

**AIR Meeting 2014 – Roma 27- 28 Giugno**

**Pirfenidone : l'esperienza italiana**



**Sergio Harari**  
**U.O. di Pneumologia e UTIR**  
**Servizio di Emodinamica e**  
**Fisiopatologia Respiratoria**  
**Ospedale San Giuseppe - Milano**

# Safety and efficacy of Pirfenidone in idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis in clinical practice

Studio osservazionale, **monocentrico**, retrospettivo sulla safety e sull'andamento funzionale di 76 pazienti con diagnosi (clinico-radiologica e/o istologica) di IPF prima e dopo terapia con Pirfenidone;

## **Popolazione e obiettivi dello studio:**

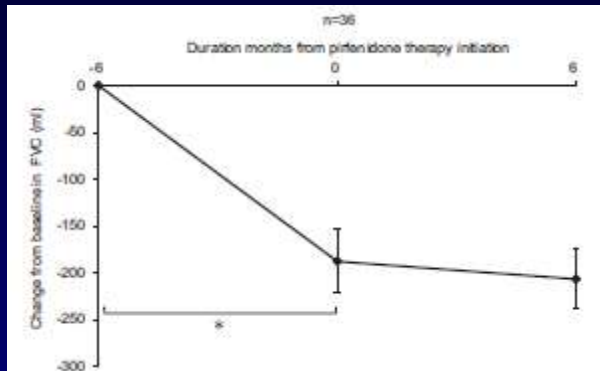
**Diagnosi** clinico-radiologica e/o istologica di IPF;

**Malattia di grado lieve-moderato e grave;**

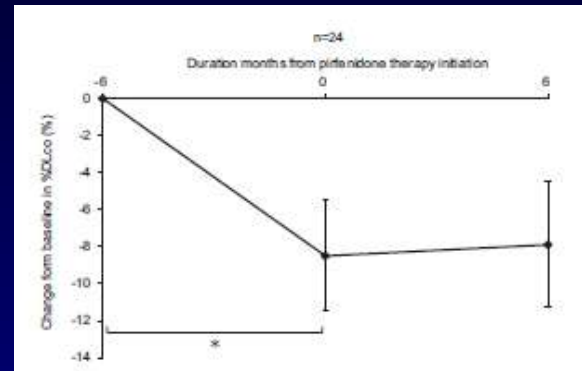
Slop di caduta di **FVC** durante 6 mesi di terapia con Pirfenidone, slop di caduta di **DLCO%**, 6MWT (metri), PaO<sub>2</sub> e marcatori sierici di IPF (KL-6, SP-D);

Safety del farmaco;

# Safety and efficacy of Pirfenidone in idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis in clinical practice



**Figure 1** Change from 6 months before therapy in forced vital capacity (FVC). The change in FVC from the baseline value (6 months before initiation of pirfenidone therapy) was  $-188$  mL at initiation of therapy and  $-207$  mL after 6 months of therapy. Paired *t*-test was used. Data are presented as mean  $\pm$  standard error. \*: *p*-value  $<0.05$ .



**Figure 2** Change in percentage predicted diffusion capacity of the lung for carbon monoxide (%DLco). Change in %DLco from the baseline value (6 months before initiation of pirfenidone therapy) was  $-8.5\%$  at initiation of therapy and  $-7.9\%$  after 6 months of pirfenidone therapy. Paired *t*-test was used. Data are presented as mean  $\pm$  standard error. \*: *p*-value  $<0.05$ .

**Table 6** Comparison of 6-min walk test results.

6MWT	Initiation of therapy		6 months after therapy		<i>p</i> -Value
	<i>n</i>	Mean $\pm$ SE	<i>n</i>	Mean $\pm$ SE	
Mini SpO <sub>2</sub> (%)	33	86 $\pm$ 1	20	88 $\pm$ 1	0.399
Distance (m)	29	342 $\pm$ 21	13	383 $\pm$ 32	0.143

6MWT: 6-min walk test; SpO<sub>2</sub>: oxygen saturation measured by pulse oximetry. Data are presented as mean  $\pm$  standard error.

# Safety and efficacy of Pirfenidone in idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis in clinical practice

**Table 4** FVC decline in subpopulations characterized by %FVC and by change in FVC before therapy.

%FVC at initiation of therapy	n	Mean change in FVC for 6 months before therapy (ml)	Mean change in FVC for 6 months after therapy (ml)	p-Value
%FVC $\geq$ 80	4	-60 $\pm$ 96	-80 $\pm$ 69	0.840
80 > %FVC $\geq$ 70	11	-130 $\pm$ 58	20 $\pm$ 70	0.282
70 > %FVC $\geq$ 60	10	-210 $\pm$ 44	-60 $\pm$ 63	0.156
60 > %FVC	11	-280 $\pm$ 72	-80 $\pm$ 55	0.074
Decline in FVC for 6 months before therapy	n	Mean change in FVC for 6 months before therapy (ml)	Mean change in FVC for 6 months after therapy (ml)	p-Value
$\geq$ 150 ml	16	-350 $\pm$ 48	30 $\pm$ 58	<0.001
<150 mL	20	-60 $\pm$ 20	-100 $\pm$ 31	0.274

Paired *t*-test was performed. Values are given as mean  $\pm$  standard error.

Pirfenidone was well-tolerated and had beneficial effects in patients with mild-to-severe and/or progressive IPF.

The degree of disease progression prior to the initiation of pirfenidone therapy had an impact on the response to the therapy.

# Clinical Experience with pirfenidone for the treatment of idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis

Studio osservazionale, prospettico, **monocentrico**;

## **Popolazione:**

Pazienti ( n = 45 ) con **diagnosi** clinico-radiologica e/o istologica di IPF;

Paziente con **malattia lieve-moderata**;

Valutazione di prove funzionali (VC e TLC), DLCO, e emogasanalisi 6 mesi prima dell'introduzione del farmaco e al termine della terapia;

## **Obiettivi dello studio:**

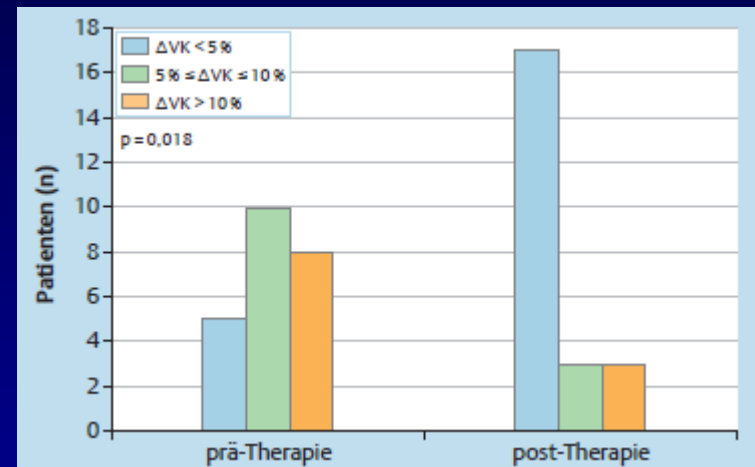
Valutazione della stabilità di malattia VS progressione (stabilità= riduzione della CV <5% del predetto e della DLCO <10% del predetto in assenza di progressione clinica e radiologica nei 3-6 mesi di osservazione successivi all'introduzione del farmaco);

Valutazione effetti collaterali della terapia;

# Clinical Experience with pirfenidone for the treatment of idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis

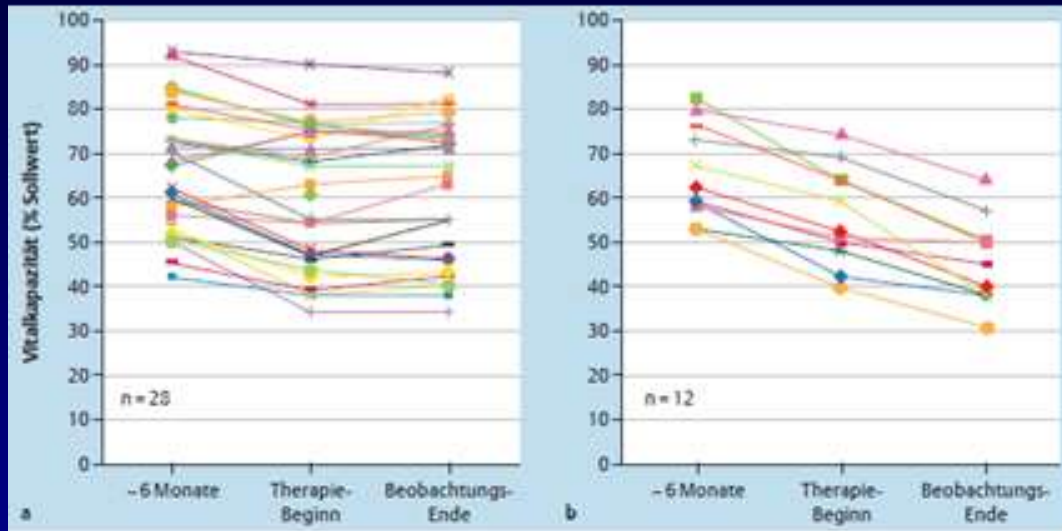
Treatment of idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (IPF) before the beginning of treatment with pirfenidone (top) and combination treatment with pirfenidone (below).

Treatment of IPF before pirfenidone administration	
None	18 (40%)
Study drug *	5 (11%)
NAC (monotherapy)**	3 (7%)
Steroids (monotherapy)***	4 (9%)
NAC** + steroids ***	4 (9%)
Azathioprine + NAC** + steroids***	11 (24%)
IPF treatment with pirfenidone	
pirfenidone alone	16 (35%)
pirfenidone + steroids***	7 (16%)
pirfenidone + NAC**	6 (13%)
pirfenidone + NAC** + steroids***	16 (35%)
* 3 patients were treated with triple kinase inhibitors, and 2 patients with anti-CCL-2 monoclonal antibodies	
** 1800 mg/d	
*** 5-15 mg/d	



Category reduction in vital capacity (VK) 6 months before and after start of treatment with pirfenidone in 23 patients. Calculation of significance using the McNemar test.

# Clinical Experience with pirfenidone for the treatment of idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis



**Figure 1.** Course of vital capacity (VK) before and after the start of treatment with pirfenidone in patients with a stable status (a) and progression (b) under pirfenidone

Legend:

Y-axis: Vital capacity (% of target value)

X axis: 6 months, Treatment start, End of observation period (repeated 2 times)

At the end of the observation period, 28 of the 40 patients with treatment duration greater than three months (70%) showed stable findings. Altogether, side effects occurred in 26 patients (58%); the most frequent (n = 17 (38%)) were of a gastrointestinal nature. Pirfenidone was discontinued in 6 patients (13%) due to side effects. The median survival time after the beginning of treatment was 3.8 years.

# Cosa è e cosa non è NPP

## Named Patient Access Program di Pirfenidone

- E' un programma che è stato supportato da InterMune a livello Europeo: Italia, UK, Germania , Spagna ,Grecia, Irlanda, Olanda, Austria, Belgio , Svezia, Repubblica Ceca, Svizzera, Finlandia, Polonia, Malta.
- L'arruolamento di pazienti è stato aperto in Italia nel Settembre 2011 e si è chiuso nel Settembre 2012. Il farmaco è stato però erogato fino al Giugno 2013 ai pazienti che risultavano in trattamento al 30 Settembre 2012
- NPP non è stato uno studio clinico



# Cosa è e cosa non è NPP

- Obiettivo dell'NPP Pirfenidone è stato mettere immediatamente a disposizione dei pazienti affetti da IPF il primo farmaco approvato dall'Autorità Regulatoria Europea (EMA) nel trattamento della malattia
- Per essere arruolabili, i pazienti dovevano possedere specifiche caratteristiche cliniche, in linea con l'indicazione approvata da EMA (pazienti adulti, con malattia di grado da lieve a moderato)
- Il farmaco veniva fornito su richiesta dello specialista esperto nella diagnosi e nel trattamento dell'IPF il quale assumeva piena responsabilità nella gestione del paziente

# 36 CENTRI IN ITALIA HANNO ATTIVATO NPP



Center	PI	Center	PI
Trieste	Confalonieri	Milano	Amaducci
Forlí	Poletti	Foggia	Foschino
Monza	Pesci	Benevento	Del Donno
Catania	Vancheri	Parma	Bertorelli
Padova	Agostini	Pisa	Paggiaro
Modena	Richeldi	Padova	Balestro
Napoli	Sanduzzi	Palermo	Di Gesú
Roma	Saltini	Roma	Valente
Siena	Rottoli	Sassari	Fois
Milano	Harari	Milano	Centanni
Orbassano	Albera	Reggio Emilia	Carbonelli
Palermo	Vitulo	Milano	de Juli
Napoli	Stanziola	Catania	di Maria
Pisa	Palla	Teramo	di Re
L'Aquila	Donati	Busto Arsizio	Berra
Roma	Sebastiani	Ascoli Piceno	Pela
Palermo	Ferrara	Chieti	Marinari
Brescia	Tantucci	Brescia	Tassi

# Efficacy of Pirfenidone for Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis: an Italian real life study

Sergio Harari, Valeria Giunta, Carlo Albera, Carlo Vancheri, Venerino Poletti, Alberto Pesci, Fabrizio Luppi, Cesare Saltini, Carlo Agostini, Paola Rottoli, Alfredo Sebastiani, Alessandro Sanduzzi, Antonella Caminati, Rossana Della Porta, Gian Piero Bandelli, Silvia Puglisi, Sara Tomassetti, Alice Biffi, Stefania Cerri, Alessia Mari, Francesco Cinetto, Francesca Tirelli, Gianfranco Farinelli, Marialuisa Bocchino, and Marco Confalonieri

# From clinical trial to real life: an italian experience

- Population:
  - Diagnosis: confirmed by HRCT UIP pattern and/or surgical lung biopsy (according to 2011 IPF guidelines);
  - Mild /moderate and severe stage disease
  - Availability of functional follow-up data at least 6 months before and at least 6 months after starting Pirfenidone therapy

# *Design of the study*

- ◆ Each subject is control of himself;
- ◆ The time ( at least six months) before starting pirfenidone have the role of control period;
- ◆ Each subject is monitored in a period before the assumption of the drug and in the period after;
- ◆ Baseline conditions for each period can be defined using functional evaluation at the beginning of each period, i.e. 6 months before the initiation of the therapy and at the initiation itself.

Periodo di osservazione (in mesi) prima e dopo introduzione di Pirfenidone	N pazienti (%)
Pre compreso fra 6 e 12 mesi e post compreso fra 6 e 12 mesi	28 (21.5)
Pre compreso fra 6 e 12 mesi e post maggiore di 12 mesi	32 (24.6)
Pre maggiore di 12 mesi e post compreso fra 6 e 12 mesi	29 (22.3)
Pre maggiore di 12 mesi e post maggiore di 12 mesi	41 (31.5)

# *Objectives*

- ◆ **Primary End-point:**
  - Evaluation of the slope of decline of FVC before and after starting Pirfenidone therapy;
- ◆ **Secondary End-points:**
  - Distance walked 6MWT;
- ◆ **Data have been analyzed using a regression statistical model built using available data points**

**Table 1. Patients' characteristics at baseline – first pirfenidone prescription (N=128)**

Variable	Levels	N (%)
Center	Catania	14 (10.9)
	Forlì	13 (10.2)
	Milano	12 (9.4)
	Modena	9 (7.0)
	Monza	9 (7.0)
	Napoli	2 (1.6)
	Padova	7 (5.5)
	Roma Saltini	8 (6.3)
	Roma Sebastiani	5 (3.9)
	Siena	6 (4.7)
	Torino	18 (14.1)
	Trieste	25 (19.5)
Gender	Female	32 (25.0)
	Male	96 (75.0)

Variable	Levels	N (%)
Age at baseline (years)*	<=60	17 (13.3)
	61-65	20 (15.6)
	65+	91 (71.1)
Smoking status	Ex-smoker	97 (75.8)
	Non smoker	27 (21.1)
	Smoker	4 (3.1)
Histological diagnosis	No	96 (75.0)
	Yes	32 (25.0)
Clinical/Radiological diagnosis	Uncertain	20 (15.6)
	No	3 (2.3)
	Yes	105 (82.0)
Cortisone	No	53 (41.4)
	Yes	75 (58.6)
Azathioprine	No	97 (75.8)
	Yes	31 (24.2)
N-Acetylcysteine	No	75 (58.6)
	Yes	53 (41.4)

\*Mean age 69 years SD 7 years



## Table 1. Patients' characteristics at baseline – first pirfenidone prescription (N=128)

- ◆ Population is mainly composed by male patients ( 75 %);
- ◆ Age has been evaluated at baseline, i.e. at starting Pirfenidone (and not at the time of diagnosis of IPF).
- ◆ 41 ( 31 %) pts had more than one year of f.u. before and after starting therapy
- ◆ Cortisone, azathioprine, N-acetyl cysteine were the drugs used before pirfenidone therapy . Only cortisone has been, in some cases, associated with Pirfenidone.

Table 2. PFTs and 6MWT distance at baseline  
(first pirfenidone prescription)

	N	Mean (SD)	Min-Max
FVC	128	2.50 (0.70)	1.02-4.80
FVC %	128	0.75 (0.18)	0.35-1.43
FEV1	119	2.10 (0.57)	0.96-4.87
FEV1 %	119	0.80 (0.18)	0.35-1.31
DLCO	120	11.33 (4.02)	1.52-26.40
DLCO %	120	0.47 (0.15)	0.17-1.20
Distance (m)	93	401 (118)	100-750

# Changes in the PFTs -All patients (N=128)

Parameter	Time	Mean* (95% CI)	% change**	Difference in % changes	p-value***
FVC %	1-yr before	0.81 (0.77, 0.84)	-	-	
	baseline	0.75 (0.72, 0.78)	-7.4%	-	
	1-yr after	0.73 (0.70, 0.77)	-2.7%	4.7%	0.049

\*based on predicted values at 1-yr before, at baseline and at 1-yr after estimated from a linear mixed model [**here model details**]

\*\* first % change reported:  $(\text{baseline} - 1\text{yr before}) / (1\text{yr before})$ ; second % change reported:  $(1\text{yr after} - \text{baseline}) / (\text{baseline})$

\*\*\* based on the null hypothesis  $\beta_2 = 0$  [**second trend component: here model details**]

# Analisi preliminare distanza percorsa al test del cammino

In questa analisi preliminare abbiamo preso in considerazione solo i dati di 23 pazienti che avevano tutti i test del cammino disponibili ai diversi tempi e li avevano effettuati tutti in AA.

Paziente	Dist. Prima visita	Distanza baseline	Dist. ultima visita	Trend pre	Trend post	
2005		540	512	510	-5,19%	-0,39%
2006		540	491	533	-9,07%	8,55%
2007		560	544	491	-2,86%	-9,74%
2008		420	386	438	-8,10%	13,47%
2009		524	523	532	-0,19%	1,72%
2012		590	629	598	6,61%	-4,93%
2015		450	460	455	2,22%	-1,09%
2016		470	476	429	1,28%	-9,87%
2021		430	421	466	-2,09%	10,69%
2023		380	380	370	0,00%	-2,63%
2025		630	612	625	-2,86%	2,12%
2026		410	385	460	-6,10%	19,48%
2028		430	415	400	-3,49%	-3,61%
3006		475	445	450	-6,32%	1,12%
5001		450	420	460	-6,67%	9,52%
8002		550	490	520	-10,91%	6,12%
8003		475	350	485	-26,32%	38,57%
8011		400	400	400	0,00%	0,00%
9001		360	360	360	0,00%	0,00%
9007		420	450	520	7,14%	15,56%
9018		450	450	460	0,00%	2,22%
11003		420	400	360	-4,76%	-10,00%
11008		400	320	360	-20,00%	12,50%
<b>23</b> (conteggio)	<b>468,4347826</b> (media)	<b>448,6521739</b> (media)	<b>464,4347826</b> (media)	<b>-4,25%</b> (media)	<b>4,32%</b> (media)	

L'introduzione del farmaco determina una inversione del trend negativo sulla distanza percorsa che migliora

Table 7. Changes in the PFTs, 6MWT distance and GAP index, by stage (I vs II/III) (1/2)

	Predictor	N (%)	Median, (Min-Max)
P - Physiology	FVC %		
	>=0.75	60 (46.9)	
	0.50-0.75	65 (50.8)	
	<0.50	3 (2.3)	
	DLCO %		
	>0.55	26 (20.3)	
	0.36-0.55	75 (58.6)	
	<=0.35	19 (14.8)	
	missing	8 (6.3)	

Further analysis has been performed splitting the population in the following two sub-groups:

- FVC  $\geq 0.75$
- FVC  $< 0.75$

# Changes in the PFTs, 6MWT distance and GAP index, by FVC % group at baseline (>0.75 vs ≤0.75)

Parameter	Time	FVC% >0.75 at baseline			FVC% ≤0.75 at baseline		
		Mean* (95% CI)	%change**	Difference in % change	Mean* (95% CI)	%change**	Difference in % change
FVC %	1-yr before	0.92 (0.88, 0.96)	-	-	0.71 (0.67, 0.74)	-	-
	baseline	0.91 (0.88, 0.94)	-1.1%	-	0.61 (0.59, 0.64)	-14.1%	-
	1-yr after	0.88 (0.84, 0.91)	-3.3%	-2.2%	0.61 (0.57, 0.64)	0.0%	14.1%
p-value for homogeneity of difference in % changes between strata***						0.002	

\*based on predicted values at 1yr before, at baseline and at 1yr after estimated from a linear mixed model [**here model details**]

\*\* first % change reported: (baseline-1yr before)/(1yr before); second % change reported: (1yr after-baseline)/(baseline)

\*\*\* based on the null hypothesis beta5=0 [**interaction between second trend component and strata: here model details**]

# *Conclusions*

- ◆ In the general population:
  - The drug reduces the slope of decrease of FVC% and distance walked during 6MWT
  - The effect was evident in all the population but more evident in pts < 75%
  - Some patients showed improvements in FVC ( FVC > 10% - n = 20 – 4 biopsy proven)