



# EXPERTS KNOWLEDGE SHARE

## CURRENT OPINIONS ON HOW TO IDENTIFY, TEST AND TREAT *NTRK* FUSION POSITIVE CANCER

Prof. David Hong, Prof. Frédérique Penault-Llorca  
and Prof. Ezra Cohen

20<sup>th</sup> January 2021

## THE OBJECTIVE OF THIS MEETING IS TO SHARE CURRENT OPINIONS ON HOW TO IDENTIFY, TEST AND TREAT *NTRK* FUSION POSITIVE CANCER



YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO **DISCUSS AND SHARE LEARNINGS** ON CHALLENGING TOPICS WITHIN THE AREA OF *NTRK* FUSION POSITIVE CANCER

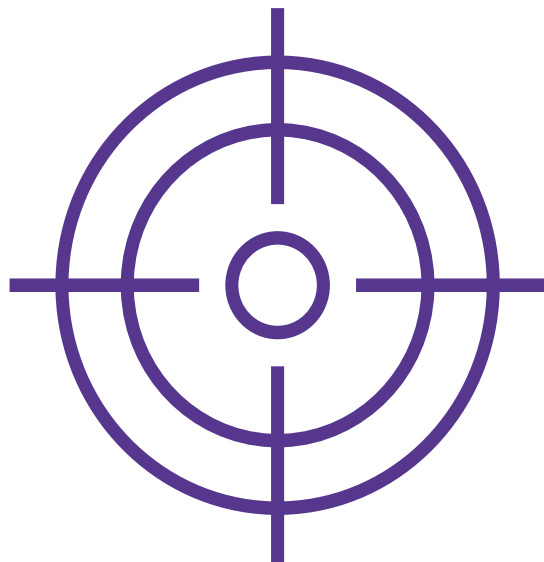


A CHANCE TO HEAR THE **VIEWS OF EXPERTS** AND ALLOW THEM TO ANSWER THE QUESTIONS THAT ARE IMPORTANT TO YOU



REVIEW AND DISCUSS **PATIENT CASE STUDIES**, USING THE QUESTIONS THAT YOU HAVE SENT IN ADVANCE OF THIS EVENT

# EXPERTS KNOWLEDGE SHARE EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES



**To discuss current opinions on how to identify, test and treat *NTRK* fusion positive cancer:**

- Treating *NTRK* fusion cancer today and in the future
- Testing methodologies and tumour-specific algorithms
- Adverse events associated with TRK inhibitors

# INTRODUCING THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE



**David Hong**

University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer  
Center, Houston, USA



**Frédérique Penault-Llorca**

University of Clermont-Ferrand, France



**Ezra Cohen**

UC San Diego Health-Moores Cancer Centre  
California, USA

# DISCLAIMER

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Please note:

The views expressed within this presentation are the personal opinions of the experts. They do not necessarily represent the views of the experts' academic institutions or the rest of the faculty

# EXPERTS KNOWLEDGE SHARE AGENDA

Time	Topic	Facilitator
5 minutes	Welcome and introductions	Iain Murdoch (COR2ED)
5 minutes	Overview and scene setting	David Hong
15 minutes	Treating <i>NTRK</i> fusion cancer today	David Hong
15 minutes	Testing methodologies and tumour-specific algorithms	Frédérique Penault-Llorca
15 minutes	Adverse events associated with TRK inhibitors	Ezra Cohen
30 minutes	Two breakout rooms Groups discussing questions, case studies and sharing experiences	All
5 minutes	A look to future treatments and closing remarks	David Hong and Iain Murdoch (COR2ED)

# TREATING *NTRK* FUSION CANCERS TODAY

**David S. Hong, MD**

The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center.

Professor

Deputy Chairman in the Dept of Investigational Cancer Therapeutics  
(Phase 1 Program)

Associate Vice President of Clinical Research



# DISCLOSURES (LAST 36 MONTHS)



**Research/Grant Funding:** AbbVie, Adaptimmune, Aldi-Norte, Amgen, AstraZeneca, Bayer, BMS, Daiichi-Sankyo, Eisai, Fate Therapeutics, Genentech, Genmab, Ignyta, Infinity, Kite, Kyowa, Lilly, LOXO, Merck, MedImmune, Mirati, miRNA, Molecular Templates, Mologen, NCI-CTEP, Novartis, Numab, Pfizer, Seattle Genetics, Takeda, Turning Point Therapeutics, Verstatem

**Travel, Accommodations, Expenses:** Bayer, LOXO, miRNA, Genmab, AACR, ASCO, SITC

**Consulting, Speaker or Advisory Role:** Alpha Insights, Acuta, Amgen, Axiom, Adaptimmune, Baxter, Bayer, Boxer Capital, COG, Ecor1, Genentech, GLG, Group H, Guidepoint, HCW Precision, Infinity, Janssen, Merrimack, Medscape, Numab, Pfizer, Prime Oncology, Seattle Genetics, ST Cube, Takeda, Tavistock, Trieza Therapeutics, WebMD

**Other ownership interests:** Molecular Match (Advisor), OncoResponse (Founder), Presagia Inc (Advisor)

# TRK BIOLOGY

TRK, tropomyosin receptor kinase

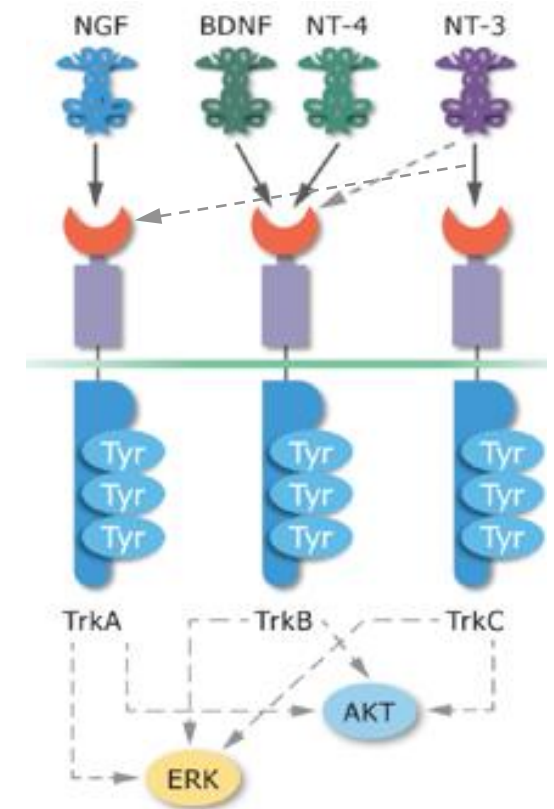
# TRK RECEPTORS MEDIATE NEUROTROPHIN SIGNALLING

- Neurotrophins are important growth factors that promote sympathetic nervous system development<sup>1,2</sup>
- Neurotrophin signalling occurs through activation of the tropomyosin-receptor kinase (TRK) receptor family<sup>1,2</sup>

Neurotrophin Family of Receptors<sup>1-6</sup>

TRK Receptor	Gene (Chromosomal Location)	Functions	Natural Ligands
TRKA	<i>NTRK1</i> (1q23.1)	Pain signaling, thermoregulation	Nerve growth factor (NGF), neurotrophin-3 (NT-3)
TRKB	<i>NTRK2</i> (9q21.33)	Regulation of movement, memory, mood, appetite, body weight	Brain-derived neurotrophic factor (BDNF), neurotrophin-4 (NT-4), NT-3
TRKC	<i>NTRK3</i> (15q25.3)	Proprioception	NT-3

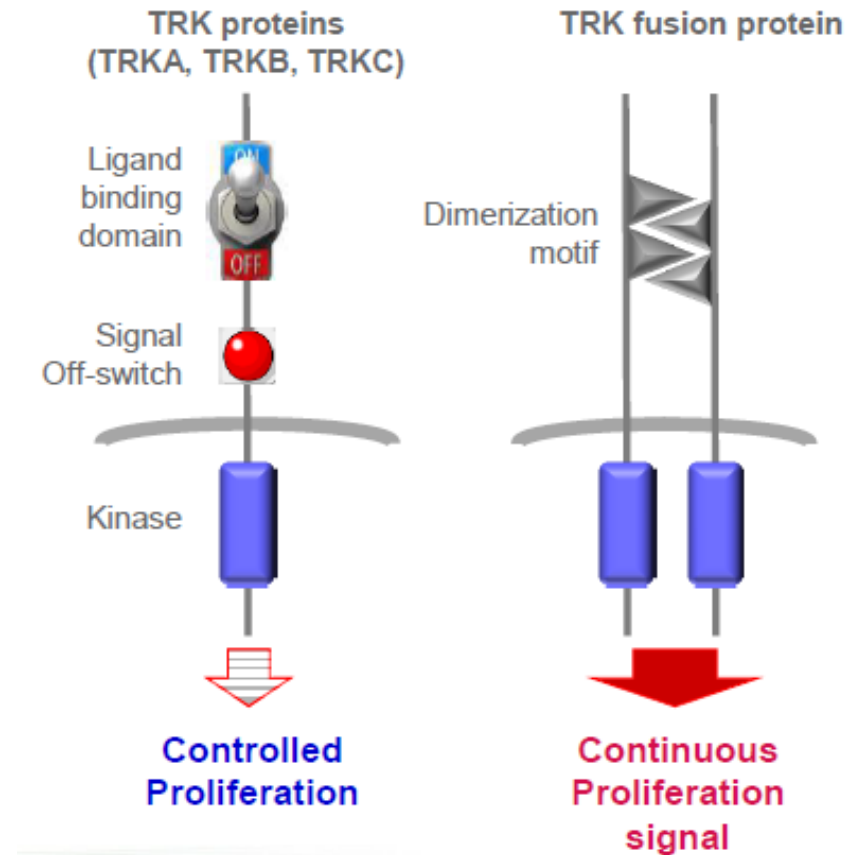
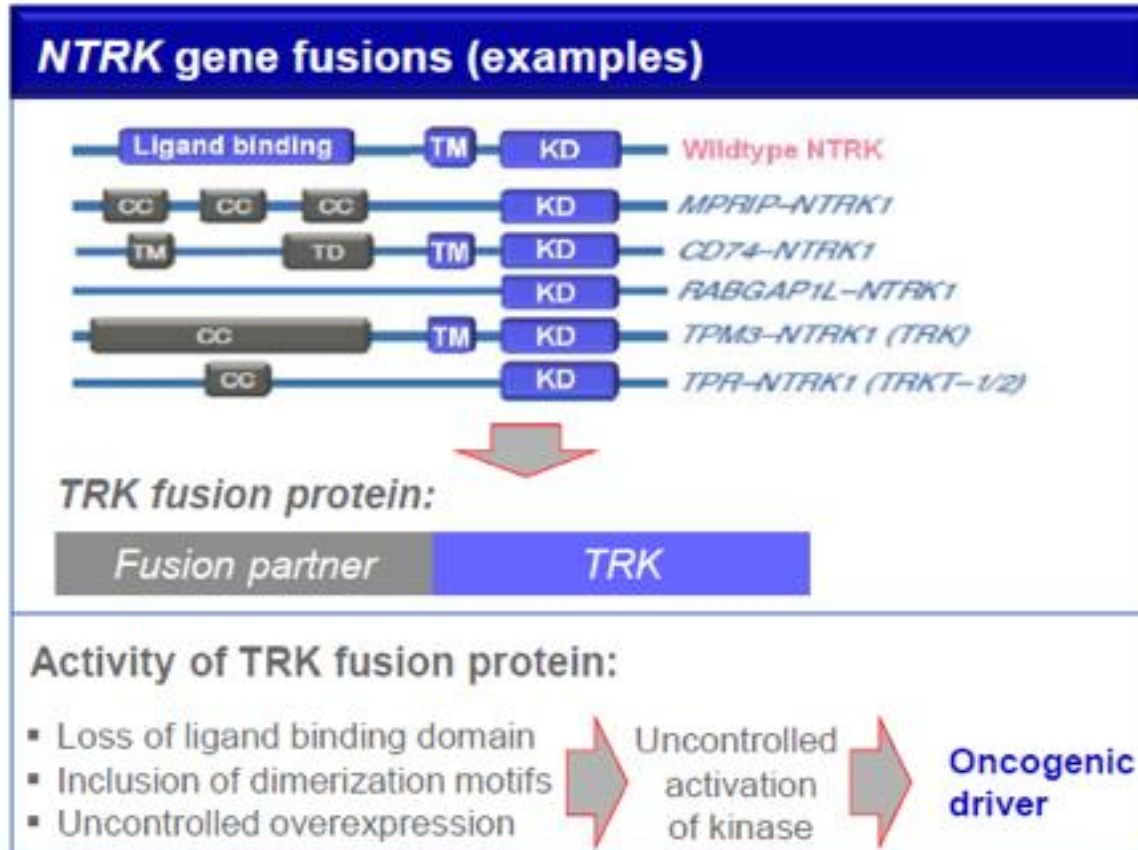
Neurotrophin signalling<sup>1,3</sup>



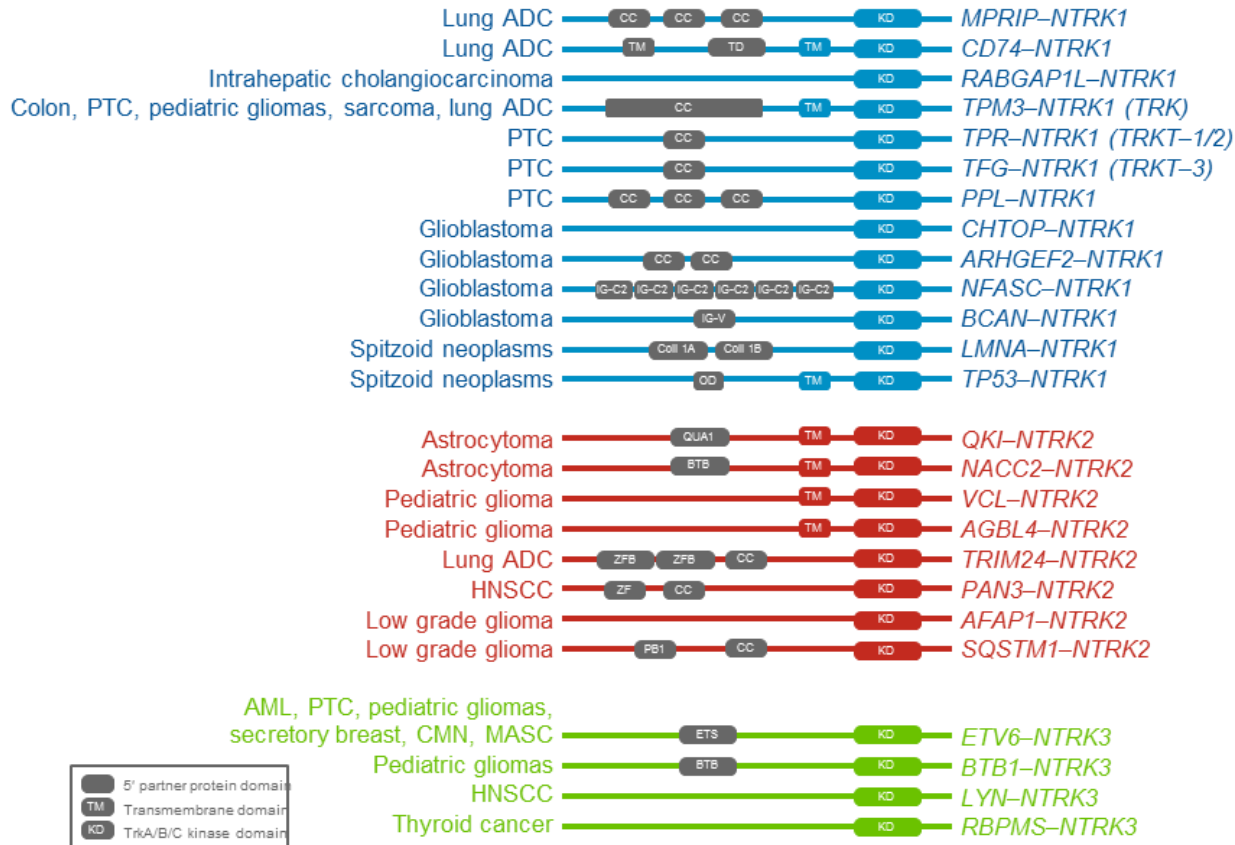
AKT, protein kinase B; ERK, extracellular signal-regulated kinase; NTRK, neurotrophic tyrosine receptor kinase; TRK, tropomyosin receptor kinase; Tyr, tyrosine

1. Nakagawara A. Cancer Lett. 2001;169:107-14; 2. Vaishnavi A, et al. Cancer Discov. 2015;5:25-34; 3. Blake J, et al. EORTC-NCI-AACR Conf. 2016;69:ENA-0491/Poster No. 442; 4. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/gene/4914>, accessed January 17, 2021; 5. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/gene/4915>, accessed January 17, 2021; 6. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/gene/4916>, accessed January 16, 2021

# BIOLOGY OF TRK FUSION PROTEINS



# THERE ARE NUMEROUS *NTRK* GENE FUSION TYPES ACROSS MULTIPLE TUMOUR TYPES



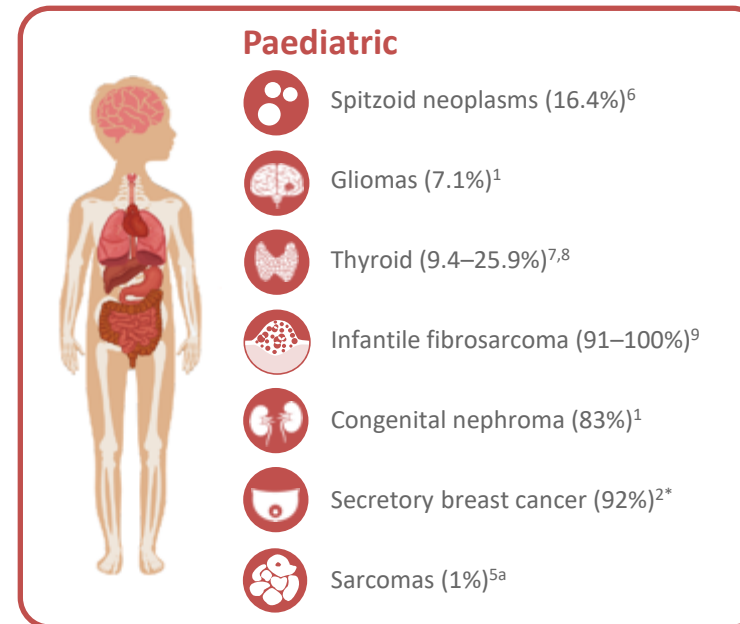
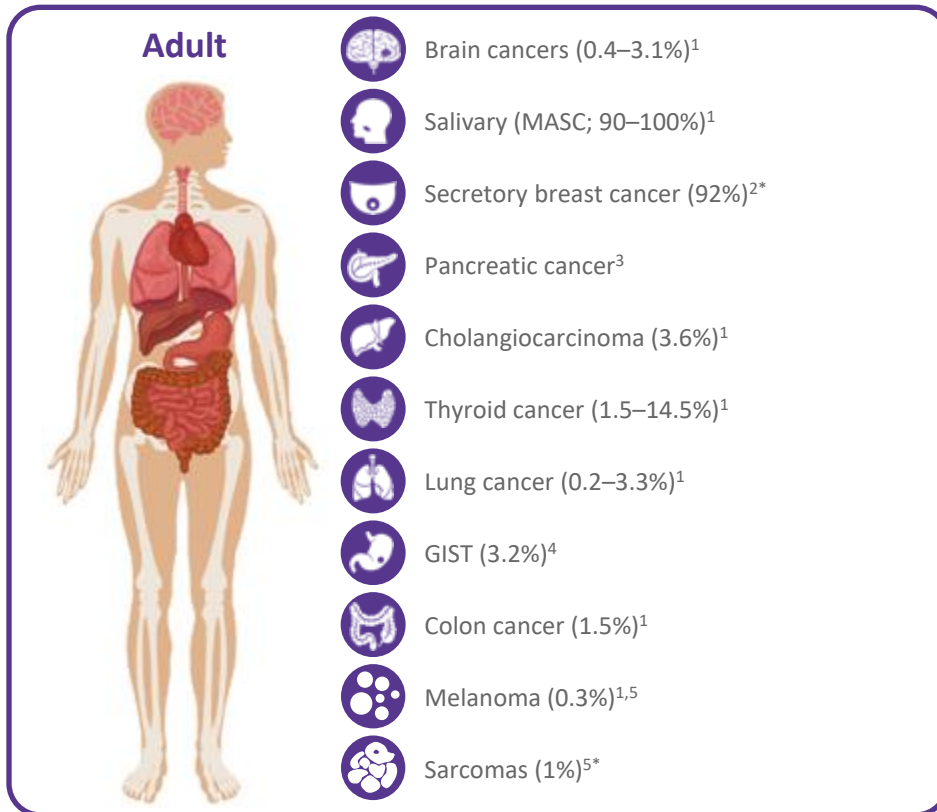
- There are a number of known *NTRK1* (blue), *NTRK2* (red), and *NTRK3* (green) fusions and tumours types in which they have been identified
- Not all gene fusions have been characterised functionally
- Novel/non-canonical fusions are common, including in IFS

ADC, adenocarcinoma; AML, acute myeloid leukaemia; BTB, bric-a-brac, tram-track, and broad complex domain; CCD, coiled-coil domain; CMN, congenital mesoblastic nephroma; ETS, E26 transformation-specific domain; HNSCC, head and neck squamous cell cancer; IFS, infantile fibrosarcoma; IG-C2, immunoglobulin-like C2-type domain; IG-V, immunoglobulin-like V domain; KD, kinase domain; MASC, mammary analogue secretory carcinoma; NTRK, neurotrophic tyrosine receptor kinase; OD, oligomerization domain; PTC, papillary thyroid cancer; TD, trimerization domain; TM, transmembrane domain; ZF, Zinc finger domain; QUA1, quaking 1 domain

# TRK CANCER EPIDEMIOLOGY

TRK, tropomyosin receptor kinase

# NTRK GENE FUSIONS ARE FOUND IN MANY CANCERS WITH HIGH UNMET NEED



1. Vaishnavi A, Le A, Doebele RC. *Cancer Discov.* 2015;5:25-34.
2. Tognon C, et al. *Cancer Cell.* 2002;2:367-376.
3. Pishvaian MJ, et al. *Journal of Clinical Oncology* 36, no. 4\_suppl (February 1 2018) 521-521.
4. Brenca M, et al. *J Pathol* 2016;238:543-549.
5. Stransky N, et al. *Nat Communications* 2014;DOI: 10.1038/ncomms5846.
6. Wiesner T, et al. *Nat Communications* 2014;5:3116. doi:10.1038/ncomms4116.
7. Ricarte\_Filho\_JC, et al. *J Clin Invest* 2013;123:4935-4944.
8. Prasad ML, et al. *Cancer* 2016; DOI: 10.1002/cncr.29887.
9. Bourgeois JM, et al. *Am J Surg Pathol* 2000;24: 937–946.

<sup>a</sup>Frequency in adult vs paediatric patients not specified

# TRK INHIBITORS



# TRK INHIBITORS AND CLINICAL DEVELOPMENT STATUS

## larotrectinib and entrectinib are the two currently approved TRK inhibitors\*

Drug Name (Sponsor)	Molecular Targets	Development Stage and tumour Types
larotrectinib (Bayer)	<i>NTRK1-3</i>	Phase 1/2 in solid tumours in adults and adolescents (NCT02122913, NCT02637687, NCT02576431)
entrectinib (Roche/ Ignyta) <sup>1</sup>	<i>NTRK1-3, ALK, ROS1</i>	Phase 1/2 in solid tumours in adults (NCT02568267, NCT02097810, NCT02650401)
TSR-011 (Tesaro) <sup>1</sup>	<i>NTRK, ALK</i>	Phase 1/2 in solid tumours and lymphomas (NCT02048488) <sup>a</sup>
sitravatinib (MGCD516) (Mirati Therapeutics) <sup>1</sup>	<i>NTRK1-3, DDR2, MET, KIT, KDR, PDGFR</i>	Phase 2 in combination with nivolumab in NSCLC; advanced liposarcoma and other soft tissue sarcomas (NCT02954991, NCT02978859)
DS-6051b (Daiichi Sankyo) <sup>1</sup>	<i>NTRK1-3, ROS1</i>	Phase 1 in solid tumours (NCT02675491, <sup>a</sup> NCT02279433 <sup>a</sup> ); Status unknown; presented at ESMO 2017 but not mentioned in latest independent research materials <sup>4</sup>
merestinib (Eli Lilly) <sup>1</sup>	<i>NTRK1-3, MET, AXL, ROS1, MKNK2, FLT3, TEK, DDR1, DDR2</i>	Phase 1/2 in combination with LY2874455 <sup>b</sup> in R/R AML; advanced/metastatic cancer; NSCLC and solid tumours; biliary tract cancers (NCT03125239, <sup>c</sup> NCT03027284, NCT02920996, NCT02711553)
cabozantinib (Exelexis) <sup>1</sup>	<i>NTRK, KDR, MET, RET, ROS1, KIT, FLT1,3,4, AXL</i>	Phase 2 in NSCLC (NCT01639508)
PLX7486 (Plexxikon) <sup>1</sup>	<i>NTRK1-3, CSF1R</i>	Phase 1 in solid tumours (NCT01804530)
TPX-0005 (TP Therapeutics) <sup>2</sup>	<i>NTRK1-3, ALK, ROS1</i>	Phase 1/2 in advanced solid tumours (NCT03093116)
ONO-7579 (Ono) <sup>3</sup>	<i>NTRK1-3</i>	Phase 1/2 in advanced solid tumours (NCT03182257) <sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Trial is terminated; <sup>b</sup> LY2874455 is an FGFR inhibitor; <sup>c</sup> Trial is completed

ALK, anaplastic lymphoma kinase; AML, acute myeloid leukemia; AXL, tyrosine-protein kinase receptor UFO; CSF1R, colony stimulating factor 1 receptor; DDR, discoidin domain-containing receptor; ESMO, European Society for Medical Oncology; FGFR, fibroblast growth factor receptor; FLT, fms related tyrosine kinase; KDR, kinase insert domain receptor; KIT, mast/stem cell growth factor receptor; MET, c-MET proto-oncogene; MKNK, MAP kinase-interacting serine/threonine-protein kinase; NSCLC, nonsmall-cell lung carcinoma; NTRK, neurotrophic tyrosine receptor kinase; PDGFR, platelet-derived growth factor receptors; R/R, relapsed/refractory; RET, rearranged during transfection proto-oncogene; ROS1, proto-oncogene tyrosine-protein 1; TEK, tunica interna endothelial cell kinase; TRK, tropomyosin receptor kinase

\*Larotrectinib is approved in the US, Australia, Brazil, Canada, European Union, Hong-Kong, Israel, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Korea and Switzerland. Entrectinib is approved in the US, Australia, European Union and Japan

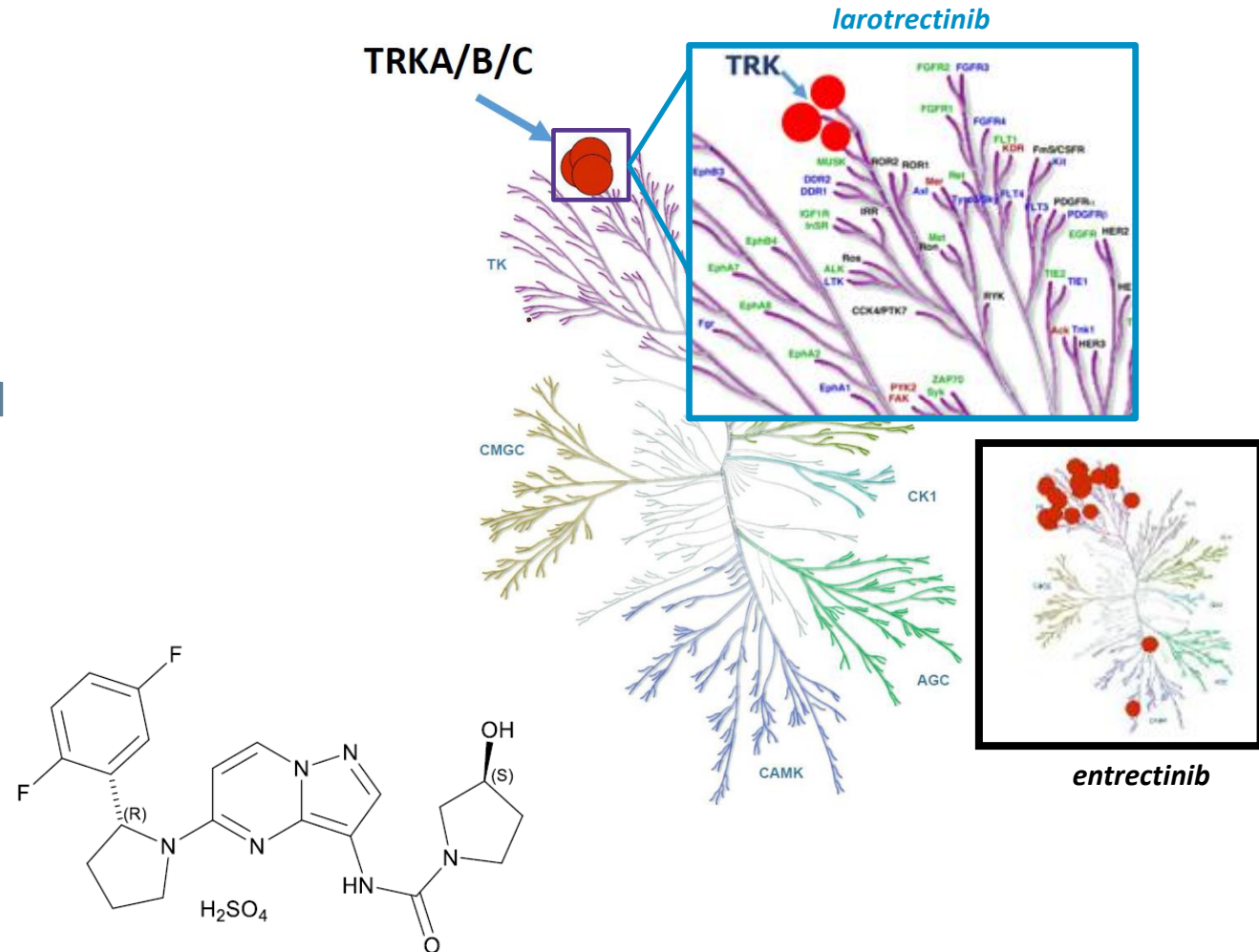
1. <http://www.onclive.com/publications/oncology-live/2017/vol-18-no-15/trk-inhibitors-advance-rapidly-in-tumouragnostic-paradigm?p=2> (accessed January 16, 2021);

2. ClinicalTrials.gov. NCT03093116; 3. ClinicalTrials.gov. NCT03182257; 4. Takeda M, et al. Ann Oncol. 2017;28 (suppl\_5):486-7

# LAROTRECTINIB

# LAROTRECTINIB IS A HIGHLY SELECTIVE TRK INHIBITOR

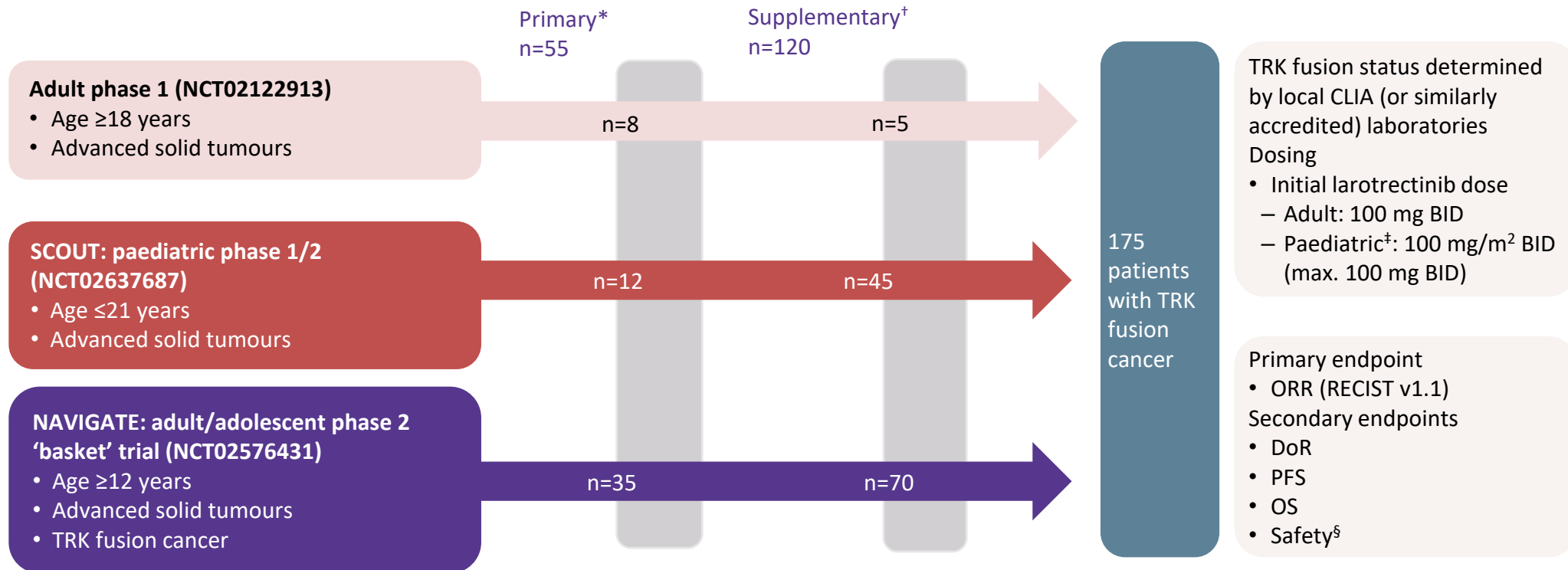
- First and only selective TRK inhibitor<sup>1</sup>
- High potency against TRKA, TRKB, and TRKC<sup>1</sup>
  - IC<sub>50</sub> = 5-11 nM in cellular assays
- Slow dissociation; inhibitor stays bound to target<sup>2</sup>
  - T<sub>1/2</sub>: 160 min
- High selectivity<sup>1,2</sup>
  - Limited inhibition of other kinases
  - ≥100-fold selectivity versus 229 other kinases



IC<sub>50</sub>, half maximal inhibitory concentration; T<sub>1/2</sub>, half-life; TRKA/B/C, tropomyosin receptor kinase A/B/C

1. Hyman DM, et al. J Clin Oncol. 2017;35:LBA2501; 2. Drilon A, et al. Ann Oncol. 2019;30 (suppl\_8):viii23-viii30

# LAROTRECTINIB CLINICAL DATA: INTEGRATED ANALYSIS STUDY DESIGN



\* The primary dataset comprises the original patients included in the primary report with longer follow up

† The supplementary dataset comprises the additional patients included in this analysis

‡ The starting dose was determined by Simcyp® modelling, which predicted that the doses needed to match the larotrectinib exposure in adults given 100 mg BID are 9.6, 17, 28, 39, 49, 55, and 55 mg/m<sup>2</sup> for patients aged 1-3 months, 3-6 months, 6 months to 1 year, 1-2 years, 2-6 years, 6-12 years, and 12-18 years, respectively

§ The safety population included all patients enrolled in one of the three clinical trials, who received at least one dose of larotrectinib, regardless of TRK fusion status (n=279).

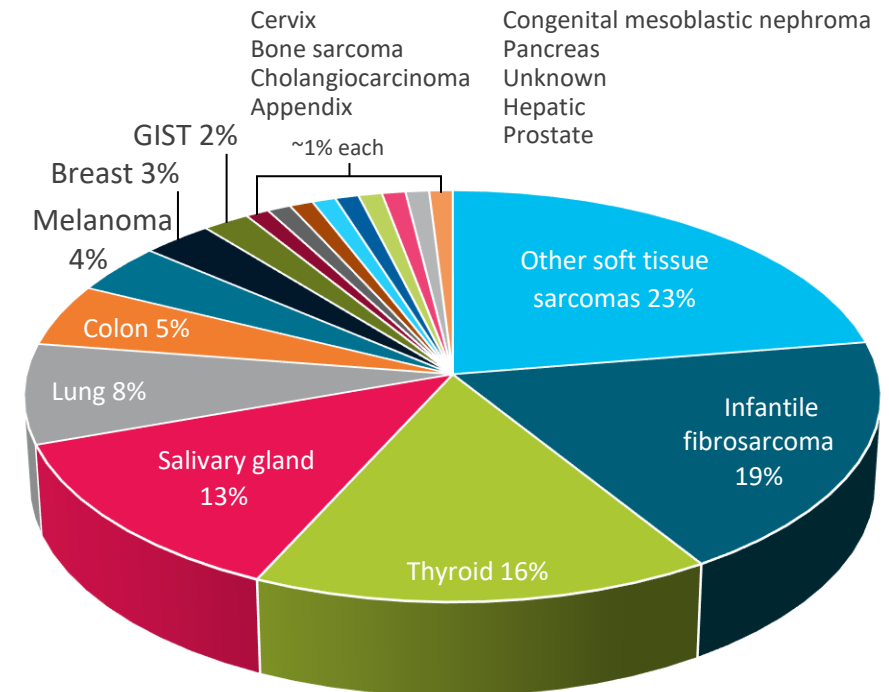
Data cut-off: July 15, 2019.

BID, twice daily; CLIA, Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments; DoR, duration of response; ORR, objective response rate; OS, overall survival; PFS, progression-free survival; RECIST, Response Evaluation Criteria in Solid Tumours; TRK, tropomyosin receptor kinase

McDermott R, et al. Ann Oncol. 2020;31 (suppl\_4):S1034-S1051

# LAROTRECTINIB CLINICAL DATA: INTEGRATED ANALYSIS BASELINE CHARACTERISTICS

	Integrated dataset (N=175)
<b>Sex, n (%)</b>	
Male	86 (49)
Female	89 (51)
<b>Age, median (range), years</b>	43 (0.1-84)
Paediatric (<18 years), n (%)	59 (34)
Adult (≥18 years), n (%)	116 (66)
<b>ECOG PS, n (%)</b>	
0	85 (49)
1	67 (38)
2	20 (11)
3	3 (2)
<b>Known CNS metastases at enrollment, n (%)</b>	14 (8)
<b>Number of prior systemic therapies, median (range)</b>	1 (1-10)
<b>Number of prior systemic therapies, n (%)</b>	
0	44 (25)
1	50 (29)
2	35 (20)
≥3	46 (26)
<b>NTRK gene fusion, n (%)</b>	
NTRK1	72 (41)
NTRK2	6 (3)
NTRK3*	97 (55)

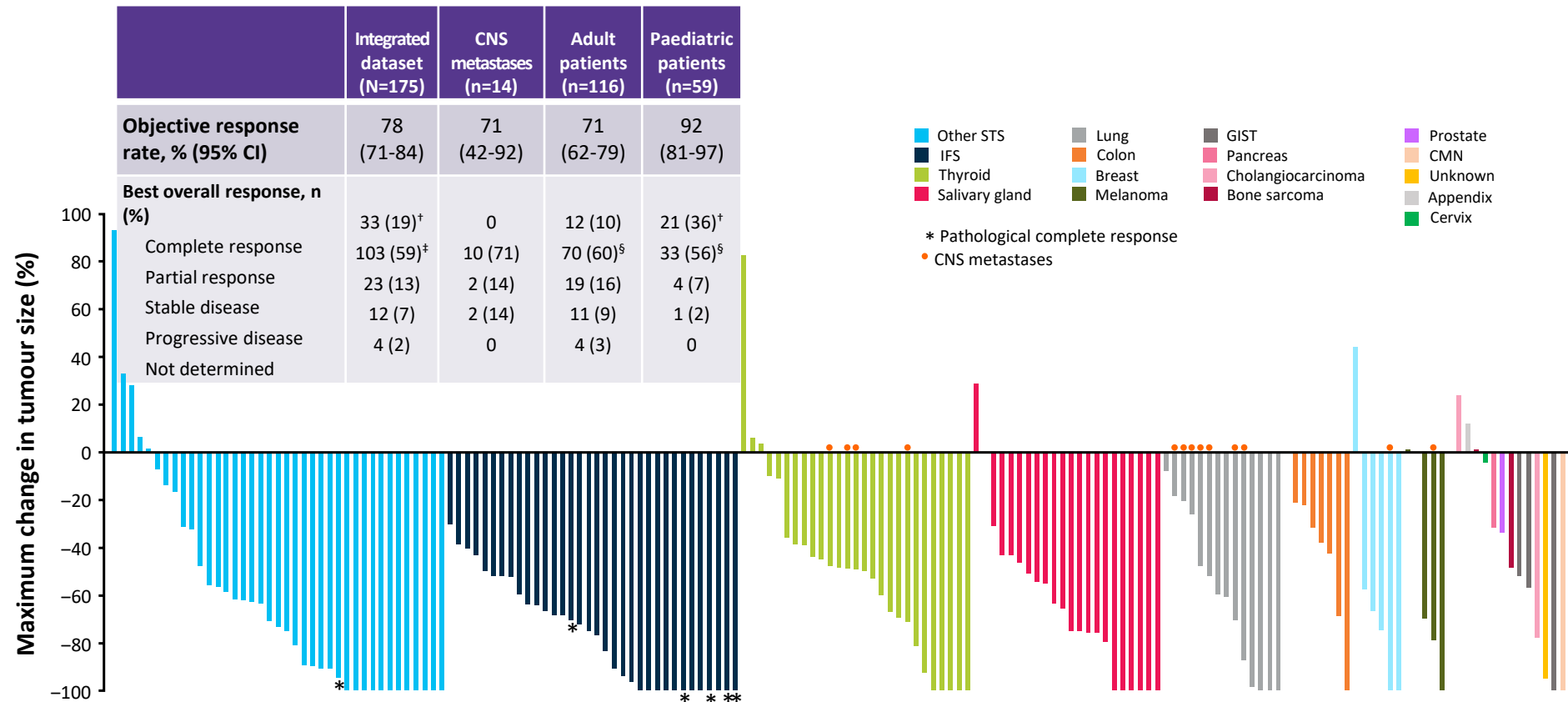


Data cut-off: July 15, 2019

\* Directly demonstrated or inferred (9 of 97 patients)

CNS, central nervous system; ECOG PS, Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group performance status; GIST, gastrointestinal stromal tumour; NTRK, neurotrophic tyrosine receptor kinase

# LAROTRECTINIB CLINICAL DATA: INTEGRATED ANALYSIS BEST RESPONSE BY TUMOUR TYPE



Data cut-off: July 15, 2019

\* Patients with a pathological complete response

<sup>†</sup> Including 6 patients with pathological complete response

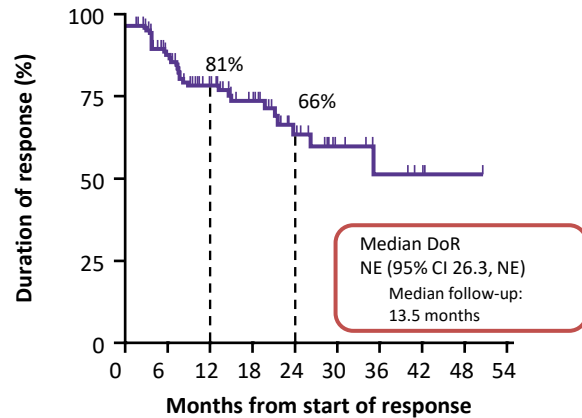
<sup>‡</sup> 4 partial responses pending confirmation

<sup>§</sup> 2 partial responses pending confirmation

CI, confidence interval; CMN, congenital mesoblastic nephroma; CNS, central nervous system; GIST, gastrointestinal stromal tumour; IFS, infantile fibrosarcoma; STS, soft tissue sarcoma

# LAROTRECTINIB CLINICAL DATA: INTEGRATED ANALYSIS DoR, PFS, AND OS

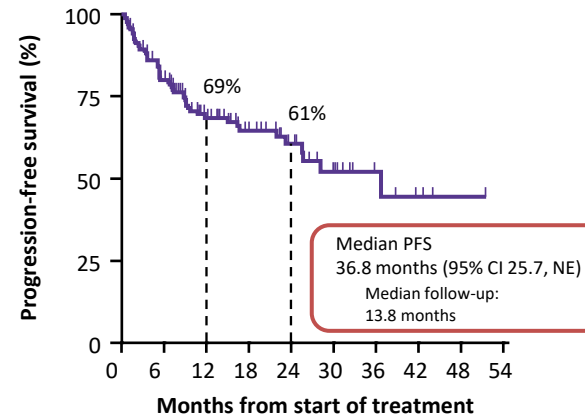
## DoR



**No. at risk** 132 90 57 39 21 11 5 3 1 0

- Rate of ongoing response at 12 months: 81% (95% CI 73, 89)
- Rate of ongoing response at 24 months: 66% (95% CI 53, 78)
- In 14 evaluable patients with brain metastases
  - Median DoR: 14.8 months (95% CI 3.7, NE) (median follow-up: 9.5 months)
  - Rate of ongoing response at 12 months: 61% (95% CI 26, 96)

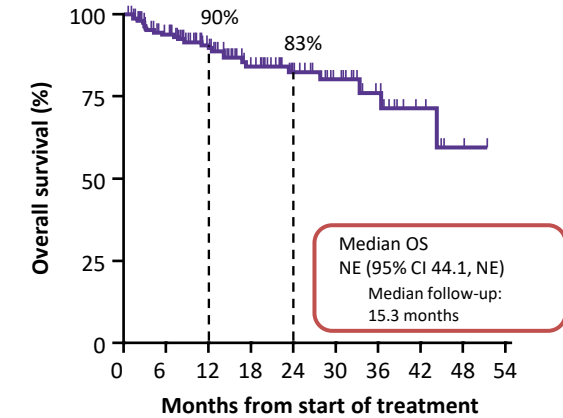
## PFS



**No. at risk** 175 114 66 46 27 16 7 4 1 0

- PFS rate at 12 months: 69% (95% CI 61, 76)
- PFS rate at 24 months: 61% (95% CI 51, 70)

## OS



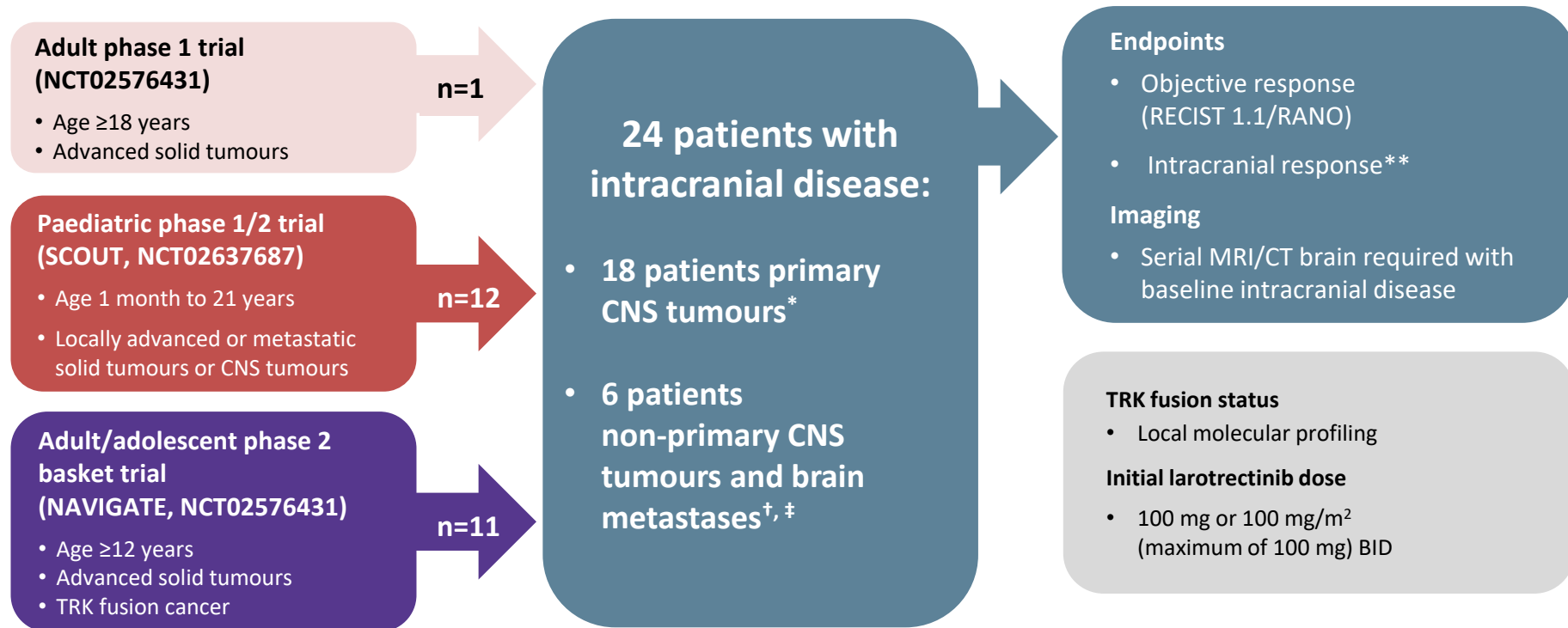
**No. at risk** 175 114 93 64 43 30 17 7 2 0

- OS rate at 12 months: 90% (95% CI 85, 95)
- OS rate at 24 months: 83% (95% CI 75, 90)

Data cut-off: July 15, 2019

# LAROTRECTINIB IN INTRACRANIAL DISEASE: CHARACTERISTICS OF FIRST PROSPECTIVE ANALYSIS

## METHODS



\* Data cut-off: February 19, 2019. † Data cut-off date July 30, 2018. ‡ Symptomatic or unstable brain metastases excluded. \*\* In tumour for patients with brain metastases; not a formal endpoint.

BID, twice daily; CNS, central nervous system; CT, computed tomography; MRI, magnetic resonance imaging; NTRK, neurotrophic tyrosine receptor kinase; RANO, response assessment in neuro-oncology; RECIST, Response Evaluation Criteria in Solid Tumours; TRK, tropomyosin receptor kinase

Drilon A, et al. J Clin Oncol. 2019;37 no. 15 suppl:2006-2006

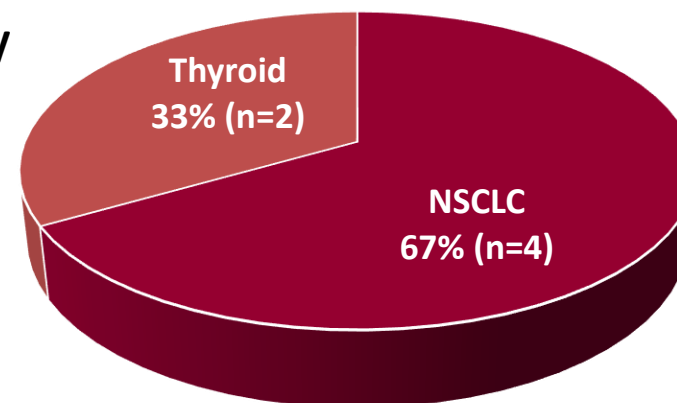


# LAROTRECTINIB IN INTRACRANIAL DISEASE: BASELINE CHARACTERISTICS IN PATIENTS WITH NON-PRIMARY CNS SOLID TUMOURS

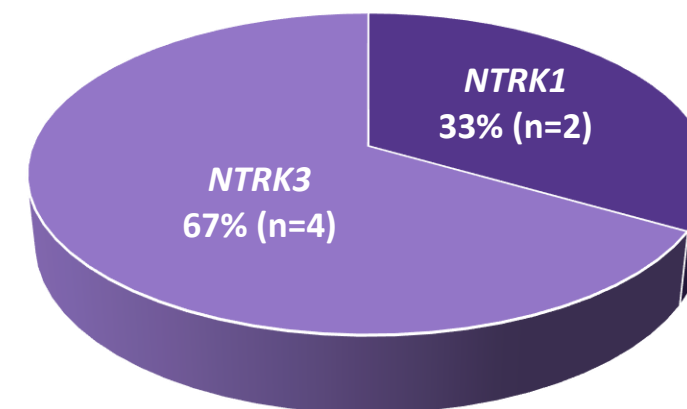
Frequency of brain metastases in TRK fusion-positive solid tumours: **5% (n=6/121)**

Characteristic	N=6
Gender, n (%)	
Female	4 (67%)
Male	2 (33%)
Age, median (range)	65 years (25-76)
Prior therapies, n (%)	5 (83%)
Systemic therapy	
Prior CNS Surgery/Radiotherapy	2 (33%)
Yes*	4 (67%)
No	
Number of prior systemic therapies, median (range)	2 (0-5)

## Histology



## Fusion



\*2 patients received radiation for intracranial disease >1 year prior to larotrectinib, 1 of whom also underwent surgery for intracranial disease >1 year prior to larotrectinib  
CNS, central nervous system; NSCLC, non-small cell lung cancer; NTRK, neurotrophic tyrosine receptor kinase; TRK, tropomyosin receptor kinase

# LAROTRECTINIB IN INTRACRANIAL DISEASE: RESPONSE IN PATIENTS WITH NON-PRIMARY CNS SOLID TUMOURS

Overall efficacy	Evaluable patients N=5
Objective response rate, median (95% CI)	60% (15-95)
<b>Best objective response* , n (%)</b>	
Partial response	3 (60%)**
Stable disease	2 (40%)
Progressive disease	0 (0%)

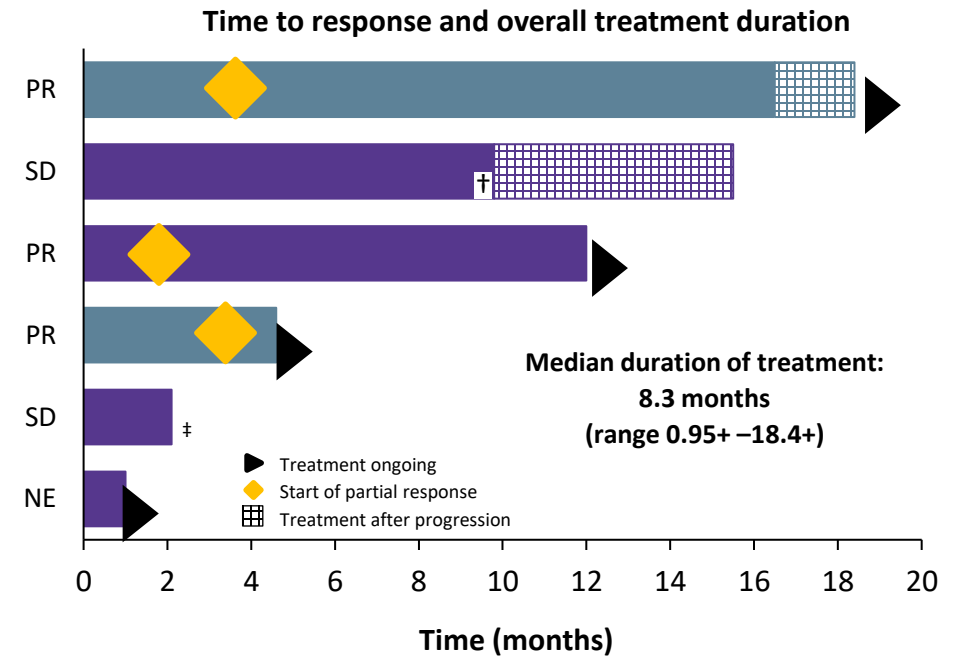
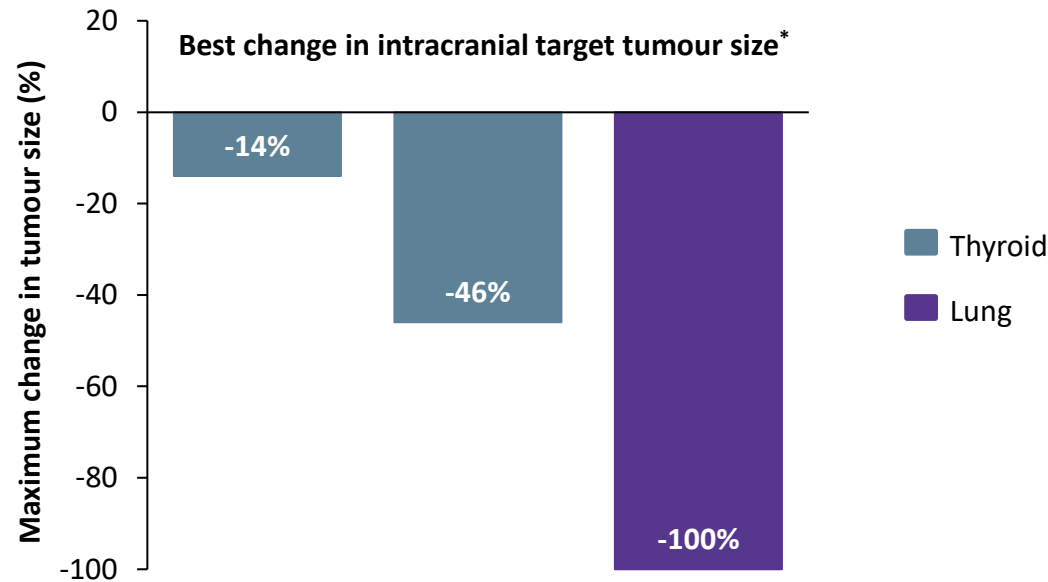
Data cut-off: July 30, 2018

\* Investigator assessment based on RECIST 1.1. \*\*One patient pending confirmation

CI, confidence interval; NTRK, neurotrophic tyrosine receptor kinase; RECIST, Response Evaluation Criteria in Solid Tumours

Drilon A, et al. J Clin Oncol. 2019;37 no. 15\_suppl:2006-2006

# LAROTRECTINIB IN INTRACRANIAL DISEASE: RESPONSE/TREATMENT DURATION IN PATIENTS WITH NON-PRIMARY CNS SOLID TUMOURS



Data cut-off: July 30, 2018. Disease assessments were performed by investigators

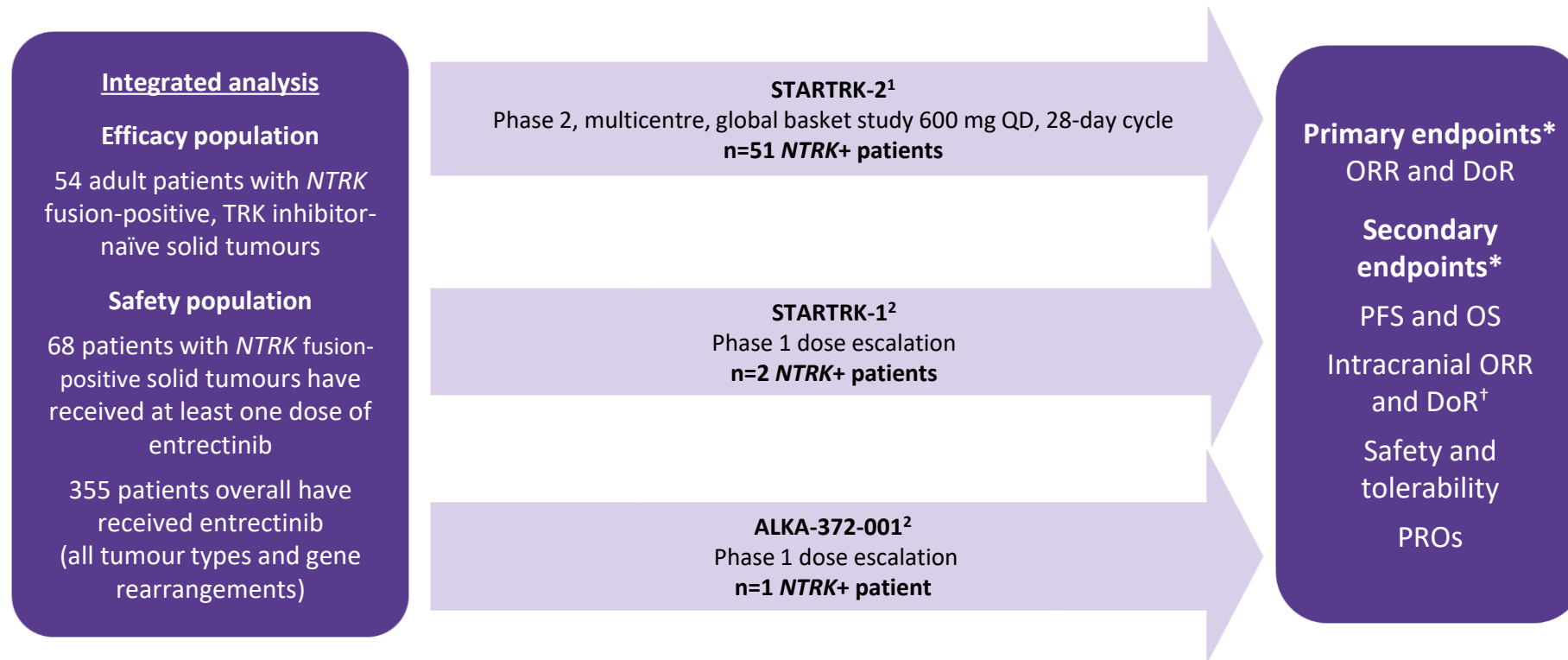
\* Intracranial target tumour responses in patients with measurable disease, based on RECIST 1.1 sum of longest diameter. † Dose increased to 150 mg BID. ‡Progression in brain

BID, twice daily; NTRK, neurotrophic tyrosine receptor kinase; PR, partial response; RECIST, Response Evaluation Criteria In Solid tumours; SD, stable disease

Drilon A, et al. J Clin Oncol. 2019;37 no. 15\_suppl:2006-2006

# ENTRECTINIB

# INTEGRATED EFFICACY AND SAFETY ANALYSIS OF ENTRECTINIB: STUDY DESIGN



Data cut-off: May 31, 2018

\*BICR, blinded independent central review measured by RECIST v1.1

<sup>†</sup>Patients with measurable CNS lesions at baseline and patients with measurable and non-measurable CNS lesions at baseline

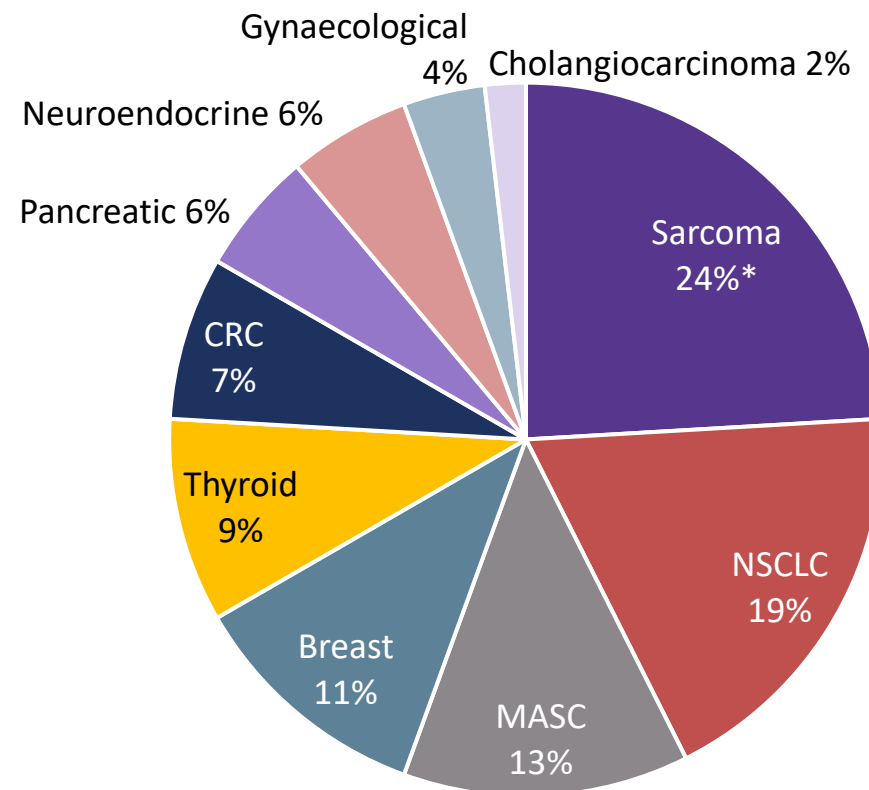
CNS, central nervous system; DoR, duration of response; *NTRK*, neurotrophic tyrosine receptor kinase; ORR, objective response rate; OS, overall survival; PFS, progression-free survival; PROs, patient-reported outcomes; QD, once daily; Response Evaluation Criteria In Solid tumours; TRK, tropomyosin receptor kinase

1. <https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT02568267>

2. Drilon, et al. Cancer Discov 2017

# INTEGRATED EFFICACY AND SAFETY ANALYSIS OF ENTRECTINIB: BASELINE CHARACTERISTICS

Baseline characteristics		<i>NTRK</i> + tumour-agnostic population (n=54)
Age, years	Median (range)	57.5 (21-83)
Sex, %	Female	59.3
	Male	40.7
Race, %	White	79.6
	Asian	13.0
ECOG PS, %	0	42.6
	1	46.3
	2	11.1
Prior lines of systemic therapy, %	0	37.0
	1	20.4
	≥2	<b>42.6</b>
CNS disease at baseline, %		<b>22.2</b>

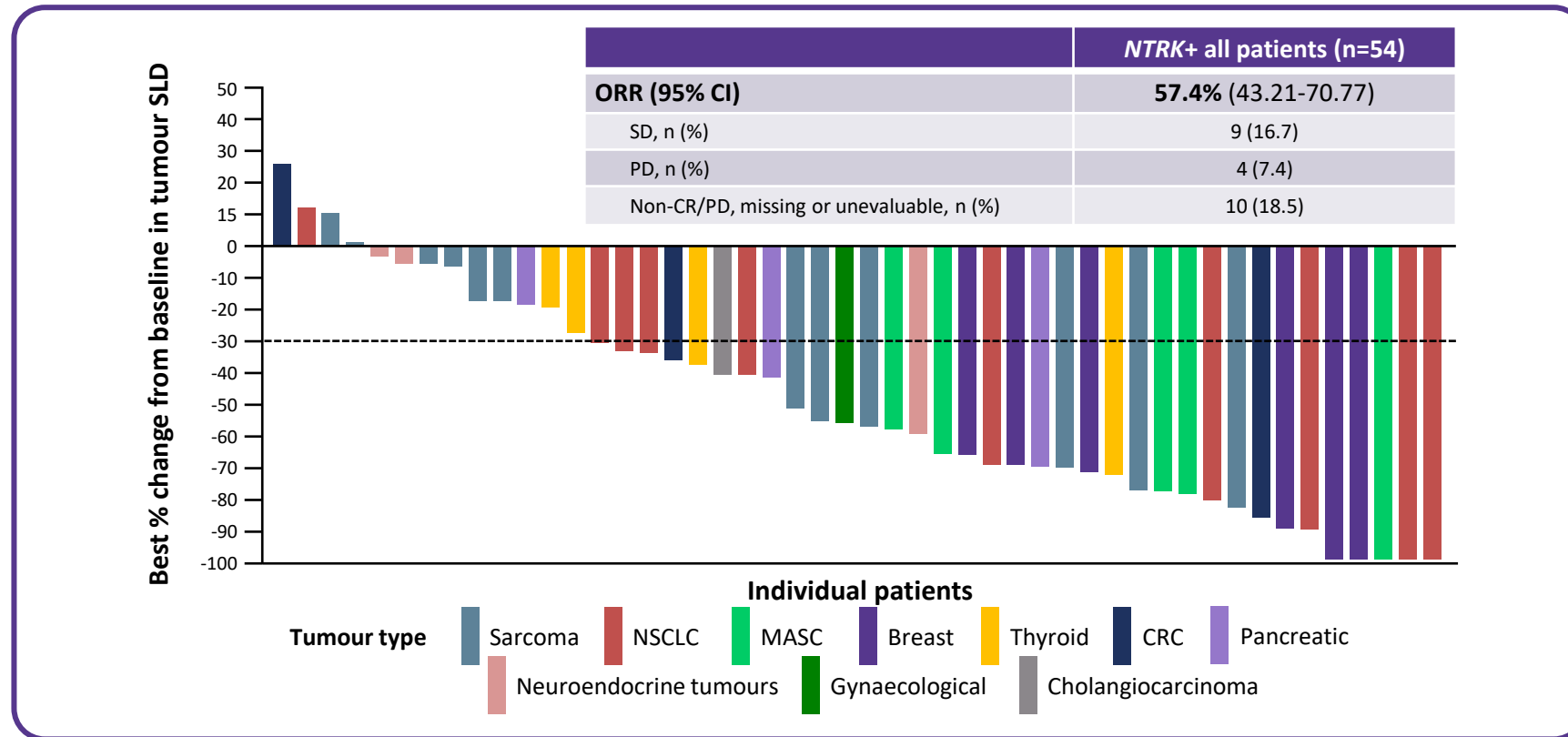


Data cut-off: May 31, 2018

\* Does not include any paediatric congenital fibrosarcoma patients

CNS, central nervous system; CRC, colorectal cancer; ECOG PS, Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group performance status; MASC, mammary analogue secretory carcinoma; NSCLC, non-small-cell lung carcinoma; NTRK, neurotrophic tyrosine receptor kinase

# INTEGRATED EFFICACY AND SAFETY ANALYSIS OF ENTRECTINIB: INDIVIDUAL ORR BY TUMOUR TYPE\* (BICR)

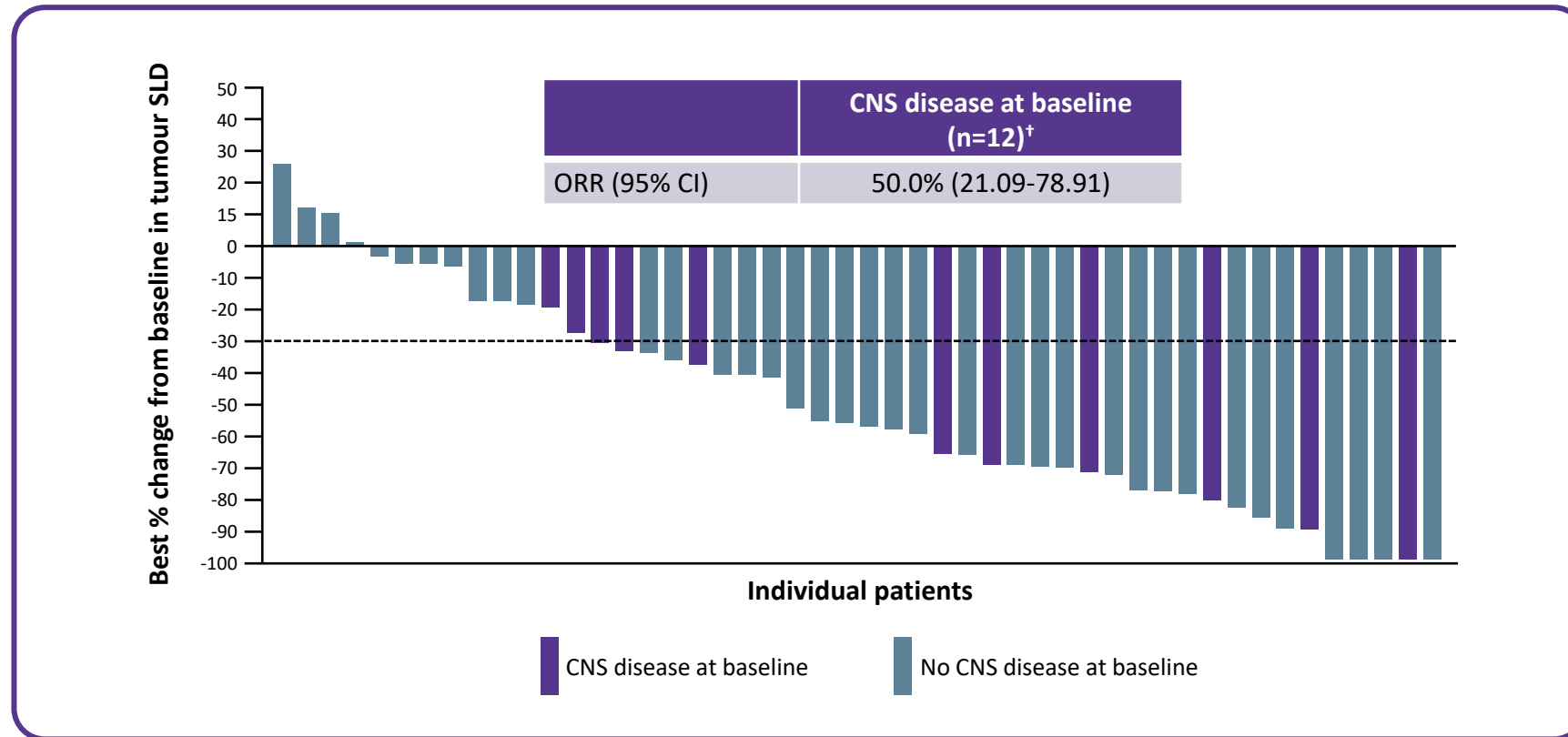


Data cut-off: May 31, 2018

\* Patients with missing SLD percent change (n=6) were excluded from the plot

BICR, blinded independent central review; CI, confidence interval; CR, complete response; CRC, colorectal cancer; MASC, mammary analogue secretory carcinoma; NSCLC, nonsmall cell lung carcinoma; NTRK, neurotrophic tyrosine receptor kinase; ORR, overall response rate; PD, progressive disease; SD, stable disease; SLD, sum of longest diameter

# INTEGRATED EFFICACY AND SAFETY ANALYSIS OF ENTRECTINIB: INDIVIDUAL ORR BY CNS TUMOUR INVOLVEMENT\* (BICR)



Data cut-off: May 31, 2018

\* Patients with missing SLD percent change (n=6) were excluded from the plot

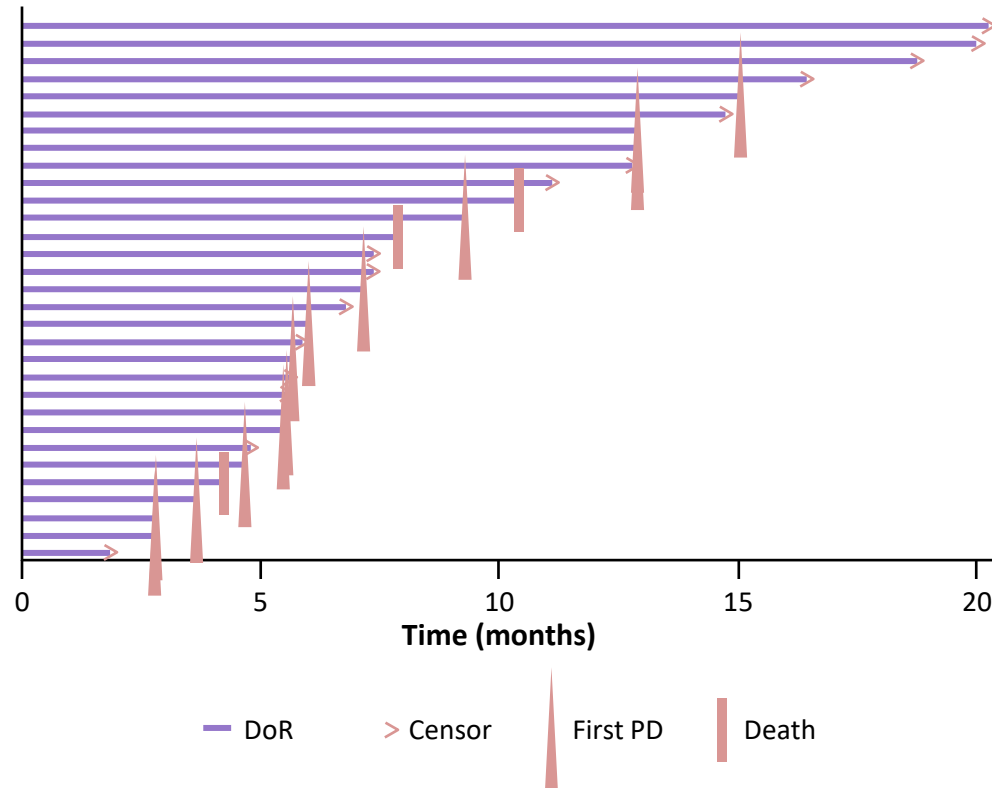
<sup>†</sup> One of the 12 patients with CNS disease at baseline was excluded from the plot for having no post-baseline assessment

BICR, blinded independent central review; CNS, central nervous system; NTRK, neurotrophic tyrosine receptor kinase; ORR, overall response rate; SLD, sum of longest diameter



# INTEGRATED EFFICACY AND SAFETY ANALYSIS OF ENTRECTINIB: DOR, PFS AND OS (BICR)

DoR with entrectinib (individual patients)



	DoR	PFS	OS
Patients included in analysis (responders, n)	31	54	54
Patients with event, n (%)	16 (51.6)	29 (53.7)	16 (29.6)
PD, n	13	20	—
Death, n	3	9	16
Median time to event (months)	<b>10.4</b>	<b>11.2</b>	<b>20.9</b>
95% CI for median	7.1-NE	8.0-14.9	14.9-NE

Median follow up for survival (PFS, OS): 12.9 months

Median follow-up for DoR: 13.1 months

BICR, blinded independent central review; CI, confidence interval; DoR, duration of response; NE, not estimable; NTRK, neurotrophic tyrosine receptor kinase; OS, overall survival; PD, progressive disease; PFS, progression-free survival

# INTEGRATED EFFICACY AND SAFETY ANALYSIS OF ENTRECTINIB: INTRACRANIAL ORR IN PATIENTS WITH CNS DISEASE AT BASELINE (BICR)

	CNS metastases at baseline by BICR (n=11)
<b>Intracranial ORR, n(%) (95% CI)</b>	6 (54.5) (23.38-83.25)
CR, n (%)	3 (27.3)
PR, n (%)	3 (27.3)
SD, n (%)	1 (9.1)
PD, n (%)	1 (9.1)
Non CR/PD, n (%)	2 (18.2)
Missing or unevaluable, n (%)	1 (9.1)
<b>Intracranial median DoR, months (95% CI)</b>	NE (5.0-NE)
<b>Intracranial median PFS, months (95% CI)</b>	14.3 (5.1-NE)

RECIST v1.1, data cut-off: May 31, 2018

BICR, blinded independent central review; CI, confidence interval; CNS, central nervous system; CR, complete response; DoR, duration of response; NE, not estimable; NTRK, neurotrophic tyrosine receptor kinase; ORR, overall response rate; PD, progressive disease; PFS, progression-free survival; PR, partial response; RECIST, Response Evaluation Criteria In Solid tumours; SD, stable disease

# SUMMARY OF MAIN CLINICAL DATA: LAROTRECTINIB VS ENTRECTINIB

	larotrectinib <sup>1</sup>	entrectinib <sup>2</sup>
<b>Target</b>	Selective for <i>NTRK</i>	Multikinase
<b>Response Rate (RR)</b>	78%	57.4%
<b>RR in CNS</b>	71%	54.5%
<b>Median PFS</b>	36.8 months	11.2 months
<b>Median OS</b>	NE (95%CI 44.1-NE)	20.9 months
<b>Adverse Events (AEs)</b>	Mostly grade 1-2	Mostly Grade 1-2
<b>Most common AEs</b>	Fatigue (33%)	Dysguesia (47.1%)

<sup>1</sup>Data cut-off: 15 July 2019; <sup>2</sup>Data cut-off: 31 May 2018

CNS, central nervous system; NE, not estimable; NTRK, neurotrophic tyrosine receptor kinase; OS, overall survival; PFS, progression-free survival

<sup>1</sup>McDermott R, et al. Ann Oncol. 2020;31 (suppl\_4):S1034-S1051

# FINAL THOUGHTS

- Fusions are truly oncogenic drivers
- TRK inhibitors are truly transformative molecules
- The prevalence of *NTRK* fusion cancer patients is rare but treatment can be life-saving-TEST! TEST! TEST!



**TESTING METHODOLOGIES  
AND TUMOUR-SPECIFIC ALGORITHMS**

**Prof. Frédérique Penault-Llorca**

University of Clermont-Ferrand, France

# DISCLOSURES



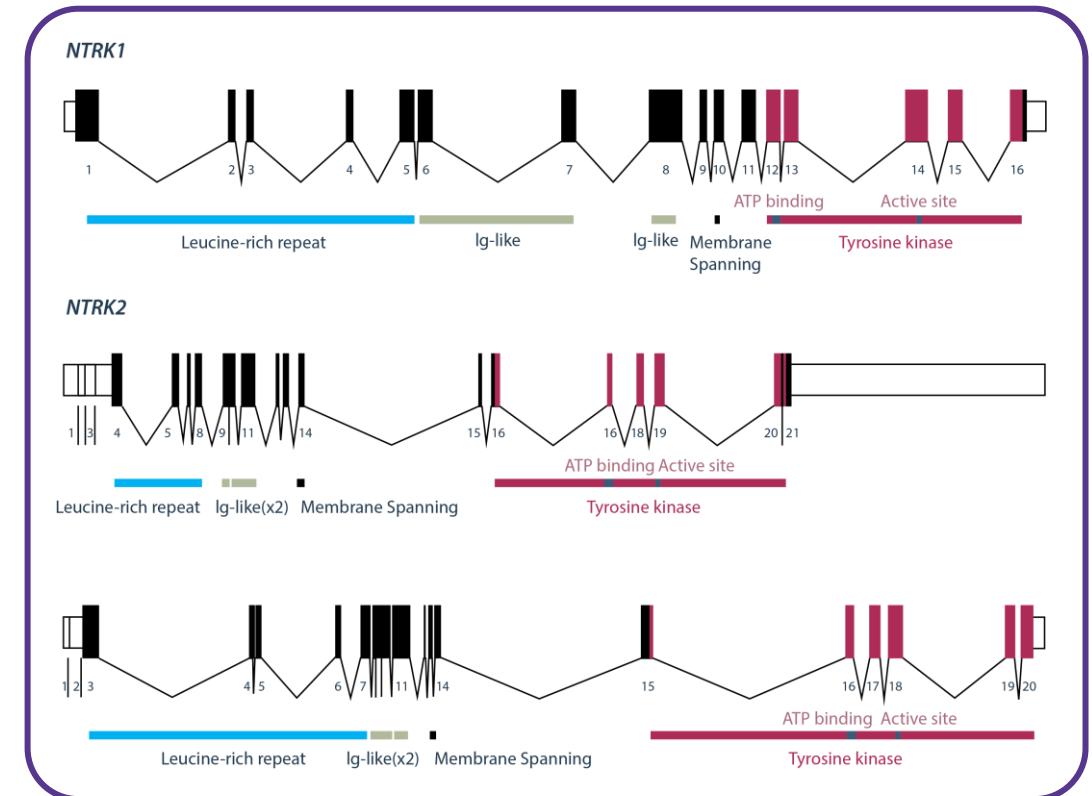
**Research/Grant Funding:** Abbvie, Astrazeneca, Bayer, BMS, MSD, Roche

**Speaker fee:** Abbvie, Agendia, AstraZeneca, Bayer, BMS, Chugai-Roche, Daiichi Sankyo, Eisai, Genomic Health, Illumina, Ipsen, Lilly, MSD, Myriad Genetics, Nanostring, Novartis, Pfizer, Pierre Fabre, Puma, Sanofi, Ventana-Roche.

# NTRK GENE FUSION CHARACTERISTICS TO CONSIDER FOR DETECTION<sup>1-5</sup>

- NTRK gene fusions have **multiple fusion partners** and with **inconsistent** break points that are **tumour-agnostic**
- The resulting chimeric genes have a variable number of **intronic** regions with variable lengths
- The resulting chimeric genes have low complexity, **GC-rich sequences**
- TRK fusion proteins are **endogenously** expressed in some tumour/tissue types

## ➔ Impact on testing strategies



Source: Farago AF, et al. JCO Precis Oncol. 2018. 2018:PO.18.00037

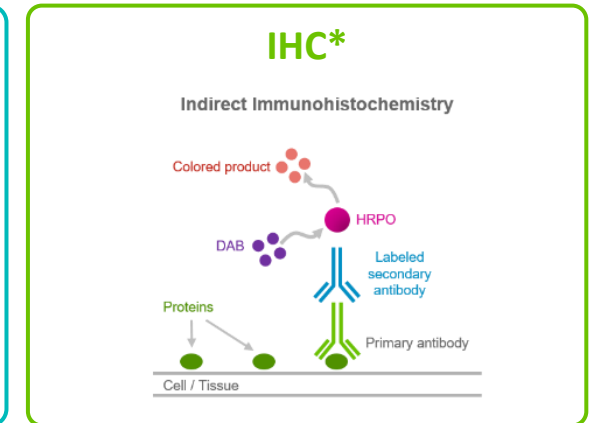
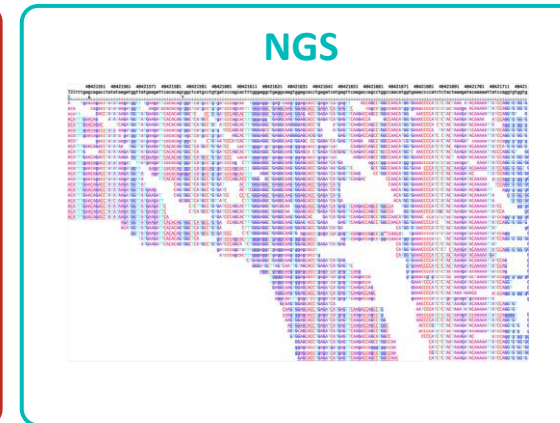
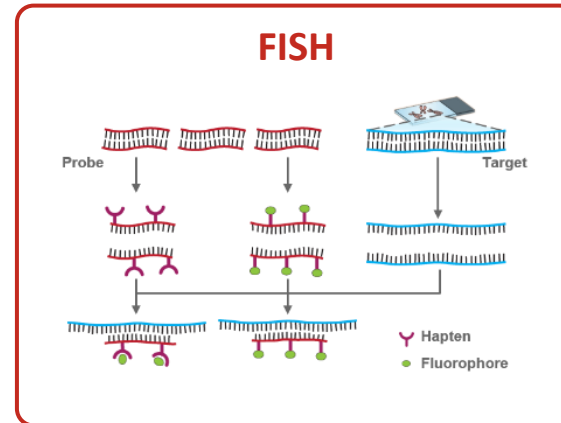
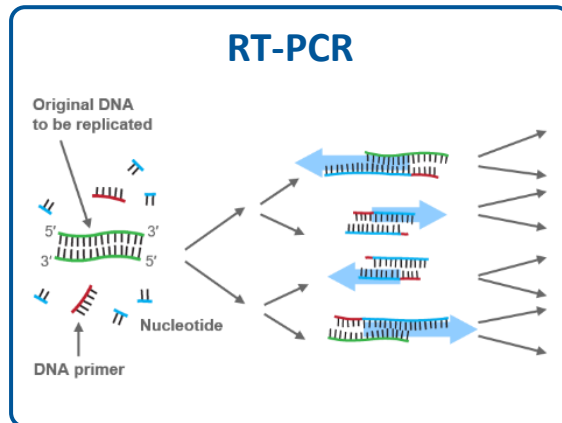
ATP, adenosine triphosphate; Ig, immunoglobulin; NTRK, neurotrophic tyrosine kinase; TRK, tropomyosin receptor kinase

1. Vaishnavi A, et al. Cancer Discov. 2015;5:25-34; 2. Sigal D, et al. J Natl Compr Canc Netw. 2017;15:1317-22; 3. Gagan J and Van Allen EM. Genome Med. 2015;7:80; 4. Shaw AT, et al. Nat Rev Cancer. 2013;13:772-87; 5. Farago AF, et al. JCO Precis Oncol. 2018;2018:PO.18.00037

# DIAGNOSTIC TESTING OVERVIEW

- *NTRK* gene fusions are oncogenic genomic alterations that are generally mutually exclusive with other driver gene mutations such as *ALK* and *BRAF*<sup>1</sup>
- Testing for *NTRK* gene fusions is essential to identify patients who harbour these genomic alterations and may therefore benefit from TRK inhibitors<sup>1-3</sup>

***NTRK* gene fusions can be detected indirectly or directly by multiple methods, including:**<sup>2-4</sup>



\*Only detects TRK protein expression, confirmatory genomic testing is required

ALK, anaplastic lymphoma kinase; BRAF, serine/threonine-kinase B-Raf/proto-oncogene B-Raf; FISH, fluorescence *in situ* hybridisation; IHC, immunohistochemistry; NGS, next generation sequencing; NTRK, neurotrophic tyrosine kinase; RT-PCR, reverse transcriptase-polymerase chain reaction; TRK, tropomyosin receptor kinase

1. Stransky N, et al. Nat Commun. 2014;5:4846; 2. Prasad ML, et al. Cancer. 2016;122:1097-1107; 3. Brenca M, et al. J Pathol. 2016;238:543-9;

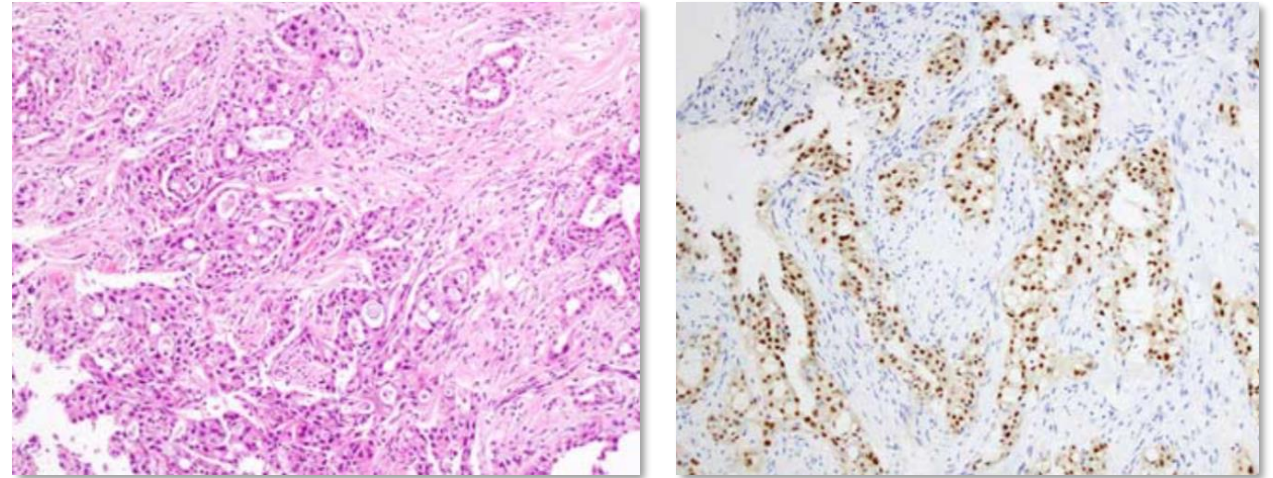
4. Hechtman JF, et al. Am J Surg Pathol. 2017;41:1547-51



# IMMUNOHISTOCHEMISTRY (IHC)

## THE PATTERN OF TRK EXPRESSION DETECTED BY IHC CAN BE VARIABLE IN INTENSITY AND SUBCELLULAR LOCALISATION

- **Nuclear** pan-TRK IHC can be considered a diagnostic surrogate of *NTRK3* fusions but other patterns can be associated
- Moderate to strong diffuse **cytoplasmic** pan-TRK IHC staining are more frequent in case of *NTRK1/NTRK2* fusions

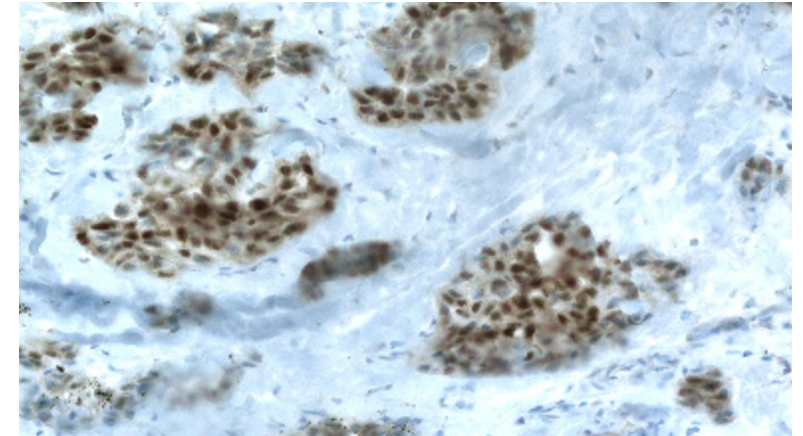


*ETV6-NTRK3* fusion positive case

# IMMUNOHISTOCHEMISTRY

## Advantages

- Less expensive, reimbursed in many countries
- Fast turnaround time
- Protein localisation provides clues on the presence of specific fusions



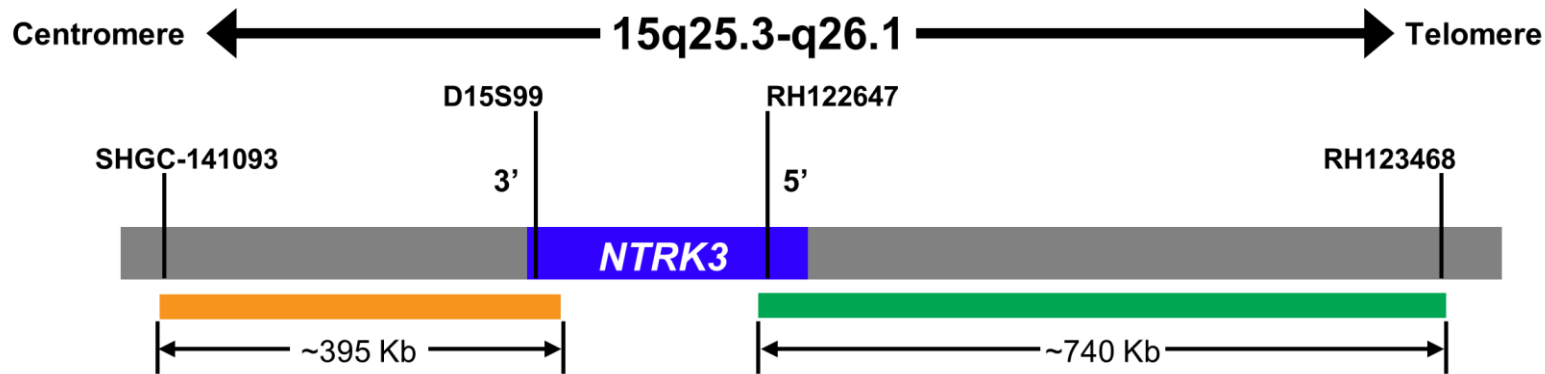
## Disadvantages

- Low expression or rare types of fusion may give false negative results (low protein expression levels)
- Constitutive expression or low expression not associated with fusion (low specificity in nervous, neuroendocrine tumours), heterogeneous non specific staining in some sarcoma
- Does not detect involved genes and exons
- Does not detect concomitant alterations

# FLUORESCENCE *IN SITU* HYBRIDISATION (FISH)

# BREAK-APART FISH IS PARTICULARLY USEFUL FOR DETECTING GENE TRANSLOCATIONS

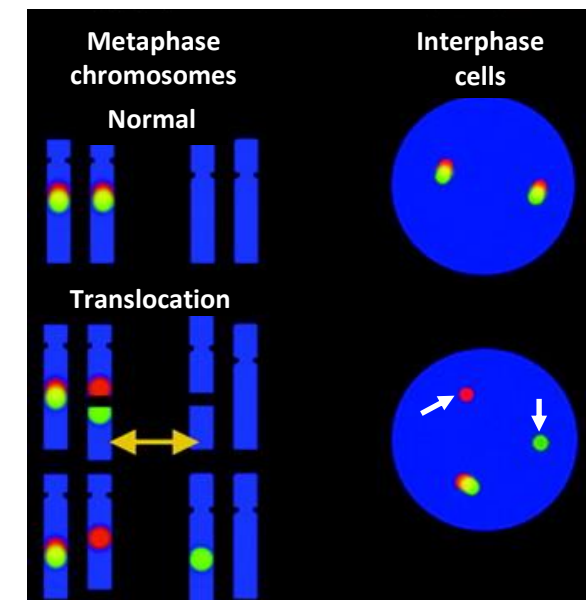
- Break-apart FISH uses separate, locus-specific, and differently coloured probes for the 5' and 3' ends of the gene of interest<sup>1</sup>



**Zytovision ZytoLight<sup>®</sup> NTRK3 Dual Colour Break Apart Probe**

**While break-apart FISH can identify gene disruptions in DNA, it cannot confirm in-frame, functional fusions**

**Yellow (red/green) signals in normal interphase nuclei versus split red and green signals in cell carrying translocation<sup>2</sup>**



FISH, fluorescence *in situ* hybridisation; NTRK, neurotrophic tyrosine kinase

Zytovision. [https://www.zytovision.com/downloads\\_products/datasheets/z-2206-ce-ivd.pdf](https://www.zytovision.com/downloads_products/datasheets/z-2206-ce-ivd.pdf). Accessed December 22, 2020

1. Cheng L, et al. J Path Clin Res. 2017;3:73-99; 2. Ventura RA, et al. J Mol Diag. 2006;8:141-51

# FLUORESCENCE *IN SITU* HYBRIDISATION (FISH)

## Advantages

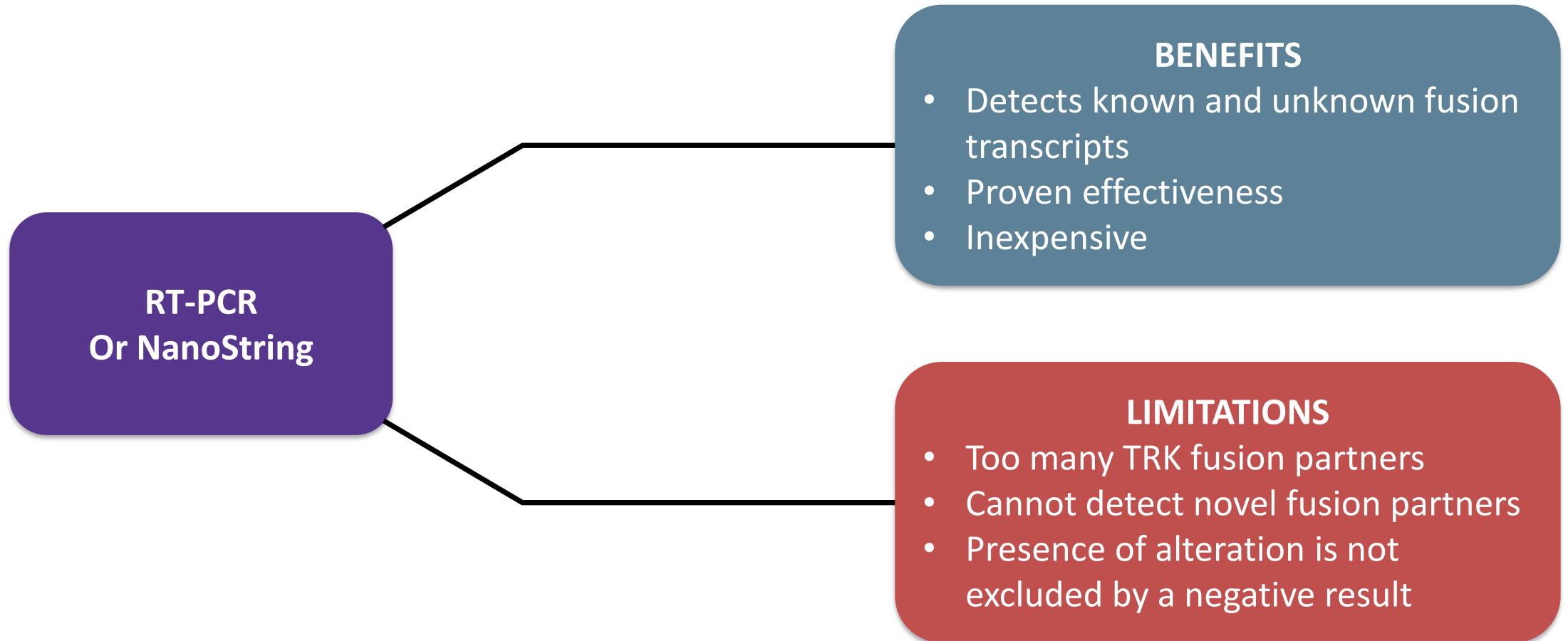
- Commonly used method for detecting gene fusions
- Fast turnaround time

## Disadvantages

- Tests have to be run for each gene
- While break-apart FISH can identify gene disruptions in DNA, it cannot confirm in-frame, functional fusions
- No indication about the partner gene
- Subjective interpretation
- Requires specific equipment
- May show up to 30% false negative results

# RT-PCR OR RNA TARGETED FUSION PANELS (NON NGS)

# DETECTION OF FUSION TRANSCRIPTS BY RT-PCR





# NEXT GENERATION SEQUENCING (NGS)



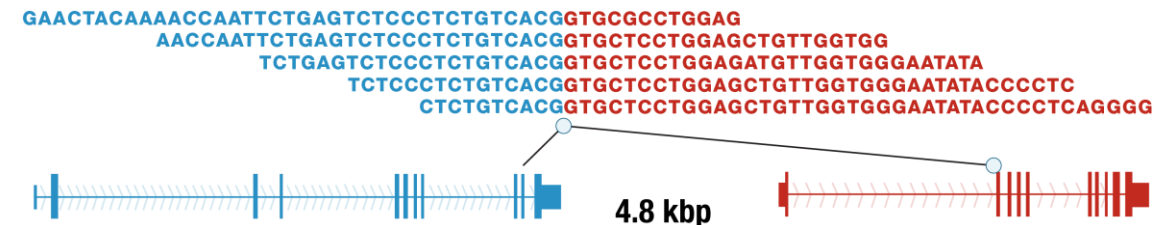
# ADVANTAGES OF NGS IN DETECTING *NTRK* FUSIONS

## General NGS

- ✓ High sensitivity and specificity potential
- ✓ Multiplexing: simultaneously queries multiple potentially actionable targets (e.g., *NTRK*, *ALK*, *ROS1*, *RET*)
- ✓ Detects both known and novel fusions, regardless of break point or fusion partner (depending on library preparation method)

## RNA-based NGS

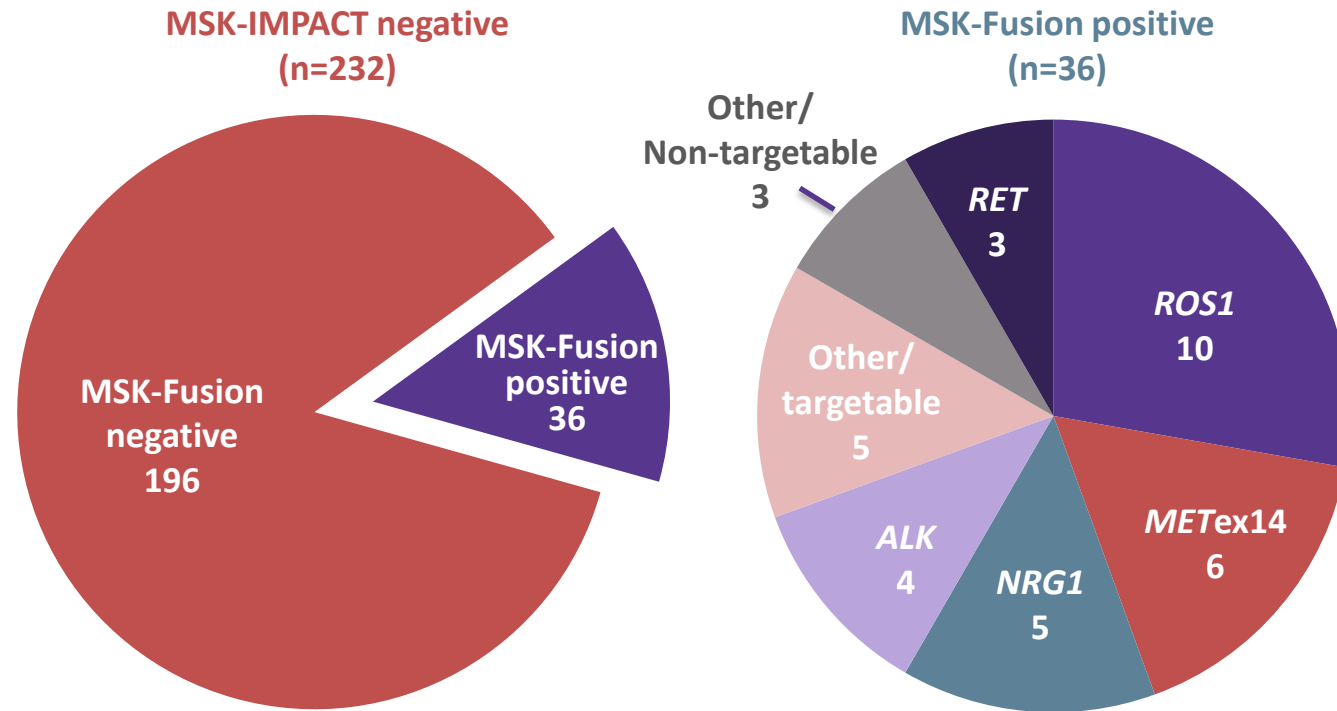
- ✓ Able to distinguish in-frame, transcribed gene fusions versus out-of-frame fusions
- ✓ Avoids difficulties of sequencing large intronic regions in the *NTRK* genes



**RNA-based NGS is the preferred method for detecting *NTRK* fusions in cancer**

# ADVANTAGES OF RNA NGS IN DETECTING *NTRK* FUSIONS

- Prospective DNA NGS MSK-IMPACT (Memorial Sloan Kettering-Integrated Mutation Profiling of Actionable Cancer Targets) of 2,522 lung adenocarcinomas
  - 195 (7.7%) fusions
  - 254 driver-negative → 254 underwent RNASeq → 27 in-frame fusions



## Clinical benefit of matched targeted therapy (n=10)

Rearrangement	Matched therapy	Best response*
<i>EML4-ALK</i>	Alectinib	SD
<i>CD74-ROS1</i>	Entrectinib	SD
<i>SQSTM1-NTRK3</i>	Larotrectinib	PR**
<i>STRN-NTRK2</i>	Larotrectinib	SD
<i>CD74-ROS1</i>	Entrectinib	PR**
<i>CD74-NRG1</i>	Afatinib	SD
<i>MET Exon14 skipping</i>	Crizotinib	SD
<i>SLC34A2-ROS1</i>	Crizotinib	PD
<i>SLC34A2-ROS1</i>	Crizotinib	SD
<i>SDC4-NRG1</i>	Afatinib	PD

\* Response assessment by RECIST v1.1. \*\* Confirmed PR

ALK, anaplastic lymphoma kinase; NGS, next generation sequencing; NTRK, neurotrophic tyrosine kinase; PD, progressive disease; PR, partial response; SD, stable disease

Benayed R, et al. Clin Cancer Res. 2019;25:4712-22

# CONCLUSION - DETECTING *NTRK* FUSIONS

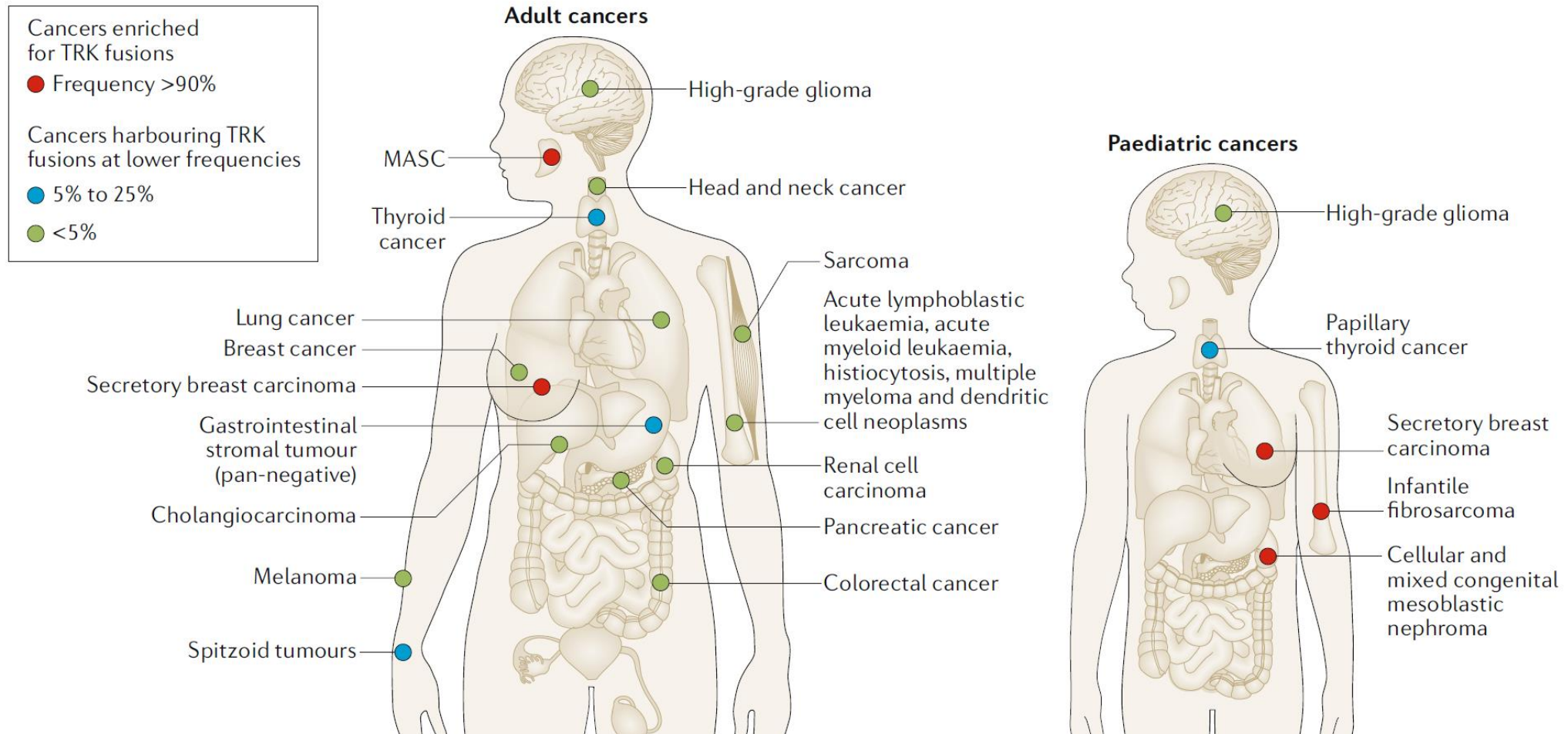
## The perfect *NTRK* fusion test does not exist

	Pros	Cons	Comment
<b>NGS</b>	Comprehensive hypothesis free	Gene fusions require deliberate and challenging assay design	RNA > DNA for fusion sensitivity
<b>RT-PCR</b>	Proven, inexpensive	Too many TRK fusion partners	Only detects fusions you know to look for
<b>FISH (break apart)</b>	Built for fusions	Single-plex, fusion partner not identified	Three <i>NTRK</i> genes = six probes/colours
<b>IHC</b>	Proven, inexpensive	Single-plex, “positive” does not necessarily indicate fusion	<i>ALK</i> gene fusion success story

- All in one solution but not available everywhere and expensive
- Targeted research but simple tools
- Useful for the “pathognomonic” *NTRK* positive cancers
- Useful screening tool but low sensibility with some clones

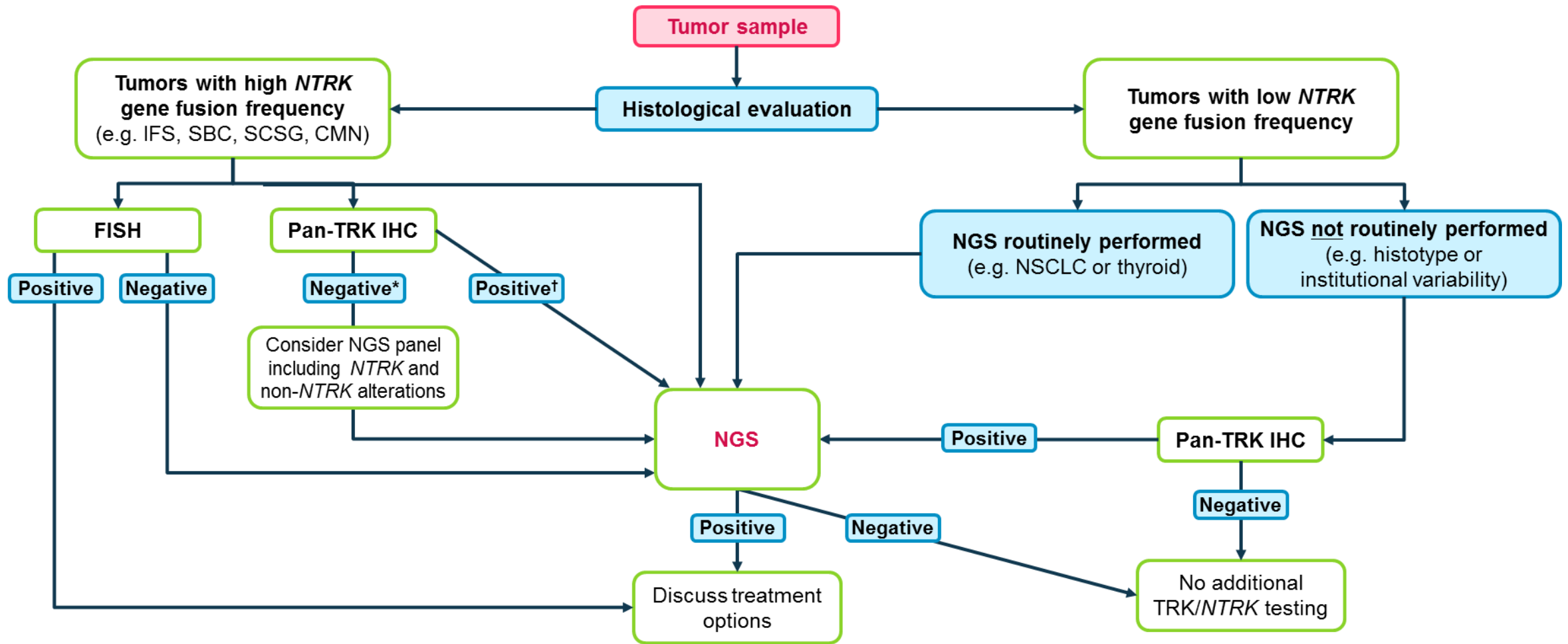
# TESTING STRATEGIES FOR *NTRK* FUSIONS

# DISTRIBUTION AND FREQUENCY OF *NTRK* FUSIONS IN ADULT AND PAEDIATRIC TUMOURS



MASC, mammary analogue secretory carcinoma; NTRK, neurotrophic tyrosine kinase; TRK, tropomyosin receptor kinase

# TESTING ALGORITHM FOR *NTRK* FUSION CANCER



\* If histology typical, then confirmation by NGS is recommended; † Concurrent NGS or FISH testing and treatment to be considered  
 CMN, congenital mesoblastic nephroma; FISH, fluorescence *in situ* hybridisation; IFS, infantile fibrosarcoma; ; IHC, immunohistochemistry; NGS, next generation sequencing; NSCLC, non-small-cell lung carcinoma; NTRK, neurotrophic tyrosine kinase; SBC, secretory breast carcinoma; SCSG, secretory carcinoma of the salivary glands; TRK, tropomyosin receptor kinase



# TESTING GUIDANCE: IDEAL AND ALTERNATE TESTING BEHAVIOURS

		Lung	Colorectal	Thyroid (RAI-refractory)	Sarcoma (GIST)
<b>WHO</b> Who should I test?	<i>Ideal</i>	Test all metastatic or locally advanced patients at diagnosis for oncogenic drivers (i.e. <i>EGFR</i> , <i>ALK</i> , <i>ROS1</i> ) and <i>NTRK</i>	Test all metastatic or locally advanced patients at diagnosis along with other biomarkers, such as <i>KRAS</i> , <i>NRAS</i> and <i>BRAF</i>	Test all RAI-refractory patients for <i>NTRK</i>	Test all metastatic or locally advanced patients at diagnosis along with other biomarkers ( <i>KIT</i> , <i>PDGFRA</i> , <i>SDH</i> , <i>NF1</i> , <i>BRAF</i> , <i>MDM/CDK4</i> ....)
	<i>Alternative</i>	Negative for <i>EGFR</i> , <i>ALK</i> , <i>ROS1</i> , wild-type <i>BRAF</i>  (Testing for <i>NTRK</i> should be conducted regardless of PD-L1 status)	<b>1) All MSI-H patients</b>  2) Wild-type <i>KRAS</i> , <i>NRAS</i> and <i>BRAF</i>	Negative <i>BRAF</i> V600	<i>KIT</i> , <i>PDGFRA</i> -negative ..... patients
<b>WHEN</b> When should I test?	<i>Ideal</i>	At diagnosis of metastatic or locally advanced disease	At diagnosis of metastatic or locally advanced disease	At diagnosis of metastatic or locally advanced disease	At diagnosis of metastatic or locally advanced disease
	<i>Alternative 1</i>	At diagnosis after <i>EGFR</i> , <i>ALK</i> , <i>ROS1</i>	At metastatic diagnosis following <i>KRAS</i> , <i>NRAS</i> , <i>BRAF</i> and MSI	At metastatic diagnosis - following <i>BRAF</i>	At metastatic diagnosis following <i>KIT</i> , <i>PDGFRA</i>
	<i>Alternative 2</i>	After first- or second- line SOC	1) After first-line for MSI-H patients 2) Following first-line SOC for wild-type patients	After first-line SOC	After first- or second- line SOC
<b>HOW</b> How should I test?	<i>Ideal</i>	RNA-based NGS			
	<i>Preferred</i>	Pan-TRK IHC followed by molecular confirmation (except lung and CRC: NGS preferred if available)			
	<i>Alternative</i>	RT-PCR or FISH for <i>NTRK</i> 1,2,3			

ALK, anaplastic lymphoma kinase; BRAF, serine/threonine-kinase B-Raf/proto-oncogene B-Raf; CRC, colorectal cancer; EGFR, epidermal growth factor receptor; FISH, fluorescence *in situ* hybridisation; GIST, gastrointestinal stromal tumour; IHC, immunohistochemistry; MSI-H, microsatellite instability-high; NGS, next generation sequencing; NTRK, neurotrophic tyrosine kinase; PDGFRA, platelet-derived growth factor receptor alpha; PD-L1, programmed death-ligand 1; RAI, radioactive iodine; RT-PCR, reverse-transcriptase polymerase chain reaction; SOC, standard of care; TRK, tropomyosin receptor kinase

# ROUTINE PAN-CANCER SCREENING: TUMOUR AGNOSTIC BIOMARKER

- **Screening for rare molecular events that occur across a variety of cancers can help to determine optimal treatment options for patients with advanced cancers**
  - NGS is broad and can detect many mutations, copy number variations, certain rearrangements, and microsatellite status
  - Mutation- and fusion-specific IHC have advantages in small samples or low tumour content cases
  - RNA testing can identify a variety of fusions in ‘driver-negative’ cancers
- **IHC with pan-TRK clones represent an interesting screening tools for frequent tumours (some limitations exist)**



# **ADVERSE EVENTS ASSOCIATED WITH TRK INHIBITORS**

**Prof. Ezra Cohen, MD, FRCPSC, FASCO**

UC San Diego Health – Moores Cancer Center  
La Jolla, California, USA

# DISCLOSURES



Prof. Ezra Cohen has received honoraria from the following: ALX Oncology, Ascendis, Bayer, Bioline Rx, BMS, Debio, Dynavax, MSD, Merck , Regeneron and Sanofi.

# BACKGROUND: LIST OF TRK INHIBITORS AND CURRENT DEVELOPMENT STAGE (ONGOING)

TRK inhibitor	Targets	Development status in <i>NTRK</i> -positive population <sup>1</sup>
larotrectinib, LOXO-101	<i>NTRK1/2/3</i>	Approved*
entrectinib, RXDX-101	<i>NTRK1/2/3, ALK, ROS1</i>	Approved**
selitrectinib, LOXO-195, BAY2731954	<i>NTRK1/3</i> (resistant)	Phase 1/2, completed (NCT04275960) and recruiting (NCT03215511)
repotrectinib, TPX-0005	<i>NTRK1/2/3, ALK, ROS1</i> (resistant) <i>JAK2, SRC, DDR1, FAK</i>	Phase 1/2, recruiting (NCT04094610; NCT03093116)
merestinib, LYS2801653	<i>NTRK1/2/3, MET, MST1R, FLT3, AXL, MERTK, TEK, ROS1, DDR1/2; MKNK1/2</i>	Phase 2, active, not recruiting (NCT02920996)
sitravatinib, MGCD516	<i>NTRK1/2/3, MET, KIT, PDGFRA, KDR, DDR2, RET, CBL</i>	Phase 1, active, not recruiting (NCT02219711)
taletrectinib, DS-6051b, AB-106	<i>NTRK1/2/3, ROS1</i>	Phase 1/2, active, not recruiting (NCT02675491), not yet recruiting (NCT04617054)
cabozantinib, XL184	<i>NTRK1/2/3, RET, ROS1, MET, and AXL</i>	Phase 2, recruiting (NCT01639508)
FCN-011	<i>NTRK1/2/3</i>	Phase 1, not yet recruiting (NCT04687423)

\*Larotrectinib is approved in the US, Australia, Brazil, Canada, European Union, Hong-Kong, Israel, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Korea and Switzerland . \*\*Entrectinib is approved in the US, Australia, European Union and Japan

ALK, anaplastic lymphoma kinase; CBL, casitas B-lineage lymphoma; DDR1/2, discoidin domain receptor tyrosine kinase 1/2; FAK, focal adhesion kinase; FLT3, FMS-like tyrosine kinase 3; JAK2, Janus kinase 2; KDR, kinase insert domain receptor; MKNK1/2, MAP kinase-interacting serine/threonine-protein kinase 1/2; MST1R, macrophage stimulating 1 receptor; NTRK, neurotrophic tyrosine receptor kinase; PDGFRA, platelet-derived growth factor receptor alpha; RET, rearranged during transfection; *ROS1*, c-ros oncogene 1; TRK, tropomyosin receptor kinase

1. Source : ClinicalTrials.gov website last accessed: on 11 January 2021

# **SAFETY PROFILE OF THE CURRENT APPROVED TRK INHIBITORS**

**larotrectinib (specific TRK inhibitor)  
entrectinib (TRK, ROS1, ALK inhibitor)**

# POOLED ANALYSIS OF AEs WITH LAROTRECTINIB

## Data cutoff:

19 February 2019

Adult in Phase 1  
Advanced solid tumours  
NCT02122913  
N=12

Paediatric in Phase 1/2  
Advanced solid tumours  
SCOUT: NCT02637687  
N=50

Adult/adolescent in Phase 2  
Advanced solid tumours  
NAVIGATE: NCT02576431  
N=97

	Treatment-emergent AEs, n (%)*			Treatment-related adverse events*	
	Grade 1-2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 3	Grade 4
Fatigue	79 (30%)	6 (2%)	0	1 (<1%)	0
Alanine aminotransferase increased	64 (25%)	7 (3%)	2 (<1%)	7 (3%)	1 (<1%)
Cough	71 (27%)	1 (<1%)	0	0	0
Constipation	69 (27%)	1 (<1%)	0	0	0
Anaemia	44 (17%)	25 (10%)	0	6 (2%)	0
Aspartate aminotransferase increased	62 (24%)	6 (2%)	1 (<1%)	2 (<1%)	0
Dizziness	64 (25%)	2 (<1%)	0	1 (<1%)	0
Nausea	62 (24%)	2 (<1%)	0	2 (<1%)	0
Vomiting	62 (24%)	2 (<1%)	0	0	0
Diarrhoea	59 (23%)	3 (1%)	0	0	0
Pyrexia	50 (19%)	2 (<1%)	1 (<1%)	0	0
Dyspnoea	35 (13%)	6 (2%)	0	0	0
Myalgia	38 (15%)	3 (1%)	0	2 (<1%)	0
Peripheral oedema	40 (15%)	1 (<1%)	0	0	0
Headache	38 (15%)	1 (<1%)	0	1 (<1%)	0
Neutrophil count decreased	18 (7%)	12 (5%)	2 (<1%)	4 (2%)	1 (<1%)
Lymphocyte count decreased	22 (8%)	7 (3%)	2 (<1%)	2 (<1%)	0
Hypokalaemia	12 (5%)	8 (3%)	1 (<1%)	0	0
Hypophosphatemia	5 (2%)	9 (3%)	0	0	0

\*Data are n (%). n=260. The adverse events listed here are those that occurred at any grade in at least 15% of patients, or at grade 3 or worse in at least 3% of patients, regardless of attribution. Refer to NTRK CONNECT for full publication details: <https://ntrkconnect.info/ntrk-connect-key-publication-snapshot-1-larotrectinib-and-entrectinib-efficacy-and-safety-profile-in-solid-tumours/>

AEs, adverse events

Source: Hong DS, et al. Lancet Oncol. 2020;21:531-40

# EXPANDED POOLED ANALYSIS OF AEs WITH LAROTRECTINIB

## Expanded safety dataset (N=279)

### Data cutoff:

15 July 2020

Adult in Phase 1  
Advanced solid tumours  
NCT02122913  
N=13

Paediatric in Phase 1/2  
Advanced solid tumours  
SCOUT: NCT02637687  
N=57

Adult/adolescent in Phase 2  
Advanced solid tumours  
NAVIGATE: NCT02576431  
N=105

	Treatment-emergent AEs, n (%)			Treatment-related AEs, n (%)	
	Grade 1-2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 3	Grade 4
Fatigue	85 (30%)	7 (3%)	0	1 (<1%)	0
Cough	82 (29%)	1 (<1%)	0	0	0
Alanine aminotransferase increased	70 (25%)	7 (3%)	2 (1%)	7 (3%)	2 (1%)
Constipation	75 (27%)	1 (<1%)	0	0	0
Diarrhoea	69 (25%)	4 (1%)	0	0	0
Dizziness	70 (25%)	3 (1%)	0	1 (<1%)	0
Anaemia	45 (16%)	26 (9%)	0	6 (2%)	0
Aspartate aminotransferase increased	64 (23%)	6 (2%)	1 (<1%)	2 (1%)	1 (<1%)
Vomiting	69 (25%)	2 (1%)	0	0	0
Nausea	67 (24%)	2 (1%)	0	2 (1%)	0
Pyrexia	60 (22%)	4 (1%)	1 (<1%)	0	0
Myalgia	45 (16%)	3 (1%)	0	2 (1%)	0
Dyspnoea	40 (14%)	7 (3%)	0	0	0
Arthralgia	43 (15%)	2 (1%)	0	1 (<1%)	0
Oedema peripheral	43 (15%)	1 (<1%)	0	0	0
Headache	41 (15%)	1 (<1%)	0	1 (<1%)	0
Weight increased	30 (11%)	10 (4%)	0	2 (1%)	0
<b>Neutrophil count decreased</b>	<b>18 (6%)</b>	<b>17 (6%)</b>	<b>2 (1%)</b>	<b>7 (3%)</b>	<b>1 (&lt;1%)</b>
Lymphocyte count decreased	24 (9%)	10 (4%)	2 (1%)	3 (1%)	0

Data presented are from AEs in the expanded safety dataset (N=279)

The safety population included all patients enrolled in one of the three clinical trials, who received at least one dose of larotrectinib, regardless of TRK fusion status (n=279)

The AEs listed here are those that occurred at any grade in at least 15% of patients, or at Grade 3 or 4 in at least 3% of patients regardless of attribution

AEs, adverse events; TRK, tropomyosin receptor kinase

Source: McDermott R, et al. Ann Oncol. 2020;31 (suppl\_4):S1034-S1051



# INTEGRATED SAFETY DATA FOR ENTRECTINIB

## Data cutoff:

31 May 2018

ALKA-372-001: Phase 1  
Solid tumours  
EudraCT 2012-000148-88  
N=1

STARTRK-1: Phase 1/2  
Solid tumours  
NCT02097810  
N=2

STARTRK-2: Phase 2  
Solid tumours  
NCT02568267  
N=51

Treatment-related adverse events (n=68)*	Grade 1–2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Treatment-related adverse events (n=68)*	Grade 1–2	Grade 3	Grade 4
Dysgeusia	32 (47%)	0	0	Disturbance in attention	3 (4%)	0	0
Constipation	19 (28%)	0	0	Pain of skin	3 (4%)	0	0
<b>Fatigue</b>	<b>19 (28%)</b>	<b>5 (7%)</b>	<b>0</b>	Neutropenia	3 (4%)	2 (3%)	0
Diarrhoea	18 (27%)	1 (2%)	0	Localised oedema	2 (3%)	1 (2%)	0
Oedema peripheral	16 (24%)	1 (2%)	0	Hyperaesthesia	2 (3%)	0	0
<b>Dizziness</b>	<b>16 (24%)</b>	<b>1 (2%)</b>	<b>0</b>	Ataxia	2 (3%)	0	0
Blood creatinine increased	12 (18%)	1 (2%)	0	Platelet count decreased	2 (3%)	0	0
Paraesthesia	11 (16%)	0	0	<b>Hyperuricaemia</b>	<b>2 (3%)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2 (3%)</b>
Nausea	10 (15%)	0	0	Hypophosphatemia	2 (3%)	2 (3%)	0
Vomiting	9 (13%)	0	0	Dehydration	2 (3%)	0	0
Arthralgia	8 (12%)	0	0	Diplopia	1 (2%)	1 (2%)	0
Myalgia	8 (12%)	0	0	Hypotension	1 (2%)	1 (2%)	0
<b>Weight increased</b>	<b>8 (12%)</b>	<b>7 (10%)</b>	<b>0</b>	Pyrexia	1 (2%)	0	0
<b>AST increased</b>	<b>7 (10%)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1 (2%)</b>	Lymphocyte count decreased	1 (2%)	0	0
<b>ALT increased</b>	<b>6 (9%)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1 (2%)</b>	Pruritus	1 (2%)	0	0
Muscular weakness	6 (9%)	1 (2%)	0	Hypoxia	1 (2%)	0	0
Anaemia	5 (7%)	8 (12%)	0	Fall	1 (2%)	0	0
Asthenia	5 (7%)	0	0	Osteoarthritis	0	1 (2%)	0
Peripheral sensory neuropathy	4 (6%)	1 (2%)	0	<b>Blood uric acid increased</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1 (2%)</b>
Neutrophil count decreased	4 (6%)	0	0	Hypermagnesemia	0	1 (2%)	0
Rash	4 (6%)	0	0	Cardiac failure	0	1 (2%)	0
				Cardiac failure congestive	0	1 (2%)	0

\*Data are n (%). n=68. The treatment-related adverse events listed here are those that occurred in the NTRK fusion-positive safety-evaluable population. Refer to NTRK CONNECT for full publication details: <https://ntrkconnect.info/ntrk-connect-key-publication-snapshot-1-larotrectinib-and-entrectinib-efficacy-and-safety-profile-in-solid-tumours/>

ALT, alanine aminotransferase; AST, aspartate aminotransferase; NTRK, neurotrophic tyrosine receptor kinase  
Doebele RC, et al. Lancet Oncol. 2020;21:271-82

# CHARACTERISATION OF ON-TARGET ADVERSE EVENTS CAUSED BY TRK INHIBITOR THERAPY

Liu D, et al. *Ann Oncol.* 2020;31:1207-15

# DEFINITION & RETROSPECTIVE STUDY DESIGN

- **On-target** refers to pronounced and adverse pharmacological effects at the target molecule of interest in the test system<sup>1</sup>
- **Off-target** refers to adverse effects as a result of modulation of other target molecules; these may be related biologically or totally unrelated to the target of interest<sup>1</sup>

## Eligibility criteria

- Treated in the Early Drug Development Service of Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center between January 1st 2013 → April 1st 2019
- Pathologic evidence of a solid tumour
- Advanced or unresectable disease
- treated with at least one dose of a tyrosine kinase inhibitor with potent anti-TRK activity

n= 96

## Data collection

- Demographics
- Toxicity assessment
- AE management

## Treatment-emergent AEs Analysis

AE likely to be mediated by TRK inhibition were analysed:

- Paraesthesias
- Weight gain
- Dizziness with or without ataxia
- Pain with temporary or permanent TRK inhibitor withdrawal

# DEMOGRAPHICS AND BASELINE CHARACTERISTICS

Clinicopathologic features of the study population (n=96)	n (%) and continuous as median (range)
Age* (years)	52 (5-81)
Female sex	49 (51%)
Histology	
Lung	43 (45%)
Gastrointestinal	10 (10%)
Salivary	8 (8%)
Sarcoma	8 (8%)
Thyroid	6 (6%)
Melanoma	6 (6%)
Primary brain tumour	5 (5%)
Neuroblastoma	5 (5%)
Other	7 (7%)

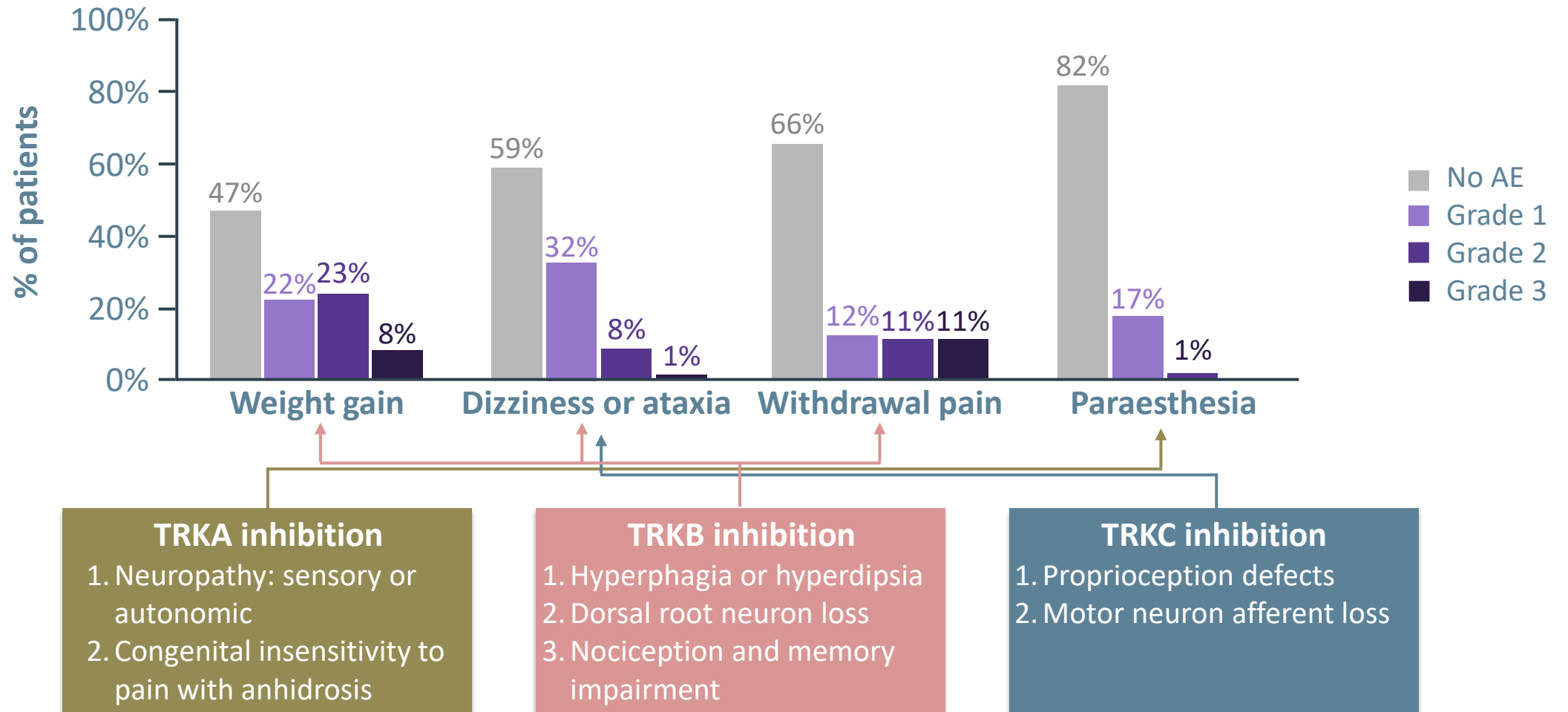
Clinicopathologic features of the study population (n=96)	n (%) and continuous as median (range)
Genomic alteration	
<i>NTRK</i> fusion	<b>39 (41%)</b>
<i>ROS1</i> fusion	24 (25%)
Other**	29 (30%)
Unknown	4 (4%)
TRK inhibitor	
First-generation TKI	81 (84%)
Other TKI	30 (31%)
TRK inhibitor duration (months)	6 (1-42)

\*Seven patients were <18 years old

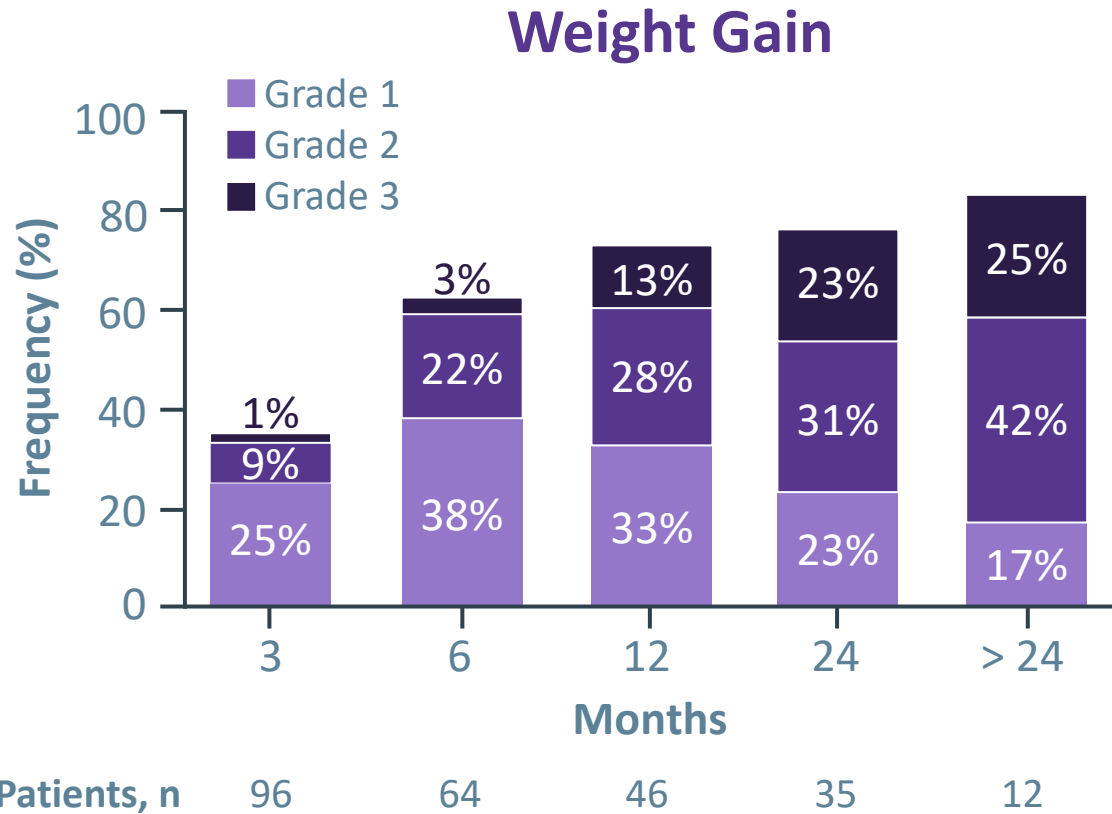
\*\*Other alterations included *NTRK* mutation (N = 1), *NTRK* amplification (N = 2), *ROS1* mutation (N = 1), and *ALK* fusion/mutation (N = 25)

ALK, anaplastic lymphoma kinase; NTRK, neurotrophic tyrosine receptor kinase; *ROS1*, c-ros oncogene 1; TKI, tyrosine kinase inhibitor; TRK, tropomyosin receptor kinase

# SAFETY PROFILE OF ON-TARGET AEs WITH TRK INHIBITION



# WEIGHT GAIN MANAGEMENT

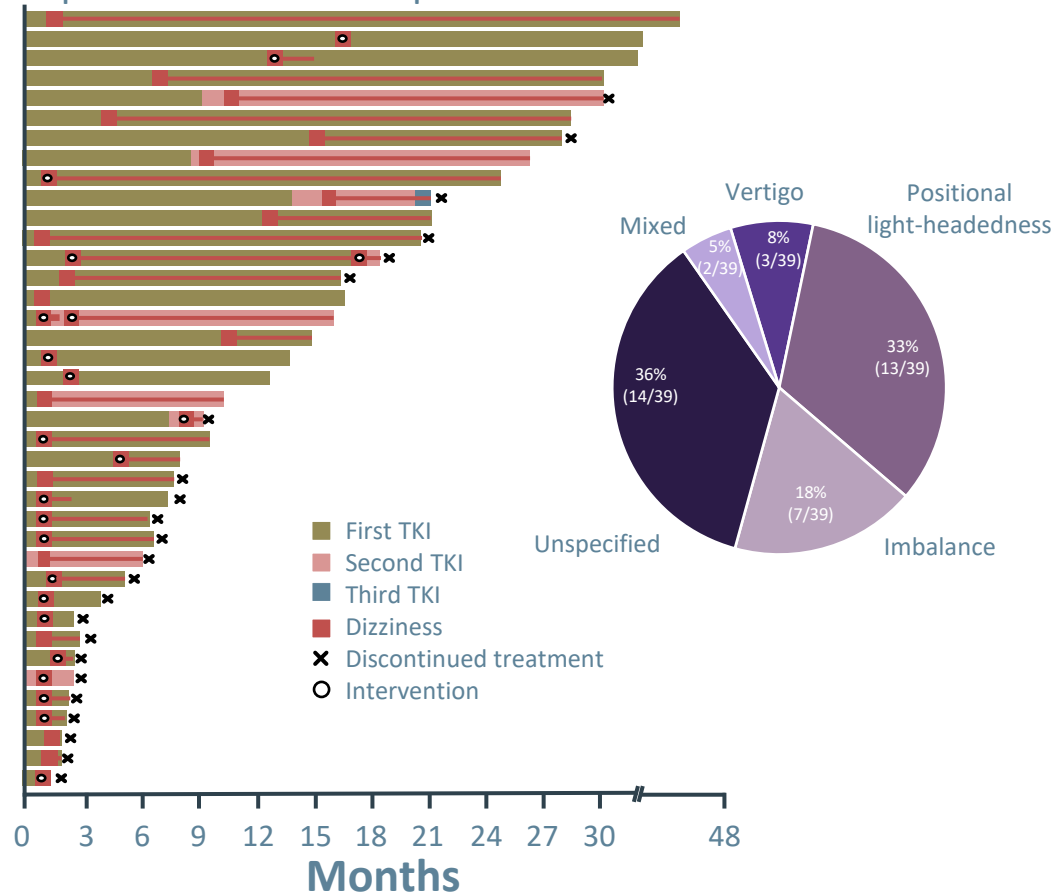


Supportive medication in weight gain	
Agent(s)	Mechanism of action
Liraglutide	GLP-1 analogue
Orlistat	Inhibits fat absorption
Phentermine/ topiramate combination	Increases norepinephrine release; GABA receptor agonist
Lorcaserin	5-HT <sub>2C</sub> receptor agonist
Naltrexone/ bupropion combination	μ-opioid receptor antagonist; dopamine and norepinephrine reuptake inhibitor
Metformin	Modulates hypothalamic appetite regulatory centers

➔ Authors recommend to monitor serially weight gain during treatment with TRK Inhibitor

# DIZZINESS MANAGEMENT

Time to treatment discontinuation in patients who developed dizziness\*



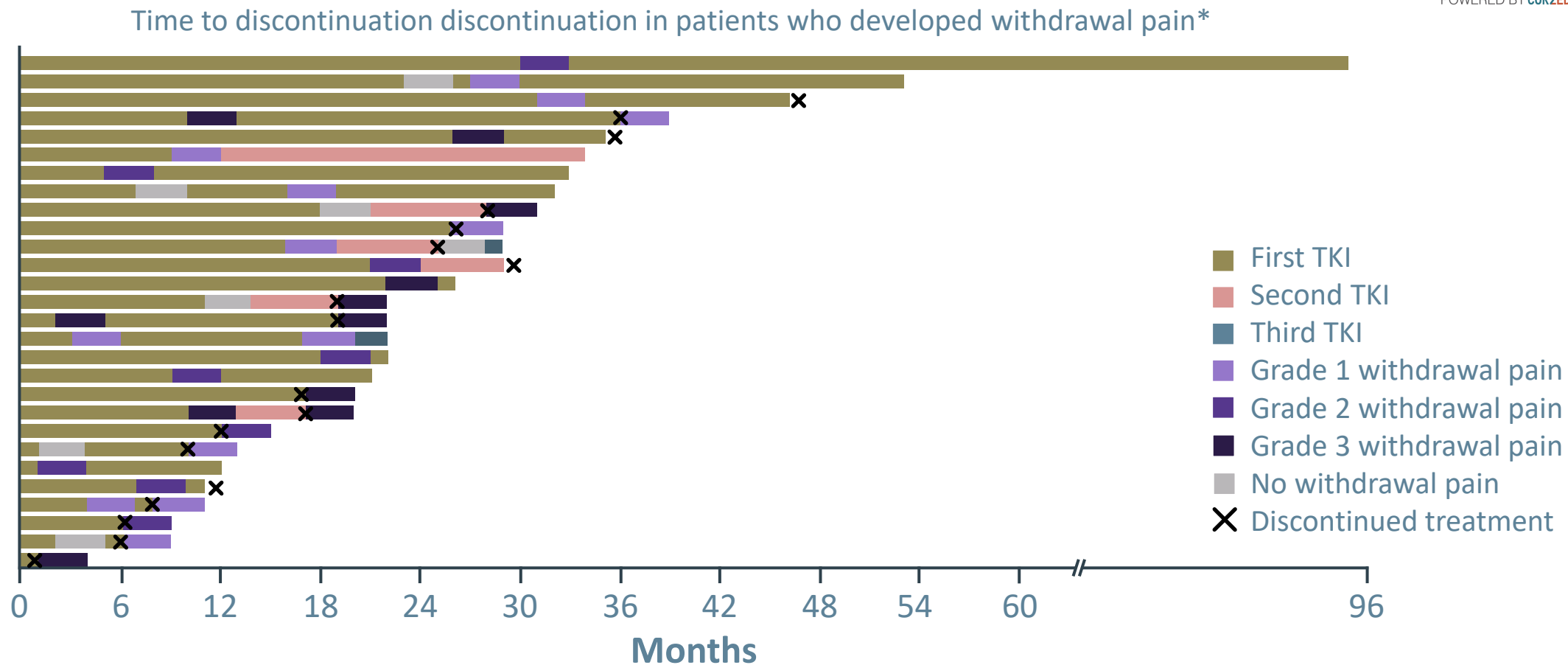
## Supportive medication in dizziness management

	Agent(s)	Mechanism of action
Dizziness (ataxia or vertigo)	Meclizine	H <sub>1</sub> histamine receptor antagonist, suppresses vestibular stimulation, anticholinergic
	Scopolamine	Antagonises histamine and serotonin
Dizziness (orthostasis)	Midodrine	α <sub>1</sub> adrenergic receptor agonist, increases vascular tone
	Fludrocortisone	Mineralocorticoid
	Droxidopa	Metabolized to norepinephrine, induces vasoconstriction

➔ Authors recommend to characterise the dizziness and to manage it accordingly

\*Each bar represents a single patient. Pie chart shows the frequency distribution of the categories of dizziness that patients experienced.  
TKI, tyrosine kinase inhibitor

# WITHDRAWAL PAIN MANAGEMENT



➔ Authors highlight that withdrawal pain can occur with temporary or permanent TKI treatment with anti-TRK activity discontinuation

\*Each bar represents a single patient

TKI, tyrosine kinase inhibitor; TRK, tropomyosin receptor kinase



# CONCLUSION

- Identifying AEs related to TRK inhibitors are important in order to manage them during treatment approaches
- **On-target AEs with TRK inhibition can occur** as shown in the retrospective study analysing patients with advanced or unresectable solid tumours treated with at least one dose of a TKI with potent anti-TRK activity
- **Dizziness, weight gain and withdrawal pain are the three identified on-target AEs**
- **On-target AE profile is consistent with the known physiological mechanism of the TRK signalling pathway**
- **Limitations:**
  - The inhibitory actions of TKIs are not only specific to TRKs
  - In the retrospective study, **only 41% harboured an *NTRK*-positive solid tumour**
- **Due to the small size of the study, more detailed assessment of no-target AEs is needed, especially with the TRK-specific inhibitors such as larotrectinib**

# TREATING *NTRK* FUSION CANCERS TOMORROW-NEXT STEPS?

**David S. Hong, MD**

The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center.  
Professor

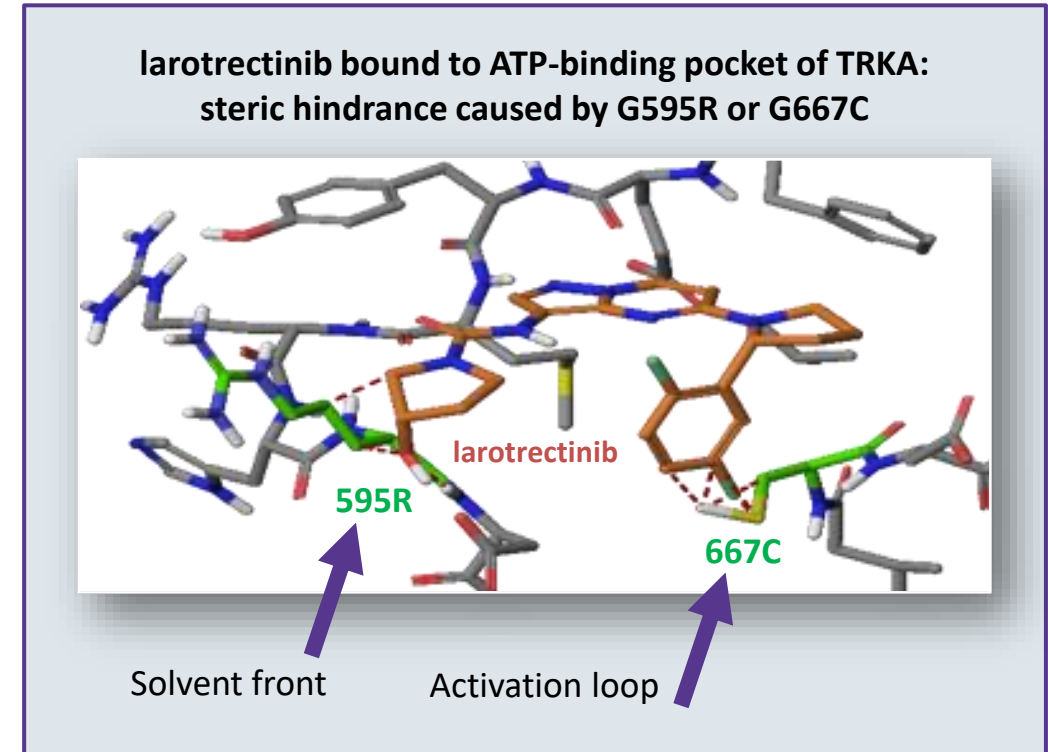
Deputy Chairman in the Dept of Investigational Cancer Therapeutics  
(Phase 1 Program)

Associate Vice President of Clinical Research

# RESISTANCE MECHANISMS

# MECHANISM OF RESISTANCE TO FIRST GENERATION OF TRK INHIBITORS

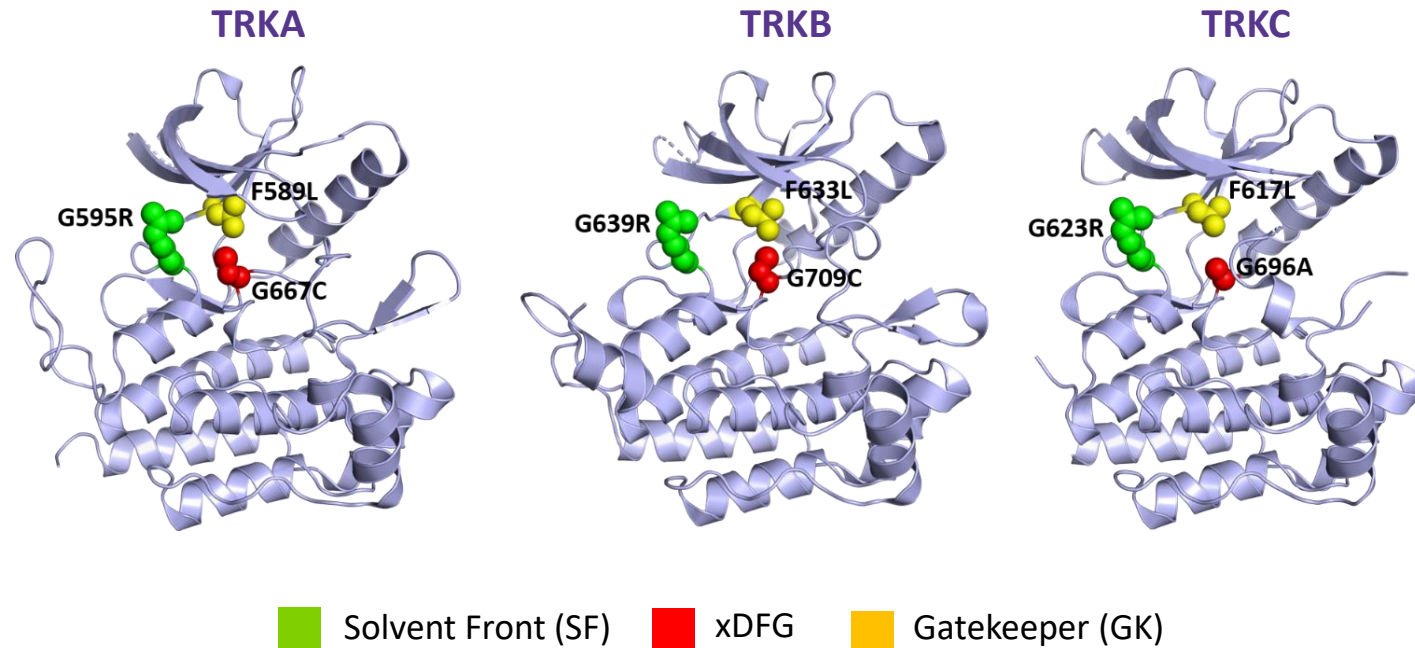
- Mutations that limit drug binding are the most common form of acquired resistance; often, the oncogene-addicted tumour remains addicted to the same oncogene
- Early lines of evidence offer a molecular understanding of potential mechanisms of resistance to larotrectinib in patients with NTRK gene fusions:
  - Preclinical modelling
  - Precedent paralogous targets (e.g. ALK, ROS1)
  - Clinical case reports<sup>1,2</sup>



ALK, anaplastic lymphoma kinase; ATP, adenosine triphosphate; NTRK, neurotrophic tyrosine receptor kinase; ROS1, proto-oncogene tyrosine-protein 1; TRK, tropomyosin receptor kinase

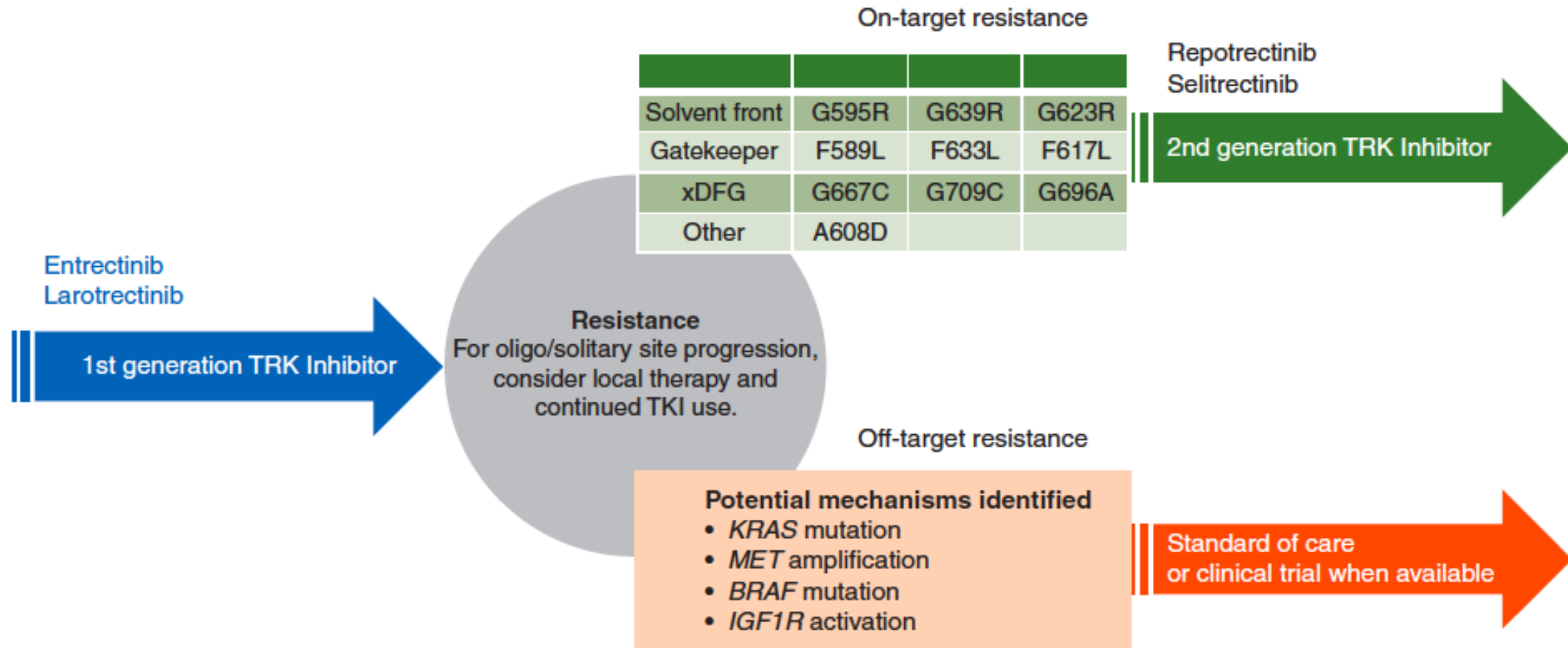
1. Russo M, et al. Cancer Discov. 2016;6:36-44; 2. Drilon A, et al. Ann Oncol. 2016;27:920-6

# ON-TARGET RESISTANCE TO TRK INHIBITORS



Acquired TRK kinase domain mutations in three recurrent motifs result in on-target resistance to current generation of inhibitors

# ON-TARGET AND OFF-TARGET RESISTANCE TO TRK INHIBITORS



BRAF, v-raf murine sarcoma viral oncogene homolog B1; IGF1R, insulin-like growth factor 1 receptor; MET, c-MET proto-oncogene; KRAS, Ki-ras2 Kirsten rat sarcoma viral oncogene homolog; TKI, tyrosine kinase inhibitor; TRK, tropomyosin receptor kinase; xDFG, xDFG motif

Drilon A., Ann Oncol. 2019;30(Suppl\_8):viii23-viii30

# NEXT-GENERATION TRK INHIBITORS

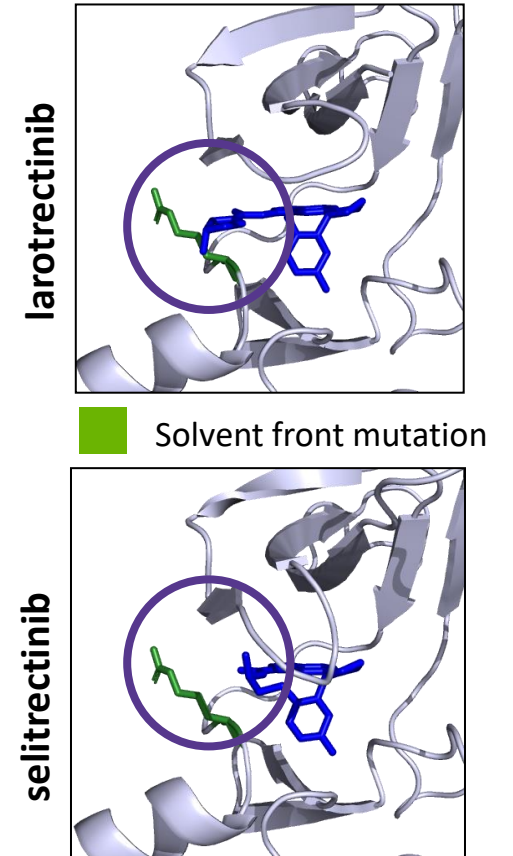
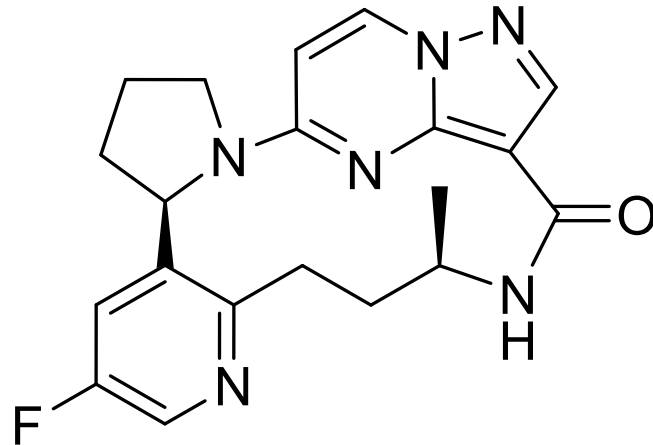
# MAIN NEXT-GENERATION TRK INHIBITORS AND CLINICAL DEVELOPMENT STATUS

Drug Name (Sponsor)	Molecular Targets	Development Stage and tumour Types
selitrectinib, LOXO-195, BAY2731954 (Bayer)	<i>NTRK1/3</i> (solvent front, XDFG, gatekeeper mutations)	Phase 1/2, recruiting (NCT04275960; NCT03215511)
repotrectinib, TPX-0005 (Turning Point)	<i>NTRK1/2/3</i> (solvent front, XDFG, gatekeeper mutations), <i>ALK</i> , <i>ROS</i>	Phase 1/2, recruiting (NCT04094610; NCT03093116)



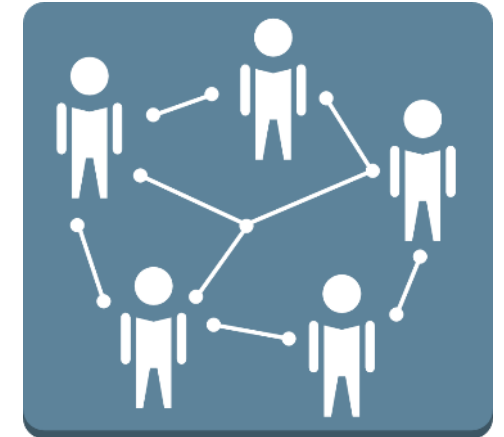
# SELITRECTINIB (LOXO-195/BAY 2731954)

- Potent second-generation inhibitor of all three TRK tyrosine kinases with  $IC_{50}$  between 2.0 and 9.2 nM for the 3 on-target resistance mutations
- Selective: >1,000x more selective for TRK over 98% of 226 non-TRK kinases
- Activity against acquired **solvent front**, **xDFG**, **gatekeeper**, and TRK mutations demonstrated in enzyme- and cell-based assays and *in vivo* tumour models
- Excellent drug properties: orally dosed, high exposure



# THANK YOU!

- **Thank you** for your participation and input during this meeting, slides will be made available for download.
- Please complete the **post-meeting survey**
- **Honorarium forms** can be submitted via the COR2ED Engage meeting page





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