Phase 1b study of bavdegalutamide, an androgen receptor **PROTAC** degrader, combined with abiraterone in patients with metastatic prostate cancer

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Background and Rationale

 Bavdegalutamide (ARV-110), a novel, oral PROteolysis TArgeting Chimera (PROTAC) protein degrader (Figure 1), targeted wild-type androgen receptor (AR) and clinically relevant mutants in nonclinical studies and showed tumor growth inhibition in various xenograft models¹



• An ongoing phase 1/2 study (NCT03888612) is evaluating bavdegalutamide in patients with metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer (mCRPC) after 1-2 prior novel hormonal agents (eg, abiraterone and/or enzalutamide), some of whom also had prior chemotherapy²

- Of 28 evaluable patients with tumors harboring AR T878X/H875Y mutations, 46% had best prostate-specific antigen (PSA) declines of \geq 50%
- PSA declines of ≥50% were also observed in patients without AR T878X/H875Y–positive tumors
- The recommended phase 2 dose (RP2D) of 420 mg once daily was tolerable with manageable side effects
- Abiraterone is approved, in combination with a corticosteroid, for patients with mCRPC or high-risk castration-sensitive prostate cancer (CSPC), but up to a third develop primary resistance to abiraterone and nearly all experience disease progression³

Objective

• This phase 1b study (NCT05177042) will evaluate the safety, tolerability, and pharmacokinetics of bavdegalutamide in combination with abiraterone in patients with metastatic prostate cancer

Study Design

- In this open-label, multicenter, phase 1b study, patients will receive oral bavdegalutamide, abiraterone, and a corticosteroid daily in 28-day cycles
- Eligible patients have mCRPC or metastatic CSPC and PSA progression on abiraterone without radiographic progression (Table 1)
- Primary outcomes are shown in Table 2
- Patients will be enrolled in the United States, Canada, France, and the United Kingdom

Table 1: Key eligibility criteria	
Inclusion criteria	Exclusion criteria
 Men ≥18 years of age Histologically, pathologically, or cytologically confirmed adenocarcinoma of the prostate ECOG performance status of 0 or 1 Ongoing treatment with stable doses of abiraterone and a concomitant corticosteroid for mCRPC or mCSPC and, prior to signing consent: PSA progression ≥16 weeks after initiation of abiraterone ≥2 rising PSA values measured ≥1 week apart 	 Prior treatment with enzalutamide, apalutamide, darolutamide, or experimental AR-directed therapies Treatment with any chemotherapy, investigational agents, immunotherapy, or hormonal therapy other than gonadotropin-releasing hormone agonists ≤28 days of start of treatment

- Dual AR pathway inhibition by bavdegalutamide and abiraterone showed potential in a 3-phase nonclinical study in a prostate tumor xenograft model (Figure 2)
- The combination showed greater tumor growth inhibition than either agent alone
- Bavdegalutamide reduced the volume of abiraterone-resistant tumors
- These data suggest that addition of bavdegalutamide to abiraterone at the initiation of biochemical progression on abiraterone (PSA progression without radiographic progression) may overcome abiraterone resistance and re-establish AR pathway blockade in patients with metastatic prostate cancer

Figure 2: Tumor growth inhibition^a with bavdegalutamide plus abiraterone and with bavdegalutamide after abiraterone resistance



- No known radiographic evidence of disease progression while receiving abiraterone
- Ongoing androgen deprivation therapy with a gonadotropin-releasing hormone analog or inhibitor or orchiectomy
- I Radiation therapy ≤4 weeks from start of treatment or prior irradiation to >25% of the bone marrow

AR=androgen receptor; ECOG=Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group; mCRPC=metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer; mCSPC=metastatic castration-sensitive prostate cancer; PSA=prostate-specific antigen

Table 2: Primary outcome measures **Objective Endpoints** Incidence of first-cycle dose-limiting Evaluate the safety and tolerability of bavdegalutamide plus abiraterone and toxicities determine the RP2D and schedule of this Frequency and severity of AEs and combination laboratory abnormalities

AE=adverse event; RP2D=recommended phase 2 dose

References

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