

PLÉNIÈRE

Méthodologie des essais cliniques : vers une optimisation de la recherche de dose, comment les phases précoces s'adaptent aux nouvelles réglementations ?

Débat animé par : Fabrice Barlesi et David Pérol
Avec la participation de : Olivier Mir, Xavier Paoletti,
Sophie Postel-Vinay

Oncology Phase 1 trial design conduct: Time for a change? Novel MDICT Guidelines

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Clinician Scientist

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Phases Précoces en Oncologie

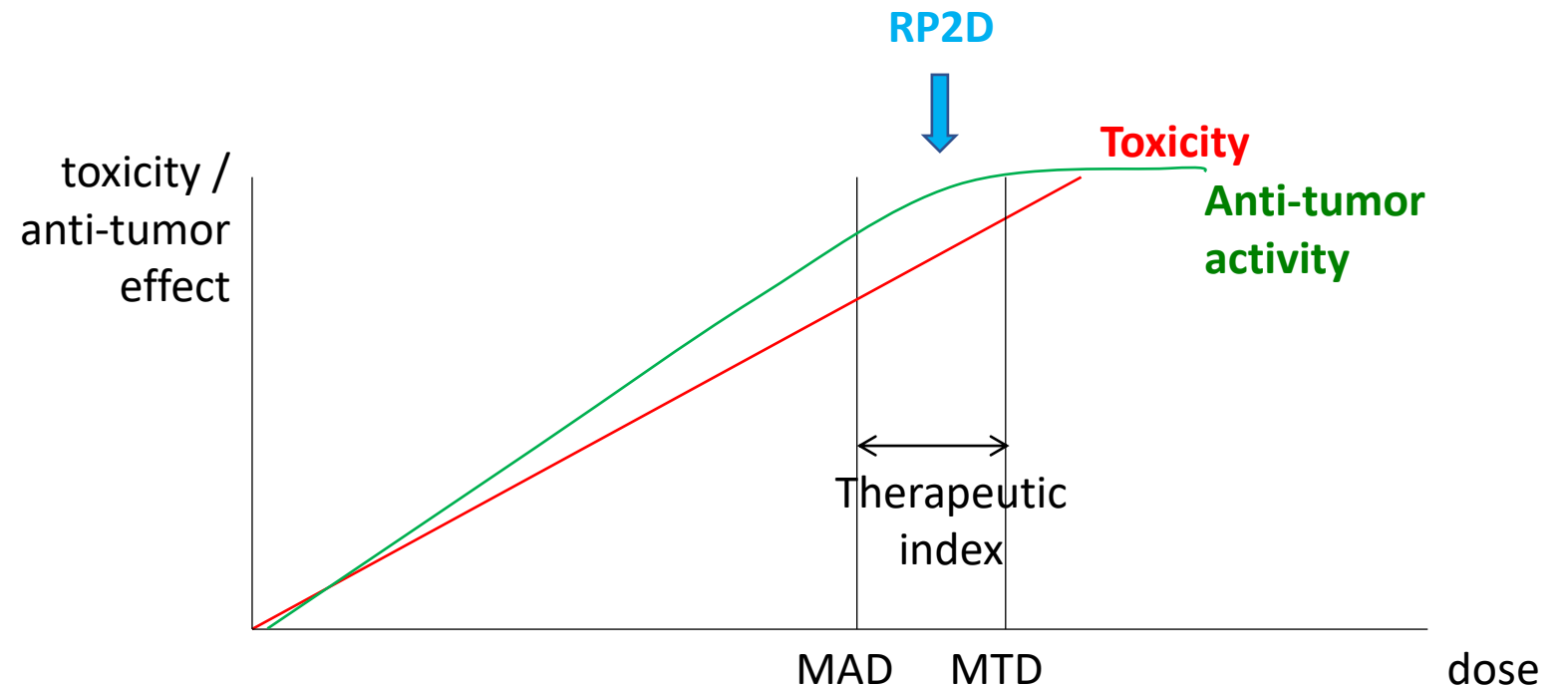
30 Novembre 2023

Conventional chemotherapy

Characteristics

- Administration **limited** in time
- **Early** toxicities
- **Linear** dose-toxicity / dose-efficacy relationship

- Dose selection: driven by **safety**, efficacy, and PK

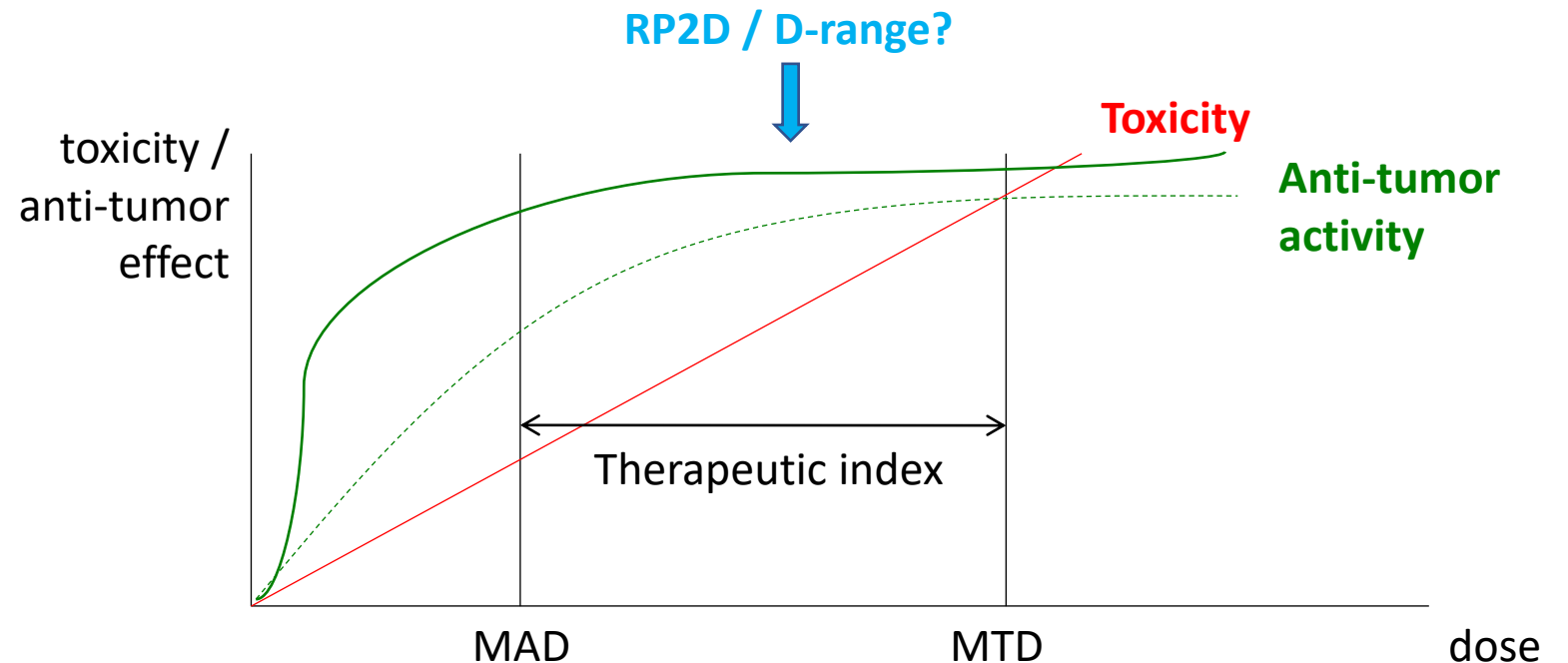


MTA & Antibody-based therapies

Novel characteristics

- **Chronic** administration
- **Late** toxicities (>50% G3 after DLT period)
- **No linear** dose-toxicity / dose-efficacy relationship
- **MTD** not always reached

- Dose selection: driven by safety, efficacy, and PK
- Proof of biological effect : efficacy and PD

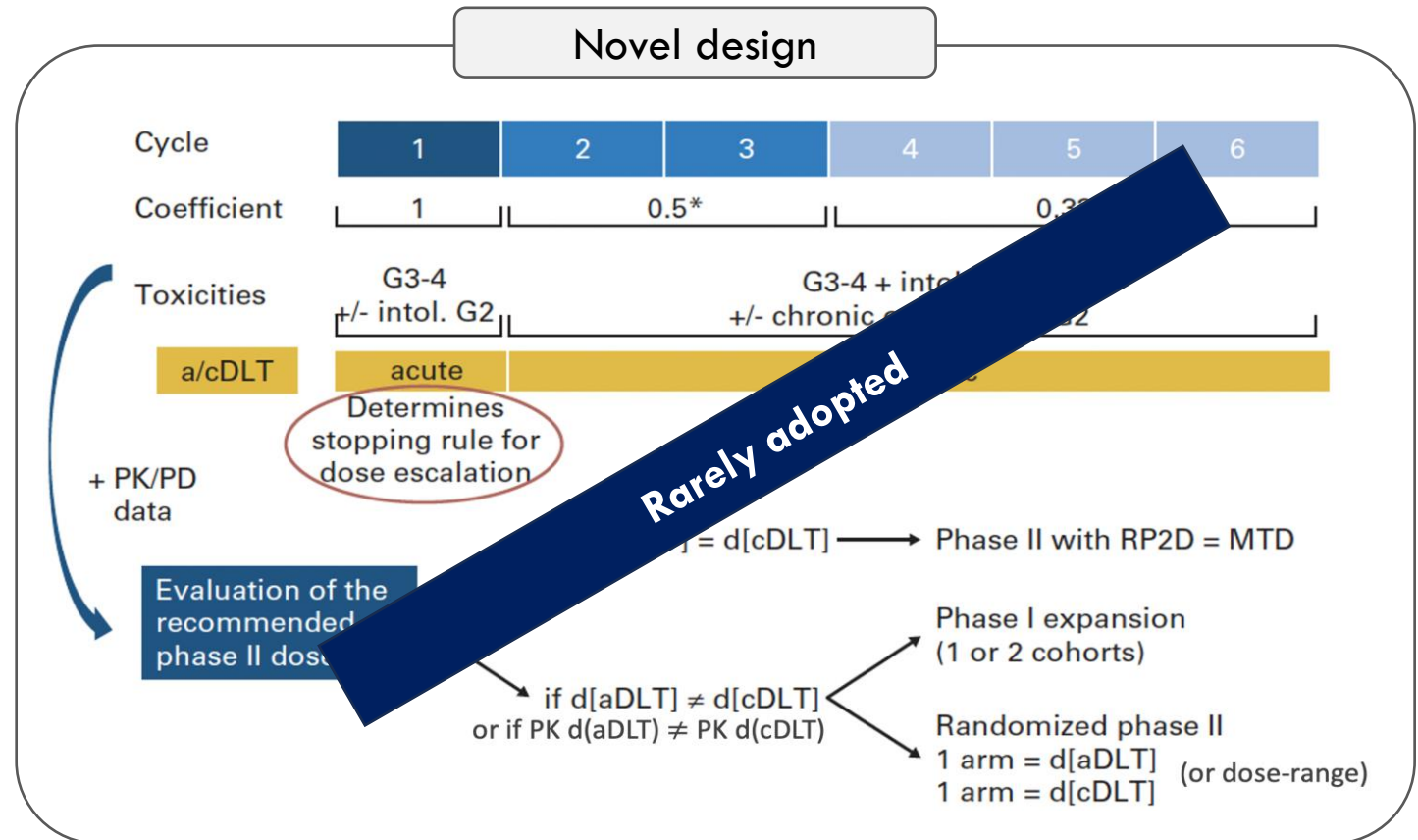


Postel-Vinay, JCO 2013; Postel-Vinay EJC 2014; Postel-Vinay, Ann Oncol 2016

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Pressurising need to revisit drug development methodology

The Drug-Dosing Conundrum in Oncology — When Less Is More

Mirat Shah, M.D., Atiqur Rahman, Ph.D., Marc R. Theoret, M.D., and Richard Pazdur, M.D.

NEJM 2021

Examples of Drugs Whose Doses or Schedules Were Modified for Safety or Tolerability after Approval.*

Drug	Initial Dose and Trials	Modified or Added Dose and Trials	Reason for Modified or Added Dose
Small-molecule drugs			
Ceritinib (Zykadia)	750 mg PO daily fasted (ASCEND-1)	450 mg PO daily with food (ASCEND-8)	Reduce gastrointestinal toxic effects
Dasatinib (Sprycel)	70 mg PO twice daily (CA180013, CA180005, CA180006, and CA180015)	100 mg PO daily (CA180034)	Reduce hematologic toxic effects and fluid retention
Niraparib (Zejula)	300 mg PO daily (NOVA)	200 mg PO daily (PRIMA)	Reduce thrombocytopenia in patients with a lower platelet count or lower body weight
Ponatinib (Iclusig)	45 mg PO daily (PACE)	45 mg PO daily, then 15 mg PO daily once $\leq 1\%$ BCR-ABL is achieved (OPTIC)	Reduce vascular occlusive events
Chemotherapy			
Cabazitaxel (Jevtana)	25 mg/m ² IV every 3 wk (TROPIC)	20 mg/m ² IV every 3 wk (PROSELICA)	Reduce hematologic toxic effects and infections
Antibody–drug conjugates			
Gemtuzumab ozogamicin (Mylotarg)	9 mg/m ² IV on days 1 and 15 (Study 201, Study 202, and Study 203)	3 mg/m ² IV on days 1, 4, and 7 (Mylofrance-1)	Reduce veno-occlusive disease and treatment-related mortality



ESMO TAT

PARIS 2022

Pressurising need to revisit drug development methodology



REVIEW

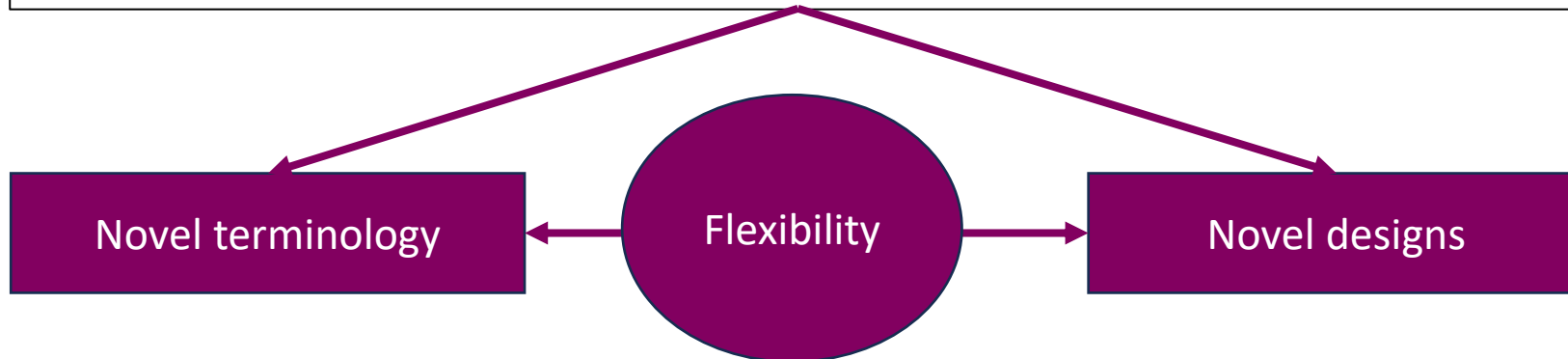
Oncology phase I trial design and conduct: time for a change - MDICT Guidelines 2022

D. Araujo^{1†}, A. Greystoke^{2†}, S. Bates³, A. Bayle⁴, E. Calvo⁵, L. Castelo-Branco⁶, J. de Bono^{7,8}, A. Drlon⁹, E. Garralda¹⁰, P. Ivy¹¹, O. Kholmanskikh^{12,13}, I. Melero¹⁴, G. Pentheroudakis⁶, J. Petrie¹⁵, R. Plummer², S. Ponce⁴, S. Postel-Vinay⁴, L. Siu¹⁶, A. Spreafico¹⁶, A. Stathis¹⁷, N. Steeghs¹⁸, C. Yap⁷, T. A. Yap¹⁹, M. Ratain²⁰ & L. Seymour^{15*}



ESMO TAT

PARIS 2022



For which drugs?

	Mutant and isoform-selective agents	Kinase family selective agents	Multi-kinase inhibitor agents	Immune checkpoint inhibitors
Example	Sotorasib	Erdafitinib	Lenvatinib	Pembrolizumab
Off-target effects*	Minimal	Moderate	High	Moderate (however, unpredictable magnitude of effect)
Relevance of preclinical data	Highly relevant	Highly relevant	Highly relevant	May be hard to extrapolate to humans
Therapeutic window	Wide	Moderate	Narrow	Unclear
Target population	Highly selected	Selected	Not clear	Not clear

For which drugs?

	Mutant and isoform-selective agents	TKI family agents	Multi-kinase inhibitor agents	Immune checkpoint inhibitors
Example	Sotorasib	Erdafitinib	Lenvatinib	Pembrolizumab
Off-target effects*	Moderate	Moderate	High	Moderate (highly variable)
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Dose Optimization of Sotorasib: Is the US Food and Drug Administration Sending a Message?
Mark J. Ratain, MD^{1,2}; Ian F. Tannock, MD, PhD, DSc^{2,3}; and Allen S. Lichter, MD²

Low-Dose Immunotherapy in Head and Neck Cancer: A Randomized Study
Vijay Maruti Patil, MBBS, MD, DM¹; Vanita Noronha, MBBS, MD, DM¹; Nandhini Menon, MBBS, MD, DNB¹

New terminology for endpoints

Existing term		Suggested new term		Rationale
Term	Abbreviation	Term	Abbreviation	

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Maximum tolerated dose	MTD	Recommended dosage range	RDR	Define a range of dosages to be tested in a randomized setting. Sometimes continue to escalate to MTD
Recommended phase 2 dose	RP2D	Recommended dosage	RD	For later phase trials (such as phase 3 or combination studies)

New terminology for endpoints

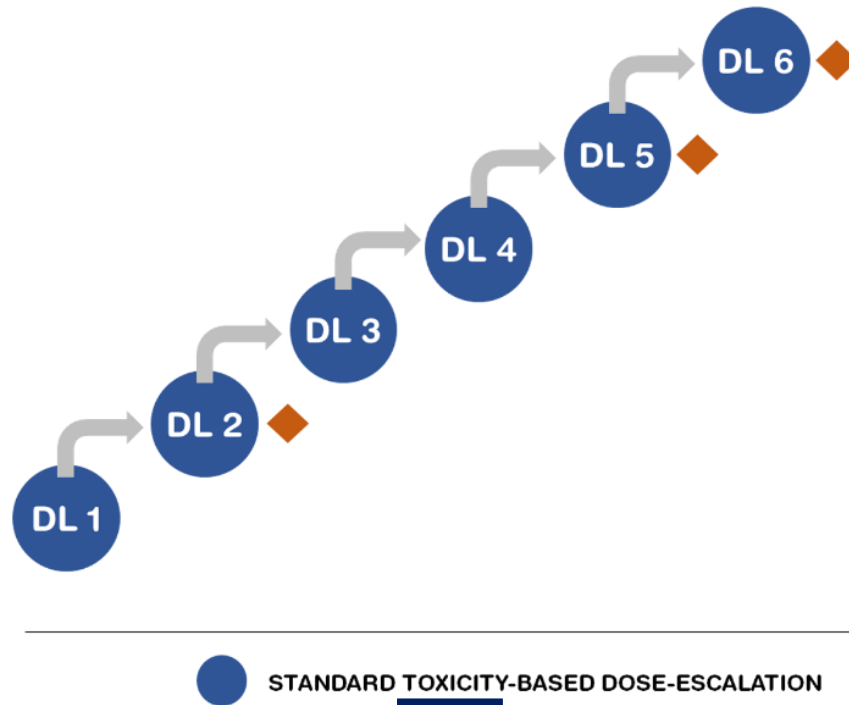
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Maximum administered dose (MAD)	MAD	No change	-	
-	-	Minimal reproducibly active dosage	MRAD	More than 1 patient with clear tumor shrinkage and within the predictive effective range (PER) from non-clinical data if available/robust

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Phase 1		Dosage escalation study		To define a RDR +/- dose confirmation
Consider a phase 1 study with expansion cohorts or a separate phase 2 study		Dosage ranging / dosage confirmation study		Will define a RD , typically by randomizing between 2 or more dosages Sometimes separately defined for different patients (e.g., genetic aberrations, tumor sites, ...)

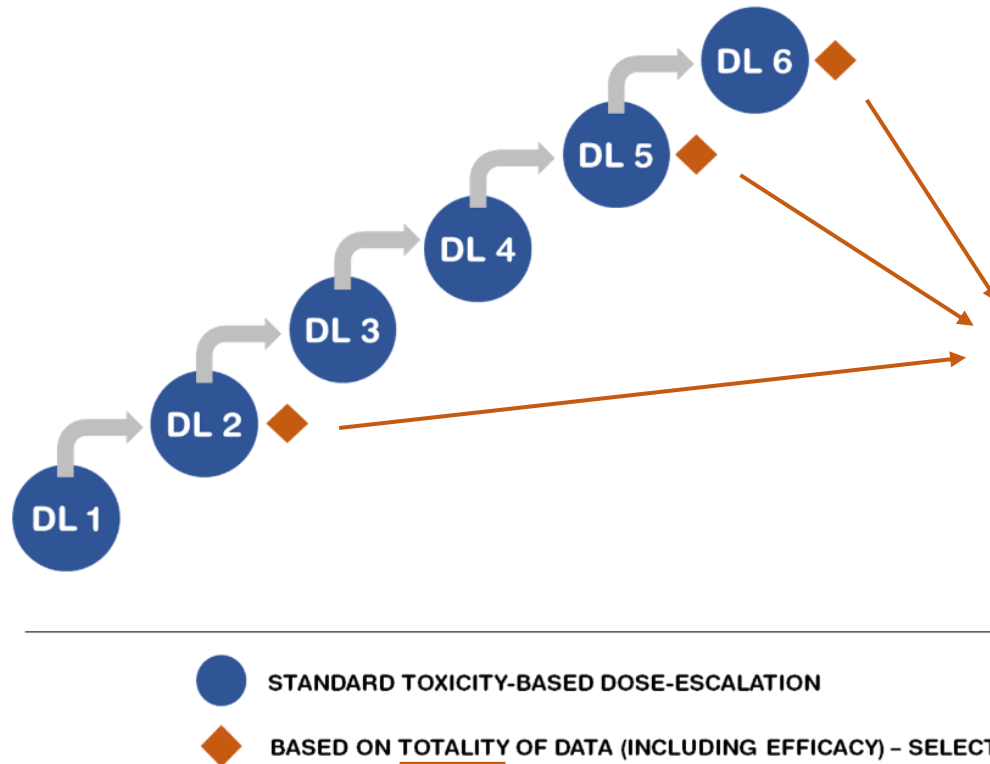
Overall design

DOSE-ESCALATION

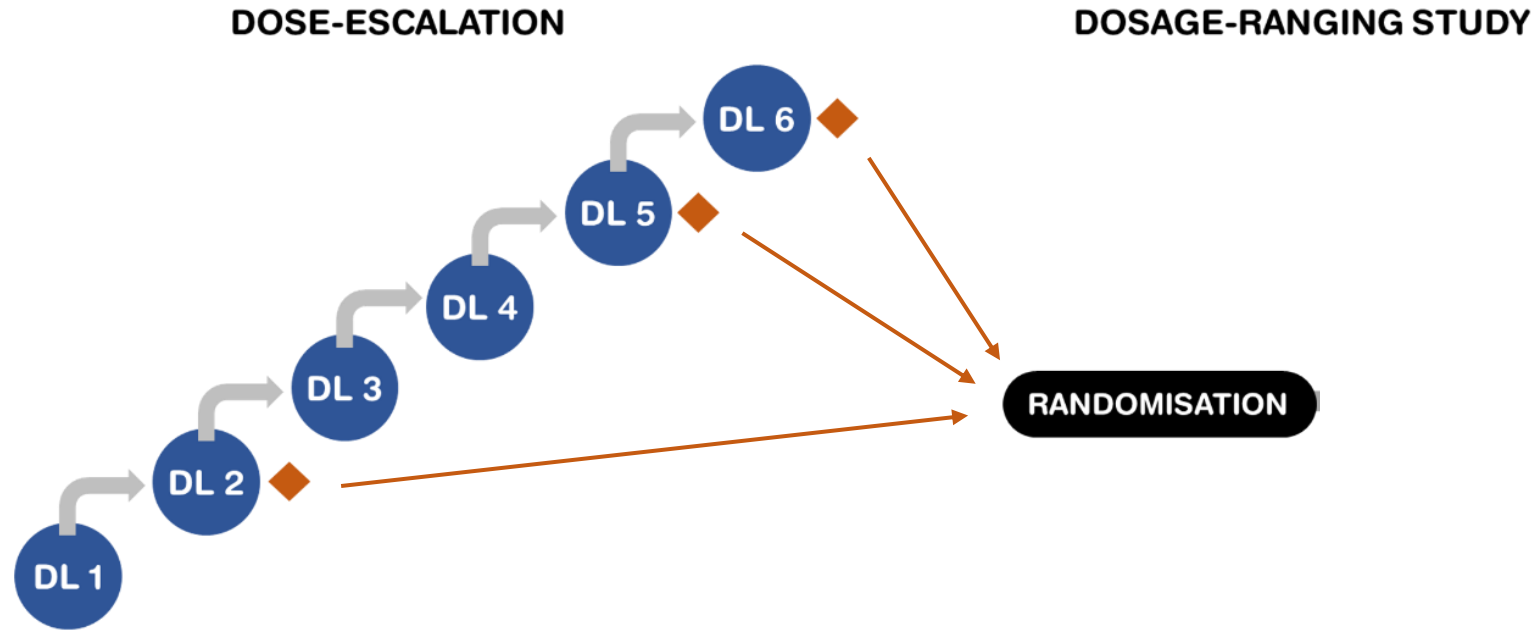


Overall design

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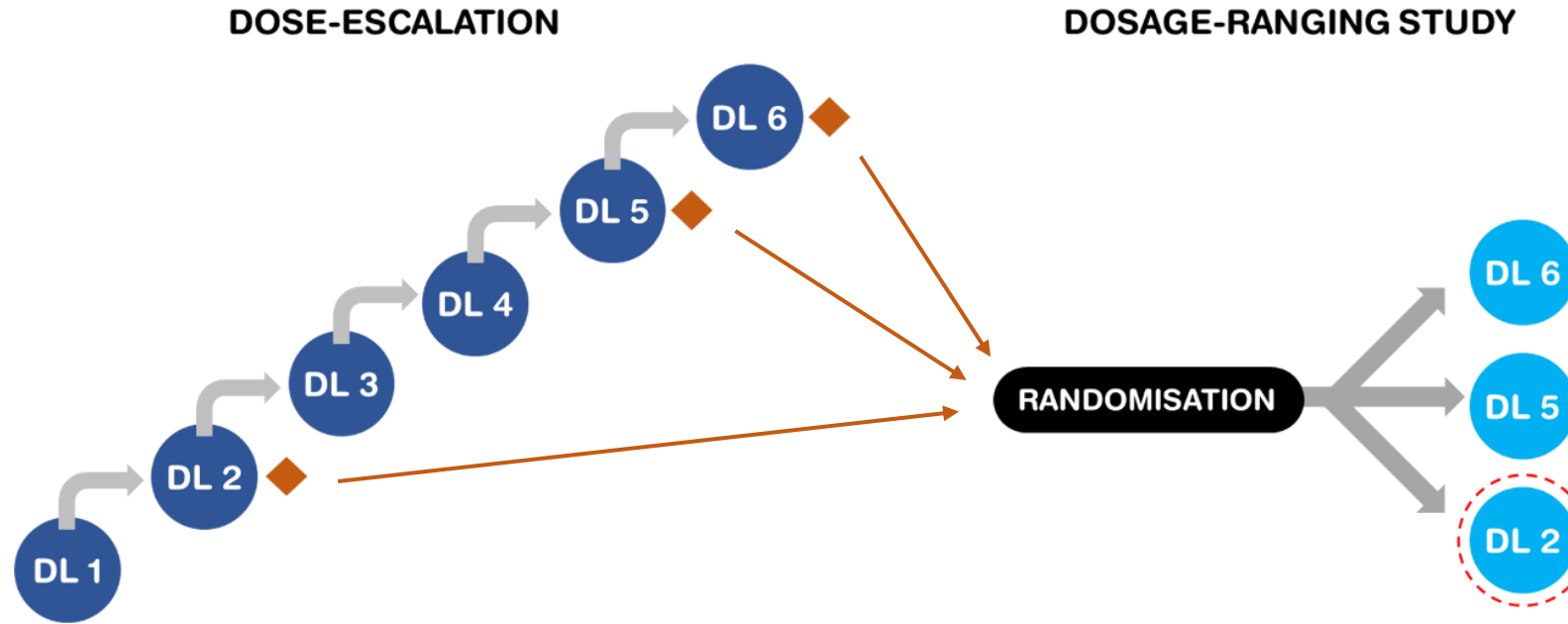


Overall design



- STANDARD TOXICITY-BASED DOSE-ESCALATION
- ◆ BASED ON TOTALITY OF DATA (INCLUDING EFFICACY) – SELECTED AS RECOMMENDED DOSAGE RANGE (RDR)
- RANDOMISATION TO COMPARE RDR DOSES

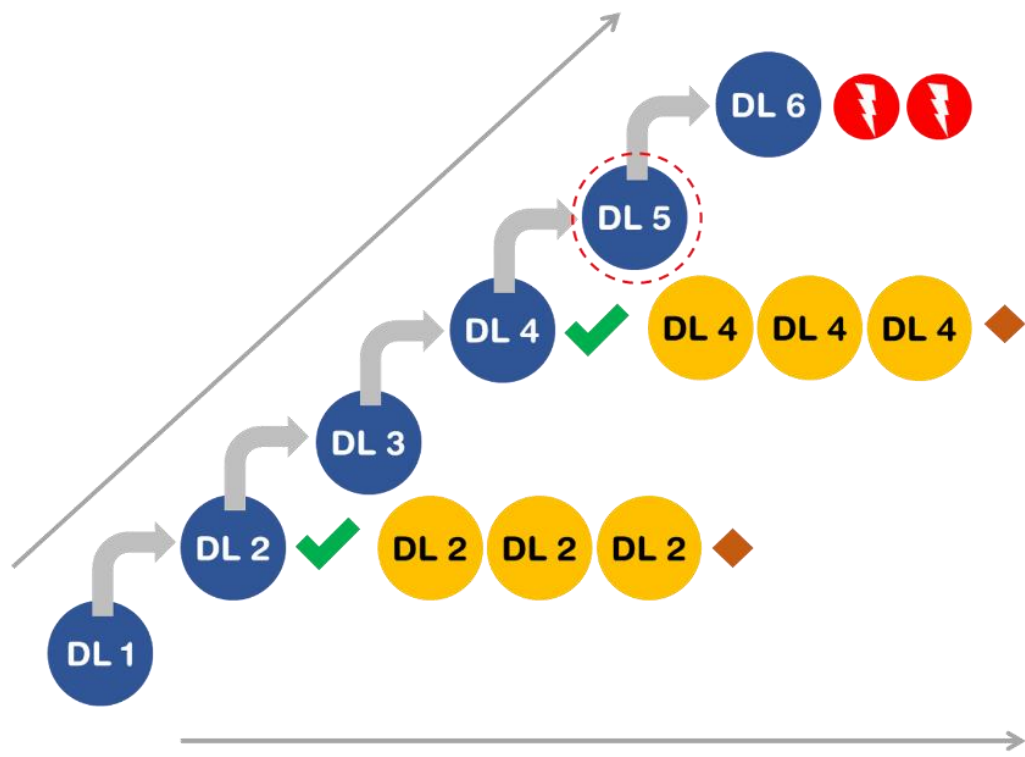
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- RANDOMISATION TO COMPARE RDR DOSES
- SELECTED FOR FURTHER DRUG-DEVELOPMENT BASED ON THE TOTALITY OF THE DATA

Specific recommendations & designs (1)

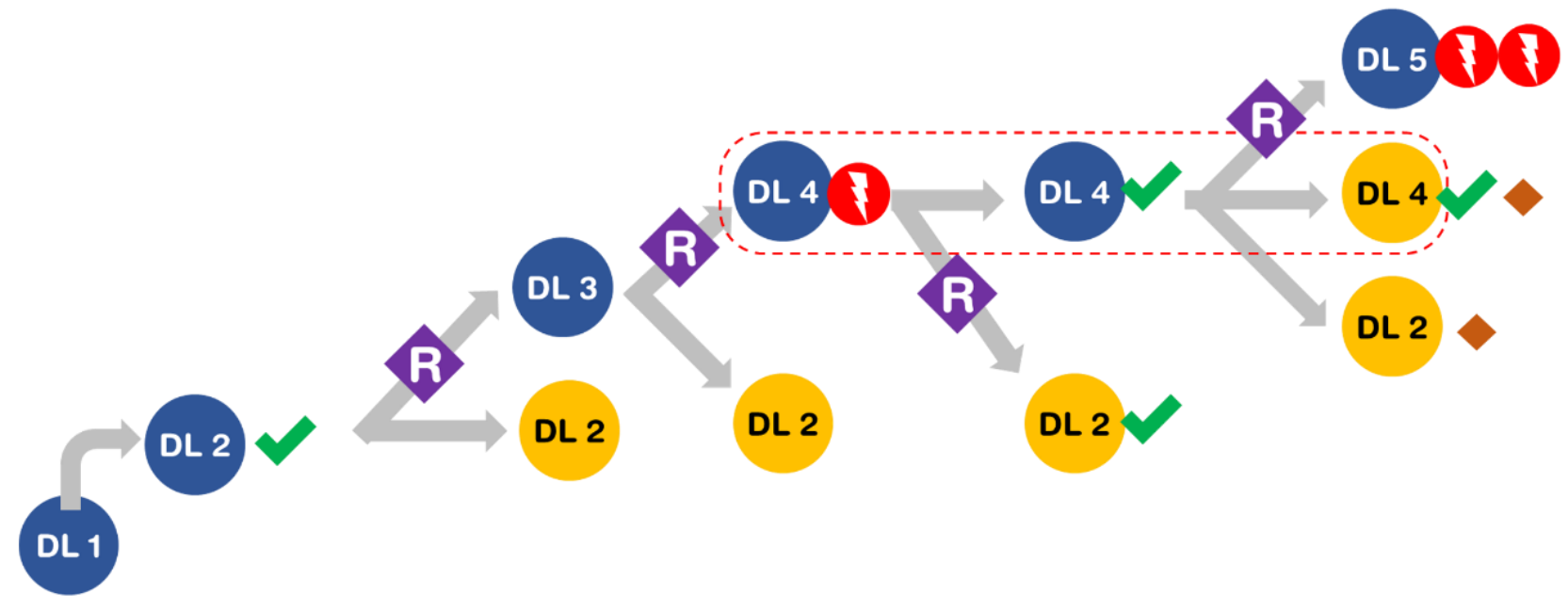
DOSE-ESCALATION BACKFILLING TO SELECTED DOSE LEVELS



- STANDARD TOXICITY-BASED DOSE-ESCALATION
- BACKFILL COHORTS *Where evidence of efficacy*
- ◆ BASED ON TOTALITY OF DATA (INCLUDING EFFICACY) – SELECTED AS RECOMMENDED DOSAGE RANGE (RDR)
- ✓ SELECTED FOR BACKFILLING
- ⚡ DOSE-LIMITING TOXICITY
- MAXIMUM TOLERATED DOSE

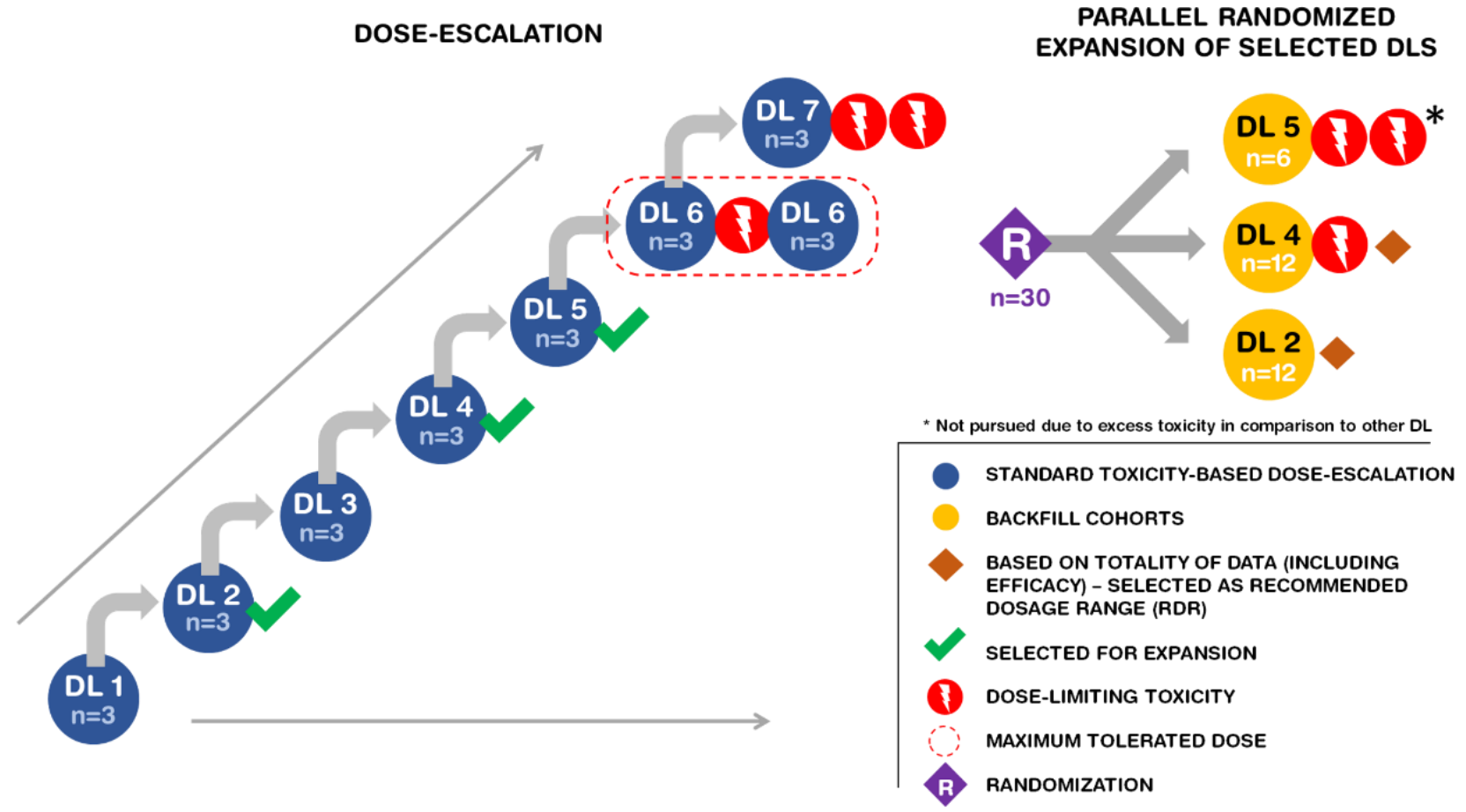
Specific recommendations & designs (2)

DOSE-ESCALATION WITH RANDOMISATION TO BACKFILL COHORTS

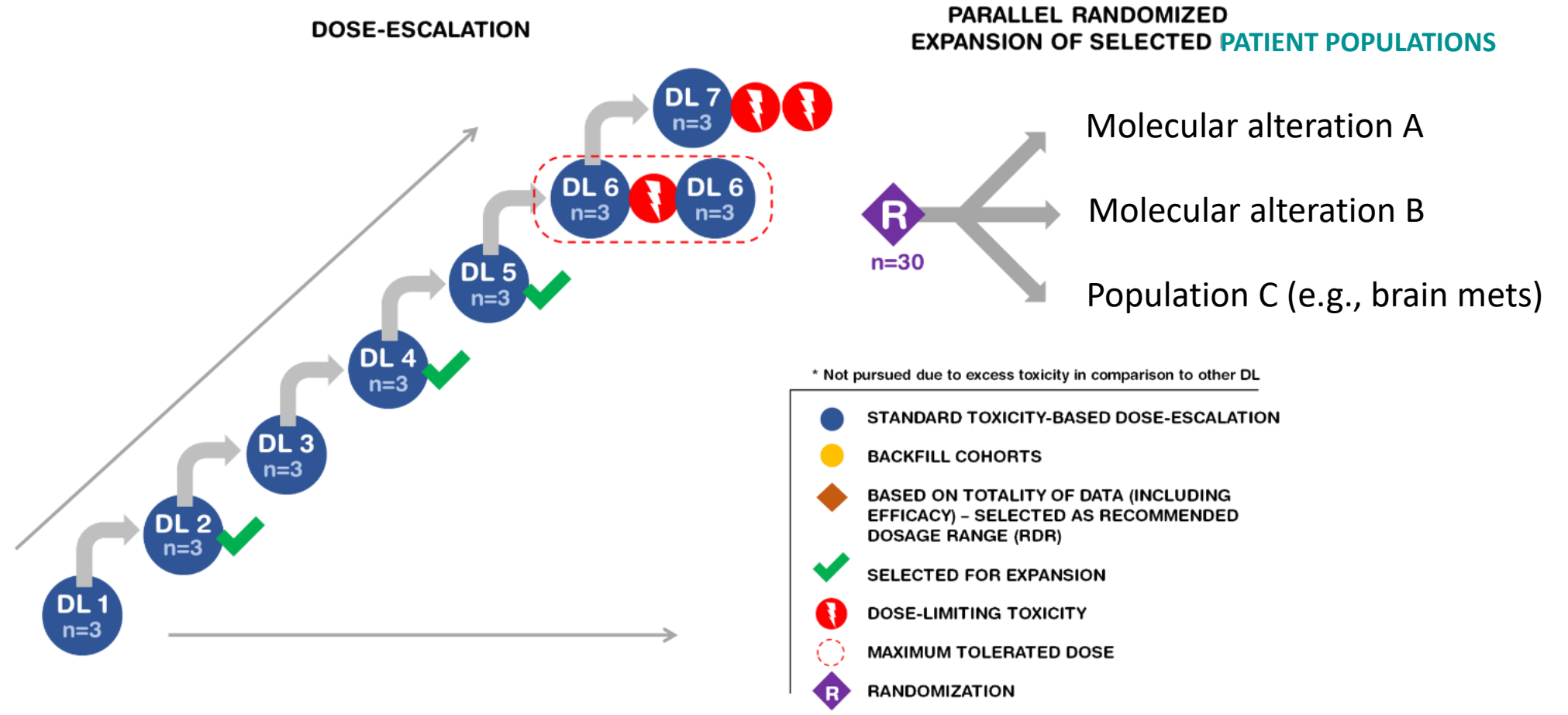


- STANDARD TOXICITY-BASED DOSE-ESCALATION
- BACKFILL COHORTS
- ◆ BASED ON TOTALITY OF DATA (INCLUDING EFFICACY) - SELECTED AS RECOMMENDED DOSAGE RANGE (RDR)
- ✓ EVIDENCE OF TUMOR SHRINKAGE
- ⚡ DOSE-LIMITING TOXICITY
- MAXIMUM TOLERATED DOSE
- R RANDOMIZATION

Specific recommendations & designs (3)



Specific recommendations & designs (4)



Other considerations

Intra-patient dose-escalation

- Cleared DLT period for several cycles
- **Stable** disease but no shrinkage
- No activity seen at that dose level
- **Higher dose tolerable**

Broaden eligibility criteria

- Specific patient population
- Backfill

Serial tumor biopsies

- 72 trials
 - > 12 significant BM results
 - > 5 subsequently cited in PII/III trials

Sweis, JCO 2015

Salawu, JCO 2021

Levit, ASCO Guidelines, JCO 2019

-> Favor

- **Liquid biopsies**
- **Molecular imaging**

Cescon, Nat Cancer 2020

Take home message – key points

Trial development

Robust non-clinical package including PER, PK, PD, biomarkers etc.

Assemble expert team including statistics, pharmacology etc.

Consult early with [health authorities](#)

Flexible and **adaptive** design to minimize holds

Define TLT and how RDR will be decided

level, MTD – maximal tolerated dose, IPDE – inpatient dose escalation, PD, disease progression, MRAD - minimally reproducibly active dose

Take home message – key points

<p>Trial development</p>	<p>Robust non-clinical package including PER, PK, PD, biomarkers etc. Assemble expert team including statistics, pharmacology etc. Consult early with <u>health authorities</u> Flexible and adaptive design to minimize holds Define TLT and how RDR will be decided</p>
<p>Endpoints</p>	<p>Efficacy – tumor shrinkage is the gold standard, emerging endpoints include sequential liquid biopsies, radiomic changes, PET Toxicity – including longitudinal, evaluation of PRO PK PD, including target engagement/saturation; avoid unjustified serial tumor biopsies</p>

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PER – predicted efficacy dose range, PK – pharmacokinetics, PD – pharmacodynamics, RDR – recommended dose range, TLT – patient related treatment level, MTD – maximal tolerated dose, IPDE – inpatient dose escalation, PD, disease progression, MRAD - minimally reproducibly active dose

Take home message – key points

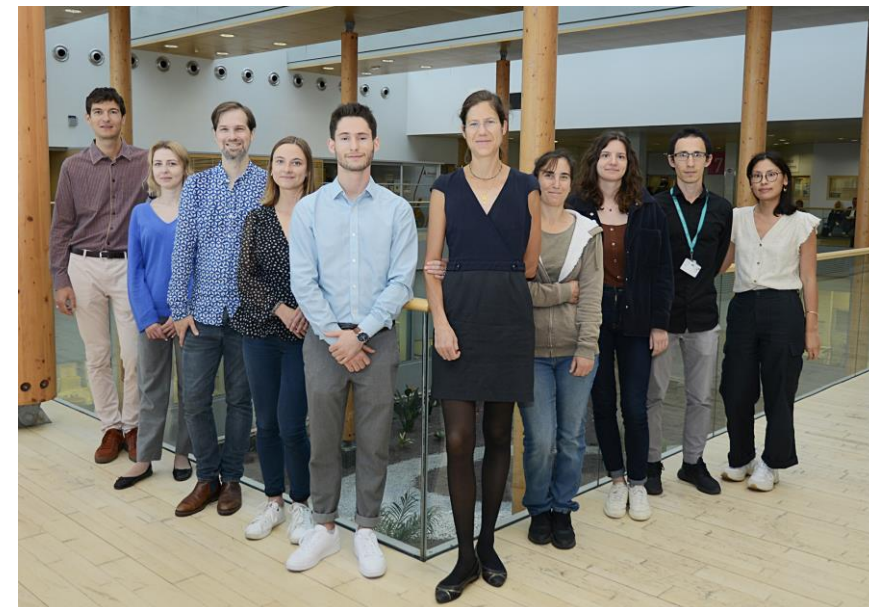
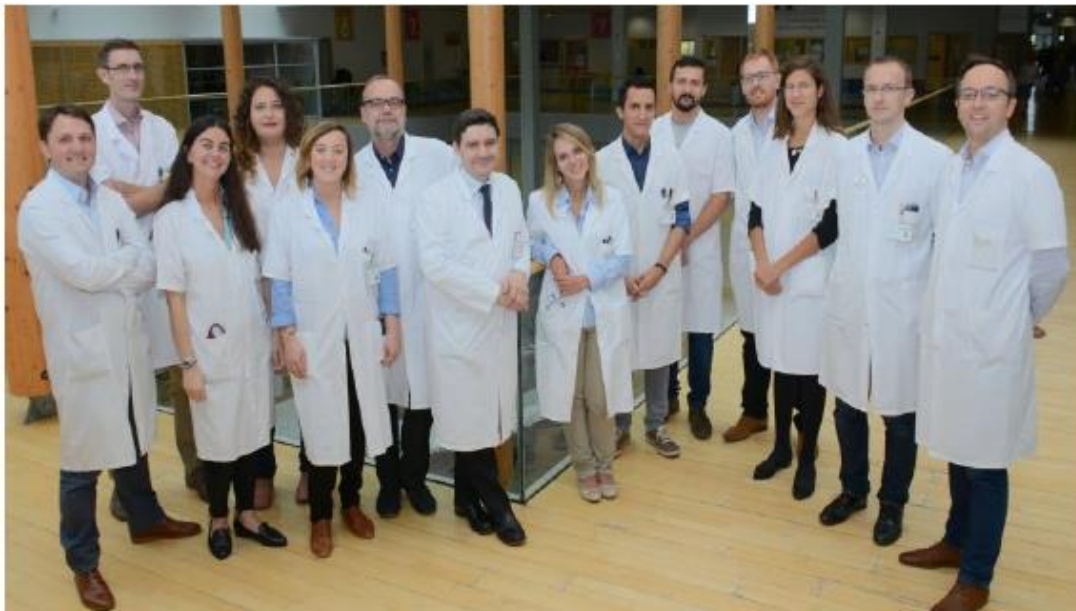
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<p>Formulating the RDR</p>	<p>Use all available data – PK and PD results available quickly Define at least 2 dosages which must include the MRAD and an effective dose approximating the MTD; preferably include an intermediate dosage as well Recognize that special populations may need different RDR/RD (sanctuary sites, alterations with potentially variable sensitivity)</p>

PER – predicted effective dose range, PK – pharmacokinetics, PD – pharmacodynamic, TLT – treatment limiting toxicity, RDR – recommended dosage range, PRO – patient related outcomes. DL – dose level, MTD – maximal tolerated dose, IPDE – inpatient dose escalation, PD, disease progression, MRAD - minimally reproducibly active dose

Take home message – Summary



Acknowledgements



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