

IMMUNOTERAPIA E FARMACI BIOLOGICI NEL TRATTAMENTO DEI LINFOMI E LLC: ATTUALITÀ E FUTURO

Linfomi indolenti non follicolari: un futuro chemo-free?

Marzia Varettoni

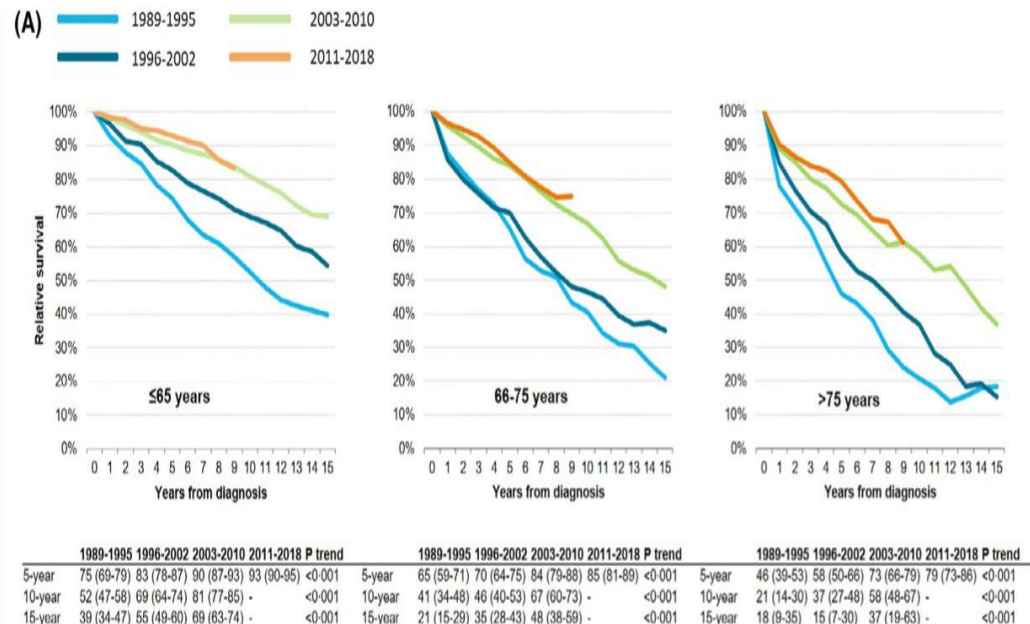
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Disclosures of Marzia Varettoni

Company name	Research support	Employee	Consultant	Stockholder	Speakers bureau	Advisory board	Other
AbbVie						X	X
AstraZeneca						X	X
Beigene						X	X
Janssen						X	
Lilly					X		

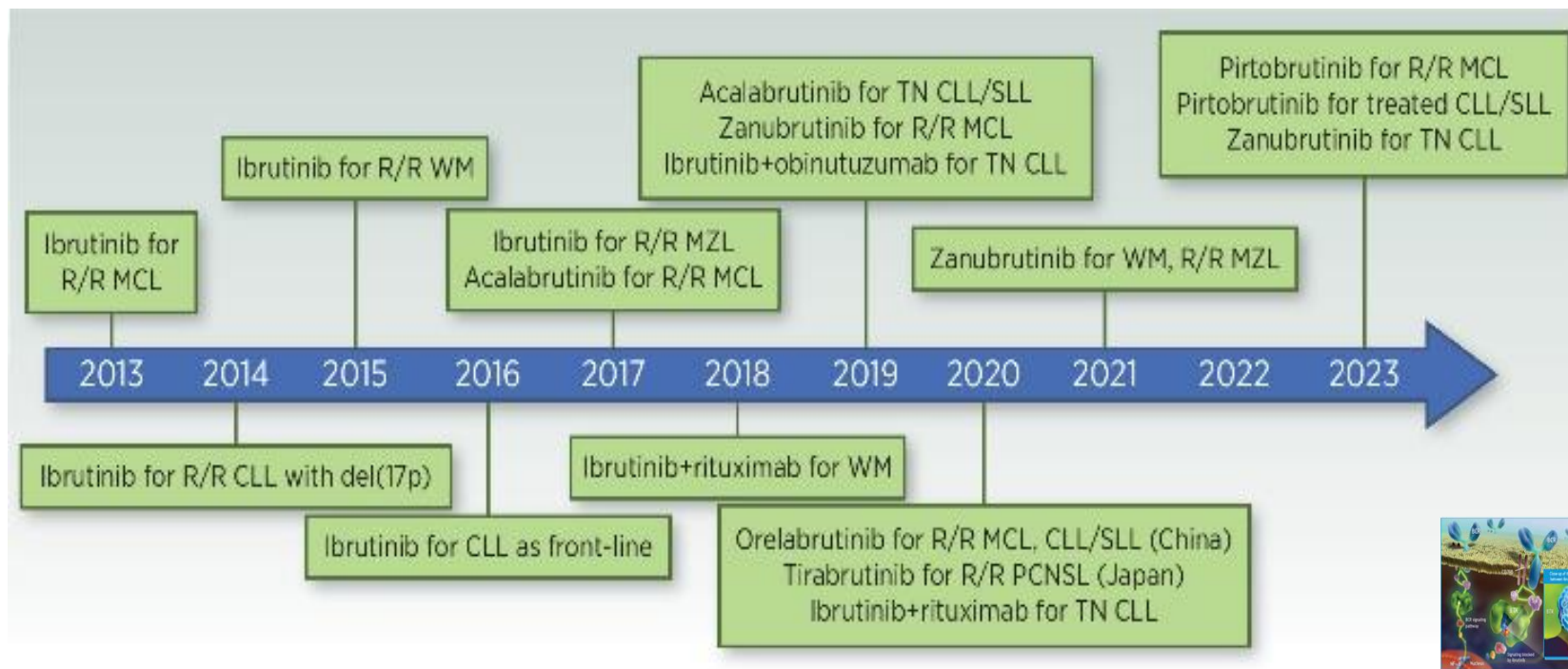
Rituximab-based therapies have improved survival of WM pts in the last 20 years

Combination	Pts	ORR%	CR%	Median PFS (months)	Reference
DRC	72	83	7	35	Dimopoulos JCO 2007
R-Fludarabine	43	96	4	51	Treon, Blood 2009
FCR	43	79	12	50	Tedeschi, Cancer 2012
R-Cladribine	29	90	24	Not reached	Laszlo, JCO 2010
R-Bendamustine	69	97	19	87% at 2 years	Laribi et al, Br J Haematol 2019



Amadoor K et al, Br J Haematol 2021

BTKi have changed treatment paradigm in lymphoproliferative disorders



Clin Cancer Res 2024;30(11):2333-2341

Ibrutinib in R/R WM: long-term follow-up

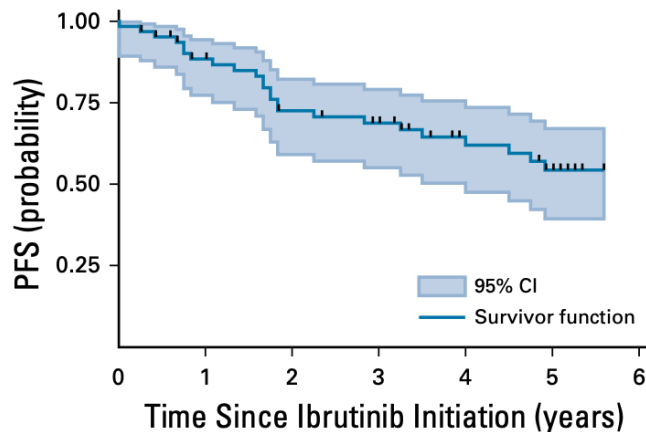
63 symptomatic WM patients who received at least one prior therapy

Median number of prior therapies: 2 (1-9), 40% of patients were refractory to their previous therapy

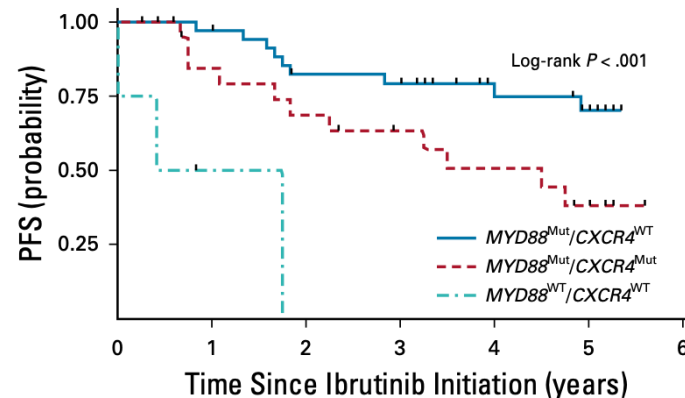
Rates of response

Overall Responses %	90.4%
Major Responses %	77.7%
VGPR	27%
Median Time to Minor Response or better	1 month
Median Time to Major Response or better	2 months

5 year PFS: 54%



PFS & genotype



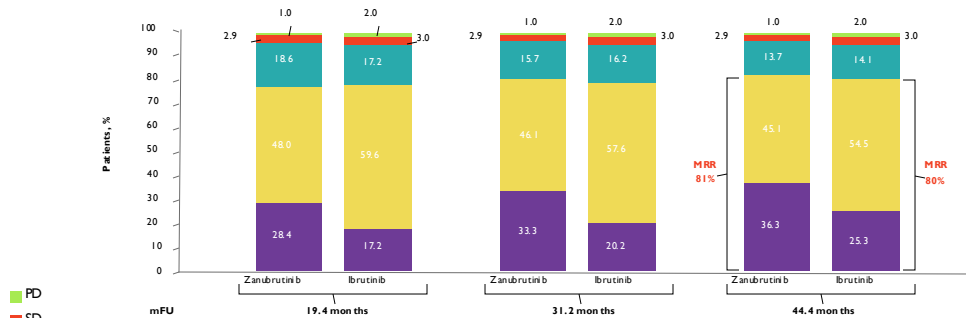
CXCR4 mutations associated with lower VGPR rate and slower response
No major responses in MYD88 WT patients

Treon et al, NEJM 2015; Treon et al, JCO 2021

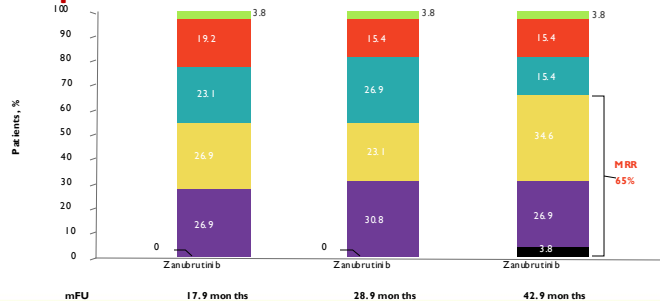
ASPEN study: zanubrutinib versus ibrutinib in WM

- Randomized, open-label, multicenter phase III study

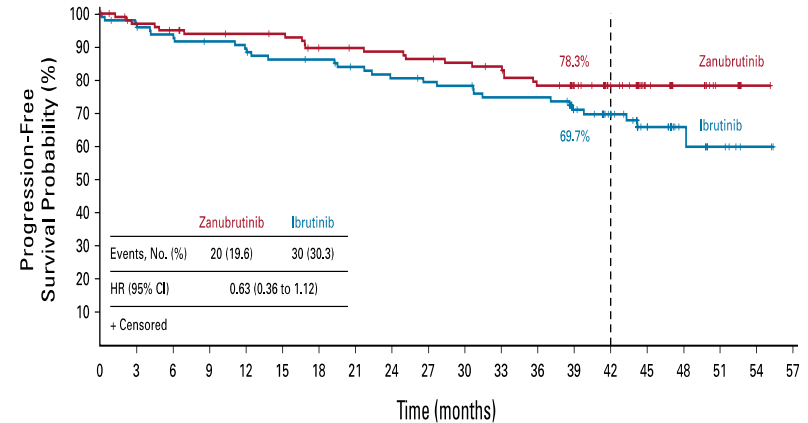
Responses Over Time in Patients With MYD88^{MUT}



Responses Over Time in Patients With MYD88^{WT}



PFS in Patients with MYD88^{MUT}

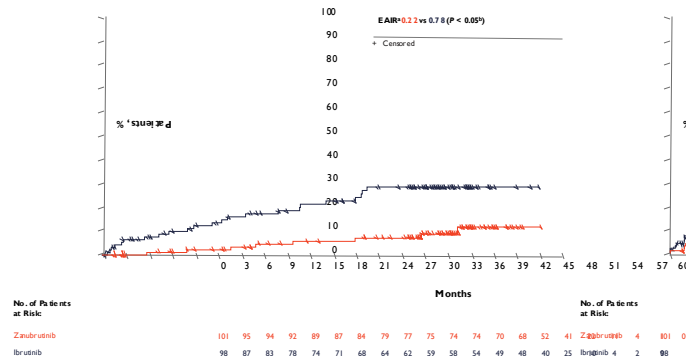


► In MYD88 WT patients, 42-month PFS was lower than cohort 1 (53.8% vs 78.3%); OS was comparable between cohorts (87.5% vs 83.9%)

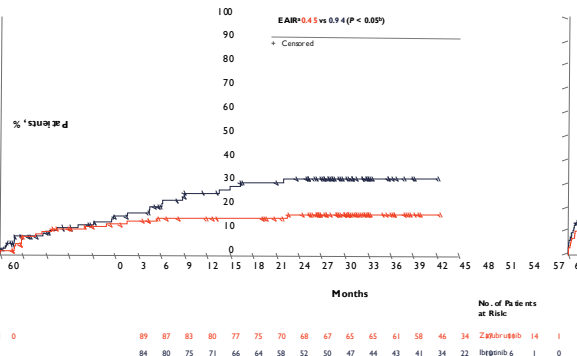
Dimopoulos M et al, JCO 2023

Time to Event Analysis for AEs of interest – Cohort 1

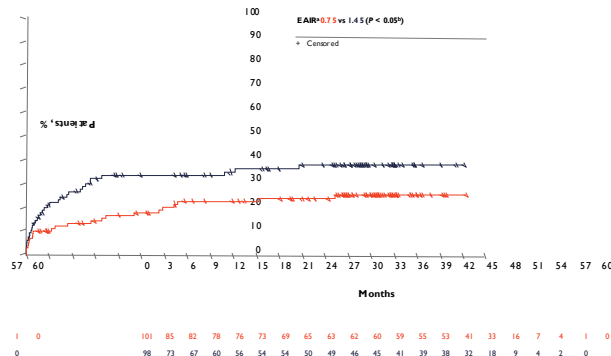
Atrial Fibrillation/Flutter



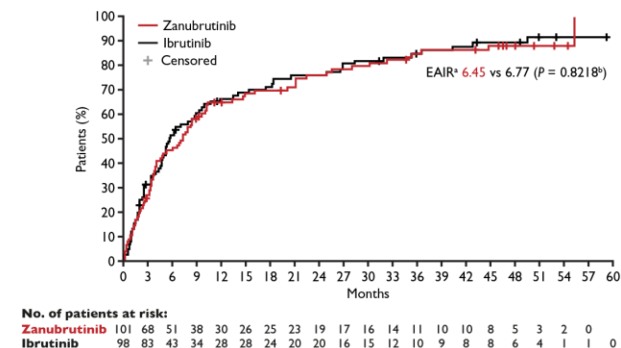
Hypertension



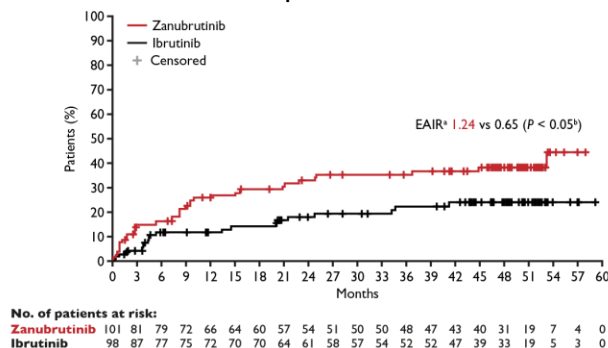
Diarrhea



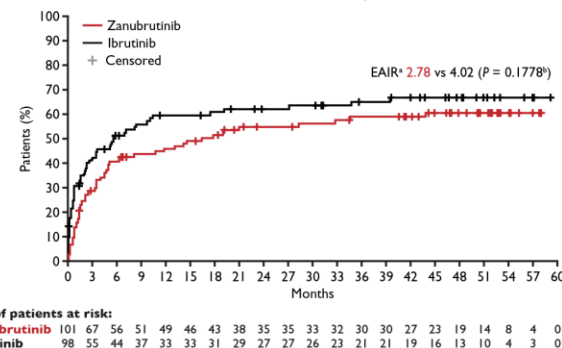
Infections



Neutropenia



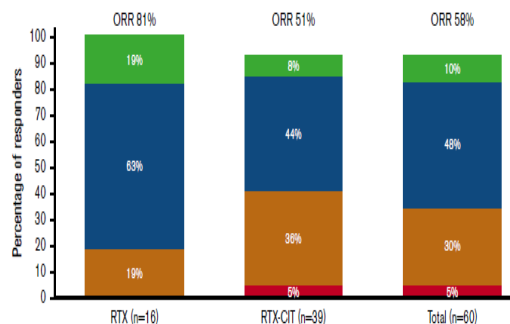
Hemorrhage



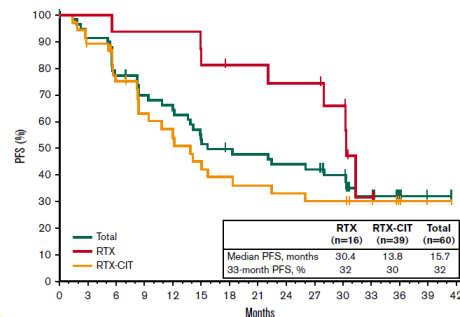
Covalent BTKi in RR MZL

Ibrutinib

ORR 58% (INV-based)

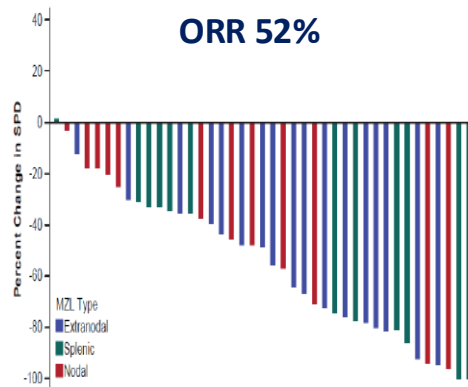


Median PFS 15.7 mo

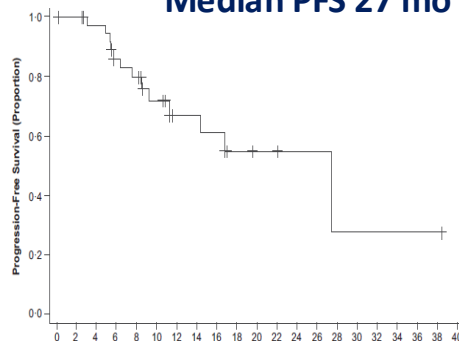


Acalabrutinib

ORR 52%

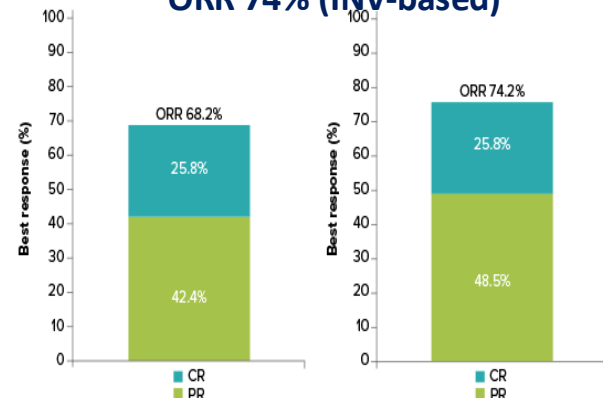


Median PFS 27 mo



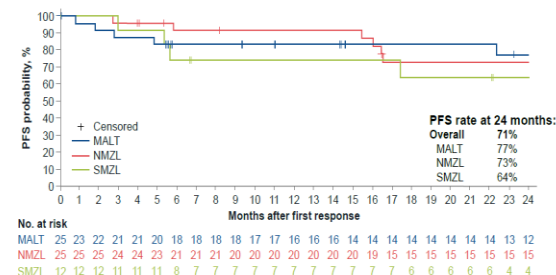
Zanubrutinib

ORR 74% (INV-based)



PFS 71% at 24 mo

Median follow-up of 28 months

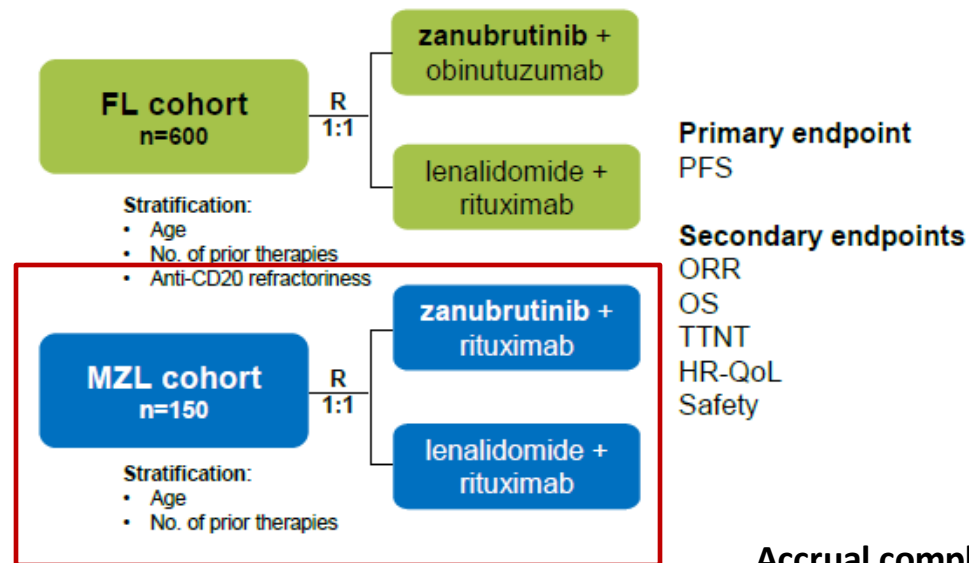


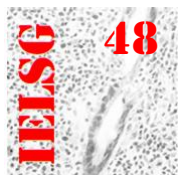
MAHOGANY: A phase III trial with Zanu+Rituximab vs Lena-Rituximab in RR MZL

- MAHOGANY (BGB-3111-308; NCT05100862) is a randomized, open-label, multicenter phase 3 trial of **zanubrutinib + anti-CD20 antibody** in R/R FL and with R/R MZL

Key eligibility criteria

- Age ≥ 18 years
- Histologically confirmed R/R FL (grade 1-3A) or MZL (extranodal, nodal, or splenic)
- Previous treatment with ≥ 1 prior line of systemic therapy, including an anti-CD20-based regimen
- In need of treatment according to modified GELF criteria¹
- Adequate bone marrow and organ functions
- No prior treatment with BTK inhibitor
- Prior lenalidomide treatment allowed unless no response or short remission (DOR < 24 months)
- No clinically significant cardiovascular disease, severe or debilitating pulmonary disease, or history of a severe bleeding disorder





IELSG-48 study: first randomized study in TN SMZL

- Age of ≥ 18 years
- Patients with diagnosis of SMZL
- Patients not previously treated
- In need for treatment according to guidelines
- No prior splenectomy
- No active hepatitis C infection
- No organ dysfunction

Arm A (N = 60)

Zanubrutinib
160 mg BID for 12 cycles
plus rituximab
(8 infusions)

- If CR after 12 cycles: stop treatment

• If PR after 12 cycles:
Zanubrutinib
160 mg BID for 12 cycles
plus rituximab
(4 infusions)

Arm B (N = 60)

Rituximab
(8 infusions)

- If CR after 12 cycles: stop treatment

• If PR after 12 cycles:
Rituximab
(4 infusions)

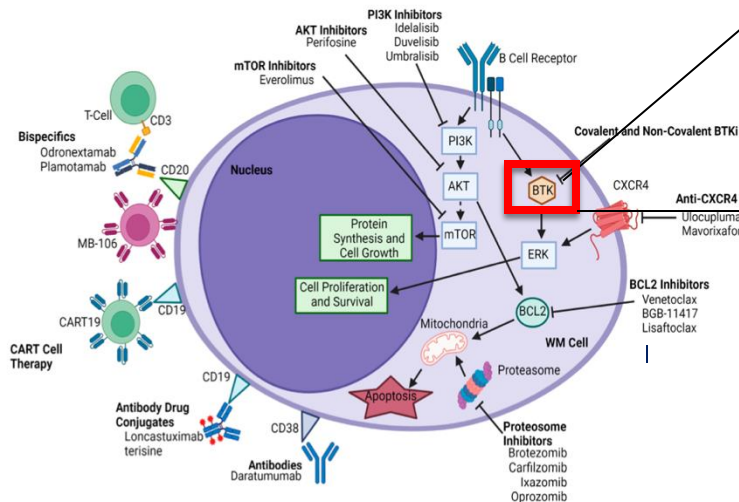
Primary Endpoint

- **PFS at 3 years** according to Cheson 2007

Secondary Endpoints

- CR at 6, 12, 18 and 24 mos
- Best ORR
- DoR, TTNT
- OS
- Safety
- QoL
- Correlatives: mutational profiling on circulating tumor DNA (ctDNA)

Emerging treatment options in WM



Non covalent BTKi

Phase I/II study BRUIN

Palomba ASH 2023

BTK-degraders

Phase I/II study CADANCE-101
(BGB-16673-101).

Frustaci AM, EHA 2025

PROTACs

KIN-8194 (dual HCK/BTK PROTAC)

(Yang G et al, Blood 2021)

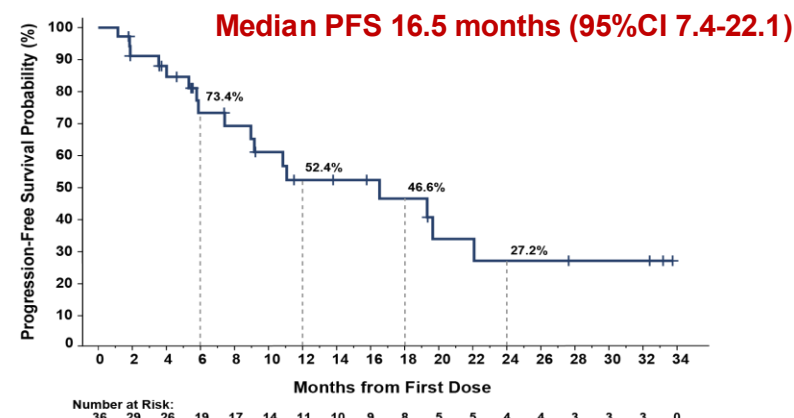
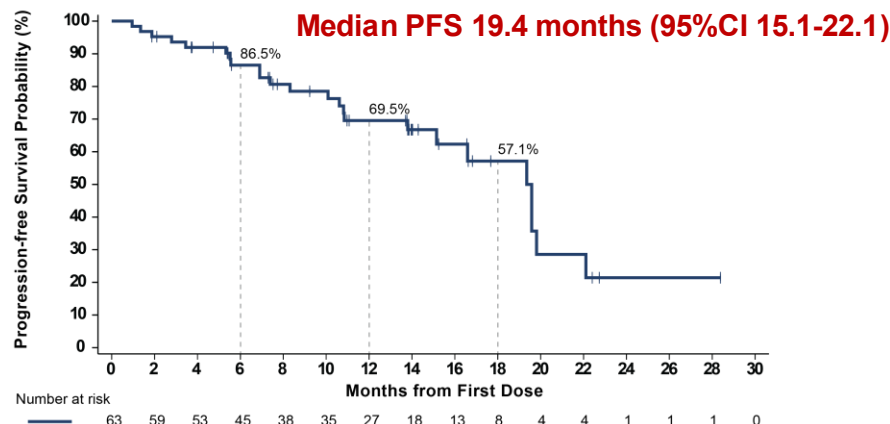
DFCI-002-06 (dual HCK/BTK PROTAC)

(Liu S et al. ASH 2024)

Pirtobrutinib in WM and MZL: phase 1/2 BRUIN Study

Response Evaluable WM Patients	Prior cBTKi n=63	cBTKi Naïve n=17
Major Response Rate^a, % (95% CI)	66.7 (53.7-78.0)	88.2 (63.6-98.5)
CR + VGPR Rate, % (95% CI)	23.8 (14.0-36.2)	29.4 (10.3-56.0)
Best Response		
VGPR, n (%)	15 (23.8)	5 (29.4)
PR, n (%)	27 (42.9)	10 (58.8)
MR, n (%)	9 (14.3)	0 (0)
SD, n (%)	9 (14.3)	2 (11.8)

	All MZL Patient n=36	Prior cBTKi n=26	cBTKi Naïve n=10
ORR, % (95% CI)	50.0 (32.9- 67.1)	46.2 (26.6-66.6)	60.0 (26.2-87.8)
Best Response, n (%)			
CR	1 (2.8)	0 (0.0)	1 (10.0)
PR	17 (47.2)	12 (46.2)	5 (50.0)



Discontinuation due to treatment-related AEs 2.6%/Dose reductions due to treatment related AEs 4.5%
Grade ≥3 neutropenia (11.5%)/grade ≥3 hemorrhage <1%/ any grade AF <1%

Phase I/II study CADANCE-101 with BGB-16673

BGB-16673, a chimeric degradation activating compound, is a bivalent molecule comprising a BTK-binding moiety + linker + E3 ligase binder that induces BTK degradation via polyubiquitination

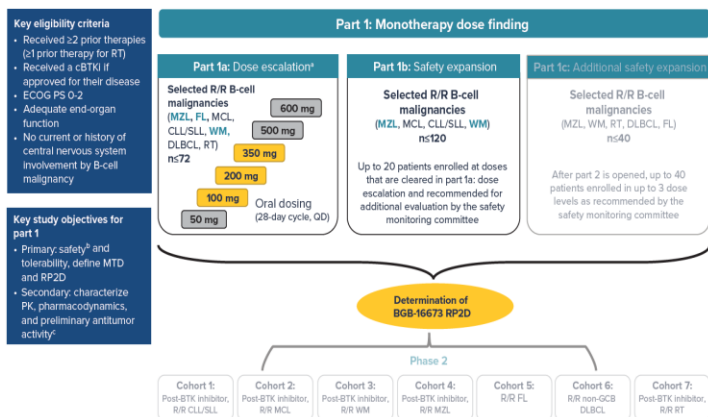


Table 4. Responses by Histology in Evaluable Patients

	WM (n=12)	FL (n=7)	MZL (n=5)
Best overall response, n (%)			
CR	0	1 (14)	0
VGPR	2 (17)	0	0
PR	9 (75)	3 (43)	3 (60)
SD	1 (8)	2 (29)	1 (20)
PD	0	1 (14)	1 (20)
Disease control rate, n (%)^a	12 (100)	6 (86)	4 (80)
ORR, n (%)^b	11 (92)	4 (57)	3 (60)
Time to first response, median (range), months^c	0.95 (0.9-3.7)	2.71 (2.6-3.3)	2.83 (2.8-2.9)

^a Proportion of patients with a best overall response of SD or higher. ^b Proportion of patients who achieved a best overall response better than SD.

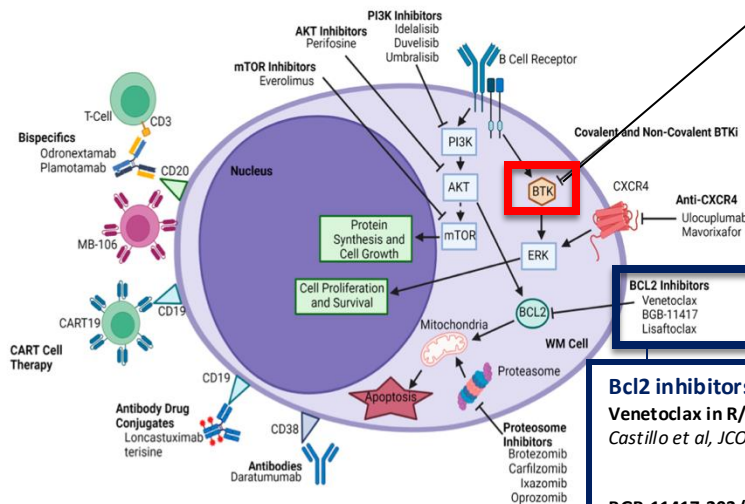
^c Time to first qualifying response in patients with a best overall response better than SD.

VGPR, very good PR.

Most common grade ≥3 TEAEs: neutropenia (n=5, 20%), anemia (n=2, 8%), infections (n=5, 20%)

Tam CS, et al. ASH 2024; #1649

Emerging treatment options in WM



Non covalent BTKi

Phase I/II study BRUIN

Palomba ASH 2023

BTK-degraders

Phase I/II study CADANCE-101

(BGB-16673-101). Frustaci AM, EHA 2025

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(Yang G et al, Blood 2021)

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Bcl2 inhibitors

Venetoclax in R/R WM

Castillo et al, JCO 2021

BGB-11417-203 (NCT05952037) –

Cohort 1-2-3

Multicenter, phase 2, open label therapy with Sonrotoclax (BGB-11417) in RR WM pts

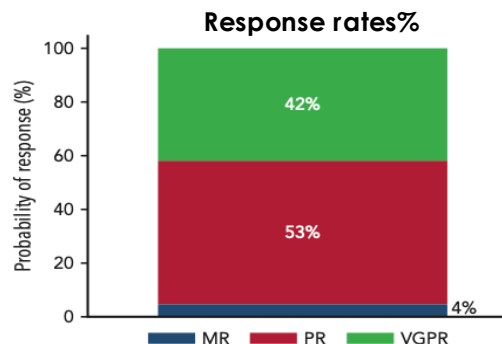
Lee et al. Blood 2024 (Suppl)

Ibrutinib and venetoclax as primary therapy of WM

Cycle 1
Ibrutinib 420 mg PO QD

Cycle 2
Ibrutinib 420 mg PO QD
Venetoclax weekly ramp up
100-200-400 mg PO QD

Cycle 3-24
Ibrutinib 420 mg PO QD
Venetoclax 400 mg PO QD

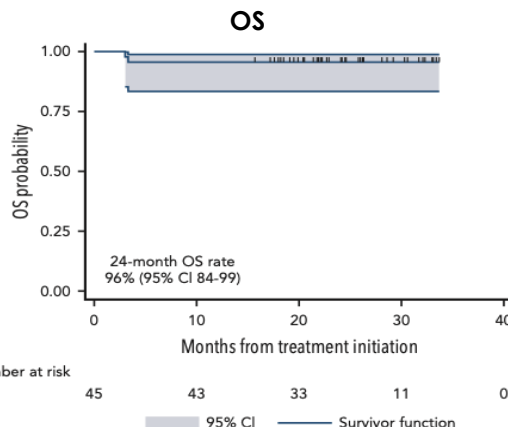
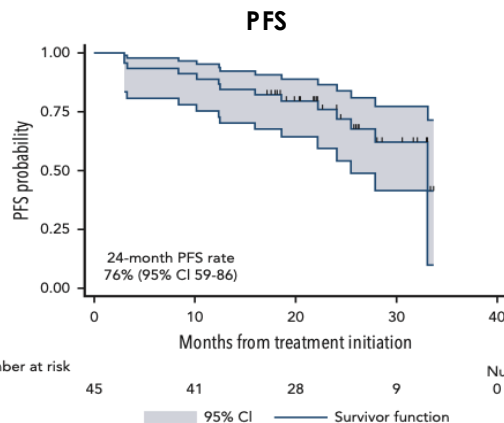


Rationale for Combining Ibrutinib With Venetoclax

- nonoverlapping mechanism of action
- nonoverlapping toxicity profile
- synergy in preclinical studies
- reduced TLS risk by ibrutinib lead-in prior to venetoclax

AEs observed in ≥3 pts and AEs of clinical interest

Adverse events	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Total
Anemia	1	2			3
Atrial fibrillation	1	2	1		4
Diarrhea	8	1			9
Reflux	10				10
Mucositis	7	2			9
Nausea	5				5
Neutropenia	1	10	3		14
Hyperphosphatemia	8				8
Muscle/joint pain	14	2			16
Skin rash	6				6
Ventricular arrhythmia	1		1	2	4
Laboratory TLS		2			2



Planned study therapy was stopped early due to a higher-than-expected occurrence of ventricular arrhythmia in 4/45 pts

Ibrutinib and venetoclax as primary therapy of WM

Cycle 1
Ibrutinib 420 mg PO
Venetoclax 400 mg PO
Day 1-28

Cycle 2
Ibrutinib 420 mg PO
Venetoclax weekly ramp
100-200-400 mg PO
Day 1-28

Cycle 3-24
Ibrutinib 420 mg PO
Venetoclax 400 mg PO
Day 1-28

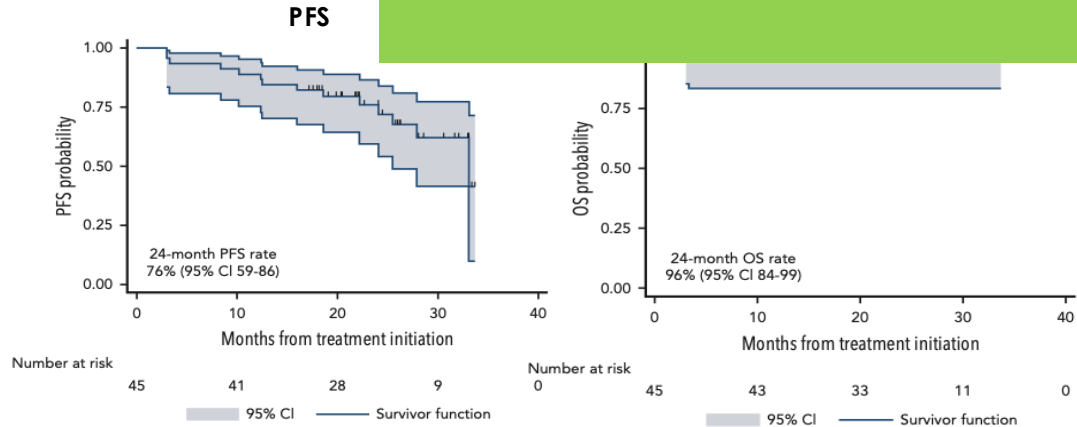
Response rates% Rationale for Combining Ibrutinib With Venetoclax

Ongoing studies with BTKi+BCL2i:

- Pirtobrutinib+Venetoclax in RR WM
- Zanubrutinib+Sonrotoclax in TN WM

... prior to venetoclax
... and AEs of clinical interest

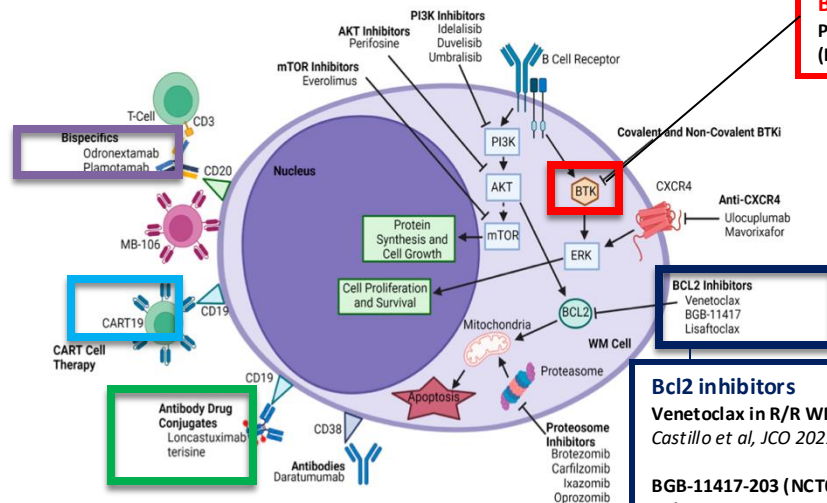
	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Total
Safety				
	2			3
	2	1		4
	1			9
				10
	2			9
				5
Neutropenia	1	10	3	14
Hyperphosphatemia	8			8
Muscle/joint pain	14	2		16
Skin rash	6			6
Ventricular arrhythmia	1	1	2	4
Laboratory TLS		2		2



Planned study therapy was stopped early due to a higher-than- expected occurrence of ventricular arrhythmia in 4/45 pts

Castillo J et al, Blood 2024

Emerging treatment options in WM



Non covalent BTKi

Phase I/II study BRUIN

Palomba ASH 2023

BTK-degraders

Phase I/II study CADANCE-101

(BGB-16673-101). Frustaci AM, EHA 2025

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(Yang G et al, Blood 2021)

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(Liu S et al. ASH 2024)

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Castillo et al, JCO 2021

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Multicenter, phase 2, open label therapy with Sonrotoclax (BGB-11417) in RR WM pts
Lee et al. Blood 2024 (Suppl)

Ab drug conjugates

Loncastuximab terisine (NCT05190705)– WM-NET1
Single-arm, multicenter, phase 2 study to evaluate the efficacy and safety of Loncastuximab in patients with (R/R) WM/LPL
(Castillo et al. ASH 2024)

Loncastuximab tesirine monotherapy in R/R MZL

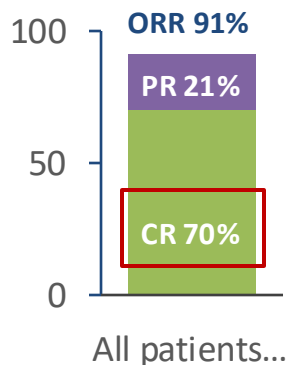


Open-label multi-institutional investigator-initiated study evaluating safety and efficacy of Lonca (6 cycles*) in R/R marginal zone lymphoma (NCT05296070)

23 patients enrolled

- Median age 65 years (45–82)
- 83% were stage III/IV
- 48% had POD24
- 39% were refractory
- Median n of prior tx 2 (1–4)

Response rates



Additional efficacy findings

93% of CRs currently maintained

64% of POD24 patients achieved CR

1 patient received prior CAR-T and achieved CR

67%
18-mo DoCR

92%
12-mo PFS

Lonca was generally well tolerated

%	Any Grade	Grade 3–4
Maculopapular rash	65	4
Increased AST	65	0
Increased ALT	61	9
Increased ALP	48	13
Neutropenia	43	17
Local oedema	43	0
Photosensitivity	30	4
Anaemia	30	4

- 1 patient discontinued treatment†
- 3 patients required Lonca dose reductions
- No treatment-related deaths occurred

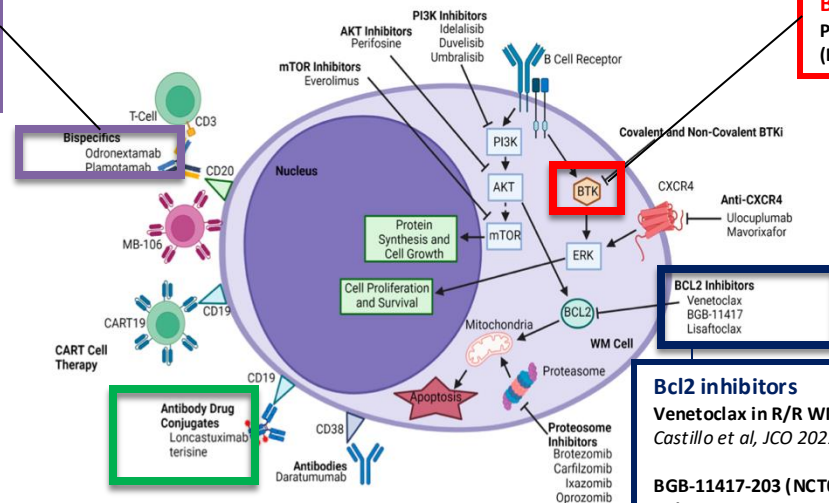
Loncastuximab demonstrates clinically meaningful activity in R/R MZL patients with a robust CR rate and the safety profile is consistent with known adverse events

Emerging treatment options in WM

Bispecific Antibodies

Epcoritamab (NCT06510491) – WM-NET2

Single-arm, multicenter, phase 2 study to evaluate the efficacy and safety of epcoritamab in patients with relapsed or refractory (R/R) WM/LPL
(Von Keudell, ASH 2024)



Non covalent BTKi

Phase I/II study BRUIN

Palomba ASH 2023

BTK-degraders

Phase I/II study CADANCE-101

(BGB-16673-101). Frustaci AM, EHA 2025

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(Yang G et al, Blood 2021)

DFCI-002-06 (dual HCK/BTK PROTAC)

(Liu S et al. ASH 2024)

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Castillo et al, JCO 2021

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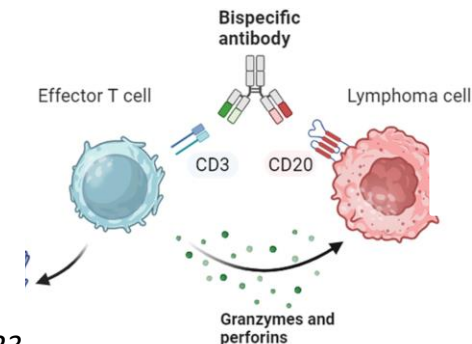
Ab drug conjugates

Loncastuximab terisine (NCT05190705)– WM-NET1

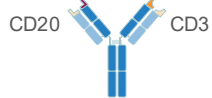
Single-arm, multicenter, phase 2 study to evaluate the efficacy and safety of Lonca in patients with (R/R) WM/LPL
(Castillo et al. ASH 2024)

Bispecific antibodies under advanced development in iNHL

- Harness the **power of a patient's own T cells**
- **Off-the-shelf** products
- T-cell-engaging BsAbs **simultaneously bind to:**
 - **CD20** expressed **on tumor cells**
 - **CD3 on T cells**, resulting in T-cell activation and triggering target-dependent tumor-cell killing



Falchi L et al, Blood 2023

Product Name	Schematic Depiction	Format	Technology	CD20:CD3 Ratio	CD3 Clone	CD20 Clone	Fc Silencing Mutations
Mosunetuzumab		IgG1	Knobs-into-holes (different Fabs)	1:1	UCHT1v9 (CD3δ ϵ)	2H7 (type 1 epitope, identical to rituximab)	N297G (no Fc γ R binding)
Epcoritamab		IgG1	Controlled Fab-arm exchange	1:1	huCACAO (SP34- der) (CD3 ϵ)	7D8 (type 1 epitope, shared by ofatumumab)	L234F, L235E, D265A (no Fc γ R, C1q binding)
Odronextamab		IgG4	Heavy chains with different affinity	1:1	REG1250 (CD3δ ϵ)	3B9-10 (type 1 epitope, shared by ofatumumab)	Modified IgG4 (no Fc γ RIII binding)

Odronextamab in +3L R/R MZL: ELM-2 study

- Phase 2, open-label, multicohort, multicenter study of odronextamab monotherapy in patients with R/R B-NHL (NCT03888105)

Key eligibility criteria

- ≥18 years old
- MZL (extranodal, splenic, or nodal subtype)*
- ECOG PS 0 or 1
- Refractory to, or relapsed after, ≥2 prior lines of systemic therapy

Primary endpoint

- ORR† by ICR

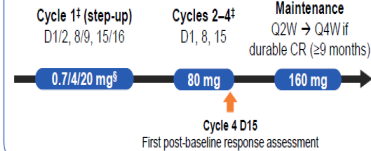
Secondary endpoints

- ORR† by local investigator
- DD,‡ PFS,† and OS
- Safety and tolerability
- Patient-reported outcomes

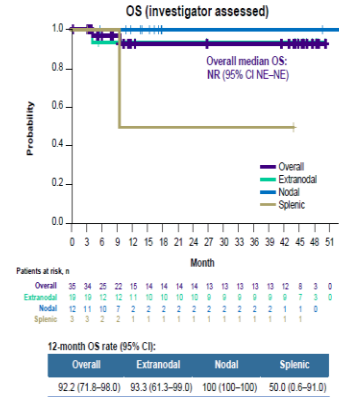
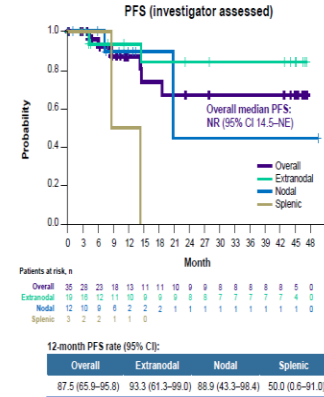
Measures taken to facilitate diverse, inclusive enrollment

- Diverse trial sites
- Translated consents
- Extended screening windows
- Broad eligibility criteria
- Investigator training

Odronextamab IV administration

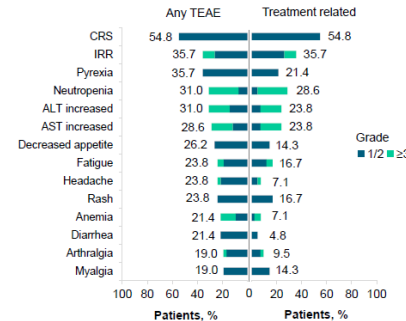


Anti-infection prophylaxis including IVIg supplementation and antivirals was recommended, and PJP prophylaxis was mandated



Best overall response, %*	Overall (n=35)	Extranodal (n=19)	Nodal (n=12)	Splenic (n=3)
Objective response rate (ORR)	77.1 (95% CI 59.9–89.6)	78.9 (95% CI 54.4–93.9)	75.0 (95% CI 42.8–94.5)	100 (95% CI 29.2–100)
Complete response	77.1 (95% CI 59.9–89.6)	78.9 (95% CI 54.4–93.9)	75.0 (95% CI 42.8–94.5)	100 (95% CI 29.2–100)
Partial response	0	0	0	0
Stable disease	8.6	10.5	8.3	0
Progressive disease	0	0	0	0
Not evaluable	14.3	10.5	16.7	0

TEAEs* in ≥15% of patients

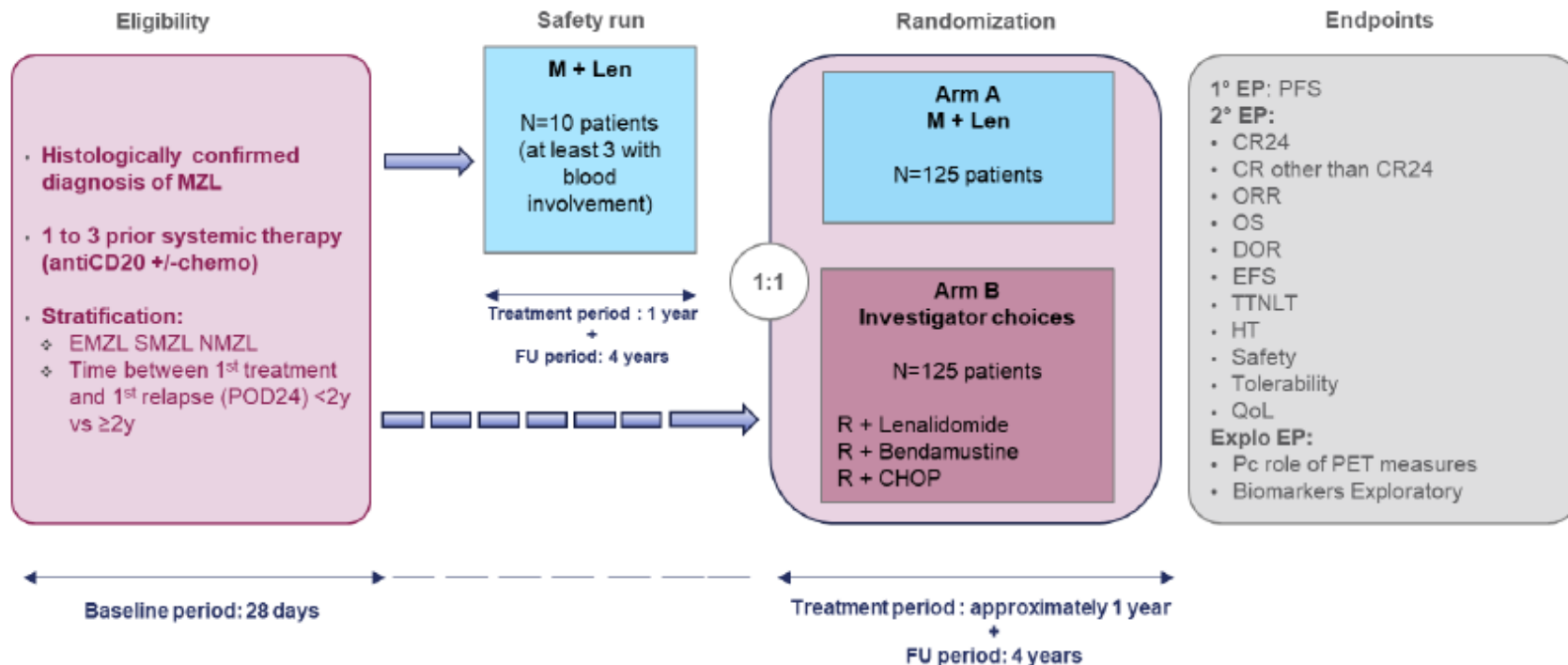


- CRS events all Grade 1/2 generally confined to C1
- No ICANS events reported
- Infections: any grade 69%, grade ≥3 24% (n grade 5)

Efficacy observed across high-risk subgroups (POD24, prior BTKi, double refractory)



Marsun trial: study design/overview



Emerging treatment options in WM

Bispecific Antibodies

Epcoritamab (NCT06510491) – WM-NET2

Single-arm, multicenter, phase 2 study to evaluate the efficacy and safety of epcoritamab in patients with relapsed or refractory (R/R) WM/LPL (Von Keudell, ASH 2024)

CAR-T cells

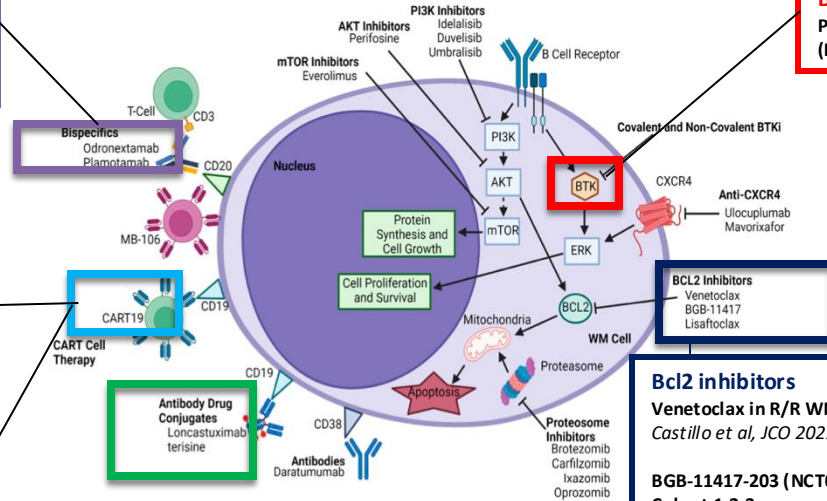
MB-106 (third gen CD20-directed CAR-T therapy)

Phase 1/2 clinical trial with MB-106 at Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center (Till B et al, *Hemasphere*. 2024; Shadman et al. 2023 ASH meeting)

CAR-T cells

ZUMA-25 (NCT05537766)

Efficacy of Brexu-cel in rare B-cell malignancies including WM



Non covalent BTKi

Phase I/II study BRUIN

Palomba ASH 2023

BTK-degraders

Phase I/II study CADANCE-101

(BGB-16673-101). Frustaci AM, EHA 2025

PROTACs

KIN-8194 (dual HCK/BTK PROTAC)

(Yang G et al, *Blood* 2021)

DFCI-002-06 (dual HCK/BTK PROTAC)

(Liu S et al. ASH 2024)

Bcl2 inhibitors

Venetoclax in R/R WM

Castillo et al, *JCO* 2021

BGB-11417-203 (NCT05952037) – Cohort 1-2-3

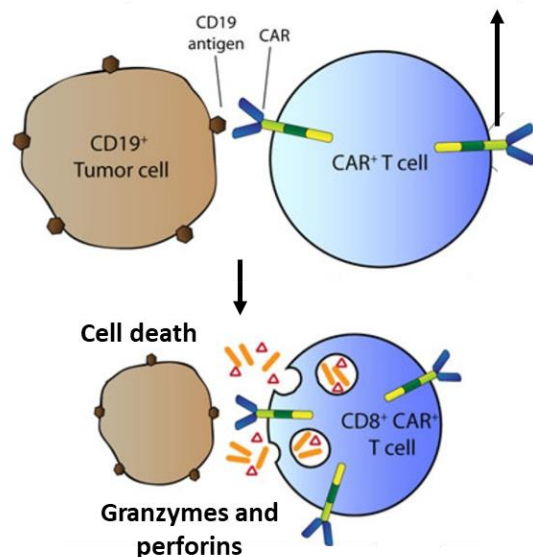
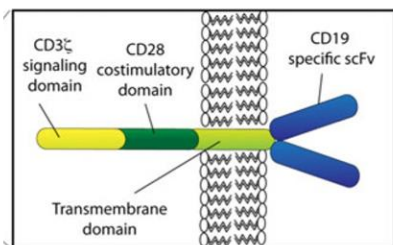
Multicenter, phase 2, open label therapy with Sonrotoclax (BGB-11417) in RR WM pts (Lee et al. *Blood* 2024 (Suppl))

Ab drug conjugates

Loncastuximab terisine (NCT05190705)– WM-NET1

Single-arm, multicenter, phase 2 study to evaluate the efficacy and safety of Lonca in patients with (R/R) WM/LPL (Castillo et al. ASH 2024)

CD19 CAR-T



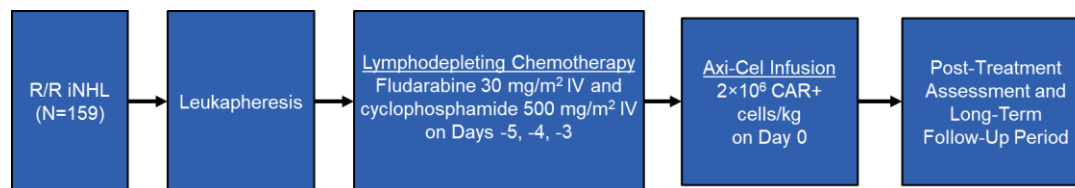
Adapted from Davila M et al, Int J Hematol 2013

CAR T-Cells (ZUMA-5)

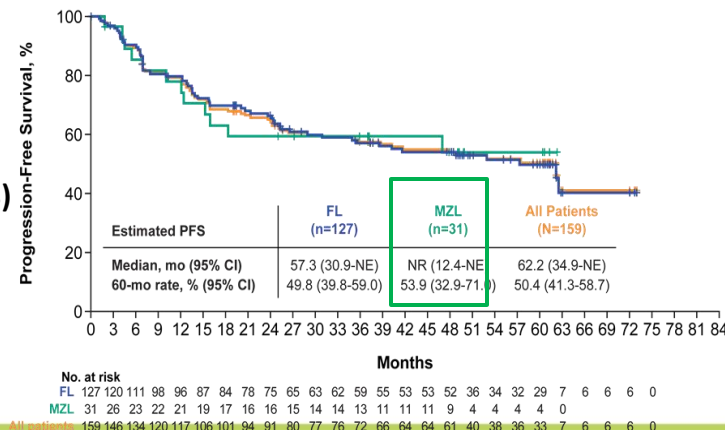
Key ZUMA-5 Eligibility Criteria

- R/R FL (Grades 1-3a) or MZL (nodal or extranodal)
- ≥ 2 prior lines of therapy (anti-CD20 mAb combined with an alkylating agent)

Primary Endpoint: ORR (Lugano criteria)

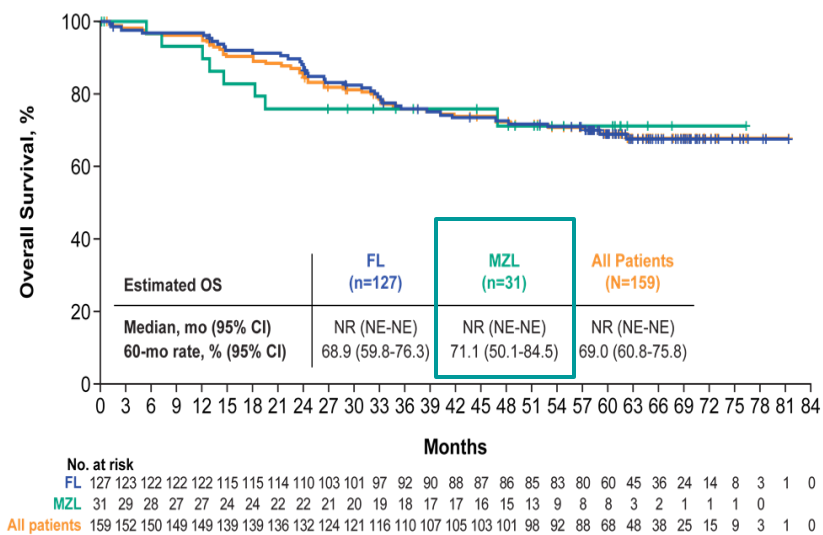


- 124 FL, 31 MZL (POD24 50%)
- Median 3 prior lines (2-8)
- ORR rate in MZL: 75% (CR rate 65%)
- Grade ≥ 3 CRS in MZL: 9%
- **Grade ≥ 3 ICANS in MZL: 36%**
- No Grade 5 ICANS



CAR T-Cells: Axi-cel (ZUMA-5, 5 year follow-up)

Overall Survival



n, (%)	All Patients N=152	Years Post-Axi-Cel Infusion					
		0-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	>5
Patients who died	46 (30)	10 (7)	15 (10)	11 (7)	6 (4)	3 (2)	1 (1)
Relapse mortalities							
Progressive disease	14 (9)	5 (3)	5 (3)	2 (1)	1 (1)	1 (1)	0
Non-PD after PD	9 (6)	1 (1)	3 (2)	4 (3)	1 (1)	0	0
Non-relapse mortalities							
Secondary malignancy ^a	6 (4)	1 (1)	2 (1)	1 (1)	2 (1)	0	0
Cardiac-related	3 (2)	0	1 (1)	0	1 (1)	0	1 (1)
Infection-related ^b	11 (7)	2 (1)	2 (1)	4 (3)	1 (1)	2 (1)	0
Other ^c	3 (2)	1 (1)	2 (1)	0	0	0	0

- Median OS was NR in MZL; the 60-month OS rate in MZL was 71.1%

Neelapu et al. ASH 2024 Abstract #864

Conclusions and perspectives

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- should chemo-free regimens be used frontline instead of CIT in WM?

- predictive tools for selection of the best treatment for each patient

- risk-adapted approach (higher risk in iNHL acceptable only for higher risk patients)

