

# BI 1356, a Novel and Selective Xanthine Based DPP-4 Inhibitor, Demonstrates Good Safety and Tolerability with a Wide Therapeutic Window

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0586P

ADA 22-26 June 2007, C

## ABSTRACT

thine analogue, which exhibits a high potency for DPP-4 inhibition, half-life of circulating incretin hormones, and improves glucose preclinical studies.

, double-blind, placebo controlled single rising dose study in healthy male 21-65 years, BI 1356 was administered at doses ranging from 2.5 to 600 mg to investigate the safety, tolerability, pharmacokinetics, and pharmacodynamics. BI 1356 was well tolerated. There were no serious adverse events or hypoglycemic episodes observed. The incidence of any adverse event (AE) (19%, 38% for placebo) or of drug related AEs (19% vs. 31%) was not higher than placebo. The most common AEs reported were headache, dizziness, and nausea with an incidence comparable between BI 1356 and placebo. Clinically relevant deviations in laboratory parameters (haematology, clinical chemistry, and urinalysis) were reported. ECGs were centrally reviewed by a specialised provider and did not show any clinically relevant deviations or a QT prolonging effect up to and including the 600 mg dose.

BI 1356 increased less than proportionally from 2.5 to 5 mg, while  $C_{max}$  increased more than proportionally from 25 to 100 mg and approximately proportionally for doses ranging from 100 to 600 mg. Renal excretion was low and does not represent the main pathway for elimination of BI 1356. After single doses of 2.5 mg BI 1356, DPP-4 activity was reduced by 73% and 86% within 3 h, respectively. After administration of 25-600 mg BI 1356, mean plasma DPP-4 inhibition was 70-90%.

BI 1356 was well tolerated and safe. The results of the pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic profile after single doses demonstrate the potency and full 24 hrs profile of BI 1356. Based on an estimated therapeutic dose of 5 mg, the low end of BI 1356 is expected to be >100 fold.

## INTRODUCTION

Diabetes mellitus is characterised by insulin resistance and progressive  $\beta$ -cell dysfunction. Current oral antidiabetic agents cannot prevent the failure of pancreatic  $\beta$ -cells, leading to secondary drug

resistance. Each in the treatment of diabetes targets the incretins (e.g. GLP-1 and GIP) which are secreted in the intestine in response to food intake. Incretins stimulate insulin and glucagon secretion. DPP-4 inhibitors increase the levels of intact GLP-1. BI 1356 is a potent, novel, orally available, selective inhibitor of DPP-4 (see also Poster Nos. 0588P and 0594P).

This study was designed to evaluate the safety, tolerability, pharmacokinetics (PK), and pharmacodynamics (PD) of single rising doses of BI 1356 in healthy subjects.

## OBJECTIVES

To evaluate the tolerability of BI 1356 following administration of single rising doses of 2.5, 5, 25, 50, 100, 200, 400, and 600 mg BI 1356 in healthy

subjects and to determine the PK and PD parameters of BI 1356 after single doses

## METHODS

The study included 100 healthy volunteers from  $\geq 21$  to  $\leq 65$  years of age and with a BMI of  $18.5$  to  $30.0$  kg/m<sup>2</sup>.

Written informed consent

was obtained from all subjects. BI 1356 was administered as solution for doses 2.5 and 5 mg and as tablets for doses 25, 50, 100, 200, 400 and 600 mg

BI 1356 was administered in the morning after an overnight fast. Pharmacokinetic profiling was performed for up to 192 hours

Pharmacodynamic activity was determined as a pharmacodynamic marker by measuring the increase in absorbance over time of diluted EDTA plasma with Ala-Pro-AFC as substrate and the increase in absorbance over time

## DEMOGRAPHIC AND BASELINE CHARACTERISTICS

- 64 Caucasian subjects were randomised to one of 8 treatment groups with a ratio of 3:1 active treatment to placebo
- One subject was randomised but not treated as the QRS interval >110 ms at baseline which was a violation of an exclusion criterion

Table 1: Subject characteristics at baseline

	Total subjects treated
N	63
Age (years $\pm$ SD)	38.3 (9.4)
Weight (kg $\pm$ SD)	80.4 (10.2)
BMI (kg/m <sup>2</sup> $\pm$ SD)	24.8 (2.3)

## RESULTS - PHARMACOKINETICS

Figure 1: Arithmetic mean (SD) plasma concentration of BI 1356 after single oral administration of 2.5 mg to 600 mg

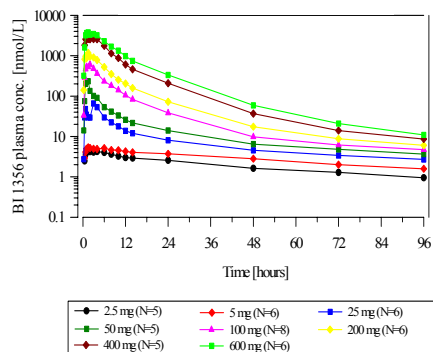
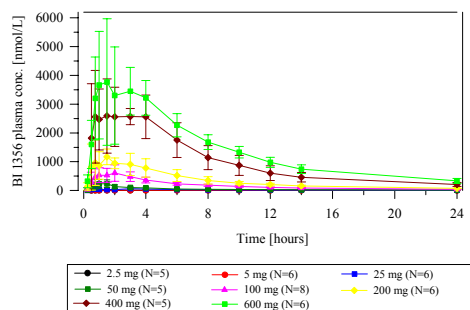


Table 2: Geometric mean (%CV) of PK parameters after single oral administration of 2.5 to 600 mg BI 1356

Parameter	2.5 mg solution	5 mg solution	25 mg tablet	50 mg tablet	100 mg tablet	200 mg tablet	400 mg tablet	600 mg tablet
AUC <sub>0-24</sub> [nmol·h/L]	75.3 (19.1)	100 (23.0)	468 (33.6)	1041 (39.8)	3999 (21.8)	7829 (25.5)	22853 (36.3)	33010 (21.2)
AUC <sub>∞</sub> [nmol·h/L]	290 (33.8)	427 (33.0)	1111 (15.8)	1932 (25.7)	5692 (21.0)	10707 (16.8)	27720 (35.7)	39569 (19.6)
C <sub>max</sub> [nmol/L]	4.40 (19.1)	5.71 (19.4)	72.4 (40.2)	250 (47.0)	758 (38.8)	1443 (25.9)	3280 (36.7)	4338 (32.1)
t <sub>max</sub> <sup>1</sup> [h]	2.05 (1.48 – 3.05)	1.47 (1.02 – 5.95)	2.97 (0.70 – 4.02)	0.73 (0.45 – 1.48)	1.73 (0.52 – 3.03)	1.13 (0.47 – 2.03)	3.00 (0.68 – 4.00)	2.21 (0.70 – 3.02)
t <sub>1/2</sub> [h]	79.9 (34.7)	69.7 (17.2)	79.9 (24.6)	75.9 (5.60)	143 (19.8)	172 (43.2)	184 (50.9)	128 (41.3)

<sup>1</sup>median t<sub>max</sub> and min-max range

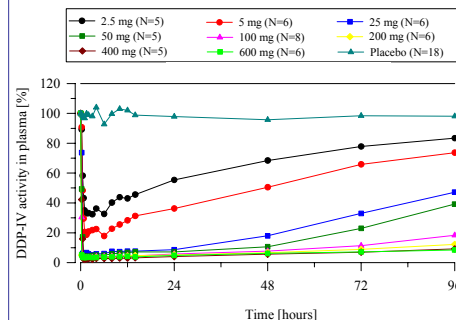
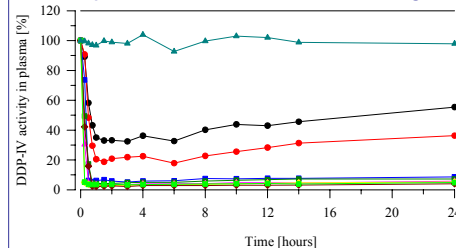
• Exposure of BI 1356 increased less than proportionally from 2.5 to 5 mg. C<sub>max</sub> and AUC increased more than proportionally from 25 to 100 mg and approximately proportionally for doses ranging from 100 to 600 mg.

• The terminal half-life ranged from 70-80 hrs for samples collected up to 120 hrs post-dose, and to 184 hrs for samples collected up to 192 hrs. The long terminal half-life can be explained by tight binding of BI 1356 to plasma DPP-4 protein. The effective half-life is in the range of 10-30 hrs (see also Poster No. 0588P)

• Renal excretion of BI 1356 was below 1% for doses up to 5 mg and increased dose-dependently

## RESULTS - PHARMACODYNAMICS

Figure 2: Arithmetic mean DPP-4 activity measured in plasma after administration of 2.5 to 600 mg BI 1356



- 2.5 mg and 5 mg BI 1356 reduced DPP-4 activity by 73% and 86% within 3 hrs, respectively.
- Mean plasma DPP-4 activity was below 10% 24 hrs after administration of 25-600 mg BI 1356

## RESULTS – SAFETY AND TOLERABILITY

### Adverse events

- There were no serious adverse events (SAEs) and no hypoglycemic episodes
- The incidence of AEs with BI 1356 (27.7%) was not higher compared to placebo (37.5%), and no dose dependency was discerned
- Headache was reported most commonly with an incidence of 6% (37.5% treated with placebo and 9 subjects (19.1%) treated with BI 1356)
- The number of subjects with AEs considered possibly drug related was not higher with BI 1356 (19.1%) compared with placebo (31.3%)

### Clinical laboratory tests

- No clinically relevant changes were observed in routine blood tests (haematology, coagulation parameters, clinical chemistry, and urinalysis)

### 12-lead ECG and vital signs

- No clinically relevant changes in blood pressure or heart rate were observed
- No evidence for clinically relevant effects of BI 1356 on any ECG parameters

## CONCLUSIONS

- The administration of single rising oral doses of 2.5 mg to 600 mg BI 1356 was well tolerated and safe
- The overall incidence of adverse events was not different between BI 1356 and placebo
- The pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic profile is consistent with a once-daily dosing regimen
- DPP-4 activity was reduced by >40% and >60%, 24 hrs after administration of 2.5 and 5 mg BI 1356, respectively
- BI 1356 is a potent DPP-4 inhibitor with a wide therapeutic window of >100-fold based on an expected therapeutic dose

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to thank all those who participated in this study and were involved in the preparation, conduct, and analysis of the study.