

Table 1: Uncontrolled clinical trials of DCA for cancer

Source: Timm Höres, Markus Horneber, CAM-Cancer Consortium. [Dichloracetate \[online document\]](#). July 13, 2016.

Study	Design	Participants	Treatment	Outcomes	Results	Comments
Michelakis 2010	Experimental, uncontrolled (Phase I/II)	5 patients with Glioblastoma multiforme (GBM), 3 with recurrent GBM (pts. 1-3), 2 with newly diagnosed GBM (pts. 4,5)	Intervention: DCA, 12.5 mg/kg orally, twice daily for 1 month, then 25 mg/kg orally, tid (dose deescalation when dose-limiting toxicity occurred), treatment duration: up to 15 months; Concurrent treatments: Patients with recurrent GBM: none; patients with newly diagnosed GBM: subsequent (pt. 4) or simultaneous radiotherapy and temozolomide (pt. 5)	Clinical outcomes: tumour response, time to progression, adverse effects Other outcomes: plasma levels of DCA and other laboratory parameters	Tumour response: <i>"some evidence of radiologic regression on MRI"</i> (pts 1, 4, 5). <i>"(...) Patient 2 required drainage of a cyst and debulking in month 11 of DCA therapy."</i> Time to progression: <i>"All, except patient 3, were clinically stable at month 15 of DCA therapy and alive at month 18"</i> Adverse effects: reversible dose-dependent peripheral neuropathies in all patients, that regressed when the dose was decreased to 12.5 mg/kg per day.	Very small experimental study with a questionable partial response in 1 out of 3 pts. that solely received DCA. Doses until 50 mg/kg daily were tolerated without severe adverse effects
Garon 2014	Experimental, uncontrolled (phase II)	1 patient with stage IV breast cancer and 6 patients with stage IV non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) Patients were reported to had multiple pretreatments that were not specified	Intervention: 6,25mg DCA/kg orally, twice daily until progression or unacceptable toxicity; one dose de-escalation to 3,25 mg/kg orally, twice daily allowed if grade ≥ 2 adverse events occur	Clinical outcomes: tumor response, progression-free survival, overall survival and adverse events	Tumor response: best response was stable disease after 8 weeks in one patient Progression and overall survival: 2 early death (1 of unknown cause, 1 of pulmonary embolism); 2 patients with disease progression within 8 weeks Adverse events: severe adverse events (grade ≥ 3) were pulmonary embolism, hyponatremia, abdominal pain, volume depletion, lower extremity edema and elevated liver enzymes Other outcomes: 2 patients withdrew consent	Study closed prematurely due to safety concerns Association of the early death with the application of DCA is unclear

Chu 2015	Experimental, uncontrolled (phase I)	24 patients with different, treatment refractory, advanced solid tumors 22 patients had prior chemotherapy (1 to 8 different drugs), 14 patients had prior radiation therapy	Intervention: 16 patients received DCA 6,25mg /kg twice daily for -28 days. 7 patients were treated after dose escalation to DCA 12,5mg / kg twice daily for 28 days, until disease progression or unacceptable toxicity	Clinical outcomes: tumor response, adverse events Other outcomes: tumor metabolic activity, DCA pharmacokinetics	Tumor response: best response was stable disease in 8 patients with median duration of 55 days Adverse events: of the 12,5mg group 3 patients had grade 3 toxicities: nausea, vomiting, diarrhea and fatigue 6,25mg group: 3 patients had grade 3 toxicities: neuropathy and fatigue Common adverse events of any grade were: fatigue, neuropathy, anorexia, nausea and vomiting 4 patients withdrew consent	Small experimental study with 8 stable diseases in 13 patients
Dunbar 2014	Experimental, uncontrolled (phase I)	13 patients with progressive glioma grade III-IV 2 patients with brain metastatic solid tumor (uterus and lung adenocarcinoma) Average number of previous cytotoxic therapies was 2.8	Intervention: At begin of study treatment with DCA 8 mg/kg orally twice daily for 4 weeks; depending on toxicity dose escalation to DCA 12,5mg / kg KG) or de- escalation to DCA 5 mg/kg twice daily for 4 weeks for the following patients. Later dosing dependent on patient genotype: 4mg for "slow- metabolizer", 8mg for "fast- metabolizer"	Clinical outcomes: tumor response, adverse events Other outcomes: plasma and urine concentration of DCA and maleylacetone, pyruvate breath test and genotype of glutathione transferase zeta 1/maleylacetone isomerase (GSTZ1/MAAI)	Clinical response: best response was stable disease in 8 patients after 4 weeks of treatment. Adverse events: No adverse events \geq grade 3 Lower grade adverse events were neuropathy, gait disturbance and fatigue	6 of the 15 patients were regarded as not evaluable due to withdrawal or medical deterioration