

# Clinical activity of MCLA-128 (zenocutuzumab), trastuzumab and vinorelbine in HER2-amplified metastatic breast cancer patients (MBC) who had progressed on anti-HER2 antibody drug conjugates (ADCs)

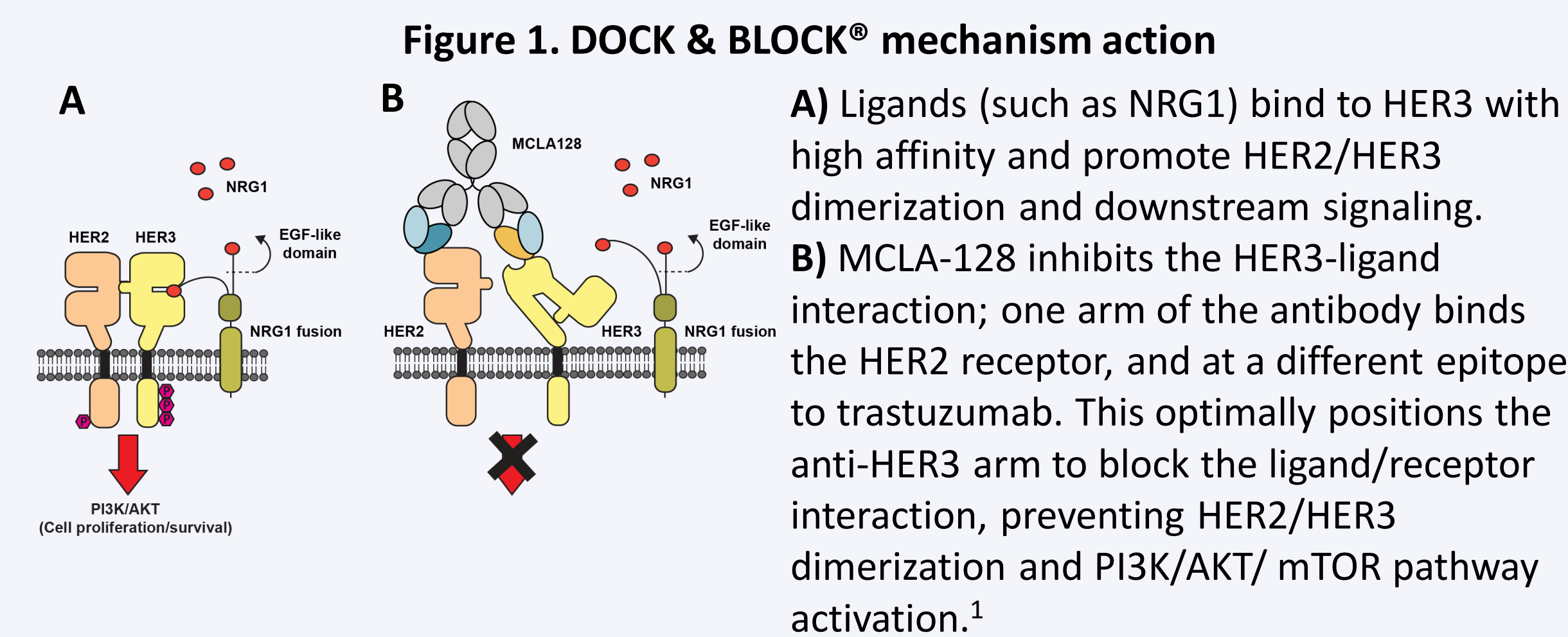
EP Hamilton<sup>1</sup>, T Petit<sup>2</sup>, B Pistilli<sup>3</sup>, A Goncalves<sup>4</sup>, AA Ferreira<sup>5</sup>, F Dalenc<sup>6</sup>, F Cardoso<sup>7</sup>, MM Mita<sup>8</sup>, VO Dezentjé<sup>9</sup>, L Manso<sup>10</sup>, SL Graff<sup>11</sup>, FC Bidard<sup>12</sup>, PG Aftimos<sup>13</sup>, S Escrivá-de-Romani<sup>14</sup>, N Afonso<sup>5</sup>, E Wasserman<sup>15</sup>, K Bol<sup>15</sup>, V Stalbovskaya<sup>15</sup>, A Vliet<sup>15</sup>, T Bachelot<sup>16</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Sarah Cannon Research Institute /Tennessee Oncology, Nashville, TN, USA; <sup>2</sup>Paul Strauss Cancer Center/University of Strasbourg, Strasbourg, France; <sup>3</sup>Gustave Roussy, Villejuif, France; <sup>4</sup>Institut Paoli-Calmettes, Marseille, France; <sup>5</sup>Centro Hospitalar do Porto, Portugal; <sup>6</sup>Institut Claudius Regaud, IUCT-Oncopole, CRCT, Inserm, Toulouse, France; <sup>7</sup>Champalimaud Clinical Center/Champalimaud Foundation, Lisbon, Portugal; <sup>8</sup>Cedars-Sinai Comprehensive Cancer Center, Los Angeles, CA, USA; <sup>9</sup>Antoni van Leeuwenhoek, Amsterdam, Netherlands; <sup>10</sup>Hospital 12 de Octubre, Madrid, Spain; <sup>11</sup>Sarah Cannon Cancer Institute HCA Midwest Health, Overland Park, KS, USA; <sup>12</sup>Institut Curie, Saint Cloud, France; <sup>13</sup>Institut Jules Bordet, Brussels, Belgium; <sup>14</sup>Vall d'Hebron University Hospital/Vall d'Hebron Institute of Oncology, Barcelona, Spain; <sup>15</sup>Merus NV, Utrecht, Netherlands; <sup>16</sup>Centre Léon Bérard, Lyon, France

## BACKGROUND

MCLA-128 (zenocutuzumab) is a bispecific humanized full-length IgG1 antibody that binds the transmembrane receptor tyrosine kinase human epidermal growth factor receptors 2 and 3 (HER2 and HER3).

MCLA-128 acts via two independent mechanisms of action: 1) inhibition of HER2:HER3 signaling and 2) elimination of tumor cells via enhanced antibody-dependent cell-mediated cytotoxicity (ADCC).

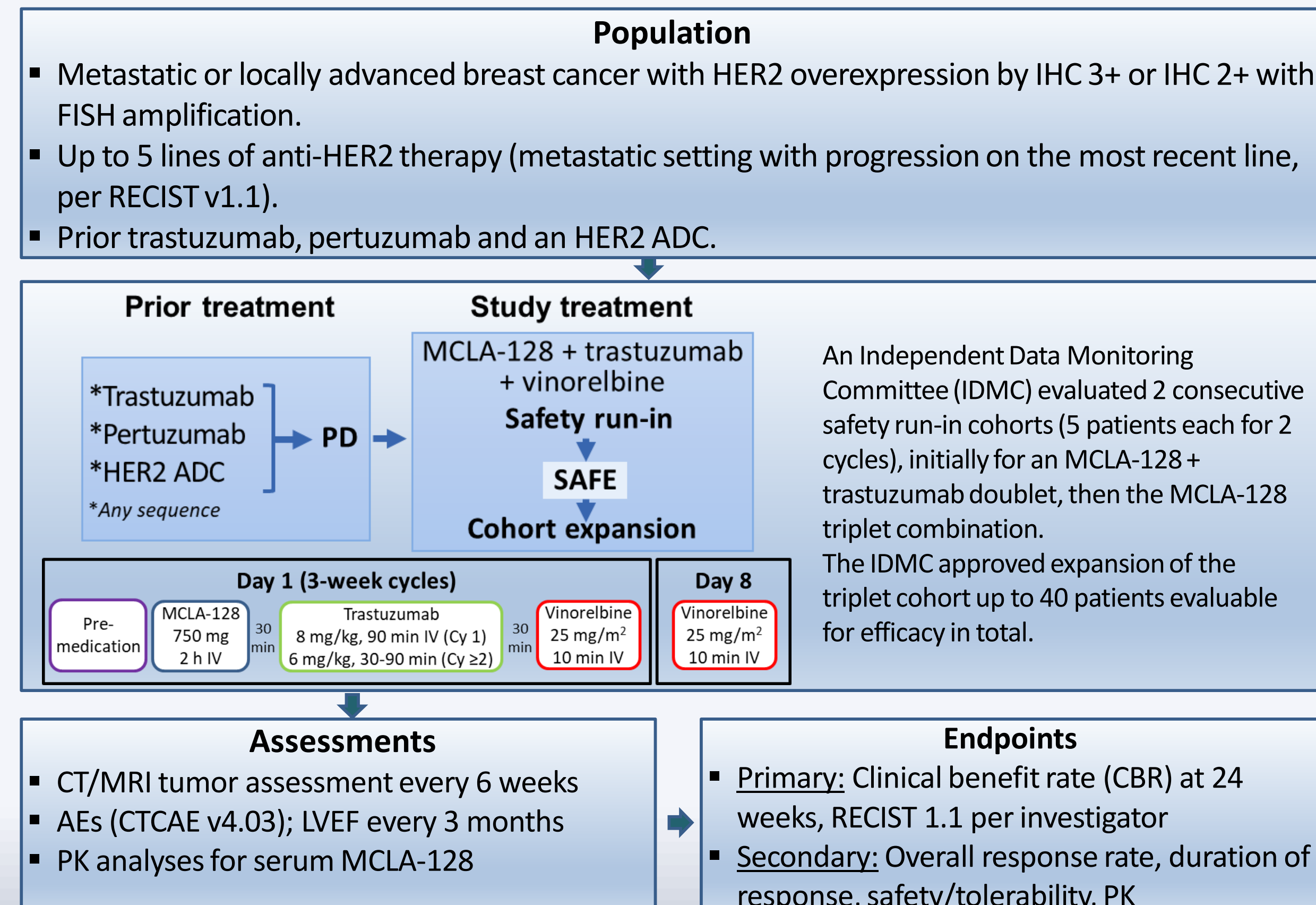


HER3 overexpression and/or HER3 ligand upregulation are important drivers in breast cancer progression associated with trastuzumab resistance.<sup>2</sup>

MCLA-128 inhibited proliferation in HER2-amplified breast cancer cell lines *in vitro* and *in vivo*, and showed synergy with trastuzumab.<sup>1</sup> In the first-in-human phase 1/2 study, consistent antitumor activity was observed with single agent MCLA-128 in heavily pretreated HER2-amplified breast cancer patients progressing on anti-HER2 therapies.<sup>3</sup>

The current open-label phase 2 study was designed to explore the efficacy of the triplet combination of MCLA-128 plus trastuzumab and vinorelbine in MBC.

## STUDY DESIGN



## PATIENT POPULATION

A total of 39 patients were treated with the MCLA-128 triplet combination, and 12 of them were ongoing at the time of the efficacy cut-off of 31 March 2020. The 39 treated patients had received a median of 5 cycles [range 1-22].

**Table 1. Demographics and disease characteristics**

	N=39
Age (years), median [range]	57 [29-84]
ECOG PS (0/1), N (%)	21 (54%) / 18 (46%)
<b>Prior therapies</b>	
N therapies (chemotherapy, anti-HER2, hormonal), median [range]	5 [2-8]
N anti-HER2 lines (metastatic setting), median [range]	3 [1-5]
Prior pertuzumab, N (%)	39 (100%)
Prior T-DM1, N (%)	39 (100%)
<b>N metastatic sites*, median [range]</b>	3 [1-5]
Lymph nodes	22 (56%)
Bone	21 (54%)
Lung	20 (51%)
Liver	13 (33%)
Breast	12 (31%)
Brain	8 (21%)

\* Sites present in >20% of the cohort.

## SAFETY

At the safety data cut-off of 14 November 2019, the 28 patients treated with the triplet regimen had received a median of 5 cycles [range 1-17].

**Table 2. Treatment-related AEs in >5% patients and all grade ≥3 events (N=28)**

	All grades	Grade 3-4
<b>N patients ≥1 related AE</b>	25 (89%)	15 (54%)
Diarrhea	17 (61%)	1 (4%)
Neutropenia	17 (61%)	13 (46%)
Asthenia	9 (32%)	0
Nausea	8 (29%)	0
Fatigue	4 (14%)	0
Abdominal pain	3 (11%)	0
Constipation	3 (11%)	0
Vomiting	3 (11%)	0
Dysgeusia	2 (7%)	0
Dyspnoea	2 (7%)	0
Mucosal inflammation	2 (7%)	0
Myalgia	2 (7%)	0
Pyrexia	2 (7%)	0
Febrile neutropenia	1 (4%)	1 (4%)
Peripheral motor neuropathy	1 (4%)	1 (4%)

- All grade 3-4 neutropenia (46% of patients) was related to vinorelbine.
- 3 of 15 evaluable patients had transient grade 2 LVEF decrease, 1 was clinically significant but was asymptomatic.
- Infusion-related reactions (grouped term for AEs associated with infusion) were reported in 18% of patients.
- 2 patients discontinued treatment due to AEs related to vinorelbine, including 1 patient who developed fatal sepsis\*.
- MCLA-128 dose interruptions occurred in 14% of patients.

\*This 46-yo patient with bone, brain, liver, lung and LN metastases, progressed on 5 lines of therapy, and had elevated WBC/ANC at baseline. She developed sepsis and G4 neutropenia (related to vinorelbine) on day 13, and died 3 days later.

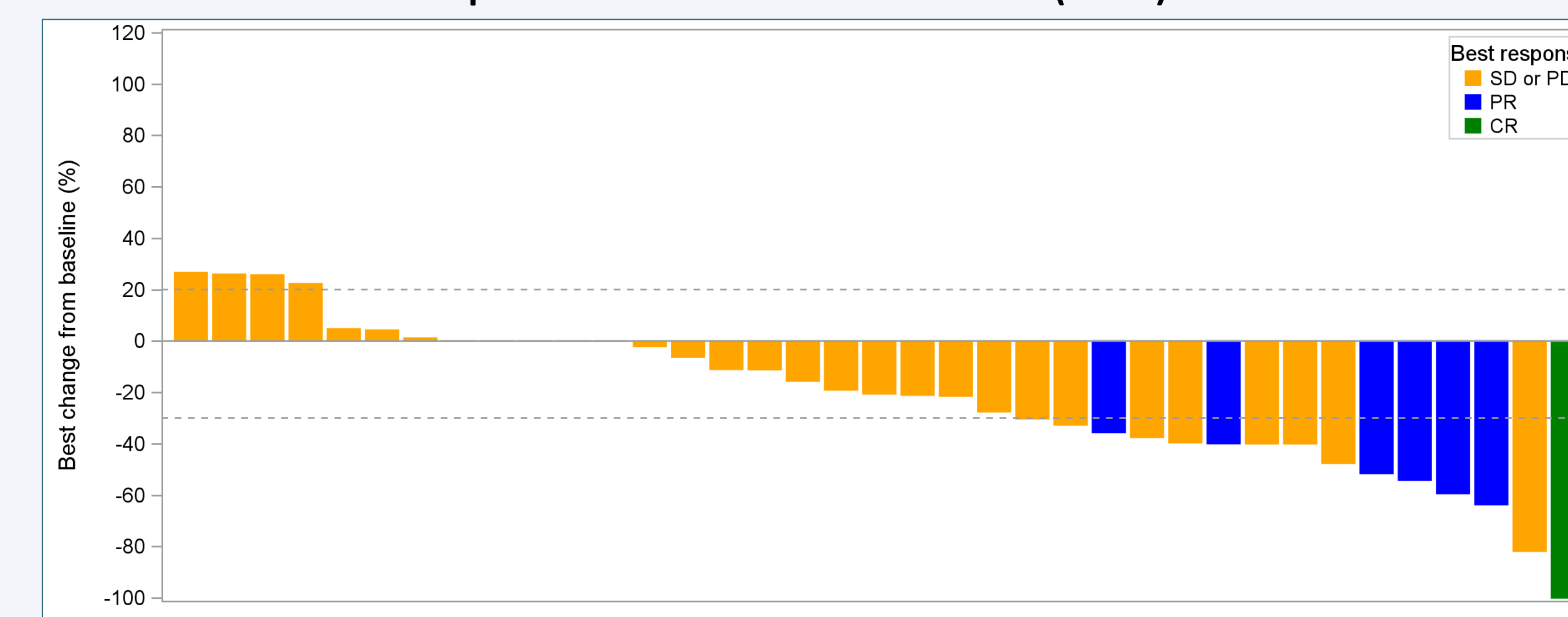
## ANTITUMOR ACTIVITY

- Antitumor activity (RECIST v1.1) was evaluated in 37 evaluable patients with locally confirmed HER2 amplification (3+ IHC or 2+ IHC confirmed by FISH), at the efficacy cut-off of 31 March 2020.
- The CBR (CR + PR + [SD at 24 weeks]) was 35.1% [90%CI 22.2-50.0].
- 1 patient had a CR lasting 19.3 weeks, 6 patients had PR (lasting from 5.3+ to 12.3+ weeks, and 22 had SD (lasting from 5.9+ to 59.1+ weeks; Table 3, Fig. 2 and 3).

**Table 3. CBR, ORR, and BOR, Investigator assessed (RECIST v1.1)**

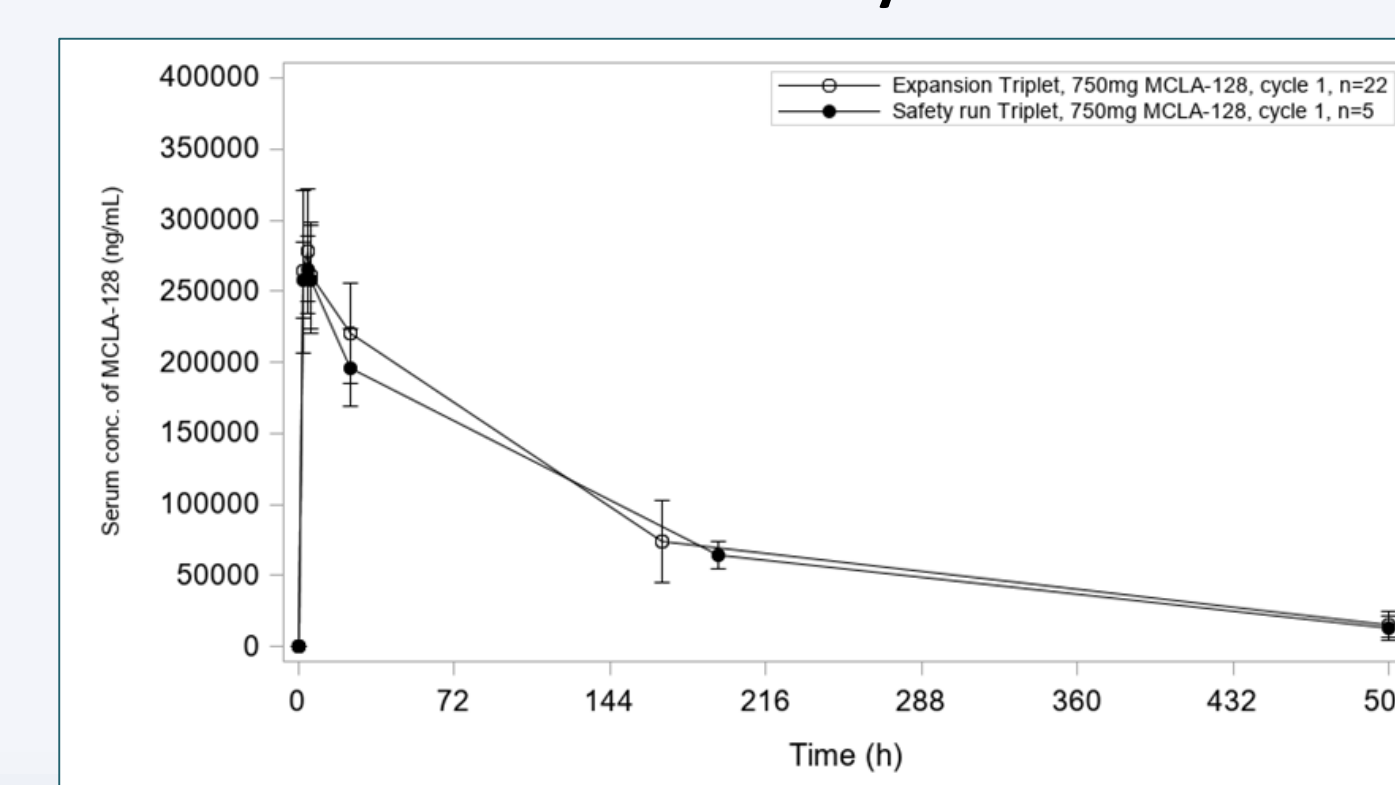
	N=37
<b>Clinical benefit rate at 24 weeks, N (%) [90%CI]</b>	13 (35.1%) [22.2-50.0]
Overall response rate, N (%) [90%CI]	7 (18.9%) [9.2-32.6]
<b>Best overall response (confirmed)</b>	
Complete response	1 (2.7%)
Partial response	6 (16.2%)
Stable disease	22 (59.5%)
Disease progression	8 (21.6%)

**Figure 3: Waterfall plot of best percent change from baseline in target lesions in patients with measurable disease (N=37)**



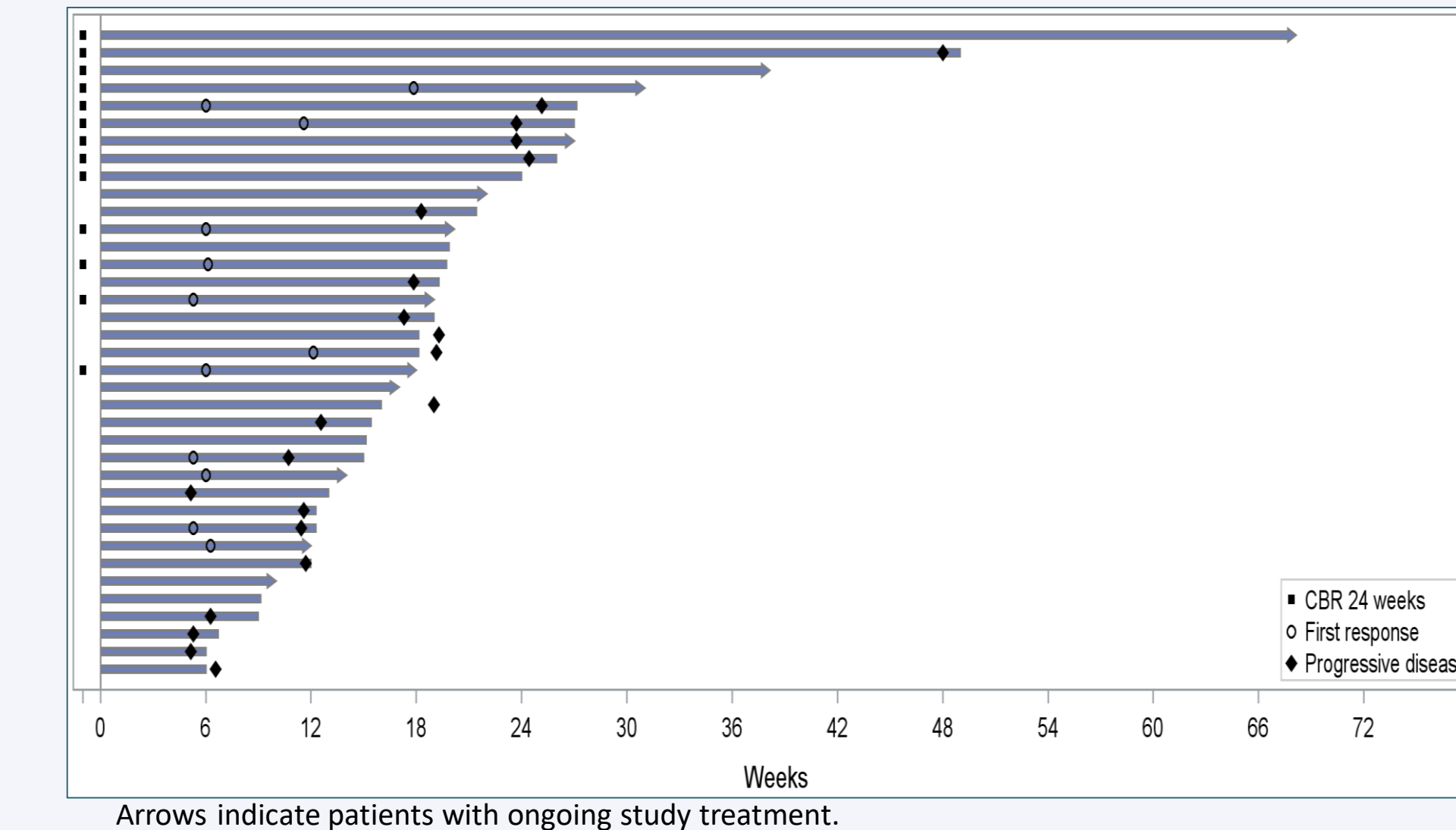
## PHARMACOKINETICS

**Figure 4: Concentration vs time curve of MCLA-128 in cycle 1**



- PK data from 27 evaluable patients were assessed by non-compartmental analysis.
- Mean C<sub>max</sub> was 294 µg/mL; AUC<sub>∞</sub> was 49980 µg·h/mL; V<sub>ss</sub> was 2.6 L; CL was 16.1 mL/h; t<sub>1/2</sub> was 117 h.
- At the mean trough level (16 µg/mL), predicted receptor occupancies for HER2 and HER3 are >90%, suggesting relevant pharmacological activity for the entire 3-week dosing interval.
- MCLA-128 PK was similar to single agent PK analyses.<sup>4</sup>

**Figure 2: Plot of duration of exposure (weeks), onset of response, and patients with clinical benefit (N=37)**



## CONCLUSIONS

- The MCLA-128 (zenocutuzumab) triplet combination is active in heavily pretreated HER2+/amplified MBC patients who have progressed on T-DM1, with 35% of patients achieving clinically meaningful benefit at 6 months.
- The most common severe AE reported with the triplet therapy was neutropenia considered related to vinorelbine, with few patients discontinuing due to AEs.
- The PK profile of MCLA-128 administered in combination with trastuzumab and vinorelbine was similar to that of single agent MCLA-128.

### References

- Geuijen et al. *Cancer Cell*. 2018; 33(5):922-36
- Lyu et al. *Acta Pharm Sin B*. 2018; 8(4):503-10
- Alsina et al. *J Clin Onc*. ASCO 2017; 35 (15 Suppl): 2522
- De Vries Schultink et al. *Clinical Pharmacokinet*. 2020; doi: 10.1007/s40262-020-00858-2

### Contacts

Ernesto Wasserman (EU) [e.wasserman@merus.nl](mailto:e.wasserman@merus.nl)  
Study funded by Merus N.V. [enquiries@merus.nl](mailto:enquiries@merus.nl)

ASCO Annual Meeting, May 29-June 2, 2020 (Virtual Meeting). Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, not all data were source verified.