

Clinical Efficacy and Safety of Targeted Therapies for HER2 Mutant Advanced or Metastatic Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer: A Systematic Literature Review

Federico Manevy, MSc¹, Pawana Sharma, MSc², Noman Paracha, MSc¹, Kostas Papadakis, MBA¹, Vadim Bernard-Gauthier, PhD³, Ritu Gupta, MSc⁴, Xuan Wang, MD, MSc⁵

¹Bayer Consumer care AG, Basel, Switzerland, ²ICON plc, London, United Kingdom, ³Bayer Canadian Holdings Inc., Toronto, ON, Canada, ⁴ICON plc, Delhi, India, ⁵ICON plc, Stockholm, Sweden

BACKGROUND

- Lung cancer is the most frequently diagnosed cancer globally with almost 2.5 million new cases (12.4% of all cancers) diagnosed in 2022¹.
- Most lung cancers (80-85%) are grouped broadly as non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC)². Mutations in human epidermal growth factor receptor 2 (HER2) have been reported in approximately 2-4% of patients with NSCLC and are associated with poor patient outcomes³.
- This **systematic literature review (SLR)** (PROSPERO registration number: CRD42024591639) summarizes the available literature evaluating the **clinical outcomes of treatments in HER2 mutant advanced or metastatic NSCLC**.

METHODS

- Embase, MEDLINE and MEDLINE In-process, E-pub Ahead of Print, the Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews (CDSR) and Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trial (CCRT) databases were searched on 5th September 2024 to identify **clinical trials with efficacy, safety and quality of life (QoL) data** reported in HER2 mutant advanced NSCLC.
- Clinical trial registries (from 2023) and conference abstracts from 2023-2024 (ASCO, ESMO, IASLC, and ELCC) were also searched.
- No limitation were set on timeframe and geography.

RESULTS

- A total of 41 clinical trials (58 publications) were included (Figure 1). 12 trials were conducted in East Asia (Figure 2).
- 35 trials were single arm, three were two or multi-arms, and three were multicohort of different doses for one treatment. No phase III trials were identified (Figure 3).
- 19 trials studied HER2 TKIs followed by nine trials on antibody-drug conjugate monotherapies (Figure 4).
- 19 trials provided data for HER2 mutation-positive patients as a subset of overall NSCLC cohorts.
- 20 focused on response rates as primary outcome; only two reported PFS as primary outcome and included HER2-mutated and/or HER2-amplified metastatic NSCLC.

Figure 1. PRISMA flow diagram

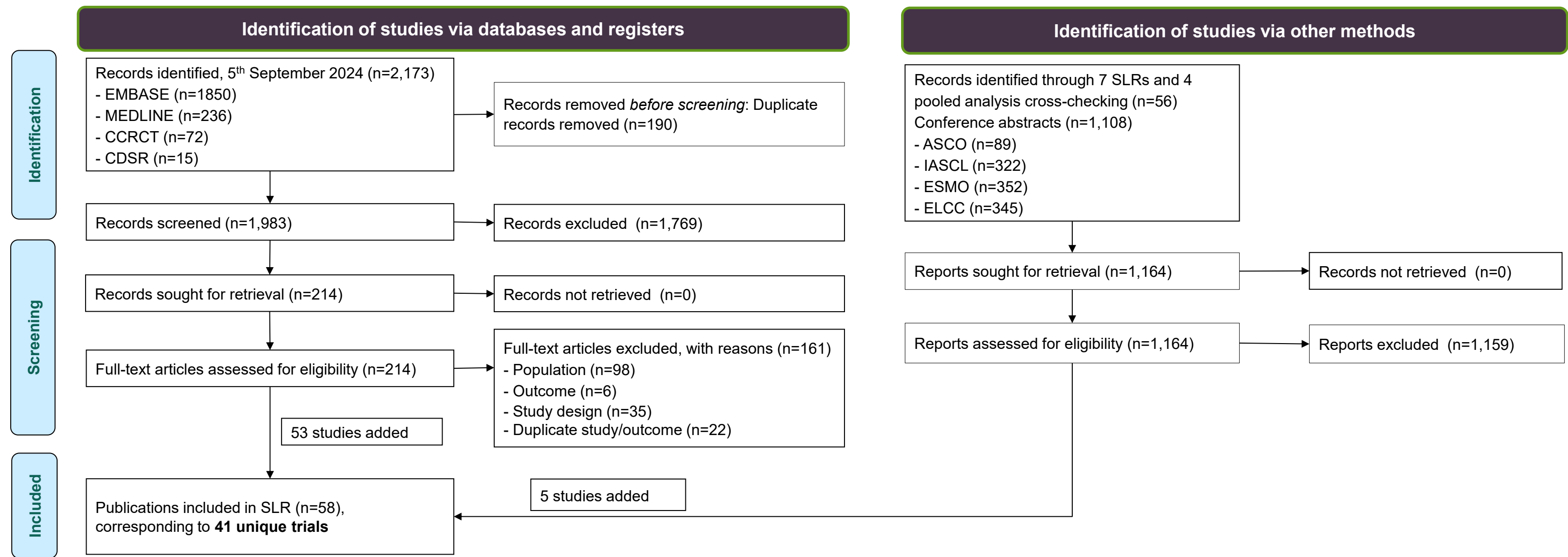


Table 1. Summary of included trials characteristics

Trial characteristics	Range or number
Number analysed*, range	2-245
Median follow-up, range	3-17 months
Females, range	33.3%-100%
Median age, range	56-67 years
Non-smoker	5.6%-100%
NSCLC histology	Adenocarcinoma (76%-100%)*; Squamous (0-7%)

*7 trials had <10 sample size; ^19 trials with 98-100% with adenocarcinoma and none with large cell carcinoma

Figure 3. Trial design of included trials

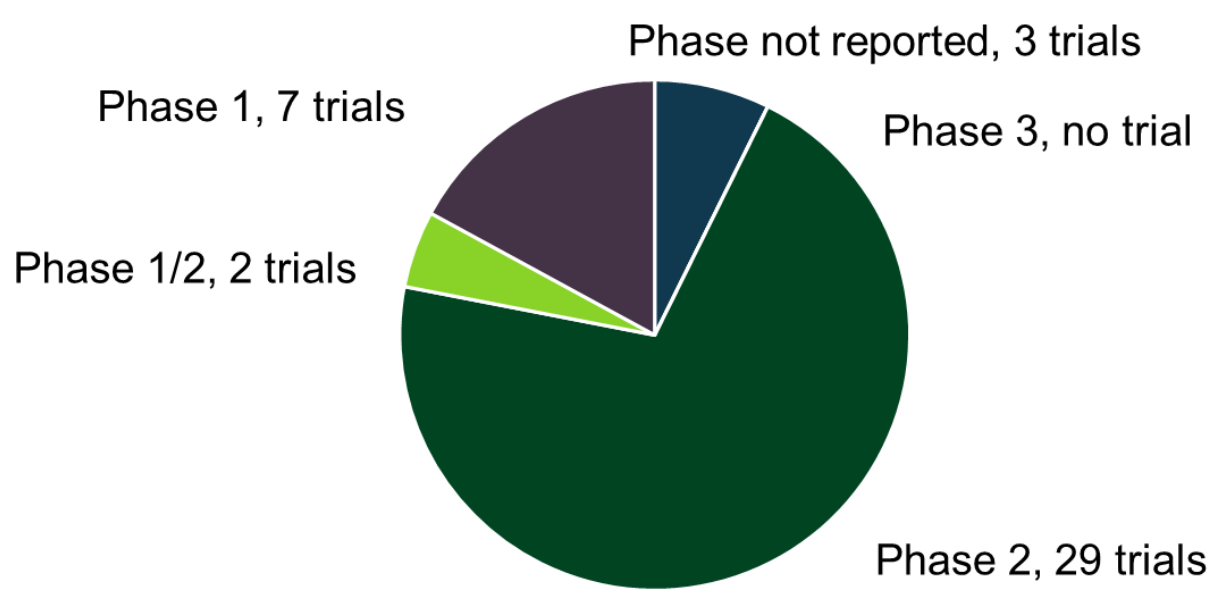


Figure 4. Treatment of HER2-mutant NSCLC reported in the included trials

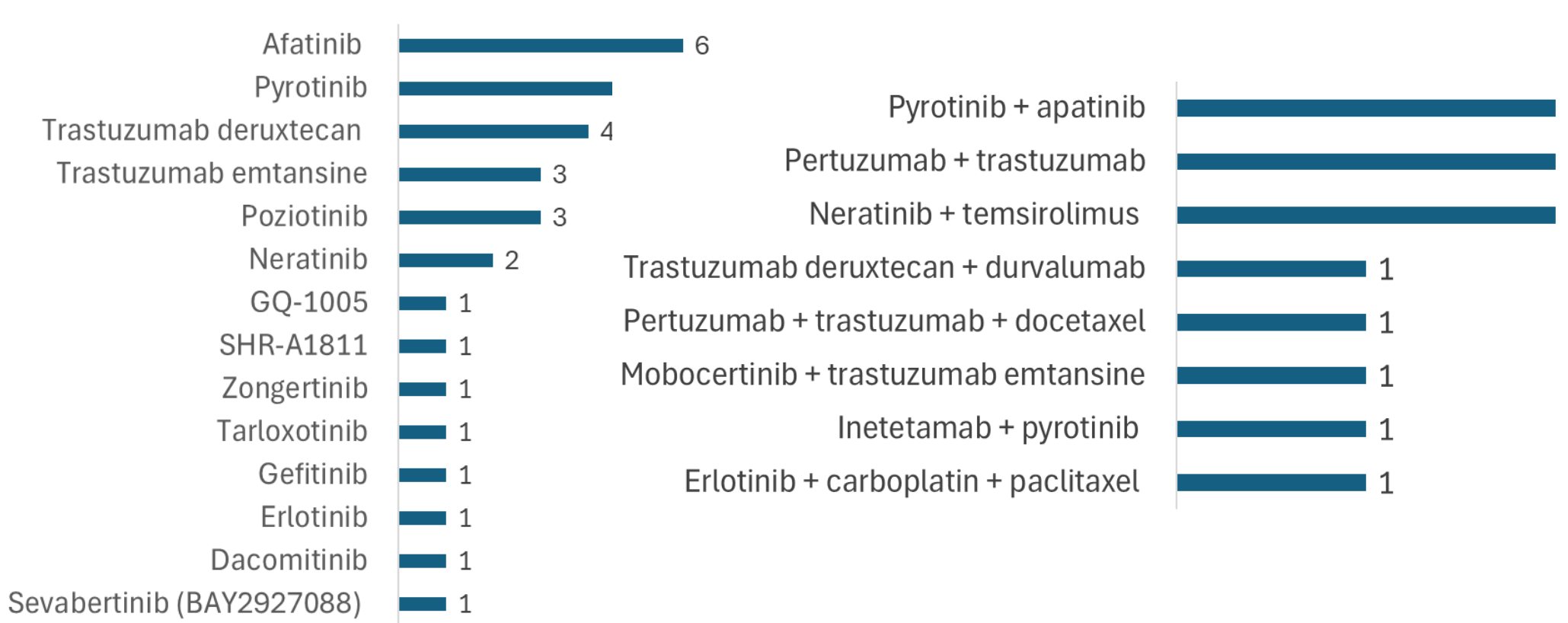
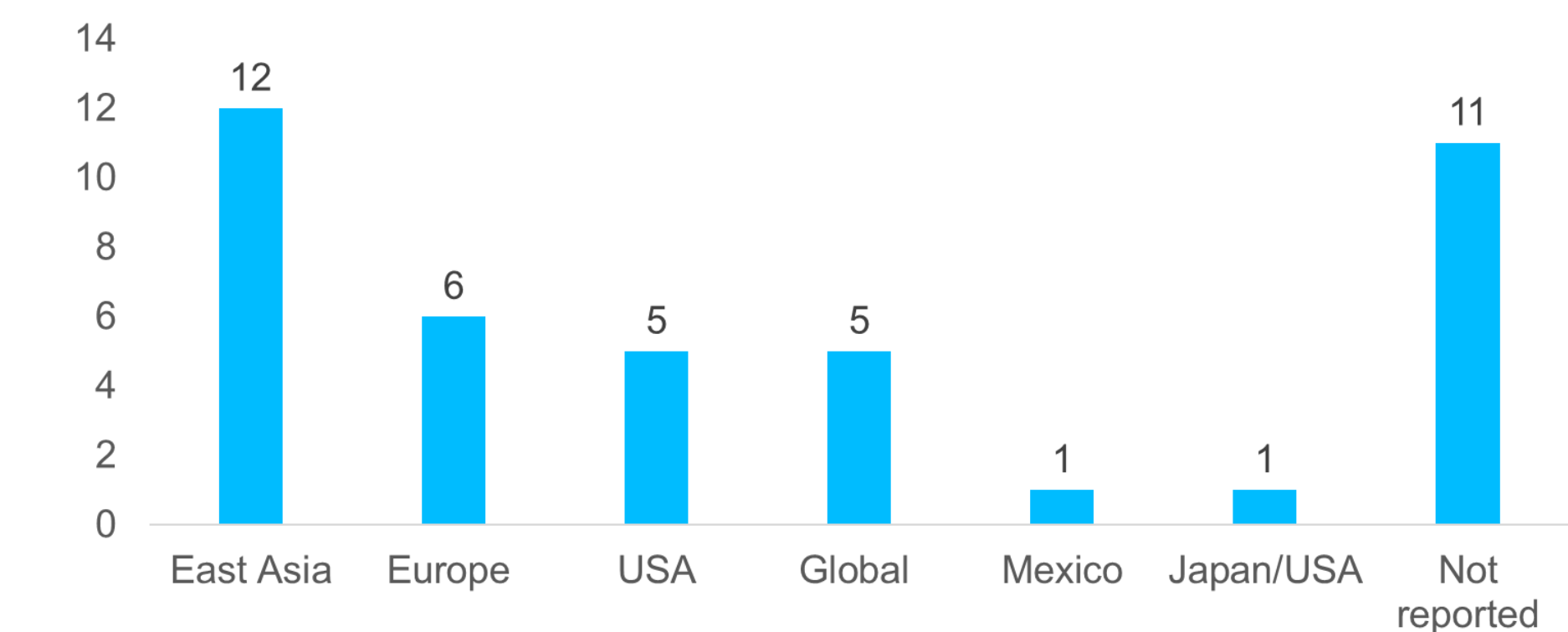


Figure 2. Included trials by region

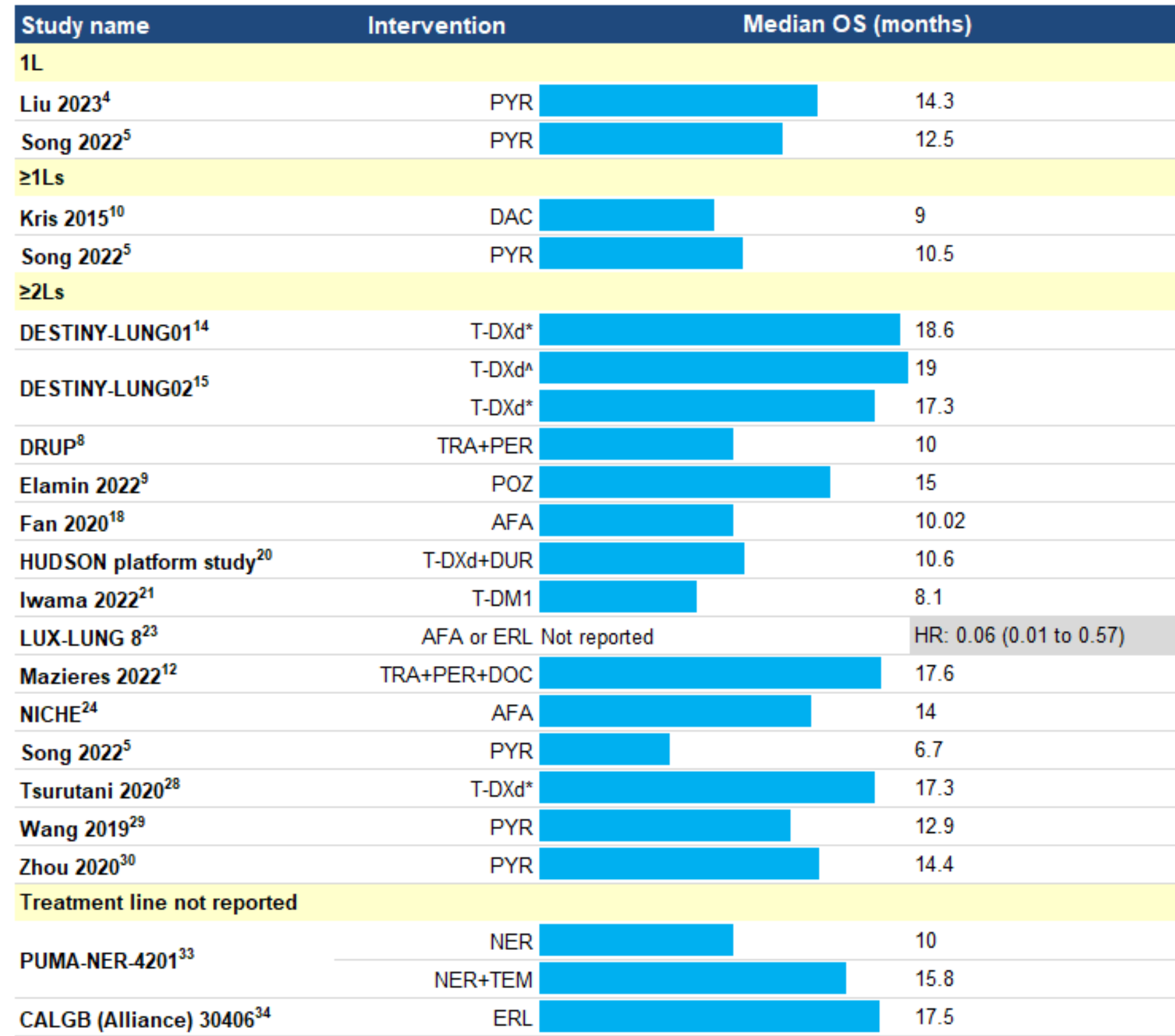


41
Trials included in
SLR

EFFICACY RESULTS

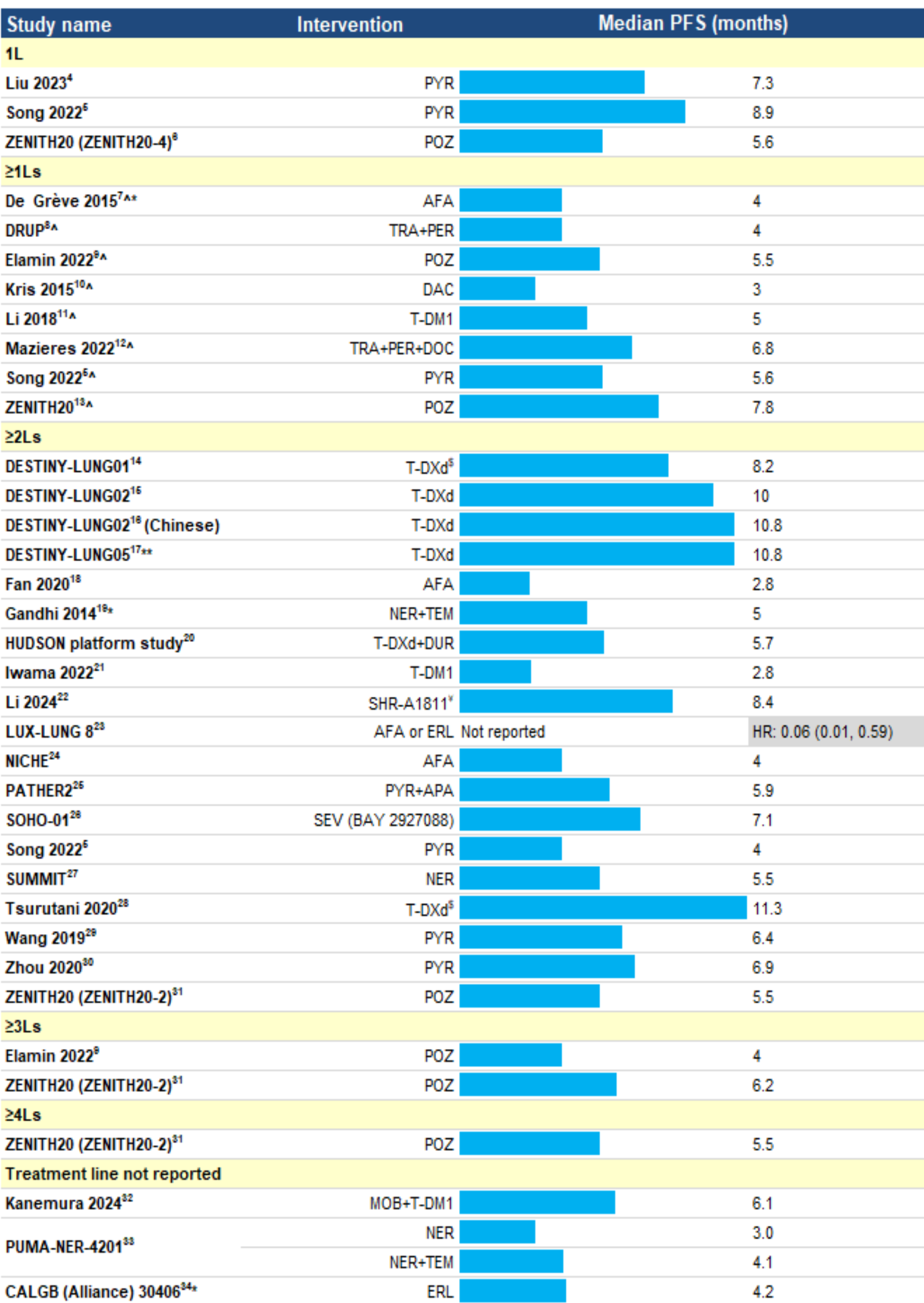
- ≥2Ls (27 trials):** for the second line treatment and above, results varied widely (Figure 5 and 6). **PFS** ranged from 2.76 (95% CI: 1.87 - 4.6) to 15.4 months (95% CI: 8.3 - not estimable); **OS**, ranged from 8.1 to 19 months; ORR, from 0% to 74% (six trials reported ORRs of less than 20%, 10 trials reported ORRs between 20% to 50%, and nine trials reported ORRs of more than 50%); and DCR, from 38% to 100% across the trials.
- 1L (4 trials):** evidence for treatment naïve patients was available for selective HER2 TKIs, including pyrotinib and poztotinib monotherapies where both have shown better results (Figure 5 and 6). ORR ranged from approximately 30% to 39%; and DCR ranged from 70% to up to 90%.
- ≥1Ls** (eight trials - patients received mix of no prior treatment or >1L treatment).
- Five trials did not specify lines of treatment.

Figure 6. OS summary of the included trials



Note: * 6.4 mg/kg Q3W; ^5.4 mg/kg Q3W

Figure 5. PFS summary of the included trials



Notes: ^some patients include first line treatment; *sample size less than 10; ^6.4 mg/kg Q3W dose; ^4.8 mg/kg dose; **Data for investigator assessed - reports 'not estimable' for ICR assessed

SAFETY RESULTS

- 24 trials reported safety outcomes in ≥2Ls and two trials in 1L. In ≥2Ls, the overall mortality rates varied significantly, ranging from 0% to 53%; and the overall treatment discontinuation rates varied from 50% to 98.9%.
- Commonly reported AEs included rash, diarrhea, vomiting, fatigue, anemia and interstitial lung disease. In Liu et al. (2023), which included treatment-naïve patients treated with pyrotinib, an overall mortality rate of approximately 50% was reported.

QoL RESULTS

DESTINY-Lung02 (T-DXd) and ZENITH20-2 (poztotinib) reported QoL outcomes. Overall HRQoL was maintained, as measured by the EORTC QLQ-C30, in patients treated with T-DXd, while QLQ-C30 scores showed slight improvement from baseline in those treated with poztotinib.

CONCLUSIONS

The clinical evidence on T-DXd and novel HER2 TKIs has shown rapid and durable clinical response in HER2 mutant NSCLC, though efficacy varies considerably, and comparative data remained limited.

Disclosures

P Sharma, R Gupta, and X Wang are employees of ICON plc, a clinical research organization paid by Bayer, Inc., to conduct the study.

F Manevy, N Paracha, K Papadakis, V Bernard-Gauthier, are employed by Bayer Inc., and hold stock/stock options in the company.

Additional information

Full list of articles included in SLR available upon request.

For additional information, please contact Federico Manevy (federico.manevy.ext@bayer.com)

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