

# Efficacy/Safety of Ciltacabtagene Autoleucel ± Lenalidomide Maintenance in Patients With Multiple Myeloma Who Had Suboptimal Response to Frontline Autologous Stem Cell Transplant: CARTITUDE-2 Cohort D

Yaël C Cohen<sup>1</sup>, Wilfried Roeloffzen<sup>2</sup>, Tessa Kerre<sup>3</sup>, Mounzer Agha<sup>4</sup>, Michel Delforge<sup>5</sup>, Ira Braunschweig<sup>6</sup>, Nishi Shah<sup>7</sup>, Shambavi Richard<sup>8</sup>, Melissa Alsina<sup>9</sup>, Hermann Einsele<sup>10</sup>, Pankaj Mistri<sup>11</sup>, Helen Varsos<sup>12</sup>, Christina Corsale<sup>12</sup>, Jordan M Schecter<sup>12</sup>, Kevin C De Braganca<sup>12</sup>, Yogesh Jethava<sup>12</sup>, Qingxuan Song<sup>12</sup>, Tamar Lengli<sup>13</sup>, Mythili Koneru<sup>14</sup>, Muhammad Akram<sup>14</sup>, Bertrand Arnulf<sup>15</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Tel Aviv Sourasky (Ichilov) Medical Center, Faculty of Medical & Health Sciences, Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv, Israel; <sup>2</sup>University Medical Center Groningen, Groningen, Netherlands; <sup>3</sup>Ghent University Hospital, Ghent, Belgium; <sup>4</sup>UPMC Hillman Cancer Center, Pittsburgh, PA, USA; <sup>5</sup>University of Leuven, Leuven, Belgium; <sup>6</sup>Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey, New Brunswick, NJ, USA; <sup>7</sup>Montefiore Medical Center, Bronx, NY, USA; <sup>8</sup>ICahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York, NY, USA; <sup>9</sup>Moffitt Cancer Center, Tampa, FL, USA; <sup>10</sup>Universitätsklinikum Würzburg, Medizinische Klinik und Poliklinik II, Würzburg, Germany; <sup>11</sup>Janssen Research & Development, High Wycombe, UK; <sup>12</sup>Janssen Research & Development, Raritan, NJ, USA; <sup>13</sup>Janssen Global Services, Raritan, NJ, USA; <sup>14</sup>Legend Biotech USA Inc., Somerset, NJ, USA; <sup>15</sup>Saint-Louis Hospital, APHP, University Paris Cité, Paris, France

## Key Takeaway



In patients with a suboptimal response after ASCT frontline therapy, efficacy and safety with cilta-cel ± lenalidomide maintenance is promising, especially given the historically poor clinical outcomes of this patient population

## Conclusions



In patients with <CR after frontline ASCT, a single cilta-cel infusion ± lenalidomide maintenance demonstrated deep and durable responses

- ORR was 94.1%, 18-month DOR was 93.3%, and MRD negativity occurred in 80.0% of patients

- 18-month PFS and OS rates were 93.8% each

- CAR-T cell expansion was robust



AEs were consistent with the known safety profile of cilta-cel

- No cases of grade 3 or 4 CRS or ICANS

- No cases of movement and neurocognitive TEAEs/parkinsonism



Incidence of prolonged neutropenia and thrombocytopenia was low

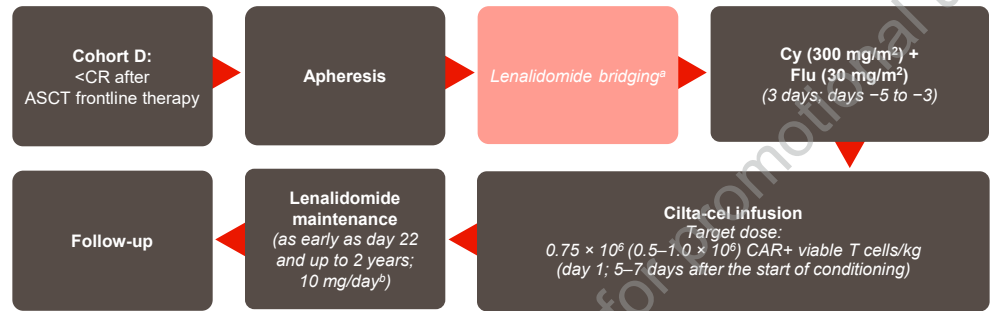
## Introduction

- Ciltacabtagene autoleucel (cilta-cel), a B-cell maturation antigen-targeting chimeric antigen receptor (CAR)-T cell therapy, has shown deep and durable responses in heavily pretreated patients with relapsed/refractory multiple myeloma (RRMM; CARTITUDE-1)<sup>1,2</sup> and significant improvement in progression-free survival (PFS) vs standard of care in lenalidomide-refractory patients with multiple myeloma after 1 to 3 prior lines of therapy (LOT; CARTITUDE-4)<sup>3</sup>
- Cilta-cel was recently approved for the treatment of adult patients with RRMM who have received at least 1 prior LOT, including a proteasome inhibitor (PI) and an immunomodulatory agent (IMiD), and who are refractory to lenalidomide<sup>4</sup>
- Patients with a suboptimal response after autologous stem cell transplant (ASCT) frontline therapy historically have poor outcomes<sup>5-9</sup>
- CARTITUDE-2 is a phase 2, multicohort study evaluating cilta-cel across various clinical settings of unmet need<sup>10</sup>
- CARTITUDE-2 cohort D is evaluating cilta-cel ± lenalidomide maintenance in patients with suboptimal response to frontline ASCT
- Here, we report initial efficacy and safety data from CARTITUDE-2 cohort D in patients who achieved less than complete response (CR) after frontline ASCT but median follow-up of 22.4 months (range, 4.7–39.3)

## Methods

- CARTITUDE-2 is a phase 2, multicohort, open-label study (Figure 1)
- The primary endpoint was minimal residual disease (MRD) negativity at 10<sup>-5</sup> threshold using next-generation sequencing or next-generation flow
- Secondary endpoints included overall response rate (ORR), assessed per International Myeloma Working Group (IMWG) response criteria; duration of response (DOR); time to response; PFS and overall survival (OS); incidence and severity of adverse events (AEs), including cytokine release syndrome (CRS) and immune effector cell-associated neurotoxicity syndrome (ICANS), both of which were graded per American Society for Transplantation and Cellular Therapy criteria<sup>11</sup> (all other AEs were graded per Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events v5)

Figure 1: Cohort D study design



<sup>a</sup>Bridging therapy was allowed when clinically indicated; alternative bridging regimens instead of, or in addition to, lenalidomide were allowed. <sup>b</sup>Per protocol, safety was assessed in the first 5 patients with cilta-cel only; subsequently, 12 patients initiated continuous lenalidomide maintenance for a minimum of 21 days post-cilta-cel for ≥2 years. Dose of 10 mg/day upon adequate hematologic recovery. Cy, cyclophosphamide; Flu, fludarabine.

## Results

### Baseline characteristics

- At 22.4-month median follow-up, 17 patients had received cilta-cel (Table 1)

Table 1: Baseline characteristics

| Characteristic                                                   | N=17               |           |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------|
| Age, years, median (range)                                       | 54.0 (37–69)       |           |
| Male, n (%)                                                      | 14 (82.4)          |           |
| Race, n (%)                                                      |                    |           |
| White                                                            | 14 (82.4)          |           |
| Black/African American                                           | 1 (5.9)            |           |
| Not reported                                                     | 2 (11.8)           |           |
| ECOG PS at screening, n (%)                                      |                    |           |
| 0                                                                | 13 (76.5)          |           |
| 1                                                                | 4 (23.5)           |           |
| Time from initial diagnosis to enrollment, years, median (range) | 0.9 (0.6–1.4)      |           |
| Myeloma type by immunofixation, n (%)                            | IgG                | 11 (64.7) |
|                                                                  | IgA                | 2 (11.8)  |
|                                                                  | Light chain, kappa | 2 (11.8)  |
| Negative immunofixation                                          | 2 (11.8)           |           |
| Extramedullary plasmacytomas, n                                  | 0                  |           |
| High-risk cytogenetics, n (%) <sup>a</sup>                       | 3 (17.6)           |           |
| del(17p)                                                         | 1 (5.9)            |           |
| t(4;14)                                                          | 2 (11.8)           |           |
| ISS stage I, n (%)                                               | 17 (100)           |           |
| Prior ASCT, n (%) <sup>b</sup>                                   | 17 (100)           |           |
| Prior PI and IMiD, n (%)                                         | 17 (100)           |           |
| Prior anti-CD38 mAb, n (%)                                       | 3 (17.6)           |           |

<sup>a</sup>Cytogenetic risk abnormalities are based on central FISH testing or local FISH testing and karyotype testing if central FISH is not available. 1 patient was unknown. <sup>b</sup>1 patient received tandem ASCT (ie, underwent ASCT twice). ECOG PS, Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group performance status; FISH, fluorescence in situ hybridization; Ig, immunoglobulin; ISS, International Staging System; mAb, monoclonal antibody.

### Lenalidomide maintenance

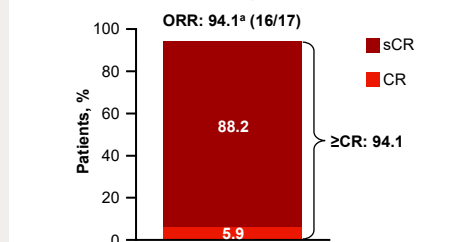
Per protocol, the first 5 patients did not receive, and the last 12 patients initiated lenalidomide maintenance after cilta-cel (10 mg/day upon adequate hematologic recovery)

- Median time to initiation: 51.0 days (range, 21–214); median duration: 426.5 days (range, 70–716)
- Median number of cycles: 15.0 (range, 3–26); median overall relative dose intensity: 93.4% (range, 68–100)

### Efficacy

- ORR was 94.1%; all patients who responded achieved ≥CR (Figure 2; Table 2)
- Responses to treatment with cilta-cel were durable and deepened over time (Figure 3), and high rates of PFS and OS were achieved (Figure 4)

Figure 2: Overall response assessed using a validated computerized algorithm



1 patient was lost to follow-up and 1 patient was not evaluable for disease response. <sup>a</sup>ORR is defined as the proportion of patients who achieve a PR or better per IMWG criteria. <sup>b</sup>CR, partial response; sCR, stringent complete response.

Table 2: Cilta-cel efficacy outcomes

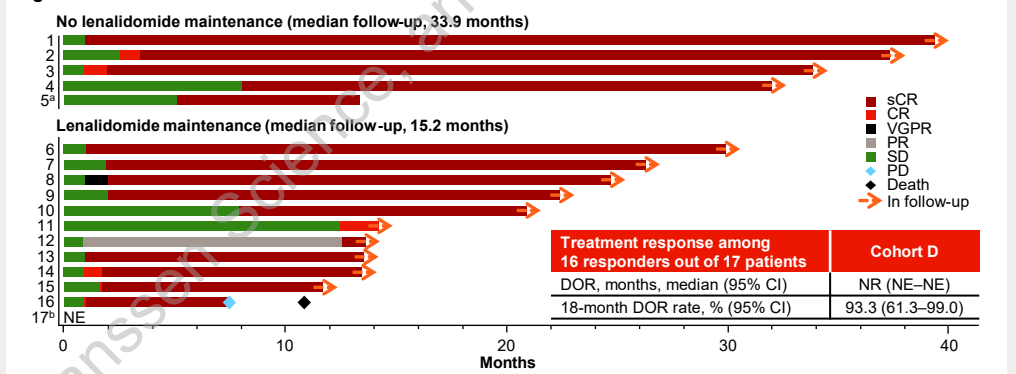
| Time to response among responders, months, median (range) | Cohort D (N=17) |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| First response                                            | 1.3 (0.9–12.5)  |
| Best response                                             | 1.9 (0.9–12.5)  |
| ≥CR                                                       | 1.7 (0.9–12.5)  |
| MRD negativity (10 <sup>-5</sup> ), n/N (%)               |                 |
| Overall                                                   | 12/17 (70.6)    |
| MRD-evaluable patients <sup>a</sup>                       | 12/15 (80.0)    |

<sup>a</sup>MRD-evaluable denotes patients who had successful baseline calibration for next-generation sequencing or who were assessed by next-generation flow and had at least 1 postbaseline MRD sample with positive or negative result at the threshold of 10<sup>-5</sup>.

## References

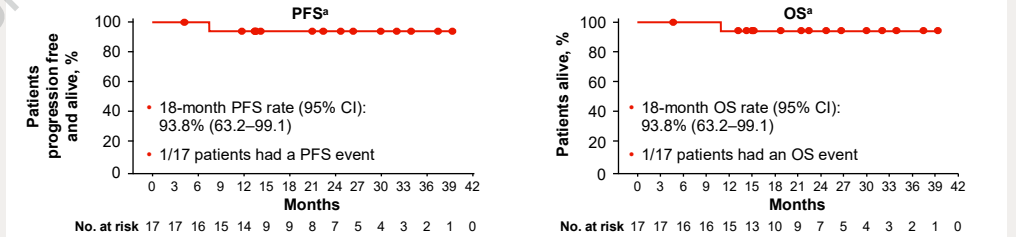
- Lin Y, et al. *J Clin Oncol* 2023;41:8009. 2. Martin T, et al. *J Clin Oncol* 2023;41:1265-74. 3. San-Miguel J, et al. *N Engl J Med* 2023;369:335-47. 4. CARVYKTIP (ciltacabtagene autoleucel). Package insert. Horsham, PA: Janssen Biotech, Inc; 2024. 5. Chanam-Khan AA, et al. *J Clin Oncol* 2010;28:12-24. 6. Harousseau JL, et al. *Blood* 2009;114:3159-66. 7. Lahuerta JJ, et al. *J Clin Oncol* 2008;26:5775-82. 8. van de Velde HJ, et al. *Haematologica* 2007;92:1399-406. 9. Martinez-Lopez J, et al. *Blood* 2011;118:529-34. 10. Hillengass J, et al. *Blood* 2023;142(suppl 1):1021. 11. Lee DW, et al. *Biol Blood Marrow Transplant* 2019;25:625-38. 12. de Larrea C, et al. Presented at IMS; September 27–30, 2023; Athens, Greece. 13. Zudaira E, et al. Presented at ASH; December 7–10, 2019; Orlando, FL, USA.

Figure 3: DOR



<sup>a</sup>1 patient was lost to follow-up. <sup>b</sup>1 patient was NE for disease response. NE, not evaluable; NR, not reached; PD, progressive disease; SD, stable disease; VGPR, very good partial response.

Figure 4: PFS and OS rates



<sup>a</sup>Assessed using a validated computerized algorithm.

## Safety profile

- Treatment-emergent AEs (TEAEs) were consistent with the known safety profile of cilta-cel (Tables 3 and 4)

- 1 case of grade 3 myelodysplastic syndrome was reported with onset at day 353 and was not treatment related per investigator assessment

- No deaths due to TEAEs at the time of data cut-off

- AEs of special interest were consistent with the known safety profile of cilta-cel (Table 5)

- No cases of movement and neurocognitive TEAEs or parkinsonism were observed, and 1 patient experienced ICANS, which resolved

### CAR-T cell expansion profile may differ from RRMM setting

- In this population with a low tumor burden, robust CAR-T cell expansion was observed, with a mean (SD) AUC<sub>(0-6m)</sub> of 10,376 (7803) days × cells/μL

- CAR+ CD8+ T cells expanded more than CAR+ CD4+ T cells in blood in CARTITUDE-2 cohort D, consistent with that observed in CARTITUDE-1<sup>13</sup> (Figure 5)

Table 3: Select TEAEs

| n (%)        | Any Grade (N=17) | Grade 3 or 4 (N=17) |           |
|--------------|------------------|---------------------|-----------|
| Any TEAE     | 17 (100)         | 17 (100)            |           |
| Serious TEAE | 10 (58.8)        | 9 (52.9)            |           |
| Infections   | 12 (70.6)        | 5 (29.4)            |           |
| Hematologic  | Neutropenia      | 16 (94.1)           | 14 (82.4) |
|              | Lymphopenia      | 11 (64.7)           | 10 (58.8) |
|              | Thrombocytopenia | 8 (47.1)            | 4 (23.5)  |
|              | Leukopenia       | 7 (41.2)            | 6 (35.3)  |
|              | Anemia           | 5 (29.4)            | 1 (5.9)   |

Table 4: TEAEs between patients ± lenalidomide maintenance

| n (%)                             | Cohort D (N=17)  | Cohort D without lenalidomide (n=5) | Cohort D with lenalidomide (n=12) |          |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------|
| Prolonged cytopenias <sup>a</sup> | Neutropenia      | 1 (5.9)                             | 0                                 | 1 (8.3)  |
|                                   | Lymphopenia      | 5 (29.4)                            | 2 (40.0)                          | 3 (25.0) |
|                                   | Thrombocytopenia | 1 (5.9)                             | 0                                 | 1 (8.3)  |
| Grade 3/4 infections              | 5 (29.4)         | 1 (20.0)                            | 4 (33.3)                          |          |

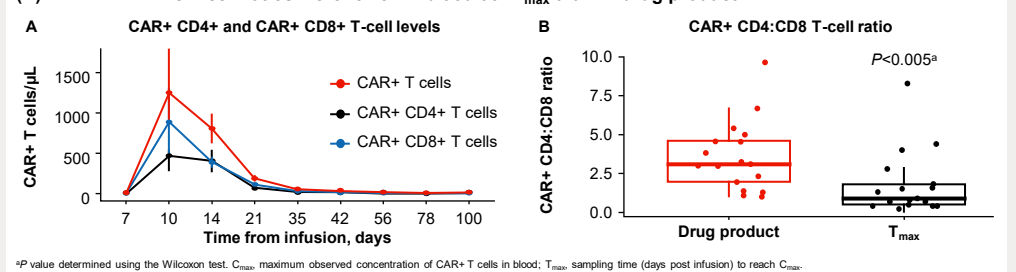
<sup>a</sup>Initial grade 3/4 cytopenias not recovered to grade ≤2 by day 60.

Table 5: AEs of special interest

| Cohort D (N=17)                  | Any Grade, n (%) | Grade 3/4, n (%) | Median time to onset, days | Median duration, days |
|----------------------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| CRS                              | 14 (82.4)        | 0                | 7.0                        | 2.5                   |
| ICANS                            | 1 (5.9)          | 0                | 7.0                        | 1.0                   |
| Other neurotoxicity <sup>a</sup> | 6 (35.3)         | 1 (5.9)          | 21.0                       | 111.0                 |

<sup>a</sup>6 patients experienced other neurotoxicities (mostly grade 1/2): 3 patients with cranial nerve VII disorders (grade 1 [n=1], ongoing); 1 patient with diplopia (grade 3, resolved after 43 days) and oral hyposthesia (resolved); 1 patient with paresthesia (grade 1, ongoing); and 1 patient with peripheral motor neuropathy, dysarthria, and dysphagia (resolved).

Figure 5: (A) CAR+ CD4+ and CAR+ CD8+ T cells both expanded after infusion (B) CAR+ CD4:CD8 T-cell ratios were lower in blood at ~T<sub>max</sub> than in drug product



<sup>a</sup>P value determined using the Wilcoxon test. C<sub>max</sub>, maximum observed concentration of CAR+ T cells in blood; T<sub>max</sub>, sampling time (days post infusion) to reach C<sub>max</sub>.

Please scan QR code



<https://www.congresshub.com/Oncology/IMS2024/Cilta-cel/Cohen>

The QR code is intended to provide scientific information for individual reference, and the information should not be altered or reproduced in any way.

## Acknowledgments

The authors, Janssen, and Legend Biotech USA Inc. thank the patients who participated in this study, the staff members at the study sites, the data and safety monitoring committee, and the staff members involved in data collection and analyses. The authors also thank Katherine Li, PhD, and Vicki Piatek, LLB, PhD (both of Janssen Research & Development, Spring House, PA, USA), for their support with translational correlative analyses. This study was funded by Janssen Research & Development, LLC, and Legend Biotech USA Inc. Medical writing support was provided by Maggie Hartman, PharmD, of Excerpta Scientific Solutions, and funded by Janssen Global Services, LLC, and Legend Biotech USA Inc. © 2024 American Society of Clinical Oncology, Inc. Reused with permission. This abstract was accepted and previously presented at the 2024 ASCO Annual Meeting. All rights reserved.

## Disclosures

YCC reports honoraria, consulting or advisory role, speakers' bureau, research funding, or travel, accommodations, and expenses from AbbVie, Amgen, BMS, GSK, Janssen, Roche, Sanofi, and Takeda.

Multiple Myeloma

