# Survival in Patients With Advanced-Stage, High-Risk Hodgkin Lymphoma Treated With Conventional Chemotherapy Plus Brentuximab Vedotin and Nivolumab: 4-Year Follow-Up From a Phase 2 Trial

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## Introduction

Around 80% of patients with newly diagnosed, advanced stage (3/4) Hodgkin lymphoma (HL) are cured by the conventional chemotherapy ABVD (doxorubicin, bleomycin, vinblastine, and dacarbazine) or the escalated BEACOPP (bleomycin, etoposide, doxorubicin, cyclophosphamide, vincristine, procarbazine, and prednisone) regimen. However, it is challenging to achieve optimal outcomes for patients with advanced disease and a high International Prognostic Score (IPS≥3).

## Aim

To improve outcomes for patients with advanced-stage disease and high IPS by using conventional chemotherapy (doxorubicin, vinblastine, and dacarbazine) in combination with brentuximab vedotin and nivolumab

## Objectives

Improving outcome in relapsed HD patients through the addition of PD-L1 inhibitors and anti-CD30

## Methods

In this phase II trial, we recruited 30 patients with advanced-stage (3/4) HL and high IPS (≥3). Patients were between 18 and 60 years of age, had no accompanying morbidities, and had a Performance Status ≤2. Patients were started on doxorubicin 25 mg/m², vinblastine 6 mg/m², and dacarbazine 375 mg/m², along with brentuximab vedotin 1.8 mg/kg, and nivolumab 3mg/kg. Cycles were repeated every 14 days for a total of 12 cycles. PET-CT was performed after 6 cycles and again after the final cycle.

## Results

Metabolic complete response (CR) was documented in 22 patients (73%) after the sixth cycle. Another six patients achieved CR after the end of treatment for a total of 28 patients (93.3%) with CR. After 4 years of follow-up, the progression-free survival was 78.3% (95% CI, 73.5–83.2) and overall survival was 88.8% (95% CI, 84.6–93.6). The toxicity profile included five cases of peripheral neuropathy and disturbance of liver enzymes, but they were temporary, along with manageable neutropenia of different grades.

## Summary

Synergistic effect can be documented between immune check point inhibitors and anti CD 30 in relapsed HD patients

## Discussion

: Addition of nivolumab and brentuximab vedotin to conventional chemotherapy improved both response rate and overall survival for patients with advanced-stage, high IPS score Hodgkin lymphoma.

## References

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