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## Emerging biomarkers for immunomodulatory cancer treatment of upper gastrointestinal, pancreatic and hepatic cancers

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### Abstract

Carcinomas of the oesophagus, stomach, pancreas and liver are common and account for a disproportionately high number of cancer deaths. There is a need for new treatment options for patients with advanced disease. Immunomodulatory treatments including immune checkpoint blockade offer a promising new approach, with efficacy shown in other solid tumour types. However, only a small proportion of patients with carcinomas of the oesophagus, stomach, pancreas and liver have responded to single agent checkpoint inhibitors, and there is a need for markers that are predictive of response to guide treatment of individual patients. Predictive markers may include epidemiological factors such as ethnicity, the genomic status of the tumour, circulating markers, expression of immune checkpoint molecules, and other features

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