ATC 2017
Antibody Therapeutics Conference

Curriculum Vitae

Name: James Chih-Hsin Yang
Affiliation: Professor & Director, Graduate Institute of Oncology, College of Medicine, National Taiwan University
Short Biography (maximum of 400 words):
Dr James Chih-Hsin Yang received his MD from National Taiwan University (NTU) in 1986 and completed his PhD degree between 1996 and 2000 at the Graduate Institute of Clinical Medicine, NTU in 2000. He first completed his internal medicine residency at the NTU Hospital, and between 1992 and 1995, he undertook medical oncology fellowship training at the National Cancer Institute at Bethesda, Maryland. He is currently the Director and Distinguished Professor of Graduate Institute of Oncology at National Taiwan University. He is also the director at Department of Oncology at the National Taiwan University Hospital. He is a staff member in the Department of Oncology at the University Hospital since 1995. He also act as the director of Development and Planning of the new NTU Cancer Center. Dr. Yang's research focuses on lung cancer treatment and the mechanism of multidrug resistance of chemotherapy therapy and targeted therapy. Dr. Yang is a leader in lung cancer clinical studies, especially in the new drug development for lung cancer treatment. He and other Asian investigators have established EGFR TKI as the front line treatment for lung cancer patients with EGFR mutation (IPASS). He is also the principle investigator of several studies that led to the global approval of 2nd generation irreversible EGFR TKI, afatinib and 3rd generation EGFR TKI, osimertinib. He published more than 200 papers in peer reviewed scientific journals and served in the editorial board of Annals of Oncology, Lung Cancer. He is the current associate editor of Journal of Thoracic Oncology and Nature Scientific Report. He received 2nd Kobayashi Foundation Cancer Research Award in Asian Clinical Oncology Society in 2012, distinguished research award of Taiwan National Science Council 2012-2015, TECO award for biotechnology in 2015 and distinguished research award of Ministry of Science and Technology, Taiwan from 2016-2018.

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Speech Summary at ATC 2017

Speech Title:	PD1/PDL1 checkpoint inhibitor therapy and their roles in the cancer immunotherapy

Speech Summary (200-500 words)

The discovery of the “brakes” for immune systems help us to understand the balance of immunity against self and none-self antigens. The brakes serve as the most important regulation mechanisms to prevent excessive autoimmunity. But at the same time, provide the tumor cells to be recognized by effective immune surveillance. The discovery of PD1 and PDL1 checkpoints prevent T cells to attack cells expressing PDL1, provide the most important immune escape mechanisms for cancer cells. Application of immune check point inhibitors, especially PD1/PDL1 antibodies are effective in different percentage of patients with various types of cancer. The combination of anti-CTLA4 and anti-PD1/PDL1 introduce long term remission in 40-50% metastatic melanoma patients. With the introduction of more immune checkpoints inhibitors or co-stimulators as well as combination with various cytokines, we hope to control more of the metastatic cancer in the near future. Checkpoint inhibitors can potentially combined with tumor vaccines, cell therapies, other tumor targeting antibodies to enhance immunotherapy effects. These immune therapies was regarded as ineffective, may be helpful with the help of checkpoint inhibitors, to play certain role for the treatment of cancer in the future.