Background: Nab-paclitaxel has eliminated many of the difficulties associated with the infusion of standard solvent-based paclitaxel (in cremophor). In this phase II, open label trial, patients with advanced (stage IIIB or IV) nonsquamous NSCLC received nab-paclitaxel and carboplatin in combination with bevacizumab.

Methods: Patients (N=50) enrolled between October 2005 and April 2006. They received intravenous (IV) nab-paclitaxel 300 mg/m², carboplatin IV AUC=6, and bevacizumab 15 mg/kg on Day 1 of each 21-day cycle. Patients with CR, PR, or SD received ≥4 cycles of treatment; however, patients with progression or intolerable toxicity were taken off treatment. Response rate, based on RECIST, was the primary endpoint.

Results: At baseline, the median age was 67 years; 80% were white and 56% were female. Patients received a median of 4 cycles (range, <1 - 6). The preliminary response rates are PR 30% and SD 48%; no complete responses have been noted. To date, median progression-free survival is 7.1 months (range, <1 - 10.6); median survival has not yet been reached. Grade 3-4 treatment related toxicities were neutropenia (52%); fatigue (19%); neurotoxicity (15%); thrombocytopenia (10%); dyspnea (6%), anorexia, constipation, febrile neutropenia, heparinostomy, and nausea and/or vomiting (4% each). 64% of patients are surviving. 32 patients have come off study prior to 4 cycles due to disease progression (12%), adverse event (10%), investigator request (8%), sudden death (6%), and withdrawal of consent (2%); 16 patients had normal study completion (completed 4 cycles of therapy).

Conclusions: The combination of nab-paclitaxel, carboplatin, and bevacizumab is well-tolerated, producing moderate, but manageable, toxicity. The combination of nab-paclitaxel, carboplatin, and bevacizumab is well-tolerated, producing moderate, but manageable, toxicity. The combination of nab-paclitaxel, carboplatin, and bevacizumab is well-tolerated, producing moderate, but manageable, toxicity. The combination of nab-paclitaxel, carboplatin, and bevacizumab is well-tolerated, producing moderate, but manageable, toxicity. The combination of nab-paclitaxel, carboplatin, and bevacizumab is well-tolerated, producing moderate, but manageable, toxicity. The combination of nab-paclitaxel, carboplatin, and bevacizumab is well-tolerated, producing moderate, but manageable, toxicity. The combination of nab-paclitaxel, carboplatin, and bevacizumab is well-tolerated, producing moderate, but manageable, toxicity. The combination of nab-paclitaxel, carboplatin, and bevacizumab is well-tolerated, producing moderate, but manageable, toxicity. The combination of nab-paclitaxel, carboplatin, and bevacizumab is well-tolerated, producing moderate, but manageable, toxicity. The combination of nab-paclitaxel, carboplatin, and bevacizumab is well-tolerated, producing moderate, but manageable, toxicity. The combination of nab-paclitaxel, carboplatin, and bevacizumab is well-tolerated, producing moderate, but manageable, toxicity. The combination of nab-paclitaxel, carboplatin, and bevacizumab is well-tolerated, producing moderate, but manageable, toxicity. The combination of nab-paclitaxel, carboplatin, and bevacizumab is well-tolerated, producing moderate, but manageable, toxicity. The combination of nab-paclitaxel, carboplatin, and bevacizumab is well-tolerated, producing moderate, but manageable, toxicity. The combination of nab-paclitaxel, carboplatin, and bevacizumab is well-tolerated, producing moderate, but manageable, toxicity. The combination of nab-paclitaxel, carboplatin, and bevacizumab is well-tolerated, producing moderate, but manageable, toxicity. The combination of nab-paclitaxel, carboplatin, and bevacizumab is well-tolerated, producing moderate, but manageable, toxicity. The combination of nab-paclitaxel, carboplatin, and bevacizumab is well-tolerated, producing moderate, but manageable, toxicity. The combination of nab-paclitaxel, carboplatin, and bevacizumab is well-tolerated, producing moderate, but manageable, toxicity. The combination of nab-paclitaxel, carboplatin, and bevacizumab is well-tolerated, producing moderate, but manageable, toxicity.