The Clinical Development of VH3810109 (N6LS): Advancing Ultra-Long-Acting HIV Treatment Into the Future

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Background

Managing HIV often involves taking daily medication, which can be tough due to stigma and the fatigue of daily pills. This research looks at the development of an ultra-long-acting treatment that could be taken 2 to 3 times a year, offering more convenience and privacy. The goal is to improve the quality of life for people with HIV by easing the daily medication routine.

What treatment was studied here?

The research focuses on VH3810109, known as N6LS, a broadly neutralizing antibody targeting HIV-1. N6LS is designed to be given intravenously or subcutaneously twice a year, offering a promising alternative to daily pills. Here it was combined with long-acting cabotegravir (CAB LA) given once a month.

What was the purpose of this study?

The purpose of the study was to see if N6LS could safely and effectively keep HIV under control when given every 4 months, or 3 times a year, which could change HIV care by reducing how often treatment is given.

Who took part in the study and how was the treatment studied?

The research was done in a step-wise fashion. First, the safety of N6LS in adults without HIV using various doses was tested. Once there was information on safety, N6LS was given to adults with HIV-1 who hadn't started treatment yet to see how well it reduced HIV in the blood. The most recent study looked at adults with HIV-1 who already had their virus under

control, combining N6LS given 3 times a year with CAB LA given every month. N6LS in these studies has either been given IV through a vein or as an infusion under the skin.

What are the research findings?

N6LS lasted a long time in the body and was well tolerated. N6LS lowered the amount of virus in the body in people who had not received treatment for HIV before. In the study in people who already had their virus under control, 96% of participants were able to keep their virus controlled over the 6 months of the study when N6LS was given IV through a vein with CAB LA.

What does this mean for people with HIV?

For people with HIV, N6LS could mean fewer doses, which might help improve treatment adherence and quality of life.

Conclusions

N6LS shows promise as a long-acting HIV treatment, effectively controlling the virus with good tolerability. Ongoing research is looking at N6LS given twice a year with CAB LA given 6 times a year, which could make HIV treatment easier and more manageable.



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