

Pembrolizumab for untreated metastatic colorectal cancer with high microsatellite instability or mismatch repair deficiency [ID1498]

Lead team presentation

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Company: Merck Sharp & Dohme

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Comparators

- What are the relevant comparators?

KEYNOTE-177 trial

- How to deal with a blended comparator including treatments not offered in NHS?

Indirect treatment comparison

- Can one assume equivalence for:
 - FOLFOX/FOLFIRI and CAPOX
 - Cetuximab and panitumumab-containing regimens
- Are the effectiveness estimates affected by RAS status?

Extrapolations

- Is the use of equal post-progression survival (PPS) for all comparators justified?
- Is there evidence to support an ongoing treatment effect for pembrolizumab?

Utilities

- Are treatment-specific or pooled utility values more appropriate?
- Should model include a disutility for adverse events?

Costs and resource use

- Should costs for bevacizumab be assumed to be equal to cetuximab or FOLFOX/FOLFIRI?
- Should 6 or 4-weekly administration costs and resource use be modelled for pembrolizumab?
- Should guidance include a stopping rule for pembrolizumab?

Metastatic colorectal cancer (mCRC)

- **Definition:** malignant tumour in large intestine which spreads to and beyond nearby lymph nodes
- **General symptoms:** change in bowel habit, abdominal discomfort, nausea, fatigue, feeling of incomplete bowel emptying
- **Survival:** determined by disease stage
 - Metastatic CRC survival rates: 1-year = 44%, 5-year = 10%
- **Treatment aims:** prolong survival, improve quality of life

Colon: 2/3 of mCRC

R- sided tumours:

Overall survival: Worse - more likely advanced at diagnosis

Common histology: high microsatellite instability (MSI-H)/ DNA mismatch repair (dMMR)

Responds best to: immunotherapy



L- sided tumours:

Overall survival: Better

Common histology: KRAS and p53 mutant

Responds best to: adjuvant chemotherapy and targeted therapy

Rectum: 1/3 of mCRC

Definitions of DNA mismatch repair deficiency (dMMR) and high microsatellite instability (MSI-H)

Underlying pathology (genotype)

MMR deficiency

- MMR proteins correct single base nucleotide 'mismatches' - insertions or deletions - during DNA replication and recombination
- Mismatch repair (MMR) **deficient** cells can have many mutations
- MMR deficiency most common in colorectal, other gastrointestinal, and endometrial cancer
- MMR deficiency may be found in inherited disorders Lynch syndrome.
- Knowing if a tumor is MMR deficient may help plan treatment

Resultant characteristics (phenotype)

MSI-H

- Describes cancer cells that have a greater than normal number of genetic markers called microsatellites - short, repeated, sequences of DNA
- Results from MMR deficiency
- Microsatellite instability most common in colorectal, other gastrointestinal, and endometrial cancer
- Presence of microsatellite instability high may help plan treatment

Characteristics of MSI-H/dMMR colorectal cancers

- **Identification:** Positive for ≥ 1 of:
 - **dMMR:** Immunohistochemical staining (IHC) for any MMR protein loss
 - **MSI-H:** Polymerase chain reaction (PCR) for microsatellite instability
- **Prevalence:** MSI-H/dMMR occurs in 4% of metastatic CRC
- **Outcomes vs. metastatic non-MSI-H/dMMR:** Worse mortality rates and response to standard chemotherapy
- **Treatments:** Currently no MSI-H/dMMR mCRC specific treatments

Pembrolizumab, Keytruda[®]

Marketing authorisation includes no stopping rule; choice of dosing intervals

Marketing authorisation	1 st line treatment of ‘unresectable or metastatic microsatellite instability-high or mismatch repair deficient colorectal cancer in adults’
Mechanism of action	<p>Humanised monoclonal anti-programmed cell death-1 (PD-1) antibody</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A ‘checkpoint inhibitor’• <i>‘Cancer cells may use the PD-1 pathway to hide from T cells. This stops T cells from attacking cancer cells’</i>• <i>Pembrolizumab ‘works by blocking the PD-1 pathway and to help prevent cancer cells from hiding’ and ‘helps the immune system do what it was meant to do: detect and fight cancer cells.’</i>
Administration	200mg every 3 weeks or 400mg every 6 weeks, intravenously
Additional testing in NHS	<p>NICE diagnostics guidance 27 ‘Molecular testing strategies for Lynch syndrome in people with colorectal cancer’ recommends:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>“Offer testing to all people with colorectal cancer, when first diagnosed, using immunohistochemistry for mismatch repair proteins or microsatellite instability testing”</i>
List price	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• £2,630 per 100 mg vial so each 200mg administration = £5,260• Commercial arrangement, available to NHS at discount

NICE

<https://www.keytruda.com/how-does-keytruda-work/>

Patient perspective

Unmet need for treatments for this type of colorectal cancer

Quality of life impact

- Diagnosis and current treatment significantly impact quality of life
 - *“Tolerating the fortnightly chemotherapy regime is very debilitating both physically and mentally.”*
 - *“The risk of permanent peripheral neuropathic damage is high”*

Limited options for people with MSI-H/dMMR disease

- Current options for this bowel cancer population inadequate
 - No other potentially curative treatments
- Bowel cancer patients vary in nature (lynch syndrome, MSI high etc), but all given the same treatment lines.

Pembrolizumab superior to current standard care

- Faster and less frequent treatment without need for time in hospital
- Less toxicity (no sickness, diarrhoea, fatigue)
- Significant response rates to treatment
- Patients welcome targeted personalised approach: should be standard of care

Patient organisation perspective

Bowel Cancer UK

High unmet need, patients would value new treatments

Unmet need

- Survival rates for mCRC poor, <10% survive more than 5 years
- Limited NHS treatment options for advanced bowel cancer, especially MSI-H/dMMR disease
- Current standard care may not work for genetic profile
- Side effects from current treatments impact quality of life both physically and emotionally

New treatment

- Fewer hospital visits, reduced travel time and cost than chemotherapy:
 - three weekly 30 minute infusion opposed to two weekly 48 hour pumps
- Patients would value additional treatment options that extend life and have fewer side effects
- Personalised treatment necessary if outcomes are to improve in mCRC
- Newly diagnosed and younger people expected to benefit most

NHS metastatic colorectal cancer pathway

Currently no MSI-H/dMMR specific treatments; company positions pembrolizumab 1st line

KEY

- Current standard care for MSI-H /dMMR mCRC
- Company's positioning for pembrolizumab

Diagnosis of metastatic colorectal cancer

Genetic testing
RAS, BRAF V600E, MSI

All CRC types

FOLFOX / mFOLFOX6 CAPOX FOLFIRI

Tegafur with uracil (with folinic acid) **TA61** Capecitabine **TA61**

Raltitrexed (if folinic acid & fluorouracil not tolerated / unsuitable)

Not recommended at 1st line:

Bevacizumab with 5-FU/FA, with or without irinotecan **TA118**

Bevacizumab with oxaliplatin and either fluorouracil + folinic acid or capecitabine **TA212**

RAS wild-type specific

Panitumumab with FOLFOX, mFOLFOX6 or FOLFIRI **TA439**

Cetuximab with FOLFOX, mFOLFOX6 or FOLFIRI **TA439**

MSI-H/dMMR specific

Pembrolizumab monotherapy

During COVID19: pembrolizumab available for MSI-H/dMMR

During COVID19: nivolumab available for MSI-H/dMMR

Abbreviations: FOLFIRI, folinic acid plus fluorouracil plus irinotecan; FOLFOX, folinic acid plus fluorouracil plus oxaliplatin; mFOLFOX6, modified FOLOFOX6.

Testing for high microsatellite instability or DNA mismatch repair deficiency

NICE methods guide for technology appraisals includes genetic testing costs

NICE methods guide:

- “*The use of a technology may be conditional on the presence or absence of a particular biomarker. If a diagnostic test to establish the presence or absence of this biomarker is carried out solely to support the treatment decision for the specific technology, the associated **costs of the diagnostic test should be incorporated into the assessments of clinical and cost effectiveness.***”

NICE diagnostics guidance 27: Molecular testing strategies for Lynch syndrome in people with colorectal cancer ***recommends routine testing:***

- “*Offer testing **to all people with colorectal cancer**, when first diagnosed, using immunohistochemistry for mismatch repair proteins or microsatellite instability testing to identify tumours with deficient DNA mismatch repair, and to guide further sequential testing for Lynch syndrome*”
- “***Do not wait for the results*** before starting treatment.”

ERG: correct to exclude MSI-H/dMMR testing costs as routinely performed in NHS

Decision problem

Company excludes 3 comparators in NICE scope

	Final scope NICE	Company
Population	Adults with metastatic colorectal cancer + high microsatellite instability or mismatched repair deficiency	Scope
Intervention	Pembrolizumab	Scope
Comparators	<p>All patients (6)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Folinic acid plus fluorouracil plus oxaliplatin (FOLFOX) 2. Folinic acid plus fluorouracil plus irinotecan (FOLFIRI) 3. Capecitabine plus oxaliplatin (CAPOX) 4. Capecitabine 5. Tegafur with uracil (with folinic acid) 6. Raltitrexed (when folinic acid + fluorouracil not tolerated or unsuitable) <p>RAS wild-type</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Panitumumab with FOLFOX or FOLFIRI <p>RAS wild-type, EGFR expressing</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cetuximab with FOLFOX or FOLFIRI 	<p>Company exclude:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Capecitabine 2. Tegafur with uracil (with folinic acid) 3. Raltitrexed

Pembrolizumab at 1st line - comparators

Company excludes 3 scoped comparators : capecitabine, tegafur, raltitrexed

CAPECITABINE MONOTHERAPY

Company: only elderly / frail with poor performance status i.e. Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group [ECOG] score ≥ 2

- *N.B. technical team notes “pembrolizumab may be used with appropriate medical management in these patients” in marketing authorisation*

Clinical experts: Relevant

- Small number who have capecitabine, though frail, can instead have pembrolizumab
- Literature supports equivalence of capecitabine and 5FU

TEGAFUR WITH URACIL (WITH FOLINIC ACID)

Company: regimen discontinued in UK

Clinical experts: not a comparator.

Rarely used



RALITREXED

Company: rarely used

Clinical experts: not a comparator.

Only specific indications e.g. angina on 5-FU based chemotherapy

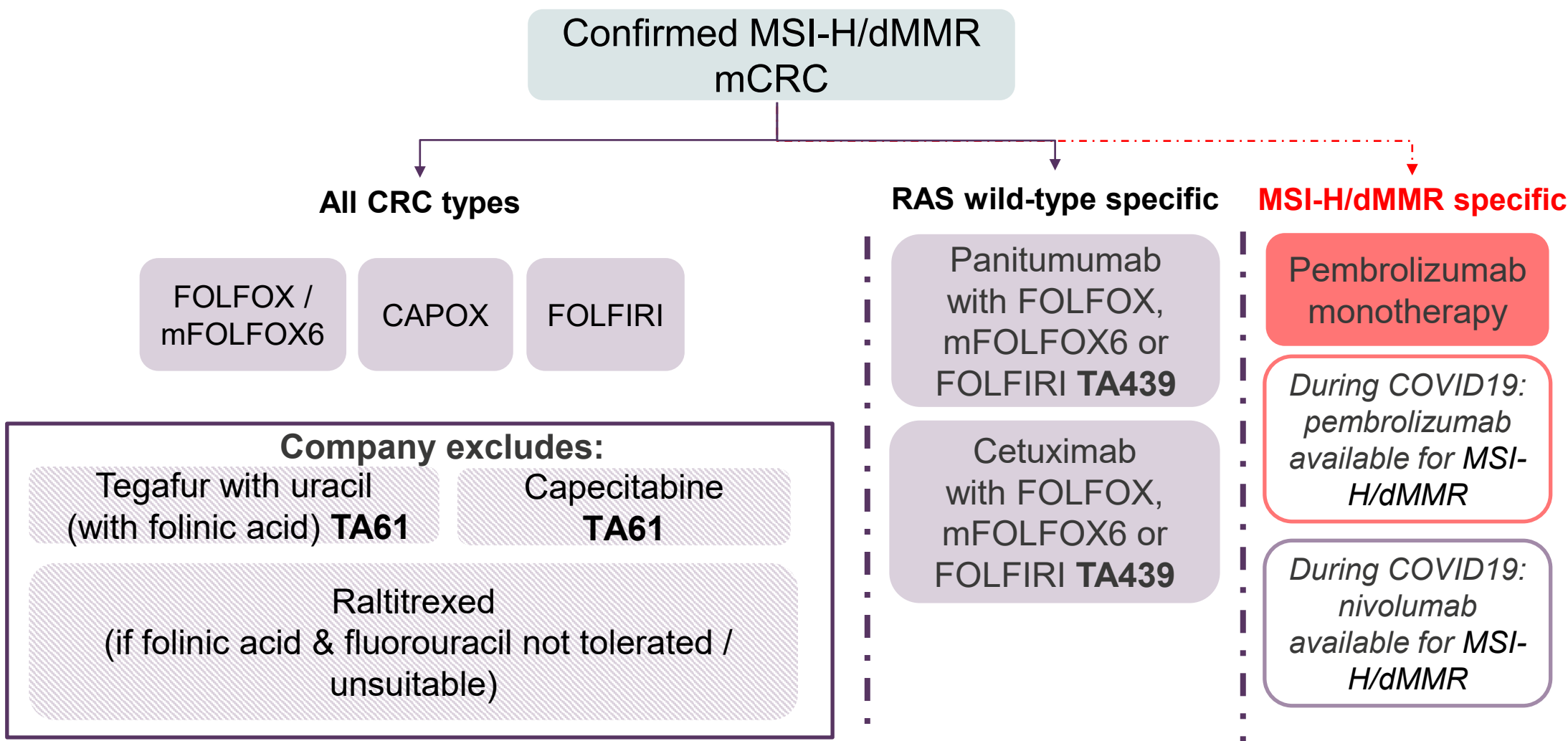
ERG: company's choice of comparators reasonable

⦿ *Who would get capecitabine, tegafur, raltitrexed?*

⦿ *What effect would including capecitabine have on cost-effectiveness results?*

Confirmed MSI-H/dMMR mCRC: comparators

What would patients in the NHS receive if not pembrolizumab?



NICE

Clinical effectiveness

1. *KEYNOTE-177 trial: pembrolizumab improves progression free survival and overall survival vs. standard care. Control arm not representative of NHS practice.*
2. *Pembrolizumab vs. comparators not in KEYNOTE-177: company uses fractional polynomials network meta-analysis in full mCRC population, even though some comparators limited to RAS wild-type disease*
3. *KEYNOTE-177 subgroup analyses show difference in estimates for RAS wild type vs mutant disease*

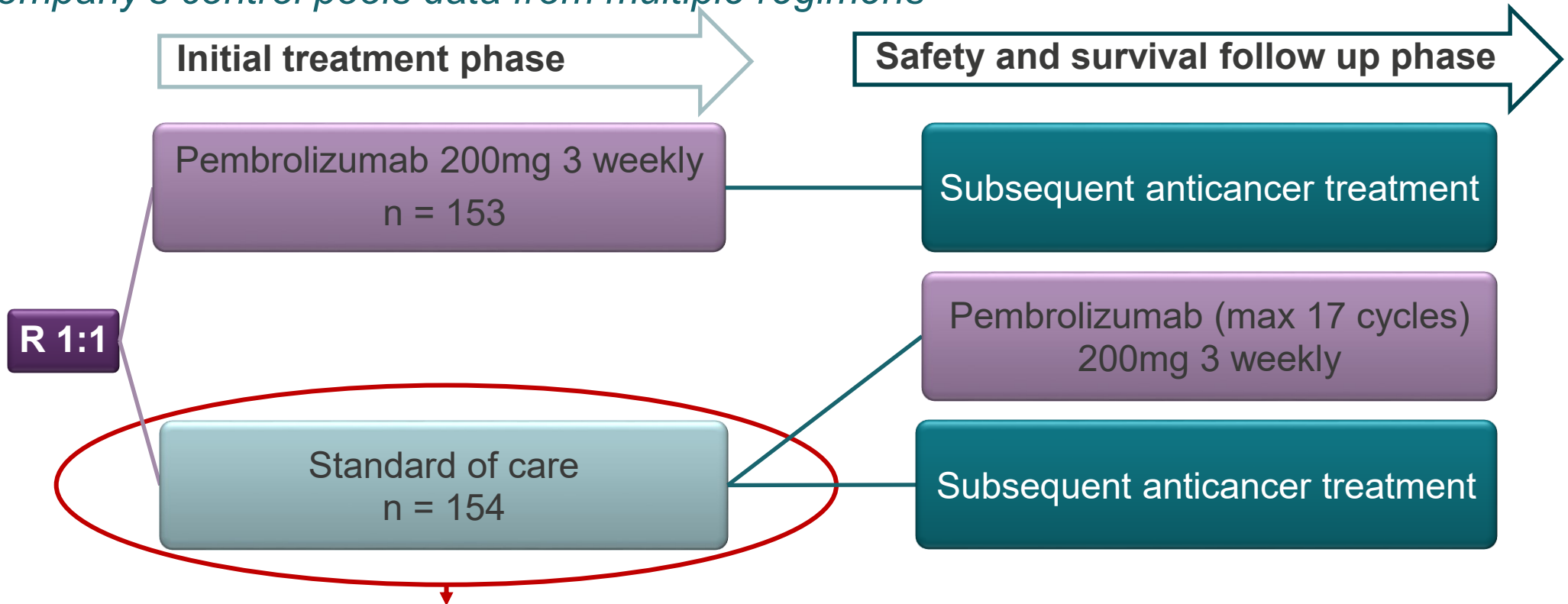
Key trial: KEYNOTE-177 (only MSI-H/dMMR mCRC)

Company's trial compares pembrolizumab with clinician-choice standard of care (SOC). SOC includes bevacizumab not used in NHS; trial had stopping rule

	N=307; 120 centres, 6 centres in UK, n=20 from UK
Control arm	Standard of care, clinician choice of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• chemotherapy (FOLFOX/FOLFIRI) +/- bevacizumab or cetuximab
Treatment length	Maximum 35 cycles (2 years) – ‘stopping rule’ Retreatment if stopped early due to stable disease: maximum 17 cycles (1 year)
Median follow-up	Pembrolizumab: 28 months (0 to 48), SOC: 27 months (1 to 47)
Inclusion criteria	Adults with: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Recurrent or newly diagnosed locally confirmed MSI-H/dMMR stage 4 mCRC• No prior systemic therapy• ECOG 0-1, life expectancy ≥ 3 months
1° endpoints	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Progression-free survival (PFS), assessed by RECIST 1.1• Overall survival
2° endpoints	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Overall response rate
Exploratory endpoints	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Progression-free survival on next line of therapy (PFS2)
Data analysis	Interim analysis 2: 19 FEB 2020. No further data cuts confirmed. Estimated completion date: FEB 2023.
Quality of life	EQ-5D-3L

KEYNOTE-177 trial schema: standard of care

Company's control pools data from multiple regimens



Source: adapted from company submission, Figure 3

Pooled comparator: Standard of care

Treatment option	Number on treatment (%)
FOLFIRI	16 (11)
FOLFOX	11 (8)
FOLFIRI + bevacizumab	36 (25)
FOLFOX + bevacizumab	64 (45)
FOLFIRI + cetuximab	11 (8)
FOLFOX + cetuximab	5 (4)

Source: Company submission, Table 16

Outcomes of SOC group likely biased: most patients received treatment not available in NHS

KEYNOTE-177: control arm standard of care

Company's pooled control includes bevacizumab unavailable in NHS + excludes CAPOX

Bevacizumab

Not recommended in NHS

KEYNOTE-177: ~70% control arm had bevacizumab

Company: exploratory analyses excluding people on bevacizumab (SOC n=■, pembrolizumab n=■)

ERG:

- Bevacizumab combinations more effective than FOLFOX, FOLFIRI or CAPOX (median PFS ~1.3 months longer)
- Scenarios excluding bevacizumab uncertain: small sample size and randomisation broken

Choice of treatment controls (n=143)

Treatment option	Number on treatment (%)
FOLFIRI	16 (11)
FOLFOX	11 (8)
FOLFIRI + bevacizumab	36 (25)
FOLFOX + bevacizumab	64 (45)
FOLFIRI + cetuximab	11 (8)
FOLFOX + cetuximab	5 (4)

Pooling of standard care

KEYNOTE-177: 'Clinician's choice' then 'blended comparator'

ERG: Comparing pembrolizumab to individual SOC comparators breaks randomisation

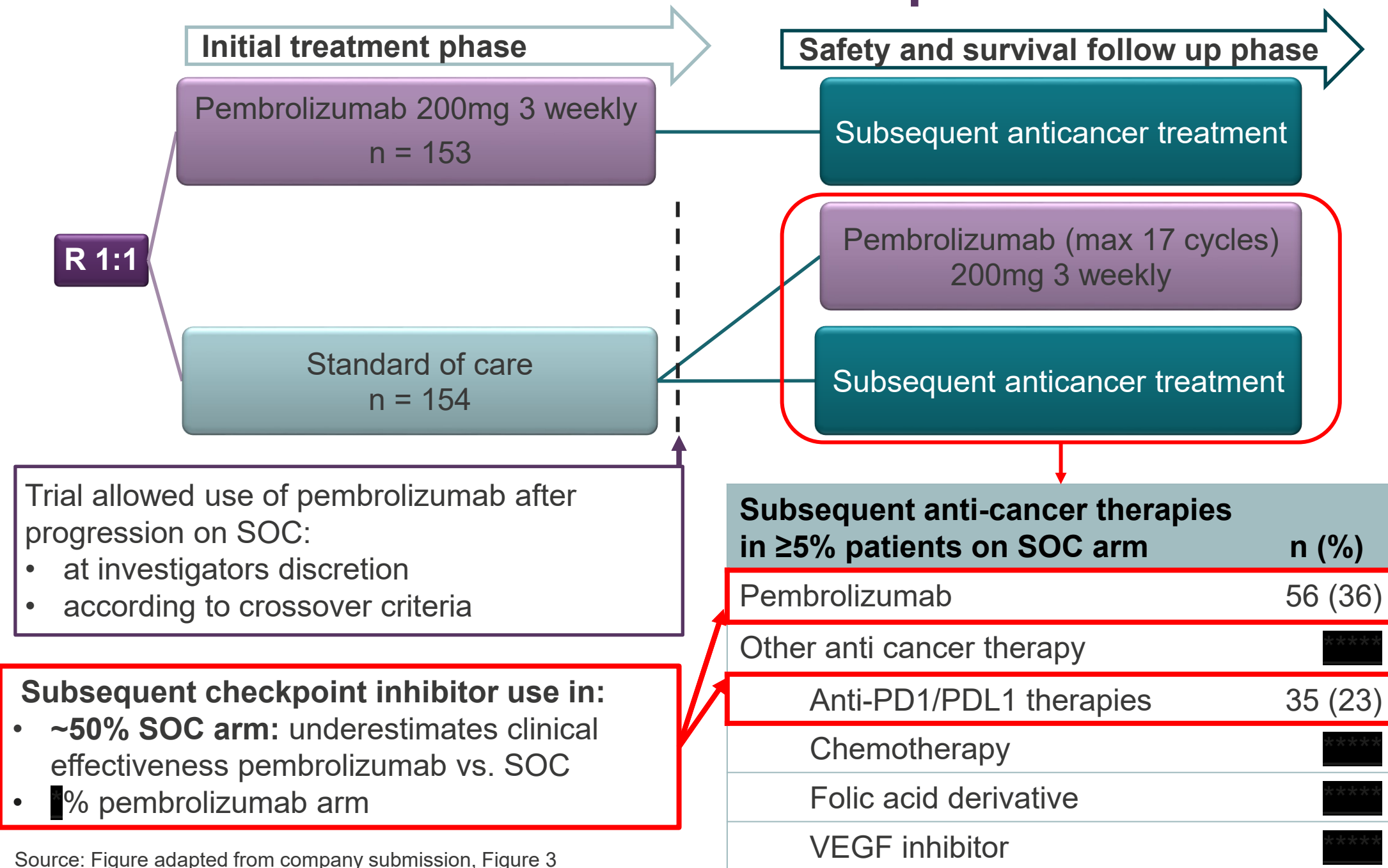
However, KEYNOTE-177 best data source for pembrolizumab vs. CAPOX, FOLFOX, FOLFIRI

Clinical experts: KEYNOTE-177 SOC reflects NHS clinical practice except:

- Use of bevacizumab
- No use of CAPOX

- *Is bevacizumab likely to offer a survival benefit?*
- *What is committee's view on 'pooling' and modelling with a blended comparator?*
- *Should people taking bevacizumab be excluded from the analyses?*

KEYNOTE-177 trial schema: subsequent treatments

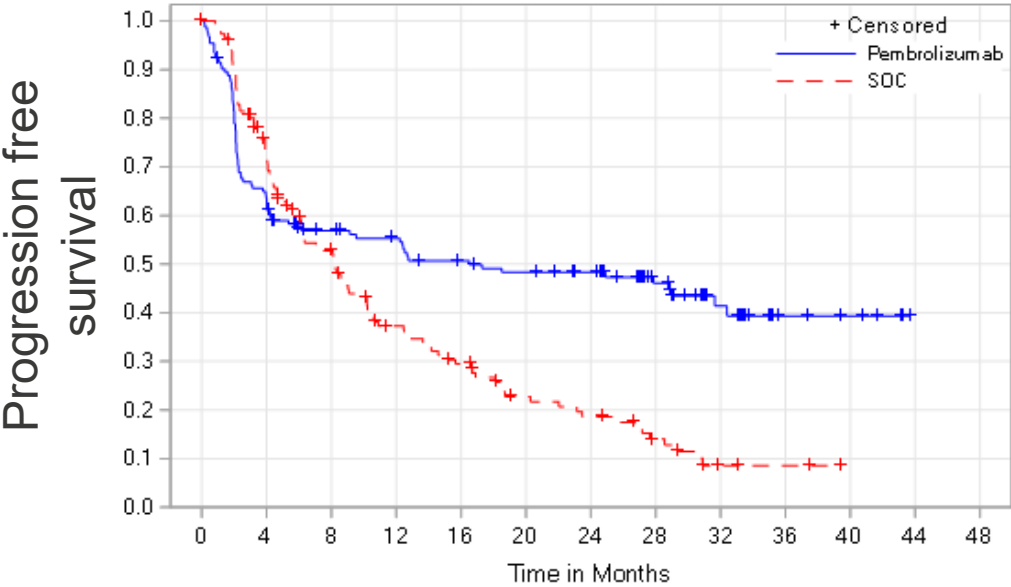


Source: Figure adapted from company submission, Figure 3
Table adapted from clinical study report, Table 14.1-10

KEYNOTE-177 Results

Results for progression-free survival (PFS) and less mature overall survival (OS)
 Intention to treat analyses (ITT), data cut-off 19 Feb 2020

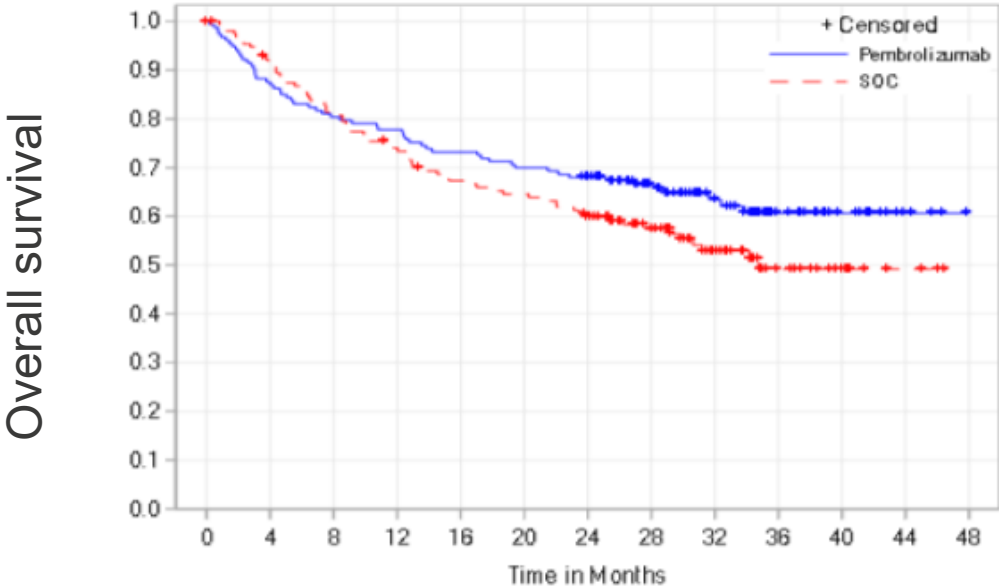
Kaplan–Meier PFS cut-off 19 Feb 20



Number of subjects at risk

Pembrolizumab	153	96	77	72	64	60	55	37	20	7	5	0	0
SoC	154	100	68	43	33	22	18	11	4	3	0	0	0

Kaplan–Meier OS cut-off 19 Feb 20



Number of subjects at risk

Pembrolizumab	153	134	123	119	112	107	103	75	50	27	16	5	0
SoC	154	137	121	110	99	95	86	64	39	18	10	3	0

1° outcome	Pembrolizumab, N° of events (%) (N = 153)	SoC, N° of events (%) (N = 154)	Hazard Ratio (95%CI)
Progression free survival	82 (54)	113 (73)	0.60 (0.45 to 0.80)
Overall survival	56 (37)	69 (45)	0.77 (0.54 to 1.09)

Source: adapted from company submission, Tables 20 and 28 Figure 4, page 47 Figure 8, page 61

Impact of subsequent checkpoint inhibitor use in control arm

Company states pembrolizumab's benefit maintained after progression

Progression free survival (PFS) 2

Definition: time from randomisation to 1st of:

- **PFS:** disease progression or death
- **PFS2:** disease progression on next line of therapy or death

KEYNOTE-177 median progression free survival on 1st and 2nd lines of therapy.

PFS	Median PFS (months)		Hazard ratio (95% confidence interval) Pembrolizumab v SOC	In final model
	Pembrolizumab (N = 153)	SOC (N = 154)		
1 st line (PFS)	17 (5 to 32)	8 (6 to 10)	0.60 (0.45, 0.80)	Yes
2 nd line (PFS2)	Not reached	24 (17 to 33)	0.63 (0.45, 0.88)	No

Company conclusion: Longer PFS2 with pembrolizumab vs. SOC

Benefit of pembrolizumab maintained after progression despite SOC checkpoint inhibitor use

Mitigating the bias

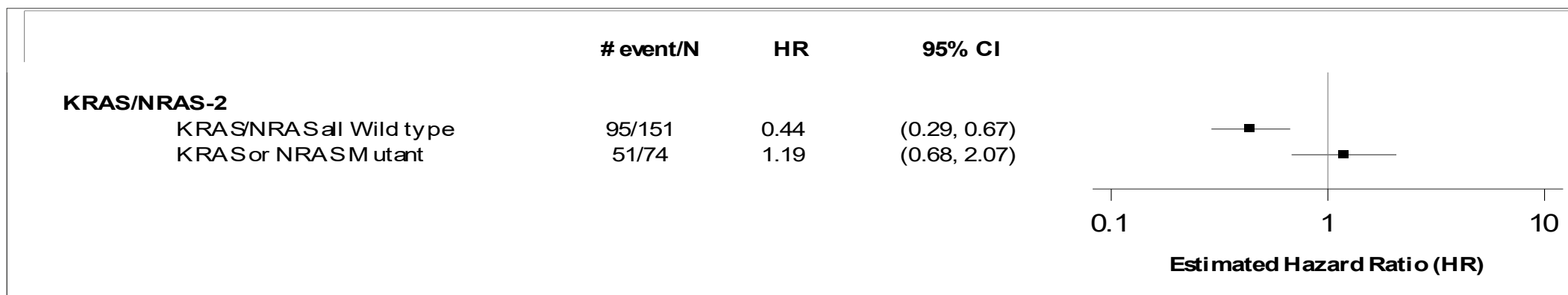
- **Company:** scenarios adjusting overall survival results using simplified 2-stage model.
- **ERG and company:** overall survival not used in base case. Instead use pembrolizumab post progression survival for standard care

⦿ *How should the potential bias in overall survival be factored into decision making?*

KEYNOTE-177 PFS in KRAS subgroups

No effect in KRAS mutant subgroup compared with KRAS wild-type

Data cut off 19 Feb 2020



● Should KRAS mutant and wild-type disease be modelled separately?

KEYNOTE-177 Adverse Effects

More frequent in SOC arm than pembrolizumab arm.

Company includes adverse events in model

Adverse events	Any grade, >10% patients		CTCAE grade 3+, >5% of patients (used in model)	
	Pembro (%)	SOC (%)	Pembro (%)	SOC (%)
Discontinued drug-related SAE, n (%)	7 (5)	5 (4)		N/A
Adverse events				
Anaemia	**	**	5	11
Neutropenia	**	**	0	15
Diarrhoea	**	**	6	11
Abdominal pain	**	**	5	6
Fatigue	**	**	4	9
Neutrophil count decreased	**	**	0	17
Hyponatraemia	**	**	5	3
Hypokalaemia	**	**	1	6
Hypertension	**	**	7	5
Total with ≥1 AE	97	99	56	78

Abbreviations: AE, adverse event; CTCAE, Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events; Pembro, pembrolizumab; SOC, standard of care.

● How well tolerated is pembrolizumab compared to comparators?

Only some comparators have 'direct' evidence

Source of evidence for comparators:

Pembrolizumab vs standard of care: MSI-H/dMMR only

- FOLFOX / mFOLFOX6
- FOLFIRI
- Cetuximab with FOLFOX, mFOLFOX6 or FOLFIRI

- CAPOX*
- Panitumumab with FOLFOX, mFOLFOX6 or FOLFIRI*

- Capecitabine
- Tegafur with uracil (in combination with folinic acid)
- Raltitrexed

KEYNOTE-177 clinical trial pooled

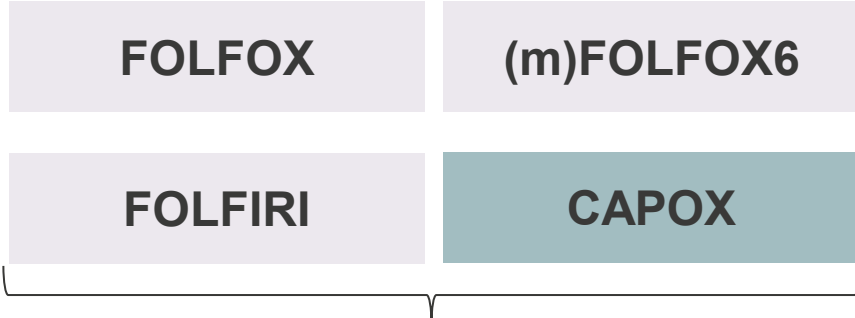
**Indirect treatment comparison using:
KEYNOTE-177,
NO16966, Porschen 2007, TREE-1, PRIME**

Company provides no evidence

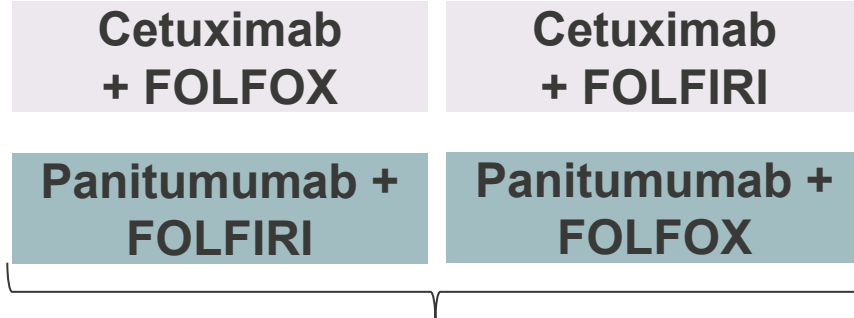
*No MSI-H/dMMR specific clinical trials. Company uses full mCRC population for comparators in indirect comparison

Company's and ERG's equivalence assumptions

All CRC types



RAS wild-type



Company and ERG assume = efficacy
 1st line mCRC RCTs: similar median PFS and OS

ERG assume = efficacy
 No significant difference in TA439 network meta-analysis

Equivalence assumptions accepted in recent mCRC appraisals TA668 and TA439
 excluding CAPOX: not a comparator in either appraisal

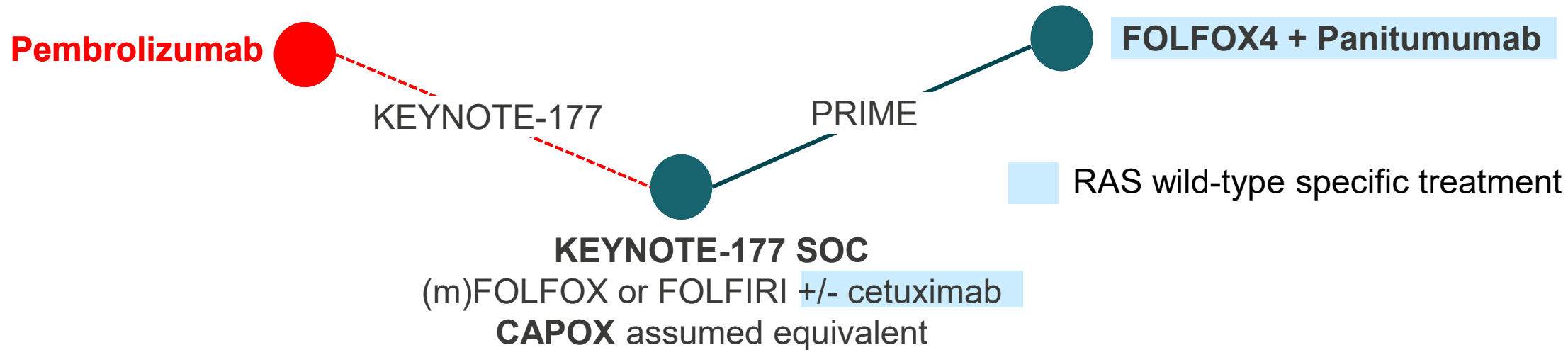
TA668: Encorafenib + cetuximab for previously treated BRAF V600E mutation-positive mCRC
TA439: Cetuximab and panitumumab for previously untreated metastatic colorectal cancer

Source for comparator data **KEYNOTE-177** **Indirect treatment comparison**

© *What is the committee's view on assuming these treatments equally effective?* 24

Company's indirect comparisons – OS and PFS

Direct head to head data not available for every comparator in NICE scope. Company network uses ITT population, defines SOC per KEYNOTE-177, assumes CAPOX = SOC



Company uses fractional polynomials

because proportional hazards assumption violated for PFS and OS in some studies.

Company accounts for varying hazards over time.

ERG: agree with company's approach

Limitations

Pooled KEYNOTE-177 SOC regimens using ITT:

- No specific MSI-H/dMMR comparator data
- No individual comparison with cetuximab combinations
- Not RAS mutation specific

© Reasonable to assume CAPOX equally effective as standard of care?

Company's network meta-analysis results

Month	Time-varying hazard ratio for Panitumumab + FOLFOX vs pembrolizumab (from PRIME and KEYNOTE-177)	
	Company	ERG
Progression free survival		
12	*****	*****
24	*****	*****
40	*****	*****
Overall survival		
12	*****	Not conducted*
24	*****	
40	*****	
Hazard ratio <1 favours pembrolizumab		
*Overall survival data immature and not in company's model		

Source: Inverse hazard ratios of ERG report, table 25 and table 27, pages 78 and 80 (provided separately by ERG)

☉ Are the company's estimates of progression free survival acceptable?

Duration of treatment and stopping rules

Duration of treatment drives costs

Company: KEYNOTE177: n =150 (98%) in pembrolizumab arm received ≤ 35 cycles

ERG: maximum treatment duration unclear

- KEYNOTE-177 and model: maximum 35 cycles
- Draft summary of product characteristics: “until disease progression or unacceptable toxicity”
 - Impact on PFS unclear
 - Model sensitive to stopping rule removal

Clinical experts:

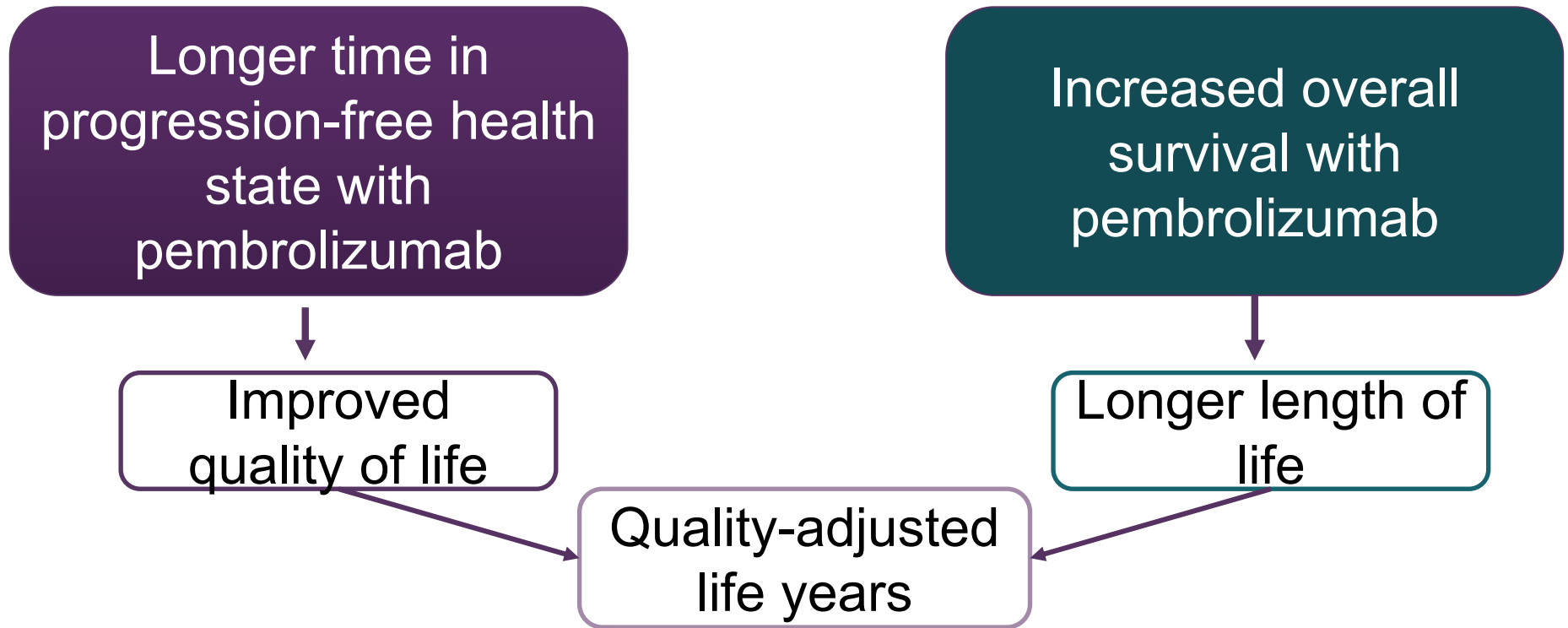
- Duration likely aligned with trial evidence in clinical practice: max 35 cycles
- KEYNOTE-177: allowed pembrolizumab retreatment (max 17 cycles) if stopped early due to good response.
 - But, not specified in marketing authorisation
 - Clinicians prefer to retreat if appropriate

© Reasonable to stop treatment at 35 cycles regardless of whether disease progressed?

Cost effectiveness

- 1. Company uses a 3-health state semi-Markov transition model*
- 2. Company models clinical inputs from KEYNOTE-177 trial for utilities, transition probabilities, baseline characteristics*
- 3. Cost effectiveness results robust to changes in extrapolations.*

Overview: how quality-adjusted life years accrue

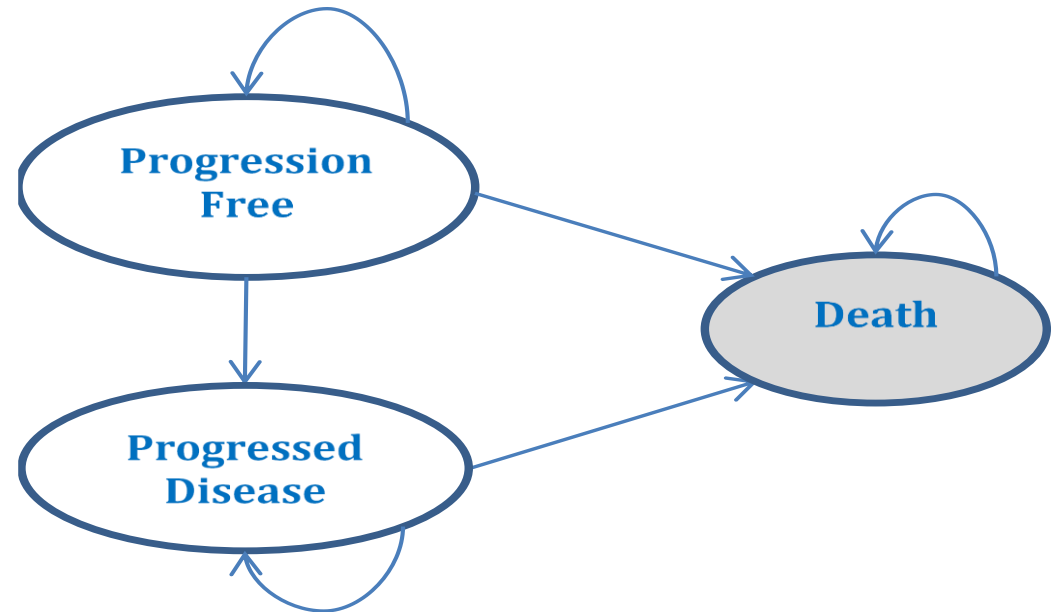


Company's cost effectiveness model

Company submit partitioned survival and amended state-transition models. 3-health state semi-Markov transition model used in base case.

Company's key assumptions for its model:

- 1 week cycle length, $\frac{1}{2}$ -cycle correction
- Time horizon 40 years
- Mean age 61 as in KEYNOTE-177
- General population mortality applied to progression free and progressed disease utilities: utility decreases with age
- Pembrolizumab = max 35 cycles i.e. stopping rule at 35 cycles
- No reuse of pembrolizumab despite use in KEYNOTE-177
- No administration cost for oral treatments
- Equal monitoring regardless of treatment
- Vial sharing for SOC treatments
- No extra cost for MSI-H/dMMR tests: routine in NHS



How company incorporated evidence into its model

Company uses clinical data from KEYNOTE-177 for key model inputs

Input	Evidence Source
Baseline characteristics	Whole population from KEYNOTE-177
Treatment effect: - Pembrolizumab, KEYNOTE-177 SOC, CAPOX - Panitumumab + FOLFOX/ FOLFIRI	- KEYNOTE-177 individual patient level data from whole population - Hazard ratios from network meta-analysis
Adverse events	Weekly rates Grade 3 or higher KEYNOTE-177
HRQoL data	EQ-5D-3L from KEYNOTE-177
Utilities	Based on KEYNOTE-177 health state for pembrolizumab and SOC Non-trial comparators: KEYNOTE-177 SOC utilities Decrement by age: Ara and Brazier, 2010
Duration of treatment	Time on treatment data from KEYNOTE-177: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pembrolizumab: stopping rule at 35 cycles• SOC: continued until disease progression or death• Non-trial comparators: KEYNOTE-177 SOC time on treatment

Clinical data used in health state transitions

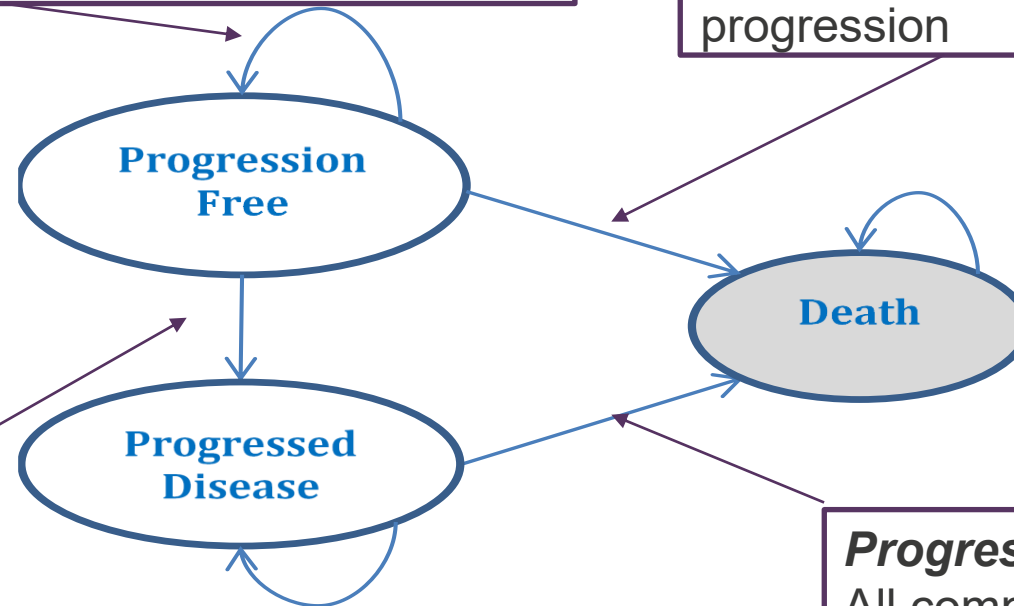
Company uses KEYNOTE-177 data with treatment effect from indirect comparison

Progression free to progression free

KEYNOTE-177 treatments: KEYNOTE-177 PFS
Non-trial comparators: network treatment effect applied to KEYNOTE-177 SOC PFS

Progression free to death

All comparators: PFS minus time to progression



Progression free to progressed disease

KEYNOTE-177 treatments: KEYNOTE-177 time to progression
Non-trial comparators: network treatment effect applied to KEYNOTE-177 SOC time to progression

Progressed disease to death

All comparators: Pembrolizumab post progression survival

Definitions: Time from:

Progression Free Survival (PFS): treatment initiation to tumour progression or death

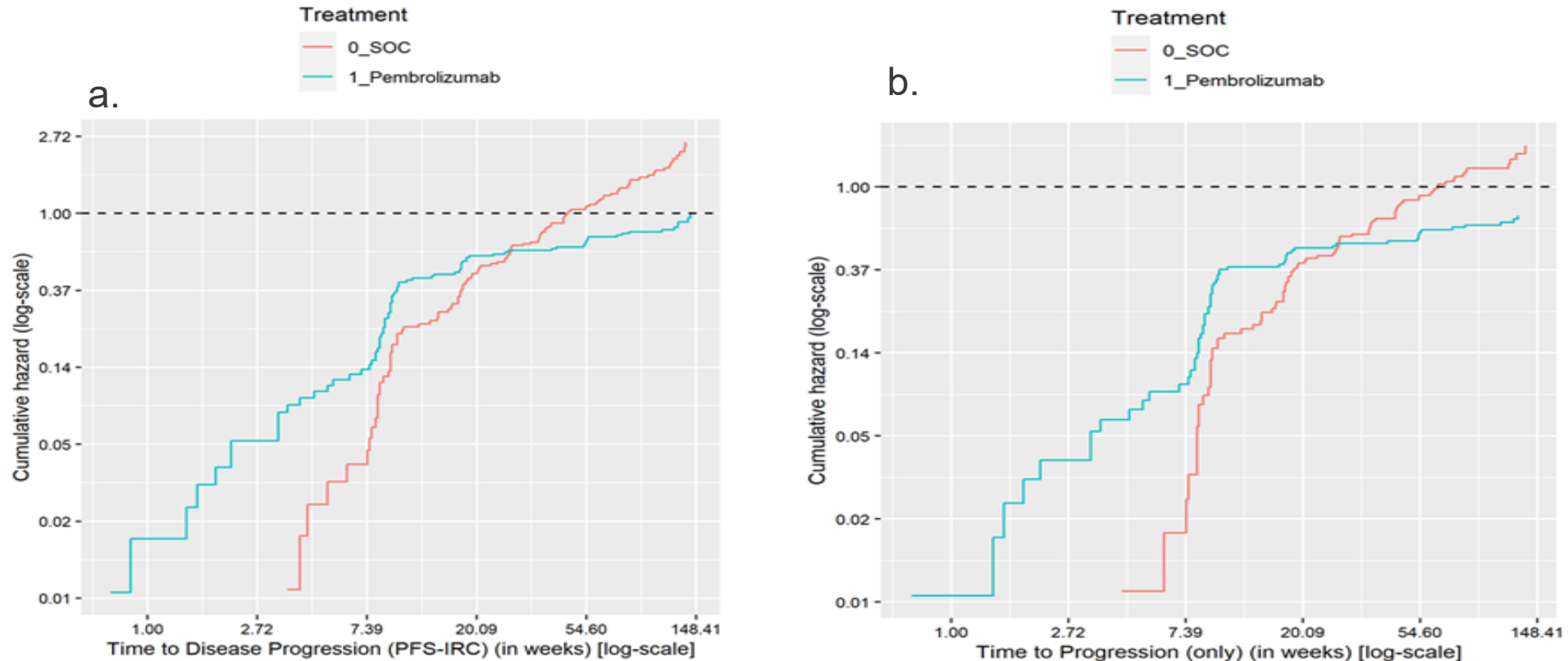
Time To Progression (TTP): treatment initiation to tumour progression only

Post Progression Survival (PPS): tumour progression to death

Plots to test proportional hazards: PFS and time to progression

Proportional hazards do not hold. Company fitted independent treatment curves.

Log-cumulative hazards plot for a) PFS and b) time to progression, excluding surgery patients



Source: adapted from company submission, figures 22 and 27

Company: Proportional hazards do not hold: independent curves fitted

- Explored 1- and 2-piece (with 10- and 20- week cut-off) parametric curves

ERG: Proportional hazards tests only for population excluding surgery patients (not used in final model)

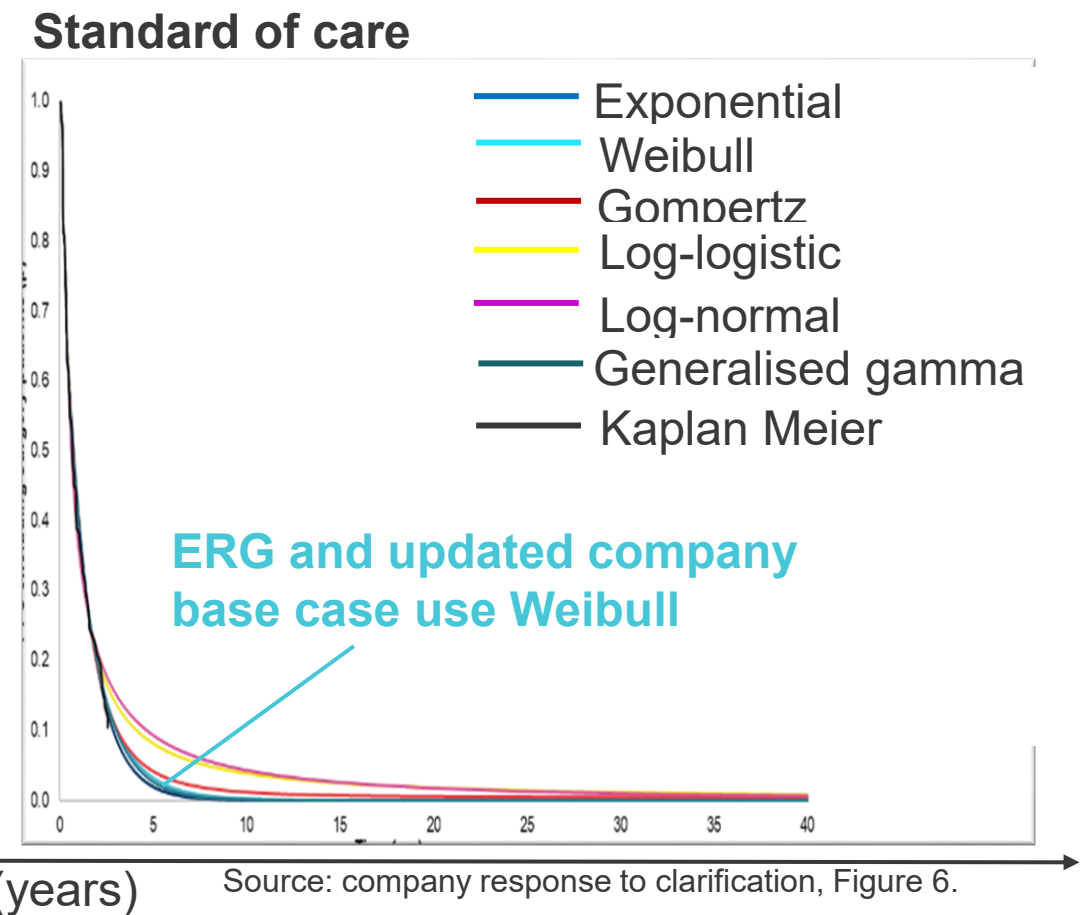
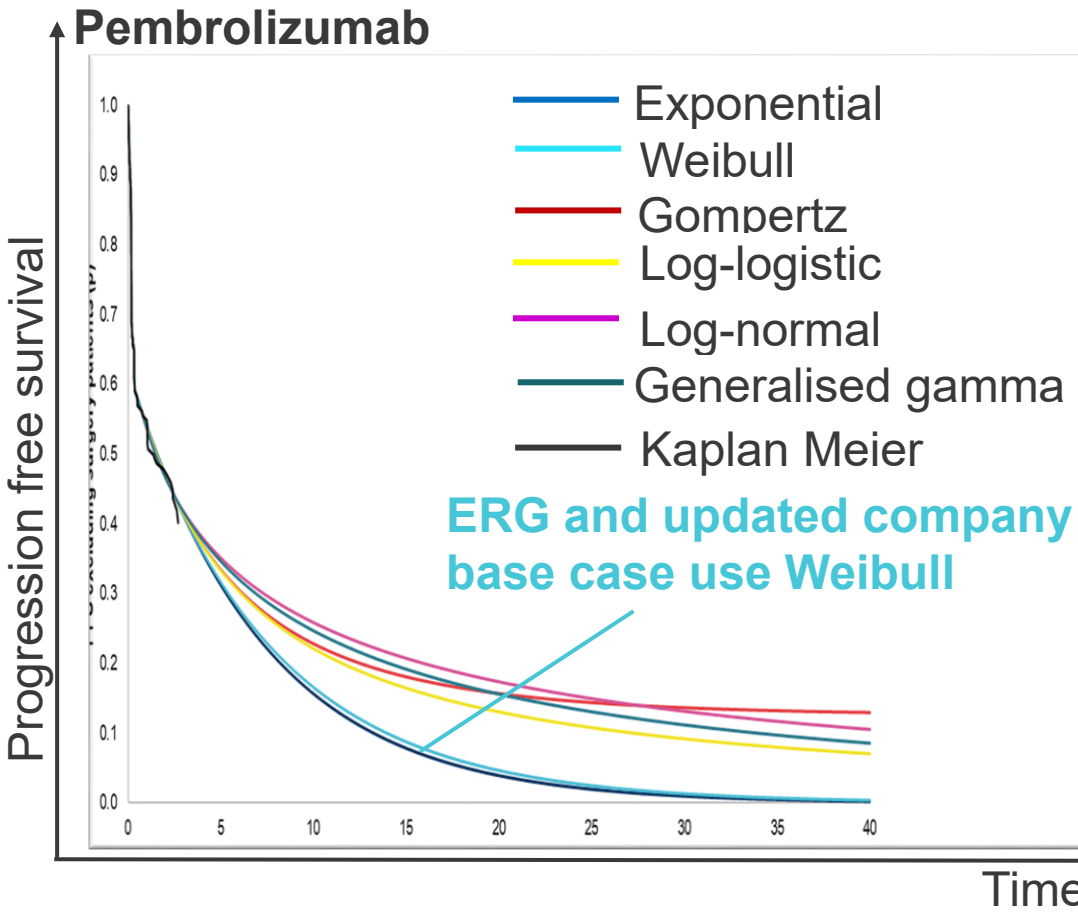
- Increasing hazard rate in SOC arm.

⦿ *Do the hazard plots have face validity?*

⦿ *Do proportional hazards hold? Is the company's approach acceptable?*

Company extrapolates progression-free survival beyond trial

Company and ERG prefer 2-piece curves, Kaplan–Meier to 20 weeks then Weibull distribution



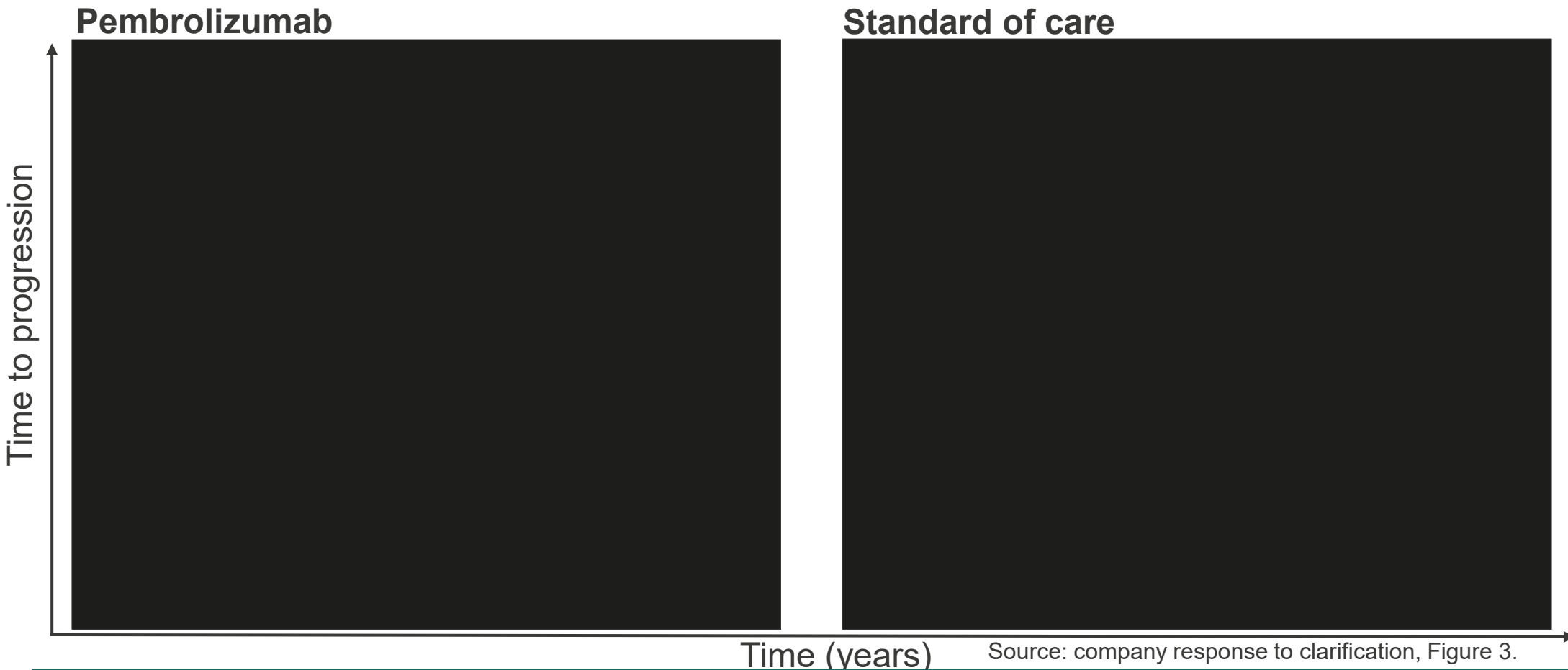
Source: company response to clarification, Figure 6.

Predicted progression-free (alive) at year:		5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40
Pembrolizumab	Exponential	31%	16%	8%	4%	2%	1%	1%	0%
	Weibull	32%	17%	9%	5%	3%	1%	1%	0%
FOLFOX/FOLFIRI/ CAPOX	Exponential	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	Weibull	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

- Is the 20-week cut-off appropriate? Is the model sensitive to time of cut-off?
- Is Weibull appropriate to extrapolate PFS?

Extrapolating time to progression (TTP)

Company and ERG prefer 2-piece curves, Kaplan–Meier to 20 weeks then Weibull distribution



Source: company response to clarification, Figure 3.

Predicted progression-free at year:		5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40
Pembrolizumab	Exponential	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
	Weibull	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
FOLFOX/FOLFIRI/ CAPOX	Exponential	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
	Weibull	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***

- ⦿ Is the 20-week cut-off appropriate? Is the model sensitive to time of cut-off?
- ⦿ Is Weibull appropriate to extrapolate time to progression?

Extrapolating post progression survival (PPS)

Company and ERG use 1-piece Weibull curves. PPS for comparators = to pembrolizumab



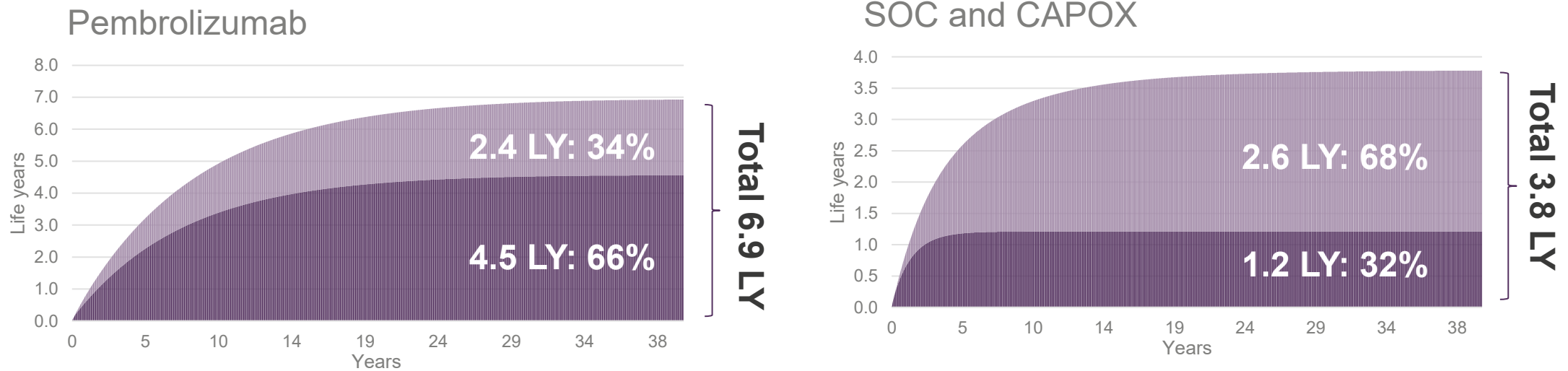
Company: Pembrolizumab PPS for comparators: gain in PFS = gain in OS.

Predicted alive at year:		5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40
Pembrolizumab + all comparators	Weibull	****	***	***	****	***	***	***	***

© Weibull distribution acceptable to extrapolate post progression survival? 36

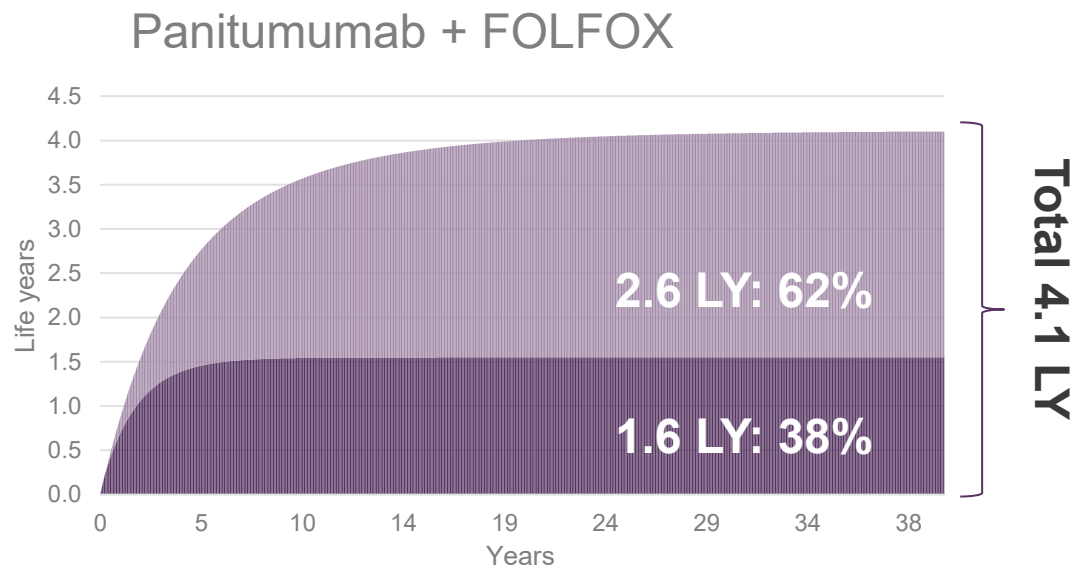
Life year accrual over time in company's model

Longer life with more time in progression free state with pembrolizumab



KEY:

- Progression free
- Progressed disease



NICE

Source: ERG report, Table 38.

Company's modelling of post progression survival (PPS)

Company uses equal value for all comparators and assumes no ongoing treatment effect

Effect of all drugs stops on progression

ERG:

- Long-term OS data immature – further follow-up needed
- KEYNOTE-177: continued separation of PFS curves after discontinuation

Clinical experts: expect lifelong benefit in ~30-50% people having pembrolizumab

“A dramatic benefit compared to SOC which only very rarely achieves this sort of advantage.”

Company assumes equal PPS for comparators

ERG: Assumption avoids SOC crossover issue, but adjusting better

Mortality rate post progression with pembrolizumab vs. comparators uncertain:

- Especially RAS wild-type after panitumumab or cetuximab combination.
- Company's assumption supported by KEYNOTE-177 PFS and PFS2 which have similar hazard ratios

Clinical expert:

- Post-progression treatment may differ by 1st line treatment
- No evidence of worse outcomes based on RAS status in KEYNOTE-177
 - although different treatment options than used in NHS

⊙ *Is use of equal post-progression time for all comparators justified?*

⊙ *Does the evidence support an ongoing treatment effect for pembrolizumab?*

Summary: extrapolating clinical outcomes vs. SOC

Input	Company's initial base case	ERG base case and revised company base case	Additional scenarios	Impact on ICER
Progression free survival (PFS)	2-piece exponential after 20 week cut-off	2-piece Weibull with 20 week cut-off	2-piece Weibull with 10-week cut-off	Minimal
Time to progression (TTP)	2-piece exponential after 20 week cut-off	2-piece Weibull with 20 week cut-off	2-piece Weibull with 10-week cut-off	Minimal
Post progression survival	Equal for all comparators Weibull for pembrolizumab arm only		Lognormal	Minimal

Health-related quality of life

Company's quality of life inputs

Utilities by health state + disutility for adverse events

KEYNOTE-177: QoL at cycles 1 – 5 to 1 year/End of Treatment & 30 days post-treatment

Company: Utilities use mean EQ-5D-scores by disease status

Treatment-specific utilities in progression-free health state

ERG:

- Treatment specific utilities plausible: shorter and fewer hospital visits with pembrolizumab
- AE disutility inappropriate: causes double counting
- Similar utility values in KEYNOTE-177 SOC and for RAS wild-type patients in literature (0.778, Bennett et al. 2011). No evidence for utility difference by RAS status

Health state	Pembrolizumab utility value	Comparator utility values			Scenario Pooled utility values
		FOLFOX/ FOLFIRI	CAPOX	mFOLFOX6 + panitumumab	
Progression-free	0.843	0.787			0.819
Post-progression	0.730	0.730			0.730
Adverse event disutility	0.031	0.031	0.025	0.065	N/A
Progression-free – no AE	NA	NA			0.833

Source: adapted from company submission, Table 60 and company response to clarification, Table 4

- ⊙ Are utility values that are treatment-specific or pooled across treatments best?
- ⊙ How should disutility from adverse events be modelled?

Costs

Company's costs inputs

Most from NHS reference costs. Excludes cost of testing for high microsatellite instability/mismatch repair deficiency

Type	Cost	Frequency	Source
Disease management costs			
Visit to consultant	£187	2 weekly until progression	NHS reference costs 2018/19
CT scan	£116	3 monthly until progression	
MRI scan	£206	2 in total	
Tumour marker test	£14	4 monthly until progression	TA439 inflated to 2018/19
Liver function test	£29	4 monthly until progression	
Best supportive care	£1,600	Monthly post progression	
Surgery	£10,919	KEYNOTE-177 rates; non-trial comparators = SoC rate	TA439, inflated to 2018/19 x1.6 for multiple surgeries
Terminal care cost	£5,157	Once	Round et al. 2015 inflated to 2018/19
Adverse event costs			
Common AEs in KEYNOTE-177	£93-£13,258	Rate as per KEYNOTE-177	NHS reference costs, most as per TA439
Anaemia	£799		Crathorne et al. (2013) as TA439

NICE

© *Do these values have face-validity?*

Company's costs for treatments

Treatment	List price cost	Frequency	Source
mFOLFOX6	£36	2 weekly	Drugs and pharmaceutical electronic market information tool (eMIT 2018)
FOLFIRI	£40		
CAPOX	£16	Weekly	
Panitumumab + FOLFOX6*	£1643	Weekly	
Cetuximab*	£1289	Once	Monthly Index of Medical Specialities (MIMS 2020)
	£806	Weekly	
Drug administration costs (aligned with TA428, TA519 and TA661)			
Pembrolizumab	£254	3 or 6 weekly	Outpatient visit, NHS Reference Costs 2018/19
mFOLFOX6, FOLFIRI, CAPOX, Panitumumab	£385	2 weekly	Daycase and reg day/night. NHS Reference Costs 2018/19
Cetuximab	£385	Weekly	
Subsequent treatment costs**			
Pembrolizumab	£8,305	Once	Clinical expert estimate
SOC	£8,086		

* Confidential discount available to the NHS

** Pembrolizumab and cetuximab not included as subsequent treatments despite use in KEYNOTE-177

Company's modelling of relative dose intensity and time on treatment

More people received planned doses and for longer with pembrolizumab than SOC

Relative dose intensity

Definition: % planned chemotherapy actually received by patient

- Accounts for missed/reduced doses

KEYNOTE-177: pembrolizumab 97% vs. standard of care 89%

- Reflects higher toxicity of SOC
- Included in company's base case

Time on treatment

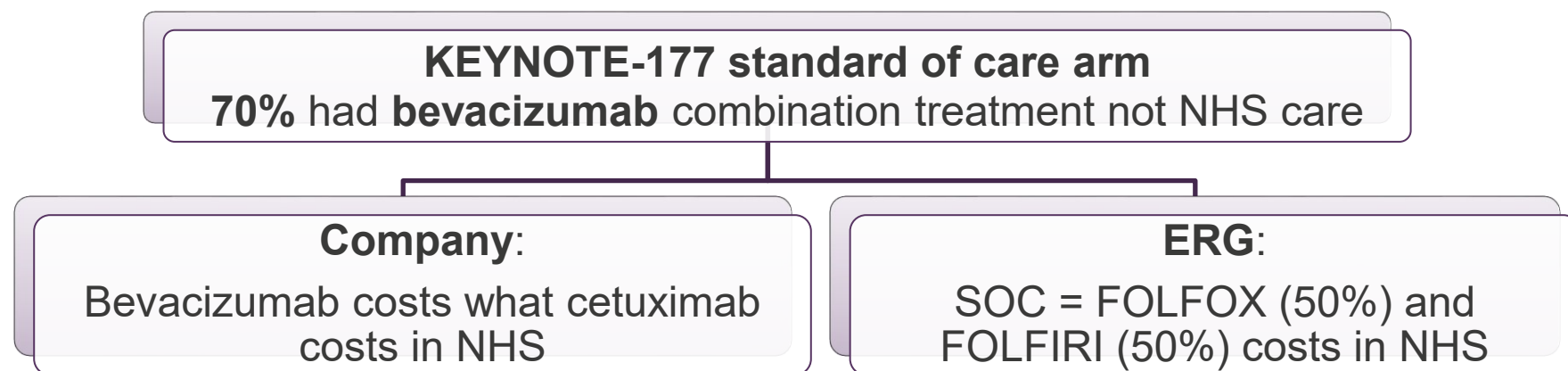
Modelled using KEYNOTE-177 data:

- Mean: Pembrolizumab 22 weeks, SOC and non-trial comparators 18 weeks
- <10% of pembrolizumab arm had ≥ 2 years treatment




© Are the KEYNOTE-177 relative dose intensity and time on treatment generalisable to the NHS?

Costs of bevacizumab in KEYNOTE-177

Company replaces costs of bevacizumab with cetuximab for NHS



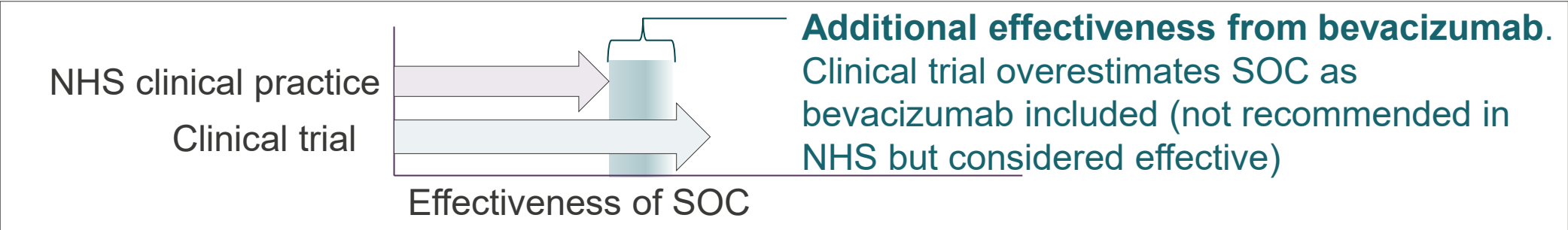
Effect of assumptions compared with standard care in the NHS:

	<u>Company</u>	<u>ERG</u>
 Costs of SOC	Overestimated Cetuximab = RAS wild-type only (<50% mCRC RAS wild-type in NHS)	Underestimated Costs do not include cetuximab (12% SOC arm)
 Treatment effect	Overestimated Bevacizumab more effective than NHS standard care	Overestimated Bevacizumab more effective than FOLFOX/FOLFIRI
 Impact on ICER	Pembrolizumab appears more cost effective	Pembrolizumab appears less cost effective

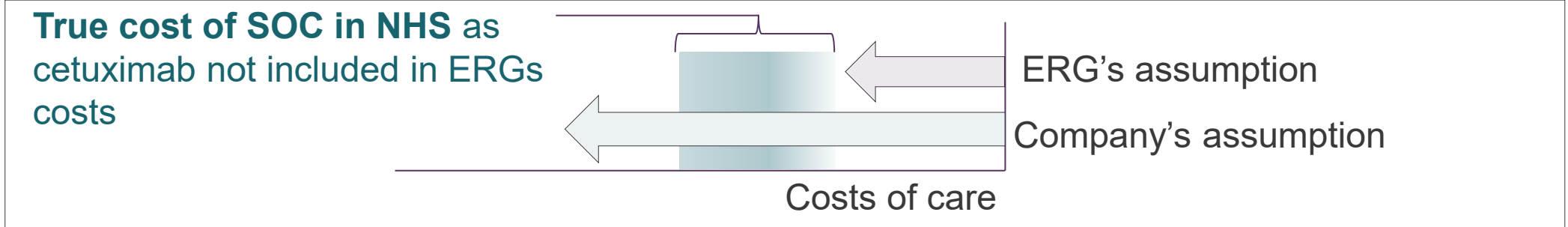
© Which approach to modelling costs for KEYNOTE-177 standard care is most appropriate?

RECAP: Potential bias in the evidence

Clinical evidence



Costs



Pembrolizumab dosing regimens

3 weekly dosing in KEYNOTE-177 trial but 6 weekly dosing likely in NHS

Marketing authorisation: IV infusion over 30 mins, both:

- 200 mg, every 3 weeks as KEYNOTE-177 protocol
- 400 mg, every 6 weeks

Company: Revised base case includes 6 weekly administration and visits

ERG:

- Expect doses to be equally effective
- 6 weekly dosing preferred by clinicians: patient convenience, resource use
 - Oncologist visit schedule align to cycle length
 - Model sensitive to changes in oncologist visits frequency

Clinical experts:

- May change to 6-weekly dosing after 3-6 months, once clinical/radiological response confirmed
- Increased telephone consultations in COVID-19:
 - mid-cycle telephone appointments, 6 weekly dosing
- Liver function monitoring every 6 weeks only
- No central venous line: fewer infections

Innovation

Company and clinical experts state innovative in MSI-H/dMMR population

Company:

- 1st checkpoint inhibitor at 1st line
- Only treatment specific to MSI-H/dMMR
- Significantly better PFS and OS than comparators
- Well tolerated: less toxic than comparators

Clinical experts:

- Step-change with large and increasing divergence of survival curves over ≥ 2 years.
- Toxicity considerably lower than comparators
- Possibility of chemo-free treatment
- Some patients may never relapse

◎ *Is pembrolizumab innovative?*

Issues addressed during technical engagement

Issue	Stakeholder responses	Technical team
Non-trial comparators' time on treatment overestimated when PFS used	<p>Clinical expert: 8-9 months as per ERG</p> <p>Company: Time on treatment from KEYNOTE-177 SOC used for non-trial comparators</p>	Aligns with TA439 mean treatment duration for panitumumab
Subsequent treatment costs included cetuximab (16%): not recommended at 2 nd line in NHS	Company removed cetuximab and added to FOLFIRI (38%+16%)	Consistent with NHS treatment options

Assumptions summary: company and ERG base case

Company accepted most ERG assumptions after technical engagement

Assumption	ERG base case	Company base case (from TE)
Progression free health state		
Modelled using	Progression free survival and time to progression K-M data to week 20, then Weibull distribution	
Administration / consultant appointments for pembrolizumab	400mg once every 6 weeks	
Utilities	Treatment specific KEYNOTE-177 SOC for all comparators	
AE disutility	Included*	
Bevacizumab treatment costs SOC arm	FOLFOX (50%) and FOLFIRI (50%)	Cetuximab
Progressed disease health state		
Modelled using	Post progression survival for pembrolizumab Weibull distribution	
Distribution of subsequent treatments	Clinical expert estimate (with no cetuximab)	
Treatment effect	Stops at progression for all drugs	
Utilities	Equal for all drugs	

*Sceneries show limited impact on ICER of removing AE disutility so included in ERG base case.

Equalities

Variation in local MSI-H/dMMR testing procedures could restrict access

Clinical expert:

- Access to MSI-H/dMMR testing varies:
 - NICE diagnostics guidance 27 recommends routine testing
 - Local testing not always standard/timely
 - No access to pembrolizumab at later lines for MSI-H/dMMR patients given emergency chemotherapy because of testing delays

◎ *Is this an equalities issue?*

Cost-effectiveness results

All ICERs are reported in PART 2 slides because they include confidential PAS discounts for comparators

Comparators

- What are the relevant comparators?

KEYNOTE-177 trial

- How to deal with a blended comparator including treatments not offered in NHS?

Indirect treatment comparison

- Can one assume equivalence for:
 - FOLFOX/FOLFIRI and CAPOX
 - Cetuximab and panitumumab-containing regimens
- Are the effectiveness estimates affected by RAS status?

Extrapolations

- Is the use of equal post-progression survival (PPS) for all comparators justified?
- Is there evidence to support an ongoing treatment effect for pembrolizumab?

Utilities

- Are treatment-specific or pooled utility values more appropriate?
- Should model include a disutility for adverse events?

Costs and resource use

- Should costs for bevacizumab be assumed to be equal to cetuximab or FOLFOX/FOLFIRI?
- Should 6 or 4-weekly administration costs and resource use be modelled for pembrolizumab?
- Should guidance include a stopping rule for pembrolizumab?

Back up slides

NMA by RAS status

Different effect for pembrolizumab versus SOC dependant on RAS mutation status

ERG:

- Clinical benefit not maintained in RAS mutant
 - No overlap in 95% Cis: unlikely be chance finding
 - **Differs** from other subgroup analyses: warrants further research in powered study
- Standard care in ITT **not representative of NHS practice**: treatment decisions made on RAS status

Company:

- **Inappropriate to perform NMA analyses** by RAS status:
 - Small population, results uncertain
 - Differences in baseline characteristics between treatment arms in RAS subgroups
 - 27% KEYNOTE-177 do not have RAS status determined
 - Pembrolizumab targets PDL-1 signalling pathway: independent of RAS pathway
 - Cox regression analyses performed by EMA suggests interaction
 - Limitations of subgroup analyses noted
 - EMA recommendation not restricted by RAS status

Clinical experts:

- No biological explanation for poor response in RAS mutant:
 - MSI-H/dMMR only predictive biomarker for response in previous RCTs
- Advise recommendation in whole MSI-H/dMMR population, clinician discretion to use where benefit.

KEYNOTE-177 patient characteristics by RAS status

Baseline characteristics differ between RAS wild-type and RAS mutant groups

Key KEYNOTE-177 study patient baseline characteristics by RAS status

	Pembrolizumab		SOC	
	RAS wild-type	Non-RAS wild-type	RAS wild-type	Non-RAS wild-type
N	75	**	76	**
Gender				
Male	*****	*****	*****	*****
Female	*****	*****	*****	*****
Age (Years)				
<65	*****	*****	*****	*****
≥65	*****	*****	*****	*****
Mean	***	***	***	***
ECOG				
0	*****	*****	*****	*****
1	*****	*****	*****	*****
Site of Primary Tumour				
Right	*****	*****	*****	*****
Left	*****	*****	*****	*****

ERG prefers NMA by RAS status

ERG states separate analyses reduce clinical heterogeneity and reflects NHS pathway

RAS mutant mCRC

Comparators: CAPOX, FOLFOX or FOLFIRI - assume equal clinical effectiveness

NMA vs direct evidence: No NMA. KEYNOTE-177 SOC arm for comparators (FOLFOX/FOLFIRI +/- bevacizumab or cetuximab)

Potential bias: favours standard of care. ~70% of SOC arm had bevacizumab - more effective than FOLFOX/FOLFIRI alone

RAS wild-type mCRC

Comparators: FOLFOX or FOLFIRI +/- cetuximab or panitumumab, CAPOX

Preferred NMA: RAS wild-type specific network

ERG preferred source of comparator data:

- CAPOX, FOLFOX, FOLFIRI = KEYNOTE-177 RAS wild-type subgroup analysis
- Cetuximab + FOLFOX/FOLFIRI = CRYSTAL, OPAL and TAILOR phase 3 RCTs
- Panitumumab + FOLFOX = PRIME phase 3 RCT

Potential bias: favours standard care. KEYNOTE-177 SOC included bevacizumab

Selection bias: *post-hoc analyses* in PRIME, CRYSTAL and OPAL: randomisation broken and non-MSI-H/dMMR specific

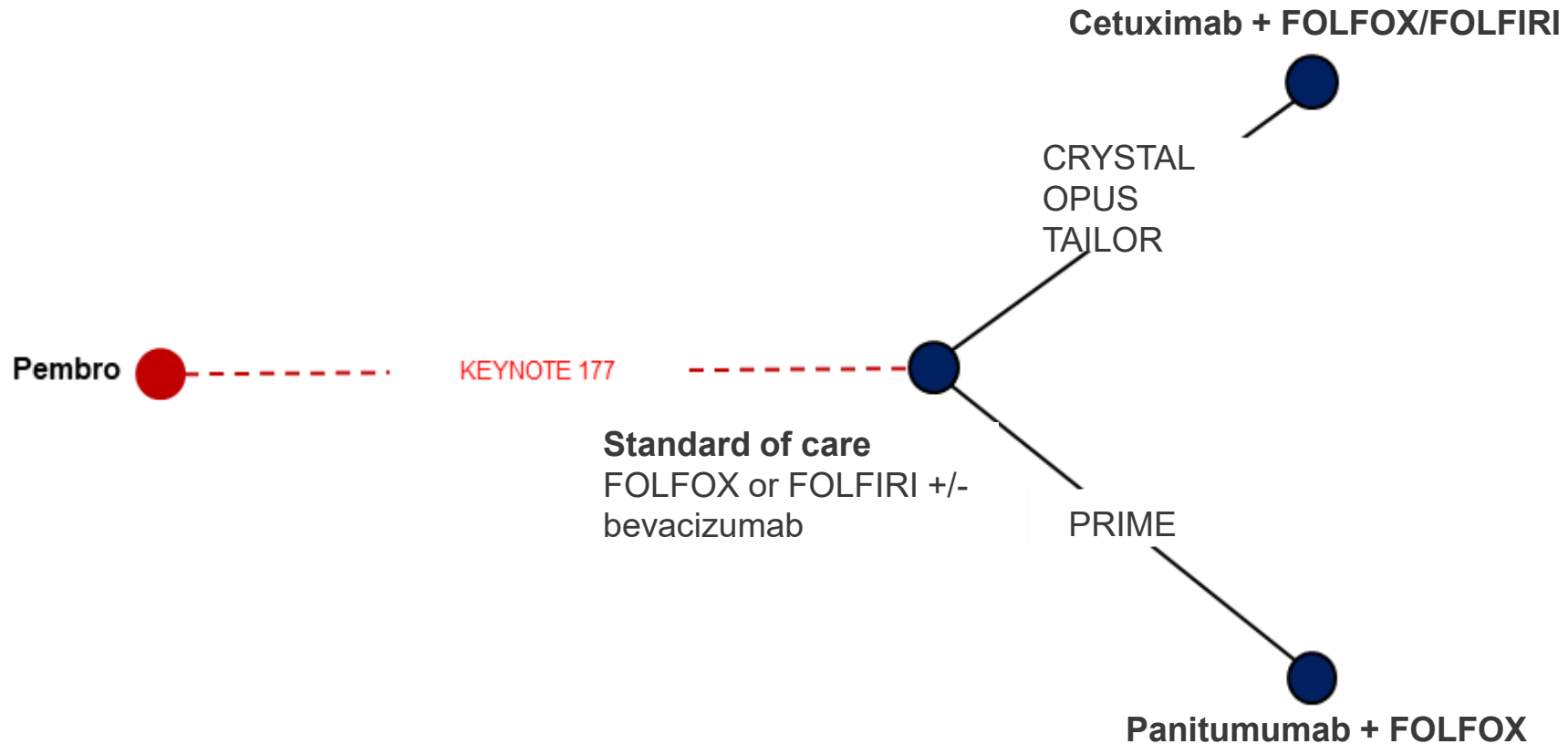
Alternative approach: assume equivalent clinical effectiveness between cetuximab + FOLFOX and panitumumab + FOLFOX (no statistically significant difference in the NMA from TA439).

N.B Equivalence between cetuximab and panitumumab combinations accepted in TA668 (Encorafenib + cetuximab for previously treated BRAF V600E mutation-positive mCRC)

ERG's PFS NMA for RAS wild-type mCRC

ERG prefers NMA for RAS wild-type patients only

Company's network of evidence for PFS.



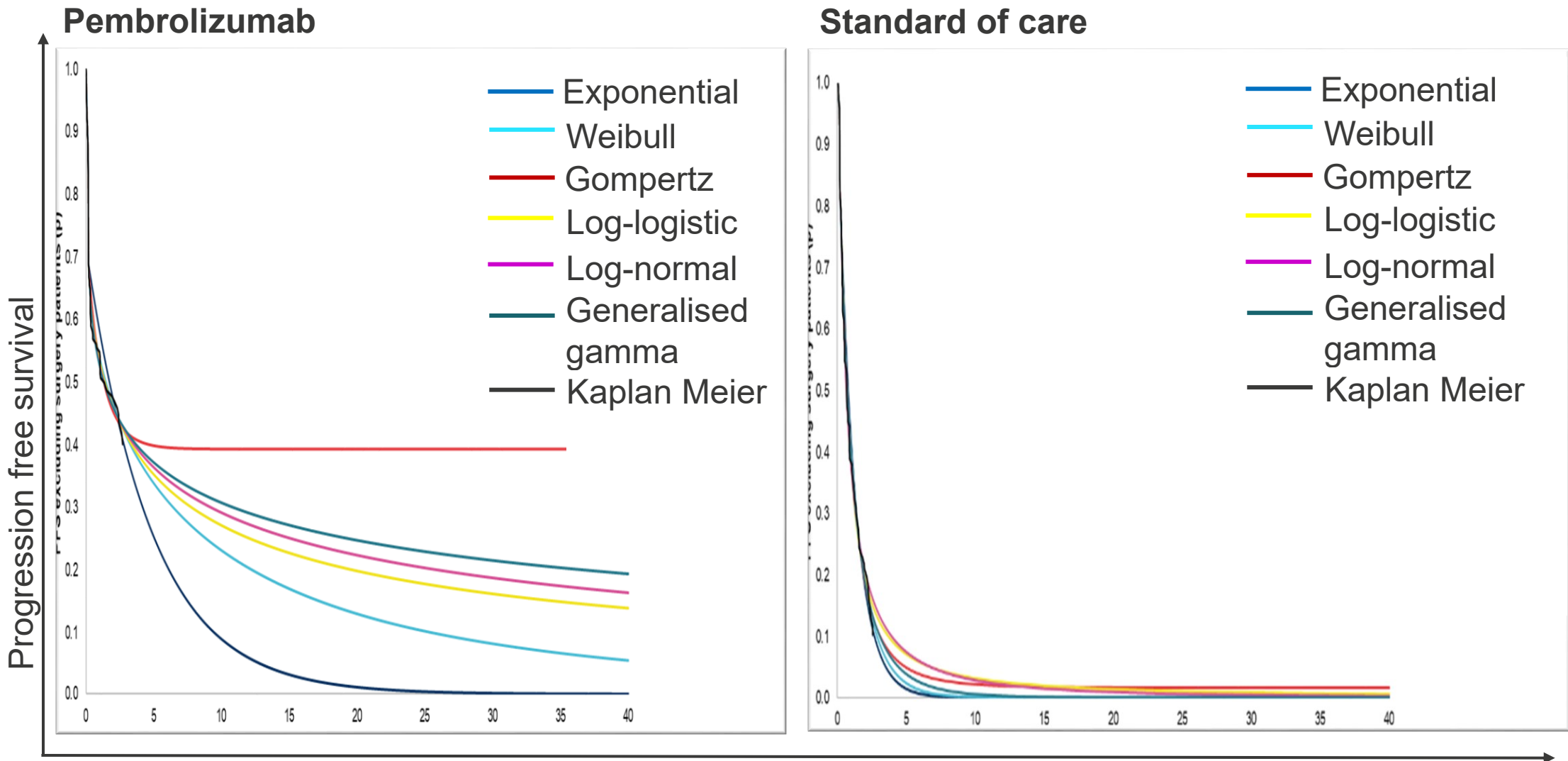
Notes

- No RCT for panitumumab + FOLFIRI
- FOLFOX and FOLFIRI assumed to be equivalent with CAPOX

- ⦿ *Is a separate network for RAS wild-type appropriate for decision making?*
- ⦿ *Are treatment effects from the whole mCRC population generalizable to MSI-H/dMMR?*

Company extrapolates progression-free survival beyond trial

Company considers 2-piece curves, Kaplan–Meier to 10 weeks then parametric distributions

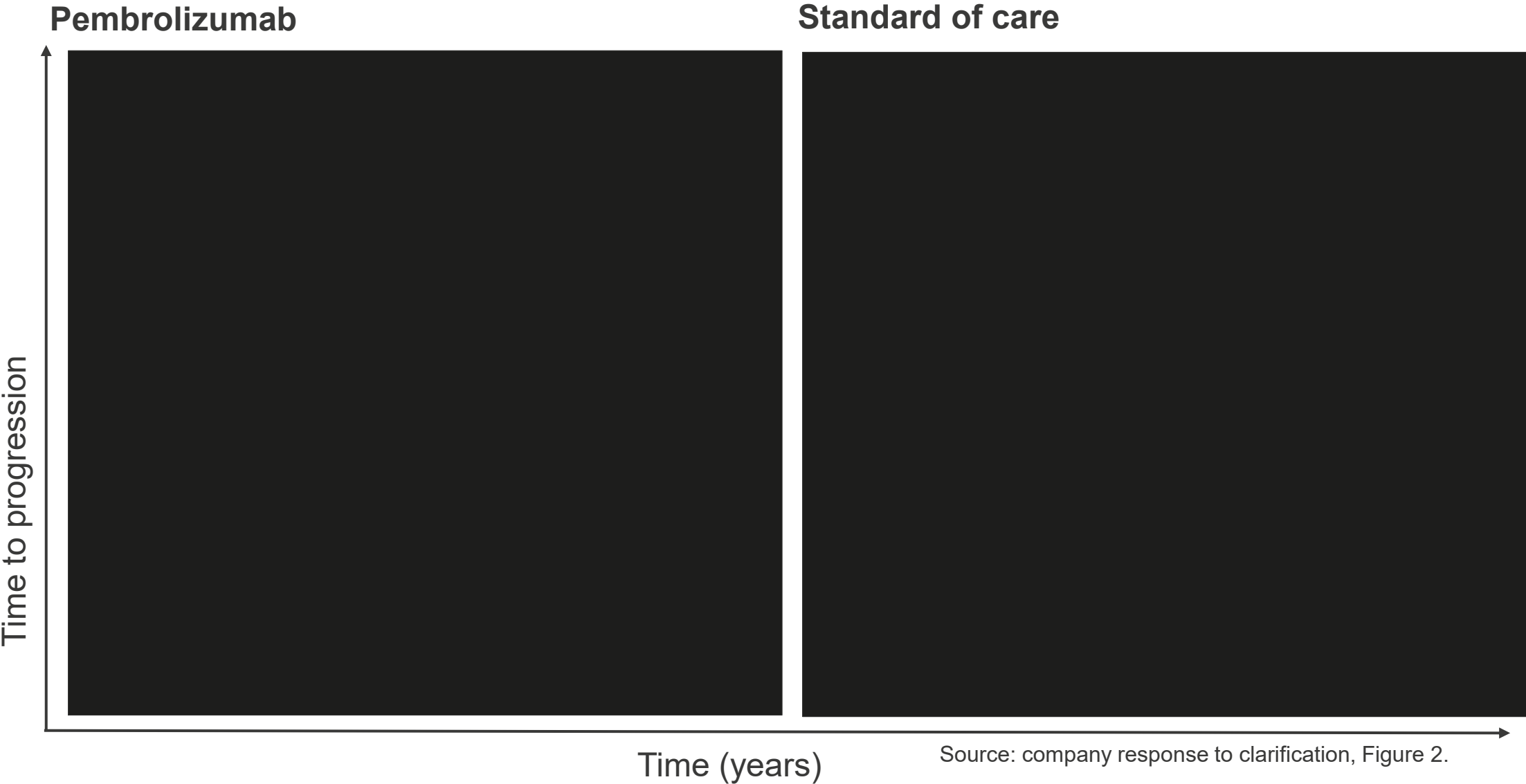


Time (years)

Source: company response to clarification, Figure 5.

Extrapolating time to progression (TTP)

Company considers 2-piece curves, Kaplan–Meier to 10 weeks then parametric distribution



Source: company response to clarification, Figure 2.