



## Clinical trial results:

### A Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled, Multicenter Study Evaluating Epoetin Alfa Versus Placebo in Anemic Patients With IPSS Low- or Intermediate-1-Risk Myelodysplastic Syndromes

#### Summary

EudraCT number	2010-022884-36
Trial protocol	GR IT BG
Global end of trial date	07 January 2016

#### Results information

Result version number	v2 (current)
This version publication date	02 April 2017
First version publication date	01 January 2017
Version creation reason	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• New data added to full data set</li></ul> New data added

#### Trial information

##### Trial identification

Sponsor protocol code	EPOANE3021
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##### Additional study identifiers

ISRCTN number	-
ClinicalTrials.gov id (NCT number)	NCT01381809
WHO universal trial number (UTN)	-

Notes:

#### Sponsors

Sponsor organisation name	Janssen-Cilag International NV
Sponsor organisation address	Turnhoutseweg 30, Beerse, Belgium, 2340
Public contact	Clinical Registry Group, Janssen-Cilag International NV, ClinicalTrialsEU@its.jnj.com
Scientific contact	Clinical Registry Group, Janssen-Cilag International NV, ClinicalTrialsEU@its.jnj.com

Notes:

#### Paediatric regulatory details

Is trial part of an agreed paediatric investigation plan (PIP)	No
Does article 45 of REGULATION (EC) No 1901/2006 apply to this trial?	No
Does article 46 of REGULATION (EC) No 1901/2006 apply to this trial?	No

Notes:

## Results analysis stage

Analysis stage	Final
Date of interim/final analysis	16 December 2016
Is this the analysis of the primary completion data?	No
Global end of trial reached?	Yes
Global end of trial date	07 January 2016
Was the trial ended prematurely?	No

Notes:

## General information about the trial

Main objective of the trial:

The main objective of the study was to demonstrate that epoetin alfa treatment is better at improving anemia outcome (as evaluated by erythroid response – International Working Group [IWG] 2006 criteria; ie, an increase in hemoglobin by at least 1.5 gram per deciliter (g/dL) or a relevant reduction of red blood cell (RBC) units transfused by an absolute number of at least 4 units every 8 weeks; responses must last at least 8 weeks) in subjects with International Prognostic Scoring System (IPSS) low- or intermediate-1-risk myelodysplastic syndromes (MDS) compared with placebo through Week 24.

Protection of trial subjects:

This study was conducted in accordance with the ethical principles that have their origin in the declaration of Helsinki and that are consistent with good clinical practices and applicable regulatory requirements. Safety evaluations were based upon thrombotic vascular events; relapse after hematologic improvement and disease progression, loss of response to study agent, clinical laboratory tests, physical examinations, vital signs. Adverse events (AEs) were assessed throughout the study.

Background therapy: -

Evidence for comparator: -

Actual start date of recruitment	29 September 2011
Long term follow-up planned	No
Independent data monitoring committee (IDMC) involvement?	Yes

Notes:

## Population of trial subjects

### Subjects enrolled per country

Country: Number of subjects enrolled	Bulgaria: 15
Country: Number of subjects enrolled	Germany: 41
Country: Number of subjects enrolled	France: 20
Country: Number of subjects enrolled	Greece: 19
Country: Number of subjects enrolled	Italy: 30
Country: Number of subjects enrolled	Russian Federation: 5
Worldwide total number of subjects	130
EEA total number of subjects	125

Notes:

### Subjects enrolled per age group

In utero	0
Preterm newborn - gestational age < 37 wk	0

Newborns (0-27 days)	0
Infants and toddlers (28 days-23 months)	0
Children (2-11 years)	0
Adolescents (12-17 years)	0
Adults (18-64 years)	14
From 65 to 84 years	104
85 years and over	12

## Subject disposition

### Recruitment

Recruitment details: -

### Pre-assignment

Screening details:

A total of 186 subjects were screened and 130 subjects were randomly assigned to a treatment group (85 subjects to Epoetin Alfa and 45 subjects to Placebo) and 93 subjects have completed the study. Out of them, 26 subjects enrolled in the open label extension phase, of these 10 subjects enrolled after week 24 and 16 subjects enrolled after week 48.

### Period 1

Period 1 title	Period 1 (Double Blind)
Is this the baseline period?	Yes
Allocation method	Randomised - controlled
Blinding used	Double blind
Roles blinded	Subject, Investigator

### Arms

Are arms mutually exclusive?	Yes
<b>Arm title</b>	Epoetin Alfa

Arm description:

Subjects received a starting dose of 450 International Unit per kilogram (IU/kg) of Epoetin Alfa (maximum total dose of 40,000 IU) administered subcutaneously once every week during treatment phase [up to week 24 when no erythroid response in subjects (non-responders)] and up to week 48 for subjects who have entered in study extension phase.

Arm type	Experimental
Investigational medicinal product name	Epoetin Alfa
Investigational medicinal product code	EPO
Other name	
Pharmaceutical forms	Solution for injection
Routes of administration	Subcutaneous use

Dosage and administration details:

Subjects received a starting dose of 450 (IU/kg) of Epoetin Alfa (maximum total dose of 40,000 IU) administered subcutaneously up to Week 48.

<b>Arm title</b>	Placebo
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Arm description:

Subjects received a starting dose of a matching volume of placebo were administered subcutaneously once every week during treatment phase [up to week 24 when no erythroid response in subjects (non-responders)] and up to Week 48 for subjects who have entered in study extension phase.

Arm type	Placebo
Investigational medicinal product name	Placebo
Investigational medicinal product code	
Other name	
Pharmaceutical forms	Solution for injection
Routes of administration	Subcutaneous use

Dosage and administration details:

Subjects received a starting dose of a matching volume of placebo were administered subcutaneously once every week up to Week 48.

Number of subjects in period 1	Epoetin Alfa	Placebo
Started	85	45
Completed	60	33
Not completed	25	12
Adverse event, serious fatal	3	-
Consent withdrawn by subject	6	3
Physician decision	-	1
Non responder	3	1
Adverse event, non-fatal	2	-
Adverse event, serious non-fatal	7	6
Relapse after hemat imprmnt or disease progression	2	-
Lack of efficacy	1	1
Protocol deviation	1	-

## Period 2

Period 2 title	Period 2 (Open Label)
Is this the baseline period?	No
Allocation method	Not applicable
Blinding used	Not blinded

## Arms

Are arms mutually exclusive?	Yes
<b>Arm title</b>	Enrolled After Week 24

### Arm description:

During the open-label extension phase, 10 subjects were enrolled after week 24 to evaluate the efficacy and safety with starting treatment of Epoetin Alfa. The dose escalation can be done [if no erythroid response was achieved, and the subject's hemoglobin level was below 11 gram per deciliter (g/dL,) or subject's hemoglobin level was equal to or greater than 11 g/dL,] to 1050 IU/kg and 787.5 IU/kg] but can not exceed more than 80,000 IU dose at any time during the study period.

Arm type	Experimental
Investigational medicinal product name	Epoetin Alfa
Investigational medicinal product code	EPO
Other name	
Pharmaceutical forms	Solution for injection
Routes of administration	Subcutaneous use

### Dosage and administration details:

Subjects received starting treatment of Epoetin Alfa 450 (IU/kg) with maximum dose of 40,000 IU once weekly. The dose escalation can be done [if no erythroid response was achieved, and the subject's hemoglobin level was below 11 gram per deciliter (g/dL,) or subject's hemoglobin level was equal to or greater than 11 g/dL,] to 1050 IU/kg and 787.5 IU/kg] but can not exceed more than 80,000 IU dose at any time during the study period.

<b>Arm title</b>	Enrolled After Week 48
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### Arm description:

During the open-label extension phase, 16 subjects were enrolled after Week 48 to evaluate the efficacy and safety with continuing on the same dose of Epoetin Alfa as was used during the double-blind

treatment.

Arm type	Experimental
Investigational medicinal product name	Epoetin Alfa
Investigational medicinal product code	EPO
Other name	
Pharmaceutical forms	Solution for injection
Routes of administration	Subcutaneous use

Dosage and administration details:

Subjects received starting treatment of Epoetin Alfa 450 (IU/kg) with maximum dose of 40,000 IU once weekly. The dose escalation can be done [if no erythroid response was achieved, and the subject's hemoglobin level was below 11 gram per deciliter (g/dL,) or subject's hemoglobin level was equal to or greater than 11 g/dL,] to 1050 IU/kg and 787.5 IU/kg] but can not exceed more than 80,000 IU dose at any time during the study period.

<b>Number of subjects in period 2<sup>[1]</sup></b>	Enrolled After Week 24	Enrolled After Week 48
Started	10	16
Completed	10	16

Notes:

[1] - The number of subjects starting the period is not consistent with the number completing the preceding period. It is expected the number of subjects starting the subsequent period will be the same as the number completing the preceding period.

Justification: The open label extension phase was optional, and only applicable for 3 countries. Hence the number of subjects are not consistent.

## Baseline characteristics

### Reporting groups

Reporting group title	Epoetin Alfa
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Reporting group description:

Subjects received a starting dose of 450 International Unit per kilogram (IU/kg) of Epoetin Alfa (maximum total dose of 40,000 IU) administered subcutaneously once every week during treatment phase [up to week 24 when no erythroid response in subjects (non-responders)] and up to week 48 for subjects who have entered in study extension phase.

Reporting group title	Placebo
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Reporting group description:

Subjects received a starting dose of a matching volume of placebo were administered subcutaneously once every week during treatment phase [up to week 24 when no erythroid response in subjects (non-responders)] and up to Week 48 for subjects who have entered in study extension phase.

Reporting group values	Epoetin Alfa	Placebo	Total
Number of subjects	85	45	130
Title for AgeCategorical Units: subjects			
infants and toddlers(28 days-23 months)	0	0	0
Children (2-11 years)	0	0	0
Adolescents (12-17 years)	0	0	0
Adults (18-64 years)	10	4	14
From 65 to 84 years	67	37	104
85 years and over	8	4	12
Title for AgeContinuous Units: years			
arithmetic mean	74.3	74.1	-
standard deviation	± 8.62	± 9.25	
Title for Gender Units: subjects			
Female	39	20	59
Male	46	25	71

### Subject analysis sets

Subject analysis set title	Enrolled after Week 24
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Subject analysis set type	Safety analysis
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Subject analysis set description:

The safety analysis set includes all randomized subjects who were enrolled after week 24 and received at least 1 dose of study agent (Epoetin Alfa) during the open label extension phase.

Subject analysis set title	Enrolled after Week 48
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Subject analysis set type	Safety analysis
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Subject analysis set description:

The safety analysis set includes all randomized subjects who were enrolled after week 48 and received at least 1 dose of study agent (Epoetin Alfa) during the open label extension phase.

<b>Reporting group values</b>	Enrolled after Week 24	Enrolled after Week 48	
Number of subjects	10	16	
Title for AgeCategorical			
Units: subjects			
infants and toddlers(28 days-23 months)	0	0	
Children (2-11 years)	0	0	
Adolescents (12-17 years)	0	0	
Adults (18-64 years)	1	2	
From 65 to 84 years	7	11	
85 years and over	2	3	
Title for AgeContinuous			
Units: years			
arithmetic mean	76.5	77.2	
standard deviation	± 8.71	± 8.04	
Title for Gender			
Units: subjects			
Female	4	7	
Male	6	9	



## End points

### End points reporting groups

Reporting group title	Epoetin Alfa
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Reporting group description:

Subjects received a starting dose of 450 International Unit per kilogram (IU/kg) of Epoetin Alfa (maximum total dose of 40,000 IU) administered subcutaneously once every week during treatment phase [up to week 24 when no erythroid response in subjects (non-responders)] and up to week 48 for subjects who have entered in study extension phase.

Reporting group title	Placebo
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Reporting group description:

Subjects received a starting dose of a matching volume of placebo were administered subcutaneously once every week during treatment phase [up to week 24 when no erythroid response in subjects (non-responders)] and up to Week 48 for subjects who have entered in study extension phase.

Reporting group title	Enrolled After Week 24
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Reporting group description:

During the open-label extension phase, 10 subjects were enrolled after week 24 to evaluate the efficacy and safety with starting treatment of Epoetin Alfa. The dose escalation can be done [if no erythroid response was achieved, and the subject's hemoglobin level was below 11 gram per deciliter (g/dL,) or subject's hemoglobin level was equal to or greater than 11 g/dL,] to 1050 IU/kg and 787.5 IU/kg] but can not exceed more than 80,000 IU dose at any time during the study period.

Reporting group title	Enrolled After Week 48
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Reporting group description:

During the open-label extension phase, 16 subjects were enrolled after Week 48 to evaluate the efficacy and safety with continuing on the same dose of Epoetin Alfa as was used during the double-blind treatment.

Subject analysis set title	Enrolled after Week 24
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Subject analysis set type	Safety analysis
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Subject analysis set description:

The safety analysis set includes all randomized subjects who were enrolled after week 24 and received at least 1 dose of study agent (Epoetin Alfa) during the open label extension phase.

Subject analysis set title	Enrolled after Week 48
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Subject analysis set type	Safety analysis
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Subject analysis set description:

The safety analysis set includes all randomized subjects who were enrolled after week 48 and received at least 1 dose of study agent (Epoetin Alfa) during the open label extension phase.

### Primary: Percentage of Subjects with Erythroid Response at Any Time in the First 24 Weeks During Double Blind Phase

End point title	Percentage of Subjects with Erythroid Response at Any Time in the First 24 Weeks During Double Blind Phase
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End point description:

Erythroid response was evaluated to demonstrate that epoetin alfa treatment is better at improving anemia outcome (as evaluated by erythroid response – International Working Group [IWG] 2006 criteria; ie, an increase in hemoglobin by at least 1.5 gram per deciliter (g/dL) or a relevant reduction of Red blood cells (RBC) units transfused by an absolute number of at least 4 units every 8 weeks; responses must last at least 8 weeks) in subjects with International Prognostic Scoring System (IPSS) low- or intermediate-1-risk myelodysplastic syndromes (MDS) compared with placebo through Week 24. The modified intent-to-treat (mITT) analysis set includes all randomized subjects who received at least 1 dose of study agent and had at least 1 postbaseline efficacy assessment.

End point type	Primary
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End point timeframe:

Up to Week 24

End point values	Epoetin Alfa	Placebo		
Subject group type	Reporting group	Reporting group		
Number of subjects analysed	85	45		
Units: Percentage of Subjects				
number (not applicable)	31.8	4.4		

## Statistical analyses

Statistical analysis title	Statistical analysis 1
Comparison groups	Epoetin Alfa v Placebo
Number of subjects included in analysis	130
Analysis specification	Pre-specified
Analysis type	superiority
P-value	< 0.001
Method	Fisher exact

## Primary: Percentage of Subjects with Erythroid Response or Relapse at Any Time During Open Label Extension Phase

End point title	Percentage of Subjects with Erythroid Response or Relapse at Any Time During Open Label Extension Phase <sup>[1]</sup>
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End point description:

Erythroid response was defined as an increase in hemoglobin by at least 1.5 g/dL (compared to baseline) or a reduction in RBC units transfused by at least 4 units per 8 weeks, compared to the 8 weeks prior to start of treatment. Erythroid response according to IWG 2006 criteria is defined as an erythroid response for a period of at least 8 weeks for the subjects entering the OLE phase after Week 24 (ie, non-responders who received placebo in double-blind treatment phase). Relapse after erythroid response according to IWG 2006 criteria is defined as at least 1 of the following: reduction in hemoglobin by greater than or equal to ( $\geq$ ) 1.5 g/dL or transfusion dependence, or at least 50 percent decrement from maximum response levels in granulocytes or platelets. The safety analysis set includes all randomized subjects who were enrolled after week 24, week 48 and received at least 1 dose of study agent.

End point type	Primary
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End point timeframe:

Up to Week 52

Notes:

[1] - No statistical analyses have been specified for this primary end point. It is expected there is at least one statistical analysis for each primary end point.

Justification: Descriptive statistical analysis has been reported for this endpoint.

End point values	Enrolled after Week 24	Enrolled after Week 48		
Subject group type	Subject analysis set	Subject analysis set		
Number of subjects analysed	10 <sup>[2]</sup>	16 <sup>[3]</sup>		
Units: Percentage of subjects				
number (not applicable)				
Erythroid Response according to RRC	50	999		

Relapsec according to RRC	888	81.3		
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Notes:

[2] - 888 indicates- Parameter Relapse was not applicable for subjects enrolled after week 24.

[3] - 999 indicates- Parameter erythroid response was not applicable for subjects enrolled after week 48.

## Statistical analyses

No statistical analyses for this end point

### Secondary: Duration of Erythroid Response During Double Blind Phase

End point title	Duration of Erythroid Response During Double Blind Phase
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End point description:

Duration of response (days) was defined by the assessment of the Response Review Committee (RRC) for subjects who responded at any time during the first 24 weeks of the study. The duration of response was defined as the number of days from the date of the week at which the response started until the date of the week the response ended +1 day. The mITT analysis set includes all randomized subjects who received at least 1 dose of study agent and had at least 1 postbaseline efficacy assessment.

End point type	Secondary
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End point timeframe:

Up to Week 24

End point values	Epoetin Alfa	Placebo		
Subject group type	Reporting group	Reporting group		
Number of subjects analysed	85	45		
Units: Days				
median (full range (min-max))	197 (54 to 323)	99 (50 to 148)		

## Statistical analyses

No statistical analyses for this end point

### Secondary: Percentage of Subjects With Erythroid Responders at Week 48 During Double Blind Phase

End point title	Percentage of Subjects With Erythroid Responders at Week 48 During Double Blind Phase
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End point description:

The percentage of responders at Week 48 was calculated using the RRC assessment of erythroid response: the number of subjects who responded at Week 48 divided by the total number of subjects in the given analysis data set for each treatment group. Responders at Week 48 were defined as subjects who were responders at Week 24, continued the study treatment, and maintained their response status through Week 48. The mITT analysis set includes all randomized subjects who received at least 1 dose of study agent and had at least 1 postbaseline efficacy assessment.

End point type	Secondary
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End point timeframe:

Week 48

End point values	Epoetin Alfa	Placebo		
Subject group type	Reporting group	Reporting group		
Number of subjects analysed	85	45		
Units: Percentage of Subjects				
number (not applicable)	9.4	0		

## Statistical analyses

No statistical analyses for this end point

## Secondary: Time to First Red Blood Cell (RBC) transfusion During Double Blind Phase

End point title	Time to First Red Blood Cell (RBC) transfusion During Double Blind Phase
End point description: The analysis population is subjects with at least one RBC transfusions either in the 8 weeks prior to baseline and/or after randomization. The mITT analysis set includes all randomized subjects who received at least 1 dose of study agent and had at least 1 postbaseline efficacy assessment.	
End point type	Secondary
End point timeframe: Up to Week 52	

End point values	Epoetin Alfa	Placebo		
Subject group type	Reporting group	Reporting group		
Number of subjects analysed	57	31		
Units: Days				
arithmetic mean (standard error)	121.9 ( $\pm$ 15.93)	62.3 ( $\pm$ 11.17)		

## Statistical analyses

Statistical analysis title	Statistical analysis 1
Comparison groups	Epoetin Alfa v Placebo
Number of subjects included in analysis	88
Analysis specification	Pre-specified
Analysis type	superiority
P-value	= 0.046
Method	Log-rank test
Parameter estimate	Hazard ratio (HR)
Point estimate	1.653

Confidence interval	
level	95 %
sides	2-sided
lower limit	0.999
upper limit	2.736

### Secondary: Transfusion-Free Intervals During Double Blind Phase

End point title	Transfusion-Free Intervals During Double Blind Phase
End point description: Transfusion-free interval is defined as the time (days) from the last visit date minus baseline date plus 1 minus the number of days with transfusions (day on which 1 or more RBC or whole blood units were transfused). The mITT analysis set includes all randomized subjects who received at least 1 dose of study agent and had at least 1 postbaseline efficacy assessment.	
End point type	Secondary
End point timeframe: Up to Week 48	

End point values	Epoetin Alfa	Placebo		
Subject group type	Reporting group	Reporting group		
Number of subjects analysed	85	45		
Units: Days				
median (full range (min-max))	191 (41 to 378)	192 (41 to 302)		

### Statistical analyses

No statistical analyses for this end point

### Secondary: Percentage of Subjects with RBC Units Transfused During Double Blind Phase

End point title	Percentage of Subjects with RBC Units Transfused During Double Blind Phase
End point description: The mITT analysis set includes all randomized subjects who received at least 1 dose of study agent and had at least 1 postbaseline efficacy assessment.	
End point type	Secondary
End point timeframe: 8 Weeks Prior to Baseline Visit to Week 24	

End point values	Epoetin Alfa	Placebo		
Subject group type	Reporting group	Reporting group		
Number of subjects analysed	85	45		
Units: Percentage of Subjects				
number (not applicable)				
In 8 Weeks Prior to Baseline Visit	51.8	48.9		
Between Baseline and Week 8	36.5	44.4		
Between Week 8 and Week 16	28	51.2		
Between Week 16 and Week 24	24.7	54.1		
Between Baseline and Week 24	42.4	57.8		

## Statistical analyses

No statistical analyses for this end point

## Secondary: Percentage of Subjects with Erythroid Response at Week 24 Based on RRC and CRF Evaluations During Double Blind Phase

End point title	Percentage of Subjects with Erythroid Response at Week 24 Based on RRC and CRF Evaluations During Double Blind Phase
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End point description:

Erythroid response was evaluated to demonstrate that epoetin alfa treatment is better at improving anemia outcome (as evaluated by erythroid response – International Working Group [IWG] 2006 criteria; ie, an increase in hemoglobin by at least 1.5 gram per deciliter (g/dL) or a relevant reduction of Red blood cells (RBC) units transfused by an absolute number of at least 4 units every 8 weeks; responses must last at least 8 weeks) in subjects with International Prognostic Scoring System (IPSS) low- or intermediate-1-risk myelodysplastic syndromes (MDS) compared with placebo through Week 24. Erythroid Response reported for this endpoint was assessed by Response Review Committee (RRC) and case report form (CRF). The modified intent-to-treat (mITT) analysis set includes all randomized subjects who received at least 1 dose of study agent and had at least 1 postbaseline efficacy assessment.

End point type	Secondary
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End point timeframe:

Week 24

End point values	Epoetin Alfa	Placebo		
Subject group type	Reporting group	Reporting group		
Number of subjects analysed	85	45		
Units: Percentage of Subjects				
number (not applicable)				
RRC	27.1	2.2		
CRF	36.5	4.4		

## Statistical analyses

Statistical analysis title	Statistical analysis 1
Comparison groups	Epoetin Alfa v Placebo

Number of subjects included in analysis	130
Analysis specification	Pre-specified
Analysis type	superiority
P-value	< 0.001
Method	Fisher exact test

<b>Statistical analysis title</b>	Statistical analysis 2
Comparison groups	Epoetin Alfa v Placebo
Number of subjects included in analysis	130
Analysis specification	Pre-specified
Analysis type	superiority
P-value	< 0.001
Method	Fisher exact test

### **Secondary: Change From Baseline in Quality of Life as Measured by Functional Assessment of Cancer Therapy-Anemia/Fatigue (FACT-An) Questionnaire During Double Blind Phase**

End point title	Change From Baseline in Quality of Life as Measured by Functional Assessment of Cancer Therapy-Anemia/Fatigue (FACT-An) Questionnaire During Double Blind Phase
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#### End point description:

The FACT-An questionnaire is used to assess health-related quality of life (HRQoL). It measures the impact of anemia-related symptoms on patient functioning. The overall score range for the FACT-An is 0-188. Higher scores indicate better HRQoL. Patients with higher hemoglobin levels and better performance status reported significantly higher scores on these instruments (including the newly created subscales) than did those with lower hemoglobin levels and poorer performance status. The mITT analysis set includes all randomized subjects who received at least 1 dose of study agent and had at least 1 postbaseline efficacy assessment. Here the data value 998, -999 and 999 indicates no data evaluated at specific timepoint for this endpoint. Here, n indicates the number of subjects evaluated at specific timepoint for this endpoint.

End point type	Secondary
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#### End point timeframe:

Baseline, Week 24, Week 48 and up to Early Termination

<b>End point values</b>	Epoetin Alfa	Placebo		
Subject group type	Reporting group	Reporting group		
Number of subjects analysed	85	45		
Units: Units on a Scale				
arithmetic mean (standard deviation)				
FACT-An: Baseline (n= 74, 38)	125.861 (± 31.2489)	131.837 (± 27.7914)		
FACT-An: Change baseline to Week 24 (n= 66, 34)	-0.626 (± 24.5955)	0.018 (± 18.091)		
FACT-An: Change baseline to Week 48 (n= 29, 0)	7.319 (± 18.2709)	999 (± 999)		
FACT-An: Change baseline to Early Term (n= 15, 34)	-12.006 (± 29.137)	-0.264 (± 25.0688)		

## Statistical analyses

<b>Statistical analysis title</b>	Statistical Analysis at Week 24
Comparison groups	Placebo v Epoetin Alfa
Number of subjects included in analysis	130
Analysis specification	Pre-specified
Analysis type	superiority
P-value	= 0.884
Method	Wilcoxon 2-sample test

<b>Statistical analysis title</b>	Statistical Analysis at Early Termination
Comparison groups	Epoetin Alfa v Placebo
Number of subjects included in analysis	130
Analysis specification	Pre-specified
Analysis type	superiority
P-value	= 0.513
Method	Wilcoxon 2-sample test

## Secondary: Change From Baseline in Quality of Life as Measured by EuroQol 5-dimension (EQ-5D) Questionnaire During Double Blind Phase

End point title	Change From Baseline in Quality of Life as Measured by EuroQol 5-dimension (EQ-5D) Questionnaire During Double Blind Phase
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### End point description:

The EQ-5D is a patient-completed, multidimensional measure of health related quality of life. The instrument is applicable to a wide range of health conditions and treatments and results in a single index score. Each dimension comprises three levels (no problems, some/moderate problems, extreme problems). A unique EQ-5D health state is defined by combining one level from each of the five dimensions. EQ-5D index values range from -0.59 to 1.00. Higher EQ-5D Index scores represent better health status. The mITT analysis set includes all randomized subjects who received at least 1 dose of study agent and had at least 1 postbaseline efficacy assessment. Here, n indicates the number of subjects evaluated at specific timepoint for this endpoint.

End point type	Secondary
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### End point timeframe:

Baseline, Week 24, Week 48 and Early Termination



End point values	Epoetin Alfa	Placebo		
Subject group type	Reporting group	Reporting group		
Number of subjects analysed	85	45		
Units: Units on a Scale				
arithmetic mean (standard deviation)				
Index Score: Baseline (n= 75, 38)	0.709 ( $\pm$ 0.2678)	0.752 ( $\pm$ 0.2638)		
Index Score:Change baseline to Week 24 (n= 66, 34)	0.022 ( $\pm$ 0.3146)	0.042 ( $\pm$ 0.2779)		
Index Score:Change baseline to Week 48 (n= 29, 0)	0.032 ( $\pm$ 0.1658)	999 ( $\pm$ 999)		
IndexScore:Change baseline to Early Term.(n= 15,5)	0.011 ( $\pm$ 0.264)	0.01 ( $\pm$ 0.3402)		

## Statistical analyses

Statistical analysis title	Statistical analysis -Index Score
Comparison groups	Epoetin Alfa v Placebo
Number of subjects included in analysis	130
Analysis specification	Pre-specified
Analysis type	superiority
P-value	= 0.66
Method	Wilcoxon 2-sample test

## Secondary: Duration of Erythroid Response During Open-Label Extension Phase

End point title	Duration of Erythroid Response During Open-Label Extension Phase
End point description:	
Duration of response (days) for subjects who enrolled after Week 24 was defined by the assessment of the RRC for subjects who responded at any time during the OLE phase. The duration of response (days) was defined as the number of days in the OLE phase from date of response starting week until date of response ending week (ie, date of ending week response – date of starting week response + 1). The safety analysis set includes all randomized subjects who were enrolled after week 24, week 48 and received at least 1 dose of study agent.	
End point type	Secondary
End point timeframe:	
Up to Week 52	

End point values	Enrolled after Week 24			
Subject group type	Subject analysis set			
Number of subjects analysed	10			
Units: Days				
median (full range (min-max))	105 (71 to 122)			

## Statistical analyses

No statistical analyses for this end point

### Secondary: Time to Erythroid Response Relapse for Subjects Enrolled After Week 48 During Open-Label Extension Phase

End point title	Time to Erythroid Response Relapse for Subjects Enrolled After Week 48 During Open-Label Extension Phase
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End point description:

Time to response after erythroid response determined by the RRC defined as the number of days from (date of ending week response - date of starting week response + 1). The safety analysis set includes all randomized subjects who were enrolled after week 24, week 48 and received at least 1 dose of study agent.

End point type	Secondary
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End point timeframe:

Up to Week 52

<b>End point values</b>	Enrolled after Week 48			
Subject group type	Subject analysis set			
Number of subjects analysed	13 <sup>[4]</sup>			
Units: Days				
median (full range (min-max))	182 (141 to 409)			

Notes:

[4] - 13 subjects were observed with no relapse, time for Erythroid Response Relapse is assessed in them.

## Statistical analyses

No statistical analyses for this end point

### Secondary: Percentage of Subjects With Red Blood Cell Transfusions During Open-Label Extension Phase

End point title	Percentage of Subjects With Red Blood Cell Transfusions During Open-Label Extension Phase
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End point description:

The safety analysis set includes all randomized subjects who were enrolled after Week 24, Week 48 and received at least 1 dose of study agent.

End point type	Secondary
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End point timeframe:

Up to Week 52

<b>End point values</b>	Enrolled after Week 24	Enrolled after Week 48		
Subject group type	Subject analysis set	Subject analysis set		
Number of subjects analysed	10	16		
Units: Percentage of subjects				
number (not applicable)	60	12.5		

### Statistical analyses

No statistical analyses for this end point

### Secondary: Number of Subjects With Adverse Events up to Week 52

End point title	Number of Subjects With Adverse Events up to Week 52
End point description:	
An AE is any untoward medical occurrence in a subject who received study drug without regard to possibility of causal relationship. The safety analysis set consists of all subjects who are randomly assigned to a treatment group and received at least 1 dose of study agent.	
End point type	Secondary
End point timeframe:	
Up to Week 52	

<b>End point values</b>	Epoetin Alfa	Placebo		
Subject group type	Reporting group	Reporting group		
Number of subjects analysed	85	45		
Units: Number of Subjects	73	41		

### Statistical analyses

No statistical analyses for this end point

## Adverse events

### Adverse events information

Timeframe for reporting adverse events:

Up to Week 52

Assessment type	Non-systematic
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### Dictionary used

Dictionary name	MedDRA
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Dictionary version	14.0
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### Reporting groups

Reporting group title	Epoetin Alfa
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Reporting group description:

Subjects received a Starting dose of 450 International Unit per kilogram (IU/kg) of Epoetin Alfa (maximum total dose of 40,000 IU) administered subcutaneously once every week during treatment phase [up to week 24 when no Erythroid response in subjects (non-responders) and] and up to Week 48 for subjects who have entered in study extension phase.

Reporting group title	Placebo
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Reporting group description:

Subjects received a Starting dose of a matching volume of placebo were administered subcutaneously once every week during treatment phase [up to week 24 when no Erythroid response in subjects (nonresponders) and] and up to Week 48 for subjects who have entered in study extension phase.

Reporting group title	Enrolled after Week 24
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Reporting group description:

During the open-label extension phase, 10 subjects were enrolled after week 24 to evaluate the efficacy and safety with continuing on the same dose of epoetin alfa as was used during the double-blind treatment. The dose escalation can be done [if no erythroid response was achieved, and the subject's hemoglobin level was below 11 gram per deciliter (g/dL,) or subject's hemoglobin level was equal to or greater than 11 g/dL,] to 1050 IU/kg and 787.5 IU/kg] but can not exceed more than 80,000 IU dose at any time during the study period.

Reporting group title	Enrolled after Week 48
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Reporting group description:

During the open-label extension phase, 16 subjects were enrolled after Week 48 to evaluate the efficacy and safety with continuing on the same dose of Epoetin Alfa as was used during the double-blind treatment.

Serious adverse events	Epoetin Alfa	Placebo	Enrolled after Week 24
Total subjects affected by serious adverse events			
subjects affected / exposed	35 / 85 (41.18%)	10 / 45 (22.22%)	3 / 10 (30.00%)
number of deaths (all causes)	7	1	0
number of deaths resulting from adverse events			
Neoplasms benign, malignant and unspecified (incl cysts and polyps)			
Acute Myeloid Leukaemia			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	2 / 85 (2.35%)	2 / 45 (4.44%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 2	0 / 2	0 / 0
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 1	0 / 1	0 / 0

Leukaemia			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	1 / 85 (1.18%)	0 / 45 (0.00%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 1	0 / 0	0 / 0
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Myelodysplastic Syndrome			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	5 / 85 (5.88%)	0 / 45 (0.00%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 5	0 / 0	0 / 0
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Prostate Cancer			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	1 / 85 (1.18%)	0 / 45 (0.00%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 1	0 / 0	0 / 0
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Refractory Anaemia with An Excess of Blasts			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	1 / 85 (1.18%)	1 / 45 (2.22%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 1	0 / 1	0 / 0
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Vascular disorders			
Aortic Dissection			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 85 (0.00%)	1 / 45 (2.22%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 1	0 / 0
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Embolism			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	1 / 85 (1.18%)	0 / 45 (0.00%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	1 / 1	0 / 0	0 / 0
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Temporal Arteritis			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			

subjects affected / exposed	1 / 85 (1.18%)	0 / 45 (0.00%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 1	0 / 0	0 / 0
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Surgical and medical procedures			
Knee Arthroplasty			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	2 / 85 (2.35%)	0 / 45 (0.00%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 2	0 / 0	0 / 0
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
General disorders and administration site conditions			
Chest Pain			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	1 / 85 (1.18%)	0 / 45 (0.00%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 1	0 / 0	0 / 0
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Disease Progression			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	4 / 85 (4.71%)	1 / 45 (2.22%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 4	0 / 1	0 / 0
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 1	0 / 0	0 / 0
Impaired Healing			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	1 / 85 (1.18%)	0 / 45 (0.00%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 1	0 / 0	0 / 0
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Pyrexia			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	2 / 85 (2.35%)	1 / 45 (2.22%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 2	0 / 1	0 / 0
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Sudden Death			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			

subjects affected / exposed	2 / 85 (2.35%)	0 / 45 (0.00%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 2	0 / 0	0 / 0
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 2	0 / 0	0 / 0
Social circumstances			
Elderly			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	1 / 85 (1.18%)	0 / 45 (0.00%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 1	0 / 0	0 / 0
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders			
Dyspnoea			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	1 / 85 (1.18%)	0 / 45 (0.00%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 1	0 / 0	0 / 0
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Lung Disorder			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	1 / 85 (1.18%)	0 / 45 (0.00%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 1	0 / 0	0 / 0
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Pleural Effusion			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	1 / 85 (1.18%)	0 / 45 (0.00%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 1	0 / 0	0 / 0
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Investigations			
Anti-Erythropoietin Antibody Positive			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	1 / 85 (1.18%)	0 / 45 (0.00%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	1 / 1	0 / 0	0 / 0
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Haemoglobin Decreased			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			

subjects affected / exposed	0 / 85 (0.00%)	1 / 45 (2.22%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 2	0 / 0
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Injury, poisoning and procedural complications			
Femur Fracture			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	1 / 85 (1.18%)	0 / 45 (0.00%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 1	0 / 0	0 / 0
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Hip Fracture			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	1 / 85 (1.18%)	0 / 45 (0.00%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 1	0 / 0	0 / 0
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Injury			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	1 / 85 (1.18%)	0 / 45 (0.00%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 1	0 / 0	0 / 0
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Laceration			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	1 / 85 (1.18%)	0 / 45 (0.00%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 1	0 / 0	0 / 0
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Traumatic Brain Injury			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	1 / 85 (1.18%)	0 / 45 (0.00%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 1	0 / 0	0 / 0
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Cardiac disorders			
Arrhythmia			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			



subjects affected / exposed	0 / 85 (0.00%)	1 / 45 (2.22%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 1	0 / 0
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Cardiac Failure			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	1 / 85 (1.18%)	0 / 45 (0.00%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 1	0 / 0	0 / 0
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Cardiac Failure Congestive			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	1 / 85 (1.18%)	0 / 45 (0.00%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 1	0 / 0	0 / 0
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 1	0 / 0	0 / 0
Acute myocardial infarction			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 85 (0.00%)	0 / 45 (0.00%)	1 / 10 (10.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 1
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Blood and lymphatic system disorders			
Thrombocytopenia			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	1 / 85 (1.18%)	0 / 45 (0.00%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 1	0 / 0	0 / 0
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Anaemia haemolytic autoimmune			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 85 (0.00%)	0 / 45 (0.00%)	1 / 10 (10.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 1
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Ear and labyrinth disorders			
Vertigo positional			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 85 (0.00%)	0 / 45 (0.00%)	1 / 10 (10.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 1
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Eye disorders			

Age-Related Macular Degeneration alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 85 (0.00%)	1 / 45 (2.22%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 1	0 / 0
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Gastrointestinal disorders			
Abdominal Pain alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	1 / 85 (1.18%)	0 / 45 (0.00%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 1	0 / 0	0 / 0
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Gastritis alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	1 / 85 (1.18%)	0 / 45 (0.00%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 1	0 / 0	0 / 0
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Ileitis alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	1 / 85 (1.18%)	0 / 45 (0.00%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 1	0 / 0	0 / 0
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Nausea alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	1 / 85 (1.18%)	0 / 45 (0.00%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 1	0 / 0	0 / 0
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Oesophagitis alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	1 / 85 (1.18%)	0 / 45 (0.00%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 1	0 / 0	0 / 0
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Pancreatitis Acute alternative assessment type: Systematic			

subjects affected / exposed	0 / 85 (0.00%)	1 / 45 (2.22%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 1	0 / 0
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Sigmoiditis			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 85 (0.00%)	1 / 45 (2.22%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 1	0 / 0
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Vomiting			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	1 / 85 (1.18%)	0 / 45 (0.00%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 1	0 / 0	0 / 0
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Diarrhoea			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 85 (0.00%)	0 / 45 (0.00%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Gastrointestinal haemorrhage			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 85 (0.00%)	0 / 45 (0.00%)	1 / 10 (10.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 1
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders			
Neuropathic Ulcer			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	1 / 85 (1.18%)	0 / 45 (0.00%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 1	0 / 0	0 / 0
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Renal and urinary disorders			
Renal Failure			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	1 / 85 (1.18%)	0 / 45 (0.00%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 1	0 / 0	0 / 0
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 1	0 / 0	0 / 0
Haematuria			

alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	1 / 85 (1.18%)	0 / 45 (0.00%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 1	0 / 0	0 / 0
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders			
Intervertebral Disc Compression			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	1 / 85 (1.18%)	0 / 45 (0.00%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 1	0 / 0	0 / 0
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Infections and infestations			
Diabetic Gangrene			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	1 / 85 (1.18%)	0 / 45 (0.00%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 1	0 / 0	0 / 0
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Pneumonia			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	2 / 85 (2.35%)	2 / 45 (4.44%)	1 / 10 (10.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 3	0 / 2	0 / 1
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Soft Tissue Infection			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	1 / 85 (1.18%)	0 / 45 (0.00%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 1	0 / 0	0 / 0
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Tooth Abscess			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	1 / 85 (1.18%)	0 / 45 (0.00%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 1	0 / 0	0 / 0
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Urosepsis			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			

subjects affected / exposed	1 / 85 (1.18%)	0 / 45 (0.00%)	1 / 10 (10.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 1	0 / 0	0 / 1
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Abscess			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 85 (0.00%)	0 / 45 (0.00%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Aspergillosis			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 85 (0.00%)	0 / 45 (0.00%)	1 / 10 (10.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 1
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Bronchopneumonia			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 85 (0.00%)	0 / 45 (0.00%)	1 / 10 (10.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 1
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Localised infection			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 85 (0.00%)	0 / 45 (0.00%)	1 / 10 (10.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 1
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Sepsis			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 85 (0.00%)	0 / 45 (0.00%)	1 / 10 (10.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 1
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Metabolism and nutrition disorders			
Cachexia			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	1 / 85 (1.18%)	0 / 45 (0.00%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 1	0 / 0	0 / 0
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 1	0 / 0	0 / 0
Hyperglycaemia			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			

subjects affected / exposed	1 / 85 (1.18%)	0 / 45 (0.00%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 1	0 / 0	0 / 0
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0

<b>Serious adverse events</b>	Enrolled after Week 48		
Total subjects affected by serious adverse events			
subjects affected / exposed	2 / 16 (12.50%)		
number of deaths (all causes)	0		
number of deaths resulting from adverse events			
Neoplasms benign, malignant and unspecified (incl cysts and polyps)			
Acute Myeloid Leukaemia			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)		
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
Leukaemia			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)		
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
Myelodysplastic Syndrome			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	1 / 16 (6.25%)		
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 1		
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
Prostate Cancer			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)		
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
Refractory Anaemia with An Excess of Blasts			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			

subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)		
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
Vascular disorders			
Aortic Dissection			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)		
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
Embolism			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)		
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
Temporal Arteritis			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)		
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
Surgical and medical procedures			
Knee Arthroplasty			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)		
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
General disorders and administration site conditions			
Chest Pain			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)		
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
Disease Progression			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			

subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)		
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
Impaired Healing			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)		
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
Pyrexia			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)		
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
Sudden Death			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)		
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
Social circumstances			
Elderly			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)		
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders			
Dyspnoea			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)		
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
Lung Disorder			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			



subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)		
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
Pleural Effusion			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)		
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
Investigations			
Anti-Erythropoietin Antibody Positive			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)		
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
Haemoglobin Decreased			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)		
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
Injury, poisoning and procedural complications			
Femur Fracture			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)		
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
Hip Fracture			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)		
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
Injury			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			

subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)		
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
Laceration			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)		
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
Traumatic Brain Injury			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)		
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
Cardiac disorders			
Arrhythmia			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)		
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
Cardiac Failure			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)		
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
Cardiac Failure Congestive			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)		
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
Acute myocardial infarction			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)		
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		

Blood and lymphatic system disorders			
Thrombocytopenia			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)		
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
Anaemia haemolytic autoimmune			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)		
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
Ear and labyrinth disorders			
Vertigo positional			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)		
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
Eye disorders			
Age-Related Macular Degeneration			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)		
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
Gastrointestinal disorders			
Abdominal Pain			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)		
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
Gastritis			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)		
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
Ileitis			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			

subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)			
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0			
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0			
Nausea				
alternative assessment type: Systematic				
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)			
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0			
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0			
Oesophagitis				
alternative assessment type: Systematic				
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)			
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0			
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0			
Pancreatitis Acute				
alternative assessment type: Systematic				
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)			
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0			
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0			
Sigmoiditis				
alternative assessment type: Systematic				
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)			
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0			
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0			
Vomiting				
alternative assessment type: Systematic				
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)			
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0			
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0			
Diarrhoea				
subjects affected / exposed	1 / 16 (6.25%)			
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 1			
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0			
Gastrointestinal haemorrhage				

subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)		
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders			
Neuropathic Ulcer			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)		
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
Renal and urinary disorders			
Renal Failure			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)		
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
Haematuria			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)		
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders			
Intervertebral Disc Compression			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)		
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
Infections and infestations			
Diabetic Gangrene			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)		
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
Pneumonia			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			

subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)			
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0			
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0			
Soft Tissue Infection				
alternative assessment type: Systematic				
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)			
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0			
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0			
Tooth Abscess				
alternative assessment type: Systematic				
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)			
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0			
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0			
Urosepsis				
alternative assessment type: Systematic				
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)			
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0			
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0			
Abscess				
subjects affected / exposed	1 / 16 (6.25%)			
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 1			
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0			
Aspergillosis				
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)			
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0			
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0			
Bronchopneumonia				
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)			
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0			
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0			
Localised infection				

subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)		
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
Sepsis			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)		
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
Metabolism and nutrition disorders			
Cachexia			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)		
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
Hyperglycaemia			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)		
occurrences causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		
deaths causally related to treatment / all	0 / 0		

Frequency threshold for reporting non-serious adverse events: 5 %

<b>Non-serious adverse events</b>	Epoetin Alfa	Placebo	Enrolled after Week 24
Total subjects affected by non-serious adverse events			
subjects affected / exposed	51 / 85 (60.00%)	25 / 45 (55.56%)	1 / 10 (10.00%)
Vascular disorders			
Hypertension			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	3 / 85 (3.53%)	3 / 45 (6.67%)	1 / 10 (10.00%)
occurrences (all)	3	3	1
Blood and lymphatic system disorders			
Anaemia			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	6 / 85 (7.06%)	5 / 45 (11.11%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences (all)	7	25	0
General disorders and administration			

site conditions			
Asthenia			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	12 / 85 (14.12%)	5 / 45 (11.11%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences (all)	25	7	0
Fatigue			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	10 / 85 (11.76%)	3 / 45 (6.67%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences (all)	13	3	0
Oedema Peripheral			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	4 / 85 (4.71%)	5 / 45 (11.11%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences (all)	4	5	0
Pyrexia			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	7 / 85 (8.24%)	4 / 45 (8.89%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences (all)	10	4	0
Ear and labyrinth disorders			
Vertigo			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	4 / 85 (4.71%)	3 / 45 (6.67%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences (all)	5	3	0
Gastrointestinal disorders			
Abdominal Pain			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	5 / 85 (5.88%)	2 / 45 (4.44%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences (all)	6	2	0
Constipation			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	8 / 85 (9.41%)	0 / 45 (0.00%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences (all)	9	0	0
Diarrhoea			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	9 / 85 (10.59%)	3 / 45 (6.67%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences (all)	13	3	0
Nausea			



<p>alternative assessment type: Systematic</p> <p>subjects affected / exposed</p> <p>occurrences (all)</p>	<p>6 / 85 (7.06%)</p> <p>7</p>	<p>0 / 45 (0.00%)</p> <p>0</p>	<p>0 / 10 (0.00%)</p> <p>0</p>
<p>Vomiting</p> <p>alternative assessment type: Systematic</p> <p>subjects affected / exposed</p> <p>occurrences (all)</p>	<p>5 / 85 (5.88%)</p> <p>5</p>	<p>1 / 45 (2.22%)</p> <p>1</p>	<p>0 / 10 (0.00%)</p> <p>0</p>
<p>Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders</p> <p>Cough</p> <p>alternative assessment type: Systematic</p> <p>subjects affected / exposed</p> <p>occurrences (all)</p> <p>Dyspnoea</p> <p>alternative assessment type: Systematic</p> <p>subjects affected / exposed</p> <p>occurrences (all)</p>	<p>4 / 85 (4.71%)</p> <p>4</p> <p>10 / 85 (11.76%)</p> <p>15</p>	<p>3 / 45 (6.67%)</p> <p>3</p> <p>1 / 45 (2.22%)</p> <p>1</p>	<p>0 / 10 (0.00%)</p> <p>0</p> <p>0 / 10 (0.00%)</p> <p>0</p>
<p>Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders</p> <p>Pruritus</p> <p>alternative assessment type: Systematic</p> <p>subjects affected / exposed</p> <p>occurrences (all)</p>	<p>5 / 85 (5.88%)</p> <p>6</p>	<p>1 / 45 (2.22%)</p> <p>1</p>	<p>0 / 10 (0.00%)</p> <p>0</p>
<p>Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders</p> <p>Back Pain</p> <p>alternative assessment type: Systematic</p> <p>subjects affected / exposed</p> <p>occurrences (all)</p> <p>Bone Pain</p> <p>alternative assessment type: Systematic</p> <p>subjects affected / exposed</p> <p>occurrences (all)</p>	<p>3 / 85 (3.53%)</p> <p>3</p> <p>6 / 85 (7.06%)</p> <p>6</p>	<p>3 / 45 (6.67%)</p> <p>3</p> <p>0 / 45 (0.00%)</p> <p>0</p>	<p>0 / 10 (0.00%)</p> <p>0</p> <p>0 / 10 (0.00%)</p> <p>0</p>
<p>Infections and infestations</p> <p>Nasopharyngitis</p> <p>alternative assessment type: Systematic</p>			

subjects affected / exposed	7 / 85 (8.24%)	2 / 45 (4.44%)	0 / 10 (0.00%)
occurrences (all)	12	2	0

<b>Non-serious adverse events</b>	Enrolled after Week 48		
Total subjects affected by non-serious adverse events			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)		
Vascular disorders			
Hypertension			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)		
occurrences (all)	0		
Blood and lymphatic system disorders			
Anaemia			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)		
occurrences (all)	0		
General disorders and administration site conditions			
Asthenia			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)		
occurrences (all)	0		
Fatigue			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)		
occurrences (all)	0		
Oedema Peripheral			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)		
occurrences (all)	0		
Pyrexia			
alternative assessment type: Systematic			
subjects affected / exposed	0 / 16 (0.00%)		
occurrences (all)	0		
Ear and labyrinth disorders			

Vertigo alternative assessment type: Systematic subjects affected / exposed occurrences (all)	0 / 16 (0.00%) 0		
Gastrointestinal disorders Abdominal Pain alternative assessment type: Systematic subjects affected / exposed occurrences (all)  Constipation alternative assessment type: Systematic subjects affected / exposed occurrences (all)  Diarrhoea alternative assessment type: Systematic subjects affected / exposed occurrences (all)  Nausea alternative assessment type: Systematic subjects affected / exposed occurrences (all)  Vomiting alternative assessment type: Systematic subjects affected / exposed occurrences (all)	0 / 16 (0.00%) 0  0 / 16 (0.00%) 0  0 / 16 (0.00%) 0  0 / 16 (0.00%) 0  0 / 16 (0.00%) 0		
Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders Cough alternative assessment type: Systematic subjects affected / exposed occurrences (all)  Dyspnoea alternative assessment type: Systematic subjects affected / exposed occurrences (all)	0 / 16 (0.00%) 0  0 / 16 (0.00%) 0		
Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders			

Pruritus alternative assessment type: Systematic subjects affected / exposed occurrences (all)	0 / 16 (0.00%) 0		
Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders Back Pain alternative assessment type: Systematic subjects affected / exposed occurrences (all)  Bone Pain alternative assessment type: Systematic subjects affected / exposed occurrences (all)	0 / 16 (0.00%) 0  0 / 16 (0.00%) 0		
Infections and infestations Nasopharyngitis alternative assessment type: Systematic subjects affected / exposed occurrences (all)	0 / 16 (0.00%) 0		

## More information

### Substantial protocol amendments (globally)

Were there any global substantial amendments to the protocol? Yes

Date	Amendment
02 March 2012	The second amendment (INT-2) was considered substantial and included specification that for all non-responders at Week 24, the treatment code would be broken after the Week 28 assessments. For responders at Week 48, the treatment code would be broken after Week 48, following assessment of response. It was also clarified that blinded study treatment would be administered to all subjects at Week 24, and that blood samples for erythropoietin antibody testing in Week 24 non-responders would be obtained after Week 24 response assessments. Additionally, study inclusion criterion 4 was modified: a maximum hemoglobin concentration of 10.5 gram per deciliter (g/dL) at baseline was deemed acceptable for subjects undergoing Red blood cells (RBC) transfusion between screening and baseline. For inclusion criterion 6, a transfusion requirement of less than or equal to ( $\leq$ ) 4 RBC units over the 8 weeks before randomization was defined.
24 January 2013	The third amendment (INT-3; 24 January 2013) was considered substantial and included a number of changes to the inclusion/exclusion criteria to reduce the burden on subjects and to provide clarifications. Inclusion criteria 2 and 3 were modified to include diagnosis of myelodysplastic syndromes (MDS) and documentation of International Prognostic Scoring System (IPSS) during the screening phase as well as within the 12 weeks previously, but in case of signs of possible disease progression, a bone marrow aspirate/biopsy for diagnosis of primary MDS and an IPSS score were to be obtained during the screening period. In addition, the possibilities for retesting or rescreening were extended for potential subjects who were suitable for the study but temporarily ineligible due to either factors at screening that could be corrected or that were potentially due to fluctuations in laboratory tests. Inclusion criterion 5 was amended to clarify that erythropoietin could be retested. Additional changes allowed the resupply of vitamin B12 and/or folate to potential subjects who had confirmed MDS diagnosis but had B12/folate deficiency at screening. Such subjects could be eligible for study if adequate retested B12/folate levels were demonstrable before randomization. Inclusion criterion 4 was modified further such that the maximum allowable hemoglobin concentration of 10.5 g/dL was also applied to potential subjects who had received RBC transfusions within 2 weeks before screening. Changes to exclusion criteria included clarifications regarding: prior use of approved or experimental agents for the treatment of MDS ; history of uncontrolled hypertension; androgen or corticosteroid use; 2-week period before screening for prior treatment for neutropenia; and history of heart disease before screening. A new criterion was added to exclude patients who were receiving iron chelation therapy for greater than or equal ( $\geq$ ) 6 months at screening for iron overload caused by blood transfusion.
19 February 2013	The local Country-specific protocol amendments that were considered were implemented in Germany (12th Feb 2013), Bulgaria (19th Feb 2014), and Greece (15th Feb 2013). The amendments provided an optional open-label treatment phase and were implemented in Germany, Bulgaria, and Greece. Non-responders at Week 24 who received placebo in the double-blind phase and responders at Week 48 who received epoetin alfa in the treatment extension phase could receive open-label epoetin alfa for up to 6 months after the end of the main double-blind study phase (Germany and Greece) or until up to 1 year after the last subject had enrolled in the open-label treatment phase (Bulgaria). The key aspects and results of the open-label treatment phase will be reported separately. Additionally, a local protocol amendment indicated that measurement of iron-binding capacity was optional in Germany, consistent with local clinical practice.

Notes:

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## **Interruptions (globally)**

Were there any global interruptions to the trial? No

## **Limitations and caveats**

None reported