Pharmacodynamic data and coagulation biomarkers in persons with hemophilia A with inhibitors: results from the HAVEN 1 emicizumab phase 3 study

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Emicizumab is an investigational product and is not approved or licensed for the treatment of patients with hemophilia A or any other medical condition
Disclosures

Joanne I. Adamkewicz is an employee of Genentech, Inc.
Emicizumab (ACE910)  
Humanized bispecific monoclonal antibody

- Bridges activated FIX (FIXa) and FX to restore function of missing activated FVIII required for effective hemostasis\(^1,2\)
- Unique structure – not expected to induce FVIII inhibitors or be affected by presence of inhibitors\(^2\)
- Long half-life (4–5 weeks) and administered subcutaneously\(^3,4\)
- HAVEN 1: a randomized phase 3 study in adults and adolescents with hemophilia A with inhibitors against FVIII (N=109)
  - Weekly emicizumab prophylaxis resulted in a significant decrease in bleeding events compared with episodic or prior prophylactic bypassing agents (Oldenburg et al, ISTH 2017, Abstract ASY 01.1)
  - Majority of participants (62.9%) randomized to emicizumab prophylaxis had zero bleeds

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HAVEN 1 biomarker-related exploratory objectives

- To evaluate the pharmacodynamic effects of emicizumab in HAVEN 1
- To determine best practices for laboratory monitoring of emicizumab
HAVEN 1 pharmacokinetics – mean trough emicizumab plasma concentrations of >50 μg/mL were achieved and sustained

- Four loading doses of 3 mg/kg/week followed by maintenance doses of 1.5 mg/kg/week; subcutaneous injection

![Graph showing emicizumab concentration over time](image-url)
Emicizumab drives a concentration-dependent increase in reported FVIII activity that is sustained over time

- A commercial assay containing human FIXa and FX was used (Hyphen Biophen FVIII:C)
  - Emicizumab does not drive activity in chromogenic tests that use bovine factors (all other kits on market)
- Emicizumab and FVIIIa co-factor properties are not identical; thus, reported FVIII:C is an approximation of emicizumab hemostatic activity. Nevertheless, it provides a relative indication of the pro-coagulant activity of emicizumab

Red dots represent individual patients (N=102), each with multiple assessments over time (931 total data points).
Emicizumab drives a concentration-dependent increase in thrombin generation (TG) that is sustained over time.

- Thrombin generation test with FXIa trigger in platelet-poor citrate plasma
- Mean peak height was roughly equivalent to 30% of normal pooled plasma in this assay

Red dots represent individual patients (N=95), each with multiple assessments over time (844 total data points).
Emicizumab has a very strong in vitro effect on aPTT: unlike FVIII, it does not require an activation step.

- In assays of intrinsic clotting time, emicizumab behaves like FVIIIa, not FVIII
- aPTT is not an accurate measure of hemostatic potential in the presence of emicizumab
- Chromogenic or immuno-based methods provide an alternative to intrinsic clotting-based methods

Red dots represent individual patients (N=96), each with multiple assessments over time (856 total data points).

Concentrations of FIX and FX antigens, the binding targets of emicizumab, are stable during emicizumab treatment

- Higher baseline values may reflect accumulation of FIX and FX due to prior aPCC use as these factors have a half-life of 25 and 40 hours, respectively\(^1\)
- No changes seen for PT/INR, vWF:Ag, or fibrinogen (data not shown)

Dotted lines indicate laboratory-determined reference range using research-grade ELISA; no clinical IVD test is available and no established normal reference range exists for these antigens.

aPCC, activated prothrombin complex concentrate; PT/INR, prothrombin time/international normalized ratio; vWF, von Willebrand factor.

Markers of activated coagulation are not elevated during emicizumab treatment

Dotted lines represent normal reference ranges.
FEU, fibrinogen equivalent units; IQR, interquartile range.
Conclusions

- Emicizumab showed the desired pro-coagulant effect with sustained, concentration-dependent activity as measured by FVIII:C and thrombin generation
- Other aspects of the coagulation cascade were unperturbed (PT/INR, FIX:Ag, FX:Ag, vWF:Ag)
- No evidence of hypercoagulation was seen (D-dimer, prothrombin fragment 1+2)
- Laboratory monitoring practices should be adjusted for patients receiving emicizumab
  - aPTT results must be interpreted with knowledge of pharmacodynamic effect, as normal aPTT does not imply normal capacity for coagulation
    - Due to its mechanism of action, intrinsic clotting times are shortened with emicizumab
  - Chromogenic FVIII determination is sensitive to emicizumab when human FIXa and FX are utilized (Hyphen Biophen FVIII:C)
  - Chromogenic Bethesda Assay should be used for measurement of FVIII inhibitor titer (Adamkewicz et al, ISTH 2017, Poster PB 954)

Biomarker results in HAVEN 1 are consistent with the safety, efficacy, and pharmacokinetic profile of emicizumab prophylaxis

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