

# Sparsentan Receptor Occupancy Modeling, Clinical Actions, and Safety

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## CONCLUSIONS

➤ AT<sub>1</sub>R occupancy always exceeds ET<sub>A</sub>R occupancy with sparsentan; ET<sub>B</sub>R occupancy with sparsentan is negligible

➤ In contrast, when a drug solely targets ET<sub>A</sub>R, on top of AT<sub>1</sub>R blockade, periods of relatively unaccompanied ET<sub>A</sub>R antagonism may occur, representing a risk for fluid retention

➤ This could partly explain the fluid retention seen with endothelin receptor antagonists and the minimal changes in fluid status seen with sparsentan

## DISCLOSURES

BH, RG, CJ, and PWB are employees of Traverse Therapeutics, Inc., and may have equity or other financial interest in Traverse Therapeutics, Inc. DK received consulting fees from AstraZeneca, Chinook Therapeutics, and Traverse Therapeutics, Inc. and received honoraria from Chinook Therapeutics and Traverse Therapeutics, Inc. S-CC has received consulting fees from Traverse Therapeutics, Inc., and may have equity or other financial interest in Traverse Therapeutics, Inc.

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

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This study was funded by Traverse Therapeutics, Inc. Medical writing support was provided by Ise Barnard, PhD, Chris Edwards, PhD, CMP, and Nicole Lopez, PhD, of Nucleus Global, an Intizio Company, and was funded by Traverse Therapeutics, Inc.

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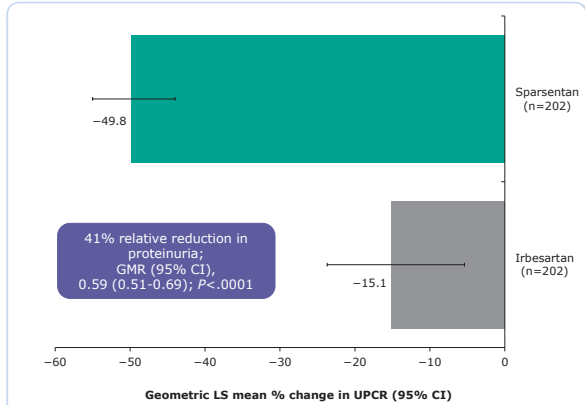
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## RESULTS

### In PROTECT, sparsentan reduced proteinuria vs active comparator in patients with IgAN with minimal changes in fluid status<sup>1,6</sup>

• At week 36, the percent reduction in UPCR from baseline was significantly greater with sparsentan compared with irbesartan (Figure 1)

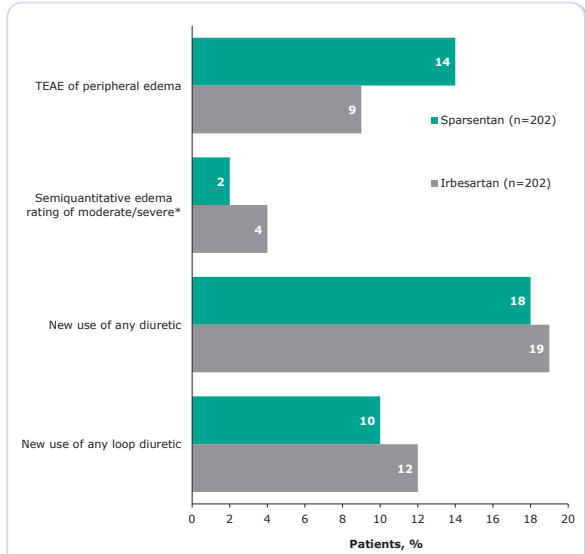
#### Figure 1. Percent Change in UPCR\* From Baseline With Sparsentan vs Irbesartan at Week 36 in PROTECT<sup>1</sup>



GMR, geometric mean ratio; LS, least squares; UPCR, urine protein-to-creatinine ratio. \*UPCR is based on 24-hour urine samples.

- The incidence of TEAEs of peripheral edema was slightly higher with sparsentan but still low overall (Figure 2). Most cases of edema were mild, and no cases of severe edema occurred. There were no treatment-related fluid retention serious AEs or cases of heart failure
- Diuretics were initiated in a similar proportion of participants receiving sparsentan and irbesartan (Figure 2)
- These findings were consistent with results from the phase 3 DUPLEX trial in focal segmental glomerulosclerosis where no serious cases of peripheral edema were reported with sparsentan<sup>7</sup>

#### Figure 2. Peripheral Edema and Diuretic Use in PROTECT<sup>1,6</sup>



TEAE, treatment-emergent adverse event. \*The severity of edema was assessed by investigators at each visit using a semiquantitative scale adapted from the Guelph General Hospital Congestive Heart Failure Pathway (grades 0-4).

### AT<sub>1</sub>R occupancy always exceeds ET<sub>A</sub>R occupancy with sparsentan

- Sparsentan human receptor affinities are reported in Table 1
- Steady-state PK parameters calculated using population PK values for sparsentan 400 mg in the PROTECT study are reported in Table 2
- Examining the full 24-hour period, sparsentan AT<sub>1</sub>R occupancy (>95%) consistently exceeds ET<sub>A</sub>R occupancy (>60% and <90%) (Figure 3)
- Examining the full 24-hour period, sparsentan ET<sub>B</sub>R occupancy (>60% and <90%) consistently exceeds ET<sub>B</sub>R occupancy (<2%) (Figure 4)

Table 1. Sparsentan Endothelin and Angiotensin Receptor Affinities

Receptor target	Ki for AT <sub>1</sub> R, nM
Ki for AT <sub>1</sub> R, nM	0.36
Ki for AT <sub>2</sub> R, nM	190
Ki for ET <sub>A</sub> R, nM	12.8
Ki for ET <sub>B</sub> R, nM	6582
Protein binding, %	99

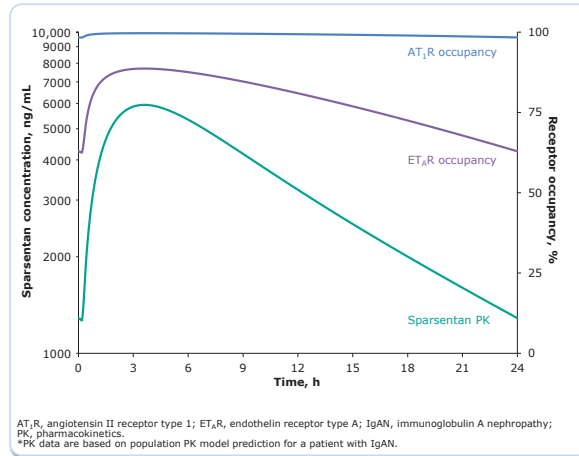
AT<sub>1</sub>R, angiotensin II receptor type 1; AT<sub>2</sub>R, angiotensin II receptor type 2; ET<sub>A</sub>R, endothelin receptor type A; ET<sub>B</sub>R, endothelin receptor type B; Ki, inhibitory constant.

Table 2. Sparsentan PK at Steady State

Steady-state parameter*	Value
C <sub>max</sub> , ng/mL	5936
C <sub>min</sub> , ng/mL	1266
t <sub>1/2</sub> , hours	9.6
AUC, ng-h/mL	80,000

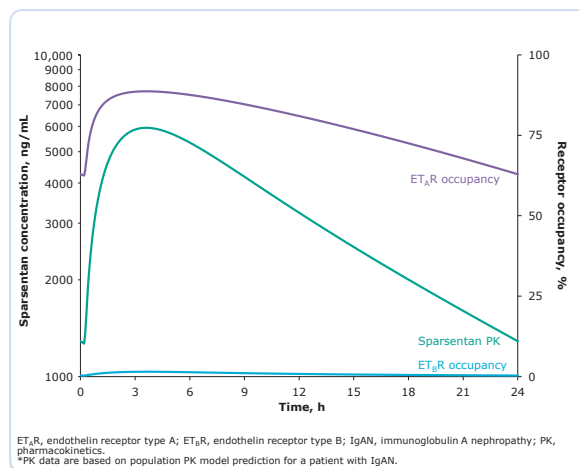
AUC, area under the curve; C<sub>max</sub>, maximum plasma concentration; C<sub>min</sub>, minimum plasma concentration; IgAN, immunoglobulin A nephropathy; PK, pharmacokinetics; t<sub>1/2</sub>, half-life. \*PK data were based on population PK model prediction for a patient with IgAN.

Figure 3. Sparsentan AT<sub>1</sub>R and ET<sub>A</sub>R Occupancies (Right Axis) and Steady-State Concentration\* (Left Axis) Over 24 Hours for a Single Daily 400-mg Oral Dose in PROTECT



AT<sub>1</sub>R, angiotensin II receptor type 1; ET<sub>A</sub>R, endothelin receptor type A; IgAN, immunoglobulin A nephropathy; PK, pharmacokinetics. \*PK data are based on population PK model prediction for a patient with IgAN.

Figure 4. Sparsentan ET<sub>A</sub>R and ET<sub>B</sub>R Occupancies (Right Axis) and Steady-State Concentration\* (Left Axis) Over 24 Hours for a Single Daily 400-mg Oral Dose in PROTECT



ET<sub>A</sub>R, endothelin receptor type A; ET<sub>B</sub>R, endothelin receptor type B; IgAN, immunoglobulin A nephropathy; PK, pharmacokinetics. \*PK data are based on population PK model prediction for a patient with IgAN.

## INTRODUCTION

- In the PROTECT study, sparsentan, which targets both the endothelin receptor type A (ET<sub>A</sub>R) and angiotensin II receptor type 1 (AT<sub>1</sub>R), reduced proteinuria vs active comparator in patients with immunoglobulin A nephropathy (IgAN) with minimal changes in fluid status<sup>1</sup>
- This contrasts with greater fluid retention, including heart failure hospitalization, in studies using agents targeting ET<sub>A</sub>R alone.<sup>2-4</sup> This may relate to differences in comorbidities; however, aspects of dual receptor binding by sparsentan may also be a factor
- Since ET<sub>A</sub>R blockers favor fluid retention<sup>5</sup> while AT<sub>1</sub>R blockers may promote fluid excretion, continual consistent blockade of AT<sub>1</sub>R during ET<sub>A</sub>R blockade may help maintain normal fluid balance
- The pharmacokinetic (PK) properties of sparsentan were used to estimate diurnal changes in receptor occupancy at steady state in the PROTECT study

## METHODS

- PROTECT (NCT03762850) is an international, randomized, double-blind, active-controlled study being conducted in 134 clinical practice sites in 18 countries
- The study examines sparsentan vs irbesartan in adults (aged ≥18 years) with biopsy-proven IgAN who had proteinuria of ≥1.0 g/day despite maximized renin-angiotensin-system inhibition for ≥12 weeks
- Participants were randomly assigned 1:1 to receive sparsentan, 400 mg once daily, or irbesartan, 300 mg once daily, stratified by estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR) at screening (30 to <60 vs ≥60 mL/min/1.73 m<sup>2</sup>) and urine protein excretion at screening (≤1.75 vs >1.75 g/day)
- The primary efficacy endpoint was change in urine protein-to-creatinine ratio (UPCR), based on a 24-hour urine sample, from baseline to week 36 assessed using a mixed model for repeated measures
- Treatment-emergent adverse events (TEAEs) were safety endpoints
- All endpoints were examined in all participants who received ≥1 dose of randomized treatment
- Receptor affinities (inhibitory constant [Ki]) of sparsentan for ET<sub>A</sub>R, endothelin receptor type B (ET<sub>B</sub>R), AT<sub>1</sub>R, and angiotensin II receptor type 2 (AT<sub>2</sub>R) were determined using radioligand binding assays
- Population PK modeling of sparsentan was used to derive 24-hour PK and receptor occupancy profiles of patients in PROTECT

## DISCUSSION

- Sparsentan exhibits strong antiproteinuric efficacy without associated clinically significant fluid overload events<sup>1</sup>
- We hypothesize that this arises from the properties of sparsentan as a dual endothelin angiotensin receptor antagonist (DEARA)<sup>8-10</sup>
- When a drug solely targets ET<sub>A</sub>R, on top of AT<sub>1</sub>R blockade, periods of relatively unaccompanied ET<sub>A</sub>R antagonism may occur, representing a risk for fluid retention. If AT<sub>1</sub>R blockade consistently exceeds ET<sub>A</sub>R antagonism, then this risk is minimized or avoided
- The preserved receptor occupancy data from PROTECT are consistent with this hypothesis, showing that with sparsentan, ET<sub>A</sub>R antagonism is substantial and always accompanied by full AT<sub>1</sub>R occupancy