Patient-reported outcomes (PROs) <65 or ≥65 years old from CARES-310 camrelizumab + rivoceranib vs sorafenib as first-line treatment for patients with unresectable hepatocellular carcinoma

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BACKGROUND

- CARES-310 (NCT03764293) evaluated the combination of the PD-1 inhibitor, camrelizumab (cam), and the VEGFR-2 tyrosine kinase inhibitor, rivoceranib (rivo), compared to standard of care at the time of study initiation, sorafenib, for the treatment of unresectable hepatocellular carcinoma.
- This combination significantly improved overall survival (OS) and progression-free survival (PFS) compared to sorafenib:
- Median OS: 22.1 months versus 15.2 months; HR 0.62 (95% CI, 0.49, 0.80; one-sided p<0.0001)
- Median PFS: 5.6 months versus 3.7 months; HR 0.54 (95% CI, 0.44, 0.67; one-sided p<0.0001)
- The most common grade 3 treatment-related adverse events observed with cam + rivo were hypertension (37.5%), hepatotoxicity (33%) and increased AST (16.5%) vs palmar-plantar erythrodysesthesia syndrome (15.2%) and hepatotoxicity (12%) with sorafenib.
- Herein, we present PROs stratified by age: <65 years old (yo) or \geq 65 yo from the CARES-310 trial.

METHODS

- In this randomized, open-label, international, multicenter, phase 3 study, patients were randomized 1:1 to receive cam 200 mg IV Q2W + rivo 250 mg PO QD (n=272) or sorafenib 400 mg PO BID (n=271).
- Patients completed the EORTC QLQ-C30 and EORTC QLQ-HCC18 questionnaires at baseline, each visit, and post-last-dose follow-up periods.
- Endpoints included:
- Time to deterioration (TTD) with a \geq 10-point decrease from baseline of patient-reported quality of life (QoL), physical functioning, role functioning, and patient-reported symptoms
- OS
- PFS per blinded independent review committee (BIRC)
- Safety

RESULTS

• As of 8 February 2022, mean completion rates across questionnaires were 98.6% and 96.8% for cam + rivo and 98.9% and 98.8% for sorafenib in the <65 and \geq 65 yo age groups, respectively, from baseline through \geq 121 weeks of treatment.

Table 1: Baseline Characteristics (Safety Population)

	<65 yea	rs old	≥65 years old		
Characteristic	Cam + Rivo (n=191)	Sorafenib (n=210)	Cam + Rivo (n=81)	Sorafenib (n=59)	
Median age, years	52.0	52.5	70.0	70.0	
Male sex, n (%)	163 (85.3)	182 (86.7)	64 (79.0)	48 (81.4)	
Geographic region, n (%)					
Asia	172 (90.1)	187 (89.0)	53 (65.4)	36 (61.0)	
Non-Asia	19 (9.9)	23 (11.0)	28 (34.6)	23 (39.0)	
BCLC stage, n (%)					
B (middle stage)	22 (11.5)	28 (13.3)	16 (19.8)	11 (18.6)	
C (advanced stage)	169 (88.5)	182 (86.7)	65 (80.2)	48 (81.4)	
Child-Pugh class, n (%)					
A5	170 (89.0)	175 (83.3)	66 (81.5)	53 (89.8)	
A6	21 (11.0)	35 (16.7)	15 (18.5)	6 (10.2)	
ECOG PS, n (%) 0 1	88 (46.1) 103 (53.9)	89 (42.4) 121 (57.6)	32 (39.5) 49 (60.5)	26 (44.1) 33 (55.9)	
ALBI grade, n (%) 1 2	148 (77.5) 43 (22.5)	162 (77.1) 49 (22.9)	52 (64.2) 29 (35.8)	44 (74.6) 15 (25.4)	
AFP ≥400 ng/mL, n (%)	72 (37.7)	84 (40.0)	24 (29.6)	16 (27.1)	
MVI and/or EHS, n (%) MVI EHS	24 (12.6) 134 (70.2)	43 (20.5) 143 (68.1)	16 (19.8) 41 (50.6)	8 (13.6) 36 (61.0)	
Etiology, n (%)					
HBV	165 (86.4)	172 (81.9)	43 (53.1)	25 (42.4)	
HCV	9 (4.7)	18 (8.6)	13 (16.0)	9 (15.3)	
Non-viral ^a	17 (8.9)	20 (9.5)	25 (30.9)	25 (42.4)	

AFP, alpha-fetoprotein; ALBI, albumin-bilirubin; BCLC, Barcelona Clinic Liver Cancer; ECOG PS, Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group performance status; EHS, extrahepatic spread; HBV, hepatitis B; HCV, hepatitis C; MVI, microvascular invasion

- Cam + rivo demonstrated improved TTD in fatigue measured by EORTC-QLQ-C30 in the <65 yo group (**Table 2**).
- In the ≥ 65 yo group, cam + rivo demonstrated significantly longer median TTD of pain measured by EORTC-QLQ-HCC18 and QLQ-C30 (Table 3).
- The median TTD of appetite loss was numerically favorable for cam + rivo in the ≥ 65 yo group (**Table 3**).
- Median global health status/health-related QoL (GHS/HRQoL) in the ≥65 yo group favored cam + rivo (**Table 3**).
- In both the <65 yo and ≥65 yo age groups, median TTD for jaundice was significant for sorafenib (Tables 2 and 3).
- The most common all grade treatment-related adverse events in both the <65 yo and \geq 65 yo age groups receiving cam + rivo were hypertension, increased AST, proteinuria, increased ALT, decreased platelet count, and increased blood bilirubin (Figure 6).
- The most common all grade treatment-related adverse events in both the <65 yo and \geq 65 yo age groups receiving sorafenib were palmar-plantar erythrodysesthesia and hypertension (Figure 6).

Table 2: Time to Deterioration in Symptoms (<65 years old)

Scale	Median TTD (Months)			
(Questionnaire)	Cam + Rivo (n=191)	Sorafenib (n=210)		HR (95% Cl); p-value ^c
GHS/HRQoL ^a	NR	NR		0.97 (0.69, 1.38); p=0.44
Fatigue ^a	14.8	6.4		0.76 (0.55, 1.05); p=0.05
Pain ^a	NR	12.9		0.91 (0.64,1.30); p=0.30
Appetite loss ^a	NR	NR		0.86 (0.59,1.25); p=0.21
Fatigue	NR	5.6		0.73 (0.53,1.03); p=0.03
Jaundice ^b	15.9	NR		1.78 (1.14, 2.75); p=0.01
Pain ^b	NR	NR		1.10 (0.73, 1.63); p=0.33
EORTC QLQ-C30 EORTC QLQ-HCC18			← 1 — 1 — Favora Sarafanih	

²One-sided p-value calculated based on log-rank test NR. not reached

Favors Cam + Rivo Favors Sorafenik

Table 3: Time to Deterioration in Symptoms (≥65 years old)

Cam+ Rivo				
(n=81)	Sorafenib (n=61)			HR (95% Cl); p-valu
7.4	6.5			1.09 (0.61, 1.92); p=0
3.7	4.6			1.01 (0.60, 1.71); p=0
11.2	4.6			0.56 (0.32, 0.98); p=0
8.3	6.8		_	0.80 (0.45, 1.41); p=0.
3.7	4.4			0.92 (0.54, 1.55); p=0.
6.7	11.1		•	2.0 (1.06, 3.81); p=0.0
12.9	6.8	—		0.47 (0.24, 0.91); p=0.
	7.4 3.7 11.2 8.3 3.7 6.7	7.46.53.74.611.24.68.36.83.74.46.711.1	7.4 6.5 3.7 4.6 11.2 4.6 8.3 6.8 3.7 4.4 6.7 11.1	7.4 6.5 3.7 4.6 11.2 4.6 8.3 6.8 3.7 4.4 6.7 11.1

EURIC QLQ-HCC18 ^oOne-sided p-value calculated based on log-rank test

NE, not evaluable

Favors Cam + Rivo Favors Sorafenib

Figure 1: Time to Deterioration in Quality of Life



^bHazard ratios and the corresponding 95% CIs were stratified by macrovascular invasion and/or extrahepatic metastasis (presence vs absence), geographical region (Asia vs outside of Asia) and baseline AFP (AFP <400 ng/mL vs AFP \geq 400 ng/mL) in the interactive response technology system. °One sided p value is calculated based on log-rank test.

RESULTS



Figure 3: Time to Deterioration in Role Functioning



<65 years old	(n=191)	(n=210)				
TTD events, n (%)	65 (34.0)	67 (31.9)				
Median ^a TTD, months (95% Cl)	NE (14.8, NE)	NE (7.9, NE)				
Hazard ratio ^b (95% Cl); p value ^c 0.76 (0.54, 1.09); p=0.0649						
^a Medians were estimated using the Kaplan-Mei ^b Hazard ratios and the corresponding 95% CIs vs AFP \geq 400 ng/mL) in the interactive response	were stratified by macrovascu					

Figure 3B: ≥65 years old



Sorafenib 61 29	17 10 6	3	2	0		-		-	-
≥65 years old			С	am + (n=81			Sorafe (n=6		
TTD events, n (9	%)			37 (45	.7)		24 (39	9.3)	
Median ^a TTD, m	nonths (95%	CI)	4.	2 (2.8,	NE)		6.4 (2.8	8, NE)	

1.14 (0.66, 1.97); p=0.3202 Hazard ratio^b (95% CI); p value^c netastasis (presence vs absence), geographical region (Asia vs outside of Asia) and baseline AFP (AFP <400 ng/mL

NE, not evaluable

NE, not evaluable

One sided p value is calculated based on log-rank test.

Figure 4: Overall Survival



78 (40.8) OS events, n (%) Median^a OS, months (95% Cl) 22.1 (19.1, NE) 15.2 (12.9, 20.3) Hazard ratio^b (95% Cl); p value^c 0.62 (0.47, 0.83); p=0.0006

Figure 4B: ≥65 years old

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OS (months) Number of subjects at risk

≥65 years old	Cam + Rivo (n=81)	Sorafenib (n=61)		
OS events, n (%)	33 (40.7)	33 (54.1)		
Median ^a OS, months (95% CI)	22 (16.1, NE)	13.3 (10.7, 16.0)		
Hazard ratio ^b (95% Cl); p value ^c	0.62 (0.38, 1.03); p=0.0308			

^aMedians were estimated using the Kaplan-Meier methods with CIs calculated using Brookmeyer and Crowley method ^bHazard ratios and the corresponding 95% CIs were stratified by macrovascular invasion and/or extrahepatic metastasis (presence vs absence), geographical region (Asia vs outside of Asia) and baseline AFP (AFP <400 ng/mL vs AFP \geq 400 ng/mL) in the interactive response technology system. ^cOne sided p value is calculated based on log-rank test.



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Figure 6: Most Common (≥20%) Treatment-related Adverse Events



AST, aspartate aminotransferase; ALT, alanine aminotransferase; GGT, gamma-glutamyl transferase; PPE, palmar-plantar erythrodysaesthesia; RCEP, reactive capillary endothelial proliferation

CONCLUSIONS

- In the CARES-310 trial, PRO data in adult (<65 years old) and older adult (≥65 years old) patients demonstrated clinically meaningful benefits in key aspects of the patient experience (QoL, functioning, key symptoms) with camrelizumab plus rivoceranib vs sorafenib.
- Although patients treated with camrelizumab plus rivoceranib exhibited a higher rate of treatment-related adverse events, the combination of camrelizumab plus rivoceranib did not adversely impact QoL when compared to sorafenib.
- PRO data stratified by age for adults and older adults further support the positive benefit:risk profile of camrelizumab plus rivoceranib vs sorafenib in patients with unresectable hepatocellular carcinoma who have not received prior systemic therapy.

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