

HIGHLIGHTS OF PRESCRIBING INFORMATION
These highlights do not include all the information needed to use BORTEZOMIB FOR INJECTION safely and effectively. See full prescribing information for BORTEZOMIB FOR INJECTION.

BORTEZOMIB FOR INJECTION, for intravenous use
Initial U.S. Approval: 2003

RECENT MAJOR CHANGES

Dosage and Administration (2.1, 2.4, 2.5) 9/2021
Warnings and Precautions, Thrombotic Microangiopathy (5.10) 9/2021

INDICATIONS AND USAGE

Bortezomib for Injection is a proteasome inhibitor indicated for:

- Treatment of adult patients with mantle cell lymphoma who have received at least 1 prior therapy (1.2)

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

- For intravenous use only. Exercise caution when calculating the volume to be administered. (2.1, 2.8)
- The recommended starting dose of Bortezomib for Injection is 1.3 mg/m² administered as a 3 to 5 second bolus intravenous injection. (2.2, 2.4)
- Retreatment for multiple myeloma. May retreat starting at the last tolerated dose. (2.4)
- Hepatic Impairment: Use a lower starting dose for patients with moderate to severe hepatic impairment. (5.6)
- Dose must be individualized to prevent overdose. (2.8)

DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS

- For Injection: Single-dose vial contains 3.5 mg of bortezomib as lyophilized powder for reconstitution. (3)

CONTRAINDICATIONS

- Patients with hypersensitivity (not including local reactions) to bortezomib, boron, boric acid, or any of the inactive ingredients. (4)
- Contraindicated for intrathecal administration. (4)

WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

- Peripheral Neuropathy: Manage with dose modification or discontinuation. (2.5) Patients with pre-existing severe neuropathy should be treated with Bortezomib for Injection only after careful risk-benefit assessment. (2.5, 5.1)
- Pulmonary Toxicity: Acute respiratory syndromes have occurred. Monitor closely for new or worsening symptoms and consider interrupting Bortezomib for Injection therapy. (5.4)

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FULL PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

1 INDICATIONS AND USAGE

- 1.1 Multiple Myeloma
- Bortezomib for Injection is indicated for the treatment of adult patients with multiple myeloma.

- 1.2 Mantle Cell Lymphoma
- Bortezomib for Injection is indicated for the treatment of adult patients with mantle cell lymphoma who have received at least 1 prior therapy.

2 DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

- 2.1 Important Dosing Guidelines
- Bortezomib for Injection is for intravenous use only. Do not administer Bortezomib for Injection by any other route.
- The recommended starting dose of Bortezomib for Injection is 1.3 mg/m². Bortezomib for Injection is administered intravenously at a concentration of 1 mg/mL. [see Dosage and Administration (2.8)].

- Posterior Reversible Encephalopathy Syndrome: Consider MRI imaging for onset of visual or sensory symptoms in the studies of multiple myeloma. (5.6)
- Hypotension: Use caution when treating patients taking anti-hypertensives, with a history of syncope, or dehydration. (5.2)
- Cardiac Toxicity: Worsening of and development of cardiac failure has occurred. Closely monitor patients with existing heart disease or risk factors for heart disease. (5.3)
- Gastrointestinal Toxicity: Nausea, diarrhea, constipation, and vomiting may require use of antiemetic and antidiarrheal medications or fluid replacement. (5.6)
- Thrombocytopenia and Neutropenia: Monitor complete blood counts regularly throughout treatment. (5.7)
- Tumor Lysis Syndrome: Closely monitor patients with high tumor burden. (5.8)
- Hepatic Toxicity: Monitor hepatic enzymes during treatment. Interrupt was approximately 40% of baseline. The severity of thrombocytopenia and neutropenia may require use of antiemetic and antidiarrheal medications or fluid replacement. (5.6)
- Thrombotic Microangiopathy: Monitor for signs and symptoms. Discontinue Bortezomib for Injection if suspected. (5.10)
- Embryo-fetal Toxicity: Bortezomib can cause fetal harm. Advise females of reproductive potential and males with female partners of reproductive potential of the potential risk to a fetus and to use effective contraception. (5.11)

ADVERSE REACTIONS

Most commonly reported adverse reactions (incidence ≥ 20%) in clinical studies include nausea, diarrhea, thrombocytopenia, neutropenia, peripheral neuropathy, fatigue, neuropenia, anemia, leukopenia, constipation, hypotension, rash, pyrexia, and anorexia. (6.1)

To report SUSPECTED ADVERSE REACTIONS, contact Fresenius Kabi USA, LLC at 1-800-551-7176 or FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088 or www.fda.gov/medwatch.

DRUG INTERACTIONS

- Strong CYP3A4 Inhibitors: Closely monitor patients with concomitant use. (7.1)
- Strong CYP3A4 Inducers: Avoid concomitant use. (7.3)

USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS

Patients with diabetes may require close monitoring of blood glucose and adjustment of anti-diabetic therapy. (5.8)

See 17 for PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION.

Revised: 3/2022

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FULL PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

1 INDICATIONS AND USAGE

- 1.1 Multiple Myeloma
- Bortezomib for Injection is indicated for the treatment of adult patients with multiple myeloma.

- 1.2 Mantle Cell Lymphoma
- Bortezomib for Injection is indicated for the treatment of adult patients with mantle cell lymphoma who have received at least 1 prior therapy.

2 DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

- 2.1 Important Dosing Guidelines

Bortezomib for Injection is for intravenous use only. Do not administer Bortezomib for Injection by any other route.

The recommended starting dose of Bortezomib for Injection is 1.3 mg/m². Bortezomib for Injection is administered intravenously at a concentration of 1 mg/mL. [see Dosage and Administration (2.8)].

Table 1: Dosage Regimen for Patients with Previously Untreated Multiple Myeloma

Twice Weekly Bortezomib for Injection (Cycles 1 to 4)															
Week		1	2	3	4	5	6								
Bortezomib for Injection (1.3 mg/m ²)	Day 1	Day 4	Day 8	Day 11	rest period	Day 22	Day 25	Day 29	Day 32	rest period					
Melphalan (9 mg/m ²)	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	--	--	--	--	--	rest period					
Prednisone (60 mg/m ²)	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	--	--	--	--	--	rest period					

Once Weekly Bortezomib for Injection (Cycles 5 to 9 when used in combination with Melphalan and Prednisone)															
Week		1	2	3	4	5	6								
Bortezomib for Injection (1.3 mg/m ²)	Day 1	--	--	Day 8	--	rest period	Day 22	--	--	Day 29	--	--	rest period	--	--
Melphalan (9 mg/m ²)	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	--	--	rest period	--	--	--	--	--	rest period	--	--
Prednisone (60 mg/m ²)	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	--	--	rest period	--	--	--	--	--	rest period	--	--

- 2.3 Dose Modification Guidelines for Bortezomib for Injection When Given in Combination with Melphalan and Prednisone
- Prior to initiating any cycle of therapy with Bortezomib for Injection in combination with melphalan and prednisone:
- Platelet count should be at least 70 × 10⁹/L and the absolute neutrophil count (ANC) should be at least 1 × 10⁹/L
 - Non-hematological toxicities should have resolved to Grade 1 or baseline

Toxicity	Dose modification or delay
Hematologic toxicity during a cycle of prolonged Grade 4 neutropenia or thrombocytopenia, or thrombocytopenia with bleeding is observed in the previous cycle	Consider reduction of the melphalan dose by 25% in the next cycle (Days 1 to 4, 8, and 11)

If platelet count is not above 30 × 10⁹/L or ANC is not above 0.75 × 10⁹/L on 2 consecutive days, Bortezomib for Injection should be withheld for 7 days. Bortezomib for Injection should be withheld for 7 days (other than Day 1).

If severe Bortezomib for Injection doses in consecutive cycles are withheld due to toxicity:

- Grade 3 or higher non-hematological toxicities

Reduce Bortezomib for Injection dose by one dose level from 1.3 mg/m² to 1 mg/m², or 1 mg/m² to 0.7 mg/m². Bortezomib for Injection should be withheld until symptoms of toxicity have resolved to Grade 1 or baseline. Then, Bortezomib for Injection may be reinitiated with the same dose level reduction from 1.3 mg/m² to 1 mg/m² or from 1 mg/m² to 0.7 mg/m². Bortezomib for Injection-related neurotoxic pain and/or peripheral neuropathy should be managed as outlined in Table 4.

For information concerning melphalan and prednisone, see manufacturer's prescribing information. Dose modification guidelines for peripheral neuropathy are provided [see Dosage and Administration (2.5)].

2.4 Dosage and Dose Modifications for Relapsed Multiple Myeloma and Relapsed Mantle Cell Lymphoma

Bortezomib for Injection (1.3 mg/m²/dose) is administered twice weekly for two weeks (Days 1, 4, 8, and 11) followed by a ten day rest period (Days 12 to 21). For extended therapy of more than eight cycles, Bortezomib for Injection may be administered on the standard schedule or for relapsed multiple myeloma, on maintenance schedule of once weekly for four weeks (Days 1, 8, 15, and 22) followed by a 13 day rest period (Days 23 to 35) [see Clinical Studies (14.1)].

Bortezomib for Injection therapy may be administered on a continuous schedule of once weekly for four weeks (Days 1, 4, 8, and 11) every three weeks (Days 1, 8, 15, and 22) followed by a 13 day rest period (Days 23 to 35) [see Clinical Studies (14.1)].

Patients with multiple myeloma who have previously responded to treatment with Bortezomib for Injection (either alone or in combination) and who have relapsed at least six months after their prior Bortezomib for Injection therapy may be retreated with Bortezomib for Injection at the last tolerated dose. Retreated patients are administered Bortezomib for Injection twice weekly (Days 1, 4, 8, and 11) every three weeks (Days 1, 8, 15, and 22) followed by a 13 day rest period (Days 23 to 35) [see Clinical Studies (14.1)].

For information concerning melphalan and prednisone, see manufacturer's prescribing information. Dose modification guidelines for peripheral neuropathy are provided [see Dosage and Administration (2.5)].

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For information concerning melphalan and prednisone, see manufacturer's prescribing information. Dose modification guidelines for peripheral neuropathy are provided [see Dosage and Administration (2.5)].

Table 2: Recommended Starting Dose Modification for Bortezomib for Injection in Patients with Hepatic Impairment (Continued)

	Bilirubin Level	SGOT (AST) Levels	Modification of Starting Dose
Moderate	More than 1.5 to 3 times ULN	Any	Reduce Bortezomib for Injection to 0.7 mg/m ² in the first cycle. Consider dose escalation to 1 mg/m ² or further dose reduction to 0.5 mg/m ² in subsequent cycles based on patient tolerability.
Severe	More than 3 times ULN	Any	Reduce Bortezomib for Injection to 0.5 mg/m ² in the first cycle. Consider dose escalation to 1 mg/m ² or further dose reduction to 0.5 mg/m ² in subsequent cycles based on patient tolerability.

Abbreviations: SGOT = serum glutamic oxaloacetic transaminase; AST = aspartate aminotransferase; ULN = upper limit of the normal range.

2.7 Administration Precautions

The drug quantity contained in one vial (3.5 mg) may exceed the total dose required. Calculate the dose to be prepared [see Dosage and Administration (2.8)].

Bortezomib for Injection is a hazardous drug¹. Use procedures for proper handling and disposal [see How Supplied/Storage and Handling (16)].

2.8 Reconstitution/Preparation for Intravenous Administration

Use proper aseptic technique. Reconstitute only with 0.9% sodium chloride. The reconstituted product should be a clear and colorless solution.

For each 3.5 mg single-dose vial of Bortezomib for Injection reconstituted with 3.5 mL of 0.9% sodium chloride (Table 6):

Table 6: Reconstitution Volumes and Final Concentration for Intravenous Administration

Route of administration	Bortezomib (mg/vial)	Diluent (0.9% Sodium Chloride) (mL)	Final Bortezomib concentration (mg/mL)
Intravenous	3.5 mg	3.5 mL	1 mg/mL

Dose must be individualized to prevent overdose. After determining patient body surface area (BSA) in square meters, use the following equation to calculate the total volume (mL) of reconstituted Bortezomib for Injection to be administered:

Intravenous Administration [1 mg/mL concentration]

Bortezomib for Injection dose (mg/m²) × Total Bortezomib for Injection patient BSA (m²) = Total volume (mL) to be administered

A sticker that indicates the route of administration is provided with each Bortezomib for Injection vial. The sticker should be placed directly on the syringe of Bortezomib for Injection once Bortezomib for Injection is prepared to help alert practitioners of the correct route of administration for Bortezomib for Injection.

Parenteral drug products should be inspected visually for particulate matter and discoloration prior to administration whenever solution is observed, the reconstituted product should not be used.

Stability: Unopened vials of Bortezomib for Injection are stable until the date indicated on the package when stored in the original package protected from light.

Bortezomib for Injection contains no antimicrobial preservative. Administer reconstituted Bortezomib for Injection within 8 hours of preparation. When stored at 25°C (77°F), the reconstituted material may be stored in the original vial and/or the syringe prior to administration.

The product may be used for up to 24 hours in a syringe. The total storage time for the reconstituted material must not exceed 8 hours when exposed to normal indoor lighting.

16 HOW SUPPLIED/STORAGE AND HANDLING

17 PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION

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CONTRAINDICATIONS

Bortezomib for Injection is contraindicated in patients with hypersensitivity (not including local reactions) to bortezomib, boron, boric acid, or any of the inactive ingredients. (4)

Bortezomib for Injection is contraindicated for intrathecal administration. Fatal events have occurred with intrathecal administration of Bortezomib for Injection. (4)

WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

Peripheral Neuropathy

Bortezomib treatment causes a peripheral neuropathy that is predominantly sensory; however, cases of severe sensory and motor peripheral neuropathy have been reported. Patients with pre-existing symptoms (numbness, pain, or burning feeling in the feet or hands) and/or signs of peripheral neuropathy may experience worsening peripheral neuropathy (including ≥ Grade 3) during treatment with Bortezomib for Injection. (5.1)

Patients should be monitored for symptoms of neuropathy, such as a burning sensation, hyperesthesia, hypoesthesia, paresthesia, discomfort, neuropathic pain or weakness.

Patients experiencing new or worsening peripheral neuropathy during Bortezomib for Injection treatment may require a decrease in the dose and/or a less dose-intensive schedule [see Dosage and Administration (2.5)]. In the bortezomib versus dexamethasone phase 3 relapsed multiple myeloma study, patients with baseline reduction of peripheral neuropathy was reported in 48% of patients with ≥ Grade 2 peripheral neuropathy following dose adjustment or interruption. Improvement in or resolution of peripheral neuropathy was reported in 73% of patients who discontinued use due to Grade 2 neuropathy or who had ≥ Grade 3 peripheral neuropathy in the phase 2 multiple myeloma studies. The long-term outcome of peripheral neuropathy has not been studied in mantle cell lymphoma.

resolved, Bortezomib for Injection therapy may be reinitiated at a 25% reduced therapy. Patients with a history of syncope patients receiving medications known to be associated with hypotension, and patients who are dehydrated may be at increased risk of hypotension. Monitor patients closely during treatment. Bortezomib may induce adjustment of antihypertensive medications, hydration, and administration of mineralocorticoids and/or sympathomimetics.

Cardiac Toxicity

Acute development or exacerbation of congestive heart failure and new onset of decreased left ventricular ejection fraction have occurred during bortezomib therapy, including reports in patients with no risk factors for decreased left ventricular ejection fraction [see Adverse Reactions (6.1)].

For dose or schedule modification guidelines for patients who experience Bortezomib for Injection-related neurotoxic pain and/or peripheral neuropathy, see Table 4.

Hypotension

The incidence of hypotension (postural, orthostatic, and hypotension NOS) was 8% [see Adverse Reactions (6.1)]. These events are associated with therapy. Patients with a history of syncope patients receiving medications known to be associated with hypotension, and patients who are dehydrated may be at increased risk of hypotension. Monitor patients closely during treatment. Bortezomib may induce adjustment of antihypertensive medications, hydration, and administration of mineralocorticoids and/or sympathomimetics.

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Cardiac Toxicity

Acute development or exacerbation of congestive heart failure and new onset of decreased left ventricular ejection fraction have occurred during bortezomib therapy, including reports in patients with no risk factors for decreased left ventricular ejection fraction [see Adverse Reactions (6.1)].

subsequent cycle. The cyclical pattern of platelet and neutrophil counts (decrease in platelet counts in the studies of multiple myeloma and mantle cell lymphoma, with no evidence of cumulative thrombocytopenia or neutropenia in the treatment regimens studied).

Monitor complete blood counts (CBC) frequently during treatment with Bortezomib for Injection. Measure platelet counts prior to each dose of Bortezomib for Injection. Adjust dose/schedule for thrombocytopenia [see Dosage and Administration (2.4)]. Gastrointestinal and

8.7 No starting dosage adjustment of bortezomib for injection is recommended for patients with mild hepatic impairment (total bilirubin ≤ 1x ULN and AST > ULN, or total bilirubin > 1 to 1.5x ULN and any AST).

The exposure of bortezomib is increased in patients with moderate (total bilirubin ≥ 1.5 to 3x ULN and any AST) and severe total bilirubin > 3x ULN and any AST) hepatic impairment. Reduce the starting dose in patients with moderate or severe hepatic impairment [see Dosage and Administration (2.6), Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)].

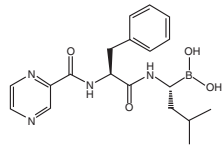
8.8 **Patients with Diabetes**
During clinical trials, hypoglycemia and hyperglycemia were reported in diabetic patients receiving oral hypoglycemics. Patients on oral antidiabetic agents receiving bortezomib for injection treatment may require close monitoring of their blood glucose levels and adjustment of the dose of their antidiabetic medication.

10 **OVERDOSAGE**
There is no known specific antidote for bortezomib overdose. In humans, fatal outcomes following the administration of more than twice the recommended therapeutic dose have been reported, which were associated with the acute onset of symptomatic hypotension (5.2) and thrombocytopenia (5.7). In the event of an overdose, the patient's vital signs should be monitored and appropriate supportive care given.

Studies in monkeys and dogs showed that intravenous bortezomib doses as low as 2 times the recommended clinical dose on a mg/m² basis were associated with increases in heart rate, decreases in contractility, hypotension, and death. In dog studies, a slight increase in the corrected QT interval was observed at doses resulting in death. In monkeys, doses of 3 mg/m² and greater (approximately twice the recommended clinical dose) resulted in hypotension starting at 1 hour post-administration, with progression to death in 12 to 14 hours following drug administration.

11 **DESCRIPTION**
Bortezomib for injection is a proteasome inhibitor available for intravenous injection. Each single-dose vial contains 3.5 mg of bortezomib, 10.5 mg boric acid, 25 mg glycine as a sterile lyophilized powder.

The chemical name for bortezomib, the monomeric boric acid, is [(1R)-3-methyl-1-[[[2S]-1-oxo-3-phenyl-2-[(pyrazinylcarbonyl)amino]propyl]amino]butyl] boric acid. Bortezomib has the following chemical structure:



The molecular weight of bortezomib is 384.24 and its molecular formula is C₁₇H₁₅BN₂O₅.

The solubility of bortezomib, as the monomeric boric acid, in water is 3.3 to 3.8 mg/mL in a pH range of 2 to 6.5.

12 **CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY**

12.1 **Mechanism of Action**
Bortezomib is a reversible inhibitor of the chymotrypsin-like activity of the 26S proteasome in mammalian cells. The 26S proteasome is a large protein complex that degrades ubiquitinated proteins. The ubiquitin proteasome pathway plays an essential role in regulating the intracellular concentration of specific proteins, thereby maintaining homeostasis within cells. Inhibition of the 26S proteasome prevents this targeted proteolysis, which can affect multiple signaling cascades within the cell. This disruption of normal homeostatic mechanisms can lead to cell death. Experiments have demonstrated that bortezomib is cytotoxic to a variety of cancer cell types *in vitro*. Bortezomib causes a delay in tumor growth *in vivo* in nonclinical tumor models, including multiple myeloma.

12.2 **Pharmacodynamics**
Following twice weekly administration of 1 mg/m² and 1.3 mg/m² bortezomib doses, the maximum inhibition of 20S proteasome activity (relative to baseline) in whole blood was observed 5 minutes after drug administration. Comparable maximum inhibition of 20S proteasome activity was observed between 1.3 mg/m² dose and 1.3 mg/m² dose. Maximal inhibition ranged from 70% to 84% and from 73% to 83% for the 1 mg/m² and 1.3 mg/m² dose regimens, respectively.

12.3 **Pharmacokinetics**
Following intravenous administration of 1 mg/m² and 1.3 mg/m² doses, the mean maximum plasma concentrations of bortezomib (C_{max}) after the first dose (Day 1) were 57 and 112 ng/mL, respectively. When administered twice weekly, the mean maximum observed plasma concentrations ranged from 67 to 106 ng/mL for the 1 mg/m² dose and 89 to 120 ng/mL for the 1.3 mg/m² dose.

Distribution:
The mean distribution volume of bortezomib ranged from approximately 498 to 1,884 L/m² following single- or repeat-dose administration of 1 mg/m² or 1.3 mg/m² to patients with multiple myeloma. The binding of bortezomib to human plasma proteins averaged 83% over the concentration range of 100 to 1,000 ng/mL.

Elimination:
The mean elimination half-life of bortezomib upon multiple dosing ranged from 40 to 193 hours after the 1 mg/m² dose and 76 to 108 hours after the 1.3 mg/m² dose. The mean total body clearances were 102 and 112 L/h following the first dose for doses of 1 mg/m² and 1.3 mg/m², respectively, and ranged from 15 to 32 L/h following subsequent doses for doses of 1 and 1.3 mg/m², respectively.

Metabolism:
Bortezomib is primarily oxidatively metabolized to several inactive metabolites *in vitro* via cytochrome P450 (CYP) enzymes 3A4, CYP2C19, and CYP2A2, and to a lesser extent by CYP2D6 and CYP2C9.

Excretion: The pathways of elimination of bortezomib have not been characterized in humans.

Specific Populations:
No clinically significant differences in the pharmacokinetics of bortezomib were observed based on age, sex, or renal impairment (including patients administered Bortezomib for Injection after dialysis). The effect of race on bortezomib pharmacokinetics is unknown.

Patients with Hepatic Impairment:

Following administration of bortezomib doses ranging from 0.5 to 1.3 mg/m², mild (total bilirubin ≤ 1x ULN and AST > ULN, or total bilirubin > 1 to 1.5x ULN and any AST) hepatic impairment did not alter dose-normalized bortezomib AUC when compared to patients with normal hepatic function. Dose-normalized mean bortezomib AUC increased by approximately 60% in patients with moderate (total bilirubin > 1.5 to 3x ULN and any AST) or severe (total bilirubin > 3x ULN and any AST) hepatic impairment. A lower starting dose is recommended in patients with moderate or severe hepatic impairment.

Drug Interaction Studies:

Clinical Studies
No clinically significant differences in bortezomib pharmacokinetics were observed when coadministered with dexamethasone (weak CYP3A4 inducer), omeprazole (strong CYP2C19 inhibitor), or melphalan in combination with prednisone.

Strong CYP3A4 Inhibitor

Coadministration with ketoconazole (strong CYP3A4 inhibitor) increased bortezomib exposure by 35%.

Strong CYP3A4 Inducer

Coadministration with rifampin (strong CYP3A4 inducer) decreased bortezomib exposure by approximately 45%.

In Vitro Studies
Bortezomib may inhibit CYP2C19 activity and increase exposure to drugs that are substrates for this enzyme.

13 **NONCLINICAL TOXICOLOGY**

13.1 **Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility**

Carcinogenicity studies have not been conducted with bortezomib. Bortezomib showed clastogenic activity (structural chromosomal aberrations) in the *in vitro* chromosomal aberration assay using Chinese hamster ovary cells. Bortezomib was not genotoxic when tested in the *in vitro* mutagenicity assay (Ames test) and *in vivo* micronucleus assay in mice.

Fertility studies with bortezomib were not performed but evaluation of reproductive tissues has been performed in the general toxicity studies. In the 6-month rat toxicity study, degenerative effects in the ovary were observed at doses ≥ 0.3 mg/m² (one-fourth of the most recent therapeutic clinical dose), and degenerative changes in the testes occurred at 1.2 mg/m².

13.2 **Animal Toxicology and/or Pharmacology**

Cardiovascular Toxicity: Studies in monkeys showed that administration of dosages approximately twice the recommended clinical dose resulted in heart rate elevations, followed by profound progressive hypotension, bradycardia, and death 12 to 14 hours post dose. Doses ≥ 1.2 mg/m² induced dose-proportional changes in cardiac parameters. Bortezomib has been shown to distribute to most tissues in the body, including the myocardium. In a repeated dosing toxicity study in the monkey, myocardial hemorrhage, inflammation, and necrosis were also observed.

Chronic Administration: In animal studies at a dose and schedule similar to that recommended for patients (twice weekly dosing for 2 weeks followed by 1-week rest), toxicities observed included severe anemia and thrombocytopenia, and gastrointestinal, neurological and lymphoid system toxicities. Neurotoxic effects of bortezomib in animal studies included axonal swelling and degeneration in peripheral nerves, dorsal spinal roots, and tracts of the spinal cord. Additionally, multifocal hemorrhage and necrosis in the brain, eye, and heart were observed.

14 **Multiple Myeloma**

14.1 **Multiple Myeloma**

Randomized, Open-Label Clinical Study in Patients with Previously Untreated Multiple Myeloma:

A prospective, international, randomized (1:1), open-label clinical study (NCT00111319) of 682 patients was conducted to determine whether bortezomib administered intravenously (1.3 mg/m² in combination with melphalan (9 mg/m²) and prednisone (60 mg/m²) resulted in improvement in time to progression (TTP) when compared to melphalan (9 mg/m²) and prednisone (60 mg/m²) in patients with previously untreated multiple myeloma. Treatment was administered for a maximum of 9 cycles (approximately 54 weeks) and was discontinued early for disease progression or unacceptable toxicity. Antiviral prophylaxis was recommended for patients on the bortezomib study arm.

The median age of the patients in the study was 71 years (48.91, 50% were male, 88% were Caucasian and the median Karnofsky performance status score for the patients was 80 (60/100). Patients had IgG/IgA/Light chain myeloma in 63%/25%/8% instances, a median hemoglobin of 105 g/L (84-165), and a median platelet count of 221,500/microliter (33,000-587,000).

Efficacy results for the trial are presented in Table 11. At a pre-specified interim analysis (with median follow-up of 16.3 months), the combination of bortezomib, melphalan and prednisone therapy resulted in significantly superior results for time to progression, progression-free survival, overall survival and response rate. Further enrollment was halted, and patients receiving melphalan and prednisone were offered bortezomib in addition. A later, pre-specified analysis of overall survival (with median follow-up of 36.7 months with a hazard ratio of 0.65, 95% CI: 0.51, 0.84) resulted in a statistically significant survival benefit for the bortezomib, melphalan and prednisone treatment arm despite subsequent therapies including bortezomib based regimens. In an updated analysis of overall survival based on 387 deaths (median follow-up 60.1 months), the median overall survival for the bortezomib, melphalan and prednisone treatment arm was 56.4 months and for the melphalan and prednisone treatment arm was 43.1 months, with a hazard ratio of 0.665 (95% CI: 0.57, 0.85).

Table 11: Summary of Efficacy Analyses in the Previously Untreated Multiple Myeloma Study

Efficacy Endpoint	Bortezomib, Melphalan and Prednisone n=344	Melphalan and Prednisone n=338
Time to Progression		
Events n (%)	101 (29)	152 (45)
Median ^a (months) (95% CI)	20.7 (17.6, 24.7)	15.0 (14.1, 17.9)
Hazard ratio ^b (95% CI)	0.54 (0.42, 0.70)	
p-value ^c	0.000002	
Progression-free Survival		
Events n (%)	135 (39)	190 (56)
Median ^a (months) (95% CI)	18.3 (16.6, 21.7)	14.0 (11.1, 15.0)
Hazard ratio ^b (95% CI)	0.61 (0.49, 0.76)	
p-value ^c	0.00001	
Response Rate		
CR ^d n (%)	102 (30)	12 (4)
PR ^e n (%)	136 (40)	103 (30)
nCR n (%)	5 (1)	0
CR + PR ^f n (%)	238 (69)	115 (34)
p-value ^g	<10 ⁻¹⁰	
Overall Survival at median follow up of 36.7 months		
Events (deaths) n (%)	109 (32)	148 (44)
Median ^a (months) (95% CI)	Not Reached (46.2, NR)	43.1 (34.8, NR)
Hazard ratio ^b (95% CI)	0.65 (0.51, 0.84)	
p-value ^c	0.00084	

Note: All results are based on the analysis performed at a median follow-up duration of 16.3 months except for the overall survival analysis.

^a Kaplan-Meier estimate

^b Hazard ratio estimate is based on a Cox proportional-hazard model adjusted for stratification factors: beta₂-microglobulin, albumin, and region. A hazard ratio less than 1 indicates an advantage for bortezomib, melphalan and prednisone

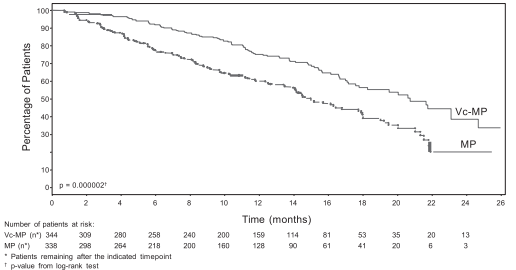
^c p-value based on the stratified log-rank test adjusted for stratification factors: beta₂-microglobulin, albumin, and region

^d EBM1 criteria

^e p-value for Response Rate (CR + PR) from the Cochran-Mantel-Haenszel chi-square test adjusted for the stratification factors

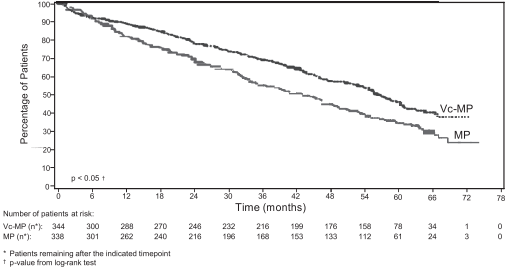
TTP was statistically significantly longer on the bortezomib, melphalan and prednisone arm (see Figure 1), (median follow-up 16.3 months)

Figure 1: Time to Progression Bortezomib, Melphalan and Prednisone versus Melphalan and Prednisone



Overall survival was statistically significantly longer on the bortezomib, melphalan and prednisone arm (see Figure 2), (median follow-up 60.1 months)

Figure 2: Overall Survival Bortezomib, Melphalan and Prednisone versus Melphalan and Prednisone



Randomized, Clinical Study in Relapsed Multiple Myeloma of Bortezomib versus Dexamethasone

A prospective phase 3, international, randomized (1:1), stratified, open-label clinical study (NCT00048230) enrolling 669 patients was designed to determine whether bortezomib resulted in improvement in time to progression (TTP) compared to high-dose dexamethasone in patients with progressive multiple myeloma following 1 to 3 prior therapies. Patients considered to be refractory to prior high-dose dexamethasone were excluded as were those with baseline Grade ≥ 2 peripheral neuropathy or platelet counts < 50,000/μL. A total of 627 patients were evaluable for response.

Stratification factors were based on the number of lines of prior therapy the patient had previously received (1 previous line versus more than 1 line of therapy), time of progression relative to prior treatment (progression during or within 6 months of stopping their most recent therapy versus relapse > 6 months after receiving their most recent therapy), and screening β₂-microglobulin levels [≤ 2.5 mg/L versus > 2.5 mg/L].

Baseline patient and disease characteristics are summarized in Table 12.

Table 12: Summary of Baseline Patient and Disease Characteristics in the Relapsed Multiple Myeloma Study

Patient Characteristics	Bortezomib N=333	Dexamethasone N=336
Median age in years (range)	62.0 (33, 84)	61.0 (27, 86)
Gender: Male/female	56% / 44%	60% / 40%
Race: Caucasian/black/other	90% / 6% / 4%	88% / 7% / 5%
Karnofsky performance status score ≤ 70	13%	17%
Hemoglobin <100 g/L	32%	28%
Platelet count <75 x 10 ⁹ /L	6%	4%

Table 21: Summary of Baseline Patient and Disease Characteristics in the Relapsed Multiple Myeloma Study (Continued)

Patient Characteristics	Bortezomib N=333	Dexamethasone N=336
Disease Characteristics		
Type of myeloma (n) (%): IgG/IgA/Light chain	60% / 23% / 12%	59% / 24% / 13%
Median beta ₂ -microglobulin (mg/L)	3.7	3.6
Intravascular albumin (g/L)	39.0	39.0
Creatinine clearance ≤ 30 mL/min [n (%)]	17 (5%)	11 (3%)
Median Duration of Multiple Myeloma Since Diagnosis (Years)	3.5	3.1
Number of Prior Therapeutic Lines of Treatment		
Median	2	2
1 prior line	40%	35%
>1 prior line	60%	65%
Previous Therapy		
Any prior steroids, e.g., dexamethasone, VAD	98%	99%
Any prior anthracyclines, e.g., VAD, mitoxantrone	77%	76%
Any prior alkylating agents, e.g., MP, VBMCP	91%	92%
Any prior thalidomide therapy	48%	50%
Vinca alkaloids	74%	72%
Prior stem cell transplant/other high-dose therapy	67%	68%
Prior experimental or other types of therapy	3%	2%

Patients in the bortezomib treatment group were to receive eight 3-week treatment cycles followed by three 5-week treatment cycles of bortezomib. Patients achieving a CR were treated for 4 cycles beyond first evidence of CR. Within each 3-week treatment cycle, bortezomib 1.3 mg/m²/dose alone was administered by intravenous bolus twice weekly for 2 weeks on Days 1, 4, 8, and 11 followed by a 10-day rest period (Days 12 to 21). Within each 5-week treatment cycle, bortezomib 1.3 mg/m²/dose alone was administered by intravenous bolus once weekly for 4 weeks on Days 1, 8, 15, and 22 followed by a 13-day rest period (Days 23 to 35) [see Dosage and Administration (2.2)].

Patients in the dexamethasone treatment group were to receive four 5-week treatment cycles followed by five 4-week treatment cycles. Within each 5-week treatment cycle, dexamethasone 40 mg/day PO was administered once daily on Days 1 to 4, 9 to 12, and 17 to 20 followed by a 15-day rest period (Days 21 to 35). Within each 4-week treatment cycle, dexamethasone 40 mg/day PO was administered once daily on Days 1 to 4 followed by a 24-day rest period (Days 5 to 28). Patients with documented progressive disease on dexamethasone were offered bortezomib at a standard dose and schedule on a compassionate study. Following a preplanned interim analysis of time to progression, the dexamethasone arm was halted and all patients randomized to dexamethasone were offered bortezomib, regardless of disease status.

In the bortezomib arm, 34% of patients received at least one bortezomib dose in all 4 of the 5-week treatment cycles and 13% received at least one dose in all 11 cycles. The average number of bortezomib doses during the study was 22, with a range of 1 to 44. In the dexamethasone arm, 40% of patients received at least one dose in all 4 of the 5-week treatment cycles of therapy, and 8% received at least one dose in all 9 cycles.

The time to event analyses and response rates from the relapsed multiple myeloma study are presented in Table 13. Response and progression were assessed using the European Group for Blood and Marrow Transplantation (EBMT) criteria. Complete response (CR) required < 5% plasma cells in the marrow, 100% reduction in M-protein, and a negative immunofixation test (IF^g). Partial response (PR) requires ≥ 50% reduction in serum myeloma protein and ≥ 90% reduction of urine myeloma protein on at least 2 occasions for a minimum of at least 6 weeks along with stable bone disease and normal renal and liver function (nCR). nCR was defined as meeting all the criteria for complete response including 100% reduction in M-protein by protein electrophoresis; however, M-protein was still detectable by immunofixation (IF^g).

Table 13: Summary of Efficacy Analyses in the Relapsed Multiple Myeloma Study

Efficacy Endpoint	All Patients		1 Prior Line of Therapy		>1 Prior Line of Therapy	
	Bortezomib n=333	Dex n=336	Bortezomib n=132	Dex n=119	Bortezomib n=200	Dex n=217
Time to Progression						
Events n (%)	147 (44)	196 (58)	55 (42)	64 (54)	92 (46)	132 (61)
Median ^a (95% CI)	6.2 mo (4.9, 6.9)	3.5 mo (2.9, 4.2)	7.0 mo (6.2, 8.8)	5.6 mo (4.4, 6.3)	4.9 mo (4.2, 6.3)	2.9 mo (2.8, 3.5)
Hazard ratio ^b (95% CI)	0.55 (0.44, 0.69)	0.55 (0.38, 0.81)	0.54 (0.41, 0.72)	0.54 (0.41, 0.72)	0.54 (0.41, 0.72)	0.54 (0.41, 0.72)
p-value ^c	<0.0001	0.0019	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001
Overall Survival						
Events (deaths) n (%)	51 (15)	84 (25)	12 (9)	24 (20)	39 (20)	60 (28)
Hazard ratio ^b (95% CI)	0.57 (0.40, 0.81)	0.57 (0.19, 0.81)	0.39 (0.19, 0.81)	0.65 (0.43, 0.97)	0.65 (0.43, 0.97)	0.65 (0.43, 0.97)
p-value ^{c,d}	<0.05	<0.05	<0.05	<0.05	<0.05	<0.05
Response Rate Population^f						
n=627	n=315	n=312	n=128	n=110	n=187	n=202
CR n (%)	20 (6)	2 (<1)	8 (6)	2 (2)	12 (6)	0 (0)
PR n (%)	101 (32)	54 (17)	49 (38)	27 (25)	52 (28)	27 (13)
nCR n (%)	21 (7)	3 (<1)	8 (6)	2 (2)	13 (7)	1 (<1)
CR + PR n (%)	121 (38)	56 (18)	57 (45)	29 (26)	64 (34)	27 (13)
p-value ^g	<0.0001	0.0035	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001

^a Kaplan-Meier estimate

^b Hazard ratio is based on Cox proportional-hazard model with the treatment as single independent variable. A hazard ratio less than 1 indicates an advantage for bortezomib

^c p-value based on the stratified log-rank test including randomization stratification factors

^d Precise p-value cannot be rendered

^e Response population includes patients who had measurable disease at baseline and received at least 1 dose of study drug

^f EBM1 criteria; nCR meets all EBM1 criteria for CR but has positive IF

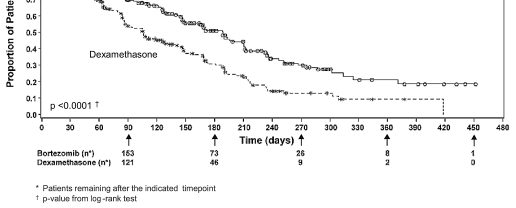
^g Under EBM1 criteria nCR is in the PR category

^h In 2 patients, the IF was unknown

ⁱ p-value for Response Rate (CR + PR) from the Cochran-Mantel-Haenszel chi-square test adjusted for the stratification factors

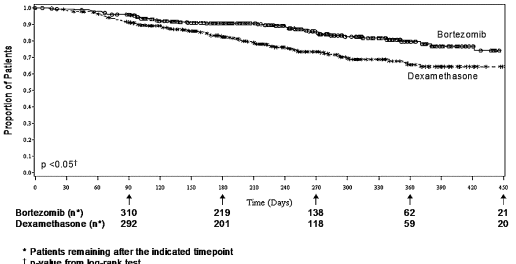
TTP was statistically significantly longer on the bortezomib arm (see Figure 3).

Figure 3: Time to Progression Bortezomib versus Dexamethasone (relapsed multiple myeloma study)



As shown in Figure 4 bortezomib had a significant survival advantage relative to dexamethasone (p < 0.05). The median follow-up was 8.3 months.

Figure 4: Overall Survival Bortezomib versus Dexamethasone (relapsed multiple myeloma study)



For the 121 patients achieving a response (CR or PR) at the median follow-up, the median duration was 8.0 months (95% CI: 6.9, 11.5 months) compared to 5.6 months (95% CI: 4.8, 9.2 months) for the 56 responders on the dexamethasone arm. The response rate was significantly higher on the bortezomib arm regardless of the microglobulin levels at baseline.

A Randomized Phase 2 Dose-Response Study in Relapsed Multiple Myeloma

An open-label, multicenter study randomized 54 patients with multiple myeloma who had progressed or relapsed on or after front-line therapy to receive bortezomib 1 mg/m² or 1.3 mg/m² intravenous bolus twice weekly for 2 weeks on Days 1, 4, 8, and 11 followed by a 10-day rest period (Days 12 to 21). The median duration of time between diagnosis of multiple myeloma and first dose of bortezomib on this trial was 2 years, and patients had received a median of 1 prior line of treatment (median of 3 prior therapies). A single complete response was seen at each dose. The overall response rates (CR + PR) were 30% (8/27) at 1 mg/m² and 38% (10/26) at 1.3 mg/m².

A Phase 2 Open-Label Extension Study in Relapsed Multiple Myeloma

Patients from the two phase 2 studies, who in the investigators' opinion would experience additional clinical benefit, continued to receive bortezomib beyond 8 cycles on an extension study. Sixty-three (63) patients from the phase 2 multiple myeloma studies were enrolled and received a median of 7 additional cycles of bortezomib therapy for a total median of 14 cycles (range 7 to 32). The overall median dosing intensity was the same in both the parent protocol and extension study. Sixty-seven percent (67%) of patients initiated the extension study at the same or higher dose intensity at which they completed the parent protocol, and 89% of patients maintained the standard 3-week dosing schedule. No new cumulative or new long-term toxicities were observed with prolonged bortezomib treatment [see Adverse Reactions (6.1)].

A Single-Arm Trial of Retreatment in Relapsed Multiple Myeloma
A single arm, open-label trial (NCT00431769) was conducted to determine the efficacy and safety of retreatment with bortezomib. One hundred and thirty patients (≥ 18 years of age) with multiple myeloma who previously had at least partial response on a bortezomib-containing regimen (median of two prior lines of therapy [range 1 to 7]) were retreated upon progression with bortezomib administered intravenously. Patients were excluded from trial participation if they had peripheral neuropathy or neuro-pathic pain of Grade ≥ 2. At least six months after prior bortezomib therapy, bortezomib was restarted at the last tolerated dose of 1.3 mg/m² (n=93) or ≤ 1 mg/m² (n=37) and given on Days 1, 4, 8 and 11 every three weeks for maximum of eight cycles either as single agent or in combination with dexamethasone in accordance with the standard of care.

Dexamethasone was administered in combination with bortezomib to 83 patients in Cycle 1 with an additional 11 patients receiving dexamethasone during the course of bortezomib retreatment cycles.