Effect of migalastat on cardiac involvement in Fabry disease: preliminary results from MAIORA study


1IRCCS Policlinico San Donato, San Donato Milanese, Italy; 2IRCCS Policlinico San Donato, University Cardiology Department, San Donato Milanese, Italy; 3San Donato Hospital of Arezzo, Department of Cardiology, Arezzo, Italy; 4San Gerardo Hospital, Nephrology and Dialysis Unit, Monza, Italy; 5Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Neurologico Carlo Besta, Cerebrovascular Unit, Milan, Italy; 6Spedali Civili Hospital, Azienda Socio Sanitaria Territoriale degli Spedali Civili di Brescia, Nephrology Unit, Brescia, Italy; 7Polyclinic Casilino of Rome, Department of Cardiology, Rome, Italy; 8Second University of Naples, Department of Cardiology, Naples, Italy; 9Infermi Hospital of Rimini, Nephrology and Dialysis Department, Rimini, Italy; 10Foundation Hospital Maggiore Policlinico IRCCS, UOC General Medicine, Milan, Italy; 11Careggi University Hospital, Cardiomyopathy Unit, Florence, Italy; 12IRCCS Policlinico San Donato, Scientific Directorate, San Donato Milanese, Italy; 13University of Milan, Department of Biomedical Sciences for Health, Milan, Italy; 14IRCCS, Policlinico San Donato, Multimodality Cardiac Imaging Unit, San Donato Milanese, Italy

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Background: Fabry Disease (FD) is a rare X-linked lysosomal storage disorder. Since 2016, pharmacological chaperone Migalastat has been approved for treatment of FD patients with amenable mutations to stabilize defective forms of the enzyme α-galactosidase A. A small but significant reduction in left ventricular (LV) mass after 18 months of Migalastat treatment has been previously reported by echocardiography. However, an integrated assessment of the effect of Migalastat on cardiac involvement, combining LV morphology and tissue composition by CMR with exercise capacity by cardiopulmonary test, is lacking.

Purpose: To determine the effects of 18 month treatment with Migalastat on LV mass, native T1 value and functional capacity in naïve patients with genetically confirmed FD cardiomyopathy.

Methods: Sixteen treatment naïve FD patients (4 females, mean age 46.4±16.2) with amenable mutations and signs of cardiac involvement underwent CMR with T1 mapping and cardio-pulmonary testing before and after 18 months of migalastat therapy as a part of MAIORA Study. Cardiac involvement was defined as presence of reduced native T1 values at CMR (a surrogate of myocardial glycosphingolipid storage) and/or LV hypertrophy (LVH). Nine patients (56%, 2 females, mean age 56.2±13.1 years) had LVH at baseline.

Results: Migalastat treatment was well tolerated in all patients, with no serious adverse event. No change in LV mass was detected at 18 months compared to baseline (95.2 (66.0–184.0) vs 103.0 (71.0–182.0) g/m2; p=0.5516). The same result was found after stratifying patients according to presence/absence of Late Gadolinium Enhancement (LGE) (LGE+ n=8, 2 females, mean age 56.2±13.1 years). There was a trend towards an increased native septal T1 value (870.0 (848–882) vs 860.0 (833.0–875.0) ms at baseline; p 0.056) with unchanged extracellular volume (ECV) (0.26 (0.23–0.028) vs 0.26 (0.22–0.29) at baseline; p 0.276) in the overall cohort. An improvement in functional capacity with a trend towards an increase in percent-predicted peak VO2 (72.0 (61.25–80.75) vs 67.0 (45.2–79.2) ml/kg/min at baseline; p 0.056) and a significant increase in VO2 at anaerobic threshold (14.8 (12.6–20.0) vs 13.10 (6.8–18.6) ml/kg/min at baseline; p 0.004) was reported in the total population.

Conclusion: In treatment naïve FD patients with amenable mutations and signs of early or overt cardiac involvement, 18-month treatment with Migalastat stabilized LV mass both in patients with and without LGE and was associated with an improvement in exercise tolerance. The trend towards an increase in T1 value associated with unchanged ECV suggests partial clearance of cardiomyocyte glycosphingolipid storage. These real-world data are consistent with a beneficial impact of migalastat on the progression of cardiac involvement in FD.