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# Efficacy of preladenant in improving motor symptoms in Parkinson's disease: A systematic review and meta-analysis

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## ABSTRACT

Background: Parkinson's disease (PD) is a complex neurodegenerative disorder characterized by dopamine depletion and severe motor impairments. Preladenant, an adenosine A2 receptor antagonist, is an investigational treatment for PD. This systematic review and meta-analysis aimed to critically evaluate the efficacy of Preladenant in improving motor symptoms in patients with PD.

Methods: A comprehensive literature search was conducted in PubMed, Embase, and Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials from inception to March 2023, following the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA) guidelines. Randomized controlled trials (RCTs) comparing Preladenant with placebo in PD patients were included. The primary outcome was the change in daily ON time without troublesome dyskinesia. Secondary outcomes included the change in daily OFF time and adverse events. The risk of bias was assessed using the Cochrane Risk of Bias tool.

Results: Four RCTs with a total of 2097 PD patients were included. Pooled analysis showed that Preladenant could generally increase daily ON time (pooled effect 0.15 and 95 % CI: -0.19-0.48) and reduce daily OFF time (pooled effect -0.04 and 95 % CI: -0.43-0.36) compared to placebo, however it was not significant. The

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included studies had moderate to high heterogeneity. No significant differences in adverse events were observed between Preladenant and placebo.

*Conclusion:* This meta-analysis suggests that Preladenant may improve motor fluctuations in PD patients by increasing ON time and reducing OFF time. However, the high heterogeneity among studies warrants further large-scale, high-quality RCTs to confirm these findings and establish the long-term safety and efficacy of Preladenant in PD management.

# 1. Introduction

Parkinson's disease (PD) is a prevalent and heterogeneous neurodegenerative disorder affecting millions globally (Bloem et al., 2021). Neurological conditions have emerged as the leading cause of disability worldwide. Notably, PD exhibits the fastest growth among these diseases, as evidenced by age-standardized prevalence, disability, and mortality rates. From 1990–2015, the global PD population increased by 118 %, reaching 6.2 million affected individuals (Global, 2024). This progressive and chronic disorder impacts both patients and their caregivers (Patient, 2024), posing a growing economic and social burden on society (Global, 2016). Epidemiological findings suggest that White men are more susceptible to PD compared to women, particularly those with estrogen deficiency (Zuñiga-Ramírez and Micheli, 2013 Nov 1).

The primary cause of motor deficits in PD is the progressive degeneration of dopamine-producing neurons in the ventral midbrain, leading to reduced dopamine input to the motor structures in the forebrain (striatum). The absence of dopaminergic input to the neostriatum disrupts striatal function, manifesting the characteristic motor symptoms associated with PD, including resting tremor, muscular rigidity, and bradykinesia (Parkinson, 2024a; Fink et al., 1992 Jul; Parkinson, 2024b; Parkinson's disease, 2024). Restoring dopamine levels is the primary therapeutic strategy, mainly through the use of levodopa, a chemical that can convert to dopamine (Challenges, 2024; Levodopa, 2024). However, prolonged levodopa usage can lose effectiveness and produce undesirable side effects such as dyskinesia and motor fluctuations (Duodenal, 2024; Pharmacokinetic, 2024).

For newly diagnosed and younger PD patients, dopamine agonists are often used as the initial approach to delay levodopa therapy (Time until Need, 2024; An update, 2024). Prolonged dopamine replacement therapy (DRT) has been associated with significant adverse consequences, including heart valve disease, anhedonia, and Dopamine Dysregulation Syndrome (DDS) (Dopamine, 2024). In this stage, adjuvant therapy is needed. One such intervention is the administration of Adenosine 2 A (A2A) receptor antagonists (Bara-Jimenez et al., 2003 Aug 12).

A2A receptors are specifically located on striatopallidal neurons and can form functional heteromeric interactions with dopamine D2 receptors and metabotropic glutamate mGlu5 receptors. Their unique distribution and experimental findings demonstrate improved motor symptoms in animal models of PD, and preliminary clinical trials have positioned A2A receptor antagonists as a promising non-dopaminergic approach for alleviating PD-associated motor deficits. Moreover, evidence suggests that A2A receptor antagonists do not induce neuroplasticity events that may complicate extended dopaminergic treatments (Mori and Shindou, 2003; Pinna et al., 2007; Adenosine, 2024).

Preladenant, an A2A receptor antagonist, offers a promising avenue for enhancing its efficacy. The hypothesis posits that medications like Preladenant may potentially benefit individuals with PD by attenuating A2A receptors (Rose et al., 2022; Factor et al., 2013), thereby amplifying the transmission of D2 receptors, which could be advantageous in managing PD (Zuñiga-Ramírez and Micheli, 2013 Nov 1; Jenner, 2003).

To our knowledge, there is a lack of comprehensive analysis on the effects of preladenant in PD patients. This systematic review aims to address this gap by critically examining the impact of preladenant in individuals diagnosed with PD.

## 2. Material and method

The purpose of this systematic review is to investigate the role of Preladenant in PD patients. The protocol for the study has been filed in the Open Science Framework. In the present study, the search strategy, the screening, and the data selection were all carried out using checklists. It was done in accordance with the PRISMA (Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-analysis) guidelines Figs. 1 and 2.

# 2.1. Search strategy

Following the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA) guidelines, we conducted a systematic review. We searched the PubMed (Medline), Scopus, and Google Scholar databases from inception to March 2023 using the search terms "(preladenant) AND (Parkinson's) OR (Parkinson)". The detailed search strategy for the MeSH database is provided in Table 1. We screened titles and abstracts of the retrieved studies, and eligible studies were selected for full-text review.

## 2.2. Inclusion and exclusion criteria

We included observational studies (cross-sectional, cohort, casecontrol, case reports, and case series) that evaluated the effect of preladenant on Parkinson's disease. We excluded review articles, editorials, commentaries, in vivo, in vitro, and non-English publications. Additional relevant studies were identified by manually searching the references of the included publications Table 2.

#### 2.3. Quality Assessment

Two independent reviewers assessed the included studies' quality and risk of bias using the Joanna Briggs Institute (JBI) Critical Appraisal tools. Any disagreements were resolved through discussion and consensus.

## 2.4. Data extraction and analysis

Two reviewers independently extracted data using a standardized form. Meta-analyses evaluated the association between preladenant concentrations and PD, considering all the reported variables. The standardized mean difference (SMD) with Cohen's d was used to estimate the effect size, and the  $I^2$  statistic and Hedges' H value were used to assess heterogeneity. Subgroup analyses and sensitivity analyses were conducted to explore potential sources of heterogeneity (Salivary, 2024). Publication bias was assessed using funnel plots and Egger's linear regression test. All statistical analyses were performed using the 'meta' and 'metaphor' packages in R software (version 3.4.2), with a significance level of 5 % for two-sided tests.

# 3. Results

After an extensive search across databases (PubMed, Scopus, Google Scholar), 219 articles were initially identified, with 39 duplicates removed. After screening titles and abstracts, 44 studies remained, and articles with irrelevant data were excluded, leaving four articles eligible

for final review. All selected articles were randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trials involving a total population of 2097 patients with PD across various countries. The mean age of the patients was 64.15 years, and the follow-up duration ranged from 12 (Hauser et al., 2011, 2015; Hattori et al., 2016) to 36 weeks (Factor et al., 2013). The studies evaluated the impact of Preladenant on OFF and ON time, with some studies incorporating additional medications alongside Prel-adenant. Adverse events observed included a range of symptoms.

Preladenant demonstrated a reduction in OFF time and an increase in ON time compared to the control group; however, these results were not significant. Specifically, Fig. 3 shows a s decrease in OFF time with a weighted mean difference (WMD) of -0.04 (95 % CI: -0.43-0.36) in patients receiving Preladenant. Fig. 4 indicates an increase in ON time with a WMD of 0.15 (95 % CI: -0.19-0.48).

However, the funnel plots in Fig. 5 reveal potential publication bias. The funnel plots were asymmetric for both ON time (Fig. 5a) and OFF time (Fig. 5b). Specifically, the asymmetry in the funnel plot for ON time suggests that smaller studies with less precision tended to report more significant effects, indicating a possible publication bias. The funnel plot for OFF time similarly shows an asymmetry, again implying a relationship between the estimated effect of Preladenant and study precision, suggesting overall publication bias in the included studies.

The meta-analysis revealed no linear association between dose and response for both OFF and ON time. Despite the observed publication bias, Preladenant positively affected ON and OFF time in PD patients, with no studies excluded in the sensitivity analysis.

## 4. Discussion

This systematic review aimed to assess the therapeutic effects of Preladenant in patients diagnosed with PD. The review synthesized data from a total of four studies involving 1379 individuals. Compared to the control and placebo groups, patients who took Preladenant showed an increase in ON time duration and decrease in OFF time periods, although not significant.

Our findings are in line with earlier research on the effects of preladenant. Factor et al (Factor et al., 2013). presented findings from a 36-week open-label extension phase assessing the long-term safety and efficacy of preladenant as an adjunctive therapy for PD with motor fluctuations. A cohort of 140 participants who had previously completed a 12-week double-blind, placebo-controlled trial of preladenant enrolled in the extension study and received a dosage of 5 mg twice daily. Of these, 106 subjects (76 %) completed the extension phase. Efficacy analyses indicated that treatment with preladenant 5 mg twice daily resulted in reductions in OFF time ranging from 1.4 to 1.9 hours per day and increases in ON time of 1.2–1.5 hours per day throughout the 36-week period compared to baseline from the initial double-blind study. There was a slight rise in the percentage of ON time associated with troublesome dyskinesia relative to baseline. These findings suggest that preladenant maintained tolerability and sustained efficacy in

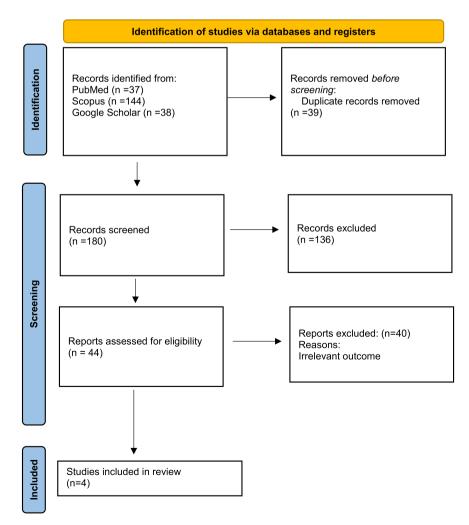


Fig. 1. Flowchart of literature inclusion in accordance with PRISMA guidelines. After a thorough database search (PubMed, Scopus, Google Scholar), 219 articles were found, and 39 duplicates were removed. After screening the title & abstract screening, 44 studies remained, and unrelated articles were deleted. The remaining 4 articles were included.

ameliorating motor fluctuations in PD over the 36-week open-label treatment duration.

In the same line of thought, Hauser et al. (Hauser et al., 2011). investigated the efficacy and safety of preladenant as an adjunctive therapy to levodopa in patients with PD and motor fluctuations through a phase 2, double-blind, randomized trial. The study included 253 patients with PD who were randomized to receive one of four different twice-daily doses of preladenant (1 mg, 2 mg, 5 mg, 10 mg) or placebo. After a 12-week treatment period, 234 patients were included in the efficacy analysis. The findings revealed that patients receiving preladenant at doses of 5 mg and 10 mg twice daily experienced significantly lower daily OFF time compared to those on placebo, with reductions of 1.0 hour and 1.2 hours, respectively, from baseline to week 12. There were also nominal increases in mean daily ON time observed with these doses compared to the placebo. However, neither on time with dyskinesia nor on time with troublesome dyskinesia showed statistically significant increases with preladenant compared to placebo. Overall, adjunctive treatment with preladenant at doses of 5 mg and 10 mg twice daily demonstrated significant efficacy in reducing OFF time without exacerbating dyskinesia.

However, in another study conducted by Hauser et al., 2015)., they found no appreciable decrease in OFF time when comparing the preladenant with the placebo. The findings from two phase 3 randomized clinical trials (Trial 1 and Trial 2) were presented, investigating the effectiveness and safety of preladenant as an adjunctive treatment to levodopa in patients with PD who experience motor fluctuations. In Trial 1, a total of 778 eligible patients were randomly allocated to receive preladenant (2 mg, 5 mg, or 10 mg twice daily), placebo, or Rasagiline mesylate (1 mg/day). Trial 2 involved 476 eligible patients who were randomly assigned to receive preladenant (2 mg or 5 mg twice daily) or placebo. In both trials, preladenant did not significantly reduce off time compared to placebo at 12 weeks. Similarly, in Trial 1, the active control Rasagiline also failed to demonstrate a significant reduction in off time. Preladenant was generally well-tolerated, with constipation being the most common adverse event. Post hoc analyses of Trial 1 indicated a significant placebo effect in regions such as Turkey, India, and Latin America, with the placebo group showing greater reductions in off time than those receiving preladenant or Rasagiline. Significant reductions in off time for preladenant and Rasagiline were observed in the first 50 % of enrolled patients but not in the latter half. The authors proposed potential explanations for these negative results, including study design or conduct issues. Preladenant's effectiveness in lowering OFF time in PD must be further investigated to make more convincing data.

Hattori et al (Hattori et al., 2016). reported similar findings in their

Table 1

| Search strategies f | for PubMed | and Scopus. |
|---------------------|------------|-------------|
|---------------------|------------|-------------|

| Search<br>engine | Search strategy   | Time                | Results |
|------------------|---|---------------------|---------|
| Scopus           | (TITLE-ABS-KEY (preladenant)) AND<br>((TITLE-ABS-KEY (parkinson) OR TITLE-<br>ABS-KEY (parkinson's) OR TITLE-ABS-KEY<br>(pd)))      | March<br>13th, 2023 | 144     |
| PubMed           | ((parkinson[Title/Abstract]) OR<br>(parkinson's[Title/Abstract]) OR (pd<br>[Title/Abstract])) AND (preladenant<br>[Title/Abstract]) | March<br>13th, 2023 | 37      |

phase 2 study conducted in 2016, where none of the doses of preladenant showed superior efficacy compared to placebo in reducing mean OFF time from baseline to week 12. This study presents findings from a randomized, placebo-controlled, double-blind, 12-week, dose-ranging phase 2 trial evaluating preladenant as adjunctive therapy in Japanese patients diagnosed with moderate to severe PD and experiencing motor fluctuations. Patients were randomly assigned to treatment groups, with a total of 111 patients receiving preladenant at a dose of 2 mg and 113 patients allocated to receive preladenant at doses of 5 mg, 10 mg, or placebo. However, no statistically significant improvements were observed in mean OFF time from baseline to week 12 across any of the preladenant doses compared to placebo. Similarly, key secondary endpoints, including changes in ON time without troublesome dyskinesia and the proportion of treatment responders, did not significantly differ between preladenant groups and placebo, despite numerical trends favoring preladenant. They acknowledged certain limitations of their study. On one hand, the absence of an active comparator made it challenging to assess whether the trial failed or the preladenant was ineffective. On the other hand, using paper diaries to record on and off states may have introduced bias into the data.

The effects of Preladenant on the OFF time and ON time durations in Parkinson's patients have never been thoroughly studied before the publication of this systematic review and meta-analysis. High heterogeneity and the lack of studies in this field are two drawbacks of the study, though. It is advised to carry out more randomized controlled trials (RCTs) and examine Preladenant's impact on a bigger group of Parkinson's patients to solve these shortcomings. These investigations will add to our knowledge of the therapeutic potential of Preladenant in the treatment of PD and offer insightful information.

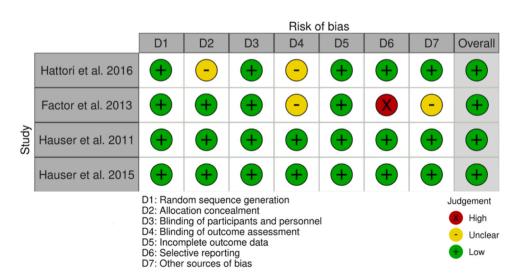


Fig. 2. Quality assessment.

| Table 2                       |
|-------------------------------|
| Outcomes of included studies. |

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| Author   | Country  | Study design                         | Participants   | Mean<br>age<br>(years)<br>(SD)   | Sex<br>(female)  | Dose of<br>preladenant                         | Duration<br>of follow<br>up | Adjustment | Primary<br>Outcome   | Other Outcomes  | Combined<br>Treatment  | Adverse Events   |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|-----------------------------|------------|--|---|--|--|
| Hauser<br>et al.<br>(2011) (<br>Hauser<br>et al.,<br>2015) | Argentina,<br>Australia,<br>Canada,<br>Chile,<br>Colombia,<br>France,<br>Guatemala,<br>Hong Kong,<br>Italy, New<br>Zealand,<br>Peru,<br>Singapore,<br>South Africa,<br>Spain, and<br>USA | Double-blind,<br>randomized<br>trial | 253 patients<br>who were aged<br>30 years or<br>older, had been<br>diagnosed with<br>PD at least five<br>years prior, and<br>had been<br>treated with<br>levodopa for<br>two years or<br>more<br>•Group A<br>(n=49):<br>1 mg<br>preladenant<br>twice daily<br>•Group B<br>(n=49):<br>2 mg<br>preladenant<br>twice daily<br>•Group C<br>(n=47):<br>5 mg<br>preladenant<br>twice daily<br>•Group D<br>(n=54):<br>10 mg<br>preladenant<br>twice daily<br>•Group E<br>(n=47):<br>Placebo | Group A:<br>61.3<br>(8.4)<br>Group B:<br>63.9<br>(9.3)<br>Group C:<br>62.0<br>(10.3)<br>Group D:<br>62.4<br>(10.2)<br>Group E:<br>62.2<br>(11.2) | Group A:<br>39 %<br>female<br>Group B:<br>27 %<br>female<br>Group C:<br>36 %<br>female<br>Group D:<br>41 %<br>female<br>Group E:<br>34 %<br>female | 2 mg BID<br>4 mg BID<br>10 mg BID<br>20 mg BID | 3 months                    |            | <ul> <li>Significant<br/>reduction in mean<br/>daily "off" time with<br/>5 mg preladenant<br/>twice daily vs.<br/>placebo (difference:<br/>-1.0 hours; 95 % CI:<br/>-2.1-0.0;<br/>p=0.0486).</li> <li>Significant<br/>reduction with 10 mg<br/>preladenant twice<br/>daily vs. placebo<br/>(difference:<br/>-1.2 hours; 95 % CI:<br/>-2.2 to -0.2;<br/>p=0.019).</li> <li>No significant<br/>changes were<br/>observed with 1 or<br/>2 mg preladenant<br/>twice daily versus<br/>placebo.</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Mean Change<br/>from Baseline in<br/>OFF Time at Each<br/>Visit:</li> <li>Significant<br/>reductions in OFF<br/>time compared to<br/>placebo were<br/>observed in the<br/>following groups:</li> <li>10 mg<br/>preladenant twice<br/>daily group: Weeks<br/>2, 8, 10, and 12.</li> <li>5 mg preladenant<br/>twice daily group:<br/>Weeks 10 and 12.</li> <li>5 mg preladenant<br/>twice daily group:<br/>Weeks 10 and 12.</li> <li>Mean Change<br/>from Baseline to<br/>Week 12 in:</li> <li>ON time:</li> <li>Nominally<br/>significant<br/>increases<br/>compared to<br/>placebo in the 5 mg<br/>and 10 mg<br/>preladenant twice<br/>daily groups.</li> <li>ON time without<br/>Dyskinesia:</li> <li>No significant<br/>differences<br/>compared to<br/>placebo in any<br/>preladenant group.</li> <li>ON time with Any<br/>Dyskinesia:</li> <li>Nominally<br/>significant<br/>increases<br/>compared to<br/>placebo in any<br/>preladenant group.</li> <li>ON time with Any<br/>Dyskinesia:</li> <li>Nominally<br/>significant<br/>increases<br/>compared to<br/>placebo in the 2 mg<br/>and 10 mg<br/>preladenant twice<br/>daily groups.</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Levodopa</li> <li>Dopamine<br/>agonist</li> <li>Anticholinergic</li> <li>Amantadine</li> <li>COMT inhibitor</li> <li>Monoamine<br/>oxidase B<br/>inhibitor</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Group A:</li> <li>Any treatment-<br/>emergent advers<br/>event: 40 (82 %)</li> <li>-Adverse event<br/>leading to<br/>discontinuation:<br/>(24 %)</li> <li>-Severe or life-<br/>threatening advers<br/>event: 4 (8 %)</li> <li>-Serious treatme<br/>emergent advers<br/>event: 2 (4 %)</li> <li>Worsening PD:<br/>(10 %)</li> <li>Somnolence: 5<br/>(10 %)</li> <li>Dyskinesia: 4<br/>(8 %)</li> <li>Nausea: 5 (10 %)</li> <li>Constipation: 6<br/>(12 %)</li> <li>Insomnia: 3 (6</li> <li>Dizziness: 1 (2</li> <li>Fall: 4 (8 %)</li> <li>Headache: 5<br/>(10 %)</li> <li>Back pain: 1 (2</li> <li>Diarthoea: 2 (4</li> <li>Group B:<br/>-Any treatment-<br/>emergent advers<br/>event: 39 (80 %)</li> <li>-Adverse event<br/>leading to<br/>discontinuation:<br/>(4 %)</li> <li>Serious treatme<br/>emergent advers<br/>event: 1 (2 %)</li> <li>Worsening PD:<br/>(8 %)</li> </ul> |

- Somnolence: 4

- Dyskinesia: 3

- Nausea: 4 (8 %) (continued on next page)

(8 %)

(6 %)

- ON time with Troublesome

- No significant

Dyskinesia:

differences

| thor | Country | Study design | Participants | Mean<br>age<br>(years)<br>(SD) | Sex<br>(female) | Dose of<br>preladenant | Duration<br>of follow<br>up | Adjustment | Primary<br>Outcome | Other Outcomes                        | Combined<br>Treatment | Adverse Events                    |
|------|---------|--------------|--------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|------------|--------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    | compared to                           |                       | - Constipation: 1                 |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    | placebo in any                        |                       | (2 %)                             |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    | preladenant group.                    |                       | - Insomnia: 3 (6 %                |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    | - ON time with                        |                       | - Dizziness: 4 (8 %               |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    | Non-Troublesome                       |                       | - Fall: 4 (8 %)                   |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    | Dyskinesia:                           |                       | - Headache: 2 (4                  |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    | - Nominally                           |                       | - Back pain: 3 (6                 |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    | significant                           |                       | - Diarrhoea: 3 (6                 |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    | increases                             |                       | • Group C:                        |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    | compared to                           |                       | -Any treatment-                   |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    | placebo in the 2 mg                   |                       | emergent adverse                  |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    | and 10 mg                             |                       | event: 40 (85 %)                  |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    | preladenant twice                     |                       | -Adverse event                    |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    | daily groups.                         |                       | leading to                        |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    | - Change in UPDRS                     |                       | discontinuation:                  |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    | Scores:                               |                       | (11 %)                            |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    | - Part 1:                             |                       | -Severe or life-                  |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    | - Significant                         |                       | threatening adve                  |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    | reductions                            |                       | event: 2 (4 %)                    |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    | compared to                           |                       | -Serious treatment                |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    | placebo in the 5 mg                   |                       | emergent advers                   |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    | and 10 mg                             |                       | event: 0                          |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    | preladenant twice                     |                       | - Worsening PD:                   |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    | -                                     |                       | - worsening PD.<br>(11 %)         |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    | daily groups.                         |                       |                                   |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    | - Part 2:                             |                       | - Somnolence: 4                   |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    | - No significant                      |                       | (9 %)                             |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    | differences                           |                       | - Dyskinesia: 4                   |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    | compared to                           |                       | (9%)                              |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    | placebo in any                        |                       | - Nausea: 6 (13 %                 |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    | preladenant group.                    |                       | - Constipation: 6                 |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    | - Part 3 (Motor):                     |                       | (13%)                             |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    | - No significant                      |                       | - Insomnia: 4 (9                  |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    | differences                           |                       | - Dizziness: 3 (6                 |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    | compared to                           |                       | - Fall: 3 (6 %)                   |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    | placebo in any                        |                       | - Headache: 4 (9                  |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    | preladenant group.                    |                       | - Back pain: 3 (6                 |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    | - Part 4:                             |                       | - Diarrhoea: 2 (4                 |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    | <ul> <li>No data reported.</li> </ul> |                       | <ul> <li>Group D:</li> </ul>      |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    |                                       |                       | -Any treatment-                   |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    |                                       |                       | emergent advers                   |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    |                                       |                       | event: 47 (87 %)                  |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    |                                       |                       | <ul> <li>Adverse event</li> </ul> |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    |                                       |                       | leading to                        |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    |                                       |                       | discontinuation:                  |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    |                                       |                       | (19 %)                            |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    |                                       |                       | -Severe or life-                  |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    |                                       |                       | threatening adve                  |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    |                                       |                       | event: 9 (17 %)                   |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    |                                       |                       | -Serious treatment                |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    |                                       |                       | emergent advers                   |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    |                                       |                       | event: 2 (4 %                     |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    |                                       |                       | - Worsening PD:                   |
|      |         |              |              |                                |                 |                        |                             |            |                    |                                       |                       |                                   |

| Adjustment | Primary<br>Outcome | Other Outcomes | Combined<br>Treatment | Adverse Events   |
|------------|--------------------|----------------|-----------------------|--|
|            |                    |                |                       | (15 %)<br>- Somnolence: 7<br>(13 %)<br>- Dyskinesia: 7<br>(13 %)<br>- Nausea: 2 (4 %)<br>- Constipation: 2 |

| Hauser   | Americas, the | two 12-weeks | Trial-1= 778  | Trial-1 | Trial-1= | 2 mg        | 12 weeks | • Trial–1: -     |
|----------|---------------|--------------|---------------|---------|----------|-------------|----------|------------------|
| et al.   | European      | Phase III,   | Trial-2= 476  | = 63.0  | 36.9 %   | preladenant |          | Preladenant 2 mg |
| (2015) ( | Union,        | Randomized,  | patients with | [30-86] | Trial-2= | BID         |          | twice daily:     |

35.9 %

Sex

(female)

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Table 2 (continued)

Country

Study design

Participants

moderate to

severe PD

treatment

regimen

including

levodopa, and a

2 hours per day

of OFF time as

documented in

a 3-day PD

diary.

minimum of

Mean

(years)

Trial-2

= 62.9

[35-85]

age

(SD)

Author

double-blind experiencing clinical Trials motor fluctuations, a diagnosis based on the UK Parkinson's Disease Society Brain Bank criteria, a Hoehn-Yahr stage between 2.5 and 4, a stable and optimal

placebo-

controlled,

BID 5 mg

Dose of

preladenant

Duration

of follow

up

preladenant BID 10 mg preladenant BID

twice daily: -0.10 hour (95 % CI, -0.69-.46 hour) -Preladenant 5 mg twice daily: -0.20 hour (95 % CI, -0.75-0.41 hour)-Preladenant 10 mg twice daily: -0.00 hour (95 % CI, -0.62-0.53 hour) -Rasagiline mesylate 1 mg/d: -0.30 hour (95 % CI, -0.90-0.26 hour) • Trial-2: -Preladenant 2 mg twice daily: -0.20 hour (95 % CI, -0.72-0.35 hour) -Preladenant 5 mg twice daily: -0.30 hour (95 % CI, -0.86-0.21 hour) -Preladenant was not superior to placebo in reducing OFF time from baseline to week 12.

- Proportion of Responders (>30 % reduction in mean OFF time from baseline to week 12) -Trial-1: -Percentage of responders: Similar among preladenant, placebo, and rasagiline groups (31.0-36.1 %) - No significant differences between preladenant or rasagiline vs placebo - Trial-2: -Percentage of responders: Approximately 37 % in the preladenant groups - Placebo group: 30.5 % of responders -Change from Baseline in Mean ON Time without Troublesome Dyskinesia - Trial 1: - All preladenant groups and the

rasagiline group had numerically  Levodopa • Dopamine agonist • Amantadine • Hydrochloride • COMT inhibitor Anticholinergic

(4 %) - Insomnia: 5 (9 %) - Dizziness: 6 (11%)- Fall: 3 (6 %) - Headache: 3 (6 %) - Back pain: 2 (4 %) - Diarrhoea: 2 (4 %) Preladenant Trial-1 (N=460): -Any AE: 250 - Drugrelated AE: 140 -Serious AE: 14 -Discontinued due to AE: 33 -Constipation: 26 -Headache: 17 -Dyskinesia: 22 -Dizziness: 15 -Nausea: 14 - Fall: 15 • Preladenant Trial-2 (N=314) -Any AE: 190 - Drugrelated AE: 115 -Serious AE: 7 -Discontinued due to AE: 16 -Constipation: 25 -Headache: 21 -Dyskinesia: 14 -Dizziness: 15 -Nausea: 13 - Fall: 15

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| ıthor                          | Country | Study design                                     | Participants  | Mean<br>age<br>(years)<br>(SD) | Sex<br>(female) | Dose of<br>preladenant  | Duration<br>of follow<br>up | Adjustment | Primary<br>Outcome   | Other Outcomes  | Combined<br>Treatment                              | Adverse Events  |
|--------------------------------|---------|--|---|--------------------------------|-----------------|---|-----------------------------|------------|--|---|--|---|
|                                |         |  |   |                                |                 |   |                             |            |  | larger increases<br>than placebo -<br>None were<br>statistically<br>significant from<br>placebo and no<br>dose response<br>observed -<br>Trial-2: - Mean<br>increases at week<br>12: Similar across<br>treatment groups<br>(0.6, 0.7, and<br>0.5 hours) - UPDRS<br>Part 3 Scores -<br>Trial-1: - Changes<br>were generally<br>similar among<br>treatments - No<br>significant<br>differences from<br>placebo except for<br>rasagiline at week<br>12 - Trial-2: -<br>Changes from<br>baseline were<br>similar among<br>treatments - No<br>significant<br>differences from<br>placebo except for<br>preladenant 5 mg<br>twice daily at week |  |   |
| actor<br>t al.<br>2013)<br>28] | USA     | phase II open-<br>label<br>double-blind<br>trial | 140 patients<br>who were aged<br>30 years or<br>older, had been<br>diagnosed with<br>PD at least five<br>years prior, and<br>had been<br>treated with<br>levodopa for<br>two years or<br>more on a<br>stable dose for 4<br>weeks or more<br>• Group A: 1 mg<br>preladenant<br>BID (N=20)<br>• Group B: 2 mg | 62.9±9.8                       | 32 %            | 1 mg<br>preladenant<br>BID<br>2 mg<br>preladenant<br>BID<br>5 mg<br>preladenant<br>BID<br>10 mg<br>preladenant<br>BID | 36-weeks                    |            | <ul> <li>The 5-mg BID<br/>preladenant dose<br/>appears to balance<br/>efficacy and<br/>tolerability.</li> <li>Preladenant 5 mg<br/>BID:</li> <li>Provided OFF time<br/>reductions of<br/>1.4–1.9 hours/day<br/>throughout the 36-<br/>week</li> <li>Increased - Change<br/>from baseline to week<br/>12 in mean OFF time:</li> <li>None of the<br/>preladenant doses<br/>demonstrated</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>12.</li> <li>Percentage of ON<br/>time free of<br/>dyskinesia: -</li> <li>Slightly lower at<br/>the end of the<br/>open-label<br/>extension (56.4 %)<br/>than the double-<br/>blind study<br/>baseline (61.6 %)</li> <li>Averaged 58 %-</li> <li>60 % throughout<br/>the open-label<br/>extension</li> <li>Percentage of ON<br/>time with<br/>nontroublesome<br/>dyskinesia: -</li> </ul>  | • Levodopa<br>• Other<br>antiparkinsonian<br>drugs | - Dyskinesia:46<br>(33 %)<br>- Constipation:26<br>(19 %)<br>- PD deterioration:<br>19 (14 %)<br>- Fall: 18 (13 %)<br>- Somnolence: 15<br>(11 %)<br>- Back pain: 14<br>(10 %)<br>- Arthralgia: 13<br>(9 %)<br>- Headache: 13<br>(9 %)<br>- Insomnia: 11<br>(8 %)<br>- Diarrhea: 11 (8 %)<br>(continued on next page) |

# Table 2 (continued)

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| uthor                                | Country | Study design   | Participants  | Mean<br>age<br>(years)<br>(SD)   | Sex<br>(female)  | Dose of<br>preladenant  | Duration<br>of follow<br>up | Adjustment | Primary<br>Outcome  | Other Outcomes   | Combined<br>Treatment  | Adverse Events  |
|--------------------------------------|---------|--|---|--|--|---|-----------------------------|------------|---|--|--|---|
|                                      |         |  | preladenant<br>BID (N=28)<br>• Group C: 5 mg<br>preladenant<br>BID (N=32)<br>• Group D:<br>10 mg<br>preladenant<br>BID (N=32)<br>• Placebo<br>: (N=28)28)   |  |  |   |                             |            | statistically<br>significant<br>improvement<br>compared to placebo.<br>- Estimated treatment<br>differences for<br>preladenant versus<br>placebo were:<br>- 2 mg BID: 0.7 hours<br>(p=0.0564)<br>- 5 mg BID:<br>- 0.5 hours<br>(p=0.1844)<br>- 10 mg BID:<br>0.3 hours (p=0.3386)<br>- Treatment was well<br>tolerated at doses<br>between 2 and 10 mg<br>BID.<br>- Preladenant did not<br>demonstrate<br>statistically<br>significant efficacy.<br>by 1.2–1.5 hours/day<br>throughout the 36-<br>week treatment<br>period relative to the<br>baseline<br>- Provided sustained<br>OFF time reductions<br>and ON time<br>increases over the 36-<br>week treatment<br>period. | Similar at the end<br>of the open-label<br>extension (30.9 %)<br>and the double-<br>blind study<br>baseline (29.3 %)<br>Averaged 30 %<br>throughout the<br>open-label<br>extension<br>Percentage of ON<br>time with<br>troublesome<br>dyskinesia: -<br>Averaged 11 %-<br>12 % throughout<br>the open-label<br>extension<br>Slightly greater at<br>the end of the<br>open-label<br>extension (12.7 %)<br>than the double-<br>blind study<br>baseline (9.2 %).<br>-Absolute<br>dyskinesia<br>duration: -<br>Increased<br>incidence of<br>dyskinesia (133 %)<br>compared to the<br>randomized study |  | Increased -CPK: 9<br>(6 %)<br>- Influenza: 9 (6 %)<br>- Nausea: 9 (6 %)<br>- Nasopharyngitis:<br>(6 %)<br>- Pain in extremity<br>8 (6 %)<br>- Tremor:7 (5 %)  |
| Nobutaa<br>Hattori<br>(2016)<br>[29] | Japan   | Randomized,<br>placebo-<br>controlled,<br>parallel-<br>group,<br>multisite,<br>double-blind,<br>dose-ranging<br>phase II<br>clinical trial | 450 Japanese<br>Patients<br>between 30 and<br>85 years of age<br>who had<br>moderate to<br>severe PD, were<br>on a stable<br>regimen of<br>levodopa, and<br>were<br>experiencing<br>motor<br>fluctuations and<br>2 hours or more<br>/day OFF time | Group<br>A: 68.0<br>±7.9<br>Group<br>B: 67.6<br>±8.3<br>Group<br>C: 67.8<br>±7.6<br>Placebo:<br>65.8±9.1 | Group<br>A: 49 %<br>Group<br>B: 58 %<br>Group<br>C: 61 %<br>Placebo:<br>57 % | 2 mg<br>preladenant<br>BID<br>5 mg<br>preladenant<br>BID<br>10 mg<br>preladenant<br>BID | 12-weeks                    |            | <ul> <li>Change from<br/>baseline to week 12 in<br/>mean OFF time:</li> <li>None of the<br/>preladenant doses<br/>demonstrated<br/>statistically<br/>significant<br/>improvement<br/>compared to placebo.</li> <li>Estimated treatment<br/>differences for<br/>preladenant versus<br/>placebo were:</li> <li>2 mg BID: 0.7 hours<br/>(p=0.0564)</li> </ul>  | <ul> <li>(9%).</li> <li>Proportion of responders (≥30% reduction in mean OFF time from baseline to week 12):</li> <li>Estimated treatment differences vs placebo were not statistically significant:</li> <li>Preladenant 2 mg BID: 5.7% (p=0.404)</li> <li>Preladenant 5 mg</li> </ul>  | <ul> <li>Amantadine</li> <li>Anticholinergics</li> <li>Dopa<br/>decarboxylase<br/>inhibitors</li> <li>Dopamine<br/>agonists</li> <li>Entacapone</li> <li>Levodopa</li> </ul> | - Discontinued<br>because of AE:<br>Group A: 5<br>Group B: 5<br>Group C: 11<br>Placebo: 4<br>- Death:<br>Group A: 1<br>Group A: 1<br>Group C: 0<br>Placebo: 0<br>- Any AE:<br>Group A: 48<br>Group A: 53<br>Group C: 61<br>Placebo: 49<br>(continued on next page |

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| uthor | Country | Study design | Participants   | Mean<br>age<br>(years)<br>(SD) | Sex<br>(female) | Dose of<br>preladenant | Duration<br>of follow<br>up | Adjustment | Primary<br>Outcome   | Other Outcomes  | Combined<br>Treatment | Adverse Events   |
|-------|---------|--------------|--|--------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|------------|--|---|-----------------------|--|
|       |         |              | Group<br>A: 2 mg<br>preladenant<br>BID (N=111)<br>Group<br>B: 5 mg<br>preladenant<br>BID (N=113)<br>Group<br>C: 10 mg<br>preladenant<br>BID (N=113)<br>Placebo:<br>(N=113) |                                |                 |                        |                             |            | <ul> <li>5 mg BID:</li> <li>-0.5 hours</li> <li>(p=0.1844)</li> <li>10 mg BID:</li> <li>0.3 hours (p=0.3386)</li> <li>Treatment was well tolerated at doses between 2 and 10 mg BID.</li> <li>Preladenant did not demonstrate statistically significant efficacy.</li> </ul> | BID: 5.7 %<br>(p=0.390)<br>- Preladenant<br>10 mg BID: 4.9 %<br>(p=0.508)<br>- Change from<br>baseline to week 12<br>in mean ON time<br>without<br>troublesome<br>dyskinesia:<br>- Estimated<br>treatment<br>differences vs<br>placebo were not<br>statistically<br>significant:<br>- Preladenant 2 mg<br>BID: 0.7 hours<br>(p=0.05)<br>- Preladenant 5 mg<br>BID: 0.5 hours<br>(p=0.18)<br>- Preladenant<br>10 mg BID:<br>0.5 hours (p=0.20) |                       | <ul> <li>Drug-related A<br/>Group A: 17</li> <li>Group B: 17</li> <li>Group C: 35</li> <li>Placebo: 19</li> <li>Serious AE:</li> <li>Group B: 4</li> <li>Group B: 4</li> <li>Group C: 6</li> <li>Group Placebo:</li> <li>Serious AUgerrelated AE:</li> <li>Group A: 1</li> <li>Group B: 1</li> <li>Group B: 1</li> <li>Group A: 1</li> <li>Group B: 1</li> <li>Group B: 1</li> <li>Group A: 5</li> <li>Group B: 8</li> <li>Group A: 5</li> <li>Group B: 3</li> <li>Group C: 6</li> <li>Placebo: 0</li> <li>Dyskinesia:</li> <li>Group A: 3</li> <li>Group C: 6</li> <li>Group C: 7</li> <li>Group C: 6</li> <li>Group C: 6</li> <li>Group C: 7</li> <li>Group C: 6</li> <li>Group C: 7</li> <li>Group C: 6</li> <li>Group C: 7</li> <li>Group C: 7</li> <li>Placebo: 4</li> <li>Worsening PD:</li> <li>Group A: 5</li> <li>Group B: 4</li> <li>Group A: 4</li> <li>Group C: 4</li> <li>Placebo: 4</li> </ul> |

Abbreviations: PD: Parkinson Disease; COMT: catechol-O-methyl transferase; CI: Confidential Interval; UPDRS: Unified Parkinson's disease rating scale; AE: adverse event; BID: twice daily

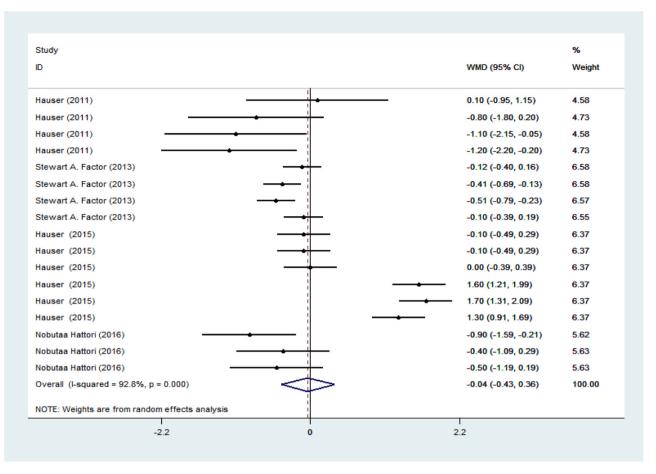


Fig. 3. Forest plot of preladenant's impact on PD's OFF time. The result is a significant decrease in OFF time in the group receiving preladenant.

## 5. Conclusion

Preladenant, an A2A receptor antagonist, has shown potential benefits in reducing off-time and increasing on-time in patients with PD and motor fluctuations in a phase 2 clinical trial (Hauser et al., 2011). The 5 mg and 10 mg twice daily doses of preladenant reduced off-time by approximately 25-30 % and increased on-time by 10-15 % compared to placebo (Factor et al., 2013). However, the evidence on the efficacy of preladenant is mixed. While the phase 2 trial showed positive results, a subsequent phase 3 trial did not find preladenant to be superior to placebo. Additionally, there are concerns about the potential for preladenant to exacerbate dyskinesia, with up to 33 % of patients experiencing dyskinesia in the open-label extension of the phase 2 trial. The systematic review and meta-analysis cited in the query had limitations, including high heterogeneity among the included studies and a small number of studies evaluating preladenant. Therefore, more high-quality, large-scale, randomized controlled trials are needed to definitively establish the efficacy and safety of preladenant for the treatment of motor symptoms in PD.

In conclusion, while preliminary evidence indicates potential beneficial effects of preladenant on motor symptoms in PD, the current findings are varied, and the safety profile remains incompletely understood. Further research is essential to elucidate the precise role of preladenant in PD management. This meta-analysis suggests that preladenant may enhance motor fluctuations in PD patients by increasing ON time and reducing OFF time. However, due to significant heterogeneity among studies, larger-scale and high-quality RCTs are needed to validate these results and establish preladenant's long-term safety and efficacy in treating PD.

## Finding

None

## CRediT authorship contribution statement

Ata Akhtari Kohnehshahri: Formal analysis, Supervision, Alireza Ghajari: Methodology, Software, Writing - original draft. Niloofar Deravi: Project administration, Writing - review & editing. Reza Khademi: Writing - original draft. Zahra Jafari Shendi: Investigation, Writing - original draft. Mohammad Amin Karimi: Formal analysis, Investigation, Writing - original draft, Writing - review & editing. Hossein Ashkpour Motlagh: Conceptualization, Supervision. Behnaz Mahmoudvand: Investigation, Writing - original draft. Mohaddeseh Belbasi: Investigation, Software, Writing - original draft. Kimia Janeshin: Writing - original draft, Writing - review & editing. Seved Amirhossein Mazhari: Investigation, Methodology. Mohammad Hossein Etemadi: Writing - original draft, Writing - review & editing. Mahdyieh Naziri: Formal analysis. Narges Safar Firouz: Investigation, Writing - original draft. Sayedeh-Fatemeh Sadat-Madani: Conceptualization, Writing - original draft, Writing - review & editing. Mohammad Abbasalizadeh: Methodology, Writing – original draft. Mahsa Aziz: Writing – review & editing. Afra Darvishi: Validation, Writing - original draft, Writing - review & editing. Matin Bidares: Writing - review & editing. Shafagh Asgarzadeh: Writing - original draft, Writing - review & editing.

### **Declaration of Competing Interest**

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial

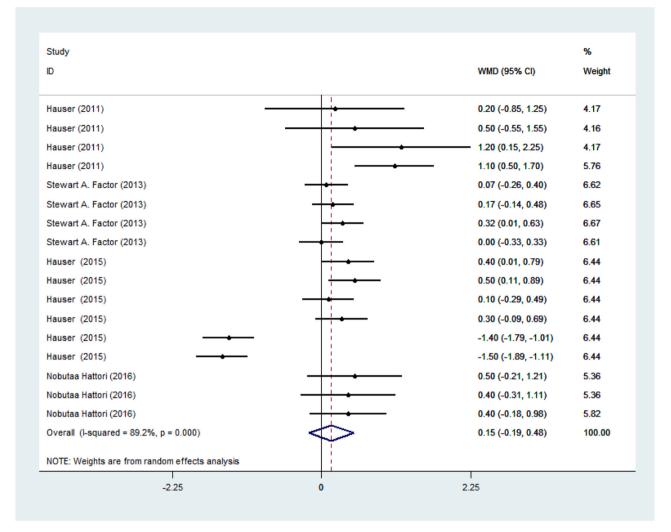
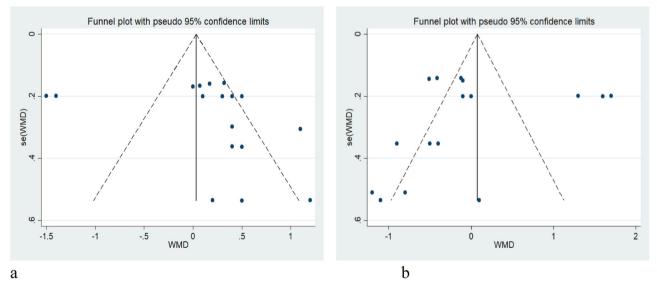


Fig. 4. Forest plot of the impact of preladenant regarding ON time in PD. The result is a significant increase in ON time in the group receiving preladenant.



**Fig. 5.** Funnel plot of preladenant's effect in PD patients, considering OFF time and ON time. The funnel plot was asymmetric, regarding ON time (a) and OFF time (b), showing a relationship between the effect of preladenant estimate and study precision, and overall, publication bias is possible in included studies.

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interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

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