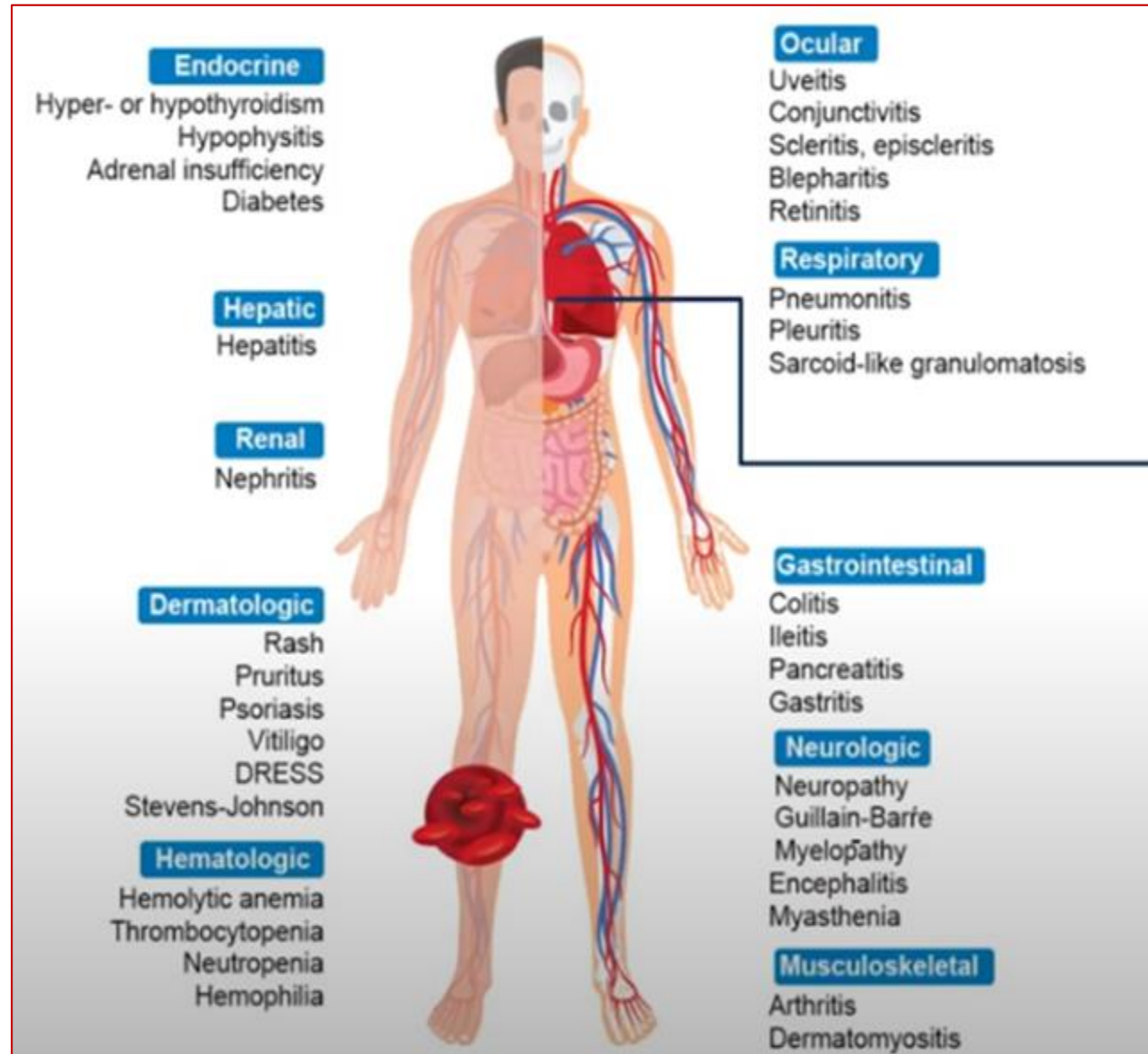
Effets secondaires auto-immuns

	Chemotherapy	Immunotherapy
Incidence (moderate/severe AEs)	Almost all patients	Majority without
AE profile	Well described	Variable
Affected systems/organs	Few organs affected	Any organ
Time course	Well established	Variable (even after end of tx)
	Predictable	Relatively unpredictable

Timing des effets secondaires



Effets secondaires auto-immuns



Évaluation du risque de cardiotoxicité

Pré thérapeutique

Recommendation Table 15 — Recommendations for baseline risk assessment and monitoring during immunotherapy

Recommendations	Class ^a	Level ^b
ECG, NP, and cTn measurements are recommended in all patients before starting ICI therapy. ³³³	I	B
Baseline echocardiography is recommended in high-risk patients ^c before starting ICI therapy. ³³³	I	B
Baseline echocardiography may be considered in all patients before starting ICI therapy.	IIb	C

Durant le traitement

Serial ECG and cTn measurements should be considered before ICI doses 2, 3, and 4, and if normal, reduce to every three doses until completion of therapy to detect subclinical ICI-related CV toxicity.³³³

IIa

B

CV assessment^d is recommended every 6–12 months in high-risk patients^c who require long-term (>12 months) ICI treatment.^{321–323,335,336}

I

C

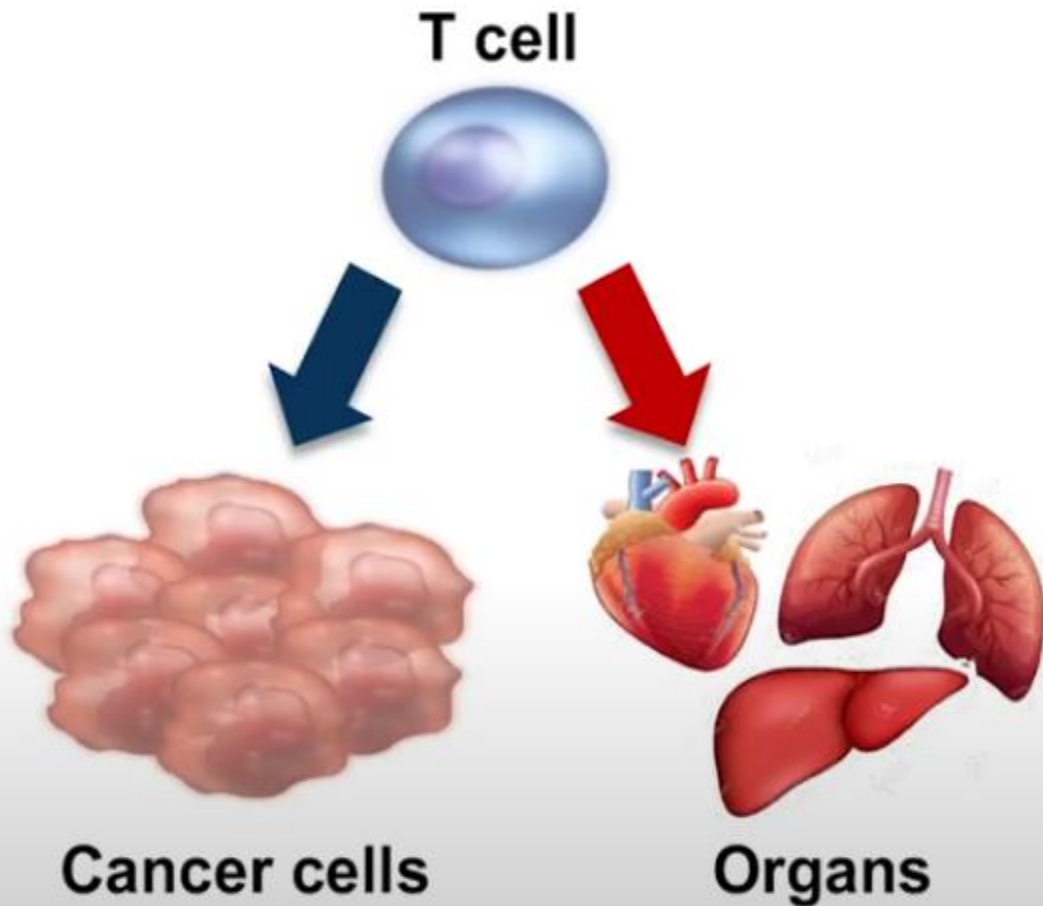
CV assessment^d may be considered every 6–12 months in all patients who require long-term (>12 months) ICI treatment.

IIb

C

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Facteurs de risque de toxicité



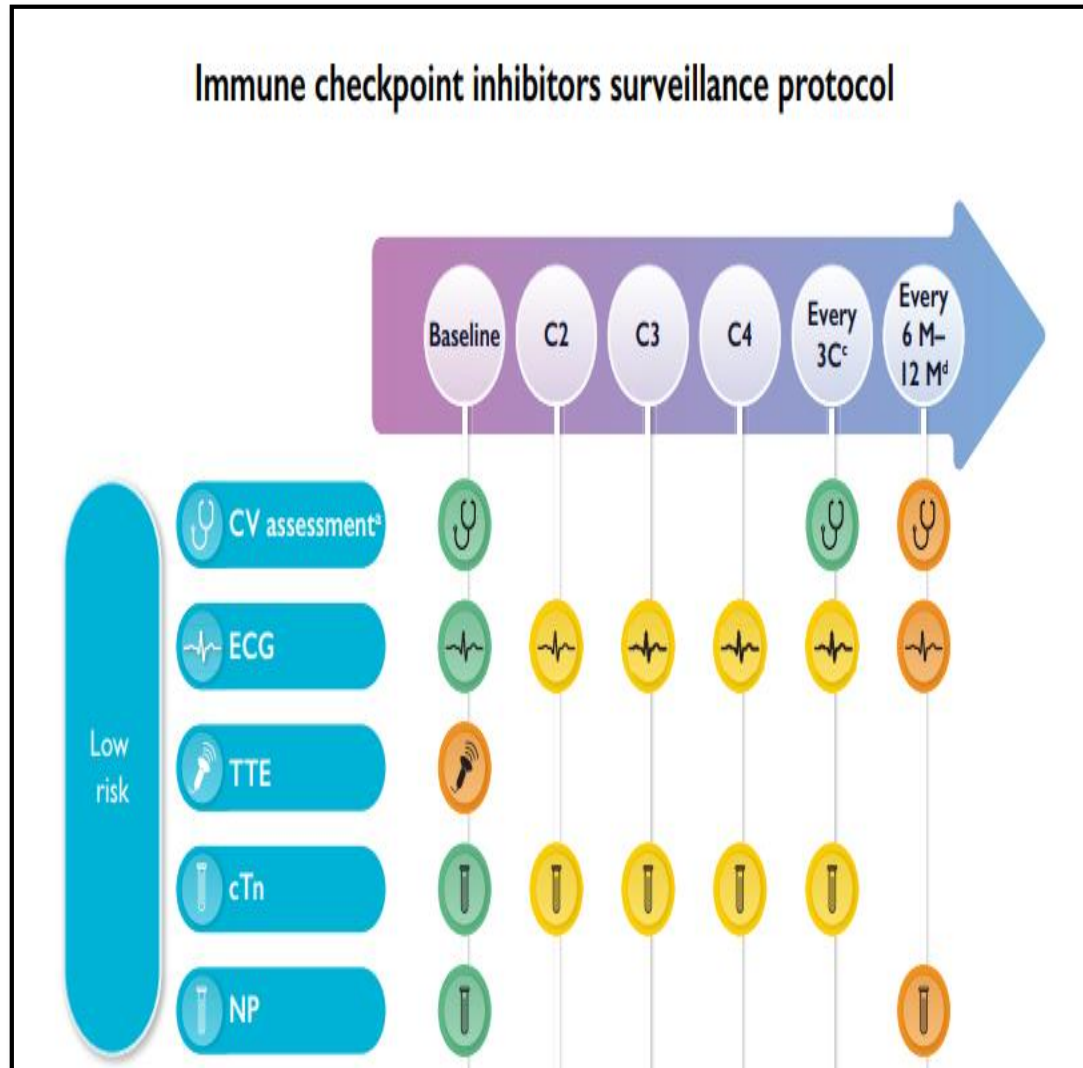
Factors for toxicity

- Autoimmune disease
- Subclinical inflammation
- Shared antigens
- Combination immune therapies

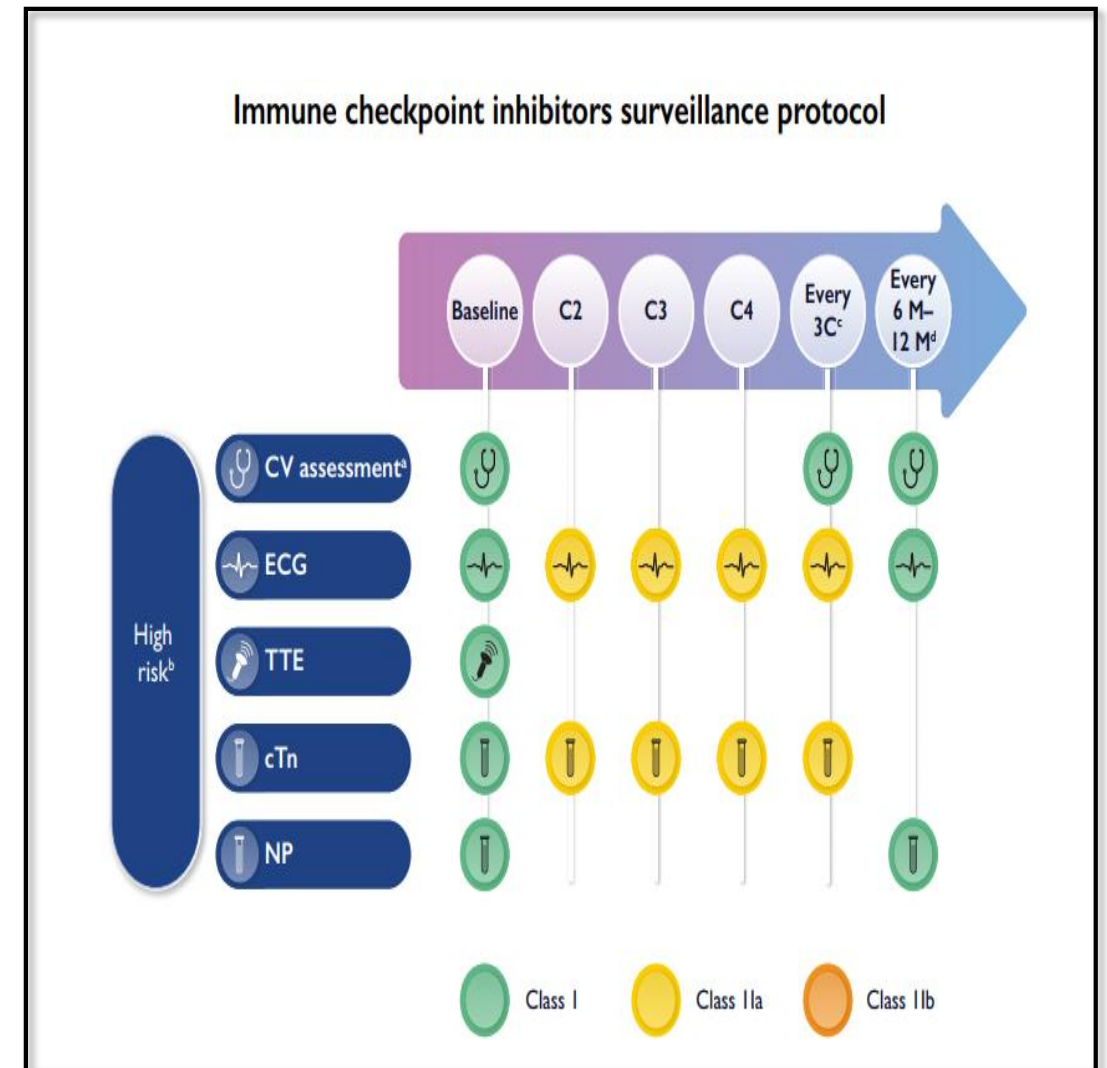
More aggressive combinations → more toxicity

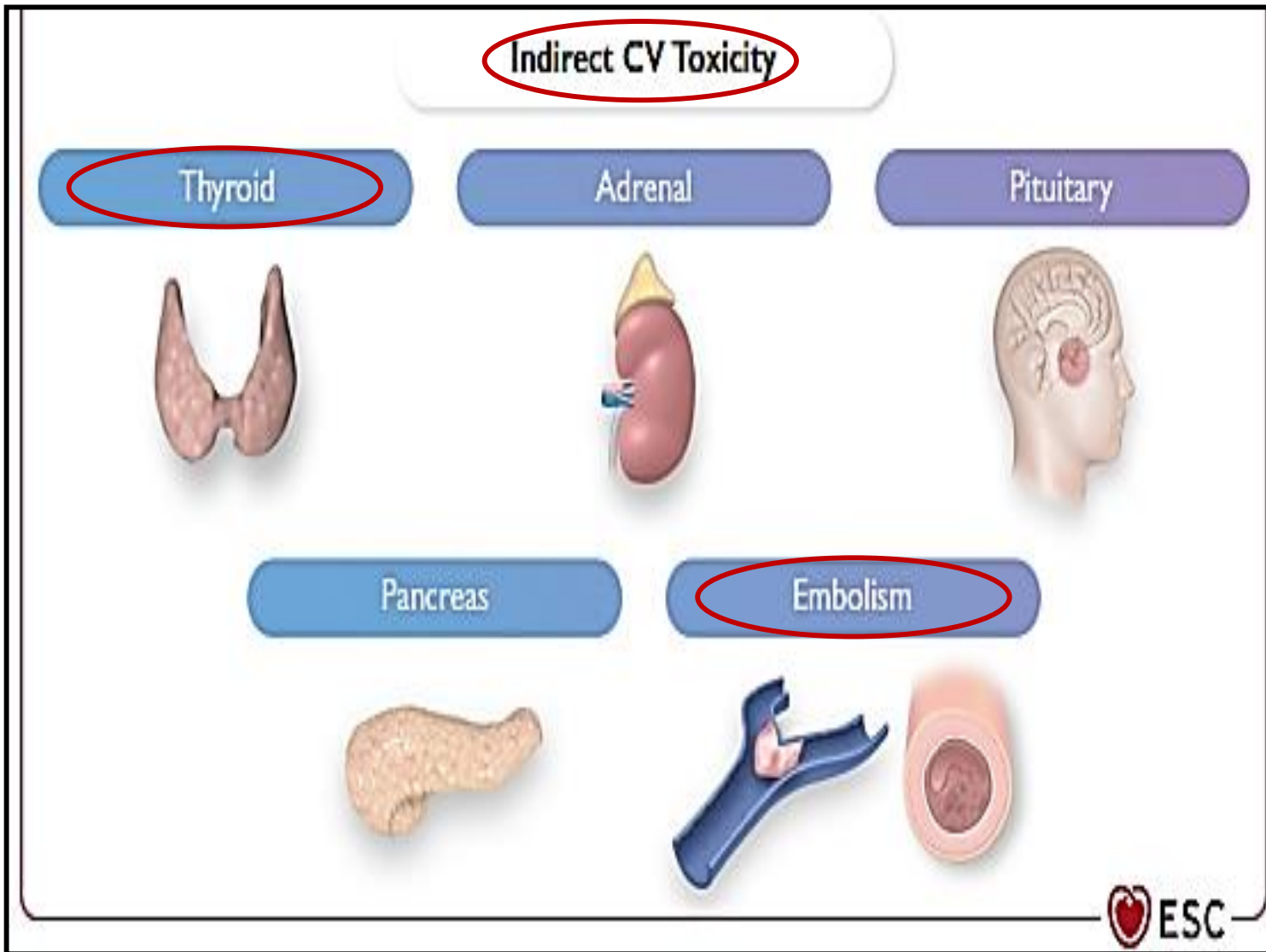
- ICI-related non-CV events, prior CTRCD or CVD
- Combination ICI-cardiotoxic therapy

Suivi des patients à *faible* risque de myocardite traités par inhibiteurs des checkpoints



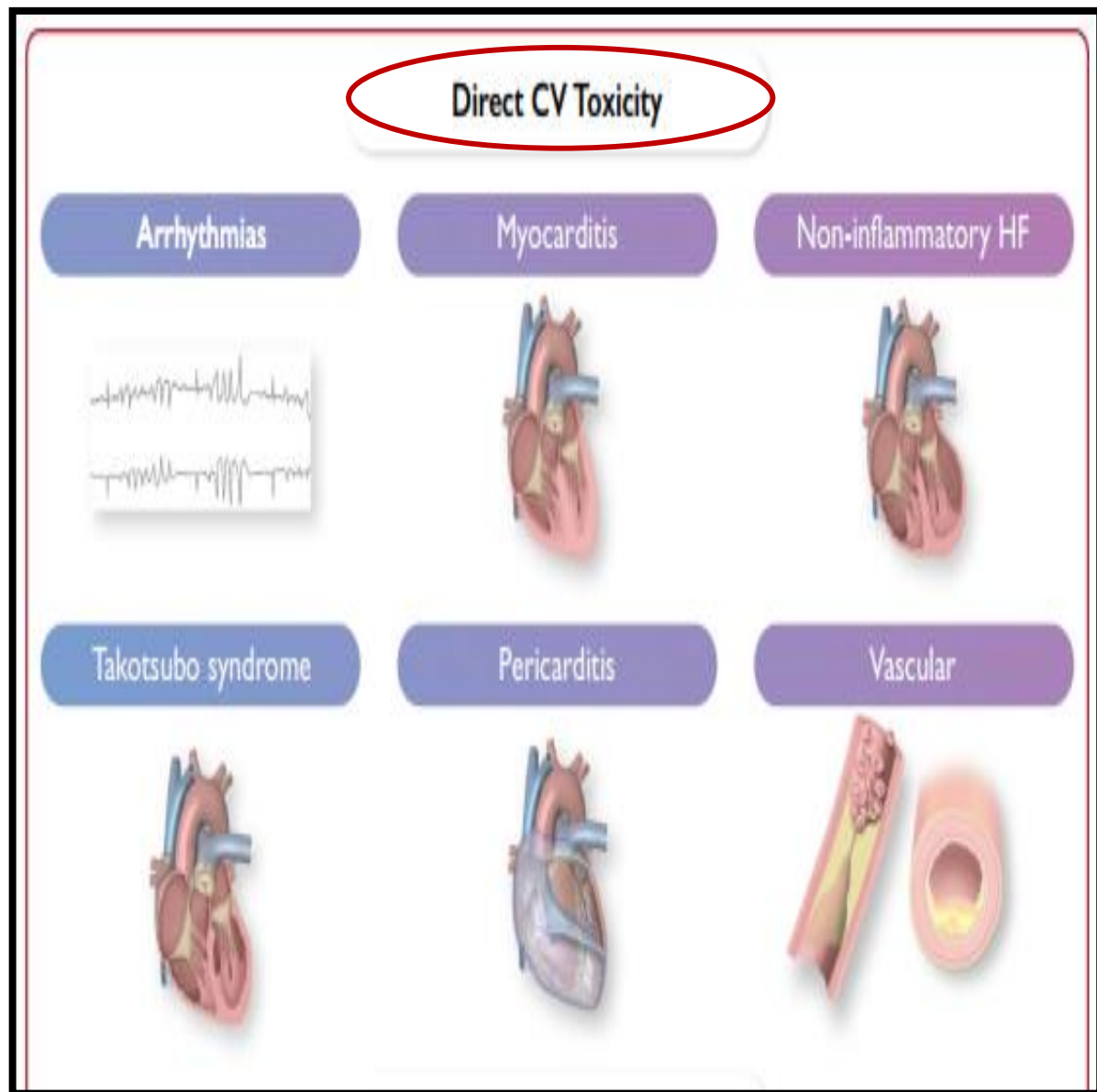
Suivi des patients à *haut* risque de myocardite traités par inhibiteurs des checkpoints



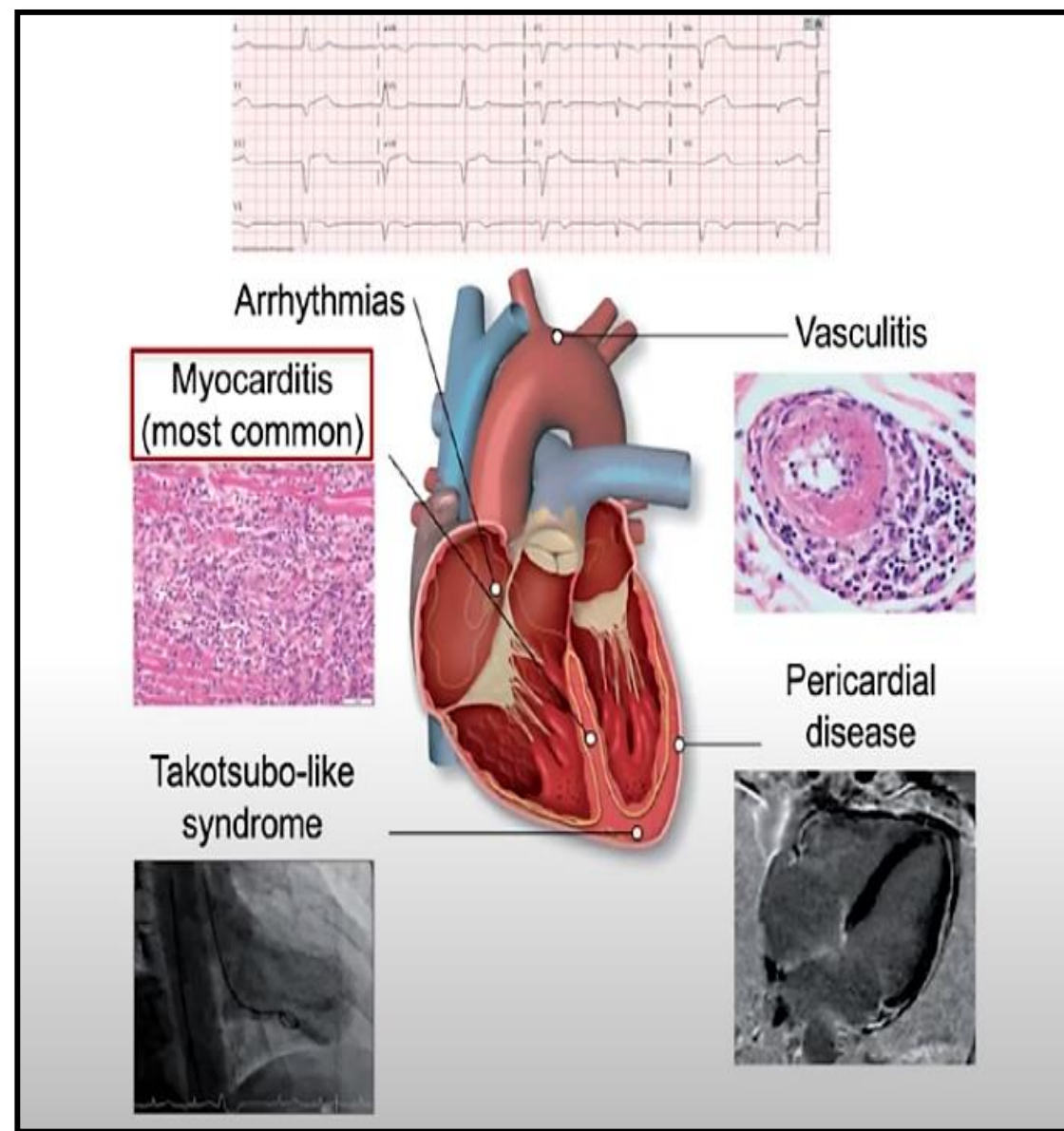


Dysthyroïdie:
Hyperthyroïdie =
cardiothyréose, FA

Maladies thrombo-
emboliques veineuses:
TVP, EP = progression de
la maladie ?



Lyon, A. R. *European Heart Journal* (2022) 43, 4229–4361



1. Hu J-R et al. *Cardiovasc Res*. 2019;115:854-868. 2. Johnson D et al. *N Engl J Med*. 2016;375:1749-1755. 3. Moslehi JJ et al. *Lancet*. 2018;391:933. 4. Mahmood SS et al. *J Am Coll Cardiol*. 2018;71:1755-1764. 5. Salem J-E et al. *Lancet Oncol*. 2018;19:1579-1589.

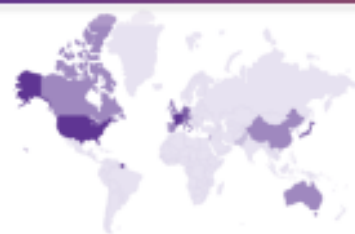
Arythmies

- Éliminer une myocardite +++
- Pas d'indication à la prescription de corticoïdes.
- **FA** : toxicité directe ? suivre les recommandations de PEC de la FA.
- Beaucoup de gaps of evidence.

ICI myocarditis and arrhythmias rates

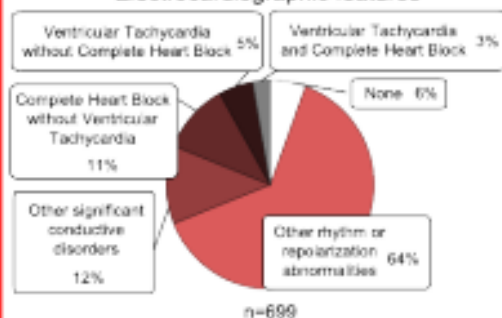
Major Cardiomyotoxic Events

Discovery international ICI myocarditis cohort



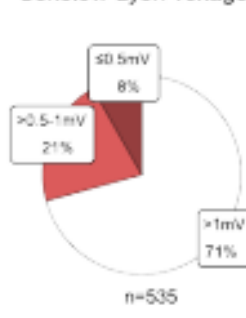
748

Electrocardiographic features



n=699

Sokolow-Lyon voltage



n=535

Concurrent myotoxicity

Cardiac pathology at least suggestive

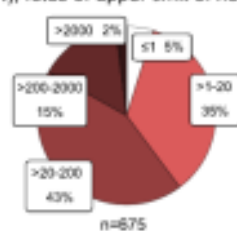


n=748



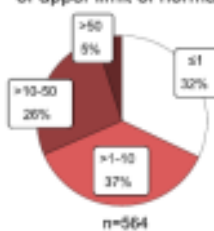
n=290

Peak troponin (preferentially T, otherwise I), folds of upper limit of normal



n=675

Peak Creatine Kinase, folds of upper limit of normal



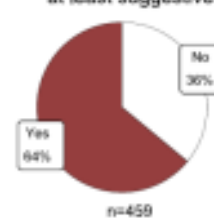
n=564

Nadir Left Ventricular Ejection Fraction



n=699

Any Cardiac Resonance Imaging at least suggestive



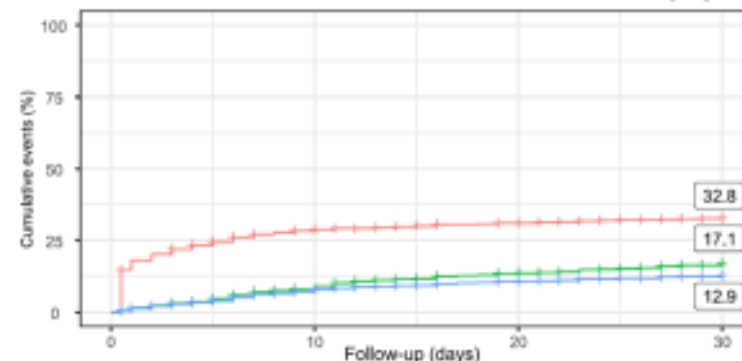
n=459

Arrhythmia (n=143)

Cardiomyotoxic death (n=92)



Respiratory muscle failure (n=61)



At risk	748	592	553	524	507	494	482	474	462	455	443
Major cardiomyotoxic events	748	727	704	678	654	638	624	613	601	590	570
Overall death	748	724	700	674	650	634	620	609	597	587	571
Cardiomyotoxic death	748	724	700	674	650	634	620	609	597	587	571



ESC

European Heart Journal (2025) 00, 1–13
European Society of Cardiology
<https://doi.org/10.1093/eurheartj/ehaf315>

Power J, Dolladille C, ..., Salem JE

Péricardite (1)

- **Fréquence** : 0,2 à 3,3 %
- **Molécules**: Anti PDL1, Anti PD1, pas les anti CTLA4.
- **Délai de survenue**: durant les 3 premiers mois.
- **Facteurs favorisants**: sexe masculin avec cancer du poumon ayant reçu une corticothérapie.
- Plutôt associée à un épanchement pleural.
- **Diagnostic**: écho – TDM
- **Diagnostic différentiel**: infection, hypothyroïdie, syndrome néphrotique, myocardite +++

Adler Y, et al. 2015, Eur Heart J 2015;36:2921–2964, Gong J, J Immunother Cancer 2021 , Inno A, Maurea , Immunother 2021;70:3041–3053

Péricardite (2)

Diagnosis and management of ICI-associated pericarditis		
Multimodality CV imaging (echocardiography, CMR \pm CT), ECG and measurement of cardiac biomarkers are recommended to confirm the diagnosis, assess the haemodynamic consequences of pericardial disease, and rule out associated myocarditis.	I	C
Prednisolone and colchicine are recommended for patients with ICI-associated pericarditis. ^{326,624,625,630}	I	C
Interruption of ICI treatment in patients with confirmed ICI-associated pericarditis with moderate-to-severe pericardial effusion is recommended.	I	C
A multidisciplinary discussion is recommended before restarting ICI treatment.	I	C

Péricardite (3)

Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events (CTCAE)

Version 5.0

Published: November 27, 2017

Cardiac disorders			
CTCAE Term			Grade 5
Pericarditis	Discuter l'interruption temporaire du TRT Traitement classique: aspirine ou AINS + colchicine ..	Arrêt du TRT Prednisolone 1mg/Kg avec ou sans Colchicine +/- drainage péricardique	Death

Gravité: forme asymptomatique à la tamponnade et décès.

Surveillance: 1 écho /mois jusqu'à disparition de l'épanchement

Rechallenge: RCP de Cardio-Oncologie

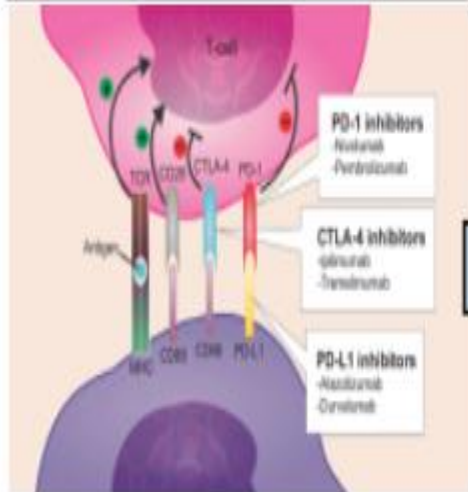
Complications vasculaires : SCA

- Peu de données
- Fréquence: 0,4 à 1,1 %
- Mécanisme physiopathologique inconnu
- Pas de corticoïdes
- Éliminer une myocardite et faire une imagerie coronaire

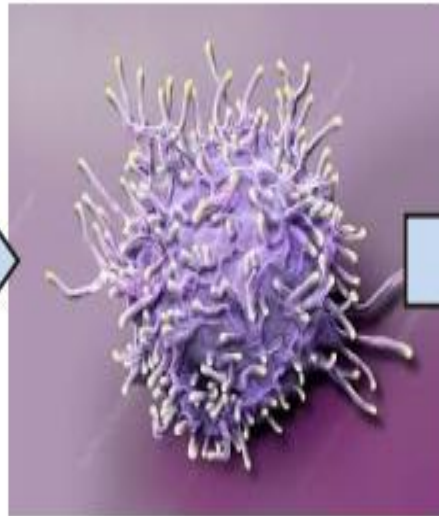
The potential impact of ICIs on CV surrogates and CV events

Hypothesis

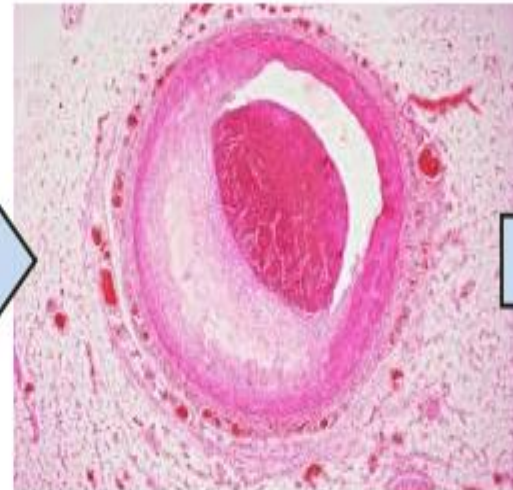
**Immune
Checkpoint
Inhibitors**



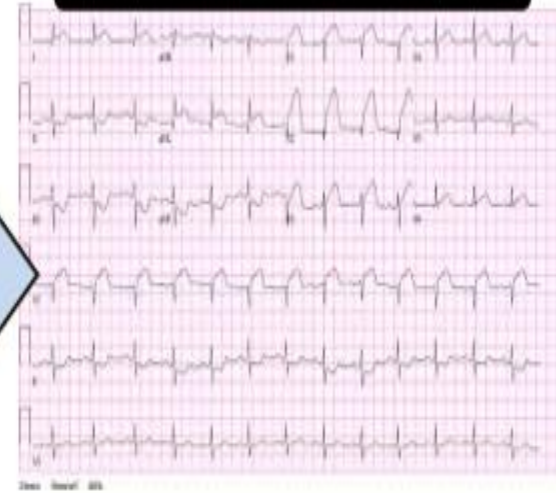
**Enhanced
immune
response**



**Accelerated
atherosclerosis**



**Increased
cardiovascular
events**

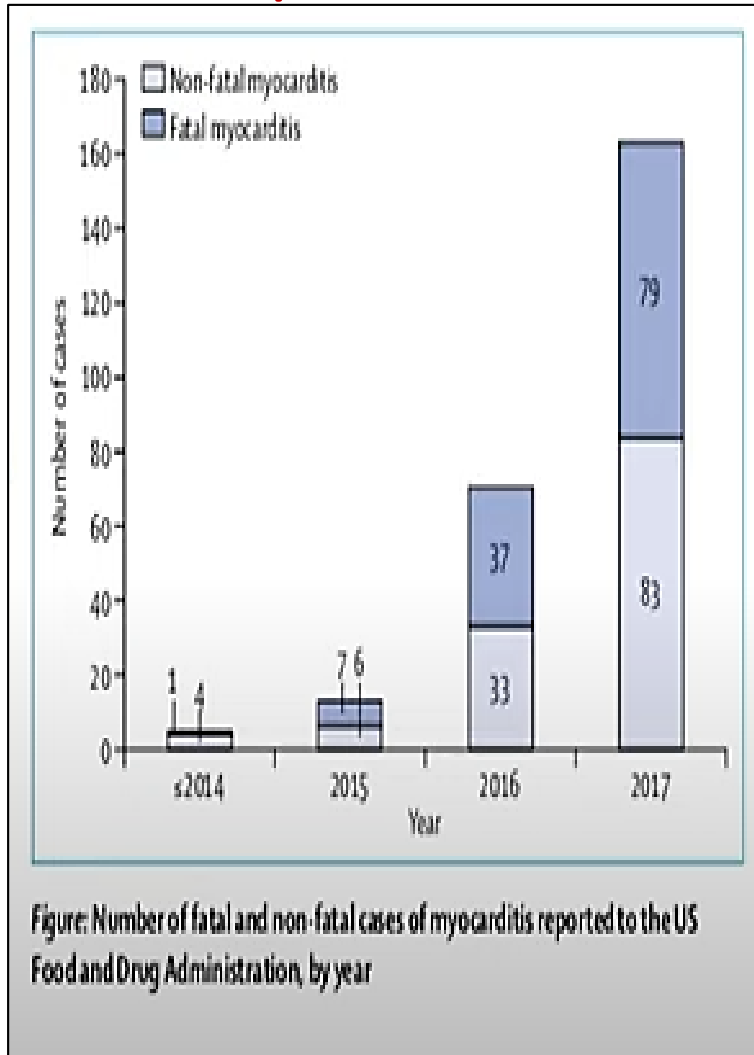


Toxicités myocardiques non-inflammatoires

- **Définition** : baisse de la FEVG à moins de 50 % avec ou sans insuffisance cardiaque aigue.
- **Syndrome de Takotsubo like**
- Toujours éliminer une myocardite ou un SCA
- Plutôt tardif après **6 mois**
- **Pas de corticoïdes**, traiter l'IC

La myocardite immuno-induite

Fréquence 1 %

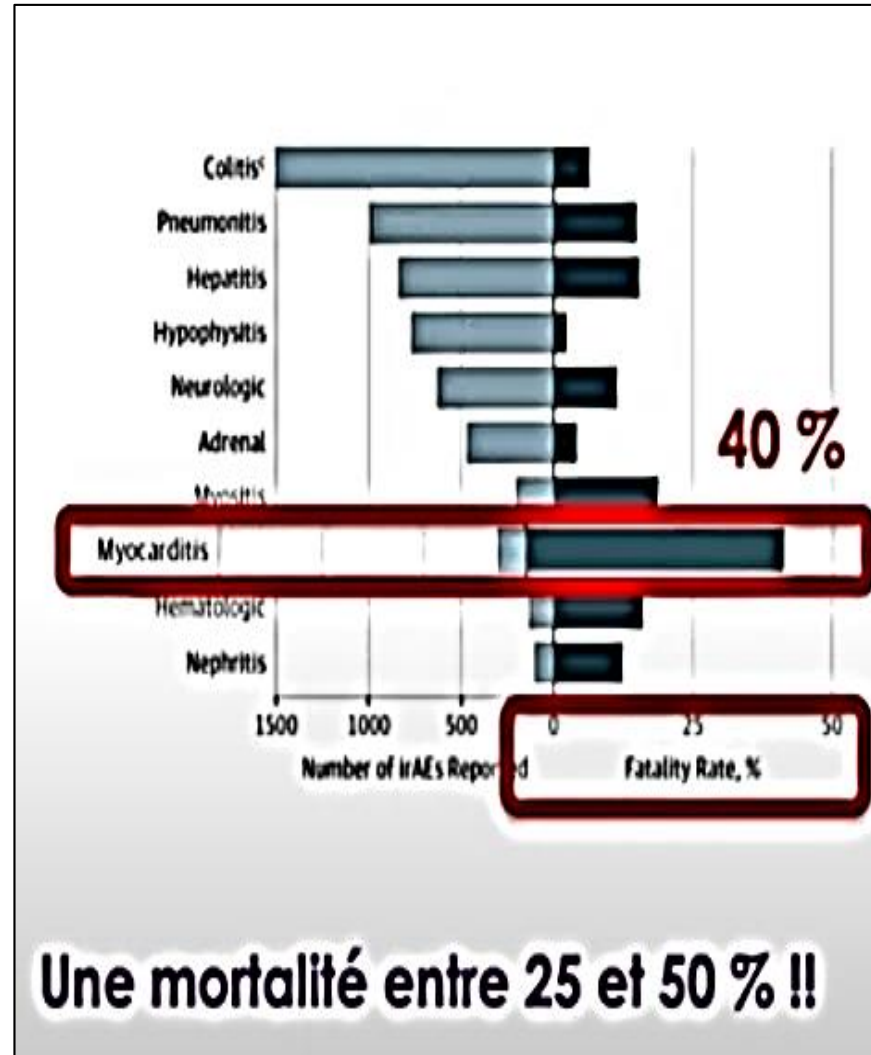


US and Germany registries

Mahmood SS, J Am Coll Cardiol

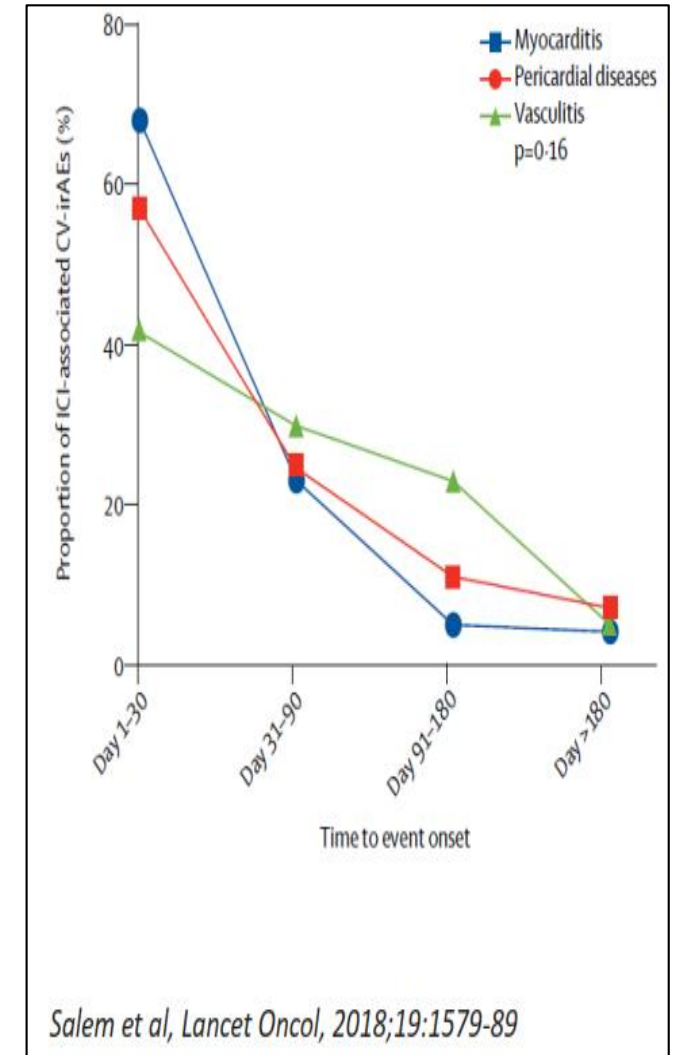
2016

Gravité



Salem et al. JAMA Oncol 2018

Délai d'apparition



Salem et al, Lancet Oncol, 2018;19:1579-89

Myocardite immuno-induite: diagnostic

Clinical diagnosis ^d	<p>cTn elevation (new or significant change from baseline)^e with 1 major criterion or 2 minor criteria, after exclusion of ACS and acute infectious myocarditis based on clinical suspicion^f</p> <p>Major criterion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CMR diagnostic for acute myocarditis (modified Lake Louise criteria)^g
ICI myocarditis (either pathohistological diagnosis or clinical diagnosis)	
Pathohistological diagnosis (EMB)	<p>Multifocal inflammatory cell infiltrates with overt cardiomyocyte loss by light microscopy</p> <p>shortness of breath, orthopnea, lower-extremity edema, palpitations, light-headedness/dizziness, syncope, muscle weakness, cardiogenic shock)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ventricular arrhythmia (including cardiac arrest) and/or new conduction system disease • Decline in LV systolic function, with or without regional wall motion abnormalities in a non-Takotsubo pattern • Other immune-related adverse events, particularly myositis, myopathy, myasthenia gravis • Suggestive CMR^h

How common are baseline troponin values > assay



Optimized monitoring for immune checkpoint inhibitor induced myocarditis using high-sensitivity troponin-T

Dirk Tomsitz^a, Ulrich Grabmaier^b, Judith Spiro^a, Leo Nicolai^{b,†}, Lars E. French^{a,†}, Steffen Massberg^b, Lucie Heinzerling^{a,†,✉}

^a Department of Dermatology and Allergy, University Hospital, LMU Munich, Munich, Germany

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JACC: ADVANCES

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VOL. 3, NO. 12, 2024

ORIGINAL RESEARCH

HEART FAILURE AND CARDIOMYOPATHIES

Elevations of Cardiac Troponin in Patients Receiving Immune Checkpoint Inhibitors Data From a Prospective Study

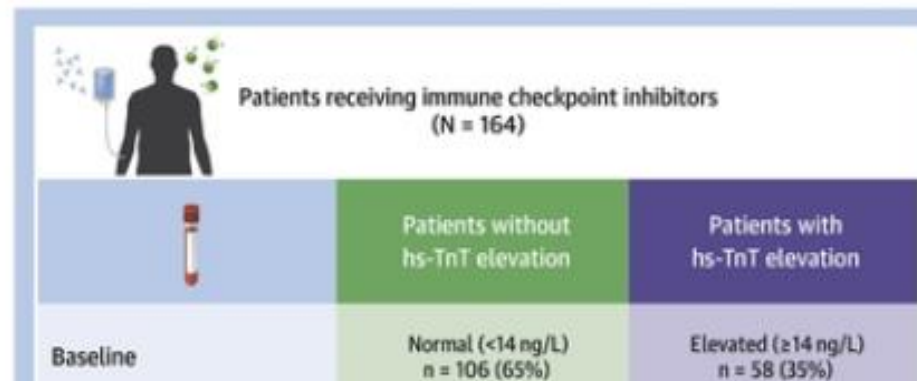


Pieter F. van den Berg, MD,^a Valentina Brucan, MD,^a Michel Noordman, MSc,^a Peter van der Meer, MD, PhD,^a Camelia Shi, MD,^a Sjoukje F. Oosting, MD, PhD,^b Joseph Pierre Aboumoulem, PhD,^a Samme de Wit, MSc,^a Wouter C. Meijers, MD, PhD,^{a,†} Mathilde Jolyne, MD, PhD,^b Michel van Kruchten, MD, PhD^b

Baseline troponin detectable range of 30-35%

35% (58 patients) with a detectable baseline troponin (hs-TnT > 14 ng/L)

Receiving Immune Checkpoint Inhibitors



Do baseline detectable troponin values have prognostic implications?



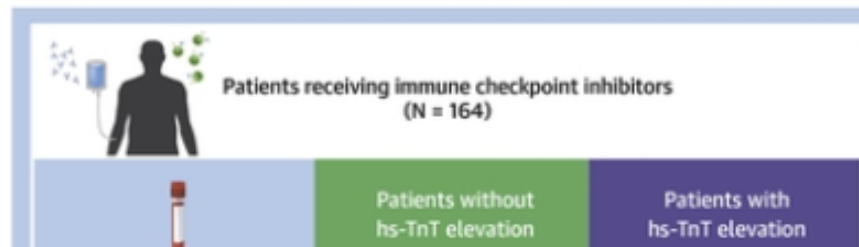
Optimized monitoring for immune checkpoint inhibitor-induced myocarditis using high-sensitivity troponin-T

Rich Tsvetanov¹, Ulrich Gellerauer², Judith Singer³, Leo Ninkovic⁴, Lisa E. Borch⁵, Nadine Muehleisen⁶, Sander Housheer⁷

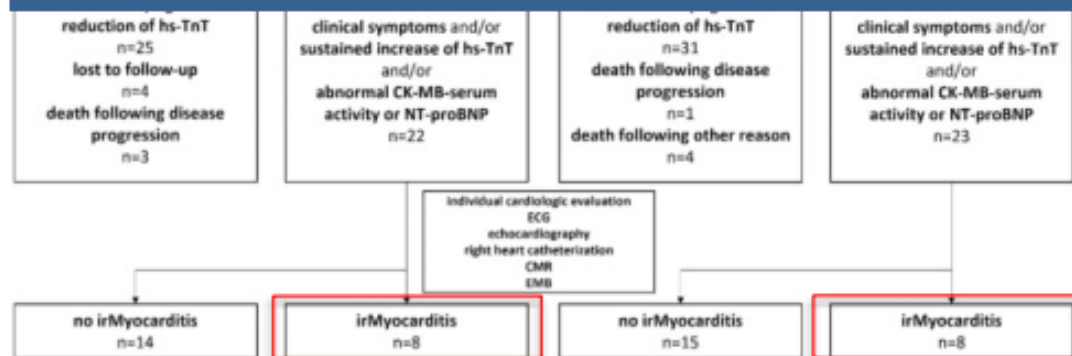
¹Department of Hematology and Oncology, University Hospital Bonn, Bonn, Germany; ²Department of Hematology and Oncology, University Hospital Bonn, Bonn, Germany; ³Department of Hematology and Oncology, University Hospital Bonn, Bonn, Germany; ⁴Department of Hematology and Oncology, University Hospital Bonn, Bonn, Germany; ⁵Department of Hematology and Oncology, University Hospital Bonn, Bonn, Germany; ⁶Department of Hematology and Oncology, University Hospital Bonn, Bonn, Germany; ⁷Department of Hematology and Oncology, University Hospital Bonn, Bonn, Germany

280 skin cancer patients with ICI treatment

CENTRAL ILLUSTRATION: Elevations of Cardiac Troponin in Patients Receiving Immune Checkpoint Inhibitors



A baseline detectable troponin is associated with a several-fold higher risk for myocarditis



- 26 patients (either normal or elevated hs-TnT at baseline) had a significant rise in hs-TnT ($\geq 2 \times$ ULN), of whom:
 - 8 developed ICI-myocarditis
 - 8 presented with a high ICI-myocarditis suspicion but did not meet diagnostic criteria
 - 10 had no other signs of (myo)cardial damage
- Cardiac mortality was low (4%)

van den Berg PF, et al. JACC Adv. 2024;3(12):101375.

Recommendations	Class ^a	Level ^b
Diagnostic triage within 24 h is recommended ^c in patients with suspected myocarditis induced by ICI to initiate treatment rapidly. ^{495,496,501,504}	I	C
Immediate disruption of ICI and administration of high-dosage corticosteroids are recommended in patients with ICI-associated myocarditis in order to stop the inflammatory reaction and stabilize the patient. ⁵⁰⁴	I	C
Second-line immunosuppression treatment should be considered in patients with steroid-refractory ICI-associated myocarditis. ^{501,504}	IIa	C
Second-line immunosuppression treatment may be considered in patients with fulminant/severe ICI-associated myocarditis. ^{501,504}	IIb	C

ICI, immune checkpoint inhibitor.
^aClass of recommendation.
^bLevel of evidence.
^cSee [Figure 5](#).

2025 ESC Guidelines for the management of myocarditis and pericarditis. EHJ 2025

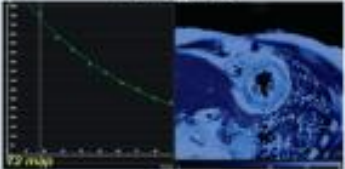
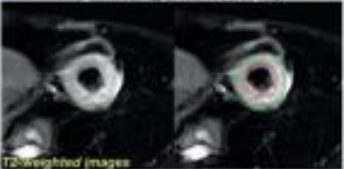
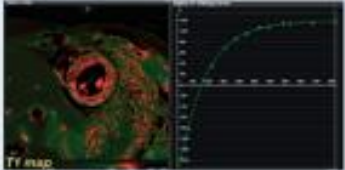



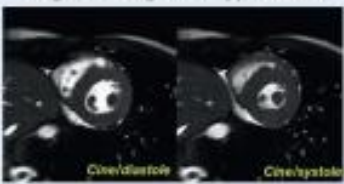
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Myocardite immuno-induite: diagnostic

- **ECG:** arythmies, troubles conductifs...SCA
- IC avec **FE basse : 50 % des cas.**
- **Mais : ETT** peut être normale ce qui **n'exclu pas** la myocardite.
- Association fréquente avec une **myosite** périphérique (détresse respiratoire).
- **PET scan:** oui, mais de faible sensibilité. Peut être considéré si IRM indisponible ou contre indiquée.
- **Biopsie endo myocardique:** si doute diagnostic ou patient instable.
- Toujours éliminer une **autre cause cardiaque:** myocardite infectieuse, SCA...

IRM cardiaque

CENTRAL ILLUSTRATION Overview of the Updated Lake Louise Criteria

	2018 Lake Louise Criteria	CMR Image Examples	
Main Criteria	Myocardial Edema (T2-mapping or T2W images)	Regional or global increase of native T2 	Regional or global increase of T2 signal intensity or 
	Non-ischemic Myocardial Injury (Abnormal T1, ECV, or LGE)	Regional or global increase of native T1 	Regional or global increase of ECV or  Regional LGE signal increase or 
Supportive Criteria	Pericarditis (Effusion in cine images or abnormal LGE, T2, or T1)	Pericardial effusion 	
	Systolic LV Dysfunction (Regional or global wall motion abnormality)	Regional or global hypokinesis 	

Ferreira, V.M. et al. J Am Coll Cardiol. 2018;72(24):3158-76.

ECV = extracellular volume; LGE = late gadolinium enhancement; T2W = T2-weighted.

Classification de la sévérité de la myocardite

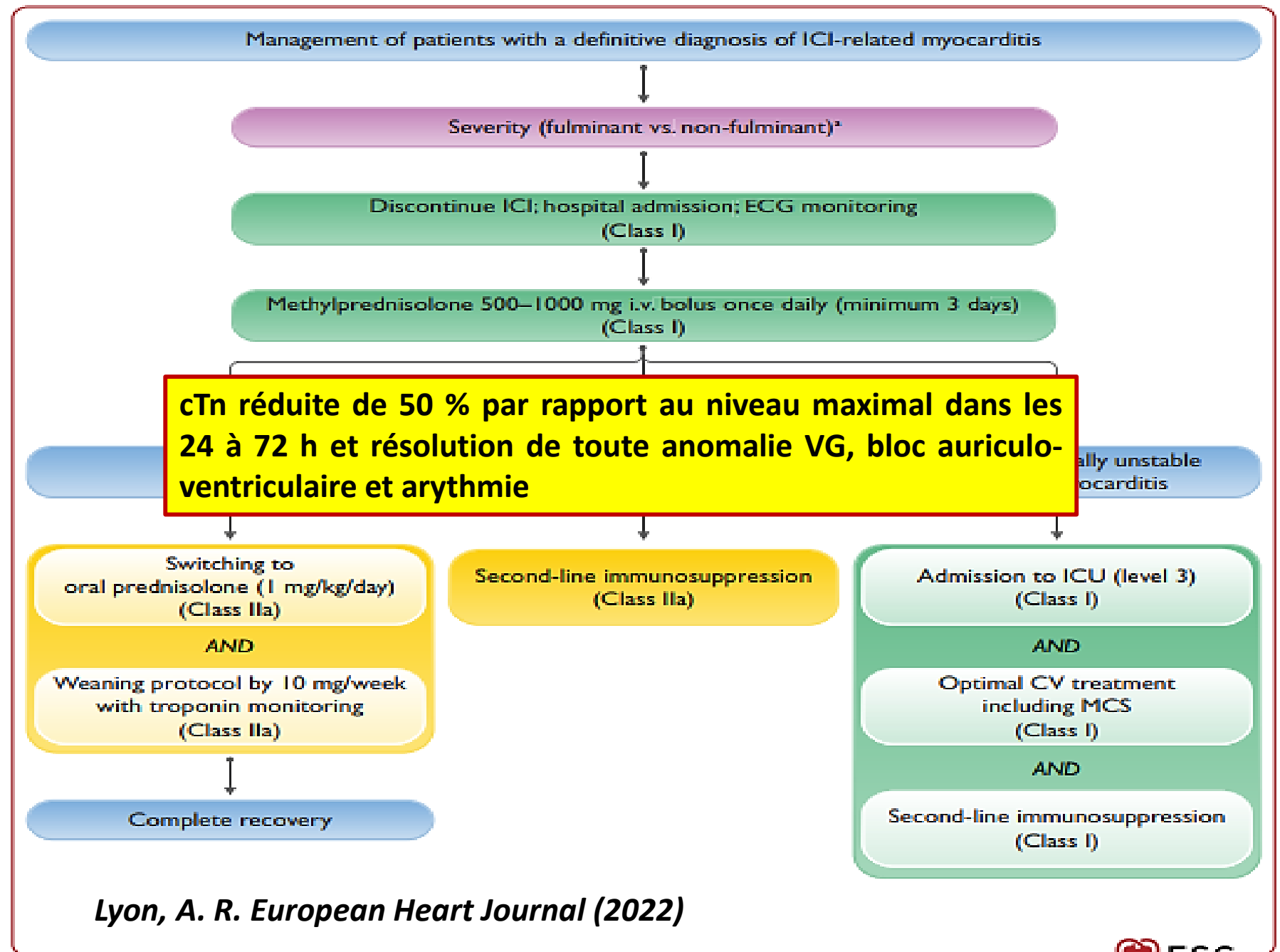
Severity of myocarditis

- **Fulminant:** Haemodynamic instability, HF requiring non-invasive or invasive ventilation, complete or high-grade heart block, and/or significant ventricular arrhythmia
- **Non-fulminant:** including symptomatic but haemodynamically and electrically stable patients and incidental cases diagnosed at the same time as other immuno-related adverse events. Patients may have reduced LVEF but no features of severe disease
- **Steroid refractory:** non-resolving or worsening myocarditis (clinical worsening or persistent troponin elevation after exclusion of other aetiologies) despite high-dose methylprednisolone

Myocardite immuno-induite: que faire

- **Arrêt** de l'immunothérapie dès suspicion de myocardite immuno-induite.
- Faire les investigations nécessaires.
- Si myocardite suspectée mais **non confirmée**: discussion **multidisciplinaire** recommandée pour déterminer le rapport risque/bénéfice de l'arrêt définitif ou de la reprise du traitement.
- **Arrêt** du traitement **recommandé** si patient atteint de cancer avec une myocardite fulminante ou non fulminante immuno-médiée avec hospitalisation en soins intensifs.
- Traitement des complications CV selon les recommandations en vigueur.

Schéma thérapeutique



Traitement de la myocardite

ICI-induced myocarditis	
1st line therapy	Withdraw ICI, reassess <u>Non-severe</u> : methylprednisolone 500–1000 mg/day × 3 days, then taper with oral prednisone <u>Severe</u> : i.v. methylprednisolone 7–14 mg/kg/day × 3 days, then 1 mg/kg/day
2nd line therapy	If no response in 24–48 h: mycophenolate mofetil ^b , ATG ^g , abatacept ^l , alemtuzumab ^m
3rd line therapy	Infliximab ^j or adalimumab ^k , rituximab ⁱ

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Take home messages

- Nouveaux traitements, extension des indications, révolution en oncologie.
- Vaccination anti - cancer.
- Plusieurs toxicités cardiaques.
- Myocardite immuno - induite : Prise en charge adaptée et surtout précoce.
- Arrêt du traitement.
- Corticothérapie à forte dose dès la suspicion.
- Possibilité de reprendre le traitement dans certaines situations après discussion multidisciplinaire.

MERCI POUR VOTRE ATTENTION