



RECENT UPDATES ON FENERENONE

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Abstract: Finerenone is a novel, selective, nonsteroidal MRA that is efficacious in patients with type 2 diabetes (T2D) and chronic kidney disease (CKD). Steroidal MR antagonists (MRAS) are included in treatment paradigms for resistant hypertension and heart failure with reduced ejection fraction, while the nonsteroidal MRA finerenone was shown to reduce renal and cardiovascular outcomes in two large phase III trials (FIDELIO-DKD and FIGARO-DKD) in patients with chronic kidney disease and type 2 diabetes, respectively.

Key Words: FIDELIO-DKD (Finerenone), Mineralocorticoid receptor (MRAs), chronic kidney disease (CKD), sodium-glucose cotransporter-2 inhibitor (SGLT-2i), renin-angiotensin system (RAS).

INTRODUCTION

Finerenone (Bayer) is a novel non-steroidal MRA with the most advanced global clinical development programme. Finerenone is a dihydronaphthyridine-based compound with high selectivity for the MR over all other steroid hormone receptors and high binding affinity. Molecular modelling studies revealed that finerenone has a specific binding mode to the MR-LBD[1]. By binding as a bulky antagonist, finerenone changes the positioning of helix 12 in a specific manner, which results in distinct MR cofactor-binding profiles compared with other MRAS[2,3]. This molecular binding pattern induces an antagonistic ligand specific target gene programme, which may explain, at least in part, the differential clinical responses observed with finerenone[4]. The non-steroidal chemical structure of finerenone determines not only specific interactions with amino acids in the MR-LBD but also the physicochemical properties of the compound, which has a direct impact on plasma protein binding as well as tissue penetration and distribution. Finerenone is 6 to 10-fold less lipophilic than

steroidal MRA and does not cross the blood-brain barrier. Finerenone, a third-generation highly selective MRA, can directly and specifically block MR hyperactivation, and promote the anti-inflammatory and anti-fibrotic effects[5]. In this way, finerenone exhibits cardiovascular and renal double-benefits, and is used in the treatment of T2DM-related CKD (diabetic kidney disease, DKD) to reduce the risk of persistent decline in glomerular filtration rate (eGFR) and the progression of end stage renal disease (ESRD). In general, finerenone could reduce the risk of cardiovascular and renal outcomes (3, 6).

A number of large-scaled clinical trials have proved that finerenone can significantly reduce both cardiorenal endpoints and the adverse reactions such as electrolyte disorders and sex hormone-like effects (7). In this review, we discuss the pharmacological characteristic, molecular mechanism, effectiveness and safety of finerenone in the treatment of T2DM with CKD/DKD and CVD, to provide clinical evidence and deep insight for therapeutic strategies.

The available evidence suggests that finerenone offers cardiorenal protection, as observed in patients with HF and mild-to-moderate CKD (phase II study MinerAlocorticoid Receptor antagonist Tolerability Study (ARTS)) and T2D and CKD (phase III studies FIDELIO/FIGARO; phase II study Mineralocorticoid Receptor antagonist Tolerability Study in Diabetic Nephropathy (ARTS-DN)) via a combination of different mechanisms determined in preclinical studies. As an MRA, finerenone acts as a natriuretic to prevent sodium and fluid retention in the body and, thus, the development of hypertension. By blocking the MR, finerenone may also inhibit the generation of reactive oxygen species (ROS), which promote oxidative stress in cells of the kidney, cardiac, and vascular systems, leading to tissue injury. Finerenone also appears to prevent inflammation and fibrosis driven by the MR on inflammatory cells, which further contribute to tissue damage, as well as hypertrophy and tissue remodeling, in the cardiovascular system (alla).

Finerenone on Chronic Kidney Disease Outcomes in Type 2 Diabetes

Type 2 diabetes (T2DM) is regarded as the most common cause of chronic kidney disease (CKD)[8]. As per international Recommendation for the management of type 2 diabetes (T2DM), ACE inhibitor or, angiotensin receptor blocker (ARB) and sodium-glucose cotransporter 2 (SGLT2) are the first line treatment [9-10]. But still

these drugs are not efficient in controlling CKD. Hence, there is a need to explore novel treatments [11-12].

Researches indicated that MRA activation plays a vital role in the progression of cardiac renal disorder [13-16]. Preclinically, nonsteroidal, selective mineralocorticoid receptor antagonist finerenone has been shown to reduce inflammation and prevent fibrosis compared to steroidal mineralocorticoid receptor antagonists [17-20]. In CKD patients using a RAS blocker, finerenone has been found to lower the urinary albumin-to-creatinine ratio while having less of an impact on serum potassium (K^+) levels than spironolactone [21-22].

Effect of Finerenone on CVD

Increased levels of aldosterone are linked to higher rates of morbidity and mortality in people with heart failure [23-25]. Experimental overactivation of aldosterone in the heart causes myocardial apoptosis, myocardial fibrosis, and coronary endothelial dysfunction, which all contribute to pathological remodeling of the heart [26]. The mineralocorticoid receptor (MR), a nuclear hormone receptor (NHR) specific to aldosterone, is mostly expressed in the kidney, colon, arteries, and the heart [27]. Through MRs that are expressed in cardiomyocytes, fibroblasts, vascular endothelium, and smooth muscle cells, are a main key mediator of cardiac remodeling and renal tubulointerstitial fibrosis [28]. Hence, blockage of the MR has provided benefits clinically in CRD (Chronic renal disease) and heart failure (HF) [29-30]. Endothelial dysfunction, inflammation, and oxidative stress are among the nontraditional CV risk factors that contribute to atherosclerotic CVD in patients with CKD and T2D. In preclinical models, excessive mineralocorticoid receptor (MR) activation raises the risk of cardiovascular disease (CV) by promoting fibrosis and inflammation, which harms the heart, kidneys, and peripheral vasculature [31,32,33]. In addition, primary aldosteronism is common in people with resistant hypertension. High aldosterone can contribute to a number of diseases, including CKD, heart failure, coronary artery disease (CAD), and stroke [34]. Patients at risk of CKD development or CVD may have MR overactivation due to elevated aldosterone levels; additional potential causes in this population include enhanced MR expression, cortisol-mediated MR activation, and ligand-independent MR activation [35,36,37]. Finerenone, a novel, nonsteroidal, selective MR antagonist (MRA), was linked to a lower incidence of a composite endpoint of all-cause mortality and heart failure outcomes than the steroidal MRA eplerenone [38].

Effect of Finerenone on Albuminuria in Patients with Diabetic Nephropathy

End-stage excretory organ disease is most frequently caused by diabetes mellitus in industrialised countries.[39] Retrospective analyses in outcome trials of diabetic uropathy patients show a significant correlation between the amount of albuminuria reduction and the speed of CKD progression as well as lower rates of vascular events.13-18 It has been proven again and time again that adding endocrine MRAs to RAS blockers can reduce symptoms.[8,9,10] Lack of large-scale outcome research assessing the long-term effects of MRAs on CKD development in diabetic uropathy is mostly due to safety concerns over the risk of symptoms and decreasing urinary organ function.[40,41,42].

A non-steroidal mineralocorticoid receptor antagonist (MRA) with higher receptor affinity than eplerenone in vitro and significant receptor selectivity relative to spironolactone is called finerenone.[5] Equinatriuretic doses of Finerenone are reported to reduce proteinuria and end organ damage more than eplerenone in preclinical investigations.[6] Finerenone reduced simple proteinuria from baseline in patients with CKD and failure in the corticoid receptor antagonist tolerability study (ARTS), with a lower incidence of symptom than Aldactone, at doses of 2.5 to 10 mg/d.[7] Therefore, finerenone may also be able to meet the unmet medical need of controlling proteinuria safely without negatively affecting blood serum atomic number 19 in children with type 2 DMS WHO have a clinical diagnosis of diabetic child Ney illness. Diabetes renal disease associated with ARTS.

In patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus and protracted symptoms (urinary albumin-creatinine quantitative relation [UACR] 30 mg/g) who were taking a RAS blocker, the ARTS-Diabetic Nephrosis (ARTS-DN) study was created to evaluate the effectiveness and safety of various once-daily oral doses of finerenone and placebo.

The use of a novel non-steroidal mineralocorticoid receptor antagonist finerenone for the treatment of chronic heart failure

Chronic heart failure (CHF) is a widespread condition that affects patients' quality of life significantly in the twenty-first century and places a significant financial burden on the healthcare system.[40] A steady reduction in health-related quality of life, as well as a significant risk of hospitalisation and death, are features of people with chronic heart failure. Treatment regimens based on adrenal cortical steroid receptor antagonists (MRAs) are one

of the most promising ways to reduce vascular risk in chronic cardiac failing patients with deteriorating nephritic function.

For chronic heart failure (CHF) patients with heart failure with reduced ejection fraction (HFrEF) and LVEF 35%, the traditional hormone MRAs (spironolactone and eplerenone) have a category 1A recommendation regardless of whether they are being treated with an antihypertensive drug (or hypertensin receptor blocker) and a beta-blocker. [41,42] For patients with persistent coronary failure with HFrEF, MRAs frequently reduce mortality and hospitalisations. However, due to potential hazards of symptoms, nephritic function degradation, male breast growth, and discharge abnormalities, the use of traditional hormone MRAs is restricted [43].

A new non-steroidal selective MRA called finerenone is being tested in clinical studies as a means of overcoming these steroidal MRAs' fundamental limitations. Preclinical investigations revealed that compared to spironolactone, finerenone exhibited better selectivity towards the mineralocorticoid receptor (MR) and less affinity for the androgen, glucocorticoid, and progesterone receptors.[44] In comparison to spironolactone and eplerenone, finerenone is more selective and has higher affinity. Particularly in groups vulnerable to symptoms, such as those with chronic nephrosis or polygenic illness, finerenone exhibits a lot of good balance between and excretory organ facet effects. Finerenone has a consistent propensity in heart and excretory organ tissues, unlike corticoids and eplerenone, which have a tendency to focus on the excretory organ rather than the centre.[45] The most cutting-edge third generation non-steroidal MRAs medication is finerenone. Over the past few years, an increasing number of research have focused on the therapeutic efficacy and safety of finerenone.[45,46] It was necessary to divide the existing clinical analysis into multiple dosage teams, commencing with one.25 to 20mg/d. Its therapeutic efficacy, nephritic protection, and safety are still unknown. In order to compare the efficacy and safety of finerenone vs steroidal MRAs in patients with chronic heart disease, we prefer to intend to do a scientific review and meta-analysis.

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