Columbus-AMD: Efficacy and Safety of FYB201, a Proposed Biosimilar to Ranibizumab, in Neovascular Age-Related Macular Degeneration

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Background

- nAMD is responsible for >90% of AMD-related severe visual loss^{1,2}
 - Patients with nAMD experience impairment of daily activities and poor quality of life
- Intravitreal injection of ranibizumab, a VEGF-A—inhibiting biologic, is a well-established first-line treatment for patients with nAMD³⁻⁵
 - The high cost and treatment burden of monthly ranibizumab injections may limit real-world treatment outcomes^{6,7}
- Biosimilars are high-quality, cost-effective alternatives to approved reference products
 - Biosimilars undergo comprehensive comparative studies to demonstrate high similarity in all critical quality attributes, including physical, chemical, and biological properties⁸⁻¹¹
 - Biosimilars are not generic medications
- FYB201 is a ranibizumab biosimilar candidate with the same composition, formulation, strength, route of administration, dose, and storage conditions as reference ranibizumab¹²

AMD, age-related macular degeneration; nAMD, neovascular age-related macular degeneration; VEGF-A, vascular endothelial growth factor A.

^{1.} Prokofyeva E, Zrenner E. *Ophthalmic Res.* 2012;47(4):171-88. 2. Jaffe DH et al. *J Comp Eff Res.* 2018;7(11):1125-32. 3. Rosenfeld PJ et al. *N Engl J Med.* 2006;355(14):1419-31. 4. Mavija M et al. *Med Arch.* 2014;68:204-8. 5. Ferrara N et al. *Retina.* 2006;26(8):859-70. 6. Kim LN et al. *Retina.* 2016;36(8):1418-31. 7. Holz FG et al. *Br J Ophthalmol.* 2015;99:220-26. 8. Sharma A et al. *Br J Ophthalmol.* 2020;104:2-7. 9. Giuliani J, Bonetti A. *Anticancer Res.* 2019;39(7):3971-3. 10. Aladul MI et al. *BioDrugs.* 2017;31(6):533-44. 11. Smolen JS et al. *RMD Open.* 2019;5:e000900. 12. Holz FG et al. *Ophthalmology.* 2021 May 3;S0161-6420(21)00325-0. doi: 10.1016/j.ophtha.2021.04.031.

The COLUMBUS-AMD Study Design

- The COLUMBUS-AMD study investigated the similarity of the biosimilar candidate FYB201 and reference ranibizumab in patients with nAMD
- The COLUMBUS-AMD study (NCT02611778) was a prospective 48-week, masked, parallel-group, global, multicenter, randomized phase 3 study in patients with treatment-naive, subfoveal CNV due to nAMD
- Patient characteristics were well balanced between study arms



BCVA, best corrected visual acuity; CNV, choroidal neovascularization; FCP, foveal center point; IVT, intravitreal; MPS, macular photocoagulation study; nAMD, neovascular age-related macular degeneration; Q4W, every 4 weeks; R, randomized; SD-OCT, spectral domain optical coherence tomography.

The COLUMBUS-AMD Study Design

- The primary endpoint of the COLUMBUS-AMD study was change from baseline in BCVA by ETDRS letters after 8 weeks of treatment. The biosimilarity of FYB201 to its originator was assessed via a 2-sided equivalence test, with an equivalence margin in BCVA of 3 ETDRS letters
- Change from baseline in BCVA at 48 weeks, change from baseline in FCP retinal thickness at 48 weeks, safety, and immunogenicity were key secondary endpoints

Endpoints

• Primary

Change from baseline in BCVA by ETDRS letters after 8 weeks

Key Secondary

Change from baseline in BCVA at 48 weeks, change from baseline in FCP retinal thickness at 48 weeks, safety, and immunogenicity

BCVA, best corrected visual acuity; CNV, choroidal neovascularization; ETDRS, Early Treatment Diabetic Retinopathy Study; FCP, foveal center point; IVT, intravitreal; MPS, macular photocoagulation study; nAMD, neovascular age-related macular degeneration; Q4W, every 4 weeks; R, randomized; SD-OCT, spectral domain optical coherence tomography. Holz FG et al. *Ophthalmology*. 2021 May 3;S0161-6420(21)00325-0. doi: 10.1016/j.ophtha.2021.04.031.

Primary Endpoint: Change in BCVA After 8 Weeks

- The primary endpoint (change from baseline in BCVA by ETDRS letters after 8 weeks) was met, as the 90% CI (-1.6 to 0.9) was within the predefined non-inferiority equivalence margin (-3.5 to 3.5)
- On average, patients who received FYB201 and reference ranibizumab saw ~5 more letters after 8 weeks of treatment



Mean Change in BCVA

BCVA, best corrected visual acuity; ETDRS, Early Treatment Diabetic Retinopathy Study. Holz FG et al. *Ophthalmology*. 2021 May 3;S0161-6420(21)00325-0. doi: 10.1016/j.ophtha.2021.04.031.

Secondary Endpoints: BCVA

 Mean (SD) study eye BCVA was highly similar between FYB201 and reference ranibizumab over the course of the study



Mean Study Eye BCVA

BCVA, best corrected visual acuity; ETDRS, Early Treatment Diabetic Retinopathy Study; SD, standard deviation. Holz FG et al. *Ophthalmology*. 2021 May 3;S0161-6420(21)00325-0. doi: 10.1016/j.ophtha.2021.04.031.

Secondary Endpoints: FCP Retinal Thickness

 Mean (SD) change in study eye FCP retinal thickness was highly similar between FYB201 and reference ranibizumab over the course of the study



Mean Change in Study Eye FCP Retinal Thickness

BCVA, best corrected visual acuity; ETDRS, Early Treatment Diabetic Retinopathy Study; FCP, foveal center point; SD, standard deviation. Holz FG et al. *Ophthalmology*. 2021 May 3;S0161-6420(21)00325-0. doi: 10.1016/j.ophtha.2021.04.031.

Overall Safety Profile and Ocular Adverse Events

• The overall safety profile of FYB201 and reference ranibizumab was highly similar



AE, adverse event; IMP, investigational medicinal product; nAb, neutralizing antibody; TEAE, treatment-emergent adverse event. ^aMedDRA preferred terms associated with intraocular inflammation. ^bFYB201: iridocyclitis (n = 1) and conjunctivitis (n = 1); reference ranibizumab: punctate keratitis (n = 2). Holz FG et al. *Ophthalmology*. 2021 May 3;S0161-6420(21)00325-0. doi: 10.1016/j.ophtha.2021.04.031.

Overall Safety Profile and Ocular Adverse Events

• The prevalence of the TEAE "intraocular inflammation" was common and comparable between treatment groups



- Overall, the frequency and type of ocular AEs were comparable between the treatment groups
 - Most AEs were of mild or moderate intensity
 - No clinically relevant differences were identified between the treatment groups

AE, adverse event; IMP, investigational medicinal product; nAb, neutralizing antibody; TEAE, treatment-emergent adverse event.

aMedDRA preferred terms associated with intraocular inflammation. bFYB201: iridocyclitis (n = 1) and conjunctivitis (n = 1); reference ranibizumab: punctate keratitis (n = 2).

Immunogenicity

- FYB201 and reference ranibizumab had comparable immunogenicity profiles. Few patients developed ADAs during the study and had similar levels of ADA titers across treatment arms
- No NAbs were detected up to week 24. One patient tested positive for NAbs up to week 48 (FYB201 arm)



Incidence of ADAs

ADA, antidrug antibody; nAb, neutralizing antibody

Conclusion

- The COLUMBUS-AMD study demonstrated similarity of FYB201 and reference ranibizumab in terms of clinical efficacy, safety (local and systemic), and immunogenicity in patients with newly diagnosed subfoveal nAMD
- Biosimilar ranibizumab may offer a new, high-value treatment option for patients

nAMD, neovascular age-related macular degeneration.

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