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A fruquintinib expanded access program (EAP) to provide treatment for patients with metastatic colorectal cancer (mCRC)

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Background

Globally, colorectal cancer is the 3rd most diagnosed cancer and the 2nd leading cause of cancer death; 22% of patients (pts) are diagnosed with metastatic disease and up to 50% diagnosed at stages 1–3 progress to stage 4. Standard of care (SoC) for mCRC includes chemotherapy, trifluridine/tipiracil (FTD-TPI) and regorafenib; however, there is an unmet need for new, effective treatments for refractory mCRC. Fruquintinib (fruq), a highly selective oral inhibitor of all 3 VEGFRs, is approved, including in the US/EU, for pre-treated mCRC. We report data from an EAP (NCT06195514) initiated in 2023 outside of China, Hong Kong, and Macau to provide fruq to pts with refractory mCRC who exhausted SoC therapies and could not enter a clinical trial.

Methods

Adult pts who had progressed on, or were intolerant to, fluoropyrimidine-, oxaliplatin-, and irinotecan-based chemotherapy and VEGF/EGFR inhibitors, as indicated, were enrolled in 26 countries. Pts had received FTD-TPI and regorafenib unless intolerant or not locally available. Baseline (BL) characteristics were collected via pt access forms; data were summarized via descriptive statistics. Fruq was initially dosed at 5 mg on days 1–21 in 28-day cycles. Treatment duration was estimated from orders (1 order = 2-month supply).

Results

From Nov 2023–Apr 2025, 1069 pts were enrolled and received a 2-month supply of fruq (BL characteristics in the table). Overall, 19.1% and 40.3% of pts did not receive prior FTD-TPI and regorafenib, respectively; common reasons for this included lack of availability or medical justification. Initial fruq dose was 5 mg in 97% of pts. 43.8% of pts received ≥1 resupply; 5.5% had ≥4 total orders (8-month supply). Of pts who received ≥1 resupply, 21.6% had a dose reduction.Table: 794P

Baseline characteristics of patients treated via the EAP

Characteristic	Enrolled patientsN=1069
Age, median (range)	65 (23–90)
Male, n (%)	580 (54.3)
Region, n (%)	
Europe (excluding Italy)	786 (73.5)
Australia	116 (10.9)
Asia	97 (9.1)
North America (excluding United States)	60 (5.6)
South America	10 (0.9)
Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group performance status, n (%)	
0	395 (37.0)
1	629 (58.8)

Characteristic	Enrolled patientsN=1069
2	45 (4.2)
Previous treatments, n (%)	
Fluoropyrimidines	935 (87.5)
Oxaliplatin	947 (88.6)
Irinotecan	861 (80.5)
VEGF inhibitor	839 (78.5)
EGFR inhibitor	353 (33.0)
FTD-TPI	864 (80.8)
Regorafenib	638 (59.7)
Both FTD-TPI and regorafenib	576 (53.9)
Either FTD-TPI or regorafenib	926 (86.6)

Conclusions

Pts in the EAP had exhausted SoC therapies. The low dose reduction rate of fruq may reflect its tolerable real-world safety profile. The demand as shown through resupplies highlights the unmet need for pts with later-line mCRC.

Clinical trial identification

NCT06195514.

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Legal entity responsible for the study

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Disclosure

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