

Safe coadministration of Fanciclovir and Zidovudine to HIV Positive Patients S. Siederer¹, S. Scott², F. Rousseau³, S. Fowles¹, P. Sparrow², C. Lascoux³, V. Lehner³ and D. Serini³ SmithKline Beecham Pharmaceuticals, Welwyn¹ and Harlow², UK and Hopital Cochin, Paris, France³

Fanciclovir (FCV), the oral dose form of penciclovir (PCV), may be coadministered with zidovudine (AZT). The potential for an interaction was assessed because both PCV and AZT are eliminated by active tubular secretion. In a crossover study, 14 HIV + patients on stable AZT (400-1000 mg/day) received a single dose of 200 mg AZT with 500 mg FCV or placebo (single dose) 3-5 weeks apart. Plasma concentrations of PCV (following FCV+AZT; n=8) and AZT (after both doses; n=12) were determined (UV-HPLC) and submitted to model-independent pharmacokinetic analysis. AZT pharmacokinetic parameters were subjected to analysis of variance to determine point estimates and 95% CIs for the comparison AZT+FCV: AZT alone. AZT T_{max} was analysed using the Wilcoxon matched pairs method. Clinical laboratory values and adverse events were recorded. Following AZT+FCV, mean (SD) C_{max} for PCV was 4.57 (1.45) µg/mL and occurred at a median time of 0.75 [range 0.50-2.03] h. The mean (SD) PCV T_{1/2} was 1.55 (0.32) h, with a mean (SD) AUC(0-inf) of 8.12 (1.95) µg.h/mL. These PCV pharmacokinetic parameters were consistent with historical values in healthy volunteers. Mean (SD) C_{max} for AZT were 1.24 (0.68) and 0.93 (0.44) µg/mL, reached at a median [range] time of 0.5 [0.25-1.25] and 0.88 [0.25-2.03] h following AZT and AZT+FCV, respectively. Mean (SD) T_{1/2} were 1.45 (0.59) h after AZT and 1.29 (0.57) h after AZT+FCV, the mean (SD) AUC(0-inf) were 1.10 (3.4) [AZT] and 1.06 (3.84) [AZT+FCV] µg.h/mL. On average, decreases in AZT C_{max} and AUC(0-inf) following AZT+FCV were less than 20%. The median increase in T_{max} was 24 mins, with the increase in T_{1/2} on average 6 mins following AZT+FCV. These changes in AZT pharmacokinetics are unlikely to be of clinical significance. Furthermore, single dose FCV with AZT was well tolerated. In conclusion, FCV can be safely coadministered with AZT to immunocompromised HIV positive patients.

Anti-HIV Agent 935U83 - Preliminary Clinical Assessment.

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5-Chloro-2',3'-dideoxy-3'-fluorouridine (935U83) is a selective anti-HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) agent which is presently undergoing clinical evaluation. When tested in PHA-stimulated normal human peripheral blood lymphocytes against fresh clinical isolates of HIV-1 obtained from AZT (3'-azido-3'-deoxythymidine)-naïve patients, 935U83 inhibited virus growth with an average IC₅₀ of 1.8 µM; corresponding IC₅₀s were 0.23, 0.49, and 0.03 µM for the approved agents AZT, ddI, and ddC, respectively. Importantly, 935U83 retained activity against HIV strains that were resistant to AZT, ddI, or ddC. We were unable to generate virus which was resistant to 935U83 by passaging either HXB2 (AZT-sensitive) or RTMC (AZT-resistant) strains in the presence of high concentrations of 935U83. The safety profile of 935U83 in animals (monkeys and mice) is much-improved over that of any of the anti-HIV drugs approved to date. In HIV-infected patients, no adverse events or abnormal laboratory values were observed after single doses of 100 to 1500 mg 935U83. A single dose of 300 mg of 935U83 resulted in plasma levels which were above the IC₅₀ for approximately 5 hours and systemic exposure (AUC) was about 5- to 6-fold higher than that observed for an equal dose of AZT. Peak plasma concentrations and AUC values were nearly dose-proportional for doses of 935U83 from 100 to 1500 mg. Multiple dose studies of 100 to 500 mg 935U83 three times daily for up to 12 weeks or longer, with or without ddI, in 80 HIV-positive patients are nearing completion. 935U83 has been very well-tolerated at all dose levels. Clinical safety, pharmacokinetics, virology, and immunology data will be presented.