

EXPERT PERSPECTIVES: THE NEXT ERA IN THE MANAGEMENT OF METASTATIC COLORECTAL CANCER

Dear Colleague:

Thank you for your recent participation in the CME/CE activity, *Expert Perspectives: The Next Era in the Management of Metastatic Colorectal Cancer*, developed by the Annenberg Center for Health Sciences. As you continue to advance the care you provide to these patients, here are the key concepts for you to consider:

- Understanding of the anatomical site of CRC is important as right-sided tumors often involve DNA mismatch repair (MMR) mutations, while left-sided tumors typically feature mutations in KRAS, APC, PIK3CA, and p53, impacting treatment strategies and prognosis
- Molecular profiling is essential for patients with mCRC since genetic markers, such as KRAS, NRAS, HER2, NTRK, BRAF mutations, RET fusions and microsatellite instability (MSI), are useful to guide personalized treatment decisions
- First-line treatment for patients with mCRC commonly involves 5-fluorouracil-based regimens, often combined with targeted therapies such as VEGF inhibitors and EGFR inhibitors, tailored based on the tumor's molecular profile
- For patients with microsatellite instability-high (MSI-H) or mismatch repair-deficient (dMMR) tumors, immunotherapy with checkpoint inhibitors offers significant survival benefits, marking a shift in treatment paradigms for patients with mCRC
- Targeted therapies are integrated into treatment regimens based on specific genetic alterations, including BRAF V600E, HER2, KRAS G12C, NTRK, and RET fusions, thereby enhancing treatment efficacy for refractory cases
- Precision medicine for patients with CRC involves tailoring treatment based on genetic and molecular profiles, ensuring more effective and individualized patient care, improving outcomes, and managing treatment-related toxicities
- Proper sequencing of therapies, considering prior treatments and tumor characteristics, is crucial for optimizing outcomes and managing disease progression effectively

We hope you will be able to participate in other accredited activities we offer. You will find information at www.Annenberg.net.

Regards,

The Annenberg Center Team