

#### INTERVIEW

#### Deborah K Armstrong, MD

Dr Armstrong is Associate Professor of Oncology, Gynecology and Obstetrics at The Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at The Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland.

## Tracks 1-14

Track 1	Efficacy and safety of chemotherapy/bevacizumab followed by maintenance bevacizumab in the GOG-0218 trial
Track 2	Clinical implications of the GOG-0218 study
Track 3	Olaparib for patients with advanced serous OC with known and unknown BRCA mutations
Track 4	Emerging clinical issues with the use of PARP inhibitors
Track 5	Efficacy and safety of farletu- zumab with or without chemotherapy for relapsed OC
Track 6	BIBF 1120, a novel, oral multitar- geted tyrosine kinase inhibitor of VEGFR, PDGFR and FGFR
Track 7	Investigations of the HER dimerization inhibitor pertuzumab in OC
Track 8	<b>Case discussion:</b> A 73-year-old woman with a BRCA1 mutation and a 40-year history of repeated diagnosis of primary and recurrent breast and ovarian cancer

- Track 9 Case discussion: A 60-yearold woman with a large-volume, high-grade serous carcinoma with extensive pelvic and peritoneal implants and ascites does not experience a response to neoadjuvant paclitaxel/carboplatin or topotecan but experiences a 21month response to bevacizumab on the GOG-170D trial
- Track 10 Case discussion: A 69-year-old woman on the Prostate, Lung, Colorectal and Ovarian Cancer screening study is diagnosed with Stage IIIC OC
- Track 11 A prospective screening study using the risk of ovarian cancer algorithm
- Track 12 GOG-0252: A Phase III clinical trial of bevacizumab with intravenous (IV) versus IP chemotherapy in Stage II to IV OC
- Track 13 Therapeutic options for recurrent, platinum-resistant OC
- Track 14 Single-agent and combination platinum-containing chemotherapy for recurrent, platinum-sensitive OC

## Select Excerpts from the Interview

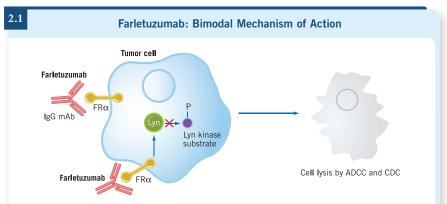
## Track 5

**DR LOVE:** What is the mechanism of action of the novel agent farletuzumab in ovarian cancer?

**DR ARMSTRONG:** Farletuzumab is an interesting targeted agent. Folate is taken up into cells by two mechanisms: one is the folate receptor alpha and

the other is reduced folate carrier. The folate receptor alpha is highly overexpressed in ovarian cancer, on the order of 90-plus percent, but is largely absent from normal tissues.

Farletuzumab is an antibody that targets folate receptor alpha (2.1), and because of the differential expression of folate receptor alpha on ovarian cancer cells and normal tissues, folate can still penetrate normal cells naturally through the reduced folate carrier.



Farletuzumab, a humanized monoclonal antibody (mAb), demonstrates a high affinity to the folate receptor alpha (FR $\alpha$ ). Binding of mAb to FR $\alpha$  results in a bimodal mechanism of action to suppress tumor growth: (1) promotion of cell lysis by antibody-dependent cellular cytotoxicity (ADCC) and complement-dependent cytotoxicity (CDC) and (2) decreased cellular proliferation through the inhibition of Lyn kinase substrate phosphorylation (P).

Adapted from White AJ et al. Proc ASCO 2010; Abstract 5001.

# 2.2 Phase II Trial: Activity of Farletuzumab and Carboplatin/Paclitaxel in Platinum-Sensitive Relapsed Ovarian Cancer (n = 44)

CA125 normalization	RECIST response (CR + PR)	RECIST patient benefit (CR + PR + SD)	Median progression-free interval by CA125 criterion
89%	70%	93%	10 months

The response rate among patients with a first progression-free interval of less than 12 months was unexpectedly high, comparable to that for patients with a first progression-free interval of more than 12 months.

Preliminary data for this study also indicated that farletuzumab with carboplatin/paclitaxel significantly increases the objective response rate compared to the objective response rates in historic data with carboplatin/paclitaxel in platinum-sensitive first-relapse ovarian cancer and increases the duration of second remission compared to first remission.

CR = complete response; PR = partial response; SD = stable disease

White AJ et al. Proc ASCO 2010; Abstract 5001.

A Phase II trial investigating farletuzumab enrolled patients with low-volume or asymptomatic disease to receive single-agent farletuzumab alone, and those with high-volume or symptomatic disease went on to receive chemotherapy combined with farletuzumab. The overall CA125 response and RECIST response to the combination are quite high (White 2010; [2.2]).

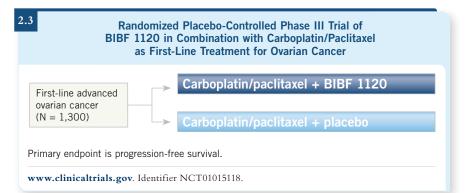
In addition, in 21 percent of the patients receiving farletuzumab/chemotherapy, the second progression-free interval was longer than their initial progression-free interval with chemotherapy alone. These data have led to ongoing trials in platinum-resistant disease, in addition to the registrational study in platinum-sensitive disease with paclitaxel and carboplatin.

# 📊 Track 6

**DR LOVE:** What are your thoughts on anti-angiogeneic tyrosine kinase inhibitors being evaluated in ovarian cancer?

**DR ARMSTRONG:** Many oral angiogenesis inhibitors are currently in development for ovarian cancer.

BIBF 1120 is one of these VEGF tyrosine kinase inhibitors, and it is being investigated in combination with chemotherapy in a large, placebo-controlled, randomized Phase III study in the front-line management of ovarian cancer (2.3). Another oral agent currently being investigated in a Phase II setting is sorafenib in combination with bevacizumab.

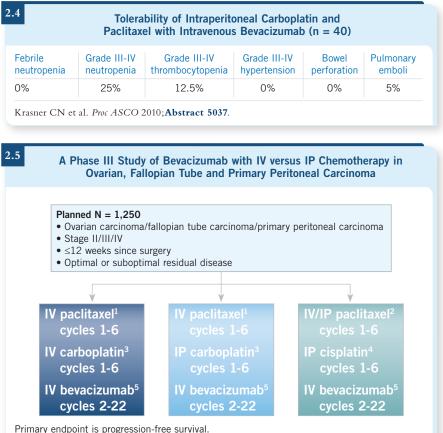


## 📊 Track 12

**DR LOVE:** What new research strategies are being used with IP chemo-therapy in ovarian cancer?

**DR ARMSTRONG:** Many clinical trials are investigating carboplatin instead of cisplatin when administering IP chemotherapy. A trial investigating IP carboplatin, IP paclitaxel and IV bevacizumab has been published and demonstrated that the addition of bevacizumab is feasible (Krasner 2010; [2.4]).

In addition, the Gynecologic Oncology Group is investigating the addition of bevacizumab to both IV and IP chemotherapy in a Phase III clinical trial in ovarian cancer (2.5). This trial, GOG-0252, also has a maintenance bevacizumab component that continues until disease progression.



Each cycle is 21 days in duration.

<sup>1</sup> Paclitaxel is administered on days 1, 8 and 15; <sup>2</sup> Paclitaxel is administered IV on day 1 and IP on day 8; <sup>3</sup> Carboplatin is administered on day 1 of cycles 1-6; <sup>4</sup> Cisplatin is administered on day 2 of cycles 1-6; <sup>5</sup> Bevacizumab is administered with chemotherapy on day 1 of cycles 2-6 and alone on day 1 of cycles 7-22.

www.clinicaltrials.gov. Identifier NCT00951496.

#### SELECT PUBLICATIONS

Krasner CN et al. Tolerability and pharmacokinetics of intraperitoneal carboplatin and paclitaxel with intravenous bevacizumab. *Proc ASCO* 2010;Abstract 5037.

White AJ et al. Efficacy and safety of farletuzumab, a humanized monoclonal antibody to folate receptor alpha, in platinum-sensitive relapsed ovarian cancer subjects: Final data from a multicenter phase II study. *Proc ASCO* 2010; Abstract 5001.