



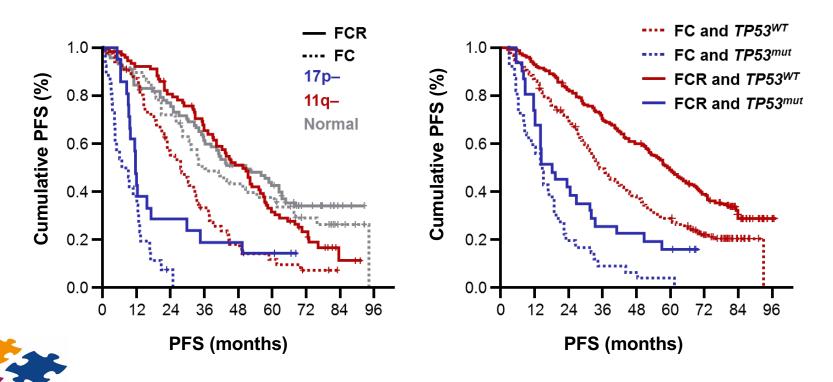
## NUOVI BTKI PER LA LEUCEMIA LINFATICA CRONICA: MECCANISMI D'AZIONE E PROSPETTIVE TERAPEUTICHE

Chiara Salvetti U.O. Clinica Ematologica I.R.C.C.S. Ospedale Policlinico San Martino, Genova

# Patients with TP53 aberrations do poorly on standard chemotherapy

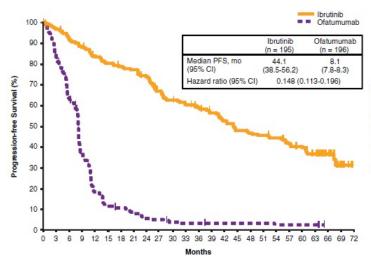
CLL8: FCR vs. FC as first-line treatment for CLL (N=817)

Follow up: 70 months

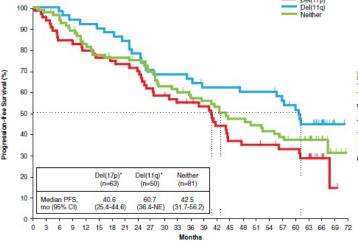


# Ibrutinib monotherapy in R/R CLL: up to 6 years of follow-up from the RESONATE study

#### Phase III RESONATE study – ibrutinib vs ofatumumab in R/R CLL (n=391)

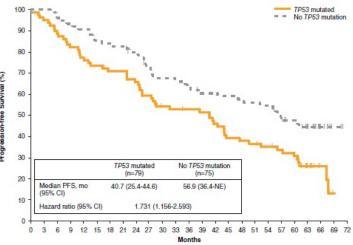


ITT population Median PFS: 44.1 months



Median PFS **Del17: 40.6 months**Del11: 60.7 months

No del17/no del11: 42.7 months



Median PFS TP53 mut: 40.7 months

No TP53 mut: 56.9 months

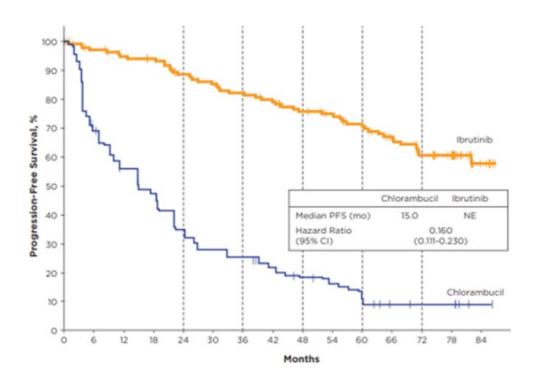


# Ibrutinib monotherapy in TN CLL: up to 7 years of follow-up from the RESONATE-2 study

#### Phase III RESONATE-2 study – ibrutinib vs chlorambucil

#### Previously untreated CLL (n=269)

Age ≥65, ineligible to fludarabine containing regimen, NO del(17p)

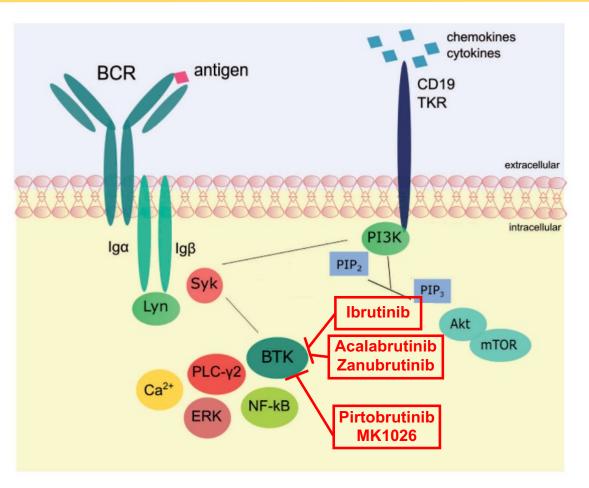


Median PFS: NR vs 15 months

7 years estimated PFS: 61% vs 9%



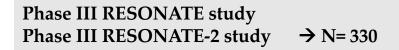
## **B Cell Receptor Signaling Pathway**







## Long term safety of ibrutinib monotherapy in CLL



Atrial fibrillation
Hyponatremia
3 3

20

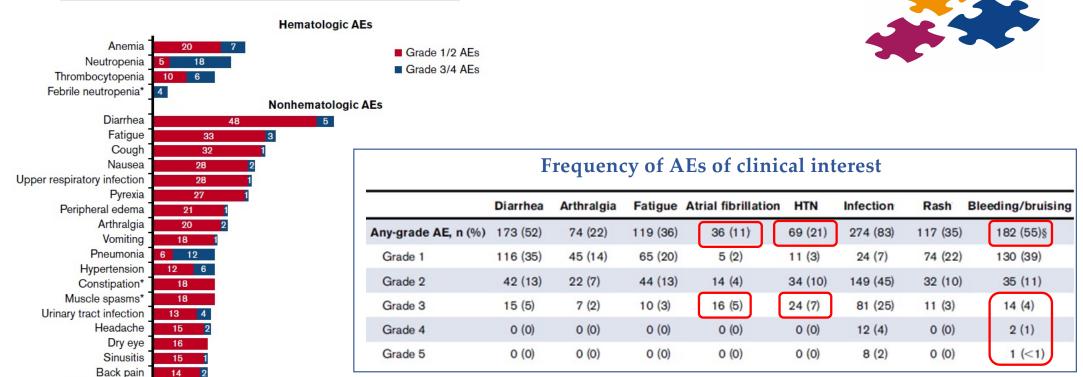
40

60

Patients, %

80

100



## Ibrutinib: BTK inhibition and other targets

Ibrutinib 420 mg once daily → Sustained and complete BTK occupancy (>95%)

#### Ibrutinib also inhibits other targets at lower potency

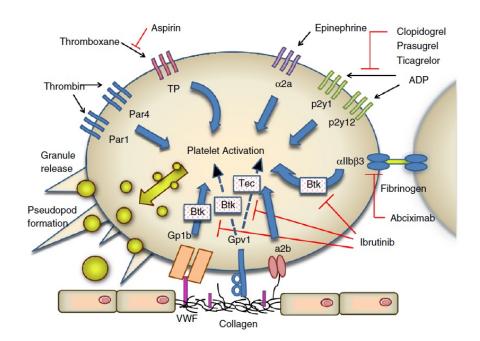
<u>C-terminal SRC kinase (CSK)</u> → expressed in cardiac tissue → possible role in atrial fibrillation

<u>EGFR</u> → involved in cutaneous, vascular and gastrointestinal toxicity

- → Rash
- → Hypertension
- → Diarroeha

<u>TEC family kinases</u> → involved in platelet activation through glycoprotein(GP)VI signaling

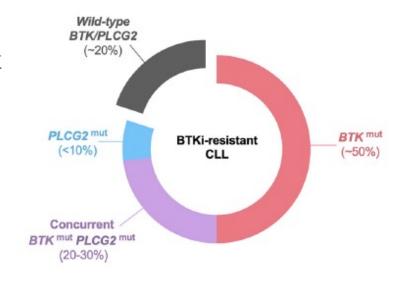
**BTK** has also a direct role in von Willebrand factor adhesion to GPib-IX-V (on target effect)



Ahn IE and Brown JR, Front Immunol 2021; Shatzel JJ et al. J Throm Haemost 2017

## **BTKi resistant CLL**

- BTK mutation is the most common mutation (50% of patients as BTK mutation alone and 20-30% with coexisting PLCgamma2 mutation)
- >10% of the patients have PLCG2 mutation alone
- 20% of patients do not have detectable BTK or PLCG2 mutation at progression





## **Novel BTKi**



- Acalabrutinib
- **Zanubrutinib** → 2<sup>nd</sup> generation BTKi
- Pirtobrutinib
- MK-1026  $\rightarrow$  3<sup>rd</sup> generation BTKi (non-covalent)

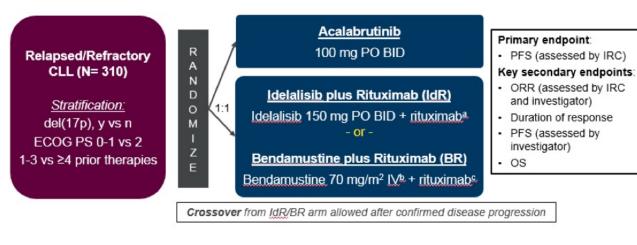


## Acalabrutinib

- 2<sup>nd</sup> generation covalent (irreversible) BTKi
- Rapid oral absorption & short half-life (1 hour) → 100 mg twice daily administration
- Absence of irreversible targeting to EGFR, TEC and C-terminal Src kinase
- Weaker at inhibiting GP VI signaling and collagen-mediated platelet aggregation compared to ibrutinib
- → Less toxic effects from inhibition of alternative kinases
- → <u>complete and continuous level of drug binding to BTK</u> (improved BTK occupancy of 97% before dose administration)



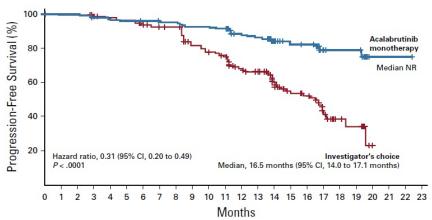
## **Acalabrutinib: ASCEND trial**

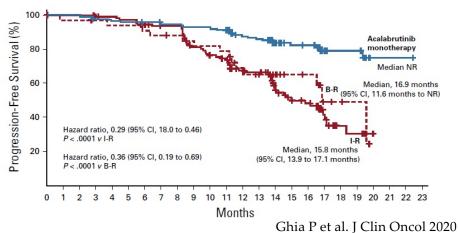


N° of prior therapies: 1 (1-8) IGHV UM 78% Del17 16% TP53 mut 24%

Median follow-up: 16.1 months ORR 81% vs 75%

Median PFS: NR vs 16 months

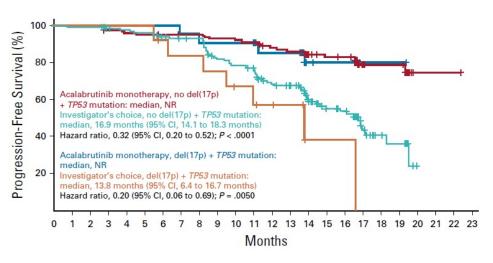


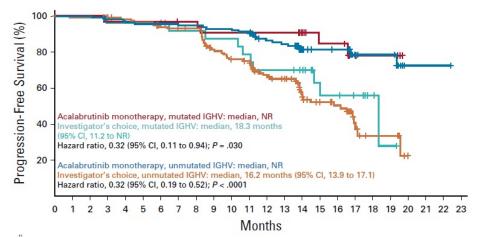


## **Acalabrutinib: ASCEND trial**

#### Acalabrutinib vs investigator choice

PFS by del(17p) plus TP53 mutation status and IGHV mutation status





No del17/TP53 mut: median PFS NR vs 16.9 months

**Del17+TP53mut**: median PFS NR vs 13.8 months

**IGHV M:** median PFS NR vs 18.3 months

IGHV UM: median PFS NR vs 16.2 months



## **Acalabrutinib: ASCEND trial**

Most common AEs observed in >10% of patients in any treatment group or ≥G3 in >5% in any treatment group

	Acalabrutinib Monotherapy (n = 154)		Idelalisib Plus Rituximab (n = 118)		Bendamustine Plus Rituximab $(n = 35)$				
AE	Grade 1-2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 1-2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 1-2	Grade 3	Grade 4
Entire study									
All	68 (44)	48 (31)	22 (14)	11 (9)	59 (50)	42 (36)	11 (31)	8 (23)	7 (20)
Neutropenia	6 (4)	14 (9)	10 (6)	6 (5)	24 (20)	23 (19)	1 (3)	5 (14)	6 (17)
Diarrhea	26 (17)	2(1)	0	27 (23)	26 (22)	2 (2)	5 (14)	0	0
Pyrexia	18 (12)	1 (1)	0	13 (11)	7 (6)	1 (1)	5 (14)	1 (3)	0
Cough	23 (15)	0	0	17 (14)	1(1)	0	2 (6)	0	0
Upper respiratory tract infection	19 (12)	3 (2)	0	13 (11)	4 (3)	0	3 (9)	1 (3)	0
Headache	33 (21)	1(1)	0	7 (6)	0	0	0	0	0
Thrombocytopenia	11 (7)	2 (1)	4 (3)	7 (6)	7 (6)	2 (2)	4 (11)	0	1 (3)
Anemia	5 (3)	16 (10)	2(1)	2 (2)	8 (7)	0	1 (3)	3 (9)	0
Fatigue	13 (8)	2 (1)	0	10 (8)	0	0	7 (20)	1 (3)	0
Nausea	11 (7)	0	0	14 (12)	1(1)	0	7 (20)	0	0
Pneumonia	8 (5)	8 (5)	0	4 (3)	10 (8)	0	1 (3)	1 (3)	0
Rash	10 (6)	0	0	12 (10)	4 (3)	0	2 (6)	0	0
Constipation	10 (6)	0	0	9 (8)	0	0	3 (9)	2 (6)	0
Respiratory tract infection	14 (9)	1(1)	1(1)	7 (6)	1(1)	0	0	0	0
ALT increased	1 (1)	2 (1)	0	4 (3)	9 (8)	1(1)	2 (6)	1 (3)	0
Infusion-related reaction	0	0	0	7 (6)	2 (2)	0	7 (20)	1 (3)	0
AST increased	2 (1)	1 (1)	0	5 (4)	6 (5)	0	1 (3)	1 (3)	0
Neutrophil count decreased	1 (1)	1(1)	1(1)	0	3 (3)	6 (5)	0	0	1 (3)
Transaminases increased	0	0	0	1 (1)	6 (5)	0	0	0	0

#### AEs leading to dose reduction

(Acala vs R-idela vs R-benda) 3% vs 24% vs 17%

#### AEs of clinical interest

(acala vs investigator choice)

#### Bleeding (any grade)

26% vs 7%

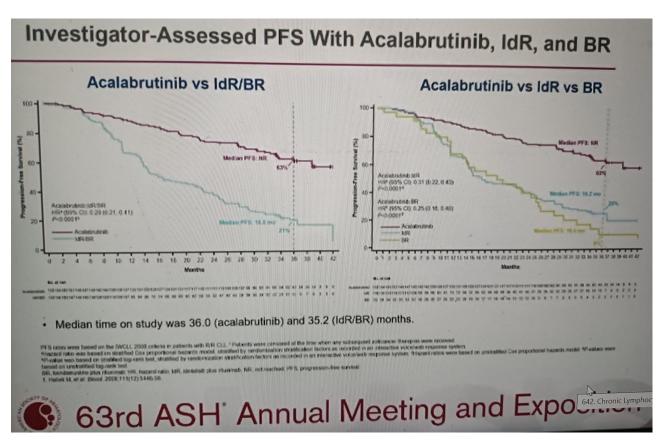
Major hemorrhage (G3-G4)

1% vs 2%

Atrial fibrillation (any grade)

5% vs 3%

## ASCEND trial: 3 years update (ASH 2021)

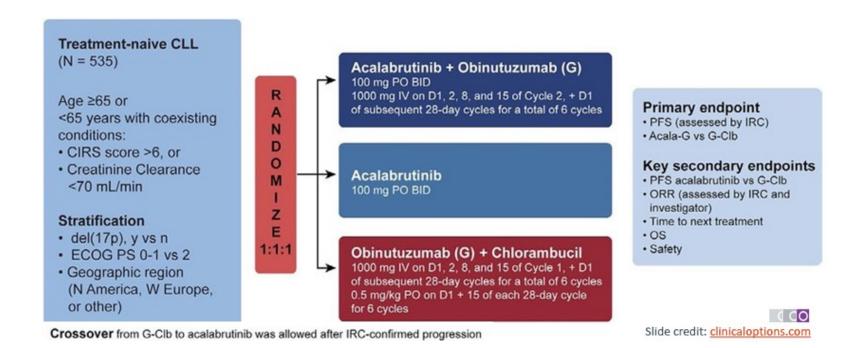


#### Acalabrutinib 36-month PFS rate: 66%

Median PFS: NR vs 16 months

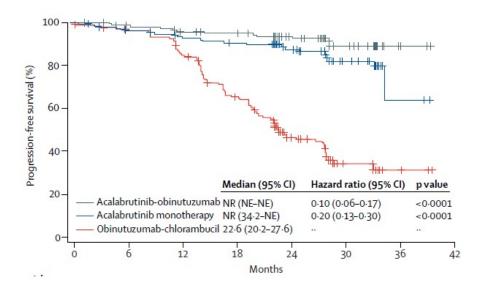
Median PFS in del17 pts: NR vs 13.8 months

## **Acalabrutinib: ELEVATE-TN trial**





## Acalabrutinib: ELEVATE-TN trial

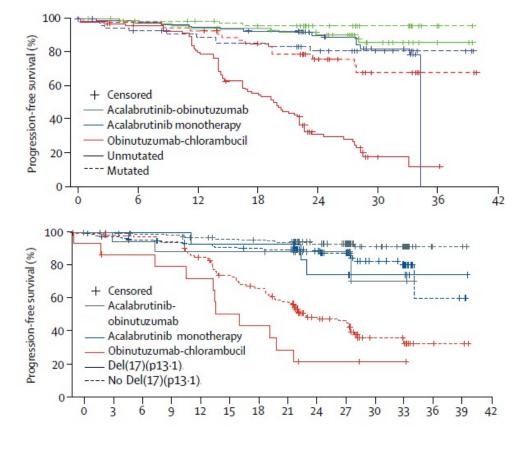


Median follow-up: 28.3 months

Median PFS: NR vs NR vs 22.6 m

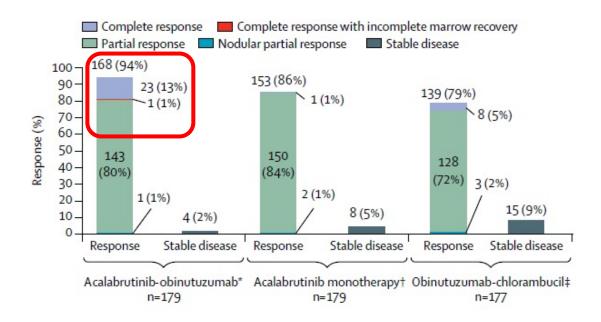
Estimated PFS @24 m: 93% vs 87% vs 47%





Sharman JP et al. Lancet 2020

## **Acalabrutinib: ELEVATE-TN trial**



ORR: Acala + G 94% Acala 86% Chl + G 79%



## Acalabrutinib: ELEVATE-RR trial

# Phase III ELEVATE-RR Trial of Ibrutinib vs Acalabrutinib in Patients With High-Risk R/R CLL

A randomized, multicenter, open-label, noninferiority phase III trial

Patients del(17p) or del11q
CLL with active disease;
≥ 1 previous line of tx (no
prior exposure to a BCL-2
inhibitor or B-cell receptor
signaling inhibitor);
ECOG PS 0-2
(N = 533)



Primary endpoint: PFS

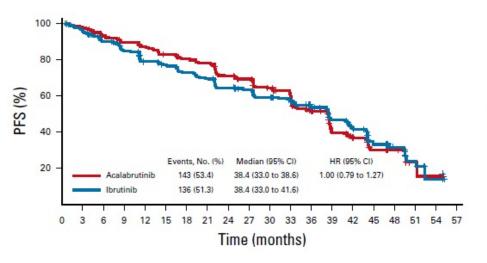
Secondary endpoints: OS; incidence of tx-emergent AEs, atrial fibrillation;
 Richter's transformation

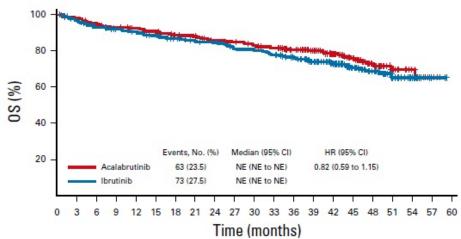
Slide credit: clinicaloptions.com

Characteristic	Acalabrutinib (n = 268)	Ibrutinib (n $= 265$ )
No. of prior therapies		
Median (range)	2 (1-9)	2 (1-12)
1-3	234 (87.3)	237 (89.4)
4 or more	33 (12.3)	28 (10.6)
Chromosome 17p13.1 deletion	121 (45.1)	120 (45.3)
Chromosome 11q22.3 deletion	167 (62.3)	175 (66.0)
Complex karyotype <sup>a</sup>	124 (46.3)	125 (47.2)
TP53 mutational status		
Mutated	100 (37.3)	112 (42.3)
Unmutated	167 (62.3)	153 (57.7)
IGHV mutational status		
Mutated	44 (16.4)	28 (10.6)
Unmutated	220 (82.1)	237 (89.4)



## **Acalabrutinib: ELEVATE-RR trial**





Median PFS 38.4 months in both arms





## Acalabrutinib: ELEVATE-RR trial

		rutinib 266)	Ibrutinib (n = 263)		
Event	Any Grade	Grade ≥ 3	Any Grade	Grade ≥ 3	
Diarrhea <sup>a,b</sup>	92 (34.6)	3 (1.1)	121 (46.0)	13 (4.9)	
Headache <sup>a,b</sup>	92 (34.6)	4 (1.5)	53 (20.2)	0	
Cougha	77 (28.9)	2 (0.8)	56 (21.3)	1 (0.4)	
Upper respiratory tract infection	71 (26.7)	5 (1.9)	65 (24.7)	1 (0.4)	
Pyrexia	62 (23.3)	8 (3.0)	50 (19.0)	2 (0.8)	
Anemia	58 (21.8)	31 (11.7)	49 (18.6)	34 (12.9	
Neutropenia	56 (21.1)	52 (19.5)	65 (24.7)	60 (22.8	
Fatigue <sup>b</sup>	54 (20.3)	9 (3.4)	44 (16.7)	0	
Arthralgia <sup>a</sup>	42 (15.8)	0	60 (22.8)	2 (0.8)	
Hypertension <sup>a,b</sup>	23 (8.6)	11 (4.1)	60 (22.8)	23 (8.7)	
Nausea	47 (17.7)	0	49 (18.6)	1 (0.4)	
Pneumonia	47 (17.7)	28 (10.5)	43 (16.3)	23 (8.7)	
Thrombocytopenia	40 (15.0)	26 (9.8)	35 (13.3)	18 (6.8)	
Dyspnea	37 (13.9)	6 (2.3)	23 (8.7)	1 (0.4)	
Contusion <sup>a</sup>	31 (11.7)	0	48 (18.3)	1 (0.4)	
Vomiting	28 (10.5)	1 (0.4)	36 (13.7)	3 (1.1)	
Peripheral edema	26 (9.8)	0	38 (14.4)	1 (0.4)	
Rash	26 (9.8)	2 (0.8)	33 (12.5)	0	
Myalgia	25 (9.4)	2 (0.8)	27 (10.3)	1 (0.4)	
Atrial fibrillation <sup>a</sup>	24 (9.0)	12 (4.5)	41 (15.6)	9 (3.4)	
Urinary tract infection <sup>a</sup>	22 (8.3)	3 (1.1)	36 (13.7)	6 (2.3)	
Back pain <sup>a</sup>	20 (7.5)	0	34 (12.9)	2 (0.8)	
Epistaxis	19 (7.1)	1 (0.4)	28 (10.6)	1 (0.4)	

Most common AEs observed in >10% (any grade) or ≥5% (G3 or higher) of patients in either treatment arm

<u>Discontinuation because of AEs:</u> Acalabrutinib 14.7% Ibrutinib 21.3%



<u>Treatment discontinuation because of cardiovascular events</u> was 5-fold higher with ibrutinib compared to acalabrutinib

## Acalabrutinib in CLL patients who are intolerant to ibrutinib

#### 33 CLL patients

Median duration of prior ibrutinib treatment: 11.6 months Median time from ibrutinib discontinuation to acalabrutinib start 47 days Median f.up 19 months

#### 23 patients remained on acalabrutinib

10 discontinued (progressive disease  $\rightarrow$  5 pts; AEs  $\rightarrow$  3 pts)

Of 61 ibrutinib-related AEs associated with intolerance:

72% did not recur

13% recurred at a lower grade with acalabrutinib

**ORR:** 76%

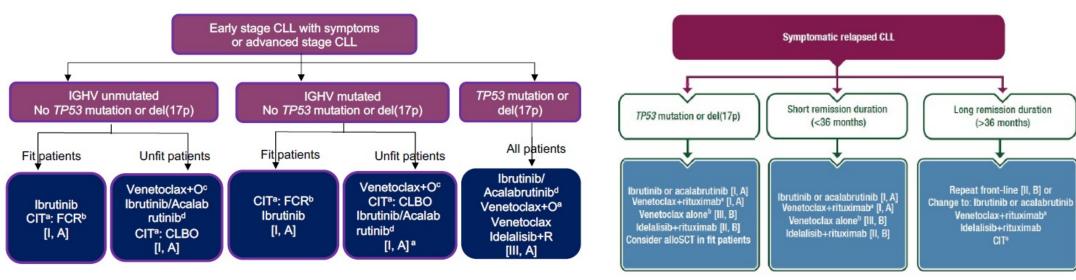
Among 25 responders: median PFS not reached; 1-year PFS 83.4%



## ESMO clinical practice guidelines 2021

#### **Treatment-naive**

## Relapsed/refractory



CIT: chemoimmunotherapy; Obin: obinutuzumab; CLBO: Chlorambucil plus Obinutuzumab; R: rituximab; <sup>a</sup> Chemoimmunotherapy as alternative treatment only if no TP53 dysfunction and reasons against continuous treatment with ibrutinib or non-availability; <sup>b</sup> BR might be considered alternatively in patients above the age of 65 years; <sup>c</sup> If available; <sup>d</sup> if approved and available.



## Zanubrutinib (BGB-3111)

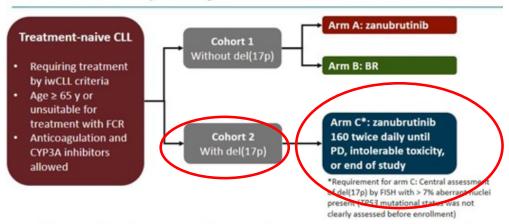
- 2<sup>nd</sup> generation covalent (irreversible) BTKi
- Short half-life, but longer than acalabrutinib (4 hours vs 1 hour)
  - → 160 mg twice daily administration
  - → Blocks newly synthesized BTK as well as preexisting BTK protein
- Absence of irreversible targeting to EGFR and C-terminal Src Kinase (does have TEC inhibition)
- Allowed coadministration with azole antifungals at a reduced dose, **proton pump** inhibitors and acid reducing agents)
  - → <u>Less toxic effects</u>
  - → <u>Blockade of BTK resynthesis</u>
  - → Favorable drug-drug interaction profile



## Zanubrutinib: SEQUOIA trial

Open-label, multi center, randomized phase III study

#### SEQUOIA Study Design



**Endpoints for Arm C:** ORR (IRC and investigator assessments), PFS, DoR, safety

Tam CS, et al. ASH 2019. Abstract 499.

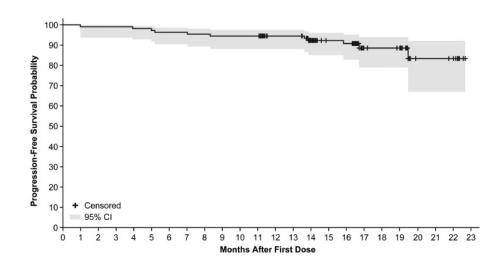


## <u>Arm C (n= 109)</u>

TN CLL/SLL with del(17p)

ORR 94.5%

Estimated PFS @18 months: 88.6%



## Zanubrutinib: SEQUOIA trial

Most common adverse events regardless of causality. Adverse events of any grade occurring in  $\ge 5\%$  of patients and all grade  $\ge 3$  adverse events occurring in  $\ge 2\%$  of patients are shown.

Term	Any Grade	Grade 1/2	Grade 3 n (%)	Grade 4	Grade 5
Patients with at least one AE	106 (97.2)	53 (48.6)	44 (40.4)	7 (6.4)	2 (1.8)
Hematologic AE					
Neutropenia	13 (11.9)	3 (2.8)	7 (6.4)	3 (2.8)	0 (0)
Neutrophil count decreased	6 (5.5)	2 (1.8)	1 (0.9)	3 (2.8)	0 (0)
Nonhematologic AE					
Contusion	22 (20.2)	22 (20.1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Upper respiratory tract infection	21 (19.3)	21 (19.3)	0(0)	0(0)	0 (0)
Diarrhea	18 (16.5)	17 (15.6)	1 (0.9)	0(0)	0 (0)
Nausea	16 (14.7)	16 (14.7)	0(0)	0(0)	0 (0)
Constipation	15 (13.8)	15 (13.8)	0 (0)	0(0)	0 (0)
Rash	15 (13.8)	15 (13.8)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Back pain	14 (12.8)	13 (11.9)	1 (0.9)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Cough	13 (11.9)	13 (11.9)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Arthralgia	12 (11.0)	12 (11.0)	0 (0)	0(0)	0 (0)
Fatigue	11 (10.1)	10 (9.2)	1 (0.9)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Dyspepsia	10 (9.2)	10 (9.2)	0 (0)	0(0)	0 (0)
Headache	9 (8.3)	8 (7.3)	1 (0.9)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Pneumonia	9 (8.3)	5 (4.6)	3 (2.8)	0 (0)	1 (0.9)
Abdominal pain	8 (7.3)	8 (7.3)	0(0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Dyspnea	8 (7.3)	8 (7.3)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Epistaxis	8 (7.3)	7 (6.4)	1 (0.9)	0(0)	0 (0)
Hematuria	8 (7.3)	6 (5.5)	2 (1.8)	0(0)	0 (0)
Nasopharyngitis	8 (7.3)	8 (7.3)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0(0)
Pruritus	8 (7.3)	8 (7.3)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Pyrexia	8 (7.3)	7 (6.4)	1 (0.9)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Hypertension	7 (6.4)	5 (4.6)	2 (1.8)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Hematoma	6 (5.5)	6 (5.5)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Musculoskeletal pain	6 (5.5)	5 (4.6)	1 (0.9)	0 (0)	0 (0)

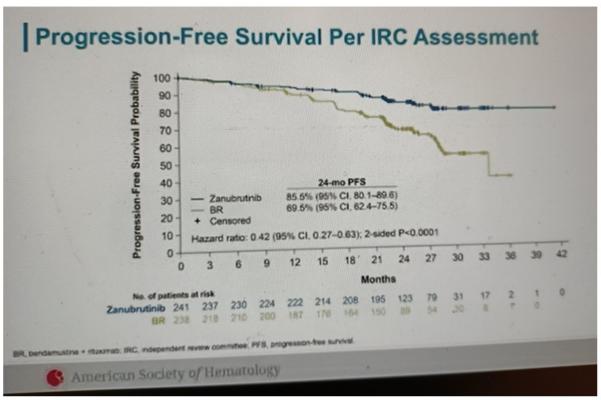
#### **AEs of clinical interest:**

Atrial fibrillation = 2.4%Bleeding (any type, any grade) = 47.7%Major hemorrhage (G $\geq$ 3) = 5.4%

[Antiplatelet or anticoagulant (including warfarin): 43% of pts]



## Zanubrutinib: SEQUOIA trial (ASH 2021)



#### **24-months PFS:**

85.5% vs 69.5%



### **Zanubrutinib: ALPINE trial**

## ALPINE: Phase 3, Randomized Study of Zanubrutinib vs Ibrutinib in Patients With Relapsed/Refractory CLL or SLL

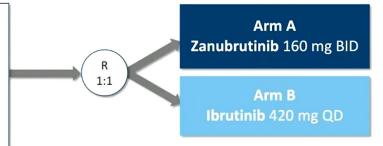
#### R/R CLL/SLL with ≥ 1 prior treatment (Planned N=600, Actual N=652)

#### **Key Inclusion Criteria**

- R/R to ≥1 prior systemic therapy for CLL/SLL
- Measurable lymphadenopathy by CT or MRI

#### **Key Exclusion Criteria**

- Current or past Richter's transformation
- Prior BTK inhibitor therapy
- Treatment with warfarin or other vitamin K antagonists



#### **Stratification Factors**

- Age
- · Geographic region
- Refractory status
- Del(17p)/TP53 mutation status

Pre-planned interim analysis scheduled 12 months after the first 415/652 patients were enrolled



### **Zanubrutinib: ALPINE trial**

Median follow-up: 15 months

Zanubrutinib vs ibrutinib:

#### **Efficacy**

ORR 78.3% vs 62.5%

12-mo PFS: 94.9% vs 84.0%

#### **Safety**

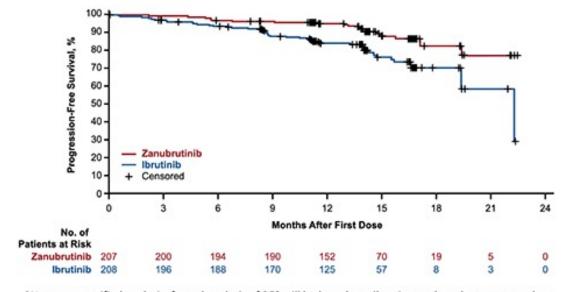
Atrial fibrillation/flutter: 2.5% vs 10.1%

Major bleeding: 2.9% vs 3.9%

Neutropenia 28.4% vs 21.7%

Grade ≥3 infections 12.7% vs 17.9%

Adverse events leading to discontinuation 7.8% vs 13.0%

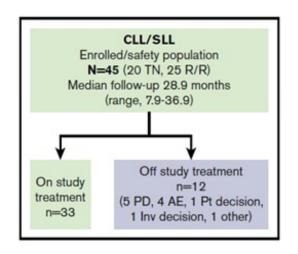


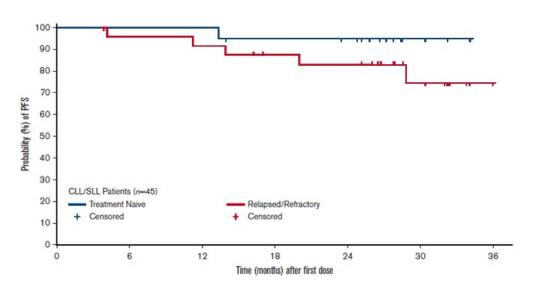
\*Not a prespecified analysis; formal analysis of PFS will be based on all patients when the target number of events are reached.



## Phase 1 trial: zanubrutinib + obinotuzumab

Zanubrutinib plus obinotuzumab in TN or R/R CLL & TN follicular lymphoma



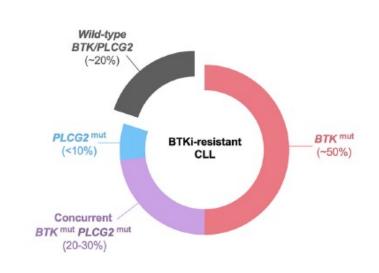


ORR 100% (30% CR) for TN patients 92% (28% CR) for R/R patients



## 3<sup>rd</sup> generation non-covalent BTKi

	Pirtobrutinib (LOXO-305)	MK-1026
IC <sub>50</sub> *	3.15 nM (BTK WT)	0.85 nM (BTK WT)
	1.42 nM (BTK C481)	0.39 nM (BTK C481)
Biochemical IC <sub>50</sub>	BTK C481 1.42nM (1x)	BTK C481 0.39nM (1x)
(Selectivity)*	ITK 103nM (3521x)	ITK >10,000nM (>10,000x)
	EGFR >1,000nM (>700x)	TEC 5.8nM (14.9x)
	TEC 1,234nM (869x)	LYN 19nM (48.7x)
		SYK, not specified
		MEK1/ERK, indirect
Clinical trials in CLL and B cell malignancies	Phase 1, 2	Phase 1, Phase 2 pending
Comment	Highly selective	Active against PLOG2 mutation



#### **Pirtobrutinib**

- Most specific to BTK with little to no effect on other targets
- Effective in the presence of BTK C481 mutation

#### **MK-1026**

- Inhibits SYK and LYN; indirectly inhibits MEK1/ERK
- Effective in the presence of BTK C481 mutation and PLCγ2 mutation



## Pirtobrutinib in B-cell malignancies: phase 1 / 2 trial

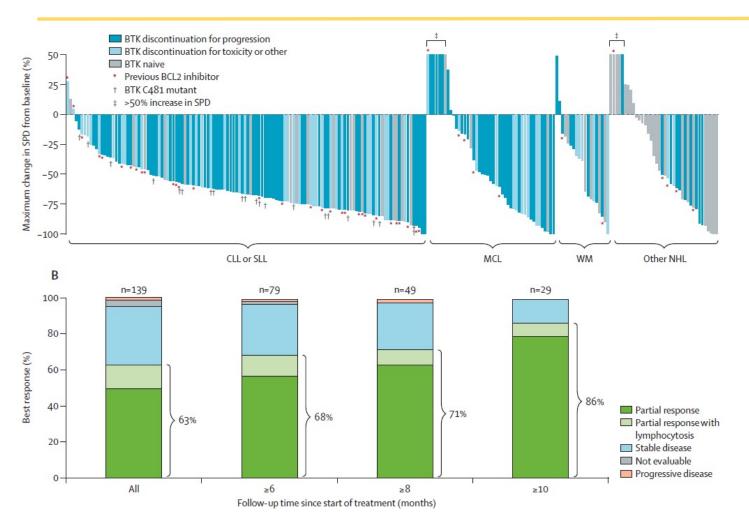
B-cell malignancies: ≥ 2 previous lines of therapy
Protocol amendment → patients with CLL/SLL: ≥ 1 previous line of therapy that included a BTKi

	All (n=323)	CLL or SLL (n=170)			
Age, years	68 (62–74)	69 (62–73)			
Number of previous lines of systemic therapy					
All patients	3 (2-5)	3 (2-5)			
BTK pretreated	3 (2-5)	4 (2-5)			
Previous therapy					
BTK inhibitor	245 (76%)	146 (86%)			
Chemotherapy	282 (87%)	140 (82%)			
Anti-CD20 antibody	302 (94%)	153 (90%)			
BCL2 inhibitor	81 (25%)	57 (34%)			
PI3K inhibitor	51 (16%)	36 (21%)			
Lenalidomide	45 (14%)	14 (8%)			
Autologous stem- cell transplant	22 (7%)	0			
Allogeneic stem-cell transplant	8 (3%)	3 (2%)			
CART-cell therapy	22 (7%)	10 (6%)			
Reason discontinued any previous BTK inhibitor‡§					
Progressive disease	173 (71%)	98 (67%)			
Toxicity or other¶	70 (29%)	48 (33%)			

- Pirtobrutinib orally once daily in 28-day cycles
- Seven dose levels explored in the phase 1 cohort (203 patients)
- 200 mg once per day in the phase 2 cohort (120 CLL patients)



## Pirtobrutinib in B-cell malignancies: phase 1/2 trial



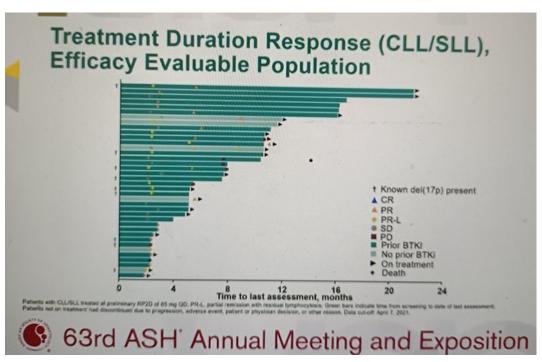
## Efficacy in CLL patients (median f.up 6 months)

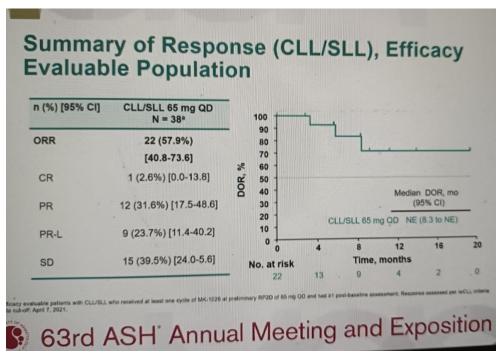
- ORR 63%
- ORR in BTK-pretreated patients: 62%
- ORR was similar in patients with or without BTK C481 mutation



Mato AR et al. Lancet 2021

## MK-1026 in B-Cell Malignancies (ASH 2021)





Phase 2 dose of MK-1026: 65 mg once daily **51 patients with CLL** 

Median number of prior therapies: 4 (1-18) 84% of patients had prior BTKi therapy 63% had C481s BTK mutation

Median f.up 4,5 months **ORR 57.9**%

## **Conclusions**

- Patients with TP53 aberrations have comparable PFS to non-TP53 aberrant patients when treated with BTK inhibitors
- Second generation BTK inhibitors are more specific to BTK with little effect on other targets
   → improved safety profile
- First data on third generation (non covalent) BTK inhibitors show efficacy against BTK-mutated CLL
- Longer follow-up are needed to determine whether more effective and selective blockade of BTK translates to deeper and more durable response





## Grazie per l'attenzione!

