Check for updates





Blood 142 (2023) 2527-2529

The 65th ASH Annual Meeting Abstracts

POSTER ABSTRACTS

114.SICKLE CELL DISEASE, SICKLE CELL TRAIT AND OTHER HEMOGLOBINOPATHIES, EXCLUDING THALASSEMIAS: CLINICAL AND EPIDEMIOLOGICAL

Over 4 Years of Safety and Efficacy with Voxelotor Treatment for Patients with Sickle Cell Disease: Updated Results from an Open-Label Extension of the Phase 3 HOPE Trial

Maureen Okam Achebe, MDMPH¹, Hoda MA Hassab, MD², Salam Al-Kindi³, Clark Brown, MDPhD⁴, Paul Telfer, MD⁵, Bart J. Biemond⁶, Thokozeni Lipato⁷, Mark Davis⁸, Sarah Gray⁸, Victor R. Gordeuk, MD⁹

¹ Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA

²Alexandria University, Alexandria, Egypt

³Sultan Qaboos University, Muscat, Oman

⁴ Pfizer Inc, Norcross, GA

⁵Royal London Hospital, Barts Health NHS Trust, London, United Kingdom

⁶Department of Hematology, Amsterdam University Medical Centers, location University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, Netherlands

⁷Virginia Commonwealth University Medical Center, Richmond, VA

⁸ Pfizer Inc., South San Francisco, CA

⁹Sickle Cell Center, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL

Introduction: Sickle cell disease (SCD) is an inherited blood disorder caused by a homozygous or compound heterozygous mutation in the hemoglobin (Hb) subunit β gene, leading to sickle hemoglobin (HbS). Polymerization of HbS results in red blood cell sickling/damage and leads to hemolysis, chronic anemia, and vaso-occlusive crises (VOCs). Hemolysis and low Hb put patients with SCD at risk of end-organ damage, increased morbidity, and early mortality. Voxelotor, a first-in-class HbS polymerization inhibitor, is approved in the US for the treatment of patients with SCD aged \geq 4 years and in Europe for the treatment of hemolytic anemia due to SCD in patients aged \geq 12 years. In the phase 3, randomized, placebo-controlled HOPE trial (NCT03036813), significantly more patients (aged \geq 12 years) treated with voxelotor 1500 mg achieved a >1 g/dL Hb increase vs placebo (89% vs 25%, respectively) at any time up to Week 72. Hb increases were associated with reductions in markers of hemolysis (indirect bilirubin, reticulocyte percentage, and lactate dehydrogenase). To assess the safety and efficacy of long-term voxelotor use, we report an updated interim analysis of an open-label extension (OLE) of the HOPE trial.

Methods: Patients who completed the HOPE trial were eligible to enroll in the multicenter, global OLE study (NCT03573882) and receive ongoing treatment with once daily voxelotor 1500 mg if they continued to derive clinical benefit and/or until voxelotor was available via an alternative source. Adverse event (AE) data were collected through 28 days after voxelotor discontinuation, and measurements of Hb and clinical markers of hemolysis were summarized through 168 weeks of treatment in the OLE. Central laboratory assessments were used for the US and Europe through Week 48; local laboratory assessments were used for the study. The annualized rate of VOCs was calculated from events reported as sickle cell anemia with crisis or acute chest syndrome. Data presented are based on an interim data cut (Dec 31, 2022).

Results: Of 199 patients who completed the HOPE trial, 178 (89.4%) were enrolled and dosed in the OLE. Median age at enrollment was 25 years (15.7% adolescents, 84.3% adults). At data cutoff, the median (range) duration of voxelotor exposure the OLE was 124.0 (1.9-205.9) weeks, and 81 patients were treated for \geq 168 weeks. Of these 81 patients, 52 had previously received voxelotor in the randomized part of the study, for a combined duration of exposure of \geq 240 weeks (4.6 years). In 17 patients previously treated with placebo who remained on study through 168 weeks, the mean (SD) Hb change from baseline (start of OLE) was 1.1 (1.51) g/dL. The mean (SD) Hb change from baseline for patients who previously received voxelotor 1500 mg was 0.5 (1.49) g/dL (n=18), indicating durability of response. Markers of hemolysis improved from baseline to 168 weeks in patients who received placebo in the HOPE trial (median decreases of 44.3% in indirect bilirubin [n=19] and 52.3% in reticulocyte percentage [n=14]). Patients who received 1500 mg voxelotor in the HOPE trial showed a stable response at Week 168 (median decreases of 25.2% in indirect bilirubin [n=17] and 53.3% in reticulocyte percentage [n=17]). The annualized incidence rate of VOCs was 1.1 (95% CI: 1.0-1.2) events per year across all patients. A total of 157/178 patients (88.2%) reported a non-SCD-related treatment-emergent AE (TEAE); the most commonly reported TEAEs were arthralgia, headache, pain in

extremity, and upper respiratory tract infection (Table). Many TEAEs were reported during the COVID-19 pandemic; most were grade 1 or 2 in severity. AEs that led to treatment discontinuation occurred in 16 patients (9.0%). Eight deaths occurred, none deemed related to voxelotor treatment.

Conclusions: In this updated analysis from the HOPE OLE, treatment with voxelotor 1500 mg resulted in improvements in Hb and clinical markers of hemolysis at Week 168 in patients who received placebo in the HOPE trial. Treatment with voxelotor 1500 mg showed durability of response in patients who received voxelotor in the HOPE trial. The safety profile in the OLE was consistent with findings from the HOPE trial, and no new safety signals were identified with exposure through a combined 240 weeks of treatment. Long-term use of voxelotor was well tolerated and effective at maintaining reductions in anemia and hemolysis, with a low rate of VOCs, in patients with SCD.

Disclosures Achebe: Shield Therapeutics: Consultancy; Fulcrum Therapeutics: Consultancy; Global Blood Therapeutics: Consultancy; Forma Therapeutics, Pharmacosmos, Fulcrum, Global Blood Therapeutics: Consultancy. Hassab: Global Blood Therapeutics: Research Funding. Al-Kindi: Emmaus: Other: Advisory board, Speakers Bureau; Global Blood Therapeutics: Speakers Bureau; Novartis: Other: Advisory board, Speakers Bureau. Brown: Pfizer Inc: Current Employment, Current holder of stock options in a privately-held company, Research Funding; Novartis: Consultancy, Research Funding; Forma Therapeutics: Research Funding; Global Blood Therapeutics: Consultancy, Ended employment in the past 24 months, Research Funding; Imara: Consultancy, Research Funding. Telfer: Celgene: Other: Clinical trial activity; Apopharma: Other: Clinical trial activity, Speakers Bureau; Pfizer: Other: Advisory board; Clinical trial activity; Data monitoring committee; ; Novartis: Other: Advisory board; Clinical trial activity; ; bluebird bio: Other: Advisory board; Investigator-led funding;; Napp Pharmaceuticals: Other: Clinical trial activity; Kyowa Kirin Limited: Other: Investigator-led funding; Terumo: Speakers Bureau. Biemond: BMS: Research Funding; Celgene: Other: Advisory board; Novo Nordisk: Other: Advisory board; CSL Behring: Other: Advisory board; Sanguin: Research Funding; Novartis: Other: Advisory board, Research Funding; Global Blood Therapeutics/Pfizer: Other: Advisory board, Research Funding. Davis: Pfizer Inc: Current Employment, Current holder of stock options in a privatelyheld company; Global Blood Therapeutics: Ended employment in the past 24 months. Gray: Pfizer Inc: Current Employment, Current holder of stock options in a privately-held company; Global Blood Therapeutics: Ended employment in the past 24 months. Gordeuk: Modus Therapeutics: Consultancy; Emmaus: Consultancy, Research Funding; Forma: Consultancy, Research Funding; GBT/Pfizer: Consultancy, Research Funding; Takeda: Consultancy; CSL-Behring: Consultancy; Novartis: Research Funding; Incyte: Research Funding.

Table. Non-SCD-Related TEAEs by Preferred Term Reported for ≥10% of All Patients			
Prior treatment group in HOPE trial			
Preferred Term, n (%)	Placebo (n=62)	Voxelotor 1500 mg (n=58)	All patients ^a (N=178)
Arthralgia	14 (22.6)	8 (13.8)	31 (17.4)
Headache	14 (22.6)	10 (17.2)	31 (17.4)
Pain in extremity	9 (14.5)	13 (22.4)	28 (15.7)
Upper respiratory tract infection	11 (17.7)	12 (20.7)	26 (14.6)
Back pain	9 (14.5)	10 (17.2)	25 (14.0)
Nausea	13 (21.0)	4 (6.9)	25 (14.0)
Pain	11 (17.7)	8 (13.8)	25 (14.0)
Diarrhea	11 (17.7)	3 (5.2)	20 (11.2)
Pyrexia	8 (12.9)	4 (6.9)	19 (10.7)
COVID-19	3 (4.8)	10 (17.2)	18 (10.1)

^a Includes 58 patients treated with voxelotor 900 mg during the HOPE trial.

AEs were coded using MedDRA version 25.1. The table summarizes AEs with an onset date on or after the date of informed consent until 28 days after drug discontinuation. The summary is patient level.

AE=adverse event; COVID-19=coronavirus disease 2019; MedDRA=Medical Dictionary for Regulatory Activities; SCD=sickle cell disease; TEAE=treatment-emergent adverse event.

https://doi.org/10.1182/blood-2023-188616