

1 **A randomised, factorial phase II study to determine the optimal dosing regimen**
2 **for ^{68}Ga -satoreotide trizoxetan as an imaging agent in patients with**
3 **gastroenteropancreatic neuroendocrine tumours**

4 **Running Title:** ^{68}Ga -satoreotide trizoxetan optimal dose

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26

27 **ABSTRACT**

28 ⁶⁸Ga-satoreotide trizoxetan is a novel somatostatin receptor antagonist associated with high
29 sensitivity and reproducibility in neuroendocrine tumour (NET) detection and localisation.
30 However, the optimal peptide mass and radioactivity ranges for ⁶⁸Ga-satoreotide trizoxetan have
31 not yet been established. We therefore aimed to determine its optimal dosing regimen in patients
32 with metastatic gastroenteropancreatic NETs in a prospective, randomised, 2×3 factorial,
33 multicentre, phase II study.

34 **Methods:** Patients received ⁶⁸Ga-satoreotide trizoxetan at a peptide mass of 5–20 µg on day 1 of
35 the study and of 30–45 µg on day 16–22, at one of three gallium-68 radioactivity ranges (40–80,
36 100–140, or 160–200 MBq). Whole-body PET/CT imaging was performed 50–70 minutes after
37 each injection. The primary endpoint was the detection rate of NET lesions imaged by ⁶⁸Ga-
38 satoreotide trizoxetan relative to contrast-enhanced CT (CECT) (for each of the six peptide
39 mass/radioactivity range combinations).

40 **Results:** Twenty-four patients were evaluated in the per-protocol analysis. The median number of
41 lesions detected by ⁶⁸Ga-satoreotide trizoxetan PET/CT or PET only was at least twice as high as
42 the number of lesions detected by CECT across the six studied peptide mass dose/radioactivity
43 range combinations. There were no differences between the two peptide mass ranges and between
44 the three radioactivity ranges in the number of identified lesions. However, a trend towards a lower

45 relative lesion count was noted in the liver for the 40–80 MBq range. No relationship was observed
46 between the radioactivity range per patient’s body weight (MBq/kg) and the number of lesions
47 detected by ⁶⁸Ga-satoreotide trizoxetan. Median diagnostic sensitivity of ⁶⁸Ga-satoreotide
48 trizoxetan PET/CT, based on the number of lesions per patient, ranged from 85% to 87% across the
49 different peptide mass and radioactivity ranges. Almost all reported adverse events were mild and
50 self-limiting.

51 **Conclusion:** A radioactivity of 100–200 MBq with a peptide mass up to 50 µg were confirmed as
52 the optimal dosing regimen for ⁶⁸Ga-satoreotide trizoxetan to be used in future phase III studies.

53

54 **Keywords:** ⁶⁸Ga-satoreotide trizoxetan; neuroendocrine tumours; somatostatin receptor antagonist;
55 diagnostic imaging; optimal dose

56

57 **Word Count:** 5,375.

58 INTRODUCTION

59 Gastroenteropancreatic neuroendocrine tumours (GEP-NETs) constitute a heterogeneous
60 group of tumours, most of which overexpress somatostatin receptors (SSTRs) (1). The current
61 standard for the diagnosis and staging of NETs is positron emission tomography (PET)/computed
62 tomography (CT) using radiolabelled SSTR2 agonists such as ⁶⁸Ga-DOTATATE, ⁶⁸Ga-
63 DOTATOC, or ⁶⁴Cu-DOTATATE (2–4). The introduction of SSTR2 antagonists represents an
64 important development in the field of NET imaging, as they bind to more receptors than SSTR2
65 agonists and therefore provide a higher tumour uptake, with better NET visualisation (5–8).

66 ⁶⁸Ga-satoreotide trizoxetan (also known as ⁶⁸Ga-IPN01070, ⁶⁸Ga-NODAGA-JR11, or ⁶⁸Ga-
67 OPS202) is a new generation somatostatin antagonist developed as a PET imaging agent for the
68 detection and localisation of NET lesions. It consists of the small somatostatin analogue JR11
69 conjugated to the strong cyclical chelating agent 1,4,7-triazacyclononane,1-glutaric acid-4,7-acetic
70 acid (NODAGA), which is radiolabelled with the isotope gallium-68. A previous prospective,
71 single-centre, open-label, phase I/II imaging study (9), conducted in 12 patients with well-
72 differentiated, low- or intermediate-grade, SSTR2-positive GEP-NETs, found that ⁶⁸Ga-satoreotide
73 trizoxetan, administered at a peptide mass ranging from 11 to 63 µg and an activity from 125 to 192
74 MBq, was associated with a significantly higher lesion-based overall sensitivity compared to the
75 SSTR2 agonist ⁶⁸Ga-DOTATOC (88%–94% versus 59%; p<0.001). This observation was mainly
76 attributed to the higher detection rate of metastases in the liver (9).

77 We report on a prospective, multicentre, phase II trial designed to expand on the
78 aforementioned phase I/II study (9) by confirming the optimal peptide mass dose and radioactivity
79 ranges for ⁶⁸Ga-satoreotide trizoxetan in patients with metastatic GEP-NETs. Furthermore, this
80 study was designed based on the United States Food and Drug Administration's request for more

81 data on the optimal diagnostic performance of ⁶⁸Ga-satoreotide trizoxetan for PET imaging in a
82 multicentre setting. It was hypothesised that an administered activity range of 40–80 MBq (1.08–
83 2.16 mCi) would provide a reduced diagnostic signal compared to the recommended range of 100–
84 200 MBq (2.70–5.41 mCi).

85

86 MATERIALS AND METHODS

87 Study Design

88 This open-label, reader-blinded, dose-confirmation, 2×3 factorial, randomised (1:1:1), phase
89 II study (ClinicalTrials.gov identifier: [NCT03220217](#); EudraCT no.: [2016-004928-39](#)) investigated
90 two peptide mass dose ranges (5–20 and 30–45 µg) and three radioactivity ranges (40–80, 100–140,
91 and 160–200 MBq) of ⁶⁸Ga-satoreotide trizoxetan. The study was prospectively designed to enrol
92 eight patients in each of the three arms to ensure a balanced inter-dose evaluation. Patients all
93 received two doses of ⁶⁸Ga-satoreotide trizoxetan on two separate visits, 2–3 weeks apart, according
94 to the randomisation schedule of the three arms as shown in Figure 1.

95 Each patient underwent a total of four visits: a screening visit (visit 1) conducted within two
96 weeks prior to the first ⁶⁸Ga-satoreotide trizoxetan administration; on day 1 (visit 2) of the study
97 during which all patients received ⁶⁸Ga-satoreotide trizoxetan at a peptide mass of 5–20 µg with
98 one of the three gallium-68 radioactivity ranges (40–80 MBq, arm A; 100–140 MBq, arm B; or
99 160–200 MBq, arm C); on day 16–22 (visit 3) during which patients received the second dose of
100 ⁶⁸Ga-satoreotide trizoxetan at 30–45 µg and a different radioactivity range than the one administered
101 on day 1; and an end-of-study visit (visit 4) on day 30–36 of the study for safety evaluation.

102 At screening, patient information was collected including medical and surgical history, the
103 primary tumour site, tumour grade, histopathology, and PET images demonstrating SSTR2-
104 expressing lesions obtained within the previous six months. A physical examination including vital
105 sign assessment and laboratory tests (including haematology, blood chemistry, and urinalysis) were
106 performed at all study visits. A 12-lead electrocardiogram was recorded at screening and at the end-
107 of-study.

108 The study was conducted between September 2017 and October 2019 at four investigational
109 sites in Austria, Denmark, and the United States. It was approved by all relevant ethics committees,
110 and conducted in accordance with the Declaration of Helsinki and the International Conference on
111 Harmonisation Guideline on Good Clinical Practice. All patients provided written informed
112 consent, and data were anonymised.

113

114 **Patients**

115 Adults with pathologically confirmed, well-differentiated, functioning or non-functioning,
116 metastatic grade 1/2 GEP-NETs were enrolled in this study. All patients had to have ≥ 2 and ≤ 25
117 lesions/organ expressing SSTR2, which were identified with prior SSTR2 agonist PET scans in
118 either the primary tumour site or in key organs (liver, lymph nodes, bones and lungs). The limits
119 were to ensure that a total number of lesions could be counted for statistical evaluation. Patient
120 admissibility based on the number of SSTR2-expressing lesions was confirmed centrally by an
121 independent nuclear medicine physician. Other inclusion criteria were: an Eastern Cooperative
122 Oncology Group performance status of 0–2, a body weight of 50–110 kg, and adequate hepatic,
123 renal, and haematologic functions.

124 Key exclusion criteria were treatment with short- or long-acting somatostatin analogues
125 within 24 hours or 28 days, respectively, before either ^{68}Ga -satoreotide trizoxetan injection, and any
126 condition that might preclude the acquisition of high-quality PET and/or CT images.

127

128 **Imaging**

129 At each of the four study centres, whole-body PET imaging was performed at both visit 2
130 and visit 3 of the study 50–70 minutes post-intravenous injection of ^{68}Ga -satoreotide trizoxetan,

131 using Siemens Biograph dedicated PET/CT scanners, with an acquisition time of 2–4 minutes per
132 bed position. All PET scans were acquired in list mode, including time-of-flight capability. Whole-
133 body, low-dose CT images were acquired for localisation and attenuation correction. During the
134 same visits, patients also underwent contrast-enhanced CT (CECT) imaging, performed
135 independently on a dedicated CT scanner and used as the standard-of-truth.

136 All images, including the pre-screening SSTR agonist images, were sent to an imaging core
137 lab (Keosys, Nantes, France) after anonymisation. Following quality control, the images were
138 reviewed on a dedicated workstation. The PET images with and without the CT scans were
139 evaluated by two experienced nuclear medicine physicians and one adjudicator for discordant cases.
140 In parallel, CECT scans were read by two other radiologists, with a third adjudicating discordances.
141 To minimise bias, the independent readers were blinded to patient data, any information related to
142 the study site, injected dose, and the temporal sequence of images.

143

144 **Radiopharmaceutical**

145 ⁶⁸Ga-satoreotide trizoxetan was prepared at the study centre's local radiopharmacy, using
146 the clinical trial dose kit provided by Beaufour Ipsen Industries (Dreux, France), by a two-step
147 aseptic compounding process. This process included: 1) reconstitution of the sterile vial A
148 containing the satoreotide trizoxetan precursor and excipients with 1 mL of the solvent consisting
149 of a solution of sterile sodium acetate from vial B; 2) radiolabelling of satoreotide trizoxetan by the
150 addition of a 5-mL sterile hydrochloric acid solution of gallium-68, eluted from a sterile
151 pharmaceutical grade germanium-68/gallium-68 generator (Eckert & Ziegler Radiopharm, Berlin,
152 Germany).

153 The total amount of radioactivity (MBq) injected by a slow push intravenous injection into
154 each patient was determined by measuring the radioactivity in the syringe before and after injection,
155 using a standard dose calibrator. The peptide dosage corresponded to injected volume (mL) x 8.33
156 $\mu\text{g/mL}$.

157

158 **Efficacy Assessments**

159 All efficacy endpoints were assessed in the primary tumour site and in key organs (liver,
160 lymph nodes, lungs, and bones), and were also evaluated in quartiles of radioactivity per baseline
161 body weight expressed as MBq/kg. The primary endpoint of the study was the ratio of the number
162 of lesions detected by a) ^{68}Ga -satoreotide trizoxetan PET/CT and b) PET alone, to the number of
163 lesions identified by CECT scan, for each of the six peptide mass dose/radioactivity range
164 combinations. CECT was used as the standard-of-truth to provide a standardised denominator in
165 order to make valid comparisons by peptide mass and radioactivity range.

166 Secondary efficacy endpoints included: mean and median tumour-to-background ratios
167 calculated by radioactivity range per patient's body weight; preliminary diagnostic sensitivity of
168 ^{68}Ga -satoreotide trizoxetan PET/CT based on the number of lesions per patient compared to the
169 standard-of-truth; and the absolute number of lesions detected by ^{68}Ga -satoreotide trizoxetan
170 PET/CT and the difference with the number of lesions detected by CECT scan. Preliminary
171 diagnostic sensitivity was calculated as the number of lesions detected by ^{68}Ga -satoreotide
172 trizoxetan PET/CT and CECT scan / (number of lesions detected by ^{68}Ga -satoreotide trizoxetan
173 PET/CT and CECT scan + number of lesions detected by CECT scan but not by ^{68}Ga -satoreotide
174 trizoxetan PET/CT).

175

176 **Safety Assessments**

177 The safety and tolerability of ⁶⁸Ga-satoreotide trizoxetan were assessed throughout the study
178 on the basis of adverse events (AEs) which were graded according to the National Cancer Institute
179 Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events (version 5.0) and coded using the Medical
180 Dictionary for Regulatory Activities (version 22.1), laboratory results (haematologic, biochemical,
181 and urologic), physical examinations, vital signs, and electrocardiography.

182

183 **Statistical Analysis**

184 Statistical analysis was descriptive; consequently, no formal sample size calculation was
185 performed. Continuous variables were presented as mean, standard deviation, median, and range,
186 whereas categorical variables were described by counts and percentages. The safety population was
187 defined as all patients who received at least one dose of ⁶⁸Ga-satoreotide trizoxetan. By contrast, in
188 order to ensure a balanced and adequate assessment for each dosage regimen, only the first eight
189 patients in each arm who successfully completed all ⁶⁸Ga-satoreotide trizoxetan PET/CT scans were
190 used in the efficacy analysis and were consequently included in the per-protocol population.

191 All statistical analyses were performed using SAS version 9.4 (SAS Institute, Cary, NC).
192 Missing values were not replaced.

193 **RESULTS**

194 **Patients**

195 A total of 29 patients were enrolled in the study, with a median age of 63.0 years (Table 1).
196 Two patients withdrew from the study before receiving ⁶⁸Ga-satoreotide trizoxetan, leaving 27
197 patients in the safety population (arm A, n=8; arm B, n=9; arm C, n=10), as illustrated in Figure 2.
198 The per-protocol population consisted of 24 patients (n=8 per arm) as initially planned.

199 Baseline demographic and disease characteristics were overall well-balanced between the
200 three study arms, with the small intestine being the most frequent primary tumour site and liver and
201 lymph nodes the most frequent metastasis locations (Table 1; Table 2). Overall, 28 out of the 29
202 (96.6%) patients received at least one prior treatment, including somatostatin analogues in 26
203 (89.7%) patients, ¹⁷⁷Lu-DOTATATE in 17 (58.6%), and everolimus in 3 (10.3%) patients. There
204 were no intercurrent treatments reported between radiolabelled SSTR agonists and antagonists or
205 between two consecutive SSTR antagonists at any time of the study in any patient.

206 All 24 patients in the per-protocol population had a prior SSTR scan performed within a
207 median of 1.6 months (range, 0.1–6.0 months) from screening: 14 (58.3%) had a PET/CT scan with
208 ⁶⁸Ga-DOTATOC, 9 (37.5%) with ⁶⁴Cu-DOTATATE, and 1 (4.2%) with ⁶⁸Ga-DOTATATE. The
209 median (range) total number of SSTR-positive lesions detected by prior SSTR agonist scans was
210 14.5 (6.0–94.0). The median (range) number of positive SSTR-lesions was 1.0 (0–1.0) in the
211 primary tumour site, 9.5 (0–37.0) in the liver, 5.0 (0–36.0) in the lymph nodes, and 0.5 (0–38.0) in
212 the bones. Three patients were enrolled with >30 lesions identified in the liver or in the lymph
213 nodes.

214

215 **Efficacy**

216 For all organs combined, the median number of lesions detected by ⁶⁸Ga-satoreotide
217 trizoxetan PET/CT or PET only was at least twice as high as the number of lesions detected by
218 CECT across the six peptide mass dose/radioactivity range combinations. This was reflected by a
219 median relative lesion count, i.e., the ratio of the number of lesions detected by ⁶⁸Ga-satoreotide
220 trizoxetan PET/CT or PET only to the number of lesions detected by CECT, ranging from 2.1 to
221 3.9. The results for the primary efficacy endpoint are shown in Table 3. When comparing the two
222 administered peptide mass ranges as well as the three radioactivity ranges of ⁶⁸Ga-satoreotide
223 trizoxetan, there was no specific distribution pattern in the median relative lesion count for all
224 organs combined. However, a trend towards a lower median relative lesion count in the liver was
225 noted for the 40–80 MBq range compared to the higher radioactivity ranges (Table 3). When
226 counting the number of lesions detected by ⁶⁸Ga-satoreotide trizoxetan imaging in each of the three
227 study arms, there was exact agreement among the two readers for all patients in arm B (100%),
228 whereas the inter-reader agreement rate was 87.5% in arm A and 75% in arm C.

229 Similarly, no pattern indicating a possible association between the radioactivity range per
230 patient's body weight (MBq/kg) and the relative lesion count or the absolute number of lesions
231 detected by ⁶⁸Ga-satoreotide trizoxetan was found (Table 4). There was also no observed association
232 between the radioactivity range per patient's weight with the tumour-to-background ratio (Table 5).

233 Preliminary diagnostic sensitivity of ⁶⁸Ga-satoreotide trizoxetan PET/CT, using CECT as
234 the standard-of-truth, ranged from a median of 85% to 87% across different peptide mass dose and
235 radioactivity ranges (Table 6).

236

237 **Safety**

238 All patients included in the safety population (n=27) received two injections of ⁶⁸Ga-
239 satoreotide trizoxetan during the study. A total of 33 AEs were reported in 18 patients (66.7%),
240 classified as grade 1 (23 AEs in 15 patients), grade 2 (9 in 5) and grade 3 (1 in 1), the latter event
241 being hypertriglyceridaemia. Overall, 14 drug-related AEs were reported in 7 patients (25.9%), all
242 grade 1 or 2, which included injection site pain (4 events), nausea (2 events), proteinuria (2 events),
243 feeling cold (2 events), flushing (1 event), alopecia (1 event), diarrhoea (1 event), and fatigue (1
244 event). Drug-related AEs occurred 1–2 days after the last dose of ⁶⁸Ga-satoreotide, and were
245 resolved within 15 days. Patients completely recovered from all drug-related AEs, except for one
246 patient with reported alopecia that recovered with sequelae. No serious AEs and no post-dose AEs
247 leading to withdrawal or death were reported.

248

249 **DISCUSSION**

250 This multicentre, randomised, factorial phase II study evaluated the optimal dose range of
251 ⁶⁸Ga-satoreotide trizoxetan. The results showed that the ratio of the number of lesions detected by
252 ⁶⁸Ga-satoreotide trizoxetan to the number of lesions detected by CECT was overall consistent across
253 different peptide mass and radioactivity ranges, with no dependence on subject weight; however, a
254 lower relative lesion count (median) in the liver was noted for the 40–80 MBq range compared to
255 the higher radioactivity ranges. As anticipated with radiolabelled somatostatin analogues, the
256 number of lesions identified by ⁶⁸Ga-satoreotide trizoxetan was consistently higher than that
257 identified by CECT in organs where lesions were present.

258 For the routine clinical setting, PET/CT images should be considered the primary evaluation
259 in NET patients (10,11). The primary efficacy analysis found that, with ⁶⁸Ga-satoreotide trizoxetan
260 PET/CT scans (and also PET alone), there were no noticeable differences between the two peptide
261 masses in the number of identified lesions for all organs, with a median relative lesion count of 2.7
262 for both peptide mass ranges. Hence, based on the results of primary and secondary endpoints, ⁶⁸Ga-
263 satoreotide trizoxetan imaging was not peptide mass-dependent. This is corroborated by the phase
264 I/II imaging study by Nicolas et al. (2018) (9) which found no significant differences between two
265 administered peptide mass doses (14 ± 4 and 50 ± 15 μ g) in the number of malignant liver or lymph
266 node lesions detected per patient or the tumour-to-background ratios, indicating a high
267 reproducibility for ⁶⁸Ga-satoreotide trizoxetan PET/CT, regardless of the administered amount of
268 peptide. Thereby, the present study, along with the findings of the Nicolas et al. study (9), confirms
269 that the optimal peptide mass of ⁶⁸Ga-satoreotide trizoxetan for the diagnostic imaging of GEP-
270 NETs can be up to 50 μ g, which is congruent with the current European Association of Nuclear
271 Medicine administration guidelines for ⁶⁸Ga-labelled SSTR2 agonists (10).

272 Regarding the optimal administered radioactivity of ⁶⁸Ga-satoreotide trizoxetan, the present
273 study confirms that the radioactivity ranges of 100–140 and 160–200 MBq provide optimal imaging
274 results. By contrast, the 40–80 MBq radioactivity range is associated with a trend towards a lower
275 median relative lesion count in the liver, the predominant site of metastases in patients with GEP-
276 NETs (12), and, therefore, further development will not be pursued for this radioactivity range,
277 which of note was not tested in prior studies. The 40–80 MBq radioactivity range might also be
278 associated with a reduced ratio of receptor-bound tracer to free tracer, resulting in declined image
279 contrast and poor detection of GEP-NETs (13,14).

280 The absence of notable diagnostic performance and safety differences between the
281 radioactivity ranges of 100–140 and 160–200 MBq, when discounting the 40–80 MBq range,
282 provides confirmation of the optimal radioactivity range and ascertains the 100–200 MBq range as
283 the appropriate activity for future use of ⁶⁸Ga-satoreotide trizoxetan. This is in keeping with the
284 European Association of Nuclear Medicine guidelines which recommend an administered
285 radioactivity range of ⁶⁸Ga-labelled SSTR2 agonists between 100 and 200 MBq, depending on the
286 technical characteristics of the PET scanner and the patient's body weight (10). Similarly, the
287 Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging recommends administration of ⁶⁸Ga-labelled
288 SSTR2 agonists at a radioactivity between 111 and 259 MBq, while taking into account the patient's
289 body weight (11). Although there is a possibility of narrowing the radioactivity window of ⁶⁸Ga-
290 satoreotide trizoxetan from 100–200 to 100–140 MBq, adopting the wider, guideline-recommended
291 radioactivity range of 100–200 MBq offers increased flexibility and feasibility in routine clinical
292 practice, while maintaining similarity in dosing to other gallium-68-labelled products. The absence
293 of a clear dose-response relationship in the present study might be related to factors such as

294 heterogeneity in receptor density, hypoxia, interstitial pressure, necrosis, and tumour heterogeneity
295 (15).

296 Of significant note, this study did not find a weight-dependent effect of ⁶⁸Ga-satoreotide
297 trizoxetan across the evaluated quartiles of radioactivity (MBq)/body weight (kg). This ideally
298 provides the opportunity for an activity range of ⁶⁸Ga-satoreotide trizoxetan (100–200 MBq) to be
299 prescribed, regardless of body weight. By contrast, ⁶⁸Ga-labelled SSTR2 agonists require dosing
300 per body mass (10,11,16). In a recent prospective study from the Netherlands conducted among 21
301 patients with NETs who underwent whole-body ⁶⁸Ga-DOTATATE PET/CT, Cox and colleagues
302 reported that, of all patient-dependent parameters, body mass showed the strongest correlation
303 (coefficient of determination of 0.60) with normalised signal-to-noise ratio (16). Importantly, the
304 absence of a weight-dependent effect represents a practical advantage for ⁶⁸Ga-satoreotide
305 trizoxetan, as an administered activity within a predetermined range instead of a weight-based
306 administered activity is not only more convenient but also reduces the possibility of dosing errors.

307 The frequency and nature of the AEs reported with ⁶⁸Ga-satoreotide trizoxetan in the present
308 study did not raise any safety concern. Of note, many of these clinical manifestations (e.g., nausea,
309 flushing, diarrhoea, fatigue) are common in patients with NETs. This compares favourably with the
310 safety profile in the Nicolas et al. (2018) imaging study (17), in which no severe AEs or post-dose
311 AEs leading to withdrawal or death were reported.

312 This study is mainly limited by a small sample size, which negated the use of a formal
313 statistical analysis; thus, descriptive statistical analyses were applied. In addition, while not
314 affecting image readability, the enrolment of three patients with >25 lesions/organ did increase
315 lesion burden and skewed distributions in some instances. The study was also designed to evaluate
316 five different organs (primary tumour site, liver, lymph nodes, lungs, and bones). However, due to

317 the few lesions identified in certain organs, meaningful results regarding the number of identified
318 lesions were only available for all organs combined, the liver, and lymph nodes. Nevertheless, these
319 limitations were balanced by a robust study design that allowed inter- and intra-individual
320 comparisons across different peptide mass and radioactivity range combinations, which were
321 evaluated at patient and lesion levels for both ⁶⁸Ga-satoreotide trizoxetan PET/CT and PET only.

322

323 **CONCLUSION**

324 The overall results of this study confirm an optimal administered peptide mass of ⁶⁸Ga-
325 satoreotide trizoxetan up to 50 µg with a radioactivity of 100–200 MBq, which is in line with current
326 guidelines for administration of ⁶⁸Ga-labelled radiopharmaceuticals (10,11). This phase II study
327 also confirmed that the overall safety profile of ⁶⁸Ga-satoreotide trizoxetan is acceptable for
328 continued clinical development.

329 **DISCLOSURE**

330 This study was funded by Ipsen (Boulogne, France). IV has acted as a consultant for Ipsen
331 and Advanced Accelerator Applications. HG serves on the advisory board of Ipsen. CGM has acted
332 as a consultant for Ipsen, CytoSite Bio and Alacrita, and is a managing partner at the Bracken Group.
333 TR is a managing partner at Partner 4 Health, and has acted as a consultant for Ipsen. SM and CP
334 are employees at Ipsen Bioscience. No other conflict of interest exists.

335

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340

341 **AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS**

342 TR and CGM designed the study. IV, SB, AK, HG, PI, UK, EAC, ML, JMS, and JC
343 performed the experiments. CP, CGM, TR, and SM analysed the data. IV, AK, HG, JC, CGM, and
344 TR supervised the study. All authors reviewed and edited the manuscript. All authors read and
345 approved the final manuscript.

346 **KEY POINTS**

347 **Question:** What are the optimal peptide mass and radioactivity ranges for ⁶⁸Ga-satoreotide
348 trizoxetan administered as a PET imaging agent in patients with GEP-NETs?

349 **Pertinent Findings:** In this prospective, randomised, open-label, factorial-design, phase II study,
350 the ratio of the number of lesions detected by ⁶⁸Ga-satoreotide trizoxetan to the number detected by
351 CECT was overall consistent across different peptide mass and radioactivity ranges, with no weight-
352 dependent effect. However, a radioactivity range of 40–80 MBq was associated with a trend towards
353 a lower median relative lesion count in the liver, the predominant site of metastasis in patients with
354 GEP-NETs.

355 **Implications for Patient Care:** A radioactivity of 100–200 MBq with a peptide mass up to 50 µg
356 were confirmed as the optimal dosing regimen for ⁶⁸Ga-satoreotide trizoxetan to be used in future
357 phase III clinical trials.

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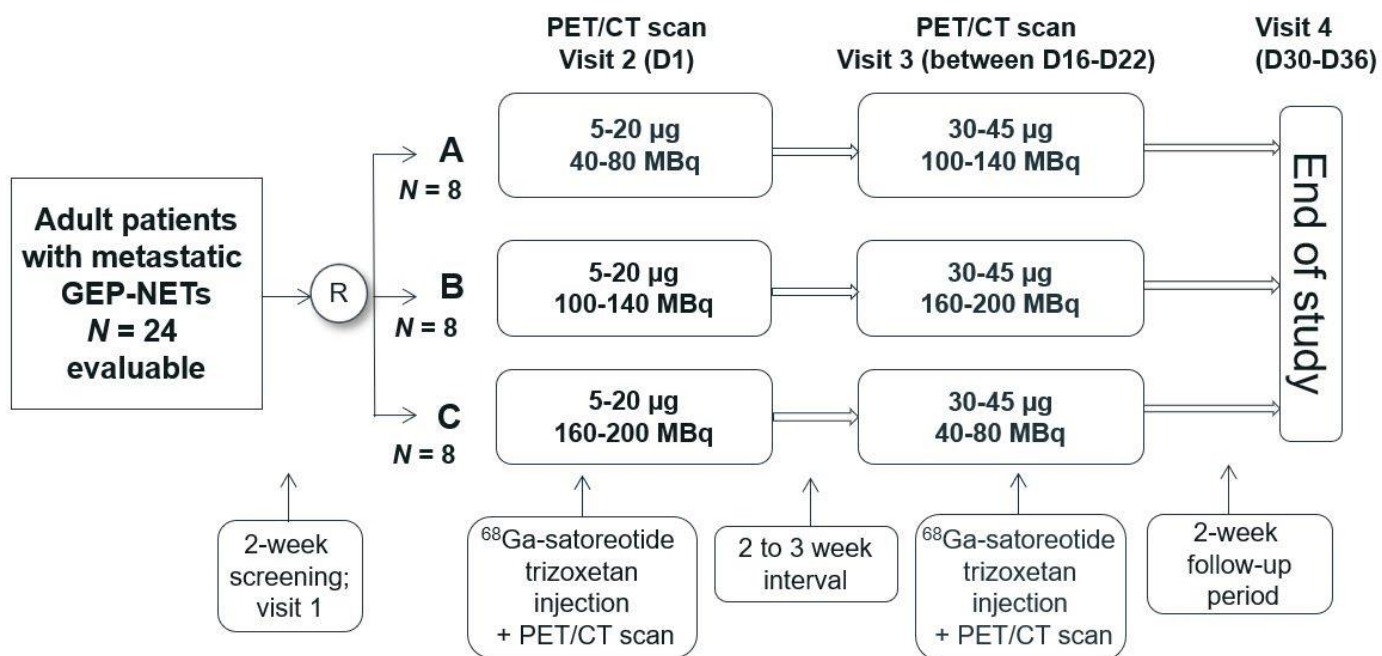


Figure 1. Study design. Abbreviations: CT, computed tomography; D, day; GEP, gastroenteropancreatic; NET, neuroendocrine tumour; PET, positron emission tomography; R, randomised.

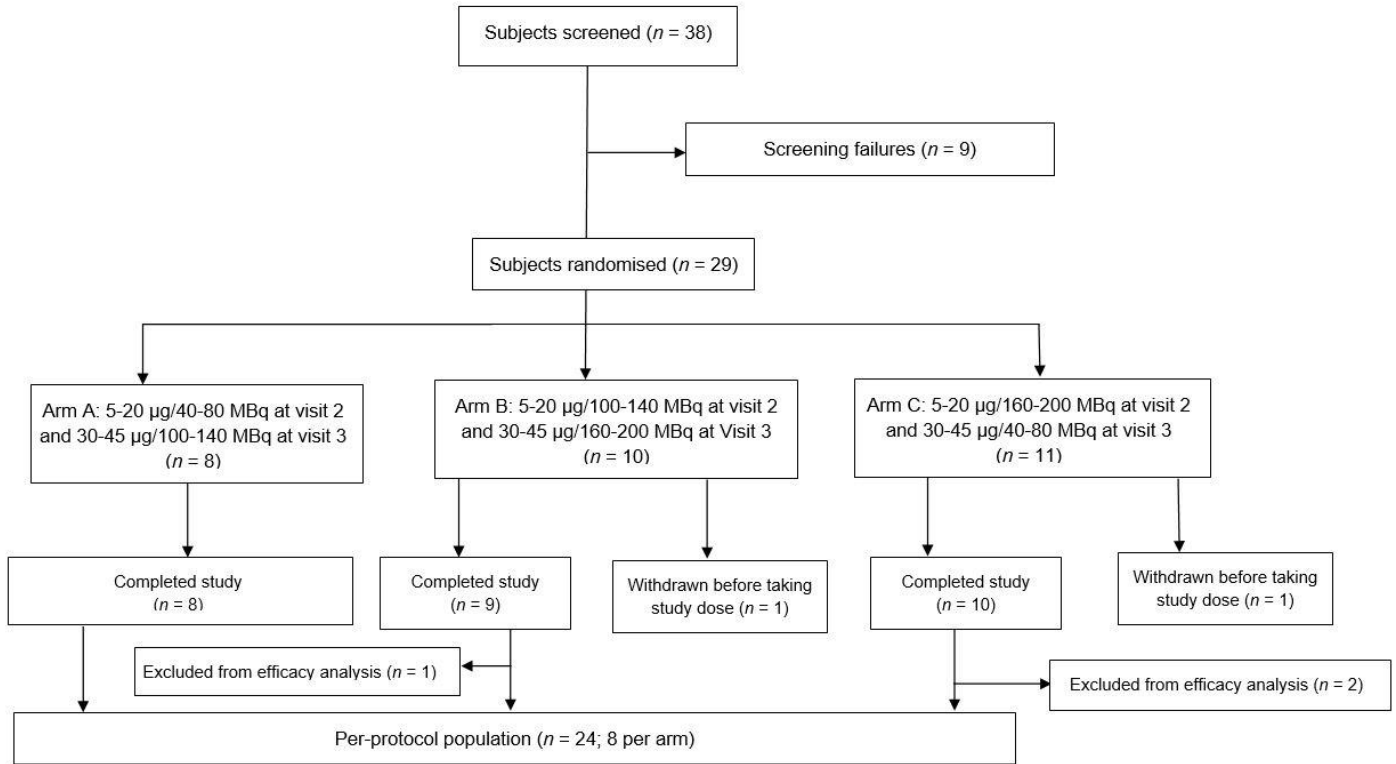


Figure 2. Patient disposition

TABLE 1
Baseline Demographic Characteristics in the Randomised Population

Parameter	Arm A (N=8)	Arm B (N=10)	Arm C (N=11)	Overall (N=29)
Age (years)				
Median [range]	71.5 [54–84]	69.5 [60–78]	59.0 [36–78]	63.0 [36–84]
Sex				
Male	6 (75.0)	4 (40.0)	9 (81.8)	19 (65.5)
Female	2 (25.0)	6 (60.0)	2 (18.2)	10 (34.5)
Weight (kg)				
Median [range]	81.0 [77–98]	85.3 [52–109]	86.0 [56–106]	83.0 [52–109]
BMI (kg/m ²)				
Median [range]	26.4 [24–35]	28.8 [21–34]	26.3 [18–40]	26.4 [18–40]
ECOG performance status				
0	7 (87.5)	8 (80.0)	9 (81.8)	24 (82.8)
1	1 (12.5)	2 (20.0)	2 (18.2)	5 (17.2)

Data presented as n (%), unless otherwise specified. Percentages are calculated as n/N.
Abbreviations: BMI, body mass index; ECOG, Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group.

TABLE 2
Baseline Disease Characteristics in the Per-Protocol Population

Parameter	Arm A (N=8)	Arm B (N=8)	Arm C (N=8)	Overall (N=24)
Site of primary tumour				
Small intestine	6 (75.0)	4 (50.0)	6 (75.0)	16 (66.7)
Pancreas	1 (12.5)	1 (12.5)	1 (12.5)	3 (12.5)
Large intestine	1 (12.5)	3 (37.5)	1 (12.5)	5 (20.8)
Location of metastasis				
Liver	8 (100.0)	6 (75.0)	8 (100.0)	22 (91.7)
Lymph nodes	5 (62.5)	8 (100.0)	6 (75.0)	19 (79.2)
Bones	2 (25.0)	1 (12.5)	2 (25.0)	5 (20.8)
Lungs	2 (25.0)	0	2 (25.0)	4 (16.7)

Data presented as n (%). Percentages are calculated as n/N.

TABLE 3

Relative Lesion Count in the Per-Protocol Population (N=24), by Peptide Mass and Radioactivity Ranges

	All organs*		Liver		Lymph nodes	
	PET/CT	PET	PET/CT	PET	PET/CT	PET
Peptide mass range						
5–20 µg	n=24 2.7 (0.64–16.25)	n=24 2.6 (0.73–19.00)	n=17 2.3 (0.73–9.00)	n=17 2.6 (0.67–7.00)	n=13 2.0 (0.00–8.00)	n=13 2.3 (0.50–10.00)
30–45 µg	n=24 2.7 (0.82–13.50)	n=24 2.8 (0.68–14.50)	n=17 3.0 (0.76–11.00)	n=17 2.8 (0.62–9.00)	n=13 1.3 (0.00–12.00)	n=13 2.0 (0.50–14.00)
Radioactivity range						
40–80 MBq	n=16 3.1 (0.73–15.00)	n=16 2.6 (0.68–19.00)	n=13 2.2 (0.73–9.00)	n=13 2.6 (0.62–6.00)	n=7 2.0 (1.00–3.00)	n=7 2.7 (0.75–4.00)
100–140 MBq	n=16 2.6 (0.64–13.50)	n=16 2.8 (1.00–14.50)	n=9 3.0 (0.83–8.00)	n=9 3.3 (0.67–7.00)	n=9 1.3 (0.00–8.00)	n=9 2.0 (0.50–10.00)
160–200 MBq	n=16 2.6 (0.82–16.25)	n=16 2.7 (0.91–13.50)	n=12 2.7 (0.86–11.00)	n=12 2.8 (0.86–9.00)	n=10 1.3 (0.00–12.00)	n=10 2.2 (0.50–14.00)

Data are presented as median (range).

*All organs refer to the primary tumour site + key organs (liver, lymph nodes, lungs, and bones).

Relative lesion count = number of lesions detected by ⁶⁸Ga-satoreotide trizoxetan PET/CT or PET only / number of lesions detected by contrast-enhanced CT scan.

For the liver and lymph nodes, the number of analysed patients were those who had ≥2 lesions detected by contrast-enhanced CT on the given organ.

Abbreviations: CT, computed tomography; PET, positron emission tomography.

TABLE 4

Overall Lesion Count in the Per-Protocol Population (N=24), by Radioactivity Range (MBq) per Patient's Baseline Body Weight (kg)

	0.69–0.97 MBq/kg (N=14)	0.97–1.55 MBq/kg (N=10)	1.55–2.09 MBq/kg (N=13)	2.09–3.72 MBq/kg (N=11)
Relative lesion count				
Mean ± SD	4.3 ± 4.04	2.9 ± 1.88	3.6 ± 3.31	4.0 ± 4.15
Median (range)	3.5 (0.73–15.00)	2.5 (0.64–7.00)	2.1 (0.82–13.50)	2.6 (1.67–16.25)
Absolute number of detected lesions				
Mean ± SD	26.9 ± 25.95	18.1 ± 20.62	25.9 ± 21.45	26.8 ± 18.59
Median (range)	16.5 (7–94)	11.5 (6–75)	20.0 (8–73)	19.0 (10–65)

Overall relative lesion count = number of lesions detected by ⁶⁸Ga-satoreotide trizoxetan in all organs / number of lesions detected by contrast-enhanced computed tomography.

The absolute number of detected lesions corresponds here to the absolute number of lesions detected by ⁶⁸Ga-satoreotide trizoxetan in all organs.

Abbreviation: SD, standard deviation.

TABLE 5

Tumour-To-Background Ratio for the Liver and the Lymph Nodes in the Per-Protocol Population (N=24), by Radioactivity Range (MBq) per Patient's Baseline Body Weight (kg)

Organ		0.69–0.97 MBq/kg (N=14)	0.97–1.55 MBq/kg (N=10)	1.55–2.09 MBq/kg (N=13)	2.09–3.72 MBq/kg (N=11)
Liver	n*	11	6	9	8
	Mean ± SD	7.1 ± 5.90	4.3 ± 1.03	4.9 ± 2.95	6.2 ± 3.68
	Median (range)	4.3 (3.07–22.48)	4.0 (3.35–6.13)	4.1 (2.13–10.75)	5.1 (2.57–12.63)
Lymph nodes	n*	5	6	7	8
	Mean ± SD	10.1 ± 7.25	8.3 ± 5.18	9.2 ± 5.16	5.1 ± 3.17
	Median (range)	7.4 (3.53–18.69)	5.3 (4.47–16.10)	11.4 (2.87–15.00)	4.5 (1.54–11.65)

*n corresponds to the number of patients with lesions in either the liver or the lymph nodes. The number of patients with lesions in the primary tumour site and bones was too small (≤ 3 in each category) to allow a meaningful interpretation.

Abbreviation: SD, standard deviation.

TABLE 6

Preliminary Diagnostic Sensitivity (%) of ⁶⁸Ga-Satoreotide Trizoxetan PET/CT in the Per-Protocol Population (N=24), by Peptide Mass Dose and Radioactivity Range

	Peptide mass dose range		Radioactivity range				
	5–20 µg (N=24)	30–45 µg (N=24)	40–80 MBq (N=16)	100–140 MBq (N=16)	160–200 MBq (N=16)	100–200 MBq (N=24)	40–200 MBq (N=24)
Mean ± SD	79 ± 24	78 ± 28	86 ± 14	71 ± 34	77 ± 25	75 ± 29	80 ± 24
Median (range)	85 (8–100)	87 (0–100)	87 (64–100)	85 (0–100)	86 (8–100)	85 (0–100)	85 (8–100)

Diagnostic sensitivity = number of lesions detected by ⁶⁸Ga-satoreotide trizoxetan PET/CT and by contrast-enhanced CT scan / (number of lesions detected by ⁶⁸Ga-satoreotide trizoxetan PET/CT and by contrast-enhanced CT scan + number of lesions detected by contrast-enhanced CT scan but not ⁶⁸Ga satoreotide trizoxetan PET/CT) x 100.

Abbreviations: CT, computed tomography; PET, positron emission tomography; SD, standard deviation.

