Updated Results of the Safety Run-In of the Phase 3 LOTIS-5 Trial: Novel Combination of Loncastuximab Tesirine With Rituximab (Lonca-R) Versus Immunochemotherapy in Patients With R/R DLBCL

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CR, complete response; DLBCL, diffuse large B-cell lymphoma; DoR, duration of response; GGT, gamma-glutamyltransferase; Lonca, loncastuximab tesirine; ORR, overall response rate; PFS, progression-free survival; R, rituximab; R-GemOx, rituximab + gemcitabine + oxaliplatin; R/R, relapsed/refractory; TEAE, treatment-emergent adverse event.

INTRODUCTION

- Patients with relapsed or refractory diffuse large B-cell lymphoma (R/R DLBCL) typically have poor outcomes following treatment¹
- Loncastuximab tesirine (loncastuximab tesirine-lpyl [Lonca]) is an antibody–drug conjugate (ADC) comprising an anti-CD19 monoclonal antibody conjugated to a pyrrolobenzodiazepine dimer toxin, indicated for patients with R/R DLBCL after ≥ 2 systemic treatments^{2,3}
- Rituximab (R) is part of standard immunotherapy for DLBCL, both as frontline therapy and in subsequent treatments^{4,5}
- Preclinical evidence suggests that the addition of R to anti-CD19 ADC therapy may result in prolonged tumor control⁶
- LOTIS-5 aims to evaluate Lonca + R (Lonca-R) versus standard immunochemotherapy of R + gemcitabine + oxaliplatin (R-GemOx) in patients with R/R DLBCL
- In part 1, 20 patients were enrolled in a nonrandomized safety run-in period with Lonca-R to characterize the safety of Lonca-R combination therapy

OBJECTIVE

• To characterize the safety and efficacy of Lonca-R in patients with R/R DLBCL who have had \geq 1 prior systemic therapy

METHODS

Study Design

- LOTIS-5 is a phase 3, randomized, open-label, 2-part, 2-arm, multicenter study of Lonca-R in patients with R/R DLBCL (NCT04384484)
- In part 1, 20 patients were enrolled in a nonrandomized safety run-in period with Lonca-R to characterize the safety of Lonca-R combination therapy
- Preliminary results presented at SOHO 2022 were updated with new safety/efficacy data collected in part 1 of the study⁷
- In part 2, approximately 330 patients will be randomly assigned 1:1 to receive Lonca-R or R-GemOx
- Patients received 0.15 mg/kg Lonca + 375 mg/m² R every 3 weeks for 2 cycles, then 0.075 mg/kg Lonca + 375 mg/m² R every 3 weeks for up to 6 additional cycles (**Figure 1**)

Key inclusion criteria	Key exclusion criteria
 Adults with a pathologic diagnosis of R/R DLBCL (including DLBCL transformed from indolent lymphoma) or HGBCL, with MYC and BCL2 and/or BCL6 rearrangements 	 Previous treatment with Lonca or R-GemOx Autologous SCT within 30 days before the start of the study drug
 R/R disease following ≥1 multiagent systemic treatment regimen 	 Allogeneic SCT within 60 days before the start of the study drug Lymphoma with active CNS involvement, including leptomeningeal disease
 Measurable disease (2014 Lugano Classification⁸) Not a candidate for SCT based on performance status, advanced age, and/or significant medical comorbidities (as considered by the investigator) Patients who have received previous CD19-directed therapy must have a biopsy that shows CD19 expression after completion of the CD19-directed therapy ECOG performance status score of 0-2 Adequate organ function 	 Serologic evidence of chronic HBV infection and inability or unwillingness to receive standard prophylactic antiviral therapy or with detectable HBV viral load Serologic evidence of HCV infection without completion of curative treatment or with detectable HCV viral load Clinically significant third-space fluid accumulation (ie, ascites requiring drainage or pleural effusion either requiring drainage or associated with shortness of breath) Major surgery within 4 weeks before the start of the study drug, unless approved by the sponsor Radiotherapy, chemotherapy, or other antineoplastic therapy within 14 days before the start of the study drug, unless approved by the sponsor

HGBCL, high-grade B-cell lymphoma; Lonca, loncastuximab tesirine; R-GemOx, rituximab + gemcitabine + oxaliplatin; R/R, relapsed/refractory; SCT, stem cell transplant.

RESULTS

Patient Population

- The 20 patients in the safety run-in were a median age of 74.5 years (range, 35-93 years) (**Table 2**) Patients received a median of 1 previous therapy (range, 1-7)
- Seven patients (35%) received ≥ 2 previous therapies
- As of the April 10, 2023, data cutoff date:
- The median number of doses administered was 5 (range, 1-8), and the median duration of follow-up was 10.8 months (range, 1.9-21.9 months)

Safety Outcomes

- All patients had ≥1 treatment-emergent adverse event (TEAE), and 11 (55%) patients had grade ≥3 TEAEs (**Table 3**)
- The most common all-grade TEAEs, regardless of the relationship to the study treatment, were increased gamma-glutamyltransferase (5 [25%]), rash (5 [25%]), decreased appetite (4 [20%]), and fatigue (4 [20%])
- The most common grade ≥3 TEAEs were increased gamma-glutamyltransferase (5 patients [25%]) and neutropenia (3 patients [15%])
- Serious adverse events (SAE) were observed in 9 patients (45%). The most common SAE was infection in 6 patients (30%)
- Overall, including survival follow-up, 8 of 20 patients died (4 due to disease progression, 2 due to COVID-19 infection, 1 due to pancreatic neoplasia, and 1 due to stroke), 2 of which occurred within 30 days of last treatment (1 due to disease progression and 1 due to COVID-19 infection).

Efficacy Outcomes

- The overall response rate by central review was 16/20 (80%) patients (**Table 3**)
- Complete responses were observed in 10/20 (50%) patients
- Partial responses were observed in 6/20 (30%) patients
- The median duration of response was 8.0 months (95% Cl, 3.2-NR) (**Figure 2**)
- The median progression-free survival was 8.3 months (95% Cl, 4.5-NR) (**Figure 3**)

Age, median (min, max), years	74.5 (35, 93)
Prior systemic therapies, median (min, max)	1 (1, 7)
Sex, n (%)	
Female	11 (55)
Male	9 (45)
ECOG PS	
Grade 0	7 (35)
Grade 1	10 (50)
Grade 2	3 (15)
Disease stage (Ann Arbor criteria), n (%)	
Stage I	1 (5)
Stage II	6 (30)
Stage III	6 (30)
Stage IV	7 (35)
Primary category, n (%)	
DLBCL, NOS	18 (90)
HGBCL with MYC and BCL2 and/or BCL6 rearrangements	2 (10)
Prior stem cell transplant, n (%)	
Yes	1 (5)
No	19 (95)
=irst-line prior systemic response, n (%)	
Relapsed	18 (90)
Refractory	2 (10)
_ast-line prior systemic response, n (%)	
Relapsed	15 (75)
Refractory	5 (25)

DLBCL, diffuse large B-cell lymphoma; ECOG PS, Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group Performance Status;

HGBCL, high-grade B-cell lymphoma; NOS, not otherwise specified.

	n (%)	95% CI
Efficacy in patients with R/R DLBCL		
Overall response rate	16 (80)	56.3-94.3
Complete response	10 (50)	27.2-72.8
Partial response	6 (30)	11.9-54.3
Safety end points		
All TEAEs	20 (100)	
Increased gamma-glutamyltransferase	5 (25)	
Rash	5 (25)	
Decreased appetite	4 (20)	
Fatigue	4 (20)	
Grade ≥3 TEAEs	11 (55)	
Increased gamma-glutamyltransferase	5 (25)	
Neutropenia	3 (15)	
Serious adverse events	9 (45)	
Infection	6 (30)	
Hyponatremia	1 (5)	
Anaphylactic reaction	1 (5)	
Pleural effusion	1 (5)	
Malaise	1 (5)	
Neurological decompensation	1 (5)	
Deaths		
During treatment	1 (5)	
During follow up	7 (35)	

DLBCL, diffuse large B-cell lymphoma; R/R, relapsed or refractory; TEAE, treatment-emergent adverse event.

ABCL-515



Figure 3. Kaplan–Meier curve of progression-free survival by independent review



CONCLUSIONS

- Lonca-R demonstrated no new safety signals and showed encouraging antitumor activity in patients with R/R DLBCL
- Initial signs of response durability (8.02 months) with Lonca-R are promising
- Lonca-R has a fixed treatment duration, potentially making it an appealing alternative to continuous therapies
- Part 2 of LOTIS-5 commenced in January 2022; recruitment is ongoing

Acknowledgments

This study is funded by ADC Therapeutics SA. Medical writing support was provided by CiTRUS Health Group in accordance with Good Publication Practices (GPP 2022), funded by ADC Therapeutics SA. The authors would like to thank all participating patients and their families, all study coinvestigators, and the research coordinators.

Disclosures

M Kwiatek: consultant/advisor for ADC Therapeutics; presenting author for MorphoSys. S Grosicki: no disclosures. J Lopez Jimenez: consultant/adviso for AbbVie, BMS, Gilead, Janssen, and MSD; speaker bureau for AbbVie and Janssen; travel/accommodations/expenses from AbbVie, AstraZeneca, BMS, Gilead, MSD, and Roche. SF Pinzón Mariño: no disclosures. S Snauwaert: consultant/advisor for AbbVie, AstraZeneca, Janssen, Lilly, and Takeda. E Kingsley: employee of US Oncology; research funding from ADC Therapeutics, BeiGene, Daiichi Sankyo, and Seagen. G Zacchetti: employee of ADC Therapeutics with stock ownership. Y Wang: employee of ADC Therapeutics with stock ownership. L Wang: employee of ADC Therapeutics with stock ownership. **J Depaus:** consultant for Janssen, Novartis, and Takeda.

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