LITHE: Tocilizumab Inhibits Radiographic Progression and Improves Physical Function in Patients with Rheumatoid Arthritis at 5 Years with Maintenance of Clinical Efficacy over Time

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ABSTRACT

The objective of this analysis was to evaluate the radiographic progression and signs/symptoms of rheumatoid arthritis (RA) in patients receiving tocilizumab (TCZ) in the LITHE study.

INTRODUCTION

The LITHE study was a phase 3, randomised, placebo-controlled, multicentre study with a double-blind phase in year 1, an open-label phase from weeks 12-104, and an optional open-label extension of up to 3 years.

METHODS

Patients with RA (disease activity score of 28 joints (DAS28 ESR) <2.6, and ≥1 joint with RA erosion, as determined by central reading at baseline) who entered the open-label extension were included in this analysis.

RESULTS

Signs and symptoms included in the analysis; linear extrapolation was used to impute any additional missing time points.

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

Radiographs were analysed by Genant-modified Total Sharp Score (GmTSS) at baseline (BL) and at weeks 52, 104, 152, 208, 244, 260. The largest difference observed from baseline to year 1 was at week 24, with 47.6% and 36.2% greater inhibition of radiographic changes in patients originally assigned to TCZ + MTX (n = 545) and Placebo + MTX (n = 258), respectively, compared to placebo + MTX.

REFERENCES


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