

Treatment Exposure-Adjusted Event Rates (EAERs) for Grade 3/4 AEs Associated With Emerging and Existing Systemic Therapies for mCRC With at Least 2 Prior Lines of **Therapy: Informing Payer and Pathway Formulary Decision Making** 

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# INTRODUCTION

- Colorectal cancer (CRC) is the third-most common cancer type globally and has the second-highest mortality rate of all cancer types<sup>1</sup>
- CRC often presents at an advanced stage, with ~20% to ~30% of patients having metastatic disease (mCRC) at diagnosis, and up to half of patients with localized CRC eventually develop metastases<sup>2–8</sup>
- Systemic therapies such as fruquintinib, regorafenib, and trifluridine/tipiracil (T/T) have demonstrated improvements in survival versus best supportive care (BSC), as well as T/T + bevacizumab (T/T + bev) versus T/T, in the treatment of patients with mCRC who have been previously treated with oxaliplatin- and irinotecanbased chemotherapy<sup>9–13</sup>
- While some relative efficacy data are available for these therapies, there is limited evidence on their relative safety profiles

# **OBJECTIVE**

• This study characterizes the rates of grade 3/4 AEs occurring in ≥5% of patients while receiving treatment with fruquintinib, regoratenib, T/T, or T/T + bev for mCRC previously treated with oxaliplatin- and irinotecan-based chemotherapy, to inform payer formulary and pathway decisions

# **METHODS**

Treatment exposure-adjusted event rates (EAERs) were used to characterize the rates of grade 3/4 adverse events (AEs) occurring in  $\geq 5\%$  of patients while receiving treatment

- EAERs per 100 patient-days treatment exposure were estimated as 0.387 for fruquintinib, 1.733 for T/T, 1.670 for regoratenib, and 0.419 for T/T + bev (**Table 3**)
- Treatment EAERs were higher with T/T compared with T/T + bev due a higher rate of TEAEs with T/T in RECOURSE and SUNLIGHT compared with T/T + bev in SUNLIGHT
- However, RECOURSE and SUNLIGHT were conducted and published at least 8 years apart; thus, before the SUNLIGHT trial T/T had a history already in real-world practice with potential better management of T/T and its associated AEs
- A scenario analysis was conducted to characterize the treatment EAERs for T/T based on RECOURSE and SUNLIGHT separately, with the following respective results:
  - Number of grade 3/4 AEs occurring in  $\geq 5\%$  of patients were 611 and 137 in RECOURSE and SUNLIGHT, respectively;
  - Patient-days of treatment exposure were 24,998 and 15,724;
  - Treatment EAERs per 1,000 patient-days were 24.44 and 8.71; and
  - Treatment EAERs per 100 patient-days were 2.444 and 0.871

### Table 2. Number of grade 3/4 AEs occurring in ≥5% of patients treated with fruquintinib, regorafenib, T/T, and T/T + bev

	Fruquintinib (Pooled FRESCO and FRESCO-2) <sup>11,13</sup>	Regorafenib (CORRECT) <sup>9</sup>	T/T (Pooled RECOURSE and SUNLIGHT) <sup>10,12</sup>	T/T + bev (SUNLIGHT) <sup>12</sup>
Anemia		29	123	15
Asthenia	35		28	10
Diarrhea	24	41	22	2
Fatigue	21	77	30	3
Hand foot syndrome/palmar-plantar erythrodysesthesia	59	83		
Hypertension	121	38	3	14
Increased alanine aminotransferase	16	27	10	
Increased alkaline phosphatase			42	
Increased aspartate aminotransferase	11	29	23	
Increased total bilirubin	4	60	45	
Leukopenia			113	
Neutropenia			279	106
Rash		29		
Thrombocytopenia		19	30	7
Total	291	432	748	157

- The number of patient-days of treatment exposure was calculated for each treatment by multiplying the number of patients treated in their respective clinical trials by the reported median treatment duration converted to days (using 30.4375 days in a month) (**Table 1**)
  - For fruquintinib, the number of patients treated was calculated as the sum of the number patients from FRESCO (278) and FRESCO-2 (456), and the median treatment duration in months as the average of the median treatment duration from FRESCO (3.68 months) and FRESCO-2 (3.06 months)<sup>11,13</sup>
  - For T/T, the number of patients treated was calculated as the sum of the number patients from RECOURSE (533) and SUNLIGHT (246), and the median treatment duration in months as the average of the median treatment duration from RECOURSE (1.54 months) and SUNLIGHT (2.10 months)<sup>10,12</sup>
- The number of grade 3/4 AEs occurring in  $\geq 5\%$  of patients for each treatment were from their respective clinical trials;<sup>9-13</sup> for fruquintinib and T/T, number of AEs reported is based on the pooled data from FRESCO and FRESCO-2,<sup>11,13</sup> and from RECOURSE and SUNLIGHT<sup>10,12</sup>
- Treatment EAERs were calculated by dividing the number of grade 3/4 AEs occurring in ≥5% of patients by the patient-days of treatment exposure, and multiplied by 1,000 and 100 to calculate treatment EAERs per 1,000 and 100 patient-days of treatment exposure, respectively

#### Table 1. Number of patients treated, median treatment duration, and treatment exposure with fruquintinib, regorafenib, T/T, and T/T + bev

	Fruquintinib (Pooled FRESCO and FRESCO-2) <sup>11,13</sup>	Regorafenib (CORRECT) <sup>9</sup>	T/T (Pooled RECOURSE and SUNLIGHT) <sup>10,12</sup>	T/T + bev (SUNLIGHT) <sup>12</sup>
Number of treated patients in clinical trial*	734	500	779	246
Median duration of treatment (months) <sup>†</sup>	3.37	1.70	1.82	5.00
Median duration of treatment (days) <sup>‡</sup>	102.57	51.74	55.41	152.19
Patient-days of treatment exposure <sup>‡</sup>	75,290	25,872	43,164	37,438

\*For fruquintinib, calculated as the sum of the number of patients from FRESCO (278) and FRESCO-2 (456). For T/T, calculated as the sum of the number of patients from RECOURSE (533) and SUNLIGHT (246).

<sup>†</sup>For fruquintinib, calculated as the average of the median treatment duration from FRESCO (3.68 months) and FRESCO-2 (3.06 months). For T/T calculated as the average of the median treatment duration from RECOURSE (1.54 months) and SUNLIGHT (2.10 months).

<sup>‡</sup>Calculated by multiplying the number of patients treated by the median treatment duration in months converted to days (using 30.4375 days)

### Table 3. Treatment EAERs for grade 3/4 AEs occurring in ≥5% of patients treated with fruquintinib, regorafenib, T/T, or T/T + bev

	Fruquintinib	Regorafenib	T/T	T/T + bev
Treatment EAERs per 1,000 patient-days*	3.87	16.70	17.33	4.19
Treatment EAERs per 100 patient-days <sup>†</sup>	0.387	1.670	1.733	0.419

\*Calculated by dividing the number of number of grade 3/4 AEs occurring in ≥5% by the patient-days of treatment exposure, multiplied by 1.000.

<sup>†</sup>Calculated by dividing the number of number of grade 3/4 AEs occurring in  $\geq 5\%$  by the patient-days of treatment exposure, multiplied by 100.

## LIMITATIONS

• These analyses were based on AE rates reported in randomized clinical trials, which may differ from rates and/or number of events per patient that may occur in real clinical practice

## RESULTS

- Grade 3/4 AEs occurring in ≥5% for any treatment included: anemia, asthenia, diarrhea, fatigue, hand foot syndrome/palmar-plantar erythrodysesthesia, hypertension, leukopenia, neutropenia, rash, thrombocytopenia, and laboratory abnormalities (increased alanine aminotransferase, alkaline phosphatase, aspartate aminotransferase, and total bilirubin) (**Table 2**)
- EAERs per 1,000 patient-days of treatment exposure were estimated as 3.87 for fruguintinib, 17.33 for T/T, 16.70 for regoratenib, and 4.19 for T/T + bev (**Table 3**)

## CONCLUSIONS

- Based on the AE rates reported in randomized clinical trials, patients with mCRC previously treated with oxaliplatin- and irinotecan-based chemotherapy experienced lower treatment EAERs associated with grade 3/4 AEs occurring in  $\geq 5\%$  of patients when treated with fruguintinib versus other systemic treatment options
- Population health and healthcare plan decision makers may consider the use of the treatment EAERs of this analysis as a value measure when reviewing formulary and pathway choices of emerging and existing systemic therapies for patients with mCRC
- Future research based on real-world evidence should look into the impact of the sequence of these treatments on efficacy and toxicity

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