

KEAPSAKE Trial-in Progress: A Phase 2 Randomized Study of Telaglenastat, a Glutaminase (GLS) Inhibitor, vs. Placebo, in Combination w/ Pembrolizumab (Pembro) and Chemotherapy as First-Line Treatment for KEAP1/NRF2-Mutated Non-Squamous Metastatic Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer (mNSCLC)

Ferdinandos Skoulidis¹, Joel W. Neal², Wallace Akerley³, Paul Paik⁴, Thales Papagiannakopoulos⁵, Karen L. Reckamp⁶, Jonathan W. Riess⁷, Yonchu Jenkins⁸, Sacha Holland⁸, Francesco Parlati⁸, Yijing Shen⁸, Sam H. Whiting⁸, Naiyer Rizvi⁹

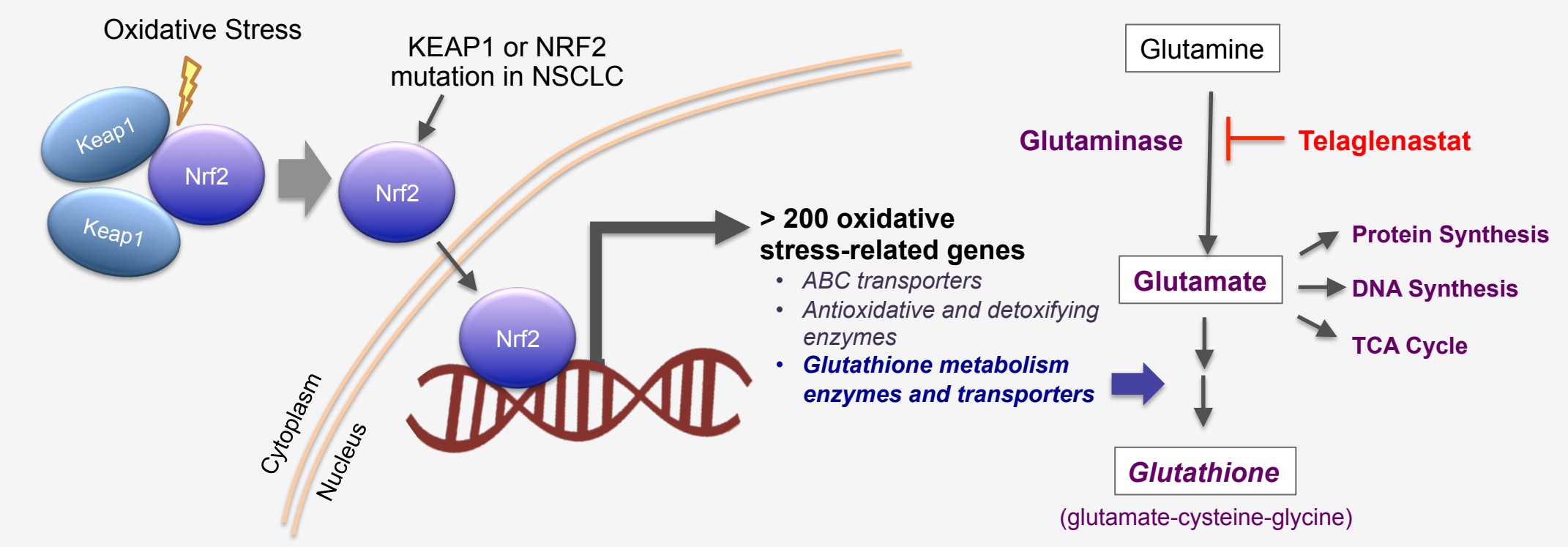
¹MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX; ²Stanford Cancer Institute, Palo Alto, CA; ³Huntsman Cancer Institute, Salt Lake City, UT; ⁴Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York City, NY; ⁵NYU Langone Health; New York, NY; ⁶Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles, CA; ⁷UC Davis Comprehensive Cancer Center, Davis, CA; ⁸Calithera Biosciences, Inc., South San Francisco, CA; ⁹Columbia University Irving Medical Center, New York City, NY

BACKGROUND

Mutational Activation of the KEAP1-NRF2 Pathway in Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer (NSCLC)

- Mutational activation of the KEAP1/NRF2 pathway occurs in >20% of NSCLC patients¹
- In non-squamous NSCLC patients receiving standard-of-care (SOC: pembrolizumab/platinum/pemetrexed), KEAP1 mutations were associated with poor outcomes (median OS: 7.8 vs. 20.4 months for KEAP1^{WT}; $P=0.002$)²
- KEAP1/NRF2 activation protects tumors from oxidative stress and promotes tumor growth/survival (Fig. 1)³
- Upregulated NRF2 in these tumors results in increased dependence on glutaminase (GLS) conversion of glutamine to glutamate due to higher expression of genes required for glutathione metabolism and transport⁴

Figure 1. Mutational activation of the KEAP1-NRF2 pathway protects tumor cells from oxidative stress but have increased dependence on glutaminase-dependent pathways^{3,4}

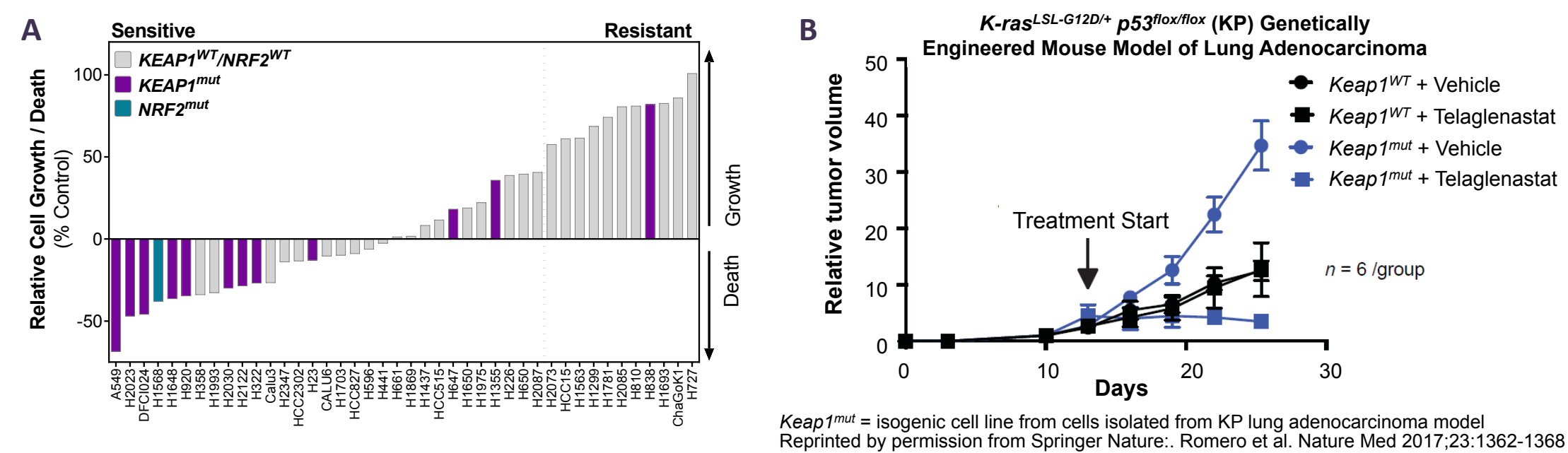


Rationale for Telaglenastat (CB-839) in KEAP1/NRF2-Mutated NSCLC

Increased Preclinical Activity by Telaglenastat in NSCLC Models with KEAP1 or NRF2 Mutations

- Telaglenastat is an investigational, first-in-class, potent, oral GLS inhibitor that has shown encouraging safety and activity in several cancers when combined with targeted agents, checkpoint inhibitors, and chemotherapy⁵⁻⁹
- Telaglenastat is active against many NSCLC cell lines, particularly those bearing KEAP1 or NRF2 mutations (Fig. 2A), selectively inhibits KEAP1^{mut} tumor growth *in vivo* (Fig. 2B), and synergizes with anti-PD-1 inhibition^{10,11}

Figure 2. KEAP1/NRF2 mutations are associated with enhanced sensitivity to telaglenastat^{10,11}



Clinical Benefit With Telaglenastat + Nivolumab in NSCLC Patients with KEAP1 Mutation

- In an ongoing phase 1/2 study of telaglenastat + nivolumab in patients with late-line NSCLC who progressed on PD-(L)1 inhibitors, KEAP1 and/or KRAS mutations were associated with higher clinical benefit rate and longer median iPFS than those without (Table 1)^{9,10}

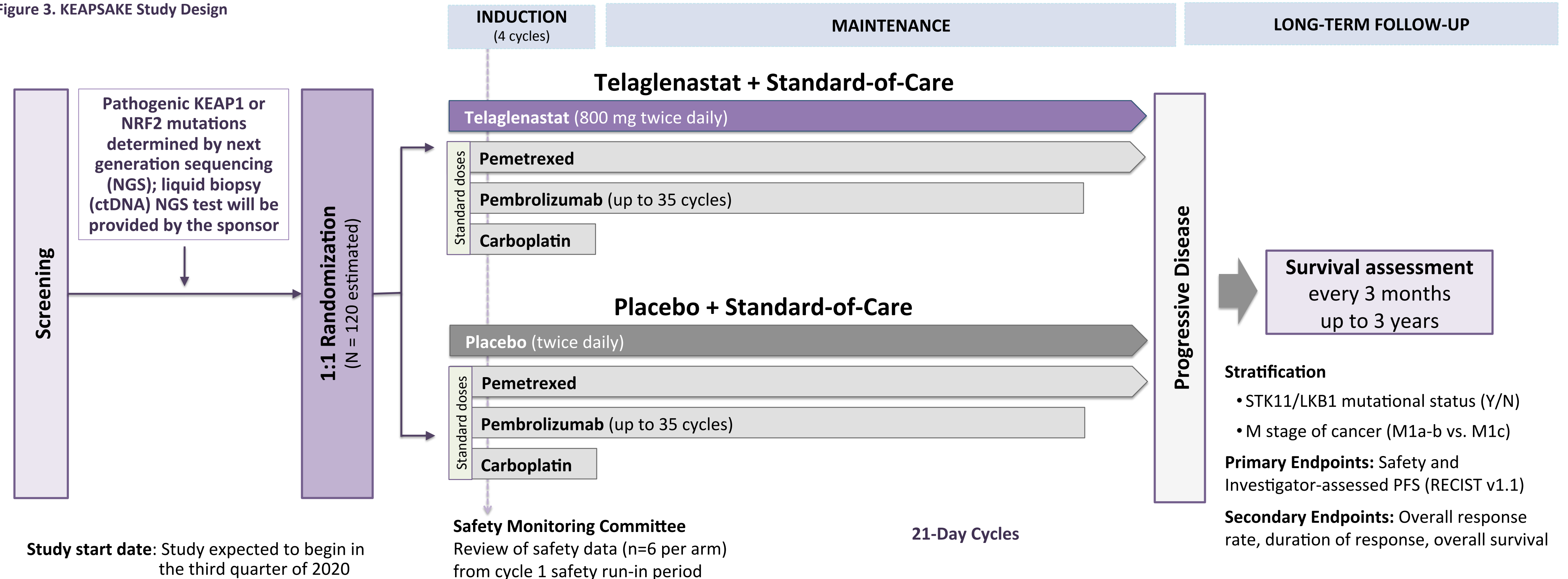
Table 1. KEAP1^{mut} associated with improved outcomes

Mutation	Clinical Benefit Rate ^a		Median iPFS ^b (months)	
	Mutation	Wild-type	Mutation	Wild-type
KEAP1	3/4 (75%)	2/13 (15%)	6.4	3.7
KEAP1+KRAS	2/2 (100%)	1/8 (13%)	7.2	3.7
KRAS	3/8 (38%)	2/10 (20%)	4.5	3.7
All Patients	6/22 (22%)		3.7	

^aCBR = CR + PR + SD per either RECIST or immune RECIST criteria for at least 4 months
^bProgression-free survival determined using modified RECIST 1.1 for immune-based therapeutics (iRECIST)¹²

KEAPSAKE STUDY DESIGN (NCT04265534)

Figure 3. KEAPSAKE Study Design



Study start date: Study expected to begin in the third quarter of 2020

Safety Monitoring Committee Review of safety data (n=6 per arm) from cycle 1 safety run-in period

21-Day Cycles

KEY ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Inclusion Criteria

Screening

- Documented histological or cytological diagnosis of nonsquamous NSCLC
- Stage IV (M1a-c, AJCC 8th Edition) disease not previously treated with systemic therapy for metastatic NSCLC^a
- ECOG PS 0-1
- No known actionable mutation in EGFR, ALK, ROS1, BRAF, NTRK, or other known actionable mutation for which there is approved therapy
- Measurable disease (RECIST v1.1)

Enrollment

- Mutation in KEAP1 or NRF2 documented by NGS from a CAP-accredited and/or CLIA-certified laboratory and STK11/LKB1 mutation status is known for the purpose of stratification
- Adequate hepatic, renal, cardiac, and hematologic function

Exclusion Criteria

Screening

- Squamous cell histology and mixed histology tumors with any small cell component^b
- Active autoimmune disease requiring systemic treatment in past 2 years and/or history of malignancy within past 3 years^c
- Radiation therapy to the lung >30 Gy within 6 months of randomization
- Concurrent chronic systemic steroids (>10 mg equivalent of daily prednisone) or other immunosuppressive drug
- Proton pump inhibitor use within 5 days of randomization

Enrollment

- Major surgery within 3 weeks or radiation therapy within 2 weeks of randomization
- Prior severe hypersensitivity reaction to other monoclonal antibody
- Active and/or untreated CNS metastasis^c

^aNeo/adjuvant therapy (with or without immunotherapy) for localized NSCLC is allowed if completed within 6 months of development of metastatic disease

^bOther mixed histology and large cell neuroendocrine histology allowed

^cExceptions: definitive treatment with stereotactic radiosurgery (SRS) or surgery to all known CNS lesions; or at least 7 days post SRS and 7 days prior to randomization and 4 weeks post-surgical resection of CNS disease, symptomatically stable, and off steroids before randomization

SUMMARY

- Telaglenastat is an investigational, first-in-class, potent, oral inhibitor of glutaminase (GLS; responsible for controlling glutamine utilization) that has shown encouraging activity and manageable tolerability across many cancer types in combination with multiple agents
- KEAP1 mutations are associated with reduced survival and poor outcomes in patients with nonsquamous NSCLC treated with standard-of-care therapy
- The KEAPSAKE Study is a randomized controlled phase 2 clinical trial
 - Telaglenastat (or placebo) in combination with pembrolizumab, carboplatin, and pemetrexed
 - First-Line therapy for patients with KEAP1- or NRF2-mutated, non-squamous metastatic NSCLC
 - Primary endpoint: Safety and Investigator-assessed PFS
- Study will open to enrollment in July 2020

Findings of this novel NGS biomarker-selected study will inform the efficacy and safety profile of telaglenastat + standard-of-care chemoimmunotherapy for 1L treatment of metastatic KEAP1/NRF2-mutated, non-squamous NSCLC

REFERENCES: 1. Best and Sutherland. Cell Cycle. 2018;17(14):1696-1707; 2. Skoulidis et al. 2019 ASCO Annual Meeting. Abstract #102; 3. Hayes and McMahon. Trends Biochem Sci. 2009 Apr;34(4):176-88; 4. Hayes and Dinkova-Kostova. Trends Biochem Sci. 2014;39(4):199-218; 5. Motzer et al. ESMO 2019. Abstract #811; 6. Meric-Bernstam et al. ASCO-GU 2019. Abstract #549; 7. Vidal et al. SABCS 2018. Abstract #P6-20-07; 8. Eads et al. ASCO 2018. Abstract #2562; 9. Meric-Bernstam et al. SITC 2017. Abstract #016; 10. Calithera Biosciences, Inc., Data on File; 11. Romero et al. Nat Med. 2017;23(11):1362-1368; 12. Seymour et al. Lancet Oncol. 2017;18(3):e143-e152.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS: We thank the patients and families investigators, and coordinators for participation in the study. Ingrid Koo, PhD, provided editorial support for the poster.