

Concomitant Sparsentan and Sodium-Glucose Cotransporter-2 Inhibitors (SGLT2is) in Patients With IgA Nephropathy (IgAN) in the PROTECT Open-Label Extension (OLE)

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These data were previously presented at the American Society of Nephrology (ASN) Kidney Week 2023; November 2-5 2023; Philadelphia, PA, USA.

- Sparsentan is a nonimmunosuppressive, single-molecule, dual endothelin angiotensin receptor antagonist (DEARA)¹⁻³
- In the ongoing PROTECT trial, sparsentan was directly compared with irbesartan in patients with IgAN.⁴ Based on results from this trial, sparsentan was granted accelerated approval in the US for adults with primary IgAN at risk of rapid disease progression⁵
- Subgroup analyses from DAPA-CKD and EMPA-KIDNEY suggest that SGLT2is may reduce the progression of IgAN.^{6,7} An SGLT2i plus DEARA combination therapy may provide additional kidney-protective effects, although the adverse events (AEs) with this combination therapy are unknown
- Here we report the early clinical experience of patients with IgAN enrolled in the PROTECT OLE who received an SGLT2i in addition to their ongoing sparsentan treatment

- The PROTECT OLE study will investigate the long-term efficacy, safety, and tolerability of sparsentan treatment in adult patients with IgAN
 - This analysis will assess the safety and efficacy in a subset of patients within the PROTECT OLE period who chose to add SGLT2i treatment to their ongoing sparsentan treatment

Study Design

- Patients who completed the PROTECT double-blind period and met eligibility criteria were enrolled in the PROTECT OLE (NCT03762850)
- All patients in the PROTECT OLE will receive sparsentan with a target dose of 400 mg/day for up to 156 weeks
- Patients could initiate concomitant SGLT2i treatment at any time during the OLE period at the discretion of the investigator
 - Patients enrolled in the PROTECT OLE SGLT2i substudy, randomized (1:1) to receive sparsentan monotherapy vs sparsentan plus an SGLT2i, were excluded from this analysis
- Body weight, systolic and diastolic blood pressure, and urine protein-to-creatinine ratio (based on a 24-hour urine sample) were evaluated at baseline and at weeks 12, 24, 36, and 48 after baseline
 - Baseline was defined as the OLE visit closest to the SGLT2i start (ie, before or <14 days after)
- Treatment-emergent adverse events (TEAEs) were determined

Eligibility Criteria

- Key inclusion criteria
 - Enrollment and active participation in the PROTECT OLE period while continuing sparsentan treatment
 - Initiation of an SGLT2i as concomitant medication during the OLE period
- Key exclusion criterion
 - Enrollment in the randomized PROTECT OLE SGLT2i substudy

Statistical Analysis

- Safety and efficacy endpoints were summarized using descriptive statistics for patients who received ≥ 1 dose of sparsentan plus an SGLT2i

Patient Population

- At data cutoff, 39 patients had received sparsentan with concomitant SGLT2i treatment in the OLE period
 - Five patients discontinued the OLE, including 2 who first discontinued SGLT2i treatment and then discontinued the OLE
 - Discontinuations were due to kidney replacement therapy (n=1), physician decision (n=1), and TEAEs (n=3; aggravation of IgAN [n=1] and alanine aminotransferase elevation [n=2])
 - Two patients discontinued SGLT2i treatment but are continuing to receive sparsentan treatment in the OLE (reasons for discontinuing concomitant medications were not captured)
- Baseline patient demographics and clinical characteristics are reported in **Table 1** and **Table 2**, respectively

Table 1. Patient Demographics

Baseline characteristic*	Patients (N=39)
Sex, n (%)	
Male	28 (72)
Female	11 (28)
Race, n (%)	
White	25 (64)
Asian	11 (28)
Black/African American	2 (5)
Other	1 (3)
Ethnicity, n (%)	
Not Hispanic/Latino	38 (97)
Hispanic/Latino	1 (3)
Age at baseline visit, mean (SD), years	44.2 (11.11)

OLE, open-label extension; SGLT2i, sodium-glucose cotransporter-2 inhibitor.

*Baseline was defined as the OLE visit closest to the SGLT2i start (ie, before or <14 days after).

Table 2. Baseline Clinical Characteristics and Medication Use

Baseline characteristic	Patients (N=39)
Clinical measurements	
BMI, mean (SD), kg/m ²	28.4 (4.59)*
Body weight, mean (SD), kg	85.4 (23.13)*
Systolic blood pressure, mean (SD), mm Hg	126.2 (12.65)*
Diastolic blood pressure, mean (SD), mm Hg	81.4 (9.95)*
Urine protein excretion, g/day	
Mean (SD)	2.7 (1.83)
Median (IQR)	2.0 (1.3-4.2)
UPCR, g/g	
Mean (SD)	1.97 (1.20)
Median (IQR)	1.77 (1.06-3.15)
eGFR, mL/min/1.73 m ²	
Mean (SD)	44.9 (22.39) [†]
Median (IQR)	38.0 (29.0-53.0)
History of hypertension, n (%)	30 (77)
Antihypertensive medications at baseline visit, n (%)	24 (62)
Diuretics	13 (33)
β-Blockers	11 (28)
α-Blockers	6 (15)
Calcium channel blockers	14 (36)
Time from start of OLE treatment to start of SGLT2i treatment, median (IQR), days	253.0 (92.0-358.0)

BMI, body mass index; eGFR, estimated glomerular filtration rate; OLE, open-label extension; SGLT2i, sodium-glucose cotransporter-2 inhibitor; UPCR, urine protein-to-creatinine ratio.

*n=37. †n=38.

Safety

- Twenty-six patients (67%) had a TEAE (**Table 3**)
- Body weight (**Figure 1**) and blood pressure (systolic and diastolic; **Figure 2**) remained relatively stable over time following the addition of an SGLT2i to sparsentan treatment

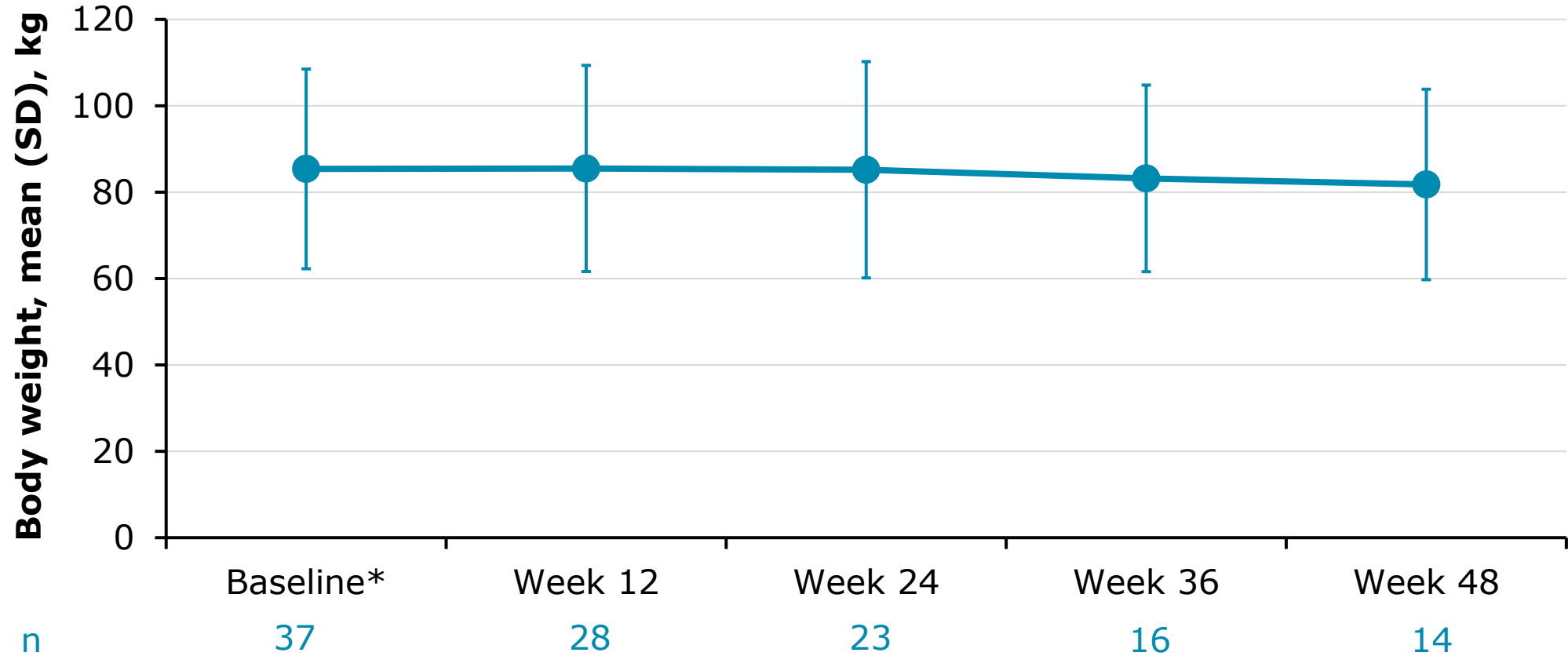
Table 3. Summary of TEAEs

TEAEs*	Patients (N=39)
Patients with any TEAE, n (%)	26 (67)
TEAEs in >1 patient, n (%)	
Hyperkalemia	5 (13)
COVID-19	4 (10)
Hypertension	3 (8)
Acute kidney injury	2 (5)
Chronic kidney disease	2 (5)
Headache	2 (5)
Hypotension	2 (5)
Peripheral edema	2 (5)
Viral infection	2 (5)

MedDRA, Medical Dictionary for Regulatory Activities; TEAE, treatment-emergent adverse event.

*TEAEs were based on MedDRA preferred terms.

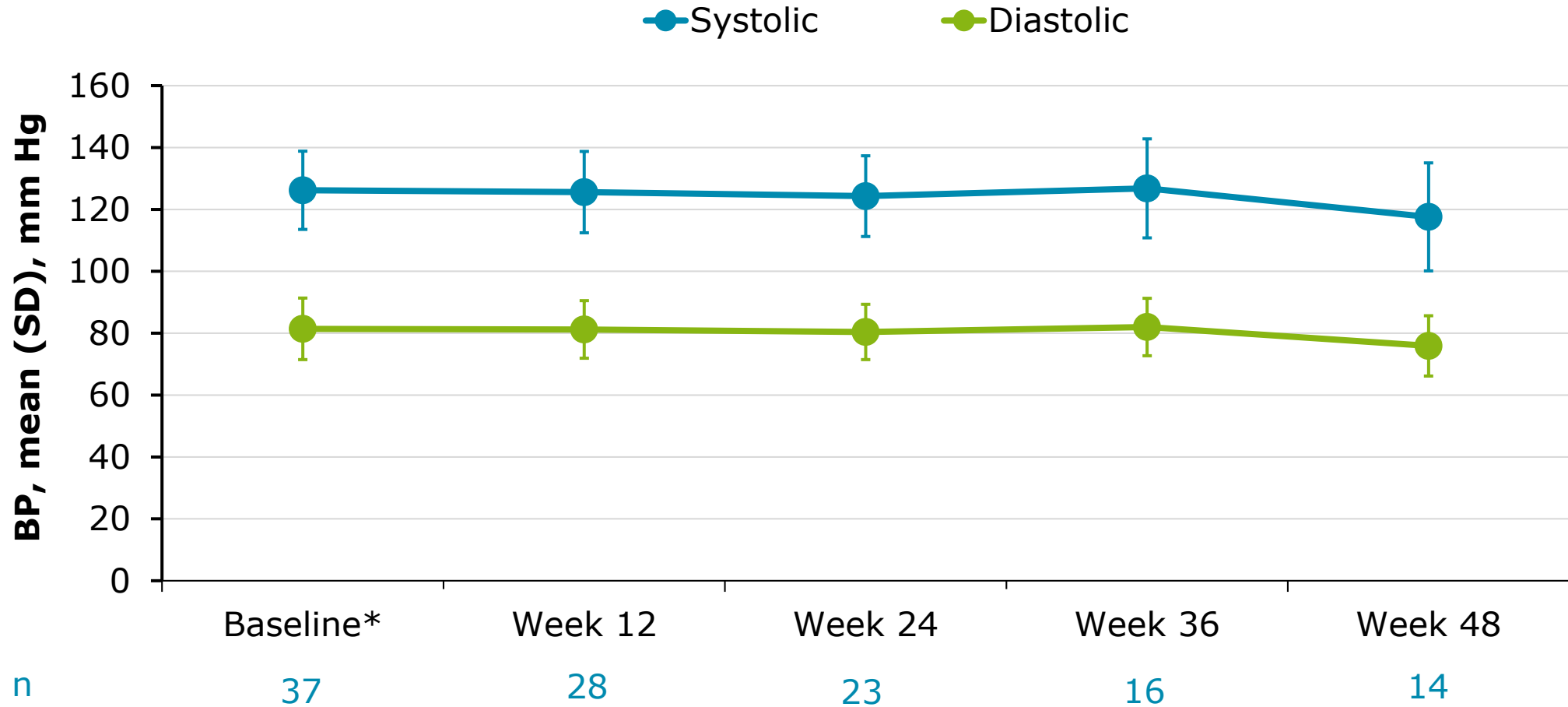
Figure 1. Body Weight Over Time



OLE, open-label extension; SGLT2i, sodium-glucose cotransporter-2 inhibitor.

*Baseline was defined as the OLE visit closest to the SGLT2i start (ie, before or <14 days after start of SGLT2i treatment). Data are shown at weeks 12, 24, 36, and 48 after baseline.

Figure 2. Systolic and Diastolic Blood Pressure Over Time



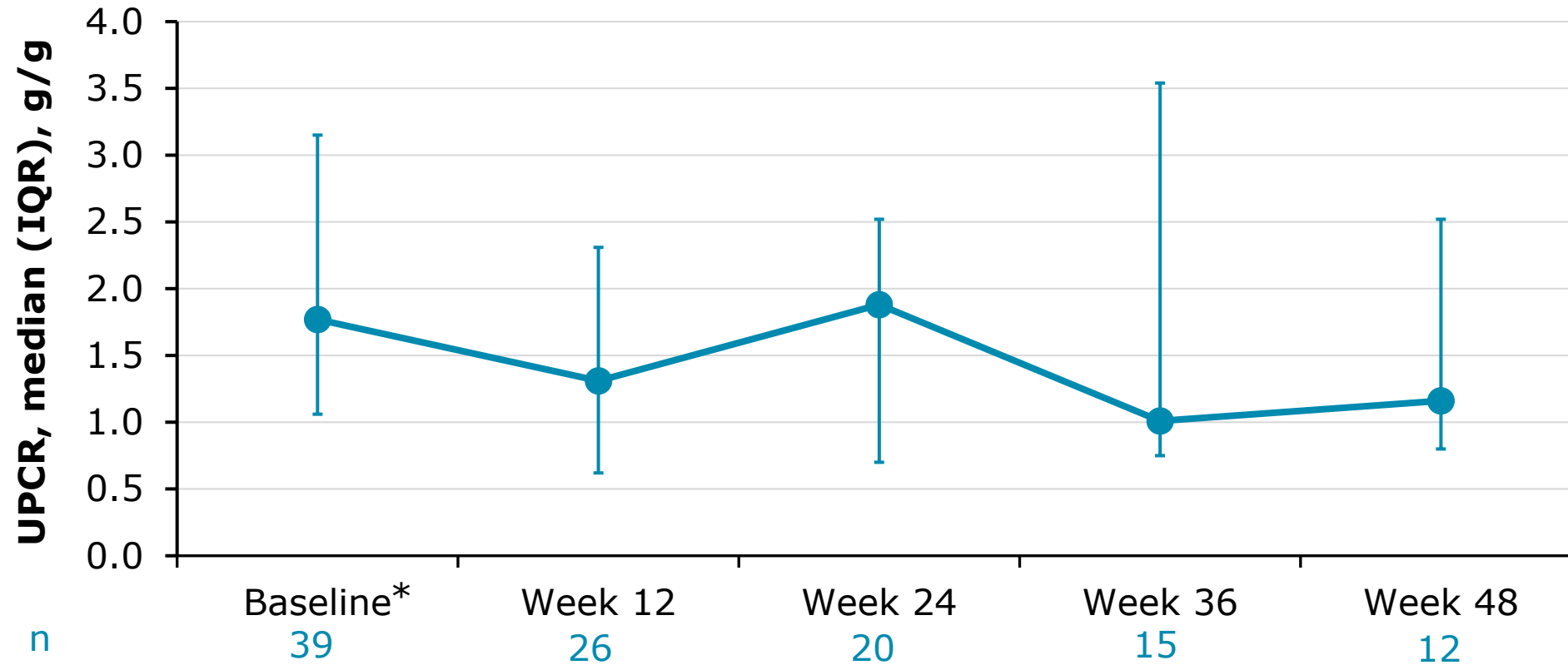
BP, blood pressure; OLE, open-label extension; SGLT2i, sodium-glucose cotransporter-2 inhibitor.

*Baseline was defined as the OLE visit closest to the SGLT2i start (ie, before or <14 days after start of SGLT2i treatment). Data are shown at weeks 12, 24, 36, and 48 after baseline.

Efficacy

- Combination therapy of sparsentan plus an SGLT2i led to a further reduction in proteinuria for up to 48 weeks (**Figure 3**)

Figure 3. UPCR Over Time



OLE, open-label extension; SGLT2i, sodium-glucose cotransporter-2 inhibitor; UPCR, urine protein-to-creatinine ratio.

*Baseline was defined as the OLE visit closest to the SGLT2i start (ie, before or <14 days after start of SGLT2i treatment). Data are shown at weeks 12, 24, 36, and 48 after baseline.

- Early clinical experience of patients during the PROTECT OLE period shows that an SGLT2i added to stable sparsentan treatment is generally well tolerated
- Data are consistent with an additive benefit on proteinuria reduction with combination therapy
- A randomized substudy within the PROTECT OLE period is further investigating the safety and efficacy of sparsentan with or without concomitant SGLT2i treatment

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