



NTRK  
connect<sup>®</sup>

---

POWERED BY COR2ED

# **PUBLICATION SNAPSHOT #3**

**Prof. Ezra Cohen, MD, FRCPSC, FASCO**

**UC San Diego Health – Moores Cancer Center  
La Jolla, California, USA**

# DISCLAIMER

## Please note:

Views expressed within this presentation are the personal opinions of the author. They do not necessarily represent the views of the author's academic institution or the rest of NTRK Connect group.

This content is supported by an Independent Educational Grant from Bayer.

## Disclosures:

Prof. Ezra Cohen has received honoraria from the following: ALX Oncology, Ascendis, Bayer, Bioline Rx, BMS, Debio, Dynavax, MSD, Merck , Regeneron and Sanofi.

# CHARACTERISATION OF ON-TARGET ADVERSE EVENTS CAUSED BY TRK INHIBITOR THERAPY

Liu D, et al. *Ann Oncol.* 2020;31:1207-15

# BACKGROUND: POOLED ANALYSIS OF AEs WITH LAROTRECTINIB

## Data cutoff:

19 February 2019

**Adult in Phase 1  
Advanced solid tumours  
NCT02122913  
N=12**

**Paediatric in Phase 1/2  
Advanced solid tumours  
SCOUT: NCT02637687  
N=50**

**Adult/adolescent in Phase 2  
Advanced solid tumours  
NAVIGATE: NCT02576431  
N=97**

	Adverse events, regardless of attribution*			Treatment-related adverse events*	
	Grade 1-2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 3	Grade 4
Fatigue	79 (30%)	6 (2%)	0	1 (<1%)	0
Alanine aminotransferase increased	64 (25%)	7 (3%)	2 (<1%)	7 (3%)	1 (<1%)
Cough	71 (27%)	1 (<1%)	0	0	0
Constipation	69 (27%)	1 (<1%)	0	0	0
Anaemia	44 (17%)	25 (10%)	0	6 (2%)	0
Aspartate aminotransferase increased	62 (24%)	6 (2%)	1 (<1%)	2 (<1%)	0
Dizziness	64 (25%)	2 (<1%)	0	1 (<1%)	0
Nausea	62 (24%)	2 (<1%)	0	2 (<1%)	0
Vomiting	62 (24%)	2 (<1%)	0	0	0
Diarrhoea	59 (23%)	3 (1%)	0	0	0
Pyrexia	50 (19%)	2 (<1%)	1 (<1%)	0	0
Dyspnoea	35 (13%)	6 (2%)	0	0	0
Myalgia	38 (15%)	3 (1%)	0	2 (<1%)	0
Peripheral oedema	40 (15%)	1 (<1%)	0	0	0
Headache	38 (15%)	1 (<1%)	0	1 (<1%)	0
Neutrophil count decreased	18 (7%)	12 (5%)	2 (<1%)	4 (2%)	1 (<1%)
Lymphocyte count decreased	22 (8%)	7 (3%)	2 (<1%)	2 (<1%)	0
Hypokalaemia	12 (5%)	8 (3%)	1 (<1%)	0	0
Hypophosphatemia	5 (2%)	9 (3%)	0	0	0

AEs, adverse events

Hong DS, et al. Lancet Oncol 2020;21:531-40. \*Data are n (%). n=260. The adverse events listed here are those that occurred at any grade in at least 15% of patients, or at grade 3 or worse in at least 3% of patients, regardless of attribution. Refer to NTRK CONNECT for full publication details:

<https://ntrkconnect.info/ntrk-connect-key-publication-snapshot-1-larotrectinib-and-entrectinib-efficacy-and-safety-profile-in-solid-tumours/>

# BACKGROUND: INTEGRATED SAFETY DATA FOR ENTRECTINIB

## Data cutoff:

31 May 2018

**ALKA-372-001: Phase 1  
Solid tumours  
EudraCT 2012-000148-88  
N=1**

**STARTRK-1: Phase 1/2  
Solid tumours  
NCT02097810  
N=2**

**STARTRK-2: Phase 2  
Solid tumours  
NCT02568267  
N=51**

Treatment-related adverse events (n=68)*	Grade 1–2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Treatment-related adverse events (n=68)*	Grade 1–2	Grade 3	Grade 4
Dysgeusia	32 (47%)	0	0	Disturbance in attention	3 (4%)	0	0
Constipation	19 (28%)	0	0	Pain of skin	3 (4%)	0	0
Fatigue	19 (28%)	5 (7%)	0	Neutropenia	3 (4%)	2 (3%)	0
Diarrhoea	18 (27%)	1 (2%)	0	Localised oedema	2 (3%)	1 (2%)	0
Oedema peripheral	16 (24%)	1 (2%)	0	Hyperaesthesia	2 (3%)	0	0
Dizziness	16 (24%)	1 (2%)	0	Ataxia	2 (3%)	0	0
Blood creatinine increased	12 (18%)	1 (2%)	0	Platelet count decreased	2 (3%)	0	0
Paraesthesia	11 (16%)	0	0	Hyperuricaemia	2 (3%)	0	2 (3%)
Nausea	10 (15%)	0	0	Hypophosphatemia	2 (3%)	2 (3%)	0
Vomiting	9 (13%)	0	0	Dehydration	2 (3%)	0	0
Arthralgia	8 (12%)	0	0	Diplopia	1 (2%)	1 (2%)	0
Myalgia	8 (12%)	0	0	Hypotension	1 (2%)	1 (2%)	0
Weight increased	8 (12%)	7 (10%)	0	Pyrexia	1 (2%)	0	0
AST increased	7 (10%)	0	1 (2%)	Lymphocyte count decreased	1 (2%)	0	0
ALT increased	6 (9%)	0	1 (2%)	Pruritus	1 (2%)	0	0
Muscular weakness	6 (9%)	1 (2%)	0	Hypoxia	1 (2%)	0	0
Anaemia	5 (7%)	8 (12%)	0	Fall	1 (2%)	0	0
Asthenia	5 (7%)	0	0	Osteoarthritis	0	1 (2%)	0
Peripheral sensory neuropathy	4 (6%)	1 (2%)	0	Blood uric acid increased	0	0	1 (2%)
Neutrophil count decreased	4 (6%)	0	0	Hypermagnesemia	0	1 (2%)	0
Rash	4 (6%)	0	0	Cardiac failure	0	1 (2%)	0
				Cardiac failure congestive	0	1 (2%)	0

AEs, adverse events; ALT, alanine aminotransferase; AST, aspartate aminotransferase

Doebels RC, et al. Lancet Oncol 2020;21:271-82 \*Data are n (%). n=68. The treatment-related adverse events listed here are those that occurred in the *NTRK* fusion-positive safety-evaluable population. Refer to NTRK CONNECT for full publication details: Refer to NTRK CONNECT for full publication details:

<https://ntrkconnect.info/ntrk-connect-key-publication-snapshot-1-larotrectinib-and-entrectinib-efficacy-and-safety-profile-in-solid-tumours/>

# BACKGROUND: LIST OF TRK INHIBITORS AND CURRENT DEVELOPMENT STAGE

TRK inhibitors	Targets	Development status in <i>NTRK</i> -positive population <sup>1</sup>
larotrectinib, LOXO-101	<i>NTRK1/2/3</i>	Approved*
entrectinib, RXDX-101	<i>NTRK1/2/3; ALK; ROS1</i>	Approved**
selitrectinib, LOXO-195,	<i>NTRK1/3</i> (resistant)	Phase I/II, recruiting
repotrectinib, TPX-0005	<i>NTRK1/2/3, ALK, ROS1</i> (resistant) <i>JAK2, SRC, DDR1, FAK</i>	Phase I/II, recruiting
belizatinib, TSR-011	<i>NTRK1/2/3, ALK</i>	Phase I/IIa, completed
merestinib, LYS2801653	<i>NTRK1/2/3, MET, MST1R, FLT3, AXL, MERTK, TEK, ROS1, DDR1/2; MKNK1/2</i>	Phase II, active, not recruiting
sitravatinib, MGCD516	<i>NTRK1/2/3, MET, KIT, PDGFRA, KDR, DDR2, RET, CBL</i>	Phase I/II, active, not recruiting
DS-6051b, AB-106	<i>NTRK1/2/3, ROS1</i>	Phase I/II, active, not yet recruiting
altiratinib, DCC2701	<i>NTRK1/2/3, MET, MET mutant</i>	Phase I, terminated
PLX7486	<i>NTRK1/2/3, CSF1R</i>	Phase I, terminated
PF-06273340	<i>NTRK1/2/3</i>	Phase I, completed
CH7057288	<i>NTRK1/2/3</i>	No studies found
GNF-5837	<i>NTRK1/2/3</i>	No studies found

AEs, adverse events; ALK, anaplastic lymphoma kinase; CBL, casitas B-lineage lymphoma; CSF1R, colony stimulating factor 1 receptor; DDR1/2, discoidin domain receptor tyrosine kinase 1/2; FAK, focal adhesion kinase; FLT3, FMS-like tyrosine kinase 3; JAK2, Janus kinase 2; KDR, kinase insert domain receptor; MKNK1/2, MAP kinase-interacting serine/threonine-protein kinase 1/2; MST1R, macrophage stimulating 1 receptor; NTRK, neurotrophic tyrosine receptor kinase; PDGFRA, platelet-derived growth factor receptor alpha; RET, rearranged during transfection; *ROS1*, c-ros oncogene 1; TRK, tropomyosin receptor kinase  
\*Larotrectinib is approved in the US, Canada, Brazil, European Union, Hong-Kong, Saudi Arabia, South Korea and Israel \*\*Entrectinib is approved in the US, European Union and Japan

1. Source : ClinicalTrial.gov website visited on 27 August 2020

**Based on the identified TRK inhibitors related AEs in prospective trials, the objectives of the paper are:**

- 1. To characterise these AEs**
- 2. To define a management strategy for these AEs**



# DEFINITION & RETROSPECTIVE STUDY DESIGN

- **On-target** refers to exaggerated and adverse pharmacologic effects at the target of interest in the test system<sup>1</sup>.
- **Off-target** refers to adverse effects as a result of modulation of other targets; these may be related biologically or totally unrelated to the target of interest<sup>1</sup>.

## Eligibility criteria

- Treated in the Early Drug Development Service of Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center between January 1st 2013 → April 1st 2019
- Pathologic evidence of a solid tumour
- Advanced or unresectable disease
- treated with at least one dose of a tyrosine kinase inhibitor with potent anti-TRK activity

**n= 96**

## Data collection

- Demographics
- Toxicity assessment
- AEs management

## Treatment-emergent AEs Analysis

AEs likely to be mediated by TRK inhibition were analysed:

- Paraesthesias
- Weight gain
- Dizziness with or without ataxia
- Pain with temporary or permanent TRK inhibitor withdrawal

# DEMOGRAPHICS AND BASELINE CHARACTERISTICS

Clinicopathologic features of the study population (n=96)	n (%) and continuous as median (range)
Age* (years)	52 (5-81)
Female sex	49 (51%)
Histology	
Lung	43 (45%)
Gastrointestinal	10 (10%)
Salivary	8 (8%)
Sarcoma	8 (8%)
Thyroid	6 (6%)
Melanoma	6 (6%)
Primary brain tumor	5 (5%)
Neuroblastoma	5 (5%)
Other	7 (7%)

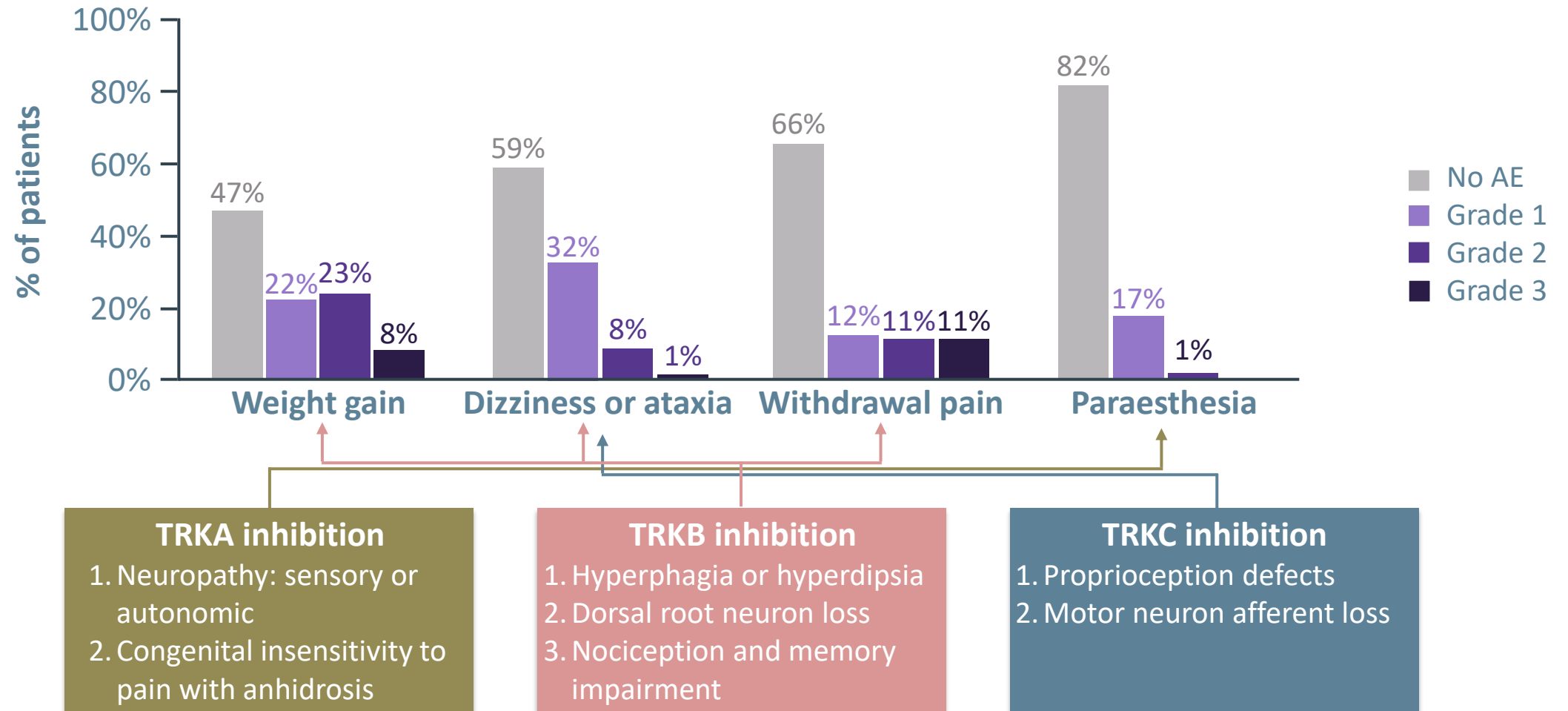
Clinicopathologic features of the study population (n=96)	n (%) and continuous as median (range)
Genomic alteration	
<i>NTRK</i> fusion	39 (41%)
<i>ROS1</i> fusion	24 (25%)
Other**	29 (30%)
Unknown	4 (4%)
TRK inhibitor	
First-generation TKI	81 (84%)
Other TKI	30 (31%)
TRK inhibitor duration (months)	6 (1-42)

ALK, anaplastic lymphoma kinase; NTRK, neurotrophic tyrosine receptor kinase; ROS1, c-ros oncogene 1; TKI, tyrosine kinase inhibitor; TRK, tropomyosin receptor kinase

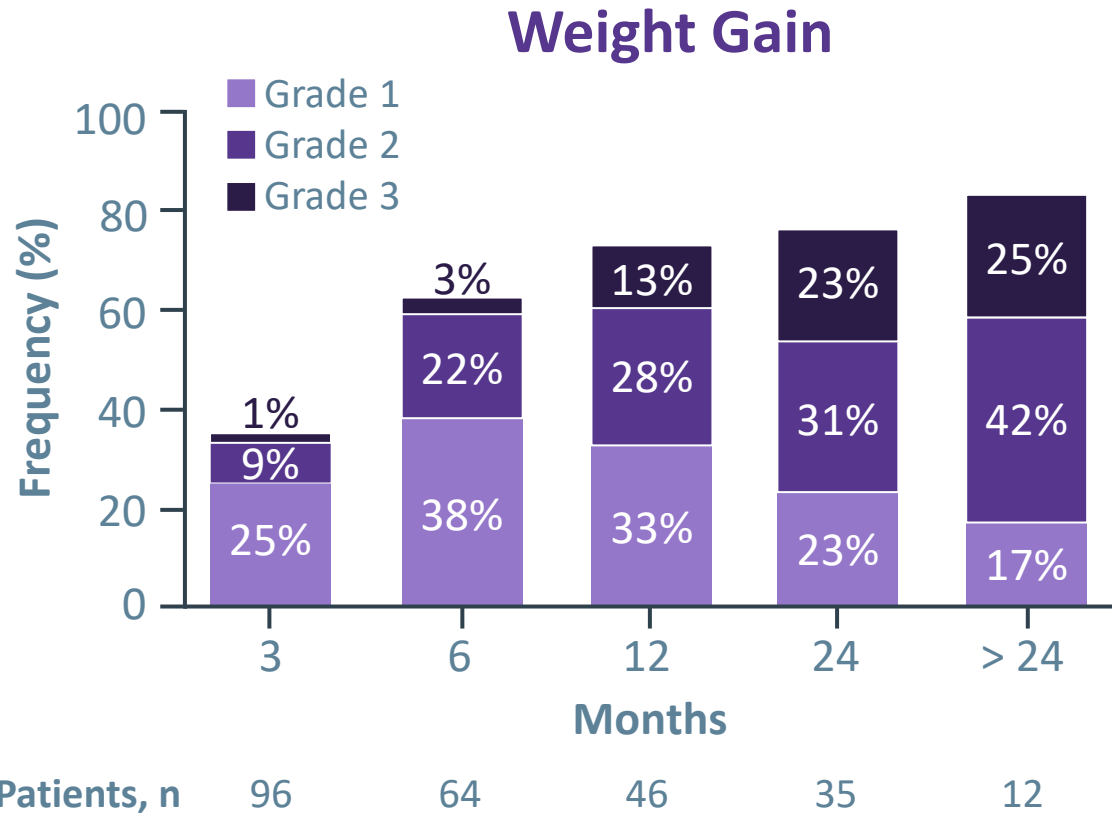
\*Seven patients were < 18years old

\*\*Other alterations included *NTRK* mutation (N = 1), *NTRK* amplification (N = 2), *ROS1* mutation (N = 1), and *ALK* fusion/mutation (N = 25)

# SAFETY PROFILE OF ON-TARGET AEs WITH TRK INHIBITION



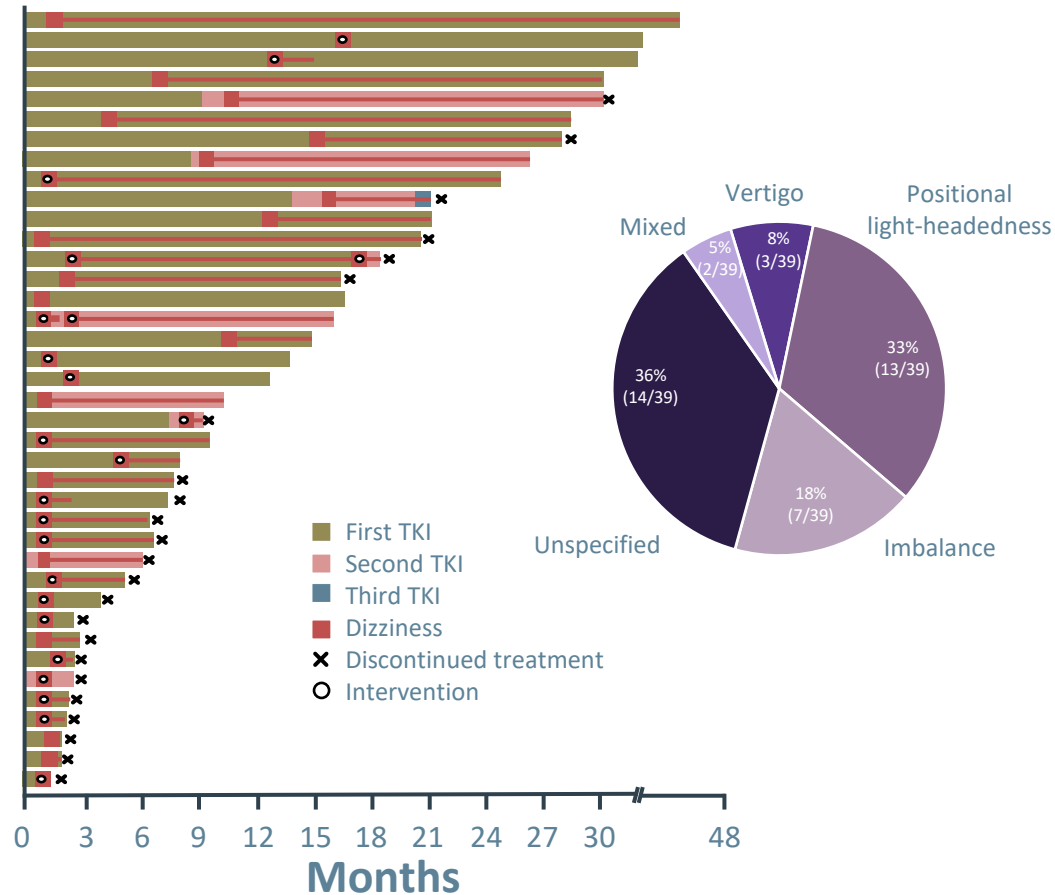
# WEIGHT GAIN MANAGEMENT



Supportive medication in weight gain	
Agent(s)	Mechanism of action
Liraglutide	GLP-1 analogue
Orlistat	Inhibits fat absorption
Phentermine/ topiramate combination	Increases norepinephrine release; GABA receptor agonist
Lorcaserin	5-HT <sub>2C</sub> receptor agonist
Naltrexone/ bupropion combination	μ-opioid receptor antagonist; dopamine and norepinephrine reuptake inhibitor
Metformin	Modulates hypothalamic appetite regulatory centers

➔ Authors recommend to monitor serially weight gain during treatment with TRK Inhibitor

# DIZZINESS MANAGEMENT

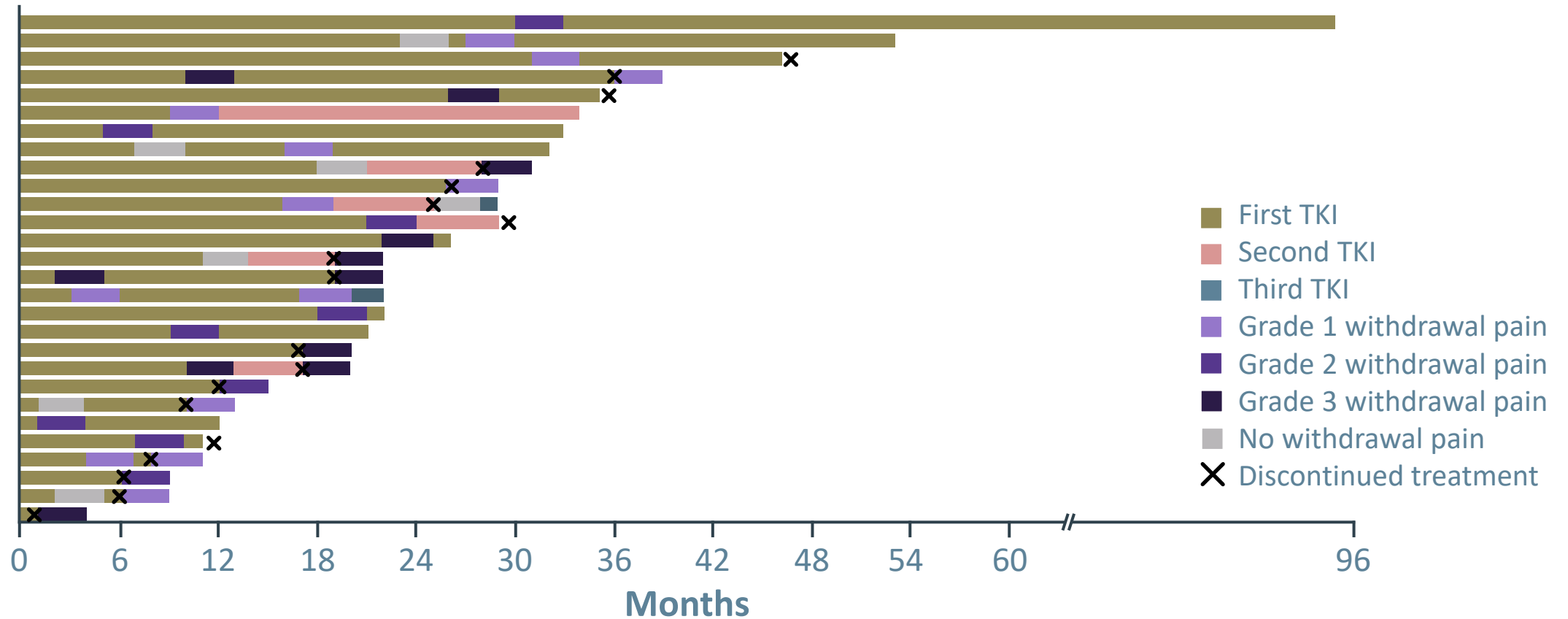


## Supportive medication in dizziness management

	Agent(s)	Mechanism of action
Dizziness (ataxia or vertigo)	Meclizine	H <sub>1</sub> histamine receptor antagonist, suppresses vestibular stimulation, anticholinergic
	Scopolamine	Antagonizes histamine and serotonin
Dizziness (orthostasis)	Midodrine	α <sub>1</sub> adrenergic receptor agonist, increases vascular tone
	Fludrocortisone	Mineralocorticoid
	Droxidopa	Metabolized to norepinephrine, induces vasoconstriction

➔ Authors recommend to characterize the dizziness and to manage it accordingly

# WITHDRAWAL PAIN MANAGEMENT



➔ Authors highlight that withdrawal pain can occur with temporary or permanent TKI with anti-TRK activity discontinuation

## Conclusion

- **On-target AEs with TRK inhibition can occur** as shown in the retrospective study analysing patients with advanced or unresectable solid tumors treated with at least one dose of a TKI with potent anti-TRK activity
- **Dizziness, weight gain and withdrawal pain are the 3 identified on-target AEs**
- **On-target AEs profile is in line with the known physiological mechanism of the TRK signalling pathway**

## Discussion

- **Some cautions should be taken:**
  - The inhibitory actions of TKIs are **not only specific to TRKs**
  - In the retrospective study **only 41% harboured an *NTRK*-positive solid tumour**
- **Due to the small size of the study, further analysis to refine the on-target AEs identification should be undertaken especially with the TRK-specific inhibitors such as larotrectinib**

REACH NTRK CONNECT VIA  
TWITTER, LINKEDIN, VIMEO & EMAIL  
OR VISIT THE GROUP'S WEBSITE  
<http://www.ntrkconnect.info>



Follow us on Twitter  
[@ntrkconnectinfo](https://twitter.com/ntrkconnectinfo)



Follow the  
[NTRK CONNECT](#)  
group on LinkedIn



Watch us on the  
Vimeo Channel  
[NTRK CONNECT](#)



Email  
[froukje.osef@cor2ed.com](mailto:froukje.osef@cor2ed.com)





NTRK CONNECT  
Bodenackerstrasse 17  
4103 Bottmingen  
SWITZERLAND

**Dr. Froukje Sosef MD**

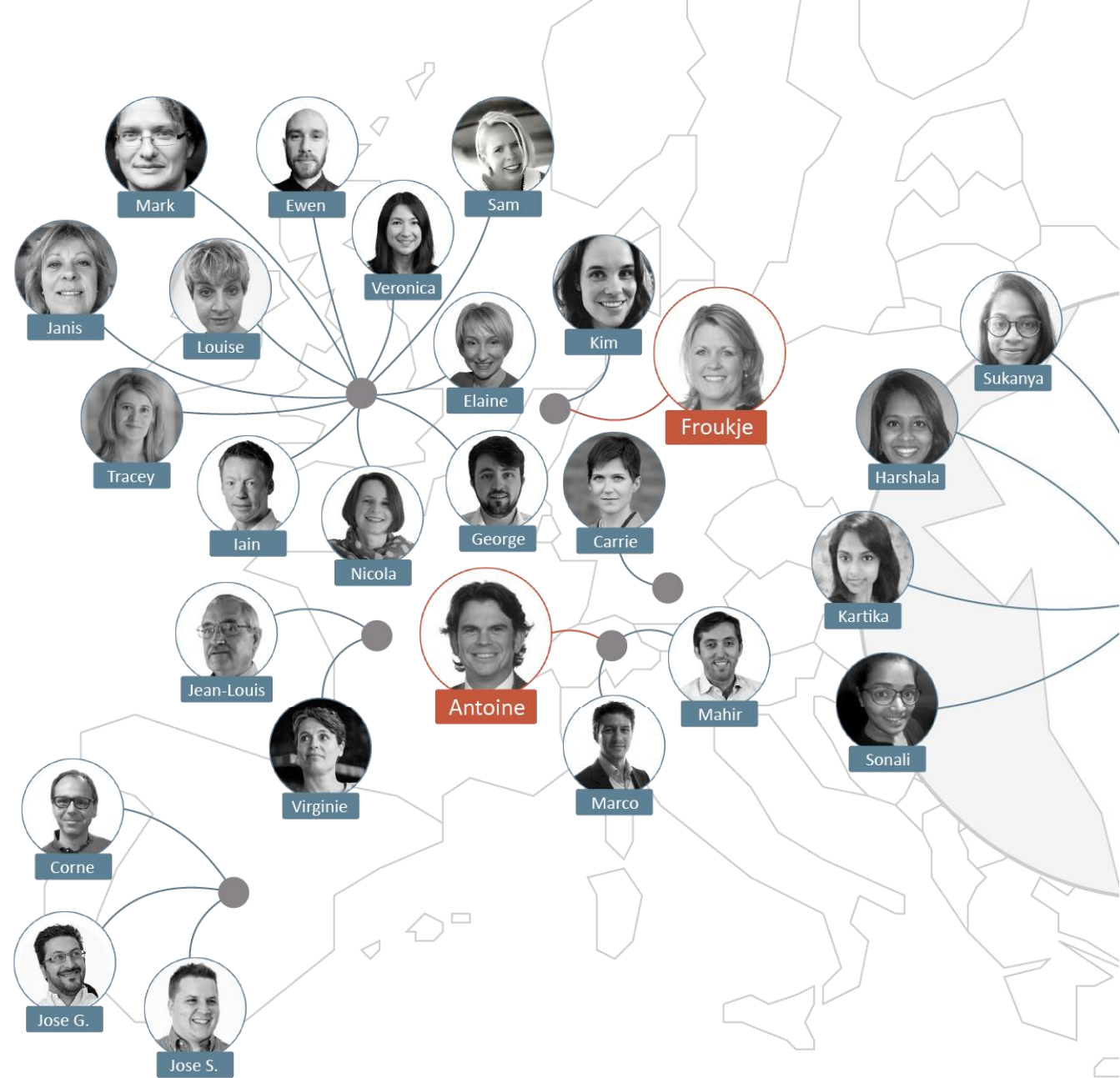
+31 6 2324 3636

froukje.sosef@cor2ed.com

**Dr. Antoine Lacombe Pharm D, MBA**

+41 79 529 42 79

antoine.lacombe@cor2ed.com



**Heading to the heart of Independent Medical Education Since 2012**