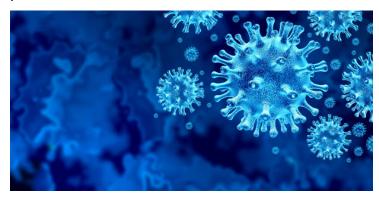


COVID R&D Alliance announces first patients enrollment in I-SPY trial

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I-SPY COVID will evaluate the impact of cenicriviroc, Otezla®, and Firazyr® on inflammatory response in COVID-19 patients.



Recently, members of the COVID R&D Alliance AbbVie, Inc. (ABBV), Amgen Inc. (AMGN), and Takeda Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd. (TAK) announced the first patients enrolled in the I-SPY COVID Trial (Investigation of Serial Studies to Predict Your COVID Therapeutic Response with Biomarker Integration and Adaptive Learning) clinical trial. The I-SPY COVID Trial will evaluate the efficacy of cenicriviroc, a chemokine (CCR2 and CCR5) dual-receptor antagonist, Otezla® (apremilast), a PDE4 inhibitor, and Firazyr® (icatibant injection), a bradykinin B2 receptor antagonist in severely ill, hospitalized COVID-19 patients who require high-flow oxygen.

The I-SPY COVID Trial utilizes Quantum Leap Healthcare collaborative's adaptive platform trial design, which is intended to increase trial efficiency by minimizing the number of participants and time required to evaluate potential treatments. The study is a collaboration between members of the COVID R&D Alliance, Quantum Leap, and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

AbbVie, Amgen, and Takeda are members of the COVID R&D Alliance (COVID R&D). The therapies under investigation were selected based on their potential to impact the immune system response of COVID-19 patients who need respiratory support. Approximately 10-15 % of patients afflicted by COVID-19 develop acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS), and up to 60 % of those patients admitted to an ICU require ventilation for an average of two weeks. I-SPY COVID is one of several platform studies being pursued by members of COVID R&D to test promising therapeutic candidates faster than any single company could do operating alone.