UPDATE FROM A FIRST-IN-HUMAN PHASE 1 STUDY OF MODAKAFusp ALFA (TAK-573), A FIRST-IN-CLASS IMMUNOCYTOKINE, IN PATIENTS WITH RELAPSED/REFRACTORY MULTIPLE MYELOMA (RRMM)

Vogl, Dan T.1; Kaufman, Jonathan2; Holstein, Sarah A.3; Atrash, Shebli4; Nadeem, Omar5; Janakiram, Murali6; Suryanarayan, Kaveri7; Liu, Yuyin7; Collins, Sabrina7; Parot, Xavier7; Chaudhry, Maria8

1Abramson Cancer Center, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, USA, 2Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University, Atlanta, GA, USA, 3University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE, USA, 4Levine Cancer Institute, Charlotte, NC, USA, 5Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston, MA, USA, 6City of Hope, Duarte, CA, USA, 7Takeda Development Center Americas, Inc. (TDCA), Lexington, MA, USA, 8Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center, Columbus, OH, USA

Introduction: Modakafusp alfa is designed to deliver attenuated interferon alpha-2b to CD38+ cells. In this phase 1 study, treatment with modakafusp alfa starting at 0.1 mg/kg induced responses in RRMM patients; thrombocytopenia and neutropenia were dose-limiting toxicities with dosing every 1, 2, or 3 weeks (NCT03215030). We provide updated results, focusing on an expansion cohort dosed every 4 weeks (Q4W).

Material and methods: Patients with ≥3 previous lines of anti-myeloma treatment (LoT) received modakafusp alfa at 10 dose levels from 0.001 to 6 mg/kg. Initial dosing was weekly for 8 doses, biweekly for 8 doses, then monthly. Subsequent cohorts received dosing every 2, 3, or 4 weeks. Expansion cohorts received biologically-active doses below/equal to the maximum tolerated dose (MTD).

Results: 88 patients received treatment across all doses/schedules. At 6 mg/kg Q4W, the MTD was exceeded due to a grade 3 infusion reaction and prolonged thrombocytopenia and neutropenia. Results henceforth are for the 29 patients who received modakafusp alfa 1.5 mg/kg Q4W, after a median follow-up time of 4.2 months. Median prior number of LoTs was 7; 26 patients were anti-CD38 monoclonal antibody (mAb)-refractory and 25 were triple-class refractory. The most common grade 3-4 treatment-emergent adverse events included neutropenia in 18 (62%), thrombocytopenia in 13 (45%), and leukopenia in 12 (41%) patients. Three patients had grade 3 infections, one had a grade 3 infusion reaction, and another experienced a grade 3 bleeding event. Overall response rate was 38% among all patients and also in anti-CD38 mAb-refractory patients. Median progression-free survival was 5.7 months. Evidence from correlative studies support activation of T-cells, natural killer-cells and interferon signaling by modakafusp alfa in CD38+ cells.

Conclusions: Modakafusp alfa showed encouraging activity in heavily pretreated RRMM patients, including those refractory to anti-CD38 mAbs. Q4W dosing is viable; the optimal dose and combinations are being investigated.