Reviewer’s report

Title: Favorable Response to Pembrolizumab after Durvalumab Failure in a Stage III Sarcomatoid Carcinoma of the Lung: A Case Report

Version: 0 Date: 29 Jan 2020

Reviewer: Reviewer 2

Reviewer's report:

PEER REVIEWER ASSESSMENTS:

RELEVANCE - Does this case report make a contribution to medical knowledge, have educational value, or highlight the need for a change in clinical practice or diagnostic/prognostic approaches?

Yes, this report contributes to medical knowledge

CASE DESCRIPTION - Are the details of the case sufficiently well described to understand the patient's symptoms and course of treatment?

Yes, the description of the case is sufficient

DIAGNOSIS/INTERPRETATION - Based on the facts presented, are the diagnosis, interpretation, and course of treatment medically sound?

Yes, the work described is medically sound

DISCUSSION OF THE CASE - Does the discussion appropriately analyse the importance of the findings and their relevance to future understanding of disease processes, diagnosis or treatment? Has an adequate literature review pertinent to the case been included?

No - there are minor issues

OVERALL MANUSCRIPT POTENTIAL - Could an appropriately REVISED version of this work represent a technically sound contribution?
Probably - with minor revisions

PEER REVIEWER COMMENTS:

GENERAL COMMENTS: This is a good case however the article will need editions before publishing.

The author will need to expand on some areas.

This case is novel.

REQUESTED REVISIONS:

The author should expand on the fact that this is sarcomatoid lung cancer and that treatment for sarcomatoid lung cancer can be challenging and data are sparse.

Also the author should expand on the potential mechanisms of resistance to durvalumab, and why did this patient respond to pembrolizumab and not to durva.

ADDITIONAL REQUESTS/SUGGESTIONS:

Introduction should be more detailed and it should expand on the background on sarcomatoid tumors and on the resistance to durvalumab.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes
Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

Not relevant to this manuscript

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Needs some language corrections before being published

Declaration of competing interests
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