



SUPPORTING INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER IN ONCOLOGY

PDC*lung

PDC*lung: A therapeutic vaccine candidate for lung cancer based on a proprietary allogeneic cell line of Plasmacytoid Dendritic Cells (PDC*line)



CONTEXT & BACKGROUND

Since 2014, the revolution of immuno-oncology gives unprecedented hope for cure to lung cancer patients thanks to anti-PD-1 immune checkpoint inhibitors. However, in most indications, **around 80% patients don't respond to anti-PD-1, in relation to poor anti-tumor immunity**. Therapeutic vaccines, which aim at boosting anti-tumor immunity represent a potential solution. The most attractive approach is based on dendritic cells (DC) due to their unique antigen-presenting properties. However, DC-based vaccines are autologous cell therapies which face complex and costly logistic and production processes, and lack convincing clinical efficacy. PDC*line Pharma is a clinical stage biotech that develops a new class of therapeutic vaccines using a proprietary cell line of Plasmacytoid Dendritic Cells (PDC*line) with unique features, potentially synergizing the clinical activity anti-PD-1 devoid of additional toxicity, without process challenges of other cell therapies. A robust preclinical proof-of-concept of the technology is established, and a first-in-human phase Ib in melanoma shows promising preliminary results. PDC*vac superior mechanism of action **represents a unique solution to overcome all the limitations of conventional therapeutic cancer vaccines, and beyond**. Indeed, PDC*vac shares the advantages of both antigenbased vaccines (homogeneity, cost-effectiveness, scalability...) and of classical dendritic cell-based vaccines (optimal DC targeting and loading, efficacy...), while in fact being **much more potent than either of them**. The objective of PDC*line Pharma is now to demonstrate how its innovative approach based on a proprietary allogeneic cell line of Plasmacytoid Dendritic Cells (PDC*line) can boost CD8+ T cells anti-tumor immunity in lung cancer patients 4,5 and thus significantly enhance clinical response to anti-PD(L)1.

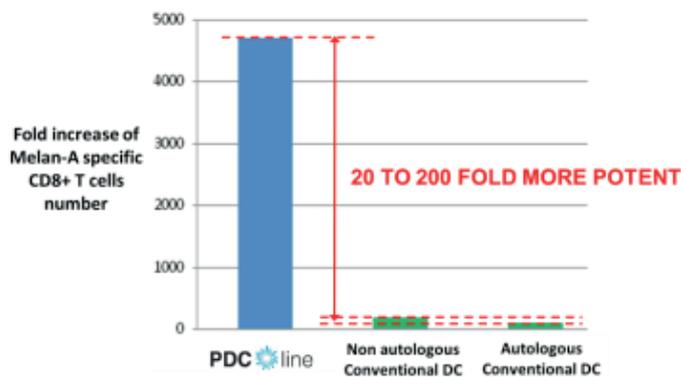


Figure 1: PDC*line superior immunogenicity to induce CD8+ T cells compared to conventional allogeneic or autologous DCs



INNOVATIVE COMPONENT & TECHNOLOGY

- PDC*vac: a new class of therapeutic cancer vaccines based on proprietary allogeneic cell line of Plasmacytoid Dendritic Cells (PDC*line), a potent antigen presenting cell with unique mechanism of action, loaded with any desired HLA-A*02:01 restricted peptides derived from antigens of target cancer type.
- Pipeline: PDC*mel for melanoma in phase I, PDC*lung for lung cancer (preclinical validation)

SCOPE

Cancer immunotherapy

KEYWORDS

Immuno-oncology, Therapeutic cancer vaccine, Immune checkpoint inhibitors combination strategy (anti-PD-1 / anti-PD-L1), Non-small cell lung cancer, Plasmacytoid dendritic cell, Allogeneic cell based therapy.



OBJECTIVES

Establish the clinical proof-of-concept that PDC*lung synergizes with anti-PD-1 immune checkpoint inhibitors in advanced stage non-small cell lung cancer patients compared to anti-PD-1 in monotherapy



DEVELOPMENT & MATURATION STAGE

Robust preclinical proof-of-concept of PDC (Aspord, Plos One 2010; Aspord, JID, 2012)
- First-in-man phase IB in melanoma (report expected Q3/2017)



TARGET POPULATION

Advanced stage Non-small cell lung cancer, eligible to anti-PD-(L)1
- HLA-A2 compatible (50% of patients in Europe, 36% in the USA)



TARGET PROFILE

PDC*lung: PDC*line (proprietary plasmacytoid dendritic cell line) loaded with HLA-A*02:01 restricted peptides derived from tumor antigens expressed by over 90% of target population (cancer/testis antigens, MUC1...)
- Dose: 70 Million cells (10 million cells / peptide)
- Route: intravenous
- Combination: with anti-PD-(L)1 monoclonal antibody
- Schedule: every 2 weeks x 6 (induction), then every 2 months x 4 (consolidation)



STRENGTHS & COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGES

Potency. Ex-vivo studies show (Aspord et al, 2010) that PDC*line is more potent than conventional (myeloid) DCs (that are suboptimal, heterogenous and may be affected by disease and previous treatments). The use of multiple cancer / testis antigens is also a plus.
- Scalability. PDC*line can be mass-produced as an off-the-shelf standardized product, much cheaper and more convenient than conventional autologous DC-based immunotherapies. The same product is used for all treatments of the target population, which also facilitates its development.



INDUSTRIAL APPLICATIONS & OPPORTUNITIES

PDC*vac is applicable to virtually any cancer type, and even to personalized approaches based on neo-antigens. It is easy to adapt the set of tumor antigens used, with no need of significant preclinical validation.
o in combination with immune checkpoint inhibitors such as anti-PD-(L)1 in advanced stage cancer
o as an adjuvant monotherapy treatment in early stage cancer
- PDC*vac can also be engineered to express other molecules, such as other HLA haplotypes in order to extend the targeted patient population to non-HLA-A*02:01 patients. Futures generations of products will be able to be developed.



INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & PATIENT CO-OWNER(S)

2 patents: Dendritic cell line GEN 2.2 (WO 2004-061-089), and Plasmacytoid dendritic cell line used in active or adoptive cell therapy (WO 2009-138-489)
- Exclusive rights granted by EFS (Etablissement Français du Sang) to PDC*line Pharma for therapeutic cancer vaccines