

Equity Research

Immune Design Corp.

IMDZ: Management Meeting Highlights

Remaining Cutting Edge In IO, Without Cutting Corners

• **Summary:** On 12/1, we had the opportunity to spend the day with IMDZ's senior management. Coming out of our discussions, we continue to believe that IMDZ has one of the most interesting and differentiated approaches to cancer immunotherapy, and that they are taking a rational, methodical approach grounded in the science that should optimize the potential of products stemming from their platform to become important components of the future solid tumor treatment paradigm. Though shares have appreciated of late, we still see the potential for long-term appreciation as the early-stage programs mature.

• **Ongoing early-stage studies proceeding on track, with safety continuing to look good so far.** The company's phase I dose-escalation studies of LV305 (dendritic-cell targeted tumor-antigen based gene therapy) and G305 (TLR4 agonist plus NY-ESO-1 protein) in advanced NY-ESO-1 positive solid tumors are continuing on track, with enrollment completion expected by year-end. Our sense was that patients in the LV305 study are mostly synovial sarcoma patients, while for G305 are primarily ovarian cancer and melanoma patients. The company still plans to present data at ASCO 2015, which we believe will be the next key datapoint for the programs. On safety, we believe FDA's recent clearance of the IND for the combination of the two agents, termed CMB305, speaks to the likely benign safety profile being observed to date clinically and preclinically, and of note IMDZ said they did not see any neutralizing antibodies against the viral vector envelope in the initial cohort, which enabled them to increase to four administrations of LV305--which based on emerging preclinical data could help augment immune responses.

• *(Continued on the next page)*

Valuation Range: \$35.00 to \$37.00

Our valuation is based on a blend of 30x of probability-adjusted 2025E EPS and 5x of 2025E probability-adjusted sales. Risks include ZVex's failure to show clinical efficacy, a safety signal, competition, and manufacturing.

Investment Thesis:

We believe IMDZ is undervalued based on the promise of ZVex/GLAAS as novel immunotherapy platforms for cancers.

Outperform / V

Sector: Biotechnology

Market Weight

Company Note

EPS	2013A	2014E		2015E	
		Curr.	Prior	Curr.	Prior
Q1 (Mar.)	NE	(\$0.81) A	NC	NE	
Q2 (June)	NE	(0.60) A	NC	NE	
Q3 (Sep.)	NE	(0.55) A	NC	NE	
Q4 (Dec.)	NE	(0.53)	NC	NE	
FY	(\$2.28)	(\$2.44)	NC	(\$2.07)	NC
CY	(\$2.28)	(\$2.44)		(\$2.07)	
FY P/EPS	NM	NM		NM	
Rev.(MM)	\$2	\$5		\$0	

Source: Company Data, Wells Fargo Securities, LLC estimates, and Reuters
NA = Not Available, NC = No Change, NE = No Estimate, NM = Not Meaningful
V = Volatile, * = Company is on the Priority Stock List

Ticker	IMDZ
Price (12/01/2014)	\$28.91
52-Week Range:	\$11-37
Shares Outstanding: (MM)	15.8
Market Cap.: (MM)	\$456.8
S&P 500:	2,053.44
Avg. Daily Vol.:	29,797
Dividend/Yield:	\$0.00/0.0%
LT Debt: (MM)	\$0.0
LT Debt/Total Cap.:	0.0%
ROE:	NM
3-5 Yr. Est. Growth Rate:	5.0%
CY 2014 Est. P/EPS-to-Growth:	NM
Last Reporting Date:	11/12/2014
	Before Open

Source: Company Data, Wells Fargo Securities, LLC estimates, and Reuters

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Please see page 3 for rating definitions, important disclosures and required analyst certifications

All estimates/forecasts are as of 12/01/14 unless otherwise stated.

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Together we'll go far



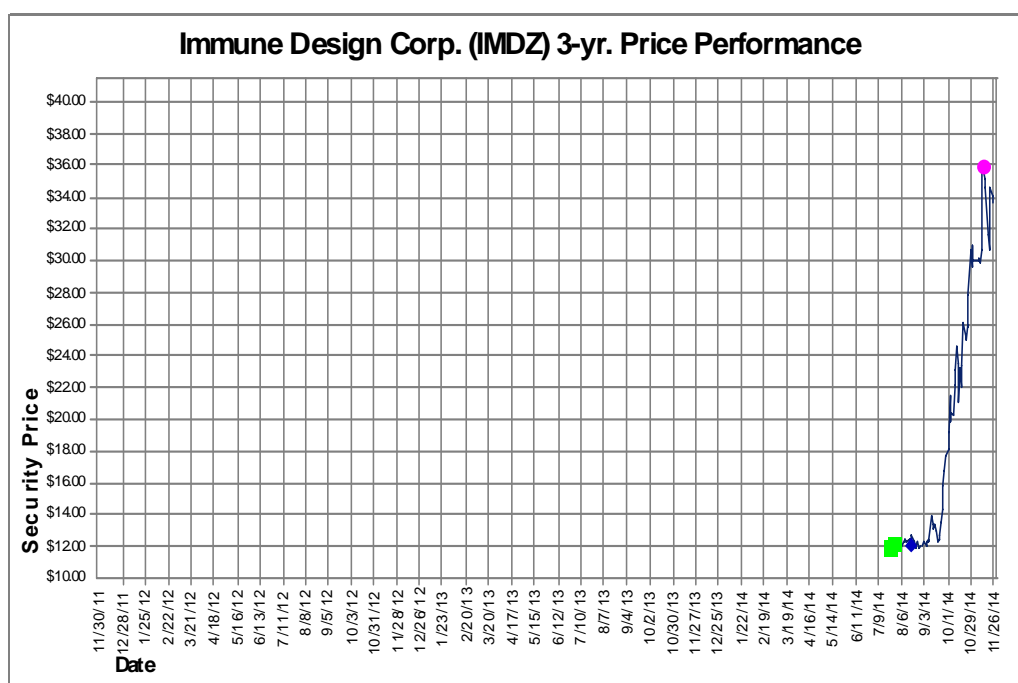
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- **Profile of immune responses key to assess potential of LV305.** The company noted that the phase I enrollment criteria is designed to help optimize efficacy, by including patients with non-bulky but measurable disease, who are prior treatment failures but are more likely to have intact immune systems. IMDZ will assess CT scans of patients on LV305 before and after treatment, and every 2 months thereafter, to gauge response. Given the small study size, lack of boosting with G305, and nature of the mechanism, which produces tumor-antigen specific T-cells in a more gradual, physiologic manner, we would not necessarily look for the rapid and robust clinical responses observed recently with CAR-T therapies in hematologic malignancies and for re-engineered T-cells in solid tumors like synovial sarcoma; instead, we believe some signals such as stabilization of disease progression would be encouraging indicators of activity. Even more important, in our view, will be the immune response data, and the degree to which tumor-specific CTLs are upregulated. While the benchmarks for this are not that well-established, and many assays will be explored, IMDZ noted early data from other companies that have explored CD8+ T-cell upregulation (Celldex, Okairos, etc.) could provide some context.
- **Synovial sarcoma remains highest priority indication to pursue.** Following the initial dose-escalation cohort of LV305, IMDZ plans to further expand the study, exploring sarcoma, ovarian cancer, NSCLC, and melanoma in H1 2015, and initiate a phase I study of their combination CMB305. For the phase II of CMB305, synovial sarcoma remains the company's first choice of indications. While small (3,000 patients), we believe the high (80-100%) prevalence of NY-ESO-1 positivity could make this indication a good proving grounds for the company's technology, and note the company remains in preliminary discussions with FDA as to whether a phase II could potentially be registrational given its rarity.
- **Increasing emphasis on combinations with anti-PD(L)-1 antibodies.** The company believes T-cell induction with approaches like LV/CMB305 can address a reason for lack of response many patients have to PD(L)-1 inhibition, and their view is that the science suggests benefits for adding PD(L)-1 or other checkpoint inhibitors once the immune system is upregulated. We sensed a high degree of enthusiasm for exploring such combinations clinically and sensed they have been active in discussions for potential clinical collaboration with PD(L)-1 companies, something which phase II start could be paced by. Although the design is still being finalized, the phase II synovial sarcoma study could potentially explore a PD(L)-1 inhibitor +/- CMB305. A NSCLC phase II could also combine CMB305 with a PD(L)-1 inhibitor; the company noted that their recent biopsy work shows a reasonable proportion (18%) of NSCLC patients are NY-ESO-1 positive, we believe confirming this is another indication worth pursuing that could be a meaningful revenue driver long term.
- **Exploration of ways to further improve immune stimulation illustrates flexibility of technology.** Beyond the current programs, we sensed IMDZ is continuing to closely follow the science and explore ways in which they can further improve the potency of the vector--which could be important in further optimizing activity if dose-dependent efficacy is observed in studies of LV305/CMB305. Approaches could potentially include increasing antigen expression such as through strengthening of the promoter/enhancer in the vector or using multi-cassette strategy; increasing immunogenicity such as by expressing a co-stimulatory antigen such as CD40L or IL-12 alongside the antigen; or increasing dendritic cell activation. IMDZ could also theoretically pursue a "prime-pull" concept in which the TLR4 agonist could be injected intratumorally to locally boost the systemic tumor-specific CTL generation and draw the CTLs towards the tumor locale via chemokine expression. Longer term, other tumor antigens beyond NY-ESO-1 could be explored, expanding the potential applicability. While these approaches are all theoretical at this point, we believe they illustrate the power, and potential flexibility, of IMDZ's technology to optimize cancer immunotherapy, guided by the science.

Company Description:

Immune Design Corporation (IMDZ) is a clinical stage biopharmaceutical company, headquartered in San Francisco, California and Seattle, Washington, developing novel immunotherapies for cancer and infectious diseases. IMDZ is developing an in vivo targeting approach to specifically target key regulatory immune cells called dendritic cells to enable the body's own immune system to fight cancer and other diseases. IMDZ's technology platform consists of two main components, IMDZVex ("ZVex") and GLAAS. ZVex is a virus-based cell targeting vector that specifically delivers tumor (or other immunogen) antigen of interest to DCs such that robust induction of cytotoxic T-cells in effect fights the disease. There are several pipeline products under clinical development: LV305 (ZVex-NY-ESO-1) and G305 (GLAAS-NY-ESO-1) in phase I study for solid tumors, CMB305 (ZVex-NY-ESO-1 plus GLAAS) expected to enter the clinic end-2014, and G100 (GLAAS) in phase I study in Merkel cell carcinoma.

IO stands for immuno-oncology.

Required Disclosures

	Date	Publication Price (\$)	Rating Code	Val. Rng. Low	Val. Rng. High	Close Price (\$)
□	7/24/2014		IPO at \$12.00			
◆	8/18/2014	12.41	Abrahams, M.D.			
◆	8/18/2014	12.41	1	17.00	18.00	12.13
◆	11/13/2014	30.67	1	35.00	37.00	35.97

Source: Wells Fargo Securities, LLC estimates and Reuters data

Symbol Key

- ▼ Rating Downgrade
- ▲ Rating Upgrade
- Valuation Range Change
- ◆ Initiation, Resumption, Drop or Suspend
- Analyst Change
- Split Adjustment

Rating Code Key

- 1 Outperform/Buy
- 2 Market Perform/Hold
- 3 Underperform/Sell
- SR Suspended
- NR Not Rated
- NE No Estimate

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IMDZ: Risks include ZVex's failure to show clinical efficacy, a safety signal, competition, and manufacturing.

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