

CLDN18.2 Chimeric Antigen Receptor T Cell Therapy for Patients with Advanced Gastric and Pancreatic Adenocarcinoma: Results of ELIMYN18.2 Phase 1b Clinical Trial

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Background

- Claudin18.2 (CLDN18.2) is a tight junction protein normally expressed in gastric mucosa and several types of cancer.¹ CLDN18.2 is considered a potential therapeutic target.²
- Autologous CLDN18.2 CAR T cell, satricabtagene autoleucel (satri-cel) was developed to treat solid tumors.
- Here, we report the dose escalation results of the Phase 1b ELIMYN18.2 study (Cohort A) in gastric/gastroesophageal (GC/GEJ) or pancreatic cancer (PC) in the US.

Methods

- The single-arm, open-label, Phase 1b/2 study (NCT04404595) evaluated the safety and efficacy of satri-cel in patients with CLDN18.2-positive histologically confirmed advanced GC/GEJ or PC who had progressed or were intolerant of at least 2 prior lines (GC/GEJ) or 1 prior line (PC) of systemic therapy.
- The Phase 1b study consisted of a modified 3+3 dose escalation/de-escalation with 5 dose levels (DLs) to be tested.
- Patients received a preconditioning regimen of fludarabine, cyclophosphamide, and nab-paclitaxel, followed by 1-3 cycles of satri-cel.
- Primary Objectives:** Safety and determination of the Recommended Phase 2 Dose (RP2D).

- Adverse Events (AEs) were graded per CTCAE Version 5.0 and CRS and ICANS were graded by ASTCT 2019 consensus criteria.
- Objective Response Rate (ORR) and Clinical Benefit Rate (CBR), including Complete Response (CR), Partial Response (PR), and Stable Disease (SD) \geq 180 days, were assessed per RECIST 1.1, tumor response (CR or PR) was confirmed by an imaging scan after the initial response assessment.

Data cutoff: 15-Sep-2023

Conclusion

- Satri-cel, the first autologous CLDN18.2 CAR T cell therapy safety profile was encouraging, with manageable treatment-related AEs.**
- Initial efficacy was promising in heavily pre-treated CLDN18.2-positive advanced GC/GEJ and PC population and consistent with earlier reports.³**
- DL3 (600 \times 10⁶ cells) was selected as RP2D and enrollment in Phase 2 is currently ongoing.**

Table 1. Patient Baseline Characteristics

Characteristic	Cancer Type	
	All DLs GC/GEJ (N=7)	All DLs PC (N=12)
Age (years)		
Median (min, max)	43.0 (33, 65)	63.5 (54, 77)
Male, n (%)	2 (28.6)	5 (41.7)
Race, n (%)		
Asian	3 (42.9)	1 (8.3)
White or Caucasian	4 (57.1)	10 (83.3)
Other	0	1 (8.3)
Months since diagnosis	29.3	20.6
Median (min, max)	(13.7, 74.7)	(7.7, 97.7)
Number of prior systemic treatment lines		
Median (min, max)	4 (2, 10)	3 (1, 5)
\geq 3, n (%)	6 (85.7)	7 (58.3)
Prior anti-cancer treatment, n (%)		
Surgery	5 (71.4)	8 (66.7)
Systemic Therapy	7 (100)	12 (100)
Radiotherapy	3 (42.9)	5 (41.7)
Number of metastatic organs	2.0 (1, 7)	2.0 (1, 4)
Median (min, max)		
ECOG PS score		
0	1 (14.3)	9 (75.0)
1	6 (85.7)	3 (25.0)

Table 2. Drug Exposure and AE Summary

	DL3 (N=7)	All DLs	All DLs	Total
	GC/GEJ (n=2)	GC/GEJ (N=7)	PC (N=12)	
Number of Infusions, median (min, max)	2 (1, 3)	2 (1, 3)	1.5 (1, 3)	2 (1, 3)
CT041-related TEAEs, n (%)	7 (100)	6 (85.7)	12 (100)	18 (94.7)
CT041-related serious TEAEs, n (%)	3 (42.9)	1 (14.3)	3 (25.0)	4 (21.1)
DLTs, n (%)	0	0	0	0
Gr \geq 3 TEAEs, n (%)	7 (100)	7 (100)	12 (100)	19 (100)
Gr \geq 3 CT041-related TEAEs, n (%)	5 (71.4)	5 (71.4)	4 (33.3)	9 (47.4)

Abbreviations: 600: 600 \times 10⁶ dose level; 375/400: 375/400 \times 10⁶ dose level; 250/300, 250/300 \times 10⁶ dose level; AE: adverse event; ALP: alkaline phosphatase; ALT: alanine aminotransferase; AST: aspartate aminotransferase; CRS: cytokine release syndrome; CR: complete response; DLTs: dose-limiting toxicities; Gr: grade; mPFS: median progression-free survival; mOS: median overall survival; PR: partial response; NE: not evaluable; SD: stable disease; mDOR: median duration of response (in months); TEAE: treatment-emergent adverse event.

Results

Table 3. CT041-related TEAEs (All DLs, total incidence \geq 15%)

Preferred Term (PT)	All DLs GC/GEJ (N=7)		All DLs PC (N=12)		Total (N=19)	
	n (%)		n (%)		n (%)	
	Gr \geq 3	Any	Gr \geq 3	Any	Gr \geq 3	Any
CRS	0	6 (85.7)	2 (16.7)	11 (91.7)	2 (10.5)	17 (89.5)
Pyrexia	0	6 (85.7)	0	11 (91.7)	0	17 (89.5)
Fatigue	0	1 (14.3)	0	6 (50.0)	0	7 (36.8)
Rash	0	3 (42.9)	0	4 (33.3)	0	7 (36.8)
Chills	0	2 (28.6)	0	4 (33.3)	0	6 (31.6)
Headache	0	3 (42.9)	0	3 (25.0)	0	6 (31.6)
Hypotension	1 (14.3)	3 (42.9)	1 (8.3)	3 (25.0)	2 (10.5)	6 (31.6)
ALP increased	1 (14.3)	3 (42.9)	0	2 (16.7)	1 (5.3)	5 (26.3)
ALT increased	1 (14.3)	2 (28.6)	1 (8.3)	2 (16.7)	2 (10.5)	4 (21.1)
Tachycardia	0	1 (14.3)	0	3 (25.0)	0	4 (21.1)
Abdominal pain	0	2 (28.6)	0	1 (8.3)	0	3 (15.8)
AST increased	1 (14.3)	1 (14.3)	1 (8.3)	2 (16.7)	2 (10.5)	3 (15.8)
Hypoxia	0	1 (14.3)	1 (8.3)	2 (16.7)	1 (5.3)	3 (15.8)
Lipase increased	2 (28.6)	3 (42.9)	0	0	2 (10.5)	3 (15.8)
Vomiting	0	1 (14.3)	0	2 (16.7)	0	3 (15.8)

Table 4. Treatment Efficacy as Assessed by Investigator

	DL3 (N=7)	All DLs	All DLs
	GC/GEJ (n=2)	GC/GEJ (N=7)	PC (N=12)
ORR, n (%)			
Confirmed ORR	3 (42.9)	3 (42.9)	2 (16.7)
95% CI	9.9, 81.6	9.9, 81.6	2.1, 48.4
Best overall response, n (%)			
CR	1 (14.3)	1 (14.3)	0
PR	2 (28.6)	2 (28.6)	2 (16.7)
SD	3 (42.9)	1 (14.3)	4 (33.3)
Progressive disease	1 (14.3)	2 (28.6)	5 (41.7)
Not evaluable (NE)	0	1 (14.3)	1 (8.3)
CBR** , n (%)	5 (71.4)	4 (57.1)	4 (33.3)
95% CI	29.0, 96.3	18.4, 90.1	9.9, 65.1
mPFS*** , months (95% CI)	4.6 (1.0, NE)	5.7 (1.0, NE)	2.7 (1.0, 4.6)
mOS*** , months (95% CI)	12.9 (8.9, NE)	8.9 (3.3, NE)	8.9 (2.5, 16.6)

**CBR is defined as the incidence of a best overall response of CR, PR, or SD \geq 180 days

***from satri-cel infusion

References

- Sahin U, et al. *Clin Cancer Res.* 2008;14(23):7624–7634.
- Cao W, et al. *Biomark Res.* 2022;10(1):38.
- Qi C, et al. *Nature Med.* 2022;28:1189-1198.

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Figure 1. Maximum Reduction of Target Lesions in Sum of Diameters

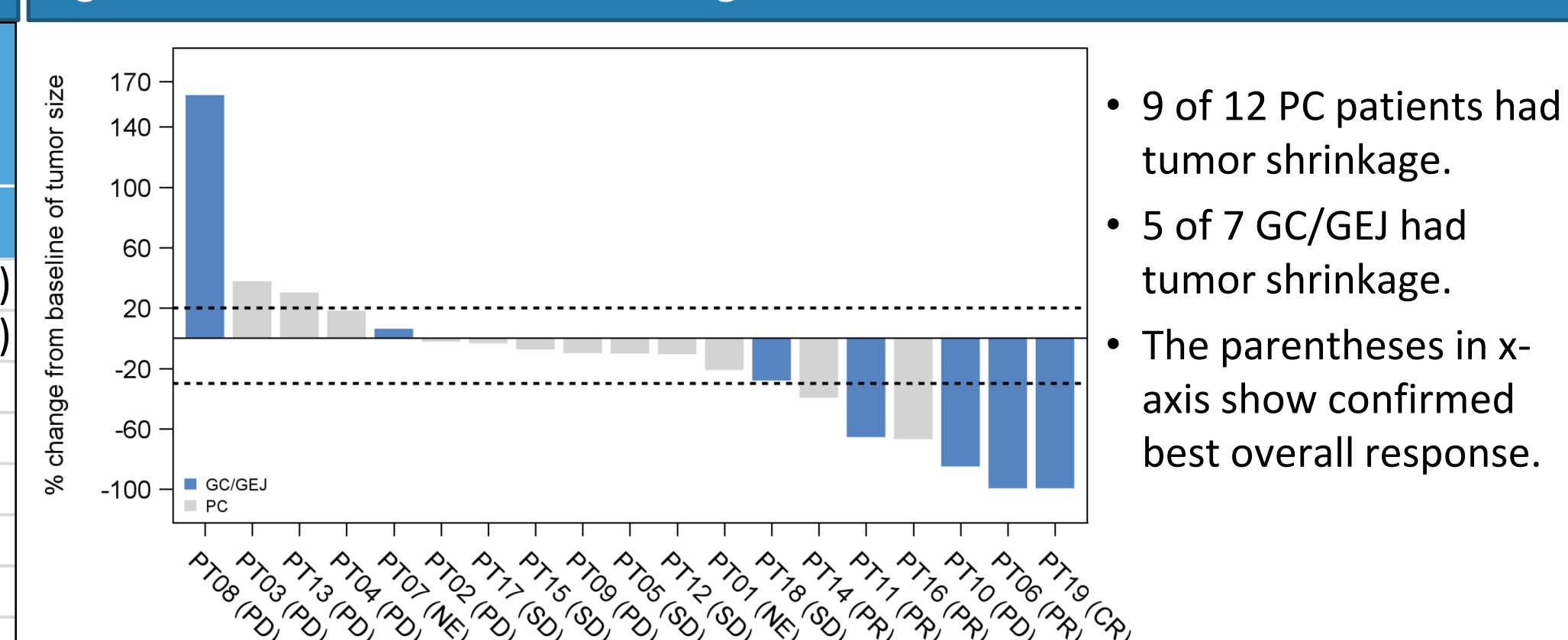
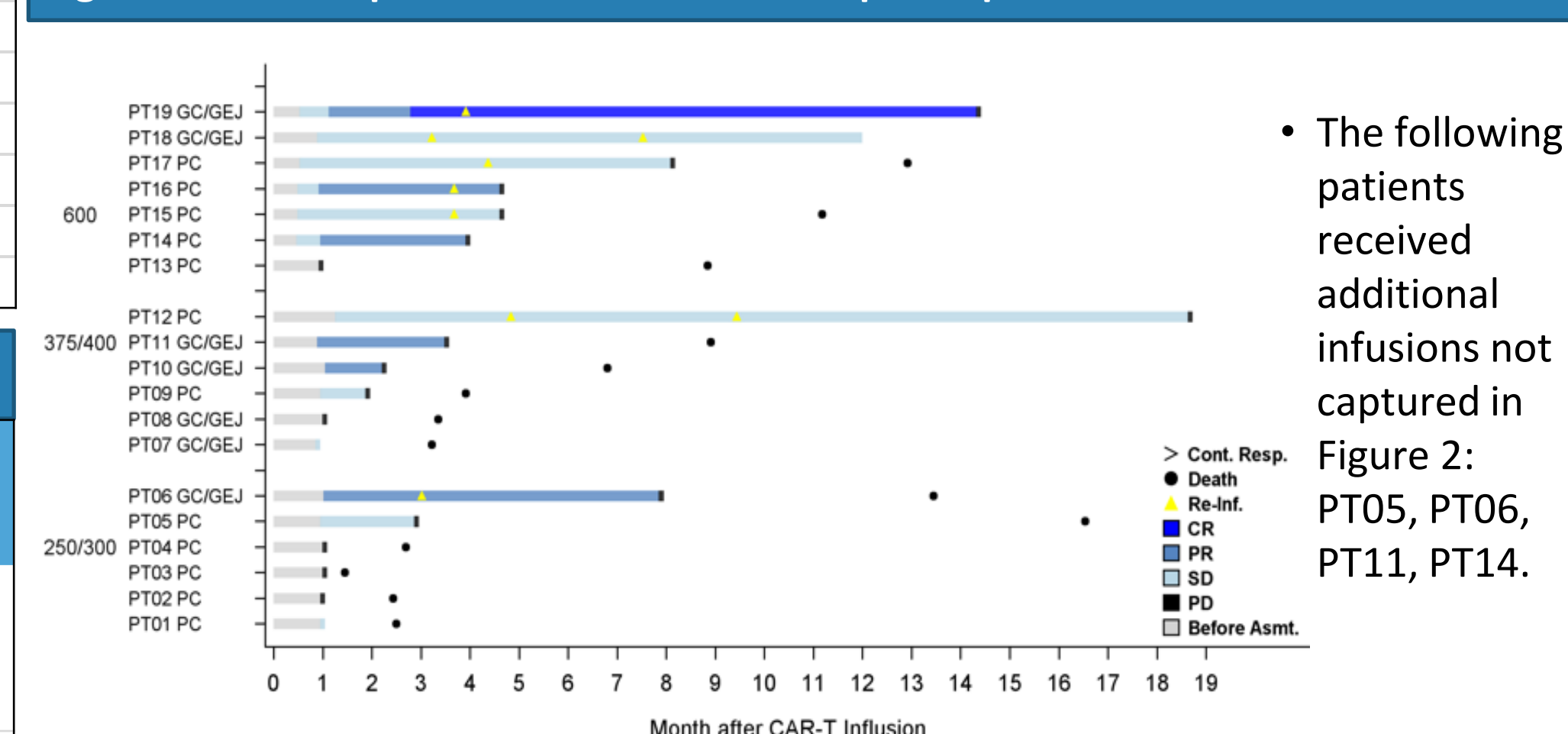


Figure 2. Best Response and Duration of Response per Dose Level



Disposition and Baseline

- 24 eligible patients underwent leukapheresis and 19 patients were treated (7 GC/GEJ, 12 PC) across 3 dose levels ranging from 250-600 \times 10⁶ cells: DL1: 250-300 \times 10⁶ (n=6), DL2: 375-400 \times 10⁶ (n=6), DL3: 600 \times 10⁶ (n=7).
- All patients received prior systemic therapy, among which 6 GC/GEJ (85.7%) and 7 PC (58.3%) patients received \geq 3 lines of prior systemic treatment (**Table 1**).
- Median follow-up:** 8.9 months (range, 1.5, 18.7).
- Treatment:** CT041 exposure is shown in **Table 2**.

Safety

- AEs, including TEAEs and DLTs are summarized in **Table 2 & Table 3**.
- The vast majority of CRS was Gr 1 with three Gr 2 events and two Gr 3 events, and one Gr 1 immune effector cell-associated neurotoxicity syndrome (ICANS). All events resolved.
- No hemophagocytic lymphohistiocytosis (HLH), DLTs, or treatment-related deaths were reported.

Efficacy

- GC/GEJ: ORR 42.9% (3/7), 1 CR & 2 PR, CBR of 57.1% (4/7), & mDOR 6.9 (2.6, NE);
- PC: ORR 16.7% (2/12), 2 PR, CBR of 33.3% (4/12), & mDOR 3.4 (3.0, NE);
- DL3 (600 \times 10⁶ cells): ORR 42.9% (3/7), CBR of 71.4% & mDOR 3.7 (3.0, NE); 50% ORR for GC/GEJ group (1/2) with 1 CR and 40% ORR for PC group (2/5); therefore, DL3 selected as RP2D.
- See details in **Table 4 & Figure 2**.

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