New Therapeutic Approaches for Esophageal and Gastric Cancer

Richard Kim MD

Service Chief of GI Oncology

Professor

Moffitt Cancer Center

Tampa Fl





Agenda

- Current state of art of 1st line treatment of gastroesophageal cancers – Old and New developments.
- Discuss 2nd line treatment of gastroesophageal cancers

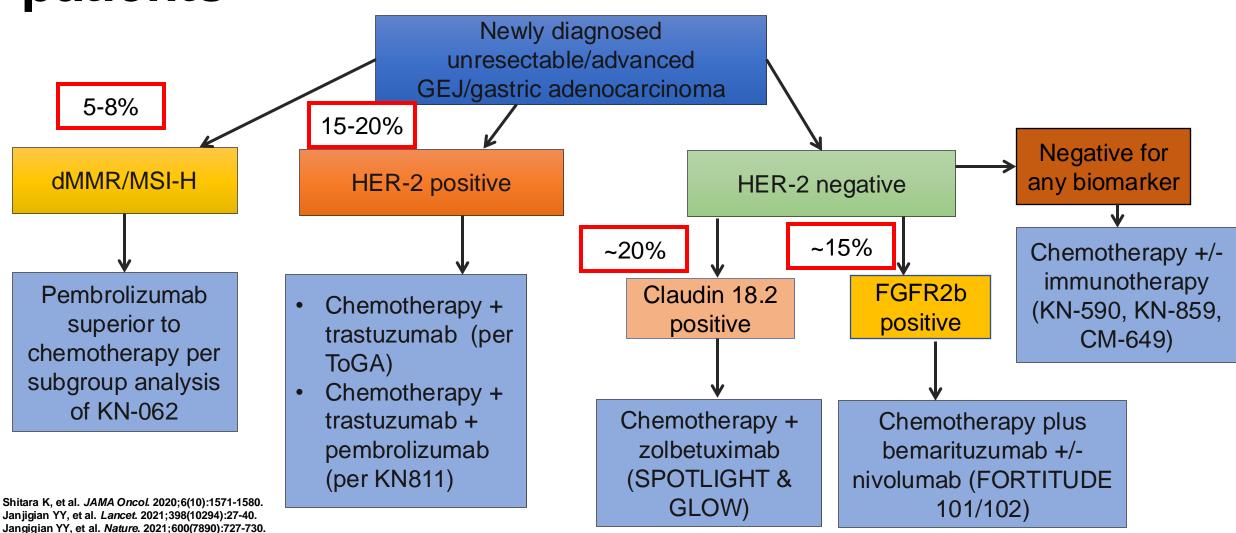
Key Biomarkers in GI Cancers

Gastric and **Pancreatic** Colorectal **Biliary Tract Agnostic Esophageal** MMR/MSI BRCA1/2, MMR/MSI FGFR fusion MMR/MSI PALB2 Actionable HER2 fusion, incl. DNA repair IDH NTRK, RET RAS aberrations **TMB** PD-L1 **KRAS** HER2 **BRAF** HER2 **CLDN 18.2** BRAF V600E HER2 BRAF V600E FGFR2b

Paradigm of treatment for treatment naïve stage IV GEJ/gastric cancer patients

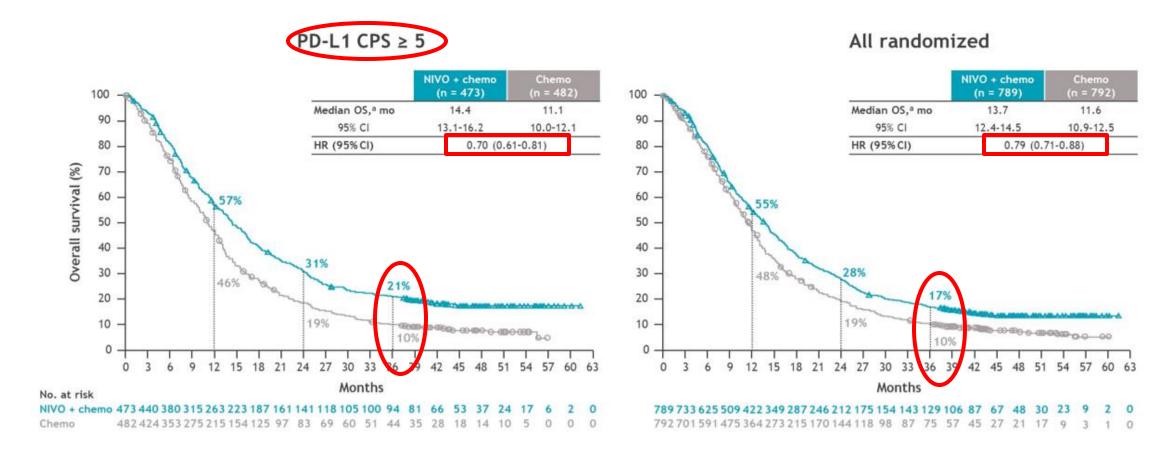
Sun IM et al. The Lancet 2021: 398(10302): 759-771







CheckMate-649: Overall Survival at 36 Months



 Clinically meaningful improvement in OS with NIVO + chemo vs chemo was maintained with longer follow-up in PD-L1 CPS ≥ 5 and all randomized populations

*Minimum follow-up, 36.2 months.

Janjigian, Y., et al. GI ASCO (2023).

KEYNOTE-859 Primary Endpoint: Over wival Based on results from the CheckMate-649 and KEYNOTE-Based on results from the Uneckwate-bay and Keynulting in the Uneckwate-bay and Keynulting Internative Close I nivolumab with chemotherapy was I nivolumab was I n approved by the FDA for metastatic political approved to an arrivace of the metastatic political 1 CPS ≥10 Pts w/ Median (95% CI), mo Event Pembro + chemo 15.7 (13.8-19.3) Cancers, regardless of tumor pD-L1 expression 11.8 (10.3-12.7) Placebo + chemo 100-HR 0.65 (95% CI, 0.53-0.79) P < 0.000180-: 12-mo rate 70-60 24-mo rate 50-40-30-20-10-10-15 45 50 30 15 20 25 35 40 45 50 10 15 20 25 30 35 40

Months

Months

Pembro, pembrolizumab. Rha ST, et al. *Ann Oncol.* 2023;34:319-20; Rha SY, et al. ASCO 2023. Abstract 4014.

Months

os,



FDA ODAC Finds Limited Benefit for Checkpoint Inhibitors in Low PD-L1 Gastric Cancer (09/26/24)

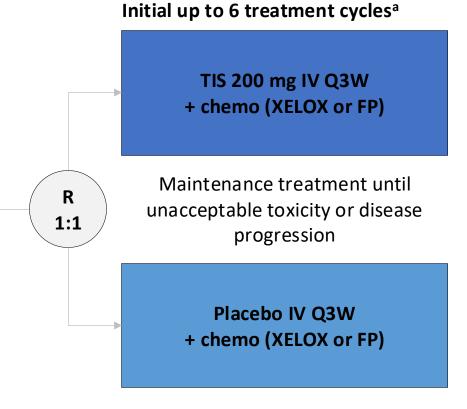
In a 2 to 10 vote, the FDA's Oncologic Drug Advisory Committee (ODAC) voted that the risk-benefit assessment is not favorable for the use of checkpoint inhibitors (CPIs) in first-line advanced HER2-negative gastric and gastroesophageal junction (GEJ) adenocarcinoma in patients with PD-L1 expression less than 1

RATIONALE-305: Study Design

Randomized, double-blind, global phase 3 study investigating Tislelizumab (anti-PD-1 mAb)

Key eligibility criteria:

- Histologically confirmed GC/GEJC
- Exclude patients with HER2positive tumors
- No previous therapy for unresectable, locally advanced or metastatic GC/GEJC



Primary endpoints

OS in PD-L1+ (PD-L1 TAP score ≥5%) and ITT analysis set

Secondary endpoints^c

PFS, ORR, DoR, Safety

Stratification

- Region of enrollment
- Peritoneal metastasis
- PD-L1 expression (PD-L1 ≥5% vs <5%)
- Investigator's choice of chemo

PD-L1 as a Biomarker in Gastric/GEJ Cancers

The PD-L1 **Tumor Area Positivity (TAP)** score is a newly developed scoring system evaluating both immune and tumour cells. The TAP score has been analytically developed and validated for advanced GC/GEJC in the RATIONALE-305 study

Scoring methods comparison between TAP Score and CPS

- PD-L1 expression was assessed prospectively by central laboratory using the TAP score, stained by the VENTANA PD-L1 (SP263) assay
- For exploratory purposes, pathologists in the central laboratory scored the same stained samples according to CPS^a

	TAP Score (%)	CPS
Score Formula	Area occupied by PD-L1 staining tumour cells and immune cells	# PD-L1 staining tumour cells and immune cells X 100%
	Tumour area	Total # viable tumour cells
Cell Types Included in PD-L1 Score	 Tumour cells Immune cells (including lymphocytes, macrophages, histiocytes, reticular dendritic cells, plasma cells, and neutrophils) 	 Tumour cells Immune cells (including lymphocytes and macrophages)
Scoring Method	 Visual-based estimation on tumour area 	Cell count (time consuming)

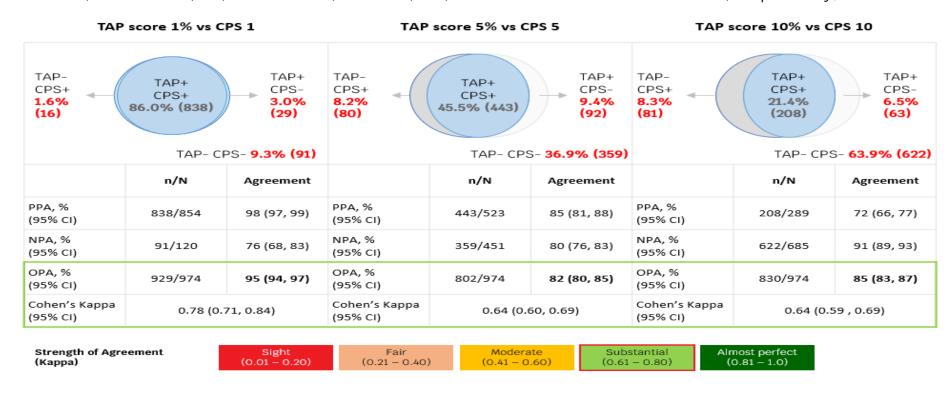
RATIONALE-305: Efficacy Outcomes at 3-year Follow-up

Table 1. Efficacy O	nab-jsgi dine-based	th
approved tisionyring	of patients or	ce tumors
Median OS, m. has approved tislelizure. The FDA has approved tislel	le gazri.	35-
ac 27 2024 With place first-III, HER2-Ite adenor	, 1.2)	13.4 (10.5, 16.6) 6.2 (5.6, 6.9)
ahinali rapy lo retasion (GL)	0.79 (0.6	68, 0.91)
comis others, or me inction	15.0 (11.6, 18.8)	7.5 (5.1, 10.5)
chemosetable seeal jui	47.3 (42.9, 51.8)	40.5 (36.2, 45.0)
unresectaring phage (Z1) sponders), mo (95% CI) gastroes PD-L1 (Z1) sponders), mo (95% CI) express PD-L1 esponse at 36 mo, % (95% CI)	8.6 (7.9, 11.1)	7.2 (6.0, 8.5)
COP 1 (22) esponders), mo (35% oi)		



Substantial Concordance for TAP Score and CPS in Advanced GC/GEJC

- Good correlation was observed between TAP score and CPS based on interclass correlation coefficient (ICC=0.81 [0.79, 0.83])
- TAP score and CPS showed substantial concordance in terms of overall percent agreement (OPA) and Cohen's Kappa at matched thresholds for each score (OPA [95% CI]: 95% [94, 97] 82% [80,85], and 85% [83,87] at 1%, 5%, and 10% thresholds of each score, respectively)



KEYNOTE-811 Study Design (NCT03615326) Phase 3 Randomized, Placebo-Controlled





- Advanced, unresectable
 G/GEJ adenocarcinoma
- No prior systemic therapy in advanced setting
- HER2+ by central review (IHC 3+ or IHC 2+ ISH+)
- ECOG PS 0 or 1

Pembrolizumab 200 mg IV Q3W + Trastuzumab and FP or CAPOX^a for up to 35 cycles

Placebo IV Q3W +
Trastuzumab and FP or CAPOXa
for up to 35 cycles

Stratification Factors

- Geographic region
- PD-L1 CPS <1 vs CPS ≥1
- Chemotherapy choice

Endpoints

- Dual primary: OS, PFS
- Secondary: ORR, DOR, safety

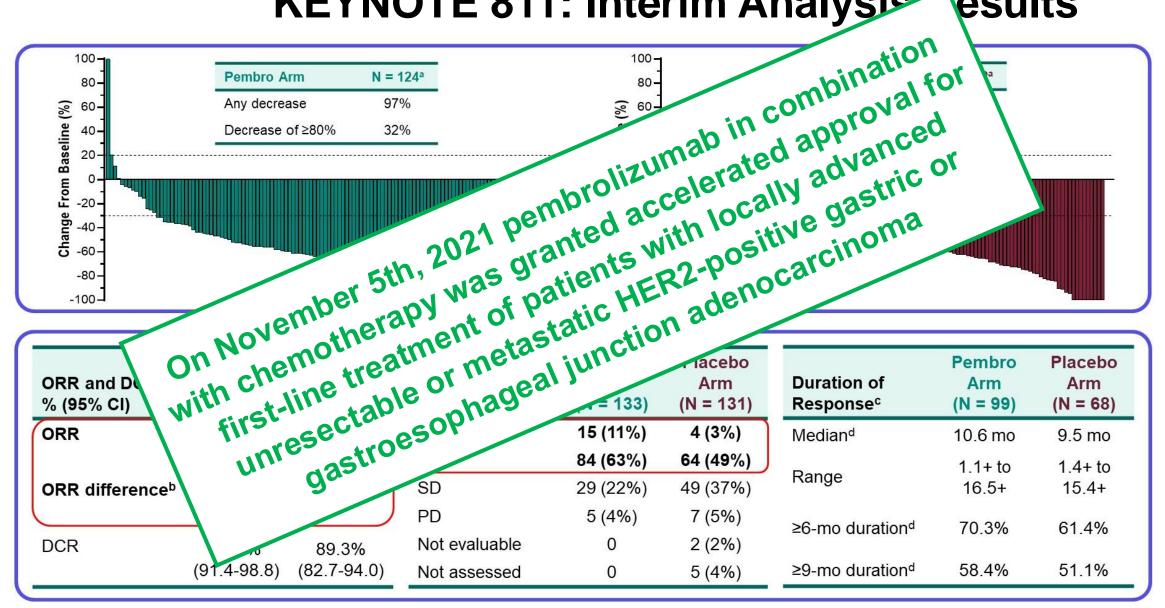
^aTrastuzumab: 6 mg/kg IV Q3W following an 8 mg/kg loading dose. FP: 5-fluorouracil 800 mg/m² IV on D1-5 Q3W + cisplatin 80 mg/m² IV Q3W. CAPOX: capecitabine 1000 mg/m² BID on D1-14 Q3W + oxaliplatin 130 mg/m² IV Q3W. PFS, ORR, DOR per RECIST by BICR. BICR, blinded independent central review; CPS, combined positive score; PD-L1, programmed death ligand 1. Janjigian YY, et al. ESMO 2023. Abstract 15110.

R 1:1

N=698

KEYNOTE 811: Interim Analysis esults



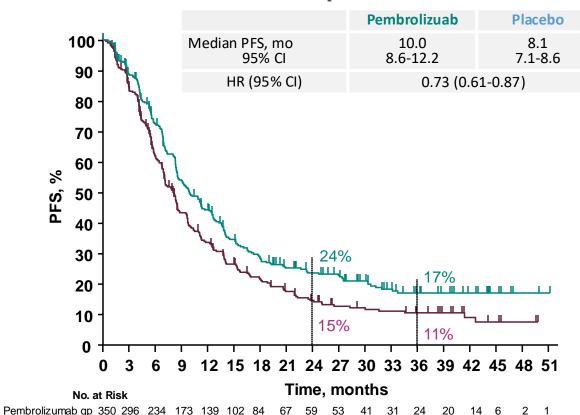


Jangigian YY, et al. J Clin Oncol. 2021;39(15 suppl.):4013. Jangigian YY, et al. Nature. 2021;600(7890):727-730.

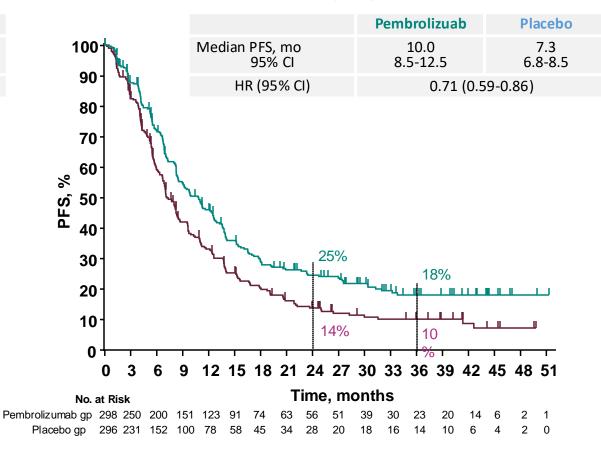
Progression-Free Survival at 38.5 Months of Follow-Upa 🕪 RECIST V1.1, BICR



53 41 31 24



PD-L1 CPS ≥1b



aMedian follow-up; bNot a prespecified endpoint.

Data cut-offiadebo pp/348-274 0/84, 121 93 71 55 43 34 25 23 21 17 11 6

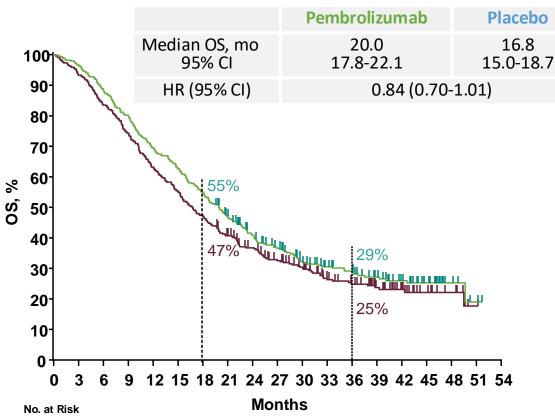
BICR, blinded independent central review; CI, confidence interval; PFS, progression-free survival; RECIST, response evaluation criteria in solid tumors. Janjigian YY, et al. ESMO 2023. Abstract 15110.

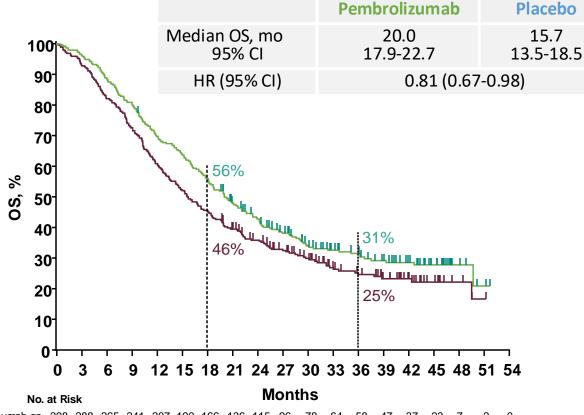


Overall Survival at the Third Interim Analysis

All patients

PD-L1 CPS ≥1a





Pembrolizumab gp 350 339 311 281 243 220 192 156 126 105 84 69 61 48 37 23 7 2 0 Pembrolizumab gp 298 288 265 241 207 190 166 136 115 96 78 64 58 47 37 23 7 2 0 Placebo gp 348 327 292 259 220 193 165 138 116 96 83 58 51 37 25 15 8 1 0 Placebo gp 296 277 244 215 180 155 135 113 96 80 67 47 41 31 21 12 5 1 0 Data cut-off: Warch 29, 2023. OS did not meet the prespecified criteria for significance at IA3 and will be retested at final an alysis.

aNot a prespecified endpoint.

Janjigian YY, et al. ESMO 2023. Abstract 15110.

roups at Progression-Free Survival in Key On November 7th, 2023 the FDA amended in to 1 amended in the cancer indication to 1 as the cancer indication to 1 as the cancer indicate points and the cancer indicates points as the cancer indicates points as the cancer indicates points as the cancer indicates points are the cancer indicates points as the cancer indicates points are the cancer ind HR (95% CI) Overall 0.70 (0.57-0.87) Age, years <65 0.85 (0.63-1.15) ≥65 Sex 0.71 (0.47-1.07) Female 0.73 (0.57-0.92) Male 0.81 (0.59-1.12) Race Asian Non-Asian 0.71 (0.56-0.91) Geographic Region 0.74 (0.57-0.96) Eur/North Am// Asia 0.71 (0.56-0.91) Rest of PD-L1 Status 0.78 (0.61-1.00) CPS ≥1 CPS <1 0.81 (0.52-1.27) **MSI Status** 0.72 (0.59-0.87) Non-MSI-H **ECOG PS** 0.76 (0.58-1.00) CAPOX 433/596 0.74 (0.61-0.90) 0.74 (0.59-0.92) FΡ 0.73 (0.47-1.14) 81/102

Favors Pembrolizumab 1

Group

Favors Placebo

Group

10

CAPOX, oxaliplatin + capecitabine; ECOG, Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group; FP, 5-fluorouracil + cisplatin; MSI, microsatellite instability; PS, performance status.

Favors Placebo

Group

Pembrolizumab 1

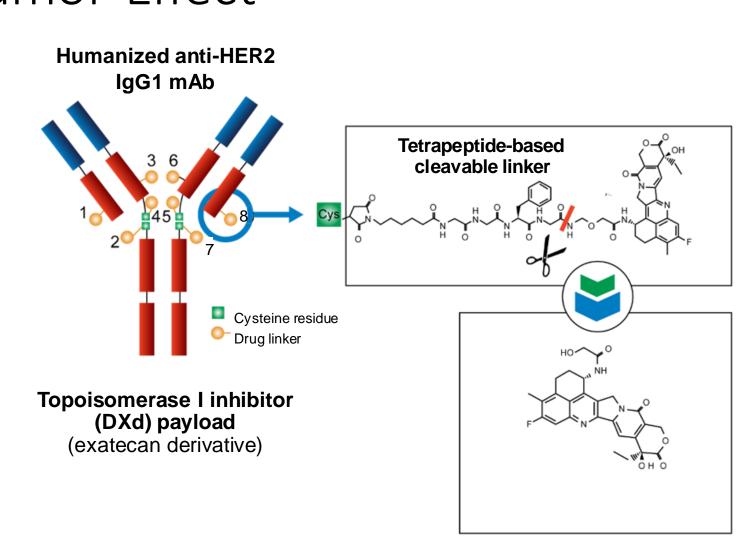
Group

Janjigian YY, et al. ESMO 2023. Abstract 15110.

Data cut-off: March 29, 2023.

Trastuzumab deruxtecan Is a Novel ADC Designer to Deliver an Antitumor Effect¹⁻³

- Antibody–drug conjugate of trastuzumab with a topoisomerase inhibitor
- Potential advantages
 - High potency payload
 - High ratio of trastuzumab to payload molecules
 - "Bystander" effect

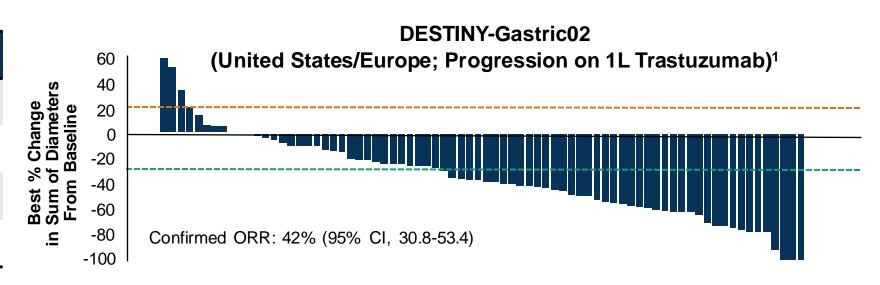


^{1.} Nakada T et al. *Chem Pharm Bull (Tokyo)*. 2019;67:173-185. 2. Trail P et al. *Pharmacol Ther.* 2018;181:126-142. 3. Ogitani O et al. *Cancer Sci.* 2016;107:1039-1046.

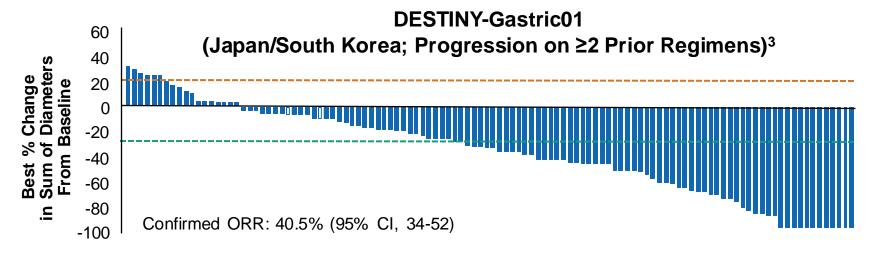
DESTINY-Gastric01 and 02



Efficacy ^{1, 2}	T-DXd (N = 79)
ORR, % (95% CI)	42 (30.8-53.4)
Median DOR, mo	8.1
Median PFS, mo (95% CI)	5.6 (4.2-8.3)
Median OS, mo (95% CI)	12.1 (9.4-15.4)



Survival, mo (95% CI) ⁴	T-DXd (n = 125)	Chemo (n = 62)	
Median OS	12.5 (9.6-14.3)	8.4 (6.9-10.7)	
HR for death = 0.59 ; $P = .01$			
Median PFS	5.6 (4.3-6.9)	3.5 (2.0-4.3)	
HR for PD or death = 0.47			



^{1.} Van Cutsem E et al. Lancet. 2023;24:744-756. 2. Ku G et al. Annals of Oncol. 2022;33(suppl 7):1100. 3. Shitara K et al. N Engl J Med. 2020;382:2419.

^{4.} Yamaguchi et al. J Clin Oncol. 2022;40(suppl 4):242.



Current Status and Next Steps With T-DXd

• The results of **DESTINY-Gastric01** and **02** led to regulatory approvals for T-DXd

Deruxtecan-nxki has been approved in the US for the treatment of adult patients with locally advanced or metastatic HER2-positive gastric or gastroesophageal junction (GEJ) adenocarcinoma who have received a prior trastuzumab-based regimen.

On April 5, 2024, the Food and Drug Administration granted accelerated approval to fam-trastuzumab deruxtecan-nxki for adult patients with unresectable or metastatic HER2-positive (IHC3+) solid tumors who have received prior systemic treatment and have no satisfactory alternative treatment options.

- **DESTINY-Gastric04**: phase 3 study of second-line T-DXd versus ramucirumab + paclitaxel (NCT04704934)
- **DESTINY-Gastric03**: phase 1b/2 study of T-DXd + chemotherapy and/or immune checkpoint inhibitors in first and second line (NCT04379596)

Other New and Emerging Anti-HER2 Therapies

Zanidatamab

- Bispecific antibody
- Randomized phase 3
 HERIZON-GEA-01 study of
 zanidatamab + chemo ±
 tislelizumab as 1L therapy
 (NCT05152147)

Evorpacept

- Anti-CD47 antibody
- Randomized phase 2/3
 ASPEN-06 study of
 trastuzumab/ramucirumab/
 paclitaxel ± evorpacept
 (NCT05002127)

PRS-343

(cinrebafusp alfa; HER2/4-1BB bispecific) Newer HER2 ADCs HER2/CD3 bispecific antibodies

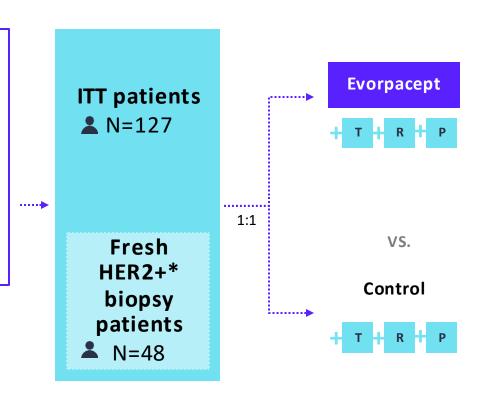
HER2 cellular therapy

ASPEN-06 Phase 2: Evorpacept Plus TRP in HER2+ Advanced/Metastatic GC/GEJ Adenocarcinoma



Key eligibility criteria

- HER2+ GC or GEJ that has progressed on or after prior HER2directed therapy
- 2L or 3L
- Prior trastuzumab deruxtecan and/or checkpoint inhibitors allowed
- Prior CD47-agent, anti-SIRPα, or ramucirumab excluded



Primary endpoints in both ITT and fresh biopsy populations:

- Improvement in ORR* vs assumed historical control of 30% (Wilke et al, Lancet October 2014)
- Improvement in ORR* over internal control (Difference ≥ 10%)

Secondary endpoints

• DOR, PFS, OS

All patients enrolled received a prior HER2-targeted therapy (e.g., trastuzumab) and were enrolled with either a HER2+ fresh or archival biopsy



Evorpacept (30 mg/kg IV Q2W)



Trastuzumab (6 mg/kg > 4 mg/kg Q2W)



Ramucirumab (8 mg/kg Q2W)



Paclitaxel (80 mg/m² on day 1, 8, 15 of 28-day cycle)

*FRESH HER2- positive is defined as biopsies that were HER2-positive after receiving prior trastuzumab treatment and were within one month of starting on study GC- gastric cancer, GEJ- gastroes ophageal junction, TRP- trastuzumab, ramucirumab, paclitaxel

Minimization factors: Primary tumor place (i.e., Gastric vs GEJ); Time of biopsy (i.e., fresh vs archival); Region (Asia vs other); Treatment line (i.e., 2nd vs 3rd line); HER2 status (3+ vs 2+/ISH+); Prior T-DXd

*Based on investigator assessment

Shitara K, et al. GI ASCO 2025

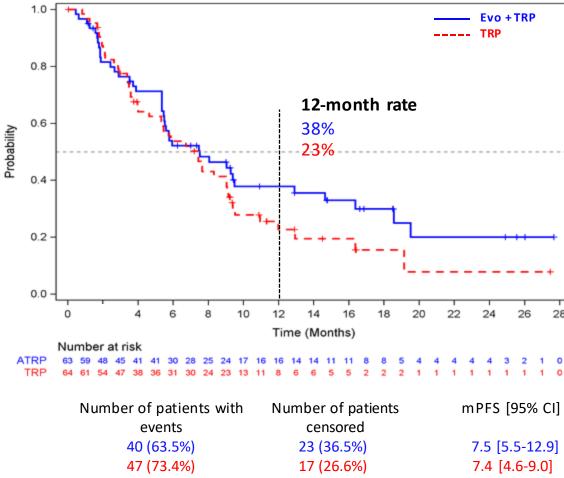


Evorpacept Added Substantial Activity to the TRP Backbone in ITT

Confirmed ORR and DOR in the ITT population

PFS in the ITT population

Evo	+ T + R + P	Control T + R + P	
	▲ N=63	▲ N=64	
Confirmed ORR, n (%) [95% CI]	26 (41.3%) [29.0%; 54.4%]	17 (26.6%) [16.3%; 39.1%]	
CR (Complete Response)	1 (1.6%)	1 (1.6%)	
PR (Partial Response)	25 (39.7%)	16 (25.0%)	
SD (Stable Disease)	21 (33.3%)	35 (54.7%)	
PD (Progressive Disease)	9 (14.3%)	7 (10.9%)	
NE (Not Evaluable)	2 (3.2%)	1 (1.6%)	
No Post baseline assessment	5 (7.9%)	4 (6.3%)	
Median DOR (months)	15.7	9.1	
[95% CI]	[7.7; NR]	[5.3; NR]	
Number of events	12 (46.2%)	9 (52.9%)	
Median follow up (months)	17.5	16.8	

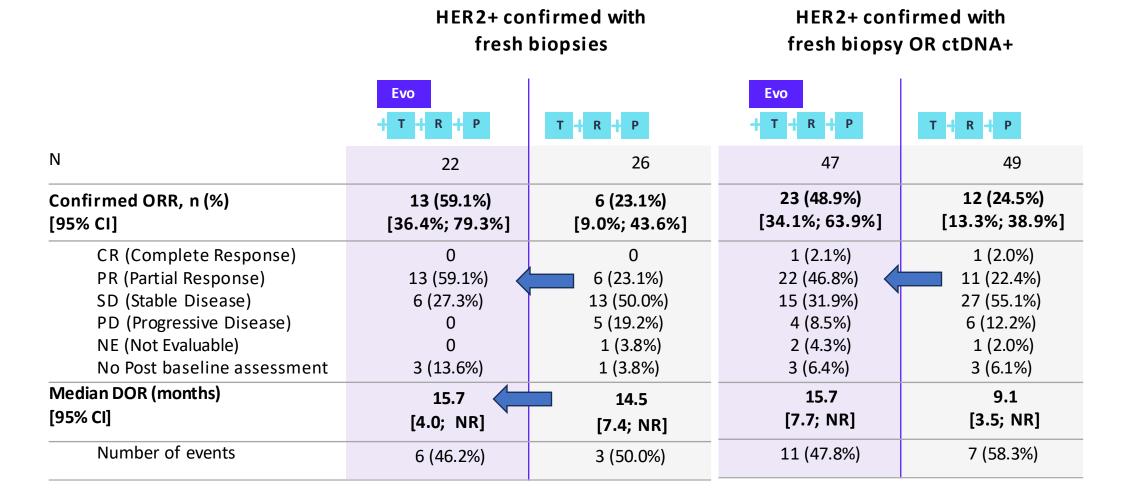


PFS Hazard Ratio: 0.77 [0.49; 1.20]

Shitara K, et al. GI ASCO 2025

Evorpacept Greatly Improved the Response Rate in Patients with Confirmed HER2-Positivity



















Trastuzu mab

Summary of second line treatment



Trial	Treatment	N	ORR (%)	DOR (m) [95% CI]	PFS (m) [95% CI]
≥2L ASPEN-06	Evo + T + R + P	47	48.9%	15.7 [7.7 – NR]	7.5 [5.5-14.7]
Fresh Biopsy or ctDNA+	T + R + P	49	24.5%	9.1 [3.5 – NR]	6.7 [4.0-9.0]
≥2L	Ramucirumab/paclitaxel	330	28% [23; 33]	4.4 [2.8 – 7.5]	4.4 [4.2 - 5.3]
RAINBOW ¹	paclitaxel	335	16% [13; 20]	2.8 [1.4 - 4.4]	2.9 [2.8 - 3.0]
≥3L DESTINY Gastric01	trastuzumab-deruxtecan	126	41% [31.8; 49.6]	11.3 [5.6-NE]	5.6 [4.3-6.9]
Ph2 Study ²	physicians' choice	62	11% [4.7; 21.9]	3.9 [3.0-4.9]	3.5 [2.0-4.3]
≥2L	Evo + T + R + P	22	59.1%	15.7 [4.0 - NE]	9.5 [5.4 – 19.5]
ASPEN-06 – Fresh Biopsy	T + R + P	26	23.1%	14.5 [7.4 - NE]	7.1 [2.9 – 9.1]
2L EU/US Destiny Gastric02 Phase 2 ³	trastuzumab-deruxtecan (fresh biopsy required)	79	42% [30.8-53.4]	8.1 [5.9-NR]	5.6 [4.2-8.3]

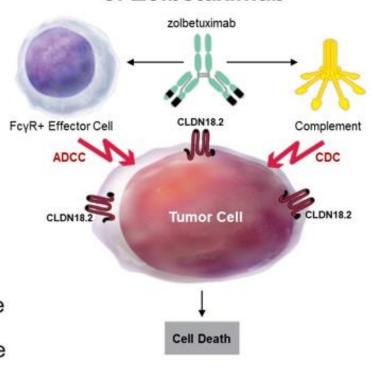
¹ Wilke et al, Lancet October 2014; 2 Enhertu US product insert, and Shitara et al, NEJM June 18, 2020; NE could not be estimated; 3 Van Cutsem, et al, Lancet Oncology, 2023 Data Cutoff as of 02 Dec 2024

What is Zolbetuximab?



- CLDN18.2 is a tight junction protein normally expressed in gastric mucosa cells and retained in G/GEJ adenocarcinoma^{1–8}
- CLDN18.2 may become exposed on the surface of G/GEJ adenocarcinoma cells, making it a promising target^{2–8}
- Zolbetuximab is a first-in-class chimeric IgG1 monoclonal antibody that targets CLDN18.2 and induces ADCC/CDC^{4–8}
- In the phase 2b FAST study, EOX \pm zolbetuximab prolonged survival in a subgroup of patients with higher expression of CLDN18.2 in tumor cells⁸
 - mPFS: 9.0 vs 5.7 months with zolbetuximab + EOX vs EOX alone
 - mOS: 16.5 vs 8.9 months with zolbetuximab + EOX vs EOX alone

Mechanism of Action of Zolbetuximab

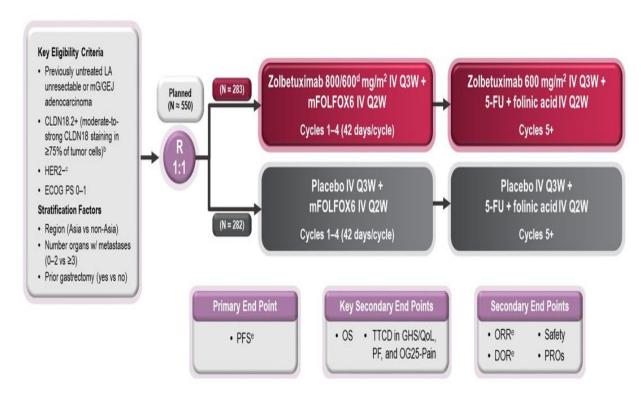


Niimi T et al. Mol Cell Biol. 2001;21:7380-90;
 Sahin U et al. Clin Cancer Res. 2008;14:7624-34;
 Moran D et al. Ann Oncol. 2018;29:viii14-viii57;
 Sahin U et al. Eur J Cancer. 2018;100:17-26;
 Rhode C et al. Jpn J Clin Oncol. 2019;49:870-6;
 Türeci Ö et al. Ann Oncol. 2019;30:1487-95.
 Pellino A et al. J Pers Med. 2021; 11(11):1095;
 Sahin U et al. Ann Oncol. 2021;32:609-19.

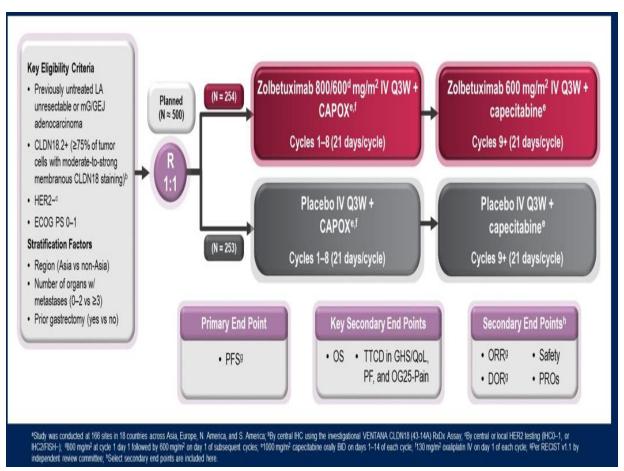
Two Studies SPOTLIGHT and GLOW



Globala, randomized, double-blinded, placebo-controlled, phase 3 trial



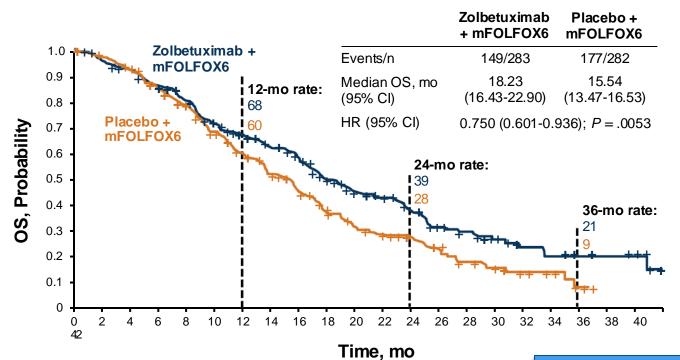
*Study was conducted at 215 sites in 20 countries across Australia, Asia, Europe, N. America, and S. America, "By central IHC using the analytically validated VENTANA CLDN18 (43-14A) RxDx Assay, "By central or local HER2 testing; 4800 mg/m² at cycle 1 day 1 followed by 600 mg/m² on cycle 1 day 22 and days 1 and 22 of subsequent cycles, "Per RECIST v1.1 by independent review committee.



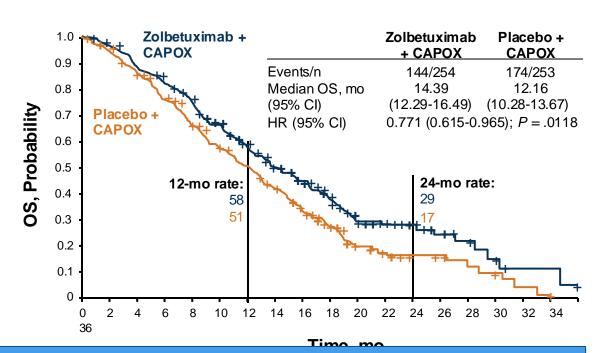
Phase 3 Trials of Zolbetuximab + Chemotherapy^{1,2}



SPOTLIGHT Zolbetuximab + FOLFOX



GLOW
Zolbetuximab + CAPOX



- Improvement of PFS and OS in two studies
- Notable toxicities: nausea and vomiting at first infusion

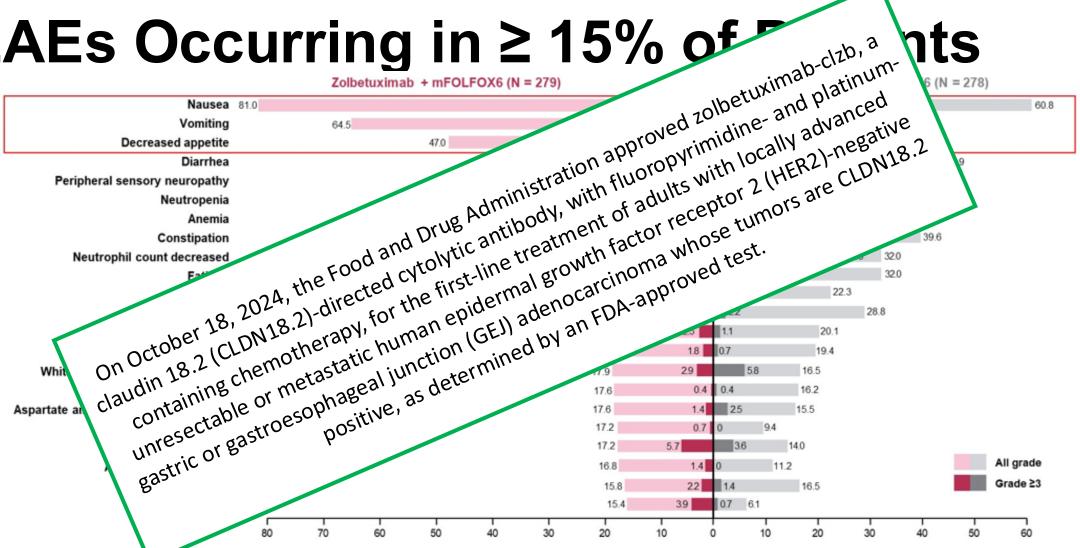
ASCO 2024

Final overall survival results from the phase 3 SPOTLIGHT trial³ mOS (ITT): 18.23 vs 15.57

mOS (PPS): 21.49 vs 16.39



TEAEs Occurring in ≥ 15% of 5



The most common TEAEs with zolbetuximab + mFOLFOX6 were nausea and vomiting as on-target effects

FGFR2 in GC and FGFR-TKI1-7

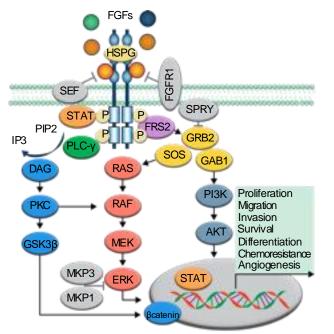


FGFR2 in gastric cancer

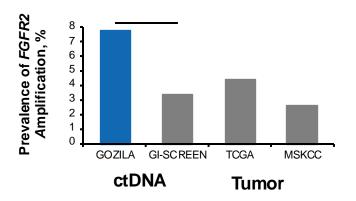
- FGFR2 amp in 3%-5% in GC
- FGFR2b expression in ~30% in GC
 - FIGHT: 29% IHC+ and 4% for ctDNA+
 - 62% of enrolled pts had >10% tumors cells staining

Anti-FGFR2 TKIs

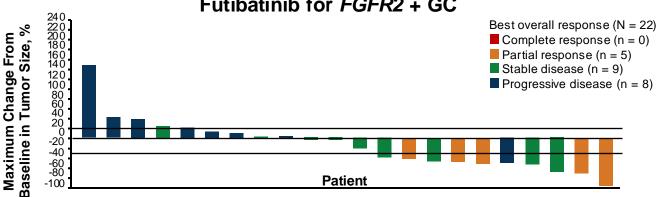
- AZD4547 in Shine study: no response, no improvement in OS vs PTX
- Futibatinib (TAS120): ORR 18% with FGFR2 amp (CN >10)
- Infigrationib: ORR 25% with FGFR2 amp+
 - Response duration is short with emerging *MET* or other gene alterations at resistance (need combination)



Frequency of FGFR2 Amp







1. Jogo T et al. Clin Cancer Res. 2021; 27(20):5619-5627. 2. Catenacci DVT et al. ASCO 2021. Abstract 4010. 3. Ooki A, Yamaguchi K. Gastric Cancer. 2021;24:1169-1183. 4. Van Cutsem E et al. Ann Oncol. 2017;28:1316-1324. 5. Doi T et al. Cancer Sci. 2023;114:574-585. 6. Satoh T et al. ESMO-GI 2023. Abstract SO-10. 7. Syed Y. Drugs. 2022;82:1737-1743.

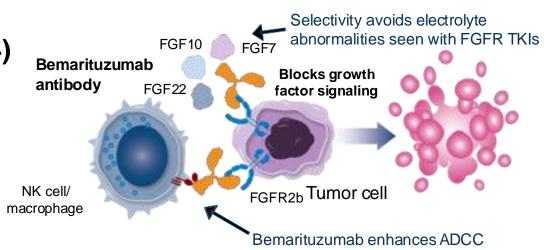
Anti-FGFR2b Monoclonal Antibody: Bemarituzumab^{1,2}

Bemarituzumab (anti-FGFR2b mAb, AMG522, FPA144)

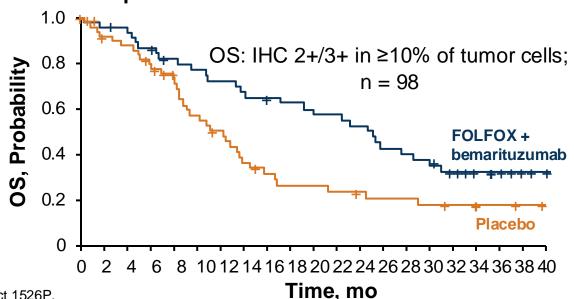
- ORR as single agent 18%
- Less electrolyte abnormalities than TKI
- Reversible corneal toxicities are common

FIGHT trial (rP2 of FOLFOX + bema vs + placebo)

- mPFS 9.5 vs 7.4 (HR 0.72) in ITT / HR 0.43 in ≥10%
- mOS 19.2 vs 13.5 (HR 0.77) in ITT/ HR 0.52 in ≥10%
- 27.6% d/c bema by corneal events
- Two P3 are ongoing
 - FORTITUDE-101 (chemo + bema, NCT05052801)
 - FORTITUDE-102 (chemo + nivo + bema, NCT05111626)



Updated OS Results From FIGHT Trial





Summary

- In HER2 negative patients, there is now FDA approval of chemotherapy plus immunotherapy. The magnitude of benefit of adding immunotherapy increases with selection of high PD-L1 cases.
- The addition of pembrolizumab in the KEYNOTE-811 trial improved PFS and ORR, particularly in dual HER2 and PD-L1 overexpressed tumors (CPS > 1)
- Claudin 18.2 is a new biomarker and zolbetuximab is a monoclonal antibody targeting this. Two studies- SPOTLIGHT and GLOW have shown PFS and OS benefit with the addition of zolbetuximab to chemotherapy in the first line setting.
- T-DXd can provide benefit in second-line or later settings, regardless of prior ICI exposure

Thank You for Your Attention



Richard.kim@moffitt.org

