gutflix
GI learning, personalised

Summary

Do we need a complete molecular workup before starting therapy?

Thomas Seufferlein

Postgraduate Teaching Programme Barcelona 2026 | Presentation

Mechanisms & Personalised Medicine | Surgery | Digestive Oncology | Colorectal

October 18, 2026

The speaker argued that targeted molecular testing for dMMR/MSI, RAS, BRAF V600E, and HER2 is essential before initiating therapy in metastatic colorectal cancer, presenting evidence that early biomarker-directed treatment substantially improves outcomes in specific molecular subgroups.

KEY POINTS

- In MSI-high/dMMR tumours (4-5% of metastatic colorectal cancer), the speaker reported that first-line nivolumab plus ipilimumab showed dramatically better progression-free survival than chemotherapy and outperformed nivolumab monotherapy, with earlier ICI initiation yielding better outcomes than second-line use.
- For BRAF V600E mutations (about 6% of cases), the speaker stated that first-line encorafenib plus cetuximab plus chemotherapy doubled overall survival compared to chemotherapy alone, with a hazard ratio of 0.53 for progression-free survival.
- The speaker reported that KRAS G12C-targeted therapy (sotorasib plus panitumumab) in third-line patients achieved a 56% overall response rate, median progression-free survival over 8 months, and median overall survival of 18 months in a population representing approximately 2% of colorectal cancers.
- For HER2-positive disease (2-5% of advanced cases), the speaker stated that trastuzumab deruxtecan produced nearly 40% response rates with median overall survival of 13.4 months in heavily pre-treated patients, though pneumonitis remains a concern with antibody-drug conjugates.
- The speaker presented a case in which whole exome sequencing revealed a high tumour mutational burden and POLE alteration missed by panel testing, leading to immunotherapy and pathological complete remission, illustrating that some cases may require broader molecular workup.

VIEW THIS CONTENT ON GUTFLIX

https://gutflix.eu/search/d/e20a0838-d14f-11f1-9748-daaa6dbee0a2

AI-generated summary

This summary was generated by an AI large language model based on the content transcript. It is for informational purposes only and should not be considered a substitute for clinical judgment. Always rely on your professional expertise and the full clinical context when making clinical decisions.