

Neurocrine Biosciences Announces Publication of Full KINECT™-HD Phase 3 Study Results of Valbenazine for the Treatment of Chorea Associated with Huntington's Disease in The Lancet Neurology

May 19, 2023

- Statistically Significant Improvement in Chorea Associated with Huntington's Disease Seen as Early as Week 2
- Chorea Improvement Supported by Statistically Significant Clinical Global Impression of Change (CGI-C) Response Status and Patient Global Impression of Change (PGI-C) Response Status Scores at Week 12
- First Phase 3 Study to Implement Huntington's Disease Health Index (HD-HI), a Patient-Reported Outcome Measure, Showed Reduced Disease Burden as Reported by Patients Receiving Valbenazine versus Placebo
- Supplemental New Drug Application (sNDA) Filed, with Prescription Drug User Fee Act (PDUFA) Target Date Set for August 20, 2023

SAN DIEGO, May 19, 2023 /PRNewswire/ -- [Neurocrine Biosciences, Inc.](https://www.neurocrine.com) (Nasdaq: NBIX), today announced that the complete study results from its Phase 3 KINECT™-HD study investigating valbenazine for the treatment of chorea associated with Huntington's disease (HD) has been published in *The Lancet Neurology* [online edition](#) and will appear in the June 2023 print issue. The study met pre-defined primary and secondary endpoints of improvement in chorea severity and global impression of change, demonstrating a reduction in chorea symptoms associated with HD and improvement of overall chorea severity as noticed by clinicians and patients, with improvement seen as early as Week 2 of the initial dose in the 12-week study.

"We're pleased to share the KINECT-HD full study results with the scientific community and its acceptance in an esteemed journal following rigorous peer-review," said Eiry W. Roberts, M.D., Chief Medical Officer at Neurocrine Biosciences. "There remains a need for symptomatic treatments for chorea associated with Huntington's disease, and this manuscript provides an in-depth overview of the KINECT-HD study data and the potential of valbenazine to fulfill this need."

Valbenazine is a novel vesicular monoamine transporter 2 (VMAT2) inhibitor. VMAT2 inhibitors have been shown to reduce chorea associated with HD.

"More than 90 percent of adults with HD experience chorea," said Erin Furr Stimming, M.D., the paper's lead author and professor in the Department of Neurology and Memorial Hermann Chair with McGovern Medical School at UTHealth Houston. "The KINECT-HD study data demonstrated statistically significant improvement in chorea associated with HD as compared with placebo. The safety profile for participants with chorea associated with HD was consistent with the known safety profile of valbenazine. By the end of the 12-week study, 82 percent of valbenazine-treated participants were taking 80 mg."

The KINECT-HD randomized double-blind, placebo-controlled Phase 3 study was conducted with 128 participants at 46 Huntington Study Group (HSG)–credentialed sites in North America.

The primary endpoint was a reduction in severity of chorea, the cardinal motor feature in HD, as measured by change in the Unified Huntington's Disease Rating Scale (UHDRS®) Total Maximal Chorea (TMC) score from baseline to the average score at weeks 10 and 12. The TMC score is part of the motor assessment of the UHDRS that measures chorea.

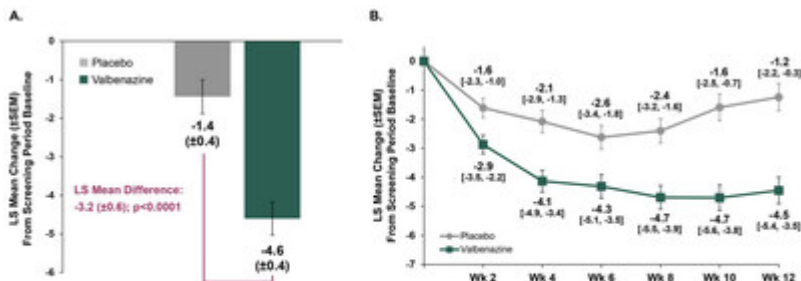


Figure 1A—Mean changes in the UHDRS Total Maximal Chorea score from screening/baseline to week 10/12 (primary endpoint)

Figure 1B—Mean changes in the UHDRS Total Maximal Chorea score from screening/baseline at post-baseline visits (exploratory endpoint)

In the KINECT-HD study, treatment with valbenzazine resulted in a placebo-adjusted mean reduction in the TMC score of 3.2 units ($P < 0.0001$), indicating a highly statistically significant improvement in chorea (Figure 1A). Improvement was seen at Week 2 as participants completed the lowest study dose (40 mg), with consistently greater improvement relative to placebo in all subsequent visits (Weeks 4 to 12), as the dose was adjusted from 40 mg to 60 mg and 80 mg over the course of the 12-week study (Figure 1B).

Secondary endpoints of Clinical Global Impression of Change (CGI-C) response status and Patient Global Impression of Change (PGI-C) response status were also statistically significant and supported the improvements in TMC score that were seen over the 12-week study period. At Week 12, more participants were classified as "much improved" or "very much improved" according to these key secondary endpoints when treated with valbenzazine than placebo (CGI-C: 43 percent versus 13 percent; PGI-C: 53 percent versus 26 percent). No statistical difference between treatment groups was found in either of the two secondary Quality of Life in Neurological Disorders (Neuro-QoL) endpoints.

Treatment-emergent adverse events, including somnolence, fatigue, fall and akathisia, were mild to moderate and consistent with the known safety profile of valbenzazine. No suicidal behavior or worsening of suicidal ideation was observed in the valbenzazine-treated subjects in this study.

The KINECT-HD study marked the first-ever implementation of the Huntington's Disease Health Index (HD-HI) in a Phase 3 trial. HD-HI is a novel, validated, disease-specific, patient-reported outcome measure designed to evaluate clinically meaningful changes in HD function in response to therapeutic interventions. The HD-HI study results of these exploratory endpoints demonstrate improvement in mobility and hand/arm function and decreased burden from abnormal movements, as reported by patients receiving valbenzazine compared to placebo.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) accepted the supplemental New Drug Application for valbenzazine as a treatment for chorea associated with HD in December 2022 and has set a Prescription Drug User Fee Act target action date of August 20, 2023, by which it will respond to the submission. The filing included data from the KINECT-HD Phase 3 study and the ongoing KINECT-HD2 open-label study of valbenzazine in adults with chorea associated with HD.

HD is a hereditary, progressive, and ultimately fatal neurodegenerative disorder in which the loss of certain neurons within the brain causes motor, cognitive and psychiatric symptoms. More than nine out of 10 people with HD will experience chorea, an involuntary movement disorder, at some point in the course of their disease. HD chorea has been shown to significantly impact physical, social and emotional function among those living with HD.

About the KINECT™-HD Study

KINECT-HD is a Phase 3, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled study designed to evaluate the efficacy of valbenzazine as a once-daily treatment to reduce chorea associated with Huntington's disease (HD) and evaluate the safety and tolerability of valbenzazine in patients with HD. The study enrolled 128 adults 18 to 75 years of age who have been diagnosed with manifest HD and who have sufficient chorea symptoms to meet study protocol criteria.

Top-line clinical data from the KINECT-HD study were reported in December 2021 and demonstrated that adults with chorea associated with HD had a significantly greater improvement in the Unified Huntington's Disease Rating Scale (UHDRS®) Total Maximal Chorea (TMC) score when treated with valbenzazine versus placebo (least squares mean difference of -3.2; 95 percent confidence interval, -4.4 to -2.0; $P < 0.0001$). The secondary endpoints included Clinical Global Impression of Change (CGI-C) response status and Patient Global Impression of Change (PGI-C) response status for valbenzazine treatment. The treatment-emergent adverse events in this study were consistent with the known safety profile of valbenzazine. No suicidal behavior or worsening of suicidal ideation were observed in the valbenzazine-treated subjects in this study.

KINECT-HD and KINECT-HD2 clinical study data were included in the supplemental new drug application (sNDA), which was accepted by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in December 2022, with a Prescription Drug User Fee Act (PDUFA) target action date of August 20, 2023, by which it will respond to the submission.

For more information on this KINECT-HD study, please visit www.huntingtonstudygroup.org.

About KINECT™-HD2

KINECT-HD2 is an open-label study to evaluate the long-term safety and tolerability of valbenzazine in patients with chorea associated with Huntington's disease (HD). The 156-week study will enroll up to 150 adults 18 to 75 years of age who have been diagnosed with motor-manifest HD and who have sufficient chorea symptoms to meet study protocol criteria. For more information on the KINECT-HD2 study, please visit www.huntingtonstudygroup.org or ClinicalTrials.gov.

About Huntington's Disease Health Index (HD-HI)

The Huntington's Disease Health Index (HD-HI) is a novel, validated, disease-specific, patient-reported outcome measure designed to evaluate clinically meaningful changes in Huntington's disease (HD) burden in response to therapeutic interventions. HD-HI includes a total-score measurement of patient-reported disease burden and 13 subscales: mobility, involuntary movements, hand and arm function, emotional health, activity participation, social performance, social satisfaction, fatigue, pain, cognition, communication, swallowing function, and sleep and daytime sleepiness. This multifaceted patient-reported outcome measure (PROM) was designed, developed, and validated at the Center for Health and Technology (CHeT), a clinical research organization within the University of Rochester Medical Center.

About Chorea Associated with Huntington's Disease (HD)

Huntington's disease (HD) is a hereditary progressive, ultimately fatal neurodegenerative disorder in which the loss of certain neurons within the brain causes motor, cognitive and psychiatric symptoms. Symptoms generally appear between the ages of 30 and 50 years and worsen over a 10- to 25-year period. Many people with HD experience chorea, an abnormal involuntary movement disorder, characterized by irregular and unpredictable movements. Chorea can affect various body parts and interfere with motor coordination, gait, swallowing, and speech. HD is estimated to affect approximately 41,000 adults in the U.S., with more than 200,000 at risk of inheriting the disease.

About Huntington Study Group / HSG Clinical Research, Inc.

The Huntington Study Group (HSG), a not-for-profit organization founded in 1993 in Rochester, NY, and its wholly owned subsidiary, HSG Clinical Research, Inc., designs and conducts clinical trials through the world's first and largest collaborative network of over 800 experts in Huntington's disease at more than 130 HSG credentialed research sites worldwide. HSG is dedicated to improving the lives of people impacted by Huntington's disease through research, education, and collaboration. For more information, visit www.huntingtonstudygroup.org.

The KINECT-HD study was conducted in cooperation with the HSG and the Clinical Trials Coordination Center (CTCC) at the University of Rochester Medical Center's Center for Health + Technology (CHeT). For more information, visit the CTCC website <https://www.urmc.rochester.edu/health-technology/our-expertise/clinical-trials-coordination.aspx>.

About Neurocrine Biosciences, Inc.

Neurocrine Biosciences is a leading neuroscience-focused, biopharmaceutical company with a simple purpose: to relieve suffering for people with great needs, but few options. We are dedicated to discovering and developing life-changing treatments for patients with under-addressed neurological, neuroendocrine, and neuropsychiatric disorders. The company's diverse portfolio includes FDA-approved treatments for tardive dyskinesia, Parkinson's disease, endometriosis* and uterine fibroids*, as well as a robust pipeline including multiple compounds in mid- to late-phase clinical development across our core therapeutic areas. For three decades, we have applied our unique insight into neuroscience and the interconnections between brain and body systems to treat complex conditions. We relentlessly pursue medicines to ease the burden of debilitating diseases and disorders, because you deserve brave science. For more information, visit neurocrine.com, and follow the company on [LinkedIn](#), [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#). (**in collaboration with AbbVie*)

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Neurocrine Biosciences Forward-Looking Statements

In addition to historical facts, this press release contains forward-looking statements that involve a number of risks and uncertainties. These statements include, but are not limited to, statements regarding the potential benefits to be derived from the Company's products and product candidates. Among the factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those indicated in the forward-looking statements include: risks that valbenazine may not obtain regulatory approval for chorea in Huntington's disease (HD) or that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration or regulatory authorities outside the U.S. may make adverse decisions regarding valbenazine; risks and uncertainties associated with valbenazine development for chorea in Huntington's disease (HD); risks that valbenazine development activities may not be completed or may be delayed for regulatory or other reasons, may not be successful or replicate previous clinical trial results, may fail to demonstrate that valbenazine is safe, tolerable or effective in the chorea in Huntington's disease (HD) population, or may not be predictive of real-world results or of results in subsequent clinical trials; risks that regulatory submissions may not occur or be submitted in a timely manner; risks that valbenazine may have unintended side effects, adverse reactions or incidents of misuse; risks associated with the Company's dependence on third parties for development and manufacturing activities related to valbenazine; risks and uncertainties relating to competitive products and technological changes that may limit demand for valbenazine; and other risks described in the Company's periodic reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including without limitation the Company's quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2023. Neurocrine Biosciences disclaims any obligation to update the statements contained in this press release after the date hereof.



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