

VIOLET: First-in-Human Results of Terbium-161 [¹⁶¹Tb]Tb-PSMA-I&T Dual Beta–Auger Radioligand Therapy in Patients with mCRPC: A Single-Center, Single-Arm, Phase 1/2 Study

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First-in-human results of terbium-161 [¹⁶¹Tb]Tb-PSMA-I&T dual beta–Auger radioligand therapy in patients with metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer (VIOLET): a single-centre, single-arm, phase 1/2 study

James P Buteau, Louise Kostos, Price A Jackson, Jing Xie, Mohammad B Haskali, Ramin Alipour, Lachlan E McIntosh, Brittany Emmerson, Lisa MacFarlane, Claire A Martin, Joanna Chan, Sarah E Williams, Kerry E Jewell, Michal Eifer, Anthony J Hamilton, William Q Harris, Tim Akhurst, Lewis Au, Anthony J Cardin, Luc Furic, Raghava K Kashyap, Grace Kong, Aravind S Ravi Kumar, Declan G Murphy, Rajeev Ravi, Javad Saghebi, Shahneen Sandhu, Ben Tran, Arun A Azad, Michael S Hofman**

2022: FDA Approval of Pluvicto (^{177}Lu vipivotide tetraxetan)

- For PSMA+ mCRPC pts previously treated with an ARPI + taxane chemotherapy
 - VISION: ^{177}Lu -PSMA-617 + SOC vs SOC
 - OS benefits: 15.3 vs 11.3 mo
 - TheraP: ^{177}Lu -PSMA-617 vs cabazitaxel
 - Superior PSA-PFS (HR: 0.63), PSA50 response (66% vs 37%)
 - No difference in OS (19.1 vs 19.6 mo)
- **March 2025:** FDA approval for PSMA+ mCRPC pts previously treated with APRI & who are considered appropriate for delaying taxane-based chemotherapy
 - PSMAfore: ^{177}Lu -PSMA-617 vs ARPI switch
 - rPFS: 9.3 vs 5.6 mo (HR: 0.41, $p < 0.001$)

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Why do we need another radionuclide and what limitations does it overcome?

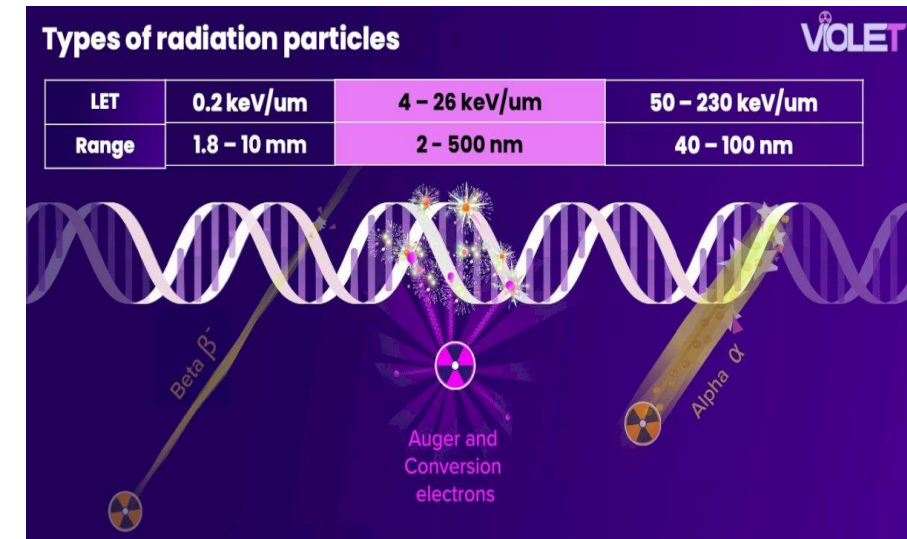
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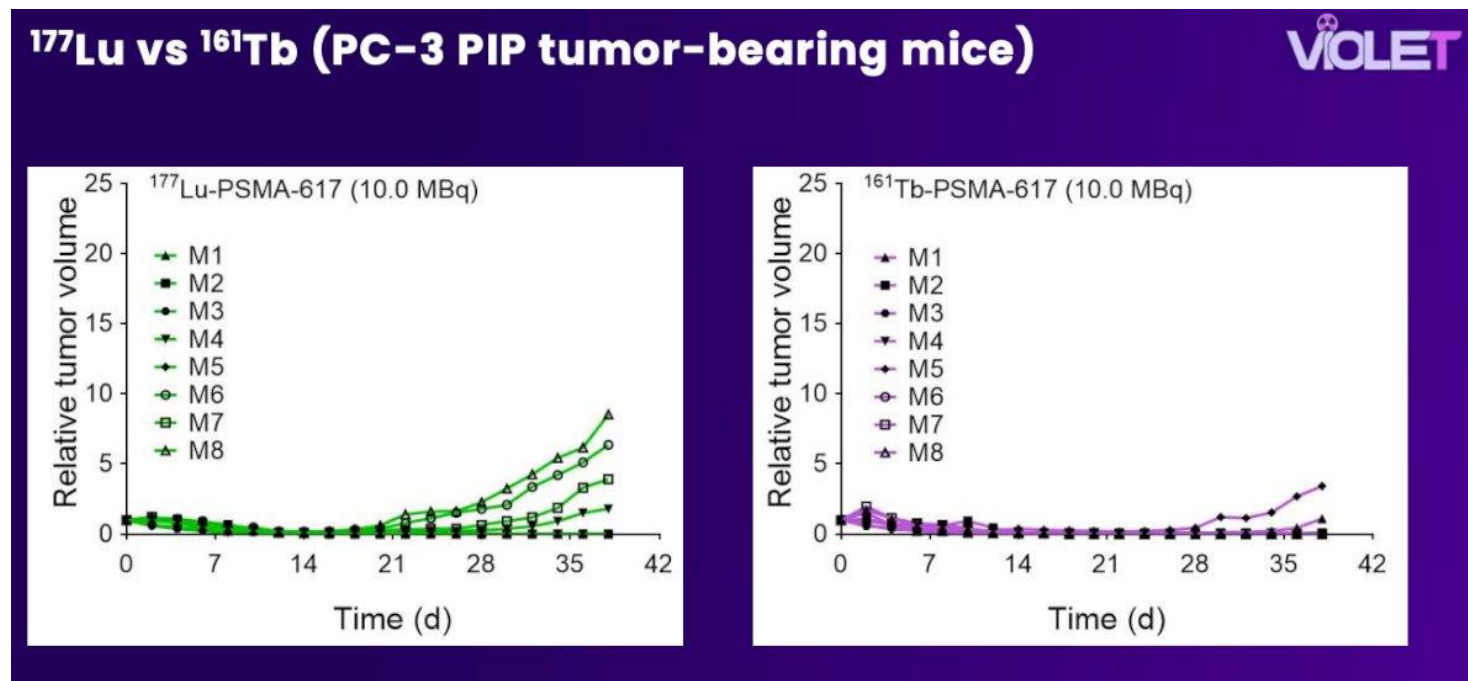
What is ^{161}Tb ?

- Beta emitting radionuclide with similar energy & $T_{1/2}$ to ^{177}Lu (target larger tumor volume), but **additionally** emits conversion and Auger electrons
 - Deposit energy over a much shorter distance (nm to μm)
 - Better targeting of micrometastatic deposits \rightarrow Increased double-strand DNA damage that may overcome mechanisms of resistance to ^{177}Lu



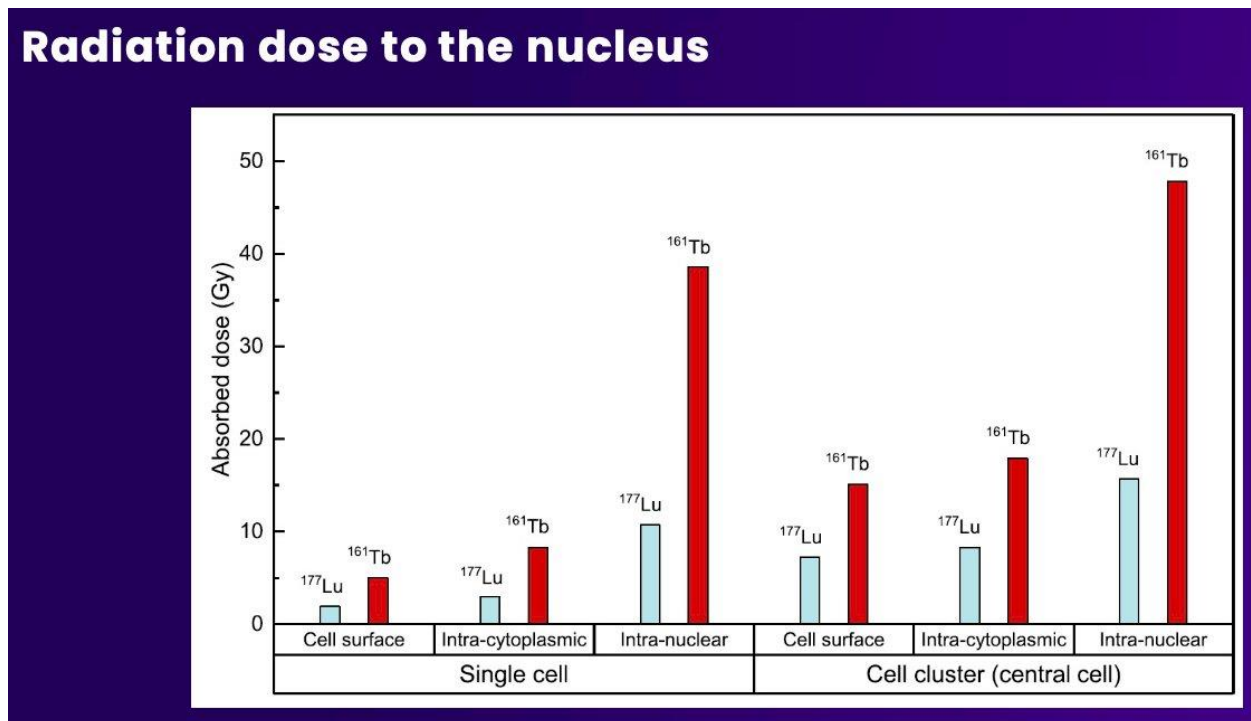
Early Evidence for ^{161}Tb

- ^{161}Tb -PSMA-617 demonstrated superior in vitro and in vivo efficacy in tumor-bearing mice compared to ^{177}Lu -PSMA-617
 - Supports theory that additional emission of conversion and Auger electrons from ^{161}Tb contributes to an enhanced therapeutic effect.



Early Evidence for ^{161}Tb

- Dosimetric model study: ^{161}Tb consistently demonstrated substantially higher absorbed doses compared to ^{177}Lu across all intracellular localizations (intranuclear: 38.6 Gy vs 10.7 Gy)



Study Objective

Investigate the safety and activity of [¹⁶¹Tb]Tb-PSMA-I&T in mCRPC patients

Study Design and Participants

- Single center, investigator-initiated, phase I/II trial at the Peter MacCallum Cancer Center (supported by the Prostate Cancer Foundation)
- Eligibility criteria:
 - Progressive mCRPC previously received ≥ 1 ARPI & taxane (or unfit)
 - PSMA+ disease on PSMA-PET/CT (^{68}Ga or ^{18}F)
 - $\text{SUV}_{\text{max}} \geq 20$ in 1 lesion & $\text{SUV}_{\text{max}} \geq 10$ in measurable soft tissue metastases
 - No discordance findings on FDG PET
 - ECOG 0–2
 - Adequate bone marrow, hepatic, renal function

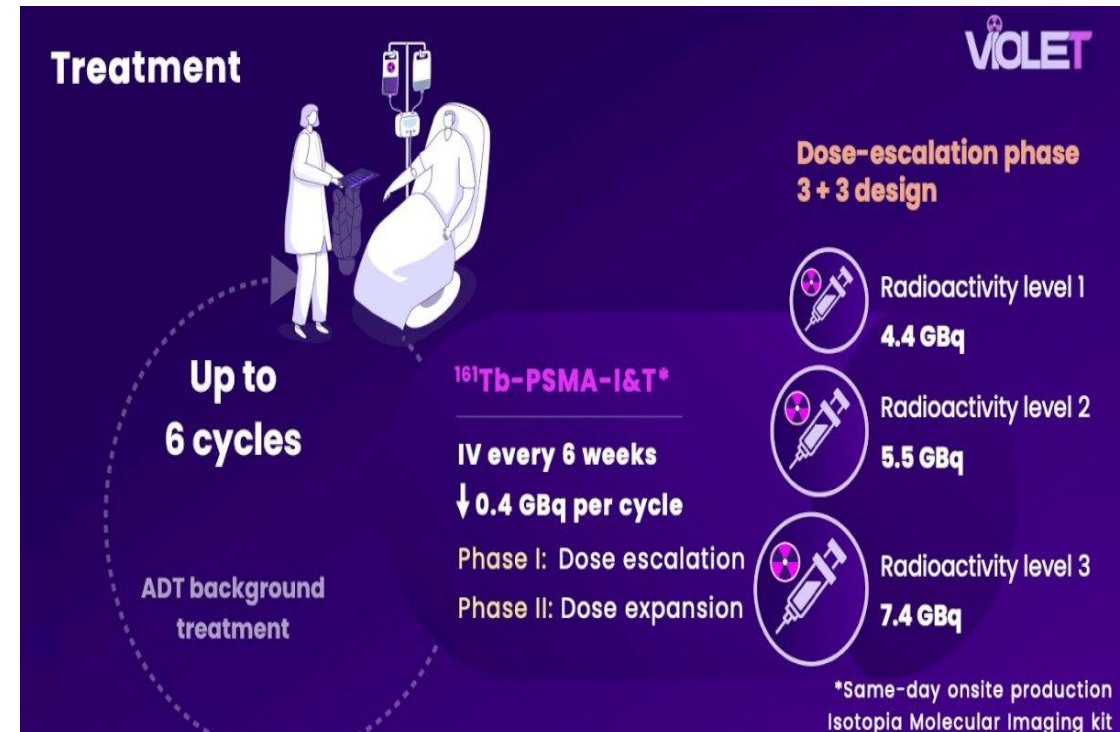
PROSTATE CANCER FOUNDATION



CURING TOGETHER

Study Design and Procedures

- Dose-escalation (phase I) and dose-expansion (phase II) design
- Standard 3+3 dose escalation approach with 3 radioactivity levels of [^{161}Tb]Tb-PSMA-I&T: 4.4, 5.5, 7.5 GBq
- Up to 6 cycles administered IV every 6 weeks, reduced by 0.4 GBq for each cycle
 - Due to expected decreasing tumor burden w/ each cycle
- [^{161}Tb]Tb-PSMA-I&T produced on-site
- All pts continued ADT during study



Study Endpoints

Phase I:

- Dose-limiting toxicities
- Maximum tolerated dose
 - Highest dose at which $<1/3$ or $<2/6$ pts experienced a dose-limiting toxicity
- Recommended phase 2 dose

Phase II:

- Adverse events
- Radiation absorbed dose
- PSA response rates
- rPFS
- PSA-PFS
- PFS
- OS
- ORR
- PROs

Statistical Analyses & Sample Size

- Pre-specified sample size: 30–36 patients
 - Allow for 24 patients treated at the MTD (assuming probability of ≥ 1 DLT of 64%)
- Safety population: All pts who received ≥ 1 cycle in the dose escalation or expansion phases
- Activity analysis was conducted for all patients who received at ≥ 1 cycle of [^{161}Tb]Tb-PSMA-I&T
- Time-to-event outcomes were reported using Kaplan Meier curves

Baseline Characteristics

	All patients (n=30)
Age, years	69.0 (66.0–74.8)
Sex	
Male	30 (100%)
Female	0
Time since diagnosis of prostate cancer, years	6.5 (4.0–11.8)
Gleason score at diagnosis	
≤7	9 (30%)
≥8	17 (57%)
Unknown	4 (13%)
De novo metastatic at diagnosis	15 (50%)
PSA at screening, ng/mL	26.9 (10.1–70.0)
ECOG performance status	
0	12 (40%)
1	18 (60%)
Previous radiotherapy	23 (77%)
Prostate with or without regional lymph nodes	14 (47%)
Palliative	19 (63%)
Prostatectomy	14 (47%)
Taxane chemotherapy	20 (67%)
Docetaxel	20 (67%)
Cabazitaxel	4 (13%)
ARPI	30 (100%)
Abiraterone	14 (47%)
Darolutamide	2 (7%)
Enzalutamide	17 (57%)
PARP inhibitor	2 (7%)
PSMA SUV _{mean}	8.2 (7.4–10.8)
≥10	8 (27%)
PSMA tumour volume, mL	212.4 (79.4–526.8)
FDG tumour volume*, mL	17.9 (6.4–168.3)
≥200	7 (23%)
Metastases on PSMA PET-CT	
Nodal	19 (63%)
Bone	22 (73%)
Visceral	2 (7%)

Treatment Summary

	Treatment		Total (n = 30)
	Below MAD* (n = 6)	MAD* (n = 24)	
[¹⁶¹Tb]Tb-PSMA-I&T Cycles received, n (%)			
1	0	1 (4%)	1 (3%)
2	0	1 (4%)	1 (3%)
3	0	3 (12%)	3 (10%)
4	1 (17%)	1 (4%)	2 (7%)
5	1 (17%)	1 (4%)	2 (7%)
6	4 (67%)	17 (71%)	21 (70%)
Total number of [¹⁶¹Tb]Tb-PSMA-I&T Cycles received			
Mean (SD)	5.5 (0.8)	5.1 (1.5)	5.2 (1.4)
Median [range]	6.0 [4.0 - 6.0]	6.0 [1.0 - 6.0]	6.0 [1.0 - 6.0]
IQR	5.2 - 6.0	4.8 - 6.0	5.0 - 6.0
[¹⁶¹Tb]Tb-PSMA-I&T total radioactivity (GBq)			
Mean (SD)	22.1 (3.7)	33.3 (9.3)	31.1 (9.6)
Median [range]	20.8 [18.1 - 26.7]	38.3 [7.2 - 39.7]	38.0 [7.2 - 39.7]
IQR	19.9 - 25.2	31.2 - 38.6	21.1 - 38.5
[¹⁶¹Tb]Tb-PSMA-I&T dose delay due to adverse events, n (%)			
No	6 (100%)	21 (88%)	27 (90%)
Yes	0	3 (12%)	3 (10%)
Reason for [¹⁶¹Tb]Tb-PSMA-I&T dose delay due to adverse events, n (%)			
Covid-19 infection (unrelated to [¹⁶¹ Tb]Tb-PSMA-I&T)	0	1 (33%)	1 (33%)
Pain SAE with long hospitalization (unrelated to [¹⁶¹ Tb]Tb-PSMA-I&T)	0	1 (33%)	1 (33%)
SAE resulting in leg amputation (unrelated to [¹⁶¹ Tb]Tb-PSMA-I&T)	0	1 (33%)	1 (33%)
[¹⁶¹Tb]Tb-PSMA-I&T permanently discontinued, n (%)			
No	4 (67%)	17 (71%)	21 (70%)
Yes	2 (33%)	7 (29%)	9 (30%)
Reason for permanent [¹⁶¹Tb]Tb-PSMA-I&T discontinuation, n (%)			
Death	1 (50%)	0	1 (11%)
Unequivocal disease progression	1 (50%)	7 (100%)	8 (89%)
Study status, n (%)			
Death	2 (33%)	5 (21%)	7 (23%)
Follow up	4 (67%)	16 (67%)	20 (67%)
Treatment**	0	3 (12%)	3 (10%)

Adverse Events

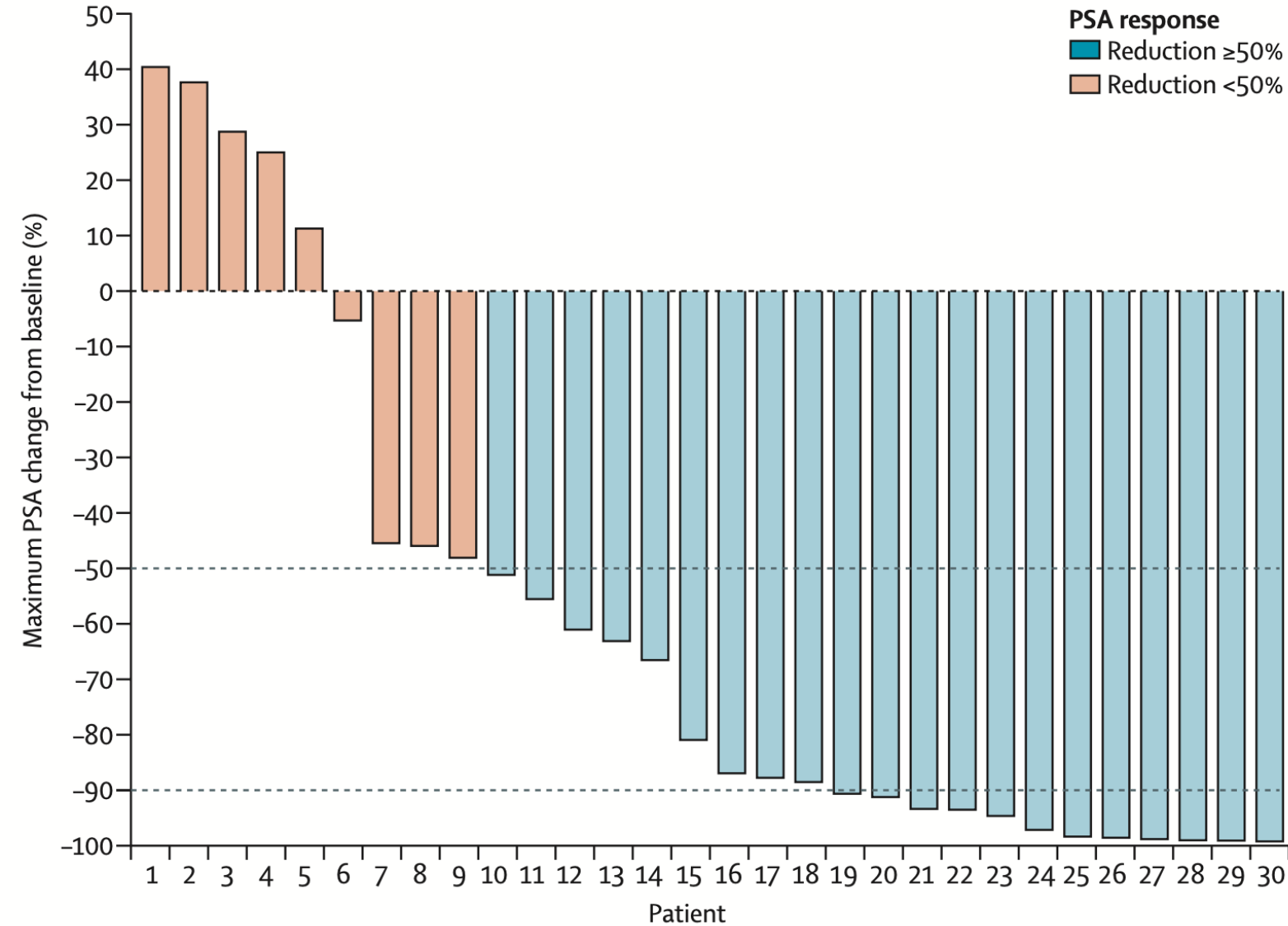
Treatment-Related AEs

	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3
Lymphocyte count decreased	8 (27%)	10 (33%)	1 (3%)
Pain	3 (10%)	0	1 (3%)
Anaemia	16 (53%)	4 (13%)	0
White blood cell count decreased	7 (23%)	4 (13%)	0
Neutrophil count decreased	3 (10%)	3 (10%)	0
Fatigue	12 (40%)	1 (3%)	0
Presyncope	0	1 (3%)	0
Dry mouth	21 (70%)	0	0
Nausea	7 (23%)	0	0
Thrombocytopenia	6 (20%)	0	0
Constipation	4 (13%)	0	0
Dry eye	3 (10%)	0	0
Anorexia	1 (3%)	0	0
Diarrhoea	1 (3%)	0	0
Renal injury	1 (3%)	0	0
Vomiting	1 (3%)	0	0
Any adverse event*	13 (43%)	14 (47%)	2 (7%)

Serious AEs

Serious adverse event	Days from C1D1	Duration (days)	Grade	Related	Action
Myocardial infarction	192	1	5	No	N/A
Skin infection	87	15	3	No	None
Fever	191	10	3	No	None
Pain	2	0	3	Definitely	None
Pain	126	33	3	No	Drug delay
Wound complication	108	24	3	No	Drug delay
Wound complication	167	59	3	No	Drug delay
Kidney infection	186	8	3	No	None
Kidney infection	33	2	3	No	None

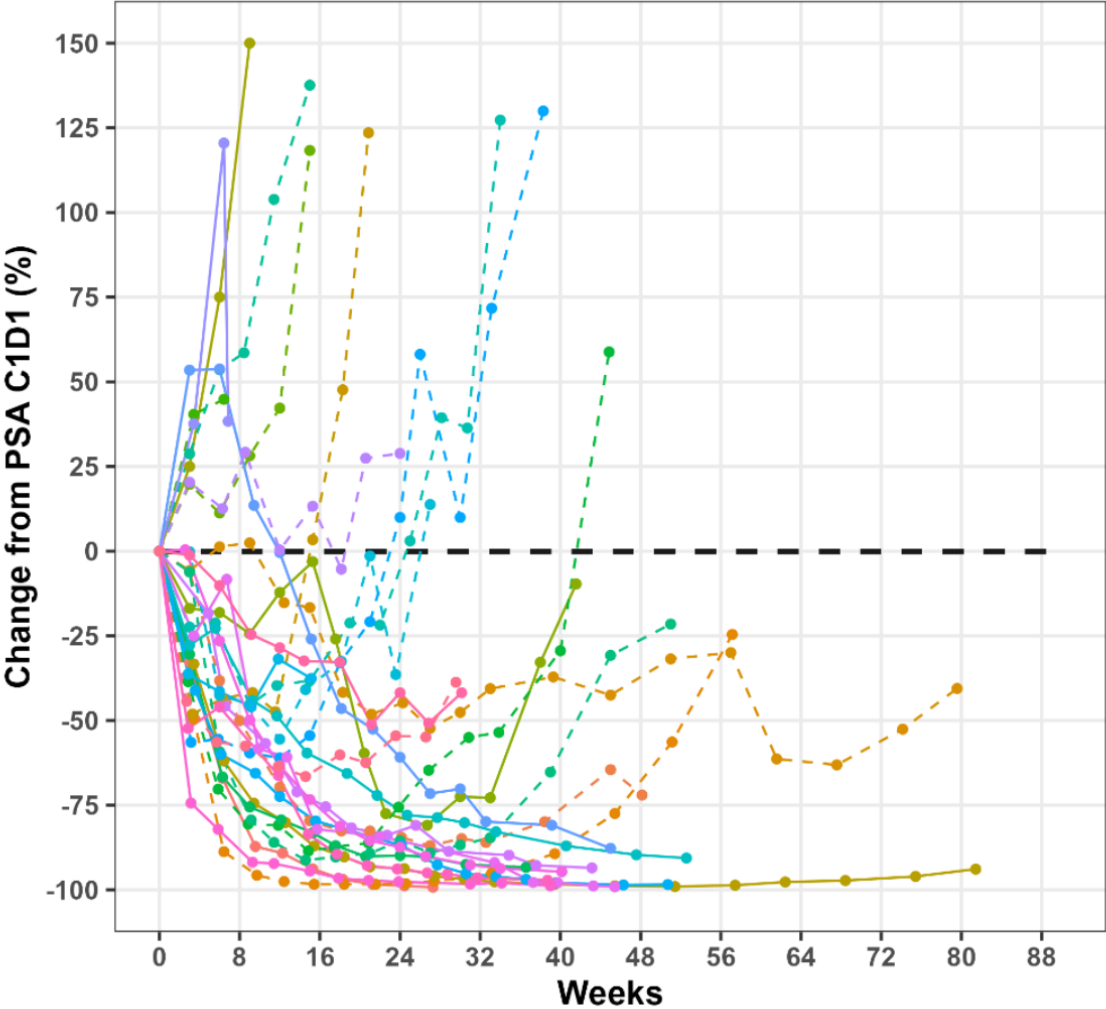
Waterfall Plot of Best PSA Response



PSA50 Response Rate: 70% (95% CI 51-85)

PSA90 Response Rate: 40% (95% CI 23-59)

Spider Plot of PSA Percentage Changes from Baseline



Response

- Non-PD
- - PD

Patients

- PMC-001
- PMC-002
- PMC-003
- PMC-004
- PMC-005
- PMC-006
- PMC-007
- PMC-008
- PMC-009
- PMC-010
- PMC-011
- PMC-012
- PMC-013
- PMC-014
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- PMC-030

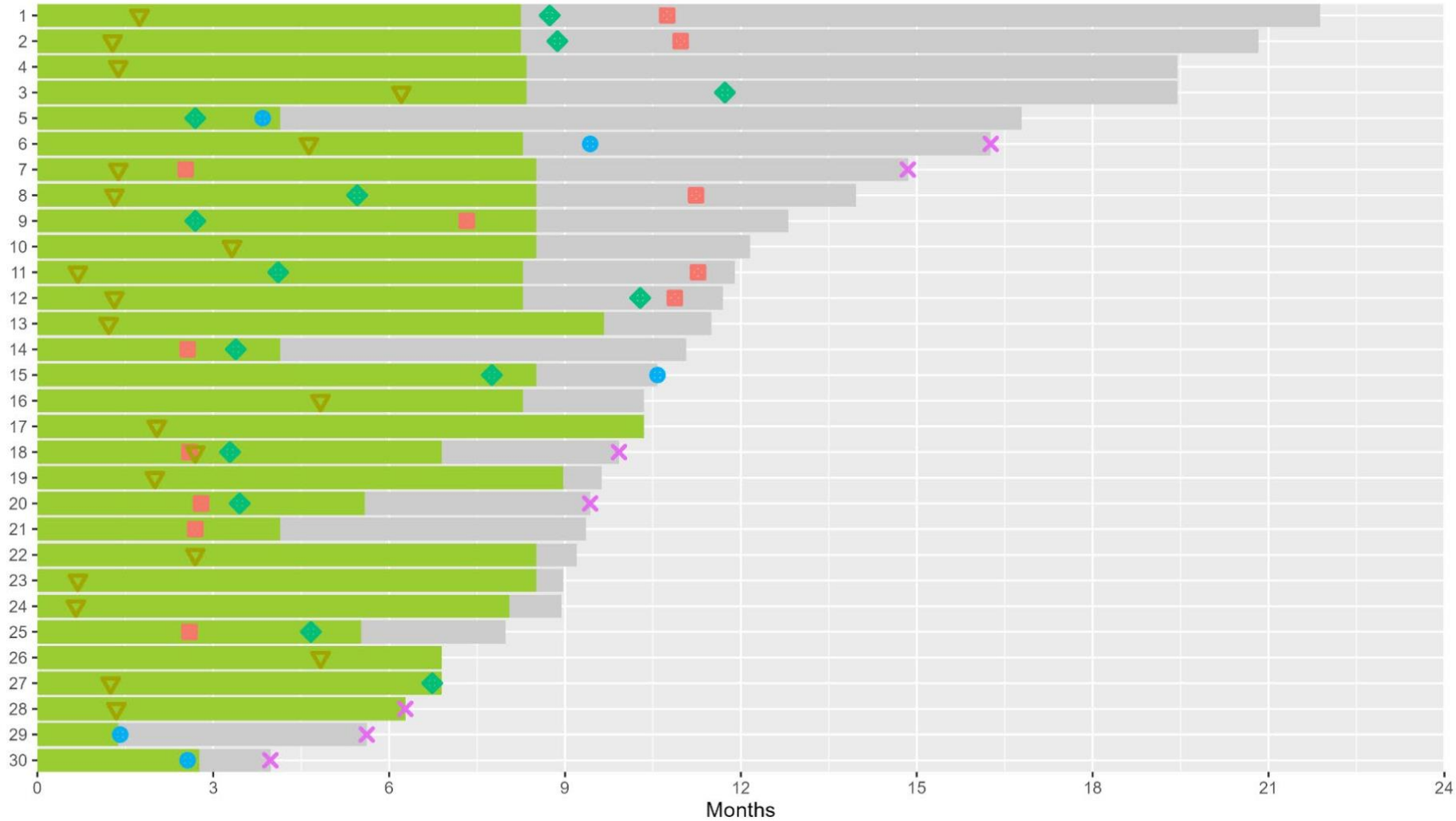
Objective Responses (RECIST 1.1; n=12)

PR: 50% (95% CI 21-79)

SD: 17% (95% CI 23-59)

PD: 33% (95% CI 10-65)

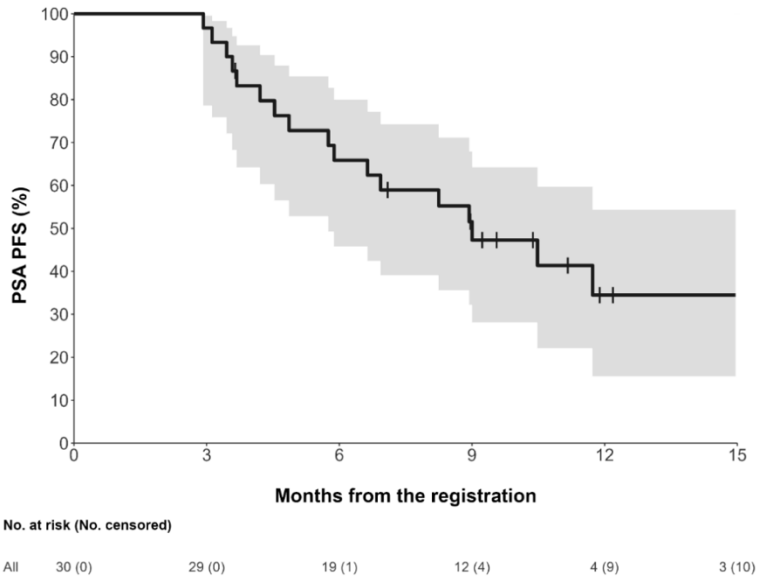
Swimmer's Plot



PSA Progression: 47%
Radiographic Progression: 40%
Death: 23%

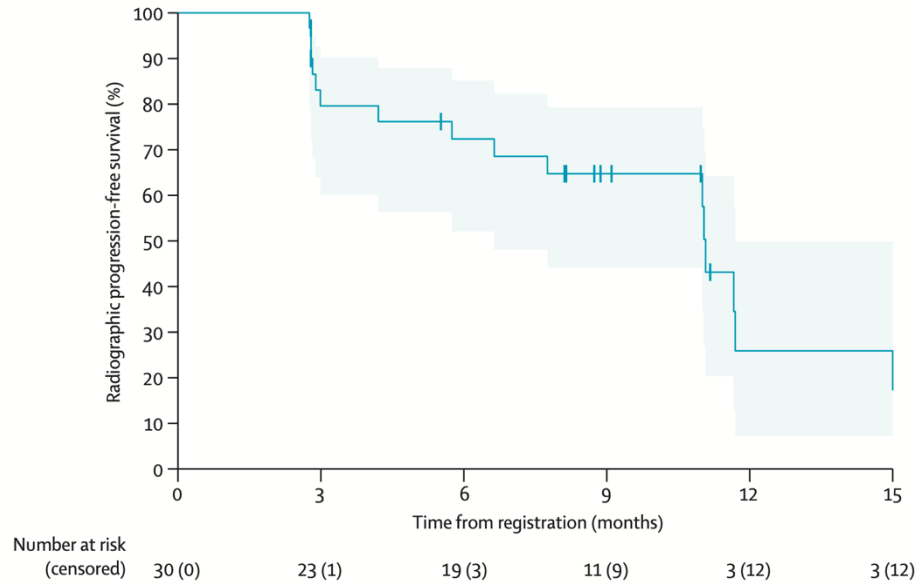
Survival Outcomes (Median F/U: 11.9 months)

PSA-PFS



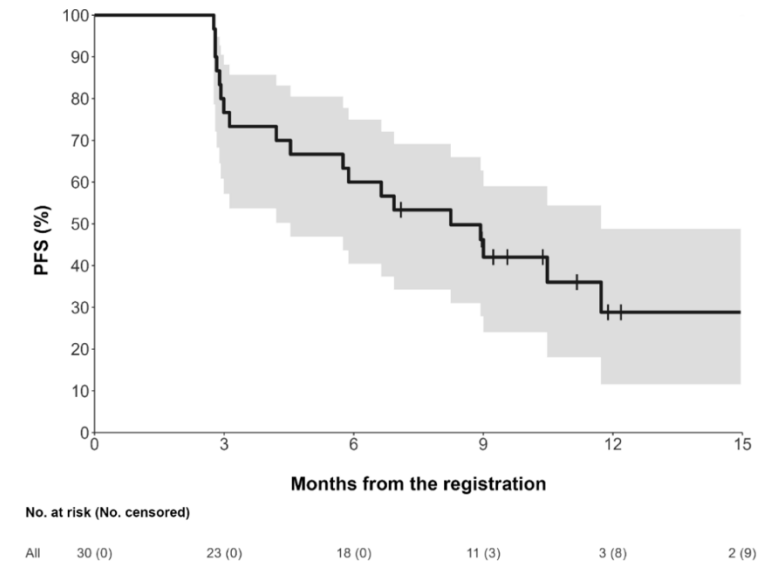
Median: 9.0 mo (95% CI 5.7-15.1)

rPFS



Median: 11.1 mo (95% CI 6.6-11.7)

PFS



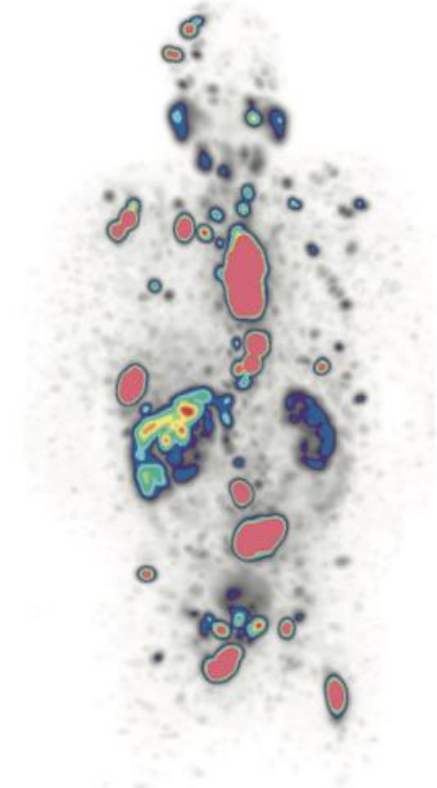
Median: 8.2 mo (95% CI 4.5-11.7)

Three-Timepoint Quantitative SPECT @ Cycle 1

A

B

C



BL $[^{68}\text{Ga}]\text{Ga-PSMA-11}$ PET-CT

SPECT-CT @ 4 h

SPECT-CT @ 24 h

SPECT-CT @ 96 h

Radiation absorbed in mets/normal organs

$[^{161}\text{Tb}]\text{Tb-PSMA-I\&T}$ retention in metastases, washout of normal organs over time

Radiation Absorbed Dose to Normal Organs @ C1

	Dose per GBq (Gy/GBq)	Total absorbed dose (Gy)
Parotid		
Mean (SD)	0.15 (0.07)	1.02 (0.53)
Median [range]	0.14 [0.01 - 0.30]	0.90 [0.05 - 2.28]
IQR	0.10 - 0.16	0.76 - 1.13
Submandibular		
Mean (SD)	0.16 (0.08)	1.12 (0.58)
Median [range]	0.14 [0.05 - 0.32]	0.94 [0.38 - 2.41]
IQR	0.10 - 0.24	0.75 - 1.64
Kidney		
Mean (SD)	0.36 (0.11)	2.46 (0.85)
Median [range]	0.34 [0.11 - 0.56]	2.28 [0.77 - 4.19]
IQR	0.28 - 0.42	1.85 - 2.86
Liver		
Mean (SD)	0.08 (0.04)	0.57 (0.31)
Median [range]	0.08 [0.03 - 0.21]	0.54 [0.22 - 1.55]
IQR	0.05 - 0.09	0.35 - 0.65
Spleen		
Mean (SD)	0.06 (0.03)	0.43 (0.19)
Median [range]	0.06 [0.03 - 0.13]	0.38 [0.20 - 1.03]
IQR	0.04 - 0.08	0.28 - 0.50

Within the range of published studies for [¹⁷⁷Lu[Lu]-PSMA-I&T and [¹⁷⁷Lu]Lu-PSMA-617

Discussion

- VIOLET is the first reported trial using ^{161}Tb in **ANY** cancer type
 - Favorable safety profile: few (7%) grade 3-4 TRAEs, no dose reductions, and no treatment discontinuations for toxicity
 - This is despite additional radiation from Auger and conversion electrons
 - **The highest radioactivity level of 7.4 GBq of ^{161}Tb is equivalent to ~10 GBq of ^{177}Lu
- **Important considerations:**
 1. Current infrastructure, logistics, and procedures used for [^{177}Lu]Lu-PSMA-617 and [^{177}Lu]Lu-PSMA-I&T RLT can be transferred to use of [^{161}Tb]Tb-PSMA-I&T → supports generalizability
 2. Identical radioprotective measures currently used for [^{177}Lu]Lu-PSMA-617 and [^{177}Lu]Lu-PSMA-I&T can be followed
 3. ^{161}Tb with high radionuclide purity can be produced in nuclear reactors with similar methods to ^{177}Lu production
- Registered clinical trials using ^{161}Tb in mCRPC:
 - PROGNOSTICS: Swiss single-center, phase 1a/b study investigating [^{161}Tb]Tb-SibuDAB
 - REALITY: German registry assessing various radionuclide therapies

Take Home Messages



- $[^{161}\text{Tb}]$ Tb-PSMA-I&T had an encouraging safety profile at the maximum administered dose of 7.4 GBq in pts with progressive mCRPC
- An additional cohort to assess a higher 9.5 GBq dose is currently recruiting
- ***This data from VIOLET provides a platform for further clinical evaluation of $[^{161}\text{Tb}]$ Tb-PSMA-I&T in pts with mCRPC and in earlier disease indications, leveraging superior treatment of micrometastatic disease***