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Actinogen Medical identifies 30% slowing of Alzheimer's progression in older patients

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Thu, November 19, 2026 at 9:43 AM GMT+11 • 3 min read

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Actinogen Medical identifies 30% slowing of Alzheimer's progression in older patients Proactive uses images sourced from Shutterstock

Actinogen Medical Ltd (ASX:ACW, OTC:ATGGF) has reported a 30% slowing of Alzheimer's disease progression among patients aged over 75 in its pivotal XanaMIA clinical trial, although its experimental treatment Xanamem failed to achieve statistical significance across the overall study population.

The Sydney-based biotechnology company released topline results from the 36-week trial involving 247 patients with mild to moderate Alzheimer's disease, identifying encouraging treatment responses in older participants.

Among patients over 75, 40% receiving Xanamem showed no disease progression compared with 22% receiving a placebo, a statistically significant difference.

The company also reported a 30% slowing of disease progression in this age group, although that measure did not reach statistical significance.

Across the full trial population, Xanamem delivered a modest improvement over placebo but failed to meet the study's primary endpoint.

Importantly, the treatment maintained a favourable safety profile throughout the 36-week trial, with no serious adverse events attributed to Xanamem.

Older patients show strongest response

The XanaMIA trial evaluated Xanamem, also known as emestedastat, as a once-daily oral treatment for Alzheimer's disease.

The trial measured disease progression using the Clinical Dementia Rating Scale – Sum of Boxes, which assesses cognitive and functional decline.

In patients older than 75, Xanamem produced a 0.39-point improvement over placebo after 36 weeks, representing a 30% reduction in disease progression.

The strongest finding came from the proportion of older patients whose disease remained stable throughout treatment.

Actinogen believes these results could support a treatment opportunity among older Alzheimer's patients, who account for more than 70% of people living with the disease.

The findings have also prompted the company to pursue additional patent protection covering Xanamem's use in older patients with more advanced Alzheimer's disease.

Extended trial delivers encouraging results

Actinogen has also identified early signs of sustained treatment benefits in the ongoing open-label extension phase of XanaMIA.

The first 29 participants to complete 24 weeks of active Xanamem treatment showed no average disease progression during that period.

The company will continue the extension study to assess longer-term treatment effects and safety.

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