Glofitamab, a Novel, Bivalent CD2O-Targeting T-Cell–Engaging Bispecific Antibody, Induces Durable Complete Remissions in Relapsed or Refractory B-Cell Lymphoma: A Phase I Trial

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PURPOSE Glofitamab is a T-cell–engaging bispecific antibody possessing a novel 2:1 structure with bivalency for CD20 on B cells and monovalency for CD3 on T cells. This phase I study evaluated glofitamab in relapsed or refractory (R/R) B-cell non-Hodgkin lymphoma (B-NHL). Data for single-agent glofitamab, with obinutuzumab pretreatment (*Gpt*) to reduce toxicity, are presented.

METHODS Seven days before the first dose of glofitamab (0.005-30 mg), all patients received 1,000 mg *Gpt*. Dose-escalation steps were determined using a Bayesian continuous reassessment method with overdose control. Primary end points were safety, pharmacokinetics, and the maximum tolerated dose of glofitamab.

RESULTS Following initial single-patient cohorts, 171 patients were treated within conventional multipatient cohorts and received at least one dose of glofitamab. This trial included heavily pretreated patients with R/R B-NHL; most were refractory to prior therapy (155; 90.6%) and had received a median of three prior therapies. One hundred and twenty-seven patients (74.3%) had diffuse large B-cell lymphoma, transformed follicular lymphoma, or other aggressive histology, and the remainder had indolent lymphoma subtypes. Five (2.9%) patients withdrew from treatment because of adverse events. Cytokine release syndrome occurred in 86 of 171 (50.3%) patients (grade 3 or 4: 3.5%); two (1.2%) patients experienced grade 3, transient immune effector cell–associated neurotoxicity syndrome-like symptoms. The overall response rate was 53.8% (complete response [CR], 36.8%) among all doses and 65.7% (CR, 57.1%) in those dosed at the recommended phase II dose. Of 63 patients with CR, 53 (84.1%) have ongoing CR with a maximum of 27.4 months observation.

CONCLUSION In patients with predominantly refractory, aggressive B-NHL, glofitamab showed favorable activity with frequent and durable CRs and a predictable and manageable safety profile.

INTRODUCTION

Many patients with B-cell non-Hodgkin lymphoma (B-NHL) achieve complete response (CR) following first-line treatment with rituximab and chemotherapy. However, approximately 40% of patients with diffuse large B-cell lymphoma (DLBCL) will be refractory or relapse[1,2]; their prognosis is dismal. Although autologous stem-cell transplantation (ASCT) can cure a proportion of patients with relapsed or refractory (R/R) DLBCL, many patients cannot undergo this procedure because of toxicity or inadequate response to second-line chemotherapy.[3] Before the development of chimeric antigen receptor T-cell (CAR-T) therapy, among patients with no response to chemo-immunotherapy or who relapse less than 1 year after ASCT, only 7%

achieve CR following subsequent treatment.[4] In refractory follicular lymphoma (FL), cure is rare, CR rates are low, and progression-free survival (PFS) is short.[5]

CAR-T therapies are a significant advance,[6-8] but require careful patient selection and extensive healthcare coordination,[9,10] are limited by manufacturing timelines, and are complicated by serious adverse events (SAEs),[7,11] mainly grade ≥ 3 cytokine release syndrome (CRS) and immune effector cell–associated neurotoxicity syndrome (ICANS).[12] Alternative approaches offering off-the-shelf availability, high response rates, durable remissions, and an improved tolerability are required.

Glofitamab (RO7082859) is a novel T-cell–engaging, bispecific, full-length antibody that has a longer half-life

CONTEXT

Key Objective

The prognosis for patients with multiple relapsed or refractory B-cell lymphoma is poor, and there remains an unmet need for novel agents. This study evaluated safety, optimal dosing, and preliminary efficacy of glofitamab, a novel and uniquely designed CD20-targeted T-cell–engaging bispecific antibody.

Knowledge Generated

Cytokine release syndrome was the most common adverse event of interest. This was clinically predictable and manageable, and was rarely severe below the maximum tolerated dose. Complete and durable responses, which in the majority of cases are ongoing, were seen in a population with predominantly aggressive histology and across histological subtypes.

Relevance

Safety and preliminary efficacy data of glofitamab compare favorably with established third-line treatments. This treatment appears to be promising for aggressive and indolent B-cell lymphoma and is well-suited for planned evaluation in later-phase studies, both as a single agent and in combination.

compared with non–Fc-bearing bispecific T-cell engagers.[13] The 2:1 configuration enables bivalent binding to CD20 on B cells and monovalent binding to CD3 on T cells.[14] Its CD3-binding region is fused to one of the CD20-binding regions in a head-to-tail manner via a flexible linker for improved target-effector cell binding.[14] This endows glofitamab with superior in vitro potency versus other CD20-CD3 bispecific antibodies with a 1:1 configuration and leads to profound antitumor efficacy in preclinical DLBCL models.[14] CD20 bivalency preserves this potency in the presence of competing anti-CD20 antibodies, providing the opportunity for pre- or co-treatment with these agents.[14]

Study NP30179 (ClinicalTrials.gov identifier: NCT03075696) is a first-in-human, phase I study, investigating the clinical activity of single-agent glofitamab after single-dose Gazyva (obinutuzumab; Genentech/Roche) pretreatment (*Gpt*) and glofitamab with ongoing, co-administered obinutuzumab. Here, we present data for glofitamab monotherapy with single-dose *Gpt*.

METHODS

Patients

Patients of age ≥ 18 years with histologically confirmed B-NHL expected to express CD20; who had ≥ 1 prior lymphoma treatment, with no available life-extending treatment options; and who had ≥ 1 measurable target lesion > 1.5 cm were included. Key exclusion criteria were a history of CNS lymphoma or other CNS pathology, anti-cancer therapy within 4 weeks or five half-lives of the drug or ASCT within 100 days before *Gpt*, or prior allogeneic stem-cell transplantation. Full eligibility criteria are available in the Data Supplement (online only).

Study Design

NP30179 is a phase I, multicenter, open-label, dose-escalation, and dose-expansion study comprising three parts. Herein, we describe part 1 (single-patient dose escalation) and part 2 (multiple-patient dose escalation; Data Supplement); part 3 (dose expansion) is ongoing.

Seven days before the first dose of glofitamab, all patients received 1,000 mg *Gpt*, to deplete peripheral and tissue-based B cells and mitigate serious CRS.[14] Obinutuzumab was chosen as pretreatment because of its deeper clearance of peripheral and tissue-based B cells compared with rituximab.[16] Glofitamab was given as an initial 4-hour intravenous (IV) infusion, reduced to 2 hours once a prior infusion had occurred without complications. Glofitamab was given in 14- or 21-day cycles. Details of premedication, infusion time, and scheduling are provided in the supplementary material. Dose escalation was guided by a Bayesian-modified continuous reassessment method with overdose control based on emerging toxicity data.[15]

The primary study end points were safety or tolerability, pharmacokinetics (PK), maximum tolerated dose, and dose-limiting toxicities. Secondary end points included CR and overall response rates (ORR) by Lugano classification,[17] duration of response (DOR), duration of CR (DOCR), PFS, pharmacodynamic biomarkers, and incidence of antidrug antibodies.

Disease was documented by fluorodeoxyglucose positron emission tomography and computed tomography. Tumor evaluations were conducted at baseline, after two and five cycles, end of treatment, and every 6 months until disease progression. Adverse events (AEs) were evaluated according to National Cancer Institute–Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events (CTCAE), version 4.03.[18] Investigators graded CRS by consensus criteria of Lee et al[19] and managed according to protocol guidance. On-site availability of tocilizumab was a requirement. As consensus criteria for ICANS were not available at the time of study initiation, these are described based on CTCAE terms of delirium, dysphasia, tremor, lethargy, difficulty in concentrating, agitation,

confusional state, aphasia, depressed level of consciousness, encephalopathy, seizures, or cerebral edema.

All enrolled patients provided written informed consent. This study was approved by each center's ethics committee or institutional review board and conducted in conformance with the Declaration of Helsinki, International Conference on Harmonisation Guidelines for Good Clinical Practice, and appropriate laws and regulations.

Statistical Analysis

The planned sample size of 160 patients was based on dose-escalation stopping criteria and approximated using computational simulation across different scenarios. In multiple patient cohorts, a minimum of three patients were required for dose escalation; however, the size of individual cohorts was designed to be flexible and increased with dose to further establish the efficacy and safety of glofitamab at clinically effective doses and to determine the maximum tolerated dose for the first administration.

Analyses included all patients who received *Gpt* and were conducted by dose group and pooled for selected analysis. Patients who did not complete any response assessments were considered as nonresponders and censored at day 1 for time-to-event end points; if disease progression or death was reported, then patients were considered an event at this time. Exact 95% CI are provided for response rates. DOR (time from first response to disease progression or death), DOCR (time from first CR to disease progression or death), and PFS (time from *Gpt* to disease progression or death) were analyzed by Kaplan-Meier estimation; patients without disease progression or death were censored at the last disease assessment. Time to CR was analyzed using cumulative incidence, with disease progression or death considered competing risks. Preplanned subgroup analyses included prior therapy, time since last therapy, refractory status, tumor burden, and International Prognostic Index.[2] Refractory was defined as no response to or relapse within 6 months of prior therapy.

Data were analyzed using SAS version 9.4. The clinical cutoff date was August 3, 2020.

RESULTS

Patients

Three patients were enrolled into single-patient (part 1) cohorts and dosed at 0.005 mg, 0.015 mg, and 0.045 mg; no responses were observed, and all withdrew due to progressive disease.

In part 2, the first dose was 0.015 mg and 171 patients were enrolled (Data Supplement). The median (range) duration of follow-up was 13.5 (0-30.3) months. Significant clinical activity was observed at doses from 0.6 mg; subsequent cohorts were expanded to provide additional clinical data. At a cycle (C) 1 day (D) 1 dose of 25 mg, CRS was reported in all patients (one grade 3 and one grade 4), and this was

considered to exceed the maximum tolerated day-one dose. Based on safety data and PK or pharmacodynamic modeling, two step-up dosing (SUD) cohorts were subsequently tested with dosing of 2.5 mg (C1D1), 10 mg (C1D8), and 16 mg or 30 mg (C2D1), with the latter being selected as the recommended phase II dose (RP2D).[21] Details can be found in Tables 1, 2 and 3.

Patients had a median age of 64 (range, 22-85) years, with 62.0% (106 of 171) patients of age > 60 years, and 48.8% (83 of 171) had an Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group performance status of 1-2 (Table 1). Seventy-three patients (42.7%) had DLBCL, 29 (17.0%) had DLBCL arising from FL (transformed FL [trFL]), and 10 (5.8%) had Richter's transformation from chronic lymphocytic leukemia. Patients had a median of 3 (range, 1-13) prior lines of therapy; 155 (90.6%) were refractory to any prior therapy (Table 1). Median (range) times since last therapy and last anti-CD20 regimen were 2.4 (0.6-128.8) and 5.8 (0.6-146.7) months, respectively.

Safety

AEs were reported in 168 of 171 patients (98.2%) (Table 2); 143 (83.6%) had at least one AE considered glofitamab-related. The most common AE was CRS (Fig 1A), occurring in 86 of 171 patients (50.3%; grade 1, 21.6%; grade 2, 25.1%; grade 3, 2.3%; grade 4, 1.2%).[19] Frequently (≥ 10%) associated symptoms of CRS were pyrexia (n = 79; 46.2%), hypotension (n = 42; 24.6%), tachycardia (n = 27; 15.8%), and chills (n = 21; 12.3%) (Data Supplement). Symptoms of ICANS during CRS were uncommon: confusional state in six patients (3.5%; grade 1-2, n = 4 [2.3%]; grade 3, n = 2 [1.2%]), aphasia in one (0.6%, grade 3), tremor in one (0.6%, grade 1), and depressed level of consciousness in one (0.6%, grade 2); all resolved within 3-72 hours. No seizures or increased intracranial pressure was reported. The median time to onset and duration of the earliest CRS event relative to the last prior glofitamab dose were 10.8 hours (range, 3.0-47) and 2.2 days (range, 0.0-31.0), respectively. Incidence of CRS increased with dose but declined considerably after the first administration: 21 of 160 patients (13.1%) experienced CRS at cycle 2 and 8 of 132 (6.1%) at cycle 3 or later (one grade 3) (Fig 1B).

At fixed doses of 10-25 mg, CRS occurred in 33 of 46 (71.7%) patients (grade 2, 43.5%; grade 3 and 4, 2.2% each); in SUD cohorts, in 33 of 52 (63.5%) patients (grade 2, 26.9%; grade 3 [after 2.5 mg] and 4 [after 30 mg], 1.9% each) and in 25 of 35 (71.4%) patients (grade 2, 22.9%; grade 3 and 4, 2.9% each) at the selected RP2D of 2.5/10/30 mg. At RP2D, tocilizumab, steroids, or both were used in 11.4%, 11.4%, and 8.6% of patients, respectively.

The Data Supplement summarizes subgroup analysis of CRS incidence.

CTCAE-defined neurological AEs were observed in 74 patients (43.3%), with ICANS-like events[20] in nine patients

TABLE 1. Patient Demographics and Baseline Disease Characteristics in Patients Who Received Glofitamab at Any Dose and at the RP2D (Safety-Evaluable Patients)

Characteristic	All Glofitamab Cohorts (N = 171)	RP2D Glofitamab Cohort 2.5/10/30 mg (n = 35)
Age, years		
Median	64	66
Range	22-85	44-85
Male sex, No. (%)	100 (58.5)	17 (48.6)
ECOG performance status, No. (%)		
0	87 (51.2)	19 (54.3)
1	83 (48.8)	16 (45.7)
Ann Arbor staging, No. (%)		
I	10 (5.8)	0
II	28 (16.4)	3 (8.6)
III	38 (22.2)	10 (28.6)
IV	95 (55.6)	22 (62.9)
Bulky disease > 5 cm, No. (%)	86 (50.3)	12 (34.3)
Sum of products of lesion diameters (mm^2)		
No. of evaluable patients[a]	171	35
Median	2,996	2,788
Range	256-20,635	256-10,816
Histology subtype, No. (%)		
DLBCL	73 (42.7)	5 (14.3)
FL grades 1-3A	44 (25.7)	21 (60.0)
DLBCL arising from FL	29 (17.0)	3 (8.6)
Richter's transformation	10 (5.8)	2 (5.7)
PMBCL	3 (1.8)	0
Others[b]	12 (7.0)	4 (11.4)
Prior autologous stem-cell transplant, No. (%)	41 (24.0)	9 (25.7)
Prior CAR-T therapy, No. (%)	3 (1.8)	1 (2.9)
Prior lines of therapy, No.		
Median	3	3
Range	1-13	1-12
Refractory to any prior therapy, No. (%)		
Refractory	155 (90.6)	29 (82.9)
Relapsed	16 (9.4)	6 (17.1)
Refractory to any line of prior CD20 therapy, No. (%)		
Refractory	144 (84.2)	25 (71.4)
Relapsed	27 (15.8)	10 (28.6)
Time since last prior therapy to first study treatment (months)		
No. of evaluable patients[a]	161	34
Median	2.4	4.6
Range	0.6-128.8	0.9-53.2
Time since last anti-CD20 therapy to first study treatment (months)		
No. of evaluable patients[a]	157	34
Median	5.8	12.7
Range	0.6-146.7	2.2-82.8

NOTE. Data cutoff date: August 3, 2020.

Abbreviations: CAR-T, chimeric antigen receptor T cell; DLBCL, diffuse large B-cell lymphoma; ECOG, Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group; FL, follicular lymphoma; PMBCL, primary mediastinal B-cell lymphoma; RP2D, recommended phase II dose.

[a]Data not available for all patients by cutoff date.

[b]For all patients, "other" histologies includes FL grade 3B (n = 2), mantle cell lymphoma (n = 6), high-grade B-cell lymphoma (n = 1), DLBCL transformed from marginal zone lymphoma (n = 1), DLBCL transformed from isolated cervical immunoblastic lymphoma (n = 1), and DLBCL transformed from Waldenström (immunocytoma; n = 1); for RP2D, "other" histologies include FL grade 3B (n = 1) and mantle cell lymphoma (n = 3).

TABLE 2. Summary of Adverse Events in Patients Receiving Glofitamab at Any Dose and at the RP2D (Safety-Evaluable Patients)

No. of Patients (%)	All Glofitamab Cohorts (N = 171)	RP2D Glofitamab Cohort 2.5/10/30 mg (n = 35)
Any AE	168 (98.2)	34 (97.1)
AE related to glofitamab	143 (83.6)	32 (91.4)
AE related to obinutuzumab	68 (39.8)	14 (40.0)
AE leading to withdrawal from glofitamab	5 (2.9)	2 (5.7)
AE leading to glofitamab dose interruption	53 (31.0)	17 (48.6)
AE leading to glofitamab dose reduction	2 (1.2)	0
Grade ≥ 3 AE	97 (56.7)	19 (54.3)
Grade ≥ 3 AE related to glofitamab	53 (31.0)	15 (42.9)
Grade ≥ 3 AE related to obinutuzumab	24 (14.0)	5 (14.3)
Common (≥ 5% of patients) grade ≥ 3 AEs by preferred term		
Neutropenia[a]	43 (25.1)	9 (25.7)
Thrombocytopenia	14 (8.2)	3 (8.6)
Anemia	13 (7.6)	0
CRS	6 (3.5)	2 (5.7)
Gamma-glutamyltransferase increased	5 (2.9)	2 (5.7)
Pneumonia	5 (2.9)	2 (5.7)
Febrile neutropenia	5 (2.9)	2 (5.7)
SAE	100 (58.5)	21 (60.0)
SAE related to glofitamab	77 (45.0)	18 (51.4)
SAE related to obinutuzumab	10 (5.8)	3 (8.6)
Common (≥ 3% of patients) SAEs by preferred term		
CRS	61 (35.7)	13 (37.1)
Pyrexia	22 (12.9)	3 (8.6)
Infusion-related reaction	6 (3.5)	2 (5.7)
Tumor flare	2 (1.2)	2 (5.7)
Adverse events of special interest (all grades)		
CRS	86 (50.3)	25 (71.4)
Infections and infestations	88 (51.5)	15 (42.9)
Neurologic adverse event	74 (43.3)	11 (31.4)
ICANS-like event	9 (5.3)	2 (5.7)
Febrile neutropenia	5 (2.9)	2 (5.7)
Grade 5 (fatal) adverse event	2 (1.2)	0

NOTE. Clinical cutoff date: August 3, 2020.

Abbreviations: AE, adverse event; CRS, cytokine release syndrome; ICANS, immune effector cell–associated neurotoxicity syndrome; RP2D, recommended phase II dose; SAE, serious adverse event.

[a]Includes the terms neutropenia and neutrophil count decreased.

(5.3%): confusional state (3; n = 1 grade 1, n = 2 grade 2), depressed level of consciousness (n = 2, grade 2), tremor (n = 3; grade 1), and agitation (n = 1; grade 1) (Data Supplement).

SAEs were reported in 100 patients (58.5%) and were considered glofitamab-related in 77 patients (45.0%); in 71 of 167 patients (42.5%), they occurred during cycle 1. SAEs in 61 patients (88 events) were due to CRS; in 46 of 88 (52.3%) and 31 of 88 (35.2%) of SAEs, seriousness was related to prolonged and new hospitalization, respectively. Grade 5 (fatal) AEs occurred in one patient at 25 mg (hypovolemic shock because of GI hemorrhage after CRS recovery) and in one patient at 0.015 mg (septic shock); both were considered by the investigator to be unrelated to glofitamab (Fig 1A).

Grade ≥ 3 neutropenia occurred in 43 patients (25.1%) (Table 2) and considered glofitamab-related in 34 patients (79.1%). Granulocyte colony–stimulating factor was given

TABLE 3. Summary of Efficacy Data in Patients Receiving Glofitamab by Dose Level and Histology as of August 3, 2020 (Primary Efficacy Population)

Response	All Histologies	aNHL[a]	DLBCL	trFL	FL (Gr 1-3A)
All cohorts, No.	171	127	73	29	44
Overall response rate[b]					
No. (%)	92 (53.8)	61 (48.0)	30 (41.4)	16 (55.2)	31 (70.5)
95% CI	46.0 to 61.4	39.1 to 57.1	29.7 to 53.2	35.7 to 73.6	54.8 to 83.2
CR					
No. (%)	63 (36.8)	42 (33.1)	21 (28.8)	10 (34.5)	21 (47.7)
95% CI	29.6 to 44.5	25.0 to 42.0	18.8 to 40.6	17.9 to 54.3	32.5 to 63.3
PR					
No. (%)	29 (17.0)	19 (15.0)	9 (12.3)	6 (20.7)	10 (22.7)
95% CI	11.7 to 23.4	9.3 to 22.4	5.8 to 22.1	8.0 to 39.7	11.5 to 37.8
≥ 10 mg cohorts, No.	98	69	38	14	29
Overall response rate[b]					
No. (%)	62 (63.3)	42 (60.9)	21 (55.3)	9 (64.3)	20 (69.0)
95% CI	52.9 to 72.8	48.4 to 72.4	38.3 to 71.4	35.1 to 87.2	49.2 to 84.7
CR					
No. (%)	51 (52.0)	34 (49.3)	16 (42.1)	9 (64.3)	17 (58.6)
95% CI	41.7 to 62.2	37.0 to 61.6	26.3 to 59.2	35.1 to 87.2	38.9 to 76.5
PR					
No. (%)	11 (11.2)	8 (11.6)	5 (13.2)	0	3 (10.3)
95% CI	5.7 to 19.2	5.1 to 21.6	4.4 to 28.1	—	—
RP2D 2.5/10/30 mg, No.	35	14	5	3	21
Objective response rate[b]					
No. (%)	23 (65.7)	10 (71.4)	3 (60.0)	3 (100.0)	13 (61.9)
95% CI	47.8 to 80.9	41.9 to 91.6	—	—	38.4 to 81.9
CR					
No. (%)	20 (57.1)	9 (64.3)	2 (40.0)	3 (100.0)	11 (52.4)
95% CI	39.4 to 73.7	35.1 to 87.2	—	—	29.8 to 74.3
PR					
No. (%)	3 (8.6)	1 (7.1)	1 (20.0)	0	2 (9.5)
95% CI	1.8 to 23.1	0.2 to 33.9	—	—	1.2 to 30.4

Abbreviations: aNHL, aggressive non-Hodgkin lymphoma; CR, complete response; CT, computed tomography; DLBCL, diffuse large B-cell lymphoma; FL, follicular lymphoma; Gr, grade; MCL, mantle cell lymphoma; PET, positron emission tomography; PMBCL, primary mediastinal B-cell lymphoma; PR, partial response; RP2D, recommended phase II dose; trFL, transformed follicular lymphoma; trMZL, transformed marginal zone lymphoma.

[a]NHL includes FL (Gr 3B), DLBCL, trFL, PMBCL, MCL, trMZL, Richter's transformation, DLBCL, MCL, and DLBCL transformed from other histologies.

[b]Investigator-assessed best response by PET-CT and standard Lugano criteria.

to 37 patients (21.6%). Median times to onset and duration of events were 21.5 and 7.9 days. Febrile neutropenia occurred in five patients (2.9%). Infections were observed in 88 patients (51.5%); 30 (17.5%) had grade ≥ 3 events, with the most common being pneumonia (n = 5). Five patients (2.9%) discontinued treatment because of AEs (Data Supplement): one acute myocardial infarction (at 0.22 mg), one grade 3 cytomegalovirus chorioretinitis (at 1 mg), one fatal event of GI bleeding (at 25 mg) after recovery from grade 4 CRS, one grade 4 neutropenia (at 2.5/10/30 mg), and one

patient with grade 3 sepsis and grade 4 colitis (at 2.5/10/30 mg).

Efficacy

Clinical activity was observed at all doses, increasing substantially with dose escalation (Fig 2).

Among patients with aggressive B-NHL (DLBCL, trFL, PMBCL, MCL, and Richter's transformation), ORR and CR were 48.0% (61 of 127) and 33.1% (42 of 127), respectively, including 41.1% (30 of 73) and 28.8% (21 of 73) in patients with DLBCL and 55.2% (16 of 29) and 34.5% (10
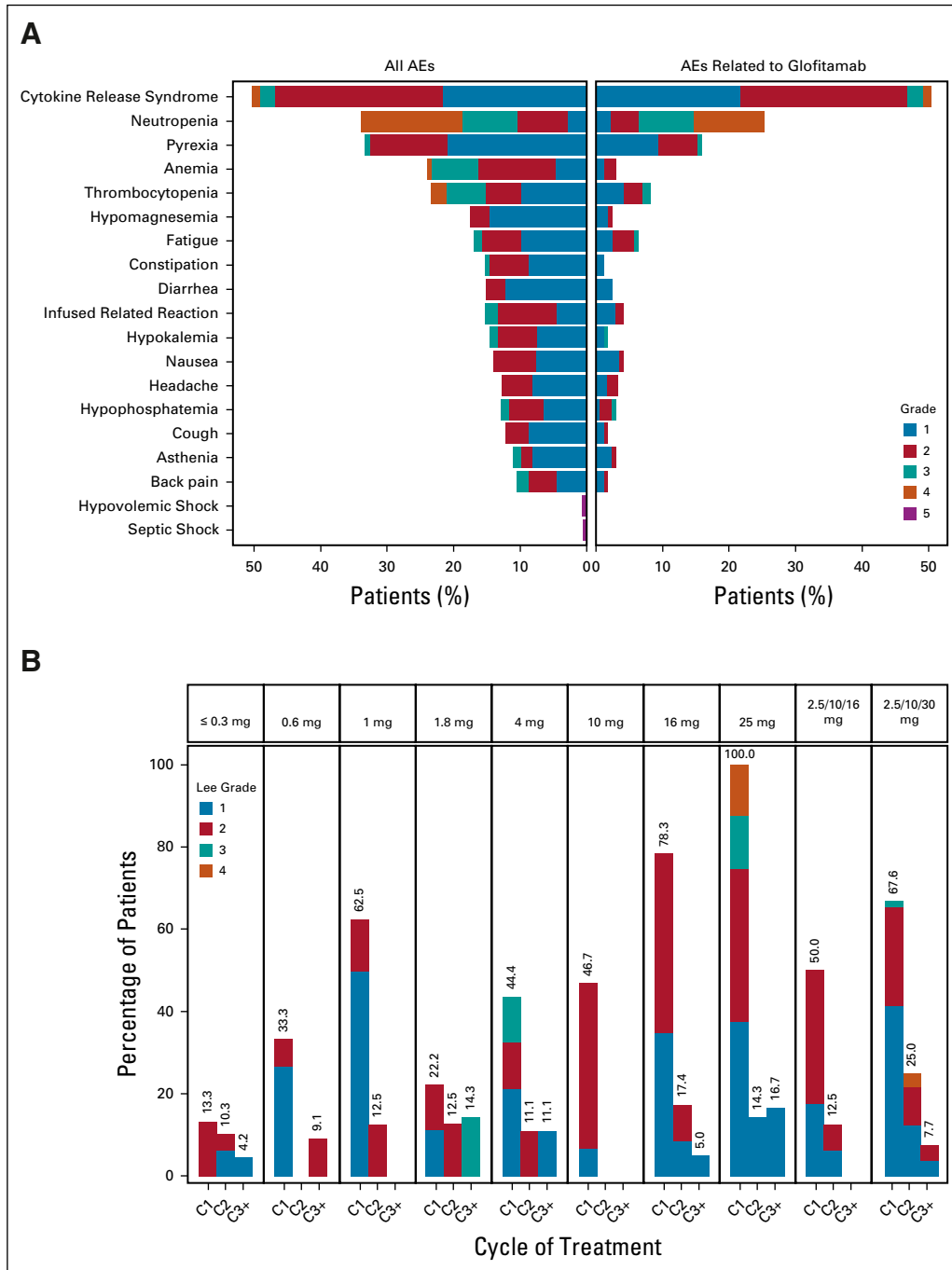
FIG 1. (A) Shows adverse events with an incidence of ≥ 10% or an NCI-CTCAE grade of 5 as of August 3, 2020. (B) Shows the incidence of CRS by cycle and dose (Lee grade).[19] CRS events were predominantly confined to cycles 1 and 2. Step-up dosing of glofitamab allowed the administration of a high target dose (30 mg). AE, adverse event; C, cycle; CRS, cytokine release syndrome; NCI-CTCAE, National Cancer Institute-Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events.

of 29) in patients with trFL (Table 3). At doses ≥ 10 mg, ORR and CR were 60.9% (42 of 69) and 49.3% (34 of 69), respectively, including 55.3% (21 of 38) and 42.1% (16 of 38) for DLBCL and 64.3% (9 of 14, all CRs) for trFL (Table 3). At the RP2D, ORR and CR were

71.4% (10 of 14) and 64.3% (9 of 14), respectively (Table 3).

Of 44 patients with grade 1-3A FL, 31 (70.5%) achieved response and 21 (47.7%) achieved CR. At doses ≥ 10 mg, ORR and CR rates were 69.0% (20 of 29) and 58.6% (17 of
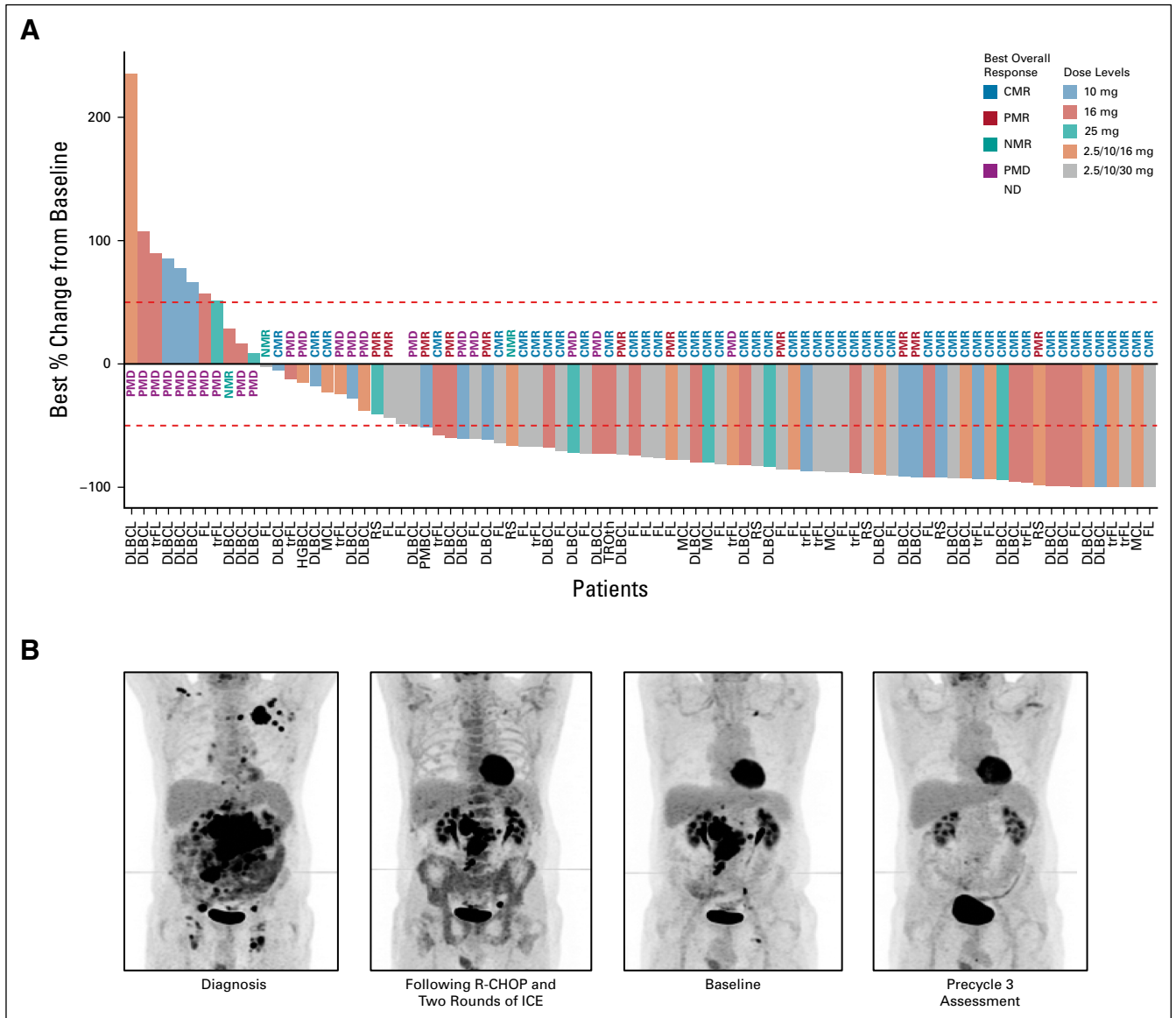
FIG 2. (A) Waterfall plot of the best overall change in the size of tumor target lesions. The percentage changes in the sum of the products of diameters of target lesions are shown. The columns represent the results from individual patients, color-coded according to the doses of glofitamab received. The dashed lines indicate 50% increase or decrease from baseline sum of the products of diameters. (B) PET scans of a 64-year-old patient with primary refractory transformed lymphoma who achieved complete response after two cycles of 10 mg glofitamab. The patient remains treatment-free and in complete response as of September 2020, 18 months after completion of glofitamab treatment. aNHL, aggressive non-Hodgkin lymphoma; CMR, complete metabolic response; DLBCL, diffuse large B-cell lymphoma; FL, follicular lymphoma; ICE, ifosfamide, carboplatin, and etoposide; iNHL, indolent non-Hodgkin lymphoma; MCL, mantle cell lymphoma; ND, not determined; NMR, no metabolic response; PET, positron emission tomography; PFS, progression-free survival; PMBCL, primary mediastinal B-cell lymphoma; PMD, progressive metabolic disease; PMR, partial metabolic response; R-CHOP, rituximab, cyclophosphamide, adriamycin, vincristine, and prednisone; RS, Richter's transformation; trFL, transformed follicular lymphoma; trOth, transformed other.

29), and at the RP2D, 61.9% (13 of 21) and 52.4% (11 of 21), respectively.

Time to CR was short, with the majority occurring by cycle 3 (Fig 3A). Responses were observed across patient subgroups, including high-risk populations with ≥ 4 prior regimens and refractory disease (Data Supplement).

In aggressive NHL, the median DOR was 5.5 months (95% CI, 4.4 to not estimable; range, 0.8-28.8 months) and median DOCR was not reached (range, 0.0-27.4 months), with 48.6% (any response) and 72.8% (CR) of patients still responding at 12 months (Figs 3B and 3C). The median PFS was 2.9 (95% CI, 2.1 to 3.9) months, with a plateau of
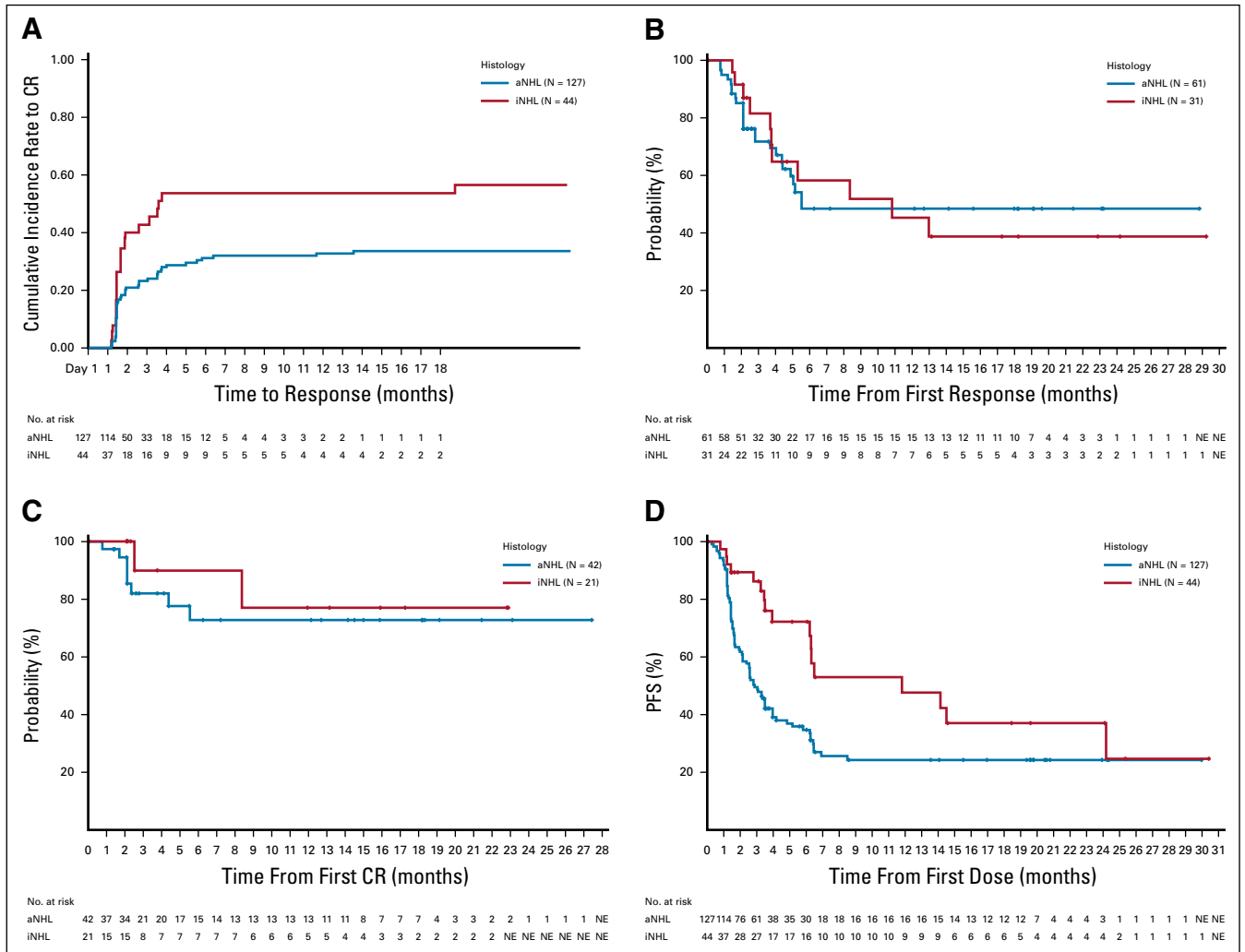
FIG 3. (A) Represents the cumulative incidence of time to CR. Kaplan-Meier curves for (B) DOR (PR and CR), (C) duration of CR, and (D) PFS. aNHL, aggressive non-Hodgkin lymphoma; CR, complete response; DOR, duration of response; iNHL, indolent non-Hodgkin lymphoma; NE, not estimable; PFS, progression-free survival; PR, partial response.

approximately 24% from 8 months onward (maximum follow-up of 30 months). In grade 1-3A FL, the median PFS was 11.8 months (95% CI, 6.3 to 24.2). Of 31 responders, the median DOR was 10.8 months (95% CI, 3.8 to not estimable). Median DOCR was not reached, and 19 of 21 (90.5%) patients remain in CR up to 22.9 months (Fig 3B).

Pharmacokinetics

Following IV infusion, glofitamab serum concentrations peak at the end of the infusion and decline in a biphasic manner thereafter (Data Supplement). Glofitamab appears to be eliminated with an apparent half-life of 6-11 days and demonstrated dose-linear PK across the 0.005-25 mg range. There was no evidence of either substantial accumulation or time dependence upon multiple dosing across treatment cycles. Overall, glofitamab PK showed moderate between-patient variability. The median (range) obinutuzumab serum concentration at baseline (before

first glofitamab administration) was 249 (98.4-858) μg/mL. Anti-glofitamab antibodies were not detected in any patient.

Pharmacodynamics

Biomarker data were obtained from 158 patients dosed with glofitamab 0.005-30 mg. Glofitamab infusion resulted in a rapid and transient reduction in T cells in the peripheral circulation in all patients, with the nadir recorded 6 hours after the infusion (Data Supplement). This T-cell redistribution was associated with dose level and receptor occupancy.[21] Following administration of glofitamab ≥ 0.6 mg in fixed dosing cohorts, responding patients showed long-term T-cell activation up to cycle 5 (Data Supplement). This was demonstrated by two-to-fourfold elevation of T-cell activation markers, such as Ki67, HLA-DR, PD-1, and Tim3.[22] In line with the clinical activity, this effect was observed at doses at and above 0.6 mg. In

the SUD cohorts (n = 40), T-cell activation, as measured by granzyme B expression, was higher after 30 mg compared with 16 mg in responding patients (Data Supplement).

DISCUSSION

This study demonstrated that the novel bispecific CD20 antibody T-cell engager glofitamab offers significant antitumor activity in patients with heavily pretreated B-NHL refractory to prior therapy (90.6%).

CRS was manageable with low rates of grade ≥ 3 and moderate use of steroids or tocilizumab, with no treatment withdrawals. Events fully resolved in all but one patient who died because of progressive disease before recovery. Time to onset was predictable and mostly confined to the first administration; only 13.1% and 6.1% of patients experienced CRS at cycle 2 or at cycle 3 or later, respectively. Factors associated with severe CRS included high disease burden (Ann Arbor stage) and bone marrow infiltration (data not shown). The use of *Gpt* allowed escalation of glofitamab with fixed doses up to 25 mg. Although overall CRS rates were similar between the highest fixed dosing and SUD, grade 2 or higher CRS was reduced with SUD and was therefore selected as RP2D (grade ≥ 2; 47.8% in ≥ 10 mg fixed dosing versus 28.6% in 2.5/10/30 mg).

ICANS-like AEs were rare, self-limiting, and considered qualitatively different from those seen with anti-CD19 CAR-T therapies and bispecifics where neurological toxicity is dose limiting.[23-25] Treatment-emergent cytopenias did not lead to increased rates of serious infections. The discontinuation rate of 2.9% due to AEs suggests a favorable benefit–risk profile.

Response rates were high. At doses ≥ 10 mg, 49.3% of patients with aggressive B-NHL achieved CR (95% CI, 37.0 to 61.6), demonstrating substantial and clinically meaningful benefit. CRs were achieved rapidly in patients with high tumor burden, bulky disease, and refractoriness to multiple therapies. Duration of benefit was impaired by limited follow-up, but 34 of 42 (81.0%) CRs in patients with aggressive histologies are ongoing with follow-up to 27.4 months. In addition, SUD maintained the high ORR and CR rates observed in fixed dosing.

The pharmacokinetic results indicate that the half-life of glofitamab is approximately 10 days, enabling convenient 3-weekly dosing. As obinutuzumab and glofitamab bind to the same CD20 epitope, the concentration profiles, alongside biomarker and clinical data, support potent glofitamab activity despite CD20 receptor competition. The preservation of activity in the presence of residual or in combination with another anti-CD20 monoclonal antibody represents a unique benefit of glofitamab. The potency of glofitamab is further supported by population pharmacokinetic and exposure–response analyses, confirming efficacy at CD20 receptor occupancies by cycle 3 of < 1%.[21] Based on this, SUD was introduced to decrease severity of CRS in the first cycle, and a weekly dosing schedule of 2.5 mg (C1D1), 10 mg (C1D8), 30 mg (C2D1) followed by 30 mg at subsequent cycles is considered safe, demonstrates high activity, and was taken forward as RP2D.

Glofitamab is an available and accessible "off-the-shelf" T-cell–engaging therapy. These properties contrast with those of current CAR-T cell therapies, which require manufacturing, may require bridging therapy, and may not be feasible in patients with rapidly progressive disease.[26] So far, the clinical activity of glofitamab appears to exceed that of blinatumomab[27] and to be in the range of registered CAR-T therapies,[23,24] with possibly a more favorable and temporally predictable safety profile. The observation of rapidly achieved CRs lasting more than 18 months across a range of doses suggests that glofitamab is highly active in a difficult-to-treat patient group with few clinical treatment options. As a consequence, glofitamab is undergoing expanded evaluation in R/R and untreated B-NHL, alone and in combination with conventional chemotherapy and novel agents (ClinicalTrials.gov identifiers: NCT03467373, NCT03533283, NCT04313608, and NCT04408638).

In conclusion, this novel T-cell–engaging bispecific antibody has shown high levels of single-agent activity in R/R B-NHL. Glofitamab has demonstrated frequent, durable CRs and a manageable tolerability profile and allows off-the-shelf treatment for patients with refractory B-NHL in need of timely therapy.

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DATA SHARING STATEMENT

Qualified researchers may request access to individual patient level data through the clinical study data request platform (https://vivli.org/). Further details on Roche's criteria for eligible studies are available here (https://vivli.org/members/ourmembers/). For further details on Roche's Global Policy on the Sharing of Clinical Information and how to request access to related clinical study documents, see https://www.roche.com/research_and_development/who_we_are_how_we_work/clinical_trials/our_commitment_to_data_sharing.htm.

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AUTHORS' DISCLOSURES OF POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Glofitamab, a Novel, Bivalent CD20-Targeting T-Cell–Engaging Bispecific Antibody, Induces Durable Complete Remissions in Relapsed or Refractory B-Cell Lymphoma: A Phase I Trial

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