



**Overview Of  
Advanced Prostate  
Cancer**

Aaron D. Berger, MD  
VP and Chief Medical Officer  
Associated Urological Specialists



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**What is "Advanced" Prostate Cancer?**

- Can be defined in different ways
  - Locally Advanced
  - Metastatic
  - Recurrent
- In our advanced prostate cancer clinic, patients meet one of two criteria or both
  - Castrate resistant disease
  - Metastatic disease



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**Variations in Who Manages Advanced PCa**

- In most academic medical centers, advanced prostate cancer is referred to medical oncology
- In many large independent urology practices, these patients stay in the urology group
  - Urologists have often been following these patients since their initial evaluation and diagnosis of prostate cancer
  - Many independent urology groups of in-office dispensaries (IOD) and can provide many of the medications for advanced prostate cancer
  - Many independent urology practices have radiation centers and can therefore provide radiotherapeutics



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**Different Stages of Advanced Prostate Cancer**

- Locally advanced
- Recurrent cancer after primary treatment
- Castrate sensitive metastatic prostate cancer (mCSPC)
- Non-metastatic castrate resistant prostate cancer (nmCRPC)
- Metastatic castrate resistant prostate cancer (mCRPC)

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**Non-metastatic Castrate Resistant PCa (nmCRPC)**

- PSA rising despite patients being on androgen deprivation therapy and testosterone at castrate levels (<50 ng/dl)
- Three large trials have shown that second generation anti-androgens improve overall survival and progression free survival in men with nmCRPC compared to ADT alone
  - ARAMIS: Darolutamide (Nubeqa)
  - PROSPER: Enzalutamide (Xtandi)
  - SPARTAN: Apalutamide (Erleada)
- All three studies enrolled patients with PSA doubling time (PSADT) of 10 months or less but this is not a requirement in FDA labeling

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**Second Generation Anti-Androgen Mechanism**

- Competitive inhibition at 3 points along signalling cascade
  - Blocks testosterone binding to receptor
  - Blocks translocation of T/AR complex into nucleus
  - Blocks T/AR complex from binding to DNA and starting transcription

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### Non-Metastatic Castrate Resistant Pca

NCCN Guidelines Version 3.2022  
Prostate Cancer

SYSTEMIC THERAPY FOR M0 CASTRATION-RESISTANT PROSTATE CANCER (CRPC)<sup>10a</sup>

<sup>10a</sup> Document castrate levels of testosterone if clinically indicated. Workup for progression should include bone and soft tissue evaluation. Bone imaging can be performed with either conventional imaging or PSMA-PET.

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### Metastatic Castrate Sensitive Pca (mCSPC)

- Also known as metastatic hormone sensitive or hormone naïve prostate cancer
- Two ways to get to mCSPC:
  - Primary recurrent
    - Patients have had primary treatment for localized Pca such as surgery, radiation, or cryoablation
    - During follow-up they are found to have metastasis
    - Not on ADT or just recently started, and are still responding to ADT
  - DeNovo
    - Patient have metastatic disease at time of diagnosis
    - Often diagnosed in hospital setting when patients have bone pain, urinary retention, AKI, etc

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### Metastatic Castrate Sensitive Prostate Cancer

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SYSTEMIC THERAPY FOR CASTRATION-NAÏVE PROSTATE CANCER<sup>10b</sup>

<sup>10b</sup> PSADT and Grade Group should be considered when deciding whether to begin ADT for patients with M0 disease.

<sup>10c</sup> Patients with a life expectancy <5 years can consider observation. See Principles of Active Surveillance and Observation (PROS-E).

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**Metastatic Castrate Sensitive PCa**

- ADT is still the mainstay of treatment but in most cases, it should not be the only treatment
- Xtandi (enzalutamide), Erleada (apalutamide), abiraterone (fka Zytiga), and chemotherapy (docetaxel) all indicated for mCSPC along with ADT
- Chemotherapy typically indicated for high volume metastatic disease especially in setting of visceral metastases such as lung or liver
- Patient with oligometastatic disease can still have benefit from radiation to prostate

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**Abiraterone**

- Abiraterone inhibits 17  $\alpha$ -hydroxylase
- Leads to decrease in androgen production
- Can increase mineralocorticoids so typically administered with prednisone or prednisolone to minimize side effects

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**Abiraterone**

- LATITUDE trial showed improvement in OS and rPFS along with ADT in men with mCSPC
- COU-AA-302 trial showed improvement in OS and rPFS along with ADT in men with mCRPC
- Only one of the oral oncolytics for prostate cancer that has a generic form
- Common AE's include: fatigue, arthralgia, edema, hypertension, hypokalemia
- Need to monitor for elevation of LFT's which is rare side effect
  - LFT's every 2 weeks for first 3 months then monthly is recommendation

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### Metastatic Castration Resistant Pca (mCRPC)

- On ADT with castrate level of testosterone with rising PSA AND imaging showing metastatic disease
- In addition to continuing ADT, treatment options include
  - Xtandi (enzalutamide)
  - Abiraterone plus prednisone
  - Provenge (Sipuleucel T) immunotherapy
  - Radium 223 (Xofigo)
  - Docetaxel chemotherapy (1<sup>st</sup> line)
  - Jevtana (cabazitaxel) chemotherapy (2<sup>nd</sup> line)
  - PARP inhibitors for patients with HRR mutation
    - Lynparza (Olaparib) if no prior chemotherapy
    - Rubraca (rucaparib) if patient had prior chemo
  - Keytruda (pembrolizumab) is MSI high

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### Metastatic Castrate Resistant Pca (mCRPC)

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**SYSTEMIC THERAPY FOR M1 CRPC**

<p><b>No prior docetaxel or prior novel hormone therapy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preferred regimens</li> <li>• Abiraterone<sup>1</sup> (category 1<sup>AB</sup>)</li> <li>• Docetaxel<sup>2</sup> (category 1)</li> <li>• Enzalutamide<sup>3</sup> (category 1)</li> <li>• Sipuleucel T<sup>4</sup> (category 1)</li> <li>• Radium-223<sup>5</sup> for asymptomatic bone metastases (category 1)</li> <li>• Other recommended regimens</li> <li>• Other secondary hormone therapy<sup>6</sup></li> </ul>	<p><b>Prior docetaxel and prior novel hormone therapy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preferred regimens</li> <li>• Abiraterone<sup>1</sup> (category 1)</li> <li>• Cabazitaxel<sup>7</sup> (category 1)</li> <li>• Enzalutamide<sup>3</sup> (category 1)</li> <li>• Useful in certain circumstances</li> <li>• Mitoxantrone for palliation in asymptomatic patients who cannot tolerate other therapies<sup>8</sup></li> <li>• Cabazitaxel/docetaxel<sup>9</sup></li> <li>• Radium-223<sup>5</sup> for asymptomatic bone metastases (category 1)</li> <li>• Other recommended regimens</li> <li>• Other secondary hormone therapy<sup>6</sup></li> </ul>	<p><b>Prior novel hormone therapy/No prior docetaxel</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preferred regimens</li> <li>• Docetaxel (category 1)<sup>2</sup></li> <li>• Sipuleucel T<sup>4</sup> (category 1)</li> <li>• Docetaxel/Enzalutamide<sup>10</sup></li> <li>• Docetaxel for HRH (category 1)<sup>11</sup></li> <li>• Cabazitaxel/docetaxel<sup>9</sup></li> <li>• Pembrolizumab for MSI-H, dMMR, or TMB ≥10 mut/Mb<sup>12</sup></li> <li>• Radium-223<sup>5</sup> for asymptomatic bone metastases (category 1)</li> <li>• Rucaparib for BRCA1/2<sup>13</sup></li> <li>• Other recommended regimens</li> <li>• Enzalutamide<sup>3</sup></li> <li>• Abiraterone + docuzamaboson<sup>14</sup></li> <li>• Enzalutamide<sup>3</sup></li> <li>• Other secondary hormone therapy<sup>6</sup></li> </ul>	<p><b>Prior docetaxel and prior novel hormone therapy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preferred regimens</li> <li>• Cabazitaxel<sup>7</sup> (category 1<sup>AB</sup>)</li> <li>• Docetaxel rechallenge<sup>2</sup></li> <li>• Useful in certain circumstances</li> <li>• Docetaxel for HRH (category 1)<sup>11</sup></li> <li>• Cabazitaxel/docetaxel<sup>9</sup></li> <li>• Pembrolizumab for MSI-H, dMMR, or TMB ≥10 mut/Mb<sup>12</sup></li> <li>• Mitoxantrone for palliation in asymptomatic patients who cannot tolerate other therapies<sup>8</sup></li> <li>• Rucaparib for BRCA1/2<sup>13</sup></li> <li>• Other recommended regimens</li> <li>• Enzalutamide<sup>3</sup></li> <li>• Other secondary hormone therapy<sup>6</sup></li> </ul>
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### Metastatic Castrate Resistant Pca (mCRPC)

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**SYSTEMIC THERAPY FOR M1 CRPC**

CRPC imaging studies positive for metastases

- Metastatic lesion biopsy<sup>15</sup>
- Tumor testing for MSI-H or dMMR and for homologous recombination gene mutations (HRM), if not previously performed<sup>16</sup>
- Consider tumor mutational burden (TMB) testing<sup>17</sup>

• Continue ADT<sup>1</sup> to maintain castrate levels of serum testosterone (<50 ng/dL)

Additional treatment options:

- Bone antineoplastic therapy with denosumab (category 1), preferred<sup>18</sup> or zoledronic acid
- If bone metastases present
- Palliative RT<sup>19</sup> for painful bone metastases
- Best supportive care

Adenocarcinoma<sup>20</sup> → See PROG-15

Small cell/neuroendocrine prostate cancer (NEPC)<sup>21</sup>

First-line and subsequent treatment options<sup>22</sup>:

- Chemotherapy<sup>23</sup>
- Capecitabine/etoposide
- Docetaxel/carboplatin
- Cabazitaxel/carboplatin<sup>24</sup>
- Best supportive care

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**Provenge (Sipuleucel-T) Immunotherapy**

- Provenge is thought to be a tumor vaccine
- Uses patients own immune system to attack prostate cancer cells
- Treatment is done for 3 cycles
  - Step one is patient goes for leukapheresis where some white blood cells are removed
  - Leukapheresis sample sent to company lab in CA for processing
  - Approximately 3 days later patient receives their blood cells back that have now been stimulated to induce immune response against prostate cancer
- Indicated for asymptomatic or minimally symptomatic mCRPC

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**Provenge (Sipuleucel-T) Immunotherapy**

- Leukapheresis requires decent venous access so many patients require a temporary port to be placed
- Typically minimal side effects since patients just receiving their own blood products
- Can have mild transfusion reaction like chills, rigors, etc so often pretreat with Tylenol and benadryl

**Sipuleucel-T Stimulates Patient's Immune System**

The diagram illustrates the immunotherapy process in four stages:
 

- DAY 1:** Leukapheresis: A Resting APC is shown.
- DAYS 2-3:** Processing: PMP22-GM-CSF is added to the Resting APC. The APC takes up antigen containing the PMP-GM-CSF with resting APC.
- DAY 3 OR 4:** Reinfusion: PMP-GM-CSF is processed and presented on the surface of the APC. PMP-GM-CSF-loaded APCs are now the active component of sipuleucel-T. This activates an Inactive T cell into an Active T cell.
- Final Step:** Sipuleucel-T activates T cells in the body.

 The process is repeated weekly over 3-4 weeks.

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**Provenge (Sipuleucel-T) Immunotherapy**

- Provenge did have OS benefit in original studies from more than 10 years ago
- Recent retrospective study showed that adding Provenge at any time for men with mCRPC had OS benefit vs androgen signaling pathway inhibitor (enzalutamide, abiraterone) alone
- Data from the PROCEED registry trial also showed that African-American patients had a better OS benefit from Provenge than did Caucasian patients

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### Xofigo (Radium 223) for mCRPC

- Xofigo is an IV form of radiation that preferentially is taken up by bone
- Given as IV infusion, based on patient weight, monthly for 6 doses
- ALSYMPCA trial showed improved overall survival in patients with mCRPC
- Indications is for symptomatic bone metastasis
  - Pain
  - Fatigue
  - Decrease in ADL
- Contraindicated if patient's have visceral metastasis

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### Xofigo (Radium 223) for mCRPC

- Alpha emitter that gets incorporated into bone to destroy osteoblastic metastases

- Main AE's
  - Diarrhea
  - Bone marrow suppression
  - Bone pain
- Typically administered by radiation oncologist or nuclear medicine

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### Imaging for Advanced Prostate Cancer

- RADAR Guidelines (Radiographic Assessments for Detection of Advanced Recurrence)
- Developed to help guide when to image
- Historically, imaging often done at arbitrary time points

Category	Guidelines
<b>Newly Diagnosed Patients</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conventional scan high and prostate 2 of the lowest with normal PSA</li> <li>• PSA level &gt;10 ng/ml</li> </ul>
<b>Biochemical Recurrent Patients</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider NSD for PSA &lt;10</li> <li>• PSA &lt;10 can be considered based on specific performance of various NSD techniques</li> </ul>
<b>M0 Castrate-Resistant Patients</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The conventional scan when PSA level &gt;10 ng/ml</li> <li>• PSA level &gt;10 ng/ml</li> </ul>
<b>M1 Castrate-Resistant Patients*</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update conventional scans, and consider NSD only if conventional scans are negative and the disease has clinically evident progression</li> <li>• NSD based on a set of the following:                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PSA level &gt;10 ng/ml</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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**Imaging Modalities**

- CT scan and bone scan are the typical “conventional imaging” scans and were used in most of the relevant clinical trials for APC treatments
- 18-Fluciclovine (Axumin) PET/CT
  - Can detect metastasis at much lower PSA levels than conventional imaging
  - Fairly widely available and reasonably easy to get coverage for



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**Imaging Modalities**

- PSMA PET/CT is the newest and most sensitive imaging modality for advanced prostate cancer
  - Prostate specific membrane antigen is highly expressed in prostate cancer cells
  - Some expression in other organs as well such as kidneys and salivary glands
- Pylarify (piplufolostat F-18) currently FDA approved
  - Patients with suspected metastasis who are candidates for definitive therapy
  - Patients with suspected recurrence based on rising PSA levels after treatment
  - Overall broader indication than Axumin so many high risk patients could qualify to see if metastatic prior to surgery or radiation

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**Imaging Modalities**

- PSMA PET/CT can detect metastases at much lower PSA levels than conventional imaging and likely even lower than Axumin
- Gallium-68 PSMA PET/CT also FDA approved but currently only available at UCLA and UCSF
- PSMA scans still very new so availability and coverage may be an issue in short term but long term could alter treatment landscape substantially

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**Bone Health**

- Bone health is very important for patients with advanced prostate cancer and often overlooked and/or undertreated
- Patients with advanced prostate cancer often older so can have baseline bone weakness
- Androgen deprivation therapy also can weaken bones and lead to osteopenia or osteoporosis
- All patients who are on ADT should take Calcium and Vit D supplementation
- DEXA scan recommended when starting on ADT as a baseline and then every two years

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**Bone Health**

- Patients with bone metastasis qualify for Xgeva (denosumab)
- SC injection given monthly typically that can prevent SRE's (skeletal related events)
- Should be taken along with Ca/Vit D
- Main potential side effect is ONJ (osteonecrosis of jaw)
- For patients with osteopenia or osteoporosis but no mets who are on ADT can get 6 month version (Prolia)

**IN PATIENTS WITH BONE METASTASES, INCREASED RANKL PRODUCTION CREATES A VICIOUS CYCLE OF BONE DESTRUCTION<sup>1</sup>**

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**Genetic Testing**

- Two main types of genetic testing
- Germline
  - Reflects genetic mutation that will be present in all patient cells including cancer cells as mutation inherited
  - Can be done with blood or saliva in most cases
  - If patient has germline mutation, genetic counseling for patient and family recommended
  - Estimated that 15-20% of prostate cancer patients have a germline mutation
- Somatic
  - Genetic profile of the cancer cells
  - Can be obtained from tissue (biopsy, RP specimen, metastatic site or from blood (liquid biopsy)
  - Can show mutations almost 50% more frequently

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## Genetic Testing: Who Qualifies?

- Any patient with metastatic disease
- Patients with high risk but localized disease
- Patients with family history

PRINCIPLES OF GENETICS AND MOLECULAR/BIOMARKER ANALYSIS

Germline testing is recommended in patients with a personal history of prostate cancer in the following scenarios:

- By Prostate Cancer Stage or Risk Group (diagnosed at any age)
  - Metastatic, regional (node positive), very-high-risk localized, high-risk localized prostate cancer
- By Family History\* and/or Ancestry
  - 12 First-, second-, or third-degree relatives with:
    - breast cancer at age 55 y
    - colorectal or endometrial cancer at age 50 y
    - male breast cancer at any age
    - ovarian cancer at any age
    - exocrine pancreatic cancer at any age
  - 21 First-degree relative (father or brother) with:
    - prostate cancer\* at age 55 y
  - 22 First-, second-, or third-degree relatives with:
    - breast cancer\* at any age
    - Lynch syndrome-related cancers, especially if diagnosed <55 y: colorectal, endometrial, gastric, ovarian, exocrine pancreas, upper tract urothelial, glioblastoma, biliary tract, and small intestinal cancer
- A known family history of familial cancer risk mutation (pathogenically pathogenic variants), especially in: BRCA1, BRCA2, ATM, PALB2, CHEK2, MLH1, MSH2, MSH6, PMS2, EPCAM
- Ashkenazi Jewish ancestry
- Personal history of breast cancer

Germline testing may be considered in patients with a personal history of prostate cancer in the following scenarios:

- By Prostate Cancer Tumor Characteristics (diagnosed at any age)
  - Intermediate-risk prostate cancer with intraductal/crystalline histology\*
- By prostate cancer\* AND a prior personal history of any of the following cancers:
  - exocrine pancreatic, colorectal, gastric, melanoma, pancreatic, upper tract urothelial, glioblastoma, biliary tract, and small intestinal cancer

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## Somatic Genetic Testing: NCCN Guideline

- Pre-test Considerations
  - At present, tumor molecular and biomarker analysis may be used for treatment decision-making, including understanding eligibility for biomarker-directed treatments, genetic counseling, early use of platinum chemotherapy, and eligibility for clinical trials. Clinical trials may include established and/or candidate molecular biomarkers for eligibility.
  - Tumor molecular profiles may change with subsequent treatments and re-evaluation may be considered at time of cancer progression for treatment decision-making.
  - Patients should be informed that tumor molecular analysis by DNA sequencing has the potential to uncover germline findings. Confirmatory germline testing may be recommended (see Post-test Considerations, below, and see Tumor Testing in the Principles of Cancer Risk Assessment and Counseling (EVAL-A) in the NCCN Guidelines for Genetic/Familial High-Risk Assessment, Breast, Ovarian, and Pancreatic).
- Testing
  - Tumor testing for alterations in homologous recombination DNA repair genes, such as BRCA1, BRCA2, ATM, PALB2, FANCA, RAD51D, CHEK2, and CDK12, is recommended in patients with metastatic prostate cancer. This testing can be considered in patients with regional prostate cancer.
  - Tumor testing for microsatellite instability-high (MSI-H) or deficient mismatch repair (dMMR) is recommended in patients with metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer and may be considered in patients with regional or castration-naïve metastatic prostate cancer.
  - TMS testing may be considered in patients with metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer.
- Tumor Specimen and Assay Considerations
  - The panel strongly recommends a metastatic biopsy for histologic and molecular evaluation. When unsafe or unfeasible, plasma ctDNA assay is an option, preferably collected during biochemical (PSA) and/or radiographic progression in order to maximize diagnostic yield.
  - Caution is needed when interpreting ctDNA-only evaluation due to potential interference from clonal hematopoiesis of indeterminate potential (CHIP), which can result in a false-positive biomarker signal.
  - DNA analysis for MSI and immunohistochemistry (IHC) for MMR are different assays measuring different biological effects caused by dMMR function. If MSI is used, testing using an a next-generation sequencing (NGS) assay validated for prostate cancer is preferred.
- Post-test Considerations
  - Post-test genetic counseling is recommended if pathogenically pathogenic variant (mutation) identified in any gene that has clinical implications if also identified in germline (eg, BRCA1, BRCA2, ATM, PALB2, CHEK2, MLH1, MSH2, MSH6, PMS2).
  - Post-test genetic counseling to assess for the possibility of Lynch syndrome is recommended if MSI-H or dMMR is found.

SOMATIC TUMOR TESTING

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## Role of Chemotherapy

- Prior to the oral novel hormonal agents (enzalutamide, abiraterone, etc) patients with progressive disease or metastatic disease would get chemotherapy
  - This is still thought to be first line by many medical oncologists
  - Many large urology groups however will start patients on an oral therapy along with ADT
- When should chemo be used as first line along with ADT?
  - Younger patients with high volume metastatic disease
  - Patients with visceral mets (lung, liver)
  - Patients with poorly differentiated cancer as they are less likely to respond to hormonal manipulation

Role of Chemotherapy

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**Role of Chemotherapy**

- Docetaxel reasonably well tolerated compared to many other chemo drugs
- Typically infusion every 3 weeks for 6-9 cycles
- If patient is started on oral therapy along with ADT and they then progress, should consider referral to medical oncology to discuss chemo; do not want to wait until patients very advanced
- Jevtana (cabazitaxel) can be used as second line chemotherapy

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**PARP Inhibitors**

- Patients with either germline or somatic mutations in homologous recombinant repair genes (HRR) are candidates for PARP inhibitors
- 14 different mutations meet FDA indication for currently available PARPi but most common are BRCA1/2
- Two PARPi currently approved for prostate cancer
  - Lynparza (Olaparib) can be used pre-chemotherapy
  - Rubraca (rucaparib) is only post-chemotherapy
- Many new PARPi's coming to market in next year or two

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**PARPi Mechanism**

- Single strand DNA breaks usually repaired by PARP
- With a PARPi, single strand break becomes double strand break
- If patients have HRR gene mutation like BRCA1/2, double strand break not repaired and apoptosis occurs
- Main side effects of PARPi is anemia which can be significant

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**Immunotherapy**

- Keytruda (pembrolizumab) currently used for many cancers and does have indication for prostate cancer
- Somatic genetic testing required to determine eligibility
  - Microsatellite instability high (MSI high)
  - High tumor mutational burden (TMB)
- Given as IV infusion
- Side effects often referred to as the "itis's" like pneumonitis, thyroiditis, gastritis, etc

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**Immunotherapy: Keytruda**

**Tumor evasion and T-cell deactivation**  
Some tumors can evade the immune system through the PD-1 pathway. The PD-L1 and PD-L2 ligands on tumors can bind with PD-1 receptors on T cells to inactivate the T cells.

**T-cell reactivation with KEYTRUDA**  
KEYTRUDA binds to the PD-1 receptor and blocks its interaction with PD-L1 and PD-L2, which helps restore the immune response. While having an effect on the tumor, this could also affect normal healthy cells.

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**PSMA Targeted Therapies**

- Multiple treatments in development that attach a radiation particle emitter to a PSMA agent
- Can target any metastatic site unlike Xofigo which only works for bone
- Will likely require that a PSMA scan be performed prior to treatment to make sure there are appropriate treatment targets
- May initially only be approved post-chemotherapy as that is how trials were done

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**Treatment Toxicity Concerns**

- Many patients now with advanced prostate cancer will get several different therapies and be on multiple agents at same time
- Many drugs can increase risk for cardiovascular events, skeletal related events, bone marrow suppression, and potential increase risk of dementia
- "cardio-oncology" and "neuro-oncology" will likely become more important to understand and minimize risk of long term adverse events with all of these treatments

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**Summary**

- Many advancements in the diagnosis and treatment of advanced prostate cancer over the last 6-7 years
- Goal that I convey to my patients is to try and treat advanced prostate cancer like a chronic disease like DM or HTN
- Several more new treatment options on the horizon next few years
- New imaging modalities and genetic testing are leading to significant changes in how we manage advanced prostate cancer
- Keeping up with potential adverse effects of these treatments will become increasingly complex but important

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**Thank you**

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