

PBTC-031 - A SUMMARY FOR PATIENTS AND FAMILIES

Title: PBTC-031-A Phase I and Pharmacokinetic Trial of PTC299 in Pediatric Patients with Refractory or Recurrent CNS Tumors

This is a brief summary of a clinical trial, a type of therapeutic research study. Clinical trials include only patients who choose to take part in the research study. Participation is entirely voluntary.

WHO MIGHT BE ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN PBTC-031?

Patients may be eligible for PBTC-031 who have been diagnosed with a primary malignant brain tumor that has recurred or is refractory and for which there is no known curative therapy. Patients must be between 3-21 years of age. They must have completed other chemotherapy 3 weeks prior and radiation therapy 2 weeks prior to enrolling in PBTC-031. If patients are taking Decadron, the current dose should be stable for at least one week prior to starting PBTC-031. Patients' medical and neurological condition also needs to be stable at the time they begin to participate in this study. Female patients may not be pregnant or nursing.

Children will need medical tests to assess whether they can participate in PBTC-031. These tests may include a medical history, physical examination, blood and urine tests and scans (MRI) of the brain and spine. Other tests may be required if doctors believe they are necessary. About 30 children from all over the U.S. will take part in PBTC-031.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS STUDY?

Tumors require new blood vessels grow in order to feed the tumor and enable it to grow. Certain proteins, such as VEGF, can help create new blood vessels, "feeding" tumors and allowing them to grow, invade and spread to other parts of the body. The purpose of PBTC-031 is to investigate the experimental drug PTC299 that selectively inhibits tumor VEGF protein expression. The drug PTC299 has been previously studied in adult patients in a variety of tumors. PBTC-031 will be the first time this drug will be given to children as young as 3 years old. It is our hope the drug PTC299 will be a safe and effective treatment for childhood brain tumors.

The purposes of the study, PBTC-031, are:

- To find the highest dose of the drug PTC299 that can be given without causing severe side effects;
- To learn what side effects may occur when a child takes the drug PTC299;
- To learn how a child's body processes the drug PTC299 by studying the levels of the drug in the blood over time;
- To learn more from blood tests to help clinicians and researchers understand how the drug PTC299 is working and to see if changes in these blood tests are related to how the tumor responds to PTC299;
- To learn how certain childhood brain tumors respond to the drug PTC299 by studying the characteristics of these tumors in a laboratory.

WHAT IS INVOLVED IN THIS STUDY?

Patients will receive the drug PTC299 in a capsule to be swallowed either twice a day or three times a day for 28 days. A child's parent or caregiver will keep a diary and bring it to each visit. Each 28-day period is considered a "course." Each course will be repeated every 4 weeks until the patient experiences disease progression or unacceptable toxicity. The drug PTC299 does not have to be taken with food. However, the body may absorb the drug better if it is taken with food or within 30 minutes after a meal.

If a child is unable to swallow the PTC299 capsules, the capsules may be added to half a cup of yogurt or pudding for no more than 20 minutes. A parent or caregiver should make sure that the PTC299 capsules are not broken or crushed when stirring.

During the first course, patients will have routine blood tests on days 1 and 28 to check the amount of PTC299 and the specific proteins in the blood. In future courses, routine blood tests will also be performed on days 1 and 28. Patients will have MRI scans of the brain following courses 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, etc. (every two courses) and MRI of the spine, if necessary. Some of these blood tests are required to answer essential research questions about how children's bodies process the drug PTC299. Prior to each treatment course, patients will have routine medical history, physical and neurological exams. If your child is of childbearing or child-fathering potential, effective birth control should be used the entire time on study to prevent any pregnancy.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS OF PARTICIPATING IN PBTC-031?

The health care team watches all study participants very carefully for any side effects or other problems. However, doctors do not know all the side effects that may occur. Side effects may be mild or very serious. Many side effects go away soon after your child stops taking the drug PTC299. In some cases, side effects can be serious, long lasting, or may never go away. There also is a risk of death. You should talk to your child's study doctor about any side effects that your child may have while taking part in the study. Doctors will notify parents and patients immediately of any important information or treatment findings discovered during the study that may affect their willingness to continue to participate.

Some of the more common side effects of the drug PTC299 include nausea, diarrhea, and fatigue. A variety of other side effects are possible but less likely, such as dizziness, joint pain, hair loss and stomach pain. Your child should not become pregnant or father a baby while on this study because the drug PTC299 may affect an unborn baby. There is also a chance your child may need a blood transfusion. Your child's health care team may give your child medicines to help lessen any side effects. You should talk to your study doctor about any side effects that occur while your child participates in PBTC-031.

QUESTIONS ABOUT PBTC-031?

If you would like more information, please contact the PBTC member institution closest to you. You can also contact the doctor in charge of this study:

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OTHER INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE THROUGH

The National Cancer Institute's Cancer Information Service at 1-800-422-6237 or TTY: 1-800-332-8615 or through the National Cancer Institute's websites www.Cancer.gov and www.cancer.gov/clinicaltrials. There is additional accurate and reliable cancer information at www.cancernet.org.