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**Phase 3 Study Evaluating Once Weekly Somatrogen Compared to Daily Genotropin in Japanese Patients With Pediatric Growth Hormone Deficiency (pGHD)**

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**STEP 6: ABSTRACT BODY:**

**Objectives** Somatrogen is a long-acting recombinant human growth hormone consisting of the amino acid sequence of human growth hormone and three copies of the carboxy-terminal peptide of human chorionic gonadotropin. Somatrogen is being developed as a once weekly treatment for children with pGHD. A Phase 3 trial was designed to compare the efficacy and safety of somatrogen administered once weekly with Genotropin administered once daily in Japanese patients with pGHD (ClinicalTrials.gov: NCT03874013).

**Methods** 44 Japanese pGHD patients (age 3-11 years) were randomized in a 1:1 ratio to receive either once weekly somatrogen (0.66 mg/kg/week) or once daily Genotropin (0.025 mg/kg/day) subcutaneously for 12 months. Somatrogen-treated patients had a pharmacokinetic assessment in the first 6 weeks with dose escalation occurring in 3 steps, at 0.25, 0.48, and 0.66 mg/kg/week, for 2 weeks at each dose. For the remaining 46 weeks, patients in the somatrogen treatment group continued to receive somatrogen at a dose of 0.66 mg/kg/week. The primary endpoint of the study was annualized height velocity (HV) at 12 months.

**Results** Baseline characteristics were balanced and comparable between the two treatment groups. The least square means of HV at month 12 were 9.65 cm/year in the somatrogen group (n=22) and 7.87 cm/year in the Genotropin group (n=22), with a point estimate treatment difference of 1.79 cm/year (95% confidence interval: 0.97, 2.60) in favour of somatrogen. The point estimate was greater than the pre-established mean treatment difference of -1.8 cm/year, which was the non-inferiority margin met in the global Phase 3 study (n=224) with somatrogen (0.66 mg/kg/week) and Genotropin (0.034mg/kg/day) (ClinicalTrials.gov: NCT02968004). Most of the adverse events were mild to moderate in severity and somatrogen was generally well-tolerated with no notable difference in safety between the two treatment groups. Injection site pain was more common in the somatrogen group (somatrogen: 72.7%, Genotropin: 13.6%).

**Conclusions** The Japanese Phase 3 trial in patients with pGHD demonstrated that once weekly somatrogen was comparable to daily Genotropin. The annual HV after 12 months of treatment was higher in the somatrogen group than the Genotropin group. Somatrogen administration was generally well tolerated in patients with pGHD. The results of this Japanese Phase 3 study are consistent with the results previously reported from the global Phase 3 study that met its primary endpoint of noninferiority to daily Genotropin.

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**Author Disclosure Information:**

**R. Horikawa:** Advisory Board Member; Self; Novo Nordisk, Pfizer, Inc., Lumos Pharma, OPKO. Consulting Fee; Self; Novo Nordisk, Pfizer, Inc., Lumos Pharma, Sandoz, Ascendis Pharma. Grant Recipient; Self; Novo Nordisk, Sandoz. Speaker; Self; Novo Nordisk, Pfizer, Inc., Eli Lilly & Company, Sandoz. **T. Tanaka:** Advisory Board Member; Self; OPKO. **Y. Hasegawa:** None. **T. Yorifuji:** Advisory Board Member; Self; Pfizer, Inc.. Consulting Fee; Self; Pfizer, Inc.. **D. Ng:** None. **R.G. Rosenfeld:** Advisory Board Member; Self; Lumos, DNARx, BioMarin. Consulting Fee; Self; OPKO. **Y. Hoshino:** Employee; Self; Pfizer, Inc. **A. Okayama:** Employee; Self; Pfizer, Inc. **D. Shima:** Employee; Self; Pfizer, Inc. **R. Gomez:** Employee; Self; Pfizer, Inc.. Stock Owner; Self; Pfizer, Inc. **A. Pastrak:** Employee; Self; OPKO. Stock Owner; Self; OPKO. **O. Castellanos:** Employee; Self; OPKO.

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