

# Handicapping the Field

Novel Oral Agents in Leukemia Management

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MAY 7, 2022

# Objectives

- 1. COMPARE AND CONTRAST THE PHARMACOLOGY OF ASCIMINIB WITH BCR-ABL TARGETING TYROSINE KINASE INHIBITORS IN THE TREATMENT OF CHRONIC MYELOID LEUKEMIA**
- 2. SUMMARIZE KEY FINDINGS FROM STUDIES DEVELOPING THE USE OF NOVEL ORAL DOUBLET THERAPY FOR THE TREATMENT OF CHRONIC LYMPHOCYTIC LEUKEMIA**
- 3. REVIEW NOVEL VENETOCLAX BASED COMBINATION THERAPIES FOR THE TREATMENT OF ACUTE MYELOID LEUKEMIA**

DISCLOSURE

No Real or Perceived Conflicts  
of Interest to Disclose

NOVEL ORAL AGENT SPOTLIGHT

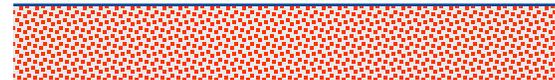
# Chronic Myeloid Leukemia

# Chronic Myeloid Leukemia

## Novel Oral Agent Spotlight

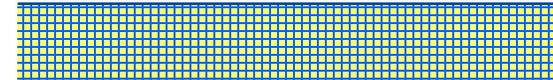


### BCR-abl TKIs



2001	Imatinib
2006	Dasatinib
2007	Nilotinib
2012	Bosutinib
2012	Ponatinib

### STAMP Inhibitors



2021	Asciminib
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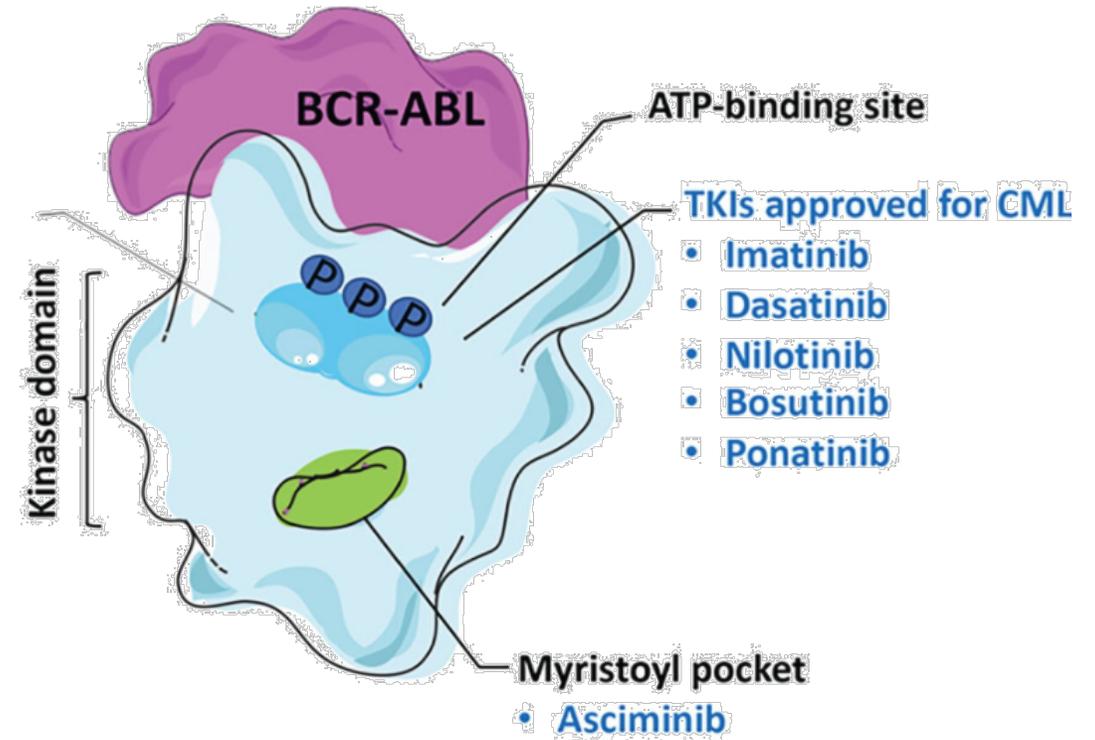
# CML

## Asciminib

### STAMP Inhibitor

#### Selectively Targeting the ABL1 Myristoyl Pocket

- Allosteric binding at myristoyl pocket
- Restores inhibition of ABL1 kinase function
- Maintains activity against BCR-ABL1 ATP-site mutations (including T315I)



# Horse Betting 101

## Single Horse Bets

***Win*** = Betting a horse to win the race

***Place*** = Betting a horse will finish first or second

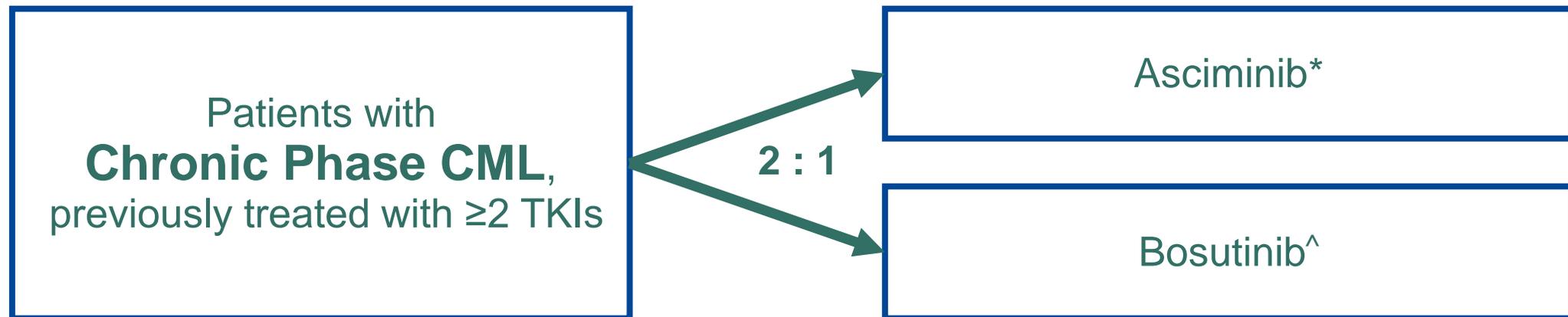
***Show*** = Betting a horse will finish first, second, or third

# CML

Asciminib

## ASSEMBL Trial

- Phase 3, Randomized, Open Label, Active Controlled Trial



\*Asciminib 40 mg PO twice daily

^Bosutinib 500 mg PO daily

# CML

## Asciminib - ASCEMBL Trial - Baseline Demographics

Characteristic	Asciminib (n=157)	Bosutinib (n=76)
Median Age	52 years	52 years
Sex		
Male	82 (48%)	45 (59%)
Female	75 (52%)	31 (41%)
MCyR at Enrollment	46 (29%)	22 (29%)
Number of prior TKIs		
2	82 (52%)	30 (40%)
3	44 (28%)	29 (38%)
≥4	31 (20%)	17 (22%)
Reason for discontinuation of last TKI		
Lack of efficacy	95 (60%)	54 (71%)
Lack of tolerability	59 (38%)	22 (29%)
Other	3 (2%)	0 (0%)
BCR-ABL1 <sup>IS</sup> at baseline		
>0.1% to ≤1%	15 (9%)	4 (5%)
>1% to ≤10%	45 (29%)	23 (30%)
>10%	97 (62%)	49 (65%)

# CML

Asciminib

## ASCSEMBL Trial

- Efficacy Results

### Primary Outcome: MMR Rate at Week 24

- 25.5% vs. 13.2% (p=0.029)

### Secondary Outcomes:

- BCR-ABL1<sup>IS</sup> <10% at week 12: 63.1% vs. 43.4%
- BCR-ABL1<sup>IS</sup> <1% at week 24: 49% vs 23.7%
- CCyR at week 24: 40.8% vs. 24.2%

# CML - Asciminib

## ASCEMBL Trial – Safety Results

Adverse Event	Asciminib (n=156)		Bosutinib (n=76)	
	All Grades	Grade ≥3	All Grades	Grade ≥3
Thrombocytopenia	45 (29%)	34 (22%)	14 (18%)	7 (9%)
Neutropenia	34 (22%)	28 (18%)	16 (21%)	11 (15%)
Diarrhea	18 (11%)	0	54 (71%)	8 (11%)
Nausea	18 (11%)	1 (1%)	35 (46%)	0
Hypertension	18 (11%)	9 (6%)	3 (4%)	3 (4%)
Rash	11 (7%)	0	18 (24%)	3 (4%)
Arthralgia	14 (9%)	0	1 (1%)	0
Increased Amylase	9 (6%)	1 (1%)	4 (5%)	0
Increased Lipase	8 (5%)	6 (4%)	5 (7%)	3 (4%)
Increased ALT	6 (4%)	1 (1%)	21 (28%)	11 (15%)
Increased AST	6 (4%)	1 (1%)	16 (21%)	5 (7%)

# CML

## ASCEMBL Trial – Safety Results

Treatment Discontinuation  
due to Adverse Event:

Asciminib 5.8%

Bosutinib 21.1%

Dose Reduction Required  
due to Adverse Event:

Asciminib 21.2%

Bosutinib 42.1%

Arterial Occlusive Events:

Asciminib 3.2%

Bosutinib 1.3%

# CML

## Asciminib Pearls

- FDA Approved October 29, 2021
- Chronic Phase CML:
  - 40 mg PO BID or 80 mg PO daily
- If T315I Mutation (+):
  - 200 mg PO BID
- Administer on an empty stomach
  - Food decreases absorption
- Metabolism
  - CYP3A4 Substrate
  - Inhibitor of CYP3A4, CYP2C9, PGP



NOVEL ORAL AGENT SPOTLIGHT

# Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia

# Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia

## Novel Oral Agent Spotlight



### BTK Inhibitors



2013	Ibrutinib
2017	Acalabrutinib
2019	Zanubrutinib*
-	Pirtobrutinib^

### BCL-2 Inhibitors



2016	Venetoclax
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### PI3K Inhibitors



2014	Idelalisib
2018	Duvelisib

### IMiDs



2005	Lenalidomide*
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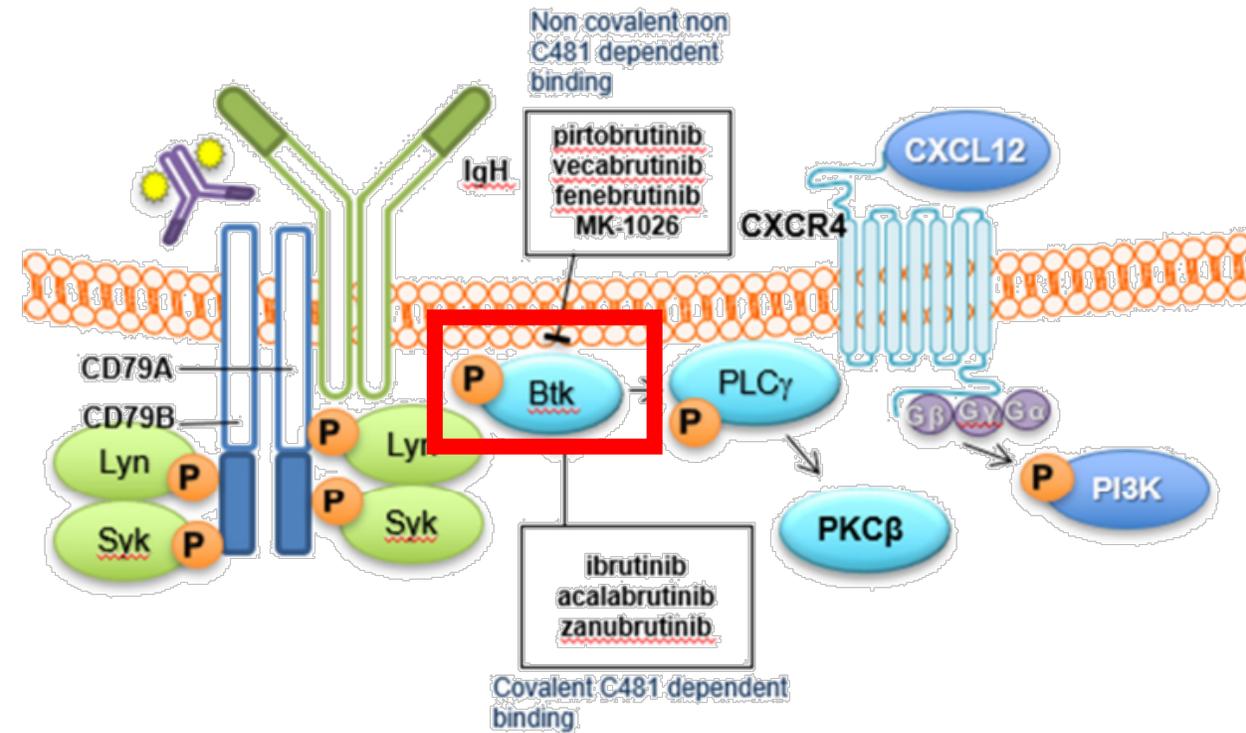
\*Off Label Use in CLL

^Not Currently FDA Approved

# Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia

## Bruton Tyrosine Kinase Inhibitors

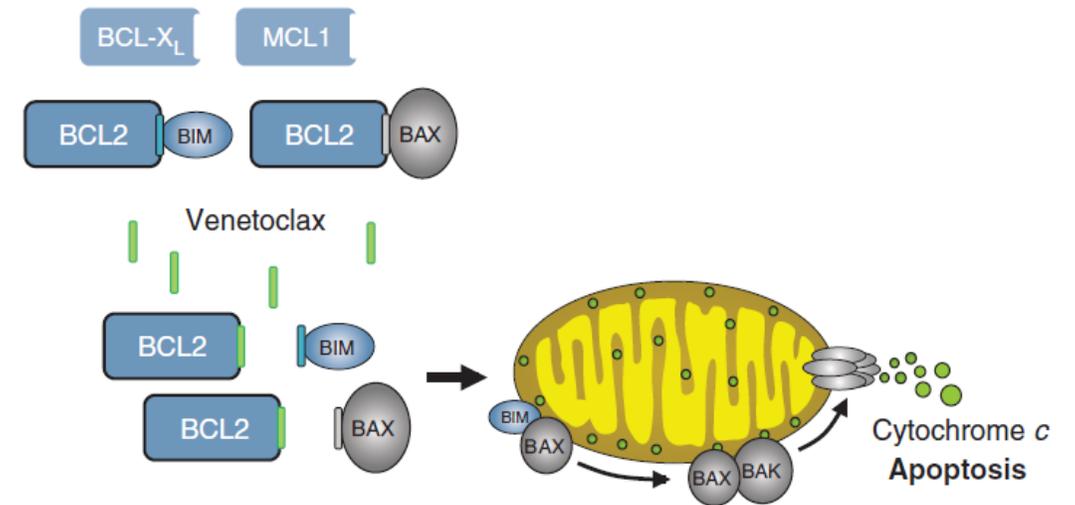
- Covalent Inhibitors
  - **Ibrutinib, Acalabrutinib, Zanubrutinib**
  - Irreversibly binds BTK at Cysteine 481
  - Notable Toxicities
    - Atrial Fibrillation
    - Hypertension
    - Bleeding
- Non-Covalent Inhibitor
  - **Pirtobrutinib (LOXO-305)**
  - Selective, Reversible inhibition of BTK



# Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia

## B Cell Lymphoma 2 (BCL-2) Inhibitor

- BCL-2
  - Antiapoptotic Protein
  - Over expressed in variety of hematologic malignancies
- **Venetoclax**
  - BCL-2 Inhibitor
  - Metabolism:
    - CYP3A4, P-glycoprotein substrate
  - Notable Toxicities:
    - Tumor Lysis Syndrome
    - Cytopenias



# Horse Betting 101

## Two Horse Bets

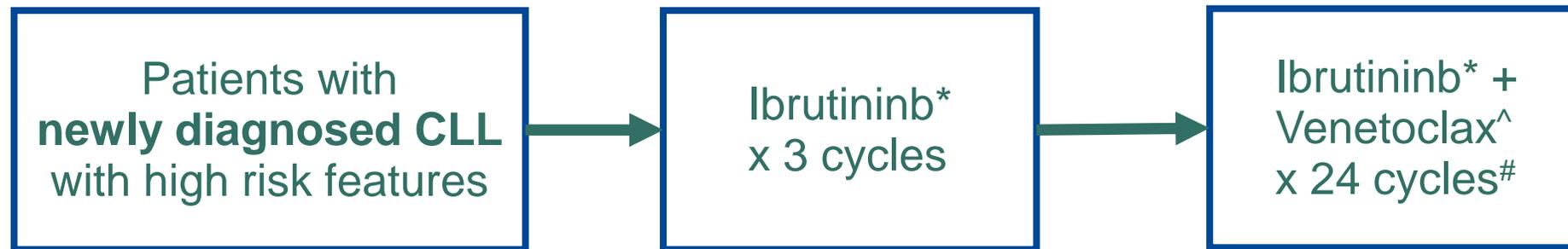
***Exacta*** = Betting on two horses to finish first and second in exact order

# CLL Exacta

Ibrutinib + Venetoclax

Jain et al. *JAMA Oncol* 2021

- Phase 2, Single Center, Non Randomized Trial



\*Ibrutinib 420 mg PO daily

^Venetoclax standard 5 week ramp up to 400 mg PO daily

#Therapy could be continued x 12 additional cycles if MRD detectable in BM at end of therapy

# CLL Exacta

Ibrutinib + Venetoclax

Jain et al. *JAMA Oncol* 2021

- Baseline Demographics

Characteristic	Enrolled patients (n=80)
Median Age	65 years (26-83)
Sex	
Male	57 (71%)
Female	23 (29%)
Rai Stage III-IV	41 (51%)
Baseline ALC	75.6 x 10 <sup>9</sup> /L (1.1-338)
CLL Risk Factors	
del(17p)	14 (18%)
del(11p)	20 (25%)
TP53 Mutated	11 (14%)
IGHV Unmutated	63 (83%)
Complex Karyotype	12 (15%)

# CLL Exacta

Ibrutinib + Venetoclax

Jain et al. *JAMA Oncol* 2021

- Efficacy Results

Primary Outcome: CR or CR<sub>i</sub> as best response at any time

- 62 Patients (78%)

Secondary Outcomes:

- Overall Response Rate: 86% at 12 months; 82% at 24 months
- Undetectable MRD in Bone Marrow: 56% at 12 months, 66% at 24 months
- Progression Free Survival at 3 years: 93%
- Overall Survival at 3 years: 96%

# CLL Exacta

Ibrutinib + Venetoclax

Jain et al. *JAMA Oncol* 2021 - Safety Results

Non-Heme Adverse Event	All Grades	Grade ≥3
Easy Bruising	61 (76%)	0
Arthralgia	46 (58%)	2 (2%)
Diarrhea	42 (53%)	0
Nausea/Vomiting	33 (41%)	0
Myalgia	28 (35%)	1 (1%)
Rash	19 (24%)	0
Fatigue	15 (19%)	1 (1%)
Hypertension	13 (16%)	8 (10%)
Atrial Fibrillation/Flutter	12 (15%)	8 (10%)
Mucositis	12 (15%)	0
Increased ALT	5 (6%)	1 (1%)

Hematologic Toxicity:  
Grade 3/4 Neutropenia: 51%  
Grade 3 Thrombocytopenia: 2%

Infectious Toxicity:  
Febrile Neutropenia: 5%  
Infection Requiring  
Hospitalization: 18%

# CLL Exacta

## Ibrutinib + Venetoclax

- Conclusions
  - Impressive PFS
  - High rates of Undetectable MRD facilitates fixed duration strategies
- Future Directions
  - CAPTIVATE Trial
    - MRD directed duration and fixed duration approaches to Ibrutinib + Venetoclax therapy
  - GLOW Trial
    - Fixed duration Ibrutinib + Venetoclax vs. Chlorambucil + Obinituzumab in older or unfit new CLL
  - CLL13 Trial
    - Fixed duration Ibrutinib + Venetoclax + Obinituzumab vs. Fixed duration Venetoclax + Obinituzumab vs. Fixed duration Venetoclax + Rituximab vs. Chemoimmunotherapy in fit patients with new CLL

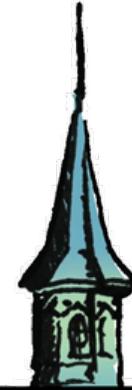


NOVEL ORAL AGENT SPOTLIGHT

# Acute Myeloid Leukemia

# Acute Myeloid Leukemia

## Novel Oral Agent Spotlight



### FLT-3 Inhibitors

2005	Sorafenib*
2017	Midostaurin
2018	Gilteritinib
-	Quizartinib^

### BCL-2 Inhibitors

2018	Venetoclax
Hedgehog Inhibitors	
2018	Glasdegib

### IDH Inhibitors

2017	Enasidenib
2018	Ivosidenib

### Hypomethylating Agents

2020	Decitabine/ Cedazurine*
2020	Azacitidine

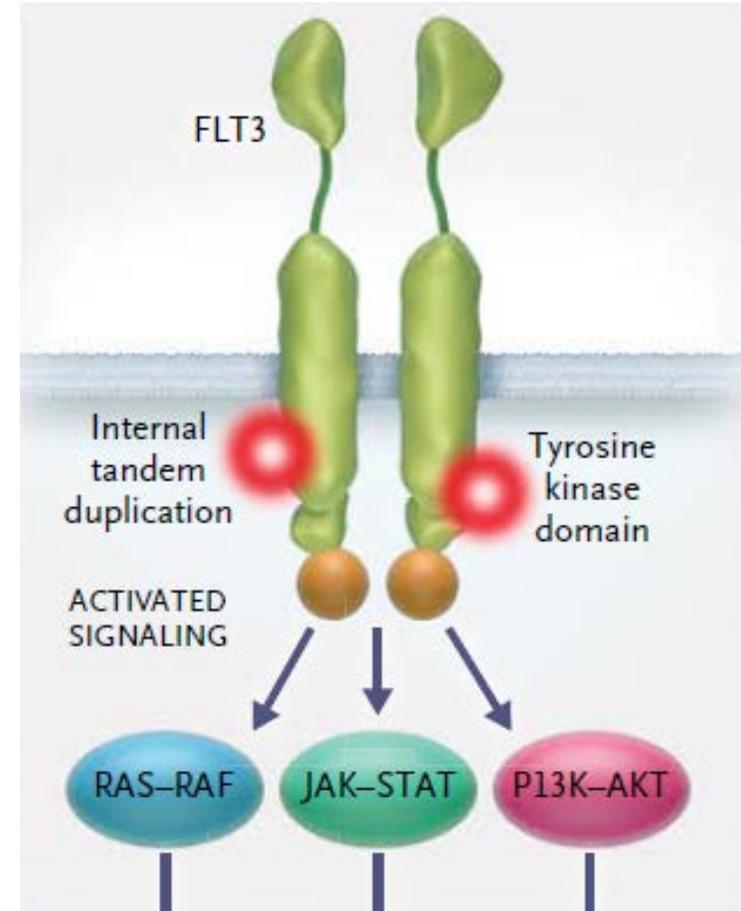
\*Off Label Use in AML

^Not Currently FDA Approved

# Acute Myeloid Leukemia

## FMS Like Tyrosine Kinase 3 (FLT-3) Inhibitors

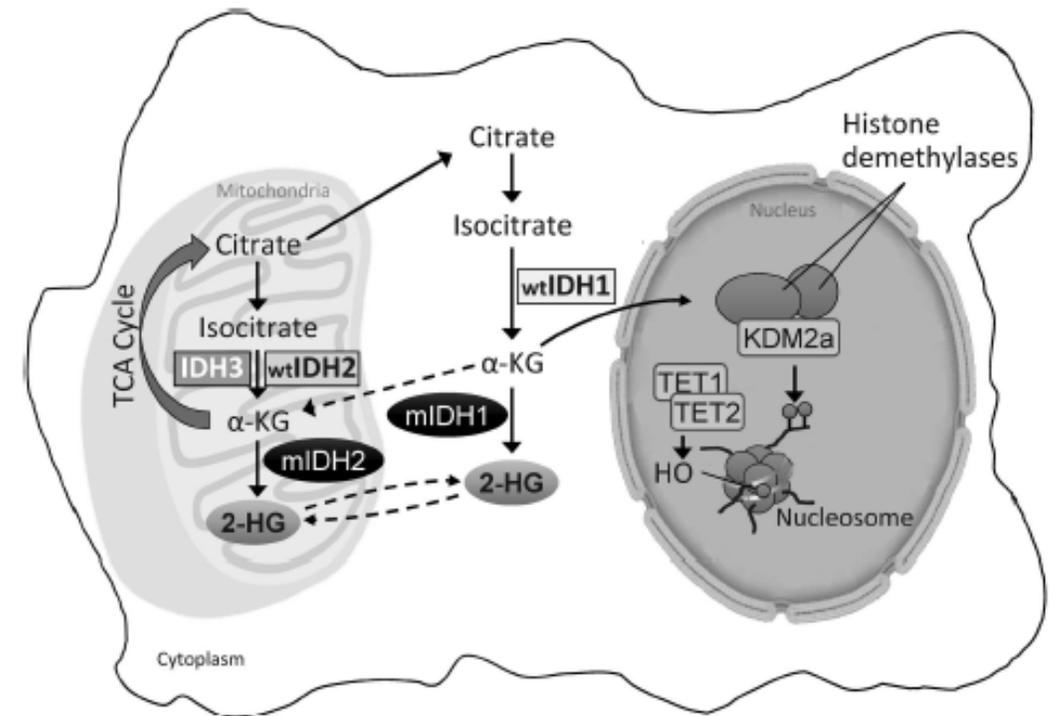
- FLT-3 Mutations Present in ~20-30% of AML
  - ITD = Internal Tandem Duplication
  - TKD = Tyrosine Kinase Domain
- Type 1 FLT-3 Inhibitors
  - Inhibit both FLT-3 ITD and FLT-3 TKD
  - Midostaurin
  - Gilteritinib
- Type 2 FLT-3 Inhibitors
  - Active against FLT-3 ITD, no activity against FLT-3 TKD
  - Sorafenib
  - Quizartinib



# Acute Myeloid Leukemia

## Isocitrate Dehydrogenase 1 and 2 Inhibitors

- IDH1 Mutations Present in 5-10% of AML
- IDH1 Inhibitor:
  - **Ivosidenib**
- IDH2 Mutations Present in 10-15% of AML
- IDH2 Inhibitor:
  - **Enasidenib**
- Mechanism:
  - Inhibition of mIDH production of oncometabolite 2-HG
- Toxicities:
  - Differentiation Syndrome
  - Leukocytosis



# AML Exacta

Azacitidine + Venetoclax

- **VIALE-A Trial**

- Azacitidine + Venetoclax vs. Azacitidine + Placebo for newly diagnosed AML

- **Overall Survival**

- 14.7 months vs. 9.6 months (p<0.001)

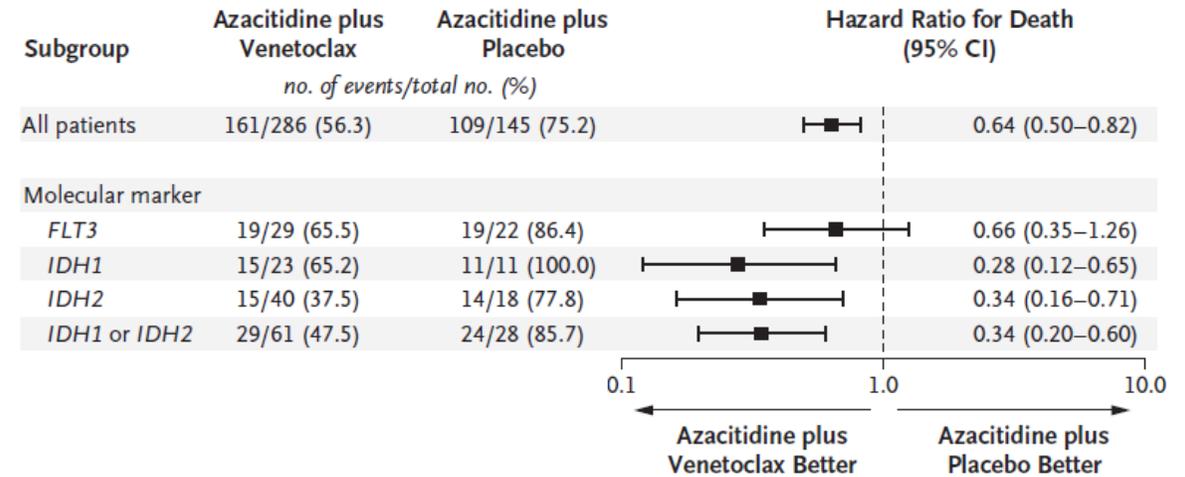
- **Complete Remission**

- 36.7% vs. 17.9% (p<0.001)

- **Composite Complete Remission (CR + CR<sub>i</sub>)**

- 66.4% vs. 28.3% (p<0.001)

**Figure 3. Subgroup Analysis of Overall Survival.**



# AML Exactas

## Azacitidine + Targeted Oral Agents

- **AGILE Trial**

- **Azacitidine\*** + **Ivosidenib** 500 mg PO daily vs. Azacitidine\* + Placebo
- Newly diagnosed IDH1 AML
- Overall Survival
  - 24 months vs. 7.9 months (p=0.001)
- Complete Remission
  - 47% vs. 15% (p<0.001)
- Composite Complete Remission (CR + CR<sub>h</sub>)
  - 53% vs. 18% (p<0.001)

- **AG221-AML-005 Trial**

- **Azacitidine\*** + **Enasidenib** 100 mg PO daily vs. Azacitidine\* + Placebo
- Newly diagnosed IDH2 AML
- Overall Survival
  - 22 months vs. 22.3 months (p=0.93)
- Complete Remission
  - 54% vs. 12% (p<0.0001)
- Composite Complete Remission (CR + CR<sub>i</sub> + CR<sub>p</sub>)
  - 63% vs. 30% (p=0.0019)

- **LACEWING Trial**

- **Azacitidine\*** + **Gilteritinib** 120 mg PO daily vs. Azacitidine\* + Placebo
- Newly diagnosed FLT3 AML
- Overall Survival
  - 9.8 months vs. 8.9 months (p=0.753)
- Complete Remission
  - 16.2% vs. 14.3% (p=not reported)
- Composite Complete Remission (CR + CR<sub>i</sub> + CR<sub>p</sub>)
  - 58.1% vs. 26.5% (p<0.001)

\*Azacitidine 75 mg/m<sup>2</sup> IV or SQ Days 1-7 of 28 day cycles

# Horse Betting 101

## Three Horse Bets

***Trifecta*** = Betting on three horses to finish first, second, and third in exact order

# AML Trifecta

## Azacitidine + Venetoclax + FLT3 Inhibitor

- **Short et al – 2021 Phase 1/2 Study**
- **Azacitidine + Venetoclax + Gilteritinib:**
- Cycle 1:
  - Azacitidine 75 mg/m<sup>2</sup> IV or SQ D 1-7 + Venetoclax 400 mg PO daily x 14-28 days + Gilteritinib 80-120 mg PO daily x 14-28 days
- Cycle 2+:
  - Azacitidine 75 mg/m<sup>2</sup> IV or SQ x 5-7 days Venetoclax 400 mg PO daily x 7-14 days + Gilteritinib 80-120 mg PO daily
- Recommended Phase 2 Dose of Gilteritinib = 80 mg

Outcome	ND AML (n= 11)	RR AML (n=15)
Median OS	Not Reached	10.5 months
CR	73%	7%
CR <sub>c</sub>	82%	27%

- **Yilmaz et al – 2021 Phase 1/2 Study**
- **Decitabine + Venetoclax + Quizartinib:**
- Cycle 1:
  - Decitabine 20 mg/m<sup>2</sup> IV D 1-10 + Venetoclax 400 mg PO daily x 14-21 days + Quizartinib 30-40 mg PO daily
- Cycle 2+:
  - Decitabine 20 mg/m<sup>2</sup> IV D 1-5 Venetoclax 400 mg PO daily x 14 days+ Quizartinib 30-40 mg PO daily
- Recommended Phase 2 Dose of Quizartinib = 30 mg

Outcome	ND AML (n= 5)	RR AML (n=23)
Median OS	14.5 months	7.5 months
CR	40%	13%
CR <sub>c</sub>	100%	65%

# AML Trifecta

## Azacitidine + Venetoclax + IDH Inhibitor

- Lachowicz et al – 2021 Phase 1/2 Study
- Venetoclax + Ivosidenib +/- Azacitidine
- Dose Level 3 (Triplet Cohort)
  - Azacitidine 75 mg/m<sup>2</sup> IV or SQ D 1-7 + Venetoclax 400 mg PO daily x 14 days + Ivosidenib 500 mg PO daily x D 15-28 in C1, continuous in C2+

Outcome	AZA + VEN + IVO (n=13)
Median OS	Not Reached
CR	54%
CR <sub>c</sub>	85%

- Venugopal et al – 2022 Phase 2, Open Label Study
- Azacitidine + Enasidenib +/- Venetoclax
- Triplet Cohort:
  - Azacitidine 75 mg/m<sup>2</sup> IV or SQ D 1-7 + Enasidenib 100 mg PO daily continuously + Venetoclax addition allowed as indicated

Outcome	AZA + VEN + ENA (n=7)
Median OS	Not Reached
CR	71%
CR <sub>c</sub>	86%

# Horse Betting 101

## Four Horse Bets

***Superfecta*** = Betting on four horses to finish first, second, third, and fourth in exact order

# AML Superfecta

FLAG + Ida + Venetoclax

DiNardo et al. *J Clin Oncol* 2021

- Phase 1b/2, Single Arm, Dose Finding and Dose Expansion Trial

Phase 1b Induction:

Patients with  
**Relapsed or  
Refractory AML**



Fludarabine 30 mg/m<sup>2</sup> IV D2-6  
Cytarabine\* 1.5-2 g/m<sup>2</sup> IV D2-6  
Filgrastim 5 mcg/kg SQ D1-7  
Idarubicin 6 mg/m<sup>2</sup> IV D4-5



Dose Level -1

Venetoclax<sup>^</sup> 200 mg PO D 1-21

Alternate Dose Level -1

Venetoclax<sup>^</sup> 200 mg PO D 1-14

Dose Level 0:

Venetoclax<sup>^</sup> 400 mg PO D 1-14

\*Cytarabine Dosing: Dose Level -1 = 2 g/m<sup>2</sup>; Alternate Dose Level -1 and Dose Level 0 = 1.5 g/m<sup>2</sup>

<sup>^</sup>Venetoclax dose was titrated per standard dosing instructions

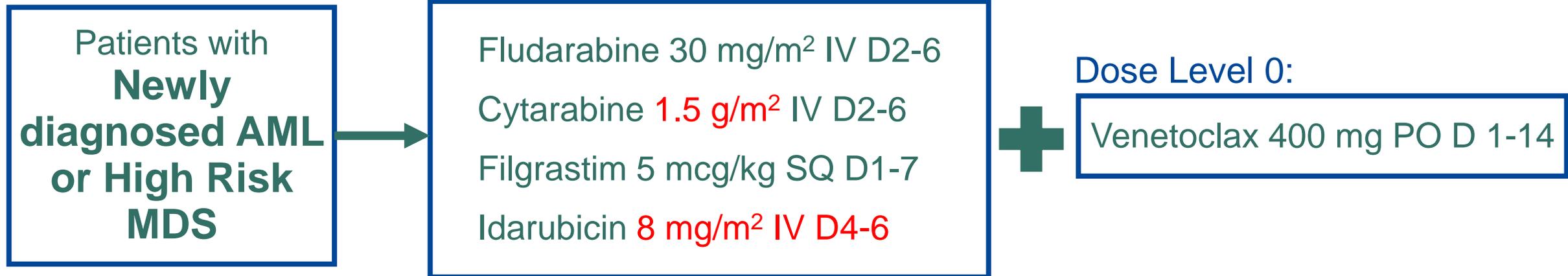
# AML Superfecta

FLAG – Ida – Venetoclax

DiNardo et al. *J Clin Oncol* 2021

- Phase 1b/2, Single Arm, Dose Finding and Dose Expansion Trial

Phase 2a Induction:



^Venetoclax dose was titrated per standard dosing instructions

Consolidation: Fludarabine + Cytarabine D2-4, Filgrastim D1-5, Venetoclax D1-7, Idarubicin (at MD discretion in up to two cycles) D3-4

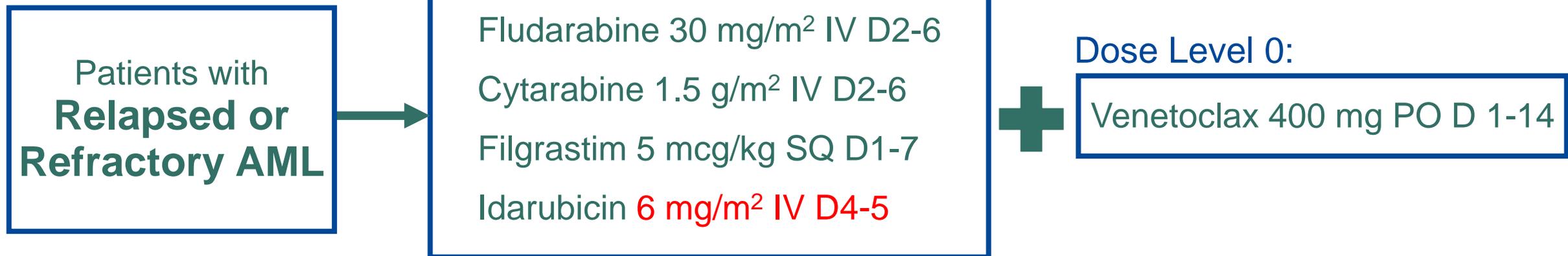
# AML Superfecta

FLAG – Ida – Venetoclax

DiNardo et al. *J Clin Oncol* 2021

- Phase 1b/2, Single Arm, Dose Finding and Dose Expansion Trial

Phase 2b:



^Venetoclax dose was titrated per standard dosing instructions

Consolidation: Fludarabine + Cytarabine D2-4, Filgrastim D1-5, Venetoclax D1-7, Idarubicin (at MD discretion in up to two cycles) D3-4

# AML Superfecta

FLAG – Ida – Venetoclax

DiNardo et al. *J Clin Oncol* 2021

- Baseline Demographics

Characteristic	Phase 2a – ND AML (n=29)	Phase 1b – RR AML (n=16)	Phase 2b – RR AML (n=23)
Median Age	45 years	51 years	47 years
Male Sex	13 (45%)	10 (62%)	14 (61%)
ELN Risk Group			
Favorable	5 (17%)	6 (38%)	6 (26%)
Intermediate	13 (45%)	2 (12%)	3 (13%)
Adverse	11 (38%)	8 (50%)	14 (61%)
Median Bone Marrow Blast %	41%	63%	46%
Median Lines of Prior Therapies	-	2 (1-6)	1 (1-3)
Prior HSCT	-	7 (44%)	7 (30%)

# AML Superfecta

FLAG – Ida – Venetoclax

DiNardo et al. *J Clin Oncol* 2021

- Efficacy Results

## CRc Rates

- Phase 2a – ND AML (n=29) – 90%
- Phase 1b – RR AML (n=16) – 75%
- Phase 2b – RR AML (n=23) – 61%

## 12 Month Overall Survival

- Phase 2a – ND AML (n=29) – 94%
- Phase 1b – RR AML (n=16) – 38%
- Phase 2b – RR AML (n=23) – 68%

38 Patients Progressed to HSCT

- ND AML: 20 patients (69%)
- RR AML: 18 patients (46%)

# AML Superfecta

FLAG – Ida – Venetoclax

DiNardo et al. *J Clin Oncol* 2021

- Safety Results

Toxicity	Phase 2a – ND AML (n=29)	Phase 1b – RR AML (n=16)	Phase 2b – RR AML (n=23)
Median Time to ANC > 500 and Platelet > 50,000	31 days	37 days	37 days
Febrile Neutropenia	14 (48%)	8 (50%)	12 (52%)
Bacteremia	6 (21%)	8 (50%)	10 (43%)
Pneumonia	8 (28%)	4 (25%)	7 (30%)
Sepsis	3 (10%)	4 (25%)	1 (4%)

30 Day Mortality = 0%  
60 Day Mortality = 4.4%

# AML

## Novel Oral Agent Combination Regimens

- Exactas
  - Azacitidine + Venetoclax Odds on Favorite
  - Azacitidine + Ivosidenib potentially closing the gap
- Trifectas
  - Azacitidine + Venetoclax + FLT-3 Inhibitor potent combination, but limited by toxicity
  - Azacitidine + Venetoclax + IDH inhibitor in early phases of development
- Superfecta
  - FLAG + Ida + Venetoclax effective bridge to transplant strategy in R/R AML



# Questions?

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# Handicapping the Field

Novel Oral Agents in Leukemia Management

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