

Clinical Research Results Abstract

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Indacaterol/Mometasone Furoate Fixed-dose Combination vs Salmeterol/Fluticasone in Uncontrolled Asthma: Results of PALLADIUM and IRIDIUM Studies

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Aim: Indacaterol (IND, a long-acting β_2 -agonist), and mometasone furoate (MF, an inhaled corticosteroid) once-daily (o.d.) fixed-dose combination is under development for the maintenance treatment of asthma. A pre-specified pooled analyses from the Phase-III PALLADIUM (NCT02554786) and IRIDIUM (NCT02571777) studies evaluated the efficacy of IND/MF o.d. (via Breezhaler[®]) versus salmeterol/fluticasone (Sal/Flu) twice daily (b.i.d.) via the Diskus[®] in uncontrolled asthmatic patients.

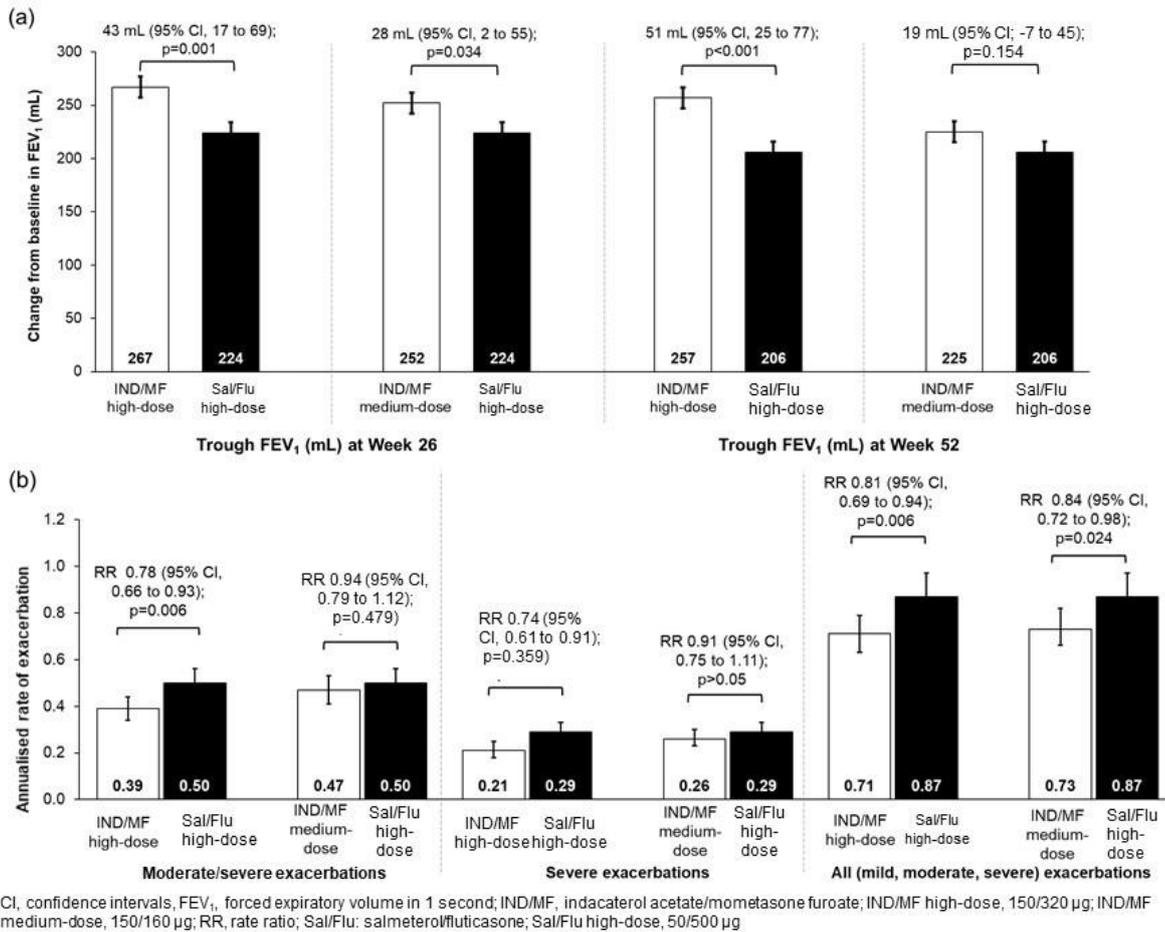
Methods: Data from two Phase-III multicentre, 52-week, randomised, double-blind, double- or triple-dummy, parallel-group, active-controlled studies were pooled. In both studies, patients (PALLADIUM [age: 12–75 years]; IRIDIUM [age: 18–75 years]) with asthma, characterised by a pre-bronchodilator forced expiratory volume in one second (FEV₁) % predicted (PALLADIUM: $\geq 50\%$ to $< 85\%$; IRIDIUM: $< 80\%$), and an Asthma Control Questionnaire 7 (ACQ)-7 score ≥ 1.5 were included. For this analysis, patients receiving IND/MF medium-dose (150/160 μg) o.d. or high-dose (150/320 μg) o.d. or Sal/Flu high-dose (50/500 μg) b.i.d. for 52-weeks were evaluated. Lung function (trough FEV₁) at Weeks 26 and 52 and the annualised rate of asthma exacerbations over 52-weeks were evaluated in both doses of IND/MF versus Sal/Flu groups. Safety was also assessed.

Results: In the pooled population, 1054 patients received IND/MF high-dose o.d., 1044 IND/MF medium-dose o.d., and 1056 Sal/Flu high-dose b.i.d. IND/MF high-dose o.d. significantly improved trough FEV₁ at Weeks 26 and 52 compared with Sal/Flu high-dose b.i.d. with mean treatment differences of 43 mL ($p=0.001$) and 51 mL ($p<0.001$), respectively (Figure 1a). IND/MF medium-dose o.d. was comparable with Sal/Flu high-dose b.i.d. in improving trough FEV₁ at Weeks 26 and 52 with mean treatment differences of 28 mL ($p=0.034$) and 19 mL ($p=0.154$), respectively. Over the 52-week treatment period, IND/MF high-dose o.d. significantly reduced the rate of moderate/severe (22%, $p=0.006$), severe (26%, $p=0.005$) and all exacerbations (19%, $p=0.006$) versus Sal/Flu high-dose b.i.d. (Figure 1b). IND/MF medium-dose o.d. significantly reduced all exacerbations versus Sal/Flu high-dose b.i.d. (16%, $p=0.024$) and was comparable in reducing moderate/severe (6%, $p=0.479$) and severe exacerbations (9%, $p=0.359$) versus Sal/Flu high-dose b.i.d. All treatments were well tolerated with favourable safety profiles.

Conclusions: This pre-specified pooled analysis of two Phase III studies indicates that once-daily IND/MF high-dose improves lung function and reduces asthma exacerbations as compared to twice-daily Sal/Flu high-dose in patients with uncontrolled asthma. Once-daily IND/MF medium-dose resulted in comparable improvements in lung function and reductions in exacerbations versus twice-daily Sal/Flu high-dose, with a reduced steroid burden.

Declaration of Interest: The study was funded by Novartis Pharma AG.

Figure 1. Indacaterol/mometasone furoate (a) improved lung function and (b) decreased exacerbations compared with salmeterol/fluticasone in patients with uncontrolled asthma



Declaration of Interest: Kenneth R Chapman reports grants and personal fees from AstraZeneca, grants and personal fees from Boehringer Ingelheim, personal fees from CSL Behring, grants and personal fees from GlaxoSmithKline, personal fees from Inhibrx, grants and personal fees from Grifols, personal fees from Kamada, grants and personal fees from Sanofi, grants and personal fees from Regeneron, grants and personal fees from Novartis, grants and personal fees from Takeda, grants from Vertex, outside the submitted work. Richard van Zyl-Smit reports personal fees from Aspen/GSK, personal fees from Pfizer, personal fees from Roche, personal fees from MSD, personal fees from AstraZeneca, personal fees from Novartis, personal fees from Cipla, outside of the submitted work. Huib A.M. Kerstjens reports grants and consultancy/advisory board participation from/for Novartis during the conduct of the study, grants and consultancy/advisory board participation from/for GlaxoSmithKline, and Boehringer Ingelheim, and a grant from Chiesi outside the submitted work. All were paid to his institution. Christian Gessner reports receiving personal fees from GSK, Pfizer, Astra, Roche, Novartis, BMS, MSD, Berlin Chemie, Chiesi, Boehringer Ingelheim, Sanofi, from null, outside the submitted work. ON reports receiving personal fees from Novartis Advisory Board, sponsored lectures, outside the submitted work. Karen Mezzi, Ivan Nikolaev, Motoi Hosoe, and Ana-Maria Tanase are employees of Novartis Pharma AG. Abhijit Pethe, Xu Shu, and Peter D'Andrea are employees of Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation.