Evaluation of CAB-LA Safety and PK in Pregnant Women in the Blinded Phase of HPTN 084

Author: Sinead Delany-Morette1, James P. Hughes2, Xu Guo3, Brett Hanscom2, Craig W. Hendrix4, Jennifer Farrior5, Ilka Berhane5, Alex Reinhardt6, Susan Ford7, James Rooney8, Adeola Adeoye9, Raphael Landovitz10, Myron Cohen11, Mina C. Hosseinipour12, Mark A. Marzinke13 on behalf of HPTN 084 study group

BACKGROUND
HPTN 084 is a phase 3 randomized, double-blind, double-dummy trial that showed that long-acting injectable cabotegravir (CAB-LA 600 mg Q8 weekly) was superior to tenofovir disoproxil fumarate/emtricitabine (TDF/FTC) in preventing HIV in women in sub-Saharan Africa. Participants were required to use long-acting contraception; pregnancies however occurred during the trial. We report on the safety and pharmacokinetics of CAB-LA in women who became pregnant during the blinded phase of HPTN 084.

METHODS
If a participant had a positive pregnancy test, blinded study product was withheld and she was offered open-label TDF/FTC. Positive pregnancy tests were confirmed at a 2nd visit four weeks later, and, if CONFIRMED, TDF/FTC was continued through pregnancy outcome and until cessation of breastfeeding. Participants with CONFIRMED pregnancy were unblinded to study arm, and continued follow-up visits; Live infants were assessed at birth and 12 months. Adverse events (AEs) post-confirmation of pregnancy were compared between study arms from time of first positive pregnancy test to last pregnancy follow up visit. Only participants who received at least one injection were included in the safety analysis. The apparent terminal half-life of CAB-LA was comparable between pregnant and non-pregnant women. Ongoing studies will examine the safety and pharmacology of CAB-LA in women who choose to continue CAB-LA through pregnancy.

RESULTS - SAFETY
There were 49 confirmed pregnancies (29 CAB, 20 TDF/FTC) in 48 participants during the blinded phase of the study. Pregnancy incidence was 1.3 per 100 person-years (py), CAB-LA participants (n=6) experienced more pregnancy-associated AE than TDF/FTC participants (n=1). All pregnancy-associated AE (n=10) were judged as unrelated to study product and grade 1-3. No congenital anomalies were observed. Of the 43 participants (26 CAB-LA, 17 TDF/FTC) with confirmed pregnancy who received at least one injection, the incidence of ≥ grade 2 AEs in the CAB arm was 113/100 py (95% CI: 69.3-185.4/100 py) vs. 166/100 py (95% CI: 102.2-271.0/100 py) in the TDF/FTC arm (p=0.064).

RESULTS - PHARMACOKINETICS
The CAB t_{1/2app} geometric mean was 62.0 days (95% CI 43.7-88.0) in HPTN 084 pregnant women compared to 64.3 days (95% CI: 51.1-80.8) in HPTN 077 non-pregnant women.

CONCLUSIONS
Residual CAB-LA was generally well tolerated in pregnant women. The t_{1/2app} was comparable between pregnant and non-pregnant women. Ongoing studies will interrogate CAB-LA concentrations in women who choose to receive injections throughout pregnancy.