

# A PHASE 1 STUDY WITH THE NOVEL B-CELL LYMPHOMA 2 INHIBITOR SONROTOCLAX (BGB-11417) AS MONOTHERAPY OR IN COMBINATION WITH ZANUBRUTINIB IN PATIENTS WITH CLL/SLL: PRELIMINARY DATA

**Paolo Ghia<sup>1</sup>, Alessandra Tedeschi<sup>2</sup>, Chan Y. Cheah<sup>3-5</sup>, Constantine S. Tam<sup>6,7</sup>, Lydia Scarfò<sup>1</sup>, Masa Lasica<sup>8</sup>, Emma Verner<sup>9,10</sup>, Peter J. Browett<sup>11</sup>, Mary A. Anderson<sup>12,13</sup>, James Hilger<sup>14</sup>, Yiqian Fang<sup>14</sup>, David Simpson<sup>14</sup>, Stephen Opat<sup>7,15</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Università Vita-Salute San Raffaele and IRCCS Ospedale San Raffaele, Milan, Italy; <sup>2</sup>ASST Grande Ospedale Metropolitano Niguarda, Milan, Italy; <sup>3</sup>Department of Haematology, Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital and Pathwest Laboratory Medicine, Nedlands, Western Australia, Australia; <sup>4</sup>Medical School, University of Western Australia, Crawley, Western Australia, Australia; <sup>5</sup>Linear Clinical Research, Nedlands, Western Australia, Australia; <sup>6</sup>Alfred Hospital, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia; <sup>7</sup>Monash University, Clayton, Victoria, Australia; <sup>8</sup>St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne, Fitzroy, Victoria, Australia; <sup>9</sup>Concord Repatriation General Hospital, Concord, New South Wales, Australia; <sup>10</sup>University of Sydney, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia; <sup>11</sup>Department of Haematology, Auckland City Hospital, Auckland, New Zealand; <sup>12</sup>Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia; <sup>13</sup>Division of Blood Cells and Blood Cancer, The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute, Parkville, Victoria, Australia; <sup>14</sup>BeiGene (Shanghai) Co., Ltd., Shanghai, China and BeiGene USA, Inc., San Mateo, CA, USA; <sup>15</sup>Monash Health, Clayton, Victoria, Australia

## Disclosures for Dr. Ghia

Consultant for AbbVie, AstraZeneca, ArQule/MDS, BeiGene, Celgene/Juno/BMS, Janssen, and Roche;  
honoraria from AbbVie, AstraZeneca, ArQule/MDS, BeiGene, Celgene/Juno/BMS, Janssen, and Roche;  
research funding from AbbVie, AstraZeneca, Janssen, Gilead, and Sunesis

# Introduction

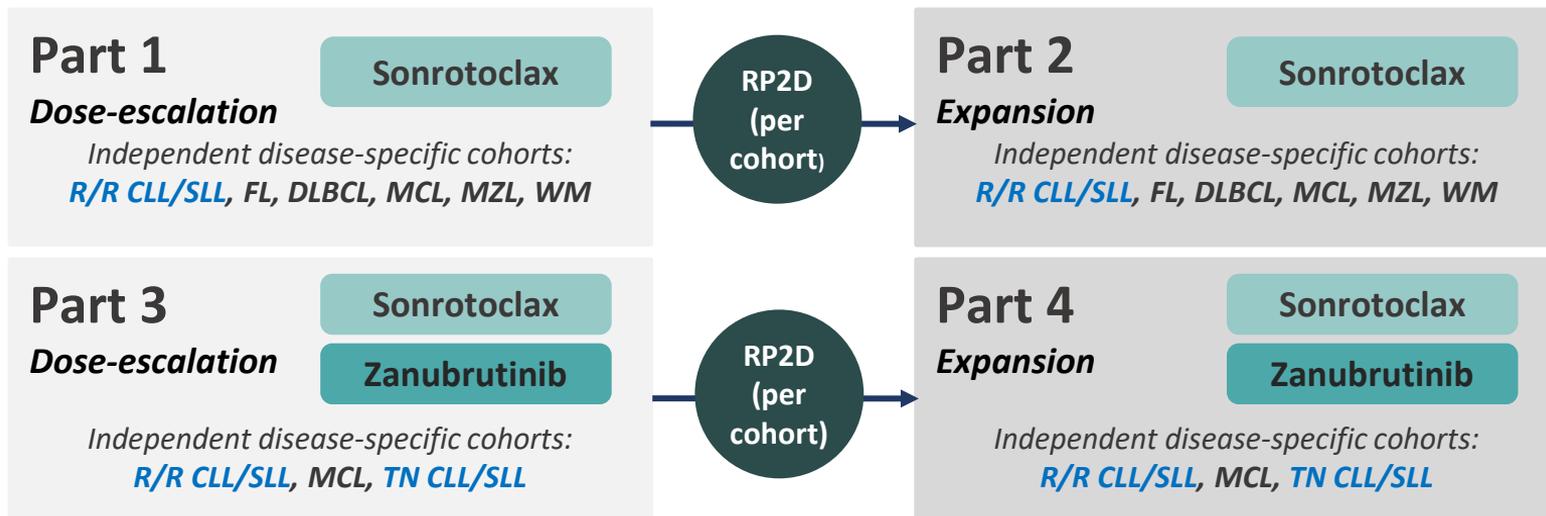
- BCL2 inhibition is an established mechanism for treating B-cell malignancies such as CLL/SLL<sup>1-2</sup>
- Sonrotoclax (BGB-11417) has shown more potent and selective BCL2 inhibition and better activity against BCL2 mutations than venetoclax in vitro<sup>2</sup>
- The combination of BCL2 and BTK inhibitors has potent activity in CLL and MCL<sup>3-6</sup>
- Ibrutinib with venetoclax has shown efficacy as a first-line treatment in a phase 3 trial in patients with CLL/SLL; however, toxicities can limit use<sup>7</sup>
  - A more tolerable BTK inhibitor + BCL2 inhibitor combination is needed
- Zanubrutinib has demonstrated superior efficacy and safety, especially cardiovascular, in a head-to-head study vs ibrutinib in patients with R/R CLL<sup>8</sup>
- Here, we present the preliminary data from a phase 1 study with sonrotoclax as monotherapy or combination with zanubrutinib in patients with CLL/SLL

BCL2, B-cell lymphoma 2; CLL, chronic lymphocytic leukemia; MCL, mantle cell lymphoma; SLL, small lymphocytic lymphoma.

1. Kapoor et al. *Cell Death Dis.* 2020;11(11):941; 2. Hu et al. AACR 2020. Abstract 3077; 3. Soumerai et al. *Lancet Haematol.* 2021;8(12):e879-e890; 4. Hillmen et al. *J Clin Oncol.* 2019;37(30):2722-2729; 5. Jain et al. *N Engl J Med.* 2019;380(22):2095-2103; 6. Wierda et al. *J Clin Oncol.* 2021;39(34):3853-3865; 7. Kater et al. *NEJM Evidence.* 2022;1(7); 8. Brown et al. *Clin Lymphoma Myeloma Leuk.* 2022;22:S266.

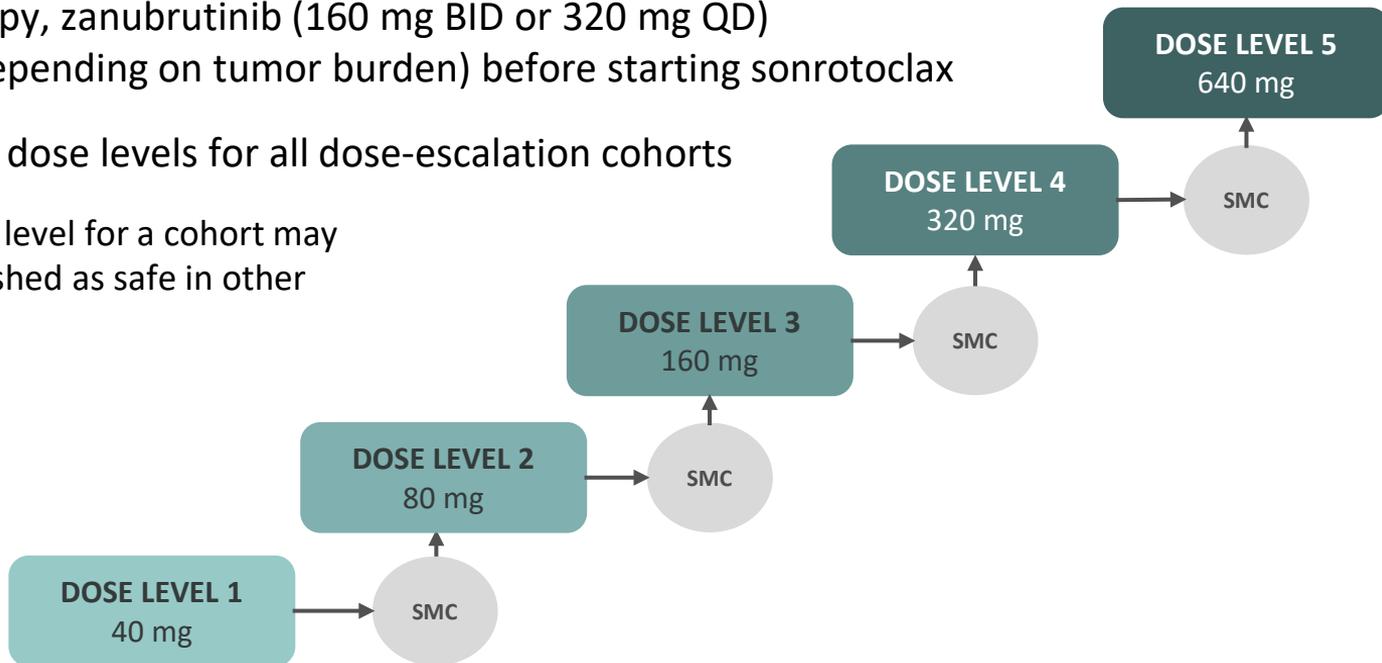
# Study Design

- BGB-11417-101 is a first-in-human, phase 1, open-label, multicenter, dose escalation and expansion study in patients with B-cell malignancies (NCT04277637)
- **Blue:** CLL/SLL cohort data focused on in this presentation



# Dosing and Dose Escalation

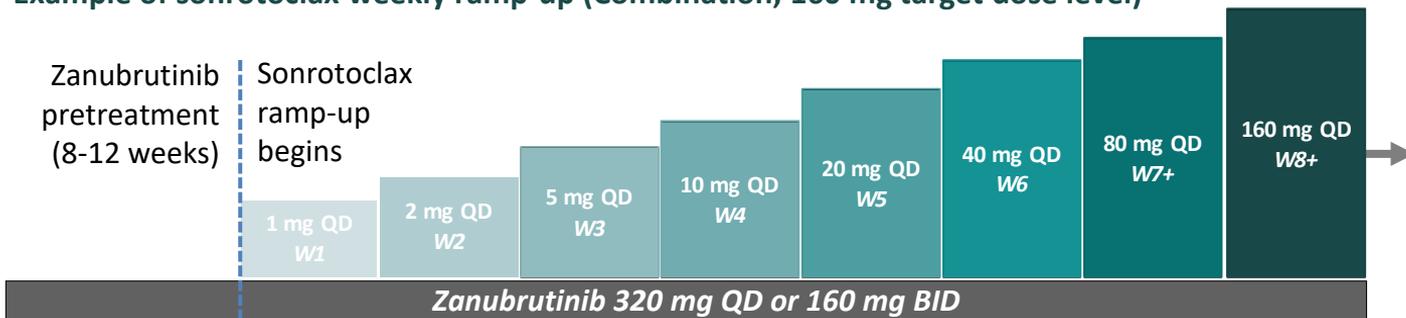
- Sonrotoclax was dosed QD  $\leq 30$  minutes after a low-fat meal
- For combination therapy, zanubrutinib (160 mg BID or 320 mg QD) started 8-12 weeks (depending on tumor burden) before starting sonrotoclax
- Five potential planned dose levels for all dose-escalation cohorts
  - Starting target dose level for a cohort may be  $>40$  mg if established as safe in other cohorts per SMC<sup>a</sup>



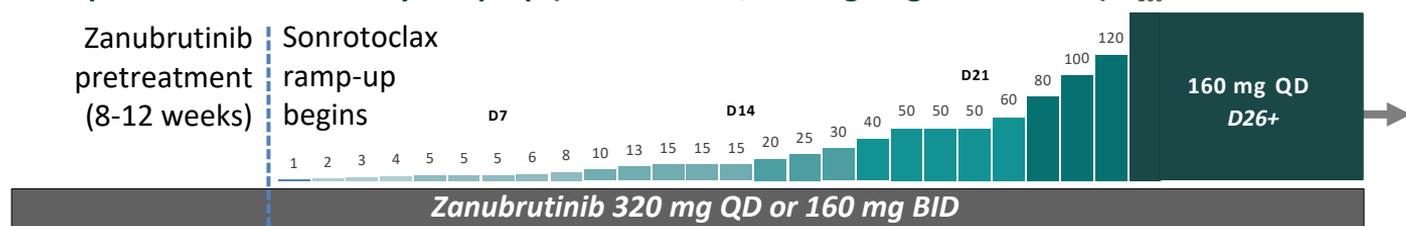
<sup>a</sup>SMC review of dose-level cohort data before dose escalation.  
 SMC, safety monitoring committee.

# Dose Ramp-up Schedules

## Example of sonrotoclax weekly ramp-up (Combination, 160 mg target dose level)

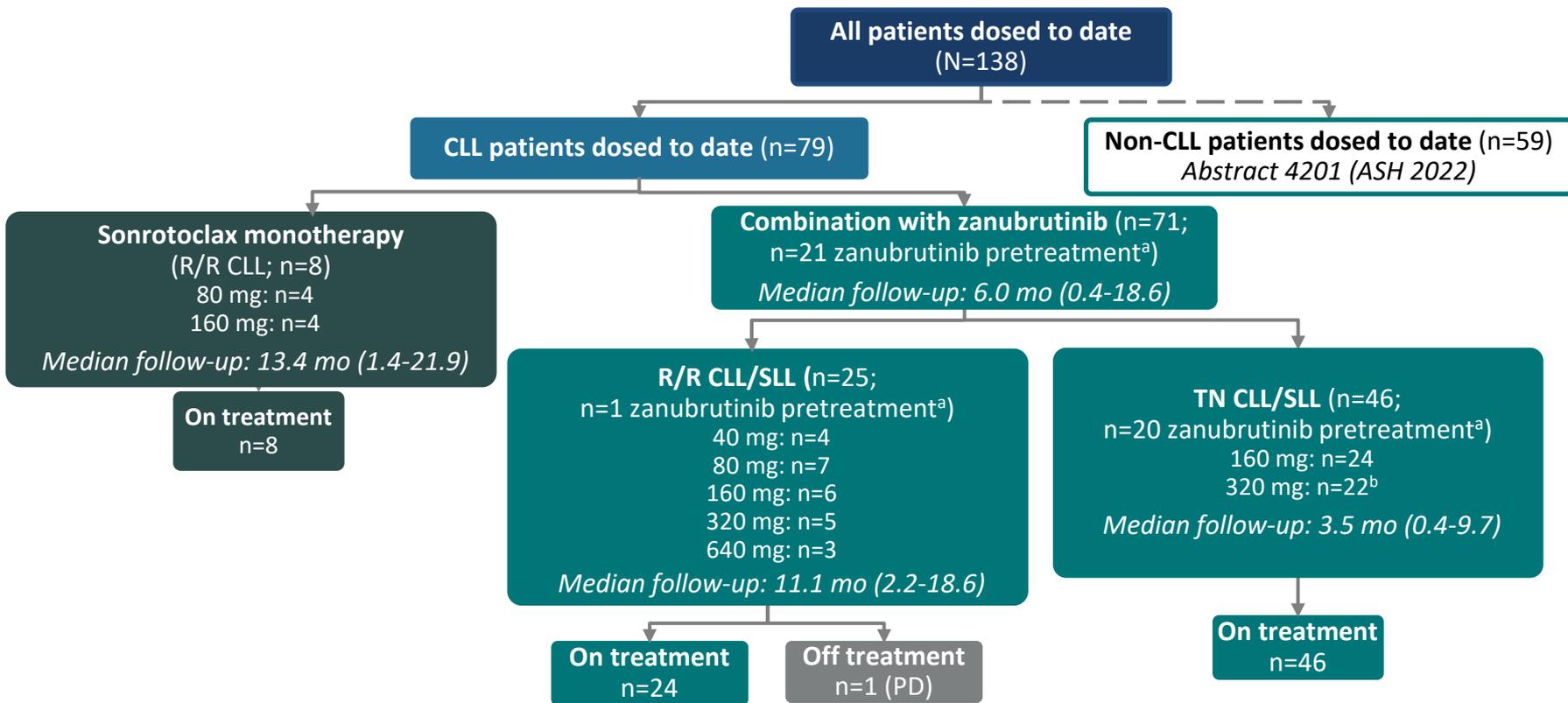


## Example of sonrotoclax daily ramp-up (Combination, 160 mg target dose level)



- TLS prophylaxis included hydration and started 24-48 hours prior to first dose
- Allopurinol started 2-3 days prior to first dose and rasburicase started as indicated
- Hospitalization for observation was initially required for each new ramp-up dose level for first 3 dose levels, but the requirement has been removed per SMC

# Patient Disposition



# Patient Characteristics

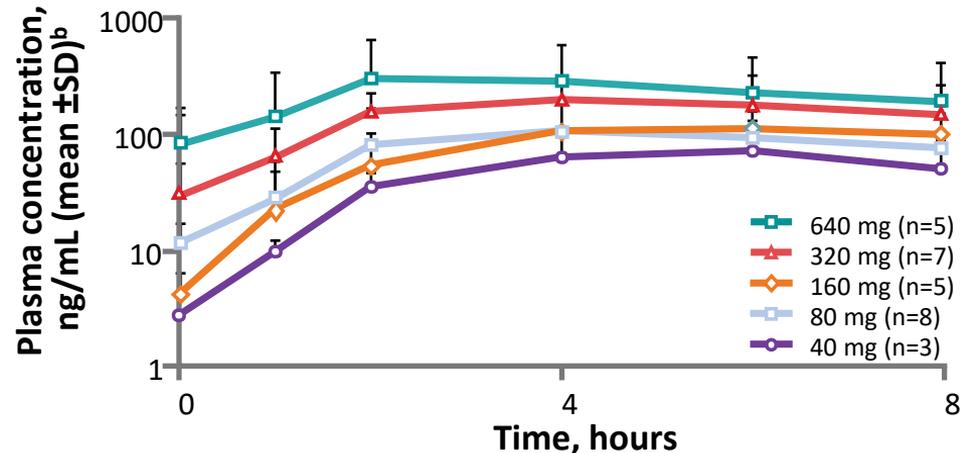
Characteristic	Sonrotoclax monotherapy (n=8)	Sonrotoclax + zanubrutinib (n=71)	All patients (N=79)
<b>Median age, (range), years</b>	68.5 (55-84)	61 (35-84)	62 (35-84)
<b>Sex, n (%)</b>			
Male	6 (75)	56 (78.9)	62 (78.5)
Female	2 (25)	15 (21.1)	17 (21.5)
<b>ECOG PS, n (%)</b>			
0	3 (37.5)	49 (69)	52 (65.8)
1	5 (62.5)	21 (29.6)	26 (32.9)
2	0	1 (1.4)	1 (1.3)
<b>Disease type, n (%)</b>			
CLL	(100)	70 (99)	78 (99)
SLL	0	1 (1)	1 (1)
<b>R/R, n (%)</b>			
No. of prior lines of therapy, median (range)	2 (1-3)	1 (1-2)	1 (1-3)
Time from end of most recent systemic therapy to first dose, median (range), months	0.4 (0.0-10.2)	57.0 (1.6-194.4)	45.4 (0.0-194.4)
<b>TN, n (%)</b>	0	46 (64.8)	46 (58.2)
<b>Risk status, n (%)</b>			
del(17p)	2 (25)	11 (15.5)	13 (16.5)
TP53 <sup>mut</sup>	3 (37.5)	15 (21.1)	18 (22.8)

# Steady State Pharmacokinetics<sup>a</sup>

- Preliminary steady state PK data from patients with NHL or CLL who received sonrotoclax monotherapy at 40-640 mg target doses QD for 3 weeks

- Dose-dependent PK from 40-640 mg
- Fast absorption (median  $T_{max}$  ~4 hours)
- Short half-life (median  $T_{1/2}$  ~5 hours)
- No significant accumulation at steady state
- Similar PK with and without zanubrutinib (data not shown)

### Steady State (W4D1)



<sup>a</sup> PK data were pooled from all study cohorts, not just CLL. <sup>b</sup> Mean  $\pm$ SD steady state sonrotoclax plasma concentration profile for 40-640 mg QD in patients with NHL and CLL who received sonrotoclax monotherapy (combination PK not shown here).

CLL, chronic lymphocytic leukemia; PK, pharmacokinetics; SD, standard deviation;  $T_{1/2}$ , half-life;  $T_{max}$ , maximum time; W, week.

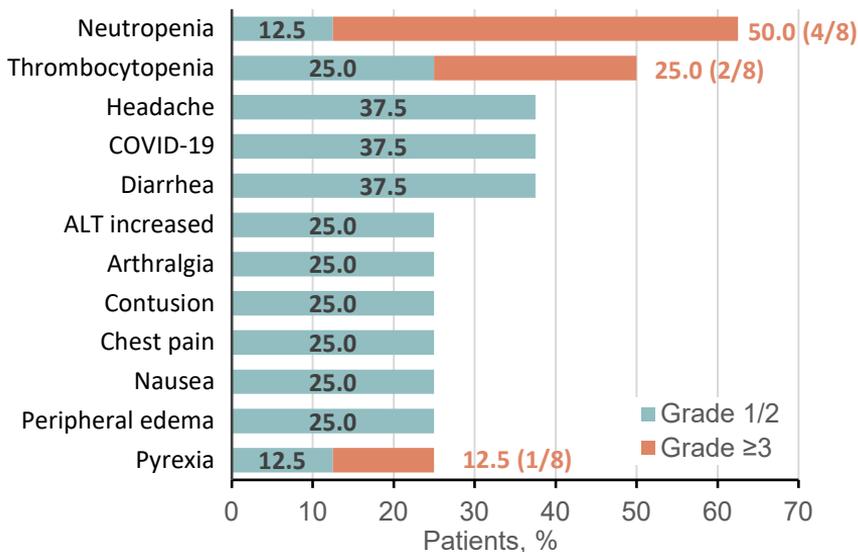
## Summary of AEs and DLTs

- Only 1 DLT of febrile neutropenia noted among patients with CLL with sonrotoclax monotherapy at 80 mg; no DLTs were observed to date with the combination therapy at any dose level
- Toxicity does not seem dose dependent
- These AEs are consistent with sonrotoclax NHL data,<sup>1</sup> which tested through 640 mg with no MTD reached

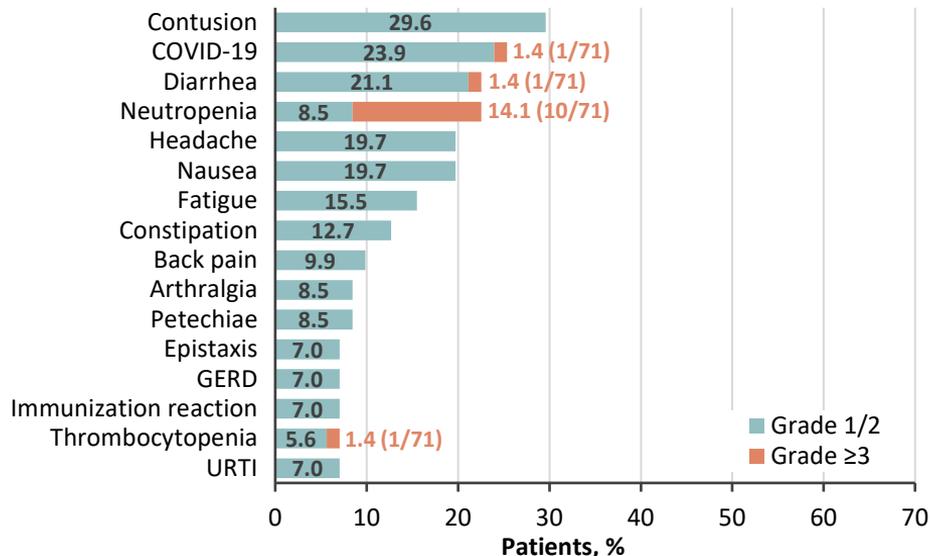
TEAE, n (%)	Sonrotoclax monotherapy (n=8)	Sonrotoclax + zanubrutinib (n=71)	All patients (N=79)
<b>Any AEs</b>	8 (100)	61 (86)	69 (87)
Grade ≥3	5 (63)	20 (28)	25 (32)
Serious AEs	2 (25)	7 (10)	9 (11)
Leading to death	0	0	0
<b>Treated with sonrotoclax</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>58</b>
Leading to hold of sonrotoclax	5 (62.5)	14 (28)	19 (33)
Leading to dose reduction of sonrotoclax	0	1 (2)	1 (2)
Leading to discontinuation of sonrotoclax	0	0	0

# Most Frequent AEs

**Sonrotoclax Monotherapy, n=8**  
(Events in ≥2 Patients)



**Sonrotoclax + Zanubrutinib, n=71<sup>a,b</sup>**  
(Events in ≥5 Patients)



<sup>a</sup> Includes 21 patients who are still in zanubrutinib pretreatment phase and have not yet received sonrotoclax. <sup>b</sup> Includes 46 patients who are TN. ALT, alanine transaminase; GERD, gastroesophageal reflux disease; TN, treatment-naïve; URTI, upper respiratory tract infection.

## Selected TEAEs

- **TLS:** No clinical TLS and only 1 lab TLS observed
  - Patient with lab TLS had high tumor burden<sup>a</sup> receiving monotherapy with weekly ramp-up
    - The pre-dose urate was elevated; the phosphate level rose post-dose
  - No TLS was observed with daily ramp-up (TN combination at 320 mg; n=3)
- **GI toxicity:** Diarrhea was mostly grade 1
  - Monotherapy grade  $\geq 2$ : 12.5%; combination grade  $\geq 2$ : 5.6%; and grade 3: n=1
- **Neutropenia:**
  - G-CSF use<sup>b</sup>: monotherapy 4/8 (50%) patients; combination 10/71 (14.1%) patients
  - Only 3/78 (3.8%) patients used more than 1 course of G-CSF to treat neutropenia

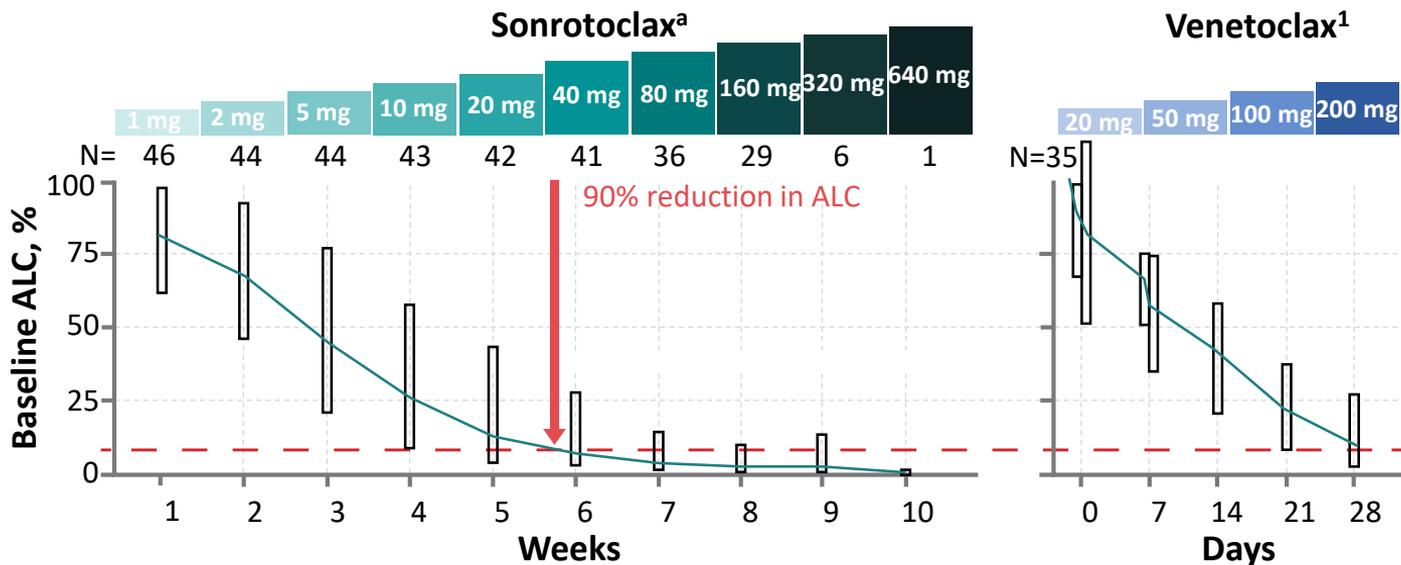
<sup>a</sup> High tumor burden is any node  $\geq 10$  cm or a node 5-10 cm with an ALC  $\geq 25 \times 10^9/L$ . If a patient is not classified as "high" they are classified as "low."

<sup>b</sup> Includes all patients reporting G-CSF use during treatment, regardless of whether used for neutropenia or otherwise.

ALC, absolute lymphocyte count; G-CSF, granulocyte colony stimulating factor; GI, gastrointestinal; TLS, tumor lysis syndrome; TN, treatment-naïve.

# Reduction in ALC

- ALC dropped by ~90% after weekly ramp-up to 40 mg (sonrotoclax 40 mg ≈ venetoclax 200 mg [1:5])



ALC, absolute lymphocyte count.

Only data from patients with an ALC >5x10<sup>9</sup>/L at baseline are included. Box plots represent median and 10th-90th percentiles. <sup>a</sup> Minimum ALC among 1 week of each dose level was used for calculation. N represents the number of patients who completed weekly dosing at dose level underneath. ALC data were pooled from both monotherapy (n=7) and combination therapy (n=39) cohorts because no difference was observed. 1. Roberts et al. *N Engl J Med.* 2016;374(4):311-322.

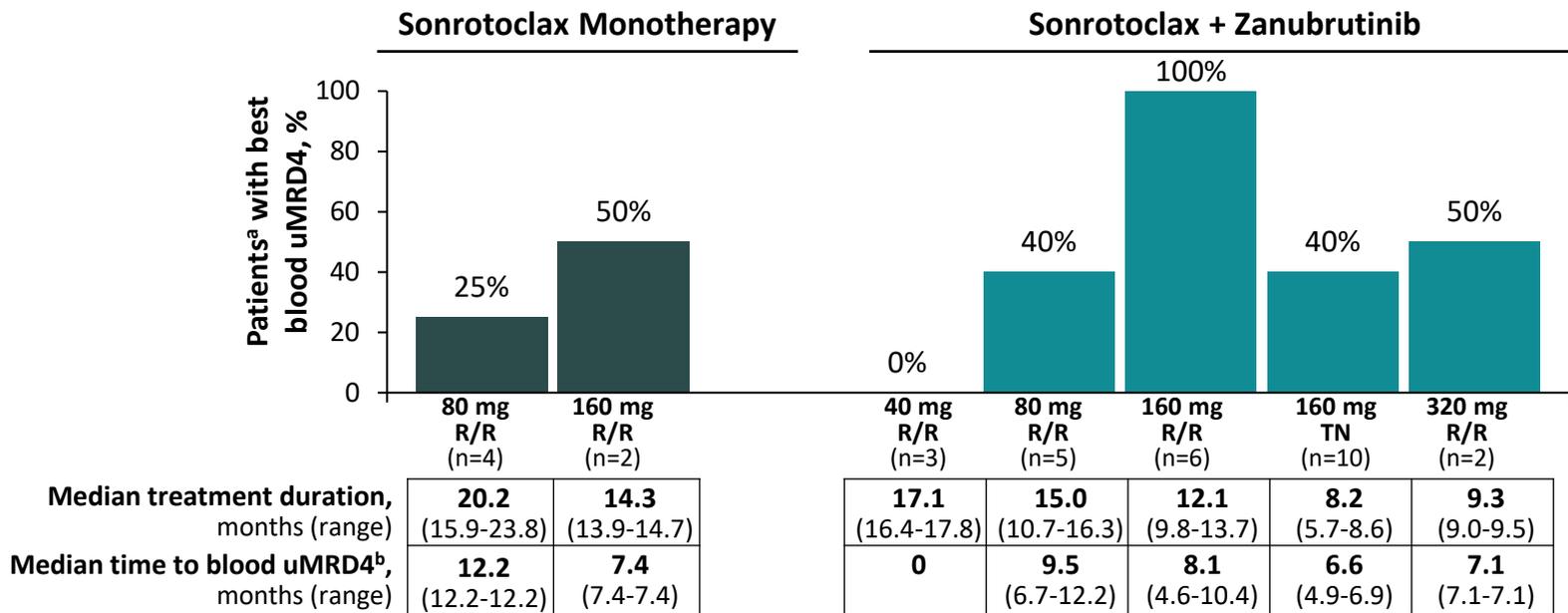
## Overall Response Rate

	R/R sonrotoclax (n=8)	R/R sonrotoclax + zanubrutinib (n=25)	TN sonrotoclax + zanubrutinib (n=46)
<b>Treated with sonrotoclax, n</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Efficacy evaluable, n</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>20<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>11<sup>a</sup></b>
<b>ORR, n (%)</b>	4 (67)	19 (95)	11 (100)
CR	2 (33) <sup>b</sup>	6 (30) <sup>c</sup>	2 (18) <sup>d</sup>
PR	2 (33) <sup>e</sup>	13 (65) <sup>f</sup>	9 (82) <sup>g</sup>
SD	2 (33)	1 (5)	0
PD	0	0	0
<b>Median follow-up, months (range)</b>	<b>13.4 (1.4-21.9)</b>	<b>11.1 (2.2-18.6)</b>	<b>3.5 (0.4-9.7)</b>

<sup>a</sup> n=2 (R/R) and n=11 (TN) have responded after zanubrutinib pretreatment but have not yet had response assessment on combination treatment and, therefore, are not included here. <sup>b</sup> 40 mg: n=1; 80 mg: n=1. <sup>c</sup> 40 mg: n=1; 80 mg: n=2; 160 mg: n=3. <sup>d</sup> 160 mg: n=2. <sup>e</sup> 40 mg: n=1; 80 mg: n=1. <sup>f</sup> 40 mg: n=2; 80 mg: n=3; 160 mg: n=3; 320 mg: n=5. <sup>g</sup> 160 mg: n=9. TN, treatment-naïve.

# Blood MRD

- Undetectable MRD (uMRD) in peripheral blood was observed at **≥80 mg** after **6 months** (monotherapy and combination in R/R CLL/SLL)
- **uMRD rate increased with longer follow-up and higher dose** (160 mg and 320 mg are immature)



Data cutoff date: 29 October 2022. MRD was measured by ERIC flow cytometry with 10<sup>-4</sup> sensitivity. <sup>a</sup>In MRD-evaluable population, which was defined as patients who tested at least 1 postbaseline MRD sample. <sup>b</sup>From sonrotoclix first dose to first blood uMRD<sub>4</sub>; uMRD<sub>4</sub> is defined as CLL cells out of total nucleated cells less than 10<sup>-4</sup>. CLL, chronic lymphocytic leukemia; MRD, minimal residual disease; SLL, small lymphocytic lymphoma; TN, treatment-naïve; uMRD, undetectable minimal residual disease.

## Conclusions

- Sonrotoclax, alone or in combination with zanubrutinib, was well tolerated
  - Dose escalation continues to 640 mg with only 1 DLT; MTD was not achieved
  - Grade  $\geq 3$  neutropenia and grade  $\geq 2$  diarrhea were uncommon and manageable
  - Only 1 laboratory TLS was seen; TLS was mitigated by the prophylactic measures and ramp-up schedule
- Efficacy is seen in monotherapy and in combination with zanubrutinib in R/R and in TN CLL/SLL
- Based on ALC reduction, sonrotoclax may be about 5 times as potent as venetoclax by dose
- MRD data are preliminary but appear promising
- A venetoclax-treated CLL/SLL cohort is recruiting

# Acknowledgments

- We would like to thank the investigators, site support staff, and especially the patients for participating in this study
- We would also like to thank Tristin Tang and Binghao Wu (BeiGene) for their work on the PD and PK analyses
- This study was sponsored by BeiGene. Editorial support was provided by Medical Expressions and funded by BeiGene

**Correspondence:** [ghia.paolo@hsr.it](mailto:ghia.paolo@hsr.it)