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Epcoritamab Plus Gemcitabine and Oxaliplatin Versus Glofitamab or Rituximab Plus Gemcitabine and Oxaliplatin in Transplant-Ineligible Relapsed/Refractory Diffuse Large B-Cell Lymphoma Patients: A Matching-Adjusted Comparative Analysis

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OBJECTIVE

- To compare efficacy outcomes of Epcor+GemOx vs Glofi+GemOx and R-GemOx in patients with transplant-ineligible R/R DLBCL using matching-adjusted comparative methodology

CONCLUSIONS

- After adjusting for differences in baseline characteristics, Epcor+GemOx showed significantly superior efficacy in terms of ORR, CR rate, PFS, and OS vs R-GemOx
- Epcor+GemOx showed superior ORR and a trend toward higher CR rate vs Glofi+GemOx
- Survival data for Epcor+GemOx are still maturing, thus preventing a robust comparison of PFS and OS vs Glofi+GemOx
- Findings overall support the efficacy of Epcor+GemOx as an alternative therapeutic regimen in patients with transplant-ineligible R/R DLBCL

BACKGROUND

- Salvage chemoimmunotherapy followed by autologous stem cell transplant has historically been the standard treatment for patients with relapsed/refractory (R/R) diffuse large B-cell lymphoma (DLBCL); however, many patients are transplant-ineligible based on comorbidities, performance status, or advanced age[1,2]
  - Various treatment regimens, such as the rituximab, gemcitabine, and oxaliplatin combination[a] (R-GemOx), are used in this transplant-ineligible patient population, albeit with poor outcomes[3,4]
- Epcoritamab is a novel subcutaneously administered CD3xCD20 bispecific antibody (bsAb) currently approved as monotherapy for the treatment of multiple types of R/R large B-cell lymphoma.[5] In the EPCORE NHL-2 trial (NCT04663347), epcoritamab in combination with gemcitabine and oxaliplatin (Epcor+GemOx[a]) provided deep and durable responses and favorable survival benefits[6]
- Glofitamab, an intravenously administered CD3xCD20 bsAb, has also been studied in combination with gemcitabine and oxaliplatin (Glofi+GemOx) in the randomized STARGLO trial (NCT04408638), and has demonstrated efficacy benefits over R-GemOx, but it has not shown superiority over R-GemOx in patients from the United States and Europe[7]
- In the absence of head-to-head data, this study used matching-adjusted indirect comparisons to compare outcomes of Epcor+GemOx (EPCORE NHL-2 arm 5) vs Glofi+GemOx and R-GemOx (STARGLO)

[a]Category 2a per National Comprehensive Cancer Network guidelines. Referenced with permission from the NCCN Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology (NCCN Guidelines®) for B-Cell Lymphomas V1.2024). ©National Comprehensive Cancer Network, Inc. 2024. All rights reserved. Accessed March 5, 2025. To view the most current and complete version of the guideline, go online to NCCN.org.

STUDY DESIGN

This was a matching-adjusted comparative analysis of patients treated with Epcor+GemOx from the EPCORE NHL-2 trial vs patients treated with Glofi+GemOx or R-GemOx from the STARGLO trial



Individual patient data from EPCORE NHL-2 arm 5

Matching-adjusted



Aggregate data from STARGLO[7]

Efficacy outcomes

Response outcomes: objective response rate (ORR), complete response (CR) rate
Time-to-event outcomes: overall survival (OS), progression-free survival (PFS)

Statistical analysis

- The use of individual patient data from EPCORE NHL-2 enabled adjustments to be made for cross-trial differences in baseline characteristics between the EPCORE NHL-2 arm 5 and STARGLO trial populations
- Using propensity-score modeling, patients from EPCORE NHL-2 arm 5 were assigned weights, such that the distribution of baseline characteristics in the reweighted trial population exactly matched the distribution reported for each arm of the STARGLO trial (separately for Glofi+GemOx and R-GemOx)
- Characteristics used in the weighting were age, sex, International Prognostic Index (IPI), Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group performance status (ECOG PS), disease stage, presence of bulky disease, cell line of origin, previous lines of therapy (LOTs), previous treatment with chimeric antigen receptor T-cell therapy (CAR T), primary refractory status, and whether the patient was refractory to their last LOT
- Logistic regression was used to estimate odds ratios and 95% confidence intervals (CIs) for response outcomes; Cox proportional hazards models were used to estimate time-to-event outcomes, hazard ratios, and 95% CIs

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Disclosures

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RESULTS

Patient characteristics

- A total of 103 patients treated with Epcor+GemOx (median follow-up: 13.2 months) were compared with 183 patients treated with Glofi+GemOx and 91 patients treated with R-GemOx (median follow-up: 20.7 months)
- Compared with Glofi+GemOx, before matching-adjustment, more patients treated with Epcor+GemOx were aged ≥65 years, had stage 3/4 disease, had been treated with ≥2 previous LOTs, had previous treatment with CAR T, and had an IPI score of ≥3 (**Table 1**); differences were mitigated with matching-adjustment
- Compared with R-GemOx, before matching-adjustment, more patients treated with Epcor+GemOx were aged ≥65 years, had been treated with ≥2 previous LOTs, had previous treatment with CAR T, had an ECOG PS of ≥1, and were refractory to last LOT (**Table 1**); differences were mitigated with matching-adjustment

Table 1. Baseline characteristics of treatment groups, before and after matching-adjustment

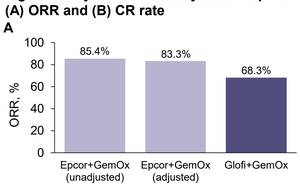
Characteristic	Epcor+GemOx (unadjusted N=103)	Epcor+GemOx vs Glofi+GemOx		Epcor+GemOx vs R-GemOx	
		Glofi+GemOx (N=183)	Epcor+GemOx matching-adjusted to Glofi+GemOx (ESS = 41)	R-GemOx (N=91)	Epcor+GemOx matching-adjusted to R-GemOx (ESS = 41)
Median age, y	72.0	68.0	67.9	68.0	67.7
Age ≥65 y, %	72.8	63.4	63.4	61.5	61.5
Male, %	55.3	57.4	57.4	58.2	58.2
IPI score 0–2, %	36.9	49.2	49.2	45.1	45.1
ECOG PS 0, %	32.0	39.3	39.3	48.4	48.4
Tumor stage 3/4, %	78.6	67.2	67.2	76.9	76.9
Bulky disease (≥10 cm), %	12.6	12.6	12.6	15.4	15.4
Cell line of origin GCB, %	39.8	32.8	32.8	31.9	31.9
≥2 previous LOTs, %	62.1	37.2	37.2	37.4	37.4
Previous CAR T, %	28.2	7.1	7.1	8.8	8.8
Refractory to first LOT, %	52.4	57.9	57.9	51.6	51.6
Refractory to last LOT, %	69.9	61.2	61.2	59.3	59.3

ESS, effective sample size; GCB, germinal center B-cell-like.

Epcor+GemOx vs Glofi+GemOx

- After adjustment, Epcor+GemOx demonstrated a statistically significant 15.0% advantage in ORR vs Glofi+GemOx (**Figure 1A**)
- Epcor+GemOx also demonstrated a trend toward higher CR rate vs Glofi+GemOx, though the difference was not statistically significant (**Figure 1B**)
- Adjusted median PFS and OS for Epcor+GemOx, with limited follow-up (median follow-up: 13.2 months) and substantial censoring, were 12.9 months and not reached, respectively. For Glofi+GemOx with longer follow-up (median follow-up: 20.7 months), PFS and OS were 13.8 months and 25.6 months, respectively (**Figure 2A and Figure 2B**); Epcor+GemOx survival data are still maturing given shorter follow-up time, preventing a robust comparison of survival vs Glofi+GemOx

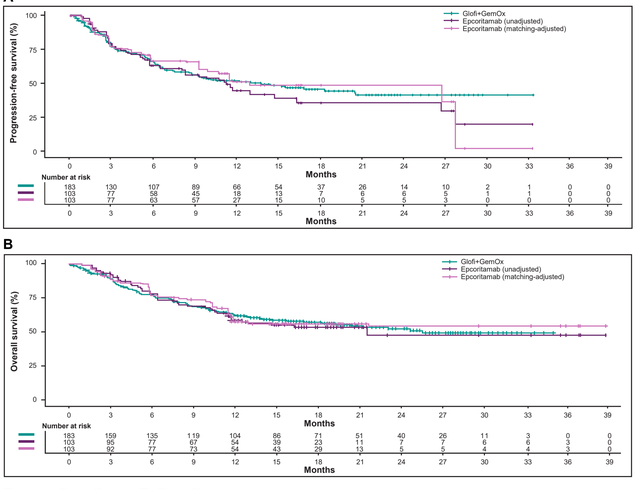
Figure 1. Adjusted and unadjusted response rates of Epcor+GemOx vs Glofi+GemOx for (A) ORR and (B) CR rate



Adjusted ORR difference: 15.0% (95% CI 1.8, 28.3)
Adjusted OR for ORR: 1.2 (95% CI 1.0, 1.4), *P*=0.021

Adjusted CR rate difference: 8.3% (95% CI -7.3, 23.9)
Adjusted OR for CR rate: 1.1 (95% CI 0.9, 1.5), *P*=0.277

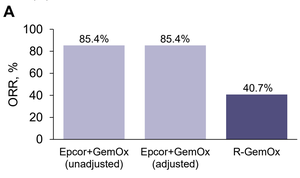
Figure 2. Adjusted and unadjusted survival outcomes of Epcor+GemOx vs Glofi+GemOx for (A) PFS and (B) OS



Epcor+GemOx vs R-GemOx

- Epcor+GemOx demonstrated a statistically significant 44.8% advantage in adjusted ORR vs R-GemOx (**Figure 3A**); Epcor+GemOx also demonstrated a statistically significant 43.2% advantage in adjusted CR rate vs R-GemOx (**Figure 3B**)
- Median PFS for Epcor+GemOx vs R-GemOx was 26.7 vs 3.2 months, respectively, corresponding to a 63% reduction in the risk of progression for Epcor+GemOx (**Figure 4A**); median OS was not reached for Epcor+GemOx vs 12.9 months for R-GemOx, corresponding to a 43% reduction in the risk of mortality with Epcor+GemOx (**Figure 4B**)

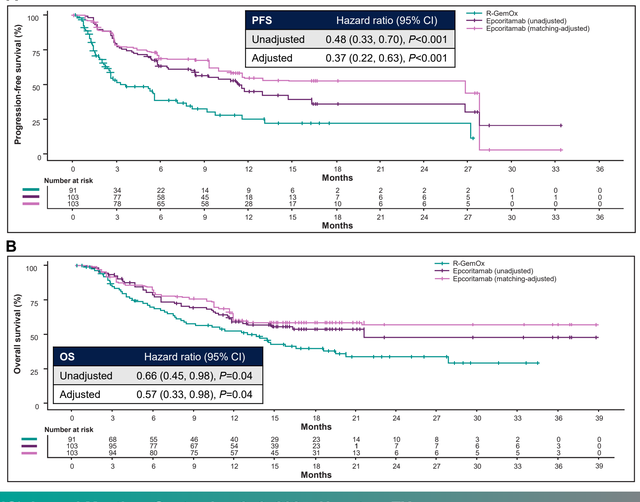
Figure 3. Adjusted and unadjusted response rates of Epcor+GemOx vs R-GemOx for (A) ORR and (B) CR rate



Adjusted ORR difference: 44.8% (95% CI 32.5, 57.1)
Adjusted OR for ORR: 2.1 (95% CI 1.6, 2.8), *P*<0.001

Adjusted CR rate difference: 43.2% (95% CI 26.8, 49.0)
Adjusted OR for CR rate: 2.7 (95% CI 1.8, 4.1), *P*<0.001

Figure 4. Adjusted and unadjusted survival outcomes of Epcor+GemOx vs R-GemOx for (A) PFS and (B) OS



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