

A Multicenter, Open-Label, Phase 3, Randomized Controlled Trial of Duvelisib versus Investigator’s Choice of Gemcitabine or Bendamustine in Patients With Relapsed/Refractory Nodal T-Cell Lymphoma With T Follicular Helper Phenotype (TERZO)

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ABSTRACT

- Peripheral T-cell lymphomas (PTCL) are a rare, heterogeneous group of aggressive lymphomas that represent 10%-15% of all non-Hodgkin lymphomas. Patients with newly diagnosed PTCL are commonly treated with anthracycline-based combination chemotherapy; however, the majority will develop relapsed/refractory (R/R) disease. Currently, no agent is approved in the EU or UK for treatment of patients with R/R PTCL, except brentuximab vedotin (BV) for anaplastic large-cell lymphoma (ALCL). Approvals of single agents for PTCL (except for BV) in the US were based on single-arm studies
- Primary nodal subtypes of PTCL make up the majority of PTCL in North America and Europe and include PTCL-not otherwise specified (NOS) (34%), angioimmunoblastic T-cell lymphoma (AITL) (16%-29%), and ALCL (16%-24%). The AITL cell of origin, a follicular helper T (T_{FH}) cell, has a set of recurrent gene mutations frequently found in cases of AITL and PTCL-NOS. Due to similarities in clinical, immunophenotypic, and genetic characteristics, the 5th edition of the World Health Organization (WHO) classification of lymphoid neoplasms groups AITL, PTCL-NOS with T_{FH} phenotype, and follicular T-cell lymphoma under the category nodal follicular helper T-cell lymphoma (nTFHL)
- Duvelisib, an oral inhibitor of phosphatidylinositol 3-kinase (PI3K)-δ and PI3K-γ isoforms, is approved in the US for the treatment of adult patients with R/R chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL) or small lymphocytic lymphoma (SLL) after at least 2 prior lines of systemic therapy with the following limitations of use: Duvelisib in the US is not indicated or recommended for the treatment of any patients with CLL or SLL as initial or second-line treatment due to an increased risk of treatment-related mortality. In 2019, the FDA issued an orphan drug designation to DUV for the treatment of T-cell lymphoma
- Duvelisib is authorized in the EU/UK as a monotherapy indicated for the treatment of adult patients with R/R CLL after at least 2 prior therapies and follicular lymphoma that is refractory to at least 2 prior systemic therapies. In January 2023, the European Commission issued an orphan drug designation to duvelisib for treatment of adult patients with PTCL
- In the PRIMO study (NCT03372057), outcomes with duvelisib in patients with R/R PTCL were objective response rate (ORR) 48.0%, median progression-free survival (mPFS) 3.45 months, and median overall survival (mOS) 12.35 months. In patients with AITL, considered the hallmark for T_{FH} lymphomas, outcomes were ORR 62.2%, mPFS 8.34 months, and mOS 18.07 months
- The TERZO™ study (NCT06522737; EU CT: 2024-516605-23-00) will evaluate efficacy and safety of duvelisib vs investigator’s choice of gemcitabine (GEM) or bendamustine (BEN), 2 standard of care regimens commonly used in clinical practice in patients with R/R nTFHL
- TERZO is a multicenter, open-label, phase 3, randomized study expected to enroll 124 patients (at nearly 45 EU/UK sites) with R/R nTFHL who have progressed on ≥1 line of systemic anticancer therapy. Study duration will be 48 months; patients will be randomized 1:1 and stratified by number of prior therapies and AITL score
- Arm 1: duvelisib 75 mg orally twice daily (BID) for cycles 1 and 2, and duvelisib 25 mg BID for cycles 3+, in 28-day cycles. Arm 2: either GEM 1200 mg/m² intravenous (IV) on days 1, 8, and 15 of each 28-day cycle (up to 6 cycles) or BEN 90-120 mg/m² IV on days 1 and 2 of each 21-day cycle (up to 6 cycles)
- Primary endpoint: independent review committee (IRC)-assessed PFS; key secondary endpoint: OS; additional secondary endpoints: investigator (INV)-assessed PFS, ORR, complete response rate, duration of response (DOR), safety, quality of life, percentage of patients proceeding to stem cell transplant (SCT), and INV-assessed PFS in patients proceeding to SCT; exploratory endpoints: AITL vs non-AITL outcomes, whole exome sequencing, circulating DNA, AITL score
- Eligibility criteria include adults with R/R nTFHL, ≥1 prior line of systemic therapy, measurable disease, Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group performance status (ECOG PS) ≤2, and no prior history of allogeneic SCT or PI3K inhibitor use
- DUV monotherapy has demonstrated activity in R/R PTCL, with more pronounced effect in AITL. TERZO will test the hypothesis that DUV monotherapy is associated with improved outcomes compared with GEM or BEN in patients with R/R nTFHL

RATIONALE FOR DUVELISIB IN R/R NODAL T-CELL LYMPHOMA WITH T_{FH} SUBTYPE

Phase 2 PRIMO Study

NCT03372057	Dose Optimization Phase	Dose Expansion Phase (N=123 enrolled)	Primary endpoint (dose expansion phase)	IRC-assessed ORR
Patients with R/R PTCL <ul style="list-style-type: none">Pathologically confirmed PTCL subtypes per WHO classificationMeasurable disease per Lugano 2014 criteriaNo prior history of allogeneic SCT or treatment with PI3K inhibitorECOG PS ≤2	Cohort 1 Duvelisib 25 mg po BID start (n=20) Cohort 2 Duvelisib 75 mg po BID start (n=13)	Duvelisib 75 mg po BID start for 2 cycles Patients with CR, PR, SD Duvelisib 25 mg po BID Disease response (assessed by PET/CT) was performed at screening, and then after every 2 treatment cycles	Secondary endpoints Safety, DOR, PFS, DCR (CR + PR + SD ≥8 weeks), OS, PK Exploratory endpoints PD and biomarkers	CR, complete response; CT, computed tomography; DCR, disease control rate; PD, progressive disease; PET, positron emission tomography; PK, pharmacokinetics; po, by mouth; PR, partial response; SD, stable disease. Eligible patients had to have ≥2 cycles of standard regimen and failed to achieve PR or better after 22 cycles or failed to achieve CR after completion of standard therapy or progressed after initial response. Each cycle was 28 days. An eligibility criterion of a CD4 lymphocyte count ≥50/mm ³ was added for the dose expansion phase. <i>Pneumocystis jirovecii</i> prophylaxis was required; herpes simplex and varicella zoster virus prophylaxis were indicated as needed.

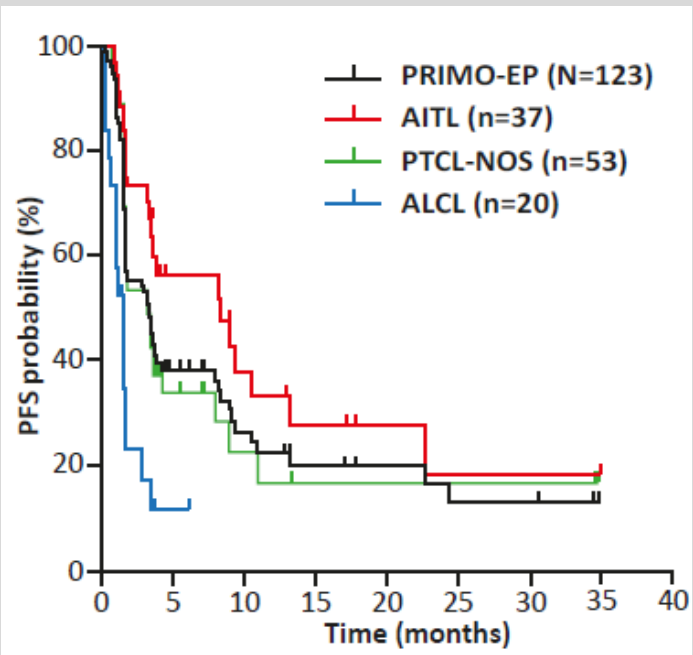
- In patients with AITL, considered the hallmark for T_{FH} lymphomas, outcomes were ORR 62.2%, mPFS 8.34 months, and mOS 18.07 months
- Adverse events were generally manageable with per-protocol dose modifications and were consistent with those observed previously

PRIMO Efficacy Outcomes in the AITL Subgroup

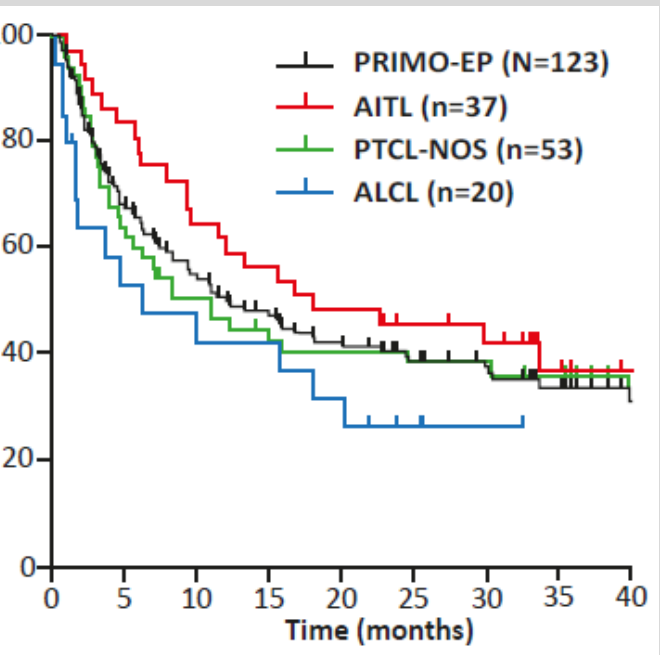
Efficacy outcomes	PRIMO (AITL only) (n=37)
ORR, %	62.2
CR, %	51.4
PR, %	11
Median DOR (95% CI), mo	11.70 (7.29, NC)
Median PFS (95% CI), mo	8.34 (3.68, 13.34)
Median OS (95% CI), mo	18.07 (9.56, NC)

CR, complete response; mo, month; NC, not calculated; PR, partial response.

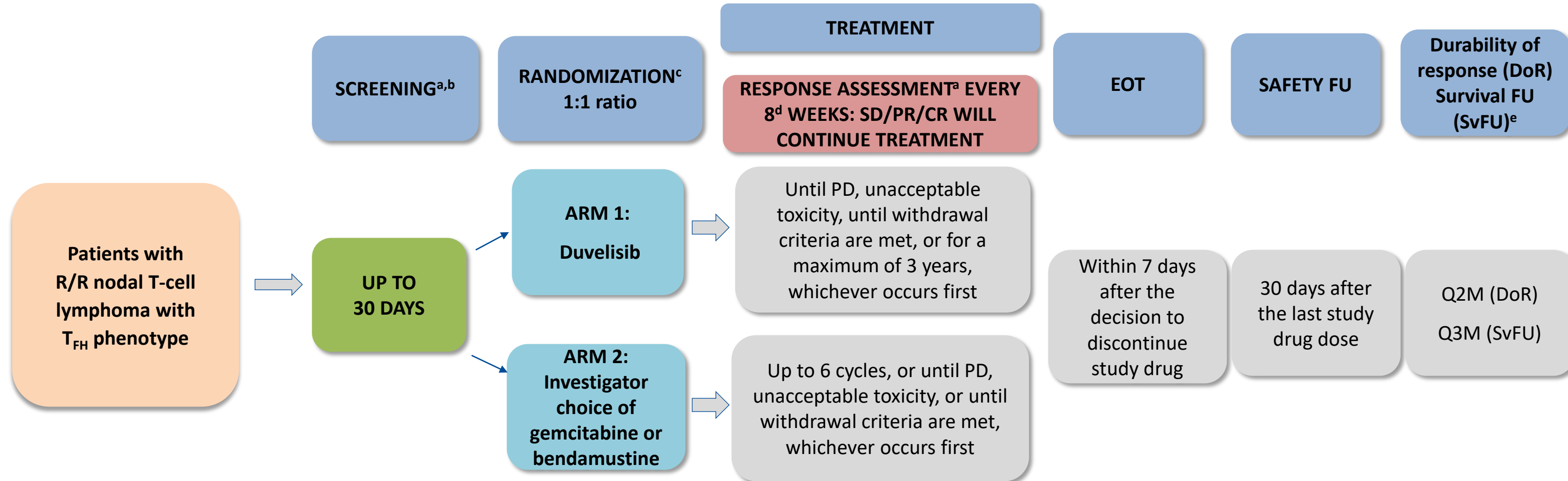
PRIMO PFS by Histology



PRIMO OS by Histology



TERZO STUDY SCHEMA



CR, complete response; EOT, end of treatment; FU, follow-up; PD, progressive disease; PR, partial response; SD, stable disease; Q2M, every 2 months; Q3M, every 3 months.

^a Bone marrow assessments are optional.

^b Central pathology review: As part of the patient’s medical history, pathology reports from the time of diagnosis are to be collected. In addition, stained formalin-fixed, paraffin-embedded (FFPE) slides used for nodal T-cell lymphoma with T_{FH} phenotype diagnosis must be collected for all screened patients and submitted for central pathology review.

^c Randomization will be stratified by AITL score (0-2 vs 3-4) and number of prior lines of therapy for T-cell lymphoma (1 vs >1).

^d Every 6 weeks for bendamustine.

^e SvFU: patients with PD at EOT; DoR followed by SvFU: patients with no PD at EOT.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Key inclusion criteria	Key exclusion criteria
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Pathologically confirmed nodal T-cell lymphoma with T_{FH} phenotype according to WHO classification, including:<ul style="list-style-type: none">AITLFollicular T-cell lymphomaOther nodal PTCL with a T_{FH} phenotypeR/R to at least 1 prior systemic, cytotoxic therapy for T-cell lymphomaMeasurable disease as defined by Lugano 2014 criteria (Cheson 2014) for T-cell lymphoma	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Cutaneous-only diseaseReceived prior allogeneic transplant any time in the past or received autologous transplant within 60 days prior to the first dose of study drugReceived prior treatment with a PI3K inhibitor or prior exposure to planned study treatment investigator’s choice therapy (gemcitabine or bendamustine) within 60 days of the first dose of study drug

STUDY ENDPOINTS*

Primary endpoint	• IRC-assessed PFS
Key secondary endpoint	• OS
Secondary endpoints	• INV-assessed PFS • IRC-assessed ORR • IRC-assessed complete response rate • IRC-assessed DOR • Percentage of patients proceeding to SCT • INV-assessed PFS in patients proceeding to SCT • Patients with adverse events • Quality of life scores (EORTC QLQ-C30, EQ-5D-5L, EORTC QLQ-NHL-HG29)
Exploratory endpoints	• AITL vs non-AITL outcomes • Whole exome sequencing • Circulating DNA • AITL score (β2M, age, CRP, ECOG PS)

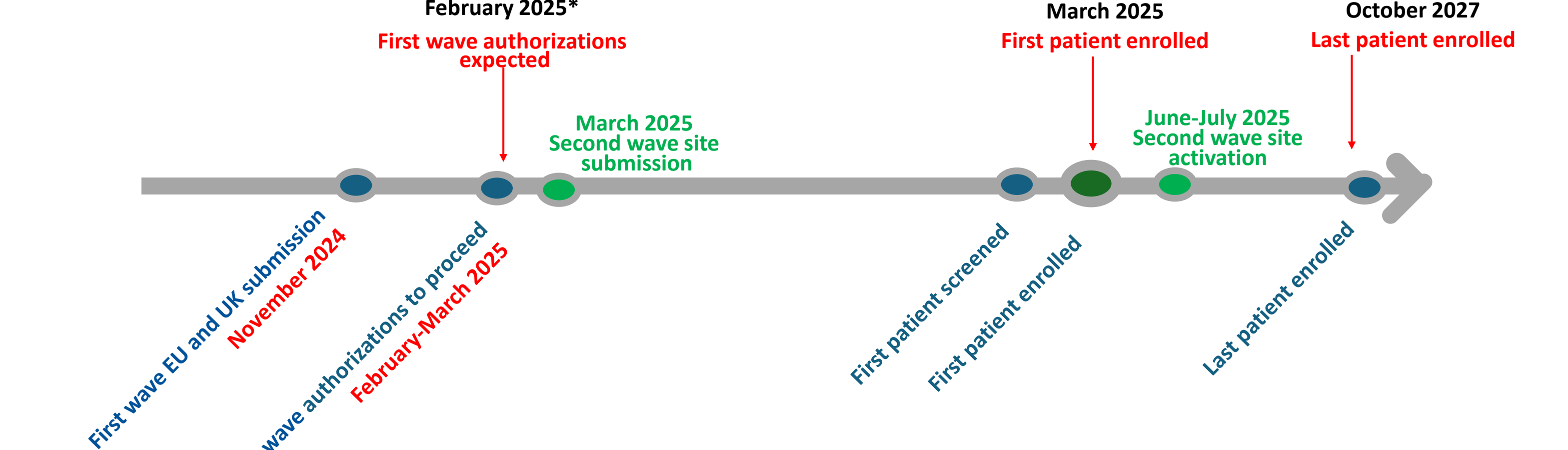
CRP, C-reactive protein; CT, computed tomography; FDG, fluorodeoxyglucose; MRI, magnetic resonance imaging; PET, positron emission tomography.

*Disease and response assessment include 18F-FDG–PET/CT, PET-CT (CT images with PET should be diagnostic with contrast wherever possible), 5-point scale (Lugano classification), and Lugano 2014 response criteria for malignant lymphoma. Where PET-CT is not feasible, CT with contrast or MRI may be used. Subsequently, for FDG-avid PTCL, PET-CT will be used to assess disease status and for FDG-non-avid PTCL, CT with contrast or MRI will be appropriate substitutes. Safety assessments include vital signs, height (at screening only), weight, physical examination, 12-lead electrocardiograms, ECOG PS, *Pneumocystis jirovecii* pneumonia prophylaxis review, adverse events monitoring, and laboratory values.

STUDY DURATION AND SCHEDULE OF ADMINISTRATION

Study Duration	Schedule of Administration
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Patients in the duvelisib arm will receive treatment until progressive disease (PD), unacceptable toxicity, until withdrawal criteria are met, or for a maximum of 3 years, whichever occurs firstPatients in the investigator’s choice arm will receive treatment for up to 6 cycles (gemcitabine: 28-day cycles; bendamustine: 21-day cycles) or until PD, unacceptable toxicity, or until withdrawal criteria are met, whichever occurs firstAll patients may be followed for up to 3 years after randomizationThe duration of individual participation will be approximately 24 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Arm 1<ul style="list-style-type: none">Cycles 1 and 2: Duvelisib 75 mg orally BID in 28-day cyclesCycles 3+: Duvelisib 25 mg orally BID in 28-day cyclesArm 2<ul style="list-style-type: none">One of the following:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Gemcitabine 1200 mg/m² IV over 30 minutes on days 1, 8, and 15 of 28-day cycle for up to 6 cyclesBendamustine 90-120 mg/m² IV over 30 minutes on days 1 and 2 of 21-day cycle for up to 6 cycles

PROJECT TIMELINE



*Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency approval expected (UK).

STUDY SITES AND INVESTIGATORS

