Roche launches PD-L1 assay in CE markets as CDx for TNBC

Aug. 30, 2019—Roche announced the expanded use of its Ventana PD-L1 (SP142) Assay in triple-negative breast cancer for patients living in CE markets where Tecentriq is approved. It is the first companion diagnostic to aid in identifying triple-negative breast cancer patients eligible for treatment with Tecentriq (atezolizumab) plus chemotherapy (nab-paclitaxel). The announcement follows the FDA approval of the assay in March as the first companion diagnostic to identify triple-negative breast cancer patients eligible for the Tecentriq combination.

“Until recently, the only treatment option for metastatic triple-negative breast cancer patients was chemotherapy,” Thomas Schinecker, head of Roche Diagnostics, said in a company press release. “With our expanding menu of companion diagnostics and targeted cancer immunotherapies, Roche is proud to continue to deliver on our mission to make personalized health care a global reality, ensuring the right treatment for the right patient at the right time.”

The Ventana PD-L1 (SP142) Assay was developed to enhance visual contrast of tumor-infiltrating immune cell staining. In triple-negative breast cancer, PD-L1 is primarily expressed on tumor-infiltrating immune cells rather than on tumor cells themselves.