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SUMMARY OF RESEARCH

Summary of Research: Four-Year Outcomes of Faricimab in Diabetic Macular Edema: Results From the RHONE-X Extension Trial

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ABSTRACT

This is a summary of the original article "Four-Year Outcomes of Faricimab in Diabetic Macular Edema: Results From the RHONE-X Extension Trial." RHONE-X was a phase 3, multicenter, nonrandomized, 2-year open-label extension of the YOSEMITE/RHINE clinical trials. RHONE-X assessed the long-term safety (primary endpoint) and efficacy (exploratory) of faricimab using a treat-and-extend (T&E) protocol in patients with diabetic macular edema (DME). Patients in YOSEMITE/RHINE who received faricimab 6.0 mg every 8 weeks (Q8W), faricimab 6.0 mg T&E, or aflibercept 2.0 mg Q8W received faricimab 6.0 mg up to Q16W T&E (based on prespecified vision and anatomic criteria) for a further 2 years in RHONE-X. Faricimab was well tolerated through 2 years of RHONE-X, and adverse events reported were consistent with the known safety profile of faricimab. Vision and anatomical improvements achieved during YOSEMITE/RHINE were maintained through RHONE-X. In patients treated with aflibercept during YOSEMITE/RHINE, the proportion achieving absence of DME (CST < 325 µm) increased after switching to faricimab. Approximately 80% of patients were on a faricimab dosing interval of ≥ Q12W at the end of 4 years. These findings demonstrated the long-term safety, efficacy, and durability of faricimab T&E in patients with DME.

Keywords: Diabetic macular edema; Faricimab; Long-term; RHONE-X

SUMMARY OF RESEARCH

This is a summary of the original article "Four-Year Outcomes of Faricimab in Diabetic Macular Edema: Results From the RHONE-X Extension Trial" (Fig. 1) [1]

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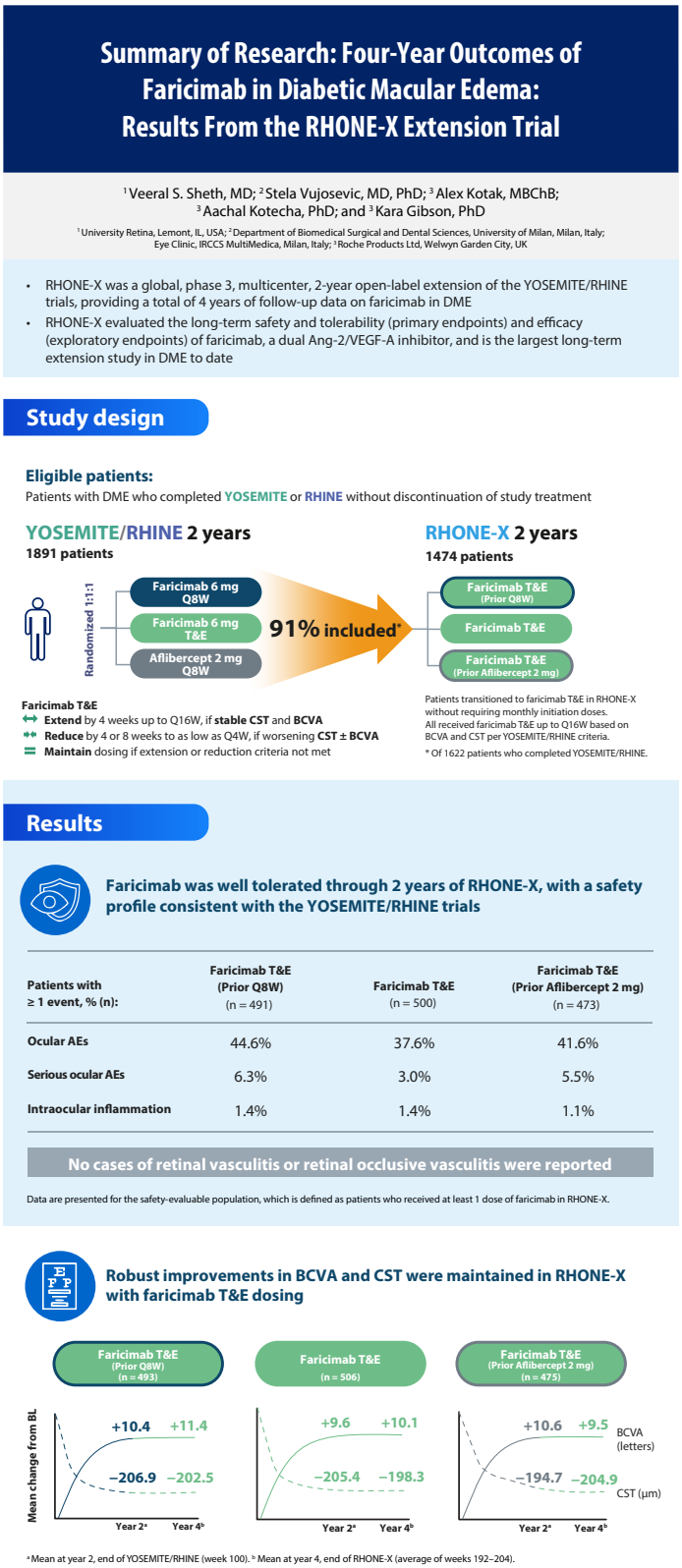

Fig. 1 The Phase 3 RHONE-X extension trial demonstrated the safety, efficacy, and durability of faricimab treat-and-extend in the long-term management of diabetic macular edema

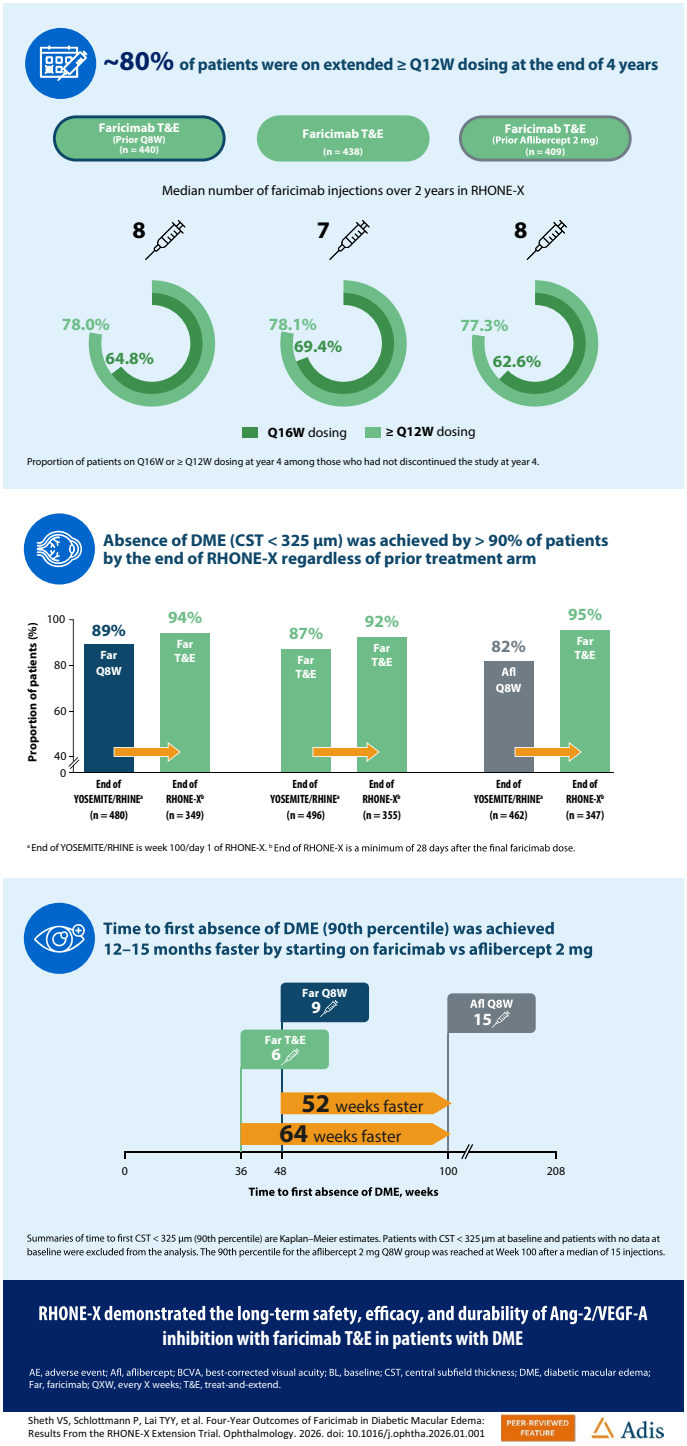

Fig. 1 continued

LIMITATIONS

The RHONE-X trial had some limitations, as described in the original article. As RHONE-X was an open-label, non-comparator-controlled trial, it may have been vulnerable to selection bias, although this bias may have been reduced by high patient retention from the YOSEMITE/RHINE trials. During the T&E phase, data were only collected during treatment visits rather than monthly, limiting available data points. Efficacy analysis included only observed patients, which may have overestimated outcomes if patients who discontinued had poorer outcomes.

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Declarations

Conflict of Interest. Please see original article for full author disclosures. Veeral S. Sheth: Speaker: Genentech, Inc./Roche; Consultant: Alkeus, Apellis, Boehringer Ingelheim, EyePoint, Genentech, Inc., Iveric Bio, Janssen, Kriya, Novartis, Ocular Therapeutix, Oculis, Ocuphire, Ollin, Opthea, Regeneron, RevOpsis, Unity, Vial; Contracted Research: 4DMT, AbbVie, Adverum, Alimera, Ashvattha, Astellas, Aviceda, Chengdu Kanghong, Eluminex, EyeBio, EyePoint, Genentech, Inc., Gyroscope, i-Lumen, Ionis, Iveric Bio, Janssen, NGM, Novartis, Ocugen, Ocular Therapeutix, Oculis, OcuTerra, OliX, Opthea, Outlook, Oxular, Oxurion, Perfuse, RecensMedical, Regeneron, Regenxbio, Rezolute, Roche, SalutarisMD, SamChungDang, Santen, Smile Biotech, Unity, Vanotech; Stela Vujosevic: Consultant: AbbVie/ Allergan, Adverum, Alimera, Apellis, Bayer, Boehringer Ingelheim, Novartis, RetinAI, Roche, ZEISS; Alex Kotak, Aachal Kotecha, and Kara Gibson: Employee: Roche Products Ltd.

Ethics approval, Consent to participate, Consent to publish, Availability of data and material. Not applicable.

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1. Sheth VS, Schlottmann P, Lai TYY, et al. Four-year outcomes of faricimab in diabetic macular edema: results from the RHONE-X extension trial. Ophthalmology. 2026. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ophtha.2026.01.001.