Background  Bintrafusp alfa is a first-in-class bifunctional fusion protein composed of the extracellular domain of the TGF-β RI (a TGF-β “trap”) fused to a human IgG1 mAb blocking PD-L1. Here we report cumulative safety and pharmacokinetic (PK) results from the global, phase 1b/2 INTR@PID LUNG 024 study (NCT03840915), which evaluated bintrafusp alfa in combination with chemotherapy (CT) in patients with stage IV NSCLC.  

Methods  Adult patients with stage IV nonsquamous or squamous NSCLC and an ECOG PS ≤1 were included. Cohorts A, B, and C included patients with no prior systemic therapy; patients in cohort D had disease that progressed with previous anti–PD-(L)1 therapy. Cohorts received bintrafusp alfa 2400 mg every 3 weeks intravenously in combination with CT for 4 cycles (A [nonsquamous only]: cisplatin or carboplatin + pemetrexed; B: carboplatin + nab-paclitaxel or paclitaxel; C: cisplatin or carboplatin + gemcitabine; D: docetaxel) followed by bintrafusp alfa maintenance (monotherapy or in combination with pemetrexed in cohort A) for up to 31 cycles. The primary objective of this study was to evaluate the safety of bintrafusp alfa in combination with CT. Dose-limiting toxicities (DLTs) were assessed during a 3-week observation period. Serial samples were drawn to assess serum concentration and calculate PK parameters by noncompartmental analysis.  

Results  As of the May 5, 2021, data cutoff, 70 patients received bintrafusp alfa in combination with CT. Of 35 patients included in the PK analysis, 4 experienced 1 DLT according to a safety monitoring committee (data cutoff May 5, 2021; A: n=1/8; B: n=1/8; C: n=0/8; D: n=2/11). Cumulative safety data are reported in table 1. PK data were available for 67 patients (A: n=38; B: n=9; C: n=8; D: n=12). PK profiles were similar across cohorts and between patients who did and did not experience a DLT. Observed bintrafusp alfa first-cycle exposures (Cmax, AUC, and Ctrough) were consistent with the published population PK (popPK) model.  

Conclusion  The safety profile of bintrafusp alfa in combination with CT was manageable and similar to that reported for ICIs in combination with CT, with the exception of TGF-β–related skin lesions known to occur with TGF-β inhibition. No new safety signals were identified and there were no treatment-related deaths. The PK profile was consistent with the predicted monotherapy popPK model, suggesting no victim DDI potential for bintrafusp alfa with CT.  

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Trial Registration  NCT03840915  


Ethics Approval  The trial was approved by each site’s independent ethics committee.

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