

Biovica's DiviTumTKa shows strong capabilities in malignant melanoma

May 20, 2021 - Biovica, active in cancer diagnostics, today announces that DiviTumTKa shows prognostic and predictive capabilities in metastatic cutaneous melanoma patients undergoing immunotherapy. These results from a new study at Karolinska University Hospital will be presented at the upcoming ASCO annual meeting, June 4-8, 2021.

The study is the first evidence that TKa measured in a simple plasma sample can be used in metastatic malignant melanoma to predict outcome of patients treated with immune checkpoint inhibitors and provide information for better risk assessment before initiating treatment in this patient group.

The study measures thymidine kinase activity (TKa) levels in plasma samples from 124 patients and correlates the TKa levels to tumor stage, treatment response rates, progression free survival (PFS) and overall survival (OS). The study results demonstrate that in patients treated with immune checkpoint inhibitors, those with low TKa had more than 25 percent higher response rate than those with high TKa. Furthermore, PFS and OS was significantly longer (19.9 and >60 months vs. 12.6 and 18.5 months, respectively) in patients with low vs. high TKa.

“Our study constitutes the first evidence that TKa can predict response and survival in immune checkpoint inhibitor treated patients with metastatic melanoma. Currently, plasma LDH is the only biomarker used in the routine monitoring of these patients. Several other candidate biomarkers have been tested, but none of them have the advantages of DiviTum® TKa, which is a simpler non-invasive method for a single plasma marker. We will continue to further study TKa to establish its clinical use in malignant melanoma,” said Hildur Helgadóttir, oncologist at the Karolinska University Hospital and lead investigator of the study.

“I am happy to see that DiviTumTKa shows both prognostic and predictive capabilities for patients with malignant melanoma. These results once again show that DiviTum®TKa has great potential beyond our initial area metastatic breast cancer,” said Anders Rylander, CEO of Biovica.

Link to ASCO abstract: <https://meetinglibrary.asco.org/record/197096/abstract>

For medical or study related questions:

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Biovica – Treatment decisions with greater confidence

Biovica develops and commercializes blood-based biomarker assays to evaluate efficacy of cancer treatments. Biovica's assay DiviTum® measure cell proliferation by detecting a biomarker in the blood stream. The assay has successfully demonstrated its capabilities to early evaluate therapy effectiveness in several clinical trials. The first application for DiviTum is monitoring of treatment for patients with metastatic breast cancer. Biovica's vision is that all cancer patients will get an optimal treatment from day one. Biovica collaborates with world-leading cancer institutes and pharmaceutical companies. DiviTum is CE-marked and registered with the Swedish Medical Products Agency. Biovica's shares are traded on the Nasdaq First North Growth Market (BIOVIC B). FNCA Sweden AB is the company's Certified Adviser, info@fnca.se, +46 8 528 00 399. For more information please visit: www.biovica.com.

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Attachments

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