

1 **Original Research Article**

2 **Working title:** Allogeneic CAR T Cell Products Cemacabtagene Ansegedleucel/ALLO-501 in
3 Relapsed/Refractory Large B-Cell Lymphoma: Phase 1 Experience From the ALPHA2/ALPHA Clinical
4 Studies

5 **Authors:** Frederick L. Locke,¹ Javier L. Munoz,² Michael T. Tees,³ Lazaros J. Lekakis,⁴ Sven de Vos,⁵
6 Rajneesh Nath,⁶ Don A. Stevens,⁷ Shahbaz A. Malik,⁸ Geoffrey P. Shouse,⁹ Mehdi Hamadani,¹⁰ Olalekan
7 O. Oluwole,¹¹ Miguel-Angel Perales,¹² David B. Miklos,¹³ Paul W. Fisher,¹⁴ Amy Feng,¹⁴ Lynn Navale,¹⁴
8 John B. Le Gall,¹⁴ Sattva S. Neelapu¹⁵

9 **Affiliations:** ¹Moffitt Cancer Center and Research Institute, Tampa, FL; ²Mayo Clinic, Phoenix, AZ;
10 ³Colorado Blood Cancer Institute/Sarah Cannon Research Institute, Denver, CO; ⁴University of Miami
11 Health System, Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center, Miami, FL; ⁵University of California, Los
12 Angeles, Los Angeles, CA; ⁶Banner MD Anderson Cancer Center, Scottsdale, AZ; ⁷Norton Cancer Institute,
13 Louisville, KY; ⁸St. David's South Austin Medical Center, Austin, TX; ⁹City of Hope National Medical
14 Center, Duarte, CA; ¹⁰Medical College of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, WI; ¹¹Vanderbilt University Medical
15 Center, Nashville, TN; ¹²Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, NY; ¹³Stanford University
16 School of Medicine, Stanford, CA; ¹⁴Allogene Therapeutics, San Francisco, CA; ¹⁵The University of Texas
17 MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX

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25 **Corresponding Author:** Frederick L. Locke, MD; Moffitt Cancer Center, Department of Blood and
26 Marrow Transplant and Cellular Immunotherapy; 12902 USF Magnolia Drive, Suite 3057; Tampa, FL
27 33612, USA; Tel: +1 813-686-7664; Fax: +1 813-745-8468; E-mail: Frederick.locke@moffitt.org

28 **Running Title:** Cema-cel/ALLO-501 in R/R LBCL: Phase 1 results from ALPHA2/ALPHA

29 **Prior Presentations:** Presented in part at the ICML Meeting, Lugano, Switzerland, June 2023, at the
30 ASCO Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, June 2023, and at the EHA Annual Meeting in Frankfurt, Germany,

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35

36

37

38 **Context Summary**

39 *Word count: 100/100*

40 **Key Objective**

41 Can off-the-shelf, allogeneic CD19 CAR T product be feasibly and safely administered to patients with
42 relapsed/refractory LBCL while yielding durable response rates?

43 **Knowledge Generated**

44 Treatment with cemacabtagene ansegedleucel and its predecessor, ALLO-501, was given after
45 lymphodepletion was initiated 2 days post-enrollment (median) and induced durable CRs in heavily
46 pretreated, CAR T-naïve patients with LBCL. Allogeneic CAR T cell expansion and persistence were
47 supported by an enhanced lymphodepletion regimen that included ALLO-647, an anti-CD52 antibody,
48 and standard fludarabine/cyclophosphamide. Treatment was well tolerated (no grade ≥ 3 CRS; no
49 ICANS/GvHD); incidence of infections and immune reconstitution was similar to that expected following
50 autologous CD19 CAR T.

51 **Relevance**

52 *[To be provided by the journal editor]*

53

54 **ABSTRACT**

55 *Word count: 239/275*

56 **Purpose:** Off-the-shelf, allogeneic CD19 chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) T cell products may improve
57 access to treatment versus autologous ones. We report the phase 1 experience of the allogeneic CD19
58 CAR T-cell product cema-cel and its predecessor, ALLO-501, in CD19
59 CAR T-naive patients with relapsed/refractory large B-cell lymphoma (R/R LBCL).

60 **Patients and Methods:** In the ALPHA2/ALPHA studies, safety and efficacy of allogeneic CD19 CAR T cells
61 were evaluated in CD19 CAR T treatment-naive patients with R/R LBCL. Patients received healthy donor-
62 derived, human leukocyte antigen-unmatched cema-cel/ALLO-501 following a 3-day lymphodepletion
63 regimen of fludarabine (30 mg/m²/day), cyclophosphamide (300 or 500 mg/m²/day), and escalating
64 doses of the anti-CD52 monoclonal antibody, ALLO-647.

65 **Results:** As of September 26, 2024, 33 CD19 CAR T-naive patients with LBCL (median age, 66 years;
66 median number of prior therapies, 3) received allogeneic CAR T cells. CAR T cell expansion was observed
67 following infusion, with persistence observed up to 4 months. Overall and complete response rates were
68 58% and 42%, respectively; median duration of response in patients with a complete response was 23.1
69 months. The most common treatment-emergent adverse events were hematologic toxicities. No cases
70 of graft-versus-host disease, immune effector cell-associated neurotoxicity syndrome, or grade ≥3
71 cytokine release syndrome were reported.

72 **Conclusion:** Allogeneic CD19 CAR T cells demonstrated promising overall and durable complete
73 response rates with a manageable safety profile in CD19 CAR T-naive patients with R/R LBCL, supporting
74 additional evaluation of cema-cel in patients with LBCL.

75

76 **INTRODUCTION**

77 Large B-cell lymphoma (LBCL) is the most common aggressive subtype of non-Hodgkin lymphoma
78 (NHL).^{1,2} Although approximately 60% of patients with LBCL are cured with first-line regimens, many
79 patients have refractory disease or disease that relapses requiring additional treatment.³ Historically,
80 prognosis for relapsed or refractory (R/R) LBCL has been poor, with median overall survival of 6.3
81 months and 20% of patients alive at 2 years.⁴ Autologous CD19 chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) T cell
82 therapies have demonstrated significant clinical benefit for patients with R/R LBCL; however, many
83 patients are unable to receive these potentially life-saving therapies due to aggressive disease biology at
84 recurrence, difficulty in accessing specialized centers administering these therapies, and/or issues with
85 product manufacturing.⁵⁻¹³ Once a patient accesses a treatment center, manufacturing requires both
86 successful apheresis of T cells and approximately 4 to 6 weeks for production and delivery, which often
87 necessitates bridging therapy to slow disease progression.¹²⁻¹⁶

88 Allogeneic CAR T cell products manufactured from healthy donors may both achieve the benefits and
89 overcome limitations of autologous CAR T-cell products.¹⁷ Cema-cel and its predecessor ALLO-501,
90 which has the same CAR design as cema-cel except for the inclusion of a
91 rituximab recognition domain, are allogeneic CD19 CAR T-cell products gene-edited to reduce risk of
92 graft-versus-host disease (GvHD) and allow for selective lymphodepletion of host T cells with ALLO-647,
93 a monoclonal anti-CD52 antibody.¹⁷⁻¹⁹ Cema-cel/ALLO-501 is manufactured with a scalable process that
94 yields approximately 100 doses from a single production run, which are then cryopreserved for storage
95 and ready for use on demand.²⁰ This enables immediate access to CAR T cells without the need for
96 adequate patient T cell count or fitness, leukapheresis, bridging therapy, or complex logistics associated
97 with administering autologous CAR T-cell products.^{12-14,17,21}

98 Lymphodepletion regimens are critical for effective CD19 CAR T cell therapy, and regimens containing
99 fludarabine and cyclophosphamide are commonly used prior to cell therapy administration.²² Compared
100 to autologous CAR T cells, allogeneic CAR T cells may require enhanced lymphodepletion to prevent
101 premature host-mediated rejection of CAR T cells.¹³ While higher doses of cytotoxic chemotherapy may
102 achieve deeper lymphodepletion,²³ chemotherapy-sparing strategies that selectively target host
103 lymphocytes could achieve the desired lymphodepletion while limiting collateral organ damage and
104 myelotoxicity. Inclusion of the anti-CD52 monoclonal antibody, ALLO-647, in the lymphodepletion
105 regimen is intended to selectively suppress host lymphocytes while sparing the *CD52*-knockout CAR T
106 cells of cema-cel/ALLO-501. This targeted strategy aims to create the necessary window for expansion
107 and tumor eradication without the accompanying toxicity associated with nonspecific cytotoxic agents.²⁴
108 The ALPHA2 (NCT04416984) and ALPHA (NCT03939026) studies were initiated to evaluate cema-cel and
109 ALLO-501, respectively, following a standard fludarabine/cyclophosphamide lymphodepletion regimen
110 with ALLO-647 in patients with R/R NHL. Here, we report the phase 1 experience from the ALPHA2 and
111 ALPHA studies in CD19 CAR T-naive patients with R/R LBCL.

112

113 **METHODS**

114 ***Study Design***

115 ALPHA2 is a single-arm, multicenter, open-label, phase 1/2 study evaluating the safety, efficacy, and
116 pharmacokinetics/pharmacodynamics (PK/PD) of cema-cel following ALLO-647-containing
117 lymphodepletion in patients with R/R NHL. ALPHA is a single-arm, multicenter, open-label, phase 1 study
118 evaluating the safety, efficacy, and PK/PD of ALLO-501 following ALLO-647-containing lymphodepletion
119 in patients with R/R NHL. This report summarizes the evaluation of CD19 CAR T-naive patients with LBCL
120 from the phase 1 portion of these studies who received cema-cel/ALLO-501 manufactured with the
121 selected phase 2 manufacturing process (N=33; **Figure 1**). Due to product similarities of cema-cel and

122 ALLO-501, these patients are combined in this analysis of safety, efficacy, and PK/PD. Human leukocyte
123 antigen (HLA) haplotype was not an eligibility consideration and no attempt was made to treat an
124 enrolled patient with a particular product lot based on the degree of HLA match.

125 Enrolled patients underwent 3-day lymphodepletion with fludarabine (30 mg/m²/day),
126 cyclophosphamide (300 or 500 mg/m²/day), and varying doses of ALLO-647 (**Supplemental Figure 1**). No
127 bridging therapy was permitted. Patients in the single dose cohorts received a single dose of cema-
128 cel/ALLO-501 (120 × 10⁶ CAR+ cells) infused on Day 0. Patients in consolidation cohorts who attained a
129 complete response (CR), partial response (PR), or stable disease (SD) at the Day 28 disease assessment
130 were potentially eligible to receive an additional dose of cema-cel/ALLO-501 (120 × 10⁶ CAR+ cells) on
131 Day 30 after a single 30 mg ALLO-647 dose administered on Day 29 (**Supplemental Figure 1**).

132 The primary objectives of the ALPHA2 and ALPHA phase 1 studies were to determine the maximum
133 tolerated dose and to establish the recommended phase 2 dose regimen of cema-cel/ALLO-501 and
134 ALLO-647 through assessment of safety and tolerability. Secondary objectives included evaluating the
135 overall safety profile of the regimens as measured by adverse events (AEs), characterizing PK/PD of
136 cema-cel/ALLO-501 and ALLO-647, and assessing the efficacy of cema-cel/ALLO-501 in this patient
137 population via investigator-assessed overall response rate (ORR).

138

139 ***Patients***

140 Eligible patients who had R/R LBCL (per 2017 World Health Organization criteria)²⁵ after ≥2 prior lines of
141 chemotherapy, including an anti-CD20 monoclonal antibody and an anthracycline, were included in
142 these studies. Patients must have had ≥1 measurable lesion per the revised International Working Group
143 Response Criteria for Malignant Lymphoma,²⁶ Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group performance status
144 0 or 1, and adequate organ function. Patients included in this analysis must have had no prior treatment

145 with an anti-CD19 CAR T or other engineered adoptive cellular therapy. Additional eligibility criteria can
146 be found in the **Supplemental Methods**. The study was conducted in accordance with the International
147 Conference on Harmonization Guideline for Good Clinical Practice and the Declaration of Helsinki.²⁷ The
148 study protocol was approved by the Institutional Review Board or Independent Ethics Committee at
149 each center. All patients provided written informed consent.

150

151 ***Assessments***

152 Treatment-emergent AEs (TEAEs) were assessed as per the Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse
153 Events v 5.0 unless otherwise specified from the time of the first dose of any study drug until start of
154 another treatment period, death, or initiation of another anti-cancer agent, whichever came first. The
155 severities of cytokine release syndrome (CRS) / immune effector cell-associated neurotoxicity syndrome
156 (ICANS) and acute GvHD were assessed according to the grading schemes described by Lee et al and
157 Harris et al, respectively.^{28,29} Patients underwent weekly monitoring for cytomegalovirus (CMV)
158 reactivation via polymerase chain reaction (PCR) testing for 2 months after treatment and then as
159 clinically indicated.

160 Responses were assessed per the Lugano 2014 criteria.³⁰ Tumor assessments were performed on Day
161 28, Day 56, Month 4, and every 3 months from Months 6 to 18, and every 6 months thereafter through
162 Month 60. Details of PK/PD assessments, biospecimen analysis, and HLA analyses are found in the
163 **Supplemental Methods**.

164

165 ***Statistical Analysis***

166 Descriptive statistics (N, arithmetic mean, standard deviation, minimum, median, maximum) were used
167 in PK analyses. Clopper Pearson exact intervals were used to calculate 95% confidence intervals for ORR
168 and CR. Kaplan-Meier methodology was used to estimate duration of response (DOR) rates, overall
169 survival rates, and associated median estimates.

170 The efficacy and safety population consisted of all enrolled patients who received cema-cel/ALLO-501.
171 Patients who died or withdrew prior to the first efficacy assessment were included in the analysis
172 population as nonresponders. The PK analysis population was defined as all treated patients with
173 sufficient information to estimate ≥ 1 PK parameter of interest.

174

175 **RESULTS**

176 ***Patient Demographics and Baseline Characteristics***

177 As of the data cutoff date (September 26, 2024), 87 patients with R/R NHL were treated in the
178 ALPHA2/ALPHA studies between May 2019 and September 2022. In total, 33 CD19 CAR T-naive patients
179 with R/R LBCL received cema-cel/ALLO-501 manufactured with the process selected for use in pivotal
180 studies (**Figure 1**). The median age of patients was 66 years (range, 31-76), and the median number of
181 prior regimens was 3 (range, 2-8; **Table 1**). The median follow-up time (from patient end of study date
182 or data cutoff date) was 10.1 months (range, 0.4-62.7), with a minimum potential follow-up time (from
183 data cutoff date) of 24 months.

184 For these 33 CD19 CAR T-naive patients, the median time from enrollment to initiation of study
185 treatment was 2 days. These patients received cumulative ALLO-647 doses of 39 mg (n=5), 60 mg (n=16;
186 including patients that received consolidation [n=8]), and 90 mg (n=12) in addition to the
187 fludarabine/cyclophosphamide lymphodepletion regimen (**Figure 1**).

188 The most common reasons for discontinuation from study were death (48%) and consent withdrawal
189 (12%).

190

191 **Safety**

192 No ALLO-647 or cema-cel/ALLO-501 dose-limiting toxicities were reported. The most common any-grade
193 TEAEs ($\geq 25\%$) were neutropenia (85%), anemia (67%), thrombocytopenia (58%), infusion-related
194 reactions (IRRs; 58%), fatigue (52%), and pyrexia (49%), nausea (39%), lymphopenia (36%), hypotension
195 (36%), peripheral edema (33%), decreased white blood cell count (30%), CMV reactivation (30%),
196 decreased appetite (30%), chills (30%), and hypoxia (27%; **Table 2**). Grade ≥ 3 TEAEs were reported in
197 94% of patients; the most common grade ≥ 3 TEAEs ($\geq 25\%$) were neutropenia (82%), anemia (46%),
198 thrombocytopenia (42%), lymphopenia (33%), and decreased white blood cell count (30%).

199 Among TEAEs of special interest, no cases of GvHD and ICANS were reported (**Table 2**). The incidence of
200 any-grade CRS was 24%, and no cases of grade ≥ 3 CRS occurred. Grade ≥ 3 IRRs occurred in 3 patients
201 (9%), all of which were considered related to ALLO-647. Any-grade infections occurred in 58% of
202 patients, and grade ≥ 3 infections were reported in 15% of patients. There were no fatal infections. The
203 most common any-grade infection was CMV reactivation, which occurred in 30% of patients; grade ≥ 3
204 CMV reactivation occurred in 12% of patients (**Supplemental Table 1**). Opportunistic infections were
205 uncommon; these included fungal infection (6%; 1 case of oropharyngeal candidiasis, 1 unspecified
206 fungal infection [both grade 2]), and 1 case of BK virus infection (3% [grade 2]). There were no reported
207 cases of other opportunistic infections such as pneumocystis, mycobacterium avium complex,
208 tuberculosis, varicella zoster virus, or progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy. The proportion of all
209 patients experiencing ongoing grade ≥ 3 cytopenias decreased with time from treatment from 30% at Day
210 28 to 18% at Day 56 and Month 4 (**Supplemental Table 2**). The median time to absolute neutrophil count

211 (ANC) and absolute lymphocyte count (ALC) recovery to grade ≤ 3 was 7 and 17.5 days, respectively
212 (n=30 and 22, respectively; **Figures 2A and 2B**). B cells were detectable starting 4 months after
213 treatment in responders, whereas T cell counts recovered to baseline between 6 and 9 months after
214 cema-cel/ALLO-501 infusion (**Supplemental Figure 2**). Hypogammaglobulinemia was reported in 5
215 patients (15%), 1 of whom received treatment with intravenous immunoglobulin.

216 Serious TEAEs were reported in 42% of patients; the most common (>5%) were IRRs to ALLO-647 (6%),
217 pyrexia (6%), bacteremia (6%), CMV reactivation (6%), pneumonia (6%), and COVID-19 (6%;
218 **Supplemental Table 3**).

219 Two patients (6%) with progressive disease had TEAEs that were considered the cause of death instead
220 of disease progression; the AEs were respiratory failure and torsade de pointes, respectively (n=1 each).
221 Neither event was considered related to cema-cel/ALLO-501 or ALLO-647.

222

223 ***Efficacy***

224 Overall response and CR were achieved in 58% (95% CI, 39.2-74.5) and 42% (95% CI, 25.5-60.8) of
225 patients, respectively (**Table 3**). For those patients receiving fludarabine/cyclophosphamide
226 lymphodepletion with 90 mg of ALLO-647 (FCA90) followed by a single dose of at least 120×10^6 CAR+
227 cells (ie, the selected phase 2 regimen), disease response was observed in 67% (95% CI, 34.9-90.1), and
228 CR was achieved in 58% (95% CI, 27.7-84.8). The ORR was higher in patients with baseline tumor burden
229 $<1000 \text{ mm}^2$ sum of the products of longest diameters (SPD) vs $> 1000 \text{ mm}^2$ SPD (100% vs 50%), baseline
230 lactate dehydrogenase (LDH) less than the upper limit of normal (ULN) vs greater than ULN (91% vs
231 41%), and double/triple hit vs no double/triple hit disease (75% vs 52%; **Supplemental Figure 3A**).
232 Similarly, the CR rate was higher for those patients with baseline tumor burden $<1000 \text{ mm}^2$ SPD (100%
233 vs 31%, $P=0.0033$) and baseline LDH \leq ULN (82% vs 23%, $P=0.0023$; **Supplemental Figure 3B**). Median

234 durability of response (**Figure 3A**) was 11.1 months overall and 23.1 months in patients who achieved a
235 CR. Among patients who had a CR, most were durable (**Figure 4A**). One patient had a competing risk
236 event, death from an unrelated cardiac event at 22 months after treatment while in ongoing CR. Median
237 progression-free survival was 3.9 months overall and 24.0 months in patients achieving a CR (**Figure 4B**);
238 median overall survival was 14.4 months (95% CI, 7.0-not reached [NR]; **Figure 3B**) overall and NR in
239 patients achieving a CR. For patients receiving the selected phase 2 regimen, median DOR was 23.1
240 months, and median overall survival (OS) was NR (95% CI, 4.6-NR).

241

242 ***Translational Analyses***

243 Analysis of cellular kinetics demonstrated that peak expansion was achieved at a median of 10 days.
244 Mean peak expansion (geometric standard error of the mean) was 1688 copies/ μg and the mean area
245 under the curve (AUC) was 13531 copies/ $\mu\text{g}\times\text{d}$, with both peak expansion and mean AUC higher in
246 responders versus nonresponders (7410 vs 73, and 60480 vs 573), respectively (**Figure 2C**). The highest
247 mean concentration of ALLO-647 and greatest exposure (AUC) was observed in patients who received
248 the 90 mg cumulative dose of ALLO-647 (**Supplemental Figure 4A**), with responders typically achieving a
249 higher exposure of ALLO-647 than nonresponders (**Supplemental Figure 4B**). Higher exposure to ALLO-
250 647 was also associated with increased interleukin-15 at Day 0, which was consistent with the observed
251 cellular kinetics in recipients of higher doses of ALLO-647 (**Supplemental Figure 4C**).

252 CAR T product donor-specific antigen (DSA) testing was performed on patients during pre-screening
253 (N=33). Only 2 patients had a DSA value above a threshold of 1000 mean fluorescence intensity used to
254 determine DSA reactivity. One of these patients achieved a CR, and the other had progressive disease.
255 Retrospective HLA matching analyses did not show correlation with outcomes (data not shown). HLA
256 concordance was minimal, with no patients exceeding a 3/10 allelic match. Two responders had no

257 allelic matches and yet achieved a PR and CR.

258

259 **DISCUSSION**

260 Despite improvement in outcomes for patients with R/R LBCL treated with CAR T cell therapy, numerous
261 limitations still exist for autologous CAR T cell products including patient eligibility, lengthy wait times
262 for product availability, inconsistent product quality, potential requirement for bridging therapy, and
263 risk of severe toxicity following treatment.^{10-12,14} As an off-the-shelf, allogeneic treatment option that
264 circumvents logistical challenges and the need for bridging therapy, cema-cel may address many of
265 these limitations.¹²⁻¹⁴ In the ALPHA and ALPHA2 trials, the median time to start of treatment was 2 days
266 from study enrollment; in contrast, autologous CAR T cell products require wait times often longer than
267 1 month despite incremental advancements in manufacturing and supply chains.³¹

268 In this single-arm, multicenter, open-label, phase 1 experience of the ALPHA2 and ALPHA studies, cema-
269 cel/ALLO-501 following ALLO-647–containing lymphodepletion demonstrated an overall safety profile,
270 including the incidence of cytopenias and infections, that was manageable and consistent with that of
271 currently available autologous CD19 CAR T cell products, and no incidence of high-grade CRS or any-
272 grade ICANS.^{5-7,32} Furthermore, cema-cel/ALLO-501 showed promising ORR and CR rates in patients with
273 R/R LBCL, including ongoing remissions beyond 4 years. These results highlight the feasibility of
274 allogeneic CAR T cell products as a treatment option for patients with LBCL.

275 Currently 3 autologous CD19 CAR T cell products are approved for treatment of LBCL.^{5-9,32} In the pivotal
276 trials leading to their approvals, autologous CAR T cells given to patients with R/R LBCL after 2 prior lines
277 of therapy demonstrated rates of grade ≥ 3 ICANS of 10% to 32%, while grade ≥ 3 CRS events ranged from
278 2% to 22%.^{6,7,32,33} Among the 33 CAR T-naïve patients with R/R LBCL in the ALPHA2/ALPHA studies, there
279 were no instances of ICANS or grade ≥ 3 CRS events, indicating potential benefits for this patient cohort

280 within the current treatment landscape. Additionally, in the ALPHA2/ALPHA studies, there were no
281 reports of GvHD, and the incidence and severity of infections were manageable with supportive care
282 measures and consistent with that observed in autologous CAR T-cell therapy trials despite the use of
283 enhanced lymphodepletion with ALLO-647. Specific PCR monitoring for CMV identified low-grade,
284 asymptomatic viremia, but only 4 instances of grade 3 CMV reactivation, none of which was associated
285 with invasive disease. No fatal infections were reported in this patient population.

286 Recently, the United States Food and Drug Administration has raised concerns about the increased risk
287 of T cell malignancies following autologous CAR T cell therapy.³⁴ Although the benefits of current
288 autologous CAR T cell products likely outweigh these potential risks, allogeneic CAR T cell products may
289 further mitigate these risks because the persistence of allogeneic CAR T cells in patients is limited by
290 allojection of the cells.^{5-7,32}

291 CR rates in the ALPHA2/ALPHA trials were consistent with those observed with autologous CD19 CAR T
292 cell products for patients with R/R LBCL after 2 previous lines of therapy, even without HLA matching
293 patients to donors.^{5-7,32} All treatment regimens studied demonstrated clinical benefit; however, FCA90
294 yielded the highest ORR and CR of 67% and 58%, respectively, with the majority of CRs lasting longer
295 than 12 months after a single dose of cema-cel/ALLO-501 and therefore was identified as the selected
296 phase 2 lymphodepletion regimen for use prior to cema-cel infusion. The median DOR was 23.1 months,
297 and the median OS was not reached for this subgroup of patients, demonstrating the durability of this
298 treatment and associated prolonged survival outcomes.

299 Consistent with the autologous CAR T experience,³⁵ durable responses required establishing a CR and
300 have been most frequent in patients with low disease burden. In the evaluated patients, all durable
301 responses were CRs, and the CR rate was enriched in patients with low disease burden (6/6; 100%) and
302 normal serum LDH concentrations (9/11; 82%) prior to treatment. These CR rates in the subpopulation

303 of patients with low tumor burden and those with normal LDH supports cema-cel as a promising
304 therapeutic option in a remission consolidation setting.

305 A growing body of evidence indicates that treatment with CAR T cells, at times when the disease burden
306 is low, leads to improved safety and efficacy outcomes,³⁶⁻³⁸ and we report similar findings in the
307 ALPHA2/ALPHA studies (**Supplemental Figure 3A**). With autologous CAR T products approved for
308 relapsed disease, the practical ability to treat patients with low tumor burden is determined by
309 individual circumstances such as kinetics of disease recurrence and response to bridging therapy
310 administered during product manufacturing. Additionally, the sensitivity and specificity of positron
311 emission tomography (PET)/computed tomography (CT) for patients with very low disease burden after
312 they have completed a therapy is poor and thus currently requires delaying the decision to treat with
313 CAR T until clinical relapse. Recently, advances in circulating tumor (ct)DNA-based minimal residual
314 disease (MRD) tests have yielded improved sensitivity in detecting microscopic disease in patients who
315 are in clinical and metabolic complete remission by PET/CT. When detected in patients, MRD may be
316 eradicated with an immediately available, off-the-shelf treatment like cema-cel. The ongoing, pivotal
317 ALPHA3 study is exploring this hypothesis and is evaluating cema-cel in patients who achieve remission
318 for which the current standard-of-care would be observation but who remain MRD-positive by a novel
319 ctDNA-based MRD diagnostic test, PhasED-Seq,³⁹ at the end of first-line therapy. As an off-the-shelf
320 treatment with a safety profile that is compatible with outpatient management and a preliminary
321 efficacy profile in R/R LBCL that is similar to available autologous therapies, a clinically meaningful
322 improvement in relapse prevention, measured in ALPHA3 by event-free survival, could fundamentally
323 alter the front-line treatment paradigm for newly diagnosed LBCL.

324

325

326 **CONTRIBUTORS**

327 Conception and design: FL Locke, M-A Perales, SS Neelapu, PW Fisher, A Feng, L Navale, JB Le Gall

328 Provision of study materials or patients: FL Locke, JL Munoz, MT Tees, LJ Lekakis, S de Vos, R Nath, DA

329 Stevens, SA Malik, GP Shouse, M Hamadani, OO Oluwole, M-A Perales, DB Miklos, SS Neelapu

330 Collection and assembly of data: PW Fisher, A Feng, L Navale, JB Le Gall

331 Data analysis and interpretation: FL Locke, M-A Perales, SS Neelapu, PW Fisher, A Feng, L Navale, JB Le

332 Gall

333 Manuscript writing: All authors

334 Final approval of manuscript: All authors

335 Accountable for all aspects of the work: All authors

336 **DATA SHARING STATEMENT**

337 The study protocol is provided in the Data Supplement. Individual participant data will not be available.

Question	Authors' Response
Will the data collected for your study be made available to others?	No
Would you like to offer context for your decision?	Cema-cel is not a registered product at this point.
Which data?	—
Additional information about data	—
How or where can the data be obtained?	
When will data availability begin?	
When will data availability end?	—
Will any supporting documents be available?	No
Which supporting documents?	—

Additional information about supporting documents	—
How or where can supporting documents be obtained?	
When will supporting documents availability begin?	
When will supporting documents availability end?	—
To whom will data be available?	—
For what type of analysis or purpose?	—
By what mechanism?	—
Any other restrictions?	—
Additional information	—

338

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449 **FIGURE LEGENDS**

450 **Figure 1.** CONSORT Diagram. ^a All enrolled patients who received any study drug. ^b Includes grade 3b FL,
451 patients with R/R LBCL who received prior CD19 CAR T-cell therapy, and patients who did not receive
452 cema-cel/ALLO-501 manufactured with the selected phase 2 process. ^c Designates the selected phase 2
453 lymphodepletion process. ^d Includes consolidation.

454 CAR, chimeric antigen receptor; cema-cel, cema-cel, cema-cel; FCA,
455 fludarabine/cyclophosphamide/ALLO-647; FL, follicular lymphoma; LBCL, large B-cell lymphoma; LD,
456 lymphodepletion; R/R relapsed/refractory.

457

458 **Figure 2:** Immune Recovery of Leukocyte Counts Over Time CAR T Cell Expansion (A) ANC over time; (B)
459 ALC over time; and (C) CAR T cell expansion of cema-cel/ALLO-501 by responders versus nonresponders.

460 ALC, absolute lymphocyte count; ANC, absolute neutrophil count; CAR, chimeric antigen receptor; cema-
461 cel, cema-cel, cema-cel; geoSE, geometric standard error; SE, standard error; VCN, vector
462 copy number.

463

464 **Figure 3.** Duration of Response and Overall Survival. (A) Duration of response in patients achieving CR,
465 PR, and in overall population and (B) Overall survival in patients achieving CR, PR, and in overall
466 population.

467 CR, complete response; DOR, duration of response; NE, not estimable; OS, overall survival; PR, partial
468 response.

469

470 **Figure 4:** Response and Progression-Free Survival. (A) Swimmer plot of all patients and (B) Progression-
471 free survival in patients achieving CR, PR, and in overall population.

472 ^a FCA90 and FCA90/FCA60 (ALC-based) groups. ^b FCA60 + consolidation (LD followed by a single dose of
473 cema-cel/ALLO-501 and then an additional dose of ALLO-647 on D29 and ALLO-501/cema-cel on D30).

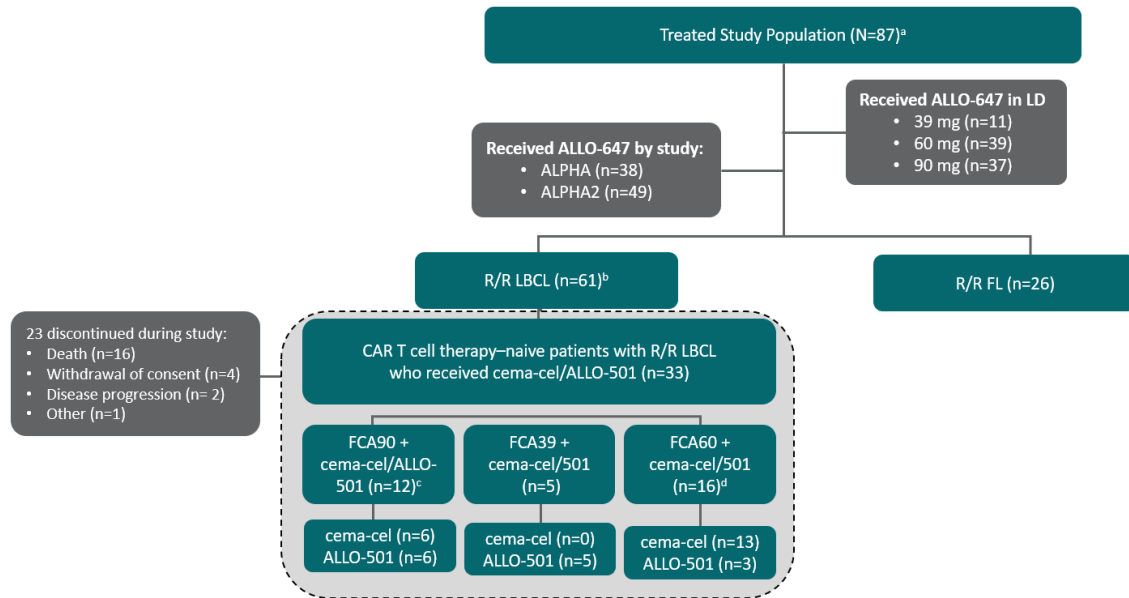
474 Cema-cel, cema-cel, cema-cel; CR, complete response; D, day; FCA, fludarabine,
475 cyclophosphamide, ALLO-647; LD, lymphodepletion; NE, not estimable; PFS, progression-free survival;
476 PR, partial response; PD, progressive disease; SD, stable disease.

477

478 **FIGURES**

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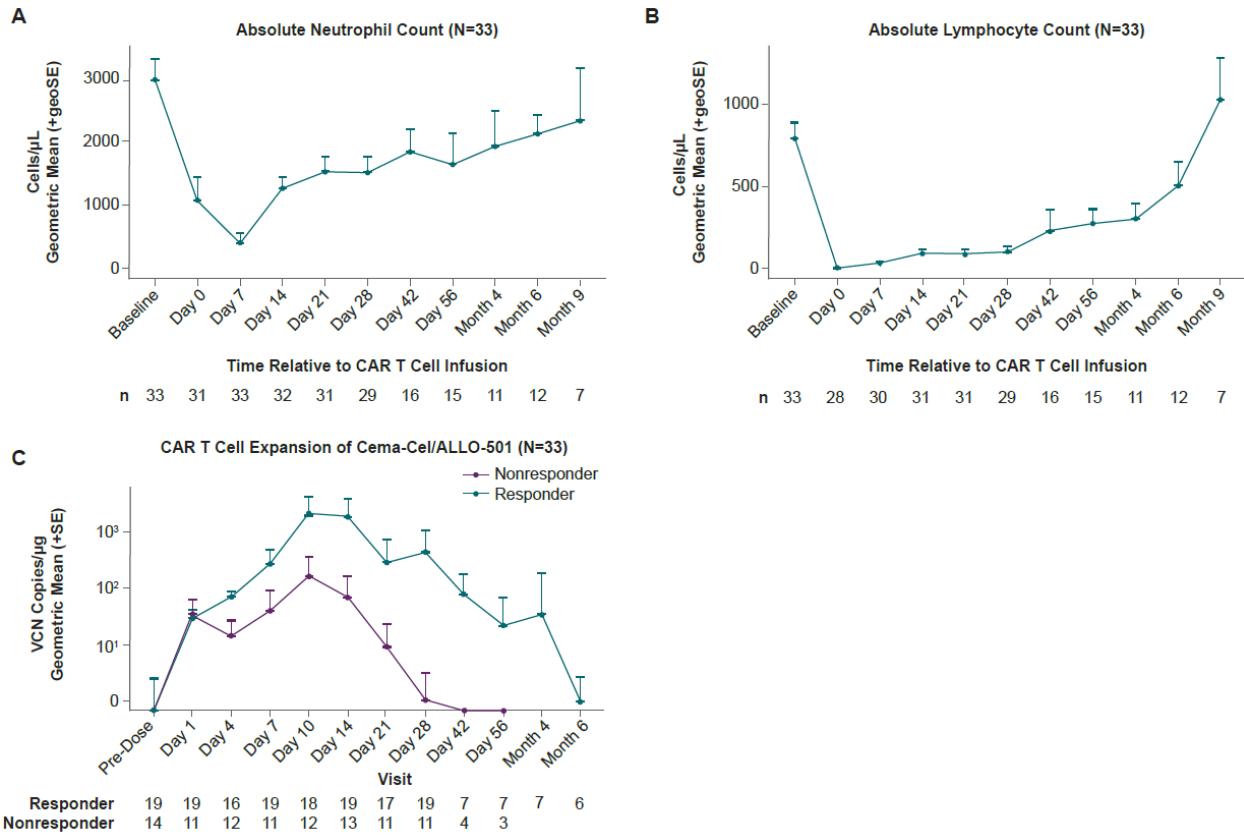
480 **Figure 1. CONSORT Diagram**



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482 **Figure 2. Immune Recovery of Leukocyte Counts Over Time CAR T Cell Expansion**

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505 TABLES

506 Table 1. Patient Demographics and Baseline Characteristics

	CAR T-Naive R/R LBCL	
	All patients (N=33)	Patients who received selected phase 2 dose ^a (n=12)
Age		
Median (range)	66 (31;76)	60 (31;75)
≥ 65 y, n (%)	17 (52)	5 (42)
Male, n (%)	23 (70)	6 (50)
Race, n (%)		
White	25 (76)	9 (75)
African American	2 (6)	1 (8)
Asian	1 (3)	0 (0)
Other ^b	0 (0)	0 (0)
Not reported	5 (15)	2 (17)
BMI, median (range)	28 (20;57)	28 (20;44)
ECOG PS, n (%)		
0	7 (21)	1 (8)
1	26 (79)	11 (92)
Baseline LDH, n (%)		
> ULN	22 (67)	8 (67)
>2x ULN	7 (21)	1 (8)
Baseline SPD mm²		
Mean (SD)	3399 (2878)	2410 (2173)
Median (range)	2487 (221-11154)	1711 (221-6740)
Prior therapies		
Median (range)	3 (2-8)	3 (2-5)
HSCT, n (%)	7 (21)	6 (50)

507 ^a Fludarabine/cyclophosphamide lymphodepletion with 90 mg of ALLO-647 (FCA90) followed by a single
508 dose of CAR T cells at 120 x 10⁶ CAR+ cells. ^b American Indian/Alaska Native or Native Hawaiian/Pacific
509 Islander.

510 BMI, body mass index; CAR, chimeric antigen receptor; ECOG PS, Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group
511 performance status; HSCT, hematopoietic stem cell transplantation; LBCL, large B-cell lymphoma; LDH,
512 lactate dehydrogenase; R/R relapsed/refractory; SD, standard deviation, SPD, sum of the products of
513 longest diameters; ULN, upper limit of normal.

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517 **Table 2.** Most Common Any-Grade TEAEs and Grade ≥3 Incidence (≥20% Any Grade in All Patients)

N (%)	CAR T-Naive R/R LBCL			
	All patients (N=33)		Patients who received selected phase 2 dose ^a (n=12)	
	Any Grade	Grade ≥3	Any Grade	Grade ≥3
Any AE	33 (100)	31 (94)	12 (100)	11 (92)
Neutropenia	28 (85)	27 (82)	10 (83)	10 (83)
Anemia	22 (67)	15 (46)	8 (67)	7 (58)
Thrombocytopenia	19 (58)	14 (42)	7 (58)	5 (42)
IRR	19 (58)	3 (9)	8 (67)	0 (0)
Fatigue	17 (52)	1 (3)	6 (50)	0 (0)
Pyrexia	16 (49)	1 (3)	6 (50)	0 (0)
Nausea	13 (39)	2 (6)	6 (50)	0 (0)
Lymphopenia	12 (36)	11 (33)	6 (50)	5 (42)
Hypotension	12 (36)	4 (12)	2 (17)	0 (0)
Peripheral edema	11 (33)	0 (0)	3 (25)	0 (0)
WBC count decreased	10 (30)	10 (30)	4 (33)	4 (33)
CMV reactivation	10 (30)	4 (12)	4 (33)	1 (8)
Decreased appetite	10 (30)	1 (3)	6 (50)	0 (0)
Chills	10 (30)	0 (0)	4 (33)	0 (0)
Hypoxia	9 (27)	4 (12)	2 (17)	0 (0)
Hypokalemia	8 (24)	3 (9)	2 (17)	0 (0)
Diarrhea	8 (24)	2 (6)	4 (33)	0 (0)
CRS	8 (24)	0 (0)	4 (33)	0 (0)
Constipation	8 (24)	0 (0)	4 (33)	0 (0)
Cough	7 (21)	0 (0)	3 (25)	0 (0)
Hypocalcemia	7 (21)	2 (6)	1 (8)	0 (0)

518 ^a Fludarabine/cyclophosphamide lymphodepletion with 90 mg of ALLO-647 (FCA90) followed by a single
519 dose of CAR T cells at 120 x 10⁶ CAR+ cells.

520 AE, adverse event; CAR, chimeric antigen receptor; CMV, cytomegalovirus; CRS, cytokine release
521 syndrome; IRR, infusion-related reaction; LBCL, large B-cell lymphoma; R/R, relapsed/refractor; WBC,
522 white blood cell.

523 **Table 3.** Summary of Treatment Efficacy

	CAR T-Naive R/R LBCL	
	All patients (N=33)	Patients who received selected phase 2 dose ^a (n=12)
Best overall response		
Complete response, n (%)	14 (42)	7 (58)
Complete response at 6 months	10 (30)	5 (42)
Complete response at 12 months	8 (24)	4 (33)
Partial response, n (%)	5 (15)	1 (8)
Stable disease, n (%)	4 (12)	1 (8)
Progressive disease/death, n (%)	10 (30)	3 (25)
Overall response rate		
Overall response rate, n (%)	19 (58)	8 (67)
95% CI	(39, 75)	(35, 90)
Median duration of response, months (95% CI)	11.1 (3.1, NR)	23.1(1.0, NR)
Overall survival, months (95% CI)	14.4 (7.0, NR)	NR (4.6, NR)

524 ^a Fludarabine/cyclophosphamide lymphodepletion with 90 mg of ALLO-647 (FCA90) followed by a single
 525 dose of CAR T cells at 120 x 10⁶ CAR+ cells.

526 CAR, chimeric antigen receptor; LBCL, large B-cell lymphoma; NR, not reached; R/R, relapsed/refractory.