# Improved Survival with Enzastaurin Treatment in Diffuse Large B-Cell Lymphoma (DLBCL) Patients with the Novel Genetic Biomarker, DGM1

2018 ASH **Abstract # 4207**  Wen Luo<sup>1</sup>, Hong Sun<sup>1</sup>, Jun Zhu<sup>2</sup>, Stephen D. Smith<sup>3</sup>, Isabel Han<sup>1</sup>, Manoj A. Jivani<sup>1</sup>, Young Liu<sup>1</sup>, Ronald L. Shazer<sup>1</sup>

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### **BACKGROUND**

Drugs that have benefited a subset of patients but discontinued for development may be rescued through identification of a biomarker predictive

PKCβ is the major isoform

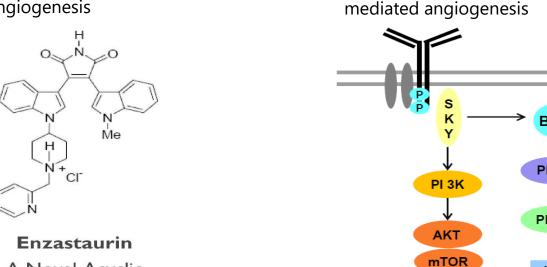
expressed in normal and

for B cell receptor signaling,

activation of NFκB, and VEGF-

malignant B cells and is required

 Enzastaurin, a potent and selective inhibitor of protein kinase C-β (PKCβ), also inhibits signaling through the PI3K/AKT pathway promoting apoptosis and suppressing tumor growth, proliferation, and angiogenesis

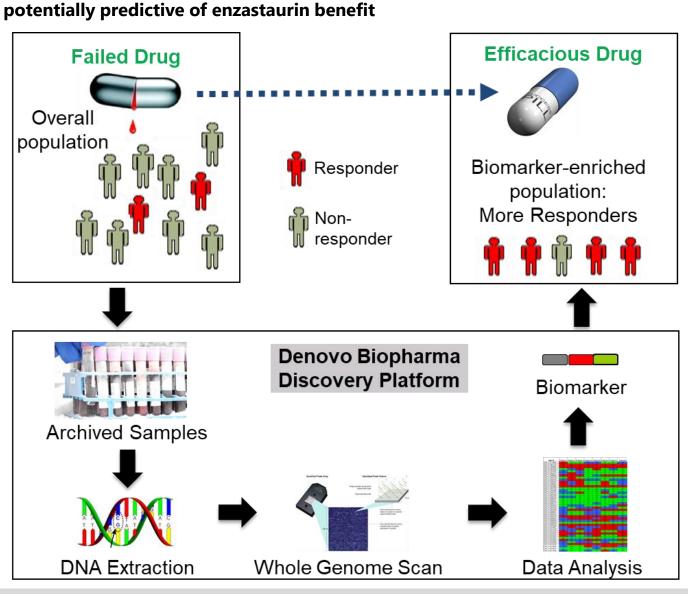


A Novel, Acyclic Bisindolylmaleimide Enzastaurin improved PFS in newly diagnosed DLBCL patients in a randomized

after R-CHOP Using data and patient samples from previous trials, we identified a biomarker

phase 2 trial when combined with R-CHOP, but not in a randomized phase 3 trial

when administered as maintenance therapy in DLBCL patients achieving CR/CRu



### Biomarker discovery was conducted on Eli Lilly's (Lilly) PRELUDE study, a phase 3 maintenance trial that enrolled approximately 750 DLBCL patients who achieved CR/CRu or negative FDG-PET scan after R-CHOP front-line therapy and were randomized to enzastaurin or

A genome-wide screen was performed on DNA from patients participating in this study and results were evaluated for correlation to efficacy endpoints through bioinformatic analysis

placebo maintenance for up to three

### **METHODS**

PRELUDE Study Design

DLBCL: CR/CRu or negative FDG-PET scan after

R-CHOP14 or R-CHOP21

Randomization (2:1)

Treatment for 3 years

From time of patient randomization

--- Placebo (N=254)

HR (95% CI): 1.04 (0.74, 1.5

R-CHOP/Enza (N=58)

HR (95% CI): 0.81 (0.40, 1.66)

R-CHOP (N=43)

Arm A:

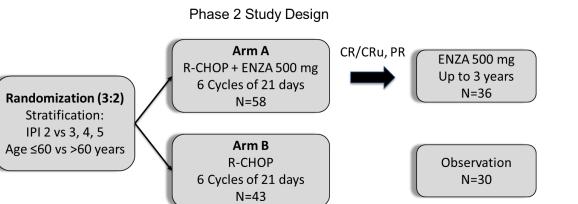
Oral enzastaurin,

500 mg QD (with a

1125 mg loading dose

on day 1 only)

- Confirmation of the biomarker identified in the phase 3 study was performed by independent analysis of the biomarker in a separate completed Lilly enzastaurin study in patients with DLBCL
- The study was a phase 2 trial in 101 newly diagnosed DLBCL patients randomized to treatment with R-CHOP plus enzastaurin or R-CHOP
- Patients receiving R-CHOP plus enzastaurin and achieving a CR/CRu or PR after induction were eligible to continue with single agent enzastaurin for up to 3 years



## **RESULTS**

Archived Samples —

Arm B:

Oral **placebo**, QD

(with a "placebo"

loading dose on

day 1 only)

- There was no difference in overall survival (OS) in the ITT population in the original study analysis of the PRELUDE study
- Analysis of patient samples from the PRELUDE study identified a biomarker highly correlated and potentially predictive of enzastaurin response: Denovo Genomic Marker 1 (DGM1), a polymorphism on chromosome 8
- found that DGM1+ patients receiving enzastaurin had significantly improved patients receiving enzastaurin (HR 0.27, p = 0.002)
- predictability of the biomarker was
- the ITT population of the phase 2 study The DGM1 findings from the PRELUDE analysis were replicated in the phase 2
- study: DGM1+ patients receiving R-CHOP plus enzastaurin had significantly improved OS (HR 0.1, p=0.005) compared to DGM1- patients

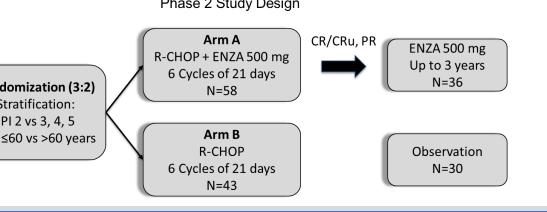
HR (95% CI): 0.27 (0.15, 0.51)

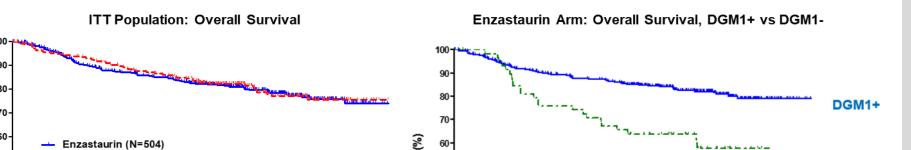
Enzastaurin Arm: Overall Survival, DGM1+ vs. DGM1

HR (95% CI): 0.1 (0.02, 0.492)

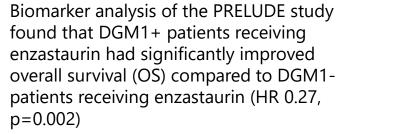
- R-CHOP/Enza (N=48)

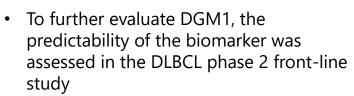
- R-CHOP/Enza (N=9)





Denovo Biomarker Discovery

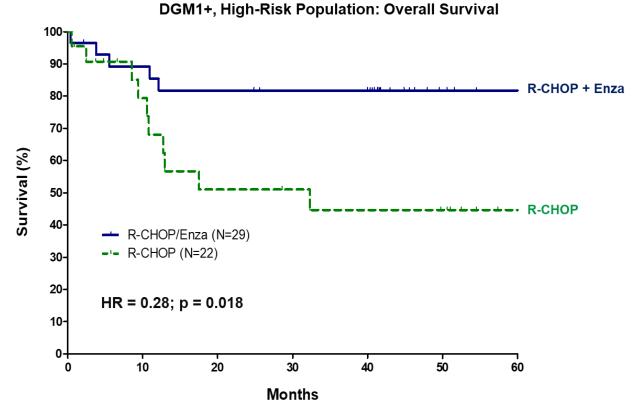




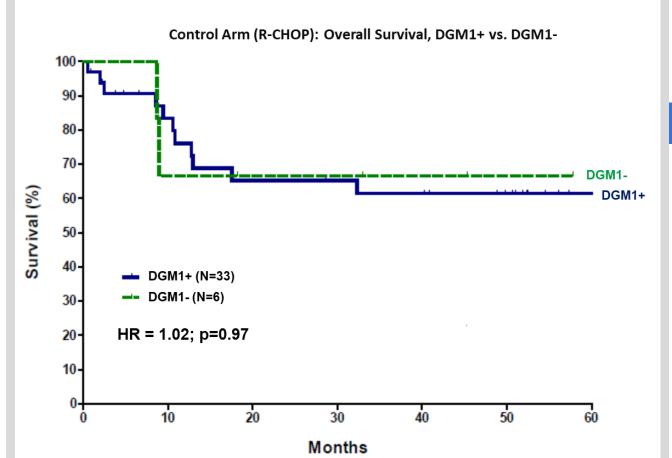
- There was no statistically significant OS difference between the treatment arms in

# **RESULTS**

- The original analysis of the phase 2 study found a trend toward improved, but not statistically significant, OS in patients with high-risk (IPI≥3) DLBCL receiving R-CHOP plus enzastaurin, an area of significant unmet need
- Biomarker analysis of this population demonstrated significant improvement in OS (HR 0.28, p=0.018) for high-risk DLBCL DGM1+ patients receiving R-CHOP plus enzastaurin compared to high-risk DLBCL DGM1+ patients receiving R-CHOP alone.



- DGM1 was evaluated for utility as a prognostic biomarker in DLBCL
- DGM1+ status was not predictive of efficacy in the control (R-CHOP only) arm arguing against DGM1 as a prognostic biomarker



### **CONCLUSION**

- These data are supportive of DGM1 as a potentially predictive biomarker for enzastaurin response
- The mechanism of DGM1 impact in DLBCL is under study
- Based on these data, a biomarker driven phase 3 study (ENGINE Study) of R-CHOP plus enzastaurin versus R-CHOP in DGM1+ and DGM1- patients with newly diagnosed high-risk DLBCL was initiated and is currently enrolling patients (NCT03263026)

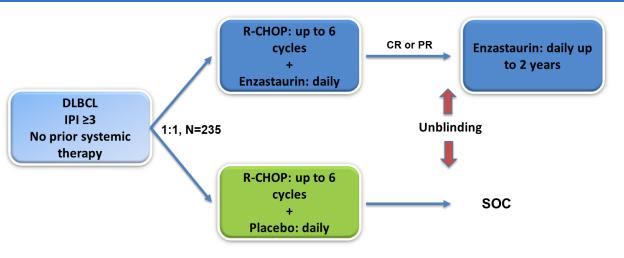
## **ENGINE STUDY DESIGN**

- Randomized (1:1), double-blind, placebo-controlled, multicenter study in patients with treatment naïve high-risk DLBCL
- Approximately 235 patients will be enrolled in the US and China
- Primary Objective is to compare the effect of R-CHOP plus enzastaurin versus R-CHOP on overall survival (OS) in treatment-naïve subjects with high-risk DLBCL who possess the DGM1 biomarker

### **ENGINE STUDY KEY ELGIBILITY**

- CD20-positive DLBCL
- Treatment naïve
- IPI ≥3
- ECOG PS ≤2
- DGM1+ or DGM1-

### **ENGINE STUDY**



### **REFERENCES**

- Crump M, et al. A Phase III Study of Enzastaurin in Patients with High-Risk Diffuse Large B Cell Lymphoma Following Response to Primary Treatment: The PRELUDE Trial. Blood 2013: 122:371
- Hainsworth, JD, et al. A randomized, phase 2 study of R-CHOP plus enzastaurin vs R-CHOP in patients with intermediate- or high-risk diffuse large B-cell lymphoma. Leuk Lymphoma 2016; 57 (1): 216-8

### **Disclosures:**

Luo, Sun: Denovo Biopharma LLC: Employment. Zhu: None to report

Smith: Acerta Pharma BV: Research Funding; AstraZeneca: Membership on a Board or Advisory Committee; Denovo Biopharma LLC: Research Funding; Genentech: Research Funding; Incyte Corporation: Research Funding; Janssen Research and Development, LLC: Research Funding; Merck Sharp and Dohme Corp.: Research Funding, Consultancy; Pharmacyclics: Research Funding; Portola Pharmaceuticals: Research Funding; Seattle Genetics; Research Funding.

Han, Jivani, Liu, Shazer: Denovo Biopharma LLC: Employment.

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