

## Workshop Efgartigimod Phase 2 Clinical Trial in ITP: Full Data Cusatuzumab Phase 1/2 Clinical Trial in AML: Proof-of-Biology Data



3 December 2018, San Diego



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**DUD** 



### 12:00 – 12:35 PM Proof-of-Concept of Efgartigimod (ARGX-113) in Immune Thrombocytopenia (ITP)

- Full data from Phase 2 clinical trial
- Nicolas Leupin, CMO, argenx
- Guest speaker: Prof. Dr. Adrian Newland, Barts London & Royal London Hospital

#### 12:35 – 1:15 PM

Advancing Cusatuzumab (ARGX-110) in Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML)

- Proof-of-biology data from Phase 1 dose escalation trial
- Hans de Haard, CSO, argenx
- Guest speaker: Prof. Dr. Adrian Ochsenbein, Bern Cancer Center, Inselspital, University of Bern

1:15 – 1:30 PM **Q&A** 



## **Guest Speakers**



#### Prof. Dr. Adrian Newland

- Professor of Haematology at Barts and the London NHS Trust
- Expert in haematological malignancy and particular interest in immunohaematology, studying the molecular basis of the autoimmune disease, in particular thrombocytopenia, and piloting the clinical use of novel treatments
- Developed the Leukaemia and Bone Marrow transplant unit in the early 1980s
- Centre Lead for Haematology in the Medical School, Director of Pathology for the Trust and is Clinical Director of the North East Thames Cancer Network



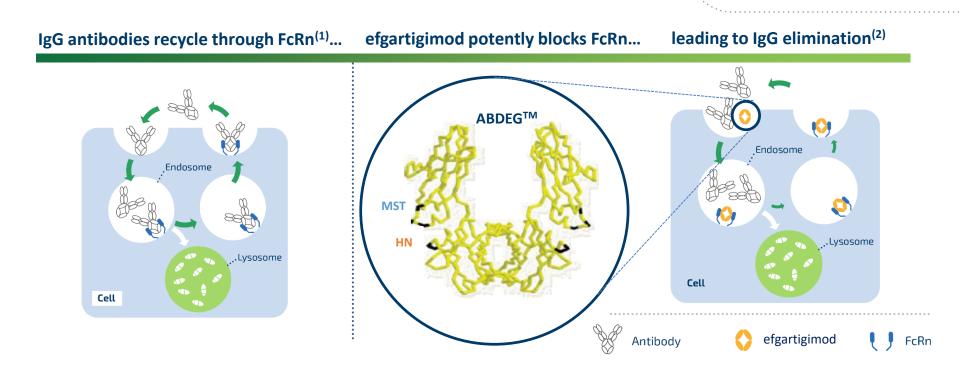
#### Prof. Dr. Adrian Ochsenbein

- Professor of Bern Cancer Center, Inselspital, University of Bern
- Expert in cancer/leukemia stem cells which are the origin of the disease and responsible for relapse after successful chemotherapy in AML ao. Studies generate broad understanding of translational research from animal studies to clinical applications
- Member of the National Research Council
- Awarded the Otto Naegeli Prize 2016 in recognition of the excellent scientific work as a clinically active medical oncologist



# Efgartigimod: A Pipeline-in-a-Product Opportunity

## Efgartigimod: Human IgG1 Fc Fragment with ABDEG<sup>™</sup> Mutations argenx Exploits Natural Fc/FcRn Interaction



- Natural ligand binding: complex of efgartigimod and FcRn resides mainly in endosomal recycling compartment avoiding lysosomal degradation
- Improves affinity to FcRn in pH dependent manner thereby providing relatively long half-life of Fc fragment and excellent biodistribution
- Cannot engage FcγReceptors and does not recruit effector cells <sup>(3)(4)</sup>

## Primary Adult Immune Thrombocytopenia (ITP) – a Severe Autoimmune Disorder



#### What is ITP?

Rare autoimmune bleeding disease

- Estimated 69,300<sup>(1)</sup> patients in US
- ~80% diagnosed with primary ITP
  - Newly diagnosed: ~3,000 7,500 patients <sup>(1)</sup>
  - Persistent: ~4,500 patients<sup>(2)</sup>
  - Chronic: ~43,000 patients<sup>(2)</sup>
- Symptoms include: mild bruising to severe bleeding, fatigue, fear of bleeding, impact on work and social activities, depression
- Relevance of platelet counts
  - ≤ 30 X 10<sup>9</sup>/L generally accepted trigger for therapy
  - Improvement to ≥ 50 X 10<sup>9</sup>/L considered clinically meaningful

#### Limited treatment options

- Multiple iterations on corticosteroids & IVIg
- TPO-receptor agonists\*
- Splenectomy
- Immunomodulatory agents
- \* Generated global revenues of \$1.5 billion in 2017<sup>(3)(4)</sup>

#### **Unmet need in ITP**

- Current treatments limited efficacy and significant side effects
- No real treatment paradigm exists trial & error
- Patients adapt lifestyle to cope with disease burden and treatment side effects

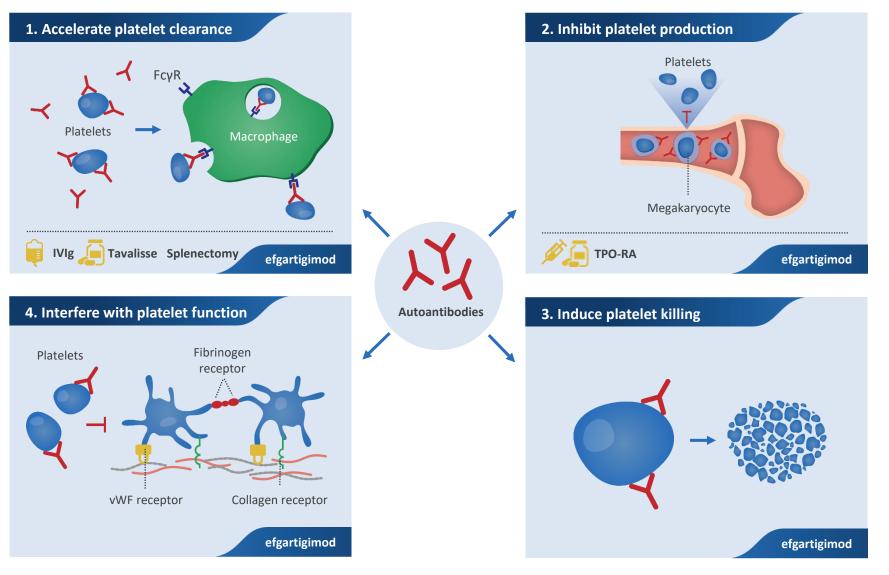
1) Fogarty et al. 2004 Hematol Oncol Clin North Am., Feudjo-Tepie et al. 2008. J Thromb Haemost., Segal et al. 2004, Am J Hematol.

) Extrapolated from Moulis et al. 2017, Am J Hematol.

Novartis FY 2017

**Efgartigimod Targets All Pathogenic AutoAb Actions Simultaneously** Potential to eliminate cycling between therapies based on trial-and-error

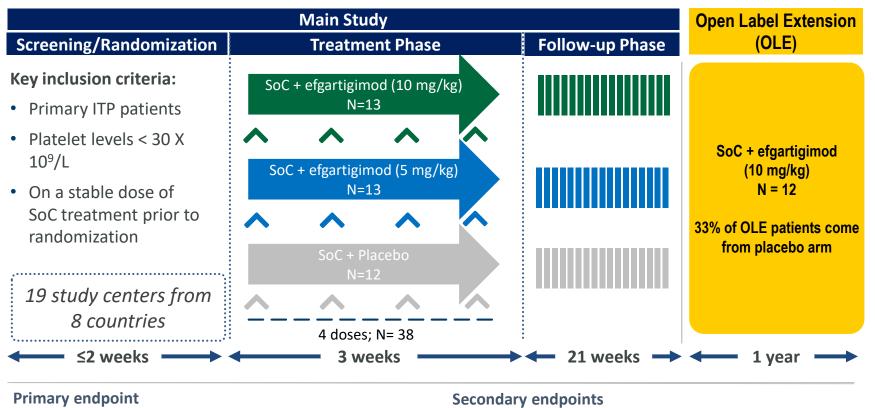




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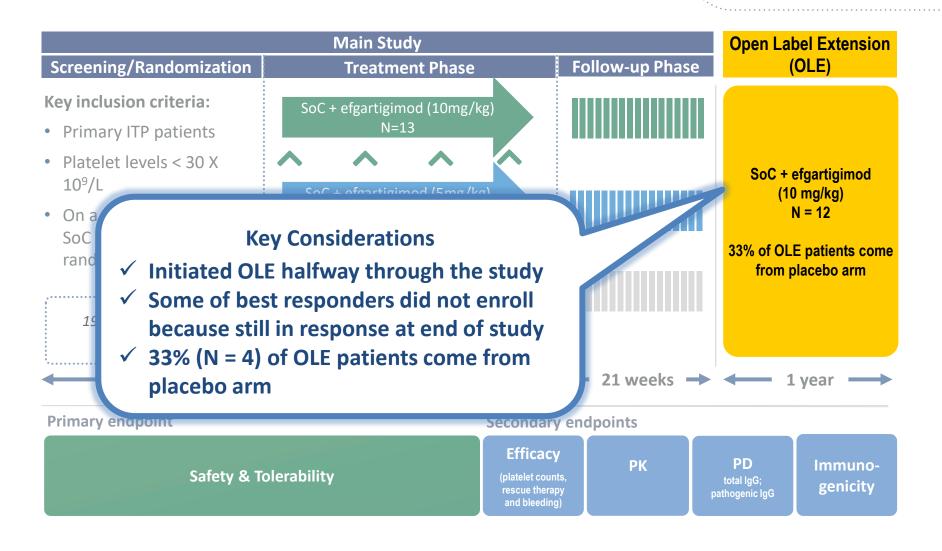
## ITP Amended Phase 2 Proof-of-Concept Trial Design



Safety & Tolerability	Efficacy	РК	PD	Immuno- genicity	
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## ITP Amended Phase 2 Proof-of-Concept Trial Design





# ITP Phase 2 Clinical Trial: Results

## **ITP Phase 2 Baseline Population and Disease Characteristics**

	Placebo (n = 12)*	Efgartigimod: 5 mg/kg (n = 13)	Efgartigimod: 10 mg/kg (n = 13)**
Age, median (range)	38.5 (19 - 69)	41.0 (22 - 77)	46.0 (29 - 62)
Gender, n (%) • Male • Female	5 (41.7) 7 (58.3)	4 (30.8) 9 (69.2)	9 (69.2) 4 (30.8)
Race, n (%) • White • Not reported	11 (91.7) 1 (8.3)	12 (92.3) 1 (7.7)	13 (100) -
<ul> <li>ITP Classification, n (%)</li> <li>Newly diagnosed (≤3 months)</li> <li>Persistent (&gt;3 and &lt;12 months)</li> <li>Chronic (≥12 months)</li> </ul>	- 3 (25.0) 9 (75.0)	2 (15.4) 1 (7.7) 10 (76.9)	- 4 (30.8) 9 (69.2)
Duration of ITP, median years (range)	3.5 (0.3 - 47.8)	4.5 (0.1 - 34.2)	5.4 (0.7 - 28.7)
Baseline platelet count, mean, k/µL (	15 (5 - 35)		
Baseline platelet count of <15k/µL, N Very refractory population			7 (53.8)
SoC 50% of patients and b platelet counts below	)) 15k/μL	10 (76.9) 4 (30.8) - 2 (15.4)	6 (46.2) 3 (23.1) 1 (7.7) 5 (38.5)
• Other n (%)	1 (8.3)	1 (7.7)	-

• Four placebo patients were discontinued before the end of the main study \*\* Two 10mg/kg patients were discontinued before receiving all 4 infusions argenx data

argenx

## **Favorable Tolerability Profile Consistent with Previous Studies**



Treatment-emergent adverse events balanced between active and placebo arms

- Tolerability profile consistent with Phase 2 myasthenia gravis (MG) and Phase 1 healthy volunteer (HV) trials
- TEAEs mostly mild in severity (grade 1)
- No deaths or TEAEs leading to discontinuation of treatment reported\*

#### **Bleeding TEAEs not included**

Treatment Emergent Adverse Events (TEAEs) Reported in ≥ 2 subjects	Placebo (N = 12)	Efgartigimod 5 mg/kg <b>(N = 13)</b>	Efgartigimod 10 mg/kg <b>(N = 13)</b>
Most common TEAEs N (%)			
• Headache	2 (16.7)	1 (7.7)	-
Hypertension	1 (8.3)		2 (15.4)
Vomiting	-		2 (15.4)
Cystitis	-	1 (7.7)	1 (7.7)
• Rash	-	1 (7.7)	1 (7.7)
Productive cough	1 (8.3)	1 (7.7)	-
TEAEs deemed related to study intervention N (%)			
• Headache	1 (8.3)		-
Vomiting	-		1 (7.7)
Pubic pain	1 (8.3)		-
Vaginal discharge	1 (8.3)		
Amenorrhoea	1 (8.3)		-

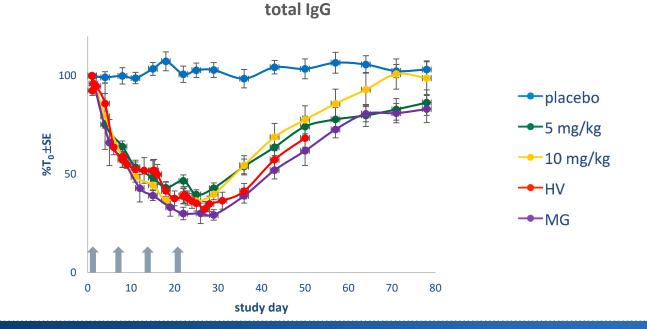
\* One thrombocytopenia downgraded per protocol after database lock

argenx data: Table 14.3.1.2a & 14.3.1.5a - Treatment-Emergent Adverse Events by System Organ Class, Preferred Term and Relationship to Study Drug - Main Study



## **Efgartigimod Leads to Lasting IgG Reduction Across Studies**

#### Total IgG levels in efgartigimod studies to date (Healthy Volunteers, MG, ITP)

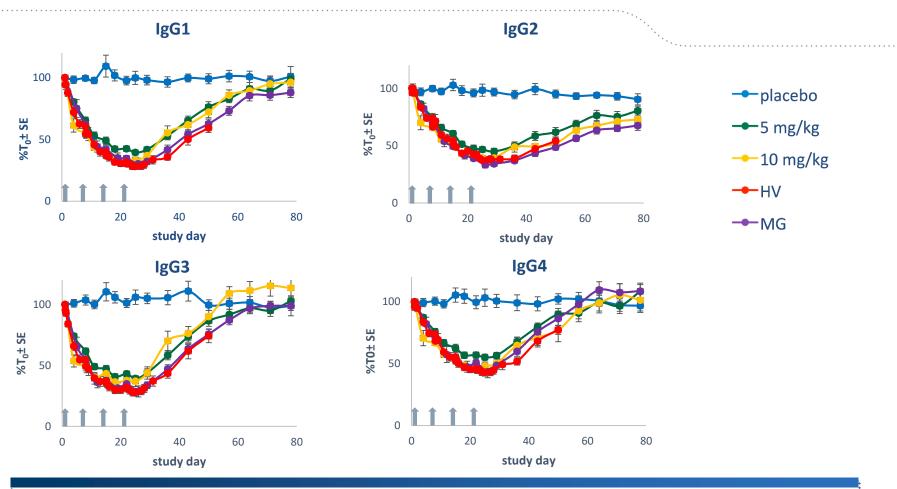


- Pharmacodynamics (PD) closely align with Phase 1 trial in HV and Phase 2 trial in MG
- IgM, IgA and albumin levels not affected (data not shown)
- Half-life: approx. 5 days
- Pharmacokinetics (PK) very similar to Phase 1 trial in HV and Phase 2 trial in MG (data not shown)
- Low titer of anti-drug antibodies (ADA) seen in 16.7% placebo patients vs. 30.8% efgartigimod patients (10 mg/kg) with no apparent effect on PK/PD

## Lasting IgG Reductions Across IgG Subtypes

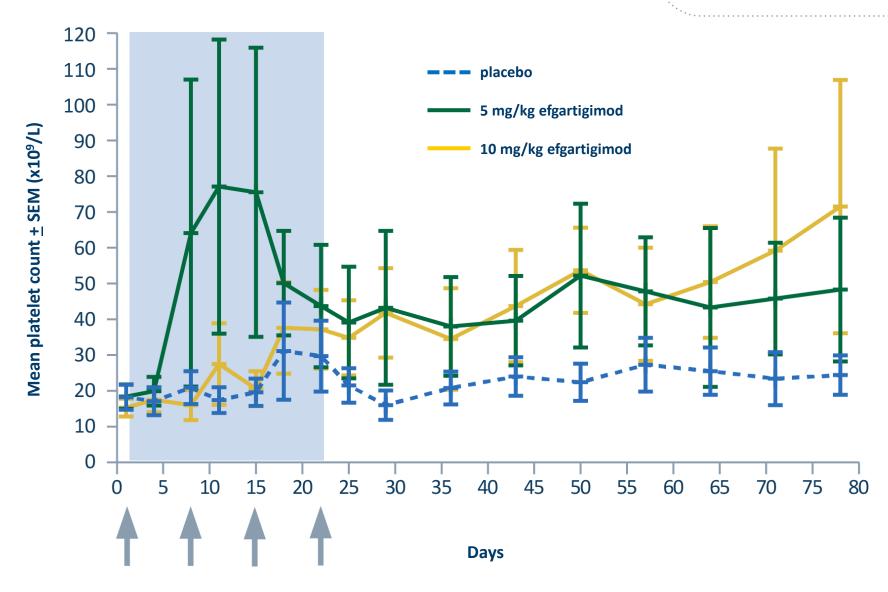
#### Similar reduction levels achieved across studies





- IgG subtypes reduced in all patients in active arms (auto-antibodies in ITP are IgG1/3)
- Relatively small differences observed between 5 and 10 mg/kg cohort
- Similar reduction levels achieved with 10 mg/kg dose compared to previous studies
- All patients tested positive for platelet associated auto-antibodies (GP IIb/IIIa; GP Ib/IX; GP Ia/IIa)
- Platelet associated auto-antibody signal reduced by maximally 53-97% in 8/12 efgartigimod responders

Clinically Meaningful Improvements in Platelet Counts in Active Arms argenx Separation from placebo starts at maximum PD and lasts through study follow-up

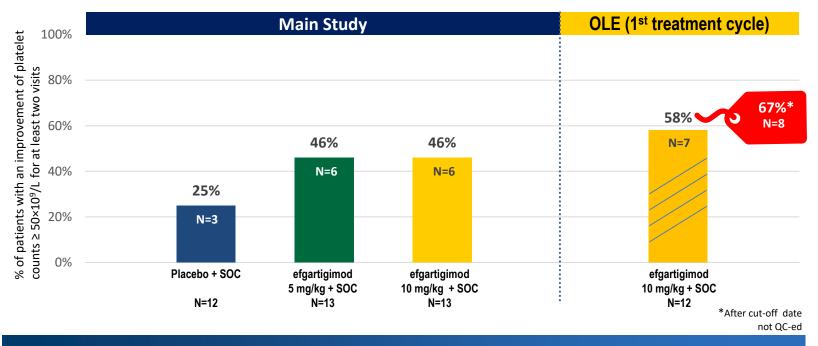


## **Strong Improvement of Platelet Counts Across Doses**

46-67% of patients exceeded platelet counts  $\geq$  50X10<sup>9</sup>/L during at least two visits



#### Patients achieving platelet counts of $\geq 50 \times 10^9$ /L at least two times



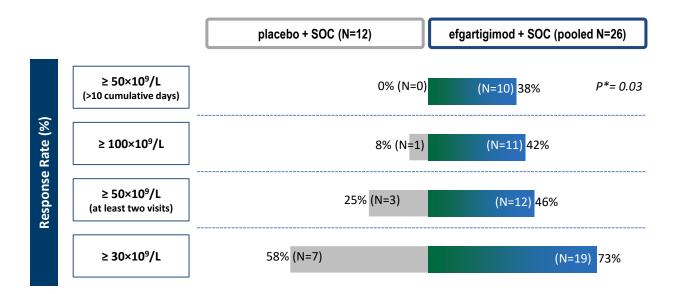
- OLE acts as true fourth cohort since patients' platelets had to fall below 30x10<sup>9</sup>/L to be eligible for a treatment cycle; patients still in response from primary study were not eligible
- Responses seen across newly diagnosed (in 5mg/kg arm), persistent and chronic ITP patients

## **Robust Improvement of Platelet Count with Durability**

Increasing differentiation from placebo for increasing efficacy hurdle



#### Post-hoc analysis of increasing thresholds of efficacy

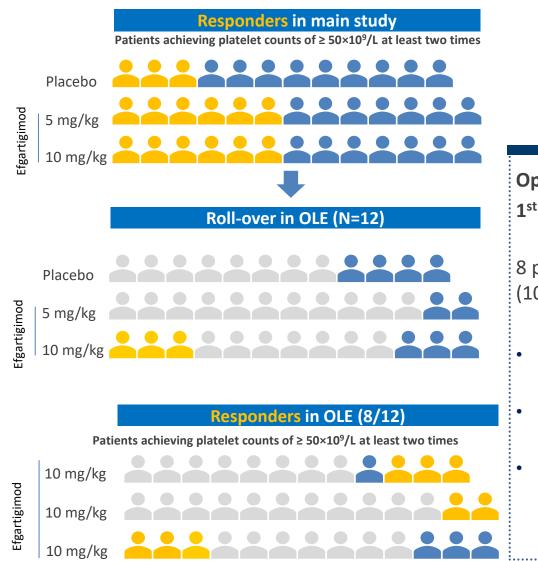


• Efgartigimod generated therapeutic activity at multiple relevant thresholds of efficacy

- Duration of platelets remaining ≥50x10<sup>9</sup>/L ranged from 1 20 weeks, with five patients above that
  platelet threshold for more than a month
- $\leq$  30 X 10<sup>9</sup>/L generally accepted trigger for therapy with improvement to  $\geq$  50 X 10<sup>9</sup>/L considered clinically meaningful



## **Responses in First Cycle of Open Label Extension**



- Responder
- Non-responder main study and OLE
- Patients not rolled over

**Open Label Extension study** 1<sup>st</sup> Cycle Analysis:

8 patients responded on efgartigimod (10 mg/kg):

- 3 Non-responders from placebo started to respond
- 2 Non-responders from 5 mg/kg treatment arm started to respond
- 3 Responders from 10 mg/kg treatment arm continued to respond

## **Validated Bleeding Assessment Measures**

#### Bleeding events are hallmark of ITP and were not an exclusion criterion to study entry



**Bleeding assessment tools** 

#### **Adverse events**

- Mild: Transient or mild discomfort & no medical intervention required
- Moderate: Mild to moderate limitation in activity & no or minimal medical intervention required
- Severe: Marked limitation in activity, some assistance usually required & medical intervention required, hospitalization possible
- Life-threatening

#### **WHO scale**

**Bleeding events** 

General bleeding assessment widely used in clinical development

- Grade 0: No bleeding
- Grade 1: Petechial bleed
- Grade 2: Mild blood loss (clinically significant)
- Grade 3: Gross blood loss requires transfusion (severe)
- Grade 4: Debilitating blood loss, retinal/cerebral bleed (associated with fatality)

#### **ITP-BAT scale**

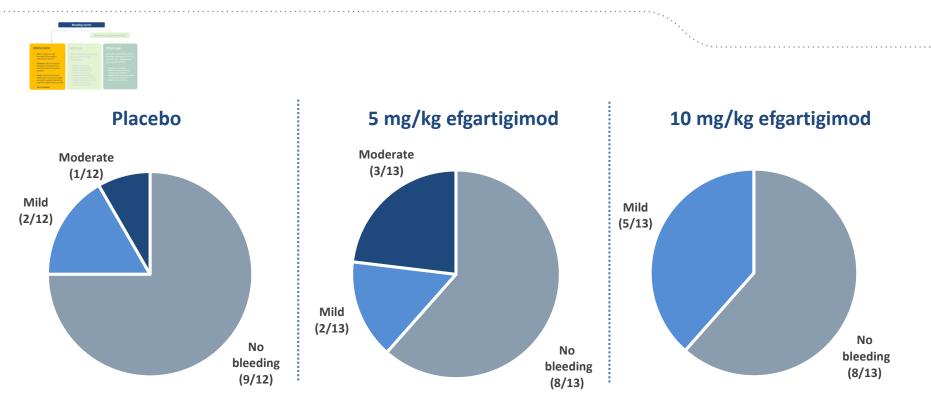
Consistent description of the bleeding phenotype in ITP in 3 domains: <u>Skin</u>, <u>Mucosa and</u> <u>Organ grade</u> (SMOG)

- Grade 0: No bleeding
- **Grade 1**: Reported without medical documentation
- Grade 2 → 4: Increasing severity, number and surface area
- Grade 5: Fatal bleeding

## **No Adverse Event Reports of Severe Bleeding**



#### All bleeds in 10 mg/kg were mild

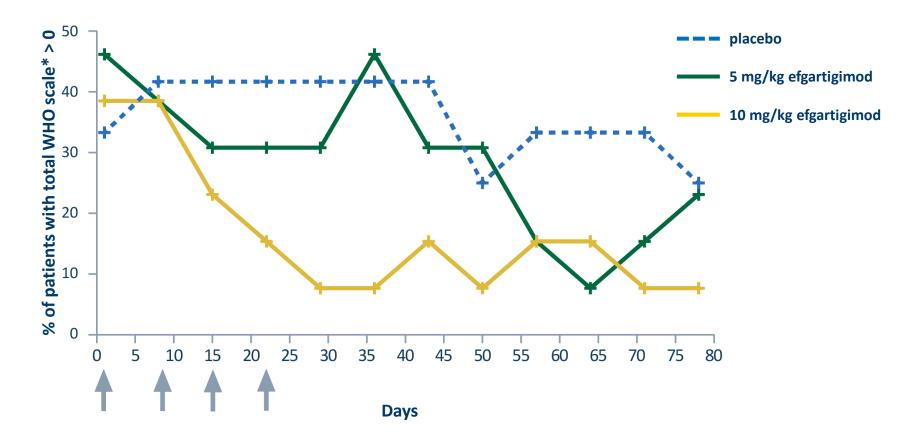


- Bleeding is hallmark of ITP disease; low platelet counts correlate with higher incidence of bleeding events
- No bleeding events deemed study drug related by investigator
- No severe bleedings in any patient
- No moderate bleeds occurred in 10 mg/kg arm; bleeds were all mild
- 5 patients in each treatment arm experienced at least one bleeding TEAE, compared to 3 in placebo cohort
- 35 bleeding events reported in 13/38 patients; 15 bleeds (37%) in 1 non-responder (data not shown)

## Efgartigimod Reduces Incidence of Bleeding Compared to Placebo argenx

Bleeding events in 10 mg/kg arm steadily decline and stay low following treatment

#### WHO scale in placebo versus 5 mg/kg and 10 mg/kg efgartigimod

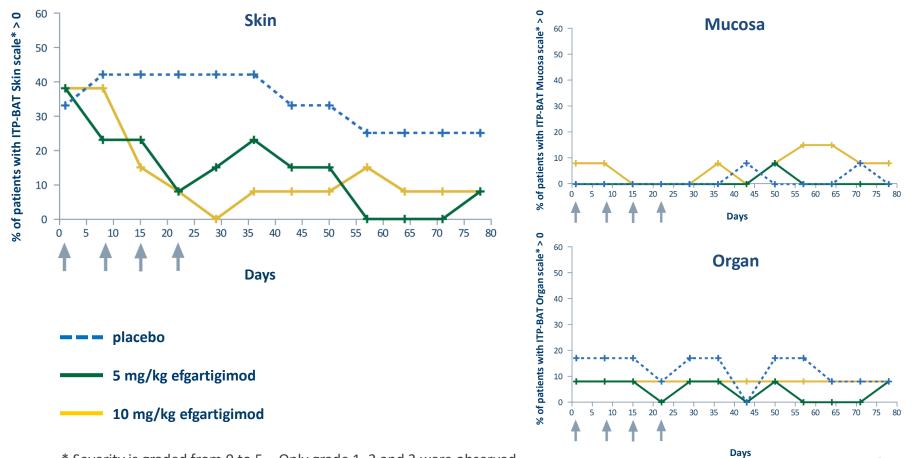


\* Severity is graded from 0 to 4 – Only grade 1 and 2 were observed

# Fewer Patients with Bleeds in Active Arms Versus Placebo Over Time



ITP-BAT/SMOG scale in placebo versus 5 mg/kg and 10 mg/kg efgartigimod



\* Severity is graded from 0 to 5 – Only grade 1, 2 and 3 were observed

## Reduction of Total IgGs Correlates with Increased Platelet Counts and Reduced Bleeding Events



#### Mean platelet counts versus total WHO scale versus total IgGs



Placebo

### 10 mg/kg efgartigimod

**O** 80 % patients with total WHO scale > Mean platelet count (x10<sup>9</sup>/L) % Tota l IgGs n Days

Mean platelet counts (x10<sup>9</sup>/L)

% patients with total WHO scale >0

## ITP Phase 2 Results Establish Hematologic Beachhead

Novel approach beyond boosting platelet production or broad immuno-suppression





Favorable and consistent safety and tolerability profile

- No trends seen for infections or headaches across all studies
- No decreases in IgM, IgE, IgA or albumin



Robust efficacy signal in relapsed/refractory population after short drug exposure

- Clinically meaningful increase in platelet counts over placebo
- 50% of patients came on study with platelets <15x10<sup>9</sup>



Strong correlation between IgG reduction, platelet count improvement and reduction of bleeding events



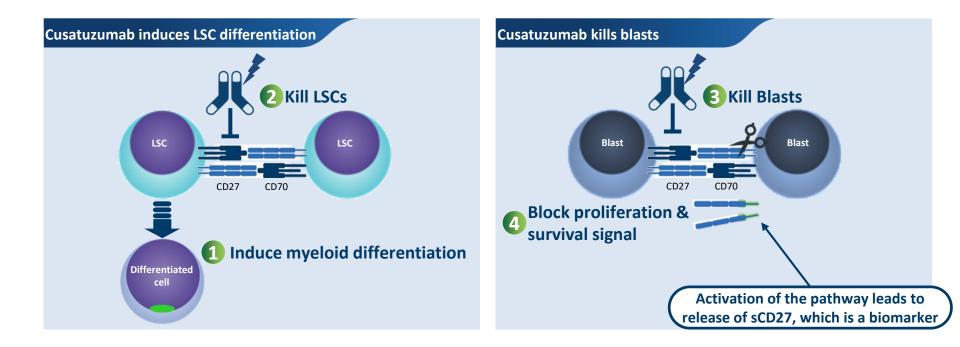
Data enable Phase 3 in ITP (IV) and launch of Phase 2 in ITP (SC)



# Cusatuzumab: Selectively Targeting LSCs

## Cusatuzumab: Unique MOA Targeting Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML) Leukemic Stem Cells (LSCs) and Blasts



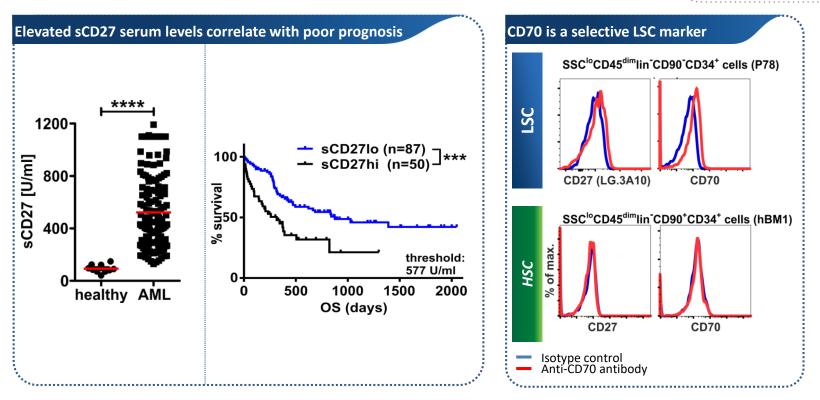


- First-in-class anti-CD70 ADCC enhanced SIMPLE Antibody<sup>™</sup> which selectively targets LSCs and blasts in AML and other hematological indications
- CD70 expressed on ~86-100% of AML blasts; majority of malignant cells are CD70/CD27 double-positive

## Selective Targeting of CD70 Expressed on Leukemic Stem Cells



Unifying rationale across risk and age classes in AML

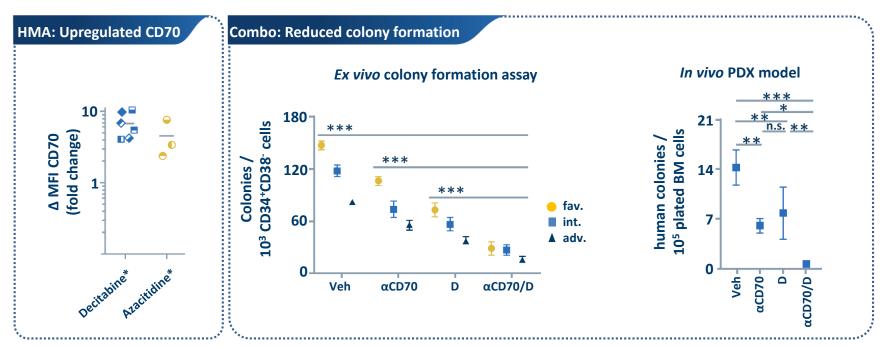


Legend: OS, overall survival. Statistics: left: one-way ANOVA; middle: log-rank test. \*\*\*, P < 0.001.

- Elevated serum sCD27 in all newly diagnosed AML patients, regardless of risk category or age
- sCD27 levels are an independent negative prognostic marker in all newly diagnosed AML patients
- CD70 selectively overexpressed on LSCs, not on hematopoietic stem cells (HSCs)



## Cusatuzumab + Hypomethylating Agents Work Synergistically



Legend: αCD70: anti-CD70 Ab 41D12-D/cusatuzumab variant, adv.: adverse, BM: bone marrow, D: decitabine, fav. Favourable, int.: intermediate, LSC: FACS-purified leukemic stem/progenitor cells, \*HMA SoC: D and A dosed 5 resp. 7 consecutive days, MFI: mean fluorescence intensity, PDX: patient-derived *in vivo* xenograft model in immunodeficient NSG mice, Veh: vehicle

- HMAs upregulate CD70 on AML leukemic stem cells NOT on hematopoietic stem cells
- Ex vivo: HMA/cusa variant synergistically reduces colony formation
- In vivo: Transient treatment by HMA/cusa variant eradicates human LSCs in therapeutic model (not shown)

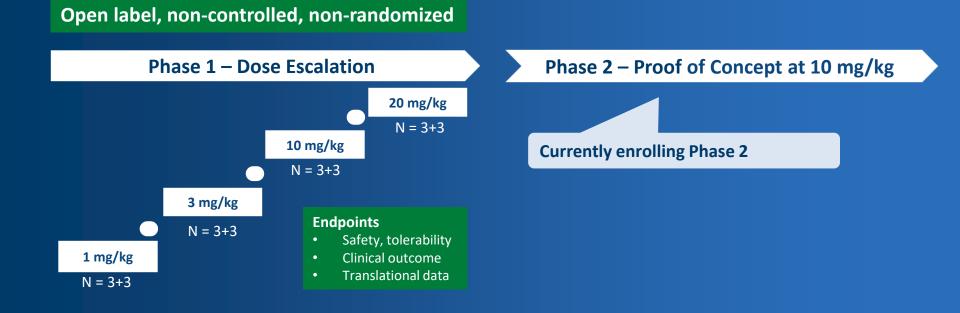


# Ongoing Phase 1/2 Trial in Newly Diagnosed AML: Update Phase 1

## **Ongoing Phase 1/2 Combination Trial**

Newly diagnosed AML patients unfit for intensive chemotherapy



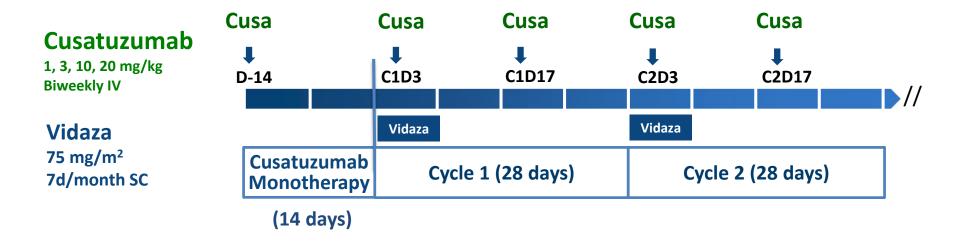


- Efficacy seen across doses in Phase 1 dose escalation
- Up to 21 patients to enroll in initial Phase 2 study with potential to expand enrollment to 40
- 10 mg/kg selected for Phase 2 to saturate bone marrow and maintain clean tolerability profile

## **Ongoing Phase 1/2 Combination Trial**

Two weeks cusatuzumab monotherapy to assess impact on LSC biology





#### Key inclusion criteria

- Newly diagnosed AML patients
- Unfit for intensive treatment or stem cell transplantation
- ≥20% blasts in the bone marrow by cytomorphology

## **Phase 1 Dose Escalation Population**

#### Newly diagnosed patients with intermediate or adverse risk profiles



		1 mg/kg (N=3)	3 mg/kg (N=3)	10 mg/kg (N=3)	20 mg/kg (N=3)	Total (N=12)
Age (years)	Median	77	71	74	76	75
	Range	75-81	71-84	64-75	72-77	64-84
Gender	Male	2	1	2	2	7
	Female	1	2	1	1	5
AML Classification	NOS*	0	1	2	0	3
(WHO 2016)	With myelodysplasia- related changes	2	2	0	2	6
	Therapy related myeloid neoplasm	1	0	0	0	1
	Recurrent genetic abnormalities	0	0	1	1	2
Time since diagnosis (days)	Median	21	20	4	17	11.5
	Range	0-54	6-61	0-4	0-29	0-61
Risk categories <sup>#</sup>	Intermediate	1	2	2	1	6
	Adverse	2	1	1	2	6

\* NOS: not otherwise specified; # ELN 2017

- Median age: 75 years
- Balanced distribution of intermediate or adverse risk profiles between different cohorts

## Vidaza Monotherapy Provides Limited Overall Response Rate



ORR in 30-35% range with significant side effects

Study	Patients (N)	ORR (%)	Adverse events (G3-G4)	%
Falantes <i>et al.</i> 2017	710	35.5*	Pancytopenia Febrile neutropenia Infections	8 — 75 11 — 50 6 — 30
Dombret <i>et al.</i> 2015	231	31.1**	Febrile neutropenia Neutropenia Thrombocytopenia Pneumonia Anemia Leukopenia Hypokalemia Infections	28 26 24 24 19 16 7 5

60% of newly diagnosed AML patients are more than 60 years old

Hypomethylating agents (HMA) have no documented effect on leukemic stem cells responsible for relapse

•

Dombret et al. 2015, Blood; Falantes et al. 2017, Leuk & Lymphoma.

## Phase 1 Dose Escalation: No Obvious Toxicity on Top of Known Vidaza Toxicity



Cut-off: 15Oct18

Treatment Emerging Adverse Events (TEAEs)	Grade 3* events (N)	Grade 4 events (N)	Grade 5 events (N)
Anemia	16 (5)	1 (1)	
Thrombocytopenia	6 (4)	7 (4)	
Neutropenia	3 (2)	3 (3)	
Febrile Neutropenia	4 (4)		
Leukopenia		2 (2)	
Hypertension	2 (1)		
Multi-Organ Failure			1 (1)
Atrial Flutter		1 (1)	

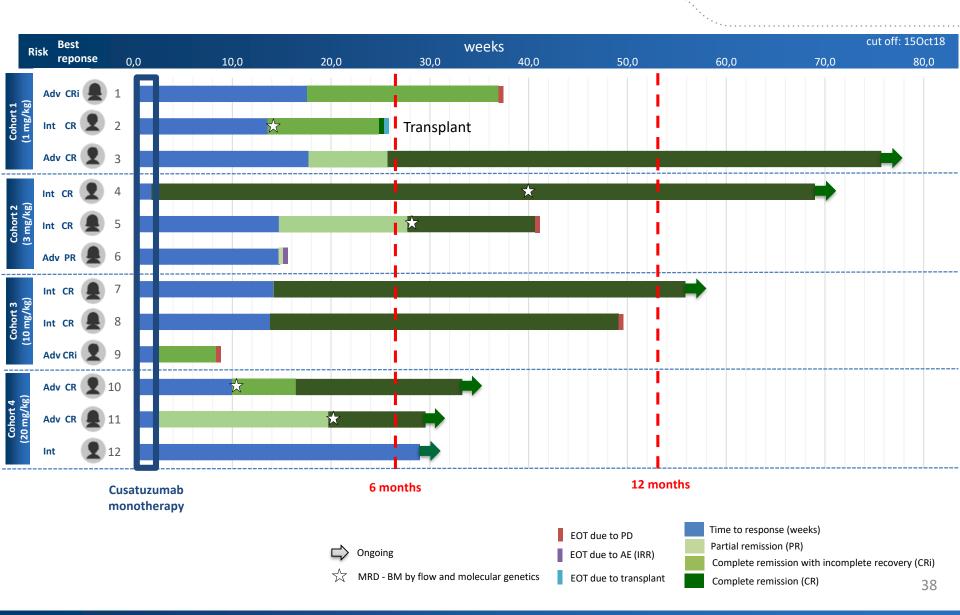
\* Grade 3: only if reported in at least 2 cases

- No dose-limiting toxicity observed
- Grade 3 and 4 hematological toxicities in line with expected Vidaza toxicities in 6 patients (50%), predominantly reported in 1 mg/kg and 3 mg/kg cohorts
- Other single cases of Grade 3 events were reported: Constipation, Arthritis, Proctitis, Epistaxis, Tooth Infection, Vulvovaginal Inflammation, Anal Abscess, Agitation, Lung infection, Pleuro-pericarditis, Lung infiltration
- Multi-Organ failure (Grade 5) was due to disease progression

## 92% (11/12) Response Rate – CR/CRi/PR

#### Three patients on study for more than 12 months

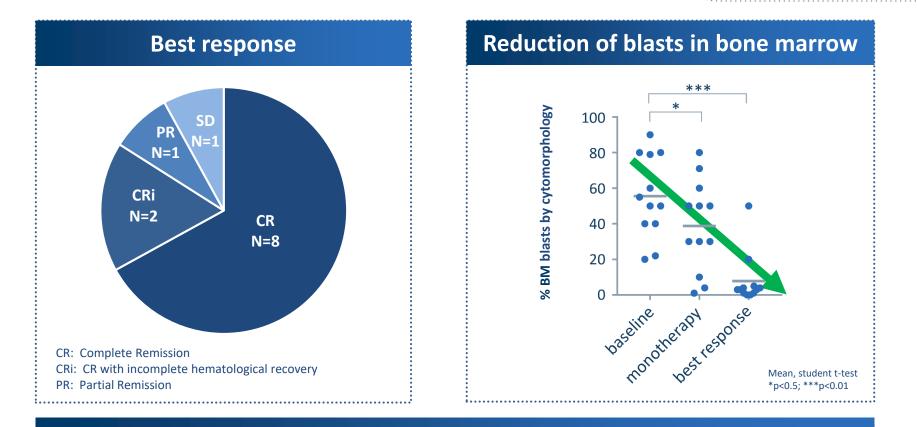




#### **Response Rate Skewed Towards CR/CRi (10/12 Patients)**

#### Response correlates with decrease of blasts in bone marrow

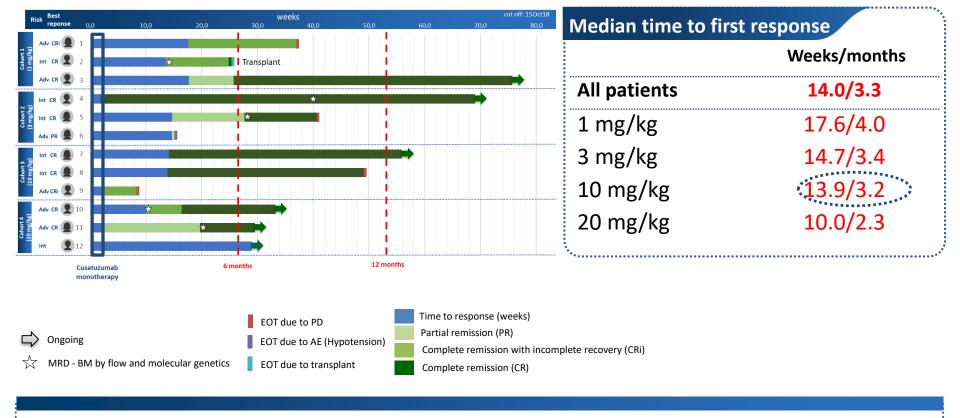




- 11 (92%) patients responded to the combination therapy:
  - Including 10/11 patients reaching complete remission (8 with hematologic recovery and 2 without)
- Mean reduction of bone marrow blasts:
  - 30% after cusatuzumab monotherapy that reduced down to 86% at best response

### Rapid Onset of Response with 3 Patients Reaching First Response After Single Dose



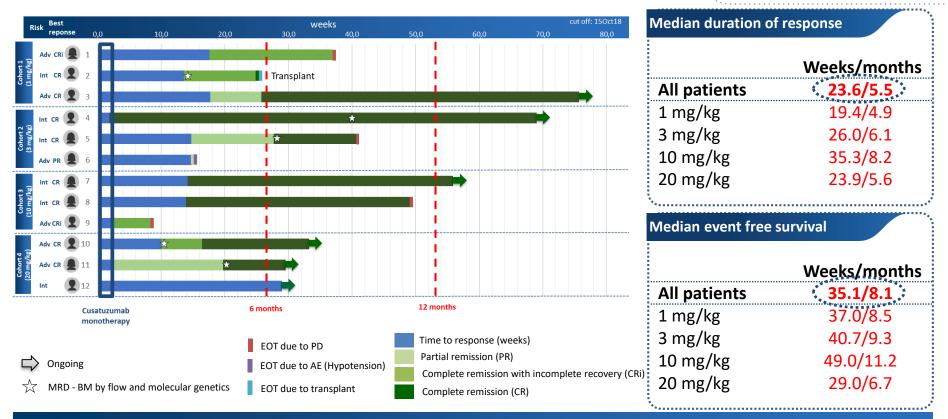


• 3 (25%) patients reached a first response after a single dose of cusatuzumab

#### **Duration of Response – Ongoing Analysis**

3/12 patients event free survival > 1 year; 6/12 patients still on study

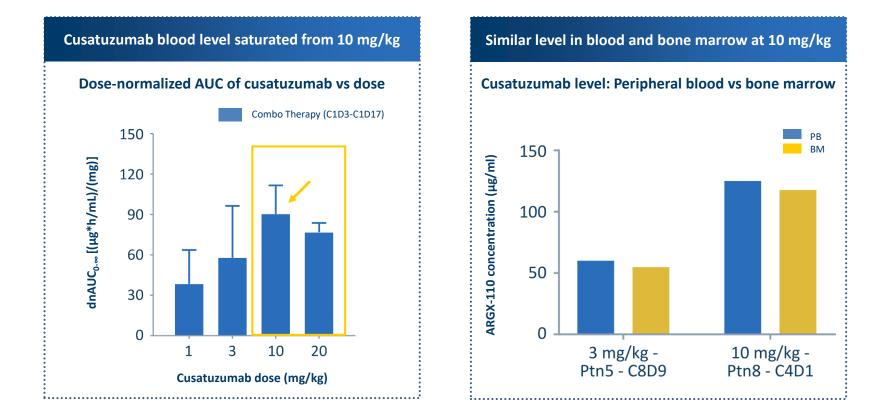




- Median duration of response: 5.5 months
- Median event free survival: 8.1 months (range: 2 months 17.4 months)
- 9 (75%) patients event free survival for > 6 months
- 6 (50%) patients still on trial:
  - 3 patients more than 1 year on trial
  - 1 patient more than 17 months on trial

Saturating serum level at this dose maintained in bone marrow



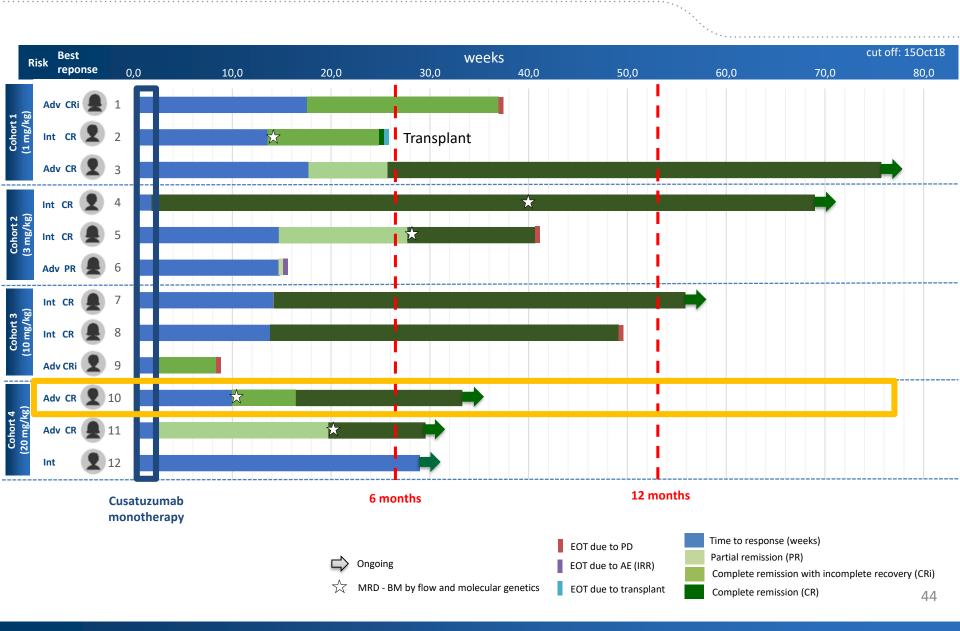


- RP2D was established at 10 mg/kg based on safety data, pharmacokinetics and saturation of cusatuzumab in blood
- Similar levels of cusatuzumab observed in blood and bone marrow

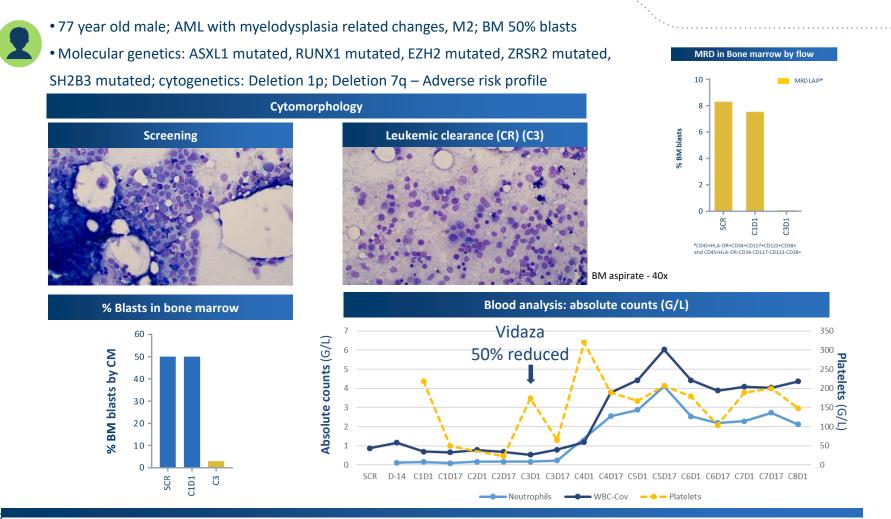


# Patient Case Studies

## Case 10: Complete Remission after Lowering Vidaza Concentration



**Case 10: Complete Remission after Lowering Vidaza Concentration** 

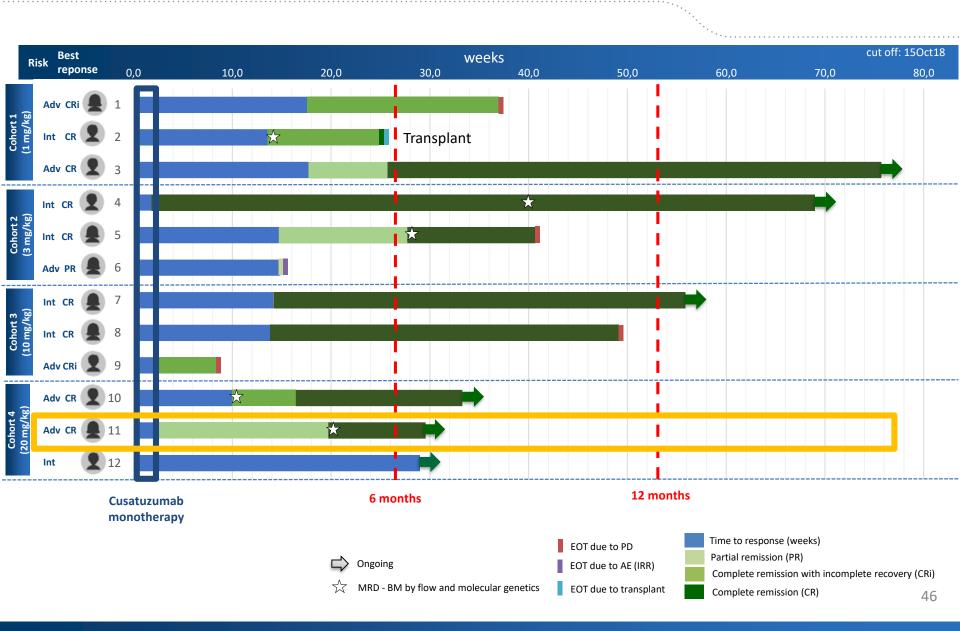


Complete remission with incomplete hematological recovery at C3 and MRD negativity by flow cytometry

- Complete remission at C4D17
- Vidaza reduced by 50% due to Vidaza hematoxicity (C3); cusatuzumab maintained at 20 mg/kg
- Still on study

argenx •

## Case 10: Complete Remission after Lowering Vidaza Concentration



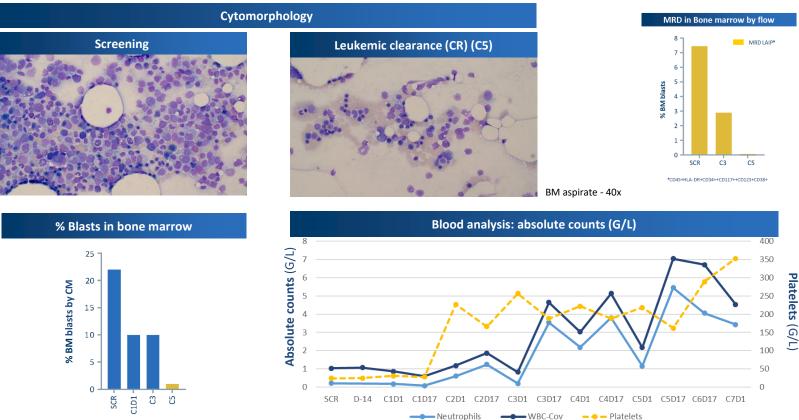


### **Case 11: Complete Remission in a TP53 Mutant AML Patient**



• 72 year old female; AML with myelodysplasia related changes; BM 22% blasts CM

• Molecular genetics: ASXL1 mutation, TP53 mutation; cytogenetics: 46,XX,-7,+mar[14]/46,XX[6] – Adverse risk profile



- Partial remission at C1 after one dose of 20 mg/kg cusatuzumab monotherapy
- Complete remission at C5 with MRD negativity by flow cytometry
- Still on study

### **MRD** Negativity

#### Measured by flow cytometry and molecular genetics

Cohort	Case	Response	MRD flow BM*	MRD mol BM	MRD flow PB*	MRD mol PB
1 mg/kg	1	CRi	+	+	+	+
	2	CR	-	-	-	-
	3	CR	+	NA	-	NA
3 mg/kg	4	CR	-	-	-	-
	5	CR	+	-	-	+
	6	PR	+	+	+	+
10 mg/kg	7	CR	NA	+	-	NA
	8	CR	+	+	-	+
	9	Cri	+	NA	+	NA
20 mg/kg	10	CR	-	+	-	+
	11	CR	-	+	-	+
	12		+	NA	+	NA

\* MRD negativity threshold = 10E-4





#### **Overall Conclusions Phase 1 Dose Escalation**

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#### Favorable tolerability profile

- No obvious toxicity on top of Vidaza toxicity
- No dose-limiting toxicity observed



Encouraging proof-of-biology data in 12 patients (4 dose cohorts; 3 pts each)

- 92% response rate (11/12) mainly CR/CRi
- 3 patients responded after cusatuzumab monotherapy
- Significant blast reduction in bone marrow after cusatuzumab monotherapy
- MRD negativity in 42% (5/12) treated patients

### Supported by translational dataset

- Decreased sCD27 levels
- Reduced LSC colony formation
- Increased myeloid differentiation asymmetric division



### Recommended Phase 2 dose: 10 mg/kg





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Thank you to the study teams, the patients and their families



# Thank you!

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