

# Association between hydrochlorothiazide exposure and skin and lip cancer: a series of populationbased nested case-control studies

**First published:** 31/05/2018

**Last updated:** 12/03/2020

Study

Finalised

## Administrative details

### EU PAS number

EUPAS24154

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### Study ID

34087

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### DARWIN EU® study

No

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### Study countries

☐ United Kingdom

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### Study description

Observational studies to assess the association between hydrochlorothiazide exposure and lip cancer, non-melanoma skin cancer and melanoma skin cancer.

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## Study status

Finalised

## Research institutions and networks

### Institutions

[European Medicines Agency \(EMA\)](#)

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Institution

### Contact details

#### Study institution contact

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Study contact

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#### Primary lead investigator

Daniel Morales

Primary lead investigator

# Study timelines

## **Date when funding contract was signed**

Planned: 05/02/2018

Actual: 05/02/2018

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## **Study start date**

Planned: 05/02/2018

Actual: 05/02/2018

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## **Date of final study report**

Planned: 06/08/2018

Actual: 25/03/2019

# Sources of funding

- EMA

# Study protocol

[EUPAS24154.protocol.pdf](#) (65.08 KB)

# Regulatory

## **Was the study required by a regulatory body?**

No

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## **Is the study required by a Risk Management Plan (RMP)?**

Not applicable

# Methodological aspects

# Study type

**Study topic:**

Human medicinal product

Disease /health condition

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**Study type:**

Non-interventional study

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**Scope of the study:**

Assessment of risk minimisation measure implementation or effectiveness

Disease epidemiology

**Data collection methods:**

Secondary use of data

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**Main study objective:**

a) Assessing the association between hydrochlorothiazide exposure and each skin and lip cancer outcome using patients in THIN.b) Assessing if the association is influenced by adjusting for additional confounders such as smoking status and body mass index.

## Study Design

**Non-interventional study design**

Case-control

## Study drug and medical condition

**Anatomical Therapeutic Chemical (ATC) code**

(C09DX01) valsartan, amlodipine and hydrochlorothiazide  
valsartan, amlodipine and hydrochlorothiazide  
(C09BX03) ramipril, amlodipine and hydrochlorothiazide  
ramipril, amlodipine and hydrochlorothiazide  
(C09DX03) olmesartan medoxomil, amlodipine and hydrochlorothiazide  
olmesartan medoxomil, amlodipine and hydrochlorothiazide  
(C03AX01) hydrochlorothiazide, combinations  
hydrochlorothiazide, combinations  
(C03EA01) hydrochlorothiazide and potassium-sparing agents  
hydrochlorothiazide and potassium-sparing agents  
(C03AB03) hydrochlorothiazide and potassium  
hydrochlorothiazide and potassium  
(C03AA03) hydrochlorothiazide  
hydrochlorothiazide  
(C09XA54) aliskiren, amlodipine and hydrochlorothiazide  
aliskiren, amlodipine and hydrochlorothiazide  
(C09XA52) aliskiren and hydrochlorothiazide  
aliskiren and hydrochlorothiazide

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### **Medical condition to be studied**

Skin cancer

## **Population studied**

### **Short description of the study population**

Patients were required to have no previous cancer diagnosis before the index date, i.e. the date of the first skin cancer event occurring after cohort entry for case subjects. For the lip cancer and oral cavity cancer analysis, patients were allowed to have a prior history of nonmelanoma skin cancer (BCC or SCC), in

keeping with the Danish study. Patients were required to have no prior record of organ transplantation, human immunodeficiency virus diagnosis or use of immunosuppressant drugs such as azathioprine, cyclosporine or mycophenolate mofetil, at any time before the index date that may predispose to skin cancer risk.

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### **Age groups**

- Adults (18 to < 46 years)
  - Adults (46 to < 65 years)
  - Adults (65 to < 75 years)
  - Adults (75 to < 85 years)
  - Adults (85 years and over)
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### **Estimated number of subjects**

50000

## **Study design details**

### **Outcomes**

1. Lip cancer  
2. Squamous cell carcinoma skin cancer  
3. Basal cell carcinoma skin cancer  
4. Melanoma

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### **Data analysis plan**

Cases will be identified through Read codes recorded in THIN and the incidence of these conditions calculated among the population. Incidence density sampling will be used to randomly select controls to each matched on age, sex, general practice and follow up time and will repeated for each cancer case. Up to 100 controls will be selected for lip cancer and up to 20 controls for the other cancer outcomes. Odds ratios will be estimated for the association between ever use and cumulative use of hydrochlorothiazide exposure prior to the index

date, using a primary lag time of exposure of two years.

## Documents

### Study results

[bcp.14245.pdf](#) (279.11 KB)

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### Study publications

[Morales DR, Pacurariu A, Slattery J, Kurz X. Association between hydrochlorothi...](#)

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## Data management

### ENCePP Seal

The use of the ENCePP Seal has been discontinued since February 2025. The ENCePP Seal fields are retained in the display mode for transparency but are no longer maintained.

## Data sources

### Data source(s)

THIN® (The Health Improvement Network®)

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### Data sources (types)

[Electronic healthcare records \(EHR\)](#)

## Use of a Common Data Model (CDM)

## CDM mapping

No

## Data quality specifications

### Check conformance

Unknown

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### Check completeness

Unknown

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### Check stability

Unknown

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### Check logical consistency

Unknown

## Data characterisation

### Data characterisation conducted

No