Phase 1 Maximum-Tolerated Dose Study of Pasireotide LAR in Patients with Advanced Neuroendocrine Tumors

Alexandria T. Phan; Edward M. Wolin; Jennifer Chan; Jerry Huang; Michelle Hudson; Gareth Hughes; Guoxiang Shen; and Jonathan R. Strosberg

1University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX, USA
2Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles, CA, USA
3Dana Farber Cancer Institute, Boston, MA, USA
4Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation, Oncology Clinical Development, Florham Park, NJ, USA
5H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and Research Institute, Tampa, FL, USA

Background: Pasireotide is a novel somatostatin analog (SSA) with a broader somatostatin receptor binding affinity than octreotide or lanreotide. A phase 1 dose-escalation study (NCT01364415) of pasireotide long-acting release (LAR) was designed to determine the maximum tolerated dose (MTD) or recommended phase 2 dose (RP2D) and to characterize the safety, tolerability, pharmacokinetics, and efficacy in patients with advanced neuroendocrine tumors (NET).

Methods: Patients with advanced, well-differentiated, or moderately differentiated NET received pasireotide LAR IM, beginning at a dose of 80 mg every 28 days.

Results: As of March 20, 2013, 21 patients have been treated in the dose-escalation phase of the study: 6 at 80 mg (median age, 57 years) and 15 at 120 mg (median age, 60 years). Primary tumor sites include small intestine (43%), lung (24%), and pancreas (14%). Most patients (86%) received previous SSA therapy; 95% had undergone previous resection. Median duration of exposure (based on 28-day cycles) was 7.6 cycles (80-mg group) and 4.9 cycles (120-mg group). Thirteen (62%) patients remain on treatment (80 mg, n=1; 120 mg, n=12); 8 (38%) patients discontinued. Mean plasma concentrations of pasireotide increased with dose escalation from 80 to 120 mg. No dose-limiting toxicities have been reported. The most frequent adverse events (AEs) were mild/moderate and similar between doses, including: hyperglycemia (76%), diarrhea (48%), abdominal pain (38%), fatigue (38%), nausea (33%), and anemia (29%). Three patients experienced grade 3/4 hyperglycemia (80 mg, n=2; 120 mg, n=1).

Conclusions: Pasireotide LAR appears to be well tolerated up to 120 mg in patients with advanced NET. This study is ongoing.

Supported by Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation.