Press release

Clinical study results indicate that Smartfish’s nutrition product Remune can improve overall survival in lung cancer patients

OSLO, NORWAY AND LUND, SWEDEN, SEPTEMBER 5, 2019. Smartfish AS presents the results from a randomized, double-blinded, placebo-controlled trial evaluating Remune – a medical nutrition product – in patients with non-small-cell lung cancer suffering from cachexia. The results show that Remune has a favorable safety profile and indicate a number of positive effects on clinical outcome. In this pilot study, patients who received Remune while being pre-cachectic had a statistically significant higher survival after 12 months from baseline compared to the comparator group.

Cachexia, a condition of involuntary weight loss, is known to have a negative impact on clinical outcomes in patients with cancer and several other chronic diseases. Medical nutrition has the potential to enhance the efficacy of standard cancer treatments. Smartfish’s medical nutrition product Remune is a juice-based drink produced with the company’s proprietary emulsion technology containing unique high levels of Omega 3 fatty acids, vitamin D and whey protein. Remune has in an earlier clinical trial shown to significantly improve COPD patients’ symptoms and quality of life. Smartfish now presents results from a clinical trial with Remune in lung cancer patients.

In a 12-week, randomized, double-blinded, parallel-group, placebo-controlled, multicenter trial, Smartfish’s Remune was evaluated as a targeted medical nutrition for cachexia in non-small-cell lung cancer. In this study, 56 patients from 16 clinical sites in Sweden, Italy, Slovakia and Croatia were randomized to receive either Remune or a milk-based isocaloric drink. The primary objective of this pilot study was to assess the safety and tolerability of Remune during chemotherapy. Secondary objectives were the evaluation of the efficacy of Remune in improving measures of clinical relevance, and overall survival was evaluated as an exploratory outcome.

The results show that Remune is well tolerated. The patient group that received Remune experienced numerically fewer adverse events from their chemotherapy treatments than the comparator group. This points toward an improved chemotherapy tolerability in patients receiving Remune. The results also show signs of positive effect on several measures of clinical relevance. As the study was not powered to detect between-group differences, statistically significant differences in efficacy endpoints could not be shown between the groups. When it comes to survival as the exploratory outcome, the results show that the pre-cachectic patient group who received Remune, had a significantly
higher survival after 12 months from baseline compared to the pre-cachectic patients in the comparator group. Overall, the results from the pilot study indicate that a daily intake of Remune can have an important positive effect on the outcome for cancer patients, and the results motivate further clinical evaluation of the product.

“This study shows the potential of Remune as an important enhancer of standard cancer care and clinical data like this helps to build awareness of what targeted medical nutrition can do for patients. We are encouraged to continue our research and development to ensure that the best possible nutrition is delivered to the patients who need it”, comments Geir Harstad, CEO of Smartfish.

The study “Safety and Tolerability of Targeted Medical Nutrition for Cachexia in Non-Small-Cell Lung Cancer: A Randomized, Double-Blind, Controlled Pilot Trial” was recently published online in Nutrition and Cancer.

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About Smartfish AS
Smartfish AS is active in the research, development, production and marketing of advanced and clinically documented nutritional drinks within medical nutrition and sports nutrition. All Smartfish products are produced on its proprietary juice-based emulsion technology platform with the marine DHA and EPA fatty acids as important ingredients. Smartfish has a number of ongoing clinical development projects and studies in close collaboration with researchers and institutions both in Norway and internationally. The company was founded in 2001 and is located in Oslo, Norway and Lund, Sweden. Smartfish’s main shareholders are Investinor (Norway) and Industrifonden (Sweden). For more information, visit www.smartfishnutrition.com