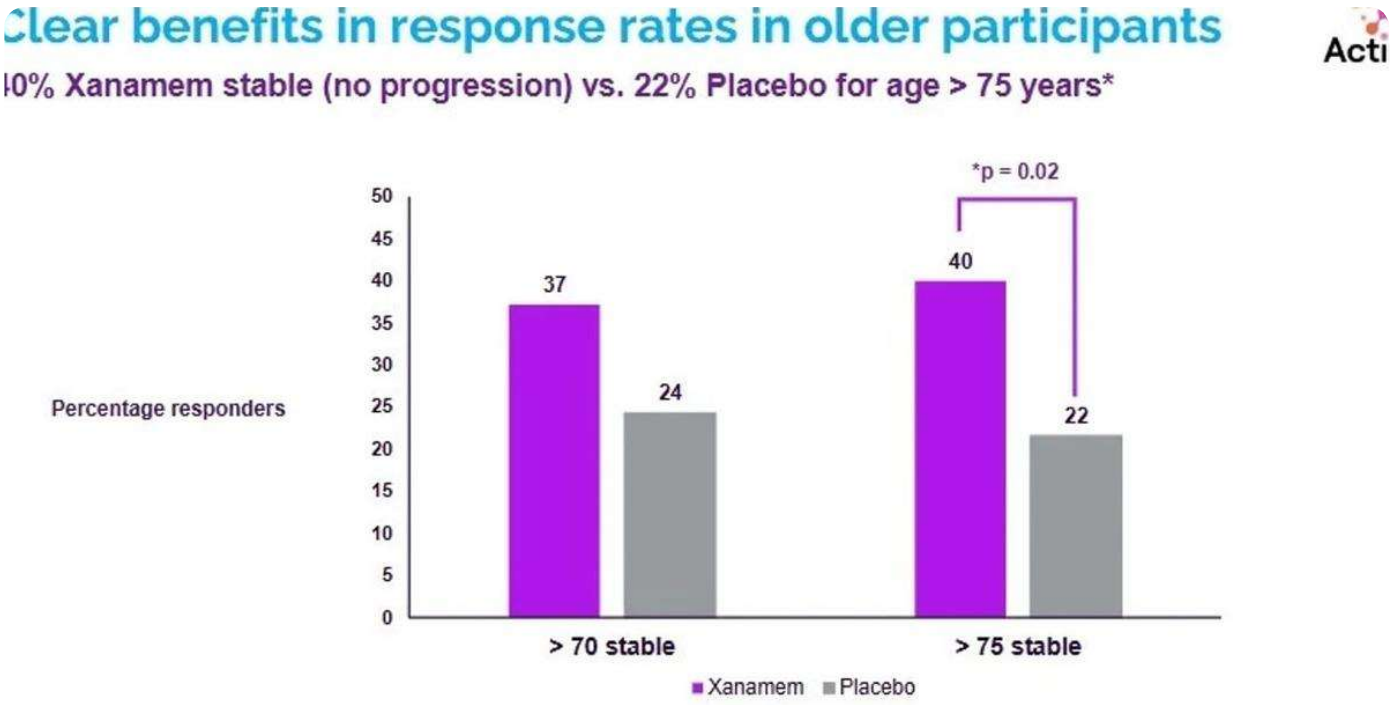
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MediaNews M

أوقيانوسيا · أخبار عامة · PERTHNOW

Australian trial reveals new drug slows Alzheimer's progression in over-75s by 30 per cent

نشره PerthNow · أستراليا منذ 17 س



Camera IconParticipants over the age of 75 recorded no progression when taking Xanamem, compared with 22 per cent who took a placebo. Supplied Credit: Supplied Source Known · PerthNow

ملخص مفصل

An Australian-developed drug that targets stress hormones in the brain has emerged as a potential weapon against the condition that kills more Australians than any other disease.

A drug aimed at reducing Alzheimer's symptoms in patients has shown promising results in older Australians, the biotech company behind the medicine has revealed.

Australian biotech company Actinogen released the results of their phase 2 trials of the drug Emestedastat, which works by blocking the production of the stress hormone cortisol in key areas of the brain, on Thursday.

Developed under the brand name Xanamem, the trial involved 247 patients in Australia and the US with mild to moderate disease, taking a daily pill over a 36-week course of treatment.

While it showed it slowed the progression of the disease by 30 per cent in those over the median age of 75 – representing half the trial group – it did not record a statistically .significant benefit in the overall trial group

According to Actinogen, most participants in the trial experienced few side effects during the .36 weeks

Actinogen chief executive Steven Gourlay said a recent $10.8m research and development tax incentive rebate awarded by the federal government put them in a stronger cash position amid .the trial

It encourages companies like us to do as much research in Australia as we can,” Dr Gourlay“ .said

So it’s been good for Australian jobs, it’s been good for Australian science, and it’s been great“ for helping companies like us to do the work that we need to do to answer important .questions like, ‘Does this drug that controls cortisol work in Alzheimer’s disease?’,” he said

The next trial is expected to involve 700 patients and would begin in mid-2027, with the .company hoping to get the drug to market in 2030

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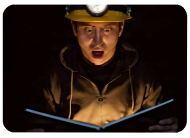
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