Immune checkpoint therapy for pancreatic cancer.

Abstract:
Novel treatment modalities are necessary for pancreatic cancer. Immunotherapy with immune checkpoint inhibition has shown effect in other solid tumors, and could have a place in pancreatic cancer treatment. Most available clinical studies on immune checkpoint inhibitors for pancreatic cancer are not yet completed and are still recruiting patients. Among the completed trials, there have been findings of a preliminary nature such as delayed disease progression and enhanced overall survival after treatment with immune checkpoint inhibitors in mono- or combination therapy. However, due to small sample sizes, major results are not yet identifiable. The present article provides a clinical overview of immune checkpoint inhibition in pancreatic cancer. PubMed, ClinicalTrials.gov and American Society of Clinical Oncology's meeting abstracts were systematically searched for relevant clinical studies. Four articles, five abstracts and 25 clinical trials were identified and analyzed in detail.