

Table 1: Retinoic acid redifferentiation therapy of thyroid cancer: published clinical trials

patients	treatment (13- <i>cis</i> RA dose) ¹⁾	RAIU		Tg levels			PET			tumor burden			comments	ref.
		↑ ²⁾	↔	↑	↔	↓	↑	↔	↓	↑	↔	↓		
50	1.5 mg/d/kg; 5 w	21/50	29/50	30/50	8/50	12/50	n.d. ³⁾	n.d.	n.d.	6/37	22/37	9/37	Responder (RAIU ↑ and/or Tg levels ↓ or tumor size ↓): 10 patients; follow-up: 6 – 30 m	35
12	1.0-1.5 mg/d/; ≥5 w	5/12	7/12	n.s. ⁴⁾	n.s.	n.s.	2/5	1/5	2/5	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	Responder (RAIU ↑): 3 patients faint, 2 patients therapeutically significant	39
18	1.0 mg/d/kg; 8 w; if unresponsive: + 1.0 mg/d/kg; 8 w or + 0.3 g/d/m ² bexarotene	6/18	n.s.	n.s.	n.s.	7/18	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.s.	n.s.	n.s.	Number of responders not finally specified (preliminary data) RXR ligand bexarotene may be effective	40
		3/4	n.s.	n.s.	n.s.	n.s.				n.s.	n.s.			
		2/4	n.s.	n.s.	n.s.	n.s.				n.s.	n.s.			
5	1.0-1.5 mg/d/kg; 5 w	3/5	2/5	2/5	1/5	2/5	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	2/5	2/5	1/5	Responder (RAIU ↑ and Tg levels ↓ and tumor size ↓): 1 patient follow-up: 3 m	41
25	1.0 mg/d/kg; 2 - 10 m	5/25	20/25	9/23	6/23	8/23	10/13	0/13	3/13	17/25 ⁵⁾	0/25 ⁵⁾	8/25 ⁵⁾	Responder (RAIU ↑): 5 patients 2 patients free of symptoms after 2 y	42
16	1.5 mg/d/kg; 8 w	1/16	15/16	8/12	1/12	3/12	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	4/9	5/9	0/9	Responder (RAIU ↑): 1 patient	43

¹⁾ may have been further reduced in case of severe side effects

²⁾ ↑: increase, ↔: no change, ↓: decrease

³⁾ n.d.: not determined

⁴⁾ n.s.: not specified

⁵⁾ interpreted as ↓, if CT, chest X-ray and neck ultrasound all showed reduced tumor size, as ↑ if any one showed increased tumor size