

Design of a first-in-human multicenter open-label study of ZW171, a mesothelin x CD3 targeting bispecific T-cell engager, in participants with advanced solid tumors: ZWI-ZW171-101.

Melissa Lynne Johnson, John Turner Hamm, Fiona Thistlethwaite, Myung-Ju Ahn, Erin L. Schenk, Jason J. Luke, Diana L. Hanna, Anna Rachel Minchom, Byoung Chul Cho, Dong-Wan Kim, Rebecca Kristeleit, Dmitriy Zamarin, Catherine Davidson, Joseph Woolery, Pranshul Chauhan, Martin Wermke; Sarah Cannon Research Institute, Nashville, TN; Norton Cancer Institute, Louisville, KY; The Christie NHS Foundation Trust and University of Manchester, Manchester, United Kingdom; Division of Hematology-Oncology, Department of Medicine, Samsung Medical Center, Sungkyunkwan University School of Medicine, Seoul, South Korea; University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, Aurora, CO; UPMC Hillman Cancer Center, Pittsburgh, PA; Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA; Royal Marsden Hospital, Sutton, United Kingdom; Severance Hospital, Yonsei University Health System, Seoul, South Korea; Department of Internal Medicine, Seoul National University Hospital, Seoul, South Korea; Department of Oncology, Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust, London, United Kingdom; Division of Hematology and Medical Oncology, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York, NY; Northern Ireland Cancer Centre, Belfast Health and Social Care Trust, Belfast, Ireland; Zymeworks Inc., Vancouver, BC, Canada; Technical University Dresden, Medical Faculty, NCT/UCC Early Clinical Trial Unit, Dresden, Germany

Background: Mesothelin (MSLN) is a membrane glycoprotein overexpressed in several solid tumors, making it a promising target for cancer treatments, including T cell engagers (TCEs). ZW171 is a humanized trivalent bispecific TCE antibody that targets a threshold level of MSLN expression with 2 binding sites and CD3ε receptor on T cells with 1 binding site. Preclinical studies of ZW171 demonstrated favorable pharmacology, pharmacokinetics (PK), and toxicology, showing it preferentially kills MSLN-overexpressing cells, activates T cells without significant toxicity, inhibits tumor growth, and is well tolerated in cynomolgus monkeys, suggesting its potential for treating MSLN-expressing tumors¹ while sparing healthy tissues with low levels of expression. This first-in-human, phase 1, ongoing study (ZWI-ZW171-101) evaluates safety, tolerability, PK, and anti-tumor activity of ZW171 in participants with advanced solid tumors. **Methods:** This 2-part study enrolls eligible adult participants with unresectable MSLN-expressing ovarian cancer (OC), non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC), or other MSLN-expressing cancers, with measurable disease per RECIST v1.1, ECOG PS score of 0 to 1, adequate organ function, and a minimum life expectancy of 12 weeks. Participants with additional progressing malignancies, recent transplants, clinically significant ongoing toxicity, uncontrolled renal, pancreatic or liver disease, or active autoimmune diseases requiring high-dose corticosteroids or immunosuppressive drugs are excluded. Part 1 evaluates the safety and tolerability of ZW171 and Part 2 evaluates the anti-tumor activity while continuing to evaluate safety and tolerability. Part 1 is dose escalation to identify maximum tolerated dose (using modified toxicity probability interval [mTPI-2] design, n=40) among participants with OC or NSCLC receiving subcutaneous ZW171 monotherapy on days 1, 8, and 15 of 3-week (21-day) cycles. Approximately 6 dose levels will be explored based on safety and tolerability. Step-up dosing will be used for cycle 1. Dose level 1, determined by QSP-based MABEL approach², is administered at 4.2 µg (day 1), 12.6 µg (day 8), and 38.0 µg (day 15). Part 2 is dose expansion in participants with OC, NSCLC, and other MSLN-expressing cancers (MSLN expression evaluated retrospectively). Primary objectives are to evaluate safety and tolerability of ZW171 and determine the maximum tolerated dose. Key secondary objectives are to assess PK, anti-drug antibodies, and anti-tumor activity. This is a global study with sites in North America, Europe, and Asia; and actively enrolling participants into Part 1. References: 1. Afacan N, et al. Presented at AACR Annual Meeting 2023; abstract 2942. 2. Afacan N, et al. Presented at SITC Annual Meeting 2024; abstract 1062. Clinical trial information: NCT06523803. Research Sponsor: Zymeworks BC Inc.