Reviewer’s report

Title: Bimatoprost 0.01% in treatment-naive patients with open-angle glaucoma or ocular hypertension: an observational study in the Korean clinical setting

Version: 1
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Reviewer: giovanni milano

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The authors conducted a 12 weeks observational study on 295 treatment-naive patients with ocular hypertension and open-angle glaucoma (with a huge majority of normal tension glaucoma) evaluating tolerability and efficacy of Bimatoprost 0.01%. The stated aim was to reproduce a real clinical setting without strict restrictions to eligibility and evaluation criteria. In this context, the paper is suitable for publication with "MINOR ESSENTIAL REVISIONS”.

The topic is not new and the study is similarly designed as the CLEAR study. However, the present study is the only one conducted on a population totally of Asian origin mostly with normal-tension glaucoma. These peculiar characteristics could explain, at least in part, slightly different results than those of other studies and can provide glaucoma specialists a better understanding of the effects of anti-glaucoma therapy in different populations.

The topic is set properly, pointing out that glaucoma characteristics may vary by geography and race (BACKGROUND par. 1) and even efficacy and tolerability of glaucoma medications may vary in different populations (BACKGROUND par. 4).

The study is observational and the criteria used to design the study and to select patients are not strict and rigorous. Nevertheless, a better definition of the glaucoma diagnosis would be advisable in term of a better definition of optic nerve head change (c/d ratio, localized or diffuse rim thinning evidenced by ophthalmoscopy, stereo-photos, imaging?) and visual field defects (automated perimetry, type of defect?) (METHODS – Study design and patients par. 2).

The authors excluded patients with hypersensitivity to any component of the study medication and with “any other abnormal condition or symptom preventing study participation”. But since the primary endpoint is Bimatoprost tolerability in term of adverse events and especially conjunctival hyperaemia, more information about systemic and ocular allergies, dry eye or other conditions affecting ocular surface, use of contact lenses or concomitant medications should be advisable (METHODS – Study design and patients par. 2). The possible presence of concomitant conditions affecting the appearance of ocular hyperaemia may allow to overcome the critical lack of a control group.

It should also be advisable to know how approximate the time at which the IOP has been measured throughout the study is (METHODS – Outcomes par. 2).

RESULTS - Intraocular pressure par 1 The correct verb is were instead of was

TABLE 3. in the upper part of the table the first two lines are identical: cross one
FIGURE 1. Not necessary can be eliminated

**Level of interest:** An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

As glaucoma specialist I received reimbursements for meeting participation and fees for giving talks in scientific meetings organized by different companies involved in production and marketing of glaucoma medications.