

SC 317

**Topiramate prophylaxis in patients suffering from migraine with aura results from a randomized double blind placebo controlled trial**

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**Introduction** Topiramate a broad spectrum antiepileptic drug has demonstrated efficacy in migraine prophylaxis in several pilot trials

**Method** We conducted a multicenter randomised, double blind, placebo controlled study of topiramate in migraine prophylaxis. A total of 213 patients were initially randomised in a 2:1 ratio to topiramate or placebo. Study medication was titrated weekly in 25 mg increments over 8 weeks to 200 mg/day or to the maximum tolerated dose followed by a 12 week maintenance period. A subset of patients (n=75) experienced aura or migraine with aura (n=46 topiramate n=29 placebo) at some point during the trial. The protocol defined analyses used ANCOVA with baseline monthly migraine rate as covariate.

**Results** For the ITT population (n=211) the protocol defined repeated measures were not sensitive enough to detect drug-placebo differences. Among patients with any aura, topiramate treated patients exhibited a significantly greater reduction in monthly migraine rate ( $P=0.18$ ) and migraine days/month ( $P=0.04$ ) compared to placebo treated patients.

**Conclusion** The results of this study suggest that migraine prophylaxis with topiramate may be more effective in patients with aura compared to those without aura.