

High Rates of Adherence to Bulevirtide Monotherapy for Chronic Hepatitis Delta Through 96 Weeks: Results From an Interim Analysis of the Phase 3 Study MYR301

Soo Aleman¹, Heiner Wedemeyer², Maurizia R. Brunetto^{3,4}, Antje Blank⁵, Pietro Andreone⁶, Pavel Bogomolov⁷, Vladimir Chulanov⁸, Nina Mamonova⁸, Natalia Geyvandova⁹, Viacheslav Morozov¹⁰, Olga Sagalova¹¹, Tatyana Stepanova¹², Ben L. Da¹³, Dmitry Manuilov¹³, Grace M. Chee¹³, Mingyang Li¹³, Audrey H. Lau¹³, Julian Schulze zur Wiesch¹⁴, Markus Cornberg², Stefan Zeuzem¹⁵, Pietro Lampertico^{16,17}

¹Department of Infectious Diseases, Karolinska University Hospital/Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm, Sweden; ²Clinic for Gastroenterology, Hepatology, Infectious Diseases, and Endocrinology, Hannover Medical School, Hannover, Germany; ³Hepatology Unit, Reference Center of the Tuscany Region for Chronic Liver Disease and Cancer, University Hospital of Pisa, Pisa, Italy; ⁴Department of Clinical and Experimental Medicine, University of Pisa, Pisa, Italy; ⁵Clinical Pharmacology and Pharmacoeconomics, Heidelberg University Hospital, Heidelberg, Germany; ⁶Internal Medicine, University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, Modena, Italy; ⁷M.F. Vladimirov Moscow Regional Research and Clinical Institute, Moscow, Russian Federation; ⁸FSBI National Research Medical Center for Phthisiopulmonology and Infectious Diseases, Moscow, Russian Federation; ⁹Stavropol Regional Hospital, Stavropol, Russian Federation; ¹⁰LLC Medical Company "Hepalog", Samara, Russian Federation; ¹¹South Ural State Medical University, Chelyabinsk, Russian Federation; ¹²LLC Clinic of Modern Medicine, Moscow, Russian Federation; ¹³Gilead Sciences, Inc., Foster City, CA, USA; ¹⁴Hepatology Outpatient Medical Clinic, University Hospital Hamburg-Eppendorf, Hamburg, Germany; ¹⁵Department of Medicine, University Hospital Frankfurt, Frankfurt am Main, Germany; ¹⁶Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, Foundation IRCCS Ca' Granda Ospedale Maggiore Policlinico, Milan, Italy; ¹⁷Department of Pathophysiology and Transplantation, CRC "A.M. and A. Migliavacca" Center for Liver Disease, University of Milan, Milan, Italy

Conclusions

- High adherence rates were observed through 96 weeks in patients with chronic hepatitis delta self-administering bulevirtide (BLV) via daily subcutaneous injections
- Treatment with BLV monotherapy through 96 weeks resulted in continued improvement in responses with maintained safety
- Virologic and biochemical responses were observed in most patients after 96 weeks of treatment with BLV monotherapy

Plain Language Summary

- Patients were treated with 2 mg or 10 mg of bulevirtide for 144 weeks and were then monitored for 96 weeks after the end of their treatment
- Adherence, the degree to which a person takes medications as prescribed, was determined using patient diary entries and drug accountability data
- Patients taking 2 mg or 10 mg of bulevirtide had mean rates of adherence of more than 95% at weeks 24 and 48; at 96 weeks, the mean rates of adherence were more than 98% and 94% for the patients taking the 2 mg dose and 10 mg dose, respectively
- Control of hepatitis delta virus and reduction of liver inflammation improved with continued bulevirtide treatment at either dose level through 96 weeks
- Bulevirtide was safe and well tolerated; no patients were required to stop taking bulevirtide or missed a dose because of any adverse events

Background

- Hepatitis delta virus (HDV) represents the most severe form of chronic viral hepatitis and is estimated to affect between 10 and 20 million individuals worldwide¹
- Bulevirtide (BLV), a novel first-in-class entry inhibitor of HDV, is approved in the European Union at a dose of 2 mg/d for the treatment of chronic hepatitis delta with compensated liver disease²
- In the Phase 3 study MYR301, BLV 2 mg/d or 10 mg/d was shown to be safe and effective through 96 weeks³ based on the combined endpoint of virologic response (undetectable or a $\geq 2 \log_{10}$ IU/mL decline in HDV RNA from baseline)⁴ and biochemical response (alanine aminotransferase [ALT] normalisation)

Objective

- This analysis describes patient adherence to, and efficacy and safety of, BLV monotherapy through 96 weeks in MYR301

Methods

- MYR301 (NCT03852719) is an open-label, randomised study evaluating 3 cohorts: a delayed-treatment arm not receiving anti-HDV therapy for 48 weeks followed by BLV 10 mg/d for 96 weeks and 2 arms receiving BLV 2 mg/d or BLV 10 mg/d to week (W) 144
- BLV 10 mg was self-administered as 2 subcutaneous (sc) injections of BLV 5 mg; BLV 2 mg was self-administered as 1 sc injection of BLV 2 mg
- In this analysis, data were included from all patients randomised to BLV 2 mg or BLV 10 mg up to W96

Results

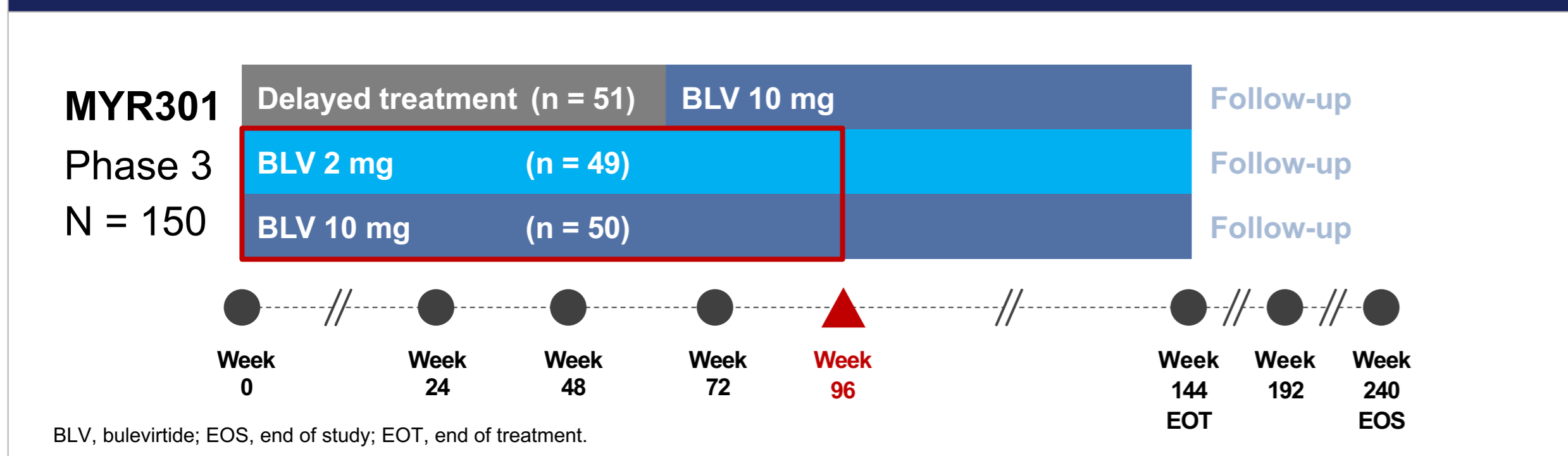
Table 2 Adherence to BLV and Extent of Exposure

	BLV 2 mg (n = 49)	BLV 10 mg (n = 50)
Week 24		
Total cumulative dose of BLV given, mg	335.6 (5.5)	1621.7 (236.4)
Number of missed BLV injections	0.4 (0.9)	1.0 (2.6)
Adherence to BLV, %	99.9 (1.6) ^a	96.5 (14.1) ^b
Week 48		
Total cumulative dose of BLV given, mg	669.0 (7.3)	3195.3 (618.5)
Number of missed BLV injections	0.9 (2.3)	5.0 (26.9)
Adherence to BLV, %	99.6 (1.1) ^a	95.1 (18.4) ^b
Week 96		
Total cumulative dose of BLV given, mg	1318.1 (117.8)	6357.5 (1420.7)
Number of missed BLV injections	4.4 (19.0)	6.1 (27.3)
Adherence to BLV, %	98.1 (8.8) ^a	94.6 (21.1) ^b

Values are expressed as mean (SD). ^aThe BLV 2 mg group required only 1 injection of 2 mg. ^bThe BLV 10 mg group required 2 injections of 5 mg. BLV, bulevirtide.

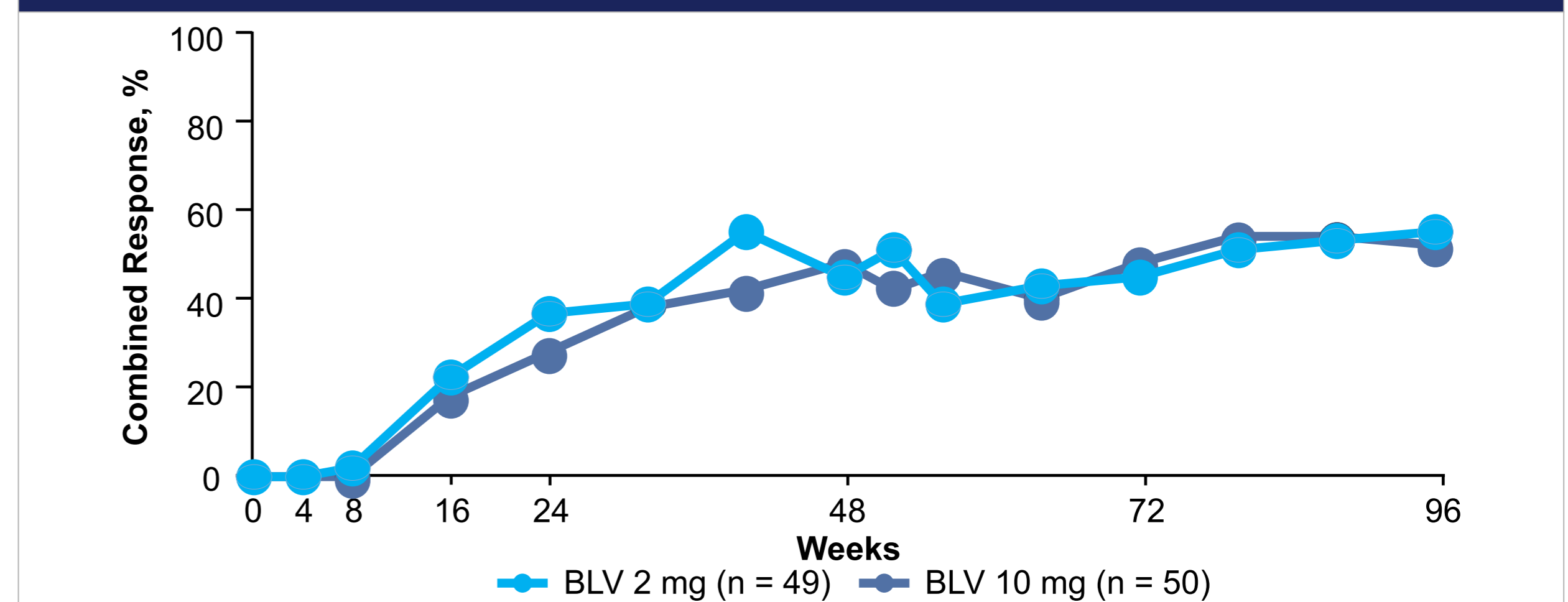
- Mean adherence rates exceeded 95% for the BLV 2 mg and 10 mg groups at W24 and W48 and were higher in the BLV 2 mg group
- At W96, mean adherence rates were 98.1% for the BLV 2 mg group and 94.6% for the BLV 10 mg group; the numbers of missed injections per patient were 4.4 in the 2 mg group and 6.1 in the 10 mg group
- Among patients who completed 96 weeks of the study (excluding 5 patients who discontinued prior to 96 weeks), mean adherence rates were 99.8% and 99.9% in the BLV 2 mg and BLV 10 mg groups, respectively

Figure 1 MYR301 Study Schema



- Treatment adherence was assessed at each visit using information collected from the following:
 - Patient diary
 - Study drug accountability (ie, the number of dispensed vials vs the number of returned vials [used and unused] of the study drug) collected at each visit
- Adherence to BLV was computed as the ratio of the cumulative dose of BLV administered to the planned total dose at a particular time point
- ALT upper limit of normal was defined at Russian sites as ≤ 31 U/L for females and ≤ 41 U/L for males, and at all other sites as ≤ 34 U/L for females and ≤ 49 U/L for males
- HDV RNA levels were determined by RT-qPCR using the RoboGene HDV RNA Quantification Kit 2.0 (lower limit of quantitation, 50 IU/mL; limit of detection, 6 IU/mL)

Figure 2 Combined Response^a Over Time



^aCombined response is defined as undetectable HDV RNA or a $\geq 2 \log_{10}$ IU/mL decrease in HDV RNA from BL with ALT normalisation. This definition was not applicable at BL. ALT, alanine aminotransferase; BL, baseline; BLV, bulevirtide; HDV, hepatitis delta virus.

- Combined response rates increased through 96 weeks for the BLV 2 mg and 10 mg groups

Results

Table 1 Demographics and Baseline Characteristics by BLV Study Group

	BLV 2 mg (n = 49)	BLV 10 mg (n = 50)	Total (N = 99)
Male	30 (61)	30 (60)	60 (61)
Race			
White	41 (84)	43 (86)	84 (85)
Asian	8 (16)	6 (12)	14 (14)
Black or African American	0	1 (2)	1 (1)
Cirrhosis present, yes	23 (47)	24 (48)	47 (47)
HBeAg status, positive	4 (8)	7 (14)	11 (11)
Concomitant NA therapy, yes	32 (65)	27 (54)	59 (60)
Prior IFN therapy, yes	26 (53)	29 (58)	55 (56)
Genotype HDV-1^a	49 (100)	48 (96)	97 (98)
LSM, kPa, mean (SD)	14.0 (8.2)	14.8 (9.3)	14.4 (8.7)
HDV RNA, log₁₀ IU/mL, mean (SD)	5.1 (1.2)	5.0 (1.5)	5.0 (1.3)
ALT, U/L, mean (SD)	108 (63)	123 (81)	116 (72)

Data are presented as n (%) unless otherwise noted. ^aIn the BLV 10 mg group, 1 patient had HDV genotype 5, and 1 patient was missing HDV genotype data. ALT, alanine aminotransferase; BLV, bulevirtide; HBeAg, hepatitis B e antigen; HDV, hepatitis delta virus; IFN, interferon; LSM, liver stiffness measurement; NA, nucleos(t)ide analogue.

- In the BLV 2 mg and 10 mg groups, 96% (47 of 49) and 94% (47 of 50) completed 96 weeks of treatment, respectively
- Reasons for study discontinuation included withdrawal of consent (2 each from BLV 2 mg and 10 mg groups [n = 4]) and physician decision (BLV 10 mg group [n = 1])

Table 3 Key Efficacy and Safety Results at Weeks 48 and 96

	BLV 2 mg (n = 49)		BLV 10 mg (n = 50)	
Study Week	Week 48	Week 96	Week 48	Week 96
Combined response, responder, n (%)	22 (45)	27 (55)	24 (48)	28 (56)
Virologic response, ^a responder, n (%)	36 (73)	37 (76)	38 (76)	41 (82)
Undetectable HDV RNA, responder, n (%)	6 (12)	10 (20)	10 (20)	18 (36)
ALT normalisation, responder, n (%)	25 (51)	31 (63)	28 (56)	32 (64)
Change in HDV RNA, log ₁₀ IU/mL, ^b least square mean (95% CI)	-2.6 (-3.0, -2.3)	-3.2 (-3.6, -2.8)	-3.0 (-3.4, -2.7)	-3.6 (-4.0, -3.2)
Change in LSM from BL, kPa, least square mean (95% CI)	-3.1 (-4.7, -1.5)	-4.0 (-5.6, -2.5)	-3.2 (-4.9, -1.4)	-4.7 (-6.3, -3.2)
AEs^c at week 96				
Number (%) of patients with:				
Any AE	41 (84)	47 (96)	44 (88)	48 (96)
Any Grade ≥ 3 AE	5 (10)	9 (18)	4 (8)	8 (16)
Any AE related to BLV	24 (49)	25 (51)	36 (72)	36 (72)
Injection-site reactions ^d	9 (18)	10 (20)	15 (30)	15 (30)
Any SAE ^e	2 (4)	2 (4)	1 (2)	4 (8)

^aUndetectable HDV RNA levels or HDV RNA decreased $\geq 2 \log_{10}$ IU/mL from BL. ^bChange in HDV RNA levels from baseline. ^cAll AEs were treatment emergent over 96 weeks. ^dGrouped term including "injection-site" (reaction, erythema, pruritus, rash, swelling, haematoma, pain, bruising, dermatitis, and induration). ^eSAEs were defined as follows: BLV 2 mg—foot fracture, headache, hemiparesis, depression; BLV 10 mg—COVID-19 pneumonia, lumbar vertebral fracture. None of the SAEs were considered related to BLV. AE, adverse event; ALT, alanine aminotransferase; BL, baseline; BLV, bulevirtide; HDV, hepatitis delta virus; LSM, liver stiffness measurement; SAE, serious adverse event.

- Treatment with BLV through 96 weeks was associated with improvements in virologic and biochemical responses in most patients, with response rates increasing over time
- BLV was safe and well tolerated; no serious adverse events were attributed to BLV or led to discontinuation
- Injection-site reactions were mild to moderate in severity and occurred more frequently in the BLV 10 mg group (2 injections daily) vs the BLV 2 mg group (1 injection daily)

References: 1. Stockdale AJ, et al. *J Hepatol*. 2020;73:523-32. 2. Hepcludex. European Medicines Agency SmPC. 2023. 3. Wedemeyer H, et al. *Gut*. 2023;72:A103-4. 4. Yurdaydin C, et al. *J Hepatol*. 2019;70:1008-15.

Acknowledgements: We extend our thanks to the patients, their families, and all participating investigators and their corresponding site staff. This study was funded by Gilead Sciences, Inc. Writing and editorial support was provided by Kehinde Ogunseye, PhD, and Megan Rudolph, PhD, of Red Nucleus, and was funded by Gilead Sciences, Inc.

Disclosures: SA has received honoraria for lectures and educational events from AbbVie; Biogen; Gilead Sciences, Inc.; and Merck Sharp & Dohme. HW reports honoraria for speaking or consulting from Abbott; AbbVie; Boehringer Ingelheim; Bristol Myers Squibb; Eiger Biopharmaceuticals; Gilead Sciences, Inc.; Janssen; Merck Sharp & Dohme; MYR GmbH; Novartis; Novira; Roche; Roche Diagnostics; Siemens; and Transgene; and research support from Abbott; Bristol Myers Squibb; and Gilead Sciences, Inc. MRB declares financial relationships with Gilead Sciences, Inc., and AbbVie for speaking and teaching. AB, PA, PB, NM, NG, VM, OS, TS, and SZ report nothing to disclose. VC reports being a consultant and giving sponsored lectures for AbbVie; AstraZeneca; Bristol Myers Squibb; Gilead Sciences, Inc.; GSK; Hepatera; Merck Sharp & Dohme; Roche; and R-Pharm. BLD, DM, GMC, ML, and AHL are employees of Gilead Sciences, Inc., and may own stock in Gilead Sciences, Inc. JSW received consultation and lecture fees for Gilead Sciences, Inc. MC received honoraria from AbbVie; Falk; Gilead Sciences, Inc.; GSK; Janssen-Cilag; Merck Sharp & Dohme; Novartis; Roche; Spring Bank Pharmaceuticals; and Swedish Orphan Biovitrum. PL reports speaking and teaching fees from and participation in advisory committees or review panels for AbbVie; Aligos Therapeutics; Anlylam Pharmaceuticals; Antios Therapeutics; Arrowhead Pharmaceuticals; Bristol Myers Squibb; Eiger Biopharmaceuticals; Gilead Sciences, Inc.; GSK; Janssen; Merck Sharp & Dohme; MYR GmbH; Roche; and Spring Bank Pharmaceuticals.