

Efficacy, safety and biomarker analysis of ICARUS-BREAST01: a phase 2 Study of Patritumab Deruxtecan (HER3-DXd) in patients with HR+/HER2- advanced breast cancer

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DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Barbara Pistilli, MD

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Background

- Despite the improved clinical outcomes achieved with endocrine therapy + CDK4/6 inh in HR+/HER2advanced breast cancer, effective therapeutic options are limited after disease progression¹⁻³
- High expression of Human Epidermal Growth Factor Receptor-3 (HER3) is associated with poor prognosis and plays a key role in resistance to PI3K/AKT/mTOR inh, HER2-targeting therapies and endocrine therapy⁴⁻¹²
- **HER3-DXd** is an antibody-drug conjugate composed of an anti-HER3 monoclonal antibody conjugated to a topoisomerase-I inh by a cleavable peptide linker¹³⁻¹⁶
- Prior phase I and II studies showed **promising activity of HER3-DXd** across breast cancer subtypes and across a range of HER3 membrane expression¹⁷⁻²⁰





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Background



ICARUS BREAST01: Study Design

ICARUS BREAST

Multi-center, single-arm, phase 2 study (NCT04965766)



or C2D3

 Predictors of response/resistance

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- Dynamics of HER3 expression before and after treatment
- CTCs levels during treatment

*HER3-expression prescreening (75% of membrane positivity at 10x) was removed by amendment on April 21st 2022^b



-tumor biopsy (1 frozen + 3 FFPE)

-blood (whole blood + serum)

Mandatory:

a. Either IHC2+ and in situ hybridization [ISH] negative, or IHC1+ or IHC0+; b. The study was initially designed to include only patients with HER3-membrane expression ≥ 75% with 10x in tumor biopsies at baseline, however this inclusion criterion was deleted by amendment on 21st of April, 2022, after including the first 29 patients, and afterwards recruitment proceeded regardless of HER3 expression. This decision was taken because of the lack of a clear correlation between HER3 expression and response in other datasets. ABC: advanced breast cancer; CBR: clinical benefit rate; CTC: circulating tumor cells; DOR: duration of response; ET: endocrine therapy, T-DXd: Trastuzumab deruxtecan; ORR: objective response rate; OS: overall survival; PFS: progression-free survival;

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Statistical considerations and methods



Investigator-initiated, multi-center trial in 11 French sites

Primary endpoint: confirmed ORR according to the investigator

Evaluation RECIST (V1.1) every 6 weeks (±7 days) for the first 12 months and then every 12 weeks (±7 days) Confirmation of response had to be demonstrated with an assessment 4 weeks or later from the initial response

Sample size: 99 patients required to provide 85% power to test H0: $ORR \le 12\%$ at a one-sided 5% significance level, assuming ORR = 23% under the alternative

Data cut-off: Apr 16th, 2024; median follow-up: 15.3 months [95%CI 13.0;17.2]



Demographics and baseline characteristics



PATIENTS N=99					
Age Median [range], years	57.0 (48.0;66.0)	HER3 expression ^b Membrane H-score, median (IQR)	180		
Sex, n (%) Female	99 (100.0)	Overall membrane positivity at 10x, n (%):	(144;215)		
HR status, n (%)ª ER+ PR+	94 (94.9) 42 (42.4)	25-74% ≥75% Unknown	7 (7.1) 49 (49.4) 27 (27.3)		
HER2 expression, n (%) ^b	.= (.=)	Median number of systemic therapies for ABC, n [range]	2 [1;4]		
IHC 0* IHC 1+ IHC 2+	39 (39.4) 22 (22.2) 7 (7.1) 1 (1.0) 20 (20 2):	Prior treatment with CDK4/6inh, n (%) Median duration, months [range]	98 (99.0) ^d 13.7 [6.5;19.7] ^e		
IHC 3+		Prior PI3K/AKT/mTOR inh for ABC, n (%)	35 (35.4)		
JIIKHOWH 30 (30.3) ^c	Prior chemotherapy for ABC, n (%) ^f	99 (100.0)			



a. As assessed on initial tumor biopsy at diagnosis; b. Centrally assessed on tumor biopsy at study entry; c. Insufficient tumor sample available; d. 96 patients had CDK4/6inh for ABC, 2 patients for early breast cancer; 1 patient was enrolled by mistake as did not receive any prior treatment with CDK4/6inh; e. assessed in 73 patients; f. only 1 line of chemotherapyr allowed; *20 with HER2 membrane staining 1-10 %

Patient Disposition and treatment exposure



PATIENTS N=99					
HER3-DXd treatment status, n (%)					
Ongoing	19 (19.2)				
Discontinued	80 (80.8)				
Primary reason for discontinuation, n (%)					
Disease progression	64 (64.6)				
Adverse events	8 (8.1) ^a				
Other	7 (7.1)				
Number of HER3-DXd cycles, median [IQR]	11.0 [6.0;18.0]				
Median treatment duration, days [IQR]	251.0 [144.5;402.0]				
At least one dose modification, n (%)					
No	67 (67.7)				
Yes	32 (32.3)				



a.n=2 adjudicated HER3-DXd-related grade 1 ILD, n=2 grade 3 nausea/vomiting; n=1 grade 3 fatigue; n=1 grade 3 thrombocytopenia, n=1 grade 3 hepatic fibrosis; n=1 patient died from concurrent medical condition, with last tumor assessment showing PR

Confirmed Objective Response Rate





	N=99	
	n	% [95%Cl]ª
Confirmed ORR ^b	53	53.5 [43.2; 63.6]
CR	2	2.0 [0.2;7.1]
PR	51	51.5 [41.3; 61.7]
SD	37	37.4 [27.8; 47.7]
PD	7	7.1 [2.9; 14.0]
NEc	2	2.0 [0.2;7.1]
CBRd	62	62.6 [52.3;72.1]

No significant association between HER2 expression and ORR (*p-value 0.8*)^e



a. Clopper-Pearson (Exact) method was used for confidence interval; b. Confirmation of response must be demonstrated with a new tumor assessment 4 weeks or later from the initial response; c. 2 patients were not evaluable for ORR: one patient had only one tumor assessment with PR and then treatment discontinued due to clinical progression, a second patient had not evaluable as global response of target lesions. d. CBR is defined as the presence of at least a confirmed PR or CR, or a stable disease (SD) >6 months; e. logistic regression model was performed to estimate association between HER2 expression and ORR

Duration of Response and Progression-free Survival





Median follow-up: 15.3 months [95%CI 13.0;17.2]

ngress



a. Cox regression model was performed to estimate association between HER2 expression and PFS

Overall safety data



		TRAEs occurring in ≥ 10% of patients		
Overall safety profile, n (%))		Any grade, n (%)	Grade ≥ 3, n (%)
Patients with any grade TEAEs	97 (98.0)	Fatigue	82 (82.8)	10 (10.1)
Grade ≥3 TEAEs	54 (54.5)	Nausea	74 (74.7)	14 (14.1)
 Patients with any grade TRAEs 	97 (98.0)	Diarrhea	52 (52.5)	10 (10.1)
Grade ≥3 TRAEs	50 (50.1)	Alopecia	40 (40.4)	0
 TEAEs leading to HER3-DXd discontinuation 	11 (11.1)	Constipation	21 (21.2)	0
 TEAEs leading to HER3-DXd interruption 	26 (26.3)	Vomiting	18 (18.2)	3 (3.0)
 TEAEs leading to HER3-DXd dose reduction 	20 (20.2)	Anorexia	16 (16.2)	1 (1.0)
TEAEs leading to death	1 (1.0) ^a	Neutrophil count decrease	14 (14.1)	12 (12.1)
Adjudicated treatment-related ILD	7 (7.1) ^b	Abdominal pain	11 (11.1)	0
Grade 1	7	Stomatitis	10 (10.1)	0
		Anemia	10 (10.1)	0



TEAEs: Treatment-Emergent Adverse Events; ILD: Interstitial Lung Disease ; a. one patient died due to a massive pleural effusion not related to study treatment; b.Among the 13 cases identified as suspected during the treatment period, 7 case was adjudicated as HER3-DXd-related ILD, 2 of them led to treatment discontinuation

Exploratory biomarker analysis







a.4 biopsies not performed/collected; b. 23 samples < 10%; c.25 excluded after pathologist's review; d. 15 fresh biopsies not collected/provided by centers, 28 < 200 ng DNA or < 10% tumor cell; 13 failed quality control; e. 15 fresh biopsies not provided by centers, 28 < 200 ng RNA or < 30% tumor cell, 5 failed quality control; 29 did not have the matched on-T sample; f. 15 fresh biopsies were not provided centers, 28 < 200 ng RNA or < 30% tumor cell, 5 failed quality control, 29 did not have the matched on-T sample; f. 15 fresh biopsies not provided by centers, 39 < 200 ng RNA or < 30% tumor cell, 1 sample failed the quality control, 15 did not have matched BL sample; inadequate staining; h. 22 fresh biopsies not provided by centers, 39 < 200 ng RNA or < 30% tumor cell, 1 sample failed the quality control, 15 did not have matched BL sample; IHC: Immunohistochemistry, RNAseq: RNA Sequencing, IMC: Imaging Mass Cytometry, WES: Whole Exome Sequencing; ML: machine learning; HER3 IHC: clone SP438

HER3 expression and outcome

IHC analysis on tumor samples at baseline

2024



No significant difference in HER3-membrane expression between responders and non-responders (*p-value 0.8 and 0.4*, respectively with HER3 H-score and 10x membrane positivity) *

72 patients at baseline, of whom 29 enrollment before study amendment ; *Logistic regression models were used to estimate the association of ORR and HER3 expression as continuous or categorical variable; HER3 assessment made by Roche CDx CAP/CLIA Laboratory (Tucson) using clone SP438



HER3 spatial distribution relative to neighboring cells and outcome



Al-digital pathology analysis on tumor samples at baseline

1. HER3 (DAB) stained slides overlapped with H&E slide



Tumors containing a higher proportion of clusters 0 had a higher likelihood of responding to the treatment

Cluster 0: areas containing a moderate number of HER3-positive cells, surrounded by connective tissue, with few immune cells and no necrotic areas

Cluster #

Cluster



samples at baseline, upon pathologist's review and exclusion of samples with non-optimal registration quality control ; . For all these analysis, using R version 4.1.2, we applied Dirichlet regression to identify which clusters were significantly associated with the objective response to treatment, and logistic regression to obtain odds ratios. 1. Hörst F, Rempe M, Heine L, et al. CellVIT: Vision Transformers for precise cell segmentation and classification. Medical Image Analysis 2024:94:103143

HER3-DXd distribution and treatment response



Imaging Mass Cytometry on tumor samples on-treatment

Tumor shrinkage/HER3-DXd-positive cells



HER3-DXd staining > 5% of tumor cells at C1D3; Tumor shrinkage: -52.5%



HER3-DXd staining < 5% of tumor cells at C1D3; Tumor shrinkage: -26.0%



Greater tumor shrinkage in patients with HER3-DXd-positive cells > 5% (n=11) compared to HER3-DXd-positive cells <5% (n=9) at Cycle 1 Day 3 (t-test, *p-value 0.0146*) Results to be interpreted with cautions due to the small sample size

was 5.75%, likely due to background noise

Genomic alterations and treatment response

WES on 43 tumor samples at baseline: 73 genes of interest (selected before the study initiation)



Gene alterations	Responders (CR, PR) n= 26 (%)	Non-responders (PD, SD) n=17 (%)
TP53	14 (53.8)	5 (29.4)
PIK3CA	10 (38.5)	3 (17.6)
ESR1	6 (23.1)	9 (52.9)
ERBB3	3 (11.5)	1 (5.9)

BREAS



43 frozen tumor biopsies at baseline were analyzed for WES. Forty-three blood samples were used as germline control. Overall, at baseline, 15 fresh biopsies were either not collected or not provided by the participating centers, 28 were excluded due to < 200 ng DNA or < 10% tumor cell and 13 failed the quality control. Point muts. and indels were identified with Mutect2 following best practices while CNAs were called with FACETS.

Gene expression modulation by HER3-DXd

- 22 pairs of baseline/on-treatment biopsies from <u>all analyzable samples</u>
- Gene Set Enrichment Analysis (GSEA) using the Gene Sets "Hallmarks"*



Up-regulation of pathways involved in immune response, interferon alpha and gamma and complement signaling, enriched in the whole cohort and in responders (*adj p-value* ≤0.05)



At baseline, 15 fresh biopsies not provided by centers, 28 were excluded due to < 200 ng RNA or < 30% tumor cell, 5 failed the quality control, 29 did not have the matched on-T sample. Ontreatment (n=12 at C1D3, n=4 at C1D19, n=6 at C2D3), 22 fresh biopsies not provided by centers, 39 were excluded due to < 200 ng RNA or < 30% tumor cell, 1 sample failed the quality control, and 15 did not have the matched BL sample; "P_Value_Adj" by Benjamini-Hochberg method



EXACCELONA EXACCONGRESS Immune-modulation of TME

Imaging Mass Cytometry on tumor samples at baseline and on-treatment



IMC analysis on paired tumor samples at baseline and on-treatment showed a notable T-cell expansion and activation (increase of CD4+, CD8+, CD8+GzmB+ and CD8+CD107a+) at C1D3 in two patients who responded to the treatment

Conclusion and perspectives

- HER3-DXd showed clinically meaningful activity and manageable safety profile in patients with HR+/HER2- ABC progressing after 2 or more lines of therapy, including CDK4/6inh:
 ORR 53.5% [95%Cl, 43.2; 63.6]; mDoR 8.7 [8.1; 12.5]; mPFS 9.4 mos [95%Cl 8.1; 13.4]
- Activity of HER3-DXd was observed across a range of tumor HER3 and HER2 membrane expression by IHC
- Although with the limitations of the small sample size, exploratory biomarker analysis suggest that: -distribution of HER3-DXd in the tumor may play a role in determining a better treatment response -up-regulation of genes involved in immune response, particularly interferon alpha and gamma were significantly enriched in the entire cohort and among responders
- Efficacy and safety profile of HER3-DXd make this ADC an optimal candidate for further larger trials in patients with HR+/HER2- ABC after failure of CDK4/6 inhibitors

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