

# Current Myositis Trials

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# Myositis Trials

## No longer enrolling

- Rituximab in Myositis
- Etanercept in Dermatomyositis
- MEDI-545 in Dermatomyositis and Polymyositis

## Currently enrolling

- Lithium in IBM
- Arimoclomal in IBM
- Etanercept in IBM
- Stem Cell Transplant in Myositis
- Stem-cell transplant in children with refractory autoimmune disorders

# Rituximab in Myositis

Rituximab in the Treatment of Refractory Adult and Juvenile Dermatomyositis (DM) and Adult Polymyositis (PM)

University of Pittsburgh, Coordinating Center  
Dr. Chester Oddis, Principal Investigator

# Why Use Rituximab in Polymyositis and Dermatomyositis?

- This antibody targets antibody producing immune cells (B cells)
- Eliminates B cells from the body
- It has been used in many different “autoimmune” diseases in both adults and children with encouraging results

# Study Design

Group A } 38 adult PM  
38 adult DM  
24 JDM

Informed  
Consent

Screening

Rituximab infusion week 0 and 1

Placebo week 8 and 9

Group B } 38 adult PM  
38 adult DM  
24 JDM

Informed  
Consent

Screening

Placebo week 0 and 1

Rituximab infusion week 8 and 9

# Primary Endpoint

The **primary endpoint** of this trial is to compare the time to achieve improvement between the two groups of rituximab-treated patients

**Assumption: those patients receiving drug first (Group A) will get better sooner than those receiving the drug 8 weeks later (Group B)**

# Participating Centers: RIM Study

## Adult Sites

- UAB, Alabama (Fessler)
- Harvard University (Narayanaswami)
- UCLA (Weisman)
- Stanford University (Chung)
- Czechoslovakia (Vencovsky)
- UT Southwestern, Dallas (Olsen)
- University of Kansas (Barohn/Latinis)
- University of Kentucky (Crofford)
- Mayo Clinic (Ytterberg)
- University of Miami (Sharma)
- University of Michigan (Seibold)
- MSU, Grand Rapids (Eggebeen)
- Medical College of Wisconsin (Cronin)
- North Shore, New York (Marder)
- NYU, New York (DiMartino)
- NIH (Miller)
- University of Pennsylvania (Kolasinski)
- Phoenix (Levine)
- Pittsburgh (Oddis/Ascherman)
- Sweden (Lundberg)

## Pediatric Sites

- Harvard University (Kim)
- University of Cincinnati (Lovell)
- Duke University (Rabinovich)
- London (Pilkington)
- Mayo Clinic (Reed)
- Miami (Rivas-Chacon)
- MSU, Grand Rapids (Eggebeen)
- Creighton University, Nebraska (Jung)
- NIH (Rider)
- Halifax, Nova Scotia (Huber)
- University of Pennsylvania (Sherry)
- University of Pittsburgh (Kietz)
- Stanford University (Sandborg)
- Toronto (Feldman)

# RIM Summary

- Largest multicenter study planned in myositis to date
- 200 subjects have been enrolled (*enrollment completed*) – 76 PM, 76 DM, 48 JDM
- 14 protocol visits over 45 weeks
- Initial results likely reported in Fall, 2010



# A Pilot Study of Etanercept in Dermatomyositis

Brigham and Women's Hospital

Dr. Anthony Amato, Principal Investigator

# Etanercept in Dermatomyositis

- Why use etanercept for dermatomyositis?
  - TNF is pro-inflammatory
  - TNF is over-expressed in DM muscle
  - Etanercept blocks tumor necrosis factor-alpha (TNF-alpha)
  - Etanercept has been used with success in other autoimmune diseases
    - Rheumatoid arthritis
    - Psoriasis
  - Case reports suggest it may effectively treat myositis

# Etanercept in DM: Study Design

- Double-blind
- Placebo controlled (3/4 patients get etanercept 50 mg SQ/wk)
- 14 month duration; 16 outpatient study visits

# Etanercept in DM: Outcome measures

- Primary
  - Safety and tolerability of treatment
  - Cumulative dosage of prednisone used during study period
- Secondary
  - Average daily dose of prednisone
- Assumption
  - If etanercept works, patients receiving it should use less prednisone

# Etanercept in DM

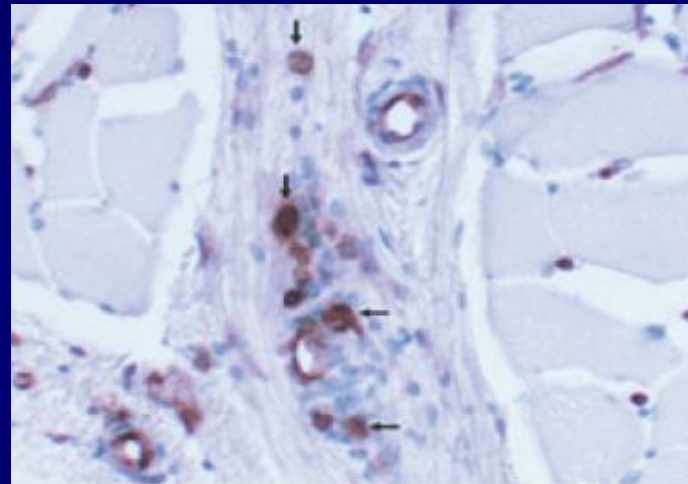
- 16 subjects enrolled
- No longer recruiting
- Will be completed by May, 2010
- Results available shortly thereafter

# MEDI-545 in Dermatomyositis and Polymyositis

Sponsored by MedImmune

# Why MEDI-545 for myositis?

- Interferon (IFN) plays a role in myositis
  - Myositis muscle contains cells that are potent sources of IFN



(Greenberg, 2005)

- Type I IFN is increased in myositis muscle
- Patients treated with Type I IFNs for other diseases can develop myositis
- MEDI-545 neutralizes IFN!

# MEDI-545 in DM and PM

- Primary objective: safety and tolerability of MEDI-545
- Secondary objective: pharmacokinetics
- Exploratory objectives
  - Disease activity
  - Effect of drug on IFN levels in blood, skin, and muscle
  - Effect of drug on tissues (e.g., auto-Ab levels)



# MEDI-545 in DM and PM: Study design

- Multicenter (~20 sites; ~32 patients)
- Randomized
- Double-blind
- Placebo-controlled (drug:placebo = 3:1)
- Dose escalation (starting with low doses and increasing if tolerated)

# MEDI-545 in DM and PM

- Enrollment complete
- Results available...?

# Lithium in IBM

- Currently Enrolling
- Enrollment = 20 patients
- Observational study
- Start 300 mg /day
  - p-tau accumulates in IBM muscle
  - GSK plays a key role in developing p-tau
  - Drug decreases GSK activity
- Phoenix Neurological Associates, LTD  
Contact: Nicole C Hank
  - 602 258 2432
  - [nhank@pna.net](mailto:nhank@pna.net)

# Arimocloidal in sIBM

- Currently Enrolling
- Enrollment = 12 patients
- Randomized, double-blind, placebo controlled
- 100 mg three times/day for 4 months
- Drug activates the heat shock response
- University of Kansas Medical Center
- Contact: Dr. Richard Barohn
  - 913-588-6094
  - [rbarohn@kumc.edu](mailto:rbarohn@kumc.edu)

# Etanercept in IBM

- Currently Enrolling
- Enrollment = 30 patients
- Randomized, double-blind, placebo controlled
- 50 mg SQ/week x 12 months
- Washington University
- Contact: Dr. Glenn Lopate
  - 314-362-6981
  - [lopateg@neuro.wustl.edu](mailto:lopateg@neuro.wustl.edu)

# Stem Cell Transplant in Myositis

- Currently Enrolling
- Enrollment = 10 patients
- Open-label, uncontrolled
- High dose cytoxan & ATG, then transplant
- Northwestern University, Feinberg SOM
- Contact: Dr. Dzemila Spahovic
  - 312-908-0059
  - [d-spahovic@northwestern.edu](mailto:d-spahovic@northwestern.edu)

# Stem-cell transplant in children with refractory autoimmune disorders

- Currently Enrolling
- Enrollment = 20 patients
- Open label
- Irradiation, cytoxan, ATG, then transplant
- Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Ctr.
- Contact: Dr. Carol A. Wallace
  - 206-987-4448
  - [cwallace@u.washington.edu](mailto:cwallace@u.washington.edu)

**For Clinical Trial Information:**

**[www.ClinicalTrials.gov](http://www.ClinicalTrials.gov)**