



Publication of Clinical Results: ^{99m}Tc -maraciclatiside Demonstrates Excellent Potential as a Whole-Body Imaging Method for Rheumatoid Arthritis

London, UK, 22 October, Serac Healthcare Limited ("Serac Healthcare" or "the Company"), a clinical radiopharmaceutical company developing innovative molecular imaging technologies, announces that the findings from a Phase II study evaluating a novel molecular imaging agent, ^{99m}Tc -maraciclatiside, as an imaging marker for rheumatoid arthritis (RA) have been published online in *Academic Radiology*.

The "Imaging Neoangiogenesis in Rheumatoid Arthritis (INIRA) Part II" Phase II study demonstrated that whole-body synovial uptake of ^{99m}Tc -maraciclatiside is highly correlated with power Doppler ultrasound (as the reference standard) in a group of fifty rheumatoid arthritis patients with a range of disease activities.

^{99m}Tc -maraciclatiside is a radio-labelled small molecule tracer which binds with high affinity to integrin $\alpha_v\beta_3$, a cell-adhesion molecule up-regulated on activated neoangiogenic (newly formed) blood vessels, a cardinal feature of rheumatoid arthritis.

This study, funded by Arthritis UK and sponsored by Guy's and St. Thomas' Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, confirms the findings from a pilot study in a smaller group of patients.

The paper highlights that imaging with ^{99m}Tc -maraciclatiside:

- Captures whole-body synovial load in a relatively short acquisition time
- Depicts inflammation at a single joint level with good sensitivity and excellent specificity
- Captures multiple joints in a single acquisition
- Has the potential to image synovial inflammation at the whole-body level
- Uses imaging equipment and techniques routinely available in any nuclear medicine facility
- Produces images which could be used to demonstrate disease activity to patients and inform treatment discussions

The paper concludes that ^{99m}Tc -maraciclatiside, *"Shows promise as a whole-body imaging modality to detect and quantify the burden of synovial inflammation in RA to inform time-critical treatment decisions."*

Further to these findings, ^{99m}Tc -maraciclatiside is now being investigated in a further study as an imaging marker for rheumatoid and psoriatic arthritis compared to contrast-enhanced magnetic resonance imaging (CE-MRI) and in a Phase II study to predict disease recurrence in inflammatory arthritis.

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^{99m}Tc -maraciclatiside is for investigational use only and is not approved by the FDA or UK and European regulatory authorities.

The abstract is available here: www.academicradiology.org/article/S1076-6332%2825%2900561-6/abstract

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Notes to Editors

About Serac Healthcare Ltd

Serac Healthcare is a clinical radiopharmaceutical company with deep expertise in discovering, developing, and commercialising innovative molecular imaging technologies to accelerate diagnosis, improve monitoring and enable earlier and more effective treatment decisions. Serac Healthcare is using these targeted technologies to underpin personalised medicine in two primary indications: endometriosis and inflammatory arthritis; a pilot study is also underway in interstitial lung disease. Serac Healthcare is a wholly owned subsidiary of Serac Life Sciences Limited.

About ^{99m}Tc-maraciclatiside

^{99m}Tc-maraciclatiside is a radio-labelled tracer which binds with high affinity to $\alpha_v\beta_3$ integrin, a cell-adhesion molecule which is up-regulated on activated vascular endothelial cells, activated macrophages and osteoclasts. In a Phase II trial (DETECT), maraciclatiside has demonstrated a high correlation between locations of uptake identified on SPECT-CT and laparoscopy across all types of endometriotic lesions, including superficial peritoneal endometriosis, which is not well visualised with existing non-invasive imaging techniques. And in a Phase II study (INIRA), maraciclatiside uptake in the inflamed synovium of hand and wrist joints of 50 patients was highly correlated with power Doppler ultrasound images (PDUS).

About Arthritis UK

Arthritis UK is the leading arthritis charity, changing lives through research, campaigning and support. Over 10 million adults, young people and children in the UK live with arthritis. That's one in six of us living with

the pain, fatigue, disability, mental and financial strain it can cause. Many more live with arthritis but remain undiagnosed, untreated and unsupported.

We know the impact of arthritis can be huge, affecting the ability to work, care for family, move free from pain and live independently. Yet for a condition affecting so many, it's poorly understood and far too little is done. That's why we invest in life-changing research into better treatments, support people through the daily challenges of life with arthritis, and campaign on the issues that matter most to people living with it.

At Arthritis UK, we won't rest until everyone with arthritis has access to the treatments and support they need to live the life they choose, with real hope of a cure in the future.

Find out more at: www.arthritis-uk.org

Arthritis UK. For a future free from arthritis.