

DOSTARLIMAB

ANTI-PD-1 MONOCLONAL ANTIBODY

NEWS



Neoadjuvant Dostarlimab is a promising treatment option in locally advanced dMMR rectal cancer

According to New York Times, in a small clinical trial, 18 patients took a drug called Dostarlimab for around six months, and in the end, every one of them saw their tumours disappear.

The findings concerning dostarlimab, an antibody drug, in experimental treatment of rectal cancer patients is very encouraging but there is need for long-term studies to understand the real impact, an expert in cancer treatment has said.

"This new trial at MSKCC in a small number of patients, with locally advanced rectal cancer patients who had MMR (MisMatch repair) deficiency, have shown total disappearance of tumor without any additional treatment in all 100 percent of them. This is very encouraging, but we must note that long term studies are required to understand the real impact," Dr. (Col.) R. Ranga Rao, Chairman, Oncology, of Paras Hospitals in Gurugram said.

"The drug is still investigational, and the trial is limited to patients of a specific type, that constitute about 4 to 5 per cent of rectal cancers. While this is highly encouraging, we must not prematurely jump to conclusions that we have found a cure for all cancers, all stages, and no chemotherapy, surgery is ever required," he added.

It is well recognized that Immunotherapy with PDL 1 blockers in MMRd patients is effective. "Already immunotherapy has made a big difference in the field of cancer of all types.

Several earlier trials have shown encouraging responses," Dr Rao said.

In what appears to be a miracle and 'first time in history', a small clinical trial has found that every single rectal cancer patient who received an experimental treatment found that their cancer had vanished.

Dr Luis A. Diaz J. of New York's Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center (MSKCC) said this was "the first time this has happened in the history of cancer".

According to experts, Dostarlimab is a drug with laboratory-produced molecules, and it acts as substitute antibodies in the human body.

Overall, dostarlimab shows tremendous promise for the treatment of surgically resectable rectal cancer and may change the current treatment landscape drastically.

Reference:

<https://www.firstpost.com/world/findings-about-dostarlimab-a-new-antibody-drug-very-encouraging-says-expert-in-cancer-treatment-10783881.html>