

# INPLASY

## Efficacy of PD-1 or PD-L1 inhibitors for the treatment of Cervical Cancer with varying PD-L1 expression levels: A Single-Arm Meta-Analysis

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### ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

**Support** - Not applicable.

**Review Stage at time of this submission** - Formal screening of search results against eligibility criteria.

**Conflicts of interest** - None declared.

**INPLASY registration number:** INPLASY202460062

**Amendments** - This protocol was registered with the International Platform of Registered Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis Protocols (INPLASY) on 17 June 2024 and was last updated on 17 June 2024.

### INTRODUCTION

**Review question / Objective** To evaluate the efficacy of PD-1 and PD-L1 inhibitors in advanced cervical cancer, focusing on different levels of PD-L1 expression.

**Condition being studied** Cervical cancer remains one of the leading causes of cancer-related mortality among women worldwide, particularly in low- and middle-income countries. Despite significant advances in screening and vaccination, many patients still present with advanced or recurrent disease, where treatment options are limited and prognosis is poor.

### METHODS

**Participant or population** Patients diagnosed with advanced or recurrent cervical cancer, regardless of subtype.

Patients treated with PD-1 or PD-L1 inhibitors, alone or in combination with other treatments.

**Intervention** Patients treated with PD-1 or PD-L1 inhibitors, alone or in combination with other treatments.

**Comparator** Not applicable.

**Study designs to be included** Phase II clinical trials or retrospective analyses.

**Eligibility criteria** Studies reporting clinical outcomes of interest, including ORR, DCR, median PFS, and median OS, were assessed using RECIST 1.1 criteria.

Tumor PD-L1 expression was tested and calculated as a combined positive score (CPS), defined as the number of PD-L1-stained cells divided by the total number of vital tumor cells multiplied by 100. Positivity was defined as a CPS  $\geq 1$ .

**Information sources** We searched the PubMed, EMBASE, Web of Science, and Cochrane Library

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databases from inception to May 25, 2024, limited to studies published in English.

**Main outcome(s)** Studies reporting clinical outcomes of interest, including ORR, DCR, median PFS, and median OS, were assessed using RECIST 1.1 criteria.

**Quality assessment / Risk of bias analysis** Clinical study quality was assessed using the JBI Critical Appraisal Checklist for Case Series.

**Strategy of data synthesis** All analyses were conducted using STATA/MP 16.0. Heterogeneity among studies was assessed using the chi-square test and  $I^2$  statistic. Fixed-effects models were used for  $I^2 < 50\%$  (low heterogeneity), and random-effects models were used for  $I^2 \geq 50\%$  (high heterogeneity).

**Subgroup analysis** If the necessary data are available, subgroup analyses will be done for Cervical Cancer patients with tumor histology, performed region, dosage, and duration of PD-1/PD-L1 inhibitors, PD-1/PD-L1 inhibitors single agent or in combination with other chemotherapy drugs and study design.

**Sensitivity analysis** Sensitivity analysis was performed to analyze the stability and reliability of the pooled results.

**Country(ies) involved** China.

**Keywords** PD-1inhibitors, PD-L1 inhibitors, PD-L1 expression, cervical cancer, meta-analysis.

#### **Contributions of each author**

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