INTERNATIONAL PALERMO WORKSHOP ON: INNOVATIVE THERAPIES FOR LYMPHOID MALIGNANCIES





Advances in the Treatment for R/R DLBCL

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Disclosures of Name Surname

Company name	Research support	Consultant	Advisory board	Other
Sanofi	x	х	х	
ADC Therapeutics	x	Х	Х	
Karyopharm Therapeutics			Х	
Celgene/Bristol-Myers Squibb			х	
Incyte				Honoraria
F. Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd	x		Х	Travel grants
Janssen Oncology				Travel grants, Honoraria
Takeda				Travel grants, Honoraria
Merck Sharp & Dohme				Honoraria
AstraZeneca				Honoraria
Gilead				Honoraria



Palermo March 18, 2023

Immunotherapy-based Treatments for DLBCL



Forced into Battle

Bispecific antibodies unleash T cells against Cancer by physically tethering them to tumor cells.



CAR T Cells







Synthetic Immunity

Polatuzumab Vedotin Mechanism of Action



Pola binds to cell surface antigen CD79b, a component of the B-cell receptor, which is expressed only on B-cells and in most NHLs¹⁻³ Binding to CD79b triggers internalization. The stable VC linker within polatuzumab vedotin is cleaved, releasing MMAE. MMAE binds to microtubules¹⁻⁴

MMAE inhibits microtubule polymerization, disrupts cell division, and triggers apoptosis^{4,5}

Pola + BR: Phase 1b/2 dose escalation study

Key eligibility criteria

Inclusion: Transplant-ineligible DLBCL, after at least 1 line of therapy **Exclusion:** Prior allogeneic SCT; history of transformation from indolent disease; current Grade >1 PN



Primary end-point: Complete response rate according to modified Lugano criteria by PET-CT (Phase 2)

Based on randomized comparison, Pola + BR had regulatory approvals for transplant-ineligible patients with r/r DLBCL

Treatment administered every 21 D x 6 C: Polatuzumab vedotin: 1.8 mg/kg, C1D2, then D1 for C2+; Bendamustine: 90 mg/m2, C1D2/3, then D1/2 for C2+; Obinutuzumab: 1000 mg, C1D1/8/15, then D1 for C2+; Rituximab: 375 mg/m2, D1 for C1+.

BR, bendamustine and rituximab; DLBCL, diffuse large B-cell lymphoma; PET-CT, positron emission tomography-computed-tomography; pola, polatuzumab vedotin-piiq; PN, peripheral sensory neuropathy; r/r, relpased or refractory; SCT, stem cell transplantaton. Sehn LH, et al. Blood Adv 2022;6(2):533–543.

Pola + BR: Baseline characteristics^{1,2}

	Randon	nized Phase 2	Extension	Pooled
	$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $	Pola+BR		
	PP(N=40)	Dolo+DD (N=40)	Pola+BR	Pola+BR
	DK (N-40)	POIATOR (N-40)	(N=106)	(N=152)
Median age, years (range)	71 (30–84)	67 (33–86)	70 (24-94)	69 (24-94)
IPI ≥3 at enrollment, n (%)	29 (73)	22 (55)	70 (66)	94 (62)
Stratification factor, n (%)				
DOR to last treatment ≤12 months	33 (83)	32 (80)	NA	NA
Lines of prior treatment, median	2 (1–5)	2 (1–7)	2 (1-7)	<mark>2 (1-7)</mark>
1	12 (30)	11 (28)	37 (35)	50 (33)
≥2	28 (70)	29 (73)	69 (66)	102 (67)
Prior bone marrow transplant, n (%)	6 (15)	10 (25)	17 (16)	27 (18)
Refractory at last prior therapy, n (%)	33 (83)	30 (75)	81 (76)	<mark>116 (76)</mark>
Primary refractory, n (%)	28 (70)	21 (52)	73 (69)	<mark>97 (64)</mark>

BR, bendamustine and rituximab; DLBCL, diffuse large B-cell lymphoma; DOR, duration of response; IPI, International Prognostic Index; pola, polatuzumab vedotin-

piiq; r/r, relpased or refractory.

1. Sehn LH, et al. J Clin Oncol 2020;38(2):155–165; 2. Sehn LH, et al. Blood Adv 2022;6(2):533–543.

Pola + BR: Efficacy

Response at EOT (per IRC)*

Best responses (per IRC)



Clinical data cut off: 7 July 2020. *Measured by PET-CT using modified Lugano Response Criteria. BR, bendamustine and rituximab; CR, complete response; DLBCL, diffuse large B-cell lymphoma; IRC, independent central review; ORR, objective response rate; PET-CT, positron emission tomography-computed-tomography; pola, polatuzumab vedotin-piiq; r/r, relpased or refractory. Sehn LH, et al. Blood Adv 2022;6(2):533–543.

GO29365: Efficacy

Progression-free Survival

No. of patients at risk

Pola + BR 106

PFS (%)



Overall Survival

Pola + BR 40 36 33 30 25 22 19 16 16 15 12 11 11 11 11

40 27 17 11 10 7 7 7



Randomised groups



BR

BR, bendamustine and rituximab; CI, confidence interval; DLBCL, diffuse large B-cell lymphoma; OS, overall survival; PFS, progression-free survival; pola, polatuzumab vedotin-piiq; r/r, relpased or refractory. Sehn LH, et al. Blood Adv 2022;6(2):533–543.

Tafa/Lena ORR



Duell, Haematologica, 106:2417, 2021

Real-world Tafa-len treatment N= 157 (retrospective study)

Characteristic	TLOC cohort	L-MIND trial
Number of patients	157	81
Female sex	51%	46%
Age (yrs), median (range)	75 (26-94)	72 (41-86)
Race		
White, all ethnicity	89%	89%
Asian	6%	2%
Other/Unknown	5%	1%
Diagnosis		
DLBCL, NOS	59%	89%
Transformed	23%	9%
HGBCL (Double/Triple Hit)	15%	2%
Other	3%	0%
Cell of Origin (Hans)		
GCB	57%	47%
non-GCB	34%	26%
Unknown	10%	27%
Risk (IPI)		
0-2	28%	49%
3-5	72%	51%
Ann Arbor Stage		
1-11	10%	25%
III-IV	90%	75%

Prior Treatment				
Characteristic	TLOC	L-MIND		
Prior lines of therapy for DLBCL				
Median (range)	2 (0-11)	2 (1-4)		
0	4%*	0%		
1	29%	49%		
2	30%	43%		
3 68%	16%	6%		
4	6%	1%		
25	16%	0 (0)		
Primary Refractory	51%	18%		
Refractory to last therapy	66%	44%		
Prior SCT	13%	11%		
Prior CAR T	28%	0%		

*5 patients with transformed lymphoma; all had received prior treatment for indolent lymphoma.

Responses and Progression-Free Survival



disease, \geq 3 lines of therapy, higher IPI

42 patients (28%) had CAR-T before TL - 4/19 CD19 not reported

Quall D. et al. ASH 2022. Abstr 0323

Lonca: A PBD dimer-containing ADC



Lonca (ADCT-402) is an ADC comprising a humanized **anti-CD19 antibody** conjugated to a **PBD dimer cytotoxin**, SG3199²





Lonca binds to CD19 on the tumor cell surface



Following internalization of Lonca, the proteasesensitive linker is cleaved and cytotoxic PBD dimers are released inside the cell

3 The free PBD dimers bind in the minor groove of the cell DNA and form potent cytotoxic DNA cross-links in a sequence-selective fashion



The cross-links result in a stalled DNA replication fork, blocking cell division

The cancer cell undergoes apoptosis

ADC, antibody-drug conjugate; CD, cluster of differentiation; Lonca, loncastuximab tesirine-lpyl; PBD, pyrrolobenzodiazepine. 1. Kahl BS, et al. Poster presented at the ASCO Annual Meeting, June 03–07, 2016. Abstract 420; 2. Zammarchi F, et al. *Blood* 2018;131:1094–105.

LOTIS-2: Open-Label, Single-Arm, Phase 2 Study in R/R DLBCL



N=145

• ORR (≥PR) by independent review[‡]

SECONDARY ENDPOINTS

• DOR, RFS, PFS, OS, safety and tolerability, PK, HRQoL

Baseline Characteristics

Characteristic n (%), unless otherwise stated	Total (N=145)			
Sex				
Male	85 (59)			
Female	60 (41)			
Age, years: median (IQR)	66 (56–71)			
Histology				
DLBCL	127 (88)			
HGBCL	11 (8)			
PMBCL	7 (5)			
Double/triple hit	<mark>15 (10)</mark>			
MYC-BCL2 and/or BCL6 overexpression	<mark>20 (14)</mark>			
Transformed disease	<mark>29 (20)</mark>			
Stage				
I–II	33 (23)			
III–IV	112 (77)			
Prior lines of systemic therapy*				
Median (IQR)	<mark>3 (2–4)</mark>			

Characteristic (%), unless otherwise stated	Total (N=145)
-irst-line systemic therapy response	
Relapse	99 (68)
Refractory [†]	<mark>29 (20)</mark>
Other [‡]	17 (12)
_ast-line systemic therapy response [¶]	
Relapse	43 (30)
Refractory [†]	<mark>84 (58)</mark>
Other [‡]	18 (12)
Refractory to all prior therapies	
Yes	25 (17)
No	115 (79)
Other [‡]	5 (3)
Prior hematopoietic cell transplant	
alloHCT	2 (1)
АНСТ	21 (14)
Both	1 (1)
Prior CAR-T therapy	
Yes	13 (9)
No	132 (91)

Efficacy Results – ORR



Mean Lonca cycles: 4.6 (SD: ± 4.3) (min, max: 1, 26) Mean Lonca cycles in responders (n=70): 6.8 (SD: ± 5.0) (min, max: 1, 26)

ORR was assessed by independent reviewer. Data cutoff: March 1, 2021.

Efficacy Results – DOR



Median DoR
70 responders (CR + PR): 13.4 months
Patients with a CR: not reached
Patients with a PR: 5.7 months

^aMedian follow-up time: 7.8 months (range: 0.3-31.0). Follow-up analysis cutoff date: March 1, 2021.

^bDOR was defined as the time from earliest date of first response until the first date of either disease progression or death due to any cause. ^cPatients with events after start of subsequent anticancer therapy or procedure, or progression free and alive at data cutoff, or who had unknown status were censored at last valid tumor assessment on or before start of subsequent anticancer therapy or procedure or data cutoff.

Efficacy Results – PFS and OS



Following Lonca treatment

- 16 patients received CD19-directed CAR-T therapy, with an investigator-assessed ORR of 43.8% (CR: 37.5%)
- 11 patients proceeded to SCT as consolidation after responding to Lonca

Data cut-off: March 01, 2021. All-treated population. CAR-T, chimeric antigen receptor T-cell; CI, confidence interval; PFS, progression-free survival; ORR, overall response rate; OS, overall survival; SCT, stem cell transplant.

Efficacy Results – Complete Responders

Swimmer plot of complete responders Patients ▲ Complete response start ▲ Partial response start Stable disease start × Progressive disease or death • Censor^a + Last infusion t Go to transplant → Ongoing 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

Months since first dose

	Remained in CR with no further treatment % (n/N)	PD or death % (n/N)
Complete remission	44.4 (16/36)	36.1 (13/36)
Complete remission excluding 10 patients censored due to SCT	61.5 (16/26)	34.6 (9/26)

Data cut-off: March 01, 2021. All-treated population.

Each bar represents one patient. ^aOnly for censored patients who discontinued the trial due to reasons other than progression or who went onto a different anticancer treatment other than SCT.

CR, complete response; PD, progressive disease; SCT, stem cell transplant.

Features of T-cell Bispecific Antibodies

Simultaneous binding to

tumor antigen and CD3ε chain of TCR independent of peptide-MHC complex;

Recruitment of endogenous T cells: 4 x 10¹¹ in the circulation



- T cell engagement, activation and killing of tumor cells by cytotoxic granules
- T cell proliferation (expansion) at site of activation (blood? Lymph nodes)
- Cytokine, chemokine release leading to recruitment of additional T-cells
- Very high potency with EC₅₀ values in the fM to pM range
- Serial killing of tumor cells, activity at low effector-to-target (E:T) ratio
- T cell killing independent of specificity, activation and differentiation status

EPCORE NHL-1: LBCL Expansion Cohort



- identified
- Manageable \checkmark safety profile
- Encouraging \checkmark antitumor activity

- ≥2 prior lines of antineoplastic
- therapy, including ≥1 anti-CD20 mAb
- FDG PET-avid and measurable disease by CT/MRI
- Prior CAR T allowed

- To ensure patient safety and better characterize CRS, inpatient monitoring was required at first full dose for 24 h in this part of the study
- **Primary endpoint:** ORR by independent review committee (IRC)
- Key secondary endpoints: DOR, TTR, PFS, OS, CR rate, and safety/tolerability

^aStep-up dosing (priming 0.16 mg and intermediate 0.8 mg dosing before first full dose) and corticosteroid prophylaxis were used to mitigate CRS. ^bRadiographic disease evaluation was performed every 6 wk for the first 24 wk (6, 12, 18, and 24 wk), then every 12 wk (36 and 48 wk), and every 6 mo thereafter. ^oMeasurable disease with CT or MRI scan with involvement of ≥2 lesions/nodes with a long axis >1.5 cm and short axis >1.0 cm (or 1 lesion/node with a long axis >2.0 cm and short axis ≥1.0 cm) and FDG PET scan that demonstrates positive lesion(s) compatible with CT-defined (or MRI-defined) anatomical tumor sites for FDG-avid lymphomas. ClinicalTrials.gov: NCT03625037. EudraCT: 2017-001748-36.

Patients Were Challenging to Treat and Highly Refractory

Demographics	LBCL, N=157
Median age (range), y	64 (20–83)
<65 y, n (%)	80 (51)
65 to <75 y, n (%)	48 (31)
≥75 y, n (%)	29 (18)
ECOG PS, n (%)	
0	74 (47)
1	78 (50)
2	5 (3)
Disease Characteristics ^a	LBCL, N=157
Disease type, n (%)	
DLBCL	139 (89)
De novo	97/139 (70)
Transformed	40/139 (29)
Unknown	2/139 (1)
HGBCL	9 (6)
PMBCL	4 (3)
FL Gr3B	5 (3)

Prior Treatments	LBCL, N=157	
Median time from initial diagnosis to first dose, y	1.6	
Median time from end of last therapy to first dose, mo	2.4	
Median prior lines of therapy (range)	3 (2–11)	
≥3 Lines of therapy, n (%)	111 (71)	
Primary refractory ^b disease, n (%)	96 (61)	
Refractory ^b to last systemic therapy, n (%)	130 (83)	
Refractory ^ь to ≥2 consecutive lines of therapy, n (%)	119 (76)	
Prior ASCT, n (%)	31 (20)	
Prior CAR T therapy, n (%)	61 (39)	
Progressed within 6 mo of CAR T therapy	46/61 (75)	

^aDouble/triple-hit patients included, many with responses. ^bRefractory disease is defined as disease that either progressed during therapy or progressed within <6 months of completion of therapy.

High Response Rates Observed

Best Overall Response by IRC, n (%)ª	LBCL N=157
Overall response	99 (63) [95% CI: 55–71]
Complete response	<mark>61 (39)</mark> [95% CI: 31–47]
Partial response	38 (24)
Stable disease	5 (3)
Progressive disease	37 (24)

^aBased on Lugano criteria.

PFS by Best Response per IRC



Kaplan–Meier Estimate	
Median PFS for complete responders	Not reached
Complete responders remaining in complete response at 9 mo	89%
Median PFS, mo (95% CI)	4.4 (3.0–7.9)
PFS at 6 mo, % (95% CI)	43.9 (35.7–51.7)

A correlation between depth of response and PFS was observed

MRD Negativity Correlated With Improved PFS

• Exploratory ctDNA analysis shows that MRD-negative responses were durable and correlated with PFS



Based on MRD-negative evaluable set, which included patients with \geq 1 postbaseline MRD sample/evaluation who had detectable disease (n=104) or were not evaluated (n=3) at baseline. MRD negativity was defined as the absence of detectable clone sequences in plasma at any on-treatment time point (clonoSEQ).

Background

- Patients with R/R DLBCL (≥2 prior therapies) have a poor prognosis^{1,2}
 - poor outcomes are reported in patients with treatment failure after R-CHOP, particularly in those with refractory disease³
 - CAR T-cell therapy is an option for patients with R/R DLBCL but its use may be limited by logistical challenges^{4,5}

Glofitamab

- off-the-shelf and fixed duration treatment^{6,7}
- Phase I experience (NCT03075696)⁷
 - encouraging efficacy and manageable safety with glofitamab monotherapy in patients with R/R B-cell NHL^{6,7}
 - established a step-up dosing schedule and target dose
 (30mg) in patients with B-cell NHL in multiple cohorts⁸

Glofitamab: CD20xCD3 bispecific monoclonal antibody with 2:1 format for increased potency vs 1:1 format⁶



Aim: share pivotal Phase II expansion results – glofitamab in R/R DLBCL and ≥2 prior therapies

*obinutuzumab binds to the same CD20 epitope as glofitamab. CAR-T, chimeric antigen receptor T-cell therapy; NHL, non-Hodgkin lymphoma. Chien, et al. Future Oncol 2020; 2. Crump, et al. Blood 2017; 3. Sehn and Salles. NEJM 2021;
 Fujiwara, et al. Pharmaceuticals 2022; 5. Roschewski, et al. NEJM 2022; 6. Bacac, et al. Clin Cancer Res 2018;
 NCT03075696. Available at: <u>https://clinicaltrials.gov</u>; 8. Hutchings, et al. J Clin Oncol 2021.

Baseline characteristics

n (%)*		N=154 ⁺	n (%)*	N=154
Median age, years (rang	ge)	66.0 (21–90)	Median no. of prior lines, n (range)	3 (2–7
Male		100 (64.9)	2 prior lines	62 (40.
ECOC PSt	0	69 (44.8)	≥3 prior lines	92 (59.
	1	84 (54.5)	Prior anti-CD20 Ab	154 (100
	I	10 (6.5)	Prior anthracycline	149 (96
App Arbor stage	II	25 (16.2)		
Ann Arbor stage	111	31 (20.1)	Prior CAR-I	51 (33.
	IV	85 (55.2)	Prior ASCT	28 (18.)
	DLBCL	110 (71.4)	Refractory to any prior therapy	139 (90
NHL subtype	trFL	27 (17.5)	Refractory to last prior therapy	132 (85
NITE Subtype	HGBCL	11 (7.1)	Drimon, refrector,	
	PMBCL	6 (3.9)		90 (30.4
	>6cm	64 (41.6)	Refractory to prior CAR-T	46 (29.9
Bulky disease	>10cm	18 (11.7)	Refractory to any prior anti-CD20	128 (83)

Heavily pre-treated, highly refractory population

Clinical cut-off date: March 14, 2022; *unless otherwise specified; †safety-evaluable population (all treated patients); ‡ECOG PS 2, n=1 (0.6%); Ab, antibody; ASCT, autologous stem cell transplant; trFL, transformed follicular lymphoma.

Response rates – primary endpoint met

Efficacy endpoint ¹	Glofitamab 2.5/10/30mg (n=155)
CR rate*	<mark>61 (39.4%)</mark> [95% CI: 31.6%, 47.5%]
ORR*	80 (51.6%) [95% CI: 43.5%, 59.7%]

- Median duration of follow-up: 12.6 months (range: 0–22)
- Responses were achieved early: median time to first CR was 42 days (95% CI: 42, 44)
- At time of primary analysis, primary endpoint met in the primary efficacy population (n=108)[†]: 35.2%
 CR rate by IRC significantly greater (p<0.0001) than 20% historical control CR rate[‡]

High CR/ORR rate at RP2D

*best response by intent-to-treat population; [†]the pivotal expansion cohort population; [‡]the historical control CR rate was pre-specified based on a meta-analysis in patients with R/R DLBCL (where most [\geq 50%] had received \geq 2 prior therapies) and compared with the CR rate in the primary efficacy-evaluable population using an exact binomial test (2-sided alpha level: 5%).

Durable responses maintained after cessation of therapy



CCOD, clinical cut-off date; mo, months; NE, not estimable.

DoCR in earlier cohorts show durable responses beyond 24 months

Supporting cohort

- Patients in earlier cohorts have extended follow up for duration of response
 - R/R DLBCL, HGBCL, trFL and PMBCL
 ≥2 prior lines (n=101)
 - Doses ≥10mg* (RP2D not included) for a fixed treatment duration of 8–12 cycles (6–9 months)
 - CR rate: 35/101 (35%)[†]



Durable responses beyond 24 months achieved after fixed-duration treatment; median: 34.2 months

*10mg, 16mg, 25mg, 10/16mg, 2.5/10/16mg; [†]intent-to-treat population; RP2D, recommended Phase II dose; [‡]DOCR: 17.9 months PD, 22.1 months PD re-treatment (remission), 24.7 months death (unknown reason), 34.2 months death (AML).

Time-to-event endpoints



Clinically significant freedom from progression at 12 months and long-term overall survival

†including five deaths due to COVID-19; ‡KM estimates.