Protocol Plain Language Summary

Clinical study of pembrolizumab for treatment of renal cell cancer after surgery (MK-3475-564)

Protocol Title: A Phase 3, Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled Clinical Trial of Pembrolizumab (MK-3475) as Monotherapy in the Adjuvant Treatment of Renal Cell Carcinoma Post Nephrectomy (KEYNOTE-564)

Why is this study needed?

Researchers are looking for new ways to prevent **renal cell carcinoma (RCC)** from coming back after treatment. RCC is a type of cancer that starts in the kidneys. People with RCC often have surgery to remove the cancer. After surgery, people who have a high chance (risk) of cancer coming back receive additional treatment **(adjuvant treatment)** that is given immediately after the surgery to improve the chance that cancer will not come back.

In this study, researchers want to learn if people who take pembrolizumab after surgery live longer without the cancer coming back. **Pembrolizumab** is an immunotherapy, which is a treatment that helps the immune system fight cancer.

Who will take part in this study?

About 950 people with RCC will take part in this study. They will be ages 18 and older and have:

- Had surgery to remove RCC
- Not received medicines to treat RCC
- High chance of the cancer coming back after surgery, or had cancer that had started to spread before the surgery

How is this study designed?

A person may be in this study for up to approximately 6 years, which includes up to 1 year of treatment followed by monitoring by their doctor. Each person will have an equal chance of receiving either pembrolizumab or a placebo. Neither the people nor the researchers will know which treatment a person received (a double-blind study).

During the study, people may have blood, urine, tumor and other imaging tests, have physical examinations, and be asked to answer sets of questions about their health.

What treatments are being given during the study?

People will receive either:

- **Pembrolizumab, or**
- **Placebo,** which looks like the study medicine but has no actual study medicine in it.

Researchers use a placebo to better understand the actual effects of the study medicine.

People will receive the assigned treatment through a vein over time, which is called an intravenous (IV) infusion. They will receive the assigned treatment once every 3 weeks for up to 17 cycles (about 1 year).

What are the goals of this study and how will they be measured?

Main goal	How it will be measured
To learn if people who receive pembrolizumab have longer **disease free survival (DFS)** compared to people who receive placebo.	The length of time from when the person starts the study until the RCC comes back, spreads, or death from any cause.
Other goals	**How they will be measured**
To learn if people who receive pembrolizumab have longer **overall survival (OS)** compared to people who receive placebo.	The length of time that people are alive after joining the study.
To learn about **safety** and how well people **tolerate** pembrolizumab.	During the study, the number of people who: • Had an **adverse event (AE)** – an AE is a health problem that happens or worsens during a study. • Had a **serious AE (SAE)** – a SAE is a serious medical problem that happens or worsens during a study. • Stopped treatment due to an AE.
To learn the **disease recurrence-specific survival** of people who receive pembrolizumab compared to people who receive placebo.	The length of time from when the person starts the study until: • Cancer comes back where it first started. • Cancer comes back where it first started or spreads to other parts of the body (whichever happens first).
To learn the **event free survival** of people who receive pembrolizumab compared to people who receive placebo.	The length of time that people are alive from the start of treatment until the cancer grows, spreads, returns, or death from any cause.
To learn the **DFS** and **OS** of people whose cancer is positive for PD-L1 compared to people whose cancer is negative for PD-L1.	The DFS and OS of people whose cancer is positive or negative for PD-L1. **PD-L1** is a type of protein found on cancer cells that can help the cancer hide from the body's immune system.
To learn the self-reported symptoms of people who receive pembrolizumab compared to people who receive placebo.	People will answer sets of questions to measure their overall health and RCC symptoms.

What are the possible benefits and risks?

People in this study may or may not have their cancer stop growing or stay away after receiving the treatment in this study. This study has an external group of experts that monitors the overall risk and benefit. If this group of experts decides that the study treatment is not safe or does not show benefit, the study can be stopped.

More information about the benefits and risks for a person may be found in the Investigator's Brochure, Protocol, and Informed Consent documents.