The carriages to the good drivers

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“The carriages to the good drivers,” is a sentence from *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*, a play by Berthold Brecht that applies perfectly to the prescription of targeted anti-cancer agents. Just like a good driver follows the rules of the road, a prescriber’s strategy must derive from understanding the signs, choosing the right way and determining the best timing.

It is relatively easy to reach a first stage by answering the following question: Which drug is best for which tumor type?

The second one can be more difficult: Which drug is best for which stage in a single tumor? Unexpectedly, targeted agents do not always give the same results in the metastatic and the adjuvant setting [1], and enriching the treatment makes the right choice more complicated. This is the case for example in the melanoma, where the treatment goes from nothing to multiple options [2].

The third stage is crucial: having good knowledge of side effects and know-how to manage them is indispensable to oncologists. Indeed, treatment withdrawal and dose reduction are two obstacles threatening our patients.

So as the good driver seeks the help in road maps and GPS systems, oncologists need a medical “Rand McNally.”

With this in mind, the Editorial Board of *Targeted Oncology* is very pleased to propose this special issue focused on side effects, with updated view on classical toxicities and original approaches to less-known side effects.

“The carriages to the good drivers that they be driven well.”

With this issue, we hope to help make the journey of targeted anti-cancer treatment smoother.

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