

The IMPACT Trial: Single Inhaler Triple Therapy Fluticasone Furoate/Umeclidinium/Vilanterol Versus Fluticasone Furoate/Vilanterol and Umeclidinium/Vilanterol in Patients With COPD: Analysis According to Smoking Status

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Introduction

- The Global initiative for chronic Obstructive Lung Disease (GOLD) management strategy recommends inhaled corticosteroid, long-acting muscarinic antagonist, long-acting β₂-agonist (ICS/LAMA/LABA) triple therapy for patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) who have clinically significant symptoms despite treatment with an ICS/LABA or LAMA/LABA and are at increased risk for exacerbations.¹
- Smoking is one of the main risk factors for COPD,¹ and a high proportion of patients with symptomatic COPD are current smokers.²⁻⁴ Evidence suggests that continued cigarette smoking impairs response to ICS.⁵⁻⁷
- The InforMing the PATHway of COPD Treatment (IMPACT) trial investigated the effects of fluticasone furoate/umeclidinium/vilanterol (FF/UMEC/VI), FF/VI and UMEC/VI in patients with symptomatic COPD.⁸
- As IMPACT evaluated treatment arms with both ICS-containing and non-ICS-containing COPD maintenance therapies, between-treatment comparisons could be made to determine any differences in the efficacy profile of triple versus dual therapy in current and former smokers. Here, we report efficacy and safety results from the IMPACT trial according to smoking status at screening.

Methods

Study design

- IMPACT (GSK study CTT116855; NCT02164513) was a 52-week, randomized, double-blind, parallel-group, multicenter, Phase III study comparing the efficacy and safety of once-daily single-inhaler triple therapy with FF/UMEC/VI 100/62.5/25 mcg with once-daily dual therapy with FF/VI 100/25 mcg or UMEC/VI 62.5/25 mcg.
- Eligible patients were ≥40 years of age with symptomatic COPD (COPD Assessment Test [CAT] score ≥10) and a history of ≥1 moderate/severe exacerbation in the previous year.
- The primary endpoint was the annual rate of on-treatment moderate/severe exacerbations. Secondary endpoints included change from baseline in St George's Respiratory Questionnaire (SGRQ), trough forced expiratory volume in 1 second (FEV₁), and mean Transition Dyspnea Index (TDI) focal score at Week 52. Adverse events of special interest (AESIs) were also recorded.
- Moderate exacerbations were defined as those requiring treatment with antibiotics and/or oral/systemic corticosteroids. Severe exacerbations were defined as events resulting in hospitalization or death.
- This pre-specified analysis evaluated the rate of on-treatment moderate/severe COPD exacerbations by smoking status at screening using a generalized linear model assuming a negative binomial distribution and covariates of treatment group, sex, exacerbation history (≤1, ≥2 moderate/severe), geographical region, and post-bronchodilator percent predicted FEV₁ (Screening) for former smokers and current smokers separately. Former smokers were patients who had not smoked for >6 months prior to the screening visit. Any change in smoking status during the course of the study was not considered in this analysis. Post hoc analyses were performed on trough FEV₁, SGRQ total score, and TDI focal score by smoking status at screening. Safety was also assessed.
- All reported endpoints were assessed in the intent-to-treat (ITT) population.

Results

Patients

- In total, 10,355 patients were included in the ITT population; 4151 patients who received FF/UMEC/VI (35% [n=1436] current smokers), 4134 who received FF/VI (34% [n=1423] current smokers), and 2070 who received UMEC/VI (35% [n=728] current smokers).
- Baseline demographics and clinical characteristics were broadly similar across treatment groups and smoking subgroups, although current smokers were younger and more predominantly female than former smokers (Table 1).

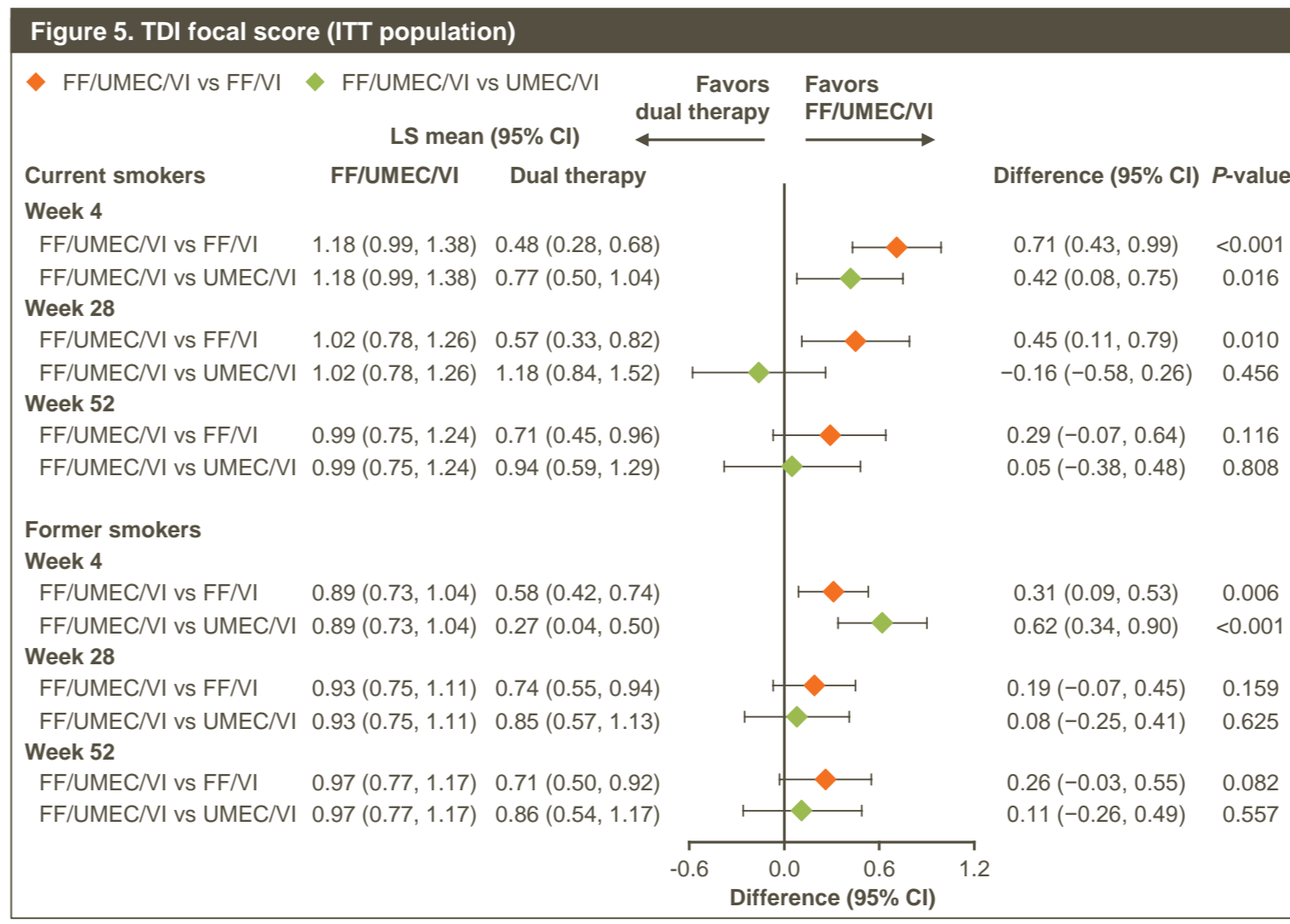
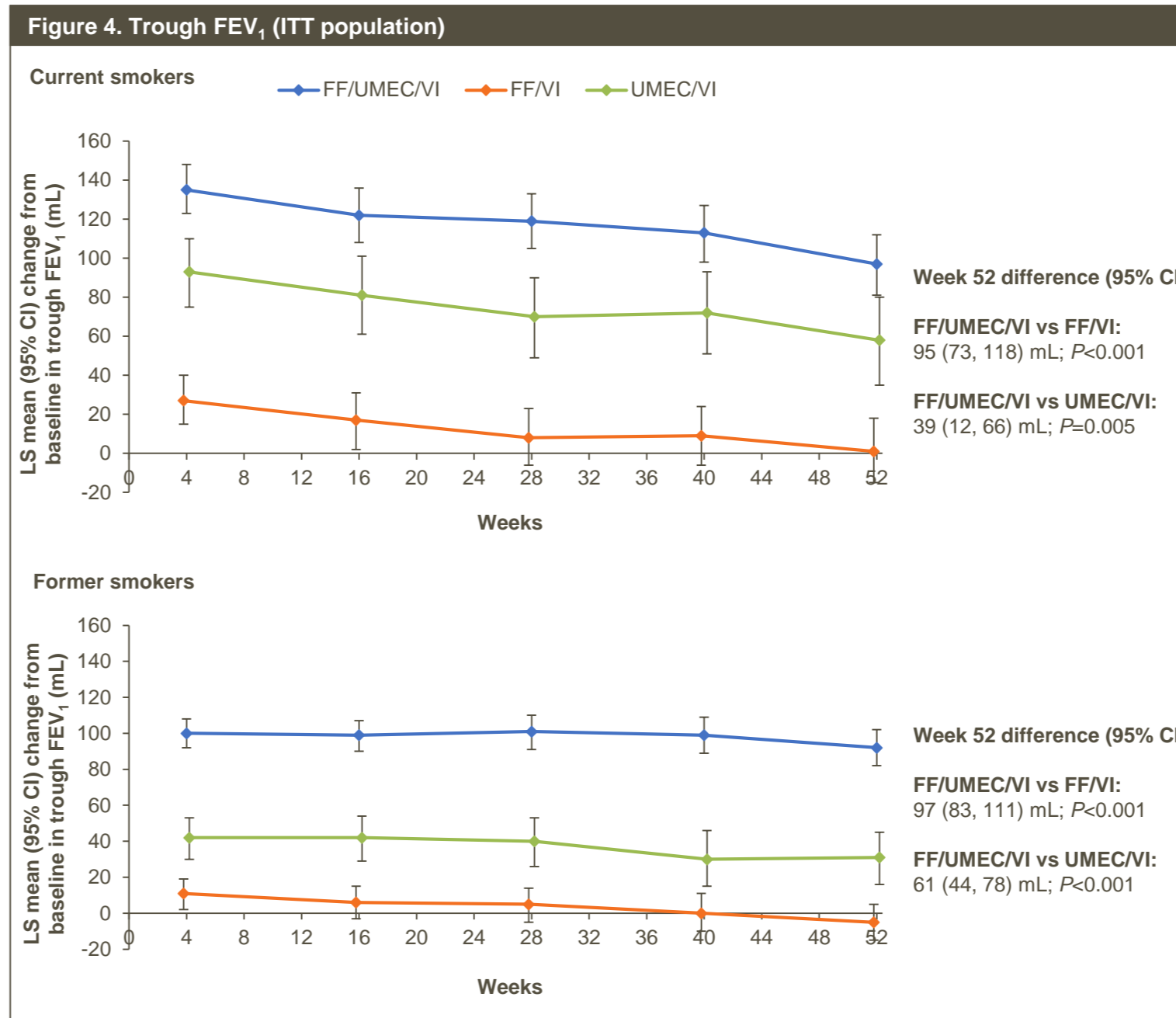
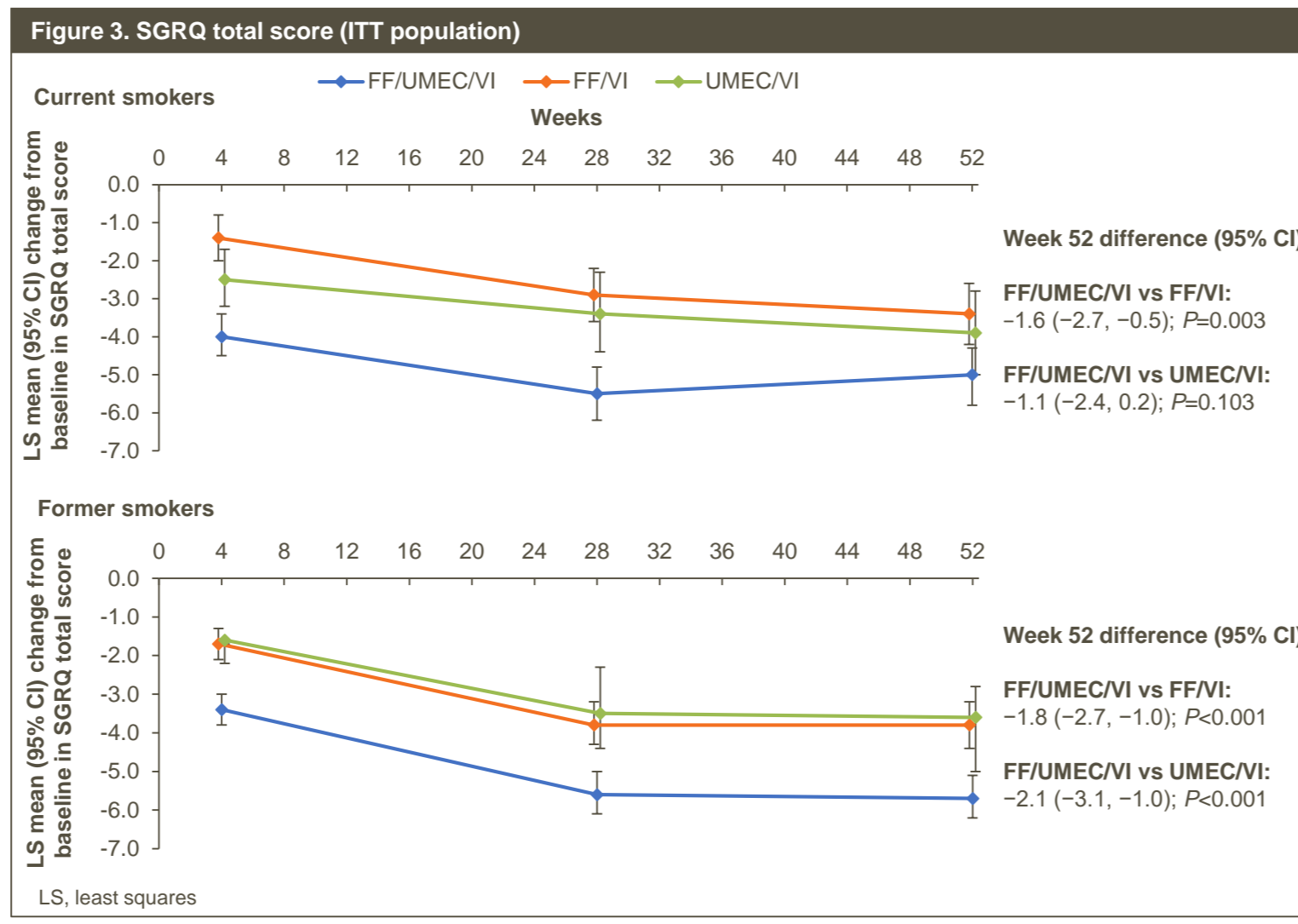
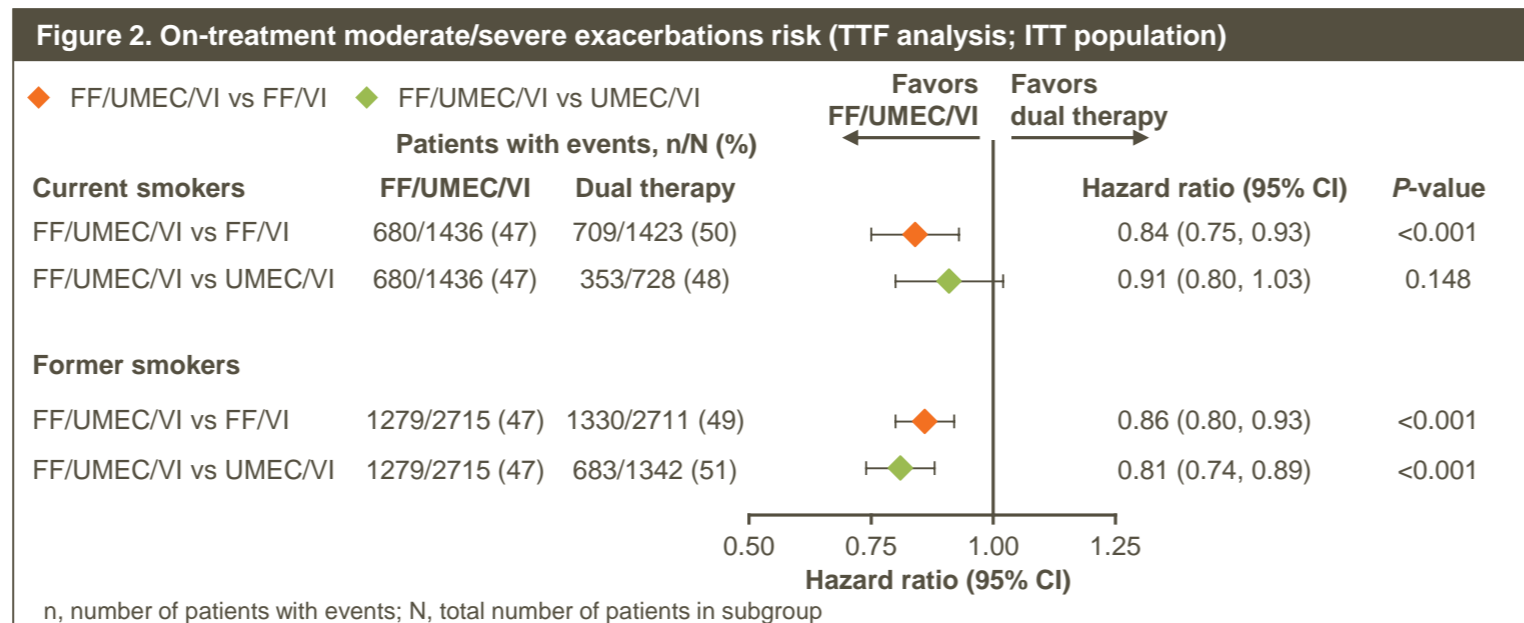
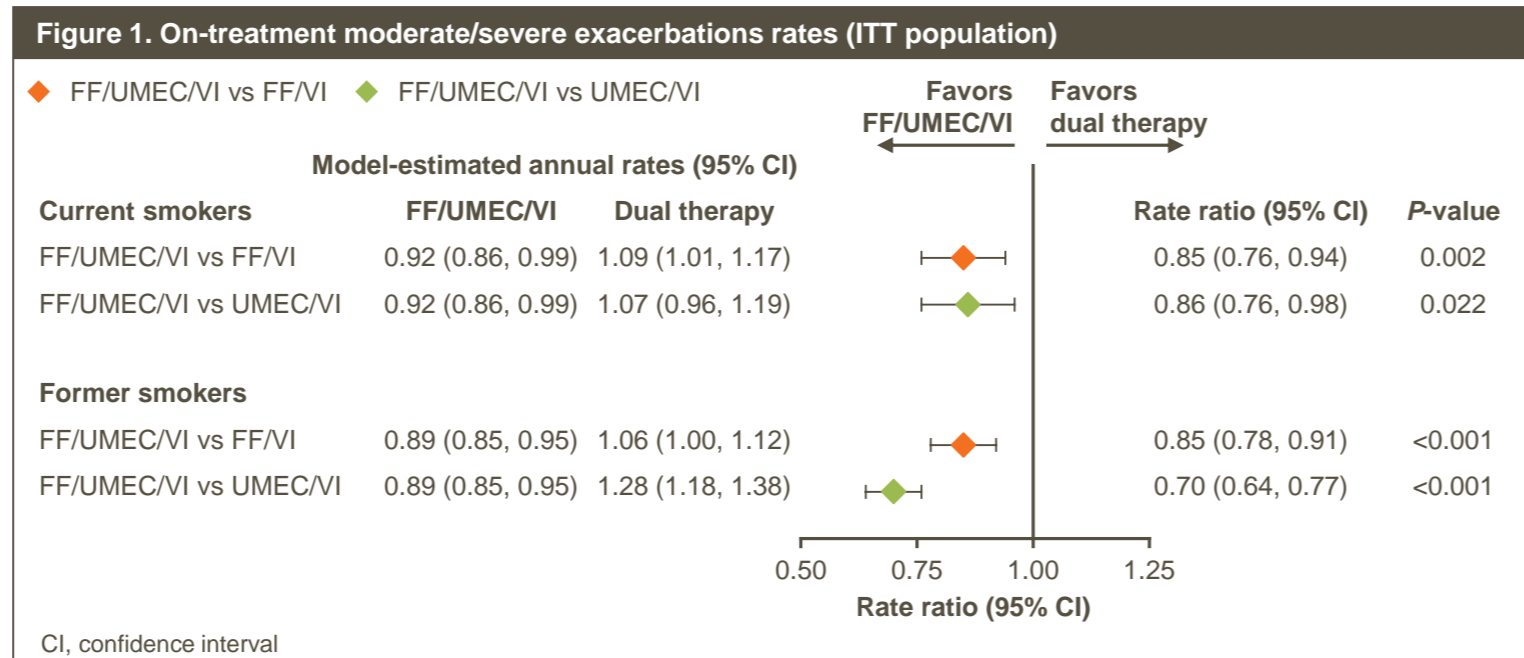
Efficacy

- Over the 52-week treatment period, FF/UMEC/VI demonstrated a statistically significant reduction in the rate of on-treatment moderate/severe COPD exacerbations compared with FF/VI and UMEC/VI in both current and former smokers (Figure 1). However, the magnitude of effect for FF/UMEC/VI versus UMEC/VI was greater in former smokers than in current smokers.
- Over the 52-week treatment period, FF/UMEC/VI demonstrated a statistically significant reduction in the risk (time-to-first [TTF]) of on-treatment moderate/severe COPD exacerbations compared with FF/VI in both current and former smokers (Figure 2). There was also a statistically significant reduction in the risk (TTF) of moderate/severe exacerbations with FF/UMEC/VI versus UMEC/VI in former smokers. The risk reduction in current smokers favored FF/UMEC/VI over UMEC/VI but was not significant.

Table 1. Baseline demographics and clinical characteristics (ITT population)

	Current smoker			Former smoker		
	FF/UMEC/VI (N=1436)	FF/VI (N=1423)	UMEC/VI (N=728)	FF/UMEC/VI (N=2715)	FF/VI (N=2711)	UMEC/VI (N=1342)
Age, years, mean (SD)	62.1 (7.54)	61.9 (7.85)	61.8 (7.64)	67.0 (8.09)	67.0 (7.98)	67.1 (7.99)
Female, n (%)	574 (40)	560 (39)	309 (42)	811 (30)	826 (30)	405 (30)
BMI, kg/m ² , mean (SD)	25.9 (6.22)	26.1 (6.20)	25.8 (5.88)	27.0 (6.19)	26.9 (6.00)	27.0 (5.83)
Lung function (post-bronchodilator)						
FEV ₁ , % predicted, mean (SD)	45.8 (14.88)	46.0 (15.03)	45.0 (14.43)	45.7 (15.14)	45.2 (14.64)	45.6 (14.82)
Exacerbation history in prior 12 months, n (%)						
≥2 moderate exacerbations	672 (47)	655 (46)	350 (48)	1295 (48)	1266 (47)	639 (48)
≥1 severe exacerbations	356 (25)	356 (25)	169 (23)	731 (27)	713 (26)	346 (26)

BMI, body mass index; SD, standard deviation



- FF/UMEC/VI significantly improved SGRQ total score from baseline at Week 4 and 28 versus both FF/VI and UMEC/VI, irrespective of smoking status. At Week 52, statistically significant improvements were seen with FF/UMEC/VI versus FF/VI in both current and former smokers, and with FF/UMEC/VI versus UMEC/VI in former smokers. In current smokers, the point estimate favored FF/UMEC/VI over UMEC/VI but was not significant (Figure 3).
- Statistically significant improvements from baseline in trough FEV₁ were shown with FF/UMEC/VI versus FF/VI and UMEC/VI in both former and current smokers at all time points analyzed (P<0.005; Figure 4).
- All treatments improved TDI focal score at Week 52 in both current and former smokers. FF/UMEC/VI significantly improved TDI focal score versus both dual therapies at Week 4 irrespective of smoking status. Differences in TDI focal score at Week 52 favored triple therapy over both dual therapies in both smoking status subgroups, although they were not significant (Figure 5).

Safety

- The safety profile for FF/UMEC/VI, FF/VI, and UMEC/VI was similar and consistent between the smoking status subgroups over the 52-week study period (Table 2).
- In current smokers, incidence of pneumonia AESIs was comparable between treatment arms. In former smokers, incidence of pneumonia AESIs was slightly higher in ICS-containing treatment arms compared with UMEC/VI (Table 2).

Table 2. On-treatment AESI incidence (ITT population)

Any on-treatment AESI	Current smokers			Former smokers		
	FF/UMEC/VI (N=1436)	FF/VI (N=1423)	UMEC/VI (N=728)	FF/UMEC/VI (N=2715)	FF/VI (N=2711)	UMEC/VI (N=1342)
Anticholinergic syndrome (SMQ)	58 (4)	52 (4)	25 (3)	126 (5)	88 (3)	45 (3)
Asthma/bronchospasm (SMQ)	14 (<1)	13 (<1)	6 (<1)	13 (<1)	21 (<1)	10 (<1)
Cardiovascular effects	155 (11)	147 (10)	82 (11)	295 (11)	283 (10)	142 (11)
LRTI excluding pneumonia	73 (5)	58 (4)	45 (6)	127 (5)	141 (5)	63 (5)
Local steroid effects	143 (10)	131 (9)	42 (6)	194 (7)	170 (6)	66 (5)
Pneumonia	90 (6)	82 (6)	34 (5)	227 (8)	210 (8)	63 (5)
Urinary retention	0 (0)	5 (<1)	2 (<1)	8 (<1)	7 (<1)	7 (<1)

AESIs (AEs which have specified areas of interest for FF, UMEC, or VI, or for patients with COPD); LRTI, lower respiratory tract infection; MedDRA, Medical Dictionary for Regulatory Activities; SMQ, Standardized MedDRA Query

Conclusions

- Improvements in exacerbation rate, lung function, and SGRQ total score were demonstrated with FF/UMEC/VI versus FF/VI and UMEC/VI in both former and current smokers with symptomatic COPD and a history of exacerbations, underscoring a beneficial efficacy profile with once-daily FF/UMEC/VI across a multitude of COPD endpoints, regardless of smoking status.
- There appeared to be increased clinical benefit with FF/UMEC/VI compared with UMEC/VI in former smokers. These findings may be related to relative steroid resistance in current smokers and highlight that smoking cessation advice remains appropriate to maximize the add-on benefits of ICS.

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