Nonclinical Pharmacokinetics and ADME of Givosiran, the First Approved GalNAc-conjugated RNAi Therapeutic

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Abstract

Givosiran is a N-acetylgalactosamine (GalNAc)-conjugated RNA interference (RNAi) therapeutic that targets 5’-aminolevulinate synthase 1 (ALAS1) messenger RNA (mRNA) in the liver and is currently marketed for the treatment of acute hepatic porphyria (AHP). Herein, nonclinical pharmacokinetic (PK) and absorption, distribution, metabolism, and excretion (ADME) properties of givosiran were characterized. Givosiran was completely absorbed after subcutaneous (SC) administration with relatively short plasma elimination t½ (less than 4 hours). Plasma exposure increased approximately dose proportionally with no accumulation after repeat doses. Plasma protein binding (PPB) was concentration dependent across all species tested and was around 90% at clinically relevant concentration in human. Givosiran predominantly distributed to the liver by asialoglycoprotein receptor (ASGPR)-mediated uptake, and the elimination t½ in the liver was significantly longer (~1 week). Givosiran was metabolized by nucleases, not cytochrome P450 (CYP) isozymes, across species with no human unique metabolites. Givosiran metabolized to form one primary active metabolite with the loss of 1 nucleotide from the 3’ end of antisense strand, AS(N-1)3’ givosiran which was equipotent to givosiran. Renal and fecal excretion were minor routes of elimination of givosiran as approximately 10% and 16% of the dose was recovered intact in excreta of rats and monkeys, respectively. Givosiran is not a substrate, inhibitor, or inducer of CYP isozymes, and it is not a substrate or inhibitor of uptake and most efflux transporters. Thus, givosiran has a low potential of mediating drug-drug interactions involving CYP isozymes and drug transporters.
Significance Statement

Nonclinical PK and ADME properties of givosiran, the first approved GalNAc-conjugated RNAi therapeutic, were characterized. Givosiran shows similar PK and ADME properties across rats and monkeys in vivo and across human and animal matrices in vitro. SC administration results in adequate exposure of givosiran to the target organ (liver). These studies support the interpretation of toxicology studies, help characterize the disposition of givosiran in humans, and support the clinical use of givosiran for the treatment of AHP.
RNAi (RNA interference) is a natural cellular process of gene silencing that represents one of the most promising and rapidly advancing frontiers in biology and drug development today (Wittrup and Lieberman, 2015; Setten et al., 2019; Hu et al., 2020). Small interfering RNA (siRNA), which mediates RNAi, is a class of short, non-coding, double-stranded RNA that can suppress gene expression by targeting and degrading messenger RNA (mRNA) through an RNA-induced silencing complex (RISC) (Liu et al., 2004; Nakanishi, 2016). RNAi therapeutics offer many advantages, such as being able to target diseases that are not always treatable with small molecules or proteins and being able to specifically target a wide range of genes. While they showed promise in their infancy, RNAi therapeutics faced many challenges. siRNA is difficult to deliver to its target and easily degraded by RNases if left unmodified. However, advances in RNAi technology have led to deliverable therapeutics that remain stable in the body for several weeks to months (Nair et al., 2017; Foster et al., 2018). To date, four RNAi therapeutics have been approved for human use, ONPATTRO® (patisiran) in 2018, GIVLAARI® (givosiran) in 2019, OXLUMO® (lumasiran) and Leqvio® (inclisiran) in 2020.

Givosiran was approved in the U.S. for the treatment of acute hepatic porphyria (AHP) in adults and in the EU for the treatment of AHP in adults and adolescents aged 12 years or older. AHP is a rare disease with a prevalence of 5 to 10 cases/100,000 people in the US and affects primarily females (age range 15 to 45 years). AHP occurs due to an autosomal dominant mutation that leads to deficiencies in the heme biosynthesis enzymes aminolevulic acid dehydratase and porphobilinogen deaminase (Puy et al., 2010; Balwani and Desnick, 2012). The rate-limiting step in heme synthesis is catalyzed by the enzyme 5'-aminolevulinate synthase 1 (ALAS1), which is controlled by feedback repression via the end-product heme. In patients with AHP, induction of ALAS1 results in increased production and accumulation of toxic heme intermediates delta-aminolevulinic acid (ALA) and porphobilinogen (PBG). Clinically, accumulation of these toxic heme intermediates results in acute porphyria attacks characterized by severe abdominal pain, muscle weakness, seizures, psychiatric dysfunction, irreversible neurologic damage, and increased risk of hepatic malignancy (Bissell and Wang, 2015). Givosiran targets and degrades hepatic ALAS1 mRNA, reducing the production of ALAS1 protein, which in turn prevents the accumulation of toxic ALA and PBG (Chan et al., 2015; Sardh et al., 2019; Balwani et al., 2020).
Unlike patisiran, where targeted delivery to the liver is achieved by encapsulating the siRNA in lipid nanoparticles and administration is by intravenous infusion (Akinc et al., 2019), givosiran is specifically designed for delivery to the liver through conjugation of a triantennary N-acetylgalactosamine (GalNAc) ligand to the sense strand of the siRNA and is administered subcutaneously (SC). The GalNAc ligand directs hepatocyte-specific uptake of siRNA via the asialoglycoprotein receptor (ASGPR), which is highly expressed on the surface of hepatocytes (Nair et al., 2014). Givosiran is the first GalNAc-conjugated RNAi therapeutic that has been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and the European Commission, with the recommended dose of 2.5 mg/kg administered via SC injection once monthly, and currently many more GalNAc-conjugated RNAi therapeutics are in late stage clinical development (Setten et al., 2019; Humphreys et al., 2020).

The clinical pharmacokinetics (PK) and pharmacodynamics (PD) of givosiran from the Phase 1 study in patients with acute intermittent porphyria, the most common AHP type, have been reported (Agarwal et al., 2020). In the present paper, the PK and the absorption, distribution, metabolism, and excretion (ADME) properties of givosiran across multiple matrices in nonclinical species, with a primary focus on rats and monkeys are reported.
Materials and Methods

siRNA

Givosiran, metabolite standards, and the internal standard were synthesized at Alnylam Pharmaceuticals (Cambridge, MA, USA) to ≥85% purity as described previously (Nair et al., 2014). The identities and purities of all oligonucleotides were confirmed by electrospray ionization mass spectroscopy and ion exchange high-performance liquid chromatography, respectively. The molecular weight of double-stranded givosiran is 16300.3 Da, with the antisense strand at 7563.8 Da and sense strand at 8736.5 Da.

In Vivo Studies

All animal procedures were conducted using protocols consistent with local, state, and federal regulations, as applicable, and approved by the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee at Alnylam Pharmaceuticals. Givosiran was administered to male and female Sprague Dawley rats and cynomolgus monkeys via a single intravenous bolus (IV) or single and multiple subcutaneous (SC) injection at the dose levels defined in each study. Rats were approximately 7 to 12 weeks of age and 160 to 325 g at the initiation of dosing. Monkeys were 2 to 8 years of age and 2 to 6 kg at the initiation of dosing. The IV dose was 10 mg/kg in rats and monkeys, and the SC doses ranged from 1 to 10 mg/kg in rats and 1 to 30 mg/kg in monkeys. Plasma, urine, milk, feces, and other tissue (liver, kidney, etc.) samples were collected and stored frozen at approximately -70°C until analysis.

Metabolite Profiling and Quantitation by LC-HRMS

Metabolite profiling of givosiran and quantitation of givosiran and its primary metabolite AS(N-1)3′ givosiran, a double-stranded metabolite formed by loss of 1 nucleotide from the 3′ end of the antisense strand, were performed by liquid chromatography coupled with high resolution mass spectrometry (LC-HRMS), similar to the methods described previously (Li et al., 2019; Liu et al., 2019). Briefly, plasma, urine, milk, fecal homogenates and tissue homogenates were processed by solid phase extraction using a Clarity OTX 96-well plate (Phenomenex, CA, USA) according to the manufacturer’s recommended protocol, and the extracted samples were analyzed by LC-HRMS. The mobile phases used were as follows: mobile phase A: H2O/HFIP/DIEA (100:1:0.1, v/v/v) with 10 µM EDTA, mobile phase B: H2O/ACN/HFIP/DIEA
(35:65:0.75:0.0375, v/v/v/v) with 10 µM EDTA. The column used was DNAPac RP column (4 µm, 50 x 2.1 mm; Thermo Fisher Scientific, MA, USA). Column temperature was set between 80-90°C and flow rate was 0.2 mL/minute. For metabolite profiling of givosiran, the gradient started with 5% B, progressed to 25% B over 20 minutes, then increased to 70% B in 0.1 minute and maintained for 1.9 minutes, and then washed with 100% B for 2 minutes; the column was re-equilibrated with 5% B for 5 minutes. For the quantitation of givosiran and AS(N-1)3’ givosiran, the gradient started with 10% B, progressed to 40% B over 4 minutes, and then increased to 100% B in 0.1 minute and maintained for 1.9 minutes; the column was then re-equilibrated with 10% B for 4 minutes. A Dionex UltiMate 3000 HPLC system (Thermo Fisher Scientific, MA, USA) in combination with an Accela Open Autosampler (Thermo Fisher Scientific, MA, USA) and a Q Exactive mass spectrometer (Thermo Fisher Scientific, MA, USA) was used for the LC-HRMS analysis. The oligonucleotides were analyzed in negative ionization mode. For the metabolite profiling experiments, the mass spectrometer was set at full scan mode. For the quantitation experiments, the mass spectrometer was either set at targeted selected ion monitoring mode or at parallel reaction monitoring mode.

In Vitro Metabolic Stability and Metabolite Profiling

The metabolic stability and metabolite profile of the sense and antisense strands of givosiran were evaluated in pooled serum (BioIVT, NY, USA) and liver S9 fractions (Sekisue XenoTech, KS, USA) from C57BL/6 mouse, Sprague Dawley rat, cynomolgus monkey, and human. Givosiran (5 or 10 µM) was incubated with serum or liver S9 fractions at 37°C for up to 24 hours. Reactions were terminated by the addition of ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid (EDTA) solution and frozen in liquid nitrogen. The resulting samples were lysed at room temperature in the presence of Clarity OTX lysis-loading buffer (Phenomenex, CA, USA), cleaned up by solid phase extraction and analyzed by LC-HRMS methods as described above. The double-stranded givosiran was denatured under the LC-HRMS condition, and the antisense strand and sense strand were detected as separate chromatographic peaks by LC-HRMS. The percentage of strand remaining was calculated by dividing the peak area ratio for each strand to internal standard (an siRNA having different molecular weight from givosiran) at each time point by the value of the peak area ratio at time zero and multiplying by 100%, as shown below:

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\text{Percent strand remaining} = \frac{\text{Peak Area Ratio}_{\text{time point}}}{\text{Peak Area Ratio}_{\text{time zero}}} \times 100\%.
\]
In Vitro Potency

Hep3B cells were transfected by adding 4.9 µL of Optimized Minimal Essential Medium (Opti-MEM) plus 0.1 µL of Lipofectamine® RNAiMAX Transfection Reagent per well (Invitrogen) to 5 µL of givosiran or AS(N-1)3’ givosiran per well into a 384-well plate. The plate was incubated at room temperature for 15 minutes, and then 40 µL of Eagle’s Minimum Essential Medium (EMEM) containing ~5 x10^3 cells was added to the mixture. Cells were incubated for 24 hours before RNA purification. ALAS1 gene reduction potential was evaluated at final concentrations of 10 and 0.1 nM for both givosiran and AS(N-1)3’ givosiran.

Pharmacokinetic Analysis

Noncompartmental PK parameter estimates were determined from individual concentration-time data, using Phoenix® WinNonlin®, version 7.0 (Certara USA, NJ, USA). \( C_{\text{max}} \) results were reported as observed values, and \( AUC_{\text{last}} \) was estimated using the linear trapezoidal rule (linear interpolation). The apparent terminal elimination half-life (\( t_{1/2} \)) was calculated as \( 0.693/\lambda \), where \( \lambda \) is the first-order rate constant associated with the terminal portion of the concentration-time curve. Half-life was considered not reportable if there were fewer than 3 quantifiable concentration-time data points on the terminal phase (not including concentration-time points before \( C_{\text{max}} \)); the coefficient of determination (\( r^2 \)) was <0.85; or \( t_{1/2} \) was longer than the time of the last quantifiable sample. Mean givosiran and metabolite concentrations (and associated descriptive statistics [e.g., mean and standard deviation (SD)]) were calculated using Phoenix® WinNonlin®, version 7.0. Figures were created in GraphPad Prism v.7.03.

Plasma Protein Binding

Plasma protein binding (PPB) was analyzed by electrophoretic mobility shift assay (EMSA) as reported previously (Rocca et al., 2019). Briefly, givosiran was incubated at concentrations of 1.0, 5.0, 10, 25, and 50 µg/mL in K_2EDTA plasma (BioIVT, NY, USA) or PBS for 1 hour at 37°C. EMSA Gel Loading Solution (Thermo Fisher Scientific, MA, USA) was added to samples prior to separation on a 10% Tris/Borate/EDTA (TBE) Gel (Bio-Rad Laboratories, CA, USA). The gel was run on ice for 1 hour at 100 V followed by staining with SYBR Gold Nucleic Acid Gel Stain (Thermo Fisher Scientific, MA, USA) and washing with TBE (Bio-Rad Laboratories,
CA, USA). Gel images were obtained and analyzed using the Gel Doc XR+ System with Image Lab Version 5.2 (Bio-Rad Laboratories, CA, USA).

Free (unbound) givosiran was defined as the bands in the sample wells that did not shift relative to their PBS control wells. The intensity of the free givosiran band in the plasma lane was compared with the intensity of the PBS control band on the same gel to determine the percent free givosiran in the sample. The percent bound givosiran was determined by performing the following calculation: (percent bound) = 100 – (percent free).

**Drug-Drug Interaction**

Givosiran was evaluated for potential drug interaction involving cytochrome P450 (CYP) isozymes (inhibition and induction) and drug transporters (substrate and inhibition) as reported previously (Ramsden et al., 2019). Briefly, CYP direct and time dependent inhibition potential of givosiran was evaluated using human liver microsomes with the appropriate substrate for each CYP isozyme at givosiran concentrations up to 600 µM (10 mg/mL). CYP induction potential was also evaluated using cryopreserved human hepatocytes from 3 different donors at givosiran concentrations up to 6.1 µM (100 µg/mL). Potential interaction of givosiran with known efflux and uptake transporters was tested using various membrane vesicles and transfected cell lines.
Results

Absorption

Givosiran Plasma Pharmacokinetics in Rats

The plasma PK of givosiran were evaluated after a single IV dose (10 mg/kg) and single SC administration with doses ranging from 1 to 10 mg/kg in male and female rats, and the plasma PK parameters are shown in Table 1. There were no apparent sex differences in the PK parameters in rats, therefore, the PK parameters presented are based on overall mean values generated by combining sexes. Following a single IV dose of 10 mg/kg, the elimination from the plasma was rapid with an estimated $t_{1/2}$ of 0.2 hours. The mean total clearance (CL) and volume of distribution at steady state ($V_{ss}$) values were 870 mL/h/kg and 181 mL/kg, respectively. After a single SC administration, plasma exposure of givosiran ($C_{max}$ and AUC) increased with the dose over the dose range evaluated. The apparent plasma $t_{1/2}$ was consistent across SC doses (ranged 2 to 3 hours). The PK profile of givosiran was also evaluated in rats after weekly repeat SC doses at 1 mg/kg. Consistent with the short apparent $t_{1/2}$ of 2 to 3 hours in plasma, there was no evidence of accumulation in plasma after repeat dosing (data not shown).

A separate PK study in rats was conducted to determine the relative plasma exposure and PK profile of the primary metabolite, AS(N-1)3′ givosiran (loss of 1 nucleotide from the antisense strand 3′ end) after a single SC dose of givosiran at 10 mg/kg. Plasma $C_{max}$ of givosiran and AS(N-1)3′ givosiran were 1.06 and 0.190 μg/mL, respectively. Plasma $AUC_{last}$ of givosiran and AS(N-1)3′ givosiran were 3.00 and 0.626 h*μg/mL, respectively. Plasma exposure of AS(N-1)3′ givosiran as assessed by $AUC_{last}$ was approximately 21% of exposure of givosiran. After reaching $C_{max}$, givosiran and AS(N-1)3′ givosiran concentrations declined with the $t_{1/2}$ value of 3.0 and 8.2 hours, respectively (Table 2; Figure 1).

Givosiran Plasma Pharmacokinetics in Monkeys

The plasma PK of givosiran was evaluated after a single IV dose (10 mg/kg) and single SC doses ranging from 1 to 10 mg/kg in male and female monkeys, and the plasma PK parameters are shown in Table 3. There were no apparent sex differences in the PK parameters in monkeys, therefore, the PK parameters presented are based on overall mean values generated by combining sexes. Following a single IV dose of 10 mg/kg, the elimination from systemic circulation was
rapid with an estimated t\(_{1/2}\) of 0.2 hours. The mean CL and V\(_{ss}\) values were 340 mL/h/kg and 104 mL/kg, respectively. After a single SC administration, plasma exposure of givosiran (C\(_{\text{max}}\) and AUC\(_{\text{last}}\)) increased as the dose increased over the dose range tested. The apparent plasma t\(_{1/2}\) was consistent across SC doses (approximately 3.5 hours). The PK profile of givosiran was also evaluated in monkeys after multiple weekly SC doses at 1 mg/kg (Table 3). There was no evidence of accumulation in plasma after weekly repeat dosing.

A separate PK study in monkeys was conducted to determine the relative plasma exposure and the PK of the primary metabolite, AS(N-1)3’ givosiran, after a single SC dose of givosiran at 30 mg/kg. The C\(_{\text{max}}\) of givosiran and AS(N-1)3’ givosiran in plasma were 2.42 and 1.67 μg/mL, respectively. Plasma AUC\(_{\text{last}}\) of givosiran and AS(N-1)3’ givosiran were 26.4 and 19.4 h*μg/mL, respectively. Plasma exposure of AS(N-1)3’ givosiran as assessed by AUC\(_{\text{last}}\) was approximately 74% of exposure of givosiran. After reaching C\(_{\text{max}}\), givosiran and AS(N-1)3’ givosiran concentrations declined with the t\(_{1/2}\) values of 5.5 and 5.1 hours, respectively (Table 4; Figure 2).

**Distribution**

**Plasma Protein Binding**

Conventional methodologies commonly used to determine PPB such as equilibrium dialysis and ultrafiltration were inadequate for new chemical modalities such as siRNAs because of extensive nonspecific binding to the membrane resulting in inaccurate measurement of PPB. Therefore, EMSA was used to determine the PPB of givosiran in mouse, rat, monkey, and human plasma (Rocca et al., 2019). For givosiran concentrations ranging from 1 to 50 μg/mL, the extent of plasma protein binding was concentration dependent as shown in Table 5. In all species tested, the percentage of binding decreased as givosiran concentration increased. In general, PPB is similar across species. The mechanism of nonlinear PPB is likely due to saturation of binding at high concentrations. However, the mean plasma C\(_{\text{max}}\) of givosiran at steady-state after SC administration of 2.5 mg/kg in humans is 0.321 μg/mL, which is well below the concentration where binding saturation was observed. Therefore, plasma protein binding is expected to remain relatively constant (~90%) over the clinically relevant plasma concentrations.
Distribution in Rats

Givosiran is specifically designed for delivery to the liver through GalNAc moieties bound to the siRNA which direct hepatocyte-specific uptake of the siRNA via the ASGPR expressed on the cell surface of hepatocytes. Consistent with this design, givosiran predominantly distributed to the liver after the administration of a SC dose (Table 6). The liver-to-plasma AUC ratio was approximately 4500, and the $t_{1/2}$ in the liver was significantly longer (~120 hours) than that in plasma. The liver exposure following a single SC dose of 10 mg/kg was significantly higher than that after IV dosing (Table 6; Figure 3) indicating that liver uptake is more efficient after SC administration. More efficient liver uptake after a SC dose is likely due to a gradual increase (rather than a sharp increase after IV dose) in plasma concentration, potentially avoiding saturation of ASGPR-mediated hepatic uptake. Consequently, higher plasma concentrations after an IV bolus dose resulted in higher concentrations of givosiran in the kidneys where distribution of givosiran from the plasma is likely to be passive diffusion (i.e., no ASGPR-mediated uptake). In fact, the distribution of givosiran to liver and kidney was comparable after IV administration (10 mg/kg) whereas the distribution of givosiran based on $C_{\text{max}}$ and $\text{AUC}_{\text{last}}$ to the liver was substantially higher (~10-fold and ~4-fold, respectively) than to the kidney after SC administration (Table 6; Figure 4).

Markedly lower concentrations of givosiran (100- to 800-fold< liver) were observed in adrenal, heart, lung, spleen, thyroid, thymus, pancreas, jejunum, and testes. Givosiran was not detected in the brain.

After weekly SC dosing (total of 8 doses) of 1 mg/kg, $C_{\text{max}}$ and $\text{AUC}_{\text{last}}$ of givosiran in the liver were 25.9 µg/g and 1290 h*µg/g, respectively, and there was no evidence of accumulation. However, the $C_{\text{max}}$ and $\text{AUC}_{\text{last}}$ of givosiran in the kidney were 5.45 µg/g and 1190 h*µg/g, respectively, and the exposure was 3- to 4-times higher compared to the dose normalized exposure after a single dose, indicating that givosiran accumulated in the kidney after repeated weekly SC doses.

Distribution in Monkeys

As observed in rats, givosiran extensively distributed to the liver of monkeys, where concentrations were measurable up to 672 hours after a single IV dose (10 mg/kg). After a single
SC dose (1, 5, or 10 mg/kg), givosiran was detectable in the liver up to 672 to 1008 hours postdose with maximum liver concentrations observed between 8 to 24 hours post dose. The AUC_{last} in the liver was approximately 7-fold higher after a single SC dose of 10 mg/kg than after the same dose administered IV (Table 7 and Figure 5), indicating that liver uptake is more efficient after SC administration compared with IV administration. The liver-to-plasma AUC ratio was approximately 2500, and the t_{1/2} in the liver was significantly longer (~146 hours) than that in plasma.

Mean C_{max} and AUC_{last} values increased approximately dose proportionally across the dose range tested. After 8 weekly SC doses of 1 mg/kg, C_{max} and AUC were 16.9 µg/g and 3340 h*µg/g, respectively, suggesting minimal accumulation in the liver with repeat dosing. The t_{1/2} was consistent across doses and regimen, indicating no dose- or time-dependent PK.

**Metabolism**

**In Vitro Metabolic Stability of Givosiran in Serum and Liver S9 Fractions**

The in vitro metabolic stability of givosiran was evaluated in pooled serum and liver S9 fractions obtained from C57BL/6 mouse, rat, monkey, and human, at a concentration of 5 µM. The reaction mixtures were incubated at 37°C for up to 24 hours for both serum and liver S9 fractions.

Stability of givosiran in serum was generally similar across species, with the sense strand being more stable than the antisense strand. Following 24 hours of incubation of givosiran in mouse, rat, monkey, or human serum, the percentage of antisense strand remaining was approximately 75%, 59%, 63%, and 89%, respectively; the percentage of sense strand remaining was approximately 95%, 95%, 100%, and 95%, respectively.

When mouse, rat, monkey, or human liver S9 fraction was incubated with givosiran (5 µM) for 24 hours, the stability profiles for the 4 species exhibited the rank order from most to least stable of mouse>monkey>human>rat, for both strands. The percentage of antisense strand remaining following 24 hours of incubation for mouse, monkey, human, and rat was approximately 103%, 68%, 49%, and 36%, respectively; and the percentage of sense strand remaining was approximately 102%, 88%, 65%, and 64%, respectively.
A separate in vitro study was conducted in human liver S9 fraction with and without reduced nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide phosphate (NADPH) to determine if givosiran was metabolized by drug metabolizing enzymes requiring NADPH as a cofactor (e.g., cytochrome P450, CYPs). Givosiran was incubated at a concentration of 10 μM in human liver S9 fraction (total protein concentration of 1 mg/mL) with and without NADPH (1 mM) for 1 hour at 37°C. Both sense and antisense strands of givosiran were stable, and no change was observed with and without NADPH, suggesting that CYP isozymes are not involved in the metabolism of givosiran (Table 8). Verapamil (5 μM) was used as a positive control to confirm the integrity of the human liver S9 fraction used.

**Metabolite Profiling of the Antisense Strand**

Metabolite profiling was conducted with serum samples obtained from in vitro stability studies and plasma samples collected from in vivo PK studies. Either in serum (mouse, rat, monkey, and human) or plasma (rat and monkey), givosiran was metabolized to form a primary metabolite, AS(N-1)3′ givosiran or AS(N-1)5′ givosiran (metabolite with loss of 1 nucleotide from the 5′ end of the antisense strand). Mass spectra showed that metabolites, AS(N-1)3′ givosiran and AS(N-1)5′ givosiran, have the exact same mass and were presumably formed by the loss of a uridine monophosphate nucleotide from either the 3′ or 5′ end of the antisense strand. The two metabolites have the same HPLC retention time as well, thus cannot be differentiated by an LC-MS method. A specific LC-MS/MS method was developed to differentiate AS(N-1)3′ givosiran and AS(N-1)5′ givosiran by monitoring unique fragment ions for AS(N-1)3′ at m/z 604.1032 (b2 fragment ion) and at m/z 632.1188 (y2 fragment ion) for AS(N-1)5′. Quantitation of AS(N-1)3′ and AS(N-1)5′ metabolites in plasma and liver samples (rat and monkey) using this LC-MS/MS method confirmed that the primary metabolite was AS(N-1)3′ givosiran; AS(N-1)5′ givosiran was not detected in any samples from in vivo studies.

Human plasma and urine samples obtained from two patients of the Phase 1 trial (Agarwal et al., 2020) were also analyzed to identify potential metabolite(s). As observed with the rat and monkey plasma metabolite profile, AS(N-1)3′ givosiran was the main circulating metabolite, and no other metabolite(s) were detected in human plasma. Consistent with the finding in plasma, AS(N-1)3′ givosiran was the only metabolite detected in the urine samples of these two patients.
These results indicated that the metabolite profile of the antisense strand of givosiran was similar across all species tested.

The in vitro potency of givosiran and AS(N-1)3’ givosiran was evaluated by transfection in human hepatocellular carcinoma cell line 3B cells. At 10 nM siRNA concentration, the ALASL mRNA remaining relative to negative control is 16.4% for givosiran and 10.3% for AS(N-1)3’ givosiran. At 0.1 nM siRNA concentration, the ALASL mRNA remaining is 69.1% for givosiran and 52.0% for AS(N-1)3’ givosiran. The retention of AS(N-1)3’ givosiran pharmacological activity in vitro suggests that it is likely, to the extent that it is present, contribute to observed in vivo pharmacology.

 Preferential formation of AS(N-1)3’ givosiran over AS(N-1)5’ givosiran may be due to some steric hindrance caused by the presence of the GalNAc ligand at the 3’ end of the sense strand (i.e., close to the 5’ end of antisense strand, Figure 6). Such steric hindrance may prevent exonuclease-mediated metabolism at the 3’-end of the sense and the 5’-end of the complementary antisense strand. In contrast to the 5’ end of the antisense strand, the 3’ end of the antisense strand is single stranded and therefore more susceptible to degradation by 3’ exonucleases.

In vitro metabolite profiling conducted in liver S9 fraction from mouse, rat, monkey, and human identified that the givosiran antisense strand was metabolized to form AS(N-3)5’ givosiran (metabolite with loss of 3 nucleotides from the 5’ end of antisense strand) and AS(N-1)3’ givosiran as two primary metabolites, with the AS(N-3)5’ givosiran being the most abundant. The metabolite profile was consistent among all the species tested. However, liver samples collected in the rat and monkey PK studies showed that givosiran antisense strand was metabolized to form a primary metabolite, AS(N-1)3’ givosiran. In addition to AS(N-1)3’ givosiran, other minor metabolites (products after cleavage of nucleotides by exo- and endonucleases) were detectable (Figure 6).

**Metabolite Profiling of the Sense Strand**

Either in serum (mouse, rat, monkey, and human) or plasma (rat and monkey), the givosiran sense strand was minimally metabolized primarily generating a metabolite corresponding to the loss of 1 GalNAc group from the triantennary ligand at the 3’ end (Figure 6). Similar to the
finding in rat and monkey plasma, givosiran with the loss of 1 or 3 GalNAc groups from the sense strand was also detected in plasma and urine from two human patients.

Metabolite profiling of in vitro liver S9 fractions (mouse, rat, monkey, and human) and in vivo rat and monkey liver samples showed that the primary putative metabolites of the givosiran sense strand were generated by the loss of 1, 2, or all 3 GalNAc moieties at the 3′ end. Loss of GalNAc was evident at the earliest time point of 2 hours, with no intact sense strand remaining by 24 hours in liver samples.

The collective data characterizing the metabolism of the antisense and sense strands demonstrated that overall the in vitro metabolite profiles for givosiran were comparable to those profiles observed from the in vivo study samples, and the overall metabolite profiles of givosiran were similar across all species tested, including human.

**Excretion**

**Excretion in Rats**

Givosiran was quantitated in pooled urine and fecal samples collected over a period of 168 hours after a single SC administration of 10 mg/kg in rats. Approximately 10% of the total administered dose was excreted as givosiran in urine within the first 168 hours (mostly within the first 24 hours) in rats. A negligible amount of givosiran (~0.1% of the total administered dose) was recovered in feces collected over 48 hours postdose. Biliary excretion of givosiran was also evaluated in bile-duct cannulated rats after a single SC dose of 10 mg/kg, and approximately 6% of the dose was recovered as unchanged givosiran. Excretion of givosiran in milk was negligible as the concentration of givosiran was not measurable in the milk collected from female rats treated with multiple SC doses up to 30 mg/kg in a developmental and perinatal/postnatal reproduction study. Therefore, excretion is a minor route of overall elimination of givosiran after SC administration in rats.

**Excretion in Monkeys**

Givosiran was quantitated in pooled urine and fecal samples collected over a period of 168 hours after a single administration of 10 mg/kg in monkeys. Approximately 16% of the administered
dose was recovered as givosiran in urine within the first 168 hours in monkeys. The majority of excretion occurred within the first 24 hours. Givosiran was not detectable in any of the pooled fecal samples collected. Therefore, consistent with observations in rats, excretion (renal and fecal) is a minor route of overall elimination of givosiran after a SC administration in monkeys.

**Drug-drug Interaction**

The drug-drug interaction (DDI) potential of givosiran was examined using various in vitro assays (e.g., human liver microsomes, human hepatocytes, transfected cell lines, and membrane vesicles) based on regulatory guidance. Experimental details and results of these studies were previously reported in a recent review publication (Ramsden et al., 2019). As a part of ADME properties, a brief summary of the study outcomes is described here. Givosiran was not a substrate of CYP isozymes as demonstrated by a lack of effect of NADPH on the metabolic stability of givosiran in human liver S9 fraction. Givosiran was not a direct or time dependent inhibitor of CYP isozymes (CYP1A2, CYP2B6, CYP2C8, CYP2C9, CYP2C19, CYP2D6, or CYP3A4/5) nor an inducer of CYP isozymes (CYP1A2, CYP2B6, and CYP3A4).

Givosiran was not a substrate/inhibitor of the following human ATP-binding cassettes (ABC) and (solute carrier) SLC transporters: breast cancer resistance protein, bile salt export pump, organic anion transporting polypeptides (OATP1B1 and OATP1B3), organic anion transporters (OAT1 and OAT3), organic cation transporters (OCT1 and OCT2), and multidrug and toxin extrusion proteins (MATE1 and MATE2 K). However, P-glycoprotein (P-gp) exhibited 23% and 69% inhibition at givosiran concentrations of 1 and 10 μM, respectively, indicating that the IC\textsubscript{50} is likely to be between 1 and 10 μM. The mean total plasma C\textsubscript{max} of givosiran at steady-state after SC administration of 2.5 mg/kg in humans is below 20 nM (Agarwal et al., 2020) and the unbound plasma C\textsubscript{max} is about ~2 nM using 90% plasma protein binding at that concentration. To be conservative, IC\textsubscript{50} can be assumed to be closer to 1 μM. Therefore, unbound [I]/IC\textsubscript{50} is ~0.002 (i.e., 2 nM/1000 nM), and a clinically relevant drug interaction involving P-gp is not expected. The DDI potential of AS(N-1)3’ givosiran was not evaluated separately. However, based on the similar physicochemical properties, the DDI potential is likely to be similar to givosiran. Taken together, givosiran has a low potential of mediating a DDI involving CYP isozymes and drug transporters.
Discussion

Givosiran is an approved RNAi therapeutic for the treatment of AHP in adult and adolescents aged 12 years or older. The recommended givosiran dose is 2.5 mg/kg once monthly by SC injection. Givosiran is specifically designed for delivery to the liver through conjugation of a carbohydrate ligand (GalNAc) to the siRNA to direct hepatocyte-specific uptake of siRNA via the ASGPR, which is expressed on the cell surface of hepatocytes. The PK and ADME properties of givosiran were evaluated in a variety of in vitro and nonclinical in vivo studies to support clinical development of givosiran.

Following SC administration at pharmacologic doses ranging from 1 to 10 mg/kg, plasma exposure (C_max and AUC) was approximately dose proportional in rats and monkeys demonstrating that givosiran exhibited linear PK at pharmacologically relevant doses. Elimination of givosiran was rapid following IV administration with a mean elimination t_1/2 of approximately 0.2 hours in both species following a single 10 mg/kg dose. The mean elimination t_1/2 was longer with SC administration (approximately 2.7 hours in rats and 3.5 hours in monkeys) compared with IV administration. The longer t_1/2 after SC administration is likely due to flip-flop kinetics in which the observed t_1/2 reflects the rate of absorption rather than the rate of elimination in the systemic circulation. The plasma exposure of givosiran is predominantly driven by liver uptake via the ASGPR, which is highly expressed in hepatocytes. This makes evaluation of bioavailability of givosiran difficult due to transient saturation of ASGPR by the high circulating concentrations of givosiran following IV administration. This leads to underestimation of SC bioavailability since much lower peak plasma concentrations after SC dosing do not saturate ASGPR and result in much lower plasma AUC values. The multiple dose plasma PK was consistent with single-dose data, and there was no evidence of accumulation in both rats and monkeys. Overall, these PK properties of givosiran in rats and monkeys indicate no time- or dose-dependence following pharmacological SC doses.

As expected, givosiran predominantly distributed to the liver via ASGPR-mediated hepatic uptake. The exposure of givosiran in the liver was significantly higher after SC administration than that after IV administration, indicating that liver uptake of givosiran is more efficient after SC administration. This is likely due to a more gradual increase in plasma concentration rather than a sharp increase after IV dose, potentially avoiding saturation of ASGPR-mediated hepatic
uptake. This observation indirectly suggests that the bioavailability of givosiran after SC administration is complete. Compared with all other tissue concentrations following a SC dose, kidney had the second highest concentration after liver. The liver-to-kidney exposure (AUC) ratio of givosiran was approximately 4-fold after SC administration of 10 mg/kg. Concentrations of givosiran in adrenal, heart, lung, spleen, thyroid, thymus, pancreas, jejunum, and testes were markedly (100- to 800-fold) lower than in liver. The liver-to-plasma AUC ratio was approximately 4500 and 2500 in rats and monkeys, respectively, and the \( t_{1/2} \) in the liver was significantly longer (~120 and 146 hours) than that in plasma in rats and monkeys, respectively. Prolonged residence time in the target tissue (i.e., liver) is consistent with the observed duration of action in rats and monkeys. Givosiran was not detected in the brain and not expected to produce pharmacological effects in the central nervous system.

Givosiran antisense strand was metabolized by nucleases to form one primary active metabolite, AS(N-1)3′ givosiran in serum or plasma. In addition to AS(N-1)3′ givosiran, AS(N-3)5′ givosiran was formed in liver S9 fraction. However, only AS(N-1)3′ givosiran was detected in liver obtained from in vivo rat and monkey studies. The major putative metabolites of givosiran sense strand were generated by the loss of 1, 2, or all 3 GalNAc moieties at the 3′ end.

AS(N-1)3′ givosiran was the only circulating active metabolite in the plasma of rats, monkeys, and humans after SC administration. Relative to givosiran, the steady-state AUC exposure of AS(N-1)3′ givosiran in human plasma is approximately 49% after SC administration of 2.5 mg/kg givosiran once every month. The systemic exposure of AS(N-1)3′ givosiran after SC administration of givosiran was 21% and 73% relative to givosiran exposure in rats (10 mg/kg) and monkeys (30 mg/kg), respectively. Although not specifically measured, the plasma exposure to AS(N-1)3′ givosiran in chronic rat and monkey toxicology studies was expected to substantially exceed human exposure at the clinically intended dose. Therefore, safety of AS(N-1)3′ givosiran was adequately evaluated in the chronic rat and monkey toxicology studies.

The collective data characterizing the metabolism of the antisense and sense strands demonstrated that the in vitro metabolite profiles for givosiran were comparable to those profiles observed from the in vivo study samples, and the overall metabolite profiles of givosiran were similar across all species tested including human.
The renal and fecal excretion properties of givosiran were evaluated up to 168 hours after dosing following a single SC dose of 10 mg/kg in rats and monkeys. Approximately 10% of the administered dose was excreted as givosiran in urine in rats. Similar to observations in rats, 16% of the administered dose was excreted as givosiran in urine in monkeys. Fecal excretion of givosiran was only 0.1% of the administered dose in rats, and no givosiran was detected in monkey feces. Excretion of givosiran in milk was negligible in lactating female rats treated with multiple SC doses up to 30 mg/kg.

In summary, the PK and ADME properties of givosiran have been characterized in vitro and in vivo. Givosiran shows similar patterns of PK and ADME properties across the nonclinical species tested in vivo and across human and animal matrices in vitro. Collective data demonstrated that the SC administration of givosiran results in adequate exposure of the siRNA to the intended target organ (liver). Overall, the PK and ADME studies provide support for the interpretation of toxicology studies, help characterize the disposition of givosiran in humans at the dosing regimen of 2.5 mg/kg once monthly, and support the clinical use of givosiran for the treatment of acute hepatic porphyria.
Acknowledgments
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Authorship Contributions
Participated in research design: Li, Liu, X. Zhang, Clausen, Xu, Smith, Wu, Chong.
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Wrote or contributed to the writing of the manuscript: Li, Liu, X. Zhang, Clausen, G. Zhang, Najarian, Wu, Chong.
References


Footnotes

This work was supported by Alnylam Pharmaceuticals Inc. The authors are, or were during the time this work was conducted, employees and stockholders of Alnylam Pharmaceuticals.

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Figure Legends

Figure 1: Individual and Mean (± SD) Plasma Concentration-Time Profiles of Givosiran (A) and AS(N-1)3′ Givosiran (B) in Rats After a Single Subcutaneous Administration of Givosiran (10 mg/kg). Plasma $C_{\text{max}}$ of givosiran and AS(N-1)3′ givosiran were 1.06 and 0.190 μg/mL, respectively. Plasma $AUC_{\text{last}}$ of givosiran and AS(N-1)3′ givosiran were 3.00 and 0.626 h*μg/mL, respectively. Plasma exposure of AS(N-1)3′ givosiran as assessed by $AUC_{\text{last}}$ was approximately 21% of exposure of givosiran. After reaching $C_{\text{max}}$, givosiran and AS(N-1)3′ givosiran concentrations declined with the $t_{1/2}$ value of 3.0 and 8.2 hours, respectively.

Abbreviations: AS(N-1)3′ givosiran=double-stranded metabolite with loss of 1 nucleotide from antisense strand 3′ end; SD=standard deviation; LLOQ=lower limit of quantitation.
Note: Error bars indicate SD. LLOQ=10 ng/mL. Below LLOQ concentrations were treated as 0. Results are presented for individual animals (open symbols) and as mean (closed circles; n=3).

Figure 2: Individual and Mean (± SD) Plasma Concentration-Time Profiles of Givosiran (A) and AS(N-1)3′ Givosiran (B) in Male Monkeys After a Single Subcutaneous Administration of Givosiran (30 mg/kg). The $C_{\text{max}}$ of givosiran and AS(N-1)3′ givosiran in plasma were 2.42 and 1.67 μg/mL, respectively. Plasma $AUC_{\text{last}}$ of givosiran and AS(N-1)3′ givosiran were 26.4 and 19.4 h*μg/mL, respectively. Plasma exposure of AS(N-1)3′ givosiran as assessed by $AUC_{\text{last}}$ was approximately 74% of exposure of givosiran. After reaching $C_{\text{max}}$, givosiran and AS(N-1)3′ givosiran concentrations declined with the $t_{1/2}$ values of 5.5 and 5.1 hours, respectively.

Abbreviations: AS(N-1)3′ givosiran=double-stranded metabolite with loss of 1 nucleotide from antisense strand 3′ end; SD=standard deviation; LLOQ=lower limit of quantitation.
Note: Error bars indicate SD. LLOQ=10 ng/mL. Results are presented for individual animals (open symbols) and mean (closed circles; n=3).

Figure 3: Mean Liver Concentration-Time Profiles of Givosiran in Rats After an Intravenous Bolus and Subcutaneous Administration (10 mg/kg). Liver $AUC_{\text{last}}$ of givosiran were 5390 h*μg/g and 12,600 h*μg/g after a single IV or SC dose, respectively. The liver exposure following a single SC dose of 10 mg/kg was significantly higher than that after IV dosing indicating that liver uptake is more efficient after SC administration.

Abbreviations: IV=intravenous; SC=subcutaneous; SD=standard deviation.
Error bars indicate SD. n=4 animals/group/time point.
Figure 4: Mean Kidney Concentration Versus Time Profiles of Givosiran in Rats After an Intravenous Bolus and Subcutaneous Administration (10 mg/kg). Kidney AUC_{last} of givosiran were 5440 h*µg/g and 3190 h*µg/g after a single IV or SC dose, respectively. Higher plasma concentrations after an IV bolus dose resulted in higher concentrations of givosiran in the kidneys where distribution of givosiran from the plasma is likely to be passive diffusion (i.e., no ASGPR-mediated uptake).

Abbreviations: IV=intravenous; SC=subcutaneous; SD=standard deviation.
Error bars indicate SD. n=4 animals/group/time point.

Figure 5: Mean Liver Concentration-Time Profiles of Givosiran in Monkeys After an Intravenous Bolus (10 mg/kg) and Subcutaneous Administration of Givosiran (1 to 10 mg/kg). After a single SC dose (1, 5, or 10 mg/kg), givosiran was detectable in the liver up to 672 to 1008 hours postdose with maximum liver concentrations observed between 8 to 24 hours post dose. The AUC_{last} in the liver was 4220 h*µg/g and 28,500 h*µg/g, respectively, after a single IV or SC dose of 10 mg/kg. The approximately 7-fold higher liver AUC_{last} after a single SC dose than after the same dose administered IV, indicating that liver uptake is more efficient after SC administration compared with IV administration.

Abbreviations: IV=intravenous; SC=subcutaneous.
n=2 animals/group/time point.
Figure 6: Metabolism of Givosiran. (A) Proposed Biotransformation Pathway of Givosiran. (B) Chemical Structure and Cleavage Sites of the Metabolites of the Triantennary GalNAc Ligand of Givosiran. Metabolite profiling was conducted with serum samples obtained from in vitro stability studies and plasma samples collected from in vivo PK studies. Either in serum or plasma, givosiran was metabolized to form a primary metabolite, AS(N-1)3′ givosiran. Liver samples collected in the rat and monkey PK studies showed that givosiran antisense strand was metabolized to form a primary metabolite, AS(N-1)3′ givosiran. In addition to AS(N-1)3′ givosiran, other minor metabolites (products after cleavage of nucleotides by exo- and endo-nucleases) were detectable. Either in serum or plasma, the givosiran sense strand was minimally metabolized primarily generating a metabolite corresponding to the loss of 1 GalNAc group from the triantennary ligand at the 3′ end. Metabolite profiling of in vitro liver S9 fractions and in vivo rat and monkey liver samples showed that the primary putative metabolites of the givosiran sense strand were generated by the loss of 1, 2, or all 3 GalNAc moieties at the 3′ end. All metabolites listed are double-stranded RNAs.

Abbreviations: A=adenosine; C=cytidine; G=guanosine; GalNAc=N-acetylgalactosamine; U=uridine.
Note: Black circles represent 2′-O-methyl–modified nucleotides; green circles represent 2′-fluoro–modified nucleotides; orange lines represent phosphorothioate bonds.
Tables

Table 1: Overall Mean Givosiran Plasma Pharmacokinetic Parameters in Rats After a Single Intravenous Bolus or Subcutaneous Administration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Route</th>
<th>IV Dose (mg/kg)</th>
<th>SC Dose (mg/kg)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$t_{\text{max}}$ (h)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$C_{\text{max}}$ (µg/mL)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUC$_{\text{last}}$ (h*µg/mL)</td>
<td>11.8</td>
<td>0.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$t_{1/2}$ (h)</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>2.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$V_{\text{ss}}$ (mL/kg)</td>
<td>181</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CL (mL/h/kg)</td>
<td>870</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Abbreviations: $t_{\text{max}}$ = time to reach maximum concentration; $C_{\text{max}}$ = maximum observed concentration; AUC$_{\text{last}}$ = area under the plasma concentration-time curve from the time of dosing to the last measurable concentration; IV = intravenous; SC = subcutaneous; $t_{1/2}$ = elimination half-life; $V_{\text{ss}}$ = volume of distribution at steady state. Values represent the overall combined (male+female) mean, n=4.

Table 2: Mean ± SD Givosiran and AS(N-1)3′ Givosiran Plasma Pharmacokinetic Parameters in Rats After a Single Subcutaneous Dose (10 mg/kg)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Analyte</th>
<th>Givosiran$^a$</th>
<th>AS(N-1)3′ Givosiran$^a$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$C_{\text{max}}$ (µg/mL)</td>
<td>1.06 ± 0.414</td>
<td>0.190 ± 0.0701</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUC$_{\text{last}}$ (h*µg/mL)</td>
<td>3.00 ± 0.458</td>
<td>0.626 ± 0.132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$t_{1/2}$ (h)</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>8.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Abbreviations: AS(N-1)3′ givosiran = double-stranded metabolite with loss of 1 nucleotide from antisense strand 3′ end; AUC$_{\text{last}}$ = area under the plasma concentration-time curve from the time of dosing to the last measurable concentration; $C_{\text{max}}$ = maximum observed concentration; $t_{1/2}$ = elimination half-life; SD = standard deviation.

$^a$ n=3.
Table 3: Overall Mean Givosiran Plasma Pharmacokinetic Parameters in Monkey Plasma After Administration of a Single Intravenous Bolus or Single or Multiple Subcutaneous Dose

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Route</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>IV</th>
<th>SC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>single dose</td>
<td>single dose</td>
<td>multiple dose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dose (mg/kg)</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>t&lt;sub&gt;max&lt;/sub&gt; (h)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>2.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C&lt;sub&gt;max&lt;/sub&gt; (µg/mL)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0.133</td>
<td>0.830</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUC&lt;sub&gt;last&lt;/sub&gt; (h*µg/mL)</td>
<td>30.5</td>
<td>0.324</td>
<td>4.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>t&lt;sub&gt;1/2&lt;/sub&gt; (h)</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CL (mL/h/kg)</td>
<td>340</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V&lt;sub&gt;ss&lt;/sub&gt; (mL/kg)</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Abbreviations: - = not applicable; AUC<sub>last</sub>=area under the plasma concentration-time curve from the time of dosing to the last measurable concentration; CL=total body clearance; C<sub>max</sub>=maximum observed concentration; IV=intravenous; SC=subcutaneous; t<sub>1/2</sub>=elimination half-life; t<sub>max</sub>=time to reach maximum concentration; V<sub>ss</sub>=volume of distribution at steady state.

Note: Values represent the overall combined (male+female) mean. n=6.

a Monkeys were administered givosiran once weekly for a total of 8 doses. PK values were determined on Day 50.

Table 4: Mean ± SD Givosiran and AS(N-1)3′ Givosiran Plasma Pharmacokinetic Parameters in Monkeys After a Single Subcutaneous Dose (30 mg/kg)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Analyte</th>
<th>Givosiran&lt;sup&gt;a&lt;/sup&gt;</th>
<th>AS(N-1)3′ Givosiran&lt;sup&gt;a&lt;/sup&gt;</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C&lt;sub&gt;max&lt;/sub&gt; (µg/mL)</td>
<td>2.42 ± 0.664</td>
<td>1.67 ± 0.0551</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUC&lt;sub&gt;last&lt;/sub&gt; (h*µg/mL)</td>
<td>26.4 ± 4.96</td>
<td>19.4 ± 4.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>t&lt;sub&gt;1/2&lt;/sub&gt; (h)</td>
<td>5.5 ± 1.7</td>
<td>5.1 ± 2.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Abbreviations: AS(N-1)3′ givosiran=double-stranded metabolite with loss of 1 nucleotide from antisense strand 3′ end; AUC<sub>last</sub>=area under the plasma concentration-time curve from the time of dosing to the last measurable concentration; C<sub>max</sub>=maximum observed concentration; SD=standard deviation; t<sub>1/2</sub>=elimination half-life.

<sup>a</sup> n=3.
### Table 5: Plasma Protein Binding of Givosiran

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concentration (μg/mL)</th>
<th>1.0</th>
<th>5.0</th>
<th>10</th>
<th>25</th>
<th>50</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mouse</td>
<td>91.3</td>
<td>79.8</td>
<td>61.8</td>
<td>38.1</td>
<td>10.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rat</td>
<td>93.1</td>
<td>89.0</td>
<td>78.6</td>
<td>51.6</td>
<td>27.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monkey</td>
<td>89.5</td>
<td>82.7</td>
<td>69.9</td>
<td>43.9</td>
<td>25.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human</td>
<td>91.8</td>
<td>83.4</td>
<td>71.4</td>
<td>39.2</td>
<td>21.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Table 6: Overall Mean Givosiran Liver and Kidney Pharmacokinetics in Rats After a Single Intravenous Bolus or Subcutaneous Dose (10 mg/kg)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tissue</th>
<th>Liver</th>
<th>Kidney</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>IV</td>
<td>SC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Route</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>t(_{\text{max}}) (h)</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C(_{\text{max}}) (µg/g)</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>208</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUC(_{\text{last}}) (h*µg/g)</td>
<td>5390</td>
<td>12,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>t(_{1/2}) (h)</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Abbreviations: AUC\(_{\text{last}}\)=area under the tissue concentration-time curve from the time of dosing to the last measurable concentration; C\(_{\text{max}}\)=maximum observed concentration; IV=intravenous; SC=subcutaneous; t\(_{1/2}\)=elimination half-life; t\(_{\text{max}}\)=time to reach maximum concentration.

Values represent results for overall combined (male+female) mean. n=4.

### Table 7: Overall Mean Givosiran Pharmacokinetics in Monkey Livers After a Single Intravenous Bolus or Subcutaneous Dose

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Route</th>
<th>IV</th>
<th>SC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dose (mg/kg)</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>t(_{\text{max}}) (h)</td>
<td>8.0</td>
<td>16.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C(_{\text{max}}) (µg/g)</td>
<td>41.5</td>
<td>28.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUC(_{\text{last}}) (h*µg/g)</td>
<td>4220</td>
<td>2540</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>t(_{1/2}) (h)</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>211</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Abbreviations: AUC\(_{\text{last}}\)=area under the tissue concentration-time curve from the time of dosing to the last measurable concentration; C\(_{\text{max}}\)=maximum observed concentration; IV=intravenous; SC=subcutaneous; t\(_{1/2}\)=elimination half-life; t\(_{\text{max}}\)=time to reach maximum concentration.

Values represent the overall combined (male+female) mean. n=2.
Table 8: In Vitro Metabolic Stability of Givosiran in Human Liver S9 Fraction With and Without Cofactor (NADPH)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time (h)</th>
<th>Antisense</th>
<th>Sense</th>
<th>Verapamil</th>
<th>Antisense</th>
<th>Sense</th>
<th>Verapamil</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>100 ± 2.66</td>
<td>100 ± 2.94</td>
<td>100 ± 7.81</td>
<td>100 ± 3.53</td>
<td>100 ± 7.49</td>
<td>100 ± 7.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>104 ± 2.28</td>
<td>97 ± 3.44</td>
<td>88 ± 5.71</td>
<td>98 ± 1.53</td>
<td>96 ± 4.61</td>
<td>33 ± 5.42</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Abbreviations: - = without; + = with; NADPH = reduced nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide phosphate; SD = standard deviation.

\(^a\) n=3
Figures

Figure 1:

A

B

Figure 2:

A

B
Figure 3:

![Liver Givosiran (µg/g) vs Time (h)]

- Θ: 10 mg/kg IV
- •: 10 mg/kg SC

Figure 4:

![Kidney Givosiran (µg/g) vs Time (h)]

- Θ: 10 mg/kg IV
- •: 10 mg/kg SC
Figure 5:
Figure 6:

(A) Givosiran Sequence:

[Schematic diagram of Givosiran sequence showing antisense and sense strands]

(B) Metabolites from 5' end and 3' end of Givosiran:

[Schematic diagram of metabolites showing GalNAc moieties]
Figure 1
Figure 3
Figure 5
Figure 6