

# ZUMA-1 @ 5 years Sattva S Neelapu, MD The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

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President: P.L. Zinzani

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### **Disclosures**

Disclosure	Company name
Research Support	Kite/Gilead, BMS, Cellectis, Poseida, Allogene, Unum Therapeutics, Precision Biosciences, Adicet Bio
Advisory Board / Consultant	Kite/Gilead, Merck, Novartis, Sellas Life Sciences, Athenex, Allogene, Incyte, Adicet Bio, BMS, Legend Biotech, Bluebird Bio, Sana Biotechnology, Caribou, Astellas Pharma, Morphosys
Honoraria	Medscape, Aptitude Health, Bio Ascend, MJH Life Sciences
Speaker's Bureau	None
Employment	None
Royalties	Takeda Pharmaceuticals
Stocks / Stock Options	Longbow Immunotherapy
Patents	Related to cell therapy

• I will discuss investigational use of CAR T-cell therapy

## ZUMA-1: Phase 1/2 study design



### **ZUMA-1: Baseline patient characteristics**

Characteristic	Phase 1 and 2 N = 108
Median (range) age, y	58 (23 – 76)
≥ 65 y, n (%)	27 (25)
Male, n (%)	73 (68)
ECOG 1, n (%)	62 (57)
Disease stage III/IV, n (%)	90 (83)
IPI score 3-4, n (%)	48 (44)
≥ 3 prior therapies, n (%)	76 (70)
Refractory Subgroup Before Enrollment	Phase 1 and 2 N = 108
Refractory to second- or later-line therapy, n (%)	80 (74)
Best response as PD to last prior therapy	70 (65)
Relapse post-ASCT, n (%)	25 (23)

ASCT, autologous stem cell transplant; ECOG PS, Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group performance status; IPI, International Prognostic Index.

### ZUMA-1: Axi-cel in r/r large B-cell lymphoma



#### **Standardized OS Comparison: ZUMA-1 vs. SCHOLAR-1 (historical)**



Neelapu et al. *N Eng J Med* 2017 Locke et al. *Lancet Oncol* 2019 Neelapu et al. *Blood Adv* 2021

### **ZUMA-1: 5-year EFS and OS**



Jacobson et al, ASH 2021, Abstract 1764

# **ZUMA-1: Cause of deaths**

n (%)	Total N=101	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year >5
Patients who died	59 (58)	40 (40)	10 (10)	4 (4)	3 (3)	1 (1)	1 (1)
Primary cause of death							
Progressive disease <sup>a</sup>	45 (45)	32 (32)	9 (9)	3 (3)	0	1 (1)	0
Other <sup>b</sup>	9 (9)	5 (5)	0	1 (1)	3 (3)	0	0
Adverse event <sup>c</sup>	4 (4)	3 (3)	1 (1)	0	0	0	0
Secondary malignancy	1 (1)	0	0	0	0	0	1 (1)

- Among treated patients, 58% have died as of the data cutoff date
- Following the 4-year data cutoff date<sup>1</sup>
  - There has been 1 death which was due to secondary malignancy (prior therapy- and/or conditioning chemotherapy-related MDS while in CR for LBCL)
  - No patients received intravenous immunoglobulin

- As of the 5-year data cut-off, no new safety signals have been reported, including
  - No serious adverse events related to axi-cel
  - No secondary malignancies related to axi-cel

<sup>1</sup> Jacobson C, et al. ASH 2020. #1187. <sup>a</sup> During ongoing safety monitoring after the data cutoff, one event of CNS lesion which was not amenable to biopsy was reported. Treatment for presumed progressive disease for diffuse large B-cell lymphoma was initiated by the investigator. <sup>b</sup> Events included infection (n=3), cardiac arrest (n=2), pulmonary nocardiosis (n=1), sepsis (n=1), complications of allogeneic transplant for previous treatment-related MDS not related to axi-cel (n=1), and unknown (n=1). <sup>c</sup> Two events had no causal relationship (sepsis, pulmonary embolism) and 2 events were related to axi-cel (brain injury due to cardiac arrest and hemophagocytic lymphohistiocytosis).

# ZUMA-1: B cell detection in blood at 2 and 3 years



- 75% of patients (24/32) with ongoing responses had detectable B cells 2 years after axi-cel infusion
- 100% of patients (21/21) with ongoing response at ≥3 years had detectable B cells in peripheral blood (67% had detectable CAR T cells)
  - Throughout the course of the study, 31% of patients received intravenous immunoglobulins
- Supports the notion that long-term persistence may not be needed to maintain durability of responses after axi-cel in LBCL

# ZUMA-1: Most had polyclonal B-cell recovery and diversity at 3 years



B-cell subsets were defined as CD45+CD3-CD14-CD16-CD56-CD19+ and/or CD20+ and further phenotyped as follows: Ig kappa, Ig lambda, class-switched memory (CD20+CD27+IgD-), non-class-switched memory (CD20+CD27+IgD+), naive (CD20+CD27-IgD+CD24lowCD38low), plasmablasts (CD38highCD20-), and transitional (CD20+CD27-IgD+CD24+CD38mid).

Jacobson et al, JSHCT 2021, Abstract 009

### ZUMA-1: Ongoing responses at 2 years across key covariates

		who could be evaluated	patients with event	Ongoing responses	LCI	
Overall	<b>⊢</b> ●−1	101	39	0.39	0.29	
Refractory subgroup						
Refractory to ≥second-line therapy	<b>⊢</b> ●−1	77	28	0.36	0.26	
Relapse after ASCT		H 21	11	0-52	0.30	
Disease subgroup						
DLBCL	⊢ ● ¦ I	77	25	0.32	0.22	
TFL		16	9	0-56	0.30	
PMBCL			5	0-63	0.24	
Age						
< 65 Years		77	29	0-38	0.27	
$\geq$ 65 Years		24	10	0.42	<b>0</b> ·22	
Disease stage						
I-П		1 15	9	0.60	0.32	
III-IV	⊢ I I	86	30	0-35	0.25	
IPI risk score						
0-2		55	25	0-45	0.32	
3-4	F	46	14	0.30	0-18	
ECOG performance status						
0		42	18	0-43	0.28	
1		59	21	0-36	0.24	
Extranodal disease						
Yes	<b></b>	71	28	0-39	0.28	
No	F	30	11	0.37	0.20	
Bulky disease (≥10 cm)						
Yes H		16	4	0.25	0.07	
No	<b>H</b>	85	35	0-41	0.31	
Treatment history						
Primary refractory	<b>—</b>	26	10	0-38	0.20	
Refractory to two consecutive lines	<b>F</b>	53	18	0.34	0.22	
CD19 status*						
Positive	<b>⊢</b>	74	30	0-41	0.29	
Negative	<b>⊢</b> → →	- 8	4	0-50	0-16	
Cell of origin						
Germinal center B-cell–like subtype		49	20	0-41	0.27	
Activated B-cell-like subtype	<b>⊢</b>	17	6	0-35	0.14	
Tocilizumab use						
Yes		43	14	0.33	0.19	
No		58	25	0.43	0.30	
Steriod use						
Yes		26	9	0-35	0-17	
	-			0.40	0.20	

Locke et al. Lancet Oncol 2019

# ZUMA-1: Early CAR T-cell expansion associated with ongoing response at 5 years



### Patients with high tumor burden have lower CAR T-cell expansion

ZUMA-1



### CAR-T expansion relative to tumor burden associated with durability



ZUMA-1

• Will patients with higher tumor burden benefit from higher CAR T dose or 2<sup>nd</sup> infusion?

Locke et al, Blood Adv 2020

# CD27+CD28+ naïve T-cells in apheresis associate with CAR-T product fitness

CAR-T Product Phenotype (n=145)



Red and blue shading indicate positive and negative associations, respectively, between covariates. \**P* <0.05, \*\**P* <0.01, and \*\*\**P* <0.001.

## CD27+CD28+ naïve T cells in apheresis associated with hot TME



Red and blue shading indicate positive and negative associations, respectively, between covariates. \**P* <0.05, \*\**P* <0.01, and \*\*\**P* <0.001.

# Tumor immune contexture pre- and post-infusion is associated with CAR-T efficacy

#### **Baseline**

**Changes in TME pre- vs. post infusion** 





### CD27+CD28+ naïve T cells in apheresis associated with better efficacy



	High (n=87)	Low (n=14)
ORR, n (%)	74 (85)	10 (71)
CR rate, n (%)	52 (60)	7 (50)
Ongoing response, n (%)	36 (41)	2 (14)
Grade ≥3 NEs, n (%)	28 (32)	3 (21)
Grade ≥3 CRS, n (%)	9 (10)	2 (14)
Median CAR peak, cells/µL	42.588	19.836
Median CAR peak/tumor burden, cells/mm <sup>2</sup>	0.01105	0.00872

## scRNA-seq of axi-cel: CD8 functional states associate with clinical response in r/r LBCL



• Higher proportions of memory CD8 T-cells (CCR7+CD27+) are associated with CR

# scRNA-seq of axi-cel: CD8 functional states associate with clinical response in r/r LBCL



- Higher proportions of memory CD8 T-cells (CCR7+CD27+) are associated with CR
- Exhausted phenotype (LAG3+ and TIM3+) CD8 T cells associated with PR/PD

# ZUMA-1: CAR T-cell fitness by prior lines of therapy

# Prior Lines	Quartile (# Subjects)	Doubling Time	Median CAR AUC <sub>Dy0-28</sub>	%ORR (n, %)	%Ongoing @12Mth (n, %)
Healthy Donor	n=152	1.34	-	-	
≤2 Lines	Q1 (n=31)	1.42	469.3	28 (90%)	12 (39%)
3 Lines	Q2 (n=29)	1.51	476.6	28 (97%)	10 (34%)
4 Lines	Q3(n=28)	1.7	491.4	23 (82%)	13 (46%)
≥5 Lines	Q4 (n=12)	1.68	211.0	5 (42%)	3 (25%)

• Early referral may improve the efficacy of CAR T-cell therapy

### CD19 loss after axi-cel in r/r LBCL



• Likely cause of CD19 loss is due to genomic aberrations

# Other B-cell antigens are preserved after CD19 loss



#### **Relapsed LBCL tumors after axi-cel**

#### **CD20 in paired LBCL tumors**



• Provides a rationale for multiantigen targeting to minimize antigen escape and improve efficacy

# Tumor intrinsic mechanisms associated with CD19 CAR T-cell resistance in LBCL

Resistance mechanism	Comment	Reference(s)
CD19 loss	30-40% of DLBCL, tFL, and PMBCL after axi-cel	Plaks et al. <i>Blood</i> 2021 Spiegel et al. <i>Blood</i> 2021 Spiegel et al. <i>Nat Med</i> 2021
CD58 alteration	Required for CD2 co-stimulation in CAR T cells	Majzner, et al. <i>ASH 2020, Abstract 556</i> Romain et al, <i>J Clin Invest</i> 2022
TP53 genomic alterations	Associated with dysregulation of IFN and death receptor signaling pathways and reduced CD8 T-cell infiltration	Shouval et al. <i>J Clin Oncol</i> 2021
DNA copy number alterations	Deletion 10q23.3 leading to loss of FAS death receptor was most highly associated with poor PFS and OS	Cherng et al. <i>Blood</i> 2022
Complex genomic features	Complex structural variants, APOBEC mutational signatures, genomic damage from ROS, deletion 3p21.31 containing <i>RHOA</i> tumor suppressor	Jain et al. <i>Blood</i> 2022

# MRD negativity at day 28 strongly associated with durability in LBCL after axi-cel

N = 72; Tumor clonotype detected in 96% of patients



#### PFS by Day 28 MRD or Day 28 PET

Frank et al, J Clin Oncol 2021

# Summary

- Long-term safety and efficacy established with axi-cel after 5 years of follow-up on ZUMA-1 in ≥3rd-line LBCL
  - OS of 43% for all patients at 5 years
  - OS of 64% for CR patients at 5 years
  - No new safety signals since the 2-year f/u
- Durable responses at 5 years were strongly associated with peak CAR T-cell expansion, which is associated with tumor burden and T-cell fitness in apheresis material
- 100% of evaluable patients with ongoing remission at 3 yrs had B-cell recovery with 91% being polyclonal
- 30% of tumors at progression have CD19 loss but expression of other B-cell antigens is preserved supporting multi-antigen targeting to enhance efficacy

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