Protocol Plain Language Summary

A clinical study of efinopegdutide in people with advanced fatty liver disease that is not caused by drinking alcohol (MK-6024-013)

Protocol Title: A Phase 2b Randomized, Double-Blind Placebo-Controlled, Multicenter Study to Evaluate the Efficacy and Safety of Efinopegdutide (MK-6024) in Adults with Precirrhotic Nonalcoholic Steatohepatitis

Why is this study needed?

Researchers are looking for new ways to treat a type of advanced fatty liver disease not caused by drinking alcohol called **non-alcoholic steatohepatitis** (**NASH**). NASH happens when your body stores extra fat in your liver causing the liver to swell (**inflammation**). Long-lasting liver swelling can cause scarring (called fibrosis or cirrhosis) that stops your liver from working well.

Past studies have shown that medicines like **semaglutide,** that are currently used to treat Type 2 diabetes and obesity, may be useful in treating NASH. Researchers want to learn if a study medicine called **efinopegdutide** also works to treat NASH.

The goal of this study is to learn if people who receive efinopegdutide stop showing evidence of NASH and don't have an increase in liver scarring compared to people who receive a placebo. Researchers will also learn about the **safety** and **benefit** of efinopegdutide and how well people **tolerate** the medicine. The safety of semaglutide and how well people **tolerate** semaglutide will also be looked at.

Who will take part in this study?

About 300 people with a certain type of NASH will be in this study. They will be 18 to 80 years old and:

- Not have Type 2 diabetes or have Type 2 diabetes that is controlled
- Not have other types of liver disease other than NASH
- May have mild to moderate liver scarring but not have cirrhosis
- Have not been drinking large amounts of alcohol within 2 years of starting in the study

What treatments are being given during this study?

During this study, people will have an equal chance of receiving 1 of these treatments:

- **efinopegdutide** target dose 1
- **efinopegdutide** target dose 2
- **efinopegdutide** target dose 3
- **Semaglutide**
- **Placebo:** A placebo is a look-alike substance that does not contain any medicine. Using a placebo helps researchers better understand the real effects of the study medicine.

Each treatment will be given as an injection under the skin once a week for up to 1 year.

The treatments will be given as a **dose escalation**. This means each person will begin the study with one dose level and their dose will go up every 4 weeks until they reach their target dose level.

How is this study designed?

People may be in this study for about 17 months (about 1 year and 5 months).

People who receive efinopegdutide or placebo will not know what treatment they are receiving, and neither will the researchers (**double blinded**). People who receive semaglutide will know they are receiving this treatment and so will the researchers (**open label**).
During the study, people will:

- Have **liver biopsies** (removing a piece of liver to test for fat and scarring)
- Have blood, urine, and imaging tests, and physical examinations
- Answer questions

What are the goals of this study and how will they be measured?

Main goals	How they be measured
To compare how many people taking efinopegdutide or placebo stop showing evidence of NASH without liver scarring getting worse	The number of people who stop showing evidence of NASH without liver scarring getting worse after 1 year of treatment measured by liver biopsy
To learn about the **safety** of the study medicines and how well people **tolerate** treatment	The number of people who: • Had an **adverse event** (**AE**) during the study. An AE is a health problem that happens or worsens. • Stopped treatment due to an AE
Other goals	**How they will be measured**
To learn how many people taking efinopegdutide or placebo have liver scarring that gets better without liver inflammation getting worse	The number of people who have liver scarring that gets better without liver inflammation getting worse after 1 year of treatment measured by liver biopsy
To learn if there was a change in people's weight after taking efinopegdutide or placebo	The change in people's weight after 1 year of treatment

What are the possible benefits and risks?

People in this study may or may not benefit from the treatment they received during the study. This study has an external group of experts that oversees the overall risk and benefit. If this group of experts decides that the study treatment is not safe or does not show benefit, the study can be stopped.

More information about the benefits and risks is in the Investigator Brochure, Protocol, and Informed Consent documents.