#### Advances in Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia Targeted Therapy

#### 2024 LOS Cancer Congress Nakhle Saba, MD

Associate Professor of Medicine

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#### Agenda

CLL12: Challenging the concept of "watch & wait" (EHA/ASH 2023)

BCL2i vs. BTKi based therapies: pros & cons

SEQUOIA: Zanubrutinib vs BR (EHA 2023 updates)

ELEVATE-TN: Acalabrutinib ± O vs O + Clb (ASH 2023)

ELEVATE-RR: Ibrutinib vs acalabrutinib

ALPINE study: Ibrutinib vs zanubrutinib (ASH 2023)

Intolerance to BTKi (EHA 2023)

BRUIN study: Pirtobrutinib in R/R CLL

**BTK** degraders

CLL14: Ven+O vs. O Clb

CLL13: Ven+R vs. Ven+O vs. Ven+O+I vs. CIT

#### "Watch & Wait" Is the SOC in Asymptomatic CLL



### The B-Cell Receptor Pathway



Saba N, Wiestner A. Curr Opin Hematol. 2014

#### CLL12: Ibrutinib vs Placebo in Early-Stage, TN CLL



Langerbeins et al. Blood 2022; EHA 2023

## Chemo-Free Options: BTKi vs BCL2i-Based Therapy

#### BCL2i + Anti-CD20

• Fixed duration

Pros

- Low concerns for bleeding or cardiotoxicity
- Performs well in low-risk CLL
- Option to re-treat

#### BTKi

- Oral, no need for infusion
- Easy/convenient to start
- Performs well in all risk groups
- Very low TLS risk

# Chemo-Free Options: BTKi vs BCL2i-Based Therapy

	BCL2i + Anti-CD20	BTKi
Pros	<ul> <li>Fixed duration</li> <li>Low concerns for bleeding or cardiotoxicity</li> <li>Performs well in low-risk CLL</li> <li>Option to re-treat</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Oral, no need for infusion</li> <li>Easy/convenient to start</li> <li>Performs well in all risk groups</li> <li>Very low TLS risk</li> </ul>
Cons	<ul> <li>Need for anti-CD20 infusion</li> <li>Complicated first 2 months</li> <li>TLS risk</li> <li>Shortened PFS with high-risk CLL</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Lifelong commitment</li> <li>Bleeding and cardiotoxicity concerns</li> <li>No option to re-treat at progression</li> </ul>

## **FDA-Approved BTKis**

Variable	lbrutinib <sup>a</sup>	Acalabrutinib <sup>b</sup>	Zanubrutinib <sup>c</sup>	Pirtobrutinib <sup>d</sup>
Binding to BTK	Covalent	Covalent	Covalent	Noncovalent
Dose schedule	QD	BID	QD or BID	QD
Use after progression on cBTKi	No	No	No	Yes
Use after intolerance to cBTKi	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes
CLL/SLL	+	+	+	+
MCL	-	+	+	+
MZL	-	-	+	-
WM	+	-	+	-
FL	-	-	+	-

<sup>a</sup>lbrutinib: CLL/SLL, WM.

<sup>b</sup>Acalabrutinib: CLL/SLL, R/R MCL.

<sup>c</sup>Zanubrutinib: CLL/SLL, WM, R/R MZL after least 1 anti-CD20-based regimen, FL in combination with obinutuzumab after 2 or more lines of systemic therapy. <sup>d</sup>Pirtobutinib: R/R CLL/SLL and R/R MCL after at least 2 lines of systemic therapy, including a cBTKi (MCL), and cBTKi and BCL2i (CLL/SLL).

## **SEQUOIA: Zanubrutinib vs BR**

Phase III, randomized, open label clinical trial in TN CLL



#### SEQUOIA: Efficacy, Cohort 1 (no del[17p])



## **SEQUOIA: Efficacy by IGHV Status**



#### **SEQUOIA: OS**



#### SEQUOIA: Efficacy, Cohort 2 (del-17p)



#### **SEQUOIA: Safety**

Treatment-emergent and posttreatment AEIs in Cohorts 1 and 2 (any grade and grade ≥3)

	Patients without del(17p)				Patients with del(17p)	
	Arm A: zanubrutinib Arm B: BR (n=240) <sup>a</sup> (n=227) <sup>b</sup>		Arm C: zanubrutinib (n=111)			
AEIs, n (%)	Any grade	Grade ≥3	Any grade	Grade ≥3	Any grade	Grade ≥3
Infections	175 (72.9)	57 (23.8)	142 (62.6)	50 (22.0)	89 (80.2)	30 (27.0)
Bleeding	117 (48.8)	14 (5.8)	28 (12.3)	4 (1.8)	64 (57.7)	6 (5.4)
Other malignancies	45 (18.8)	22 (9.2)	28 (12.3)	11 (4.8)	27 (24.3)	8 (7.2)
Hypertension	42 (17.5)	22 (9.2)	31 (13.7)	15 (6.6)	15 (13.5)	7 (6.3)
Diarrhea	41 (17.1)	4 (1.7)	32 (14.1)	5 (2.2)	22 (19.8)	1 (0.9)
Neutropenia	40 (16.7)	30 (12.5)	129 (56.8)	116 (51.1)	21 (18.9)	18 (16.2)
Arthralgia	37 (15.4)	2 (0.8)	23 (10.1)	1 (0.4)	26 (23.4)	1 (0.9)
Anemia	17 (7.1)	1 (0.4)	47 (20.7)	5 (2.2)	7 (6.3)	0 (0)
Thrombocytopenia	15 (6.3)	5 (2.1)	41 (18.1)	18 (7.9)	9 (8.1)	2 (1.8)
Atrial fibrillation/flutter	12 (5.0)	3 (1.3)	6 (2.6)	3 (1.3)	7 (6.3)	5 (4.5)
Myalgia	9 (3.8)	0 (0)	4 (1.8)	0 (0)	8 (7.2)	1 (0.9)
Opportunistic infection	6 (2.5)	1 (0.4)	4 (1.8)	3 (1.3)	1 (0.9)	1 (0.9)

#### **ELEVATE-TN: Acalabrutinib ± O vs O + Clb**

Phase III, randomized, open-label clinical trial in TN CLL



Crossover from O+Clb to A was allowed after IRC-confirmed progression

#### Note: After interim analysis,7 PFS assessments were by investigator only

NCT02475681. Data cutoff: September 11, 2020. "Continued until disease progression or unacceptable toxicity at 100 mg PO BID; "Treatments were fixed duration and administered for 6 cycles.

#### **ELEVATE-TN: PFS**







#### **ELEVATE-TN: Toxicity**

Grade ≥3	A + O, %	A, %
Neutropenia	31	12
Thrombocytopenia	8	3
Diarrhea	6	1
COVID-19	9	7
Pneumonia	7	6
Syncope	5	2
Hypertension	4	5
Atrial fibrillation	2	2



	A + O (r	n = 178)	A (n = 179)		
	Any Grade ≥3		Any Grade	Grade ≥3	
Atrial fibrillation	13 (7.3%)	3 (1.7%)	16 (8.9%)	3 (1.7%)	
Hypertension	20 (11.2%)	8 (4.5%)	20 (11.2%)	9 (5.0%)	

# Most common reasons for treatment discontinuation

AE: 21% of A + O and 18% of A PD: 6% of A + O and 14% of A

#### **ELEVATE-RR: Acalabrutinib vs Ibrutinib**

Phase III, randomized, open-label clinical trial in R/R CLL



Byrd et al. J Clin Oncol. 2021

#### **ELEVATE-RR: Efficacy and Safety Results**



	(n =	266)	(n = 263)	
Event	Any Grade	Grade $\geq 3$	Any Grade	Grade ≥ $3$
Bleeding	101 (38)	12 (4.5)	135 (51)	14 <mark>(</mark> 5.3)
Diarrhea <sup>a,b</sup>	92 (34.6)	3 (1.1)	121 (46.0)	13 (4.9)
Headache <sup>a,b</sup>	92 (34.6)	4 (1.5)	53 (20.2)	0
Coughª	77 (28.9)	2 (0.8)	56 (21.3)	1 (0.4)
Fatigue <sup>b</sup>	54 (20.3)	9 (3.4)	44 (16.7)	0
Arthralgiaª	42 (15.8)	0	60 (22.8)	2 (0.8)
Hypertension <sup>a,b</sup>	23 (8.6)	11 (4.1)	60 (22.8)	23 (8.7)
Vomiting	28 (10.5)	1 (0.4)	36 (13.7)	3 (1.1)
Peripheral edema	26 (9.8)	0	38 (14.4)	1 (0.4)
Rash	26 (9.8)	2 (0.8)	33 (12.5)	0
Myalgia	25 (9.4)	2 (0.8)	27 (10.3)	1 (0.4)
Atrial fibrillation <sup>a</sup>	24 (9.0)	12 (4.5)	41 (15.6)	9 (3.4)
Urinary tract infection <sup>a</sup>	22 (8.3)	3 (1.1)	36 (13.7)	6 (2.3)
Back pain <sup>a</sup>	20 (7.5)	0	34 (12.9)	2 (0.8)
Epistaxis	19 (7.1)	1 (0.4)	28 (10.6)	1 (0.4)
Muscle spasms <sup>a</sup>	16 (6.0)	0	35 (13.3)	2 (0.8)
Dyspepsiaª	10 (3.8)	0	32 (12.2)	0

Acalabrutinib

Byrd et al. J Clin Oncol. 2021

Ibrutinib

## **ALPINE: Zanubrutinib vs Ibrutinib**

Phase III, randomized, open-label clinical trial in R/R CLL

# **R/R CLL/SLL with ≥1 prior treatment** (Planned N = 600, Actual N = 652)

#### **Key Inclusion Criteria**

- R/R to ≥1 prior systemic therapy for CLL/SLL
- Measurable lymphadenopathy by CT or MRI

#### **Key Exclusion Criteria**

- Prior BTKi therapy
- Treatment with warfarin or other vitamin K antagonists





AE, adverse event; PD, progressive disease.

Brown et al. N Engl J Med. 2023; Brown et al. ASH 2023, A#202

#### **ALPINE: Zanubrutinib PFS Is Superior to Ibrutinib**

Median study follow-up: 29.6 months



Brown et al. N Engl J Med. 2023

#### **ALPINE: Zanubrutinib Sustains PFS Benefit at 39 Months**

Median study follow-up: 39.0 months



Brown *et al.* ASH 2023, A#202

#### **PFS Benefit Consistent Across Multiple Analyses**

Median study follow-up: 39.0 months



Brown et al. ASH 2023, A#202

#### **ALPINE: Safety**

	Zanubrutinib (n=324)		lbrutinib (n=324)	
	Any Grade	Grade ≥3	Any Grade	Grade ≥3
Infection	264 (81.5)	115 (35.5)	260 (80.2)	111 (34.3)
Opportunistic Infections	8 (2.5)	6 (1.9)	13 (4.0)	5 (1.5)
COVID-19 Related <sup>b</sup>	145 (44.8)	56 (17.3)	105 (32.4)	38 (11.7)
Bleeding	142 (43.8)	12 (3.7)	144 (44.4)	13 (4.0)
Major Hemorrhage	13 (4.0)	12 (3.7)	16 (4.9)	13 (4.0)
Hypertension	86 (26.5)	53 (16.4)	80 (24.7)	47 (14.5)
Atrial fibrillation/flutter c	22 (6.8)	10 (3.1)	53 (16.4)	16 (4.9)
Anemia	53 (16.4)	7 (2.2)	59 (18.2)	11 (3.4)
Neutropenia	100 (30.9)	72 (22.2)	94 (29.0)	72 (22.2)
Thrombocytopenia	43 (13.3)	12 (3.7)	53 (16.4)	19 (5.9)
Second primary malignancies	46 (14.2)	26 (8.0)	52 (16.0)	19 (5.9)

<sup>b</sup>Includes preferred terms of COVID-19, COVID-19 pneumonia, and suspected COVID-19.

<sup>c</sup>The rate of any-grade atrial fibrillation/flutter was significantly lower with zanubrutinib vs ibrutinib (6.8% vs 16.4%, *P* <.0001).

#### A-Fib, But Not HTN, Is Lower With Zanubrutinib



Brown et al. ASH 2023, A#202

## **Favorable Cardiac Safety Profile With Zanubrutinib**

Serious cardiac adverse events were lower with zanubrutinib vs ibrutinib

- Atrial fibrillation/flutter (3 vs 13)
- Ventricular fibrillation (0 vs 2)
- Ml<sup>a</sup>/acute coronary syndrome (3 vs 3)

Fatal cardiac events<sup>b</sup>:

- Zanubrutinib, n=0 (0%)
- Ibrutinib, n=6 (1.9%)

alncluding acute MI.

<sup>b</sup>Fatal cardiac event (n=6); 1 death (myocardial infarction with ibrutinib) was not listed due to discontinuation due to diarrhea 14 days prior to the fatal event.

Abbreviations: MI, myocardial infarction.

	Zanubrutinib (n=324)	lbrutinib (n=324)
Cardiac adverse events	80 (24.7)	112 (34.6)
Serious cardiac adverse events	11 (3.4)	31 (9.6)
Cardiac adverse events leading to treatment discontinuation	3 (0.9)	15 (4.6)
Ventricular extrasystoles	1 (0.3)	0
Atrial fibrillation/flutter	1 (0.3)	6 (1.9)
Cardiac failure	1 (0.3)	2 (0.6)
Cardiac arrest	0	2 (0.6) <sup>b</sup>
Cardiac failure acute	0	1 (0.3) <sup>b</sup>
Congestive cardiomyopathy	0	1 (0.3) <sup>b</sup>
Myocardial infarction	0	1 (0.3) <sup>b</sup>
Palpitations	0	1 (0.3)
Ventricular fibrillation	0	1 (0.3)

# Switching between cBTKi for Intolerance



#### **Acalabrutinib in Ibrutinib-Intolerant Patients**



Of 61 ibrutinib-related AEs associated with intolerance, 72% did not recur and 13% recurred at a lower grade with acalabrutinib.

#### Zanubrutinib in Acalabrutinib-Intolerant Patients



40 acalabrutinib-intolerance events were reported by 27 patients

70% of acalabrutinib-intolerance events did not recur at any grade with zanubrutinib

Of the 12 events that did recur, none recurred at a higher severity

- P recurred at the same grade
- 5 recurred at a lower grade

No event recurred at higher grade

<sup>a</sup>No event recurred at higher grade.

Shadman et al. Lancet Haematol. 2023

## **PFS Following Discontinuation of Ibrutinib**



Shanafelt et al. Blood 2022

#### **BTK Inhibitors**

#### Covalent

Ibrutinib, Acalabrutinib, Zanubrutinib, Orelabrutinib\*

#### Non-Covalent

Pirtobrutinib, Nemtabrutinib\*, Vecabrutinib\*

**Degraders** BGB-16673\*, NX-2127\*

<sup>\*</sup> Investigational agents, no FDA label

#### **BTKi Resistance Mutations and Non-covalent BTKi**



#### **BRUIN: A Phase I–II Trial in R/R B-Cell Cancers**

RP2D: 200 mg orally once per day



Mato et al. N Engl J Med. 2023

# **BRUIN: Safety**

Event	Adverse Events (N=317)		Treatment-Related Adverse Ev (N=317)	
	Any Grade	Grade ≥3	Any Grade	Grade ≥3
		number of po	atients (percent)	
Adverse events of special interest:				
Atrial fibrillation or flutter	12 (3.8)	4 (1.3)	4 (1.3)	1 (0.3)
Bleeding	135 (42.6)	7 (2.2)	75 (23.7)	3 (0.9)
Bruising	96 (30.3)	0	62 (19.6)	0
Hemorrhage	67 (21.1)	7 (2.2)	22 (6.9)	3 (0.9)
Hypertension	45 (14.2)	11 (3.5)	12 (3.8)	1 (0.3)
Infections	225 (71.0)	89 (28.1)	39 (12.3)	12 (3.8)
Neutropenia	103 (32.5)	85 (26.8)	62 (19.6)	47 (14.8)

### Not All BTK Mutations Are Equal

#### Concept of Kinase-Dead BTK



Montoya et al. ASH 2022, A#750

# A First-in-Human Trial of NX-2127, a BTK Degrader, in R/R CLL and B-Cell Malignancies



Data Extract Date is 30JUN2022. Data Cutoff Date is 16JUN2022.

\*Month is defined as a duration of 28 days, which is equivalent to a treatment cycle for NX-2127

Program: B:\NREXD1\Biostats\NX-2127\NX-2127-001\adh2022q3\Outputs\TLFs\PGMSY\_swin.sas Source: a.ads1.r.exps.ds.eot 29.JUL22:13:33

# Chemo-Free Options: BTKi vs BCL2i-Based Therapy

	BCL2i + Anti-CD20	BTKi
Pros	<ul> <li>Fixed duration</li> <li>Low concerns for bleeding or cardiotoxicity</li> <li>Performs well in low-risk CLL</li> <li>Option to re-treat</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Oral, no need for infusion</li> <li>Easy/convenient to start</li> <li>Performs well in all risk groups</li> <li>Very low TLS risk</li> </ul>
Cons	<ul> <li>Need for anti-CD20 infusion</li> <li>Complicated first 2 months</li> <li>TLS risk</li> <li>Shortened PFS with high-risk CLL</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Lifelong commitment</li> <li>Bleeding and cardiotoxicity concerns</li> <li>No option to re-treat at progression</li> </ul>

#### CLL14: First-Line Obinutuzumab + Venetoclax or Chlorambucil in CLL With Coexisting Medical Conditions

• Open-label, multicenter, randomized phase III trial



- Primary endpoint: investigator-assessed PFS
- Secondary endpoints: IRC-assessed PFS, ORR, MRD negativity, OS, safety

### CLL14: PFS

Median observation time 65.4 months End of treatment Cum Survival Venetoclax-obinutuzumab 10 -Chlorambucil-obinutuzumab 0 -Time to Event [PFS] from Randomization (months) Ven-Ob -4 Clb-Obi

Median PFS Ven-Obi: not reached Clb-Obi: 36.4 months

#### 5-year PFS rate

Ven-Obi: 62.6% Clb-Obi: 27.0%

HR 0.35, 95% CI [0.26-0.46] P<0.0001

#### **CLL14: EOT MRD, and MRD Dynamics**



Depths of remission beyond 10<sup>-4</sup> correlates with long-term PFS



39 (18.1%) of patients had sustained MRD <10<sup>-4</sup> after 4 years

#### CLL14: PFS by TP53 and IGHV Status





#### **CLL13 Trial: A Randomized Phase III Trial**

First-Line Venetoclax Combinations in TN CLL



Rituximab 375 (500) mg/m<sup>2</sup> iv c 1-6 (before chemo) Fludarabine 25 mg/m<sup>2</sup> iv c 1-6 d 1-3 Cyclophosphamide 250 mg/m<sup>2</sup> iv c 1-6 d 1-3 (or) Bendamustine 90 mg/m<sup>2</sup> c 1-6 d1,2 Obinutuzumab 1000 mg iv (c1 d1(2)/8/15, c2-6 d1) Ibrutinib d 1-MRD-/PD 420 mg po daily for up to 36 month <u>or</u> until MRD negativity is achieved, Venetoclax c1 d 22- c12 d28 400 mg po daily (ramp-up)

Rituximab 375 (500) mg/m² iv (c1 – 6, d1) Venetoclax c1 d22 – c12 d28 400 mg po daily (ramp-up) **Obinutuzumab** 1000 mg iv (c1 d1(2)/8/15, c2-6 d1) **Venetoclax** c1 d22 – c12 d28 400 mg po daily (ramp-up)

Eichhorst et al. N Engl J Med. 2023.

#### **CLL13 Trial: A Randomized Phase III Trial**

First-Line Venetoclax Combinations in TN CLL

**Progression-free Survival, All Patients** 



Eichhorst et al. N Engl J Med. 2023.

#### **CLL13 Trial: A Randomized Phase III Trial**

First-Line Venetoclax Combinations in TN CLL

Progression-free Survival, Patients with Unmutated IGHV



Eichhorst et al. N Engl J Med. 2023.

#### **MAJIC Trial: A Randomized Phase III Trial**

Acalabrutinib + Venetoclax Vs. Venetoclax + Obinutuzumab In TN CLL/SLL

#### **MAJIC** schema

Arm A Acalabrutinib (A) 100 mg po BID, Venetoclax (V) 400 mg po daily (C3D1–C14), including 5 week ramp up STOP if uMRD and at least PR. If MRD+ continue AV to 24 months

Arm B Venetoclax (V) 400 mg po daily (C1D22–C12), including 5 week ramp up Obinutuzumab (O) 1000 mg iv. (C1D1-2/8/15, C2-6 D1)
 STOP if uMRD and at least PR. If MRD+ continue V to 24 months



#### **BRUIN CLL-314: A Randomized Phase III Trial**

Pirtobrutinib *Vs.* Ibrutinib in TN and R/R CLL/SLL



The primary objective is a non-inferiority ORR. Superiority of pirtobrutinib vs. ibrutinib in EFS and PFS are key secondary objectives.

Thank You **CLL Questions?** 

nsaba@tulane.edu 423-946-1366