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Association of grade \geq 3 neutropenia (NP) with outcomes in patients with metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer (mCRPC) receiving capazitaxel

<u>A. Meisel</u>¹, R. de Wit², S. Oudard³, O. Sartor⁴, F. Stenner-Liewen⁵, Z. Shun⁶, A. Ozatilgan⁷, M. Eisenberger⁸, J.S. de Bono⁹

¹Internal Medicine - Hematology and Oncology, Stadtspital Ward; Department of Nuclear Zurich, University Hospital of Zurich; Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Federal Institute of Technology, Zurich, Switzerland, ²Medical Oncology, Erasmus University Medical Center, Rotterdam, Netherlands, ³Service d'Oncologie Médicale, Georges Pompidou European Hospital, Rene Descartes University, Paris, France, ⁴Medicine and Urology, Tulane Cancer Center, New Orleans, LA, USA, ⁵Department of Oncology, University Hospital of Basel, Basel, Switzerland, ⁶Biostatistics, Sanofi, Bridgewater, NJ, USA, ⁷Global Medical Oncology, Sanofi, Cambridge, MA, USA, ⁸The Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center, Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, MD, USA, ⁹Division of Clinical Studies, Drug Development Unit, Royal Marsden NHS Foundation Trust/The Institute of Cancer Research, Sutton, UK

Background: Subset analysis of trials investigating taxanes in patients with mCRPC suggest an association between Grade ≥ 3 NP and disease outcomes. In the Phase 3 PROSELICA trial (NCT01308580), NP was more common in patients receiving cabazitaxel 25 mg/m² (C25) vs cabazitaxel 20 mg/m² (C20) - 73% vs 42%, respectively. Post hoc analyses of PROSELICA examined the relationship between incidence of NP, survival and response.

Methods: PROSELICA assessed the non-inferiority of C20 (n = 598) vs C25 (n = 602) in terms of overall survival (OS) in men with mCRPC. Prophylactic granulocyte colony-stimulating factor was given to patients with Grade \geq 3 NP. OS and progression-free survival (PFS) were analyzed using Kaplan-Meier (KM) estimates and Cox proportional hazard models. Nominal p values were determined by log-rank tests. Prostate-specific antigen response rate (PSArr; defined as proportion of patients with a > 50 % PSA decline from baseline) was analyzed in the eligible population using KM estimates with Chi² tests and odds ratios. OS, PFS and PSArr were correlated with Grade \geq 3 NP occurrence and baseline neutrophilia (neutrophilis \geq 7000 G/I) by univariate analysis.

Results: In the intent-to-treat (ITT) population, development of Grade $\geq \! 3$ NP was associated with better PSArr, PFS and OS (p < 0.001; Table). The positive association was observed in both treatment arms and in poor-risk patients with baseline neutrophilia.

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Population	Outcome	Grade ≥3 NP	No Grade ≥3 NP	Hazard ratio/Odds ratio	p value
ITT population	OS, months (mo)	15.1	12.4	0.78	0.0002
(n = 1200)	PFS, mo	3.7	2.8	0.79	0.0001
	PSArr, % n = 1079	44.1	25.5	2.3	< 0.0001
C25 (n = 602)	OS, mo	15.3	12.2	0.77	0.009
	PFS, mo	3.5	3.5	0.84	0.07
	PSArr, % n = 538	46.2	34.5	1.6	0.015
C20 (n = 598)	OS, mo	14.6	12.6	0.78	0.006
	PFS, mo	4.2	2.3	0.75	0.0008
	PSArr, % n = 541	40.7	21.3	2.5	< 0.0001
Neutrophilia	OS, mo	12.8	7.5	0.63	0.004
(n = 174)	PFS, mo	4.1	2.1	0.66	0.008
	PSArr, % n = 156	43.8	16.9	3.8	0.0002

Conclusions: Post hoc assessment of Grade \geq 3 NP in PROSELICA was associated with improved survival and response to cabazitaxel independent of dose. These results are consistent with data obtained in the Phase 3 TAX327 (docetaxel) and TROPIC (cabazitaxel) trials. Funded by Sanofi.

Clinical trial identification: NCT01308580.

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