ORIGINAL ARTICLE

WILEY

Cardiovascular safety of antimuscarinic add-on therapy in patients with overactive bladder who had a suboptimal response to mirabegron monotherapy: A post hoc analysis from the Japanese MILAI II study

Takao Katoh¹ | Yasuhiko Igawa² | Osamu Yamaguchi³ | Daisuke Kato⁴ | Takuva Hamada⁴ | Kentaro Kuroishi⁴

Correspondence

Daisuke Kato, Medical Science, Medical Affairs, Astellas Pharma Inc., 2-5-1, Nihonbashi-Honcho, Chuo-ku, Tokyo 103-8411, Japan. Email: daisuke.katou@astellas.com

Funding information

Astellas Pharma Global Development; Astellas Pharma Inc.

Abstract

Objective: This analysis was conducted to investigate the cardiovascular (CV) safety outcomes from the MILAI II study. MILAI II was conducted to evaluate the long-term safety and efficacy of antimuscarinic add-on therapy to mirabegron over 52 weeks in patients with overactive bladder (OAB) symptoms.

Methods: MILAI II consisted of a 2-week screening period (patients received mirabegron 50 mg once daily) plus a 52-week treatment period (patients were randomized to receive a combination of mirabegron 50 mg/d plus solifenacin 5 mg/d, propiverine 20 mg/d, imidafenacin 0.2 mg/d, or tolterodine 4 mg/d). CV safety was assessed using treatment-emergent adverse events (TEAEs), vital signs, and 12-lead electrocardiograms (ECGs). Vital signs and ECG data were evaluated for each patient using worst post-baseline values reported.

Results: Of 647 patients, 570 (88.1%) were female with a mean age of 65 years. CV history at baseline and CV-related concomitant medication use throughout the study were balanced between groups. The incidences of overall and drug-related CV TEAEs were ≤8.1% and ≤6.2%, respectively, for all groups. The most common TEAEs were ECG T wave amplitude decreased, ECG QT prolonged, and ventricular extrasystoles. Overall, 36 TEAEs of interest related to the CV system that were possibly/probably related to treatment were reported with similar incidences for each group. For the worst post-baseline vital signs and ECGs, no relationships were noted in terms of either timing or treatment group.

Conclusion: A favorable CV safety profile was observed following long-term combination treatment with mirabegron and an antimuscarinic in patients with OAB symptoms.

KEYWORDS

antimuscarinics, cardiovascular, combination therapy, mirabegron, overactive bladder

This is an open access article under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License, which permits use, distribution and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.

© 2019 The Authors. LUTS: Lower Urinary Tract Symptoms published by John Wiley & Sons Australia, Ltd

¹Cardiovascular Center, Mita Hospital, International University of Health and Welfare, Tokyo, Japan

²Department of Continence Medicine, The University of Tokyo Graduate School of Medicine, Tokyo, Japan

³Department of Chemical Biology and Applied Chemistry, Nihon University School of Engineering, Koriyama, Japan

⁴Astellas Pharma Inc., Tokyo, Japan

1 | INTRODUCTION

Overactive bladder (OAB) syndrome is a prevalent condition and an estimated 12.4% of the Japanese population who are ≥40 years of age experience symptoms of OAB. Real-world studies have indicated that substantially more patients with OAB present with concomitant cardiovascular (CV) comorbidities compared with age- and gendermatched controls. This finding emphasizes the importance of evaluating the CV safety of potential and existing OAB pharmacotherapies.

Antimuscarinic medications currently form the mainstay of pharmacotherapy approaches for treating patients with OAB symptoms. These medications are believed to act by inhibiting the binding of acetylcholine to the muscarinic receptors M2 and M3 that are found on detrusor smooth muscle cells and other bladder wall components. A further medication that is used in clinical practice for treating patients with OAB symptoms is the β 3-adrenoreceptor agonist, mirabegron, which may act through various mechanisms, including relaxation of the detrusor muscle by cyclic adenosine monophosphate (cAMP) generation and inhibition of spontaneous contractile activity in the bladder.

As well as in the bladder, preclinical studies have shown that M2 and M3 receptors and the β -adrenoreceptors ($\beta1,\,\beta2,\,$ and $\beta3$) are also expressed in the CV system. Antagonism of the M2 receptor (which plays a functional role in mediating heart rate) and the M3 receptor (which mediates vasodilation) could possibly increase heart rate, prolong the QT interval, and induce potentially fatal ventricular tachyarrhythmias, such as torsade de pointes. Further investigations have discovered that the $\beta1$ -adrenoreceptor mediates increased heart rate and contractility and the $\beta2$ -adrenoreceptor mediates vasodilation in the vascular smooth muscle. The role of the $\beta3$ -adrenoreceptor in the physiology of the human CV system is currently less clear, although activation of the $\beta3$ -adrenoreceptor is known to induce positive inotropic effects in human atrial tissue and negative inotropic effects in ventricular tissue.

Several clinical studies have also assessed the CV safety of mirabegron or antimuscarinic monotherapy. Antimuscarinic agents appear to have a favorable CV safety profile and CV-related treatment-emergent adverse events (TEAEs) are rarely reported. However, the most commonly reported events of increases in heart rate and QT interval need to be taken into account when prescribing these medications. Furthermore, in a pooled analysis of 12-week mirabegron monotherapy studies, no trends across treatment groups (placebo, mirabegron, tolterodine) were observed in the frequencies of abnormal electrocardiogram (ECG) findings. H

Although mirabegron and antimuscarinics are effective monotherapies for patients with OAB symptoms, poor responses to treatment have been noted. These patients may achieve an improved outcome if they subsequently receive combination therapy involving mirabegron plus an antimuscarinic. However, there is a concern that combining mirabegron with antimuscarinics may result in synergistic effects on the CV system.

Several international phase II-IV clinical trials (Symphony, ¹⁷ BESIDE, ¹⁸ MILAI, ¹⁹ SYNERGY, ²⁰ and SYNERGY II²¹) have been

conducted to assess the efficacy and safety of mirabegron with the antimuscarinic, solifenacin. The combination of mirabegron with solifenacin resulted in improved efficacy over the monotherapies^{17,18,20,21} and no synergistic CV effects were reported in subanalyses from the BESIDE and SYNERGY trials.^{22,23} However, both of these trials were conducted in Western countries and therefore it is important to assess the CV safety of mirabegron and antimuscarinic combination therapy in Asian patients.

MILAI II was a 52-week study involving 649 Japanese patients with residual OAB symptoms. ²⁴ The results of the study showed that antimuscarinic add-on therapy (solifenacin, propiverine, imidafenacin, or tolterodine) was well tolerated and effective following ≥6 weeks of initial treatment with mirabegron. Herein, we report the findings of a post hoc analysis that evaluated the CV safety outcomes from the MILAI II study. In addition, using the vital sign data, we examined whether there are any timing factors that need to be taken into account after commencing combination therapy.

2 | METHODS

The overall methodology has been previously published.²⁴ In summary, MILAI II (ClinicalTrials.gov: NCT02294396) was a multicenter (60 sites in Japan), randomized, open-label, phase IV study which was conducted from October 2014 to September 2016. Safety was the primary objective of the study and efficacy was the secondary objective.

The Declaration of Helsinki and International Council for Harmonisation guidelines were adhered to throughout the study. All participants provided informed consent and the institutional review board for each site approved the protocol.

Eligible patients had to be ≥20 years of age, been receiving mirabegron treatment (50 mg) for ≥6 weeks, and have residual OAB symptoms (total OAB symptom score [OABSS] ≥3 points, question 3 OABSS ≥2 points). The study consisted of a 2-week screening period, during which eligible patients received oral mirabegron 50 mg once daily after breakfast, plus a 52-week treatment period. After completion of the screening period, patients were randomized to receive a combination of mirabegron 50 mg/d plus either solifenacin 5 mg/d, propiverine 20 mg/d, imidafenacin 0.2 mg/d, or extended-release tolterodine 4 mg/d (1:1:1:1 ratio). At week 8, the dose of solifenacin, propiverine, or imidafenacin could be doubled. However, if a TEAE developed after the dose increase, the investigator could reduce the dose to its original level.

CV-related concomitant medications were recorded throughout the study. CV safety was assessed using TEAEs, vital signs, and 12-lead ECGs (including QT interval corrected for heart rate by Fridericia's formula [QTcF] measurements). The Japanese version of the Medical Dictionary for Regulatory Activities (MedDRA/J, version 17.0) was used to cross-reference the reported terms from the study physicians to the relevant system organ classes and preferred terms. At rest vital sign and ECG data were examined in terms of worst post-baseline values reported for each patient in the clinic with only increases from baseline included in the analyses. CV history, CV

 TABLE 1
 Patient demographics and baseline characteristics

Variable	MIRA + SOLI (n = 166)	MIRA + PRO (n = 161)	MIRA + IMI (n = 161)	MIRA + TOL (n = 159)	Total (n = 647)
Sex, n (%)					
Male	20 (12.0)	17 (10.6)	15 (9.3)	25 (15.7)	77 (11.9)
Female	146 (88.0)	144 (89.4)	146 (90.7)	134 (84.3)	570 (88.1)
Ageiny					
Mean (SD, range)	64.6 (9.4, 45-89)	64.0 (9.3, 42-82)	65.7 (8.7, 47–85)	65.7 (10.0, 40-85)	65.0 (9.4, 40-89)
Age group, n (%)					
<65 y	86 (51.8)	82 (50.9)	65 (40.4)	65 (40.9)	298 (46.1)
≥65 y	80 (48.2)	79 (49.1)	96 (59.6)	94 (59.1)	349 (53.9)
BMI in kg/m²					
Mean (SD, range)	23.32 (3.99, 14.8-39.0)	23.14 (3.90, 16.0–34.3)	22.87 (3.47, 15.6–34.6)	23.21 (3.85, 16.4-44.3)	23.13 (3.81, 14.8-44.3)
Duration of OAB in mo					
Mean (SD) [n]	69.3 (68.2) [162]	78.8 (88.9) [158]	83.3 (94.2) [156]	77.9 (85.8) [155]	77.2 (84.7) [631]
Median (range)	49.0 (1-334)	53.0 (1-602)	59.0 (1-545)	55.0 (1-565)	55.0 (1-602)
Previous CV history, n (%)					
Overall	66 (39.8)	63 (39.1)	71 (44.1)	64 (40.3)	264 (40.8)
Vascular disorders	65 (39.2)	61 (37.9)	70 (43.5)	64 (40.3)	260 (40.2)
Hypertension	65 (39.2)	57 (35.4)	67 (41.6)	61 (38.4)	250 (38.6)
Peripheral vascular disorder	0	3 (1.9)	0	1 (0.6)	4 (0.6)
Varicose vein	0	0	1 (0.6)	2 (1.3)	3 (0.5)
Peripheral arterial occlusive disease	0	0	2 (1.2)	0	2 (0.3)
Peripheral circulatory failure	0	1 (0.6)	1 (0.6)	0	2 (0.3)
Aortic aneurysm	1 (0.6)	0	0	0	1 (0.2)
Deep vein thrombosis	0	0	1 (0.6)	0	1 (0.2)
Essential hypertension	0	0	0	1 (0.6)	1 (0.2)
Hypotension	0	1 (0.6)	0	0	1 (0.2)
Lymphedema	0	0	1 (0.6)	0	1 (0.2)
Peripheral artery aneurysm	0	1 (0.6)	0	0	1 (0.2)
Peripheral coldness	0	0	1 (0.6)	0	1 (0.2)
Venous thrombosis	0	0	0	1 (0.6)	1 (0.2)
Cardiac disorders	6 (3.6)	2 (1.2)	3 (1.9)	1 (0.6)	12 (1.9)
Bundle branch block right	2 (1.2)	1 (0.6)	0	0	3 (0.5)
Angina pectoris	1 (0.6)	0	0	0	1 (0.2)
Aortic valve stenosis	0	1 (0.6)	0	0	1 (0.2)
					(Continues)

(Polici+100)	
•	-
<u>.</u>	4
<u>-</u>	ב ע

Variable	MIRA + SOLI (n = 166)	MIRA + PRO (n = 161)	MIRA + IMI (n = 161)	MIRA + TOL (n = 159)	Total (n = 647)
Arteriosclerosis coronary artery	0	0	1 (0.6)	0	1 (0.2)
Atrioventricular block first degree	1 (0.6)	0	0	0	1 (0.2)
Mitral valve prolapse	1 (0.6)	0	0	0	1 (0.2)
Palpitations	0	0	1 (0.6)	0	1 (0.2)
Supraventricular extrasystoles	0	0	0	1 (0.6)	1 (0.2)
Supraventricular tachycardia	1 (0.6)	0	0	0	1 (0.2)
Tachycardia	1 (0.6)	0	0	0	1 (0.2)
Ventricular extrasystoles	0	0	1 (0.6)	0	1 (0.2)
Investigations	1 (0.6)	2 (1.2)	0	0	3 (0.5)
ECG QT prolonged	1 (0.6)	2 (1.2)	0	0	3 (0.5)
ECG PR prolongation	0	1 (0.6)	0	0	1 (0.2)
ECG ST segment depression	0	1 (0.6)	0	0	1 (0.2)
ECG T wave amplitude decreased	0	1 (0.6)	0	0	1 (0.2)
ECG T wave inversion	0	1 (0.6)	0	0	1 (0.2)
Vital signs					
Mean SBP in mm Hg (SD, range)	126.6 (15.7, 86-170)	124.6 (15.3, 86-170)	124.5 (17.1, 84-178)	126.4 (16.9, 82–174)	NC
Mean DBP in mm Hg (SD, range)	77.6 (9.7, 54–105)	76.6 (11.1, 50-104)	75.7 (10.9, 33–105)	75.5 (11.0, 40–100)	NC
Mean pulse rate in bpm (SD, range)	73.7 (9.5, 52-101)	74.1 (9.5, 52-102)	73.1 (8.3, 52-99)	73.4 (8.6, 55-97)	NC
ECG parameters					
Mean QTcF in ms (SD) [n]	418.5 (17.4) [164]	419.2 (16.9) [161]	416.4 (17.3) [160]	415.4 (15.6) [158]	NC

Note: Data shown for the safety analysis set (patients who received ≥1 dose of study drug).

Note: The sex, age, duration of OAB, and ECG parameter data have been previously published.²⁴
Abbreviations: BMI, body mass index; CV, cardiovascular; DBP, diastolic blood pressure; ECG, electrocardiogram; IMI, imidafenacin; MIRA, mirabegron; NC, not calculated; OAB, overactive bladder; PRO, propiverine; QTcF, QT interval corrected for heart rate by Fridericia's formula; SBP, systolic blood pressure; SD, standard deviation; SOLI, solifenacin; TOL, tolterodine.

safety, and demographic data were evaluated using the safety analysis set (SAF), which was defined as patients who had received ≥1 dose of study drug.

3 | RESULTS

3.1 | Patient characteristics

Out of 649 randomized patients, 647 were included in the SAF; one patient from the mirabegron and solifenacin group did not complete a second informed consent form, and one patient from the mirabegron and tolterodine group did not take any study medication.²⁴ Most of the patients enrolled were female (570 [88.1%] patients), with a mean age of 65 years. All four treatment groups were generally similar regarding patient demographics, baseline characteristics, and CV history (Table 1). Similar proportions of patients from each group received a CV-related concomitant medication during the study (mirabegron and solifenacin group: 58 [34.9%] patients, mirabegron and propiverine group: 51 [31.7%] patients, mirabegron and imidafenacin group: 56 [34.8%] patients, mirabegron and tolterodine group: 51 [32.1%] patients).

3.2 | CV events

The overall safety and efficacy results from the MILAI II study have been previously presented.²⁴ In total, 519 (80.2%) patients experienced \geq 1 TEAE and 303 (46.8%) patients experienced \geq 1 drug-related TEAE. In addition, 28 (4.3%) patients reported \geq 1 serious TEAE. Two

serious TEAEs were considered to be possibly drug-related by the investigator, one of which was a CV-related event in a patient from the mirabegron and propiverine group who experienced atrial fibrillation; this event resolved 10 days after treatment withdrawal.

The incidence of CV-related TEAEs was similar between groups (Figure 1 and Table 2). The overall and drug-related incidence rates were ≤8.1% and ≤6.2%, respectively, for all treatment groups. The most common overall CV-related TEAEs were ECG T wave amplitude decreased (10 [1.5%] patients), ECG QT prolonged (nine [1.4%] patients), and ventricular extrasystoles (seven [1.1%] patients). The most common drug-related TEAEs were ECG T wave amplitude decreased (eight [1.2%] patients), ECG QT prolonged (eight [1.2%] patients), and supraventricular extrasystoles (four [0.6%] patients). The overall and drug-related incidences of ECG QT prolonged were slightly higher in the mirabegron and imidafenacin group compared with the other three groups.

In total, 36 TEAEs of interest related to the CV system that were possibly or probably related to mirabegron and/or the combination antimuscarinic drug were reported during the MILAI II study (Table 3). Of these, seven, 11, nine, and nine TEAEs were reported by the patients from the mirabegron and solifenacin, mirabegron and propiverine, mirabegron and imidafenacin, and mirabegron and tolterodine groups, respectively. The events occurred between 21 and 364 days after the start of combination treatment and no discernible differences in time of onset were noted between groups. The majority of the TEAEs were mild in severity (34 [94.4%] events) and the rest were moderate (two [5.6%] events). In total, 23 (63.9%) TEAEs had resolved

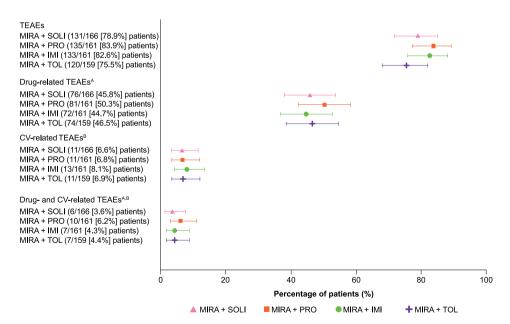


FIGURE 1 Dot and whiskers plot of CV-related TEAEs. Data shown for the safety analysis set (patients who received ≥1 dose of study drug). The dots represent the percentage of patients from each group who experienced a TEAE from each particular category and the whiskers represent the corresponding 95% confidence intervals. The TEAE and drug-related TEAE data have been previously published.²⁴ A, A reasonable possibility that the event may have been caused by the study drug, as assessed by the investigator. If the relationship was missing then it was considered to be drug-related. B, Includes serious adverse events evaluated by the investigator. CV, cardiovascular; IMI, imidafenacin; MIRA, mirabegron; PRO, propiverine; SOLI, solifenacin; TEAE, treatment-emergent adverse event; TOL, tolterodine

TABLE 2 TEAEs of interest related to the CV system

	TEAE, n (%)				Drug-related	ΓΕΑΕ, n (%)		
System organ class/ preferred term	MIRA + SOLI (n = 166)	MIRA + PRO (n = 161)	MIRA + IMI (n = 161)	MIRA + TOL (n = 159)	MIRA + SOLI (n = 166)	MIRA + PRO (n = 161)	MIRA + IMI (n = 161)	MIRA + TOL (n = 159)
Overall	11 (6.6)	11 (6.8)	13 (8.1)	11 (6.9)	6 (3.6)	10 (6.2)	7 (4.3)	7 (4.4)
Investigations	5 (3.0)	5 (3.1)	6 (3.7)	5 (3.1)	3 (1.8)	5 (3.1)	5 (3.1)	4 (2.5)
ECG T wave amplitude decreased	3 (1.8)	3 (1.9)	1 (0.6)	3 (1.9)	2 (1.2)	3 (1.9)	1 (0.6)	2 (1.3)
ECG QT prolonged	1 (0.6)	2 (1.2)	5 (3.1)	1 (0.6)	1 (0.6)	2 (1.2)	4 (2.5)	1 (0.6)
ECG T wave inversion	0	2 (1.2)	1 (0.6)	0	0	1 (0.6)	1 (0.6)	0
Blood pressure decreased	1 (0.6)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ECG change	0	0	0	1 (0.6)	0	0	0	1 (0.6)
ECG U-wave abnormality	1 (0.6)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cardiac disorders	4 (2.4)	6 (3.7)	4 (2.5)	4 (2.5)	2 (1.2)	5 (3.1)	1 (0.6)	4 (2.5)
Ventricular extrasystoles	3 (1.8)	1 (0.6)	1 (0.6)	2 (1.3)	1 (0.6)	0	0	2 (1.3)
Supraventricular extrasystoles	0	2 (1.2)	3 (1.9)	1 (0.6)	0	2 (1.2)	1 (0.6)	1 (0.6)
Atrial fibrillation	1 (0.6)	1 (0.6)	0	0	1 (0.6)	1 (0.6)	0	0
Bundle branch block right	0	0	0	2 (1.3)	0	0	0	1 (0.6)
Sinus tachycardia	0	1 (0.6)	0	1 (0.6)	0	1 (0.6)	0	1 (0.6)
Arrhythmia supraventricular	0	0	1 (0.6)	0	0	0	0	0
Atrial tachycardia	0	0	1 (0.6)	0	0	0	1 (0.6)	0
Bundle branch block left	0	1 (0.6)	0	0	0	1 (0.6)	0	0
Vascular disorders	2 (1.2)	0	3 (1.9)	3 (1.9)	1 (0.6)	0	1 (0.6)	0
Hypertension	2 (1.2)	0	2 (1.2)	1 (0.6)	1 (0.6)	0	1 (0.6)	0
Aortic aneurysm	0	0	1 (0.6)	0	0	0	0	0
Deep vein thrombosis	0	0	0	1 (0.6)	0	0	0	0
Microscopic polyangiitis	0	0	0	1 (0.6)	0	0	0	0

Note: Data shown for the safety analysis set (patients who received ≥1 dose of study drug). The preferred terms of interest were defined as aortic aneurysm, arrhythmia supraventricular, atrial fibrillation, atrial tachycardia, blood pressure ambulatory decreased, blood pressure decreased, blood pressure increased, bundle branch block left, bundle branch block right, deep vein thrombosis, ECG change, ECG PR prolongation, ECG QT prolonged, ECG T wave amplitude decreased, ECG T wave inversion, ECG U-wave abnormality, hypertension, microscopic polyangiitis, sinus tachycardia, supraventricular extrasystoles. and ventricular extrasystoles.

Abbreviations: CV, cardiovascular; ECG, electrocardiogram; IMI, imidafenacin; MIRA, mirabegron; PRO, propiverine; SOLI, solifenacin; TEAE, treatment-emergent adverse event; TOL, tolterodine.

or were resolving by the end of the study. No changes in mirabegron and antimuscarinic drug dose were required for the majority of the TEAEs (28 [77.8%] events) and drug treatment was withdrawn in the other cases (eight [22.2%] events).

The scatter plots for the worst post-baseline values in systolic blood pressure (SBP), diastolic blood pressure (DBP), pulse rate, and QTcF are shown in Figure 2. For each parameter, the data are displayed according to the day when each patient experienced the largest increase from baseline. No obvious differences between groups were apparent for any of the parameters. Furthermore, no relationships were noted between the increases observed and the time of the highest increase for each patient and the values obtained were evenly dispersed throughout the observation period. The SBP measurements varied between 92 mm Hg (mirabegron and imidafenacin group) and 186 mm Hg (mirabegron and tolterodine group), the DBP measurements varied between 54 mm Hg (mirabegron and imidafenacin group)

and 112 mm Hg (mirabegron and tolterodine group), the pulse rate measurements varied between 58 and 113 bpm (both mirabegron and propiverine group), and the QTcF measurements varied between 378 ms (mirabegron and tolterodine group) and 495 ms (mirabegron and propiverine group).

4 | DISCUSSION

This is the first long-term study to investigate the CV safety of antimuscarinic add-on therapy in patients with OAB symptoms following initial mirabegron treatment. This study showed that the incidence of CV-related TEAEs was below 9% and similar rates were observed in all treatment groups.

In support of the findings presented herein, previous combination studies have indicated that mirabegron in combination with solifenacin

 TABLE 3
 Listing of drug-related TEAEs of interest related to the CV system

CV history			Hypertension		Hypertension			Hypertension			Hypertension
Relationship to antimuscarinic/action taken		Possible/dose not changed	Possible/dose not changed	Possible/dose not changed	Possible/dose not changed	Possible/dose not changed	Possible/dose not changed	Possible/drug withdrawn		Possible/drug withdrawn	Possible/dose not changed
Relationship to MIRA/action taken		Possible/dose not changed	Possible/dose not changed	Possible/dose not changed	Possible/dose not changed	Possible/dose not changed	Possible/dose not changed	Possible/drug withdrawn		Possible/drug withdrawn	Possible/dose not changed
Outcome/treatment required		Not resolved/none	Resolved/none	Resolved/none	Not resolved/none	Resolved/none	Not resolved/none	Not resolved/none		Not resolved/drug treatment	Not resolved/none
Serious (reason) ^b / severity		No/mild	No/mild	No/mild	No/mild	No/mild	No/mild	No/mild		Yes (OMI)/mild	No/mild
Last dose day		364	364	362	364	361	361	58		49	200
Onset day/ end day		364/UNK	285/364	196/278	364/UNK	115/274	361/UNK	58/UNK		49/UNK	58/UNK
System organ class/preferred term/reported term ^a		Investigations/ECG T wave amplitude decreased/T wave flattening	Vascular disorders/ hypertension/ deterioration of hypertension	Investigations/ECG T wave amplitude decreased/T wave flattening	Cardiac disorders/ ventricular extrasystoles/frequent premature ventricular complex	Investigations/ECG QT prolonged/QT interval prolonged	Investigations/ECG QT prolonged/QTc prolonged	Cardiac disorders/atrial fibrillation/atrial fibrillation		Cardiac disorders/atrial fibrillation/atrial fibrillation with tachycardia	Cardiac disorders/ supraventricular extrasystoles/ supraventricular extrasystoles
Sex		ш	ш	ш	ட	ш	as above	ш		ш	Σ
Age in years	MIRA + SOLI	09	80	53	89	49	Same patient as above	83	MIRA + PRO	99	76

(Continues)

TABLE 3 (Continued)	inued)								
		System organ			Serious			Relationship to	
		class/preferred	Onset day/ Last	Last dose	(reason) ^b /	Outcome/treatment	Relationship to	antimuscarinic/action	
Age in years Sex	ě	term/reported term ^a	end day day		severity	required	MIRA/action taken	taken	CV history

						e		, pc			
CV history	Hypertension		Hypertension	Hypertension		Complete right bundle branch block, PR prolonged, QT interval prolonged		T wave flattening, negative T wave, mild ST depressed, mild QTc prolonged			
Relationship to antimuscarinic/action taken	Possible/dose not changed	Possible/dose not changed	Possible/dose not changed	Possible/drug withdrawn Hypertension	Possible/dose not changed	Possible/drug withdrawn	Possible/dose not changed	Possible/drug withdrawn	Possible/dose not changed		Possible/dose not changed
Relationship to MIRA/action taken	Possible/dose not changed	Possible/dose not changed	Possible/dose not changed	Possible/drug withdrawn	Possible/dose not changed	Possible/drug withdrawn	Possible/dose not changed	Possible/drug withdrawn	Possible/dose not changed		Possible/dose not changed
Outcome/treatment required	Resolved/none	Resolved/none	Not resolved/none	Resolved/none	Resolved/none	Not resolved/none	Resolved/none	Resolved/none	Resolving/none		Resolved/none
Serious (reason) ^b / severity	No/mild	No/mild	No/mild	No/moderate	No/mild	No/mild	No/mild	No/mild	No/moderate		No/mild
Last dose day	84	84	362	105	368	112	369	43	364		364
Onset day/ end day	56/84	56/84	56/UNK	91/106	32/51	105/UNK	194/278	28/43	119/UNK		61/90
System organ class/preferred term/reported term ^a	Investigations/ECG T wave amplitude decreased/T wave flattening	Investigations/ECG T wave inversion/ negative T wave	Cardiac disorders/sinus tachycardia/sinus tachycardia	Cardiac disorders/bundle branch block left/ complete left bundle branch block	Cardiac disorders/ supraventricular extrasystoles/ premature atrial contraction	Investigations/ECG QT prolonged/deterioration of QT prolonged	Investigations/ECG T wave amplitude decreased/T wave flattening	Investigations/ECG T wave amplitude decreased/enhanced T wave flattening	Investigations/ECG QT prolonged/QT interval prolonged		Investigations/ECG QT prolonged/QTc prolonged
Sex	ш	as above	ш	ட	ш	ш	ш	ட	ш		ш
Age in years	63	Same patient as above	52	59	74	74	57	79	09	MIRA + IMI	53

TABLE 3 (Continued)

												(2014inige)
CV history				Hypertension			Hypertension			Hypertension		
Relationship to antimuscarinic/action taken	Probable/dose not changed	Possible/dose not changed	Possible/dose not changed	Possible/dose not changed	Possible/drug withdrawn	Possible/drug withdrawn	Possible/dose not changed	Possible/dose not changed		Possible/dose not changed	Possible/drug withdrawn	
Relationship to MIRA/action taken	Probable/dose not changed	Possible/dose not changed	Probable/dose not changed	Possible/dose not changed	Possible/drug withdrawn	Possible/drug withdrawn	Possible/dose not changed	Possible/dose not changed		Possible/dose not changed	Possible/drug withdrawn	
Outcome/treatment required	Not resolved/none	Resolved/none	Resolved/none	Resolved/drug treatment	Not resolved/none	Resolved/none	Resolved/none	Resolved/none		Not resolved/none	Not resolved/none	
Serious (reason) ^b / severity	No/mild	No/mild	No/mild	No/mild	No/mild	No/mild	No/mild	No/mild		No/mild	No/mild	
Last dose day	357	357	357	364	45	45	266	365		364	32	
Onset day/ end day	49/UNK	49/119	35/357	270/364	28/UNK	28/45	112/287	113/195		364/UNK	21/UNK	
System organ class/preferred term/reported term ^a	Investigations/ECG T wave inversion/ negative T wave	Investigations/ECG QT prolonged/mild QT prolonged	Investigations/ECG QT prolonged/QT interval prolonged	Vascular disorders/ hypertension/ deterioration of hypertension	Cardiac disorders/atrial tachycardia/ectopic atrial tachycardia	Cardiac disorders/ supraventricular extrasystoles/ premature atrial contraction	Investigations/ECG T wave amplitude decreased/T wave flattening	Investigations/ECG QT prolonged/QTcF prolonged		Investigations/ECG T wave amplitude decreased/T wave flattening	Investigations/ECG change/ECG change	
Sex	LL	as above	ш	ш	ш	as above	L	ш		ш	ш	
Age in years	29	Same patient as above	53	52	83	Same patient as above	65	57	MIRA + TOL	61	70	

(Continues)

TABLE 3 (Continued	Continuec	(F)							
		System organ			Serions			Relationship to	
		class/preferred	Onset day/	Last dose (reason) ^b ,	(reason) ^b /	Outcome/treatment	Relationship to	antimuscarinic/action	
Age in years	Sex	term/reported term ^a	end day	day	severity	required	MIRA/action taken	taken	CV history

Age in years	Sex	System organ class/preferred term/reported term ^a	Onset day/ end day	Last dose day	Serious (reason) ^b / severity	Outcome/treatment required	Relationship to MIRA/action taken	Relationship to antimuscarinic/action taken	CV history
83	ш	Cardiac disorders/ ventricular extrasystoles/ premature ventricular complex	28/56	259	No/mild	Resolved/none	Possible/dose not changed	Possible/dose not changed	White coat hypertension
Same patient as above	s above	Cardiac disorders/sinus tachycardia/sinus tachycardia	28/112	259	No/mild	Resolved/none	Possible/dose not changed	Possible/dose not changed	
71	ш	Investigations/ECG T wave amplitude decreased/T wave flattening	105/196	364	No/mild	Resolved/none	Possible/dose not changed	Possible/dose not changed	Hypertension
75	ш	Cardiac disorders/bundle branch block right/ complete right bundle branch block	28/49	114	No/mild	Resolved/none	Not related/dose not changed	Possible/dose not changed	
Same patient as above	s above	Investigations/ECG QT prolonged/mild QT prolonged	28/49	114	No/mild	Resolved/none	Not related/dose not changed	Possible/dose not changed	
81	ш	Cardiac disorders/ supraventricular extrasystoles/frequent premature atrial contraction	49/UNK	49	No/mild	Not resolved/none	Not related/dose not changed	Possible/dose not changed	Hypertension
71	Σ	Cardiac disorders/ ventricular extrasystoles/ premature ventricular complex	28/56	357	No/mild	Resolved/none	Possible/dose not changed	Possible/dose not changed	Hypertension

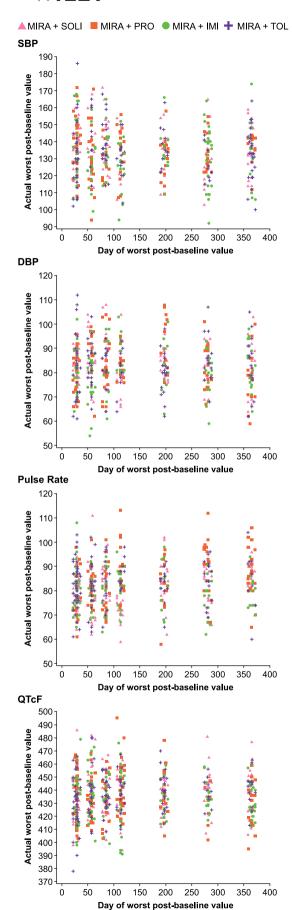
pressure increased, bundle branch block left, bundle branch block right, deep vein thrombosis, ECG change, ECG PR prolongation, ECG QT prolonged, ECG T wave amplitude decreased, ECG T wave inversion, Note: The preferred terms of interest were defined as aortic aneurysm, arrhythmia supraventricular, atrial fibrillation, atrial tachycardia, blood pressure ambulatory decreased, blood pressure decreased, blood ECG U-wave abnormality, hypertension, microscopic polyangiitis, sinus tachycardia, supraventricular extrasystoles, and ventricular extrasystoles.

Abbreviations: CV, cardiovascular; ECG, electrocardiogram; F, female; IMI, imidafenacin; M, male; MIRA, mirabegron; PRO, propiverine; QTcF, QT interval corrected for heart rate by Fridericia's formula; SOLI, solifenacin; TEAE, treatment-emergent adverse event; TOL, tolterodine; UNK, unknown.

^aThe preferred terms and the reported terms have both been included to aid understanding.

^bSerious TEAEs were identified by the investigator. Reason for seriousness: CA, congenital anomaly; D, death; LT, life-threatening; OMI, other medical importance; PSDI, persistent or significant

disability/incapacity; RPH, requires or prolongs hospitalization.



has a favorable CV safety profile and no synergistic CV effects are observed with the combination.^{22,23} In the CV subanalyses from the BESIDE and SYNERGY trials, lower overall incidences of CV-related TEAEs were reported with mirabegron and solifenacin combination therapy (BESIDE: 0%-1.7% [depending on the TEAE of interest], SYN-ERGY: 2.8%) compared with the present study (6.6%). The potential reasons for this disparity include that patients received combination therapy for 52 weeks in MILAI II, whereas patients who participated in the BESIDE and SYNERGY trials only received combination therapy for 12 weeks. In addition, different preferred terms of interest were analyzed in this subanalysis compared with the previous studies involving combination treatment. In support of this latter point, similar incidences of CV TEAEs were observed in the MILAI II, BESIDE, and SYNERGY studies when identical preferred terms were included for analysis. For example, hypertension was reported by between 1.1% and 1.3% of the patients who received mirabegron 50 mg and solifenacin 5 mg in combination in all three studies. In the present study, only one drug-related serious CV-related TEAE of atrial fibrillation was reported. In support of this finding, none of the seven serious CV-related TEAEs reported in the BESIDE study were judged to be related to study treatment.²²

The results of this study add to the wealth of CV-related data that have been amassed during the clinical development of mirabegron. For example, low incidences of CV-related events have been noted in phase III trials with mirabegron monotherapy,²⁵ although small, statistically significant increases in pulse rate of approximately 1 bpm have also been observed. 14,26,27 However, these increases in pulse rate were reversed once treatment was discontinued²⁷ and were considered to be clinically acceptable. An analysis of pooled data from mirabegron clinical trials that included almost 13 400 patients who had received ≥1 dose of mirabegron, comparator antimuscarinics (solifenacin or tolterodine), or placebo found no evidence of increased CV risk for mirabegron or antimuscarinics in comparison with placebo.²⁸ The authors of this analysis concluded that the CV-related TEAEs reported appeared to be related to patients' pre-existing conditions, rather than OAB treatment. Importantly, there was also no evidence that OAB treatment or associated blood pressure increases augmented the risk of CV-related TEAEs. Additional studies have also investigated the effect of mirabegron treatment on ECG parameters. In a thorough QT study involving 352 healthy subjects, mirabegron was associated with QT interval prolongation at the supratherapeutic dose of 200 mg in women.²⁹ However, at the therapeutic daily dose of 50 mg, the use of mirabegron was not associated with significant prolongation of QT/QTc interval in either sex. Despite the above

FIGURE 2 Scatter plot of day of worst cases in vital signs and QTcF at clinical site. Data shown for the safety analysis set (patients who received ≥1 dose of study drug). The data are displayed according to the day when each patient experienced the largest change in each parameter (only increases from baseline were included in the analyses). DBP, diastolic blood pressure; IMI, imidafenacin; MIRA, mirabegron; PRO, propiverine; QTcF, QT interval corrected for heart rate by Fridericia's formula; SBP, systolic blood pressure; SOLI, solifenacin; TOL, tolterodine

findings, Japanese authorities currently recommend caution in administering mirabegron to patients with known CV disease.³⁰

Cardiac risk factors may be included as exclusion criteria for clinical trials or may make patients less likely to be included in these studies following assessment by the investigator. For example, trials of mirabegron typically exclude patients with a prolonged QT interval or those taking drugs that are likely to prolong the QT interval.²⁵ Specific exclusion criteria in the MILAI II study included long QT syndrome, an abnormal ECG, or a QTcF of ≥450 ms.²⁴ One of the limitations of this study is therefore that the incidence of severe CV disease was potentially lower than that in a real-world population. However, an observational, post-marketing study has been conducted to investigate the CV safety of mirabegron in 236 Japanese patients with OAB and concomitant CV disease (mean age: 74.5 years).31 In the study, 3.4% of the patient population were taking other medication that could cause QT prolongation and 7.5% had a baseline QTcF >450 ms. Although mean heart rate increased by 1.24 bpm after 4 weeks of treatment, this change was not considered to be clinically significant. Furthermore, no significant changes in PR, QRS (ventricular depolarization), or QTcF intervals were noted during the investigation.

In addition, the present study examined vital sign and ECG fluctuations throughout the treatment period. Previous clinical studies have examined average vital sign results over time, ³²⁻³⁴ although we believe that this is the first mirabegron study to examine the most variable values obtained for each patient. The results of the present study showed that no relationships were apparent in the increases in vital signs or QTcF values observed and either the timing of the increase or the treatment administered.

In conclusion, the results of this subanalysis demonstrate the favorable CV safety profile of long-term treatment with mirabegron in combination with the antimuscarinics, solifenacin, propiverine, imidafenacin, or tolterodine. Physicians can therefore be reassured about the CV safety of these combination therapies when treating patients with OAB within their clinical practice.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The authors would like to thank the MILAI II study investigators and all the patients who took part in the study. This study was funded by Astellas Pharma Inc. Medical writing support was provided by Michael Parsons, CMPP and Sue Cooper, CMPP of Elevate Scientific Solutions and funded by Astellas Pharma Global Development.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Takao Katoh has received non-financial support and consultancy fees from Astellas Pharma and consultancy fees from Sumitomo Dainippon Pharma, Ono, and Kissei. Yasuhiko Igawa has received non-financial support, medical writing assistance, research grants, and consultancy, lectureship, and advisory board member fees from Astellas Pharma; research grants and consultancy and lectureship fees from Pfizer, Kissei, and Nippon Shinyaku; research grants and lectureship fees from Kyorin, Daiichi Sankyo, Ono, and Taiho; and research grants

from RaQualia. Osamu Yamaguchi has received non-financial support, medical writing assistance, and consultancy, lectureship, and advisory board member fees from Astellas Pharma; grants and consultancy and lectureship fees from Hisamitsu; lectureship fees from Pfizer; consultancy fees from Taiho; and grants from Asahi Kasei. Daisuke Kato, Takuya Hamada, and Kentaro Kuroishi are all employees of Astellas Pharma Inc.

DATA SHARING STATEMENT

Access to anonymized individual participant level data will not be provided for this trial as it meets one or more of the exceptions described on www.clinicalstudydatarequest.com under "Sponsor Specific Details for Astellas."

REFERENCES

- Homma Y, Yamaguchi O, Hayashi K, The members of the Neurogenic Bladder Society Committee. An epidemiological survey of overactive bladder symptoms in Japan. BJU Int. 2005;96:1314-1318.
- Asche CV, Kim J, Kulkarni AS, Chakravarti P, Andersson K-E. Presence of central nervous system, cardiovascular and overall co-morbidity burden in patients with overactive bladder disorder in a real-world setting. BJU Int. 2012;109:572-580.
- Andersson K-E, Sarawate C, Kahler KH, Stanley EL, Kulkarni AS. Cardiovascular morbidity, heart rates and use of antimuscarinics in patients with overactive bladder. BJU Int. 2010;106:268-274.
- Athanasopoulos A, Giannitsas K. An overview of the clinical use of antimuscarinics in the treatment of overactive bladder. Adv Urol. 2011;2011:820816.
- Abrams P, Andersson K-E. Muscarinic receptor antagonists for overactive bladder. BJU Int. 2007;100:987-1006.
- 6. Andersson KE. On the site and mechanism of action of β_3 -adrenoceptor agonists in the bladder. *Int Neurourol J.* 2017;21:6-11.
- Fisher JT, Vincent SG, Gomeza J, Yamada M, Wess J. Loss of vagally mediated bradycardia and bronchoconstriction in mice lacking M₂ or M₃ muscarinic acetylcholine receptors. FASEB J. 2004:18:711-713.
- Brawley L, Shaw AM, MacDonald A. β₁-, β₂- and atypical β-adrenoceptormediated relaxation in rat isolated aorta. Br J Pharmacol. 2000;129: 637-644.
- Andersson K-E, Campeau L, Olshansky B. Cardiac effects of muscarinic receptor antagonists used for voiding dysfunction. Br J Clin Pharmacol. 2011;72:186-196.
- Attinà TM, Oliver JJ, Malatino LS, Webb DJ. Contribution of the M₃ muscarinic receptors to the vasodilator response to acetylcholine in the human forearm vascular bed. Br J Clin Pharmacol. 2008;66:300-303.
- 11. Gordan R, Gwathmey JK, Xie L-H. Autonomic and endocrine control of cardiovascular function. World J Cardiol. 2015;7:204-214.
- Skeberdis VA, Gendvilienė V, Zablockaitė D, et al. β₃-adrenergic receptor activation increases human atrial tissue contractility and stimulates the L-type Ca²⁺ current. *J Clin Invest*. 2008;118:3219-3227.
- Rosa GM, Baccino D, Valbusa A, et al. Cardiovascular effects of antimuscarinic agents and beta3-adrenergic receptor agonist for the treatment of overactive bladder. Expert Opin Drug Saf. 2018;17:487-497.
- 14. Nitti VW, Khullar V, van Kerrebroeck P, et al. Mirabegron for the treatment of overactive bladder: a prespecified pooled efficacy analysis and pooled safety analysis of three randomised, double-blind, placebocontrolled, phase III studies. *Int J Clin Pract*. 2013;67:619-632.
- Nozawa Y, Kato D, Tabuchi H, Kuroishi K. Safety and effectiveness of mirabegron in patients with overactive bladder in a real-world clinical

- setting: a Japanese post-marketing study. Low Urin Tract Symptoms. 2018:10:122-130.
- Benner JS, Nichol MB, Rovner ES, et al. Patient-reported reasons for discontinuing overactive bladder medication. BJU Int. 2010;105:1276-1282.
- Abrams P, Kelleher C, Staskin D, et al. Combination treatment with mirabegron and solifenacin in patients with overactive bladder: efficacy and safety results from a randomised, double-blind, dose-ranging, phase 2 study (Symphony). Eur Urol. 2015;67:577-588.
- Drake MJ, Chapple C, Esen AA, et al. Efficacy and safety of mirabegron add-on therapy to solifenacin in incontinent overactive bladder patients with an inadequate response to initial 4-week solifenacin monotherapy: a randomised double-blind multicentre phase 3B study (BESIDE). Eur Urol. 2016;70:136-145.
- Yamaguchi O, Kakizaki H, Homma Y, et al. Safety and efficacy of mirabegron as 'add-on' therapy in patients with overactive bladder treated with solifenacin: a post-marketing, open-label study in Japan (MILAI study). BJU Int. 2015;116:612-622.
- Herschorn S, Chapple CR, Abrams P, et al. Efficacy and safety of combinations of mirabegron and solifenacin compared with monotherapy and placebo in patients with overactive bladder (SYNERGY study).
 BJU Int. 2017;120:562-575.
- Gratzke C, van Maanen R, Chapple C, et al. Long-term safety and efficacy of mirabegron and solifenacin in combination compared with monotherapy in patients with overactive bladder: a randomised, multicentre phase 3 study (SYNERGY II). Eur Urol. 2018;74:501-509.
- Drake MJ, MacDiarmid S, Chapple CR, et al. Cardiovascular safety in refractory incontinent patients with overactive bladder receiving add-on mirabegron therapy to solifenacin (BESIDE). Int J Clin Pract. 2017;71: e12944
- White WB, Chapple C, Gratzke C, et al. Cardiovascular safety of the β₃-adrenoceptor agonist mirabegron and the antimuscarinic agent solifenacin in the SYNERGY trial. *J Clin Pharmacol*. 2018:58:1084-1091.
- Yamaguchi O, Kakizaki H, Homma Y, et al. Long-term safety and efficacy of antimuscarinic add-on therapy in patients with overactive bladder who had a suboptimal response to mirabegron monotherapy: a multicenter, randomized study in Japan (MILAI II study). *Int J Urol.* 2019;26:342-352.
- 25. Rosa GM, Ferrero S, Nitti VW, Wagg A, Saleem T, Chapple CR. Cardio-vascular safety of β_3 -adrenoceptor agonists for the treatment of patients with overactive bladder syndrome. *Eur Urol.* 2016;69:311-323.
- 26. Chapple CR, Kaplan SA, Mitcheson D, et al. Randomized double-blind, active-controlled phase 3 study to assess 12-month safety and efficacy of mirabegron, a β_3 -adrenoceptor agonist, in overactive bladder. *Eur Urol.* 2013;63:296-305.
- 27. Nitti VW, Chapple CR, Walters C, et al. Safety and tolerability of the $$\beta_3$$ -adrenoceptor agonist mirabegron, for the treatment of overactive

- bladder: results of a prospective pooled analysis of three 12-week randomised phase III trials and of a 1-year randomised phase III trial. *Int J Clin Pract*. 2014;68:972-985.
- White WB, Siddiqui E, Tat T, Franks B, Schermer CR. Cardiovascular safety of mirabegron: analysis of an integrated clinical trial database of patients with overactive bladder syndrome. J Am Soc Hypertens. 2018;12:768-778.e1.
- Malik M, van Gelderen EM, Lee JH, et al. Proarrhythmic safety of repeat doses of mirabegron in healthy subjects: a randomized, double-blind, placebo-, and active-controlled thorough QT study. Clin Pharmacol Ther. 2012;92:696-706.
- Evaluation and Licensing Division, Pharmaceutical and Food Safety Bureau, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, 2011. Report on the deliberation results for Betanis Tablets 25 mg, Betanis Tablets 50 mg. http://www.pmda.go.jp/files/000204240.pdf. Accessed May 30, 2019.
- Katoh T, Kuwamoto K, Kato D, Kuroishi K. Real-world cardiovascular assessment of mirabegron treatment in patients with overactive bladder and concomitant cardiovascular disease: results of a Japanese post-marketing study. Int J Urol. 2016;23:1009-1015.
- 32. Yamaguchi O, Ikeda Y, Ohkawa S. Phase III study to assess long-term (52-week) safety and efficacy of mirabegron, a β_3 -adrenoceptor agonist, in Japanese patients with overactive bladder. Low Urin Tract Symptoms. 2017;9:38-45.
- van Gelderen M, Stölzel M, Meijer J, Kerbusch V, Collins C, Korstanje C. An exploratory study in healthy male subjects of the mechanism of mirabegron-induced cardiovascular effects. J Clin Pharmacol. 2017;57:1534-1544.
- 34. Weber MA, Chapple CR, Gratzke C, et al. A strategy utilizing ambulatory monitoring and home and clinic blood pressure measurements to optimize the safety evaluation of noncardiovascular drugs with potential for hemodynamic effects: a report from the SYNERGY trial. *Blood Press Monit*. 2018:23:153-163.

How to cite this article: Katoh T, Igawa Y, Yamaguchi O, Kato D, Hamada T, Kuroishi K. Cardiovascular safety of antimuscarinic add-on therapy in patients with overactive bladder who had a suboptimal response to mirabegron monotherapy: A post hoc analysis from the Japanese MILAI II study. Lower Urinary Tract Symptoms. 2020;12:68–80. https://doi.org/10.1111/luts.12286