

## As needed ICS/LABA in mild asthma: pro and con Shih-Lung Cheng MD, PhD

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| GINA 2019 Opuale  |   |   |  |   |  |  |  |  |
|---|---|---|--|---|--|--|--|--|
|   |   |   |  | STEP 4  | High dose ICS-<br>LABA   |  |  |  |
|   |   | STEP 2  | STEP 3   | Medium dose<br>ICS-LABA                                   | Refer for<br>phenotypic  |  |  |  |
| PREFERRED<br>CONTROLLER<br>to prevent exacerbations<br>and control symptoms | STEP 1<br>As-needed<br>Low dose<br>ICS-formoterol                         | Daily low dose inhaled corticosteroid (ICS)<br>or as-needed low dose ICS-formoterol <sup>+</sup>  | Low dose<br>ICS-LABA   |   | assessment<br>± add-on therapy,<br>e.g.tiotropium,<br>anti-IgE,<br>anti-IL5/5R,<br>anti-IL4R |  |  |  |
| Other controller<br>options   | Low dose ICS<br>taken whenever  | Leukotriene receptor antagonist (LTRA), or<br>Low dose ICS taken whenever SABA taken <sup>#</sup> | Medium dose ICS,<br>or low dose<br>ICS+LTRA  | High dose ICS,<br>add-on tiotropium,<br>or add-on LTRA ** | Add low dose OCS,<br>but consider side<br>effect   |  |  |  |
| PREFERRED<br>RELIEVER   | SABA is taken<br>As-ne  | eeded low dose ICS-formoterol <sup>+</sup>  | As-needed low dose ICS-formoterol *  |   |  |  |  |  |
| Other reliever<br>options   | As need   | ed short-acting $\beta_2$ -agonist (SABA)   | As needed SABA   |   |  |  |  |  |
|   | <ul><li>+ Off-label: Data only</li><li># Off-label: separate of</li></ul> | with Budesonide-formoterol (Bud-Form)<br>or combination ICS and SABA inhalers                     | <ul> <li>Low-dose ICS-form is the reliever for patients prescribed bud-form or<br/>BDP-form maintenance and reliever therapy.</li> <li>** Consider adding HDM SLIT for sensitized patients with allergic rhinitis and<br/>FEV<sub>1</sub>&gt;70% predicted.</li> </ul> |   |  |  |  |  |

Ref: GINA 2019 pocket guide for asthma management and prevention



# GINA 2019: a fundamental change in asthma management

Treatment of asthma with short-acting bronchodilators alone is no longer recommended for adults and adolescents

considered the most fundamental change in asthma management in 30 years.

GINA no longer recommends treating adults/adolescents with asthma with short-acting bronchodilators alone. Instead, they should receive symptom-driven (in mild asthma) or a daily corticosteroid-containing inhaler, to reduce risk of severe exacerbations. http://bit.ly/310LLzE

Reddel HK, et al. Eur Respir J 2019; 53:1901046

#### **Relationship between mortality rates and SABA or ICS use**

- Over-reliance on SABA at the expense of ICS controller therapy was associated with an increased risk of asthma-related death
- Episodes of high reliever use (>6 inhalations/day on at least 1 day) were predictive of an increased risk of exacerbations<sup>3</sup>



ICS, inhaled corticosteroid; SABA, short-acting  $\beta_2$ -agonist.

1. Suissa S, et al. Am J Respir Crit Care Med 1994;149:604–10; 2. Suissa S, et al. N Engl J Med 2000;343:332–6; 3. Buhl R, et al. Respir Res 2012;13:59.

## 3 or more SABA cannisters/year is an indicator of increased risk of severe attack





Risk of severe attack increase >2-

- 1. Stanford R, et al.. Ann Allergy Asthma Immunol 109 (2012)
- 2. Silver HS. J Asthma. 2010; 47(6): 660-6.
- CE: Canister equivalent

Critical thresholds for risk<sup>1</sup>: Children: 3 SABA canisters in 12 months Adults: 2 SABA canisters in 6 months

#### Asthma control is poor for many patients at all levels of severity

- In the MAGIC study of patients with physician-diagnosed asthma (n=1,286), the incidence of uncontrolled asthma increased with increasing GINA\* Steps 2–5<sup>1</sup>
- Asthma control was poor, even at GINA Step 1<sup>1</sup>



Asthma control according to GINA-defined\* treatment step (n=624)<sup>1</sup>

An epidemiological descriptive study with prospective data collection, and population (n=1,286) split into development (2/3) and validation (1/3).

\*Based on 2006 GINA guidelines<sup>2</sup>.

GCS, glucocorticoids; GINA, Global Initiative for Asthma; ICS, inhaled corticosteroid; IgE, immunoglobulin E; LABA, long-acting  $\beta_2$ -agonist; SABA, short-acting  $\beta_2$ -agonist.

1. Olaguibel JM, et al. Respir Res 2012,13:50; 2. Bateman ED, et al. Eur Respir J 2008;31:143-78.

#### Asthma – definition, diagnosis and pathophysiology

- Asthma is a chronic disease characterized by inflammation and episodes of increased symptoms and exacerbations associated with worsening inflammation<sup>1,2</sup>
- Asthma is diagnosed from lung function and a history of respiratory symptoms such as wheeze, cough, chest tightness and expiration difficulty from airway inflammation and smooth muscle constriction)<sup>3</sup>
- Asthma is categorised by symptoms and their severity, but not the underlying pathophysiology<sup>4</sup>



#### Figure adapted from Reference 4.

1. O'Byrne P, et al Eur Respir J 2017;50. pii:1701103; 2. Global Initiative for Asthma (GINA). Global Strategy for Asthma Management and Prevention, 2017. Available from: http://www.ginasthma.org [Last accessed: September 2017]; 3. Doeing DC, Solway J. J Appl Physiol 2013;114:834–43; 4. Ishmael F, et al. J Am Osteopath Assoc 2011;111:S11–7.

### Inflammation is central to symptoms and exacerbations<sup>1</sup>



Bm = basement membrane; Bv = blood vessel; CRTH2 = chemoattractant receptor-homologous molecule expressed on Th2 cells; EoP = eosinophilopoiesis; Ep = epithelium; IgE = immunoglobulin E; IL = interleukin; ILC2 = type 2 innate lymphoid cells; SM = smooth muscle; T1 = Type 1 cell; T2 = Type 2 cell; T17 = Type 17 cell; TLR = toll-like receptor; TSLP = thymic stromal lymphopoietin.

1. Global Initiative for Asthma. 2019 GINA Report, Global Strategy for Asthma Management and Prevention. http://www.ginasthma.org. Accessed 12 June 2019; 2. Holgate ST, et al. *Nat Rev Dis Primers*. 2015;1:15025; 3. Wenzel SE. *Nat Med*. 2012;18:716-725; 4. Peters SP, et al. *J Allergy Clin Immunol Pract*. 2017;5:S15-S24; 5. Mukherjee M, et al. *World Allergy Organ J*. 2014;7:32.

## SABA has no anti-inflammation effect only an anti-Inflammatory has an antiinflammation effect!



1. Zhao et al. Clin Respir J 2017;11:328-336.

## Clinical Programme Investigating Budesonide/Formoterol as an Anti-inflammatory Reliever in Mild Asthma

SYGMA

**START** Study Analysis: Mild patients benefit from early introduction and long-term ICS (budesonide)<sup>1</sup>

Novel START: As-needed budesonide/formoterol in mild asthma<sup>3</sup> PRACTICAL:<sup>a</sup> An independent study As-needed budesonide/formoterol<sup>4,5</sup>

<sup>a</sup>PRACTICAL is not an AstraZeneca study.

ICS = inhaled corticosteroid; Novel START = Symbicort Turbuhaler Asthma Reliever Therapy; PRACTICAL = PeRsonalised Asthma Combination Therapy: with Inhaled Corticosteroid And fast-onset Long-acting beta agonist; START = Steroid Treatment As Regular Therapy; SYGMA = SYmbicort Given as needed in Mild Asthma.

1. Reddel HK et al. *Lancet.* 2017;389:157-166; 2. O'Byrne PM et al. *Trials.* 2017;18:12. https://doi.org/10.1186/s13063-016-1731-4. Accessed March 4, 2019; 3. Beasley R et al. *Eur Respir J.* 2016;47:981-984; 4. Study ACTRN12616000377437. Australian New Zealand Clinical Trials Registry website. https://www.anzctr.org.au/Trial/Registration/TrialReview.aspx?id=370122. Accessed March 4, 2019; 5. Fingleton J et al. *BMJ Open Resp Res.* 2017;4:e000217. https://bmjopenrespres.bmj.com/content/4/1/e000217. Accessed March 7, 2019.

## SYGMA 1: Study Design<sup>a</sup>

12-month, randomized, double-blind, parallel-group, multicenter study (N=3849) to assess the long-term efficacy and safety of budesonide/formoterol anti-inflammatory reliever in comparison to SABA as-needed or ICS maintenance + SABA as-needed in patients with mild asthma<sup>1,2</sup>

| Terbutali  |      | Terbutaline   |  | Placebo BID  | + terbutaline 0.5 mg | as-needed |      |      |       |  |  |
|--|------|---------------|--|--|----------------------|-----------|------|------|-------|--|--|
| 0.5 mg<br>as-needed  |      |               |  |  |                      |           |      |      |       |  |  |
|  |      |               | Budesonide maintenance 200 µg BID + terbutaline 0.5 mg as-needed |  |                      |           |      |      |       |  |  |
| Period   | E    | Run-in period | Trea   | Treatment period with electronic monitoring of all randomized inhalers |                      |           |      |      |       |  |  |
| Visit  | 1 2  | 2             | 3 4  | 5  | 6                    | 7         | , 8  |      | ,     |  |  |
| Week   | -4 t | o –2          | 0 4  | 16   | 28                   | 3 4       | 0 52 | 2 54 | )<br> |  |  |
| Primary efficacy endpoint: WCAW (superiority vs. terbutaline as-needed)<br>Secondary endpoints: WCAW (non-inferiority vs. budesonide maintenance + terbutaline as-needed), severe asthma exacerbation rate,<br>FEV <sub>1</sub> , ACQ-5, AQLQ, ICS use, use of as-needed inhalations |      |               |  |  |                      |           |      |      |       |  |  |
| Safety:  |      | Adve          | dverse events  |  |                      |           |      |      |       |  |  |

<sup>a</sup>Analysis was based on the full analysis set according to the intention-to-treat principle set forth by the International Conference on Harmonization E9 Working group.<sup>3</sup>

ACQ-5 = Asthma Control Questionnaire-5; AQLQ = Asthma Quality of Life Questionnaire; E = enrolment; FEV<sub>1</sub> = forced expiratory volume in 1 second; FU = follow-up phone contact; ICS = inhaled corticosteroid; SABA = short-acting  $\beta_2$ -agonist; SYGMA = SYmbicort Given as needed in Mild Asthma; WCAW = well-controlled asthma week.

1. O'Byrne PM et al. *Trials.* 2017;18:12. https://doi.org/10.1186/s13063-016-1731-4. Accessed March 4, 2019; 2. O'Byrne PM et al. *N Engl J Med.* 2018;378:1865-1876; 3. International Conference on Harmonization Steering Committee. Statistical principles for clinical trials. ICH harmonized tripartite guideline. February 5, 1998.

## SYGMA 2: Study Design<sup>a</sup>

12-month, randomized, double-blind, parallel-group, multicenter study (N=4215) to assess the long-term efficacy and safety of budesonide/formoterol anti-inflammatory reliever in comparison to ICS maintenance + SABA as-needed in a pragmatic trial of patients with mild asthma<sup>1,2</sup>

| т                  |                 | 1e   | Placebo  | o BID + bud   | lesonide/formoterol 20   | 00/6 µg as-r   | needed   |   |  |
|--------------------|-----------------|--|--|---|--|--|--|---|--|
| 0.5 mg<br>as-neede |                 |  | Budesonide   | maintenan   | ce 200 µg BID + terbut   | taline 0.5 m   | g as-needed  |   |  |
| E                  | Run-in peri     | od   | Treatment period with electronic monitoring of all randomized inhalers |   |  |  |  |   | ollow-up   |
| 1 2                |                 | 3  | Phone contact  | 4   | Phone contact  | 5  | Phone contact  | 6   | FU   |
| -4 to              | -2              | 0  | 8  | 17  | 25   | 34   | 42   | 52  | 54   |
|                    | E<br>2<br>-4 to | Terbutalir<br>0.5 mg<br>as-neede<br>E Run-in peri<br>2<br>-4 to -2 | Terbutaline<br>0.5 mg<br>as-neededERun-in period23-4 to -20            | Terbutaline<br>0.5 mg<br>as-needed       Placebo         E       Run-in period       Budesonide         I       I       I         I | Terbutaline<br>0.5 mg<br>as-needed       Placebo BID + bud         Budesonide maintenand         E       Run-in period         I       Image: Constant of the second o | Terbutaline<br>0.5 mg<br>as-needed       Placebo BID + budesonide/formoterol 20         Budesonide maintenance 200 µg BID + terbut         E       Run-in period         I       I       I       I         I <thi< th="">       I       <thi< t<="" td=""><td>Placebo BID + budesonide/formoterol 200/6 µg as-result         Budesonide maintenance 200 µg BID + terbutaline 0.5 m         E       Run-in period       Treatment period with electronic monitoring of all randomiz         I       2       3       Phone contact       4       Phone contact       5         -4 to -2       0       8       17       25       34</td><td>Placebo BID + budesonide/formoterol 200/6 µg as-needed         Placebo BID + budesonide/formoterol 200/6 µg as-needed         Budesonide maintenance 200 µg BID + terbutaline 0.5 mg as-needed         E       Run-in period       Treatment period with electronic monitoring of all randomized inhalers         I       2       3       Phone contact       4       Phone contact       5       Phone contact         I       2       3       Phone contact       4       Phone contact       5       Phone contact</td><td>Placebo BID + budesonide/formoterol 200/6 µg as-needed   Budesonide maintenance 200 µg BID + terbutaline 0.5 mg as-needed   E Run-in period   Treatment period with electronic monitoring of all randomized inhalers   F   1 2   3   Phone contact   4   Phone contact   5   Phone contact   6   -4 to -2   0 8 17 25 34 42 52</td></thi<></thi<> | Placebo BID + budesonide/formoterol 200/6 µg as-result         Budesonide maintenance 200 µg BID + terbutaline 0.5 m         E       Run-in period       Treatment period with electronic monitoring of all randomiz         I       2       3       Phone contact       4       Phone contact       5         -4 to -2       0       8       17       25       34 | Placebo BID + budesonide/formoterol 200/6 µg as-needed         Placebo BID + budesonide/formoterol 200/6 µg as-needed         Budesonide maintenance 200 µg BID + terbutaline 0.5 mg as-needed         E       Run-in period       Treatment period with electronic monitoring of all randomized inhalers         I       2       3       Phone contact       4       Phone contact       5       Phone contact         I       2       3       Phone contact       4       Phone contact       5       Phone contact | Placebo BID + budesonide/formoterol 200/6 µg as-needed   Budesonide maintenance 200 µg BID + terbutaline 0.5 mg as-needed   E Run-in period   Treatment period with electronic monitoring of all randomized inhalers   F   1 2   3   Phone contact   4   Phone contact   5   Phone contact   6   -4 to -2   0 8 17 25 34 42 52 |

<sup>a</sup>Analysis was based on the full analysis set according to the intention-to-treat principle set forth by the International Conference on Harmonization E9 Working group.<sup>3</sup>

ACQ-5 = Asthma Control Questionnaire-5; AQLQ = Asthma Quality of Life Questionnaire; E = enrolment; ED = emergency department; FEV1 = forced expiratory volume in 1 second;

FU = follow-up phone contact; ICS = inhaled corticosteroid; SABA = short-acting β<sub>2</sub>-agonist; SYGMA = SYmbicort Given as needed in Mild Asthma.

1. O'Byrne PM et al. *Trials.* 2017;18:12. https://doi.org/10.1186/s13063-016-1731-4. Accessed March 4, 2019; 2. Bateman ED et al. Article and supplementary appendix. *N Engl J Med.* 2018;378:1877-1887; 3. International Conference on Harmonization Steering Committee. Statistical principles for clinical trials. ICH harmonized tripartite guideline. February 5, 1998.



## SYGMA 1: Lower Severe Exacerbation Rate



Severe exacerbation rate reduction is in addition to meeting the primary endpoint of increased odds of a WCAW (OR: 1.14; 95% CI: 1.00, 1.30; p=0.046)

Note: Severe asthma exacerbation rates were analysed by a negative binomial regression model with randomized treatment, pre-study treatment, region, and number of severe exacerbations in the 12 months prior to screening (0 or ≥1) as factors.

<sup>a</sup>p-values not controlled for multiplicity.

CI = confidence interval; OR = odds ratio; SYGMA = SYmbicort Given as needed in Mild Asthma; WCAW = well-controlled asthma week.

O'Byrne PM et al. Article and supplementary appendix. N Engl J Med. 2018;378:1865-1876.

## SYGMA 1 & 2: Comparable Risk of Severe Exacerbations With ≥75% Lower Corticosteroid Load



<sup>a</sup>Including open-label glucocorticoid prescribed for moderate or severe exacerbations or for long-term poor asthma control; <sup>b</sup>Including non-blinded ICS use prescribed during severe exacerbations. BID = twice daily; CI = confidence interval; ICS = inhaled corticosteroid; SYGMA = SYmbicort Given as needed in Mild Asthma.

1. O'Byrne PM et al. Article and supplementary appendix. N Engl J Med. 2018;378:1865-1876; 2. Bateman ED et al. Article and supplementary appendix. N Engl J Med. 2018;378:1877-1887. TW-8719-SYM-29/04/2019 For medical reactive use only

# SYGMA 1 Post Hoc Analysis: Severe Exacerbations Within 21 Days of First Day of High Reliever Use (Day 0)



#### Days From First Use (Day 0) of As-Needed Inhalations

<sup>a</sup>Budesonide/formoterol as-needed vs. terbutaline as-needed, p=0.001; <sup>b</sup>Budesonide/formoterol as-needed vs. terbutaline as-needed, not significant; <sup>a</sup>Budesonide/formoterol as-needed vs. terbutaline as-needed, p=0.002; <sup>a</sup>Hazard ratios not calculated owing to low event rates. SABA = short-acting β<sub>2</sub>-agonist; SYGMA = SYmbicort Given as needed in Mild Asthma.

1. O'Byrne P et al. *Eur Respir J.* 2018;52(suppl 62). Abs 1680

## SYGMA 1 & 2 Conclusions

#### In patients with mild asthma, budesonide/formoterol as-needed:

- Increased the odds of a well-controlled asthma week compared to terbutaline asneeded (OR 1.14) but not compared to budesonide maintenance<sup>1</sup>
- Reduced the rate of severe exacerbations by 64% compared to terbutaline asneeded<sup>1</sup>
- Resulted in a comparable rate of severe exacerbations as maintenance budesonide + terbutaline as-needed<sup>1,2</sup>
- Demonstrated efficacy with a ≥75% lower steroid load than the budesonide maintenance arm<sup>1,2</sup>
- Resulted in fewer days with high reliever use
- Reduced the short-term (21-day) risk of exacerbation versus as-needed terbutaline following a day of high reliever use<sup>3</sup>

OR = odds ratio; SYGMA = SYmbicort Given as needed in Mild Asthma.

1. O'Byrne PM et al. N Engl J Med. 2018;378:1865-1876; 2. Bateman ED et al. N Engl J Med. 2018;378:1877-1887; 3. O'Byrne P et al. Eur Respir J. 2018;52(suppl 62). Abs 1680.

## Clinical Programs Investigating Budesonide/Formoterol as an Anti-inflammatory Reliever in Mild Asthma

**START** Study Analysis: Mild patients benefit from early introduction and long-term ICS (budesonide)<sup>1</sup>



Novel START: As-needed budesonide/formoterol in mild asthma<sup>3</sup>

To investigate if an open-label, clinical trial of asneeded budesonide/formoterol in adults previously treated with as-needed SABA only could extend the results from SYGMA to a real world setting PRACTICAL:<sup>a</sup> An independent study As-needed budesonide/formoterol<sup>4,5</sup>

<sup>a</sup>PRACTICAL is not an AstraZeneca study.

ICS = inhaled corticosteroid; Novel START = Novel Symbicort Turbuhaler Asthma Reliever Therapy; PRACTICAL = PeRsonalised Asthma Combination Therapy: with Inhaled Corticosteroid And fast-onset Long-acting beta agonist; SABA = short-acting beta<sub>2</sub>- agonist; START = Steroid Treatment As Regular Therapy; SYGMA = SYmbicort Given as needed in Mild Asthma.

1. Reddel HK et al. *Lancet.* 2017;389:157-166; 2. O'Byrne PM et al. *Trials.* 2017;18:12. https://doi.org/10.1186/s13063-016-1731-4. Accessed March 4, 2019; 3. 2. Beasley R et al. *Eur Respir J.* 2016;47:981-984.; 4. Study ACTRN12616000377437. Australian New Zealand Clinical Trials Registry website. https://www.anzctr.org.au/Trial/Registration/TrialReview.aspx?id=370122. Accessed March 4, 2019; 5. Fingleton J et al. *BMJ Open Resp Res.* 2017;4:e000217. https://bmjopenrespres.bmj.com/content/4/1/e000217. Accessed March 7, 2019.

## Study Design<sup>a</sup>

12-month, pragmatic, randomized, open-label, parallel-group, multicenter study (N=675) to assess the long-term efficacy and safety of budesonide/formoterol anti-inflammatory reliever compared to SABA as-needed or ICS maintenance + SABA as-needed in patients with mild asthma previously treated with SABA alone<sup>1,2</sup>

|             | sole asthn   | Albuterol pMDI 100 μg x 2 inhalations as-needed |      |  |                          |  |                         |   |  |  |  |  |
|-------------|--|---|------|--|--------------------------|--|-------------------------|---|--|--|--|--|
|             |  | ≥2x in<br>previous 4                            |      | Budesonide/formoterol DPI 200/6 $\mu$ g x 1 inhalation as-needed |                          |  |                         |   |  |  |  |  |
|             |  | weeks, but<br>on average<br>≤2x per day         | Bude | sonide DPI 200 μί  | g x 1 inhalation BID + a | lbuterol pMDI 100 μς                             | g x 2 inhalations as-ne | eeded   |  |  |  |  |
|             | SC   | E   |      | Treatment Per  | iod with Electronic M    | Electronic Monitoring of all Randomized Inhalers |                         |   |  |  |  |  |
|             |  |   |      |  |                          |  |                         |   |  |  |  |  |
| Visit       |  |   | 1 2  | 3  | 4                        | 5  | 6                       | 7   |  |  |  |  |
| Week -1     | 2  | -4  | 0 6  | 1  | 22                       | 32   | 42                      | 52  |  |  |  |  |
| Primary eff | ary efficacy endpoint: Annualized rate of  |   |      | zacerbations per p   | patient                  |  |                         |   |  |  |  |  |
| Secondary   | ry endpoints: Number <sup>b</sup> of exacerbations by exacerbation treatment criteria and time to first exacerbation; number of severe exacerbation percentage of patients withdrawn due to treatment failure; <sup>d</sup> ACQ-5; FE <sub>NO</sub> ; on-treatment FEV <sub>1</sub> ; electronically-recorded ICS beta <sub>2</sub> -agonist use; OCS use. |   |      |  |                          |  |                         | acerbations; <sup>c</sup><br>rded ICS use and |  |  |  |  |
| Safety:     |  | Adverse events                                  |      |  |                          |  |                         |   |  |  |  |  |

<sup>a</sup>Analyses were intention-to-treat; <sup>b</sup>Resulting in medical care consultation and/or systemic glucocorticoids and/or high beta<sub>2</sub>-agonist use; <sup>c</sup>Prescription of systemic glucocorticoids for ≥3 days for asthma and/or hospitalization or ED visit due to asthma leading to systemic glucocorticoids; <sup>d</sup>A total of three exacerbations, one severe exacerbation, or unstable asthma resulting in change in randomized treatment.

ACQ-5 = Asthma Control Questionnaire-5; DPI = dry powder inhaler; ED = emergency department;  $FE_{NO}$  = fraction of exhaled nitric oxide;  $FEV_1$  = forced expiratory volume in 1 second; ICS = inhaled corticosteroid; OCS = oral corticosteroid; pMDI = pressurized metered-dose inhaler; SABA = short-acting  $\beta_2$ -agonist; SCE = screening, consent, enrollment.

1. Beasley R et al. Eur Respir J. 2016;47;981-984; 2. Beasley R et al. N Engl J Med. 2019. http://dx.doi.org/10.1056/NEJMoa1901963

#### **Exacerbation Outcomes**



<sup>a</sup>For severe exacerbations, the *relative risk* was estimated as opposed to the *relative rate*, as participants could only have 1 severe exacerbation after which they were withdrawn from the study;<sup>2</sup> <sup>b</sup>Secondary endpoints were not adjusted for multiplicity. RR = relative rate (left graph); RR = relative risk (right graph).

1. Beasley R et al. *N Engl J Med.* 2019. http://dx.doi.org/10.1056/NEJMoa1901963. Accessed 19 May, 2019 ; 2. Beasley R et al. Supplementary appendix. *N Engl J Med.* 2019. https://www.nejm.org/doi/suppl/10.1056/NEJMoa1901963/suppl\_file/nejmoa1901963\_appendix.pdf. Accessed 19 May, 2019 ; 3. Beasley R et al. Supplementary appendix. *N Engl J Med.* 2019. for medical reactive use only. AstraZeneca does not, under any circumstances, promote its products for off-label or unapproved uses

#### **Fraction of Exhaled Nitric Oxide**



Ratio of Geometric Mean FE<sub>NO</sub> at 52 weeks:<sup>a</sup> BUD/FORM as-needed vs. albuterol as-needed, 0.83 (95% CI, 0.75-0.91); BUD/FORM as-needed vs. BUD maintenance, 1.13 (95% CI, 1.02-1.25) <sup>a</sup>Secondary endpoints were not adjusted for multiplicity. BUD = budesonide; FE<sub>NO</sub> = fraction of exhaled nitric oxide; FORM = formoterol; IQR = interquartile range; pb = parts per billion. Beasley R et al. *N Engl J Med*. 2019. http://dx.doi.org/10.1056/NEJMoa1901963. Accessed 19 May, 2019.

## **Novel START: Conclusions**

In an open-label study of patients with mild asthma who were previously treated with SABA asneeded, treatment with budesonide/formoterol as-needed resulted in the following:

- Compared to albuterol as-needed:
  - Reduced rate of any exacerbation by 51%
  - Reduced rate of severe exacerbations by 60%
- Compared to maintenance budesonide:
  - Comparable rate of any exacerbation
  - Reduced rate of severe exacerbations by 56% at a 52% lower steroid load
  - FeNO reduction is equal (have the same anti-inflammatory effects)

SABA = short-acting  $\beta_2$ -agonist.

Beasley R et al. N Engl J Med. 2019. http://dx.doi.org/10.1056/NEJMoa1901963

#### Clinical Studies Investigating Budesonide/Formoterol as an Anti-inflammatory Reliever Offer a Breadth of Data in Mild Asthma

**START Study Analysis**: Patients with mild asthma benefit from early introduction and long-term ICS (budesonide)<sup>1</sup>



**SYGMA 1 and 2** were 52-week, Phase III, multicenter, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled studies that evaluated as-needed budesonide/formoterol dry powder inhaler as an anti-inflammatory reliever in patients with mild asthma<sup>2</sup>

Novel START: Pragmatic, real-world study As-needed budesonide/formoterol<sup>3</sup>

Investigate if an open-label, clinical trial of as-needed budesonide/formoterol in adults previously treated with as-needed SABA only could extend the results from SYGMA to a real world setting

#### **PRACTICAL:**<sup>a</sup>

Independent, pragmatic, real-world study As-needed budesonide/formoterol<sup>4</sup>

Open-label trial that investigated if as-needed budesonide/formoterol in adults with mild to moderate asthma previously treated with as-needed SABA only or ICS with SABA as-needed could extend to a real world setting

<sup>a</sup>PRACTICAL was an independent study funded by the Health Research Council of New Zealand.

ICS = inhaled corticosteroid; Novel START = Novel Symbicort Turbuhaler Asthma Reliever Therapy; PRACTICAL = PeRsonalised Asthma Combination Therapy: with Inhaled Corticosteroid And fast-onset Long-acting beta agonist; SABA = short-acting  $\beta_2$ -agonist; START = Steroid Treatment As Regular Therapy; SYGMA = SYmbicort Given as needed in Mild Asthma

1. Reddel HK et al. *Lancet.* 2017;389:157-166; 2. O'Byrne PM, et al. *Trials.* 2017;18:12. https://doi.org/10.1186/s13063-016-1731-4. Accessed August 26, 2019.; 3. Beasley R et al. *Eur Respir J.* 2016;47:981-984.; 4. Hardy J, et al. *Lancet.* 2019. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(19)31948-8. Accessed August 26, 2019.

#### A Pragmatic, Real-World Study Design<sup>1,2</sup>

52-week, pragmatic, randomized, controlled, open-label, parallel-group, multicenter study (N=890) to compare the long-term efficacy and safety of budesonide/formoterol anti-inflammatory reliever therapy compared with maintenance budesonide plus as-needed SABA in patients with mild to moderate asthma previously treated with SABA alone or SABA plus ICS

|               | Screening  |          | Budesonide/formotero      | l DPI 200/6 μg x 1 inhalation as | -needed (n=437)                   |         |
|---------------|------------|----------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------|
|               | Enrollment | Budeso   | nide DPI 200 μg x 1 inhal | ation BID + terbutaline DPI 250  | $\mu$ g x 2 inhalations as-needed | (n=448) |
|               |            |          |                           |                                  |                                   |         |
| Visit<br>Week | 1<br>C     | 2<br>) 4 | 3<br>16                   | 4<br>28                          | 5<br>40                           | 6<br>52 |

Definition of severe exacerbation was based on ATS/ERS criteria:

Worsening asthma resulting in  $\geq 1$  of the following:

Use of systemic corticosteroids for at least 3 days due to asthma or

Hospitalization or ED visit for asthma requiring systemic corticosteroids

| Primary efficacy endpoint <sup>a</sup> : | Annualized severe exacerbation rate   |
|--|---|
| Key secondary endpoints <sup>a</sup> :   | Number of severe exacerbations; time to first severe asthma exacerbation; number of moderate to severe exacerbation rate; |
|  | time to first moderate or severe exacerbation; FeNO (parts per billion); ACQ-5  |
| Safety:                                  | Adverse events and serious adverse events   |

<sup>a</sup>Analyses were intention-to-treat.

ACQ-5 = Asthma Control Questionnaire-5; ATS = American Thoracic Society; DPI = dry powder inhaler; ED = emergency department; ERS = European Respiratory Society; FeNO = fraction of exhaled nitric oxide; ICS = inhaled corticosteroid; SABA = short-acting  $\beta_2$ -agonist.

1. Fingleton J. et al. BMJ Open Resp Res. 2017;4:e000217. https://bmiopenrespres.bmi.com/content/4/1/e000217. Accessed August 26. 2019. 2. Hardy J. et al. Lancet. 2019. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(19)31948-8. Accessed August 26, 2019. TW-9831 SYM 11/09/2019 Medical reactive use only

#### **Budesonide/Formoterol As-Needed Reduced Exacerbation Rates**



Prespecified subgroup analyses did not identify any effect modification for any variable with respect to severe exacerbation

<sup>a</sup>per patient per year; <sup>b</sup>Secondary endpoints were not adjusted for multiplicity.

RR = relative rate.

Hardy J, et al. Lancet. 2019. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(19)31948-8. Accessed August 26, 2019.

## Symptom Control was Similar between Budesonide/Formoterol As-Needed and Budesonide Maintenance plus SABA



ACQ-5 = Asthma Control Questionnaire; MCID = minimal clinically important difference; SABA = short-acting  $\beta_2$ -agonist.

<sup>a</sup>The mean of 5 questions about asthma symptoms during the previous week, each scored on a 7 point scale between 0 (no impairment) and 6 (maximum impairment); <sup>b</sup>Secondary endpoints were not adjusted for multiplicity; <sup>c</sup>≥0.4x10<sup>9</sup>/L; <sup>d</sup> ≥0.5 unit change.

1. Hardy J, et al. Lancet. 2019. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(19)31948-8. Accessed August 26, 2019; 2. Hardy J, et al. Supplemental content. Lancet. 2019. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(19)31994-4. Accessed August 26, 2019.

#### No Clinically Relevant Difference in Fraction of Exhaled Nitric Oxide was Observed at Month 12



Ratio of Geometric Mean FeNO Across Time Points<sup>1</sup>: BUD/FORM as-needed vs. BUD maintenance, 1.13 (95% CI, 1.07-1.21), p<0.001<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Secondary endpoints were not adjusted for multiplicity.

BUD = budesonide; FeNO = fraction of exhaled nitric oxide; FORM = formoterol; IQR = interquartile range; ppb = parts per billion.

1. Hardy J, et al. *Lancet.* 2019. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(19)31948-8. Accessed August 26, 2019; 2. Hardy J, et al. Supplemental content. *Lancet.* 2019. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(19)31994-4. Accessed August 26, 2019.

## Anti-Inflammatory Effects of Budesonide/Formoterol As-Needed Confirmed in Steroid Naïve<sup>a</sup> Patients

No Inhaled Corticosteroid

Use at Baseline

**Budesonide/Formoterol As-Needed Budesonide Maintenance Budesonide Maintenance Budesonide/Formoterol As-Needed** 6 6 Logarithm FeNO (ppb) 5 · 5 Δ 4 σ 0 0 σ 0  $\sim$ 0 3 -3 2 2 -Baseline Visit 3 Visit 6 Baseline Visit 3 Visit 6 Baseline Visit 3 Visit 6 Baseline Visit 3 Visit 6 27 24 27 25 27.5 32.5 ppb<sup>b</sup> 24 45 ppb<sup>b</sup> ppb<sup>b</sup> ppb<sup>b</sup> ppb<sup>b</sup> ppb<sup>b</sup> ppb<sup>b</sup> ppb<sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup>steroid naïve at baseline; <sup>b</sup>median FeNO

FeNO = fraction of exhaled nitric oxide; ppb = parts per billion.

Inhaled Corticosteroid

Use at Baseline

Hardy J, et al. Supplemental content. *Lancet*. 2019. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(19)31994-4. Accessed August 26, 2019.

#### Summary – Budesonide/Formoterol As-Needed Reduced Severe Exacerbations with Similar Symptom Control in a More Real-World Setting

In a 52-week, open-label, pragmatic study of patients with mild to moderate asthma previously treated with SABA as-needed ± maintenance ICS, Budesonide/Formoterol As needed:



ACQ-5 = Asthma Control Questionnaire; FeNO = fraction of exhaled nitric oxide; ICS = inhaled corticosteroid; SABA = short-acting  $\beta_2$ -agonist.

Hardy J, et al. Lancet. 2019. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/

## As needed ICS/LABA in mild asthma: Pro

- Decreased SABA use, decreased SABA-related adverse effects
- Decreased A.E. rate, exp. severe exacerbation
- Decreased ICS consumption in asthma patients
- Still have anti-inflammatory effects in airway
- Limitation: step 2 mild asthma patients enrolled in three trials (indirect evidence in step 1)

These findings suggest that titrating the dose of inhaled corticosteroids through as-needed use of a combination inhaler which also delivers a fast-onset LABA is more effective for prevention of severe exacerbations than maintenance inhaled corticosteroids with as-needed SABA in patients with mild to moderate asthma. The timing of inhaled corticosteroid administration is probably a more important determinant of efficacy than the total dose, and a symptom-driven increase in the dose of inhaled corticosteroid in worsening asthma might lead to resolution of an exacerbation before it becomes severe enough for the patient to seek medical review. The co-administration of LABA rather than SABA reliever therapy would also contribute to a reduction in severe exacerbation risk in worsening asthma<sup>17</sup>

Lancet. 2019 Sep 14;394(10202):919-928

## Treatment Outcomes: SMART vs. Conventional Best Practice (N=1538)

|                               | SMART vs. CBP |
|-------------------------------|---------------|
| ER visits or hospitalizations | ↓ 41%         |
| As-needed inhalations         | ↓ 15%         |
| Asthma medication cost        | ↓ 28%         |
| Asthma total cost             | ↓ 23%         |

Sears MR. Eur Respir J. 2008 May;31(5):982-9.

## **SMART for Asthma Exacerbation**

Figure 2. Association of SMART With Exacerbations Requiring Systemic Corticosteroids, Hospitalization, or ED Visits Among Patients Aged 12 Years or Older vs the Same Dose of Inhaled Corticosteroids and LABA Controller Therapy

|  | SMART Grou                   | р                 | Control Grou                 | IP                | Absolute Risk             |                        |                  |                   |              |
|--|------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Source                                 | Total No. of<br>Participants | No. With<br>Event | Total No. of<br>Participants | No. With<br>Event | Difference<br>(95% CI), % | Risk Ratio<br>(95% CI) | Favors<br>SMART  | Favors<br>Control | Weight,<br>% |
| Vogelmeier et al, <sup>23</sup> 2012   | 1067                         | 132               | 1076                         | 167               | -3.1 (-6.1 to -0.2)       | 0.80 (0.64 to 0.99)    | -<br>) + <b></b> |                   | 21.6         |
| Rabe et al, <sup>25</sup> 2006         | 1107                         | 143               | 1138                         | 245               | -8.6 (-11.7 to -5.5)      | 0.60 (0.50 to 0.72)    |                  |                   | 25.2         |
| Atienza et al, <sup>24</sup> 2013      | 1049                         | 170               | 1042                         | 229               | -5.8 (-9.1 to -2.4)       | 0.74 (0.62 to 0.88)    | ) -              |                   | 27.0         |
| Papi et al, <sup>26</sup> 2013         | 852                          | 99                | 849                          | 152               | -6.3 (-9.6 to -2.9)       | 0.65 (0.51 to 0.82)    | ) -              |                   | 18.7         |
| Patel et al, <sup>27</sup> 2013        | 151                          | 28                | 152                          | 50                | -14.4 (-24.1 to -4.6)     | 0.56 (0.38 to 0.84)    |                  |                   | 7.6          |
| Overall (random-<br>effects model)     | 4226                         | 572               | 4257                         | 843               | -6.4 (-10.2 to -2.6)      | 0.68 (0.58 to 0.80)    | • •              |                   | 100.0        |
| Heterogeneity: 1 <sup>2</sup> = 29%, P | =.23                         |                   |                              |                   |                           |                        | 0.2 1            | 0                 |              |
| Test for overall effect: $t_4 = -$     | -6.44, P<.001                |                   |                              |                   |                           |                        | Risk Ratio       | (95% CI)          | 5.0          |

JAMA. 2018 Mar 19. doi: 10.1001/jama.2018.2769

## POOR ASTHMA CONTROL ↑ RISK OF AE

#### Pooled analysis of 5 SMART studies

#### ACQ-5: asthma control questionnaire



Bateman ED et al. JACI 2010

## Share-Decision Making (SDM) Patients would prefer a single inhaler to treat and control their asthma



Ståhl E (2002)

## SDM:

你為何未遵照醫師指示用藥?

• 擔心藥物副作用 97%

As needed ICS/LABA 在mild asthma較符合臨床病患感受 72%

- 不知道用藥的重要性
- 沒有症狀就不用藥

AIRIAP2000

68%

## The goal of asthma management



NAEPP. Expert Panel Report 3. 2007. Taylor DR, et al. Eur Respir J 2008; 32(3):545–554

## As needed ICS/LABA vs. ICS



NAEPP. Expert Panel Report 3. 2007. Taylor DR, et al. Eur Respir J 2008; 32(3):545–554

## **Conclusion:**

## As needed ICS/LABA in mild asthma: Pro

- Decreased SABA use, decreased SABA-related adverse effects
- Decreased A.E. rate, exp. severe exacerbation
- Decreased ICS consumption in asthma patients
- Still have anti-inflammatory effects in airway
- Symptoms, lung function: no MCID, have same effects
- Share-decision making: Patient conception and improve adherence
- Step 2 patients have the benefits, then step 1 patients have more efficacy

# Thanks for Your Attention !