



EMA And EORTC Soft Tissue And Bone Sarcoma Workshop

Follow-up workshop: How to develop new treatments in ultra-rare sarcomas, as a model for ultra-rare tumours?

24 May 2024

Background and objectives

The European Medicines Agency (EMA) and the European Organisation of Research and Treatment of Cancer (EORTC) organised a workshop on soft tissue and bone sarcoma on 12th January 2024 specifically addressing the question on how to develop new treatments in ultra-rare sarcomas, as a model for ultra-rare tumours. This workshop brought together academia, learned societies, patients, non-profit organisations, and medicines regulators to explore clinical and scientific aspects related to the development of medicines for ultra-rare cancers focusing on methodological aspects of clinical studies, repurposing medicines, and the use of real-world data.

This second workshop is organised to discuss more in depth certain aspects as a follow-up discussion. Specifically, the workshop will cover topics such as how to support an ecosystem for ultra-rare cancers and discuss lessons learned on specific examples.

How to develop new treatments in ultra-rare sarcomas, as a model for ultra-rare tumours?

Chaired by Pierre Demolis and Silvia Stacchiotti

10:30 Joining and technical checks

11:00 Welcome

Harald Enzmann (chair of the CHMP, EMA)

11:05 Meeting objectives and discussion on how to develop new treatment in ultra-rare sarcoma, as a model for ultra-rare tumours

Moderators: Silvia Stacchiotti (EORTC) and Pierre Demolis (ANSM, EMA)

Setting the scene 10'
Pierre Demolis, ANSM, EMA

Summary of last workshop and objectives 10'
Pan Pantziarka, Anticancer Fund

11:30 Support an ecosystem for ultra rare cancers from diagnosis to treatment

Moderators: Ralf Herold (EMA): Winan Van Houdt (EORTC)

Patient involvement – hospital cohorts and mobilising the patient community 15'
Hugh Leonard, EHE Rare Cancer Charity

Identifying new drugs in ultra-rare indications and off label use 15'
Robin Jones Royal Marsden, London, UK

Case example from PUSH: LGFMS/SEF and immunotherapy 15'
Andrew Wagner, DFCC, Boston, US

What could the development of medicines in ultra rare indication look like? 10'
Pierre Demolis, chair of the Oncology Working Party and SAWP vice chair, EMA

12:20 Discussion

Moderator: Ralf Herold (EMA), Winan Van Houdt and Silvia Stacchiotti (EORTC) 40'

All speakers with additional panellists:

Caitlin Tydings, Clinical reviewer for the Sarcoma team FDA (TBC)

Nicole Scobie, Accelerate

13:00 Lunch Break

14:00 Practical cases: what have we learned?

Moderators: Caroline Voltz (EMA), Denis Lacombe (EORTC)

What is important for patients in addition to RECIST and overall survival? 15'

Gerard van Oortmerssen, SPAGN

External control: The challenge in ultra-rare cancers and how to do better in the future 15'

Kit Roes, chair of the Methodology working Party, EMA (TBC)

Use of real word data to complement prospective studies: case example in alveolar soft parts sarcoma and epithelioid sarcoma 15'

William Tap, MSKCC, New York, US

Developing new criteria for response assessment: Case example of epithelioid haemangioendothelioma 15'

Lorenzo D'Ambrosio, University of Turin, Turin, Italy

Repurposing: case example of sirolimus in epithelioid haemangioendothelioma 15'

Denise Robinson, EHE Group, US

Engaging companies in academic trials of Ultra Rare Tumours – Hopes and hurdles 15'

Gauthier Bouche, Anticancer Fund

15:30 Coffee Break

15:50 Discussion

Moderators: Caroline Voltz (EMA): Denis Lacombe (EORTC)

All speakers with additional panellist:

Martha Donoghue, Associate Director of Paediatric Oncology and Rare Cancers, FDA (TBC)

16:45 Closing Remarks

Take home message and conclusions 10'

Silvia Stacchiotti (EORTC) and Pierre Demolis (EMA)

16:50 End of meeting
