

# **The role of pre-therapy quantitative imaging and dosimetry in radioiodine therapy for advanced thyroid cancer**

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Short-title: Imaging dosimetry advance thyroid cancer

## **ABSTRACT**

Radioactive iodine is well established as a successful treatment for differentiated thyroid cancer (DTC), although around 15% of patients have local recurrence or develop distant metastases and may become radioiodine (RAI) refractory. A personalised approach to treatment, based on the radiation absorbed doses delivered and using treatments to enhance radioiodine uptake, has not yet been developed.

**Methods:** We performed a multi-centre clinical trial to investigate the role of Selumetinib which modulates the expression of the sodium iodide symporter, and hence iodine uptake, in the treatment of RAI refractory DTC. The iodine uptake pre- and post-Selumetinib was quantified to assess the effect of Selumetinib. The range of absorbed doses delivered to metastatic disease was calculated from pre- and post-therapy imaging and the predictive accuracy of a theragnostic approach to enable personalised treatment planning investigated. **Results:** Significant inter- and intra-patient variability was observed with respect to the uptake of RAI and the effect of Selumetinib. The absorbed doses delivered to metastatic lesions ranged from <1 Gy to 1170 Gy. A strong positive correlation was found between the absorbed doses predicted from pre-therapy imaging and those measured following therapy ( $r=0.93$ ,  $p < 0.001$ ). **Conclusion:** The variation of outcomes from RAI therapy of DTC may be explained, among other factors, by the range of absorbed doses delivered. The ability to assess the effect of treatments which modulate radioiodine uptake, and to estimate the absorbed doses at therapy introduces the potential for patient stratification using a theragnostic approach. Patient-specific absorbed dose planning could be the key to more successful treatment of advanced DTC.

**Keywords:** Dosimetry, Radioiodine, Theragnostics, Advanced Thyroid Cancer

## INTRODUCTION

Differentiated thyroid cancer (DTC) has been treated with radioactive iodine (RAI) for over 80 years (1). More than 580,000 new DTC cases were estimated world-wide for 2020 (2). Although 84% patients survive for 10 years or more (3), over 15% of patients have local recurrence or develop distant metastases, and 5-10% eventually become RAI refractory (4,5). This carries a poor prognosis with median overall survival from three to five years. Treatment with either lithium carbonate, retinoic acid or histone deacetylases inhibitors has been attempted to re-sensitise disease to radioiodine treatment but no significant clinical benefit has been demonstrated. (3,4)

Initial results have shown that MAPK/ERK pathway inhibitors such as the mitogen activated protein kinase kinase (MEK) inhibitor Selumetinib (ARRY-1428860) could be used to increase sodium iodide symporter expression and restore or enhance uptake of RAI (6-8). Further benefit may be gained from a theragnostic approach (9), which offers the possibility of personalised treatments by combining therapeutics and diagnostics. In the case of RAI for DTC, the widely available imaging isotope  $^{123}\text{I-Nal}$  may be used to guide treatment with  $^{131}\text{I-Nal}$  and to predict the absorbed doses delivered to lesions and to healthy organs (10,11).

Here we report the imaging and dosimetry results from a phase 2 trial (SEL-I-METRY, EudraCT No 2015-002269-47) to re-sensitise RAI refractory DTC to further RAI therapy (12,13). The aims of this aspect of the trial were to establish the quantitative increase in RAI uptake due to Selumetinib and the range of absorbed doses delivered to metastatic disease from fixed levels of administered activity. In addition, we aimed to determine the accuracy with which the absorbed doses delivered

at therapy may be predicted from pre-therapy diagnostic studies and to establish the percentage of lesions responding to treatment.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

### Study Design

SEL-I-METRY (EudraCT No 2015-002269-47), a phase 2 multi-centre trial, investigated the potential of Selumetinib (ARRY-1428860) to re-sensitise RAI refractory DTC to further RAI therapy (12,13). Patient inclusion/exclusion criteria are provided in Supplemental Table 1. Iodine refractory disease was defined as one or more lesion(s) with no measurable iodine uptake or an iodine-avid lesion that progressed within 12 months of RAI. An exploratory endpoint of the SEL-I-METRY trial was to assess the feasibility of quantitative imaging and SPECT/CT-based lesion dosimetry to personalise treatment for patients with advanced DTC.

Participants received 75 mg of Selumetinib orally twice daily for four weeks (Figure 1). Pre- and post-Selumetinib quantitative  $^{123}\text{I}$ -NaI SPECT/CT and whole-body (WB) scans were used to predict the increase in  $^{131}\text{I}$ -NaI uptake for subsequent treatment following the initial four weeks of Selumetinib. Patients with an increase in  $^{123}\text{I}$ -NaI uptake of >30% following Selumetinib in at least one lesion went on to receive RAI therapy with a fixed activity of 5.5 GBq  $^{131}\text{I}$ -NaI (13). Patients continued Selumetinib until the  $^{131}\text{I}$ -NaI therapy (maximum 18 days) during the  $^{123}\text{I}$ -NaI scan review.

For patients eligible for therapy,  $^{123}\text{I}$ -NaI dosimetry, following the four weeks of Selumetinib administration, (hereafter referred to as pre-therapy dosimetry) and post

$^{131}\text{I}$ -Nal therapy lesional dosimetry (hereafter referred to as post-therapy dosimetry) were performed. Pre-therapy dosimetry consisted of up to five SPECT/CT scans at 5, 24, 30, 48, and 72 hours following administration of 370 MBq  $^{123}\text{I}$ -Nal. Following  $^{131}\text{I}$ -Nal therapy, four post-therapy SPECT/CT scans were performed at 24, 48, 72, and 144 hours (Figure 1). Recombinant human thyroid-stimulating hormone (rhTSH) stimulation was administered before  $^{123}\text{I}$ -Nal and  $^{131}\text{I}$ -Nal. Imaging and reconstruction protocol are provided in Supplemental Table 2 and 3.

The study was approved by East Midlands, Leicester South Research Ethics Committee (15/EM/0455), the institutional review boards of participating centres, and the Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency. All patients provided written informed consent prior to trial registration.

### **Quantitative Imaging to Assess Effect of Selumetinib**

Gamma cameras at participating centres were configured for quantitative imaging including the determination of calibration factors for  $^{123}\text{I}$ -Nal and  $^{131}\text{I}$ -Nal, and dead-time correction factors for  $^{131}\text{I}$ -Nal (14). Anatomical lesion volumes were outlined by a trained radiologist on each of the CT components of up to five post-Selumetinib  $^{123}\text{I}$ -Nal SPECT/CT scans. Lesions were excluded from the analysis if the largest diameter was smaller than 10 mm. Oversized volumes-of-interest, encompassing all visible activity from within the lesions were delineated to determine activity retention in all  $^{123}\text{I}$ -Nal and  $^{131}\text{I}$ -Nal SPECT/CT images. This approach was used to minimise problems arising from breathing motion and partial volume effects and, therefore, allows for dosimetry estimates of small lesions.

The effect of Selumetinib was assessed by calculating the absolute and relative differences in  $^{131}\text{I}$ -Nal lesion uptake during therapy predicted from the pre- and post-

Selumetinib  $^{123}\text{I}$ -Nal images. These were converted to predictions of  $^{131}\text{I}$ -Nal uptake during therapy taking into account the differences in physical half-lives and administered activities.

### **Predictive Accuracy of Pre-therapy Dosimetry and Treatment Planning**

Pre-therapy dosimetry was performed to predict lesional absorbed doses during  $^{131}\text{I}$ -Nal therapy, taking into account the differences in physical half-life and injected activities, to investigate the potential of personalised treatment planning in this patient cohort. Dosimetry was performed according to MIRDO formalism (15) using mass-adjusted S-values and only taking into account self-dose (16). Uncertainties of absorbed doses were estimated according to EANM guidance (17).

Predictive accuracy of the pre-therapy dosimetry was assessed by calculating the absolute and relative differences between the absorbed doses predicted pre-therapy and those measured post-therapy.

### **Lesion Response Assessment**

Response following RAI treatment was assessed using RECIST (18) criteria. The analysis was performed on a lesion-by-lesion basis between baseline CT scan and latest follow-up CT scan (maximum 12 months) following RAI treatment. Complete response (CR) was defined as disappearance of lesion. Partial response (PR) was established as a  $\geq 30\%$  decrease in lesion size (longest axis in mm). Progressive disease (PD) was defined as  $\geq 20\%$  increase in lesion size (longest axis in mm). Stable disease corresponded to not observing CR, PR or PD. Overall response was defined as observing either CR or PR while clinical benefit was defined as achieving CR, PR or stable disease.

## Statistical Analysis

The Kruskal-Wallis test was employed to assess if relative change in quantitative uptake measurements of lesions pre- and post-Selumetinib treatment was significantly different between patients. The relationship between relative change in quantitative uptake measurements of lesions pre- and post-Selumetinib treatment and the baseline uptake in lesions was assessed using Spearman's rank correlation coefficient. The relationship between absorbed doses from pre-therapy and post-therapy dosimetry was assessed using Pearson product-moment correlation coefficients. To account for the possibility of multiple, non-independent, lesions within a single patient, all correlation coefficients were calculated on group-mean centred data.

The relationships between post-Selumetinib uptake and absorbed doses, respectively, and baseline data, biomarkers, and Selumetinib treatment parameters were explored. A multi-level modelling approach was employed to account for the nested data structure, incorporating random effects with respect to each patient. Lesional variables (baseline CT lesion size) were explored as fixed effects within the model. Patient level variables (cancer subtype, sum of CT lesion size, thyroglobulin, and total Selumetinib dose) were explored as random effects in the model. All models were adjusted for pre-Selumetinib lesion uptake or pre-therapy predicted absorbed doses, respectively, as a fixed effect. A forward selection approach with Chi-squared testing was used to decide which variables to include in the model. Chi-squared tests were used to test the difference between the nested models and determine whether inclusion of a variable improved model fit.

The association between quantitative absorbed doses from pre- and post-Selumetinib therapy  $^{123}\text{I-Nal}$  and  $^{131}\text{I-Nal}$  imaging with treatment success was investigated using univariate logistic regression modelling. Additionally, receiver operating curve analysis of the data was explored to establish a threshold absorbed dose for overall response rate and clinical benefit rate, using cut-offs at the median, 1/3 and 2/3 quantiles.

All statistical tests were exploratory as the trial was not formally powered to detect statistically significant effects on the dosimetry endpoints. Testing was performed at the two-sided 5% significance level and did not account for multiple testing. Statistical analysis was performed using R version 4.0.2 or later versions and the Kruskal-Wallis test was performed using GraphPad Prism version 9.3.1 for Windows (GraphPad Software, San Diego, California USA, [www.graphpad.com](http://www.graphpad.com)).

## RESULTS

Thirty RAI refractory DTC patients were recruited to SEL-I-METRY, a phase 2 multi-centre trial, of whom 28 received Selumetinib treatment. Nine patients (patient characteristics in [Table 1](#)) demonstrated an increase in  $^{123}\text{I-Nal}$  uptake after 4 weeks of Selumetinib (demonstrated in [Figure 2](#)) of 30% or more and were administered RAI treatment after a median of 12.5 (range 2 to 15) days. During this time, the patients continued to take Selumetinib. Within these nine patients, a total of 39 lesions were identified. Median lesion volume was 2.6 ml (minimum: 0.3 ml, 25<sup>th</sup> percentile: 0.7 ml, 75<sup>th</sup> percentile: 9.6 ml, maximum: 43.1 ml). Eighteen lesions were located in the lungs, fourteen in bone, and seven in soft tissues (four in lymph nodes and three in the thyroid bed/neck area).



## Quantitative Imaging to Assess Effect of Selumetinib

Quantitative single-photon emission computerized tomography (SPECT) imaging before and after treatment with Selumetinib was used to assess the effect of Selumetinib on RAI uptake. Two lesions were excluded from this analysis as they were not included in the range of the pre-Selumetinib scan. Median predicted  $^{131}\text{I}$ -Nal uptake per lesion volume (MBq/cc) at 24 hours in 37 lesions pre- and post-Selumetinib were 0.2 MBq/cc (range 0.001 to 11.5 MBq/cc) and 2.1 MBq (range 0.01 to 175.4 MBq/cc), respectively. Median absolute (predicted uptake post-Selumetinib minus predicted uptake pre-Selumetinib) and relative (predicted uptake post-Selumetinib divided by uptake pre-Selumetinib) change was 1.9 MBq/cc (range -0.4 to 174.9 MBq/cc) and 16.7 (range 0.7 to 819.1), respectively. **Figure 3** shows the relative change in predicted  $^{131}\text{I}$ -Nal uptake. The absolute and relative change in uptake are presented in **Figures 4 and 5**, respectively, with respect to the baseline uptake.

A large inter- and intra-patient variability was observed for the relative change in uptake on a lesional basis. A Kruskal-Wallis test showed that relative increase in uptake was significantly different between patients ( $H(8) = 22.48, p=0.004$ ). There was a weak, positive correlation between the group-mean centred data of the relative uptake change and the baseline uptake pre-Selumetinib (see Supplemental Figure 1),  $r(37) = .011$ ; however, the relationship was not significant ( $p = .946$ ).

A multi-level modelling approach was used to assess the relationships between post-Selumetinib uptake, adjusted for pre-Selumetinib lesion uptake, and baseline data, biomarkers, and Selumetinib treatment parameters. No variables of interest improved the multi-level model fit over and above the null model according to the chi-squared difference tests, with many models demonstrating singular fit, likely caused

by the small sample size being unable to support the complexity of the modelling approach. The intraclass correlation coefficient was calculated as 0.093 for patients, indicating large variability.

### **Predictive Accuracy of Pre-therapy Dosimetry**

To assess the feasibility of applying theragnostic and dosimetry-based treatment planning in this patient cohort, pre- and post-therapy dosimetry was performed to assess the absorbed doses delivered to the lesions and to investigate whether pre-therapy imaging can be used for treatment planning. All 39 lesions were evaluated for dosimetry. Median predicted absorbed doses from pre-therapy and post-therapy dosimetry were 17.2 Gy (range 0.1 to 1292.1 Gy) and 10.4 Gy (range 0.3 to 1169.9 Gy), respectively. The median relative percentage difference between pre-therapy and post-therapy dosimetry was found to be -33% (range -98 to 764%).

Comparison of predicted absorbed doses prior to therapy and measured absorbed doses following RAI therapy are shown in [Figure 6](#), illustrating the wide range of absorbed doses delivered. Pearson product-moment correlation analysis of the group-mean centred data ([Supplemental Figure 2](#)) resulted in a strong positive correlation between the predicted absorbed doses from pre-therapy dosimetry and post-therapy dosimetry,  $r(37)=0.93$ ,  $p < 0.001$ . [Figure 7](#) shows a Bland-Altman plot of the difference between predicted and measured absorbed doses. The estimated bias was 37.0 Gy (SD 71.9 Gy), illustrating that predicted absorbed doses were higher than delivered absorbed doses. [Supplemental Figures 3 and 4](#) show Bland-Altman plots of the 24 hour uptake and the retention half-lives, respectively, comparing the predicted values using pre-therapy dosimetry and those measured post-therapy.

A multi-level modelling approach was used to assess the relationships between post-therapy absorbed doses, adjusted for pre-therapy predicted absorbed doses, and baseline data, biomarkers, and Selumetinib treatment parameters. No variables of interest improved the multi-level model fit over and above the null model according to the chi-squared difference tests, again with many models demonstrating singular fit. The intraclass correlation coefficient was calculated as 0.062 for patients.

### **Lesion Response Analysis**

Follow-up CT scans were collected for seven patients (last follow-up at: three (n=1), six (n=1), nine (n=1), and twelve (n=4) months), with a total of 24 lesions included in analysis. Response was assessed using RECIST(18) criteria but on an individual lesion basis by comparing baseline CT scan and latest follow-up scan for each patient. Overall response was defined as either complete response CR (disappearance of the lesion) or partial response PR ( $\geq 30\%$  decrease in lesion size defined by longest axis in mm). Clinical benefit was taken to be CR, PR or stable disease ( $< 30\%$  decrease or increase in lesion size). Overall response and clinical benefit were observed in 13% (3/24) and 83% (20/24) of lesions, respectively.

Univariate logistic regression modelling was employed to assess the association between quantitative absorbed doses from pre- and post-Selumetinib therapy imaging and treatment success. The logistic models demonstrated poor fit due to small sample size and were highly influenced by outliers in the data, and are therefore not presented. Receiver operating curve analysis of the data was explored although was also limited by the small sample size and a threshold absorbed dose could not be established.

## DISCUSSION

Quantitative  $^{123}\text{I}$ -Nal imaging has shown great potential to assess whether further  $^{131}\text{I}$ -Nal treatment is warranted following attempted re-sensitisation of RAI refractory DTC with Selumetinib. A significant inter- and intra-patient variability was found with respect to the relative change in RAI uptake following treatment with Selumetinib in the present patient cohort. This suggests that patient-specific assessment of uptake changes before proceeding with RAI therapy should be indicated to fulfil the justification principle. Furthermore, RAI concentration within lesions before and after treatment with Selumetinib demonstrated large differences between patients but also with respect to lesions within individual patients. No patient- or lesion-specific biomarkers were identified to be predictive of uptake. Results of studies by Ho et al suggest that a biomarker-directed strategy may be required as redifferentiation using Selumetinib in BRAF<sup>V600E</sup>-mutant patient appeared to be less successful (7,19).

The relative change in uptake was not found to be correlated with the baseline uptake suggesting Selumetinib might be effective as well in non-refractory patients, who still have a degree of iodine uptake in lesions before starting treatment. Ho et al (19) used Selumetinib plus RAI therapy in a phase 3 randomised clinical trial in the adjuvant treatment of high-risk, resected DTC patients but could not show a statistically significant difference in complete remission when compared to RAI therapy alone. Further investigations are warranted in the use of Selumetinib or other related drugs to improve outcome in cohorts of advanced DTC patients at risk of becoming RAI refractory.

The large range of RAI uptakes observed in patients is also reflected in the wide ranges of absorbed doses delivered to lesions from a fixed 5.5 GBq administration to patients with advanced DTC. This is considered standard practice in the UK and in line with national guidelines and was therefore used in the current study (20). The large range agrees with results presented previously (21,22) and could potentially explain the variations in outcome observed between patients. Personalised treatment planning based on the absorbed doses delivered could, therefore, potentially be warranted in in this patient cohort.

The results suggest that personalised treatment planning using pre-therapy  $^{123}\text{I}$ -Nal is feasible. While the absolute accuracy decreases for absorbed doses higher than 50 Gy, pre-therapy dosimetry was fairly correlated with post-treatment dosimetry. The average difference of -33% may be due to differences in imaging schedules, the possibility of a stunning effect of  $^{123}\text{I}$ -Nal or self-stunning of  $^{131}\text{I}$ -Nal (23,24,25), a delayed action of the Selumetinib during the time prior to therapy, alterations of bio-kinetics due to prior administration of rhTSH (26), saturation of receptors or the continued use of Selumetinib prior to RAI therapy. The latter has not yet been studied. To our knowledge, this is the first time that  $^{123}\text{I}$ -Nal pre-therapy dosimetry has been shown to be indicative of the absorbed doses delivered from treatment in metastatic DTC patients. This result could potentially have wide implications for molecular radiotherapy as it will allow for personalised treatment planning in combination with dosimetric methods to assess absorbed doses to organs-at-risk, such as whole-body and bone-marrow dosimetry (27).

The large uncertainties for the absorbed doses, obtained using oversized volumes-of-interest, reflect the volume estimate uncertainties for small lesions and the significantly shorter half-life of  $^{123}\text{I}$ -Nal (28). Uncertainties are potentially smaller with

$^{124}\text{I-NaI}$  pre-therapy dosimetry which was not available for this study. The longer physical half-life of  $^{124}\text{I-NaI}$  compared to  $^{123}\text{I-NaI}$  would allow for more accurate determination of the retention half-lives.  $^{123}\text{I-NaI}$  pre-therapy dosimetry potentially overestimates the retention half-life (Supplemental Figure 3) and, therefore, the absorbed dose delivered.

Limitations of the present analysis include that the trial was not designed to have sufficient power to detect statistically significant effects on the dosimetry endpoints and statistical testing did not account for multiple testing. The relatively small number of patients undergoing both pre- and post-therapy dosimetry is a limiting factor, and the statistical analysis should be considered exploratory in nature. Where feasible, future studies should be sufficiently powered to detect statistically significant effects and to identify key parameters affecting both the response to treatments prior to RAI therapy and the absorbed doses delivered. Additionally, since this type of data has a nested structure of lesions within patients, careful consideration should be given to the design of trials aiming to capture this data. This will aid in avoiding or mitigating potential issues that may arise when using a multi-level modelling approach, such as the issues with model singularity encountered here. Follow-up analysis was limited due to the short follow-up time leading to inconclusive results with respect to the absorbed dose relationship due to poor model fit. Response measurements of bone lesions using RECIST criteria are considered difficult but can be performed for osteolytic lesions, the predominant type in thyroid cancer. Nevertheless, the lack of an absorbed dose relationship potentially reflects that 14 of the 39 lesions were found in bone. Similarly, an absorbed dose threshold could not be identified. The majority of absorbed doses delivered were estimated to be lower than proposed absorbed dose

thresholds for soft tissue (29) and bone metastases (30) which is in line with the low overall response rate observed of 13%.

Absorbed dose response relationships for advanced DTC (30) should be confirmed in multi-centre clinical trials. Together with the results presented here, this would facilitate personalised treatment planning of RAI administrations.

## **CONCLUSION**

Quantitative SPECT/CT imaging has shown a large inter- and intra-patient variability in the effect of Selumetinib in increasing the RAI uptake in lesions in advanced RAI refractory DTC. In addition, a large range of RAI uptake concentration in lesions at baseline is observed. The absorbed doses delivered at therapy in this patient cohort can be estimated from a pre-therapy dosimetry study.

These findings suggest that future studies of redifferentiation therapy should utilise the combination of pre-therapy quantitative imaging, to assess the effect of treatments to enhance RAI uptake, and dosimetry, to plan the activity of RAI administered to patients, to ensure that those patients achieving increased iodine uptake obtain maximum benefit from subsequent therapy.

Our findings also likely have implications for the personalised treatment planning of patients with iodine sensitive DTC.

## **DISCLOSURE**

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## **CONTRIBUTIONS**

JT, CA, JG, RG, FL, IM, YD, KN, SRB, JW and GF designed and performed the study. JT, CA, SY, JG, RG, FL, IM and GF analysed the data. JT, GA, RHP, ABC and SRB performed statistical analysis. JT, GA, JG, IM, ABC, SRB, KN, JW and GF wrote the manuscript. All authors reviewed and approved the final manuscript.

## **KEY POINTS**

**Question:** Can quantitative imaging and SPECT/CT-based lesional dosimetry be used to personalise radioiodine treatment for advanced thyroid cancer which currently has a poor prognosis?

**Pertinent findings:** Quantitative imaging and dosimetry of patients with radioiodine-refractory thyroid cancer was performed as part of the phase 2 SEL-I-METRY trial (EudraCT No 2015-002269-47) which aimed to assess the possibility of re-sensitising patients to further RAI therapy. Pre-therapy imaging has proven to be a powerful tool to assist with the stratification of patients prior to further radioiodine therapy and a strong positive correlation was found between pre- and post-therapy absorbed doses, indicating the suitability of pre-therapy dosimetry for treatment planning.

**Implications for patient care:** Pre-therapy quantitative imaging and dosimetry in radioiodine therapy for advanced thyroid cancer has the potential to inform treatment planning for individual patients and to alter patient management.

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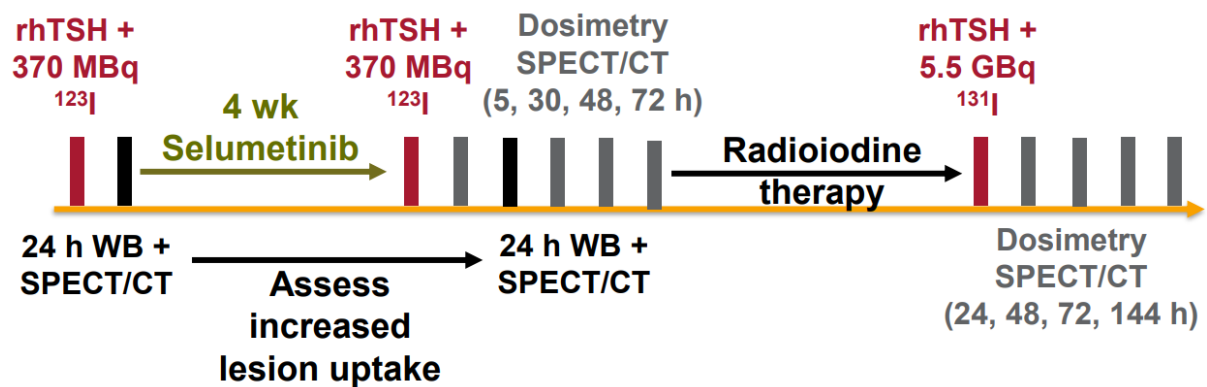
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## TABLES

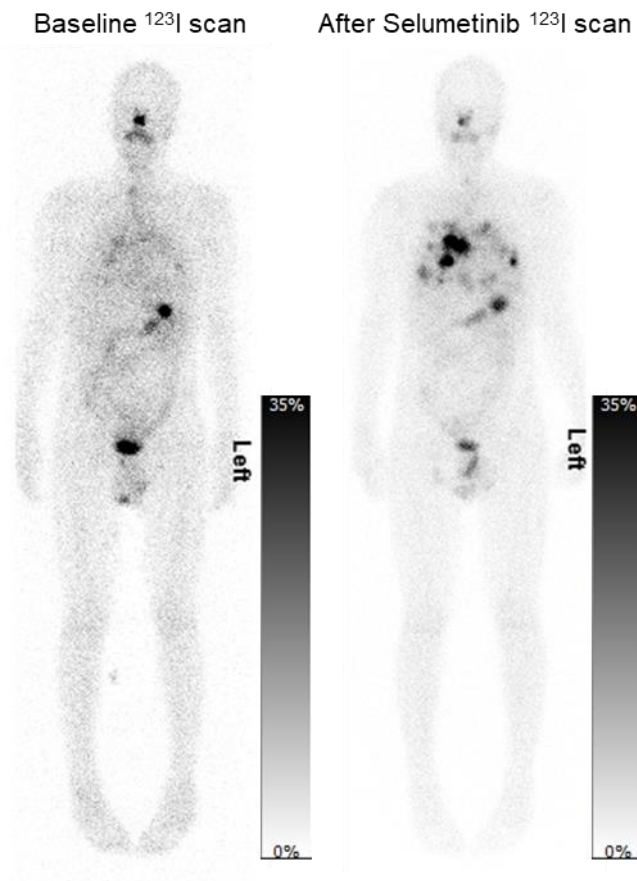
**TABLE 1:** Patient characteristics.

Characteristic	Value
Median age (yr) (range)	48 (45 – 78)
Female N (%)	3 (33%)
Histology subtype – N (%)	
Papillary	2 (22%)
Follicular	7 (78%)
Median cumulated activity of RAI prior to study registration (GBq) (range)	7.6 (3.7 – 14.6)
Median baseline thyroglobulin (ug/L) (range)	742 (36 – 7530)

## FIGURE LEGENDS

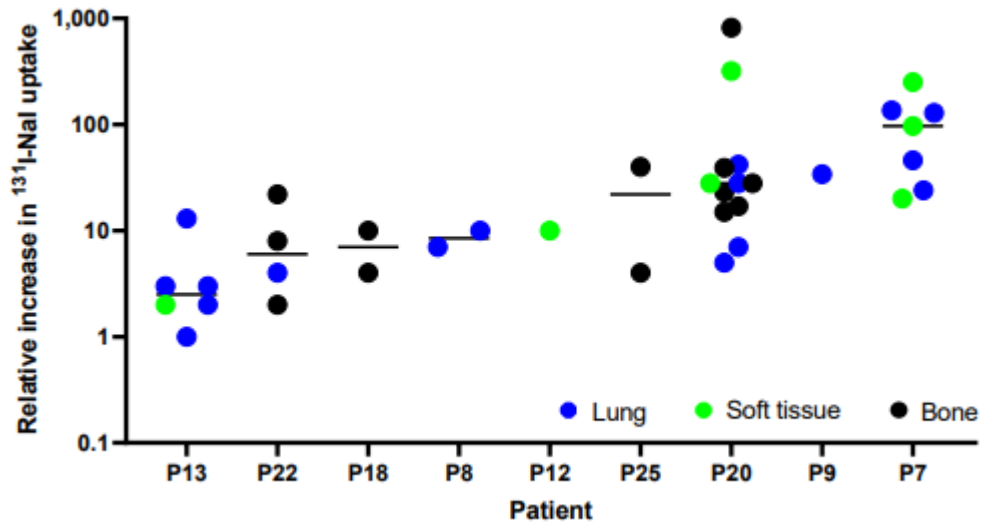


**FIGURE 1:** SEL-I-METRY imaging schedule consisting of 24h WB and SPECT <sup>123</sup>I-Nal scans pre-Selumetinib, a 24h WB and SPECT <sup>123</sup>I-Nal scan post-Selumetinib, up to four additional dosimetry SPECT/CT <sup>123</sup>I-Nal scans post-Selumetinib and up to four dosimetry SPECT/CT scans following treatment with 5.5 GBq of <sup>131</sup>I-Nal.

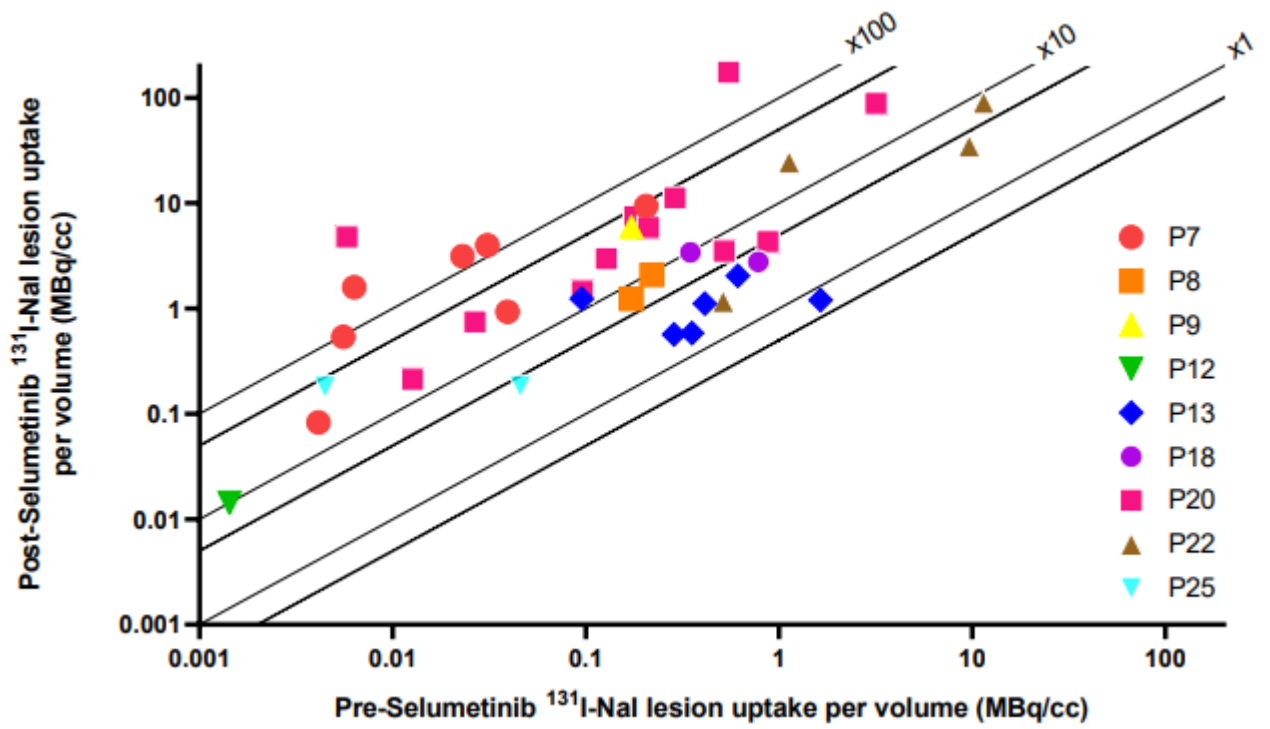


**FIGURE 2:** Example of whole-body planar scans at 24 hours post <sup>123</sup>I-Nal administration at a) the baseline, before Selumetinib was administered, and b) after 4 weeks of treatment with Selumetinib.

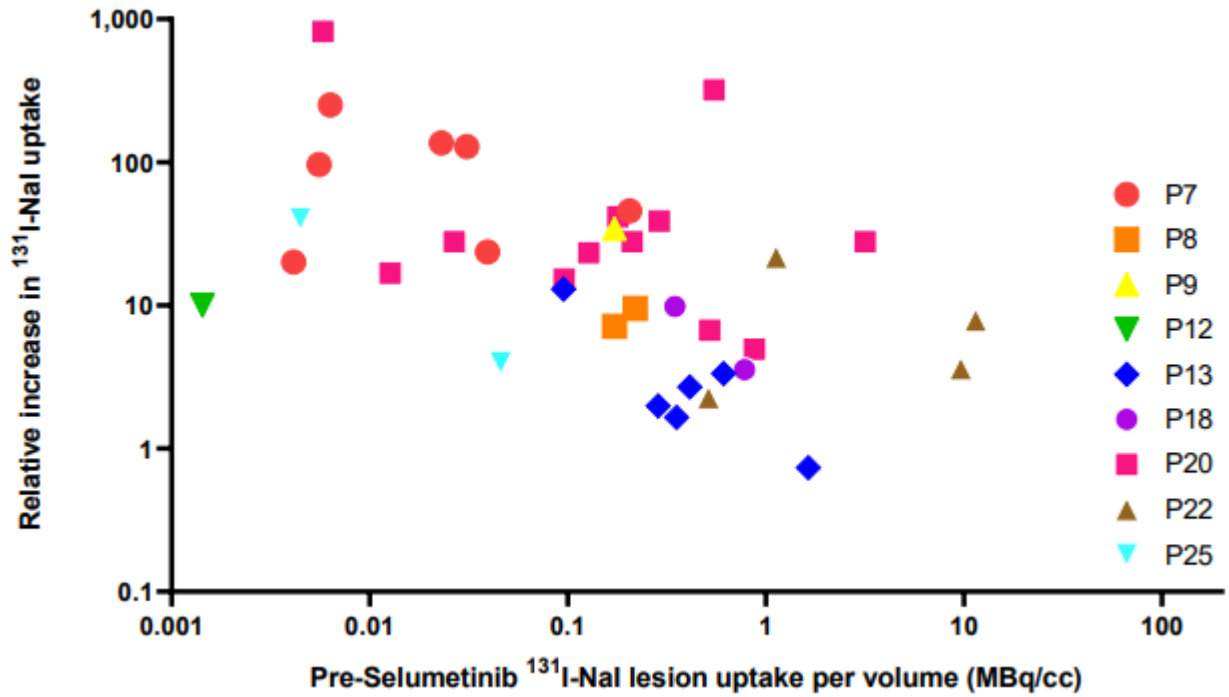




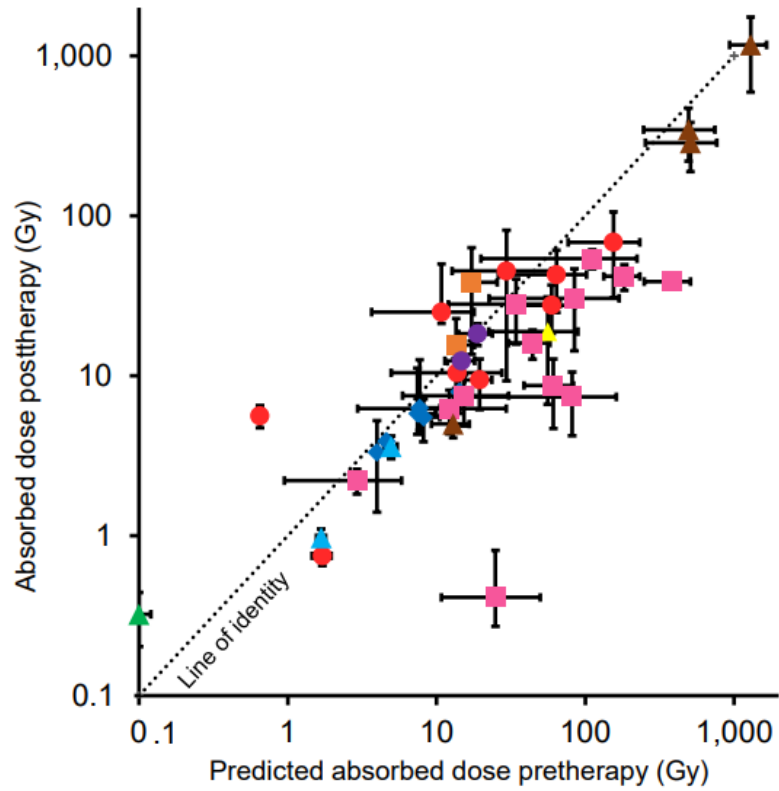
**FIGURE 3:** Relative change in predicted <sup>131</sup>I-NaI uptake following treatment with Selumetinib with respect to the uptake before Selumetinib administration. Relative increase in uptake is shown for the 9 patients who progressed to RAI therapy. Lesions are colour-coded based on their location (lung tissue, soft tissue and bone).



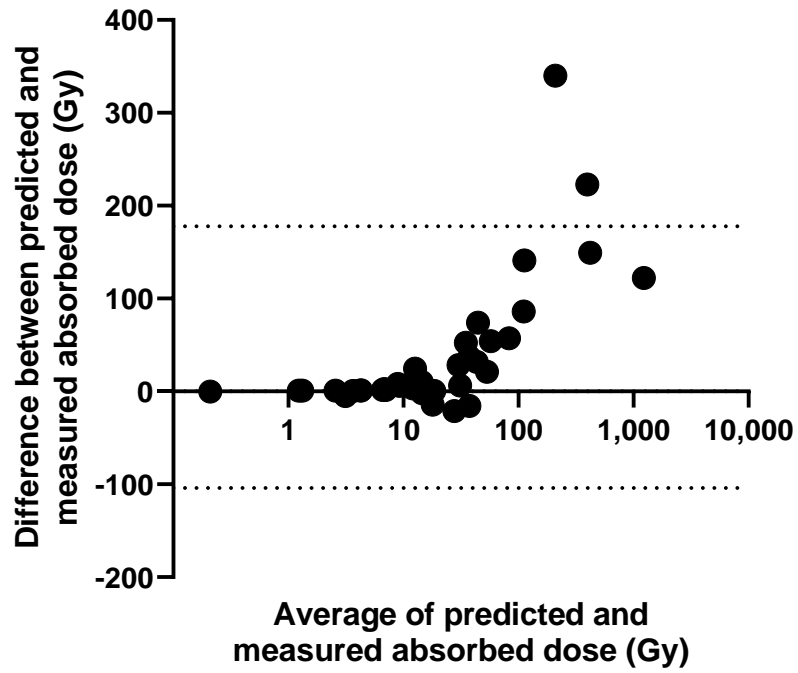
**FIGURE 4:** Uptake of <sup>131</sup>I-Nal before and after treatment with Selumetinib. Lesions are color-coded for individual patients. Solid lines represent a relative increase in uptake by a factor of 1, 10 and 100 respectively to illustrate the relative effect of the Selumetinib in individual patients and lesions.



**FIGURE 5:** Relative increase in <sup>131</sup>I-Nal uptake following treatment with Selumetinib plotted against the baseline uptake of <sup>131</sup>I-Nal prior to treatment (colour coded by patient).



**FIGURE 6:** Comparison of absorbed doses for each lesion (colour coded by patient) as predicted from pre-therapy dosimetry and measured from post-therapy dosimetry.



**FIGURE 7:** Bland–Altman plot for the comparison of absorbed doses predicted and measured for each lesion, showing the difference of predicted absorbed doses minus the actual delivered absorbed doses.

# Graphical abstract

