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O-2. A randomized phase III trial of afatinib (A) +paclitaxel (P) vs investigator's choice chemotherapy (CT) in patients (pts) with metastatic non-small-cell lung cancer (NSCLC) progressed on erlotinib/gefitinib (E/G) and A : LUX-Lung 5

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Background : Improved disease control with continuation of EGFR inhibition after progression has been suggested in non-randomized studies. The Phase III Lux-Lung 5 trial assessed the efficacy of continuation of the irreversible ErbB family blocker, A, plus P in NSCLC pts who had progressed after benefit from reversible EGFR tyrosine kinase inhibitors (E/G) and A.

Methods : Pts who had failed ≥ 1 line of CT and E/G (after ≥ 12 wks treatment) were treated with A (50 mg/day) in Part A (n=1154) . On progression, pts with ≥ 12 wks on A were eligible to be randomized 2 : 1 to A+P (40 mg/day ; 80 mg/m²/wk) or single agent investigator's choice CT in Part B. Primary endpoint was progression-free survival (PFS) . Other endpoints included objective response rate (ORR) , overall survival (OS) and safety.

Results : 202 pts were randomized (A+P, n=134 ; CT, n=68) and baseline characteristics were well balanced (median age 60 yrs, females 49%, ECOG PS 0-1 91%) . A significant increase in median PFS occurred on A+P vs CT (5.6 vs 2.8 mo, HR[95% CI]0.60[0.43-0.85] ;

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p=0.003) . ORR was significantly higher on A+P vs CT (32.1% vs 13.2% ; p=0.005) . Median OS was similar in both arms (12.2 vs 12.2 mo, HR[95% CI]1.00[0.70-1.43] ; p=0.994) . Median exposure to study medication was 133 days with A+P and 51 days with CT. Most common related adverse events (AEs) with A+P vs CT were diarrhea (54% vs 7%) , alopecia (33% vs 15%) and asthenia (27% vs 28%) .
Conclusions : Continued ErbB family blockade with A+P significantly improved PFS and ORR vs CT alone in heavily pretreated pts with acquired resistance to E/G and progression on A monotherapy. Our data support that tumors progressing on E/G and A still depend on signalling via ErbB family receptors and benefit from continuous treatment with A.