

Evaluation of the Safety and Efficacy of Ivonescimab in Combination With Chemotherapy as First-Line Treatment for Triple-Negative Breast Cancer

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BACKGROUND

- Treatment options for advanced or metastatic triple-negative breast cancer (TNBC) are limited relative to other forms of breast cancer due to the lack of therapeutic targets^{1,2}
- Standard-of-care first-line treatment for advanced or metastatic TNBC is chemotherapy or chemotherapy in combination with a programmed cell death protein 1 (PD-1) inhibitor for tumors with a high combined positive score (CPS) for programmed death ligand 1 (PD-L1)¹⁻³
- Ivonescimab is an investigational, tetrameric, bispecific antibody that targets PD-1 and vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) that has exhibited cooperative binding in vitro and could produce complementary and synergistic antitumor effects through both the PD-1 and the VEGF pathways⁴⁻⁶
- Here, we present results (through September 30, 2024) from a phase 2 trial (NCT05227664) of ivonescimab in combination with paclitaxel or nab-paclitaxel in patients with locally advanced unresectable or metastatic TNBC

OBJECTIVE

• To evaluate the safety and efficacy of ivonescimab in combination with chemotherapy in adults 18-75 years of age with locally advanced unresectable or metastatic TNBC who have not previously received systemic therapy

METHODS

Study Design

• In this open-label, multicenter, phase 2 trial, patients 18-75 years of age in China with locally advanced unresectable or metastatic TNBC were assigned to receive ivonescimab in combination with paclitaxel or nab-paclitaxel (Figure 1)

Figure 1. Study Design

Key eligibility criteria

- Age ≥18 to ≤75 years
- No previous chemotherapy or targeted systemic therapy for locally advanced unresectable or metastatic TNBC
- \geq 12 months from the time of last dose of previous neoadjuvant/adjuvant taxane treatment to disease recurrence
- ECOG PS 0 or 1
- Measurable disease per RECIST v1.1

Ivonescimab 20 mg/kg Q2W Paclitaxel

90 mg/m² or nab-paclitaxel 100 mg/m^2

(1st, 8th, and 15th of each 4-week treatment cycle)

Treatment until disease progression or unacceptable toxicity

ECOG PS, Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group performance status; Q2W, every 2 weeks; RECIST v1.1, Response Evaluation Criteria in Solid Tumors, version 1.1; TNBC, triple-negative breast cancer.

Outcomes

- The primary safety end points were incidence and severity of adverse events (AEs)
- The primary efficacy end point was objective response rate (ORR) based on Response Evaluation Criteria in Solid Tumors, version 1.1 (RECIST v1.1)
- Key secondary end points included disease control rate (DCR), duration of response (DOR), and progression-free survival (PFS) based on RECIST v1.1

RESULTS

Participants

- As of September 30, 2024, a total of 36 patients with locally advanced unresectable or metastatic TNBC were enrolled in the study
- All enrolled patients were women with a median age of 54.6 years (range, 35.4-73.3 years; **Table 1**)
- Of the enrolled patients, 50.0% and 50.0% had an Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group performance status score of 0 and 1, respectively, and 83.3% had a PD-L1 CPS of <10 at baseline
- 55.6% of patients previously received taxane-based neoadjuvant or adjuvant therapy
- The median duration of follow-up was 11.8 months (95% CI, 10.9-12.8)

Table 1. Baseline Characteristics

Characteristic	All patients N = 36		
Age, median (range), years	54.6 (35.4-73.3)		
Sex, n (%)			
Men	0		
Women	36 (100)		
ECOG PS, n (%)			
0	18 (50)		
1	18 (50)		
Number of metastatic sites, n (%)			
0-2	14 (38.9)		
≥3	22 (61.1)		
Brain metastases, n (%)	1 (2.8)		
Liver metastases, n (%)	7 (19.4)		
Disease status, n (%)			
Initial diagnosis metastatic	14 (38.9)		
Recurrent/metastatic	22 (61.1)		
Prior treatments for early-stage disease, n (%)			
Taxane	20 (55.6)		
Endocrine therapy	6 (16.7)		
CDK4/6 inhibitor	2 (5.6)		
Targeted therapy	1 (2.8)		
PD-L1 expression (CPS), ^a n (%)			
PD-L1 CPS ≥10	6 (16.7)		
PD-L1 CPS <10	30 (83.3)		
PD-L1 CPS <1	18 (50.0)		

CDK4/6, cyclin-dependent kinase 4/6; CPS, combined positive score; ECOG PS, Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group performance status; PD-L1, programmed death ligand 1. Race/ethnicity demographic data were not collected.

^aPD-L1 CPS assessed at a central laboratory using the PD-L1 IHC 22C3 pharmDx assay (Agilent).

Safety

- Treatment-related adverse events (TRAEs) were reported in 36 patients (100.0%); 18 were grade \geq 3 (50.0%; **Table 2**)
- > There were 0 TRAEs that led to treatment discontinuation or death
- > Overall, the most common TRAEs were decreased white blood cell count and decreased neutrophil count, most of which were grade <3 (**Figure 2**)

Table 2. Summary of Safety Results

All patients N = 36
36 (100.0)
18 (50.0)
9 (25.0)
0
0

TEAE, treatment-emergent adverse event; TRAE, treatment-related adverse event.



TRAE, treatment-related adverse event; WBC, white blood cell.

Efficacy

- At the time of data cutoff, 35 patients had ≥1 post baseline tumor assessment and were included in the efficacy analysis
- Overall, ORR was 80.0% (28/35), DCR was 100.0% (35/35), and median DOR was 7.49 months (95% CI, 5.32 to not evaluable [NE]) (**Table 3**)
- When assessed by PD-L1 CPS category, the ORRs in the CPS ≥10 and CPS <10 subgroups were 83.3% (5/6) and 79.3% (23/29), respectively
- Overall, the median PFS was 9.36 months (95% CI, 6.24-NE), with a 9-month PFS rate of 61.3%, which was similar among subgroups with CPS <10 and <1
- Individual patient-level responses at the time of data cutoff are shown in **Figures 3 and 4**

Table 3. Summary of Efficacy Results Overall and in Key Subgroups

	All patients N = 35 ^a	PD-L1 CPS ≥10 n = 6	PD-L1 CPS <10 n = 29	PD-L1 CPS <1 n = 17
ORR, % (95% CI)	80.0 (63.1-91.1)	83.3 (35.9-99.6)	79.3 (60.3-92.0)	88.2 (63.6-98.5)
BOR, n (%)				
CR	2 (5.7)	1 (16.7)	1 (3.4)	0
PR	26 (74.3)	4 (66.7)	22 (75.9)	15 (88.2)
SD	7 (20.0)	1 (16.7)	6 (20.7)	2 (11.8)
DCR, % (95% CI)	100.0 (90.0-100.0)	100.0 (54.1-100.0)	100.0 (88.1-100.0)	100 (80.5-100.0)
DOR				
Median, months (95% CI)	7.49 (5.32-NE)	NR (3.58-NE)	7.49 (3.91-NE)	7.49 (3.45-NE)
6-month DOR rate, % (95% CI)	72.2 (45.4-87.4)	80.0 (20.4-96.9)	70.0 (38.2-87.6)	64.2 (30.2-84.8)
PFS				
Median, months (95% CI)	9.36 (6.24-NE)	NR (5.36-NE)	9.30 (5.55-NE)	9.30 (5.26-NE)
6-month PFS rate, % (95% CI)	73.8 (52.7-86.6)	83.3 (27.3-97.5)	71.2 (46.6-86.0)	70.0 (38.2-87.6)
9-month PFS rate, % (95% CI)	61.3 (39.7-77.1)	66.7 (19.5-90.4)	59.8 (35.0-77.7)	61.3 (30.0-81.9)

BOR, best overall response; CPS, combined positive score; CR, complete response; DCR, disease control rate; DOR, duration of response; NE, not evaluable; NR, not reached; ORR, objective response rate; PD-L1, programmed death ligand 1; PFS, progression-free survival; PR, partial response; SD, stable disease. ^a35 patients with ≥1 post baseline tumor assessment were included

Figure 3. Best Percentage Change From Baseline in Sum of Tumor Diameters (full analysis set, N = 35)



CPS, combined positive score; CR, complete response; PD-L1, programmed death ligand 1; PR, partial response; SD, stable disease.



Figure 4. Percentage Change From Baseline in Sum of Tumor Diameters Over Time (full analysis set, N = 35)



CR, complete response; NE, not evaluable; PD, progressive disease; PR, partial response; SD, stable disease

CONCLUSIONS

- Ivonescimab in combination with chemotherapy had a manageable safety profile and promising antitumor activity in patients with locally advanced unresectable or metastatic TNBC
- > This updated analysis, which included additional participants enrolled after the previous data cut, showed improved ORR in the overall population
- Results of this analysis support further evaluation of ivonescimab in combination with chemotherapy as a first-line treatment for TNBC

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DISCLOSURES

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