Synopsis (C0168T46 Act 2)

Name of Sponsor/Company: Centocor, Inc
Name of Finished Product: REMICADE®
Name of Active Ingredient: infliximab

Protocol: C0168T46 CR004783
EudraCT No.: Not Applicable

Title of the study: A Randomized, Placebo-controlled, Double-blind Trial to Evaluate the Safety and Efficacy of Infliximab in Patients with Active Ulcerative Colitis: Study Extension

Principal/Coordinating Investigator(s): William J. Sandborn, Mayo Medical School, Rochester, MN, US; and Paul J. Rutgeerts, Univ. Leuven, Leuven, Belgium

Study Center(s): Subjects participating in the study extension were enrolled at a total of 39 sites (17 in US, 2 in Canada, 16 in Europe, and 4 in Israel).


Studied Period: 02 Dec 2003/31 Aug 2007
Phase of Development: 3

Objectives: The primary objective of the main study (through Week 30) was to evaluate the safety and efficacy of infliximab in subjects with moderately to severely active ulcerative colitis. The objective of the study extension was primarily to provide uninterrupted access to infliximab treatment for subjects who had responded to treatment in the main study. A further objective was to examine the safety and efficacy of long-term treatment with infliximab.

Methodology: The main study of ACT 2 was a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, parallel-group study. In the study extension, subjects continued to receive the treatment to which they were randomized in the main study until the sites were unblinded. After study agent unblinding, subjects receiving placebo were discontinued from the study. Subjects receiving 5 mg/kg or 10 mg/kg infliximab continued to receive open-label infliximab every 8 weeks. Subjects receiving 10 mg/kg infliximab were given the opportunity to decrease their dose to 5 mg/kg. If subjects lost response after decreasing from 10 mg/kg to 5 mg/kg infliximab, or if a subject remaining on 5 mg/kg infliximab lost response, consideration to increase the dose to 10 mg/kg for subsequent infusions was permitted. Subjects were permitted only 1 dose increase during their participation in the study extension.

Number of Subjects (Analyzed): A total of 364 subjects were enrolled in the main study, among which 142 participated in the study extension.

Diagnosis and Main Criteria for Inclusion: To enter the main study at baseline, subjects must have had active ulcerative colitis as defined by a Mayo score between 6 and 12 points, inclusive. Subjects must also have had endoscopic evidence of active colitis as indicated by an endoscopy subscore of ≥ 2. In addition, subjects must have met at least 1 of the following criteria:
- Had concurrent treatment with at least 1 of the following: corticosteroids, azathioprine (AZA), 6-mercaptopurine (6-MP), or 5-aminosalicylate (5-ASA) compounds.
- Had failed to successfully taper, tolerate, or respond to corticosteroids within the previous 18 months.
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- Had failed to tolerate or respond to 6-MP or AZA within the previous 5 years.
- Had failed to tolerate or respond to 5-ASA compounds within the previous 18 months.

Subjects who completed treatment in the main study through Week 22 and evaluations through Week 30 and, in the opinion of the investigator could benefit from continued treatment, were eligible to enter the study extension.

**Test Product, Dose and Mode of Administration, Lot Number:** 5 mg/kg or 10 mg/kg infliximab IV administration every 8 weeks. Lot numbers: 01E072, 01J083, 03J121, 03J122, 04C127, 04C137, 03J1J122, and 04C127.

**Duration of Treatment:** Treatment in the study extension continued for a maximum of 3 years or until marketing authorization was obtained for the use of infliximab for the treatment of ulcerative colitis and product was commercially available.

**Reference Therapy, Dose and Mode of Administration, Lot Number:** Placebo (supplied as lyophilized solid for reconstitution with sterile water for injection) IV administration. Lot number: 01G061, 01G062, 03C157, and 03D097.

**Criteria for Evaluation:** Limited efficacy and health economic analyses were performed on all subjects who entered the study extension. In addition, safety analyses were performed on all treated subjects in the study extension (subjects who received at least 1 infusion of study agent [partial or complete] in the study extension) according to the actual study agent received during the study.

**Pharmacokinetics:** Serum samples were collected to assess serum infliximab.

**Efficacy:** Efficacy was evaluated using the physicians’ global assessment, a subscore of the Mayo score. The use of corticosteroids for ulcerative colitis was evaluated. Colectomies, ostomies, ulcerative colitis-related hospitalizations, and other ulcerative-colitis related surgeries were recorded. Health related quality of life was evaluated using the inflammatory bowel disease questionnaire (IBDQ) and the SF-36. C-reactive Protein (CRP) concentrations were measured.

**Safety:** Safety was assessed by summarizing the incidence and type of AEs observed during the study extension, as well as summarizing markedly abnormal hematology and chemistry parameters, including ANA/anti-dsDNA and antibodies to infliximab. A colonoscopy dysplasia questionnaire was completed during the study extension.

**Statistical Methods:** No hypothesis testing was performed. Data summaries were provided for the placebo treatment group and for the infliximab treatment group (5 mg/kg infliximab, and 10 mg/kg infliximab combined). For categorical variables, counts and percentages were used to describe the data. Continuous variables were summarized with the sample size, mean, SD, median, interquartile range, and range. Tabular displays and listings were used to summarize the data.

**SUMMARY – CONCLUSIONS**

**Study Population Results:** Of the 142 subjects who participated in the study extension, 31 subjects were in the placebo treatment group, and 52 subjects were in the 5 mg/kg infliximab treatment group, and 59 subjects were in the 10 mg/kg infliximab treatment group. A total of 33.1% of subjects who participated in the study extension permanently discontinued study infusions; 25.8% in the placebo treatment group, and 35.1% in the infliximab treatment group.
The baseline demographic characteristics of the subset of subjects who entered the study extension were generally similar across the treatment groups with respect to race and age, but the ratio of males to females differed slightly between the treatment groups. Among subjects participating in the study extension, 95.1% were Caucasian, and the median age was 39. There were slightly more males than females in the infliximab treatment group (57.7% and 42.3%, respectively), and fewer males than females in the placebo treatment group (45.2% and 54.8%, respectively).

Pharmacokinetic Results:
- The majority of subjects maintained serum infliximab concentrations above the LLOQ (0.1 µg/mL) during the study extension.
- The median serum infliximab concentrations for subjects during the study extension were proportional to the infliximab doses administered during the study extension.
- A total of 18.9% subjects were positive for antibodies to infliximab.

Efficacy Results:
- The proportion of subjects with physician’s global assessment scores indicative of normal or near normal disease was maintained during the study extension.
- The majority of infliximab-treated subjects were not receiving corticosteroids from the start of the study extension, and this was maintained throughout the study extension.
- In the infliximab treatment group, the median value of CRP was maintained at approximately 0.2 mg/dL throughout the study extension.
- In general, improvements in IBDQ and SF-36 scores were maintained during the study extension. Both of these colectomies occurred in subjects in the infliximab 10 mg/kg treatment group.

Safety Results:
The infliximab treatment group had an average of 101.4 weeks of treatment and 111.1 weeks of follow-up and subjects in the placebo treatment group had 55.8 weeks of treatment and 65.2 weeks of follow-up.
- A total of 86.6% and 76.7% of subjects in the infliximab and placebo treatment groups had at least 1 AE during the study extension. AEs were most frequently related to respiratory and GI system disorders in the infliximab treatment group. The most common AE in the infliximab treatment group was URI, reported in 25.9% of subjects in the infliximab treatment group.
- SAEs were reported in 17.9% of subjects in the infliximab treatment group and 6.7% of subjects in the placebo treatment group. The most frequently reported SAE was worsening of ulcerative colitis, which was reported in 6.3% of subjects in the infliximab treatment group and no subjects in the placebo treatment group.
- A total of 14 (12.5%) subjects in the infliximab treatment group and no subjects in the placebo treatment group discontinued study agent because of AEs. One subject in the 10 mg/kg infliximab treatment group had a serious allergic reaction after the Extension Week 2 infusion and study agent was discontinued. Four subjects (2 in the 5 mg/kg group and 2 in the 10 mg/kg group) discontinued study agent because of infusion reactions considered nonserious. Overall, infusion reactions were reported in 22.3% of subjects in the infliximab treatment group and 3.3% in the placebo treatment group. No subjects had a possible anaphylactic reaction or a possible delayed hypersensitivity reaction in the study extension.
- A total of 3 (2.7%) subjects in the infliximab treatment group had 1 or more serious infections during the study extension. Two subjects in the 5 mg/kg infliximab treatment group reported pneumonia. One
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subject with pneumonia also reported the following serious infections: adult respiratory distress syndrome, fungal infection, respiratory insufficiency, sepsis, and sinusitis. One subject in the 10 mg/kg infliximab treatment group reported pyelonephritis. No serious infections were reported in the placebo treatment group during the study extension.

- Infections were reported in 51.8% of subjects in the infliximab treatment group and 50.0% of subjects in the placebo treatment group respectively reported 1 or more infections. Most infections were related to respiratory system disorders.
- One opportunistic infection was reported during the study extension, a histoplasmosis that was fatal. No other subjects were reported to have opportunistic infections or active TB.
- Malignancies were reported in 2 subjects in the 5 mg/kg infliximab treatment group. One subject had a malignant prostate cancer and the other subject had breast cancer. One subject in the placebo treatment group had a basal cell carcinoma.
- Peripheral neuropathy was reported in 1 subject in the 5 mg/kg infliximab treatment group during the study extension. There were no SAEs for CHF or hematological disorders during the study extension.
- A total of 4 subjects in the infliximab treatment group (2 subjects in the 5 mg/kg group and 2 subjects in the 10 mg/kg group) had markedly abnormal ALT and AST values. One subject in the 5 mg/kg infliximab treatment group had markedly abnormal bilirubin. In all subjects, values were transient and returned to normal.
- One subject in the 10 mg/kg infliximab treatment group, had an ANA titer of 1:160 at baseline of the study extension and a 1:10240 ANA titer at Extension Week 48, was reported with joint pain and a lupus-like reaction. The same subject also tested positive for anti-dsDNA using the Crithidia immunofluorescent assay (IFA) and Farr method. No evidence of organ involvement or damage was observed in this subject, but the event led to permanent discontinuation of the study agent.

Conclusions:

In general, subjects maintained their clinical benefit during the study extension. In subjects with moderately to severely active ulcerative colitis who had already received 30 weeks of treatment, infliximab, administered as 5 mg/kg or 10 mg/kg infusions every 8 weeks during the study extension:

- Maintained clinical benefit as measured by the physician’s global assessment.
- Maintained improvements in health related quality of life as measured by the IBDQ and SF-36.
- Enabled subjects to sustain clinical benefit while avoiding corticosteroid treatment.
- Was generally well tolerated with a safety profile consistent with the REMICADE prescribing information.

Date of Report: 12 Aug 2008
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