

## PhotoChemical Internalization: Current clinical trials in cholangiocarcinoma



Hans Olivecrona, MD, PhD CMO, PCI Biotech

- ► ENABLING DRUGS TO REACH INTRACELLULAR THERAPEUTIC TARGETS
- ► LOCALIZES THE THERAPEUTIC EFFICACY WHERE MOST NEEDED



Enabling approved drugs to fulfil unmet local treatment need





- ► ENABLING DRUGS TO REACH INTRACELLULAR THERAPEUTIC TARGETS
- ► LOCALIZES THE THERAPEUTIC EFFICACY WHERE MOST NEEDED



Mode of action





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- ► ENABLING DRUGS TO REACH INTRACELLULAR THERAPEUTIC TARGETS
- ► LOCALIZES THE THERAPEUTIC EFFICACY WHERE MOST NEEDED

## ✓ Chemotherapeutics

- Many chemotherapeutics are entrapped in endosomes in tumor cells, ameliorating their full therapeutic potential
- The PCI technology can induce an intracellular release - shown with a number of key chemotherapeutics
- > bleomycin
- docetaxel
- > erlotinib
- doxorubicin
- > topotecan
- > gemcitabine







- > bleomycin
- docetaxel
- erlotinib
- doxorubicin
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- > gemcitabine

 Bleomycin was evaluated in a FIH trial with promising efficacy in solid tumors

Gemcitabine in preclinical models
 solid, reproducible results with PCI



PCI Biotech – data on file





# EXTRAHEPATIC CHOLANGIOCARCINOMA

- ► A rare cancer in need of new treatment approaches
- Development largely focused on intrahepatic CCA
- Orphan disease
- > 5-year survival < 5%, avg. survival (inoperable) ≈ 12 mo</p>
  - Intrahepatic tumours (10%\*)
  - Perihilar tumours (60-70%\*)
  - Distal tumours (20-30%\*)
- Tumors tend to block the bile duct
  - Liver function is progressively affected
  - Palliative biliary drainage is key for patient treatment and survival
- Global Standard-of-Care (surgery < 25%):</p>
  - Stenting (& maintenance) via ERCP or PTC
  - Gemcitabine + cisplatin

	Liver
Right hepatic duct	Left hepatic duct
Gallbladder	Common hepatic duct
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# <text><section-header>\*\* CONSTRUCTION OF CONSTRUCT





# EXTRAHEPATIC CHOLANGIOCARCINOMA

### ► A rare cancer in need of new treatment approaches

Enhancing the active and recommended chemotherapy ORIGINAL ARTICLE

The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

#### Cisplatin plus Gemcitabine versus Gemcitabine for Biliary Tract Cancer

 Juan Valle, M.D., Harpreet Wasan, M.D., Daniel H. Palmer, M.D., Ph.D., David Cunningham, M.D., Alan Anthoney, M.D., Anthony Maraveyas, M.D.,
 Ph.D., Srinivasan Madhusudan, M.D., Ph.D., Tim Iveson, M.D., Sharon Hughes, B.Sc., Stephen P. Pereira, M.D., Ph.D., Michael Roughton, M.Sc., and John Bridgewater, M.D., Ph.D., <u>Southon APC 02 Trial Investinatores</u>

Easy illumination through standard endoscopic methods



Boosting chemotherapy effect where it is most needed







\* Bile duct cancer, Am Cancer Soc, 10/30/2013 \*\* N Engl J Med 2010;362:1273-81.

# PCI IN EXTRAHEPATIC CHOLANGIOCARCINOMA

- ► A rare cancer in need of new treatment approaches
- Clinical data safety and dose established

## PCIA 202/12: A phase I, dose escalation trial of PCI with gemcitabine and SoC +Extension



- Multicenter trial in patients with advanced extrahepatic CCA
- Classical dose escalation 3+3 design
- One single PCI induction of gemcitabine at standard dose
- Followed by standard care gem/cis therapy for up to 8 cycles.
- Patients were on-study for 6 months, and thereafter followed OS





## PCI IN EXTRAHEPATIC CHOLANGIOCARCINOMA

Clinical data – safety and dose established

## PCIA 202/12: A phase I, dose escalation trial of PCI with gemcitabine and SoC +Extension

- ▶ 16 patients (13♂ & 3♀); avg. age 64 yrs
- Treatment-naïve with histology confirmed, locally advanced, extrahepatic CCA
- Baseline ECOG <2 in all patients</p>
- All patients were stented
- 11/16 completed all 8 gem/cis cycles (avg, 6.4)

Cohort	1	2	3	4
Fimaporfin dose	0.06	0.06	0.12	0.25
Light dose J/cm	15	30	30	30
Total Pts / SAEs	3/5	3/2	4 / 14	6 / 10



• **Extension phase:** To evaluate the safety of 2 PCI procedures during chemo cycles (3+3)



## PCI IN EXTRAHEPATIC CHOLANGIOCARCINOMA

Clinical phase I data – safety and dose established

## PCIA 202/12: RESULTS

## Safety

- >No Dose-Limiting Toxicity (DLT) were observed
- No unexpected safety concerns
- Serious Adverse Events (SAEs) were primarily
  - cholangitis in approx. 50% of patients, but
  - not correlated in time to the PCI procedure
  - similar to the frequency, severity and pattern reported in the literature for perihilar CCA

## **Extension phase, 2 PCI procedures:**

7 additional subjects: no new safety signals

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Light dose J/cm	15	30	30	30
Total Pts / SAEs	3/5	3/2	4 / 14	6 / 10

Serious Adverse Events by System Organ Class (# patients/SAE)

Cardiac (pts/events)	0	0	0	1/2
Gastrointestinal	1/1	0	2/3	1/1
Hepatobiliary	1/3	2/2	3/11	3/3
Infections	1/1	0	0	1/1
Respiratory	0	0	0	1/1



## PCI IN EXTRAHEPATIC CHOLANGIOCARCINOMA

Clinical phase I data – safety and dose established

### PCIA 202/12: RESULTS

## Safety – cholangitis

- > Cholangitis timing did not indicate a relation to the PCI procedure:
  - Avg. 57 days after PCI endoscopy
- Trended to occur sooner in the two lowest dose cohorts (however, low N)
- A comprehensive literature review of Gem/Cis treatment trials in perihilar CCA with endoscopic procedures showed a similar rate of cholangitis episodes to this trial



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Serious Adverse Events by System Organ Class (# patients/SAE)							
	, -,			/			
Cardiac (pts/events)	0	0	0	1/2			
Cardiac (pts/events) Gastrointestinal	0 1/1	0	0 2 / 3	1/2 1/1			
Cardiac (pts/events) Gastrointestinal Hepatobiliary	0 1/1 1/3	0 0 2/2	0 2/3 3/11	1/2 1/1 3/3			
Cardiac (pts/events) Gastrointestinal Hepatobiliary Infections	0 1/1 1/3 1/1	0 0 2 / 2 0	0 2/3 3/11 0	1/2 1/1 3/3 1/1			

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## PCI IN EXTRAHEPATIC CHOLANGIOCARCINOMA

Clinical phase I data – safety and dose established

### PCIA 202/12: RESULTS

## Safety – photosensitivity

- Like other photosensitizers: transient light sensitivity
- Did not induce any SAEs
- Among AE reports, chemotherapy effects may have contributed to skin reactions
- A variability in reported light sensitivity seems to correlate to PK of fimaporfin (Amphinex<sup>®</sup>)
- PK of Amphinex<sup>®</sup> influenced by concomitant medications and potentially the degree of liver dysfunction
- Patients are advised to follow precautions to prevent skin and eye photosensitivity reactions - counselling and information is of key importance for compliance and motivation

Illustrative photosensitivity pattern with eliminiation curves in 6 patients depicted. Days after IV fimaporfin





# PCI IN EXTRAHEPATIC CHOLANGIOCARCINOMA

Clinical phase I data – safety and dose established

PCIA 202/12: Safety and early efficacy results paves the way for a pivotal trial

## Efficacy – dose escalation cohort

A >20% reduction in tumor size was observed in 17/19 target lesions in the two highest dose cohorts at 6 months

- Of these,12 lesions became undetectable (independent reading)
- 1/3 of the patients alive >30 months after PCI x 1 at initiation of standard gem/cis therapy



Best Overall Response\* (all radiologically evaluable patients)



## PCI IN EXTRAHEPATIC CHOLANGIOCARCINOMA

Clinical phase I data – safety and dose established

PCIA 202/12: Safety and early efficacy results paves the way for a pivotal trial

## **Efficacy** – mOS of 21.7 months in cohort IV = RP2D

Parameters, Oct 2018	Phase I, full study (N=16) (0.06-0.25mg/kg)	Cohort IV (N=6) (0.25mg/kg, RP2D for pivotal)
Avg. # of gem/cis cycles	6.4 (range: 0 - 8)	6.0 (range: 0 - 8)
Pts with measurable lesions	12/16 (75%)	5/6 (83%)
Avg. overall tumour size	4.1 cm (range: 1.5 - 7.8 cm)	5.2 cm (range: 2.1 - 7.8)
Objective Response Rate	4/12 patients (33%) (2 PR; 2 CR)	<b>3/5 patients (60%)</b> (2 PR; 1 CR)
Interim avg. Duration of Response	≥ 12.4 months (range: 6.5 – 20.2)	≥ 15.4 months (range: 8.0 – 20.2)
Overall Survival (OS)	median OS: 14.4 months interim avg OS: 18,9 months	median OS: 21.7 months interim avg OS: 19.8 months



# PCI IN EXTRAHEPATIC CHOLANGIOCARCINOMA

Clinical phase I data – safety and dose established

## PCIA 202/12: RESULTS FROM THE EXTENSION COHORT WITH REPEAT fimaCHEM

An extension cohort was recommended, purposed to explore safety of repeated treatment **Summary of characteristics and interim results** 

- 7 patients were included 5 of these received two fima *CHEM* treatments (C1 + C5)
- Safety endpoint reached a pivotal study can be initiated with up to two treatments
- 4/7 included patients had radiologically measurable disease
  - The average tumour burden (overall target tumour diameter) was about twice the average tumour burden in the dose escalation
  - None of the measurable local treated tumours showed progression during the six months follow-up period, but 2 patients had progression due to appearance of new lesions
- 3/7 patients alive at last censoring (March May), all having received two treatments the emerging mOS in this cohort was approx. 14 months at the time



## PCI IN EXTRAHEPATIC CHOLANGIOCARCINOMA

Clinical phase I data – safety and dose established

PCIA 202/12: Safety established, and the median OS was 21.7 months in cohort IV = RP2D





## PCI IN EXTRAHEPATIC CHOLANGIOCARCINOMA

Clinical data – safety and dose established

## PCIA 202/12 RESULTS IN PERSPECTIVE

Meta-analysis of (only Gem-Cis studies, n=15):
 Pooled ORR 20.0 (95% CI 15.8-24.6)

Juan Valle et al (ABC02). N Eng J Med 2010; 362:1273-82 Juan Valle et al (ABC03). The Lancet Oncology 2015; 16: 967-978 Thongprasert et al. Ann Oncol 2005; 16:279 Giuliani et al. Ann Oncol2006; 17 Suppl 7:vii73 Okusaka et al. Br J Cancer 2010;103:469 Meyerhardt et al. DigDis Sci 2008; 53:564 Kim et al. Cancer 2006;106:1340-1346 Lee 2008. Cancer Chemother Pharmacol (2008) 61:47–52 Goldstein et al 2011 Croitoru et al 2012 Charoentum et al 2007 Lee et al 2006 Heo et al 2017 Kim et al 2017 Takahara et al 2017 Total (fixed effects) Total (random effects)

Of note, the small N in PCIA 202/12 does not allow for comparative conclusions





# THE RELEASE TRIAL

A pivotal trial of fimaCHEM in gem/cis SoC regimen in inoperable extrahepatic CCA



A pivotal randomized study with an interim analysis for potential accelerated/conditional approval

- Based on 1<sup>st</sup> line SoC treatment inoperable extrahepatic bile duct cancer
- Approx. 40 key centers (Europe & USA)
- Approx. 36 months to interim and 50 to final analysis

- Randomization (1:1) of 186 patients
- Primary endpoint: PFS, with OS as key secondary
- Interim analysis primary endpoints: PFS followed by ORR (at 60 events)
- Safety endpoint in extension study achieved pivotal study with up to two treatments
- Orphan designation granted in both the US and EU
- Design based regulatory interactions with EMA and FDA
- Ongoing regulatory and ethics approvals and site initiations progressing well
- First site opened in March and first patient enrolled in May



# THE RELEASE TRIAL

A pivotal trial of fimaCHEM in gem/cis SoC regimen in inoperable extrahepatic CCA

A pivotal randomized study with an interim analysis for potential accelerated/conditional approval



 In the management of extrahepatic CCA, the endoscopic (or transhepatic) stenting is easily adapted to include also light delivery as part of treatment (3 minutes of illumination) at 1-2 occasions

The phase I trial (PCIA 202/12) demonstrate that targeted illumination can be safely conducted during standard ERCP

The 2<sup>nd</sup> treatment, scheduled to C5, may be postponed due to intercurrent disease events that delays treatment, or other patient factors

# In both arms, subjects will receive SoC background treatment with gem/cis





# THE RELEASE TRIAL

A pivotal trial of fimaCHEM in gem/cis SoC regimen in inoperable extrahepatic CCA



## A pivotal randomized study with an interim analysis for potential accelerated/conditional approval

#### **STUDY POPULATION**

- Subjects with inoperable, previously untreated extrahepatic CCA ≥18 years
- Biliary obstruction requiring stenting
- If metastatic, metastatic disease confined to the liver, and/or restricted only to local lymph nodes and/or with peritoneal engagement locally
- No previous anti-tumor treatment for CCA
- At least 1 radiological lesion (measurable and/or non- measurable but evaluable)
- Adequate biliary drainage (at least 50% of the liver volume, or at least 2 sectors)
- ECOG 0-1
- Histology verified CCA

#### PRIMARY OJECTIVE

Progression-Free Survival (PFS) with PCI-induction of gemcitabine + gem/cis chemotherapy

VS

Gem/cis therapy alone

#### SECONDARY OJECTIVES

- Overall Survival (key 2:ary)
- RECIST 1.1 endpoints
  - Best Overall Response (BOR), Objective Response Rate (ORR), Duration of Response (DoR), Disease Control Rate (DCR) at 6 and 12 months, and change in tumor size
- To further asses the safety of PCI, including loco-regional tumor and biliary tract related events, and the overall safety profile
- To assess Health-Related Quality of Life (HRQoL) and Patient Reported Outcome (PRO) in the two study arms
- A formal interim analysis of PFS will be performed after approximately 60 progression events (per RECIST 1.1, estimated at 120 patients)



## fima*Снем*

			Preclinical	Phase I	Phase II	Pivotal	
fimaCHEM	0	Bile duct cancer/ gemcitabine					Phase I/II: Safety and dose finding, with encouraging efficacy in CCA Currently initiating pivotal trial, US & EU

## CONCLUSIONS

- ► The translation of PoP of PhotoChemical Internalization with gemcitabine from preclinical data to clinical PoC data was secured in the PCIA 202/12 trial
- ► There is a huge unmet need in the majority of CCA patients, i.e. extrahepatic
- ► The fimaCHEM PCI procedure can safely be incorporated in SoC treatment, also with two procedures
- The promising RP2D dose taken into the pivotal trial, with a mOS of 21.7 months, and the safety profile of PCI has triggered the now initiated pivotal trial in Europe, and is soon to be expanded to the US
- ► The pivotal trial, with an interim analysis that may lead to an expedited approval, was designed in alignment with the expectations of RAs
- ► First site opened in March and first patient enrolled in May







## THE PCI PLATFORM **Future PCI opportunities** – small molecules, vaccines, nucleotides

Early lesions, aim at cure Surface illumination



#### Larynx



Bladder



Esophagus



...or, downstaging Endoscopic or interstitial





Liver metastases, pancreatic Aim: resectability Approach: transhepatic, US guided or laparoscopic

 Mediastinoscopy Bronchoscopy

Thoracoscopy

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- Palliatiation
- Endoscopic, interstitial
  - Irresectable tumours with PCI applicable therapies/vaccines
  - Decrease pain or obstruction, other local tumour effects
  - Glioblastoma
  - Spinal tumours
  - Esophagus
  - GI
  - Heart





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