Role of Clinical Studies for Pets with Naturally Occurring Tumors in Translational Cancer Research: Mechanisms for Comparative Oncology Trials- Single Site Studies

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# Advantages of single site/limited site clinical trial enrollment

- **1.** Significant commitment from primary PI so typically enthusiastic/rapid enrollment
- 2. Can respond to observations on clinical toxicities and/or observed responses with rapid changes in study protocol
- **3.** Integrity of sample collection and analysis is maintained
- 4. Can flow from healthy to affected dog at same site; observe toxicities first hand prior to treating affected dogs

# Drawbacks of single site/limited site clinical trials

- **1.** May not have representative population of patients
  - Purported geographic differences in disease biology
  - Over-represented breeds in specific geographic locations
    Greyhounds with osteosarcoma at OSU
- **2.** Competition for enrollment within single site
  - Multiple studies for lymphoma ongoing simultaneously
- 3. Rapid enrollment can occasionally result in toxicities that are overlooked or not noted until a larger sampling of patients are treated
- 4. Generally challenging to enroll large numbers of patients with a specific cancer in a timely manner
  - Osteosarcoma, transitional cell carcinoma

## **EXAMPLES**

- 1. Ganetespib (HSP90 inhibitor, Synta Pharmaceuticals) pre and post IND
- 2. KTN0158 (humanized KIT mAb, Kolltan Therapeutics) pre IND
- **3.** LY5 (STAT3 inhibitor, OSU College of Pharmacy) pre IND
- 4. RV1001 (PI3K inhibitor, Rhizen Pharmaceuticals) post IND
- 5. KPT335/330 (XPO1 inhibitor, Karyopharm Therapeutics) pre and post IND

# Evaluation of HSP90 inhibitor STA-1474 in dogs with cancer



- Ganetespib, (STA-9090, Synta Pharmaceuticals Corp.) is a novel small molecule inhibitor of HSP90 with significant in vitro and in vivo activity at low nM concentrations
- STA-1474 is the highly soluble prodrug of ganetespib
- Phase I study of STA-1474 was performed in dogs with cancer pre-IND submission:
  - Test 2 dosing regimens, full PK in all dogs 1 hr once per week
    - 1 hr twice per week
  - Determine clinical toxicities
  - Establish surrogate biomarkers
  - Provide preliminary evidence of biologic activity

#### Evaluation of STA-1474 in dogs with cancer: Altered PK associated with objective response

- Only 1/12 dogs in the first treatment group (7-10.25 mg/kg over 1 hr once/wk) experienced an objective response to therapy
- This dog had a drug extravasation that markedly altered the PK of ganetespib



**Oral Melanoma** 

# Plasma Conc. of STA-9090 vs Time

Time (h)

## STA-1474/ganetespib PK/PD



- Objective responses to therapy were associated with sustained blood levels of ganetespib between 200-600 ng/ml for 8-10 hours
- Subsequent murine modeling confirmed that longer drug exposure was associated with more efficient inhibition of HSP90 activity in tumor cells

# Identification of most effective ganetespib treatment regimen

- While STA-1474 is water soluble, ganetespib requires solvent that limits duration of infusion to 3 hrs duration
- Goal of second study was to identify a dosing regimen that most effectively recapitulates the 8 hr infusion protocol with respect to biologic activity and sustained downregulation of HSP90 client proteins: <u>KIT target modulation in dog mast cell tumors</u>
- Dogs with mast cell tumors received one of 4 dosing regimens with equivalent dose intensity across groups:
  - 6 mg/kg 1 hr once per week
  - 6 mg/kg 8 hr once per week
  - 3 mg/kg 1 hr twice per week: Mon/Tue
  - 3 mg/kg 1 hr twice per week: Thu/Mon
- Biopsies performed at 0, 24, and 72 hr post treatment for assessment of KIT phosphorylation and expression





# Lessons from ganetespib studies

- Single site phase 1 study permitted rapid change in dosing regimen
- This resulted in identification of a drug exposure/response relationship
- A subsequent clinical trial involving 4 sites defined a PK/PD relationship in a relevant client protein of HSP90; this facilitated subsequent human clinical trials of ganetespib pre and post IND
- Importantly, while the second clinical trial initially involved 4 sites, only 2/4 enrolled cases; the primary site enrolled the majority (20/24) of the cases

#### **KTN0158: from healthy to affected dogs**

- KTN0158 is a humanized monoclonal antibody that binds human and canine KIT, but not rodent KIT
- Preclinical studies performed at OSU in healthy dogs to assess the adverse event profile prior to subsequent phase 1 clinical trial in dogs with mast cell tumors to generate data for IND:
  - same PI for both studies facilitated transition from healthy to affected dogs
- Expected toxicities were observed in dogs with tumors, but additional adverse events were noted resulting in a protocol change

#### **KTN0158: from healthy to affected dogs**

Objective responses have been observed with a single KTN0158 treatment and there has been unexpected dose dependence

Pre-treatment





This study involved 2 sites (primary site OSU), and again, enrollment was skewed: only 1 of 12 cases was enrolled at the second site

### LY5: from healthy to affected dogs



LY5 is an allosteric small molecule inhibitor of STAT3 developed at the College of Pharmacy at OSU



| Α. | RH3     | 0 (IC50=0.52 | 2μ <b>M)</b> | EW8 (IC50=0.55 µM) |            |         | RD      | RD2 (IC50=1.39 μM) |       |      |                |          |
|----|---------|--------------|--------------|--------------------|------------|---------|---------|--------------------|-------|------|----------------|----------|
|    | 0 µM    | 0.5 µM       | 1 µM         | 0 µM               | 0.5 µM     | 1 µM    | 0 µM    | 0.5 µ1             | M 1   | μМ   | •              |          |
|    | -       | -            |              |                    | -          |         | -       |                    |       | -    | P-ST/<br>(Y705 | AT3<br>) |
|    |         |              |              | -                  | -          | -       | -       | -                  |       | -    | STAT           | 3        |
|    |         |              |              |                    |            |         | _       | -                  | -     | -    | GAPE           | он       |
| В. |         |              | LY5          | +OSM               |            |         | LY      | 5+IL-6             |       |      |                |          |
|    |         | 0 0          | SM 1µM       | 2.5 µM             |            | 0 IL    | -6 1μM  | 2.5 µM             |       |      |                |          |
|    |         | -            |              | -                  | P-STAT3    | -       | -       |                    | P-ST/ | AT3  |                |          |
|    |         |              |              | -                  | STAT3      | Ì       |         | -                  | STAT  | 3    |                |          |
|    |         |              | -            |                    | GAPDH      |         | -       |                    | GAPE  | н    |                |          |
| C. |         |              |              |                    |            |         |         |                    |       |      |                |          |
|    | -       | LY5+IFN-     | Y            |                    | LYS        | 5+IFN-a |         |                    |       | LY5  | +IL-4          |          |
| 0  | ) IFN-γ | 1µМ 2.5µМ    | 4            | 0                  | lFN-oc 1µM | 2.5 µM  |         | 0                  | IL-4  | 1 µм | 2.5µм          |          |
| 1  | -       |              | P-STAT1      |                    |            | -       | P-STAT1 | Sec. 1             | -     | -    |                | P-STAT4  |
| C  |         |              | STAT1        |                    |            |         | P-STAT2 |                    |       |      |                | P-STAT6  |
|    |         |              | GAPDH        | -                  |            |         | GAPDH   | -                  | -     | -    | -              | GAPDH    |

# LY5 inhibits STAT3 phosphorylation in human OSA tumor xenografts



#### LY5 exhibits good oral bioavailability in dogs

#### <u>Mouse</u>

| PK parameters          | IV   | IP   | PO    |
|------------------------|------|------|-------|
| Tmax (hr)              | 0.08 | 0.08 | 0.5   |
| Cmax (ng/mL)           | 547  | 179  | 168   |
| AUCall (ng/mL*hr)      | 374  | 236  | 257.9 |
| AUC inf_obs (ng/mL*hr) | 376  | 333  | 295   |
| F%                     | 100  | 88.6 | 78.6  |

#### Dog

|                            | Dog  | g#1        | Dog#2 |            |  |  |
|----------------------------|------|------------|-------|------------|--|--|
| Animal ID/Route            | IV   | PO w/ fast | IV    | PO w/ fast |  |  |
| Dosage (mg/kg)             | 0.97 | 0.9        | 0.97  | 0.9        |  |  |
| Cmax (nM)                  | 5586 | 1284       | 3222  | 499.7      |  |  |
| AUC <sub>obs</sub> (nM*hr) | 5096 | 2438       | 3917  | 1611       |  |  |
| F <sub>obs</sub> %         | 100  | 51.56      | 100   | 44.33      |  |  |



#### LY5: from healthy to affected dogs

LY5 has demonstrated activity in mouse models of cancer

- LY5 has good oral bioavailability in dogs
- Future clinical trials in both normal dogs and dogs with cancer/OSA are planned to define:
  - MTD
  - PK/PD relationships
  - Biologic activity
  - Adverse event profile
  - Dosing/regimen

Single site mouse, healthy dog, and affected dog studies will facilitate drug development and will impact the expected submission of IND

## **RV1001** Phase 1 clinical trial

- RV-1001 is an orally bioavailable inhibitor of PI3K family members
- $\succ$  It has a strong binding affinity towards PI3K $\delta$ , binds Val-882
- Highly selective in a 451-kinase panel (1 μM, Kinome Scan, USA)



Phase 1 clinical trial performed in dogs with newly diagnosed and relapsed T or B cell lymphoma:

oral dosing once per day, starting at 10 mg/kg

## **Response to therapy: Daily dosing**



- > Enrollment was rapid, with all cohorts having patients enrolled within 4 weeks
- Grade 3 and 4 hepatotoxicity was noted in <u>all</u> dosing groups typically after 1-3 weeks of drug administration
- Interim PK demonstrated association of hepatotoxicity with high trough blood levels of drug (20-30 μM)

## **Response to therapy: M-F dosing**



- The M-F dosing regimen was well tolerated by nearly all dogs; hepatotoxicity occurred in only two patients
- Response to therapy was noted at both 15 and 25 mg/kg dose levels

# Pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of RV1001 in dogs with NHL





## Lessons learned from RV1001 clinical trial

- The rapid enrollment resulted in the occurrence of hepatotoxicity in all dosing groups
- However, a drug exposure/toxicity relationship was identified resulting in a change in dosing regimen that markedly reduced the toxicity while maintaining response to therapy
- Two sites were used for this study and again, the primary site (OSU) enrolled the majority of the cases (17/21)
  - no naive lymphoma cases were enrolled at the second site
  - lack of enthusiasm for not using standard of care treatment up front

## Lessons learned from RV1001 clinical trial

Planned exceptional responder WGS to identify correlates of response, particularly in T cell lymphoma patients



# Evaluation of KPT-335, a novel XPO1 inhibitor, in dogs with lymphoma

- Cancer cells must inactivate their Tumor Suppressor Proteins (TSPs) in order to perpetuate the neoplastic phenotype
- Most TSPs function in the nucleus; nuclear export functionally extinguishes their tumor suppressing activity and XPO1 is the <u>exclusive</u> nuclear exporter of most TSPs
- XPO1 blockade with KPT330/KPT335 leads to nuclear retention/activation of <u>multiple</u> TSPs resulting in apoptosis of tumor cells while normal cells undergo cell cycle arrest





# Lessons learned from phase 1 and 2 studies with KPT-335

- Clinical trials of KPT-335 were performed in dogs with lymphoma in support of the compound moving forward in people (KPT-330) to assist with identification of adverse event profile and dose/regimen
- The phase 1 study performed at 3 sites initially used MTh dosing schedule but a small number of dogs (n=8) received MWF dosing which was thought to be well tolerated
- The phase 2 study in dogs started with the MWF dosing, that, when expanded to a larger cohort was found to be poorly tolerated, resulting in a regimen change (MTh) during the study
- Subsequent work in people with KPT-330 used canine data to set drug regimen and supportive care protocols to address toxicities

# Summary

- Single site clinical trials in dogs with spontaneous cancer often have several advantages including:
  - High commitment from PI resulting in rapid enrollment
  - Ability to be flexible in protocol alteration when clinical observations dictate study changes
- However, they sometimes introduce biases that can potentially affect study outcomes:
  - Inadequate representation of breeds
  - Underrepresentation of particular adverse events
- For phase 1 single site clinical trials to be effective, support from an organized and well-staffed clinical trials unit is essential
  - Manage patient workflow and ensure IACUC and GCP compliance
  - Support tissue and blood sampling, which can be quite involved
  - Interface with sponsors to provide timely updates/enact protocol changes

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