Inibitori di BCL2: meccanismo di azione e nuove prospettive terapeutiche

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Molecular Biotechnology Center





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TARGETING THE EVASION OF APOPTOSIS THROUGH THE INHIBITION OF BCL-2



Evasion of Apoptosis, or Cell Death, is One Hallmark of Cancer



Figure adapted from Hanahan D & Weinberg RA. Cell 2011; 144:646–674.

Different cell death modalities



Kepp O et al., Nat Rev Drug Discov. 2011 Mar;10(3):221-37

Cell Death



Apoptosis

Autophagy

Necrosis

Programmed cell death. Death cycle is programmed by the cell itself 'Self-eating' Catabolic process involving lysosomes. [•]Death' caused by external factors like trauma or toxins. Not programmed.

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Regulation of apoptosis by BCL-2 family members



adapted from Delbridge AR et al., Cell Death Differ. 2015 Jul;22(7):1071-8

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Increased Bcl-2 expression in malignant cells



The Overexpression of BCL-2 Protein Allows Malignant Cells to Evade Apoptosis³

• BCL-2 binds and sequesters a surplus of pro-apoptotic proteins³



Increased expression of BCL-2 enables survival of malignant cells⁸⁻¹²

Cory S, et al. Oncogene 2003; 22:8590–8607; 2. Hanahan D & Weinberg RA. Cell 2000; 100:57–70; 3. Plati J, et al. Integr Biol (Camb) 2011; 3:279–296;
 Fulda S. Int J Cell Biol 2010; 2010:370835; 5. Del Gaizo Moore V, et al. J Clin Invest 2007; 117:112–121; 6. Adams JM & Cory S. Oncogene 2007; 26:1324–1337;
 Reed JC. Blood 2008; 111:3322–3330; 8. Choi J, et al. Cancer Res 2005; 65:5554–5560; 9. Takaoka A, et al. Oncogene 1997; 14:2971–2977;

10. Biroccio A, et al. FASEB J 2000; **14:**652–660; 11. Warner KA, et al. Neoplasia 2008; **10:**131–139; 12. Vanasse GJ, et al. Mol Cancer Res 2004; **2:**620–631; 13. Schmitt CA, et al. Nat Med 2000; **6:**1029–1035; 14. Wacheck V, et al. Oligonucleotides 2003; **13:**393–400;

15. Mohammad RM, et al. Clin Cancer Res 2007; 13:2226–2235; 16. O'Brien S, et al. J Clin Oncol 2007; 25:1114–1120.

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Timeline from BCL2 discovery to the development of specific BCL2 inhibitors



Pekarski T et al. Cell Death Differ. 2017 Oct 6 [Epub ahead of print]

Venetoclax Is a Selective Inhibitor of BCL-2¹

- Venetoclax (ABT-199/GDC-0199) is a selective, orally available, small-molecule BCL-2 inhibitor that helps to restore apoptosis independent of *TP53* functional status^{1,2}
- Venetoclax is structurally designed to bind BCL-2 in a manner analogous to native pro-apoptotic factors¹



Characteristics of small molecules that target BCL-2

Compound	Targets	Affinity
BCL-2 inhibitors		
ABT-737	BCL-2, BCL-X _L and BCL-W	Subnanomolar to nanomolar
Navitoclax (also known as ABT-263)	BCL-2, BCL-X _L and BCL-W	Subnanomolar to nanomolar
BM-1197	BCL-2 and BCL-X _L	Subnanomolar
S44563	BCL-2 and BCL-X _L	Nanomolar
BCL2-32	BCL-2 and BCL-X _L	Nanomolar
AZD4320	BCL-2 and BCL-X _L	≤1nM
Venetoclax (also known as ABT-199)	BCL-2	Subnanomolar
S55746 (also known as BCL201)	BCL-2	Nanomolar



Croce CM et al., Cancer Res. 2016; 76(20):5914-20

Ashkenazi A et al., Nat Rev Drug Discov. 2017 Apr;16(4):273-284

Venetoclax Restores Apoptosis by Helping to Release Sequestered Pro-Apoptotic Proteins^{1–4}

 Venetoclax inhibits BCL-2 and can contribute to releasing the store of pro-apoptotic proteins, helping tip the balance in favor of cell death^{1–3}



Cory S, et al. Oncogene 2003; 22:8590–8607; 2. Plati J, et al. Integr Biol (Camb) 2011; 3:279–296;
 Deng J, et al. Cancer Cell 2007; 12:171–185; 4. Certo M, et al. Cancer Cell 2006; 9:351–365.

BH3-mimetics bypass the requirement for upstream initiators



Delbridge AR et al., Cell Death Differ. 2015 Jul;22(7):1071-8

Venetoclax Restores Apoptosis Independently of p53 and the BCR Pathway



Next Steps:

- Venetoclax + anti-CD20 (Rituximab/Obinutuzumab)
- Venetoclax + BTKi
- Venetoclax + BTKi + anti-CD20

Move forward:

• from rel/ref to TN patients

Venetoclax plus rituximab in rel/ref CLL: a phase 1b study (49 pts)

	200 mg (n=6)	300 mg (n=10)	400 mg (n=8)	500 mg (n=7)	600 mg (n=10)	Safety expansion, 400 mg (n=8)	Total (n=49)
Overall response	6 (100%)	8 (80%)	6 (75%)	6 (86%)	9 (90%)	7 (88%)	42 (86%), 95% CI 73-94
Complete response or complete response with incomplete marrow recovery	2 (33%)	5 (50%)	6 (75%)	4 (57%)	5 (50%)	3 (38%)	25 (51%), 95% CI 36–66
Nodular partial response or partial response	4 (67%)	3 (30%)	0	2 (29%)	4 (40%)	4 (50%)	17 (35%), 95% Cl 22–50
Stable disease	0	1 (10%)	1 (13%)	1 (14%)	1 (10%)	0	4 (8%)
Progressive disease	0	1 (10%)	0	0	0	1 (13%)	2 (4%)
Not assessed*	0	0	1 (13%)	0	0	0	1 (2%)
Negative marrow minimal residual disease response	3 (50%)	3 (30%)	6 (75%)	4 (57%)	7 (70%)	5 (62%)	28 (57%)

Data are n (%) or n (%), 95% Cl. *Patient had fatal tumour lysis syndrome on day 1.

Table 3: Response by dose level

Venetoclax plus rituximab in rel/ref CLL: a phase 1b study



2 year estimates for progression-free survival and ongoing response were 82% and 89%

Seymour JF et al., *Lancet Oncol.* 2017 Feb;18(2):230-240.

Venetoclax Plus Rituximab is Superior to Bendamustine Plus Rituximab in Patients with Relapsed / Refractory Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia – Results from Pre-Planned Interim Analysis of the Randomized Phase 3 MURANO Study

Adapted from the Seymour presentation at ASH on December 12, 2017

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ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Venetoclax-Rituximab in Relapsed or Refractory Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia

J.F. Seymour, T.J. Kipps, B. Eichhorst, P. Hillmen, J. D'Rozario, S. Assouline, C. Owen, J. Gerecitano, T. Robak, J. De la Serna, U. Jaeger, G. Cartron, M. Montillo, R. Humerickhouse, E.A. Punnoose, Y. Li, M. Boyer, K. Humphrey, M. Mobasher, and A.P. Kater

Seymour JF et al., N Engl J Med. 2018 Mar 22;378(12):1107-1120

MURANO Study Design



Primary Endpoint	INV-assessed PFS
Major Secondary Endpoints	 IRC-CR ⇒ IRC-ORR ⇒ OS (hierarchical testing) IRC-assessed PFS and MRD-negativity
Key Safety Endpoints	Overall safety profile, focusing on serious adverse events and Grade ≥3 adverse events
Interim Analysis	Approximately 140 INV-assessed PFS events (75% of total information)

NCT02005471

*High-risk CLL – any of following features: del(17p) or no response to front-line chemotherapy-containing regimen or relapsed ≤12 months after chemotherapy or within ≤24 months after chemoimmunotherapy.

Patient Demographics and Disease Characteristics Balanced Between Arms

atus	Venetoclax + Rituximab (N=194)	Bendamustine + Rituximab (N=195)
e, median (range), years	64.5 (28-83)	66.0 (22-85)
mphocyte count (×10 ⁹ /L), median (range)	43.1 (0.3-703)	54.7 (0.3-536)
l(17p)*, n/N (%)	46/173 (27)	46/169 (27)
imutated IGHV*, n/N (%)	123/180 (68)	123/180 (68)
Itated TP53*, n/N (%)	48/192 (25)	51/184 (28)
imber of prior therapies, n (%)	111 (67)	117 (60)
2	57 (29)	43 (22)
3	22 (11)	34 (17)
>3	4 (2)	1 (1)
or therapies, n (%)		
Alkylating agent	182 (93)	185 (95)
Purine analog	157 (81)	158 (81)
Anti-CD20 antibody	153 (78)	148 (76)
B-cell receptor pathway inhibitors	5 (3)	3 (2)
3 >3 or therapies, n (%) Alkylating agent Purine analog Anti-CD20 antibody B-cell receptor pathway inhibitors	22 (11) 4 (2) 182 (93) 157 (81) 153 (78) 5 (3)	34 (17) 1 (1) 185 (95) 158 (81) 148 (76) 3 (2)

*Central lab

Adapted from the Seymour presentation at ASH on December 12, 2017

As of 8 May 2017

Progression-free Survival Α

No. at Risk



Seymour JF et al., N Engl J Med. 2018 Mar 22;378(12):1107-1120

Treatment Effect With VenR Consistent Across Subgroups; Investigator-assessed PFS

*Central lab

		Venetoclax + Bendamust Rituximab Rituxima (N=194) (N=195		damustine lituximab (N=195)	+		Venetoclax	Bendamustine	
Subgroups	Total N	n	Median (Months)	n	Median (Months)	Hazard Ratio	95% Wald Cl	+ Rituximab Better	+ Rituximab Better
Number of prior therapies									
1	228	111	NR	117	16.6	0.14	(0.08-0.24)	H	
2	100	57	NR	43	21.2	0.24	(0.11-0.50)		
≥3	61	26	NR	35	10.5	0.24	(0.10-0.57)		
Refractory vs. relapse to most	t recent prie	or thera	ру						
Refractory	59	30	NR	29	13.6	0.32	(0.15 - 0.70)		
Relapse	330	164	NR	166	18.6	0.14	(0.09-0.23)	-	
del(17p) status*									
Absent	250	127	NR	123	21.4	0.19	(0.12 - 0.32)	H	
Present	92	46	NR	46	15.4	0.13	(0.05-0.29)		
TP53 mutational status*									
Unmutated	277	144	NR	133	21.2	0.15	(0.09 - 0.25)	H	
Mutated	99	48	NR	51	12.9	0.19	(0.10-0.36)	H	
Baseline IGHV mutational stat	tus*								
Unmutated	246	123	NR	123	15.7	0,16	(0.10-0.26)	H	
Mutated	104	53	NR	51	22.9	0.11	(0.04-0.31)		

Investigator-assessed PFS Superior for VenR vs. BR Among Patients With and Without del(17p)



As of 8 May 201

Improved Response Rates for VenR vs. BR



Adapted from the Seymour presentation at ASH on December 12, 2017

* Descriptive P-values.

IRC-assessed



Of 42 INV-assessed CRs discrepant in VenR arm, 28 due to residual CT scan nodes 16–30 mm diameter; 88% of these were PB MRD negative As of 8 May 2017¹¹

Minimal Residual Disease in Peripheral Blood

- MRD negativity: <1 CLL cell per 10 000 leukocytes (10⁻⁴)¹
- Sample collection times identical in both arms; represented by purple arrows



- MRD was centrally assessed by ASO-PCR¹ and/or multicolor flow cytometry²
- MRD-negativity is reported conservatively:
 - MRD positive by either ASO-PCR or by flow cytometry is reported as positive
 - Analysis is by ITT population. Missing MRD data or assay failure is reported as MRD positive

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 Adapted from the Seymour presentation at ASH on December 12, 2017
 1. Van der Velden VH, et al. Leukemia 2007;1(4):604-11

 ASO-PCR, allele-specific-oligonucleotide polymerase chain reaction; EOCT, end of combination treatment; ITT, intent-to-treat.
 2. Rawstron AC, et al. Leukemia 2013;27:142-9

High Peripheral Blood MRD Negativity Rate Maintained Over Time for VenR vs. BR



Clinically Meaningful Improvement in Overall Survival for VenR vs. BR



Descriptive p-values

Pre-specified boundary, P=0.0001.

Adapted from the Seymour presentation at ASH on December 12, 2017

As of 8 May 2017



Seymour JF et al., N Engl J Med. 2018 Mar 22;378(12):1107-1120

Safety Overview

Note: AE Reporting Period Longer with VenR vs. BR

Adverse Event (AE) Type, n (%)	Venetoclax + Rituximab (N=194)	Bendamustine + Rituximab (N=188)
Patients with ≥1 AE (all grades)	194 (100)	185 (98)
Serious AEs	90 (46)	81 (43)
Grade 3-4 AEs	159 (82)	132 (70)
Grade 5 AEs	10 (5)*	11 (6)†

*Pneumonia (n=3; 2 in setting of PD/Richter transformation, 1 with thrombocytopenia, leading to death); and sepsis, cardiac failure, myocardial infarction, sudden cardiac death, colorectal cancer, status epilepticus, and acute respiratory failure (all n=1). *Sepsis (n=2), lung cancer (n=2), and Listeria sepsis, Scedosporium infection, lymphoma, hemorrhagic stroke, pulmonary embolism, AML and sudden death (all n=1).

Adverse event reporting period: up to 90 days after end of bendamustine treatment (maximum 6 months); up to 28 days after end of venetoclax treatment (maximum 2 years). Adverse event reporting period: up to 90 days after end of bendamustine treatment (maximum 6 months); As of 8 May 2017

Grade 3–4 AEs; ≥2% Difference in Incidence Between Arms

Note: AE Reporting Period Longer with VenR vs. BR

AEs, n (%)	Venetoclax + Rituximab (N=194)	Bendamustine + Rituximab (N=188)
Neutropenia	112 (58)	73 (39)
Anemia	21 (11)	26 (14)
Thrombocytopenia	11 (6)	19 (10)
Febrile Neutropenia	7 (4)	18 (10)
Pneumonia	10 (5)	15 (8)
Infusion-Related Reaction	3 (2)	10 (5)
Tumor Lysis Syndrome	6 (3)	2 (1)
Hypotension	0	5 (3)
Hyperglycemia	4 (2)	0
Hypogammaglobulinemia	4 (2)	0

Adapted from the Seymour presentation at ASH on December 12, 2017

Adverse event reporting period: up to 90 days after end of bendamustine treatment (maximum 6 months); up to 28 days after end of venetoclax treatment (maximum 2 years).

As of 8 May 2017 17

Conclusions

- In MURANO, venetoclax plus rituximab:
 - Superior to bendamustine plus rituximab in prolonging PFS in adults with relapsed/refractory CLL
 - Effects consistent across subgroups, regardless of del(17p) status
 - Superior ORR and rate of peripheral blood MRD negativity
 - · Maintained over time
 - Clinically meaningful improvement in overall survival
- Safety consistent with known safety profile in patients with relapsed/refractory CLL
- Venetoclax plus rituximab should be considered as a standard therapeutic option in patients with relapsed/refractory CLL

Phase 1b Venetoclax + Obinutuzumab in TN-CLL: Study Design



Phase 1b Venetoclax + Obinutuzumab in TN-CLL: Safety

- All pts experienced $\geq 1 \text{ AE}$
- 4 Gr 3-4 infections were reported: appendicitis, diverticulitis, enterobacter bacteremia, and respiratory infection
- Clinical TLS was not observed; 1 laboratory TLS was observed with G (prior to VEN administration)
- 1 patient discontinued treatment due to AE (Grade 3 diarrhea)
- As of data cut-off, no deaths occurred in 1L CLL pts

Adverse events, n (%)	Total (N=32)
AEs of Any Grade in >25% pts	
Nausea	22 (69)
Infusion-relate reaction	21 (66)
Neutropenia	21 (66)
Diarrhea	18 (56)
Pyrexia	15 (47)
Fatigue	14 (44)
Thrombocytopenia	13 (41)
Headache	12 (38)
Chills	11 (34)
Vomiting	11 (34)
Cough	10 (31)
Flushing	10 (31)
Anemia	9 (28)
Dyspnea	9 (28)
Grade 3-4 AEs in ≥ 2 pts	
Neutropenia	17 (53)
Thrombocytopenia	5 (16)
Febrile neutropenia	4 (13)

Phase 1b Venetoclax + Obinutuzumab in TN-CLL: Efficacy

- With median time on study of 18.5 mo, all 32 pts responded to the treatment
- ORR 100%; CR/CRi 72% and PR 28%
 - High CR rates (60-100%) across subgroups (del17p, del11q, trisomy 12, del13q, IGHV status, no abnormalities)
- 4/7 patients with PR and BM MRD- classified as PD due to residual lymphadenopathy
- 3 patients had disease progression:
 - 2 with Richter transformation: HL in one patient with del(17p) at screening, and DLBCL in a patient with trisomy 12 and IGHV unmutated at baseline
 - > 1 patient with PD: had del(11q), del(17p), and IGHV unmutated at baseline

MRD Negativity, %	N=32	PFS	All 1L Patients
PB MRD Negativity (< 10 ⁻⁴)		Median	NR
Best MRD negativity	100	Iviedian	
3 mos after last G	91	12-month, %	100
9 mos after last G	91	15-month, % (95% Cl)	93.8 (85.4 – 100)
12 mos after last G	72	18-month. % (95% CI)	90.5 (80.3 – 100)
≥3 mos after end of all Tx	70		
BM MRD Negativity (< 10 ⁻⁴)			
All 1L patients	75		
CR/CRi	74 (n=23)		
PR	78 (n=9)	Flinne	et al. ASH 2017. Abstract #4

Phase 1b Venetoclax + Obinutuzumab in TN-CLL: Conclusions

In this phase 1b GP28331 study of VEN + G, all 1L CLL patients treated with VEN + G achieved a response, with high CR rates across subgroups

High rates of BM MRD- were observed regardless of response status

Undetectable PB MRD- rates were maintained post-treatment

VEN + G has acceptable/manageable safety profile: no clinical TLS, no deaths, no synergistic toxicity (consistent with known safety profiles of VEN and G)

High CR rates, MRD- and preliminary PFS predict durable clinical outcomes for 1L CLL patients treated with VEN + G for 1-year fixed duration

Flinn et al. ASH 2017. Abstract #430.





BR = bendamustine, rituximab; CLL = chronic lymphocytic leukemia; FCR = fludarabine, cyclophosphamide, rituximab; G-Clb = obinutuzumab, chlorambucil; GCLLSG = German CLL Study Group; MRD = minimal residual disease; W & W = watch and wait

Safety and Efficacy of Venetoclax and Obinutuzumab in Untreated CLL and Coexisting Medical Conditions: Final Results of the Run-in Phase of the Randomized CLL14 Trial (BO25323)(13 pts)

Total CIRS-score > 6 or creatinine clearance: 30 - 70 mL/min

Age \geq 18 years

At month 15, 11 of 12 patients were evaluable for final response assessment.

All patients responded to therapy.

CR occurred in 7 of the 12 patients including one CRi.

Ten of 12 patients had no detectable (<10⁻⁴) MRD in PB and one patient was assessed intermediate (\geq 10⁻⁴<10⁻²).

At month 15, there were no events of disease progression or deaths, translating into an estimated progression-free survival of of 100%.

Fischer K et al., Blood. 2017 Mar 21 [Epub ahead of print]

Ibrutinib + Venetoclax in R/R CLL – Initial Results: Study Design, Baseline,Disposition

Bloodwise TAP CLARITY Study

Key eligibility criteria

- Relapsed within 3 y of FCR or BR *or*
- Had del17p and had failed ≥1 line of therapy

8 wks of IBR (420mg/day), followed by the addition of VEN, which is ramped up from 10-400mg/day over 5 weeks

Baseline (n=54)	
Median prior therapies, no (range)	1 (1-6)
FCR or BR, %	81
Relapse ≤3 years of BR or FCR, %	44
Idelalisib, %	20
Unmutated IGHV, %	74
Del(17p), % (n=51)	20
Del(11q), % (n=51)	25

Primary endpoint: MRD eradication in the marrow after 12 mo of IBR+VEN **Secondary endpoints**: MRD eradication from the marrow after 6 and 24 mo of IBR+VEN; safety

- 4 patients stopped IBR before adding VEN due to toxicity
- 50 patients recruited to combination part of the trial
- 49 patients successfully passed through VEN escalation phase
- 46 patients received ≥8 weeks of IBR+VEN

Ibrutinib + Venetoclax in R/R CLL: Safety and Efficacy

Grade 3/4 adverse event, n	N=54
Any grade 3/4 AE	54
Neutropenia	22
Gastrointestinal disorders	7
Infections and infestations	7

• 1 patient had TLS (at 200 mg dose of VEN) – increasing phosphate and creatinine

Managed by delaying VEN, rapid re-escalation with no further TLS

	Time point	n	Median MRD in PB (x 10 ⁹ /l)	25 th centile (x 10 ⁹ /l)	75 th centile (x 10 ⁹ /l)
Screening		46	54.5	13	92
Day 0	Pre-IBR	46	43.5	10.3	94
Week 8	Pre-VEN	46	60	14	150
Week 12	End of VEN escalation	45	1.1	0.23	6.25
Month 4	After 8 weeks of VEN + IBR	46	0.019	0.0028	0.21
Month 5	After 12 weeks of VEN + IBR	45	0.012	0.0011	0.1
Month 8	After 6 month VEN + IBR	37	0.001	0	0.025

Ibrutinib + Venetoclax in R/R CLL: Efficacy

• 38 patients had ≥6 months of IBR+VEN (efficacy evaluable; BM and CT-scan)

	n	CR, %	CRi, %	PR, %	ORR, %
All patients*	38	39	8	53	100
FCR/BR relapsed <36 months ¹	17	53	12	35	100
Prior idelalisib ²	7	43	0	57	100

*% calculated over total number of patients assessed for response (38 patients)

¹% calculated over total patients who had FCR/BR and relapsed <36 months and were assessed for response

²% calculated over total number of patients who had idelalisib before joining study and were assessed for response

• MRD PB or BM <0.01% CLL cells (10⁻⁴) by flow cytometry

At month 8	n	PB MRD ⁻ , %	BM MRD ⁻ , %	Trephine normal, %
All patients	38	37	32	84
FCR/BR relapsed <36 months	17	52	41	94
Prior idelalisib	7	57	43	100

PB & BM MRD level by time-point (up to 6 months I+V)





Phase 2 Venetoclax + Ibrutinib TN High-Risk CLL and R/R CLL: Study Design and Baseline

Eligibility criteria

- age ≥18 yrs
- ECOG PS ≤2,
- Adequate renal function
- No hepatic impairment **Primary endpoint**
- achievement of CR/CRi

Cohort 1 (relapsed/refractory CLL);

Cohort 2 (untreated pts with at least one high-risk feature: del(17p), mutated TP53, del(11q), unmutated IGHV, \geq 65 yrs)

IBR monotherapy 420mg daily for the first 3 months, followed by addition of VEN (weekly dose escalation to 400 mg daily). IBR may be continued indefinitely; VEN for a total of 2 yrs.

Baseline, n (%) or median [range]	Cohort 1 (n=37)	Cohort 2 (n=40)
Age, yrs	59 [32-76]	65 [25-82]
Gender, M	30 (81)	30 (75)
Prior Therapies	1 [1-4]	-
Del(17q)	11 (30)	7 (18)
Del(11q)	14 (38)	10 (25)
Del(13q)	5 (14)	5 (12)
Trisomy 12	5 (14)	5 (12)
Negative FISH	2 (5)	5 (12)

Baseline, N (%)	Cohort 1	Cohort 2
IGHV	n=31	n=37
Unmutated	27 (87)	30 (81)
Mutated	4 (13)	7 (19)
Cytogenetics	n=29	n=39
Complex	5 (17)	6 (15)
Diploid	10 (34)	16 (41)
Mutations	n=32	n=40
TP53	10 (31)	7 (18)
NOTCH1	3 (9)	14 925)
SF3B1	7 (22)	11 (28)

Phase 2 Venetoclax + Ibrutinib TN High-Risk CLL and R/R CLL: Results

- Median follow-up is 7.5 months (range, 0.6-12.1)
- A total of 15 pts have come off study

Firstline:

- 7 during the IBR monotherapy; 8 after starting VEN
- 70 patients started venetoclax (34 R/R, 35 TN)



R/R Cohort:

Phase 2 Venetoclax + Ibrutinib TN High-Risk CLL and R/R CLL: Results

- 54% had down-grading of TLS risk category
- 2 pts had lab TLS, no clinical TLS
- 44% grade 3/4 neutropenia;
- 4% grade 3/4 thrombocytopenia

TLS risk (n=70)	Baseline	Post IBR
High	18 (26)	2 (3)
Medium	38 (54)	29 (41)
Low	14 (20)	39 (56)

- 70% grade 3/4 neutropenia and all grade 3/4 thrombocytopenia occurred during Ven+Ibr
- Infections: neutropenic fever (8%), pneumonia, cellulitis, septic arthritis (each 2%)

> 2/3 of infections occurred during Ibr monotherapy phase

- 13% atrial fibrillation
- Dose reduction:
 - 36% ibrutinib
 - 26% venetoclax

Phase 2 Venetoclax + Ibrutinib TN High-Risk CLL and R/R CLL: Conclusions

Combination of Ven+Ibr provides a safe and effective non-chemo treatment for CLL

54% of patients had down-grading of TLS risk category with use of ibrutinib

Responses continue to improve with time with many patients achieving BM MRD- remission

Phase 1b/2: Obinutuzumab, Ibrutinib, and Venetoclax in CLL -Treatment Naive Cohort: Study Design and Baseline

Inclusion criteria

- TN, symptomatic CLL
- ECOG PS ≤1
- Preserved end-organ and BM function **Exclusion criteria**
- Uncontrolled autoimmune thrombocytopenia or anemia
- Clinically apparent Richter's Transformation
- CNS involvement by leukemia
- Use of Warfarin or potent CYP3A4 inhibitors or inducers ≤ 7 days prior to study treatment

Fourteen 28-day cycles OBI+IBR+VEN started sequentially over the first 3 cycles

- C1: OBI (D1: 100mg, D2: 900mg, D8,D15: 1,000mg, C2-8 D1: 1,000mg)
- C2: add IBR in C2 (C2-14 D1-28: 420mg)
- C3: add VEN in C3 with dose escalation according to its US label

Primary objective: MRD (-) CR after C14 are expected in May 2018

Baseline Characteristics, %	N=25	Baseline Characteristics, %	N=25
Median age, yrs (range)	59 (24-77)	Unmutated IGHV	71
Male	60	Complex karyotype	24
Del(11)q	20	Trisomy 12	12
Del(17)p	12	TLS Risk high	28
Del(13)q	20	TLS Risk medium	72
		TLS Risk low	0

Treatment Schema



- Drugs initiated sequentially to limit risk for tumor lysis syndrome (TLS)
- All patients discontinue treatment after Cycle 14
- Sequential cohorts of 3 underwent dose escalation to target venetoclax dose in Cycle 3 to establish MTD of venetoclax in combination

Phase 1b/2: Obinutuzumab, Ibrutinib, and Venetoclax in CLL -Treatment Naive Cohort: Disposition and Efficacy

- With median follow-up of 14.7 mo (range, 7.4-16.1), 22 patients remain on study
 - 1 discontinued treatment after C7 at the discretion of the treating physician
 - 1 after C10 for patient preference
 - 1 after C10 for AEs of neutropenia and colitis (deceased)
- 12 patients completed combination treatment

Responses post- C8, n (%)	N=25	MRD (–) Both*
ORR	24 (96)	14/24 (58%)
CR	5 (20)	9/12 (16)
CRi	8 (32)	0/15 (40)
PR	11 (46)	6/11 (55)
SD	0	
PD	0	
NR	1 (4)	

- CRi due to cytopenias with (4/8) or without (4/8) hypocellular marrow
- 6/11 PR patients met count and marrow requirements for CR but had LN >1.5 cm
- All but 1 patients had no morphologic evidence of CLL in bone marrow

*4-color flow cytometry on PB and BM.

Phase 1b/2: Obinutuzumab, Ibrutinib, and Venetoclax in CLL - Treatment Naive Cohort: Safety

Grade 1/2 Tx-Related	%	Grade 3/4 Tx-Related	%
Infusion related	76	Hypertension	36
reaction	70	Dyspepsia	4
Nausea	60	Arthralgia	4
Bruising	48	Hyperuricemia	4
Oral mucositis	48	AST increased	4
Dyspepsia	48	ALT increased	4
Hypertension	44	Atrial fibrillation	4
Diarrhea	44	Colitis	4
Fatigue	40	Pneumonia	4
Maculo-papular rash	40	Menorrhagia	4
Myalgia	36	Sepsis	4
Arthralgia	32	Homotologia	Cred
Hyperuricemia	32		
Weight gain	32	Thrombooutoponio	e 1/2
Bilirubin increased	28		48
Chills	28		44 20
Hypocalcemia	28		2ð

- No cases of clinical or laboratory TLS
- Hematologic AEs were the most frequently reported AEs
- No cases of neutropenic fever

Hematologic Tx-Related AEs, %	Grad e 1/2	Grade 3/4	Any Grade
Thrombocytopenia	48	36	84
Lymphopenia*	44	32	76
Neutropenia	28	48	76
Leukopenia*	40	36	76
Lymphocytosis*	20	4	24
Anemia	16	0	16

*Anticipated therapeutic drug effect

Phase 1b/2 Obinutuzumab, Ibrutinib, and Venetoclax in CLL -Treatment Naive Cohort: Conclusions

OBIN, IBR, and VEN can be safety administered in combination as 1L treatment for CLL; majority of AEs were hematologic, high-grade AEs were rare

This combination has high initial response rates (96% ORR)

Combination therapy is extremely effective at eliminating detectable CLL

Results from the primary endpoint are expected in May 2018

Further follow-up is required to determine PFS

Clinical Trial Protocol

For reprint orders, please contact: reprints@futuremedicine.com

Future ONCOLOGY

CLL2-BXX Phase II trials: sequential, targeted treatment for eradication of minimal residual disease in chronic lymphocytic leukemia

- CLL2-BIG: bendamustine, followed by ibrutinib and GA101 (obinutuzumab);
- CLL2-BAG: bendamustine, followed by ABT-199 (venetoclax) and GA101 (obinutuzumab);
- CLL2-BCG: bendamustine, followed by CAL-101 (idelalisib) and GA101 (obinutuzumab);
- CLL2-BIO: bendamustine, followed by ibrutinib and ofatumumab.

CLL2-BXX studies





Cramer P et al., Future Oncol. 2018 Mar;14(6):499-513.

Emerging therapeutic landscapes (2018-?)

R/R: Ven + Ritux Ven + Ibru

TN: Ven + Ritux Ven + Obi Ven + Ibru Ven + Ibru + Obi B + XXX + maint