Efficacy of Nuwig[®] (Simoctocog Alfa) in Patients with Hemophilia A Who Changed and Adhered to a Pharmacokinetic-Guided Prophylaxis Regimen in the NuPreviq Study

Clinical Medicine Insights: Blood Disorders Volume 14: 1-2 © The Author(s) 2021 Article reuse guidelines: sagepub.com/journals-permissions DOI: 10.1177/2634853521991517



K John Pasi

The Royal London Hospital, Barts and The London School of Medicine and Dentistry, London, UK.

The use of individual patient pharmacokinetic (PK) data to inform prophylaxis dose and dosing frequency has the potential to help optimize care for people with hemophilia A, by ensuring each patient achieves a predetermined FVIII trough level and protection from bleeding. The NuPreviq study evaluated the safety and efficacy of PK-guided personalized prophylaxis with Nuwiq[®] (simoctocog alfa), a 4th generation recombinant FVIII product produced in a human cell-line without chemical modification or protein fusion, in 66 previously treated adults with severe hemophilia A.1-3

Following a 1- to 3-month standard prophylaxis phase (30-40 international units [IU] kg⁻¹ every other day or 3 times per week), patients in the NuPreviq study received personalized prophylaxis for a mean of 6.2 months. As previously reported, 73.8% of patients remained bleed free and 83.1% were free from spontaneous bleeds during personalized prophylaxis with Nuwig[®].²

Based on the PK analysis, 44 (66.7%) of the 66 patients in the NuPreviq study changed to a different regimen, while 22 (33.3%) remained on the same dosing regimen. Of the 44 patients who changed prophylaxis regimen in the study, 40 (90.9%) completed the personalized prophylaxis phase of the study according to the assigned dosing and treatment scheme. To assess the impact of adjusting prophylactic dosing with Nuwiq® based on PK assessment, we performed a post hoc analysis of these 40 patients who adhered to the assigned dosing and treatment scheme.

The dosing frequency was decreased after PK assessment for 39 of the 40 patients, and 34 (85%) were treated twice weekly or less. The dosing frequency was increased in 1 patient from 3 times per week to every other day, but with a decrease in weekly dose from 100.2 to 85.4 IU/kg. The 40 patients remained on the assigned dosing regimen for a median of 5.8 months.

Whilst being treated with the assigned regimen, 33 (82.5%) of the 40 patients did not experience any bleeds and 36 (90.0%) had no spontaneous bleeds. The mean (SD) annualized bleeding rate (ABR) during this period was 1.2 (3.9) (median 0) for all bleeds and 0.94 (3.76) (median 0) for spontaneous bleeds. Figure 1 shows the mean ABR for all bleeds and spontaneous bleeds by dosing interval. The mean (SD) dose of Nuwiq® was 52.5 (12.2) IU/kg/injection and 99.7 (25.6) IU/kg/week. FVIII doses per week by dosing interval are shown in Figure 2.

There are no direct head-to-head comparisons of the efficacy of bleed prevention between rFVIII products. Indirect comparisons are made difficult by differences in patient populations, study methodologies, durations of follow-up, and dosing regimens. In this analysis, 82.5% of patients had no bleeds during treatment on the assigned regimen and the mean ABR was 1.2 for all bleeds. In studies of other rFVIII products, the percentage of patients with no bleeds was 39% to 45% over a period of approximately 6 to 8 months⁴⁻⁹ and ABRs ranged from 2.9 to 3.75-10 although these studies did not report data for adherent patients only.

In conclusion, personalized prophylaxis may allow many patients with hemophilia A to achieve effective bleed protection with a lower treatment burden than with standard prophylaxis protocols. Our analysis demonstrates that PK-guided personalized prophylaxis with Nuwiq® is effective in patients able to adhere to their assigned regimen and supports the use of PK assessment to inform prophylactic dosing regimens in patients treated with Nuwig®.

RECEIVED: November 24, 2020. ACCEPTED: January 8, 2021.

TYPE: Letter to the Editor

FUNDING: The author disclosed receipt of the following financial support for the research, authorship, and/or publication of this article: Medical writing support was provided by nspm ltd, Meggen, Switzerland, with financial support from Octapharma.

DECLARATION OF CONFLICTING INTERESTS: The author declared the following potential conflicts of interest with respect to the research, authorship, and/or publication of this article: K.J. Pasi: study investigator, grants, honoraria, and non-financial support from Apcintex, Biomarin, Biotest, Catalyst Bio, Novo Nordisk, Octapharma, Pfizer, Roche, Sanofi, Shire/Takeda, Sigilion, SOBI, Tremeau and UniQure.





Figure 1. ABR for all bleeds and spontaneous bleeds by dosing interval during prophylaxis with the assigned regimen after PK assessment.



Figure 2. Actual dose of Nuwig® per week and per infusion by dosing interval during prophylaxis with the assigned regimen after PK assessment.

REFERENCES

- Lieuw K. Many factor VIII products available in the treatment of hemophilia A: an embarrassment of riches? J Blood Med. 2017;8:67-73.
- Lissitchkov T, Rusen L, Georgiev P, et al. PK-guided personalized prophylaxis with Nuwiq[®] (human-cl rhFVIII) in adults with severe haemophilia A. *Haemo-philia*. 2017;23:697-704.
- Lissitchkov T, Klukowska A, Pasi J, et al. Efficacy and safety of simoctocog alfa (Nuwiq[®]) in patients with severe hemophilia A: a review of clinical trial data from the GENA program. *Ther Adv Hematol.* 2019;10:1-15.
- Reding MT, Ng HJ, Poulsen LH, et al. Safety and efficacy of BAY 94-9027, a prolonged-half-life factor VIII. J Thromb Haemost. 2017;15:411-419.
- Klamroth R, Windyga J, Radulescu V, et al. Results from a phase 3, randomized, multicenter study of rurioctocog alfa pegol PK-guided prophylaxis targeting 2 FVIII trough levels in patients with severe hemophilia A (propel study). *Haemo-philia*. 2019;25:162.
- Giangrande P, Andreeva T, Chowdary P, et al. Clinical evaluation of glycoPE-Gylated recombinant FVIII: efficacy and safety in severe haemophilia A. *Thromb Haemost.* 2017;117:252-261.
- Mahlangu J, Kuliczkowski K, Karim FA, et al. Efficacy and safety of rVIII-SingleChain: results of a phase 1/3 multicenter clinical trial in severe hemophilia A. *Blood.* 2016;128:630-637.
- Mahlangu J, Powell JS, Ragni MV, et al. Phase 3 study of recombinant factor VIII Fc fusion protein in severe hemophilia A. *Blood*. 2014;123(3):317-325.
- Iorio A, Krishnan S, Myrén KJ, et al. Indirect comparisons of efficacy and weekly factor consumption during continuous prophylaxis with recombinant factor VIII Fc fusion protein and conventional recombinant factor VIII products. *Haemophilia*. 2017;23:408-416.
- JIVI® [antihemophilic factor (recombinant), PEGylated-aucl] prescribing information. Accessed February 25, 2020. https://www.fda.gov/files/vaccines,%20 blood%20%26%20biologics/published/Package-Insert-JIVI.pdf