NEXT GENERATION ANTIVIRAL CONJUGATE (AVC): STABLE, SAFE, AND SINGLE

Voon Ong^{*}, James Levin, Allen Borchardt, Thanh Lam, Quyen-Quyen Do, Tom Brady, Alain Noncovich, Joanne Fortier, Karin Amundson, Jeffrey Locke, Amanda Almaguer, Nicholas Dedeic, Grayson Hough, Jason Cole, Simon Doehrmann, Rajvir Grewal, Elizabeth Abelovski, Jim Balkovec, Mike Schlosser, Ken Bartizal, and Les Tari

Cidara Therapeutics, San Diego, CA



INTRODUCTION

Cidara Therapeutics is developing a novel class of potent, long-acting antiviral Fc-conjugates (AVCs) against influenza that, in a single molecule. combine a surface-acting antiviral agent with the Fc domain of a human IgG1 antibody. AVCs directly inhibit viral dissemination¹ and infection while simultaneously engaging the immune system, providing a multimodal mechanism of action, CD377 is an AVC candidate comprising a potent antiviral agent that directly targets influenza A and B, conjugated to human IgG1. CD377 has demonstrated robust treatment efficacy¹ in lethal mouse models of influenza. Studies were conducted to assess its pharmacokinetics (PK). safety/tolerability, and efficacy in a prevention (prophylaxis) model.

METHODS

Pharmacokinetics in mouse (1-100 mg/kg), rat (5-50 mg/kg), and monkey (5 and 20 mg/kg) were studied by sampling plasma over 1-4 week interval. Plasma concentrations were measured by a neuraminidase (NA)-capture or Fc-capture with Fc-detection ELISA. The former measures intact molecule while the latter measures total Fc. Twoweek safety/toxicology (clinical signs, chemistries, hematology, cytokines, histopathology) was evaluated in monkeys (5 or 20 mg/kg on days 1 and 8). Prophylaxis efficacy was studied in a lethal influenza mouse model using a single dose of CD377 (0.3-3 mg/kg) 28 days prior to IN challenge with 3x the LD95 of A/California/07/2009 (H1N1), A/Hong Kong/1/68 (H3N2), or B/Malaysia (Victoria lineage). Treatment efficacy was studied in a similar mouse model using a single dose of CD377 (0.3-3 mg/kg) administered 24 hr after challenge with A/California/07/2009 (H1N1).

RESULTS

PK studies in the mouse, rat, and monkey, confirmed the low clearance of CD377 in plasma with comparable half-lives of 7 to 10 days depending on sampling time range (**Fig 1**; by NAcapture ELISA).



intramuscular administration. Dose-proportional increases in exposure were observed in each species.



RESULTS (con't)

Following PK studies, plasma exposures from both NA-capture/Fc-detection ELISA as well as Fccapture/Fc-detection ELISA were comparable (Fig 3) regardless of route (IV, SC) or dose (5, 50 mg/kg) tested, confirming that CD377 remained stable in vivo, as former ELISA measures intact molecule while the latter ELISA measures total Fc.



RESULTS (con't)

A single dose of 0.3 mg/kg administered <u>1 day</u> <u>after infection</u> provided 100% protection from death against H1N1 (A/CA/07/09; **Fig 4**).



And, due to the long half-life, a single dose of 1 mg/kg given <u>28 days prior to infection</u> provided 100% protection from death against H1N1 (A/CA/07/09) and B (B/Malaysia) subtypes, while H3N2 (A/HK/68) only required a 0.3 mg/kg dose for full protection (**Fig 5**).



RESULTS (con't)

In the monkey toxicology study, following 2 weekly SC doses, there was no adverse effect on bodyweight, clinical chemistry, hematology, coagulation, cytokines, urinalysis, or histopathology. Furthermore, plasma AUC from just the 2nd 20 mg/kg dose exceeded the plasma AUC from a single 1 mg/kg dose in mouse prophylaxis by >50-fold suggesting a wide safety margin for CD377. It was noted that there was no apparent change in the PK profile (**Fig 6**).



CONCLUSIONS

CD377 was designed and confirmed to be stable in vivo following animal PK studies. CD377 was further found to be safe and well-tolerated. The long half-life of CD377 supports its use as a longacting and novel antiviral for the prevention of influenza.

REFERENCES

See related IDWeek 2020 presentations on CD377: • Levin et al, poster 1276

- Levin et al, oral abstract 159
- Döhrmann et al, oral abstract 162

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