Ruxolitinib nella mielofibrosi



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Ruxolitinib: long term clinical data

- 53% of RUX achieves spleen response at any time
- The probability of maintaining a spleen response is 0.51 at 3 years and 0.48 at 5.0 years
- Anemia, thrombocytopenia and infections are the key AEs



- Baseline anemia does not impact on responses
- Development of anemia does not affect survival

Verstovsek S, et al. Br J Haematol. 2013; 161(4): 508-516; Verstovsek S, et al. N Engl J Med. 2012;366(3):799-807; Gupta V Haematologica. 2016 Dec;101(12):e482-e484.; Verstovsek S, et al. N Engl J Med. 2012;366(3):799-807; Harrison et al; Leukemia. 2016 May 23; Giraldo P, et al. EHA 2015, P675

To manage low PLT counts: the EXPAND study



- Stratum 1 (75-99×10⁹/L) or stratum 2 (50-74×10⁹/L)
- The maximum safe starting dose was 10 mg twice daily in both strata

Figure 4. Waterfall plot of best response in spleen length by stratum at MSSD.

Spleen response was achieved at w48 in 33.3% and 30.0% of pts in stratum 1 and stratum 2, respectively.



Vannucchi AM et al, Haematologica 2018

The case of lymphomas during JAKi

- Among 626 MPNs (69 received RUX), 4 (6%) developed B-cell lymphomas while receiving JAKi and 2 (0.4%) while receiving non JAKi (16-fold higher)
- Lymphomas were of aggressive B-cell type, extranodal, or leukemic with high MYC expression
- Median time from JAKi to NHL was 25 months
- Clonal B cells were present in the BM of 15% of PMF, regardless of treatment



Porpacizy et al. Blood 2018

Ruxolitinib can reduce JAK2 allele burden in MF

One-third of evaluable JAK2 V617F-positive patients had a >20% reduction in allele burden



Harrison et al; Leukemia. 2016 Aug;30(8):1701-7

Long-term effect of ruxolitinib on BM fibrosis

RUX (up to 66 months) effect on BM morphology in 68 patients with advanced MF *vs.* 192 matching patients treated with BAT



In addition, BM fibrosis reduction was associated with:

- Regression of leukoerythroblastosis
- Durable reduction of circulating blasts

Kvasnicka et al. Journal of Hematology & Oncology (2018) 11:42

Overall survival analysis of 5-year pooled data from COMFORT-I/II



- Ruxolitinib resulted in 30% reduction in risk of death compared to control
- RPSFT (rank-preserving structural failure time, used in oncology to test OS after treatment switching) the OS advantage was more pronounced with ruxolitinib patients compared to control

OS, Overall survival; HR, hazard ratio; CI, confidence interval; ITT, intention to treat; RPSFT, rank-preserving structural failure time.

RUX discontinuation/failure an unmet clinical need

- 86 patients discontinued RUX after a median of 79 months
- Median survival of patients who discontinue RUX is 14 months
- 33% of patients acquired a new mutation at the time of RUX discontinuation (*ASXL1* in 60%)



Patients with clonal evolution had shorter survival after RUX discontinuation than those without clonal evolution

JAKi-failure: a treatment algorithm for MF



Pardanani and Tefferi Blood 2018;132:492-500

Circulating blasts in MF: an unmet clinical need

328 RUX-treated patients: 289 in chronic phase (blasts <5%), 33 in</p> CPe (blasts, 5-9%) and 6 in accelerated phase-AP- (blasts, 10-19%)



MF-AP (BC 10-19%)

- RUX improves survival in patients with MF and 5-9%-blast cells
- Survival of AP-MF is not increased by RUX

Ruxolitinib efficacy is genotype-independent



BAT



Unknown mutation status (n = 2)

Spleen Response and Symptomatic Improvement by Molecular Status in Patients Receiving Ruxolitinib*



HMR status did not increase the risk of developing anemia or thrombocytopenia under ruxolitinib treatment

Guglielmelli P, et al. Blood. 2014; 123:2157-60

Harrison CN, et al. ASH 2011. Abstract 279. Guglielmelli et al, Blood 2014

Single genomic alteration can predict outcomes in MF receiving JAK-inhibitors

- 100 patients: RUX=77; MOME=23
- No mutation was associated with response
- ASXL1 or EZH2 mutations were independently
 - associated with shorter time to treatment failure
- Impact on survival:



Spiegel et al. Blood Adv. 2017 Sep 8;1(20):1729-1738

JAKi predictors of response (I)

- 548 MF patients treated with JAKi
- Response: 50% decrease in spleen size at early (3–4 months on therapy) and late (5–12 months) timepoints after therapy initiation
- Predictors of early response:
 - Higher doses of JAKi
 - BL spleen size 5–10 cm
 - Hemoglobin
- Predictors of late response:
 - Obtainment of response at the earlier timepoint

JAKi predictors of response (II)





LCM, lower costal margin; OR, overall response; WBC, white blood cell.

Palandri et al. Oncotarget. 2017

JUMP: RUX efficacy per DIPSS stratification

25% and 2 50% reductions from baseline in palpable spleen length



- Number of patients with low-/Int-1–, Int-2– and high-risk MF who achieved ≥ 50% spleen length reduction at any time in the study were 660 (79.5%), 465 (67.1%) and 109 (61.6%), respectively
 - The median time to achieve ≥ 50% reduction in spleen length from BL was 4.7, 7.1 and 8.1 weeks, respectively

Best spleen response from baseline for each patient at any time during the study



Passamonti et al, EHA 2017

Old and new issues deserving considerations

• Anemia and RBC transfusions

- Almost all patients develop anemia
- Manageable, potentially starting at lower doses
- Occurrence of anemia on RUX does not reduce efficacy on spleen
- Occurrence of anemia on RUX is not predictive of shortened survival
- New investigative trials: luspatercept
- Limits of platelet count value at baseline > 50 x10⁹/L
- Infections
 - SIE and ELN guidelines* did not suggest any restriction on RUX use

Conclusions

- Ruxolitinib is the standard new treatment for MF with a 50% SVR representing the new bar of treatment goals in MF
- Early treatment is an option, that is to be taken into consideration
- Next therapies/combo should improve anti-clonal efficacy, restore normal hematopoiesis and prevent disease progression