

## Keytruda first-line renal data put spotlight on Bavencio Esmo presentation



[Jonathan Gardner](#)

Keytruda's positive overall survival data in the Keynote-426 first-line renal cell carcinoma trial means that Pfizer and Merck KGaA need to show flawless results in a full readout of the Bavencio Javelin Renal 101 trial at Esmo this weekend. Merck & Co today said that in Keynote-426 the combination of Keytruda and Pfizer's Inlyta showed a significant improvement in both overall and progression-free survival versus Pfizer's Sutent. So far, Pfizer and Merck KGaA have said only that Javelin Renal 101 has read out positively for progression-free survival, favouring Bavencio plus Inlyta versus Inlyta alone, although it will proceed to an overall survival analysis ([Pincer movement squeezes Exelixis in kidney cancer, September 12, 2018](#)). Potentially favouring Bavencio in this setting is that it scored in all comers, and that Pfizer might be able to bundle Bavencio and Inlyta together. Merck & Co says Keynote-426 results were consistent across subgroups; it is possible for any benefit in all comers to be driven by very strong results in PD-L1-positive patients, however.

### First line PD-(L)1 trials in renal cell carcinoma

Drug	Company	Trial	Result
Opdivo+Yervoy	Bristol-Myers Squibb	Checkmate-214	OS HR 0.63 p<0.0001
Bavencio+Inlyta	Pfizer/Merck KGaA	Javelin Renal 101	Positive PFS in PD-L1 +ve and all comers
Keytruda+Inlyta	Merck & Co	Keynote-426	Positive PFS and OS in all comers

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