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TITLE: High Efficacy at Lower Doses of MK-5172 25 mg and 50 mg Daily for 12 Weeks in HCV Genotype (G) 1 Treatment-Naive Non-cirrhotic Patients

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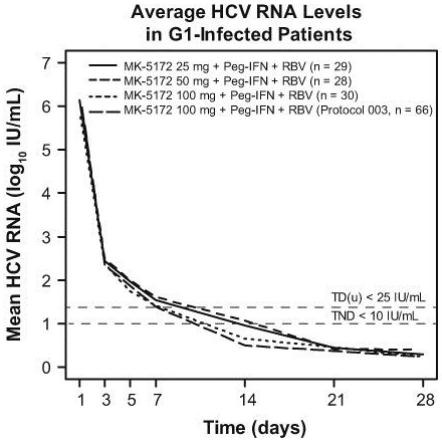
ABSTRACT BODY: Background: MK-5172 is a potent HCV NS3/4A protease inhibitor with a high barrier to resistance. In a phase 2 study (Protocol 003), administration of MK-5172 100-800 mg QD with peginterferon alfa-2b and ribavirin (PR) resulted in SVR24 or HCV RNA target not detected (TND) at last visit in 92% to 99% of non-cirrhotic G1-infected patients. The present study evaluates a lower dose range of MK-5172 + PR.
Methods: Treatment-naive HCV G1-infected patients were randomized to receive MK-5172 25-, 50-, or 100-mg + PR for 12 weeks. Futility was defined as confirmed HCV RNA ≥25 IU/mL at treatment week (TW) 4; patients had their PR treatment extended by 12 weeks if they were not TND at TW4. HCV RNA was measured by Roche Cobas TaqMan v2.0.
Results: Of 87 enrolled patients: 80% were G1a, 80% were *IL28B* non-CC, and 18% were African American. Decline in HCV RNA was comparable for all doses (Figure). Among patients who have reached TW4, 72 of 73 (99%) were TND or <25 IU/mL, and will receive 12 weeks of therapy. Among patients who have reached TW8, 33 of 36 patients (92%) were TND. No patient has experienced virologic failure. Myositis with transaminase levels >3× ULN, total bilirubin >2× ULN, and CPK of 1032 U/L after 7 days of dosing occurred in 1 patient on the 100-mg dose. Values normalized off therapy.

No other patient has had clinically significant transaminase elevations. Rates of adverse events and laboratory abnormalities were comparable across the 3 doses. On-treatment response, SVR4, and SVR12 will be presented.
Conclusions: MK-5172 is a highly potent agent as indicated by comparable efficacy of 12-week regimens of MK-5172 25-100 mg + PR. All 3 doses of MK-5172 were well tolerated.

(No Table Selected)



Co-Author Disclosure Status

The following authors have completed their AASLD 2013 disclosure: John Vierling: Disclosure completed | Martin Lagging: Disclosure completed | Ashley Brown: Disclosure completed | Ola Weiland: Disclosure completed | Parvez Mantry: Disclosure completed | Alnoor Ramji: Disclosure completed | Frank Weilert: Disclosure completed | Isaias Gendrano: Disclosure completed | Christopher Gilbert: Disclosure completed | Boan Zhang: Disclosure completed | Peggy Hwang: Disclosure completed | Janice Wahl: Disclosure completed | Michael Robertson: Disclosure completed | Niloufar Mobashery: Disclosure completed