

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

Complications cardiovasculaires de l'immunothérapie

S. OUABDESELAM - 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

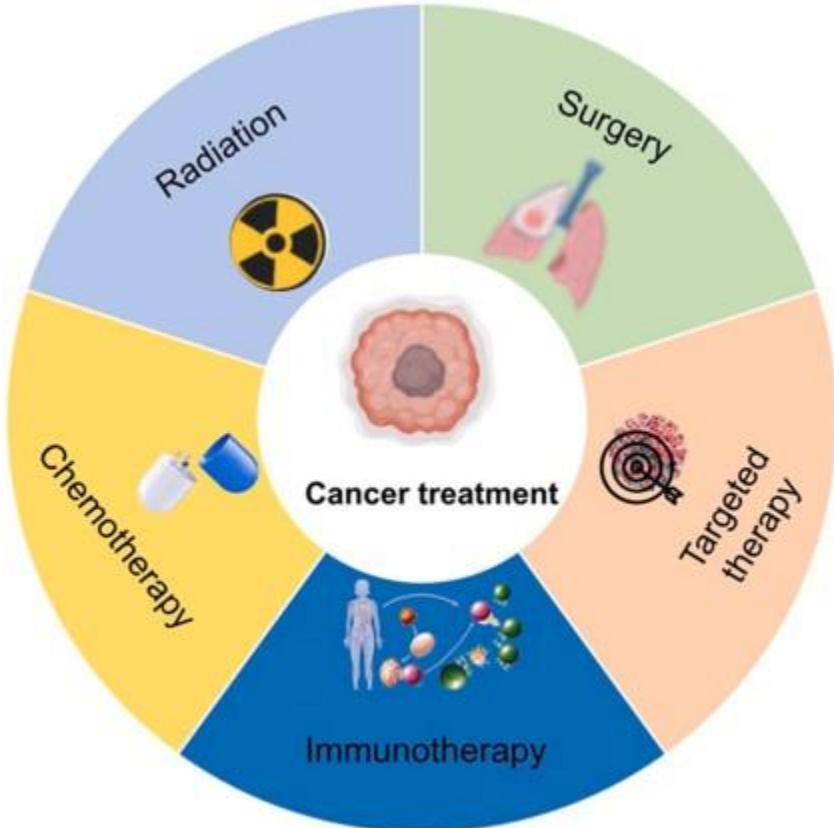
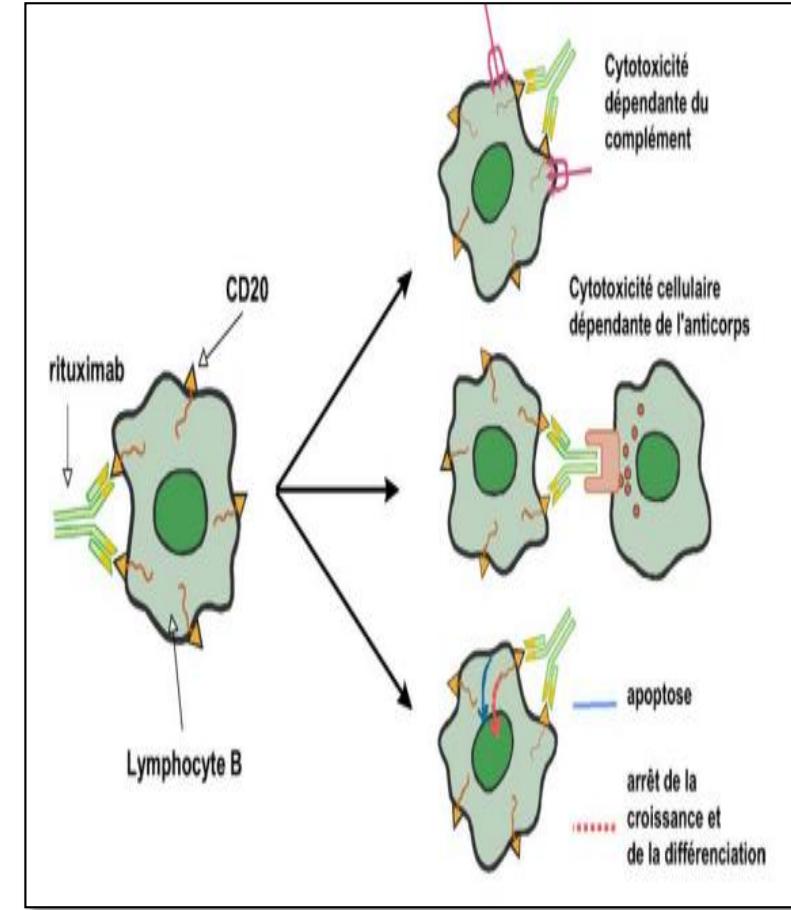
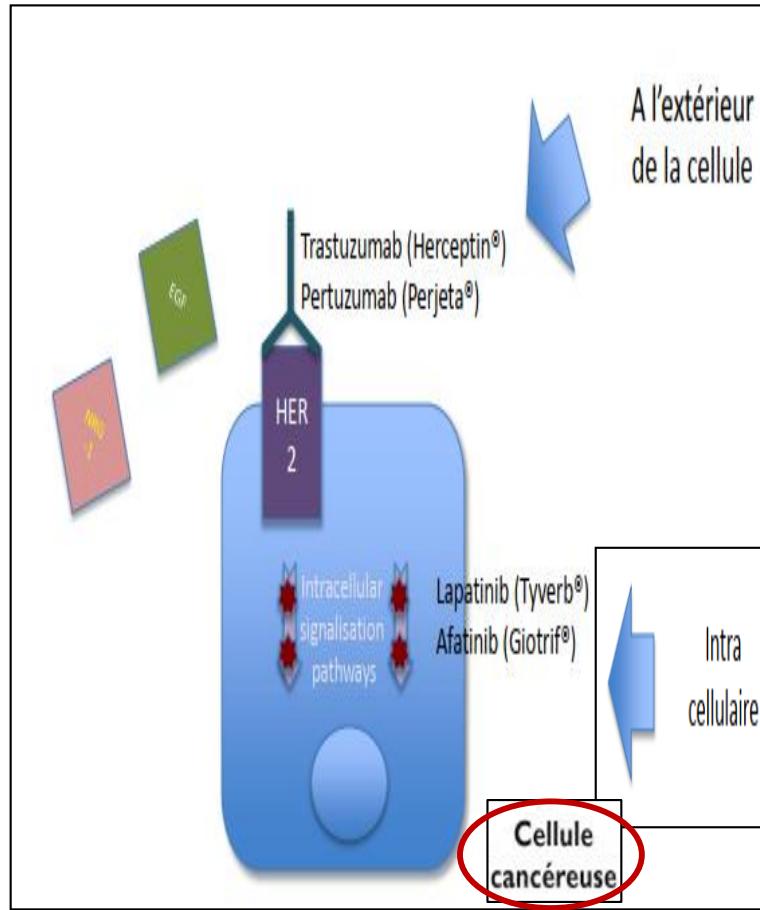
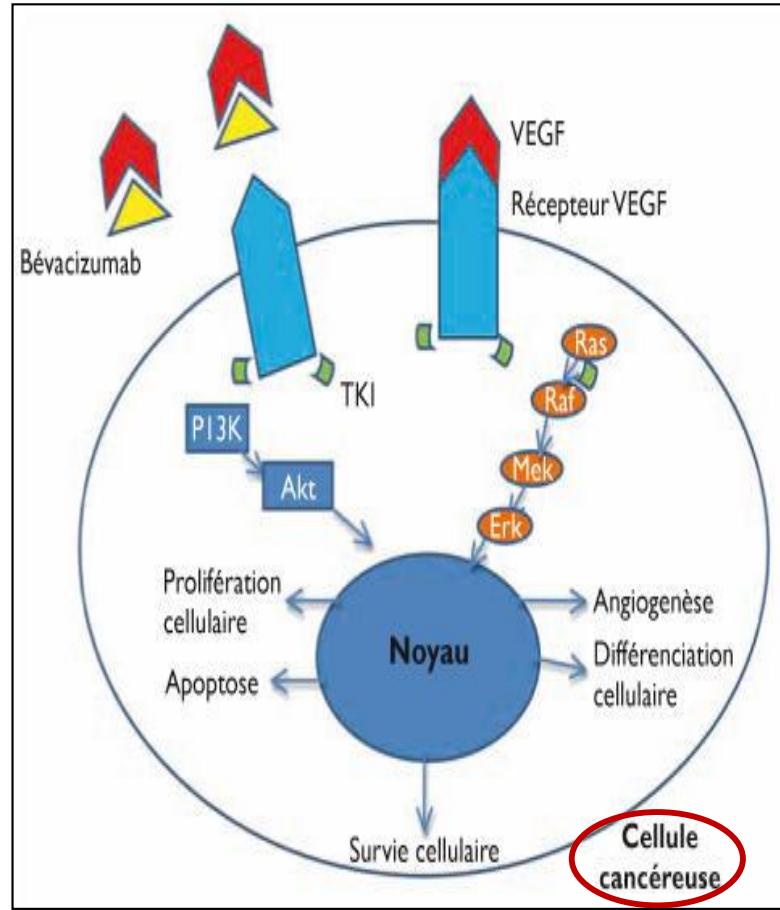


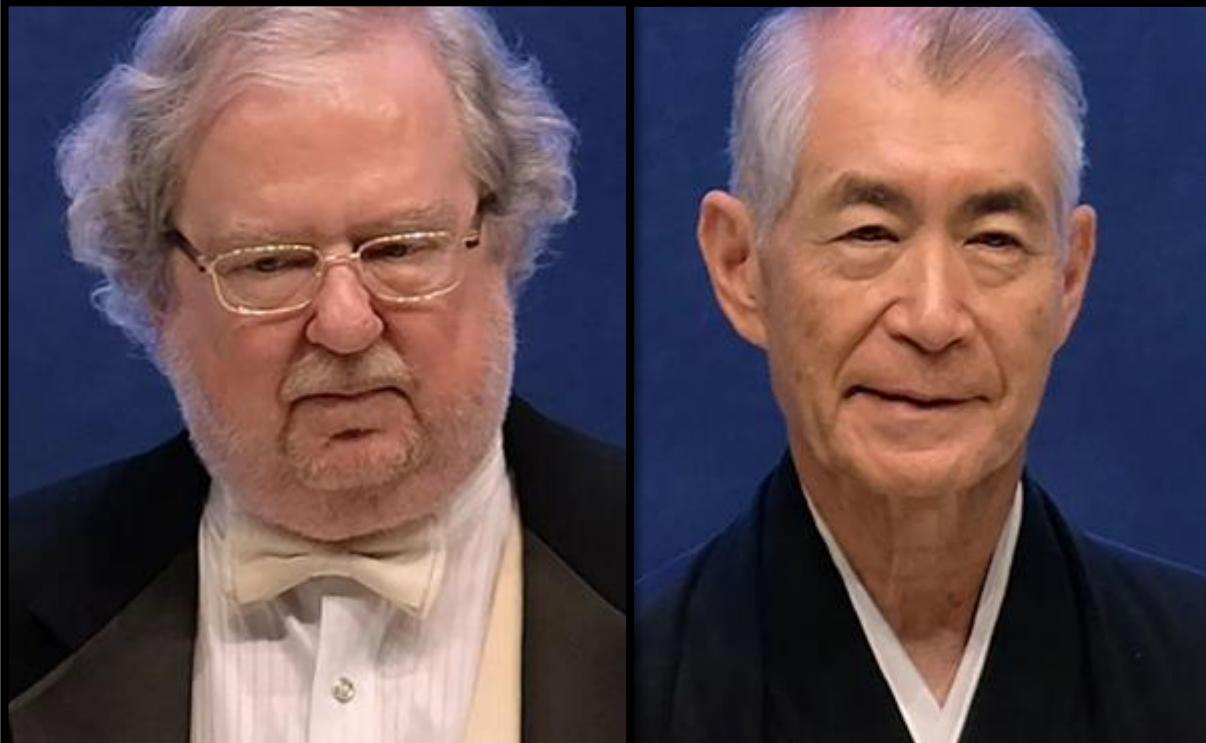
Table I Incidence of left ventricular dysfunction associated with chemotherapy drugs^{10–21}

| Chemotherapy agents | Incidence (%) |
|--------------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Monoclonal antibodies | |
| Trastuzumab | 1.7–20. ^{12a} |
| 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

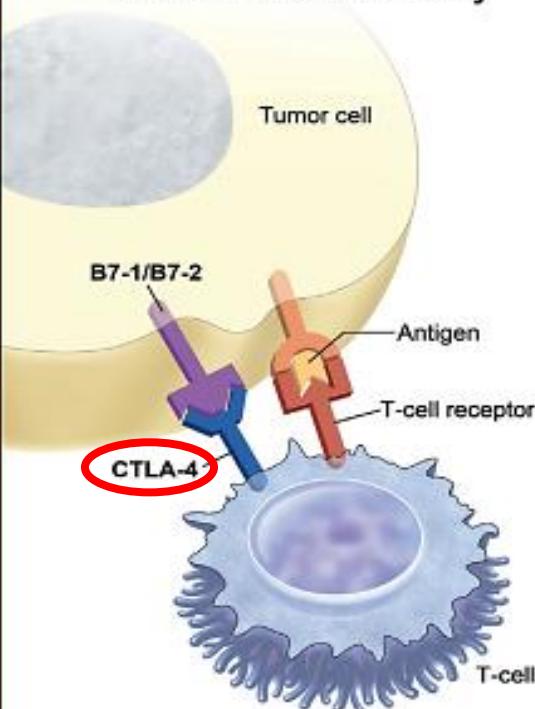
-  Melanoma
-  MSI-H/dMMR colorectal cancer
-  Renal cell carcinoma
-  Hepatocellular carcinoma
-  Non-small cell lung cancer (\pm limited chemotherapy)
-  Pleural mesothelioma

PD-1/PD-L1 Inhibitor + Chemotherapy

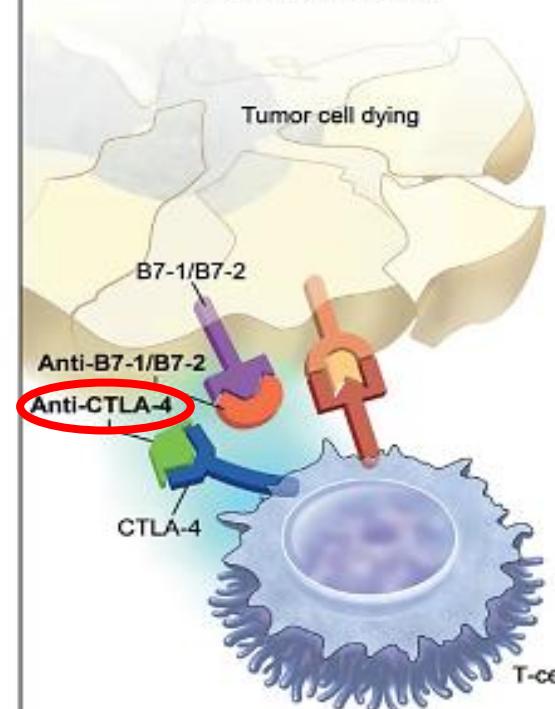
-  Non-small cell lung cancer
-  Small cell lung cancer
-  Squamous cell carcinoma of the head and neck
-  Gastric, gastroesophageal junction, and esophageal cancers
-  Triple-negative breast cancer
-  Cervical cancer

Mécanisme d'action

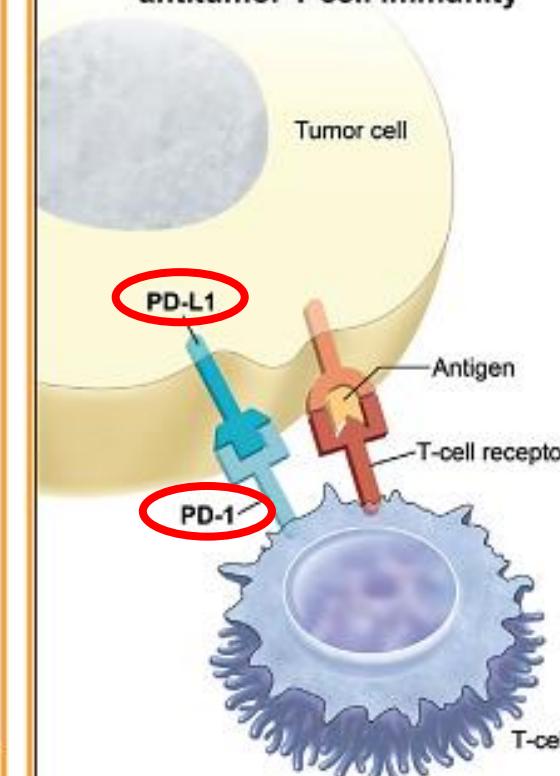
B7-1/B7-2 and CTLA-4 binding inhibits antitumor T-cell immunity



CTLA-4 inhibitors allow T-cells to kill tumor cells



PD-1 and PD-L1 binding inhibits antitumor T-cell immunity



PD-1 inhibitors and PD-L1 inhibitors allow T-cells to kill tumor cells

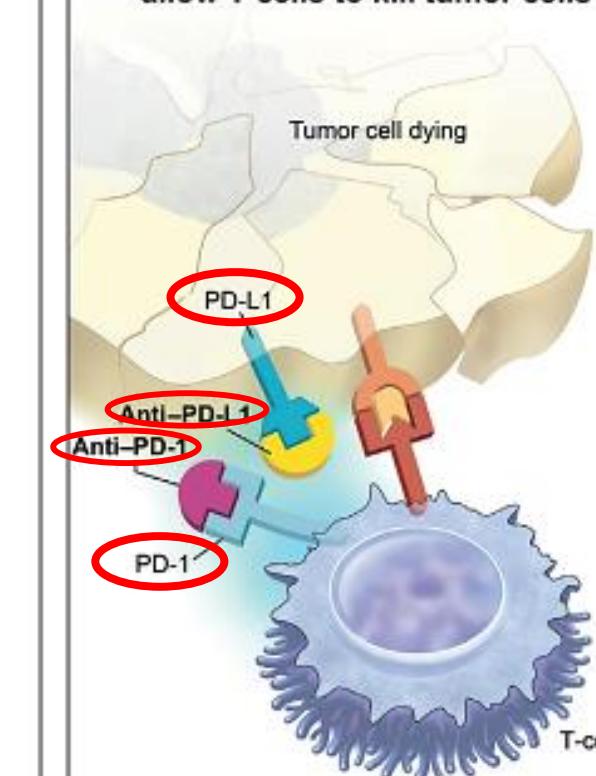


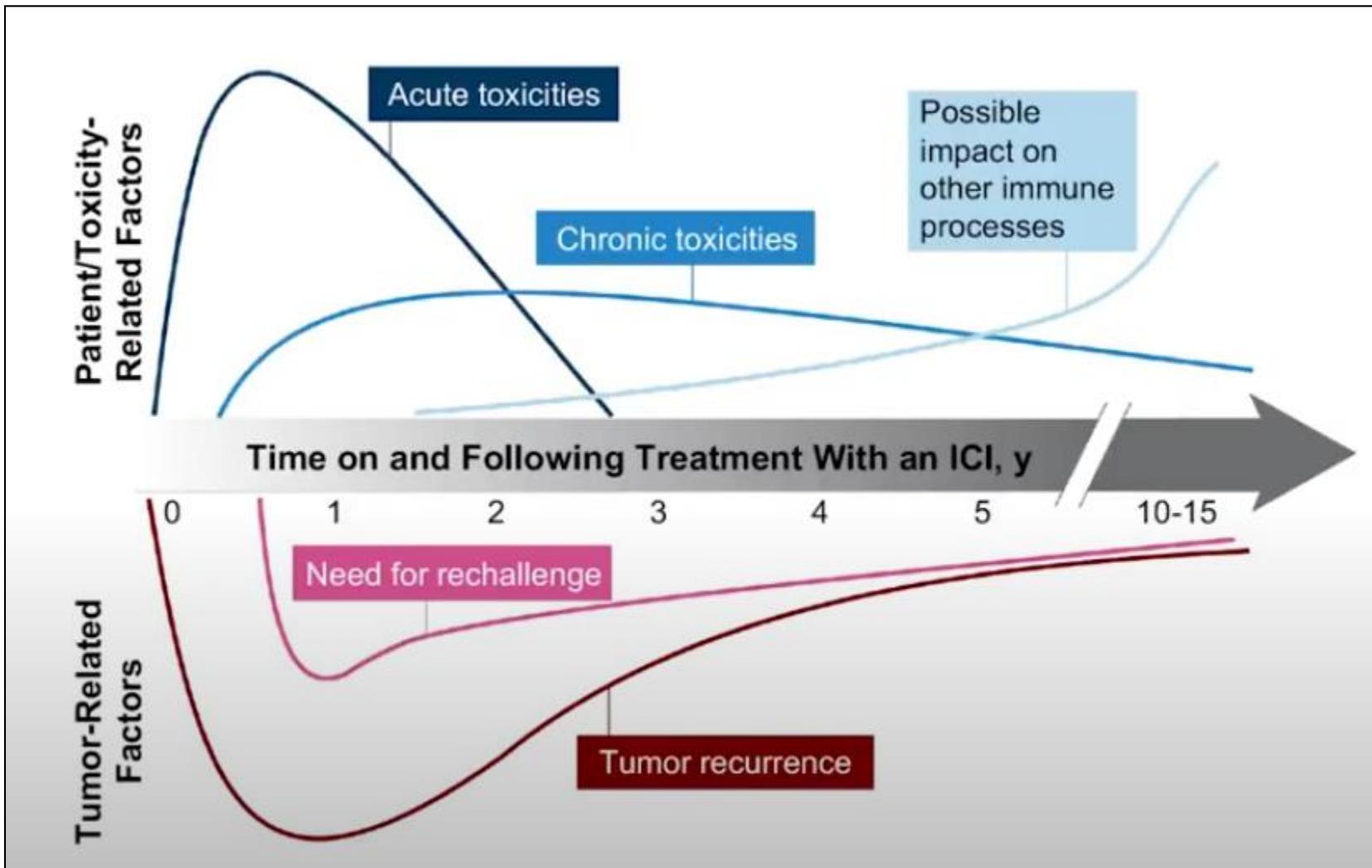
FIGURE 1. The action of cytotoxic T-lymphocyte-associated protein (CTLA) inhibitors. Ipilimumab is an anti-CTLA-4 antibody that causes blockade of CTLA-4, resulting in prolonged T-cell activation, proliferation, and antitumor response.

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

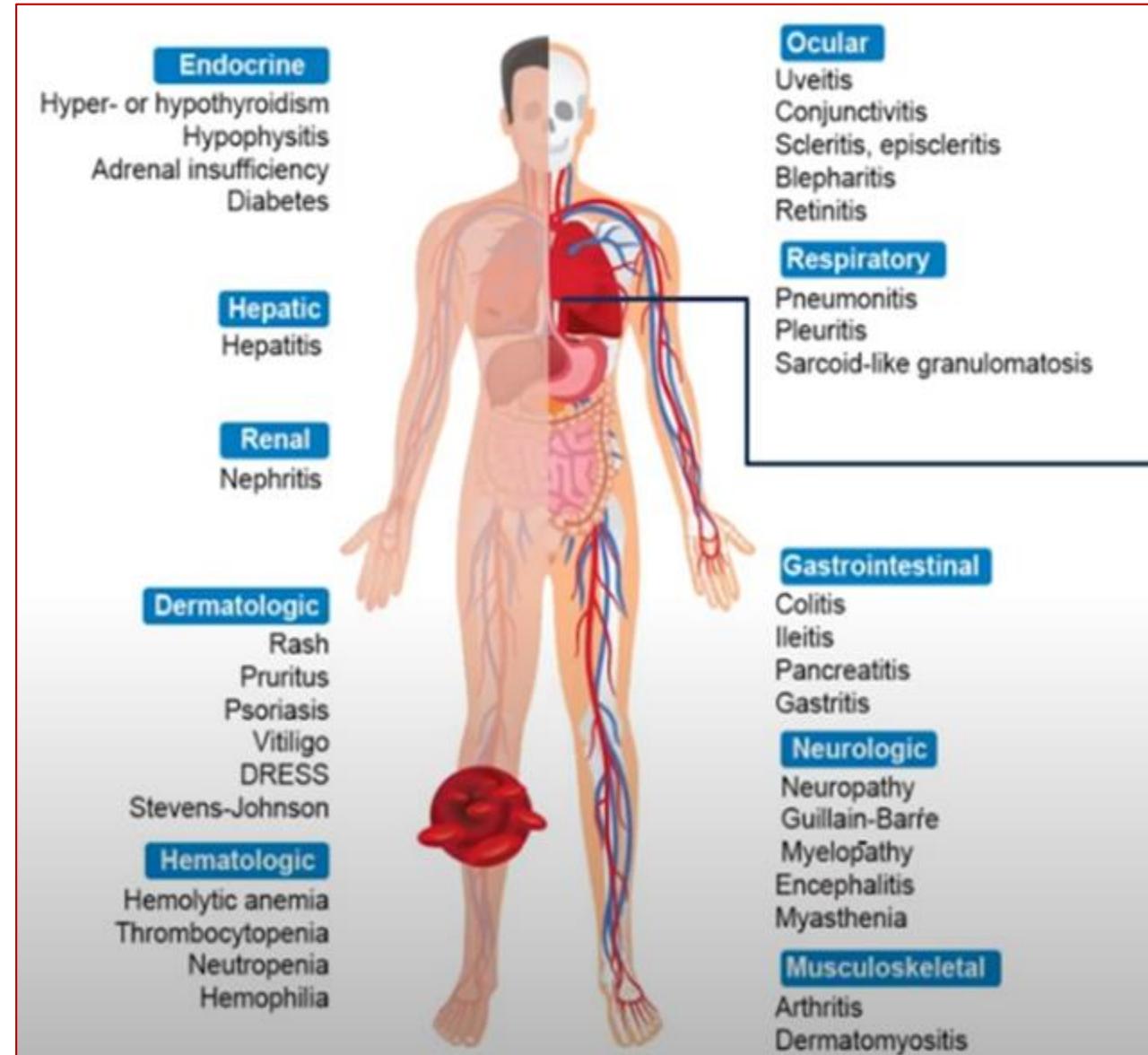
Effets secondaires auto-immuns

| | 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

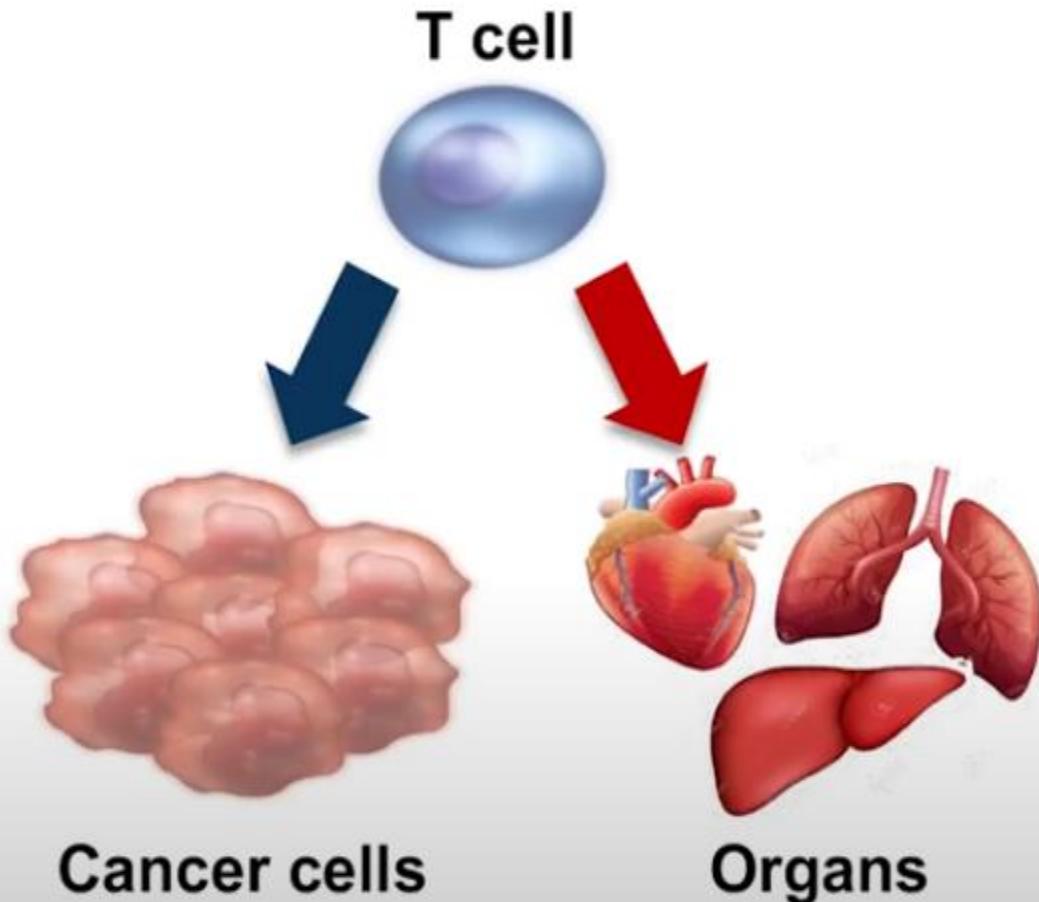
Pré thérapeutique

| 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 |

Facteurs de risque de toxicité



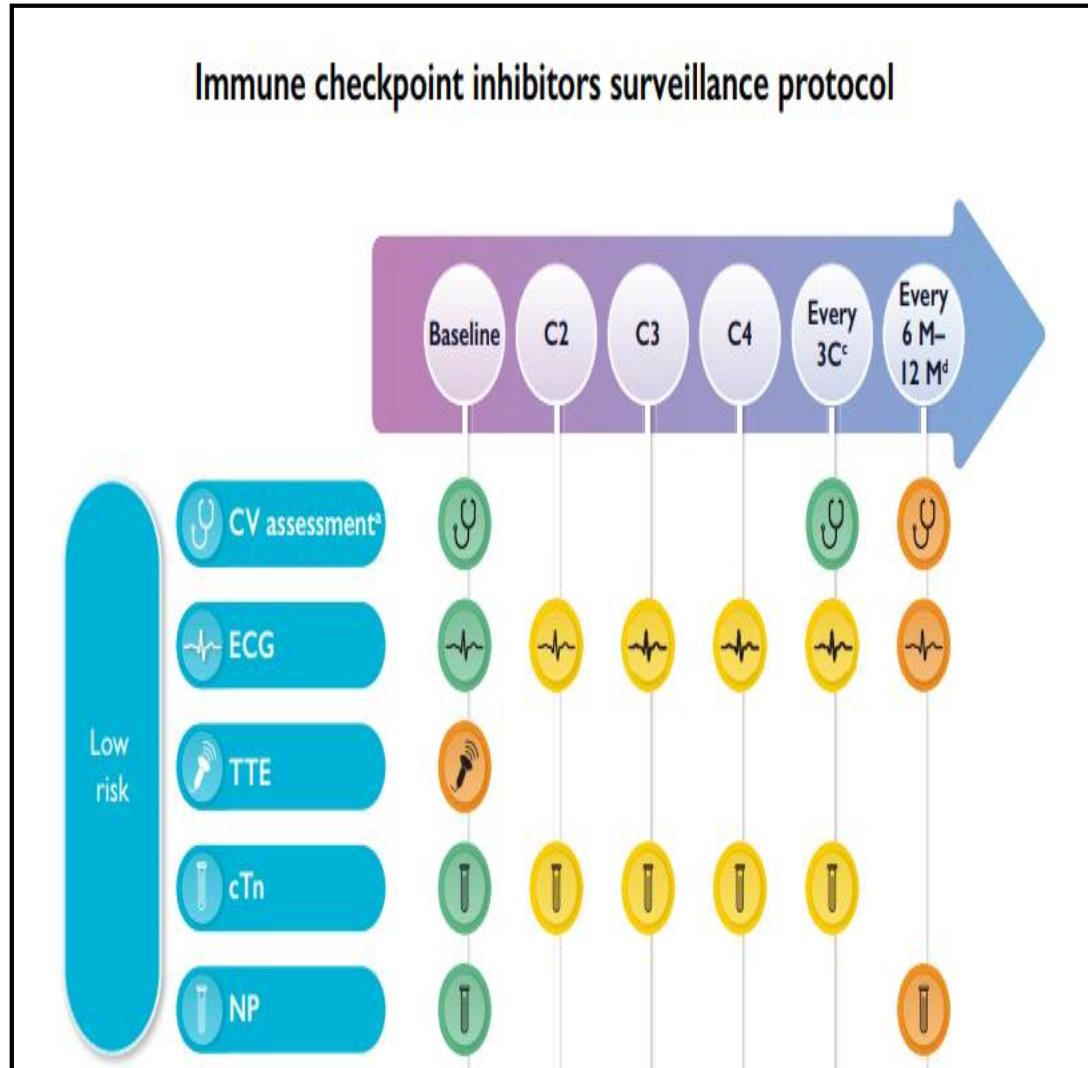
Factors for toxicity

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

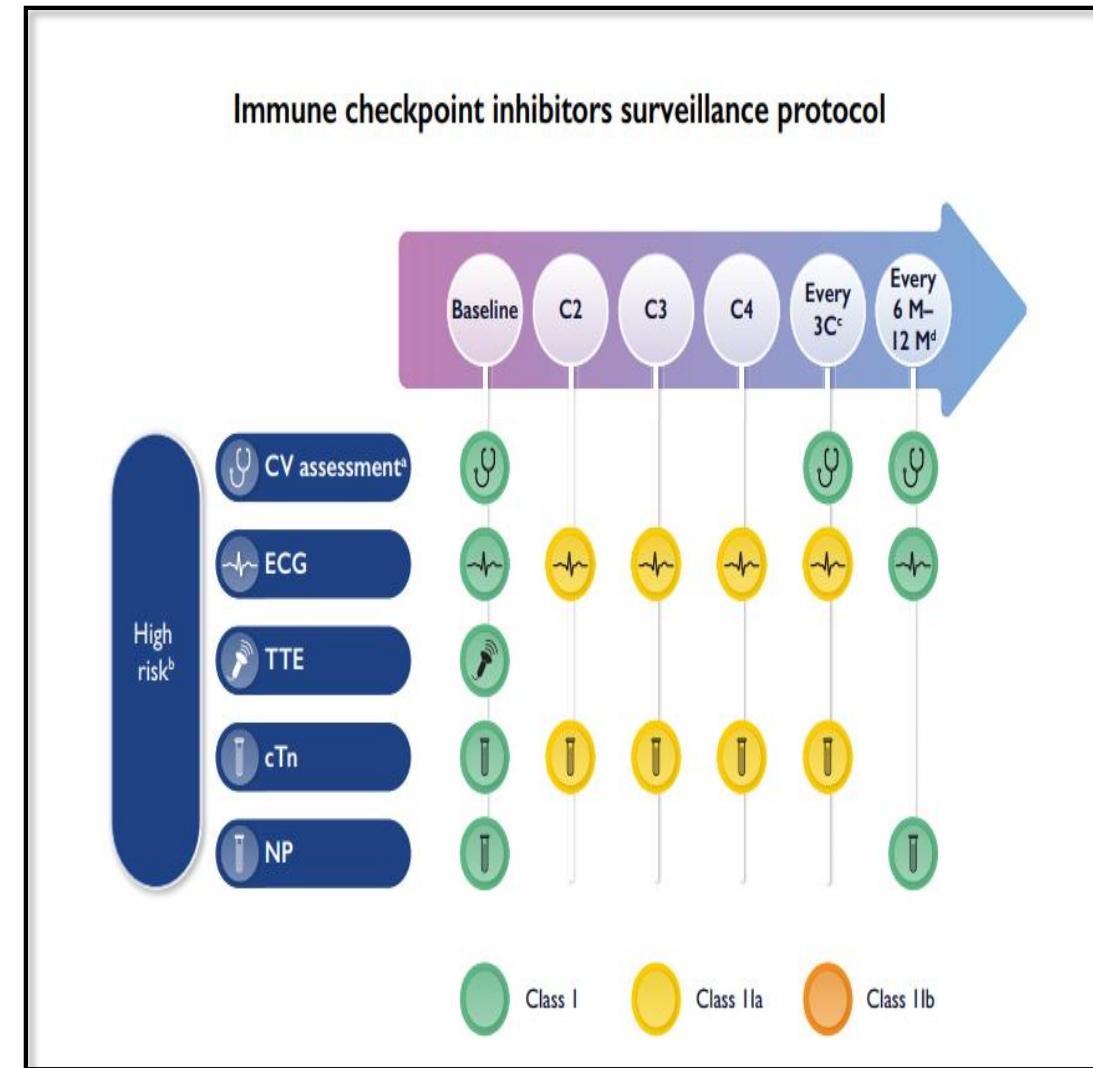
More aggressive combinations → more toxicity

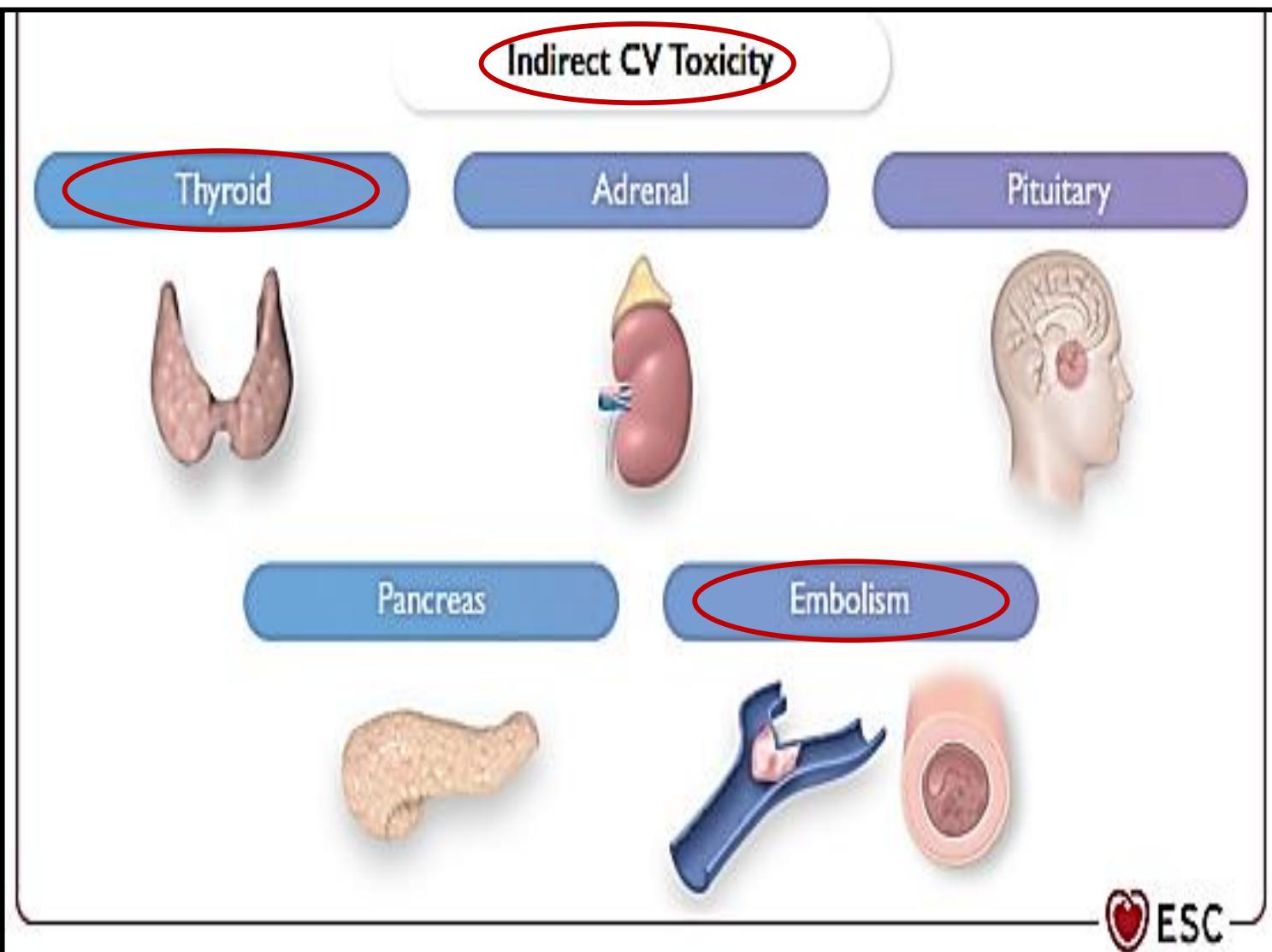
- ICI-related non-CV events, prior CTRCD or CVD
- Combination ICI-cardiotoxic therapy

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



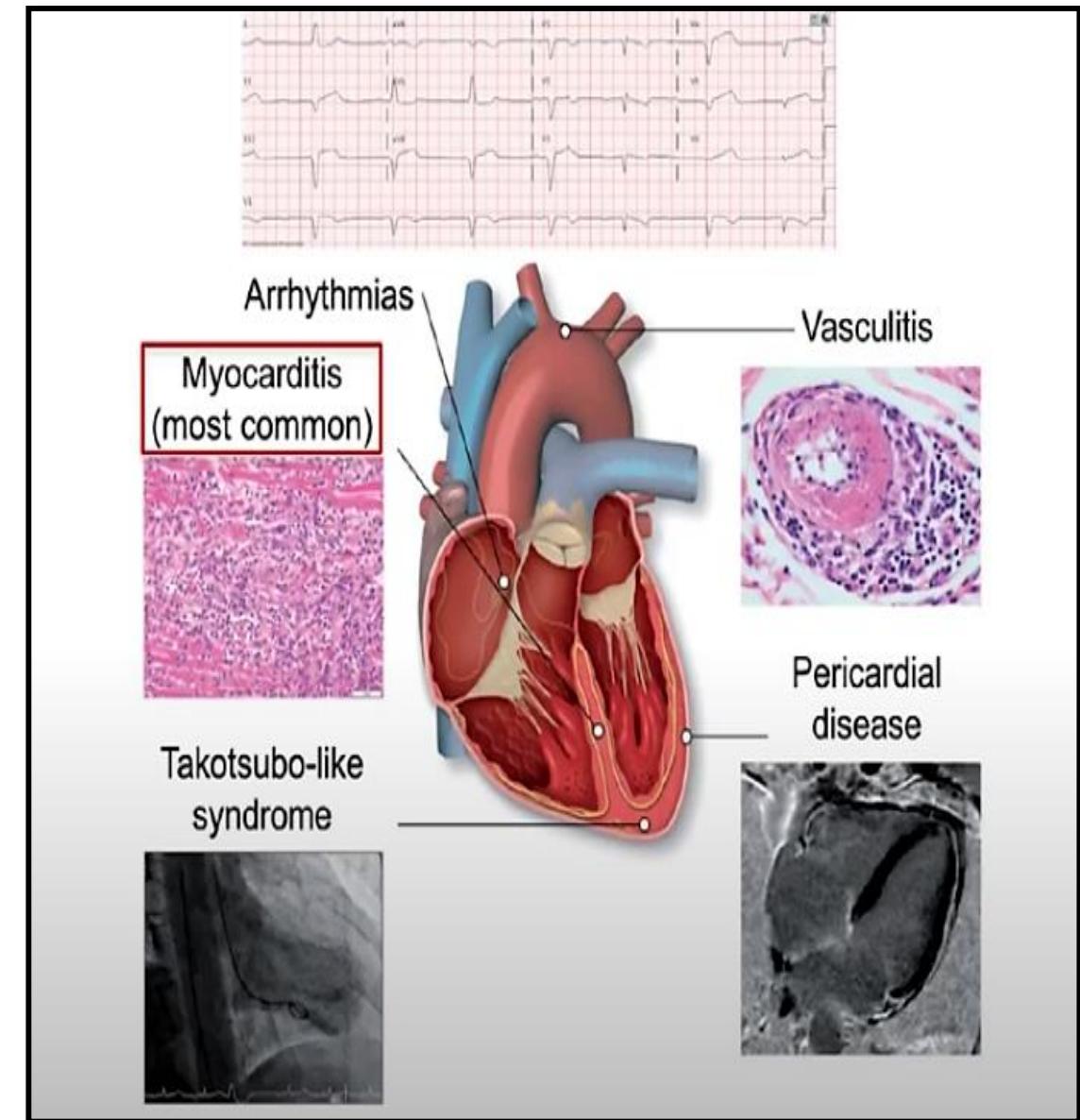
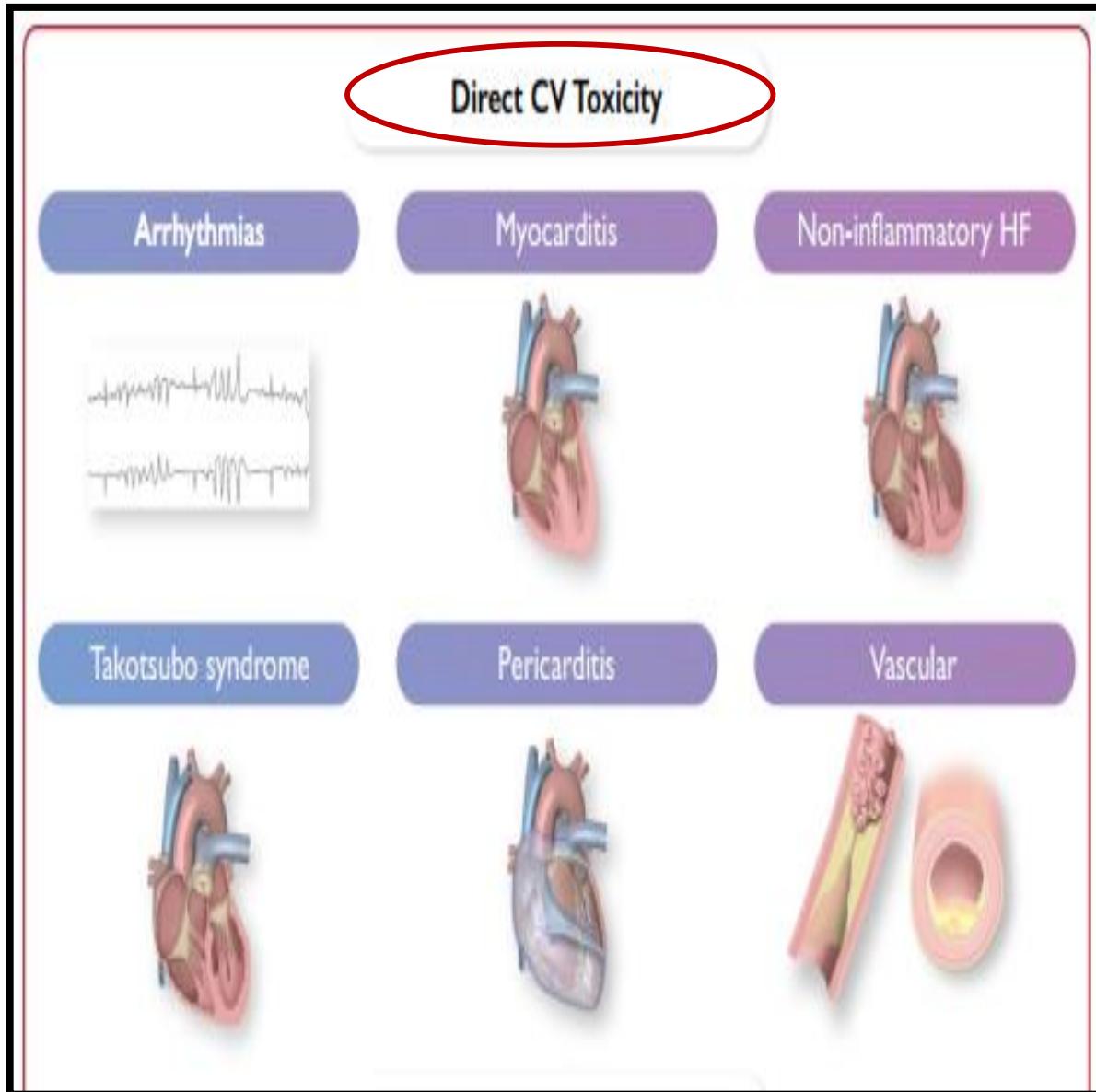
Suivi des patients à haut risque de myocardite traités par inhibiteurs des checkpoints





Dysthyroïdie:
Hyperthyroïdie =
cardiothyroïose, FA

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



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.

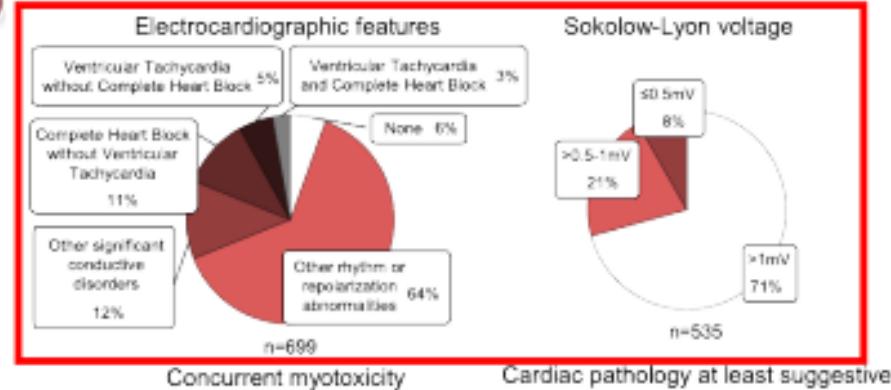
ICI myocarditis and arrhythmias rates

Major Cardiomyotoxic Events

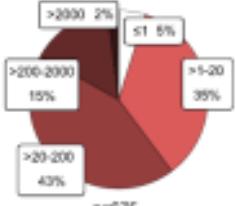
Discovery international ICI myocarditis cohort



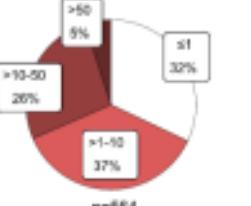
748



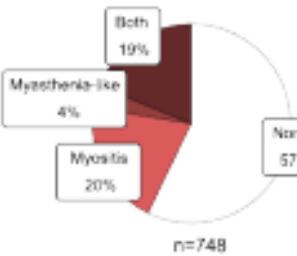
Peak troponin (preferentially T, otherwise I), folds of upper limit of normal



Peak Creatine Kinase, folds of upper limit of normal



Concurrent myotoxicity



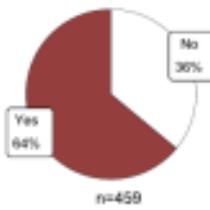
Cardiac pathology at least suggestive



Nadir Left Ventricular Ejection Fraction



Any Cardiac Resonance Imaging at least suggestive



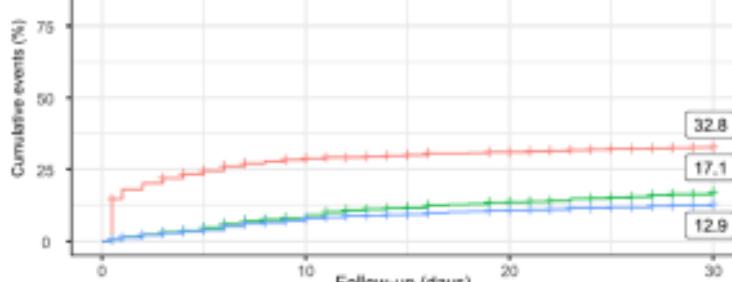
ESC

European Society
of Cardiology

European Heart Journal (2025) 00, 1–13

<https://doi.org/10.1093/eurheartj/ehaf315>

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



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

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 | <p>Discuter l'interruption temporaire du TRT</p> <p>Traitements classiques: aspirine ou AINS + colchicine ..</p> <p>Arrêt du TRT</p> <p>Prednisolone 1mg/Kg avec ou sans Colchicine</p> <p>+/- drainage péricardique</p> |

Gravité: forme asymptomatique à la tamponnade et décès.

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

Rechallenge: RCP de Cardio-Oncologie

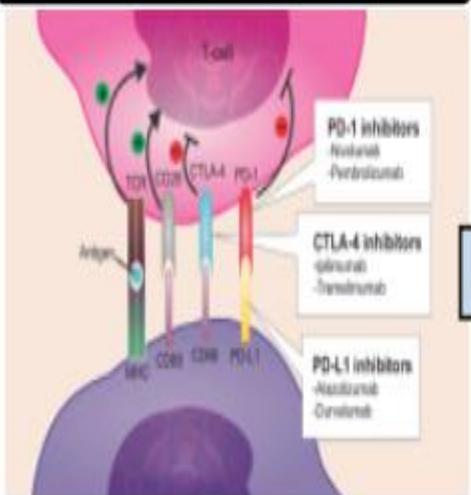
Complications vasculaires : SCA

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

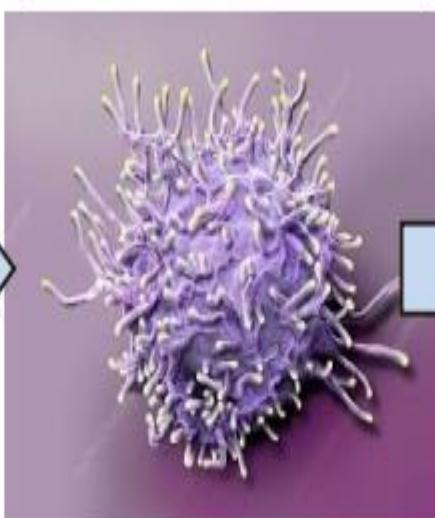
The potential impact of ICIs on CV surrogates and CV events

Hypothesis

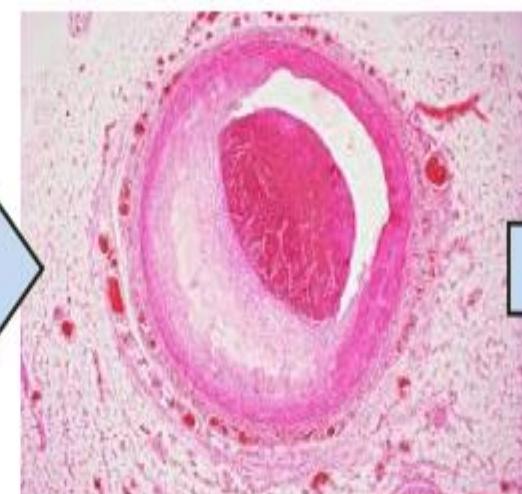
Immune
Checkpoint
Inhibitors



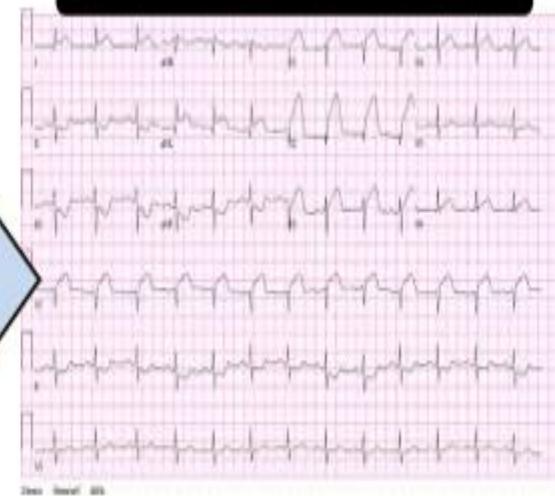
Enhanced
immune
response



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 %

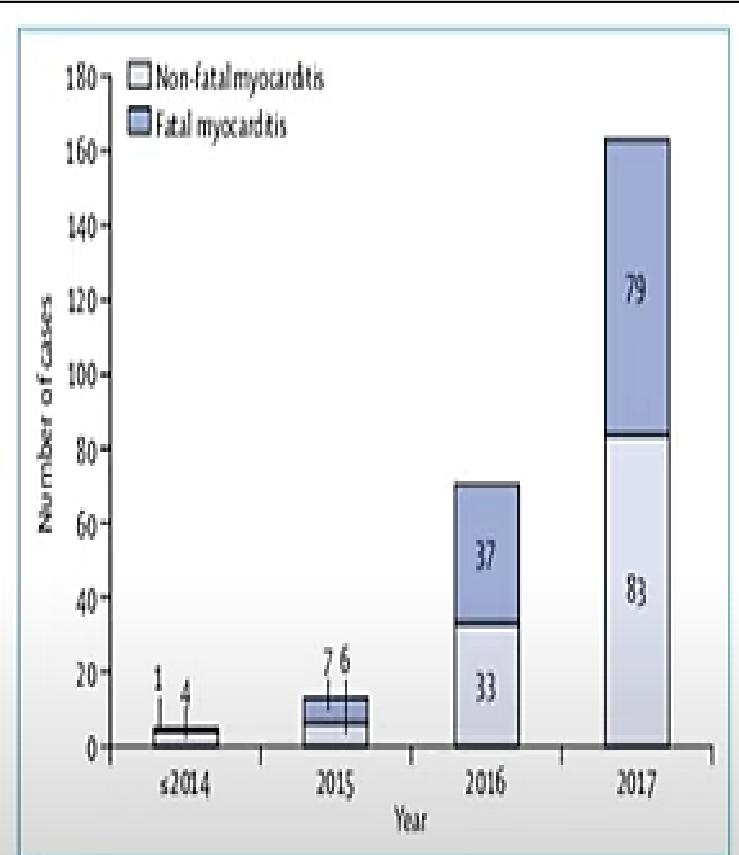
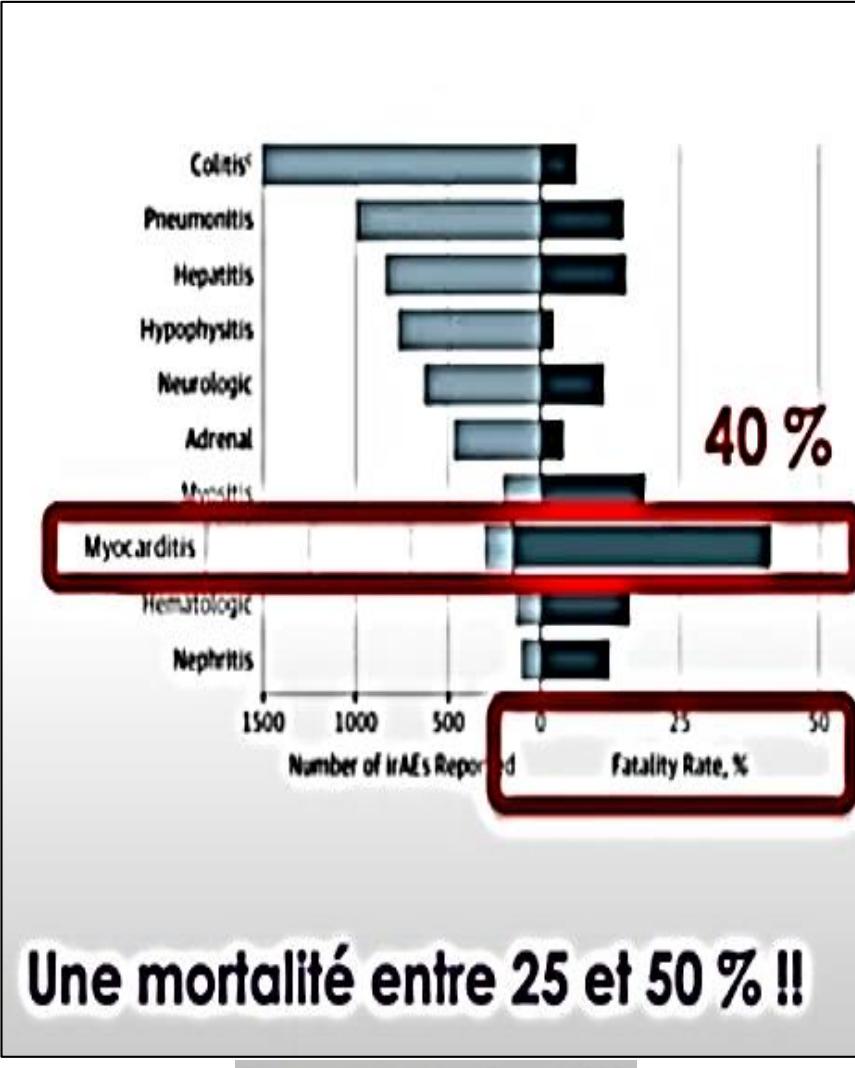


Figure: Number of fatal and non-fatal cases of myocarditis reported to the US Food and Drug Administration, by year

US and Germany registries

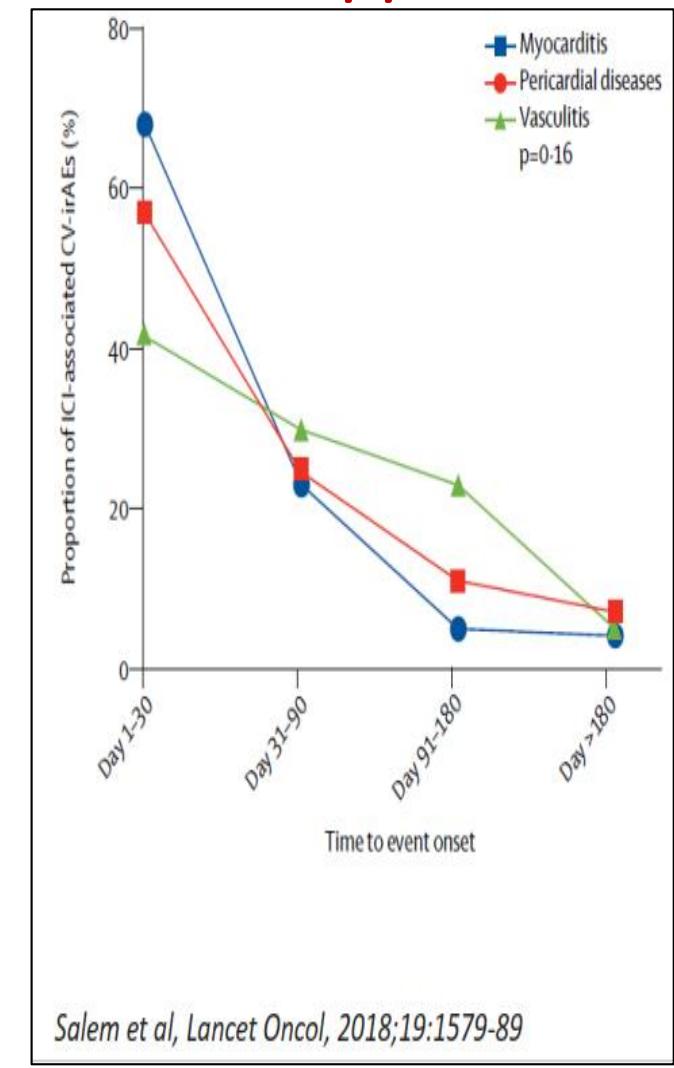
Mahmood SS, J Am Coll Cardiol
2012

Gravité



Salem et al. JAMA Oncol 2018

Délai d'apparition



Myocardite immuno-induite: diagnostic

Clinical diagnosis^d

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

Major criterion:

- CMR diagnostic for acute myocarditis (modified Lake Louise criteria)^g

ICI myocarditis (either pathohistological diagnosis or clinical diagnosis)

Pathohistological diagnosis (EMB)

Multifocal inflammatory cell infiltrates with overt cardiomyocyte loss by light microscopy
(shortness of breath, orthopnoea, lower-extremity oedema, palpitations, lightheadedness/dizziness, syncope, muscle weakness, cardiogenic shock)

- 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



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journal homepage: www.ejconline.com



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ONCOLOGY

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VOL. 3, NO. 12, 2024

ORIGINAL RESEARCH

HEART FAILURE AND CARDIOMYOPATHIES



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

Dirk Tomsitz^a, Ulrich Grabmaier^b, Judith Spiro^c, Leo Nicolai^{b,d}, Lars E. French^{b,e},
Steffen Massberg^b, Lucie Heinzerling^{b,f,g}

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Elevations of Cardiac Troponin in Patients Receiving Immune Checkpoint Inhibitors



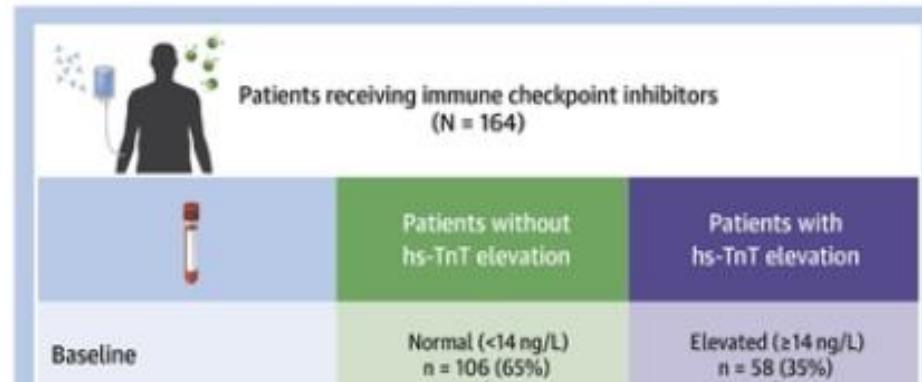
Data From a Prospective Study

Peter F. van den Berg, MD,^a Valentina Bianchi, MSc,^a Michel Noordman, MSc,^a Peter van der Meer, MD, PhD,^a
Carmia Shi, MD,^b Sjoukje P. Oosting, MSc, PhD,^b Joseph Pierre Aboumallem, PhD,^b Samme de Wit, MSc,^b
Wimter C. Meijers, MD, PhD,^{b,c} Maritèle Jolyng, MD, PhD,^b Michel van Eschoten, MD, PhD,^b

Baseline troponin detectable range of 30-35%

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

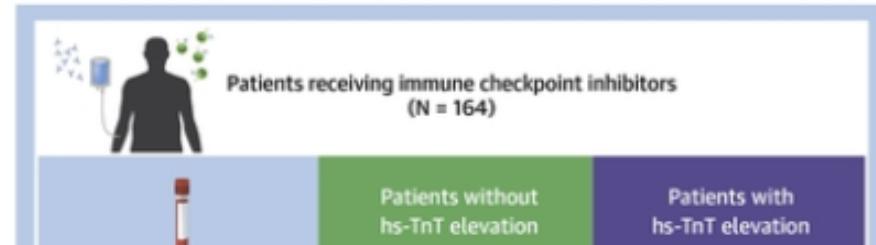
Receiving Immune Checkpoint Inhibitors



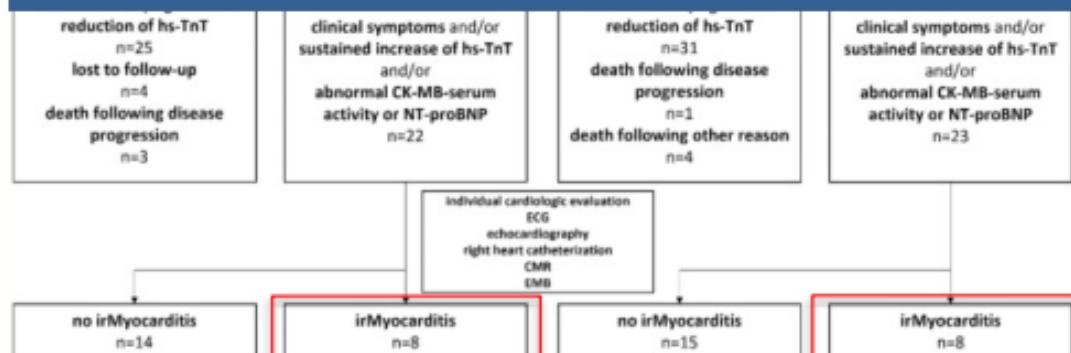
Do baseline detectable troponin values have prognostic implications?



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 |

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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

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 |
| | 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 |
| Supportive Criteria | Pericarditis (Effusion in cine images or abnormal LGE, T2, or T1) | Pericardial effusion | Regional or global hypokinesis |
| | Systolic LV Dysfunction (Regional or global wall motion abnormality) | Cine | Cine/diastole Cine/torsion |

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

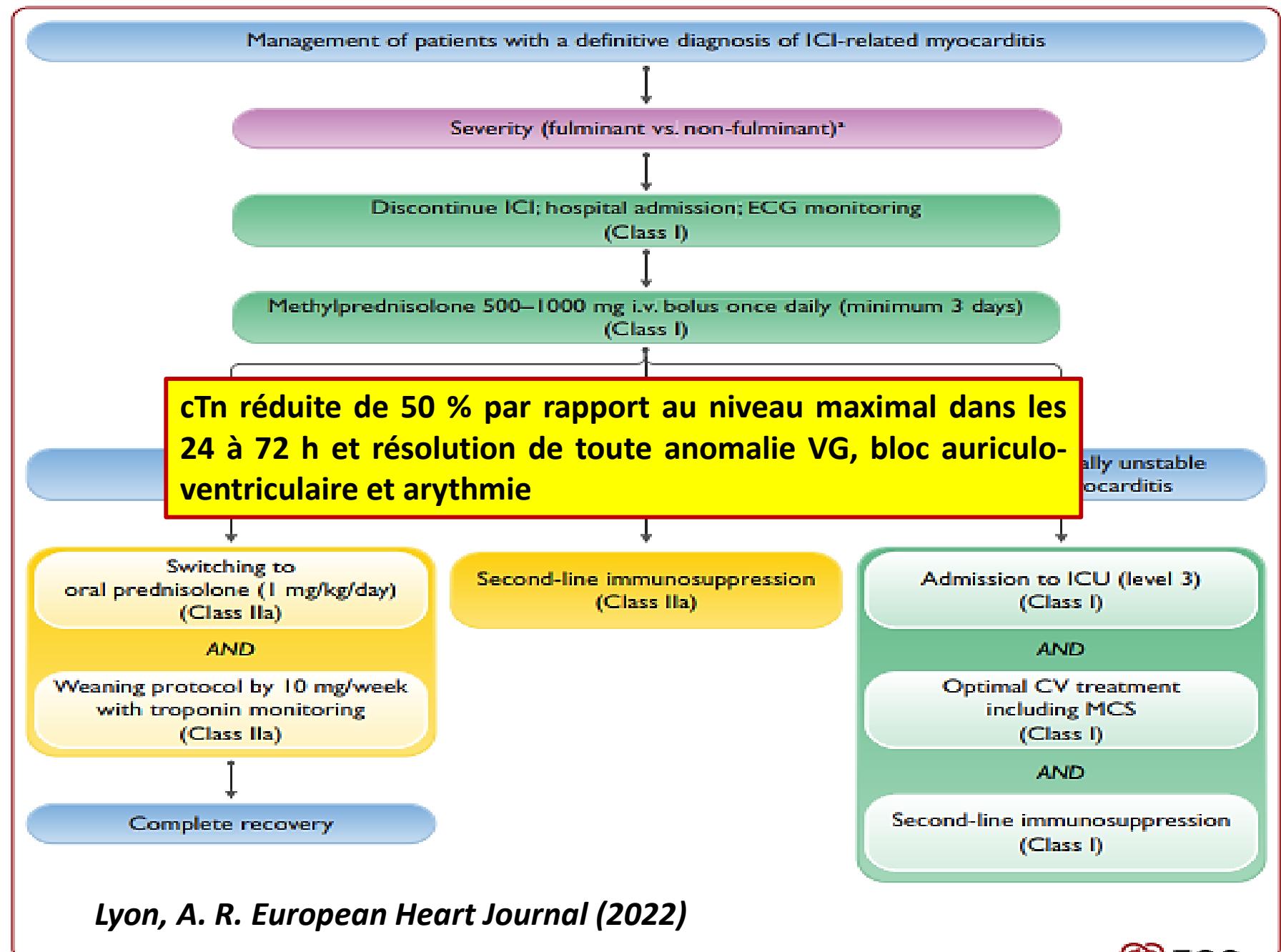
Severity of myocarditis

- **Fulminant:** Haemodynamic instability, HF requiring non-invasive or invasive ventilation, complete or high-grade heart block, and/or significant ventricular arrhythmia
- **Non-fatal:** 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



Traitemen*t* 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