

# Clinical Trial Protocol

## Iranian Registry of Clinical Trials

27 May 2026

### Evaluation of the Effect of Megestrol Acetate plus Celecoxib in Combination versus Megestrol Acetate alone in Cachexia Induced by Gastrointestinal Cancers

#### Protocol summary

##### Summary

**Objectives:** Evaluation of the effect of megestrol acetate plus celecoxib in combination versus megestrol acetate alone in cachexia induced by gastrointestinal cancers  
**Design:** Triple blind randomized clinical trial  
**Setting and conduct:** 80 eligible patients are randomized into two groups. One group receive megestrol acetate 160 mg BD plus celecoxib 100 mg BD for 2 months. Another group receive megestrol acetate alone 160 mg BD for 2 months. Major Inclusion criteria: age of more than 18 y; Confirmed diagnosis of gastroesophageal or colorectal cancer in any stage; Hope for survival of at least 4 month; More than 5% weight loss in the past 3 to 6 month or more than 5% weight loss in comparison to the weight before disease or a body weight less than 5% of ideal body weight or a BMI (Body Mass Index) of less than 20; Palliative treatments or chemotherapy is allowed  
**Major Exclusion criteria:** Mechanical obstruction in alimentary tract; Any treatment which induce weight gain like glucocorticoids; Diagnosis of diabetes mellitus with concomitant insulin therapy; Uncompensated cardiac failure with ejection fraction of less than 30% or with New York Heart Association function class of 3 or 4; Uncontrolled Hypertention with systolic blood pressure greater than 140 mmHg or diastolic blood pressure greater than 90 mmHg; History of myocardial infarction; History of unstable angina; History of Cerebro-vascular accidents; Uncontrolled cardiac dysrhythmias ; Inflammatory bowel disease; gastrointestinal ulcers  
**Intervention:** megestrol acetate plus celecoxib in combination versus megestrol acetate alone in cachexia induced by gastrointestinal cancers  
**Outcome measures (variables) :** Body weight, Quality of life, Appetite, Markers of inflammatory response including Interleukin-1, Interleukin-6, Tumor necrotizing factor-alpha and Glasgow prognostic score (GPS) will be measured at base line and at the end of study period.

#### General information

##### Acronym

##### IRCT registration information

IRCT registration number: **IRCT201407222027N4**  
Registration date: **2016-09-11, 1395/06/21**  
Registration timing: **registered\_while\_recruiting**

Last update:

Update count: **0**

##### Registration date

2016-09-11, 1395/06/21

##### Registrant information

##### Name

Ebrahim Salehifar

##### Name of organization / entity

Mazandaran University of Medical Sciences

##### Country

Iran (Islamic Republic of)

##### Phone

+98 15 1311 6546

##### Email address

esalehifar@mazums.ac.ir

##### Recruitment status

**Recruitment complete**

##### Funding source

Mazandaran University of Medical Sciences

##### Expected recruitment start date

2015-10-10, 1394/07/18

##### Expected recruitment end date

2016-12-10, 1395/09/20

##### Actual recruitment start date

empty

##### Actual recruitment end date

empty

##### Trial completion date

empty

### Scientific title

Evaluation of the Effect of Megestrol Acetate plus Celecoxib in Combination versus Megestrol Acetate alone in Cachexia Induced by Gastrointestinal Cancers

### Public title

Effect of Megestrol Acetate plus Celecoxib versus Megestrol Acetate alone in Cachexia

### Purpose

Supportive

### Inclusion/Exclusion criteria

Inclusion criteria: Age of more than 18 y; Confirmed diagnosis of gastroesophageal or colorectal cancer in any stage; Hope for survival of at least 4 month; More than 5% weight loss in the past 3 to 6 month or more than 5% weight loss in comparison to the weight before disease or a body weight less than 5% of ideal body weight or a BMI (Body Mass Index) of less than 20; Palliative treatments or chemotherapy is allowed Exclusion criteria: Mechanical obstruction in alimentary tract; Any treatment which induce weight gain like glucocorticoids; Diagnosis of diabetes mellitus with concomitant insulin therapy; Uncompensated cardiac failure with ejection fraction of less than 30% or with New York Heart Association function class of 3 or 4; Uncontrolled Hypertention with systolic blood pressure greater than 140 mmHg or diastolic blood pressure greater than 90 mmHg; History of myocardial infarction; History of unstable angina; History of Cerebro-vascular accidents; Uncontrolled cardiac dysrhythmias; Inflammatory bowel disease; Gastrointestinal ulcers or history of GI bleedings

### Age

From **18 years** old to **100 years** old

### Gender

Both

### Phase

3

### Groups that have been masked

*No information*

### Sample size

Target sample size: **80**

### Randomization (investigator's opinion)

Randomized

### Randomization description

### Blinding (investigator's opinion)

Triple blinded

### Blinding description

### Placebo

Not used

### Assignment

Parallel

### Other design features

## Secondary Ids

empty

## Ethics committees

### 1

#### Ethics committee

##### Name of ethics committee

Mazandaran University of Medical Sciences Ethical Committee

##### Street address

Mazandaran University of Medical Sciences, kilometer 18 of Farah Abad road, Sari, Iran

##### City

Sari

##### Postal code

##### Approval date

2015-08-20, 1394/05/29

##### Ethics committee reference number

IR.MAZUMS.REC.94-1087

## Health conditions studied

### 1

#### Description of health condition studied

Cachexia

#### ICD-10 code

R-64

#### ICD-10 code description

Cachexia

## Primary outcomes

### 1

#### Description

Quality of life

#### Timepoint

2 month from baseline

#### Method of measurement

EORTC QLQ-C30 questionnaire

### 2

#### Description

Weight

#### Timepoint

2 month from baseline

#### Method of measurement

Scale with precision of 0.1 Kg

## Secondary outcomes

### 1

#### Description

IL-1

#### Timepoint

2 month from baseline

#### Method of measurement

ELISA

### 2

#### Description

IL-6  
**Timepoint**  
2 month from baseline  
**Method of measurement**  
ELISA

### 3

**Description**  
TNF-alpha  
**Timepoint**  
2 month from baseline  
**Method of measurement**  
ELISA

### 4

**Description**  
Appetite  
**Timepoint**  
2 month from baseline  
**Method of measurement**  
Visual analogue scale

### 5

**Description**  
Glasgow prognostic score (GPS)  
**Timepoint**  
2 month from baseline  
**Method of measurement**  
calculated based on Albumin and CRP

## Intervention groups

### 1

**Description**  
Megestrol acetate 160mg BD+Celecoxib 100mg BD for 2 months in intervention group  
**Category**  
Treatment - Drugs

### 2

**Description**  
Megestrol acetate 160mg BD for 2 months in control group  
**Category**  
Treatment - Drugs

## Recruitment centers

### 1

**Recruitment center**  
**Name of recruitment center**  
Tuba Clinic of Mazandaran University of Medical Sciences  
**Full name of responsible person**  
**Street address**  
Tuba Clinic, Khazar Square, Sari

**City**  
Sari

## Sponsors / Funding sources

### 1

**Sponsor**  
**Name of organization / entity**  
Mazandaran University of Medical Sciences  
**Full name of responsible person**  
Dr Ahmad Ali Enayati  
**Street address**  
Research Deputy, Mazandaran university of medical Sciences, Moallem Square, Sari, Iran  
**City**  
Sari  
**Grant name**  
**Grant code / Reference number**  
**Is the source of funding the same sponsor organization/entity?**  
Yes  
**Title of funding source**  
Mazandaran University of Medical Sciences  
**Proportion provided by this source**  
100  
**Public or private sector**  
*empty*  
**Domestic or foreign origin**  
*empty*  
**Category of foreign source of funding**  
*empty*  
**Country of origin**  
**Type of organization providing the funding**  
*empty*

## Person responsible for general inquiries

### Contact

**Name of organization / entity**  
Department of Clinical Pharmacy, Faculty of Pharmacy, Mazandaran University of Medical Sciences  
**Full name of responsible person**  
Ebrahim Salehifar  
**Position**  
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**Other areas of specialty/work**  
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## Person responsible for scientific inquiries

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## Person responsible for updating data

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**Web page address**

## Sharing plan

**Deidentified Individual Participant Data Set (IPD)**

*empty*

**Study Protocol**

*empty*

**Statistical Analysis Plan**

*empty*

**Informed Consent Form**

*empty*

**Clinical Study Report**

*empty*

**Analytic Code**

*empty*

**Data Dictionary**

*empty*