



Pharmacokinetics, Safety, and Efficacy of Glecaprevir/Pibrentasvir in Children With Chronic HCV: Part 2 of the DORA Study

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BACKGROUND AND AIMS: Glecaprevir/pibrentasvir (GLE/PIB) has shown high efficacy and safety in chronic HCV-infected adults and adolescents; data in children were limited. DORA part 2 is a phase 2/3, nonrandomized, open-label study evaluating the pharmacokinetics, efficacy, and safety of a pediatric formulation of GLE and PIB in children ages 3 to < 12 years.

APPROACH AND RESULTS: Children with chronic HCV infection, genotype 1-6, with or without compensated cirrhosis, were divided into three cohorts by age—cohort 2 (9 to < 12 years), cohort 3 (6 to < 9 years), and cohort 4 (3 to < 6 years)—and given weight-based doses of GLE and PIB for 8, 12, or 16 weeks. Primary endpoints were sustained virologic response at posttreatment week 12 (SVR12) and steady-state exposure; secondary endpoints were rates of persistent viremia, relapse, and reinfection. Safety and laboratory abnormalities were assessed. Final pediatric dosages determined to be efficacious were 250 mg GLE + 100 mg PIB (in children weighing \geq 30 to < 45 kg), 200 mg GLE + 80 mg PIB (\geq 20 to < 30 kg), and 150 mg GLE + 60 mg PIB (12 to < 20 kg). Of 80 participants enrolled and dosed, 96% (77/80) achieved SVR12. One participant, on the initial dose ratio, relapsed by posttreatment week 4; no participants had virologic failures on the final dose ratio of GLE 50 mg/PIB 20 mg. Two nonresponders prematurely discontinued the study.

Most adverse events (AEs) were mild; no drug-related serious AEs occurred. Pharmacokinetic exposures were comparable to those of adults.

CONCLUSIONS: A pediatric formulation of GLE/PIB was highly efficacious and well tolerated in chronic HCV-infected children 3 to < 12 years old. (HEPATOLOGY 2021;74:19-27).

Globally, 71 million people are infected with HCV; of those, approximately 13.2 million are children between 1 and 15 years of age.^(1,2) Vertical transmission is the primary route of viral acquisition in pediatrics.⁽²⁾ While 20% of children infected this way may clear HCV infection spontaneously in the first few years of life, 80% will go on to develop long-term infection. HCV infection acquired during infancy or childhood can lead to chronic hepatitis and cirrhosis; HCC has also been reported in children.⁽²⁻⁴⁾ Guidance from the European Society of Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology, and Nutrition; the North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology, and Nutrition; and the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases

Abbreviations: AE, adverse events; DAA, direct-acting antiviral; GLE, glecaprevir; GT, genotype; IPK, intense pharmacokinetics; ITT, intention-to-treat; LDV, ledipasvir; NS, nonstructural protein; pegIFN, pegylated interferon; PIB, pibrentasvir; PK, pharmacokinetics; PTW, posttreatment week; RBV, ribavirin; SOF, sofosbuvir; SVR12, sustained virologic response at posttreatment week 12.

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Ethics and consent statement: The trials were conducted in accordance with good clinical practice and the Declaration of Helsinki and were approved at all sites by their independent ethics committees or institutional review boards prior to enrollment.

Data Availability: AbbVie is committed to responsible data sharing regarding the clinical trials we sponsor. This includes access to anonymized, individual, and trial-level data (analysis data sets), as well as other information (e.g., protocols and clinical study reports), as long as the trials are not part of an ongoing or planned regulatory submission. This includes requests for clinical trial data for unlicensed products and indications.

(AASLD) recommends that all children and adolescents aged ≥ 3 years with HCV infection will benefit from treatment with an approved direct-acting antiviral (DAA) regimen, regardless of disease severity.^(2,5,6) The goals of HCV treatment in pediatric patients are cure of infection and prevention of progression of liver disease.^(2,6)

DAA therapy has demonstrated high sustained virologic response at posttreatment week 12 (SVR12) in adolescents (12 to < 18 years of age); however, options in children remain limited. While combinations of ledipasvir/sofosbuvir (LDV/SOF) and SOF +

ribavirin (RBV) have been approved in adolescents and children ≥ 3 years of age, neither combination is pangenotypic.⁽⁶⁻¹²⁾ Currently, SOF/velpatasvir is the only pangenotypic, RBV-free, DAA regimen approved for HCV-infected children ages 6 and older; pangenotypic options in children ≥ 3 years of age remain an unmet need.^(13,14)

A combination of glecaprevir (GLE) 100 mg and pibrentasvir (PIB) 40 mg, coformulated as GLE/PIB into a fixed-dose tablet, has been approved in adults and adolescents > 12 years (or ≥ 45 kg) as a pangenotypic treatment option for chronic HCV

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Potential conflict of interest: Dr. Lon is employed by and owns stock in AbbVie. Dr. Marcinak is employed by and owns stock in AbbVie. Dr. Mizuochi was an investigator in an AbbVie-sponsored clinical study. Dr. Narkewicz consults for Vertex and received grants from AbbVie and Gilead. Dr. Rhee is employed by and owns stock in AbbVie. Dr. Sabharwal was an investigator in an AbbVie-sponsored clinical study. Dr. Sokol is the founder and chairman of the board of directors and member of the executive committee for Promethera. Dr. Topp is employed by and owns stock in AbbVie. Dr. Tripathi is employed by and owns stock in AbbVie. Dr. Wen consults for and received grants from Gilead. She received grants from AbbVie and Alexion. Dr. Del Valle-Segarra was an investigator in an AbbVie-sponsored clinical study. Dr. Feiterna-Sperling was an investigator in AbbVie-sponsored and Gilead-sponsored clinical studies. Dr. Gilmour was an investigator in an AbbVie-sponsored clinical study. Dr. Gonzalez-Peralta advises and received grants from Gilead. He advises Alexion and Albireo. He received grants from AbbVie and Merck. Dr. Hierro was an investigator in an AbbVie-sponsored clinical study. Dr. Jonas consults for and received grants from Gilead. She receives grants from AbbVie, Echosens, Merck, and Roche. She received grants from AbbVie. Dr. Kelly received grants from AbbVie and Gilead. She consults for, advises and received grants from Roche. Dr. Leung advises and received grants from Gilead. He advises Merck and received grants from Mirum and AbbVie. Dr. Ling received grants from Gilead and AbbVie. Dr. Lobritto advises Gilead and Kadmon. He received grants from AbbVie.

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infection.^(15,16) Efficacy of GLE/PIB has been demonstrated in treatment-naïve adult patients with chronic HCV infection with SVR12 rates of 96%–99.7%; it is approved for durations as short as 8 weeks in all major genotypes (GTs) in treatment-naïve patients both with and without cirrhosis and in GT1-infected, GT2-infected, and GT4-6-infected patients without cirrhosis who are treatment-experienced with pegylated interferon (pegIFN), RBV, and/or SOF.⁽¹⁵⁻²⁰⁾ Part 1 of the DORA study evaluated the efficacy and safety of the coformulated GLE/PIB tablet in adolescents between the ages of 12 and < 18 years for 8, 12, or 16 weeks depending on treatment experience and geographic location.⁽²¹⁾ Of 47 chronic HCV GT1-4-infected adolescents receiving GLE/PIB, 100% achieved SVR12 with a safety and tolerability profile comparable to that of adults. Part 2 of the DORA study aimed to study the pharmacokinetics (PK), efficacy, and safety of a pediatric formulation of GLE/PIB in chronic HCV-infected children with GT1-6, using the same treatment durations used in adults and adolescents.

Methods

DORA (NCT03067129) is a phase 2/3, nonrandomized, open-label, multinational study; part 2 of the study evaluated children 3 to < 12 years of age (cohorts 2-4), who were given a pediatric formulation of GLE/PIB from May 2, 2018, to May 28, 2020. The trial protocol was approved by the independent ethics committee or institutional review board for each trial center. The trial was conducted in accordance with the good clinical practice guidelines and the ethical principles of the Declaration of Helsinki; all parents/guardians provided written informed consent, and study participants provided assent where required.

Participants were eligible to enroll if they were 3 to < 12 years old at the time of enrollment and had chronic HCV GT1-6 infection. Participants could be without cirrhosis or with compensated cirrhosis, treatment-naïve, or treatment-experienced with an IFN-based regimen (\pm RBV) or SOF with RBV (\pm pegIFN) and with or without HIV-1 coinfection. Participants were required to have an HCV RNA \geq 1,000 IU/mL at the time of screening; fibrosis was determined by biopsy, FibroScan, or FibroTest. Participants without

a history of cirrhosis who had not had a liver biopsy within 24 months or a FibroScan within 6 months prior to screening underwent a FibroTest to determine the presence or absence of cirrhosis. Study participants were excluded if they were coinfecting with HBV, had decompensated cirrhosis (Child-Pugh B/C or a Child-Pugh Score \geq 7), or had HCC. Participants were divided into three age cohorts: 9 to < 12 years (cohort 2), 6 to < 9 years (cohort 3), and 3 to < 6 years (cohort 4) (Fig. 1). Study participants were dosed by weight within the age cohorts. In each cohort, participants were first enrolled in parallel into an intense pharmacokinetics (IPK) portion to characterize the PK and safety in each age group, followed by a non-IPK safety/efficacy portion. Study participants enrolled in the IPK portion had to be HIV-negative, be treatment-naïve, and have an identified HCV GT. Participants were treated with a pediatric formulation of GLE/PIB, comprised of small film-coated granules of GLE and PIB, for 8 or 12 weeks depending on the presence of cirrhosis and geographical location, as prescribed durations for adults and adolescents vary by region. For the IPK arm, the initial dose of GLE/PIB was administered to a subset of participants, based on the child's weight and age at screening. IPK participants underwent an intensive PK sampling scheme at week 2 with blood samples taken at hours 0, 2, 4, 6, and 12 postdose. After the initial subset of participants completed the IPK visit, PK samples were analyzed to determine if any dose adjustments were needed. The IPK results from the initial subset of participants were evaluated to determine if therapeutic efficacious exposures were attained, comparable to those of adults. Enrollment into the non-IPK safety and efficacy portions began when the dosing recommendations per age group based on the PK and clinical data from the IPK analysis were ascertained. Children in the non-IPK efficacy/safety arm of the study were administered GLE/PIB for 8, 12, or 16 weeks based on HCV GT, cirrhosis status, prior treatment experience, and geographical location. The non-IPK portion of the study received a formulation of GLE/PIB identical to the IPK portion; however, the granules were packaged in unit dose sachets for daily oral administration. All participants and their caregivers received a study drug dosing card containing dosing instructions for administration of GLE/PIB; the dosing instructions given to participants and their caregivers specified the pediatric formulation was to

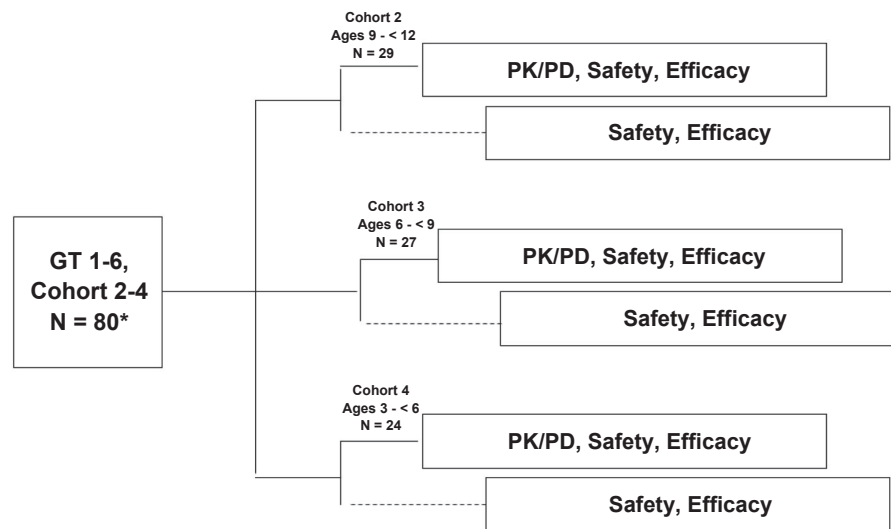


FIG. 1. Study schematic depicting cohorts 2-4 in part 2 of the DORA study, broken down by the PK and efficacy/safety analyses portions for each cohort. In the posttreatment period, participants administered at least one dose of the study drug will be monitored for safety, viral response, emergence and/or persistence of resistance-associated viral substitutions, growth, and development. *Enrolled and dosed. Abbreviation: PD, pharmacodynamic.

be administered by mixing the granules with a small amount (1-2 teaspoons) of a soft food vehicle, such as hazelnut spread, Greek yogurt, or peanut butter.

The primary PK endpoint was the steady-state AUC for the plasma concentration–time curve values at 0 and 24 hours for GLE and PIB.

Demographics, efficacy, and safety analyses were performed on the intention-to-treat (ITT) population, which included all enrolled participants who received at least one dose of the study drug. The primary efficacy endpoint was the percentage of participants with SVR12 (HCV RNA < 15 IU/mL). Plasma HCV RNA levels were collected using the COBAS AmpliPrep/COBAS TaqMan HCV Quantitative Test v2.0 (Roche Diagnostics); HCV RNA samples were collected at screening; day 1; weeks 2, 4, 8, and 12 (for those on 12 and 16 weeks of GLE/PIB therapy); and at the time of treatment completion or if a participant prematurely discontinued therapy. The efficacy endpoint was calculated with a two-sided 95% CI using the normal approximation to the binomial distribution. If the number of participants who failed to achieve SVR12 was < 5, Wilson's score method was used to determine the CI instead.

The secondary endpoints were maximum concentration, apparent clearance of GLE and PIB, the percentage of participants with persistent viremia

(defined as two consecutive HCV RNA measurements of > 1 log₁₀ IU/mL above nadir at any time during treatment or confirmed HCV RNA ≥ 100 IU/mL after HCV RNA < 15 IU/mL), posttreatment HCV relapse, and HCV reinfection rates. To assess palatability and tolerability, parents completed a palatability questionnaire to provide feedback on the perception of the GLE/PIB granule dosage form. The palatability questionnaire included five questions related to the administration and ingestion of the GLE/PIB formulation.

Safety and tolerability were evaluated by monitoring adverse events (AEs), postbaseline laboratory values, physical examination findings, vital signs, growth, and development. AEs were tabulated using the Medical Dictionary for Regulatory Activities system organ class and preferred term overall and by age group. Laboratory samples were collected at baseline; at treatment weeks 2, 4, 8, 12, and 16; and at post-treatment week (PTW) 4-144. Trial investigators assessed the severity and relationship to treatment. Laboratory values that worsened from baseline during treatment were graded using the National Cancer Institute Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events, v4.0.

Baseline polymorphisms were determined based on the availability of samples. For all participants who

experienced virologic failure and had an HCV RNA \geq 1,000 IU/mL, postbaseline substitutions relative to the baseline sequence and to the appropriate prototypic reference sequence were tabulated and summarized.

Results

Eighty-one HCV-infected children, ages 3 to < 12 years, were enrolled; 80 children were dosed and divided into three cohorts based on age; one participant in cohort 4 was enrolled but not dosed. The majority of participants were treatment-naïve (78/80, 98%) and infected with HCV GT1 (58/80, 73%) (Table 1); the 2 treatment-experienced study participants had been treated with pegIFN and RBV. Eleven participants had FibroScan scores prior to study day 1, and 77 participants had baseline FibroTest scores; although allowed by inclusion criteria, none of the enrolled study participants had cirrhosis. Seventy-eight participants received DAA therapy for 8 weeks. One GT3-infected participant in Japan received therapy for 12 weeks, and 1 GT3, treatment-experienced participant received therapy for 16 weeks, both in accordance with the local adult prescribing label duration. One participant who was coinfecting with HIV received 8 weeks of treatment.

Following the IPK analysis from the first 17 enrolled participants who received the initial GLE/PIB dose ratio of 40/15 mg, the dose was adjusted to the final GLE/PIB dose ratio of 50/20 mg. The final doses of GLE 250 mg + PIB 100 mg (in children weighing \geq 30 to < 45 kg), GLE 200 mg + PIB 80 mg (in children weighing \geq 20 to < 30 kg), or GLE 150 mg + PIB 60 mg (in children weighing 12 to < 20 kg) were used in the remaining IPK participants and in the non-IPK group. The geometric mean steady-state exposures of the final doses of GLE and PIB were 4,600 ng · hour/mL and 1,720 ng · hour/mL, respectively, for participants weighing \geq 30 to < 45 kg; 6,020 ng · hour/mL and 1,700 ng · hour/mL, respectively, for participants weighing \geq 20 to < 30 kg; and 6,340 ng · hour/mL and 1,410 ng · hour/mL, respectively, for participants weighing 12 to < 20 kg, compared to 4,800 ng · hour/mL and 1,430 ng · hour/mL, respectively, for adults (Table 2). Figure 2 shows the distribution of AUC in adults and adolescents (who received the adult GLE/PIB formulation at the 300/120 mg dose), as well as in children across the

three cohorts who received the pediatric formulation of GLE/PIB at the final doses.

The overall SVR12 rate was 96% (77/80; 95% CI, 90%-99%); the SVR12 rates were 93% (27/29; 95% CI, 78%-98%) for cohort 2 (9 to <12 years old), 100% (27/27; 95% CI, 88%-100%) for cohort 3 (6 to < 9 years old), and 96% (23/24; 95% CI, 80%-99%) for cohort 4 (3 to < 6 years old) (Fig. 3).

No participants experienced virologic failure on the final GLE/PIB dose ratio of 50/20 mg, and no new HCV infections or reinfections were reported. One 9-year-old treatment-naïve participant with HCV GT3b infection who received the initial dose ratio of GLE/PIB 40/15 mg for 8 weeks relapsed by PTW4. This child had no baseline polymorphism or treatment-emergent substitutions in nonstructural protein 3 (NS3) but had K30R and V31M in NS5A at baseline and treatment-emergent substitution Y93H in NS5A. There were two premature discontinuations. One 3-year-old child refused to swallow the GLE/PIB granule formulation; the participant was partially dosed on day 1 without subsequent doses and thus included in the ITT population analysis. Another 11-year-old participant discontinued treatment by day 4 due to a drug-related rash.

AEs occurred in 71% of children, with 29% being deemed reasonably related to GLE/PIB by the study investigators (Table 3). The most common AEs (occurring in \geq 10% of participants) were headache (14%), vomiting (14%), and diarrhea (10%). One child experienced a nonserious, grade 3 drug-related AE of erythematous rash and discontinued GLE/PIB by day 4; and another child experienced an unrelated AE of respiratory tract infection, which led to a brief interruption of GLE/PIB. This participant resumed GLE/PIB to completion and achieved SVR12. No participants experienced clinically significant laboratory abnormalities, and there were no cases of liver-related toxicities. No treatment-emergent serious AEs were reported. One serious AE of osteomyelitis (considered unrelated to GLE/PIB) was reported in the posttreatment period on day 171.

Seventy-seven study participants or their caregivers completed the palatability questionnaire at week 2, 68 participants or their caregivers completed the questionnaire at week 8, and 78 participants or their caregivers completed the questionnaire at the final treatment visit. At the final treatment visit, 32% of participants/caregivers rated the formulation/dosing very convenient, and an additional 40% of participants/caregivers rated the

TABLE 1. Baseline Demographics and Clinical Characteristics

Baseline Characteristic	Cohort 2: 9 to < 12 years old, N = 29, n (%)	Cohort 3: 6 to < 9 years old, N = 27, n (%)	Cohort 4: 3 to < 6 years old, N = 24, n (%)	Cohorts 2-4: 3 to < 12 years old, N = 80, n (%)
Sex				
Female	15 (52)	17 (63)	12 (50)	44 (55)
Male	14 (48)	10 (37)	12 (50)	36 (45)
Race				
White	21 (72)	18 (67)	16 (67)	55 (69)
Black	1 (3)	1 (4)	1 (4)	3 (4)
Asian	5 (17)	5 (19)	4 (17)	14 (18)
Multiple	1 (3)	3 (11)	1 (4)	5 (6)
HCV GT*				
1a/1b subtype	11 (38)/8 (28)	12 (44)/10 (37)	14 (58)/3 (13)	37 (46)/21 (26)
2	2 (7)	0	0	2 (3)
3	8 (28)	3 (11)	7 (29)	18 (23)
4	0	2 (7)	0	2 (3)
Age (years) (median, range)	10 (9-11)	7 (6-9)	4 (3-5)	7 (3-11)
Weight (kg) (median, range)	37 (29-44)	23 (20-34)	16 (13-21)	25 (13-44)
Prior HCV treatment history				
Naive	27 (93)	27 (100)	24 (100)	78 (98)
Experienced [†]	2 (7)	0	0	2 (3)
HCV RNA (log ₁₀ IU/mL) [§] (median, range)	6.2 (4.8-7.2)	5.9 (4.5-7.2)	5.8 (3.4-6.9)	6.0 (3.4-7.2)
Baseline HCV RNA level (IU/mL)				
< 1,000,000	10 (35)	15 (56)	14 (58)	39 (49)
≥ 1,000,000 and < 2,000,000	8 (28)	4 (15)	1 (4)	13 (16)
≥ 2,000,000	11 (38)	8 (30)	9 (38)	28 (35)
Baseline fibrosis stage [‡]				
F0-F1	28 (97)	26 (96)	24 (100)	78 (98)
F2	1 (3)	1 (4)	0	2 (3)
HCV/HIV-coinfected				
Yes	0	1 (4)	0	1 (1)
No	29 (100)	26 (96)	24 (100)	79 (99)
Baseline polymorphisms n/N				
NS3 only	0	0	0	0
NS5A only	4/29 (14)	10/27 (37)	4/23 (17)	18/79 (23)
NS3 + NS5A	0	0	0	0
None	25/29 (86)	17/27 (63)	19/23 (83)	61/79 (77)

Data are presented as n (%) or median (range).

*No participants with HCV GT5 or GT6 were enrolled, although they were eligible per protocol.

[†]Both treatment-experienced participants had received pegIFN and RBV.

[‡]Fibrosis was determined by a liver biopsy, FibroScan, or FibroTest.

[§]HCV RNA quantified by Roche COBAS Ampliprep/COBAS TaqMan HCV Quantitative Test, version 2.0.

^{||}Baseline polymorphisms detected by next-generation sequencing using 15% detection threshold at the following amino acid positions: NS3, 155, 156, 168; NS5A, 24, 28, 30, 31, 58, 92, 93. n represents the number of participants with baseline polymorphisms in the respective target(s), and N represents the number of participants with available sequences in both targets.

formulation/dosing as convenient; 82% of participants disliked the taste of the medicine, and 53% reported disliking the texture. Most study participants/caregivers reported taking the dose within 5 minutes or less (85%).

Discussion

Several DAA regimens are licensed to treat adults with chronic HCV infection, but therapeutic options

TABLE 2. Steady-State Population PK of GLE and PIB Following the Final Dosing Regimen

Age Cohort and Body Weight (kg)*	GLE Dose (mg)	Geometric Mean (P5, P95)	
		GLE AUC _{24ss} (ng · hour/mL)	PIB AUC _{24ss} (ng · hour/mL)
Cohort 2, ≥ 30 to < 45 kg	250	4,600 (644, 34,200)	1,720 (675, 3,930)
Cohort 3, ≥ 20 to < 30 kg	200	6,020 (831, 41,300)	1,700 (700, 3,640)
Cohort 4, 12 to < 20 kg	150	6,340 (924, 43,300)	1,410 (549, 3,130)

*Geometric mean is based on weight as there were some children who fell outside the weight bands for their age cohort. Abbreviations: AUC_{24ss}, area under the plasma concentration-time curve from time 0 to 24 hours at steady-state; P5, 5th percentile of data; P95, 95th percentile of data.

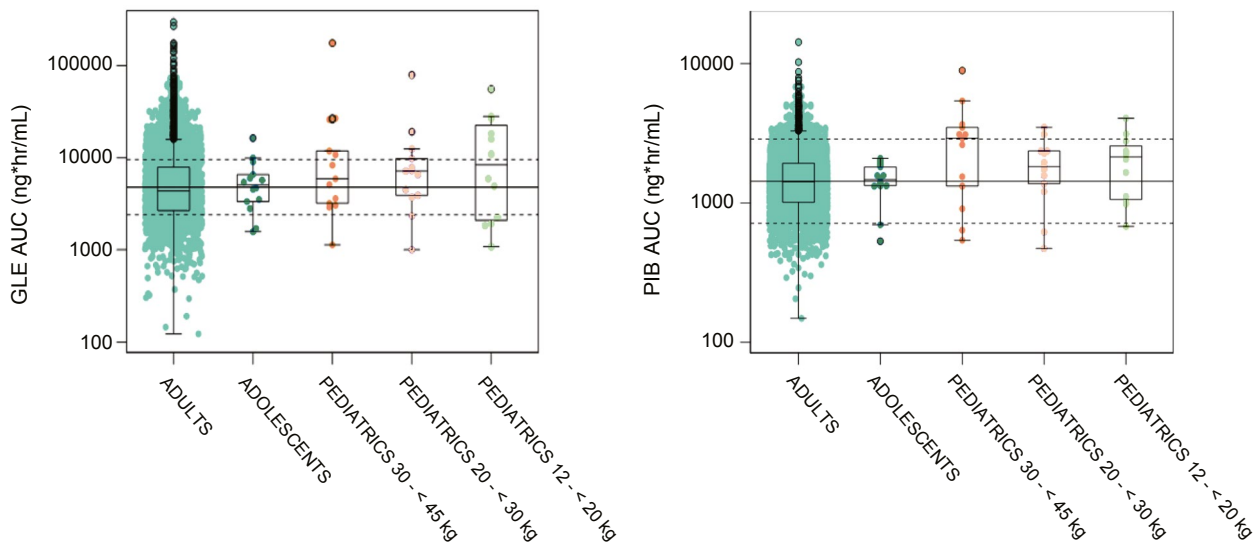


FIG. 2. Distribution of AUC of GLE and PIB (at week 2) in adults and adolescents following the adult formulation of GLE/PIB at 300/120 mg dose and in children following the pediatric formulation of GLE/PIB at final determined doses. Dashed lines show the target GLE AUC range of (2400-9600) ng · hour/mL and the target PIB AUC range of (715-2860) ng · hour/mL, which are ± 2 -fold of geometric mean exposures in adults.

for children are limited. IFN and RBV-based therapies are less effective and more toxic than DAA regimens, and few studies have evaluated DAA therapy in children < 12 years old.⁽⁶⁾ In one study, HCV-infected children ages 6-11 years who received 12 weeks of SOF/LDV achieved an SVR12 of 99% (91/92); in another study, children 3 to \leq 6 years of age who received 12 weeks of SOF/LDV achieved an SVR12 of 97% (33/34).^(11,12)

GLE/PIB treatment was associated with SVR12 of 100% in part 1 of the DORA study evaluating 48 adolescents, 47 of whom received the adult formulation; the other participant was not dosed.⁽²¹⁾ Subsequently,

the AASLD guidance included the recommendation for a fixed-dose regimen of GLE/PIB 300/120 mg for 8-16 weeks in HCV-infected GT1-6 adolescents, aged \geq 12 years or weighing \geq 45 kg.⁽⁶⁾ For children \geq 3 years of age with HCV GT 1, 4, 5, or 6, weight-based LDV/SOF is recommended for 12 weeks.

In part 2 of the DORA study, 80 pediatric study participants, 3 to < 12 years of age, received a pediatric formulation of GLE/PIB, based on age and weight; the majority (98%) were treated for 8 weeks. Seventy-seven participants achieved SVR12 (96%). Of the 3 who did not achieve SVR12, 1 HCV GT3b-infected participant

relapsed by PTW4, 1 discontinued GLE/PIB due to an AE of a rash, and 1 was enrolled but received only one dose of GLE/PIB. As only 1 child relapsed on the

initial dose ratio, negative baseline predictors/trends such as demographics, baseline HCV RNA level, genotype, or presence of baseline polymorphisms were not identified. AEs were mostly mild in severity and similar to the safety profile established in adults and adolescents; no treatment-emergent serious AEs and no liver-related toxicities were reported. The taste of GLE/PIB was disliked by 82% of participants at the final treatment visit; in comparative HCV medication therapies for children, 5 participants reported disliking the taste of LDV/SOF; however, only 17 children in that study were assessed for palatability.⁽¹¹⁾ Despite disliking the taste or texture of GLE/PIB, most participants were able to take the medication in 5 minutes or less, including in the younger 3 to < 6 year age cohort, and high SVR12 rates were similar to those seen in adults and adolescents treated with GLE/PIB.

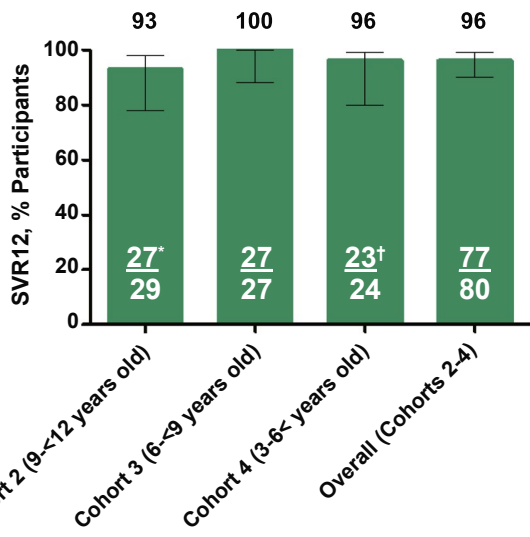


FIG. 3. SVR12 rates by age cohort and overall group following treatment with the weight-based GLE/PIB pediatric formulation in the ITT population. Error bars represent 95% CIs, which were calculated using the Wilson score method. *One participant with premature discontinuation due to drug-related rash and one participant relapsed by PTW4. †One participant refused to swallow granule formulation and prematurely discontinued study after being partially dosed on Day 1; the participant did not receive subsequent doses.

The noncompartmental PK analysis was based on 38 participants with IPK samples, who received the final GLE/PIB daily dose ratio of 50/20 mg. Overall, the distribution of the AUC of GLE and PIB in HCV-infected children at each 12 to < 20 kg, ≥ 20 to < 30 kg, and ≥ 30 to < 45 kg weight group, as well as adolescents, was within the efficacious and safe exposure ranges of those in HCV-infected adults without cirrhosis.

Although participation allowed for enrollment, there were no GT5-infected or GT6-infected children enrolled and a small number of children with GT2 and GT4. The study recruited participants from North America, Japan, and Europe; and given the prevalence of GT and region, the lower number of participants of GT2 and GT4 is understandable. Given PK exposure profiles similar to adults and adolescents, it may stand to reason that data may be extrapolated from these populations to children with similar GTs.

A weight-based pediatric formulation of GLE/PIB in HCV-infected children, 3 to < 12 years old, had a PK, efficacy, and safety profile similar to that observed in adults and adolescents.⁽²¹⁾ The PK results, combined with the efficacy and safety profile, support the use of using the weight-based pediatric GLE/PIB dose ratio of 50/20 mg in HCV-infected children aged 3 to < 12 years of age.

Overall, the data from DORA part 2 demonstrate that GLE/PIB is a highly efficacious and safe pangenotypic treatment option for young children with chronic HCV infection. The pediatric formulation was well tolerated and provides a short, 8-week treatment option for children with HCV.

TABLE 3. AEs and Laboratory Abnormalities

Characteristic	Overall Cohort 2-4, N = 80, n (%)
Any AE	57 (71)
Any AE with reasonable possibility of being related to GLE/PIB	23 (29)
Treatment-emergent serious AE	0
AE leading to drug discontinuation	1 (1)
AEs in ≥ 10% of all participants	
Vomiting	11 (14)
Headache	11 (14)
Diarrhea	8 (10)
Laboratory abnormalities	
ALT, grade ≥ 3 (> 5 × ULN)	0
AST, grade ≥ 3 (> 5 × ULN)	0
Total bilirubin, grade ≥ 3 (> 3 × ULN)	0

Abbreviations: ALT, alanine aminotransferase; AST, aspartate aminotransferase; ULN, upper limit of normal.

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Supporting Information

Additional Supporting Information may be found at onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/hep.31841/supinfo.