

A Phase 2 randomised trial of safety and pharmacokinetics of IgPro20 and IgPro10 in patients with diffuse cutaneous systemic sclerosis

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1 **Abstract**

2

3 **Objectives:** The primary objective was the safety of subcutaneous immunoglobulin, IgPro20
4 (Hizentra, CSL Behring) in adults with diffuse cutaneous systemic sclerosis (dcSSc).

5 Secondary objectives included pharmacokinetics and relative bioavailability of IgPro20, and
6 safety and pharmacokinetics of intravenous immunoglobulin, IgPro10 (Privigen, CSL
7 Behring).

8 **Methods:** In this prospective, multicentre, randomised, open-label, crossover Phase 2 study
9 (NCT04137224), patients (aged ≥18 years) with dcSSc were assigned to 16 weeks of IgPro20
10 (0.5 g/kg/week) followed by 16 weeks of IgPro10 (2 g/kg/4 weeks over 2–5 sessions), or
11 vice-versa. Treatment-emergent adverse events (TEAEs), serious adverse events (SAEs),
12 infusion site reactions (ISRs), clinical tests, pharmacokinetic and bioavailability were
13 assessed.

14 **Results:** Twenty-seven patients were randomised from 9 October 2019 to 31 August 2021.
15 In total, 22 patients (81.5%) experienced 107 TEAEs (IgPro20, 49; IgPro10, 58); most were
16 mild/moderate. Six patients (22.2%) experienced ten SAEs (IgPro20, 6; IgPro10, 4); no
17 treatment-related SAEs and no deaths were reported. IgPro20 ISR rate was low (2 per 100
18 infusions). Maximum immunoglobulin G concentration (mean [standard deviation]) was
19 numerically lower following IgPro20 (23.7 [1.2] g/L) versus IgPro10 (46.1 [1.2] g/L), as was
20 the geometric mean dose-normalised, baseline-corrected area under the concentration-
21 time curve from time point 0 to tau (IgPro20, 44.8 [1.4] h*g/L; IgPro10, 60.2 [1.4] h*g/L).
22 The bioavailability of IgPro20 relative to IgPro10 was 76.1%.

23 **Conclusion:** This study shows that in patients with dcSSc, IgPro20 is well tolerated and
24 safety, pharmacokinetic and bioavailability profiles of IgPro20, and safety and
25 pharmacokinetics of IgPro10, are similar to those observed in other approved indications.
26

27 NCT04137224

28 **Key words:** Pharmacokinetics, subcutaneous immunoglobulin, intravenous immunoglobulin,
29 systemic sclerosis

30 **Key messages:**

31 What is already known on this topic

- 32 • Before efficacy and safety of immunoglobulin G therapy is assessed, investigation of
33 the safety, pharmacokinetic and relative bioavailability in patients with diffuse
34 cutaneous systemic sclerosis is warranted.

35 What this study adds

- 36 • This study in adults with diffuse cutaneous systemic sclerosis showed SCIG is well
37 tolerated in these patients with acceptable safety, pharmacokinetic and
38 bioavailability profiles.

39 How this study might affect research, practice or policy

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 - 2
- Safety and pharmacokinetic profiles of IgPro20 and IgPro10 demonstrate that they are well tolerated in patients with diffuse cutaneous systemic sclerosis.

1 Introduction

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3 Systemic sclerosis (SSc) is a chronic autoimmune rare, immune-mediated connective tissue
4 disorder, with a worldwide prevalence rate estimated at 17.6 per 100,000. [1-3] The
5 cumulative survival for patients 10 years post-diagnosis is 62.5%, making SSc one of the
6 most life-threatening rheumatic diseases. [4-6] The disease is characterised by progressive
7 vascular damage and organ fibrosis, with most patients presenting with skin thickening with
8 variable internal organ involvement. [2, 7, 8]

9

10 The two main subsets of SSc are defined by the distribution of skin thickening: limited
11 cutaneous systemic sclerosis (lcSSc) and diffuse cutaneous systemic sclerosis (dcSSc). [8]
12 Patients with dcSSc (20–40% of SSc cases) generally experience early rapid progression of
13 skin thickening and are at high risk for early, widespread and severe internal organ
14 involvement, [9] associated with increased morbidity, mortality and a poor quality of life. [9,
15 10]

16

17 Current treatment of SSc are organ-based and primarily aimed at improving symptoms and
18 managing complications. [11] Currently, systemic therapeutic options (primarily
19 immunosuppressants) are used off-label, are only partially effective and are associated with
20 adverse events (AEs), including severe infection. [11, 12] With no approved disease-
21 modifying treatment for SSc, new therapeutic options are needed.

22

23 With the implication of immune dysregulation in SSc, immunoglobulin G (IgG) therapy might
24 be beneficial for patients with SSc as it acts on various pathogenic mechanisms of
25 autoimmune diseases. [2, 13] IgG therapy has been used as a treatment for autoimmune
26 disorders for many decades and has the advantage of an excellent safety profile with no
27 increased risk of infection, as it is not an immunosuppressant. [13-16] IgPro20 (20%
28 subcutaneous human immunoglobulin [SCIG], Hizentra, CSL Behring) and IgPro10 (10%
29 intravenous human immunoglobulin [IVIG], Privigen, CSL Behring) have existing approvals
30 for autoimmune diseases and as immunoglobulin replacement therapy. [17-20] There is
31 limited and inconclusive evidence on IVIG use in patients with SSc, including lcSSc and dcSSc,
32 while some observational studies have indicated a benefit of IVIG for multiple clinical
33 manifestations, a randomised controlled trial of IVIG in dcSSc did not meet its primary
34 endpoint, although it did indicate that repeated IVIG may produce a stronger efficacy effect.
35 [16, 21-24] No trials on the use of SCIG in patients with SSc have been published to date,
36 except for one case published on the use of SCIG products in a patient with progressive SSc.
37 [25]

38

39 Experience in other indications shows that the pharmacokinetic (PK) and safety profiles of
40 SCIG and IVIG are different, and mostly specific to the route of administration. SCIG results
41 in higher trough, lower peak and reduced fluctuation of serum IgG levels than those
42 observed with IVIG. [26] SCIG is also characterised by a lower rate of systemic AEs and a
43 minimal “wearing off” effect at the end of the dosing interval compared with IVIG. [27, 28]
44 The most common AEs associated with SCIG products are local infusion site reactions (ISRs),

1 which are predominantly mild, quickly resolve without specialised treatment and usually
2 decrease over time. [27] Low rates of systemic AEs, flexible dosing regimens, good quality of
3 life and cost savings are all important advantages of SCIG administration. [26, 27, 29-31]

4
5 The safety of SCIG in SSc requires further evaluation as the change in skin and subcutaneous
6 (SC) tissues in SSc leads to fibrosis, lymphatic vessel attenuation, vasculopathy and
7 sometimes ulceration, [2, 32, 33] which may impact the overall safety and PK (e.g.,
8 absorption) profile of IgG through SC administration. Therefore, before efficacy and safety
9 of a SCIG product is assessed in a large-scale clinical study, a separate investigation of the
10 safety, PK and relative bioavailability of SCIG in patients with dcSSc is warranted.

11
12 The primary objective of this prospective, multicentre, randomised, Phase 2 study was the
13 evaluation of the safety of SCIG (IgPro20) in adults with dcSSc by recording of AEs,
14 treatment-emergent adverse events (TEAEs), AE of special interests (AESIs), ISRs and
15 associated clinical tests. The secondary objectives were assessing PK and relative
16 bioavailability of IgPro20, and the safety profile and PK of IgPro10.

17 18 **Methods**

19 20 **Study design**

21 This prospective, multicentre, randomised, open-label, crossover Phase 2 study
22 (ClinicalTrials.gov: NCT04137224; EudraCT: 2018-003149-41) was initiated at 15 study sites
23 (**Sup. File 1**). Eligible patients were randomly assigned (1:1) to sequence A (IgPro20-IgPro10
24 treatment sequence) or sequence B (IgPro10-IgPro20 treatment sequence) by means of an
25 external interactive response technology (**Fig. 1 and 2**).

26 27 **Patient consent and involvement**

28 Patients' written informed consent prior to any protocol procedures was obtained and
29 documented as per the International Council for Harmonisation of Good Clinical Practice
30 and applicable regulatory requirements. This study was carried out in accordance with the
31 International Council for Harmonisation of Good Clinical Practice guidelines, and the
32 Declaration of Helsinki and all applicable national and local regulations.

33 34 **Inclusion and exclusion criteria**

35 The inclusion criteria were: males and females aged ≥ 18 years; a documented diagnosis of
36 SSc (scleroderma) according to the European League Against Rheumatism (EULAR) and the
37 American College of Rheumatology (ACR) criteria for SSc [7] with diffuse cutaneous features;
38 [8] skin thickness scores as measured by the modified Rodnan skin score (mRSS) of 15–45 at
39 screening (on a scale from 0–51); a disease duration ≤ 5 years (from the first non-Raynaud's
40 phenomena manifestation); capability of written informed consent and adherence to all
41 protocol requirements. Classification of dcSSc was confirmed using the criteria from LeRoy
42 and colleagues. [8] Exclusion criteria included: primary rheumatic autoimmune disease
43 other than dcSSc; mRSS > 2 at the potential SC infusion sites; and/or a history of a skin

1 condition, or clinical signs and symptoms of a chronic skin disease other than dcSSc, or
2 clinical signs and symptoms of skin irritation (**Sup. File 2**).

4 **Treatment schedule, dosing and administration**

5 Two treatment periods (treatment period 1 and treatment period 2; 16 weeks each) were
6 completed by each patient, with up to 40 weeks (including screening) of study duration for
7 an individual (**Fig. 1**). In sequence A, patients received a total dose of 0.5 g/kg of IgPro20
8 (Hizentra, CSL Behring) over two sessions per week in treatment period 1, followed by a
9 total dose of 2 g/kg of IgPro10 (Privigen, CSL Behring) over two to five sessions on
10 consecutive days every 4 weeks in treatment period 2 (**Fig. 1**). In sequence B, patients
11 received the same treatment regimen, in the reverse order of sequence A. A follow-up visit
12 4 weeks after the last dose was organised for all patients who completed the study or
13 discontinued early (**Fig. 1**).

15 The dosage of IgPro10 (2 g/kg/4 weeks) was based on the general recommendations for
16 IVIG dosage in autoimmune conditions [13, 14] and on previous studies of IVIG in patients
17 with SSc. [21, 34] The dosage of IgPro20 (0.5 g/kg/week) was calculated based on the 1:1
18 IVIG to SCIG ratio used in other autoimmune indications such as CIDP. [35] The total
19 dose/volume of IgPro20 and IgPro10 were calculated based on bodyweight; however,
20 patients weighing ≥ 100 kg received a fixed dose of 50 g of IgPro20 every week or 200 g of
21 IgPro10 every 4 weeks.

23 The SC infusions were performed at selected infusion sites (e.g., on the abdomen, thighs
24 and/or lateral hip) on skin areas with mRSS ≤ 2 .

27 **Safety of IgPro20 and IgPro10**

28 The safety of IgPro20 and IgPro10 were the primary and secondary objectives of this study,
29 respectively. This included recording AEs (total, severity, causality and outcome) such as
30 TEAEs, serious adverse events (SAEs), AESIs (defined as haemolysis, thromboembolic events
31 and acute renal injury) and ISRs. The number of events, along with the number and
32 percentage of patients with TEAEs, SAEs, AESIs and ISRs were recorded. The median
33 (interquartile range [IQR]) duration of ISRs, onset of ISR since the start of treatment period
34 and time to onset of ISR since the start of last infusion were recorded. The percentage of
35 patients with AEs were compared by treatment, treatment sequence, combination of
36 treatment and treatment period throughout. Baseline and safety assessments were
37 performed using the following clinical tests: physical examination, electrocardiograms (ECG),
38 measurement of vital signs, laboratory tests (urine, serum, haematology, virology,
39 haemolysis), pulmonary function test(s) (PFTs) and bodyweight. Reasons for infusion
40 interruptions were also collected. The denominator for all safety analyses was the safety
41 analysis set (SAF), defined as 'all patients who received at least one partial infusion of
42 IgPro20 or IgPro10' (N=27).

44 IgPro20 infusions

1 Data regarding the total administered volume, total dose, maximum infusion rate per
2 infusion site, and maximum volume per infusion site was collected for IgPro20 infusions.

4 **PK of IgPro20 and IgPro10**

5 For PK assessments, serum samples were collected throughout to measure IgG trough levels
6 and additional blood samples for rich PK sampling of IgG levels were collected at the end of
7 each treatment period to calculate PK parameters (**Fig. 1**). PK parameters included: area
8 under the concentration-time curve from time point 0 to tau (limited to the end of a dosing
9 interval, $AUC_{0-\tau}$), baseline-corrected $AUC_{0-\tau}$, area under the concentration-time curve
10 from time point 0 to the last quantifiable time point (AUC_{0-last}) and maximum IgG
11 concentration (C_{max}).

12
13 Population bioavailability of IgPro20 relative to IgPro10 was assessed using mixed model
14 repeated measures on a log-transformed dose-normalised baseline-corrected $AUC_{0-\tau}$. The
15 model included treatment, treatment period and treatment-by-treatment-period
16 interaction as fixed effects with an unstructured covariance matrix. The geometric mean
17 ratio and corresponding 90% confidence interval (CI) derived from the statistical model
18 were used to assess relative bioavailability of IgPro20 compared IgPro10 based on
19 dose-normalised baseline-corrected $AUC_{0-\tau}$.

21 **Modified Rodnan skin score (mRSS)**

22 An exploratory efficacy objective of this study was improvement in skin thickness following
23 IgPro20 and IgPro10, measured by mRSS (total score and response). The mRSS was assessed
24 at baseline, weeks 1 and 17, and end of treatment. The mRSS response definition of change
25 was from reference visit ≤ -5 and percentage change from reference visit $\leq -25\%$.

28 **Statistical analysis**

29 The sample size was based on feasibility, not driven by power calculations for statistical
30 hypothesis testing. All safety analyses were based on the SAF, no formal hypothesis testing
31 was performed. Changes from baseline were analysed by treatment, by sequence and
32 combination of treatment and treatment period.

33
34 Population bioavailability was assessed using mixed model repeated measures on log-
35 transformed dose-normalised baseline-corrected $AUC_{0-\tau}$. The model included treatment,
36 treatment period and treatment-by-treatment-period interaction as fixed effects with an
37 unstructured covariance matrix. Geometric mean ratio and corresponding 90% CI derived
38 from the statistical model were used to assess the relative bioavailability of IgPro20 based
39 on dose-normalised baseline-corrected $AUC_{0-\tau}$.

41 **Results**

43 **Patient characteristics**

1 The first patient was enrolled on 19 September 2019 and the last patient visit occurred on
2 17 May 2022. Out of 30 patients screened, 27 (90.0%) patients were randomised and
3 treated (SAF). In total, 25 (92.6%) patients completed the study, with one patient
4 withdrawing from the study due to moving abroad and one patient withdrawing because of
5 a TEAE (myocardial ischaemia) (**Sup. Fig. 1**). Overall, 26 patients received IgPro20, and 27
6 patients received IgPro10. The mean (standard deviation [SD]) age of the patients was 49.3
7 (12.5) years; 66.7% (N=18) of the patients included in the safety analysis were female and
8 96.3% (N=26) of the patients were Caucasian (**Table 1**). All patients had been previously
9 diagnosed with dcSSc and the mean (SD) time since diagnosis was 19.2 (16.7) months.
10 Overall, 22 (81.5%) patients were on at least one background therapy/immunosuppressant
11 at baseline (e.g., eight patients in each group were receiving mycophenolate mofetil). Skin
12 involvement was moderate to severe with a mean mRSS total score (SD) at baseline of 24.4
13 (6.4) points; medical history of ILD was recorded for seven patients (25.9%, **Table 1**).

14

15 **Safety of IgPro20 and IgPro10**

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17 **TEAEs**

18 In total, 22 patients (81.5%) experienced 107 TEAEs, the majority of which were mild or
19 moderate (102 events, **Table 2**); with 18 patients (69.2%) experiencing 49 TEAEs on IgPro20
20 and 13 patients (48.1%) experiencing 58 TEAEs on IgPro10. The most common TEAEs (>10%
21 of all patients) by preferred term were headaches (IgPro20 treatment periods: one patient
22 [3.8%] with one event; IgPro10 treatment periods: five patients [18.5%] and 11 events),
23 coronavirus disease 2019 (three patients [11.1%] and three events in IgPro20 treatment
24 periods only), diarrhoea (IgPro20 treatment periods: one patient [3.8%] with one event;
25 IgPro10 treatment periods: two patients [7.4%]) and two events) and vomiting (IgPro20
26 treatment periods: one patient [3.8%] with one event; IgPro10 treatment periods: two
27 patients [7.4%] and two events).

28

29 In total, 15 patients (55.6%) experienced 52 TEAEs considered related to the study
30 treatment (**Table 2**). The most common (>10% of all patients) treatment-related TEAE by
31 preferred term was headache (one patient [3.8%] with one event on IgPro20; five patients
32 [18.5%] and ten events on IgPro10, **Table 2**). Overall, four patients (14.8%) had severe TEAEs
33 (five events); in the IgPro20 treatment periods, three patients (11.5%) experienced four of
34 the total five events and one patient (3.7%) experienced one severe TEAE in an IgPro10
35 treatment period (**Table 2**).

36

37 **SAEs**

38 A total of six patients (22.2%) experienced 10 SAEs, none of which were considered related
39 to study treatment (**Sup. Table 1**). During the IgPro20 treatment periods, five patients
40 (19.2%) experienced six SAEs (upper gastrointestinal haemorrhage, chest pain, myocardial
41 infarction, myocardial ischaemia, breast cancer and ILD). During the IgPro10 treatment
42 periods, two patients (7.4%) experienced four SAEs (viral infection, chronic gastritis,
43 vomiting and dehydration). One patient (3.7%) had two SAEs on IgPro20 (myocardial
44 ischaemia and myocardial infarction) and was discontinued from the study (**Sup. Table 1**).

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AESIs and TEAEs leading to treatment discontinuation

One grade 1 myocardial infarction was reported during the study as an AEsI; this occurred during IgPro20 treatment and was judged unrelated to treatment by the investigator. One TEAE of coronavirus disease 2019 led a patient to discontinue treatment in period 1; once recovered, the patient went on to complete the study. No other AESIs or TEAEs leading to discontinuation of the study were reported. No deaths were reported in the study.

Reasons for interruptions

In total, there were 10 TEAEs (occurring in eight patients, 29.6%) that led to study drug interruptions. Two patients (7.4%) had two TEAEs leading to study drug interruptions in the IgPro10 periods (upper respiratory tract infection and viral infection; both in Period 1) and six patients (23.1%) had eight events in the IgPro20 periods (rash, upper gastrointestinal haemorrhage, abdominal distension, abdominal pain, lower respiratory tract infection, breast cancer, and two coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) events; six in period 1 and two in period 2). All of the TEAEs that led to drug interruptions were unrelated to the study treatment except for rash, abdominal distension, and abdominal pain. No ISRs led to study drug interruptions.

In addition to TEAEs, infusions were interrupted due to pump malfunction during IgPro20 infusions (n=2), IgPro10 vial/bottle changes (n=1), the patient needing the bathroom during an IgPro10 infusion (n=1), to comply with maximum IgPro20 infusion rate and volume in the protocol (n=1), and user error with the pump during the IgPro20 infusion (n=1). Additional difficulties during administration which did not result in an interruption occurred for one patient during the IgPro20 infusions, these included further pump malfunctions, incomplete supplies, and a syringe malfunction.

ISRs

Overall, five patients (18.5%) experienced fourteen ISRs following IgPro20 infusions, with seven ISR events reported in one patient and one ISR event reported as not recovered/not resolved (**Table 3**). All events were related to the study treatment and were mild/moderate in severity. No ISRs led to discontinuation of the study treatment or study withdrawal. Infusion-site pain and infusion-site swelling were the most common ISRs (two patients [7.4%] experienced three events each, **Table 2** and **Sup. Table 2**). Overall, 686 IgPro20 infusions were performed, resulting in an overall ISR rate per infusion of 0.02, i.e., two ISRs per 100 infusions. The median (IQR) time to onset of ISR since the start of last infusion was 78.0 (30.0–105.0) minutes. The median (IQR) duration of ISR was 220.0 (162.0–1170.0) minutes. No ISRs were reported in patients receiving IgPro10 infusions.

Clinical tests

During the course of the study, no clinically relevant changes in mean data were observed for physical examination, vital signs, body weight, clinical laboratory tests, ECGs or PFTs (data not shown for brevity).

1 IgPro20 infusions
2 Per patient (n=26), the mean (SD) total administered volume of IgPro20 was 2,431.4 (731.5)
3 mL and the total dose (g) was 486.3 (146.3) g. The mean (SD) maximum volume per infusion
4 site was 43.1 (13.6) mL/site and the maximum infusion rate per infusion site was 42.5 (13.9)
5 mL/hr/site.

6

7 **PK of IgPro20 and IgPro10**

8 At week 1 (baseline), the mean (SD) serum IgG concentrations were 13.3 (4.3) g/L and 12.3
9 (4.3) g/L in sequence A (IgPro20/IgPro10) and sequence B (IgPro10/IgPro20), respectively.
10 Overall mean (SD) trough serum IgG concentrations following administration of IgPro20
11 ranged from 22.2 (4.1)–23.8 (12.9) g/L in treatment period 1 and from 20.6 (2.0)–22.0 (2.7)
12 g/L in treatment period 2, which was numerically higher than following IgPro10 treatment at
13 17.3 (2.9)–17.9 (2.8) g/L in treatment period 1 and 17.1 (6.7)–19.6 (11.6) g/L in treatment
14 period 2. As expected, the mean (SD) C_{max} was numerically lower following IgPro20
15 administration (23.7 [1.2] g/L) compared with IgPro10 administration (46.1 [1.2] g/L)46 (**Fig.**
16 **2**). Further PK parameters (AUC_{0-tau} , baseline corrected AUC_{0-tau} , AUC_{0-last} and C_{max}) are
17 presented in **Table 4**. The geometric mean (geometric SD) dose-normalised, baseline-
18 corrected AUC_{0-tau} were 44.8 (1.4) h*g/L for IgPro20 and 60.2 (1.4) h*g/L for IgPro10 (**Table**
19 **4**).

20

21 **Bioavailability**

22 The bioavailability (90% CI) of IgPro20 relative to IgPro10 was numerically higher in
23 sequence A (0.831 [0.734, 0.940]) than in sequence B (0.698 [0.623, 0.780]); the overall
24 population relative bioavailability of IgPro20 was 0.761 (0.703, 0.823), i.e., 76.1%
25 bioavailability relative to IgPro10 (**Table 4**).

26

27 **mRSS**

28 Improvements in mean mRSS total score were observed following each treatment at Week
29 17 and Week 32 (**Sup. Table 3**). In total, 11 (40.7%) patients were mRSS responders in
30 Weeks 1 to 17, and 18 (66.7%) were responders over Weeks 1 to 32 (**Sup. Table 3**).

31

32 **Discussion**

33 This multicentre, randomised, open-label, crossover, Phase 2 study evaluated for the first
34 time, the safety, PK and bioavailability of IgPro20 (SCIG, Hizentra, CSL Behring) in adults with
35 dcSSc. SC administration of IgPro20 in patients with dcSSc associated with moderate-to-
36 severe skin thickness is well tolerated with acceptable safety, PK and bioavailability profiles.
37 The results also indicate acceptable safety and PK profiles for IgPro10 (IVIG, Privigen, CSL
38 Behring) in adults with dcSSc.

39

40 The safety profile of IgPro20 observed here is consistent with the established safety profiles
41 for other approved indications such as CIDP. [17-20] Overall, the majority of TEAEs were
42 mild or moderate in severity, and approximately half were considered related to study
43 treatment by the investigator. None of the SAEs were considered related to study
44 treatment. Overall, the ISR rate was low and considered comparable to the incidence of

1 IgPro20 ISRs in other immuno-modulatory indications. [20] No clinically relevant concerning
2 trends were observed for vital signs, bodyweight, clinical laboratory tests, ECGs or PFTs. This
3 study indicated that SC IgPro20 infusions at a total dose of 0.5 g/kg every week (considered
4 as a high immunomodulatory dose) was well tolerated in this patient group presenting with
5 pathologically changed skin and SC tissues.

6
7 This work was the first study to explore PK of IgG in patients with dcSSc. As expected, when
8 comparing administration methods (SCIG and IVIG) and their associated dosing regimens,
9 C_{max} and geometric mean dose-normalised baseline-corrected AUC_{0-tau} were higher
10 following intravenous administration, as IVIG initially provides a large peak followed by a
11 'wear-off' of Ig levels whereas SCIG provides lower but more stable levels. [28, 36] Overall,
12 the IgPro20 PK profiles observed in patients with dcSSc were similar to those observed in
13 other indications with no skin-thickening symptoms (such as PID and CIDP). [17, 18, 20] This
14 finding indicates that the disease state did not affect overall PK or bioavailability of human
15 IgG given by the SC route. Moreover, the bioavailability of IgPro20 was comparable to the
16 bioavailability of IgPro20 in other indications (53–79%) [17, 19, 20] and to the reported
17 bioavailability of other SCIG products on the market (65–69%). [37]

18
19 The secondary objectives were to evaluate the use of IVIG in patients with dcSSc and the
20 clinical data demonstrated that the observed safety and PK profiles are similar to those
21 observed for other approved IgPro10 indications. [19]

22
23 The pathological features of dcSSc raise the question of the feasibility of SC administration
24 of IgG in these patients. The small vessel vasculopathy, lymphatic vessel attenuation and
25 excessive collagen deposition in the skin and internal organs [2, 32, 33] might interfere with
26 absorption of SCIG through the lymph vessels into the bloodstream or increase the risks for
27 AEs. The results obtained here constitute a proof-of-concept that safety, PK and
28 bioavailability profiles, following administration of SCIG in patients with SSc, are comparable
29 with those observed in other indications with no skin pathology. [17-20, 38]

30 For patients with dcSSc, SCIG might allow an easier administration than IVIG as SCIG can be
31 self-administered at home with a shorter infusion time and more flexible dosing regimens.
32 [29] With dcSSc disease strongly affecting the patient's quality of life, [10, 39] an easier
33 administration, and reduced need to have IgG administered in infusion centres, might be
34 particularly advantageous. [40] Furthermore, safety profiles established in approved
35 indications show that compared with IVIGs, SCIGs are characterised by a lower rate of
36 systemic AEs making SCIG a more attractive therapeutic option for patients. [27, 41] Finally,
37 SCIG could be an option for patients in whom IVIG infusions are difficult due to intravenous
38 access issues.

39
40 The initial efficacy endpoint (mRSS) explored during the study reveals improvement
41 following treatment for both sequence A and B. However, further efficacy analyses are
42 ongoing.

1 The limitations of this study include the lack of a washout period in the crossover design and
2 lack of a control arm. Furthermore, as the patient population was mostly Caucasian, broader
3 data are required to ensure these results can be generalised. The study only included SC
4 infusions performed on skin areas with mRSS ≤ 2 , therefore the results are unable to confirm
5 if SC infusions are impacted by increased skin thickness associated with SSc. Exploratory
6 endpoints included ACR Composite Response Index in dcSSc, mRSS, physician global
7 assessment, health assessment questionnaire disability index including scleroderma, patient
8 global assessment and forced vital capacity predicted. Results from these exploratory
9 efficacy endpoints are to be published in a subsequent publication. A few previous open-
10 label and observational studies have explored the effects of IVIG on the symptoms of
11 patients with SSc and reported improvement. [16, 21-23, 25, 42]

12

13 In conclusion, this study showed that SC administration of immunoglobulin is generally well
14 tolerated in patients with dcSSc. The ISR rate was low with no severe or serious TEAEs
15 affecting the skin reported, despite moderate-to-severe skin involvement in all subjects and
16 pathological skin features. Overall safety, PK and bioavailability profiles of IgPro20, and
17 safety and PK of IgPro10 were similar to those observed in other indications.

18

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23

24 **Author Contributorship**

25 CPD, OKB, SP, MO, MW, NDP, MMC, and YA: study design, study investigator, collection and
26 assembly of data, and data analysis. JR, AP, AS, AK, JH, and MJG: study design, collection and
27 assembly of data, and data analysis. JJ: collection and assembly of data, and data analysis.
28 All authors interpreted the data, reviewed and revised the manuscript, and gave final
29 approval to submit the manuscript for publication.

30

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32 This study was sponsored by CSL Behring. The sponsor designed the trial, provided the trial
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35 the manuscript. All authors had full access to the trial data, reviewed and approved the
36 manuscript before submission, and vouch for the adherence of the trial to the protocol, the
37 completeness and accuracy of the data and analyses, and the reporting of AEs.

38

39 **Ethical approval information**

40 This study involves human participants and was conducted in accordance with the
41 Declaration of Helsinki, the International Conference on Harmonisation Guidelines for Good
42 Clinical Practice, and local regulations. It was also approved by the Ethics

1 Committee/Institutional Board - International Council for Harmonisation of Good Clinical
2 Practice guidelines. Participants gave informed consent to participate in the study before
3 taking part.

4

5 **Data sharing statement**

6 Data are available upon reasonable request. CSL Behring's policy on data sharing can be
7 found at [https://www.csl.com/research-and-development/clinical-studies/research-](https://www.csl.com/research-and-development/clinical-studies/research-practices)
8 [practices](https://www.csl.com/research-and-development/clinical-studies/research-practices).

9

10 **Patient and public involvement**

11 Patients were study participants and were involved in rater's training for mRSS assessment
12 during start-up. The study sponsor created the study design, recruitment, conduct,
13 reporting, and dissemination plans. A layperson summary will be published on
14 www.trialssummaries.com.

15

16 **Competing interests**

17 CPD: Received grants from GSK, CSL Behring, Inventiva, Horizon. Has worked as consultant
18 for GSK, CSL Behring, Boehringer Ingelheim, Merck, Roche, Sanofi. Has been paid as a
19 speaker for Janssen, Boehringer Ingelheim; OKB: Has received honoraria or consultation
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23 Has been paid as a speaker for Boehringer Ingelheim; MO: Has worked as consultant for
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26 Aimmune Therapeutics UK Limited, Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc, Leo Pharma GmbH,
27 Boehringer Ingelheim Pharma GmbH & Co.KG, ALK-Abelló Arzneimittel GmbH, Lilly
28 Deutschland GmbH, Kymab Limited, Amgen GmbH, Abbvie Deutschland GmbH & Co. KG,
29 Pfizer Pharma GmbH, Mylan Germany GmbH (A Viatris Company), Astra Zeneca GmbH, Lilly
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37

38 **Previously presented work**

39 Previously presented at the European Congress of Rheumatology (EULAR), 31 May–3 June
40 2023, Milan, Italy

41

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4

Tables

Table 1. Patient characteristics. In sequence A, patients received a total dose of 0.5 g/kg of IgPro20 over two sessions per week in treatment period 1, and a total dose of 2 g/kg of IgPro10 over two to five sessions on consecutive days every 4 weeks in treatment period 2. In sequence B, patients received the same treatment regimen but vice versa. mRSS, modified Rodnan skin score; IgPro10, 10% intravenous human immunoglobulin, Privigen, CSL Behring; IgPro20, 20% subcutaneous human immunoglobulin, Hizentra, CSL Behring; N, number of patients; SD, standard deviation; SSc, systemic sclerosis.

Characteristic	Sequence A (IgPro20/IgPro10, N=13)	Sequence B (IgPro10/IgPro20, N=14)	IgPro10 (N=27)	IgPro20 (N=26)	Total (N=27)
Age (years), mean (SD)	51.4 (12.2)	47.4 (12.9)	49.3 (12.5)	50.0 (12.2)	49.3 (12.5)
Sex					
Female	10 (76.9)	8 (57.1)	18 (66.7)	18 (69.2)	18 (66.7)
Male	3 (23.1)	6 (42.9)	9 (33.3)	8 (30.8)	9 (33.3)
Race, n (%)					
Caucasian	13 (100.0)	13 (92.9)	26 (96.3)	25 (96.2)	26 (96.3)
Other	0 (0.0)	1 (7.1)	1 (3.7)	1 (3.8)	1 (3.7)
Weight (kg) at baseline, mean (SD)	78.9 (23.1)	72.6 (12.4)	75.6 (18.3)	74.8 (18.1)	75.6 (18.3)
Country					
Poland	9 (69.2)	8 (57.1)	17 (63.0)	16 (61.5)	17 (63.0)
United Kingdom	3 (23.1)	3 (21.4)	6 (22.2)	6 (23.1)	6 (22.2)
Australia	0 (0.0)	2 (14.3)	2 (7.4)	2 (7.7)	2 (7.4)

Germany	0 (0.0)	1 (7.1)	1 (3.7)	1 (3.8)	1 (3.7)
Italy	1 (7.7)	0 (0.0)	1 (3.7)	1 (3.8)	1 (3.7)
Duration since diagnosis of SSc (months), mean (SD)	16.7 (13.3)	21.5 (19.6)	19.2 (16.7)	17.7 (15.2)	19.2 (16.7)
Duration since first Raynaud's phenomena (months), mean (SD)	70.6 (131.3)	30.0 (23.4)	50.3 (94.7)	49.9 (96.6)	50.3 (94.7)
Duration since first non-Raynaud's phenomena manifestation (months), mean (SD)	21.9 (13.9)	24.4 (21.2)	23.23 (17.8)	21.9 (16.8)	23.2 (17.8)
Number of background therapies/ immunosuppressants at baseline					
0	2 (15.4)	3 (21.4)	5 (18.5)	5 (19.2)	5 (18.5)
≥1	11 (84.6)	11 (78.6)	22 (81.5)	21 (80.8)	22 (81.5)
1	3 (23.1)	6 (42.9)	9 (33.3)	8 (30.8)	9 (33.3)
2	7 (53.8)	4 (28.6)	11 (40.7)	11 (42.3)	11 (40.7)
3	1 (7.7)	0 (0.0)	1 (3.7)	1 (3.8)	1 (3.7)
4	0 (0.0)	1 (7.1)	1 (3.7)	1 (3.8)	1 (3.7)
Any medical history event	7 (53.8)	7 (50.0)	14 (51.9)	14 (53.8)	14 (51.9)
Any prior medication	9 (69.2)	10 (71.4)	19 (70.4)	18 (69.2)	19 (70.4)
Any concomitant medication	13 (100.0)	14 (100.0)	27 (100.0)	26 (100.0)	27 (100.0)

Baseline mRSS total score, mean (SD)	23.8 (5.8)	25.0 (7.1)	-	-	24.4 (6.4)
Any concomitant disease	12 (92.3)	13 (92.9)	25 (92.6)	24 (92.3)	25 (92.6)
Vascular disorders	8 (61.5)	5 (35.7)	13 (48.1)	12 (46.2)	13 (48.1)
Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders	5 (38.5)	6 (42.9)	11 (40.7)	11 (42.3)	11 (40.7)
Gastrointestinal disorders	6 (46.2)	4 (28.6)	10 (37.0)	10 (38.5)	10 (37.0)
Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders	6 (46.2)	4 (28.6)	10 (37.0)	9 (34.6)	10 (37.0)
Interstitial lung disease	4 (30.8)	3 (21.4)	7 (25.9)	6 (23.1)	7 (25.9)
Endocrine disorders	5 (38.5)	4 (28.6)	9 (33.3)	9 (34.6)	9 (33.3)
Metabolism and nutrition disorders	4 (30.8)	4 (28.6)	8 (29.6)	8 (30.8)	8 (29.6)
Reproductive system and breast disorders	5 (38.5)	3 (21.4)	8 (29.6)	8 (30.8)	8 (29.6)

Table 2. TEAEs and treatment-related TEAEs recorded. In period 1, patients were assigned to 16 weeks of IgPro20 (0.5 g/kg/week) or IgPro10 (2 g/kg/4 weeks split over 2–5 days). Patients then received the alternative treatment during period 2. E, number of events; IgPro10, 10% intravenous human immunoglobulin, Privigen, CSL Behring; IgPro20, 20% subcutaneous human immunoglobulin, Hizentra, CSL Behring; ISRs, infusion site reactions; N/n, number of patients; TEAE, treatment-emergent adverse events.

	Period 1				Period 2				IgPro10 Periods (N=27)		IgPro20 Periods (N=26)		Total (N=27)	
	IgPro10 (N=14)		IgPro20 (N=13)		IgPro10 (N=13)		IgPro20 (N=13)		n (%)	E	n (%)	E	n (%)	E
	n (%)	E	n (%)	E	n (%)	E	n (%)	E	n (%)	E	n (%)	E	n (%)	E
TEAE by severity														
Mild	8 (57.1)	40	4 (30.8)	11	5 (38.5)	10	6 (46.2)	21	13 (48.1)	50	10 (38.5)	32	14 (51.9)	82
Moderate	4 (28.6)	4	7 (53.8)	7	2 (15.4)	3	3 (23.1)	6	6 (22.2)	7	10 (38.5)	13	13 (48.1)	20
Severe	1 (7.1)	1	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	3 (23.1)	4	1 (3.7)	1	3 (11.5)	4	4 (14.8)	5
TEAEs related to study treatment														
Any TEAE	8 (57.1)	24	4 (30.8)	8	3 (23.1)	3	4 (30.8)	17	11 (40.7)	27	8 (30.8)	25	15 (55.6)	52
Serious TEAE	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0
TEAE resulting in death	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0
TEAE leading to discontinuation of study treatment	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0

TEAE leading to dose interruptions	2 (14.3)	2	4 (30.8)	6	0 (0.0)	0	2 (15.4)	2	2 (7.4)	2	6 (23.1)	8	8 (29.6)	10
TEAE leading to study withdrawal	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	1 (7.7)	1	0 (0.0)	0	1 (3.8)	1	1 (3.7)	1
Detailed treatment-related TEAES														
ISRs	0 (0.0)	0	2 (15.4)	2	0 (0.0)	0	3 (23.1)	12	0 (0.0)	0	5 (19.2)	14	5 (18.5)	14
Nervous system disorders	6 (42.9)	11	1 (7.7)	2	0 (0.0)	0	1 (7.7)	2	6 (22.2)	11	2 (7.7)	4	7 (25.9)	15
General disorders and administration site conditions	1 (7.1)	1	2 (15.4)	2	0 (0.0)	0	3 (23.1)	12	1 (3.7)	1	5 (19.2)	14	6 (22.2)	15

Table 3. ISRs. In period 1, patients were assigned to 16 weeks of IgPro20 (0.5 g/kg/week) or IgPro10 (2 g/kg/4 weeks split over 2–5 days). Patients then received the alternative treatment during period 2. E, number of events; IgPro10, 10% intravenous human immunoglobulin, Privigen, CSL Behring; IgPro20, 20% subcutaneous human immunoglobulin, Hizentra, CSL Behring; ISR(s), infusion site reaction(s); N/n number of patients.

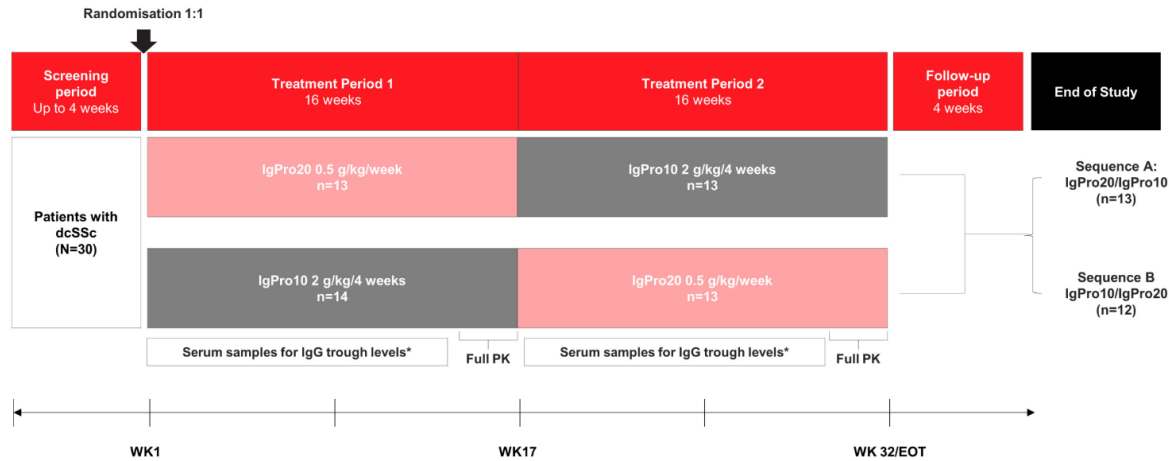
	Period 1				Period 2				IgPro10 Periods (N=27)		IgPro20 Periods (N=26)		Total (N=27)	
	IgPro10 (N=14)		IgPro20 (N=13)		IgPro10 (N=13)		IgPro20 (N=13)		n (%)	E	n (%)	E	n (%)	E
	n (%)	E	n (%)	E	n (%)	E	n (%)	E	n (%)	E	n (%)	E	n (%)	E
Any ISR	0 (0.0)	0	2	2	0 (0.0)	0	3 (23.1)	12	0 (0.0)	0	5 (19.2)	14	5 (18.5)	14
ISR Leading to Dose Interruptions	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0
ISR Leading to Discontinuation of Study Treatment	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0
ISR Leading to Study Withdrawal	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0
ISR Related to Study Treatment	0 (0.0)	0	2 (15.4)	2	0 (0.0)	0	3 (23.1)	12	0 (0.0)	0	5 (19.2)	14	5 (18.5)	14
ISR by Severity														
Mild	0 (0.0)	0	1 (7.7)	1	0 (0.0)	0	3 (23.1)	6	0 (0.0)	0	4 (15.4)	7	4 (14.8)	7
Moderate	0 (0.0)	0	1 (7.7)	1	0 (0.0)	0	3 (23.1)	6	0 (0.0)	0	4 (15.4)	7	4 (14.8)	7
Severe	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0
Outcome of ISR														
Recovered/Resolved	0 (0.0)	0	2 (15.4)	2	0 (0.0)	0	3 (23.1)	11	0 (0.0)	0	5 (19.2)	13	5 (18.5)	13
Not Recovered/Not Resolved	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	1 (7.7)	1	0 (0.0)	0	1 (3.8)	1	1 (3.7)	1

Table 4. PK of IgPro20 and IgPro10, and relative bioavailability of IgPro20. *IgPro20 followed by IgPro10 treatment sequence; †IgPro10 followed by IgPro20 treatment sequence. AUC_{0-tau}, area under the concentration-time curve from time point 0 to tau (limited to the end of a dosing interval); AUC_{0-last}, baseline-corrected AUC_{0-tau}, area under the concentration-time curve from time point 0 to the last quantifiable time point; CI, confidence interval; C_{max}, maximum IgG concentration; IgPro10, 10% intravenous human immunoglobulin, Privigen, CSL Behring; IgPro20, 20% subcutaneous human immunoglobulin, Hizentra, CSL Behring; SD, standard deviation.

	IgPro10		IgPro20		Relative Bioavailability
	n	Geometric mean (geometric SD)	n	Geometric mean (geometric SD)	Geometric mean ratio (90% CI)
AUC_{0-tau} (h*g/L)					
Period 1	12	17672.0 (1.1)	12	3835.7 (1.2)	
Period 2	12	16942.7 (1.2)	11	3581.1 (1.1)	
Overall	24	17303.5 (1.2)	23	3711.7 (1.2)	
Baseline-corrected AUC_{0-tau} (h*g/L)					
Period 1	12	9895.0 (1.3)	12	1539.4 (1.3)	
Period 2	12	8021.4 (1.3)	12	1648.7 (1.4)	
Overall	24	8909.0 (1.3)	24	1593.1 (1.4)	
AUC_{0-last} (h*g/L)					
Period 1	12	17349.7 (1.1)	12	5361.6 (1.2)	
Period 2	13	16520.5 (1.2)	12	4898.0 (1.2)	
Overall	25	16913.5 (1.2)	24	5124.6 (1.2)	
C_{max} (g/L)					
Period 1	12	45.0 (1.2)	12	24.2 (1.2)	
Period 2	13	47.1 (1.2)	12	23.2 (1.1)	
Overall	25	46.1 (1.2)	24	23.7 (1.2)	
Dose-normalised baseline-corrected AUC_{0-tau} (h*g/L)					
Sequence A*	12	52.0 (1.4)	12	42.0 (1.5)	0.831 (0.734, 0.940)
Sequence B†	12	69.7 (1.3)	12	47.8 (1.3)	0.698 (0.623, 0.780)
Overall	24	60.2 (1.4)	24	44.8 (1.4)	0.761 (0.703, 0.823)

Figure legends

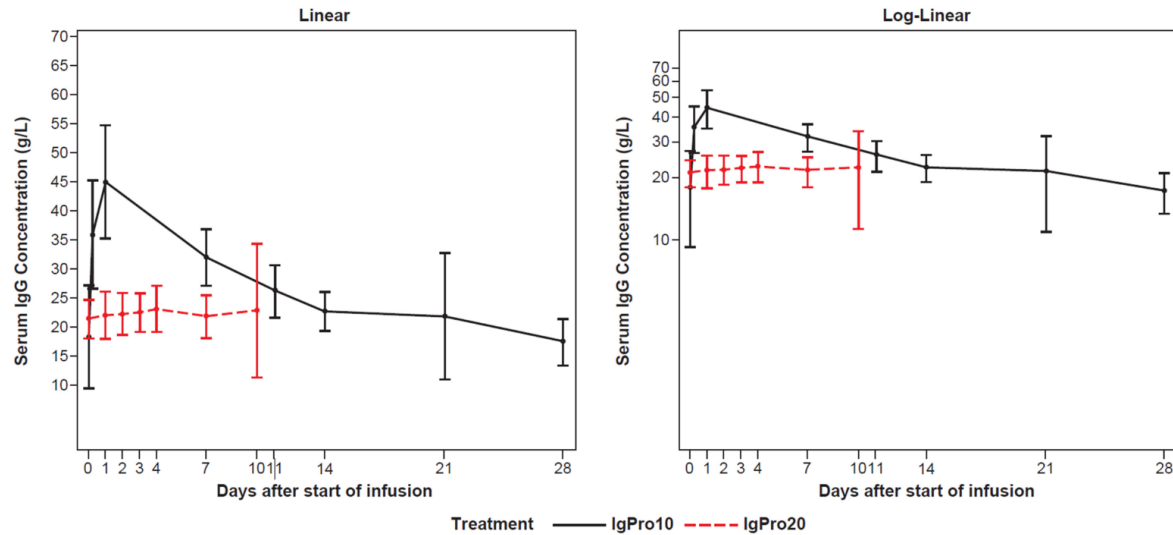
Figure 1. Study design.



*Several PK samples to measure IgG trough concentrations were collected to assess the steady state of IgPro20 or IgPro10 and carry-over effects on treatment period 2 from treatment period 1. In addition, PK samples were frequently collected over the last dose period to fully characterise the PK of IgPro20 and IgPro10. dcSSc, diffuse cutaneous systemic sclerosis; EOT, end of treatment; IgG, immunoglobulin G;

IgPro10, 10% intravenous human immunoglobulin, Privigen, CSL Behring; IgPro20, 20% subcutaneous human immunoglobulin, Hizentra, CSL Behring; PK, pharmacokinetics.

Figure 2. Mean (SD) serum IgG concentration–time profiles of patients with dcSSc following the first infusion of the last cycle of IgPro20 (0.5 g/kg/week) or IgPro10 (2 g/kg/4 weeks split over 2–5 days).



IgG, immunoglobulin G; IgPro10, 10% intravenous human immunoglobulin, Privigen, CSL Behring; IgPro20, 20% subcutaneous human immunoglobulin, Hizentra, CSL Behring; SD, standard deviation.

Supplemental Materials

Supplemental File 1. Patient recruitment centres

Site
Royal Adelaide Hospital Port Rd. Adelaide South Australia 5000 Australia
Vincent's Hospital Fitzroy (Melbourne) 41 Victoria Parade Fitzroy Melbourne 3065 Australia
Hôpital Cochin 27 Rue Du Faubourg Saint-Jacques 14E Arrondissement Paris 75014 France
Uniklinik Köln, Studienzentrum der Klinik 1 für Innere Medizin Kerpener Strae 62 Köln 50937

Germany
Klinikverbund St. Antonius u. St. Josef Bergstraße 6-12 Wuppertal 42105 Germany
Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin Chariteplatz 1 Berlin 10117 Germany
University of L'Aquila Via dell'Ospedale Delta 6 Bldg. L'Aquila 67100 Italy
ASST degli Spedali Civili di Brescia Piazzale Spedali Civili 1 Brescia 25123 Italy
Azienda Ospedaliera Gaetano Pini Piazza Cardinal Ferrari 1 Milano 20122 Italy
AOU Careggi, Rheumatology Unit

Via delle Oblate 4 Firenze 50134 Italy
Università Politecnica delle Marche Piazza Roma 22 Ancona 60121 Italy
Szpital Kliniczny Dzieciatka Jezus Koszykowa 82 A Warsaw 02-008 Poland
Narodowy Instytut Geriatrii, Reumatologii i Rehabilitacji Spartańska 1 Warsaw 02-637 Poland
Uniwersytecki Szpital Kliniczny W Białymstoku ul. M Skłodowskiej-Curie 24A Białystok 15-276 Poland
The Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust - The Royal Free

Hospital
Pond Street
London
NW3 2QG
UK

Supplemental File 2. Complete list of the study exclusion criteria

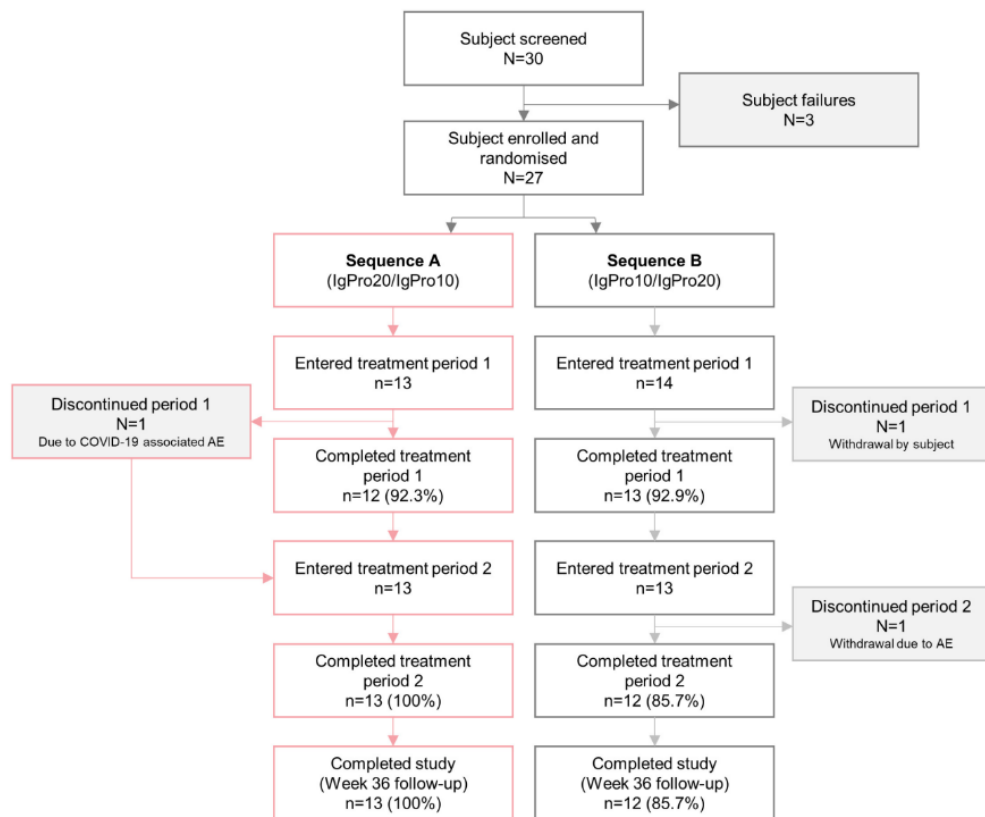
Patients were not enrolled into the study if they met any of the following exclusion criteria:

1. Primary rheumatic autoimmune disease other than dcSSc, including but not limited to rheumatoid arthritis, systemic lupus erythematosus, mixed connective tissue disorder, polymyositis, or dermatomyositis, as determined by the investigator. Note: patients with fibromyalgia, secondary Sjogren's syndrome, and scleroderma-associated myopathy at screening were not excluded
2. Patient had mRSS >2 at the potential SC infusion sites
3. History of skin condition or clinical signs and symptoms of a chronic skin disease other than SSc or skin manifestation of an allergic disease or other dermatological conditions precluding SC infusion at potential SC infusion sites (e.g., dermatitis, eczema, psoriasis)
4. Patient had clinical signs and symptoms of skin irritation (e.g., pruritus, burning, erythema) or hypo/hyperpigmentation (e.g., scars, tattoos) at the potential SC infusion sites
5. Significant pulmonary arterial hypertension as documented by mean pulmonary arterial pressure >30 mmHg on right heart catheterisation requiring SC or IV prostacyclin or use of dual oral therapies
6. FVC <50% predicted or a diffusing capacity of the lung for carbon dioxide (DLCO) ≤40% predicted (corrected for haemoglobin [HGB])
7. SSc renal crisis within 2 years before screening
8. Evidence of chronic kidney disease with an estimated glomerular filtration rate of <45 mL/min/1.73 m² (as calculated by the Chronic Kidney Disease Epidemiology Collaboration equation) or if patient is receiving dialysis. Patients with current confirmed diagnosis of diabetes mellitus requiring medication with an estimated glomerular filtration rate <90 mL/min/1.73 m²
9. History of documented thrombotic episode e.g., pulmonary embolism, deep vein thrombosis, myocardial infarction, or thromboembolic stroke at any time (note: history of superficial thrombophlebitis is not exclusionary)

10. Known documented thrombophilia abnormalities including current blood hyper viscosity (within 4 weeks before screening), protein S or protein C deficiency, anti-thrombin-3 deficiency, plasminogen deficiency, antiphospholipid syndrome, Factor V Leiden mutation, dysfibrinogenemia, or prothrombin G20210A mutation
11. Recent surgery requiring general anaesthesia within the last 4 weeks before screening
12. Greater than three specified current risk factors for TEEs (documented and currently ongoing conditions): atrial fibrillation, coronary disease, diabetes mellitus, dyslipidaemia, hypertension, obesity (body mass index ≥ 30 kg/m²), recent significant trauma, or immobility (wheelchair-bound or bedridden)
13. Cardiac insufficiency (New York Heart Association Class III or IV), cardiomyopathy, significant persistent arrhythmia, unstable or advanced ischemic heart disease, or uncontrolled hypertension
14. Ongoing active serious infection (including, but not limited to, pneumonia, bacteraemia/septicaemia, osteomyelitis/septic arthritis, bacterial meningitis, visceral abscess) at screening or hospitalisation and/or treatment with IV antibiotics for a serious infection within 2 months before screening
15. A positive result at screening of any of the following viral markers: human immunodeficiency virus-1/-2, hepatitis C virus, or hepatitis B virus
16. Malignancy in the past 2 years, except for non-melanoma skin cancer, cervical carcinoma in situ, or other in situ cancer if it has been excised and treated within the past year
17. Known medical conditions whose symptoms and effects could alter protein catabolism and/or IgG utilisation (e.g., protein-losing enteropathies, nephrotic syndrome) and proteinuria (defined as albumin-to-creatinine ratio > 30 mg/g)
18. Note: Transient and clinically insignificant proteinuria as based on the investigator's judgment should be discussed with the Medical Monitor and is not exclusionary
19. Known hyperprolinaemia type I or II
20. Known Immunoglobulin A (IgA) deficiency or serum IgA level $< 5\%$ lower limit of normal
21. History of clinically significant or uncontrolled illness that, in the opinion of the investigator, would prevent participation in the study
22. Psychiatric, addictive, or other disorders that compromise the ability to give informed consent for participating in this study. This includes patients with a recent history of abusing alcohol or illicit drugs
23. Clinically significant abnormal 12-lead ECG that, in the opinion of the investigator, would prevent participation in the study
24. Clinically significant abnormal laboratory testing at screening that, in the opinion of the investigator, would prevent participation in the study

25. Currently receiving or having received therapy not permitted during the study or during predefined windows before screening
26. Known allergic or other severe reactions to immunoglobulins or other blood products, including a history of haemolysis after IVIG infusion
27. Known or suspected antibodies to the IP or to excipients of the IP
28. A female who is pregnant, breastfeeding, or is a woman of childbearing potential who does not agree to use acceptable methods of contraception; a male who does not agree to use acceptable methods of contraception
29. Participated in another study with an investigational agent within 3 months
30. Involved in the planning and/or conduct of the study (applies to CSLB staff and dependents, staff at the study site, site examiner, or third-party vendors)
31. Individuals who have been institutionalised as a result of an official or court order
32. Any issues or conditions that would render the patient unsuitable for participation in the study.

Supplementary Figure 1. Flowchart of patients with dcSSc throughout the study.



AE, adverse event; COVID-19, coronavirus disease 2019; dcSSc, diffuse cutaneous systemic sclerosis; IgPro10, 10% intravenous human immunoglobulin, Privilgen, CSL Behring; IgPro20, 20% subcutaneous human immunoglobulin, Hizentra, CSL Behring.

Supplementary Table 1. Serious TEAEs by system organ class and preferred term (SAF). In period 1, patients were assigned to 16 weeks of IgPro20 (0.5 g/kg/week) or IgPro10 (2 g/kg/4 weeks split over 2–5 days). Patients then received the alternative treatment during period 2. E, number of events; IgPro10, 10% intravenous human immunoglobulin, Privigen, CSL Behring; IgPro20, 20% subcutaneous human immunoglobulin, Hizentra, CSL Behring; N/n, number of patients; SAE, serious adverse events; SAF, safety analysis set; TEAE, treatment-emergent adverse events.

	Period 1				Period 2				IgPro10 Periods (N=27)		IgPro20 Periods (N=26)		Total (N=27)	
	IgPro10 (N=14)		IgPro20 (N=13)		IgPro10 (N=13)		IgPro20 (N=13)		n (%)	E	n (%)	E	n (%)	E
	n (%)	E	n (%)	E	n (%)	E	n (%)	E	n (%)	E	n (%)	E	n (%)	E
Any serious TEAE	1 (7.1)	1	2 (15.4)	2	1 (7.7)	3	3 (23.1)	4	2 (7.4)	4	5 (19.2)	6	6 (22.2)	10
Infusion site reactions	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0
Thromboembolic events	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	1 (7.7)	1	0 (0.0)	0	1 (3.8)	1	1 (3.7)	1
Myocardial infarction	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	1 (7.7)	1	0 (0.0)	0	1 (3.8)	1	1 (3.7)	1
Cardiac disorders	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	1 (7.7)	2	0 (0.0)	0	1 (3.8)	2	1 (3.7)	2
Myocardial infarction	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	1 (7.7)	1	0 (0.0)	0	1 (3.8)	1	1 (3.7)	1
Myocardial ischaemia	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	1 (7.7)	1	0 (0.0)	0	1 (3.8)	1	1 (3.7)	1
Gastrointestinal disorders	0 (0.0)	0	1 (7.7)	1	1 (7.7)	2	0 (0.0)	0	1 (3.7)	2	1 (3.8)	1	1 (3.7)	3
Chronic gastritis	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	1 (7.7)	1	0 (0.0)	0	1 (3.7)	1	0 (0.0)	0	1 (3.7)	1
Upper gastrointestinal haemorrhage	0 (0.0)	0	1 (7.7)	1	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	1 (3.8)	1	1 (3.7)	1
Vomiting	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	1 (7.7)	1	0 (0.0)	0	1 (3.7)	1	0 (0.0)	0	1 (3.7)	1
General disorders and administration site conditions	0 (0.0)	0	1 (7.7)	1	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	1 (3.8)	1	1 (3.7)	1
Chest pain	0 (0.0)	0	1 (7.7)	1	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	1 (3.8)	1	1 (3.7)	1
Infections and infestations	1 (7.1)	1	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	1 (3.7)	1	0 (0.0)	0	1 (3.7)	1

Viral infection	1 (7.1)	1	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	1 (3.7)	1	0 (0.0)	0	1 (3.7)	1
Metabolism and nutrition disorders	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	1 (7.7)	1	0 (0.0)	0	1 (3.7)	1	0 (0.0)	0	1 (3.7)	1
Dehydration	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	1 (7.7)	1	0 (0.0)	0	1 (3.7)	1	0 (0.0)	0	1 (3.7)	1
Neoplasms benign, malignant and unspecified (including cysts and polyps)	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	1 (7.7)	1	0 (0.0)	0	1 (3.8)	1	1 (3.7)	1
Breast cancer	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	1 (7.7)	1	0 (0.0)	0	1 (3.8)	1	1 (3.7)	1
Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	1 (7.7)	1	0 (0.0)	0	1 (3.8)	1	1 (3.7)	1
Interstitial lung disease	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	1 (7.7)	1	0 (0.0)	0	1 (3.8)	1	1 (3.7)	1
Any study treatment-related serious TEAE	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0

Supplementary Table 2. All recorded TEAEs, outcomes, detailed ISRs and nervous system disorders. In period 1, patients were assigned to 16 weeks of IgPro20 (0.5 g/kg/week) or IgPro10 (2 g/kg/4 weeks split over 2–5 days). Patients then received the alternative treatment during period 2. E, number of events; IgPro10, 10% intravenous human immunoglobulin, Privigen, CSL Behring; IgPro20, 20% subcutaneous human immunoglobulin, Hizentra, CSL Behring; ISR, infusion site reaction; N/n, number of patients; TEAE, treatment-emergent adverse events.

	Period 1				Period 2				IgPro10 Periods (N=27)		IgPro20 Periods (N=26)		Total (N=27)	
	IgPro10 (N=14)		IgPro20 (N=13)		IgPro10 (N=13)		IgPro20 (N=13)		n (%)	E	n (%)	E	n (%)	E
	n (%)	E	n (%)	E	n (%)	E	n (%)	E	n (%)	E	n (%)	E	n (%)	E
All TEAEs														
Any TEAE	8 (57.1)	45	9 (69.2)	18	5 (38.5)	13	9 (69.2)	31	13 (48.1)	58	18 (69.2)	49	22 (81.5)	107
Serious TEAE	1 (7.1)	1	2 (15.4)	2	1 (7.7)	3	3 (23.1)	4	2 (7.4)	4	5 (19.2)	6	6 (22.2)	10
TEAE resulting in death	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0
TEAE leading to discontinuation of study treatment	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	1 (7.7)	1	0 (0.0)	0	1 (3.8)	1	1 (3.7)	1
Outcome of TEAE														
Recovered/Resolved	8 (57.1)	40	9 (69.2)	17	4 (30.8)	8	8 (61.5)	27	12 (44.4)	48	17 (65.4)	44	21 (77.8)	92
Not Recovered/Not Resolved	3 (21.4)	5	1 (7.7)	1	2 (15.4)	5	4 (30.8)	4	5 (18.5)	10	5 (19.2)	5	8 (29.6)	15

Detailed ISRs														
Infusion site pain	0 (0.0)	0	1 (7.7)	1	0 (0.0)	0	1 (7.7)	2	0 (0.0)	0	2 (7.7)	3	2 (7.4)	3
Infusion site swelling	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	2 (15.4)	3	0 (0.0)	0	2 (7.7)	3	2 (7.4)	3
Infusion site discharge	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	1 (7.7)	1	0 (0.0)	0	1 (3.8)	1	1 (3.7)	1
Infusion site erosion	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	1 (7.7)	1	0 (0.0)	0	1 (3.8)	1	1 (3.7)	1
Infusion site erythema	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	1 (7.7)	1	0 (0.0)	0	1 (3.8)	1	1 (3.7)	1
Infusion site haemorrhage	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	1 (7.7)	1	0 (0.0)	0	1 (3.8)	1	1 (3.7)	1
Infusion site reaction	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	1 (7.7)	1	0 (0.0)	0	1 (3.8)	1	1 (3.7)	1
Infusion site vesicles	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	1 (7.7)	1	0 (0.0)	0	1 (3.8)	1	1 (3.7)	1
Injection site hypersensitivity	0 (0.0)	0	1 (7.7)	1	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	1 (3.8)	1	1 (3.7)	1
Injection site mass	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	1 (7.7)	1	0 (0.0)	0	1 (3.8)	1	1 (3.7)	1
Thromboembolic events	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0	0	0	0
Detailed nervous system disorders														
Headache	5 (35.7)	10	1 (7.7)	1	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	5 (18.5)	10	1 (3.8)	1	6 (22.2)	11
Dizziness	1 (7.1)	1	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	1 (7.7)	2	1 (3.7)	1	1 (3.8)	2	1 (3.7)	3
Somnolence	0 (0.0)	0	1 (7.7)	1	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	0 (0.0)	0	1 (3.8)	1	1 (3.7)	1

Supplementary Table 3. mRSS total score and mRSS responders by sequence and treatment.

	Sequence A (IgPro20/IgPro10, N=13)	Sequence B (IgPro10/IgPro20, N=14)	IgPro10 (N=27)	IgPro20 (N=27)	Total (N=27)
mRSS total score[†]					
Baseline, mean (SD)	23.8 (5.8)	25.0 (7.1)			24.4 (6.4)
Change from Baseline					
Week 17 before infusion, mean (SD)	-5.7 (4.8)	-3.4 (4.3)			-4.6 (4.6)
Week 32 end of treatment, mean (SD)	-7.6 (6.3)	-7.5 (5.4)			-7.6 (5.8)
mRSS responders*					
Week 1 to Week 17					
n (%)	6 (46.2)	5 (35.7)			11 (40.7)
95% CI for the proportion	23.2, 70.9	16.3, 61.2			24.5, 59.3
Week 17 to Week 32					
n (%)	2 (15.4)	2 (14.3)			4 (14.8)
95% CI for the proportion	4.3, 42.2	4.0, 39.9			5.9, 32.5
Week 1 to Week 32					
n (%)	9 (69.2)	9 (64.3)			18 (66.7)
95% CI for the proportion	42.4, 87.3	38.8, 83.7			47.8, 81.4
During assessment period[§]					
n (%)			7 (25.9)	8 (29.6)	
95% CI for the Proportion			13.2, 44.7	15.9, 48.5	

*Response criterion: change from reference visit \leq -5 and percent change from reference visit \leq -25%.

[†]mRSS total score ranges from 0 to 51 (higher is worse, negative change is improvement)

[§]Assessment period for IgPro10 = Week 1 to Week 17 (Sequence B) and Week 17 to Week 32 (Sequence A); for IgPro20 = Week 1 to Week 17 (Sequence A) and Week 17 to Week 32 (Sequence B). Percentages are calculated with the number of subjects in each sequence/ treatment as the denominator (N).

N, number of subjects; n, number of subjects meeting criterion; CI, Wilson score confidence interval; mRSS, modified Rodnan skin score.