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Clinical Congress Daily Highlights, Thursday Edition

Novel treatments that harness the human immune system against tumor cells have emerged in recent years, signaling a new era in optimal cancer management. Two papers presented on Thursday describe preclinical studies of innovative approaches that exemplify leading strategies that are in development.

Chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) T-cell therapy programs a patient's own immune cells to recognize and attack cancer. Oksana V. Gruzdyn of John D. Dingell VA Medical Center, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI, developed a CAR T-cell therapy that relies on mesothelin, a tumor-specific antigen overexpressed in ovarian cancer.

Gruzdyn and her colleagues showed that CAR T-cells were able to kill human ovarian cancer in cell culture through secretion of granzyme B and IFN- γ , demonstrating the basis for a potential clinical therapy.

Michael O'Leary, MD, and colleagues at City of Hope National Medical Center in Duarte, CA, presented an example of oncolytic virotherapy, an emerging modality gaining popularity in the treatment of advanced malignancy.

The virus deployed in the study, HOV-33-H5luc, kills colon cancer in vitro in a dose-dependent manner. Rapid tumor regression or stabilization occurred in a mouse xenograft model at a low dose over a short time period, regardless of the viral delivery method— intratumoral or intraperitoneal.

Additional Information:

These Scientific Forum studies were presented October 26 at the 2017 Clinical Congress of the American College of Surgeons in San Diego, CA. Program, webcast and audio information is available online at FACS.org/clincon2017.

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