

# **Lead team presentation Pembrolizumab for treating relapsed or refractory classical Hodgkin lymphoma (ID1062)**

1<sup>st</sup> Appraisal Committee meeting

## **Cost Effectiveness**

Committee A

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# Key issues: Cost effectiveness

## Primary

- Is the structural assumption that all allogeneic stem cell transplants (alloSCTs) would occur at 12 weeks after starting treatment appropriate?
- Is the calculated utility for progressive disease more appropriate for use than the utility score for this state from KEYNOTE-087?

## Secondary

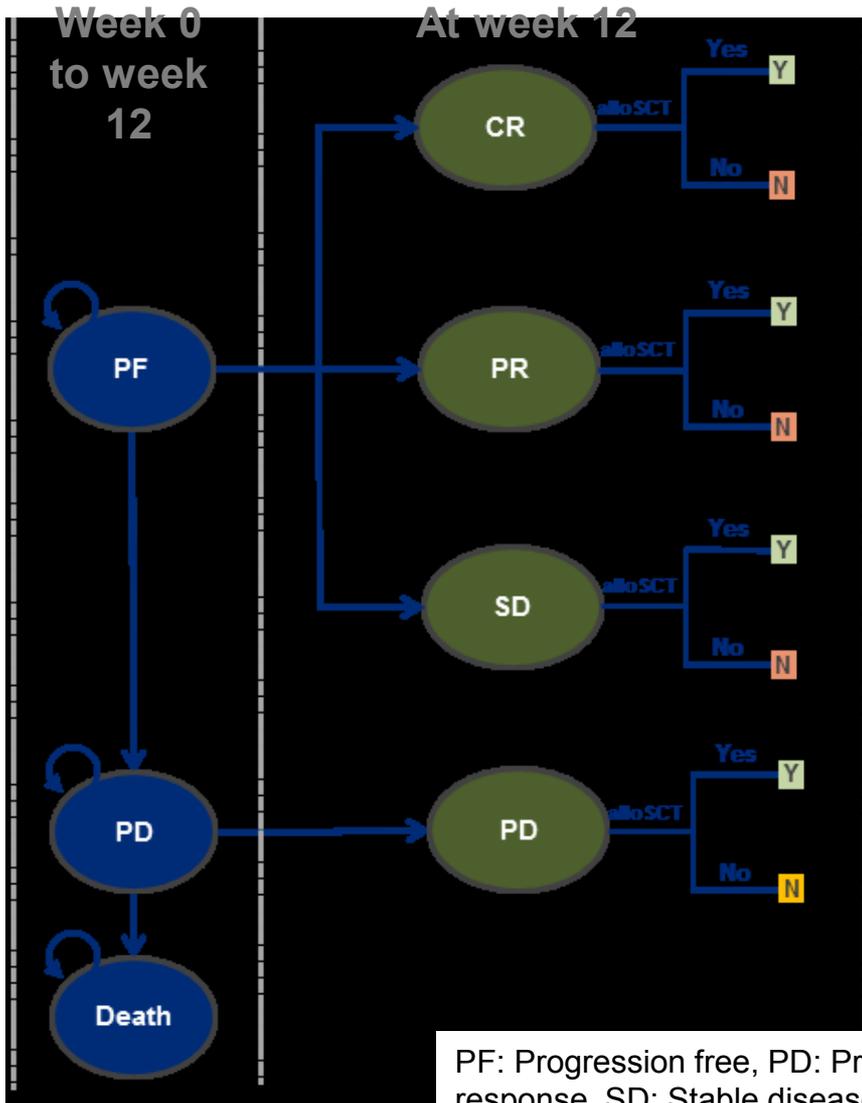
- Is the assumption that no patients with progressive disease would have alloSCT appropriate?
- Is it appropriate that best supportive care (BSC) was not considered as a comparator in the base-case analysis?
- Does pembrolizumab meet the criteria for a life-extending treatment at the end of life?
- Does pembrolizumab represent an innovative treatment?

# Company's model

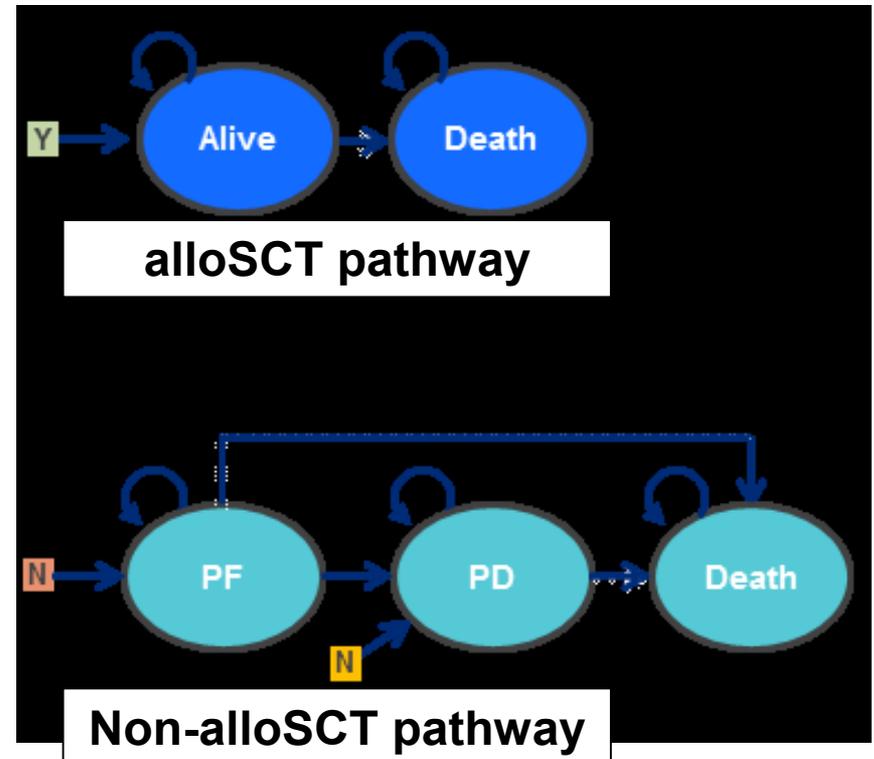
<b>Model structure</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two phase structure, unlike TA 462</li> <li>• Short term model with decision tree element (first 12 weeks)</li> <li>• Markov models (from week 12)</li> </ul>
<b>Population</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People with RRcHL after autoSCT and BV have failed (Cohort 1)</li> <li>• People with RRcHL (who are autoSCT ineligible) after BV has failed (Cohort 2)</li> </ul>
<b>Comparator</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Standard of care (SOC)</li> <li>• Best supportive care (only in scenario analysis)</li> </ul>
<b>Time horizon</b>	Lifetime (40 years)
<b>Cycle length</b>	1 week (with half-cycle correction)
<b>Measure of health effects</b>	QALY
<b>Discounting of utilities and costs</b>	3.5% per annum
<b>Perspective</b>	NHS/PSS

RRcHL: Relapsed or refractory classical Hodgkin lymphoma; autoSCT: Autologous stem cell transplant; BV: Brentuximab vedotin

# Company's model Structure



Week 12 to maximum lifetime horizon of 40 years



PF: Progression free, PD: Progressive disease, CR: Complete response, PR: Partial response, SD: Stable disease; alloSCT: Allogeneic Stem Cell Transplant

# Company's model

## Structure (cont.)

- Goal of alloSCT is cure; therefore model does not consider impact of post-alloSCT progressive disease (PD)
  - Omission of PD in post-alloSCT pathway simplifies calculation of post-alloSCT survival
  - Role of progression-free survival (PFS) in determining quality of life of patients who undergo alloSCT is unclear
- All alloSCTs assumed to occur at week 12, based on:
  - Mean number of administrations of pembrolizumab in the small number of people who have received alloSCT in KEYNOTE-087 ( [REDACTED] )  
[REDACTED]
  - Time of first tumour assessment in KEYNOTE-087 was 12 weeks after treatment initiation
  - Clinician survey suggests median of 12 weeks of SOC prior to alloSCT

# ERG's critique

## Model structure

- **Patients can only have alloSCT at 12 weeks after starting treatment**
  - Main goal of pembrolizumab is to enable alloSCT – this should be represented as accurately as possible in the model
  - Model incorporating a continuous probability of having alloSCT was requested; not provided by company because:
    - alloSCT data from KEYNOTE-087 not considered to reflect UK practice
    - Time-to-alloSCT data from Cheah et al. not available
  - ERG uncertain about the impact of assuming no alloSCT after week 12 because:
    - Issue not appropriately explored by company
    - It is unclear how many cases of people responding to treatment and being considered for alloSCT after 12 weeks would occur for pembrolizumab and SOC
- **Assumption that alloSCT performed immediately after response**
  - Doesn't consider time taken to identify donor and schedule procedure
  - Procedure potentially performed at 12 to 24 weeks (in-line with assumption in TA462)

# ERG's critique

## Model structure (cont.)

- AlloSCT in model therefore carried out earlier than expected in clinical practice; consequently post-alloSCT benefits occur earlier
- Unlikely to be conservative assumption as more patients on pembrolizumab proceed to alloSCT (compared to SOC)
- **No progressed disease state in post-alloSCT pathway**
  - Disease progression not considered post-alloSCT despite Lafferty et al. (2017) reporting progression free survival at 1 year post-alloSCT of 54%
  - Post-alloSCT survival modelled independent of underlying disease state
- **Model structure compared with TA462**
  - Different model structure to the one used in TA462
  - Limitations/simplifications in current model not present in model presented for TA462
  - Impact of differences uncertain

# Company's model

## Treatment effectiveness

- Comparative data from naïve indirect comparison of data from KEYNOTE-087 cohorts 1 and 2 (pembrolizumab) and Cheah et al. (2016) (SOC) used in base-case
- Data from a matched adjusted indirect treatment comparison (MAIC) of pembrolizumab and SOC used in a scenario analysis
- No evidence identified on efficacy of BSC in this population
  - Scenario analysis for BSC as comparator uses SOC efficacy data

### **ERG general comments on treatment effectiveness:**

- Use of naïve comparison data in base-case is appropriate
- BSC not included in base-case analysis – incomplete compared with NICE scope
- The model structure requires different survival curves to be fitted for pre- and post 12 weeks – this leads to loss of data and further uncertainty

# Progression-free survival considerations

- **NOTE: 0 to 12 weeks & post-week 12** modelled separately

## 0 to 12 weeks:

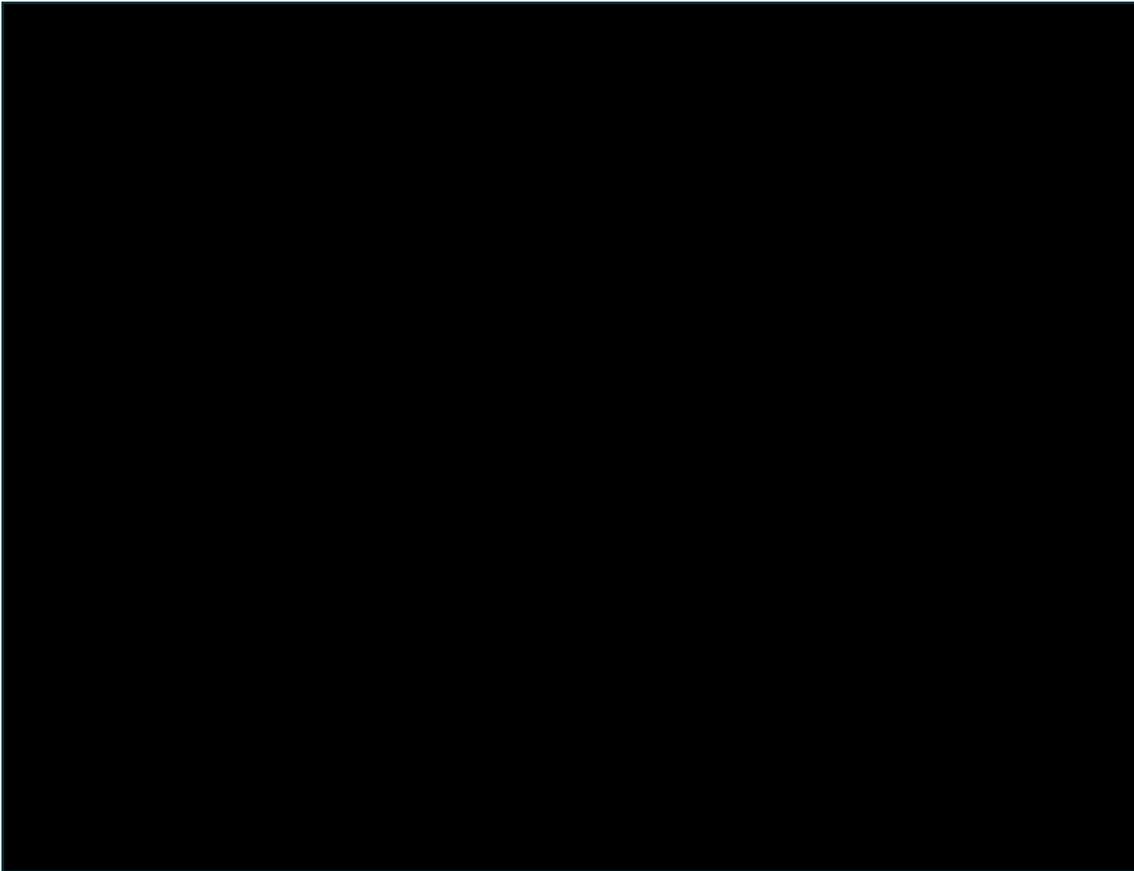
- Models fitted to all available data from KEYNOTE-087; because only small number events occurred in first 12 weeks
- ERG: Fitted curves likely to have been influenced more by the post-12 week period
- SOC PFS estimated from naïve indirect comparison; applying HR to the pembrolizumab model (cohort 1 HR: ■■■; cohort 2 HR: ■■■)

## Post-week 12 (non-alloSCT pathway):

- Pembrolizumab modelled using parametric models fitted to KEYNOTE-087 data (post-week 12); SOC modelled assuming constant treatment effect pre- and post-12 weeks (cohort 1 HR: ■■■; cohort 2 HR: ■■■)
- ERG: Use of constant HR lacks face validity; highlighted that different parametric models were used pre- and post-12 weeks

# Company's model

## PFS (from week 12) – cohort 2



- Generalised gamma was best performing model according to AIC/BIC
- However final drops in KM curve (from month 11) stated to be associated with considerable uncertainty because of low patient numbers
- Exponential used in base-case

AIC: Akaike Information Criterion; BIC: Bayesian information criterion

Source: Figure 21 of the company submission

### ERG's comment

- Unconvinced there is sufficient justification to rule out generalised gamma distribution for cohort 2 – investigated use in ERG exploratory analysis

# Overall Survival Considerations

## **Mortality post-week 12: Non-alloSCT pathway**

- Company's model:
  - Pre-progression: General population rates (adjusted for age and sex) used; limited overall survival data available from KEYNOTE-087
  - Post-progression: Cheah et al. (2016) used (no post-progression survival benefit for Pembrolizumab assumed)
- ERG: Highlighted inconsistency in choice of data sources

## **Mortality post-week 12: AlloSCT pathway**

- Company's model:
  - Lafferty et al. (2017) used to estimate overall survival after alloSCT
  - This study was used in economic model for NICE TA462
- ERG: Abstract - small retrospective UK case series (13 participants)
- ERG: Substantial uncertainty; assumptions about censoring may over-estimate survival which favours Pembrolizumab

# Company's model

## Response to treatment at week 12

- Odds ratios (pembrolizumab vs SOC) obtained from naïve comparison:

Response	Cohort 1		Cohort 2	
	Mean (SE)		Mean (SE)	
CR				
PR				

## Uptake of alloSCT at week 12 (conditional on response) - from clinician surveys:

Response	% people expected to receive alloSCT		
	MSD survey mean (n=16)	Alternative survey mean*	Overall mean
CR	56.79%		
PR	43.93%		
SD	18.36%		

\* alternative clinician survey completed by Bristol-Myers Squibb and presented for TA462

Key: CR: Complete response, PR: Partial response, SD: Stable disease; alloSCT: Allogeneic Stem Cell Transplant

# Uptake of alloSCT at week 12

## ERG's critique

(Both 1 and 2 important factors in cost effectiveness analysis)

### **1. People with progressive disease (PD) were assumed not to have alloSCT in the company's model**

- Despite company survey suggesting that some patients with PD would have alloSCT
- Assumption was based on clinician feedback: not standard UK practice that people in PD state would get alloSCT
- ERG used the company's survey result to provide probability of having alloSCT for people in PD state in its base-case analysis

### **2. Combination of MSD and BMS clinician surveys on rates of transplant may introduce bias**

- Possible that the surveys may include responses from the same clinicians
- ERG preferred to use MSD survey data only in base-case analysis

# Uptake of alloSCT in company's and ERG's base-case analyses

		Company's base-case model		ERG's base-case model	
		Progressed disease at week 12	Entering alloSCT at week 12	Progressed disease at week 12	Entering alloSCT at week 12
Cohort 1	Pembrolizumab	4.1%	43.8%	4.4%	34.8%
	SOC	26.9%	30.7%	27.1%	27.2%
Cohort 2	Pembrolizumab	8.0%	40.1%	9.2%	32.1%
	SOC	28.7%	30.2%	29.9%	26.8%

# Company's model

## Time on treatment

- Progression-free survival (PFS) not considered a suitable proxy for time on treatment post-week 12 for pembrolizumab (people discontinue use before progression); use of PFS would overestimate pembrolizumab costs
- Time on treatment data from KEYNOTE-087 extrapolated to provide estimates for model (pembrolizumab post-week 12)
- PFS used as a proxy for time on treatment for SOC

## **ERG's comments**

- Inconsistency in how time to treatment discontinuation estimated in pre-12 week period and post-week 12 for SOC (PFS used as proxy), and in post-12 week period for pembrolizumab (from extrapolated KEYNOTE-087 data)
- Assumption in model that pembrolizumab treatment capped at 24 months is not in line with marketing authorisation
  - Unclear if this would be the case in UK practice
  - Model may underestimate cost of pembrolizumab if treatment is continued after 24 months in clinical practice

# Company's model: utility values

## ERG's critique

(Important factor in cost effectiveness analysis)

- **Utility values in company base-case based on observations from week 12 in KEYNOTE-087 only**
  - Mixed effects model analysis incorporating all EQ-5D data from KEYNOTE-087 subsequently provided by company and preferred by ERG for their analysis
- **Estimated PD utility from KEYNOTE-087 not used in company base-case; decrement from Swinburn et al. (2015) used instead**
  - Company stated that week 12 utility observation may not capture longer-term disutility associated with progression
  - Company did not provide evidence showing long term impact of progression consistent with utility decrement from stable disease calculated from Swinburn et al. (2015)
  - Noted that ERG in TA462 considered utility results from Swinburn et al. (2015) as outliers which may not be realistic; and methodology in the paper deviates from NICE reference case
  - ERG preferred to use progressed disease utility from KEYNOTE-087 data (using provided mixed effects model analysis)

# Utility values

## Company's and ERG's base-case values

Health state		Company base-case	ERG base-case
Progression-free (first 12 weeks)	Pembrolizumab cohort 1		
	Pembrolizumab cohort 2		
	SOC		
Progression-free (after first 12 weeks; no alloSCT)	Pembrolizumab cohort 1		
	Pembrolizumab cohort 2		
	SOC		
Progressive disease			
Post-alloSCT (first 100 days)		0.773	0.708
Post-alloSCT (post 100 days)		0.865	0.800

SOC: Standard of care, alloSCT: Allogeneic Stem Cell Transplant

# Company's model

## Resource use and costs

Treatment		Acquisition cost/per cycle	Administration cost/per cycle
<b>Pembrolizumab</b>		██████ with commercial access agreement. Cycle length of 21 days, to a maximum of 35 cycles (~2 years)	£236.19
SOC			
<b>Chemotherapy (12 different regimens)</b>	38.5%	Varies between regimens (from £63.32 to £2,183) Cycle length also varies between regimens (14 to 28 days) Maximum number cycles varies (2 to 6 cycles)	Varies between regimens (from £383.13 to £1,367.43)
<b>Bendamustine</b>	18.5%	£123.30 Cycle length of 28 days Maximum of 6 cycles	£383.13
<b>Investigational agents</b>	43.1%	Assumed to be £0	

# Company's model: Resource use and costs

## ERG's critique

- **All chemotherapy regimens assumed to contribute equally to SOC**
  - ERG cite previous report for TA462 which suggests lower price chemotherapy regimens are most commonly used in this population; and suggest that SOC costs are likely to be overestimated
- **One-off cost applied for alloSCT treatment**
  - ERG considered alloSCT costs to be under-estimated
  - In TA462, one-off cost was only applied in scenario analysis; monthly costs for subsequent treatment and monitoring were applied
  - ERG have applied monitoring costs over life time horizon in their base-case analysis

# Company's base case results

Deterministic (with CAA)

Treatment		Total		Incremental		ICER
		Costs	QALYs	Costs	QALYs	
Cohort 1	SOC	£52,017	3.223	-	-	
	Pembrolizumab	£107,459	4.497	£55,442	1.274	<b>£43,511</b>
Cohort 2	SOC	£51,424	3.200	-	-	
	Pembrolizumab	£93,732	4.072	£42,308	0.871	<b>£48,571</b>

## ERG's comments

- Main benefit of pembrolizumab from QALY gains after week 12 for people who have alloSCT
  - Accounts for 71% (cohort 1) and 78% (cohort 2) incremental QALYs
- Best supportive care (BSC) not included as comparator in base case; therefore pembrolizumab could not be compared to all relevant alternatives at the same time

# Company's sensitivity analyses

## Probabilistic and deterministic (with CAA)

### Probabilistic sensitivity analysis

Treatment	ICER (versus SOC)	Probability of cost-effectiveness of pembrolizumab compared with SOC		
		Maximum acceptable ICER		
		£20,000/ QALY	£30,000/ QALY	£50,000/ QALY
Pembrolizumab – cohort 1	<b>£43,653</b>	1.1%	20.5%	60.1%
Pembrolizumab – cohort 2	<b>£50,894</b>	1.4%	16.1%	50.4%

### Deterministic sensitivity analysis

- Most influential model inputs: discount rate applied to outcomes, odds ratios applied to CR and PR at week 12
- In most scenarios ICER for pembrolizumab versus SOC was below £50,000/QALY

# Company's scenario analyses (with CAA)

Scenario		ICER	
		Pembrolizumab versus SOC	
		Cohort 1	Cohort 2
<b>1</b>	BSC as comparator	£44,161	£49,387
<b>2a</b>	100% people with CR, PR or SD response at week 12 have alloSCT	£23,564	£24,492
<b>2b</b>	Proportion of people with partial response at week 12 who have alloSCT taken from MSD survey	£47,957	£56,677
<b>3</b>	MAIC instead of naïve comparison	£36,423	£41,087
<b>4a</b>	Weibull model used for PFS (weeks 0 to 12) in cohort 2	-	£47,410
<b>4b</b>	Gompertz model used for PFS (week 12 onwards) in cohort 2	-	£52,562
<b>4c</b>	Lognormal model fitted to post-alloSCT survival data from Lafferty et al.	£42,075	£46,812
<b>5</b>	Time horizon of 50 years	£42,651	£47,516

# ERG's comments: Model validation

- Patients with no evaluated response were assumed to have stable disease; this probably leads to an overestimation of patients in this state
- No cross validation of model assumptions, structure or outcomes compared to TA462 was carried out
  - Different model structure used in TA462: 3 health states (progression-free, progressed, dead) in a semi-Markov model
  - Progression post-alloSCT is incorporated in modelling in TA462 (this is not allowed in the current assessment model)
  - In TA462 modelling patients may receive alloSCT after 6 months
- Higher total QALYs (almost doubled) and costs (more than doubled) generated by modelling for SOC (cohort 1) in this assessment compared to TA462

# ERG's base-case

Adjustments made to company's base-case model

## **8 adjustments made to the company's base-case:**

### **Fixing errors**

- Corrected errors in the calculation of AE disutilities (1)
- Patient characteristics were excluded from the probabilistic sensitivity analysis (2)

### **Fixing violations**

- Only the MSD clinician survey used for the probabilities of alloSCT depending on response to treatment (rather than combined MSD and BMS survey results) (3)
- Time horizon of 50 years used (rather than 40 years) (4)
- Post-alloSCT long-term monitoring costs included (consistent with committee preference in TA462) (5)

# ERG's base-case

## Adjustments made to company's base-case model (cont.)

### Matters of judgement

- Alternative utility values used (6):
  - Mixed model utilities (using all available utility data time points) rather than utility data from week 12 only
  - Kurosawa et al. used to calculate alternative utilities post-alloSCT
- Alternative distributions used for pre-week 12 overall survival (7)
  - Exponential used for cohort 1
  - Lognormal used for cohort 2
- Company's clinician survey used to inform the proportion of people with progressive disease at week 12 who would receive alloSCT (rather than assuming this would be 0%) (8)

**• All adjustments (1) to (8) made to form ERG base-case model**

# ERG's base-case - deterministic (with CAA)

## Effects of ERG's adjustments

Adjustment	ICER (pembrolizumab versus SOC)	
	Cohort 1	Cohort 2
<b>Company's base-case</b>	<b>£43,511</b>	<b>£48,571</b>
Fixing errors (1) and (2)	£43,262	£48,178
MSD survey only used for alloSCT probabilities (3)*	£48,363	£55,478
50 year time horizon (4)*	£42,412	£47,141
Monitoring costs included post-alloSCT (5)*	£43,927	£48,908
Alternative utility values (6)*	£52,705	£59,223
Alternative pre-week 12 OS distributions (7)*	£43,262	£48,236
Proportion of alloSCT in PD state taken from MSD survey (8)*	£46,841	£53,508
* Conditional on fixing errors (1) and (2)		

# ERG's base-case results (with CAA)

**ERG base-case (deterministic)** – combines adjustments (1) to (8)

Treatment		Total		Incremental		ICER
		Costs	QALYs	Costs	QALYs	
Cohort 1	SOC	£50,913	3.535	-	-	
	Pembrolizumab	£107,998	4.460	£57,085	0.925	<b>£61,705</b>
Cohort 2	SOC	£50,609	3.541	-	-	
	Pembrolizumab	£93,095	4.118	£42,486	0.577	<b>£73,594</b>

**ERG base-case (probabilistic)**

Treatment	ICER (versus SOC)	Probability of cost-effectiveness of pembrolizumab compared with SOC	
		Maximum acceptable ICER	
		£30,000/ QALY	£50,000/ QALY
Pembrolizumab – cohort 1	<b>£64,186</b>	18%	42%
Pembrolizumab – cohort 2	<b>£78,696</b>	21%	40%

# ERG's base-case model

Selected further exploratory analysis (deterministic)

Exploratory analysis		ICER	
		Pembrolizumab versus SOC	
		Cohort 1	Cohort 2
-	<i>ERG's base-case</i>	£61,705	£73,594
1b	Cohort 2: Generalised gamma used for post-week 12 PFS	-	£90,152
2	MAIC used instead of naïve indirect comparison	£54,466	£60,372
3	Removal of 24 months cap on time to treatment discontinuation for pembrolizumab	£78,992	£79,284
5	Use of alternative assumptions to extrapolate post-alloSCT OS from Lafferty et al. (2017)	£78,204	£95,712

- None of the ERG's alternative scenarios resulted in an ICER below £50,000 per QALY gained
- Use of the MAIC rather than naïve indirect comparison was the only factor that reduced the ERG's ICER

# ERG's conclusions: Cost-effectiveness

- Company's economic model meets NICE reference case, except (1) time horizon (40 years) is too short, and (2) BSC – a comparator included in the scope – was excluded from the base-case
- Major limitation is model structure: implausible assumption that people could only be eligible for, and receive, alloSCT 12 weeks after starting treatment
- Impact of limitations due to model structure on outcomes is unknown
- Lifting the assumed capping of pembrolizumab at 24 months significantly increased ICERs, as did the use of alternative assumptions when extrapolating post-alloSCT overall survival data from Lafferty et al. (2017)
- Use of alternative models to extrapolate PFS post-week 12 also had a large effect on ICERs
- Use of MAIC rather than naïve indirect comparison decreased ICERs
- Uncertainty about the cost effectiveness of pembrolizumab remains substantial

# End of life

Criterion	Company's submission	ERG comments
<p>The treatment is indicated for patients with a short life expectancy, normally less than 24 months</p>	<p>Estimates from literature suggest OS for people with RRcHL between 17.1 and 19 months</p>	<p>Considerable uncertainty that criterion met</p> <p>TA462: criterion for short life expectancy not 'unequivocally met'; but committee considered it plausible that the criterion could apply</p>
<p>Sufficient evidence to indicate that the treatment offers an extension to life, normally of at least an additional 3 months, compared with current NHS treatment</p>	<p>KEYNOTE-087 (at March 2017): [REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>Estimated OS rate at 15 months [REDACTED] (cohort 1) and [REDACTED] (cohort 2).</p>	<p>Company's base case model predicts increased survival of 21 months (cohort 1) and 15 months (cohort 2) for pembrolizumab versus SOC</p> <p>Second criterion more likely to be met</p>

RRcHL: Relapsed or refractory classical Hodgkin lymphoma; OS: Overall survival

# Innovation

- Limited treatment options at this later line of therapy – substantial level of unmet need
- March 2017: FDA accelerated approval for the treatment of adult and pediatric patients with refractory classical Hodgkin Lymphoma, or those who have relapsed after three or more prior lines of therapy
- FDA Breakthrough Therapy Designation (BTD) and MHRA's Early Access to Medicines Scheme (EAMS) for other indications

## Equality considerations

- No equality issues raised in scoping process
- No equality issues raised by company
- No equality issues raised by ERG

# Key issues: Cost effectiveness

## Primary

- Is the structural assumption that all alloSCTs would occur 12 weeks after starting treatment appropriate?
- Is the calculated utility for progressive disease more appropriate for use than the utility score for this state from KEYNOTE-087?

## Secondary

- Is the assumption that no patients with progressive disease would have alloSCT appropriate?
- Is it appropriate that best supportive care (BSC) was not considered as a comparator in the base-case analysis?
- Does pembrolizumab meet the criteria for a life-extending treatment at the end of life?
- Does pembrolizumab represent an innovative treatment?