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## ASTX727-03: Phase 1 Study Evaluating Oral Decitabine/Cedazuridine (ASTX727) Low-Dose (LD) in Lower-Risk Myelodysplastic Syndromes (LR-MDS) Patients

**On behalf of the ASTX727-03 Investigators Team**

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# Introduction (1): HMAs in Lower-Risk MDS

Hypomethylating agents (HMAs) are standard therapies in higher risk MDS but use in lower-risk disease (Int-1/LR) is less clear

- A prior study of low-dose decitabine (20 mg/m<sup>2</sup> vs. azacitidine 75 mg/m<sup>2</sup> x 3 q 28 d) suggested clinical benefit<sup>1,2</sup> leading to inclusion in NCCN Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology (NCCN Guidelines<sup>®</sup>)
- A recent randomized study of an oral formulation of azacitidine (CC-486) showed no difference in survival (median OS 17.3 vs. 16.2 months) compared to placebo
  - CC-486 exposure and schedule are different than parenteral azacitidine
  - Survival impacted by early infectious deaths in first 56 days (16 [15%] in CC-486 vs 6 [5.5%] placebo)<sup>3</sup>
- Optimizing dosing regimen for LR MDS is critical to balance clinical response with risk of myelosuppression

<sup>1</sup>Jabbour, et al. Blood 2017 Sep 28; 130(13):1514-1522 [NCT01720225]

<sup>2</sup>Sasaki, et al. NEJM Evid 2022 Aug 9; 1(10) [NCT01720225]

<sup>3</sup>Garcia-Manero, et al. JCO 2021 May 1; 39(13): 1426-1436 [NCT01566695]

# Introduction (2): Oral Decitabine/Cedazuridine

- Oral decitabine/cedazuridine (ASTX727)
  - fixed-dose (FDC) combination of 35 mg decitabine (DEC) and the cytidine deaminase (CDA) inhibitor cedazuridine (100 mg, C) produces equivalent PK AUC exposure compared to IV decitabine<sup>1</sup>
- ASCERTAIN: Phase 3 study led to the approval of oral DEC-C
  - LR MDS subjects who received the standard dose (SD) of ASTX727 for 5 days and demonstrated clinical benefit<sup>2</sup>
- Study ASTX727-03 (NCT03502668):
  - Phase 1 investigated multiple dosing regimens of oral DEC-C in LR MDS
  - With the Objective of obtaining clinical responses while avoiding myelotoxicity in patients who are expected to receive long-term treatment

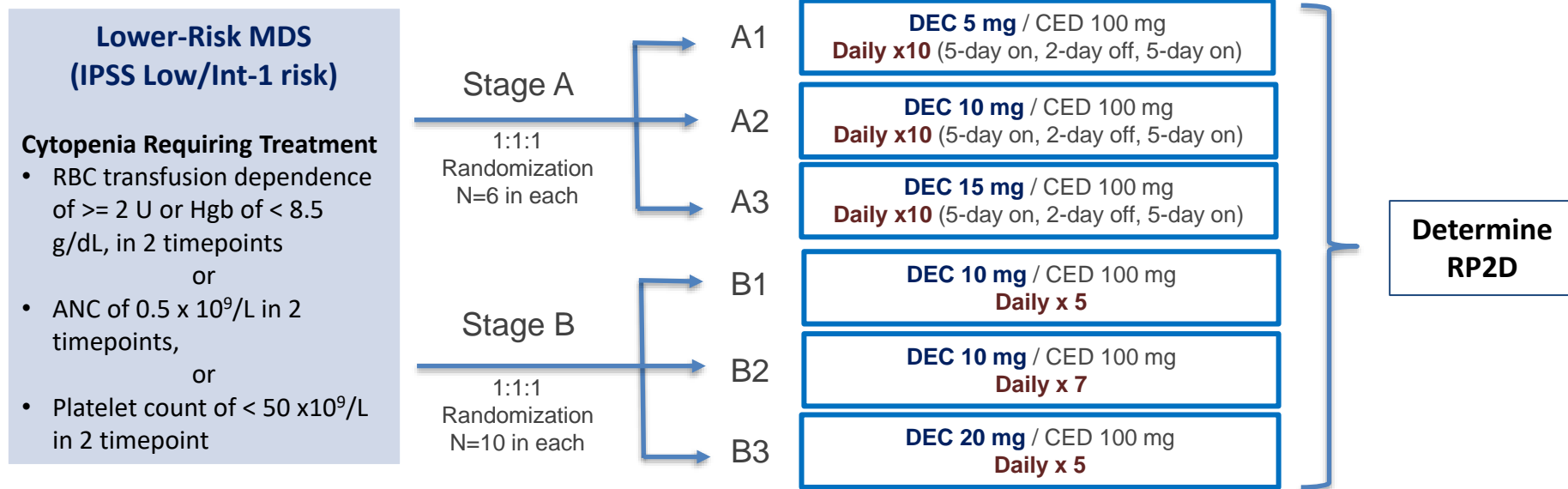
AUC – are under the curve; IV – intravenous

<sup>1</sup>Savona, et al, [ASH 2020 Abstract 1230]

<sup>2</sup>Garcia-Manero, et al, [ASH 2021 Abstract 66]



# Phase 1 Study Design



## Major Entry Criteria:

- Cytopenia requiring treatment
- ECOG PS 0-2
- Adequate organ function
- Prior treatment with HMA is allowed
- Exclude CMML

## Primary Endpoint

- Safety as determined by incidence of drug-related Grade  $\geq 3$  AEs or DLTs

## Secondary Endpoint

- Hematologic Improvement (HI) based on modified 2016 IWG criteria
- Transfusion Independence
- Overall Survival (OS), Leukemia Free Survival (LFS)

IPSS – International Prognostic Scoring System; RBC – red blood cell; ANC – absolute neutrophil count; RP2D – recommended phase 2 dose; ECOG – Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group; PS – performance status; CMML – chronic myelomonocytic leukemia; AEs – adverse events; DLTs – dose-limiting toxicities; IWG – International Working Group



# Patient Demographics/ Disease Characteristics

Characteristics		Total Treated N=47	Baseline Hematology Parameter	Median (Range)
Age in years (median, range)		76 (51-88)	Bone marrow blasts (%)	2.0 (0-8)
Sex: Male/Female		30 (65%) / 17(35%)	Hemoglobin (g/L)	81 (62-145)
Median weight, kg (range)/Median BSA, m <sup>2</sup> (range)		80 (52-136) / 1.9 (1.5 – 2.5)	Platelets (10 <sup>9</sup> /L)	123.8 (5-509)
MDS, IPSS classification	Low-risk / Int-1	15 (32%) / 32 (68%)	ANC (10 <sup>9</sup> /L)	1.9 (0-7)
	Good	33 (70%)	RBC transfusion dependent (TD)	21 (45%)
	Intermediate	8 (17%)	Platelets TD	3 (6%)
	Poor	4 (9%)		
Prior treatment for MDS		27 (57%)		
ECOG PS	0/1/2	10(21%) / 34 (72%) / 3(6%)		

- RBC TD: 21 (45%), N= 34 (71%) with Hgb <90 g/L
- Platelet TD: 3 (6%), N= 17 (35%) with Platelet < 75 X 10<sup>9</sup>/L

- Low and Int-1 IPSS risk category were 32% and 68%, respectively; 29 (60%) had an IPSS-R score of 3.5 or less
- Prior treatment for MDS was primarily ESA 16 (34%) and 13 (28%) each were treated with lenalidomide or parenteral HMAs



# Study Treatment Exposure

	Cohort A1 5mg 10-day (N=10)	Cohort A2 10mg 10-day (N=4)	Cohort B1 10mg 5-day (N=11)	Cohort B2 10mg 7-day (N=11)	Cohort B3 20mg 5-day (N=11)	Total (N=47)
<b>Number of cycles</b>						
Median	8.0	12.0	10.0	5.0	13.0	9.0
Min, Max	1, 34	3, 15	1, 28	1, 35	1, 31	1, 35
<b>Delayed cycles, n (%)</b>						
1-3	3 (30.0)	1 (25.0)	4 (36.4)	5 (45.5)	1 (9.1)	14 (29.8)
4-6	2 (20.0)	1 (25.0)	4 (36.4)	1 (9.1)	3 (27.3)	11 (23.4)
>6	2 (20.0)	2 (50.0)	1 (9.1)	3 (27.3)	3 (27.3)	11 (23.4)
At least one delayed cycle	7 (70.0)	4 (100.0)	9 (81.8)	9 (81.8)	7 (63.6)	36 (76.6)
<b>Dose-reduced cycles, n (%)</b>						
1-3	5 (50.0)	1 (25.0)	2 (18.2)	3 (27.3)	1 (9.1)	12 (25.5)
4-6	0	0	1 (9.1)	1 (9.1)	1 (9.1)	3 (6.4)
>6	2 (20.0)	3 (75.0)	3 (27.3)	3 (27.3)	2 (18.2)	13 (27.7)
At least one dose-reduced cycle	7 (70.0)	4 (100.0)	6 (54.5)	7 (63.6)	4 (36.4)	28 (59.6)

- Subjects received a median of 9.0 cycles; with 47% receiving  $\geq 10$  cycles
- 77% subjects had at least 1 dose delayed cycle and 60% had at least 1 dose reduced cycle
- Cycle delays and dose reductions were observed more frequently in longer treatment days per cycles and higher doses per day



# Dose Limiting Toxicity (DLT)

## DLT frequency for each regimen

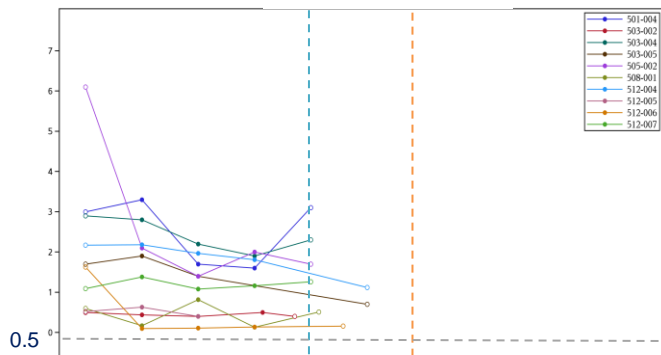
Stage	Ph1 Stage A			Ph1 Stage B		
Cohort	A1	A2	A3	B1	B2	B3
Regimen	5mg 10-day	10mg 10-day	15mg 10-day	10mg 5-day	10mg 7-day	20mg 5-day
DLT /Evaluable subject #	<b>3/10</b>	<b>4/4</b>	-	<b>3/11</b>	<b>7/10</b>	<b>7/11</b>

- All DLTs were related to grade 4 neutropenia (last longer than 10 days in Cycle 1)
- Cohort A3 was closed with no enrollment due to the high incidence of DLT observed in cohort A2
- The DLT incidences were proportional to the dose intensity (total DEC dose per cycle) and number of days of study drug administration

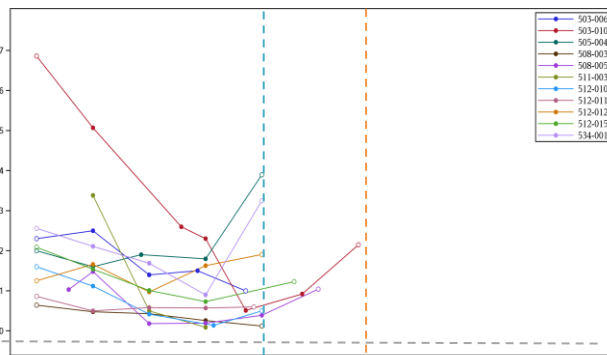


# ANC Changes in Cycle 1

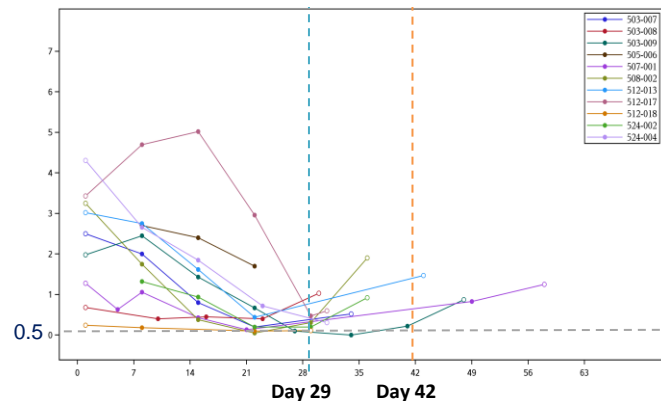
**A1 5mg 10-day**



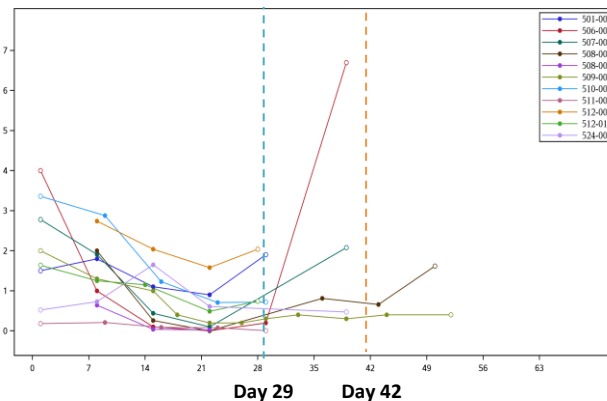
**B1 10mg 5-day**



**B2 10mg 7-day**



**B3 20mg 5-day**



- Deeper neutrophil nadir points were observed in regimens with higher total DEC doses per cycle ( B3)
- Slower neutrophil count recovery to baseline was observed in regimens with longer dosing periods (7-10 days; A1 and B2)
- Regimens with higher doses per cycle (B3) and longer dosing periods (B2) resulted in delay of Cycle 2





# Safety Results: Treatment-Emergent Adverse Events in >20% of Patients (Independent of Attribution)

Preferred Term	Cohort A1 5mg 10-day (N=10)	Cohort A2 10mg 10-day (N=4)	Cohort B1 10mg 5-day (N=11)	Cohort B2 10mg 7-day (N=11)	Cohort B3 20mg 5-day (N=11)	Total (N=47)
<b>Subjects with any AE</b>	10 (100)	4 (100)	11 (100)	11 (100)	11 (100)	47 (100)
<b>Total number of AEs</b>	162	54	290	265	317	1093
Fatigue	6 (60.0)	2 (50.0)	4 (36.4)	5 (45.5)	4 (36.4)	21 (44.7)
Neutropenia	3 (30.0)	3 (75.0)	5 (45.5)	5 (45.5)	3 (27.3)	19 (40.4)
Neutrophil count decreased	1 (10.0)	2 (50.0)	2 (18.2)	5 (45.5)	8 (72.7)	18 (38.3)
Anaemia	1 (10.0)	2 (50.0)	5 (45.5)	3 (27.3)	5 (45.5)	16 (34.0)
Constipation	2 (20.0)	1 (25.0)	3 (27.3)	6 (54.5)	4 (36.4)	16 (34.0)
Diarrhoea	1 (10.0)	1 (25.0)	3 (27.3)	3 (27.3)	5 (45.5)	13 (27.7)
Decreased appetite	0	2 (50.0)	3 (27.3)	4 (36.4)	3 (27.3)	12 (25.5)
Cough	2 (20.0)	3 (75.0)	3 (27.3)	1 (9.1)	3 (27.3)	12 (25.5)
Pyrexia	3 (30.0)	1 (25.0)	4 (36.4)	2 (18.2)	1 (9.1)	11 (23.4)
Platelet count decreased	2 (20.0)	0	3 (27.3)	3 (27.3)	3 (27.3)	11 (23.4)
Oedema peripheral	2 (20.0)	1 (25.0)	4 (36.4)	1 (9.1)	3 (27.3)	11 (23.4)
Dyspnoea	0	2 (50.0)	4 (36.4)	2 (18.2)	2 (18.2)	10 (21.3)

- Safety profile consistent with that of standard (approved) DEC-C dosing
- No significant safety differences between the cohorts, with the exception of increase of AE frequency of decreased neutrophil counts observed in regimens with higher DEC doses per cycle (A2, B2, & B3)
- No clinically significant incidence of GI events at all the investigated doses were attributed to oral DEC-C

# Efficacy Results: Hematologic Improvement (HI) and Transfusion Independence (TI)

	Phase 1 Stage A		Phase 1 Stage B			
	Cohort A1 5mg 10-day N=10	Cohort A2 10mg 10-day N=4	Cohort B1 10mg 5-day N=11	Cohort B2 10mg 7-day N=11	Cohort B3 20mg 5-Day N=11	Total
<b>Total HI endpoint evaluable subjects</b>	10	4	11	11	11	47
<b>HI, n (%)</b>	2 (20.0)	2 (50.0)	4 (36.4)	3 (27.3)	3 (27.3)	14 (29.8)
<b>HI-E endpoint evaluable subjects, n</b>	9	3	11	10	9	42
<b>HI-E, n (%)</b>	1 (11.1)	1 (33.3)	4 (36.4)	2 (20.0)	2 (22.2)	10 (23.8)
<b>HI-P endpoint evaluable subjects, n</b>	5	3	4	4	6	22
<b>HI-P, n (%)</b>	1 (20.0)	1 (33.3)	2 (50.0)	2 (50.0)	2 (33.3)	8 (36.4)
<b>HI-N endpoint evaluable subjects, n</b>	3	2	2	1	4	12
<b>HI-N, n (%)</b>	1 (33.3)	1 (50.0)	0	0	0	2 (16.7)
<b>RBC TD at baseline, n</b>	4	1	7	5	4	21
<b>Post treatment RBC TI, n (%)</b>	1 (25.0)	0	4 (57.1)	1 (20.0)	1 (25.0)	7 (33.3)
<b>Platelet TD at baseline, n</b>	0	1	1	0	1	3
<b>Post-Treatment Platelet TI, n (%)</b>	0	0	0	0	1 (100.0)	1 (33.3)

- All cohorts showed early emerging evidence of clinical activity (achieving HI and transfusion independence)

HI: Hematological Improvement based on IWG 2006 MDS response criteria  
 HI-E=erythroid response;  
 HI-N=neutrophil response;  
 HI-P=platelet response,  
 TD: Transfusion Dependence



# Results: Pharmacokinetics (PK) Profile of Decitabine Exposure

Cohort	Daily Decitabine Dose (mg)	Cycle Cumulative Dose (mg)	% FDC Cycle Cumulative Dose	Total Cycle $_4AUC_{0-2h}$ (ng*hr/mL)	% FDC Total Cycle $AUC_{0-24h}$ (5 Days)
<b>B1</b>	10 x 5 days	50	29%	<b>235</b>	<b>27%</b>
<b>B2</b>	10 x 7 days	70	40%	<b>269</b>	<b>31%</b>
<b>B3</b>	20 x 5 days	100	57%	<b>431</b>	<b>50%</b>
<b>Standard dose (SD)<sup>1</sup></b>	35 x 5 days	175	100%	<b>856</b>	<b>100%</b>

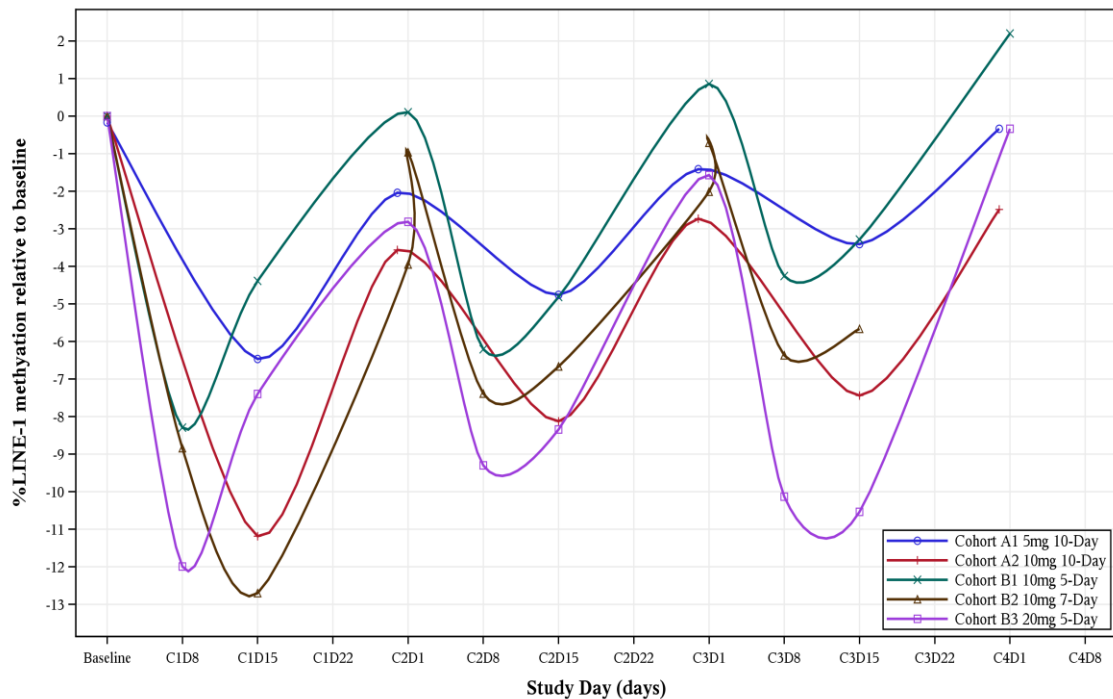
<sup>1</sup> ASTX727-02 phase 3 fixed-dose combination primary analysis (paired population): plasma decitabine results for AUC equivalence assessment; oral geometric least squares means

Total cycle  $AUC_{0-24h}$  is proportional to the total dose of decitabine per cycle

i. e. Cohort B1's cycle cumulative dose is 50 mg, which is 29% of the cycle cumulative dose of the SD of 35 mg over 5 days, and total cycle  $AUC_{0-24h}$  is 27% of the total cycle  $AUC_{0-24h}$  of the SD of 35 mg over 5 days

# Results: Pharmacodynamic (PD) %LINE-1 Demethylation

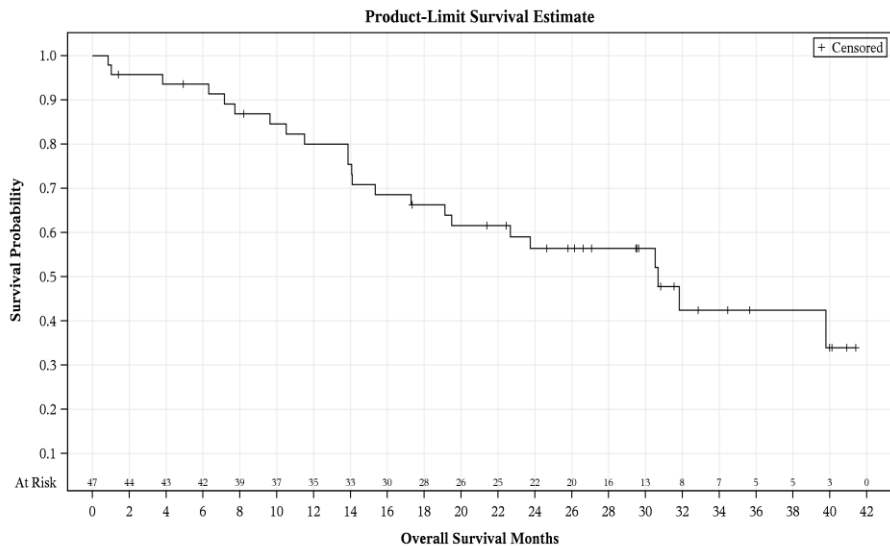
## %LINE-1 Demethylation in Cycles 1-3 Per Cohort



- Peak %LINE-1 demethylation in Cohort A2 (10mg 10-day), B2 (10mg 7-day), and B3 (20mg 5-day) ranged from 11-13%; similar to the demethylation rate of the SD of 35mg DEC for 5 days
- Peak %LINE-1 demethylation in Cohort A1 (5mg 10-day) and B1 (10mg 5-day) was 5-7%, about half the demethylation rate of the SD of 35mg DEC for 5 days

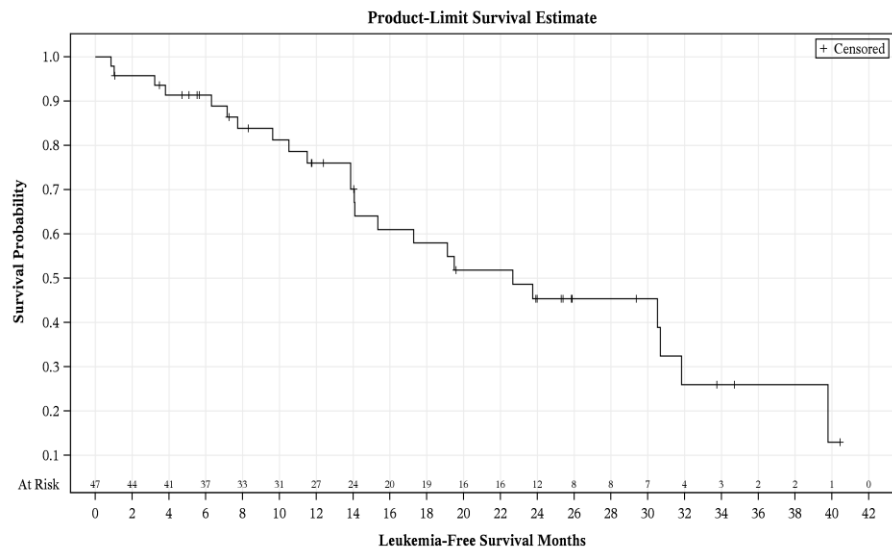
# Results: Overall Survival and Leukemia Free Survival in Phase 1 (N=47)

## Kaplan-Meier Curves of Overall Survival



- Median follow up is ~34 months
- mOS is 31 months 95% CI (19 months, NE)

## Kaplan-Meier Curves of Leukemia-Free Survival



- mLFS is 23 months 95% CI (14, 32 months)

mOS – median overall survival; mLFS – median leukemia free survival; NE – not evaluated



# Conclusions

- Investigation of oral administration of various low-dose DEC-C regimens in IPSS Low/Int-1 risk MDS showed:
  - Safety profile consistent with standard dose of DEC-C
    - Treatment-emergent events were typically related to myelosuppression
    - Lower doses and shorter dosing regimens have fewer occurrences of neutropenia
    - No clinically significant GI adverse effects
  - All dosing cohorts demonstrated clinical activity
    - Endpoints evaluated: HI and transfusion independence, 31 months survival
    - Lower doses of decitabine administered orally appear to maintain clinical activity with lower levels of LINE-1 demethylation but less neutropenia
- Dose schedule **10 mg DEC/100 mg CED daily X 5 days (Cohort B1)** was selected as the RP2D based on clinical efficacy and safety profile
- RP2D regimen is being currently compared to 35 mg DEC/100 mg CED for 3 days in a 28-day cycle in the ongoing Phase 2 study [*NCT03502668*]



# Acknowledgements

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**We thank the investigators, the patients and their families for participating in the study.**

This trial is registered at [ClinicalTrials.gov](https://clinicaltrials.gov) under identifier [NCT03502668](#).

