

# AXS-12 for the Treatment of Narcolepsy: Topline Results From the Phase 3 SYMPHONY Trial

Michael J. Thorpy<sup>1</sup>; Lois Krahn<sup>2</sup>; Richard K. Bogan<sup>3</sup>; Bruce Corser<sup>4</sup>; Colin Shapiro<sup>5</sup>; Angad Chhabra<sup>6</sup>; Eileen B. Leary<sup>7</sup>; Herriot Tabuteau<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Montefiore Medical Center, Sleep-Wake Disorders Center, Bronx, NY, United States, <sup>2</sup>Mayo Clinic College of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry and Psychology, Phoenix, AZ, United States, <sup>3</sup>Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC, United States, <sup>4</sup>Intrepid Research, Cincinnati, OH, United States, <sup>5</sup>Toronto Western Hospital, Department of Psychiatry, Sleep and Alertness Clinic, Sleep Research Laboratory, Toronto, Canada, <sup>6</sup>Axsome Therapeutics, Inc., New York, NY, United States, <sup>7</sup>Formerly of Axsome Therapeutics, Inc., New York, NY, United States, <sup>7</sup>Formerly of Axsome Therapeutics, Inc., New York, NY, United States, <sup>7</sup>Formerly of Axsome Therapeutics, Inc., New York, NY, United States, <sup>7</sup>Formerly of Axsome Therapeutics, Inc., New York, NY, United States, <sup>9</sup>

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### Introduction

- Narcolepsy is a chronic neurological disorder affecting sleep-wake regulation<sup>1</sup>
- It is characterized by excessive daytime sleepiness (EDS), abnormal REM sleep phenomena including cataplexy, sleep-related hallucinations, sleep paralysis, and disrupted nocturnal sleep<sup>1,2</sup>
- Type 1 narcolepsy is Narcolepsy with Cataplexy (emotionally induced muscle weakness)<sup>1</sup>
- Additional features of narcolepsy include cognitive impairment such as lack of concentration, memory difficulties, and brain fog<sup>3</sup>
- Most patients with narcolepsy require pharmacotherapy, yet despite available options, most continue to experience symptoms which can be burdensome, impairing daily functioning, reducing productivity, and diminishing overall quality of life<sup>4</sup>

REM, rapid eye movement.
1. American Academy of Sleep Medicine. *ICSD-3-TR*. Chicago, IL: 2023. 2. España RA, Scammell TE. *Sleep*. 2011;34(7):845-858. 3. Rosenberg R, et al. *J Clin Sleep Med*. 2024;20(4):643-651.
4. Krahn LE, et al. *Adv Ther*. 2022;39(1):221–243.



# **AXS-12 (reboxetine)**

- AXS-12 (reboxetine) is a highly selective and potent norepinephrine reuptake inhibitor and cortical dopamine modulator<sup>1</sup>
- AXS-12 regulates noradrenergic activity, which helps maintain muscle tone during wakefulness: it may modulate noradrenergic and dopaminergic pathways to stabilize sleep-wake states, enhance alertness, and improve cognition<sup>2</sup>
- It is approved in multiple countries outside the US for the treatment of major depressive disorder<sup>3</sup>

#### **SYMPHONY Study Objective**

To assess the efficacy and safety of AXS-12 compared to placebo for treating cataplexy in narcolepsy in the Phase 3 SYMPHONY Trial



Hajós et al. CNS Drug Reviews. 2004;10(1):23-44.
 O'Gorman C, et al. Presented at APSS 2020.
 EDRONAX<sup>®</sup> [package insert]. Pfizer, Australia, 2022.

### **SYMPHONY Trial Design**

- Phase 3, multicenter, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial in participants with a diagnosis of NT1
- Following screening, participants were randomized 1:1 to treatment with AXS-12 or placebo for 5 weeks

	1:1 Randomization		<u>5-We</u>	5-Week Double-Blind Treatment Period			End of Study	<u>Follow Up</u>
		Week 1: 5 mg once daily	Weeks 2 5 mg twice da	2-5: aily	AXS-12 (rebox	(etine)	AXS-1 5 mg o No tre	<b>2 (reboxetine)</b> nce-daily x3 days eatment x4 days
Screening		Week 1: One table	Weeks 2 et One tab	2-5: let 	Placebo	)	One ta	Placebo blet daily x3 days
<u>Visit 1</u>	<u>Vis</u> Bas	sit 2 eline	Visit 3 Week 1	<u>Phone Visit 4</u> Week 2	<u>Visit 5</u> Week 3	<u>Phone Visit 6</u> Week 4	<u>Visit 7</u> Week 5	eatment x4 days <u>Visit 8</u> Week 6



NT1, narcolepsy type 1.

# **Eligibility Criteria**

#### **Key Inclusion Criteria**

- Aged 15-75 years
- Diagnosis of NT1 with:
  - ≥7 cataplexy attacks/week, or
  - ≥14 across 2 weeks

#### **Key Exclusion Criteria**

• Diagnosis of another clinically significant condition potentially causing EDS

- Concurrent use of modafinil/armodafinil was allowed if dose was stable for ≥3 weeks before treatment start and stable throughout trial
- Anticataleptics were withdrawn ≥7 days before start of treatment



EDS, excessive daytime sleepiness; NT1, narcolepsy type 1.



### Endpoints

#### Primary Endpoint

• Change from Baseline to Week 5 in the weekly frequency of cataplexy attacks

#### Select Secondary Endpoints

- Percentage of participants with:
  - Cataplexy remission
  - Cataplexy-free days
- Change in severity of EDS (CGI-S)
- Change in frequency of inadvertent naps or sleep attacks (NSAQ)
- Change in score on cognitive items of the FOSQ-10



CGI-S, Clinical Global Impression Scale-Severity; EDS, excessive daytime sleepiness; FOSQ-10, Functional Outcomes of Sleep Questionnaire-10; NSAQ, Narcolepsy Symptom Assessment Questionnaire.

# **Baseline Sociodemographic and Clinical Characteristics**

	AXS-12 (N=46)	Placebo (N=44)
Age, mean (SD), years	36.0 (13.4)	34.2 (12.1)
Sex, female, n (%)	25 (54.3)	29 (65.9)
Race, n (%)		
White	27 (58.7)	28 (63.6)
Black or African American	13 (28.3)	11 (25.0)
Asian	1 (2.2)	2 (4.5)
Other	2 (4.3)	1 (2.3)
BMI, mean (SD)	29.7 (6.3)	27.4 (5.6)
Time since diagnosis, mean (SD), years	7.9 (9.0)	6.3 (7.0)
Weekly frequency of cataplexy attacks, median	19.3	21.6
CGI-S for EDS, mean (SD)	5.3 (0.9)	5.1 (1.0)
Epworth Sleepiness Scale score, mean (SD)	18.3 (3.1)	17.3 (3.3)
Use of modafinil or armodafinil, %	32.6	29.5

• The study population comprised 90 participants; baseline sociodemographic and clinical characteristics were similar across both treatment groups



BMI, body mass index; CGI-S, Clinical Global Impression of Severity; EDS, excessive daytime sleepiness.

### Primary Endpoint: AXS-12 Reduced Frequency of Cataplexy Attacks at Week 5





 Greater reductions in weekly cataplexy attacks with AXS-12 were observed as early as Week 1



<sup>†</sup>Nominal p-value. RR, rate ratio \*Rate ratio compares the proportion of cataplexy attacks remaining at Week 5 (relative to Baseline) for AXS-12 vs. placebo

### Secondary Endpoint: AXS-12 Led to Higher Rates of Cataplexy Remission at Week 5



- Higher rates of cataplexy remission were observed with AXS-12 as early as Week 2
- Additionally, AXS-12 increased the percentage of cataplexy-free days per week relative to placebo (median 84.5% vs 22.6%; p=0.014<sup>+</sup>)

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<sup>†</sup>Nominal p-value.

### Secondary Endpoints: AXS-12 Improved Cognitive and Sleep Symptoms at Week 5



FOSQ-10, Functional Items of Sleep Questionnaire-10; NSAQ, Narcolepsy Symptom Assessment Questionnaire.



### Secondary Endpoint: AXS-12 Reduced EDS Severity (CGI-S)



Greater reductions in EDS were observed with AXS-12 compared to placebo as early as Week 1



#### <sup>+</sup>Nominal p-value CGI-S, Clinical Global Impression Scale-Severity; EDS, excessive daytime sleepiness.

### **AXS-12 Safety and Tolerability Profile**

Most Common TEAEs (≥ 5% of participants in AXS-12 arm)							
TEAE, n (%)	AXS-12	Placebo					
Dry mouth	6 (13.0)	1 (2.3)					
Nausea	6 (13.0)	0					
Constipation	4 (8.7)	0					
Paresthesia	4 (8.7)	0					
Decreased appetite	3 (6.5)	0					

- All commonly reported AEs were mild to moderate
- The rates of discontinuation due to AEs were low (n=1 in each of AXS-12 [2.2%] and placebo [2.3%] arms)
- There were no serious AEs in either arm



### Conclusions

- AXS-12 met its primary endpoint, significantly reducing weekly cataplexy attacks compared to placebo
- AXS-12 also reduced EDS and improved subjective cognitive function highlighting its potential to impact multiple symptoms of narcolepsy
- AXS-12 was generally well-tolerated and discontinuations due to adverse events were uncommon
- These results confirm and extend those from the Phase 2 CONCERT trial<sup>1</sup>, which showed significant improvements in cataplexy, EDS, sleep quality and cognitive function
- These findings highlight the positive therapeutic impact of AXS-12 on persons with narcolepsy, who experience a substantial burden of disease<sup>2</sup>



EDS, excessive daytime sleepiness.

1. O'Gorman C, et al. Presented at APSS 2020. 2. Thorpy MJ, Hiller G. Am Health Drug Benefits. 2017 Jul;10(5):233-241

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MJT serves as a consultant to Axsome Therapeutics.
LK serves as a consultant to Axsome Therapeutics.
RB serves as a consultant to Axsome Therapeutics, Avadel, Harmony, Jazz
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Therapeutics, Harmony, Idorsia, and Jazz Pharmaceuticals.
BC serves as a speaker for Jazz Pharmaceuticals and Axsome Therapeutics; a consultant to Harmony Biosciences; and an investigator for Jazz Pharmaceuticals, Centessa, Harmony Biosciences, Eli Lilly, Mineralys, Alkermes, Eisai, and Avadel.
CS serves as a consultant to Axsome Therapeutics.
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