



First Patient with Acute-on-Chronic Liver Failure Enrolled in the G-TAK Study of the EU-funded Phase 2 Clinical Trial of the A-TANGO Project

- The first patient has begun treatment in a study that assesses the investigational “G-TAK” therapy – a combinatorial therapy for acute-on-chronic liver failure (ACLF).
- The novel treatment approach combines the inhibition of toll-like receptor 4 (TLR4) to reduce systemic inflammation and the stimulation of hepatocyte proliferation through granulocyte colony-stimulating factor (G-CSF) to promote liver regeneration.
- First results from this European multicentre study are expected in autumn 2027.

LONDON, 13 July 2026 – Yaqrit, a clinical-stage biotechnology company developing life-saving therapies for advanced liver disease, together with the A-TANGO consortium, announces that the first patient has commenced treatment in the clinical Phase 2 A-TANGO “G-TAK” trial (NCT06890039). The patient was enrolled in the week of 29th June 2026 and since then receives treatment at the Royal Free Hospital, London, United Kingdom. This marks an important milestone in the evaluation of a novel therapeutic approach for patients with steroid-resistant alcohol-related hepatitis (srAH) and ACLF.

What is acute-on-chronic liver failure?

Acute-on-chronic liver failure (ACLF) is the most severe, life-threatening stage of decompensated cirrhosis and is characterised by systemic inflammation, progressive liver failure, multi-organ dysfunction, and high short-term mortality. Globally, around 35% of 10.6 million patients with acutely decompensated cirrhosis have ACLF, rising to 65% among South Asia populations. Current outcomes for patients remain poor, with mortality in the first 28 days ranging from 20% to 80%, depending on the grade of ACLF. Current treatment mainly focuses on supportive care for the failing organs and, in selective cases, liver transplantation.

How does the novel, combinatorial G-TAK therapy work?

The A-TANGO Phase 2 trial is evaluating the safety and efficacy of “G-TAK”, an innovative combinatorial therapy consisting of Yaqrit's intravenous toll-like receptor 4 (TLR4) antagonist YAQ005 (a drug that was initially developed by Takeda for treatment of sepsis, where it was shown to be safe - successfully targeting the mechanisms underlying ACLF) and granulocyte colony-stimulating factor (G-CSF, a drug commonly used by doctors to increase white blood cells). By combining the reduction of harmful systemic inflammation with stimulation of liver regeneration, “G-TAK” targets two key mechanisms driving the progression of ACLF¹. The randomised, double-blind study aims to increase survival of severely ill patients who are categorised based on the recently published A-TANGO organ failure score². The study focuses on individuals with severe alcohol-related hepatitis and ACLF to compare treatment with YAQ005 alone to the combinatorial G-TAK therapy versus standard medical care. In addition to assessing dosing and safety of this novel investigational treatment, the study's main endpoints are organ function and survival.

About the A-TANGO project

The study is conducted as part of the ongoing A-TANGO project, a collaboration of 13 leading academic and clinical institutions across Europe, supported predominantly by funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Programme (Grant No. 945096). First results are anticipated to be available in August 2027.



"The initiation of treatment in the first patient represents a major milestone for the A-TANGO programme", says Prof. Dr. med. Cornelius Engelmann, Clinical Study Supervisor of A-TANGO, Professor of Hepatology at Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Germany. "Patients with steroid-resistant alcohol-related hepatitis and ACLF face an exceptionally high mortality, and there is an urgent need for therapies that can both control systemic inflammation and promote liver regeneration. We hope this study will bring us closer to a much-needed new treatment option."

"Despite the significant global burden of advanced liver disease, therapeutic innovation has lagged behind many other areas of medicine," explains Prof. Dr. Rajiv Jalan, Professor of Hepatology at University College London, United Kingdom, Founder of Yaqrit, and Coordinator of the A-TANGO project. "The G-TAK strategy is designed to simultaneously reduce excessive inflammation through TLR4 inhibition while stimulating liver repair with G-CSF. This dual mechanism has the potential to improve survival and quality of life for patients with ACLF, for whom effective treatments remain an urgent unmet need."

¹Engelmann C. et al. (2020). *Journal of Hepatology* 73, S28. [10.1016/j.jhep.2020.01.011](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jhep.2020.01.011)

²Engelmann C, et al. (2026). *Journal of Hepatology* 85, 91-105. [10.1016/j.jhep.2026.02.017](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jhep.2026.02.017)

About Yaqrit

Yaqrit is the sponsor of A-TANGO's G-TAK trial. It is a clinical-stage company discovering and developing innovative treatments for patients with advanced liver disease at high risk of hospitalization and death. Yaqrit's pipeline includes three novel therapeutics at phase 2-3 of development and two medical devices providing acute and chronic treatments for advanced cirrhosis and acute-on-chronic liver failure where there is an urgent need for more effective treatments. More information is available at [Yaqrit.com](https://www.yaqrit.com).

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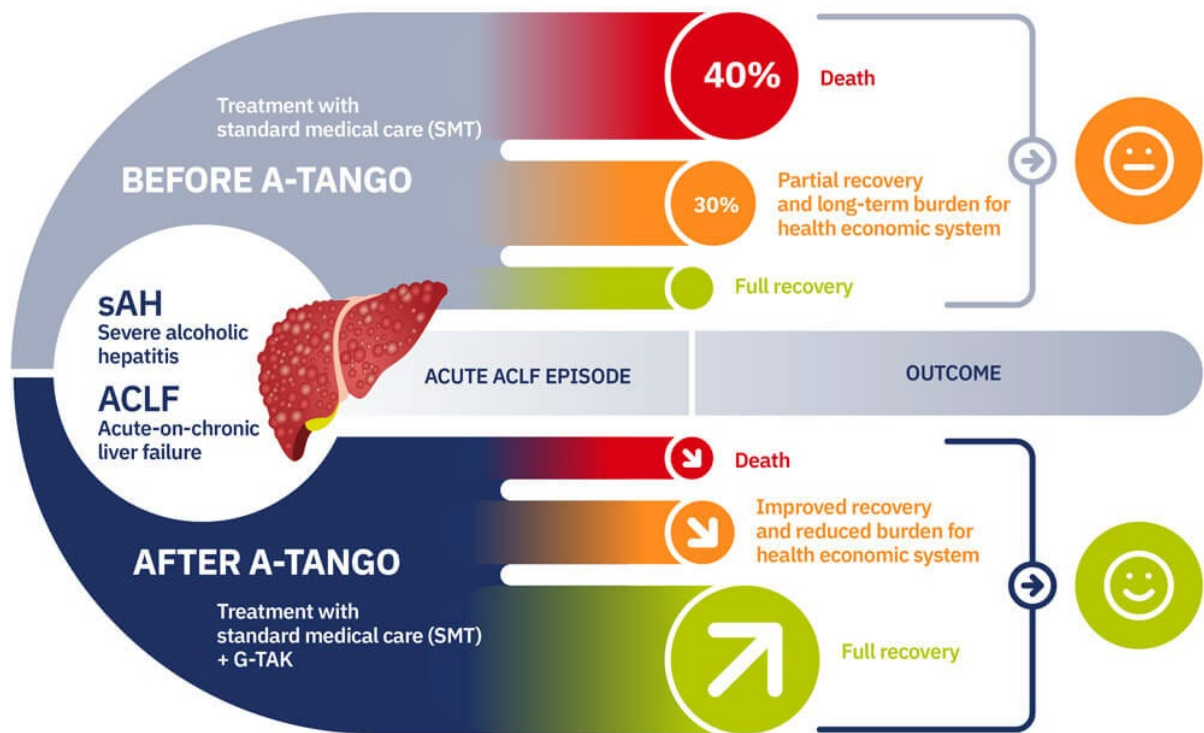
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Expected impact of A-TANGO. Currently, up to 40% of patients that come to the hospital with an acute phase of ACLF die despite best possible treatment with standard medical care (SMT). A-TANGO strives to increase the survival rate of these patients with "G-TAK" – a novel, combinatorial therapy. By improving the percentage of patients recovering fully, A-TANGO also aims to decrease the burden on the healthcare system, which is currently caused by about 30% of ACLF patients recovering only partially, remaining in need of extensive long-term care.