

# Enhanced sterilizing potential of regimens containing a novel diarylquinoline (TBAJ-876) in a preclinical mouse model of tuberculosis.

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## Type selection

**Category:** Scientific research

**Preferred presentation type:** Oral abstract presentation

## Track selection

**Track:** A2: Drug and vaccine development, including for COVID-19

## Title

## Scientific Research Abstract Text

**Background:** The relapsing mouse model (RMM) effectively predicted the clinical mycobactericidal and sterilizing potential of the BPaL and BPaMZ regimens. The new diarylquinoline clinical candidate, TBAJ-876 combined with PaL, has been evaluated in RMMs to assess the exposure/response relationship and sterilizing potential relative to HRZE, BPaL, and BPaMZ. The model data will be used to evaluate the potential clinical activity of TBAJ-876 vs. Bedaquiline in PaL-containing regimens and will guide clinical dose selection and impact of using lower doses of L (linezolid).

**Design/Methods:** The BALB/c RMM with Mtb strain H37Rv was used. Dosing began 2 weeks post-infection ( $\geq 10^7$  lung CFUs). Groups of mice (~5-10/arm/timepoint) were treated for various periods (0.5-6 months); 3 months after the end of each dosing period, lungs were harvested and assessed for bacterial burdens by plating. All marketed drugs were dosed orally 5 days per week to provide approximate human-equivalent dose (HED) exposures at approved doses. TBAJ-876 was dosed at 1.56, 3.125, 6.25, and 12.5 mg/Kg in the dose ranging study (~25, 50, 100, and 200 mg HED). Drug PK was assessed for some studies.

**Results:** Dose-dependent efficacy of TBAJ-876 was observed at doses up to 12.5 mg/Kg. The 3.125 mg/Kg dose of TBAJ-876 provided faster time to sterilization than 25 mg/Kg doses of bedaquiline when combined with PaL. The 6.25 mg/Kg of TBAJ-876 provided an approximately one month decrease in time-to-sterilization vs. bedaquiline when combined with PaL (with L dose lowered to achieve a 600 mg human equivalent dose) and provided a similar time-to-sterilization as the BPaMZ treated group.

Comparison of TBAJ-876 dose ranging vs. BDQ in combination with PaL: BALB/c Relapsing Mouse Model (Standard BPaL regimen human equivalent exposures: 200 mg for BDQ and Pa, 1200 mg for linezolid)

Regimen	Months of treatment prior to 3 months off treatment to assess relapse (# of culture positive mice / total # of mice in the treatment group)							
	M1.5	M2	M2.5	M3	M3.5	M4	M4.5	M5
BDQ (25 mpk) + PaL	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10
TBAJ (1.56 mpk) + PaL	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10
TBAJ (3.125 mpk) + PaL	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10
TBAJ (6.25 mpk) + PaL	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10
TBAJ (12.5 mpk) + PaL	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10

\* CFUs measured after one month of dosing in separate groups of mice (n=4 mice/group)

TBAJ-876 (6.25 mpk dose) vs. BDQ (25 mpk dose) in combination with PaL\* in BALB/c Relapsing Mouse Model (\*Linezolid Dose = 600 mg/hu dose equivalent used for first two months only)

Regimen	M1.5	M2	M2.5	M3	M3.5	M4	M4.5	M5
BDQ (25 mpk) + PaL	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10
TBAJ (6.25 mpk) + PaL	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10
BDQ (25 mpk) + PaL + L	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10
BDQ (25 mpk) + PaL + L + TBAJ (6.25 mpk)	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10	10/10

\* R: Rifampin; H: Isoniazid; Z: Pyrazinamide; E: Ethambutol; M: Moxifloxacin; BDQ: Bedaquiline; B76: TBAJ-876; SOC: Standard of Care  
 \* Mouse lungs did not have Mtb growth when cultured at 3 months after the end of the treatment period noted

**Conclusions:** These RMM studies show the potential for significant improvement in the sterilizing activity of regimens containing TBAJ-876 vs. bedaquiline at the likely achievable human exposures.

## Summary

**Summary:** Bedaquiline (B)-containing regimens (BPaL, BPaLM, BHZEL and BPaMZ) provide excellent clinical efficacy with shortened treatment durations. Bedaquiline's full potential may be unrealized at recommended doses as tolerability concerns limit utilization of higher doses. TBAJ-876 is a new, more potent diarylquinoline with superior sterilizing activity at lower drug exposures in mouse models.

## Other Fields

**Did you benefit from the [Abstract Mentor Programme \(AMP\)](#)?:** No

**Do you have ethical clearance for this abstract?:** Yes

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