

# Challenges in the Value Assessment, Pricing, and Funding of Targeted Combination Therapies in Oncology

Issue Panel #17, ISPOR Europe 2018

*Moderator: Prof Lou Garrison, University of Washington, Seattle (WA)*



## Moderator and panelists



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## INTRODUCTION

### Disclaimer

*My research on this topic is partially supported by unrestricted funding from Amgen (Europe) GmbH and Roche. The views and ideas expressed in this presentation are those of the presenter.*

*The presenter did not receive any honorarium or financial support related to the presentation, including travel, accommodation or conference registration.*

## What is (Economic) “Value”?

- From an economic perspective:
  - Value is what someone is (actually) willing to pay or forgo to obtain something (opportunity cost)
- **Implications:**
  - Value varies *across individuals, across indications* for the same medicine, and *dynamically over time*
  - Value is **difficult to measure in health care** because of insurance

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## An Academic (Health Economics) Perspective on Value Attribution for Combination Treatments

- Combination treatments involve “**complementary**” goods or inputs.
- In a static sense, the value created is a product of the synergy of the inputs: it may be **impossible to identify the marginal contribution**.
- The value created for the consumer (i.e., patient) is not specific to one input: hence, the **division of rewards among the inputs is essentially arbitrary**.
  - E.g., ham and cheese panini (3 inputs + labor)

## Some Examples of Combination Treatments

- A oncologist prescribing a medicine as monotherapy
- A personalized medicine diagnostic test and a complementary medicine
- Two innovative medicines taken in combination for treatment
- A biosimilar and a patented medicine used in same regimen

## Rewarding Innovation in Medicines—Principles and Implications

- The key principle or philosophy for rewarding innovation via patents for medicines is that innovators receive **the “value of their marginal product” (VMP) during their patent life**, subject to competition within a drug class.
- Implication: **Indication-specific rewards**--at a minimum, payment should be tied to an indication as the VMP will vary by indication
  - **Challenge:** administering this **requires (a) real-world data (RWD) on use by indication**, and **(b) ideally RWD on outcomes** and thus the VMP (i.e., cost-effectiveness)

Dávid Dankó

## Problem map of challenges related to targeted combination therapies

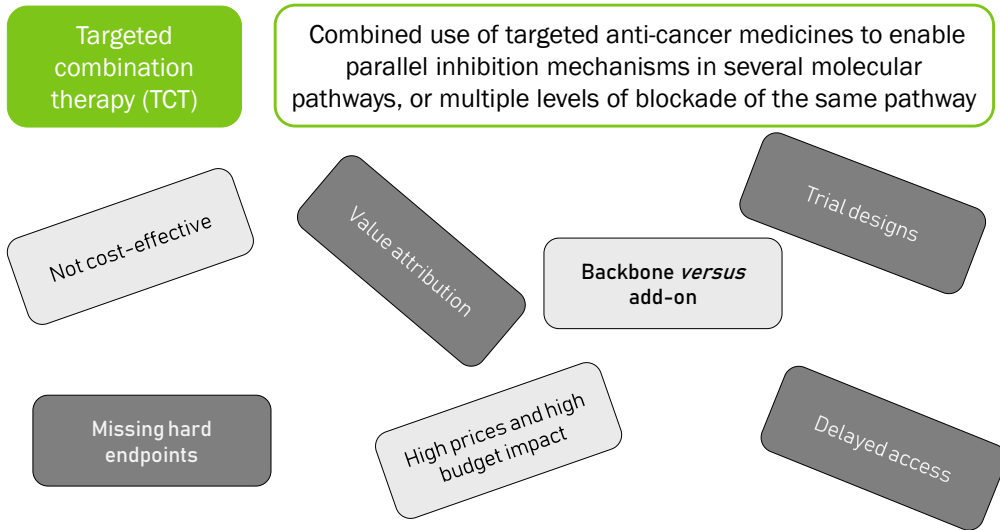
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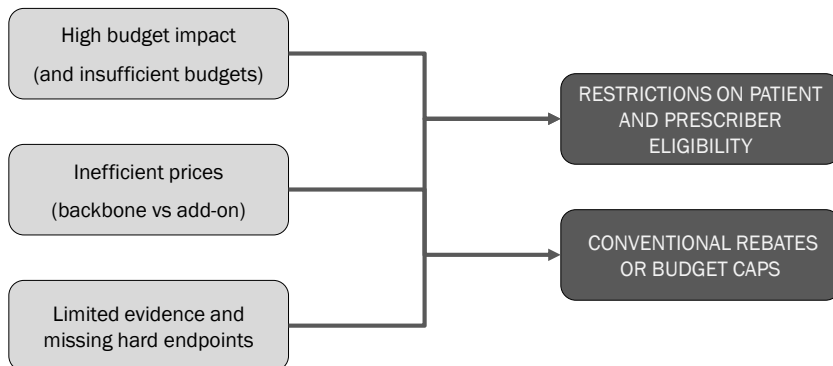
*This presentation follows a non-country-specific approach. Ultimately, however, most challenges related to targeted combination therapies (TCTs) will also be specific to individual health care systems.*

## Challenges linked to targeted combination therapies are multi-faceted...



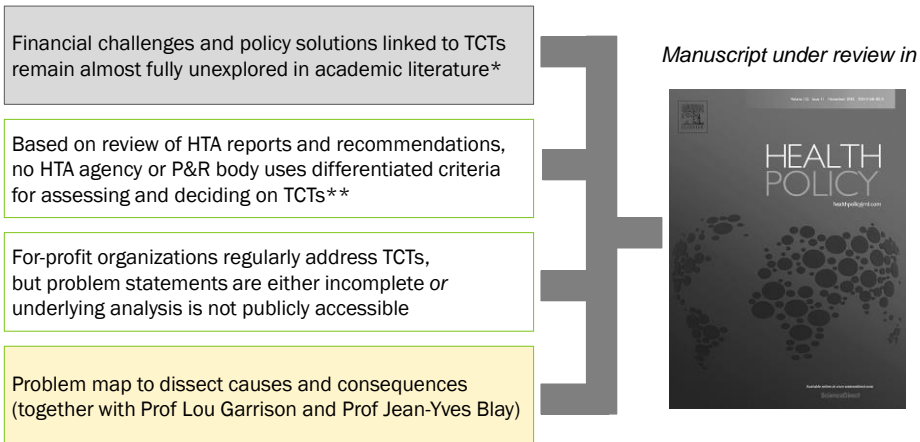
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... and from a payer perspective, they often boil down to access restrictions / staggered access



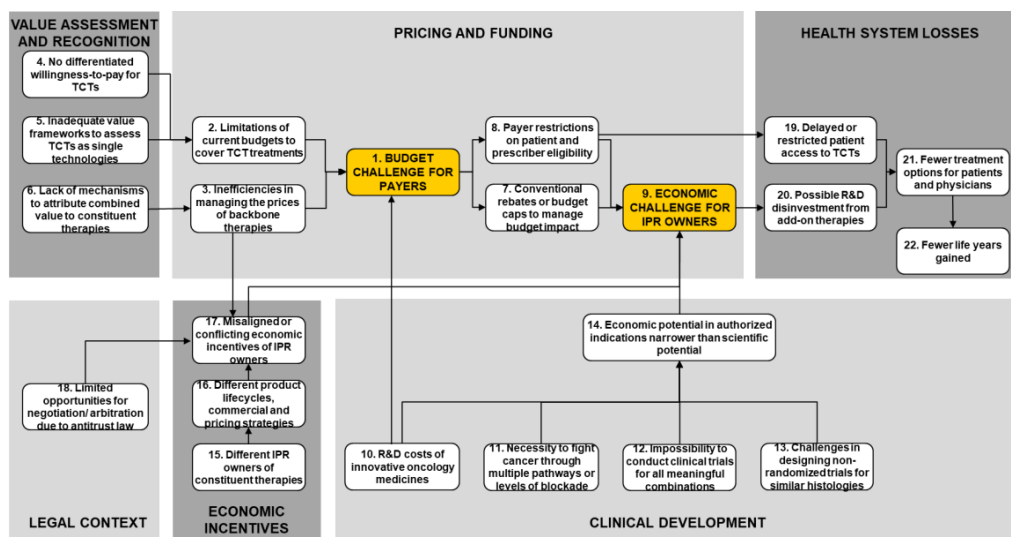
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# Our recently completed research organized TCT-related challenges into cause & effect relationships

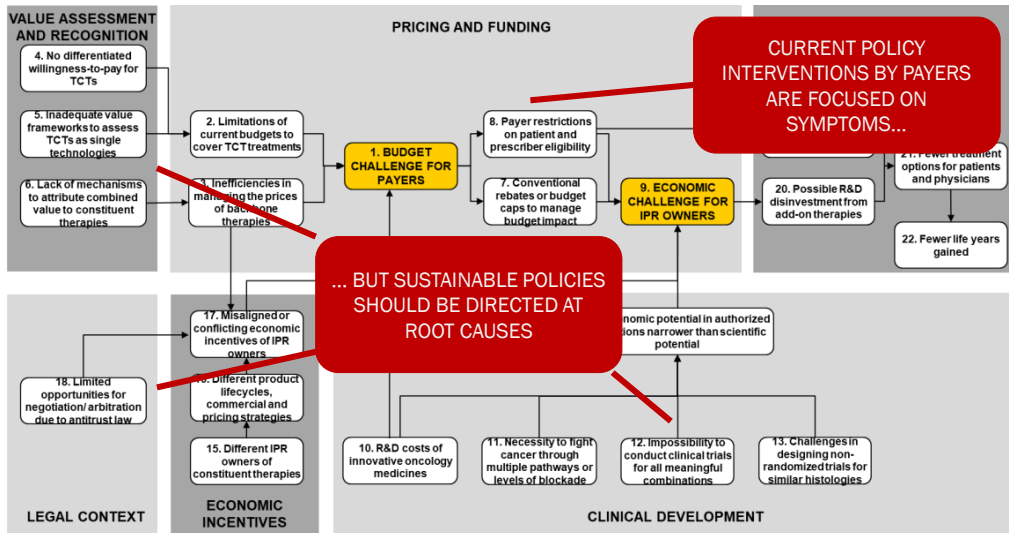


\* Recent publication - Persson U, Norlin JM. Multi-indication and Combination Pricing and Reimbursement of Pharmaceuticals: Opportunities for Improved Health Care through Faster Uptake of New Innovations. *Appl Health Econ Health Policy* 2018; 16: 157–165., \*\* analysis of reports and recommendations for 14 TCTs by HTA agencies and P&R bodies in Australia, Canada, England, France, Germany, Scotland, and Sweden, \*\*\* internet research to identify conference presentations, 'white papers' by consultancy organizations, and online articles

## The resulting problem map is quite daunting...

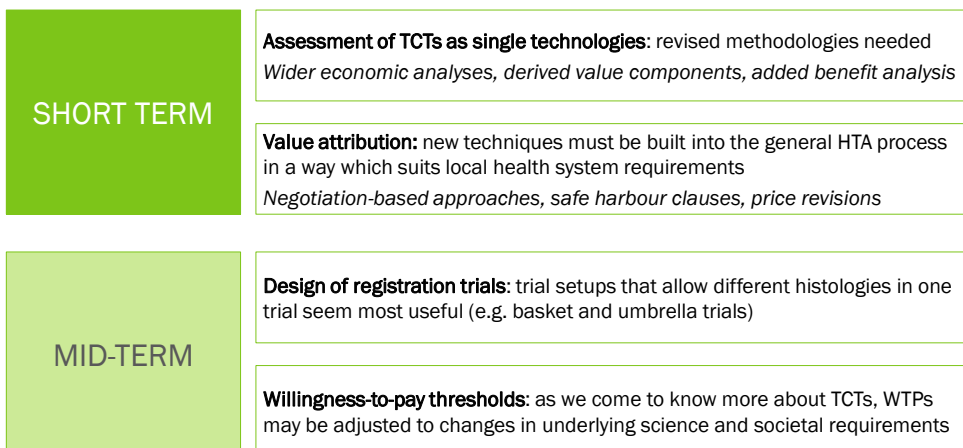


... but it confirms the unsustainability of current policy approaches which are mostly focused on symptoms



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Our analysis also gives some directions to improve the quality of policy dialogue about targeted combination therapies

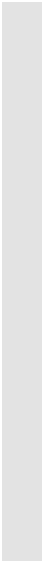


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Lionel Perrier



## Dealing with combination therapies within hospitals: the example of the Léon Bérard Cancer Center

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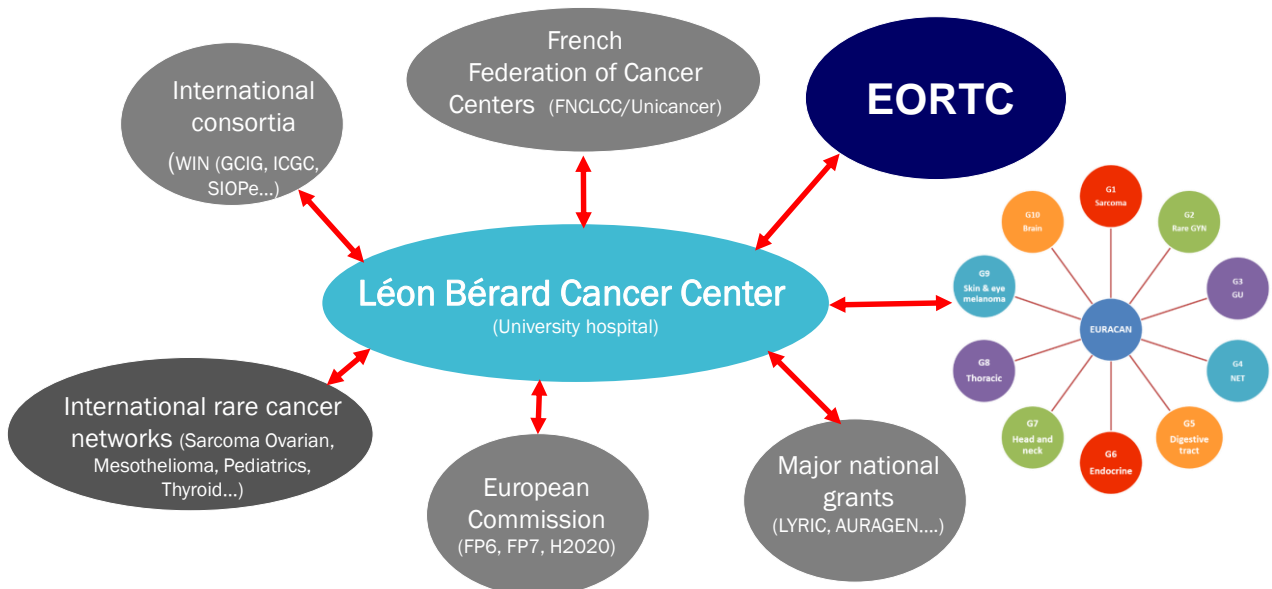
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## Key characteristics of the Léon Bérard Cancer Center

- Private non-profit organization dedicated to cancer treatment
- Affiliated to the National Federation of Centers for the Fight Against Cancer (20 centers across France, and the FNCLCC– Groupe UNICANCER)
  - Certified by the Haute Autorité de Santé (HAS)

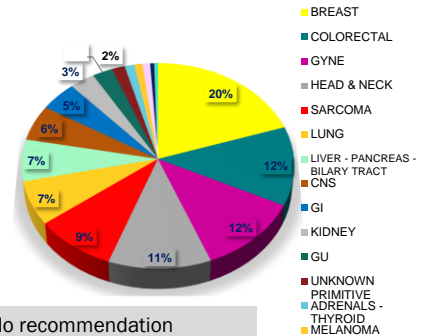
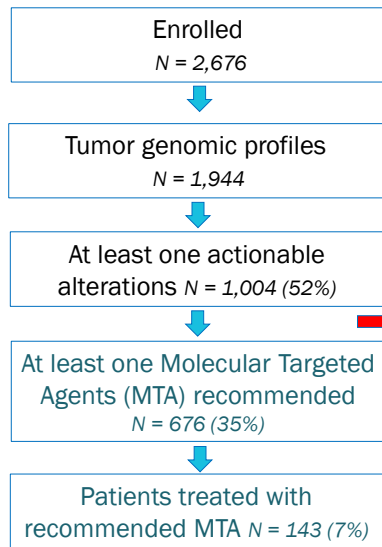
<p>30,000 patients (in 2017)                  &gt;20% of followed patients enrolled in a clinical trial                  over 200 protocols open to inclusions in the center</p>	<p>11 operating rooms                  4 rooms for interventional radiology</p>	<p>1,500 employees                  (170 doctors, 550 auxiliary nurses &amp; nurses, 500 researchers)</p>
<p>6 linear accelerators Tomo &amp; Cyberknife®, 2 Pet Scan, 3 gamma camera, 2 MRI, 3 CT-Scan, 1 Intrabeam...</p>	<p>310 beds &amp; outpatient beds                  220 beds within Home hospitalization service</p>	<p>15,000 m<sup>2</sup> dedicated for research</p>

## A cancer center involved in several international networks



## The analysis of the first 2676 patients of the ProfILER Study

- Prospective molecular profiling trial exploring cancer cell genomic alterations to guide targeted treatment
- Histologically (or cytologically) confirmed diagnosis of advanced malignant tumor of any histological type
- Any age
- Availability of archival (or freshly collected FFPE tumor sample) for DNA extraction
- Targeted sequencing of 69 cancer-related genes



No recommendation  
N = 328 (33%)  
MTA not available, n = 135  
MTA previously administered, n = 30  
Early death, n = 65  
Others, n = 98

O. Trédan, V. Corset, Q. Wang, R. Varnier, C. Pacaud, A. Torroja, N. Luppi, M. Ezzalfani, M. Myard, X. Jiang, V. Attignon, D. Pissaloux, C. Baudet, PA. Cassier, J. Fayette, M. Caronnaux, A. Bonneville-Levard, A. Viari, D. Pérol and J-Y. Blay

<https://www.targetedonc.com/conference/asco-2017/profiler-study-demonstrates-importance-of-genomic-testing-for-precision-medicine>

## TCTs in clinical practice in the Léon Bérard Cancer Center

- **7-10% of advanced cancer patients** screened in profile really received targeted therapy (50% expressed some targets)
- **Combinations just started:** MDM2/CDK4, tremelimumab/durvalumab as experimental treatment arms in basket, aromatase inhibitors with CDK4i in routine in breast cancer
- **Which pathology?** Those with approved licenses or double hits
- **Which drugs?** Experimental targeted agents (e.g. MDM2 inhibitors, + CDK4i) or immunotherapies

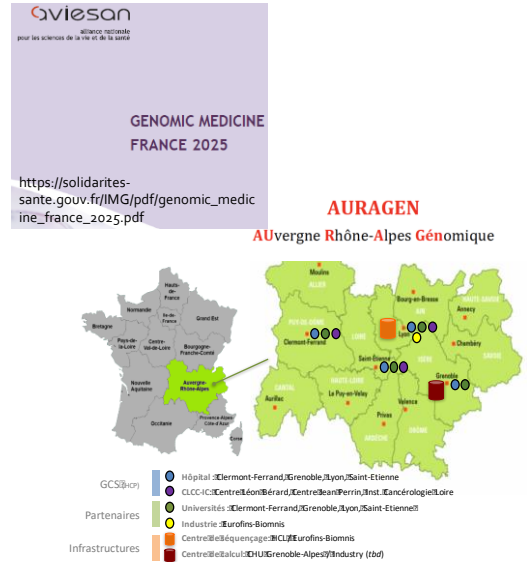
## Highlights from the clinician

Costly genomic screening is now routinely needed to guide treatments with novel agents (*in combinations AND single*)

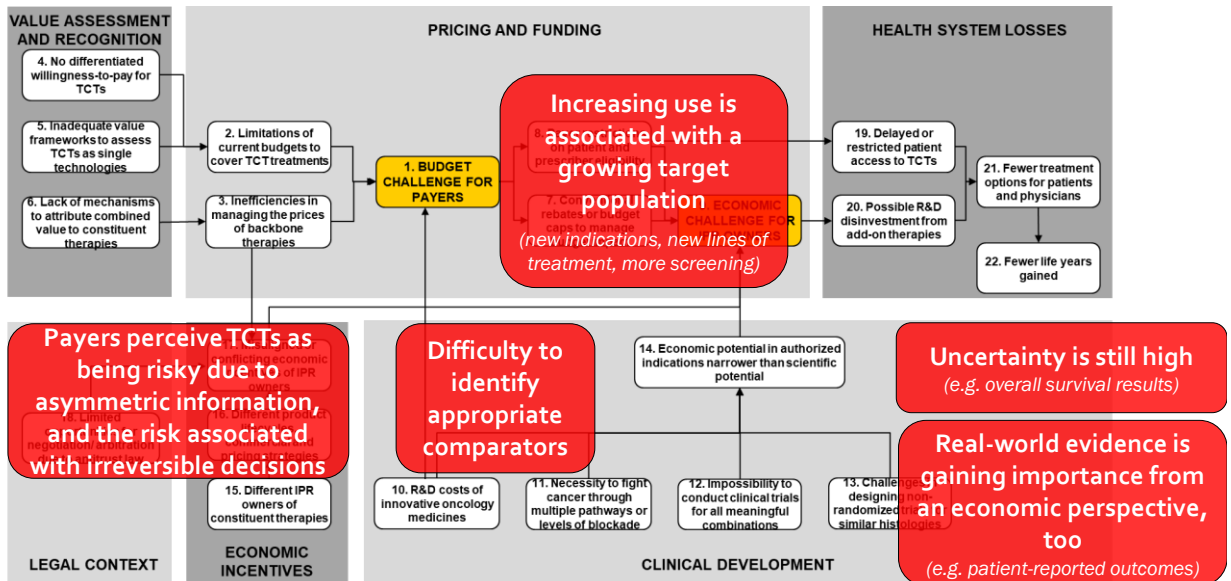
Currently, most treatments are immunotherapies or experimental targeted agents (*Immunotherapy combinations are still more empirical*)

Needs to integrate translational research in more routine settings (*whole cancer research continuum*)

Assessment of results in real-life is needed for the physician, payer and patients



## Highlights for the economist



Mickael  
Lothgren

## Economic Evaluation of Combination Therapies: Methods and Implications – An Industry Perspective

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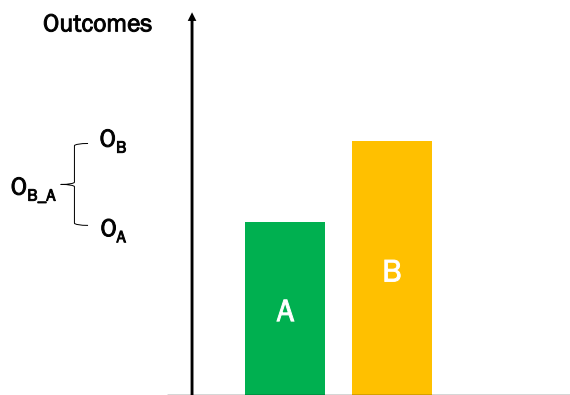
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## Industry has a clear interest in finding solutions

- Current situation affects manufacturers of both backbone and add-on therapies
- Also relevant for other stakeholders including patients, health care providers, and society
- Health economics and HTA challenges affect clinical development decisions
  - HTA authority decisions affect future investments
  - Industry makes development decisions today that will dictate possible product launches in 5-10 years
  - How do the current and emerging challenges of combination therapy HTA affect innovation?

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## Economic evaluation of monotherapies



New therapy B will substitute A if priced at (or below) WTP threshold.\*

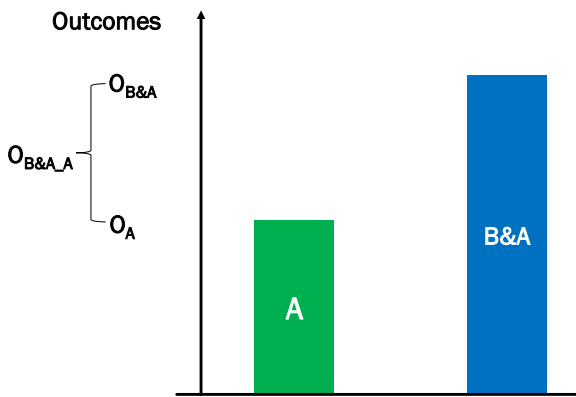
Total WTP cost of B is sum of:

1. Total cost of A,  $C_{A\_mono\_WTP} = \lambda O_A$ , and
  2. Incremental WTP cost of B vs A based on incremental outcomes of B vs A:  $\Delta C_{B\_A\_WTP} = \lambda O_{B\_A}$
- Total WTP cost  $C_{B\_WTP} = \lambda O_A + \lambda O_{B\_A} = \lambda(O_A + O_{B\_A}) = \lambda O_B$

\*WTP = Willingness to pay;  $\lambda$  = WTP threshold per unit outcomes; A is launched and priced) before B.

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## Economic evaluation of combinations – What is different?



\*WTP = Willingness to pay;  $\lambda$  = WTP threshold per unit outcomes.

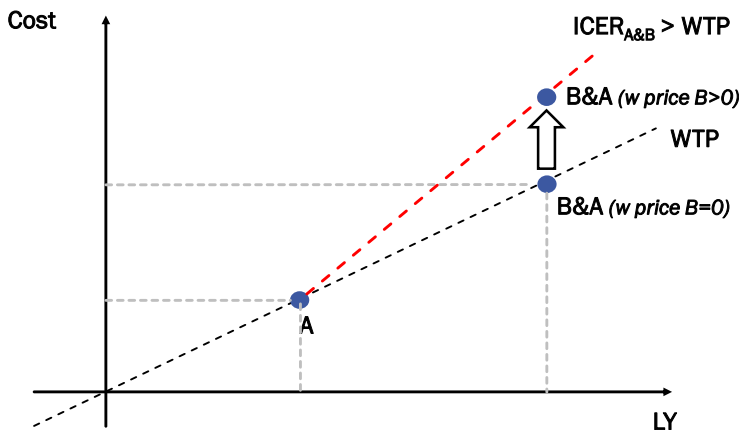
For combination B&A, B is not replacing A, but is used alongside A. The following applies:

- The value of the combination regimen is given by the total WTP cost of the combination outcomes:  $C_{B\&A\_WTP} = \lambda O_{B\&A}$
- The WTP cost of the add-on therapy B is given by the difference of the combination WTP cost and backbone cost on in combination use:  $C_{B\_WTP} = C_{B\&A\_WTP} - C_{A\_wB\&A}$
- The cost of backbone therapy in combination use  $C_{A\_wB\&A} \geq C_{A\_mono\_WTP}$ . Hence the WTP cost of the add-on is  $C_{B\_WTP} \leq C_{B\&A\_WTP} - C_{A\_mono\_WTP} = \lambda O_{B\&A} - \lambda O_A = \lambda O_{B\&A\_A}$

The implied value (cost) of add-on B is less than or equal to the WTP of the incremental combination outcomes.

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## Example: combination add-on, treatment for life

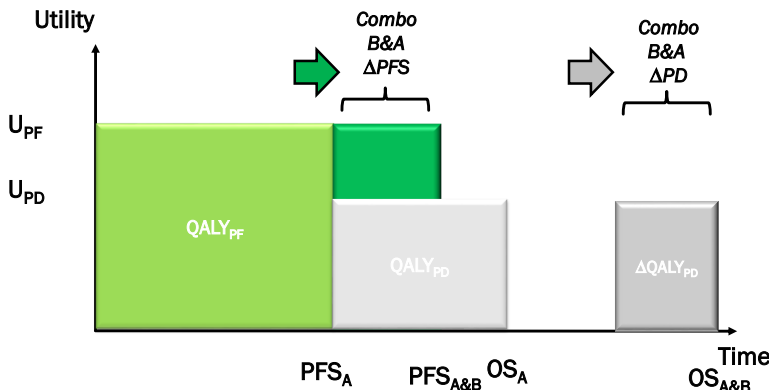


If...

- Lifelong treatment
  - Backbone priced at WTP threshold (based on LY outcomes), and price unchanged
- Combination B&A will only be cost-effective if add-on is priced at zero

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## Example: Oncology Combinations, Health states and QALYs



PF – Progression Free; PD – Progressive Disease

Typical oncology 3-health states:

- PF; PD; Dead
- Utility  $U_{PD} < U_{PF}$

Initial therapy A:

- $OS_A = PFS_A + PD_A$

Therapy B add-on. Combo B&A outcomes:  $\Delta OS = \Delta PFS + \Delta PD$

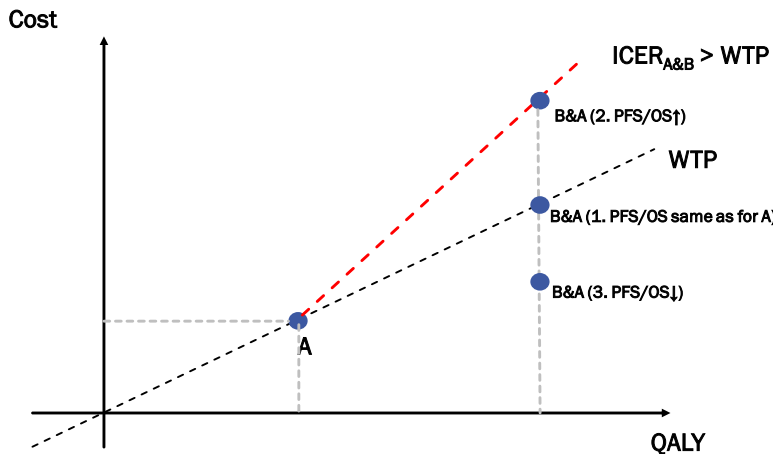
Incremental QALY:

- $\Delta QALY = \Delta QALY_{PF} + \Delta QALY_{PD}$

Incremental WTP:  $\lambda * \Delta QALY$

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## Example: oncology Add-on, treatment to progression



The following implications for add-on combinations (w treat to progression and backbone price unchanged) can be shown:

1. Combo ratio PFS/OS = backbone  $\rightarrow$  combination will only be cost-effective at zero price of add-on
2. Combo ratio PFS/OS  $\uparrow$  vs backbone  $\rightarrow$  combination will not be cost-effective even at zero price of add-on
3. Combo ratio PFS/OS  $\downarrow$  vs backbone  $\rightarrow$  room for (marginal) add-on price

One problem with many manifestations, “not cost effective at zero price” only one of them.

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## The way forward?

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Multifactorial problem. Solution needs multiple components, including:

- HTA and economic evaluation of treatment regimens
- Willingness to pay for health outcomes and innovation
- Develop methodology for outcomes-based value attribution to individual combination components
- Value and indication-based pricing
  - Repricing of combination backbone therapy
  - Pricing by indication or weighted average across indication-specific prices



Summary by Prof Lou Garrison

Discussion



## **Key Take-Aways**

- Complementary treatments complicate value assessment.
- Current HTA processes are not fit-for-purpose for TCTs: response is access restrictions.
- A substantial share of patients have mutational target: use of targeted therapy is increasing.
- There is a growing need for real-world data.
- Indication-specific pricing and methods for value attribution for TCTs are needed.

## **Discussion**