

Targeting The Stress-Induced Cytoprotective Chaperone, Clusterin, to Overcome Treatment Resistance in Advanced Prostate Cancer



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Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

Patent - OGX-011 Founder - OncoGenex Technologies Consultant - CSO, OncoGenex Technologies

Castration Resistance and Prostate Cancer

- 1. Androgen receptor (AR) related
 - Overamplification (hypersensitive)
 - Mutations (promiscuous)
 - cross-talk TK, PKA, AKT, STAT3 (phosphorylation, co-regulators)
- 2. Adaptation
 - Up-regulation of survival genes (Bcl-2, clusterin, Hsp27, YB-1)
 - Increased alternative GF pathways (her2/neu; IGF-1/IGFBP2&5; IL-6/STAT3)



High-Throughput Bioprofiling of Hormone-Treated Prostate Cancers to Identify Stress-Induced Targets



PSA (ng/mL)

Changes in Gene Expression After Castration and During AI Progression



Therapeutic Stress Increases Clusterin Levels in CaP Tumor Models and Human Tissues

Transcriptionally activated by

- Hormone withdrawal (a.k.a. TRPM-2)
- Chemotherapies
- Radiotherapy
- Targeted therapies (Herceptin, Velcade, OGX-225, etc)

Androgen Ablation in Shionogi Tumors

Days Post-Castration 0 3 7 21 Clusterin

GAPDH



Cancer Research 60; 170, 2000

Docetaxel Rx in PC-3

Docetaxel Rx (nM) 0 10 25 50 100 500

Clusterin



Vinculin



TMA profiling for Target Validation



Post-Hormone-Treated TMA

HRPC



6 month NHT+Tax

SCLU-2: Stress-induced Cytoprotective Chaperone

- 1. Transcriptionally activated by HSF-1, repressed by p53
 - a. Increased by diverse array of therapeutic triggers (HT, CT, RT, velcade, herceptin)
 - b. Increased by cell survival factors like androgen, IGF-1
- 2. Intrinsically disordered and flexible protein
- 3. Potent inhibitors of aggregation of client proteins under stress conditions
- 4. Often associated with neurodegenerative diseases and cancer
- 5. Interact with and inhibit activated Bax; enhances NF-kB transcriptional activity





Clusterin: Cytoprotective Mechanisms

LETTERS

cell biology

Clusterin inhibits apoptosis by interacting with activated Bax

Honglai Zhang¹, Jin Koo Kim¹, Chris A. Edwards², Zhaohui Xu³, Russell Taichman⁴ and Cun-Yu Wang^{1,5}





sCLU-2 is a COMMD1 and ubiquitin binding partner in cancer cells

1. sClu-2 and COMMD1 co-localize in cytoplasm with a juxtanuclear aggregation



2. sCLU-2 Levels Negatively Correlate with COMMD1 & Ik-B Levels

Clu transient transfection 0 50 100 250 500 1000 (ng) Clusterin Clusterin Clusterin COMMD1 COMMD1

Clu Knockdown increases Levels of COMMD1 & total Ικ-Βα



Zoubeidi et al, 2007

sCLU-2 Enhances TNF-a induced NF-kB Nuclear Translocation and Transcriptional Activity





2. sClu-2 Knockdown $\downarrow \downarrow$ NF-kB Activity





Zoubeidi et al, 2007

Clusterin Expression Levels Positively Correlate with NF-κB - regulated Genes



sClu-2 Enhances COMMD1 and I-κBα Degradation by the Proteasome



Functional Significance of sCLU-2 Over-expression in Prostate Cancer

• sCLU overexpression is antiapoptotic: confers broad spectrum treatment resistance including hormone, radiation, and chemo-therapy



Cancer Research 60;170, 2000; Cancer Research 60;2547, 2000; Clin Can Res 8:3276-84, 2002

Inhibition of Clusterin Expression Enhances Activity of Chemotherapy in Prostate Cancer Cells

CLU ASO (OGX-011) Suppress Clu Levels in PC-3 Cells







OGX-011

OGX-011 Chemosensitizes PC-3 Cells to Docetaxel



Docetaxel concentration (nM)

OGX-011 Enhances Taxol Activity in PC3 Tumours in vivo



Clin Cancer Res 6:1655, 2000

CLU ASO (OGX-011) Suppresses sCLU Levels and Chemosensitizes MCF-7 Xenografts to Paclitaxel in vivo

Clusterin is expressed in 65% of Primary Breast Cancers









So et al, Mol Cancer Ther, 2005

From Bench to Bedside: Translational Research in Action



sCLU as a Therapeutic Target: Preclinical Studies For Proof of Principle

Of Mice and Men

Clusterin: •Stress-induced survival response •confers resistance •knockdown enhances chemo & HT in many tumor models





Antisense Clusterin: OGX-011 Product Description

- Licensed from UBC for development by OncoGenex in collaboration with Isis
 - 2nd generation antisense molecule
 - 4-13-4 21-mer MOE gapmer oligonucleotide
- Advantages of 2'MOE analogues
 - Increased potency and resistance to degradation
 - Facilitates more convenient dosing regimen
 - once-weekly infusion
 - J Pharmacol Exp Ther. 298(3):934-40, 2001





NCIC IND.153: Phase I Pre-Surgery pk/pd Trial of OGX-011 - Tissue Pk data

•25 men with localized CaP treated with 5 weeks of NHT + escalating doses of OGX-011



IND.153: Target Regulation Data: Dose-dependent suppression of clusterin in Regional Lymph Nodes



Chi et al, JNCI. 97:1287-96, 2005

Clinical Proof-of-Concept: Dose-dependent Decreases in Clusterin Levels in RP Specimens using LCM and Real-Time PCR



Chi et al, J Nat.Canc.Inst. 97:1287-96, 2005

Clinical Trial Development with Clusterin ASO (OGX-011)



Phase 2 Study in 1st Line NSCLC: Treatment Schema

•81 pts with stage IIIB/IV NSCLC treated with gem/cis plus OGX-011

		Results as of May 24, 2007	
Median Follow-up		12.7 months	
Number of Deaths		37/81 (46%)	
Median Progression-Free Survival (range)		4.6 months (0.06-15.6+)	
Estimated Median Survival		14.1 months	
Number of Patients Surviving \geq 1 year		25/46 = 54% *	
Number of Patients Surviving ≥ 18 months		8/22 = 36%	
	Historical Controls*	Phase 1 and 2 (n=81)	
Median Survival	8.0 – 10.8 months	14.1 Months (estimated)	

•Data from five randomized clinical trials using gemcitabine plus platinum-based chemo in 1st line NSCLC (1260 patients)

Laskins et al, ASCO, 2007

NCIC IND.165: Taxotere +/- OGX-011 in First-Line mHRPC

Randomized Open label, multicentre trial comparing docetaxel
+/- OGX-011 in men with mHRPC (PI - K. Chi).

PSA Response Rates

BEST RESPONSE CRITERIA	Arm A (OGX-011 + Docetaxel) N=40	Arm B (Docetaxel) N=41	% Change in favor of OGX- 011
≥ 50% PSA Decline at 12 weeks	45%	34%	32%
PSA Response (50% decline - confirmed)	50%	51%	NA
≥ 80% PSA Decline	38%	22%	73%
PSA Progression (PSAWG Criteria)	0%	10%	100%
PSA Non-Progression/Non- Response	45%	32%	41%
Inevaluable	3%	2%	NA

NCIC IND.165: Taxotere +/- OGX-011 in First-Line mHRPC

RECIST CRITERIA	Arm A (OGX-011 + Docetaxel) n=26	Arm B (Docetaxel) n=23	% Change in favor of OGX-011
Disease Control (CR+PR+SD)	92%	74%	24%
Complete Response	0%	0%	N/A
Partial Response	19%	22%	-14%
Stable Disease	73% 9.7 months	52% 7.6 months	40% 28%
Progressive Disease	4%	22%	82%
Inevaluable	4%	4%	N/A
Median PFS	7.3 months	5.9 months	24%

NCIC IND.165: Taxotere +/- OGX-011 in First-Line mHRPC





Median for Arm A (OGX-011 + Docetaxel): 7.26 months (95%CI 5.22-9.33) Median for Arm B (Docetaxel): 5.85 months (95% CI 3.61-10.74)

Chi et al, ASCO, 2007

NCIC IND.165: Taxotere +/- OGX-011 in First-Line mHRPC

Indicators of Anti-cancer Activity

- Consistent trend in favor of OGX-011/docetaxel arm:
 - More patients with a 50% decline in PSA within the first 12 weeks
 - More pts (38% vs 22%) with >80% decline in PSA; less pts (0 vs 10%) with primary PSA progression as best response
 - Longer time on treatment and a greater median # of treatment cycles.
 - Higher frequency and longer duration of stable measurable disease.
 - Lower frequency of progressive disease as "best response".
 - Longer time to progression

OGX-011 in docetaxel-refractory HRPC:

CLU knockdown chemosensitizes taxane-resistant PC3-dR cells to docetaxel



docetaxel +/- OGX-011





Phase II Feasibility Trial of OGX-011 in 2nd Line Therapy in HRPC:



OGX-011 in 2nd Line Therapy in HRPC:

Chemosensitizes taxane-resistant patients to docetaxel





Time (2 Weeks per mark)

Summary: Clusterin as a Therapeutic Target in HRPC

sCLU is a stress-activated cytoprotective chaperone that is highly expressed in HRPC

Over-expression of sCLU-2 confers broad spectrum treatment resistance

- Inhibits protein aggregation, facilitates proteasome degration of ubiquitinated proteins
- Interacts and and inhibits activated Bax, preventing cytochrome C release
- Increases NF-kB transcriptional activity

CLU knockdown using OGX-011

- Enhances treatment-induced apoptosis in vitro and in vivo
- Pre-clinical proof-of-principle in prostate, breast, lung, urothelial, melanoma, renal cell
- OGX-011, a 2nd generation ASO potently suppresses target CLU levels >90% in human CaP tissues
 - Anti-cancer activity observed in multi-centre Phase II trials in breast, HRPC, lung
 - Phase III registration trial in second-line HRPC set to begin in 2008

Changes in Gene Expression After Castration and During AI Progression



Thanks to....



THE PROSTATE CENTRE at vancouver general hospital

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OGX-011: Safety Profile in >270 Patients

- Well tolerated in all Phase 1 and Phase 2 studies to date
- Safety profile of OGX-011 in combination with docetaxel vs docetaxel alone
 - Increase in Grade 1 or 2 AE's events (fever, rigors/chills and sweating during the loading-dose week and sensory neuropathy during therapy)
 - lymphopenia was more prevalent in the OGX-011 + docetaxel arm (no clinical sequelae)
 - No increase in SAEs in the OGX-011 + docetaxel arm
- OGX-011 in combination with gemcitabine/platinum-based or mitoxantrone regimens
 - Safety profile similar to that expected for regimen (no increase in expected rate of Grade 3 or higher AEs)

OGX-011 Mechanism of Action



Clusterin: Isoforms and Splice Variants



Cochrane et al, JBC, 2006