

Tolerability and Efficacy of Adjunctive Brivaracetam in Japanese and Chinese Patients With Focal Seizures: Phase 3, Open-Label Extension Trial

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Background

- Brivaracetam (BRV) is an antiseizure medication (ASM) approved for the treatment of focal seizures in patients ≥ 1 month of age in the United States,¹ as adjunctive therapy of focal seizures in patients ≥ 2 years of age in the European Union,² and as monotherapy and adjunctive therapy for the treatment of focal seizures with or without secondary generalization in adult patients in Japan.^{3,4}
- It is important that the efficacy, tolerability, and safety of ASMs are maintained over the long term, given that chronic treatment is required by many patients with epilepsy.

Objective

- To evaluate the long-term safety, tolerability, and maintenance of efficacy of adjunctive BRV in Japanese and Chinese patients ≥ 16 years of age with focal seizures.

Methods

TRIAL DESIGN

- EP0085 (ClinicalTrials.gov: NCT03250377) was an open-label, long-term follow-up trial of adjunctive BRV 50-200 mg/day in Japanese and Chinese patients ≥ 16 years of age with focal seizures, conducted from August 2017 to December 2024.
- Interim results from this trial have been published⁵; here we present the final results.
- The trial population included patients who rolled over from two previous BRV trials (EP0083 [NCT0383665]⁶ and NO1379 [NCT01339559]⁷) and directly enrolled patients.
- For patients who rolled over into EP0085, baseline was the baseline period of the core trial (EP0083 or NO1379/NCT01261325 [the core trial of NO1379]).
- For direct enrollees, the baseline period for seizure outcomes was the 8 weeks before first BRV administration; for all other outcomes, the baseline period was trial days on or after the EP0085 screening visit and before the start of the evaluation period in EP0085.

Rollover patients from NO1379 were started at a dose of up to 200 mg/day BRV.

Directly enrolled patients and rollover patients from EP0083 were started on BRV 100 mg/day (50 mg twice daily), maintained for ≥ 2 weeks unless unable to tolerate this treatment.

The dose of BRV could subsequently be adjusted between 50 mg/day and 200 mg/day, according to seizure control and tolerability; dose decreases were not to exceed 50 mg/day.

Chinese patients were only able to remain in EP0085 for 2 years (patients could continue in the trial until market approval in countries where market approval was requested, and for 2 years in countries where market approval was not requested or obtained, ie, China).

ANALYSES

- The Safety Set (SS) included all enrolled patients who took ≥ 1 dose of BRV in EP0085.
- The Full Analysis Set (FAS) included all patients in the SS with ≥ 1 seizure record on the daily record card during the evaluation period (patients could have recorded 0 seizures).
- The primary safety outcome was the incidence of treatment-emergent adverse events (TEAEs).
- Efficacy outcomes included the median percentage reduction in focal seizure frequency per 28 days from baseline to the evaluation period, 50% responder rate ($\geq 50\%$ reduction in focal seizure frequency per 28 days from baseline), seizure freedom (from focal seizures and all epileptic seizures [focal, generalized, unclassified]) during the evaluation period, and the proportion of patients continuously seizure-free from focal seizures and all seizure types for ≥ 6 and ≥ 12 months during the evaluation period (in those exposed to BRV for ≥ 6 and ≥ 12 months, respectively).
- The proportion of patients not discontinuing BRV due to any reason, due to lack of efficacy, or due to TEAEs over time was estimated using the Kaplan-Meier method.

Results

PATIENT DISPOSITION AND BASELINE CHARACTERISTICS

- 207 patients enrolled, 135 (65.2%) completed the trial, and 72 (34.8%) discontinued; all 207 patients were included in both the SS and FAS.

Patient disposition

	211 screened	Screening failures	Ineligibility	4 (1.9%)
Started trial (SS/FAS)	207			
Japan	132			
China	75			
Discontinued	72 (34.8%)			
Lack of efficacy	23 (11.1%)			
Patient withdrawal	18 (8.7%)			
Adverse event	10 (4.8%)			
Protocol violation	3 (1.4%)			
Lost to follow-up	1 (0.5%)			
Other	17 (8.2%)			
Completed trial	135 (65.2%)			

^an=206; ^bPatients could have had ≥ 1 response. Seizure types are listed per the 2025 classification⁸ with the seizure types per the trial protocol (ILAE 1981)⁹ provided in parentheses; previous ASMs are ASMs taken at any time and discontinued before entry into the previous double-blind trial for rollover patients or before entry into EP0085 for direct enrollees.

ASM, antiseizure medication; TEAE, treatment-emergent adverse event.

Overview

