

Safety and Efficacy of CR6261 in an Influenza A H1N1 Healthy Human Challenge Model

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Background. It is imperative to identify new targets for improved vaccines and therapeutics against influenza. One such target is the relatively conserved stalk region of the influenza A hemagglutinin (HA) surface protein.

Methods. We conducted a randomized, double-blind, phase 2, placebo-controlled trial of a monoclonal antibody that targets the HA stalk (CR6261) in a H1N1pdm09 healthy volunteer human challenge model. A single 50 mg/kg dose of CR6261 was infused 24 hours after challenge. The primary efficacy outcome was area under the curve (AUC) of viral RNA detection over time.

Results. Ninety-one healthy volunteers were randomized and underwent influenza challenge; 49 received CR6261 and 42 received placebo. CR6261 had no statistically significant effect on AUC (AUC, 48.56 log [copies/mL] × days, interquartile range [IQR], 202 vs AUC, 25.53 log [copies/mL] × days, IQR, 155; $P = .315$) and no clinically significant effect on influenza disease measures including number of symptoms, duration of symptoms, or inFLUenza Patient-Reported Outcome (FLU-PRO) scores. Preexisting anti-NA antibody titers were most predictive of reduced influenza disease. CR6261 reached a mean peak serum concentration of 1×10^6 ng/mL 15 minutes after infusion and a mean peak of 5.97×10^2 ng/mL in the nasal mucosa 2–3 days after infusion.

Conclusions. The results of this study suggest that a monoclonal anti-stalk approach to prevent or treat influenza infection may be limited in efficacy. Future approaches should consider including and evaluating anti-stalk antibodies as part of a multifaceted strategy rather than as a stand-alone therapeutic.

Clinical Trials Registration. NCT02371668.

Keywords. influenza A; HA stalk; anti-HA stalk antibody; CHIM; challenge study.

Influenza causes significant morbidity and mortality during seasonal epidemics and sporadic pandemics. Approved therapeutics for currently circulating strains include the neuraminidase inhibitors and Baloxavir, a cap-dependent endonuclease inhibitor. Rapid development of resistance has already been observed against this newest antiviral [1]. Adamantanes are no longer recommended due to high levels of resistance in circulating influenza strains, and none of these antivirals have demonstrated significant benefit in those with complicated or severe infection.

Improving vaccines and therapeutics for influenza has become a worldwide priority [2–4]. It is imperative to identify new targets such as the relatively conserved stalk region of the

influenza A hemagglutinin (HA) surface protein. The HA stalk can be divided into group 1 and group 2 to include all of the HA subtypes. This makes the stalk an attractive target to potentially induce broadly protective antibodies against multiple influenza A subtypes. Much effort in making a universal vaccine over the last decade has focused on this promising strategy.

CR6261 is a monoclonal anti-HA stalk antibody that has demonstrated broad neutralization [5, 6] and protection in animals [7]. It stabilizes the prefusion HA structure and prevents pH-dependent fusion of cellular and viral membranes in endosomes [5]. In vitro, CR6261 exhibits neutralizing activity against group 1 influenza viruses, which include H1, H2, H5, H6, H8, and H9. It has also been shown to have therapeutic and prophylactic efficacy against H1N1 and H5N1 in animals [8, 9]. A phase 1 placebo-controlled study with escalating doses of CR6261 found CR6261 to be safe (NCT01406418).

Here, we conducted a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial of CR6261 in the validated National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) H1N1pdm09 healthy volunteer human challenge model to assess the efficacy of an

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intravenous infusion of CR6261 24 hours after exposure to influenza.

METHODS

Challenge Virus

The A/California/04/2009/H1N1 passage 6 challenge virus is a live wild-type virus manufactured as previously described. A 10^7 50% tissue culture infectious dose (TCID₅₀) was determined empirically previously to cause >60% mild to moderate influenza disease (MMID) [10].

Clinical Study

Healthy volunteers aged between 18 and 45 years were enrolled between March 2015 and February 2018. They were screened on a separate protocol (ClinicalTrials.gov NCT01386424) to be nonsmokers, healthy, with a body mass index ≥ 18 and ≤ 35 , no influenza vaccine received within the past influenza season, and a serum hemagglutination inhibition (HAI) antibody titer of $\leq 1:10$ within 60 days prior to enrollment. Participants were admitted to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Clinical Center and administered a single intranasal dose of 10^7 TCID₅₀ of challenge virus using the MAD Nasal TM <https://www.teleflex.com/usa/en/product-areas/anesthesia/atomization/mad-nasal-device/index.html> intranasal mucosal atomization device (Teleflex, Morrisville, NC).

Participants were randomized after challenge 1:1, double-blinded, to receive CR6261 monoclonal antibody or placebo 24 hours after influenza challenge. Participants received 50 mg/kg of CR6261 or placebo (5% dextrose in water) as a single intravenous (IV) infusion. Participants were isolated for a minimum of 10 days with challenge occurring on the second day (day 0) and infusion on the third day (day 1) of hospitalization. Isolation, evaluation, and testing were performed as previously described [10–12]. Participants were discharged after a minimum of 10 days and at least 2 negative nasal washes for influenza. After discharge, participants returned for 2 outpatient visits on day 29 and day 66.

Clinical outcomes were measured by clinician assessments and the inFLUenza Patient-Reported Outcome (FLU-PRO) tool, a standardized and validated questionnaire for evaluating influenza severity [13–15]. Daily nasal washes were collected for the presence of influenza and other respiratory pathogens. Nasal washes from day –1 and day 2 were used to evaluate anti-HA stalk immunoglobulin A (IgA). Minitip flocked swabs (Becton, Dickson and Company, Franklin Lakes, NJ) were used to collect nasal samples 3 times per day then placed in viral transport media for quantitative reverse-transcription polymerase chain reaction (qRT-PCR) assay. CR6261 pharmacokinetics was evaluated on serum samples collected prior to CR6261 infusion; 15 minutes after infusion; 24, 48, 96, and 168

hours after infusion; and on day 29 and day 66 after challenge. Nasal swabs obtained twice daily both before and 9 days after CR6261 infusion were also tested.

The primary objective was to determine if there was a reduction in the area under the curve (AUC) using 1-step real-time qRT-PCR assay. Secondary objectives included comparing clinical illness severity and evaluating safety and pharmacokinetics of CR6261. The sample size was 122 for a power of 90% to be able to detect a decrease in mean AUC of 50% and adjusting for interim analyses at 33% and 67% of the final sample size and allowing for 5% loss from final analysis.

CR6261 and Placebo

CR6261 was manufactured and provided by Janssen Infectious Diseases and Vaccines, Leiden, Netherlands. It is a human IgG1 monoclonal antibody produced in PER.C6 cells. It is directed at a conserved region of the HA stem. It was supplied as a sterile lyophilized cake (400 mg/vial) and reconstituted in 250 mL of 5% dextrose in water. Placebo was 5% dextrose in water. Infusions were administered over a 2-hour period. Two lots of CR6261 were used.

Virologic Assays

A multiplex test of 21 respiratory pathogens was performed daily from nasal washes using the FilmArray RespiratoryPanel (BioFire Diagnostics, Salt Lake City, UT) [16]. Quantitation of influenza virus was performed using a previously validated qRT-PCR assay for the influenza A virus matrix 1 gene [17]. An external standard was used to calculate copy number. Assays were performed in the Janssen laboratory initially and then the NIH laboratory due to the closure of the Janssen laboratory partway through the study. Results are presented by laboratory and combined, but stratified by laboratory.

Pharmacokinetics and Immunogenicity Assays

An MSD-based immunogenicity electrochemiluminescence immunoassay (ECLIA) (Meso Scale Discovery, Inc, Gaithersburg, MD) method was developed, optimized, and validated to measure CR6261 concentration. The validated immunoassay method had a lower limit of quantification (LLOQ) of 500.00 ng/mL with a minimum required dilution of 50. Streptavidin-coated 96-well plates were blocked for 30 minutes, and the standard curve calibrators, quality controls, and test samples were prepared using automated liquid handling. A biotinylated-C4G8 capture antibody and Sulfo-Tag C11A12 were used at a final concentration of 1.0 μ g/mL. After a 2-hour incubation at room temperature, read buffer was added and the electrochemiluminescent signal was read. CR6261 concentrations were determined by interpolation from a standard curve using a 5PL curve fit with 1/y² weighting. The standard curve range was 10.00 to 640.00 ng/mL to define the standard curve

limits of quantification with anchoring points for curve fitting at 5 ng/mL and 1280 ng/mL.

Concentration of CR6261 from nasal swabs was also performed using MSD-ECLIA with a LLOQ of 0.05 µg/mL with a minimum required dilution of 5. The standard curve range was 0.01 to 0.64 µg/ml to define the standard curve limits of quantification with anchoring points for curve fitting at 0.005 µg/mL and 1.28 µg/mL.

Immunologic Assays

Standard methods were used to measure serum HAI and neuraminidase inhibition (NAI) antibody titers against the challenge virus [18–20]. Serum anti-HA stalk antibody and influenza-specific anti-HA stalk IgA were measured from nasal washes using enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay as previously described [21].

Deep Sequencing

Thirty-eight participants with the highest viral copy numbers by qRT-PCR assay in a single sample were chosen for deep sequencing to identify the A388V mutation in the HA stalk identified previously [22, 23]. RNA isolated from each patient's nasal wash sample (10 µL) was amplified and sequenced on an Illumina MiSeq machine as previously described [23]. Generated reads were demultiplexed using Illumina software and were mapped to the HISAT2 (version 2.2.0) indexed A/California/04/2009/H1N1 genome using Hista2 [24–26]. SAMtools mpileup (version 2.1.0) [27] was used to make single-nucleotide polymorphism calls at HA nucleotide 1195 site with minimum base Phred quality score as 25.

STATISTICAL METHODS

The AUCs of the qRT-PCR assay across day 1 through day 8 were compared for the primary analysis. Since the qRT-PCR assay was completed in 2 laboratories, AUC analyses are presented by laboratory and then as a combined analysis stratified by laboratory via a nonparametric covariate adjustment, taking into account laboratory/assay variability. A 2-sided Wilcoxon ranked sum test was used to compare median AUC between CR6261 and placebo recipients. A Fisher exact test was used to compare demographics and clinical endpoints. A Student *t* test was used to compare mean ages. Geometric mean titers with 95% confidence intervals were calculated to compare HAI and NAI titers. The Wilcoxon ranked sum test was used for group comparisons in nonbinary endpoints including FLU-PRO scores, HAI, and NAI titers. Logistic regression and quasi-Poisson regression were used for multivariate analyses with interaction terms between treatment and each titer considered and removed if not deemed to be significantly different than 0. All analysis was 2-sided with $P \leq .05$ considered significant. Statistical analyses were performed using R (R: A Language and Environment for Statistical Computing,

Table 1. Demographics of Study Participants

Demographic	CR6261 (N = 49)	Placebo (N = 42)	<i>P</i> Value
Sex, N (%), female	17 (34.7%)	22 (52.4%)	.096
Age, mean (standard deviation), years	30.2 (5.54)	31.8 (6.34)	.188
Race, N (%), Black/African-American (vs White)	21 (42.9%)	16 (38.1%)	.674
Hispanic (vs not Hispanic), N (%)	5 (10.2%)	3 (7.14%)	.721

Vienna, Austria) and GraphPad Prism 8 (GraphPad, La Jolla, CA).

This study was performed under US Food and Drug Administration investigational new drug numbers 124375 and 110697. It was approved by the NIAID Institutional Review Board and conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Declaration of Helsinki and Good Clinical Practice guidelines.

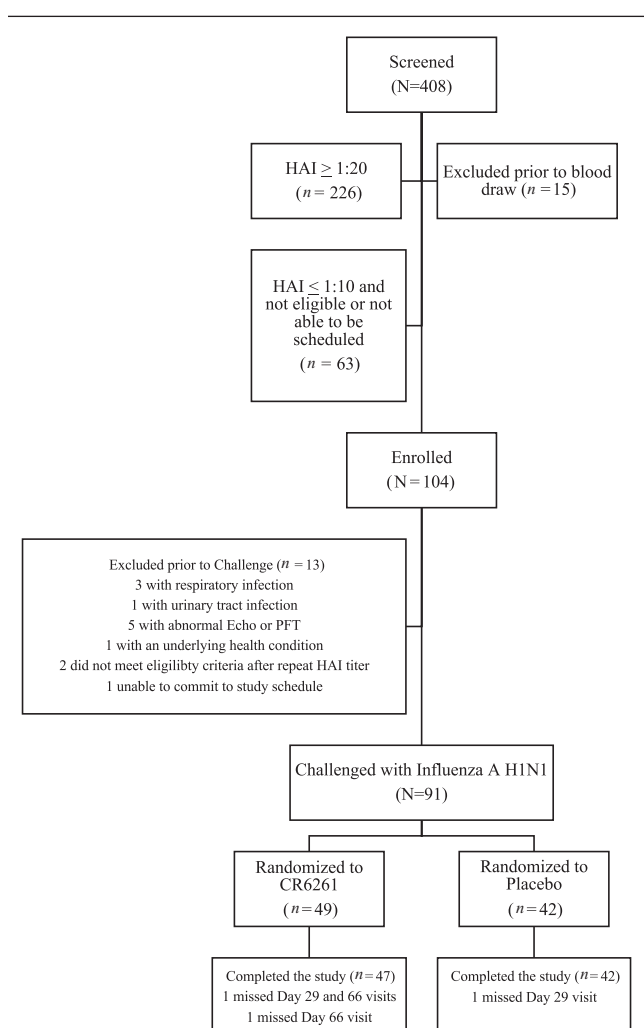


Figure 1. Study enrollment. A total of 408 participants were screened; 104 were enrolled, and 91 were randomized to CR6261 or placebo. A total of 91 participants underwent influenza challenge; 49 (54%) received CR6261, and 42 (46%) received placebo. Abbreviations: HAI, hemagglutination inhibition; PFT, pulmonary function test.

Table 2. Primary Outcome: Median Area Under the Curve Log(RNA Copies per Milliliter) of Influenza A Virus × Days (Interquartile Range)

Laboratories	CR6261 (N = 49)	Placebo (N = 42)	P Value
Janssen laboratory (N = 69)	29.7 (251)	19.8 (178)	.396
National Institutes of Health laboratory (N = 22)	66.5 (144)	32.4 (82.2)	.615
Combined (N = 91)	48.6 (202)	25.5 (155)	.315 ^a

Area under the curve = Log(RNA copies per milliliter) of Influenza A virus × days. Interquartile range = 75th percentile–25th percentile.

^aStratified for laboratory via nonparametric covariate adjustment.

All participants provided written informed consent prior to enrollment.

RESULTS

Efficacy of CR6261

Between March 2015 and February 2018, 104 healthy volunteers were enrolled and 91 participants (Table 1) underwent challenge; 49 participants received treatment with CR6261 and 42 participants received placebo (Figure 1). Eight participants had at least 1 nasal wash that was positive for a noninfluenza respiratory virus during the quarantine. Of these, 5 received CR6261 and 3 received placebo.

There was no statistically significant difference in the primary outcome measure between the CR6261 group and placebo (median AUC, 48.6 log [copies/mL] × days and 25.5 log [copies/mL] × days, respectively; $P = .315$; Table 2). The incidence of shedding was also similar between the 2 groups ($P = .646$). Overall, 76% of individuals experienced symptoms in the CR6261 group, a statistically significant reduction compared with 93% in the placebo group (Table 3). However, this did not result in a significant reduction in incidence of MMID (presence of at least 1 symptom of influenza plus detectable shedding) or confirmed influenza infection (symptoms plus a 4-fold rise in convalescent HAI titer or MMID; Table 3).

The severity of illness was compared between the 2 groups, and no significant difference was observed. Both groups had similar symptom severity by FLU-PRO scores (Table 3). Duration and number of symptoms experienced from influenza were also similar, ranging from 0 to 11 days of symptoms and 0 to 19 individual influenza symptoms. No statistically significant difference in the duration of detectable shedding was noted between groups, with a range of 0 to 9 days of shedding in all participants (Table 3).

Pharmacokinetics of CR6261

All participants in the CR6261 group had measurable levels of CR6261 in the serum and almost all in nasal swabs. A mean of more than 1×10^6 ng/mL of CR6261 was detected in the serum 15 minutes after infusion (Figure 2A, 2B). Levels steadily decreased over time but still maintained mean levels of 3×10^5 ng/mL of CR6261 1 week later. Levels returned to near predosing levels by day 66 (Figure 2A). Nasal swab levels of CR6261 reached a peak mean of 5.97×10^2 ng/mL 2–3 days after CR6261 infusion (Figure 2C, 2D). No anti-CR6261 antibodies were detected in any participant in either group.

Antibody Responses to Influenza and Clinical Correlation

Participants in both groups experienced similar rises in titer after challenge (Figure 3A, 3B). Similar amounts of naturally occurring anti-HA stalk antibody were present in the serum and nasal wash prechallenge, but there was a statistically significant rise in serum anti-HA stalk IgG and nasal IgA 1 day after infusion that corresponded to the pharmacokinetic measurements (Figure 3C, 3D).

The relationships between the participants' baseline immunity, treatment assignment, and clinical outcomes were assessed, and only baseline serum NAI titer was associated with a decreased probability of developing MMID and confirmed influenza in a logistic regression model (Table 4). In addition, baseline NAI titer was predicted to have –19% effect on duration of shedding/50-unit increase in titer using a quasi-Poisson regression model. CR6261 treatment and

Table 3. Secondary Clinical Endpoints

Influenza Severity	CR6261 (N = 49)	Placebo (N = 42)	PValue
Mild to moderate influenza disease, ^a N (%)	26 (53%)	29 (69%)	.137
Confirmed influenza infection, N (%)	36 (73%)	37 (88%)	.114
Any symptoms, N (%)	37 (76%)	39 (93%)	.045 ^b
Number of symptoms, median (95% CI)	3 (2–5)	4 (3–5)	.244
Duration of symptoms, median (95% CI)	5 (3–7)	6 (5–7)	.141
Any shedding, N (%)	33 (67%)	31 (74%)	.646
Duration of shedding, median (95% CI)	2 (1–4)	2.5 (1–5)	.498
inFLUenza Patient-Reported Outcome (FLU-PRO) score, median (95% CI)	0.038 (.013–.084)	0.057 (.041–.084)	.230

Abbreviation: CI, confidence interval.

^aMild to moderate influenza disease is defined as the presence of at least 1 symptom of influenza plus detectable shedding.

^bStatistical significance of $P < .05$.

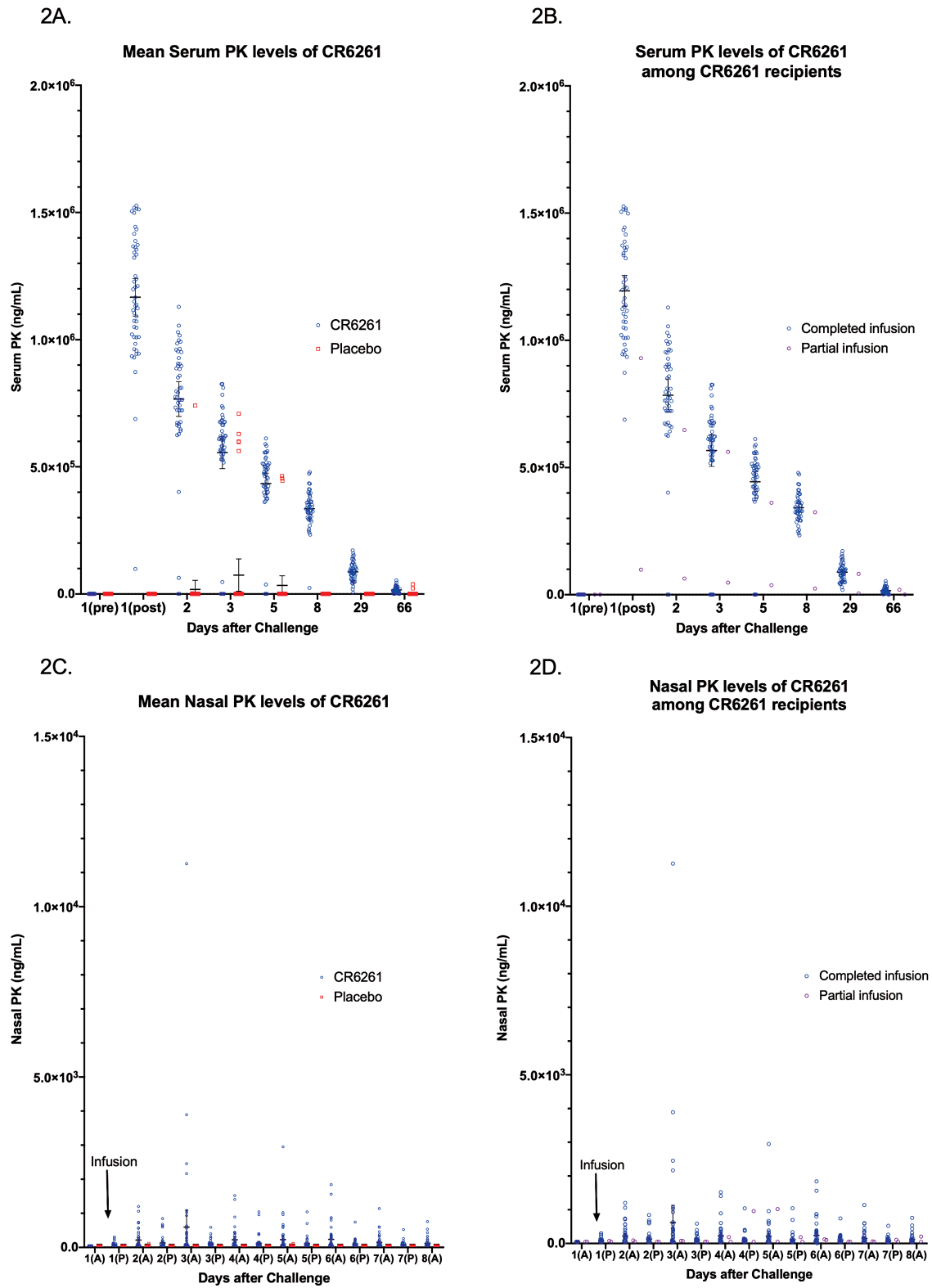


Figure 2. A, Mean serum PK levels of CR6261 after influenza challenge for CR6261 and placebo recipients. Among CR6261 recipients, PK levels reached predosing levels by day 66. B, Serum PK levels of CR6261 after influenza challenge for CR6261 recipients. Two participants developed hives during the infusion and so only received partial infusions (red). C, Nasal PK levels of CR6261 after influenza challenge for CR6261 and placebo recipients. CR6261 levels were identified from nasal swabs though at levels lower than serum. D, Mean nasal PK levels of CR6261 after influenza challenge for CR6261 recipients, of whom 2 developed hives during infusion and only received partial infusions (red). Lines represent means and 95% confidence interval. Abbreviation: PK, pharmacokinetic.

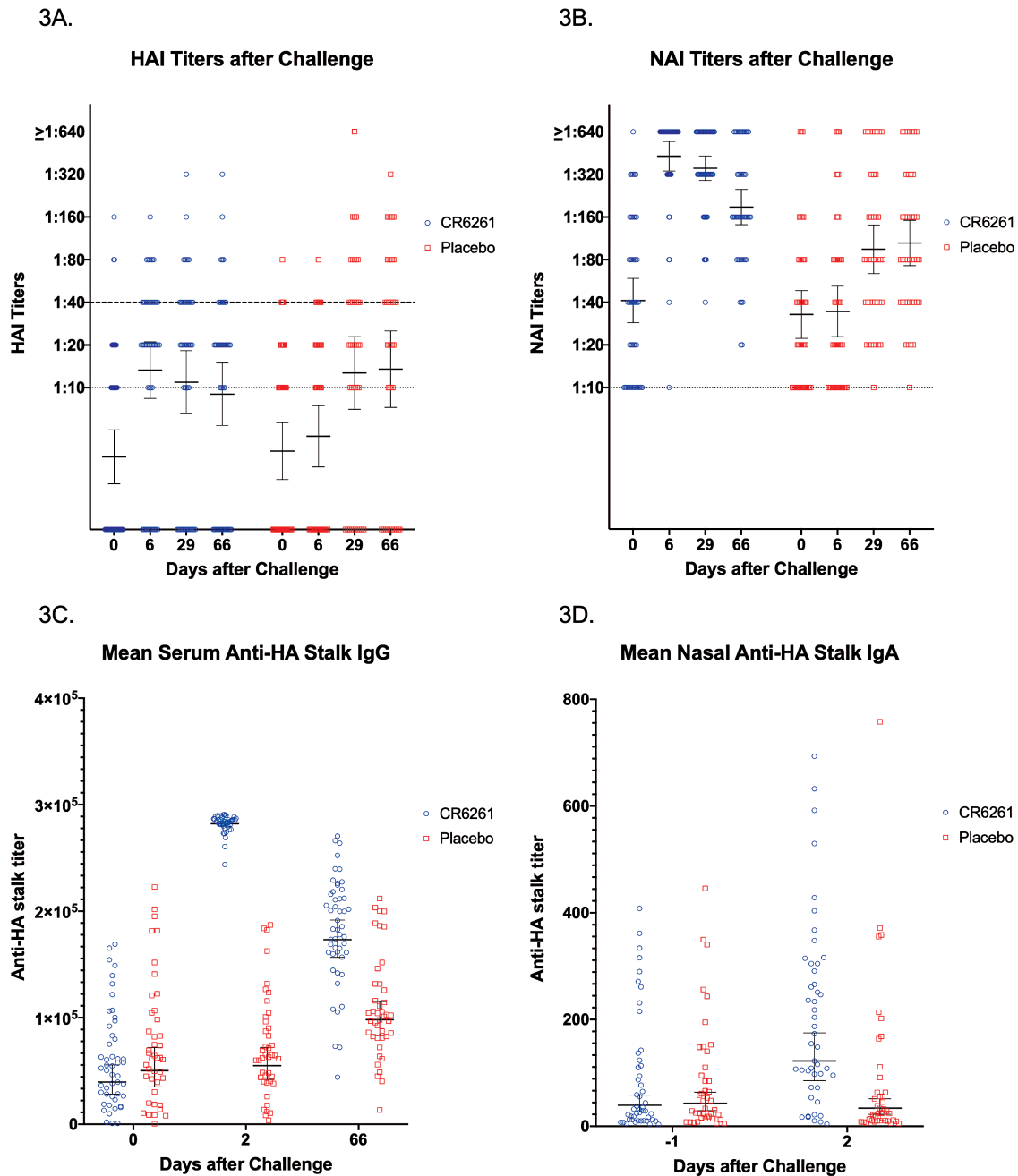


Figure 3. Virus-specific antibody titers after influenza challenge for CR6261 and placebo recipients. *A*, Both treatment groups had a significant rise in HAI titer by day 29 and day 66 after influenza challenge. Dotted line indicates the lowest limit of detection (1:10). Dashed line indicates the level of protection ($\geq 1:40$). *B*, Both treatment groups had a significant rise in NAI titer by day 29 and day 66 after influenza challenge. Dotted line indicates the lowest limit of detection (1:10). *C*, One day after CR6261 infusion (day 2), there was a significant rise in anti-HA stalk IgG that remained elevated compared with placebo even to day 66. *D*, There was a significant rise in anti-HA stalk IgA in nasal samples 1 day after CR6261 infusion (day 2). In all plots, lines represent geometric mean titers and 95% confidence intervals. Abbreviations: HA, hemagglutinin; HAI, hemagglutination inhibition; Ig, immunoglobulin; NAI, neuraminidase inhibition.

baseline HAI titer were not shown to have a statistically significant effect on clinical outcome measures in any of these models (Table 4).

Effect of CR6261 on Intra-host Viral Evolution

Of the 38 participants whose viruses were deep sequenced, 31 sequenced with adequate coverage to be included. The mean

day of shedding sequenced was similar between the placebo and CR6261 groups, 3.58 vs 3.24, respectively ($P = .528$). There was no statistically significant difference in the presence of the A388V mutation from viruses sequenced from the subset of participants, with 12 of 21 in the treatment group and 9 of 12 in the placebo group demonstrating more than 50% of reads with the 388V ($P = .776$).

Table 4. Logistic Regression Models of Mild to Moderate Influenza Disease and Confirmed Influenza Infection

Outcome	Covariate	Odds Ratio ^a (Confidence Interval)	P Value
Mild to moderate influenza disease	Baseline HAI	0.77 (.27–2.20)	.63
	Baseline NAI	0.66 (.49–.89)	.0070 ^b
	Treatment (reference: placebo)	0.52 (.20–1.36)	.18
Confirmed influenza infection	Baseline HAI	1.06 (.32–3.52)	.93
	Baseline NAI	0.82 (.70–.97)	.017 ^b
	Treatment (reference: placebo)	0.33 (.10–1.11)	.07

Abbreviations: HAI, hemagglutination inhibition; NAI, neuraminidase inhibition.

^a Odds ratio defined in terms of 50-unit increase in baseline titers.

^b Statistical significance of $P < .05$.

Safety of CR6261

Overall, CR6261 was well tolerated. Thirty-five adverse events (AEs) were identified in all participants (Supplementary Table 1). One participant who received placebo was hospitalized for alcohol intoxication during follow-up, incurring a serious AE (SAE). No SAEs occurred related to any study intervention.

Two participants developed CR6261 infusion reactions, and both infusions were stopped early. One participant developed hives after 9 minutes that resolved (grade 2 AE), while the other developed a grade 3 AE of generalized hives and pruritis after receiving 99 minutes of CR6261 infusion that resolved after a single IV dose of diphenhydramine. Both incidents were reported to the Data Safety Monitoring Board (DSMB). An unblinded NIAID pharmacist investigated and reported to the DSMB after which that specific lot of CR6261 was removed, forcing a reduction in the study sample size from 122 to 91 due to limited availability of the remaining CR6261. No infusion reactions were noted thereafter.

Other AEs were mild, not clinically significant, and resolved without intervention. These were mostly laboratory findings that occurred similarly between the 2 treatment groups (Supplementary Table 1, Supplementary Figure 1). Other AEs possibly associated with CR6261 were all grade 1 symptoms that occurred infrequently (Supplementary Table 1).

DISCUSSION

The conserved HA stalk has generated much interest as a target for inducing broadly protective antibodies, both to serve as “universal” influenza vaccines and for the development of monoclonal antibodies as treatment [28–30]. Several early clinical trials were undertaken to assess its clinical efficacy [29]. Human trials of monoclonal antibody MHAA4549A found it to be safe and efficacious, particularly in the highest dose group, in an H3N2 challenge study; however, it had no treatment effect when evaluated in hospitalized patients with influenza [31–34].

Another monoclonal antibody, VIS410, was also found to be safe and efficacious in an H1N1 challenge and uncomplicated influenza infection [35–37]. This clinical study evaluated the use of a monoclonal antibody CR6261 as a post-exposure prophylaxis treatment.

Given 24 hours after challenge with the H1N1pdm09 virus, CR6261 did not significantly reduce the number of individuals with viral shedding or MMID and did not reduce the duration or amount of viral shedding. CR6261 infusion did correlate with a reduction in the number of individuals with symptoms, leading to more asymptomatic shedders; however, those who developed symptoms seemed to suffer from similar number, duration, and severity of symptoms as those who received placebo.

Participants were given a high dose of anti-HA stalk antibody, achieving a high serum concentration (Figure 2A). However, a small amount of detectable antibody reached the nasal mucosa (Figure 2C). This reduced level of antibody at the respiratory mucosa may be a key factor limiting its effectiveness, given that influenza is typically a primarily mucosal infection. Viral replication at the respiratory mucosa was not affected by CR6261 as measured by either the AUC or incidence of shedding.

As demonstrated previously [10–12], baseline anti-NA serum immunity was the best predictor of reduced severity of illness in this study, correlating with reduced incidence of MMID, incidence of confirmed influenza infection, and duration of shedding. Those with the highest levels of anti-NA antibody in either the treatment or placebo group suffered from less severe disease, suggesting that anti-NA immunity is important to consider in vaccine development. It also suggests that anti-stalk immunity alone, whether naturally occurring or artificially induced, may not be enough to abrogate or prevent an influenza infection.

Overall, CR6261 infusion was safe. The cause of hives in the 2 CR6261 participants was not identified, but no other participant experienced this reaction, including after a new lot of CR6261 was used. The cause may have been lot-specific or due to problems with dose preparation. There was no association with other AEs. No evidence of antibody-dependent enhancement was observed.

Antigenic drift of the H1N1 stalk under pressure of monoclonal stalk antibodies was observed previously [38]. Recently, we demonstrated that the A388V mutation was seen in individuals challenged with the H1N1pdm09 [23] and that this mutation could interfere with the binding of CR6261 and other anti-stalk antibodies [22]. Naturally occurring stalk antibodies may drive selection for this mutation, but no evidence that the infusion led to selection for A388V was observed in this study.

The biggest limitation of the study was sample size. After removal of the specific lot of CR6261 due to the 2 infusion reactions, the sample size was readjusted to account for the limited remaining CR6261 available. With this reduction in sample size

(from 122), the power was reduced from 90% to 83%, possibly affecting study results. The other major limitation was that the model did not replicate the natural infection route and had a limited population of participants as they must be healthy and young. However, we have demonstrated that this model does induce disease consistent with what is observed in natural infection in our previous studies [10, 12], and the challenge studies have been used to evaluate therapeutics historically [39].

CONCLUSIONS

When administered 24 hours after influenza challenge, CR6261 had no effect on viral replication in healthy volunteers. It had no meaningful efficacy in reducing influenza-induced disease but was safe with no evidence of antibody-dependent enhancement. Efficacy may be limited due to the low penetration of CR6261 at the mucosal level, while levels of naturally occurring anti-NA antibody appeared to be the best predictor of disease severity. Our study suggests that a monoclonal anti-stalk approach to prevent or treat influenza infection may offer limited efficacy and may perform better if used in conjunction with other strategies as opposed to stand-alone therapeutics or vaccines.

Supplementary Data

Supplementary materials are available at *Clinical Infectious Diseases* online. Consisting of data provided by the authors to benefit the reader, the posted materials are not copyedited and are the sole responsibility of the authors, so questions or comments should be addressed to the corresponding author.

Notes

Author contributions. A. H. and M. M. wrote the initial draft. M. M., A. H., K. L., and S. H. performed data analyses. L. A. R., A. C., Y. X., and M. G. performed laboratory testing and analyses. All authors contributed to editing, revising, and finalizing the manuscript.

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Potential conflicts of interest. A. L. and J. S. are employees of Janssen Infectious Diseases and Vaccines. All other authors report no potential conflicts. All authors have submitted the ICMJE Form for Disclosure of Potential Conflicts of Interest. Conflicts that the editors consider relevant to the content of the manuscript have been disclosed.

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