

Spotlight on Sponsor: Q&A with Infinity Pharmaceuticals



Infinity's key asset is Eganalisib, a first-in-class, oral and selective inhibitor of PI3K- γ . Eganalisib's mechanism of action involves the reprogramming of macrophages to turn the tumor microenvironment from immune suppressed to immune activated. Initial data suggests addition of Eganalisib may increase effectiveness of checkpoint inhibitors in frontline advanced, metastatic TNBC patients and immune-therapy naive advanced urothelial cancer patients, as well as in heavily pretreated, checkpoint refractory Melanoma and Squamous Cell Carcinoma of Head and Neck (SCCHN).

NeoGenomics is delighted to host this Q&A with members from the Infinity team, from Biospecimen Operations and their Director of Translational Science.



Q: How did the Infinity team find out about NeoGenomics?

A: NeoGenomics had an exhibit at a medical conference where Infinity was in attendance. The MultiOmyx™ approach described at the exhibit was of particular interest to Infinity as a way to measure changes in the tumor microenvironment in clinical samples before and after treatment with Eganalisib.



Q: What were the drivers underlying the decision to contract with us?

A: NeoGenomics is a CLIA certified lab that offers many services of interest to Infinity at competitive rates including PD-L1 testing, RNA sequencing from whole blood or FFPE, analysis of genomic mutations, tumor mutational burden, multiplex immunofluorescence analysis (MultiOmyx) and digital spatial profiling. The technologies offered at NeoGenomics had advantages over other CRO's we explored including the ability to obtain high quality RNAseq data from challenging starting materials such as FFPE and the ability of MultiOmyx technology to measure multiple markers within a single FFPE slide while avoiding the issue of spectral overlap that arise from more traditional immunofluorescence approaches. Digital Spatial Profiling technology is of interest to Infinity as a means of elucidating changes that occur within specific cellular compartments within the tumor microenvironment. Finally, the capacity to provide multiple services through a single CRO was attractive in terms of gaining efficiency through streamlining sample handling and processing.



Q: Describe your interactions with the project and scientific team at the Houston and AV labs

A: The scientists are very collaborative and able to adapt to last minute customer specific requests that came from the Infinity team. The scientists are very knowledgeable and were able to provide guidance and answer questions from the Infinity team. The scientists had the expertise to obtain high quality data and were able to assist Infinity in meeting their timelines.

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Q: What were the key strengths and highlights of the team responsible for delivery of your data and results?

A: The data was of high quality and the data delivery was met according to the timelines outlined in the contract. The appropriate quality checks were performed and relayed to Infinity team. The MultiOmyx data reports were comprehensive and easy to interpret and the microscopy images were of the highest quality.



Q: Are you planning future work with NeoGenomics? If so, please explain

A: Infinity is doing the bulk of the clinical sample analysis that support ongoing Infinity sponsored clinical trials with NeoGenomics and plans to continue the relationship moving forward for the length of time that NeoGenomics is fully able to support the needs of Infinity. Infinity's drug Eganelisib targets immunosuppressive myeloid cells including tumor associated macrophages within the tumor microenvironment. Understanding the immune landscape within clinical biopsy samples before and after treatment with Eganelisib and having the capacity to look at changes that occur within the macrophage compartment is of great interest to Infinity. The services provided by NeoGenomics including MultiOmyx and digital spatial profiling are technologies that can help Infinity gain a deeper understanding of the mechanism of Eganelisib, particularly within specific cell types of the tumor microenvironment.



Q: From the work performed by Neo, how does this help to support the Infinity mission?

A: Initial data obtained from MultiOmyx analysis of TNBC biopsy material was presented by Infinity at a San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium. The data obtained helped Infinity communicate the message that Eganelisib has on mechanism activity to the broader scientific and medical community. The services offered by NeoGenomics have the potential to help Infinity gain further understanding of the mechanism of drug action as well as potentially identify biomarkers that could guide the clinical development strategy moving forward.



Q: Would you consider pointing other groups towards NeoGenomics, given your own experiences?

A: Yes, we would recommend NeoGenomics to other companies that are interested in similar analyses.

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