Palbociclib and cetuximab for people with head and neck cancers that have come back or spread after chemotherapy

How long did people live after receiving treatment?

People receiving treatment with palbociclib + cetuximab lived for about 2 months longer than people receiving placebo + cetuximab.

How long did people live without their cancer getting worse after receiving treatment?

People taking palbociclib + cetuximab lived for about 1 month longer without their cancer getting worse than people taking placebo + cetuximab.

What were the results of the study?

- The combination of palbociclib and cetuximab showed promising results in delaying the progression of head and neck cancer.
- More people taking palbociclib + cetuximab lived for longer before their cancer got worse compared to those taking placebo + cetuximab.
- The study met its primary and secondary endpoints, indicating that the combination therapy was effective for patients with recurrent or metastatic head and neck cancer.

Who took part in this study?

- 125 people received palbociclib + cetuximab
- 60 people received placebo + cetuximab

- They had cancer of the mouth, throat or larynx
- Their cancer was not caused by HPV
- They had previously received platinum-based chemotherapy
- Their cancer had spread or come back after chemotherapy

Who sponsored this study?

Researchers think that adding palbociclib to cetuximab may help stop head and neck cancer cells from growing.

What was the main conclusion reported by the researchers?

The study was stopped early by the Independent Data Monitoring Committee (IDMC) because the IDMC concluded that the study met its primary endpoint early.

Further information

For more information on clinical studies in general, please visit:
http://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/about-studies/learn

For more information on this study, please visit:
https://meetinglibrary.asco.org/record/175551/abstract

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More results from this study can be found here:
http://www.cancerresearchuk.org/about-cancer/find-a-clinical-trial/what-clinical-trials-are