# So after 3 phase trials favoring ibrutinib, does CIT any role?





Ibrutinib, Fludarabine, Cyclophosphamide, and Obinutuzumab (iFCG) for Firstline Treatment of Patients with CLL with Mutated *IGHV* and without *TP53* Aberrations

Nitin Jain, Philip Thompson, Jan Burger, Alessandra Ferrajoli, Gautam Borthakur, Prithviraj Bose, Zeev Estrov, Tapan Kadia, Koichi Takahashi, Naveen Garg, Xuemei Wang, Rashmi Kanagal-Shamanna, Keyur Patel, Wanda Lopez, Ana Ayala, William Plunkett, Varsha Gandhi, Hagop Kantarjian, Susan O'Brien, Michael Keating, William Wierda

Department of Leukemia, MDACC ASH 2018, Abstract 185

## Firstline Ibr+FC+Obi (iFCG) in Patients with IGHV Mutations and Without TP53 Mutations

#### Key eligibility criteria

- Previously untreated CLL meeting iwCLL criteria for treatment
- Age ≥ 18 years, ECOG 0-2
- IGHV mutated and NO del (17p)/TP53 mutation

#### iFCG 3 courses<sup>a</sup>

- Ibr 420 mg/d PO continuous
- G 100 mg c1 d1, 900 mg c1 d2, 1000 mg c1 d8 & 15; 1000 mg c2-3 d1
- Flu 25 mg/m<sup>2</sup> and Cyclo 250 mg/m<sup>2</sup> on c1 d2, 3, & 4; c2-3 d1, 2, & 3

Ibr for 9 courses (all patients) +
G for 3 courses (if CR/CRi with BM U-MRD4)

or

G for 9 courses (if PR and/or BM MRDpos)

After 12 courses

BM U-MRD4 → stop Ibr

BM MRD+ → Ibr

**Primary endpoint**: CR/CRi with U-MRD in BM after 3 courses iFCG

Response assessments (2008 iwCLL) using PB, BM and CT q3mo during first year; BM MRD (10<sup>-4</sup>) by flow q3mo during first year

After Ibr discontinuation at 1 year, serial MRD assessed in blood q6mo

<sup>a</sup>Required antiviral prophylaxis (acyclovir/valacyclovir), optional PJP prophylaxis; G-CSF optional early in trial and required later.

Jain et al. ASH 2018. Abstract 185. https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT02629809.

- 44/45 completed 3 cycles iFCG
- Patient characteristics: median age 60 y, 49% Rai III/IV, and 69% del(13q)

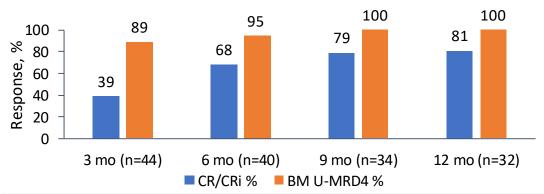
Adverse Events, %	iFCG (N=45)
Grade 3/4 neutropenia Cycles 1-3 After prophylactic G-CSF during cycles 1-3 Cycles 4-12	53 33 27
Grade 3/4 thrombocytopenia Cycles 1-3 Cycles 4-12	38 5
Grade 3/4 infections <sup>a</sup> Neutropenic fever Prior to G-CSF use After prophylactic G-CSF	27 14 0
Infusion-related reactions All grade Grade 3/4	42 4
Grade 3/4 transaminitis	13
All grade atrial fibrillation	11

<sup>a</sup>Of the 5 cases with neutropenic fever, 4 were culture negative, and one was PJP PNA; 2 each of pneumonia and (not neutropenic) and cellulitis and 1 each of pulmonary MAC infection, acute cholecystitis, and colitis were reported. No cases of invasive fungal infection.

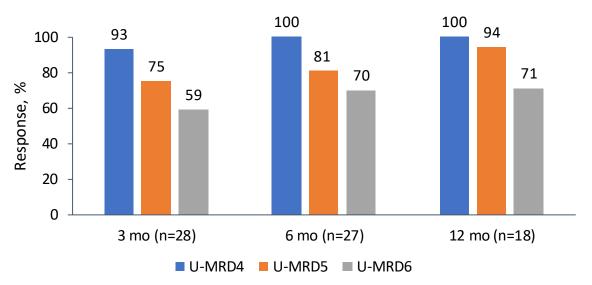
## Firstline Ibr+FC+Obi (iFCG) in Patients with IGHV Mutations and Without TP53 Mutations

Outcomes (Evaluable)	iFCG (n = 44)	
Median follow-up, mo (range)	22.3 (3.5-32.1)	
After 3 cycles iFCG, n/N (%)	Response	BM U-MRD4
ORR	44 (100)	39/44 (89)
CR/CRi	17 (39)	17/17 (100)
PR	27 (61)	22/27 (81)
Median PFS and OS	Not reached	

#### **Responses Over Time (Evaluable Patients)**



#### Serial BM MRD by NGS (ClonoSeq Assay)



<sup>a</sup>For MRD6 sensitivity (cycle 3, n=22; cycle 6, n=23; cycle 12, n=14)

- 32 patients reached 1 year follow-up
  - All 32 had BM U-MRD4 (26 CR/CRi, 6 PR) and discontinued 1br
  - Median follow-up after stopping Ibr: 13.6 mo (range, 1.4-20.7)
  - No patient had MRD or clinical relapse

#### **Summary**

- iFCG achieves high rate of BM U-MRD4 in previously untreated patients with CLL with IGHV mutation
- No patient has progressed and all patients who have stopped Ibr maintain MRD negativity

Jain et al. ASH 2018. Abstract 185.

# What is the future of front line therapy after ibrutinib?



Combined Ibrutinib and Venetoclax in Patients with Treatment-Naïve High-Risk Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia (CLL)



Nitin Jain, Michael Keating, Philip Thompson, Alessandra Ferrajoli, Jan Burger, Gautam Borthakur, Koichi Takahashi, Zeev Estrov, Nathan Fowler, Tapan Kadia, Marina Konopleva, Yesid Alvarado, Musa Yilmaz, Courtney DiNardo, Prithviraj Bose, Maro Ohanian, Naveen Pemmaraju, Elias Jabbour, Koji Sasaki, Rashmi Kanagal-Shamanna, Keyur Patel, Jeffrey Jorgensen, Naveen Garg, Xuemei Wang, Katrina Sondermann, Nichole Cruz, Chongjuan Wei, Ana Ayala, William Plunkett, Hagop Kantarjian, Varsha Gandhi, William Wierda

# Phase 2 Firstline Ibrutinib and Venetoclax in High-Risk CLL

#### Key eligibility criteria

- Treatment-naïve CLL meeting 2008 iwCLL criteria
- ≥ 1 high-risk feature: del(17p), mutated TP53, del(11q),
   IGHV unmutated, and/or age ≥ 65 y

#### Part 1

Ibr 420 mg/d for 3 cycles (continued c4-27) + Cycle 4-27 added Ven weekly ramp-up to 400 mg/d

Combo administered for 24 cycles

Patients with BM U-MRD4 (10<sup>-4</sup>) at 24 cycles of combined therapy stop Ibr

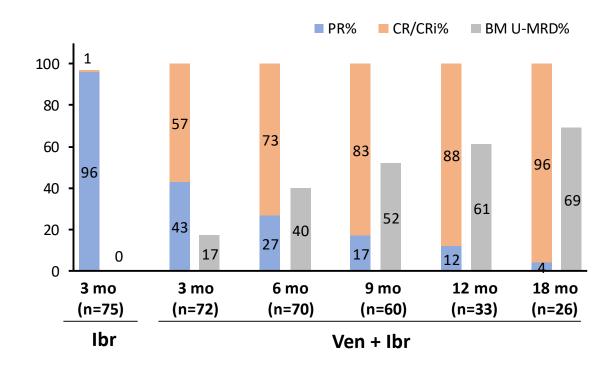
Patients with MRD-positive CLL continued Ibr

Response assessed PB, BM and CT (2008 iwCLL) after cycle 3 of lbr, and q6mo during year 2 of lbr + Ven

**Primary endpoint:** CR/CRi

Jain et al. ASH 2018. Abstract 186. https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT02756897.

- 92% of patients had IGHV unmutated, TP53, or del(11q)
- n=75 initiated Ven; median follow-up was 14.8 mo (range, 5.6-27.5)



- 76% of patients ≥65 y (n=17) achieved UMRD4 at 12 mo of lbr+Ven
- U-MRD4 responses were seen across subgroups, including *IGHV* unmutated, del(17p), and *TP53*, *NOTCH1*, and *SF3B1* mutations

# Phase 2 Firstline Ibrutinib and Venetoclax in High-Risk CLL

#### **Progression**

- No patient had CLL progression
- 1 high-risk CLL (unmutated IGHV, NOTCH1 mutation) patient developed Richter transformation

#### Discontinuations and dosing

- 11 (14%) patients have discontinued treatment:
   5 during ibr mono and 6 during IV combo
- Ibr and Ven dose reductions: 44% and 24%
- 6 pts stopped Ibr due to AEs and continued Ven alone

#### TLS

- 80% high risk and 48% of medium risk patients had down-grading of TLS risk category
- 3 patients had lab TLS (no clinical TLS)

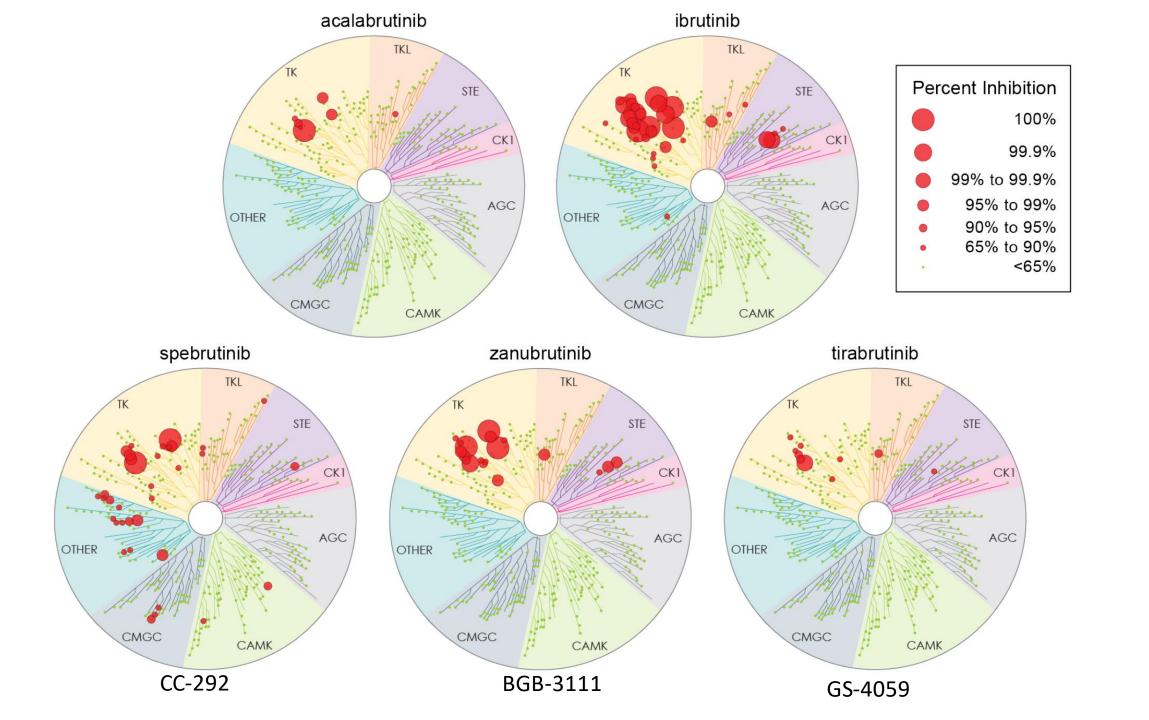
#### **Safety**

- Most common nonhematologic AEs were easy bruising (60%), arthralgia (48%), and diarrhea (41%)
- Grade 3/4 neutropenia 48%; (5% neutropenic fever)
- Any grade atrial fibrillation/flutter in 15% (10% grade ≥3)
- Grade ≥3 infections in 18%

#### Summary

- Ibr + Ven is a safe and effective chemotherapy-free oral regimen for patients with high-risk TN CLL
- Responses improved with ongoing therapy and were observed in older patients and across high-risk subgroups

Jain et al. ASH 2018. Abstract 186.



## Acalabrutinib

Highly-selective, potent kinase inhibitor

Designed to minimize off-target activity with minimal effects on

TEC, EGFR, or ITK signaling

Kinase selectivity profiling at 1  $\mu$ M

# Acalabrutinib Ibrutinib OTHER CMGG CAMK Ibrutinib OTHER CMGG CAMK CMGG CAMK

The size of the red circle is proportional to the degree of inhibition.

Kinase Inhibition IC <sub>50</sub> (nM)			
Kinase	Acalabrutinib	Ibrutinib	
ВТК	5.1	1.5	
TEC	126	10	
вмх	46	0.8	
TXK	368	2.0	
ERBB2	~1000	6.4	
EGFR	>1000	5.3	
ITK	>1000	4.9	
JAK3	>1000	32	
BLK	>1000	0.1	

# Phase 1/2 Study of Acalabrutinib in TN CLL (ACE-CL-001)

# TN CLL/SLL with ECOG 0-2 Acalabrutinib 100 mg BID (n=62) or 200 mg QD (n=37)<sup>a</sup>

**Primary endpoints:** Safety **Secondary endpoints:** ORR by investigator (2008 iwCLL with modification for lymphocytosis), DOR, PFS

Exploratory endpoints: TTR (PR/CR), EFS, BTK occupancy, changed in T/NK/monocyte cell counts

Patient Characteristics, n (%)	All Patients (N = 99)
Median age, y (range)	64 (33-85)
Bulky lymph nodes (≥ 5 cm)	46 (46)
Rai stage III/IV	47 (47)
Genomic status	
IGHV unmutated	57/92 (62)
Complex karyotype	12/60 (20)
TP53 or NOTCH1 mutation	10/66 (15)
del(17p)	9/91 (10)

 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm a}$  Patients started on 200 mg QD and then switched to 100 mg BID. Byrd et al. ASH 2018 Abstract 692.

- At a median of 42 mo, 89% patients remain on study treatment
- 5% discontinued due to AEs

Efficacy, n (%) <sup>a</sup>	All Patients (N = 99)
ORR	96 (97)
CR	5 (5)
PR	91 (92)
ORR in each high-risk subgroup,%	100
Median TTR, mo (range)	3.7 (2-22)
Median time to CR, mo (range)	28
36-mo DOR, % (95% CI)	98 (90-99)
36-mo PFS, % (95% CI)	97 (91-99)

- Median PFS was not reached
- BTK occupancy was 97%-99% throughout BID dosing at steady state
- No clinically meaningful changes in T-cell counts

# Phase 1/2 Study of Acalabrutinib in TN CLL (ACE-CL-001)

Most Common AEs in Year 1, n (%)	Any Grade
Diarrhea	33%
Headache	44%
Upper respiratory tract infection	20%
Contusion	23%
Arthralgia	22%
Petechiae	16%
Ecchymosis	16%
Hypertension	12%

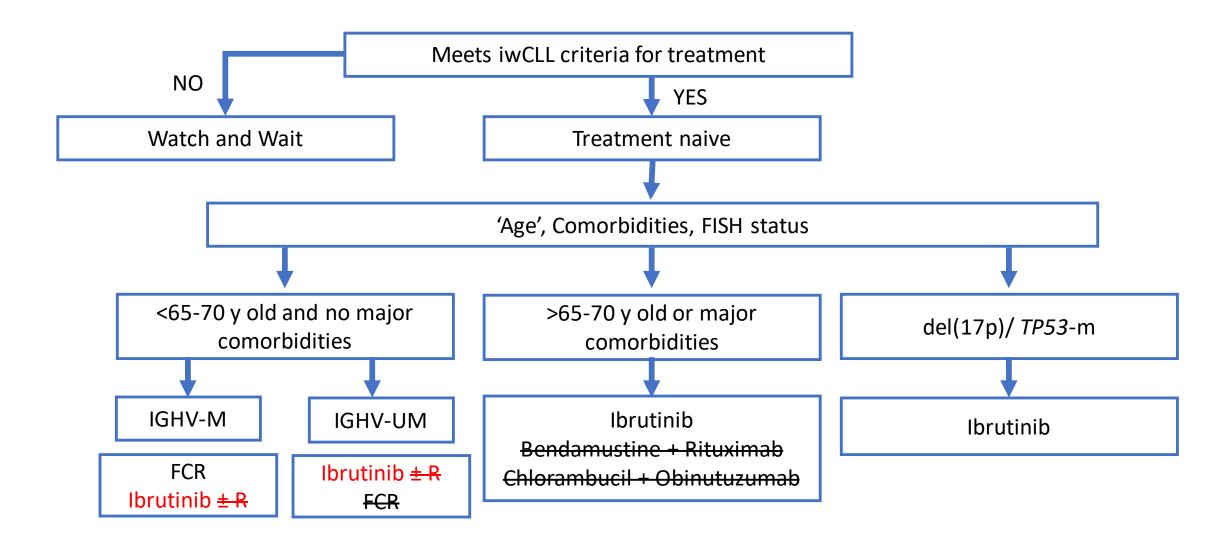
- Atrial fibrillation: 6% all grades, 2% Gr 3+
- Most common bleeding events (64% overall); none leading to discontinuation
  - Contusion (39%)
  - Petechiae (18%)
  - Ecchymosis (16%)
- 35% SAEs mainly due to infection (n=9) and sinusitis (n=2)
- AEs leading to discontinuation: 3 SPM, 1 gr 4 sepsis, 1 gr 3 UTI
- 1 gr 5 multiorgan failure in setting of pneumonia (unrelated)

#### **Summary**

Acalabrutinib monotherapy produced high response rates and an acceptable safety profile in patients with TN CLL

Data cut-off: Septebmer 4, 2018. Byrd et al. ASH 2018 Abstract 692.

# CLL Front Line Treatment Algorithm post ASH 2018



# Treatment for Relapsed/Refractory CLL

# MURANO: Feasibility of Time-Limited VenR in R/R CLL

Median treatment exposure: 24.4 mo VR vs 5.5 mo BR

**PFS** (median follow-up of 36.0 mo)

- VR (n=194) was superior to BR (n=195)
  - Median PFS: NR with VR vs 17.0 mo with BR HR=0.16 (95% CI, 0.12-0.23)
  - 3-y PFS: 71% VenR vs 15% BR
  - PFS benefit consistent across subgroups

#### OS

- VR superior to BR (HR=0.5; 95% CI, 0.30-0.85)
- 3-y OS: 88% with VR vs 80% with BR

 130/194 (67%) VenR patients completed 2 y of treatment without PD

Grade 3/4 AEs (≥5% in any arm), n (%) <sup>a</sup>	VenR (n = 194)	BR (n=188)
Neutropenia <sup>b</sup>	114 (59)	75 (40)
Anemia <sup>b</sup>	21 (11)	26 (14)
Thrombocytopenia	11 (6)	19 (10)
Febrile Neutropenia	7 (4)	18 (10)
Pneumonia	10 (5)	15 (8)
Infusion-related reaction	4 (2)	10 (5)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>AE reporting period longer with VenR vs BR.

- 33% of patients did not complete 2 yrs VR regimen
- 21% due to reasons other than PD/death

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup>Neutropenia and anemia were higher in VenR combo period than Ven monotherapy period.

# MURANO: Feasibility of Time-Limited VenR in R/R CLL

• PFS in first 12 mo after Ven completion

• 6-mo PFS: 92% (95% CI, 87%-97%)

• 12-mo PFS: 87% (95% CI, 81%-94%)

• Significant predictors of PD: MRD status, TP53 and/or del(17p)

MRD Status Off-Therapy (median f/u 9.9 mo)	PD-free	PD
uMRD (<10 <sup>-4</sup> ; n=83)	98%	2%
Low MRD+ (10 <sup>-4</sup> - <10 <sup>-2</sup> ; n=23)	87%	13%
High MRD+ (≥10 <sup>-2</sup> ; n=14)	21%	79%
Missing (n=10)	100%	0

<b>Predictors of PD</b>	at EOT, n/N (%)	No PD	PD	P Value	
	uMRD	81/83 (98)	2/83 (2)		
PB MRD at EOT	Low-MRD+	20/23 (87)	3/23 (13)	< 0.0001	
	High-MRD+	3/14 (21)	11 /14 (79)		
del(17)p	Yes	22/28 (79)	6/28 (21)	0.09	
uei(17)ρ	No	82/90 (91)	8/90 (9)	0.09	
TP53 mutation	Present	19/26 (73)	7/26 (27)	0.02	
1733 illutation	Absent	94/103 (91)	9/103 (9)	0.02	
<i>TP53</i> mut.	Neither present	73/78 (94)	5/78 (6)	0.01	
and/or del(17p)	At least 1 present	33/43 (77)	10/43 (23)	0.01	
del(11)q	Yes	31/32 (97)	1/32 (3)	0.25	
uei(11)q	No	51/58 (88)	7/58 (12)	0.25	
IGHV mut. status	Present	36/38 (95)	2/38 (5)	0.14	
IGITY Mut. Status	Absent	71/84 (85)	13/84 (15)	0.14	
No. prior	1	69/78 (88)	9/78 (12)	0.70	
therapies	≥2	45/52 (87)	7/52 (13)	- 0.79	
Pulley disease	<5 cm	58/67 (87)	9/67 (13)	1.0	
Bulky disease	≥5 cm	46/53 (87)	7/53 (13)	1.0	
Nodal status at	<1.5 cm	59/64 (92)	5/64 (8)		
Nodal status at EOCT	≥1.5-<2 cm	21/23 (91)	2/23 (9)	0.08	
1001	≥2 cm	30/39 (77)	9/39 (23)		

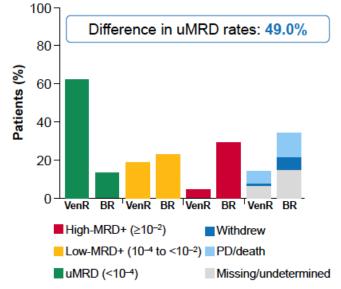
#### **Summary**

- At median 3-y follow-up, VenR shows clinically meaningful benefit for PFS and OS over BR and with no new safety signals
- High rate of uMRD and MRD status with VenR were strong predictors of durable PFS following drug cessation
- Low rate of progression and safety profile following completion of Ven treatment supports the feasibility of VenR

# MURANO: VenR vs BR in R/R CLL MRD and Long-Term Outcomes

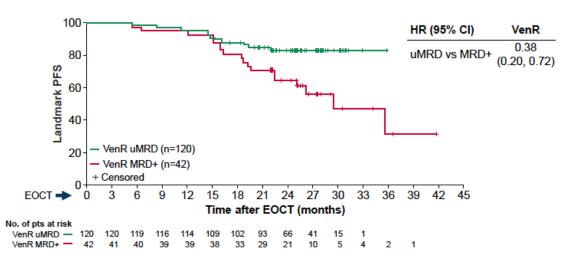
- Long-term analysis of MRD and PFS following completion of therapy by all patients
- PB MRD by ASO-PCR and/or flow at c4d1, EOCT; mo 9, every 3 mo for 3 y, then every 6 mo
- Categories:
  - uMRD (<10<sup>-4</sup>)
  - Low MRD+  $(10^{-4} < 10^{-2})$
  - High MRD+ (≥ 10<sup>-2</sup>)

PB uMRD rates were higher with VenR than BR at EOCT

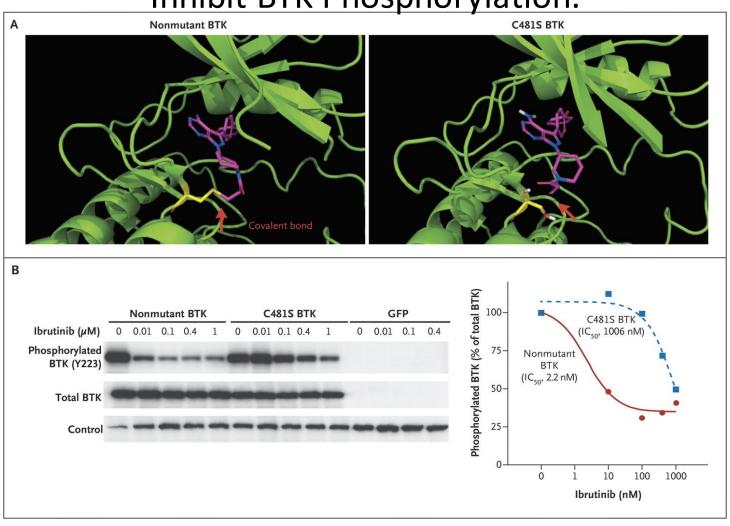


- Median 36.0 mo of follow-up
- uMRD rates at EOCT (mo 9) and mo 24 in high risk:
  - del(17p) and/or TP53: 56.9% (n=72) and 51.2% (n=43)
  - Unmutated IGVH: 61% (n=123) and 66.7% (n=84)

#### uMRD status at EOCT was highly predictive of prolonged PFS

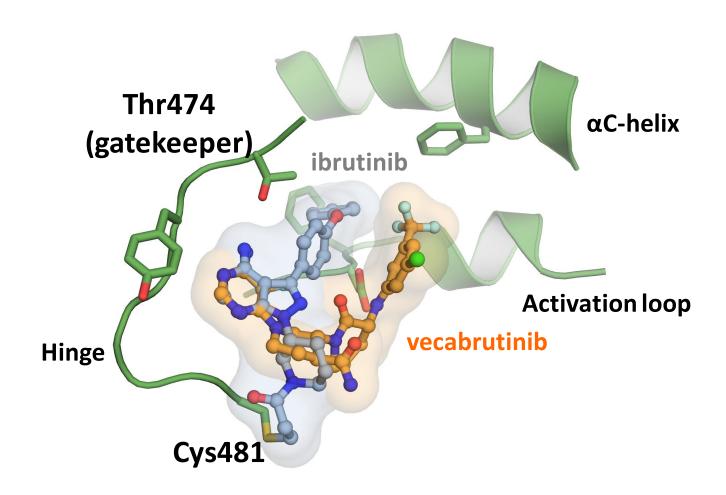


Effect of C481S Mutation of Bruton's Tyrosine Kinase (BTK) on Ibrutinib Binding and the Ability of Ibrutinib to Inhibit BTK Phosphorylation.



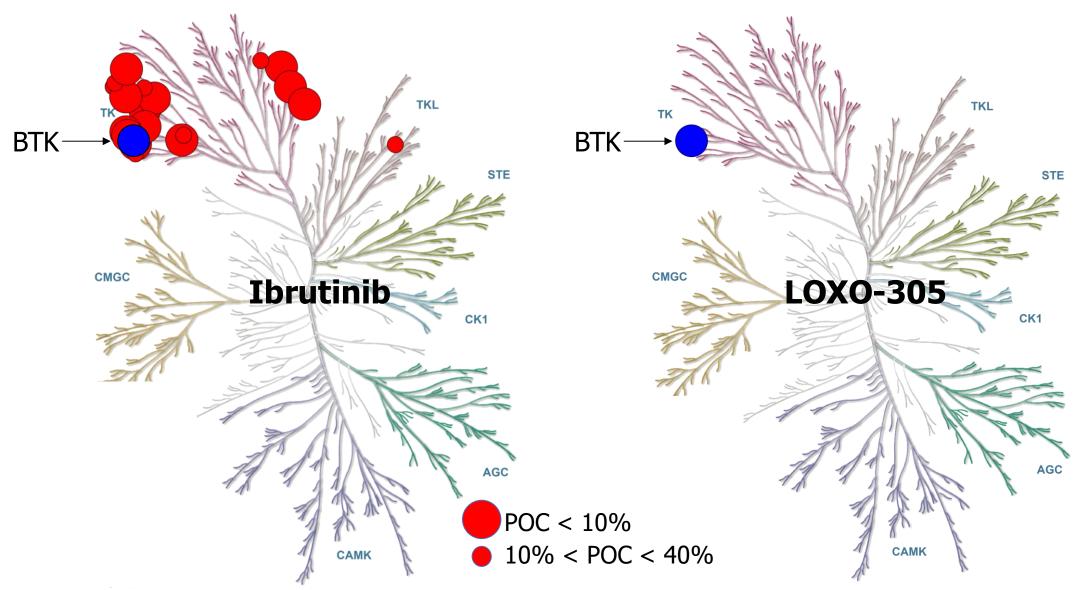
Furman RR et al. N Engl J Med 2014;370:2352-2354.

# Vecabrutinib



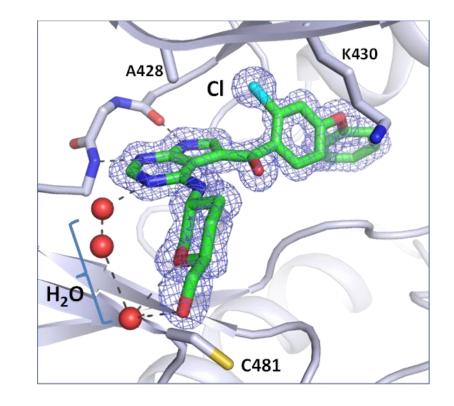
• Vecabrutinib interacts with a distinct set of residues in the  $\alpha$ C-helix

# LOXO-305



# ARQ 531

**ARQ 531** 



- Reversible inhibition of BTK
- Occupies the ATP binding pocket non C481
- Orally bioavailable

# Conclusions

- Ibrutinib has show superior PFS vs chemoimmunotherapy in 3 phase III trials and has become an excellent front line therapy.
- Anti-CD20 does not seem to add benefit to ibrutinib in front line therapy.
- IgHV mutational status is a valid marker for therapy stratification in all patients but younger ones with IgHV mutated may still benefit from FCR and FCR combinations.
- Venetoclax +CD20MoAb is becoming a great alternative for 2<sup>nd</sup> line.
- New combinations (I+V and O+V=CLL14) will soon allow time limited therapy in front line settings.

# Thank you



javier.pinilla@moffitt.org