

BladderGATE: Atezolizumab + intravesical BCG (bacillus Calmette-Guerin) upfront combination in high risk non-muscle invasive bladder cancer (NMIBC) patients. Phase I-II ONCOSUR study.

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• ClinicalTrials: NCT04134000

1. Background

- Intravesical Bacillus Calmette-Guerin (BCG) induction + BCG maintenance after transurethral resection (TURBT) is the current standard of care for patients (pt) with high-risk non-muscle invasive bladder cancer (NMIBC).
- Recurrence rate at 2 years and 5 years are around 30-40% and 70-80% respectively (P Gontero. EAU Guidelines 2023).
- Atezolizumab is a IgG1 monoclonal antibody targeting PD-L1 and is associated with long-term durable remissions in pts with metastatic urothelial cancer (MS. van der Heijden. Eur Urol 2021) and for pts with unresponsive NMIBC (PC. Black. Eur Urol 2023) with excellent results.
- Atezolizumab in combination with standard BCG could provide synergistic benefit for pts with NMIBC.
- BladderGATE (NCT04134000) is a phase Ib-II study which evaluates the safety and efficacy of upfront atezolizumab + intravesical BCG in pts with high-risk NMIBC.

2. Study Objectives

Primary Objective

De-escalation phase

- To determine the DLT and MTD (ASCO GU 2023)

Expansion phase

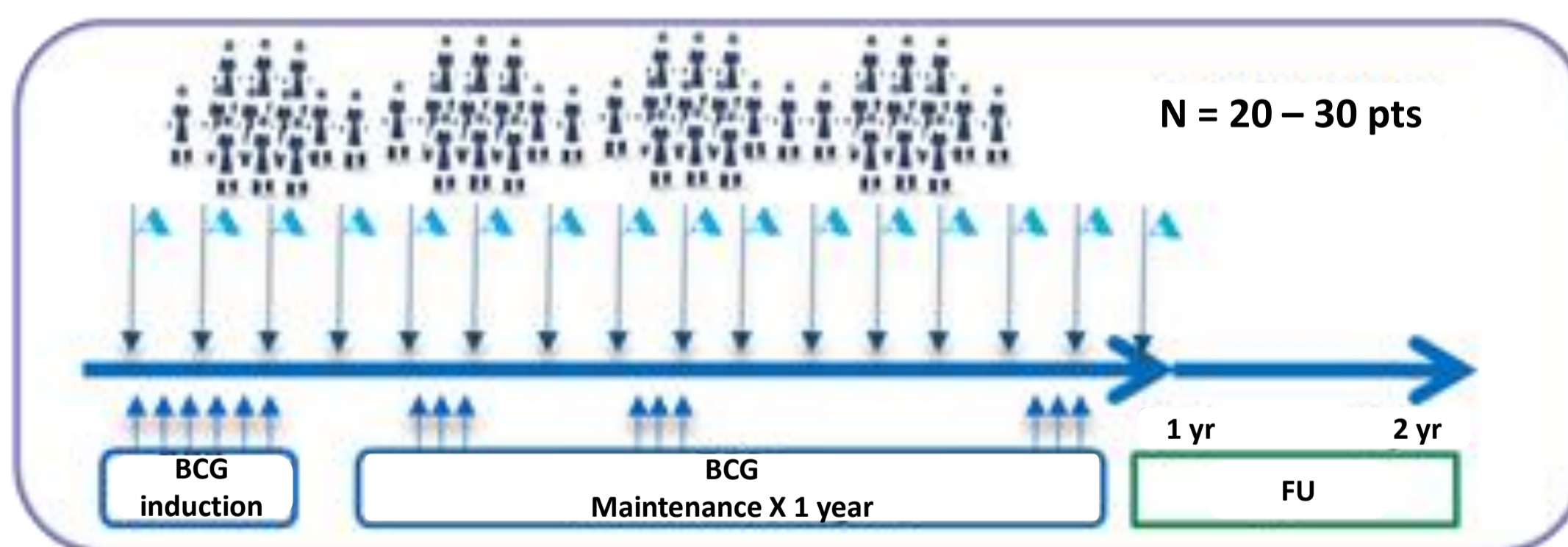
- To evaluate preliminary activity: recurrence free survival

Secondary Objectives

- To evaluate safety profile according to NCI-CTC v 5.0 criteria
- To evaluate a preliminary assessment of patient-reported symptoms, function, and health-related quality of life, as measured by EORTC QLQ-C30 and EORTC QLQ-NMIBC24

3. Study treatment

- Atezolizumab 1200 mg IV day 1 each 21-day cycle (maximum 52 weeks).
- BCG weekly x 6 weeks induction period plus maintenance at weeks 12, 24 and 48.



4. Study design

- Phase Ib/II, open label, Dose de-escalation clinical trial

Inclusion criteria

1. Histologically confirmed diagnosis of high risk non-muscle-invasive (T1, high grade Ta - G3- and / or carcinoma in situ) transitional cell carcinoma of the bladder
2. Never treated with BCG or stopped >2y ago and no prior radiation to bladder
3. WHO PS 0-1, life expectancy ≥ 5 years and adequate hematologic and end-organ function
4. Time elapsed between the TURBT and the start of the study treatment ≥ 4 weeks and < 12 weeks
5. Tumor tissue biopsy at study entry or an archival specimen obtained within 2 months of study screening

Table 1: Patient characteristics

| Patient Characteristics (N=36) | |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| | N (%) |
| Age (mean; IQR) | 70 (63 – 76) |
| Gender | |
| Male | 31 (86.1%) |
| Female | 5 (13.9%) |
| Clinical presentation | |
| Hematuria | 25(69.4%) |
| Follow-up cytoscopy | 5 (13.9%) |
| Incidental | 3 (8.3%) |
| Lower urinary tract symptoms | 3 (8.3%) |
| Smoking habits | |
| Former smoker | 22 (61.1%) |
| Smoker | 8 (22.2%) |
| Non-smoker | 6 (16.7%) |
| Tumor size | |
| <3cm | 20 (55.6%) |
| ≥3cm | 16 (44.4%) |
| Number of tumors | |
| Single | 20 (55.6%) |
| Multiple | 16 (44.4%) |
| T stage | |
| Ta | 14 (38.9%) |
| T1 | 18 (50.0%) |
| CIS | 4 (11.1%) |
| Tumor grade | |
| G2 | 11 (30.6%) |
| G3 | 25 (69.4%) |

Table 3: Disease evolution

| Disease evolution | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| | N (%) |
| Local recurrence | 6 (16.7%) |
| High grade | 5 (13.9%) |
| Low grade | 1 (2.8%) |
| High grade UTUC | 1 (2.8%) |
| Progression to MIBC | 3 (8.3%) |
| 2-year high grade DFS, % (95% CI) | 72.8 (56.1 - 89.5) |

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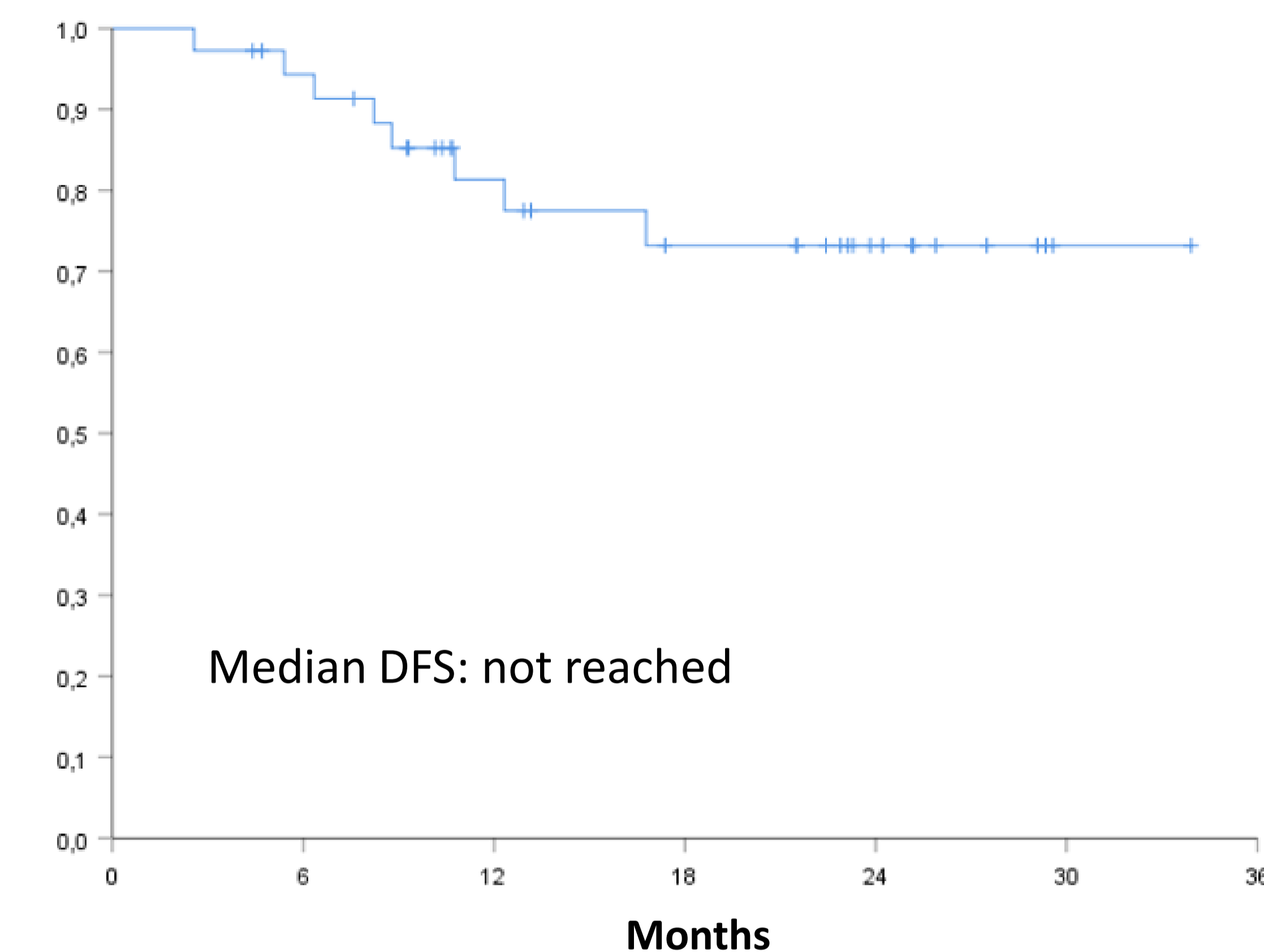
4. Trial results

Table 2: Study treatment

| Study treatment | |
|---|-------------------|
| | N (%) |
| BCG Treatment | |
| Completed | 20 (55.6%) |
| Adequate (per FDA guidance) | 32 (88.9%) |
| Cause of BCG non-compliance | |
| Side effects | 7 (35.0%) |
| Relapse | 4 (20.0%) |
| Progression | 1 (5.0%) |
| Pending end of treatment | 8 (40.0%) |
| Atezolizumab treatment | |
| Completed | 22 (61.1%) |
| Doses, median (IQR) | 14.5 (8.5 - 17.0) |
| Cause of Atezolizumab non-compliance | |
| Immune-related adverse events | 7 (50.0%) |
| Relapse | 3 (21.4%) |
| Progression | 3 (21.4%) |
| Others | 1 (7.1%) |
| Grade ≥3 Immune-related adverse events | 7 (19.4%) |
| Dermatitis | 1 (2.8%) |
| Hepatitis | 1 (2.8%) |
| Encephalitis | 1 (2.8%) |
| Pneumonitis | 1 (2.8%) |
| Myocarditis | 1 (2.8%) |
| Adrenal insufficiency | 1 (2.8%) |
| Psoriasis | 1 (2.8%) |

*All irAEs were solved and no toxic deaths were reported

Figure 1: Disease Free Survival



CONCLUSIONS

- The combination strategy of atezolizumab + intravesical BCG upfront in high-risk NMIBC patients appears feasible and safe.
- A 14% of 2-years local recurrence-rate and 8% of local progressive-disease are promising results, pending to randomized Ph3 ALBAN study data (GETUG).