

Phase II trial of combination treatment with paclitaxel, carboplatin and cetuximab (PCE) as first-line treatment in patients with recurrent and/or metastatic squamous cell carcinoma of the head and neck (CSPOR-HN02)

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Background

- In EXTREME study, adding cetuximab to platinum-based chemotherapy (PF) demonstrated significantly improved survival over platinum-based chemotherapy alone [1].
- However, this regimen requires hospitalization to ensure proper hydration and continuous infusion of 5-FU, and causes concerned toxicities including mucositis, anorexia and fatigue, leading to worsen patient's quality of life.
- In the previous study for R/M SCCHN patients who received platinum-derivates, combination with paclitaxel, carboplatin and cetuximab (PCE) demonstrated promising clinical activity with response rate of 56% and median time to progression of 5 month [2].

1. Vermorken JB et al. N Engl J Med 2008; 359: 1116-1127.
2. Buentzel J, et.al. 2007 ASCO Annual Meeting. JCO, 2007; No. 18S (June 20 Suppl) abstr 6077.

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研究費:

メルクセローノ株式会社 (MSJ) と公益財団法人パブリックヘルスリサーチセンター (CSPOR) の臨床研究プロジェクト契約に基づいてMSJから提供を受けた。

Objectives

- To evaluate the efficacy and safety of PCE as first-line treatment in patients with R/M SCCHN.
 - Primary endpoint ; overall response rate (ORR)
 - Secondary endpoints; safety
 - treatment completion rate
 - progression-free survival
 - overall survival
 - clinical benefit rate (CBR)

Method

Patients

Key eligibility criteria:

- 1) Histologically proven squamous cell carcinoma
- 2) Primary lesion located larynx, oropharynx, hypopharynx or oral cavity
- 3) No prior chemotherapy expect > 6 month previous chemotherapy as a curative therapy
- 4) No prior systemic chemotherapy for recurrent/metastatic disease

Study design

This is a single arm, open-label, multicenter, phase 2 study (UMIN000010507)

Assessment

- Tumor responses were assessed by CT or MRI at baseline and at 8-week intervals after the start of treatment until disease progression or treatment discontinuation.
- Adverse events were monitored weekly throughout the study and evaluated by CTCAE version 4.0.

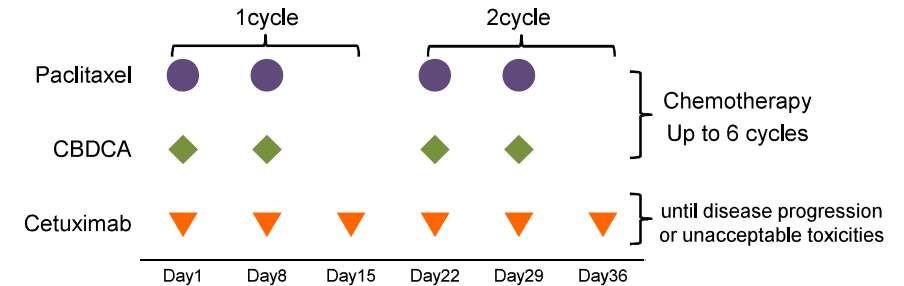
Statistical analysis

- The objective of primary analysis is to confirm whether response rate of PCE is non-inferior as compared with that of PFE
 - Assumed the response rate of PFE is 40%
 - Acceptable range of less than 5%
- Targeted accrual: 45 patients in total

Treatment

Chemotherapy consisted of paclitaxel 100mg/m² on day 1, 8; carboplatin AUC 2.5 on day 1, 8, repeated every 3 weeks for up to 6 cycles; and cetuximab at an initial dose of 400mg/m², followed by 250mg/m² weekly until disease progression or unacceptable toxicities (Fig 1).

Fig.1



Results

Forty-seven subjects were accrued from July 2013 and Oct 2014.

Patient Characteristics (n=45)

Variable	No. of patients
Age	
Age (yr) - median, range	63 (41-76)
< 65yr	25
≥ 65yr	20
Sex	
Female	5
Male	40
PS	
0	23
1	22
Primary site	
Hypopharynx	17
Oropharynx	11
Oral cavity	10
Larynx	7
Extent of disease	
Only locoregionally recurrent	8
Metastatic with or without locoregional recurrence	37
Previous treatment	
Radiation	28
Chemotherapy	13
Postoperative chemoradiotherapy	4
Smoking history	
smokers	36
Brinkman index-median, range	735 (10-3680)
non-smokers	9

Compliance

Median cycle of PCE was 6.

	Median duration-week (range)	Relative dose intensity %
Paclitaxel	16.9 (1.9 - 28.0)	82.5
CBDCA	7.1 (1.9 - 28.0)	82.5
Cetuximab	22.0 (2.0 - 128.0)	90.6
Cetuximab monotherapy*	11.9 (1.0 - 116.0)	90.6

*during the maintenance period

	No. of patients (%)
Completion of 6 cycles of PCE	16 (35.6%)
Received cetuximab monotherapy*	29 (64.4%)

*during the maintenance period

Analysis of primary endpoint Response (N=45) on central review

The primary end point was met with ORR of 40.0% (95% exact CI, 25.7-55.7).

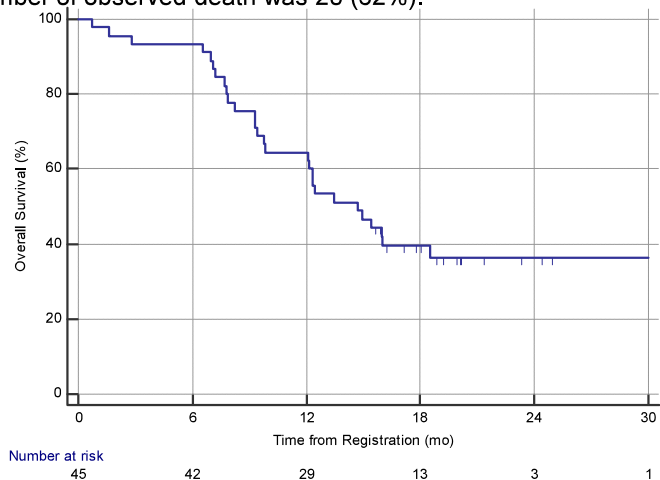
Response	No. of patients (%)
Complete response	2 (4.4%)
Partial response	16 (35.6%)
Stable disease	9 (20.0%)
Progressive disease	16 (35.6%)
Not Evaluable	2 (4.4%)

Overall survival

Median follow-up was 20.0 months.

Median overall survival was 14.7 months (95% CI, 9.8–Not Reached).

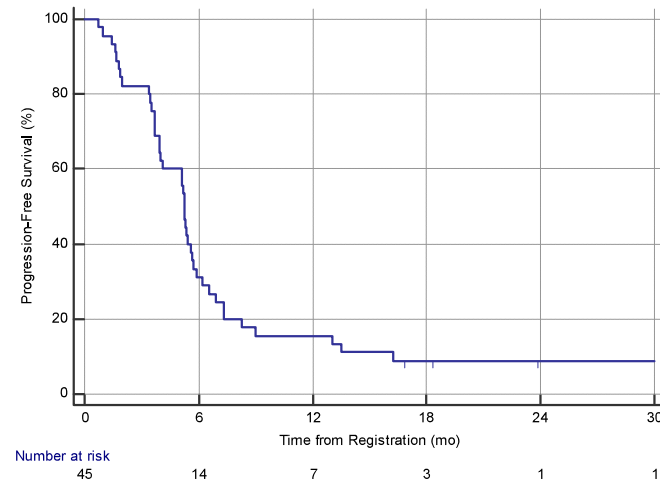
Number of observed death was 28 (62%).



Progression-free survival

Median progression-free survival was 5.2 months (95% CI 3.9–5.6).

5 patients are still receiving cetuximab maintenance.



Subsequent treatment

	No. of patients			
	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th
Total (%)	32(68.1%)	14	5	2
S-1	13	1	2	0
Immunotherapy*	4	5	0	0
Docetaxel	3	4	0	0
Cmab	5	0	0	0
PXL+CBDC	1	0	1	0
Others	2	2	1	2
Palliative RT	4	2	1	0

*anti-PD-1/PDL-1 antibody

Conclusion

- The PCE regimen shows promising activity with acceptable toxicity and can be provided in the outpatient clinic, with weekly adjustment of dosages according to toxicity. Further studies are needed to compare PCE with PFE in this population.

Safety

Adverse events* during PCE (N=47)

AE	Gr1	Gr2	Gr3	Gr4	%Gr3-4
Neutropenia	2	9	19	13	68%
Rash acneiform	14	23	2	0	4%
Skin reaction†	12	20	7	0	15%
Febrile neutropenia	-	-	4	0	9%
Anemia	21	22	3	0	6%
Anorexia	13	9	3	0	6%
Hyponatremia	16	0	2	0	4%
Hypomagnesemia	24	3	1	1	4%
Diarrhea	7	2	1	0	2%
Nausea	10	3	1	0	2%
Peripheral neuropathy	19	6	1	0	2%
Mucositis	10	8	1	0	2%
Hypoalbuminemia	30	6	1	0	2%
Hypocalcemia	7	2	0	1	2%
ALT increased	13	2	1	0	2%
Alopecia	16	22	-	-	0%
Constipation	17	6	0	0	0%
Dysgeusia	8	5	0	0	0%
Hypokalemia	10	1	0	0	0%
Thrombocytopenia	28	1	0	0	0%
AST increased	23	0	0	0	0%
Tbil increased	10	0	0	0	0%

*Grade1 or worse adverse events in 20% or more of patients, # Excluded rash acneiform
A potentially treatment-related death occurred in one patient with intestinal pneumonia.

試験参加施設一覧

1	国立がん研究センター東病院	頭頸部内科	13	国立病院機構東京医療センター	耳鼻咽喉科
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