Bioanalytics, Metabolomics and Pharmacokinetics
Shared Resource (BMPK)
Director: Dr. James Mohler

Ceritinib in Heparinized Human Plasma
(Sensitivity: 1.00 ng/mL)

BMPK validated a highly sensitive liquid chromatographic tandem mass spectrometric assay (LC-MS/MS) for the analysis of ceritinib in heparinized human plasma. Ceritinib (ZYKADIA™) has been approved by the FDA for the treatment of adult patients with anaplastic lymphoma kinase (ALK) positive metastatic non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) who have previously been treated with crizotinib. Compared to crizotinib, ceritinib is approximately 20-fold more potent and is more selective for ALK. Clinical studies of ceritinib co-administered with CYP3A inhibitors (e.g., ketoconazole) or inducers (e.g., rifampin) have resulted in changes in the overall exposure of ceritinib and should be avoided whenever possible. The validated method has been used to support a clinical trial conducted at Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center entitled “Phase I Study of Ceritinib (LDK378), a Novel ALK Inhibitor, in Combination with Gemcitabine-Based Chemotherapy in Patients with Advanced Solid Tumors”.

Specifications and Validation Performance

| Matrix (Anticoagulant): Human Plasma (Lithium Heparin) | Required Volume: 100 μL |
| Preparation Procedure: Protein Precipitation | HPLC Column: C18 |
| Mobile Phase: Acetonitrile with Acetic Acid | Flow Rate: 300 μL/min |
| Detection Type: Tandem Mass Spectral (MS/MS) |

Calibration Ranges: 1.00 - 500 ng/mL
Calibrator Accuracy: 100% (97.8 - 102%; n=5)
Calibrator Precision: 1.79% CV (0.688 - 5.20%; n=5)
QC Concentrations: 3.00, 15.0 and 375 ng/mL
QC Accuracy: 97.9% (95.6 - 101%; n=18)
QC Precision: 4.91% CV (3.01 - 7.44%; n=18)

Human Pharmacokinetic Parameters of Ceritinib

Recommended Dosing
450 mg single oral daily administration without food; steady-state is achieved after ~15 days of daily dosing

Maximum Tolerated Dose (MTD)
750 mg single oral daily administration

Bioavailability
Absolute bioavailability unknown; systemic exposure increased when taken with food, which may increase adverse events

Active Metabolites
None

Metabolism
~82% of the drug circulates in plasma unchanged (~92% is eliminated in feces with ~68% as unchanged parent compound)

Plasma Protein Binding
97.2% in humans; independent of drug concentration

Maximum Plasma Concentration (Cmax)
Occurs 4-6 hours after dosing; increases dose proportionally over a 50 to 750 mg oral dose range

Plasma Terminal Half-Life (t1/2)
41 hours with nonlinear PK over time

BMPK offers a wide range of bioanalytical and PK/PD modeling services to assist investigators in their basic research, preclinical, and clinical study objectives. For information on services and pricing, contact Wenjuan Zha, Ph.D., Associate Director at (716) 845-3258 or Wenjuan.Zha@RoswellPark.org.

Ceritinib (LDK378) Investigator’s Brochure, Novartis, Edition 8, and ZYKADIA Prescribing/Patient Information, Novartis, Revised 12/2017