# Radiosurgery followed by Tumor Treating Fields for brain metastases (1–10) from NSCLC in the phase 3 METIS trial

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#### Background

- Tumor Treating Fields (TTFields) are a non-invasive, locoregional, antimitotic treatment modality<sup>1</sup> that induces DNA damage and replication stress in cancer cells.<sup>2</sup> TTFields utilize low-intensity alternating electric fields delivered via a portable, home-use device (Optune<sup>7</sup>).
- TTFields (200 kHz) are FDA approved for treating glioblastoma and are recommended in NCCN guidelines as a category 1 adjuvant therapy for patients with newly diagnosed disease.<sup>3</sup>
- TTFields have shown activity in multiple in vitro and in vivo lung cancer models<sup>4,5</sup> (Figure 1) and in a phase 1/2 clinical trial in non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC).<sup>6</sup>
- The FDA recently approved TTFields (150 kHz) plus chemotherapy for first-line unresectable malignant pleural mesothelioma.



Figure 1. Effect of TTFields on lung cancer cell lines. (A) TTFields treatmentfrequency effects on cell line viability (arrow indicates optimal frequency of 150 kHz). (B) TTFields (150 kHz) treatment effects on clonogenic potential in different cell lines. Pe-0.05, \*\*P<0.01, and \*\*\*P<0.001 s control group. H1299, A549, HCC827 (human adenocarcinoma); HTB-182 (human squamous cell carcinoma); LLC1 (murine Lewis lung carcinoma); KN205 (murine squamous cell carcinoma).</p>

## **Objectives**

 Secondary brain metastases are a serious complication of NSCLC. The phase 3 METIS study (NCT02831959) is designed to test the efficacy, safety, and neurocognitive outcomes of TTFields in patients with

1-10 brain metastases secondary to NSCLC.

• TTFields (150 kHz) are delivered via 2 pairs of transducer arrays placed on the scalp (Figure 2).



Figure 2: TTFields distribution in the brain. Computer model showing (A) transducer array layout on scalp, and (B) electric field distribution in the brain using segmentation of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and finite element method.<sup>7</sup>

## The METIS trial (NCT02831959)

- Patients (N=270) with 1-10 brain metastases secondary to NSCLC will be randomized 1:1 to stereotactic radiosurgery (SRS) followed by either TTFields or supportive care alone (Figure 3).
- · Patients will be followed bimonthly until their second intracranial progression.
- Patients in the control arm may cross over to receive TTFields at the time of second intracranial progression.
- · The trial is enrolling patients in the US, Canada, and the EU.



### Figure 3. Design of the phase 3 METIS study.

## Key eligibility criteria

- Inclusion: New diagnosis of 1 inoperable or 2–10 supratentorial and/or infratentorial brain metastases from confirmed NSCLC, amenable to SRS; Karnofsky Performance Status ≥70; optimal therapy for the extracranial disease; prior surgical resection of metastases is allowed.
- Exclusion: A single resectable lesion or recurrent brain metastases; prior whole brain radiation therapy; mutations in ALK, EGFR, ROS-1 or B-RAF.

## Treatment

 Continuous TTFields (150 kHz) will be applied to the brain using the portable NovoTTF-100M device (Figure 4) within 7 days of SRS. Patients will receive the best standard of care for their systemic disease.

Poster: 30



Figure 4. TFields (150 kHz) delivery. (A) The NovOTF-100M System is a portable, battery-operated, home-use medical device. (B) Positioning of the 4 transducer arrays on the scalp. (C) Model wearing transducer arrays on the scalp. The model presented is an actor and not a patient.

#### Endpoints

- Primary: Time to first intracranial progression.
- Secondary: Overall survival; time to neurocognitive failure using Hopkins Verbal Learning Test, Controlled Oral Word Association Test, and Trail Making Test (if available in patient's language); radiological response rate (Response Assessment in Neuro-Oncology Brain Metastases and Response Evaluation Criteria In Solid Tumors version 1.1); time to first and second intracranial progression evaluated in 2 cohorts (1–4 and 5–10 brain metastases); bimonthly intracranial progression rate from 2–12 months; time to second intracranial and distant progression; neurocognitive failurefree survival; cognitive decline rate; quality of life; and adverse events (severity and frequency).

#### Statistical considerations

- A sample size of 270 patients is estimated to detect an increase in time to intracranial progression from 7.7 to 13.4 months (hazard ratio 0.57) with 80% power using a 2-sided alpha level of 0.05. Sample size was calculated using a logrank test with the competing risk taken as loss to follow-up.
- Patients will be censored at time of death if it occurs prior to intracranial progression or neurological death.

#### **DMC recommendation**

- On September 26<sup>th</sup> 2019, an independent Data Monitoring Committee (DMC) reviewed METIS trial data collected to that point.
- The DMC concluded that no unexpected safety issues have emerged, and recommended study continuation.

References: 1. Kirson ED, et al. Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A 2007;104(24):10152–10157. 2. Karanam NK, et al. Transl Res 2019;DOI: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.trsl.2019.10.003. 3. NCCN. Central Nervous System Cancers (v3.2019). https://www.nccn.org. Accessed July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020. 4. Giladi M, et al. Semin Oncol 2014;41[suppl 6]:S35–S41. 5. Karanam NK, et al. Cell Death Dis 2017;8(3):e2711. 6. Pless M, et al. Lung Cancer 2013;81]:3445–450. 7. Wenger C, et al. Phys Med Biol 2015;60(18):7339–7357.

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