

Updates and Future Directions on Combination Transarterial Chemoembolization and Immunotherapies for HCC

Authors: Hunter L. Gazda, DO; Marshal J. King, DO; Mina S. Makary, MD
Institutions: The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center, Division of Interventional Radiology

Contact: Hunter L. Gazda
Email: gazd05@osumc.edu

Introduction

Hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) remains the third leading cause of cancer related mortality with limited efficacy of available treatments for those presenting in later stages of disease. Transarterial chemoembolization (TACE), a locoregional therapy with a first line treatment recommendation for intermediate stage disease, allows for the simultaneous embolization of a tumors arterial supply and direct delivery of chemotherapy.

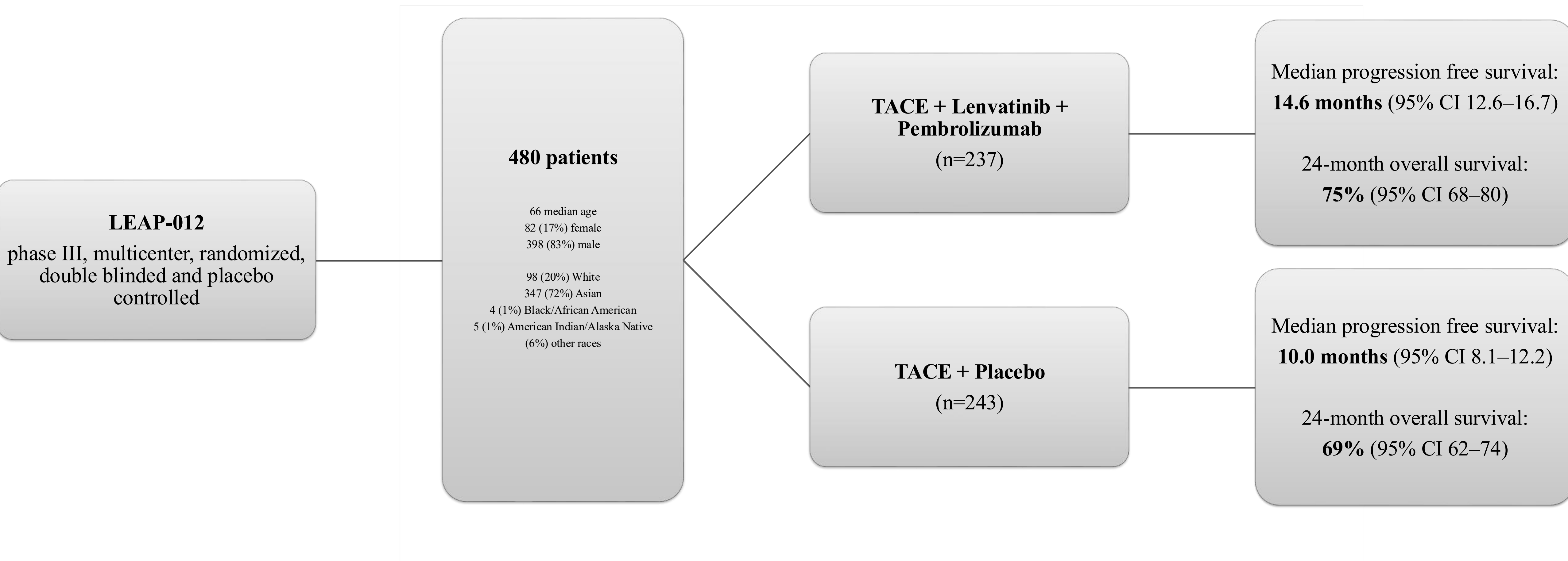
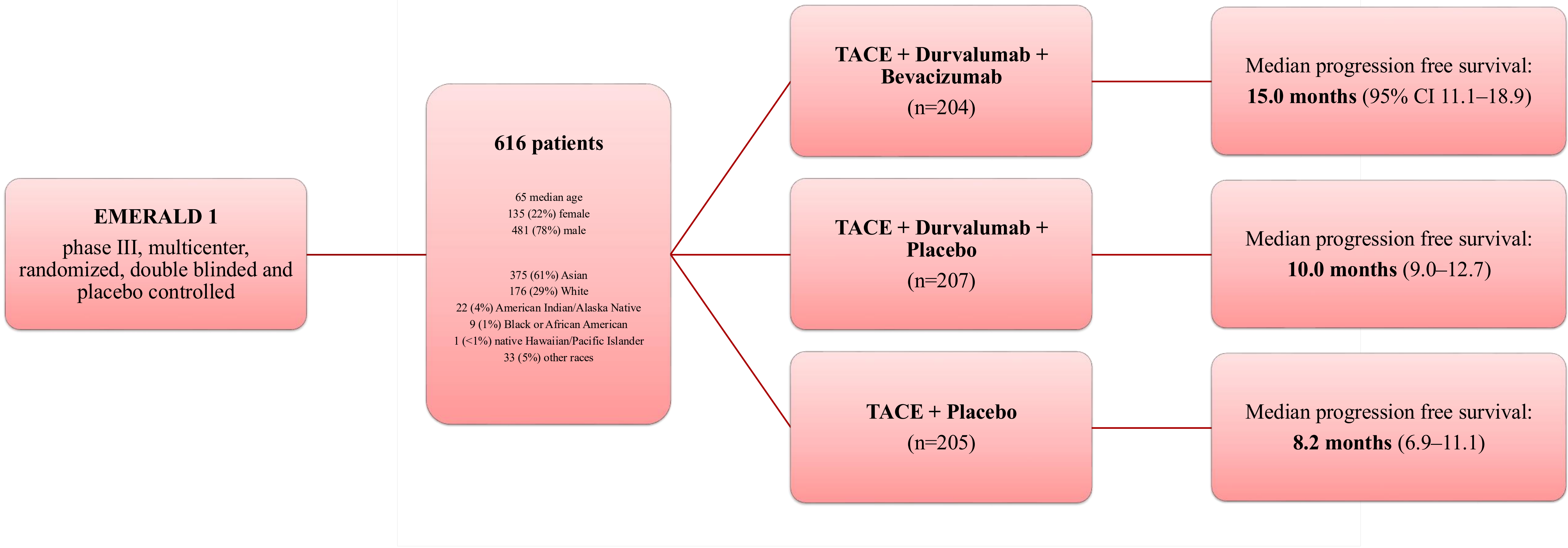
Purpose

The combination of TACE with immunotherapy aims to take advantage of the proposed increased tumor-associated antigens exposed during TACE. This report will provide an update on TACE combined with immunotherapy by focusing on recent data from the EMERALD-1 and LEAP-012 clinical trials and discuss future directions with the ongoing EMERALD-3 clinical trial.

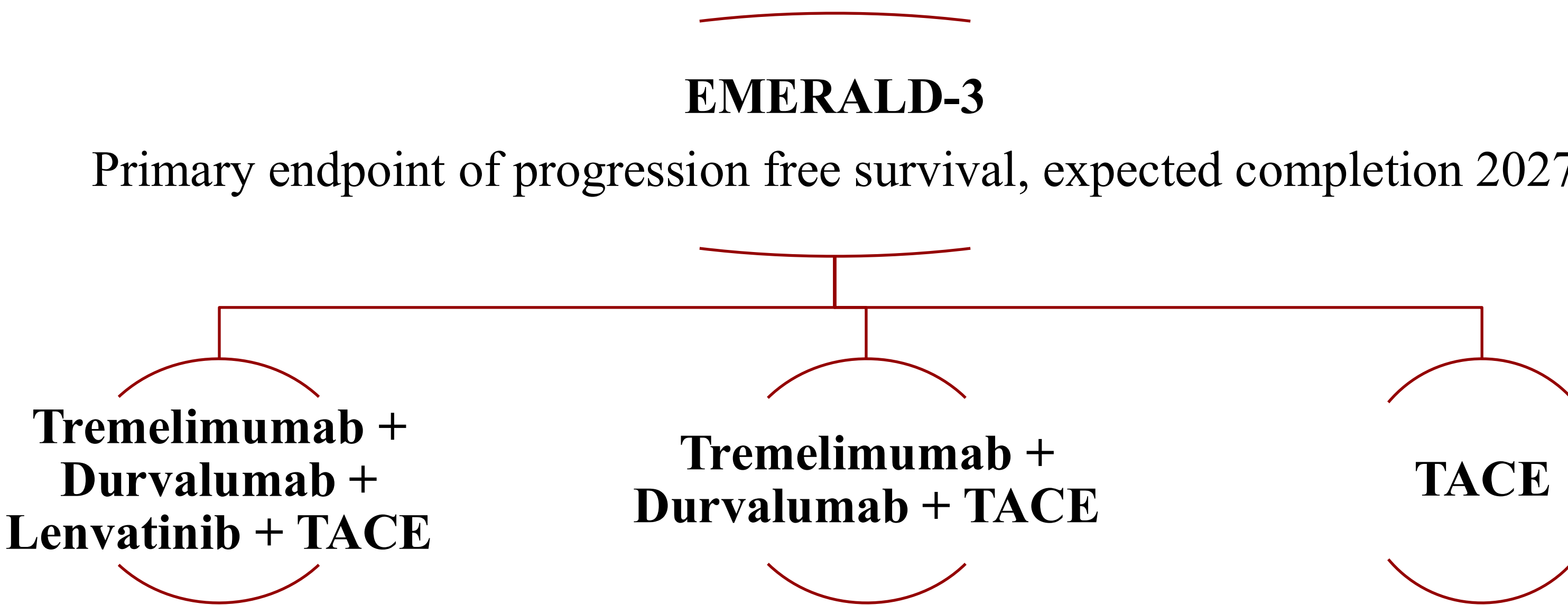
Methods

ClinicalTrials.gov and the PubMed database were reviewed for recent combination TACE and immunotherapy clinical data, focusing on the EMERALD-1, LEAP-012 trials and EMERALD-3 trials.

Clinical Trials



Future Directions



Conclusion

TACE combined with immunotherapy has shown statistically significant improvement in primary endpoints in large phase-III trials. With additional data being collected in longer term analyses and the ongoing EMERALD-3 clinical trial, the landscape for HCC treatment will likely be significantly impacted in the near future.

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