

28.4)) compared to those in the control group (median OS, 12.3 months (95% CI, 9.4–15.2), $P=0.07$).

The toxicities associated with the 2nd EGFR-TKI were generally acceptable and comparable to those observed for the initial gefitinib therapy.

Conclusions: Our results indicate that a 2nd EGFR-TKI treatment can be an effective treatment option for gefitinib responders.

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POSTER

Erlotinib as Frontline Treatment for Elderly Patients With Advanced Non-Small-Cell Lung Cancer (NSCLC) and Non-Squamous Histology – Results of a Galician Lung Cancer Group (GGCP044/09 Study) Grupo Galego De Cancro De Pulmón (GGCP)

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Background: NSCLC is primarily a disease of older people with a median age of approximately 70 years at diagnosis. Unfortunately, these patients are often excluded from the clinical trials, or they are underrepresented. Several guidelines point out that elderly patient should receive third-generation single-agent chemotherapy. Erlotinib is an orally available, reversible inhibitor of EGFR TK activity, providing significant survival benefits as monotherapy for the 2nd-line and maintenance treatment of patients with advanced NSCLC, and with a favourable safety profile and convenient administration.

This Galician study aims to evaluate the efficacy and safety of erlotinib as first-line treatment for elderly patients with advanced NSCLC and non-squamous histology.

Material and Methods: Elderly patients, defined as ≥ 70 years old, patients with stage IIIB/IV NSCLC and non-squamous histology were included in this study after providing informed consent. Erlotinib was orally administered at a dose of 150 mg daily until disease progression or intolerable toxicity.

Progression-free survival (PFS; primary objective) and overall survival (OS) were measured from time of diagnosis.

Results: A total of 25 patients were enrolled. Patient characteristics were as follows: median age 78 yrs. (ranged 70–85); 52% female; 92% adenocarcinoma (including BAC features); 84% stage IV; 48% PS ECOG 2.

Out of 20 evaluable patients, 5 had PR and 6 SD, for a response rate of 25% and a disease control rate of 55%. The median PFS was 3.9 months (95% CI: 1.4–6.4), and the median OS was 9.9 months. The most common adverse event (AE) was skin rash (36%; 12% grade 3–4) and diarrhoea (24%). 4 patients (14%) needed dose reduction and 2 patients withdrew the treatment due to grade 3 diarrhoea and eye perforation, respectively. EGFR mutational status was available for 6 patients (24%); two patients (85 and 77 years old) harboured activating mutations: both achieved partial response, and show SLP of 23 and 14 months respectively (both ongoing).

Conclusions: The results suggest that erlotinib monotherapy is an effective and well-tolerated treatment option for elderly patients with advanced NSCLC and non-squamous histology. Response rate is similar to that achieved with chemotherapy in younger people; benefit in PFS is modest, but median OS is acceptable, specially taking into account that half of the patients had an ECOG performance status of 2. EGFR mutation testing should be strongly encouraged among elderly patients. Data will be updated, including a higher number of patients.

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POSTER

Exploratory Predictive Biomarker Assessment in the BMS099 Study of Cetuximab in NSCLC

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Background: The phase III trial BMS099 showed no significant difference in progression-free survival (PFS) and significantly higher response rate (RR) with the addition of cetuximab (C) to 1st-line taxane/carboplatin (TC) in advanced NSCLC. Median overall survival (OS) was longer, with a difference (not significant) of similar magnitude to the significant OS improvement from FLEX (cis/vin±C). Most biomarker analyses to date have shown no association with C benefit, including EGFR mutation, KRAS mutation, and EGFR amplification in both trials (20–30% of the intent to treat [ITT] populations). We analyzed Fcγ receptor (FCGR)

polymorphisms in BMS099, in order to identify patients (pts) expected to mount a more potent antibody-dependent cellular cytotoxicity (ADCC) response and therefore likely to derive greater benefit from C. We also profiled mRNA expression patterns on tumour samples to identify EGFR-related and novel markers that may correlate with C benefit.

Methods: FCGR2 and FCGR3 genotypes were obtained from 285/676 pts from BMS099 using Taqman Allelic Discrimination assays for H131R and F158V alleles, respectively. Affymetrix expression data for RNA extracted from formalin-fixed, paraffin-embedded tumour tissue was available for 58/676 pts. Associations between FCGR2/3 genotypes, tumour gene expression patterns and clinical efficacy data were analyzed.

Results: No significant association was observed between FCGR genotype and C benefit across endpoints explored; the FCGR3 F/F polymorphism showed a trend for improved PFS with C, conflicting with prior clinical reports (Bibeau F, J Clin Oncol 2009; Zhang W, J Clin Oncol 2007), and with in vitro data (Lopez-Albaitero, Cancer Immunol Immunother 2009) showing more effective ADCC mediation with the V/V genotype. The population evaluable for gene expression patterns was not representative of the ITT (PFS was greater in the TC arm than the C+TC arm). Potential interactions between expression, median PFS and treatment were assessed and filtered for specific correlations with C benefit. No significant interactions were observed between treatment and RR or PFS for the AREG, EREG, TGFA or the EGFR genes. Genes were identified that may predict for progression on C, however independent validation is required.

Conclusions: Exploratory biomarker analyses in BMS099 have yielded no predictive biomarker for C; efforts are ongoing to identify pts likely to benefit from anti-EGFR mAb therapy in NSCLC.

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POSTER

Cumulative Exposure to Bevacizumab (BV) After Induction Therapy (tx) Correlates With Increased Survival in Patients (pts) With Non-small Cell Lung Cancer (NSCLC)

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Background: In E4599, pts with 1st-line advanced NSCLC were treated with maintenance BV until progressive disease or unacceptable toxicity following 6 cycles (18 weeks) of induction phase (IP) chemotherapy (CT) + BV. The use and duration of BV post-IP varies widely in clinical practice. This analysis examines cumulative post-IP BV exposure and overall survival (OS) in pts with NSCLC in the ARIES observational cohort study (OCS), with particular emphasis on incorporating the dynamic time-varying features of treatment patterns seen in the real world.

Methods: ARIES enrolled pts with advanced NSCLC who received 1st-line BV-containing tx. Pts who began BV and CT simultaneously and were progression-free through the completion of 12–18 weeks of CT were included in the analysis. OS was measured from the end of each pt's BV+CT IP. A time-dependent Cox regression model that controls for survival bias towards pts receiving longer exposure to BV was fitted to assess the effect of cumulative BV exposure on OS, controlling for potential confounders.

Cumulative Post-IP BV cycles ^a	Post-IP Follow-up time, days	n (cycles) ^b	n (0) ^c	HR (95% Confidence Limits)
1	21	473 ^d	644 ^d	0.955 (0.939–0.972)
2	42	380	562	0.913 (0.881–0.945)
3	63	296	499	0.872 (0.828–0.919)
4	84	233	456	0.833 (0.777–0.893)
5	105	189	413	0.796 (0.730–0.868)
6	126	158	375	0.760 (0.685–0.844)
7	147	129	344	0.726 (0.643–0.820)
8	168	113	317	0.694 (0.604–0.797)

^a A cycle is approximately 21 days of post-IP cumulative exposure.

^b No. of pts who received the specified number of post-IP BV cycles by follow-up time.

^c No. of pts having no exposure to BV by follow-up time.

^d Example: At 21 days post-IP, 473 pts had a total of approximately 21 days of BV exposure while 644 pts had no exposure to BV.

Results: Of 1967 pts in ARIES NSCLC as of February 2011, 1213 were eligible for the analysis. This population was 51% male, 87% Caucasian, and 15% never-smoker. 13% had ECOG PS ≥ 2 , 71% had adenocarcinomas, and the median age was 65 (32% were age ≥ 70). The median OS for pts in the analysis was 13.2 months. Across follow-up, the