

TerbinaPro Phase II Trial Initiated in Switzerland to Evaluate Repurposed Oral Terbinafine in Biochemically Recurrent Prostate Cancer

Swiss Cancer Institute-sponsored study across 11 Swiss clinical centers will evaluate oral terbinafine in men with biochemical recurrence following curative-intent local treatment

Vienna, Austria; St. Gallen, Switzerland — May 7, 2026 – TerbinaTwo, a philanthropic initiative focused on evaluating terbinafine's potential as a repurposed oncology therapy, today announced the initiation of TerbinaPro ([NCT07365423](#)), a phase II clinical trial evaluating oral terbinafine as an investigational therapy for men with biochemical recurrence (BCR) of prostate cancer following curative-intent local treatment such as surgery or radiation.

The trial, originally conceived and supported by TerbinaTwo, is sponsored and co-funded by the Swiss Cancer Institute (SCI), the national organization for clinical cancer research in Switzerland (formerly SAKK). It was designed by PD Dr. med. Stefanie Fischer, Coordinating Investigator, Health Ostschweiz (Department of Medical Oncology and Haematology, Cantonal Hospital St. Gallen), with major support from the Rising Tide Foundation for Clinical Cancer Research (RTFCCR) as well as the Swiss Cancer Foundation and Propter Homines Foundation.

Study overview

TerbinaPro is an open-label, randomized phase II study evaluating terbinafine at standard-dose versus higher-dose cohorts administered for up to approximately 12 months. The trial's primary objective is to assess early PSA-based antitumor activity at 12 weeks, alongside safety and longer-term clinical outcomes, including progression-free endpoints and time to initiation of antihormonal treatment as well as quality of life during treatment.

Patient population

The trial is designed for men with:

- Confirmed rising PSA (=biochemical progression) after exhaustion of local curative-intent treatment options (e.g., prostatectomy or radiotherapy)
- No distant metastases on conventional imaging at enrollment
- Non-castrate testosterone levels
- A clinical situation where patients are not in immediate need of ADT (androgen deprivation therapy) or an ARPI (androgen receptor pathway inhibitor) as judged by their treating physicians and/or where a wish for deferred onset of antihormonal treatment is expressed by patients

Scientific rationale

Terbinafine is a well-established antifungal medicine that inhibits squalene epoxidase (SQLE). Its use in prostate cancer is investigational. Overexpression of SQLE has been implicated in

prostate cancer biology, and prior preclinical and population-based observations have supported further clinical evaluation of SQLE inhibition in this setting.

About TerbinaTwo

TerbinaTwo is a philanthropic initiative focused on evaluating terbinafine's potential as a repurposed oncology therapy, building on emerging scientific evidence around SQLE inhibition. TerbinaTwo's mission is to develop a proven, well-tolerated medicine into a cancer therapy that is accessible to patients worldwide regardless of geography or economic circumstance.

<https://www.terbinatwo.com>

About the Swiss Cancer Institute (SCI)

The Swiss Cancer Institute is the national, not-for-profit organization for clinical cancer research in Switzerland (formerly SAKK). It coordinates multicenter clinical trials with Swiss hospital partners to accelerate evidence-based improvements in cancer treatment and patient outcomes.

<https://www.swisscancerinstitute.ch>

About Health Ostschweiz (HOCH) – Kantonsspital St. Gallen

Health Ostschweiz is a major healthcare provider in Eastern Switzerland.

PD Dr. med. Stefanie Fischer is a senior consultant in Medical Oncology and leads the local urogenital tumor team.

<https://www.h-och.ch/ueber-uns/team/stefanie-fischer>

About the Rising Tide Foundation for Clinical Cancer Research (RTFCCR)

RTFCCR is a charitable, non-profit organization that supports clinical trials worldwide across all cancer types, designed in collaboration with patient partners.

<https://www.risingtide-foundation.org>

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