The Angiotensin Receptor Neprilysin Inhibitor LCZ696 in Heart Failure with Preserved Ejection Fraction

The Prospective comparison of ARNI with ARB on Management Of heart failure with preserved ejection fraction (PARAMOUNT) Trial

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Heart failure with preserved ejection fraction (HFpEF) accounts for up to half of heart failure cases, and is associated with substantial morbidity and mortality, yet no therapies have been shown to improve clinical outcomes in this condition.

LCZ696 is a first-in-class angiotensin receptor neprilysin inhibitor that comprises the molecular moieties of a neprilysin inhibitor and the angiotensin receptor blocker (ARB) valsartan as a single compound.

As such, this compound simultaneously inhibits the renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system and augments the endogenous natriuretic peptide system, both of which may offer benefits in patients with heart failure. This drug is currently being tested in an 8000 patient reduced ejection fraction heart failure trial.

The PARAMOUNT trial was designed to test the safety and efficacy of LCZ696 in patients with HFpEF.
PARAMOUNT: Study Design

**Population**
M & F > 40, NYHA II-IV HF, LVEF ≥ 45%, NT-proBNP > 400 pg/ml

**Primary objective**
NT pro-BNP reduction from baseline at 12 weeks (core study)

**Secondary objectives**
- Echocardiographic measures of diastolic function, left atrial size, LV size and function, PASP
- HF symptoms, Clinical composite assessment and Quality of life (KCCQ)
- Safety and tolerability

Baseline randomization visit and visit at end of 12 weeks of core study

Clinicaltrials.gov NCT00887588
Change in NT-proBNP at 12 and 36 weeks

- **LCZ696**
  - N=301
  - N=261
  - N=241

- **Valsartan**
  - N=301
  - N=261
  - N=241

- **p = 0.005**
- **p = 0.063**
- **p = 0.20**
Key Secondary Endpoints

**Left Atrial Volume**

- 12 Weeks: P = 0.18
- 36 Weeks: P = 0.003

No Significant Changes in LV volumes, Ejection Fraction, or LV mass at 12 or 36 weeks

**NYHA Class**

- Week 12:
  - LCZ696: P = 0.11
  - Valsartan

- Week 36:
  - LCZ696:
  - Valsartan: P = 0.05
Conclusions

• The angiotensin receptor neprilysin inhibitor LCZ696 reduced NT-proBNP to a greater extent than valsartan after 12 weeks of therapy, in association with reduction in left atrial size and improvement in NYHA class. These are all measures that have been associated with worse prognosis in patients with HFpEF.

• Overall LCZ696 was well tolerated with fewer serious and overall adverse events than the comparator valsartan.

• We consider these findings hypothesis generating, but they suggest that LCZ696 may have beneficial effects in patients with HFpEF and that further testing of this compound may be warranted in patients with this condition.

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