# Improving Care for Patients with Chronic Rhinosinusitis with Nasal Polyps (CRSwNP)

## Stella E. Lee, MD

Section Chief, Rhinology
Division of Otolaryngology—Head and Neck Surgery
Department of Surgery
Brigham and Women's Hospital
Harvard Medical School
Boston, MA

1

## **Disclosures**

• **Dr. Lee** is a consultant for AstraZeneca, GlaxoSmithKline, Genentech, Lyra Therapeutics, OptiNose and Sanofi/Regeneron.

During the program, the faculty may mention the use of medications for FDA-approved and non-approved indications

All relevant financial relationships have been mitigated.

This activity is supported by an independent medical education grant from Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc. and Sanofi

# **Learning Objectives**

- Identify strategies to manage CRSwNP that are aligned with evidencebased guidelines
- Discuss the clinical evidence for novel, emerging therapeutic agents for the treatment of CRSwNP
- Describe strategies to effectively select treatment based on patientspecific factors and expert guidance

3

# **Pre-read Material**

Δ

## **CRSwNP Biomarkers**

- No accurate biomarkers for CRSwNP currently available
- Type 2 inflammation often predominates in CRSwNP
  - Associated with elevated levels of eosinophils and type 2 cytokines, including IL-4, IL-5, and IL-13, IgE
- Modalities utilized to obtain potential biomarkers
  - Sinus-tissue biopsy or mucus may be most accurate in assessing local processes underlying inflammation
  - Peripheral blood does not always reflect local nasal inflammatory processes
  - With nasal lavage, inconsistent correlation between cytokines in nasal secretions compared with tissue

NS = nasal secretions; PB = peripheral blood; TSLP = thymic stromal lymphoprotein. Workman AD, et al. Immunol Allergy Clin North Am. 2018;38:679-692.

5

# Diagnosis of Uncontrolled/Severe CRSWNP: EUFOREA

## **Uncontrolled CRSwNP**

Persistent or recurring CRSWNP despite:

Long-term INCS

+

Receiving 21 course of systemic CS (≥0.5–1 mg/Kg/day for ≥5 days)\* in the last 2 years†

+

Previous sinonasal surgery (eg, resection of polyps, conventional ESS, or extended approaches)\*

## Severe CRSwNP

Defined as:

Bilateral CRSwNP (polyps by nasal endoscopy)

+

NPS ≥4 (out of 8)

<u>+</u>

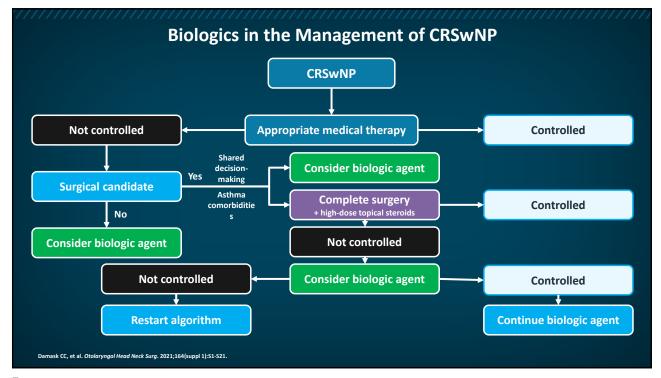
Persistent symptoms despite long-term INCS with the need for add-on treatment, assessed by

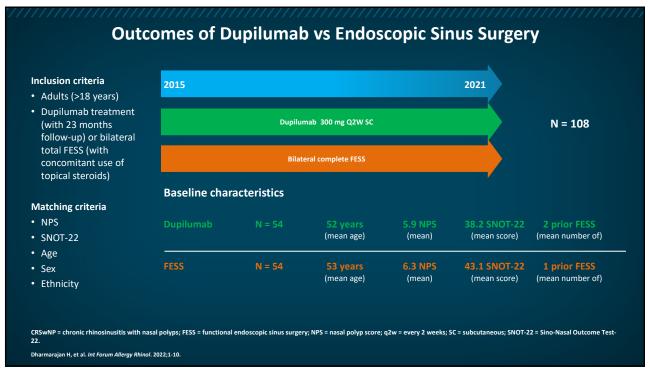
- Loss of smell score (0–3) ≥2 points
- NCS (0-3) ≥2 points
- SNOT-22 ≥35 points
- Total symptom VAS ≥5 out of 10 cm

\*Unless having a medical contraindication or rejection by the patient. †Long-term low dose systemic corticosteroids is not recommended in CRSwNP.

CS = corticosteroid; ESS = endoscopic sinus surgery; INCS = intranasal corticosteroids; NCS = nasal congestion score; NPS = nasal polyp score; SNOT-22 = 22-item sinonasal outcome test; VAS = visual analog scaled.

Bachert C, et al. J Allergy Clin Immunol. 2021;147(1):29-36.







# Intranasal corticosteroids (standard delivery) for CRSwNP Evidence: A (Level 1: 2 studies, Level 2: 5 studies) Benefit: Improved symptoms, endoscopic appearances, polyp size, and QoL, objective tests of olfaction, airway analysis (NPIF) and polyp recurrence but the magnitude of the clinical effect is small Harm: Epistaxis, nasal irritation, headache Cost: Moderate depending on preparation Intervention: Topical nasal CS (sprays or drops) are recommended for CRSwNP before or after sinus surgery; consideration for twice daily dosing or additional short-term corticosteroid drop if initial treatment effect is small

## Corticosteroids: Evidence and Use for CRSwNP

**Topical: Nonstandard Delivery** 

## Intranasal corticosteroids (nonstandard delivery) for CRSwNP

## **Evidence (vs standard delivery):**

Corticosteroid irrigation: A (Level 1: 5 studies, level 3: 1 study)

Exhalation delivery: A (Level 1: 4 studies)

Atomization/nebulization: A (Level 1: 4 studies)

Direct injection: N/A (Level 1: 1 study)

## Benefit:

Corticosteroid irrigation: Benefit over INCS Exhalation delivery: Benefit only over placebo Atomization/nebulization: Benefit over INCS

Direct injection: Potential avoidance of oral corticosteroid

<u>Harm:</u> Some evidence of systemic absorption with first generation CS especially with multiple modalities of

**Cost:** Moderate; exhalation system costs are significantly higher than standard therapy

<u>Intervention</u>: Following sinus surgery, those patients with CRSwNP that have moderate to severe disease or are not controlled with simple INCS should be offered CS irrigation and/or atomized delivery

Orlandi R, et al. Int Forum Allergy Rhinol. 2021;11(3):213-739.

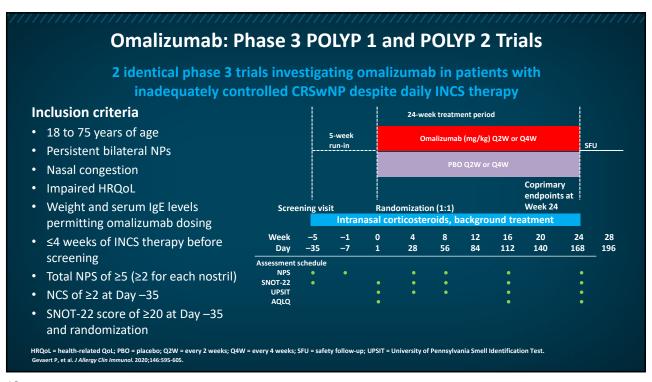
11

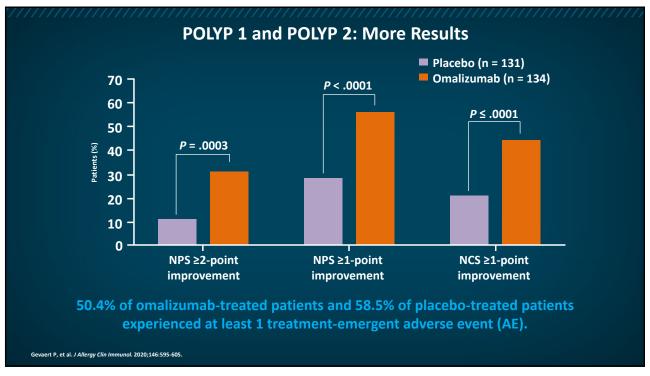
# **Recurrence of Polyps Following ESS**

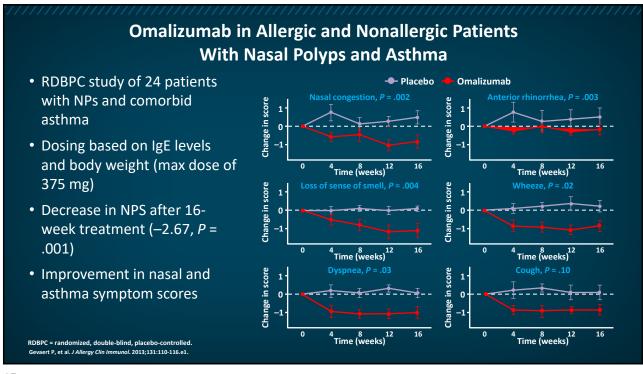
- In a cohort study comparing continued medical management vs ESS, subjects undergoing ESS were significantly more likely to experience
  - Improvement in thick nasal discharge (OR = 4.36)
  - Decreased facial pain/pressure (OR = 3.56)
  - Reduced blockage/congestion (OR = 2.76)
  - Return of smell and taste
- However, in a study of 560 patients 3 to 5 years post-ESS, 36.8% had partly controlled symptoms and 43.7% were uncontrolled

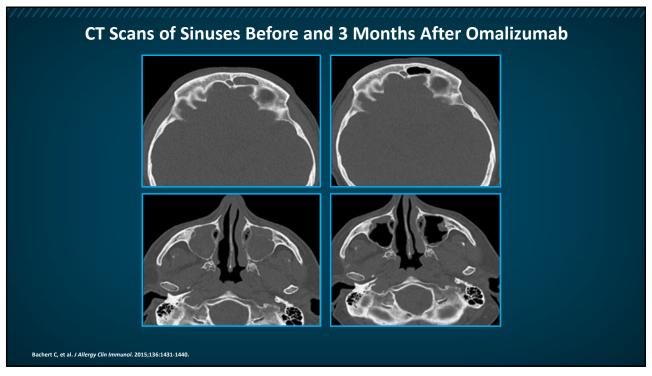
OR = odds ratio.

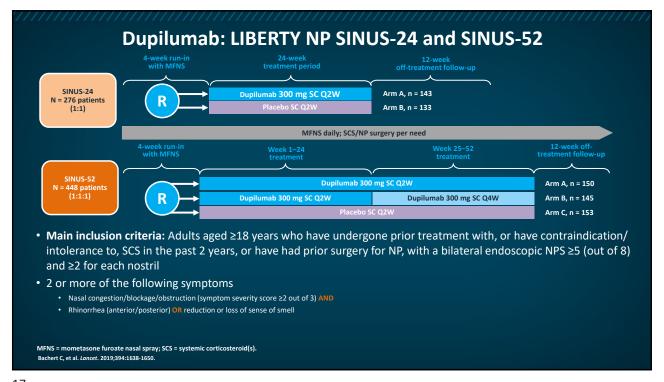
DeConde AS, et al. Int Forum Allergy Rhinol. 2015;5:36-45. van der Veen J, et al. Allergy. 2017;72:282-290

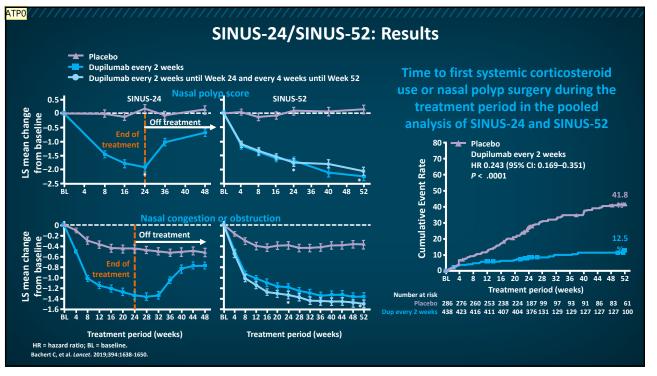












## SINUS-24/SINUS-52: Conclusions

- In patients with severe uncontrolled CRSwNP, dupilumab as add-on to MFNS
  - Significantly improved NP size, sinus opacification, and CRS symptoms
  - Reduced anosmia and improved HRQoL
  - Improved all outcome measures, which were noted at first assessment timepoint and continued to improve across 52-week treatment period
- Dupilumab reduced SCS use and need for NP surgery
- Dupilumab improved lung function and asthma control in patients with CRSwNP with comorbid asthma, a difficult-to-treat patient population
- Compared with 300 mg Q2W to Q4W, the 300 mg Q2W regimen had
  - Better sustained improvements in objective measures of NPS and LMK-CT scan score
  - Fewer breakthrough TEAEs of worsening of nasal polyps, asthma, and sinusitis

Bachert C, et al. Lancet. 2019;394:1638-1650.

19

# SINUS-24/SINUS-52: Conclusions

- In patients with severe uncontrolled CRSwNP, dupilumab as add-on to MFNS
  - Significantly improved NP size, sinus opacification, and CRS symptoms
  - Reduced anosmia and improved HRQoL
  - Improved all outcome measures, which were noted at first assessment timepoint and continued to improve across 52-week treatment period
- Dupilumab reduced SCS use and need for NP surgery
- Dupilumab improved lung function and asthma control in patients with CRSwNP with comorbid asthma, a difficult-to-treat patient population
- Compared with 300 mg Q2W to Q4W, the 300 mg Q2W regimen had
  - Better sustained improvements in objective measures of NPS and LMK-CT scan score
  - Fewer breakthrough TEAEs of worsening of nasal polyps, asthma, and sinusitis

Bachert C, et al. Lancet. 2019;394:1638-1650.

