Phase III Trial of Bevacizumab Added to Standard Radiotherapy and Temozolomide for Newly Diagnosed Glioblastoma: Final Progression-Free Survival and Interim Overall Survival Results in AVAglio

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Introduction

- Glioblastomas are highly vascularized tumors characterized by overexpression of VEGF-A^{1,2}
- Bevacizumab (BEV) has shown activity in glioblastoma
 - Increased PFS and ORR vs historical controls in recurrent glioblastoma³⁻⁵
 - Phase II study results suggested that BEV plus standard frontline treatment may improve clinical outcomes in newly diagnosed glioblastoma^{6,7}
- The phase III AVAglio study evaluated the efficacy and safety of BEV with RT and TMZ for newly diagnosed glioblastoma
 - Final PFS analysis positive, supported by measures of clinical benefit (HRQoL, KPS, steroid use)
 - Interim OS analysis not statistically significant

HRQoL = health-related quality of life; KPS = Karnofsky performance status; ORR = objective response rate; OS = overall survival; PFS = progression-free survival; RT = radiotherapy; TMZ = temozolomide; VEGF-A = vascular endothelial growth factor-A ¹Chi 2009; ²Hicklin 2005 ³Vredenburgh 2007; ⁴Friedman 2009 ⁵Kreisl 2009; ⁶Lai 2011; ⁷Narayana 2012

AVAglio Study Design



Last patient in: March 2011

BEV = bevacizumab; PD = progressive disease; RPA = recursive partitioning analysis; RT = radiotherapy;

TMZ = temozolomide; Tx = treatment; qd = daily; q28d = every 28 days; q2w = every 2 weeks; q3w = every 3 weeks

Study Objectives

- Co-primary objectives
 - PFS (investigator assessed)
 - **OS**
- Secondary objectives
 - PFS (Independent Review Facility)
 - 1-year and 2-year survival rates
 - Health-related quality of life (EORTC QLQ-C30 and BN20)
 - Safety
- Exploratory objectives included
 - Karnofsky performance status
 - Use of corticosteroids

Assessment of Progression

Timing



Criteria

Assessment	Definition of progression
Radiological	 ≥25% increase of enhancing lesions Unequivocal progression of existing non-enhancing lesions Any new lesion
Clinical	Neurologic symptoms worsened
Corticosteroid use	Stable or increased corticosteroid dose

Statistical Assumptions*

	Control arm, median	Assumed HR	Experimental arm, median	Log-rank test
PFS	7 months	0.769	9.1 months	Power = 80% 2-sided 1% α level
OS Expected 2013	14.6 months	0.80	18.3 months	Power = 80% 2-sided 4% α level

Planned sample size = 920

*Trial meets its primary objective if either one, or both, of the co-primary endpoints is statistically significant

HR = hazard ratio; OS = overall survival; PFS = progression-free survival

Baseline Characteristics*

Patients, %		RT/TMZ/PIb (n=463)	RT/TMZ/BEV (n=458)
Median age, years		56.0	57.0
(range)		(18–79)	(20–84)
Gender	Male	64	62
WHO PS	0	52	50
	1–2	48	50
RPA class	III	16	17
	IV	60	57
	V	23	26
MGMT status	Methylated	26	26
	Non-methylated	51	49
	Missing	23	25
Surgical status	Biopsy	10	13
	Partial resection	48	46
	Complete resection	42	41
KPS	50–80	30	33
	90–100	70	67
MMSE score	<27	24	24
	≥27	76	76
Corticosteroids	On	45	41
	Off	55	59
EIAEDs	On	20	19
	Off	80	81

*Selected characteristics only



Investigator-Assessed PFS (Co-Primary Endpoint)



BEV = bevacizumab; CI = confidence interval; HR = hazard ratio; mo = months; PFS = progression-free survival; PIb = placebo; RT = radiotherapy; TMZ = temozolomide

Investigator-Assessed PFS: Subgroup Analyses*

Category	Subgroup	Bevacizumab better	Placebo better N	HR#	95% CI
All	All	H	921	0.65	0.56–0.75
Age, years	<50 50–59 60–69 ≥70		229 323 296 73	0.64 0.69 0.59 0.78	0.47–0.86 0.54–0.88 0.46–0.77 0.46–1.33
WHO PS	0 1–2		465 455	0.71 0.57	0.58–0.88 0.46–0.69
RPA class	III IV V		151 540 229	0.64 0.62 0.72	0.44–0.93 0.51–0.74 0.54–0.96
MGMT gene promoter status	Methylated Non-methylated Missing	┝╋┿ ┝╋┿	237 461 223	0.76 0.56 0.61	0.56–1.04 0.46–0.68 0.46–0.82
Surgical status Pa	Biopsy only artial/complete resection	H .	- 104 817	0.81 0.62	0.53–1.26 0.54–0.73
MMSE score	<27 ≥27	⊢⊕– I∳I	214 696	0.74 0.63	0.55–0.99 0.53–0.75
Corticosteroid use at baseline	e On Off		395 522	0.69 0.63	0.55–0.85 0.51–0.76
	HF	R 0.1 0.2 0.4 0.6	1 2 3 4 5 6 1 0 20		

*Selected subgroups only; #Unstratified analysis

CI = confidence interval; HR = hazard ratio; MGMT = methylguanine-DNA methyltransferase; MMSE = mini-mental state examination; PFS = progression-free survival; RPA = recursive partitioning analysis; WHO PS = World Health Organization performance status

IRF-Assessed PFS (Secondary Endpoint)



BEV = bevacizumab; CI = confidence interval; HR = hazard ratio; IRF = Independent Review Facility; mo = months; PFS = progression-free survival; PIb = placebo; RT = radiotherapy; TMZ = temozolomide

Interim OS Analysis

	RT/TMZ/Plb (n=463)	RT/TMZ/BEV (n=458)	
Median follow-up, months	13.7	14.4	
Events	263	254	
Stratified HR (95% CI)	0.89 (0.75–1.07) p=0.2135		
1-year survival rate, % (95% CI)	66 (62–71) 72 (68–7 p=0.052		

BEV = bevacizumab; CI = confidence interval; HR = hazard ratio; OS = overall survival; PIb = placebo; RT = radiotherapy; TMZ = temozolomide

Health-Related Quality of Life

- EORTC QLQ-C30 and BN20 (brain cancer-specific), validated HRQoL instruments^{1–3}
- Five domains were pre-specified as secondary analyses based on relevance and importance in glioblastoma^{2,4–10}
 - Global health status
 - Physical functioning
 - Social functioning
 - Motor functioning
 - Communication deficit

¹Aaronson 1993; ²Osoba 1996; ³Taphoorn 2010 ⁴Bottomley, Aaronson 2007 ⁵Osoba 2000; ⁶Taphoorn 2005 ⁷Stupp 2005; ⁸Taphoorn, Bottomley 2005 ⁹Klein 2001; ¹⁰Budrukkar 2009

EORTC QLQ-C30 and BN20 = European Organization for Research and Treatment quality of life questionnaire core 30 and brain neoplasms 20; HRQoL = health-related quality of life

HRQoL: Median Duration that Patients were Stable/Improved from Baseline



BEV = bevacizumab; BN20 = brain neoplasms 20; HRQoL = health-related quality of life; QLQ-C30 = quality of life questionnaire core 30; Plb = placebo; RT = radiotherapy; TMZ = temozolomide

Median Duration Patients Maintained a KPS ≥70



BEV = bevacizumab; KPS = Karnofsky performance status; Plb = placebo; RT = radiotherapy; TMZ = temozolomide

Corticosteroid Discontinuation* in Patients ON Steroids at Baseline



*Defined as no corticosteroid intake (0mg) for at least 5 consecutive days BEV = bevacizumab; PIb = placebo; RT = radiotherapy; TMZ = temozolomide

Time to Steroid Initiation for Patients OFF Steroids at Baseline



BEV = bevacizumab; CI = confidence interval; HR = hazard ratio; mo = months; PIb = placebo; RT = radiotherapy; TMZ = temozolomide

Overview of Adverse Events

Patients, %	RT/TMZ/PIb (n=447)	RT/TMZ/BEV (n=464)
Any AE	95.7	98.1
Serious AE	25.7	36.6
Grade 3–5 AE	50.1	62.7
Grade 3–5 AE of special interest for BEV	15.2	28.7
Grade 5 AE	2.7	4.5
Discontinued any treatment due to AE	13.2	24.6

Safety population; AEs reported up until 90 days after last dose of study treatment

AE = adverse event; BEV = bevacizumab; PIb = placebo; RT = radiotherapy; TMZ = temozolomide

Adverse Events of Special Interest for BEV

	RT/TMZ/PIb (n=447)		RT/TMZ/BEV (n=464)	
Patients, %	All grades	Grade ≥3	All grades	Grade ≥3
Bleeding: cerebral haemorrhage mucocutaneous bleeding other	2.2 8.9 8.1	0.7 0.4	2.6 26.7 11.6	1.5 0.4 0.6
Wound-healing complications	2.2	0.7	3.7	1.5
Arterial thromboembolic events	1.6	1.3	5.0	4.1
Venous thromboembolic events	9.6	8.1	7.8	7.3
Hypertension	13.0	2.0	37.5	10.3
Proteinuria	4.0	-	14.0	3.7
GI perforation (including GI fistula/abscess)	0.2	0.2	1.7	1.1
Abscesses and fistulae	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.6
Congestive heart failure	0.2	-	0.4	0.4
Posterior reversible encephalopathy syndrome	-	-	-	-

Safety population

BEV = bevacizumab; GI = gastrointestinal; Plb = placebo; RT = radiotherapy; TMZ = temozolomide

Conclusions

- The addition of BEV to RT/TMZ significantly extended PFS by 4.4 months in patients with newly diagnosed glioblastoma
 - 36% relative reduction in the risk of progression or death
 - IRF assessment confirmed the magnitude of benefit, with an HR of 0.61
 - Subgroups analysis for PFS was consistent with the overall population
- HRQoL and KPS were stable or improved during PFS in both treatment arms, emphasizing the value of prolonging PFS in the BEV arm
 - Patients receiving BEV had a diminished steroid requirement
- Safety profile was consistent with the known side effects of BEV; no new safety signals observed
- At the interim analysis, OS did not cross the threshold for significance; final OS data expected in 2013

BEV = bevacizumab; HR = hazard ratio; HRQoL = health-related quality of life; IRF = Independent Review Facility; KPS = Karnofsky performance status; OS = overall survival; PFS = progression-free survival; RT = radiotherapy; TMZ = temozolomide

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AVAglio Study Investigators

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