A double-blind, placebo-controlled trial of Zoloft's® Effects on Symptoms and survival Time in Advanced Cancer

Submission date	Recruitment status	Prospectively registered		
22/12/2004	No longer recruiting	Protocol		
Registration date	Overall study status	Statistical analysis plan		
31/03/2005	Completed	[X] Results		
Last Edited	Condition category	[] Individual participant data		
10/08/2009	Cancer			

Plain English summary of protocol

Not provided at time of registration

Contact information

Type(s)

Scientific

Contact name

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Contact details

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Additional identifiers

Protocol serial number

Version 1.0, dated October 2004 - ACTRN012605000381684

Study information

Scientific Title

Acronym

The ZEST Trial

Study objectives

Not provided at time of registration

Ethics approval required

Old ethics approval format

Ethics approval(s)

Not provided at time of registration

Study design

Double-blind placebo-controlled trial

Primary study design

Interventional

Study type(s)

Treatment

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied

Advanced Cancer

Interventions

Sertraline 50 mg, one tablet once daily by mouth with or without food or identical placebo, one tablet once daily by mouth with or without food.

Intervention Type

Drug

Phase

Phase III

Drug/device/biological/vaccine name(s)

Sertraline (Zoloft®)

Primary outcome(s)

- 1. Quality of life (depression, anxiety and fatigue)
- 2. Survival
- 3. Adverse events

Key secondary outcome(s))

Not provided at time of registration

Completion date

31/12/2006

Eligibility

Key inclusion criteria

- 1. Advanced cancer defined by the presence of metastatic disease and treatment with palliative intent, that is to improve length and quality of life, but without realistic hope of cure
- 2. Symptomatic score greater than or equal to 4/10 for depression, anxiety, fatigue or lack of energy at baseline (assessment tool: Patient DATA form)
- 3. Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group (ECOG) performance status 0-2
- 4. Life expectancy of >3 months
- 5. Serum creatinine <200 µmol/l and bilirubin <30 µmol/l within 28 days of randomization
- 6. Able to complete baseline quality of life instruments
- 7. Availability and willingness for follow-up
- 8. Written informed consent
- 9. Women of childbearing potential must be taking adequate contraceptive precautions

Participant type(s)

Patient

Healthy volunteers allowed

No

Age group

Not Specified

Sex

All

Key exclusion criteria

- 1. Major depression, in other words, a clear indication for antidepressant treatment
- 2. Delirium i.e. impaired cognitive function (as detected by the Confusion Assessment Method, a screening tool for delirium assessing onset, course, inattention, disorganised thinking, level of consciousness)
- 3. History of hypersensitivity to sertraline
- 4. Diagnosis of carcinoid tumour
- 5. Coexisting conditions contraindicating treatment with serotonin reuptake inhibitors
- 6. Past history of schizophrenia or bipolar affective disorder
- 7. Treatment with antidepressants (including St John's Wort) or procarbazine within the last 4 weeks. Amitriptyline may be used at a daily dose of 25 mg or less as a co-analgesic or for urinary frequency, and is not an exclusion criterion.
- 8. Pregnant or lactating women. Women of childbearing potential are eligible if taking adequate contraceptive precautions.
- 9. Treatment with Tramadol in the last 7 days (ZEST participants should not use Tramadol because of the possibility of an interaction causing the serotonin syndrome)

Date of first enrolment

01/05/2002

Date of final enrolment

31/12/2006

Locations

Countries of recruitment

Australia

Study participating centre
NHMRC Clinical Trials Centre
Camperdown, New South Wales
Australia
1450

Sponsor information

Organisation

National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) Clinical Trials Centre (Australia)

ROR

https://ror.org/011kf5r70

Funder(s)

Funder type

Research organisation

Funder Name

New South Wales Cancer Council (Australia)

Funder Name

Pfizer - supplied study drug (sertraline and placebo) free of charge

Results and Publications

Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

IPD sharing plan summary

Not provided at time of registration

Study outputs

Output type	Details	Date created	Date added	Peer reviewed?	Patient-facing?
Results article	results	01/07/2007		Yes	No
Study website	Study website	11/11/2025	11/11/2025	No	Yes