

Constitutive Inflammation and Epithelial-Mesenchymal Transition Dictate Sensitivity to Nivolumab in CONFIRM: a placebo-controlled, randomised phase III trial

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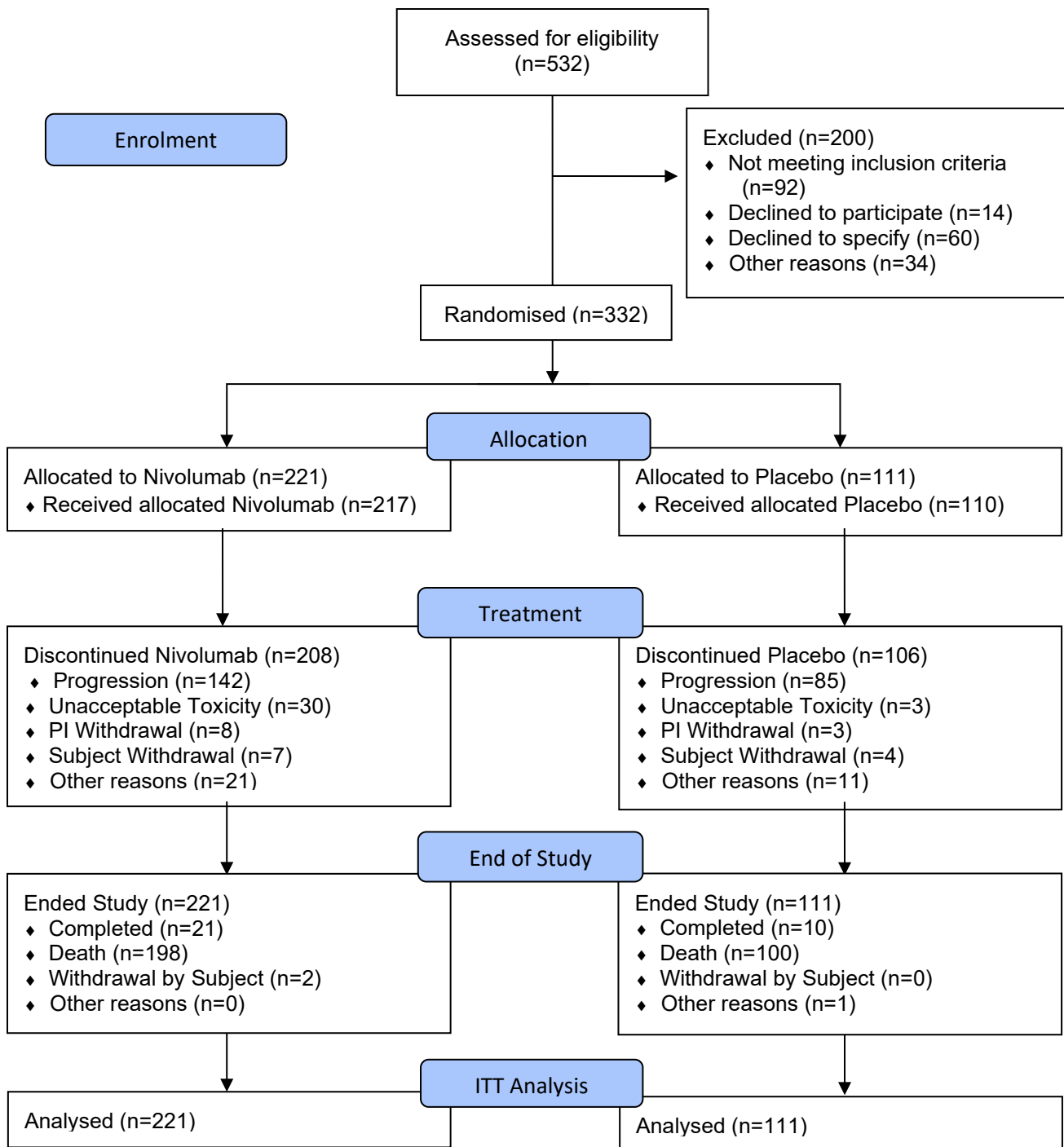
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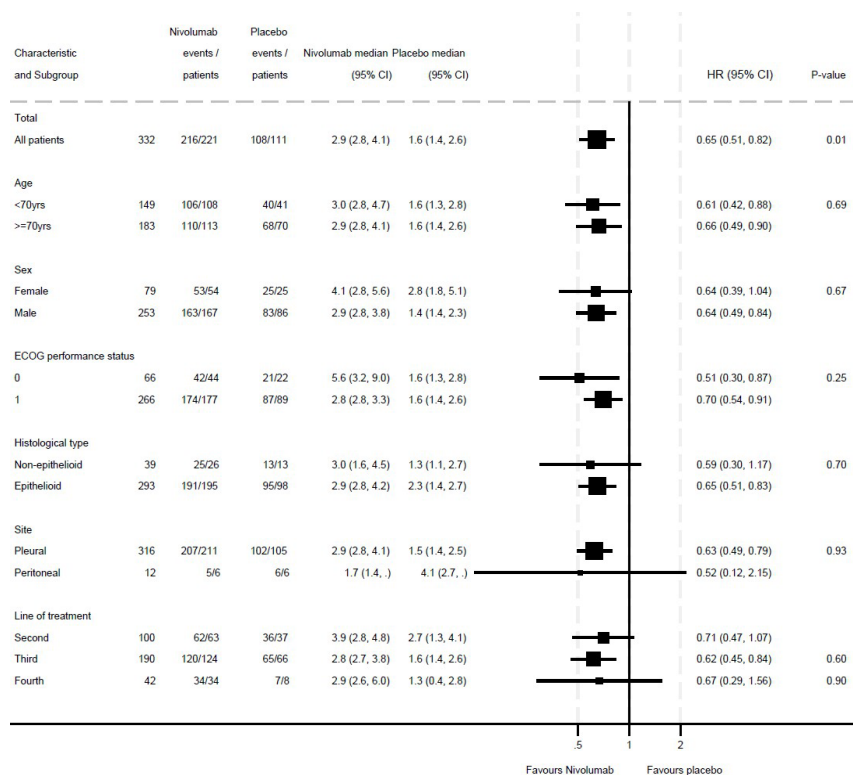
Supplementary note 2

3. CONFIRM study protocol

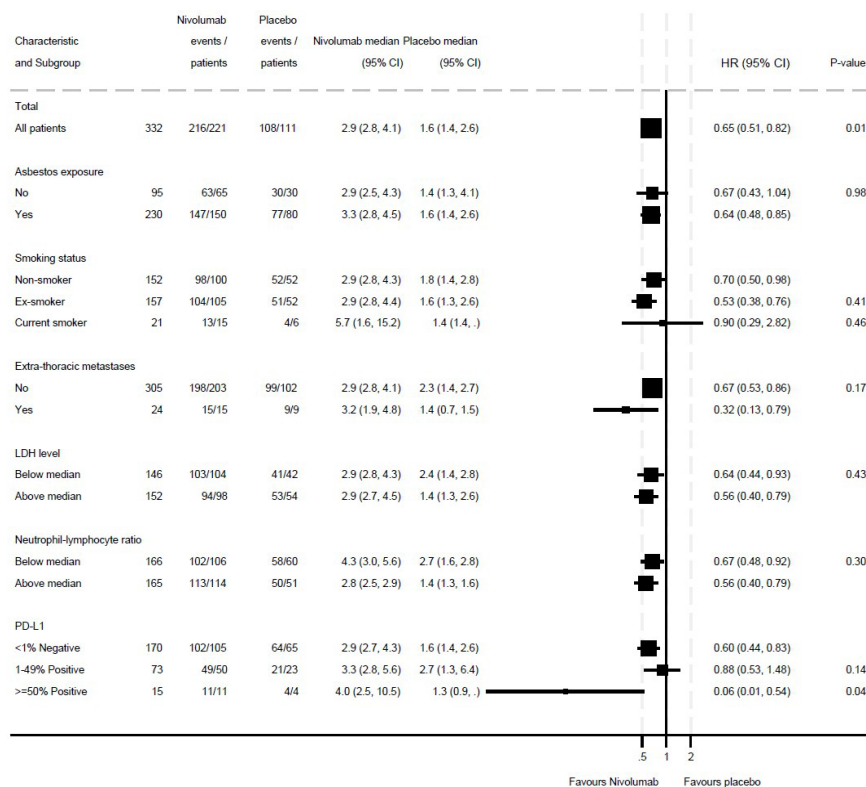


Supplementary figure 1:
Patient disposition. CONSORT flow diagram of patient disposition.

A



B

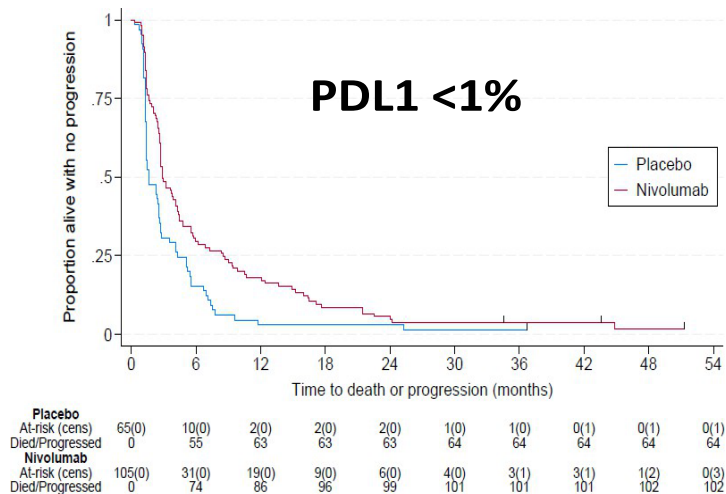


Supplementary figure 2:

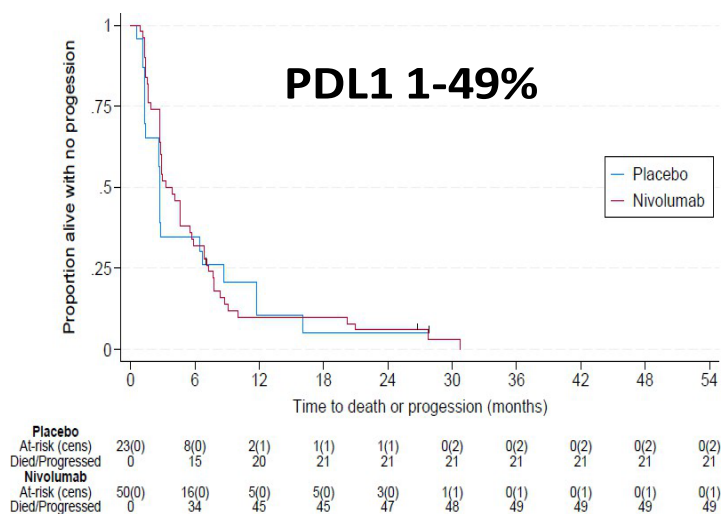
A-B: Forest plots for overall PFS.

PD-L1 ≥ 50% TPS was associated with a longer PFS (note p-values are unadjusted).

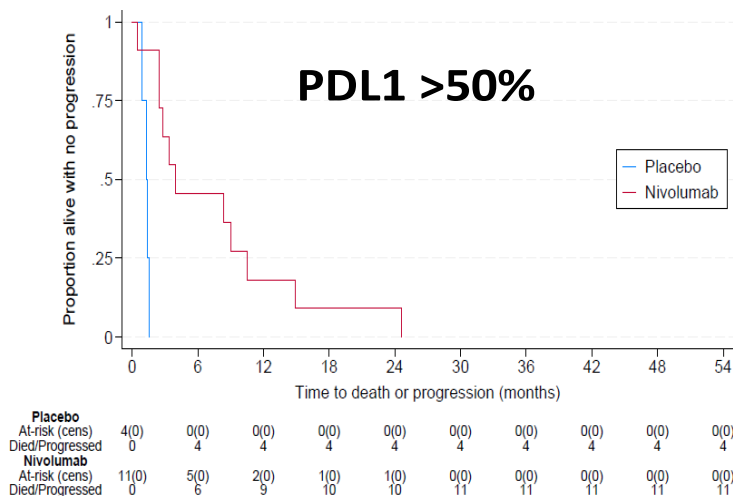
A



B



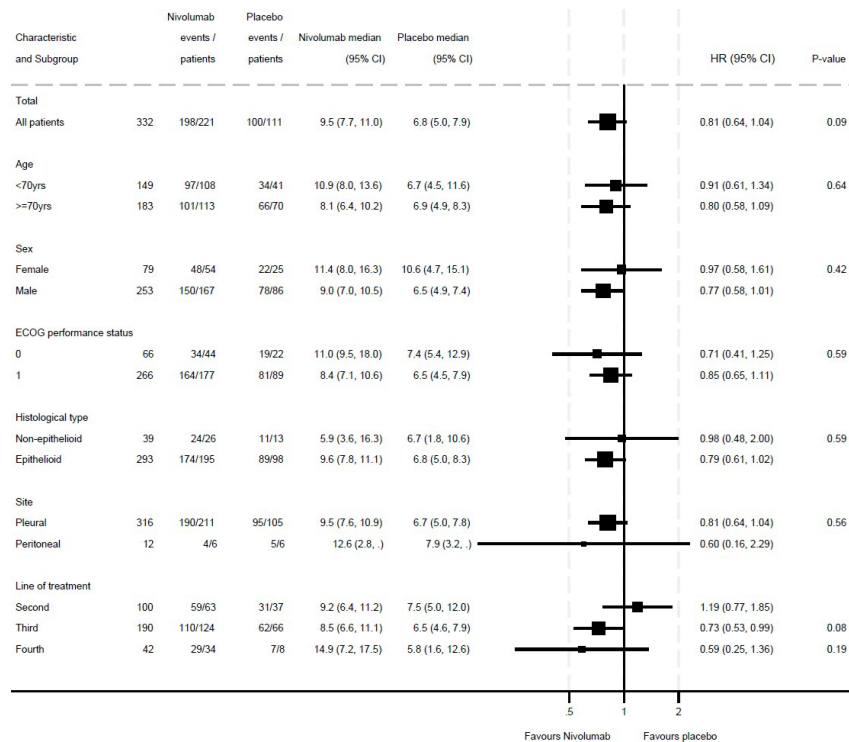
C



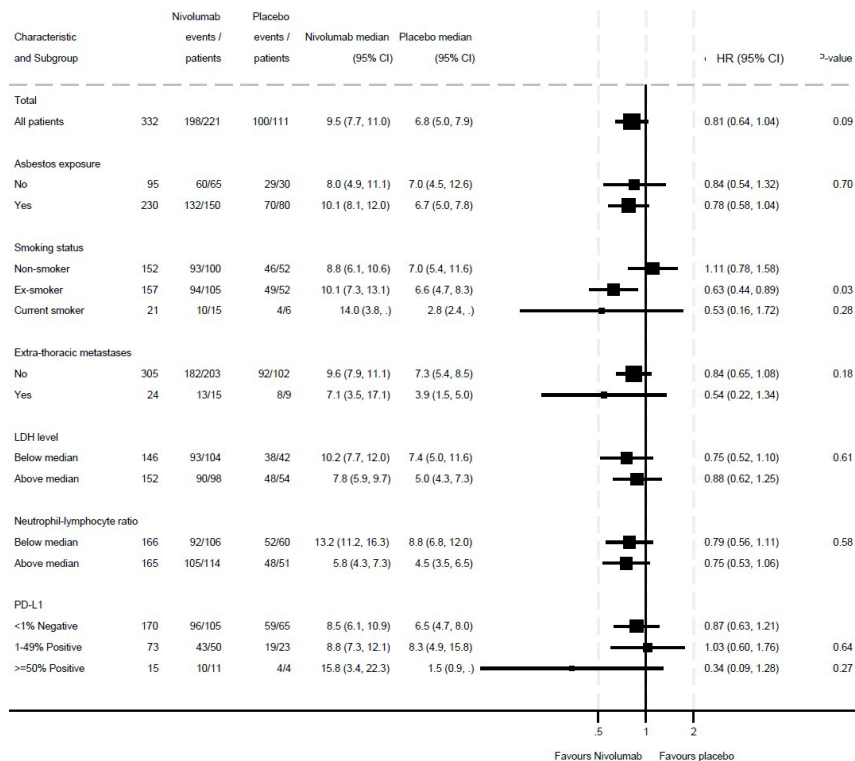
Supplementary figure 3:

PFS according to PD-L1 expression. Kaplan-Meier Curves showing progression free related to
A: PD-L1 negative (<1%) tumour proportion score (TPS) **B:** PD-L1 > 1-49% and **C:** PD-L1>50%

A

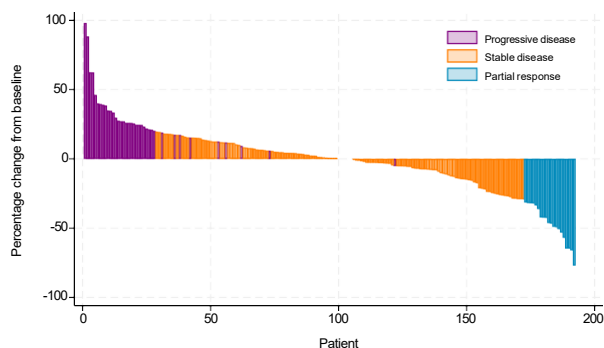


B

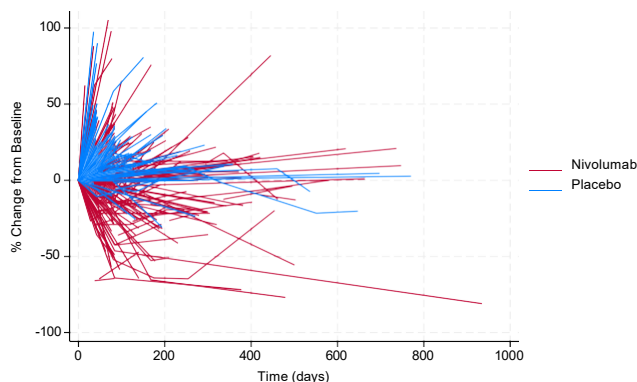


Supplementary figure 4A-B:
Forrest plot showing the interaction between subgroups and overall survival.

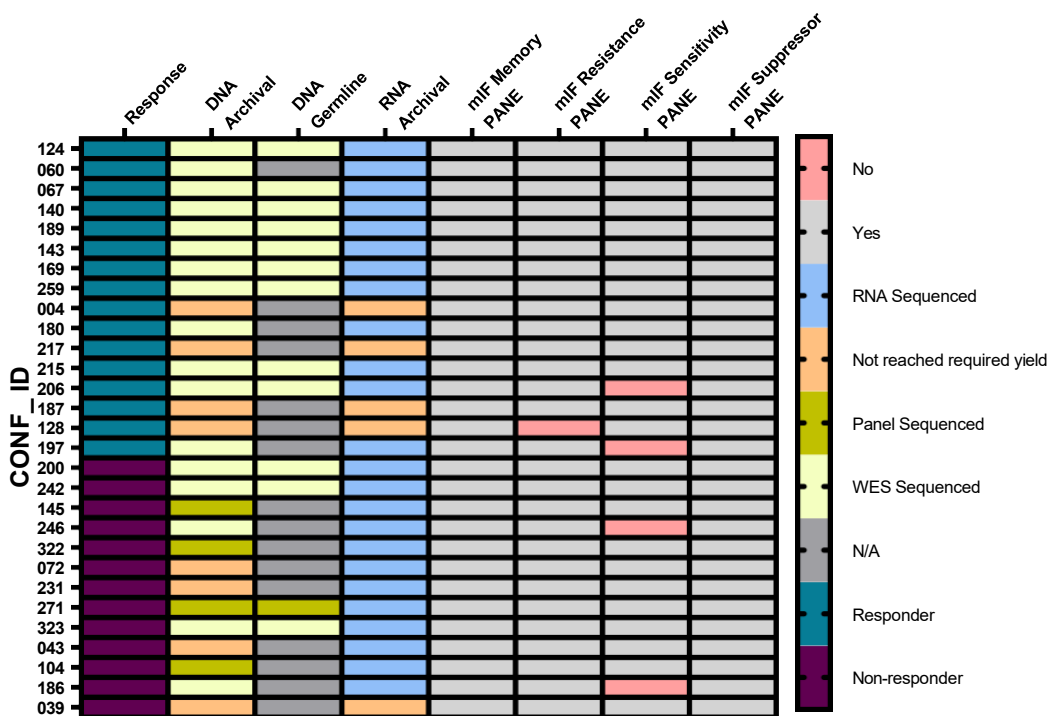
A



B



C



Supplementary figure 5

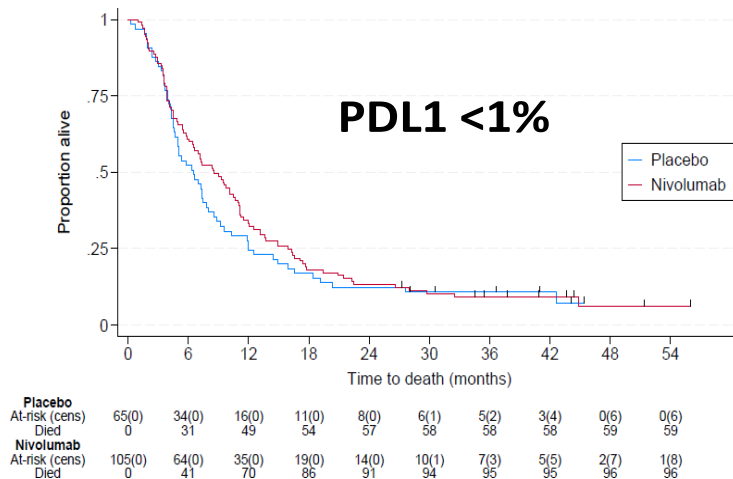
Response to nivolumab in CONFIRM

A: Waterfall plot of percentage change in RECIST measurements for the Nivolumab arm, showing the per patient best percentage change in the size of the sum of the target lesions from the baseline scan until end of treatment, for the Nivolumab arm only. Modified RECIST response category is colour coded: partial response in blue, stable disease in orange and progressive disease in purple.

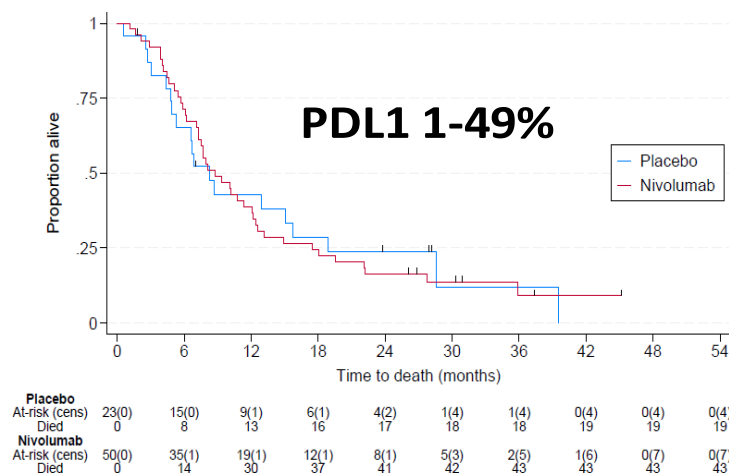
B: Spider plot showing the % change from baseline coded per modified RECIST, Nivolumab in blue and placebo in red.

C: Sample processing is shown as heatmap including details per patient level analysis by whole exome, whole transcriptome or multiplex immunofluorescence analysis.

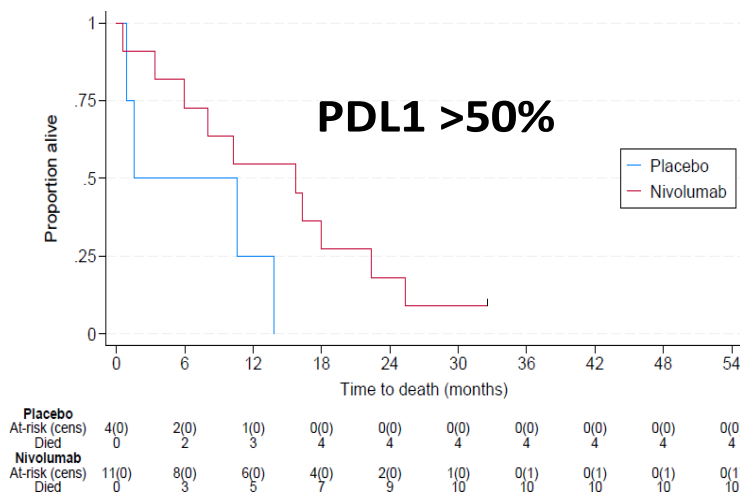
A



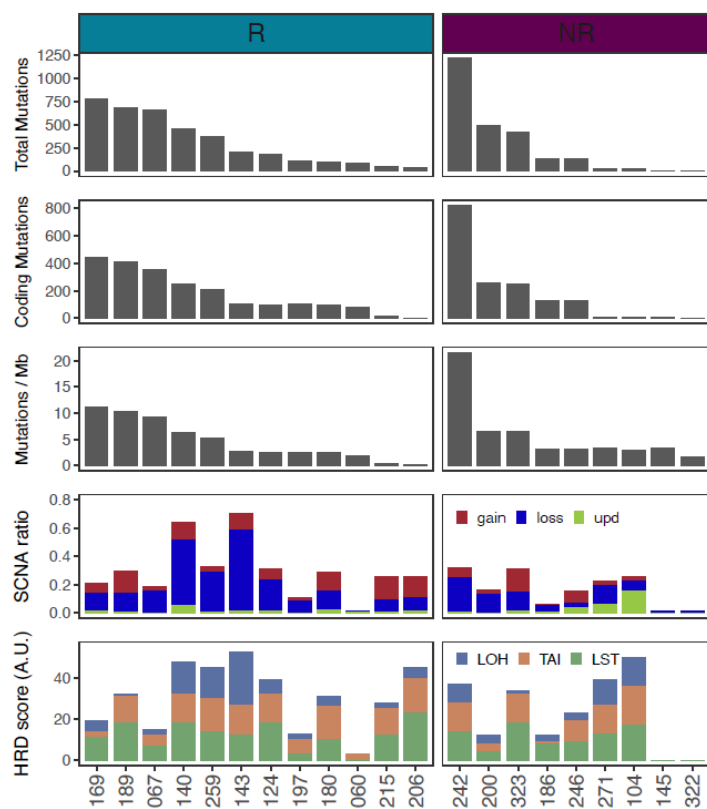
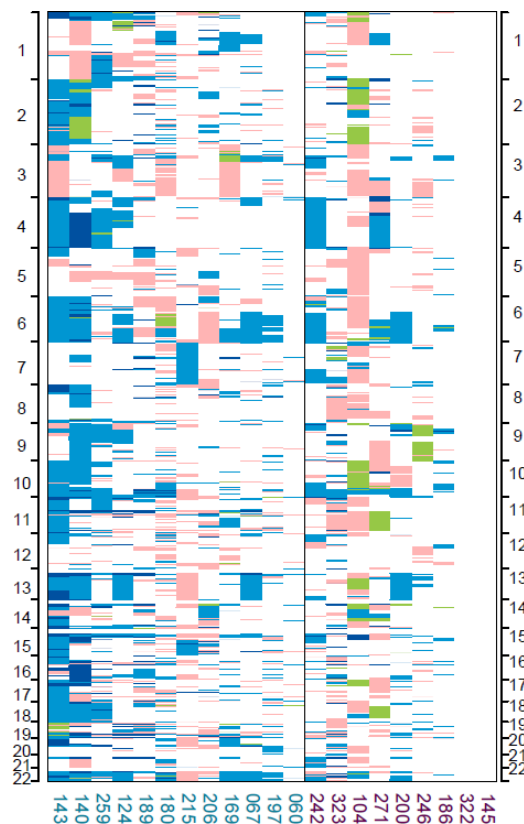
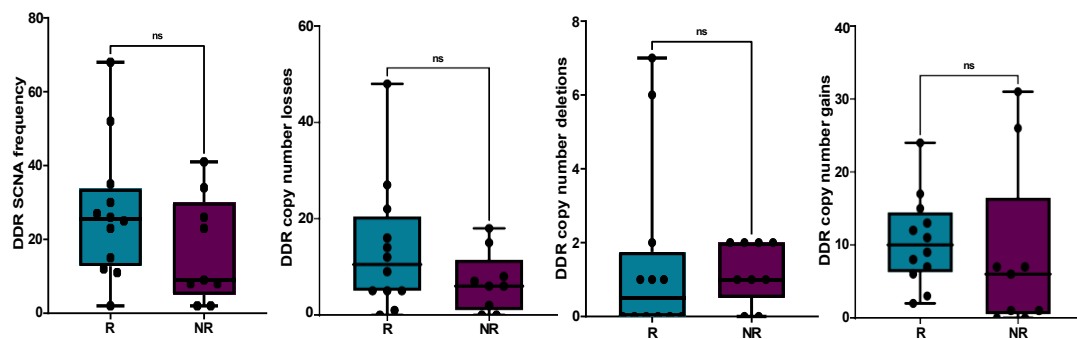
B



C



Supplementary figure 6:
PD-L1 expression and survival in CONFIRM. Kaplan-Meier Curves showing overall survival related to **A:** PD-L1 negative tumour expression score **B:** PD-L1 > 1% and **C:** PD-L1>50%

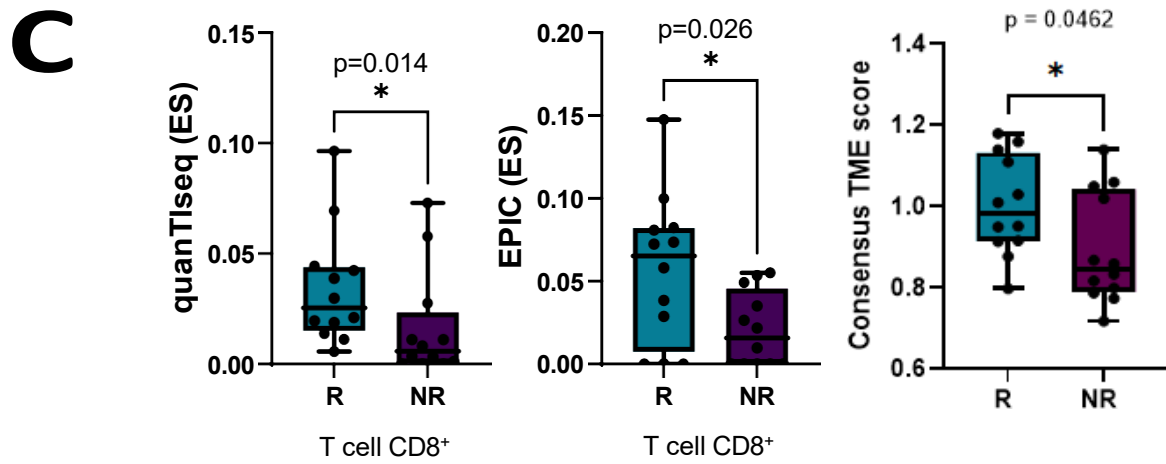
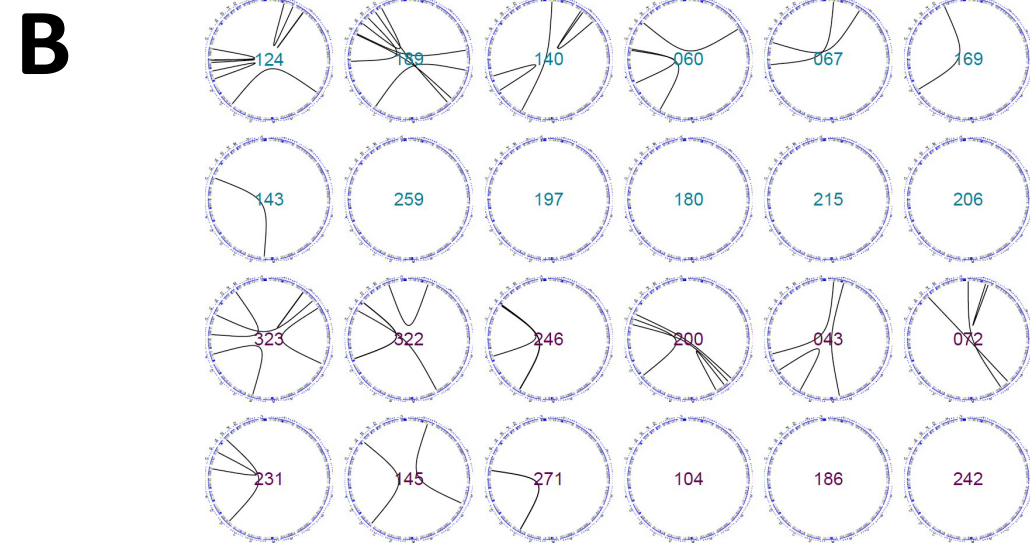
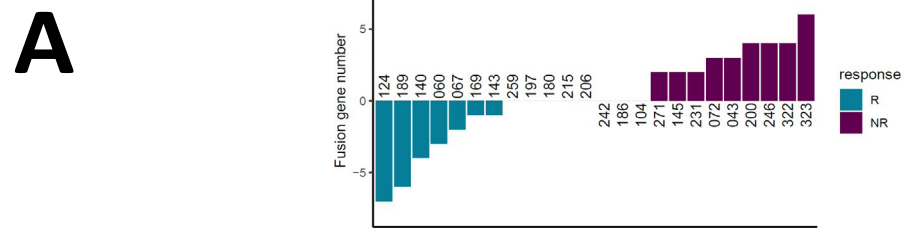
A**B****C**

Supplementary figure 7:
Genomic correlates of response in CONFIRM.

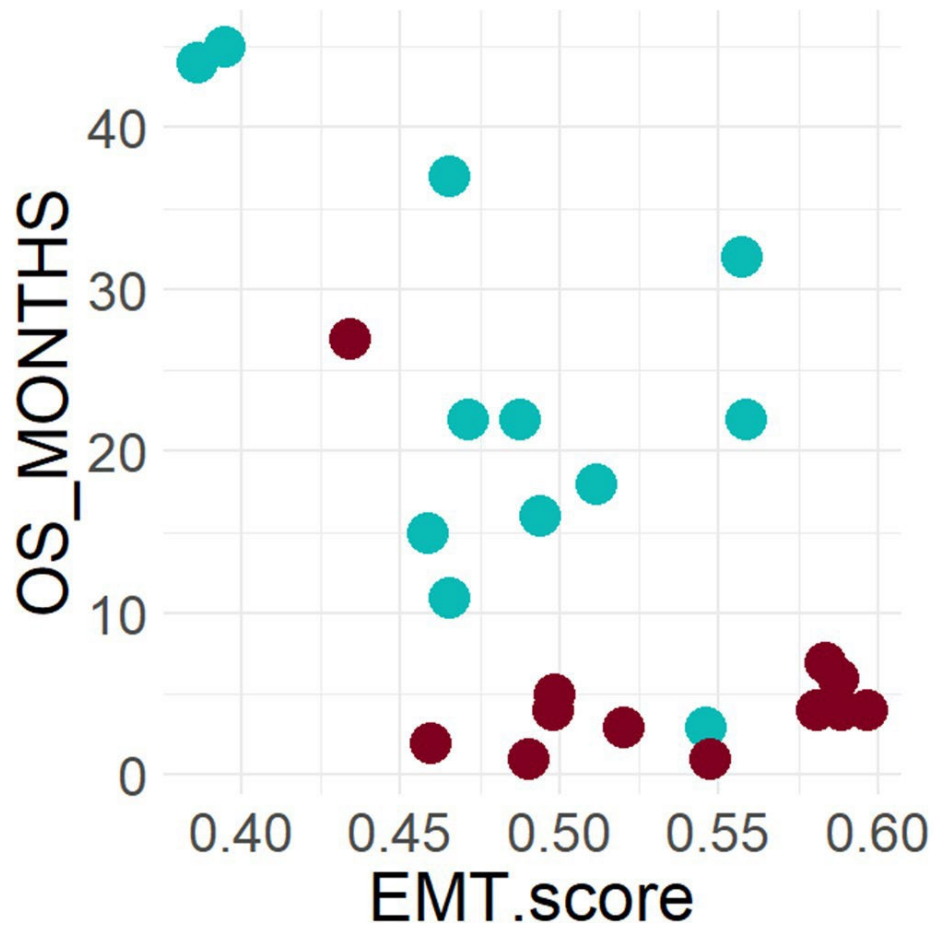
A: Histograms showing the per patient total mutations, coding and mutation rate per megabase/mb, somatic copy number alterations (SCNAs) and homologous recombination deficiency score (HRD) in the R- and NR-groups, respectively.

B: Copy number landscape of R- vs NR-subgroups.

C: Box plots showing relative DNA damage repair SCNA frequency in R- vs NR-mesotheliomas (NS, not significant $p > 0.05$ by Wilcoxon signed rank test).



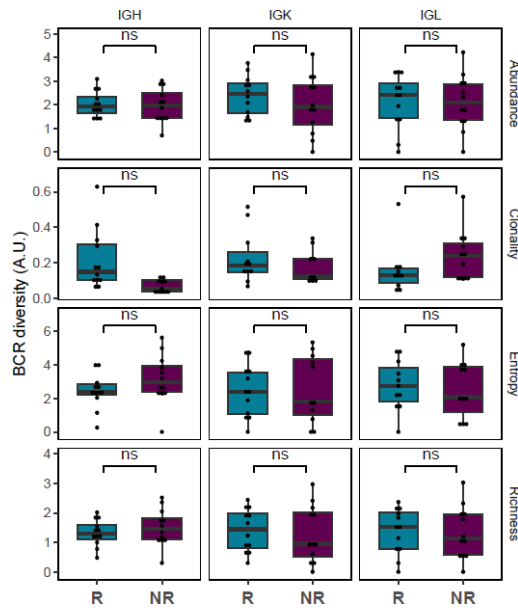
Supplementary figure 8:
Gene rearrangements and T cell deconvolution versus response in CONFIRM.
A: Waterfall plot showing the relative burden of fusions per patient in R- (blue) vs NR- (purple) patient subgroups.
B: Circos plots showing the gene rearrangement events per patient in R- (upper group) vs NR- subgroups (lower group).
C: Histograms showing significant R-group enrichment scores (ES) for deconvoluted CD8 positive T cells inferred across 3 algorithms by RNS sequencing based immune deconvolution algorithms quantiseq (Wilcoxon $p=0.020$), EPIC ($p=0.029$), and Consensus TME ($p=0.017$).



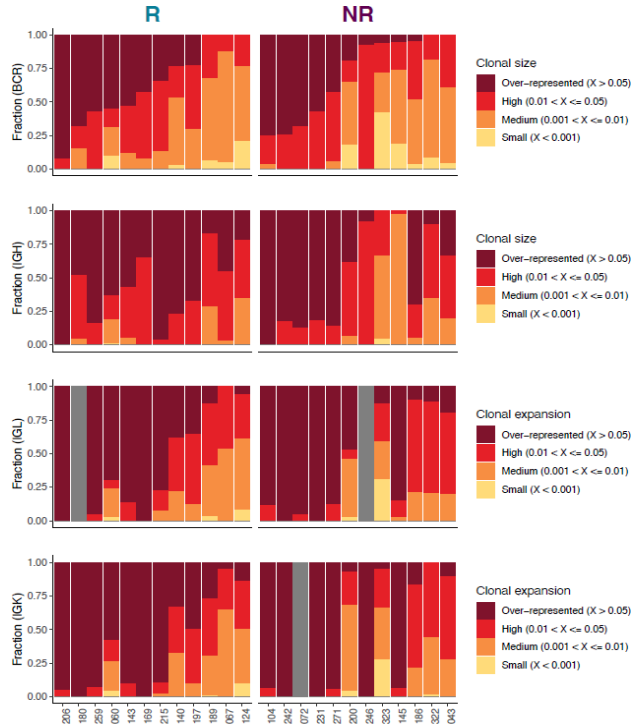
Supplementary Figure 9:

EMT is associated with shorter OS following nivolumab. Scatter plots showing the correlation between EMT and OS ($r = -0.45$, $p = 0.02$) R-subgroup is shown in blue, NR in purple.

A



B

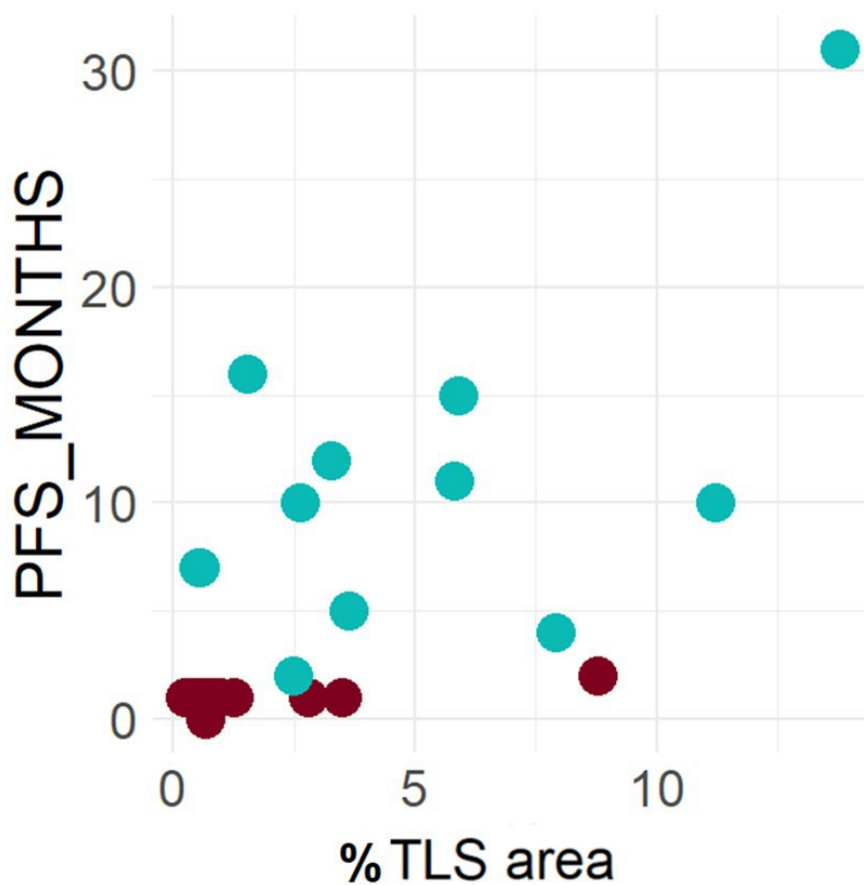


Supplementary figure 10:

Immune deconvolution and T- and B-cell infiltration in R- vs NR-mesotheliomas.

A: Box plots showing the significantly greater T-cell infiltration in R- vs NR-mesotheliomas inferred using transcriptome deconvolution by quanTIseq, EPIC, NPC counter.

B: Box plots showing the significantly greater B-cell infiltration in R- vs NR-mesotheliomas inferred using transcriptome deconvolution by quanTIseq, EPIC, Consensus TME.



Supplementary Figure 11:

Tertiary lymphoid structures (TLS) are associated with longer PFS in CONFIRM. Scatter plot showing the correlation between %TLS area and PFS ($r=0.57$, $p=0.0035$). R-subgroup is shown in blue, NR in purple.

A

Characteristic	Nivolumab (n=221)	Placebo (n=111)	Total (n=332)
Age (years)			
Median	70	71	70
Quartiles	65 to 74	65 to 76	65 to 75
Range	32 to 83	53 to 84	32 to 84
Missing from eCRF	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
Sex – n(%)			
Male	167 (75.6%)	86 (77.5%)	253 (76.2%)
Female	54 (24.4%)	25 (22.5%)	79 (23.8%)
Missing from eCRF	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
ECOG PS – n(%)			
0	44 (19.9%)	22 (19.8%)	66 (19.9%)
1	177 (80.1%)	89 (80.2%)	266 (80.1%)
Missing from eCRF	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
PD-L1 Status – n(%)			
Highly positive (≥50%)	11 (5.0%)	4 (3.6%)	15 (4.5%)
Positive (1-49%)	50 (22.6%)	23 (20.7%)	73 (22.0%)
All positive (≥1%)	61 (27.6%)	27 (24.3%)	88 (26.5%)
Negative (<1%)	105 (47.5%)	65 (58.6%)	170 (51.2%)
Missing	55 (24.9%)	19 (17.1%)	74 (22.3%)
Asbestos Exposure – n(%)			
Yes	150 (67.9%)	80 (72.1%)	230 (69.3%)
No	65 (29.4%)	30 (27.0%)	95 (28.6%)
Missing from eCRF	6 (2.7%)	1 (0.9%)	7 (2.1%)
Smoking Status – n(%)			
Smoker	15 (6.8%)	6 (5.4%)	21 (6.3%)
No Smoker	100 (45.3%)	52 (46.9%)	152 (45.8%)
Ex-Smoker	105 (47.5%)	52 (46.9%)	157 (47.3%)
Missing from eCRF	1 (0.5%)	1 (0.9%)	2 (0.6%)
Time since diagnosis of mesothelioma (months)			
Median	17.8	17.1	17.8
Quartiles	11.7 to 27.4	10.4 to 25.7	11.4 to 26.8
Range	0.4 to 236.9	0.9 to 111.8	0.4 to 236.9
Missing from eCRF	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)

B

Characteristic	Nivolumab (n=221)	Placebo (n=111)	Total (n=332)
Histology – n(%)			
Epithelioid	195 (88.2%)	98 (88.3%)	293 (88.3%)
Non-epithelioid	26 (11.8%)	13 (11.7%)	39 (11.8%)
Site of mesothelioma – n(%)			
Pleural	213 (96.4%)	105 (94.6%)	318 (95.8%)
Peritoneal	6 (2.7%)	6 (5.4%)	12 (3.6%)
Pleural and peritoneal	2 (0.9%)	0 (0.0%)	2 (0.6%)
Extra-thoracic metastases – n(%)			
Yes	15 (6.8%)	9 (8.1%)	24 (7.2%)
No	203 (91.9%)	102 (91.9%)	305 (91.9%)
Missing from eCRF	3 (1.4%)	0 (0.0%)	3 (0.9%)
TNM staging			
T stage – n(%)			
T0	5 (2.3%)	1 (0.9%)	6 (1.8%)
T1	20 (9.1%)	12 (10.8%)	32 (9.6%)
T2	35 (15.8%)	14 (12.6%)	49 (14.8%)
T3	69 (31.2%)	36 (32.4%)	105 (31.6%)
T4	81 (36.7%)	48 (43.2%)	129 (38.9%)
Missing from eCRF	11 (5.0%)	0 (0.0%)	11 (3.3%)
N stage – n(%)			
N0	95 (43.0%)	44 (39.6%)	139 (41.9%)
N1	44 (19.9%)	28 (25.2%)	72 (21.7%)
N2	54 (24.4%)	36 (32.4%)	90 (27.1%)
N3	17 (7.7%)	3 (2.7%)	20 (6.0%)
Missing from eCRF	11 (5.0%)	0 (0.0%)	11 (3.3%)
M stage – n(%)			
M0	164 (74.2%)	86 (77.5%)	250 (75.3%)
M1	47 (21.3%)	24 (21.6%)	71 (21.4%)
Missing from eCRF	10 (4.5%)	1 (0.9%)	11 (3.3%)
Line of treatment – n(%)			
2nd line	63 (28.5%)	37 (33.3%)	100 (30.1%)
3rd line	124 (56.1%)	66 (59.5%)	190 (57.2%)
Greater than 3rd line	34 (15.4%)	8 (7.2%)	42 (12.7%)
Missing from eCRF	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)

Supplementary table 1: Patient characteristics in Confirm.

A and B: Demographic and baseline characteristics recorded at baseline for the randomised CONFIRM cohort.

Characteristic	Group R (n=16)	Group NR (n=13)	Total (n=29)
Age (years)			
Median	68.5	69	69
Quartiles	66.5 to 74	65 to 73	66 to 74
Range	59 to 80	55 to 80	35 to 80
Sex – n(%)			
Male	11 (68.6%)	11 (84.6%)	22 (75.9%)
Female	5 (31.3%)	2 (15.4%)	7 (24.1%)
ECOG PS– n(%)			
0	2 (12.5%)	2 (15.4%)	4 (13.8%)
1	14 (87.5%)	11 (84.6%)	25 (86.2%)
PD-L1 Status – n(%)			
Positive	8 (50.0%)	5 (38.5%)	13 (44.8%)
Negative	8 (50.0%)	8 (61.5%)	16 (55.2%)
Asbestos Exposure – n(%)			
Yes	12 (75.0%)	7 (53.9%)	19 (65.5%)
No	4 (25.0%)	6 (46.2%)	10 (34.5%)
Smoking Status – n(%)			
Smoker	1 (6.3%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (3.5%)
No Smoker	7 (43.8%)	10 (76.9%)	17 (58.6%)
Ex-Smoker	8 (50.0%)	3 (23.1%)	11 (37.9%)
Time since diagnosis of mesothelioma (months)			
Median	18.6	15.8	17.2
Quartiles	11.6 to 32.6	9.4 to 22.5	11.2 to 23.6
Range	4.6 to 66.5	5.3 to 38.8	4.6 to 66.5

Supplementary table 1: Patient characteristics in Confirm.

C: Demographic and baseline characteristics recorded at baseline for the randomised CONFIRM cohort.

Characteristic	Nivolumab (n=221)	Placebo (n=111)	Total (n=332)
Initiated treatment – n (%)	217 (98.2%)	110 (99.1%)	327 (98.5%)
Total duration of treatment received (minutes)¹			
Median	181	120	170
Quartiles	90 to 390	90 to 234	90 to 360
Missing from CRF – n(%) ²	8 (3.6%)	6 (5.4%)	14 (4.2%)
Number of days on treatment^{3,4}			
Median	85	43	71
Quartiles	36 to 169	29 to 106	29 to 157
Range	1 to 530	1 to 372	1 to 530
Number of cycles⁴			
Median	6.0	4.0	6.0
Quartiles	3.0 to 13.0	3.0 to 8.0	3.0 to 12.0
Range	1 to 26	1 to 26	1 to 26
Any dose delay – n(%)⁵			
Yes	96 (44.2%)	34 (30.9%)	130 (39.8%)
No	121 (55.8%)	76 (69.1%)	197 (60.2%)
Any dose interruption – n(%)⁵			
Yes	16 (7.4%)	2 (1.8%)	18 (5.5%)
No	201 (92.6%)	108 (98.2%)	308 (94.5%)

¹This includes 44 people (13.3%) – 29 (13.1%) in nivolumab arm, 15 (13.5%) in placebo arm – who did not have duration information available for all infusions (hence the durations presented are likely to be underestimates of actual duration).

²Note that this includes those who did not initiate treatment and those who have no duration information at all.

³Defined as the date of last infusion minus date of first infusion + 1.

⁴Excludes those who did not initiate treatment.

⁵Percentages calculated using those who initiated treatment as the denominator

Supplementary table 2: Treatment delays. Treatment administered and dose delays or interruptions.

Characteristic	Nivolumab (n=221)	Placebo (n=111)	Total (n=332)
No. of patients with any further treatment – n(%)¹	86 (38.9%)	45 (40.5%)	131 (39.5%)
Type of further treatment – n(%)²			
Active symptom control	3 (3.5%)	1 (2.2%)	4 (3.1%)
Chemotherapy			
Single agent	17 (19.8%)	12 (26.7%)	29 (22.1%)
Combination	45 (52.3%)	12 (26.7%)	57 (43.5%)
Immunotherapy			
Nivolumab	1 (1.2%)	10 (22.2%)	11 (8.4%)
Other	1 (1.2%)	10 (22.2%)	11 (8.4%)
Radiotherapy	23 (26.7%)	12 (26.7%)	35 (26.7%)
Surgery	1 (1.2%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (0.8%)
Targeted agent	10 (11.6%)	2 (4.4%)	12 (9.2%)
Chemotherapy with targeted agent	1 (1.2%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (0.8%)
Chemotherapy plus immunotherapy	1 (1.2%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (0.8%)
Unknown	2 (2.3%)	0 (0.0%)	2 (1.5%)

¹ Denominator is the number of patients randomised.

² Denominator is the number of patients who received further treatment; patients can receive more than one type of therapy and so percentages will not sum to 100.

Supplementary table 3: Post study treatment. Post-study therapy received showing crossover to immunotherapy in the placebo arm of 22% for nivolumab.

Characteristic	Nivolumab (n=221)	Placebo (n=111)	Total (n=332)
Number of events observed – n(%)	216 (97.7%)	108 (97.3%)	324 (97.6%)
Median progression free survival – median (95% CI)	2.89 (2.76 to 4.11)	1.64 (1.38 to 2.56)	2.76 (2.69 to 2.86)
12-month progression free survival – % (95% CI)	14.0% (9.8% to 19.0%)	4.8% (1.8% to 10.0%)	11.0% (7.9% to 14.6%)
Cox proportional hazards model¹ – unadjusted P-value <0.001 Hazard Ratio (95% CI) 0.65 (0.51 to 0.82) Cox proportional hazards model^{1,2} – adjusted P-value <0.001 Hazard Ratio (95% CI) 0.65 (0.51 to 0.82)			

¹Reference category=Placebo:

- A HR<1 favours Nivolumab
- A HR=1 indicates neither favoured.
- A HR>1 favours Placebo

²Adjusting for epithelioid vs. non-epithelioid

Progression free survival is deemed significant if the p-value is ≤ 0.01 (if OS is not significant) or ≤ 0.05 (if OS is significant), as per the Fallback procedure.

Supplementary table 4: Progression free survival in CONFIRM. Progression-free survival (investigator reported) information, including Cox model.

Characteristic	Nivolumab (n=166)			Placebo (n=92)			Total (n=258)		
	PD-L1 high +ve (n=11)	PD-L1 low +ve (n=50)	PD-L1 -ve (n=105)	PD-L1 high +ve (n=4)	PD-L1 low +ve (n=23)	PD-L1 -ve (n=65)	PD-L1 high +ve (n=15)	PD-L1 low +ve (n=72)	PD-L1 -ve (n=171)
Number of events observed – n(%)	11 (100%)	49 (98.0%)	102 (97.7%)	4 (100%)	21 (91.3%)	64 (98.5%)	15 (100%)	70 (95.9%)	166 (97.7%)
Median progression- free survival – median (95% CI)	4.0 (2.5 to 10.5)	3.3 (2.8 to 5.6)	2.9 (2.7 to 4.3)	1.3 (0.9 to -)	2.7 (1.3 to 6.4)	1.6 (1.4 to 2.6)	2.8 (1.3 to 8.4)	2.9 (2.8 to 4.6)	2.7 (2.5 to 2.9)
12 month progression- free survival – % (95% CI)	18.2% (2.9% to 44.2%)	10.0% (3.7% to 20.1%)	18.1% (11.4% to 26.0%)	-	10.4% (1.9% to 27.7%)	3.1% (0.6% to 9.5%)	13.3% (2.2% to 34.6%)	10.1% (4.5% to 18.4%)	12.4% (8.0% to 17.8%)

Cox proportional hazards model including treatment and PD-L1 status interaction^{2,3,4} – adjusted

Treatment

P-value 0.001

Hazard Ratio (95% CI) 0.58 (0.42 to 0.80)

PD-L1 high +ve

P-value 0.032

Hazard Ratio (95% CI) 3.08 (1.10 to 8.61)

PD-L1 low +ve

P-value 0.081

Hazard Ratio (95% CI) 0.64 (0.39 to 1.06)

Treatment*PD-L1

high +ve

P-value 0.039

Hazard Ratio (95% CI) 0.28 (0.09 to 0.94)

Treatment*PD-L1

low +ve

P-value 0.145

Hazard Ratio (95% CI) 1.57 (0.86 to 2.86)

¹ PD-L1 subgroups: negative <1%, low positive 1-49% or high positive ≥50%

² Reference category=Placebo

³ Reference category=Negative PD-L1 status

⁴ Adjusted for epithelioid status

Supplementary table 5: Impact of PD-L1 TPS on PFS. Progression free survival (investigator reported) classified by PD-L1 subgroup (<1%, 1-49%, >50%), including Cox models (adjusted p-values) corresponding to PD-L1 TPS >50% being negatively prognostic effect overall, and positively predictive with respect to nivolumab treatment.

Characteristic	Nivolumab (n=221)	Placebo (n=111)	Total (n=332)
Median follow-up (months) – median (quartiles)	37.2 (30.9 to 44.4)	36.6 (28.1 to 44.0)	37.2 (30.3 to 44.4)
Number of events observed – n(%)	198 (89.6%)	100 (90.1%)	298 (89.8%)
Median overall survival (months) – median (95% CI)	9.49 (7.69 to 11.01)	6.77 (5.03 to 7.92)	8.02 (7.16 to 9.49)
12-month overall survival – % (95% CI)	39.3% (32.8% to 45.7%)	27.6% (19.6% to 36.1%)	35.4% (30.2% to 40.5%)
Cox proportional hazards model¹ – unadjusted P-value 0.093 Hazard Ratio (95% CI) 0.81 (0.64 to 1.04) Cox proportional hazards model^{1,2} – adjusted P-value 0.096 Hazard Ratio (95% CI) 0.81 (0.64 to 1.04)			

¹Reference category=Placebo:

- A HR<1 favours Nivolumab
- A HR=1 indicates neither favoured.
- A HR>1 favours Placebo

²Adjusting for epithelioid vs. non-epithelioid

Overall survival is deemed significant if the p-value is ≤ 0.04 , as per the Fallback procedure.

Supplementary table 6: OS in CONFIRM. Overall survival information, including Cox models.

Characteristic	Nivolumab (n=166)			Placebo (n=92)			Total (n=258)		
	PD-L1 high +ve (n=11)	PD-L1 low +ve (n=50)	PD-L1 -ve (n=105)	PD-L1 high +ve (n=4)	PD-L1 low +ve (n=23)	PD-L1 - ve (n=65)	PD-L1 high +ve (n=15)	PD-L1 low +ve (n=73)	PD-L1 -ve (n=170)
Number of events observed – n(%)	10 (90.9%)	43 (86.0%)	96 (91.4%)	4 (100%)	19 (82.6%)	59 (90.8%)	14 (93.3%)	62 (84.9%)	155 (91.2%)
Median overall survival – median (95% CI)	15.8 (3.4 to 22.3)	8.8 (7.3 to 12.1)	8.5 (6.1 to 10.9)	1.5 (0.9 to -)	8.3 (4.9 to 15.8)	6.5 (4.7 to 8.0)	10.6 (1.5 to 16.3)	8.3 (7.1 to 12.1)	7.3 (5.9 to 9.2)
12 month overall survival – % (95% CI)	54.6% (22.9% to 78.0%)	38.8% (25.4% to 52.1%)	33.3% (24.5% to 42.4%)	25.0% (0.9% to 66.5%)	42.7% (22.4% to 61.6%)	24.6% (15.0% to 35.5%)	46.7% (21.2% to 68.8%)	39.8% (28.5% to 50.9%)	30.0% (23.3% to 37.0%)

Cox proportional hazards model including treatment and PD-L1 status interaction^{2,3,4} – adjusted

Treatment

P-value 0.411
Hazard Ratio (95% CI) 0.87 (0.63 to 1.21)

PD-L1 high +ve

P-value 0.379
Hazard Ratio (95% CI) 1.59 (0.57 to 4.43)

PD-L1 low +ve

P-value 0.294
Hazard Ratio (95% CI) 0.76 (0.45 to 1.27)

Treatment*PD-L1 high +ve

P-value 0.256
Hazard Ratio (95% CI) 0.50 (0.15 to 1.66)

Treatment*PD-L1 low +ve

P-value 0.661
Hazard Ratio (95% CI) 1.15 (0.61 to 2.17)

¹ PD-L1 subgroups: negative <1%, low positive 1-49%, high positive ≥50%

² Reference category=Placebo

³ Reference category=Negative PD-L1 status

⁴ Adjusted for epithelioid status

Supplementary table 7: Impact of PD-L1 TPS on OS. Overall survival classified by PD-L1 subgroup (<1%, 1-49%, >50%), including Cox models (adjusted p-values) corresponding to PD-L1 TPS >50% being negatively prognostic effect overall, and positively predictive with respect to nivolumab treatment.

A

Characteristic	Nivolumab (n=195) ¹	Placebo (n=102) ¹	Total (n=297) ¹
Best overall response on treatment			
Complete response	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
Partial response	20 (10.3%)	0 (0.0%)	20 (6.7%)
Stable disease	135 (69.2%)	61 (59.8%)	196 (66.0%)
Progressive disease	40 (20.5%)	41 (40.2%)	81 (27.3%)

¹Excludes those with non-evaluable response

B

Characteristic	Nivolumab		Placebo		Total	
	PD-L1 ¹ +ve (n=56)	PD-L1 -ve (n=86)	PD-L1 +ve (n=24)	PD-L1 -ve (n=61)	PD-L1 +ve (n=80)	PD-L1 -ve (n=149)
Best overall response						
Complete response	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
Partial response	7 (12.5%)	7 (8.1%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	7 (8.8%)	7 (4.8%)
Stable disease	39 (69.6%)	61 (70.9%)	17 (70.8%)	36 (59.0%)	56 (70.0%)	97 (66.0%)
Progressive disease	10 (17.9%)	18 (20.9%)	7 (29.2%)	25 (41.0%)	17 (21.3%)	43 (29.3%)

¹PD-L1 subgroups: negative <1%, positive ≥1%

C

Characteristic	Nivolumab (n=221)	Placebo (n=111)
Number of patients responded¹ – n(%)	20 (9.0%)	0 (0.0%)
Time to response (months)² – median (IQR)	2.6 (1.5 to 2.8)	- (- to -)

¹Response is defined by complete response (CR) or partial response (PR).

²Defined by time from randomisation to response.

D

Characteristic	Nivolumab (n=221)	Placebo (n=111)
Number of patients responded¹ – n(%)	20 (9.0%)	0 (0.0%)
Number of patients progressed/died – n(%)	216 (97.7%)	108 (97.3%)
Duration of response² (months) – median (95% CI)	7.1 (3.0 to 16.3)	- (- to -)

¹Response is defined by complete response (CR) or partial response (PR).

²Defined by time from response to disease progression/death, patients who haven't progressed/died will be censored at the LKA date.

Supplementary table 8: Objective responses in CONFIRM. **A:** Objective response rates by treatment arm. **B:** PD-L1 TPS versus objective response. **C:** Time to response per treatment arm. **D:** Duration of response.

Characteristic	Nivolumab (n=221)	Placebo (n=111)	Total (n=332)
Adverse events – n(%)^{1,2}			
CTCAE 4.0 Grade 1	24 (10.9%)	19 (17.1%)	43 (13.0%)
CTCAE 4.0 Grade 2	84 (38.0%)	33 (29.7%)	117 (35.2%)
CTCAE 4.0 Grade 3	93 (42.1%)	43 (38.7%)	136 (41.0%)
CTCAE 4.0 Grade 4	3 (1.4%)	4 (3.6%)	7 (2.1%)
CTCAE 4.0 Grade 5	5 (2.3%)	4 (3.6%)	9 (2.7%)
Reported AE with Missing Grade – n(%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
No AE	12 (5.4%)	8 (7.2%)	20 (6.0%)
Severe (CTCAE v4.0 Grade 3 or above) adverse events – n(%) ^{1,2}	101 (45.7%)	51 (45.9%)	152 (45.8%)

¹ Denominator is the number of patients randomised.

² The worst grade is used when more than one grade is available for a patient.

Supplementary table 9: Adverse Events. A summary of all cause adverse events classified by CTCAE4.0 grade.

Characteristic	Nivolumab (n=221)	Placebo (n=111)	Total (n=332)
Number of patients experiencing at least one SAE/SAR/SUSAR – n(%) ¹	90 (40.7%)	49 (44.1%)	139 (41.9%)
Number of SAE/SAR/SUSAR per patient (for patients with at least one SAE/SAR/SUSAR) – median (range)	1 (1 to 7)	1 (1 to 7)	1 (1 to 7)
Overall assessment – n(%)²			
SUSAR (Suspected Unexpected Serious Adverse Reaction)	10 (6.9%)	0 (0.00%)	10 (4.6%)
SAR (Serious Adverse Reaction)	37 (25.5%)	8 (10.7%)	45 (20.5%)
SAE (Serious Adverse Event)	98 (67.6%)	67 (89.3%)	165 (75.0%)
Total	145 (100%)	75 (100%)	220 (100%)
CTCAE v4.0 grade – n(%)²			
1 – Mild	1 (0.7%)	3 (4.0%)	4 (1.8%)
2 – Moderate	16 (11.0%)	12 (16.0%)	28 (12.7%)
3 – Severe	120 (82.8%)	52 (69.3%)	172 (78.2%)
4 – Life threatening	2 (1.4%)	4 (5.3%)	6 (2.7%)
5 – Death related to AE	6 (4.1%)	4 (5.3%)	10 (4.6%)
Missing	0	0	0
Total	145 (100%)	75 (100%)	220 (100%)
Why was the event serious – n(%)³			
1 – Resulted in death	6 (4.1%)	6 (8.0%)	12 (5.5%)
2 – Life threatening	0	1 (1.3%)	1 (0.5%)
3 – Required hospitalisation or prolongation of existing hospitalisation	134 (92.4%)	68 (90.7%)	202 (91.8%)
6 – Other important medical event	5 (3.5%)	0	5 (2.3%)
Missing	0	0	0
Total	145 (100%)	75 (100%)	220 (100%)

¹ Denominator is the number of patients randomised.

² Denominator is the number of SAEs/SARs/SUSARs with non-missing information. Overall assessment relates to worst case based on PI and independent, blinded clinical review.

³ Denominator is the number of SAEs/SARs/SUSAR.

Supplementary table 10: Serious adverse events, reactions and suspected unexpected serious adverse reactions. Summary of serious adverse events (SAEs), serious adverse reactions (SARs) and suspected unexpected serious adverse events (SUSARs) classified by treatment group.

Characteristic	Nivolumab (n=221)	Placebo (n=111)	Total (n=332)
Treatment Related Adverse events – n(%)^{1,2}			
CTCAE 4.0 Grade 1	43 (26.1%)	33 (50.8%)	76 (33.0%)
CTCAE 4.0 Grade 2	77 (46.7%)	24 (36.92%)	101 (43.9%)
CTCAE 4.0 Grade 3	42 (25.5%)	8 (12.3%)	50 (21.7%)
CTCAE 4.0 Grade 4	3 (1.8%)	0 (0.0%)	3 (1.3%)
CTCAE 4.0 Grade 5	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
Reported AE with Missing Grade – n(%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
No TRAE	56 (25.3%)	46 (41.4%)	102 (30.7%)
Severe (CTCAE v4.0 Grade 3 or above) adverse events – n(%) ^{1,2}	45 (20.4%)	8 (7.2%)	53 (16.0%)

¹ Denominator is the number of patients randomised.

² The worst grade is used when more than one grade is available for a patient.

Supplementary table 11: Treatment related adverse events. Summary of treatment related adverse events (TRAEs) classified by CTCAE4.0 grade and by treatment group.

Characteristic	Nivolumab (n=221)	Placebo (n=111)	Total (n=332)
Treatment Related Serious Adverse events – n(%)^{1,2}			
CTCAE 4.0 Grade 1	0 (0.0%)	1 (12.5%)	1 (2.8%)
CTCAE 4.0 Grade 2	0 (0.0%)	1 (12.5%)	1 (2.8%)
CTCAE 4.0 Grade 3	26 (92.9%)	6 (75.0%)	32 (88.9%)
CTCAE 4.0 Grade 4	2 (7.1%)	0 (0.0%)	2 (5.6%)
CTCAE 4.0 Grade 5	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
Reported TRAE with Missing Grade – n(%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
No TRSAE	193 (87.3%)	65 (58.6%)	296 (89.2%)
Severe (CTCAE v4.0 Grade 3 or above) adverse events – n(%)^{1,2}	28 (12.7%)	6 (5.4%)	34 (10.2%)

¹ Denominator is the number of patients randomised.

² The worst grade is used when more than one grade is available for a patient.

Supplementary table 12 Treatment related serious adverse events. Summary of treatment related serious adverse events classified by CTCAE4.0 grade and by treatment group.

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CONFIRM

Checkpoint blockade For Inhibition of Relapsed
Mesothelioma (CONFIRM): A Phase III Double-Blind,
Placebo Controlled Trial to Evaluate the Efficacy of
Nivolumab in Relapsed Mesothelioma

BMS protocol number: CA209-841

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Protocol Information

This protocol describes the CONFIRM trial and provides information about procedures for entering participants. The protocol should not be used as a guide for the treatment of other non-trial participants; every care was taken in its drafting, but corrections or amendments may be necessary. These will be circulated to investigators in the trial, but sites entering participants for the first time are advised to contact Southampton Clinical Trials Unit to confirm they have the most recent version.

Compliance

This trial will adhere to the principles of Good Clinical Practice (GCP). It will be conducted in compliance with the protocol, in accordance with current Data Protection Regulations and all other regulatory requirements, as appropriate.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AACR	American Association of Cancer Research
AE	Adverse Event
ALT	Alanine aminotransferase
AR	Adverse Reaction
AST	Aspartate aminotransferase
BMS	Bristol-Myers Squibb
BP	Blood pressure
BUN	Blood urea nitrogen
CI	Chief Investigator
CNS	Central nervous system
CRF	Case Report Form
CTA	Clinical Trial Authorisation
CTCAE	Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events
DILI	Drug Induced Liver Injury
DMP	Data Management Plan
DSUR	Development Safety Update Reports
ECOG	Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group
EQ-5D-5L	European Quality of Life-5 Dimensions-5 Levels
FFPE	Formalin-fixed, paraffin-embedded
GCP	Good Clinical Practice
HR	Hazard Ratio
IASLC	International Association for the Study of Lung Cancer
IB	Investigator's Brochure
IDMC	Independent data monitoring committee
IMP	Investigational Medicinal Product
ISF	Investigator Site File
LDH	Lactate dehydrogenase
MHRA	Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency
NCI	National Cancer Institute
NSCLC	Non-small cell lung cancer
ORR	Objective response rate
OS	Overall survival
PD-1	Programmed cell death 1
PD-L1	Programmed cell death Ligand 1
PR	Partial response
PFS	Progression-free survival
Q2W	Every two weeks
QALY	Quality adjusted life year
REC	Research Ethics Committee
RECIST	Response Evaluation Criteria In Solid Tumors
RR	Respiratory rate
SAE	Serious Adverse Event
SAP	Statistical Analysis Plan
SAR	Serious Adverse Reaction
SCNA	Somatic copy number alteration
SCTU	Southampton Clinical Trials Unit
SUSAR	Suspected Unexpected Serious Adverse Reaction
TMF	Trial Master File

TMG	Trial Management Group
TSC	Trial Steering Committee
TSH	Thyroid-stimulating hormone
T3	Triiodothyronine
T4	Thyroxine
UAR	Unexpected Adverse Reaction
ULN	Upper limits of normal
WOCBP	Women of childbearing potential

Keywords

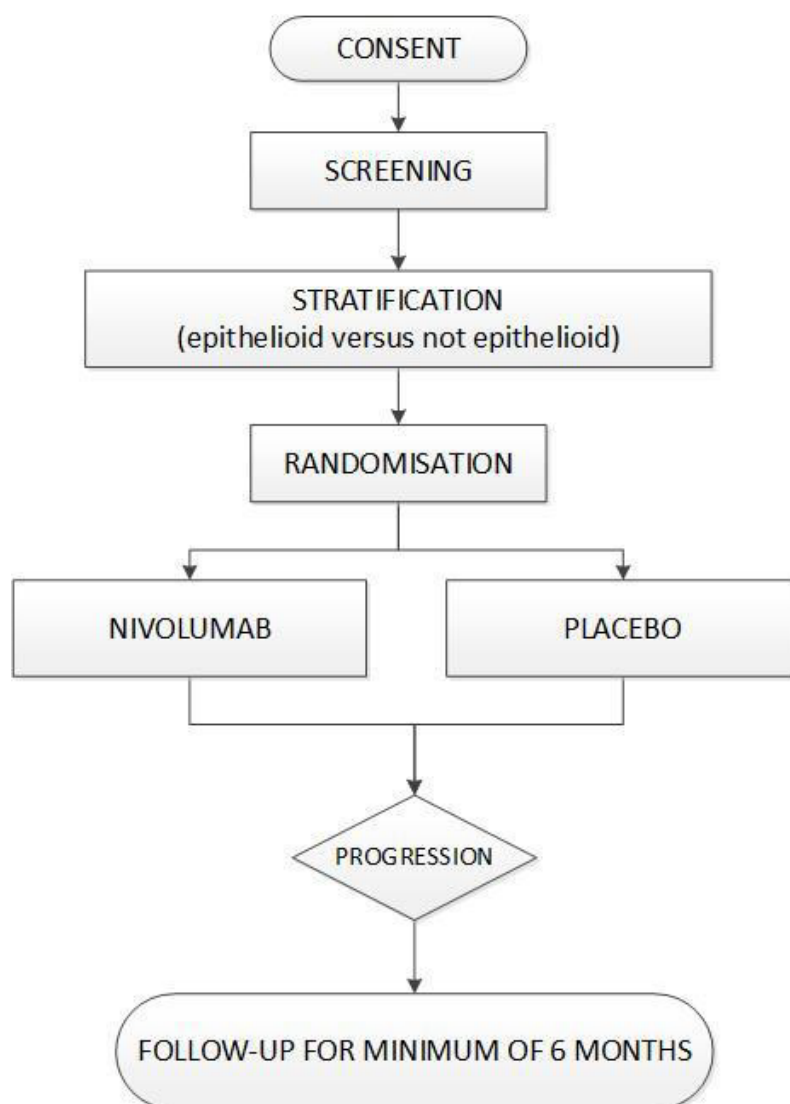
Mesothelioma; anti-PD-1; Nivolumab; immunotherapy; RECIST; quality of life; survival; immune checkpoint inhibition; PD-L1

TRIAL SYNOPSIS

Short title:	CONFIRM
Full title:	Checkpoint blockade for inhibition of relapsed mesothelioma: A phase III trial to evaluate the efficacy of nivolumab in relapsed mesothelioma
Phase:	III
Population:	Mesothelioma patients (any subtype, pleural or peritoneal) who have undergone prior treatment with at least one line of therapy.
Primary Objective:	To compare overall survival (OS) of nivolumab with placebo in patients with relapsed mesothelioma. and To compare progression-free survival (PFS) of nivolumab with placebo (co-primary endpoint)
Secondary Objectives:	To compare objective response rate (ORR), as determined by investigator, of nivolumab to placebo To determine the safety profile of nivolumab in relapsed mesothelioma patients To determine whether nivolumab results in acceptable quality of life and cost per quality adjusted life year (QALY)
Translational Objectives:	To define the association of PD-L1 status and OS in patients with relapsed mesothelioma To correlate: a) mutation burden with OS b) immunosuppressive landscape (immune checkpoint expression and infiltration of immune cell) and nivolumab efficacy
Rationale:	Effective therapy for relapsed mesothelioma is an unmet need. Despite a significant number of clinical studies in the second line setting, no randomised study to date has been positive. The James Lind Alliance Priority Setting Partnership funded by the NIHR has identified immunotherapy as the number one UK research priority. To date there have been no placebo controlled randomised trials for mesothelioma using PD-L1 or PD-1 checkpoint inhibition. Early promising signals of activity relating to both PD-L1 and PD-1 targeted treatment in mesothelioma implicate a dependency of mesothelioma on this immune checkpoint, and support the development of a randomised phase III trial to evaluate the efficacy of nivolumab. CONFIRM will be the first ever placebo controlled, randomised phase III trial of a PD-1 immune checkpoint inhibitor. PD-1 checkpoint inhibition has revolutionised the treatment of melanoma and is now standard of care in non-small cell lung cancer, squamous cell cancer head and neck and classical Hodgkin's lymphoma. It is being assessed rigorously in numerous other cancers making its evaluation in mesothelioma timely in CONFIRM.
Trial Design:	A double blind randomised phase III trial comparing nivolumab (anti-PD-1 antibody) monotherapy versus placebo for one year. The treatment allocation ratio will be 2:1 (treatment: placebo).

Sample size:	336 (224 active treatment; 112 placebo)
Investigational Medicinal Product:	Nivolumab or matched placebo
Dosage Regimen / Duration of Treatment:	Nivolumab 240mg flat dose (or placebo) Q2W over 30 minutes IV until disease progression, to a maximum of 12 months
URL for Database:	https://www.imedidata.com
URL for randomisation:	https://prod.tenalea.net/ciru/DM/DELogin.aspx
Primary Trial Endpoints:	• OS (time from randomisation to death) • PFS (time from randomisation to progression/death)
Secondary Trial Endpoints:	• ORR • QoL (EQ-5D-5L) • Toxicity (CTCAE v4.03) • Treatment compliance • Cost-effectiveness (health resource use questionnaire)
Translational Trial Endpoints:	• Subgroup analysis of response to nivolumab according to expression of PD-L1 (<1%, 1-49%, ≥50%) • Correlation of mutational burden and immune gene regulation profile with OS
Total Number of Sites:	Approximately 25 secondary care

TRIAL SCHEMA



All patients will be registered with NHS Digital to monitor overall survival.

SCHEDULE OF OBSERVATIONS AND PROCEDURES

Visit:	Screening: ≤ 28 days prior to day 1 cycle 1	Baseline: Day 1 cycle 1 Assessments ≤ 3 working days prior to infusion	From cycle 2 until disease progression: day 1 of cycle	28 ±7 days post treatment discontinuation	Post Treatment Discontinuation
Informed Consent	X				
Eligibility Evaluation	X				
Medical History	X				
Physical Exam (<i>height and weight</i>), Vital Signs (<i>temperature, blood pressure, heart rate, respiratory rate, oxygen saturation</i>), ECOG performance status	X	X ^a	X ^a	X ^a	
Concomitant Medication Record	X ^a	X	X	X	
Pregnancy Test in WOCBP	X	X	X ^b	X	X ^b
CT ^c with Modified RECIST (or RECIST 1.1) ^d	X		X ^e	X ^t	
Serum Chemistry (<i>BUN or serum urea, serum creatinine, Na, K, Ca, glucose, LDH, phosphate and amylase or lipase</i>)	X	X ^f	X ^g	X	
Full Blood Count (<i>WBC, lymphocyte count, ANC, haemoglobin, haematocrit, and platelet count</i>)	X	X ^f	X ^g	X	
Liver Function Tests (<i>AST or ALT, ALP, total bilirubin, albumin</i>)	X	X ^f	X ^g	X	
Thyroid Function Tests (<i>TSH and Free T3 or Free T4</i>)	X		X ^{g,h}	X	
C-Reactive Protein		X ^f			
RANDOMISATION		X ⁱ			
Adverse Events	X ^r	X	X	X	X ^j
Completion of NHS Digital Flagging Form		X			
QoL (EQ-5D-5L) and health resource use		X	X ^k	X	X ^l
Record details of next treatment				X	X
TREATMENTS (nivolumab/placebo)		X	X ^m		
Archival/Fresh (FFPE) translational tissue (mandatory)	X ^s			X ⁿ	
Translational blood ^o		X		X	
Survival Status					X ^p

NB: The Participant/legal representative is free to withdraw consent at any time without providing a reason. When withdrawn, the participant will continue to receive standard clinical care. Follow up data will continue to be collected (unless the participant/legal representative has specifically stated that they do not want this to happen).

a = Targeted physical exam as clinically required

b = During treatment on odd numbered cycles only (i.e. every 4 weeks (NB this should be prior to treatment, so if treatment is delayed, test to be performed within 1 day prior to odd number cycle dosing). Result within 1 day prior to dose. Post nivolumab/placebo discontinuation every month for 5 months

c = Chest and abdomen for all participants; pelvis for patients with peritoneal mesothelioma only; and all other known sites of disease

d = Modified RECIST should be used for pleural mesothelioma. For non-pleural mesothelioma, or where measurements for mRECIST cannot be obtained, RECIST 1.1 should be used

e = At week 6 (± 3 days from the date of randomisation) and week 12 (± 3 days from the date of randomisation) (regardless of the number of cycles of treatment the patient has received and whether trial treatment has stopped early for reasons other than progression)

f = If screening is within three working days of first treatment, assessments do not need to be repeated

g = Samples can be taken ≤ 3 working days prior to dosing

h = TFTs every 3 cycles: cycles 4, 7, 10...

i = Within 48 hours prior to treatment

j = All AEs to be reported for 100 days post treatment discontinuation and for ongoing drug-related AEs until resolved, return to baseline or deemed irreversible

k = At cycle 4 and cycle 7

l = EQ-5D-5L only at months 6 & 12 post treatment discontinuation

m = Every 14 ± 2 days

n = Optional

o = Processed to extract serum and plasma, see Lab Manual for further details

p = Assess every 12 weeks

q = Baseline concomitant medication review within 14 days prior to first dose

r = AEs to be reported from consent

s = Retrieval of archival sample or re-biopsy if sample not available. Only to be performed following consent (mandatory sample)

t = Post-treatment CT scan, as per local policy

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1. BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE

1.1.1 *Malignant mesothelioma is increasing in the UK*

Mesothelioma is an incurable, apoptosis-resistant cancer caused in most cases by previous exposure to asbestos and is increasing in incidence in the UK and beyond [1, 2]. The majority of patients with mesothelioma present with advanced disease and prognosis is poor. Mesothelioma therefore represents a growing health burden, but it remains under-researched and treatment options are limited. Chemotherapy is currently the standard of care in the first-line setting in which two positive randomised phase III trials have been reported, showing improved survival with the addition of pemetrexed or raltitrexed to cisplatin respectively [3, 4]. The recent French MAPS trial has shown that the addition of bevacizumab to pemetrexed-cisplatin and bevacizumab maintenance, improves survival from 16.1 months within the control arm to 18.8 months with the addition of bevacizumab [5].

1.1.2 *Immune checkpoint blockade as molecular target*

The landscape of cancer therapy has been recently transformed by the emergence of immunotherapy involving the targeting of immune checkpoints [6-8]. Programmed cell death 1 (PD-1) is a 55kDa transmembrane inhibitory immunoreceptor expressed by activated T cells that negatively regulates immune responses required for peripheral self-tolerance. PD-1 interacts with its ligand PD-L1, a member of the B7 gene family, which is expressed on mesothelioma cells [9, 10]. The expression of PD-L1 (≥5% positively stained cells) has been reported in 40% of mesothelioma overall, with a higher rate in sarcomatoid mesotheliomas and is a poor prognostic factor. The PD-1/PD-L1 axis mediates an inhibitory signal to T cells leading to induction of apoptosis via PD-1 activation. Accordingly, PD-1 or PD-L1 blockade de-represses T cell activation, unleashing a clinical immune response with tumour regression [11].

1.1.3 *Early signals of efficacy for PD-1 inhibition in mesothelioma*

Targeting the PD-1/PD-L1 in mesothelioma has demonstrated promising efficacy. Of 25 patients receiving pembrolizumab in a single arm phase I/II study (Keynote 28 [KN028]), the objective response rate was 20% in patients with PD-L1 positive malignant pleural mesothelioma (≥1% PD-L1 positive tumour cells by immunohistochemistry). Additionally, 52% of patients had stable disease, resulting in a disease control rate of 72% [12].

1.1.4 *PD-L1 blockade in mesothelioma*

PD-L1 blockade has also demonstrated promising efficacy in patients with mesothelioma [13]. In a phase 1b study (NCT01772004), 53 patients were treated with avelumab (MSB0010718C, Merck Serono), with histologically or cytologically confirmed unresectable mesothelioma (pleural or peritoneal) that progressed after prior platinum-pemetrexed-containing regimen or platinum-based regimen followed by pemetrexed. Avelumab was administered at a dose of 10mg/kg as a 1-h infusion Q2W until confirmed progression, unacceptable toxicity, or any criteria for withdrawal occurred. Patients had received a median of 1.5 prior treatments (range, 0-7.4). Histology was epithelial (81.1%), mixed (11.3%), or sarcomatoid (3.8%). Objective responses were observed in five (9.4%) patients; all were partial responses and durable. Stable disease (SD) was observed in nine additional patients (45%). The overall disease control rate (Partial Response [PR] plus SD) was 56.6% (30 patients). Median progression free survival (PFS) by RECIST was 17.1 weeks (95% CI: 6.1, 30.1), and the PFS rate at 24 weeks was 38.4% (95% CI: 23.3, 53.4).

1.2. NIVOLUMAB

Nivolumab is a human IgG4 anti-PD-1 monoclonal antibody which blocks PD-1 receptor on activated T-cells, which has been approved by the Food and Drug Administration for treatment of patients with

unresectable or metastatic melanoma unresponsive to other drugs, and relapsed non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC), recurrent renal cancer (RCC) and Classic Hodgkin lymphoma (cHL). In a phase IIA clinical trial of nivolumab (3mg/kg q2w) conducted at NKI, Amsterdam, the disease control rate at 12 weeks was 50% (n=34) [14].

1.3. PREDICTING PD-1/PD-L1 CHECKPOINT INHIBITION

PD-L1 has been implicated as a putative biomarker of efficacy for PD-L1 and PD-1 inhibitors from correlative analysis of several clinical studies [8, 15]; however, the association between PD-L1 expression and efficacy in mesothelioma remains controversial. In mesothelioma, study Keynote 28 failed to demonstrate a clear association between the level of PD-L1 expression and efficacy. PD-L1 expression was also not found to be correlated with efficacy in the positive study of nivolumab in squamous NSCLC (checkmate 017) [16]. Mutation burden is associated with increased neo-antigen load and sensitivity to PD-1 blockade [17]. We, and others, have shown that a subset of mesotheliomas exhibit significant genomic instability and high mutational burden, with shorter survival [18]; however, neither the correlation with expression of PD-L1 nor response to PD-L1/PD-1 inhibition has been explored.

1.4. CTLA-4 IMMUNE CHECKPOINT AND MESOTHELIOMA

Cytotoxic T-lymphocyte-associated protein 4 (CTLA-4) represents a second immune checkpoint on T cells, which interacts with CD80/CD86 on antigen presenting cells. A recent phase II trial demonstrated activity of the CTLA-4 inhibitor tremelimumab in mesothelioma [19]; results from a phase III clinical trial, DETERMINE (NCT01843374) were negative (Kindler et al, ASCO 2016). Accordingly, there remains no agreed standard of care in the relapsed setting.

1.5. PD-L1 AS A PREDICTIVE BIOMARKER

We will conduct PD-L1 evaluation as a potential predictive correlate of overall survival. Genome-wide copy number analysis will be conducted using molecular inversion probe array. Using a custom bioinformatics workflow developed in Leicester, predictive copy number variations which associate with minimum hazard ratio will be identifiable and their prognostic interactions interrogated. RNA will be extracted to support transcriptome analysis to profile the immunophenotype. 100% tissue block collection will be achieved through mandatory inclusion of fresh or archival tissue (obtained or retrieved after consent) in the inclusion criteria for this study.

1.6. ESTIMATING THE ASSOCIATION BETWEEN MUTATIONAL BURDEN AND NIVOLUMAB EFFICACY

1.6.1 *Mutational burden predicts the efficacy of PD-1 blockade*

A recent report in *Science* by Rizvi et al, [17] showed the interaction between mutation burden and PD-1 inhibitor efficacy. Similarly, evidence from patients harbouring colorectal tumours with DNA mismatch repair has been shown to predict the efficacy of PD-1 blockade [31-33]. Collectively, these studies confirm that genomic instability coupled to higher mutation load, is associated with neo antigen expression and upregulated immune escape mechanisms.

2 STUDY OBJECTIVES

	Objective	Endpoint used to evaluate
Primary:	To determine whether nivolumab increases overall survival in relapsed mesothelioma patients	Overall survival (time from randomisation to death)
	and To determine whether nivolumab increases progression-free survival (PFS) in relapsed mesothelioma patients	Progression-free survival (time from randomisation to progression/death)
Secondary:	To determine whether nivolumab:	
	a) increases response rate (RR) b) has good safety/tolerability c) results in acceptable patient quality of life and cost per QALY	a) modified RECIST or RECIST 1.1 b) CTCAE v4.03 c) EQ-5D-5L and health resource usage
Translational:	Subgroup analysis of response to nivolumab according to expression of PD-L1 (<1%, 1-49%, ≥50%)	Expression of PD-L1 will be determined by immunohistochemistry and sensitivity to nivolumab assessed by group
	To determine if mutational burden and immune gene regulation profile correlate with overall survival	Mutational burden will be determined using array based somatic copy number alteration (SCNA) analysis; immune gene regulation profile will be determined by transcriptomic analysis.

3 STUDY DESIGN

A double blind, placebo controlled randomised phase III trial comparing nivolumab (anti PD-1 antibody) monotherapy 240mg Q2W versus placebo until disease progression, for a maximum of 12 months. The treatment allocation ratio will be 2:1 in favour of nivolumab.

3.1. STUDY ENDPOINTS

3.1.1 *Primary endpoint*

Overall survival defined as time from randomisation to death from any cause.

Progression-free survival defined as time from randomisation to progression (according to modified RECIST or RECIST 1.1), or death from any cause (whichever event comes first). Modified RECIST or RECIST 1.1 will be assessed at week 6 (±3 days) and week 12 (±3 days) (regardless of the number of cycles of treatment the patient has received and whether trial treatment has stopped early for reasons other than progression).

Additionally, patients will be flagged with the NHS Digital to reduce loss at follow up. Regular CT scans will not be mandated. Follow-up imaging will be as per local hospital policy and as clinically indicated.

3.1.2 Secondary endpoints

Toxicity will be assessed using CTCAE v4.03 at baseline, after each treatment cycle, and for 100 days post treatment discontinuation and for ongoing drug-related AEs until resolved, return to baseline or deemed irreversible.

Quality of life and health economic data will be collected using EQ-5D-5L plus data on health resource usage collected at baseline, after cycles 3 and 6 and at 28 days post treatment discontinuation. EQ-5D-5L will also be collected at 6, and 12 months post treatment discontinuation.

3.1.3 Translational endpoint

Subgroup analysis of response to nivolumab according to expression of PD-L1: PD-L1 expression (<1%, 1-49%, ≥50%), will be determined by immunohistochemistry and sensitivity to nivolumab assessed by group.

Correlation between mutational burden and immune gene regulation profile and overall survival: this will be determined using array based SCNA analysis and transcriptomic analysis.

3.2. DOSE RATIONALE OF NIVOLUMAB

The nivolumab dose of 240 mg every 2 weeks (Q2W) was selected based on clinical data and modelling and simulation approaches using population pharmacokinetics (PPK) and exposure-response analyses of data from studies in multiple tumour types (melanoma, NSCLC, and renal cell carcinoma [RCC]) where body weight normalised dosing (mg/kg) has been used. PPK analyses have shown that the pharmacokinetics (PK) of nivolumab is linear with proportional exposure over a dose range of 0.1 to 10 mg/kg, and no differences in PK across ethnicities and tumour types were observed. Nivolumab clearance and volume of distribution were found to increase as the body weight increases, but less than the proportional increase with increasing weight, indicating that mg/kg dosing represents an over-adjustment for the effect of body weight on nivolumab PK.

The PPK model previously developed using data from NSCLC subjects has recently been updated, using data from 1544 subjects from 7 studies investigating nivolumab in the treatment of melanoma, NSCLC, and RCC. In this dataset, the median (minimum - maximum) weight was 77 kg (35 kg - 160 kg) and thus, an approximately equivalent dose of 3 mg/kg for an 80 kg subject, nivolumab 240 mg Q2W was selected for future studies. To predict relevant summary exposures of nivolumab 240 mg Q2W, the PPK model was used to simulate nivolumab 3 mg/kg Q2W and 240 mg Q2W. In the simulations, the simulated patient populations consisted of 1000 subjects per treatment arm randomly sampled from the aforementioned pooled database of cancer subjects. Because no differences in PK were noted across ethnicities and tumour types, these simulated melanoma and NSCLC data will be applicable to subjects with other tumour types. The simulated measure of exposure of interest, time-averaged concentrations (Cavgss) for 240 mg Q2W are predicted to be similar for all subjects in reference to 80 kg subjects receiving 3 mg/kg Q2W.

Nivolumab is safe and well tolerated up to 10 mg/kg Q2W dose level. Adverse events have been broadly consistent across tumour types following monotherapy and have not demonstrated clear dose-response or exposure-response relationships. Additionally, the simulated median and 95th prediction interval of nivolumab summary exposures across body weight range (35 - 160 kg) are predicted to be maintained below the corresponding observed highest exposure experienced in nivolumab i.e., 95th percentile following nivolumab 10 mg/kg Q2W from clinical study CA 209-003. Thus, while subjects in the lower body weight ranges would have greater exposures than 80 kg subjects, the exposures are predicted to be within the range of observed exposures at doses (up to 10 mg/kg Q2W) used in the nivolumab clinical program, and are not considered to put subjects at increased risk. For subjects with greater body weights, the simulated ranges of exposures are also not expected to affect efficacy,

because the exposures predicted following administration of a 240 mg Q2W are on the flat part of the exposure-response curves for previously investigated tumours, melanoma and NSCLC. Given the similarity of nivolumab PK across tumour types and the similar exposures predicted following administration of 240 mg flat dose compared to 3 mg/kg, it is expected that the safety and efficacy profile of 240 mg nivolumab will be similar to that of 3 mg/kg nivolumab. Thus, nivolumab 240 mg every 2 weeks over 30 minutes will be used in this study.

3.3. TIMING OF PRIMARY ENDPOINT ANALYSIS

The primary endpoint analysis will occur when 291 death events have been reported, or once the TSC advise that follow-up should end (for example, in the case that it is anticipated the required number of events will not be reached in the timescales of the study). All patients will be consented to allow linkage with NHS Digital data to obtain overall survival and progression-free survival data.

4 SELECTION AND ENROLMENT OF PARTICIPANTS

4.1. CONSENT

Consent to enter the trial must be sought from each participant only after a full explanation has been given, an information leaflet offered and time allowed for consideration. Signed participant consent should be obtained prior to undertaking any trial-related procedures. The right of the participant to refuse to participate without giving reasons must be respected. After the participant has entered the trial the clinician remains free to give alternative treatment to that specified in the protocol at any stage if he/she feels it is in the participant's best interest, but the reasons for doing so should be recorded. In these cases, the participants remain within the trial for the purposes of follow-up and data analysis. All participants are free to withdraw at any time from the protocol treatment without giving reasons and without prejudicing further treatment.

Consent forms will be sent to SCTU following randomisation. The consent form will be scanned and sent **from an nhs.net email address** to uhs.sctu@nhs.net marked FAO CONFIRM trial team. The original signed consent form will be filed in the investigator site file.

4.2. INCLUSION CRITERIA

- Patients must have signed and dated a REC-approved written informed consent form in accordance with regulatory and institutional guidelines. This must be obtained before the performance of any protocol-related procedures that are not part of normal patient care.
- Patients must be willing and able to comply with scheduled visits, treatment schedule, laboratory tests, and other requirements of the study.
- Histological confirmation of mesothelioma (any subtype, pleural or peritoneal).
- Patients must have received at least one prior line of treatment.
Prior lines of antineoplastic therapy, including chemotherapy, surgical resection of lesions, radiation therapy, must be completed at least 14 days prior to receiving study treatment.
- Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group Performance Status (ECOG PS) 0-1 (see appendix 1).
- Radiologically assessable disease by modified RECIST (pleural mesothelioma) or RECIST 1.1 (non-pleural mesothelioma or where measurements for mRECIST cannot be obtained).
- Evidence of disease progression by CT scan (performed within 28 days prior to first dose of nivolumab/placebo).
- Prior palliative radiotherapy must have been completed at least 14 days prior to study drug administration.
- Consent to provide mandatory baseline tissue and blood samples for research.
- Age ≥18 years.

- Screening laboratory values must meet the following criteria within 48 hours prior to commencement of treatment:
 - i) White blood cells $\geq 2 \times 10^9/\text{L}$
 - ii) Neutrophils $\geq 1.5 \times 10^9/\text{L}$
 - iii) Platelets $\geq 100 \times 10^9/\text{L}$
 - iv) Haemoglobin $\geq 90 \text{ g/L}$
 - v) Serum creatinine of $\leq 1.5 \times \text{ULN}$ or creatinine clearance (CrCl) $> 50 \text{ mL/minute}$ (using Cockcroft/Gault formula)
 - Female CrCl = $[(140 - \text{age in years}) \times \text{weight in kg} \times 0.85] \div (72 \times \text{serum creatinine in } \mu\text{mol/L})$
 - Male CrCl = $[(140 - \text{age in years}) \times \text{weight in kg} \times 1.00] \div (72 \times \text{serum creatinine in } \mu\text{mol/L})$
 - vi) AST $\leq 3 \times \text{ULN}$ OR ALT $\leq 3 \times \text{ULN}$ (if both are assessed, both need to be $\leq 3 \times \text{ULN}$)
 - vii) Total bilirubin $\leq 1.5 \times \text{ULN}$ (except patients with Gilbert Syndrome, who must have total bilirubin $< 51.3 \mu\text{mol/L}$)
- Reproductive status (refer to section 4.6)
 - a) Women of childbearing potential (WOCBP, as defined in section 4.6) must have a negative serum or urine pregnancy test (minimum sensitivity 25 IU/L or equivalent units of Human Chorionic Gonadotropin) at enrolment and within 24 hours prior to the start of study treatment. An extension up to 3 days prior to start of study treatment may be permissible in situations where results cannot be obtained within a 24-hour window.
 - b) Women must not be breastfeeding.
 - c) WOCBP must agree to use a highly effective method of contraception (as outlined in section 4.6) for the duration of treatment and 5 months after the last dose of nivolumab/placebo.
 - d) Men who are sexually active with WOCBP must use the contraceptive methods as outlined in section 4.6 for the duration of treatment and for 7 months after the last dose of nivolumab/placebo.
- Expected survival of at least 12 weeks.

4.3. EXCLUSION CRITERIA

4.3.1 Target Disease Exceptions

- a) Patients with untreated, symptomatic central nervous system (CNS) metastases are excluded. Participants are eligible if CNS metastases are adequately treated and participants are neurologically returned to baseline (except for residual signs or symptoms related to the CNS treatment) for at least 2 weeks prior to treatment assignment. In addition, participants must be either off corticosteroids, or on a stable or decreasing dose of $\leq 10 \text{ mg}$ daily prednisone (or equivalent) for at least 2 weeks prior to treatment.
- b) Patients with carcinomatous meningitis are excluded.

4.3.2 Medical History and Concurrent Diseases

- a) Patients with active, known or suspected autoimmune disease. Patients with Type I diabetes mellitus, residual hypothyroidism due to an autoimmune condition requiring hormone replacement, psoriasis not requiring systemic treatment, or conditions not expected to recur in the absence of an external trigger are permitted to enrol.
- b) Patients with a condition requiring systemic treatment with either corticosteroids ($> 10 \text{ mg}$ daily prednisone equivalent) or other immunosuppressive medications within 14 days of the first dose of study drug administration. Inhaled or topical steroids and adrenal replacement steroid doses $> 10 \text{ mg}$ daily prednisone or equivalent are permitted in the absence of active autoimmune disease.

- c) Other active malignancy requiring concurrent intervention.
- d) Patients with previous malignancies (except non-melanoma skin cancers, and the following in situ cancers: bladder, gastric, colon, endometrial, cervical/dysplasia, melanoma or breast) are excluded unless a complete remission was achieved at least 2 years prior to study entry AND no additional therapy is required during the study period.
- e) Any serious or uncontrolled medical disorder or active infection that, in the opinion of the investigator, may increase the risk associated with study participation, study drug administration, or would impair the ability of the patient to receive protocol therapy.
- f) All toxicities attributed to prior anti-cancer therapy other than alopecia and fatigue not resolved to Grade 1 (NCI CTCAE version 4.03) or baseline before administration of study drug.
- g) Patients who have not recovered from the effects of major surgery or significant traumatic injury at least 14 days before the first dose of study treatment.
- h) Known alcohol or drug abuse.
- i) Patients who have received prior therapy with anti-PD-1, anti-PD-L1, anti-PD-L2, anti-CD137, or anti-CTLA-4 antibody (including ipilimumab or any other antibody or drug specifically targeting T-cell co-stimulation or checkpoint pathways) or who have previously taken part in either a randomised Bristol Myers Squibb (BMS) clinical trial for nivolumab or ipilimumab including study CA209-743 (CheckMate 172) or in the CCTG trial of pembrolizumab (IND.227).

4.3.3 Physical and Laboratory Test Findings

- a) Known history of testing positive for human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) or known acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS).
- b) Any positive test for hepatitis B virus or hepatitis C virus indicating acute or chronic infection.

4.3.4 Allergies and Adverse Drug Reactions

- a) History of severe hypersensitivity reactions to other monoclonal antibodies

4.4. SCREEN FAILURES

Patients who are approached and decline or fail screening will have their initials, year of birth and reasons for not entering the study recorded on a screening form.

4.5. REGISTRATION / RANDOMISATION PROCEDURES

Patients must be registered on the trial specific database. Eligibility must be confirmed and ideally the Eligibility form on Rave should be completed prior to randomisation. It is recommended to not complete the Eligibility form on Rave until eligibility is confirmed. Randomisation via interactive web response system (IWRS) will occur after all screening procedures have been carried out and the eCRF has been completed. **Randomisation must take place within 48 hours prior to treatment commencement.** Patients will be stratified according to epithelioid vs. non-epithelioid. Unblinded pharmacy staff will obtain treatment assignment from the IWRS using patient information provided by the investigator on a trial randomisation form.

4.6. CONTRACEPTION

Definitions of women of childbearing potential (WOCBP) and fertile men:

A woman of childbearing potential (WOCBP) is a sexually mature woman (i.e. any female who has experienced menstrual bleeding) who has not:

- Undergone a hysterectomy or bilateral oophorectomy/salpingectomy

- Been postmenopausal for 12 consecutive months (i.e. who has had menses at any time in the preceding 12 consecutive months without an alternative medical cause)
- Had premature ovarian failure confirmed by a specialist gynaecologist

A man is considered fertile after puberty unless permanently sterile by bilateral orchiectomy.

Female patients

To be considered eligible for the trial, all female patients who are WOCBP must consent to use one of the following methods of highly effective contraception from the first administration of study treatment, throughout the trial and for 5 months after last dose of study treatment:

- Combined (estrogen and progestogen containing) hormonal contraception associated with inhibition of ovulation¹:
 - Oral
 - Intravaginal
 - Transdermal
- Progestogen-only hormonal contraception associated with inhibition of ovulation¹:
 - Oral
 - Injectable
 - Implantable²
- Intrauterine device (IUD)²
- Intrauterine hormone-releasing system (IUS)²
- Bilateral tubal occlusion²
- Vasectomised partner^{2,3}
- Sexual abstinence⁴

¹Hormonal contraception may be susceptible to interaction with the IMP, which may reduce the efficacy of the contraception method.

²Contraception methods that in the context of this guidance are considered to have low user dependency.

³Vasectomised partner is a highly effective birth control method provided that partner is the sole sexual partner of the WOCBP trial participant and that the vasectomised partner has received medical assessment of the surgical success.

⁴In the context of this guidance sexual abstinence is considered a highly effective method only if defined as refraining from heterosexual intercourse during the entire period of risk associated with the study treatments. The reliability of sexual abstinence needs to be evaluated in relation to the duration of the clinical trial and the preferred and usual lifestyle of the participant.

Male patients

To be considered eligible for the trial, male patients (including those with partners of child-bearing potential) must consent to use the following methods of contraception from the first administration of study treatment, throughout the trial and for 7 months after last dose of nivolumab/placebo:

- Condom
- Female partner to use one of the highly effective methods of contraception detailed above

Male patients must also refrain from donating sperm during this period.

5 TRIAL OBSERVATIONS AND PROCEDURES

5.1. TRIAL PROCEDURES - SUMMARY

Patients will undergo screening evaluations to determine eligibility prior to first nivolumab/placebo dose. Safety, including adverse event monitoring and physical examination, should be monitored continually, and safety assessments are recommended every 2 weeks while receiving nivolumab/placebo treatment.

The following assessments should be monitored starting on Cycle 1 Day 1 and will continue as per the schedule in the observations and procedures at the specified frequency (see Schedule of Events, page 12):

Safety Assessments

- a) Adverse events continuously throughout the study.
- b) Physical examination and physical measurements including weight and ECOG PS.
- c) Full blood count (FBCs) with differential, including white blood cell (WBC), lymphocyte count, absolute neutrophil count (ANC), haemoglobin, haematocrit, and platelet count. Samples can be taken up to 3 working days prior to dosing. Results to be obtained prior to dosing on infusion days.
- d) Serum chemistry tests (blood urea nitrogen [BUN] or serum urea level, serum creatinine, sodium, potassium, calcium, glucose, lactate dehydrogenase [LDH], phosphate, and amylase or lipase). Samples can be taken up to 3 working days prior to dosing. Results to be obtained and reviewed prior to dosing on infusion days.
- e) Liver function tests including aspartate aminotransferase [AST] or alanine aminotransferase [ALT], total bilirubin, alkaline phosphatase, and albumin. Samples can be taken up to 3 working days prior to dosing. Results to be obtained and reviewed prior to dosing on infusion days.
- f) Thyroid function testing including TSH and free T3/4. Samples can be taken up to 3 working days prior to dosing. Results to be obtained and reviewed prior to dosing on infusion days.

Imaging Assessment for the Study

Any incidental findings of potential clinical relevance that are not directly associated with the objectives of the protocol should be evaluated and handled by the Study Investigator as per standard medical/clinical judgment.

Vital Signs and Physical Examinations

Vital signs including temperature, blood pressure (BP), heart rate, respiratory rate (RR), oxygen saturation by pulse oximetry at rest (also monitor amount of supplemental oxygen if applicable) within 3 days of dosing. Obtain prior to dosing and at any time a patient has any new or worsening respiratory symptoms. If a patient shows changes in oxygen saturation or supplemental oxygen requirement, or other pulmonary-related signs (e.g. hypoxia, fever) or symptoms (e.g. dyspnoea, cough) consistent with possible pulmonary adverse events, the patient should be immediately evaluated to rule out pulmonary toxicity, according to the suspected pulmonary toxicity management algorithm in appendix 4, also contained within the Investigator's Brochure.

Pregnancy Testing

Pregnancy testing must be completed for WOCBP at screening, within 24 hours prior to start of study drug (an extension up to 72 hours prior to start of study drug may be permissible in situations where results cannot be obtained within a 24 hour window), during treatment on odd numbered cycles (i.e. every 4 weeks (NB this should be prior to treatment, so if treatment is delayed, test to be performed within 24 hours prior to odd number cycle dosing)), and every month for 5 months following the end of treatment. Pregnancy testing can be completed more frequently if required by local standards.

Efficacy Assessments

Mandatory tumour assessments are to be done at week 6 (± 3 days from the date of randomisation) and week 12 (± 3 days from the date of randomisation) (regardless of the number of cycles of treatment the patient has received and whether trial treatment has stopped early for reasons other than progression), and additional tumour assessments should be performed as required by local standards of care or at the investigator's discretion as discussed in the schedule of observations and procedures until:

- a) Disease progression per modified RECIST or RECIST 1.1 criteria (See Appendix 2). This should be consistent with RECIST criteria used for disease evaluation at CONFIRM baseline.
- b) Patient lost to follow-up
- c) Withdrawal of study consent by patient
- d) 4.5 years after the first dose of study treatment

Study evaluations will take place in accordance with the schedule of observations and procedures and should be performed according to modified RECIST or RECIST 1.1 criteria, as appropriate to disease subtype.

CT with IV contrast is the preferred imaging modality for assessing radiographic tumour response. If a patient has a known allergy to contrast material, please use local prophylaxis standards to obtain the assessment with contrast if possible. In cases where contrast is strictly contraindicated, a non-contrast scan will suffice. Screening assessments, including chest, abdomen for all patients; pelvis for patients with peritoneal mesothelioma only; and all known or suspected sites of disease, should be performed within 28 days of first dose of study treatment. In addition to chest and abdomen, all known or suspected sites of disease (including CNS) should be assessed at subsequent assessments using the same imaging method and technique.

If more than one method is used at screening, then the most accurate method according to modified RECIST (for pleural mesothelioma) or RECIST 1.1 (for non-pleural mesothelioma or where measurements for mRECIST cannot be obtained) should be used when recording data and should again be used for all subsequent assessments. Bone scan, PET scan, or ultrasound is not adequate for assessment of RECIST response. In selected circumstances where such modalities are the sole modalities used to assess certain non-target organs, those non-target organs may be evaluated less frequently. For example, bone scans may need to be repeated as per local practice only when complete response is identified in the target disease or when progression in bone is suspected. Previously treated CNS metastases are not considered measurable lesions for purposes of RECIST determined response.

Tumour measurements should be made by the same investigator or radiologist for each assessment whenever possible. Changes in tumour measurements and tumour responses to guide ongoing study treatment decisions should be assessed by the investigator using modified RECIST or RECIST 1.1, ensuring that assessment criteria are applied consistently throughout the trial.

Survival will be followed after progression either by direct contact (clinical visits) or patient flagging via NHS Digital (formerly Health and Social Care Information Centre) or equivalent until death, withdrawal of study consent, or conclusion of the study.

5.2. TRIAL PROCEDURES

5.2.1 Screening

All patients will undergo the following assessments at screening within 28 days prior to first trial treatment (unless otherwise specified):

- Medical history (asbestos exposure, smoking history, comorbidities, particularly chronic pulmonary and chronic cardiovascular diseases following international established categories e.g. NYHA for cardiac insufficiency)
- Physical exam (including height and weight)
- Vital signs and oxygen saturation (temperature, BP, heart rate, RR, O₂ saturation by pulse oximetry at rest (also monitor amount of supplement oxygen if applicable)).
- ECOG Performance Status
- CT scan including chest, abdomen for all patients; pelvis for patients with peritoneal mesothelioma only; and all other known sites of disease. Patients must have evaluable disease by CT per modified RECIST (pleural mesothelioma) or RECIST 1.1 (non-pleural mesothelioma, or where measurements for mRECIST cannot be obtained).
- Serum biochemistry: blood urea nitrogen (BUN) or serum urea level (SUL), serum creatinine, sodium, potassium, calcium, glucose, lactate dehydrogenase (LDH), phosphate, and amylase or lipase.
- FBC with differential including white blood cell (WBC), lymphocyte count, absolute neutrophil count (ANC), haemoglobin, haematocrit, and platelet count.
- Liver function tests including aspartate aminotransferase [AST] or alanine aminotransferase [ALT], total bilirubin, alkaline phosphatase, and albumin.
- Thyroid function testing including TSH and free T3 or free T4.
- Concomitant medication (within 14 days of first dose)
- Pregnancy test in WOCBP (serum or urine) (within 24 hours of first dose)
- Biopsy if archival tissue is not available
- Adverse events

5.2.2 Cycle 1, day 1

Cycle 1 Day 1, pre-treatment visit should take place within three working days prior to first treatment. If the screening visit is performed within three working days of first treatment, common assessments (marked with an astrix) do not need to be repeated unless clinically indicated.

- Targeted physical exam as clinically required
- Concomitant medication*
- Vital signs and oxygen saturation (temperature, BP, heart rate, RR, O₂ saturation by pulse oximetry at rest (also monitor amount of supplement oxygen if applicable)*)
- ECOG Performance Status*
- Serum biochemistry: blood urea nitrogen (BUN) or serum urea level (SUL), serum creatinine, sodium, potassium, calcium, glucose, lactate dehydrogenase (LDH), phosphate, and amylase or lipase. Samples can be taken up to 3 working days prior to dosing*.
- FBC with differential including white blood cell (WBC), lymphocyte count, absolute neutrophil count (ANC), haemoglobin, haematocrit, and platelet count. Samples can be taken up to 3 working days prior to dosing. Results to be obtained prior to dosing on infusion days*.
- Liver function tests including aspartate aminotransferase [AST] or alanine aminotransferase [ALT], total bilirubin, alkaline phosphatase, and albumin. Samples can be taken up to 3 working days prior to dosing. Results to be obtained prior to dosing on infusion days*.
- C-Reactive Protein (CRP)
- Adverse events*
- Pregnancy test in WOCBP
- Translational bloods (1 x 10 ml EDTA tube and 1 x 10 ml vacutainer serum tube processed according to the CONFIRM Lab Manual and stored at -80°C until the end of the study)
- European Quality of Life-5 Dimensions-5 Levels (EQ-5D-5L) and resource use questionnaire

- Randomisation (see figure 1) (within 48 hours prior to first dose)
- Completion of NHS Digital Patient Flagging Form

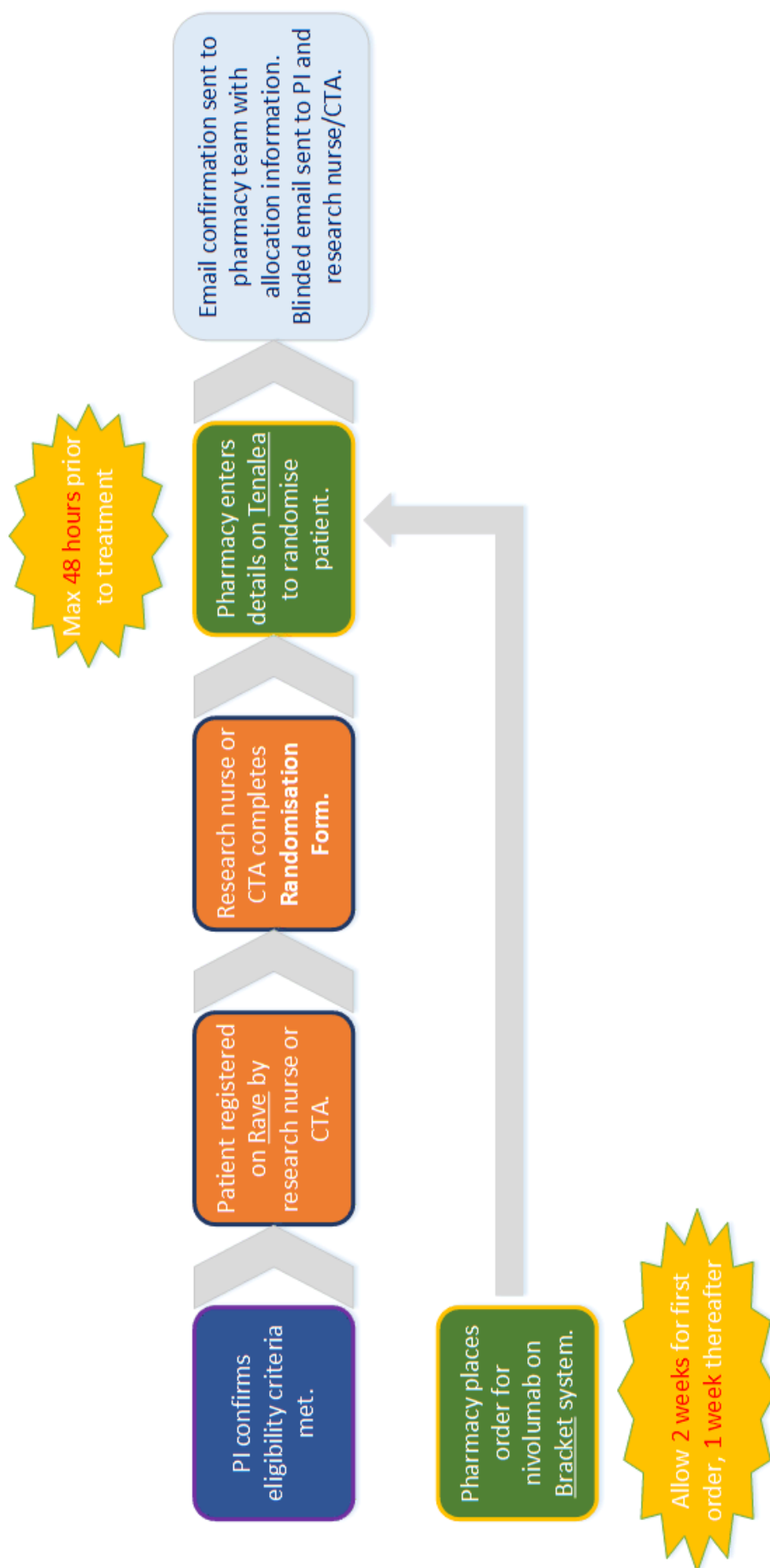


Figure 1: Randomisation procedure

5.2.3 Day 1 of cycle from cycle 2 (each cycle lasts 14 days)

During treatment with nivolumab/placebo patients should be seen within 3 working days prior to D1 of each cycle. At each visit:

- Targeted physical exam (including weight)
- Vital signs and oxygen saturation (temperature, BP, heart rate, RR, O₂ saturation by pulse oximetry at rest (also monitor amount of supplement oxygen if applicable))
- Pregnancy test for WOCBP (serum or urine as per local practice within 1 day prior to dose – on odd numbered cycles (i.e. every four weeks ((NB this should be prior to treatment, so if treatment is delayed, test to be performed within 1 day prior to odd number cycle dosing)))
- ECOG Performance Status
- CT Scan (at week 6 (± 3 days) and week 12 (± 3 days), regardless of the number of cycles. To be calculated from the date of randomisation.)
- Disease Evaluation with modified RECIST or RECIST 1.1, consistent with baseline assessment (as per local practice, mandated at weeks 6 and 12, regardless of the number of cycles)
- Serum biochemistry: blood urea nitrogen (BUN) or serum urea level (SUL), serum creatinine, sodium, potassium, calcium, glucose, lactate dehydrogenase (LDH), phosphate, and amylase or lipase. Samples can be taken up to 3 working days prior to dosing. Results to be obtained and reviewed prior to dosing on infusion days.
- FBC with differential including white blood cell (WBC), lymphocyte count, absolute neutrophil count (ANC), haemoglobin, haematocrit, and platelet count. Samples can be taken up to 3 working days prior to dosing. Results to be obtained and reviewed prior to dosing on infusion days.
- Liver function tests including aspartate aminotransferase [AST] or alanine aminotransferase [ALT], total bilirubin, alkaline phosphatase, and albumin. Samples can be taken up to 3 working days prior to dosing. Results to be obtained and reviewed prior to dosing on infusion days.
- Thyroid function testing including TSH and free T3 or free T4 (every 3 cycles: cycle 4, 7..., samples can be taken up to 3 working days prior to dosing). Results to be obtained and reviewed prior to dosing on infusion days.
- Concomitant medication
- Toxicity assessment and adverse events
- EQ-5D-5L and resource use questionnaire (at cycles 4 and 7 only)

5.3. FOLLOW UP

Post-treatment follow-up is of critical importance and is essential to preserving patient safety and the integrity of the study. Patients will be followed up for a minimum of six months post progression or treatment discontinuation.

5.3.1 28 (± 7) Days Post-Treatment Discontinuation Follow Up

At 28 (± 7) days post treatment discontinuation the following procedures will be carried out:

- Physical exam
- Vital signs and oxygen saturation (temperature, BP, heart rate, RR, O₂ saturation by pulse oximetry at rest, also monitor amount of supplement oxygen if applicable)
- Serum biochemistry: blood urea nitrogen (BUN) or serum urea level (SUL), serum creatinine, sodium, potassium, calcium, glucose, lactate dehydrogenase (LDH), phosphate, and amylase or lipase.
- FBC with differential including white blood cell (WBC), lymphocyte count, absolute neutrophil count (ANC), haemoglobin, haematocrit, and platelet count
- Liver function tests including aspartate aminotransferase [AST] or alanine aminotransferase [ALT], total bilirubin, alkaline phosphatase, and albumin
- Thyroid function testing including TSH and free T3 or free T4
- Concomitant medication

- Translational bloods (mandatory – 1 x 10 ml EDTA tube and 1 x 10 ml vacutainer serum tube processed according to the CONFIRM Lab Manual and stored at -80°C until the end of the study)
- FFPE tissue biopsy (optional)
- CT Scan (as per local practice)
- Disease evaluation with modified RECIST or RECIST 1.1 (consistent with baseline assessment)
- EQ-5D-5L and resource use questionnaire
- Record details of next treatment
- Adverse events
- Pregnancy testing in WOCBP (serum or urine)

5.3.2 Additional Follow Up

Patients should be followed up for a minimum of 6 months following treatment discontinuation at the following time intervals. These visits are calculated from the last dose of IMP/placebo and not from the date of previous follow up.

Follow up data may be collected from a combination of physical visits, patient notes and where appropriate via telephone. The only exceptions to this are the first 5 months follow up for WOCBP where a pregnancy test must be performed.

5.3.3 2 Months Post-Treatment Discontinuation Follow Up (WOCBP ONLY)

This visit is **only applicable for WOCBP** and should occur 60 (± 7) days after post-treatment discontinuation.

The following data should be obtained:

- Adverse events.
- CT Scans – Where a patient has undergone a routine CT scan, record this in the Ad Hoc CT scan folder on the eCRF.
- Additional therapy – Where a patient has received new cancer treatment outside of the trial, record this on the Post Study Therapy form on the eCRF.
- Pregnancy Testing (serum or urine). Please document the results and record this on the Pregnancy Test (logform) on the eCRF. A pregnancy notification form should be submitted if required.

5.3.4 3 Months Post-Treatment Discontinuation Follow Up

This visit is applicable for all trial participants and should occur 90 (± 14) days post-treatment discontinuation.

The following data should be obtained:

- Adverse events.
- CT Scans – Where a patient has undergone a routine CT scan, record this in the Ad Hoc CT scan folder on the eCRF if the patient has already had their week 12 scan or record this in the Week 12 CT scan folder if the CT scan coincides with the Week 12 (± 3 days from the date of randomisation) time-point.
- Additional therapy – Where a patient has received new cancer treatment outside of the trial, record this on the Post Study Therapy form on the eCRF.
- Survival status – Please document the survival status of the patient (alive, alive with disease progression or deceased) and update the Survival Data eCRF. If applicable the disease progression form should be updated if the patient did not have disease progression previously during the trial.
- Pregnancy Testing (serum or urine) for WOCBP only. Please document the results and record this on the Pregnancy Test (logform) on the eCRF. A pregnancy notification form should be submitted if required.

5.3.5 4 Months Post-Treatment Discontinuation Follow Up (WOCBP ONLY)

This visit is **only applicable to WOCBP** and should occur 120 (± 7) days post-treatment discontinuation

The following data should be obtained:

- CT Scans – Where a patient has undergone a routine CT scan, record this in the Ad Hoc CT scan folder on the eCRF.
- Additional therapy – Where a patient has received new cancer treatment outside of the trial, record this on the Post Study Therapy form on the eCRF.
- Pregnancy Testing (serum or urine). Please document the results and record this on the Pregnancy Test (logform) on the eCRF. A pregnancy notification form should be submitted if required.

5.3.6 5 Months Post-Treatment Discontinuation Follow Up (WOCBP ONLY)

This visit is **only applicable to WOCBP** and should occur 150 (± 7) days post-treatment discontinuation.

The following data should be obtained:

- CT Scans – Where a patient has undergone a routine CT scan, record this in the Ad Hoc CT scan folder on the eCRF.
- Additional therapy – Where a patient has received new cancer treatment outside of the trial, record this on the Post Study Therapy form on the eCRF.
- Pregnancy Testing (serum or urine). Please document the results and record this on the Pregnancy Test (logform) on the eCRF. A pregnancy notification form should be submitted if required.

5.3.7 6 Months Post-Treatment Discontinuation Follow Up

This visit is applicable for all trial participants and should occur 180 (± 14) days post treatment discontinuation.

The following data should be obtained:

- CT Scans – Where a patient has undergone a routine CT scan, record this in the Ad Hoc CT scan folder on the eCRF.
- Additional therapy – Where a patient has received new cancer treatment outside of the trial, record this on the Post Study Therapy form on the eCRF.
- EQ-5D-5L questionnaire
- Survival status – Please document the survival status of the patient (alive, alive with disease progression or deceased) and update the Survival Data eCRF. If applicable the disease progression form should be updated if the patient did not have disease progression previously during the trial.

5.3.8 9 Months Post-Treatment Discontinuation Follow Up

This visit is applicable for all trial participants and should occur 270 (± 14) days post treatment discontinuation.

The following data should be obtained:

- CT Scans – Where a patient has undergone a routine CT scan, record this in the Ad Hoc CT scan folder on the eCRF.
- Additional therapy – Where a patient has received new cancer treatment outside of the trial, record this on the Post Study Therapy form on the eCRF.

- Survival status – Please document the survival status of the patient (alive, alive with disease progression or deceased) and update the Survival Data eCRF. If applicable the disease progression form should be updated if the patient did not have disease progression previously during the trial.

5.3.9 12 Months Post-Treatment Discontinuation Follow Up

This visit is applicable for all trial participants and should occur 360 (± 14) days post treatment discontinuation.

The following data should be obtained:

- CT Scans – Where a patient has undergone a routine CT scan, record this in the Ad Hoc CT scan folder on the eCRF.
- Additional therapy – Where a patient has received new cancer treatment outside of the trial, record this on the Post Study Therapy form on the eCRF.
- EQ-5D-5L questionnaire
- Survival status – Please document the survival status of the patient (alive, alive with disease progression or deceased) and update the Survival Data eCRF. If applicable the disease progression form should be updated if the patient did not have disease progression previously during the trial.

5.3.10 Follow Up after 12 Months Post-Treatment Discontinuation

Patients should be followed up every 3 months to obtain the following data:

- Survival status – Please document the survival status of the patient (alive, alive with disease progression or deceased) and update the Survival Data eCRF. If applicable the disease progression form should be updated if the patient did not have disease progression previously during the trial
- Additional therapy – Where a patient has received new cancer treatment outside of the trial, record this on the Post Study Therapy form on the eCRF.

The most recent patient status and date last seen may also be requested before the end of trial is declared to ensure that data for PFS and OS analyses are as complete as possible.

5.4. DEVIATIONS AND SERIOUS BREACHES

Any study protocol deviations/violations and breaches of Good Clinical Practice occurring at sites should be reported to the SCTU and the local R&D Office immediately. SCTU will then advise of and/or undertake any corrective and preventative actions as required.

All serious protocol deviations/violations and serious breaches of Good Clinical Practice and/or the study protocol will immediately be reported to Sponsor, the regulatory authorities and other organisations, as required in the Medicines for Human Use (Clinical Trials) Regulations 2004, as amended.

5.5. TRIAL DISCONTINUATION

5.5.1 Reasons for trial withdrawal

A participant may withdraw, or be withdrawn, from trial treatment for the following reasons:

- Intolerance to treatment: Any clinical adverse event (AE), laboratory abnormality or intercurrent illness, which, in the opinion of the investigator, indicates that continued participation in the study is not in the best interest of the patient.
- Clinician's decision
- Termination of the study by Sponsor

- Loss of ability to freely provide consent through imprisonment or involuntarily incarceration for treatment of either a psychiatric or physical (e.g., infectious disease) illness
- Non-compliance with protocol treatment
- Pregnancy*

*In the case of pregnancy, the investigator must immediately notify the Sponsor of this event. In most cases, the study drug will be permanently discontinued in an appropriate manner. If the investigator determines a possible favourable benefit/risk ratio that warrants continuation of study drug, a discussion between the investigator, Sponsor and BMS must occur, if local regulations allow.

Patients may withdraw or be withdrawn from one of four levels:

- Patient withdrawal (**Level 1**) from trial treatment – participants stop trial treatment but remain in follow-up and continue to provide translational samples.
- Patient withdrawal (**Level 2**) from the translational study – participants continue trial treatment and follow-up but do not provide translational samples
- Patient withdrawal (**Level 3**) from the translational study and trial treatment - participants stop trial treatment and do not continue providing translational samples but remain in follow-up.
- Patients completely withdraw (**Level 4**) from the trial – participants stop the trial treatment, any follow-up activity and withdraw or no longer provide any translational sample collection.

If a participant wishes to withdraw from trial treatment, participating sites should explain the importance of remaining on trial follow up for the purposes of data capture only. Where possible, patients who have withdrawn from trial treatment should remain in follow-up as per the trial schedule. If patients additionally withdraw consent for this, they should revert to standard clinical care as deemed by the responsible clinician. It would remain useful for the trial team to continue to collect standard follow-up data and unless the patient explicitly states otherwise, follow-up data will continue to be collected. Patients who withdraw from treatment will continue to have assessments until disease progression. A withdrawal eCRF should be completed for each patient who withdraws from the study, recording the date and reason for withdrawal, if known.

Data and samples collected prior to participant withdrawal at any of the levels indicated above will be collected and used for trial analysis by SCTU. Participants who initially consented to be registered for patient flagging will remain on the system so that important research information on date and cause of death can be requested from NHS Digital.

In consenting to the study, participants have consented to the study intervention, follow-up and data collection. Participants may be discontinued from the study procedures at any time.

5.6. TREATMENT OF INFUSION RELATED REACTIONS

Since nivolumab contains only human immunoglobulin protein sequences, it is unlikely to be immunogenic and induce infusion or hypersensitivity reactions. Version 18 of the nivolumab IB states the following frequencies for monotherapy in the Reference Safety Information; IRR 0.21%, hypersensitivity 0.047%, anaphylactic reaction 0.024%. However, if such a reaction were to occur, it might manifest with fever, chills, rigors, headache, rash, pruritus, arthralgias, hypo- or hypertension, bronchospasm, or other symptoms. All Grade 3 or 4 infusion reactions should be reported as an SAE if criteria are met. Infusion reactions should be graded according to National Cancer Institute CTCAE (version 4.03) guidelines (see appendix 3). Treatment recommendations are provided below and may be modified based on local treatment standards and guidelines as appropriate:

For Grade 1 symptoms: (Mild reaction; infusion interruption not indicated; intervention not indicated)

Remain at bedside and monitor patient until recovery from symptoms. The following prophylactic premedications are recommended for future infusions: piriton 10 mg (or equivalent) and/or paracetamol 500 to 1000 mg at least 30 minutes before additional administrations.

All future infusions in these patients who have reacted, can be administered as per clinical choice which may be to increase the infusion time by doubling the rate to one hour with careful monitoring, during the infusion, for any reaction.

For Grade 2 symptoms: (Moderate reaction; requires therapy or infusion interruption but responds promptly to symptomatic treatment [e.g. antihistamines, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, opioids, corticosteroids, bronchodilators, IV fluids]; prophylactic medications indicated for 24 hours). Stop the infusion, begin an IV infusion of normal saline, and treat the patient with piriton 10 mg IV (or equivalent) and/or paracetamol 500 to 1000 mg; remain at bedside and monitor patient until resolution of symptoms.

Corticosteroid or bronchodilator therapy may also be administered as appropriate. If the infusion is interrupted, then restart the infusion at 50% of the original infusion rate when symptoms resolve; if no further complications ensue after 30 minutes, the rate may be increased to 100% of the original infusion rate. Monitor patient closely. If symptoms recur then no further IMP will be administered at that visit. Administer piriton 10 mg IV, and remain at bedside and monitor the patient until resolution of symptoms. The amount of study drug infused must be recorded on the electronic case report form (eCRF).

The following prophylactic premedications are recommended for future infusions: piriton 10 mg (or equivalent) and/or paracetamol 500 to 1000 mg should be administered at least 30 minutes before additional nivolumab administrations. If necessary, corticosteroids (recommended dose: up to 25 mg of IV hydrocortisone or equivalent) may be used.

All future infusions in these patients who have reacted, can be administered as per clinical choice which may be to increase the infusion time by doubling the rate to one hour with careful monitoring, during the infusion, for any reaction.

For Grade 3 or Grade 4 symptoms: (Severe reaction, Grade 3: prolonged [i.e., not rapidly responsive to symptomatic medication and/or brief interruption of infusion]; recurrence of symptoms following initial improvement; hospitalisation indicated for other clinical sequelae [e.g., renal impairment, pulmonary infiltrates]. Grade 4: (life-threatening; pressor or ventilator support indicated).

Immediately discontinue infusion. Begin an IV infusion of normal saline, and treat the patient as follows. Recommend bronchodilators, adrenaline 0.2 to 1 mg of a 1:1,000 solution for subcutaneous administration or 0.1 to 0.25 mg of a 1:10,000 solution injected slowly for IV administration, and/or piriton 10 mg IV with methylprednisolone 100 mg IV (or equivalent), as needed. Patient should be monitored until the investigator is comfortable that the symptoms will not recur. **IMP will be permanently discontinued.** Investigators should follow their institutional guidelines for the treatment of anaphylaxis. Remain at bedside and monitor patient until recovery from symptoms.

In the case of late-occurring hypersensitivity symptoms (e.g., appearance of a localised or generalised pruritus within 1 week after treatment), symptomatic treatment may be given (e.g., oral antihistamine, or corticosteroids).

5.7. PROHIBITED AND RESTRICTED THERAPIES DURING THE TRIAL

The following medications are prohibited during the study (unless utilised to treat a drug related adverse event):

- Immunosuppressive agents
- Immunosuppressive doses of systemic corticosteroids (except as stated in Section 5.7.2)

- Any concurrent anti-neoplastic therapy (i.e., chemotherapy, hormonal therapy, immunotherapy, extensive, non-palliative radiation therapy, or standard or investigational agents for treatment of mesothelioma)
- Live vaccination

Caution must be used with ototoxic or nephrotoxic concomitant drugs.

Caution should be used regarding the use of herbal medications as there may be unknown interactions with nivolumab. Discontinuation of the use of herbal medications prior to study enrolment is encouraged.

5.7.1 **Other Restrictions and Precautions**

It is the local imaging facility's responsibility to determine, based on patient attributes (e.g. allergy history, diabetic history and renal status), the appropriate imaging modality and contrast regimen for each patient. Imaging contraindications and contrast risks should be considered in this assessment. Patients with renal insufficiency should be assessed to determine whether they should receive contrast and, if so, what type and dose is appropriate.

5.7.2 **Permitted Therapy**

Corticosteroids

A brief (**less than 3 consecutive weeks**) course of non-immunosuppressive doses (see below) corticosteroids for prophylaxis (e.g., contrast dye allergy) or for treatment of non-autoimmune conditions (e.g. delayed-type hypersensitivity reaction caused by a contact allergen) is permitted.

Patients are therefore permitted the use of oral, topical, ocular, intra-articular, intranasal, and inhalational corticosteroids (with minimal systemic absorption) at doses no greater than 10mg prednisone (*equivalent to 1.5 mg dexamethasone, 40 mg Hydrocortisone, or 8 mg Methylprednisolone*). Adrenal replacement steroid doses > 10 mg daily prednisone are permitted.

Immunosuppressive doses of steroids are permitted to treat toxicities (as per recommended in the Safety Management Algorithms in Appendix 4), however nivolumab/placebo should not be given at the same time. Patients should be weaned to non-immunosuppressive doses prior to re-commencing nivolumab/placebo.

Other Medications

Regular concomitant use of bisphosphonates and RANK-L inhibitors for prevention or reduction of skeletal-related events in patients with bone metastases is allowed if initiated prior to first dose of study therapy.

5.8. **BLINDING AND PROCEDURES FOR UNBLINDING**

Patient allocation will be provided to unblinded pharmacy staff via an IWRS. The randomisation code will be retained by the system.

Deaths and serious adverse events (SAE) will be reviewed in a blinded manner. If a cause of death or SAE is unexpected (i.e. not listed in the RSI approved section of the nivolumab IB) and considered drug related the trial statistician and Quality and Regulatory team (SCTU) will be able to unblind the patient's treatment assignment.

5.8.1 *Emergency Unblinding*

Sites must be able to provide a 24hr emergency unblinding service for their patients. In the case of adverse events in which patient care would vary dependent on treatment allocation, emergency unblinding may be performed by unblinded pharmacy staff or in cases where it is the site's local policy for on-call doctors to unblind, this will be permitted. Sites must have tested procedure for out-of-hours emergency unblinding. In these situations, discussion with the Chief Investigator is not required. If patient allocation is disclosed, sites should report to SCTU the date, time, reason for unblinding, name of person requesting the code break, and name of person breaking the code using the trial specific Emergency Unblinding Notification Form. Once unblinded, patients must discontinue CONFIRM trial treatment. Unblinding reports should be filed in the patient's medical records at site and in the trial master file (without disclosing the treatment allocation). The Trial Manager or Senior Trial Manager will ensure that the Statistician and Senior Statistician are fully informed of all cases of unblinding.

All further details are outlined in the study specific procedure for unblinding.

5.8.2 *Non-Emergency Unblinding*

Patients may need to be unblinded if they are being considered for further treatment following treatment within the CONFIRM trial (i.e. post progression or treatment discontinuation) and there are concerns about interaction with nivolumab. In these circumstances, unblinding should be discussed with the Chief Investigator first. The Request for Non-Emergency Unblinding Form should be completed and emailed to confirmtrial@soton.ac.uk who will then request that the Statistician or Senior Statistician unblinds and contacts the treating clinician with the treatment allocation. Unblinding reports should be filed in the patient's medical records at site and in the trial master file (without disclosing the treatment allocation). Once patients are unblinded, they must discontinue CONFIRM trial treatment.

If a patient is accidentally unblinded their future participation in the trial should be discussed with SCTU and the CI on a case-by-case basis.

All further details are outlined in the study specific procedure for unblinding.

6 TREATMENTS

6.1. TREATMENT SCHEDULE

Patients with relapsed mesothelioma will be randomised to receive either nivolumab therapy or placebo. Patients will be treated until progression or for a maximum of one year.

6.2. IMP SUPPLY

6.2.1 *Nivolumab*

Nivolumab is considered an investigational medicinal product for the purpose of this protocol. Nivolumab will be provided free of charge by BMS for patients recruited to the trial and will be study specific investigational stock.

BMS will pack, label, Qualified Person release and distribute the IMP for this study. Nivolumab will be supplied in single use vials and prepared at site according to CONFIRM Pharmacy Manual. Nivolumab must be kept secure at site and stored between 2°C to 8°C, protected from light and not frozen or shaken.

Re-ordering will be via the Bracket system. Only pharmacy staff will be unblinded to patient treatment allocation.

Preparation

The administration of nivolumab infusion must be completed within 24 hours of preparation. If not used immediately, the infusion solution may be stored under refrigerated conditions (2°C to 8°C) for up to 24 hours and a maximum of the total 24 hours can be at room temperature (25°C) and room light. The maximum 8 hours under room temperature and room light conditions includes the product administration period. Further details on preparation should be taken from the Investigator's Brochure approved for use in this trial.

Temperature excursions

All temperature excursions outside the storage conditions specified for nivolumab in the IB/Pharmacy Manual/labels must be reported to SCTU as outlined in the Pharmacy Manual.

Upon identifying an excursion:

- All affected trial stock must be quarantined IMMEDIATELY
- The CONFIRM Temperature Excursion Form must be completed and e-mailed to confirmtrial@soton.ac.uk

Please note that SCTU must be informed immediately if a patient has been administered drug affected by a temperature excursion.

6.2.2 Placebo

Patients who are randomised to receive placebo will receive sterile 0.9% sodium chloride. This will be supplied by participating sites.

6.3. ADMINISTRATION

Patient will receive treatment with nivolumab at a dose of 240mg (or placebo) as a 30-minute IV infusion, on Day 1 (± 2) of every 14 day treatment cycle, until progression, unacceptable toxicity, withdrawal of consent, or the maximum treatment duration of 12 months is reached, whichever occurs first. There will be no dose escalations or reductions of IMP allowed. Patients may be dosed no less than 12 days from the previous dose.

The nivolumab or placebo must be infused intravenously over a period of 30 minutes. The infusion must be administered through a sterile, non-pyrogenic, low protein binding in-line filter with a pore size of 0.2-1.2 μm . It should not be administered as an intravenous push or bolus injection. The total dose can be administered either:

- Without dilution, after transfer to an infusion container using an appropriate sterile syringe;
or
- After diluting according to the following instructions:
 - The final infusion concentration should range between 1 and 10 mg/mL.
 - The total volume of infusion must not exceed 160 mL. For patients weighing less than 40 kg, the total volume of infusion must not exceed 4 mL per kilogram of patient weight.

Nivolumab concentrate may be diluted with either sodium chloride 9 mg/mL (0.9%) solution for injection or 50 mg/mL (5%) glucose solution for injection.

After administration flush the line with sodium chloride 9mg/ml (0.9%) solution for injection or 50mg/ml (5%) glucose solution for injection.

Any unused medicinal product waste material should be disposed of as per local practice.

Patients should be carefully monitored for infusion reactions during nivolumab or placebo administration. If an acute infusion reaction is noted, patients should be managed according to Section 5.6. Doses of IMP may be interrupted, delayed, or discontinued depending on how well the patient tolerates the treatment. See Section 6.6 for more details regarding dose delays, retreatment, and discontinuations.

6.4. ACCOUNTABILITY

Accountability and dispensing logs will be required for nivolumab/placebo supplied in the trial. These logs will be supplied to sites by SCTU.

6.5. CONCOMITANT MEDICATIONS

Information on any treatment received by the participant, along with dose, frequency and therapeutic indication, from 14 days prior to starting trial treatment up to 30 days after the last dose of nivolumab or placebo will be recorded in the electronic case report form (eCRF).

6.6. DOSE DELAYS AND MODIFICATIONS FOR TOXICITY

Tumour assessments for all patients should continue as per protocol **even if dosing is delayed**.

Dose Delay Criteria

IMP administration should be delayed for the following:

- Any Grade 2 non-skin, drug-related adverse event, except for fatigue and laboratory abnormalities
- Any Grade 3 skin drug-related AE
- Any AE, laboratory abnormality or inter-current illness, which in the judgment of the investigator, warrants delaying the dose of study medication.
- Any Grade 3 drug-related laboratory abnormality with the following exceptions for lymphopenia, AST, ALT, or total bilirubin or asymptomatic amylase or lipase:
 - Grade 3 lymphopenia does not require a dose delay
 - If a patient has a baseline AST, ALT, or total bilirubin that is within normal limits, delay dosing for drug-related Grade 2 toxicity
 - If a patient has baseline AST, ALT, or total bilirubin within the Grade 1 toxicity range, delay dosing for drug-related Grade 3 toxicity
 - Any Grade 3 drug-related amylase or lipase abnormality that is not associated with symptoms or clinical manifestations of pancreatitis does not require dose delay. The chief investigator should be consulted for such Grade 3 amylase or lipase abnormalities.

Patients who require delay of IMP should be re-evaluated weekly or more frequently if clinically indicated and resume dosing when re-treatment criteria are met (per Appendix 4).

Treatment can be delayed for up to four weeks from the last dose. Delays for longer than four weeks should be discussed with the Chief Investigator.

For details of specific adverse event management, refer to safety management algorithms in appendix 4.

7 SAFETY

7.1. DEFINITIONS

The Medicines for Human Use (Clinical Trials) Regulations 2004, as amended, provides the following definitions relating to adverse events in trials with an investigational medicinal product:

Adverse Event (AE): any untoward medical occurrence in a participant or clinical trial participant administered a medicinal product and which does not necessarily have a causal relationship with this treatment.

An AE can therefore be any unfavourable and unintended sign (including an abnormal laboratory finding), symptom, or disease temporally associated with the use of an investigational medicinal product (IMP), whether or not considered related to the IMP.

Adverse Reaction (AR): all untoward and unintended responses to an IMP related to any dose administered.

All AEs judged by either the reporting investigator or the sponsor as having reasonable causal relationship to a medicinal product qualify as adverse reactions. The expression reasonable causal relationship means to convey in general that there is evidence or argument to suggest a causal relationship.

Unexpected Adverse Reaction (UAR): an AR, the nature or severity of which is not consistent with the applicable product information (e.g. investigator's brochure (IB) for an unapproved investigational product or summary of product characteristics (SmPC) for an authorised product).

When the outcome of the adverse reaction is not consistent with the applicable product information this adverse reaction should be considered as unexpected. Side effects documented in the RSI which occur in a more severe form than anticipated are also considered to be unexpected.

Serious Adverse Event (SAE) or Serious Adverse Reaction or Suspected Unexpected Serious Adverse Reaction (SUSAR): any untoward medical occurrence or effect that at any dose:

- **Results in death**
- **Is life-threatening** – *refers to an event in which the participant was at risk of death at the time of the event; it does not refer to an event which hypothetically might have caused death if it were more severe*
- **Requires hospitalisation*, or prolongation of existing hospitalisation**
- **Results in persistent or significant disability or incapacity**
- **Is a congenital anomaly or birth defect**
- **Important medical events**.**

*Hospitalisation is defined as an inpatient admission, regardless of length of stay, even if the hospitalisation is a precautionary measure for continued observation. Hospitalisations for a pre-existing condition, including elective procedures that have not worsened, do not constitute an SAE.

**Other important medical events are defined as a medical event(s) that may not be immediately life-threatening or result in death or hospitalisation but, based upon appropriate medical and scientific judgment, may jeopardise the subject or may require intervention (e.g., medical, surgical) to prevent one of the other serious outcomes listed in the definition above. Examples of such events include, but are not limited to, intensive treatment in an emergency room or at home for allergic bronchospasm; blood dyscrasias or convulsions that do not result in hospitalisation.

Suspected transmission of an infectious agent (e.g. pathogenic or non-pathogenic) via the study drug is an SAE.

Although pregnancy, overdose, cancer, and potential drug induced liver injury (DILI) are not always serious by regulatory definition, these events must be handled as SAEs, and reported in the same time frames.

Any component of a study endpoint that is considered related to study therapy should be reported as an SAE (e.g. death is an endpoint, if death occurred due to anaphylaxis, anaphylaxis must be reported and disease progression that is considered related to study treatment).

Note: *It is the responsibility of the PI or delegate to grade an event as 'not serious' (AE) or 'serious' (SAE).*

Suspected Unexpected Serious Adverse Reaction (SUSAR): any suspected adverse reaction related to an IMP that is both unexpected and serious.

Death

As outlined below, if a patient's death is considered related to study therapy it should be reported as an SAE.

As per section 7.3, deaths due to disease progression of mesothelioma are exempt from SAE reporting, unless progression is considered related to the IMP/placebo.

Please note if the cause of death is unknown or the cause of death is pending, this must be submitted as an SAE.

Deaths should be entered on Rave within 24 hours of becoming aware.

Laboratory Test Abnormalities

All laboratory test results captured as part of the study should be recorded following local procedures. Test results that constitute SAEs should be documented and reported as such.

The following laboratory abnormalities should be documented and reported appropriately:

- any laboratory test result that is clinically significant or meets the definition of an SAE
- any laboratory abnormality that required the subject to have study drug discontinued or interrupted
- any laboratory abnormality that required the subject to receive specific corrective therapy.

It is expected that wherever possible, the clinical rather than laboratory term would be used by the reporting investigator (e.g., anaemia versus low haemoglobin value).

Potential Drug Induced Liver Injury (DILI)

Potential drug induced liver injury is defined as:

- 1) AT (ALT or AST) elevation > 3 times upper limit of normal (ULN)
AND
- 2) Total bilirubin > 2 times ULN, without initial findings of cholestasis (elevated serum alkaline phosphatase),
AND
- 3) No other immediately apparent possible causes of AT elevation and hyperbilirubinemia, including, but not limited to, viral hepatitis, pre-existing chronic or acute liver disease, or the administration of other drug(s) known to be hepatotoxic.

Wherever possible, timely confirmation of initial liver-related laboratory abnormalities should occur prior to the reporting of a potential DILI event. All occurrences of potential DILIs, meeting the defined criteria, must be reported as SAEs.

Overdose

An overdose is defined as the accidental or intentional administration of any dose of a product that is considered both excessive and medically important. All occurrences of overdose must be reported as an SAE.

7.2. REPORTING WINDOWS

All AEs must be reported from the date of consent until 100 days post treatment discontinuation and for ongoing drug-related AEs until resolved, return to baseline or deemed irreversible.

See below for SAE reporting windows:

- **Between informed consent and first dose of nivolumab/placebo:** All events that are considered SAEs, that are deemed by the investigator to be related to trial procedures.
- **From first dose of nivolumab/placebo until 100 days after last administration of nivolumab/placebo:** All events considered to be SAEs
- **>100 days after last administration of nivolumab/placebo:** All events that are considered to be SAEs, that are deemed by the investigator to be related to nivolumab/placebo and/or trial procedures.

7.3. SERIOUSNESS

A complete assessment of the seriousness must always be assessed by a medically qualified doctor who is registered on the delegation of responsibility log; this is usually the investigator.

All adverse events that fulfil the definition of 'serious' in protocol section 7.1, must be reported to SCTU using the Serious Adverse Event Report Form. Specific exceptions to this (as listed below) should be recorded as AEs rather than SAEs.

All SAEs must be reported immediately by the PI or delegate at the participating centre to the SCTU.

Exceptions:

For the purposes of this trial, the following SAEs **do not** require reporting to SCTU using the Serious Adverse Event Report Form:

- Death due to disease progression of mesothelioma, unless progression is considered related to the IMP/placebo
- Hospitalisations for elective treatment of a pre-existing condition
- SAEs occurring prior to cycle 1, day 1 that are not considered to be related to trial procedures

7.4. CAUSALITY

A complete assessment of the causality must always be assessed by a medically qualified doctor who is registered on the delegation of responsibility log; this is usually the investigator.

If there is any doubt about the causality the local investigator should inform SCTU who will notify the Chief Investigator. BMS and/or other clinicians may be asked for advice in these cases.

In the case of discrepant views on causality between the Investigator and others, SCTU will classify the event as per the worst-case classification and if onward reporting is required, the MHRA will be informed of both parties' points of view.

Relationship	Description	Denoted
Unrelated	There is no evidence of any causal relationship between study drug administration and the AE	SAE
Related	There is a reasonable causal relationship between study drug administration and the AE	SAR/SUSAR

7.5. EXPECTEDNESS

Expectedness assessments are made against the approved reference safety information (RSI). The RSI for this trial is specified within the document versions listed in the table below:

Name of Product	IB/SmPC	Manufacturer	Version date	Version	Section	Table
Nivolumab	IB	Bristol-Myers Squibb	25 June 2019	18	Appendix 1	1-1

The nature or severity of the event should be considered when making the assessment of expectedness.

If these factors are not consistent with the current information available then the SAE should be recorded as 'unexpected'.

7.6. REPORTING PROCEDURES

All adverse events should be reported during the reporting windows outlined in section 7.2. Depending on the nature of the event, the reporting procedures below should be followed. Any questions concerning adverse event reporting should be directed to the SCTU in the first instance. A flowchart will be provided to aid in the reporting procedures.

7.6.1 Reporting Details

For all SAEs, SARs and SUSARs an SAE report form should be completed with as much detail as possible (including any relevant anonymised treatment forms and/or investigation reports) and faxed/emailed to SCTU immediately but at least within 24 hours of site becoming aware of the event.

Or

Contact SCTU by phone for advice and then fax or email a scanned copy of the SAE report form completed as above.

SAE REPORTING CONTACT DETAILS

*Please email or fax a copy of the SAE form to
SCTU within 24 hours of becoming aware of the event*

Fax: 0844 774 0621 or Email: ctu@soton.ac.uk

FAO: Quality and Regulatory Team

For further assistance: Tel: 023 8120 4138 (Mon to Fri 09:00 – 17:00)

The SAE report form asks for nature of event, date of onset, severity, outcome, causality and expectedness. The responsible investigator (or delegate) should assign the seriousness, causality and expectedness of the event with reference to the approved IMP IB/SmPC and provide version used for the assessment.

The event term should be the most appropriate medical term or concept (which the SCTU will code to MedDRA) and grades given in accordance with the NCI CTCAE v4.03

Additional information should be provided as soon as possible if all information was not included at the time of reporting, but no more than 7 days after initial report.

7.6.2 *In addition to the definition above, any suspected transmission via a medicinal product of an infectious agent is also considered an SAE and may be subject to expedited reporting requirements in some countries. Any organism, virus or infectious particle (for example Prion Protein Transmitting Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathy), pathogenic or non-pathogenic, is considered an infectious agent. Elevations in liver biochemistry that meet Hy's Law criteria are reported as SAEs, using the important medical event serious criterion if no other criteria are applicable. Follow up and post-trial SAEs*

The reporting requirement for SAEs affecting participants applies for all events occurring up to 100 days after the last administration of trial drugs.

All unresolved adverse events should be followed by the investigator until resolved, the participant is lost to follow-up, or the adverse event is otherwise explained. At the last scheduled visit, the investigator should instruct each participant to report any subsequent event(s) that the participant, or the participant's general practitioner, believes might reasonably be related to participation in this trial. The investigator should notify the trial sponsor of any death or adverse event occurring at any time after a participant has discontinued or terminated trial participation that may reasonably be related to this trial.

7.6.3 Non-serious AEs

All adverse events should be recorded in the relevant eCRF.

7.6.4 Pre-existing Conditions

Medically significant pre-existing conditions (prior to treatment (cycle 1 day 1)) should not be reported as an AE unless the conditions worsen during the trial. The condition, however, must be reported on the Medical History eCRF. Any adverse events that occur after the first dose of nivolumab/placebo should be recorded on the AE eCRF.

All events that are considered SAEs, as defined in section 7.1, that are deemed by the investigator to be related to trial procedures should be reported from date of consent.

7.6.5 Serious Adverse Events and Reactions

All SAEs, SARs and SUSARs should be reported within 24 hours of the local site becoming aware of the event. The SAE/SUSAR form asks for nature of event, date of onset, severity, corrective therapies given, outcome, causality (i.e. related or unrelated) and expectedness. The responsible investigator should assign the causality and expectedness of the event with reference to the approved RSI. The event term should be graded in accordance with the NCI CTCAE v4.03. Additional information should be provided as soon as possible if the event/reaction has not resolved at the time of reporting.

7.6.6 Pregnancy

If a participant or their partner becomes pregnant whilst taking part in the trial or during a stage where the foetus could have been exposed to an IMP (up to 5 months following IMP administration for female patients and up to 7 months for female partners of male participants), the investigator must ensure that the participant and/or participant's partner and the participant's and/or participant's partner's healthcare professional are aware that follow up information is required on the outcome of the pregnancy (provided consent is given).

The investigator must immediately notify SCTU of this event via the Pregnancy Surveillance Form within 24 hours of becoming aware.

Protocol-required procedures for study discontinuation and follow-up must be completed.

Follow-up is, of course, dependent on obtaining informed consent for this from the participant (or their partner in the case of male trial subjects). The site must request consent from the pregnancy participant or female partner of a male participant to report information regarding a pregnancy using:

- For female participants: The trial specific Pregnant Patient Information Sheet and Pregnant Patient Informed Consent Form
- For female partners of male participants: The trial specific Pregnant Partner Information Sheet and Pregnant Partner Informed Consent Form

Follow-up information regarding the course of the pregnancy, including perinatal and neonatal outcome and, where applicable, offspring information must be reported on the Pregnancy Surveillance Form.

If consent is not given, the notification that a pregnancy has occurred will be retained by SCTU, however follow up information will not be collected.

If the participant leaves the area, their new healthcare professional should also be informed.

7.7. SCTU RESPONSIBILITIES FOR SAFETY REPORTING TO REC

SCTU will notify the necessary REC of all UK SUSARs occurring during the trial according to the following timelines; fatal and life-threatening within 7 days of notification and non-life threatening within 15 days.

SCTU submit all safety information to the REC in annual progress reports.

7.8. SCTU RESPONSIBILITIES FOR SAFETY REPORTING TO MHRA

SCTU will notify the necessary competent authorities of all SUSARs occurring during the trial according to the following timelines: fatal and life threatening within 7 days of notification and non-life threatening within 15 days.

SCTU submit the Developmental Safety Update Reports (DSUR) to MHRA annually.

7.9. SCTU RESPONSIBILITIES FOR SAFETY REPORTING TO BMS

SCTU will notify BMS of all SAEs/SARs/SUSARs occurring during the trial within 24 hours of sponsor's awareness. Any updates will be sent to BMS as received.

SCTU will submit a copy of the DSUR to BMS annually.

SCTU will reconcile transmitted SAEs between the BMS safety database and the clinical database. Frequency of reconciliation will be determined prior to study commencement. BMS GPV&E will e-mail upon request from the Investigator, the BMS GPV&E safety database reconciliation report in Excel format. Requests for reconciliation should be sent to aepbusinessprocess@bms.com.

Reconciliation is at the case level. If SCTU identifies any cases which were not transmitted to GPV&E, they will immediately transmit the case to worldwide.safety@bms.com. Data elements on the BMS GPV&E safety database reconciliation report such as patient ID, SAE event term, SAE onset date, death and date of death are used to facilitate reconciliation.

The GPV&E safety database reconciliation report will function as a cumulative spreadsheet and will be used to track cases transmitted to BMS GPV&E.

8 STATISTICS AND DATA ANALYSES

8.1. METHOD OF RANDOMISATION

Patients will be randomised to either nivolumab or the control arm on a 2:1 allocation. Patients will be stratified according to epithelioid versus non-epithelioid.

8.2. SAMPLE SIZE

The original sample size calculation was based on overall survival (OS) only (see full details below). This calculation accounted for a number of interim analyses (efficacy and futility) by using an alpha of 0.04 for the sample size (and ultimately the interpretation). During the course of the trial, the independent Trial Steering Committee (TSC) approved the inclusion of progression-free survival (PFS) as a co-primary endpoint in order to mitigate against the risk of treatment cross-over, on the condition of maintaining the original sample size for OS. The analysis will follow the Fallback procedure [25], though no explicit correction or acknowledgement of the impact of the analysis (where alpha is split across the endpoints) was initially proposed.

Following a later review by the TSC (meeting date 13/01/2020), all future interim analyses (which were formal rule-based efficacy and futility analyses) were removed; this decision was taken for three

reasons: 1) a subset of the interim analyses were based on the PD-L1 positive subgroup, but analyses based on this could not take place until after recruitment was complete lessening the potential benefit of carrying out these analyses; 2) the percentage of the samples that were PD-L1 positive was lower than anticipated at the start of the trial (due to changes in how the analysis is carried out using an approved 22C3 antibody assay - meaning a greater number of patients would need to be recruited to obtain a sufficient number who were PD-L1 +ve to conduct the analysis); and 3) the futility analyses would also not take place until very near the end (or after) the recruitment phase had completed. Due to 1) and 2) above it was not possible to undertake the PD-L1 +ve analysis during the recruitment period of the trials and as there was also little benefit in being able to stop the study for futility after the recruitment period, the TSC were keen to allow the study to run to completion. (Note: one analysis for harm had been carried out prior to this meeting, which was not relevant for the original sample size calculation.)

It was agreed that removing the formal interim analyses and accounting for the Fallback procedure in the final analysis would have no net effect on the sample size calculation, meaning the original sample size calculations hold. Although the original sample size calculation accounted for interim analyses that have been subsequently removed, the Fallback procedure should be accounted for. The result is that an alpha of 0.04 is to be used for the analysis of OS (as originally proposed), and, according to the Fallback procedure, an alpha for PFS of 0.01 (if OS null hypothesis is rejected) or 0.05 (if OS null hypothesis is not rejected). This approach maintains an overall 5% type 1 error rate across the co-primary endpoints, and will serve the purpose of demonstrating a treatment effect on either OS or PFS that is sufficient to establish clinical benefit; i.e., if the analysis of OS shows a statistically significant effect (at 0.04) this will be sufficient to establish clinical benefit (irrespective of whether PFS is statistically significant or not), but if OS is non-significant, clinical benefit may still be established if PFS is statistically significant (at remaining unused alpha level of 0.01).

Power calculation for OS

Based on the VANTAGE trial [20] the median survival of patients on placebo is approximately 6 months.

Sample size assumptions (using `artsurv` in Stata): Based on a hazard ratio of 0.70 (equivalent to extending the median overall survival rate from 6 months to 8.5 months, or increasing the 6 months overall survival rate from 50% to 61.5% - considered a clinically significant difference by the research team); 80% power; recruitment period of 4 years, then 6 months follow-up period; 2-sided significance level of 4% (based on Fallback procedure); negligible drop out. Number of patients required: 336 (224 in the experimental arm and 112 in the control arm), a total of 291 events (deaths).

Power calculation for PFS

Based on the DETERMINE trial [24] the median PFS of patients on placebo is approximately 3 months.

The original sample size of 336 patients will also provide 80% power to detect a hazard ratio of 0.65 (equivalent to extending the median PFS from 3 months to 4.6 months or increasing the 3 month PFS rate from 50% to 63.7% - considered a clinically significant difference by the research team); with recruitment period of 4 years; 6 months follow-up period; 2-sided significance level of 1% (remaining unused alpha from Fallback procedure for 5% level overall); negligible drop out. This will require a total of 284 events (progression or deaths) (calculated using `artsurv` in Stata).

Power calculation for PD-L1 positive group

Previous versions of the protocol reported 80% power to detect a hazard ratio of 0.5 for OS (increasing survival at 6 months from 50 to 71%) based on alpha of 0.01 and 132 participants (40%) being PD-L1 positive. With the updated expectation of 25-30% (n=84 to 100) being PD-L1 positive, the study will have approximately 80-85% power to detect a hazard ratio of 0.5 with alpha of 0.04 (where the fallback method will be used to analyse and hence is split across OS and PFS). No corrections are made to the

sample size to account for running this subgroup analysis, as this analysis is deemed to be asking a different research question to the main study, i.e., the effectiveness of treatment in a different population.

8.3. STATISTICAL ANALYSIS PLAN (SAP)

A detailed statistical analysis plan will be developed prior to database lock, and all data and appropriate documentation will be stored for a minimum of 25 years after the completion of the trial.

Study populations:

- Intention-to-treat (ITT) population – consists of all patients who have consented and been randomised to a treatment arm.
- Safety population – consists of the ITT population who have received at least one dose of treatment.

The primary analysis population is the ITT population.

Time to event data (OS, PFS) will be analysed and presented using Kaplan-Meier curves for the ITT population. We will use a Cox proportional hazards model to calculate the HR, 95% CIs and p-value, adjusted for stratification factor (epithelioid vs. non-epithelioid), plus line of therapy and centre. The adjusted Cox regression models for OS and PFS will form the primary endpoint analyses models. Analysis will follow the Fallback procedure [25], where the alpha used to judge statistical significance for PFS will depend on the result for OS. OS will be judged at alpha of 0.04, and PFS will be 0.05 or 0.01 depending on the statistical significance or not, respectively, of OS. As noted in the sample size section, clinical benefit may be determined by results for either OS or PFS.

The primary analysis will be repeated for the PD-L1 positive subgroup(s) to assess the effectiveness in this group that are thought to be more likely to respond to treatment. This involves analysis of OS and PFS according to the Fallback procedure. Benefits for this group may be determined by results for either OS or PFS.

We will assess toxicity by comparing proportions of haematological and non-haematological toxicities during treatment with Pearson's χ^2 tests in the safety population. We will assess treatment compliance by comparing proportions of patients completing and not completing treatment with Pearson's χ^2 tests in the ITT population.

All analyses will be carried out using STATA 13 or higher and/or SAS 9.4 or higher.

8.4. HEALTH ECONOMIC ANALYSIS PLAN

The economic analysis will include: i) a 'within-trial' cost-effectiveness analysis, to compare the costs and health outcomes (QALYs) accrued over the follow up period for patients in the intervention and control arms; and ii) development of a cost-effectiveness model to extrapolate cost and QALY estimates over a lifetime horizon. The analyses will follow the recommended methods and 'reference case' recommended by NICE, including: an NHS and Personal Social Services perspective for costing; estimation of QALYs using EQ-5D data and UK value sets, and discounting of costs and QALYs at 3.5% per year.

8.4.1 *Within trial economic analysis*

This will rely on individual-level data collected during the trial. Information on patients' use of health and social services that might be related to cancer care or treatment, including adverse effects, will be collected from routine records, and a patient questionnaire administered at follow up. Individual costs will then be calculated, using unit costs for resource items obtained from routine national sources,

including NHS Reference Cost or Tariff prices, the Drug Tariff, and the Personal Social Services Research Unit (PSSRU) Unit Costs of Health and Social Care. QALYs will be calculated from EQ-5D and mortality data, using the area under the curve method. Health-related quality of life (EQ-5D 'utility' scores) will be calculated at baseline and all follow-up points. For patients who die during the trial, utility is set to zero from the date of death. Regression analysis will be used to estimate mean cost and mean QALY differences between the study groups. Analysis will be pre-specified, and will take into consideration the need for multiple imputation for missing data, adjustment for baseline co-variables, inclusion of an interaction term for pre-specified subgroups (e.g. by biomarker), and the possibility of clustering by centre. Results will be presented as a ratio – the incremental cost per QALY gained with nivolumab compared with no treatment. Non-parametric bootstrapping will be used to obtain estimates of joint uncertainty over mean costs and QALYs, which will be represented by a scatterplot on the cost-effectiveness plane, and as a cost effectiveness acceptability curve (CEAC) – showing the probability that nivolumab is cost effective as a function of willingness to pay per QALY (the cost-effectiveness 'threshold').

8.4.2 Economic modelling

Modelling will be conducted according to International Society for Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research (ISPOR) guidelines. Related NICE technology appraisals and published economic evaluations will be reviewed to inform consideration of model design and sources of evidence. The model will probably take the form of a 'Markov-type' health state transition model, although we will consider whether an individual-level simulation model will add value. The model specification will be discussed and agreed with members of the project team and other experts. Input parameters will be estimated from trial data (e.g. by fitting of survival functions), supplemented by evidence from the literature when necessary (e.g. to inform assumptions about longer-term survival). Systematic search methods will be used to identify best-available sources of evidence. Probabilistic sensitivity analysis will be used to estimate how uncertainty over input parameters results in uncertainty over the model results. As with the within-trial analysis, results will be presented as an incremental cost effectiveness ratio, and with a cost-effectiveness scatterplot and CEAC curve. A value of information analysis will also be conducted to estimate the potential value of conducting further research to reduce residual uncertainty. In addition, uncertainties relating to model structure or choice of data sources will be explored through deterministic sensitivity analysis. Subgroup analysis will be used to explore potential differences in cost-effectiveness by patient group.

9 TRANSLATIONAL ANALYSIS

Two types of mandatory biological samples will be collected from CONFIRM patients for translational research within the CONFIRM trial and future ethically approved research; peripheral blood and fresh or archival baseline tissue. The analysis of these samples is integral to the trial and therefore provision of these samples is mandatory and in the inclusion criteria for this trial and built into the main trial consent. Patients will also be asked to donate an optional tissue sample upon disease progression.

There is one central laboratory for this trial:
Mesothelioma Research Programme, University of Leicester

9.1. DIAGNOSTIC BIOPSY OR SURGICAL SAMPLES

Baseline fresh or archival formalin fixed paraffin embedded (FFPE) tissue will be sent to the University of Leicester for all CONFIRM patients. This will be from a tumour mass biopsy. Re-biopsy is required if an archival sample is not available. See the CONFIRM Laboratory Manual for details on how to send and log FFPE samples.

If patients consent, FFPE tissue from a biopsy upon disease progression will also be sent to the University of Leicester.

9.2. PERIPHERAL BLOOD SAMPLES

Peripheral blood samples will be collected all CONFIRM patients at the following timepoints (in accordance with the schedule in section 5):

- Baseline (within three working days prior to first treatment (Cycle 1, day 1)
- 28 ±7 days post treatment discontinuation

1 x 10 ml EDTA tube and 1 x 10 ml red top vacutainer serum tube should be collected and processed according to the CONFIRM Lab Manual and stored at -80°C until the end of the trial. SCTU will request collection of these blood samples at the end of the trial using cryogenic transportation to the University of Leicester.

9.3. CONFIRM TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH

The goals of the translational research will be to determine the correlation between overall survival and i) PD-L1 expression, ii) mutational burden (estimated by genome-wide analysis of copy number alterations), iii) immunotranscriptomic profile

9.4. FUTURE ETHICALLY APPROVED TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH

The custodian of the samples will be the Trial Management Group (TMG). Proposals for translational research projects involving the material will be considered by the TMG and/or external ethics committee for approval. Full ethical approval by an NHS research ethics committee must also have been given before the TMG will authorise release of the samples from the trial Tissue Bank for any translational trial.

10 REGULATORY

10.1. CLINICAL TRIAL AUTHORISATION

This trial has a Clinical Trial Authorisation from the UK Competent Authority the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA).

11 ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

The study will be conducted in accordance with the recommendations for physicians involved in research on human patients adopted by the 18th World Medical Assembly, Helsinki 1964 as revised and recognised by governing laws and EU Directives. Each participant's consent to participate in the study should be obtained after a full explanation has been given of treatment options, including the conventional and generally accepted methods of treatment. The right of the participant to refuse to participate in the study without giving reasons must be respected.

After the participant has entered the study, the clinician may give alternative treatment to that specified in the protocol, at any stage, if they feel it to be in the best interest of the participant. However, reasons for doing so should be recorded and the participant will remain within the study for the purpose of follow-up and data analysis according to the treatment option to which they have been allocated. Similarly, the participant remains free to withdraw at any time from protocol treatment and study follow-up without giving reasons and without prejudicing their further treatment.

11.1. ETHICAL APPROVAL

The study protocol has received the favourable opinion of a Research Ethics Committee or Institutional Review Board (IRB) in the approved national participating countries.

11.2. INFORMED CONSENT PROCESS

Informed consent is a process that is initiated prior to an individual agreeing to participate in a trial and continues throughout the individual's participation. In obtaining and documenting informed consent, the investigator should comply with applicable regulatory requirements and should adhere to the principles of GCP.

Discussion of objectives, risks and inconveniences of the trial and the conditions under which it is to be conducted are to be provided to the participant by appropriately delegated staff with knowledge in obtaining informed consent with reference to the patient information leaflet. This information will emphasise that participation in the trial is voluntary and that the participant may withdraw from the trial at any time and for any reason. The participant will be given the opportunity to ask any questions that may arise and provided the opportunity to discuss the trial with family members, friend or an independent healthcare professional outside of the research team and time to consider the information prior to agreeing to participate.

11.3. CONFIDENTIALITY

SCTU will preserve the confidentiality of participants taking part in the trial. The investigator must ensure that participant's anonymity will be maintained and that their identities are protected from unauthorised parties. On CRFs participants will not be identified by their names, but by an identification code.

12 SPONSOR

SCTU, Chief Investigator and other appropriate organisations have been delegated specific duties by the Sponsor and this is documented in the trial task allocation matrix. These include but are not limited to: management of Serious Adverse Events/Reactions and onward reporting of SUSARs; management of deviations and onward reporting of potential Serious Breaches.

The duties assigned to the trial sites (NHS Trusts or others taking part in this study) are detailed in the Non-Commercial Agreement.

12.1. INDEMNITY

The University of Southampton's public and professional indemnity insurance policy provides an indemnity to UoS employees for their potential liability for harm to participants during the conduct of the research. This does not in any way affect an NHS Trust's responsibility for any clinical negligence on the part of its staff.

12.2. FUNDING

Funding is provided by Cancer Research UK through a research grant from the Clinical Research Committee, as well as core funding to SCTU. Additional support is provided by BMS.

12.2.1 Site payments

The payments assigned to the trial sites (NHS Trusts or others taking part in this study) are detailed in the Non-Commercial Agreement. This study is adopted onto the NIHR portfolio (CPMS 32290). This enables Trusts to apply to their Local Clinical Research Network for service support costs, if required.

12.2.2 Participant payments

Participants will not be paid for participation in this study.

12.3. AUDITS AND INSPECTIONS

The study may be subject to inspection and audit by University of Southampton (under their remit as Sponsor), SCTU (as the Sponsor's delegate) and other regulatory bodies to ensure adherence to the

principles of GCP, Research Governance Framework for Health and Social Care, applicable contracts/agreements and national regulations.

13 TRIAL OVERSIGHT GROUPS

The day-to-day management of the trial will be co-ordinated through the SCTU and oversight will be maintained by the Trial Management Group, the Trial Steering Committee and the Data Monitoring and Ethics Committee.

13.1. TRIAL MANAGEMENT GROUP (TMG)

The TMG is responsible for overseeing progress of the study, including both the clinical and practical aspects. The Chair of the TMG will be the Chief Investigator of the study.

The CONFIRM TMG charter defines the membership, terms of reference, roles, responsibilities, authority, decision-making and relationships of the TMG, including the timing of meetings, frequency and format of meetings and relationships with other trial committees.

13.2. TRIAL STEERING COMMITTEE (TSC)

The TSC act as the oversight body on behalf of the Sponsor and Funder. The TSC will meet in person at least yearly and have at least one further teleconference meeting during the year. The majority of members of the TSC, including the Chair, should be independent of the trial.

The SCTU TSC charter defines the membership, terms of reference, roles, responsibilities, authority, decision-making and relationships of the TSC, including the timing of meetings, frequency and format of meetings and relationships with other trial committees.

13.3. INDEPENDENT DATA MONITORING COMMITTEE (IDMC)

The aim of the IDMC is to safeguard the interests of trial participants, monitor the main outcome measures including safety and efficacy, and monitor the overall conduct of the study.

The CONFIRM IDMC charter defines the membership, terms of reference, roles, responsibilities, authority, decision-making and relationships of the IDMC, including the timing of meetings, methods of providing information to and from the IDMC, frequency and format of meetings, statistical issues and relationships with other trial committees.

14 DATA MANAGEMENT

Participant data will be entered remotely at site and retained in accordance with the current Data Protection Regulations. The PI is responsible for ensuring the accuracy, completeness, and timeliness of the data entered.

The participant data is pseudo anonymised by assigning each participant a participant identifier code which is used to identify the participant during the study and for any participant- specific clarification between SCTU and site. The site retains a participant identification code list which is only available to site staff.

The Participant Information Sheet and Informed Consent Form will specify the participant data to be collected and how it will be managed or might be shared; including handling of all Patient Identifiable Data (PID) and sensitive PID adhering to relevant data protection law.

Trained personnel with specific roles assigned will be granted access to the electronic case report forms (eCRF). eCRF completion guidelines will be provided to the investigator sites to aid data entry of participant information.

Site staff should endeavour to enter trial data within 10 business days of the scheduled visit. Only the Investigator and personnel authorised by them should enter or change data in the eCRFs. When requested, laboratory data must be transcribed, with all investigator observations entered into the eCRF. The original laboratory reports must be retained by the Investigator for future reference.

A Data Management Plan (DMP) providing full details of the study specific data management strategy for the trial will be available and a Trial Schedule with planned and actual milestones, eCRF tracking and central monitoring for active trial management created.

Data queries will either be automatically generated within the eCRF, or manually raised by the study team, if required. All alterations made to the eCRF will be visible via an audit trail which provides the identity of the person who made the change, plus the date and time.

At the end of the trial after all queries have been resolved and the database frozen, the PI will confirm the data integrity by electronically signing all the eCRFs. The eCRFs will be archived according to SCTU policy and a PDF copy including all clinical and meta data returned to the PI for each participant.

14.1. DATA SHARING REQUESTS FOR RESULTS THAT ARE AVAILABLE IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN

In order to meet our ethical obligation to responsibly share data generated by interventional clinical trials, SCTU operate a transparent data sharing request process. As a minimum, anonymous data will be available for request from three months after publication of an article, to researchers who provide a completed Data Sharing request form that describes a methodologically sound proposal, for the purpose of the approved proposal and if appropriate a signed Data Sharing Agreement. Data will be shared once all parties have signed relevant data sharing documentation.

Researchers interested in our data are asked to complete the Request for Data Sharing form (CTU/FORM/5219) [template located on the SCTU website, www.southampton.ac.uk/ctu] to provide a brief research proposal on how they wish to use the data. It will include; the objectives, what data are requested, timelines for use, intellectual property and publication rights, data release definition in the contract and participant informed consent etc. If considered necessary, a Data Sharing Agreement from Sponsor may be required.

Data may be requested from the Data Sharing Committee at SCTU. Any request will be considered on a monthly basis.

15 MONITORING

15.1. CENTRAL MONITORING

Data stored at SCTU will be checked for missing or unusual values (range checks) and checked for consistency within participants over time. Any suspect data will be returned to the site in the form of data queries. Data queries will be produced at SCTU in the trial database. Sites will respond to the queries providing an explanation/resolution to the discrepancies. There are a number of monitoring features in place at SCTU to ensure reliability and validity of the trial data, which are detailed in the trial monitoring plan (TMP).

Consent forms received by SCTU staff will be checked regularly following the TMP and relevant SCTU SOPs.

15.2. CLINICAL SITE MONITORING

Clinical site monitoring frequency will be determined by the recruitment figures at each participating centre as detailed in the TMP. Triggered site monitoring will occur where required.

15.2.1 Source Data Verification

On receipt of a written request from SCTU, the PI will allow the SCTU direct access to relevant source documentation for verification of data entered onto the eCRF (taking into account data protection regulations). Access should also be given to study staff and departments (e.g. pharmacy).

The participants' medical records and other relevant data may also be reviewed by appropriate qualified personnel independent from the SCTU appointed to audit the study, including representatives of the Competent Authority. Details will remain confidential and participants' names will not be recorded outside the study site.

15.3. SOURCE DATA

Source documents are where data are first recorded, and from which participants' CRF data are obtained. These include, but are not limited to, hospital records (from which medical history and previous and concurrent medication may be summarised), clinical and office charts, laboratory and pharmacy records, diaries, microfiches, radiographs, and correspondence.

16 RECORD RETENTION AND ARCHIVING

Trial documents will be retained in a secure location during and after the trial has finished.

The PI or delegate must maintain adequate and accurate records to enable the conduct of the trial to be fully documented and the trial data to be subsequently verified. After trial closure the PI will maintain all source documents and trial related documents. All source documents will be retained for a period of 25 years following the end of the trial.

Sites are responsible for archiving the investigator site file and participants' medical records.

The Sponsor is responsible for archiving the TMF and other relevant trial documentation.

17 PUBLICATION POLICY

Data from all centres will be analysed together and published as soon as possible.

Individual investigators may not publish data concerning their patients that are directly relevant to questions posed by the trial until the TMG has published its report. The TMG will form the basis of the writing committee and advice on the nature of publications. All publications shall include a list of investigators, and if there are named authors, these should include the Chief Investigator, Co-Investigators, Trial Manager, and Statistician(s) involved in the trial. Named authors will be agreed by the CI and Director of SCTU. If there are no named authors then a 'writing committee' will be identified.

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11. Tumeh, P.C., et al., *PD-1 blockade induces responses by inhibiting adaptive immune resistance*. *Nature*, 2014. **515**(7528): p. 568-71.
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19 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT CHANGES TO THE PROTOCOL

Protocol date and version	Summary of significant changes
V1 27-Oct-2016	Original document
V2 01-Dec-2017	Amylase and lipase added to assessments; 3.2. DOSE RATIONALE OF NIVOLUMAB added; details of highly effective contraception added
V3 08-Feb-2018	Assessment and treatment windows defined; centre removed as stratification factor; screening and baseline visits differentiated; minor clarifications to text
V4 26-Apr-2018	Lipase removed from assessments. AEs to be reported from start of treatment rather than consent. CPMS ID added to page 40.
V5 31-May-2018	Clarified that events fulfilling criteria for Serious Adverse Events (SAE) that occur between consent and initiation of treatment should be reported as SAEs if they are deemed to be related to the screening procedures.
V6 14-Feb-2019	Addition of PFS as co-primary endpoint; inclusion of second line treatment in eligibility criteria; option of running amylase or lipase testing in Serum Chemistry; death due to disease progression of mesothelioma not required to be reported as SAE. Additional exclusion criteria - if patient enrolled on IND 227 they are ineligible for Confirm
V7 11-Jun2020	Option throughout to perform AST <u>or</u> ALT. Addition of ± 3 day window for CT scans. Clarification that patients are to be followed up for a minimum of 6 months post treatment discontinuation. Clarified post-treatment follow up visits and assessments. Clarification to contraceptive requirements. Additional guidance for treatment of infusion related reactions included. Clarification of permitted steroid use. Unblinding separated into emergency and non-emergency unblinding. Nivolumab preparation and administration updated in line with updated IB. Addition of temperature excursion reporting. Clarification on SAE reporting requirements for deaths. Safety reporting windows clarified. RSI updated to IB v18. Updates to exceptions for SAE reporting. Clarification on how co-primary endpoints will be analysed. Removal of interim analyses and added that PD-L1 positive subgroup analyses will be carried out as part of the trial's main analysis. Clarification on translational samples. Data Sharing section updated. Addition of Myocarditis AE Management Algorithm.

APPENDIX 1 ECOG PERFORMANCE STATUS

GRADE	PERFORMANCE STATUS
0	Able to carry out all normal activity without restriction.
1	Restricted in physically strenuous activity but ambulatory and able to carry out light work.
2	Ambulatory and capable of all self-care but unable to carry out any work; up and about more 50% of waking hours.
3	Capable of only limited self-care confined to bed or chair more than 50% of waking hours.
4	Completely disabled; cannot carry out any self-care; totally confined to bed and chair.

* Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group, Robert Comis M.D., Group Chair, 1982, (Oken, et al, 1982)

APPENDIX 2 RECIST CRITERIA

Modified RECIST criteria are described in this document:

<http://annonc.oxfordjournals.org/content/15/2/257.full.pdf>

RECIST Version 1.1, January 2009, can be accessed at this link:

<https://project.eortc.org/recist/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2015/03/RECISTGuidelines.pdf>

APPENDIX 3 CTCAE VERSION 4.03

Please go to the following website to access the CTCAE Version 4.03:

https://evs.nci.nih.gov/ftp1/CTCAE/CTCAE_4.03/CTCAE_4.03_2010-06-14_QuickReference_5x7.pdf

APPENDIX 4 SAFETY MANAGEMENT ALGORITHMS

These general guidelines constitute guidance to the Investigator and may be supplemented by discussions with the Chief Investigator and BMS's Medical Monitor.

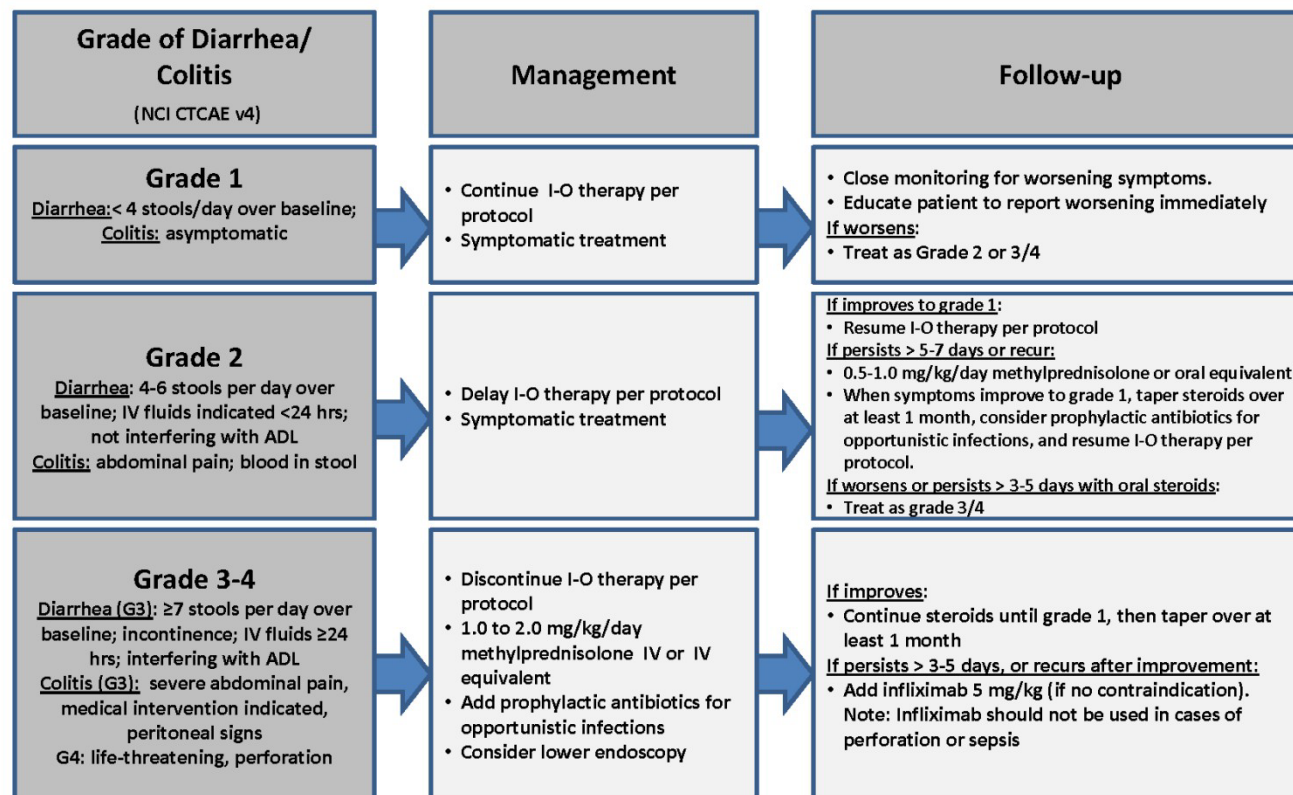
A general principle is that differential diagnoses should be diligently evaluated according to standard medical practice. Non-inflammatory aetiologies should be considered and appropriately treated.

Corticosteroids are a primary therapy for immuno-oncology drug-related adverse events. The oral equivalent of the recommended IV doses may be considered for ambulatory patients with low-grade toxicity. The lower bioavailability of oral corticosteroids should be taken into account when switching to the equivalent dose of oral corticosteroids.

Consultation with a medical or surgical specialist, especially prior to an invasive diagnostic or therapeutic procedure, is recommended.

GI Adverse Event Management Algorithm

Rule out non-inflammatory causes. If non-inflammatory cause is identified, treat accordingly and continue I-O therapy. Opiates/narcotics may mask symptoms of perforation. Infliximab should not be used in cases of perforation or sepsis.

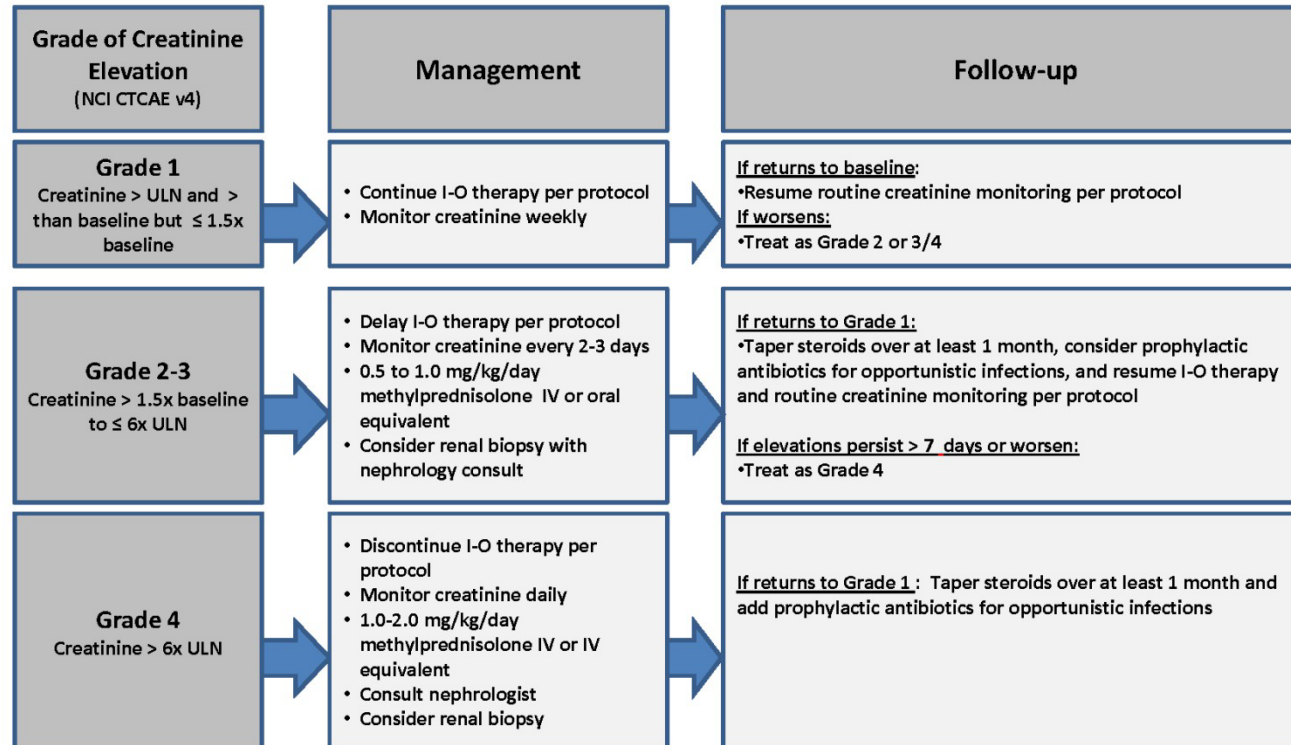


Patients on IV steroids may be switched to an equivalent dose of oral corticosteroids (e.g. prednisone) at start of tapering or earlier, once sustained clinical improvement is observed. Lower bioavailability of oral corticosteroids should be taken into account when switching to the equivalent dose of oral corticosteroids.

Updated 05-Jul-2016

Renal Adverse Event Management Algorithm

Rule out non-inflammatory causes. If non-inflammatory cause, treat accordingly and continue I-O therapy

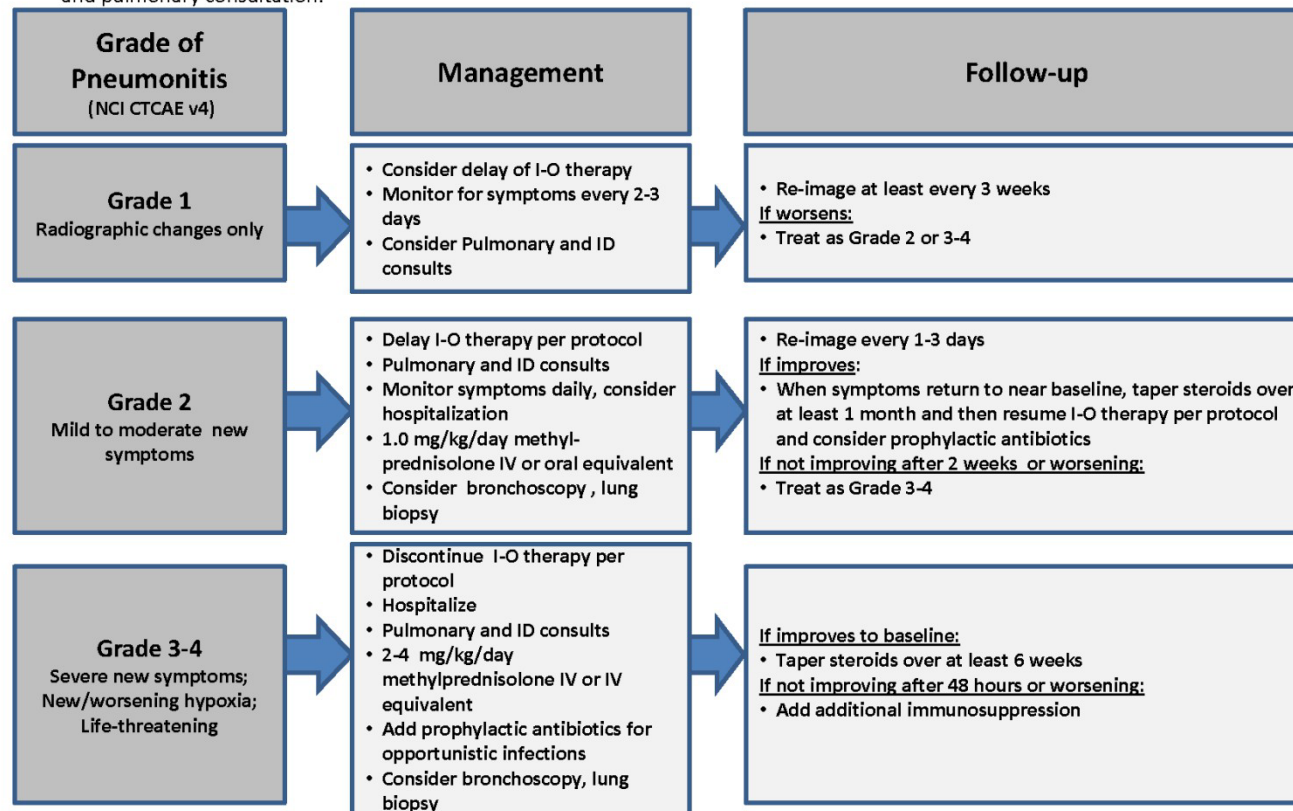


Patients on IV steroids may be switched to an equivalent dose of oral corticosteroids (e.g. prednisone) at start of tapering or earlier, once sustained clinical improvement is observed. Lower bioavailability of oral corticosteroids should be taken into account when switching to the equivalent dose of oral corticosteroids.

Updated 05-Jul-2016

Pulmonary Adverse Event Management Algorithm

Rule out non-inflammatory causes. If non-inflammatory cause, treat accordingly and continue I-O therapy. Evaluate with imaging and pulmonary consultation.

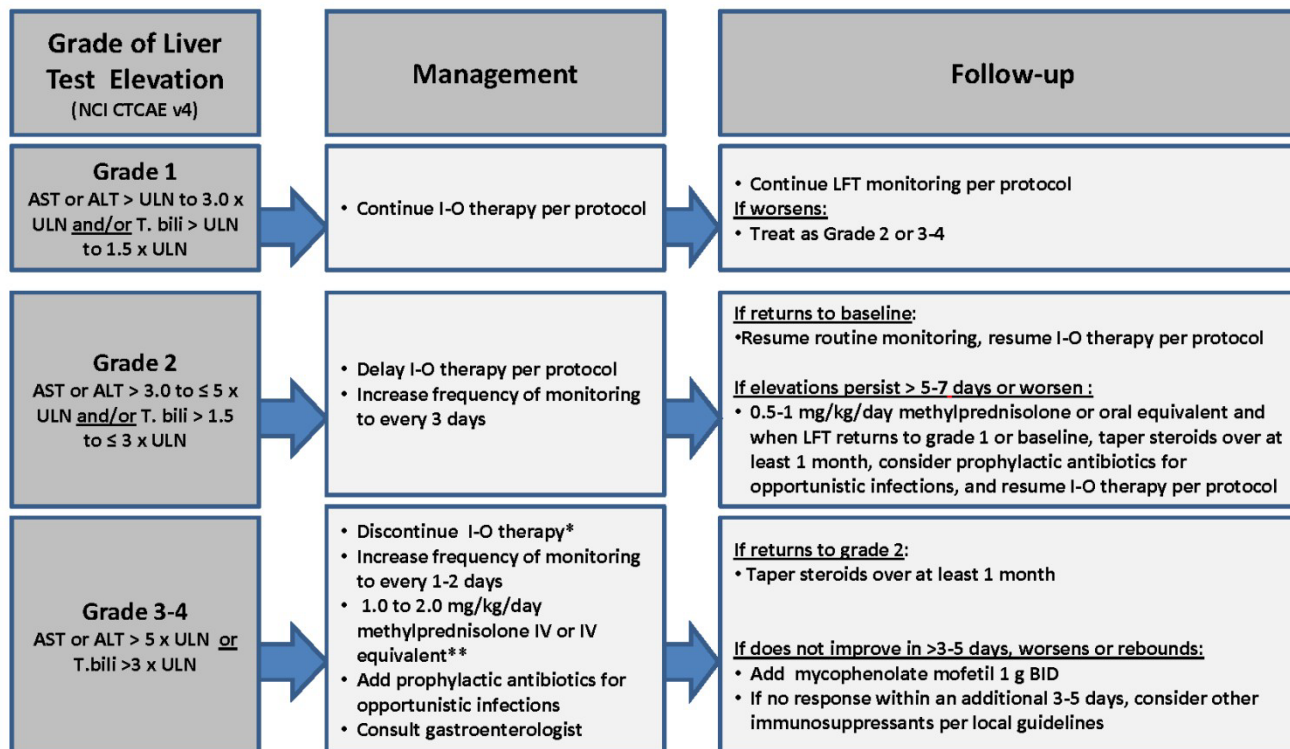


Patients on IV steroids may be switched to an equivalent dose of oral corticosteroids (e.g. prednisone) at start of tapering or earlier, once sustained clinical improvement is observed. Lower bioavailability of oral corticosteroids should be taken into account when switching to the equivalent dose of oral corticosteroids.

Updated 05-Jul-2016

Hepatic Adverse Event Management Algorithm

Rule out non-inflammatory causes. If non-inflammatory cause, treat accordingly and continue I-O therapy. Consider imaging for obstruction.



Patients on IV steroids may be switched to an equivalent dose of oral corticosteroids (e.g. prednisone) at start of tapering or earlier, once sustained clinical improvement is observed. Lower bioavailability of oral corticosteroids should be taken into account when switching to the equivalent dose of oral corticosteroids.

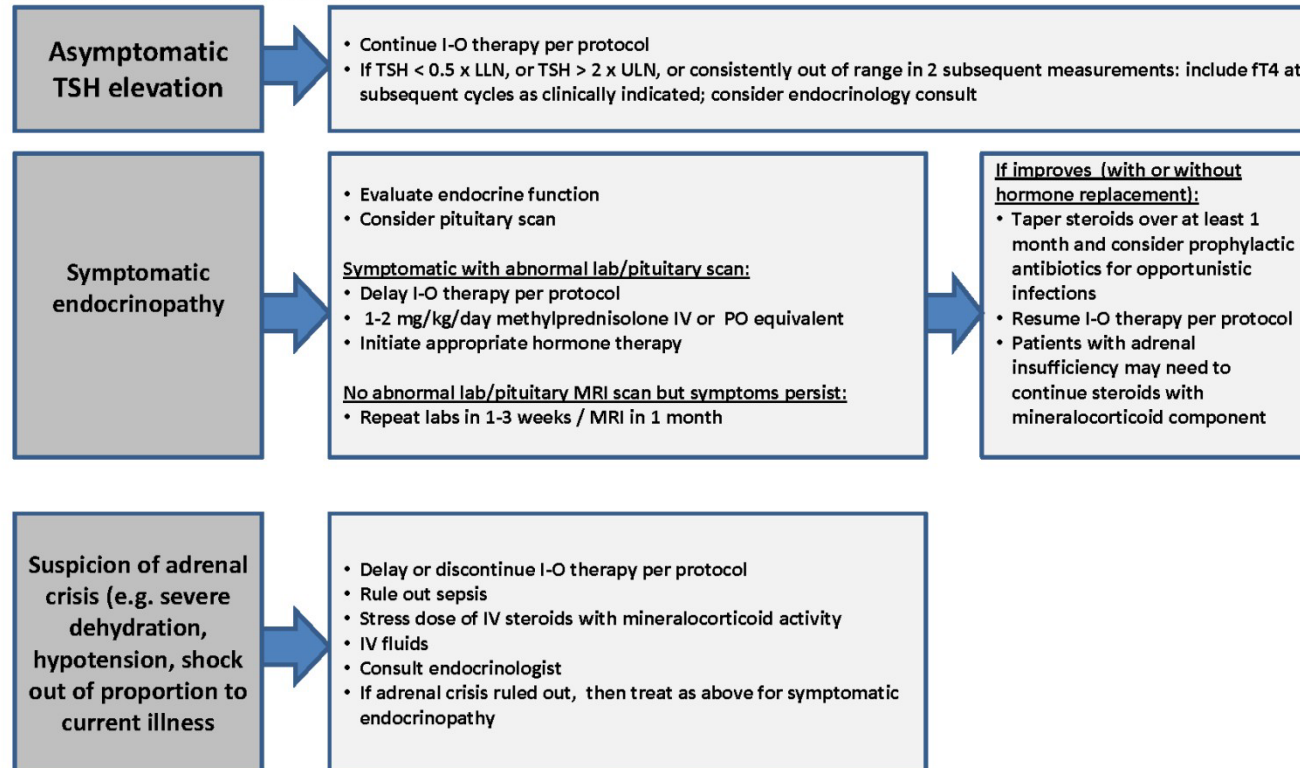
*I-O therapy may be delayed rather than discontinued if AST/ALT ≤ 8 x ULN or T.bili ≤ 5 x ULN.

**The recommended starting dose for grade 4 hepatitis is 2 mg/kg/day methylprednisolone IV.

Updated 05-Jul-2016

Endocrinopathy Management Algorithm

Rule out non-inflammatory causes. If non-inflammatory cause, treat accordingly and continue I-O therapy. Consider visual field testing, endocrinology consultation, and imaging.

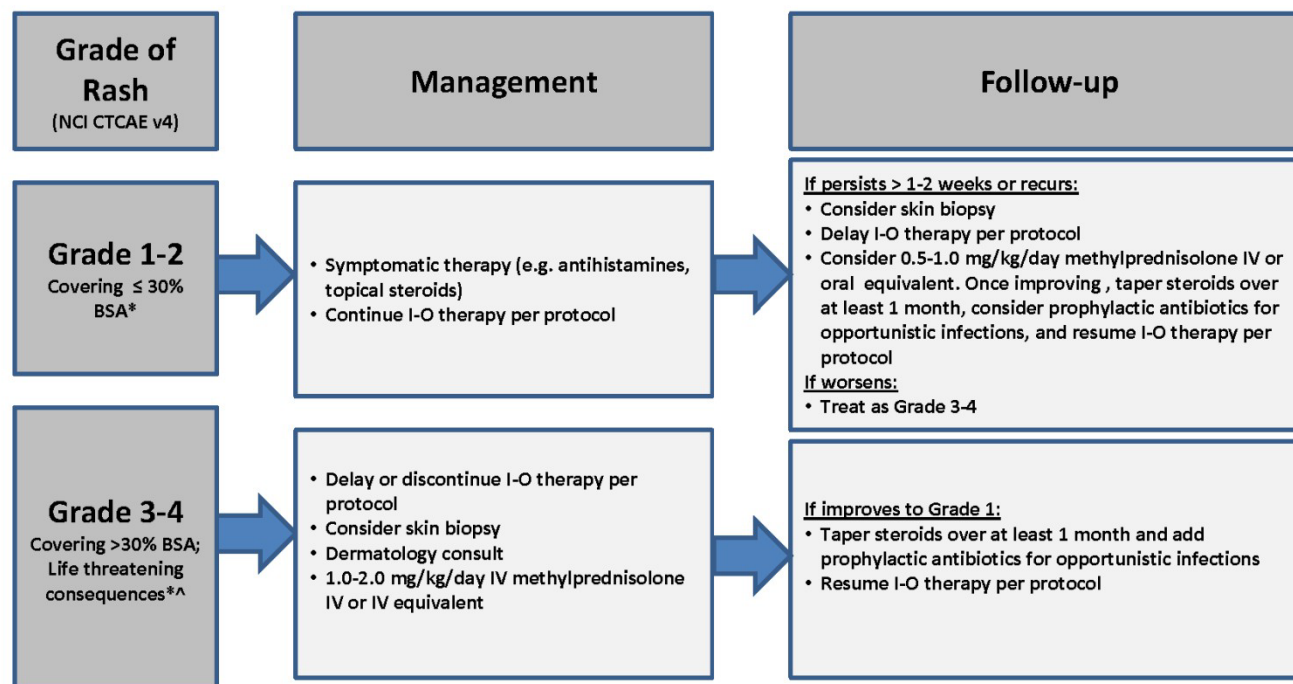


Patients on IV steroids may be switched to an equivalent dose of oral corticosteroids (e.g. prednisone) at start of tapering or earlier, once sustained clinical improvement is observed. Lower bioavailability of oral corticosteroids should be taken into account when switching to the equivalent dose of oral corticosteroids.

Updated 05-Jul-2016

Skin Adverse Event Management Algorithm

Rule out non-inflammatory causes. If non-inflammatory cause, treat accordingly and continue I-O therapy.



Patients on IV steroids may be switched to an equivalent dose of oral corticosteroids (e.g. prednisone) at start of tapering or earlier, once sustained clinical improvement is observed. Lower bioavailability of oral corticosteroids should be taken into account when switching to the equivalent dose of oral corticosteroids.

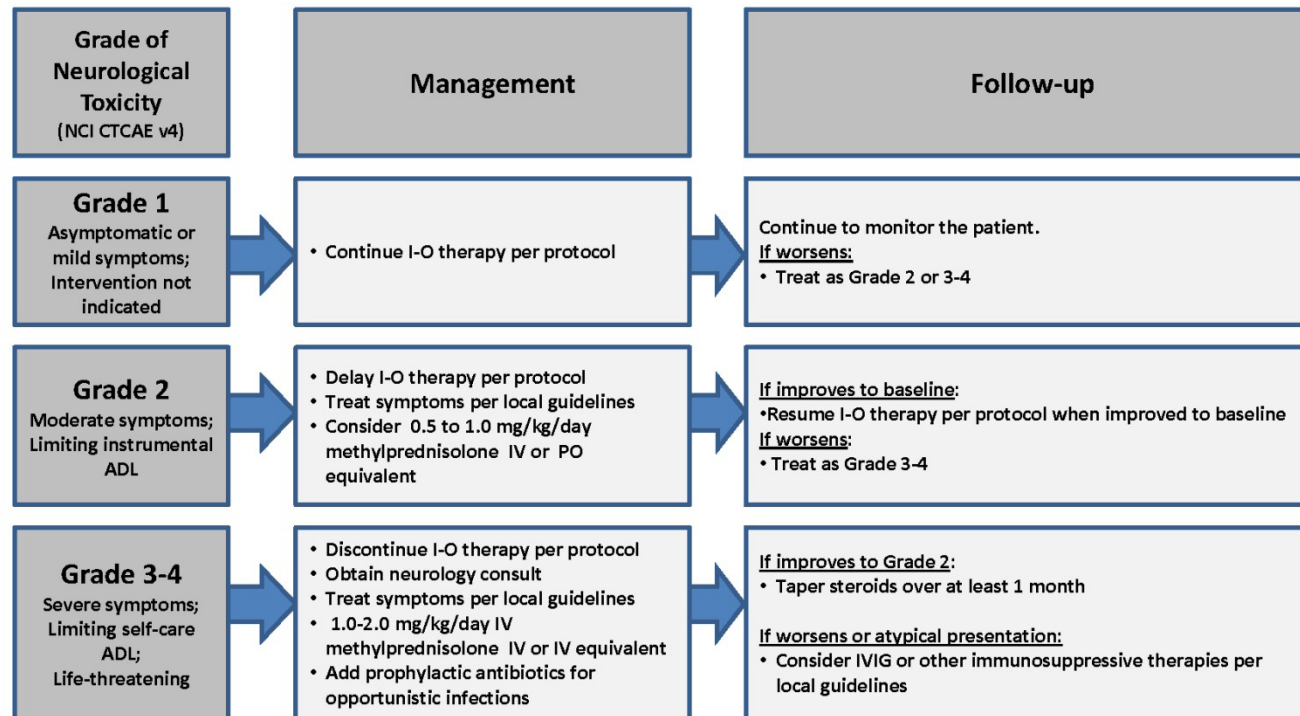
*Refer to NCI CTCAE v4 for term-specific grading criteria.

^If SJS/TEN is suspected, withhold I-O therapy and refer patient for specialized care for assessment and treatment. If SJS or TEN is diagnosed, permanently discontinue I-O therapy.

Updated 05-Jul-2016

Neurological Adverse Event Management Algorithm

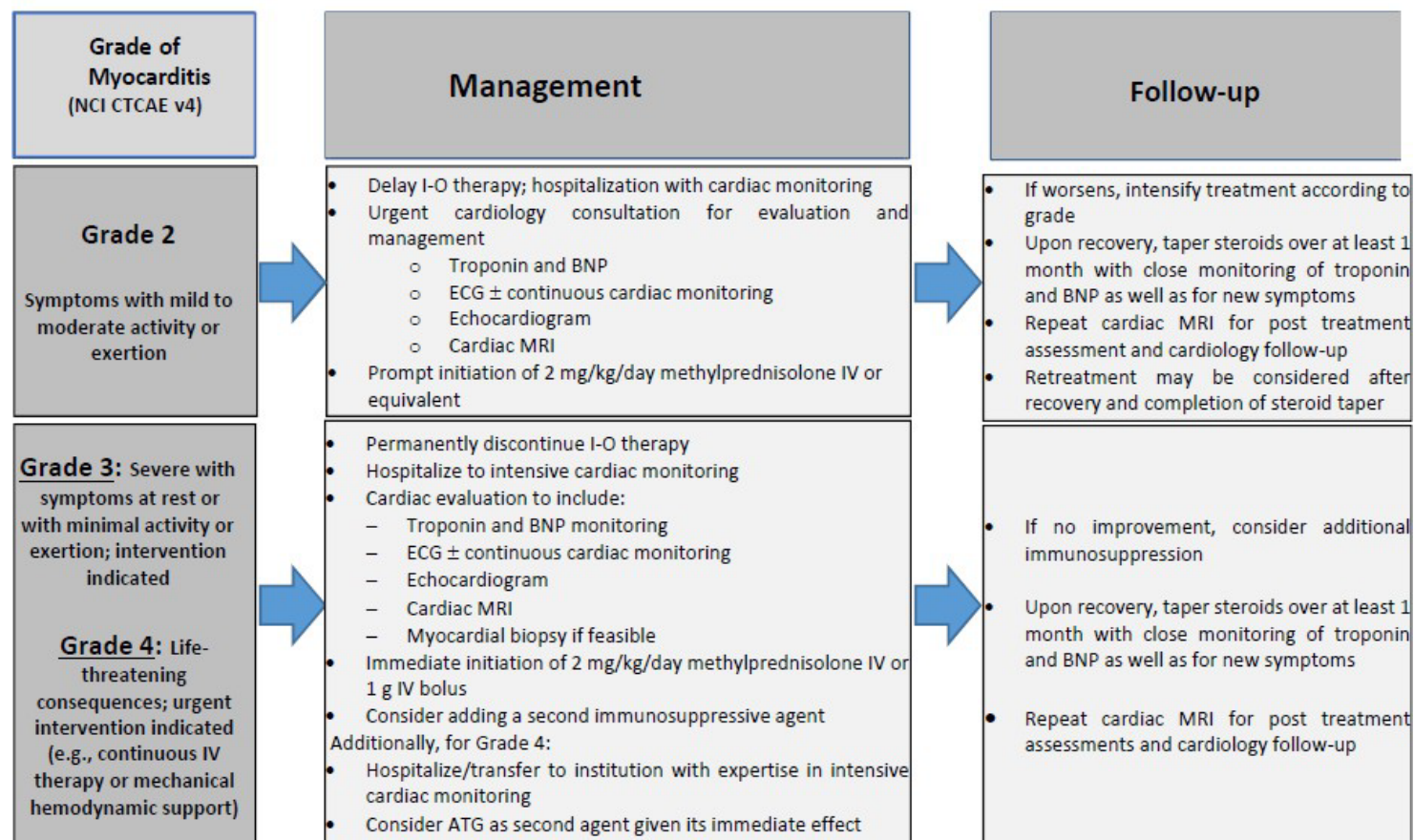
Rule out non-inflammatory causes. If non-inflammatory cause, treat accordingly and continue I-O therapy.



Patients on IV steroids may be switched to an equivalent dose of oral corticosteroids (e.g. prednisone) at start of tapering or earlier, once sustained clinical improvement is observed. Lower bioavailability of oral corticosteroids should be taken into account when switching to the equivalent dose of oral corticosteroids.

Updated 05-Jul-2016

Myocarditis Adverse Event Management Algorithm



Patients on IV steroids may be switched to an equivalent dose of oral corticosteroids (eg, prednisone) at start of tapering or earlier, once sustained clinical improvement is observed. Lower bioavailability of oral corticosteroids should be taken into account when switching to the equivalent dose of oral corticosteroids.

Prophylactic antibiotics should be considered in the setting of ongoing immunosuppression.

ATG = anti-thymocyte globulin; BNP = B-type natriuretic peptide; ECG = electrocardiogram; IV = intravenous; MRI = magnetic resonance imaging