

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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CENTER FOR DRUG EVALUATION AND RESEARCH

ONCOLOGIC DRUGS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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62ND MEETING

TUESDAY,
JUNE 8, 1999

The meeting took place in the Maryland Ballroom, Town Center Hotel, 6727 Colesville Road, Silver Spring, MD at 8:00 a.m., Janice Dutcher, M.D., Chair, presiding.

Present:

Janice Dutcher, M.D., Chair
 Karen M. Templeton-Somers, Ph.D., Executive Secretary
 James E. Krook, M.D., Member
 Kim A. Margolin, M.D., Member
 Stacy R. Nerenstone, M.D., Member
 Robert Ozols, M.D., Ph.D., Member
 Victor M. Santana, M.D., Member
 Richard L. Schilsky, M.D., Member
 Richard M. Simon, D.Sc., Member
 George W. Sledge, Jr., M.D., Member
 E. Carolyn Beaman, M.H.S., Consumer Representative
 Martha Solonche, Patient Representative
 Glenn Gruett, Patient Representative
 Andrew Harwood, M.D., Consultant
 Scott Lippman, M.D., Consultant
 Isagani Chico, M.D., FDA Representative

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Present: (cont.)

Clara Chu Ph.D., FDA Representative
Gregory Frykman, M.D., FDA Representative
Robert Justice, M.D., FDA Representative
Grant Williams, M.D., FDA Representative

Public Comment:

Gail Hayward (letter)
Susie Bendel
Philip J. LoPresti
Gail S. Broder

Edward Schnipper, M.D., Sponsor Representative
Maurie Markman, M.D., Sponsor Representative
Frank Martin, Ph.D., Sponsor Representative
Ken Cunningham, M.D., Sponsor Representative
Wolfgang Oster, M.D., Sponsor Representative
David Grdina, Ph.D., Sponsor Representative
David Brizel, M.D., Sponsor Representative
John Mackowiak, Ph.D., Sponsor Representative
Gary Koch, Ph.D., Sponsor Representative
Lesley Russell, M.D., Sponsor Representative
Walter Curran, M.D., Sponsor Representative
Randy Allred, Dr.PH., Sponsor Representative
Alan Gordon, M.D., Sponsor Representative
William McGuire, M.D., Sponsor Representative
Franco Muggia, M.D., Sponsor Representative
Todd Wasserman, M.D., Sponsor Representative

Also Present:

Gang Chen, Ph.D.

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NDA 20-221/S-012, Ethyol (amifostine) for injection
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1 P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

2 (8:02 a.m.)

3 DR. DUTCHER: All right. We're going to
4 get started. This is day two of the 62nd Oncologic
5 Drug Advisory Committee. Welcome. Today we are going
6 to be discussing two agents. One is Doxil and one is
7 Ethyol. Before we get started I would like to go
8 around the table and introduce people who are sitting
9 at the table.

10 Ms. Beaman.

11 MS. BEAMAN: Good morning. I'm Carolyn
12 Beaman, Sisters Breast Cancer Network, consumer rep.
13 to the committee.

14 DR. SLEDGE: George Sledge, Medical
15 Oncologist, Indiana University.

16 DR. SANTANA: Victor Santana, St. Jude's
17 Childrens Research Hospital, Pediatric Oncologist.

18 DR. NERENSTONE: Stacy Nerenstone, Medical
19 Oncology, Hartford Hospital, Connecticut.

20 MS. SOLONCHE: Martha Solonche, SHARE, New
21 York City, Patient Rep.

22 DR. SCHILSKY: Richard Schilsky, Medical

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1 Oncologist, University of Chicago.

2 DR. MARGOLIN: Kim Margolin, Medical
3 Oncology and Hematology, City of Hope, Los Angeles,
4 California.

5 DR. DUTCHER: Janice Dutcher, Our Lady of
6 Mercy Cancer Center, New York.

7 DR. TEMPLETON-SOMERS: Karen Somers,
8 Executive Secretary to the Committee of DA.

9 DR. KROOK: Jim Krook, Medical Oncologist,
10 Duluth, Minnesota.

11 DR. OZOLS: Bob Ozols, Medical Oncologist,
12 Fox Chase Cancer Center.

13 DR. WILLIAMS: Frank Williams, Team
14 Leader, FDA.

15 DR. FRYKMAN: Gregory Frykman, FDA
16 Reviewer.

17 DR. JUSTICE: Bob Justice, Acting Division
18 Director.

19 DR. DUTCHER: Thank you. We are now going
20 to read a conflict of interest statement.

21 DR. TEMPLETON-SOMERS: The following
22 announcement addresses the issue of conflict of

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1 interest with regard to this meeting and is made a
2 part of the record to preclude even the appearance of
3 such at this meeting.

4 Based on the submitted agenda and
5 information provided by the participants, the agency
6 has determined that all reported interest in firms
7 regulated by the Center for Drug Evaluation and
8 Research present no potential for a conflict of
9 interest at this meeting with the following
10 exceptions.

11 In accordance with 18 U.S.C. 208(b) full
12 waivers have been granted to Drs. Kim Margolin and
13 Victor Santana. Copies of these waver statements may
14 be obtained by submitting a written request to FDA's
15 Freedom of Information Office located in room 12A-30
16 of the Parklawn Building.

17 In addition, we would like to disclose for
18 the record that Drs. Richard Schilsky and Robert Ozols
19 have interest which do not constitute financial
20 interest within the meaning of 18 U.S.C. 208(a) but
21 which could create the appearance of a conflict. The
22 agency has determined notwithstanding these interests

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1 that the interest of the Government and their
2 participation outweighs the concern that the integrity
3 of the agency programs and operations may be
4 questioned.

5 In the event that the discussions involve
6 any other products or firms not already on the agenda
7 for which an FDA participant has the financial
8 interest, the participants are aware that the need to
9 exclude themselves from such involvement in their
10 exclusion will be noted for the record.

11 With respect to all other participants we
12 ask in the interest of fairness that they address any
13 current or previous financial involvement with any
14 firm whose products they may wish to comment upon.
15 Thank you.

16 DR. DUTCHER: Thank you. The open public
17 hearing today is going to be in two parts. We are
18 going to read a letter now and then after the
19 presentations we are going to have a speaker.

20 The letter is from Gail Hayward, an
21 ovarian cancer survivor, and president and founder of
22 the National Ovarian Cancer Coalition.

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1 DR. TEMPLETON-SOMERS: "I wear two hats
2 when I enter the ovarian cancer world. One hat is
3 that of president and founder of the National Ovarian
4 Cancer Coalition, NOCC. The second is that of ovarian
5 cancer survivor since 1989. I have fought to survive
6 nine and one half years without a remission of the
7 disease.

8 Ovarian cancer is life threatening. More
9 than 50 percent of the women who have it die within
10 five years of diagnosis. That is because in at least
11 70 percent of cases women are not diagnosed until the
12 cancer has reached an advanced stage when it is often
13 too late to cure.

14 In these all too common cases the fatality
15 rate is an alarming 80 percent. For those of us who
16 live longer, our lives are often a roller coaster of
17 tough chemotherapy treatments, numerous side effects,
18 and a continuing anxiety-filled search for what to do
19 next when the current protocol is no longer effective.

20 For me the suffering has brought with it
21 not only physical decline but, even more difficult,
22 post-traumatic stress along with stressful financial

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1 difficulties. The far-reaching tentacles of ovarian
2 cancer deeply affect our family members.

3 Despite the continuous onslaught I have
4 developed an insatiable desire to live. My daughter
5 died of cancer a year ago. She left two little boys
6 now age 8 and 9. I have made a decision that I will
7 be there for them as they grow. They need me and I
8 need them. I am deeply grateful for every breath I
9 take.

10 I founded the NOCC in 1993. In 1996 we
11 got our not-for-profit status. The organization
12 started out with a group of 20 women in a support
13 group. We now have over 11,000 members, 20 state
14 chapters, and we reach literally millions of people
15 each year with awareness and educational programs for
16 ovarian cancer.

17 Busy? You bet. But the organization is
18 a gift to me. It is not an accomplishment that can be
19 done by one. Dedicated people have come forward and
20 offered their undaunting support of time and effort to
21 dispel myths and misunderstandings about ovarian
22 cancer and they have committed to improve the overall

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1 survival and quality of life from ovarian cancer.
2 NOCC collects the personal letters sent to us by
3 thousands of ovarian cancer survivors and their
4 families. Above all they want hope.

5 Like myself many have been through
6 paclitaxel- and platinum-based chemotherapy regimens
7 as well as topotecan. Doxil, doxorubicin
8 hydrochloride liposome injection, is an innovative
9 drug in a new wrapping that delivers the drug
10 effectively and without the horrendous side effects
11 usually experienced by most chemotherapies. It gives
12 hope for extension of life with quality of life. I
13 have personally met with representatives from ALZA and
14 was educated about Doxil.

15 I nor NOCC has any financial obligations
16 to this pharmaceutical company. I am convinced,
17 however, through my own personal experience of taking
18 Doxil for 10 months along with my knowledge of the
19 drug that Doxil should be made available to women like
20 myself who are refractory to many other agents.

21 I speak not only for myself but also for
22 the 185,000 women alive with ovarian cancer today.

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1 Gail Hayward, ovarian cancer survivor and president
2 and founder of the National Ovarian Cancer Coalition."

3 DR. DUTCHER: Thank you. We are now going
4 to proceed with the sponsor presentation. I should
5 forewarn you that we are going to be using a timer
6 today because we have so many speakers. You do have
7 an hour to complete the presentation and then we'll
8 have questions for the sponsor.

9 DR. SCHNIPPER: Good morning. On behalf
10 of ALZA Corporation I am Ed Schnipper and I would like
11 to introduce our program this morning. Doxil is
12 currently approved for use in patients with AIDS-
13 related Kaposi's sarcoma who have relapsed on
14 chemotherapy or who are intolerant to chemotherapy.

15 We are here today to present our
16 supplemental NDA for use of Doxil in patients with
17 advanced refractory ovarian carcinoma. Specially, we
18 are asking for an indication for patients with
19 metastatic carcinoma of the ovary who are refractory
20 to both paclitaxel- and platinum-based chemotherapy
21 regimens and who also may be refractory to topotecan.
22 Refractory in this setting is defined as a patient who

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1 has progressed the disease while on therapy or within
2 six months of therapy.

3 The agenda for this morning will begin
4 with a talk from Dr. Maurie Markman on the unmet
5 medical need followed by Frank Martin who will speak
6 about the technology behind Doxil and some of its
7 pharmacology. I will then speak about the efficacy
8 studies that are in the SNDA, followed by Ken
9 Cunningham who will speak about the safety of Doxil.
10 I will return to make some concluding remarks and will
11 be happy to take any questions you might have.

12 Also with us today are several consultants
13 that will help us answer any questions. All of these
14 consultants have been participants in our clinical
15 trials. We have with us today Dr. Alan Gordon of the
16 Sammons Cancer Center in Dallas, Dr. William McGuire
17 of the University of Mississippi, and Dr. Franco
18 Muggia of NYU Medical Center.

19 In addition, I have with me several of my
20 colleagues from ALZA who will again help me answer any
21 questions that you might have. I would now like to
22 introduce Dr. Maurie Markman from the Cleveland

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1 Clinic.

2 DR. MARKMAN: Good morning. It is a
3 pleasure to speak to you briefly this morning on the
4 topic of the unmet medical needs regarding ovarian
5 cancer. In hearing the letter from Ms. Hayward, I
6 must acknowledge that it is impossible for me to say
7 more than she said in her letter. It was obviously
8 truly profound statements.

9 Ovarian cancer affects approximately
10 25,000 women in the United States each year.
11 Unfortunately, there will also be approximately 14,000
12 deaths associated with this cancer.

13 As you have so eloquently heard, the
14 fundamental problem is it is currently extremely
15 difficult to find the disease in its early stages. In
16 fact, 70 percent plus of women with this malignancy
17 will present with advanced disease where the standard
18 treatments currently are the platinum agent and
19 paclitaxel.

20 Despite what I certainly would
21 characterize as substantial improvements in the
22 chemotherapy for this malignancy both from the

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1 perspective of response rate and survival and,
2 importantly, quality of life, the bottom line is more
3 than 20 percent of women with this malignancy
4 receiving chemotherapy will fail to respond to front
5 line treatment.

6 In the advance disease, particularly
7 suboptimal disease setting, 80 percent of patients
8 will ultimately relapse and be candidates for a
9 second-line treatment approach and just from the
10 perspective of definitions to some that you are going
11 to hear in the next few moments.

12 It has been learned through experience in
13 not only ovarian cancer but other malignancies as well
14 that it is important when you talk about second-line
15 therapy to divide your patient populations up into two
16 relatively broad categories that have very important
17 clinical meanings regarding treatment options.

18 The first is so-called sensitive patient
19 population. That is a population that has a very
20 realistic chance of responding to retreatment with the
21 same or similar drug that you have just given them.
22 For definitional purposes we will define those

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1 individuals who have had a response to therapy and
2 they have been off therapy for at least six months,
3 and that is the population which we are not going to
4 discuss further, certainly because we actually have
5 relatively reasonable treatment options available
6 today in that setting.

7 But it is the refractory patient
8 population, those who have progressed while on therapy
9 or never responded to therapy, or progressed within
10 six months of the completion of therapy who are very
11 unlikely to respond to retreatment with the agents
12 they received. That is going to be the focus of our
13 attention and the truly unmet needs.

14 There are actually three drugs that I can
15 mention that are currently approved as second-line
16 treatment of ovarian cancer, paclitaxel, altretamine,
17 and topotecan and just very briefly to show you some
18 of the response rates. The purpose of my presentation
19 is certainly not to do any comparisons or contrasting
20 or anything of the sort, but just to give you an idea
21 of the kind of objective response rates that have been
22 reported and confirmed in the medical literature.

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1 The patient populations vary certainly.
2 This is somewhat of a moving target based on what the
3 current front line therapy is because that becomes
4 then the standard to which you want to compare your
5 second-line treatment strategies to because those are
6 the drugs that the patients will have failed and
7 that's what you are then going to use.

8 If you look at topotecan there is data of
9 about a nine to 10 percent response rate in paclitaxel
10 patients. In those individuals who have received
11 platinum and topotecan, the response rate of
12 paclitaxel is about three percent. Actually, with
13 altretamine, which is an older drug and, therefore,
14 was not really tested in that era of the platinum
15 paclitaxel topotecans, we really do not know what the
16 objective response rate.

17 And to that population that is resistant
18 to platinum, paclitaxel, and topotecan, which is now
19 a relatively common population as these three drugs
20 are widely used, we actually have no objective data,
21 certainly not presented to ODAC, to demonstrate what
22 the anticipated activity is of any drug in this

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1 setting.

2 Now, very briefly there are several
3 factors that are known to very much influence the
4 chances of a second-line agent working in a refractory
5 setting. Certainly the worse population from the
6 perspective of coming up with an agent that has
7 activity that's going to have meaning for patients is
8 that patient who is truly progressed on initial
9 platinum-based chemotherapy. Again, in 1999 that's
10 platinum and paclitaxel.

11 And, of course, a patient who has
12 progressed after multiple regimens, clearly that tumor
13 has demonstrated to have developed a variety of
14 resistance mechanisms and, therefore, the chances that
15 the next drug you're going to try is going to work is,
16 of course, increasingly small.

17 However, it is important to point out that
18 ovarian cancer is different than many other
19 malignancies and, therefore, this question of second-
20 line or third-line or fourth-line therapy, whatever
21 you want to call it, is a very meaningful question in
22 this malignancy where it may not be in another

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1 malignancy.

2 Again, Ms. Hayward's comments, her long
3 survival, her multiple chemotherapeutic regimens is a
4 very poignant example of the reality of treatment of
5 ovarian cancer in 1999.

6 Relapse is common as I suggested.
7 However, prolonged survival is also common and
8 becoming increasingly common. In fact, most recent
9 projects based upon follow-up on trials in women with
10 advanced ovarian cancer treated with platinum
11 paclitaxel based regimens advanced disease but so-
12 called optimal residual disease.

13 In other words, stage-three disease with
14 a relatively small amount of cancer remaining in the
15 abdominal cavity, 40 percent of that population will
16 be alive 10 years after diagnosis. Long survival is
17 becoming increasingly what we would anticipate.
18 However, again, the relapses are common.

19 And importantly, particularly when we talk
20 about the issue of is it appropriate to even consider
21 second-line therapy, this patient population very
22 fortunately often has an excellent performance status

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1 for a very prolonged period of time and, therefore,
2 they are reasonable candidates to at least consider a
3 second-line treatment option. In other words, it is
4 important to have those options available for the
5 patients to think about.

6 In addition, it is important to point out
7 that even though we do have other agents that have
8 been approved for second-line therapy in the
9 management of ovarian cancer, it is important to argue
10 very strenuously that we need to have options, not
11 just one drug. The reason for that is very simple.

12 Based upon the individual patient
13 characteristics and their prior response and,
14 importantly, prior toxicity to the front line therapy,
15 the choice of a second-line regimen may very well be
16 influenced by those factors. I just give three very
17 simple examples that all the oncologists on the panel
18 are very aware of.

19 An individual who has received prior front
20 line therapy, the platinum paclitaxel, may very have
21 experienced neurotoxicity from the front line regimen
22 and, therefore, that's an individual if you had

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1 options available in the second-line setting you would
2 certainly want to stay away from drugs that had
3 neurotoxicity as a potential effect.

4 An individual who had excessive bone
5 marrow toxicity with the front line regimen, very much
6 you would want to try to stay away from a regimen that
7 you knew had major toxicity as bone marrow toxicity.
8 Of course, the obvious problem of somebody with a lot
9 of nausea and vomiting you very much want to stay away
10 from an agent that you knew had a potential toxicity
11 to be significant nausea and vomiting.

12 Finally, because this patient population
13 is able to live for so long with overall such good
14 quality of life, it is critical as we think about
15 second-line, third-line agents that we think about
16 those agents that are well tolerated and convenient
17 for patients.

18 The last thing we want to do is take a
19 patient who is doing well but still has active disease
20 and make the quality of life bad. Clearly all of
21 these agents have toxicities. They are cytotoxic, the
22 ones we are talking about. They have the potential of

1 causing harm 'but we have to do our best to cause the
2 least possible harm so that we can prolong survival
3 and hopefully improve the quality of life. I thank
4 you for your attention.

5 DR. MARTIN: Good morning. My name is
6 Frank Martin. I'm principal scientist at ALZA
7 Corporation. The key structural feature of all
8 liposomes including the Doxil liposome you'll hear
9 about today is a lipid biolator membrane made out of
10 material such as phosolipids and cholesterol.

11 These membranes when they are exposed to
12 water, or these lipids when they are exposed to water,
13 spontaneously form membranes that wrap around a small
14 portion of the aqueous compartment forming a structure
15 that is much like a small cell, a tiny cell.

16 In the case of Doxil there is a single
17 such lipid biolator membrane and the overall
18 dimensions of the particle is about 100 nanometers.
19 So to give you a point of reference, this is about
20 1/100th the size of a red blood cell. These are small
21 particles.

22 There are two structural features that

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1 differential Doxil from other liposomes. The first
2 one is the way the drug is loaded. Doxorubicin
3 hydrochloride is actively pumped into the internal
4 compartment of these liposomes using an ion gradient
5 method. It's possible to achieve such high
6 concentrations of doxorubicin internally that the drug
7 actually falls out of solution forming a gel like
8 precipitate inside the liposome.

9 This is important because it leads to very
10 stable encapsulation of the drug and to a very high
11 amount of drug in each liposome. Indeed, it is
12 possible to load about 15,000 molecules of doxorubicin
13 in a single liposome of this size.

14 It also leads to very robust stability
15 because these particles, as you will see in a moment,
16 to do their job are going to have to circulate in the
17 bloodstream for days so we want to keep the drug in
18 the liposome in order to optimize the amount that's
19 delivered to the target site.

20 The other feature is the hallmark of a
21 STEALTH liposome, and that is the polymer layer which
22 is chemically grafted to the surface of the liposome.

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1 The polymer is polyethylene glycol, which is known to
2 be an inert safe polymer, and it forms a very dense
3 hydrophilic layer around the liposome.

4 This layer is designed to do two things;
5 to keep biological proteins and plasma from binding to
6 the liposome and destabilizing it, No. 1, and, No. 2,
7 to reduce the rate at which the reticuloendothelial
8 system recognizes and clears these particles from the
9 bloodstream. It's intended to make like a tiny formed
10 element in blood.

11 Now, by virtue of the way the drug is
12 encapsulated, the small size, and the polymer coating,
13 these liposomes circulate for long periods of time
14 after intravenous administration. This is illustrated
15 here with the pharmacogenetics of Doxil in cancer
16 patients showing on this axis the concentration of
17 doxorubicin and plasma over a seven day period after
18 administration.

19 There are two curves plotted here. One is
20 the total amount of drug in the bloodstream over this
21 period. The other is the proportion of that total
22 that is still liposomes. I would like to draw your

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1 attention to two important points here. The first is
2 virtually all of the drug remains in the particles
3 while they are circulating in the bloodstream. The
4 other is the clearance is very slow.

5 Indeed, the half-life for Doxil is about
6 two to three days in these cancer patients. By virtue
7 now of their small size and long circulation time,
8 these particles are able to access sites of disease
9 that have abnormal blood vessels. In one such site is
10 tumors.

11 It is well known now that tumors have
12 defective capillaries particularly in areas undergoing
13 angiogenesis where these capillaries are sprouting.
14 They are growing so haphazardly and so quickly that
15 defects and gaps are present in the endothelial walls.
16 These liposomes are small enough to physically
17 extravasate through these gaps and lodge in the
18 interstitium of tumors.

19 Evidence for that is shown here in a
20 preclinical model. This is a xenograft of a prostate
21 cancer in mice. In this study what we are doing is
22 looking at the area under the curve in the tumor after

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1 a single dose of either Adriamycin or Doxil at time
2 zero. You can see that the pattern of uptake is quite
3 different for these two drugs.

4 In the case of Adriamycin, the uptake is
5 rather rapid and the elimination rate is rather fast.
6 This is in full agreement with what one would expect
7 from the literature. The Adriamycin enters the tumor
8 and is cleared within a few hours.

9 An identical doze of Doxil has a different
10 pattern. First of all, it takes several days to reach
11 its peak. The peak is higher meaning that these
12 liposomes are actually carrying more drug to the
13 tumor. The residence time in the tumor is very long
14 taking a week in this rodent model for the drug to be
15 eliminated.

16 Our interpretation of these data are that,
17 No. 1, it takes a long time for the liposomes to enter
18 and they enter as intact particles. That is, the drug
19 is still in the particle. Then over the ensuing time
20 period the liposomes break open, release their drug,
21 the drug becomes bioavailable, is metabolized and
22 eliminated from the tumor.

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1 This differential uptake pattern is also
2 seen in humans. In the next slide what I'm going to
3 be showing you is a gamma scintigram of a patient, a
4 completely sarcoma, where we injected not Doxil but
5 the same liposomes containing Indium 111, Indium 111
6 chelated to EDTA so that we can use gamma scintigraphy
7 to follow both the kinetics and the distribution of
8 the liposomes.

9 Importantly this method only tracks or
10 reports the presence of intact liposomes. If the
11 chelate is released from the liposome, it is
12 immediately eliminated in the urine within just a few
13 minutes. The radioactivity is reporting the existence
14 and movement of intact particles.

15 Shown in the first panel is the gamma
16 scintigram at four hours post injection. I'm drawing
17 your attention here to this patient's left where there
18 are several Kaposi's sarcoma lesions. The lesion I
19 would ask you to follow is the lesion that is circled.

20 At four hours you can see clearly that the
21 major radioactive distribution is blood pool. That
22 is, the major vessels in the chest are shown. You can

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1 see some activity in the bladder which represents the
2 Indium EDTA that was not in the liposomes when they
3 were injected so this was immediately eliminated in
4 the bladder.

5 You could start to see uptake in the
6 lesion at 24 hours. It reaches a maximum uptake at 48
7 hours. Yet, even at 96 hours all of these lesions in
8 the leg are positive indicating two things. (1) it
9 takes a while for these liposomes to get into the
10 lesion, and (2) even at 96, and we even have other
11 time points later at two, three, or four days later
12 the liposomes remain in the lesion as intact particles
13 so they are lingering in the lesion for some period of
14 time.

15 The uptake pattern in Kaposi's sarcoma has
16 been verified biochemically as shown here in a group
17 of seven KS patients who were injected with Doxil at
18 time zero and 48 hours later a representative
19 cutaneous lesion was biopsies as was adjacent normal
20 skin beyond the margir of the lesion. The total drug
21 in these tissues was then measured and you can clearly
22 see that the amount of drug in the lesion is much

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1 higher than the amount of drug in adjacent normal skin
2 in all of these patients.

3 Differential uptake in Kaposi's sarcoma
4 seen here does provide benefit to Kaposi's sarcoma
5 patients. Indeed, Doxil was first approved for use in
6 patients with Kaposi's sarcoma that had failed first-
7 line therapy and including a group of patients that
8 had received prior Adriamycin. Response rates in the
9 original submission are shown here.

10 Since that time randomized trials have
11 been conducted of Doxil as a single agent versus a
12 variety of combinations including ABB, BV, and the
13 Doxil plus BV. In all of these trials a high response
14 rate in Kaposi's sarcoma has been confirmed and these
15 are all now in the medical literature.

16 Of course, we were interested in other
17 histologies beyond Kaposi's sarcoma. Adriamycin is
18 active in a variety of solid tumors so preclinically
19 we screened a variety of tumor types in xenograft and
20 rodent models. One model we tested was an ovarian
21 cancer xenograft, the HEY xenograft. Indeed, we found
22 activity of Doxil in the xenograft as shown here which

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1 is a typical tumor growth curve.

2 Here is both sides of the tumor versus
3 time after implantation. As you can clearly see,
4 Adriamycin is active in this model versus the control
5 group. Doxil at the same administered dose as
6 superior activity to Adriamycin.

7 Based on the preclinical activity that we
8 saw here and based on some work done in a Phase I
9 trial in which a group of heavily pretreated ovarian
10 cancer patients was admitted into a Phase I trial and
11 work done by Franco Muggia, we found clinical activity
12 in a number of these patients including a bona fide
13 partial responder and some minor responses.

14 Based on the preclinical activity of Doxil
15 in ovarian cancer and indication of clinical activity
16 really represents the rationale for our looking into
17 the utility of Doxil in ovarian cancer which will be
18 the topic of discussion today.

19 I would like to ask Dr. Schnipper to
20 return and to begin the sponsor's clinical
21 presentation.

22 DR. SCHNIPPER: The clinical development

1 of Doxil for ovarian cancer began in 1994 and was
2 designated an orphan designation in 1998. The
3 supplemental NDA that we're talking about today was
4 filed in December of this past year and granted
5 priority review earlier this year.

6 The data that I'm going to discuss today
7 will demonstrate that Doxil is active in these
8 refractory patients, the Doxil is generally well
9 tolerated, and the Doxil is convenient to administer.

10 The program consist of four trials, three
11 noncomparative trials and preliminary results from an
12 interim analysis of a randomized Phase III comparative
13 trial comparing Doxil to topotecan.

14 The three multicenter noncomparative
15 trials all contained relapsed or refractory patients.
16 Refractory, as we said, is narrowly defined as
17 patients who have progressed while receiving therapy
18 or within six months of receiving therapy, patients
19 who are defined as platinum and paclitaxel refractory,
20 to fill that definition for both drugs whether they
21 were given individually or in combination.

22 Similarly, patients who were additionally

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1 refractory topotecan also fill that definition for all
2 three drugs either individually or if the drugs were
3 given in combination.

4 The primary endpoints of all these studies
5 were response rate and all responses were based solely
6 on measurable disease. All responses were confirmed
7 by repeat radiologic scan at least four weeks from the
8 demonstration of response. All available scans were
9 subjected to independent radiologic review. Secondary
10 endpoints included time for regression and duration of
11 response.

12 The initial dosing regimen for all three
13 files with the exception of trial 30-22 was 50
14 milligrams per meter squared every four weeks. The
15 median dose actually received across all three trials
16 was 50 milligrams per meter squared every four weeks.

17 The Phase II trials were conducted at
18 multiple sites. Two of the studies were done in the
19 U.S. and one in Europe. The median age is shown here.
20 The number of patients in each trial that fulfilled a
21 definition of being refractory to platinum and
22 paclitaxel was 28, 49, and 26 respectively.

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1 In Study 30-47 there were 33 patients that
2 additionally fulfilled the criteria for being
3 refractory to topotecan and 10 patients in Study 47E.

4 It is also important to note that there
5 was quite a short interval between patients having
6 received their prior regimen and progressive disease
7 before entering on the Doxil trials. In addition,
8 most patients had received two more prior regimens.

9 I would like to now turn to the results of
10 these three trials. Of the 28 patients in Study 30-22
11 who fulfilled the definition for being refractory to
12 both paclitaxel and platinum. There were six
13 responders. One complete and five partial responders
14 for an overall response rate of 21.4 percent.

15 In 30-47 there were 49 patients who
16 fulfilled that refractory definition. There were nine
17 partial responders for a response rate of 18.4
18 percent.

19 If you look at the patients that also
20 fulfilled the definition of being refractory to
21 topotecan, there were 33 patients, six responders, one
22 complete, five partial for a response rate of 18.2

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1 percent. In Study 47E there were no responses in the
2 patients who fulfilled the definition for refractory.

3 Now, we looked at a variety of factors to
4 explain why the results from 30 and 47E were not
5 consistent with the results from the other two trials.
6 In looking at some of these factors, we noted that
7 there were indeed a couple of differences between the
8 patients in this trial and the patients in the other
9 trials.

10 For example, the baseline CA 125 was
11 somewhat larger. The bulky disease, the sum total of
12 measured disease at baseline was somewhat larger.
13 Patients spent a shorter amount of time on trial.
14 Patients who left trial in general left trial for
15 death or progressive disease rather than toxicity.

16 So it appears that it is at least possible
17 that the patients on this trial entered at a later
18 stage in their disease and were treated perhaps for
19 shorter periods of time than the patients in the other
20 trials thus making it more difficult for them to
21 respond. Nonetheless, these patients are included in
22 our overall analysis of response rate.

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1 Looking at all the responses together
2 across the trials we can see that for the platinum and
3 paclitaxel refractory patients, it was an overall
4 response rate of 14.6 percent. If we look at those
5 patients that were additionally refractory topotecan,
6 the response rate was 14.0 percent. Combining all the
7 patients together, the response rate was 14.4 percent.

8 As Dr. Markman stated, some of the most
9 difficult patients to treat are those who actually
10 progress while on platinum. If you look at just those
11 patients, the response rate was 10 percent in those
12 extremely difficult to treat patients.

13 A Kaplan Meier curve of duration of
14 response showed a median duration of response of 39.4
15 weeks, almost 10 months. The time to progression
16 across all these trials was 15.9 weeks, almost four
17 months.

18 If we also look at performance status of
19 these patients and plot a Kaplan Meier curve of first
20 decline and performance status and put that on the
21 same curve, same chart as the time to progression, we
22 can see the two curves are parallel. Patients

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1 maintain their Karnofsky status until the time of
2 progression. Patients were generally were able to
3 continue their daily life while on therapy.

4 If we turn our attention now to our
5 randomized trial, Study 30-49, this was a study
6 designed for patients who had failed primary therapy
7 with platinum. The patients were then randomized to
8 receive either Doxil, 50 milligrams meter squared
9 every four weeks, or topotecan, 1.5 milligrams per
10 meter squared daily times five every three weeks.

11 Patients were required to have measurable
12 disease. In this study the primary endpoint was timed
13 to progression with endpoints response rate, duration
14 of response, etcetera, also looked at.

15 The study was conducted at 90 sites
16 throughout the United States and Europe and has
17 recently reached its target accrual of 460 patients
18 who have continued to be followed for response.

19 What we are showing here is the results of
20 the first planned interim analysis that per protocol
21 was scheduled to be undertaken when 200 evaluable
22 patients were entered. We are going to talk only

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1 about the 237 intent-to-treat patients that were
2 accrued to reach this goal.

3 Those patients would have had to have at
4 least six months of follow-up to be included in this
5 analysis. We will present the entire population for
6 safety and we will concern ourselves for efficacy with
7 that subset of patients, 81 patients, that met the
8 definition that we have said before, for being
9 refractory to platinum and paclitaxel.

10 Of the 44 patients on the Doxil arm who
11 met that definition, there were six responders for a
12 response rate of 13.6 percent, pretty much in line
13 with what we've seen from the Phase II trials. On the
14 topotecan arm, there were 37 patients, three
15 responders for a response rate of 8.1 percent.

16 We've talked a lot about response rates.
17 What about the magnitude of these responses? What we
18 have here is a graphic representation of a table that
19 you all have in your briefing documents that looks at
20 all the patients from all the studies, a total of 27
21 responders, and looks at the percent reduction in
22 lesions. As you can see, the majority of the patients

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1 had quite large reductions in their lesions from
2 baseline to when it was measured as a responder.

3 In fact, nine patients had complete
4 disappearance of all measurable disease. Only two of
5 them were considered complete responders because under
6 the strict definition of complete response, some of
7 these patients may have had an ill defined shadow on
8 CAT scan or some unevaluable disease so they were not
9 considered complete responders but, in fact, had
10 disappearance of all measurable disease.

11 As you can see, there were very few
12 patients that, in fact, qualified as responders by
13 having only relatively small differences from baseline
14 in their measurement of disease.

15 I would like to just briefly summarize the
16 Phase II efficacy data that we've discussed by saying
17 that across all studies we had a response rate of 14.4
18 percent in these highly refractory patients. The
19 duration of response was almost 10 months with a time
20 to progression of almost four months thereby
21 demonstrating activity of Doxil in these highly
22 refractory patients.

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1 I would now like to introduce Dr. Ken
2 Cunningham to talk a little bit about the safety of
3 Doxil.

4 DR. CUNNINGHAM: Good morning. My name is
5 Ken Cunningham. I would like to present to you the
6 safety profile of Doxil. The experience comes from
7 five ovarian studies totally 408 patients. It is this
8 population which I intend focusing on this morning. We
9 have a further 772 patients in the total solid tumor
10 population, and in the Kaposi's sarcoma clinical
11 experience we have 1,721 patients. This additional
12 experience is consistent with the ovarian experience.

13 Turning first to drug exposure, the median
14 cycle dose was 50 milligrams per meter squared. The
15 median cycle length, 29.5 days. The cumulative dose
16 was approximately 150 milligrams per meter squared,
17 some patients receiving a lot more.

18 This graph shows the dosing intensity by
19 cycle. Now, some 42 percent of patients actually dose
20 modified. That is, they had a dose reduction or a
21 dose delay. But you can see that a high dosing
22 intensity was sustained throughout. Indeed, at the 6th

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1 cycle 11.2 milligrams per meter squared was the mean
2 dosing intensity which is 90 percent of the intended.

3 Turning to adverse events, you can see
4 that from this chart that the patients who experienced
5 adverse events, the majority had grade I or grade II,
6 60 percent had grade III, and a substantially fewer
7 number had grade IV. There were four deaths on study.
8 One of these deaths was considered to be drug related
9 and that was a patient with neutropenic sepsis who had
10 been heavily pretreated.

11 I should point out that the numbers on
12 this chart are 396. That's the total number of
13 patients on whom we received adverse event report
14 forms.

15 Palmar-plantar erythrodyesthesia, or PPE,
16 sometimes known as hand-foot syndrome is the commonest
17 side effect with Doxil. You can see that the majority
18 of patients have mild to moderate events but some 17
19 percent have grade III. Two patients in the ovarian
20 population were categorized as having grade IV.

21 Stomatitis is the second commonest. but,
22 again, the majority of patients have mild to moderate

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1 events. You can see a similar pattern as we move down
2 the other adverse events, the majority mild to
3 moderate events.

4 Alopecia occurred in 16 percent of
5 patients. This was mainly minor hair thinning
6 although .7 percent of patients had some more
7 extensive hair loss.

8 Looking at the hematologic laboratory data
9 and focusing on the severe grade III/grade IV events,
10 neutropenia occurred at grade IV in 8.6 percent of
11 patients. That is, a neutrophil count of less than
12 500. Relatively few patients had growth factor, 4.1
13 percent. Only one patient was reported as having
14 neutropenic sepsis.

15 Slightly more patients had anemia. 16.4
16 percent had grade IV anemia with hemoglobin of less
17 than 6.5 grams. Consistent with this figure, 14
18 percent had blood transfusions.

19 Thrombocytopenia was less frequent. 1.2
20 percent of patients had a platelet count of less than
21 25,000 and very few patients had platelet
22 transfusions.

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1 Eleven percent of patients withdrew due to
2 adverse events and the commonest reason was Palmar-
3 plantar erythrodyesthesia, 3.5 percent. The other
4 events can be seen here and all account for 1 percent
5 or less of withdrawals.

6 I would like to say a few words on the
7 management of PPE. Looking first the grading system,
8 PPE affects the palms of the hands, the soles of the
9 feet. In its mildest form is erythema that the
10 patient may not even be aware of. Sometimes it's
11 associated with tingling.

12 As we move through to grade II there is
13 erythema in association with sometimes edema and
14 sometimes desquamation. Grade III, some blistering.
15 grade IV is obviously a more diffuse problem.

16 With grade I we suggest redosing.
17 Obviously there are other recommendations to the
18 patients. The patients are advised to wear loose
19 fitting clothing, they shouldn't wear shoes which are
20 too tight, or indulge in any activities which would
21 tend to rub or abrade the skin.

22 At grade II a delay of one to two weeks

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1 should be instituted. At grade III and IV a similar
2 delay but this time when the patient is redosed they
3 should be redosed at 75 percent of the original dose.

4 We propose that we put this in our PI. We
5 also believe that with good education and following
6 this plan we can minimize the effect of PPE.

7 When considering an anthracycline, clearly
8 cardiac toxicity should be considered. In our total
9 solid tumor database of 772 patients -- we're now
10 talking beyond the ovarian population -- we had six
11 patients who withdrew due to cardiac toxicity. Five
12 had asymptomatic left ventricular ejection fraction
13 declines. One patient had congestive heart failure.
14 That patient had, in fact, had 22 cycles and a
15 cumulative dose of 944 milligrams per meter squared.

16 Five additional drug related cardiac
17 events were reported, all grade I. Doxil
18 pharmacokinetics mimics the pharmacokinetics of
19 continuous infusion doxorubicin and it has been well
20 established that continuous infusion doxorubicin is
21 associated with less cardiac toxicity.

22 We've also done some animal work,

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1 preclinical animal models including the rabbit have
2 been studied and shown that milligram for milligram
3 doxorubicin causes more cardiac toxicity than Doxil.

4 A limited amount of biopsy data has been
5 performed. As you are aware, biopsy data is probably
6 the most sensitive way of looking at anthracycline and
7 toxicity.

8 In one study with 10 KS patients, patients
9 received between 469 and 860 milligrams cumulative
10 dose of Doxil. They showed minimal cardiac toxicity
11 based on the Billingham score. A Billingham score of
12 1 is the first point on the three point scale that
13 indicates or denotes cardiac toxicity.

14 We've also looked at four solid tumor
15 patients and their doses range from 675 right up to
16 1,680 milligrams. In two cases these patients had
17 prior Adriamycin of at least 300 milligrams. You can
18 see again that the Billingham score runs from nought
19 to 1.5 so minimal cardiac toxicity, although far more
20 data is needed to generate sufficient information on
21 this subject.

22 As Dr. Schnipper has already mentioned, we

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1 are currently conducting a large randomized
2 comparative study in ovarian cancer, Doxil versus
3 topotecan.

4 So far in this study we have recruited 135
5 Doxil patients and 132 topotecan patients. This
6 interim safety analysis has about four months of
7 safety update reviews to the FDA.

8 You can see from this that between 40 and
9 45 percent of patients are still on study.
10 Terminations are slightly higher in the topotecan arm.
11 So too are delays, interruptions, and dose reductions,
12 65 percent for topotecan and 44 percent for Doxil.

13 Here we see the percentage of patients
14 with adverse events by severity. The yellow bar shows
15 Doxil and the pink bar shows topotecan. You can see
16 that for both groups the majority of patients get mild
17 to moderate events. Doxil is associated with slightly
18 fewer events at grade III but significantly fewer,
19 less than .001, for grade IV.

20 To illustrate the comparative safety a
21 little bit further, what we've taken here are Doxil's
22 five most frequent adverse events and compared them

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1 with topotecan. What you can see is that, of course,
2 PPE is the commonest event for Doxil, the majority
3 getting mild to moderate. Eighteen percent here get
4 grade III. One patient is reported as having grade
5 IV. Stomatitis the second commonest. Again, mainly
6 mild to moderate.

7 But for the remaining three events, there
8 are more topotecan patients who experience these
9 particular events. In particular, I draw your
10 attention to anemia where many more experience grade
11 III and IV anemia.

12 Here we have done the reverse. We're look
13 at topotecan and the top five topotecan adverse
14 events. The striking thing is that these are mainly
15 hematological as one might predict and that there are
16 fewer grade III, IV events denoted with the dark and
17 mustard color for Doxil or the darker red color for
18 topotecan. There are many fewer grade III, grade IV
19 events for Doxil versus topotecan.

20 Focusing on neutropenia for a minute, in
21 the neutropenia here there were 13 neutropenic cases
22 reported with topotecan versus none reported with

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1 Doxil. Also, there were two deaths associated with
2 neutropenic sepsis in the topotecan arm, and no drug
3 related deaths with Doxil.

4 Looking at alopecia 56 percent of patients
5 had hair loss with topotecan. Seven percent had total
6 hair loss. 12.5 percent had hair thinning with Doxil.
7 There were no cases of total hair loss.

8 In summary, we would submit that Doxil is
9 generally well tolerated. It is associated with
10 relatively mild myelosuppression and minimal alopecia.
11 PPE is the most common adverse event that is
12 manageable and that is evidenced by the relatively low
13 number of patients who actually withdraw as a result,
14 3.5 percent.

15 The adverse event profile is predictable.
16 That's based on the similarity in adverse events in
17 the total solid tumor patient population, the Kaposi's
18 sarcoma population, and also the three years marketing
19 experience that we now have.

20 Thank you very much. I would now like to
21 hand the podium back to Ed Schnipper who is going to
22 make some concluding remarks.

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1 DR. SCHNIPPER: So what is the value of
2 Doxil in this patient population? First, Doxil meets
3 an unmet medical need for patients for whom there is
4 no approved therapy. It has an objective response
5 rate of 14.4 percent in these highly refractory
6 patients the duration of response being almost 10
7 months. It's generally well tolerated and has
8 convenient monthly dosing. Doxil is dosed with a one
9 hour infusion once a month through a peripheral vein
10 since stop was vesicant. It's less intrusive than
11 many other therapies in patients' lives.

12 In conclusion, Doxil is active in patients
13 with ovarian cancer who are refractory to platinum and
14 paclitaxel and who also may be refractory to
15 topotecan. Doxil represents a valuable addition to
16 the treatment options for these patients.

17 Thank you and we'll be happy to take your
18 questions.

19 DR. DUTCHER: Thank you for a very concise
20 and ahead-of-time presentation.

21 Are there questions from members of the
22 committee? Dr. Ozols.

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1 DR. OZOLS: The committee is going to have
2 to try to answer the question of whether Doxil has
3 really a meaningful therapeutic benefit in this group
4 of patients. You're talking about a drug that
5 produces a response rate of about 10, 12, 14 percent
6 with as many patients dropping out because of toxicity
7 as well.

8 You've got to face a situation where
9 patients, as Maurie pointed out, are living longer.
10 You have many patients who don't have symptoms who do
11 have active disease and does a partial response really
12 make much difference to them?

13 It's doubtful that you're going to impact
14 on survival with that kind of a response rate in that
15 group of patients. When we look at therapeutic
16 benefit, we have to ask several questions like who
17 really is going to benefit. I think it's not the
18 challenge of saying whether this drug is active or
19 not. This drug definitely has some activity. I think
20 we are seeing objective responses. There are some
21 issues of trying to figure out where best to use this
22 drug.

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1 One of the things is when you talk about
2 refractory, you have a 10 percent response rate in
3 patients who actually progress on disease and that's
4 the worst group of patients. Do you have any
5 responses in patients who progress on their initial
6 treatment with paclitaxel and platinum?

7 I mean, we talk about progressing on
8 disease. That could be progressing on second-line
9 treatment of platinum or paclitaxel. But do you have
10 any patients in that 20 percent or more you pointed
11 out who don't respond to initial treatment? Do they
12 respond?

13 DR. SCHNIPPER: We haven't specifically
14 broken the data down that way. We have responses on
15 patients who have progressed on their last platinum,
16 on the platinum they had just before they took Doxil.

17 DR. OZOLS: And that's a different group
18 of patients.

19 DR. SCHNIPPER: Right.

20 DR. OZOLS: Because the worst group is
21 still the patients who get their initial paclitaxel,
22 carbo-platinum, whatever, and then progress on that

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1 disease. In that treatment do they respond at all?
2 Because I'm trying to figure out who shouldn't get the
3 drug. I think because of the toxicity that we're
4 seeing and the limited activity, certainly I think we
5 need to give some guidance to the clinicians about
6 where to use it and where not to use it.

7 DR. SCHNIPPER: I don't have specific
8 information on that particular group of patients. We
9 have patients who have progressed while on platinum
10 after as many as five different regimens. We also
11 have patients who --

12 DR. OZOLS: That's a touchy issue about
13 patients who have had lots of regimens. Patients who
14 have had many regimens and continue to be treated with
15 multiple regimens, you are selecting out a group of
16 patients who actually have a better overall prognosis.
17 When you say it's the worst group of patients because
18 they've had more than three or four treatments, in
19 fact, you may be selecting out patients who have a
20 long natural history and, therefore, do reasonably
21 well. It's's really the ones who are going right
22 through treatment are the ones that were --

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1 DR. SCHNIPPER: Yes. You are absolutely
2 right. We were obviously very concerned about that.
3 One of the things we looked at is we looked at the
4 patients who had a longer time to regression on Doxil
5 than their prior regimen. There were actually 23
6 patients who had more than 90 days longer time to
7 progression on Doxil than their prior regimen
8 indicating that they were not patients who necessarily
9 would have long times to progression on any regimen
10 that they have.

11 DR. OZOLS: Another questions. Again,
12 trying to figure out who should get it and who
13 shouldn't. Did you really see any therapeutic benefit
14 in the sense of symptom relief? I mean, the patients
15 you're talking about who had symptoms from their
16 disease with a 10 percent response rate, were those
17 symptomatic benefits?

18 DR. SCHNIPPER: The majority of the
19 patients who entered these trials entered with a very
20 high performance status, as Dr. Markman said. The
21 case support forms on these trials asked for the
22 investigator to evaluate evaluable disease as well as

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1 measurable disease.

2 Of the responders in the phase through
3 trials, there were five patients who entered with
4 ascites. At the time that they demonstrated response,
5 five out of five had improvement in their ascites. In
6 fact, there was some evidence that patients were
7 feeling better and doing better.

8 The majority of the patients felt
9 reasonable well when they started so we looked at
10 things like pain medication and other sorts of things.
11 Most of them weren't on pain medication to begin with.

12 DR. OZOLS: I mean, in ascites you can
13 have a little bit of ascites picked up on CT scan that
14 goes away or you can have massive ascites that goes
15 away. I mean, the symptomatic benefit is still
16 something that still really bothers me a little bit.

17 The other thing that I'm very concerned
18 about the European study. I mean, that's a group of
19 investigators who are very good investigators who were
20 able to get together to do this study and they had no
21 responses.

22 Now, you can say maybe that's because the

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1 worst group of patients but, again, that concerns me
2 because in a community you may actually be giving this
3 drug to a worse group of patients than you actually
4 saw in your trials so the community practice maybe
5 reflects more the European practice and then you maybe
6 have no responses. I'm very concerned about a large
7 trial with zero out of 36. That's very concerning
8 that there is no activity in that group of patients.
9 And to say it's because they have worse disease again
10 may be --

11 DR. OZOLS: We were obviously concerned as
12 well, but we were very much encouraged by the fact
13 that our randomized Phase III trial had results that
14 were very consistent with our overall Phase II
15 results.

16 DR. SCHNIPPER: But can you again tell in
17 patients if you say that the European data had no
18 responses because they were a worse group of patients,
19 again can we hone in on who shouldn't get the drug?
20 Do patients with bulky disease not respond then? I
21 mean, should you try to --

22 DR. OZOLS: I can show you some of the

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1 parameters of responders versus nonresponders and show
2 you that there is quite a lot of overlap in terms of
3 responders versus nonresponders in terms of these
4 issues of bulky disease based on characteristics,
5 etcetera.

6 If I can have the slide on, please. You
7 can see from here if you compare the responders to the
8 nonresponders in terms of the 21 responders in the
9 Phase III trials and the nonresponders, you see they
10 compare pretty favorably in terms of a number of
11 regimens. If you look at drug-free interval, they are
12 fairly close. In terms of platinum-free interval also
13 fairly close because, remember, these studies started
14 in 1994 so some of these patients got platinum in
15 sequence, then Doxil and then topotecan.

16 The sum of legions was slightly higher in
17 the nonresponders but look at the ranges which overlap
18 quite a bit, as well as the CA-125. I think it would
19 be very difficult for a practicing physician to
20 actually predict from these typical prognosticators
21 who would respond and who would not respond because of
22 the overlap in the ranges here.

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1 DR. OZOLS: And your progression when you
2 patients progress, that was a radiologic progression
3 or physical progression? It wasn't a CA-125
4 progression?

5 DR. SCHNIPPER: In the vast majority of
6 the patients there were a few exceptions but the vast
7 majority was radiologic progression, yes. I'm sorry,
8 they were all radiologic progressions.

9 DR. DUTCHER: Dr. Margolin.

10 DR. MARGOLIN: I've got a couple of
11 questions. In study 30-49 it looks like, if I got the
12 numbers right, you have about 80 patients that you're
13 looking at that have the double refractoriness and
14 there were about 400 so far in your interim analysis.
15 Is that correct?

16 DR. SCHNIPPER: No. There's 237.

17 DR. MARGOLIN: Okay. So there's about 40
18 percent of the total that are analyzable for
19 fulfilling the refractory criteria.

20 DR. SCHNIPPER: Correct.

21 DR. MARGOLIN: The question I have since
22 this is an interim study and you have only partial

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1 accrual, are attempts being made -- is the statistical
2 design of that study intended to allow a completely
3 separate statistical analysis of patients who
4 fulfilled the refractoriness criteria so that at the
5 end you'll be able to look at those patients
6 separately with a robust statistical analysis and
7 compare the activity of the topotecan and the Doxil?

8 DR. SCHNIPPER: Yes. The patients who
9 were stratified for level of refractoriness at the
10 beginning of the trial so they are priorly set up for
11 that.

12 DR. MARGOLIN: That's not the same
13 question. Well, we talked about that yesterday.
14 Prestratification for balanced factors between your
15 groups is fine if you're going to look at the data all
16 together at the end. But designing the study II
17 contained purposely enough patients so that at the end
18 you can break out those patients and look at them
19 separately requires more patients than the
20 prestratification.

21 DR. OZOLS: I'll ask Dr. Allred from our
22 statistical group to answer that specifically.

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1 DR. DUTCHER: Please state your name for
2 the record.

3 DR. ALLRED: My name is Randy Allred.
4 Yes. This was a planned interim analysis as specified
5 in the protocol. These patients were a subset of the
6 200 evaluable patients that were stated in the
7 protocol.

8 The other thing to keep in mind is that
9 all patients are accrued now so accrual is closed.
10 We're just waiting for follow-up time to complete.
11 The study was not powered to show differences in this
12 subset of patients.

13 DR. MARGOLIN: Thank you. If I could
14 please have one more. This would be more theoretical
15 or future studies. I think Dr. Markman and others in
16 this field have shown us that the patients who in
17 general do the worst are those with measurable
18 disease. That large group of patients who don't have
19 easily followable disease and you can decide what you
20 want to do with the marker are actually more
21 favorable.

22 If one were to agree based on some of the

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1 things we talked about yesterday, that in certain
2 populations of patients it is appropriate to look at
3 time to progression as an appropriate endpoint as a
4 surrogate for clinical benefit, would that not answer
5 a need that might actually show greater activity for
6 this and other new drugs in ovarian cancer? Are any
7 attempts being made to address that group?

8 DR. SCHNIPPER: I'm trying to specifically
9 understand your question. Are you asking if we are
10 exploring time to progression as a means of looking at
11 only the measurable disease population?

12 DR. MARGOLIN: No. Are you doing any
13 studies in nonmeasurable evaluable patients carefully
14 selected ?

15 DR. SCHNIPPER: No. The entry criteria
16 for all our studies are measurable disease.

17 DR. DUTCHER: Dr. Nerenstone.

18 DR. NERENSTONE: Yes. I share some of Dr.
19 Ozols concerns about the toxicity of this drug. I
20 just had a few questions for the sponsor as well.
21 Dosing - this is a pharmacokinetically different drug
22 than we're used to. I want to know did they dose

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1 according to ideal body weight or actual weight?
2 Especially since in the community the patients are
3 going to get this drug are going to have a lot of
4 ascites. They could have pleural effusions and even
5 obesity is sometimes a problem. How are these
6 patients dosed?

7 DR. CUNNINGHAM: Hello. My name is Ken
8 Cunningham. The patients were dosed according to
9 their actual body weight in fact.

10 DR. NERENSTONE: One of my other concerns
11 that may relate to that is that even in the Phase III
12 of 44 percent delay or reduction in subsequent doses
13 of the Doxil, having treated some patients and seen
14 PPE, I can't minimize the effect of patients of this
15 side effect.

16 Do you think that maybe you're at too high
17 a dose? That 50 per meter squared is the first dose
18 might be beneficial but 44 percent dose reduction for
19 other doses leads me to think that perhaps a smaller
20 dose in subsequent because this can be cumulative
21 might be really clinically more tolerable. Has any
22 thought been given to that?

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1 DR. CUNNINGHAM: Well, our plan, of
2 course, is to at the very first signs of grade II PPE
3 2 dose reduce. If doctors take note and make that
4 first dose reduction early then, in fact, PPE is well
5 minimized. Our particular stance at the moment is to
6 start with 50 but accept that many patients will
7 actually be reducing their dose once they get the
8 first signs of grade II PPE.

9 What may be of some help is we have done
10 a study where we started a lot higher and we had to
11 dose de-escalate and I would be happy to show the
12 results and how we actually came down and the
13 reduction in PPE with you. Would that help in
14 answering your question?

15 DR. NERENSTONE: No. I'm just talking
16 from a clinical perspective that as this drug is going
17 to go on market at the appropriate dose, I'm just
18 concerned that the indication is a 50 per meter
19 squared for each dose and that may just be really too
20 high. When you require 44 percent of patients to dose
21 reduce in a well controlled trial of people who are
22 used to giving this drug, it makes me a little

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1 concerned that when it goes out to market where
2 clinicians are not as familiar with the side effects,
3 that you might actually be overdosing these patients.

4 DR. CUNNINGHAM: I think the one thing
5 that I would like to comment on is, as I showed you in
6 the presentation, the majority of patients even at
7 cycle VI were receiving 90 percent of their intended
8 dose intensity. A lot of patients might actually have
9 a dose modification but it's actually relatively small
10 and doesn't impact enormously on the absolute dose.

11 The other thing to say is that 44 percent
12 aren't dose modifying for PPE. It's probably about 20
13 percent of patients who get PPE dose modified. There
14 are other reasons for dose modification.

15 DR. NERENSTONE: And one other clinical
16 question. Because this is looked at as really almost
17 a continuous infusion of Doxil, if patients require
18 neupagen or support of their white count, when do you
19 give it and are you going to have any guidelines to
20 help the clinicians with that?

21 DR. CUNNINGHAM: Well, you saw from my
22 slides that only four percent of patients actually had

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1 growth factors. Clearly you're right in alluding to
2 the longer half-life and there being a rationale for
3 delaying the introduction of growth factor.

4 At this juncture we cannot give precise
5 information in the PI as to when that should be but we
6 would certainly be suggesting probably out at four
7 days or four days plus.

8 DR. DUTCHER: Dr. Santana.

9 DR. SANTANA: I have two questions. One
10 hopefully will be simple and the other one you can
11 give me more data. And that is trying to address this
12 issue that Stacy was presenting which is what is the
13 true equivalency of this product to doxorubicin in
14 terms of milligram per milligram?

15 Obviously you are putting in more
16 molecules of doxorubicin in the liposome than you are
17 with free doxorubicin. I ask that because one of the
18 slides that you showed us, which was a xenograft model
19 in which you did a study of saline versus Doxil versus
20 Adriamycin.

21 The dose of the product was the same as
22 Adriamycin, 6 milligrams per kilo and that is very

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1 misleading because in essence you ought to be giving
2 more molecules of doxorubicin and the Doxil than you
3 are with free doxorubicin. If you could address that
4 issue of equivalency of doxorubicin units.

5 Then a follow-up question regarding
6 toxicity is that I've heard comments that patients
7 with this disease can have long periods with disease
8 with relatively good survival. In the patients who
9 had a response, do you have any chronic toxicity data?
10 That is, in those patients who responded that you
11 followed for long periods of time, are there any
12 issues of chronic toxicity, particular cardiac?

13 DR. SCHNIPPER: I'm going to start with
14 the second question first if I may. I'm going to ask
15 Dr. Franco Muggia to make some comments on that since
16 he has some of the longest experience following some
17 of these patients.

18 DR. MUGGIA: I'm hearing some
19 misconceptions about the toxicity that one observes
20 with this agent. For one, when you see the degree of
21 neutropenia and anemia you have to consider the
22 baseline characteristics of these patients. These are

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1 heavily pretreated patients. In fact, out of 52
2 patients that we treated at the University of Southern
3 California we analyzed the data and anemia is a
4 prognostic factor for survival. So a lot of the
5 patients come to this trial anemic. The anemia that
6 you see there reflects disease more than it reflects
7 the effect of the drug. I think the toxicity of the
8 drug as you saw was PPE and mucositis

9 In our experience grade IV neutropenia was
10 not present in the overall experience as you saw that
11 grade IV neutropenias are very few and far between and
12 probably reflect a lot of prior treatment. When you
13 see this topotecan versus Doxil trial, then you see
14 the events of grade IV neutropenia as few.

15 The issue of GCSF is really not strictly
16 relevant to this drug and it is not something I had to
17 use in my experience of three consecutive trials of
18 Doxil.

19 Now, when it comes to the cardiac
20 toxicity, I think I can expand on that a bit as well.
21 We have looked at 21 patients that received in our
22 Phase I to III trials. These are not all ovarians.

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1 They include all diagnoses. We've looked at 21
2 patients that have exceeded 500 milligrams per meter
3 squared, 500 or greater.

4 Our of those they have received a median
5 of 770 milligrams per meter squared of Doxil. We have
6 looked at the serial ejection fractions. In fact,
7 there were only three that have ejection fractions
8 that dropped more than 15 percent. Two of them had
9 received prior free doxorubicin and one's ejection
10 fraction was actually measured in another facility.

11 We have no incidence of congestive heart
12 failure except that one patient that was shown in one
13 of the slides. One patient that received 990 plus
14 milligrams per meter squared was a patient that had
15 renal disease and hypertension and was on beta
16 blockers. Not a picture of cardiomyopathy. She
17 developed probably in-stage renal disease which was a
18 complication of her preceding cisplatin therapy.

19 So I think there is a misconception that
20 patients are dropping off because of toxicity. They
21 are not. They are dropping off because of progressive
22 disease. The patients are entered with a variety of

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1 treatments up front so they are a heterogenous group.
2 Some can withstand all kinds of treatment. Others are
3 much more frail but it is progressive disease that
4 really leads to the drop off.

5 The PPE is a problem of the first two or
6 three cycles. Once you make the dose adjustment, the
7 PPE is not a cause for drop off. In fact, it was very
8 rare that a patient was not continued. I can site you
9 anecdotes of two grade III or IV toxicities that went
10 on to receive the drug for two years. They have PPE
11 on the second cycle and then they went on and got two
12 years of treatment.

13 It's a problem that probably there is a
14 learning curve. I think with a lot of education when
15 one starts with 50 and then looks at the next dosing,
16 whether it is safe to give the next dose at 50 or dose
17 reduce I think it is something that is strictly
18 manageable.

19 In terms of clinical benefit, I think
20 these are difficult issues, but I can site you a
21 number of patients where the interval to some disease
22 related event which required treatment or surgical

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1 intervention was short. Then they went on Doxil and
2 stayed on Doxil for a longer period of time than the
3 two or three events before. There are several
4 patients like that and to me it reflects clinical
5 benefit.

6 DR. OZOLS: We need to clarify that about
7 patients dropping out because of adverse events. I
8 mean, the sponsor just said that patients are dropping
9 out at about a 20 percent rate because of adverse
10 effects. You're telling us that people weren't
11 dropping out because of adverse effects.

12 DR. CUNNINGHAM: The overall withdrawal
13 due to adverse events was, in fact, 11 percent and 3.5
14 percent was accounted for by PPE.

15 Slide on, please.

16 You can see from this slide here which I
17 showed in the main presentation that is the situation.
18 The denominator when I was talking about patients who
19 actually had PPE, this denominator here reflects the
20 396 overall ovarian patient population denominator,
21 hence the discrepancy. But 3.5 percent of patients
22 out of all those ovarian patients actually withdrew as

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1 a result of PPE.

2 DR. SANTANA: Answer the equivalency
3 question.

4 DR. SCHNIPPER: Yes. I meant to get back
5 to that question. I'm going to ask Dr. Frank Martin
6 to address that.

7 DR. MARTIN: Just to clarify, in all of
8 the preclinical models when we talked about milligrams
9 of doxorubicin injected, they were equivalent. That
10 is, doxorubicin is equivalent. In comparison, for
11 example, 8 milligrams per kilogram, that was an
12 absolute number of doxorubicin administered to the
13 animal. Those were identical injected doses.

14 Now, if you're interested in knowing what
15 the activity of Doxil is relative to Adriamycin, in a
16 way to sort of define the therapeutically equivalent
17 dose, I do have information on that in one animal
18 model if you would like to see that.

19 Slide on, please.

20 This is a Lewis lung tumor model. Again,
21 a typical growth curve, tumor size versus time after
22 implantation. What we did here was we dosed the

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1 animals with the maximum tolerated dose of Adriamycin.
2 In other words, at any higher doses of Adriamycin
3 these animals would experience toxicity that was
4 unacceptable. You can see there is activity.
5 Adriamycin at its MTD is better than the saline
6 control.

7 We then took Doxil from the same
8 administered dose, 9 milligrams per kilogram, and
9 diluted it down, titrated it down to 5 milligrams per
10 kilogram, and tried to arrive at the dose that showed
11 approximate equivalence. As you can see in this
12 model, one milligram per kilograms of Doxil provided
13 about as much antitumor response as 9 milligrams per
14 kilogram of free doxorubicin.

15 Now, this was not the case in all models
16 but of all solid tumors we tested in this manner, the
17 improvement in terms of antitumor activity ran from
18 about 2.5 fold up to 9 fold.

19 DR. DUTCHER: I have a question. Just in
20 looking through some of the data, it looks to me that
21 the median number of treatments in the Phase II
22 studies were really two and the median duration of

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1 cycles was either two or three. In the European study
2 it was essentially one. So the evaluation of disease
3 was at four weeks, single evaluation? Did the stable
4 patients also come off at four weeks?

5 DR. SCHNIPPER: The evaluations were every
6 other cycle if the patient stayed on. For patients
7 that had an event, they were documented at that time.
8 If somebody had some clinical event, they would have
9 been documented for that clinical event.

10 DR. DUTCHER: So it does come back to Dr.
11 Ozols' question of who shouldn't get this drug.

12 DR. SCHNIPPER: I think since we're
13 talking a lot about clinical benefits, it is probably
14 important to hear some more from a clinician. I'm
15 going to ask Dr. McGuire to make some comments on that
16 and then we'll come back to the actual data.

17 DR. MCGUIRE: I'll try to be brief.
18 Having used a fair amount of this drug in my own
19 patient population, I think a couple of points need to
20 be made. First, one can't really look at performance
21 status in an ovarian cancer patient like you can in
22 other cancer patients because often times performance

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1 status may go from 80 plus to 40 plus. These
2 patients, to put it mildly, go to hell in a handbag
3 very quickly with valve obstruction, ureteral
4 obstruction, etcetera.

5 In terms of dropout rate having treated a
6 number of patients on the trial, it's an 11 percent
7 dropout rate and only 3 percent for PPE. But we all
8 know that when we have a patient on a study there are
9 multiple factors that lead the clinician in
10 conjunction with the patient to decide to continue the
11 drug or not to continue the drug.

12 In a patient that has some skin toxicity,
13 maybe even a grade II PPE who has not met the criteria
14 of a partial response who has stable disease, the
15 investigator may, in fact, take the patient off the
16 study. They can't take the patient off the study
17 because of progressive disease because the patient has
18 not met the criteria for progressive disease so the
19 patient is taken off study for an adverse event.
20 Whereas that same patient, were that patient to have
21 a near partial or partial response, that patient would
22 have been left on the study.

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1 I do think the 11 percent is an excessive
2 or somewhat of an overestimate of true toxicity of
3 this drug. I think Franco even has more experience
4 and those of us that have used a lot of this drug know
5 in the patient that is benefitting from the drug in
6 terms of symptom relief, in terms of some tumor
7 response, that the patient will, in fact, implore the
8 doctor to continue the drug even with some skin
9 toxicity.

10 DR. DUTCHER: Dr. Krook, you have a
11 comment?

12 DR. KROOK: Going to the Phase II studies
13 which you based with the refractory patients, I recall
14 a time to progression of 15.9 weeks. Can you give us
15 a feeling of the overall survival of these people a la
16 the discussion yesterday and the fact that these are
17 people who are heavily pretreated?

18 DR. SCHNIPPER: Yes. I can.

19 DR. KROOK: In both the responders and the
20 nonresponders.

21 DR. SCHNIPPER: Let me start off by
22 showing you the overall. If I could have the slide

1 on, please.

2 You can see here that if you look in the
3 various populations, the overall survival -- if I
4 could have the next slide, please -- of just the
5 ovarian patients that were refractory. Can I have the
6 slide on, please?

7 If you look at the refractory platinum and
8 paclitaxel patients, you see the survival there listed
9 as 34 weeks and the triple refractory 38 weeks.
10 Overall for all patients on all intent-to-treat was 38
11 weeks.

12 DR. KROOK: In those people who responded,
13 in other words, the time to progression is in the
14 responders, do we lengthen the survivorship
15 significantly compared to the overall?

16 DR. SCHNIPPER: The answer to that is yes.
17 There is quite a longer time to progression in the
18 responders compared to the nonresponders. We
19 obviously have statistical concerns about looking at
20 respondents versus nonresponders. But if you want to
21 see that curve, we can show that to you.

22 With apologies to Dr. Simon, we can put

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1 that curve up. If Dr. Simon would just like to turn
2 away for a moment. Since you asked, we'll show that
3 curve. This is the Kaplan Meier curve of responders
4 versus nonresponders with apologies again to Dr.
5 Simon.

6 DR. DUTCHER: Ms. Solonche, do you have
7 comments or questions?

8 MS. SOLONCHE: Yes. I do have a couple of
9 questions and comments. These are from the person who
10 has survived ovarian cancer for four years. But these
11 comments are also from the thousands of women who have
12 died from ovarian cancer in that four years.

13 Regarding the dosing question, I know that
14 science likes to start with the most someone can take
15 and go downward. But from the patient point of view
16 in regard to this particular drug, and probably many
17 others, has anyone considered starting at a lower
18 dose, say 35 milligrams, making life perhaps a little
19 easier on the patient and then increase the dose if
20 things are going well. Or is the concern that at that
21 level of drug the response would be even lower than it
22 is with the 50 or 40 milligram dose?

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1 DR. SCHNIPPER: Well, you've correctly
2 stated the problem. But the answer to your question
3 is, yes, we are studying lower doses. We don't know
4 what the efficacy is of lower doses before we
5 recommend such a thing but we certainly are studying
6 lower doses.

7 I would like to ask Dr. Gordon to comment
8 on that because he has a lot of experience with some
9 of these trials.

10 DR. GORDON: We found at this dose it was
11 generally fairly well tolerated as you've heard. My
12 experience with treating a lot of our patients was we
13 began to be more adept at picking up the PPE and
14 making adjustments when necessary.

15 As you've heard, and we've seen with our
16 patient population, too, most of the PPE if you picked
17 it up early and could take care of it, patients did
18 very well. In fact, in most of our patients it was
19 almost a difficult problem because it occurred later
20 on in the course as a cumulative dose in patients who
21 are responding.

22 Our patient population if we tried to dose

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1 reduce them, they were actually fairly concerned about
2 the fact that we might be decreasing efficacy in a
3 responding patient. We often had to talk the patients
4 into a dose reduction at the later cycles.

5 MS. SOLONCHE: Well, my problem with that
6 is that, you know, you can say that, okay, only 3
7 percent had a PPE reaction and only 4 percent had
8 another toxicity reaction. If a woman is taking this
9 treatment and she has maybe stage I reactions in five
10 different areas rather than stage II reaction to two
11 areas, you know, whatever combination, that woman is
12 going to have a more difficult time. Is there a way
13 that you have sorted this out individually and then
14 cumulatively to see the patient reaction?

15 DR. DUTCHER: Well, most of the studies do
16 have dose reduction schedules for that. I think that
17 you can --

18 MS. SOLONCHE: Right, but --

19 DR. DUTCHER: Everyone got the first three
20 doses.

21 MS. SOLONCHE: Right. But if you have a
22 mild reaction in one area and you have a mild reaction

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1 in another area, you put those all together and you
2 feel less than good.

3 DR. DUTCHER: I don't mean to argue with
4 you but I think many of the toxicity grades that we
5 use in judging drugs are purely laboratory
6 abnormalities or other things that are not likely to
7 be associated with symptoms. I think the safety of
8 this drug would suggest that a patient who has four
9 grade I's is unlikely to feel bad or to be as ill as
10 a patient who has one grade IV.

11 MS. SOLONCHE: I don't mean to make this
12 very personal but have you ever had chemotherapy?

13 DR. DUTCHER: No. But these are the kinds
14 of things that you learn to deal with as a physician.
15 They can certainly give you a schedule in the package
16 insert that would tell what dose reductions might be
17 appropriate. As you probably know, there's a learning
18 curve. They have gone up and down the dose range with
19 this drug and I think have a lot of information in
20 well over 2,000 patients of varying illnesses who have
21 taken this drug.

22 DR. GORDON: Most of the dose reductions

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1 that were done were done because of the patient's
2 toxicity much more so than laboratory toxicity in the
3 study. The neutrophil counts was a minor issue. It
4 really was the PPE and stomatitis were major causes of
5 the dose reductions. When these interfered with the
6 patient's capabilities to continue, then dose
7 reductions were performed to make it easier for the
8 patients to tolerate.

9 MS. SOLONCHE: I also want to go back to
10 something that was mentioned yesterday ad nauseam.
11 The idea that time to progression is the indication
12 that you look at, whereas from the patient perspective
13 we are looking at survival and I don't think we have
14 enough data on that at the moment to see this as a
15 drug that is going to advance treatment in a great
16 way.

17 DR. SCHNIPPER: I'd like to finish
18 answering your other question first. That is, in
19 terms of the side effect profile of Doxil, I think
20 it's important to keep in mind that these trials were
21 started in 1994. This represents the sum total of all
22 our experience included our early experience. This

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1 represents probably the worse case scenario before our
2 learning curve.

3 If you look at the incidents of some of
4 these side effects now versus 1994 at most of the
5 sites, and I think any one of my colleagues here would
6 agree, it's significantly less.

7 Let me address your other concern about
8 the time to progression versus survival as an
9 endpoint. I think it is important to keep in mind
10 that we are here to talk about accelerated approval
11 for Doxil. Accelerated approval means that we will
12 come back later with survival data from randomized
13 trials.

14 In fact, we are ahead of the curve in some
15 extent because I have already given you a peak of what
16 is to come from the randomized Phase III trial
17 indicating activity in that trial. The whole idea of
18 the accelerated approval process, at least as I
19 understand it, is to bring drugs forward with
20 reasonable likelihood that they would benefit patients
21 with subsequent proof to come.

22 DR. DUTCHER: Dr. Schilsky.

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1 DR. SCHILSKY: I'm curious to know, you've
2 shown us some data on estimates of tumor bulk and
3 responders and nonresponders. Can you tell us how
4 those data were derived? How was tumor bulk estimated
5 in the patients in this study?

6 DR. SCHNIPPER: This was a measurement on
7 CAT scan of the total area of measurable lesions.

8 DR. SCHILSKY: And was that done by
9 investigators at the site or was it done by the
10 independent review panel?

11 DR. SCHNIPPER: It was done by the
12 investigators at the sites and then reviewed by the
13 independent panel.

14 DR. SCHILSKY: And I'll tell you in a
15 minute why I'm pursuing this. Do you have a sense of
16 what the level of concordance was between the site
17 reviews and the independent reviews?

18 DR. SCHNIPPER: Yes. I do. The level of
19 concordance was quite high. It was also interesting
20 to note that they were responders that were picked up
21 by the independent radiologic review that were not
22 picked up by the investigators in both ways.

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1 Of the patients that were available for
2 review -- and if I could have the slide on, please --
3 the level of concordance was quite high. The overall
4 response rate by the investigator was 21.3 percent and
5 was 17.3 percent after independent radiologic review
6 of available CAT scans. We felt quite validated. And
7 keeping in mind that it went both ways. We feel that
8 the data is quite solid.

9 DR. SCHILSKY: So it would be reasonable
10 to conclude then that an investigator at a site or the
11 radiologist at that site would be able to estimate the
12 tumor with a reasonable degree of accuracy within the
13 difficulties inherent in doing that, I guess. What
14 I'm trying to get at is the question that Bob Ozols
15 started the session with, which is it seems pretty
16 clear that there is activity of this drug.

17 The question is is there any way of
18 defining which patients are most likely to benefit
19 from it because it does seem to have activity but it
20 only seems to have activity in a small percentage of
21 all of the patients who were exposed to it. Ovarian
22 cancer is one of the few solid tumors in which we've

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1 traditionally given some credence to the ability to
2 estimate tumor bulk.

3 One of the things that you showed us in
4 showing us the characteristics of responders versus
5 nonresponders is that while there is some overlap,
6 there were, for example, no responses in any patient
7 who had a tumor bulk estimated greater than about 100
8 or 105.

9 One of the things I'm wondering about
10 would be if it is possible to reasonably and reliably
11 estimate tumor bulk, and recognizing this is still a
12 small sample size, even if one, you know, sort of
13 doubled that upper limit, could one reasonably say
14 that a patient has a tumor bulk in excess of some
15 number, that the probability of that patient
16 responding would be exceptionally small and,
17 therefore, perhaps provide some guidance to clinicians
18 in who is most likely to benefit or who is least
19 likely to benefit.

20 DR. SCHNIPPER: I'm going to ask Dr.
21 McGuire to make some comments. Before I do, I think
22 it's clear to say that with tumor bulk as a

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1 prognosticator, that would probably be true of any
2 drug.

3 DR. WILLIAMS: I'd like to make a comment
4 also. I'm a little concerned about the quality of the
5 data for this analysis because I do know that back and
6 forth on this issue that the number of lesions versa
7 the number of measured lesions used for determining a
8 response might not be the same. It may just be just
9 a coincidence or a random matter how many lesions were
10 actually measured leading to what we're calling tumor
11 bulk. I agree that if perspective determined it
12 might be an interesting question.

13 DR. MCGUIRE: Well, I wish it were that
14 simple in ovarian cancer. I think what we all know is
15 that what you see on the CT scan is the tip of an
16 iceberg. Some of these patients that have bowel
17 dysfunction that get explored for bypass of bowel
18 obstruction, there's almost always a lot more tumor
19 than meets the radiologist's or the clinician's eye.

20 What we really have to make judgment on is
21 really patient symptoms. I think that often, although
22 we can't prove it, that the low response rate in the

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1 European study that was done was maybe due to the fact
2 that in contradistinction to this country, often time
3 treatment is withheld until the patient actually has
4 significantly symptomatic recurrence of ovarian
5 cancer.

6 Often times, as I've already alluded to,
7 these patients bowel obstruct fairly quickly. This is
8 not a drug that works in one week or two weeks. If
9 you wait too long to initiate therapy, I agree with
10 you that you are less likely to respond. I'm not sure
11 that one can prospectively pick up that patient
12 population based on sum of lesions.

13 For example, a patient may, in fact, have
14 a huge pelvic mass that meets the criteria of greater
15 than 100 square centimeters and be asymptomatic from
16 it and would take that patient unperturbed weeks to
17 months to actually develop a bowel obstruction.

18 There may also be a similar patient you
19 has eight or 10 one centimeter lesions that are
20 conveniently placed in cirrrosal surfaces on the small
21 bowel that is under 100 centimeters and that patient
22 may bowel obstruct within one month of that first

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1 evidence of CT progression.

2 I think it would be nice, but I think it's
3 true with all of the second-line and third-line drugs
4 that we use whether it's topotecan, or I guess I
5 should have mentioned other drugs since they are not
6 FDA approved but which we clinicians use. It will is
7 hunt and peck on the typewriter in terms of taking a
8 patient.

9 The only ones we tend not to use are oral
10 agents and patients that have significant bowel
11 dysfunction because of concern that they are not
12 getting the drug into the systemic circuit. I don't
13 know but Maurie has a lot of experience and may also
14 want to add to that.

15 DR. MARKMAN: Thank you. I really feel
16 that it's important to comment on a very important
17 issue in the clinical trials arena. That's not the
18 discussion today but one of the problems is there's a
19 serious dislink between how we objectively measure
20 response from something that we can measure on a CT
21 scan, particularly in ovarian cancer.

22 I would agree with Bill that this is a

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1 very difficult disease to do that because of the
2 abdominal cavity. That population that we can
3 actually enter in one of these trials may very well be
4 the population we cannot ask the question that Bob
5 asked which is clinical benefit.

6 Just because that patient has that mass
7 that we can measure, they may not have any symptoms.
8 I would submit we are actually looking at a very small
9 part of the population when we do the typical clinical
10 trials we do for drug approval.

11 A typical patient with ovarian cancer we
12 see later in their course is that patient who has a
13 variety of vague but important symptoms, clearly has
14 disease, has an elevated CA-125, that's a patient you
15 would like to measure clinical benefit but would never
16 be on one of these trials because they don't have that
17 measurable disease category or they don't meet some of
18 the other criteria because they've had too much
19 therapy.

20 That is really where you can get at this
21 true question of clinical benefit which I agree 100
22 percent with Bob is the question we want in which the

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1 cancer patient population wants to know about.

2 I personally believe we should expand the
3 trials and include that population but that's not the
4 population you are discussing today. It's hard to say
5 where is the evidence of clinical benefit when, in
6 fact, the people you put on the trial were just there
7 because they happened to have measurable disease.

8 I'll go further than that to say that I
9 think that's a very important population than what I'm
10 talking about. I have actually used this drug in that
11 population in my own trials that would never meet the
12 criteria of the FDA because they are based on other
13 criteria. It is an active drug that does have patient
14 benefit associated with it. Patients do feel better
15 and it's a tolerable drug.

16 But I think it's very hard when you ask
17 that question in a population of patients on these
18 trials that very well don't have those kinds of
19 symptoms where you can really directly address the
20 question because that's not the question. It's you
21 got a mass and does it shrink. I think it's very hard
22 to put those two together and it's, therefore, very,

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1 very difficult to ask that question of clinical
2 benefit in this setting unless you go beyond the
3 trials that are designed the way they are.

4 DR. DUTCHER: Dr. Simon.

5 DR. SIMON: I mean, I think that's right
6 but I think sort of the presentation has it exactly
7 wrong then because the FDA is not biased to wanting
8 measurable disease. The FDA wants to see clinical
9 benefit. We haven't really had any presentation of
10 any kind of clinical benefit. There's been no
11 evidence of symptom relief. It's hard to see how the
12 15 percent response rate translates into changing the
13 course of disease in any of these patients.

14 I guess my specific question is we're
15 being asked for a recommendation with regard to
16 accelerated approval which I guess the basis -- that
17 is, do we believe this 15 percent response rate is a
18 reasonable basis for expecting that will translate
19 into clinical benefit on other trials that the sponsor
20 will do.

21 I personally question whether a 15 percent
22 response rate is likely to translate into a survival

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1 benefit. What trials is the sponsor going to do if
2 they are granted accelerated approval? What trials
3 are in process that will demonstrate clinical benefit
4 and what will be the logic?

5 If you're talking about your current
6 randomized trial against topotecan, I can see two
7 problems with that. One is you are probably only
8 going to have 80 patients who are doubly resistant to
9 platinum and, I guess, taxel. That's going to be a
10 fairly limited number.

11 Secondly, what is the logic going to be?
12 Are you going to show better survival than topotecan?
13 If you show equivalent survival to topotecan, are we
14 then supposed to believe that topotecan has a survival
15 benefit in that set of patients? What are the trials
16 that you are going to do and what is the logic that
17 you are going to demonstrate clinical benefit?

18 DR. SCHNIPPER: I'd just like to make a
19 few comments and then I'll ask Dr. Cunningham to make
20 some additional comments.

21 The first comment, of course, is that
22 these trials were discussed with the agency obviously

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1 before I initiated them so there was some concurrence
2 there about measures.

3 Secondly, the number of patients on the
4 total population that are refractory in the Phase III
5 trial would probably be more like double or a little
6 bit more than what you've seen there because this is
7 only half of the population that has been accrued so
8 it would be a much larger group.

9 DR. SIMON: I meant 80 per arm which is
10 double what you have now which would still probably
11 not be sufficient.

12 DR. SCHNIPPER: And, of course, there are
13 additional measures in those trials that were pilot in
14 Phase II but not reported on because they were just
15 pilot in terms of quality of life measures, etcetera,
16 that are built into the Phase III trials that were not
17 built into the Phase II trials.

18 DR. WILLIAMS: I'd like to also comment,
19 Dr. Simon, that we certainly had at times entertained
20 the Phase IV trial being in a setting similar to but
21 not identical to the setting for the accelerated
22 approval. It's quite possible we would consider a

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1 significant clinical benefit in the setting of second-
2 line. We might consider that to be adequate for
3 meeting the purposes of fulfilling the Phase IV
4 requirement for this indication.

5 DR. SIMON: What would have to be shown in
6 second-line?

7 DR. WILLIAMS: Basically clinical benefit
8 by whatever means the sponsor fulfills that
9 requirement. Certainly survival. But I --

10 DR. SIMON: Superior to topotecan or
11 equivalent to topotecan?

12 DR. WILLIAMS: I'm not talking a specific
13 trial at this point in time. If one could show
14 equivalents to topotecan for clinical benefit and show
15 that the increment of clinical benefit had not been
16 lost in that equivalence comparison, that would be
17 theoretically possible. But certainly superiority
18 would be a much more practical consideration.

19 DR. CUNNINGHAM: If I may just give you
20 some details on the current study. It's a 450 patient
21 study in over 100 centers. The study stratifies for
22 refractory patients versus nonrefractory patients.

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1 The primary endpoint is tied to progression. Of
2 course, we also monitor response rate and survival.

3 The study has, as I said, been completed
4 but we are now going through the process of analysis
5 and that will be sometime before that full analysis
6 has taken place. We estimate that the number of
7 refractory patients should approximate half the
8 patient population.

9 DR. DUTCHER: One left.

10 DR. OZOLS: Maybe during a break you can
11 come up with this number, but I still think it's
12 important to know again who we can use in what
13 objective manner and one is how patients have
14 responded. I think you talk about a 10 percent
15 response rate of patients who had progressed their
16 disease while on treatment. I suspect most of those
17 patients are patients who progressed on second-line
18 treatment.

19 The real question then is how many
20 patients who never responded to any other treatment
21 responded to this? Do you have patients who have --
22 you know, if I give a patient taxel-carbo and they

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1 progress, what is the response rate in that group? If
2 I give them taxel-carbo and they progress, they get
3 topopecan and progress. I suspect it's less than 10
4 percent. Are there any responses in patients who
5 never respond to anything else?

6 DR. SCHNIPPER: I don't have that
7 information. I'll try to get that for you.

8 DR. DUTCHER: Thank you. I think we
9 better take a break. Come back at 10:05.

10 (Whereupon, at 9:44 a.m. a recess until
11 10:06 a.m.)

12 DR. DUTCHER: We're going to proceed with
13 the FDA presentation. Dr. Frykman.

14 DR. FRYKMAN: Dr. Dutcher, members of the
15 committee, FDA colleagues, ladies and gentlemen, it is
16 my pleasure on behalf of the FDA to present the
17 agency's highlights of the review of SNDA 50-718.
18 Like any worthwhile undertaking, there are a number of
19 talented individuals whose talents combined to produce
20 a very good review.

21 Two people I would like to acknowledge in
22 particular are Grant Williams for his leadership and

1 Alvis Dunson. I think the company would join me in
2 acknowledging Alvis' effort in keeping the entire
3 review project coordinated.

4 The specific proposed indication, as
5 you've heard, is that Doxil is indicated for the
6 treatment of patients with metastatic carcinoma of the
7 ovary who are refractory to both paclitaxel- and
8 platinum-based chemotherapy regimens and who may also
9 be refractory to topotecan.

10 In this case, refractory is defined as
11 patients having progressive disease while on treatment
12 or within six months of completing treatment with the
13 two above regimens. The agency has determined that
14 the text in brackets is probably -- the number of
15 patients to base that indication on is probably too
16 small and, therefore, will not be further considered.

17 Under the federal regulations outlining
18 the accelerated rate approval mechanism, there are two
19 requirements that must be met. The first, that
20 treatment provides benefit over "available therapies."

21 The exact definition for this application
22 is that there are either drugs labeled for or with a

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1 large body of literature supportive of efficacy for
2 ovarian cancer refractory to platinum and paclitaxel.
3 In this case the FDA has determined that there are no
4 available therapies. Further information about this
5 will be forthcoming in a guidance document soon.

6 The second requirement is that approval be
7 based upon a surrogate endpoint that is reasonably
8 likely to predict clinical benefit. In this case,
9 that surrogate would be objective tumor response.
10 Therefore, the committee has quickly come to the
11 conclusion that the question that is going to be asked
12 is whether the data presented by both the sponsor and
13 the agency on objective response indicate that Doxil
14 is reasonably likely to be associated with clinical
15 benefit in this population.

16 In order to begin to answer that question,
17 from the agency's perspective let me just briefly
18 outline again the four trials that you've heard
19 already presented from the sponsor. Three of the four
20 studies were Phase II, the single Phase III study, and
21 the last in chronological order, the last Phase II
22 study are currently close to accrual but are still

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1 maturing the data.

2 The schedules that were used in the four
3 trials were different. Three of the trials, the last
4 three, had a four-week schedule. The first trial was
5 an every three-week schedule.

6 Two of the studies were completed
7 completely in the United States. One is being done
8 both in the United States and Europe. The single
9 study that we've heard about, study 47E, is being
10 conducted and was conducted solely in Europe.

11 To begin with, the efficacy review. I
12 won't point out too much on this slide except for the
13 fact that this was the every three-week schedule. A
14 total of 35 patients were accrued to this study and
15 the population targeted for enrollment was platinum
16 and paclitaxel failures.

17 The agency's methodology in review was to
18 use the primary electronic data presented by the
19 sponsor. In this case each patient's case was
20 reviewed to determine its platinum and paclitaxel
21 refractiveness. Of the 35 patients enrolled, 27 were
22 found to meet the above criteria.

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1 The serial tumor measurements then that
2 were listed for each patient were reviewed looking for
3 confirmed responses. That is, responses that were
4 noted to have occurred at a time point and then four
5 weeks later. Of those, six of the 27 patients were
6 found to be meeting the criteria for a response rate
7 of 22 percent. The confidence intervals shown here
8 range from 9 percent to 42 percent at the upper 95
9 percent bound.

10 The next study, 30-47, again you've
11 already heard about that so I'll make these comments
12 brief. This was on a four-week schedule. A total of
13 89 patients were enrolled into the study and of those
14 89 82 were found to be both platinum and paclitaxel
15 refractory.

16 The serial tumor measurements were again
17 reviewed as in the prior study. Of those 82 patients
18 that were platinum and paclitaxel refractory, 14 were
19 found to have been meeting the criteria for response
20 for a response rate of 17.1 percent, 95 percent CI
21 ranging from 10 to approximately 27 percent.

22 The third study that was reviewed only in

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1 brief by the agency was that of 30-47E. The study was
2 conducted only in Europe. Again, it was a Phase II
3 single arm open label study. The schedule used was
4 every four weeks for six cycles. At the time of data
5 submission 52 patients had been enrolled into the
6 trial. Of the 52 patients that had been enrolled, the
7 sponsor determined that 36 of the 52 had met the
8 criteria for platinum and paclitaxel resistance.

9 The FDA accepted the sponsor's results
10 without detailed review stating that zero of 36
11 patients were responding to Doxil under the schedule.
12 95 percent CI ranges from zero percent to 10 percent
13 in this viewgraph.

14 The last study I would like to review is
15 study 30-49. This was their only Phase III randomized
16 trial. The study population was slightly different as
17 opposed to the Phase II trials in that it was just
18 platinum based chemotherapy for which the patients had
19 to be refractory to. Targeted therapy was for one
20 year and the primary endpoints were timed to
21 progression and response rate.

22 At the time of data submission or at time

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