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Use of Expanded Non-genetically Modified Natural Killer Cells (SNK01) with Enhanced Cytotoxicity in Patients with Alzheimer's Disease — Interim Report Of a Phase I trial



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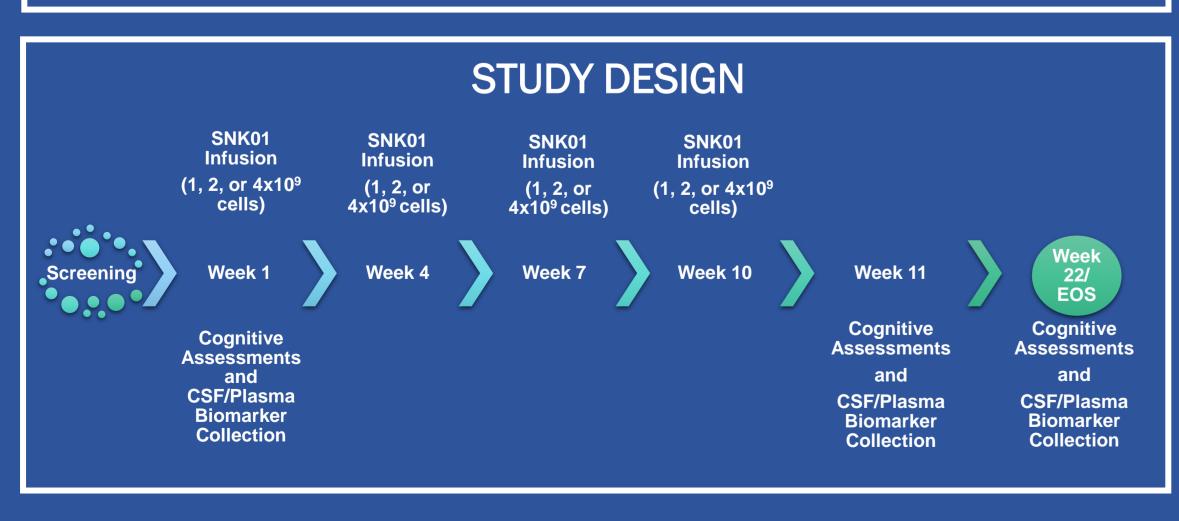
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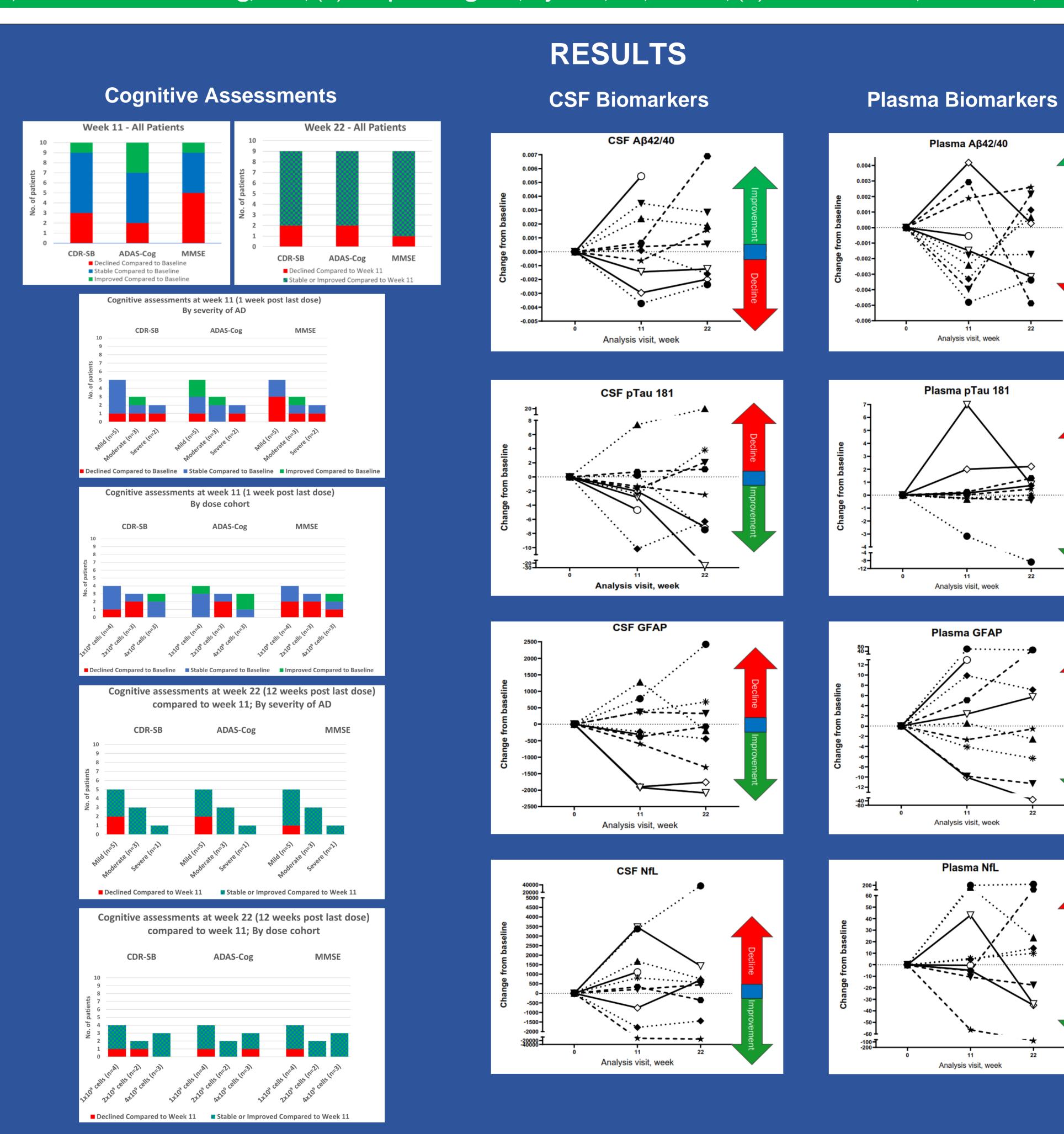
PURPOSE / OBJECTIVES

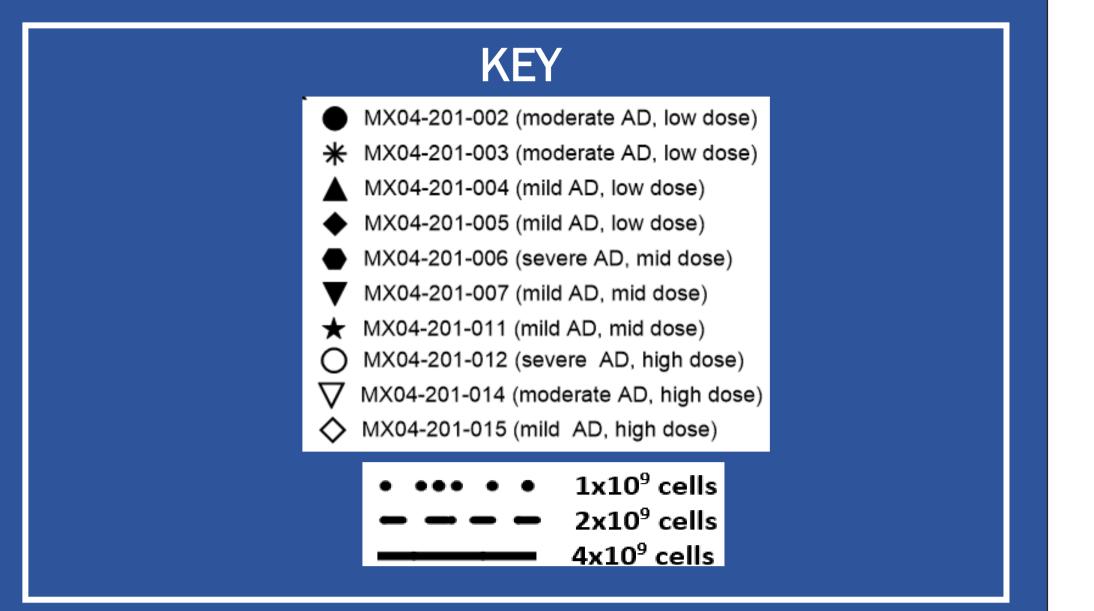
- Misfolded protein deposits are known to elicit a cascade of reactive neuroinflammation and damage in Alzheimer's disease (AD). It is clear that removing these proteins by themselves will not fully address this complex process.
- Natural Killer (NK) cells are an essential part of the innate immune system. NK cells can shape the adaptive response by eliminating activated autologous CD4+ T cells (not resting cells). NK cells' effects may be related to their capability of balancing the ratio of protective microglia to proinflammatory microglia, the secretion of IL-10 leading to the inactivation of inflammatory cells, and their ability to degrade neurotoxic aggregates such as α-synuclein and amyloid-β.
- SNK01 is a first-in-kind, autologous non-genetically modified NK cell product with significantly increased activity and over 90% activating receptor expression that can be consistently produced from any donor.
- We hypothesized that SNK01 is safe, can cross the blood brain barrier (BBB) and can reduce inflammation in AD patients.

MATERIALS & METHODS

- O In this Phase 1 dose escalation study (Study SNK01-MX04: Single Center, Open-Label, Phase 1 Study to Evaluate the Safety, Tolerability and Exploratory Efficacy of SNK01 in Subjects with Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI) and Alzheimer's Disease (AD); NCT04678453), SNK01 was administered intravenously (IV) every three weeks for a total of 4 treatments using a 3+3 dose escalation design (1, 2 & 4x10⁹ cells) in patients with either mild or moderate to advanced disease confirmed by MRI and PET scans. Assessment of severity of AD was based on the baseline CDR-SB score. Participants were on standard of care for AD.
- Cognitive assessments (CDR-SB, ADAS-Cog and MMSE), CSF and plasma biomarker analyses were performed at baseline and at one week and 12 weeks after the final dose (Weeks 11 and 22 respectively).
- MCIDs used to determine stable or improved: CDR-SB +2 (mild, moderate and severe); ADAS-Cog +3 (mild) or +4 (moderate and severe); MMSE -2 (mild) or -3 (moderate and severe)
- Primary endpoint was safety and secondary endpoints included changes in cognitive assessments and biomarker levels.







RESULTS

- 10 AD patients from the first three cohorts in the dose escalation were analyzed. Five patients had mild AD, three patients had moderate AD and two patients had severe AD.
- Median age was 79 (56—85). Median baseline scores for CDR-SB was 9 (4-18), for ADAS-Cog was 27.5 (18-65) and for MMSE was 14 (2-23).
- NK cells were successfully activated and expanded from every patient.
- No treatment-related adverse events have been observed to date.
- Based on the CSF biomarker data, SNK01 given via peripheral IV appears to cross the blood-brain barrier to improve CSF Aβ42/40 and reduce pTau181 levels.
- SNK01 appears to reduce neuroinflammation in a dose-dependent manner.

CONCLUSIONS

- SNK01 was very safe and well tolerated.
- Results suggest that SNK01 may have significant clinical activity in AD.
- This data warrants further investigation in a larger
 Phase II trial with higher doses and a longer
 treatment duration, as no DLTs were observed.

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