

# WHAT'S NEXT IN BREAST CANCER BIOMARKER TESTING?

EXPLORING THE POTENTIAL OF PD-L1 AS A BIOMARKER IN TRIPLE-NEGATIVE BREAST CANCER

PD-L1=programmed death-ligand 1.

# ROCHE: AT THE FOREFRONT OF BIOMARKER RESEARCH IN BREAST CANCER FOR MORE THAN 20 YEARS<sup>1</sup>

#### At Roche, we are committed to constantly improving outcomes for breast cancer patients

· Roche has pioneered the development of anti-HER2 breast cancer treatments and the HER2 companion diagnostic

# TESTING FOR BIOMARKERS DRIVES BREAST CANCER CLASSIFICATION AND FIRST-LINE TREATMENT DECISIONS FOR METASTATIC DISEASE<sup>2</sup>

	ER+/PR+ <sup>2,3</sup>	HER2+2,4	TNBC <sup>2,3</sup>
TEST	Positive expression confirmed by IHC	Positive expression confirmed by IHC or ISH	Confirmed ER-negative, PR-negative, and HER2-negative
PREVALENCE	Approximately 70% of invasive breast cancers	Approximately 15% of invasive breast cancers	Approximately 15% of invasive breast cancers
PROGNOSIS	<ul> <li>Less aggressive subtype</li> <li>Fair prognosis with availability of hormonal therapies</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Aggressive subtype</li> <li>HER2-targeted therapy changed the natural course of the disease and improved a previously poor prognosis</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Very aggressive subtype</li> <li>Prognosis is poor, in part because patients are ineligible for hormonal or targeted therapies</li> </ul>

- BRCA mutations represent an actionable biomarker for a small subset of patients with metastatic breast cancer, with prevalence varying between ethnic groups across geographies<sup>3,5,6</sup>
- $\cdot \text{ Additional pathways and mutations are also under investigation, including \textbf{PD-L1}} \text{ and PIK3CA/AKT/PTEN}^7$

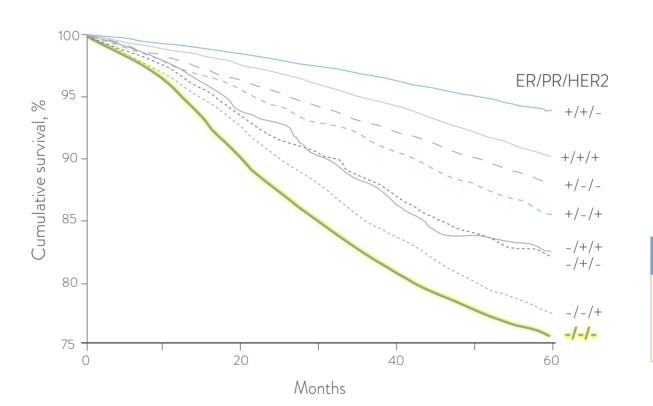
BRCA=breast cancer; ER=estrogen receptor; HER2=human epidermal growth factor receptor 2; IHC=immunohistochemistry; ISH=in situ hybridization; PIK3CA=enzymes also known as protein kinase B; PTEN=phosphatase and tensin homolog; PR=progesterone receptor; TNBC=triple-negative breast cancer.

# TNBC REMAINS AN AREA OF SERIOUS UNMET NEED, CHARACTERISED BY A LACK OF VALIDATED PREDICTIVE BIOMARKERS<sup>8,9</sup>

### TNBC is negative for ER, PR, and HER2 expression, making patients ineligible for therapies that target these biomarkers<sup>2,3</sup>

- TNBC is a heterogeneous, aggressive tumour subtype, accounting for ≈15% of invasive breast cancers²
- Chemotherapy is the current standard of care<sup>3</sup>

#### TNBC is characterised by shorter overall survival relative to HER2+ and HR+ breast cancer 10-11



### LOWER MEDIAN OVERALL SURVIVAL

OS is lower in metastatic TNBC vs the general metastatic breast cancer population<sup>12</sup>:

13 MONTHS VS 2 TO 3.5 YEARS

Kaplan-Meier graph illustrating relative 5-year patient survival by tumour type, according to time after treatment. Data are derived from diagnosis of mostly early breast cancer.

HR=hormone receptor.

### PD-L1 IS A PROMISING BIOMARKER UNDER INVESTIGATION IN TNBC

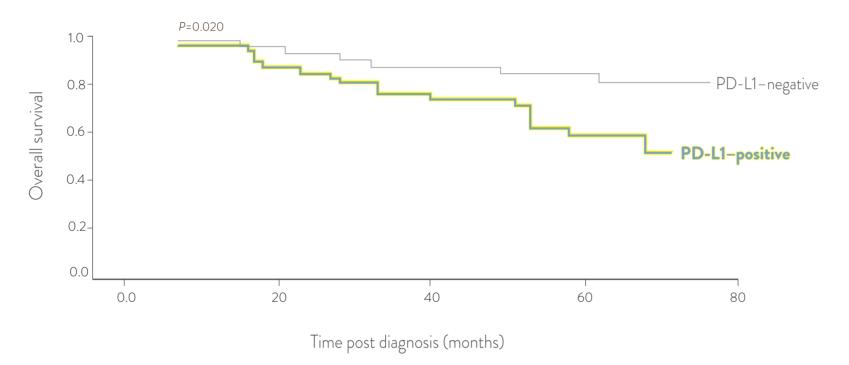
### Elevated PD-L1 expression may be associated with poor prognosis in TNBC<sup>13,14</sup>

• Elevated PD-L1 expression may be associated with reduced survival in breast cancer 13,14

### RISK OF DEATH IS MORE THAN 2 TIMES HIGHER

IN PATIENTS WITH PD-L1-POSITIVE DISEASE compared with patients with PD-L1-negative disease (P<0.046)\*

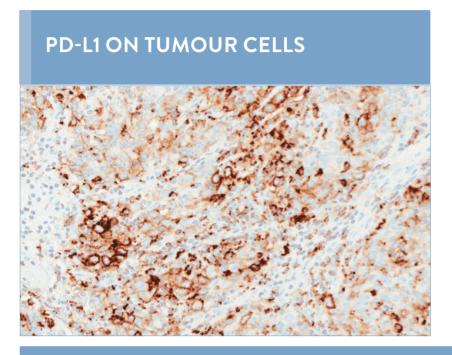
 ${}^*\mathsf{Multivariate} \ \mathsf{analysis} \ \mathsf{adjusted} \ \mathsf{by} \ \mathsf{age}, \ \mathsf{tumour} \ \mathsf{size}, \ \mathsf{grade}, \ \mathsf{and} \ \mathsf{lymph} \ \mathsf{node} \ \mathsf{status}.$ 

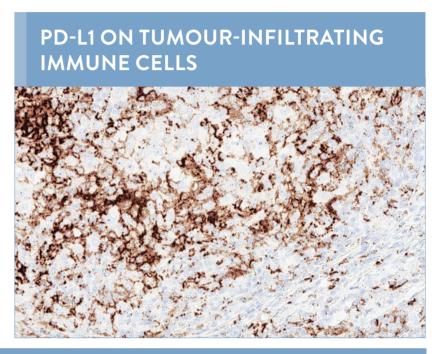


Kaplan-Meier survival curve for overall survival, depending on the expression of PD-L1 for basal-like breast cancer (ER-, PR-, HER2-). P value calculated by the log-rank test.

# PD-L1 EXPRESSION IS ELEVATED IN TNBC RELATIVE TO OTHER TYPES OF BREAST CANCER<sup>15</sup>

- PD-L1 expression is elevated in TNBC compared with HR-positive disease and HER2-positive disease<sup>15</sup>
- PD-L1 can be expressed on both tumour cells and tumour-infiltrating immune cells, with status determined by IHC using different scoring methods and definitions of positivity<sup>16,17</sup>





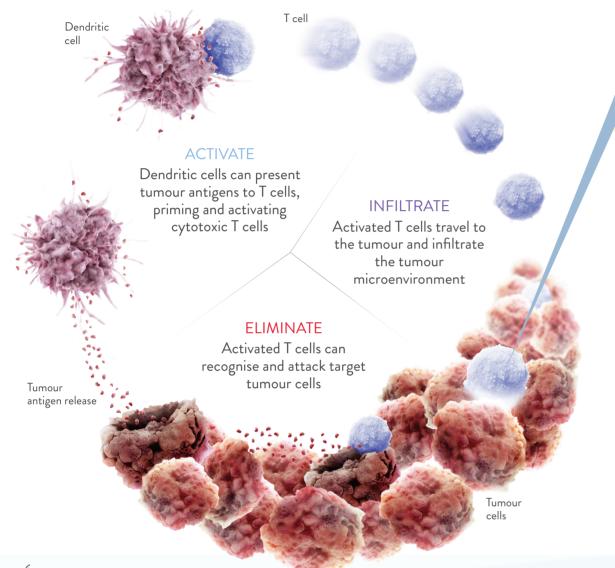
PD-L1 IS EASILY DETECTABLE ON IMMUNE CELLS IN TNBC9,16,17

4

# PD-L1 IS ONE OF THE PRIMARY IMMUNOSUPPRESSIVE DRIVERS IN MULTIPLE TYPES OF CANCER

### PD-L1 can suppress the cancer immunity cycle, which governs the immune response against cancer<sup>16-19</sup>

· The cancer immunity cycle is a scientific framework that describes how the immune system recognises and eradicates cancer

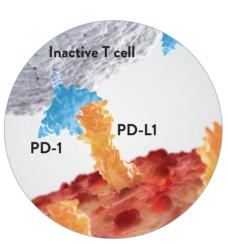


#### PD-L1

can disrupt the cancer immunity cycle by inhibiting T cells from killing tumour cells

### PD-L1 is an inhibitory ligand expressed on tumour cells and infiltrating immune cells<sup>16,17,19</sup>

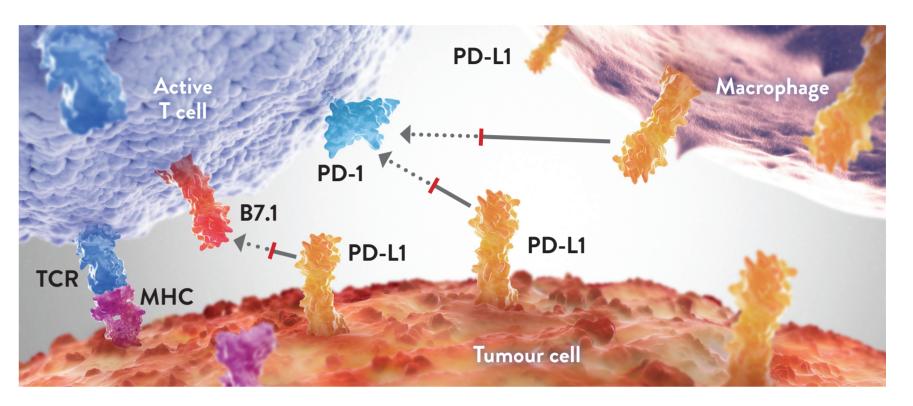
- PD-L1 binds to its receptor, PD-1, deactivating cytotoxic T cells
  - Once deactivated, T cells remain inhibited in the tumour microenvironment



# IDENTIFYING PD-L1 ON TUMOUR AND IMMUNE CELLS MAY BE AN IMPORTANT CONSIDERATION FOR CANCER IMMUNOTHERAPY RESEARCH

### Targeting PD-L1 on tumour cells and tumour-infiltrating immune cells may invigorate antitumour T-cell activity<sup>16,18,20,21</sup>

• Preventing PD-L1 from binding to PD-1 may invigorate suppressed T cells to kill tumour cells in the tumour microenvironment



MHC=major histocompatibility complex; PD-1=programmed death-1; TCR=T-cell receptor.



#### BRINGING A PASSION FOR PERSONALISED HEALTHCARE TO TNBC

#### Exploring PD-L1 as a biomarker may lead to more individualised treatment approaches for TNBC<sup>18,22</sup>

- Metastatic TNBC is an area of high unmet need without validated biomarkers<sup>8,9</sup>
  - An aggressive breast cancer subtype associated with poor survival outcomes<sup>2,13,14</sup>
- The PD-L1 pathway represents a promising area of research in TNBC<sup>17-19</sup>
  - PD-L1 expression is elevated in TNBC relative to other breast cancer subtypes<sup>15</sup>
  - Elevated PD-L1 expression may increase mortality in TNBC $^{12-14}$

### As part of our commitment to breast cancer and personalised healthcare, Roche is actively researching PD-L1 as a biomarker in TNBC

### To learn more about PD-L1 and its status as a biomarker, visit ResearchCancerImmunotherapy.com

References: 1. Food and Drug Administration, Rockville, MD. Trastuzumab approval: Reference No. 98-0369. Published September 25, 1998. 2. Schnitt S. Classification and prognosis of invasive breast cancer: from morphology to molecular taxonomy. Mod Pathol. 2010;23:S60-S64. 3. Cardoso F, Senkus E, Costa A, et al. 4th ESO-ESMO international consensus guidelines for advanced breast cancer (ABC 4). Ann Oncol. 2018;29:1634-1657. 4. Referenced with permission from the NCCN Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology (NCCN Guidelines) for Breast Cancer V.12018. © National Comprehensive Cancer Network, Inc. 2018. All rights reserved. Published March 20, 2018. Accessed December 13, 2018. To view the most recent and complete version of the guidelines on the owww.NCCN.org. NATIONAL COMPREHENSIVE CANCER NETWORK®, NCCN®, NCCN Guidelines, and all other NCCN Content are trademarks owned by the National Comprehensive Cancer Network, Inc. 5. Grindedal EM, Heramb C, Karsrud I, et al. Current guidelines for BRCA testing of breast cancer patients are insufficient to detect all mutation cancers. BMC Cancer. 2017;17:438. 6. Balmaña J, Díez O, Castiglione M; on behalf of the ESMO Guidelines Working Group. BRCA in breast cancer: ESMO clinical recommendations. Ann Oncol. 2009;20(suppl 4):iv19-iv20. 7. Li X, Zhang R, Liu Z, Li S, Xu H. The genetic variants in the PTEN/PI3K/AKT pathway predict susceptibility and CE(A)F chemotherapy response to breast cancer and clinical outcomes. Oncotarget. 2017;8:20252-20265. 8. Wahba HA, El-Hadaad HA. Current approaches in treatment of triple-negative breast cancer. Cancer Biol Med. 2015;12:106-116. 9. Mittendorf EA, Philips AN, Meric-Bernstam F, et al. PP-L1 expression in triple-negative breast cancer: unmet medical needs. Breast Cancer Res Treat. 2011;125:627-636. 11. Carels N, Spinassé LB, Tilli TM, Tuszynski JA. Toward precision medicine of breast cancer: Theore Biol Med. Model. 2016;13:7. 12. André F, Zielinski CC. Optimal strategies for the treatment of metastatic triple-negative breast cancer with

Published by
F. Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd
4070 Basel, Switzerland
© 2019
All trademarks mentioned herein are protected by law.

www.roche.com JANUARY 2019