Dabrafenib plus trametinib is used for the treatment of patients with melanoma whose tumors have a specific type of gene change called the V600 BRAF mutation. These drugs stop or slow down the growth of cancer cells by blocking proteins that help cancer cells grow. Dabrafenib and trametinib are drugs called targeted therapies.

The most common side effects of dabrafenib plus trametinib are:
- Rash
- Nausea
- High-grade fever

Other types of side effects seen in COMBI-APlus are similar to those seen before with the previous COMBI-AD study. These drugs can cause unexpected side effects, including serious or life-threatening side effects such as severe fever-related problems. Therefore, a new fever management strategy was developed to reduce severe fever-related problems and help more patients remain on treatment.

A study that looked at a new way to manage fever in patients with melanoma who had severe fever-related problems showed that using this new strategy was effective. The study was called COMBI-APlus (NCT03551626), a clinical study in patients with stage III melanoma that was removed by surgery.

The goal of the new strategy was to reduce severe fever-related problems, improve quality of life, and enhance drug retention. The strategy involved stopping both dabrafenib and trametinib for at least 24 hours when the temperature was ≥38°C (100.4°F) or if it was suspected that patients were feverish without a fever (temperature ≥38°C or 100.4°F) – or if it was suspected that patients were hospitalized because of fever.

In this standard classification system, risk of their cancer coming back.

The full title of the ASCO 2021 presentation is: Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation A presentation at the American Society for Clinical Oncology (ASCO) in 2021 (oral presentation number: 9501) investigated.

In this study, dabrafenib and trametinib were:

- 63% of the patients in the study developed a fever.
- 91.8% of patients treated with dabrafenib plus trametinib for 1 year were living without melanoma 5 years after treatment.
- 91.8% of patients whose melanoma had not come back.
- 91.8% of patients whose melanoma had not come back.

For more information about dabrafenib plus trametinib, please see the prescribing information, which includes details about the risks and benefits of these drugs.

Diabetes mellitus managed through Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation.