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Eight-Point Reliable Change on Symbol Digit Modalities Test With Ozanimod: Findings From the Phase 3 SUNBEAM and DAYBREAK Extension Trials

John Deluca *¹, Jeffrey Cohen ², Bruce Cree ³, Giancarlo Comi ⁴, Ludwig Kappos ⁵, Chun-Yen Cheng ⁶, James Sheffield ⁶, Jon Riolo ⁶, Andrew Thorpe ⁶, Diego Silva ⁶, Ralph Benedict ⁷,

¹ Kessler Foundation, West Orange, New Jersey, and Departments of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, and Neurology, Rutgers - New Jersey Medical School, Newark, United States, ² Mellen Center for MS Treatment and Research, Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, United States, ³ Weill Institute for Neurosciences, University of California San Francisco, San Francisco, United States, ⁴ Vita-Salute San Raffaele University, and Casa di Cura Igea, Milan, Italy, ⁵ Research Center for Clinical Neuroimmunology and Neuroscience Basel (RC2NB), Departments of Head, Spine and Neuromedicine, Clinical Research, Biomedicine, and Biomedical Engineering, University Hospital and University of Basel, Basel, Switzerland, ⁶ Bristol Myers Squibb Company, Princeton, United States, ⁷ Jacobs MS Center, Department of Neurology, Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, University at Buffalo, State University of New York, Buffalo, United States

Introduction:

In the SUNBEAM trial (NCT02294058), ozanimod (OZA) treatment improved cognitive processing speed (CPS) vs interferon β -1a (IFN) as measured by clinically meaningful (≥ 4 point) improvement or worsening on the Symbol Digit Modalities Test (SDMT). Recently it has been suggested that 8-point SDMT change better represents a statistically reliable threshold for identifying individual-level changes.

Objectives/Aims:

To evaluate the long-term effects of OZA on CPS in patients with relapsing multiple sclerosis (RMS) using an SDMT change of 8 points.

Methods:

The double-blind, double-dummy, SUNBEAM trial randomised adults (18–55 years) with RMS to once-daily oral OZA 0.92 or 0.46mg or intramuscular IFN 30 μ g/wk. SUNBEAM continued until the last participant was treated for 12 months (M), with completers eligible for an open-label extension (OLE) trial (DAYBREAK; NCT02576717) of OZA 0.92mg. This analysis reports the percentage of participants with reliable (≥ 8 point) SDMT improvement or worsening compared with SUNBEAM baseline at SUNBEAM M12, and at OLE M12, M36, and M60 in those initially randomised to OZA 0.92 mg or IFN. *P*-values are nominal.

Results:

SUNBEAM participants (n=397, OZA 0.92mg; n=395, IFN) who entered the OLE were analysed. Mean (SE) baseline SDMT scores were 48.0 (0.69) and 47.4 (0.68), respectively. At SUNBEAM M12, 16.1% (64/397) and 9.1% (36/395) of participants randomised to OZA 0.92mg and IFN, respectively, had ≥ 8 -point SDMT improvement (*P*=0.005), and 11.6% (46/397) and 11.6% (46/395) worsened ≥ 8 points (*P*=0.970). At OLE M12, ≥ 8 -point improvement was seen in 21.2% (84/396) of those who received continuous OZA and 17.0% (66/388) of those originally assigned to IFN (*P*=0.219); 11.6% (46/396) and 13.1% (51/388) worsened ≥ 8 points (*P*=0.580), respectively. At OLE M36, 22.5% (81/360) and 18.1% (62/342) improved ≥ 8 points (*P*=0.291) and 13.6% (49/360) and 14.0% (48/342) worsened ≥ 8 points (*P*=0.674). At OLE M60, 24.5% (79/323) and 19.7% (60/304) improved ≥ 8 points (*P*=0.320); 14.6% (47/323) and 15.8% (48/304) worsened ≥ 8 points (*P*=0.885).

Conclusion:

Compared with participants treated with IFN, participants in the OZA group were significantly more likely to achieve 8-point improvement on SDMT at M12 in SUNBEAM. When IFN participants switched to OZA in the OLE, the statistical group differences were no longer apparent.** At the end of the OLE trial, after 5–7 years of follow-up, the proportion of participants with 8-point improvement in the continuously OZA-treated group remained numerically higher.

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