

**Methods:** 3-stage phase II design with interim analyses planned after 10 and 20 subjects enrolled. Subjects with previously untreated stage IIIB with pleural effusion or IV NSCLC and normal organ function without hemoptysis or brain metastasis were treated with B (15 mg/kg every 21 days) plus E (150 mg OD) for 4 cycles followed by B (15 mg/kg), carboplatin (AUC 6) and paclitaxel (200 mg/m<sup>2</sup>) every 21 days. Subjects who did not progress on initial B+E received further consolidation with B+E until progression.

**Results:** Twenty subjects have been enrolled thus far (11 male, 9 female; median age 61 years; 18 stage IV, 2 stage IIIB; 18 former smokers; 13 adenocarcinoma, 3 large cell carcinoma, 4 undifferentiated carcinoma; performance status 0 in 8 and 1 in 12). Sixteen subjects have completed at least 2 cycles of B+E with 3 partial responses (response rate 19%) and 8 stable disease (50%). Seven subjects have completed bevacizumab plus chemotherapy with best responses of 1 partial response and 5 stable disease. Toxicity observed during B+E has included grade 3 rash (4 subjects), grade 3 diarrhea (1 subject), grade 2 hypertension (1 subject), and grade 3 epistaxis (1 subject). Toxicity observed during bevacizumab/chemotherapy has included grade 3 neuropathy (2 subjects), grade 3 hypersensitivity reaction (1 subject), grade 4 neutropenia (1 subject), and grade 4 arterial thrombosis (1 subject).

**Conclusions:** The combination of B+E appears effective and well tolerated in 1<sup>st</sup> line stage IIIB/IV NSCLC. The administration of 4 cycles of B+E does not impair subsequent administration of cytotoxic chemotherapy. Accrual to a planned total of 48 subjects continues.

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POSTER

### Magnetic Resonance Perfusion Imaging predicts oligodendroglial cytogenetic subtypes and determines profiles of tumor angiogenesis

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**Background:** Chemosensitivity of oligodendroglial neoplasms and prolonged patient survival can be predicted based upon the loss of heterozygosity (LOH) of chromosomes 1p and 19q. Although the genes involved with oligodendroglial pathogenesis on chromosome 1p and 19q have not been identified, noninvasive characterization of the biological behavior of these tumors through advanced imaging techniques can direct the search for candidate genes. The relative tumor blood volume (rTBV) as determined by magnetic resonance (MR) perfusion-weighted imaging reflects the degree of neoplasm angiogenesis and metabolism. Therefore, the present study is aimed to correlate MR perfusion-weighted imaging data to molecular determinants of glial tumor malignancy and angiogenesis in distinct cytogenetic subsets of oligodendroglial tumors.

**Materials and Methods:** Thirty patients with oligodendroglial neoplasms were retrospectively selected for this study. Tumors were classified according to the current WHO histological criteria as either low-grade (II) or high-grade (III) and as either oligodendrogliomas or oligoastrocytomas. Tumors were divided into two groups: tumors with 1p or 1p/19q LOH (group 1) versus tumors with 19q LOH or intact alleles (group 2). MR studies were performed on a 1.5 T scanner using dynamic susceptibility-weighted methods (DSC) to determine rTBV. Cytogenetic tumor analyses were performed by either FISH or PCR methods. Paraffin-embedded tumor tissues were assessed for tumor expression of vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) using standard IHC techniques.

**Results:** In WHO grade II neoplasms, the rTBV was significantly greater ( $p < 0.05$ ) in group 1 [ $n = 7$ ; mean 2.63; (range 0.96–3.28)] compared to group 2 [ $n = 7$ ; 1.71; (1.27–2.23)]. In grade III neoplasms, the differences between group 1 ( $n = 4$ ; 2.83; (1.59–6.26)) and group 2 [ $n = 12$ ; 2.88; (1.81–3.76)] were not significant. The rTBV was significantly greater ( $p < 0.05$ ) in grade III neoplasms [ $n = 16$ ; 2.88; (1.59–6.26)] compared to grade II neoplasms [ $n = 14$ ; 1.99; (0.96–3.28)]. Interestingly, there was increased expression of VEGF and related angiogenic proteins in 1p/19q deleted tumors. It is possible that the genes on chromosomes 1p and 19q may include negative regulators of tumor angiogenesis and invasion.

**Conclusions:** Collectively, our data demonstrates the utility of advanced MR imaging in predicting molecular correlates of tumor malignancy and angiogenesis in distinct cytogenetic subsets of oligodendroglial tumors.

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### Translation of in vitro markers of the anti-angiogenic and anti-tumor activity of the SOD1 inhibitor ATN-224 to clinical trials

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ATN-224 is a second generation analogue of the copper binding drug tetrathiomolybdate (TM) and is currently entering phase II trials in several

oncology indications. ATN-224 inhibits CuZn superoxide dismutase (SOD1) having anti-angiogenic and anti-tumor effects (Juarez et al. (2006) Clinical Cancer Research, *in press*). SOD1 catalyzes the dismutation of superoxide anion into H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> and O<sub>2</sub>. Hydrogen peroxide is a promiscuous second messenger that mediates mitogenic signaling and by inhibiting SOD1, ATN-224 suppresses the generation of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> and down-regulates several mitogen-induced kinase cascades (VEGF, FGF-2, EGF, PDGF and IGF-1). The need for biomarkers to follow biological activity in patients or to select patients for clinical trial is obvious. Historically, the pharmacodynamics of TM have been followed by tracking ceruloplasmin (Cp), a biomarker for systemic copper. However, at least in mice, the inhibition of angiogenesis occurs before a measurable decrease in systemic copper is observed. In this study, we present the pre-clinical evaluation of three potential biomarkers and the translation of two of these in the clinic. We initially correlated the ATN-224 mediated inhibition of plasma, blood cells and tumor SOD as well as decreased in ERK 1/2 phosphorylation in animal tumor models with the inhibition of tumor growth and angiogenesis. Finally, we evaluated the effects of ATN-224 on circulating endothelial progenitors (EPCs) and circulating endothelial cells (CECs), which are established biomarkers for anti-angiogenic activity, in primates. Based on these pre-clinical studies, we evaluated the effects of ATN-224 on SOD activity in blood cells, Cp levels in plasma and CECs and EPCs in patients as part of a phase I clinical trial in advanced solid cancer (sponsored by Cancer Research UK). A dose-dependent decrease in SOD1 activity as well as CECs and EPCs was observed in ATN-224 treated patients. The inhibition of SOD activity occurred earlier than the depletion of Cp, suggesting that the inhibition of SOD activity is a more sensitive pharmacodynamic readout of ATN-224 activity than the depletion of systemic copper measured by Cp. Furthermore, changes in SOD activity were also more sensitive than Cp to ATN-224 dose adjustments. These results indicate that SOD activity and CEC/EPC measurements are useful biomarkers of ATN-224 activity and support the evaluation of these biomarkers in phase II trials for correlation to clinical benefit or tumor response.

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### The reproducibility of perfusion parameters obtained from dynamic contrast enhanced magnetic resonance imaging (DCE-MRI) in liver and lung tumors, and implications for sample size in clinical trials using DCE-MRI

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**Background:** DCE-MRI is being increasingly incorporated into Phase I/II clinical trials, particularly with antiangiogenic drugs. The aims of this study were to determine the reproducibility of measurements of perfusion parameters derived from DCE-MRI, and to evaluate their impact on trial design.

**Material and Methods:** DCE-MRI was undertaken on two occasions (2–7 days apart) in 25 patients with malignant tumors in the liver or lung. The main inclusion criteria were: no preceding therapy for >4 weeks, no inter-scan therapy, and lesions >3 cm. Dynamic gadolinium enhanced 3D fast spoiled gradient-echo images were acquired for approximately 4 minutes. Tumor blood normalized initial area under the curve (IAUC<sub>BN</sub>) and transfer constant (K<sup>trans</sup>) parameters were computed using a semi-automated algorithm. Coefficients of variation (CoV) were determined using the logtransformed K<sup>trans</sup> and IAUC<sub>BN</sub> data, and the pooled between-visit variance. Sample size estimates used a general estimating equation model, single-sided 5% significance, 90% power and a 25% response rate.

**Results:** There were 24 evaluable patients (12 liver, 12 lung lesions). The medians (inter-quartile range) across patients for IAUC<sub>BN</sub> and K<sup>trans</sup> for liver lesions were 0.23 (0.20–0.32) and 0.065 (0.056–0.096), and for lung lesions, 0.18 (0.14–0.26) and 0.053 (0.035–0.073), respectively. The CoV values for IAUC<sub>BN</sub> and K<sup>trans</sup> were lower for liver than for lung lesions, estimate (95% range): 9.8% (6.8–17.3%) and 10.6% (7.4–18.9%) for liver, versus 18.9% (13.1–33.9%) and 19.3% (13.4–34.5%) for lung [ $p = 0.07$  and 0.059], respectively. Sample size calculations with these data indicate that, for a sought after 25% therapeutic response, appropriate sample sizes are 4 and 12, for liver and lung tumors, respectively. A single patient can be evaluated, with 90% confidence, for a 25% and 40% change in DCE-MRI parameters for liver and lung lesions, respectively; and a 10% response in a single patient can be determined with 70% and 60% confidence, respectively (Table).

**Conclusions:** The reproducibility of perfusion parameters derived from DCE-MRI are in the range 10–20%, and appear better in the liver than