

**POSTER PRESENTATION**

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# Phase I study of patients with non-muscle invasive bladder cancer (NMIBC) treated with vesigenurtacel-L (HS-410) after Bacillus Calmette-Guérin (BCG)

Gary Steinberg<sup>1</sup>, Neal Shore<sup>2</sup>, Lawrence Karsh<sup>3</sup>, James Bailen<sup>4</sup>, Michael Woods<sup>5</sup>, Taylor Schreiber<sup>6</sup>, Melissa Price<sup>6\*</sup>

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## Background

Vesigenurtacel-L (HS-410), consists of an allogeneic bladder cancer cell line, selected for high expression of a series of tumor antigens that are known to be shared by a high proportion of bladder tumors. The cell line secretes gp96-Ig, a modified heat shock protein which delivers cell-derived antigens to MHC-I via the cross-presentation pathway, leading to preferential activation of CD8+ cytotoxic T cells. Vesigenurtacel-L was evaluated in a Phase I trial after treatment with standard of care induction BCG for safety and immune response.

## Methods

Ten patients with non-muscle invasive bladder cancer who had undergone TURBT, were judged to be at an increased risk for recurrence, and were either BCG naïve or had completed previous BCG treatment >12 months prior to the most recent TURBT were treated with induction BCG as standard of care and enrolled in the trial. Patients received up to 15 doses of monotherapy vesigenurtacel-L at a dose of 10<sup>6</sup> cells per dose, weekly for 12 weeks followed by 3 monthly doses. Baseline tumor tissue and any follow up biopsies were evaluated by immunohistochemistry for tumor infiltrating lymphocytes and expression of PD-L1.

## Results

Vesigenurtacel-L was well tolerated with no treatment-related Grade 3/4 adverse events. The most common adverse events were low-grade injection site reactions

consistent with delayed type hypersensitivity. Peripheral blood mononuclear cells were evaluated by flow cytometry for detection of circulating leukocyte subsets, regulatory T cells, myeloid derived suppressor cells, activated T cells and expression of immune checkpoint molecules on T cells. Additionally, analyses from pre- and post-treatment tissue specimens in a subset of patients including antigen expression, evaluation of tumor-infiltrating lymphocytes, PD-L1 expression and T cell receptor sequencing will be reported, and their extrapolation to an emerging definition of responder phenotype discussed. For example, tissue analysis indicates an increase in CD8+ T cells in the bladder after treatment, consistent with the mechanism of action derived from preclinical models, and this change appears to be correlated to clinical outcome.

## Trial registration

Clinical trial information: NCT02010203.

## Authors' details

<sup>1</sup>University of Chicago Medical Center, Chicago, IL, USA. <sup>2</sup>Atlantic Urology Clinics, Myrtle Beach, SC, USA. <sup>3</sup>The Urology Center of Colorado, Denver, CO, USA. <sup>4</sup>First Urology, Jeffersonville, IN, USA. <sup>5</sup>The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC, USA. <sup>6</sup>Heat Biologics, Inc., Durham, NC, USA.

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<sup>6</sup>Heat Biologics, Inc., Durham, NC, USA

Full list of author information is available at the end of the article