Efgartigimod: Adis Evaluation

Key Points

- A neonatal Fc receptor antagonist is being developed by argenx for the treatment of autoimmune diseases including myasthenia gravis
- Received its first approval on 17 December 2021 in the USA
- Approved for use in the treatment of generalized myasthenia gravis in adults who are anti-acetylcholine receptor (AChR) antibody positive

Summary

Efgartigimod (efgartigimod alfa-fcab, Vyvgart™) is a first-in-class neonatal Fc receptor antagonist being developed by argenx for the treatment of autoimmune diseases including myasthenia gravis.

Efgartigimod binds to the neonatal Fc receptor and inhibits its interaction with immunoglobulin G (IgG), thereby reducing IgG recycling and increasing degradation of IgG and pathological autoantibodies.

On 17 December 2021, intravenous efgartigimod received its first approval in the USA for the treatment of generalized myasthenia gravis in adults who are anti-acetylcholine receptor (AChR) antibody positive. The agent was subsequently approved in Japan on 20 January 2022 for the treatment of generalized myasthenia gravis in adults who do not have sufficient response to steroids or nonsteroidal immunosuppressive therapies.

Several clinical studies of intravenous and subcutaneous formulation of efgartigimod are also being investigated for other autoimmune diseases.

Y.-A. Heo Drugs. 2022. https://doi.org/10.1007/s40265-022-01678-3