

Bilag til Medicinrådets anbefaling vedrørende avelumab til behandling af metastatisk Merkelcellekarcinom (mMCC)

Vers. 2.0



Bilagsoversigt

1. Medicinrådets sundhedsøkonomiske afrapportering vedr. avelumab, version 2.0
2. Forhandlingsnotat fra Amgros vedr. avelumab
3. Høringssvar fra ansøger, inkl. eventuel efterfølgende dialog vedr. lægemidlets værdi og den sundhedsøkonomiske afrapportering
4. Medicinrådets vurdering vedr. avelumab til behandling af metastatisk Merkelcellekarcinom (mMCC), version 1.0
5. Ansøgers endelige ansøgning
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7. Medicinrådets protokol for vurdering vedr. avelumab til behandling af metastatisk Merkelcellekarcinom (mMCC), version 1.0

Medicinrådets sundheds- økonomiske afrapportering

Avelumab

Metastatisk Merkelcellekarcinom (mMCC)



Om Medicinrådet

Medicinrådet er et uafhængigt råd, som udarbejder anbefalinger og vejledninger om lægemidler til de fem regioner. Medicinrådet vurderer, om nye lægemidler og nye indikationer kan anbefales som standardbehandling, og udarbejder fælles regionale behandlingsvejledninger. Nye lægemidler vurderes i forhold til effekt, eksisterende behandling og pris. Det skal give lavere priser og lægemidler, der er til størst mulig gavn for patienterne.

Dokumentets formål

Den sundhedsøkonomiske analyse indeholder Medicinrådets vurdering af de inkrementelle omkostninger pr. patient og budgetkonsekvenserne ved anbefaling. Værdien for patienten og omkostningerne for samfundet danner grundlaget for Medicinrådets beslutning om, hvorvidt lægemidlet anbefales som mulig standardbehandling. Dette bliver sammenfattet i Medicinrådets anbefaling vedr. lægemidlet.

Den sundhedsøkonomiske analyse er udarbejdet efter *Metodevejledning for omkostningsanalyse af nye lægemidler og indikationsudvidelser i hospitalssektoren*.

Dokumentoplysninger

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1. Begreber og forkortelser

AIP	Apotekernes indkøbspris
AUC	<i>Area under the curve</i>
BSA	Kropsfladeareal (body surface area)
DKK	Danske kroner
DRG	Diagnose Relaterede Grupper
KM	Kaplan-Meier
mMCC	Metastatisk Merkelcellekarcinom
OS	Samlet overlevelse (<i>overall survival</i>)
PD	Progredieret sygdom (<i>progressed disease</i>)
PFS	Progressionsfri overlevelse (<i>progression free survival</i>)
SAIP	Sygehusapotekernes indkøbspris



2. Konklusion

Inkrementelle omkostninger og budgetkonsekvenser

I det scenarie, Medicinrådet mener er mest sandsynligt, er de inkrementelle omkostninger for avelumab ca. [REDACTED] DKK pr. patient sammenlignet med kemoterapi. Når analysen er udført med apotekernes indkøbspris (AIP), er de inkrementelle omkostninger til sammenligning ca. 349.000 DKK pr. patient.

De inkrementelle omkostninger er i høj grad drevet af lægemiddelomkostningerne for avelumab. Derfor har behandlingsvarigheden væsentlig betydning for analysens resultat.

Medicinrådet vurderer, at budgetkonsekvenserne for regionerne ved anbefaling af avelumab som mulig standardbehandling vil være ca. [REDACTED] DKK i det femte år efter en anbefaling. Når analysen er udført med AIP, er budgetkonsekvenserne ca. 1,9 mio. DKK i det femte år.

3. Introduktion

Formålet med analysen er at estimere de gennemsnitlige inkrementelle omkostninger pr. patient og de samlede budgetkonsekvenser for regionerne ved anbefaling af avelumab som mulig standardbehandling på danske hospitaler til metastatisk Merkelcellekarcinom (mMCC).

Analysen er udarbejdet, fordi Medicinrådet har modtaget en endelig ansøgning fra Merck/Pfizer. Medicinrådet modtog ansøgningen den 2. juli 2020 og er senere opdateret på baggrund af en ny forhandlet pris på avelumab.

3.1 Patientpopulation

Merkelcellekarcinom (MCC) er en sjælden, aggressiv neuroendokrin hudtumor, hvor der ses en høj forekomst af lokalt tilbagefald, regional spredning og fjernmetastaser. Forekomsten af MCC er hyppigst i aldersgruppen over 60 år, patienter med immunsupprimerende behandling (inklusive organtransplanterede), tidligere malign sygdom og hiv-infektion og findes typisk på kroppens sollyseksponerede områder. Karcinomet udvikler sig typisk med hurtig vækst over to-tre måneder, hvor der klinisk ses en rødlig eller violet knude i huden [1].

Metastatisk Merkelcellekarcinom (mMCC) har en høj dødelighed med en gennemsnitlig femårsoverlevelsesrate på 0-18 %. Medianalder blandt patienter med mMCC i en tysk opgørelse var 67 år. Uden medicinsk behandling dør patienterne ofte inden for 3 måneder pga. metastasering [1].

Incidensen for MCC i Danmark er estimeret til 0,5 pr. 100.000, svarende til ca. 26 nye tilfælde pr. år. Heraf har omkring 37 % regional metastasering på diagnosetidspunktet,



mens 6-12 % diagnosticeres med primær fjernmetastasering. En tysk undersøgelse med 971 patienter viste, at 25 % udviklede mMCC, svarende til ca. 6-7 nye patienter i Danmark pr. år. Dette estimat understøttes af en dansk opgørelse fra 2010 [1].

Yderligere information om sygdomsområdet kan findes i Medicinrådets vurderingsrapport.

3.1.1 Komparator

Medicinrådet har vurderet den kliniske værdi af avelumab på baggrund af følgende kliniske spørgsmål:

Klinisk spørgsmål 1:

Hvilken klinisk merværdi tilbyder avelumab sammenlignet med platinbaseret kombinationsterapi til voksne patienter med metastatisk Merkelcellekarcinom, som er kandidater til førstelinjebehandling?

4. Vurdering af den sundhedsøkonomiske analyse

Ansøger har indsendt en sundhedsøkonomisk analyse, der estimerer de inkrementelle omkostninger pr. patient for avelumab sammenlignet med henholdsvis carboplatin + etoposid og cisplatin + etoposid. Ansøger har inkluderet muligheden for yderligere at vælge følgende komparatorer i modellen:

- Carboplatin + paclitaxel
- Cisplatin + paclitaxel
- Cyclophosphamid + doxorubicin + vincristin
- Paclitaxel
- Doxorubicin
- Liposomal doxorubicin
- Topotecan

Fagudvalget vurderer, at de to valgte komparatorer er relevante i en sammenligning med avelumab. Fagudvalget gør opmærksom på, at man i dansk klinisk praksis også benytter carboplatin + paclitaxel og cisplatin + paclitaxel. Grundet sparsomt data for patienter, der modtager platinbaseret kemoterapi i kombination med paclitaxel, vurderer sekretariatet, at denne sammenligning ikke vil være retvisende, og desuden vil inklusionen af de to ekstra behandlingsregimer have minimal betydning for analysens resultat. Sekretariatet accepterer derfor ansøgers valg af komparatorerne carboplatin + etoposid og cisplatin + etoposid. I det nedenstående vil den sundhedsøkonomiske model, som ligger til grund for estimeringen af de inkrementelle omkostninger pr. patient, blive præsenteret.



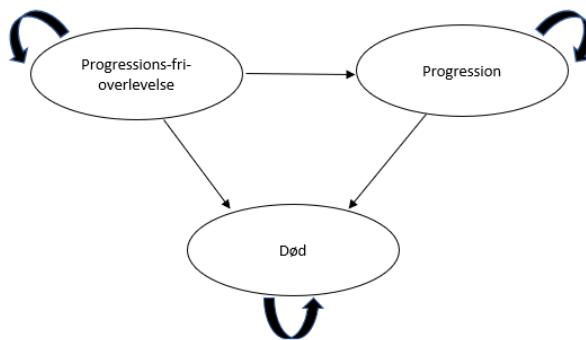
4.1 Antagelser og forudsætninger for modellen

Den sundhedsøkonomiske model har til formål at estimere de inkrementelle omkostninger ved 1.-linjebehandling af mMCC. Ansøger har benyttet data fra to forskellige studier og foretaget en narrativ analyse. Ansøger benytter data for avelumab fra JAVELIN Merkel 200-studiet, et ublindt ikke-randomiseret fase-II multicenter registreringsstudie uden kontrolarm [2]. JAVELIN Merkel 200-studiet inkluderer to patientgrupper: behandlingserfarne (Del A) og behandlingsnaive (Del B) patienter. Ansøgers analyse bygger kun på data fra behandlingsnaive patienter.

Ansøger benytter data for carboplatin + etoposid og cisplatin + etoposid fra et retrospektivt observationelt studie, som også inkluderede andre kemoregimer [3]. Heraf modtog > 80 % af patienterne enten carboplatin + etoposid eller cisplatin + etoposid. Af de immunkompetente patienter modtog 62,7 % af patienterne (32/51) carboplatin + etoposid, og 17,6 % (9/51) modtog cisplatin + etoposid. 9,8 % (5/51) modtog monoterapi med topotecan. Ansøger benytter dette studie, da det er det eneste tilgængelige studie, hvis data tillader ekstrapolering af PFS og OS.

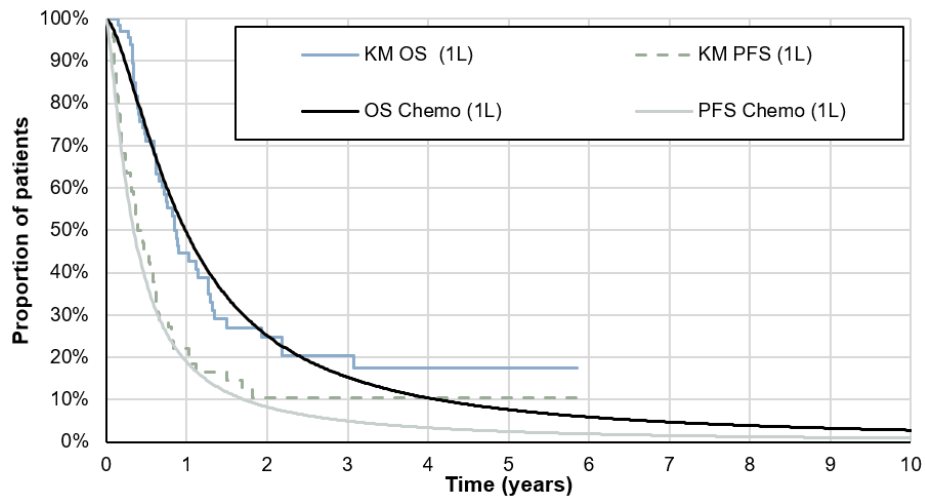
4.1.1 Modelbeskrivelse

Ansøger har indleveret en *partitioned survival* model, der estimerer omkostninger baseret på den tid, patienten er i de tre stadier: progressionsfri overlevelse (PFS), progredieret sygdom (PD) og død. En cyklus i modellen er én uge, og ansøger argumenterer for, at grundet den korte cykluslængde er det ikke nødvendigt at benytte *half-cycle correction*. Figur 1 viser modellens struktur.

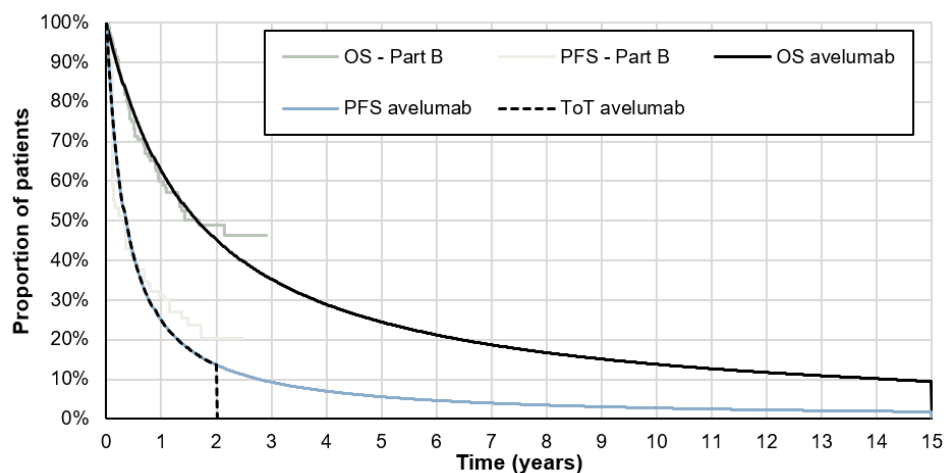


Figur 1. Beskrivelse af modelstrukturen i omkostningsanalysen.

Ansøger antager, at for patienter, der modtager kemoterapi, vil 50 % af patienterne modtage carboplatin + etoposid, og 50 % af patienterne vil modtage cisplatin + etoposid. Ansøger behandler dermed regimerne som én kombineret komparator. 'Kemoterapi' refererer fremover til behandling med carboplatin + etoposid og cisplatin + etoposid i dette dokument. Ansøger anvender Kaplan-Meier (KM)-data og har på baggrund af denne data ekstrapoleret PFS og OS. Log-logistisk benyttes som parametrisk funktion til ekstrapoleringen af PFS og OS for både avelumab og kemoterapi. Se Figur 2 og Figur 3.



Figur 2. PFS-kurve og OS-kurve for kemoterapi (carboplatin + etoposid og cisplatin + etoposid).



Figur 3. PFS-kurve og OS-kurve for avelumab.

Ansøger antager, at tiden, hvor patienterne er i behandling med avelumab, svarer til tiden, hvor patienterne befinder sig i PFS. Ansøger har anvendt et behandlingsstop for avelumab ved 24 måneder og for kemoterapi ved 18 uger (6 cyklusser a 3 ugers cykluslængde). Den gennemsnitlige behandlingslængde for patienter, der modtog avelumab, var ca. 8 måneder, mens den for kemoterapi var ca. 3 måneder.

Medicinrådets vurdering af ansøgers model

Medicinrådet accepterer ansøgers valg af komparator og den antagede andel af patienter, der modtager behandling med hhv. carboplatin + etoposid og cisplatin + etoposid.

Fagudvalget vurderer, at der er sandsynlighed for, at PFS-kurven og OS-kurven for avelumab afspejler et mere pessimistisk billede, end hvad man vil forvente at se i dansk klinisk praksis, men finder ikke grund til at afvise ekstrapoleringerne. Fagudvalget



vurderer, at PFS-kurven og OS-kurven for kemoterapi afspejler hvad man vil forvente at se i dansk klinisk praksis.

Medicinrådet accepterer ansøgers valg af modelantagelser.

4.1.2 Analyseperspektiv

Ansøgers omkostningsanalyse har et begrænset samfundsperspektiv. Analysen har en tidshorizont på 15 år, hvilket ansøger argumenterer for er en passende tidshorizont grundet sygdommens alvorlighed og dårlige prognose. Tidshorizonten afspejler ikke, at patienterne er under behandling i 15 år, men i stedet er formålet at sikre, at omkostninger der falder efter behandlingen er ophørt (for eksempel monitoreringsomkostninger), inkluderes i analysen. Det vurderes, at alle relevante økonomiske forskelle, der måtte være mellem patienter, der behandles med avelumab og patienter der behandles med kemoterapi, vil komme til udtryk i denne tidsperiode. Alle omkostninger, der ligger efter det første år, er diskonteret med en rate på 4 %.

Medicinrådets vurdering af ansøgers analyseperspektiv

Medicinrådet accepterer ansøgers valgte tidshorizont. Siden ansøger indsendte sin analyse, er den sundhedsøkonomiske diskonteringsrente blevet ændret til 3,5 % for omkostninger, der ligger efter det første år. Medicinrådet ændrer derfor diskonteringsrenten.

Medicinrådet accepterer ansøgers valg vedr. analyseperspektiv, men ændrer diskonteringsrenten til 3,5 %.

4.2 Omkostninger

I det følgende præsenteres ansøgers antagelser for omkostningerne i den sundhedsøkonomiske analyse af avelumab sammenlignet med kemoterapi. Ansøger har inkluderet lægemiddelomkostninger, hospitalsomkostninger, bivirkningsomkostninger og patientomkostninger. Omkostningerne er cyklusbestemt, hvilket betyder, at omkostningerne påregnes for hver cyklus, patienten befinder sig i stadiet.

4.2.1 Lægemiddelomkostninger

Ansøger har, jf. *Metodevejledning for omkostningsanalyser af nye lægemidler og indikationer i hospitalssektoren*, estimeret lægemiddelomkostninger på baggrund af apotekernes indkøbspris (AIP).

Den anvendte dosis for avelumab er hentet i produktresuméet. Ansøger antager, at avelumab bliver doseret med en fast dosis på 800 mg hver 2. uge på trods af, at doseringen i det kliniske studie fulgte en vægtbaseret dosering med 10 mg/kg. Ved vægtbaseret dosering af avelumab antager ansøger, at patienternes gennemsnitsvægt er 73 kg, hvilket ansøger bygger på Medicinrådets behandlingsvejledning for lægemidler til adjuverende behandling af modermærkekræft [4], da ansøger antager, at de to patientgrupper er sammenlignelige. Avelumab administreres frem til



sygdomsprogression, uacceptabel toksicitet eller ved ønske om ophørt behandling. Analysen anvender dog et behandlingsstop for avelumab ved 24 måneder.

De anvendte doser for kemoterapi er fundet på promedicin.dk, indlægssedler.dk og hos en dansk ekspert. Det antages, at patienter har et gennemsnitligt kropsfladeareal (BSA) på 1,94 m². Ansøger antager, at alle patienter modtager pegfilgrastim i forbindelse med kemoterapi. Der er medregnet deling af hætteglas mellem patienter for kemoterapi.

Ansøger antager, at behandling med carboplatin + etoposid doseres således:

- Carboplatin: 5 AUC på dag 1 hver 3. uge
- Etoposid: 100 mg/m² på 1, 3 og 5 hver 3. uge
- Pegfilgrastim: 6 mg/m² på dag 4 hver 3. uge

Ansøger antager, at behandling med cisplatin + etoposid doseres således:

- Cisplatin: 100 mg/m² på dag 1 hver 3. uge
- Etoposid: 100 mg/m² på dag 1, 3 og 5 hver 3. uge
- Pegfilgrastim: 6 mg/m² på dag 4 hver 3. uge

Medicinrådets vurdering af ansøgers antagelser vedr. lægemiddelomkostninger

Fagudvalget vurderer, at avelumab i dansk klinisk praksis vil doseres efter vægt. Det er muligt at vælge, at avelumab doseres vægtbaseret i ansøgers model, hvorved avelumab doseres 10 mg/kg hver 2. uge. Medicinrådet ændrer derfor doseringen af avelumab til at være vægtbaseret dosis på 10 mg/kg i Medicinrådets hovedanalyse. Dette har mindre betydning for analysens resultat.

Jævnfør protokollen skal patienterne præmedicineres med et antihistamin og med paracetamol før de første 4 infusioner med avelumab. Fagudvalget vurderer, at patienter præmedicineres med 2 mg clemastin og 1 g paracetamol. Dette har ansøger ikke inkluderet i analysen. Medicinrådet accepterer ansøgers valg, da Medicinrådet vurderer, at det har minimal betydning for analysens resultat.

Medicinrådet har udskiftet AIP med sygehusapotekernes indkøbspris (SAIP), se Tabel 1.

Tabel 1. Anvendte lægemiddelpriser, SAIP (november 2021)

Lægemiddel	Styrke	Pakningsstørrelse	Pris [DKK]	Kilde
Avelumab	20 mg/ml	10 ml	██████	Amgros
Carboplatin	10 mg/ml	45 ml	██████	Amgros
Cisplatin	1 mg/ml	100 ml	██████	Amgros
Etoposid	20 mg/ml	25 ml	██████	Amgros
Pegfilgrastim	6 mg	1 stk.	██████	Amgros



Medicinrådet accepterer ansøgers antagelser, men ændrer doseringen af avelumab til at være vægtbaseret i Medicinrådets hovedanalyse.

4.2.2 Hospitalsomkostninger

Ansøger antager, at alle lægemidler gives ved intravenøs infusion. Ansøger har brugt DRG-takster fra 2020 til beregning af administrationsomkostninger, og anvender taksten 1.800 DKK (DRG 2020: 09MA98).

Ansøger har opdelt hospitalsomkostningerne baseret på modellens stadier (PFS og PD) og på, hvornår patienterne aktivt modtager behandling. Hospitalsomkostningerne, der relaterer sig til monitorering, når patienterne er i PFS og under behandling, ses i Tabel 2. Når patienterne ikke modtager behandling, men stadig befinder sig i PFS, antager ansøger, at patienter vil blive tilset af en specialist og få foretaget en CT-scanning hver 3. måned, uanset om patienterne har været i behandling med avelumab eller kemoterapi. Når patienterne er progredieret, antager ansøger, at de vil blive tilset af en specialist hver 2. måned uanset tidligere behandling.

Tabel 2. Monitorering i PFS under behandling

	Frekvensbeskrivelse	Enhedsomkostning [DKK]	Kilde
Avelumab			
Specialist	Hver 2. behandling	439	Medicinrådets værdisætning af enhedsomkostninger
CT-scanning	Hver 3. måned	2.470	Rigshospitalets Labportal
Blodprøve	Hver behandling	74	Rigshospitalet Labportal
Test af leverfunktion	Hver behandling	72	Rigshospitalet Labportal
Test af nyrefunktion	Hver behandling	79	Rigshospitalet Labportal
Stofskiftetest	Hver behandling	173	Rigshospitalet Labportal



Frekvensbeskrivelse		Enhedsomkostning [DKK]	Kilde
Kemoterapi			
Specialist	Hver behandling	439	Medicinrådets Værdisætning af enhedsomkostninger
CT-scanning	Hver 3. måned	2.470	Rigshospitalets Labportal
Blodprøve	Hver behandling	74	Rigshospitalet Labportal
Test af leverfunktion	Hver behandling	72	Rigshospitalet Labportal
Test af nyrefunktion	Hver behandling	79	Rigshospitalet Labportal

Ansøger antager på baggrund af en udtalelse fra en engelsk ekspert, at 75 % af patienter med mMCC vil modtage strålebehandling på et tidspunkt, uanset hvilken behandling patienterne har modtaget eller deres progressionsstatus. Omkostningen for strålebehandling inkluderes som en engangsomkostning i modellen. Her antages det, at patienter i gennemsnit vil modtage 1,5 strålebehandlinger. Ansøger anvender 2020 DRG-taksten 27MP08 (strålebehandling, konventionel, 1 fraktion) på 2.877 DKK som enhedsomkostning for strålebehandling.

Ansøger har inkluderet terminalomkostninger på 71.965 DKK. Omkostningen er fundet i et engelsk studie fra 2015 [5], som undersøger terminalomkostninger forbundet med fire kræftformer (lungekræft, brystkræft, kolorektalkræft og prostatakræft). Ansøger har omregnet omkostningerne fra engelske pund til danske kroner og fremskrevet omkostningen til 2020.

Medicinrådets vurdering af ansøgers antagelser vedr. hospitalsomkostninger

Medicinrådet opdaterer alle DRG-takster til 2021, men accepterer ansøgers antagelser vedr. administrationsomkostninger.

Fagudvalget vurderer, at patienter, der er i behandling med avelumab, vil blive tilset af en specialist ved hver behandling og ikke ved hver anden, som ansøger antager. Medicinrådet ændrer derfor Medicinrådets hovedanalyse, så patienter tilses af en specialist ved hver behandling med avelumab.

Yderligere antager ansøger, at patienter, der er progredieret, vil blive tilset af en specialist hver 2. måned. Fagudvalget vurderer, at behandlingsforløbet afsluttes ved progression, hvormed patienterne ikke tilses af specialister efterfølgende. Ansøger har ikke medregnet efterfølgende behandling, og det antages derfor i ansøgers analyse, at alle patienter ophører behandling efter progression. Medicinrådet ændrer derfor Medicinrådets hovedanalyse, så patienter (uanset behandlingsregime) ikke vil blive tilset af en specialist efter progression.



Fagudvalget vurderer, at patienter, der modtager strålebehandling, i gennemsnit vil modtage 7,5 behandlinger. Forskellen skyldes formentlig, at ansøgers estimat stammer fra en engelsk ekspert, og der kan være forskel på dansk og engelsk klinisk praksis. Medicinrådet ændrer derfor antallet af strålebehandlinger fra 1,5 til 7,5 i Medicinrådets hovedanalyse.

Ansøger har inkluderet terminalomkostninger, som bygger på et engelsk studie. Eftersom studiet bygger på engelsk klinisk praksis, er det usikkert, om terminalomkostningerne vil være de samme i dansk klinisk praksis. Ansøger anvender DRG-takster til estimering af hospitalsomkostningerne. Disse takster bygger på gennemsnitlige omkostninger forbundet med et behandlingsforløb, og terminale omkostninger antages at være indregnet i DRG-taksterne. Medicinrådet ekskluderer derfor terminale omkostninger i Medicinrådets hovedanalyse.

Medicinrådet ændrer hovedanalysen, så patienter, der behandles med avelumab, tilses af en specialist ved hver behandling, og at patienter, der har progredieret, ikke tilses af en specialist. Derudover ændres hovedanalysen, så patienter, der modtager strålebehandling, i gennemsnit modtager 7,5 behandlinger. Medicinrådet ekskluderer derudover terminale omkostninger.

4.2.3 Bivirkningsomkostninger

Ansøger har inkluderet omkostninger for bivirkninger af grad 3 og 4. Ansøgers model muliggør valg mellem ni forskellige komparatorer, og bivirkningerne er medregnet, hvis bivirkningsfrekvensen er minimum 5 % for blot ét af de ni behandlingsregimer eller for avelumab.

Bivirkningsfrekvenserne for avelumab og kemoterapi stammer fra forskellige studier. For avelumab har ansøger benyttet data fra JAVELIN Merkel 200-studiet (Del A) for behandlingserfarne patienter, da studiets Del B ikke rapporterer bivirkningsfrekvenser for behandlingsnaive patienter. Ansøger argumenterer for, at bivirkningsfrekvenserne forventes at være de samme for både behandlingserfarne og behandlingsnaive patienter, da bivirkningerne skyldes avelumabs virkningsmekanisme og ikke behandlingslinjen eller indikationen.

Ansøger benytter bivirkningsfrekvenser for kemoterapi, der kommer fra studier omhandlende småcellet lungekræft [6][7]. Småcellet lungekræft er benyttet som proxy, grundet manglende tilgængelige data for bivirkningsfrekvenser for de to kemoregimer ved behandling af mMCC, og ansøger vurderer, at småcellet lungekræft er den bedste proxy grundet ligheder mellem de to sygdomme og patienternes tilstand. Tabel 3 viser bivirkningsfrekvenserne for de tre behandlingsregimer.

Til beregning af bivirkningsomkostninger benytter ansøger DRG-takster for 2020. Grundet manglende data for antallet af indlæggelsesdage i forbindelse med bivirkningerne benytter ansøger gennemsnittet mellem DRG-taksten forbundet med et ambulant besøg og DRG-taksten forbundet med indlæggelse, når der er forskel mellem de to takster.



Medicinerådets vurdering af ansøgers antagelser vedr. efterfølgende behandling

Ansøgers analyse benytter carboplatin + etoposid og cisplatin + etoposid som komparatorer. Ansøger har ikke medtaget immunrelaterede bivirkninger, da deres frekvens er under 5 %. Medicinerådet accepterer ansøgers valg, men gør opmærksom på, at denne tilgang vil underestimere omkostningerne til behandling af bivirkninger ved avelumab.

Medicinerådet opdaterer alle DRG-takster til 2021, se Tabel 3.

Tabel 3. Bivirkningsfrekvenser ved behandling avelumab, carboplatin + etoposid og cisplatin + etoposid

	Avelumab	Carboplatin + etoposid	Cisplatin + etoposid	Enhedsomkostning [DKK]	DRG-kode 2020
Anæmi	0 %	7,38 %	6,67 %	21.859	Gennemsnit af 16MA98 & 16MA05
Træthed	0 %	3,13 %	0 %	3.987	23MA03
Febril neutropeni	0 %	4,47 %	0 %	19.298,50	Gennemsnit af 16MA98 & 16MA03
Lavt hæmoglobinniveau	0 %	0 %	5,33 %	5.246	16MA04
Hyponatriæmi	0 %	1,12 %	0 %	12.912	Gennemsnit af 10MA98 & 10MA06
Leukopeni	0 %	8,28 %	19,33 %	12.829,50	Gennemsnit af 16MA98 & 16MA10
Lymfopeni	2,27 %	0 %	0 %	12.829,50	Gennemsnit af 16MA98 & 16MA10
Kvalme/opkast	0 %	0,9 %	6,70 %	5.130	06MA11
Neutropeni	0 %	46,98 %	44,00 %	19.298,50	Gennemsnit af 16MA98 & 16MA03
Trombocytopeni	0 %	10,29 %	7,33 %	19.298,50	Gennemsnit af 16MA98 & 16MA03
Hårtab	0 %	34,00 %	13,33 %	6.446	Gennemsnit af 09MA98 & 09MA03



Medicinrådet accepterer ansøgers tilgang til beregning af bivirkningsomkostninger, men understreger, at de bivirkningsrelaterede omkostningerne for avelumab underestimeres.

4.2.4 Patientomkostninger

Patientomkostninger er estimeret på baggrund af lægemiddeladministration, tiden brugt på monitorering og transportomkostninger. Ansøger anvender en enhedsomkostning for patienttid på 179 DKK pr. time og antager, at der er transporttid til hospitalet på 30 minutter samt en distance til hospital på 28 km, hvilket er i overensstemmelse med Medicinrådets værdisætning af enhedsomkostninger. Ansøgers estimerede patienttid til lægemiddeladministration kan ses i Tabel 4. Ansøger antager, at en patient bruger 0,2 timer på et specialistbesøg og 2 timer på CT-scanning, hvilket inkluderer tid til testene præsenteret i Tabel 2.

Tabel 4. Ansøgers estimat af patienttid til lægemiddeladministration

	Patienttid [timer]
Avelumab	1
Carboplatin	3
Cisplatin	8
Etoposid	1
Pegfilgrastim	1

Medicinrådets vurdering af ansøgers antagelser vedr. patientomkostninger

Medicinrådet accepterer ansøgers tilgang vedr. patientomkostninger.

4.3 Følsomhedsanalyser

Formålet med følsomhedsanalyserne er at undersøge usikkerhederne i analysen og de økonomiske konsekvenser af at justere de parametre, der er usikre.

Ansøger har udarbejdet en række følsomhedsanalyser, hvor effekten af variation i forskellige parametre undersøges. Følgende følsomhedsanalyser er udført:

Tabel 5. Følsomhedsanalyser og beskrivelse

Følsomhedsanalyse	Beskrivelse
Tidshorisont	1 år, 2 år, 5 år og 30 år
Diskonteringsrate	0 % og 8 %
Maksimum behandlingstid for avelumab	1 år og 3 år



Følsomhedsanalyse	Beskrivelse
Terminale omkostninger	Baseret på data for enten lungekræft, brystkræft, kolorektalkræft eller prostatakræft

Medicinrådets vurdering af ansøgers valg af følsomhedsanalyser

Ansøgers model indebærer en tidshorisont på 15 år, og Medicinrådet vurderer det relevant at præsentere ansøgers følsomhedsanalyser, hvor tidshorisonten er 5 år. Tidshorisonten på 5 år har til formål at belyse, hvor stor en andel af omkostningerne der finder sted inden for de første år efter opstart af behandling med enten avelumab eller kemoterapi.

Medicinrådet vurderer, at det er relevant at præsentere en følsomhedsanalyse, hvor det antages, at avelumab doseres med 800 mg som fast dosis, da lægemidlet er godkendt på baggrund af denne doseringsform.

Medicinrådet vælger at præsentere ansøgers følsomhedsanalyse, hvor den maksimale behandlingslængde for avelumab sættes til hhv. 1 og 3 år for at undersøge betydningen for analysens resultat, når behandlingslængden begrænses yderligere (1 år), og når patienter kan fortsætte behandling efter 2 år (3 år).

Diskonteringsraterne i ansøgers model stemmer overens med Medicinrådets Metodevejledning, hvorfor Medicinrådet vælger ikke at præsentere følsomhedsanalysen for ændring af diskonteringsraten. Medicinrådet vælger ligeledes ikke at præsentere ansøgers følsomhedsanalyse over, hvilken kræftform terminalomkostningerne er beregnet ud fra, idet Medicinrådet ekskluderer omkostningerne.

Medicinrådet præsenterer følsomhedsanalyserne, hvor tidshorisonten varieres, hvor doseringen af avelumab antages at være fast dosis, og hvor den maksimale behandlingslængde for avelumab varieres.

4.4 Opsummering af basisantagelser

I Tabel 6 opsummeres basisantagelserne i henholdsvis ansøgers og Medicinrådets hovedanalyse.

Tabel 6. Basisantagelser for ansøgers og Medicinrådets hovedanalyse

Basisantagelser	Ansøger	Medicinrådet
Tidshorisont	15 år	15 år
Diskonteringsrate	4 %	3,5 %
Inkluderede omkostninger	Lægemiddelomkostninger Hospitalsomkostninger Terminale omkostninger Bivirkningsomkostninger Patientomkostninger	Lægemiddelomkostninger Hospitalsomkostninger Bivirkningsomkostninger Patientomkostninger



Basisantagelser	Ansøger	Medicinrådet
Dosering	Fast dosis: 800 mg	Vægtbaseret dosis: 10 mg/kg
Maksimal behandlingstid		
Avelumab:	2 år	2 år
Kemoterapi:	18 uger	18 uger
Parametriske funktioner for PFS		
Avelumab:	Log-logistisk	Log-logistisk
Kemoterapi:	Log-logistisk	Log-logistisk
Parametriske funktioner for OS		
Avelumab:	Log-logistisk	Log-logistisk
Kemoterapi:	Log-logistisk	Log-logistisk

5. Resultater

5.1 Resultatet af Medicinrådets hovedanalyse

Medicinrådets hovedanalyse bygger på samme antagelser som ansøgers hovedanalyse med undtagelse af de væsentligste ændringer, der fremgår af Tabel 6.

Den gennemsnitlige inkrementelle omkostning pr. patient bliver ca. [REDACTED] DKK i Medicinrådets hovedanalyse.

Er analysen udført med AIP, bliver den inkrementelle omkostning pr. patient ca. 349.000 DKK.

Resultaterne fra Medicinrådets hovedanalyse er præsenteret i Tabel 7.

Tabel 7. Resultatet af Medicinrådets hovedanalyse ved sammenligning med kemoterapi, DKK, diskonterede tal

	Avelumab	Kemoterapi	Inkrementelle omkostninger
Lægemiddelomkostninger	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Hospitalsomkostninger	75.758	68.889	6.870



	Avelumab	Kemoterapi	Inkrementelle omkostninger
Bivirkningsomkostninger	595	8.719	-8.124
Patientomkostninger	7.688	9.971	-2.283
Totale omkostninger	████████	████████	████████

5.1.1 Resultatet af Medicinrådets følsomhedsanalyser

Ved samme antagelser som i Medicinrådets hovedanalyse for meromkostninger har Medicinrådet udført en følsomhedsanalyse på parametrene listet i Tabel 8.

Tabel 8. Resultatet af Medicinrådets følsomhedsanalyse sammenlignet med hovedanalysen, DKK

Scenarie	Inkrementelle omkostninger
Resultatet af hovedanalysen	████████
Tidshorisont: 5 år	████████
Avelumab doseret med 800 mg som fast dosis	████████
Maksimal behandlingstid for avelumab: 1 år	████████
Maksimal behandlingstid for avelumab: 3 år	████████

6. Budgetkonsekvenser

Budgetkonsekvenserne pr. år er baseret på antagelsen om, at avelumab vil blive anbefalet som mulig standardbehandling. Man ser derfor på to scenarier:

- Avelumab bliver anbefalet som mulig standardbehandling af Medicinrådet til indikationen, som denne analyse omhandler.
- Avelumab bliver ikke anbefalet som mulig standardbehandling.

Budgetkonsekvenserne udgør forskellen mellem de samlede omkostninger i de to scenarier.

6.1 Estimat af patientantal og markedsandel

Ansøger antager, at 7 patienter årligt kandiderer til behandling med avelumab. Såfremt avelumab bliver anbefalet som standardbehandling, antager ansøger, at lægemidlet



opnår 100 % markedsandel grundet nuværende mangel på effektive behandlingsalternativer. Ansøger antager, at selv uden en anbefaling vil 10 % af patienterne modtage behandling med avelumab.

Tabel 9 viser estimatet af antal patienter årligt i budgetkonsekvenserne.

Tabel 9. Medicinrådets estimat af antal nye patienter pr. år

	År 1	År 2	År 3	År 4	År 5
Anbefales					
Avelumab	7	7	7	7	7
Kemoterapi	0	0	0	0	0
Anbefales ikke					
Avelumab	1	1	1	1	1
Kemoterapi	6	6	6	6	6

Medicinrådets vurdering af ansøgers budgetkonsekvensanalyse

Medicinrådet accepterer ansøgers antagelser vedr. budgetkonsekvensanalysen.

6.2 Medicinrådets budgetkonsekvensanalyse

Medicinrådet estimerer, at anvendelse af avelumab vil resultere i budgetkonsekvenser på ca. [REDACTED] DKK i det femte år efter en anbefaling. Resultatet er præsenteret i Tabel 10.

Er analysen udført med AIP, bliver budgetkonsekvenserne ca. 1,9 mio. DKK i år 5.

Tabel 10. Medicinrådets analyse af totale budgetkonsekvenser, mio. DKK, ikke-diskonterede tal

	År 1	År 2	År 3	År 4	År 5
Anbefales	■	■	■	■	■
Anbefales ikke	■	■	■	■	■
Totale budgetkonsekvenser	■	■	■	■	■

7. Diskussion

Behandling med avelumab er forbundet med inkrementelle omkostninger på ca. [REDACTED] DKK sammenlignet med behandling med kemoterapi. De inkrementelle



omkostninger er næsten udelukkende drevet af lægemiddelomkostningerne for avelumab.

Den sundhedsøkonomiske analyse vurderes at have høj grad af usikkerhed grundet analysens usikre datagrundlag. Effekten af avelumab og kemoterapi sammenlignes i en narrativ analyse, og der er forskellige patienter, der indgår i de benyttede studier, der også har forskelligt design. Carboplatin + etoposid og cisplatin + etoposid antages i analysen at være klinisk ligestillet, når data for OS og PFS kombineres på tværs af flere kemoterapiregimer i det retrospektive observationelle studie [3]. Der er yderligere usikkerhed forbundet med bivirkningsomkostningerne for avelumab, da analysen ikke medregner omkostninger for immunrelaterede bivirkninger. Disse omkostninger underestimeres derfor.

Det har lille betydning for analysens resultat, om der benyttes en tidshorisont på 5 år eller 15 år. De fleste omkostninger falder derfor inden for de første 5 år, hvor selve behandlingen med avelumab og kemoterapi finder sted. I tråd med dette har det betydning, om den maksimale behandlingslængde for avelumab sættes til 1 år, 2 år eller 3 år. Idet patienter fortsætter behandling frem til progression, medmindre behandlingen ophøres grundet uacceptabel toksicitet, vil der være flere patienter, som fortsætter behandling med avelumab efter 2 år, hvis den maksimale behandlingslængde øges til 3 år. Herved stiger de inkrementelle omkostninger fra ca. [REDACTED] DKK til ca. [REDACTED] DKK. På samme måde reduceres de inkrementelle omkostninger betydeligt, hvis den maksimale behandlingslængde sættes til 1 år, da behandlingen med avelumab derved begrænses yderligere. Herved falder de inkrementelle omkostninger til ca. [REDACTED] DKK pr. patient. Hvorvidt avelumab doseres med fast dosis eller vægtbaseret har mindre betydning for analysens resultat. Hvis der anvendes fast dosis, stiger de inkrementelle omkostninger til ca. [REDACTED] DKK.



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9. Versionslog

Versionslog

Version	Dato	Ændring
2.0	15. december 2021	Ny forhandlet pris på avelumab og opdatering af DRG-takster til 2021.
1.0	21. oktober 2020	Godkendt af Medicinrådet.



10. Bilag

10.1 Resultatet af ansøgers hovedanalyse

I ansøgers hovedanalyse bliver den inkrementelle omkostning pr. patient ca. [REDACTED] DKK over en tidshorisont på 15 år. Resultaterne fra ansøgers hovedanalyse er præsenteret i Tabel 11.

Tabel 11. Resultatet af ansøgers hovedanalyse, DKK, diskonterede tal

	Avelumab	Kemoterapi	Inkrementelle omkostninger
Lægemiddelomkostninger	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Hospitalsomkostninger	62.171	56.576	5.594
Bivirkningsomkostninger	595	8.719	-8.124
Patientomkostninger	6.536	9.971	-3.435
Totale omkostninger	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

10.2 Resultatet af ansøgers budgetkonsekvensanalyse

Ansøger har inkluderet de samme omkostninger i budgetkonsekvensanalysen, som er inkluderet i omkostningsanalysen, dog uden patientomkostninger.

Med ovenstående antagelser om patientantal og markedsandel estimerer ansøger, at anvendelse af avelumab vil resultere i budgetkonsekvenser på ca. [REDACTED] DKK i år 5. Ansøgers estimat af budgetkonsekvenserne fremgår af Tabel 12.

Tabel 12. Ansøgers hovedanalyse for totale budgetkonsekvenser, mio. DKK, ikke-diskonterede tal

	År 1	År 2	År 3	År 4	År 5
Anbefales	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Anbefales ikke	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Totale budgetkonsekvenser	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

Forhandlingsnotat

Dato for behandling i Medicinrådet	Revurdering
Leverandør	Merck
Lægemiddel	Avelumab (Bavencio)
Ansøgt indikation	Monoterapibehandling af voksne patienter med metastatisk Merkelcelle karcinom (MCC)

Forhandlingsresultat

Amgros har opnået følgende pris på Avelumab ved forhandling på indikationen til 1.linje vedligeholdelsesbehandling af voksne patienter med lokalt fremskreden eller metastatisk urotelialkræft. Denne pris er ændret siden sidste gange firmaet ansøgte på MCC indikationen og ønsker derfor en revurdering af denne indikation.

Lægemiddel	Styrke/dosis	Pakningsstørrelse	AIP (DKK)	Tidligere SAIP (DKK)	Forhandlet SAIP (DKK)	Rabatprocent ift. AIP
Avelumab	10 mg/ml	10 ml	6.443			

Vurdering af forhandlingsresultatet

Det er Amgros' vurdering, at vi på nuværende tidspunkt har opnået den bedst mulige pris. Denne vurdering baserer vi på følgende punkter:

[Redacted text block]

Konklusion

Amgros vurderer, at vi på nuværende tidspunkt har opnået den bedste pris. Der findes på nuværende tidspunkt ingen behandlingsvejledning på MCC og ingen konkurrence.

Relation til markedet

På nuværende tidspunkt er avelumab det eneste lægemiddel, der har været igennem medicinrådsprocessen på denne indikation [Redacted]

Nedenstående tabel viser prisen for **48 ugers** behandling i rene lægemiddelpriser for avelumab og pembrolizumab

Lægemiddel	Dosis*	Frekvens	SAIP (DKK) pr. behandling	Antal behandlinger	Samlet pris SAIP (DKK)
Avelumab	10 mg/kg	Hver 2. uge	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
Pembrolizumab	2 mg/kg	Hver 3. uge	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]

*Vægt 73 kg



Søborg d. 21. september 2020

Høringssvar til Medicinrådets udkast til vurdering af avelumab til behandling af metastatisk Merkelcellekarcinom (mMCC)

Merck-Pfizer alliancen er ikke uenig med Medicinrådets vurdering af avelumab til voksne patienter med metastatisk Merkelcellekarcinom når dette sammeholdes med Medicinrådets metode.

I den narrative sammenstilling er median OS længere og OS-raten højere for patienter behandlet med avelumab sammenlignet med kemoterapi.

Der ses en forskel mellem avelumab og kemoterapi i varigheden af respons hos den andel af patienter, der oplever effekt af behandlingen, idet den mediane varighed af respons (DoR) ved avelumab er længere end den tilsvarende for kombinationskemoterapi.

Da der ofte er tale om ældre patienter med betydelig komorbiditet, vurderer fagudvalget, at bivirkningerne ved avelumab vil være mindre belastende samt håndterbare end bivirkningerne ved kemoterapi med bl.a. risiko for febril neutropeni.

Vi anerkender derfor at fagudvalget, baseret på en narrativ gennemgang af data, konkluderer følgende

- Effekten af avelumab samlet set forventes bedre end behandling med kemoterapi
- Sikkerhedsprofilen vurderes til ikke at være dårligere end kemoterapi
- Avelumab foretrækkes hos patienter med mMCC

Med venlig hilsen

Daniel S Hauberg
Daniel S Hauberg (Sep 21, 2020 14:05 GMT+2)

Daniel Sloth Hauberg
Market Access Manager

Pfizer Danmark

Jens Christensen
Jens Christensen (Sep 21, 2020 14:00 GMT+2)

Jens Christensen
Head of Market Access

Merck A/S

Medicinrådets vurdering af avelumab til behandling af metastatisk Merkelcellekarcinom (mMCC)

Om Medicinrådet

Medicinrådet er et uafhængigt råd etableret af Danske Regioner.

Medicinrådet vurderer, om nye lægemidler og indikationsudvidelser skal anbefales som mulig standardbehandling. Medicinrådet udarbejder også behandlingsvejledninger og rekommandationer for anvendelse af medicin på sygehusene. Derudover kan Medicinrådet tage andre typer sager op, der handler om medicinanvendelse.

Om vurderingsrapporten

Vurderingsrapporten indeholder Medicinrådets vurdering af, hvilken værdi lægemidlet har for patienten i forhold til nuværende standardbehandling.

Værdien for patienten og omkostningerne for samfundet danner grundlaget for Medicinrådets beslutning om, hvorvidt lægemidlet anbefales som mulig standardbehandling. Dette sammenfatter vi i Medicinrådets anbefaling vedr. lægemidlet.

Lægemidlet er vurderet efter Håndbog for Medicinrådets proces og metode vedr. nye lægemidler og indikationsudvidelser, som du kan finde på Medicinrådets hjemmeside under siden Metoder.

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1 Medicinrådets konklusion

Medicinrådet finder, at den samlede værdi af behandling med avelumab til voksne patienter med mMCC sammenlignet med platinbaseret kombinationsterapi **ikke kan kategoriseres**, jf. Medicinrådets metoder (evidensens kvalitet kan ikke vurderes, men er i udgangspunktet meget lav). Da der ikke foreligger studier, som tillader en komparativ analyse, er effekten af avelumab sammenlignet med kemoterapi vurderet ved en narrativ gennemgang. Denne viser, at der kunne være en overlevelsesgevinst ved avelumab. Der er betydelige usikkerheder forbundet med den narrative gennemgang, og avelumab kan samtidig medføre typiske bivirkninger ved *checkpoint inhibitor-immunterapi*. Medicinrådet vurderer derfor, at der på baggrund af det foreliggende datagrundlag ikke kan konkluderes, om effekt og sikkerhed af avelumab er bedre end komparators. Der er dog ikke noget, som tyder på, at effekt og sikkerhed af avelumab er dårligere end komparators.

Medicinrådet kategoriserer lægemidlers værdi i en af følgende kategorier:

- **Stor merværdi:** Der er påvist en stor forbedring i effektforhold i forhold til gældende standardbehandling, eksempelvis markant forbedret overlevelse, markant reduktion i forekomsten af alvorlige symptomer og/eller alvorlige bivirkninger.
- **Moderat merværdi:** Der er påvist en moderat forbedring i forhold til gældende standardbehandling, eksempelvis moderat forbedret overlevelse, moderat reduktion i forekomsten af symptomer og/eller bivirkninger.
- **Lille merværdi:** Der er påvist en lille forbedring i forhold til gældende standardbehandling, eksempelvis en dokumenteret forbedret overlevelse, en reduktion i forekomsten af symptomer og/eller bivirkninger.
- **Merværdi af ukendt størrelse:** Der er påvist en forbedring i forhold til gældende standardbehandling, men størrelsen af forbedring kan ikke bestemmes. Lægemidlets merværdi er som minimum lille, men kunne også være moderat eller stor.
- **Ingen dokumenteret merværdi:** Der er ikke påvist en merværdi i forhold til gældende standardbehandling. Omvendt tyder den tilgængelige evidens heller ikke på, at der er en negativ værdi.
- **Negativ værdi:** Der er påvist en negativ værdi i forhold til gældende standardbehandling.
- **Samlet værdi kan ikke kategoriseres:** På grund af usikkerheder omkring effektforhold er det ikke muligt at kategorisere lægemidlets samlede værdi.

Medicinrådet vurderer kvaliteten af de data, der ligger til grund for vurderingen af lægemidlet (evidensens kvalitet) i en af følgende GRADE-kategorier:

- **Høj:** Nye studier vil med meget lav sandsynlighed ændre konklusionen.
- **Moderat:** Nye studier vil med lav sandsynlighed ændre konklusionen.
- **Lav:** Nye studier vil med moderat sandsynlighed ændre konklusionen.
- **Meget lav:** Nye studier vil med høj sandsynlighed ændre konklusionen.

2 Begreber og forkortelser

AJCC:	<i>American Joint Committee on Cancer</i>
CI:	Konfidensinterval
CTCAE:	<i>Common terminology criteria for adverse events</i>
EMA:	<i>European Medicines Agency</i>
EPAR:	<i>European public assessment reports</i>
ESMO:	<i>European Society for Medical Oncology</i>
GRADE:	System til vurdering af evidens (<i>Grading of Recommendations Assessment, Development and Evaluation</i>)
HR:	<i>Hazard ratio</i>
MKRF:	Mindste klinisk relevante forskel
MMC:	Merkelcellekarcinom
mMMC:	Metastatisk Merkelcellekarcinom
OR:	<i>Odds ratio</i>
RECIST:	<i>Response evaluation criteria in solid tumors</i>
RR:	Relativ risiko
TTD:	<i>Time to discontinuation</i> (tid til behandlingsophør)

3 Introduktion

Formålet med Medicinrådets vurdering af avelumab til metastatisk Merkelcellekarcinom (mMCC) er at vurdere den værdi, lægemidlet har sammenlignet med dansk standardbehandling.

Vurderingen er udarbejdet, fordi Medicinrådet har modtaget en endelig ansøgning fra Merck. Vi modtog ansøgningen den 2. juli 2020.

Det kliniske spørgsmål er:

Hvad er værdien af avelumab sammenlignet med platinbaseret kombinationskemoterapi til voksne patienter med metastatisk Merkelcellekarcinom, som er kandidater til førstelinjebehandling?

3.1 Merkelcellekarcinom

Merkelcellekarcinom (MCC) er en sjælden, aggressiv neuroendokrin hudtumor, hvor der ses en høj forekomst af lokalt tilbagefald, regional spredning og fjernmetastaser [1]. Det er stadig uvist, hvilken celle MCC udgår fra. Sygdommen kan være vanskelig at diagnosticere, og der er mange differentialdiagnoser, herunder basocellulært karcinom, malignt melanom, lymfom og metastase fra småcellet karcinom fra en anden lokalisation end huden. Stadietinddelingen af mMCC følger *American Joint Committee on Cancer* (AJCC), 8. udgave [2].

Udvikling af Merkelcellekarcinom er associeret med infektion med Merkelcelle polyomavirus (MCPyV) og massiv sollyseksposering. Forekomsten af MCC er hyppigst i aldersgruppen over 60 år, hos patienter, som modtager immunsupprimerende behandling (inklusive organtransplanterede), ved tidligere malign sygdom og HIV-infektion [3], og det findes typisk på kroppens sollyseksposerede områder [4]. Karcinomet udvikler sig typisk med hurtig vækst over 2-3 måneder, hvor der klinisk ses en rødlig eller violet knude i huden.

Prognose

Merkelcellekarcinom metastaserer hyppigt til enten regionale lymfeknuder eller som fjernmetastasering primært med metastaser til hud, lunger, centralnervesystemet, knogler og lever og kaldes så mMMC (metastatisk Merkel celle carcinom). mMMC har en høj dødelighed med en gennemsnitlig femårs overlevelseshastighed på 0-18 % [7,8]. Medianalder blandt patienter med mMCC var 67 år i en tysk opgørelse [9].

Incidens

En estimeret incidens for patienter med Merkelcellekarcinom ligger i Danmark på 0,5 pr. 100.000, svarende til ca. 26 nye tilfælde pr. år [3]. Heraf har omkring 37 % regional metastasering på diagnosetidspunktet, mens 6-12 % diagnosticeres med primær fjernmetastasering. En tysk undersøgelse med 971 patienter viste, at 25 % udviklede mMCC, svarende til ca. 6-7 nye patienter i Danmark pr. år [9]. Dette estimat understøttes af en dansk opgørelse fra 2010 [7].

3.2 Avelumab

Avelumab er et monoklonalt IgG1-antistof, som hæmmer bindingen mellem PD-L1- og PD-1-receptorer, hvorved T-cellernes immunrespons reetableres. Denne behandlingsmodalitet kaldes også *checkpoint inhibition*. Baggrunden for denne behandlingstype er, at tumorceller gennem binding af overfladeproteinet *programmed cell death-ligand 1* (PD-L1) til en receptor på immunforsvarets celler (PD-1) kan nedregulere immunforsvarets angreb [5].

Avelumab fik betegnelsen ”orphan drug” i december 2015 til behandling af mMCC. Bavencio (avelumab) fik markedsføringstilladelse til førstelinje- og andenlinjebehandling af voksne med mMCC den 21. september 2017. EMA-godkendelsen blev givet som ”conditional approval” og ændret til en fuld godkendelse i august 2020.

Udover EMA-indikationen til mMCC har avelumab fået EMA-indikation til fremskreden renalcellekarcinom som førstelinjebehandling i kombination med axitinib. Medicinrådet anbefalede ikke kombinationen i januar 2020.

Behandlingen administreres som 10 mg/kg legemsvægt intravenøs infusion over 60 minutter hver anden uge. Behandlingen bør fortsætte i henhold til anbefalet dosering, indtil sygdomsprogression eller uacceptabel toksicitet. Dosisoptrapning eller -reduktion anbefales ikke. Det kan være nødvendigt at udsætte eller afbryde behandlingen, baseret på individuel sikkerhed og tolerabilitet.

Patienterne skal præmedicineres med et antihistamin og paracetamol før de første 4 infusioner. Hvis den 4. infusion gennemføres uden en infusionsrelateret reaktion, skal præmedicin for efterfølgende doser administreres efter lægens skøn.

3.3 Nuværende behandling

Kirurgi og strålebehandling er den primære behandling hos patienter med lokoregional Merkelcellekarcinom. Udvalgte patienter med fjernmetastaserende Merkelcellekarcinom har modtaget behandling med en række forskellige kemoterapiregimer – de fleste platinbaserede. De har været anvendt i Danmark til de omkring 4-5 patienter årligt, der har været i god nok almentilstand. Der er udarbejdet en dansk retningslinje for behandling af mMCC [11].

Der eksisterer kun retrospektive analyser af effekten af den platinbaserede kemoterapi og studierne inkluderer relativt få patienter. Ved behandling med førstelinje-kemoterapi ligger responsraten i disse studier på 46,4-55 %, dog med en kortvarig effekt med en median PFS på 3,1-4,5 måneder. Den mediane overlevelse ligger på omkring 9,5 måneder [9] og 10,5 måneder [15].

Fagudvalget vurderer, at frekvensen af bivirkninger er høj, særligt blandt ældre og skrøbelige patienter, herunder specielt hæmatologisk toksicitet og behandlingsrelaterede dødsfald.

4 Metode

Medicinrådets protokol for vurdering af avelumab til Merkelcellekarcinom beskriver sammen med Håndbog for Medicinrådets proces og metode vedr. nye lægemidler og indikationsudvidelser, hvordan vi vil vurdere lægemidlets værdi for patienterne.

Det kliniske spørgsmål er:

Hvad er værdien af avelumab sammenlignet med platinbaseret kombinationskemoterapi til voksne patienter med metastatisk Merkelcellekarcinom, som er kandidater til førstelinjebehandling?

5 Resultater

5.1 Klinisk spørgsmål 1

5.1.1 Litteratur

Nedenfor beskriver og vurderer vi den litteratur, som ansøger har anvendt i sin endelige ansøgning.

Ansøger har udført en systematisk litteratursøgning som anført i protokollen. Ansøger har inkluderet data fra fire studier, heraf ét single-arm-studie for avelumab og tre retrospektive studier for platinbaseret kombinationsterapi;

Studie, der dækker avelumab som førstelinjebehandling:

- JAVELIN Merkel 200 part B [12,13][14], fase 2 studie

Studier, der dækker platinbaseret kombinationsterapi:

- Cowey et al, 2017 [15], retrospektivt observationelt studie
- Becker et al, 2017 [9], retrospektivt observationelt studie
- Iyer et al, 2016 [10], retrospektivt observationelt studie

De inkluderede studier beskrives yderligere nedenfor. Derudover inddrager ansøger data fra EMAs produktresumé (SPC) for avelumab senest opdateret 4. november 2019 [13].

Tabel 1 viser de kliniske studier, der indgår i Medicinrådets vurdering af avelumab til patienter med mMCC.

Tabel 1. Oversigt over studier, der indgår i vurderingen af avelumab til mMCC

Reference	Titel	Studiedesign	Intervention	Indgår direkte i datagrundlag for denne vurdering
JAVELIN Merkel 200 part B [12]	<i>Efficacy and Safety of First-Line Avelumab Treatment in Patients With Stage IV metastatic Merkel Cell Carcinoma, A Preplanned Interim Analysis of a Clinical Trial</i> <i>Abstract præsenteret på international conference i 2019: First-line avelumab treatment in patients with metastatic Merkel cell carcinoma: primary analysis after > 15 month of follow-up from JAVELIN Merkel 200, a registrational phase 2 trial.</i>	Single-arm fase 2	Avelumab	Delvist: PFS, lægemiddelrelaterede uønskede hændelser grad 3-4, ORR og DoR OS, DoR og sikkerhed
Cowey et al., 2017 [15]	<i>Real-world treatment outcomes in patients with metastatic Merkel cell carcinoma treated with chemotherapy in the USA</i>	Retrospektivt observationelt	Platinbaseret kemoterapi kombineret med etoposid	Delvist: OS, PFS og ORR

Becker et al., 2017 [9]	<i>Evaluation of real-world treatment outcomes in patients with distant metastatic Merkel cell carcinoma following second-line chemotherapy in Europe</i>	Retrospektivt observationelt	Platinbaseret kemoterapi kombineret med etoposid	Delvist: OS, PFS og ORR
Iyer et al., 2016 [10]	<i>Response rates and durability of chemotherapy among 62 patients with metastatic Merkel cell carcinoma</i>	Retrospektivt observationelt	Platinbaseret kemoterapi kombineret med etoposid	Delvist: OS, PFS, uønskede hændelser og ORR

De inkluderede studier beskrives nedenfor, og tabel 2 viser en oversigt over studiekarakteristika.

Karakteristika

Studie med avelumab [12,13] [14]

JAVELIN Merkel 200 Part B er et ublindt fase 2 ikke-randomiseret multicenter registreringsstudie uden kontrolarm med avelumab som førstelinjebehandling hos 116 patienter med stadie IV mMCC. Avelumab administreres som infusion over 60 minutter med en dosis på 10 mg/kg hver anden uge frem til sygdomsprogression, uacceptable bivirkninger eller ønske om at udgå af studiet. Studiet inkluderede patienter fra april 2015 til februar 2019.

Inklusionskriterierne omfatter behandlingsnaive patienter med mMCC, ECOG performancestatus 0-1, tilstrækkelig funktion af knoglemarv, nyrer og lever og forventet levetid > 12 uger. Tidligere adjuverende behandling af komplet reseceret sygdom var tilladt, hvis denne behandling var afsluttet mindst 6 måneder før studiestart af JAVELIN Merkel 200 part B.

Eksklusionskriterierne omfatter behandling med immunsupprimerende midler, tidligere behandling med *checkpoint inhibitor-immunterapi* ubehandlede aktive hjernemetastaser, tidligere kræftsygdom (andre end Merkelcellekarcinom) indenfor 5 år (med visse undtagelser), HIV-infektion, hepatitis B eller C, autoimmune sygdomme og tidligere organtransplantation.

Studiets primære endepunkt er andelen med varigt respons defineret som objektiv respons med en varighed på ≥ 6 måneder eller ≥ 12 måneder. De sekundære endepunkter er objektiv responsrate (ORR), varighed af respons (duration of response (DoR)), progressionsfri overlevelse (PFS), overall survival (OS) og sikkerhed. Alle effektanalyser er foretaget på baggrund af intention to treat (ITT)-populationen. Alle sikkerhedsanalyser er foretaget på alle patienter, som modtog mindst én dosis avelumab. Tumorstatus blev evalueret hver 6. uge ved en uafhængig central reviewkomite, jf. RECIST v. 1.1.

Den første interimanalyse, publiceret af D'Angelo et al., inkluderer 39 patienter med en median opfølgningstid på 5,1 måneder (data-cutoff 24. marts 2017) [12]. Produktresuméet (SPC) præsenterer data fra den anden interimanalyse, der inkluderer 116 patienter med minimum 7 måneders opfølgning (data-cutoff 14. september 2018). Median opfølgningstid fremgår ikke af SPC'et [13].

Der er præsenteret et abstract på en international konference i 2019 (data-cutoff 2. maj 2019), hvor den mediane opfølgningstid er 21 måneder i den fulde patientpopulation, og relevante sekundære effektmål er DoR, PFS, OS og sikkerhed [14].

Studier med platinbaseret kombinationsterapi

Cowey et al. 2017 [15]

Cowey et al. 2017 er et retrospektivt observationelt studie, som evaluerer effekten af systemisk behandling med kemoterapi til behandling af mMCC i USA. Data er indsamlet fra mere end 1.000 onkologipraksisser fra 19 stater. Studiet præsenterer data fra patienter behandlet i perioden 1. november 2004 til 30. september 2014, og patienterne er fulgt til 30. juni 2015, medmindre patienterne ikke længere kunne følges eller døde.

Studiet undersøger effekten af kemoterapi til mMCC og inkluderer oftest et platinbaseret lægemiddel (cisplatin eller carboplatin) i kombination med anden cytostatikum, se bilag. 62,7 % af patienterne (32/51) har modtaget carboplatin + etoposid, og 17,6 % (9/51) har modtaget cisplatin + etoposid. 9,8 % (5/51) har modtaget monoterapi med topotecan.

Studiets primære endepunkt er objektiv responsrate (ORR), jf. RECIST v. 1.1. Sekundære endepunkter er varighed af respons (duration of response (DoR)), progressionsfri overlevelse (PFS) og samlet overlevelse (OS). Bivirkninger er ikke vurderet i dette studie.

Studiet præsenterer effekt af behandling for patienter, der har modtaget systemisk behandling enten som første-, anden- eller tredje linjebehandling. Det er kun data for patienter, der har modtaget førstelinjebehandling, der anvendes i denne vurdering. Det er ligeledes kun resultater for immunkompetente patienter, der anvendes i denne vurdering.

Becker et al. 2017 [9]

Becker et al. studiet fra 2017 er et retrospektivt observationelt studie, som evaluerer effekten af systemisk behandling med kemoterapi. Patienter blev identificeret fra et register over patienter med mMCC, der fik tilbudt andenlinjebehandling eller senere behandlingslinjer til behandling af mMCC i Europa. Der er også registreret data for behandling med kemoterapi i førstelinje, som anvendes i denne vurdering. Data er udtrukket fra et observationelt, specifikt real-world Merkelcellekarcinom-register, som blev etableret i 2005 i tysktalende lande (Tyskland, Østrig og Schweiz). Data er registreret fra 56 kliniske behandlingscentre. Studiet præsenterer data på patienter behandlet i perioden 1. november 2004 til 15. september 2015, og patienterne er fulgt til 31. december 2015, medmindre patienterne ikke længere kunne følges eller døde.

Studiet undersøger effekten af kemoterapi til mMCC og inkluderer hos nogle patienter et platinbaseret lægemiddel (cisplatin eller carboplatin) i kombination med andet cytostatikum, se bilag. 13,8 % (4/29) har modtaget cisplatin + etoposid, og 6,9 % (2/29) har modtaget cisplatin + paclitaxel. 34,5 % (10/29) har modtaget paclitaxel i monoterapi, og 27,6 % (8/29) har modtaget liposomal doxorubicin.

Studiets primære endepunkt er objektiv responsrate (ORR) vurderet ved en bekræftende scanning sammenholdt med en klinisk undersøgelse guidet af RECIST v. 1.1-kriterierne. Sekundære endepunkter er varighed af respons (duration of response (DoR)), tid til behandlingsophør (time to discontinuation (TTD)), progressionsfri overlevelse (PFS) og samlet overlevelse (OS). Bivirkninger er ikke vurderet i dette studie.

Studiet præsenterer effekt af behandling for patienter, der har modtaget systemisk behandling enten som første-, anden- eller tredje linjebehandling. Det er kun data for førstelinjebehandlede patienter, der anvendes i denne vurdering. Det er ligeledes kun resultater for immunkompetente patienter, der anvendes i denne vurdering.

Iyer et al. 2016 [10]

Iyer et al. 2016 er et retrospektivt observationelt studie, som evaluerer effekten af systemisk behandling med kemoterapi til behandling af mMCC. Ved hjælp af gennemgang af patientjournaler opbevaret i Seattle-based repository (arkiv) får man data på patienter, inklusive tumorkarakteristika, der er indsamlet frem til sidste opfølgning eller død. Patienternes behandling har fundet sted på forskellige centre. Opsamling af data er foretaget frem til 7. januar 2014.

Studiet undersøger effekten af kemoterapi til mMCC og inkluderer oftest et platinbaseret lægemiddel (cisplatin eller carboplatin) i kombination med anden cytostatikum, se bilag. 69 % af patienterne (43/62) har modtaget etoposid sammen med enten carboplatin (n: 31) eller cisplatin (n: 12).

Studiets primære endepunkt er objektiv responsrate (ORR), jf. RECIST v. 1.1. Sekundære endepunkter er varighed af respons (duration of response (DoR)), progressionsfri overlevelse (PFS) og samlet overlevelse (OS). Bivirkninger rapporteres i dette studie som uønskede hændelser og alvorlige uønskede hændelser.

Studiet præsenterer effekt af behandling for patienter, der har modtaget systemisk behandling enten som første- eller andenlinjebehandling. Det er kun data for førstelinjebhandlede patienter, der anvendes i denne vurdering. I dette studie indgår både immunsupprimerede og immunkompetente patienter.

Tabel 2. Studiekarakteristika

	JAVELIN Merkel 200 - part B [12,13]	Cowey et al. 2017 [15]	Becker et al. 2017 [9]	Iyer et al. 2016 [10]
Studiedesign	International multicenter, ublindet, ikke-kontrolleret fase 2-studie	Retrospektivt observationelt studie	Retrospektivt observationelt studie	Retrospektivt observationelt studie
Data	Inklusion fra 35 centre i Nordamerika, Europa, Australien og Asien	Patienter identificeret i US Oncology Network, IknowMed-databasen	Et specifikt Real world MCC-register indsamlet fra 56 centre (53 i Tyskland, 2 i Østrig og 1 i Schweiz)	Seattle-based arkiv. Patienter behandlet på forskellige centre, inklusive Washington Universitetshospital
Inklusionsperiode	April 2015 – februar 2019	2004-2014	2004-2015	2002-2014
Behandling	Avelumab monoterapi	42/51 (82,3 %) patienter modtog platinbaseret kemoterapi (primært med etoposid)	5/29 (17 %) patienter modtog platinbaseret kemoterapi	43/62 (69 %) patienter modtog platinbaseret kemoterapi
Responsevaluering	RECIST v. 1.1	RECIST v. 1.1	Vurdering ved opfølgende scanning sammenholdt med en klinisk undersøgelse guidet af RECIST v. 1.1-kriterierne	RECIST v. 1.1

Population

Af tabel 3 fremgår baselinekarakteristika for patienter i de inkluderede studier, som er anvendt til at besvare det kliniske spørgsmål.

Tabel 3. Baselinekarakteristika

Studie	Behandling	N	Medianalder (range)	Mænd n (%)	Immunkompetente n (%)	ECOG performancescore n (%)			
						0	1	2-3	Ukendt
JAVELIN Merkel 200 part B [13]	Avelumab	116	74 (41-93)	81 (70)	116 (100)	72 (62)	44 (38)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Cowey et al. [15]	Kemoterapi, førstelinjebehandling	67	75,8	53 (79,1)	51 (76,1)	14 (20,9)	32 (47,8)	8 (9,0)	13 (19,4)
Becker et al. [9]	Kemoterapi, førstelinjebehandling	34 (32*)	67,5 (36-80)	22 (64,7)	28 (87,5)	Ikke oplyst			
Iyer et al. [10]	Kemoterapi, førstelinjebehandling	62	68,7 (49-96)	47 (76)	48 (77,4)	Ikke oplyst			

*To patienter blev ekskluderet pga. mangel på bekræftet mMCC ved påbegyndelse af førstelinjebehandling.

**Data for immunsupprimerede patienter indgår ikke i denne vurdering.

Studiernes sammenlignelighed på tværs og i forhold til tilsvarende dansk population:

Performance status:

Alle patienter i avelumab-studiet har en PS 0-1 sammenlignet med PS 0-3 i Cowey et al. For de øvrige studier fremgår PS ikke. Fagudvalget bemærker, at patienterne har en bedre PS i avelumab-studiet sammenlignet med en tilsvarende dansk patientpopulation.

Immunsupprimerede patienter:

I sammenligningen af studierne indgår data fra immunsupprimerede patienter ikke, bortset fra Iyer et al. studiet, hvor det ikke var muligt at opdele data. Fagudvalget forventer dog en tilsvarende effekt hos immunsupprimerede patienter.

Behandlingsregimer med kemoterapi:

Behandlingsregimerne i de tre studier med kemoterapi er forskellige, og andelen af patienter, der har modtaget et platinbaseret regime, varierer fra omkring 20-80 %. Fagudvalget vurderer, at dette afspejler behandlingen i klinisk praksis.

Senere behandlingslinjer:

Senere behandlingslinjer i de tre kemoterapi studier er oplyst og består af kemoterapi og proteinkinasehæmmere. Ingen patienter har modtaget avelumab eller anden immunterapi. Det er ikke oplyst, hvad patienterne har fået i efterfølgende behandlingslinjer efter avelumab.

Inklusion til forskellige behandlingslinjer:

Avelumab-studiet (JAVELIN Merkel 200 part B) inkluderer udelukkende patienter til førstelinjebehandling. Becker et al. studiet indebærer en risiko for en positiv selektion af patienter i førstelinjebehandling, da de inkluderede patienter er fundet i registre under deres andenlinjebehandling. Det er således patienter med bedst almentilstand, der indgår i dette studie, da patienter, der er døde og med dårligst PS, ikke vil modtage en andenlinjebehandling.

Alder og køn:

Alder og køn stemmer overens med den danske patientpopulation.

På baggrund af 100 % immunkompetente patienter med en PS 0-1 må patientgruppen i avelumab-studiet anses at være gruppen af mMCC-patienter med den bedst mulige almentilstand, kan der være en risiko for at effekten af avelumab er højere hos patienter behandlet i studiet end i dansk klinisk praksis.

5.1.2 Databehandling og analyse

Nedenunder beskriver vi ansøgers datagrundlag, databehandling og analyse for hvert effektmål.

Til besvarelse af det kliniske spørgsmål, hvor avelumab sammenlignes med platinbaseret kombinationsterapi, har ansøger foretaget en narrativ beskrivelse af data på avelumab fra det ikke-kontrollerede fase 2-studie: JAVELIN Merkel 200 part B [12] og data fra Cowey et al., Becker et al. og Iyer et al. [9,10,15], som undersøger effekten af platinbaseret kemoterapi (kombineret med etoposid behandling) hos mMCC patienter. Fagudvalget vurderer, ligesom ansøger, at der grundet forskelle mellem studierne ikke foreligger et reelt grundlag for en meningsfuld indirekte sammenligning. Medicinrådets sekretariat understreger, at en narrativ syntese er lavere i evidenshierarkiet end en direkte eller indirekte analyse.

Fagudvalget vil i en narrativ gennemgang af data tage stilling til, hvilken effekt og sikkerhedsprofil avelumab kan formodes at have sammenlignet med platinbaseret kombinationsterapi.

Vurdering af datagrundlag

Fagudvalget finder, at avelumab kan vurderes på baggrund af de indsendte analyser. Datagrundlaget tillader ikke, at lægemidlet bliver placeret i en specifik kategori vedrørende lægemidlets samlede værdi, jf. Medicinrådets metoder, men fagudvalget vil vurdere lægemidlet ud fra de nævnte studier i en narrativ syntese.

Fagudvalget har følgende bemærkninger til datagrundlaget, der vanskeliggør sammenligning af data:

- Designs af studier, der belyser avelumab og platinbaseret kombinationsterapi, er heterogene og varierer fra et fase 2 ikke-kontrolleret studie til retrospektive observationelle studier. Da det er de eneste tilgængelige data på denne patientpopulation, accepterer fagudvalget, at den narrative sammenligning kan baseres på dette datagrundlag.
- Evalueringen af respons varierer: Response Evaluation Criteria in Solid Tumors (RECIST), version 1.1, anvendes i D'Angelo et al. studiet (avelumab) [12] samt i Cowey et al. og Iyer et al. [10,15]. Det sidste retrospektive studie af Becker et al. har ikke anvendt RECIST 1.1-kriterierne. Respons er i stedet vurderet ved en bekræftende scanning sammenholdt med en klinisk undersøgelse [9].
- Jf. protokollen ønskede fagudvalget bivirkninger belyst ved lægemiddelrelaterede uønskede hændelser af grad 3-4. Ansøger har leveret data på lægemiddelrelaterede uønskede hændelser for avelumab suppleret med en kvalitativ gennemgang af bivirkninger. For komparator er datagrundlaget for uønskede hændelser meget sparsomt og eksisterer kun for Iyer et al. studiet, som rapporterer uønskede hændelser og alvorlige uønskede hændelser [10].
- For at optimere sammenligneligheden på tværs af studier præsenteres data for platinbaseret kombinationsterapi kun hos patienter med førstelinjebehandling og for immunkompetente patienter, dvs. patienter, der ikke er immunsupprimerede. For Iyer et al. studiet præsenteres data dog for en samlet population af både immunsupprimerede og immunkompetente patienter.

Tidshorisont

De tilgængelige data for avelumab har en opfølgningstid på minimum 7 måneder (median opfølgningstid fremgår ikke af SPC'et) [13]. Der er data for OS og DoR med en median opfølgningstid på 21 måneder. Dataopsamlingsperioden for de retrospektive observationelle studier er henholdsvis: Cowey et al.: 1. november 2004 til 30. juni 2015, Becker et al.: 1. november 2004 til 31. december 2015, og Iyer et al.: 2002 til 7. januar 2014 [9,10,15].

Upublicerede data

For det kritiske effektmål OS har ansøger indleveret data, som er publiceret som et konferenceabstract og en poster. De krav for data fra konferenceabstracts, som Medicinrådet har specificeret i *Kriteriepapiret om anvendelse af upublicerede data*, er opfyldt. Studiets design, metoder og primære resultater er tidligere publiceret i fagfællebedømte fuldttekstartikler, og fagudvalget vurderer, at det er forsvarligt at benytte de upublicerede data, og at dette vil styrke kvaliteten af vurderingen markant. Data fra posteren er også benyttet til at belyse øvrige effektmål.

5.1.3 Evidensens kvalitet

Der er ikke foretaget en systematisk GRADE-vurdering, da der er tale om en narrativ syntese kombineret med fagudvalgets kliniske vurdering. Evidensens kvalitet er derfor som udgangspunkt **meget lav**.

5.1.4 Effektestimater og kategorier

På baggrund af det manglende statistiske datagrundlag er det ikke muligt at kategorisere de enkelte effektmål i resultatafsnittet. I stedet kommer fagudvalget med en samlet udtalelse om den kliniske værdi af avelumab sidst i rapporten. Konklusionen baseres på sparsomme data og fagudvalgets kliniske vurdering. Derfor indgår der ikke en tabel med effektestimater i rapporten.

Overlevelse

Forbedret samlet overlevelse (OS) med mindst mulig toksicitet er det optimale mål for behandling af mMCC. OS er derfor et kritisk effektmål. Overlevelse defineres som tiden fra behandlingsstart til død, uafhængig af årsag. For OS belyses effekten ved en median OS og OS-rate.

Avelumab:

I Javelin B var den mediane overlevelse for patienter, som fik avelumab i første linje, 20,3 måneder (95 % CI: 12,4-ikke nået). 12 måneders OS-rate var 60 % (95 % CI: 50-68) for den samlede population.

I Medicinrådets protokol var der ikke opstillet separate kliniske spørgsmål for patienter med positiv eller negativ PD-L1 ekspression, da tidligere analyser ikke har indikeret en klar forskel i effekt på mMCC. Tærskelværdien for PD-L1-positive tumorer hos patienter med mMCC er sat til $\geq 1\%$ af tumorcellerne i de to studier udført med *checkpoint inhibitor-immunterapi* til mMCC med hhv. avelumab og pembrolizumab [5,6].

PD-L1-ekspression blev i JAVELIN studiet analyseret med det monoklonale antistof 22C3 fra Merck Laboratories. For patienter med mMCC og PD-L1 positive tumorer (25% af patientpopulationen) var 12-måneders OS rate 71% og for PD-L1 negative 56% [14]. Forskellen er ikke statistisk signifikant.

Fagudvalget vurderer, at effekten af avelumab selv ved PD-L1 negative patienter er så god, det ikke anbefales at undersøge PD-L1-ekspression i vurdering af behov for immunterapi.

Kemoterapi:

Cowey et al. 2017: For de immunkompetente patienter alene var median OS 10,5 måneder (95 % CI: 7,2-15,2).

Becker et al. 2017: For de immunkompetente patienter alene var median OS ikke rapporteret. OS-raten ved 12 måneder var 28,6 % (95 % CI: 13,5-45,6).

Iyer et al. 2016: Median OS var 9,5 måneder (95 % CI: ikke angivet). Data eksisterer kun for den samlede gruppe af patienter (immunkompetente (77,4 %) og immunsupprimerede (22,6 %)).

I den narrative sammenstilling er median OS længere og OS raten efter 12 måneder højere for patienter behandlet med avelumab sammenlignet med kemoterapi. Fagudvalget understreger, at der er betydelige usikkerheder grundet det dårlige datagrundlag.

PFS

I protokollen ønskede fagudvalget at benytte PFS som et surrogat for OS, hvis der ikke var modne data. I de publicerede data indgår en median OS, men ikke et konfidensinterval. Fagudvalget baserer sin konklusion på baggrund af de tilgængelige OS-data, men præsenterer PFS og respons for at perspektivere effektmålet overlevelse.

Avelumab:

Den mediane PFS var 4,1 måneder (95 % CI: 1,4-6,1). PFS-rate ved 6 og 12 måneder blev aflæst på Kaplan-Meier-kurve og var på henholdsvis 41,0 % (95 % CI: 32-50) og 31 % (95 % CI: 23-40) [14].

Kemoterapi:

Cowey et al. 2017: For de immunkompetente var median PFS 4,6 måneder (95 % CI: 2,8-7,7). PFS-rate ved 6 og 12 måneder blev aflæst på Kaplan-Meier-kurve og var på henholdsvis 47,1 % (95 % CI: 33,0-59,9) og 24,8 % (95 % CI: 13,8-37,4).

Becker et al. 2017: For de immunkompetente var median PFS 4,7 måneder (95 % CI: 3,3-5,1). PFS-rate ved 6 og 12 måneder blev aflæst på Kaplan-Meier-kurve og var på henholdsvis 17,9 % (95 % CI: 6,5-33,7) og 0 %.

Iyer et al. 2016: Den mediane PFS var 94 dage (12-983 dage), svarende til 3,1 måned. Data eksisterer kun for den samlede gruppe af patienter (immunkompetente (77,4 %) og immunsupprimerede (22,6 %)).

Der ses en sammenlignelig progressionsfri overlevelse for avelumab og for kombinationskemoterapi.

Respons

Ifølge RECIST v. 1.1 [16] defineres komplet respons (CR) som: *Patienten er klinisk og billeddiagnostisk sygdomsfri, hvor alle tumorlæsioner er væk, og ingen nye er fremkommet.* Partiel respons (PR) defineres som mindst 30 % reduktion af tumorlæsionernes størrelse sammenlignet med baseline. Overall respons rate (ORR) defineres som antal af patienter med komplet respons + antal af patienter med partiel respons delt med det samlede patientantal. Fagudvalgets forhåndsdefinerede mindste klinisk relevante forskel var 10 %-point mellem avelumab og platinbaseret kombinationsterapi (primært etoposid).

Avelumab:

46 ud af 116 patienter (39,7 %) (95 % CI: 30,7-49,2) i behandling med avelumab blev vurderet til at have objektivi respons. 16 patienter ud af 116 patienter (13,8 %) blev vurderet til at have komplet respons, mens 30 ud af 116 patienter (25,9 %) opnåede partielt respons.

De opdaterede data viser, at der hos de patienter, der var PD-L1 negative, var der en response rate på 33,3% [14].

Kemoterapi:

Cowey et al. 2017: 15 ud af 51 patienter (29,4 %) (95 % CI: 17,5-43,8) i behandling med kemoterapi blev vurderet til at have objektivi respons. 7 patienter ud af 51 patienter (13,7 %) blev vurderet til at have komplet respons, mens 8 patienter ud af 51 patienter (15,7 %) opnåede partielt respons.

Becker et al. 2017: 13 ud af 28 patienter (46,4 %) (95 % CI: 27,5-66,1) i behandling med kemoterapi blev vurderet til at have objektivi respons. 0 % af patienterne blev vurderet til at have komplet respons.

Iyer et al. 2016: 34 ud af 62 patienter (54,8 %) i behandling med kemoterapi blev vurderet til at have objektivi respons. 8 patienter ud af 62 patienter (12,9 %) blev vurderet til at have komplet respons, mens 26 patienter ud af 62 patienter (41,9 %) opnåede partielt respons. Data eksisterer kun for den samlede gruppe af patienter (immunkompetente (77,4 %) og immunsupprimerede (22,6 %)).

Der ses sammenlignelige objektive responsrater for avelumab og for kombinationskemoterapi.

Fagudvalget ønskede, jf. protokollen, information om varigheden af respons

Fagudvalget er bekendt med, f.eks. fra modernærkekræft, at behandling med immunterapi kan medføre en højere andel af patienter med længerevarende respons efter immunterapi sammenlignet med patienter behandlet med kemoterapi.

DoR (varighed af respons) rapporteres som en median varighed og suppleres med DoR ≥ 6 måneder og ≥ 12 måneder, som er et udtryk for, hvor stor en procentdel af patienter, som har et komplet eller partielt respons der fortsat har et vedvarende respons efter 6 og 12 måneder.

Avelumab:

Median DoR var 18,2 måneder (range 1,2-22,1 måned) (95 % CI: 11,3-ikke estimeret). Af de 46 patienter ud af 116 patienter (39,7 %), som opnåede et respons, havde 78 % (95 % CI: 62-87) et vedvarende respons ≥ 6 måneder, og 60 % (95 % CI: 40-75) havde et vedvarende respons ≥ 12 måneder [14].

Kemoterapi:

I kemoterapistudierne er der udelukkende rapporteret median DoR:

Cowey et al. 2017: Median DoR var 6,7 måneder (95 % CI: 1,2-10,5).

Becker et al. 2017: Median DoR var 3,3 måneder (95 % CI: 2,4-3,7).

Iyer et al. 2016: Median DoR var 85 dage, svarende til 2,8 måneder. Data eksisterer kun for den samlede gruppe af patienter (immunkompetente (77,4 %) og immunsupprimerede (22,6 %)).

For de patienter, som opnår komplet eller partielt respons, ses et længerevarende respons ved behandling med avelumab sammenlignet med behandling med kombinationskemoterapi.

Bivirkninger

Fagudvalget finder det relevant at belyse bivirkninger (adverse reactions (AR)) grad 3-4, da det belyser, hvordan avelumab tolereres sammenlignet med kemoterapi. Bivirkninger suppleres med en kvalitativ gennemgang. Bivirkninger er rapporteret for avelumab. Datagrundlaget for bivirkninger ved kemoterapi hos mMCC-patienter er sparsom, jf. afsnit 8, og rapporteres kun som uønskede hændelser og alvorlige uønskede hændelser i Iyer et al. studiet 2016 [10].

Avelumab:

Der er ikke rapporteret sikkerhed i den samlede patientpopulation på 116 patienter i JAVELIN Merkel 200 part B, som fremgår af SPC'et [13]. I en poster præsenteret på en international conference rapporteres det, at 94 patienter (81 %) oplevede en behandlingsrelateret uønsket hændelse, hvoraf 21 patienter (18,1 %) oplevede en grad 3-4-bivirkning [14]. Der blev ikke rapporteret behandlingsrelaterede dødsfald.

Udover bivirkningsdata fra JAVELIN Merkel 200 part B er sikkerhed ved behandling med avelumab som monoterapi (10 mg/kg hver 2. uge) også evalueret i kliniske studier hos 1.738 patienter med solide tumorer, herunder mMCC [13]. De hyppigste bivirkninger af grad 3 eller derover var her anæmi (6 %), dyspnø (3,9 %) og mavesmerter (3,0 %). Alvorlige bivirkninger var immunrelaterede og infusionsrelaterede bivirkninger. Af immunrelaterede bivirkninger var (uanset bivirkningsgrad) pneumonitis (1,2 %), hepatitis (0,9 %), kolitis (1,5 %), tyreoidesygdomme (6 %), binyreinsufficiens (0,5 %), nefritis og nyredysfunktion (0,1 %). De fleste immunrelaterede bivirkninger kunne behandles med anden medicinsk behandling (kortikosteroider) eller ved at stoppe behandlingen med avelumab midlertidigt eller permanent seponere. Ved infusionsrelaterede bivirkninger af grad 3-4 anbefales det at stoppe infusionen og seponere behandlingen helt.

Bivirkningsprofilen for checkpoint-hæmmere, der angriber hhv. PD-1 og PD-L1, er sammenlignelige både hvad angår bivirkningstype og frekvens af toxicitet [17]. Fagudvalget vurderer, at den store erfaring, danske klinikere har med PD-1-hæmmere, umiddelbart kan overføres til behandling med avelumab.

Kemoterapi:

Iyer et al., 2016: Studiet rapporterer alvorlige uønskede hændelser i form af febril neutropeni (6,5 %) og sepsis (4,8 %). Som forventet ved kemoterapibehandling hos en ældre population (median alder 68,4 år) blev disse almindelige bivirkninger rapporteret: træthed, hårtab (alopeci), kvalme, opkast, mucositis, neutropeni, pancytopeni og nyretoxicitet. Der var ingen behandlingsrelaterede dødsfald i studiet.

Kendte bivirkninger:

Fagudvalget lagde i protokollen særligt vægt på følgende kemoterapi-relaterede bivirkninger: kvalme, opkastning, febril neutropeni, sepsis, neuropati, nefropati samt immunterapi-relaterede bivirkninger, herunder reversibilitet af bivirkninger med særlig interesse. Tabel 4 viser typer af uønskede hændelser for avelumab og platinbaseret kemoterapi ved Iyer et al.

Tabel 4. Oversigt over rapporterede behandlingsrelaterede uønskede hændelser og uønskede hændelser

	JAVELIN Merkel 200 part B (avelumab)	Iyer et al. 2016
Patienter, antal	29	62
Behandlingsrelaterede uønskede hændelser, Grade ≥ 3, n (%)		
Alle	8 (20,5)	Ikke oplyst
Infusionsrelateret reaktion	1 (2,6)	Ikke oplyst
Forhøjet lipase	1 (2,6)	Ikke oplyst
Forhøjet ALAT *	1 (2,6)	Ikke oplyst
Forhøjet CPK**	1 (2,6)	Ikke oplyst
Autoimmun nefrit	1 (2,6)	Ikke oplyst
Cholangitis (betændelse i galdegange)	1 (2,6)	Ikke oplyst
Forhøjet AST***	1 (2,6)	Ikke oplyst
Gangforstyrrelser	1 (2,6)	Ikke oplyst
Paraneoplastisk encephalomyelitis	1 (2,6)	Ikke oplyst
Polyneuropati	1 (2,6)	Ikke oplyst
Paraneoplastisk syndrom	1 (2,6)	Ikke oplyst
Forhøjet troponin	1 (2,6)	Ikke oplyst
Uønskede hændelser, %		
Kvalme	5,1 %	Almindelig bivirkning
Opkastning	Ikke oplyst	Almindelig bivirkning
Febril neutropeni	Ikke oplyst	6,5 %
Sepsis	Ikke oplyst	4,8 %
Neuropati	Ikke oplyst	Ikke oplyst
Nefropati	Ikke oplyst	Ikke oplyst
Knoglemarvssuppression	Ikke oplyst	Ikke oplyst

*ALAT: Alanin aminotransferase, **CPK: Kreatinin-fosfokinase, ***AST: Aspartate aminotransferase

Avelumab:

Fagudvalget vurderer, at hændelserne for avelumab er håndterbare, og at frekvensen er som forventet for *checkpoint inhibitor-immunterapi*. I betragtning af den underliggende sygdom og patientpopulationens alder stemmer bivirkningsprofilen for avelumab overens med, hvad der kan forventes af *checkpoint inhibitor-immunterapi* [13,14,17].

Kemoterapi:

De uønskede hændelser, som er opstået ved behandling med kombinationskemoterapi, afspejler fagudvalgets erfaring med behandlingerne. De uønskede hændelser er generelt dosisrelaterede og kumulative.

Fagudvalgets erfaring med bivirkninger ved kemoterapi er, at specielt febril neutropeni er sværere at tolerere for ældre patienter sammenlignet med immunterapi. Dette er vurderet på baggrund af behandling af patienter med metastaserende malignt melanom, hvor den mediane alder efter fremkomst af behandling med *checkpoint inhibitor-immunterapi* er steget fra 59 år ved behandling med interleukin 2 til 70 år ved behandling med PD1-hæmmere [18].

Livskvalitet

Der rapporteres ikke data vedrørende livskvalitet for hverken behandling med avelumab i førstelinje (JAVELIN Merkel 200 part B) eller for de tre kemoterapistudier. Derfor kan effektmålet ikke vurderes.

5.1.5 Fagudvalgets konklusion

Fagudvalgets konklusion er baseret på det sparsomme tilgængelige datagrundlag og fagudvalgets kliniske erfaring.

Konklusion af klinisk spørgsmål 1

Fagudvalget finder, at *den samlede værdi* af behandling med avelumab til voksne patienter med mMCC sammenlignet med platinbaseret kombinationsterapi **ikke kan kategoriseres**, jf. Medicinrådets metoder (evidensens kvalitet kan ikke vurderes, men er i udgangspunktet meget lav). Fagudvalget forventer dog, at effekten af avelumab samlet set er bedre end ved behandling med kemoterapi, og vurderer samtidig, at sikkerhedsprofilen ikke er dårligere end kemoterapi.

Som beskrevet i afsnit 8 skal sammenligningen tages med væsentlige forbehold, idet der er tale om forskellige studiedesigns, forskel i patienternes performancestatus, forskel i populationen for et af studierne af kemoterapi, der inkluderer immunsupprimerede patienter, samt forskelle i metode til evaluering af respons med en risiko for overestimering af effekten af avelumab.

Effekt:

- I den narrative sammenstilling er median OS længere og OS-raten højere for patienter behandlet med avelumab sammenlignet med kemoterapi.
- Effektmålet overlevelse perspektiveres med PFS og respons. Den progressionsfri overlevelse (PFS) og responsraten adskiller sig ikke mellem behandlingerne. Dette forklares ved den umiddelbare høje følsomhed i tumoren for både kemoterapi og immunterapi.
- Der ses en forskel mellem avelumab og kemoterapi i varigheden af respons hos den andel af patienter, der oplever effekt af behandlingen, idet den mediane varighed af respons (DoR) ved avelumab er længere end den tilsvarende for kombinationskemoterapi.
- Fagudvalget vurderer, at ovenstående understøttes af resultater fra det kliniske studie, som undersøger avelumab i andenlinjebehandling/eller senere (studiet er nævnt under andre overvejelser, afsnit 10). Studiet inkluderer overlevelsesdata, hvor det tyder på, at der er en gruppe af patienter, der vil kunne opnå varig effekt.

Bivirkninger:

- Fagudvalget vurderer, at gennemgangen af de uønskede hændelser svarer til de bivirkningsprofiler, som allerede kendes fra behandling med PD-L1-hæmmere ved andre kræftformer (herunder modernærkekræft) og kemoterapi generelt. Fagudvalget vurderer, at bivirkningerne for begge behandlingsformer er håndterbare i klinikken.
- Behandling med avelumab (PD-L1-hæmmer) har en anderledes bivirkningsprofil end behandling med kemoterapi. Da der ofte er tale om ældre patienter med betydelig komorbiditet, vurderer fagudvalget, at bivirkningerne ved avelumab vil være mindre belastende end bivirkningerne ved kemoterapi med bl.a. risiko for febril neutropeni. Fagudvalget vurderer derfor, at avelumab er at foretrække hos patienter med mMCC.

Livskvalitet:

- Vurderingen af livskvalitet er ikke mulig pga. manglede datagrundlag.

6 Andre overvejelser

Dansk klinisk praksis ved introduktion til immunterapi

I det kliniske studie af avelumab ingår kun patienter med PS 0-1. Fagudvalget mener, at patienter med en PS på 2 vil kunne blive behandlet med avelumab i dansk klinisk praksis, såfremt den nedsatte PS ikke vil medføre en nedsat evne til at tåle avelumab eller nedsætte muligheden for at opnå en effekt af avelumab (ved komorbiditet).

Ved introduktion af immunterapi til patienter med mMCC vil der for en patientgruppe, der ikke har almentilstand til at kunne gennemgå kemoterapi være et behandlingstilbud. Fagudvalget lægger her vægt på forskelle i bivirkningstyper, særligt febril neutropeni ved kombinationskemoterapi, der er sværere at tolerere for ældre patienter sammenlignet med immunterapi.

Resultater for progressionfri overlevelse fra andenlinjebehandling med avelumab i JAVELIN Merkel 200 part A

Fagudvalget bemærker, at resultater fra andenlinjebehandling med avelumab understøtter, at varighed af effekt ved behandling med avelumab er længere end kombinationskemoterapi [19].

Overvejelser vedrørende efterfølgende behandlingslinjer

Det er fagudvalgets vurdering, at patienterne ved manglende effekt af avelumab bør tilbydes behandling i kliniske studier, alternativt kombinationskemoterapi.

Behandlingsvarighed

Den mediane PFS er ca. 4 måneder, hvorfor ca. halvdelen af patienterne forventes at ville stoppe behandlingen efter 4 måneder. Fagudvalget vurderer, at behandlingsvarigheden højst er to år, men ved udvalgte patienter med god effekt kan behandlingen stoppes tidligere.

7 Relation til behandlingsvejledning

Der findes ikke en relevant behandlingsvejledning, og fagudvalget har derfor ikke taget stilling til en foreløbig placering af lægemidlet.

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9 Sammensætning af fagudvalg og kontaktinformation til Medicinrådet

Medicinrådets fagudvalg vedrørende modernærkekræft og non-melanom hudkræft

Forvaltningslovens § 4, stk. 2, har været anvendt i forbindelse med udpegning af medlemmer til dette fagudvalg.

Formand	Indstillet af
Marco Donia* Klinisk lektor, afdelingslæge, ph.d.	Lægevidenskabelige Selskaber og udpeget af Region Hovedstaden
Medlemmer	Udpeget af
Adam Andrzej Luczak* Overlæge	Region Nordjylland
<i>Kan ikke opfylde Medicinrådets habilitetskrav</i>	Region Midtjylland
Lars Bastholt Overlæge	Lægevidenskabelige Selskaber og udpeget af Region Syddanmark
<i>Har ikke specialet</i>	Region Sjælland
Lene Ottesen Patient/patientrepræsentant	Danske Patienter
Sanne Wiingreen Patient/patientrepræsentant	Danske Patienter
<i>Deltager ikke</i>	Dansk Selskab for Sygehusapoteksledelse (DSS)
Jakob Henriksen Afdelingslæge	Dansk Selskab for Klinisk Farmakologi (DSKF)
Mathilde Skaarup Larsen Overlæge, ph.d.	Dansk Patologiselskab (DPAS)
Lisbet Rosenkrantz Hölmich Klinisk forskningslektor, overlæge, dr.med.	Dansk Selskab for Plastik- og Rekonstruktionskirurgi (DSPR) og Dansk Melanom Gruppe (DMG)
Pernille Lassen Afdelingslæge, ph.d.	Dansk Selskab for Klinisk Onkolog (DSKO)

*Har ikke deltaget i denne vurdering.

Medicinrådets sekretariat

Medicinrådet Dampfærgevej 27-29, 3. 2100 København Ø + 45 70 10 36 00 medicinraadet@medicinraadet.dk
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10 Versionslog

Version	Dato	Ændring
1.0	23. september 2020	Godkendt af Medicinrådet.

11 Bilag 1

Oversigt over kemoterapiregime i de retrospektive studier

Study	Cowey et al. 2017 [15]	Becker et al. 2017 [9]	Iyer et al. 2016 [10]
Kemoterapiregimer, førstelinje, n (%)	51(100)	29 (100)	62 (100)
Adriamycin	0	0	1 (1.6)
Adriamycin + cytoxan	0	0	1 (1.6)
Bevacizumab + VP-16	0	0	1 (1.6)
Carboplatin	1 (2.0)	0	1 (1.6)
Carboplatin + docetaxel	0	0	1 (1.6)
Carboplatin + etoposid	32 (62.7)	1 (3.5)	0
Carboplatin + irinotecan	0	0	2 (3.2)
Carboplatin + paclitaxel	0	1 (3.5)	0
Carboplatin + VP-16	0	0	31 (50.0)
Carboplatin + VP-16 + Gemcitabine	0	0	1 (1.6)
Cisplatin + CPT11	0	0	1 (1.6)
Cisplatin + etoposid	9 (17.6)	4 (13.8)	0
Cisplatin + etoposid + carboplatin	1 (2.0)	0	0
Cisplatin + irinotecan	0	0	1 (1.6)
Cisplatin + paclitaxel	0	2 (6.9)	0
Cisplatin + VP-16	0	0	12 (19.4)
Cisplatin + VP-16 + topotecan	0	0	1 (1.6)
Cyclophosphamide + docetaxel	0	0	1 (1.6)
Cyclophosphamide + doxorubicin	1 (2.0)	0	0
Cyclophosphamide + doxorubicin + vincristine	1 (2.0)	0	2 (3.2)
Cyclophosphamide + methotrexate + 5-fluorouracil	0	1 (3.5)	0
Doxorubicin	0	1 (3.5)	0
Etoposid	0	1 (3.5)	0
Gemcitabine	1 (0)	0	0
Liposomal doxorubicin	0	8 (27.6)	0
Oral VP-16	0	0	2 (3.2)
Paclitaxel	0	10 (34.5)	1 (1.6)
Topotecan	5 (9.8)	0	2 (3.2)
Topotecan + Vincristine	0	0	0

Application for the assessment of Bavencio[®] (*avelumab*) as standard treatment in adult treatment naïve patients with metastatic Merkel Cell Carcinoma (mMCC)

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1 Basic information

TABLE 1 BASIC INFORMATION

Name	Jens Christensen
Title	Head of Market Access (Merck)
Area of responsibility	Market Access
Phone	+45 42 71 40 17
E-mail	Jens.Christensen@merckgroup.com
Name	Pernille Nørremark
Title	Medical Advisor (Merck)
Area of responsibility	Medical Affairs
Phone	+45 40 46 46 04
E-mail	Pernille.Norremark@merckgroup.com
<u>Others:</u>	
 <u>Pfizer contacts:</u>	
Kjetil Hagen (Health & Value Director); Kjetil.Hagen@pfizer.com	
Lone Gamrath (Commercial Strategy Manager); Lone.Gamrath@pfizer.com	
Cathrine Notland (Medical Advisor); Cathrine.Notland@pfizer.com	

TABLE 2 OVERVIEW OF THE PHARMACEUTICAL

Proprietary name	Bavencio®
Generic name	Avelumab
Marketing authorization holder in Denmark	Merck Europe B. V. Gustav Mahlerplein 102 1082 MA Amsterdam The Netherlands
ATC code	L01XC31
Pharmacotherapeutic group	Other antineoplastic agents
Active substance(s)	Avelumab
Pharmaceutical form(s)	Concentrate for solution for infusion (sterile concentrate). Clear, colourless to slightly yellow solution. The solution pH is in the range of 5.0- 5.6 and the osmolality is between 270 and 330 mOsm/kg.
Mechanism of action	Avelumab is a human immunoglobulin G1 (IgG1) monoclonal antibody directed against programmed death ligand 1 (PD-L1). Avelumab binds PD-L1 and blocks the interaction between PD-L1 and the programmed death 1 (PD-1) and B7.1 receptor. This removes the suppressive effects of PD-L1 on cytotoxic CD8+ T-cells, resulting in the restoration of anti-tumour T-cell responses. Avelumab has also shown to induce natural killer cell-mediated direct tumour cell lysis via antibody-dependent cell-mediated cytotoxicity.
Dosage regimen	The recommended dose of Bavencio is 10 mg/kg body weight administered intravenously over 60 minutes every 2 weeks. Merck has applied EMA for a flat dose regimen of 800 mg which is currently being evaluated.
Therapeutic indication relevant for assessment (as defined by the European Medicines Agency, EMA)	Bavencio is indicated as monotherapy for the treatment of adult patients with metastatic Merkel cell carcinoma (mMCC).
Other approved therapeutic indications	Avelumab + axitinib approval in RCC expected
Will dispensing be restricted to hospitals?	Yes
Combination therapy and/or co-medication	No
Packaging – types, sizes/number of units, and concentrations	10 mL of concentrate in a vial (Type I glass) with a halobutyl rubber and an aluminium seal fitted with a removable plastic cap. Each mL of concentrate contains 20 mg of avelumab. One vial of 10 mL contains 200 mg of avelumab.
Orphan drug designation	EU/3/15/1590

2 Abbreviations

1L	first line
2L	second line
2L+	second line and later
AE	Adverse events
CI	Confidence interval
CR	Complete Response
DMC	Danish Medicines Council
DOR	Duration of response
DRR	Durable response rate
EHR	Electronic health record
EMA	European Medicines Agency
EPAR	European public assessment report
IgG1	immunoglobulin G1
K-M	Kaplan-Meier analysis
MCRD	Minimal clinically relevant difference
MCC	Merkel cell Carcinoma
mMCC	metastatic Merkel cell Carcinoma
ORR	Objective Response rate
OS	Overall Survival
PD-1	programmed death 1
PD-L1	Programmed death ligand 1
PFS	Progression Free survival
PR	Partial Response
QoL	Quality of Life
RECIST	Response Evaluation Criteria in Solid Tumors
RR	Response Rates
SmPC	Summary of product characteristics
TTD	Time to treatment discontinuation

3 Summary

Avelumab is a human immunoglobulin G1 (IgG1) monoclonal antibody directed against programmed death ligand-1 (PD-L1) currently approved as monotherapy for the treatment of adult patients with metastatic Merkel cell carcinoma.

On December 14, 2015, orphan designation (EU/3/15/1590) was granted for avelumab for the treatment of mMCC. On September 21, 2017 the European Commission (EC) granted marketing authorization for avelumab as monotherapy for the treatment of adult patients with mMCC (EU/1/17/1214/001). Avelumab is the first highly effective therapy approved by the European Medicines Agency (EMA) for mMCC.

Clinical question 1

The unmet need for patients with mMCC in combination with the early and potent efficacy of avelumab in the treatment of mMCC led to approval based on a single-arm Phase II trial, JAVELIN Merkel 200, which was not originally designed as a pivotal trial. Due to the lack of control substances that are evidently effective against the aggressive disease, there are ethical constraints for further evidence generation. We therefore present a historical comparison with off-label chemotherapy as part of the benefit assessment.

The JAVELIN Merkel 200 part B is an international multicenter, single-arm, open-label clinical trial of first Line (L1) avelumab monotherapy. Eligible patients were adults with mMCC who has not received prior systemic treatment for metastatic disease. Patients were not selected for PD-L1 expression or Merkel cell polyomavirus status. Primary end point was durable response, defined as an objective response with a duration of at least 6 months. Secondary end points include best overall response, duration of response, progression-free survival, safety, and tolerability.

In the present application, we have evaluated efficacy and safety parameters for avelumab treatment of mMCC patients being treatment naïve and compared it to historic data for cisplatin or carboplatin (mainly combined with etoposide), as requested in the protocol defined by the Danish Medicines Council for the evaluation of clinical efficacy of avelumab in mMCC.

The Danish Medicines council's Minimal clinically relevant difference (DMC's MCRD) for median OS rate on 3 months was reached by data provided by JAVELIN Merkel 200 part B and Iyer et al. 2016 by 10.8 month in favour of avelumab.

The DMC's MCRD for median OS rate on 3 months was reached by data provided by JAVELIN Merkel 200 part B and Cowey et al. 2017 by 9.8 month in favour of avelumab

At no point did an immediate difference in Median OS rate in favour of chemotherapy reached the 3 months defined by the DMC to be clinically relevant.

The DMC's MCRD for 12-month OS rate on 10% was reached by data provided by JAVELIN Merkel 200 part B and Becker et al. 2017 by 31.4% in favour of avelumab.

The DMC's MCRD for 12-month OS rate on 10% was reached by data provided by JAVELIN Merkel 200 part B and Cowey et al. 2017 by 14.7% in favour of avelumab.

At no point did an immediate difference in OS 12-month rate in favour of chemotherapy reached the 10%-point defined by the DMC to be clinically relevant.

The DMC's MCRD for 6-month PFS rate on 10% was reached by data provided by JAVELIN Merkel 200 part B and Becker et al. 2017 by 23.1% in favour of avelumab.

The DMC's MCRD for 12-month PFS rate on 10% was reached by data provided by JAVELIN Merkel 200 part B and Becker et al. 2017 by 31.0% in favour of avelumab.

At no point did an immediate difference in PFS 6- and 12-month rate in favour of chemotherapy reached the 10%-point defined by the DMC to be clinically relevant.

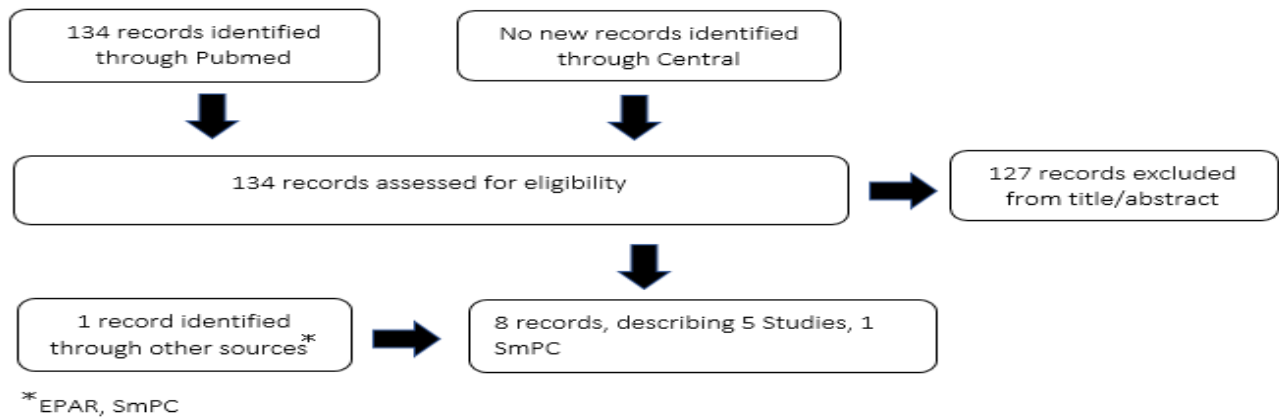
The DMC's MCRD for Serious adverse events, grade 3-4 is 10%. The immediate difference did not reach 10%.

It was not possible to carry out any indirect comparative analysis for QoL, as no data are available for this outcome for the JAVELIN Merkel 200 part B or the three chemotherapy studies.

The DMC's MCRD for ORR is 10%. The immediate difference was reached both in favour of avelumab and chemotherapy.

4 Literature search

Systematic literature searches for clinical question 1 were performed in MEDLINE via PubMed and in CENTRAL via Cochrane Library on 26th April 2020 according to the search strategies provided in the protocol for assessment of avelumab [1]. No language or date limits were applied. The complete search strategies are summarised in [Appendix I Figure 4-5](#). A total of 134 records were identified in MEDLINE and no further in CENTRAL. The records were screened and assessed by two researchers independently based on the PICO (patients, intervention, comparator, outcomes) and inclusion and exclusion criteria as described in the assessment protocol for avelumab [1]. The inclusion and exclusion criteria are summarised in [Figure 2](#). Based on screening at the title and abstract level, 129 references were excluded. After full-text screening of the remaining 5 publications, these were all included. A PRISMA flow diagram of the selection process is provided in [figure 1](#). No disagreements were noted between researchers during the selection process. After selection of relevant articles, data were extracted into a project-specific Microsoft Excel table by one researcher and a second researcher independently checked the data extraction for accuracy and completeness. No disagreements were noted. The relevant Summary of product characteristics (SmPC) [2] have been consulted.

FIGURE 1: PRISME FLOW DIAGRAM

FIGURE 2: INCLUSION AND EXCLUSION CRITERIA USED TO SELECT RELEVANT PUBLICATIONS

Inclusion criteria	Population: Adult patients with metastatic Merkel cell carcinoma (MCC) Intervention(s): Bavencio monotherapy Comparator(s): Platinum-based combination chemotherapy (primarily with etoposide) Outcomes: Survival (OS), if OS not applicable Progression free survival (PFS), Adverse events (AE), Quality of Life (QoL), Overall Response Rates (ORR) Settings (if applicable): 1. line Study design: Randomized. If randomized not applicable, then single arm design Language restrictions: Non Other search limits or restrictions applied: None
Exclusion criteria	Population: Other than: Adult patients with metastatic Merkel cell carcinoma (MCC) Intervention(s): Other than: Bavencio monotherapy Comparator(s): Other than: Platinum-based combination chemotherapy (primarily with etoposide) Outcomes: Non Settings (if applicable): 2 nd or later lines Study design: Other than: Randomized or single arm design Language restrictions: None Other search limits or restrictions applied: Case report, comment, Editorial, News, Review, Systematic Review

4.1 Relevant studies

TABLE 3 RELEVANT STUDIES INCLUDED IN THE ASSESSMENT

Reference (title, author, journal, year)	Trial name	NCT number	Dates of study (start and expected completion date)
Bavencio® (<i>avelumab</i>) SmPC New SmPC data has been published in June 2019 and includes 116 patients with more than 12 months follow-up. After the full enrolment of Part B, a subsequent interim analysis was conducted with 116 patients who received at least one dose of avelumab and with at least 7 months of follow-up at the time of the data cut-off (cut-off date 14 September 2018). [2]	Avelumab in Subjects with Merkel Cell Carcinoma (JAVELIN Merkel 200) part B	NCT02155647	<i>Start date: July 3, 2014. Estimated completion date: May 3, 2024</i>
SP D'Angelo S et al. JAMA Oncol. 2018;4(9): e180077. Efficacy and Safety of First-line Avelumab Treatment in Patients with Stage IV Metastatic Merkel Cell Carcinoma. A Preplanned Interim Analysis of a Clinical Trial. (Cut-off date March 24 2017). [3]	Avelumab in Subjects with Merkel Cell Carcinoma (JAVELIN Merkel 200) part B	NCT02155647	<i>Same</i>
SP D'Angelo S et al. SITC 34th Annual meeting 2019 Poster ID: P362 First-line avelumab treatment in patients with metastatic Merkel cell carcinoma: primary analysis after ≥15 months of follow-up from JAVELIN Merkel 200, a registrational phase 2 trial [4]	Avelumab in Subjects with Merkel Cell Carcinoma (JAVELIN Merkel 200) part B	NCT02155647	<i>Same</i>
Cowey CL, Mahnke L, Espirito J, Helwig C, Oksen D, Bhamal M. Real-world outcomes of patients with metastatic Merkel cell carcinoma treated with chemotherapy in the USA. <i>Future Oncol.</i> 2017;13(19):1699-710. [5]	Retrospective study: Real-world treatment outcomes in patients with metastatic Merkel cell carcinoma treated with chemotherapy in the USA.	N/A	N/A
Becker JC, Lorenz E, Ugurel S, Eigentler TK, Kiecker F, Pföhler C, et al. Evaluation of real-world treatment outcomes in patients with distant metastatic Merkel cell carcinoma following second-line chemotherapy in Europe. <i>Oncotarget.</i> 2017;8(45):79731–41.[6]	Retrospective study: Evaluation of real-world treatment outcomes in patients with distant metastatic Merkel cell carcinoma following second-line chemotherapy in Europe. (The study also include data on first-line treatment which is used in the evaluation)	N/A	N/A
Iyer JG, Blom A, Doumani R, Lewis C, Tarabardkar ES, Anderson A, et al. Response rates and durability of chemotherapy among 62 patients with metastatic Merkel cell carcinoma. <i>Cancer Med.</i> 2016;5(9):2294–301. [7]	Retrospective study: Response rates and durability of chemotherapy among 62 patients with metastatic Merkel cell carcinoma	N/A	N/A

4.2 Main characteristics of included studies

We have chosen the following studies to address the clinical question 1 related to use of first line (1L) avelumab in metastatic Merkel Cell Carcinoma (mMCC) as requested in the protocol from the Danish Medicines Council (DMC):

- 1) Avelumab in subjects with Merkel Cell Carcinoma: JAVELIN Merkel 200 part B. [2-4]
- 2) Three retrospective studies of platinum-based chemotherapy (mainly combined with etoposide treatment).[5-7]

JAVELIN MERKEL 200 part B is a prospective, international (North America, Europe, Australia and Asia), multicentre (35 centres), open-label, single arm, phase 2 clinical trial of 1L avelumab monotherapy. Patients were not selected for programmed death ligand 1 (PD-L1) expression or Merkel cell polyomavirus. Tumour assessment was performed by blinded independent reviewers. An interim analysis of 29 patients has been published by D'Angelo et al. 2018 [3], while data from the full cohort of JAVELIN Merkel 200 part B (116 patients) are included in the newest version of the SmPC [2]. Due to its longer follow-up and the full cohort data, the SmPC will primarily be referred to together with the ≥ 15 months of follow-up from JAVELIN Merkel 200 [4].

CL Cowey et al. 2017 is a retrospective study of patients in the USA with mMCC which aimed to access responses to second line and later (2L+) and 1L chemotherapy. Data was obtained from iKnowMed, an oncology-specific electronic health record. The system captures outpatient medical histories from community oncology practices across the USA. [5]

JC Becker et al. 2017 is a retrospective study of patients in German-speaking countries with mMCC which aimed to access response to second line (2L) and 2L+ chemotherapy. Responses to prior 1L chemotherapy were also recorded. Retrospective anonymized patient-level information was extracted from an observational, real-world MCC-specific registry that was established in 2005. Data was collected from 56 centres (53 in Germany, 2 in Austria, and 1 in Switzerland). [6]

JG Iyer et al. 2016 was a retrospective study of patients in the USA with mMCC treated with cytotoxic chemotherapy. Data was obtained from a thorough chart review of patients enrolled in the Seattle-based repository. [7]

An overview of the main characteristics of the included studies is presented in [Table 4](#), while detailed descriptions of the individual studies is provided in [Appendix II, Table 10-13](#).

TABLE 4 MAIN CHARACTERISTICS OF INCLUDED STUDIES

Study	JAVELIN Merkel 200 - part B [2]	Cowey et al. 2017 [5]	Becker et al. 2017 [6]	Iyer et al. 2016 [7]
Patients, n	116	67	34 (32 [*])	62
Immunocompetent, n (%)	116 (100)	51 (76.1)	28 (87.5)	48 (77.4)
Immunocompromised, n (%)	0 (0)	16 (23.9)	4 (12.5)	14 (22.6)
Study type	International, multicentre, single-arm, open-label	Retrospective	Retrospective	Retrospective
Data collection	Enrolled from 35 centres in North America, Europe, Australia, and Asia	Patient identified in the US Oncology Network, IknowMed database	Real world MCC specific registry data was collected from 56 centres (53 in Germany, 2 in Austria, and 1 in Switzerland)	Seattle-based repository. Patients was treated at several different institutions, Including University of Washington
Inclusion period	April 2015 - Feb. 2019	All before Sep. 2014	Nov. 2004 - Sep. 2015	All before Jan. 2014
Treatment	Avelumab monotherapy	42 out of 51 (82%) patients received platinum-based chemotherapy (combined with etoposide treatment)	5 out of 29 (17%) patients received platinum-based chemotherapy (combined with etoposide treatment)	43 out of 62 (69%) patients received platinum-based chemotherapy (combined with etoposide treatment)

* Two patients were excluded from the analysis of response to 1L chemotherapy due to lack of conformed distant mMCC at the time of 1L therapy initiation.

TABLE 5 PATIENT CHARACTERISTICS

Study	JAVELIN Merkel 200 - part B [2]	Cowey et al. 2017 [5]	Becker et al. 2017 [6]	Iyer et al. 2016 [7]
Characteristics of treatment	1L	1L	1L	1L
Patients, n	116	67	34 (32*)	62
Immunocompetent, n (%)	116 (100)	51 (76.1%)	28 (87.5)	48 (77.4)
Immunocompromised, n (%)	0 (0)	16 (23.9)	4 (12.5)	14 (22.6)
Sex, n (%)				
- Male	81 (70)	53 (79.1)	22 (64.7)	47 (76)
- Female	35 (30)	14 (20.9)	12 (35.3)	15 (24)
Race, n (%)				
- White	75 (65)	43 (64.2)	NA	NA
- Other or not documented	44 (38)	24 (35.8)	NA	NA
Age, n (%)				
- <55 years	NA	NA	7 (20.6)	NA
- 55- <65 years	NA	NA	5 (14.7)	NA
- 65- <75 years	NA	NA	17 (50.0)	NA
- <75 years	NA	32 (47.8)	29 (81.3)	NA
- ≥75years	NA	35 (52.2)	5 (14.7)	NA
Median age (range), years	74 (41-93)	75.8	67.5 (36-80)	68.7 (49-96)
ECOG performance status, n (%)				
- 0	72 (62)	14 (20.9)	NA	NA
- 1	44 (38)	32 (47.8)	NA	NA
- 2 or 3	0	8 (9.0)	NA	NA
- Unknown	0	13 (19.4)	NA	NA
Response evaluation	RECIST 1.1	RECIST 1.1	Follow-up radiological imaging procedures Ω	RECIST 1.1

* Two patients were excluded from the analysis of responses to 1L chemotherapy due to lack of confirmed distant metastatic Merkel cell carcinoma at the time of 1L therapy initiation.

Ω Because reporting according to RECIST was not standard clinical practice in the countries of the registry, confirmation of response or stable disease was based on follow-up radiological imaging procedures. In case of visible disease progression, physician evaluation of clinical appearance was used, and additional imaging was performed only if needed for therapeutic decisions.

Abbreviations: ECOG: Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group

5 Clinical questions

5.1 Clinical question 1: Which added clinical value offers avelumab compared to platinum-based combination therapy for adult patients with metastatic Merkel cell carcinoma, who are candidates for 1L treatment?

Population

Adult patients with metastatic Merkel cell carcinoma, who are treatment naïve.

Intervention

Avelumab 10 mg/kg body weight administered intravenously over 60 minutes every 2 weeks.

Comparator

Platinum-based chemotherapy (mainly combined with etoposide)

5.1.1 Presentation of relevant studies

As also noted by the DMC [1], no head-to-head study is available to enable a direct comparison between avelumab and platinum-based chemotherapy (mainly combined with etoposide) in treatment-naïve mMCC patients. Instead, a narrative comparison can be conducted, as the literature search has resulted in the identification of one trial (JAVELIN Merkel 200 part B) [2-4] with avelumab and three studies of platinum-based chemotherapy (mainly combined with etoposide). [5-7]

JAVELIN Merkel 200 consist of 2 cohorts part A with pretreated mMCC patients and part B with treatment naïve patients mMCC. We only present data from part B.

There is very limited data on the historical off-label treatment of mMCC with chemotherapy. All three studies on platinum-based chemotherapy (mainly combined with etoposide) are retrospective, and as such deviate substantially from the JAVELIN Merkel 200 trial. In the retrospective study by Cowey et al 2017 [5], we focus on 1L treatment data (treatment naïve), even though data are available both for 1L and 2L treatment. In the retrospective study by Becker et al. 2017 [6], the aim was to evaluate outcome in patients with mMCC following 2L chemotherapy treatment. However, we focus on the efficacy data for 1L chemotherapy, which are also available in the study. In the retrospective study by Iyer et al. 2016 [7], we likewise only focus on the available 1L data.

All patients in JAVELIN Merkel 200 part B are immunocompetent. The 3 chemotherapy studies include both immunocompetent and immunocompromised patients, we are only focusing on the Immunocompetent patient group in the chemotherapy studies. Only efficacy data in In Iyer at al 2016 [7] from the population immunocompetent and immunocompromised patients is available.

JAVELIN Merkel 200 part B is an international, multicentre (North America, Europe, Australia and Asia), single arm, open-label study with inclusion period April 2006 – Feb 2019 and includes 116 immunocompetent patients. The 3 chemotherapy studies are all retrospective studies, in 2 studies data was collected in USA all before 2014, with 51 and 48 immunocompetent patients [5,7]. In one

chemotherapy study data was collected in German speaking countries (53 in Germany, 2 in Austria and 1 in Switzerland) from Nov 2004 to Sep 2015, with 28 immunocompetent patients.

5.1.2 Results per study

The overall results of the included studies are summarized in Table 6 and described further in the following text. Please refer to Appendix III for additional details of the individual studies.

TABLE 6 SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO AVELUMAB AND 1L CHEMOTHERAPY

Study	JAVELIN Merkel 200 Part B* [2,4]	Cowey et al. 2017 [5]	Becker et al. 2017 [6]	Iyer et al. 2016 [7]
Patients, immunocompetent	116	51	28	62*
Median OS, month (95% CI)	20.3 (12.4-NE)	10.5 (7.2; 15.2)	NA	9.5
6-month OS rate (K-M) (%) (95% CI)	NA	66.7 (52.0; 77.8)	96.4 (77.2; 99.5)	NA
12-month OS rate (K-M) (%) (95% CI)	60.0 (50.0; 68.0)	45.3 (31.0; 58.6)	28.6 (13.5; 45.6)	NA
12-month OS rate PD-L1+ (K-M) (%) (95% CL)	71.0 (47.0-86.0)	NA	NA	NA
12-month OS rate PD-L1- (K-M) (%) (95%CL)	56.0 (45.0-66.0)	NA	NA	NA
ORR n (%) (95% CI)	46 (39.7) (30.7; 49.2)	15 (29.4) (17.5; 43.8)	13 (46.4) (27.5; 66.1)	34 (54.8)
CR n (%)	19 (16.4)	7 (13.7)	0	8 (12.9)
PR n (%)	27 (23.3)	8 (15.7)	13 (46.4)	26 (41.9)
Median DOR, month (95% CI)	18.2 (11.3 ; NE)	6.7 (1.2; 10.5)	3.3 (2.4; 3.7)	85 days
Minimum, maximum (month)	1.2; 22.1	0.9; 63.3	2.1; 6.4	NA
≥ 3 months by K-M, % (95% CI)	89 (75.0 ; 95.0)	NA	NA	NA
≥ 6 months by K-M, % (95% CI)	78 (62.0 ; 87.0))	NA	NA	NA
≥ 12 months by K-M, % (95% CI)	60 (40.0 ; 75.0)	NA	NA	NA
Median PFS, month (95 % CI)	4.1 (1.4 ; 6.1)	4.6 (2.8; 7.7)	4.7 (3.3, 5.1)	94 days (12-983)
3-month PFS rate by K-M (%) (95% CI)	51.0 (42; 60)	NA	NA	NA
6-month PFS rate by K-M (%) (95% CI)	41.0 (32; 50)	47.1 (33.0; 59.9)	17.9 (6.5; 33.7)	NA
12-month PFS rate by K-M (%) (95% CI)	31.0 (23.0 ; 40.0)	24.8 (13.8; 37.4)	0	NA

*Immunocompetent + immunocompromised patients. No efficacy data available on immunocompetent patients only

Abbreviations: DOR: Duration of response, CR: Complete Response; PR: Partial Response; CI: Confidence interval, NE: Not estimated, NA: Not applicable, PFS: Progression free survival.

TABLE 7 CHEMOTHERAPY REGIMENS AND TREATMENT DURATION IN DIFFERENT LINES OF THERAPY IN THREE DIFFERENT CHEMOTHERAPY STUDIES

Study	Cowey et al. 2017 [5]	Becker et al. 2017 [6]	Iyer et al. 2016 [7]
Chemotherapy regimens 1L, n (%)	51(100)	29 (100)	62 (100)
- Adriamycin	0	0	1 (1.6)
- Adriamycin + cytoxan	0	0	1 (1.6)
- Bevacizumab + VP-16	0	0	1 (1.6)
- Carboplatin	1 (2.0)	0	1 (1.6)
- Carboplatin + docetaxel	0	0	1 (1.6)
- Carboplatin + etoposide	32 (62.7)	1 (3.5)	0
- Carboplatin + irinotecan	0	0	2 (3.2)
- Carboplatin + paclitaxel	0	1 (3.5)	0
- Carboplatin + VP-16	0	0	31 (50.0)
- Carboplatin + VP-16 + Gemcitabine	0	0	1 (1.6)
- Cisplatin + CPT11	0	0	1 (1.6)
- Cisplatin + etoposide	9 (17.6)	4 (13.8)	0
- Cisplatin + etoposide + carboplatin	1 (2.0)	0	0
- Cisplatin + irinotecan	0	0	1 (1.6)
- Cisplatin + paclitaxel	0	2 (6.9)	0
- Cisplatin + VP-16	0	0	12 (19.4)
- Cisplatin + VP-16 + topotecan	0	0	1 (1.6)
- Cyclophosphamide + docetaxel	0	0	1 (1.6)
- Cyclophosphamide + doxorubicin	1 (2.0)	0	0
- Cyclophosphamide + doxorubicin + vincristine	1 (2.0)	0	2 (3.2)
- Cyclophosphamide + methotrexate + 5-fluorouracil	0	1 (3.5)	0
- Doxorubicin	0	1 (3.5)	0
- Etoposide	0	1 (3.5)	0
- Gemcitabine	1 (0)	0	0
- Liposomal doxorubicin	0	8 (27.6)	0
- Oral VP-16	0	0	2 (3.2)
- Paclitaxel	0	10 (34.5)	1 (1.6)
- Topotecan	5 (9.8)	0	2 (3.2)
- Topotecan + Vincristine	0	0	0
Chemotherapy regimens 2L, n (%)	14 (100)	29(100)	30 (100)
- Bortezomib	0	0	1 (3.3)
- Carboplatin	0	0	1 (3.3)
- Carboplatin + etoposide	1 (7.1)	8 (27.6)	0
- carboplatin + gemcitabine	1 (1.7)	0	0
- Carboplatin + irinotecan	0	0	1 (3.3)
- Carboplatin + paclitaxel	0	1 (3.5)	3 (9.9)
- Carboplatin + VP-16	0	0	3 (9.9)
- Cisplatin + etoposide	0	3 (10.3)	0
- Cisplatin + etoposide + carboplatin	0	0	0
- Cisplatin + irinotecan	0	0	1 (3.3)
- Cisplatin + paclitaxel	0	1 (3.5)	0
- Cyclophosphamide + doxorubicin + vincristine	4 (28.6)	2 (6.9)	0
- Cyclophosphamide + methotrexate + 5-fluorouracil	0	0	0
- Cytoxan + adriamycin + vincristine	0	0	4 (13.3)
- Docetaxel	0	3 (10.3)	1 (3.3)
- Doxorubicin	0	0	0
- Etoposide	1 (7.1)	0	1 (3.3)
- Gemcitabine	0	0	0
- Imatinib mesylate	0	0	1 (3.3)

- Irinotecan	1 (1.7)	0	1 (3.3)
- Irinotecan + mitomycin C	0	0	1 (3.3)
- Liposomal doxorubicin	0	7 (24.1)	0
- Oral VP-16	0	0	0
- Paclitaxel	0	4 (13.8)	5 (16.6)
- Thalidomide + temozolomide	0	0	0
- Topotecan	6 (42.9)	0	7 (23.3)
Chemotherapy regimens 3L, n (%)	NA		NA
- Cisplatin + etoposide		1 (20.0)	
- Doxorubicin		1 (20.0)	
- Etoposide		1 (20.0)	
- Paclitaxel		1 (20.0)	
- Temozolomide		1 (20.0)	
Duration of treatment, median months (range)			NA
1L	2.4 (0.1-15.9)	4.5 (1.8-6.0)	
2L	1.76 (0.07-5.1)*	2.6 (1.5-5.9)	
3L		2.5 (1.6-3.2)	

*2L+

JAVELIN Merkel 200 part B

The first results (preplanned analysis, 29 patients with a minimum of 3 months follow-up) of the JAVELIN Merkel 200 - part B are presented in D'Angelo et al. 2018 [3]. Results of the full part B cohort (116 patients with more than 7 months of follow-up) can be found in the avelumab SmPC [2]. A≥15 months of follow-up from JAVELIN Merkel 200 – part B were presented by D'Angelo et al. 2019 [4]. An overview of the available results is provided in [Appendix III, Table 14](#). Specific information, selected results and comments for the individual outcomes are provided below. Since the data provided in the SmPC includes the full Part B cohort, these will primarily be referred to. Overviews of patient characteristics and the available results are provided in [Table 5-7](#).

Overall survival

Among patients receiving 1L avelumab the median OS was 20.3 month (95% CI: 12.4 – NE).

The 12-month OS rate was 60.0% (95% CI: 50.0 ; 68.0) in the overall population. In PD-L1+ and PD-L1- subgroups, 12-month OS rates were 71% (95% CI: 47%-86%) and 56% (95% CI: 45%-66%) respectively)[4]

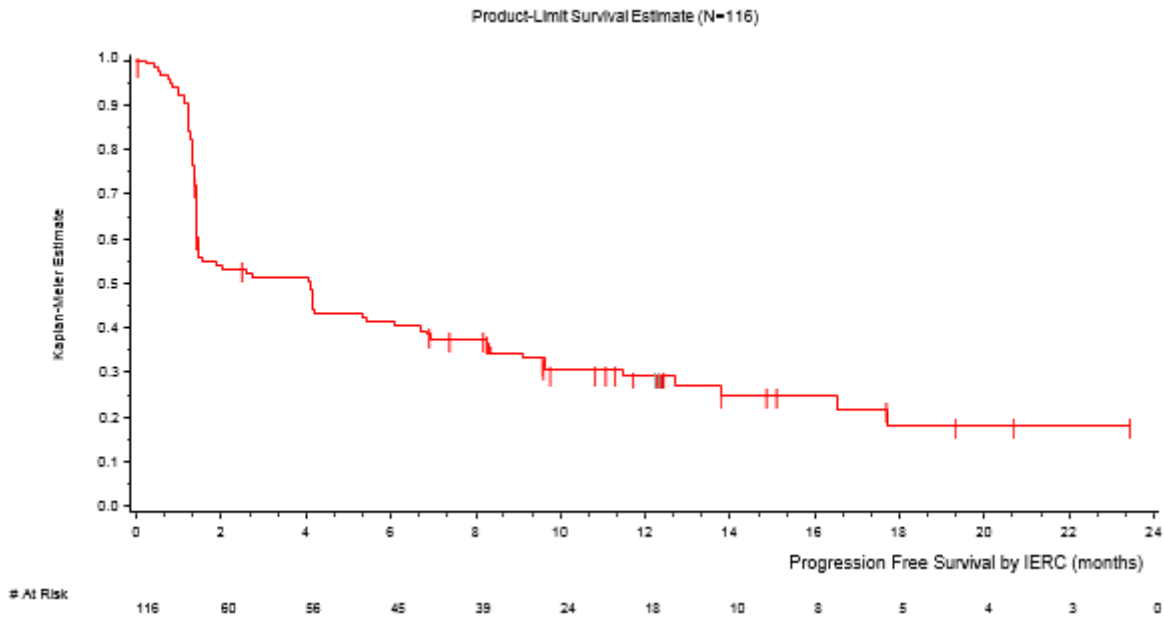
Progression-free survival

Progression-free survival (PFS) was defined as the time from randomisation to the first documentation of objective disease progression (as determined by blinded independent central review according to Response Evaluation Criteria in Solid Tumors (RECIST), version 1.1) or death due to any cause, whichever occurred first [3].

In the ITT population, the median PFS was 4.1 months (95% CI: 1.4; 6.1) in patients treated with avelumab.

The 6 month PFS rate was 41.0% (95% CI: 32; 50) [3], and the 12-month PFS rate by Kaplan-Meier analysis was 31.0% (95% CI: 23.0 ; 40.0) [4].

FIGURE 3 KAPLAN-MEIER PLOT OF PFS IN THE JAVELIN MERKEL 200 - PART B



Kaplan-Meier plot of PFS in the ITT population. From SmPC [2]. Abbreviations: IERC: Independent Endpoint Review Committee

Serious adverse events (grade 3-4)

Avelumab is most frequently associated with immune-related adverse reactions. Most of these, including severe reactions, resolved following initiation of appropriate medical therapy or withdrawal of avelumab. [2]

The safety of avelumab as monotherapy has been evaluated in 1,738 patients with solid tumours including mMCC receiving 10 mg/kg every 2 weeks of avelumab in clinical studies. The most common Grade ≥ 3 adverse reactions were anaemia (6.0%), dyspnoea (3.9%), and abdominal pain (3.0%). Serious adverse reactions were immune-related adverse reactions and infusion-related reactions. [2]

In the preplanned analysis presented by D'Angelo et al. 2019, 39 patients were evaluable for safety. Among 39 patients evaluable for safety, 8 patients (20.5%) had a grade 3 TRAE (Table 8). No grade 4 TRAEs or treatment-related deaths occurred. Treatment-related infusion-related reactions grade 3 occurred 1 patient (2.6%). [3]

TABLE 8 TREATMENT-RELATED ADVERSE EVENTS IN JAVELIN MERKEL 200 PART B

Treatment-Related Adverse Event	Grade ≥ 3 , n (%)
Any	8 (20.5)
Infusion-related reaction	1 (2.6)
Lipase increased	1 (2.6)
Elevated ALT	1 (2.6)
Blood CPK increased	1 (2.6)
Autoimmune nephritis	1 (2.6)
Cholangitis	1 (2.6)
Elevated AST	1 (2.6)
Gait disturbance	1 (2.6)
Paraneoplastic encephalomyelitis	1 (2.6)
Polyneuropathy	1 (2.6)
Paraneoplastic syndrome	1 (2.6)
Troponin increased	1 (2.6)

Abbreviations: ALT: alanine aminotransferase, AST: aspartate aminotransferase; CPK, creatine phosphokinase. Adverse events of any grade in at least 5% of patients or any grade 3 adverse event.

Safety results of the full Part B cohort is not yet available [2].

In the protocol from the DMC [1], special attention is on the following treatment related events; Nausea, vomiting, febrile neutropenia, sepsis, neuropathy, nephropathy, myelosuppression, immune-related adverse events including reversibility of the adverse events. In JAVELIN Merkel 200 part B was observed 5.1% Nausea [3], in Iyer there was observed febrile neutropenia (6.5%) and sepsis (4.8%) [7]. There was no information on treatment related events in the other chemotherapy studies.

Quality of Life

No data are available for this outcome in 1L patients. Kaufman et al [8] cannot be used since only JAVELIN Merkel 200 part A data are included (pretreated patients).

Objective response rate

The objective response rate (ORR) was defined as the percentage of patients with a confirmed best response of complete response (CR) or partial response (PR) according to RECIST, version 1.1

In the JAVELIN Merkel 200 - part B, 46 of 116 (39.7%) (95% CI: 30.7; 49.2) patients had an objective response to treatment, 19 (16.4%) of these were CR and 27 (23.3%) were PR [4]. This is in line with results obtained from a real-world experience with avelumab in patients with mMCC from an expanded global access program. Of 240 evaluable patients, 15 received 1L avelumab (patients ineligible for chemotherapy). In the 1L subgroup the ORR was 46.7% , 33.3% of these were CR

Cowey et al. 2017

The results of this retrospective study were presented by Cowey et al. 2017 [4]. An overview of patient characteristics and the available results is provided in Table 5-7.

The aim of the study was to assess patient response to 1L and 2L+ chemotherapy. Since the clinical question from the DMC only relates to 1L patients, we focus on 1L results. The OS data reported on 1L patients are affected by subsequent 2L treatment. The chemotherapy regimens used in all treatment lines are presented in Table 7.

In Cowey et al. 2017, the primary analysis was restricted to immunocompetent patients [5]. In the JAVELIN Merkel 200 - part B trial immunocompromised patients were excluded [8]. To enable the best possible comparison between this and the JAVELIN Merkel 200 part B trial, the focus will be on the primary analysis conducted on immunocompetent patients.

Data were obtained from iKnowMed, an oncology-specific electronic health record (EHR). The system captures outpatient medical histories from community oncology practices across the USA in The US Oncology Network, which includes over 1000 physicians in practices across 19 states. Records from 1 November 2004 to 30 September 2014 were searched, and qualifying patients were followed up to the end of the study period (30 June 2015) unless lost to follow-up or a record of death occurred first. [5]

All evaluations in this observational study were determined by clinicians either as noted in the patient chart by the radiology scan report or the treating physician's progress notes or as interpreted by the clinician reviewer. [4]

Overall survival

The Social Security Death Index was the primary source of death information, supplemented by iKnowMed data. OS was estimated using Kaplan-Meier methodology [5].

In the primary analysis restricted to immunocompetent patients the median OS was 10.5 months (95% CI 7.2-15.2) [5].

In the overall patient population (immunocompetent plus immunocompromised) the median OS was 10.2 months (95% CI 7.4-15.2) [5].

Progression-free survival

In the primary analysis the median PFS was 4.6 months (95% CI 2.8-7.7).

In the overall patient population, the median PFS was 4.6 months (95% CI 3.0-7.0) [5].

Serious adverse events (grade 3-4)

There are no serious adverse event results presented by Cowey et al. 2017 [4].

Quality of life

There is no quality of life (QoL) results presented by Cowey et al. 2017 [5].

Objective response rate

ORR, defined as the number of patients who reached a best overall response of CR or PR divided by the total number of patients, was based on clinical review of physician progress notes and radiology reports as available in the EHR to assess measurable disease using RECIST version 1.1 as a guide. Patients without baseline measurable disease were classified as not evaluable.

In the study by Cowey et al. 2017, 15 of 51 immunocompetent (29.4%) patients had an objective response to treatment, 7 (13.7%) of these were CR and 8 (15.7%) were PR [5].

Becker et al. 2017

The results of this retrospective study were presented by Becker et al. 2017 [3]. Overviews of patient characteristics and available results are provided in Table 5 and Table 6.

The aim of the study was to assess the efficacy of 2L chemotherapy, while efficacy data on 1L patients were also included [3]. We focus on the latter, as the clinical question provided by the DMC relates only to 1L patients. The OS data reported for 1L patients are affected by subsequently 2L treatment. The chemotherapy regimens used in all treatment lines are presented in Table 7.

The primary analysis was restricted to immunocompetent patients. In the JAVELIN Merkel 200 - part B trial immunocompromised patients was excluded. To enable the best possible comparison between this and the JAVELIN Merkel 200 - part B trial, the focus will be on the primary analysis on immunocompetent patients. [3]

Retrospective anonymized patient-level information was extracted from an observational, real-world MCC specific registry that was established in 2005 in German-speaking countries. Patients were identified through a collaboration between IMS Health and the German Cancer Research Centre (Deutsches Krebsforschungszentrum). Data in the registry were collected from 56 clinical sites (53 in Germany, 2 in Austria, and 1 in Switzerland). Records from November 1, 2004 through September, 2005 were searched, and qualifying patients were followed through December 31, 2005. [3]

Because reporting according to RECIST was not the standard clinical practice in the countries of the registry, conformation of response or stable disease was based on follow-up radiological imaging procedures. In case of visible disease progression, physician evaluation of clinical appearance was used, and additional imaging was performed only if needed for therapeutic decisions. [3]

Patient outcome with 1L chemotherapy were analysed in 32 patients, of whom 28 (87.5%) were classified as immunocompetent and qualified for inclusion in the main analysis group. [3]

Overall survival

Kaplan-Meier estimates were used for all time-to-event analyses.

In the analysis restricted to immunocompetent patients the median OS was not reported. The OS rate at 12 months was 28.6% (95% CI: 13.5-45.6). [3]

Progression-free survival

In the analysis restricted to immunocompetent patients the median PFS were not reported. In the analysis restricted to immunocompetent the PFS rate was 17.9% (95% CI: 6.5-33.7) at 6 months and 0% at 12 months. [3]

Serious adverse events (grade 3-4)

There are no serious adverse event results presented by Becker et al. 2017 [3].

Quality of life

There is no QoL results presented by Becker et al. 2017 [3].

Objective response rate

ORR was defined as the number of patients who reached a best overall response of CR or PR divided by the total number of patients.

Thirteen of 28 immunocompetent (46.4%) patients had an objective response to treatment, all these were PR. [3]

Iyer et al. 2016

The results of this retrospective study were presented by Iyer et al. 2016 [7]. Overviews of patient characteristics and the available results are provided in Table 5 and Table 6.

The aim of the study was to assess patient response to 1L and 2L+ chemotherapy. Since the clinical question provided by the DMC relates to 1L patients, we focus on the results for this group. The OS data reported on 1L patients are affected by subsequently 2L treatment. The chemotherapy regimens used in all treatment lines are presented in Table 7.

The analysis included immunocompetent plus immunosuppressed patients. In the JAVELIN Merkel 200 - part B trial immunocompromised patients were excluded. Since Iyer et al. 2016 did not provide specific data or analyses for the immunocompetent population, an indirect comparison between the data provided by Iyer et al. 2016 and the JAVELIN Merkel 200 - part B trial is not optimal. Still, due to the very limited data on MCC we have chosen to include the Iyer et al. 2016 data [7].

In this retrospective study, they performed a thorough chart review of patients enrolled in the Seattle-repository. Patients and tumour characteristic were collected until last follow-up, death of the patient, or cut-off date for data collection for this study, 7 January 2014. They collected data on age, sex, number, size, exposure to previous and subsequent therapies, lesions targeted or treated using other modalities such as surgery/radiation therapy, treatment dates, scan/physicians reports, response to treatment per RECIST version 1.1, when available, and acute and late toxicity. Imaging data following 1L chemotherapy were available for 58 of the 62 patients. In the remaining four cases, they relied on the physician's note to assess the extent of response. Of these four patients, three had extent of response. Of these four patients, three had cutaneous disease evaluable by physical examination and one patient died of progressive mMCC within 2 weeks from the start of chemotherapy [7].

Patient outcome with 1L chemotherapy were analysed in 62 patients, of whom 48 (77.4%) were classified as immunocompetent and 14 (22.6%) as immunosuppressed. Only data on the total group of 62 patients are available [7].

Overall survival

Among patients receiving 1L chemotherapy median OS was 9.5 month from start of chemotherapy. [7]

Progression-free survival

Among patients only receiving 1L chemotherapy the median PFS was 94 days (range 12-983). [7]

Serious adverse events (grade 3-4)

Serious AEs included febrile neutropenia (6.5%) and sepsis (4.8%). Commonly observed AEs included fatigue, alopecia, nausea, vomiting, mucositis, neutropenia-pancytopenia, and renal toxicity. No patients died due to direct toxicity from chemotherapy in this cohort. [7]

Quality of life

There is no QoL results presented by Iyer et al. 2016 [7].

Objective response rate

ORR was defined as the number of patients who reached a best overall response of CR or PR divided by the total number of patients.

Thirty-four of 62 (55%) patients had an objective response to treatment, 8 (13%) of these were CR and 26 (42%) were PR. [7]

5.1.3 Comparative analyses

The results of the indirect comparisons conducted are summarised in [Table 18](#). Specific comments for the individual endpoints are provided below.

Overall survival

Median OS

The results of the immediate comparisons conducted are summarised in [Table 18](#).

The immediate difference between the median OS provided by JAVELIN 200 part B and and Cowey et al. 2017 is **9.8 month in favour of avelumab**.

It was not possible to calculate the immediate difference of median OS rate comparisons between Javelin Merkel 200 - part B and Becker et al. 2017, since no data median OS was reported by Becker et al. 2017.

In Iyer et al. 2016, no separate analyses were conducted for the immunocompetent patients. The immediate difference between the median OS values provided by JAVELIN Merkel 200 – part B and Iyer et al. 2016 (immunocompetent and immunosuppressed) is 10.8 months in favour of avelumab.

The DMC's MCRD for median OS on 3 month [1] was reached by data provided by JAVELIN Merkel 200 part B and Cowey et al. 2017 by 9.8 month in favour of avelumab.

The DMC's MCRD for median OS on 3 month [1] was reached by data provided by JAVELIN Merkel 200 part B and Iyer et al. 2016 by 10.8 month in favour of avelumab.

The results of this immediate differences suggest that avelumab has a higher clinical value compared to chemotherapy.

12-month OS rate

The results of the immediate comparisons conducted are summarised in [Table 18](#).

The immediate difference in 12-month OS rate values provided by JAVELIN Merkel 200 part B and Cowey et al. 2017 is 14.7% in favour of avelumab.

The immediate difference in 12-month OS rate values provided by JAVELIN Merkel 200 part B and Becker et al. 2017 is 31.4% in favour of avelumab.

It was not possible to calculate the immediate difference of 12-month OS rate comparisons between Javelin Merkel 200 - part B and Iyer et al. 2016, since no data on 12-month OS rate was reported by Iyer et al. 2016.

The DMC's MCRD for 12-month OS rate on 10% [1] was reached by data provided by JAVELIN Merkel 200 part B and Cowey et al. 2017 by 14.7% in favour of avelumab.

The DMC's MCRD for 12-month OS rate on 10% [1] was reached by data provided by JAVELIN Merkel 200 part B and Becker et al. 2017 by 31.4% in favour of avelumab.

The results of this immediate differences suggest that avelumab has a higher clinical value compared to chemotherapy.

18-month OS rate

It was not possible to calculate the immediate difference of 18-month OS rate comparisons between Javelin Merkel 200 - part B and the 3 chemotherapy studies since no data on 18-month PFS rate was reported.

Progression-free survival

Median PFS

The results of the immediate comparisons conducted are summarised in [Table 18](#).

The immediate difference between the median PFS values provided by JAVELIN Merkel 200 part B and Cowey et al. 2017 is 0.5 months in favour of chemotherapy.

The immediate difference between the median PFS values provided by JAVELIN Merkel 200 part B and Becker et al. 2017 is 0.6 months in favour of chemotherapy.

In Iyer et al. 2016, no separate analyses were conducted for the immunocompetent patients. The immediate difference between the median PFS values provided by JAVELIN Merkel 200 – part B and Iyer et al. 2016 (immunocompetent and immunosuppressed) is 1.0 months in favour of avelumab.

The result of this immediate difference did not reach the DMC's MRCR for median PFS on 3 months [1]. We therefore conclude that there is no difference between treatment with avelumab and treatment with chemotherapy in terms of median PFS.

6-month PFS rate

The results of the immediate comparisons conducted are summarised in [Table 18](#).

The immediate difference in 6-month PFS rate values provided by JAVELIN Merkel 200 part B and Cowey et al. 2017 is 6.1% in favour of chemotherapy.

The immediate difference in 6-month PFS rate values provided by JAVELIN Merkel 200 part B and Becker et al. 2017 is 23.1% in favour of avelumab.

It was not possible to calculate the immediate difference of 6-month PFS rate comparisons between Javelin Merkel 200 - part B and Iyer et al. 2016, since no data on 6-month PFS rate was reported by Iyer et al. 2016.

The DMC's MCRD for 6-month PFS rate on 10% [1] was reached by data provided by JAVELIN Merkel 200 part B and Becker et al. 2017 by 23.1% in favour of avelumab. The results of this immediate difference suggest that avelumab has a higher clinical value compared to chemotherapy.

12-month PFS rate

The results of the immediate comparisons conducted are summarised in [Table 18](#).

The immediate difference in 12-month PFS rate values provided by JAVELIN Merkel 200 part B and Cowey et al. 2017 is 6.2% in favour of avelumab.

The immediate difference in 12-month PFS rate values provided by JAVELIN Merkel 200 –part B and Becker et al. 2017 is 31.0% in favour of avelumab.

It was not possible to conduct indirect 12-month PFS rate comparisons between Javelin Merkel 200 part B and Iyer et al. 2016, since no 12-month PFS rate was reported by Iyer et al. 2016.

The DMC's MCRD for 12-month PFS rate on 10% [1] was reached by data provided by JAVELIN Merkel 200 part B and Becker et al. 2017 by 31.0% in favour of avelumab. The results of this immediate difference suggest that avelumab has a higher clinical value compared to chemotherapy.

At no point did an immediate difference in PFS 6- and 12-month rate in favour of chemotherapy reach the 10%-point defined by the DMC to be clinically relevant.

Quality of life

It was not possible to carry out any indirect comparative analysis for QoL, as no data are available for this outcome for the JAVELIN Merkel 200 - part B or the three chemotherapy studies.

Serious adverse events, grade 3-4

The results of the immediate comparisons conducted are summarised in [Table 18](#) and [Table 8](#).

Safety on 39 patients from JAVELIN Merkel 200 part B was reported by D'Angelo et al. 2018 [3]. No immune-related grade 3-4 treatment-related adverse events were reported, only grade 1. 8 patients (20.5%) experienced grade 3-4 AEs. These are listed in [Table 8](#). No safety data are reported on the complete cohort of 116 patients in JAVELIN Merkel 200 Part B.

Serious AEs were reported in Iyer et al. 2016 [7] with limited details. Serious AEs included febrile neutropenia (6.5%) and sepsis (4.8%).

No safety information was reported by Cowey et al 2017 or Becker et al. 2017 [5-6].

In the protocol from the DMC [1], special attention is on the following treatment related events; Nausea, vomiting, febrile neutropenia, sepsis, neuropathy, nephropathy, myelosuppression, immune-related adverse events including reversibility of the adverse events. These are listed in [Table 8](#).

TABLE 9 TREATMENT-RELATED ADVERSE EVENTS OF SPECIAL INTEREST

Study	JAVELIN Merkel 200 - part B [3]. Ω	Iyer et al 2016 [7]
Patients (n)	29	62
Nausea	5.1%	Commonly observed
Vomiting	NA	Commonly observed
Febrile neutropenia	NA	6.5% [†]
Sepsis	NA	4.8% [†]
Neuropathy	NA	NA
Nephropathy	NA	NA
Myelosuppression	NA	NA
<i>Immune-related AE</i>		
• Hypothyroidism	0	NA
• Hyperthyroidism	0	NA
• Pneumonitis	0	NA
• Type 1 diabetes mellitus	0	NA

*Iyer et al. was the only chemotherapy study which presented some adverse events data

[†]defined by Iyer as serious AE

Ω Based on table including EAs of any grade in at least 5% of patients or any grade 3 adverse events

The DMC's MCRD for Serious adverse events, grade 3-4 is 10%. The immediate difference does not reach 10%.

Objective response rate

The immediate difference in ORR provided by JAVELIN Merkel 200 part B and Cowey et al. 2017 is 10.3% in favour of avelumab.

The immediate difference in ORR provided by JAVELIN Merkel 200 part B and Becker et al. 2017 is 6.7% in favour of chemotherapy.

The immediate difference in ORR provided by JAVELIN Merkel 200 part B and Iyer et al. 2016 is 15.3% in favour of chemotherapy.

The DMC's MCRD for ORR is 10% [1]. This was reached both in favour of avelumab and chemotherapy, suggesting no difference between avelumab and chemotherapy in terms of ORR.

6 References

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7 Appendices

APPENDIX I: Search strategies and search results for MEDLINE and CENTRAL

FIGURE 4 INCLUSION AND EXCLUSION CRITERIA (same as figure 2 in the main document)

<p>Inclusion criteria</p>	<p>Population: Adult patients with metastatic Merkel cell carcinoma (MCC) Intervention(s): Bavencio monotherapy Comparator(s): Platinum-based combination chemotherapy (primarily with etoposide) Outcomes: Survival (OS), if OS not applicable Progression free survival (PFS), Adverse events (AE), Quality of Life (QoL), Overall Response Rates (ORR) Settings (if applicable): 1. line Study design: Randomized. If randomized not applicable, then single arm design Language restrictions: Non Other search limits or restrictions applied: None</p>
<p>Exclusion criteria</p>	<p>Population: Other than: Adult patients with metastatic Merkel cell carcinoma (MCC) Intervention(s): Other than: Bavencio monotherapy Comparator(s): Other than: Platinum-based combination chemotherapy (primarily with etoposide) Outcomes: Non Settings (if applicable): 2nd or later lines Study design: Other than: Randomized or single arm design Language restrictions: None Other search limits or restrictions applied: Case report, comment, Editorial, News, Review, Systematic Review</p>

FIGURE 5 SEARCH STRATEGY, PUBMED <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed>

#	Søgetermer	Kommentar
1	Carcinoma, Merkel Cell[mh]	Søgeord for indikation. De søges som MeSH termer, og som fritekst i titel og abstract
2	(merkel cell[tiab] OR merkel cells[tiab] OR merkle[tiab]) AND (cancer[tiab] OR carcinoma*[tiab] OR tumor[tiab] OR tumors[tiab] OR tumour[tiab] OR tumours[tiab])	
3	#1 OR #2	
4	Neoplasm Metastasis[mh]	
5	mMCC[tiab] OR metastatic[tiab] OR metastas*[tiab] OR advanced[tiab] OR aMCC[tiab]	
6	#4 OR #5	
7	#3 AND #6	
8	avelumab[nm] OR avelumab[tiab] OR bavencio*[tiab]	Søgeord for ansøgers lægemiddel og komparator. De søges som Supplementary Concept/Substance, og som fritekst i titel og abstract
9	Etoposide[mh] OR etoposide[tiab]	
10	Platinum Compounds[mh] or Cisplatin[mh] OR Organoplatinum Compounds[mh] or Carboplatin[mh]	
11	platin*[tiab] OR cisplatin[tiab] OR cis-platin[tiab] OR carboplatin[tiab]	
12	#9 AND (#10 OR #11)	
13	Antineoplastic Combined Chemotherapy Protocols[mh]	
14	chemotherapy[tiab] OR chemotherapeutic[tiab]	
15	#8 OR #12 OR #13 OR #14	Indikation og lægemidler kombineres
16	#7 AND #15	
17	case report[ti] OR Case Reports[pt] OR Comment[pt] OR Editorial[pt] OR News[pt] OR Review[pt] OR Systematic Review[pt]	Afgrænsning (eksklusion) på publikationstype.
18	#16 NOT #17	Linje 18 = Endeligt resultat

Feltkoder:
mh = MeSH Term
nm = Supplementary Concept/Substance
tiab = title/abstract, inkl. forfatterkeywords
pt = publication type

FIGURE 6 SEARCH STRATEGY, CENTRAL <https://www.cochranelibrary.com/>

#	Søgetermer	
#1	(("merkel cell" OR "merkel cells" OR merkle) near/2 (cancer OR carcinoma* OR tumo*r*)):ti,ab,kw	Søgeord for indikationen. Der søges på fritekst i titel og abstract, samt på indekserede termer fra både Medline og Embase.
#2	(mMCC OR metastatic OR metastas* OR advanced OR aMCC):ti,ab,kw	
#3	#1 AND #2	
#4	(avelumab OR avelumab OR bavencio*):ti,ab,kw	Søgeord for ansøgers lægemiddel samt komparator. Der søges på fritekst i titel og abstract, samt på indekserede termer fra Medline og Embase
#5	etoposide:ti,ab,kw	
#6	(platin* OR organoplatinum OR cisplatin OR carboplatin):ti,ab,kw	
#7	#5 AND #6	
#8	chemotherap*:ti,ab,kw	
#9	#4 OR #7 OR #8	Indikation og lægemidler kombineres
#10	#3 AND #9	
#11	("conference abstract" OR review):pt	
#12	NCT*:au	
#13	("clinicaltrials gov" OR trialsearch):so	Afgrænsning (eksklusion) på publikationstype samt (en del) af de resultater, der kommer fra clinicaltrials.gov.
#14	#11 OR #12 OR #13	
#15	#10 NOT #14	
		Linje 15 = Endeligt resultat

Feltkoder:
ti: title

ab: abstract

kw: keywords, her kontrollerede/indekserede termer fra databaserne Medline og/eller Embase.

pt = publication type

FIGURE 7 RESULT FROM MEDLINE SEARCH ONth April 26th 2020

Search	Add to builder	Query	Items found	Time
#18	Add	Search #16 NOT #17	133	08:33:02
#17	Add	Search case report[ti] OR Case Reports[pt] OR Comment[pt] OR Editorial[pt] OR News[pt] OR Review[pt] OR Systematic Review[pt]	5793276	08:32:32
#16	Add	Search #7 AND #15	365	08:32:12
#15	Add	Search #8 OR #12 OR #13 OR #14	436576	08:31:50
#14	Add	Search chemotherapy[tiab] OR chemotherapeutic[tiab]	379531	08:31:31
#13	Add	Search Antineoplastic Combined Chemotherapy Protocols[mh]	133775	08:31:09
#12	Add	Search #9 AND (#10 OR #11)	10443	08:30:48
#11	Add	Search platin*[tiab] OR cisplatin[tiab] OR cis-platin[tiab] OR carboplatin[tiab]	114369	08:30:15
#10	Add	Search Platinum Compounds[mh] or Cisplatin[mh] OR Organoplatinum Compounds[mh] or Carboplatin[mh]	69317	08:29:55
#9	Add	Search Etoposide[mh] OR etoposide[tiab]	24733	08:29:27
#8	Add	Search avelumab[nm] OR avelumab[tiab] OR bavencio*[tiab]	298	08:29:05
#7	Add	Search #3 AND #6	1506	08:28:37
#6	Add	Search #4 OR #5	872887	08:28:17
#5	Add	Search mMCC[tiab] OR metastatic[tiab] OR metastas*[tiab] OR advanced[tiab] OR aMCC[tiab]	806568	08:27:46
#4	Add	Search Neoplasm Metastasis[mh]	195585	08:27:24
#3	Add	Search #1 OR #2	3545	08:26:57
#2	Add	Search (merkel cell[tiab] OR merkel cells[tiab] OR merkle[tiab]) AND (cancer[tiab] OR carcinoma*[tiab] OR tumor[tiab] OR tumors[tiab] OR tumour[tiab] OR tumours[tiab])	3337	08:26:25
#1	Add	Search Carcinoma, Merkel Cell[mh]	2357	08:25:41

FIGURE 8 RESULTS FROM CENTRAL SEARCH

-	+	#1	("Merkel cell carcinoma")'(.ab.kw	S	Limits	68
-	+	#2	(mMCC OR metastatic OR metastas* OR advanced OR aMCC)'(.ab.kw		Limits	76794
-	+	#3	#1 AND #2		Limits	51
-	+	#4	(avelumab OR avelumab OR bavencor*)'(.ab.kw		Limits	143
-	+	#5	etoposide'(.ab.kw		Limits	3886
-	+	#6	platin* OR organoplatinum OR cisplatin OR carboplati'(.ab.kw		Limits	18692
-	+	#7	#5 AND #6		Limits	1747
-	+	#8	chemotherap*'(.ab.kw		Limits	70658
-	+	#9	#4 OR #7 OR #8		Limits	71044
-	+	#10	#3 AND #9		Limits	29
-	+	#11	("conference abstract" OR review).pt		Limits	175185
-	+	#12	NCT*.au		Limits	139230
-	+	#13	("conference abstract" OR review).pt		Limits	175185
-	+	#14	#11 OR #12 OR #13		Limits	314407
-	+	#15	#10 NOT #14		Limits	7
-	+	#16	()'(.au	S	Limits	73977

APPENDIX II: Main characteristics of included studies

Study characteristics

TABLE 10 MAIN STUDY CHARACTERISTICS JAVELIN MERKEL 200 – PART B

Trial name	JAVELIN Merkel 200 - part B
NCT number	NCT02155647
Objective	To evaluate the efficacy and safety of avelumab as 1L treatment for patients with distant mMCC.
Publications – title, author, journal, year	Efficacy and Safety of First-line Avelumab Treatment in Patients with Stage IV Metastatic Merkel Cell Carcinoma. A Preplanned Interim Analysis of a Clinical Trial D'Angelo S et al. <i>JAMA Oncol.</i> 2018;4(9): e180077.
Study type and design	JAVELIN Merkel 200 - part B is an international, multicentre, single-arm, open-label clinical trial of 1L avelumab monotherapy.
Follow-up time	At the cut-off date of March 24, 2017, 39 patients were enrolled (30 men and 9 women; median age, 75 years [range, 47-88 years]), with a median follow-up of 5.1 months (range, 0.3-11.3 months). In a preplanned analysis, efficacy was assessed in 29 patients with at least 3 months of follow-up. New SmPC data has been published in June 2019 and includes 116 patients with at least 7 months follow-up. Cut-off date for this analysis was 14 September 2018

<p>Population (inclusion and exclusion criteria)</p>	<p>Inclusion Criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signed written informed consent • Age 18 years and above • Histologically proven MCC • Subjects must have received at least 1 line of chemotherapy for metastatic MCC and must have progressed after the most recent line of chemotherapy • For Part B - Subjects must not have received any prior systemic treatment for metastatic MCC. Prior chemotherapy treatment in the adjuvant setting (no clinically detectable disease; no metastatic disease) is allowable if the end of treatment occurred at least 6 months prior to study start) • Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group (ECOG) performance status of 0 to 1 • Disease must be measurable with at least 1 uni-dimensional measurable lesion by RECIST Version 1.1 (including skin lesions) • Adequate hematological, hepatic and renal function (renal function considered adequate as per protocol definition) • Highly effective contraception for both male and female subjects, if the risk of conception exists • Fresh Biopsy or Archival Tumor Tissue • Estimated life expectancy of more than 12 weeks <p>Exclusion Criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in another interventional clinical trial within the past 30 days (participation in observational studies is permitted) • Concurrent treatment with a non-permitted drug • Prior therapy with any antibody/drug targeting T-cell coregulatory proteins (immune checkpoints) such as anti-programmed death 1 (PD-1), anti-PD-L1, or anticytotoxic T-lymphocyte antigen-4 (CTLA-4) antibody; for Part B, the Investigator must consult with the Medical Monitor and consider other co-regulatory targets such as 4-1BB • Concurrent anticancer treatment (for example, cytoreductive therapy, radiotherapy [with the exception of palliative bone-directed radiotherapy, or radiotherapy administered on non-target superficial lesions], immune therapy, or cytokine therapy except for erythropoietin). Radiotherapy administered to superficial lesions is not allowed if such lesions are considered target lesions in the efficacy evaluation or may influence the efficacy evaluation of the investigational agent • Major surgery for any reason, except diagnostic biopsy, within 4 weeks and/or if the subject has not fully recovered from the surgery within 4 weeks • Concurrent systemic therapy with steroids or other immunosuppressive agents or use of any investigational drug within 28 days before the start of trial treatment. Short-term administration of systemic steroids (that is, for allergic reactions or the management of immune-related adverse events [irAE]) while on study is allowed. Also, subjects requiring hormone replacement with corticosteroids for adrenal insufficiency are eligible if the steroids are administered only for the purpose of hormonal replacement and at doses \leq 10 mg or equivalent prednisone per day. Note: Subjects receiving bisphosphonate or denosumab are eligible. •
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- Subjects with active central nervous system (CNS) metastases are excluded. Subjects with a history of treated CNS metastases (by surgery or radiation therapy) are not eligible unless they have fully recovered from treatment, demonstrated no progression for at least 2 months, and do not require continued steroid therapy
- Previous malignant disease (other than MCC) within the last 5 years with the exception of basal or squamous cell carcinoma of the skin and for Part A cervical carcinoma in situ or for Part B carcinoma in situ (skin, bladder, cervical, colorectal, breast or low grade prostatic intraepithelial neoplasia or Grade 1 prostate cancer)
- Prior organ transplantation, including allogeneic stem-cell transplantation
- Part A: Known history of testing positive for HIV or known acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) or any positive test for hepatitis B virus or hepatitis C virus indicating acute or chronic infection. For Part B, known history of testing positive for HIV or known AIDS in consultation with the Medical Monitor or HBV or HCV infection at screening (positive HBV surface antigen or HCV RNA if anti- HCV antibody screening test positive).
- Active or history of any autoimmune disease (except for subjects with vitiligo) or immunodeficiencies that required treatment with systemic immunosuppressive drugs
- Known severe hypersensitivity reactions to monoclonal antibodies (Grade greater than or equal to (\geq) 3 NCI CTCAE v 4.0), any history of anaphylaxis, or uncontrolled asthma (that is, 3 or more features of partially controlled asthma)
- Persisting toxicity related to prior therapy Grade > 1 NCI-CTCAE v 4.0; however, sensory neuropathy Grade ≤ 2 is acceptable 14. Pregnancy or lactation
- Known alcohol or drug abuse
- Clinically significant (that is, active) cardiovascular disease: cerebral vascular accident / stroke (< 6 months prior to enrollment), myocardial infarction (< 6 months prior to enrollment), unstable angina, congestive heart failure (New York Heart Association Classification Class \geq II), or serious cardiac arrhythmia requiring medication
- All other significant diseases (for example, inflammatory bowel disease), which, in the opinion of the Investigator, might impair the subject's tolerance of trial treatment
- Any psychiatric condition that would prohibit the understanding or rendering of informed consent
- Legal incapacity or limited legal capacity
- Non oncology vaccine therapies for prevention of infectious disease (for example, seasonal flu vaccine, human papilloma virus vaccine) within 4 weeks of trial drug administration. Vaccination while on trial is also prohibited except for administration of inactivated vaccines (for example, inactivated seasonal influenza vaccine)

Intervention	<p>Patients received avelumab, 10mg/kg, by 1-hour intravenous infusion every 2 weeks until confirmed disease progression, unacceptable toxic effects, or withdrawal occurred.</p> <p>In a preplanned analysis, efficacy was assessed in 29 patients with at least 3 months of follow-up.</p> <p>New SmPC data has been published in June 2019 and includes 116 patients with at least 7 months follow-up.</p> <p>39 Enrolled and treated with more than 1 dose of avelumab and analysed for safety outcomes (29with more than 3 months follow-up analyses for efficacy outcome).</p> <p>SmPC data with 116 patients.</p>																																																																								
Baseline characteristics	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Characteristic</th> <th>N = 39</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Age, No. (%)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>< 65 years</td> <td>8 (20.5)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>≥ 65 years</td> <td>31 (79.5)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Median (range), years</td> <td>75.0 (47-88)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sex, No. (%)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Male</td> <td>30 (76.9)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Female</td> <td>9 (23.1)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Race, No. (%)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>White</td> <td>33 (84.6)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Black or African American</td> <td>1 (2.6)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Not collected at the site</td> <td>4 (10.3)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Unknown</td> <td>1 (2.6)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group performance status, No. (%)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>0</td> <td>31 (79.5)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>8 (20.5)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Site of primary tumor, No. (%)^a</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Skin</td> <td>39 (100.0)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Visceral metastases at baseline, No. (%)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Present</td> <td>26 (66.7)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Absent</td> <td>8 (20.5)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Missing^b</td> <td>5 (12.8)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Time from initial diagnosis to study entry, months</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Median</td> <td>13.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Range</td> <td>0.7-120.9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Time since first metastatic disease diagnosis, months</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Median</td> <td>3.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Range</td> <td>0.6-27.7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Prior chemotherapy, No. (%)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Yes</td> <td>5 (12.8)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>No</td> <td>34 (87.2)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Receiving prior chemotherapy, per disease state, No. (%)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Neoadjuvant</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Adjuvant</td> <td>3 (7.7)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Locally advanced</td> <td>2 (5.1)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Metastatic</td> <td>0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>^a There were no cases of unknown primary tumor.</p> <p>^b Tumor assessment per independent review committee was not available at the time of data cutoff.</p>	Characteristic	N = 39	Age, No. (%)		< 65 years	8 (20.5)	≥ 65 years	31 (79.5)	Median (range), years	75.0 (47-88)	Sex, No. (%)		Male	30 (76.9)	Female	9 (23.1)	Race, No. (%)		White	33 (84.6)	Black or African American	1 (2.6)	Not collected at the site	4 (10.3)	Unknown	1 (2.6)	Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group performance status, No. (%)		0	31 (79.5)	1	8 (20.5)	Site of primary tumor, No. (%) ^a		Skin	39 (100.0)	Visceral metastases at baseline, No. (%)		Present	26 (66.7)	Absent	8 (20.5)	Missing ^b	5 (12.8)	Time from initial diagnosis to study entry, months		Median	13.0	Range	0.7-120.9	Time since first metastatic disease diagnosis, months		Median	3.1	Range	0.6-27.7	Prior chemotherapy, No. (%)		Yes	5 (12.8)	No	34 (87.2)	Receiving prior chemotherapy, per disease state, No. (%)		Neoadjuvant	0	Adjuvant	3 (7.7)	Locally advanced	2 (5.1)	Metastatic	0
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Primary and secondary endpoints	<p>The primary endpoint was durable response, defined as an objective response with a duration of at least 6 months. Secondary endpoints included best overall response, duration of response (DOR), PFS, safety, and tolerability.</p>																																																																								
Method of analysis	<p>Tumour status was assessed every 6 weeks and evaluated by independent review committee per RECIST, version 1.1. Time-to-event endpoints were analysed by Kaplan-Meier methods; medians were calculated with corresponding CIs using the Brookmeyer-Crowley method.</p>																																																																								
Subgroup analyses	N/A																																																																								

TABLE 11 MAIN STUDY CHARACTERISTICS COWEY ET AL

Trial name	Real world treatment outcomes in metastatic Merkel cell carcinoma
NCT number	NA
Objective	The primary objective of this study was to determine the ORR achieved with 2L+ chemotherapy in MCC using RECIST version 1.1 as a guide. Key secondary objectives included assessment of DOR, PFS, OS, time to treatment discontinuation and durable response rate (DRR) as well as evaluation of these objectives in patients who received 1L chemotherapy. Safety was not assessed in this study.
Publications – title, author, journal, year	Real-world treatment outcomes in patients with metastatic Merkel cell carcinoma treated with chemotherapy in the USA. C Lance Cowey et al. <i>Future Oncol.</i> (2017) 13(19), 1699–1710
Study type and design	Real-world retrospective study of patients with distant mMCC, who have received 2L and later (2L+) or 1L chemotherapy.
Follow-up time	Data were obtained from iKnowMed, an oncology-specific EHR system maintained by McKesson Specialty Health. The system captures outpatient medical histories from community oncology practices across the USA in The US Oncology Network, which includes over 1000 physicians in practices across 19 states. Thus, these data represent multisite treatment patterns and outcomes. The Social Security Death Index was the primary source of death information, supplemented by iKnowMed data. Records from 1 November 2004 to 30 September 2014 were searched, and qualifying patients were followed up to the end of the study period (30 June 2015) unless loss to follow-up or a record of death occurred first.
Population (inclusion and exclusion criteria)	Patients in this analysis were adults ≥ 18 years of age diagnosed with distant mMCC and treated with one line (for the 1L analysis) or two or more lines (for the 2L+ analysis) of systemic chemotherapy. The 2L+ cohort was derived from the qualified 1L population. Qualifying chemotherapeutic agents for distant mMCC must have included a platinum-based agent (cisplatin or carboplatin) \pm etoposide; cyclophosphamide + doxorubicin + vincristine; topotecan; gemcitabine; irinotecan; paclitaxel; nab-paclitaxel; or docetaxel.
Intervention	Patients were treated with chemotherapy. No details are available regarding the dosage of chemotherapy, while 1L chemotherapy was given for a median of 2.4 months. For details on the chemotherapy used, see Table 7. In total, 67 patients were qualified for 1L analysis, of these 51 were immunocompetent.

Baseline characteristics	Characteristics of treatment	1L
	Patients, n	67
	Immunocompetent, n (%)	51 (76.1%)
	Immunocompromised, n (%)	16 (23.9)
	Sex, n (%)	
	- Male	53 (79.1)
- Female	14 (20.9)	
Race, n (%)		
- White	43 (64.2)	
- Other or not documented	24 (35.8)	
Age, n (%)		
- <55 years	NA	
- 55- <65 years	NA	
- 65- <75 years	NA	
- <75 years	32 (47.8)	
- ≥75 years	35 (52.2)	
Median age (range), years	75.8	
Primary and secondary endpoints	<p>The primary objective of this study was to determine the ORR achieved with 2L+ chemotherapy in MCC using RECIST version 1.1 as a guide. Key secondary objectives included assessment of DOR, PFS, OS, time to treatment discontinuation and durable response rate (DRR) as well as evaluation of these objectives in patients who received 1L chemotherapy. Safety was not assessed in this study.</p>	
Method of analysis	<p>ORR, defined as the number of patients who reached a best overall response of CR or PR divided by the total number of patients, was based on clinical review of physician progress notes and radiology report as available in the EHR to assess measurable disease using RECIST version 1.1 as a guide. Patients without baseline measurable disease was classified as not evaluable.</p> <p>DOR, TTD, PFS and OS were estimated using Kaplan–Meier methodology. DRR was defined as the proportion of patients with an objective response lasting ≥6 months.</p> <p>Time-to-event endpoints were analysed by Kaplan-Meier method.</p>	

TABLE 12 MAIN STUDY CHARACTERISTICS BECKER ET AL

Trial name	Evaluation of real-world treatment outcomes in patients with distant metastatic Merkel cell carcinoma following second-line chemotherapy in Europe.
NCT number	N/A
Objective	The primary objective was to determine the ORR achieved with second-line or later chemotherapy in immunocompetent patients with metastatic Merkel cell carcinoma. Secondary objectives included assessment of DOR, PFS, OS, and DRR. Time to progression (TTP) was also analysed for patients who had disease recurrence or progression. Safety was not assessed in this study. All study objectives were analysed in the main (immunocompetent) and overall (immunocompetent plus immunocompromised meeting eligibility criteria) populations. Responses to prior first-line chemotherapy were also recorded.
Publications – title, author, journal, year	Evaluation of real-world treatment outcomes in patients with distant metastatic Merkel cell carcinoma following second-line chemotherapy in Europe. JC Becker et al. <i>Oncotarget</i> 2017, 8(45): 79731-79741
Study type and design	Retrospective anonymized patient-level information was extracted from an observational, real-world MCC-specific registry that was established in 2005 in German-speaking countries. Patients were identified through a collaboration between IMS Health and the German Cancer Research Centre (Deutsches Krebsforschungszentrum). Data in the registry were collected from 56 clinical sites (53 in Germany, 2 in Austria, and 1 in Switzerland), including data on demographics, medical history of skin cancer and immunosuppression, clinical characteristics, treatment, and outcomes.
Follow-up time	Records from November 1, 2004, through September 15, 2015, were searched, and qualifying patients were followed through December 31, 2015.
Population (inclusion and exclusion criteria)	Patients were excluded if they had a history of any other solid tumour within 3 years before the start of treatment for MCC, except for basal or squamous cell carcinoma, bladder carcinoma <i>in situ</i> , or cervical carcinoma <i>in situ</i> . Patients with immunocompromised status due to specific hematologic diseases (chronic lymphocytic leukaemia, multiple myeloma, or hypogammaglobulinemia) or immunosuppressive treatments were eligible, although the main analysis included only immunocompetent patients.
Intervention	Patients were treated with chemotherapy. No details are available regarding the dosage of chemotherapy, while 1L chemotherapy was given for a median of 4.5 months. For details on the chemotherapy used, see Table 7. In total, 32 patients were qualified for 1L analysis, of whom 28 were immunocompetent.

Baseline characteristics	<p>In the main analysis population (immunocompetent patients), median age was 67 years (range, 36–80 years), and 62.1% of patients were male. Primary lesions occurred mainly on the scalp or neck (20.7%) and extremities (44.8%), with 1 case of unknown primary tumour (3.5%). Most patients had stage III (48.3%) or stage IV (24.1%) disease at the time of initial diagnosis. All 34 patients had received ≥ 2 lines of chemotherapy and 5 patients, all of whom were immunocompetent, had received third-line treatment. At the initiation of 1L and 2L therapy, visceral metastasis was evident in 37.9% and 55.2% of patients, respectively. Baseline patient and disease characteristics were similar in the main (immunocompetent) and overall (immunocompetent and immunocompromised) populations.</p>
Primary and secondary endpoints	<p>ORR, defined as the number of patients who reached a best overall response of CR or PR divided by the total number of patients, was based on clinical review of physician progress notes and radiology reports as available in the EHR to assess measurable disease using RECIST version 1.1 as a guide. Patients without baseline measurable disease was classified as not evaluable. DOR, TTD, PFS and OS were estimated using Kaplan–Meier methodology. DRR was defined as the proportion of patients with an objective response lasting ≥ 6 months.</p>
Method of analysis	<p>Median duration of treatment was reported separately for each line of chemotherapy received, whereas time to treatment discontinuation (TTD) was reported jointly for 2L and 3L chemotherapy. Kaplan-Meier estimates were used for all time-to-event analyses. DRR was calculated as the proportion of patients who had a complete or partial response lasting ≥ 6 months</p>
Subgroup analyses	<p>By line of treatments and immunological status</p>

Table 13 MAIN STUDY CHARACTERISTICS IYER ET AL

Trial name	Response rates and durability of chemotherapy among 62 patients with metastatic Merkel cell carcinoma
NCT number	N/A
Objective	Retrospective study of 62 patients on which we had detailed medical records to evaluate efficacy outcomes from cytotoxic chemotherapy, including response rates, DOR, and PFS for distant metastatic MCC.
Publications – title, author, journal, year	Response rates and durability of chemotherapy among 62 patients with metastatic Merkel cell carcinoma JG Iyer et al. Cancer Medicine 2016; 5(9):2294–2301
Study type and design	Retrospective study with detailed records from 62 patients with distant metastatic MCC treated with cytotoxic chemotherapy.
Follow-up time	Retrospective study based on a thorough chart review of patients enrolled in the Seattle-based repository. Patient and tumour characteristics were collected until last follow-up, death of the patient, or cut-off date for data collection for this study, 7 January 2014.
Population (inclusion and exclusion criteria)	The study cohort included 62 patients with distant metastatic MCC, who had received cytotoxic chemotherapy as initial treatment for metastatic disease and had adequate clinical and follow-up information available to allow evaluation of antitumor efficacy outcomes from chemotherapy. These patients were treated at several different institutions, including the University of Washington. Cases were only included if there was adequate information available on the details of chemotherapy including agent(s) used, the dates of administration, and tumour responses (including follow-up radiologic evaluation).
Intervention	No intervention. The study was a retrospective RWE study
Baseline characteristics	Males 76 %. Median age 68, female 24%, median age 70
Primary and secondary endpoints	Objective tumour responses were classified per RECIST 1.1 as complete response (CR), partial response (PR), stable disease, or progressive disease [14]. Efficacy endpoints included RR (the number of patients with the best response of CR or PR across all time points divided by the total number of patients receiving therapy), DOR (time from best overall response of partial or complete response to first documented disease progression), PFS (time from treatment initiation to first documented disease progression or death due to any cause), and OS (time from treatment initiation to death due to any cause). Patients without an event were censored at the time of the last tumour assessment of nonprogressive disease or, for survival, the date they were last known to be alive.
Method of analysis	Survival analyses were carried out using the Kaplan–Meier method Statistical analyses were performed using SAS software for Windows version 9.4 (SAS Institute, Inc., NC, USA).
Subgroup analyses	N/A

APPENDIX III: Results per study Comparison

TABLE 14 RESULTS OF STUDY JAVELIN MERKEL 200 PART B

Trial name:		JAVELIN Merkel 200 Part B									
NCT number:		NCT02155647									
Outcome	Study arm	N	Result (CI)	Estimated absolute difference in effect			Estimated relative difference in effect			Description of methods used for estimation	References
				Difference	95% CI	P value	Hazard/Odds/Risk ratio	95% CI	P value		
Median OS, month (95% CI)	Avelumab	116	20.3 (12.4 – NE)	-	-	-	-	-	-	Kaplan-Meier methods; median values were calculated with corresponding CI using the Brookmeyer-Crowley method	Avelumab SmPC [2]
	None										
6-month OS, probability of being event-free (95% CI)	Avelumab	116	NA	-	-	-	-	-	-		Avelumab SmPC [2]
	None										
12-month OS, probability of being event-free (95% CI)	Avelumab	116	60.0 (50.0 – 68.0)	-	-	-	-	-	-		Avelumab SmPC [2]
	None										
Median PFS, month (95% CI)	Avelumab	116	4.1 (1.4;6.1)	-	-	-	-	-	-	Kaplan-Meier methods; median values were calculated with corresponding CI using the Brookmeyer-Crowley	Avelumab SmPC [2]
	None										

						<i>method</i>	
<i>6-month PFS, probability of being event-free (95% CI)</i>	Avelumab None	116	41.0 (32;50)	-	-	<i>Kaplan-Meier estimate</i>	<i>Avelumab SmPC [2]</i>
<i>12-month PFS, probability of being event-free (95% CI)</i>	Avelumab None	116	31.0 (23.0;40.0)	-	-	<i>Kaplan-Meier estimate</i>	<i>Avelumab SmPC [2]</i>
<i>Treatment- related adverse events, grade 3-4, no of events (%)</i>	Avelumab None	116	20.5%	-	.-	<i>Summaries of adverse events were restricted to treatment emergent adverse events, defined as those with an onset during or after the first dose of trial treatment until 30 days after the last dose of trial treatment but before the start of subsequent anticancer drug therapy</i>	<i>Avelumab SmPC [2]</i>
<i>Quality of Life, LS mean change from baseline</i>	Avelumab None	116	NA	-	-		<i>Avelumab SmPC [2]</i>
<i>ORR, number of events (%)</i>	Avelumab	116	46 (39,7%)	-	--	<i>The objective response was reported with corresponding two-sided Clopper-</i>	<i>Avelumab SmPC [2]</i>

None			<i>Pearson CIs. A repeated CI for the objective response in the modified ITT analysis set (95 · 9% CI for the primary analysis) was calculated to account for the group sequential testing approach.</i>	
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TABLE 15 RESULTS OF STUDY COWEY ET AL

Trial name:		<i>Cowey et al</i>									
NCT number:		<i>NA</i>									
Outcome	Study arm	N	Result (CI)	Estimated absolute difference in effect			Estimated relative difference in effect			Description of methods used for estimation	References
				Difference	95% CI	P value	Hazard/Odds/ Risk ratio	95% CI	P value		
<i>Median OS, month (95% CI)</i>	Chemotherapy None	51	10.5 (7.2;15,2)	-			-			<i>Kaplan-Meier estimate</i>	<i>Cowey et al 2017 [4]</i>
<i>6-month OS, probability of being event-free (95% CI)</i>	Chemotherapy None	51	66.7 (52.0;77.8)	-			-			<i>Kaplan-Meier estimate</i>	<i>Cowey et al 2017 [4]</i>
<i>12-month OS, probability of being event-free (95% CI)</i>	Chemotherapy None	51	43.3 (31.0;58.6)	-			-			<i>Kaplan-Meier estimate</i>	<i>Cowey et al 2017 [4]</i>
<i>Median PFS, month (95% CI)</i>	Chemotherapy None	51	4.6 (2.8;7.7)	-			-			<i>Kaplan-Meier estimate</i>	<i>Cowey et al 2017 [4]</i>
<i>6-month PFS, probability of being event-free (95% CI)</i>	Chemotherapy None	51	47.1 (33.0;59.9)	-			-			<i>Kaplan-Meier estimate</i>	<i>Cowey et al 2017 [4]</i>
<i>12-month PFS, probability of being event-free (95% CI)</i>	Chemotherapy None	51	24.8 (13.8;37.4)	-			-			<i>Kaplan-Meier estimate</i>	<i>Cowey et al 2017 [4]</i>
<i>Treatment- related adverse events, grade 3-4, no of events (%)</i>	Chemotherapy	51	NA	-			-				<i>Cowey et al 2017 [4]</i>

	None					
<i>Quality of Life, LS mean change from baseline</i>	Chemotherapy 51	NA	-	-		<i>Cowey et al 2017 [4]</i>
	None					
<i>ORR, number of events (%)</i>	Chemotherapy 51	15 (29.4%)	-	-	NA	<i>Cowey et al 2017 [4]</i>
	None					

TABLE 16 RESULTS OF STUDY BECKER ET AL

Trial name:		<i>Becker et al</i>									
NCT number:		NA									
Outcome	Study arm	N	Result (CI)	Estimated absolute difference in effect			Estimated relative difference in effect			Description of methods used for estimation	References
				Difference	95% CI	P value	Hazard/Odds/ Risk ratio	95% CI	P value		
Median OS, month (95% CI)	Chemotherapy None	28	NA	-			-				<i>Becker et al 2017 [5]</i>
6-month OS, probability of being event-free (95% CI)	Chemotherapy None	28	96.4 (77.2;99.5)	-			-			<i>Kaplan-Meier estimate</i>	<i>Becker et al 2017 [5]</i>
12-month OS, probability of being event-free (95% CI)	Chemotherapy None	28	28.6 (13.5;45.6)	-			-			<i>Kaplan-Meier estimate</i>	<i>Becker et al 2017 [5]</i>
Median PFS, month (95% CI)	Chemotherapy None	28	4.7 (33;51)	-			-			<i>Kaplan-Meier estimate</i>	<i>Becker et al 2017 [5]</i>
6-month PFS, probability of being event-free (95% CI)	Chemotherapy None	28	17.9 (6.5;33.7)	-			-			<i>Kaplan-Meier estimate</i>	<i>Becker et al 2017 [5]</i>
12-month PFS, probability of being event-free (95% CI)	Chemotherapy None	28	0	-			-			<i>Kaplan-Meier estimate</i>	<i>Becker et al 2017 [5]</i>
Treatment-related adverse events, grade 3-4, no of events (%)	Chemotherapy	28	NA	-			-				<i>Becker et al 2017 [5]</i>

	None					
<i>Quality of Life, LS mean change from baseline</i>	Chemotherapy 28	NA	-	-		<i>Becker et al 2017 [5]</i>
	None					
<i>ORR, number of events (%)</i>	Chemotherapy 28	13 (46.4%)	-	-	NA	<i>Becker et al 2017 [5]</i>
	None					

TABLE 17 RESULTS OF STUDY IYER ET AL

Trial name:		Iyer et al									
NCT number:		NA									
Outcome	Study arm	N	Result (CI)	Estimated absolute difference in effect			Estimated relative difference in effect			Description of methods used for estimation	References
				Difference	95% CI	P value	Hazard/Odds/ Risk ratio	95% CI	P value		
Median OS, month (95% CI)	Chemotherapy None	62*	9.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	Kaplan-Meier estimate	Iyer et al 2016 [6]
6-month OS, probability of being event-free (95% CI)	Chemotherapy None	62	NA	-	-	-	-	-	-		Iyer et al 2016 [6]
12-month OS, probability of being event-free (95% CI)	Chemotherapy None	62	NA	-	-	-	-	-	-		Iyer et al 2016 [6]
Median PFS, month (95% CI)	Chemotherapy None	62	3.1(0.4–32.2)months†	-	-	-	-	-	-	Kaplan-Meier estimate	Iyer et al 2016 [6]
6-month PFS, probability of being event-free (95% CI)	Chemotherapy None	62	NA	-	-	-	-	-	-		Iyer et al 2016 [6]
12-month PFS, probability of being event-free (95% CI)	Chemotherapy None	62	NA	-	-	-	-	-	-		Iyer et al 2016 [6]
Treatment- related adverse events, grade 3-4, no of events (%)	Chemotherapy	62	11.3%	-	-	-	-	-	-		Iyer et al 2016 [6]

	None					
<i>Quality of Life, LS mean change from baseline</i>	Chemotherapy 62	NA	-	-		<i>Iyer et al 2016 [6]</i>
	None					
<i>ORR, number of events (%)</i>	Chemotherapy 62	34 (54.8%)	-	-	NA	<i>Iyer et al 2016 [6]</i>
	None					

* Immunocompetent + immunocompromised patients. No efficacy data available on immunocompetent patients only
 † converted from days

APPENDIX IV: Results per PICO

TABLE 18 COMPARATIVE ANALYSES FOR CLINICAL QUESTION 1

Results per outcome	Studies included in the analysis	Absolute difference in effect			Relative difference in effect			Methods used for quantitative synthesis
		Difference	CI	P value	Hazard/Odds/Risk ratio	CI	P value	
<i>Median OS, month (95% CI)</i>	JAVELIN 200 Merkel -Part B [2] vs Becker et al 2017 [5]	NA	-	-	-	-	-	Due to the nature of the data, the calculated differences are a simple subtraction of the result in table A3A-D. This simple method has been approved by DMC.
	JAVELIN 200 Merkel – part B [2]vs Iyer et al 2016 [6]	10.8 (20.3 -9.5)	-	-	-	-	-	
	JAVELIN 200 Merkel – part B [2] vs Cowey et al 2017 [4]	9.8 (20.3 – 10.5)	-	-	-	-	-	
<i>6-month OS, probability of being event-free (95% CI)</i>	JAVELIN 200 Merkel -Part B [2] vs Becker et al 2017 [5]	NA	-	-	-	-	-	Due to the nature of the data, the calculated differences are a simple subtraction of the result in table A3A-D. This simple method has been approved by DMC.
	JAVELIN 200 Merkel – part B [2]vs Iyer et al 2016 [6]	NA	-	-	-	-	-	
	JAVELIN 200 Merkel – part B [2] vs Cowey et al 2017 [4]	NA	-	-	-	-	-	

<i>12-month OS, probability of being event-free, % (95% CI)</i>	JAVELIN 200 Merkel -Part B [2] vs Becker et al 2017 [5]	NA31.4 (60.0 – 28.6)	-	-	-	-	-	Due to the nature of the data, the calculated differences are a simple subtraction of the result in table A3A-D. This simple method has been approved by DMC.
	JAVELIN 200 Merkel – part B [2]vs Iyer et al 2016 [6]	NA	-	-	-	-	-	
	JAVELIN 200 Merkel – part B [2] vs Cowey et al 2017 [4]	NA14.7 (60.0 – 45.3)	-	-	-	-	-	
<i>Median PFS, month (95% CI)</i>	JAVELIN 200 Merkel -Part B [2] vs Becker et al 2017 [5]	-0.6(4.1 - 4.7)	-	-	-	-	-	Due to the nature of the data, the calculated differences are a simple subtraction of the result in table A3A-D. This simple method has been approved by DMC.
	JAVELIN 200 Merkel – part B [2]vs Iyer et al 2016 [6]	1.0 (4.1 - 3.1)	-	-	-	-	-	
	JAVELIN 200 Merkel – part B [2] vs Cowey et al 2017 [4]	-0.5 (4.1 – 4.6)	-	-	-	-	-	
<i>6-month PFS, probability of being event-free, % (95% CI)</i>	JAVELIN 200 Merkel -Part B [2] vs Becker et al 2017 [5]	23.1(41.0 - 17.9)	-	-	-	-	-	Due to the nature of the data, the calculated differences are a simple subtraction of the result in table A3A-D. This simple method has been approved by DMC.
	JAVELIN 200 Merkel – part B [2]vs Iyer et al 2016 [6]	NA	-	-	-	-	-	
	JAVELIN 200 Merkel – part B [2] vs Cowey et al 2017 [4]	-6.1 (41.0 - 47.1)	-	-	-	-	-	

<i>12-month PFS, probability of being event-free % (95% CI)</i>	JAVELIN 200 Merkel -Part B [2] vs Becker et al 2017 [5]	(31.0 - 0)	-	-	-	-	-	Due to the nature of the data, the calculated differences are a simple subtraction of the result in table A3A-D. This simple method has been approved by DMC.
	JAVELIN 200 Merkel – part B [2]vs Iyer et al 2016 [6]	NA	-	-	-	-	-	
	JAVELIN 200 Merkel – part B [2] vs Cowey et al 2017 [4]	6.2 (31.0 -24.8)	-	-	-	-	-	
<i>Treatment-related adverse events, grade 3-4, no of events (%)</i>	JAVELIN 200 Merkel -Part B [2] vs Becker et al 2017 [5]	NA	-	-	-	-	-	Due to the nature of the data, the calculated differences are a simple subtraction of the result in table A3A-D. This simple method has been approved by DMC.
	JAVELIN 200 Merkel – part B [2]vs Iyer et al 2016 [6]	-9.2% (11.3%-20.5%)	-	-	-	-	-	
	JAVELIN 200 Merkel – part B [2] vs Cowey et al 2017 [4]	NA	-	-	-	-	-	
<i>Quality of Life, LS mean change from baseline</i>	JAVELIN 200 Merkel -Part B [2] vs Becker et al 2017 [5]	NA	-	-	-	-	-	
	JAVELIN 200 Merkel – part B [2]vs Iyer et al 2016 [6]	NA	-	-	-	-	-	
	JAVELIN 200 Merkel – part B [2] vs Cowey et al 2017 [4]	NA	-	-	-	-	-	
<i>ORR, number of events (%)</i>	JAVELIN 200 Merkel -Part B [2] vs	-6.7% (39.7%-46.4%)	-	-	-	-	-	Due to the nature of the data, the calculated

	Becker et al 2017 [5] JAVELIN 200 Merkel – part B [2] vs Iyer et al 2016 [6] JAVELIN 200 Merkel – part B [2] vs Cowey et al 2017 [4]	-15.3% (39.7%-54.8%) 10.3% (39.7%-29.4%)	-	-	-	-	-	differences are a simple subtraction of the result in table A3A-D. This simple method has been approved by DMC.
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Cost- and budget impact analysis for avelumab (Bavencio®) for first-line treatment of advanced Merkel cell carcinoma

Technical document - Application to Medicinrådet

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Contact person:

Jens Christensen

Head of Market Access

☎: +45 3525 3550

✉: jens.christensen@merckgroup.com

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Abbreviations

AE	Adverse event
ASCO	American Society of Clinical Oncology
AUC	Area under the curve
BSC	Best supportive care
CDV	Cyclophosphamide + doxorubicin + vincristine
CI	Confidence interval
CT	Computed tomography
DMC	Danish Medicines council
EMA	European Medicines Agency
EoL	End of life
EVPI	Expected value of perfect information
FBC	Full blood count
FDA	Food and Drug Administration
HTA	Health technology assessment
IV	Intravenous
KM	Kaplan-Meier
LB	Lower bound
LFT	Liver function test
LY	Life year
MIMS	Monthly Index of Medical Specialities
mMCC	Metastatic Merkel Cell Carcinoma
N/A	Not applicable
NICE	National Institute for Health and Care Excellence
OS	Overall survival
PartSA	Partitioned survival analysis
PF	Progression-free
PFS	Progression-free survival
PP	Post-progression
RDI	Relative dose intensity
RFT	Renal function test
SACT	Systemic Anticancer Therapy
SCLC	Small-cell lung cancer
SD	Standard deviation
TFT	Thyroid function test
ToT	Time on treatment
TSD	Technical Support Document
TTD	Time to death
TTE	Time to event

1. Summary

Baggrund

Den 20. juni 2019 offentliggjordes Medicinrådets protokol for vurdering af avelumab til førstelinjebehandling af metastaserende Merkelcellekarcinom (mMCC). Protokollen omfattede ét kliniske spørgsmål:

Hvilken klinisk merværdi tilbyder avelumab sammenlignet med platinbaseret kombinationsterapi til voksne patienter med metastatisk Merkelcellekarcinom, som er kandidater til førstelinjebehandling?

I protokollen fremgår, at standardbehandlingen til mMCC primært er Platin + Etoposid-baserede kemoregimer, henholdsvis Carbo- og Cisplatin + Etoposid. I denne model antages det derfor, at komparator består af hhv. 50% cisplatin + etoposid og 50% carboplatin + etoposid.

Dette tekniske dokument beskriver de økonomiske analyser, hhv. omkostningsanalysen og budgetkonsekvensanalysen, som er udarbejdet som en del af ansøgningen til Medicinrådet for ovenstående kliniske spørgsmål. Formålet med dette dokument er at beskrive den økonomiske model, dens funktioner, datagrundlaget, antagelserne, samt de overordnede resultater.

Metoder

En partitioned survival model med tre stadier (progressionsfri sygdom [PFS], progredieret sygdom [PPS], og død blev udviklet for at estimere de inkrementelle omkostninger per patient for avelumab sammenlignet med de relevante komparatorer. Omkostningsanalysen er delvist indlejret i budgetkonsekvensmodellen, og resultaterne fra omkostningsanalysen er således anvendt som direkte input til budgetkonsekvensmodellen.

Modellen er baseret på resultaterne fra JAVELIN MERKEL 200. JAVELIN MERKEL 200 er et igangværende en-arms-studie. Patientdata (PLD) fra det foreløbige data cut og den kliniske studierapport (CSR) var tilgængelige som input til den økonomiske model.

Da JAVELIN MERKEL 200 er et en-arms-studie, blev komparatordata (OS og PFS) indhentet fra et observationelt studie for første-linje kemoterapi behandling af mMCC.(1) Denne tilgang er valgt fordi det er det bedst tilgængelige datagrundlag for komparator-armen.

I base-casen anvender modellen en tidshorisont på 15 år. Omkostninger diskonteres med 4% per år i overensstemmelse med Medicinrådets metodevejledning. Modellen har et begrænset samfundsperspektiv og inkluderer lægemiddelomkostninger, administrationsomkostninger, monitoreringsomkostninger, omkostninger til uønskede hændelser, patientomkostninger, transportomkostninger, samt omkostninger til terminal pleje.

Analyseoverblik																						
Analysetype	Omkostning- og budgetkonsekvensanalyse af avelumab versus kemoterapi til førstelinjebehandling af metastatisk Merkelcellekarcinom (mMCC)																					
P Population	Voksne patienter med mMCC uden tidligere systemisk behandling for mMCC (behandlingsnaive)																					
I Intervention	Avelumab (BAVENCIO®)																					
C Komparator	Kemoterapi. Base case forudsætter kemoterapi består af 50:50 carboplatin + etoposide og cisplatin + etoposide,																					
O Resultater	Omkostninger																					
Perspektiv	Dansk begrænset samfundsperspektiv																					
Datakilde	Avelumab: JAVELIN Merkel 200: Del B Data cut: Minimum 15 måneders opfølgning (maj 2019) Kemoterapi: Cowey et al. 2017																					
OS	Avelumab: TTE-analyse af JAVELIN Merkel 200: Del B-data. Log-logistisk model Kemoterapi: Log-logistisk model																					
PFS	Avelumab: TTE analyse af JAVELIN Merkel 200: Del B data. Log-logistisk model Kemoterapi: Observationelle data: Log-logistisk model																					
ToT	Avelumab: pr. PFS-kurve (maksimum 24 måneder) Kemoterapi: pr PFS kurve (maksimum 6 cykler)																					
Lægemiddel-omkostninger	Omkostninger til avelumab: AIP priser fra Medicinpriser.dk Omkostninger til kemoterapi: AIP priser fra Medicinpriser.dk																					
Ressourceforbrug	Omkostninger taget fra offentligt tilgængelige kilder. Omfatter omkostninger til behandling, strålebehandling, monitorering, mortalitetsomkostninger, bivirkningsomkostninger, patient- og transportomkostninger.																					
Bivirkningsrater	Analyse af JAVELIN Merkel 200: Del A-data Komparatorer: stammer fra litteraturen																					
Omkostnings- og budgetkonsekvens-analyse	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Behandling</th> <th>Total</th> <th>Inkrementelle omkostninger (avelumab vs. kemoterapi)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Avelumab</td> <td>DKK 588.470</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Kemoterapi</td> <td>DKK 219.486</td> <td>DKK 368.985</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Total (mio.)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>År 1</td> <td>DKK 1,7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>År 2</td> <td>DKK 2,2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>År 3</td> <td>DKK 2,2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>År 4</td> <td>DKK 2,2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>År 5</td> <td>DKK 2,2</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Behandling	Total	Inkrementelle omkostninger (avelumab vs. kemoterapi)	Avelumab	DKK 588.470		Kemoterapi	DKK 219.486	DKK 368.985		Total (mio.)	År 1	DKK 1,7	År 2	DKK 2,2	År 3	DKK 2,2	År 4	DKK 2,2	År 5	DKK 2,2
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Forkortelser: OS, overall survival; PFS, progression-free survival; ToT, time on treatment; TTE, time-to-event.																						

2. Introduction

This report outlines the technical specification of the economic model for avelumab (BAVENCIO®) for the treatment of metastatic Merkel cell carcinoma (mMCC). The model was designed to compare avelumab to chemotherapy regimens for patients with treatment-naïve mMCC.

mMCC is a rare, aggressive skin cancer associated with a poor prognosis. With no licensed treatments available for mMCC until recently, there was a lack of standardisation in care and patients were typically offered a range of palliative chemotherapy regimens. Historically, median overall survival (OS) for treatment-experienced mMCC patients receiving palliative chemotherapy was estimated at <6 months, with most patients surviving <12 months.(2)

Avelumab is a novel immunotherapy that has been studied in the pivotal JAVELIN Merkel 200 trial (NCT02155647) – a Phase II single-arm trial with a cohort of 88 treatment-experienced patients (Part A), and 116 patients who were treatment naïve (Part B), reporting progression-free survival (PFS) and OS as key outcomes. Based on the JAVELIN Merkel 200 trial, avelumab has received Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval for the treatment of mMCC in the United States (US), European Medicines Agency (EMA) approval in Europe. It is further anticipated that, due to the immunologic mechanism of action of avelumab, a proportion of patients will achieve long-term survival outcomes(3,4).

3. Decision problem

3.1. Perspective

The perspective of the economic model analysis is restricted societal perspective, which includes cost related to drug acquisition, drug administration, monitoring, adverse events, routine care, patient/caregiver time, and transportation in accordance with the Danish Medicine Council's (DMC) guidelines(5).

3.2. Patient population

The population considered in the model is “adult patients with mMCC”, as per the population considered within JAVELIN Merkel 200, as well as the FDA and EMA approved indications.

The JAVELIN Merkel 200 trial considers two cohorts of metastatic patients – treatment-experienced patients who have previously received at least one line of chemotherapy for mMCC and must have progressed after the most recent line of chemotherapy (Part A of the JAVELIN Merkel 200 trial) and treatment-naïve patients (Part B of the JAVELIN Merkel 200 trial). The model considers only the part B of these populations.

A summary of the JAVELIN Merkel 200 trial, including baseline patient characteristics, is provided in the trial publication by Kaufman *et al.* (2016) for Part A of the trial. For Part B, preliminary data were presented at the 2017 American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) Annual Meeting(6,7). The data cuts used to inform this version of the model are discussed in Section 4.

3.3. Comparators

The comparators considered within the economic analysis are chemotherapy.

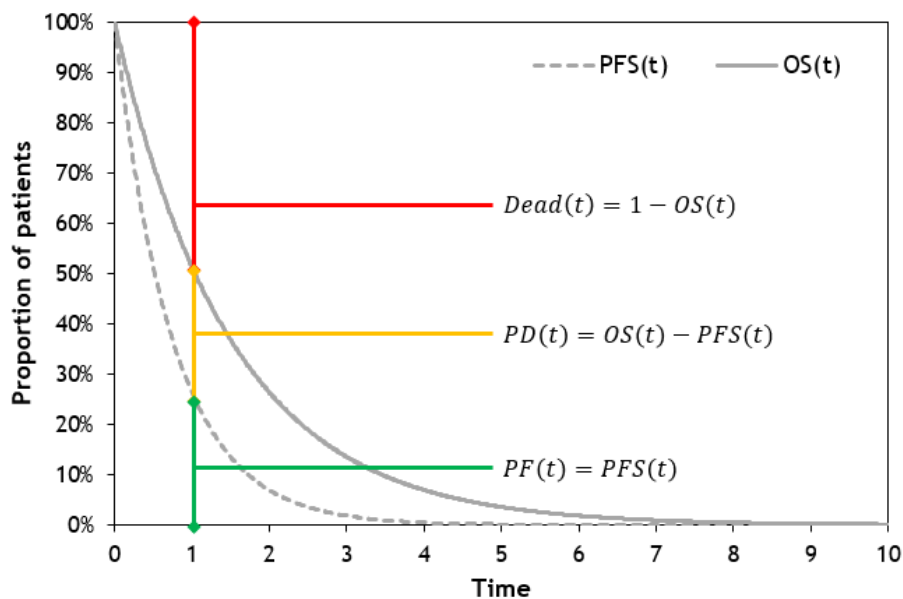
Currently there are no DMC or EMA-approved treatments for patients with mMCC (excluding avelumab). Consequently, the “chemotherapy” comparator considers a variety of potential candidate therapies that could be offered to mMCC patients (i.e. unapproved therapies from before the marketing authorisation of avelumab). Based on Danish KOL expert testimony and the DMC protocol the comparators were chosen to be 50/50% carbo- and cisplatin + etoposide. However, the model allows the user to customise the split of chemotherapy regimens used in order to adapt the model to different local settings. Throughout the model, all relevant chemotherapy inputs are weighted according to the customised split of chemotherapy regimens specified.

3.4. Model structure

An “area under the curve” (AUC, also known as a “partitioned-survival”) model was constructed in Microsoft Excel®. The conceptual structure of the model is shown in Figure 1. and considers three key mutually exclusive health states related to survival:

- Progression-free disease,
- Progressed disease, and
- Death.

Figure 1: Model structure



The final structure has been used previously as part of several health technology assessment (HTA) appraisals of oncology medicines (in particular, previous HTA appraisals of immunotherapies such as pembrolizumab and nivolumab), is consistent with available efficacy data from the JAVELIN Merkel 200 trial (i.e. PFS and OS) and is also representative of the clinical pathway for mMCC in that a patient’s treatment course and outcomes will depend largely on whether their disease has progressed or not.

3.4.1. Avelumab and chemotherapy

All patients enter the model in the “Progression-free disease” health state. From here, patients may transition to the other health states, or remain in this health state at each model cycle. Following progression, patients are unable to transition back to the “Progression-free disease” health state, and “Death” is an absorbing health state.

Transitions between model health states are informed by the area under PFS and OS curves derived from JAVELIN Merkel 200 data. This is also shown conceptually in Figure 1, and differs from a Markov approach in which individual transition probabilities would be estimated. The partitioned survival analysis (PartSA) affords several advantages over a Markov approach, including the ability to reflect time-varying hazards of death, as well as providing an intuitive means of translating the outcomes of the JAVELIN Merkel 200 trial into the model.

At any time, a patient can be alive with non-progressed disease (green area), alive with progressed disease (orange area) or dead (red area). The proportion of patients in the dead state is estimated by $1-OS$, the proportion with progressed disease is estimated by $OS-PFS$, and the proportion with

progression-free disease is taken directly from trial PFS estimates. For instance, at the time point shown by the arrow in Figure 1, 50.0% of patients are in the dead state, 25.0% of patients are alive and progression-free and 25.0% of patients are alive with progressed disease.

3.5. Time horizon

A time horizon of 15 years was adopted. This was deemed appropriate due to the severity of the disease and poor prognosis of the patients. Furthermore, the model uses a cycle length of 1 week which is short enough to accurately reflect the timing of model costs. By using a cycle length of 1 week, a half-cycle correction is not required.

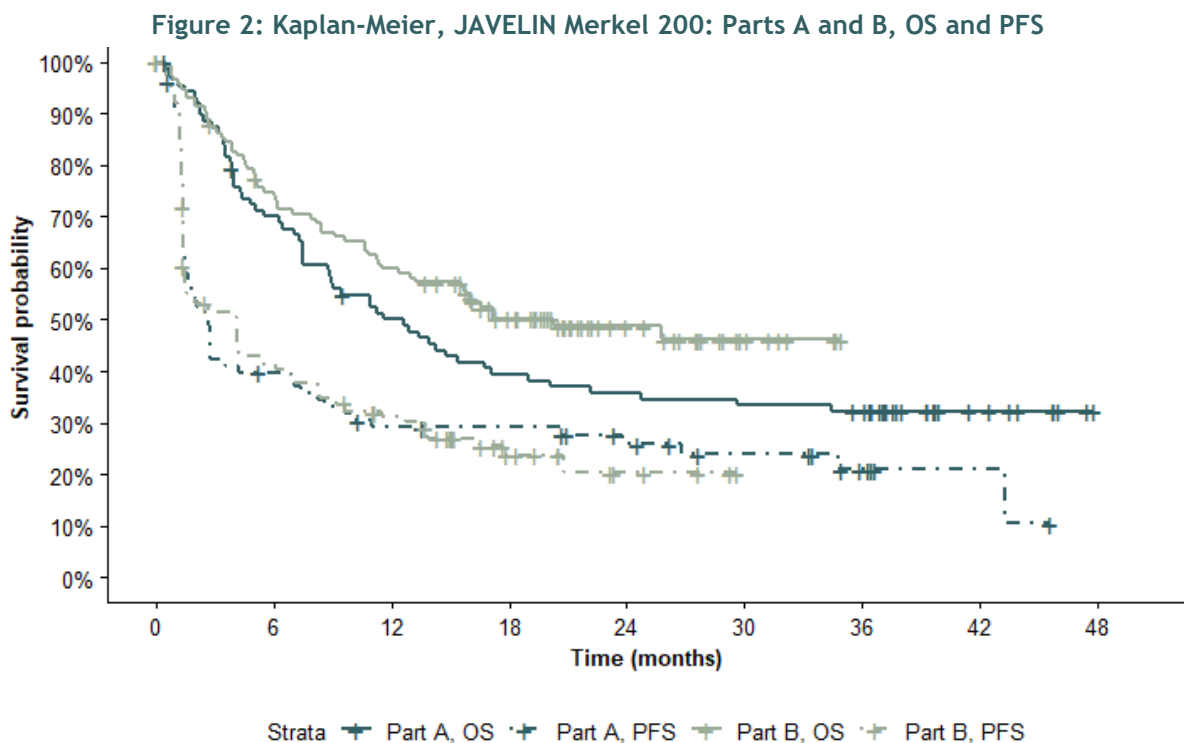
4. Efficacy

Efficacy data informing avelumab PFS and OS were obtained from the JAVELIN Merkel 200 trial. As JAVELIN Merkel 200 was a single-arm trial, comparator data were obtained from observational studies for conventional treatments for mMCC for treatment-naïve patients to inform the economic model (1). Cowey et al. 2017 was used to inform the efficacy of the 1L population. This is a retrospective study of patients with mMCC in USA. 67 patients were 1L patients and these 1L data were used to inform the efficacy of chemotherapy. The treatments regimens received in this study is in line with the base case comparators in this analysis, i.e. >80% of the patients received either carboplatin + etoposide or cisplatin + etoposide. Other comparator studies were excluded from the analysis due to either differences in patient populations or lack of published time-to-event-data (i.e. KM-curves).

JAVELIN Merkel 200 considers two parts: A (treatment-experienced patients) and B (treatment-naïve patients). Only part B are considered in the model, all patients (n=116) have been followed up for a minimum period of 15 months (data cut: May 2019).

4.1. Extrapolation of data beyond the trial period

A range of modelling approaches were explored to estimate likely survival outcomes beyond the observed JAVELIN Merkel 200 trial period for treatment-naïve patients. An overview of the available Kaplan-Meier (KM) curves for OS and PFS from JAVELIN Merkel 200: Parts A and B are presented in Figure 2. The corresponding log-cumulative hazard plots are provided in [Appendix](#).



At risk	0	6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48
Part A, OS	88	60	42	33	30	28	26	8	0
Part A, PFS	88	30	21	20	15	10	5	2	0
Part B, OS	116	85	68	45	50	7	0	0	0
Part B, PFS	116	45	31	12	4	0	0	0	0

Key: OS, overall survival; PFS, progression-free survival.

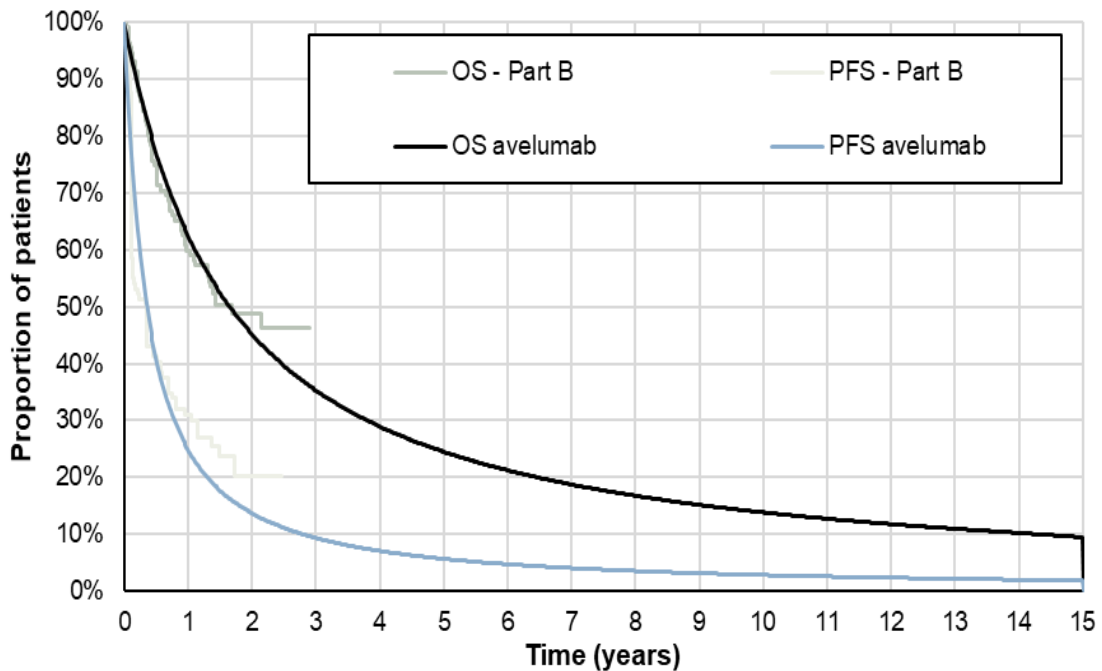
The DMC guidance was followed for selection of survival models(8). For OS and PFS, standard parametric models were fitted. Due to the indirectness of data, a proportional hazard approach was deemed inappropriate, as this would involve additional assumptions. Consequently, parametric models were fitted individually to each treatment arm in line with the DMC guideline and NICE Decision Support Unit (DSU) Technical Support Document (TSD) guidance. Fitting different types of parametric model to different treatment arms requires substantial justification, and therefore the same model type was fitted individually to each treatment arm. This approach is in line with the DMC guideline and NICE DSU TSD guidance.

Based on these candidate models for OS and PFS, the log-logistic model was selected to inform the model base case for both OS and PFS as this had the best combined statistical goodness of fit and the most realistic visual goodness-of-fit. The Log-logistic model was also the model that had the best fit according to the expected OS and PFS rates stated in the DMC protocol and also when considering the prognosis of the patient population, whereas the other parametric models tended to overestimate the expected long-term outcomes.

A summary of the statistical goodness-of-fit scores is provided within the economic model file, as well in [Appendix](#) of this report. The base-case survival models for avelumab used to estimate OS and PFS for the treatment-naïve cohort are provided in Figure 3.

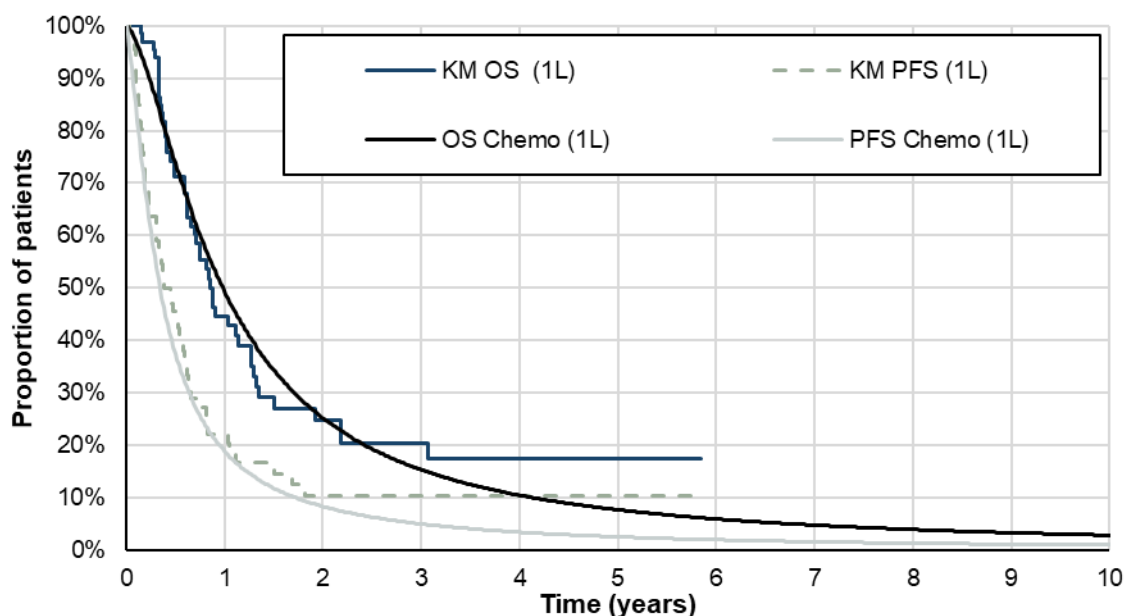
The base-case survival models for chemotherapy used to estimate OS and PFS for the treatment-naïve cohort are provided in Figure 4.

Figure 3: Base-case OS and PFS extrapolations, avelumab, treatment-naïve



Key: OS, overall survival; PFS, progression-free survival.

Figure 4: Base-case OS and PFS extrapolations, chemotherapy



Key: 1L, first-line; OS, overall survival; PFS, progression-free survival.

4.2. Adverse events

The impact of all Grade 3 or 4 adverse events (AEs) have been incorporated into the model. For avelumab, AE prevalence for patients was obtained from the safety population of JAVELIN Merkel 200 trial original publication.(7). Since the safety results for the full part B cohort is not available, safety results for cohort A is used. It is assumed the AE prevalence is similar across 1L and 2L patients, as the AEs are expected to be a result of the mechanism of action and not the line of treatment or indication. For comparator regimens, rates were sourced from appropriate published literature (with one study used per comparator, matching patient characteristics).(9–18) The use of safety data from the initial pivotal trial publications for both avelumab and chemotherapies allows for a consistent application of AE rates.

Adverse events occurring in less than 5% of patients in either arm was omitted from the model with the exception of febrile neutropenia and lymphopenia. Febrile neutropenia is a life threatening adverse event which incurs high costs, as such it was deemed relevant to include it in the model. Lymphopenia, although not occurring in 5% patients in either arm, has been included as it is a subtype of leukopenia

If AE data for the chemotherapies use in mMCC were unavailable, evidence related to their use in the treatment of SCLC has been used as the best proxy for likely AE rates due to similarities between the two diseases. Where SCLC data were unavailable, melanoma data have been used as a suitable alternative in the absence of more appropriate data. The AE rates were converted to cycle probabilities to estimate time-dependable AE costs.

Table 1 presents the final AE cycle probabilities used in the model relating to treatment. Further details of the AE specific rates are presented within the economic model.

Table 1: Grade 3/4 adverse event cycle probabilities

Regimen	Anaemia	Dyspnoea	Fatigue	Febrile Neutropenia	Low haemoglobin	Hyponatremia	Infections	Leukopenia	Lymphopenia	Muscle pain	Nausea/Vomiting	Neutropenia	Low platelets	Sensory neuropathy	Thrombocytopenia	Hair loss (any grade)
Avelumab	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.14%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Car + Etop	0.43%	0.00%	0.18%	0.25%	0.00%	0.06%	0.00%	0.48%	0.00%	0.00%	0.05%	3.46%	0.00%	0.00%	0.60%	2.28%
Car + Pacl	0.00%	0.00%	1.07%	0.27%	0.49%	0.15%	0.00%	1.70%	0.29%	0.38%	0.00%	4.40%	0.61%	1.07%	0.00%	2.73%
Cis + Etop	0.51%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.41%	0.00%	0.00%	1.58%	0.00%	0.00%	0.51%	4.20%	0.00%	0.00%	0.56%	1.05%
Cis + Pacl	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	1.19%	0.00%	0.00%	0.12%	4.23%
CDV	0.65%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.25%	2.29%	0.00%	0.00%	1.07%	11.24%
Pacl	0.30%	0.30%	0.20%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.32%	0.48%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	10.79%
(L)D	0.65%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.13%	2.29%	0.00%	0.00%	1.07%	12.55%
Topotecan	2.72%	0.52%	0.99%	0.24%	0.00%	0.44%	0.78%	1.86%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	5.58%	0.00%	0.00%	5.65%	16.13%

Key: Car, carboplatin; CDV, cyclophosphamide + doxorubicin + vincristine; Cis, cisplatin; Etop, etoposide; (L)D, doxorubicin or liposomal doxorubicin; Pacl, paclitaxel.

5. Costs

5.1. Treatment acquisition

Avelumab is available as a 200mg vial and can be licensed as a fixed dose of 800mg by a 1-hour intravenous infusion once every 2 weeks until confirmed disease progression, unacceptable toxicity, or occurrence of any other criterion for withdrawal.(7) Although not licenced, a weight-based regimen of 10 mg/kg is included in the protocol for avelumab. The cost per vial in the model is set to DKK 6608,9. The model applies the dose by weight of 10 mg/kg in line with the DMC protocol.

5.1.1. Dosing

The fixed dose of avelumab is used in the base-case. It is possible to choose the weight-based approach in the model. For the weight-based approach, the dose for avelumab is calculated by assuming mMCC pt weight = metastatic melanoma PT due to the very similar populations. This is stated as 73 kg as per DMC "Baggrund for Medicinrådets Behandlingsvejledning vedrørende lægemidler til adjuverende behandling af modermærkekræft"(19).

Table 2: Avelumab dosing and cost information

Quantity	Fixed dose
Dose	800 mg
Cost per vial (200mg)	DKK 6.608,90*
Average dose per treatment	800 mg
Relative dose intensity (RDI)	95.4%
Average cost per treatment	DKK 24.122,49
Administration information	Intravenous infusion, once every 2 weeks
Notes: *Medicinpriser.dk	

Dosing schedules for the chemotherapy regimens used primarily in treatment-naïve patients, were sourced from Danish KOL expert testimonies¹, literature, Danish guidelines and SmPCs. As there are no mMCC-specific treatment regimens recommended by DMC, regimens have been based on those used to treat small-cell lung cancer (SCLC) patients.

Costs of chemotherapy regimens primarily administered to treatment-naïve patients in the Denmark are provided in Table 3. In the DK setting, treatment-naïve SCLC patients are most commonly administered carboplatin + etoposide or cisplatin + etoposide regimens. Costs for the other chemotherapy regimens included within the model are also provided.

Calculations of BSA and GFR are based on the standard formulas, i.e. DuBois formula for BSA, i.e. the standard formula, and GFR the following formula: $BSA = 0.007184 * (Height(m)^{0.725}) * (Weight(kg))^{0.425}$

As per Danish KOL expert testimony, Pegfilgrastim, a biologic cyto-regulating drug, is given in conjunction with platinum-based chemotherapy to patients above the age of 65 years. Hence this is included for all patients receiving platinum-based chemotherapy in the model.

Costs of chemotherapy medications used in the model were obtained from Medicinpriser.dk. Chemotherapy medications are available in a variety of different vial sizes. For simplicity, the vial size with the cheapest cost per mg has been used in the analysis. This is an inherently conservative approach. The model applies the cost for chemotherapy regimens in accordance with the customised split of chemotherapy regimens specified by the user.

Vial sharing is assumed for chemotherapy. This is an inherently conservative approach.

¹ Niels Junker, MD, Kræftafdelingen, Herlev Hospital
Elizaveta Mitkina Tabaksblat, MD, Kræftafdelingen, Aarhus Universitetshospital

Table 3: Chemotherapy regimen dosing and cost information

Drug regimen	Dose	Treatments per week	Cost per pack	N	SD	Pack size	Cost per mg	Weight	Cost per cycle	Notes
Car +	5 AUC	0,33	DKK 203,00	15,936	32.35	450 mg	DKK 0,45	50%	DKK 4922,00	10 mg/ml 45 ml konc.t.inf.væsk 6 mg, 1 stk. inj.vsk,opl. Sprøjte
Pelgraz	6 mg/m ²	0,33	DKK 6.700,00	N/A	N/A	6 mg	1.116,67			
Etop	100 mg/m ²	1,00	DKK 278,72	5,662	7.82	500 mg	DKK 13,40			
Cis +	100 mg/m ²	0,33	DKK 80,00	29,432	13.38	100 mg	DKK 0,80	50%	DKK 4.888,71	1mg/ml 100ml konc.t.inf.væsk 6 mg, 1 stk. inj.vsk,opl. Sprøjte
Pelgraz	6 mg/m ²	0,33	DKK 6.700,00	N/A	N/A	6 mg	1.116,67			
Etop	100 mg/m ²	1,00	DKK 278,72	5,662	7.82	500 mg	DKK 13,40			
Car +	5 AUC	0,33	DKK 203,00	15,936	32.35	450 mg	DKK 0,45	0.0%	DKK 182,98	10 mg/ml 45 ml, konc.t.inf.væsk
Pacl	225 mg/m ²	0,33	DKK 201,50	17,034	44.05	300 mg	DKK 0,67			
Cis +	100 mg/m ²	0,33	DKK 80,00	29,432	13.38	100 mg	DKK 0,80	0.0%	DKK 127,94	1mg/ml 100ml konc.t.inf.væsk 6mg/ml, 50 ml konc.t.inf.væsk
Pacl	175 mg/m ²	0,33	DKK 201,50	17,034	44.05	300 mg	DKK 0,67			
Cycl +	600 mg/m ²	0,33	DKK 61,50	30,007	1.64	1000 mg	DKK 0,06	0.0%	DKK 144,46	500mg 1htgl. a 500mg pulv.t.inj.væsk 2mg/ml 25ml konc.t.inf.væsk 1mg/ml, 1 ml, inj.væske, opløsning.
Dox +	50 mg/m ²	0,33	DKK 120,00	38,005	19.83	50 mg	DKK 2,40			
Vin	1,4 mg/m ²	1,00	DKK 157,50	2,989	8.83	10 mg	DKK 15,75			
Pacl	175 mg/m ²	0,33	DKK 201,50	17,034	44.05	300 mg	DKK 0,67	0.0%	DKK 76,13	6mg/ml, 50 ml konc.t.inf.væsk
Dox	50 mg/m ²	0,33	DKK 99,75	38,005	19.83	50 mg	DKK 2,40	0.0%	DKK 116,58	10mg, 1 htgl.pulv.t.inj.væske
L-Dox	50 mg/m ²	0,33	DKK 2.616,50	N/A	N/A	20 mg	DKK 130,83	0.0%	DKK 4.236,46	2mg/ml, 10 ml konc.t.inf.væsk.opl.
Top	1,5 mg/m ²	1,67	DKK 230,00	N/A	N/A	4 mg	DKK 57,50	0.0%	DKK 279,30	4 ml, konc.t.inf.væsk.

Key: AUC, area under the curve; Car, carboplatin; Cis, cisplatin; Cycl, cyclophosphamide; Dox, doxorubicin; Etop, etoposide; IV, intravenous; L-Dox, liposomal doxorubicin; Pacl, paclitaxel; PO, per os (oral); Top, topotecan; Vin, vincristine.

Notes: Medicinpriser.dk Dosing was determined via clinical validation and Pro.medicin.dk

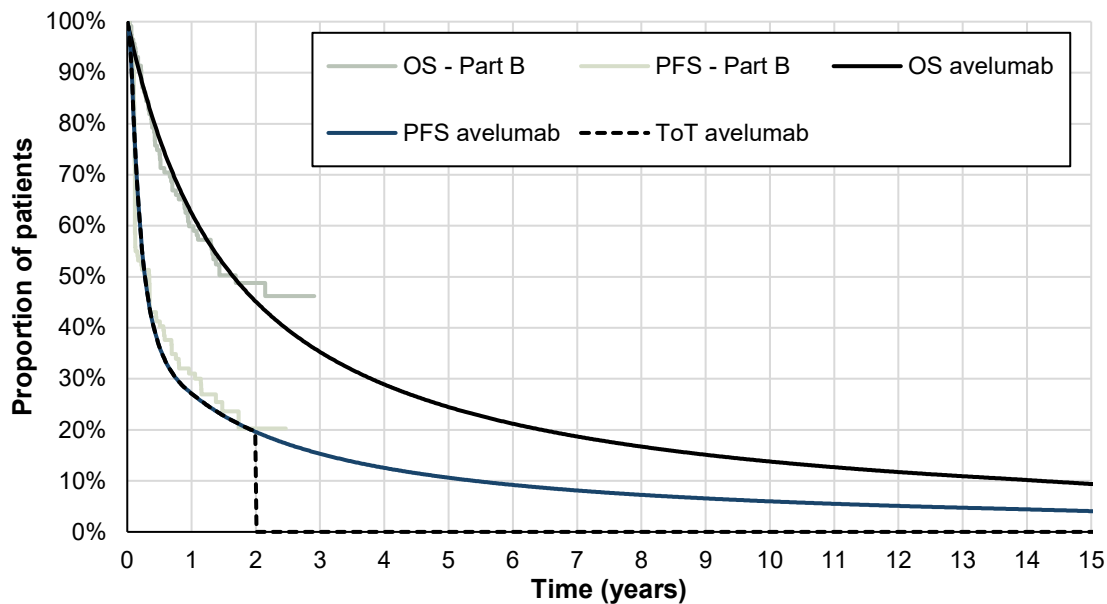
5.1.2. Time on treatment

Avelumab is administered until progression, unacceptable toxicity, or occurrence of any other criterion for withdrawal. As a conservative estimate, time on treatment (ToT) for avelumab was assumed to be equal to PFS obtained from the JAVELIN Merkel 200 trial for the treatment-naïve cohort. This is expected to overestimate the costs compared to a real-world setting, since some patients will discontinue treatment before experiencing progression.

For avelumab a stopping rule is applied at 24 months, as this is the current recommendation and clinical practice for immune-oncology (IO) therapies in Denmark. Stopping rules between 12 and 24 months have been used for all applications for IO therapies to Amgros, and these stopping rules have all been accepted by Amgros(19–22). In the DMC assessment of avelumab for metastatic renal cell carcinoma a stopping rule of 24 months was also used, confirming the treatment duration approach for avelumab and other IO treatments in Denmark(23).

The Kaplan-Meier curves for PFS in JAVELIN Merkel 200 and estimated ToT are provided in Figure 5.

Figure 5: Kaplan-Meier, JAVELIN Merkel 200: Part B, ToT



Chemotherapy regimens are expected to be administered for maximum of six treatment cycles, until occurrence of disease progression or death, as per clinical expert opinion and available clinical guidelines(24). The maximum duration of treatment for each chemotherapy regimen is provided in Table 4. Chemotherapy can be given for a maximum of six treatment cycles, and therefore is applied to patients up to a maximum of 18 1-week model cycles.

Table 4: Chemotherapy treatment duration

Drug Regimen	Treatment cycle length	Maximum	Reference
Carboplatin + Etoposide	3 weeks	6 cycles	(24)
Carboplatin + Paclitaxel	3 weeks	6 cycles	(12)
Cisplatin + Etoposide	3 weeks	6 cycles	(11)
Cisplatin + Paclitaxel	3 weeks	6 cycles	(12)
CDV	3 weeks	6 cycles	(24)
Paclitaxel	3 weeks	6 cycles	(15)
Doxorubicin	3 weeks	6 cycles	(24)
Liposomal doxorubicin	3 weeks	6 cycles	(24)
Topotecan	3 weeks	6 cycles	(24)

Key: CDV, cyclophosphamide + doxorubicin + vincristine.

Since no data was available for RDI, an RDI of 100% was applied to the cost of chemotherapy, resulting in an average weekly cost of DKK 6641,07 based on the 50.0% of patients treated with a carboplatin & etoposide regimen and 50.0% with a cisplatin & etoposide regimen, RDI and proportions on chemo regimens can be changed in the model.

5.2. Administration

Administration costs are applied for all patients receiving active drug treatment if treatment is parenterally administered.

DRG 2020 rates are used to estimate the unit costs per administration visit in line with the DMC guidance, unit cost and DRG tariffs are outlined in Table 5.

For avelumab administration costs of DKK 1800 per hospital visit are applied², taken from Sundhedsdatastyrelsen. Patients receiving combination chemotherapy regimens are conservatively assumed to incur only one administration cost per visit of either 1.800 DKK³ or 17.622⁴ depending on the regime. For avelumab, administration costs are incurred with every two-week treatment. For chemotherapy regimens, a weekly administration cost was calculated in the model. According to DK KOLs patients on platin based chemotherapy are treated with Pelgraz 24 hours after last drug administration of a chemo cycle. Pegfilgrastim is added to the carbo-cisplatin+etoposid cycles with a subsequent administration at the hospital at the end of every treatment cycle⁵. Table 5 and Table 6 outlines the included administration costs and administration regimens of all drug treatments in the model.

Table 5: Unit cost and DRG tariffs

Resource	Cost	Description	Setting	Reference
Administration Avelumab	DKK 1.800,000	DRG2020, Diagnose: DC449M, Procedure: BOHJ2, DRG:09MA98 Anden hudkræft med metastaser, Immunmodulerende behandling.	Hospital	Sundhedsdatastyrelsen(2020)
Administration (carboplatin + etoposide)	DKK 1.800,00	DRG2020, Diagnose: DC449M, Anden hudkræft med metastaser, Procedure: BWHA112, DRG: 09MA98, Behandling med carboplatin+etoposid	Hospital	Sundhedsdatastyrelsen(2020)
Administration (Pelgraz)	DKK 3.149,00	DRG 2020, Diagnose: DD709A, Neutropeni og agranulocytose forårsaget af lægemiddel, Procedure: BOHE20A, DRG,16MA98	Hospital	Sundhedsdatastyrelsen(2020)
Administration (cisplatin + etoposide)	DKK 1.800,00	DRG2020, Diagnose: DC449M, Anden hudkræft med metastaser, Procedure: BWHA140, DRG: 09MA98, Behandling med cisplatin+etoposid	Hospital	Sundhedsdatastyrelsen(2020)
Administration (carboplatin + paclitaxel)	DKK 17.622,00	DRG2020, Diagnose: DC449M, Anden hudkræft med metastaser, Procedure: BWHA203, DRG: 27MP21, Behandling med carboplatin+paclitaxel	Hospital	Sundhedsdatastyrelsen(2020)

² DRG2020, Diagnose: DC449M, Procedure: BOHJ2, DRG:09MA98 Anden hudkræft med metastaser, Immunmodulerende behandling.

³ DRG2020, Diagnose: DC449M, Anden hudkræft med metastaser, Procedure: BWHA112, DRG: 09MA98, Behandling med carboplatin+etoposid

⁴ DRG2020, Diagnose: DC449M, Anden hudkræft med metastaser, Procedure: BWHA2, DRG: 27MP21, Komplex cytostatisk behandling

⁵ DRG 2020, Diagnose: DD709A, Neutropeni og agranulocytose forårsaget af lægemiddel, Procedure: BOHE20A, DRG,16MA98

Resource	Cost	Description	Setting	Reference
Administration (cisplatin + paclitaxel)	DKK 17.622,00	DRG2020, Diagnose: DC449M, Anden hudkræft med metastaser, Procedure: BWHA107 + BWHA202, DRG: 27MP21, Behandling med cisplatin + behandling paclitaxel	Hospital	Sundhedsdatastyrelsen(2020)
Administration (cyclophosphamide + Doxorubicin + Vincristine)	DKK 1.800,00	DRG2020, Diagnose: DC449M, Anden hudkræft med metastaser, Procedure: BWHA144, DRG: 09MA98, Behandling med cyclophosphamid+doxorubicin+vinkristin (CAV)	Hospital	Sundhedsdatastyrelsen(2020)
Administration (paclitaxel)	DKK 17.622,00	DRG2020, Diagnose: DC449M, Anden hudkræft med metastaser, Procedure: BWHA202, DRG: 27MP21, Behandling paclitaxel	Hospital	Sundhedsdatastyrelsen(2020)
Administration (doxorubicin)	DKK 1.800,00	DRG2020, Diagnose: DC449M, Anden hudkræft med metastaser, Procedure: BWHA102, DRG: 09MA98, Behandling med doxorubicin	Hospital	Sundhedsdatastyrelsen(2020)
Administration (liposomal doxorubicin)	DKK 17.622,00	DRG2020, Diagnose: DC449M, Anden hudkræft med metastaser, Procedure: BWHA237, DRG: 27MP21, Behandling med doxorubicin (liposomal)	Hospital	Sundhedsdatastyrelsen(2020)
Administration (topotecan)	DKK 17.622,00.	DRG2020, Diagnose: DC449M, Anden hudkræft med metastaser, Procedure: BWHA213, DRG: 27MP21, Behandling med topotecan	Hospital	Sundhedsdatastyrelsen(2020)

Table 6: Treatment administration information and costs

Regimen	Administration information	Treatments per week	Cost per week	Reference
Avelumab*	IV infusion once every 2 weeks	0,5	DKK 900	Bavencio SmPC, Sundhedsdatastyrelsen
Car +	IV infusion on Day 1 of 3-week cycle	0,33		Assumption, given same time as carboplatin
Pelgraz +	IV infusion, Once every 3 weeks	0,33	DKK 2.849,67	Sundhedsdatastyrelsen(2020)
Etop	IV infusion, three times every 3 weeks	1,00		Sundhedsdatastyrelsen(2020)
Cis +	IV infusion, once every 3 weeks	0,33		Sundhedsdatastyrelsen(2020)
Pelgraz +	IV infusion, Once every 3 weeks	0,33	DKK 2.849,67	Sundhedsdatastyrelsen(2020)
Etop	IV infusion, three times every 3 weeks	1,00		Sundhedsdatastyrelsen(2020)
Car +	IV infusion, once every 3 weeks	0,33	DKK	Sundhedsdatastyrelsen(2020)
Pacl	IV infusion, once every 3 weeks	0,33	5.874,00	Sundhedsdatastyrelsen(2020)
Cis +	IV infusion, once every 3 weeks	0,33	DKK	Sundhedsdatastyrelsen(2020)
Pacl	IV infusion, once every 3 weeks	0,33	5.874,00	Sundhedsdatastyrelsen(2020)
Cycl +	IV infusion, once every 3 weeks	0,33	DKK 1.800,00	Sundhedsdatastyrelsen(2020)

Regimen	Administration information	Treatments per week	Cost per week	Reference
Dox +	IV infusion, once every 3 weeks	0,33		Sundhedsdatastyrelsen(2020)
Vin	IV infusion, once every week	1,00		Sundhedsdatastyrelsen(2020)
Pacl	IV infusion, three every 4 weeks	0,33	DKK 5.874,00	Sundhedsdatastyrelsen(2020)
Dox	IV infusion, once every 3 weeks	0,33	DKK 600	Sundhedsdatastyrelsen(2020)
L-Dox	IV infusion, once every 3 weeks	0,33	DKK 5.874,00	Sundhedsdatastyrelsen(2020)
Top	IV infusion, five times every 3 weeks	1,67	DKK 5.874,00	Sundhedsdatastyrelsen(2020)
Key: Car, carboplatin; CDV, cyclophosphamide + doxorubicin + vincristine; Cis, cisplatin; Cycl, cyclophosphamide; Dox, doxorubicin; Etop, etoposide; , intravenous; L-Dox, liposomal doxorubicin; Top, topotecan; Vin, vincristine.				
Note: *Avelumab costs applied within the model every 2 weeks.				

5.3. Medical resource use

Resource use and monitoring costs were taken from DMC estimating unit cost guidelines, Sundhedsdatastyrelsen(5,25,26). Costs applied in the model include monitoring, diagnostic tests, radiotherapy and health care professional visits. The unit costs of resources applied in the model are shown in Table 7.

Table 7: Medical resource unit costs

Resource	Cost	Description	Source
Specialist visit	DKK 438,60	Cost of chief physician including overhead costs calculated according to Medicinrådet Estimating unit costs using average salary from July 2019, assuming a duration of 20 minutes per visit.	DMC Estimating unit costs using average salary from July 2019
CT scan	DKK 2.470,00	<i>Dia c: DZ031R, DRG:36PR07</i>	
Blood test	DKK 74,00	<i>HB+THROM+NA+K+DIFFMAS (NEUTRO)</i>	
Liver function test (LFT)	DKK 72,00	<i>ASAT+ALAT+BILI</i>	
Renal function test (RFT)	DKK 79,00	<i>CREACLEA</i>	Sundhedsdatastyrelsen(2020)
Thyroid function test (TFT)	DKK 173,00	<i>SOMAT</i>	Labportal.rh.dk
Radiotherapy	DKK 2.877,00	<i>DRG2020, Diagnose DC449M Procedure: BWGC1 DRG: 27MP08, Konventionel ekstern strålebehandling</i>	
Key: CT, computerised tomography; LFT, liver function test; RFT, renal function test; TFT, thyroid function test.			

Based on UK expert testimony, 75% of patients with mMCC are expected to receive radiotherapy at some point in time. Table 8 details the use of radiotherapy in the model. Based on UK expert testimony a mean duration of 1,5 days was assumed for the radiation therapy per patient in the model. A cost of DKK 31,94 per cycle is applied to all patients to reflect the use of radiotherapy. This is applied in addition to the costs detailed in Sections 5.3.1 and 5.3.3, and is applied regardless of treatment and progression status until 1 year.

Table 8: Radiotherapy duration and cost information

Quantity	Value
Duration of radiotherapy treatment (days)	1,5
Cost of average course of radiotherapy treatment	DKK 4.315,50
Assuming average survival as per chemotherapy patients, number of cycles alive	101,32
Proportion of patients receiving radiotherapy per cycle	0,01
Radiotherapy cost per cycle (applied until 1 year)	DKK 31,94

5.3.1. Progression-free on treatment resource use

Table 9 displays the frequency information and model cycle cost incurred per medical resource for progression-free patients on treatment receiving avelumab or chemotherapy. The frequency of resource use for the chemotherapy is assumed to be equal for all regimens and was sourced from Pro.medicin.dk, CT frequency is validated by Danish KOL expert testimony.

Table 9: Progression-free on treatment medical resource use costs

Resource	Frequency	Model cycle frequency*	Model cycle cost*
Avelumab			
Specialist	Every two treatments	0.25	DKK 109,65
CT scan	Every three months	0.08	DKK 189,35
FBC	Every treatment cycle	0.50	DKK 37,00
LFT	Every treatment cycle	0.50	DKK 36,00
RFT	Every treatment cycle	0.50	DKK 39,50
TFT	Every treatment cycle	0.50	DKK 86,50
Chemotherapy			
Specialist visit	Every treatment cycle	0.33	DKK 146,20
CT scan	Every three months	0.08	DKK 189,35
FBC	Every treatment cycle	0.33	DKK 24,67
LFT	Every treatment cycle	0.33	DKK 24,00
RFT	Every treatment cycle	0.33	DKK 26,33
TFT	None	0.00	DKK 0,00

Note: *Refers to weighted model cycle frequency and cost for chemotherapy.
Key: CT, computerised tomography; FBC, full blood count; GP, general practitioner; LFT, liver function test; RFT, renal function test; TFT, thyroid function test.

The total resource use costs per model cycle are DKK 498 for avelumab and DKK 410,55 for chemotherapy.

5.3.2. Progression-free off-treatment resource use

Table 10 displays the frequency information and model cycle cost incurred per medical resource for progression-free patients off treatment receiving avelumab or chemotherapy. The frequency of resource use for the chemotherapy is assumed to be equal for all regimens and was sourced from Pro.medicin.dk, CT frequency is validated by Danish KOL expert testimony.

Table 10: Progression-free medical resource use costs

Resource	Frequency description	Model cycle frequency	Model cycle cost	Source
Specialist visit	Every three months	0,08	DKK 33,62	Based on limited treatment options following PFS
CT scan	Every three months	0,08	DKK 189,35	Based on limited treatment options following PFS

5.3.3. Post-progression resource use

It is assumed that all patients in the post-progression disease state receive the same monitoring and resource use no matter the previous intervention. Since limited treatment options are available at this stage, frequent additional follow-up is not appropriate. Therefore, one specialist visit every two months is assumed, i.e. a per model cycle (weekly) cost of DKK 50,61.

5.4. Adverse event costs

The cost of treating adverse events is outlined in Table 11. Costs were obtained from Sundhedsdatastyrelsen(25). Since no data on admissions are available in the trial, the unit cost used is assumed to be the mean of the 1-day tariff and the inpatient DRG code (if these differ). Costs were then multiplied by the adverse event cycle probabilities to obtain an adverse event cost per model cycle. Costs per model cycle are shown in Table 12, resulting in weekly costs of DKK 17,39 for avelumab and DKK 1.305,74 for chemotherapy.

Table 11: Adverse event costs

Adverse event	Mean unit cost	Year	DRG code 1	DRG code 2 (if relevant)
Anaemia	DKK 22.212,00	2020	DRG 2020, 16MA98: MDC16 1-dagsgruppe, pat. mindst 7 år, Diagnosis: DD592: Hæmolytisk ikke- autoimmun anæmi forårsaget af lægemiddel	DRG 2020, 16MA05: Hæmolystiske anæmier og anæmier forårsaget af enzymatiske forstyrrelser m.m., Diagnosis: DD592: Hæmolytisk ikke- autoimmun anæmi forårsaget af lægemiddel
Dyspnoea	DKK 1.799,00	2020	DRG 2020, 04MA98: MDC04 1-dagsgruppe, pat. mindst 7 år, Diagnosis: DR060: Dyspnø	
Fatigue	DKK 4.082,00	2020	DRG 2020, 23MA03: Symptomer og fund, u. kompl. bidiag., Diagnosis: DR539A: Udmattelse	
Febrile neutropenia	DKK 20.376,00	2020	DRG 2020, 16MA98: MDC16 1-dagsgruppe, pat. mindst 7 år, Diagnosis: DD709A: Neutropeni og agranulocytose forårsaget af lægemiddel	DRG 2020, 16MA03: Granulo- og trombocytopeni, Diagnosis: DD709A: Neutropeni og agranulocytose forårsaget af lægemiddel
Low haemoglobin	DKK 5.157,00	2020	DRG 2020, 16MA04: Hæmoglobinopati, Diagnosis: DD582A: Abnormt hæmoglobin UNS	
Hyponatremia	DKK 13.048,00	2020	DRG 2020, 10MA98: MDC10 1-dagsgruppe, pat. mindst 7 år, Diagnosis: DE871A: Hyponatriæmi	DRG 2020, 10MA06: Andre ernærings- og stofskiftesygdomme, Diagnosis: DE871A: Hyponatriæmi
Infections	DKK 19.730,50	2020	DRG 2020, 16MA98: MDC16 1-dagsgruppe, pat. mindst 7 år, Diagnosis: DA499: Bakteriel infektion UNS	DRG 2020, 18MA08: Andre infektioner eller parasitære sygdomme, Diagnosis: DA499: Bakteriel infektion UNS
Leukopenia	DKK 12.869,00	2020	DRG 2020, 16MA98: MDC16 1-dagsgruppe, pat. mindst 7 år, Diagnosis: DD728H: Leukopeni	DRG 2020, 16MA10: Øvrige sygdomme i blod og bloddannende organer, Diagnosis: DD728H: Leukopeni
Lymphopenia	DKK 12.869,00	2020	DRG 2020, 16MA98: MDC16 1-dagsgruppe, pat. mindst 7 år, Diagnosis:	DRG 2020, 16MA10: Øvrige sygdomme i blod og bloddannende organer,

Adverse event	Mean unit cost	Year	DRG code 1	DRG code 2 (if relevant)
			<i>DD728: Anden forstyrrelse i hvide blodlegemer</i>	<i>Diagnosis: DD728D: Lymfopeni</i>
Muscle pain	DKK 1.676,00	2020	<i>DRG 2020, 08MA15: Reumatologiske sygdomme i bløddele, Diagnosis: DM797: Fibromyalgi</i>	
Nausea/ vomiting	DKK 5.297,00	2020	<i>DRG 2020, 06MA11: Malabsorption og betændelse i spiserør, mave og tarm, pat. mindst 18 år, u. kompl. bidiag., Diagnosis: DR119C: Opkastning</i>	
Neutropenia	DKK 20.376,00	2020	<i>DRG 2020, 16MA98: MDC16 1-dagsgruppe, pat. mindst 7 år, Diagnosis: DD709: Neutropeni UNS</i>	<i>DRG 2020, 16MA03: Granulo- og trombocytopeni, Diagnosis: DD709A: Neutropeni og agranulocytose forårsaget af lægemiddel</i>
Low platelets	DKK 20.376,00	2020	<i>DRG 2020, 16MA98: MDC16 1-dagsgruppe, pat. mindst 7 år, Diagnosis: DD696: Trombocytopeni UNS</i>	<i>DRG 2020, 16MA03: Granulo- og trombocytopeni, Diagnosis: DD697: Trombocytopeni UNS</i>
Sensory neuropathy	DKK 15.205,50	2020	<i>DRG 2020, 01MA98: MDC01 1-dagsgruppe, pat. mindst 7 år, Diagnosis: DG900: Idiopatisk perifer autonom neuropati</i>	<i>DRG 2020, 01MA04: Sygdomme i hjernenerver og perifere nerver, Diagnosis: DG900: Idiopatisk perifer autonom neuropati</i>
Thrombocytopenia	DKK 20.376,00	2020	<i>DRG 2020, 16MA98: MDC16 1-dagsgruppe, pat. mindst 7 år, Diagnosis: DD696: Trombocytopeni UNS</i>	<i>DRG 2020, 16MA03: Granulo- og trombocytopeni, Diagnosis: DD696: Trombocytopeni UNS</i>
Hair loss (any grade)	DKK 6.643,00	2020	<i>DRG 2020, 09MA98: MDC09 1-dagsgruppe, pat. mindst 7 år, Diagnosis: DL659: Alopeci uden ardannelse UNS</i>	<i>DRG 2020, 09MA03: Lettere eller moderat hudsygdom, u. kompl. bidiag., Diagnosis: DL659: Alopeci uden ardannelse UNS</i>

Table 12: Adverse event cycle costs

Regimen	Anaemia	Dyspnoea	Fatigue	Febrile Neutropenia	Low haemoglobin	Hyponatremia	Infections	Leukopenia	Lymphopenia	Muscle pain	Nausea/Vomiting	Neutropenia	Low platelets	Sensory neuropathy	Thrombocytopenia	Hair loss (any grade)	Total*
Avelumab	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 17,39	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 17,39
Car + Etop + Pelgraz	DKK 94,44	DKK 0,00	DKK 7,21	DKK 51,75	DKK 0,00	DKK 8,15	DKK 0,00	DKK 61,62	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 2,66	DKK 705,74	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 122,56	DKK 151,61	DKK 602,87
Car + Pacl	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 43,55	DKK 55,80	DKK 25,08	DKK 19,93	DKK 0,00	DKK 218,69	DKK 37,49	DKK 6,3578 560	DKK 0,00	DKK 897,46	DKK 124,98 22	DKK 162,22	DKK 0,00	DKK 181,52	DKK 0,00
Cis + Etop + Pelgraz	DKK 113,23	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 20,89	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 203,18	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 27,14	DKK 856,61	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 114,63	DKK 70,04	DKK 702,86
Cis + Pacl	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 241,63	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 24,86	DKK 281,09	DKK 0,00
CDV	DKK 145,35	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 13,43	DKK 466,01	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 218,22	DKK 746,92	DKK 0,00
Pacl	DKK 65,55	DKK 5,31	DKK 8,01	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 17,00	DKK 98,50	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 717,07	DKK 0,00
(L)D	DKK 145,35	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 6,74	DKK 466,01	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 218,22	DKK 833,79	DKK 0,00
Topotecan	DKK 604,05	DKK 9,42	DKK 40,46	DKK 48,46	DKK 0,00	DKK 57,53	DKK 153,03	DKK 239,57	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 1.136,11	DKK 0,00	DKK 0,00	DKK 1.151,16	DKK 1.071,84	DKK 0,00

Key: Car, carboplatin; CDV, cyclophosphamide + doxorubicin + vincristine; Cis, cisplatin; Etop, etoposide; (L)D, doxorubicin or liposomal doxorubicin; Pacl, paclitaxel.
Note: *Accounting for market share estimates for each chemotherapy regimen.

5.5. End of life care

End of life care costs have also been incorporated into the model. As no data are available on end of life care costs for mMCC patients, an average cost of end of life care for terminal cancer patients has been obtained from literature.(27) As this publication reports end of life care costs across four cancer types (breast, colorectal, lung, and prostate), the average is taken across the reported costs and applied in the base case. The option to apply the cost for one of these cancer types alone is incorporated within the model. The estimated end of life care costs are in line with previous end of life care costs accepted by the DMC.

The costs are converted to DKK in the model and inflated to 2019/2020 prices.

Costs for end of life care applied in the model are outlined in Table 13.

Table 13: End of life care costs

Care category	Model value
Total	DKK 71.964,87

5.6. Patient and transportation cost

Patient costs are included in the model in line with DMC' methods guidelines. The unit cost per hours is assumed to be DKK 179.00 in line with DMC' methods guidelines. For each hospital visit 30 minutes of transportation time is assumed, based on the mean transportation distance of 28 km stated in DMC methods guidelines. The number of patient hours for the drug administration is based on Pro.medicin.dk and indlaegssedler.dk. The number of patient hours for the monitoring is based on available public sources for the duration of the resource element. The frequency of the patient visits are directly linked to the administration- and monitoring frequency in the model. Patient costs are illustrated in Table 14, Table 15, and Table 16

Transportation costs are included in the model. An average rate of DKK 3,52 per km is assumed with an average distance of 28 km per hospital visit in line with DMC' methods guidelines. Transportation costs are illustrated in Table 17.

Table 14: Patient cost for Administration

Treatment	Duration (hours)	Frequency of transportation	Administration frequency	Patient cost per model cycle
Avelumab	1	0,50	0,5	DKK 89,50
Carboplatin	3	0,33	1,00	DKK 179,00
Etoposid	1	0,67	0,67	DKK 119,33
Pelgraz	1	0,33	0,33	DKK 59,67
Cisplatin	8	0,33	1,00	DKK 477,33
Etoposid	1	0,67	0,67	DKK 119,33
Pelgraz	1	0,33	0,33	DKK 59,67
Carboplatin + Paclitaxel	4	1,00	0,33	DKK 238,67
Cisplatin + Paclitaxel	10	0,33	0,33	DKK 596,67
Cyclophosphamide + Doxorubicin + Vincristine (CDV)	1	1	1	DKK 179,00
Paclitaxel	3	0,33	0,33	DKK 179,00
Doxorubicin	3	0,33	0,33	DKK 179,00
Liposomal doxorubicin	1	0,33	0,33	DKK 59,67
Topotecan	0,5	1,67	1,67	DKK 149,17

Table 15: Patient cost for monitoring on treatment

Resource	Avelumab (Model Frequency)	%patients	Chemotherapy (Model Frequency)	Hours per visit
Specialist visit	0,25	100	0,33	0,2
CT scan	0,08	100	0,08	2
Full blood count (FBC)	0,50	100	0,33	0
Liver function test (LFT)	0,50	100	0,33	0
Renal function test (RFT)	0,50	100	0,33	0
Thyroid function test (TFT)	0,50	100	0,00	0
TOTAL	DKK 36,39		DKK 39,38	

Table 16: Patient cost for monitoring off treatment PFS and PD, for avelumab and chemotherapy

Resource	Frequency	Model cycle cost
PFS off-treatment		
Specialist visit	0,08	
CT scan	0,08	
Total		DKK 30,19
PD		
Specialist visit	0,12	
		DKK 4,13

Table 17: Transportation cost

Treatment	Transportation costs administration, per cycle	Transportation cost, PFS routine care per cycle	Transportation cost, PFS off-treatment	Transportation cost, PD
Avelumab	49,28	32,20	15,11	11,37
Chemotherapy	131,41	40,41	15,11	11,37

6. Results

6.1. Headline base-case results

The discounted pairwise results for treatment-naïve patients are provided in Table 18. The findings of this analysis showed discounted incremental costs of DKK 368.985 (avelumab vs chemotherapy).

Table 18: Base-case results

Cost	Avelumab	Chemotherapy	Incremental
Drugs	DKK 460.506	DKK 68.373	DKK 392.133
Admin	DKK 31.356	DKK 39.720	-DKK 8.364
MRU	DKK 29.229	DKK 15.357	DKK 13.872
AEs	DKK 596	DKK 18.200	-DKK 17.604
Patient	DKK 3.266	DKK 6.957	-DKK 3.691
Transport	DKK 3.227	DKK 2.993	DKK 234
End of life	DKK 60.291	DKK 67.887	-DKK 7.595
Total	DKK 588.470	DKK 219.486	DKK 368.985

6.2. Scenario analyses

The scenario analyses of the model are presented for each population in Table 19 and respectively, where the influence of particular model settings were observed by comparing the incremental pairwise costs.

The most influential settings which were tested was the model time horizon of 1 year and reducing or increasing the treatment duration of avelumab. The shorter time horizon has a large impact as drug costs of chemotherapy are applied within the first year, and Avelumab is capped at year 2.

Table 19: Scenario analyses

Scenario	Scenario label	Incremental: Avel vs. chemo	% Dif vs. base-case
1	Time horizon of 1 year	DKK 229.187,033	-37,89%
2	Time horizon of 2 years	DKK 356.217,598	-3,46%
3	Time horizon of 5 years	DKK 360.538,720	-2,29%
4	Time horizon of 30 years	DKK 372.574,100	0,97%
5	Discounting: 0%	DKK 377.995,293	2,44%
6	Discounting: 8%	DKK 361.537,436	-2,02%
7	OS: Extrapolation options - Avelumab; Parametric - exponential	DKK 370.898,922	0,52%
8	OS: Extrapolation options - Avelumab; Parametric - generalised gamma	DKK 365.972,180	-0,82%
9	OS: Extrapolation options - Avelumab; Parametric - Gompertz	DKK 363.891,820	-1,38%
10	OS: Extrapolation options - Avelumab; Parametric - log-normal	DKK 369.004,573	0,01%
11	OS: Extrapolation options - Avelumab; Parametric - Weibull	DKK 371.135,589	0,58%
12	OS: Extrapolation options - Comparator; Parametric - exponential	DKK 369.431,677	0,12%

Scenario	Scenario label	Incremental: Avel vs. chemo	% Dif vs. base-case
13	OS: Extrapolation options - Comparator; Parametric - generalised gamma	DKK 369.098,385	0,03%
14	OS: Extrapolation options - Comparator; Parametric - log-normal	DKK 368.947,406	-0,01%
15	OS: Extrapolation options - Comparator; Parametric - Weibull	DKK 369.473,482	0,13%
16	PFS: Extrapolation options - Avelumab; Parametric - exponential	DKK 433.755,107	17,55%
17	PFS: Extrapolation options - Avelumab; Parametric - generalised gamma	DKK 405.781,077	9,97%
18	PFS: Extrapolation options - Avelumab; Parametric - Gompertz	DKK 408.809,771	10,79%
19	PFS: Extrapolation options - Avelumab; Parametric - log-normal	DKK 399.091,152	8,16%
20	PFS: Extrapolation options - Avelumab; Parametric - Weibull	DKK 427.762,112	15,93%
21	PFS: Extrapolation options - Comparator; Parametric - exponential	DKK 356.207,224	-3,46%
22	PFS: Extrapolation options - Comparator; Parametric - generalised gamma	DKK 369.434,452	0,12%
23	PFS: Extrapolation options - Comparator; Parametric - Gompertz	DKK 371.762,528	0,75%
24	PFS: Extrapolation options - Comparator; Parametric - log-normal	DKK 369.482,727	0,14%
25	PFS: Extrapolation options - Comparator; Parametric - Weibull	DKK 371.145,321	0,59%
26	ToT: Maximum expected treatment duration: 3 year(s)	DKK 447.001,008	21,14%
27	ToT: Maximum expected treatment duration: 1 year(s)	DKK 237.997,901	-35,50%
28	End of life care costs: Cancer type, Lung	DKK 371.584,921	0,70%
29	End of life care costs: Cancer type, Breast	DKK 368.626,644	-0,10%
30	End of life care costs: Cancer type, Colorectal	DKK 369.562,583	0,16%
31	End of life care costs: Cancer type, Prostate	DKK 366.163,994	-0,76%

6.3. Budget impact analysis

The budget impact model was developed to estimate the expected budget impact of recommending avelumab as possible standard treatment in Denmark. The budget impact was estimated per year for the first 5 years after introduction of avelumab in Denmark.

The cost per patient model was partially nested within the budget impact model, and therefore any changes in settings in the cost per patient model would affect the results of the budget impact model. This also means that the budget impact result is only presented for the chosen population in the cost per patient model.

The budget impact model was developed for the relevant patient cohort, which is treatment naïve adult patients with mMCC. The analysis was developed by comparing the costs for the Danish regions per year over five years in the scenario where avelumab is recommended as possible standard treatment, and the scenario where avelumab is not recommended as possible standard treatment. The total budget impact per year is the difference between the two scenarios.

6.3.1. Number of patients eligible for treatment with avelumab

The annual number of mMCC patients is set at 7 patients per year in line with the estimated incidence of 6-7 patients per year in the DMC protocol.

Table 20: Estimated mMCC population eligible for avelumab 1L

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Population eligible for avelumab	7,0	7,0	7,0	7,0	7,0

6.3.2. Market shares

Future market shares depend on multiple factors such as developments in the treatment landscape, and available physical and economic resources. Regardless, the estimates will be associated with uncertainty, and therefore different scenarios were tested in the model.

The expected market shares for each population were assumed to be 100% in the scenario with a recommendation due to the lack of effective interventions currently available. In the scenario with no recommendation a market share of 10% was assumed since some patients are already currently treated with avelumab within the indication. The market shares are illustrated in Table 21.

Table 21: Market share estimates

Regimen	Without recommendation of avelumab					With recommendation of avelumab				
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Avelumab	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Chemotherapy	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

6.3.3. Cost inputs

Included costs in the budget impact model were drug acquisition costs, administration costs, disease related routine care costs, adverse event costs, and end-of-life care costs. Patient-, and transportation costs were not included as these are not part of the regional budgets. Discounting was not used in the budget impact model in line with DMC's methods guidelines. The undiscounted cost output of the cost per patient model were used directly to inform the cost per year per patient in the budget impact model.

6.3.4. Model parameters

Model parameters are summarised in Table 22.

Table 22: Base case settings for the budget impact model

Category	Assumption made for base case analysis	Justification/reason
Time horizon	5 years	In line with DMC' Methods guidelines
Annual discounting rate	0.0%	In line with DMC' Methods guidelines
Perspective	Regional payer perspective (drugs-, administration-, disease related routine care-, adverse events-, and end-of-life costs)	In line with DMC' Methods guidelines
Treatment duration	Estimated treatment duration based on extrapolations	Most realistic estimate of budget impact
Costing	Cost per mg	In line with clinical practice in Denmark
Incidence of eligible patients with mMCC	Based on the Medicines Councils protocol	In line with DMC' Methods guidelines

6.3.5. Results of Budget impact

Based on the base case assumptions, the estimated budget impact of recommending avelumab as a possible standard treatment in Denmark for treatment naïve mMCC is 1,7 mil. DKK in year 1, and 2,2 mil. DKK in year 5.

Table 23: Estimated budget impact calculation results

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Recommended	DKK 2.838.459	DKK 3.491.289	DKK 3.516.229	DKK 3.528.627	DKK 3.535.645
Not recommend	DKK 1.117.663	DKK 1.282.617	DKK 1.307.557	DKK 1.319.955	DKK 1.326.973
Total budget impact	DKK 1.720.796	DKK 2.208.672	DKK 2.208.672	DKK 2.208.672	DKK 2.208.672

7. Conclusions

The economic analysis presented in this report details the cost and budget impact of avelumab for the treatment of mMCC, for patients with treatment-naïve disease. The incremental costs for avelumab versus chemotherapy was DKK 368.985. Sensitivity analyses were performed to assess the robustness of the deterministic results and found broadly consistent findings. The relatively low budget impact was due to the low patient numbers combined with the limited incremental cost per patient.

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Appendix

Additional 1 survival analysis information

Log-cumulative hazard plots

Figure 1: Log-cumulative hazard plot, JAVELIN Merkel 200: Parts A and B, OS

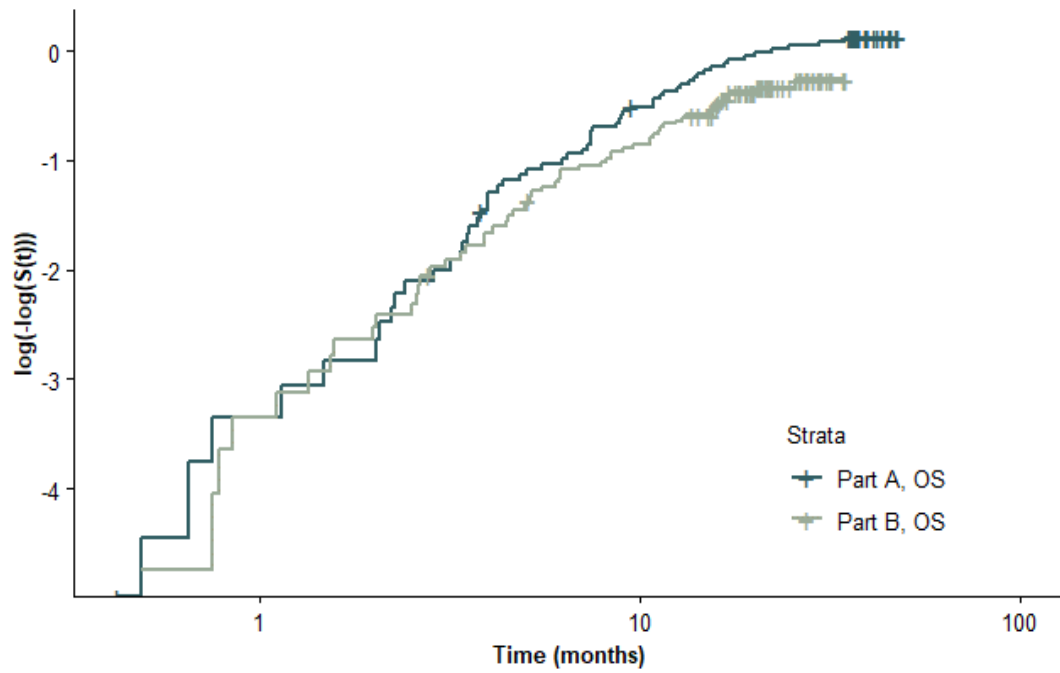
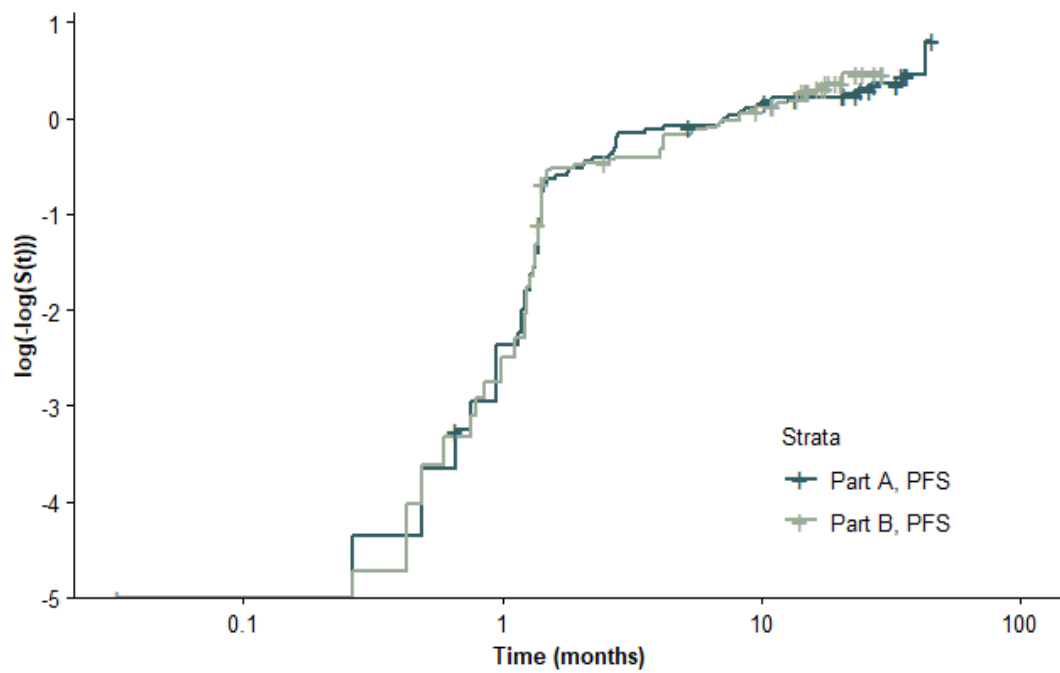


Figure 2: Log-cumulative hazard plot, JAVELIN Merkel 200: Parts A and B, PFS



Statistical goodness-of-fit measures

Table 24: Avelumab, treatment-naïve, statistical goodness-of-fit scores

Model	OS		PFS	
	AIC	BIC	AIC	BIC
Exponential	510.52	513.27	552.28	555.03
Weibull	509.90	515.41	536.83	542.34
Gompertz	503.08	508.59	514.33	519.83
Log-logistic	505.37	510.87	517.22	522.73
Lognormal	502.04	507.55	512.03	517.54
Generalised gamma	501.05	509.31	486.91	495.17

Key: AIC, Akaike's information criterion; BIC, Bayesian information criterion; OS, overall survival; PFS, progression-free survival; ToT, time on treatment.

Table 25: Chemotherapy, treatment-naïve, statistical goodness-of-fit scores

Model	OS		PFS	
	AIC	BIC	AIC	BIC
Exponential	2,712.22	2,715.63	1,604.12	1,607.08
Weibull	2,714.03	2,720.86	1,585.73	1,591.64
Gompertz*	#N/A	#N/A	1,557.71	1,563.62
Log-logistic	2,688.73	2,695.56	1,548.58	1,554.49
Lognormal	2,700.11	2,706.95	1,559.54	1,565.46
Generalised gamma	2,699.20	2,709.45	1,561.53	1,570.40

Key: AIC, Akaike's information criterion; BIC, Bayesian information criterion; OS, overall survival; PFS, progression-free survival; ToT, time on treatment.
Notes: *The Gompertz distribution did not converge when fitted to the OS data for this patient population.

Visual goodness-of-fit

Figure 6: Curve fits - PFS Avelumab

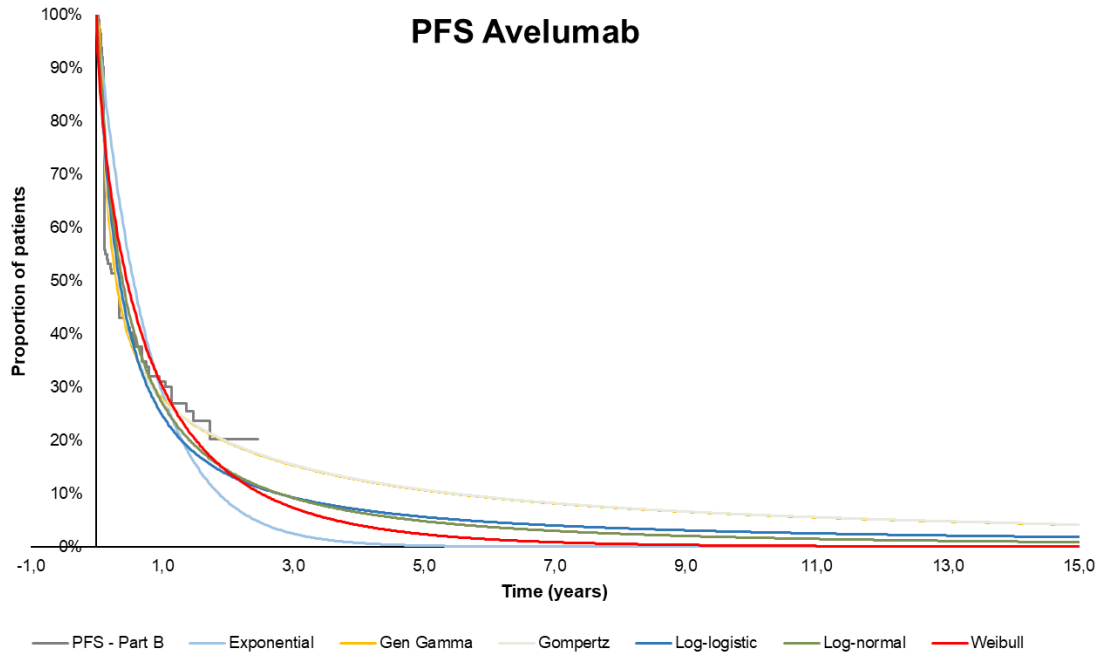


Figure 7: Curve fits - PFS Chemotherapy

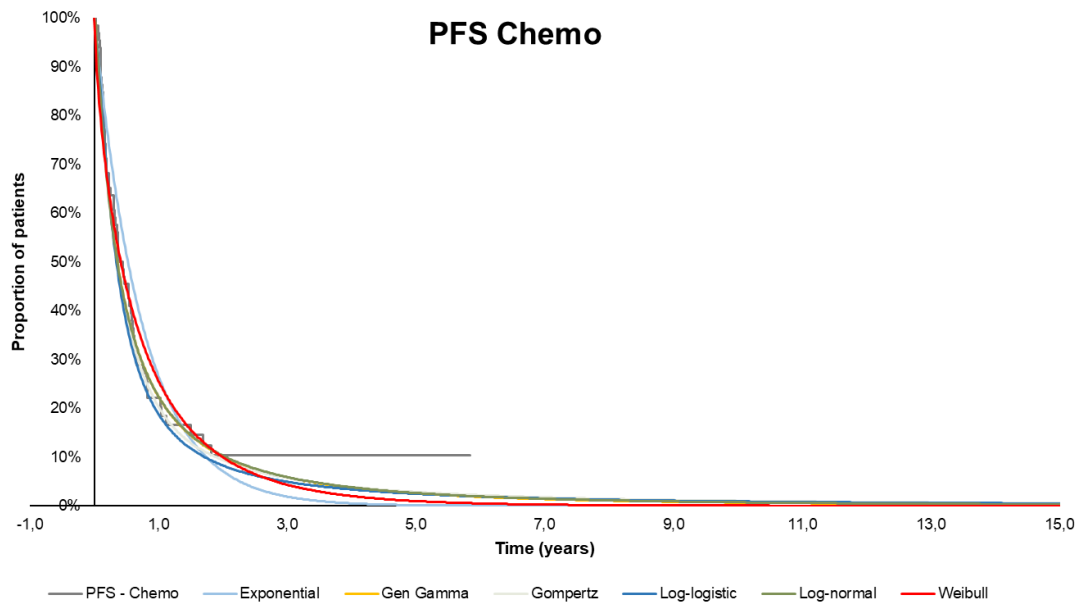


Figure 8: Curve fits - OS Avelumab

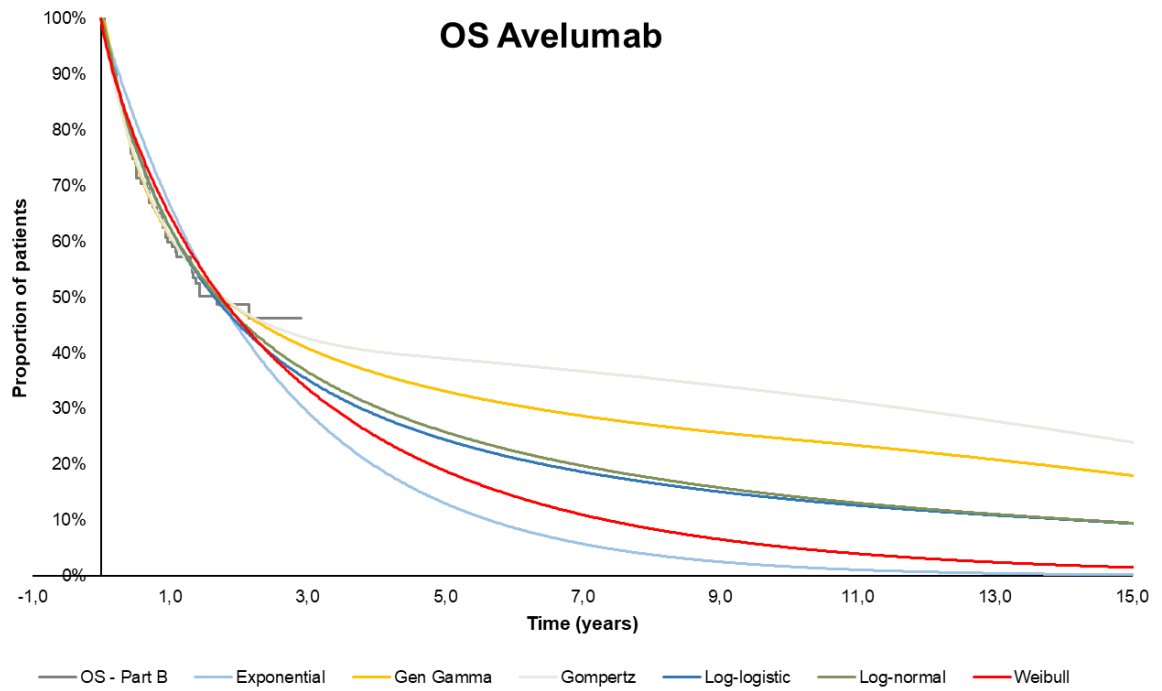
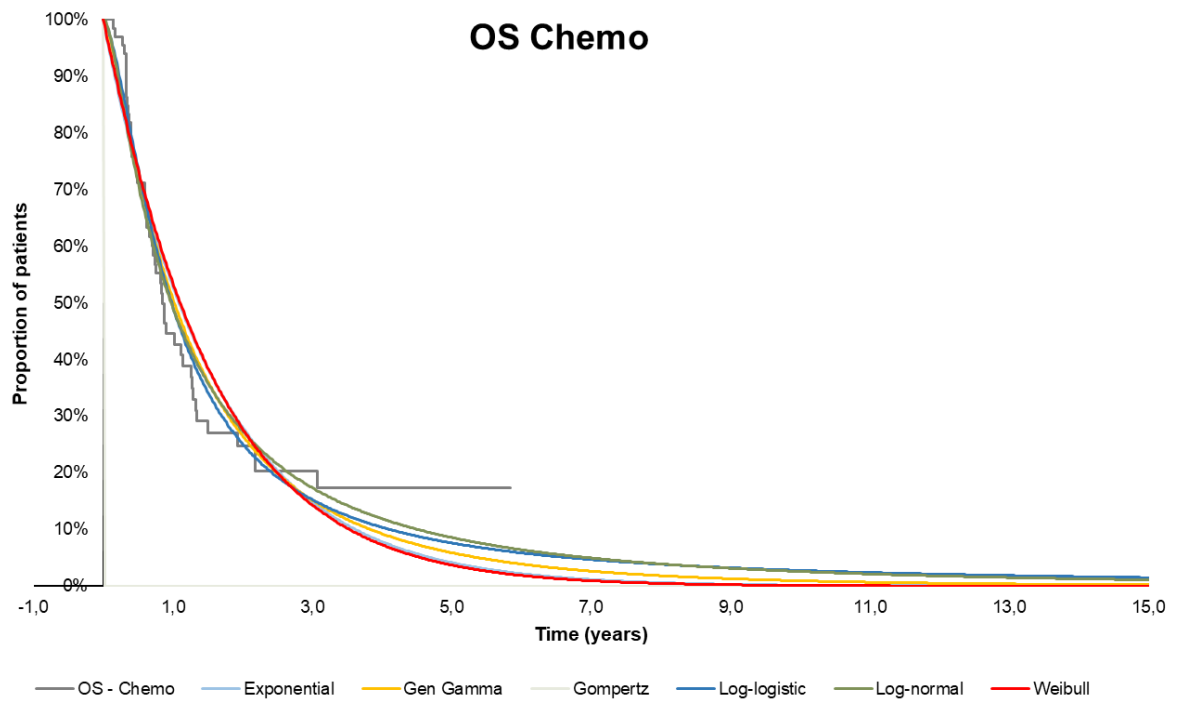


Figure 9: Curve fits - OS Chemotherapy



Medicinrådets protokol
for vurdering af
avelumab til behandling
af metastatisk
Merkelcellekarcinom
(mMCC)

Om Medicinrådet

Medicinrådet er et uafhængigt råd, som udarbejder anbefalinger og vejledninger om lægemidler til de fem regioner.

Medicinrådet vurderer, om nye lægemidler og nye indikationer kan anbefales som mulig standardbehandling og udarbejder fælles regionale behandlingsvejledninger.

Nye lægemidler vurderes i forhold til effekt, eksisterende behandling og pris. Det skal give lavere priser og lægemidler, der er til størst mulig gavn for patienterne.

De fælles regionale behandlingsvejledninger er vurderinger af, hvilke lægemidler der er mest hensigtsmæssige til behandling af patienter inden for et terapiområde og dermed grundlag for ensartet høj kvalitet for patienterne på tværs af sygehuse og regioner.

Om protokollen

Protokollen er grundlaget for Medicinrådets vurdering af et nyt lægemiddel. Den indeholder et eller flere kliniske spørgsmål, som ansøger skal besvare i den endelige ansøgning, og som Medicinrådet skal basere sin vurdering på.

Lægemidlet vurderes efter Håndbog for Medicinrådets proces og metode vedr. nye lægemidler og indikationsudvidelser – version 2. Se Medicinrådets [metodehåndbog](#) for yderligere information.

Dokumentoplysninger

Godkendelsesdato	20. juni 2019
Ikrafttrædelsesdato	20. juni 2019
Dokumentnummer	51385
Versionsnummer	1.0

Fremkommer der nye og væsentlige oplysninger i sagen af betydning for protokollens indhold, kan Medicinrådet tage protokollen op til fornyet behandling. Det samme gælder, hvis der er begået væsentlige fejl i forbindelse med sagsbehandlingen vedrørende protokollen. Hvis Medicinrådet foretager ændringer i protokollen, vil ansøgende virksomhed få besked.

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Medicinrådet, Dampfærgevej 27-29, 3. th., 2100 København Ø

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1 Lægemiddelinformationer

Lægemidlets oplysninger	
Handelsnavn	Bavencio
Generisk navn	Avelumab
Firma	Merck & Pfizer
ATC-kode	L01XC31
Virkningsmekanisme	PD-L1-antagonist
Administration/dosis	Behandlingen administreres som 10 mg/kg legemsvægt intravenøs infusion over 60 minutter hver anden uge
EMA-indikation	Monoterapibehandling af voksne patienter med metastatisk Merkelcelle karcinom

2 Forkortelser

AJCC:	<i>American Joint Committee on Cancer</i>
CI:	Konfidensinterval
CTCAE:	<i>Common terminology criteria for adverse events</i>
EMA:	<i>European Medicines Agency</i>
EPAR:	<i>European public assessment reports</i>
ESMO:	<i>European Society for Medical Oncology</i>
GRADE:	System til vurdering af evidens (<i>Grading of Recommendations Assessment, Development and Evaluation</i>)
HR:	<i>Hazard ratio</i>
MKRF:	mindste klinisk relevante forskel
MMC:	Merkelcellekarcinom
mMMC:	metastatisk Merkelcellekarcinom
OR:	<i>Odds ratio</i>
RECIST:	<i>Response evaluation criteria in solid tumors</i>
RR:	Relativ risiko

3 Formål

Protokollen har til formål at definere de kliniske spørgsmål, der ønskes belyst i vurderingen af avelumab som mulig standardbehandling af patienter med metastatisk Merkelcellekarcinom (mMCC). I protokollen angives en definition af population(er), komparator(er) og effektmål, der skal præsenteres i den endelige ansøgning, samt de metoder der ønskes anvendt til den komparative analyse. Arbejdet med protokollen er igangsat på baggrund af den foreløbige ansøgning vedrørende avelumab modtaget den 1. april 2019.

Protokollen danner grundlag for den endelige ansøgning for vurdering af avelumab sammenlignet med dansk standardbehandling. Alle effektmål, der er opgivet i denne protokol, skal besvares med en sammenlignende analyse mellem avelumab og komparator af både absolutte og relative værdier for de udspecificerede populationer i de angivne måleenheder (se tabel 1). Litteratursøgning og databehandling udføres som beskrevet i protokollen.

4 Baggrund

Merkelcellekarcinom (MCC) er en sjælden, aggressiv neuroendokrin hudtumor, hvor der ses en høj forekomst af lokalt tilbagefald, regional spredning og fjernmetastaser [1]. Det er stadig uvist, hvilken celle MCC udgår fra. Tidligere mente man, at den opstod i merkelceller, fordi man havde opdaget cytoplasmatiske granulae, som de der er i merkelceller, men det er aldrig blevet fastslået. Den nyeste forskning diskuterer bl.a. kutane stamceller og pro-/pre-B-celler, som mulige oprindelsesceller. Sygdommen kan således være vanskelig at diagnosticere, og der er mange differentialdiagnoser, herunder basocellulært karcinom, malignt melanom, lymfom og metastase fra småcellet karcinom fra en anden lokalisation end huden. I diagnostikken anvender man et panel af immunhistokemiske farvninger, bl.a. er CK20 vigtig, da den oftest er positiv i MCC i modsætning til non-kutane neuroendokrine tumorer, som oftest er negative. Stadietinddelingen af mMCC følger AJCC 8. udgave [2].

Udvikling af Merkelcellekarcinom er associeret med infektion med Merkelcelle polyomavirus (MCPyV) samt massiv sollyseksposering. Forekomsten af MCC er hyppigst i aldersgruppen over 60 år, patienter med immunsupprimerende behandling (inklusive organtransplanterede), tidligere malign sygdom og HIV-infektion [3] og findes typisk på kroppens sollyseksposerede områder [4]. Karcinomet udvikler sig typisk med hurtig vækst over to-tre måneder, hvor der klinisk ses en rødlig eller violet knude i huden.

MCPyV: ætiologien til MCC menes i dag at kunne være enten akkumulation af UV-inducerede mutationer (ved de såkaldte MCPyVnegative MCCer), eller MCPyV-kodet transformation af gener i de såkaldte MCPyV-positive MCCer. Omkring 80% af MCC tumorer er positive for MCPyV [5]. Betydningen af MCPyV for overlevelsen er uklar, idet resultaterne af forskellige studier ikke er entydige og MCPyV bruges på nuværende tidspunkt ikke som en prædiktiv markør [6,7].

PD-L1-ekspression: Tærskelværdien for PD-L1 positive tumorer er sat til $\geq 1\%$ af tumorcellerne i to studier udført med checkpoint hæmmere til mMCC med hhv. avelumab og pembrolizumab [6,7]. Begge studier viste ingen korrelation mellem PD-L1 ekspression og klinisk respons og på nuværende tidspunkt er PD-L1-ekspression ikke en prædiktiv markør.

Prognose

Merkelcellekarcinom metastaserer hyppigst til regionale lymfeknuder. Ved fjernmetastasering ses primært metastaser i hud, lunge, centralnervesystemet, knogler og lever. Metastatisk Merkelcellekarcinom (mMCC) har en høj dødelighed med en gennemsnitlig femårs overlevelseshastighed på 0-18 % [8,9]. Medianalder blandt patienter med mMCC i en tysk opgørelse var 67 år [10].

Uden medicinsk behandling dør patienterne ofte inden for 3 måneder pga. metastasering.

Incidens

En estimeret incidens for patienter med Merkelcellekarinom ligger i Danmark på 0,5 per 100.000, svarende til ca. 26 nye tilfælde pr. år [3]. Heraf har omkring 37 % regional metastasering på diagnosetidspunktet, mens 6-12 % diagnosticeres med primær fjernmetastasering. En tysk undersøgelse med 971 patienter viste, at 25 % udviklede mMCC, svarende til ca. 6-7 nye patienter i Danmark pr. år [10]. Dette estimat understøttes af en dansk opgørelse fra 1995-2006 [8].

4.1 Nuværende behandling

Kirurgi og strålebehandling er den primære behandling hos patienter med lokoregional Merkelcellekarinom. Ved behov for efterfølgende medicinsk behandling ved metastatisk sygdom har det frem til EMA-godkendelsen af avelumab i september 2017 været platinbaseret kemoterapi til udvalgte patienter.

Der eksisterer ikke nogen godkendt medicinsk antineoplastisk behandling til patienter med metastaserende Merkelcellekarinom. En række forskellige kemoterapiregimer, de fleste platinbaseret, har været anvendt, men der eksisterer kun retrospektive analyser med relativt få patienter. Alle viser pæne responsrater (55-69 %) men af meget kort varighed. En dansk klinisk retningslinje er under udarbejdelse. Nedenstående oversigt (tabel 1) baserer sig på to af de nyeste opgørelser.

Tabel 1. Kemoterapi-data

Reference	Effektparameter	Førstelinje	Andenlinje
Becker [10], førstelinje N: 32, andenlinje N: 34 Kemoterapi type: Paclitaxel: 34,5 % Liposomal doxorubicin/doxorubicin monoterapi): 31 %	Responsrate	46,4 %	8,8 %
	Duration of response, median	3,3 mdr.	1,9 mdr.
	PFS, median	4,5 mdr.	3,0 mdr.
	PFS rate ved 6 mdr.	17,9 %	3,4 %
	PFS rate ved 12 mdr.	0 %	0 %
	OS, median	NA	5,3 mdr.
	OS rate ved 6 mdr,	96,4 %	27,5 %
	OS rate ved 12 mdr.	28,6 %	0
Iyer [11], førstelinje N: 62, andenlinje N: 30 Kemoterapi, type: Etoposide: 69 % i kombination med enten carboplatin eller cisplatin	RR	55 %	23 %
	DOR. Median	2,9 mdr.	3,3 mdr (N: 7)
	PFS, median	3,1 mdr.	2,0 mdr.
	OS, median	9,5 mdr.	NA
	OS, median for både første- og andenlinjebehandlede patienter	13 mdr.	

Ved behandling med 1. linje-kemoterapi ligger responsraten på 46,4-55 %. Dog med en kortvarig effekt med en median PFS på 3,1-4,5 måneder, der ikke har resulteret i en forbedret samlet overlevelse. Den mediane overlevelse ligger på omkring 9,5 måneder [10,11].

Frekvensen af bivirkninger er høj, særligt blandt ældre og skrøbelige patienter, herunder hæmatologisk toksicitet og behandlingsrelaterede dødsfald, og dosisjustering kan foretages baseret på en klinisk vurdering. Effekten på overlevelse og livskvalitet er uklar pga. manglende klinisk randomiserede studier.

4.2 Avelumab

Avelumab er et monoklonalt IgG1-antistof, som hæmmer bindingen mellem PD-L1 og PD-1 receptorer, hvorved T-cellernes immunrespons reetableres. Denne nye behandlingsmodalitet immunterapi kaldes også *check-point inhibition*. Baggrunden for denne behandlingstype er, at tumorceller gennem binding af overfladeproteinet *programmed cell death-ligand 1* (PD-L1) til en receptor på immunforsvarets celler (PD-1) kan nedregulere immunforsvarets angreb [5].

Avelumab fik betegnelsen ”orphan” i december 2015 til behandling af mMCC. Bavencio (avelumab) fik markedsføringstilladelse til førstelinje- samt andenlinjebehandling af voksne med mMCC den 21. september 2017. EMA-godkendelsen blev givet som ”conditional approval”, og der afventes endelige data for behandlingsnaive patienter i januar 2020, frem til da vurderer EMA data på avelumab til mMCC årligt.

Behandlingen administreres som 10 mg/kg legemsvægt intravenøs infusion over 60 minutter hver anden uge. Behandlingen bør fortsætte i henhold til anbefalet dosering indtil sygdomsprogression eller uacceptabel toksicitet. Dosisoptræning eller -reduktion anbefales ikke. Det kan være nødvendigt at udsætte eller afbryde behandlingen, baseret på individuel sikkerhed og tolerabilitet.

Patienterne skal præmedicineres med et antihistamin, og med paracetamol før de første 4 infusioner. Hvis den 4. infusion gennemføres uden en infusionsrelateret reaktion, skal præmedicin for efterfølgende doser administreres efter lægens skøn.

5 Kliniske spørgsmål

De kliniske spørgsmål skal indeholde specifikation af patientgruppen, interventionen, alternativet/-erne til interventionen og effektmål.

Jf. afsnit 4.2 har avelumab siden 2017 som det eneste lægemiddel haft indikation til behandling af mMCC i både første og anden linje. Jf. afsnit 4.1 (nuværende behandling) er effekten af behandling med tilgængelig kemoterapi i Danmark kortvarig uanset linje, og fagudvalget vurderer på den baggrund, at potentialet for behandling med avelumab hovedsageligt ligger som 1. linjebehandling. Derfor opsættes kun ét klinisk spørgsmål.

5.1 Klinisk spørgsmål 1

Hvilken klinisk merværdi tilbyder avelumab sammenlignet med platinbaseret kombinationsterapi til voksne patienter med metastatisk Merkelcellekarcinom, som er kandidater til førstelinjebehandling?

Population

Voksne patienter med metastatisk Merkelcellekarcinom, som er behandlingsnaive.

Intervention

Avelumab 10 mg/kg legemsvægt administreret som intravenøs infusion over 60 minutter hver anden uge.

Komparator

Platinbaseret kombinationsterapi (primært etoposid), jf. afsnit 4.1.

Effektmål

Tabel 1 i afsnit 5.4 opsummerer de valgte effektmål, deres vigtighed, mindste klinisk relevante forskel og kategori.

5.2 Valg af effektmål

Tabel 2 summerer de valgte effektmål, deres vigtighed, den retningsgivende mindste klinisk relevante forskel, en evt. justeret mindste klinisk relevant forskel og kategori. I forbindelse med justeringen af Medicinrådets metodehåndbog, som trådte i kraft pr. 1. januar 2019, vil absolutte effektforskelle fremover blive kategoriseret ud fra konfidensintervaller (tabel 3, side 29 i metodehåndbogen). Det er derfor nødvendigt at foretage en justering af den mindste klinisk relevante forskel. Den *retningsgivende* mindste klinisk relevante forskel er fremkommet på samme måde som under den gamle metode og afspejler den mindste forskel, som, fagudvalget vurderer, er klinisk relevant. Når lægemidlets værdi for det enkelte effektmål skal kategoriseres, vil grænsen for konfidensintervallet blive sammenholdt med den *justerede* mindste klinisk relevante forskel. Den justerede værdi vil være det halve af den retningsgivende værdi i de tilfælde, hvor et konfidensinterval forventes at være tilgængeligt. Rationalet for denne tilgang er at sikre, at alle værdier i konfidensintervallet ligger tættere på den *retningsgivende MKRF* end på 'ingen forskel' (absolut effektforskel på 0). Eller sagt på en anden måde – alle de sandsynlige værdier for effekten er tættere på en klinisk relevant effekt end på 'ingen effekt'.

For alle effektmål ønskes både absolutte og relative værdier, jf. ansøgningskemaet. Der ønskes både punktestimater og konfidensintervaller (for de absolutte værdier ønskes dog ikke konfidensintervaller, hvor metoderne til beregning af disse ikke er veldefinerede). For de absolutte værdier, hvor der kan beregnes konfidensintervaller efter veldefinerede metoder, vurderes den kliniske relevans (værdi), jf. tabel 3 i Medicinrådets håndbog for vurdering af nye lægemidler. For de relative værdier vurderes den kliniske relevans (værdi), jf. væsentlighedskriterierne beskrevet i Medicinrådets håndbog. De relative effektestimater skal angives i relativ risiko (RR) eller hazard ratio (HR). Hvis studierne resulterer i en odds ratio (OR), skal denne transformeres til relativ risiko, jf. appendiks 2 i Medicinrådets håndbog. Det skal begrundes i ansøgningen, hvis der afviges fra de ønskede effektmål.

Tabel 2. Oversigt over valgte effektmål for behandling i førstelinje. For hvert effektmål er angivet deres vigtighed. For kritiske og vigtige effektmål er desuden angivet den mindste klinisk relevante forskel (retningsgivende og evt. justeret) samt indplacering i de tre kategorier ("dødelighed" "livskvalitet, alvorlige symptomer og bivirkninger" og "ikkealvorlige symptomer og bivirkninger").

Effektmål*	Vigtighed	Kategori	Måleenhed	Retningsgivende mindste klinisk relevante forskel	Justeret mindste klinisk relevante forskel
Overlevelse	Kritisk	Dødelighed/ overlevelse	Median OS i antal måneder	En forskel på ≥ 3 måneder	<i>Ikke relevant</i>
			OS rate ved 12 måneder	En forskel på ≥ 10 %-point	≥ 5 %-point
			OS rate ved 18 måneder	En forskel på ≥ 10 %-point	≥ 5 %-point
			Median progressionsfri overlevelse (PFS) i antal måneder**	En forskel på ≥ 3 måneder	<i>Ikke relevant</i>
			PFS rate ved 6 måneder**	En forskel på ≥ 10 procentpoint	≥ 5 procentpoint
			PFS rate ved 12 måneder**	En forskel på ≥ 10 procentpoint	≥ 5 procentpoint
Bivirkninger	Vigtig	Livskvalitet, alvorlige symptomer og bivirkninger	Andel af patienter som oplever en eller flere uønskede hændelser grad 3-4	En forskel på ≥ 10 % point	≥ 5 %-point
			Gennemgang af bivirkningsprofil	Narrativ vurdering	<i>Ikke relevant</i>
Livskvalitet	Vigtig	Livskvalitet, alvorlige symptomer og bivirkninger	Ændring over tid i EQ-5D	Forskel svarende til den validerede mindste klinisk relevante forskel for EQ-5D spørgeskemaet	Ændring svarende til halvdelen af de validerede MKRF
Respons	Vigtig	Livskvalitet, alvorlige symptomer og bivirkninger	Andel af patienter, der har respons	En forskel på ≥ 10 %	≥ 5 %-point

* For alle effektmål ønskes data med længst mulig opfølgningstid.

** Hvis ansøger ikke kan levere data på OS, ønsker fagudvalget effektmålet opgjort på PFS.

Kritiske effektmål

Overlevelse

Forbedret samlet overlevelse (OS) betragtes som guldstandard blandt effektmål i onkologiske studier. Overlevelse defineres som tiden fra behandlingsstart til død, uafhængig af årsag. For OS anvendes to mål til at vurdere den absolutte effekt: median OS og OS-rate. De to mål supplerer hinanden. Median OS giver svar på, hvornår halvdelen af patientgruppen er død, men OS-raten ved 12 måneder giver et estimat for hvor mange, som er i live efter 12 måneder.

Fagudvalget vurderer OS som et kritisk effektmål for vurdering af avelumab. Den største af de retrospektive opgørelser, der findes med kemoterapi [11], viser en median OS på 13 måneder (opgørelse over både første- og andenlinjebehandlede). Udgangspunkt for vurdering af OS er en OS-rate ved 5 år hos kemobehandlede patienter med mMCC på 0-18 % [3]. Fagudvalget vurderer, at en forskel i OS-median på 3 måneder eller en forskel på 10 % i OS-rate ved 12 og 18 måneder mellem avelumab og komparator er klinisk relevant i forhold til at kunne vurdere, om der er betydende forskelle mellem behandlingerne. Baseret på erfaringer fra immunterapi ved behandling af malignt melanom understreger fagudvalget, at ved behandling med moderne immunterapi er det i højere grad OS-raterne efter 2-5 år end den mediane OS, der bedst karakteriserer de nye behandlingers effekt, idet det belyser en langtidseffekt hos en mindre del af patienterne.

Fagudvalget vil som udgangspunkt vurdere overlevelseshastigheder ved 12 og 18 måneder. Såfremt det ikke er muligt at opnå data ved 18 måneder, vil fagudvalget lave en vurdering baseret på overlevelseshastigheder efter længst mulig opfølgningstid.

Progressionsfri overlevelse (PFS): Hvis ansøger ikke kan levere data på OS, ønsker fagudvalget effektmålet opgjort på PFS. PFS er defineret som tiden fra behandlingsstart til første dokumentation af progression i henhold til Response Evaluation Criteria in Solid Tumors (RECIST) v1.1 [10] eller dødsfald.

Fagudvalget har sat den mindste klinisk relevante forskel for PFS med udgangspunkt i, at fagudvalget anser PFS som et surrogatmål for OS. Da fagudvalget ikke har kendskab til litteratur, der viser, hvorledes OS og PFS er korreleret, sætter fagudvalget de mindste klinisk relevante forskelle for PFS som ved OS, dog ved tidligere måletidspunkter. Usikkerheden om korrelationen vil give sig udtryk i en ændring af effektmålets vigtighed fra kritisk til vigtig.

Udgangspunkt for vurdering af PFS er en median PFS på 3,1 – 4,6 måneder hos patienter behandlet med kemoterapi i førstelinje [10,11] og en PFS-rate på 17,9 % efter 6 måneder og 0 % efter 12 måneder [10]. Baseret på dette finder fagudvalget, at en forskel på mindst 3 måneder i median PFS og en forskel på 10 %-point i PFS-rate ved 6 og 12 måneder mellem avelumab og kemoterapi er klinisk relevant.

Vigtige effektmål

Bivirkninger

Fagudvalget finder det relevant at belyse bivirkninger (adverse reactions (AR)) grad 3-4, da det belyser, hvordan avelumab tolereres sammenlignet med kemoterapi. Bivirkninger suppleres med en kvalitativ gennemgang.

Bivirkninger grad 3-4 (AR)

Det er fagudvalgets betragtning, at andelen af patienter, som oplever en eller flere bivirkninger grad 3-4 i henhold til National Cancer Institute CTCAE, version 4.0 [13], er relevant for vurderingen. Frekvens og gradering ved behandling med kemoterapi er meget dårligt belyst i litteraturen. Derudover rummer kemoterapien mulighed for at dosisjustere baseret på klinisk vurdering. Mindste klinisk relevante forskel sættes til 10 %-point mellem avelumab og komparator.

Kendte bivirkninger

Fagudvalget ønsker at gøre opmærksom på, at bivirkningstyperne for behandling med komparator og immunterapi er forskellige. Derfor ønsker fagudvalget som supplement til den kvantitative vurdering en kvalitativ gennemgang af bivirkningstyperne (grad 3-4) forbundet med behandling med avelumab og kemoterapi med henblik på at vurdere typer, håndterbarhed samt reversibilitet af bivirkningerne. Fagudvalget lægger særligt vægt på følgende kemoterapi-relaterede bivirkninger: kvalme, opkastning, febril neutropeni, sepsis, neuropati, nefropati samt immunterapi-relaterede bivirkninger, herunder reversibilitet af bivirkninger.

Ansøger bedes derfor bidrage med bivirkningsdata fra både de kliniske studier samt produktresuméerne for lægemidlerne.

Livskvalitet

EQ-5D-spørgeskemaet er et velvalideret generisk spørgeskema, som anvendes til vurdering af helbredsrelateret livskvalitet (EuroQol Group). Spørgeskemaet består af fem dimensioner (bevægelighed, personlig pleje, sædvanlige aktiviteter, smerte/ubehag og angst/depression). EQ-5D index scoren går fra 0-1, hvor 1 er det bedst tænkelige helbred. Spørgeskemaet indeholder desuden en visuel analog skala (VAS), der går fra 0 (værst tænkelige helbred) til 100 (bedst tænkelige helbred). Den mindste kliniske relevante forskel er baseret på de britiske værdier fra Pickard et al. [14]. Fagudvalget læner sig op ad denne definition og betragter en forskel på $\geq 0,08$ i EQ-5D index score og ≥ 7 point i EQ-5D visuel analog skala mellem avelumab og komparator som en klinisk relevant forskel.

Respons

Objektiv responsrate (ORR) anvendes til belysning af behandlingsrespons. ORR underinddeles i følgende kategorier, jf. RECIST v 1.1 [12]:

- Komplet respons (CR): Klinisk og billeddiagnostisk sygdomsfri. Alle tumorlæsioner er væk, og ingen nye er fremkommet.
- Partielt respons (PR): Mindst 30 % reduktion af tumorlæsionernes størrelse sammenlignet med baseline.

Objektiv respons (OR) opnås for en patient, hvis vedkommende er klassificeret som CR eller PR, og objektiv responsrate (ORR) defineres som komplet respons + partielt respons delt med det samlede patientantal.

Fagudvalget vurderer, at ORR er et vigtigt effektmål, da det er et udtryk for om tumorbyrden mindskes. En ændring i tumorbyrde kan anvendes i klinikken som et mål for sygdomskontrol, men fagudvalget forventer også, at tumorreduktion (både primær og metastaser) vil gavne de patienter, som oplever symptomer og gener på grund af deres sygdom.

Med udgangspunkt i, at responsraten ved førstelinje kemoterapibehandling af metastatisk Merkelcellecarcinom er på 46-55 % [10,11], vurderer fagudvalget, at en forskel på 10 %-point i andel af patienter, der oplever respons mellem behandling med avelumab og komparator, er klinisk relevant.

Fagudvalget er bekendt med fra fx modernærkekræft, at behandling med immunterapi kan medføre et længerevarende respons end fx behandling med kemoterapi hos en mindre del af patienterne. Derfor ønsker fagudvalget, i tillæg til andel af patienter, der opnår et respons, information om varigheden af respons for både avelumab og komparator i henhold til RECIST v 1.1 [12].

6 Litteratursøgning

Vurderingen af klinisk merværdi baseres som udgangspunkt på data fra peer-reviewed publicerede fuldtekstartikler og data fra EMAs EPAR – public assessment report(s). Data skal derudover stemme overens med protokollens beskrivelser.

Sekretariatet har på baggrund af den foreløbige ansøgning undersøgt, om der findes et eller flere peer-reviewede publicerede fuldtekstartikler, hvor avelumab er sammenlignet direkte med komparator, jf. afsnit 5.1.

Sekretariatet har ikke fundet artikler, som kan anvendes til direkte sammenligning af avelumab og platinbaseret kombinationsterapi (primært etoposid).

Virksomheden skal derfor søge efter studier, der kan anvendes til en indirekte sammenligning af avelumab og platinbaseret kombinationsterapi (primært etoposid). Det betyder, at der både skal søges efter primærstudier af avelumabs effekt og efter primærstudier af effekten af platinbaseret kombinationsterapi (primært etoposid). Til det formål har sekretariatet udarbejdet søgestrengene, som skal anvendes i MEDLINE (via PubMed) og CENTRAL (via Cochrane Library). Søgestrengene kan findes i bilag 1. Derudover skal EMAs European public assessment reports (EPAR) konsulteres for både det aktuelle lægemiddel og dets komparator(er).

Kriterier for udvælgelse af litteratur

Virksomheden skal først ekskludere artikler på titel- og abstractniveau, dernæst ved gennemlæsning af fuldtekstartikler. Artikler, der ekskluderes ved fuldtekstlæsning, skal fremgå med forfatter, årstal og titel i en eksklusionsliste, hvor eksklusionen begrundes kort. Den samlede udvælgelsesproces skal afrapporteres ved brug af et PRISMA-flowdiagram (<http://prisma-statement.org/PRISMAStatement/FlowDiagram.aspx>).

Ved usikkerheder om, hvorvidt en artikel på titel- og abstractniveau lever op til inklusions- og eksklusionskriterierne, skal der anvendes et forsigtighedsprincip til fordel for artiklen, hvorved fuldtekstartiklen vurderes.

Inklusions- og eksklusionskriterier: Studier med andre populationer end de valgte samt studier, som ikke rapporterer mindst et af de kritiske eller vigtige effektmål, ekskluderes.

7 Databehandling og analyse

De inkluderede studier og baselinekarakteristikken af studiepopulationerne beskrives i Medicinrådets ansøgningsskema. Det skal angives, hvilke studier der benyttes til at besvare hvilke kliniske spørgsmål.

Al relevant data skal som udgangspunkt ekstraheres ved brug af Medicinrådets ansøgningsskema. Der skal udføres en komparativ analyse for hvert enkelt effektmål på baggrund af relevant data fra inkluderede studier. For hvert effektmål og studie angives analysepopulation (f.eks. intention to treat (ITT), per-protocol) samt metode. Resultater for ITT-populationen skal angives, hvis muligt, hvis komparative analyser ikke i udgangspunktet er baseret på denne population. Alle ekstraherede data skal krydstjekkes med de resultater, der beskrives i EPAR'en. Findes uoverensstemmelser, gives en mulig grund herfor.

Hvis ekstraherede data afviger fra de forhåndsdefinerede PICO-beskrivelser, specielt i forhold til præspecificeret population og effektmål, begrundes dette.

Hvis data for et effektmål ikke er tilgængelig for alle deltagere i et studie, vil der ikke blive gjort forsøg på at erstatte manglende data med en meningsfuld værdi. Det vil sige, at alle analyser udelukkende baseres på tilgængelige data på individniveau.

For effektmål (ORR, SAE, behandlingsstop pga. bivirkninger og ikkealvorlige bivirkninger), hvor det er naturligt at beregne både absolut og relativ forskel, vil den relative forskel være basis for statistiske analyser. Den absolutte forskel vil derefter blive beregnet, baseret på den estimerede relative forskel for et antaget niveau på hændelsesraten i komparatorgruppen. Det antagne niveau vil afspejle det forventede niveau i

Danmark ved behandling med komparator (hvis relativ risiko (RR) = 0,5 og antaget andel med hændelse i komparatorgruppen er 30 %, da er den absolutte risikoreduktion (ARR) = 30 – 30 x 0,5 = 15 %-point).

Hvis der er mere end ét sammenlignende studie, foretages en metaanalyse for de effektmål, hvor det er metodemæssigt forsvarligt. Hvis der ikke foreligger sammenlignende studier, kan data eventuelt syntetiseres indirekte (evt. i form af formelle netværksmetaanalyser eller ved brug af Buchers metode), hvis intervention og komparator er sammenlignet med samme alternative komparator i separate studier. Medicinrådet forbeholder sig retten til at foretage sensitivitets- og subgruppeanalyser på baggrund af studiernes validitet og relevans.

For effektmål, hvor forskellige måleinstrumenter er brugt på tværs af de inkluderede studier, vil eventuelle metaanalyser blive baseret på standardized mean difference (SMD). Den estimerede SMD vil blive omregnet til den foretrukne skala for effektmålet. Til dette formål anvendes medianen af de observerede standardafvigelse i de inkluderede studier.

Hvis det ikke er en mulighed at udarbejde metaanalyser (herunder netværksmetaanalyser), syntetiseres data narrativt. Studie- og patientkarakteristika samt resultater fra de inkluderede studier beskrives narrativt og i tabelform med angivelse af resultater pr. effektmål for både intervention og komparator(er). Forskelle i patientkarakteristika og studiekontekst (f.eks. geografi og årstal) mellem studier skal beskrives og vurderes for at afgøre, hvorvidt resultaterne er sammenlignelige.

Valget af syntesemåde (metaanalyse eller narrativ beskrivelse) begrundes, og specifikke analysevalg truffet i forhold til metoden skal fremgå tydeligt.

8 Andre overvejelser

Fagudvalget har ikke angivet andre overvejelser.

9 Referencer

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10 Sammensætning af fagudvalg og kontaktinformation til Medicinrådet

Medicinrådets fagudvalg vedrørende modermærkekræft og non-melanom hudkræft

Forvaltningslovens § 4, stk. 2, har været anvendt i forbindelse med udpegning af medlemmer til dette fagudvalg.

Formand	Indstillet af
Marco Donia Klinisk lektor, afdelingslæge, ph.d.	Lægevidenskabelige Selskaber og udpeget af Region Hovedstaden
Fungerende formand 1. april-30. juni 2019 Lars Bastholt Overlæge	Lægevidenskabelige Selskaber og udpeget af Region Syddanmark
Medlemmer	Udpeget af
Adam Andrzej Luczak Overlæge	Region Nordjylland
Trine Heide Øllegaard Afdelingslæge, ph.d.	Region Midtjylland
<i>Kan ikke udpege, da regionen ikke har specialet</i>	Region Sjælland
Jakob Henriksen 1. reservelæge	Dansk Selskab for Klinisk Farmakologi (DSKF)
<i>Kan ikke finde egnede kandidater, der ønsker at deltage i fagudvalget</i>	Dansk Selskab for Sygehusapoteksledelse (DSS)
Pernille Lassen Afdelingslæge, ph.d.	Dansk Selskab for Klinisk Onkolog (DSKO)
Mathilde Skaarup Larsen Overlæge, ph.d.	Dansk Patologiselskab (DPAS)
Lisbet Rosenkrantz Hölmich Klinisk forskningslektor, overlæge, dr.med.	Dansk Selskab for Plastik- og Rekonstruktionskirurgi (DSPR) og Dansk Melanom Gruppe (DMG)
Sanne Wiingreen Patient/patientrepræsentant	Danske Patienter
Lene Ottesen Patient/patientrepræsentant	Danske Patienter

Medicinrådets sekretariat

Medicinrådet Dampfærgevej 27-29, 3. 2100 København Ø + 45 70 10 36 00 medicinraadet@medicinraadet.dk
<i>Sekretariatets arbejdsgruppe:</i> Jette Østergaard Rathe (projekt- og metodeansvarlig) Pernille Koefod Arrevad (sundhedsvidenskabelig konsulent) Charlotte Wulff Johansen (fagudvalgs koordinator) Anette Pultera Nielsen (fagudvalgs koordinator) Tenna Bekker (teamleder) Bettina Fabricius Christensen (informationsspecialist) Jan Odgaard-Jensen (statistiker)

11 Versionslog

Version	Dato	Ændring
1.0	20. juni 2019	Godkendt af Medicinrådet.

12 Bilag

Bilag 1

Søgestrategi, PubMed <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed>

#	Søgetermer	Kommentar
1	Carcinoma, Merkel Cell[mh]	Søgeord for indikation. De søges som MeSH termer, og som fritekst i titel og abstract
2	(merkel cell[tiab] OR merkel cells[tiab] OR merkle[tiab]) AND (cancer[tiab] OR carcinoma*[tiab] OR tumor[tiab] OR tumors[tiab] OR tumour[tiab] OR tumours[tiab])	
3	#1 OR #2	
4	Neoplasm Metastasis[mh]	
5	mMCC[tiab] OR metastatic[tiab] OR metastas*[tiab] OR advanced[tiab] OR aMCC[tiab]	
6	#4 OR #5	
7	#3 AND #6	
8	avelumab[nm] OR avelumab[tiab] OR bavencio*[tiab]	Søgeord for ansøgers lægemiddel og komparator. De søges som Supplementary Concept/Substance, og som fritekst i titel og abstract
9	Etoposide[mh] OR etoposide[tiab]	
10	Platinum Compounds[mh] or Cisplatin[mh] OR Organoplatinum Compounds[mh] or Carboplatin[mh]	
11	platin*[tiab] OR cisplatin[tiab] OR cis-platin[tiab] OR carboplatin[tiab]	
12	#9 AND (#10 OR #11)	
13	Antineoplastic Combined Chemotherapy Protocols[mh]	
14	chemotherapy[tiab] OR chemotherapeutic[tiab]	
15	#8 OR #12 OR #13 OR #14	Indikation og lægemidler kombineres
16	#7 AND #15	
17	case report[ti] OR Case Reports[pt] OR Comment[pt] OR Editorial[pt] OR News[pt] OR Review[pt] OR Systematic Review[pt]	
18	#16 NOT #17	Afgrænsning (eksklusion) på publikationstype. Linje 18 = Endeligt resultat

Feltkoder:

mh = MeSH Term

nm = Supplementary Concept/Substance

tiab = title/abstract, inkl. forfatterkeywords

pt = publication type

Søgestrategi, Central <https://www.cochranelibrary.com/>

#	Søgetermer	
#1	((("merkel cell" OR "merkel cells" OR merkle) near/2 (cancer OR carcinoma* OR tumo*r*)):ti,ab,kw	Søgeord for indikationen. Der søges på fritext i titel og abstract, samt på indekserede termer fra både Medline og Embase.
#2	(mMCC OR metastatic OR metastas* OR advanced OR aMCC):ti,ab,kw	
#3	#1 AND #2	
#4	(avelumab OR avelumab OR bavencio*):ti,ab,kw	Søgeord for ansøgers lægemiddel samt komparator. Der søges på fritext i titel og abstract, samt på indekserede termer fra Medline og Embase
#5	etoposide:ti,ab,kw	
#6	(platin* OR organoplatinum OR cisplatin OR carboplatin):ti,ab,kw	
#7	#5 AND #6	
#8	chemotherap*:ti,ab,kw	
#9	#4 OR #7 OR #8	
#10	#3 AND #9	Indikation og lægemidler kombineres
#11	("conference abstract" OR review):pt	Afgrænsning (eksklusion) på publikationstype samt (en del) af de resultater, der kommer fra clinicaltrials.gov.
#12	NCT*:au	
#13	("clinicaltrials gov" OR trialsearch):so	
#14	#11 OR #12 OR #13	
#15	#10 NOT #14	Linje 15 = Endeligt resultat

Feltkoder:

ti: title

ab: abstract

kw: keywords, her kontrollerede/indekserede termer fra databaserne Medline og/eller Embase.

pt = publication type