

Title: A protocol pre-specified interim overall survival (OS) analysis of GEMSTONE-302: a phase 3 study of sugemalimab (suge) versus placebo plus platinum-based chemotherapy (chemo) as first-line (1L) treatment for patients (pts) with metastatic non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC)

Category: Lung Cancer-Non-Small Cell Metastatic

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Background

GEMSTONE-302, a randomized, double-blind, phase 3 study, previously met its primary endpoint and demonstrated statistically significant and clinically meaningful prolongation of progression-free survival (PFS) with sugemeter plus chemotherapy vs placebo plus chemotherapy as a 1L treatment in patients with metastatic NSCLC. PFS benefit was observed in both squamous (sq) and non-squamous (nsq) NSCLC, regardless of PD-L1 expression levels. Here we report the data from a protocol pre-specified interim OS analysis.

Methods

Patients with systemic treatment-naïve stage IV NSCLC, measurable disease per RECIST v1.1, ECOG PS 0-1, and no known EGFR, ALK, ROS1 and RET alterations were randomized 2:1 to receive sugemeter (1200 mg, IV) or placebo plus chemotherapy (sq-NSCLC: carboplatin+paclitaxel; nsq-NSCLC: carboplatin+pemetrexed) every 3 weeks for up to 4 cycles, followed by maintenance therapy (sq-NSCLC: sugemeter/placebo; nsq-NSCLC: sugemeter/placebo+pemetrexed) for up to 35 cycles. The primary endpoint was investigator assessed PFS (INV-PFS). Key secondary endpoints included OS, INV-PFS in patients with tumor PD-L1 expression $\geq 1\%$, and ORR. Patients in the placebo group could cross over to receive sugemeter monotherapy upon disease progression.

Results

As of 22 Nov 2021, among all 479 enrolled patients, 51 (15.9%) and 7 (4.4%), respectively, remained on treatment with sugemeter plus chemotherapy or placebo plus chemotherapy. The median follow-up was 25.4 and 24.9 months, respectively. Following treatment discontinuation, 17.8% and 43.4% of the patients, respectively, received cross-over sugemeter or other non-study anti-PD-(L)1-containing therapies. Median OS was 25.4 months in sugemeter plus chemotherapy group vs 16.9 months in placebo plus chemotherapy group (HR=0.65 [95%CI, 0.50-0.84], $p=0.0008$), and 2-year OS rate was 51.7% vs 35.6%. OS benefits were observed across all subgroups including different tumor histologies (sq: HR=0.56; nsq: HR=0.72) and PD-L1 expression levels ($\geq 1\%$: HR=0.64; $< 1\%$: HR=0.66). In the intent-to-treat population, median PFS was 9.0 months with sugemeter plus chemotherapy vs 4.9 months with placebo plus chemotherapy (HR=0.49 [0.40-0.61]), and 2-year PFS rate was 20.8% vs 7.3%. In patients with PD-L1 $\geq 1\%$, the median PFS was 10.9 vs 4.9 months (HR=0.48 [0.36-0.63], $p<0.0001$). ORR was 63.4% vs 40.3% ($p<0.0001$). Among patients with baseline brain metastases, sugemeter plus chemotherapy improved their OS (HR=0.45) and intracranial INV-PFS (post-hoc analysis, HR=0.33) vs placebo plus chemotherapy. Safety profile was consistent with previously reported results.

Conclusions

Sugemeter plus chemotherapy demonstrated statistically significant and clinically meaningful OS improvement compared with placebo plus chemotherapy, irrespective of tumor histology or PD-L1 expression levels, in patients with newly diagnosed metastatic NSCLC, offering a new 1L treatment option for this group of patients.

Clinical trial information: [Clinicaltrials.gov: NCT03789604](https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/study/NCT03789604).