## MDS update 2024

Guillermo Garcia-Manero Department of Leukemia MD Anderson Cancer Center Tampa 2024



Garcia-Manero et al AJH 2023



## American Society of Hematology

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M Diez-Campelo, AM Singh, AG Jain, LE Aguirre, SM Tinsley-Vance, ZI Schwabkey, O Chan, Z Xie, AM Brunner,

AT Kuykendall, JM Bennett, R Buckstein, R Bejar, HE Carraway, AE DeZern, EA Griffiths, S Halene, R Hasserjian, J Lancet,

AF List, S Loghavi, O Odenike, E Padron, MM Patnaik, GJ Roboz, M Stahl, MA Sekeres, DP Steensma, MR Savona, J Taylor,

ML Xu, K Sweet, DA Sallman, SD Nimer, CS Hourigan, AH Wei, E Sauta, S D'Amico, G Asti, G Castellani, UM Borate, G Sanz, F Efficace, SD Gore, TK Kim, N Daver, G Garcia-Manero, M Rozman, A Orfao, SA Wang, MK Foucar, U Germing, T Haferlach, P Scheinberg, Y Miyazaki, M lastrebner, A Kulasekararaj, T Cluzeau, S Kordasti, AA van de Loosdrecht, L Ades,

AM Zeidan<sup>#</sup>, RS Komrokji<sup>#</sup> and MG Della Porta<sup>#</sup>

### **Proposal for a hierarchical harmonized MDS classification**



Reclassification according to this algorithm was concordant with ICC and WHO labels in 97.2% and 98.1%



## Parallel Genomic Analysis from Paired Bone Marrow and Peripheral Blood Samples of 200 Cytopenic Patients

S. Huber, N. Wossidlo, T. Haferlach, M. Meggendorfer, S. Hutter, G. Hoermann, I. Summerer, H. Ruge, C. Baer, W. Kern, C. Haferlach

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#### **Summary and Conclusion**

PB NGS





High degree of overlap between PB and BM regarding clonality detection in

patients with unclear cytopenia using next generation sequencing

### Efficacy and safety of luspatercept versus epoetin alfa in erythropoiesis-stimulating agent-naive patients with transfusion-dependent lower-risk myelodysplastic syndromes: full analysis of the COMMANDS trial

Guillermo Garcia-Manero,<sup>1</sup> Uwe Platzbecker,<sup>2</sup> Valeria Santini,<sup>3</sup> Amer M. Zeidan,<sup>4</sup> Pierre Fenaux,<sup>5</sup> Rami S. Komrokji,<sup>6</sup> Jake Shortt,<sup>7</sup> David Valcarcel,<sup>8</sup> Anna Jonasova,<sup>9</sup> Sophie Dimicoli-Salazar,<sup>10</sup> Ing Soo Tiong,<sup>11</sup> Chien-Chin Lin,<sup>12</sup> Jiahui Li,<sup>13</sup> Jennie Zhang,<sup>13</sup> Ana Carolina Giuseppi,<sup>13</sup> Sandra Kreitz,<sup>14</sup> Veronika Pozharskaya,<sup>13</sup> Karen L. Keeperman,<sup>13</sup> Shelonitda Rose,<sup>13</sup> Thomas Prebet,<sup>13</sup> Andrius Degulys,<sup>15,16</sup> Stefania Paolini,<sup>17</sup> Thomas Cluzeau,<sup>18</sup> Matteo Giovanni Della Porta<sup>19,20</sup>

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## COMMANDS: study design

• COMMANDS is a global, phase 3, open-label, randomized controlled trial (NCT03682536)

Key patient eligibility criteria

- $\geq$  18 years of age
- IPSS-R Very low-, Low-, or Intermediate-risk MDS (with or without RS) by WHO 2016, with
   5% blasts in bone marrow<sup>a</sup>
- Required RBC transfusions (2-6 pRBC units/8 weeks for a minimum of 8 weeks immediately prior to randomization)
- Endogenous sEPO < 500 U/L
- ESA-naive

Patients stratified by:

- Baseline RBC transfusion burden
- Baseline sEPO level
- RS status



aMDS patients with del(5q) were excluded; b2 patients randomized to the epoetin alfa arm withdrew consent prior to receiving their first dose; Clinical benefit defined as transfusion reduction of  $\geq$  2 pRBC units/8 weeks versus baseline.

AML, acute myeloid leukemia; HR-MDS, higher-risk MDS; IPSS-R, Revised International Prognostic Scoring System; IWG, International Working Group; pRBC, packed RBC; QW, once weekly; Q3W, every 3 weeks; R, randomized; RS, ring sideroblasts; s.c., subcutaneously; sEPO, serum erythropoietin; WHO, World Health Organization.

## COMMANDS: achievement of primary endpoint in ITT population and subgroups

- The primary endpoint was achieved by 110 (60.4%) patients in the luspatercept arm versus 63 (34.8%) patients in the epoetin alfa arm (P < 0.0001)
  - Subgroup analysis of the primary endpoint showed greater response rates with luspatercept regardless of baseline TB, sEPO category, or SF3B1 mutation status



COMMANDS

## COMMANDS: duration of RBC-TI $\geq$ 12 weeks by RS subgroups (week 1-EOT)

Duration, median (95% CI), weeks	Luspatercept	Epoetin alfa	HR (95% CI)	
RS+	120.1 (76.4-NE)	61.9 (38.9-123.9)	0.650 (0.415-1.018)	
RS-	NE (135.9-NE)	95.1 (74.9-NE)	0.709 (0.269-1.866)	



Data cutoff date: September 28, 2023.



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Efficacy of Imetelstat in Achieving Red Blood Cell Transfusion Independence Across Different Risk Subgroups in Patients With Lower-Risk Myelodysplastic Syndromes Relapsed/Refractory to Erythropoiesis-Stimulating Agents in IMerge Phase 3 Study

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# Overall Population: Higher Rates of Longer-Term Duration of RBC-TI With Imetelstat vs Placebo<sup>1,2</sup>



<sup>a</sup>Data cutoff date: October 13, 2022. <sup>b</sup>Data cutoff date: January 13, 2023.

The *P* value was determined by the Cochran-Mantel-Haenszel test, with stratification for prior RBC transfusion burden ( $\geq 4$  to  $\leq 6$  vs > 6 RBC U/8 wk during a 16-week period before randomization) and baseline IPSS (low-risk vs intermediate-1–risk) applied to randomization.

IPSS, International Prognostic Scoring System; RBC, red blood cell; TI, transfusion independence.

1. Zeidan A, et al. ASCO 2023. Abstr 7004. 2. Platzbecker U, et al. Lancet. Published Online December 1, 2023. https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(23)01724-5.





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#### Durable Clinical Benefit with KER-050 (elritercept) Treatment: Findings from an Ongoing Phase 2 Study in Participants with Lower-Risk MDS

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## **Hematologic Responses**

Pospondors/N (%)	mITT <sub>24</sub> <sup>a</sup>			
	All (N=60)	HTB (N=33)		
<b>Overall Response<sup>a,b</sup></b>	30/60 (50)	15/33 (45.5)		
Modified IWG 2006 HI- E <sup>c</sup>	28/60 (47)	15/33 (45.5)		
RS+	23/40 (58)	12/23 (52.2)		
non-RS	5/20 (25)	3/10 (30)		
TI ≥8 weeks <sup>d</sup>	18/46 (39.1)	11/33 (33.3)		
RS+	15/32 (46.9)	8/23 (34.8)		
non-RS	3/14 (21.4)	3/10 (30)		

**HI-E and TI response rates** in mITT<sub>24</sub> participants with **HTB** were similar to those observed in the overall  $mITT_{24}$  population, supporting the potential for **KER-050 (elritercept) to** treat a broad array of patients with MDS including those with greater bone marrow dysfunction



HI-E = hematological improvement-erythroid; HTB = high transfusion burden IWG = international working group; LTB = low transfusion burden; mITT<sub>24</sub> = modified intent to treat 24-week population; NT = non-transfused; RBC = red blood cell; RS = ring sideroblasts; TI = transfusion independence

#### Development of oral decitabine/cedazuridine Primary Endpoint (5-day Decitabine AUC Equivalence)

Decitabine		I	V DEC	Oral ASTX727		Ratio of Geo. LSM	Intrasubiect
5-day AUC <sub>0-2</sub>	₄ (h∙ng/mL)	Ν	Geo. LSM	Ν	Geo. LSM	Oral/IV, % (90% CI)	(%CV)
Primary Analysis	Paired <sup>1</sup>	123	864.9	123	855.7	98.9 (92.7, 105.6)	31.7

<sup>1</sup> Paired patient population: patients who received both ASTX727 and IV decitabine in the randomized first 2 cycles with adequate PK samples.

- Study met its primary endpoint with high confidence: Oral/IV 5-day decitabine AUC ~99% with 90% CI of ~93-106%
- All Sensitivity and secondary PK AUC analyses confirmed findings from primary analysis

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## **Treatment algorithm 2024 LR MDS**

Entity	First line	Second line
Del5q- MDS isolated anemia	lenalidomide	HMA, alloSCT
Isolated anemia, very low risk features	Growth factors Luspatercept	HMA, len, alloSCT Imetelstat?, KER- 050?
RARS pre/post ESA	luspatercept	HMA, len, alloSCT
Other lower risk MDS (bilineal cytopenia)	HMA	alloSCT
IDH1, IDH2, p53, SF3B1	Consider targeted approach	

## **Questions in lower risk MDS**

- Should we treat earlier presentations of MDS?
- Should we treat transfusion independent patients with lower risk MDS?
- Can we decide therapy based on molecular alterations? — Instead of transfusion burden
- <u>Results of COMMANDS trial</u>
- Therapy for thrombocytopenia
- Role of attenuated doses of HMA
- Role of SCT?

## **Other trials in LR MDS**

- IRAK4 inhibitors
- SF3B1 inhibitors
- Oral azacytidine (CC-486)
- Luspatercept
- Canakinumab

## Efficacy and Safety of Venetoclax in Combination With Azacitidine for the Treatment of Patients With Treatment-Naive, Higher-risk Myelodysplastic Syndromes

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- Median number of treatment cycles with Ven 400 + Aza: 4.0 (range, 1–57)
- Median time to CR: 2.8 months (range, 1.0–16.1)
- Median duration of CR: 16.6 months (95% CI, 10.0–NR)
- MDS to AML transformation: in 13 (12.3%) patients (95% CI, 6.7–20.1)
  - Median time to AML transformation was
     5.95 months (range, 0.72–29.31)

amORR=CR+mCR+PR; PR, n=0; response rates based on International Working Group 2006 response criteria.

AML, acute myeloid leukemia; Aza, azacitidine; CR, complete remission; HI, hematologic improvement; mCR, marrow complete remission; MDS, myelodysplastic syndromes; mORR, modified overall response rate; NE, not evaluable; NR, not reached; PD, progressive disease; PR, partial remission; RP2D, recommended phase 2 dose; SD, stable disease; Ven, venetoclax.

#### **Overall Survival<sup>a</sup> for Patients Who Received Ven 400 mg + Aza**



<sup>a</sup>Overall survival was defined as the number of months from the date of the first dose of study drug to the date of death. The data were censored at the date the patient was last known to be alive on or before the cutoff date. Aza, azacitidine; OS, overall survival; Ven, venetoclax.

#### **RESULTS: Survival by Response Prior to SCT**

	Achieved CR	Achieved mCR	
	n=21	n=23	
Median overall survival, months (95% CI)	NR (18.8-NR)	NR (17.7-NR)	
Median follow up, months (95% CI)	43.6 (33.4-52.6)	30.2 (28.7-33.1)	
12-month overall survival estimate, % (95% CI)	90.5 (67.0-97.5)	82.2 (59.2-92.9)	
24-month overall survival estimate, % (95% CI)	71.4 (47.2-86.0)	73.0 (49.5-86.9)	



• 33 patients remained alive post-SCT

Aza, azacitidine; CI, confidence interval; CR, complete response; mCR, marrow complete remission; NR, not reached; SCT, stem cell transplantation; Ven, venetoclax.



Making Cancer History\*

## Phase 1/2 study of oral decitabine/cedazuridine in combination with venetoclax in treatment-naïve higher-risk myelodysplastic syndromes or chronic myelomonocytic leukemia

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June 10<sup>th</sup> 2023 s424 Clinical updates in MDS



Oral Decitabine with Venetoclax in HR-MDS



### Efficacy

	Full cohort (n=39)	Phase 1 (n=9)	Phase 2 (n=30)
ORR, n (%) CR mCR mCR mCR + HI	37 (94.9) 14 (35.9) 23 (59) 11 (28.2) 12 (30.8)	9 (100) 6 (66.7) 3 (33.3) 2 (22.2) 1 (11.1)	28 (93.3) 8 (26.7) 20 (66.7) 9 (30) 11 (36.7)
Cytogenetic response, n (%)	14/26 (53.8)	4/5 (80)	10/21 (47.6)
Cycles to first response, n (range)	ponse, n (range) 1 (1-2) 1 (1-1)		1 (1-2)
Cycles to best response, n (range)	1 (1-6)	1 (1-6)	1 (1-4)
Cycles received, n (range)	2 (1-13)	6 (2-13)	2 (1-8)
HSCT, n (%)	19 (48.7)	5 (55.6)	14 (46.7)

EHA2023



Oral Decitabine with Venetoclax in HR-MDS

## Phase 3 VERONA (NCT04401748)

#### Study Design and Endpoint

#### **VERONA Study Design**



\*7 days within the first 9 calendar days/28 day cycle

Select Inclusion Criteria	Select Exclusion Criteria	
<ul> <li>≥18 years old with newly diagnosed MDS according to 2016 WHO classification</li> <li>&lt;20% BM blasts</li> <li>ECOG PS 0-2</li> <li>IPSS-R score of &gt;3 (Intermediate, High, Very High)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Prior therapy for MDS with HMA, chemotherapy, or allo-HSCT</li> <li>Prior diagnosis of therapy-related MDS, MDS evolved from MPN, MDS/MPN including CMML, aCML, JMML, and unclassifiable MDS/MPN</li> </ul>	End Points Primary: CR, OS Secondary: mOR, TI, ORR, fatigue score, physical functioning score, time to deterioration in physical functioning

aCML=Atypical Chronic Myeloid Leukemia. allo-HSCT=Allogeneic Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplant. AML=Acute Myeloid Leukemia. BM=Bone Marrow. C=Cycle. CMML=Chronic Myelomonocytic Leukemia. CR=Complete Remission. D=Day. ECOG PS=Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group Performance Status. HMA=Hypomethylating Agent. HSCT=Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation. IPSS-R=Revised International Prognostic Scoring System. IV=Intravenous. JMML=Juvenile Myelomonocytic Leukemia. MDS=Myelodysplastic Syndrome. mOR=Modified Overall Response. MPN=Myeloproliferative Neoplasm. ORR=Overall Response Rate. OS=Overall Survival. PO=Oral. QD=Daily. SC=Subcutaneous. TI=Transfusion Independence. WHO=World Health Organization. 1. ClinicalTrials.gov. NCT04401748. <u>https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT04401748</u>. Accessed July 2021



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Abstract # 1876



### Results of a Phase II Study of Cladribine, Low Dose Cytarabine and Venetoclax, Alternating with Azacitidine and Venetoclax, in Patients with Higher Risk Chronic Myelomonocytic Leukemia and Myelodysplastic Syndromes

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### **Efficacy Data**

Response	Full cohort (n=26)	Cohort A (n=13)	Cohort B (n=5)	Cohort C (n=4)	Cohort D (n=4)		
2006 IWG Response Criteria							
ORR	12 (46)	4 (31)	2 (40)	4 (100)	2 (25)		
CR	5 (19)	1 (8)	1 (20)	3 (75)	0 (0)		
mCR total	6 (23)	3 (25)	1 (20)	1 (25)	1 (25)		
mCR+HI	1 (4)	1 (8)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)		
mCR alone	5 (19)	2 (15)	1 (20)	1 (25)	1 (25)		
2023 IWG Response Criteria		•	•		•		
ORR	-	3 (25)	-	4 (100)	-		
CR	-	1 (8)	-	3 (75)	-		
CRbi	-	1 (8)	-	1 (25)	-		
CRuni	-	1 (8)	-	0 (0)	-		
Cycles to best response	1 [1-3]	1 [1-3]	1 [1-2]	1 [1-2]	2 [1-3]		
Cycles given	2 [1-6]	1 [1-6]	2 [1-4]	4 [1-5]	2 [1-3]		

ORR: Overall response rate; CR: complete response; mCR: marrow complete response; HI: hematological improvement.

#### **Survival outcomes**



Relapsed cohorts (A + B): 5.8 months (95% CI 3.4-8.2 months) Frontline cohorts (C+D): not reached (95% NC-NC)

Relapsed cohorts (A + B): 2.6 months (95% CI 1.5-3.7 months) Frontline cohorts (C+D): not reached (95% NC-NC)



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Development of Oral Azacitidine with Cedazuridine for Myelodysplastic Syndrome (MDS) and Myeloproliferative Neoplasms (MPN) including CMML (Chronic Myelomonocytic Leukemia) by Targeting Pharmacokinetic AUC Equivalence vs Subcutaneous Azacitidine

Guillermo Garcia-Manero<sup>1</sup>, James McCloskey<sup>2</sup>, Bart Scott<sup>3</sup>, Elizabeth A. Griffiths<sup>4</sup>, Bonnie Kiner-Strachan<sup>5</sup>, Gail J. Roboz<sup>6</sup>, Janelle Meyer<sup>7</sup>, Winny Chan<sup>8</sup>, Beloo Mirakhur<sup>8</sup>, Yuri Sano<sup>8</sup>, Aram Oganesian<sup>8</sup>, Harold N. Keer<sup>8</sup>, Michael R. Savona<sup>9</sup>

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## ASTX030-01 Phase 1 Cohorts

#### **Dose Combination of AZA and CED in Each Cohort**

Cohort	AZA	CED	# Dosed subject
1 and 101	100 mg (IR tablets)	100 mg	14
<b>2</b> a	100 mg (IR tablets)	80 mg	7
2b and 102	80 mg (IR tablets)	100 mg	12
3	60 mg (capsules-DR1)	100 mg	7
4	60 mg (capsules-DR2)	60 mg	6
5	60 mg (capsules-DR2)	40 mg	7
6	100 mg (capsules-DR2)	20 mg	6
7	136 mg (capsules-DR2)	20 mg	7
103 (Phase 1B)	144 mg (capsules-DR2)	20 mg	13
		Total	79

#### **Treatment Exposure**

	AZA (IR) (N=33)	AZA (DR1) (N=7)	AZA (DR2) (N=39)	All Subjects (N=79)
Range (Cycle)	1 - 32	1 - 16	1 - 10	1 - 32
Median (Cycle)	7	7	2	4

IR: Immediate Release, DR1: Delay Release 1, DR2: Delay Release 2



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ASTX030-01 Results: PK AUC Exposure Curves for Cohort 7



• Representative PK conc-time profiles on different occasions of treatment (Cohort 7, 20mg cedazuridine with 136mg azacitidine)



American Society of Hematology Abstract # 3245 pr San Diego, CA Dec.

### SCT in MDS Primary Endpoint: 3 Year Overall Survival





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#### Clinical and genomic-based Decision Support System to define the optimal timing of allogeneic hematopoietic stem cell transplantation in patients with myelodysplastic neoplasms

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## **IPSS-M** based transplantation policy

#### A – TRAINING COHORT

**B – VALIDATION COHORT** 



- Under an IPSS-M based policy, in the training cohort, patients with either low- and moderate-low risk benefited from a delayed transplantation policy, while in those belonging to moderate-high, high- and very-high risk categories immediate transplantation was associated with a prolonged RMST
- All these results were confirmed in the validation cohort





## Clinical Decision Support System for Transplantation in MDS WEB TOOL





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## **HR-MDS** conclusion

- Awaiting results of VERONA
- New oral azacitidine/cedazuridine formulation: ASTX-030
- IPSS-M impact on transplant decision

## **Targeted options in MDS**

- IDH-2 (5-10%): enasidenib, venetoclax
- IDH-1 (5%): ivosidenib, venetoclax
- Flt-3 (15%): multiple agents
- TP53 (10%): oral decitabine/cedazuridine
- NPM1 (1%): ara-C based
- ASXL1: HMA+venetoclax

## Other questions

- Delay transition from CCUS to MDS
- Understand cross talk between comorbidities and MDS
- Develop therapies in LR-MDS that improve survival
  - Role of alloSCT
- Develop new combinations in HR-MDS
- Develop treatment strategies for p53 MDS
- Develop additional targeted approaches for MDS
  - IDH1, IDH2, SF3B1, IRAK4, Flt-3, CBL other
- Develop second line therapies for HMA failure MDS
- Integrate alloSCT: total therapy

## Thank you

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