

## BRIEFING ON RNA TRIALS

*BioPharmAnalyses* is happy to propose you  
the first issue of it « BRIEFING ON RNA TRIALS ».

This new publication provides you with an accurate overview to explore  
the *latest trials* in the *RNA therapeutics* area.

« BRIEFING ON RNA TRIALS » gives you a breakdown of trials

- by phase
- by disease
- by product
- by target
- by company
- by trial location
- by licensing agreement.

The trials presented have been registered and updated  
on [Clinicaltrials.gov](http://Clinicaltrials.gov) from 01/01/2017 to 12/31/2018.

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## RNA therapeutics trials by numbers

### 78 products

(including 25 antisense oligonucleotides, 20 RNAi/siRNA and 17 mRNA)

### 55 targets and 65 diseases

(cancers, cardiovascular and metabolic diseases, infectious diseases, genetic diseases, ophthalmological diseases....)

42 companies and academic insitutions involved in

101 clinical trials in 44 countries

## BREAKDOWN BY PHASE

<b>Phase III trials:</b>	<b>XX</b>
<b>Phase II-III:</b>	<b>XX</b>
<b>Phase II trials:</b>	<b>XX</b>
<b>Phase I-II trials:</b>	<b>XX</b>
<b>Phase I trials:</b>	<b>XX</b>
<b>Observational trials:</b>	<b>XX</b>

# BREAKDOWN BY DISEASE

## **Cancer - Oncology**

Ewing sarcoma  
Head and neck cancer  
Gynecological cancers  
Liver cancer  
Lymphoma  
Melanoma  
Metastatic Castration-Resistant  
Prostate Cancer  
Mycosis fungoides  
Non Small Cell Lung Cancer  
Pancreatic cancer  
Solid tumors  
Triple Negative Breast Cancer

## **Cardiovascular diseases and metabolic diseases**

Dyslipidemias  
Familial partial lipodystrophy  
Heart failure  
Heterozygous Familial  
Hypercholesterolemia (HeFH)  
Homozygous Familial  
Hypercholesterolemia (HoFH)  
Hypertension  
Hypertriglyceridemia  
Non Alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease  
Primary Hyperoxaluria and  
Primary Hyperoxaluria type 1  
Type 2 diabetes mellitus

## **Dermatological diseases**

Hypertrophic scars  
Incisional complications  
Keloid  
Recessive Dystrophic Epidermolysis  
Bullosa (RDEB)

## **Hematological diseases**

Clotting disorders  
 $\beta$ -thalassemia  
Hemophilia A  
Hemophilia B  
Sickle cell disease

## **Hormonal diseases**

Acromegaly

## **Genetic diseases**

Acute hepatic porphyria  
Acute intermittent porphyria (AIP)  
Alpha 1-Antitrypsin Deficiency  
Alport Syndrome  
Cystic Fibrosis  
Familial Chylomicronemia Syndrome  
Ornithine Transcarbamylase  
Deficiency

## **Infectious diseases**

Chikungunya  
Cytomegalovirus  
Hepatitis B  
Influenza  
Rabies infection  
Zika virus

## **Lung diseases**

Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis

## **Neurodegenerative diseases**

Alzheimer's disease  
Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis  
Hereditary transthyretin amyloidosis  
Familial Amyloid Polyneuropathy  
Huntington's disease

## **Neurological diseases**

Chronic migraine

## **Neuromuscular diseases**

Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy  
Spinal muscular atrophy

## **Ophthalmological diseases**

Acute Nonarteritic Anterior Ischemic  
Optic Neuropathy  
Dry Eye Disease  
Leber's Congenital Amaurosis  
Neovascular age-related macular  
degeneration

## **Renal diseases**

Acute kidney injury  
End-stage renal disease  
Renal impairment

## **Transplantation**

Prevention of Delayed Graft Function

## BREAKDOWN BY TARGET

Aminolevulinic acid synthase 1 (ALAS-1)	miR-29
Androgen receptor	miR-92a
Angiopoietin-like protein 3 (ANGPTL3)	miR-155
Angiotensinogen (AGT)	mutant alpha-1 antitrypsin (Z-AAT)
Antithrombin	Neoantigens expressed by the autologous cancer protein
Apolipoprotein C-III	OX40L
BCL11a	OX40L+IL23+IL36gamma
Caspase 2 gene	p53 gene
CD40	p.Cys998X mutation in the CEP290 gene
CEBPA gene	prekallikrein
CFTR	SMN2 pre-mRNA
Connect Tissue Growth Factor (CTGF)	STAT3 pathway
COX-2 mRNA	superoxide dismutase (SOD1)
Cbl-b	Tau protein
(Casitas B-lineage lymphoma-b)	TGF-β1 mRNA
EGFR	Toll-like receptors (TLRs) and retinoic acid-inducible gene I
EnaC (epithelial sodium channel)	TMPRSS6 (Transmembrane protease, serine 6 or matriptase-2)
Ephrin type-A receptor 2 (EphA2)	Transthyretin
Exon 45	TRPV1
Exon 51	Tumor-associated antigens
Exon 53	Tumor-associated antigens NY-ESO-1, tyrosinase, MAGE-A3, and TPTE
Exon 73 from the COL7A1 RNA	Tumor-associated antigens NY-ESO-1, MAGE C2, TPBG (5T4), Survivin, MUC1
Factor XI	VEGF-A
Glycolate oxydase	Viral proteins associated with hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection and replication, including hepatitis B surface antigen
Growth hormone receptor (GHR)	
H10N8 antigen	
Heat shock protein 47 (HSP 47)	
Hepatitis B surface antigen (HbsAg)	
Human lipoprotein A	
Huntingtin mRNA	
KRAS	
Lactate dehydrogenase A gene	
miR-21	

# CANCER - ONCOLOGY

## EWING'S SARCOMA

### **Vigil + Irinotecan and Temozolomide in Ewing's Sarcoma**

ID: NCT03495921 - CL-PTL-130

#### **Gradalis (USA - TX)**

Product: **Vigil (Pbi-shRNA™ EWS/FLI1 Type 1 LPX)**

**Phase: 3**

**Status: Recruiting**

**Start/Planned completion: AUG 2018/JUL 2022**

Estimated Enrollment: 140

Sites: 10 (US)

Updated: November 16, 2018

Contact: [info@gradalisinc.com](mailto:info@gradalisinc.com)

This is a multicenter, 1:1 randomized Phase III study of intradermal autologous Vigil immunotherapy (1.0 x 10<sup>6</sup> cells/injection; minimum of 4 to a maximum of 12 administrations) in combination with irinotecan and temozolomide in subjects with metastatic Ewing's sarcoma Family of Tumors (ESFT) refractory/intolerant or recurrent to 1 prior line of chemotherapy. Participants undergoing a standard surgical procedure (e.g., tumor biopsy or palliative resection) may have tumor tissue harvested for manufacture of the investigational product, Vigil.

Vigil utilizes the patient's own cancer cells to create a fully personalized cancer immunotherapy. Patient's cancer cells are genetically modified. These modifications are achieved through the introduction of a proprietary gene plasmid into the patient's cancer cells. The plasmid carries the vectors of two genetic modifications. The first gene sequence involves the introduction of a bi-functional shRNA targeting the knockdown of furin. One of the functions of the furin enzyme is to convert immunosuppressive TGFβ1 and TGFβ2 into active isoforms. Thus, inhibiting furin production in the patient's cancer cells results in the reduction in the expression of TGFβ1 and TGFβ2 in these cells. The second gene sequence expresses Granulocyte Macrophage Colony Stimulating Factor, or GM-CSF, a potent stimulator of the immune system. It has been demonstrated that GM-CSF enhances surface antigen expression, making the cancer cells more visible to the patient's immune system. GM-CSF also further stimulates the patient's immune system by actively recruiting and maturing antigen-presenting cells, such as dendritic cells.

When the cells are injected into the patient's arm, modified autologous tumor cells are designed to activate the immune system. GM-CSF expression enhances cell surface antigen expression and recruits dendritic cells to the injection site; while the inhibition of TGFβ1 and TGFβ2 production allows cancer cells to now be "visible" to the patient's antigen-presenting cells (APCs).

## HEAD AND NECK CANCER

**Target: EGFR**

### **A Study of BB-401 in Recurrent or Metastatic Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma**

**ID :** [NCT03433027](#)

**Benitec BioPharma (AU)**

**Product: BB-401**

**Phase: 2**

**Status: Active, not recruiting**

**Start/Planned completion: MAR 2018/OCT 2019**

Estimated Enrollment: 16

Sites: 6 (AU, RU)

Updated: November 9, 2018

The purpose of this study is to evaluate the safety, tolerability and efficacy of intratumoral injections with an Epidermal Growth Factor Receptor (EGFR) AntiSense DNA (BB-401) in patients with metastatic/recurrent head and neck squamous cell cancer (HNSCC).

#### **Related Informations/Publications :**

\* *Br J Cancer* . 2018 Dec 26. doi: 10.1038/s41416-018-0351-z. Co-targeting EGFR and IKK $\beta$ /NF- $\kappa$ B signalling pathways in head and neck squamous cell carcinoma: a potential novel therapy for head and neck squamous cell cancer. Li Z et al. Marlene and Stewart Greenebaum Comprehensive Cancer Center, University of Maryland School of Medicine, Baltimore, MD, US.

*Results/Comments:* Epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) plays an important role in HNSCC proliferation and therapy resistance, but the efficacy of targeting of EGFR for therapy has been limited. This article explores the molecular link between EGFR and inhibitor of  $\kappa$ B kinase  $\beta$ /nuclear factor- $\kappa$ B (IKK $\beta$ /NF- $\kappa$ B) signalling pathways in the regulation of HNSCC EGFR inhibitor resistance. Link: [Abstract](#)

## LIVER CANCER

**Target : CEBPA gene**

### **First-in-Human Safety and Tolerability Study of MTL-CEBPA in Patients With Advanced Liver Cancer**

**ID :** [NCT02716012](#) - MNA-3521-011 - 2015-003051-21 EudraCT Number) - 20332 (Other Identifier: UK NIHR CRN) - OUTREACH

**Mina Therapeutics (UK)**

**Product: MTL-CEBPA** (Small activating RNA (saRNA) – short double stranded RNA designed to activate CCAAT enhancer binding protein alpha (CEBPA) gene)

**Phase: I**

**Status: Recruiting**

**Start/Planned completion: MAR 2016/DEC 2019**

Estimated Enrollment: 51

Sites: 9 (SG, TW, UK)

Updated: September 10, 2018

Contact: [clinicaltrials@minatx.com](mailto:clinicaltrials@minatx.com)

The study is in two parts: dose escalation followed by a dose expansion; both parts of the study will recruit advanced hepatocellular carcinoma patients with cirrhosis. All participants will be refractory to or ineligible for loco-regional therapy including surgery, radiofrequency tumour ablation, transarterial chemoembolisation or sorafenib.

#### **Related Informations/Publications**

\* **DEC 2018** - MiNA Therapeutics announced enrolment of the first patients treated with MTL-CEBPA in combination with Sorafenib in OUTREACH

Link: [Press Release](#)

\* *Oncol Rep.* 2018 Dec 13. doi: 10.3892/or.2018.6930.

MicroRNA-486-5p functions as a tumor suppressor of proliferation and cancer stem-like cell properties by targeting Sirt1 in liver cancer. Yan X et al. College of Life Science and Bioengineering, Beijing University of Technology, Beijing, CN.

- *Results/Comments* : MicroRNAs are small non-coding RNAs that target the 3'untranslated region of mRNAs. Their dysregulation has been implicated in several types of cancer including liver cancer, but it still remains unknown if they play a role in targeting liver cancer stem-like cells (CSCs). These researchers compared the miRNA profiles between liver cancer samples and adjacent non-tumor tissues using The Cancer Genome Atlas (TCGA) datasets. The results of their study indicated that the miR-486-Sirt1 axis was involved in suppressing CSC traits and tumor progression.

Link: [Abstract](#)

\* *Oncol Rep.* 2018 Dec 12. doi: 10.3892/or.2018.6928.

Inhibition of PIKfyve using YM201636 suppresses the growth of liver cancer via the induction of autophagy. Hou JZ et al. Institute for Innovative Drug Design and Evaluation, School of Pharmacy, Henan University, Kaifeng, Henan, CN.

- *Results/Comments* : This study indicates that phosphatidylinositol-3-phosphate 5-kinase (PIKfyve) may be a potential therapeutic target for the treatment of liver cancer.

Link: [Abstract](#)

\* **OCT 2018** - MiNA Therapeutics announces Sosei will not exercise acquisition option.

Link: [Press Release](#)

\* **SEP 2018** - MiNA Therapeutics provided an update from the ongoing Phase I study of MTL-CEBPA in advanced liver cancer patients at International Liver Cancer Association Conference. Link: [Press Release](#)

# HEMATOLOGICAL DISEASES

## CLOTTING DISORDERS

**Target: Factor IX**

**A Study to Assess the Safety, Tolerability, Pharmacokinetics, and Pharmacodynamics of Single and Multiple Doses of IONIS FXI-LRx in up to 84 Healthy Volunteers**

ID: [NCT03582462](#) - ION 957943-CS1

**Ionis Pharmaceuticals (USA –CA)**

Product: **IONIS FXI-LRx**

**Phase: 1**

**Status: Recruiting**

**Start/Planned completion: JUL 2018/MAY 2019**

Estimated Enrollment: 84

Sites: 1 (CA)

Updated: July 23, 2018

Contact: [patients@ionisph.com](mailto:patients@ionisph.com)

### **Related Informations / Publications**

\* *Med Res Rev* . 2018 Sep;38(6):1974-2023. doi: 10.1002/med.21503. Recent advances in the discovery and development of factor XI/XIa inhibitors. Al-Horani RA, Afosah DK. Division of Basic Pharmaceutical Sciences, College of Pharmacy, Xavier University of Louisiana, New Orleans, LA, US.

*Results/Comments* : This review highlights various chemical, biochemical, and pharmacological aspects of FXI/FXIa inhibitors (polypeptides, active site peptidomimetic inhibitors, allosteric inhibitors, antibodies, aptamers, antisense oligonucleotides), with the goal of advancing their development toward clinical use. Link: [Abstract](#)



# OPHTHALMOLOGICAL DISEASES

## ACUTE NONARTERITIC ANTERIOR ISCHEMIC OPTIC NEUROPATHY (NAION )

**Target: mRNA of the Caspase 2 gene**

**Phase 2/3, Randomized, Double-Masked, Sham-Controlled Trial of QPI-1007 in Subjects With Acute Nonarteritic Anterior Ischemic Optic Neuropathy (NAION)**

ID: [NCT02341560](#) - QRK207

Quark Pharmaceuticals (USA – MA)

Product: QPI-1007

Phase: 2-3

Status: Recruiting

Start/Planned completion: OCT 2015/OCT 2020

Estimated Enrollment: 800

Sites: 84 (AU, CN, DE, IL, IN, IT, SG, US)

Updated: August 3, 2018

Contact: [rshopbell@quarkpharma.com](mailto:rshopbell@quarkpharma.com)

This study will determine the effect of QPI-1007 on visual function in subjects with recent-onset NAION and assess the safety and tolerability of intravitreal injections of QPI-1007 in this population. This study will also evaluate the structural changes in the retina following administration of QPI-1007.

### Related Informations / Publications

\* *Acta Ophthalmol* . 2018 Dec;96(8):e1018-e1024. Optic nerve head morphology in primary open-angle glaucoma and nonarteritic anterior ischaemic optic neuropathy measured with spectral domain optical coherence tomography. Resch H et al. Department of Ophthalmology and Optometry, Medical University Vienna, Vienna, Austria. Link: [Abstract](#) - [Full Text](#)

\* **OCT 2018** Quark Pharmaceuticals Announces Acceptance of Presentation and Abstracts at ASN 2018 (October 23-28, 2018) and AAO 2018 (October 27-30, 2018) Annual Meetings. An abstract for QPI-1007 has been accepted for presentation at the American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO) 2018 Annual Meeting to be held October 27–30, 2018 in Chicago. The presentation focused on an interim analysis of the baseline characteristics in patients with NAION from the QRK207 Study, a Phase 2/3, Randomized, Double-Masked, Sham-Controlled Trial of QPI-1007. Link: [Press Release](#)

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