


## Efavirenz Pharmacokinetics with Rifampin Double Dose in TB-HIV Infected Patients


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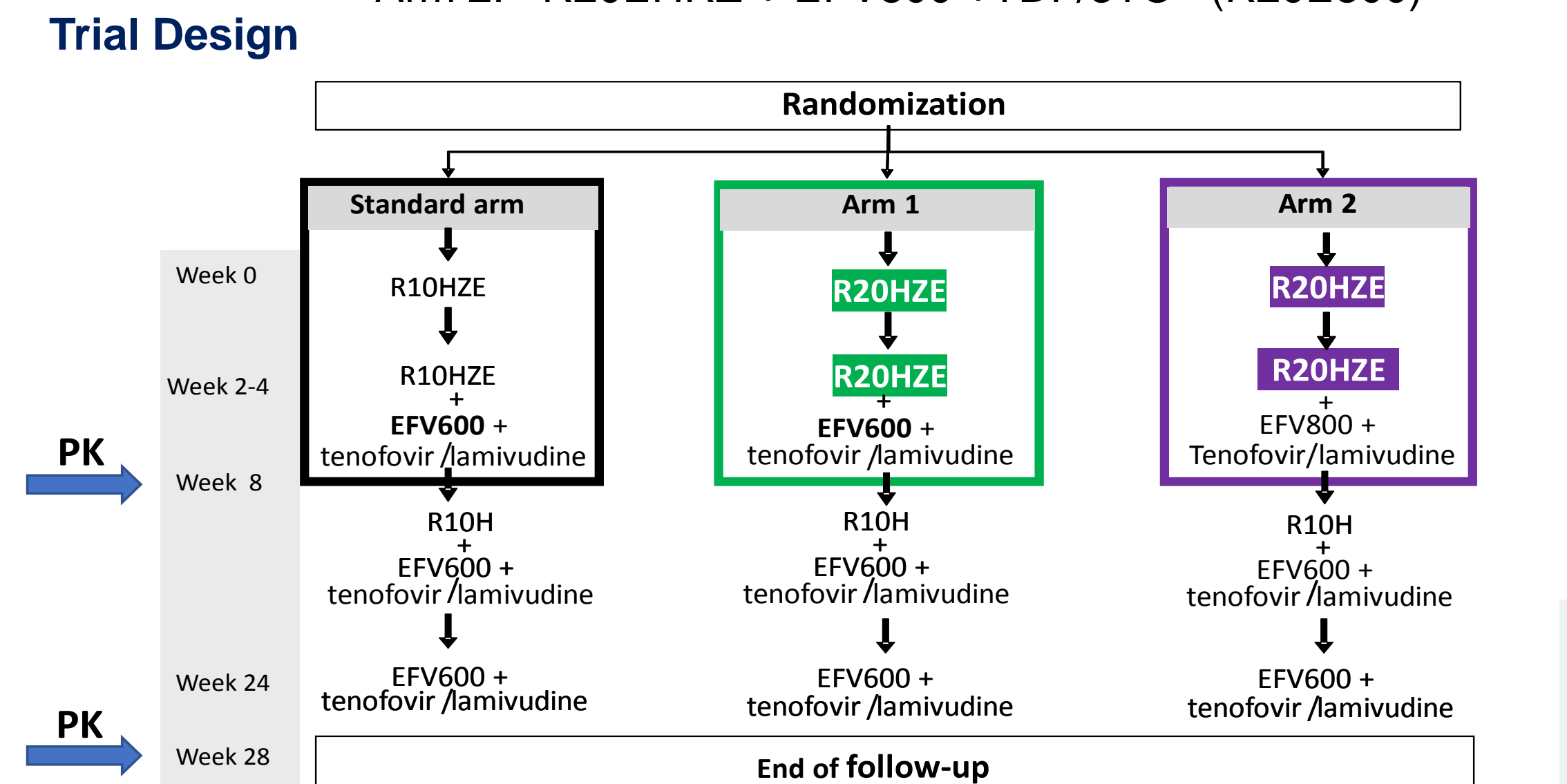


## Background

- Increasing interest towards a potential reduction of TB treatment duration with use of high-dose rifampicin (R).
- Efavirenz (EFV): non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor (NNRTI) in the first-line ART in high HIV-TB burden countries.
- Uncertainty related to its interaction with high-dose R.
- The ANRS 12292 Rifavirenz trial evaluated EFV pharmacokinetics (PK) in Ugandan HIV/TB co-infected patients on high-dose R (20 mg/kg) as part of their standard TB treatment for the first 2 months.**

## Methods

**Study design:** Phase 2, open-label, drug-interaction randomized controlled trial  
**Intervention Period:** First 8 weeks of treatment.  
**Eligibility:** New XpertMTB/RIF confirmed TB-HIV co-infected, ART-naïve, adults.  
**Drug regimen:** Control: R10EHZ +EFV600 +TDF/3TC (R10E600)  
 Arm 1: R20EHZ+ EFV600 +TDF/3TC (R20E600)  
 Arm 2: R20EHRZ + EFV800 +TDF/3TC (R20E800)



**Safety Monitoring**  
 - Weekly clinical assessment  
 - Liver function test, full blood count at 2, 4 and 8 weeks  
**Pharmacokinetics**  
 - **Sampling:** -05h; +1h; +2h; +3h; +4h; +8h; +12h; +24h post dose  
 - **PK parameters (WinNonLin):** AUC, C<sub>12</sub>, C<sub>max</sub>, C<sub>24</sub> concentrations.  
 - **EFV assay:** Validated HPLC, lower limit of quantitation of 0.1 µg/mL  
**Primary endpoint:** Geometric mean ratio (GMR) of AUC and C<sub>24</sub> with/without R. 90% CI compared to the bioequivalence range: 0.70 and 1.43

## Baseline characteristics, n=97

	R10E600 N=33	R20E600 N=31	R20E800 N=33
Males, n (%)	29 (87.9)	22 (71.0)	20 (60.6)
Age in years, median [IQR]	34.1 [29.6; 38.1]	33.4 [28.0; 36.6]	32.3 [27.8; 43.1]
Weight in Kg, median [IQR]	51.9 [49.2; 56.0]	53.8 [48.2; 59.1]	54.1 [50.6; 58.0]
Smear positive, n/N (%)	31/33 (93.9)	27/31 (87.1)	26/32 (81.3)
Hemoglobin in g/dL, median [IQR]	11.1 [9.0; 12.6]	12.4 [10.7; 13.8]	10.7 [9.5; 12.4]
CD4 cell count/µL, median [IQR]	120 [66; 252]	211 [69; 334]	144 [86; 367]
CD4 cell count <50, n/N (%)	7/33 (21.2)	4/27 (12.9)	4/33 (12.1)
HIV1RNA (log cps/mL), median [IQR]	5.5 [4.6; 5.8]	5.2 [4.5; 5.7]	5.1 [4.8; 5.9]
Presence of cavities, n (%)	14 (42.4)	16 (51.6)	12 (36.4)

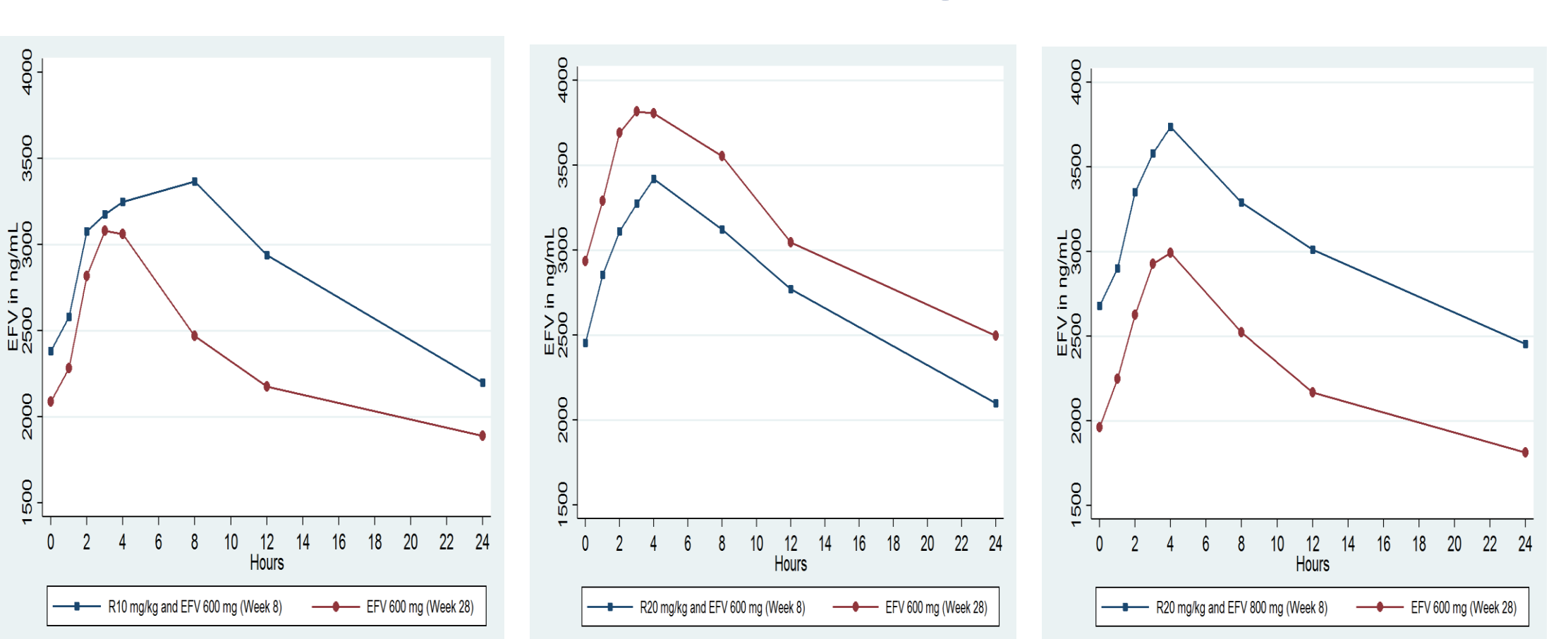
[IQR]: interquartile range

## Safety

	R10E600 n=33	R20E600 n=32*	R20E800 n=33
Overall SAEs (weeks 0 to 8), n (%)	5 (15.2)	5 (15.6)	5 (15.2)
Leading to death, n (%)	1 (3.0)	1 (3.1)	1 (3.0)
Grade 3 or 4 increase ALT or AST, n (%)	2 (6.1)	2 (6.2)	2 (6.1)
CNS AE grade 2, n (%)	1 (3.0)	1 (3.1)	2 (6.2)

ALT: alanine aminotransferase ; AST: aspartate aminotransferase ; CNS: central nervous system; AE: adverse event; SAE: serious adverse event (grade 3 and 4)  
 \* 1 Patient exposed but excluded from the PK and efficacy analysis because latterly confirmed as HIV negative

## EFV exposure on and off TB drugs per arm



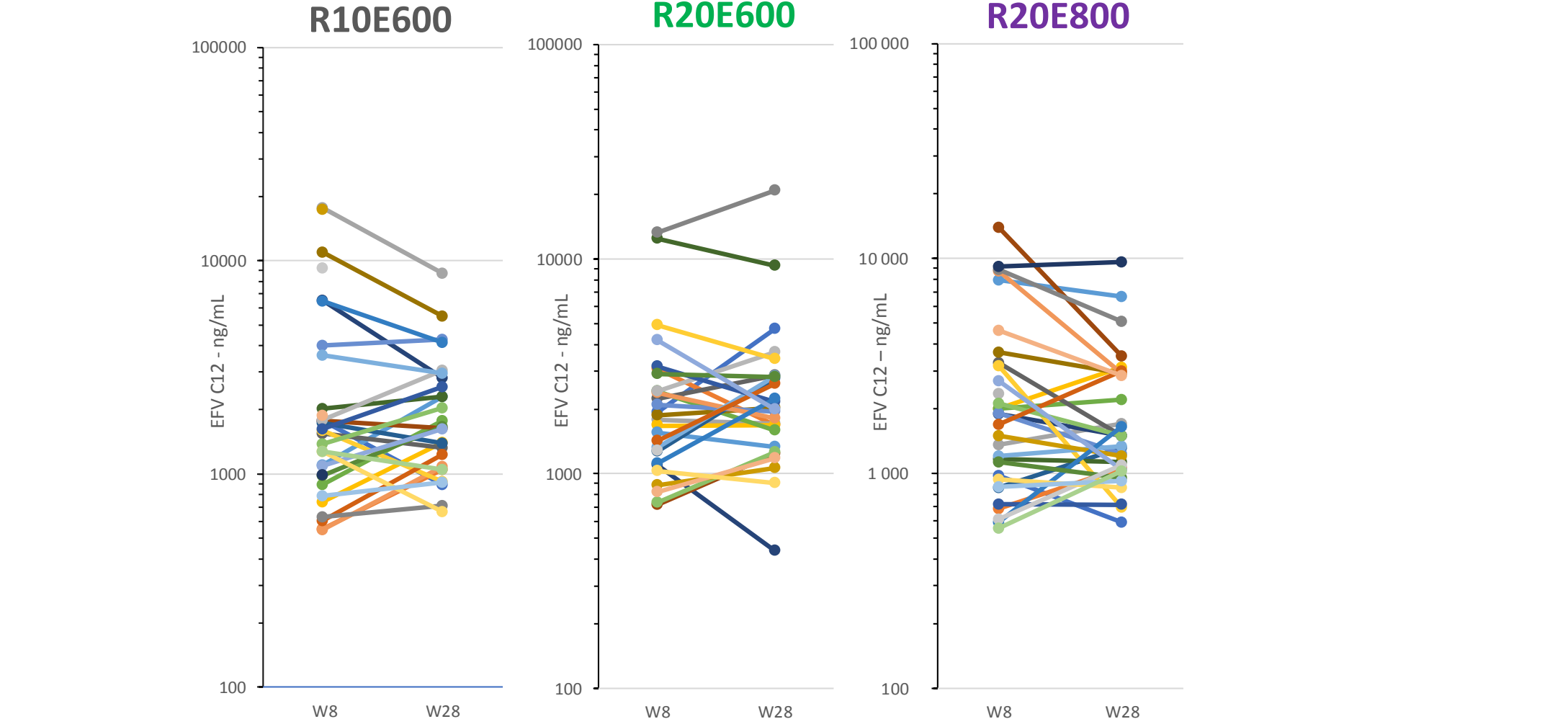
## Results

### EFV PK parameters, n=87 patients\*

	EFV PK parameters as median (range) EFV+R (week 8)	EFV alone (week 28)	GMR [90% CI] EFV+R/EFV
<b>Control group (C): R10E600, n=29 patients</b>			
C24-ng/mL	1077 (233; 9407)	1137 (324; 8049)	<b>0.92 [0.79; 1.08]</b>
AUC-µg.h/mL	40.2 (13.4; 314.5)	38.9 (14.3; 214.3)	<b>0.96 [0.84; 1.09]</b>
<b>Group 1: R20E600, n=27 patients</b>			
C24-ng/mL	1188 (498; 12212)	1496 (457; 17967)	<b>0.83 [0.72; 0.96]</b>
AUC-µg.h/mL	47.5 (16.2; 308.4)	49.6 (13.4; 486.8)	<b>0.87 [0.75; 1.00]</b>
<b>Group 2: R20E800, n=31 patients</b>			
C24-ng/mL	1032 (214; 11555)	1028 (408; 11299)	<b>1.16 [0.97; 1.39]</b>
AUC-µg.h/mL	44.5 (12.9; 326.3)	35.2 (14.2; 265.7)	<b>1.12 [0.96; 1.30]</b>

\*R10EFV600: 1 death, 1 discontinuation for toxicity, 1MDR-TB and 1 voluntary withdrawal  
 R20EFV600: 1 death, 1 discontinuation for toxicity, 2 lost to follow-up  
 R20EFV800: 1 death, 1 discontinuation for toxicity

### Individual EFV mid-dose concentrations (C<sub>12</sub>)



### Patients with subtherapeutic EFV C12 and C24

	Week	R10E600 N=28	R20E600 N=27	R20E800 N=30
C12<1000 ng/ml, n (%)	EFV+R (Week 8)	9 (32.1)	4 (14.8)	9 (30.0)
	EFV alone (Week 28)	6 (21.4)	2 (7.4)	6 (20.0)
C24<1000 ng/ml, n (%)	EFV+R (Week 8)	14 (48.0)	12 (44.0)	13 (42.0)
	EFV alone (Week 28)	11 (38.0)	5 (18.0)	15 (48.0)

## Efficacy

	R10E600	R20E600	R20E800
<b>HIV Treatment efficacy*</b>			
<b>HIV1 RNA&lt;400 copies/ml</b>			
12 weeks after ART initiation	26/28 (92.9)	26/28 (92.9)	25/29 (86.2)
24 weeks after ART initiation	28/28 (100)	22/27 (81.5)	26/29 (89.7)
<b>HIV1 RNA&lt;100 copies/ml</b>			
12 weeks after ART initiation	21/28 (75)	22/28 (78.6)	23/29 (79.3)
24 weeks after ART initiation	27/28 (96.4)	20/27 (74.1)	21/29 (72.4)
<b>TB Treatment efficacy</b>			
<b>Week 8 TB Culture conversion</b>			
Lowenstein-Jensen, n/N (%)	28/31 (90.3)	23/26 (88.5)	24/27 (88.9)
MGIT, n/N (%)	24/30 (80.0)	24/28 (85.7)	26/30 (86.7)
<b>Treatment success</b>	29 (87.9)	28 (90.3)	31 (93.9)

\*Among patients who did not reach virological suppression at Week 28, 3 had baseline resistance and were excluded from the virological response analysis

## Conclusions

- Doubling the R dose bears a minimal effect on EFV concentrations
  - Slight decrease in EFV concentration with high dose R (GMR= 0.87) compensated when EFV is increased to 800mg/day (GMR= 1.12).
  - Margins of the 90% CI of the GMR AUC or C<sub>24</sub> irrespective of R dose within the predefined range [0.70 to 1.43].
- Co-administration of 20mg/Kg R and EFV (600 or 800mg) well tolerated.
- Low virological suppression at week 24 with high dose R, although all patients were on standard treatment from week 8.
- Slight increase in month-2 MGIT culture conversion with high dose R.

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