

Association Between Baseline Lung Function and Oral Corticosteroid Elimination in Patients With Oral Corticosteroid-Dependent Severe Asthma

Asthma

Christian Domingo¹, Nicola A. Hanania², G. Walter Canonica^{3,4}, David M.G. Halpin⁵, Njira L. Lugogo⁶, Chin Kook Rhee⁷, Arman Altincatal⁸, Nami Pandit-Abid⁹, Scott Nash¹⁰, Yamo Deniz¹⁰, Paul J. Rowe⁹, Harry Sacks¹⁰, Casey Reed^{8*}, Juby A. Jacob-Nara⁹

¹Pulmonary Service, Corporació Sanitària Parc Taulí, Sabadell, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain; ²Section of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX, USA; ³Department of Biomedical Sciences, Humanitas University, Milan, Italy; ⁴Asthma & Allergy Unit, IRCCS Humanitas Research Hospital, Milan, Italy; ⁵University of Exeter Medical School, College of Medicine and Health, University of Exeter, Exeter, UK; ⁶University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, USA; ⁷College of Medicine, The Catholic University of Korea, Seoul St. Mary's Hospital, Seoul, Republic of Korea; ⁸Sanofi, Cambridge, MA, USA; ⁹Sanofi, Bridgewater, NJ, USA; ¹⁰Regeneron Pharmaceuticals Inc., Tarrytown, NY, USA

Rationale

- Long-term use of OCS is associated with toxicities and immunosuppression¹⁻³
- It is unknown whether certain baseline disease characteristics are associated with a higher likelihood of OCS reduction
- (↓ Scan the QR code for more)

Methods

- Patients in VENTURE received either dupilumab 300 mg or placebo q2w for 24 weeks
- After a 3- to 10-week OCS dose-optimization period prior to the start of the treatment period, OCS dose was downtitrated every 4 weeks per protocol criteria up to Week 20 (Table 1)

Table 1. OCS dose reduction.

Time course	OCS dose (mg/day)								
Optimized OCS dose	35	30	25	20	15	12.5	10	7.5	5
First reduction	25	20	15	10	10	10	5	5	2.5
+ 4 weeks	15	10	10	5	5	5	2.5	2.5	0
+ 4 weeks	10	5	5	2.5	2.5	2.5	0	0	
+ 4 weeks	5	2.5	2.5	0	0	0			
+ 4 weeks	2.5	0	0						

Study assessments

- Patients who eliminated OCS use by Week 24 were stratified by:
 - Baseline pre-bronchodilator ppFEV₁ </>=60%
 - Baseline post-bronchodilator FEV₁ ≤/>median (1.78 L)
 - Baseline pre-bronchodilator FEV₁ </>≥1.75 L
- (↓ Scan the QR code for more)

Objective

- To assess the association between baseline disease characteristics and OCS elimination in the VENTURE study

Conclusion

- Dupilumab vs placebo use showed a statistically significant association with OCS elimination at Week 24 in patients with OCS-dependent severe asthma and pre-bronchodilator ppFEV₁ <60%, post-bronchodilator FEV₁ ≤median (1.78 L), or pre-bronchodilator FEV₁ ≤1.75 L at baseline

Results

Table 2. Probability of OCS elimination was significantly higher for dupilumab vs placebo in patients with baseline pre-bronchodilator ppFEV₁ <60%.

Patients no longer requiring OCS at Week 24	Placebo (n = 106)	Dupilumab 300 mg q2w (n = 103)
Baseline pre-bronchodilator ppFEV ₁ <60%	n = 67	n = 70
Mean OCS dose at baseline, prednisone mg/day (SD) ^a	11.34 (6.47)	10.39 (5.74)
Patients achieving OCS elimination, n (%)	12 (17.9)	36 (51.4)
Adjusted probability of achieving the reduction		
Estimate (95% CI)	0.10 (0.05–0.21)	0.44 (0.30–0.60)
Odds ratio vs placebo (95% CI)		6.76 (2.73, 16.77)
P value vs placebo		P < 0.0001
Baseline pre-bronchodilator ppFEV ₁ ≥60%	n = 38	n = 31
Mean OCS dose at baseline, prednisone mg/day (SD) ^b	12.50 (6.01)	11.56 (6.25)
Patients achieving OCS elimination, n (%)	19 (50.0)	18 (58.1)
Adjusted probability of achieving the reduction		
Estimate (95% CI)	0.49 (0.32–0.66)	0.55 (0.34–0.75)
Odds ratio vs placebo (95% CI)		1.29 (0.45, 3.72)
P value vs placebo		P = 0.63
Overall P value for interaction	P = 0.03	

^an = 69 (placebo), 71 (dupilumab). ^bn = 38 (placebo), 32 (dupilumab).

Table 3. Probability of OCS elimination was significantly higher for dupilumab vs placebo in patients with baseline post-bronchodilator FEV₁ ≤median (1.78 L).

Patients no longer requiring OCS at Week 24	Placebo (n = 106)	Dupilumab 300 mg q2w (n = 103)
Baseline post-bronchodilator FEV ₁ ≤median (1.78 L)	n = 52	n = 49
Mean OCS dose at baseline, prednisone mg/day (SD) ^a	10.68 (5.35)	10.34 (5.98)
Patients achieving OCS elimination, n (%)	10 (19.2)	25 (51.0)
Adjusted probability of achieving the reduction		
Estimate (95% CI)	0.11 (0.05–0.25)	0.43 (0.26–0.62)
Odds ratio vs placebo (95% CI)		6.06 (2.14, 17.17)
P value vs placebo		P < 0.001
Baseline post-bronchodilator FEV ₁ above median (1.78 L)	n = 51	n = 51
Mean OCS dose at baseline, prednisone mg/day (SD) ^b	13.10 (7.12)	11.23 (5.88)
Patients achieving OCS elimination, n (%)	20 (39.2)	28 (54.9)
Adjusted probability of achieving the reduction		
Estimate (95% CI)	0.35 (0.22–0.52)	0.50 (0.33–0.66)
Odds ratio vs placebo (95% CI)		1.81 (0.74, 4.41)
P value vs placebo		P = 0.19
Overall P value for interaction	P = 0.08	

^an = 55 (placebo), 51 (dupilumab). ^bn = 50 (placebo), 51 (dupilumab).

Table 4. Probability of OCS elimination was significantly higher for dupilumab vs placebo in patients with baseline pre-bronchodilator FEV₁ ≤1.75 L.

Patients no longer requiring OCS at Week 24	Placebo (n = 106)	Dupilumab 300 mg q2w (n = 103)
Baseline pre-bronchodilator FEV ₁ ≤1.75 L	n = 59	n = 72
Mean OCS dose at baseline, prednisone mg/day (SD) ^a	11.39 (6.50)	10.30 (5.63)
Patients achieving OCS elimination, n (%)	12 (20.3)	36 (50)
Adjusted probability of achieving the reduction		
Estimate (95% CI)	0.14 (0.07–0.27)	0.45 (0.32–0.60)
Odds ratio vs placebo (95% CI)		4.95 (2.04–12.02)
P value vs placebo		P < 0.001
Baseline pre-bronchodilator FEV ₁ >1.75 L	n = 46	n = 29
Mean OCS dose at baseline, prednisone mg/day (SD) ^b	12.23 (6.08)	11.90 (6.50)
Patients achieving OCS elimination, n (%)	19 (41.3)	18 (62.1)
Adjusted probability of achieving the reduction		
Estimate (95% CI)	0.36 (0.22, 0.54)	0.62 (0.38, 0.81)
Odds ratio vs placebo (95% CI)		2.85 (0.93, 8.72)
P value vs placebo		P = 0.07
Overall P value for interaction	P = 0.44	

^an = 61 (placebo), 74 (dupilumab). ^bn = 46 (placebo), 29 (dupilumab).

CI, confidence interval; FEV₁, forced expiratory volume in 1 second; OCS, oral corticosteroids; pp, percent predicted; q2w, every 2 weeks.

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Supplementary Rationale and Methods
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