Title: Tislelizumab (BGB-A317) for relapsed/refractory (R/R) classical hodgkin lymphoma (cHL): long-term follow-up efficacy and safety results from a phase 2 study

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Background: Tislelizumab is a humanized IgG4 monoclonal antibody with high affinity/specificity for programmed cell death protein 1 (PD-1). It was engineered to minimize binding to Fc-γ receptors on macrophages, thereby decreasing antibody-dependent phagocytosis, a potential mechanism of T-cell clearance and resistance to anti–PD-1 therapy. Tislelizumab therapy was highly active in autologous stem cell transplant (ASCT)-failed or ineligible patients with R/R cHL (*Leukemia*. 2020;34:533). Here we report results from up to 3 years follow-up.

Methods: This a single-arm, multicenter phase 2 study (NCT03209973) of 200 mg tislelizumab administered intravenously to patients (pts) with R/R cHL every 3 weeks until progressive disease (PD) or unacceptable toxicity. Patients were eligible if they: failed to achieve a response or progressed after ASCT, or: received ≥2 lines of prior systemic chemotherapy for cHL and were ineligible for ASCT. Primary endpoint was overall response rate (ORR) assessed by an

independent review committee (IRC) per Lugano criteria (*J Clin Oncol*. 2014;32:3059). Secondary endpoints were progression-free survival (PFS), duration of response (DOR), complete response (CR) rate, and time to response (TTR) per IRC, safety, and tolerability.

Results: Pts (N=70) from 11 centers in China were enrolled and treated; characteristics have been previously reported. As of the data cutoff date (Nov 2, 2020), median follow-up was 33.8 months (range, 3.4-38.6). Pts still on treatment at the end of study (n=33; 47.1%) entered a long-term extension study. Efficacy data is presented in the Table below. In the 13 pts who received prior ASCT, 11 (86.6%) achieved CR. The most common treatment-emergent adverse events (AEs; \geq 30%) were pyrexia (57.1%), upper respiratory tract infection (URTI; 38.6%), hypothyroidism (37.1%), and increased weight (34.3%). Treatment-related grade \geq 3 AEs (\geq 2 pts) were URTI, pneumonitis, hypertension, neutropenia, lipase increased, weight increased, and increased creatine phosphokinase (CPK; 2.9% each). Immune-related AEs were reported in 32 pts (45.7%), with grade \geq 3 AEs in 8 pts (11.4%): pneumonitis (4) and skin adverse reactions, nephritis, lipase increased, and blood CPK increased (1 each). AEs led to treatment discontinuation in 6 pts (10%).

Conclusions: Long-term follow-up of R/R cHL pts treated with tislelizumab further demonstrated the substantial therapeutic activity and continued PFS benefit. There were no new safety concerns identified for long-term treatment with tislelizumab.

Table

	N=70	95% CI
ORR, n (%)	61 (87.1)	77.0, 93.9*
CR, n (%)	47 (67.1)	54.9, 77.9*
mDOR [†] , mo	31.3	20.73, NE
mPFS [†] , mo	31.5	16.53, NE
mOS [†] , mo	Not reached	NE, NE
24-mo event free rate, %	93.9	84.5, 97.7

m, median; NE, not estimable; OS, overall survival.

^{*}Two-sided Clopper-Pearson 95% CI. † Based on Kaplan-Meier estimation.