

# Resumption of Immune Checkpoint Inhibitor Therapy After Immune-Mediated Colitis

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**PURPOSE** Immune checkpoint inhibitor (ICI) therapy often is suspended because of immune-mediated diarrhea and colitis (IMDC). We examined the rate of and risk factors for IMDC recurrence after ICI resumption.

**METHODS** This retrospective multicenter study examined patients who resumed ICI therapy after improvement of IMDC between January 2010 and November 2018. Univariable and multivariable logistic regression analyses assessed the association of clinical covariates and IMDC recurrence.

**RESULTS** Of the 167 patients in our analysis, 32 resumed an anti-cytotoxic T-cell lymphocyte-4 (CTLA-4) agent, and 135 an anti-programmed cell death 1 or ligand 1 (PD-1/L1) agent. The median age was 60 years (interquartile range [IQR], 50-69 years). The median duration from IMDC to restart of ICI treatment was 49 days (IQR, 23-136 days). IMDC recurred in 57 patients (34%) overall (44% of those receiving an anti-CTLA-4 and 32% of those receiving an anti-PD-1/L1); 47 of these patients (82%) required immunosuppressive therapy for recurrent IMDC, and all required permanent discontinuation of ICI therapy. The median duration from ICI resumption to IMDC recurrence was 53 days (IQR, 22-138 days). On multivariable logistic regression, patients who received anti-PD-1/L1 therapy at initial IMDC had a higher risk of IMDC recurrence (odds ratio [OR], 3.45; 95% CI, 1.59 to 7.69;  $P = .002$ ). Risk of IMDC recurrence was higher for patients who required immunosuppression for initial IMDC (OR, 3.22; 95% CI, 1.08 to 9.62;  $P = .019$ ) or had a longer duration of IMDC symptoms in the initial episode (OR, 1.01; 95% CI, 1.00 to 1.03;  $P = .031$ ). Risk of IMDC recurrence was lower after resumption of anti-PD-1/L1 therapy than after resumption of anti-CTLA-4 therapy (OR, 0.30; 95% CI, 0.11 to 0.81;  $P = .019$ ).

**CONCLUSION** One third of patients who resumed ICI treatment after IMDC experienced recurrent IMDC. Recurrence of IMDC was less frequent after resumption of anti-PD-1/L1 than after resumption of anti-CTLA-4.

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## ASSOCIATED CONTENT

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## Appendix

Author affiliations and support information (if applicable) appear at the end of this article.

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## INTRODUCTION

Immune checkpoint inhibitors (ICIs) have revolutionized cancer therapy and have been the focus of intensive clinical and basic research in recent years. ICIs augment antitumor immune response by blocking cytotoxic T-cell lymphocyte-4 (CTLA-4) or programmed cell death 1 or ligand-1 (PD-1/L1) or both, resulting in significant response rates in a subset of malignancies.<sup>1</sup> Currently, studies are assessing ICI safety and efficacy in an increasing array of solid tumors as well as hematologic malignancies.<sup>2</sup>

The toxicity profile of ICIs is distinct from those of other cancer therapies and falls under the umbrella term immune-related adverse events (irAEs) because of their autoimmune nature.<sup>1</sup> In theory, irAEs can affect any organ system and frequently manifest as dermatitis, diarrhea, colitis, pneumonitis, hepatitis,

and pancreatitis.<sup>3</sup> Development of irAEs is indicative of an augmented immune response, which is associated with prolonged overall survival, and should be considered a surrogate marker for positive response to ICI therapy.<sup>4-6</sup> We previously reported longer overall survival among patients who develop immune-mediated diarrhea and colitis (IMDC).<sup>5,6</sup> However, considerable controversy exists with regard to the impact of irAEs on survival because some investigators have not found a similar impact.<sup>7,8</sup>

IMDC can be severe enough to cause colon perforation and death if not treated appropriately.<sup>9</sup> Therefore, timely and precise management of IMDC is critical for favorable outcomes.<sup>10-12</sup> Current treatment guidelines recommend holding ICI therapy in patients with grade 2 or higher IMDC and initiating corticosteroid therapy.<sup>13-15</sup> A subset of these patients may resume ICI therapy, particularly anti-PD-1/L1, when IMDC

symptoms subside to grade 1. Furthermore, it may be possible to hold ICI therapy temporarily (in cases of cancer progression) or indefinitely (in cases of cancer remission) because the optimum number of doses of anti-PD-1/L1 remains unknown. However, a paucity of evidence exists on the safety profile of ICI resumption in patients who stopped treatment because of the development of an irAE.

One large-scale study that assessed the safety of resuming anti-PD-1 therapy included 80 patients previously treated with a combination anti-CTLA-4 and anti-PD-1 ICI regimen who developed a treatment-limiting irAE.<sup>16</sup> Although the findings were encouraging and have added to the current body of evidence, they did not address patients who were previously treated with anti-PD-1/L1 or anti-CTLA-4 therapy as a single agent and then resumed the same or a different ICI agent. Because IMDC frequently requires interruption of ICI treatment, the current study aimed to identify the incidence and characteristics of and risk factors for recurrent IMDC after resumption of ICI therapy in patients in whom ICI treatment was withheld because of IMDC.

## METHODS

### Patient Cohort

This retrospective multicenter study was approved by the institutional review boards of the participating institutions (Appendix Table A1, online only). Included patients were 18 years of age or older who received an ICI and developed IMDC between January 2010 and November 2018 and then resumed ICI therapy after it was suspended because of IMDC onset. Patients were identified from pharmacy and institutional databases.

### Clinical Data

Demographic information, medical and oncologic history, and data related to ICI therapy and IMDC were extracted from the medical record of each identified patient. Comorbid conditions included in the Charlson comorbidity index score were recorded.<sup>17</sup> Cancer stage was determined according to the seventh edition of the American Joint Committee on Cancer Staging System but was not recorded for patients with hematologic malignancies because of the intricate staging systems used.

### ICI and IMDC Information

The recorded information that pertained to ICI included type, number of infusions, and duration of treatment. In addition, we documented the reason for resuming ICI therapy after IMDC as cancer progression, resolution of irAE, or maintenance therapy. Cancer progression was assessed as reported in the medical chart by the treating oncologist and radiologist according to the immune-modified Response Evaluation Criteria in Solid Tumors (imRECIST) and immune RECIST (iRECIST).<sup>18,19</sup> The

Common Terminology Criteria of Adverse Events (version 5.0) was used to grade IMDC at its peak severity.<sup>20</sup> The duration of IMDC symptoms was measured as the cumulative number of days from IMDC onset until symptom resolution.

### Clinical Outcomes

The primary end point of this study was recurrence of IMDC after resuming ICI therapy. Time from IMDC occurrence to ICI restart, type of ICI restarted, reason to restart ICI, time from ICI restart to IMDC recurrence (if any), peak grade of the recurrent IMDC, and treatment required for the recurrent IMDC were recorded.

### Statistical Analyses

The distributions of continuous variables were summarized using medians and interquartile ranges (IQRs). The distributions of categorical variables were summarized using frequencies and percentages. Categorical variables were compared between groups by Fisher's exact and  $\chi^2$  tests. Continuous variables were compared by Wilcoxon rank sum test. To assess the risk factors for IMDC recurrence, we performed a univariable followed by a multivariable logistic regression. Clinical characteristics that were significant in the univariable analysis or were relevant to clinical practice (ie, type of ICI resumed) were included in the multivariable model. Requirement for infliximab or vedolizumab was not added to the multivariable analysis because its effect is included as part of immunosuppression. Hosmer-Lemeshow test was used to measure the goodness of fit of the included variables in the multivariable logistic regression model and revealed  $P = .22$ , which indicates a good fit of the variables in the multivariable logistic model. In addition, collinearity was evaluated using the variance inflation factor, which assesses how much the variance of an estimated regression coefficient increases if the predictors are correlated. The highest variance inflation factor for our model was 1.66, which indicates that there was no multicollinearity. All statistical tests were two-sided.  $P \leq .05$  was considered statistically significant. Statistical analyses were carried out using SAS 9.4 (SAS Institute, Cary, NC) and SPSS version 24.0 (IBM Corporation, Chicago, IL) software.

## RESULTS

### Patient Selection

Among 550 patients who had IMDC, we identified 167 (30%) who received ICI treatment after the onset of IMDC; patient demographic and clinical characteristics are listed in Table 1. The median age was 60 years (IQR, 50-69 years). Initial ICI therapy was a PD-1/L1 inhibitor in 79 patients (47%), a CTLA-4 inhibitor in 47 (28%), and a combination in 41 (25%). Melanoma was the most common malignancy type in this cohort (54%) followed by non-small-cell lung cancer (16%) and genitourinary cancer (10%).

**TABLE 1.** General Characteristics of the Patient Cohort

Characteristic	Patients, No. (%)
No. of patients	167
Median age, years (IQR)	60 (50-69)
Male sex	100 (60)
White race	156 (93)
Comorbid conditions present	92 (55)
Cancer type	
Melanoma	90 (54)
Non-small-cell lung cancer	27 (16)
Genitourinary	17 (10)
Other solid*	26 (16)
Hematologic	7 (4)
Cancer stage (n = 160)	
III	21 (13)
IV	139 (87)
Median duration of initial ICI therapy, days (IQR)	59 (25-126)
Median no. of initial ICI infusions (IQR)	3 (2-7)
Initial ICI type	
Anti-CTLA-4	47 (28)
Anti-PD-1/L1	79 (47)
Combination	41 (25)
Highest grade of initial diarrhea (n = 165)†	
1	46 (28)
2	57 (35)
3-4	62 (38)
Highest grade of initial colitis (n = 138)†	
1	41 (30)
2	52 (38)
3-4	45 (33)
Median duration of initial IMDC symptoms, days (IQR)	12 (5-28)
Hospitalizations	78 (47)
Treatment of initial IMDC	
Supportive care only	54 (32)
Corticosteroid	113 (68)
Infliximab or vedolizumab add-on	24 (14)
Non-GI adverse events of initial ICI therapy	72 (43)
Reason to re-initiate ICI therapy	
Disease progression	48 (29)
Continue therapy after IMDC resolution	119 (71)

Abbreviations: CTLA-4, cytotoxic T-cell lymphocyte-4; ICI, immune checkpoint inhibitor; IMDC, immune-mediated diarrhea and colitis; IQR, interquartile range; PD-1/L1, programmed cell death 1 or ligand 1.

\*Other solid cancer types included head and neck, Meckel cell, endocrine, hepatobiliary, gynecologic, breast, and GI malignancies.

†Grades of diarrhea and colitis were determined by Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events (version 5.0).

### Initial IMDC and Non-GI irAEs

The median duration of initial IMDC symptoms was 12 days (IQR, 5-28 days). Seventy-five patients had an endoscopic evaluation. A majority of the patients who developed IMDC required immunosuppression with a corticosteroid (113; 68%); among them, 24 patients (14%) required treatment escalation to addition of infliximab or vedolizumab. Non-GI irAEs were reported in 72 patients (43%) and involved skin (n = 22), liver (n = 11), endocrine organs (n = 29), lung (n = 9), or other sites (n = 19).

### ICI Resumption and IMDC Recurrence

ICI therapy was re-initiated because of cancer progression or relapse in 48 patients (29%), whereas 119 (71%) either continued therapy as maintenance therapy with good response to ICI or resumed therapy after irAE resolution. The median duration from initial IMDC to ICI resumption was 49 days (IQR, 23-136 days). On resuming ICI therapy, a majority of patients received an anti-PD-1/L1 agent (135; 81%), whereas 32 (19%) received an anti-CTLA-4 agent (Table 2). Overall, IMDC recurred in 57 patients (34%) after a median of 53 days (IQR, 22-138 days) after ICI resumption. Of the 57 patients who experienced IMDC recurrence, the majority experienced grade 2 diarrhea (40; 70%) and grade 1 colitis (30; 54%). Most IMDC recurrences required corticosteroid therapy (46; 81%). Seven patients (12%) required treatment escalation to addition of infliximab or vedolizumab for the recurrent IMDC.

Of the 43 patients (32%) who experienced IMDC recurrence after resuming anti-PD-1/L1 therapy, 26 (37%) initially received an anti-PD-1/L1 agent, and 17 (27%) initially received an anti-CTLA-4 agent. Of the 14 patients (44%) who experienced IMDC recurrence after resuming anti-CTLA-4 therapy, seven (88%) initially received an anti-PD-1/L1 agent, and seven (29%) initially received an anti-CTLA-4 agent (Fig 1). Monthly nivolumab was the re-initiated ICI type in 44 patients; among them, 10 (23%) had IMDC recurrence. Of the 113 patients who received immunosuppressive therapy for initial IMDC, 47 (42%) had recurrent IMDC. Of the seven patients who had IMDC grade 4 initially and resumed ICI therapy (anti-CTLA-4 in two patients and anti-PD-1/L1 in five), four (57%) had IMDC recurrence.

In patients who resumed anti-CTLA-4 therapy, IMDC recurrence was reported after a median of 26 days (IQR, 2-43 days) and occurred significantly earlier than recurrence after anti-PD-1/L1 resumption (median, 79 days; IQR, 27-141 days;  $P = .024$ ; Table 2). No differences were observed in the severity of IMDC recurrence between the two groups. The recurrence of IMDC was more severe ( $P < .001$ ) and required more intensive immunosuppressive therapy ( $P < .001$ ) in patients who received immunosuppressive therapy for the initial event than in those who did not (Table 3).

**TABLE 2.** Characteristics of Recurrent IMDC on the Basis of Resumed ICI Therapy

Characteristic	Resumed ICI Therapy, No. (%)		P
	Anti-CTLA-4 Monotherapy	Anti-PD-1/L1 Monotherapy	
No. of patients	32	135	
Recurrence of IMDC symptoms	14 (44)	43 (32)	.302
Time from ICI resumption to IMDC recurrence, days (IQR)	26 (2-43)	79 (27-141)	.024
Treatment of IMDC recurrence			.307
Symptomatic only	3 (9)	8 (6)	
Corticosteroid	8 (25)	31 (23)	
Infliximab or vedolizumab add-on	3 (9)	4 (3)	
Grade of recurrent diarrhea*			.497
1	2 (6)	9 (7)	
2	11 (34)	29 (22)	
3-4	1 (3)	5 (4)	
Grade of recurrent colitis*			.388
1	7 (22)	23 (17)	
2-3	6 (19)	20 (15)	

Abbreviations: CTLA-4, cytotoxic T-cell lymphocyte-4; ICI, immune checkpoint inhibitor; IMDC, immune-mediated diarrhea and colitis; IQR, interquartile range; PD-1/L1, programmed cell death 1 or ligand 1.

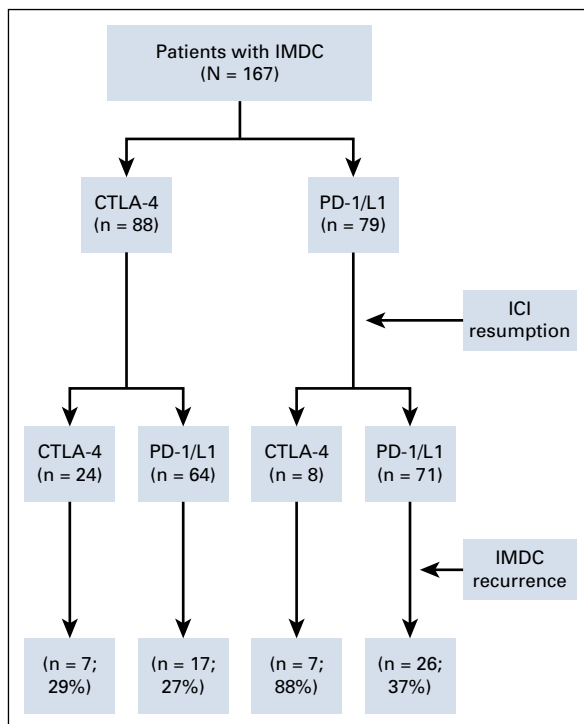
\*Grades of diarrhea and colitis were determined by Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events (version 5.0).

### Risk Factors for IMDC Recurrence

On univariable analysis (Table 4), initial use of anti-PD-1/L1 therapy ( $P = .034$ ), cancer stage III ( $P = .049$ ), requirement for immunosuppressive therapy at initial IMDC ( $P = .003$ ),

higher grades of IMDC ( $P = .007$ ), requirement for infliximab or vedolizumab at initial IMDC ( $P = .035$ ), and longer duration of initial IMDC symptoms ( $P = .035$ ) were associated with an increased likelihood of IMDC recurrence after ICI resumption. Inflammation identified by endoscopy in the initial IMDC episode tended to increase the risk of IMDC recurrence ( $P = .069$ ).

Multivariable logistic regression analysis (Table 5) revealed that the initial use of anti-CTLA-4 was associated with a lower risk of IMDC recurrence upon ICI resumption ( $P = .002$ ). Regardless of initial therapy, however, the resumption of anti-PD-1/L1 therapy, as opposed to anti-CTLA-4 therapy, was associated with a lower risk of IMDC recurrence ( $P = .019$ ). In addition, patients who required immunosuppressive therapy for initial IMDC were more likely to experience IMDC recurrence after the resumption of ICI therapy ( $P = .019$ ). Likewise, a long duration of IMDC symptoms in the initial episode was associated with a higher risk of IMDC recurrence ( $P = .031$ ).



**FIG 1.** Recurrence of immune-mediated diarrhea and colitis (IMDC) after immune checkpoint inhibitor (ICI) resumption. CTLA-4, cytotoxic T-cell lymphocyte-4; PD-1/L1, programmed cell death 1 or ligand 1.

### DISCUSSION

This multicenter study aimed to evaluate and characterize the recurrence of IMDC after the resumption of ICI therapy after a first occurrence of IMDC. Our approach of studying recurrent ICI toxicity differs from previously published studies in that our cohort comprised patients with different types of cancer who received different types of ICI therapy. Although such an approach limits in-depth analysis of oncologic outcomes, it allows for generalizable data about the toxicity profile of ICIs irrespective of cancer type. We

**TABLE 3.** Characteristics of Recurrent IMDC for Patients Who Required Immunosuppressive Therapy for Initial IMDC

Characteristic	Immunosuppression, No. (%)	No Immunosuppression, No. (%)	P
No. of patients	47	10	
Time from ICI resumption to IMDC recurrence, days (IQR)	51 (20-130)	59 (25-140)	.786
Treatment of IMDC recurrence			< .001
Symptomatic only	2 (4)	9 (90)	
Corticosteroid	39 (83)	0 (0)	
Infliximab or vedolizumab add-on	6 (13)	1 (10)	
Grade of recurrent diarrhea*			< .001
1	3 (6)	8 (80)	
2	38 (81)	2 (20)	
3-4	6 (13)	0 (0)	

Abbreviations: ICI, immune checkpoint inhibitor; IMDC, immune-mediated diarrhea and colitis; IQR, interquartile range.

\*Grades of diarrhea and colitis were determined by Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events (version 5.0).

found the incidence of recurrent IMDC to be lower in patients who resumed an anti-PD-1/L1 agent than in those who resumed an anti-CTLA-4 agent.

We found that IMDC after ICI resumption was mostly grade 1 to 2 in severity, irrespective of the ICI type resumed. This

finding agrees with the limited body of evidence about the resumption of ICIs. In the study by Pollack et al,<sup>16</sup> which comprised 80 patients with melanoma previously treated with a combination ICI regimen who developed a clinically significant irAE and were rechallenged with anti-PD-1 therapy, the recurrence of grade 3/4 colitis was 3%. In another study of eight patients with melanoma who were previously treated with anti-PD-1 therapy and rechallenged with an anti-PD-1 agent, recurrent grade 1 IMDC was reported in one.<sup>21</sup> In addition to melanoma, the resumption of ICI therapy in patients with non-small-cell lung cancer has been reported (two case series and one case report).<sup>22-24</sup> None of these three studies reported a recurrence of grade 3/4 IMDC. The discrepancy between these reports and our findings could be the result of the low rate of high-grade initial IMDC in those reports because we found that more severe IMDC is a predictor of recurrence. In addition, because ICI use has become more widespread and practitioners have become more comfortable with irAE management, ICI rechallenge has broadened.

Recurrent IMDC in our cohort was generally manageable by established treatment approaches. No serious AEs that led to mortality were identified in this IMDC cohort. By contrast, Pollack et al<sup>16</sup> reported progression of a grade 2 rash as the initial event to a grade 3 rash with anti-PD-1 resumption, which evolved into fatal Stevens-Johnson syndrome. Hence, although the severity of IMDC after resumption of ICI therapy seems to be mild, caution should be practiced. Close monitoring for progression in severity of irAEs should prompt timely management efforts, including adequate immunosuppressive therapy as well as ICI discontinuation

**TABLE 4.** Univariable Logistic Regression Analysis of IMDC Recurrence

Covariate	Odds Ratio	95% CI	P
Age	1.02	0.99 to 1.04	.187
Male sex	1.55	0.79 to 3.02	.199
Cancer stage III	0.28	0.08 to 0.99	.049
Duration of initial ICI treatment	1.00	0.99 to 1.00	.960
Anti-CTLA-4 initial therapy	0.50	0.26 to 0.95	.034
Resumption of anti-PD-1/L1 therapy	0.62	0.28 to 1.37	.236
Time from ICI stop to resumption	1.00	0.99 to 1.00	.843
Required immunosuppressive therapy initially	3.25	1.49 to 7.9	.003
Required infliximab or vedolizumab initially	2.57	1.07 to 6.19	.035
Grade of initial diarrhea*			
2	2.39	0.97 to 5.93	.058
3-4	3.39	1.39 to 8.19	.007
Duration of initial IMDC symptoms	1.01	1.00 to 1.02	.035
Other non-GI irAEs	0.65	0.34 to 1.24	.190
Inflammation on endoscopy of the initial IMDC	2.61	0.93 to 7.31	.069

Abbreviations: CTLA-4, cytotoxic T-cell lymphocyte-4; ICI, immune checkpoint inhibitor; IMDC, immune-mediated diarrhea and colitis; irAE, immune-related adverse event; PD-1/L1, programmed cell death 1 or ligand 1.

\*Grades of diarrhea and colitis were determined by Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events (version 5.0).

**TABLE 5.** Multivariable Logistic Regression Analysis of IMDC Recurrence

Covariate	Odds Ratio	95% CI	P
Initial ICI type			
Anti-CTLA-4		Reference	
Anti-PD-1/L1	3.45	1.59 to 7.69	.002
ICI type resumed			
Anti-CTLA-4		Reference	
Anti-PD-1/L1	0.30	0.11 to 0.81	.019
Grade of initial diarrhea*			
1		Reference	
2	1.19	0.37 to 3.80	.775
3-4	2.19	0.66 to 7.29	.202
Required immunosuppressive therapy initially	3.22	1.08 to 9.62	.019
Duration of initial IMDC symptoms	1.01	1.00 to 1.03	.031

Abbreviations: CTLA-4, cytotoxic T-cell lymphocyte-4; ICI, immune checkpoint inhibitor; IMDC, immune-mediated diarrhea and colitis; PD-1/L1, programmed cell death 1 or ligand 1.

\*Grades of diarrhea and colitis were determined by Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events (version 5.0).

if deemed appropriate. In the setting of IMDC, colon biopsy of mucosal ulcerations and nonulcerative inflammation, as well as seemingly normal mucosal areas, on colonoscopy can help to identify active inflammation and guide the duration of immunosuppressive therapy.<sup>11,12,25</sup>

Our findings on multivariable analysis that anti-CTLA-4 therapy resumption was associated with an increased risk of IMDC recurrence, whereas prior anti-CTLA-4 use was a predictor of low risk of IMDC recurrence, hint at the relative significance of prior and resumed ICI therapy and their impact on toxicity recurrence. The clinical implication of this observation should be taken into consideration when planning ICI resumption in patients in whom previous ICI therapy failed or had to be terminated altogether because of AEs. Similarly, Pollack et al<sup>16</sup> concluded that patients with colitis and hypophysitis can safely resume anti-PD-1 ICI therapy. In real-life settings, however, treatment decisions are made on a per-patient basis, depending on comorbid conditions and cancer therapy options.

Timely recognition and treatment of IMDC are critical to sustain ICI therapy.<sup>31</sup> To achieve this goal, the use of potent nonsteroidal immunosuppressive therapy, such as infliximab or vedolizumab, may be considered, although the long-term effect of such drugs on cancer outcomes is not yet known.<sup>10,26</sup> A new IMDC treatment strategy with great promise and no known immunosuppressive effect is fecal microbiota transplantation, which was found by our group to be a novel treatment of immunosuppression-refractory IMDC.<sup>27</sup>

Our findings reveal that even upon resumption of anti-CTLA-4 therapy, the risk of severe IMDC seems to be acceptable. Although resumption of anti-PD-1/L1 therapy is more desirable when limitation of the toxicity profile is among the major goals of care, the presumed toxicity risk associated with anti-CTLA-4 therapy should not prevent clinicians from considering resumption of these drugs when this may be the only resort for prolonging survival. In addition, patients who develop irAEs tend to have high rates of response to ICI therapy, which are sustained and may obviate ICI resumption.<sup>1,28-30</sup> Hence, the decision to resume ICI therapy in patients with an ongoing durable response can be difficult, and more studies are needed to outline the subset of patients who will benefit from ICI resumption. Careful delineation of goals of care should be discussed with patients before treatment planning because this will help in making decisions that are in line with each patient's wishes and optimize the subsequent quality of life of already debilitated patients with cancer.<sup>1</sup>

In addition to the inherent fallacies of a retrospective design, the patient cohort was heterogeneous because our aim was to characterize the toxicity profile of ICI resumption. One limitation of such an approach is the inability to perform cancer-specific survival analyses. Second, no predetermined criteria were used to decide which patients could resume ICI therapy, and decisions relied on the clinical judgment of the individual treating physician. Third, because our cohort only consisted of patients who resumed ICI therapy, we did not account for patients who were deemed not to be candidates for ICI resumption for any reason, which reflects an inherent selection bias and limits the generalizability of our findings. Fourth, because the focus of our study was IMDC, determination of the characteristics and recurrence of non-GI irAEs was not attempted. Fifth, practice standards could have been different at the various institutions of this study and could have had an impact on our data. Finally, because of the limited sample size, multiple subgroup analyses may have been underpowered.

In conclusion, one third of patients who resumed ICI therapy after IMDC experienced recurrent IMDC that was mostly mild and could be managed adequately with immunosuppressive therapy. The lower risk of recurrent IMDC upon resumption of ICI is intriguing and suggests that ICI resumption in many patients is at least safe, especially anti-PD-1/L1 therapy. Caution should be practiced before resuming ICI therapy, especially in patients with severe initial IMDC. Future prospective studies with larger patient cohorts and predetermined criteria for resumption should validate the safety and efficacy of ICI resumption in the setting of IMDC.

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Disclosures provided by the authors and data availability statement (if applicable) are available with this article at DOI <https://doi.org/10.1200/JCO.19.00320>.

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**AUTHORS' DISCLOSURES OF POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST****Resumption of Immune Checkpoint Inhibitor Therapy After Immune-Mediated Colitis**

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## APPENDIX

**TABLE A1.** Included Patients From Each Institution

<b>Institution</b>	<b>No. of patients</b>
The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center	116
Ohio State University	19
University of Perugia	18
Cleveland Clinic Foundation	10
Johns Hopkins University	3
East Carolina University	1