AACR 2024 # 3072

BXQ-350: A Novel Biologic that Allosterically Activates Glucosylcerebrosidase and Demonstrates Promising Signs of Activity in Cancer Patients



1. BXQ-350 is a nanovesicle formulation of Saposin C, an allosteric activator of sphingolipid metabolism

- activates glucosylcerebrosidase (Gcase) and normalizes dysregulated sphingolipid metabolism, **lowering S1P** and increasing ceramides levels
- modulates S1P signaling & stimulates immune response

2. Sphingolipids bioactive signaling are molecules implicated in cancer

- Ceramides are pro-apoptotic, mitigate resistance and promote an anti-tumoral immune environment
- **Sphingosine-1-phosphate** (S1P) promotes cancer cell proliferation, resistance, oncogenic pathways and a pro-tumoral immune environment
- Several studies have shown elevated ceramide levels are associated with improved survival

3. In preclinical studies, BXQ-350 :

- lowers tissue glucosylceramides and increases ceramides
- increases C18 and lowers S1P across cancer cell lines
- is additive or synergistic with antineoplastic agents
- inhibits MDSCs, expands CD3+, CD4+ & CD8+ T cells, NK cells, repolarizes macrophages

4. In a Phase 1 dose escalation safety study in all-comer cancer patients with recurrent solid malignancies (NCT02859857), **BXQ-350**:

- was safe and well-tolerated
- had a 17.8% Clinical Benefit Rate at Cycle 6 across tumor types including GBM, brain, CRC, appendiceal, pancreatic and rectal cancers; two patients are still on study with no evidence of disease after > 6 years of treatment









Grbcic, P. et al. S1P Signaling and Metabolism in Colon Cancer. Molecules, 2020, 25, 243



G. Tapolsky, C. Cruze, R. Furnish, M. Gazda, L. Stamper, T. Stephens, N. Wilkins and R. Takigiku

Ceramide associated with improved survival GSE14333 CRC patients (n=226)

S1P signaling activates multiple oncogenes and induces a pro-tumoral immunosuppressive environment

Summary

- BXQ-350 is a novel biologic and a nanovesicle formulation of Saposin C, an allosteric activator of enzymes involved in sphingolipid metabolism
- BXQ-350 modulates sphingolipid metabolism, lowers **S1P and increases ceramide levels**
- BXQ-350 disengages S1P signaling and rebalances the tumor microenvironment towards an anti-tumoral state
- In clinical studies, BXQ-350 is well-tolerated and showed promising signs of single agent activity in multiple tumor types
- Investigating systemic levels of S1P and Ceramides as potential biomarkers
- BXQ-350 may resolve CIPN symptoms in some cancer patients
- On-going preclinical studies to further elucidate **BXQ-350's mechanism of action**

BXQ-350 is clinically being investigated in: Phase 1b/2 study in combination with SoC in newly diagnosed mCRC patients (NCT05322590)

- PoC and PK/PD study in cancer patients with established CIPN (NCT05291286)
- Phase 1 study in combination with radiation in pediatric DIPG/DMG patients (NCT04771897)

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5. Preclinical results, BXQ-350:

A) Decreases tissue glucosylceramides and increases associated ceramides; (1) total glucosylceramides; individual glucosylceramides (2) and ceramides (3)





6. Phase 1 Safety & Dose Escalation Clinical Study Results (NCT02859857):

PFS > 6, 12, 24, 60 months ...

- **13 SD / PR patients PFS ≥ Cycle 6** (17.8 % of evaluable pts with clinical benefit) in GBM, CNS, GI and H&N cancers
- 7 patients with PFS ≥ 12 months
- Changes in systemic levels of S1P or C18 ceramides in most patients with clinical benefit

Long lasting clinical benefit:

• **1 GBM and 1 CRC still on study after 7 years**



Bexion Pharmaceuticals, Covington, KY



C) Impacts immuno-effector/suppressor cells *ex vivo* and *in vivo*: CD3+ Tcells, CD4+/8+ Tcells, NK cells, MDSCs.

