

LEUCEMIA LINFATICA CRONICA, OGGI... ED OLTRE



Il profilo di tossicità: non può che giocare un ruolo nella scelta



Paolo Falucci
Ematologia

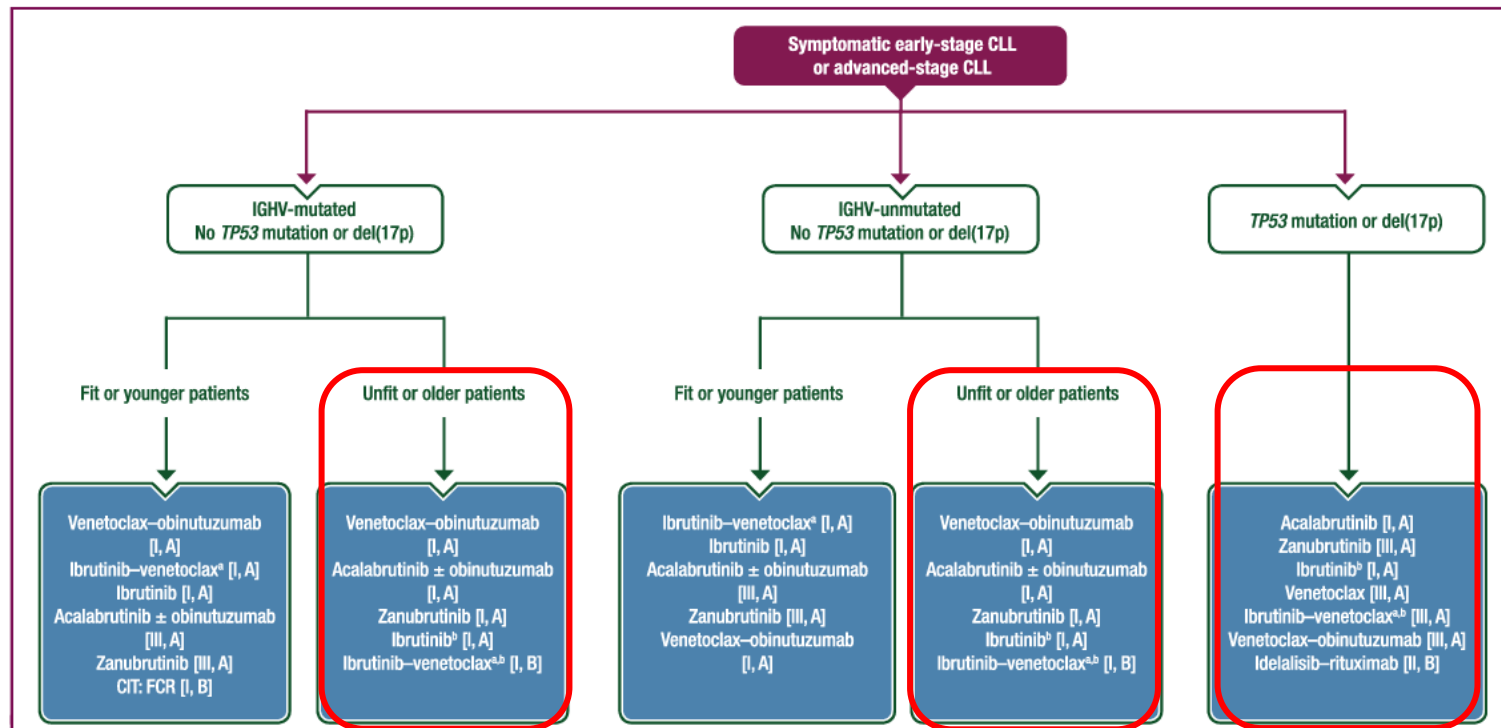
IRCCS Istituto Nazionale Tumori Regina Elena - Roma



Cagliari, Hotel Regina Margherita – 16 Ottobre 2024

Company name	Research support	Employee	Consultant	Stockholder	Speakers bureau	Advisory board	Other
Abbvie	-	-	-	-	-	-	x
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Beigene	-	-	-	-	-	x	x
Janssen	-	-	-	-	-	-	x

ESMO clinical practice guideline interim update 2024



^bIbrutinib or ibrutinib–venetoclax should be considered carefully in older patients with cardiac comorbidities.



National
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NCCN Guidelines Version 1.2025 Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia/Small Lymphocytic Lymphoma

SUGGESTED TREATMENT REGIMENS^{a,b,c,d}

CLL/SLL Without del(17p)/TP53 Mutation

(alphabetical by category)

FIRST-LINE THERAPY ^e		
Preferred Regimens	Other Recommended Regimens	Useful in Certain Circumstances
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➔ • Acalabrutinib^{f,g,*} ± obinutuzumab (category 1) • Venetoclax^{f,h} + obinutuzumab (category 1) ➔ • Zanubrutinib^{f,g,*} (category 1) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➔ • Ibrutinib^{f,g,i,*} (category 1) ➔ • Ibrutinib^{f,g,*} + obinutuzumab (category 2B) ➔ • Ibrutinib^{f,g,*} + rituximab^j (category 2B) ➔ • Ibrutinib^{f,g,*} + venetoclax^{f,h} (category 2B) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider for IGHV-mutated CLL in patients aged <65 y without significant comorbidities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▸ FCR (fludarabine, cyclophosphamide, rituximab)^{k,l,m} • Consider when BTKi and venetoclax are not available or contraindicated or rapid disease debulking needed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▸ Bendamustineⁿ + anti-CD20 mAb^{o,p} ▸ Obinutuzumab ± chlorambucil^q ▸ High-dose methylprednisolone (HDMP) + anti-CD20 mAb^o (category 2B; category 3 for patients <65 y without significant comorbidities)

➔ Covalent BTKi

SUGGESTED TREATMENT REGIMENS^{a,b,c,d}

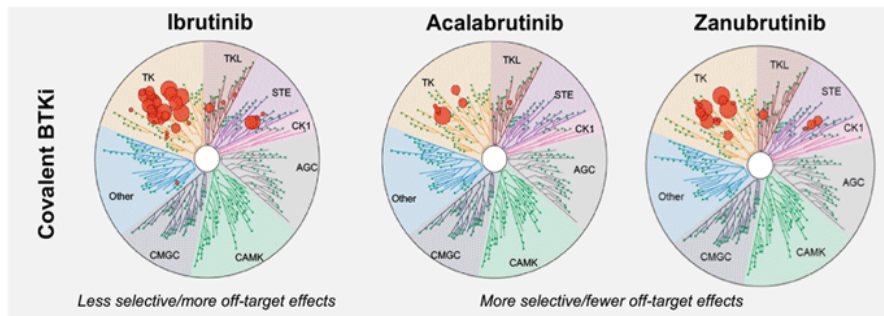
CLL/SLL With del(17p)/TP53 Mutation

(alphabetical by category)

CIT is not recommended since del(17p)/TP53 mutation is associated with low response rates.

FIRST-LINE THERAPY ^e		
Preferred Regimens	Other Recommended Regimens	Useful in Certain Circumstances
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➔ • Acalabrutinib^{f,g,*} ± obinutuzumab ➔ • Venetoclax^{f,h} + obinutuzumab ➔ • Zanubrutinib^{f,g,*} 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➔ • Ibrutinib^{f,g,i,*} ➔ • Ibrutinib^{f,g,*} + venetoclax^{f,h} (category 2B) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider when BTKi and venetoclax are not available or contraindicated or rapid disease debulking needed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▸ HDMP + anti-CD20 mAb^o ▸ Obinutuzumab

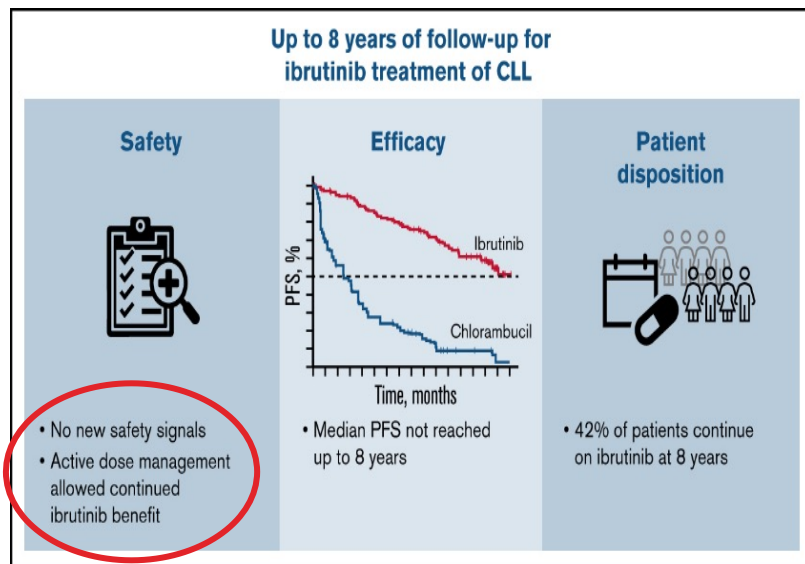
Selectivity: kinome profiling of BTK Inhibitors using DiscoverX KINOMEscan



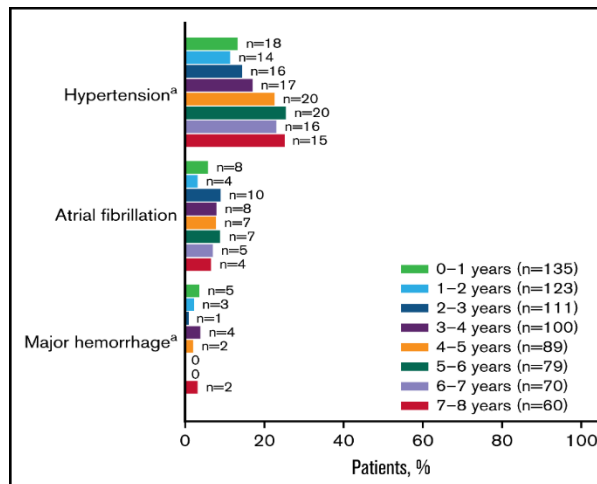
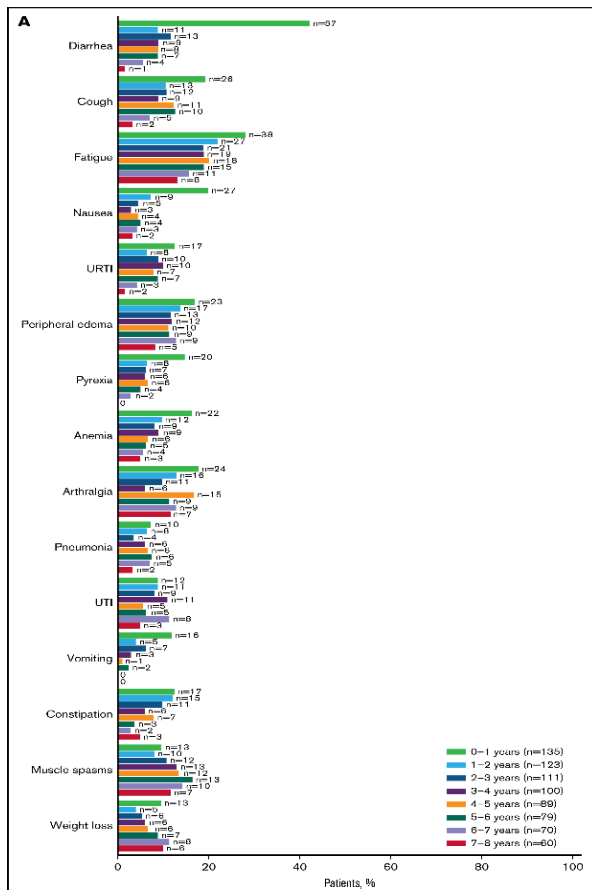
Less selective BTK inhibitors have more off-target effects, which contribute to more toxicity compared with more selective agents²

Adverse events	Cell type	Kinase	Ibrutinib	Acalabrutinib	Zanubrutinib
Infection	B-lymphocyte	BTK TEC	+	+	+
	T-lymphocyte	ITK TEC	+	n.i.	n.i.
	Macrophage Neutrophil	RLK/TKK	+	+	+
		BTK TEC	+	+	+
Rash Diarrhoea	Epithelial cell	EGFR*	+	n.i.	+
Atrial fibrillation	Cardiomyocyte	HER2	+	n.i.	n.i.
		HER4	+	+	+
		TEC*	+	n.i.	+
atrial fibrillation:			frequent	less frequent	rare
** Bleeding	Thrombocyte	BTK TEC*	+	+	+
			minor bleeding		

RESONATE-2: first-line Ibrutinib treatment for patients with chronic lymphocytic leukemia



	First line Ibrutinib (n=136)
Median duration of Ibrutinib treatment, (years) range	6.2 (0.06-8.1)
Continuing Ibrutinib on study, n (%)	57 (42)
Discontinued Ibrutinib, n (%)	
• AE	32 (24)
• PD	18 (13)
• Death	12 (9)
• Withdrawal by patients	9 (7)
• Investigator decision	7 (5)



The most frequent AEs of any grade with Ibrutinib were:

- **diarrhea (50%)**
- **cough (37%)**
- **fatigue (37%)**

AEs of clinical interest:

- **hypertension:** prevalence rates (grades 1-3) were 25%, 23%, and 25% of patients in years 5-6, 6-7, and 7-8, respectively.
Overall, grade 3 hypertension occurred in 17 (12%) patients
- **atrial fibrillation:** prevalence rates (grades 1-3) over time were 9%, 7%, and 7% of patients in years 5-6, 6-7, and 7-8, respectively.
Overall, grade 3 atrial fibrillation occurred in 8 (6%) patients.

Presentation #636

Acalabrutinib ± Obinutuzumab vs Obinutuzumab + Chlorambucil in Treatment-naïve Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia: 6-Year Follow-up of ELEVATE-TN

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Presented at the American Society of Hematology (ASH) Annual Meeting; December 9–12, 2023

ELEVATE-TN study design

TN CLL (N=535)

Key inclusion criteria

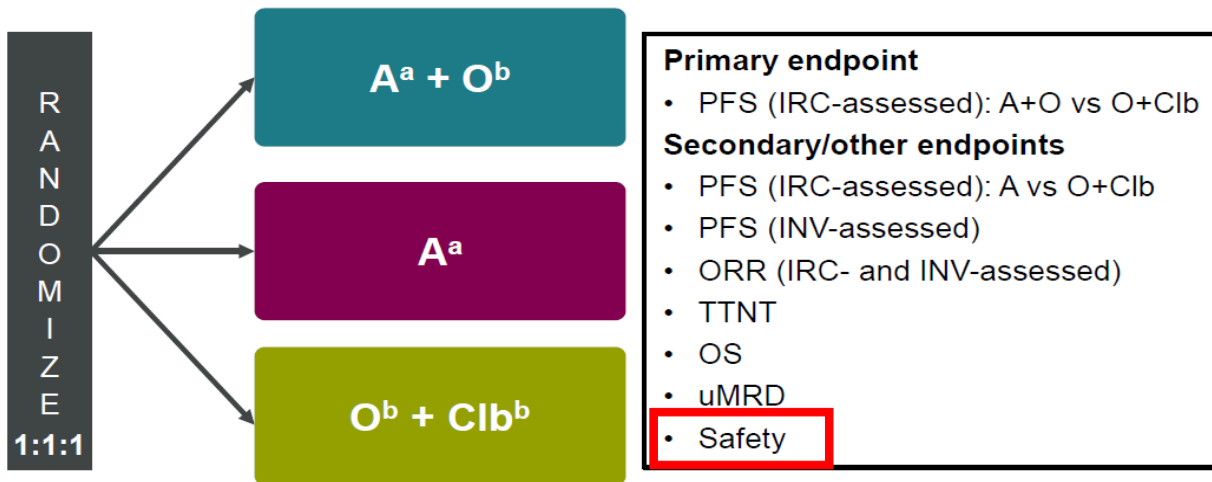
- Age ≥ 65 years, or >18 to <65 years with:
 - Creatinine clearance 30–69 mL/min (by Cockcroft-Gault equation)
 - CIRS-G score >6
- TN CLL requiring treatment per iwCLL 2008 criteria⁶
- ECOG PS ≤ 2

Key exclusion criteria

- Significant cardiovascular disease

Stratification

- del(17p), yes vs no
- ECOG PS 0–1 vs 2
- Geographic region



Crossover from O+Clb to A was allowed after IRC-confirmed progression

Note: After interim analysis, PFS assessments were by investigator only.³
All analyses are ad-hoc and *P*-values are descriptive.

NCT02475681. Data cutoff: March 3, 2023. Patients were enrolled between September 2015 and February 2017.

³Continued until disease progression or unacceptable toxicity at 100 mg PO BID.

^bTreatments were fixed duration and administered for 6 cycles.

ELEVATE-TN: events of clinical interest for Acalabrutinib

6 year follow-up

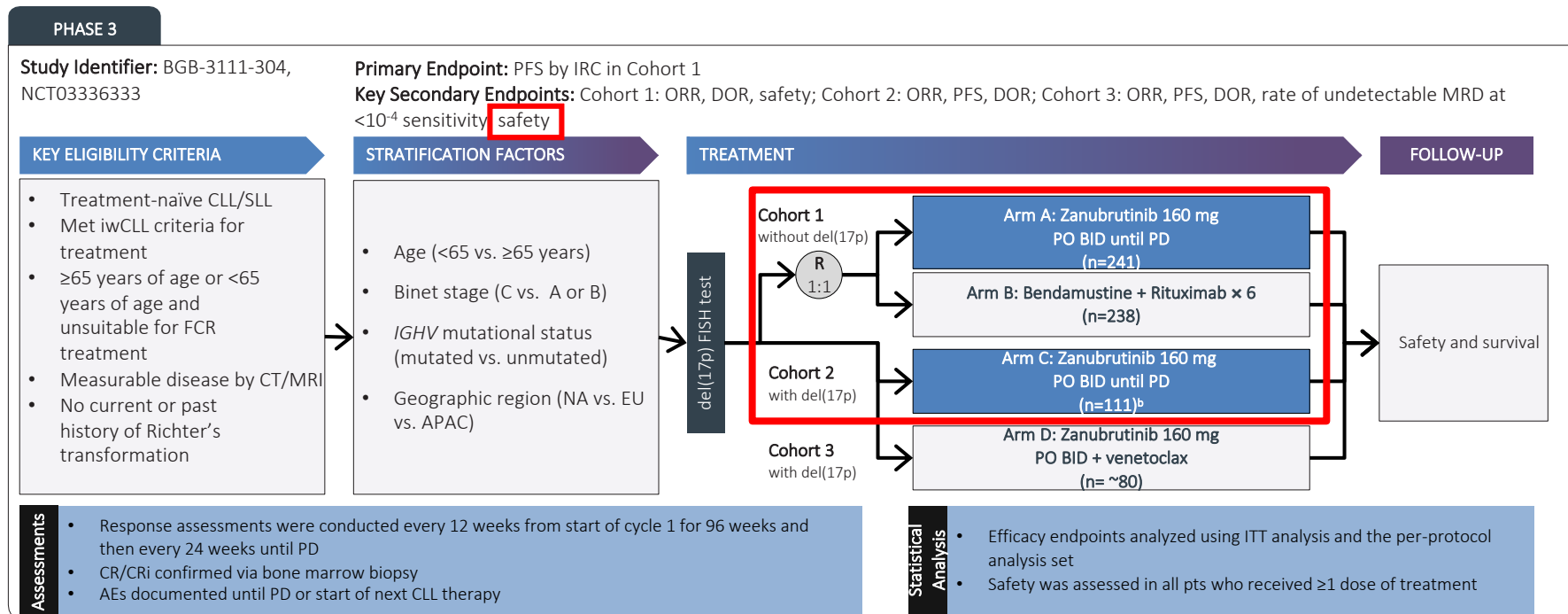
Safety

	A+O (n=178)		A (n=179)	
	Any Grade	Grade ≥3	Any Grade	Grade ≥3
Cardiac events	49 (27.5)	22 (12.4)	42 (23.5)	21 (11.7)
Atrial fibrillation	13 (7.3)	3 (1.7)	16 (8.9)	3 (1.7)
Bleeding	95 (53.4)	12 (6.7)	81 (45.3)	8 (4.5)
Major bleeding	16 (9.0)	12 (6.7)	10 (5.6)	8 (4.5)
Hypertension ^a	20 (11.2)	8 (4.5)	20 (11.2)	9 (5.0)
Infections	147 (82.6)	63 (35.4)	144 (80.4)	50 (27.9)
SPMs	36 (20.2)	18 (10.1)	35 (19.6)	9 (5.0)
SPMs excluding non-melanoma skin	24 (13.5)	13 (7.3)	22 (12.3)	7 (3.9)

Hypertension and AF was low also at 74.5 months of follow-up

SEQUOIA: study design

multicenter, multicohort, open-label, part-randomized phase III trial



Summary of EAIRs for select AEs

cohorts 1 and 2 (any grade and grade ≥ 3)

SEQUOIA – extended mFU 44m

	Patients without del(17p)		Patients with del(17p)
	Arm A: Zanubrutinib (n=240)	Arm B: BR (n=227)	Arm C: Zanubrutinib (n=111)
Atrial fibrillation and flutter	0.13	0.08	0.15
Hemorrhage	2.02	0.40	2.73
Major hemorrhage	0.20	0.05	0.20
Hypertension	0.49	0.45	0.35

Exposure-adjusted incidence rates for hypertension were similar between arms and lower than previously reported.

Atrial fibrillation events remained low.

Zanubrutinib discontinuation rates in patients without and with del(17p) were 24.9% and 29.7%, respectively.

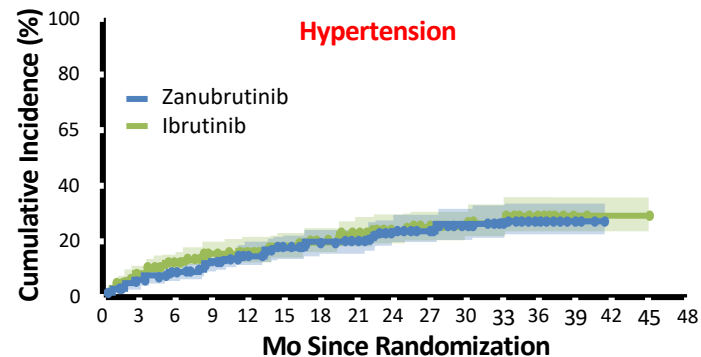
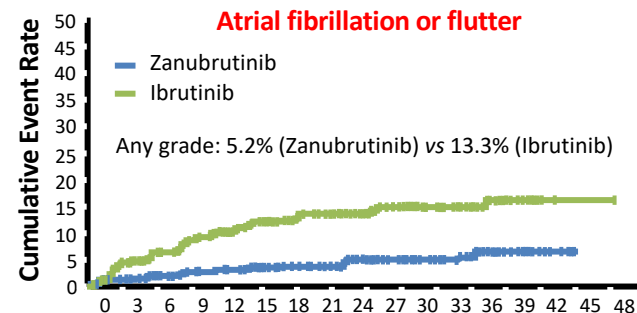
Zanubrutinib was well tolerated over this extended treatment period and aligned with the known profile of BTK inhibitors.

Second-generation covalent BTK inhibitors vs Ibrutinib

ALPINE: Zanubrutinib vs Ibrutinib in R/R CLL/SLL

Randomized phase III trial of **Zanubrutinib** vs **Ibrutinib** for patients with CLL relapsed or refractory to ≥ 1 previous line of treatment; no prior BTKi (N = 652)

extended mFU 39m	Zanubrutinib (n=324)	Ibrutinib (n=324)
Cardiac adverse events	80 (24.7)	112 (34.6)
Serious cardiac adverse events	11 (3.4)	31 (9.6)
Cardiac adverse events leading to treatment discontinuation	3 (0.9)	15 (4.6)
Ventricular extrasystoles	1 (0.3)	0
Atrial fibrillation/flutter	1 (0.3)	6 (1.9)
Cardiac failure	1 (0.3)	2 (0.6)
Cardiac arrest	0	2 (0.6)
Cardiac failure acute	0	1 (0.3)
Congestive cardiomyopathy	0	1 (0.3)
Myocardial infarction	0	1 (0.3)
Palpitations	0	1 (0.3)
Ventricular fibrillation	0	1 (0.3)

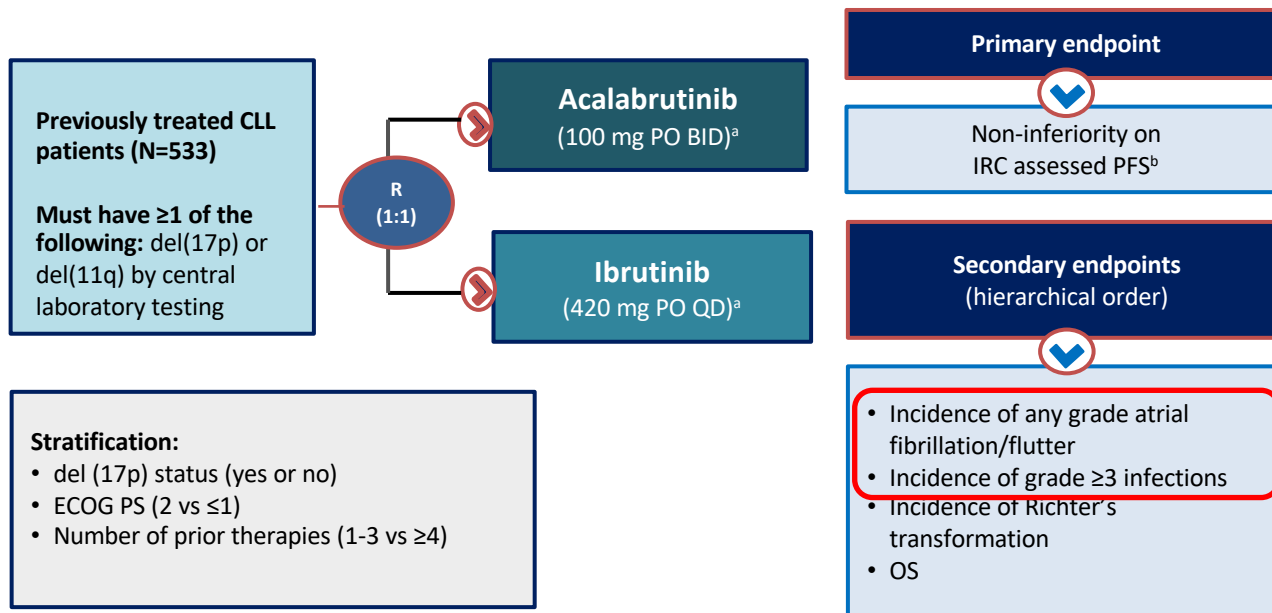


ALPINE – extended mFU 39m

	Zanubrutinib (n=324)		Ibrutinib (n=324)	
	Any Grade	Grade ≥3	Any Grade	Grade ≥3
Infection	264 (81.5)	115 (35.5)	260 (80.2)	111 (34.3)
<i>Opportunistic infections</i>	8 (2.5)	6 (1.9)	13 (4.0)	5 (1.5)
<i>COVID-19 related</i>	145 (44.8)	56 (17.3)	105 (32.4)	38 (11.7)
Bleeding	142 (43.8)	12 (3.7)	144 (44.4)	13 (4.0)
<i>Major hemorrhage</i>	13 (4.0)	12 (3.7)	16 (4.9)	13 (4.0)
Hypertension	86 (26.5)	53 (16.4)	80 (24.7)	47 (14.5)
Atrial fibrillation/flutter	22 (6.8)	10 (3.1)	53 (16.4)	16 (4.9)
Anemia	53 (16.4)	7 (2.2)	59 (18.2)	11 (3.4)
Neutropenia	100 (30.9)	72 (22.2)	94 (29.0)	72 (22.2)
Thrombocytopenia	43 (13.3)	12 (3.7)	53 (16.4)	19 (5.9)
Second primary malignancies	46 (14.2)	26 (8.0)	52 (16.0)	19 (5.9)

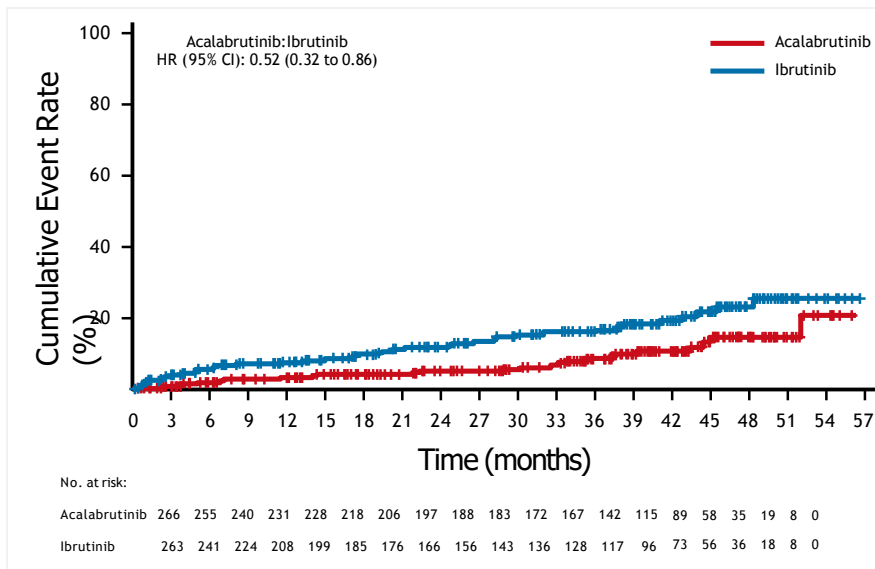
- lower rate of grade ≥3 and serious AEs, fewer AEs leading to treatment discontinuation, and dose reduction.
- safer cardiac profile than Ibrutinib with significantly lower rates of atrial fibrillation, serious cardiac events, cardiac events leading to treatment discontinuation, and no fatal cardiac events.

ELEVATE-RR: study design



^aContinued until disease progression or unacceptable toxicity. ^bConducted after enrollment and accrual of ~250 IRC-assessed PFS events. BID = twice daily; CLL = chronic lymphocytic leukemia; ECOG PS = eastern cooperative oncology group performance status; IRC = independent review committee; OS = overall survival; PFS = progression-free survival; PO = orally; R = randomization; QD = once daily.

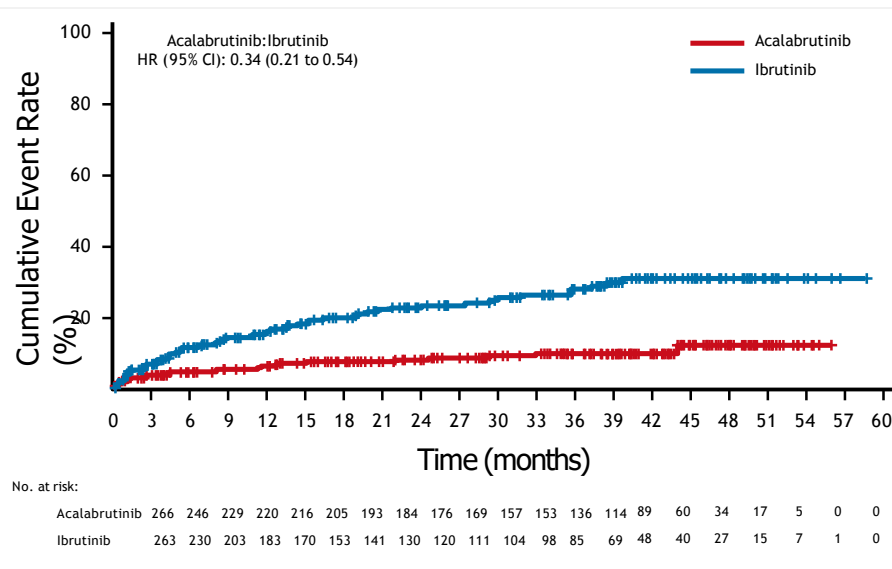
ELEVATE-RR: cumulative incidence of any-grade atrial fibrillation and hypertension



ATRIAL FIBRILLATION

9.4% vs 16% (p=0.02)

48% lower cumulative AF risk with Acalabrutinib



HYPERTENSION

9.4% vs 23.2%

ELEVATE-RR: additional endpoints

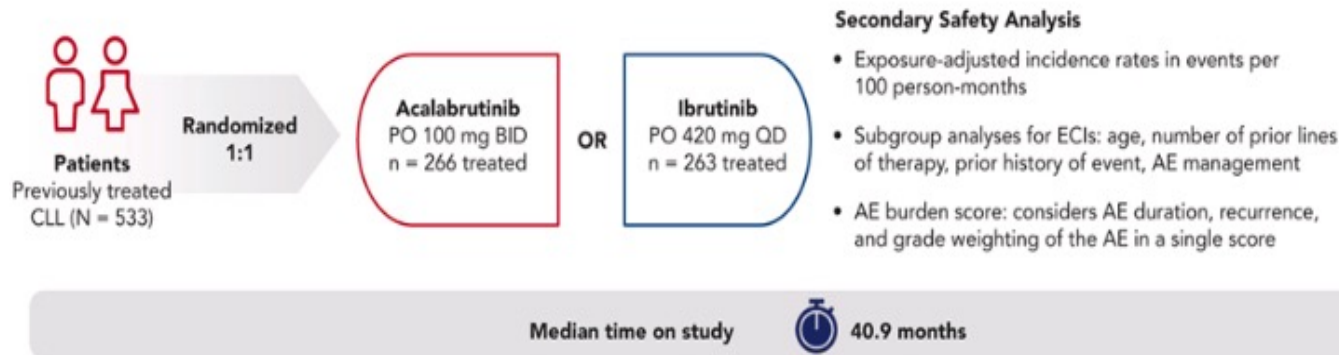
mFU 40.9m

Events, n (%)	Any grade		Grade ≥3	
	Acalabrutinib (n=266)	Ibrutinib (n=263)	Acalabrutinib (n=266)	Ibrutinib (n=263)
Cardiac events	64 (24.1)	79 (30.0)	23 (8.6)	25 (9.5)
Atrial fibrillation	25 (9.4)	42 (16.0)	13 (4.9)	10 (3.8)
Ventricular arrhythmias	0	3 (1.1)	0	1 (0.4)
Bleeding events	101 (38.0)	135 (51.3)	10 (3.8)	12 (4.6)
Major bleeding events	12 (4.5)	14 (5.3)	10 (3.8)	12 (4.6)
Hypertension	25 (9.4)	61 (23.2)	11 (4.1)	24 (9.1)
Infections	208 (78.2)	214 (81.4)	82 (30.8)	79 (30.0)
ILD/pneumonitis	7 (2.6)	17 (6.5)	1 (0.4)	2 (0.8)
SPMs excluding NMSC	24 (9.0)	20 (7.6)	16 (6.0)	14 (5.3)

Atrial fibrillation/flutter events of any grade were significantly lower with Acabrutinib vs Ibrutinib (9.4% vs 16%; $P=0.02$)

Statistically significant reduction in any grade **atrial fibrillation** rates, Acabrutinib was associated with a lower incidence of **bleeding events, hypertension, and ILD/pneumonitis**

Detailed safety profile of Acalabrutinib vs Ibrutinib in previously treated CLL in the ELEVATE-RR trial

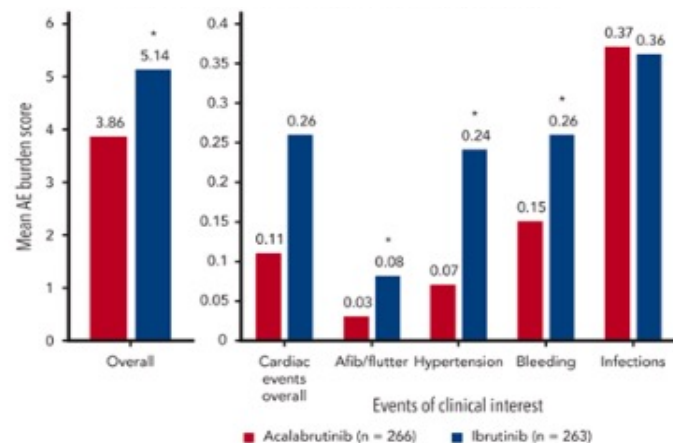


Detailed safety profile of Acalabrutinib vs Ibrutinib in previously treated CLL in the ELEVATE-RR trial

Exposure-adjusted Incidence

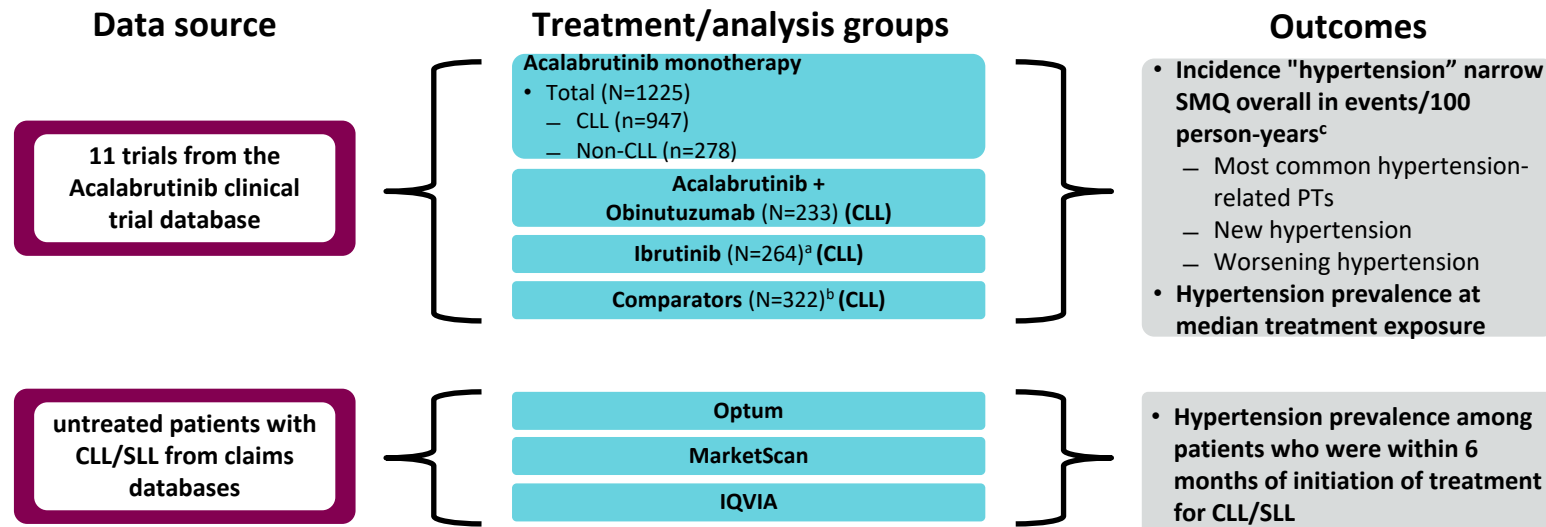
- Diarrhea, arthralgia, UTI, back pain, muscle spasms, and dyspepsia incidence rates were 1.5- to 4.1-fold higher with ibrutinib
- Headache and cough incidence rates were 1.6- and 1.2-fold higher, respectively, with acalabrutinib
- Afib/flutter, hypertension, and bleeding incidence rates were 1.6- to 2.8-fold higher with ibrutinib

Event-based analyses and AE burden scores demonstrated higher AE burden overall and specifically for **atrial fibrillation, hypertension, and hemorrhage** with Ibrutinib vs Acalabrutinib



*Two-sided P-value < .05 without multiplicity adjustment based on Wilcoxon rank-sum test. P-value compares difference in overall distribution rather than mean score.

Cumulative review of hypertension in patients with CLL and other hematologic malignancies treated with Acalabrutinib



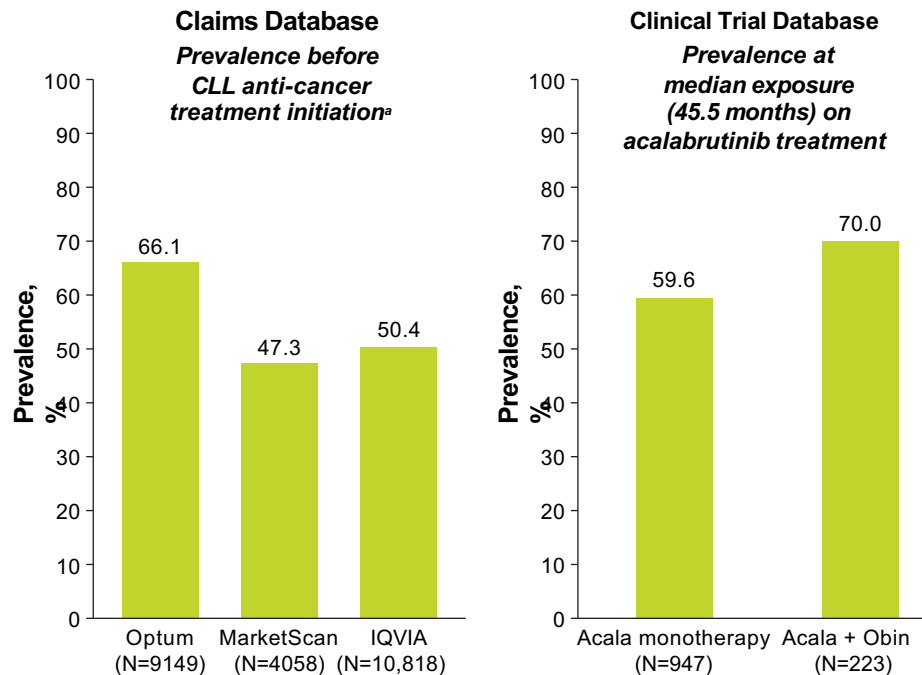
^aPatients with R/R CLL from ELEVATE-RR

^bPatients with CLL treated with Obinutuzumab plus Chlorambucil (ELEVATE-TN), Idelalisib plus Rituximab (ASCEND), or Bendamustine plus Rituximab (ASCEND)

^c"Hypertension" narrow SMQ per MedDRA 25.1.

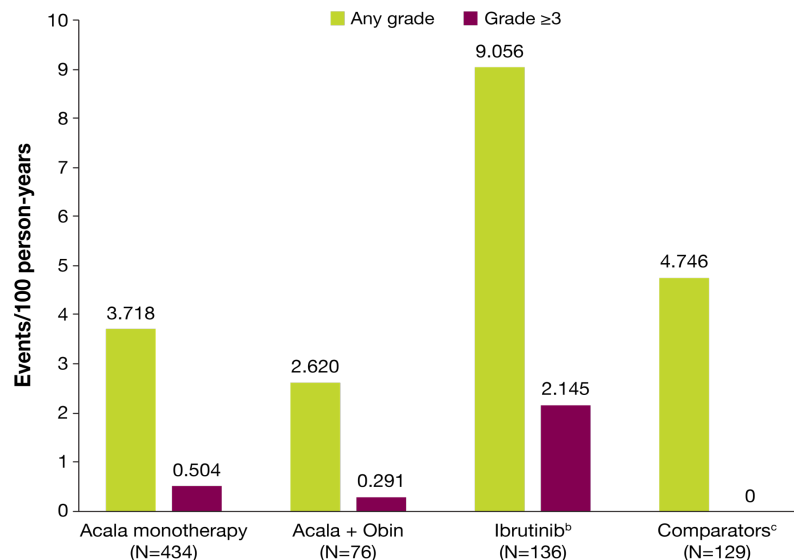
Cumulative review of hypertension in patients with CLL and other hematologic malignancies treated with Acalabrutinib

Figure 2. Comparative prevalence of hypertension in patients with CLL



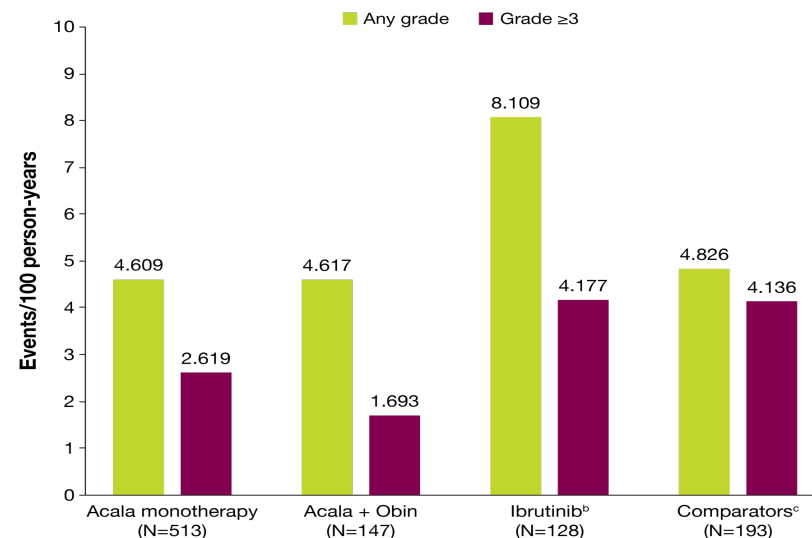
- in the **claims database** analysis of patients with TN CLL prior to treatment initiation, prevalence of hypertension ranged from 47.3% to 66.1%
- in the **clinical trial database** of patients with CLL treated with Acalabrutinib monotherapy, hypertension prevalence was 59.6% at a median treatment exposure of 45.5 months

Exposure-adjusted incidence rate of **new hypertension** in patients with CLL



EAIR of **new hypertension** in patients with CLL treated with Acalabrutinib monotherapy was 3.718, which was lower than in the patients with CLL treated with Ibrutinib in ELEVATE-RR (9.056)

Exposure-adjusted incidence rate of **worsening hypertension** in patients with CLL



EAIR of **worsening hypertension** was relatively similar among Acalabrutinib monotherapy, Acalabrutinib + Obinutuzumab, and comparator groups, except Ibrutinib, which was relatively higher

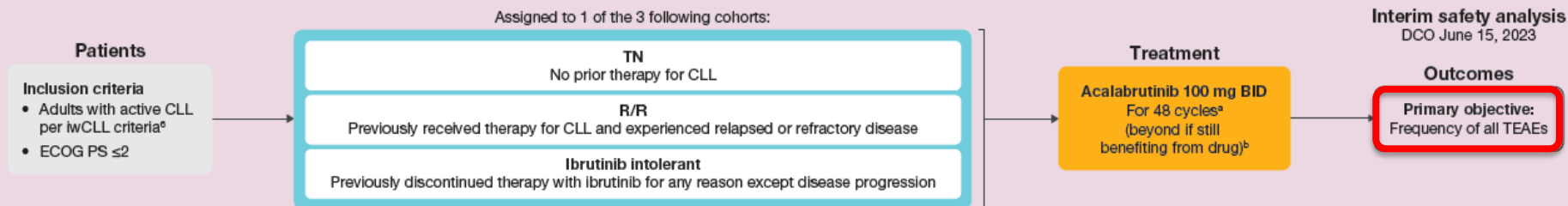
P684

Interim Results From ASSURE: A Phase 3b Safety Study of Acalabrutinib in Patients With Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia

Stephen Opat,¹ Farrukh T. Awan,² Laura Fogliatto,³ Eugene Nikitin,⁴ Joanna Czerwinski,⁵ Rodrigo Santucci Alves da Silva,⁶ Srinivas Jujjavarapu,⁷ Olga Samoilova,⁸ Caroline Dartigeas,⁹ Hoa Tran,¹⁰ Javier de la Serna,¹¹ Versha Banerji,¹² Laura Magnano Mayer,¹³ Jason Hart,¹⁴ Julia von Tresckow,¹⁵ Christian B. Poulsen,¹⁶ Ki Seong Eom,¹⁷ Michele Merli,¹⁸ Ellie John,¹⁹ Jiefen Munley,²⁰ Shweta Hakre,²¹ Richard Hermann,²¹ Carsten U. Niemann²²

Methods

ASSURE: Multicenter, Open-label, Single-arm, Phase 3b Study



^a1 cycle = 28 days.

^bOr until disease progression, toxicity requiring discontinuation, withdrawal of consent, loss to follow-up, death, or study termination, whichever comes first.

Objective

- To report interim safety results from ASSURE (NCT04008706), an ongoing global, phase 3b safety study of acalabrutinib monotherapy in patients with CLL in a real-world clinical practice setting

P684

Interim Results From ASSURE: A Phase 3b Safety Study of Acalabrutinib in Patients With Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia

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RWE confirm clinical trials data in term of TTD and AEs

Figure 2. Kaplan-Meier Plot of Time to Treatment Discontinuation

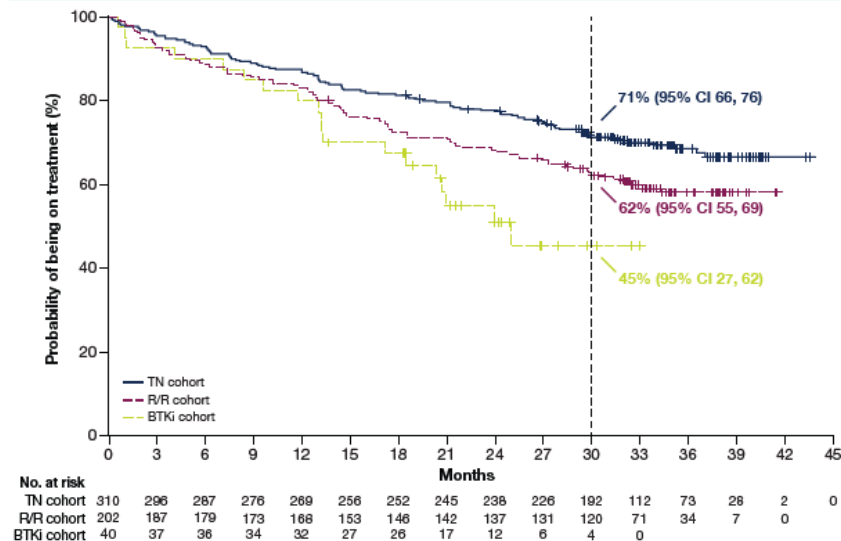


Table 3. Events of Clinical Interest

Events of clinical interest, ^a n (%)	TN cohort n=310		R/R cohort n=202		Ibrutinib-intolerant cohort n=40		Total N=552	
	Any grade	Grade ≥3	Any grade	Grade ≥3	Any grade	Grade ≥3	Any grade	Grade ≥3
Cardiac events	80 (19.4)	21 (6.8)	31 (15.3)	10 (5.0)	9 (22.5)	1 (2.5)	100 (18.1)	32 (5.8)
Atrial fibrillation/flutter	20 (6.5)	7 (2.3)	4 (2.0)	1 (0.5)	2 (5.0)	1 (2.5)	26 (4.7)	9 (1.6)
Ventricular arrhythmias ^b	3 (1.0)	0	0	0	1 (2.5)	0	4 (0.7)	0
Hemorrhage	156 (50.3)	12 (3.9)	95 (47.0)	8 (4.0)	19 (47.5)	1 (2.5)	270 (48.9)	21 (3.8)
Major hemorrhage	12 (3.9)	12 (3.9)	9 (4.5)	8 (4.0)	1 (2.5)	1 (2.5)	22 (4.0)	21 (3.8)
Hypertension	29 (9.4)	10 (3.2)	12 (5.9)	7 (3.5)	2 (5.0)	1 (2.5)	43 (7.8)	18 (3.3)
Infections (including COVID-19)	229 (73.9)	76 (24.5)	152 (75.2)	81 (40.1)	30 (75.0)	8 (20.0)	411 (74.5)	165 (29.9)
Second primary malignancies excluding non-melanoma skin	29 (9.4)	16 (5.2)	17 (8.4)	7 (3.5)	3 (7.5)	2 (5.0)	49 (8.9)	25 (4.5)

^aIncludes new-onset and worsening of existing condition.
^bAll ventricular arrhythmia events were ventricular extrasystoles.

REGULAR ARTICLE



Real-world comparative effectiveness of acalabrutinib and ibrutinib in patients with chronic lymphocytic leukemia

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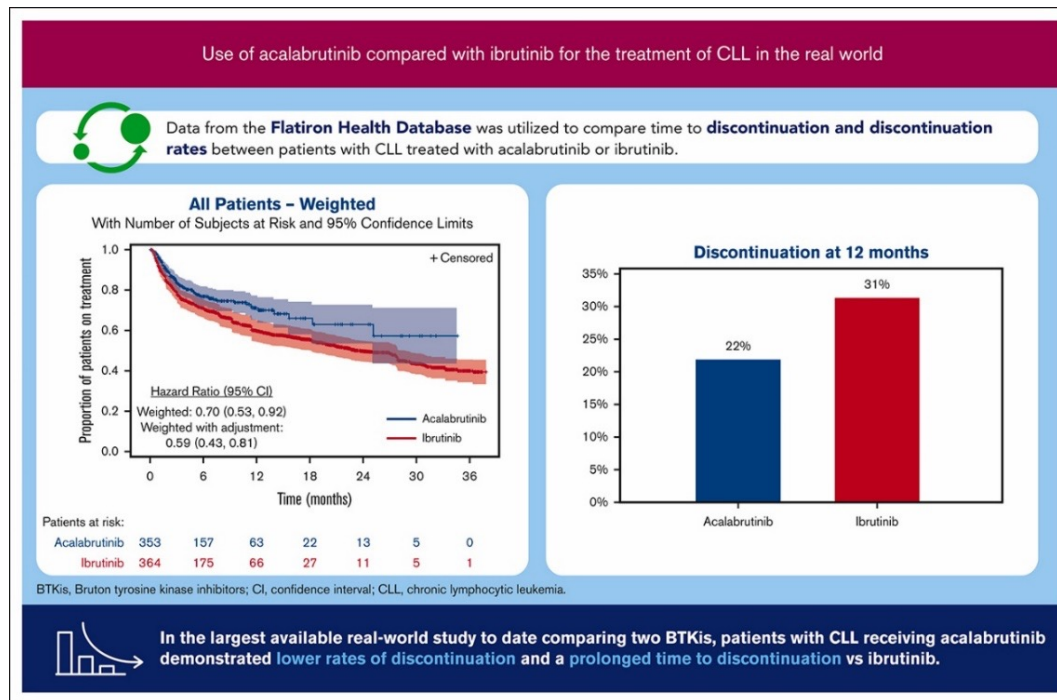
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first comparative effectiveness study of
Acalabrutinib and Ibrutinib in real-world
patients with chronic lymphocytic leukemia

1.	<p>Flatiron Cohort</p> <p>Patients with physician-documented CLL and/or SLL diagnosis¹ or evidence in unstructured documents having been treated specifically for CLL/SLL in the Flatiron Health Database (data cut-off: February 28, 2021)</p> <p>N = 12,886</p>																		
2.	<p>Initiation of acalabrutinib or ibrutinib in any line of therapy on or after January 1, 2018 (initiation of acalabrutinib or ibrutinib was defined as the index date)</p> <p>N = 2613 (20.3%)</p>																		
3.	<p>Two or more clinic encounters² on different days in the Flatiron Health Database during the study period³</p> <p>N = 2613 (100%)</p>																		
4.	<p>Aged 18 years or older at index date</p> <p>N = 2613 (100%)</p>																		
5.	<p>Not enrolled in a clinical study or receiving an investigational drug during the study period</p> <p>N = 2571 (98.4%)</p>																		
6.	<p>Did not receive concurrent antineoplastic treatment⁴ for another malignancy² during the study period</p> <p>N = 2509 (97.6%)</p>																		
7.	<p>Cohort assignment⁶</p> <table border="0"> <tbody> <tr> <td>Acalabrutinib</td> <td>N = 353</td> <td>(14.1%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1L</td> <td>N = 67</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>2L or later</td> <td>N = 286</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ibrutinib</td> <td>N = 2249</td> <td>(89.6%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1L</td> <td>N = 1211</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>2L or later</td> <td>N = 1038</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Acalabrutinib	N = 353	(14.1%)	1L	N = 67		2L or later	N = 286		Ibrutinib	N = 2249	(89.6%)	1L	N = 1211		2L or later	N = 1038	
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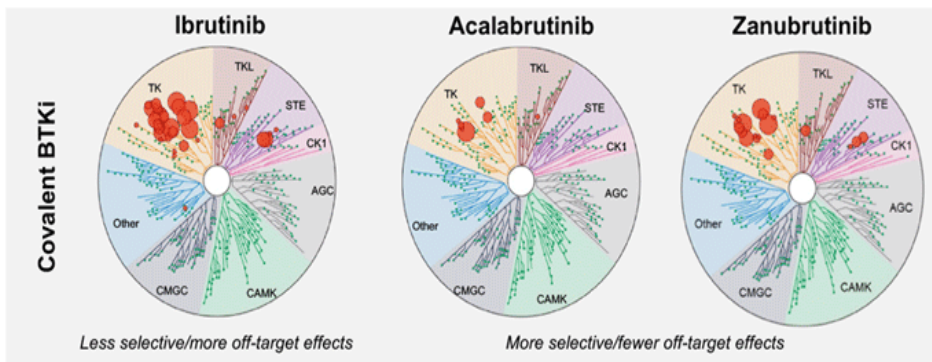
Acalabrutinib demonstrated statistically significant longer time to discontinuation than Ibrutinib

Flatiron Study - 2509 patients 2018-2021



The **median (95% CI) TTD was not reached (NR; 25.1, NR) for the Acalabrutinib cohort** and was **23.4 months (18.1, 28.7) for the Ibrutinib cohort.**

The **discontinuation rate at 12 months was 22% for the weighted Acalabrutinib cohort vs 31% for the weighted Ibrutinib cohort (P = .005).**



Adverse events	Cell type	Kinase	Ibrutinib	Acalabrutinib	Zanubrutinib
Infection	B-lymphocyte	BTK TEC	+	+	+
	T-lymphocyte	ITK TEC	+	n.i.	n.i.
	Macrophage Neutrophil	RLK/TKK BTK TEC	+	+	+
Rash Diarrhoea	Epithelial cell	EGFR*	+	n.i.	+
Atrial fibrillation	Cardiomyocyte	HER2 HER4 TEC*	+	n.i.	n.i.
	atrial fibrillation:			frequent	less frequent
** Bleeding	Thrombocyte	BTK TEC*	+	+	+
			minor bleeding		

second generation BTKi inhibitors: same efficacy less toxicity