

Population Pharmacokinetics/Pharmacodynamics Modeling of INCAGN02385 in Patients With Select Advanced Malignancies

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Introduction

- INCAGN02385 is a humanized Fc-engineered immunoglobulin G1κ (IgG1κ) monoclonal antibody that selectively binds to the inhibitory receptor lymphocyte activation gene 3 protein (LAG-3), leading to enhanced T-cell receptor signaling and potentially eliciting antitumor immunity.
- INCAGN02385 is being studied for the treatment of select advanced malignancies in combination with other agents.
- The study objective was to develop a population pharmacokinetics (PK)/pharmacodynamics (PD) model to characterize INCAGN02385 exposure, peripheral LAG-3 receptor occupancy (RO), and interparticipant variability in patients with advanced malignancies, when administered intravenously as monotherapy.

Methods

Data Source

- Population PK/PD model development used PK and RO data from the first-in-human study of INCAGN02385 (NCT03538028)
 - Patients received intravenous INCAGN02385 doses ranging from 25 mg to 750 mg every 2 weeks (q2W)
 - The final analysis dataset included 202 PK samples and 98 RO samples from 22 patients with select advanced malignancies

Model Development

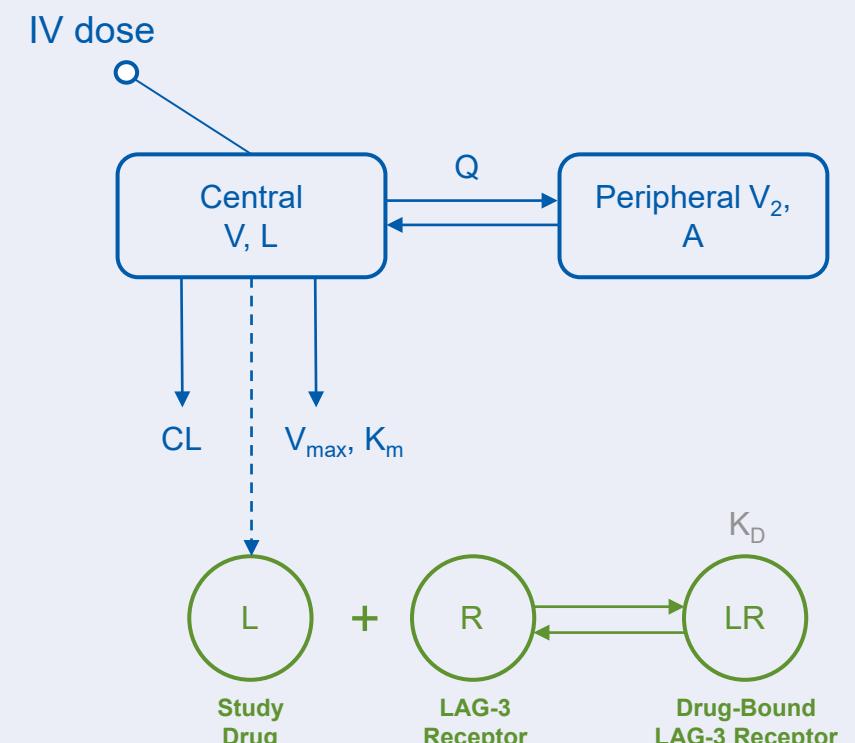
- A nonlinear mixed-effects model was developed and implemented using Monolix® (version 2021R2).
- Patient demographic and baseline characteristics, including but not limited to weight, age, sex, and baseline albumin and alkaline phosphatase levels, were evaluated for covariate search using a stepwise covariate building approach.
- Model selection was based on the corrected Bayesian information criterion (cBIC), precision and plausibility of parameter estimates, and goodness-of-fit diagnostic plots.

Results

- A schematic representation and equations of the PK/PD model are shown in Figure 1
 - A 2-compartment PK model with parallel linear and Michaelis-Menten elimination was used to describe nonspecific clearance and target-specific clearance pathways, respectively.
 - A sigmoid maximum effect model with baseline was used to describe LAG-3 target engagement, which was driven by the INCAGN02385 serum concentration.
- Parameter estimates of the final population PK/PD model are presented in Table 1
 - All parameters and their variabilities were estimated within an acceptable degree of precision and were physiologically plausible for an antibody.
 - Baseline albumin and alkaline phosphatase were identified as significant covariates of central volume of distribution (V). V was lower in patients with higher baseline albumin and/or alkaline phosphatase.
 - Baseline albumin was also found to impact the maximal velocity of the nonlinear elimination (V_{max}). Target-specific clearance occurred more rapidly in patients with lower baseline albumin.
- Goodness-of-fit diagnostic plots are presented in Figures 2–4
 - Population and individual predictions for PK and RO aligned well with observations (Figure 2).
 - Weighted residuals across time and population/individual predictions for PK and RO distributed evenly around y=0 (Figure 3 and Figure 4, respectively).
- Visual predictive check plots showed simulations from the final population PK/PD model can adequately capture the central trend and variability in observed PK and RO data (Figure 5).

Schematic Diagram and Parameter Estimates of Final Model

Figure 1. Schematic Representation and Equations for the PK/PD Model



Structural Model

$$\frac{dD}{dt} = \frac{In(t)}{V} - \frac{CL}{V} \times D - \frac{V_{max}D}{K_m + D} - \frac{Q}{V} \times D + \frac{Q}{V_2} \times A$$

$$\frac{dA}{dt} = Q \times D - \frac{Q}{V_2} \times A$$

$$E = E_0 + \frac{E_{max} \times D^y}{EC_{50} + D^y}$$

Individual Model*

$$V_i = V \times \left(\frac{ALB_i}{ALB_{median}} \right)^{\beta_{V_ALB}} \times \left(\frac{ALP_i}{ALP_{median}} \right)^{\beta_{V_ALP}} \times e^{\eta V_i}$$

$$V_{max,i} = V_{max} \times \left(\frac{ALB_i}{ALB_{median}} \right)^{\beta_{V_{max}_ALB}}$$

$$CL_i = CL \times e^{\eta CL_i} \quad EC_{50,i} = EC_{50} \times e^{\eta EC_{50,i}}$$

*Individual parameters that are not listed in the equations are equal to corresponding population parameters.

β_{V_ALB} : effect of baseline albumin on volume of distribution central compartment; β_{V_ALP} : effect of baseline alkaline phosphatase on volume of distribution central compartment; $\beta_{V_{max}_ALB}$: effect of baseline albumin on maximal velocity of the nonlinear elimination; y : shape parameter; η : random effect; A: amount of investigational drug; ALB: individual baseline albumin; ALP: baseline alkaline phosphatase; CL: clearance; D: drug concentration; E: effect; E_0 : baseline effect; EC_{50} : concentration in serum that achieves 50% of predicted maximum effect; E_{max} : maximum effect; In(t): infusion rate; IV: intravenous; K_d : dissociation constant; K_m : Michaelis-Menten constant; L: investigational drug; LAG-3: lymphocyte activation gene 3; LR: drug-bound lymphocyte activation gene 3 protein receptor; PD: pharmacodynamics; PK: pharmacokinetics; Q: intercompartmental clearance; R: free lymphocyte activation gene 3 protein receptor; V: volume of distribution central compartment; V_2 : volume of distribution peripheral compartment; V_{max} : maximal velocity of the nonlinear elimination.

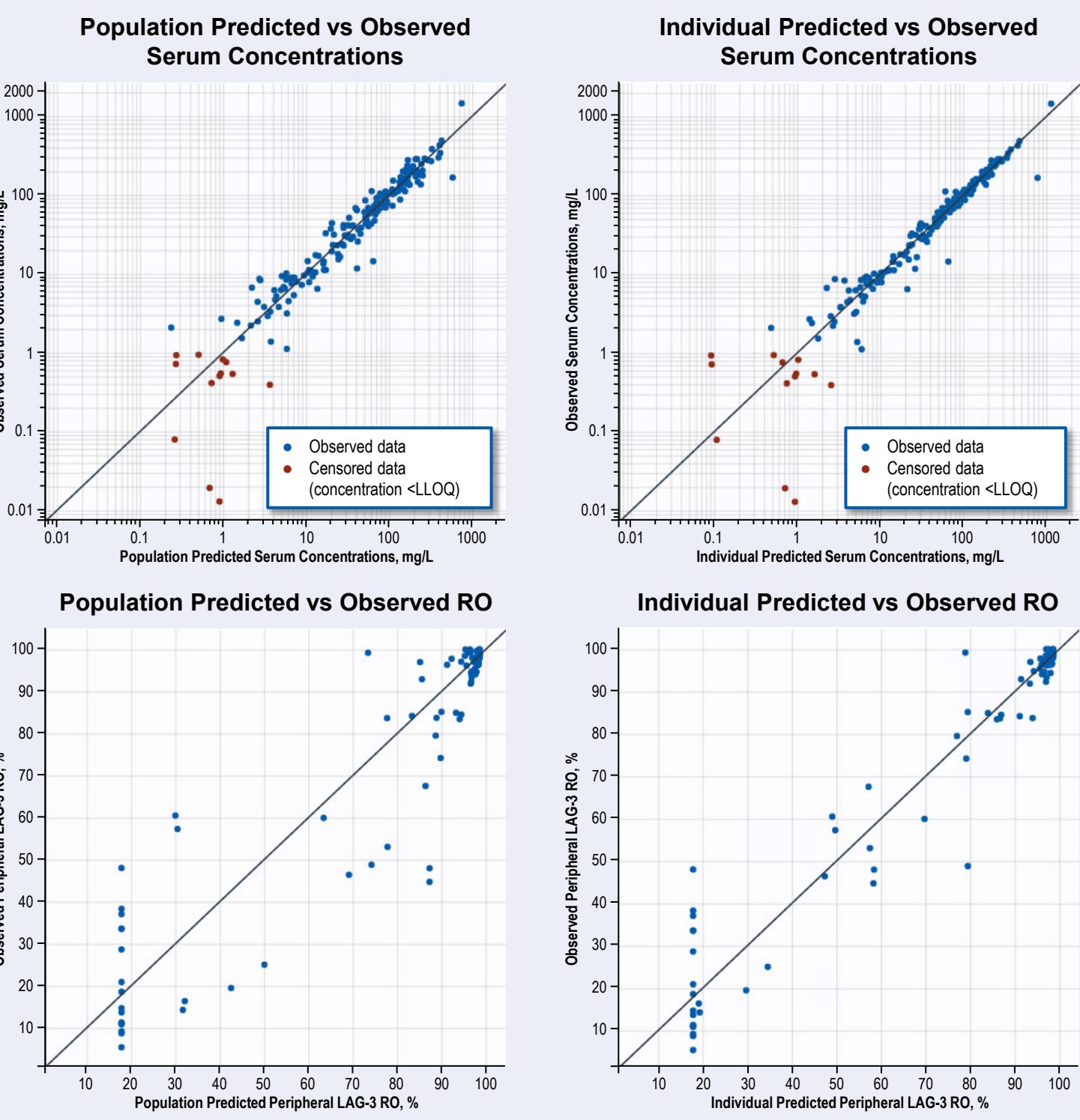
Table 1. Parameter Estimates of the Final Population PK/PD Model

Parameters	Estimate	RSE, %	ω (RSE/Shrinkage), %
Fixed and random effects			
CL, L/h	0.0092	6.39	0.15 (28.3/54.4)
V, L	3.28	7.75	0.31 (21.6/17.9)
V ₂ , L	2.94	10.9	
Q, L/h	0.056	16.0	
V _{max} , nM/h	0.015	30.3	
K _m , nM	0.81	2.84	
β_{V_ALB}	-1.54	35.1	
β_{V_ALP}	-1.21	18.3	
$\beta_{V_{max}_ALB}$	-2.82	30.5	
E ₀ , %	17.9	11.3	
E _{max} , %	80.9	2.52	
EC ₅₀ , nM	1.04	51.2	0.85 (34.7/59.1)
Y	1.14	19.3	
Error model parameters			
Additive error (PK)	1.19	18.9	6.65
Proportional error (PK)	0.19	8.43	6.65
Additive error (RO)	0.57	7.71	4.59

β_{V_ALB} : effect of baseline albumin on volume of distribution central compartment; β_{V_ALP} : effect of baseline alkaline phosphatase on volume of distribution central compartment; $\beta_{V_{max}_ALB}$: effect of baseline albumin on maximal velocity of the nonlinear elimination; y : shape parameter; ω : standard deviation of random effect; CL: clearance; E_0 : baseline effect; EC₅₀: concentration in serum that achieves 50% of predicted maximum effect; E_{max}: maximum effect; K_m: Michaelis-Menten constant; PD: pharmacodynamics; PK: pharmacokinetics; Q: intercompartmental clearance; RO: receptor occupancy; RSE: relative standard error; V: volume of distribution central compartment; V₂: volume of distribution peripheral compartment; V_{max}: maximal velocity of the nonlinear elimination.

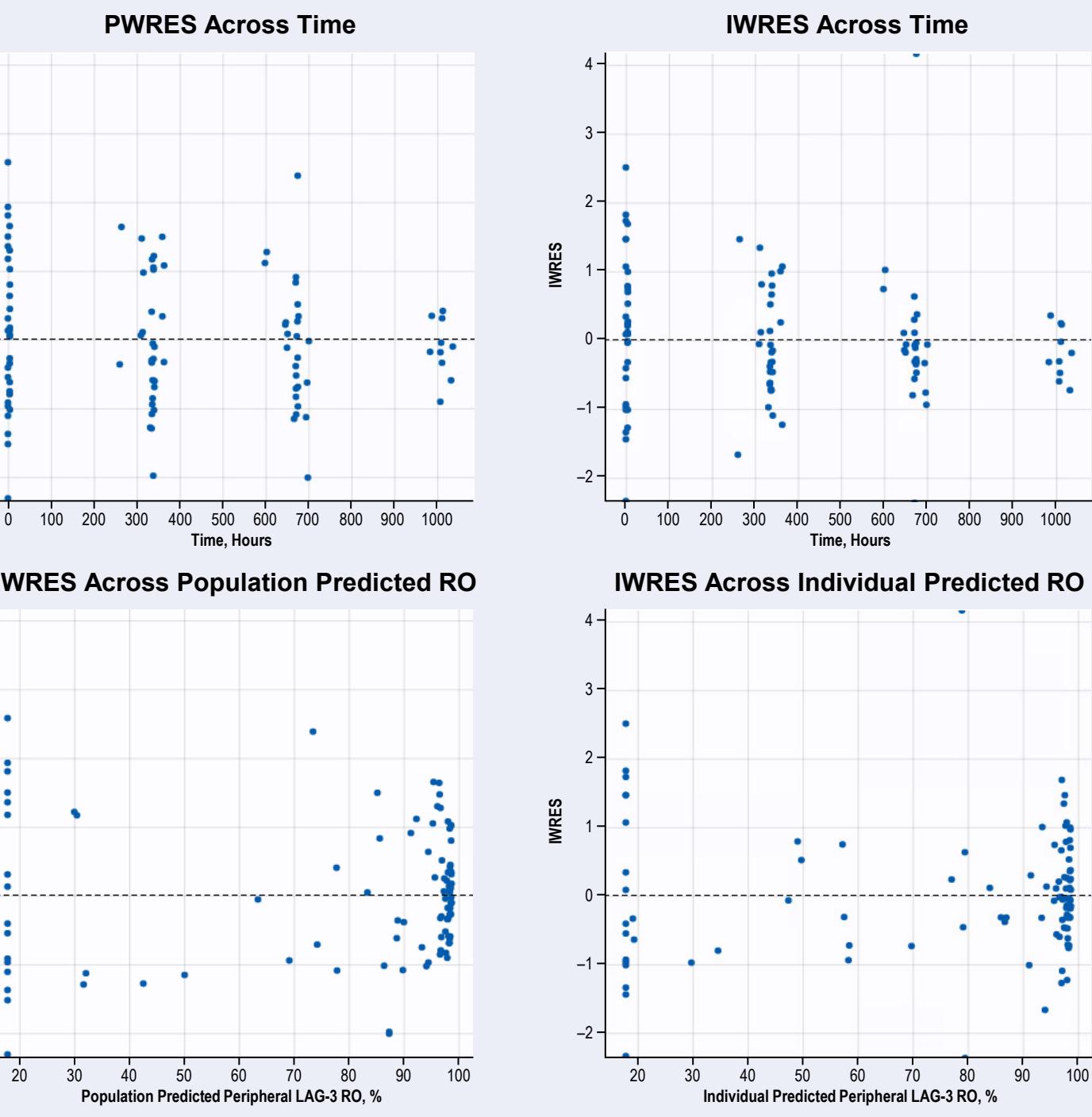
Goodness-of-Fit Diagnostic Plots

Figure 2. Observations vs Predictions of the Final Population PK/PD Model



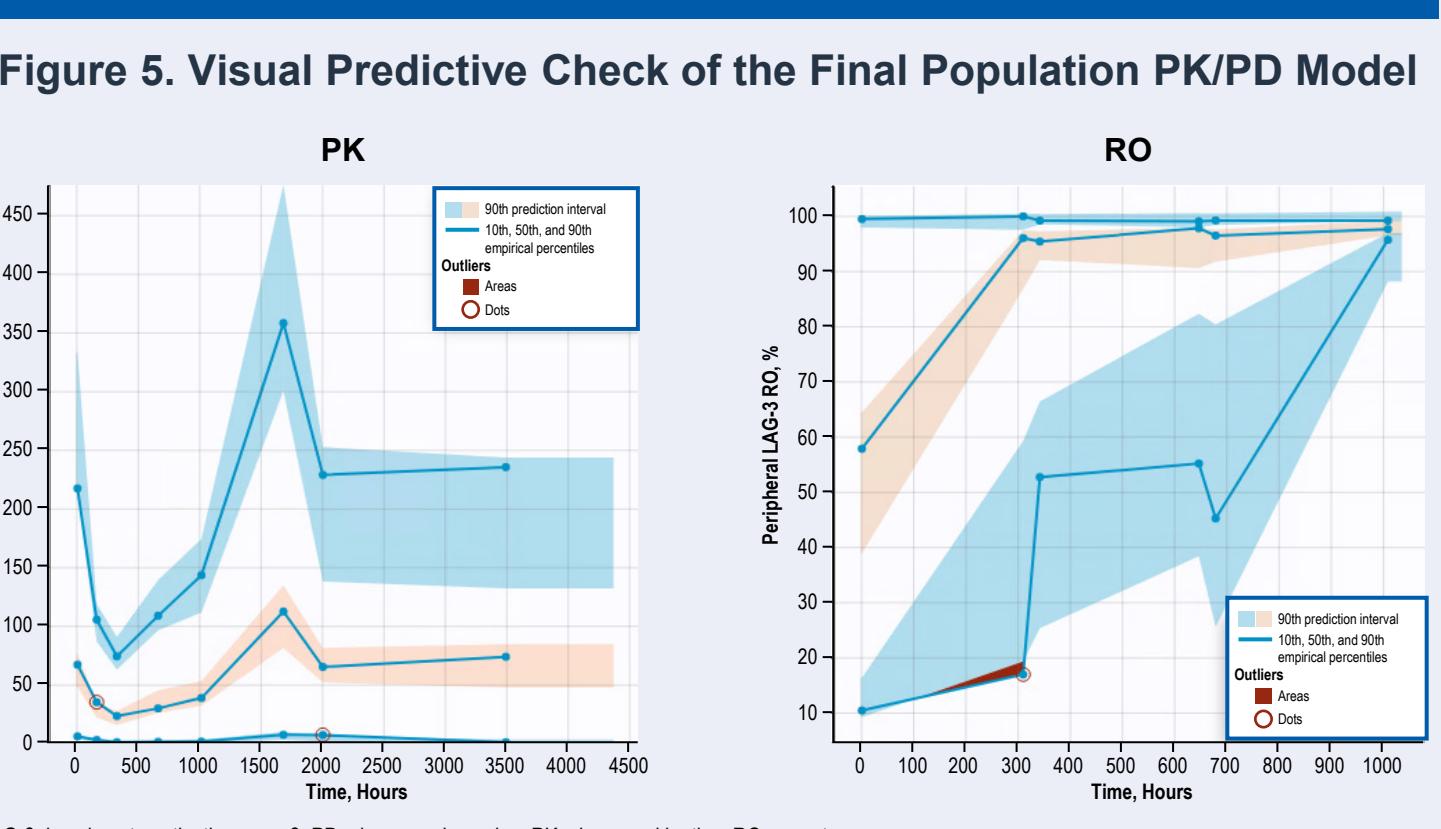
LAG-3, lymphocyte activation gene 3; LLOQ, lower limit of quantification; PD, pharmacodynamics; PK, pharmacokinetics; RO, receptor occupancy.

Figure 4. Scatter Plots of Weighted Residuals Across Time and Predicted RO



IWRES, individual-weighted residuals; LAG-3, lymphocyte activation gene 3; PWRES, population-weighted residuals; RO, receptor occupancy.

Figure 5. Visual Predictive Check Plots



Conclusions

- We developed a population PK/PD model that can adequately describe the relationship between INCAGN02385 exposure and peripheral blood LAG-3 target engagement, as well as characterize the interparticipant variability in patients with advanced malignancies.
- This population PK/PD model can be leveraged as a valuable prediction tool to support future dose selection for clinical development.

Disclosures

Fang, Barker, Dong, Liu, Sheng, Chen, Yang: Employment and stock ownership – Incyte Corporation.

Acknowledgments

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