

Fatigue Assessed by Neuro-QoL in Phase 3 Vivacity-MG3 Trial of Nipocalimab vs Placebo in Generalized Myasthenia Gravis

John Vissing,^{1*} Kavita Gandhi,² Sheryl Pease,² Nida Imran,² Maria Ait-Tihyaty,^{2†} Ibrahim Turkoz,³ Geoffroy Coteur,^{2,4} Charlotte Gary,⁵ Zia Chaudhry,³ Sindhu Ramchandran³

¹Department of Neurology, University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen, Denmark; ²Johnson & Johnson, Raritan, NJ, USA; ³Johnson & Johnson, Horsham, PA, USA; ⁴IPATH Solutions, Wemmel, Belgium; ⁵Johnson & Johnson, Issy-les-Moulineaux, France

*Presenting author

[†]Affiliation at the time of the study

Introduction

- Generalized myasthenia gravis (gMG) is a rare, chronic autoimmune disorder characterized by impaired neuromuscular transmission mediated by immunoglobulin-G (IgG) autoantibodies¹
 - This condition leads to fatigue and muscle weakness in the bulbar, respiratory, and axial muscles, adversely impacting patients' daily functioning and health-related quality of life²
- The Neuro-QoL (Quality of Life in Neurological Disorders) assessment provides a standardized, validated tool to capture patients' experiences of disease, functioning, and impact of the treatment across neurological conditions³
- Nipocalimab is a highly selective neonatal Fc receptor blocker, designed to rapidly and sustainably lower circulating IgG levels without disrupting other immunoglobulin classes or compromising immune function⁴
 - In the Phase 3 Vivacity-MG3 study (Figure 1), nipocalimab + standard of care (SOC) demonstrated significant sustained disease control when compared with placebo + SOC over 24 weeks, as measured by improvements in the Myasthenia Gravis-Activities of Daily Living (MG-ADL) score⁵
 - These findings supported the recent approval of nipocalimab by the United States Food and Drug Administration (yet to be approved in the European Union) for treating adult and pediatric patients (≥12 years) with gMG who are positive for anti-acetylcholine receptor or anti-muscle-specific tyrosine kinase antibodies⁶

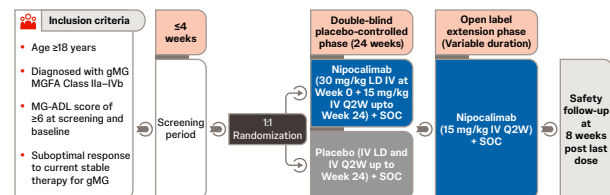
Objectives

- To assess fatigue and its related effects, as measured by Neuro-QoL Fatigue scale and its association with disease severity in gMG patients treated with nipocalimab + SOC and placebo + SOC in the Vivacity-MG3 study

Methods

- Least square (LS) mean change from baseline (CFB) in Neuro-QoL Fatigue scores over 24 weeks were compared using a mixed-model repeated measures approach
- Proportion of patients achieving meaningful within person improvement (MWPI; defined as ≥6.7-point improvement from baseline⁷) at Week 24 were compared between treatment arms using Chi-square test
- The likelihood of sustained MWPI over ≥8, 12, 16, or 20 weeks was evaluated using logistic regression models
- Mean CFB at Week 24 was evaluated by stratifying patients based on baseline disease severity scores above the median on both the MG-ADL and Quantitative Myasthenia Gravis (QMG) scales
 - Severe disease was defined as MG-ADL >9 and QMG >15

Figure 1: Vivacity-MG3 study design

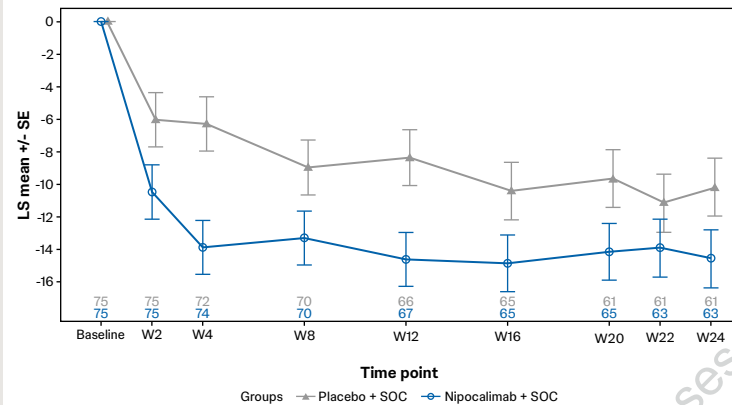


gMG=Generalized myasthenia gravis; IV=Intravenous; LD=Loading dose; MG-ADL=Myasthenia Gravis-Activities of Daily Living; MGFA=Myasthenia Gravis Foundation of America; Q2W=Every two weeks; SOC=Standard of care.

Results

- Larger improvements from baseline in Neuro-QoL Fatigue were observed with nipocalimab + SOC compared with placebo + SOC by Week 2 (LS mean difference= -4.4 [95% CI: -8.88; 0.09]; p=0.055; Figure 2)
- Improvement with nipocalimab + SOC was sustained through Week 24
 - At Week 24, numerically greater improvement in Neuro-QoL Fatigue scores was observed with nipocalimab + SOC when compared with placebo + SOC (LS mean difference = -4.3 [95% CI: -9.16; 0.62]; p=0.087; Figure 2)

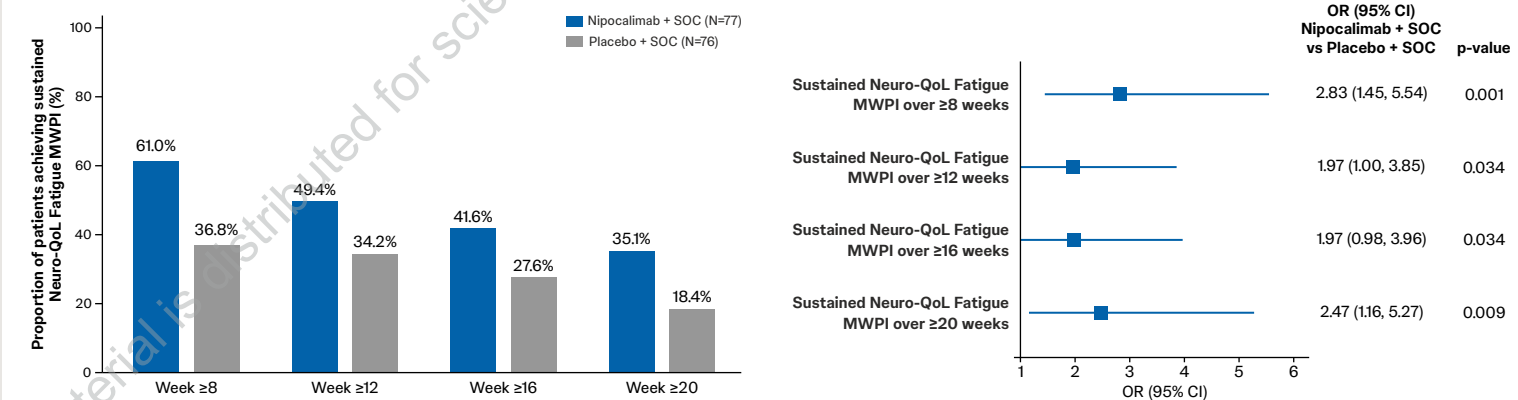
Figure 2: LS mean CFB over time in Neuro-QoL Fatigue scores



CFB=Change from baseline; LS=Least square; Neuro-QoL=Quality of Life in Neurological Disorders; SE=Standard error; SOC=Standard of care; W=Week.

- In nipocalimab + SOC arm, 6.2% (95% CI: -10.7, 23.2) more patients achieved Neuro-QoL Fatigue MWPI when compared with placebo + SOC arm at Week 24 (Odds ratio: 1.34; [95% CI: 0.66, 2.75]; p=0.424).
 - 62.7% (42/67) of patients on nipocalimab + SOC met the Neuro-QoL Fatigue MWPI threshold compared to 56.5% (35/62) on placebo + SOC
- Nipocalimab + SOC-treated patients were approximately twice more likely to sustain Neuro-QoL Fatigue MWPI for a duration of ≥8, 12, 16, and 20 weeks, which was found to be statistically significant (p<0.05) (Figure 3)

Figure 3: Proportion of patients achieving sustained Neuro-QoL Fatigue MWPI and the likelihood of achieving sustained Neuro-QoL Fatigue MWPI by duration



CI=Confidence interval; MWPI=Meaningful within person improvement; Neuro-QoL=Quality of Life in Neurological Disorders; OR=Odds ratio; SOC=Standard of care.

REFERENCES

1. Gilhus NE, et al. *Not Rev Dis Primers*. 2019;5:30. 2. Dresser L, et al. *J Clin Med*. 2021;10:2235. 3. Cella D, et al. *Neurology*. 2012;78(23):1860-7. 4. Ling LE, et al. *Clin Pharmacol Ther*. 2019;105:1031-9. 5. Antozzi C, et al. *Lancet Neurol*. 2025;24(2):105-16. 6. Johnson & Johnson. Johnson & Johnson receives FDA approval for IMAAVY™ (Nipocalimab-aahu), a new FcRn blocker offering long-lasting disease control in the broadest population of people living with generalized myasthenia gravis (gMG) [press release]. 2025 April 30. Available from: <https://www.jnj.com/media-center/press-releases/johnson-johnson-receives-fda-approval-for-imaavytm-nipocalimab-aahu-a-new-fcrn-blocker-offering-long-lasting-disease-control-in-the-broadest-population-of-people-living-with-generalized-myasthenia-gravis-gmg>. 7. Raborn A, et al. *Qual Life Res*. Published online June 14, 2025. doi: 10.1007/s11136-025-03998-9.

Conclusions

- Nipocalimab-treated patients demonstrated improvements on Neuro-QoL Fatigue score as early as Week 2 when compared with placebo-treated patients

- A higher proportion of patients sustained improvements in Neuro-QoL Fatigue scores (over ≥20 weeks) with nipocalimab + SOC compared with placebo + SOC

- Improvement in Neuro-QoL Fatigue scores were greater in nipocalimab-treated patients compared with placebo-treated patients with severe baseline disease, highlighting the importance of achieving fatigue improvement as a part of overall gMG management

Acknowledgements

The authors thank the participants and investigators for their participation in the study. Kaushik Kuche, PhD (SIRO Medical Writing Pvt. Ltd., India.) and Doyel Mitra, PhD (Johnson & Johnson) provided the medical writing support. Amit Kavle (SIRO Medical Writing Pvt. Ltd., India.) provided graphic designing support.

Funding

This study was sponsored by Johnson & Johnson.

Disclosures

John Vissing: Received consultant fees for serving on advisory boards for Alexion Pharmaceuticals Inc., Argenx BV, Dianthus Therapeutics, Horizon Therapeutics (now Amgen Inc.), Janssen, Regeneron, Roche, and UCB Pharma SA.

Kavita Gandhi, Sheryl Pease, Nida Imran, Ibrahim Turkoz, Charlotte Gary, Zia Chaudhry, and Sindhu Ramchandran: Employees of Johnson & Johnson, may hold stocks/stock options in Johnson & Johnson.

Maria Ait-Tihyaty: Employee of Johnson & Johnson at the time of the study. Currently employed at Dianthus Therapeutics, Inc.

Geoffroy Coteur: Owner of IPATH Solutions and received consultant fees from Johnson & Johnson.

