Tafamidis Efficacy Among Octogenarian Patients in the Phase 3 ATTR-ACT and Ongoing Long-Term Extension Study

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ABSTRACT

BACKGROUND Tafamidis was approved to treat patients with transthyretin amyloid cardiomyopathy (ATTR-CM) on the basis of findings from the phase 3 Tafamidis in Transthyretin Cardiomyopathy Clinical Trial (ATTR-ACT).

OBJECTIVES This study was a post hoc analysis exploring tafamidis efficacy in octogenarian patients.

METHODS Analysis of patients aged <80 and ≥80 years in ATTR-ACT and its ongoing open-label long-term extension (LTE) study, where all patients receive tafamidis.

RESULTS After 30 months in ATTR-ACT, least squares (LS) mean change from baseline in 6-minute walk test (6MWT) distance, N-terminal pro-B-type natriuretic peptide (NT-proBNP) concentration, and Kansas City Cardiomyopathy Questionnaire Overall Summary (KCCQ-OS) score were smaller (all $P < 0.05$) in patients aged ≥80 years treated with tafamidis (n = 51) vs placebo (n = 37). At the LTE study interim analysis, patients aged ≥80 years treated continuously with tafamidis had a smaller decline in KCCQ-OS score ($P < 0.05$) and trended toward longer median survival (45 vs 27 months; all-cause mortality HR: 0.6828 [95% CI: 0.4048-1.1517]; $P = 0.1526$) than those initially treated with placebo in ATTR-ACT. Similar efficacy was observed in patients aged <80 years in ATTR-ACT, including smaller LS mean change from baseline in 6MWT distance, NT-proBNP concentration, and KCCQ-OS score, and lower rate of cardiovascular-related hospitalizations with tafamidis (n = 125) vs placebo (n = 140). In the LTE study, patients aged <80 years treated continuously with tafamidis had a longer median survival (80 vs 41 months; HR = 0.4513 [95% CI: 0.3176-0.6413]; $P < 0.0001$) and a smaller decline in KCCQ-OS score than those initially treated with placebo.

CONCLUSIONS The findings demonstrate tafamidis efficacy for patients with ATTR-CM both in those aged <80 and those aged ≥80 years. (Tafamidis in Transthyretin Cardiomyopathy Clinical Trial [ATTR-ACT]; NCT01994889/Long-term Safety of Tafamidis in Subjects With Transthyretin Cardiomyopathy; NCT02791230)

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Transthyretin amyloid cardiomyopathy (ATTR-CM) is caused by the deposition of wild-type or variant transthyretin amyloid fibrils in the myocardium.[1] It typically affects older adults and usually progresses to heart failure.[1] The wild-type form of ATTR-CM is associated with aging, has a median age at onset of around 75 years, and is not typically seen in patients aged <60 years.[2-4] The typical age at onset of variant ATTR-CM differs depending on the gene variation inherited. Although a substantial proportion of patients with ATTR-CM are elderly, variant ATTR-CM is often diagnosed at a younger age than is wild-type ATTR-CM.[4-7]

The growing knowledge around transthyretin amyloidosis formation has allowed the development of therapies for ATTR-CM. Tafamidis was the first disease-modifying treatment proved to be efficacious, as assessed in the phase 3 Tafamidis in Transthyretin Cardiomyopathy Clinical Trial (NCT01994889).[8,9] Despite being approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and the European Medicines Agency without age restrictions, characteristics such as a limited remaining lifespan, comorbidities, frailty, and polypharmacy are common in elderly patients with ATTR-CM and influence decisions around the initiation of tafamidis.[10-12] Therefore, there is a specific interest in understanding the relative value of tafamidis treatment in elderly patients, such as those aged ≥80 years. Furthermore, there are very few published evaluations of any heart failure therapies in octogenarian patients, leading to a general lack of age-specific disease management recommendations.[13-15]

This post hoc analysis aimed to examine the long-term benefit of tafamidis treatment in octogenarian patients with ATTR-CM using data from ATTR-ACT and an interim analysis of the ongoing long-term extension (LTE) study.[16,17]

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METHODS

STUDIES. ATTR-ACT was an international, multicenter, double-blind, placebo-controlled, randomized phase 3 trial of patients with ATTR-CM.[8,9] Patients were required to be between 18 and 90 years of age, to have biopsy-confirmed ATTR-CM, and a history of heart failure. Patients must also have had an N-terminal pro-B-type natriuretic peptide (NT-proBNP) concentration of ≥600 pg/mL and a 6-minute walk test (6MWT) distance of >100 m at baseline. Exclusion criteria included NYHA

functional class IV symptoms, a history of liver or heart transplantation, an implanted cardiac mechanical assist device, an estimated glomerular filtration rate <25 mL/min/1.73 m^2 of body surface area, liver transaminase levels more than twice the upper limit of the normal range, a modified body mass index <600 (calculated as [weight in kg/height in m^2] × serum albumin concentration in g/L), or current treatment with certain nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, tauroursodeoxycholate, doxycycline, calcium channel blockers, or digitalis.

Treatment randomization was stratified by transthyretin genotype (wild-type or variant) and NYHA functional class (I or II/III). Patients received daily tafamidis meglumine 80 mg, tafamidis meglumine 20 mg, or placebo (2:1:2) for 30 months before being invited to join an open-label LTE study, where all patients received tafamidis for up to an additional 60 months (Long-term Safety of Tafamidis in Subjects With Transthyretin Cardiomyopathy; NCT02791230).[16,17] Patients receiving tafamidis in ATTR-ACT initially continued this dose in the LTE study. Those who had received placebo in ATTR-ACT were randomized 2:1 to tafamidis meglumine 80 mg or 20 mg, stratified by genotype. After a protocol amendment in July 2018, all patients were transitioned to the approved tafamidis dosage of once-daily tafamidis free acid 61 mg, which is bioequivalent to tafamidis meglumine 80 mg. The LTE study is currently ongoing.

Both studies were approved by the independent review board or ethics committee at each participating center and were conducted in accordance with the Declaration of Helsinki and the International Council for Harmonisation for Good Clinical Practice Guideline. All patients provided written informed consent.

ANALYSIS GROUPS. This post hoc analysis includes data for all patients who were randomized to tafamidis meglumine 80 mg (the approved dose for ATTR-CM) or placebo in ATTR-ACT. Patients who were randomized to tafamidis 20 mg in ATTR-ACT are not included in this analysis, which used data spanning from the ATTR-ACT baseline to the interim data cut of the ongoing LTE study on August 1, 2021. Data were summarized by patient age at baseline (<80 years or ≥80 years) and treatment (continuous tafamidis in ATTR-ACT and the LTE study [80 mg and 61 mg], or placebo in ATTR-ACT and tafamidis in the LTE study), resulting in 4 groups.

CENTRAL ILLUSTRATION Tafamidis Efficacy in Patients <80 and ≥80 Years

Efficacy of Tafamidis (80/61 mg) in Patients With ATTR-CM

Patients age <80 years
125 received tafamidis and 140 received placebo

Patients age ≥80 years
51 received tafamidis and 37 received placebo

30 Months of Tafamidis or Placebo Treatment in ATTR-ACT

74.5-m	smaller reduction in 6MWT distance (*P* < 0.0001)	
0.56-fold	smaller increase in NT-proBNP concentration (*P* < 0.0001)	
14.31-point	smaller decline in KCCQ-OS score (*P* < 0.0001)	
RR: 0.63	lower rate of CV-related hospitalizations per year (*P* < 0.001)	

84.6-m	smaller reduction in 6MWT distance (*P* < 0.01)	
0.60-fold	smaller increase in NT-proBNP concentration (*P* < 0.0001)	
13.62-point	smaller decline in KCCQ-OS score (*P* < 0.05)	
RR: 0.89	no change in the rate of CV-related hospitalizations per year (*P* = 0.5721)	

Up to 60 Additional Months of Open-Label Tafamidis in the LTE Study

Smaller decline in KCCQ-OS score throughout the LTE study

HR for all-cause mortality favors tafamidis: 0.45 (95% CI: 0.32-0.64; *P* < 0.0001)

Smaller decline in KCCQ-OS score throughout the LTE study

HR for all-cause mortality trends in favor of tafamidis: 0.68 (95% CI: 0.40-1.15; *P* = 0.1526)

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6MWT = 6-minute walk test; ATTR-ACT = Tafamidis in Transthyretin Cardiomyopathy Clinical Trial; ATTR-CM = transthyretin amyloid cardiomyopathy; CV = cardiovascular; KCCQ-OS = Kansas City Cardiomyopathy Questionnaire Overall Summary; LTE = long-term extension; NT-proBNP = N-terminal pro-B-type natriuretic peptide; RR = rate ratio.

VARIABLES. Demographic and clinical characteristics at the ATTR-ACT baseline are summarized descriptively.

Key efficacy measures collected up until the end of ATTR-ACT were compared between treatments (tafamidis 80 mg vs placebo) for patients aged <80 and ≥80 years. These included: 1) least squares (LS) mean change from baseline in 6MWT distance; 2) LS mean geometric fold change from baseline in NT-proBNP concentration, both compared using a mixed model for repeated measures with an unstructured covariance matrix, with center and subject within center as random effects, and treatment, visit, transthyretin genotype, and visit-by-treatment interaction as fixed effects, and baseline score as covariate; 3) LS mean change from baseline in Kansas City Cardiomyopathy Questionnaire Overall Summary (KCCQ-OS) score, compared using a mixed model for repeated measures with unstructured covariance matrix, with fixed effects of treatment, visit, transthyretin genotype, and visit-by-treatment interaction; and 4) mean rate of cardiovascular-related hospitalizations per patient, per year, compared using a Poisson regression analysis with treatment, transthyretin genotype, baseline NYHA functional class (I/II [combined] or III), treatment by transthyretin genotype interaction, and treatment by NYHA functional class interaction as factors adjusted for treatment duration.

TABLE 1 Baseline Demographics and Clinical Characteristics

	Age <80 y		Age ≥80 y	
	Tafamidis 80 mg (n = 125)	Placebo (n = 140)	Tafamidis 80 mg (n = 51)	Placebo (n = 37)
Age, y				
Mean	72.0 ± 6.0	71.8 ± 5.6	83.0 ± 2.2	82.4 ± 2.5
Median (range)	74 (46-79)	73 (51-79)	83 (80-88)	82 (80-89)
Sex				
Male	111 (88.8)	126 (90.0)	47 (92.2)	31 (83.8)
Female	14 (11.2)	14 (10.0)	4 (7.8)	6 (16.2)
Race				
White	96 (76.8)	116 (82.9)	40 (78.4)	30 (81.1)
Black	21 (16.8)	20 (14.3)	5 (9.8)	6 (16.2)
Asian	7 (5.6)	4 (2.9)	4 (7.8)	1 (2.7)
Other	1 (0.8)	0	2 (3.9)	0
BMI	27.0 ± 3.8	26.6 ± 4.4	24.8 ± 3.5	25.3 ± 3.7
mBMI	1,098.2 ± 167.0	1,079.6 ± 196.1	981.7 ± 158.7	1,016.5 ± 181.9
Transthyretin genotype				
Wild-type	90 (72.0)	105 (75.0)	44 (86.3)	29 (78.4)
Variant	35 (28.0)	35 (25.0)	7 (13.7)	8 (21.6)
NYHA functional class				
I/II	87 (69.6)	97 (69.3)	34 (66.7)	17 (45.9)
III	38 (30.4)	43 (30.7)	17 (33.3)	20 (54.1)
NT-proBNP, pg/mL	2,680.5 (1,746.6-4,494.0)	3,015.0 (1,848.0-4,575.2)	4,006.8 (2,625.0-6,180.5)	3,828.0 (2,329.0-5,305.1)
Troponin I, ng/mL	0.14 (0.09-0.18)	0.14 (0.08-0.19)	0.16 (0.09-0.26)	0.14 (0.07-0.19)
6MWT distance, m	366.5 ± 118.0	369.8 ± 129.8	291.7 ± 109.9	290.5 ± 86.4
KCCQ-OS score	68.5 ± 21.3	66.3 ± 22.2	63.9 ± 21.0	64.4 ± 20.2

Values are n (%), mean ± SD, or median (Q1-Q3), unless otherwise indicated. Modified BMI is (weight in kg/height in m^2) × serum albumin concentration in g/L.

6MWT = 6-minute walk test; BMI = body mass index; KCCQ-OS = Kansas City Cardiomyopathy Questionnaire Overall Summary; NT-proBNP = N-terminal pro-B-type natriuretic peptide.

Cardiovascular-related hospitalizations, 6MWT, and NT-proBNP were not adjudicated/monitored in the LTE study. Efficacy measures collected in the interim analysis of the LTE study (August 1, 2021) were compared between treatment groups (continuous tafamidis [tafamidis in ATTR-ACT and the LTE] vs placebo to tafamidis [placebo in ATTR-ACT then tafamidis in the LTE study]) for patients aged <80 and ≥80 years. Evaluated efficacy measures included: 1) KCCQ-OS score as described earlier; and 2) all-cause mortality, calculated by the Kaplan-Meier method and compared by a Cox proportional hazard model with treatment, baseline NYHA functional class (I/II [combined] and III), and transthyretin genotype as covariates. Patients who were discontinued because of a heart transplantation or implantation of a cardiac mechanical assist device were treated as death. The Cox proportional hazard model was also used to explore the interaction between treatment and age group. The number of patients needed to be treated to avoid 1 all-cause mortality event was calculated for each age group.

RESULTS

The results are summarized in the **Central Illustration** and in the plain language summary available in the Supplemental Appendix.

BASELINE CHARACTERISTICS. Of the 441 patients randomized in ATTR-ACT, 51 of 176 receiving tafamidis 80 mg and 37 of 177 receiving placebo were aged ≥80 years. Their demographics and clinical characteristics are summarized by age and treatment in **Table 1**. Aside from having a higher age, patients aged ≥80 years had broadly similar demographics to those aged <80 years. Higher proportions of patients aged ≥80 years had a wild-type transthyretin genotype and NYHA functional class III symptoms than in patients aged <80 years. Consistent with symptoms indicating more advanced disease, patients aged ≥80 years had higher median NT-proBNP concentrations, shorter 6MWT distances, and slightly lower mean KCCQ-OS scores at baseline than those aged <80 years.
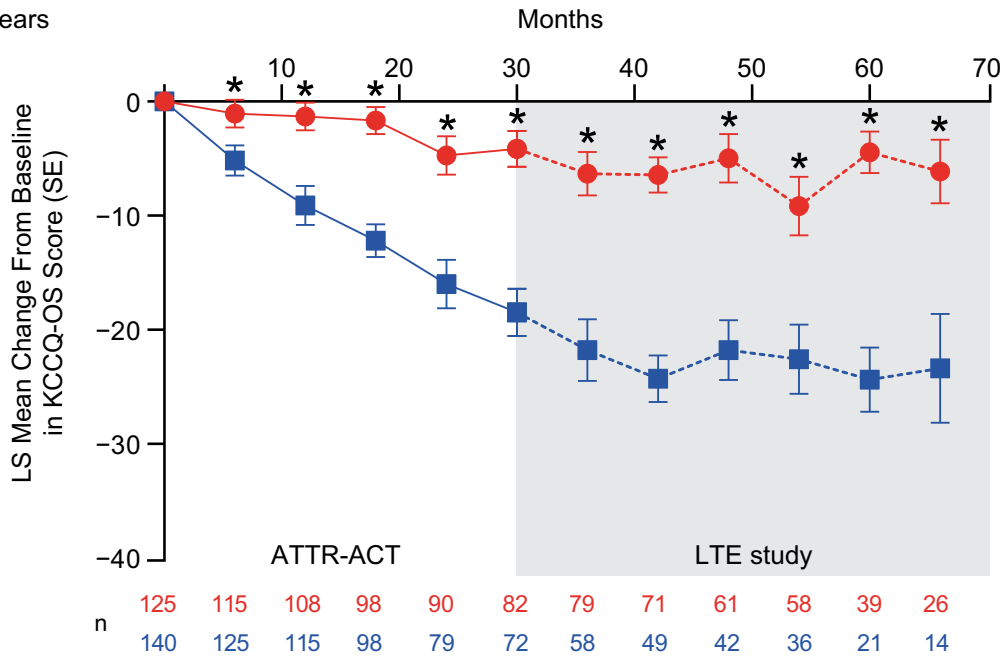
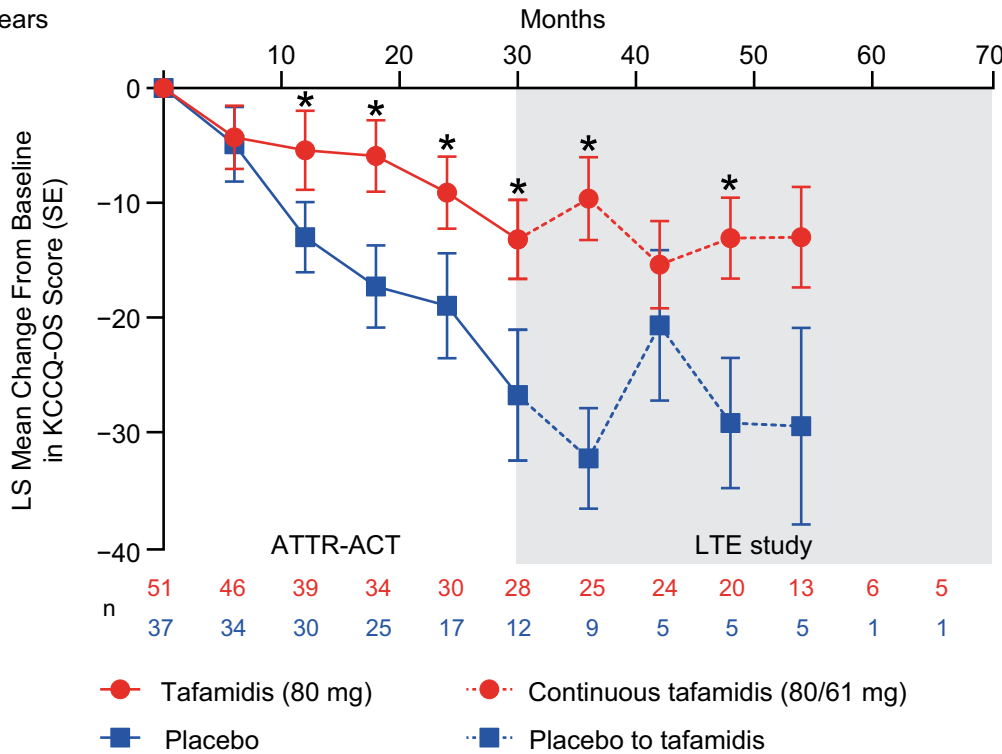**FIGURE 1** Reduction in 6MWT Distance During ATTR-ACT by Patient Age
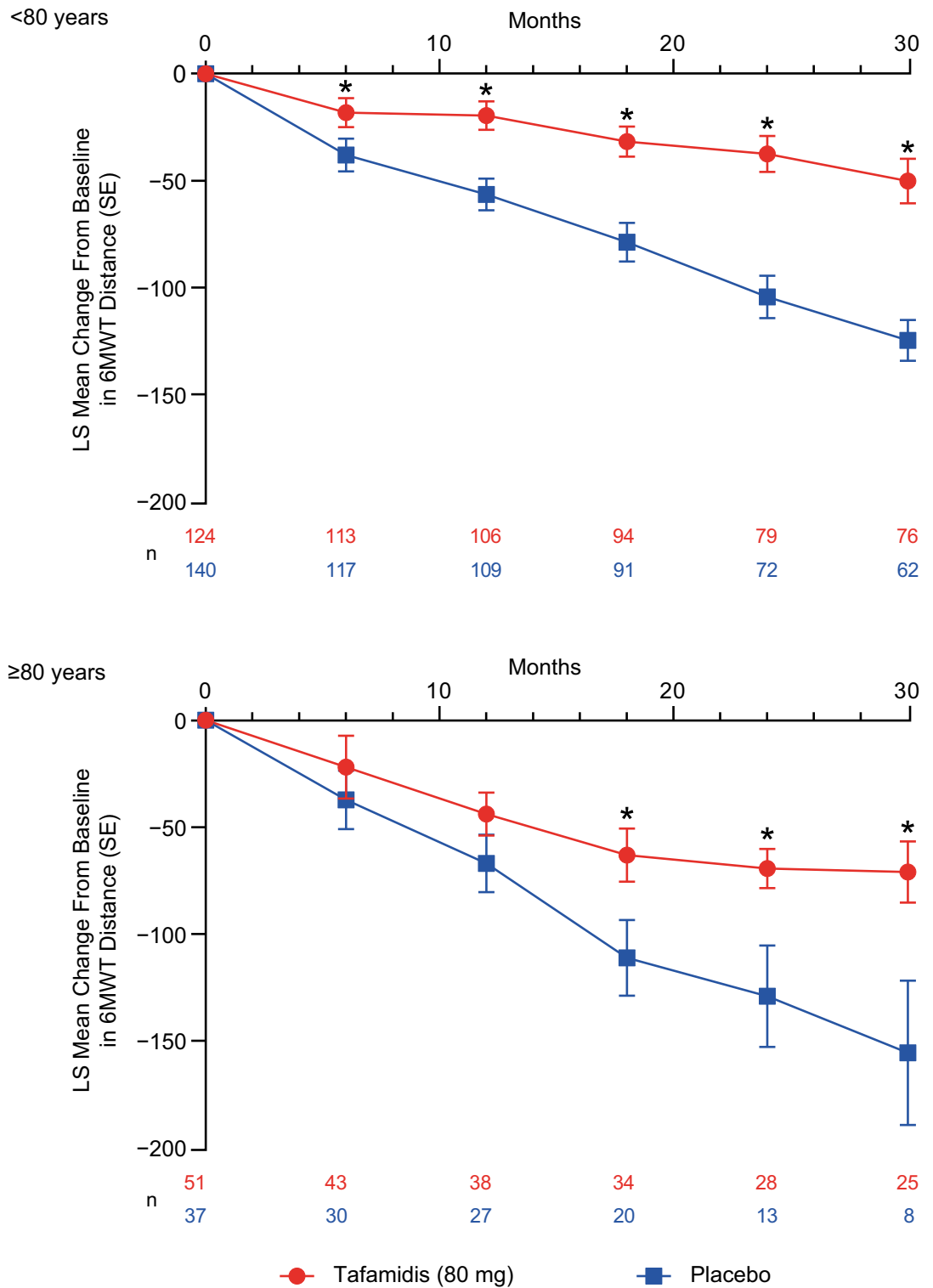
*P < 0.05 between treatment groups. 6MWT = 6-minute walk test; ATTR-ACT = Tafamidis in Transthyretin Cardiomyopathy Clinical Trial; LS = least squares.

FIGURE 2 KCCQ-OS in ATTR-ACT and the LTE Study by Patient Age

KCCQ-OS scores were collected up to the interim analysis of the LTE study (August 1, 2021), but analysis of LS mean change stopped at month 66 because of low numbers. At the furthest timepoint (month 84) there was 1 patient remaining in the continuous tafamidis <80- and ≥80-year groups, and none in the placebo to tafamidis <80- and ≥80-year groups. Patients in the continuous tafamidis group took 80 mg tafamidis in ATTR-ACT and tafamidis in the LTE study. Patients in the placebo to tafamidis group took placebo in ATTR-ACT and tafamidis in the LTE study. *P < 0.05 between treatment groups. KCCQ-OS = Kansas City Cardiomyopathy Questionnaire Overall Summary; LTE = long-term extension.

TABLE 2 Change in 6MWT Distance, NT-proBNP Concentration, and KCCQ-OS Score at 30 Months, and Cardiovascular-Related Hospitalizations During ATTR-ACT

	Age <80 y		Age ≥80 y	
	80 mg Tafamidis (n = 125)	Placebo (n = 140)	80 mg Tafamidis (n = 51)	Placebo (n = 37)
Change from baseline in 6MWT distance at the end of ATTR-ACT				
No. with data at 30 mo	76	62	25	8
LS mean change	−50.22	−124.68	−71.04	−155.68
Difference from placebo (95% CI)	74.46 (53.07-95.85) $P < 0.0001$		84.63 (20.55-148.72) $P = 0.0098$	
Geometric fold change from baseline in NT-proBNP concentration at the end of ATTR-ACT				
No. with data at 30 mo	82	68	28	12
LS mean change	1.26	2.24	1.18	1.96
Difference from placebo (95% CI)	0.56 (0.47-0.68) $P < 0.0001$		0.60 (0.44-0.81) $P = 0.0011$	
Change from baseline in KCCQ-OS score at the end of ATTR-ACT				
No. with data at 30 mo	82	72	28	12
LS mean change	−4.2	−18.5	−13.2	−26.8
Difference from placebo (95% CI)	14.31 (9.39-19.24) $P < 0.0001$		13.62 (1.71-25.54) $P = 0.0251$	
Cardiovascular-related hospitalizations during the 30 mo of ATTR-ACT				
Patients with hospitalizations, n (%)	65 (52.0)	86 (61.4)	31 (60.8)	21 (56.8)
Mean rate of hospitalizations per y	0.44	0.70	0.64	0.71
Rate ratio for tafamidis vs placebo (95% CI)	0.63 (0.50-0.80) $P = 0.0002$		0.89 (0.60-1.32) $P = 0.5721$	

6MWT = 6-minute walk test; KCCQ-OS = Kansas City Cardiomyopathy Questionnaire Overall Summary; NT-proBNP = N-terminal pro B-type natriuretic peptide.

EFFICACY MEASURES AFTER 30 MONTHS IN ATTR-ACT. Reflecting findings in the overall ATTR-ACT population[8] over 30 months, patients aged <80 years and ≥80 years showed signs of disease progression that was attenuated by tafamidis treatment. Whereas all 4 groups (patients aged <80 or ≥80 years taking either tafamidis or placebo) had reductions in 6MWT distance (−50 to −156 m) (**Figure 1**) and increases in NT-proBNP concentration (1.18- to 2.24-fold) at month 30, these were significantly reduced in patients treated with tafamidis compared with placebo in both age groups ($P < 0.01$). Whereas KCCQ-OS score declined in all 4 groups, tafamidis treatment was associated with a significantly smaller decline at month 30 vs placebo treatment in patients aged <80 and ≥80 years ($P < 0.05$) (**Figure 2**). In patients aged <80 years, tafamidis treatment was also associated with a significantly lower rate of cardiovascular-related hospitalizations per year than was placebo (difference: 0.63; $P < 0.001$) (**Table 2**). This was not observed in patients aged ≥80 years (difference from placebo: 0.89; $P = 0.5721$).

When compared within treatment (tafamidis vs tafamidis, and placebo vs placebo), patients aged ≥80 years had larger declines in 6MWT distance and

KCCQ-OS score, smaller fold changes in NT-proBNP over 30 months, and a higher rate of cardiovascular-related hospitalizations than those aged <80 years. These age-related differences were generally smaller than those associated with treatment (tafamidis vs placebo within each age group).

VARIABLES AT THE INTERIM DATA CUT OF THE LTE STUDY. The median follow-up times at the LTE study interim analysis were 60 months in patients aged ≥80 years treated with continuous tafamidis, and 56 months in patients aged ≥80 years treated with placebo in ATTR-ACT then tafamidis in the LTE study. The median follow-up times in equivalent groups of patients aged <80 years were 61 and 60 months.

The change from baseline in KCCQ-OS score from the start of ATTR-ACT to month 54 is shown in **Figure 2**. KCCQ-OS score continued to decline over the course of the LTE study in all 4 groups, but this decline was attenuated by tafamidis treatment in patients aged both <80 and ≥80 years. The magnitude of decline in KCCQ-OS score was generally larger in patients aged ≥80 years than in those aged <80 years; however, this decline appeared to stabilize

FIGURE 3 All-Cause Mortality in ATTR-ACT and the LTE Study by Patient Age
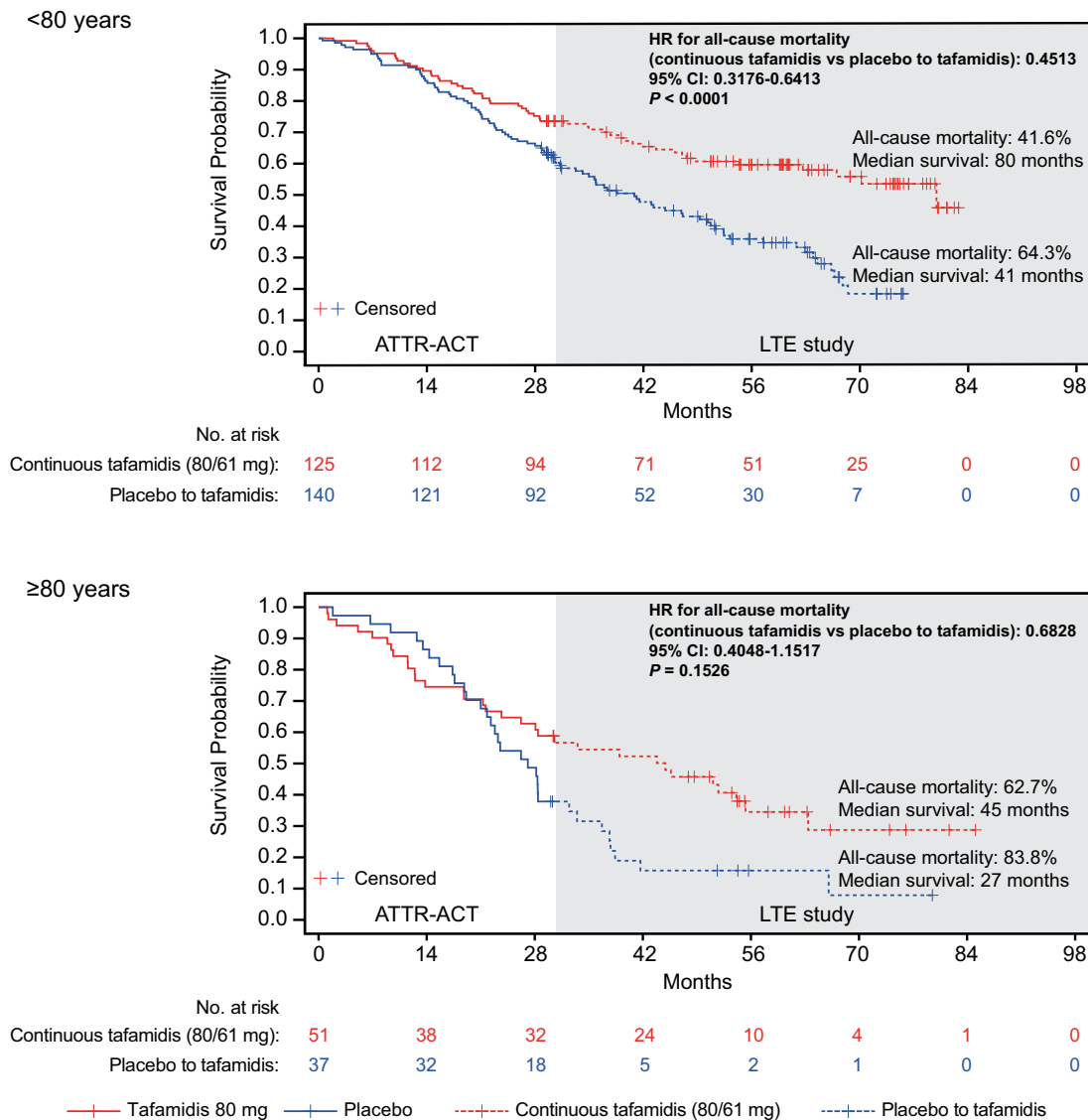
Patients who underwent heart transplantation or implantation of a cardiac mechanical assist device were treated as deceased. There were 52 events in the continuous tafamidis group who were aged <80 years, comprising 43 deaths, 7 heart transplantations, and 2 cardiac mechanical assist device implantations. Comparable values in the placebo to tafamidis group who were aged <80 years, the continuous tafamidis group who were aged ≥80 years, and the placebo to tafamidis group who were aged ≥80 years are 90, 84, 6, 0; 32, 32, 0, 0; and 31, 31, 0, 0. Analysis from ATTR-ACT baseline to LTE study interim analysis dated August 1, 2021. Patients in the continuous tafamidis group took 80 mg tafamidis in ATTR-ACT and tafamidis in the LTE study. Patients in the placebo to tafamidis group took placebo in ATTR-ACT and tafamidis in the LTE study. Abbreviations as in **Figures 1 and 2**.

in the LTE study for both age groups. Treatment-related statistical separation was stunted in patients aged ≥80 years because of low patient numbers.

In patients aged ≥80 years, median survival was 45 months in those treated with continuous tafamidis and 27 months in those initially treated with placebo

(**Figure 3**). The HR for all-cause mortality trended in favor of continuous tafamidis but was not statistically significant (HR: 0.6828 [95% CI: 0.4048-1.1517]; P = 0.1526). The number of patients needed to be treated to avoid 1 event was 4.74. In patients aged <80 years, median survival was 80 months in those

treated with continuous tafamidis and 41 months in those initially treated with placebo. The HR for all-cause mortality was statistically significant in favor of continuous tafamidis treatment (HR: 0.4513 [95% CI: 0.3176-0.6413]; $P < 0.0001$). The number of patients needed to be treated to avoid 1 event was 4.41. The interaction between treatment and age subgroups (≥80 and <80 years) was not significant ($P = 0.8696$).

DISCUSSION

The efficacy of tafamidis was proved among patients with ATTR-CM aged 46 to 90 during ATTR-ACT and continues to be demonstrated in the ongoing LTE study.[8,16,17] This post hoc analysis further supports the efficacy of tafamidis treatment in octogenarian patients.

ATTR-CM is a condition that predominantly affects older adults, with a substantial proportion of patients aged ≥80 years.[6,18-20] In particular, an age-associated increase in wild-type ATTR-CM prevalence has been found in autopsy studies, demonstrating a relationship with aging.[4,21] Elderly patients with heart failure of various causes are known to have a shorter median survival and more cardiovascular-related hospitalizations than are younger patients.[22,23] Although very few clinical trials have included patients aged ≥80 years, limited data suggest that the efficacy of heart failure treatments remains demonstrable in elderly patients; however, in the real world, patients aged ≥80 years are commonly undertreated with the guideline-recommended therapies.[13-15,22,24] The reasons for this undertreatment are poorly defined, but likely they relate to difficulties navigating factors common to older individuals, such as comorbidities, intolerances, frailty, polypharmacy, and patient expectations for their life.[10] Although ATTR-CM (in particular wild-type ATTR-CM) is an age-related and progressive disease, no studies have specifically looked at the long-term effects of treatment in octogenarian patients.

This analysis of ATTR-ACT data found that patients aged ≥80 years had more advanced disease than did those aged <80 years at enrollment. The proportion of patients aged ≥80 years with NYHA functional class III symptoms was higher than among patients aged <80 years, as was median NT-proBNP concentration, whereas 6MWT distance and mean KCCQ-OS scores were lower. Given that damage to the heart in ATTR-CM is considered irreversible, this puts patients with advanced disease at a disadvantage in terms of potential outcomes with treatment. Among patients receiving the same treatment over the

30 months of ATTR-ACT (ie, tafamidis or placebo), those who were aged ≥80 years showed a higher mean rate of cardiovascular-related hospitalizations per year and a larger decline in 6MWT distance and KCCQ-OS score than did those aged <80 years. These findings presumably reflect the more advanced disease processes in these patients and the expected decrease in physicality associated with aging. Interestingly, fold changes in NT-proBNP over the duration of ATTR-ACT were slightly lower in patients aged ≥80 years than in those aged <80 years. This may be due to the already high concentrations of NT-proBNP at baseline in these patients (median: 3,828 to 4,007 pg/mL in patients aged ≥80 years vs 2,681 to 3,015 pg/mL in those aged <80 years).

Across both age groups, we found that treatment with tafamidis was associated with attenuated disease progression measures; namely, smaller reductions in 6MWT distance and KCCQ-OS score, and smaller increases in NT-proBNP as compared with placebo treatment over the 30 months of ATTR-ACT. Treatment with tafamidis was associated with a lower rate of cardiovascular-related hospitalizations (significant in patients aged <80 years, but not in those aged ≥80 years). In interim data from the LTE study, the decline in KCCQ-OS score was smaller in patients treated with continuous tafamidis in ATTR-ACT and the LTE study as compared with those who initially received placebo in ATTR-ACT and then tafamidis in the LTE study. Median survival was also longer in patients treated with continuous tafamidis vs placebo in ATTR-ACT then tafamidis in the LTE study among patients aged <80 years (80 vs 41 months) and ≥80 years (45 vs 27 months). The treatment effect on all-cause mortality among patients aged ≥80 years was favorable but not statistically significant, likely because of the smaller numbers of patients. Tafamidis safety data from this interim analysis have been previously published, and they demonstrated a profile that was consistent with that reported in ATTR-ACT and at earlier timepoints in the LTE study.[8,16,17] Overall, these findings reflect the efficacy established in the overall ATTR-ACT population and demonstrate both an initial and an enduring benefit of early tafamidis treatment in patients aged ≥80 years.[8,16,17]

STUDY LIMITATIONS. The limitations of this analysis include the low patient numbers toward the interim analysis of the LTE study, particularly in the placebo to tafamidis group aged ≥80 years. The patients in this group were elderly at the start of ATTR-ACT (~83 years), and the latest interim analysis was more than 5 years after enrollment, so this is

presumably related to the additional mortality expected in this group as a result of old age. Patients enrolled in ATTR-ACT must have been able to walk >100 m in the 6MWT, which would have excluded otherwise eligible elderly patients who were wheelchair bound or had poor mobility. This was not a prespecified analysis, and patient numbers were not planned to allow for statistical power. Further, despite the ability to detect a long-term value of early tafamidis treatment, as all patients received tafamidis in the LTE study, the ability to demonstrate the full value of long-term treatment is limited.

CONCLUSIONS

Patients with ATTR-CM aged <80 and ≥80 years who received tafamidis treatment had better outcomes than did patients who initially received placebo across several measures. Octogenarians treated with tafamidis in ATTR-ACT had a smaller decline in quality of life and in functional capacity, and a smaller change in a biomarker of heart function at 30 months compared with those treated with placebo. In the LTE study, octogenarians treated with continuous tafamidis maintained a smaller decline in quality of life and had a nonsignificant trend toward longer survival than did octogenarians who received placebo in ATTR-ACT, then tafamidis in the LTE study. Patients aged <80 years had similar findings, additionally with a lower rate of cardiovascular-related hospitalizations in ATTR-ACT among those treated with tafamidis vs placebo, and a statistically longer survival in the LTE study among those who took tafamidis continuously vs those who initially received placebo in ATTR-ACT. These findings demonstrate the efficacy of tafamidis across age groups, including octogenarian patients.

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PERSPECTIVES

COMPETENCY IN MEDICAL KNOWLEDGE: This analysis confirms the efficacy of tafamidis versus placebo in patients with ATTR-CM, including octogenarians, who had a significantly smaller decline in KCCQ-OS score, 6MWT distance, and increase in NT-proBNP concentration after 30 months of treatment in ATTR-ACT. In the LTE study, octogenarians treated with continuous tafamidis maintained a smaller decline in KCCQ-OS score and trended toward having longer survival than octogenarians who had been treated with placebo in ATTR-ACT and then received tafamidis in the LTE study.

TRANSLATIONAL OUTLOOK: Further studies and guidelines on the treatment of older patients with heart failure can help guide optimal management, including for those with ATTR-CM.

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APPENDIX For a supplemental appendix, please see the online version of this paper.