A Korean Postmarketing Study Assessing the Effectiveness of OnabotulinumtoxinA for the Treatment of Neurogenic Detrusor Overactivity or Idiopathic Overactive Bladder Using a Validated Patient-Reported Outcome Measure

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Purpose: OnabotulinumtoxinA has demonstrated efficacy and safety in the treatment of urinary incontinence (UI) associated with neurogenic detrusor overactivity (NDO) and idiopathic overactive bladder (OAB); however, real-world evidence is limited. This postmarketing surveillance study aimed to assess the effectiveness and safety of onabotulinumtoxinA in Korean patients with UI associated with NDO or OAB with an inadequate response or intolerance to anticholinergics.

Methods: Patients received 200 U (NDO) or 100 U (OAB) of onabotulinumtoxinA. Effectiveness (assessed using the validated International Consultation on Incontinence Questionnaire-Short Form [ICIQ-SF]) and safety were assessed for 1–4 months after onabotulinumtoxinA administration.

Results: Overall, 686 patients (NDO, 161; OAB, 525) comprised the safety population; of these, 612 patients were analyzed for effectiveness. There was a significant decrease (P < 0.0001) in the mean (standard deviation) ICIQ-SF scores in the NDO (−6.8 ± 5.5) and OAB (−6.0 ± 6.4) groups after onabotulinumtoxinA administration. A decrease of > 5 points from baseline in the ICIQ-SF score was observed in 64.9% and 47.3% of patients in the NDO and OAB groups, respectively. Following treatment, 59.9% in the NDO group and 43.0% in the OAB group were dry. There was no effect of age on effectiveness in either group. Only 10 adverse drug reactions (ADRs) were reported in 5.6% of NDO patients and 20 ADRs in 3.2% of OAB patients. Most ADRs in both groups were related to the lower urinary tract such as dysuria (NDO, 1.2%; OAB, 0.6%) and urinary retention (NDO, 0.6%; OAB, 1.5%).

Conclusions: Effectiveness and safety of onabotulinumtoxinA in Korea in a real-world setting was demonstrated.

Keywords: OnabotulinumtoxinA; Urinary incontinence; Neurogenic urinary bladder; Overactive urinary bladder

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Research Ethics: This study was an open-label, noncomparative, observational, postmarketing surveillance study conducted at 21 sites from August 31, 2012 to August 30, 2016 (ClinicalTrials.gov identifier: NCT02010788) in accordance with the Korean Ministry of Food and Drug Safety regulations. The study was performed according to the Helsinki Declaration and approved by the Institutional Review Boards of the institution where the study was performed. A written informed consent was obtained from all subjects.

Conflict of Interest: KJK and KSL declare no conflicts of interest. BJ and AP are employees of and hold stock options in Allergan plc. This study was sponsored by Allergan plc and the sponsor was involved in the design and conduct of the study, collection and analysis of data, and preparation of the manuscript.
INTRODUCTION

Urgency urinary incontinence (UUI) affects approximately 1.5% of the global population [1] and approximately 4.5% of the Korean population [2]. Spinal cord injuries and other neurologic disorders such as multiple sclerosis, Parkinson disease, stroke, and spina bifida often cause neurogenic detrusor overactivity (NDO), frequently leading to urinary incontinence (UI) and high detrusor pressures, thereby impairing quality of life (QoL) [3-5] and putting the patient at risk of renal dysfunction [6]. Overactive bladder (OAB) of unknown etiology (idiopathic) manifests as urgency, with or without UUI, and is often accompanied by increased urinary frequency and nocturia [7]. UUI affects approximately one-third of patients with OAB [8] and considerably impacts healthcare resource utilization, QoL, and patient productivity [9].

Anticholinergics have been the first-line treatment for UI associated with NDO and OAB [10,11] for many years, but are known to cause bothersome adverse effects, such as dry mouth and constipation, which lead to poor patient compliance and treatment discontinuation [12-14]. More recently, anticholinergics have also been implicated with an increased risk of dementia [15].

OnabotulinumtoxinA (BOTOX, Allergan plc, Dublin, Ireland) is a locally injected acetylcholine release inhibitor and a neuromuscular blocking agent [16] that requires minimally invasive cystoscopic intradetrusor injections. Trials in the onabotulinumtoxinA development program have demonstrated that it was well tolerated and significantly improved UI, urodynamic parameters, and QoL in patients with an inadequate response to anticholinergics [17-20]. These findings led to the approval of onabotulinumtoxinA for the treatment of UI due to both NDO and OAB associated with symptoms of urgency, UI, or frequency due to OAB with an inadequate response or intolerance to anticholinergics [16].

The Korean Ministry of Food and Drug Safety (MFDS) approved onabotulinumtoxinA for the treatment of UI due to detrusor overactivity associated with a neurologic condition (e.g., spinal cord injury, multiple sclerosis) in 2012, and for the treatment of OAB symptoms of UI, urinary urgency, and urinary frequency in 2013; both approvals were in adults with an inadequate response or intolerance to anticholinergics. The Korea National Health Insurance Service has covered onabotulinumtoxinA since October 2015 [21]. However, to date, there is no real-world evidence regarding the use of onabotulinumtoxinA for these indications.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Study Design

This was an open-label, noncomparative, observational, postmarketing surveillance study conducted at 21 sites from August 31, 2012 to August 30, 2016 (ClinicalTrials.gov identifier: NCT 02010788) in accordance with the Korean MFDS regulations. The protocol was approved by the Institutional Review Board at each hospital. Investigators continuously enrolled all eligible patients to be treated with onabotulinumtoxinA for NDO or OAB at each site to ensure unbiased enrollment of patients during the predefined study period. The decision to treat with onabotulinumtoxinA was determined by the physician and patient, and only patients who provided written consent to participate in the study were included.

Patients

Based on the investigator’s clinical judgment, patients were to be enrolled into this real-world observational study per the licensed indications for onabotulinumtoxinA in Korea (i.e., ≥18 years old with UI due to NDO [e.g., spinal cord injury, multiple sclerosis] or with symptoms of urgency, UI, or frequency due to OAB with an inadequate response to or intolerance to anticholinergics).

Treatment

Enrolled patients received 200 U (NDO) or 100 U (OAB) of onabotulinumtoxinA administered as 30 or 20 intradetrusor injections, respectively. Anesthesia and prophylactic antibiotic use were per the Korean label and investigator’s clinical practice.

Endpoints and Assessments

Effectiveness was assessed using the International Consultation on Incontinence Questionnaire-Short Form (ICIQ-SF) that was completed by patients before and 1–4 months after onabotulinumtoxinA administration. The ICIQ-SF is a brief and robust measure to assess the impact of symptoms of UI on QoL and outcome of treatment [22]; it comprises 3 scored items and an unscored self-diagnostic item and helps evaluate the prevalence, frequency, and cause of UI and its impact on QoL and everyday life. A decrease in total score following administration for approval, this postmarketing surveillance study was conducted in Korea to assess the effectiveness and safety of onabotulinumtoxinA for these indications.
of onabotulinumtoxinA indicates symptom improvement.

Safety was assessed throughout the follow-up period (1–4 months) after onabotulinumtoxinA administration. An adverse drug reaction (ADR) was defined as an adverse event (AE) for which causal relationship to onabotulinumtoxinA was at least a possibility in the physician's judgment, i.e., the relationship could not be ruled out.

Statistical Analysis
Based on the Standard for Re-examination of New Drugs defined by the Korean MFDS [23], 600 patients were to be enrolled in the study. The mean, standard deviation (SD), median, and range for each ICIQ-SF change were reported. Paired t-tests and analysis of variance were used to calculate P-values. All ADRs were standardized and grouped by system organ class and preferred terms based on the World Health Organization Adverse Reaction Terminology.

RESULTS
Demographics and Baseline Characteristics
A total of 739 patients (NDO, 173; OAB, 566) entered the study (Fig. 1). Of these, 53 patients (NDO, 12; OAB, 41) were excluded because they did not receive onabotulinumtoxinA, were unable to undergo follow-up examinations, were prescribed onabotulinumtoxinA for other indications, or received an incorrect dose. The safety analysis population comprised 686 patients (NDO, 161; OAB, 525); of these, 612 patients (NDO, 134; OAB, 478) comprised the effectiveness analysis population that included patients with a completed ICIQ-SF questionnaire at baseline and follow-up.

Demographics and baseline characteristics are listed in Table 1. In the NDO group, all but one patient (160 of 161 [99.4%]) had previously used anticholinergics, while 1 of 161 patient (0.6%) had previously used sacral neuromodulation therapy, and 12 of 161 (7.5%) had previously used onabotulinumtoxinA. Similarly, in the OAB group, most patients (515 of 525 [98.1%]) had previously used anticholinergics, 9 of 525 (1.7%) had previously used sacral neuromodulation therapy, and 20 of 525 (3.8%) had previously used onabotulinumtoxinA. Of the patients with OAB, 376 of 525 (71.6%) had UUI.

Study Drug Administration
In the NDO group, all patients received onabotulinumtoxinA 200 U via 30 injection sites, whereas in the OAB group, all patients received 100 U via 20 injection sites (Table 2). Administration of local anesthesia (NDO, 97 of 134 [72.4%]; OAB, 302 of 478 [63.2%]) and general anesthesia (NDO, 26 of 134 [19.4%]; OAB, 124 of

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**Fig. 1.** Study flow chart. ICIQ-SF, International Consultation on Incontinence Questionnaire-Short Form; NDO, neurogenic detrusor overactivity; OAB, overactive bladder; UI, urinary incontinence. *a* Patients with UI at baseline and completed ICIQ-SF questionnaire at baseline and follow-up.
Effectiveness

ICIQ-SF scores

In the NDO group, we observed a significant decrease in the mean (±SD) ICIQ-SF score from 14.3±5.0 before onabotulinumtoxinA administration to 7.5±5.8 after administration (difference, 6.8±5.5; P < 0.001), reflecting an improvement in symptoms. The mean (±SD) time to follow-up averaged 47.5±23.8 days (Table 3).

Similarly, in the OAB group, there was a significant decrease in the mean (±SD) ICIQ-SF score from 12.2±6.6 before ona-
botulinumtoxinA administration to 6.2 ± 6.3 after administration (difference, 6.0 ± 6.4; P < 0.001), after a mean (± SD) follow-up of 64.6 ± 123.4 days (Table 3).

Many patients had an improvement in symptoms, indicated by a decrease of greater than 5 points (NDO, 87 of 134 [64.9%]; OAB, 226 of 478 [47.3%]), and a much smaller proportion of

Table 3. Change in ICIQ-SF scores from baseline (effectiveness population)

|                        | NDO (n = 134) | OAB | Overall population (n = 478) | Modified population \(^a\) (n = 351) |
|------------------------|--------------|-----|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| OnabotulinumtoxinA administration |              |     |                             |                                     |
| Before                 | 14.3 ± 5.0   | 12.2 ± 6.6 | 14.4 ± 4.7                  |
| After                  | 7.5 ± 5.8    | 6.2 ± 6.3  | 7.4 ± 6.3                   |
| Difference (after–before) | −6.8 ± 5.5  | −6.0 ± 6.4 | −7.0 ± 6.5                  |
| P-value (paired t-test) | < 0.001      | < 0.001    | < 0.001                     |

Values are presented as mean ± standard deviation.
ICIQ-SF, International Consultation on Incontinence Questionnaire-Short Form; NDO, neurogenic detrusor overactivity; OAB, overactive bladder; UI, urinary incontinence.

\(^a\)OAB patients with UI at baseline and completed ICIQ-SF questionnaire at baseline and follow-up.

Table 4. Change in ICIQ-SF score by range (effectiveness population)

|                        | NDO (n = 134) | OAB | Overall population (n = 478) | Modified population \(^a\) (n = 351) |
|------------------------|--------------|-----|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Decrease by > 5 points  | 87 (64.9)    | 226 (47.3) | 191 (54.4)                  |
| Decrease by 1–5 points  | 24 (17.9)    | 120 (25.1) | 95 (27.1)                   |
| Increase by 1–5 points  | 21 (15.7)    | 122 (25.5) | 59 (16.8)                   |
| Increase by ≥ 5 points  | 2 (1.5)      | 10 (2.1)   | 6 (1.7)                     |
| Total                  | 134 (100)    | 478 (100)  | 351 (100)                   |

Values are presented as number (%).
ICIQ-SF, International Consultation on Incontinence Questionnaire-Short Form; NDO, neurogenic detrusor overactivity; OAB, overactive bladder; UI, urinary incontinence.

\(^a\)OAB patients with UI at baseline and completed ICIQ-SF questionnaire at baseline and follow-up.

Fig. 2. Patient-reported effectiveness outcomes in patients with neurogenic detrusor overactivity (effectiveness population). The same patient can be counted in multiple categories.
patients had an improvement of only 1–5 points (NDO, 24 of 134 [17.9%]; OAB, 120 of 478 [25.1%]) in the ICIQ-SF score from baseline (Table 4).

Subanalysis of ICIQ-SF scores by age and sex
In all groups, a subanalysis of ICIQ-SF scores before and after onabotulinumtoxinA administration by age revealed that there was a significant decrease (P < 0.001) in scores after drug administration in all age groups, indicating no effect of age on effectiveness. Similarly, in all groups, there was a significant decrease (P < 0.001) in ICIQ-SF scores after onabotulinumtoxinA administration in both males and females.

Degree of urine leaks
Following treatment, 59.9% of patients in the NDO group and 43.0% in the OAB group were dry. Furthermore in the NDO group, patients reporting “Leaks before you can get to the toilet,” “Leaks when you are asleep,” “Leaks when you physically active/exercising,” “Leaks when you have finished urinating and are dressed,” “Leaks for no obvious reason,” and “Leaks all the time” decreased (Fig. 2), whereas in the OAB group, patients reporting “Leaks before you can get to the toilet,” “Leaks when you cough or sneeze,” “Leaks when you are asleep,” “Leaks when you are physically active/exercising,” “Leaks when you have finished urinating and are dressed,” “Leaks for no obvious reason,” and “Leaks all the time” decreased (Fig. 3).

Analysis of ICIQ-SF by baseline UI
Since the ICIQ-SF is designed specifically for patients with UI, an additional modified OAB population analysis was performed specifically in 351 patients who reported UI at baseline on their ICIQ-SF, as several patients in the overall OAB effectiveness population did not report UI as a symptom on their baseline ICIQ-SF in this real-world study (Fig. 1). The decrease in ICIQ-SF scores in the overall OAB effectiveness population and the OAB modified effectiveness population was comparable: −6.0 ± 6.4 points and −7.0 ± 6.5 points, respectively (Tables 3 and 4).

Safety
In the NDO group, 27 AEs were reported in 19 of 161 (11.8%) patients. Of all AEs reported, those with a causal relationship in the opinion of the physician to onabotulinumtoxinA were considered ADRs; 10 ADRs were reported in 9 of 161 (5.6%) patients (Table 5). These ADRs included dysuria (2 of 161 [1.2%]), urinary tract infection (2 of 161 [1.2%]), myalgia (2 of 161 [1.2%]), urinary retention (1 of 161 [0.6%]), difficulty in micturition (1 of 161 [0.6%]), constipation (1 of 161 [0.6%]), and testis disorder (1 of 161 [0.6%]). Urinary retention was managed per local clinical practice, with 3 of 20 patients (15%) not catheterizing at baseline initiating clean intermittent catheterization (CIC) after onabotulinumtoxinA treatment. Testis disorder, an unexpected ADR, was considered to have a “conditional/unclassified (i.e., more data required for appropriate evaluation)” relationship with onabotulinumtoxinA.

In the OAB group, 51 AEs were reported in 40 of 525 pa-
tients (7.6%). Twenty ADRs were reported in 17 of 525 patients (3.2%). These included urinary retention (8 of 525 [1.5%]), dysuria (3 of 525 [0.6%]), and hematuria, pyuria, urodynamic, urinary frequency, urinary hesitation, nausea, cystitis, pyelonephritis, and perineal pain in a male (1 of 525 [0.2%] each) (Table 6). Urinary retention was managed per local clinical practice, with 15 of 416 patients (3.6%) initiating CIC after onabotulinumtoxinA treatment. Pyelonephritis was the only serious ADR, reported in 1 of 525 patients (0.2%). All ADRs in both groups were mild or moderate in severity.

**DISCUSSION**

This is the first postmarketing surveillance study in Korea to assess the effectiveness and safety of onabotulinumtoxinA for the treatment of UI associated with NDO or OAB in patients who have an inadequate response or intolerance to anticholinergics.

The ICIQ-SF was used to assess effectiveness in this study; this questionnaire is a practical and reliable method for the evaluation of patients with UUI, with a significant correlation having been found between ICIQ-SF scores and urodynamic parameters [24]. The mean change in ICIQ-SF scores compared to baseline was significant (P <0.001) in all NDO and OAB groups. Although a responder definition has not been established for the ICIQ-SF, a previous study graded the ICIQ-SF scale as slight (1–5), moderate (6–12), severe (13–18), and very severe (19–21) [25]. Based on this grading, in the current study, patients with NDO, on average, improved from severe to moderate status after a mean follow-up period of 47.5 days, and patients with OAB, on average, improved from borderline moderate to borderline slight after a mean of 64.6 days. In yet another study in women with stress UI who received pelvic floor muscle training, QoL was assessed using both the ICIQ-SF and the Patient Global Impression of Improvement (PGI-I) questionnaires, and a decrease of approximately 5 points from baseline on the ICIQ-SF questionnaire corresponded to a “much better” grade on the PGI-I questionnaire. Based on this correlation, approximately half of the patients in the current study were “much better” or “very much better” after onabotulinumtoxinA administration [26].

Importantly, 59.9% of patients with NDO and 43.0% of patients with OAB reported that urine had stopped leaking and that they achieved “dry” status after onabotulinumtoxinA injection. This real-world rate is much higher than the range of approximately 23%–38% reported in previous pivotal trials [17-20]. Previous studies showed a greater proportion of patients with NDO (36%–38%) than those with OAB (23%) achieving “dry” status; this is in line with the observations in the current study.

Safety was as expected; it must be noted that, similar to previous clinical trials, most ADRs in this study were local and mostly related to the urinary tract [17-19]. However, in comparison to previous clinical trials, the incidence of ADRs was

| Table 5. ADRs in patients with NDO (safety population, n = 161) | Incidence of ADRs |
|---|---|
| **No. (%)** | **No. of events** |
| Urinary system disorders | 3 (1.9) | 4 |
| Urinary retention | 1 (0.6) | 1 |
| Dysuria | 2 (1.2) | 2 |
| Difficulty in micturition | 1 (0.6) | 1 |
| Gastrointestinal system disorders | 1 (0.6) | 1 |
| Constipation | 1 (0.6) | 1 |
| Resistance mechanism disorders | 2 (1.2) | 2 |
| Urinary tract infection | 2 (1.2) | 2 |
| Musculoskeletal system disorders | 2 (1.2) | 2 |
| Myalgia | 1 (0.6) | 1 |
| Reproductive disorders, male | 1 (0.6) | 1 |
| Testis disorder | 1 (0.6) | 1 |
| **Total** | 9 (5.6) | 10 |

ADRs, adverse drug reactions; NDO, neurogenic detrusor overactivity.

| Table 6. ADRs in patients with OAB (safety population, n = 525) | Incidence of ADRs |
|---|---|
| **No. (%)** | **No. of events** |
| Urinary system disorders | 14 (2.7) | 16 |
| Urinary retention | 8 (1.5) | 8 |
| Dysuria | 3 (0.6) | 3 |
| Hematuria | 1 (0.2) | 1 |
| Pyuria | 1 (0.2) | 1 |
| Urodynamic | 1 (0.2) | 1 |
| Urinary frequency | 1 (0.2) | 1 |
| Urinary hesitation | 1 (0.2) | 1 |
| Gastrointestinal system disorders | 1 (0.2) | 1 |
| Nausea | 1 (0.2) | 1 |
| Resistance mechanism disorders | 2 (0.4) | 2 |
| Cystitis | 1 (0.2) | 1 |
| Pyelonephritis | 1 (0.2) | 1 |
| Reproductive disorders, male | 1 (0.2) | 1 |
| Perineal pain male | 1 (0.2) | 1 |
| **Total** | 17 (3.2) | 20 |

ADRs, adverse drug reactions; OAB, overactive bladder.
much lower, most likely due to the observational nature of the trial. While protocols for previous trials included specific requirements for measuring postvoid residual urine volume and guidance for following and reporting urinary retention, there were no requirements for the collection of postvoid residual urine in the current study. The investigators did a routine follow-up after onabotulinumtoxinA injection, which could include a postvoid residual evaluation depending on local practice and/or if the patient reported symptoms. Therefore, the ADRs reported in this study are possibly more consistent with real-world rates versus previous clinical trials. Although the follow-up periods were relatively short, it is also important to note that most AEs, including those related to the urinary tract, occurred within the first 12 weeks in the pivotal registration trials [17-19]. This is well within the follow-up period of the current study; therefore, it is quite likely that this study captured the complete effectiveness and safety profile of onabotulinumtoxinA in a real-world setting.

This study did have some limitations: diagnostic criteria for OAB were not objective; however subjective, symptom-based diagnoses have been shown to have utility and are used frequently in clinical settings. Therefore, this study is perhaps more reflective of clinical practice than trials that use objective diagnostic criteria such as a bladder diary. As the previous registrational studies used a 3- to 7-day bladder diary before baseline and at each follow-up visit to confirm a 100% reduction in UI [17-19], whereas the current study used the ICIQ-SF to assess UI, a direct comparison of effectiveness in this real-world study compared to the pivotal phase 3 studies is not possible. Despite these limitations, this post-marketing surveillance study provides valuable and powerful information from a real-world setting. Patient selection was based on the investigator’s judgment; there were no strict inclusion and exclusion criteria. Thus, these data show that, in a real-world situation, the CIC incidence rate following onabotulinumtoxinA administration in the bladder is lower than that reported in previous phase 3 studies (which may not reflect real-world practice). It is unclear why the real-world incidence of CIC is lower; this might be due to the strict requirement in phase 3 studies to commence CIC based on post-void residual thresholds or due to different patient selection criteria in real-world practice. In addition, we believe that in order to assess the impact of incontinence comprehensively, it is necessary to measure not only the severity of symptoms but also the extent to which these symptoms impair the patient’s QoL. This study also showed that the ICIQ-SF is a brief, robust, useful, and sensitive questionnaire that can assess the symptoms and impact of incontinence and can be used universally in clinical practice and research. While the ICIQ-SF questionnaire has been used previously to assess the efficacy of onabotulinumtoxinA for the treatment of incontinence associated with detrusor overactivity or OAB [27-29], its use in a real-world setting in South Korea is unique. Moreover, the study demonstrated that onabotulinumtoxinA is an effective and safe treatment option for NDO and OAB, specifically in real-world clinical settings in the Korean population.

In this postmarketing surveillance study, the effectiveness and safety profile of onabotulinumtoxinA for the treatment of UI associated with NDO or OAB in a real-world Korean population was found to be comparable or improved compared to that previously reported in randomized clinical trials in global populations. Notably, the proportion of “dry” patients following onabotulinumtoxinA administration was higher in this study compared to previous reports. This study also supports the use of the ICIQ-SF questionnaire to assess the impact of symptoms of UI on QoL and outcome of treatment in patients with NDO or OAB.

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AUTHOR CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT

· Full access to all the data in the study and takes responsibility for the integrity of the data and the accuracy of the data analysis: KSL
· Study concept and design: KSL
· Acquisition of data: KJK
· Analysis and interpretation of data: KJK
· Drafting of the manuscript: KJK, BJ, AP
· Critical revision of the manuscript for important intellectual content: KSL
· Statistical analysis: KJK
· Obtained funding: KSL
· Administrative, technical, or material support: KSL
· Study supervision: KSL

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