

Bortezomib Powder for Solution for Injection 3.5mg/vial

MIBZC

Label claim:
Each vial contains Bortezomib 3.5 mg

After reconstitution, 1 ml of solution for subcutaneous injection contains 2.5 mg bortezomib. After reconstitution, 1 ml of solution for intravenous injection contains 1 mg bortezomib.

PHARMACEUTICAL FORM

Powder for solution for injection, 1 vial
White to off-white lyophilized cake or powder.

CLINICAL INFORMATION

Bortezomib for injection is indicated as part of combination therapy for the treatment of patients with previously untreated multiple myeloma. Bortezomib for injection is indicated as monotherapy for the treatment of patients with multiple myeloma who have received at least 1 prior therapy.

Bortezomib for Injection is indicated as monotherapy for the treatment of patients with mantle cell lymphoma who have received at least 1 prior therapy. Bortezomib for injection in combination with rituximab, cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin and prednisone is indicated for the treatment of adult patients with previously untreated mantle cell lymphoma who are unsuitable for haematopoietic stem cell transplantation.

Dosage and Administration

- Bortezomib may be administered:
 - Intensively (at a concentration of 1 mg/ml) as a 3 to 5 second bolus injection or
 - Subcutaneously (at a concentration of 2.5 mg/ml)

Because each route of administration has a different reconstituted concentration, caution should be used when calculating the volume to be administered. At least 72 hours should elapse between consecutive doses of Bortezomib.

Bortezomib IS FOR INTRAVENOUS OR SUBCUTANEOUS USE ONLY. Intrathecal administration has resulted in death.

Monotherapy

Relapsed Multiple Myeloma and Relapsed Mantle Cell Lymphoma

The recommended dose of Bortezomib is 1.3 mg/m²/dose administered twice weekly for 2 weeks (Days 1, 4, 8, and 11) followed by a 1-day rest period (Days 12-21). For extended therapy for more than 8 cycles, Bortezomib may be administered on the standard schedule or, for relapsed multiple myeloma, on a maintenance schedule of once weekly for 4 weeks (Days 1, 8, 15, and 22) followed by a 13-day rest period (Days 23-35) (see Clinical Trials section for a description of dose administration during the trials). At least 72 hours should elapse between consecutive doses of Bortezomib.

Dose Modification and Re-initiation of Therapy

Bortezomib therapy should be withheld at the onset of any Grade 3 non-hematological or Grade 4 hematological toxicities excluding neuropathy as discussed below (see Special Warnings and Special Precautions For Use). Once the symptoms of the toxicity have resolved, Bortezomib may be reinitiated at a 25% reduced dose (1.0 mg/m²/dose reduced to 1.0 mg/m²/dose) (see Table 2).

Table 1 contains the recommended dose modification for the management of patients who experience Bortezomib-related neuropathic pain and/or peripheral neuropathy. Severe autonomic neuropathy resulting in treatment interruption or discontinuation has been reported. Patients with pre-existing severe neuropathy should be treated with Bortezomib only after careful risk-benefit assessment.

Table 1: Recommended Dose Modification for Bortezomib-Related Neuropathic Pain and/or Peripheral Sensory or Motor Neuropathy

Severity of Peripheral Neuropathy Signs and Symptoms ^a	Modification of Dose and Regimen
Grade 1 (asymptomatic, loss of deep tendon reflexes or paraesthesia)	No action
Grade 1 with pain or Grade 2 (moderate symptoms; Limiting Instrumental Activities of Daily Living (ADL))	Reduce Bortezomib to 1.0 mg/m ² OR Change Bortezomib treatment schedule to 1.3 mg/m ² once per week
Grade 2 with pain or Grade 3 (severe symptoms; limiting self care ADL)	Withhold Bortezomib therapy until toxicity resolves. When toxicity resolves reinitiate with a reduced dose of Bortezomib at 0.7mg/m ² once per week
Grade 4 (life-threatening consequences; urgent intervention indicated)	Discontinue Bortezomib

- ^a Grading based on NCI Common Toxicity Criteria (CTCAE v4.0)
- ^b Instrumental ADL refers to preparing meals, shopping for groceries or clothes, using telephone, managing money etc.
- ^c Self care ADL refers to bathing, dressing and undressing, feeding, using the toilet, taking medications, and not bedridden.

Administration

Bortezomib is administered intravenously or subcutaneously. When administered intravenously, Bortezomib is administered as a 3-5 second bolus intravenous injection through a peripheral or central intravenous catheter followed by a flush with 0.9% sodium chloride solution for injection. For subcutaneous administration, the reconstituted solution is injected into the muscle (right or left) or abdomen (right or left). Injection sites should be rotated for successive injections. If local injection site reactions occur following Bortezomib injection subcutaneously, a less concentrated Bortezomib solution (1 mg/ml instead of 2 mg/ml) may be administered subcutaneously, or changed to IV injection.

Combination Therapy

Previously Untreated Multiple Myeloma

Recommended Dosage in Combination with Melphalan and Prednisone
Bortezomib (bortezomib) for injection is administered in combination with oral melphalan and oral prednisone for nine 6-week treatment cycles as shown in Table 2. In this combination, Bortezomib is administered twice weekly (days 1, 4, 8, and 11) followed by a 13-day rest period (Days 12-22). Bortezomib is administered once weekly (days 1, 8, 22 and 29). At least 72 hours should elapse between consecutive doses of Bortezomib.

Table 2: Recommended Dosage Regimen for Bortezomib when used in combination with melphalan and prednisone for Patients with Previously Untreated Multiple Myeloma

Week	1	2	3	4	5	6
Vc (1.3 mg/m ²)	Day 1	Day 8	Day 11	rest period	Day 22	Day 29
m(0 mg/m ²) (p(0 mg/m ²))	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6

Once Weekly Bortezomib (Cycles 5-8)

Week	1	2	3	4	5	6
Vc (1.3 mg/m ²)	Day 1	Day 8	rest period	Day 22	Day 29	rest period
m (0 mg/m ²)	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6

Vc = Bortezomib; m = melphalan; prednisone

Dose Management Guidelines for Combination Therapy with Melphalan and Prednisone
Dose modification and reinitiation of therapy when Bortezomib is administered in combination with melphalan and prednisone

- Prior to initiating a new cycle of therapy:
- Platelet count should be $\geq 100 \times 10^9/L$ and absolute neutrophil count (ANC) should be $\geq 1.0 \times 10^9/L$.
- Non-hematologic toxicities should have resolved to Grade 1 or baseline

Table 3: Dose Modifications During Subsequent Cycles

Toxicity	Dose modification or delay
Hematological toxicity during a cycle:	
• Prolonged Grade 4 neutropenia or, Consider reduction of the melphalan dose by 25% in the	

in the previous cycle, thrombocytopenia or thrombocytopenia with bleeding is observed next cycle

- If platelet count $\leq 130 \times 10^9/L$ or ANC $\leq 0.75 \times 10^9/L$ on a Bortezomib dosing day (other than Day 1) Bortezomib dose should be withheld

- If several Bortezomib doses in a cycle are withheld (≥ 3 doses) Bortezomib dose should be reduced by 1 dose level (from 1.3 mg/m² to during twice weekly administration or ≥ 2 doses during 1 mg/m² or from 1 mg/m² to 0.7 mg/m²) weekly administration)

Grade 3 ≥ 3 non-hematological toxicities Bortezomib therapy should be withheld until symptoms of the toxicity have resolved to Grade 2 or better. Then, Bortezomib may be reinitiated with one dose level reduction (from 1.3 mg/m² to 1 mg/m², or from 1 mg/m² to 0.7 mg/m²). For Bortezomib-related neuropathic pain and/or peripheral neuropathy, hold and/or modify Bortezomib as outlined in Table 1.

For additional information concerning melphalan and prednisone, see manufacturer's prescribing information.

Previously Untreated Mantle Cell Lymphoma Patients Not Eligible for Haematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation

Recommended Dosage in Combination with Rituximab, Cyclophosphamide, Doxorubicin and Prednisone
For Bortezomib dosing, see Monotherapy. Six Bortezomib cycles are administered. For patients with a response first documented at Cycle 6, two additional Bortezomib cycles are recommended.

The following medicinal products are administered on Day 1 of each Bortezomib 3-week treatment cycle as intravenous infusions: rituximab at 375 mg/m², cyclophosphamide at 750 mg/m², and doxorubicin at 50 mg/m². Prednisone is administered orally at 100 mg/m² on days 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 of each treatment cycle.

Dose Adjustments during Treatment for Patients with Previously Untreated Mantle Cell Lymphoma
Prior to the first day of each cycle (other than Cycle 1):

- Platelet count should be $\geq 100 \times 10^9/L$ and absolute neutrophil count (ANC) should be $\geq 1.5 \times 10^9/L$.
- Hemoglobin should be ≥ 8 g/dL (≥ 4.96 mmol/L).
- Non-hematologic toxicity should have resolved to Grade 1 or baseline

Bortezomib treatment may be withheld at the onset of any Grade 3 non-hematological or Grade 3 hematological toxicities, excluding neuropathy (see also section 4.4). For dose adjustments, see Table 4 below.

Table 4: Dose Adjustments during Treatment for Patients with Previously Untreated Mantle Cell Lymphoma

Toxicity	Posology modification or delay
Hematological toxicity	
Toxicity	Posology modification or delay

- \geq Grade 3 neutropenia with fever, Grade 4 neutropenia lasting more than 7 days, a platelet count $< 10 \times 10^9/L$ Bortezomib therapy should be withheld for up to 2 weeks until the patient has an ANC $\geq 0.75 \times 10^9/L$ and a platelet count $\geq 25 \times 10^9/L$.

- If after Bortezomib treatment, the toxicity does not resolve, as defined above, then Bortezomib must be discontinued.
- If toxicity resolves (i.e. patient has an ANC $\geq 0.75 \times 10^9/L$ and a platelet count $\geq 25 \times 10^9/L$), Bortezomib dose should be reduced by 1 dose level (from 1.3 mg/m² to 1 mg/m², or from 1 mg/m² to 0.7 mg/m²).

- If platelet counts $\leq 25 \times 10^9/L$, or ANC $< 0.75 \times 10^9/L$ on a Bortezomib dosing day (other than Day 1) Bortezomib dose should be withheld

Grade 3 ≥ 3 non-hematological toxicities Bortezomib therapy should be withheld until symptoms of the toxicity have resolved to Grade 2 or better. Then, Bortezomib may be reinitiated with one dose level reduction (from 1.3 mg/m² to 1 mg/m², or from 1 mg/m² to 0.7 mg/m²). For Bortezomib-related neuropathic pain and/or peripheral neuropathy, hold and/or modify Bortezomib as outlined in Table 1.

For dosing instructions for rituximab, cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, or prednisone, see manufacturer's prescribing information.

Special Populations

Patients with Renal Impairment

The pharmacokinetics of Bortezomib are not influenced by the degree of renal impairment. Therefore, dosing adjustments of Bortezomib are not necessary for patients with renal impairment. Since delays may reduce Bortezomib concentrations, the drug should be administered after the dialysis procedure (see Pharmacokinetic Properties).

Patients with Hepatic Impairment

Patients with mild hepatic impairment do not require a starting dose adjustment and should be treated per the recommended Bortezomib dose. Patients with moderate or severe hepatic impairment should be started on Bortezomib at a reduced dose of 0.7 mg/m² per injection during the first cycle, and a subsequent dose escalation to 1.0 mg/m² or further dose reduction to 0.5 mg/m² may be considered based on patient tolerance (see Table 5).

Table 5: Recommended Starting Dose Modification for Bortezomib in Patients with Hepatic Impairment

Liver Function Test	Bilirubin Level	SGOT (AST) Levels	Modification of Starting Dose
Mild	$\leq 1.0 \times ULN$	$\leq ULN$	None
Moderate	$> 1.0 \times ULN$ to $\leq 1.5 \times ULN$	Any	None
Severe	$> 1.5 \times ULN$ to $\leq 3 \times ULN$	Any	Reduce Bortezomib to 0.7mg/m ² in the first cycle. Consider dose escalation to 1.0mg/m ² or further dose reduction to 0.5mg/m ² in subsequent cycle based on patient tolerability

Abbreviations: SGOT = serum glutamic oxaloacetic transaminase; AST = aspartate aminotransferase; ULN = upper limit of the normal range.

Contraindications

Bortezomib is contraindicated in patients with acute diffuse infiltrative pulmonary and pericardial disease and hypersensitivity to bortezomib, boron, or mannitol.

Warnings and Precautions

Bortezomib should be administered under the supervision of a physician experienced in the use of antineoplastic therapy. There have been fatal cases of inadvertent intrathecal administration of Bortezomib. Bortezomib is for IV and subcutaneous use only. DO NOT ADMINISTER Bortezomib INTRATHECALLY.

Overall, the safety profile of patients treated with Bortezomib in monotherapy was similar to that observed in patients treated with Bortezomib in combination with melphalan and prednisone.

Peripheral Neuropathy

Bortezomib treatment may cause a peripheral neuropathy (PN) that is predominantly sensory. However, cases of severe motor neuropathy with or without sensory peripheral neuropathy have been reported.

Patients with pre-existing symptoms (numbness, pain, or a burning/tingling in the feet or hands) and/or signs of peripheral neuropathy may experience worsening peripheral neuropathy (including Grade 3) during treatment with Bortezomib. Patients should be monitored for symptoms of neuropathy, such as a burning sensation, hyperaesthesia, hypoesthesia, paraesthesia, disorientation, numbness or pain or weakness. In the Phase 3 study comparing Bortezomib IV vs SC, the incidence of neuropathy ≥ 2 per cycle was 24% for SC and 41% for IV (p = 0.0124). Grade 3 peripheral neuropathy occurred in 6% of subjects in the SC treatment group, compared with 16% in the IV treatment group (p = 0.0264) (Table 9). Therefore, patients with pre-existing PN or at high risk of peripheral neuropathy may benefit from starting Bortezomib subcutaneously.

Patients experiencing new or worsening peripheral neuropathy may require a change in dose, schedule or route of administration to SC (see Posology and Method of Administration). Following dose adjustments, improvement in or resolution of peripheral neuropathy was reported in 51% of patients with Grade 2 peripheral neuropathy in the single agent phase 3 multiple myeloma study of Bortezomib vs dexamethasone. Improvement in or resolution of peripheral neuropathy was reported in 73% of patients who discontinued due to Grade 2 neuropathy or who had Grade 3 peripheral neuropathy in the phase 2 multiple myeloma studies.

The long-term outcome of peripheral neuropathy has not been studied in mantle cell lymphoma.

Hypotension

In phase 2 and 3 single agent multiple myeloma studies, the incidence of hypotension (postural, orthostatic, and hypotension Not Otherwise Specified) was 11% to 12%. These events are observed throughout therapy. Caution should be used when treating patients with a history of syncope, patients receiving medications known to be associated with hypotension, and patients with orthostatic hypotension. Management of orthostatic/postural hypotension may include adjustment of antihypertensive medications, hydration, and administration of mineralocorticoids and/or sympathomimetics (see Undesirable Effects).

Cardiac Disorders

Acute development or exacerbation of congestive heart failure, and/or new onset of decreased left ventricular ejection fraction has been reported, including reports in patients with few or no risk factors for decreased left ventricular ejection fraction. Patients with risk factors for, or existing heart disease should be closely monitored. In the multiple myeloma study of Bortezomib vs dexamethasone, the incidence of any treatment-emergent cardiac disorder was 15% and 15% respectively. The incidence of heart failure events (acute pulmonary edema, cardiac failure, congestive cardiac failure, cardiogenic shock, pulmonary edema) was similar in the Bortezomib and dexamethasone groups, 5% and 4%, respectively.

There have been isolated cases of QT-interval prolongation in clinical studies; causality has not been established.

Hepatic Events

Rare cases of acute liver failure have been reported in patients receiving multiple concomitant medications and with serious underlying medical conditions. Other reported hepatic failure events include increases in liver enzymes, hyperbilirubinemia, and hepatitis. Such changes may be reversible upon discontinuation of Bortezomib. There is limited re-challenge information in these patients.

Pulmonary Disorders

There have been rare reports of acute diffuse infiltrative pulmonary disease of unknown etiology such as pneumonitis, interstitial pneumonia, lung infiltration and Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome (ARDS) in patients receiving Bortezomib. Some of these events have been fatal. A high proportion of these events have been reported in Japan. In the event of new or worsening pulmonary symptoms, a prompt comprehensive diagnostic evaluation should be performed and patients treated appropriately.

In a clinical trial, two patients given high-dose cytarabine (3g/m² per day) by continuous infusion with daunorubicin and Bortezomib for relapsed acute myelogenous leukemia died of ARDS early in the course of therapy. Therefore, this specific regimen with concomitant administration with high-dose cytarabine (3g/m² per day) by continuous infusion over 24 hours is not recommended. The incidence of Grade 3 and 4 febrile neutropenia was 1.7% and 1.7% respectively.

There have been rare reports of pulmonary hypertension associated with Bortezomib administration in the absence of left heart failure or significant pulmonary hypertension.

Laboratory Tests

Complete blood counts (CBC) should be frequently monitored during treatment with Bortezomib.

Thrombocytopenia/Neutropenia

Bortezomib is associated with thrombocytopenia and neutropenia (see Undesirable Effects). Platelets were lowest at Day 11 of each cycle of Bortezomib treatment and typically recovered to baseline by the next cycle. The cyclical pattern of platelet count decrease and recovery remain consistent in the studies of multiple myeloma and mantle cell lymphoma, with no evidence of cumulative thrombocytopenia or neutropenia in any of the regimens studied.

Platelet counts should be monitored prior to each dose of Bortezomib. Bortezomib therapy should be held when the platelet count is $\leq 25,000/mL$ (see Posology and Method of Administration). Following dose adjustments, improvement in or resolution of thrombocytopenia was reported in 51% of patients with Grade 2 peripheral neuropathy in the single agent phase 3 multiple myeloma study of Bortezomib vs dexamethasone. Improvement in or resolution of peripheral neuropathy was reported in 73% of patients who discontinued due to Grade 2 neuropathy or who had Grade 3 peripheral neuropathy in the phase 2 multiple myeloma studies.

The long-term outcome of peripheral neuropathy has not been studied in mantle cell lymphoma.

Gastrointestinal Adverse Events

Bortezomib treatment may cause nausea, diarrhea, constipation, and vomiting (see Undesirable Effects) sometimes requiring use of antiemetics and antidiarrheal medications. Fluid and electrolyte replacement should be administered to prevent dehydration. Since patients receiving Bortezomib therapy may experience vomiting and/or diarrhea, patients should be advised regarding appropriate measures to avoid dehydration. Patients should be instructed to seek medical advice if they experience symptoms of dizziness, light-headedness or fainting spells.

Tumor Lysis Syndrome

Because Bortezomib is a cytotoxic agent and can rapidly kill malignant cells, the complications of tumor lysis syndrome may occur. Patients at

risk of tumor lysis syndrome are those with high tumor burden prior to treatment. These patients should be monitored closely and appropriate precautions taken.

Patients with Hepatic Impairment

Bortezomib is metabolized by liver enzymes. Bortezomib exposure is increased in patients with moderate or severe hepatic impairment, these patients should be treated with Bortezomib at reduced starting doses and closely monitored for toxicity (see Posology and Method of Administration and Pharmacokinetic Properties).

Posterior Reversible Encephalopathy Syndrome (PRES)

There have been reports of PRES in patients receiving Bortezomib. PRES is a rare, reversible, neurological disorder, which can present with seizure, hypertension, headache, lethargy, confusion, blindness, and other visual and neurological disturbances. Brain imaging, preferably MRI (Magnetic Resonance Imaging), is used to confirm the diagnosis. In patients developing PRES, discontinue Bortezomib. The safety of reinitiating Bortezomib therapy in patients previously experiencing PRES is not known.

Seizures

Seizures have been uncommonly reported in patients without previous history of seizures or epilepsy. Special care is required when treating patients with any risk factors for seizures.

Renal Impairment

Renal complications are frequent in patients with multiple myeloma. Patients with renal impairment should be monitored closely.

Concomitant Medicinal Products

Patients should be closely monitored when given bortezomib in combination with potent CYP3A4 inhibitors. Caution should be exercised when Bortezomib is combined with CYP3A4 or CYP2C19 substrates. Normal liver function should be confirmed and caution should be exercised in patients receiving oral hypoglycemics.

Potentially Immunoconplex-mediated Reactions

Potentially immunoconplex-mediated reactions, such as serum-sickness-type reaction, polyarthrits with rash and proliferative glomerulonephritis have been reported uncommonly. Bortezomib should be discontinued if serious reactions occur.

Thrombotic Microangiopathy

Cases, sometimes fatal, of thrombotic microangiopathy, including thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura/hemolytic uremic syndrome (TTP/HUS), have been reported in the postmarketing setting in patients who received bortezomib. Monitor for signs and symptoms of TTP/HUS. If the diagnosis is suspected, stop bortezomib and evaluate. If the diagnosis of TTP/HUS is excluded, consider restarting bortezomib. The safety of continuing bortezomib therapy in patients previously experiencing TTP/HUS is not known.

Interactions

In vitro and animal ex vivo studies indicate that bortezomib is a weak inhibitor of cytochrome P450 (CYP) isoenzymes 1A2, 2C9, 2C19, 2D6 and 3A4. Based on limited contribution (%) of CYP2D6 to the metabolism of bortezomib, the CYP2D6 poor metabolizer phenotype is not expected to affect the overall disposition of bortezomib.

A drug-drug interaction study assessing the effect of ketoconazole, a potent CYP3A4 inhibitor, on the pharmacokinetics of Bortezomib, showed a bortezomib AUC mean increase of 35%, based on data from 12 patients. Therefore, patients should be closely monitored when given bortezomib in combination with potent CYP3A4-inhibitors (e.g. ketoconazole, itraconazole).

In a drug-drug interaction study assessing the effect of omeprazole, a potent inhibitor of CYP2C19, on the pharmacokinetics of Bortezomib, there was no significant effect on the pharmacokinetics of bortezomib, based on data from 17 patients.

A drug-drug interaction study assessing the effect of rifampicin, a potent CYP3A4 inducer, on the pharmacokinetics of Bortezomib showed a mean bortezomib AUC reduction of 45% based on data from 5 patients. The concomitant use of Bortezomib with strong CYP3A4 inducers is therefore not recommended, as efficacy may be reduced. Examples of CYP3A4 inducers are rifampicin, carbamazepine, phenytoin, phenobarbital and St. John's Wort.

In the same drug-drug interaction study, the effect of dexlansoprazole, a weaker CYP3A4 inducer, was assessed. There was no significant effect on bortezomib pharmacokinetics based on data from 7 patients.

A drug-drug interaction study assessing the effect of melphalan-prednisone on Bortezomib showed a 17% increase in mean bortezomib AUC based on data from 21 patients. This is not considered clinically relevant.

During clinical trials, hypoglycemia and hypoglycemia were reported in diabetic patients receiving oral hypoglycemics. Patients on oral antidiabetic agents receiving Bortezomib treatment may require dose monitoring of their blood glucose levels and adjustment of the dose of their antidiabetic medication.

Patients should be cautioned about the use of concomitant medications that may be associated with peripheral neuropathy (such as amiodarone, anti-virals, isotretinoin, nitrofurantoin, or statins), or with a decrease in blood pressure.

Drug Laboratory Test Interactions

None known

Pregnancy and Breast-feeding

Women of childbearing potential should avoid becoming pregnant while being treated with Bortezomib.

Bortezomib was not teratogenic in nonclinical developmental toxicity studies in rats and rabbits at the highest dose tested (0.075 mg/kg (0.5 mg/m²) in the rat (0.05 mg/kg (0.6 mg/m²) in the rabbit) when administered during organogenesis. These dosages are approximately half the clinical dose of 1.3 mg/m² based on body surface area.

No perinatal transfer studies have been conducted with bortezomib. There are no data of 0.05mg/kg (0.6 mg/m²) experienced significant post-implantation loss and decreased number of live fetuses. Live fetuses from these litters also showed significant decreases in fetal weight. The dose is approximately 0.5 times the clinical dose of 1.3 mg/m² based on body surface area.

No placental transfer studies have been conducted with bortezomib. There are no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women. If Bortezomib is used during pregnancy, or if the patient becomes pregnant while receiving this drug, the patient should be apprised of the potential hazard to the fetus.

Patients should be advised to use effective contraceptive measures to prevent pregnancy.

Nursing Mothers

Bortezomib is excreted in human milk. Because many drugs are excreted in human milk and because of the potential for serious adverse reactions in nursing infants from Bortezomib, women should be advised against breast feeding while being treated with Bortezomib.

Effects on Ability to Drive and use Machines

Bortezomib may cause fatigue, dizziness, syncope, orthostatic/postural hypotension or blurred vision. Patients should be advised not to drive or operate machinery if they experience these symptoms.

Adverse Reactions

Summary of Clinical Trials of Bortezomib IV in Patients with Relapsed/Refractory Multiple Myeloma
The safety and efficacy of Bortezomib were evaluated in 3 studies at the recommended dose of 1.3 mg/m² administered twice weekly for 2 weeks (Days 1, 4, 8, and 11) followed by a 13-day rest period (Days 12-22). The overall incidence of adverse events was 93% in the 3 studies. The most common adverse events were neutropenia, anemia, thrombocytopenia, constipation, diarrhea, nausea, vomiting, and fatigue.

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Ophthalmic herpes, optic neuropathy, blindness	Rare
Chalazion/blepharitis	Rare
Gastrointestinal disorders	
Ischemic colitis, acute pancreatitis	Rare
Intestinal obstruction	Uncommon
Infections and infestations	
Herpes meningoencephalitis, septic shock	Rare
Progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy*	Very rare
Immune system disorders	
Angioedema	Rare
Anaphylactic reaction	Very rare
Nervous system disorders	
Encephalopathy, autonomic neuropathy, posterior reversible encephalopathy syndrome	Rare
Gullain-Barre syndrome, demyelinating polyneuropathy	Very rare
Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders	
Acute diffuse infiltrative pulmonary disease (see Special Warnings and Special Precautions for Use)	Rare
Pulmonary hypertension	Rare
Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders	
Stevens-Johnson Syndrome and toxic epidermal necrolysis	Very rare
Acute febrile neutrophilic dermatitis (Sweet's) syndrome	Rare

* Very rare cases with unknown causality of John Cunningham (JC) virus infection, resulting in PML and death, have been reported in patients treated with Bortezomib.

Hepatitis B Virus (HBV) reactivation and infection
When rituximab is used in combination with Bortezomib, HBV screening must always be performed in patients at risk of infection with HBV before initiation of treatment. Carriers of hepatitis B and patients with a history of hepatitis B must be closely monitored for clinical and laboratory signs of active HBV infection during and following rituximab combination treatment with Bortezomib. Antiviral prophylaxis should be considered.

Cardiovascular safety pharmacology studies in monkeys and dogs showed that IV doses approximately two to three times the recommended clinical dose on a mg/m² basis are associated with increases in heart rate, decreases in diastolic, hypotension, and death. The decreased cardiac contractility and hypotension responded to acute intervention with positive inotropic or pressor agents. In dog studies, a slight increase in the corrected QT interval was observed at a lethal dose. In monkeys, doses of 3.0 mg/m² and greater (approximately twice the recommended clinical dose) resulted in hypotension starting at 1 hour post-administration, with progression to death in 12 to 14 hours following drug administration. Overdose more than twice the recommended dose in patients has been associated with the acute onset of symptomatic hypotension and thrombocytopenia with fatal outcomes. There is no known specific antidote for Bortezomib overdose. In the event of an overdose, the patient's vital signs should be monitored and appropriate supportive care given to maintain blood pressure (such as fluids, pressors and/or inotropic agents) and body temperature (see Special Warnings and Special Precautions for Use and Posology and Method of Administration).

Pharmacological Properties/Pharmacodynamic Properties Mechanism of Action
Bortezomib is a reversible inhibitor of the chymotrypsin-like activity of the 26S proteasome in mammalian cells. The 26S proteasome is a large protein complex that degrades ubiquitinated proteins. The ubiquitin-proteasome pathway plays an essential role in regulating the intracellular concentration of specific proteins, thereby maintaining homeostasis within cells. Inhibition of the 26S proteasome prevents this targeted catabolism, which can affect multiple cellular processes within the cell. This disruption of normal homeostatic mechanisms can lead to cell death. Experiments have demonstrated that bortezomib is cytotoxic to a variety of cancer cell types in vitro. Bortezomib causes a delay in tumor growth in vivo in nonclinical tumor models, including multiple myeloma. Data from in vitro, ex vivo, and animal models with bortezomib suggest that it increases osteoblast differentiation and activity and inhibits osteoclast function. These effects have been observed in patients with multiple myeloma affected by an advanced osteolytic disease and treated with bortezomib.

Clinical Studies
Phase 2 Clinical Studies in Relapsed Multiple Myeloma
The safety and efficacy of Bortezomib in relapsed multiple myeloma were evaluated in an open-label, single-arm, multicenter study of 202 patients who had received at least 2 prior therapies and demonstrated disease progression on their most recent therapy. The median number of prior therapies was 6. Baseline patient and disease characteristics are summarized in Table 13. An IV bolus injection of Bortezomib 1.3 mg/m²/dose was administered twice weekly for 2 weeks on Days 1, 4, 8, and 11 followed by a 10-day rest period (Days 12 to 21) for a maximum of 6 treatment cycles. The study employed dose modifications for toxicity (see Posology and Method of Administration). Patients who experienced a response to Bortezomib were allowed to continue Bortezomib treatment in an extension study.

Table 13: Summary of Patient Population and Disease Characteristics in a Phase 2 Multiple Myeloma Study			
N = 202			
Patient Characteristics			
Median age in years (range)	59 (34, 84)		
Gender: Male/female	60% / 40%		
Race: Caucasian/black/other	81% / 10% / 8%		
Karnofsky Performance Status score ≥ 70	20%		
Hemoglobin <100 g/L	44%		
Platelet count <75 $\times 10^9/L$	21%		
Disease Characteristics			
Type of myeloma (N): IgG/IgA/Light chain	60% / 24% / 14%		
Median β_2 -microglobulin (mg/L)	3.5		
Median creatinine clearance (mL/min)	73.9		
Abnormal cytogenetics Chromosome 13 deletion	35%		
	15%		
Median duration of Multiple Myeloma Since Diagnosis in Years			
Any prior therapy	90%		
Any prior steroids, e.g., dexamethasone, VAD	49%		
Any prior alkylating agents, e.g., MP, VMCP	92%		
Any prior antineoplastic, e.g., VAD, mitoxantrone	81%		
Any prior thalidomide therapy	83%		
Received at least 2 of the above	98%		
Received at least 3 of the above	92%		
Received all 4 of the above	66%		
Any prior stem cell transplant/high-dose therapy	64%		
Prior experimental or other types of therapy	44%		

* Based on number of patients with baseline data available
Responses to Bortezomib alone are shown in Table 14. Response rates to Bortezomib alone were determined by an independent review committee (IRC) based on criteria published by Baskin and others. Complete response required $\geq 5\%$ plasma cells or abnormal cytogenetics in the M-protein, and a negative immunofixation test (IF). Response rates using the Southwest Oncology Group (SWOG) criteria are also shown. $\geq 50\%$ response required a $\geq 75\%$ reduction in serum myeloma protein and/or 90% urine protein. A total of 188 patients were evaluable for response; 9 patients with nonmeasurable disease could not be evaluated for response by the IRC, and 5 patients were excluded from the efficacy analyses because they had minimal prior therapy.
Ninety-eight percent of study patients received a starting dose of 1.3 mg/m² administered IV. Twenty-eight percent of these patients received a dose of 1.3 mg/m² throughout the study, while 33% of patients who started at a dose of 1.3 mg/m² had to have their dose reduced during the study. Sixty-three percent of patients had at least one day of Bortezomib administration (i.e., Days 1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 9, 11, and 12), thus 160 mg over 3 weeks). A total of 74 patients were administered dexamethasone in combination with Bortezomib and were assessed for response. Eighteen percent (13/74) of patients achieved or had an improved response (CR 11% or PR 7%) with combination treatment.

Table 14: Summary of Disease Outcomes in a Phase 2 Multiple Myeloma Study			
Response Analyses (Bortezomib monotherapy)			
N = 188			
Overall Response Rate (%) (CR + PR)	52 (27%)		
Complete Response (CR)	5 (2.7%)		
Partial Response (PR)	47 (25%)		
Clinical Remission (SWOG)*	33 (17.6%)		
Kaplan-Meier Estimated Median Duration of Response (95% CI)	365 Days	(224, NE)	
* Complete Response required $\geq 5\%$ plasma cells in the marrow, 100% reduction in M-protein, and a negative immunofixation test (IF). * Partial Response requires $\geq 50\%$ reduction in serum myeloma protein and $\geq 90\%$ reduction of urine myeloma protein on at least 2 occasions for a minimum of at least 6 weeks, stable bone disease and calcium. * Clinical Remission (SWOG) required $\geq 75\%$ reduction in serum myeloma protein and/or $\geq 90\%$ reduction of urine myeloma protein on at least 2 occasions for a minimum of at least 6 weeks, stable bone disease and calcium. Of the 202 patients enrolled, 36% were 65 years of age or older. Ninety percent (19%) of patients aged 65 years or older experienced CR or PR.			

In this study, the response rate to Bortezomib, based on a univariate analysis, was independent of the number and types of prior therapies. There was a decreased likelihood of response in patients with either $\geq 50\%$ plasma cells or abnormal cytogenetics in the bone marrow. Responses were seen in patients with chromosome 13 abnormalities.
A small dose-response study was conducted in 54 patients with multiple myeloma who received a 1.0 mg/m²/dose or a 1.3 mg/m²/dose twice weekly for two out of three weeks. A single complete response was seen at each dose, and there were overall (CR + PR) response rates of 30% (8/27) at 1.0 mg/m² and 38% (10/26) at 1.3 mg/m².
Patients who did not obtain an optimal response to therapy with Bortezomib alone (progressive or stable disease after 2 or 4 cycles, respectively) were able to receive high-dose dexamethasone in conjunction with Bortezomib (i.e., 40 mg dexamethasone with each dose of Bortezomib administered only on Day 1 followed by a 10-day rest period (Days 12 to 21)). Within each 5-week treatment cycle, Bortezomib 1.3 mg/m²/dose alone was administered by IV bolus once weekly for 2 weeks on Days 1, 4, 8, 9, 11, and 12, thus 160 mg over 3 weeks). A total of 74 patients were administered dexamethasone in combination with Bortezomib and were assessed for response. Eighteen percent (13/74) of patients achieved or had an improved response (CR 11% or PR 7%) with combination treatment.

Randomized, Open-Label, Phase 3 Clinical Study in Relapsed Multiple Myeloma Comparing Bortezomib to Dexamethasone
A prospective phase 3, international, randomized (1:1), stratified, open-label clinical study enrolled 669 patients was designed to determine whether Bortezomib resulted in improvement in time to progression (TTP) compared to high-dose dexamethasone in patients with progressive multiple myeloma following 1 to 3 prior therapies. Patients considered to be refractory to prior high-dose dexamethasone were excluded as were those with baseline grade ≥ 2 peripheral neuropathy or platelet counts $<50,000/L$. A total of 627 patients were evaluable for response. Stratification factors were age at first prior therapy the patient had received (1 prior therapy versus 2 or more prior therapies), the time of progression relative to prior treatment (progression during or within 6 months of stopping their most recent therapy versus relapse >6 months after receiving their most recent therapy), and screening β_2 -microglobulin levels (≤ 2.5 mg/L versus >2.5 mg/L).

Baseline patient and disease characteristics are summarized in Table 15.			
Table 15: Summary of Baseline Patient and Disease Characteristics in the Phase 3 Trial			
Patient Characteristics			
Dexamethasone N=333			
Median age in years (range)	62 (33, 84)		
Gender: Male/female	56% / 44%		
Race: Caucasian/black/other	80% / 6% / 4%		
Karnofsky performance status score ≥ 70	13%		
Hemoglobin <100 g/L	32%		
Platelet count <75 $\times 10^9/L$	6%		
Disease Characteristics			
Type of myeloma (N): IgG/IgA/Light chain	60% / 23% / 12%		
Median β_2 -microglobulin (mg/L)	3.7		
Median albumin (g/L)	3.8		
Creatinine clearance ≥ 30 mL/min (N [%])	17 (6%)		
Median duration of Multiple Myeloma Since Diagnosis (Years)	3.5		
Number of Prior Therapeutic Lines of Treatment			
Median	2		
1 prior line	40%		
≥ 1 prior line	60%		
All Patients			
Any prior steroids, e.g., dexamethasone, VAD	98%		
Any prior antineoplastic, e.g., VAD, mitoxantrone	77%		
Any prior alkylating agents, e.g., MP, VMCP	91%		
Any prior thalidomide therapy	48%		
Vinca alkaloids	74%		
Prior stem cell transplant/high-dose therapy	67%		
Prior experimental or other types of therapy	3%		

Patients in the Bortezomib treatment group were to receive eight 3-week treatment cycles followed by three 5-week treatment cycles of Bortezomib. Within each 3-week treatment cycle, Bortezomib 1.3 mg/m²/dose alone was administered by IV bolus twice weekly for 2 weeks on Days 1, 4, 8, and 11 followed by a 10-day rest period (Days 12 to 21). Within each 5-week treatment cycle, Bortezomib 1.3 mg/m²/dose alone was administered by IV bolus once weekly for 4 weeks on Days 1, 8, 15, and 22 followed by a 13-day rest period (Days 23 to 35) (see Posology and Method of Administration).
Patients in the dexamethasone treatment group were to receive four 5-week treatment cycles followed by five 4-week treatment cycles. Within each 5-week treatment cycle, dexamethasone 40 mg/day PO was administered once daily on Days 1 to 4, 9 to 12, and 17 to 20 followed by a 15-day rest period (Days 21 to 35). Within each 4-week treatment cycle, dexamethasone 40 mg/day PO was administered once daily on Days 1 to 4 followed by a 24-day rest period (Days 5 to 28). Patients with documented progressive disease on dexamethasone were offered Bortezomib at a standard dose and schedule on a comparison study.
Following a preplanned interim analysis of time to progression, the dexamethasone arm was halted and all patients randomized to dexamethasone were offered Bortezomib, regardless of disease status. At this time of study termination, a final statistical analysis was performed. Due to this early termination of the study, the median duration of follow-up for surviving patients (n=534) is limited to 6.3 months. In the Bortezomib arm, 34% of patients received at least one Bortezomib dose in all of the 3-week cycles of therapy, and 13% received at least one dose in all of the 5-week cycles. The median number of Bortezomib doses during the study was 22, with a range of 1 to 44. In the dexamethasone arm, 40% of patients received at least one dose in all of the 4-week treatment cycles of therapy, and 6% received at least one dose in all 9 cycles.
The time to event analyses and response rates for the phase 3 multiple myeloma study are presented in Table 16. Response and progression were assessed using the European Group for Blood and Marrow Transplantation (EBMT) criteria. Complete response (CR) required $\geq 5\%$ plasma cells in the marrow, 100% reduction in M-protein, and a negative immunofixation test (IF). Partial Response (PR) required $\geq 50\%$ reduction in serum myeloma protein and $\geq 90\%$ reduction of urine myeloma protein on a minimum of at least 6 weeks along with stable bone disease and normal calcium. Near complete response (nCR) was defined as meeting all the criteria for complete response including 100% reduction in M-protein by protein electrophoresis, however M-protein was still detectable by immunofixation (IF).
Table 16: Summary of Efficacy Analyses in the Phase 3 Study

Efficacy Endpoint	All Patients		1 Prior Line of Therapy		> 1 Prior Line of Therapy	
	Bortezomib n=333	Dex n=336	Bortezomib n=132	Dex n=119	Bortezomib n=200	Dex n=217
Time to Progression	147 (44%)	196 (58%)	55 (42%)	64 (54%)	92 (46%)	132 (61%)
Events n (%)	6.2 mo (4.9, 8.9)	3.5 mo (2.9, 4.2)	7.0 mo (6.2, 8.8)	5.6 mo (3.4, 6.3)	4.9 mo (4.2, 6.3)	2.9 mo (2.8, 3.5)
Hazard ratio*	0.55		0.55		0.54	
(95% CI)	(0.44, 0.69)		(0.38, 0.81)		(0.41, 0.72)	
p-value	<0.0001		0.0019		<0.0001	
Overall Survival	51 (15%)	84 (25%)	12 (9%)	24 (20%)	39 (20%)	60 (28%)
Events (deaths) n (%)						
Hazard ratio*	0.57		0.39		0.65	
(95% CI)	(0.40, 0.81)		(0.19, 0.81)		(0.43, 0.97)	
p-value**	<0.05		<0.05		<0.05	
Response Rate	n=315	n=312	n=128	n=110	n=187	n=202
Population n = 627						
CR n (%)	20 (6%)	2 (1%)	8 (6%)	2 (2%)	12 (6%)	0 (0%)
PR n (%)	54 (17%)	49 (28%)	27 (25%)	27 (23%)	52 (28%)	27 (13%)
nCR n (%)	21 (7%)	3 (1%)	8 (6%)	2 (2%)	13 (7%)	1 (1%)
CR + PR n (%)	121 (38%)	56 (18%)	57 (45%)	29 (25%)	64 (34%)	27 (13%)
p-value*	<0.0001		0.0035		<0.0001	
Median Response Duration						
CR	9.9 mo	NE	9.9 mo	NE	6.3 mo	NA
nCR	11.5 mo	9.2 mo	NE	NE	11.5 mo	9.2 mo
CR + PR	8.0 mo	5.6 mo	8.1 mo	6.2 mo	7.8 mo	4.1 mo

*Kaplan-Meier estimate.
Hazard ratio is based on Cox proportional-hazard model with the treatment as single independent variable. A hazard ratio less than 1 indicates an advantage for Bortezomib.
*p-value based on the stratified log-rank test including randomization stratification factors.
*Precise p-value cannot be rendered.
*Response population includes patients who had measurable disease at baseline and received at least 1 dose of study drug.
*EBMT criteria: nCR meets all EBMT criteria for CR but has positive IF. Under EBMT criteria, nCR is in the PR category.
**p=0.2 patients, the p-value was not significant.
*p-value for Response Rate (CR + PR) from the Cochran-Mantel-Haenszel Chi-square test adjusted for the stratification factors.
*Not Estimable.
*Not Applicable, no patients in category.

Randomized, Open-Label Clinical Study in Relapsed Multiple Myeloma Comparing Bortezomib IV and SC
An open-label, randomized, phase 3 non-inferiority study compared the efficacy and safety of the subcutaneous administration (SC) of Bortezomib versus the intravenous (IV) administration of Bortezomib in patients with relapsed multiple myeloma who were randomized in a 2:1 ratio to receive 1.3 mg/m² of Bortezomib by either the SC or IV route for 8 cycles. Patients who did not obtain an optimal response (less than complete Response (CR)) to therapy with Bortezomib alone after 4 cycles were allowed to receive dexamethasone 20 mg daily on the day of and after Bortezomib administration. Patients with baseline grade ≥ 2 peripheral neuropathy or platelet counts $<50,000/L$ were excluded. A total of 219 patients were evaluable for response.
Stratification factors were based on the number of lines of prior therapy the patient had received (1 previous line versus more than 1 line of therapy), and international staging system (ISS) stage (incorporating β_2 -microglobulin and albumin levels; Stages I, II, or III).

Baseline patient and disease characteristics are summarized in Table 17.

Table 17: Summary of Baseline Patient and Disease Characteristics in the Phase 3 Trial of Bortezomib IV vs SC			
Patient Characteristics			
IV N = 74			
Median age in years (range)	64.5 (38, 86)		
Gender: male/female	64% / 36%		
Race: Caucasian/Asian	96% / 4%		
Karnofsky performance status score ≥ 70	16%		
Disease Characteristics			
Type of myeloma (N): IgG/IgA/Light chain	72% / 19% / 8%		
ISS staging: I/II/III (%)	27/41/32		
Median β_2 -microglobulin (mg/L)	4.25		
Median albumin (g/L)	3.60		
Creatinine clearance ≥ 30 mL/min (N [%])	2 (3%)		
Median duration of Multiple Myeloma Since Diagnosis (Years)	2.93		
Number of Prior Therapeutic Lines of Treatment			
≥ 1 prior line	65%		
≥ 1 prior line	35%		

ISS Staging is derived from baseline central laboratory data.
This study met its primary objective of non-inferiority for response rate (CR + PR) after 4 cycles of single agent Bortezomib for both the SC and IV routes, 42% in both groups. In addition, secondary response-related and time to event efficacy endpoints showed consistent results for SC IV administration (Table 18).

Table 18: Summary of efficacy analyses for the SC administration of Bortezomib compared to IV

IV Bortezomib		SC Bortezomib	
Response-Evaluable Population*		N = 73	
Response Rate at 4 cycles		N = 145	
ORR (CR+PR)	31 (42%)	61 (42%)	
p-value		0.00201	
CR n (%)	6 (8%)	9 (6%)	
nCR n (%)	25 (34%)	52 (36%)	
PR n (%)	4 (5%)	9 (6%)	
Response Rate at 8 cycles		N = 74	
ORR (CR+PR)	38 (52%)	76 (52%)	
p-value		0.0001	
CR n (%)	9 (12%)	15 (10%)	
nCR n (%)	21 (28%)	41 (28%)	
PR n (%)	2 (3%)	7 (5%)	
Median Time to Progression, months		N = 148	
(95% CI)	(7.6, 10.6)	(8.5, 11.7)	
Hazard ratio (95% CI) p-value (d)		0.830 (0.564, 1.249)	
Progression Free Survival, months	8.0	10.2	
(95% CI)	(6.7, 9.8)	(8.1, 10.8)	
Hazard ratio (95% CI) p-value*		0.824 (0.574, 1.183)	
1-year Overall Survival (%)	76.7	72.6	
(95% CI)	(64.1, 85.4)	(63.1, 80.0)	

* All randomized subjects who received at least 1 non-zero dose of study medication and had measurable disease at study entry
* p-value for the non-inferiority hypothesis that the SC arm results in at least 60% of the response rate in the IV arm.
* 222 subjects were enrolled into the study; 221 subjects were treated with Bortezomib.
* Hazard ratio estimate is based on a Cox model adjusted for stratification factors: ISS staging and number of prior lines.
* Log-rank test adjusted for stratification factors: ISS staging and number of prior lines.
* Median duration of follow up is 11.3 months.
* TTP presents a cross-tabulation summary of best response by algorithm after 4 cycles versus after 8 cycles for patients who received dexamethasone. Eighty-two subjects in the SC treatment group and 39 subjects in the IV treatment group received dexamethasone after cycle 4. Dexamethasone had a similar effect on improvement of response or both treatment arms.
* 50% (SC) and 30% (IV) of patients with no response at end of Cycle 4 obtained a response later.
* 13% (SC) and 13% (IV) of patients with PR at end of Cycle 4 obtained a CR later.

Table 19: Cross-tabulation of Summary of Best Response After 4 Cycles vs. After 8 Cycles for patients who received dexamethasone

		Best Response After 4 Cycles	
		(N = 121)	
		Category, n (%)	
Treatment Group		Total	Non-responder
Cycle 4 Best Response*		n (%)	
IV	39 (32%)	1 (8%)	16 (41%)
CR	1 (1%)	1 (100%)	0 (0%)
PR	15 (12%)	2 (13%)	13 (87%)
Non-responder	23 (19%)	0 (7%)	16 (70%)
SC	82 (68%)	8 (10%)	41 (50%)
CR	4 (3%)	4 (100%)	0 (0%)
PR	31 (26%)	4 (10%)	27 (87%)
Non-responder	47 (39%)	0 (14%)	33 (70%)

* Response assessment by validated computer algorithm. This algorithm incorporates a consistent assessment of all data required for response by the modified EBMT criteria.
Relative to previously unstratified patients, the ORR after 8 cycles of treatment (52% in both treatment groups) and time to progression (median 10.4 months and 9.4 months in SC and IV treatment groups, respectively), including the effect of the addition of dexamethasone from cycle 5 onwards, were higher than observed in prior registration study with single agent IV Bortezomib (38% ORR and median TTP of 6.2 months for the Bortezomib arm). Time to Progression and ORR was also higher compared to the subgroup of patients that received only 1 prior line of therapy (43% ORR and median TTP of 7.0 months) (Table 16).
TTP was statistically significantly longer on the Bortezomib arm (see Figure 1).
Figure 1: Time to Progression Bortezomib vs. Dexamethasone

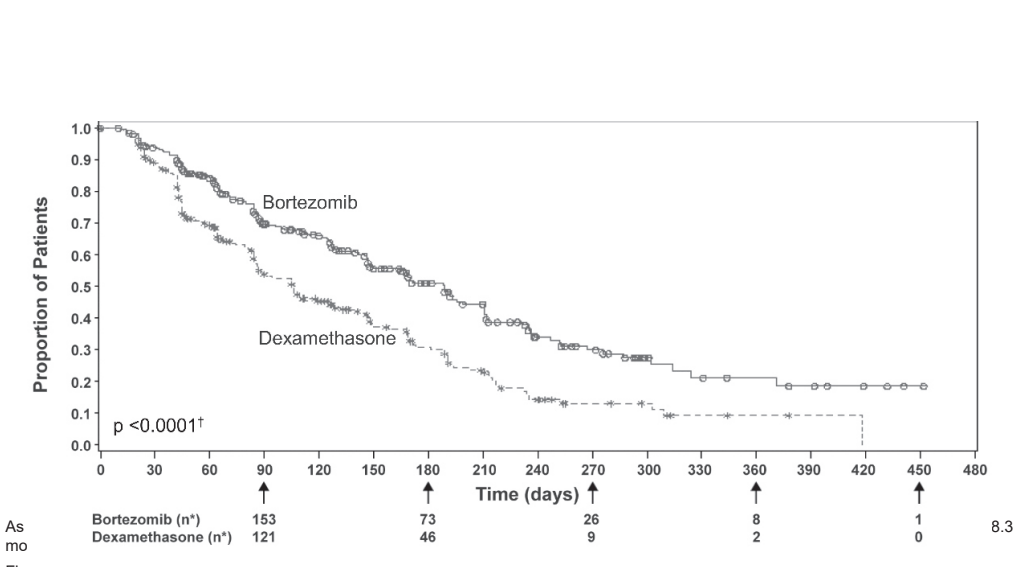


Fig. * Patients remaining after the indicated timepoint
* p-value from log-rank test

