Special Report Pipeline Assessment — Immuno-oncology and Gene Therapies

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Immuno-oncology

Global cancer immunotherapy market to reach ~USD137 billion by 2025; US NIH and 11 pharmaceutical companies enter partnership, focused on advancement of treatments

Therapy Overview: Immuno-oncology

Market Size:

- The global cancer immunotherapy market, valued at USD80.34 billion in 2019, is expected to reach USD136.9 billion by 2025, recording a CAGR of 9.86% over 2020–25 (forecast period).
- Increasing R&D activities as well as improving efficacy and accuracy of newer therapies are the key factors driving growth.

Partnership for Accelerating Cancer Therapies (PACT):

- The US National Institutes of Health (NIH) and 11 biopharmaceutical companies formed PACT in October 2017, a five-year public-private research collaboration worth USD215 million, as part of the Cancer Moonshot.
- It will focus on efforts to develop, identify, and validate potent biomarkers for the advancement of cancer immunotherapy.

Novel Mechanisms of Action:

 The earlier explored mechanisms largely involved targeting CTLA-4 or PD-1. However, the market potential has increased, with many different classes of immuno-oncology therapeutics such as chimeric antigen receptor T-cell (CAR-T) therapies and STING being explored.

Key Segments:

- The mAbs segment is expected to command a major share in the market, registering a CAGR of 5.47% over 2020–25.
- PD-1 and PD-L1 would continue to drive growth—annual sales of current products are projected to rise to USD41.3 billion by 2023, considering the approval of additional indications and new treatment combinations.

Source: Industry Reports, Company websites, Aranca Analysis

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Roche's Tecentriq approved for multiple oncology indications; GSK expanding in oncology market with majority of pipeline drugs in early-stage development



Kymriah (Novartis) first CAR-T cell therapy to be approved by the US FDA; AZ's Imfinzi approved for multiple indications and undergoing trials for combination therapy



BMS has extensive immuno-oncology pipeline; Opdivo in combination with Cabometyx, recently approved for first line treatment of advanced renal cell carcinoma (RCC) patients



CRI's Clinical Accelerator collaboration aimed at developing promising therapies to fight cancer; significant growth in I-O pipeline despite COVID -19

Recent Developments in Immuno-oncology

Cancer Research Institute (CRI) Anna-Maria Kellen Clinical Accelerator

- It is an academia, nonprofit industry collaboration model serving as an incubator for delivering science-driven, multi-center clinical trials of promising cancer immunotherapy combinations. It has been involved in the PRINCE and PORTER clinical trials, which were co funded by the CRI and Parker Institute for Cancer Immunotherapy (PICI).
- PRINCE trial is a collaboration between CRI, PICI, and BMS, providing promising results for metastatic pancreatic cancer.

2 Significant growth in Immuno-Oncology (I-O) pipeline despite COVID-19 impact

- Immuno-oncology drugs in the development pipeline increased 22% from 2019 to 2020.
- Active clinical trials testing I-O agents increased 14% in 2020 compared to 2019.
- The trends are expected to continue, bringing hope for cancer patients globally.

3 Emerging role of checkpoint inhibitors for rare genitourinary cancers

- Combination immune checkpoint inhibition with nivolumab and ipilimumab is being widely applied in a variety of genitourinary cancers.
- A phase 2 study of Nivolumab and Ipilimumab showed objective responses in patients with rare genitourinary malignancies, especially with bladder and upper tract carcinoma of variant histology (BUTCVH).

Source: Industry Reports, News Articles, Company websites, Aranca Analysis

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Gene Therapies

Global gene therapy market to reach ~USD16.3 billion by 2024; recombinant AAV products to continue dominating the pipeline

Therapy Overview: Gene Therapies



Source: Industry Reports, News Articles, Company websites, Aranca Analysis

Zolgensma (Novartis) first gene therapy for pediatric patients with spinal muscular atrophy (SMA); Bluebird's Zynteglo approved in Europe for beta-thalassemia



Luxturna (Spark Therapeutics) first FDA-approved gene therapy for a genetic disease as well as first AAV vector gene therapy approved in the US



Key players strengthen position in gene therapy market through strategic acquisitions; CRISPR technology could alter conventional gene therapy approaches

Recent Developments in Gene Therapy

Strategic Acquisitions and Collaborations

- The recent acquisition of Asklepios
 Biopharmaceuticals (Askbio) by Bayer is
 expected to help Bayer cement its position in the
 gene therapy market. Asklepios will secure an
 upfront consideration of USD2 billion and
 potential success-based milestone payments of
 up to USD2 billion from Bayer.
- UCB strengthened its gene therapy portfolio through the acquisition of Handl Therapeutics BV and R&D collaboration with Lacerta Therapeutics.
- Eli Lilly recently announced plans to buy gene therapy developer Prevail Therapeutics for USD1 billion.

CRISPR Gene Editing

Technology

- It involves altering the DNA to precisely disrupt, delete, or repair the original diseased gene.
 Some of the key players are Editas Medicine, Intellia Therapeutics, and CRISPR Therapeutics.
- CRISPR Therapeutics partnered with Vertex Pharmaceuticals and sponsored the first CRISPR trial in humans in 2018 for the treatment of beta-thalassemia and sickle cell disease.
- All key players have several CRISPR therapies for cancer and regenerative medicine in the pipeline.

Source: Industry Reports, News Articles, Company websites, Aranca Analysis



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