# FDA COLLABORATION ON ADJUVANT BLADDER CANCER TRIAL DESIGN AND ENDPOINTS

### Andrea B. Apolo, MD

Investigator and Lasker Scholar Chief, Bladder Cancer Section Genitourinary Malignancies Branch Center for Cancer Research National Cancer Institute National Institutes of Health August 9, 2019















































# FDA Collaboration on Adjuvant Bladder Cancer Trial Design and Endpoints

 Eligibility patient and disease characteristics

- Radiologic considerations
- Managing new urothelial cancers within the urothelial tract

Considerations for the patient



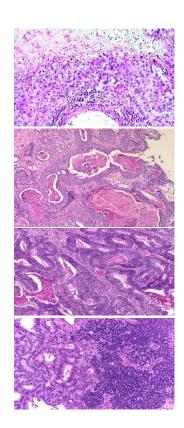


Apolo AB et al., JAMA Oncol 2019 in press

- Histologic subtypes
- Prior neoadjuvant therapy
- Site of disease
- Surgical considerations
- Timing of adjuvant therapy

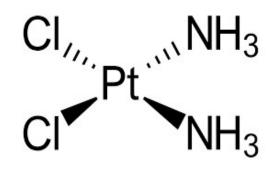
### **Histologic subtypes**

- Patients with predominant <u>urothelial</u> <u>carcinoma histology</u> who have a component of variant histology should be included in adjuvant trials
- Patients with <u>pure non- urothelial carcinoma</u> <u>histology</u>, especially mixed endocrine/small cell tumors, if included, should be analyzed separately



### Prior neoadjuvant therapy

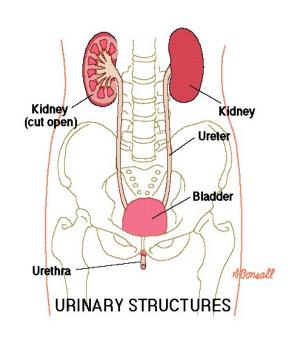
At least 3 cycles of neoadjuvant cisplatin-based chemotherapy with a planned cisplatin dose of 70 mg/m2/cycle is a reasonable eligibility criterion



Patients who have received non-cisplatin-based or less than 3 cycles of cisplatin-based neoadjuvant treatment should be managed/stratified as having received no neoadjuvant chemotherapy

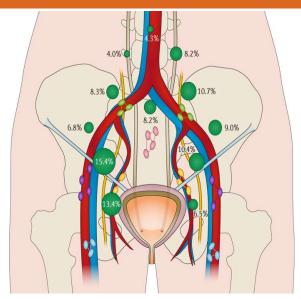
### Site of disease

Muscle-invasive upper-tract
urothelial carcinoma should be
included on adjuvant trials



### **Surgical considerations**

- Patients with microscopic positive margins (R1) should be eligible, though statistical stratification may be considered
- It is not clear if gross positive margins (R2) should be included in studies
- Bilateral (standard) lymph node dissection is both favored and sufficient for accurate staging information



Perera M et al., Nature Reviews Urology 2018

# Timing of adjuvant therapy

 Adjuvant therapy can be initiated as soon as the patient recovers from surgery, with a goal of 1 to 4 months post-surgery

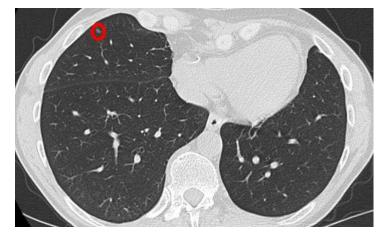


# Radiologic considerations

# Radiologic considerations

 Standardizing radiologic eligibility criteria of "NED scans

 Standardizing radiologic progression criteria in followup scans





- Second primary cancers
- Urethral second primary tumors
- Urine test utilization
- Augmented endoscopy
- Random bladder biopsies
- Systemic agents and BCG

### **Second primary cancers**

- All <u>new high-grade upper-tract primary</u> tumors and all <u>new MIBC tumors</u> are considered as events for the disease-free survival endpoint
- □ It is not clear whether new bladder second primary tumors that are ≤ T1 should be counted as an event for the disease-free survival endpoint
- Patients with tumors that <u>are both low-grade</u> and <u>non-muscle-invasive</u> could remain on trial if they can be managed endoscopically



### **Urethral second primary tumors**

- Patients with non-muscle invasive tumors manageable either endoscopically or with urethrectomy may remain on study
- Patients with muscle-invasive recurrences should be removed from trial and counted as disease recurrence



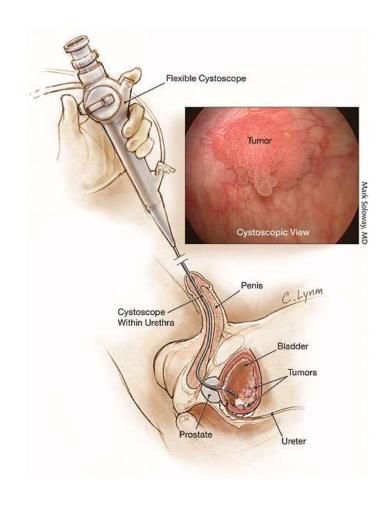
### Urine test utilization

 Trials should specify if urine tests should be used for postoperative surveillance and, if so, the specific test and testing interval required



# **Augmented endoscopy**

 Standard-of-care guidelines for endoscopic surveillance should be followed and defined at the start of trial



### Random bladder biopsies

- Trials should specify whether random bladder biopsies should be obtained or not to rule out occult carcinoma in situ
- Further evidence is needed to inform whether this should be done for all patient with intact bladders



### Systemic agents and BCG

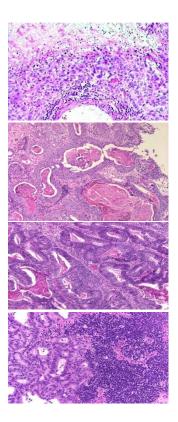
 Further evidence is needed to inform whether it would be appropriate to continue a systemic agent in conjunction with BCG or other intravesical therapy



- Rare cancers
- Biopsy
- Placebo
- Blinding

### Rare cancers

 There is concern about the consistency of histologic subtype classification/diagnosis and its potential impact on enrollment.



## **Biopsy**

 Taking biopsies solely for the purposes of research should be carefully balanced with the best interests of the patient



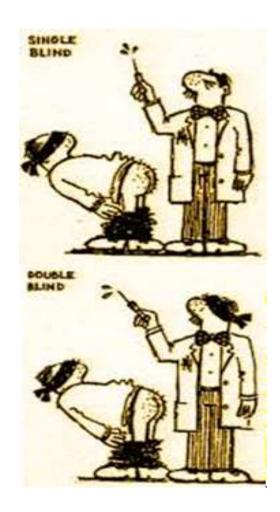
### **Placebo**

Trial designs that eliminate the use of placebo, more heavily weight the arm with action/active agent, or allow crossover (where justified by trial data) are favored by patients.



### **Blinding**

 Patients agree to blinding; however, they should be unblinded under certain circumstances..



Apolo AB et al., JAMA Oncol 2019 in press

# FDA Collaboration on Adjuvant Bladder Cancer Trial Design and Endpoints

 Eligibility patient and disease characteristics

- Radiologic considerations
- Managing new urothelial cancers within the urothelial tract

Considerations for the patient





Apolo AB et al., JAMA Oncol 2019 in press













































# THANK YOU