Sorting out Myths & Facts Alzheimer's New Treatments



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Editorial:

Guest Editor -Neurology International Reviewer -Neurology, Clinical Practice, American College of Physicians, etc

Objectives

- 1. What is Leqembi and how is it different from Aduhelm?
- 2. What do I need to know about ARIA?
- 3. Who is Leqembi indicated for and Who would NOT be suitable?
- 4. What are the barriers and challenges for developing better AD treatment?
- 5. What does the future look like?

Why all the excitement?

How are they different?

FIGURE DISEASE MODIFICATION VERSUS SYMPTOMATIC BENEFIT IN THE TREATMENT OF ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE



Disease Modifying Treatments (Targeting Biology)

VS

Symptomatic Treatments (Treat Symptoms) Donepezil (Aricpet) Rivastigmine (Exelon) Galantamine (Razadyne) Memantine (Namenda) Namzaric (Combo)

Kennedy GJ. Primary Psychiatry. Vol 14, No 11. 2007.

FDA full approval July 6

What is Lecanemab?

How is it different from Aducanumab?



ANTIBODIES AGAINST AMYLOID

Several clinical trials are testing whether drugs called monoclonal antibodies can stem the symptoms of Alzheimer's by preventing the toxic clumping of amyloid- β proteins. This process starts when enzymes cleave the amyloid precursor protein (APP). Amyloid- β proteins elongate into fibrils and then nucleate into plaques. All of the drugs bind to amyloid- β , but their primary targets in the process are different.



Monoclonal Antibody

Aducanumab (Aduhelm) 2021

Lecanemab (Leqembi) 2023

Credit: Nik Spencer/Nature

Lecanemab (Leqembi) Phase 3 Clarity BAN Study - Site 2109 – HI Mem Ctr

Clarity AD is a global, placebo-controlled, double-blind, parallel-group, randomized study



Aducanumab (Aduhelm) Phase 4 ENVISION Trial–Site 1005 – Hawaii Mem Ctr

Aducanumab Phase 3 studies EMERGE and ENGAGE

Studies	Two 18-month, randomized, double-blind, placebo- controlled, Phase 3 studies
Geography/ sample size	3285 patients at 348 sites in 20 countries
Population	 Early Alzheimer's disease (MCI due to Alzheimer's disease + mild Alzheimer's disease dementia) MMSE 24-30, CDR-GS 0.5, RBANS DMI score ≤ 85 Confirmed amyloid pathology
Doses	 Two dosing regimens (low and high dose) and placeboy randomized 1:1:1
Primary endpoint	 Change from baseline in CDR-SB score at 18 months
Other endpoints	 Secondary: MMSE, ADAS-Cog 13, ADCS-ADL-MCI Tertiary (efficacy): NPI-10 Sub-studies: amyloid PET, tau PET, CSF disease-related biomarkers



Countries with active sites included: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, United Kingdom, United States

What are the Results? Memory Improved? CDR-SB : Aducanumab 22%, Lecanemab 26%



CDR Sum-of-Boxes score (CDR-SB), an 18-point scale measuring cognition (memory, orientation, judgment, and problem solving) and function (community affairs, home and hobbies, personal care)

Does it work? Reduction in Amyloid Load Aducanumab 75%; Lecanemab 93%



ARIA

What do I need to know about ARIA (Amyloid Related Imaging Abnormality)?



Is it Safe? What are the Side Effects - ARIA Aducanumab 28% vs Lecanemab 17%

Amyloid-related imaging abnormalities (ARIA)

ARIA refers to radiographic abnormalities observed with anti-Aβ antibodies

- ARIA-Edema (ARIA-E) refers to brain vasogenic edema or sulcal effusion
- ARIA-Hemorrhage (ARIA-H) refers to brain microhemorrhages or localized superficial siderosis

ARIA may result from increased cerebrovascular permeability as a consequence of antibody binding to deposited A β Barakos, J., Purcell, D., Suhy, J. et al. Detection and Management

Barakos, J., Purcell, D., Suhy, J. et al. Detection and Management of Amyloid-Related Imaging Abnormalities in Patients with Alzheimer's Disease Treated with Anti-Amyloid Beta Therapy. J Prev Alzheimers Dis 9, 211–220 (2022). https://doi.org/10.14283/jpad.2022.21









Greenberg SM, et al. Nature Rev Neurol 2020;16:30–42 A β , amyloid beta.

ARIA – Dose, E4 Risk, Asymptomatic - headache

Anti-amyloid antibody	ApoE genotype	Incidence of ARIA-E (%)	Incidence of ARIA-H/siderosis (%)	Sign/Symptom	Aducanumab (2)	Lecanemab (4)	Donanemab (5)	Gantenerumab (6)	
			(//)	Headache (%)	13	12.5	7.6	9.6-12.5	
Aducanumab (35)	ε4/ε4	64	41/33	Dizziness (%)	4	8.3	8.4	7.7-10.4	
	ε4/-	36	17/14	Confusion/altered	5	?	?	?	
	/	20	12/6	mental status					
Lecanemab (3)	ε4 positive	14.3	13.1	(%)) for rel	0	0	0	50.00	
	ε4 negative	8.0	4.6	visuai disturbance/eve	Z	1	1	5.9-8.8	
Donanemab (5)	ε4/ε4	44.0		disorders (%)					
	ε4/-	30.0	19.8/17.6 (all	Nausea (%)	2	8.3	10.7	?	
	/	11.1	genotypes)	New onset	?	?	?	?	
Gantenerumab (105 mg) (6)	ε4/ε4	10.7	32.0	seizure(s) (%)					
	ε4/-	5.4	19.8	Signs/symptoms of ARIA by antibody ranked by incidence. Incidence is presented as a percentage of symptomatic patients within the total number of patients with the					
	/	1.8	12.3						
Gantenerumab (225 mg) (6)	ε4/ε4	?	?	observation of ARIA. [?] indicates data not available.					
	ε4/-	15.0	19.4	Withington CG, Turner RS. Amyloid-Related Imaging Abnormalities With Anti-amyloid Antibodies for the Treatment of Dementia Due to Alzheimer's Disease. Front Neurol. 2022 Mar 23;13:862369. doi:					
	-/-	11.0	11.0						

Incidence of ARIA-E and -H by ApoE genotype. ARIA-E and -H may have occurred concurrently in some individuals. [?] indicates data not available.

PMC8985815.

10.3389/fneur.2022.862369. PMID: 35401412; PMCID:

Case Studies

Who is Lecanemab indicated for

Who would NOT be suitable?



INDICATION

 LEQEMBI is indicated for the treatment of Alzheimer's disease. Treatment with LEQEMBI should be initiated in patients with mild cognitive impairment or mild dementia stage of disease, the population in which treatment was initiated in clinical trials. (MMSE 22 and above)

Uncle Waikiki

- 71 retired Chinese engineer
- Hypertension
- Prediabetic

• Memory Loss since age 68

- Still active and travels
- Family history of AD in mother & older brother

MMSE 23 E4/E4

MRI noted

- Significant small vessel disease
- Chronic small lacunar infarcts cerebellar
- Cerebral amyloid angiopathy

Glucose metabolism, Inflammation, oxidative stress results in Vascular Dysfunction plays a role in AD



Getting to the Heart of Alzheimer Disease Joshua M. Tublin⁺, Jeremy M. Adelstein⁺, Federica del Monte, Colin K. Combs, and Loren E. Wold **Circulation Research** Volume 124, Issue 1, 4 January 2019; Pages 142-149

Metabolism - Bioenergetics Pathway

Glucose Metabolism – Link with Cognitive Function

- · Diabetics Have 2-Fold Increased Risk of Getting AD
- Almost 70% of diabetics ultimately develop AD
- 37% of AD Patients are Diabetic (vs. 9.4% General Population)



NIH Funded Phase 2 T3D (Type 3 Diabetes) PIONEER Study Site 164 – Hawaii Memory Ctr

- Multiple Similarities of AD & Type 2 Diabetes: The Common Theme is Insulin Resistance
 - o Cognitive Decline
 - o Neurodegeneration
 - Amyloid Aggregation and Deposition
 - o Inflammation
- Clinical Symptoms of AD Do Not Occur Without Decrea
- Association: Elevated Blood Sugar > Memory Problem: Nguyen TKO, Nguyen TTD, Giau VV. Type 3 Diabetes and Its Role Implications in Alz 30;21(9):3165

T3D-959: A Unique Dual PPAR Agonist to Restore Brain Metabolism

Primary Target is <u>PPAR</u> δ (delta), (peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor) Secondary Target is <u>PPAR</u> γ (gamma)

- PPARδ (energy expenditure) and PPARy (energy storage) are master regulators of metabolic homeostasis
- Unique PPAR selectivity > distinctive activity profile > central regulator of <u>both</u> glucose and lipid metabolism
- Only drug in development for AD with <u>PPARδ</u> as a primary target, a target found throughout the brain
- · Optimal dosing: Orally delivered as a once-a-day capsule
- Accesses the brain penetrating the blood brain barrier
- Excellent safety profile

Mr. Kona

- 66 yo retired reporter from Oregon now lives in Kona
- Travels quite a bit and just got back from a cruise with wife
- History of DVT while flying
- Takes Xarelto when travelling
- Family history: None

- MMSE 25
- E2/E3
- MRI disproportional atrophy
- Does not want to have IV Infusion every 2 weeks



Phase 1b/2 BII080- CELIA 247 AD201 Site 1030 – HI Mem Ctr MMSE > 22

Antisense Oligonucleotide Therapy



TAU ASO (Antisense Oligonucleotide) Therapy -binds to & reduce MAPT (Microtubule associated protein Tau) mRNA

(-) Translation of Tau Proteins expression

Intrathecal Q 3 months

Auntie Kapolei

- 83 yo retired Japanese Teacher
- Forgetful since age 77
- Asking same questions again and again
- Brought in by family
- Denies any issues
- FH: AD in mother and father

- MMSE 18
- E2/E2
- MRI: Significant diffuse cortical atrophy medial temporal

NIH Funded Phase 2 ATH 1017 Synaptic Plasticity Site 151 – Hawaii Memory Ctr MMSE 14-24

Regulates Neural Immunity and Inflammation

 ATH 1017 enhance HGF/MET (Hepatic Growth factor/ Receptor Tyrosine Kinase)

SQ Daily

https://investors.athira.com/static-files/efb2f854-d09c-4fa0-9b49-a2ab56fe0585



Uncle Waimanalo

- 75 Hawaiian retired Farmer
- Forgetful since age 73
- Cannot recall recent events or conversations
- Brought in by 2 sons and 2 daughters

- MMSE 23
- E3/E3
- MRI: Significant hippocampal and temporal atrophy
- Not interested in
 - anything invasive or "needles" and
 - "would rather go fishing & surfing than see me every 2 weeks"

Common Behavior of Neurotoxic Aggregating Proteins





er's plaques and tangles



as Parkinson's Lewy bodies

Prion amvlo

Huntington's intranuclear inclusions



Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis aggregates AD: plaques and tangles

PD: Lewy bodies

HD: Huntingtin inclusions

TSE: prion amyloid plaque

J Prev Alz Dis 2022; Published online October 11, 2022, http://dx.doi.org/10.14283/jpad.2022.84

Annovis Phase 2 Buntanetap Site 124 – Hawaii Memory Ctr Mild to Mod AD MMSE 14-24 PO Daily

Original Research

^o The Authors 2022

Buntanetap, a Novel Translational Inhibitor of Multiple Neurotoxic Proteins, Proves to Be Safe and Promising in Both Alzheimer's and Parkinson's Patients

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Ms Marhsall Island

- 67 yo Scientist working on Marshall island
- Lives on island 2-3 months at a time
- Cognitive decline since age 60
- Strong Family history of AD

- MMSE 27
- E3/E4
- MRI disproportional parietotemporal atrophy
- Biomarker: Amyloid + CSF

Phase 1-Next Generation Amyloid Target? PRX 0012 -SQ Delivery , Site 01 – Hawaii Mem Ctr



- PRX012 is a novel high affinity humanized immunoglobulin class G1 (IgG1) monoclonal antibody targetin at the N-terminus
- Evidence indicates that clearance of $A\beta$ plaques is necessary to slow clinical decline in AD
- Neutralization of soluble aggregates might provide incremental efficacy, but is not sufficient (e.g., solanezumab, crenezumab)



Amyloidocentric Theory of AD?



Ricciarelli R, Fedele E. The Amyloid Cascade Hypothesis in Alzheimer's Disease: It's Time to Change Our Mind. *Curr Neuropharmacol.* 2017;15(6):926-935.

alzheimer's Rassociation Translational Research & Clinical Interventions

REVIEW ARTICLE | 🖻 Open Access | 💿 🕃 😒

Alzheimer's disease drug development pipeline: 2022

Jeffrey Cummings 🔀, Garam Lee, Pouyan Nahed, Mina Esmail Zadeh Nojoo Kambar, Kate Zhong, Jorge Fonseca, Kazem Taghva

First published: 04 May 2022 | https://doi.org/10.1002/trc2.12295 | Citations: 3

• What are my Options?

• What's in the Pipeline?



Discussion & Local Research

What are the barriers and challenges for developing better AD treatment?



Paradigm Shift in AD Approach

In the last decade, the research definition of AD has moved from a clinical to a more biological Paradigm using biomarkers,

..... independent of clinical spectra





Spatial Patterns of Neuroimaging Biomarker Change in ADAD in DIAN Brian Gordon. Lancet Neurology Jan 2018

Road Map To Prevention of Alzheimer Disease: A Call To Arms. Mol Neurodegeneration 16, 49 (2021). McDade, E., Llibre-Guerra, J.J., Holtzman, D.M. et al. (Wash U)



What does the future look like?





What does the Future look like?

143 Drugs in pipeline

83% DMT

50,575 participants

Cummings, J, Lee, G, Nahed, P,et al. Alzheimer's disease drug development pipeline: 2022. Alzheimer's Dement. 2022; 8:e12295







- 1. Since 2019, Hawaii Memory Ctr & Alzheimer's Research Unit collecting efficacy and safety data on Lecanemab & Aducanumab as part of global research effort
- 2. Although Lecanemab approved for MCI Mild AD, some patients at higher risk for ARIA
- 3. Although we still have lots of works to do, the future is bright
 - 1. Besides amyloid, consider tau, immunity, inflammation, metabolism & even lifestyle changes Combination or "cocktail" therapies
 - 2. Early detection & prevention is needed
 - 3. Better biomarkers are needed Hawaii is leading the research on using widely available, noninvasive and cost-effective EEG Neural Network

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ALZHEIMER'S RESEARCH UNIT

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Active Alzheimer's Research in Hawaii Research Hotline (808) 564-6141



Preclinical to MCI (MMSE > 22) (Spinal Tap needed)

Phase 4 Amyloid IV monthly ENVISION (Aducanumab)

Phase 3 Metabolism EVOKE PO Daily

Phase 2 Tau (ASO) CELIA Antisense Oligonucleotide IT Q12 weeks MCI (MMSE > 18) (Amyloid PET in California)

Phase 1 -ASCENT Next Generation Amyloid PK Overnight First in Human Study SQ 1x PRX012 Mild to Mod AD (MMSE 14-24)

Buntanetap Phase 2 mRNA (-) Translation Aggregating Toxic Proteins PO Daily

LIFT AD (NIH Funded) Phase 2 Synaptic Plasticity Neuroprotection SQ Daily Injections