Late Drug Development (Molecular Targeted Therapy)

Professor Tony Mok Li Shu Fun Medical Foundation Professor of Clinical Oncology Department of Clinical Oncology The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Cornerstone for clinical trial design



Early develoopment

late develoopment

Study objectives

- Early development
 - Pharmacokinetic and dosing
 - Proof of concept
 - Identification of biomarker
- Late development
 - Prove to be better than standard treatment
 - Drug approval by regulatory bodies

Study objectives

- Early development
 - Pharmacokinetic and dosing
 - Proof of concept
 - Identification of biomarker
- Late development
 - Prove to be better than standard treatment
 - Drug approval by regulatory bodies

A classic late drug development study on targeted therapy



Pirker R et al. Lancet 2009, 373, 1525

Basic assumptions on phase III design

MAY BE

MAY BE

MAY BE

- All patients enrolled to study share similar characteristics (clinically and genonically)
- Stratification by few clinical criteria trying to assure similarity between the two arms
- Impact of the study drug at first line would influence the overall survival, ie assuming both the exposure and outcome from subsequent therapy to be similar between the two arms
- Minimal cross over to the other arm

Histology similarity *≠*Genomic similarity



Li, Gandara et al: JCO (in press) adapted from Pao et al

Oncogene in Chinese Patients with NSCLC

Group	EGFR	PTEN	STK11	ALK	KRAS	c-Met	РІКЗСА	BRAF	DDR2	FGFR2
NSCLC	28.4%(147/517)	9.5%(21/220)	7.9%(8/101)	6.3%(15/ 239)	5.4%(27/498)	4.5%(20/448)	4.4%(20/452)	1.5%(7/452)	1.2%(2/166)	0.6%(1/165)
Non-smoker	40.9%(119/291)	6.3%(7/112)	2.1%(1/48)	6.4%(8/ 125)	3.6%(10/279)	4.3%(11/255)	4.6%(12/260)	1.5%(4/260)	0%(0/91)	0%(0/90)
Smokers	12.4%(28/226)	13.0%(14/108)	13.2%(7/53)	6.1%(7/ 114)	7.8%(17/219)	4.7%(9/193)	4.2%(8/192)	1.6%(3/192)	2.7%(2/75)	1.3%(1/75)
AC	40.3%(140/347)	7.0%(8/115)	8.6%(5/58)	7.7%(10/ 130)	7.1%(24/340)	4.5%(14/308)	4.2%(13/307)	2.3%(7/307)	0%(0/97)	0%(0/96)
SCC	4.4%(6/144)	10.6%(10/94)	6.1%(2/33)	4.1%(4/93)	1.5%(2/132)	5.2%(6/116)	5.8%(7/121)	0.0%(0/121)	3.3%(2/61)	1.6%(1/61)
LCC	3.8%(1/26)	27.3%(3/11)	10.0%(1/10)	8.3%(1/12)	3.8%(1/26)	0.0%(0/24)	0.0%(0/24)	0.0%(0/24)	0%(0/8)	0%(0/8)
NS with AC	49.8%(114/229)	9.1%(7/77)	2.7%(1/37)	9.3%(8/86)	4.5%(10/223)	4.8%(10/207)	5.2%(11/210)	1.9%(4/210)	0.0%(0/71)	0.0%(0/70)
S with AC	22.0%(26/118)	2.6%(1/38)	19.0%(4/21)	4.5%(2/44)	12.0%(14/117)	4.0%(4/101)	2.1%(2/97)	3.1%(3/97)	0.0%(0/26)	0.0%(0/26)
NS with SCC	8.0%(4/50)	0.0%(0/32)	0.0%(0/9)	0.0%(0/35)	0.0%(0/44)	2.8%(1/36)	2.6%(1/38)	0.0%(0/38)	0.0%(0/16)	0.0%(0/16)
S with SCC	2.1%(2/94)	16.1%(10/62)	8.3%(2/24)	6.5%(4/62)	2.3%(2/88)	6.3%(5/80)	7.2%(6/83)	0%(0/94)	4.4%(2/45)	2.2%(1/45)

An SJ,....Wu YL Plos ONE 7(6):e40109

Lung cancer is a heterogenous disease

- Different genomic profile between ethnicity
- Different genomic profile between smoker and non-smoker
- Different genomic profile between histologic cell type

Cross-over rate in NEJ002

	Gefitinib	CBDCA/PTX
EGFR-TKI	100%	98.2%
Gefitinib	100%	98.2%
Erlotinib	27.2%	28.9%
BIBW2992	0	1.8%
Chemotherapy	64.9%	100%
Platinum based	64.9%	100%
CBDCA/PTX	50.0%	100%
Pemetrexed	28.9%	15.8%
Docetaxel	24.6%	19.3%
Others	23.7%	22.8%

Maemondo et al NEJM 2010

The old day late-drug development model may not be applicable to modern day molecular targeted therapy

New strategy on drug development



Haber et al Cell 2011

Integrated New Drug-New Biomarker Development Paradigm:



from Gandara et al: Clin Lung Cancer, 2012

Biomarker selection design

Clinical selection with retrospective biomarker study

Biomarker selection upfront

Phase III biomarker-based study design



Mandrekar SJ et al J Biopharm Stat 19:530, 2009

When to use which design?



from Redman, Gandara et al: Clin Cancer Res 2012 & Gandara et al: Clin Lung Cancer 2012

IPASS



*Never smokers, <100 cigarettes in lifetime; light ex-smokers, stopped ≥15 years ago and smoked ≤10 pack years; #limited to a maximum of 6 cycles Carboplatin / paclitaxel was offered to gefitinib patients upon progression PS, performance status; EGFR, epidermal growth factor receptor Mok et al NEJM 361:947 2009

IPASS: EGFR Mutation and Progression-free survival

EGFR mutation positive

EGFR mutation negative



Treatment by subgroup interaction test, p<0.0001

ITT population Cox analysis with covariates

Mok et al NEJM 361:947 2009

Validation of the biomarker

Retrospective study

- Existing clinical data base
- Un-intended retrospective evaluation of biomarker
- Prospective single arm study
 - Able to study the prognostic value only
- Prospective randomized study
 - Intended retrospective biomarker analysis
 - Biomarker selected study
 - Interaction test

Validation of biomarker trial

Retrospective study

- Existing clinical data base
- Un-intended retrospective evaluation of biomarker
- Prospective single arm study
 - Able to study the prognostic value only
- Prospective randomized study
 - Intended retrospective biomarker analysis
 - Biomarker selected study
 - Interaction test

Interaction test







Progression-free survival in EGFR mutation positive and negative patients

EGFR mutation positive

EGFR mutation negative



ITT population Cox analysis with covariates

Mok et al NEJM 361:947 2009



Mandrekar SJ et al J Biopharm Stat 19:530, 2009

When to use which design?



from Redman, Gandara et al: Clin Cancer Res 2012 & Gandara et al: Clin Lung Cancer 2012

PROFILE 1007

Key entry criteria

- ALK+ by central FISH testing^a
- Stage IIIB/IV NSCLC
- 1 prior chemotherapy (platinum-based)
- ECOG PS 0-2
- Measurable disease
- Treated brain metastases allowed



^a*ALK* status determined using standard *ALK* break-apart FISH assay ^bStratification factors: ECOG PS (0/1 vs 2), brain metastases (present/absent), and prior EGFR TKI (yes/no)

PROFILE 1007: PFS



PROFILE 1014: First line study

Trial design	Endpoints	Stratification
World-wide, multicenter, randomized, open-label, focused screening	Primary: PFS* Secondary: 6- and 12-month OS; OS; ORR*; DCR; DR; Safety; HRQoL; Lung cancer-specific symptoms; General health status; Biomarkers; TTD; HCRU	ECOG PS (0/1 vs 2) Ethnicity (Asian vs non-Asian) Brain metastases

*Based on RECIST v 1.1 and confirmed by independent radiology review

Key entry criteria

- Diagnosis of locally advanced/metastatic nonsquamous NSCLC; ECOG 0-2
- Positive for ALK
- No prior treatment for advanced disease
- Brain metastases allowed

N=160	Arm A: Crizotinib 250 mg BID administered on a continuous dosing schedule
N=160	Arm B: Pemetrexed/ cisplatin <u>or</u> pemetrexed/ carboplatin Day 1 of a 21-day cycle
Patients in A	Arm B who have RECIST-defined PD as determined by the

N=320

R

A N

D

0

Μ

Z E

independent radiology review will be allowed to cross over to Arm A

PI: Mok T and Blackhall F

Common factors in positive trials

- Proven driver oncogenic
- Known incidence of the driver oncogene in population
- Convincing waterfall plot
- Established predictive biomarker prior to phase III study

Common factors in negative trial

- Unselected population
- Limited translational research from lab to clinic
- Lack of a known potential predictive biomarker before engagement in phase III study
- Chemotherapy +/- targeted drug in unselected population

Can we predict outcome of late drug development trial?

MetLung: global phase III study of onartuzumab (MetMAb) in Met-positive NSCLC



Erlotinib 150mg/day Onartuzumab (MetMAb) 15mg/kg iv q3w

Positive factors

- Known C-MET pathway and its importance to cell proliferation
- Incidence of Met-Positive is known
- Biomarker established in the randomized phase II study
- C-MET and EGFR mutation known in most patients



Negative factors

- C-MET may not be a driver oncogene
- Met-positive by IHC is semi-quantitative subjective biomarker
- Limited sample size (n=66) of met-positive patient in the randomized phase II study
- Role of erlotinib in EGFR mutation wild type is debatable



Media Release

Basel, 3 March 2014

Roche provides update on phase III study of onartuzumab in people with specific type of lung cancer

Roche (SIX: RO, ROG; OTCQX: RHHBY) announced today that an independent data monitoring committee has recommended that the phase III METLung study be stopped due to a lack of clinically meaningful efficacy.

Can we do real time monitoring?



Haber et al Cell 2011

FASTACT-2 study design



Serial plasma sample at baseline, C3 and PD

Baseline Tissue Samples



Semi-quantitation change in plasma EGFR mutation DNA during treatment



Median EGFR mutant DNA (copy/mL plasma)	С	C+T
Baseline	78	94
Cycle 3	5	0
PD	83	6

Dynamic change in plasma EGFR status during therapy



Mok et al WCLC 2013

What happened to patients with persistent EGFR mutation at cycle 3?

Positive versus negative pEGFR mut status at C3 (both treatment arms combined)



ORR = objective response rate; OR = odds ratio

Association between pEGFR mut+ at C3 and PFS/OS (both treatment arms combined)



Positive pEGFR at baseline followed by negative pEGFR at C3 is associated with improved outcomes; patients positive at baseline and still positive at C3 experienced worse outcomes

OS = overall survival

pEGFR mut+ at C3 predicts PFS and OS (GC+E arm only)



Positive pEGFR at baseline followed by negative pEGFR at C3 is associated with improved outcomes; patients positive at baseline and still positive at C3 experienced worse outcomes

Conclusion

- The traditional phase I-IV study design may not be directly applicable to biomarker-based molecular targeted therapy
- Biomarker driven design is the trend
- Understanding the epidemiology of driver oncogene is essential to clinical study design
- It is best to have a known biomarker before engaging in late drug study (retrospective analysis could be risky)
- Avoid chemotherapy +/- targeted as much as you can
- Plasma DNA (or CTC) may provide real time monitoring of treatment outcomes

New versus old design

