


HERTHENA-Lung01, a Phase II Trial of Patritumab Deruxtecan (HER3-DXd) in Epidermal Growth Factor Receptor–Mutated Non–Small-Cell Lung Cancer After Epidermal Growth Factor Receptor Tyrosine Kinase Inhibitor Therapy and Platinum-Based Chemotherapy

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ABSTRACT

PURPOSE Patritumab deruxtecan, or HER3-DXd, is an antibody–drug conjugate consisting of a fully human monoclonal antibody to human epidermal growth factor receptor 3 (HER3) attached to a topoisomerase I inhibitor payload via a stable tetrapeptide–based cleavable linker. We assessed the efficacy and safety of HER3-DXd in patients with epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR)–mutated non–small–cell lung cancer (NSCLC).

METHODS This phase II study (ClinicalTrials.gov identifier: [NCT04619004](https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/study/NCT04619004)) was designed to evaluate HER3-DXd in patients with advanced EGFR–mutated NSCLC previously treated with EGFR tyrosine kinase inhibitor (TKI) therapy and platinum–based chemotherapy (PBC). Patients received HER3-DXd 5.6 mg/kg intravenously once every 3 weeks or an uptitration regimen (3.2 → 4.8 → 6.4 mg/kg). The primary end point was confirmed objective response rate (ORR; RECIST 1.1) by blinded independent central review (BICR), with a null hypothesis of 26.4% on the basis of historical data.

RESULTS Enrollment into the uptitration arm closed early on the basis of a prespecified benefit–risk assessment of data from the phase I U31402–A–U102 trial. In total, 225 patients received HER3-DXd 5.6 mg/kg once every 3 weeks. As of May 18, 2023, median study duration was 18.9 (range, 14.9–27.5) months. Confirmed ORR by BICR was 29.8% (95% CI, 23.9 to 36.2); median duration of response, 6.4 months; median progression–free survival, 5.5 months; and median overall survival, 11.9 months. The subgroup of patients with previous osimertinib and PBC had similar outcomes. Efficacy was observed across a broad range of pretreatment tumor HER3 membrane expression levels and across diverse mechanisms of EGFR TKI resistance. In patients with nonirradiated brain metastases at baseline (n = 30), the confirmed CNS ORR by BICR per CNS RECIST was 33.3% (95% CI, 17.3 to 52.8). The safety profile (National Cancer Institute Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events v5.0) was manageable and tolerable, consistent with previous observations.

CONCLUSION After tumor progression with EGFR TKI therapy and PBC in patients with EGFR–mutated NSCLC, HER3-DXd once every 3 weeks demonstrated clinically meaningful efficacy with durable responses, including in CNS metastases. A phase III trial in EGFR–mutated NSCLC after progression on an EGFR TKI is ongoing (HERTHENA–Lung02; ClinicalTrials.gov identifier: [NCT05338970](https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/study/NCT05338970)).

ACCOMPANYING CONTENT

-  Editorial, p. 5351
-  Listen to the podcast by Dr Westin at jcopodcast.libsyn.com
-  Data Supplement
-  Protocol

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CONTEXT

Key Objective

This primary analysis of the phase II HERTHENA-Lung01 study evaluated the antitumor activity and safety of patritumab deruxtecan (HER3-DXd) in patients with epidermal growth factor receptor (*EGFR*)-mutated non-small-cell lung cancer (NSCLC) after progression on *EGFR* tyrosine kinase inhibitor therapy and platinum-based chemotherapy.

Knowledge Generated

HER3-DXd once every 3 weeks demonstrated clinically meaningful efficacy in patients with previously treated *EGFR*-mutated NSCLC. The safety profile was manageable and tolerable, consistent with previous studies in similar patient populations.

Relevance (T.E. Stinchcombe)

The optimal therapy for patients with *EGFR*-mutant NSCLC after osimertinib and platinum-based therapy is undefined, and patritumab deruxtecan has shown preliminary activity in this patient population. Antibody drug conjugates have a novel mechanism of action and may become standard therapies in the treatment of NSCLC in the future.*

*Relevance section written by JCO Associate Editor Thomas E. Stinchcombe, MD.

INTRODUCTION

For patients with epidermal growth factor receptor (*EGFR*)-mutated advanced non-small-cell lung cancer (NSCLC), initial treatment typically includes one or two *EGFR* tyrosine kinase inhibitor (TKI) regimens comprising either a third-generation *EGFR* TKI or a first- or second-generation *EGFR* TKI followed by a third-generation *EGFR* TKI when the *EGFR* T790M mutation is detected.¹ After disease progression on *EGFR* TKI therapy, patients are usually treated with platinum-based chemotherapy (PBC; with or without an immune checkpoint inhibitor and anti-angiogenic therapy).^{2,3} Salvage therapies after disease progression on PBC have limited efficacy; recent retrospective and real-world analyses of salvage therapies in patients with *EGFR*-mutated NSCLC after failure of *EGFR* TKI therapy and PBC reported median progression-free survival (PFS) in the range of 2.8–3.3 months (Data Supplement, Table S1 [online only]).^{4,5}

Human epidermal growth factor receptor 3 (HER3; receptor tyrosine-protein kinase erbB-3 [ERBB3]) expression, which has been reported in 83% of NSCLC tumors⁶ and in 85%–100% of tumors harboring an activating *EGFR* mutation,^{7,8} is implicated in resistance to *EGFR* TKI therapy^{9,10} and is associated with metastatic progression and shorter relapse-free survival.¹¹ Patritumab deruxtecan (also known as HER3-DXd or U3-14,02) is an investigational HER3-directed antibody-drug conjugate composed of a human immunoglobulin G1 monoclonal antibody to HER3 (patritumab) covalently linked to a topoisomerase I inhibitor payload (DXd, an exatecan derivative) via a tetrapeptide-based cleavable linker.^{12–15} After binding to HER3, HER3-DXd is translocated to the lysosome, where the linker is cleaved by

lysosomal enzymes that are upregulated in tumor cells. The cytotoxic payload is then free to enter the nucleus, leading to cell death and, because the payload is membrane permeable, a potential bystander antitumor effect.^{12,15–17} A phase I dose-escalation/dose-expansion study of HER3-DXd in heavily pretreated patients with *EGFR*-mutated NSCLC showed that HER3-DXd 5.6 mg/kg administered intravenously once every 3 weeks was associated with a tolerable and manageable safety profile and resulted in a confirmed objective response rate (ORR) of 39% in patients with previous osimertinib and PBC.⁷ In the phase I study, HER3-DXd once every 3 weeks was effective in patients with diverse mechanisms of resistance to *EGFR* TKIs, including *EGFR*-dependent and -independent mechanisms.⁷

The promising data from the phase I trial led to initiation of the phase II HERTHENA-Lung01 trial of HER3-DXd once every 3 weeks in patients with *EGFR*-mutated NSCLC who had previously been treated with *EGFR* TKI therapy and PBC.

METHODS

Study Design and Participants

HERTHENA-Lung01 (ClinicalTrials.gov identifier: [NCT04619004](https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/study/NCT04619004)) is a multicenter, open-label, randomized, two-arm, phase II study of HER3-DXd once every 3 weeks in previously treated patients with locally advanced or metastatic NSCLC with *EGFR*-activating mutations (exon 19 deletion or L858R) being conducted in 122 locations in North America, Europe, East Asia, Southeast Asia, and Australia (Data Supplement, Fig S1).

Eligible patients were adults whose disease had progressed on or after their most recent therapy. Previous therapies

must have included ≥ 1 EGFR TKI and ≥ 1 PBC regimen in any sequence (there was no restriction on the maximum number of previous lines of therapy). After initiation of enrollment, the protocol was amended to require previous treatment with osimertinib. Patients with clinically inactive or treated brain metastases who were asymptomatic (ie, who were without neurologic signs or symptoms and who did not require treatment with corticosteroids or anticonvulsants) were eligible; patients with previous or current evidence of interstitial lung disease (ILD) were excluded. An Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group performance status of 0 or 1 was required at screening.

Patients received one of two dose schedules of HER3-DXd administered intravenously once every 3 weeks. Patients in arm 1 received a fixed-dose regimen of 5.6 mg/kg; those in arm 2 received an uptitration regimen: cycle 1 day 1, 3.2 mg/kg; cycle 2 day 1, 4.8 mg/kg; cycle 3 day 1; and subsequent cycles, 6.4 mg/kg. The uptitration arm was included because preliminary data from the first-in-human trial of HER3-DXd (U31402-A-J101; in metastatic breast cancer) provided tentative support that the uptitration regimen might be associated with a reduced frequency of hematopoietic suppression. The HERTHENA-Lung01 protocol specified that ongoing recruitment into each arm would be reassessed based on a benefit-risk analysis of data from the ongoing phase I U31402-A-U102 study assessing the two dose regimens in a similar patient population.

The study Protocol (online only) was approved by the institutional review board for each institution and was conducted in compliance with the ethical principles of the Declaration of Helsinki, the International Council for Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Pharmaceuticals for Human Use consolidated Guideline for Good Clinical Practice, and applicable regulatory requirements. All patients provided written informed consent before participation in the study.

Biomarker Analyses

All patients consented to provide pretreatment tumor biopsy material, either from a biopsy at study entry or from archival tissue from a biopsy ≤ 3 months before signing the tissue consent form and after their tumor had progressed on or after the most recent previous therapy.

HER3 immunohistochemistry (IHC) was performed centrally on formalin-fixed, paraffin-embedded tissue using anti-HER3 clone SP438 (investigational use only), a rabbit monoclonal antibody developed by Ventana Medical Systems, Inc. HER3 membrane expression on tumor cells was quantified by H-scores. H-score (range, 0–300) was defined as the sum of the percentage of IHC 1+ (weak staining) plus two times the percentage of IHC 2+ (moderate staining) plus three times the percentage of IHC 3+ (strong staining).

Baseline genomic alterations were analyzed centrally in formalin-fixed, paraffin-embedded tumor tissue using the OncoPrint Comprehensive Assay v3 (Thermo Fisher Scientific, Waltham, MA) and in circulating tumor DNA from blood using the GuardantOMNI assay (Guardant Health, Palo Alto, CA; a variant allelic frequency of 0.1% was used as a threshold for mutation detection).

Objectives and End Points

The primary end point was confirmed ORR (complete response [CR] or partial response [PR], confirmed at ≥ 4 weeks) by blinded independent central review (BICR) according to RECIST version 1.1.¹⁸ Imaging (magnetic resonance imaging [MRI] or contrast-enhanced computed tomography [CT]) of the chest, abdomen, pelvis, and brain was conducted at baseline, every 6 weeks to week 24, and every 12 weeks thereafter.

Secondary end points included duration of response by BICR (key secondary end point); confirmed ORR and duration of response by investigator; PFS, disease control rate, time to response, and best percentage change from baseline in the sum of diameters by BICR and the investigator; overall survival (OS); safety; correlation of baseline HER3 expression with efficacy measures; and antidrug antibodies for HER3-DXd.

An additional assessment of confirmed objective response of intracranial tumors by BICR using CNS RECIST was performed (CNS BICR; Data Supplement, Methods). This exploratory analysis was outside of the protocol but was planned before unblinding.

Safety Measures

Adverse events were coded using the *Medical Dictionary for Regulatory Activities* and graded using the National Cancer Institute Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events version 5.0. Potential cases of ILD were reviewed by an independent ILD adjudication committee.

Statistical Analysis

The study sample size was based on the null hypothesis that the primary end point of confirmed ORR would be 26.4% (the upper bound of the exact 95% CI of the ORR [23%] observed in the ramucirumab plus docetaxel arm from the REVEL trial in patients with stage IV NSCLC that progressed on PBC).¹⁹ A one-sample exact binomial test for single proportions with a nominal two-sided significance of 5% was estimated to have approximately 91% power to detect the difference between the null hypothesis and an alternative hypothesis of an ORR of 37% when the sample size was 210.

The primary analysis occurred when all patients had either a minimum of 9 months of follow-up or had discontinued from the study earlier. Primary efficacy and safety analyses

were performed in all patients who received ≥ 1 dose of the study drug.

The 95% CIs for response end points were calculated using the Clopper–Pearson method. Time-to-event end points, including duration of response, PFS, and OS, were estimated using the Kaplan–Meier method, and two-sided 95% CIs for the median were calculated using the Brookmeyer–Crowley method.

RESULTS

Patient Disposition, Demographics, and Disease Characteristics

Between February 2, 2021, and February 18, 2022, 277 patients were enrolled (full analysis set; Fig 1). On the basis of

the protocol-specified benefit–risk analysis of the data in the ongoing phase I U31402-A-U102 study of the two dose regimens in a similar population, the up titration arm was closed after 51 patients had been enrolled; 50 received ≥ 1 dose of HER3–DXd once every 3 weeks (Data Supplement, Tables S2–S4; the benefit–risk of using the up titration regimen was consistent with the phase I study). Enrollment into the 5.6-mg/kg fixed-dose arm was continued; 226 patients were enrolled, and 225 received ≥ 1 dose of HER3–DXd once every 3 weeks and made up both the efficacy and safety populations.

The primary data cutoff was November 21, 2022 (Fig 1; Data Supplement, Table S3). At the subsequent snapshot data cutoff (May 18, 2023; median duration of follow-up, 18.9 [range, 14.9–27.5] months), 13 patients (n = 225; HER3–DXd 5.6 mg/kg once every 3 weeks) were ongoing on

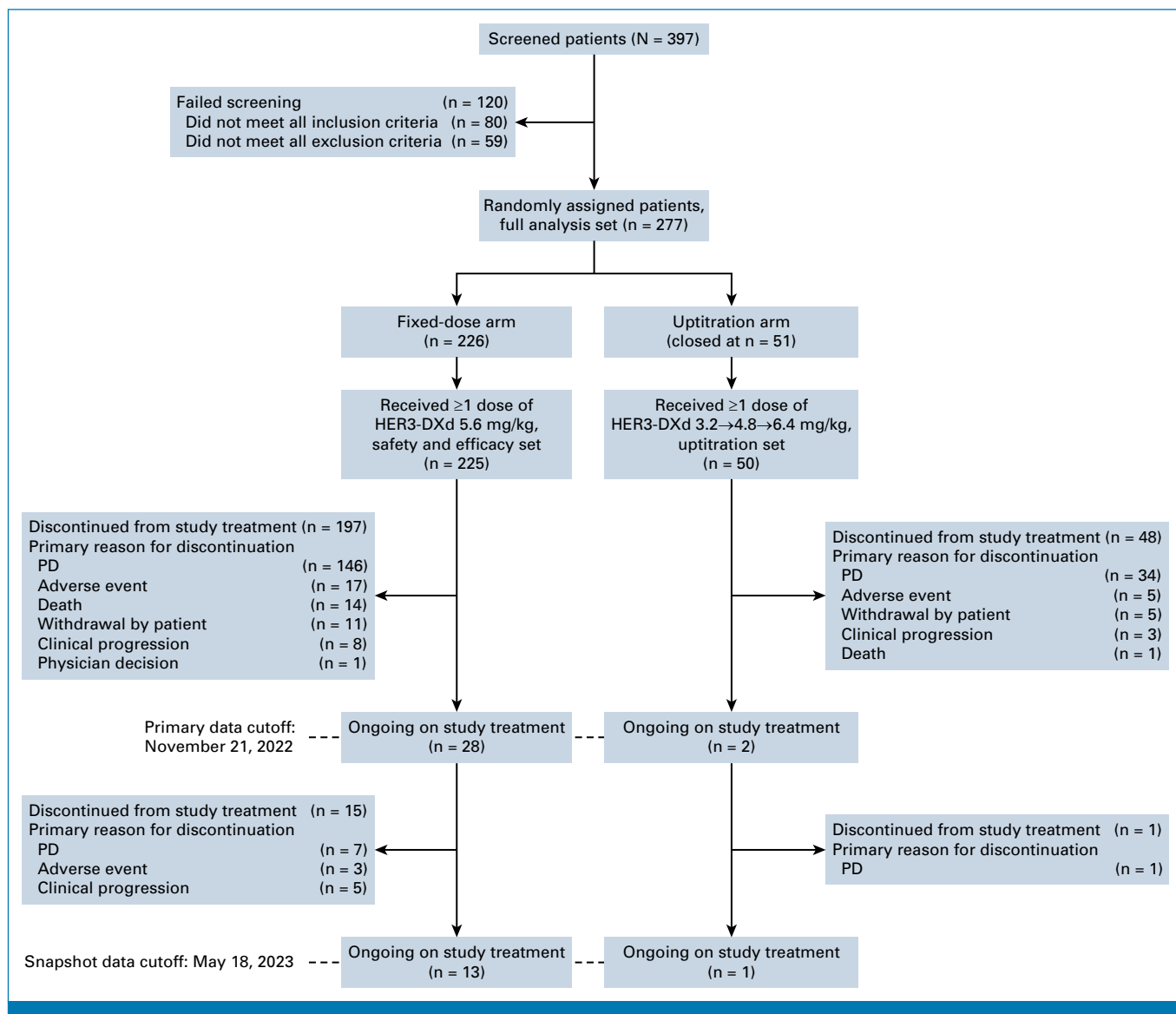


FIG 1. CONSORT diagram (patient disposition). HER3, human epidermal growth factor receptor 3; PD, progressive disease.

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TABLE 1. Patient Demographics and Clinical Characteristics at Baseline

Characteristic	Previously Treated With EGFR TKI and PBC	
	All Patients (n = 225)	Previous 3G EGFR TKI (n = 209)
Age at informed consent, years		
Median (range)	64.0 (37-82)	63.0 (37-82)
<65, No. (%)	121 (53.8)	116 (55.5)
≥65, No. (%)	104 (46.2)	93 (44.5)
Sex, No. (%)		
Male	93 (41.3)	86 (41.1)
Female	132 (58.7)	123 (58.9)
Race, No. (%)		
American Indian or Alaskan native	0	0
Asian	105 (46.7)	96 (45.9)
Black or African American	3 (1.3)	3 (1.4)
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	1 (0.4)	1 (0.5)
White	92 (40.9)	86 (41.1)
Other	24 (10.7)	23 (11.0)
Smoking history, No. (%)		
Never	144 (64.0)	134 (64.1)
Ever	81 (36.0)	75 (35.9)
EGFR-activating mutations, No. (%)		
Ex19del (not L858R)	142 (63.1)	136 (65.1)
L858R (not Ex19del)	82 (36.4)	73 (34.9)
Ex19del and L858R	1 (0.4)	0
Histology, No. (%)		
Adenocarcinoma	220 (97.8)	204 (97.6)
Squamous	3 (1.3)	3 (1.4)
Other	2 (0.9)	2 (1.0)
Tumor stage at study entry, No. (%)		
IVA	55 (24.4)	50 (23.9)
IVB	170 (75.6)	159 (76.1)
ECOG performance status, No. (%)		
0	73 (32.4)	67 (32.1)
1	149 (66.2)	139 (66.5)
2	3 (1.3)	3 (1.4)
History of brain metastases, No. (%)		
Yes	115 (51.1)	108 (51.7)
No	110 (48.9)	101 (48.3)
Baseline metastatic lesion location by BICR, No. (%)		
Adrenal	23 (10.2)	22 (10.5)
Bone	83 (36.9)	81 (38.8)
Brain	72 (32.0)	67 (32.1)
Liver	75 (33.3)	71 (34.0)
Baseline SOD by BICR, mm		
Median (range)	68.0 (11-248) ^a	68.0 (11-248) ^b
Time since initial NSCLC diagnosis, months		
Median (range)	41.0 (9.1-224.7)	41.0 (9.1-199.0)
Previous PBC, No. (%)		
	225 (100)	209 (100)
Previous EGFR TKI, No. (%)		
Any EGFR TKI	225 (100)	209 (100)
3G EGFR TKI	209 (92.9) ^c	209 (100)

(continued on following page)

TABLE 1. Patient Demographics and Clinical Characteristics at Baseline (continued)

Characteristic	Previously Treated With EGFR TKI and PBC	
	All Patients (n = 225)	Previous 3G EGFR TKI (n = 209)
Only 3G EGFR TKI	81 (36.0)	81 (38.8)
3G and other EGFR TKI	128 (56.9)	128 (61.2)
No 3G EGFR TKI	16 (7.1)	0
Previous immunotherapy, No. (%)		
Any immunotherapy	90 (40.0) ^d	85 (40.7)
Immunotherapy in last regimen	52 (23.1)	51 (24.4)
Previous lines of systemic therapy in the locally advanced or metastatic setting		
No., Median (range)	3.0 (1-11)	3.0 (1-11)
1, No. (%)	2 (0.9)	2 (1.0)
2, No. (%)	58 (25.8)	51 (24.4)
≥3, No. (%)	165 (73.3)	156 (74.6)

Abbreviations: 3G, third-generation; BICR, blinded independent central review; ECOG, Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group; EGFR, epidermal growth factor receptor; NSCLC, non-small-cell lung cancer; PBC, platinum-based chemotherapy; SOD, sum of diameters; TKI, tyrosine kinase inhibitor.

^an = 224.

^bn = 208.

^cAll patients with previous third-generation EGFR TKI therapy had received osimertinib, and eight patients had also received another third-generation EGFR TKI: lazertinib (n = 5), nazartinib (n = 2), or rociletinib (n = 1).

^dPatients with previous immunotherapies had received atezolizumab (n = 36), pembrolizumab (n = 34), nivolumab (n = 13), durvalumab (n = 12), and zimberelimab (n = 1).

study treatment and 212 had discontinued (Fig 1). Patients had a median age of 64 years, 58.7% were female, and most were Asian (46.7%) or White (40.9%; Table 1). A history of brain metastases was noted in 51.1% of patients, and 32.0% had radiologic evidence of brain metastases at baseline (by BICR). Baseline radiologic evidence of bone and liver metastases was seen in 36.9% and 33.3% of patients, respectively (both by BICR). Median number of previous lines of systemic therapy in the locally advanced/metastatic setting

was 3 (range, 1-11; Table 1). All patients had a previous EGFR TKI and previous PBC, and 209 (92.9%) had been previously treated with a third-generation EGFR TKI (all osimertinib); the demographics and disease characteristics of this subgroup were similar to those of the overall population. Forty percent of patients had received immunotherapy, which was the most recent previous regimen for 23.1% of patients (median time since the last immunotherapy dose was 3.4 [range, 1-56] months).

TABLE 2. Antitumor Activity (responses by BICR per RECIST)

Result	All Patients (n = 225)	Previous 3G EGFR TKI (n = 209)	All Patients by History of CNS Metastases	
			Yes (n = 115)	No (n = 110)
Confirmed ORR, % (95% CI)	29.8 (23.9-36.2)	29.2 (23.1-35.9)	28.7 (20.6-37.9)	30.9 (22.4-40.4)
CR, No. (%)	1 (0.4)	1 (0.5)	0	1 (0.9)
Partial response, No. (%)	66 (29.3)	60 (28.7)	33 (28.7)	33 (30.0)
Stable disease/non-CR/non-PD, No. (%)	99 (44.0)	91 (43.5)	48 (41.7)	51 (46.4)
PD, No. (%)	43 (19.1)	41 (19.6)	26 (22.6)	17 (15.5)
Not evaluable, No. (%)	16 (7.1)	16 (7.7)	8 (7.0)	8 (7.3)
Disease control rate, % (95% CI)	73.8 (67.5-79.4)	72.7 (66.2-78.6)	70.4 (61.2-78.6)	77.3 (68.3-84.7)
Duration of response, months, median (95% CI)	6.4 (4.9-7.8)	6.4 (5.2-7.8)	5.5 (4.2-7.8)	6.9 (4.4-10.6)
Patients with DOR ≥6 months, %	43.3	45.9	36.4	50.0
Progression-free survival, months, median (95% CI)	5.5 (5.1-5.9)	5.5 (5.1-6.4)	4.3 (4.0-5.5)	6.2 (5.5-8.1)
Overall survival, months, median (95% CI)	11.9 (11.2-13.1)	11.9 (10.9-13.1)	11.6 (10.0-12.6)	12.9 (10.6-14.7)

NOTE. Snapshot data cutoff, May 18, 2023.

Abbreviations: 3G, third-generation; BICR, blinded independent central review; CR, complete response; DOR, duration of response; EGFR, epidermal growth factor receptor; ORR, objective response rate; PD, progressive disease; TKI, tyrosine kinase inhibitor.

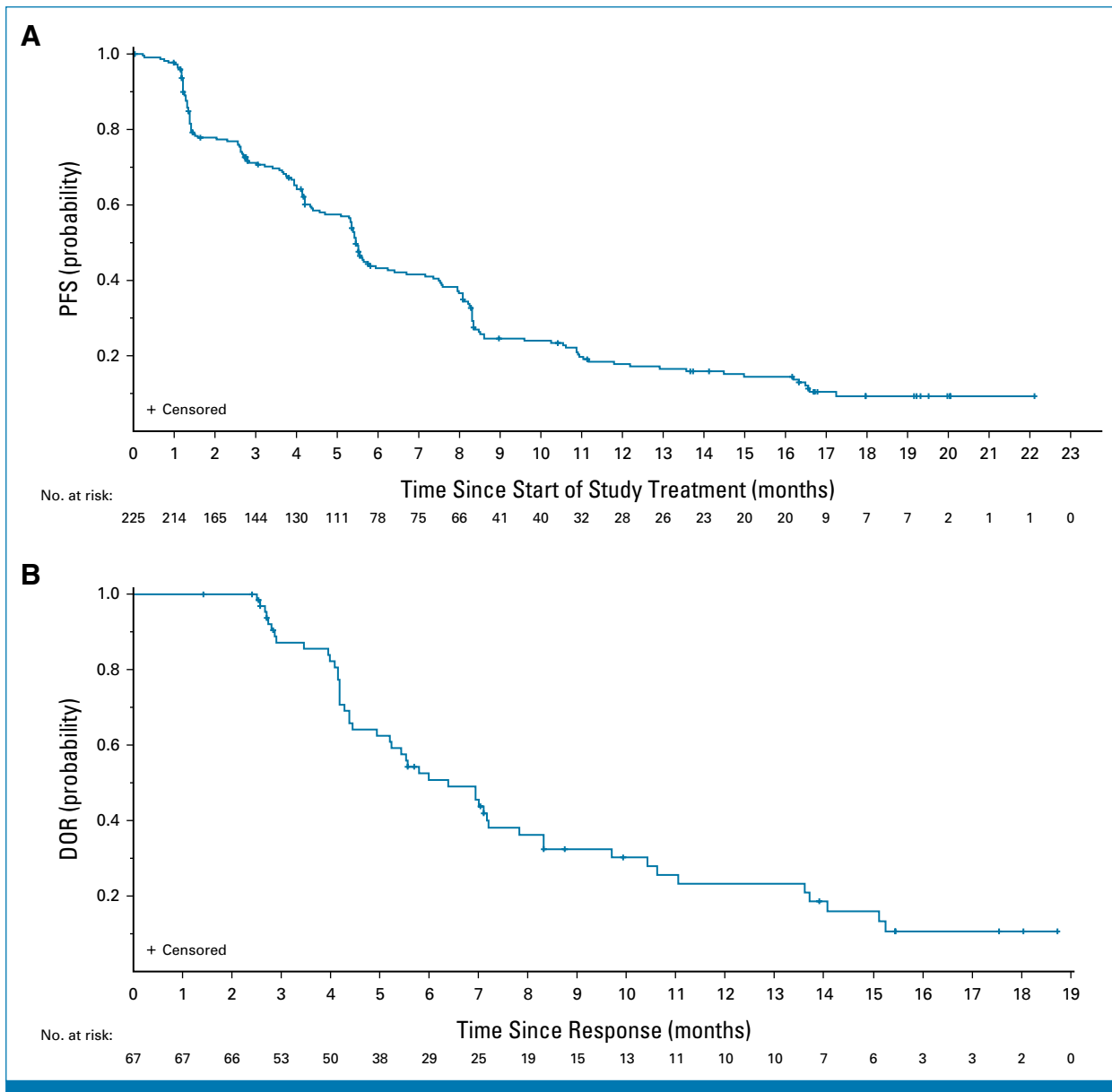


FIG 2. Kaplan-Meier plots of (A) PFS and (B) DOR, both by BICR per RECIST 1.1. Snapshot data cutoff, May 18, 2023. BICR, blinded independent central review; DOR, duration of response; PFS, progression-free survival.

Efficacy

The confirmed ORR (by BICR) was 29.8% ($n = 225$; 95% CI, 23.9 to 36.2; [Table 2](#)). Median duration of response was 6.4 (95% CI, 4.9 to 7.8) months ([Table 2](#); [Fig 2B](#)), and 43.3% of patients had a duration of response ≥ 6 months. Median PFS was 5.5 (95% CI, 5.1 to 5.9) months ([Fig 2A](#)). Among patients with baseline and postbaseline target lesion evaluation available (210 of 225), the majority had a reduction in tumor size ([Fig 3](#)). Median OS was 11.9 (95% CI, 11.2 to 13.1) months ([Table 2](#)). Antitumor activity was similar in patients with and those without a history of CNS metastases ([Table 2](#)). Efficacy observed in the subgroup of patients with a previous third-generation EGFR TKI was similar to that in the full efficacy population ([Table 2](#)).

In the efficacy population, consistent confirmed ORRs were observed across protocol-defined baseline subgroups on the basis of patient demographics, disease state, and previous treatment (95% CI were overlapping for all comparisons; [Data Supplement, Fig S2](#)). In the uptitration arm ($n = 50$), confirmed ORR was 16.0% (95% CI, 7.2 to 29.1) and PFS was 6.7 (95% CI, 4.2 to 8.8) months.

An analysis of intracranial response was performed in 30 patients from the efficacy population who had brain metastases at baseline (by CNS BICR) with no previous radiotherapy of the brain ([Fig 4](#)). Target lesions were identified in seven of these patients; the remainder had only nontarget lesions. The CNS ORR (by CNS BICR) was 33.3% (10/30

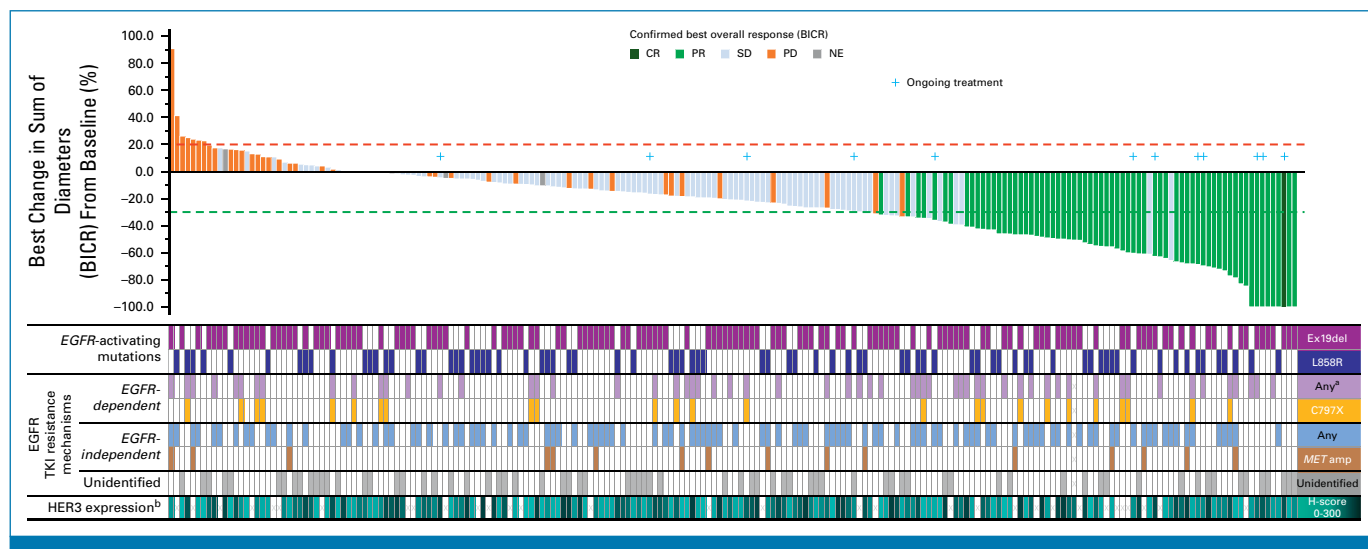


FIG 3. Waterfall plot of best percentage change in the sum of diameters from baseline ($n = 225$). Snapshot data cutoff, May 18, 2023. Below the waterfall plot, categories of genomic alterations before treatment with HER3-DXd are flagged for each patient (more details on genomic alterations can be found in the Data Supplement, Fig S4) and pretreatment HER3 IHC membrane H-score is shown as a heatmap. Two hundred and ten patients had evaluable target lesion measurements at both baseline and post baseline and are included. ^aT790M was not included as an EGFR-dependent mechanism of EGFR TKI resistance. ^bPretreatment (within 3 months before baseline) tumor HER3 membrane IHC H-score. BICR, blinded independent central review; CR, complete response; EGFR, epidermal growth factor receptor; HER3, human epidermal growth factor receptor 3; IHC, immunohistochemistry; MET, MET proto-oncogene, receptor tyrosine kinase; NE, not evaluable; PD, progressive disease; PR, partial response; SD, stable disease; TKI, tyrosine kinase inhibitor.

patients; 95% CI, 17.3 to 52.8). There were nine CNS CRs (eight of which were in patients with only nontarget lesions) and one PR. These responses were based on CT imaging alone (five CRs and one PR), MRI alone (two CRs), or CT imaging with MRI confirmation (two CRs). Best CNS responses of stable disease (including non-CR/non-progressive disease [PD]) and PD were observed in 43.3% (13/30) and 13.3% (4/30) of patients, respectively.

Association of Biomarkers With Efficacy

Among 193 patients from the efficacy population with evaluable tumor tissue, the median pretreatment HER3 membrane H-score was 198 (range, 0–300; seven patients had a membrane H-score of 0). Responses were observed across the range of pretreatment tumor HER3 membrane expression (Fig 3; Data Supplement, Fig S3; two of seven patients with a membrane H-score of 0 had a confirmed PR).

Genomic alterations known to be associated with EGFR TKI resistance were detected in tumors from 147 of 224 patients in the efficacy population with available baseline data (Data Supplement, Fig S4). Confirmed ORR was 32.4% (11/34) in patients with only EGFR-dependent resistance mechanisms, 27.2% (22/81) in patients with only EGFR-independent resistance mechanisms, and 37.5% (12/32) in patients with both (Data Supplement, Table S5). In patients with no identified EGFR TKI resistance-associated genomic alterations, confirmed ORR was 27.3% (21/77).

Safety

At the primary data cutoff (November 22, 2022), the median duration of treatment in the safety population was 5.5 (range, 0.7–18.2) months, with median dose intensity of 5.5 (range, 3.2–6.0) mg/kg/cycle and median relative dose intensity of 97.7% (range, 57.1%–107.8%; Data Supplement, Table S4). Treatment-emergent adverse events (TEAEs) of grade ≥ 3 and ≥ 4 severity occurred in 64.9% and 28.9% of patients, respectively. The most common grade ≥ 3 TEAEs were hematologic toxicities; those occurring in $>15\%$ of patients were thrombocytopenia (20.9%; grouped preferred term) and neutropenia (19.1%; grouped preferred term; Fig 5). Median time to first onset of grade ≥ 3 events was 8 (range, 7–243) days for thrombocytopenia and 21 (range, 8–299) days for neutropenia; the corresponding median event duration was 13 (95% CI, 10 to 15) days and 7 (95% CI, 6 to 8) days, respectively.

Two grade ≥ 3 bleeding events occurred within ± 14 days of a laboratory abnormality of grade ≥ 3 platelet count decreased (GI hemorrhage and hemothorax, $n = 1$ each). Two grade ≥ 3 neutropenic infection events occurred within ± 14 days of a laboratory abnormality of grade ≥ 3 neutrophil count decreased (sepsis and septic shock, $n = 1$ each). All four of these events were determined by investigators to be unrelated to study drug and the patients recovered (Data Supplement, Results).

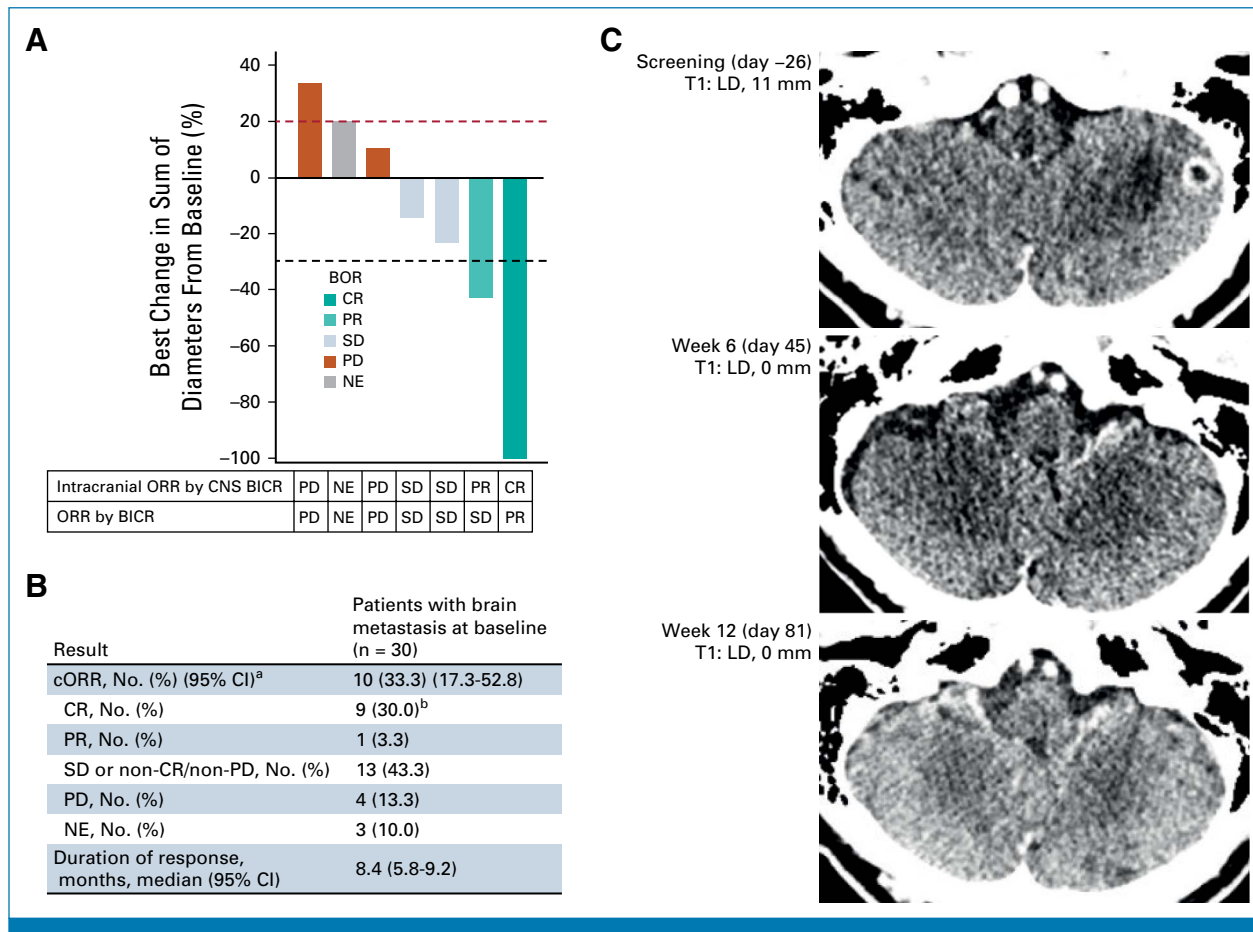


FIG 4. Outcomes by CNS BICR in patients with brain metastases at baseline with no previous radiotherapy. (A) Best change from baseline in the sum of diameters of measurable target brain lesions. (B) Intracranial antitumor activity in all patients with brain metastasis at baseline (including nontarget lesions). (C) Contrast-enhanced CT series for the patient with a measurable target lesion who had a confirmed complete intracranial response. ^aCR + PR. ^bEight patients had only nontarget lesions. BICR, blinded independent central review; BOR, best overall response; cORR, confirmed objective response rate; CR, complete response; CT, computed tomography; LD, longest diameter; NE, not estimable/not evaluable; ORR, objective response rate; PD, progressive disease; PR, partial response; SD, stable disease; T, target. Snapshot data cutoff, May 18, 2023.

TEAEs were associated with dose interruption in 40.4% of patients (91/225), dose reduction in 21.3% (48/225), and treatment discontinuation in 7.1% (16/225; Data Supplement, Table S4). Treatment-related TEAEs were associated with death in 1.8% (4/225) of patients (Data Supplement, Table S4; pneumonitis, pneumonia, GI perforation, and respiratory failure [n = 1 each]).

The potential occurrence of ILD was identified in the safety data for 19 patients from the safety population (N = 225), of whom 12 (5.3%) were adjudicated to have had ILD (Data Supplement, Table S6; all were adjudicated as drug-related [one grade 1, eight grade 2, two grade 3, and one grade 5]). Median time to onset of adjudicated ILD was 53 (range, 9–230) days.

TEAE rates were numerically higher in patients who received previous immunotherapy (90/225) versus those who did not

(135/225), although the differences were generally small (Data Supplement, Table S7). The rate of adjudicated ILD (all events were adjudicated as drug-related) was lower in patients with no previous immunotherapy (4%) than in patients with previous immunotherapy (8%; Data Supplement, Table S8).

DISCUSSION

For patients with advanced EGFR-mutated NSCLC that has progressed after EGFR TKI therapy and PBC, current treatment options provide only limited clinical benefit. To our knowledge, the results of HERTHENA-Lung01 presented here provide the largest evaluation to date of the efficacy and safety of HER3-DXd once every 3 weeks monotherapy in this population, and also provide the largest assessment of a targeted therapy after the failure of osimertinib. The confirmed ORR in this study (29.8%; 95% CI, 23.9 to 36.2), with

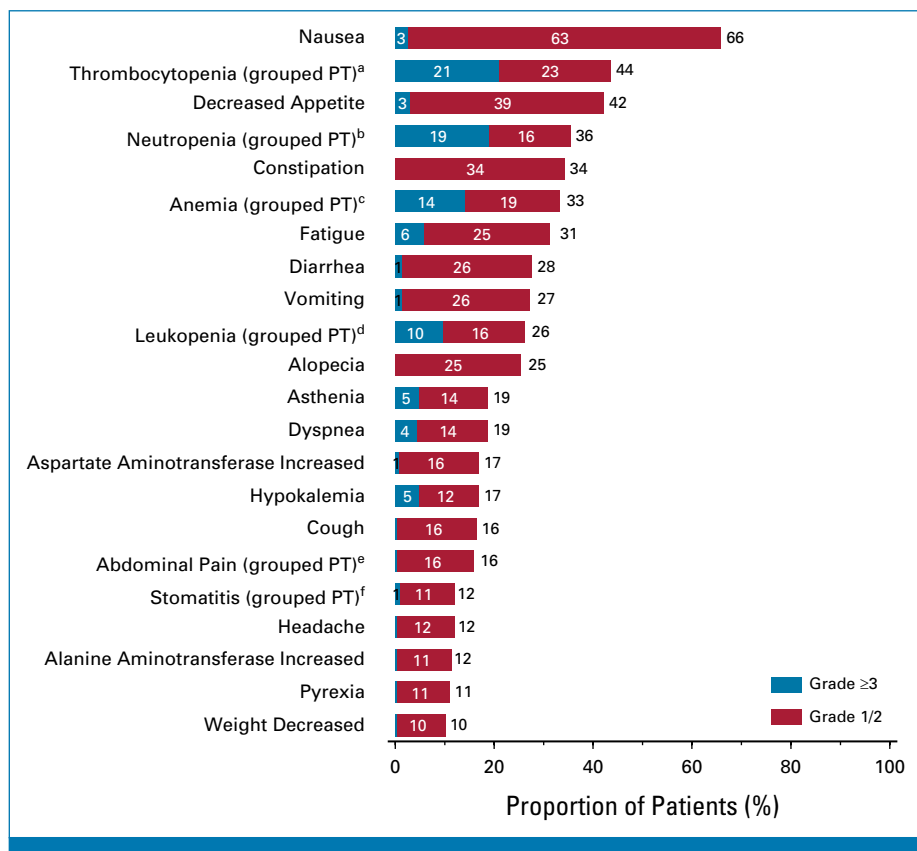


FIG 5. Most common TEAEs occurring in $\geq 10\%$ of patients ($n = 225$). Primary data cutoff, November 21, 2022. ^aPlatelet count decreased, thrombocytopenia. ^bNeutropenia, neutrophil count decreased. ^cAnemia, hematocrit decreased, hemoglobin decreased, red blood cell count decreased. ^dLeukopenia, white blood cell count decreased. ^eAbdominal discomfort, abdominal pain, abdominal pain lower, abdominal pain upper. ^fAphthous ulcer, mouth ulceration, oral mucosa erosion, oral mucosal blistering, stomatitis. PT, preferred term; TEAE, treatment-emergent adverse event.

a median duration of response of 6.4 months, was higher than that reported in the ramucirumab plus docetaxel group in the REVEL study (22.9%; 95% CI, 19.7 to 26.4). Although the lower bound of the ORR 95% CI in this study included the null hypothesis of 26.4% that was based on data from the REVEL study, the comparison is limited by several considerations: treatment was in the second line in the REVEL study rather than the setting of third line or later for this study; a low proportion of patients in the REVEL study had NSCLC with a demonstrated *EGFR*-activating mutation and 36% of patients in the REVEL study had a treatment interval of ≥ 9 months between the time of last treatment and study entry, suggesting the presence of more indolent disease. A recent real-world analysis (which was performed subsequent to the initiation of this study) of treatment in patients with *EGFR*-mutated NSCLC after *EGFR* TKI therapy and PBC showed that the median real-world PFS in this treatment setting was 3.3 (95% CI, 2.8 to 4.4) months and median OS was 8.6 (95% CI, 7.4 to 9.8) months (Data Supplement, Table S1).⁵ In this study, HER3-DXd once every 3 weeks was associated with a

median PFS of 5.5 (95% CI, 5.1 to 5.9) months and a median OS of 11.9 (95% CI, 11.2 to 13.1) months (Table 2).

Both the HERTHENA-Lung01 and the previously reported U102⁷ study (Data Supplement, Table S1) showed compelling evidence of efficacy for HER3-DXd once every 3 weeks in patients with *EGFR*-mutated NSCLC after the failure of *EGFR* TKI and PBC. Both studies showed clinical benefit across subgroups, including those characterized by tumor HER3 expression, mechanisms of resistance to *EGFR* TKI therapy, and the presence or absence of brain metastasis; however, there were numerical differences in the ORR and PFS observed in the two studies. Potential determinants of efficacy in the two studies that might have accounted for the observed differences included the presence of bone metastases, the proportions of Asian versus non-Asian patients, and the number of previous lines of treatment, although no predominant prognostic determinant was identified. No substantive differences in study conduct accounted for the distinct clinical observations. Both studies show that HER3-DXd once every 3 weeks provides meaningful clinical

benefit to patients whose available treatment options provide only transient clinical benefit.

HER3-DXd once every 3 weeks treatment yielded clinically meaningful responses in NSCLC CNS metastases (Fig 4), which have been reported in 70% of patients with advanced EGFR-mutated NSCLC.²⁰ This analysis was added because of the emerging understanding of the potential for intracranial response with large-molecule therapies.²¹ Although the Response Assessment in Neuro-Oncology Brain Metastases criteria²² are the current standard, required data for corticosteroid use and neurologic symptoms were not routinely collected in this study. A potential limitation of the CNS RECIST data was that small brain lesions can be difficult to assess using CT imaging. The CNS penetration and pharmacodynamic activity of HER3-DXd in patients with CNS metastasis are being evaluated further in the recently initiated PARAMETER window-of-opportunity study (ClinicalTrials.gov identifier: [NCT05620914](https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/study/NCT05620914)).

HER3-DXd once every 3 weeks elicited tumor responses in a diverse group of EGFR-mutated NSCLC tumors, including clinical efficacy across a broad range of pretreatment tumor HER3 membrane expression, consistent with previous observations.^{7,23} Additional correlative analyses of the HER3 IHC data are ongoing and are incorporating other parameters, including cytoplasmic expression of the receptor. Studies in preclinical models have shown that the dynamics of receptor internalization and turnover in addition to receptor expression level have the potential to affect the efficacy of HER3-DXd.²⁴ In HERTHENA-Lung01, antitumor activity was also observed across subgroups of EGFR TKI resistance detected at baseline, including tumors harboring EGFR-dependent, EGFR-independent, or unidentified

mechanisms of resistance. Durable responses to HER3-DXd once every 3 weeks were also seen in patients with tumors with EGFR C797X or MET amplification, which comprise the most common mechanisms of resistance to third-generation EGFR TKIs.²⁵ Thus, HER3-DXd once every 3 weeks is associated with durable efficacy across a broad spectrum of EGFR-mutated NSCLC subtypes.

HER3-DXd once every 3 weeks had a manageable safety profile with a low rate of treatment-related discontinuation due to AEs. Thrombocytopenia was the most frequent grade ≥ 3 TEAE, and it typically occurred early in treatment and was transient; bleeding events in the setting of thrombocytopenia were rare. Grade ≥ 3 neutropenia was also transient and was rarely associated with fever and/or infection.

The incidence of adjudicated drug-related ILD (5.3% [grade 5, 0.4%]) was consistent with previous reports of HER3-DXd once every 3 weeks in patients with NSCLC,⁷ and the majority of instances were grade 1 or 2 in severity. Vigilant observation for signs and symptoms associated with ILD, prompt interruption of HER3-DXd, and intervention with high-dose corticosteroid treatment may mitigate the development of severe ILD.

In summary, HER3-DXd once every 3 weeks demonstrated clinically meaningful efficacy, including durable intracranial responses, with a manageable safety profile in patients with previously treated EGFR-mutated NSCLC. Clinical evaluation of HER3-DXd once every 3 weeks is ongoing in a phase III trial versus PBC (HERTHENA-Lung02; ClinicalTrials.gov identifier: [NCT05338970](https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/study/NCT05338970)) in patients with EGFR-mutated NSCLC after progression on EGFR TKI treatment.

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DATA SHARING STATEMENT

Anonymized individual participant data on completed studies and applicable supporting clinical study documents may be available upon request at <https://vivli.org/>. In cases where clinical study data and supporting documents are provided pursuant to our company policies and procedures, Daiichi Sankyo Companies will continue to protect the privacy of the company and our clinical study subjects. Details on data sharing criteria and the procedure for requesting access can be found at this web address: <https://vivli.org/ourmember/daiichi-sankyo/>.

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AUTHORS' DISCLOSURES OF POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

HERTHENA-Lung01, a Phase II Trial of Patritumab Deruxtecan (HER3-DXd) in Epidermal Growth Factor Receptor–Mutated Non–Small-Cell Lung Cancer After Epidermal Growth Factor Receptor Tyrosine Kinase Inhibitor Therapy and Platinum-Based Chemotherapy

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Luis Paz-Ares**Leadership:** Altum Sequencing, Stab Therapeutics**Honoraria:** Roche/Genentech, Lilly, Pfizer, Bristol Myers Squibb, MSD, AstraZeneca, Merck Serono, PharmaMar, Novartis, Amgen, Sanofi, Bayer, Takeda, Mirati Therapeutics, Daiichi Sankyo, BeiGene, GlaxoSmithKline, Janssen, Medscape, Regeneron**Speakers' Bureau:** MSD Oncology, BMS, Roche/Genentech, Pfizer, Lilly, AstraZeneca, Merck Serono**Research Funding:** BMS (Inst), AstraZeneca (Inst), PharmaMar (Inst), MSD (Inst), Pfizer (Inst)**Other Relationship:** Novartis, Ipsen, Pfizer, Servier, Sanofi, Roche, Amgen, Merck, Roche**Benjamin Besse****Research Funding:** AstraZeneca (Inst), Inivata (Inst), AbbVie (Inst), Amgen (Inst), Sanofi (Inst), Daiichi Sankyo (Inst), Janssen Oncology (Inst), Roche/Genentech (Inst), Aptitude Health (Inst), Chugai Pharma (Inst), Genzyme (Inst), Ipsen (Inst), Turning Point Therapeutics (Inst), Eisai (Inst), Ellipses Pharma (Inst), Genmab (Inst), Hederax Dx (Inst), MSD Oncology (Inst), PharmaMar (Inst), Taiho Pharmaceutical (Inst), SOCAR (Inst)**Paolo Bironzo****Honoraria:** AstraZeneca, Bristol Myers Squibb, MSD Oncology, Roche, Takeda, Novartis, Sanofi**Consulting or Advisory Role:** Roche, Janssen Oncology, Pierre Fabre, Amgen, Seagen, Regeneron**Research Funding:** Roche (Inst), Pfizer (Inst)**Travel, Accommodations, Expenses:** Amgen, Daiichi Sankyo/Arqule**Dong-Wan Kim****Research Funding:** Alpha Biopharma (Inst), AstraZeneca/MedImmune (Inst), Hanmi (Inst), Janssen (Inst), Merus (Inst), Mirati Therapeutics (Inst), MSD (Inst), Novartis (Inst), Ono Pharmaceutical (Inst), Pfizer (Inst), Roche/Genentech (Inst), Takeda (Inst), TP Therapeutics (Inst), Xcovery (Inst), Yuhan (Inst), Boehringer Ingelheim (Inst), Amgen (Inst), Daiichi Sankyo (Inst), Chong Kun Dang Pharmaceutical (Inst), BridgeBio Pharma (Inst), GlaxoSmithKline (Inst), Merck (Inst), inno.N (Inst)**Melissa L. Johnson****Consulting or Advisory Role:** Genentech/Roche (Inst), AstraZeneca (Inst), Calithera Biosciences (Inst), Merck (Inst), Sanofi (Inst), Mirati Therapeutics (Inst), Ribon Therapeutics (Inst), AbbVie (Inst), GlaxoSmithKline (Inst), Gritstone Bio (Inst), Janssen Oncology (Inst), Lilly (Inst), Amgen (Inst), Daiichi Sankyo (Inst), Eisai (Inst), Axelia Oncology (Inst), Black Diamond Therapeutics (Inst), CytomX Therapeutics (Inst), EcoR1 Capital (Inst), Editas Medicine (Inst), Genmab (Inst), IDEAYA Biosciences (Inst), ITeos Therapeutics (Inst), Oncorus (Inst), Regeneron (Inst), Turning Point Therapeutics (Inst), Astellas Pharma (Inst), Checkpoint Therapeutics (Inst), Genocera Biosciences (Inst), Molecular Axion (Inst), Novartis (Inst), Revolution Medicines (Inst), Takeda (Inst), VBL Therapeutics (Inst), ArriVent Biopharma (Inst), Pyramid Biosciences (Inst), SeaGen (Inst)**Research Funding:** EMD Serono (Inst), Kadmon (Inst), Janssen (Inst), Mirati Therapeutics (Inst), Genmab (Inst), Pfizer (Inst), AstraZeneca (Inst), Stem CentRx (Inst), Novartis (Inst), Array BioPharma (Inst), Regeneron (Inst), Merck (Inst), Hengrui Pharmaceutical (Inst), Lycera (Inst), BeiGene (Inst), Tarveda Therapeutics (Inst), Loxo (Inst), AbbVie (Inst), Boehringer Ingelheim (Inst), Guardant Health (Inst), Daiichi Sankyo (Inst), Sanofi (Inst), CytomX Therapeutics (Inst), Dynavax Technologies (Inst), Corvus Pharmaceuticals (Inst), Incyte (Inst), Genocera Biosciences (Inst), Gritstone Bio (Inst), Amgen (Inst), Genentech/Roche (Inst), Adaptimmune (Inst), Syndax (Inst), NeoviaOncology (Inst), Acerta Pharma (Inst), Takeda (Inst), Shattuck Labs (Inst), GlaxoSmithKline (Inst), Apexigen (Inst), Atreca (Inst), OncoMed (Inst), Lilly (Inst), Immunocore (Inst), University of Michigan (Inst), TCR2 Therapeutics (Inst), Arcus Biosciences (Inst), Ribon Therapeutics (Inst), BerGenBio (Inst), Calithera Biosciences (Inst), Tmunity Therapeutics, Inc (Inst), Seven and Eight Biopharmaceuticals (Inst), Rubius Therapeutics (Inst), Curis (Inst), Silicon Therapeutics (Inst), Dracen (Inst), PMV Pharma (Inst), Artios (Inst), BioAtla (Inst), Elicio Therapeutics (Inst), Erasca, Inc (Inst), Harpoon (Inst), Helsinn Healthcare (Inst), Hutchison MediPharma (Inst), IDEAYA Biosciences (Inst), IGM Biosciences (Inst), Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center (Inst), NeolImmuneTech (Inst), Numab (Inst), Relay Therapeutics (Inst), Revolution Medicines (Inst), Tempest Therapeutics (Inst), Tizona Therapeutics, Inc (Inst), Turning Point Therapeutics (Inst), Vyriad (Inst), Y-mAbs Therapeutics (Inst), Exelixis (Inst), Fate Therapeutics (Inst), Merus (Inst), Black Diamond Therapeutics (Inst), Kartos Therapeutics (Inst), Carisma Therapeutics (Inst), Rain Therapeutics (Inst), Nuvalent, Inc (Inst), Palleon Pharmaceuticals (Inst), EQRx (Inst), Immunitas (Inst)
Travel, Accommodations, Expenses: AbbVie, AstraZeneca, Genentech, Incyte, Merck, Pfizer, Sanofi**Yi-Long Wu****Honoraria:** AstraZeneca, Lilly, Roche, Pfizer, Boehringer Ingelheim, MSD Oncology, Bristol Myers Squibb/China, Hengrui Pharmaceutical, BeiGene Beijing**Consulting or Advisory Role:** AstraZeneca, Roche, Boehringer Ingelheim, Takeda**Research Funding:** Boehringer Ingelheim (Inst), Roche (Inst), Pfizer (Inst), BMS (Inst)**Thomas John****Honoraria:** AstraZeneca/MedImmune, Roche/Genentech, Bristol Myers Squibb, MSD Oncology**Consulting or Advisory Role:** AstraZeneca, Pfizer, AstraZeneca/MedImmune, Roche/Genentech, Ignyta, Boehringer Ingelheim, Novartis, MSD Oncology, Merck KGaA, Bristol Myers Squibb, Amgen (Inst), PharmaMar (Inst), Specialised Therapeutics, Gilead Sciences, Seagen (Inst)**Travel, Accommodations, Expenses:** Boehringer Ingelheim, Roche, AstraZeneca, Bristol Myers Squibb, Roche, Merck Sharp & Dohme**Steven Kao****Honoraria:** Pfizer (Inst), AstraZeneca (Inst), Roche (Inst), Bristol Myers Squibb (Inst), MSD Oncology (Inst), Takeda (Inst), BeiGene**Consulting or Advisory Role:** AstraZeneca, Pfizer (Inst), MSD Oncology, BMSi, Roche, Amgen, BeiGene**Research Funding:** AstraZeneca (Inst)**Travel, Accommodations, Expenses:** Bristol Myers Squibb**Toshiyuki Kozuki****Honoraria:** Chugai Pharma, AstraZeneca, Lilly Japan, Ono Pharmaceutical, Bristol Myers Squibb Japan, Nippon Boehringer Ingelheim, Nippon Kayaku, Taiho Pharmaceutical, MSD, Novartis, Pfizer, Merck, Daiichi Sankyo, Takeda, Bayer, AbbVie, Sawai Pharmaceutical Co, Amgen**Consulting or Advisory Role:** AstraZeneca, Chugai Pharma, Daiichi Sankyo/UCB Japan, Ono Pharmaceutical, AbbVie, Pfizer, Bayer Yakuhin**Research Funding:** Chugai Pharma (Inst), AstraZeneca (Inst), Merck (Inst), MSD (Inst), Taiho Pharmaceutical (Inst), Kyowa-Hakko Kirin (Inst), Ono Pharmaceutical (Inst), Daiichi Sankyo (Inst), Bristol Myers Squibb Japan (Inst), Eisai (Inst), Amgen (Inst), AbbVie (Inst), Sanofi (Inst), Dival Pharma (Inst), Gilead Sciences (Inst), Pfizer (Inst)

Erminia Massarelli**Honoraria:** AstraZeneca**Consulting or Advisory Role:** Lilly, Janssen Scientific Affairs, Sanofi, Bristol Myers Squibb Foundation, Daiichi Sankyo Co, AbbVie, Mirati Therapeutics, Fusion Pharmaceuticals, Iovance Biotherapeutics, Gilead Sciences**Speakers' Bureau:** Merck, AstraZeneca, Takeda, Lilly, Mirati Therapeutics**Travel, Accommodations, Expenses:** Bristol Myers Squibb, Merck, Genentech/Roche, Pfizer, AstraZeneca**Jyoti Patel****Consulting or Advisory Role:** AbbVie, AstraZeneca, Takeda Science Foundation, Genentech, Anheart Therapeutics**Travel, Accommodations, Expenses:** Tempus**Egbert Smit****Honoraria:** AstraZeneca, Daiichi Sankyo/Astra Zeneca, Merck KGaA, Boehringer Ingelheim**Consulting or Advisory Role:** Lilly (Inst), AstraZeneca (Inst), Boehringer Ingelheim (Inst), Roche/Genentech (Inst), Bristol Myers Squibb (Inst), Merck KGaA (Inst), MSD Oncology (Inst), Takeda (Inst), Bayer (Inst), Merck KGaA (Inst), Novartis (Inst), Daiichi Sankyo (Inst), Seagen (Inst)**Research Funding:** Boehringer Ingelheim (Inst), Bayer (Inst), Roche/Genentech (Inst), AstraZeneca (Inst), Bristol Myers Squibb (Inst)**Karen L. Reckamp****Consulting or Advisory Role:** Amgen, Takeda, AstraZeneca, Seagen, Genentech, Blueprint Medicines, Daiichi Sankyo/Lilly, EMD Serono, Janssen Oncology, Lilly, Merck KGaA, GlaxoSmithKline, Mirati Therapeutics**Research Funding:** Genentech/Roche (Inst), Janssen Oncology (Inst), Calithera Biosciences (Inst), Elevation Oncology (Inst), Daiichi Sankyo/Astra Zeneca (Inst), Blueprint Medicines**Qian Dong****Employment:** Daiichi Sankyo**Stock and Other Ownership Interests:** Daiichi Sankyo**Pomy Shrestha****Employment:** Daiichi Sankyo**Stock and Other Ownership Interests:** Daiichi Sankyo**Travel, Accommodations, Expenses:** Daiichi Sankyo**Pang-Dian Fan****Employment:** Daiichi Sankyo, Inc**Stock and Other Ownership Interests:** Daiichi Sankyo, Inc**Consulting or Advisory Role:** Guidry & East**Parul Patel****Employment:** Merck KGaA**Stock and Other Ownership Interests:** Merck, Daiichi Sankyo/Lilly**Travel, Accommodations, Expenses:** Daiichi Sankyo/Lilly**Andrea Sporchia****Employment:** Daiichi Sankyo Europe GmbH, MorphoSys**David W. Sternberg****Employment:** Daiichi Sankyo, Inc**Stock and Other Ownership Interests:** Daiichi Sankyo, Inc**Dalila Sellami****Employment:** Daiichi-Sankyo Inc, Radius Pharmaceutical**Stock and Other Ownership Interests:** Daiichi Sankyo, Janssen-Ortho**Pasi A. Jänne****Stock and Other Ownership Interests:** Gatekeeper Pharmaceuticals, Loxo**Consulting or Advisory Role:** Pfizer, Boehringer Ingelheim, AstraZeneca, Merrimack, Chugai Pharma, Roche/Genentech, Loxo, Mirati Therapeutics, Araxes Pharma, Ignyta, Lilly, Takeda, Novartis, Biocartis, Voronoi Health Analytics, SFJ Pharmaceuticals Group, Sanofi, Daiichi Sankyo, Silicon Therapeutics, Nuvalent, Inc, Eisai, Bayer, Syndax, AbbVie, Allorion Therapeutics, Accutar Biotech, Transcenta, Monte Rosa Therapeutics, Scorpion Therapeutics, Merus, Frontier Medicines, Hongyun Biotech, Duality Biologics**Research Funding:** AstraZeneca (Inst), Astellas Pharma (Inst), Daiichi Sankyo (Inst), Lilly (Inst), Boehringer Ingelheim (Inst), Puma Biotechnology (Inst), Takeda (Inst), Revolution Medicines (Inst)**Patents, Royalties, Other Intellectual Property:** I am a co-inventor on a DFCI owned patent on EGFR mutations licensed to Lab Corp. I receive post-marketing royalties from this invention

No other potential conflicts of interest were reported.