

Phase 1 Study Evaluating the Safety and Tolerability of BHV-7000, a Novel, Selective Kv7.2/7.3 Potassium Channel Activator, in Healthy Adults

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CONCLUSIONS

- BHV-7000 was safe and well-tolerated at single doses up to 100 mg and multiple doses up to 120 mg daily for 15 days
- Adverse events (AEs) typically associated with other anti-seizure medications (ASMs), such as somnolence and cognitive/mood disturbances, were not reported, which represents a potential paradigm shift in epilepsy treatment
- These findings support the continued clinical development of BHV-7000 in epilepsy

INTRODUCTION

- Approximately one-third of people with epilepsy are refractory to treatment, despite the availability of ASMs, surgery, and dietary therapy¹⁻⁴
- AEs associated with ASMs, such as somnolence and cognitive/mood disturbances, can impact quality of life and treatment adherence⁵
- BHV-7000 is a novel, small molecule, selective activator of Kv7.2/7.3 potassium channels,^{6,7} a clinically validated target in epilepsy⁸
- In preclinical studies, BHV-7000 showed minimal gamma-aminobutyric acid type A (GABA_A) receptor activation and exhibited potent anti-seizure efficacy in the maximal electroshock seizure model without negatively impacting neurobehavior or motor function^{6,7}
- The pharmacodynamic activity of BHV-7000 in the brain of healthy adults was demonstrated in a phase 1 study by dose-dependent increases in electroencephalograph spectral power⁹

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OBJECTIVE and METHODS

Objective

- Evaluate the safety and tolerability of single- and multiple-ascending doses (SAD and MAD) of oral BHV-7000 in healthy subjects

Methods

- Phase 1, double-blind, placebo-controlled, sequential SAD/MAD studies in healthy adults were conducted
- SAD subjects were randomized 3:1 to BHV-7000 (4, 10, 25, 50, or 100 mg) or placebo under fasting conditions
 - Subjects in the 25-mg SAD cohort received study drug under both fasting and fed conditions

- MAD subjects were randomized 3:1 to BHV-7000 (10, 25, 40, 80, or 120 mg daily) or placebo and dosed for 15 days
- Key inclusion criteria
 - Healthy male or nonchildbearing female subjects ≥18 and ≤55 years of age
 - Body mass index (BMI) >18.0 and <30.0 kg/m²
 - Body weight ≥55.0 kg
- Safety evaluations included AE monitoring, clinical laboratory tests, vital signs, electrocardiograms (ECGs), physical examinations, and Sheehan Suicidality Tracking Scale (S-STs) score
- A safety review committee assessed the safety and tolerability after completion of each dose level prior to dose escalation

RESULTS

Disposition

- In the SAD and MAD cohorts, 77 subjects received BHV-7000 (n = 58) or placebo (n = 19)
 - The SAD cohort included 39 subjects randomized to BHV-7000 or placebo
 - The MAD cohort included 38 subjects randomized to BHV-7000 or placebo

Demographics

- Demographics and baseline characteristics are presented in **Table 1**
- Mean age in the SAD and MAD cohorts was 40.1 and 40.3 years, respectively
- The majority of subjects were male (SAD, 87%; MAD, 95%) and white (SAD, 95%; MAD, 90%)

Safety and Tolerability

- In the SAD cohort, the most common treatment-emergent AEs (TEAEs) were headache and abdominal discomfort (**Table 2**)
- In the MAD cohort, the most common TEAEs were headache and back pain (**Table 3**)
- Across the dosing groups in the SAD and MAD cohorts, there were low rates of nervous system TEAEs (**Table 4**). No cases of somnolence were reported
- There were no serious TEAEs, severe TEAEs, nor deaths reported in this study
- The majority of TEAEs were mild in severity and resolved by the conclusion of the study
- There were no clinically meaningful trends in laboratory values, nor were there clinically meaningful trends or treatment-related findings identified for vital signs, ECGs, or S-STs

Table 1. Subject Demographics and Characteristics

Characteristic	Single-Ascending Dose		Multiple-Ascending Dose	
	n = 39		n = 38	
Mean (SD) age, years	40.1 (9.7)		40.3 (9.1)	
Sex, n (%)	Female	5 (12.8)	2 (5.3)	
	Male	34 (87.2)	36 (94.7)	
Race, n (%)	Asian	0	2 (5.3)	
	Black	2 (5.1)	2 (5.3)	
	White	37 (94.9)	34 (89.5)	
Mean (SD) BMI, kg/m²	25.4 (2.5)		25.8 (2.5)	

SD, standard deviation.

Table 2. TEAEs Occurring in ≥2 Subjects Receiving BHV-7000 in the SAD Cohorts

AE, n (%)	BHV-7000							
	4 mg n = 6	10 mg n = 6	25 mg (Fasted) n = 6	25 mg (Fed) n = 6	50 mg n = 6	100 mg n = 5	BHV-7000 Overall n = 29	Placebo n = 10
Headache	0	1 (16.7)	1 (16.7)	0	1 (16.7)	0	3 (10.3)	0
Abdominal discomfort	0	1 (16.7)	0	1 (16.7)	0	0	2 (6.9)	0

All AEs reported in the SAD cohorts were mild in severity and resolved.

Table 3. TEAEs Occurring in ≥2 Subjects Receiving BHV-7000 in the MAD Cohorts

AE, n (%)	BHV-7000						Placebo ^b n = 9
	10 mg n = 5	25 mg n = 6	40 mg n = 6	80 mg ^a n = 6	120 mg ^a n = 6	BHV-7000 Overall ^b n = 29	
Headache	0	0	3 (50.0)	1 (16.7)	2 (33.3)	6 (20.7)	3 (33.3)
Back pain	1 (20.0)	0	2 (33.3)	2 (33.3)	1 (16.7)	6 (20.7)	0
Constipation	0	0	1 (16.7)	1 (16.7)	1 (16.7)	3 (10.3)	3 (33.3)
Dizziness	0	0	0	2 (33.3)	1 (16.7)	3 (10.3)	2 (22.2)
Abdominal pain	0	0	0	2 (33.3)	0	2 (6.9)	1 (11.1)
Fatigue	0	0	0	1 (16.7)	1 (16.7)	2 (6.9)	2 (22.2)

All AEs reported in the MAD cohorts were mild in severity, except 1 case of back pain (moderate severity, 40 mg) and 1 case of dizziness (moderate severity, 80 mg), and resolved.

^aData are included from a separate study evaluating higher MAD doses.

^bData are pooled across studies.

Table 4. Nervous System TEAEs Occurring in ≥1 Subject Receiving BHV-7000

Nervous System AE, ^a n (%)	Single-Ascending Dose							Placebo n = 10
	BHV-7000							
	4 mg n = 6	10 mg n = 6	25 mg (Fasted) n = 6	25 mg (Fed) n = 6	50 mg n = 6	100 mg n = 5	BHV-7000 Overall n = 29	
Headache	0	1 (16.7)	1 (16.7)	0	1 (16.7)	0	3 (10.3)	0
Dizziness	0	1 (16.7)	0	0	0	0	1 (3.4)	0
Myoclonus	0	0	1 (16.7)	0	0	0	1 (3.4)	0
Nervous System AE, ^a n (%)	Multiple-Ascending Dose							Placebo ^c n = 9
	BHV-7000							
	10 mg n = 5	25 mg n = 6	40 mg n = 6	80 mg ^b n = 6	120 mg ^b n = 6	BHV-7000 Overall ^c n = 29		
Headache	0	0	3 (50.0)	1 (16.7)	2 (33.3)	6 (20.7)	3 (33.3)	
Dizziness	0	0	0	2 (33.3)	1 (16.7)	3 (10.3)	2 (22.2)	
Hypoesthesia	0	0	0	0	1 (16.7)	1 (3.4)	0	
Paresthesia	0	0	0	0	1 (16.7)	1 (3.4)	0	

All nervous system AEs reported in the SAD and MAD cohorts were mild in severity, except 1 case of dizziness (moderate severity, 80 mg), and resolved.

^aTEAEs within the system organ class of nervous system disorders.

^bData are included from a separate study evaluating higher MAD doses.

^cData are pooled across studies.

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