

Use of long-acting Cabotegravir and Rilpivirine in a real-life setting: 12-month results of virological outcome, adherence, safety, durability, in the ANRS CO3 AquiviH-NA Cohort-France.

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BACKGROUND

- The first complete long-acting antiretroviral therapy (ART) regimen, cabotegravir + rilpivirine long-acting (CAB + RPV LA) injectable, was approved in France in December 2021, for HIV-1 treatment in individuals on a stable antiretroviral regimen virologically suppressed (VS), with no virological failure (VF) history under NNRTIs or INSTIs, and no resistance to either cabotegravir or rilpivirine.
- We describe patient characteristics, safety and virologic effectiveness of CAB + RPV LA in routine clinical care in South-Western France.

METHODS

- The ANRS-CO3-AquiviH-NA cohort is an open, prospective hospital-based cohort of HIV-1-infected adults (≥18 years old) in care in 15 hospitals in the Nouvelle Aquitaine region of south-western France.
- The cohort collects epidemiological, clinical, biological and therapeutic data from the medical records of PLWH and who have signed informed consent since 1987.
- We performed a retrospective analysis at month 12 and included all adults with HIV who received their first CAB + RPV LA injection from January 1st, 2022 to June 30 2024. VF was defined as one HIV RNA > 1000 cp/mL or 2 consecutive HIV RNA > 50 cp/mL; or no HIV RNA < 50 cp/mL at 6 months in patients not virologically suppressed at baseline.

RESULTS

Among 374 individuals who received at least one injection of CAB + RPV LA.

At baseline (table 1) :

- 179 (48%) received an oral lead-in,
- Median age was 47 years (range 20-81),
- 98 (26%) were female sex at birth, and 2 transgender women,
- 275 (74%) were born in France and 55 (15%) in Sub-Saharan Africa,
- 362 (97%) were virologically suppressed,
- 5 had a VL between 50 and 200 cp/mL, and 7 > 200 cp/mL
- The median number of previous lines of ART was 4.
- Median BMI was 25.0 kg/m² (IQR 22.7-27.8),
- Median LDL-cholesterol was 3 mmol/L (IQR 2.5-3.7),

At month 12 :

- 12 patients experienced VF (3.5%) among which 3 were not VS at baseline and 6 had low level viremia (table 2),
- 38 patients (10.2%) had discontinued the treatment with 43 causes including 13 (30.2%) for adverse events, of which 5 (11.6%) for injection site reactions (table 3), 10 (23.3) for physician's choice and 8 (18.6%) patient's choice and among VF patients only 7 (16.3%) stop CAB+RPV LA,
- No changes in BMI or LDL-C were observed (table 4).

Table 2. Comparison of cumulative viral load characteristics from initiation of treatment to month 12

Characteristics	Total N=374
At least 1 virological failure since baseline, n (%)	
No	334 (96.5)
Yes	12 (3.5)
Type of virological failure, n (%)	
Low level viremia (2 consecutive VL>50 cp/mL)	6 (50.0)
High level viremia (at least 1 VL >200cp/mL if 2 consecutive VL>50 cp/mL)	3 (25.0)
For unsuppressed at baseline patient, No VL<50 between 3 and 12 months	3 (25.0)
Delay of first virological failure, Median (IQR) in month	4.9 (1.8;6.9)
At least 1 Blip (VL>50cp/mL after VL<50cp/mL) since baseline, n (%)	346
No	319 (92.2)
Yes	27 (7.8)

Table 3. Reasons of treatment discontinuation at month 12

Characteristics	Total N=374
Treatment discontinuation at 12 months, n (%)	374
No	336 (89.8)
Yes	38 (10.2)
Cause of discontinuation at 12 months (grouped), n (%)	43
Drug resistance	3 (7.0)
ISR : injection site reaction	5 (11.6)
Other Adverse event	8 (18.6)
Patient's choice	8 (18.6)
Physician's choice	10 (23.3)
Pregnancy	2 (4.7)
Virological failure	7 (16.3)

CONCLUSIONS

- In this large French cohort, 90% of patients continued CAB + RPV LA injections at month 12 and VF was observed in 3.5% of them.
- There were no differences between the characteristics of lead-in and no lead-in groups.
- We observed no modification of metabolic parameters at 12 months.
- Adverse events leading to treatment interruption were noticed in 3.5% of patients, 12 months after beginning CAB + RPV LA.
- These results suggest that CAB + RPB LA injectable can be administered effectively and safely during routine clinical care.

Table 1. Baseline characteristics of participants switching to CAB+RPV LA regimen, according to the uptake of a Lead-in phase before injection

Characteristics	No Lead-in N=195	Lead-in N=179	p*	Total N=374
Age (in years),			0.13	
Median (IQR)	48.1 (37.9;56.4)	45.4 (36.1;55.0)		47.2 (36.9;55.5)
Gender, n (%)				
Male	141 (72.3)	133 (74.3)		274 (73.3)
Female	52 (26.7)	46 (25.7)		98 (26.2)
Transgender M to F	2 (1.0)	0 (0.0)		2 (0.5)
Region of birth, n (%)			0.76	
France	144 (73.8)	131 (73.2)		275 (73.5)
Sub-Saharan Africa	29 (14.9)	26 (14.5)		55 (14.7)
Other	22 (11.3)	22 (12.2)		44 (11.4)
Transmission group, n (%)			0.02	
Homo/bisexual	109 (55.9)	112 (62.6)		221 (59.1)
Heterosexuals	64 (32.8)	54 (30.2)		118 (31.6)
IV drug users	5 (2.6)	9 (5.0)		14 (3.7)
Other	17 (8.7)	4 (2.2)		21 (5.6)
Duration since first positive HIV test (in years),			0.08	
Median (IQR)	14.1 (7.1;21.9)	11.5 (6.2;19.4)		12.7 (6.6;21.2)
CD4 in classes ***, n (%)			0.3660	
≥500	138 (78.9)	138 (84.1)		276 (81.4)
200-500	33 (18.9)	24 (16.6)		57 (16.8)
<200	4 (2.3)	2 (1.2)		6 (1.8)
CD4 Nadir (cells/mm ³),			0.0422	
Median (IQR)	337.0 (185.0;524.0)	366.0 (237.0;551.0)		350.0 (213.0;541.0)
HIV viral load in classes, n (%)			0.2485	
≤50	189 (96.9)	173 (96.6)		362 (96.8)
51-200	1 (0.5)	4 (2.2)		5 (1.3)
>200	5 (2.6)	2 (1.1)		7 (1.9)
Nb of previous lines of ART,	195	179		374
Median (IQR)	4.0 (2.0;8.0)	3.0 (2.0;7.0)		4.0 (2.0;7.0)
BMI (kg/m ²),			0.27	
Median (IQR)	24.6 (22.5;27.1)	25.6 (23.2;28.1)		25.0 (22.7;27.8)
BMI, n (%)			0.8049	
<30kg/m ²	144 (85.2)	137 (86.2)		281 (85.7)
≥30kg/m ²	25 (14.8)	22 (13.8)		47 (14.3)
Level of cholesterol LDL, n (%)			0.4929	
≤ 3.5mmol/L	108 (69.7)	95 (66.0)		203 (67.9)
>3.5mmol/L	47 (30.3)	49 (34.0)		96 (32.1)

Table 4. Comparison of Metabolic-related characteristics between baseline and 12 months among patients who did not discontinue treatment at month 12

Characteristics	At baseline N=336	At 12 months N=336	p*
BMI in kg/m ² ,			0.5123
Median (IQR)	24.8 (22.5;27.7)	25.0 (22.8;27.9)	
LDL cholesterol in mmol/L,			0.0866
Median (IQR)	3.0 (2.5;3.7)	3.2 (2.6;3.9)	
Triglycerides in mmol/L,			0.5873
Median (IQR)	1.2 (0.8;1.7)	1.2 (0.8;1.7)	
Glycemia in mmol/L *,			0.6090
Median (IQR)	5.1 (4.7;5.6)	5.1 (4.7;5.5)	

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