



TRANSFORMING CARDIOVASCULAR CARE FOR YOU, FOR YOUR TEAM. FOR YOUR PATIENTS.



Manesh R. Patel, MD on behalf of the PACIFIC-AF Investigators







Disclosures



#### **Research Grants:**

PACIFIC-AF: Bayer

Other Research Support: Janssen, Heartflow, Idorsia, NHLBI, Novartis

Advisory Board/Consulting: Bayer, Janssen, Heartflow, Medscape





#### With a DOAC (e.g., apixaban or rivaroxaban)



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#### With a Factor XI Inhibitor (Hypothesis: Uncoupling Hemostasis from Thrombosis)





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AND the tissue factor pathway still produces thrombin, which allows beneficial blood clots to form.

When a Factor XI inhibitor is used, thrombin amplification is inhibited, which prevents pathological thrombi—





## Current Evidence Supporting FXI(a) Inhibition as a Target

CONDITION	OBSERVATION
FXI-knockout mice <sup>1</sup>	<ul> <li>Homozygous FXI-knockout mice are protected from thrombosis</li> <li>At the same time, they do not show a bleeding phenotype differing from wild-type mice</li> </ul>
<i>In vivo</i> animal models²	<ul> <li>Reducing/inhibiting FXI showed strong antithrombotic effects in vivo</li> <li>No increase in bleeding time even at very high doses or on top of dual antiplatelet therapy</li> </ul>
Inherited FXI deficiency <sup>3</sup>	<ul> <li>Individuals with FXI deficiency are reported to have a reduced incidence of VTE and stroke</li> <li>Hemorrhage occasionally reported after trauma or surgery (dental extractions, tonsillectomies, surgery in the urinary and genital tracts, and nasal surgery)</li> </ul>
FXI clinical experience	<ul> <li>Antisense technology of IONIS<sup>4</sup>: Phase 2 study in TKA: Improved VTE risk reduction together with numerically less bleeding vs enoxaparin (of note, surgery was performed at suppressed FXI levels)</li> <li>Anti-FXI-AB (MAA868<sup>5</sup> and xisomab); Anti-FXIa-AB (osocimab<sup>2</sup>): Published data from Phase 1 studies confirmed good safety and tolerability even when high levels of FXI or FXIa inhibition were maintained for more than 1 month. TKA study for osocimab completed confirming FXIa-inhibition being efficacious and well tolerated. Oral selective FXIa inhibitor (milvexian): Phase 2 work showing FXIa inhibition efficacious in prevention of VTE and associated with low risk of bleeding.<sup>6</sup></li> </ul>
<b>Duke</b> Clinical Research Institute	<ul> <li><sup>1</sup> Schumacher WA et al. Arterioscler Thromb Vasc Biol. 2010;30(3):388-92.</li> <li><sup>2</sup> Data on file</li> <li><sup>3</sup> Puy C et al. Thromb Res. 2016;141(Suppl 2):S8–S11</li> <li><sup>4</sup> Büller HR et al. N Engl J Med. 2015;372(3):232-40</li> <li><sup>5</sup> Koch AW et al. Blood. 2019;133(13):1507-1516</li> <li><sup>6</sup> Weitz et al. N Engl J Med. 2021;385(23):2161-2172</li> </ul>

#### Asundexian: Oral Factor XI Inhibitor

- // Small molecule FXIa inhibitor
  - // t<sub>1/2</sub> 14.2-17.4 hours
  - // 15% Renal Elimination
- // Well-tolerated in Phase 1 trials
- // Dose-dependent FXIa inhibition
- // Does not interact with clopidogrel to affect bleeding time
- // No difference across age or sex
- // Does not inhibit or induce CYP3A4
- // Not impacted by food or pH modulating drugs

 $C_{26}H_{21}CIF_4N_6O_4$ 



#### The PACIFIC Trials: Coordinated Phase 2 Programs

- // Together, will allow to assess the bleeding and efficacy profile of asundexian
- // Primary objective of PACIFIC-AF: evaluate comparative bleeding rate of asundexian vs apixaban in patients with AF
- // No assessment of efficacy possible given low event #
- // PACIFIC-AMI and PACIFIC-STROKE as placebo-controlled studies on top of antiplatelet therapy
- // PACIFIC-AF is the first Phase 2 study that will read out









Concerted evaluation across large several Phase 2 programs







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Randomized, Active Comparator-Controlled, Double-Blind, Double-Dummy, Parallel Group, Dose-Finding Phase 2 Study to Compare the Safety of the Oral FXIa Inhibitor Asundexian to Apixaban in Patients with Atrial Fibrillation (PACIFIC-AF)





#### **Primary Objective:**

to evaluate that the oral FXIa inhibitor asundexian when compared to apixaban leads to a **lower incidence of bleeding** in participants with AF



#### AXIA: Factor XIa Inhibition Assay

- // Proprietary assay
- // ~220 patients/ arm
- // 4 weeks on once daily drug
- // ~ trough (24-28 hours from last dose) and then again 2-4 hours afterwards
- // Quantify degree of Factor XIa inhibition





## Results of PACFIC-AF



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#### **Disposition / Study Flow**







# Demographics and Medical History — Well Balanced Across Treatment Arms



	Asundexian	Asundexian	Apixaban	Total
	N = 251	N = 254	N = 250	N = 755
Age (years) (SD)	73.6 (8.0)	73.1 (8.5)	74.3 (8.3)	73.7 (8.3)
Female	103 (41.0%)	97 (38.2%)	109 (43.6%)	309 (40.9%)
Race				
White	211 (84.1%)	212 (83.5%)	209 (83.6%)	632 (83.7%)
Asian	39 (15.5%)	40 (15.7%)	40 (16.0%)	119 (15.8%)
Hypertension	226 (90.0%)	227 (89.4%)	220 (88.0%)	673 (89.1%)
Hyperlipidaemia	142 (56.6%)	153 (60.2%)	152 (60.8%)	447 (59.2%)
Cardiac failure chronic	108 (43.0%)	107 (42.1%)	117 (46.8%)	332 (44.0%)
Coronary artery disease	76 (30.3%)	71 (28.0%)	85 (34.0%)	232 (30.7%)
Diabetes mellitus	83 (33.1%)	74 (29.1%)	87 (34.8%)	244 (32.3%)
Chronic kidney disease	55 (21.9%)	84 (33.1%)	77 (30.8%)	216 (28.6%)
CHA <sub>2</sub> DS <sub>2</sub> -VASc score (SD)	3.99 (1.39)	3.83 (1.29)	4.10 (1.46)	3.97 (1.38)







#### Medical History of Special Interest

	Asundexian 20 mg	Asundexian 50 mg	Apixaban	Total
	N = 251	N = 254	N = 250	N = 755
Cerebrovascular accident	22 (8.8%)	18 (7.1%)	25 (10.0%)	65 (8.6%)
Coronary artery bypass	22 (8.8%)	16 (6.3%)	17 (6.8%)	55 (7.3%)
Peripheral arterial occlusive disease	16 (6.4%)	10 (3.9%)	20 (8.0%)	46 (6.1%)
Transient ischemic attack	13 (5.2%)	10 (3.9%)	13 (5.2%)	36 (4.8%)
Major bleed	7 (2.8%)	14 (5.5%)	3 (1.2%)	24 (3.2%)
Carotid revascularization	3 (1.2%)	2 (0.8%)	4 (1.6%)	9 (1.2%)
Embolism arterial	3 (1.2%)	2 (0.8%)	2 (0.8%)	7 (0.9%)





#### FXIa Activity - Inhibition Data



### Primary Safety Outcome (ISTH bleeding classification)

On-treatment analysis, % of patients





- No ISTH major bleeding in any treatment arm
- Less bleeding in the 2 asundexian arms reported, when compared to apixaban for different severities of bleeding
- // Consistent also for BARC and TIMI bleeding definitions



### **Primary Safety**

(Pooled) ratio of the incidence proportions for the safety outcome in the treatment emergent data scope

	Asundexian 20 mg vs. Apixaban vs. Apixaban		Asundexian (pooled) vs. Apixaban	
	CIR (90% CI)	CIR (90% CI)	CIR (90% CI)	
ISTH major bleeding or CRNM bleeding	0.50 (0.14 - 1.68)	0.16 (0.01 - 0.99)	0.33 (0.09 - <b>0.97</b> )	
ISTH major bleeding	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.	
CRNM bleeding	0.50 (0.14 - 1.68)	0.16 (0.01 - 0.99)	0.33 (0.09 <b>- 0.97)</b>	
ISTH minor bleeding	0.50 (0.23 - 0.99)	0.44 (0.18 - 0.86)	0.47 (0.28 - <b>0.83)</b>	
All bleeding	0.46 (0.23 - 0.83)	0.38 (0.16 - 0.68)	0.42 (0.26 - <b>0.67)</b>	







#### Adverse Events

	<b>Asundexian</b> <b>20 mg</b> N = 249 (100%)	<b>Asundexian</b> <b>50 mg</b> N = 254 (100%)	<b>Apixaban</b> N = 250 (100%)	Asundexian Total N = 503 (100%)	<b>Total</b> N = 753 (100%)
Any AE	118 (47.4%)	120 (47.2%)	122 (48.8%)	238 (47.3%)	360 (47.8%)
Any study drug-related AE	29 (11.6%)	26 (10.2%)	37 (14.8%)	55 (10.9%)	92 (12.2%)
Any AE leading to discontinuation of study drug	15 (6.0%)	16 (6.3%)	13 (5.2%)	31 (6.2%)	44 (5.8%)
Any study drug-related SAE	4 (1.6%)	0	0	4 (0.8%)	4 (0.5%)
AE with outcome death	1 (0.4%)	3 (1.2%)	2 (0.8%)	4 (0.8%)	6 (0.8%)

Asundexian was well tolerated in patients with AF.







#### **Exploratory Efficacy Analysis**

	Asundexian	Asundexian	Apixaban	Total
	N = 251 IR (90% CI)	N = 254 IR (90% CI)	N = 250 IR (90% CI)	N = 755 IR (90% CI)
CV death, MI, ischemic stroke, or systemic embolism	2 (0.80 %)	4 (1.57 %)	3 (1.20 %)	9 (1.19 %)
CV death	1 (0.40 %)	3 (1.18 %)	3 (1.20 %)	7 (0.93 %)
MI	0	1 (0.39 %)	0	1 (0.13 %)
Ischemic stroke	2 (0.80 %)	1 (0.39 %)	0	3 (0.40 %)
Systemic embolism	0	0	0	0
All cause mortality (ITT)	2 (0.80 %)	4 (1.57 %)	4 (1.60 %)	10 (1.32 %)

As expected only single efficacy endpoints were reported in the study.

 $\rightarrow$  No conclusion on efficacy can be drawn





## Summary





### Summary of Findings

- // First randomized active comparator (apixaban) data with small molecule Factor XIa inhibitor (asundexian)
- // Near complete inhibition of Factor XI activity with 20 and 50 mg dose asundexian
- // Only few bleeding outcome events were observed
  - # 48 participants with a bleeding event in total
- // Point estimators of risk ratios in favor of asundexian
  - # For the pooled 20 and 50 mg doses as well as for 50 mg alone the confidence intervals could exclude 1 for CRNM bleeding as well as for minor bleeding and all bleeding
  - // Overall bleeding rates lower than expected (for Apixaban: 4% assumed vs. 2.4% observed)
- // As expected no information on efficacy events: limited events with fewer than 10 events total



#### Conclusions

- # Asundexian, a small oral FXIa inhibitor was well tolerated in a Phase 2 trial of 750 patients with atrial fibrillation
- // Significantly lower bleeding rates were seen for patients randomized to either dose asundexian compared to apixaban
- // Factor XI inhibition is a promising strategy to prevent pathologic thrombi while minimizing bleeding risk in AF patients — Phase 3 trial required

Safety of the oral factor XIa inhibitor asundexian compared with apixaban in patients with atrial fibrillation (PACIFIC-AF): a multicentre, randomised, double-blind, double-dummy, dose-finding phase 2 study

Jonathan P Piccini, Valeria Caso, Stuart J Connolly, Keith A A Fox, Jonas Oldgren, W Schuyler Jones, Diana A Gorog, Václav Durdil, Thomas Viethen, Christoph Neumann, Hardi Mundl, Manesh R Patel, on behalf of the PACIFIC-AF Investigators\*







#### **Next Steps:** Engaging Patients and International Communities to Perform Clinical CV Outcomes Trial

- // Net clinical benefit endpoints in upcoming OCEANIC AF trial will be informed by patient preference survey
- // AFIBOPPORTUNITIES.COM
- // Live Spring, 2022
- # Engaging investigators who want to be part of innovative patient-centered trials (manesh.patel@duke.edu)







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# Thank you!



