

ASX Announcement

MD Anderson Cancer Center Collaborators Publish Peer Reviewed AML Preclinical Study on Zantrene

- Researchers from the MD Anderson Cancer Center in Texas have identified additional Zantrene drug combinations with superior efficacy in AML cells
- This paper showed synergy for Zantrene when used in combination with the AML drugs venetoclax, panobinostat, decitabine and olaparib
- This research further supports Race's Phase 1b/2 EMD AML clinical trial to be conducted in Australia and Europe starting in 2022.

23 February 2022 – Race Oncology Limited ("Race") is pleased to announce a researcher team, led by Professor Borje Andersson and Associate Professor Ben Valdez of the MD Anderson Cancer Center (Texas, USA), have identified a number of additional clinically translatable drug combinations that showed synergy with Zantrene when tested in Acute Myeloid Leukaemia (AML) cells.

This study¹, sponsored by Race, has been published in the Journal *Leukemia & Lymphoma* and is entitled "Enhanced cytotoxicity of bisantrene when combined with venetoclax, panobinostat, decitabine and olaparib in acute myeloid leukemia cells."

The MD Anderson team identified synergism of Zantrene and venetoclax in combination with panobinostat, decitabine, or olaparib, known inhibitors of BCL2, histone deacetylase, DNA methyltransferase, and poly (ADP-ribose) polymerase, respectively, in AML cells. These combinations were found to enhance DNA damage, cleavage of Caspase 3 and PARP1, DNA fragmentation, increased ROS, and potent apoptosis activation in AML cells. Similar results were observed using mononuclear cells isolated from leukaemia patients, but not from healthy donors. The SAPK/JNK signalling pathway was strongly activated by the combination treatments, whereas the PI3K/mTOR and Wnt/b-catenin pro-survival pathways were inhibited.

Chief Scientific Officer, Dr Daniel Tillett said: *"This work provides further preclinical data to support our upcoming Phase 1b/2 extramedullary AML trial in Australian and Europe, where patients will be treated with Zantrene in combination with decitabine or cytarabine. We are extremely excited about being able to quickly translate this work from the lab into the clinic, where it has the potential to help AML patients in need."*

1. Valdez, B. C. *et al.* Enhanced cytotoxicity of bisantrene when combined with venetoclax, panobinostat, decitabine and olaparib in acute myeloid leukemia cells. *Leukemia Lymphoma* 1–11 (2022)
doi:10.1080/10428194.2022.2042689.

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**About Race Oncology (ASX: RAC)**

Race Oncology is an ASX listed precision oncology company with a Phase 2/3 cancer drug called Zantrene®.

Zantrene is a potent inhibitor of the Fatso/Fat mass and obesity associated (FTO) protein. Overexpression of FTO has been shown to be the genetic driver of a diverse range of cancers. Race is exploring the use of Zantrene as a new therapy for melanoma and clear cell renal cell carcinoma, which are both frequent FTO over-expressing cancers.

In breakthrough preclinical research, Race has also discovered that Zantrene protects from anthracycline-induced heart damage, while in tandem acting with anthracyclines and proteasome inhibitors to improve their ability to target breast cancer. Race is evaluating this discovery.

The Company also has compelling clinical data for Zantrene as a chemotherapeutic agent and is in clinical trial in Acute Myeloid Leukaemia (AML).

Race is pursuing outsized commercial returns for shareholders via its 'Three Pillar' strategy for the clinical development of Zantrene. Learn more at www.raceoncology.com

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