

23-26 March 2026

# Phase 2/3 study of ulviprubart in inclusion body myositis: Study design, patient characteristics, and topline results

Namita A. Goyal, MD

Professor of Neurology, University of California Irvine, CA, USA

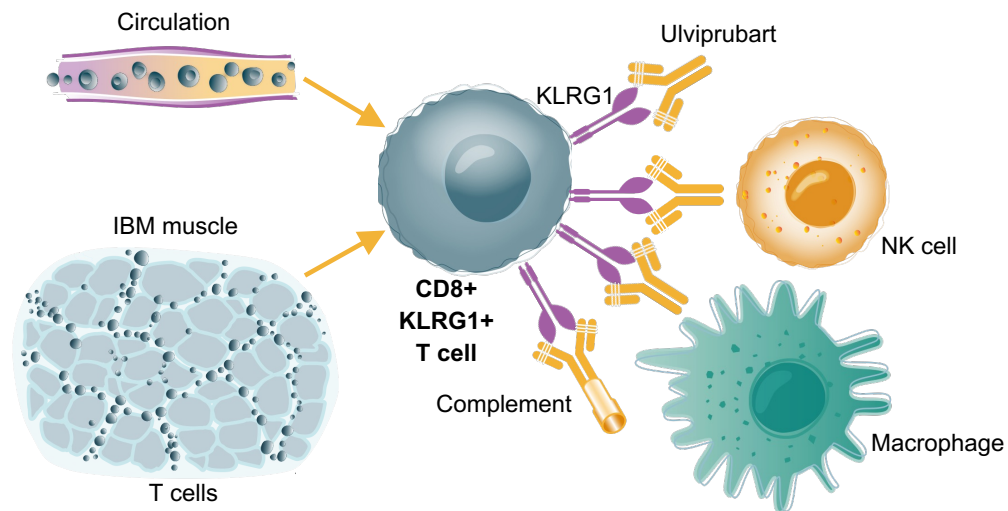
**Coauthors:** Pedro M. Machado, Dana P. Ascherman, Olivier Benveniste, Said R. Beydoun, Thomas H. Brannagan III, James B. Caress, Lisa Christopher-Stine, Michael P. Collins, Jan L. De Bleecker, Mazen Dimachkie, Stacy Dixon, Alex Dmitrienko, David R. Fernandez, Miriam Freimer, Christopher Geiger, Paloma Gonzalez-Perez, Neelam Goyal, Kelly Gwathmey, Daragh Heitzman, Robert Henderson, Lisa D. Hobson-Webb, Yessar Hussain, Lawrence Korngut, Christina Liang, James B. Lilleker, Thomas Lloyd, Payam Mohassel, Elie Naddaf, Merrilee Needham, Ezequiel Piccione, Colin C. Quinn, Laura Rosow, Bhaskar Roy, Tobias Ruck, Jens Schmidt, Arjun Seth, Jaimin Shah, Aziz Shaibani, Perry B. Shieh, Zachary Simmons, Kumaraswamy Sivakumar, Leo H. Wang, Conrad C. Weihl, H. Jeffrey Wilkins, Anthony A. Amato

# Disclosure Statement

**Namita Goyal** has received research grants from Abcuro, Annexon, Avidity, Calico, Clene, Fulcrum, Janssen, MediciNova, MT Pharma, PepGen, Prilenia, PTC, Rapa, Roche, Sanofi, and Transposon; participated in advisory boards for Abcuro, Amgen, Annexon, Argenx, AstraZeneca, CSL Behring, Sanofi Genzyme, and UCB; served on speaker bureaus for Argenx and CSL Behring

# Introduction

- Ulviprubart is a humanized monoclonal antibody that selectively depletes cytotoxic CD8+ KLRG1+ T cells by targeting KLRG1 expressed on most IBM muscle-infiltrating T cells<sup>1</sup>
- The objective of this randomized, double-blind study was to evaluate the efficacy and safety of ulviprubart in the treatment of patients with IBM

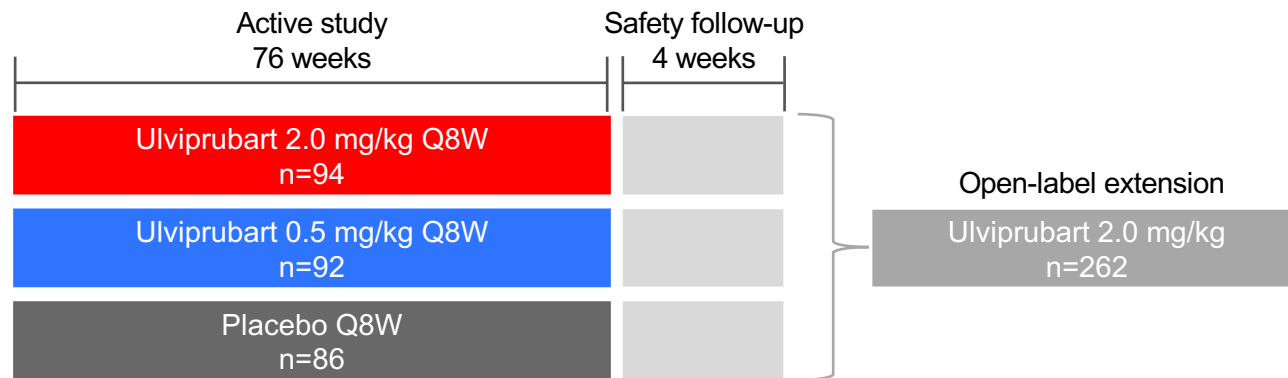


# Study design

- This phase 2/3 randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, global study was conducted at 45 sites in Australia, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, the United Kingdom, and the United States

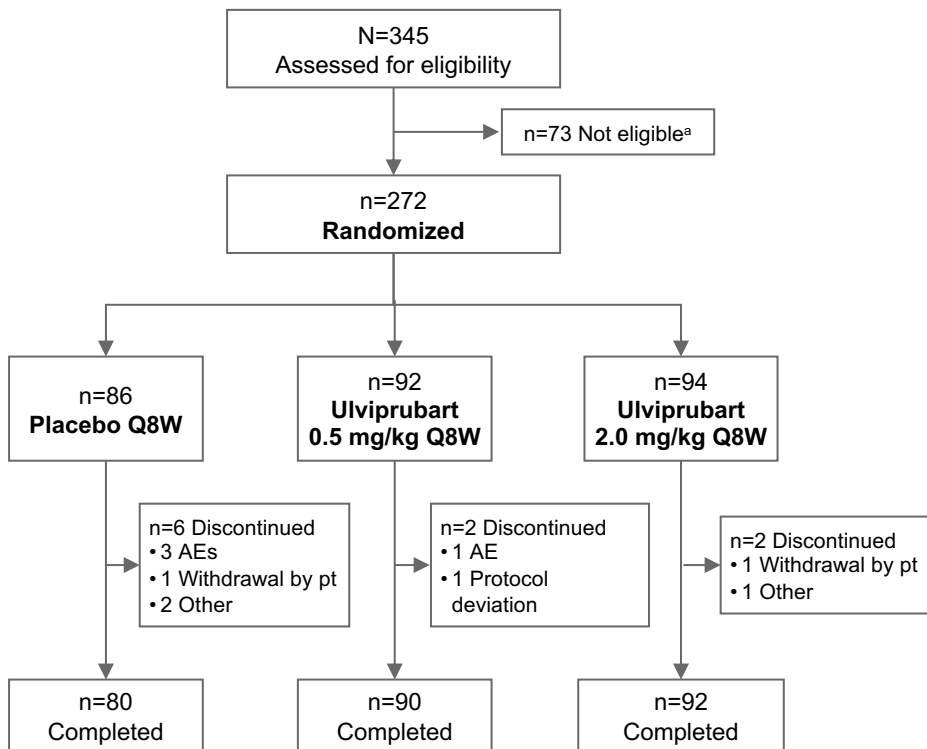
**Key eligibility criteria**

- Patients with IBM defined by 2011 ENMC criteria<sup>1</sup>
- Age ≥40 years
- Able to complete the mTUG test
- Receiving <7.5 mg/day oral prednisone or equivalent at screening
- No use of other immunosuppressants



Primary efficacy endpoint	Secondary efficacy endpoints	Key safety endpoints
Mean change from baseline in IBMFRS score at week 76	Mean change from baseline in MMT12, dominant hand and quadriceps dynamometry, and mTUG at week 76	TEAEs, serious TEAEs, and AEs of special interest

# Patient disposition and baseline characteristics



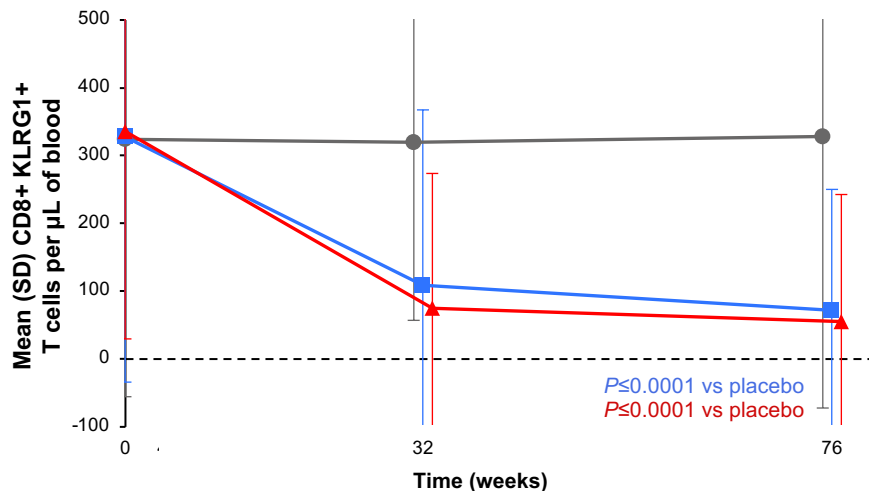
## Baseline demographics and clinical characteristics

	Placebo (n=86)	Ulviprubart 0.5 mg/kg (n=92)	Ulviprubart 2.0 mg/kg (n=94)
Age, mean (SD), years	68.5 (7.6)	67.9 (7.0)	67.9 (8.7)
<65 years, n (%)	21 (24.4)	29 (31.5)	28 (29.8)
≥65 years, n (%)	65 (75.6)	63 (68.5)	66 (70.2)
Sex, male, n (%)	60 (69.8)	61 (66.3)	65 (69.1)
Race, White, n (%)	73 (84.9)	86 (93.5)	84 (89.4)
Weight, mean (SD), kg	82.5 (21.1)	83.2 (17.5)	84.8 (18.6)
BMI, mean (SD), kg/m <sup>2</sup>	27.0 (5.1)	27.4 (5.0)	27.7 (4.6)
IBMFERS score, mean (SD)	27.8 (5.3)	27.1 (5.2)	27.0 (4.5)
Time from diagnosis, mean (SD), years	4.2 (3.8)	3.7 (2.9)	4.0 (3.1)
Time from symptom onset, mean (SD), years	8.7 (4.9)	8.9 (5.2)	9.2 (4.7)
CD8+ KLRG1+ T cells, cells/μL of blood, mean (SD)	324.3 (379.8)	327.4 (361.4)	335.5 (305.8)

<sup>a</sup>65 patients could not perform the mTUG, failed to meet inclusion criteria, or met exclusion criteria. AE, adverse event; BMI, body mass index; IBMFERS, inclusion body myositis functional rating scale; KLRG1, killer cell lectin-like receptor G1; mTUG, modified timed up and go; pt, patient; Q8W, every 8 weeks.

# Both doses of ulviprubart achieved deep depletion of blood CD8+ KLRG1+ T cells

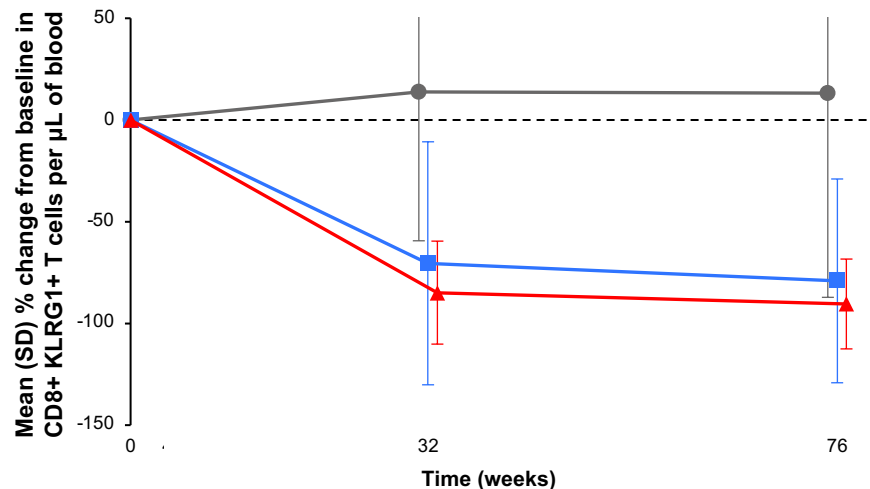
## Mean CD8+ KLRG1+ T cells



Patients, n

Placebo	85	71	78
Ulviprubart 0.5 mg/kg	92	72	85
Ulviprubart 2.0 mg/kg	93	80	85

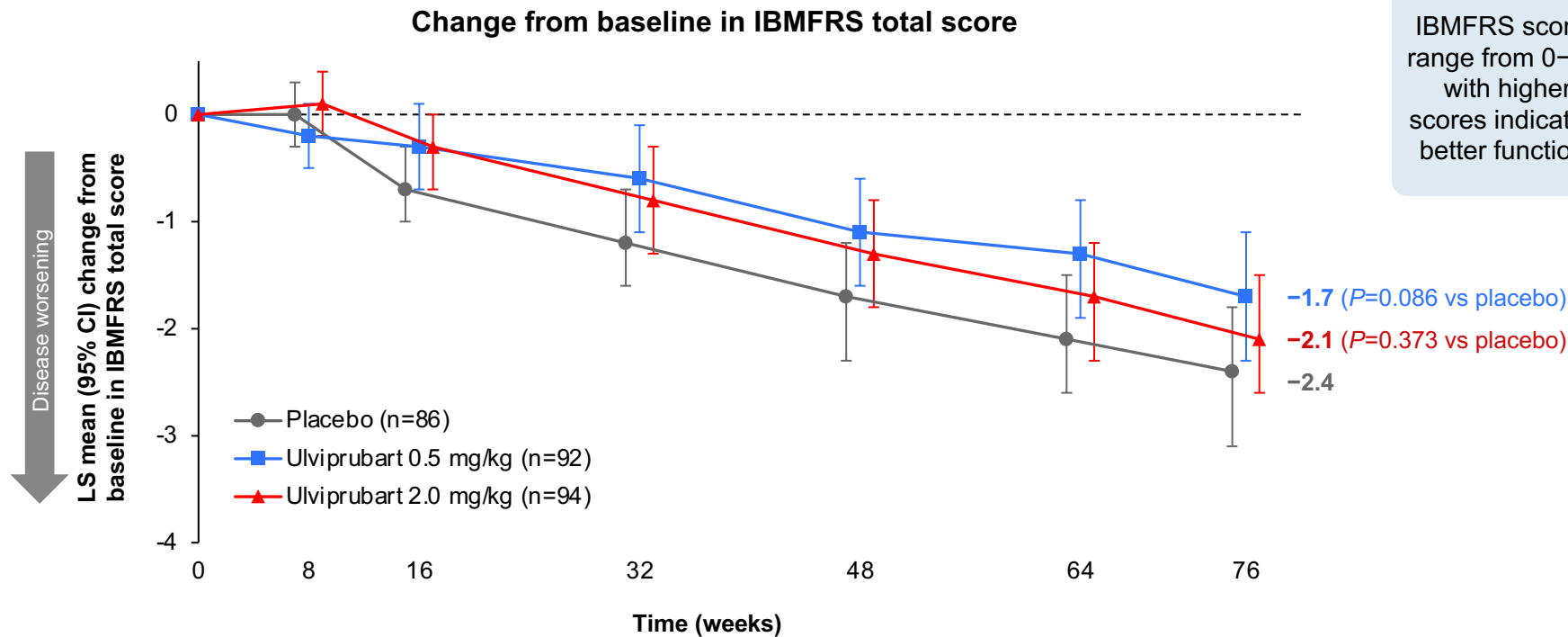
## Mean percentage change from baseline in CD8+ KLRG1+ T cells



85	71	78
92	72	85
93	79	84

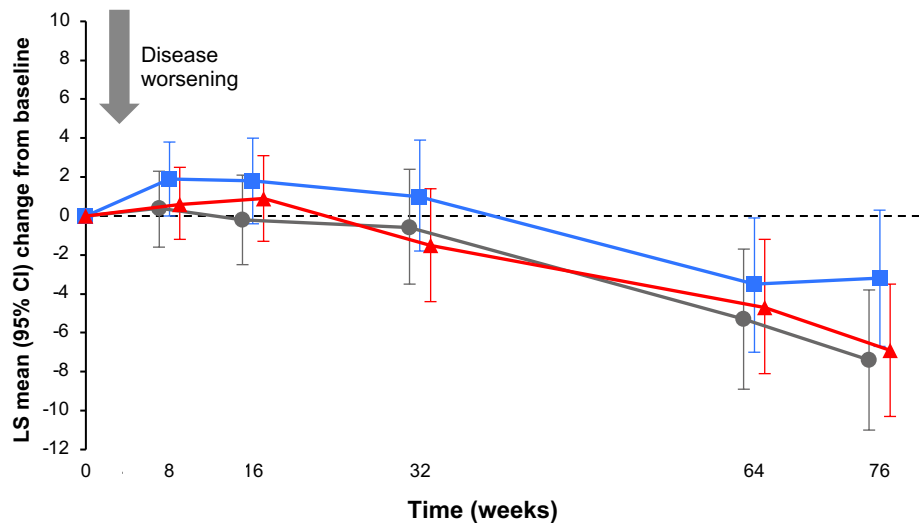
● Placebo      ■ Ulviprubart 0.5 mg/kg      ▲ Ulviprubart 2.0 mg/kg

# Primary endpoint: IBMFRS total score changes were not significantly different at week 76

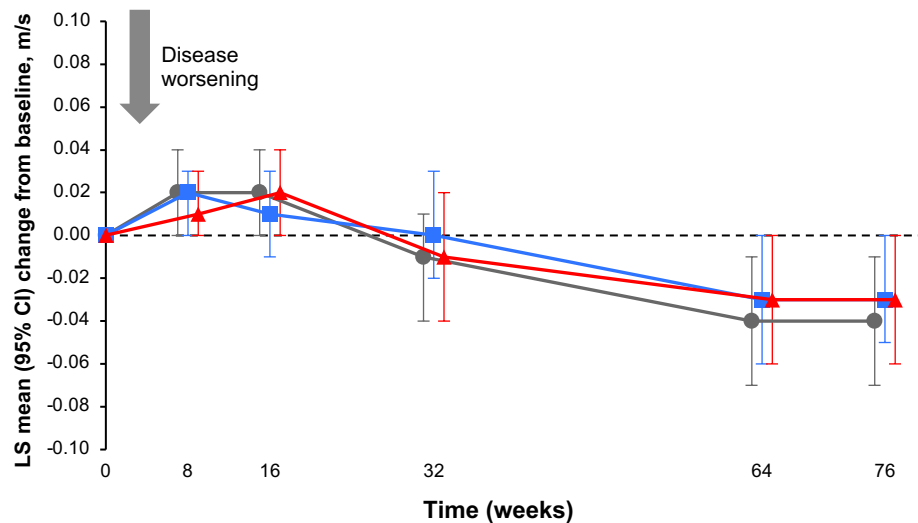


# Changes in MMT12 and mTUG velocity were not significantly different with ulviprubart vs placebo

## Change from baseline in MMT12



## Change from baseline in mTUG velocity (m/s)



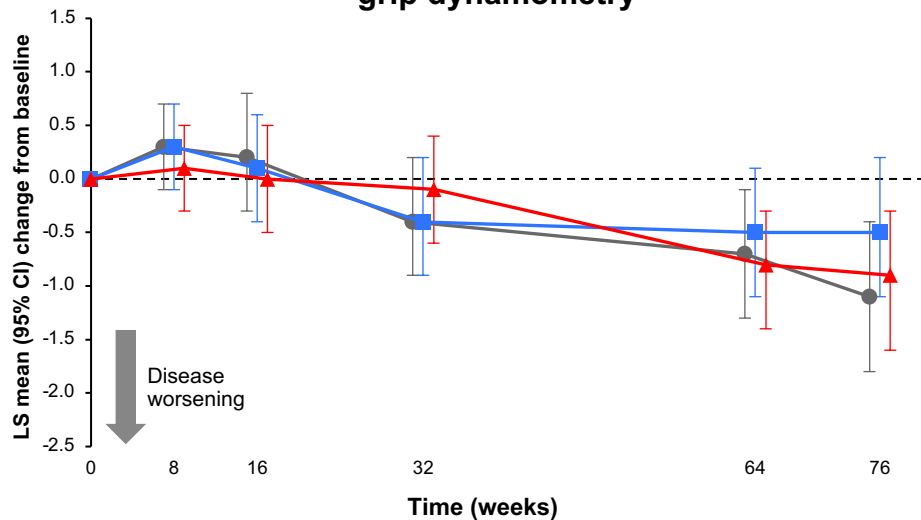
● Placebo (n=86)

■ Ulviprubart 0.5 mg/kg (n=92)

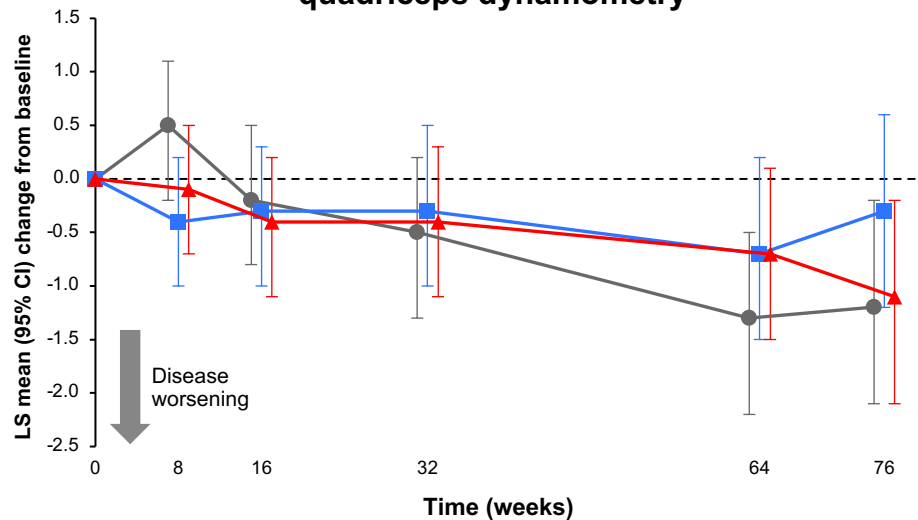
▲ Ulviprubart 2.0 mg/kg (n=94)

# Dynamometry results were similar with ulviprubart and placebo

## Change from baseline in dominant grip dynamometry



## Change from baseline in dominant quadriceps dynamometry



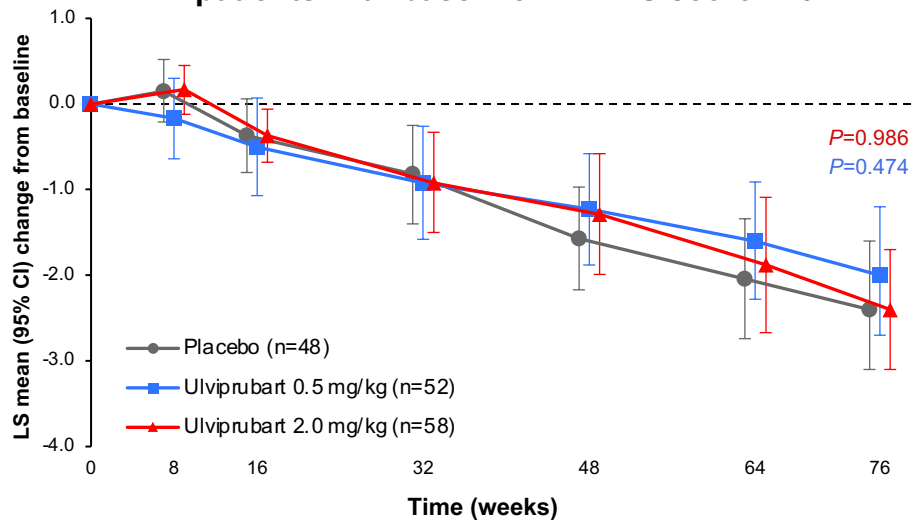
● Placebo (n=86<sup>a</sup>)    ■ Ulviprubart 0.5 mg/kg (n=92)    ▲ Ulviprubart 2.0 mg/kg (n=94)

# Baseline demographic data were balanced across cohorts within subgroups of patients with baseline IBMFRS scores <29 and ≥29

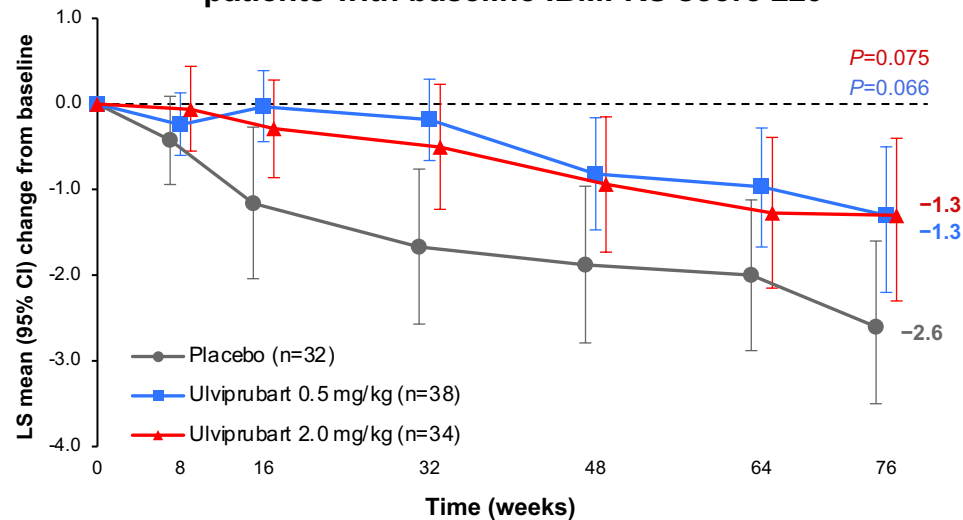
	Baseline IBMFRS score <29			Baseline IBMFRS score ≥29		
	Placebo (n=53)	Ulviprubarb 0.5 mg/kg (n=54)	Ulviprubarb 2.0 mg/kg (n=60)	Placebo (n=33)	Ulviprubarb 0.5 mg/kg (n=38)	Ulviprubarb 2.0 mg/kg (n=34)
Age, mean (SD), years	69.9 (7.4)	68.7 (6.4)	68.8 (8.3)	66.1 (7.5)	66.7 (7.6)	66.3 (9.3)
<65 years, n (%)	9 (17.0)	17 (31.5)	16 (26.7)	12 (36.4)	12 (31.6)	12 (35.3)
≥65 years, n (%)	44 (83.0)	37 (68.5)	44 (73.3)	21 (63.6)	26 (68.4)	22 (64.7)
Sex, male, n (%)	35 (66.0)	38 (70.4)	41 (68.3)	25 (75.8)	23 (60.5)	24 (70.6)
Race, White, n (%)	48 (90.6)	53 (98.1)	52 (86.7)	25 (75.8)	33 (86.8)	32 (94.1)
Weight, mean (SD), kg	80.2 (19.9)	85.1 (16.3)	85.8 (18.2)	86.3 (22.7)	80.6 (19.2)	82.9 (19.5)
BMI, mean (SD), kg/m <sup>2</sup>	26.6 (4.7)	27.8 (4.2)	28.0 (4.6)	27.5 (5.9)	26.8 (5.9)	27.2 (4.8)
Time from diagnosis, mean (SD), years	3.1 (2.9)	4.1 (3.6)	3.7 (3.5)	1.9 (2.5)	2.1 (3.5)	1.8 (2.2)
Time from symptom onset, mean (SD), years	8.1 (4.4)	9.2 (4.9)	8.2 (5.7)	5.7 (4.2)	7.1 (4.5)	6.4 (4.5)

# Trends suggesting slower reduction in IBMFRS score were seen in patients with baseline IBMFRS score $\geq 29$

Change in IBMFRS score from baseline to week 76 for patients with baseline IBMFRS score  $< 29$



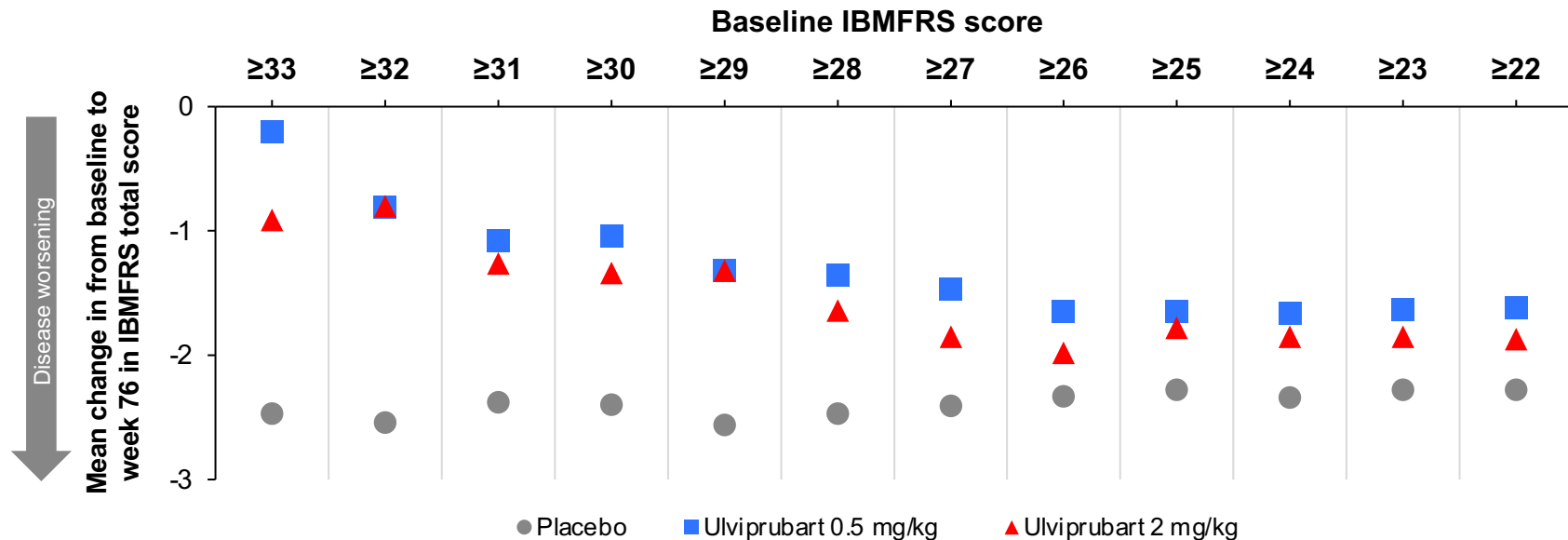
Change in IBMFRS score from baseline to week 76 for patients with baseline IBMFRS score  $\geq 29$



## In patients with baseline IBMFRS score $\geq 29$

- There was a difference between ulviprubarb and placebo at week 76 that represented a 50% slowing of disease progression
- The most pronounced differences occurred by week 16

# Patients with mild-to-moderate baseline disease severity showed less IBMFRS reduction with ulviprobart

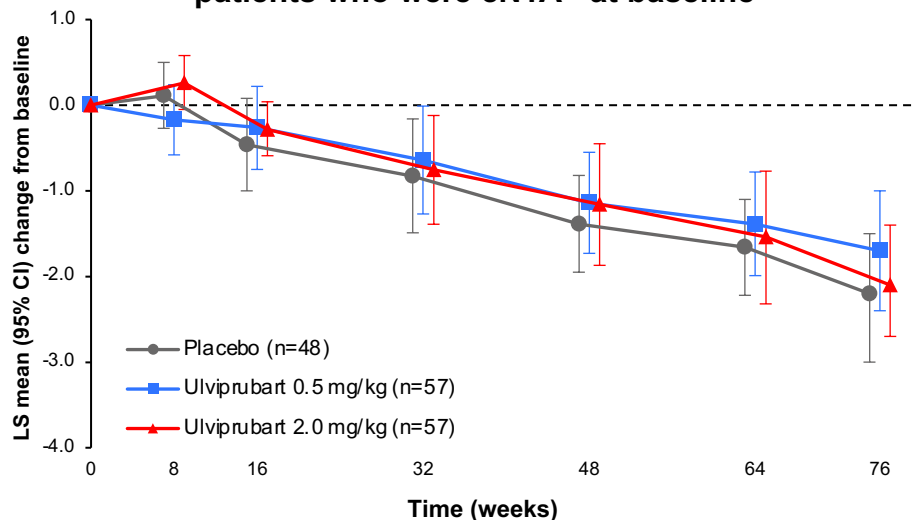


**Patients, n**

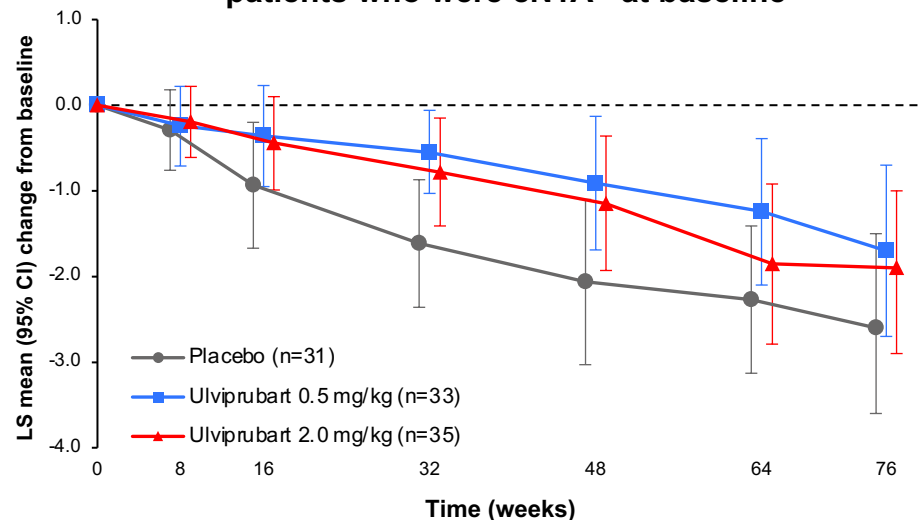
	≥33	≥32	≥31	≥30	≥29	≥28	≥27	≥26	≥25	≥24	≥23	≥22
Placebo	19	24	26	30	32	36	44	49	57	65	72	76
0.5 mg/kg	10	16	24	28	38	45	55	60	66	71	76	79
2.0 mg/kg	11	15	19	29	34	42	47	59	67	73	80	82

# Anti-cN1A antibody status did not have an impact on IBMFRS changes with ulviprubart vs placebo

## Change from baseline in IBMFRS score in patients who were cN1A+ at baseline<sup>a</sup>

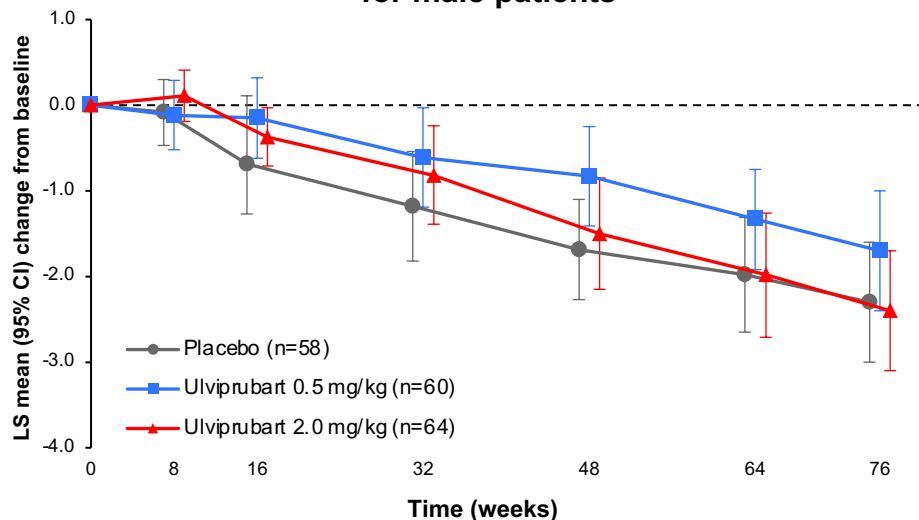


## Change from baseline in IBMFRS score in patients who were cN1A- at baseline

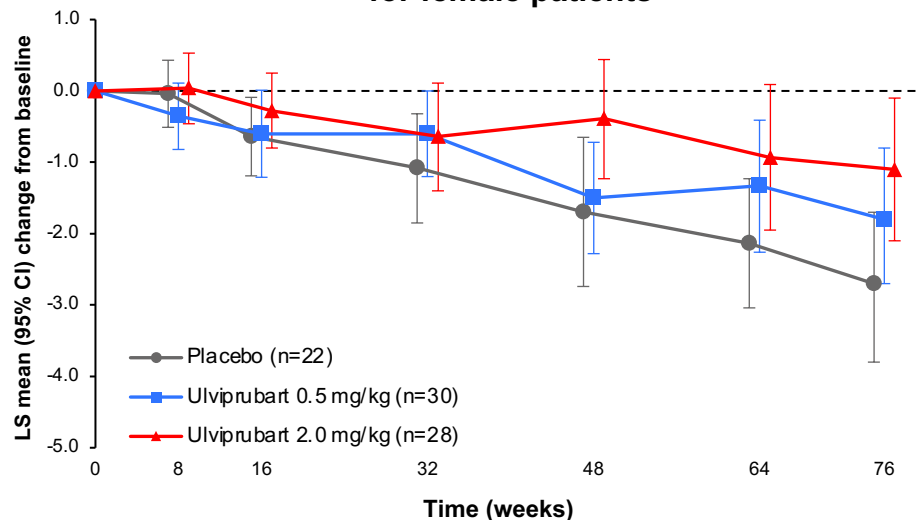


# Changes in IBMFRS scores were similar in men and women receiving ulviprubart and placebo

## Change from baseline in IBMFRS score for male patients



## Change from baseline in IBMFRS score for female patients



# Safety summary

- Overall incidence of TEAEs was similar with ulviprubart and placebo
- No patients receiving ulviprubart had serious TEAEs leading to discontinuation or TEAEs of special interest leading to discontinuation

Patients, n (%)	Placebo (n=86)	Ulviprubart 0.5 mg/kg (n=92)	Ulviprubart 2.0 mg/kg (n=94)
TEAEs	84 (97.7)	92 (100)	91 (96.8)
TEAEs related to study drug	31 (36.0)	54 (58.7)	64 (68.1)
Serious TEAEs	18 (20.9)	8 (8.7)	12 (12.8)
Serious TEAEs related to study drug	0	0	0
Serious TEAEs leading to discontinuation <sup>a</sup>	1 (1.2)	0	0
TEAEs leading to death <sup>b</sup>	2 (2.3)	0	1 (1.1)
TEAEs of special interest <sup>c</sup>	57 (66.3)	70 (76.1)	78 (83.0)
TEAEs of special interest related to study drug	21 (24.4)	42 (45.7)	55 (58.5)
TEAEs of special interest leading to discontinuation	1 (1.2)	0	0

<sup>a</sup>Events of pneumonia aspiration and dehydration unrelated to treatment in 1 patient receiving placebo. <sup>b</sup>Placebo: events of metastatic malignant melanoma unrelated to treatment and acute respiratory failure unrelated to treatment in 1 patient each; ulviprubart 2.0 mg/kg: event of cerebral hemorrhage unrelated to treatment in 1 patient. <sup>c</sup>TEAEs of special interest were infections or symptoms of systemic drug reactions.

# Common TEAEs

- Falls were the most common TEAEs and were reported at a similar rate in patients receiving ulviprubart and placebo
- Common TEAEs (in  $\geq 10\%$  of patients) that occurred  $\geq 2$  times more often with ulviprubart vs placebo were chills, headache, pyrexia, and nasopharyngitis

Patients, n (%)	Placebo (n=86)	Ulviprubart 0.5 mg/kg (n=92)	Ulviprubart 2.0 mg/kg (n=94)
TEAEs occurring in $\geq 10\%$ of patients in any group, n (%)			
Fall	44 (51.2)	48 (52.2)	52 (55.3)
Chills	3 (3.5)	21 (22.8)	30 (31.9)
Headache	9 (10.5)	27 (29.3)	22 (23.4)
Arthralgia	20 (23.3)	20 (21.7)	19 (20.2)
Pyrexia	2 (2.3)	12 (13.0)	17 (18.1)
COVID-19	9 (10.5)	15 (16.3)	16 (17.0)
Contusion	13 (15.1)	14 (15.2)	14 (14.9)
Nausea	9 (10.5)	9 (9.8)	13 (13.8)
Pain in extremity	11 (12.8)	13 (14.1)	12 (12.8)
Nasopharyngitis	2 (2.3)	11 (12.0)	12 (12.8)
Fatigue	8 (9.3)	11 (12.0)	11 (11.7)
Diarrhea	8 (9.3)	12 (13.0)	11 (11.7)
Ligament sprain	10 (11.6)	9 (9.8)	10 (10.6)
Skin abrasion	13 (15.1)	4 (4.3)	10 (10.6)
Urinary tract infection	10 (11.6)	13 (14.1)	9 (9.6)
Upper respiratory tract infection	12 (14.0)	12 (13.0)	8 (8.5)
Back pain	6 (7.0)	12 (13.0)	7 (7.4)
Hypertension	10 (11.6)	4 (4.3)	7 (7.4)

# Conclusions

- This randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, phase 2/3 study of the efficacy and safety of ulviprubarb in patients with IBM did not meet its primary endpoint (assessed by the IBMFRS total score at week 76) or key secondary endpoints
- In a prespecified subgroup analysis, patients with baseline IBMFRS total scores of  $\geq 29$  (less severe) showed trends in slowing disease progression based on IBMFRS
- Ulviprubarb demonstrated a favorable safety and tolerability profile compared with placebo

# Acknowledgments

- The authors thank all study participants and their families as well as the care teams, investigators, and research staff at participating institutions
- This study was sponsored by Abcuro, Inc.
- The authors thank Peloton Advantage, LLC, an OPEN Health company, for providing medical writing and editorial support, which was sponsored by Abcuro, Inc., in accordance with Good Publication Practice guidelines