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De-ESCALaTE HPV: Determination of Epidermal growth factor receptor-inhibitor (cetuximab) versus Standard Chemotherapy (cisplatin) early And Late Toxicity Events in Human Papillomavirus-positive oropharyngeal squamous cell carcinoma

Submission date 20/02/2012	**Recruitment status** No longer recruiting	[X] Prospectively registered [ ] Protocol
Registration date 20/02/2012	**Overall study status** Completed	[ ] Statistical analysis plan [X] Results
Last Edited 29/10/2021	**Condition category** Cancer	[ ] Individual participant data

Plain English summary of protocol
http://www.cancerresearchuk.org/cancer-help/trials/a-trial-looking-side-effects-treatment-throat-cancer-de-escalate-hpv

Contact information

Type(s)
Scientific

Contact name
Mrs Tessa Fulton-Lieuw

Contact details
Warwick Clinical Trials Unit
Division of Health Sciences
Warwick Medical School
The University of Warwick
Coventry
United Kingdom
CV4 7AL
+44 2476 574 880
M.T.Fulton-Lieuw@warwick.ac.uk

Additional identifiers

Clinical Trials Information System (CTIS)
2011-005165-21

ClinicalTrials.gov (NCT)
NCT01874171

Protocol serial number
11723

Study information

Scientific Title
De-ESCALaTE HPV: Determination of Epidermal growth factor receptor-inhibitor (cetuximab) versus Standard Chemotherapy (cisplatin) early And Late Toxicity Events in Human Papillomavirus-positive oropharyngeal squamous cell carcinoma: a randomised controlled trial

Acronym
De-ESCALaTE HPV

Study objectives
Oropharyngeal squamous cell carcinoma (OPSCC) incidence is increasing rapidly in the developed world. This has been attributed to a rise in Human Papillomavirus (HPV) infection. HPV+ OPSCC is considered a distinct disease entity, affecting younger patients and has a good prognosis following treatment. Subsequently, patients can live with the considerable side effects for several decades.

Radiotherapy and cetuximab have demonstrated similar efficacy to platin chemoradiotherapy in head and neck cancer, but is potentially less toxic.

Results of this trial will be used to determine the optimum treatment of this debilitating cancer, with the primary aim of decreasing toxicity and improving quality of life for HPV+OPSCC patients.

Ethics approval required
Old ethics approval format

Ethics approval(s)
NRES Committee West Midlands Coventry & Warwickshire, 29/11/2011, ref: 11/WM/0381

Study design
Both; Interventional; Design type: Treatment

Primary study design
Interventional

Study type(s)
Treatment

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied

Topic: National Cancer Research Network; Subtopic: Head and Neck Cancer; Disease: Head and Neck

Interventions
HPV positive patients will be randomised to receive either cisplatin + radiotherapy (Arm A) or cetuximab + radiotherapy (Arm B) and will be followed up for two years. Patients that are HPV negative will enter into the Registration Cohort Study.

Cetuximab, Initial dose of 400mg/m2, administered intravenously, 1 week before start of radiotherapy followed by 7 weekly doses of 250mg/m2, administered intravenously. during radiotherapy.

Cisplatin, Three doses of cisplatin 100mg/m2, administered intravenously, on days 1, 22 and 43 of radiotherapy.

Intervention Type
Drug

Phase
Phase III

Drug/device/biological/vaccine name(s)
Cetuximab, cisplatin

Primary outcome(s)
Current primary outcome as of 13/03/2012:
Severe toxicity (acute and late) (Grade 3-5); Timepoint(s): Two years from end of treatment

Previous primary outcome:
Severe toxicity (Grade 3-5); Timepoint(s): Two years from end of treatment

Key secondary outcome(s))
1. Acute severe toxicity; Timepoint(s): 3 months from end of treatment
2. Late severe toxicity; Timepoint(s): Two years from end of treatment
3. Quality of Life; Timepoint(s): Two years from end of treatment
4. Dysphagia; Timepoint(s): Two years from end of treatment
5. Cost effectiveness; Timepoint(s): Two years from end of treatment
6. Overall survival, recurrence and metastasis; Timepoint(s): Two years from end of treatment

Completion date
31/07/2019

Eligibility

Key inclusion criteria
Current inclusion criteria as of 13/03/2012:
1. Stage III-IVa oropharyngeal squamous cell tumours
2. Clinical multidisciplinary team decision to treat with primary curative chemoradiotherapy
3. No previous treatment for the primary tumour, including surgery, neck dissection or tracheostomy [except node biopsies or diagnostic tonsillectomy]

4. Medically fit Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group (ECOG) 0, 1 or 2
5. Adequate cardiovascular, haematological, renal and hepatic function
6. Age 18 years or over
7. Written informed consent given
8. Using adequate contraception [male and female participants]. Must take contraceptive measures during, and for at least three months after treatment.

Previous inclusion criteria:
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6. Age 18 years or over
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8. Using adequate contraception [male and female participants]

Participant type(s)
Patient

Healthy volunteers allowed
No

Age group
Adult

Lower age limit
18 years

Sex
All

Total final enrolment
334

Key exclusion criteria
Current exclusion criteria as of 13/03/2012:
1. Distant metastasis (i.e. stage IVc disease)
2. Tumor, Node, Metastasis (TNM) Stage T1-2N0 disease
3. Treated with primary radical surgery to the primary site e.g. resection
4. Concurrent use of CYP3A4 inducers or inhibitors
5. Serious cardiac illness or other medical conditions precluding the use of cisplatin or cetuximab
6. HPV+ patients who have p16+ tumours who also have N2b, N2c or N3 nodal disease and who also smoke more than 10 pack years (i.e. have both risk factors)
7. Pregnant or lactating
8. Previous treatment for any other cancer with cytotoxics, radiotherapy or antiEGFR therapies
9. Inadequate renal, haematological or liver functions
10. Patients with clinically significant hearing impairment.

11. Life expectancy less than three months
12. Other malignancy within the past three years except basal cell skin cancer or preinvasive carcinoma of the cervix

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11. Other malignancy within the past three years except basal cell skin cancer or preinvasive carcinoma of the cervix

Date of first enrolment
09/10/2012

Date of final enrolment
28/10/2016

Locations

Countries of recruitment
United Kingdom

England

Scotland

Wales

Belgium

Ireland

Italy

Netherlands

Study participating centre
Warwick Clinical Trials Unit
University of Warwick

Coventry
United Kingdom
CV4 7AL

Study participating centre
Aberdeen Royal Infirmary
Foresterhill Road
Aberdeen
United Kingdom
AB25 2ZN

Study participating centre
St Luke's Centre for Radiation at Beaumont Hospital
Beaumont Road
Dublin
Ireland
-

Study participating centre
Bradford Royal Infirmary
BIHR – Temple Bank House
Bradford Royal Infirmary
Bradford
United Kingdom
BD9 6RJ

Study participating centre
Bristol Haematology & Oncology Centre
Horfield Road
Bristol
United Kingdom
BS2 8ED

Study participating centre
Castle Hill Hospital
Castle Road
Cottingham
United Kingdom
HU16 5JQ

Study participating centre
Cheltenham General Hospital
Sandford Road
Cheltenham
United Kingdom
GL53 7AN

Study participating centre
Clatterbridge Cancer Centre
Clatterbridge Road
Bebington,
Wirral
United Kingdom
CH63 4JY

Study participating centre
Colchester General Hospital
Turner Road
Colchester
Essex
CO4 5JL
Colchester
United Kingdom
CO4 5JL

Study participating centre
Glan Clwyd Hospital
North Wales Cancer Treatment Centre
Glan Clwyd Hospital
Bodelwyddan
Denbighshire
Bodelwyddan
United Kingdom
LL18 5UJ

Study participating centre
James Cook University Hospital
Marton Road
Middlesbrough
United Kingdom
TS4 3BW

Study participating centre
Leicester Royal Infirmary
Infirmary Square
Leicester
United Kingdom
LE1 5WW

Study participating centre
Musgrove Park Hospital
The Beacon Centre
Taunton
United Kingdom
TA1 5DA

Study participating centre
New Cross Hospital
Deansley Centre
United Kingdom
WV10 9PQ

Study participating centre
Nottingham City Hospital
Hucknall Road
Nottingham
United Kingdom
NG5 1PB

Study participating centre
Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham
Cancer Centre, Edgbaston
Birmingham
United Kingdom
B15 2TH

Study participating centre
Royal Derby Hospital
Uttoxeter Road

Derby
United Kingdom
DE22 3NE

Study participating centre
Royal Marsden Hospital (London)
Fulham Road
London
United Kingdom
SW3 6JJ

Study participating centre
Royal Marsden Hospital (Sutton)
Downs Road
Sutton
Surrey
Sutton,
United Kingdom
SM2 5PT

Study participating centre
Royal Surrey County Hospital
Egerton Road
Guildford
United Kingdom
GU2 7XX

Study participating centre
Royal United Hospital
Combe Park
Bath
United Kingdom
BA1 3NG

Study participating centre
Singleton Hospital
Sketty Lane
Swansea
United Kingdom
SA2 8QA

Study participating centre
St James's Institute of Oncology
Beckett Street
Leeds
United Kingdom
LS9 7TF

Study participating centre
St Luke’s Hospital
Highfield Road
Rathgar
Dublin 6,
Dublin
Ireland
-

Study participating centre
University Hospitals Coventry & Warwickshire
Clifford Bridge Road
Coventry
United Kingdom
CV2 2DX

Study participating centre
Velindre Hospital
Whitchurch
Cardiff
United Kingdom
CF14 2TL

Study participating centre
VU University Medical Center
De Boelelaan 1117
Netherlands
1081 HV

Study participating centre
Manor Hospital
Moat Road

Walsall
United Kingdom
WS2 9PS

Study participating centre
Western General Hospital
Crewe Road
Edinburgh
United Kingdom
EH4 2XU

Study participating centre
Weston Park Hospital
Whitham Road
Sheffield
United Kingdom
S10 2SJ

Study participating centre
Northampton General Hospital
Cliftonville
Northampton
United Kingdom
NN1 5BD

Study participating centre
Norfolk & Norwich University Hospital
Colney Lane
Norwich
United Kingdom
NR4 7UY

Sponsor information

Organisation
University of Warwick (UK)

ROR
https://ror.org/01a77tt86

Funder(s)

Funder type
Charity

Funder Name
Cancer Research UK (CRUK) (UK)

Alternative Name(s)
CR_UK, Cancer Research UK - London, Cancer Research UK (CRUK), CRUK

Funding Body Type
Private sector organisation

Funding Body Subtype
Other non-profit organizations

Location
United Kingdom

Results and Publications

Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan
The current data sharing plans for the current study are unknown and will be made available at a later date.

IPD sharing plan summary
Data sharing statement to be made available at a later date

Study outputs

Output type	Details	Date created	Date added	Peer reviewed?	Patient-facing?
Results article	results	05/01/2019		Yes	No
HRA research summary			28/06/2023	No	No
Participant information sheet	Participant information sheet	11/11/2025	11/11/2025	No	Yes
Plain English results		06/02/2019	29/10/2021	No	Yes
Study website	Study website	11/11/2025	11/11/2025	No	Yes