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614.ACUTE LYMPHOBLASTIC LEUKEMIAS: THERAPIES, EXCLUDING TRANSPLANTATION AND CELLULAR IMMUNOTHERAPIES

A Phase I Study of Asciminib (ABL001) in Combination with Dasatinib and Prednisone for BCR-ABL1-Positive ALL and Blast Phase CML in Adults

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Introduction:Oral ABL1 kinase inhibitors rapidly produce deep remissions in *BCR::ABL1*+ acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL) and chronic myeloid leukemia in lymphoid blast crisis (CML-LBC). Second generation TKIs such as dasatinib (DAS) are more effective than imatinib (Foa et al. *Blood* 2011) but patients may develop resistance. Asciminib (ASC), previously ABL001, is a STAMP (Specifically Targeting the ABL Myristoyl Pocket) allosteric ABL1 inhibitor that binds to a site spatially distinct from ATP-competitive TKIs. Combination treatment with an allosteric and an ATP-competitive TKI may deepen clinical responses and limit mutational resistance as supported by a cell line xenograft model of CML (Wylie et al. *Nature* 2017) and patient-derived xenograft models of *BCR::ABL1*+ ALL. We hypothesized that dual ABL blockade with catalytic domain and allosteric inhibitors would be tolerable and active in *BCR::ABL1*+ ALL and CML-LBC.

Methods: This investigator initiated, phase I study (NCT03595917) of asciminib (ASC) in combination with DAS plus prednisone (pred) for *BCR*::*ABL1*+ ALL studied ASC in escalating doses in a 3+3 design with the primary objective to determine the maximum tolerated dose (MTD)/recommended phase 2 dose (RP2D); a 10 patient (pt) expansion cohort was then accrued. Secondary objectives define the depth and durability of responses. Pts with *BCR*::*ABL1*+ ALL or CML-LBC newly diagnosed \geq 50 years (yrs), or unfit; or relapsed/refractory (no prior DAS or ASC) were eligible in dose escalation; all pts \geq 18 yrs were eligible in dose expansion. Pts received DAS 140 mg/day(d) and pred 60 mg/m²/d 1-24 (max 120 mg/d, tapered d 25-32) with escalating daily doses of ASC (DL1: 40 mg; DL2: 80 mg; DL3: 160 mg). DAS and ASC were given in 28-d cycles indefinitely in setting of clinical benefit, with allogeneic stem cell transplant (SCT) consolidation after d85 per treating physician. Dose-limiting toxicity (DLT) was initially defined as CTCAEv4 non-heme toxicity grade (gr) 3+; the study was amended to assess DLT via CTCAEv5. Correlative science efforts seek to define biomarkers of response and resistance to dual ABL1 blockade.

*Results:*The study enrolled 25 pts (48% female), with 14 in dose escalation (13 evaluable), and 11 in expansion (10 evaluable). Most (92%) had new ALL (p190: 15/23, p210: 8/23; 8% had CML-LBC. Median age was 65 yrs (range 33 - 85; 8 pts 70+). Median WBC was 15.1 K/ μ L (range 0.9 - 251.9 K/ μ L). No pt had CNS disease. DL1 and DL2 enrolled 3 pts each without DLT. Two of 3 pts at DL3 developed asymptomatic CTCAEv4 gr 3 amylase elevation during C1 meeting original DLT criteria. A 4 th pt enrolled on re-opened DL3 under an amendment defining asymptomatic CTCAEv4 gr 3 amylase/lipase elevations persisting \leq 5d to not be a DLT. This pt experienced an asymptomatic CTCAEv4 gr 3 lipase elevation meeting DLT criteria. Thus, the study de-escalated to DL2, re-opening under an amendment assessing DLTs via CTCAEv5. Of note, all DLTs at DL3 would be gr <3 per CTCAEv5. Four more pts (3 evaluable) enrolled at DL2 without a DLT. Thus, ASC 80 mg/d was declared the RP2D, and 11 pts age \geq 18 yrs enrolled in an expansion cohort, 10 of whom initiated study treatment. No pt had symptomatic pancreatitis. Rates of molecular response after 3 cycles among all evaluable patients were 58.3% (14/24) for MRD 3.0 and 25.0% (6/24) for MRD 4.0. Evaluable pts with new ALL treated at the RP2D achieved molecular response rates after 3 cycles of

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78.6% (11/14) for MRD 3.0 and 42.9% (6/14) for MRD 4.0. Both patients with imatinib-refractory CML-LBC progressed (C9, C3). Of those with ALL, 8 bridged to SCT after 2-8 cycles; 2 elected local care (C5, C7); 1 transitioned to ponatinib for inadequate response plus recurrent DAS pulmonary toxicity (C4); 6 remained on study treatment until disease progression (C4 - MRD+, C45, C11, C11); 3 remain on study. Correlative science evaluation of serial pt biospecimens in pursuit of predictive biomarkers will be shared at the meeting.

Conclusion: Dual ABL1 kinase inhibition with ASC and DAS plus pred in *BCR::ABL1*+ ALL and CML-LBC is feasible and tolerable in adults with *BCR::ABL1*+ ALL and CML-LBC. DLTs at ASC 160 mg/d were asymptomatic amylase and lipase elevation, without clinical sequelae. ASC 80 mg/day was declared the RP2D, and an expansion cohort of 10 pts was completed. High rates of molecular response and bridging to transplant highlight encouraging preliminary activity. A phase II expansion cohort incorporating blinatumomab is now open.

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	1 month	3 months		
Flow Negative	60% (9/14)	80% (12/14)		
BCR-ABL qPCR				
MRD 3.0	30.8% (4/13)	78.6% (11/14)		
MRD 4.0	23.1% (3/13)	42.9% (6/14)		

Table 1. Summary of clinical responses for study participants with newly diagnosed acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL) treated at the recommended phase 2 dose (RP2D) of asciminib (80 mg daily) after 1 and 3 months of study treatment. Data shown reflect the numbers of participants who achieved the indicated response metric of those who had a valid test result at that time point (patients not tested or technical assay failures are excluded). Data current as of 7/14/2023.

	Dose Level Patient	Dettern	Onc	Prior Therapy	Isoform	Age/Sex	Flow Cytometry (%)		BCR-ABL mRNA (%)		Last Cycle	Evaluable	Discolution	
		Patient	Diagnosis				Month 1	Month 3	Month 1	Month 3	Completed	for AEs	Disposition	Off Study Reason
Dose Escalation	1 (40 mg)	01	ALL	-	p190	67 F	1.1	0*	0.145†	0.0522*	4	Y	Off	Patient discretion
		02	ALL		p210	53 M	0	0	3.0018	0.0500	5	Y	Off	SCT
		03	ALL	-	p190	66 M	0.8	0	4.2955	0.0802	5	Y	Off	SCT
	2 (80 mg)	04	ALL	2.43	p190	83 F	0	0	failed	<lod< td=""><td>45</td><td>Y</td><td>Off</td><td>Progression</td></lod<>	45	Y	Off	Progression
		05	ALL	5 4 3	p210	73 F	16	0.7	> 50	6.2937	3	Y	Off	Dasatinib toxicity
		06	ALL		p190	65 M	0	0	1.5762	0.0775	10	Y	Off	Progression
	3 (160 mg)	07	ALL		p210	85 M	-				0	Y	Off	DLT (amylase increased)
		08	ALL	-	p190	57 F	0	-	0.0171	-	1	Y	Off	Dasatinib toxicity
		09	ALL	-	p190	57 F	-	-	-	-	0	Y	Off	DLT (amylase increased)
		10	ALL	-	p190	65 M	0.1		1.5398	•	2	Y	Off	DLT (lipase increased) > dose reduction > blinatumomab and SCT
	2 (80 mg)	11	ALL		p190	80 M	0	0	0.0278	0.0481	6	N	Off	Patient discretion
		12	ALL		p190	62 M	0.1	0	8.3336	0.0056	9	Y	Off	Progression
		13	ALL	()*)	p190	76 F	0	0	0.002	<lod< td=""><td>22</td><td>Y</td><td>Continues</td><td>-</td></lod<>	22	Y	Continues	-
		14	ALL		p190	70 M	0.04	0	0.1933	0.0069	3	Y	Off	Blinatumomab and SCT
Dose Expansion	. 2 (80 mg)	15	ALL		p210	33 F	0	0	4.3973	0.0342	3	Y	Off	Blinatumomab and SCT
		16	ALL		p210	57 M	0.07	0	0.0082	<lod< td=""><td>3</td><td>Y</td><td>Off</td><td>Blinatumomab and SCT</td></lod<>	3	Y	Off	Blinatumomab and SCT
		17	ALL		p190	64 M	0	0	0.0058	0.0031	4	Y	Off	SCT
		18	ALL		p190	67 M	missing	missing	missing	missing	14	Y	Off	Dasatinib toxicity
		19	ALL	-	p190	75 F					0	N	Off	Death before study treatment
		20	CML-LBP	Imatinib	p210	44 M	0	0	0.0059	0.0386	9	Y	Off	Progression
		21	ALL		p210	44 F	0	0	0.1500	0.0461	11	Y	Continues	-
		22	ALL		p190	77 F	0	0	1.073	0.5693	10	Y	Continues	
		23	ALL		p190	66 F	0.06	0.075*	3.5822	0.1849*	8	Y	Off	SCT
		24	ALL		p190	53 F	0	0	0.3601	0.0682	4	Y	Off	Progression
		25	CML-LBP	Imatinib	p210	53 M	0	0*	0.9500	0.2936*	3	Y	Off	Progression

Table 2. Patient outcomes and disposition for all diagnoses, dose phases, and dose levels. Abbreviations: ALL (acute lymphoblastic leukemia), CML-LBP (chronic myelogenous leukemia in lymphoid blast crisis), SCT (allogeneic hematopoietic stem cell transplantation).

* Data shown are from peripheral blood in lieu of valid bone marrow test result at this time point (n.b. excluded from summary statistics in Table 1).

Data current as of 7/14/2023.

Figure 1

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