# BerGenBio ASA (OSE: BGBIO)



Update June 2019

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### **BGBIO – Corporate Snapshot**



World leaders in understanding AXL biology

AXL is a novel drug target to overcome immune evasion, therapy resistance & spread

AXL upregulates PDL1 on dendritic cells and blocks T-cell immunity

AXL inhibitors – potential cornerstone of cancer therapy

Pipeline opportunities in multiple cancers and fibrosis

3 selective AXL inhibitors in clinical development

Bemcentinib, AXL-antibody BGB149, AXL ADCT601\*

Monotherapy and combinations with immune-, targeted and chemotherapies

Biomarker correlation across programme, parallel CDx development

Phase II Proof of Concept AML (monotherapy), AML (chemo-combo) NSCLC (KEYTRUDA combo)

Resourced to deliver significant milestones

Listed on Oslo Børs: BGBIO

Clinical trial collaborations with Merck and leading academic centres

38 staff at two locations: HQ & R&D in Bergen, Norway; Clinical Development in Oxford, UK

Q1'19 Cash USD 35.7m

### **Bemcentinib Phase II POC data**

Monotherapy
ACUTE MYELOID LEUKEMIA
2L r/r elderly

Bemcentinib monotherapy

• ORR 43% • AXL +ve patients

• mDoR - 3.1mo. (5.5\* mo.)

**Chemo combination** 

ACUTE MYELOID LEUKEMIKA 1L & 2L elderly r/r AML

• Bemcentinib + low dose chemo combination (LDAC)

• ORR 46%
 • All comer patient population

• mDoR in CR/Cri 6.2 months (range 0.7 – 9.6 / immature)

• Early onset of response

**CPI\* combination** LUNG CANCER 2L chemo relapse/IO naïve ad. NSCLC

Bemcentinib + Keytruda combination
 92% pts low/zero PD-L1

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• ORR 40%

AXL +ve patients

• mPFS

• 5.9mo. (stage I only)

• m0S

\*Check point Inhibitor

• 12.2mo (stage I only)

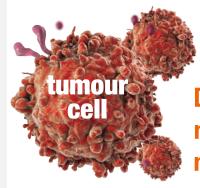
\* including 2 patients with low dose decitabine, one remains in CR after 20 months

\*\*pts with radiological assessment



## **AXL drives aggressive cancer**

## AXL receptor tyrosine kinase drives aggressive disease including therapy resistant, immune-evasive tumours

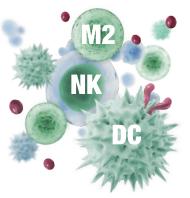


Drives tumour cell plasticity: non-genetic resistance mechanism

#### AXL drives features of aggressive cancer:

- Acquired therapy resistance
- Immune escape
- Metastasis

## Key suppressor of innate immune response



AXL is an innate immune checkpoint:

- M1 to M2 macrophage polarisation
- Decreased antigen presentation by DCs
  - Immunosuppressive cytokine profile

very **low** expression under healthy **physiological conditions** (ko mouse phenotypically normal) overexpressed in response to **hypoxia**, immune reaction, cellular stress / therapy

overexpression correlates with worse prognosis in most cancers



### The role of AXL in I/O resistance

### **AXL is prevalent in TAMs**

Pro-tumoural, immune-suppressive tumour associated macrophages (TAMs) are rich in AXL but not Mer (Jim Lorens lab, **unpublished data**)

### ↓Antigen presentation by DCs, NK cell activity

Paolino 2014 et al (2014) found that inhibition of AXL decreased NK cell activity and their ability to eliminate metastases.

Kurowska-Stolarska et al (2017) demonstrate that AXL acts as off-switch for DCs



### **UT-cell mediated killing**

Pre-treatment of mesenchymal tumour cells with bemcentinib increase T-cell mediated killing due to more efficient immunological synapse (Chouaib lab, **unpublished data).** 

**Sakemura et al reported at ASH 2018** that AXL targeting increases CAR-T therapy efficacy.

### **Resistance to PD-1 inhibitors in patients**

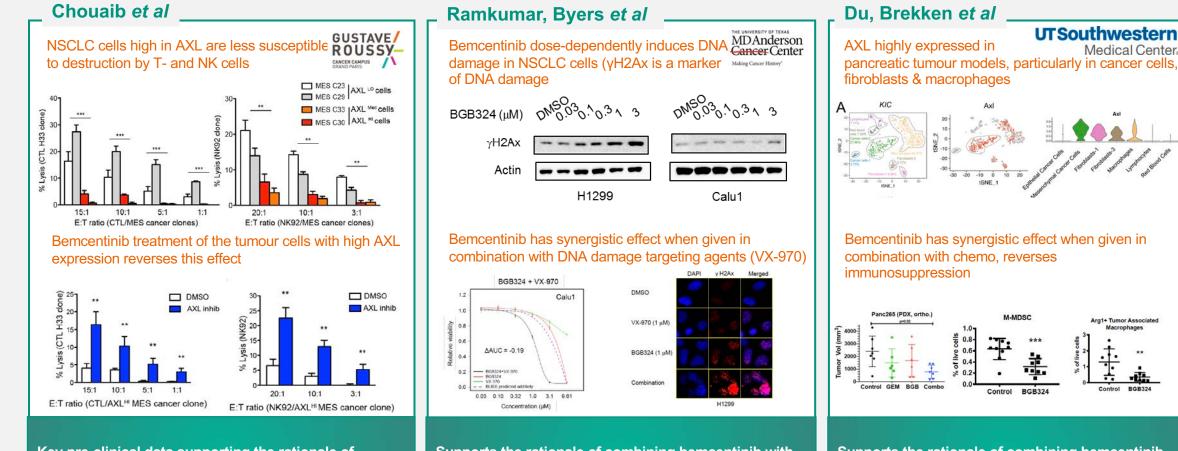
**Hugo et al Cell 2016**: Identified a transcriptional signature related to innate anti-PD-1 resistance in melanoma: AXL is one of top differentially expressed genes in nonresponders





Medical Center

### Preclinical data at AACR reinforces bemcentinib's potential to reverse tumour immunosuppression and therapy resistance



Key pre-clinical data supporting the rationale of combining bemcentinib with IO / bemcentinib's IO MoA

Supports the rationale of combining bemcentinib with chemo and DNA damaging agents

Supports the rationale of combining bemcentinib with chemotherapy & bemcentinib's IO MoA

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Arg1+ Tumor Associated



### Bemcentinib Highly selective, potent, orally bioavailable AXL inhibitor

### **Bemcentinib: once-a-day pill**

Highly selective, potent, orally bioavailable

Blocks AXL signalling, reverses aggressive tumour traits & counteracts immune escape

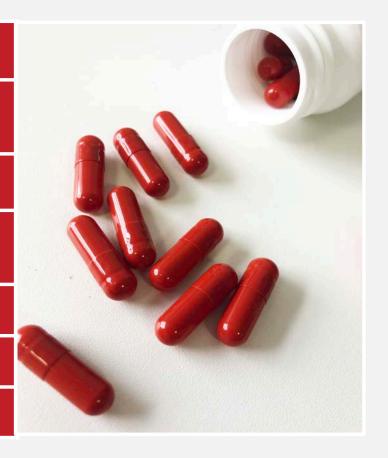
**Once-a-day administration** 

Clinical PoC in AML and NSCLC as a monotherapy and in combination

**Correlation of clinical efficacy with AXL biomarkers observed** 

Combines successfully with chemo, targeted and CPI drugs

Excellent clinical safety profile: >250 subjects dosed





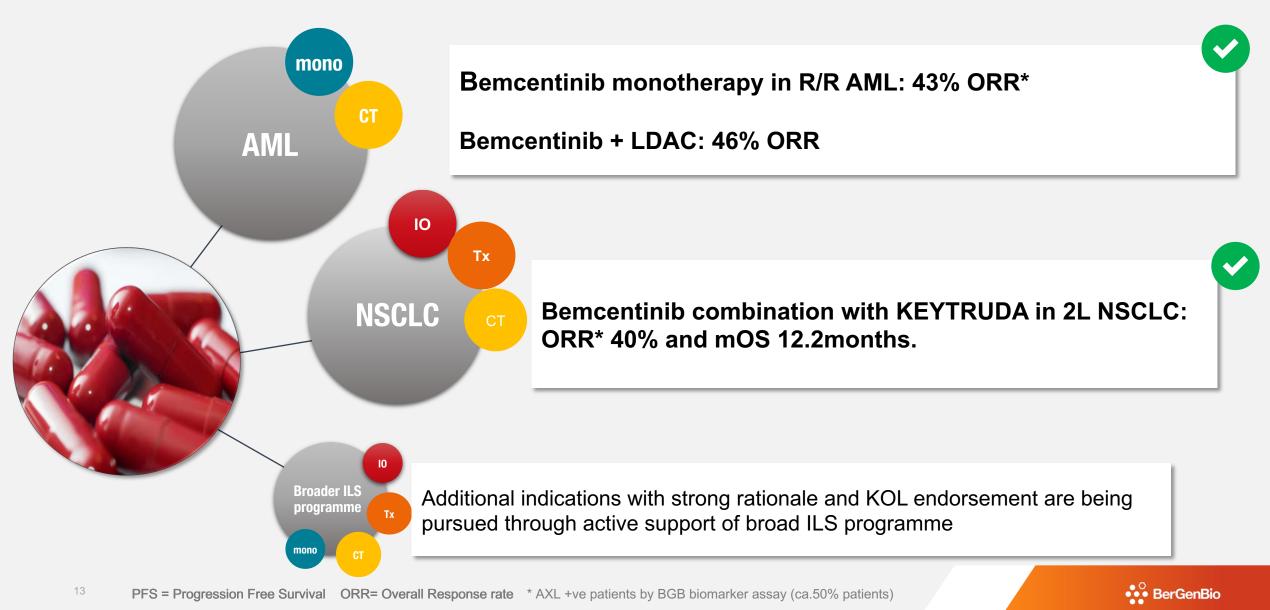
### Phase II clinical proof of concept studies for bemcentinib

		Clinical Proof-of-concept	Late stage Opportunities
	AML / MDS	Completed	
<b>Monotherapy</b> Selected, biomarker directed patients	Glioblastoma (IIT)       Ongoing         Ovarian (EMT signature selected)       Potential         AML + LDCT (LDAC)       Ongoing         Pancreatic, (IIT)       Ongoing         NSCLC (IIT)       Ongoing         NSCLC (PD-L1 / all comers)       Cohort A fully Cohort B ong         Melanoma, (IIT)       Ongoing         Melanoma, (IIT)       In set-up         Bladder ++, CAR-T combos       Under conside         NSCLC + EGFRi       Completed         Melanoma, (IIT)       Ongoing         Melanoma, (IIT)       Under conside         Melanoma, (IIT)       Under conside         Melanoma, (IIT)       Under conside         Melanoma, (IIT)       Ongoing         Melanoma, (IIT)       Under conside         Melanoma, (IIT)       Ongoing         Melanoma, (IIT)       Under conside	Ongoing	
Selected, biomarker directed patients	Ovarian (EMT signature selected)	Potential	
	AML + LDCT (LDAC)	Ongoing	$\bigcirc$
Chemotherapy Combinations Improve responses in hard to treat settings	Pancreatic, (IIT)	Ongoing	
	NSCLC (IIT)	Ongoing	
	NSCLC (PD-L1 / all comers)	Cohort A fully recruited Cohort B ongoing	$\bigcirc$
Immunotherapy Combinations Target resistance, enlarge addressable patient	Melanoma, (IIT)	Ongoing	
population	Mesothelioma (IIT)	In set-up	
	Bladder ++, CAR-T combos	Under consideration	
Targeted Therapy Combinations	NSCLC + EGFRi	Completed	
Target resistance, enlarge addressable patient	Melanoma, (IIT)	Ongoing	
population	PARPi combos ++	Under consideration	
Earlier Line Opportunities Radiotherapy and maintenance opportunities	Multitude of maintenance opportunities	s given very favourable safety	profile

### **Portfolio of selective AXL inhibitors in clinical development**

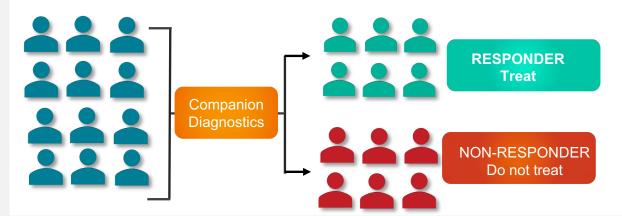
		Discovery	Clinical PoC	Late stage development	Registration
Selective A	KL kinase inhibitors				
Bemcentinib:	selective oral small molecule AXL inhibitor				
NSCLC	2L combo with anti-PD1	pembrolizuma pembrolizuma	b 2L, IO naive:, cohort A complete <sup>1</sup> o 2L, IO relapsed, cohort B ongoing	• TBD 2H 2019	
NSCLC	1L & 2L combos with targeted- or chemo	+ erlotinib 1L 8 + docetaxel 2L	2L: complete +: ongoing		
	2L AML monotherapy	monotherapy, i	relapsed/refractory: complete	Planned for 2H 2019	
AML	1L & 2L combos	+ LDAC 1L & + decitabine 1	2L: completed enrolment L & 2L: ongoing 2H 2019	>	
ILS support	additional advanced tumour indications	Numerous 1L	& 2L ongoing <sup>2</sup>		
BGB149: anti-	AXL mAb				
Therapeutic focus not yet	First-in-patient phase 1 trial	Planned for 2H	2019		
disclosed	Healthy volunteers – phase 1a dose escalation	SAD			
BGB601: AXL	ADC outlicensed				
Metastatic cancers	First in man phase 1 solid tumour trial	Monotherapy 2L	Out-licensed to HERAPEUTICS		

### **Clinical development focus: Leukaemia & Lung Cancer**



### **Companion Diagnostics Development Programme (CDx)**

- ✓ Selects AXL positive patients
- Enriched clinical trials
- Improved chances of regulatory success
- ✓ Precision medicine approach to reimbursement

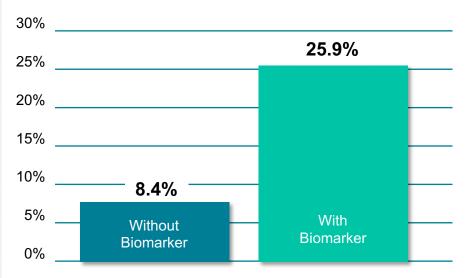


#### **CDx Development Programme**

#### **Liquid Biopsy**

- Soluble AXL (sAXL) Predictive Biomarker for AML/MDS
- Relapsed/Refractory AML/MDS patients with lower plasma levels of sAXL have shown greater response to bemcentinib monotherapy

#### Likelihood of success (Phase I to approval)



Adapted from Cook et al., Nature Reviews Drug

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#### **Tissue Biopsy**

- AXL IHC Predictive Biomarker for NSCLC
- NSCLC patients with elevated levels of AXL tissue expression have shown improved ORR and PFS when treated with bemcentinib + KEYTRUDA\*

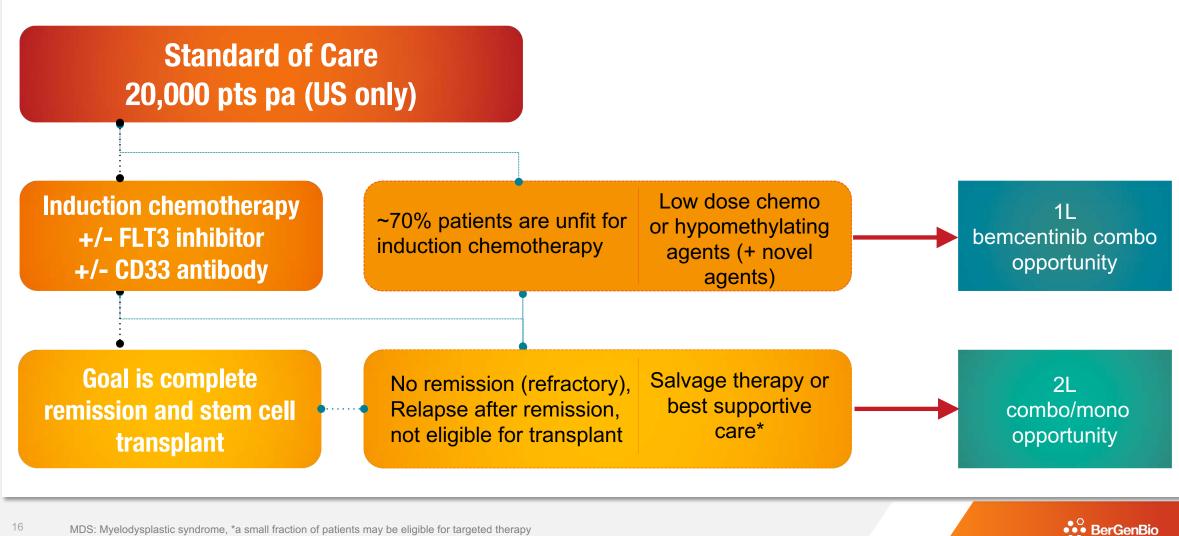
## Acute Myeloid Leukaemia (AML)

Bemcentinib is being evaluated as a monotherapy and in combination with standard of care chemo therapy to treat AML

- Monotherapy 43% ORR in AXL +ve r/r AML
- LDAC chemo combo 46% ORR in all comer r/r AML



Acute myeloid leukemia (AML) is one of the most aggressive blood cancers, with a very low survival rate and few options for patients who are ineligible for intensive chemotherapy



16 MDS: Myelodysplastic syndrome, \*a small fraction of patients may be eligible for targeted therapy

### SOC & Recent Approvals in 1 Line AML treatment (all patients unsuitable for induction chemo)

#### SoC: HMA / Low dose chemo

- HMA : decitabine / 5-azacytidine : 26% ORR, 28% 1yr.survival, mOS 5.5 mo.
- Low dose chemo: cytarabine (LDAC) 2-18% ORR, mOS 4.9 8 mo.

#### **Novel agent Combinations**

- BCL-2 inhibitor Venetoclax (Venclexta) in combination with low dose chemo
  - 1L + decitabine: ORR 54%%, DoR 4.7mo. OR + azacitidine : ORR 37%. DoR 5.5 mo.
  - 2L + LDAC: ORR 21%, DoR 6mo.
- 1L: Hedgehog inhibitor Glasdegib (Daurismo) in combination with LDAC
  - ORR 17%, mOS 8.3months.vs LDAC ORR 8-18%, mOS4.3 mo.

#### **IDH Inhibitors (8-10% patients)**

- Ivosidenib (Tibsovo) as monotherapy in IDH1-mutated patients: 30% ORR, DoR 8.2mo. mOS 8.8 mo.
- Enasidenib (Idhifa) as monotherapy in IDH2-mutated patients: 23% ORR, mDoR 8.2 mo, mOS 9.3 mo.

#### FLT3 Inhibitor (20% patients)

- Gilteritinib (Xospata) as a monotherapy in FLT3-mutated patients (ORR 21%)
- **Midostaurin (Rydapt)** in combination with standard cytarabine and daunorubicin therapy in FLT3mutated patients: 23% reduction is risk of death.



### The evolving 1L SOC in AML treatment

A U.S. FOOD & D	RUG	Q Search 📃 Menu	Study M14-358 (NCT02203773) was a non-randomized, open-label clinical trial venetoclax in combination with azacitidine (n=67) or decitabine (n=13) in newly diagnosed patients with AML. In combination with azacitidine, 25 patients
me / Urugs / FUA ap	FDA approves venetoclax in combination for AML in adults for AML in adults		<ul> <li>achieved a CR (37%, 95% CI: 26, 50) with a median observed time in remission of 5.5 months (range: 0.4-30 months). In combination with decitabine, 7 patients achieved a CR (54%, 95% CI: 25, 81) with a median observed time in remission of 4.7 months (range: 1.0-18 months). The observed time in remission is the time from start of CR to data cut-off date or relapse from CR.</li> <li>Study M14-387 (NCT02287233) was a non-randomized, open-label trial of venetoclax in combination with low-dose cytarabine (n=61) in newly-diagnosed</li> </ul>
Drugs Regulatory Science	On November 21, 2018, the Food and Drug Administration granted accelerated approval to venetoclax (VENCLEXTA, AbbVie Inc. and Genentech Inc.) in combination with azacitidine or decitabine or low-dose cytarabine for the	Content current as of:	patients with AML, including patients with previous exposure to a hypomethylating agent for an antecedent hematologic disorder. In combination with low-dose cytarabine, 13 patients achieved a CR (21%, 95% CI: 12, 34) with a
Research and Education	treatment of newly-diagnosed acute myeloid leukemia (AML) in adults who are age 75 years or older, or who have comorbidities that preclude use of intensive induction chemotherapy.	12/14/2018 Regulated Product(s)	median observed time in remission of 6 months (range: 0.03-25 months). The most common adverse reactions ( $\geq$ 30%) to venetoclax in combination with
Development & Approval Process (Drugs)	Approval was based on two open-label non-randomized trials in patients with newly- diagnosed AML who were $\geq$ 75 years of age or had comorbidities that precluded the use of intensive induction chemotherapy. Efficacy was established	Drugs	azacitidine or decitabine or low-dose cytarabine were nausea, diarrhea, thrombocytopenia, constipation, neutropenia, febrile neutropenia, fatigue, vomiting, peripheral edema, pneumonia, dyspnea, hemorrhage, anemia, rash,
Drug Safety and Availability	based on the rate of complete remission (CR) and CR duration.		abdominal pain, sepsis, back pain, myalgia, dizziness, cough, oropharyngeal pai pyrexia, and hypotension.

#### Summary:

#### Venetoclax in combination with HMA or low dose chemo

- 1L + decitabine: ORR 54%%, DoR 4.7mo. / + azacitidine : ORR 37%. DoR 5.5 mo.
- 2L + LDAC: ORR 21%, DoR 6mo.

#### **Bemcentinib in combination with LDAC**

• 1L/2L ORR 46%. DoR 6.2 mo. (immature), adverse event (>30%) diarrhea

#### **Bemcentinib monotherapy**

• >2L : AXL +ve patients ORR 43%, DoR 3.1mo.

### **Bemcentinib in AML**

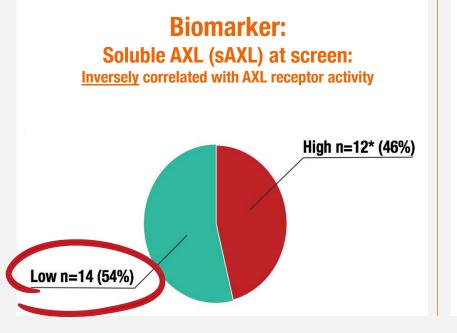
Monotherapy & in combination with low-dose chemotherapy



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### **Bemcentinib monotherapy exhibits potent anti-leukaemic activity 2L** <sub>R/R</sub> **patients**





#### Superior response rate in patients positive for AXL biomarker

	Overall (n=27)				sAXL high (n=11)		Median age of all patients: 74.5
	n	%	n	%	n	%	74.0
CR/CRi/CRp	6	22%	6	43%	0	0%	Responses
SD	8	30%	3	21%	5	45%	included poor
PD*	13	48%	5	36%	6	55%	risk and
ORR	6	22%	6	43%	0	0%	secondary
tients were not evaluable for sAXL status			-	* PD inclu	des patients who pr	ogressed or came off stu	disease

2 evaluable patients were not evaluable for SALL status
 Monotherapy responses. One additional response was reported in combination with decitabine for a total of 7 responses in phase I/II.
 1 CR, 4 CRI, 1 CRp

\* PD includes patients who progressed or came off study before having completed 3 cycles of treatment.

✓ Bemcentinib monotherapy is well tolerated: mild and manageable side effect profile with low incidence of Grade 3/4 events

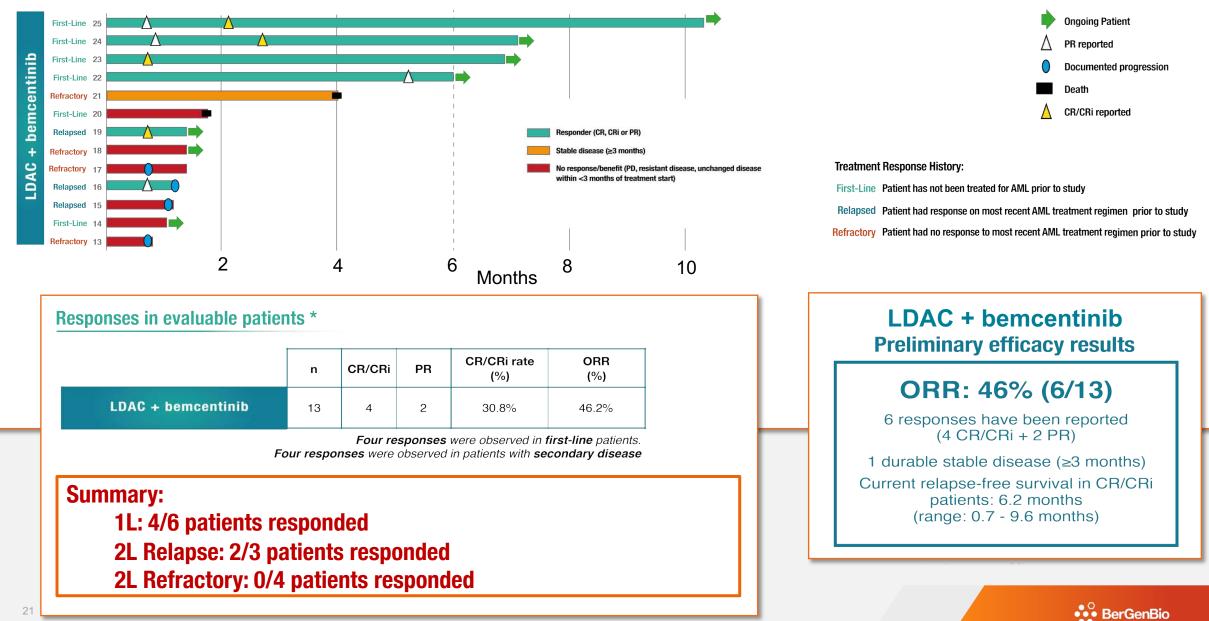
✓ Low incidence of hematological adverse effects

#### ✓ mDoR 3.1mo. (5.5 mo. including 2 patients with low dose decitabine, one remains in CR after 20 months)

Intention-to-treat population included 36 patients, 9 of whom were not evaluable for efficacy (8 were exposed to treatment for <21 days, 1 was a first line patient). sAXL levels were available for 25 evaluable patients.

Source: Loges, et al. ASH 2018.

#### **Bemcentinib + LDAC combo exhibits potent and durable anti-leukaemic activity**



### **Safety**

Adverse Events LDAC + bemcentinib					
Any event, n (%)	13 (81%)	12 (75%)			
Haematologic					
Anaemia	4 (25%)	4 (25%)			
Neutropenia*	3 (19%)	3 (19%)			
Thrombocytopenia	3 (19%)	3 (19%)			
Non-haematologic					
Diarrhoea	7 (44%)	1 (6%)			
Dyspnoea	3 (19%)	1 (6%)			
Electrocardiogram QT prolonged	3 (19%)	2 (13%)			
Epistaxis	3 (19%)	0			
Mouth haemorrhage	3 (19%)	0			
Oedema peripheral	3 (19%)	0			

- Favourable safety profile cf. other LDAC combinations approved for AML
- Treatment-related adverse events were generally considered to be less problematic than for other TKIs
- Patients did not discontinue treatment for adverse events

ths, Infectio	ons & Neutropenia	
		LDAC + bemcentinib (n =16)
E a da ada a	Death ≤30 days after treatment start	1 (6%)
Early deaths	Death ≤60 days after treatment start	2 (13%)
lefe etterne	Any serious infection reported**	2 (13%), 3 events
Infections	Fatal infection within 60 days of starting treatment	1 (6%)
Nauturnauiat	Incidence of neutropenia (number of pts)	3 (19%)
Neutropenia*	Incidence of prolonged neutropenia, ≥10 days	1 (6%)

\* Preferred terms included: neutropenia, febrile neutropenia

\*\* Patients affected by any SAE falling under System Organ Class "Infections and infestations" (preferred terms included: Atypical pneumonia, Sepsis, Device-related infection, Urinary tract infection enterococcal, Pseudomonas infection, Escherichia sepsis)

#### Summary:

#### Venetoclax in combination with low dose chemo

- 1L + decitabine: ORR 54%%, DoR 4.7mo. / + azacitidine : ORR 37%. DoR 5.5 mo.
- 2L + LDAC: ORR 21%, DoR 6mo.

**Bemcentinib in combination with LDAC** 

• 1L/2L ORR 46%. DoR 6.2 mo. (immature), adverse event (>30%) diarrhea

**Bemcentinib monotherapy** 

• >2L : AXL +ve patients ORR 43%, DoR 3.1mo.

#### Conclusions

- Bemcentinib is well tolerated as monotherapy in >2L patients, offering meaningful duration of response in AXL +ve patients.
- The LDAC+bemcentinib combination showed promising efficacy among elderly AML patient population with 80% >75 years both as first-line in untreated newly diagnosed AML patients and as 2nd -5th line in relapsed AML patients
- Bemcentinib appears relatively safe and well tolerated in combination with both LDAC and cytarabine
- The ORR, seen in combination with LDAC, is higher than previously observed/historical benchmarks in singleagent cytarabine

### **Clinical Development in AML**

**1. First to market :**  $\geq$ **2L in elderly relapse AML : Bemcentinib monotherapy** 

- No approved SOC for elderly (>75yrs) relapse AML patients, only treatment option is supportive palliative care
- Patient population is ca. 50% AXL +ve by BGB sAXL biomarker
- 43% ORR with mDoR 3.1mo (5.5mo)\*
  - \* including 2 patients with low dose decitabine, one remains in CR after 20 months
- Very well tolerated, no immune suppression

Clinical development strategy: All comer phase IIb to be initiated H2'19 > Interim Analysis > Registration cohort Potential for breakthrough and accelerated approval – FDA phase II meeting planned

#### 2. Bemcentinib + LDAC : 1/2L relapse elderly AML

- Bemcentinib + LDAC appears well tolerated when compared to other LDAC combinations
- The ORR, observed in mixed line patient population is encouraging relative to other LDAC combinations and significantly higher than previously observed/historical benchmarks as single-agent.
- ORR of 46% was reported in an all-comer AXL patient population, with mDoR exceeding that of other LDAC combinations, whilst still not mature.
- Best response (6/9 patients) observed in 1L & 2L relapse patients

**Clinical development strategy:** All-comer expansion of current phase IIa trial, to be initiated H2'19.

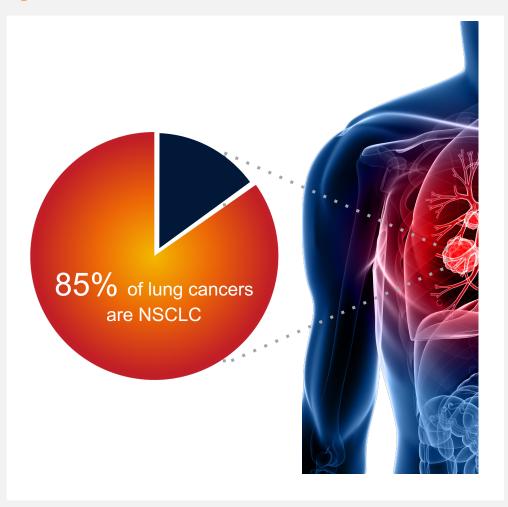
Ref. BGBC008 / NCT03184571

## Bemcentinib in NSCLC: Combination with anti-PD(L)1

PoC data in combo with KEYTRUDA, previously treated, Chemo & IO relapse NSCLC patients:

- ✓ 27% ORR in PD-L1 –ve patients
- ✓ 40% ORR in AXL+ve patients

## NSCLC causes more cancer related deaths than breast, colon, pancreas and prostate combined



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## The largest cancer killer, most patients depend on drug therapy

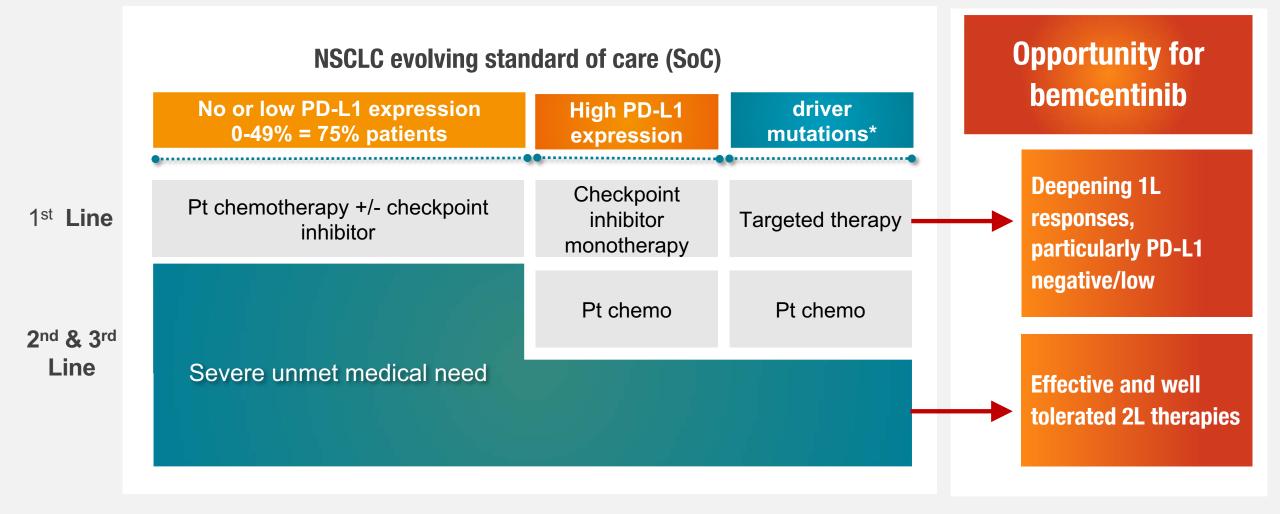
2.09 million new cases of lung cancer diagnosed/yr worldwide, making up 11.6% of all cancer cases<sup>1</sup>

1.76 million lung cancer deaths/yr worldwide<sup>1</sup>

5-year survival rate is 3.5% in patients with PD-L1 <1%, and **12.6%** in patients PD-L1 1-49%<sup>2</sup>

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### Large unmet need in 2L NSCLC patients



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### **Comparison of: KEYTRUDA + bemcentinib (2L) vs KEYTRUDA + Chemotherapy (1L)**

PD-L1 0-49% 75% of patients*	ORR	mPFS	mOS (immature)	TEAE's ≥3
PD-L1 <1%	32%	6.1m	15m	67%
PD-L1 1-49%	48%	9m	NR	

#### **NSCLC 2L, IO naïve, predominantly PD-L1 low BGBC008: KEYTRUDA + bemcentinib**

	ORR	mPFS (stage 1)	mOS (stage 1)	TEAEs <u>&gt;</u> 3
AXL +ve	40%	5.9mo	12.2mo	17%

#### 2L Bemcentinib + Keytruda in AXL +ve / PD-L1 –ve/low patients revivals 1L new SoC

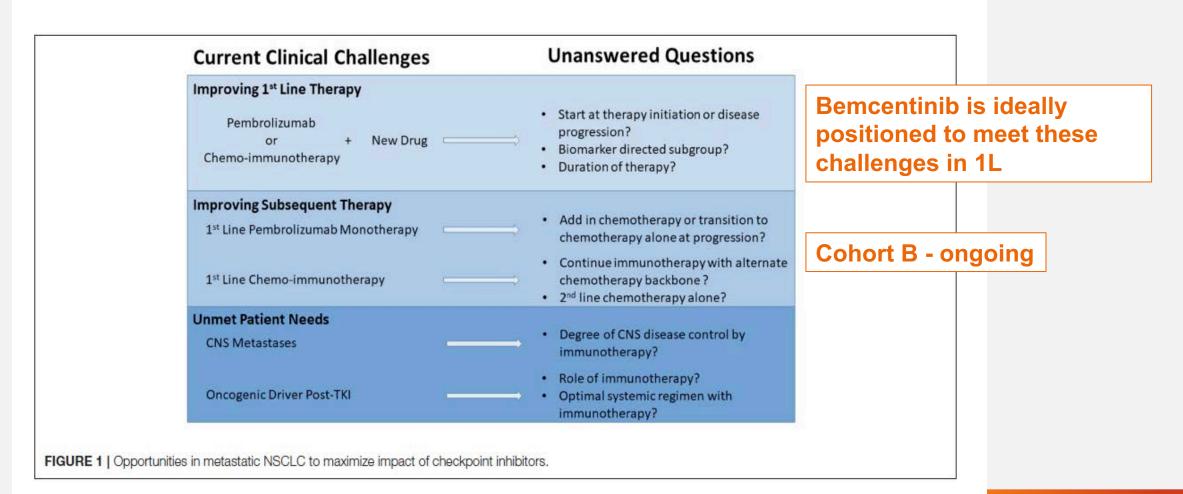
NSCLC 1L new SoC

 $KEYTRIIDA \perp CT$ 

### **Opportunities to improve CPI efficacy in NSCLC**

Pacheco et al.

First Line IO ± Chemo in mNSCLC





(TPS 1-49%)

#### **Bemcentinib + KEYTRUDA in 2L relapse NSCLC** Phase 2 Study Design



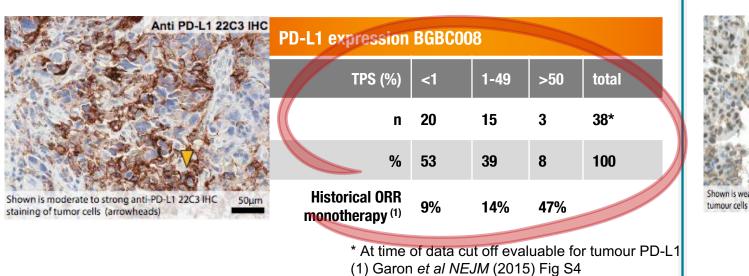
#### **Key objectives**

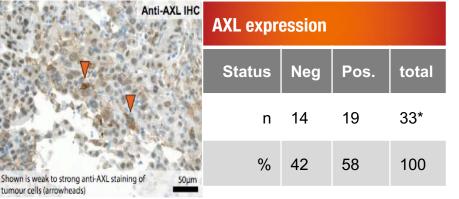
- Evaluate safety of the combination and response to treatment with the combination
- Characterise patients by PD-L1 and AXL status
- Evaluate efficacy of patients by biomarker status, and assess predictive qualities of biomarkers
- Assess survival measures in patients by biomarker status



## **Results: Predominantly PD-L1 low/negative patient population not expected to benefit from KEYTRUDA monotherapy**

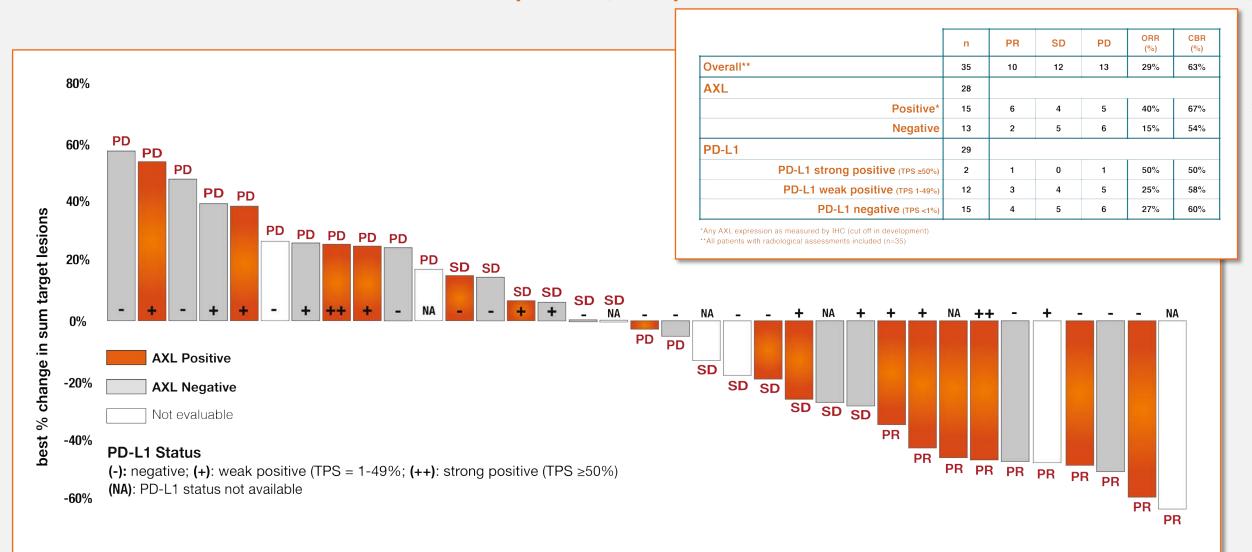
- > Majority of patients not expected to benefit from KEYTRUDA monotherapy<sup>(1)</sup> based on their PD-L1 status
- > Approx half of patients found to be AXL positive by IHC





\* At time of data cut off evaluable for tumour AXL

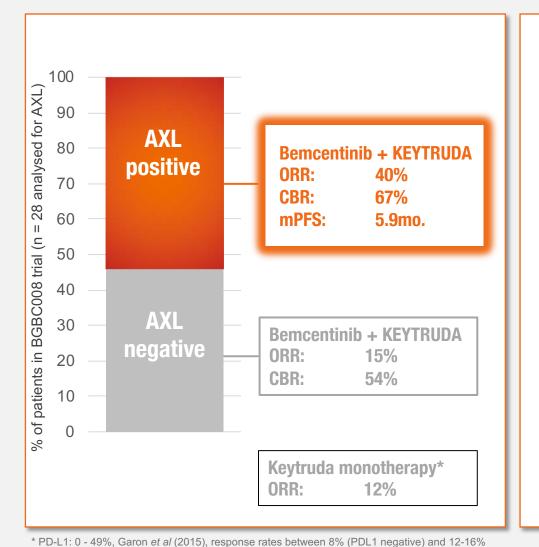
## **Antitumour activity\*** Change in tumour size from baseline (by AXL IHC) 40% ORR & 67% Clinical benefit in AXL+ve patients, irrespective of PD-L1 status.

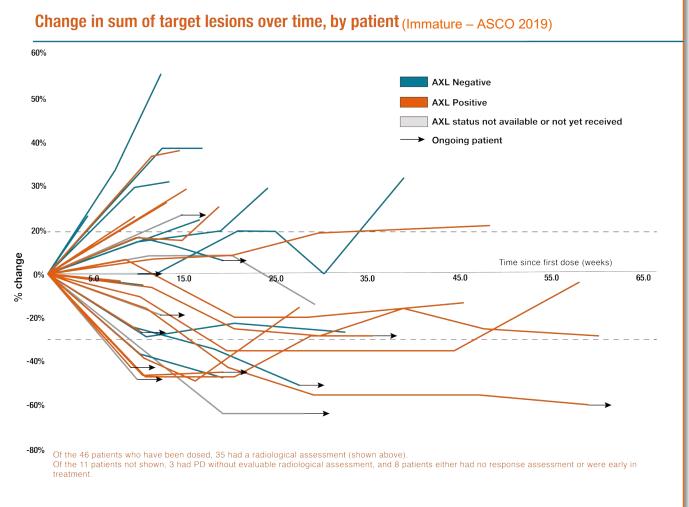


#### -80%

32

### **PoC data bemcentinib + KEYTRUDA:** Superior efficacy in AXL +ve pts.

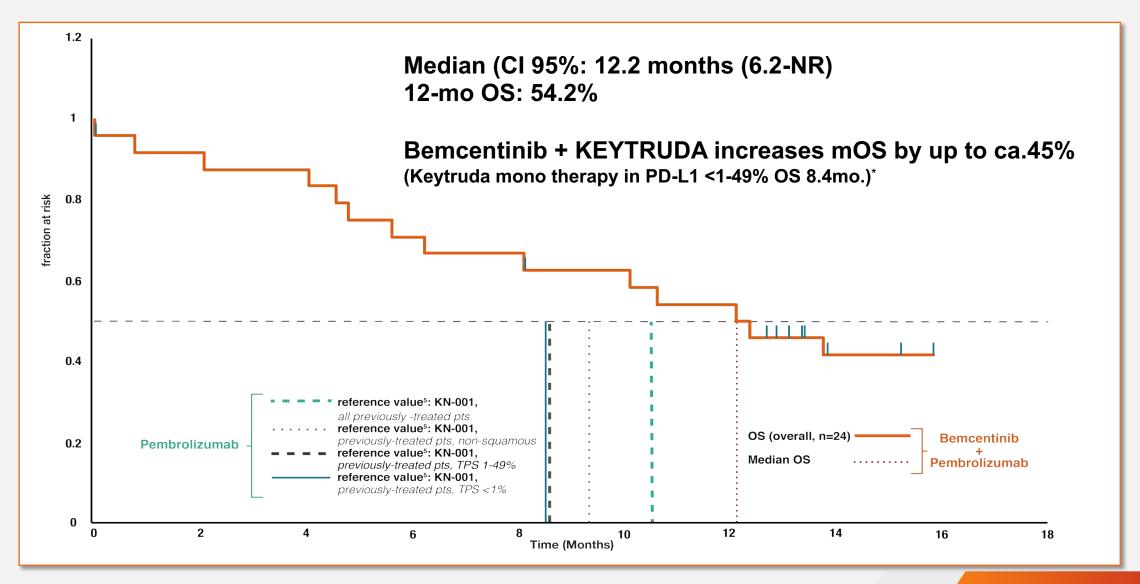




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(PDL1 1-49%)

### **Median overall survival in stage I patients (n=24)**



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### **Safety**

- The safety profile is consistent with that of each individual drug
- Treatment related adverse events were generally mild and reversible
- Treatment related adverse events were considered to be less problematic than for other TKIs or CPI combinations used in NSCLC

#### Safety

Most frequent TRAEs (or	ccurring in n = 46	>10% of c	losed pat	tients)
Preferred term	All g	rades	Grad	les ≥3
	n	%	n	%
Transaminase increase*	16	35%	6	13%
Asthenia / Fatigue	14	30%	2	4%
Diarrhoea	12	26%	0	0%
Nausea	6	13%	0	0%
Anaemia	5	11%	1	2%
Decreased appetite	5	11%	0	0%

\* Preferred terms include: Alanine aminotransferase increased, Aspartate aminotransferase increased and Transaminases increased. All events were reversible

No grade 5 TRAEs were reported.

### **Conclusions**

- Promising clinical activity continues to be seen overall, particularly in patients with AXL positive tumours, including those with weak or no PD-L1 expression
- The median overall survival has surpassed what has been shown historically in 2<sup>nd</sup> line treatment with PD-1 inhibitor monotherapy
- The studied population was predominantly PD-L1 negative (53%) patients who are less likely to benefit from pembrolizumab monotherapy treatment
- The studied population was predominantly AXL positive (58%) patients
- The combination of bemcentinib and pembrolizumab was well-tolerated.

### **Clinical Development in NSCLC**

#### Step 1. 2L CPI relapse

- Emerging 1L combination of keyruda+CT has left a vacuum in 2L
- Keytruda+CT 1L PDL-1 0-49% ORR 32-49% with mPFS of 6 9 mo.
- 2L SoC is limited to docetaxel or clinical trial
- CPI 'salvage' represents a substantial unmet medical need

#### **Clinical strategy:** On-going cohort B IO relapse patients. Potential for breakthrough and accelerated approval

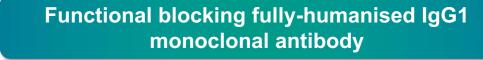
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# BGB149 anti-AXL monoclonal antibody

BerGenBio ASA, Jonas Lies vei 91; 50 BGB149 10mg/mL 10mg / mL Steriki

Batch No: 1-FIN-3116 Prote Muna Albayaty Refer to pharmao/ S-60°C Date of Mfr: 28Feb-2018

## **BGB149: Anti-AXL monoclonal antibody** Phase I clinical trial ongoing



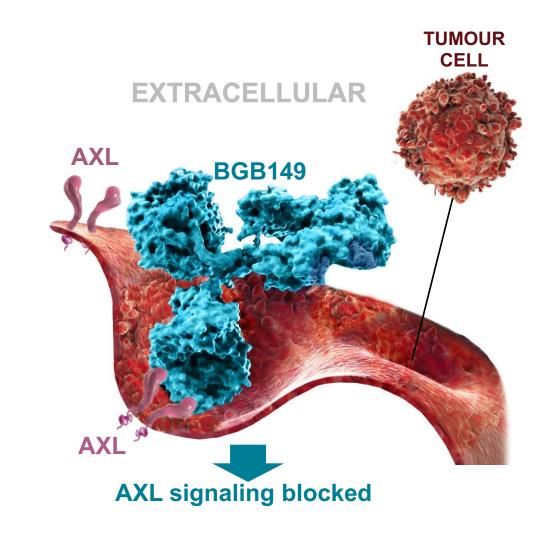
Binds human AXL, blocks AXL signalling

High affinity (KD: 500pM), Anti-tumour efficacy demonstrated *in vivo* 

Robust manufacturing process established, 18 months stability

First-in-human healthy volunteer Phase I study initiated Up to 36 subjects, Safety, PK/PD

First-in-patient trial expected in H2 2019



## **INTRACELLULAR**



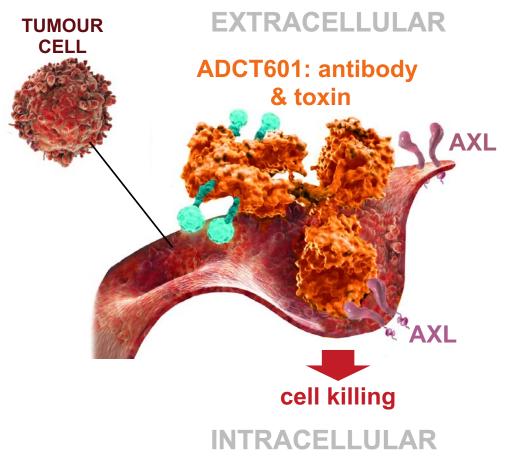
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# **ADCT-601 – AXL ADC**

#### Ref. NCT03700294

## **BGB601/ADCT-601: Anti-AXL ADC**

Phase 1 in solid tumours ongoing *Out-licensed to ADC Therapeutics (ADCT)* 





Antibody Drug Conjugate (ADC)

Targets human tumour AXL, induces cell death when internalised

Potent and specific anti-tumour activity demonstrated preclinically<sup>1</sup>

#### First-in-human Phase I study initiated in Jan 2019

- Solid tumours
- Up to 75 patients
- Safety, PK/PD, preliminary efficacy

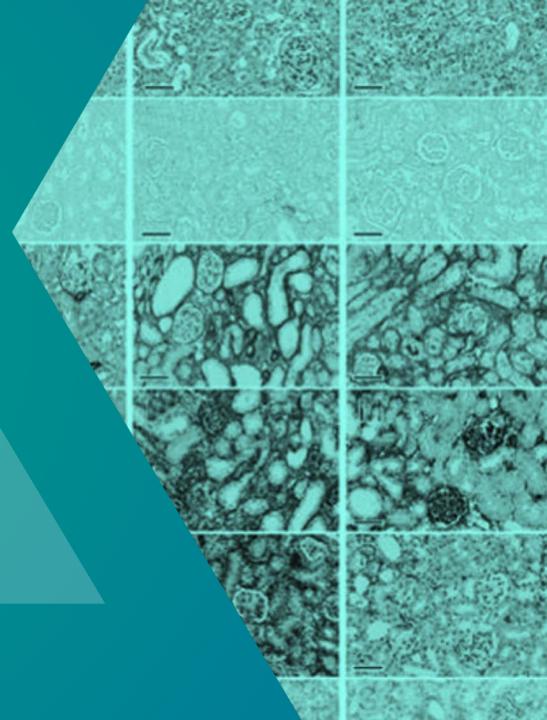
Based on anti-AXL antibody BGB601 licensed from BerGenBio



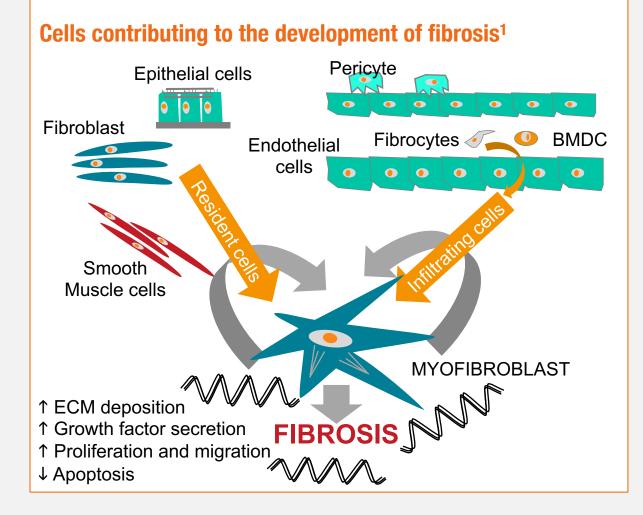
# **Fibrosis**

 Fibrosis is the formation of excess fibrous connective tissue in an organ or tissue

 Physiologically, this can interfere with or totally inhibit the normal architecture and function of the underlying organ or tissue



## The role of AXL in Fibrosis



## AXL

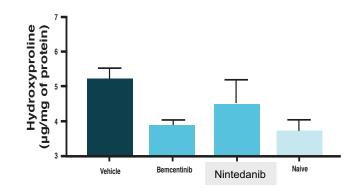
- Regulates and modulates key fibrogenic pathways
  - TGFβ signaling<sup>2</sup>
  - Mechanosensing Hippo pathway<sup>3</sup>
  - Peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor<sup>4</sup>
- Axl regulates cellular plasticity implicated in fibrotic pathologies e.g. EMT, EndMT, Macrophage polarity
- Axl elevated in keloid fibroblasts and modulates TGF<sup>β1</sup> transcription<sup>5</sup>
- Axl required for hepatic stellate cell (HSC) activation<sup>5</sup>
- sAxI required for HSC ECM expression<sup>5</sup>
- Pharmacological modulation of Axl inhibits pre-clinical development of Liver (CCl4/Diet), Renal (UUO), Pulmonary (Asthma, Bleo) fibrosis



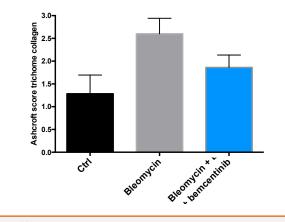
## AXL inhibition prevents fibrosis in a panel of pre-clincial models

### Lung

Bemcentinib reduces fibrosis in a human xenograft model of IPF <sup>1</sup>

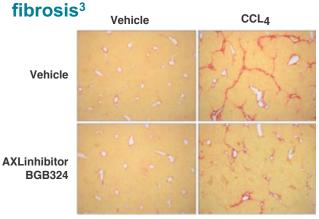


## Bemcentinib reduces bleomycin induced fibrosis<sup>2</sup>

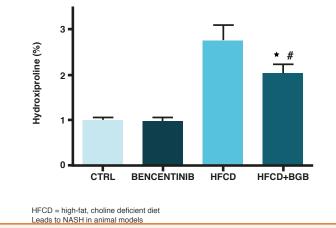


### Liver

## Bemcentinib reduces fibrosis in the CCL<sub>4</sub>-induced model of liver

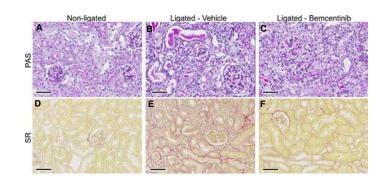


## Bemcentinib reduces fibrosis in a diet induced model of NASH<sup>4</sup>

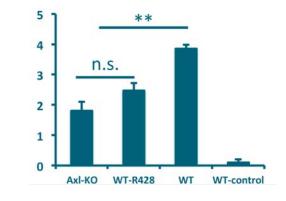


### **Kidney**

Bemcentinib reduces kidney fibrosis following Unilateral Ureteral Obstruction (UUO) <sup>5</sup>



Bemcentinib ameliorates anti-GBM induced lupus like nephritis and improved kidney function <sup>6</sup>



1 Espindola et al., 2018; 2 BerGenBio ASA; 3 Barcena et al., 2015; 4 Tutsaus et al., unpublished; 5 Landolt et al., 2019 6 Zhen et al., 2018

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# **Competitive Landscape**

## **AXL inhibitors - competitive landscape**





# Newsflow H2, 2019 ASCO EHA WCLC ESMO SITC ASH

NSCLC

**KEYTRUDA** 

efficacy

Stage I & II

Biomarkers

September

Bem +

ASCO-SITC: Clinical Immuno-Oncology symposium, San Francisco ASCO: American Society of Clinical Oncology, Chicago WCLC: World Conference of Lung Cancer, Toronto ESMO: European Society of Medical Oncology, Munich

**AML** 

Bem + low

Efficacy

update

dose chemo

Biomarker

Julv

August

AACR: American Association for Cancer Research, Chicago EHA: European Hematology Association, Stockholm SITC: Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer, DC ASH: American Society for Hematology, San Diego

**NSCLC** 

**KEYTRUDA** 

October

Bem +

Other

Bem +

• IIT

November

Indications

programme

December

**KEYTRUDA** 

AML

Bem + low

Survival

dose chemo

January



February

46

**NSCLC** 

**KEYTRUDA** 

Ben + LDAC

May

June

Bem +

AML

April

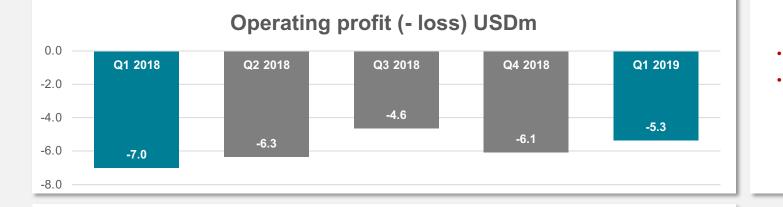
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# Financials Q1 2019

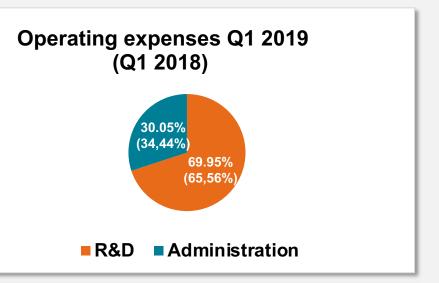
SILD

## Key financial figures Q1 2019

(USD million)	Q1 2019	Q1 2018	FY 2018
Operating revenues	1.0	0	0,3
Operating expenses	6.3	7.0	24.2
Operating profit (-loss)	-5,3	-7.0	-23.9
Profit (-loss) after tax	-5,2	-6.9	-23.6
Basic and diluted earnings (loss) per share (USD)	-0,09	-0,14	-0.44
Net cash flow in the period	-6.3	-5.2	-1.2
Cash position end of period	35.7	42.3	41.5

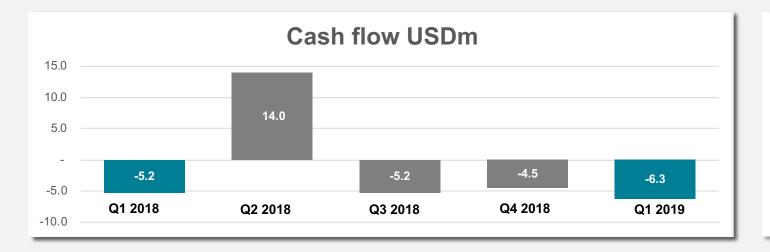


• Revenue USD 1.0 million, clinical milestone licence revenue received (ADCT-601)

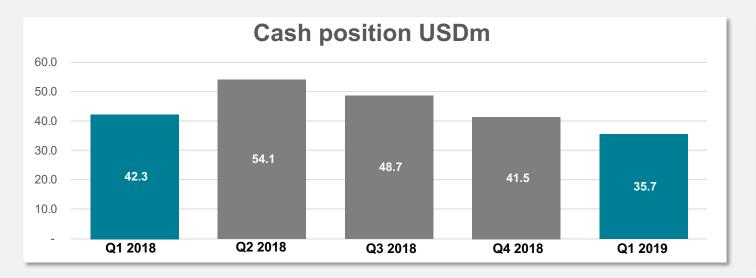


- Effective organisation
- 69.95% of operating expenses in Q1 2019 (Q1 2018: 65,56%) attributable to Research & Development activities

## **Cash flow and cash position**



- Private placement Q2 18 strengthened cash position - gross funds raised USD 24 million (NOK 187 million)
- Quarterly cash burn average (Q118 Q119) USD 5.9 million (NOK 48.4 million)



- Cash position Q1 2019 USD 35.7 million (NOK 306.7 million) - gives runway to deliver key clinical read outs from ongoing clinical studies
- Cash runway into 2020 based on current burn rate



## Analyst coverage



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# Appendix



# **References**

#### **Bemcentinib:**

Ludwig, K.F., *et al.*, (2017) Small molecule Axl inhibition targets tumor immune suppression andenhances chemotherapy in pancreatic cancer,' Epub ahead of print.

- Axl associated with poor outcomes in pancreatic cancer uniquely links drug resistance andimmune evasion.
- Bemcentinib blocks aggressive traits of pancreatic cancer&enhances activity of gemcitabine.
- Bemcentinib drives tumour cell differentiation and provokes an immune stimulatory microenvironment. Treatment reduces expression of Arginase-1 a key player in immune-suppression.

#### Guo et al (2017) Axl inhibition induces the antitumor immune response which canbe further potentiated by PD-1 blockade in the mouse cancer models, Oncotarget

- Axl inhibition via bemcentinib reprograms immunological microenvironmentoIncreased proliferation and activation of CD4 and CD8
- Bemcentinib and PD-1 blockade act synergistiaclly

#### Mode of Action & Biomarkers

## Haaland, G.S.,*et al.*,(2017) 'Association of warfarin use with Lower overall cancer incidenceamong patients older than 50 years,'*JAMA Intern Med.*, Nov 6.

- Warfarin inhibits Axl signalling and Axl-mediated biological response at doses lower than thosewhich mediate anti-coagulation effects.
- Retrospective analysis of a large population cohort demonstrates that patients on low doseWarfarin had a significantly lower incidence of cancer.

## Aguilera, T.A.&Giaccia, A.J. (2017) 'Molecular Pathways: Oncologic Pathways and Their Role inT-cell Exclusion and Immune Evasion-A New Role for the AXL Receptor Tyrosine Kinase,'*Clin.Cancer Res.*,June 15th.

- Immune checkpoint inhibitors are most effective against T-cell inflamed tumours. Non-T-cell or T-cell excluded tumours remain a significant barrier to treatment.
- Axl identified as a key mediator of immune evasion and experimental evidence demonstrates Axltargeting leads to greater anti-tumour immune response post radiotherapy.

Miller, M.A., *et al.*, (2017) 'Molecular Pathways: Receptor Ectodomain Shedding in Treatment, Resistance, and Monitoring of Cancer,' Cl*in. Cancer Res.*, Feb 1.

- Proteases known as sheddases cleave the extracellular domain of several receptor tyrosinekinases such as Axl generating soluble Axl (sAxl).
- Plasma levels of sAxl are predictive of patient response to standard of care BRAF&MEKinhibitor therapy and could be used for patient stratification strategies.

#### Antony et al (2017) The GAS6-AXL signaling network is a mesenchymal (Mes) molecular subtype– specific therapeutic target for ovarian cancer.*Science Signalling*

- Axl particularly abundant in ovarian cancer subtype designated as mesenchymal (Mes)
- Axl co-clustered cMET, EGFR, and HER2, producing sustained extracellular signal-regulated kinase (ERK) activation in Mes cells
- Bemcentinib reduced tumor growth in chick chorioallantoic membrane model.

#### Kanzaki, R.,*et al.*,(2017) 'Gas6 derived from cancer-associated fibroblasts promotes migration ofAxlexpressing lung cancer cells during chemotherapy,'*Nature Scientific Reports*,Sept 6th.

- Tumor stroma microenvironment (TME) is comprised of cancer-associated fibroblasts (CAFs)which influence cancer cells such as non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC).
- In a murine model, NSCLC treated with cisplatin induced an up-regulation of Gas6.
- NSCLC line H1299 migrated in response to Gas6.
- The CAF cell line LCAFhertexpresses GAS6 and can promote H1299 cell migration.
- Conclusion- CAF derived GAS6 promotes migration of AxI-expressing lung cancers.

#### Reviews

Levin et al (2016) Axl Receptor Axis: A New Therapeutic Target inLung Cancer.*J Thoracic Oncol* Chouaib et al (2014) Tumor Plasticity Interferes with Anti-Tumor Immunity. *Critical RevImmunology* Gay et al (2017) Giving AXL the axe: targeting AXL in human malignancy.*BJC* Brown et al (2016) Gene of the month: Axl.*BMJ* Halmos et al (2016) New twists in the AXL(e) of tumor progression. *Science Signalling* 

## **References**

#### Resistance

## Zucca, L.E.,*et al.*,(2017) 'Expression of tyrosine kinase receptor AXL is associated with worseoutcome of metastatic renal cell carcinomas treated with sunitinib,'*Urol Oncol.*,Oct 3.

- Renal cell carcinoma (RCC) represents 2-3% of all cancers in the Western world.
- First line therapy is sunitinib (PDGF/VEGF TK inhibitor).
- 47% of RCC patients treated with sunitinib were +ve for Axl.
- Axl expression in sunitinib treated patients correlated with worse clinical outcome (13 months Vs 43 months survival).

#### Husain, H.,*et al.*, (2017) 'Strategies to Overcome Bypass Mechanisms Mediating ClinicalResistance to EGFR Tyrosine Kinase Inhibition in Lung Cancer,'*Mol. Cancer Ther.*, Feb 2017.

- Patient treated with EGFR based therapies develop resistance via multiple mechanisms.
- Resistant metastatic lung cancers exhibit increased AXL, EMT and PDL1 expression.

# Elkabets et al (2015) AXL Mediates Resistance to PI3Ka Inhibition by Activating theEGFR/PKC/mTOR Axis in Head and Neck and Esophageal Squamous Cell Carcinomas.*CancerCell*

- · Axl mediates persistent mTOR activation and upregulated in resistant tumors
- Combined treatment with PI3Ka and either EGFR, AXL, or PKC inhibitors reverts this resistance

# Mak et al (2015) A patient-derived, pan-cancer EMT signature identifies global molecularalterations and immune target enrichment following epithelial to mesenchymal transition.*ClinCancer Res*

- EMT signature was developed based on 11 tumor types
- Axl frequently overexpressed in EMT tumors along with PD-L1, PD1, CTLA4, OX40L, and PDL2
- highlights the possibility of utilizing EMT status--independent of cancer type--as an additional selection tool to select patients who may benefit from immune checkpoint blockade

Zhang et al (2012) Activation of the AXL kinase causes resistance to EGFR targeted therapy in lung cancer. *Nature Genetics* 

Mueller et al (2014) Low MITF/AXL ratio predicts early resistance to multiple targeted drugs inmelanoma

- high Axl in melanoma cells correlates with drug resistance
- BRAF and ERK inhibitors are more effective when using Axl inhibition

#### Fibrosis

#### Hogaboam, C., et al., (2017) 'Evaluation of TAM receptors inhibitors in IPF,' Keystone Symposium.

- IPF patients with high expression of Axl are rapid (declining lung function) progressors.
- · Bemcentinib inhibited the fibrogenic phenotype of IPF patient derived fibroblasts.
- GAS6 knockout animals were protected from Bleomycin induced lung fibrosis (Gold standard model of pulmonary fibrosis).
- Bemcentinib inhibited the development of fibrosis in the IPF SCID mouse model (Human IPF fibroblasts induce pulmonary fibrosis in the SCID mouse).

## Staufer K.,*et al.*,(2017) 'The non-invasive serum biomarker soluble Axl accurately detectsadvanced liver fibrosis and cirrhosis,'*Cell Death Dis.* Oct 26.

- · sAxl confirmed to be accurate biomarker of liver fibrosis and cirrhosis.
- sAxl/albumin demonstrated to be further enhancing as a cheap and accurate biomarker.

## Barcena et al (2015) Gas6/Axl pathway is activated in chronic liver disease and its targetingreduces fibrosis via hepatic stellate cell inactivation.*J Hepatology*

- Axl levels paralleled HSC activation
- AxI ko mice displayed decreased HSC activation in vitro and liver fibrogenesis after chronic damage by CCI4 administration
- Bemcentinib reduced collagen deposition and CCI4-induced liver fibrosis in mice.