

Abstract # 8550

## Phase III, randomized, double-blind study of elesclomol and paclitaxel versus paclitaxel alone in stage IV metastatic melanoma (MM): 1-year OS update.

V. M. Vukovic, A. Hauschild, A. M. Eggermont, S. O'Day; Synta Pharmaceuticals Corporation, Lexington, MA; University of Kiel, Kiel, Germany; Erasmus University Medical Center, Rotterdam, Netherlands; The Angeles Clinic and Research Institute, Los Angeles, CA

**Background:** Elesclomol is an investigational first-in-class oxidative stress inducer that increases reactive oxygen species in cancer cells leading to mitochondria-induced apoptosis.

**Methods:** Patients (pts) with stage IV MM, no prior chemotherapy, LDH  $\leq$  2x ULN were randomized (1:1) to either 213 mg/m<sup>2</sup> elesclomol in combination with 80 mg/m<sup>2</sup> paclitaxel (ELPAC) or 80 mg/m<sup>2</sup> paclitaxel alone (P). Pts were stratified by prior noncytotoxic treatment, M1 grade, and LDH and received once weekly ELPAC or P for 3 weeks followed by a 1 week's rest until disease progression. PFS was the primary endpoint, and the study was powered for OS analysis.

**Results:** 651 pts were enrolled between September 2007 and February 2009. As previously reported, despite a trend in improvement of PFS, ELPAC failed to demonstrate a statistically significant improvement compared to P (HR= 0.88; p value=0.1875). Six-month OS data is presented below. PFS and OS outcome appears to correlate with LDH level. 12-month OS data will be presented at time of meeting.

**Conclusions:** Baseline LDH is emerging as an important predictor of both PFS and OS outcome for treatment with ELPAC. Patients with normal baseline LDH: an improvement in PFS compared to P; no difference in OS observed to date. Patients with elevated baseline LDH: no PFS improvement and a decrease in median survival time compared to P.

	PFS		Six-month OS	
	ELPAC	p	ELPAC	p
ITT n=651				
Median (months)	3.4	1.9	10.6	11.3

	PFS		Six-month OS	
	ELPAC	p	ELPAC	p
<b>HR (95% CI)</b>	0.88 (0.73-1.06)		1.17 (0.93-1.48) 55% censored	
<b>Normal LDH (&lt;1 x ULN) n=443</b>				
<b>Median (months)</b>	3.6	2.1	13.6	13.9
<b>HR (95% CI)</b>	0.76 (0.60-0.97)		0.99 (0.72-1.36) 65% censored	
<b>Elevated LDH (≥1 x ULN) n=208</b>				
<b>Median (months)</b>	1.8	1.9	5.9	7.9
<b>HR (95% CI)</b>	1.10 (0.81-1.50)		1.49 (1.05-2.11) 34% censored	