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Docetaxel Plus Ganetespib Improves Survival in Subgroup of Patients With Advanced Lung Cancer: Presented at WCLC

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SYDNEY, Australia -- October 30, 2013 -- Adding ganetespib to docetaxel improves overall survival (OS) and progression-free survival (PFS) in a sub-group of chemosensitive patients with advanced lung adenocarcinoma, researchers said here at the 15th World Conference on Lung Cancer (WCLC).

"The combination of ganetespib and docetaxel has improved OS and PFS in the chemosensitive >6 month population and showed encouraging trends for the overall patient population," said Suresh S. Ramalingam, MD, Winship Cancer Institute, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia, on October 28. "The combination was tolerated well and had a good safety profile."

A subgroup analysis of the Ganetespib Assessment in Lung Cancer With Docetaxel (GALAXY-1) study showed that PFS was improved in patients with elevated LDH levels (adjusted hazard ratio [aHR], 0.69; P = .088), KRAS mutation (aHR, 0.95; P = .427), and chemosensitivity (aHR, 0.72; P = .030).

Overall survival was statistically significant only in patients with elevated LDH (aHR, 0.52; P = .009) and the chemosensitive group (aHR, 0.72; P = .040).

In total 253 patients with advanced lung adenocarcinoma were eligible for randomisation into 1 of the 2 arms of the study if they had 1 prior systemic therapy and ECOG performance status (PS) 0/1.

All patients received docetaxel 75 mg/m2 on day 1 of a 3-week cycle and in 1 arm, ganetespib 150 mg/m2 was administered on days 1 and 15.

Grade  $\geq$  2 adverse events were more common in those patients receiving the combination of docetaxel and ganetespib, the most common being fatigue (23% vs 11%), diarrhoea (19% vs 2%), and febrile neutropenia (9% vs 4%).

"Survival improvement was noted in all adenocarcinoma patients with the addition of ganetespib to docetaxel," the authors noted. "The maximal benefit was achieved in patients with elevated levels of LDH and those diagnosed with advanced cancer >6 months prior to study entry."

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