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IRB Approved at the
Protocol Level
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Questions?

If you have any questions or you would like more information, please contact the study team using the contact details below.

CONTACT DETAILS

Biogen

Welcome to the EMBARK clinical study

embark

Biogen

The new results showed that in the EMERGE study, the group of participants who received a higher dose of aducanumab (10 mg/kg) experienced benefits on the measures of cognition and function, such as memory, orientation, and language, compared with the group treated with placebo. In addition, they experienced benefits with daily activities, such as conducting personal finances, performing household chores of cleaning, shopping, and doing laundry, and independently traveling out of the home.

In the ENGAGE study, the primary endpoint was not met and although the new analyses did not show the same results for the whole group of participants who received the high dose of aducanumab (10 mg/kg), it showed that those participants who received 10 mg/kg in a sustained manner had similar benefits as in EMERGE.

Why are we conducting the EMBARK study?

As part of our ongoing commitment to the people affected with AD and their loved ones who have been on this journey with us, and to assist us in further understanding the long-term safety and efficacy of aducanumab, we are initiating a new global aducanumab clinical study called EMBARK. EMBARK is designed to evaluate the long-term effects of aducanumab at the high dose.

There is no placebo in this study, and every patient who takes part will receive investigational aducanumab for up to 2 years at the highest dose (10 mg per kg of weight by intravenous infusion, every 4 weeks).

Who can take part in the EMBARK study?

EMBARK is open to participants who were actively enrolled in an aducanumab study as of March 2019 and who meet an updated set of eligibility criteria based on medical history and screening assessments. Around 2,400 participants from approximately 350 study centers globally will take part in this study.

It is important that all study participants have a study partner, who should be someone who helps you on a daily basis (for example, a spouse, a sibling, an adult child, or a close friend).

Your study partner must be able to:

- Accompany you to some of the study visits (minimum of four study visits over the course of 2 years, although more may be necessary)
- Provide information about you to the study doctor and staff
- Tell the study doctor and staff if you experience any side effects, and about any medicines you may be taking

What will happen during EMBARK?

The study will last for about 2.5 years. There are three main periods:

Screening period
(up to 2 months)

Dosing period
(about 2 years)

Follow-up period
(about 4 months)

During the dosing period, which is sometimes referred to as the "treatment period" in the consent documents, you will receive aducanumab as an infusion through your vein once every 4 weeks for about 2 years.

You will receive up to 26 infusions in total and each infusion will last about 1 hour. You will first receive the investigational drug at increasing doses and then receive the high dose at 10 mg/kg over the course of the dosing period.

What assessments will EMBARK involve?

There are about 33 planned clinic visits during the study plus additional visits for certain specific assessments such as MRI scans. In addition, there will be up to eight safety follow-up telephone contacts.

Study participant assessments and activities will vary from visit to visit but may include:

- Medical and demographics history
- Physical exam and vital signs
- Efficacy and safety interviews and questionnaires*
- Neurological exams
- Electrocardiogram (ECG)
- Blood and urine tests
- Pregnancy test**

In addition, there are up to three sub-studies that you may be able to join which will require you to have additional lumbar punctures or positron emission tomography (PET) scans.

**Some also to be completed by the study partner*
***For women of childbearing potential*

EMBARK sub-studies

As well as the assessments described on the previous page, there are up to three sub-studies that you may be able to join. These will require you to have additional lumbar punctures or positron emission tomography (PET) scans.

Lumbar puncture sub-study

A lumbar puncture involves a small needle being inserted between the bones of the spine in your lower back to allow a small amount of cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) to be removed.

- CSF offers important information for the diagnosis of AD, by measuring the levels of amyloid and tau proteins
- In the previous aducanumab studies, analysis of a small number of samples suggested that aducanumab changes the pattern of these proteins, potentially as a consequence of its effect on the brain

CSF can help us understand how aducanumab works in the body, which may ultimately help physicians understand how to diagnose and manage the disease in the future. That is why every CSF sample we are able to collect is so important.

PET scan sub-studies

A PET scan is carried out to take pictures of the brain and see how it is functioning.

- PET scans are very important because they are one of the only ways we can detect the amount of abnormal protein in the brain

To understand if aducanumab reduces these proteins over time, we need a large collection of PET scans. That's why we are doing the PET sub-studies. Every PET sub-study brain scan – like yours – is crucial to finding out what effect aducanumab has on amyloid and tau in the brain.

You do not need to participate in any of the sub-studies in order to complete the main clinical study. Please remember, participation in this clinical study and sub-studies is voluntary and you would be able to leave the study at any point without penalty. We would just ask you to tell the study team and you may need to visit a study clinic for one final health check.

Could EMBARK be stopped early like my previous aducanumab study?

It is not unusual for clinical studies to stop early. It is important to understand that studies can be stopped prematurely if there are safety concerns or if early results indicate the investigational drug is not showing a benefit. As you know, the decision to stop a study is never easy, but is always done with patient safety and well-being as top priority. Should the EMBARK study stop early for any reason, your study team will inform you and make arrangements for continuation of your care.

The aducanumab journey

As you may have heard, Biogen plans to apply for marketing approval of its investigational drug for Alzheimer's disease (AD), and to continue further research in this area. This decision was taken after consultation with the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

We realize that this may be unexpected, given that in March 2019 we told you that we would be discontinuing all clinical studies of aducanumab for people with early AD. That decision was based on an early review of the results from approximately half of the participants on the ENGAGE and EMERGE phase 3 studies, which showed that the probability of meeting the primary endpoint on efficacy did not meet the identified target for some participants with early AD.

To better understand why this was observed, we continued to review additional data from a higher number of participants that became available before the studies were stopped.

After an extensive analysis of this larger dataset, we have reason to believe that aducanumab may in fact slow the progression of AD in some people.

Thank you!

We are forever grateful to you and your families who participated in the previous studies. The research and information you helped us generate during your previous participation has been vital in our decision to continue the development of aducanumab, and we are optimistic about the new results we have seen.

Thank you once again for being our partners on this journey. We couldn't do it without you. We look forward to the next chapter, and we remain hopeful it will bring us one step closer to a potential treatment for AD.

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