



PULSAR Extension: Improved pigment epithelial detachment outcomes over 156 weeks in patients with neovascular age-related macular degeneration receiving aflibercept 8 mg or switching from aflibercept 2 mg to 8 mg

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on behalf of the PULSAR study investigators**

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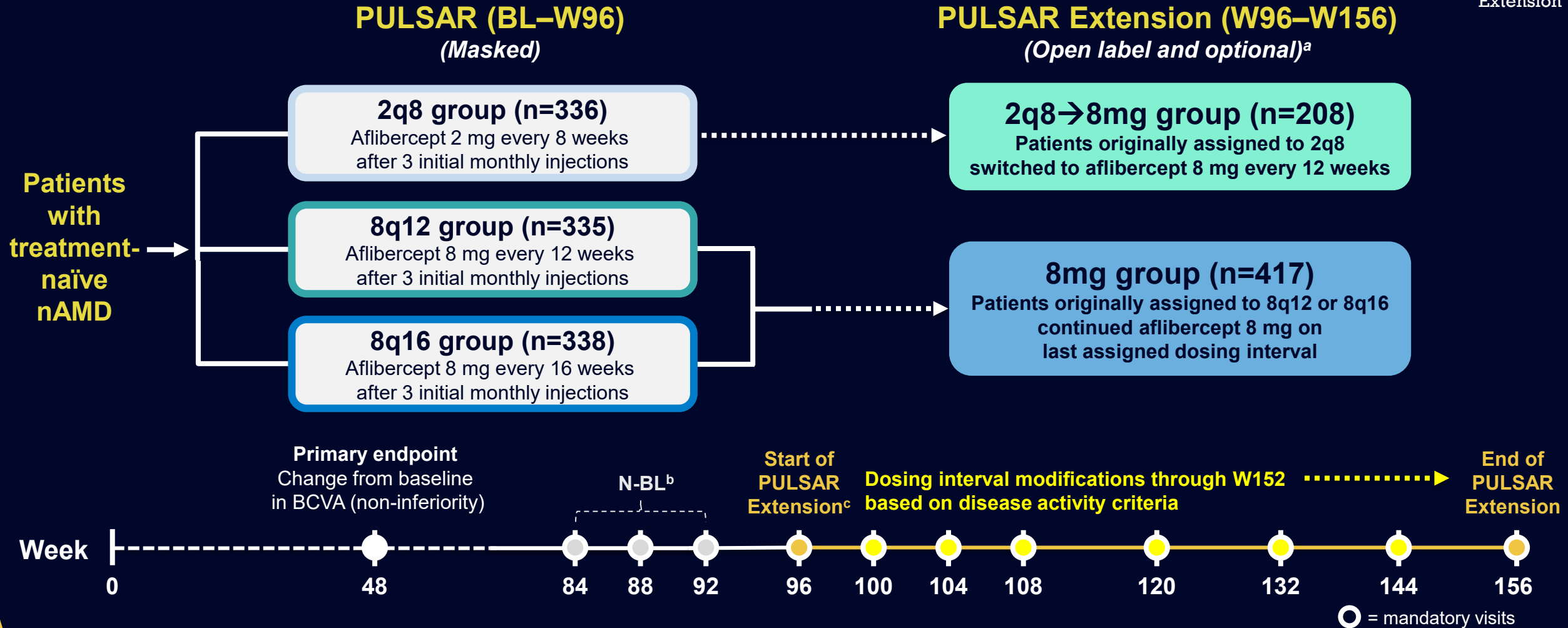
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Financial Disclosures



- **Aude Ambresin:** Educational grants from Bayer and Roche; speaker honoraria from Apellis, Astellas, Bayer, Novartis, and Roche; consulting fees from Apellis, Astellas, Bayer, Novartis, PulseSight Therapeutics, and Roche
- **PL:** Consultant for 4DMT, AbbVie, Adverum, Annexon, Apellis Pharmaceuticals, Bausch + Lomb, Bayer, Biogen, Boehringer Ingelheim, Celltrion, EyePoint Pharmaceuticals, Genentech, I-Care, MSD, Novartis, Ocular Therapeutix, Outlook Therapeutics, and Roche. **MS:** Consultant for Aerie, Allegro, Alimera, Allergan, Eyepoint, Genentech, Kodiak, Novartis, Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc., and Santen; is a speaker bureau member for Allergan, Eyepoint, Genentech, Novartis, Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc., and Spark; has contracted research with Aerie, Allegro, Allergan, Alimera, DRCR, Genentech, Icon, Ionis, Kalvista, Kodiak, Novartis, Opthea, Optos, Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc., Santen, Senju, Sydnexis, and Ribomic; and has equity in Aviceda, Nanoscope, and Inflammasome. **TYYL:** Research grants from Bayer, Chengdu Kanghong Biotech, Novartis, and Roche; consulting fees from 4DMT, Astellas, Bayer, Boehringer Ingelheim, Novartis, Ocular Therapeutix, Oculis, and Roche; lecture fees from Alcon, Bayer, Chengdu Kanghong Biotech, Gaush Meditech, Novartis, and Roche. **DTW:** Research grants from Bayer, DRCR, Novartis, Roche; consulting fees for 4DMT, Alcon, AbbVie, Apellis, Astellas, Bayer, Biogen, Novartis, Ripple Therapeutics, Roche, and Zeiss; member of data safety monitoring board for Ripple Therapeutics. **ER:** Speaker and consultant for AbbVie, Apellis, Harrow, and Regeneron; consultant for Eyepoint, Genentech, and Zeiss. **MJ:** Speaker, consultant, and advisory board member Apellis, Genentech, and Regeneron. **J-FK:** Consultant for 4DMT, AbbVie, Adverum, Apellis, Bayer, Boehringer Ingelheim, Carl Zeiss Meditec, Eyepoint Pharma, Ocular Therapeutix, Roche, SeaBeLife, and Thea; member of DSMB for Complement Therapeutics and Novo Nordisk. **JZ-V:** Consultant for AbbVie, Adverum, Alcon, Alimera Sciences, Allergan, Bausch & Lomb, Bayer, Brill Pharma, DORC, Esteve, Novartis, Roche, Sandoz, Théa, Topcon Healthcare, ULMA Medical Technologies and Zeiss; research funding from AbbVie, Allergan, Bayer, Novartis, Roche, and Théa. **XZ:** Former employee of Bayer Consumer Care AG. **TM:** Employee and stockholder at Bayer AG. **SL:** Employee of Bayer Consumer Care AG
- The PULSAR study (NCT04423718) was sponsored by Bayer AG (Leverkusen, Germany) and co-funded by Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (Tarrytown, NY, USA). The sponsor participated in the design and conduct of the study, analysis of the data, and preparation of this presentation
- Study disclosures: This study includes research conducted on human patients. Institutional Review Board approval was obtained prior to study initiation
- Data were originally presented at the FLORetina 2025 Congress; December 4–7 2025, Florence, Italy
- Medical writing support for this encore was provided by Yoanna Todorova, MSc, of ApotheCom (London, UK) and funded by Bayer Consumer Care AG (Basel, Switzerland). All writing support was provided under the direction of the authors and in accordance with Good Publication Practice guidelines (*Ann Intern Med.* 2022;175:1298–1304)

PULSAR Extension Design

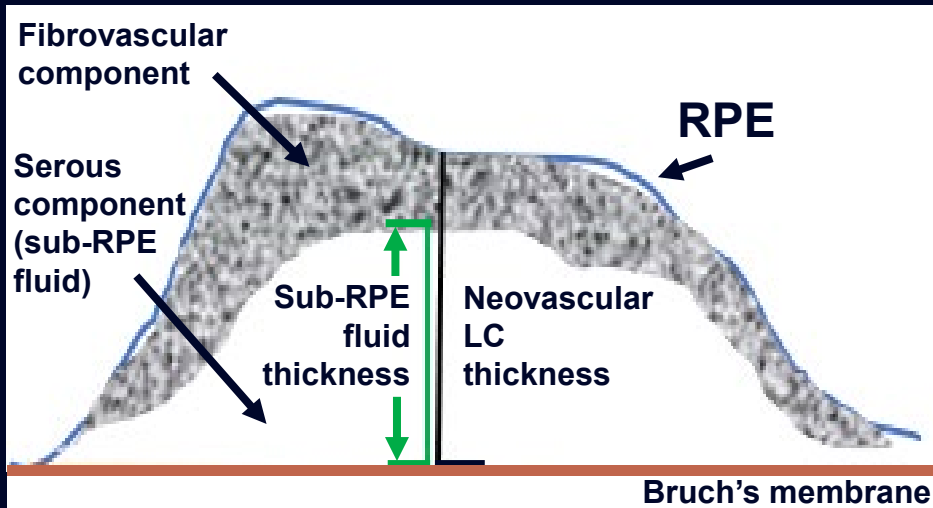


^aTo be eligible for PULSAR Extension, patients were required to have ≥ 1 BCVA and CRT assessments between Week 84 and Week 92. Masked transition period (W96–108) was followed by open-label part (W108–W156). ^bN-BL was an average of values from W84, W88, and W92. ^cOptional phase added while PULSAR was ongoing; therefore, not all patients were able to enroll due to time constraints.

2q8, aflibercept 2 mg every 8 weeks; **8q12**, aflibercept 8 mg every 12 weeks; **8q16**, aflibercept 8 mg every 16 weeks; **BCVA**, best-corrected visual acuity; **BL**, baseline; **CRT**, central subfield retinal thickness; **nAMD**, neovascular age-related macular degeneration; **N-BL**, new baseline; **W**, week.

Sub-RPE Fluid: PED Outcomes

- Pigment epithelial detachment (PED) is characterized by the separation of the RPE from the Bruch's membrane, resulting in a space that can be filled with fluid, blood, drusen, or fibrovascular material
- The neovascular lesion complex (LC) is comprised of the serous (sub-RPE fluid) and fibrovascular component



Objective:

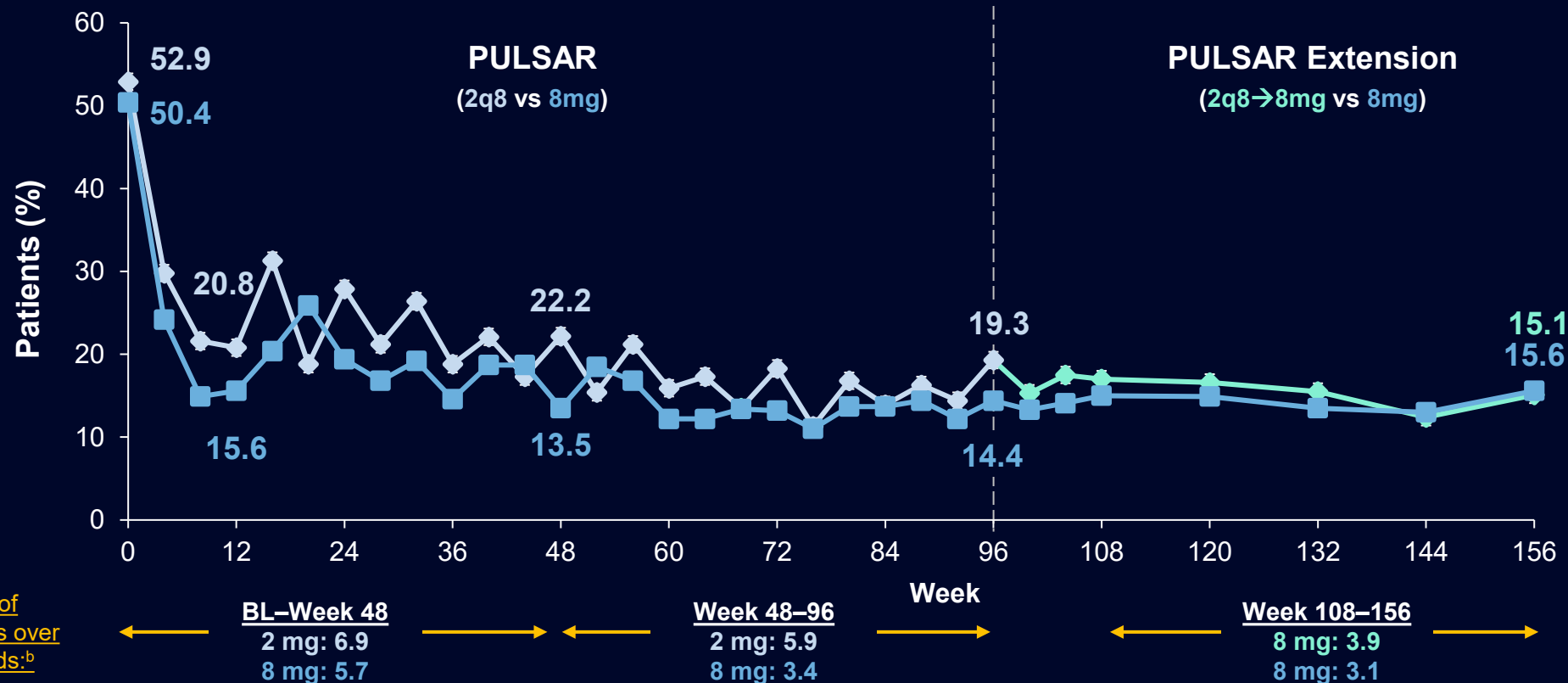
To assess sub-RPE fluid over 156 weeks in patients who switched from aflibercept 2 mg to 8 mg, and who stayed on aflibercept 8 mg

Outcome measures^a:

- Proportion of patients with sub-RPE fluid
- Mean thickness of sub-RPE fluid in patients with serous component of PED involving the foveal center

PED characteristics at PULSAR baseline ^b	2q8→8mg (n=208)	All 8mg (n=417)
Patients with sub-RPE fluid, n (%)	110 (52.9)	210 (50.4)
Patients with sub-RPE fluid with involvement of foveal center, n (%)	24 (11.5)	52 (12.5)

Patients with Presence of Sub-RPE Fluid Through Week 156^a

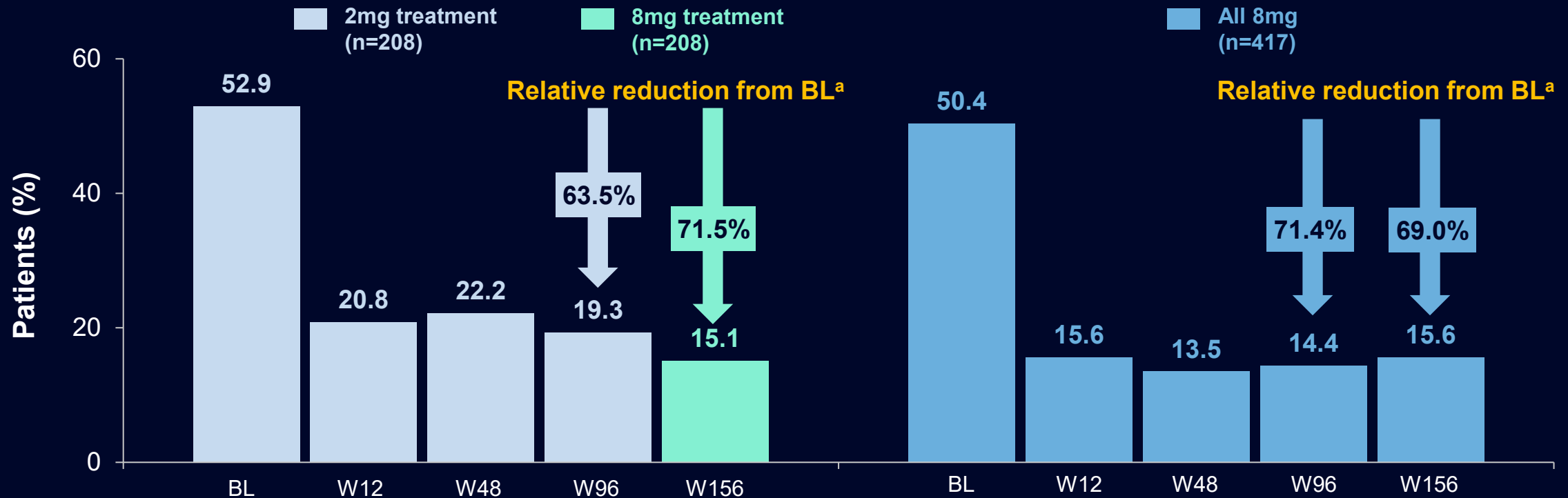


- At **Week 96**, a **lower proportion** of patients had presence of sub-RPE fluid **with aflibercept 8 mg** than with aflibercept 2 mg
- At **Week 156**, the **proportion of patients** with presence of sub-RPE fluid was **generally maintained in the 8mg group**
- Results in the **2q8→8mg** group were **comparable to those of the 8mg group**, with **fewer aflibercept 8 mg injections** (following the switch) compared with previous aflibercept 2 mg injections over the same time periods

^aeFAS, observed cases (2q8→8mg, n=208; 8mg, n=417); ^beSAF (156-week completers; 2q8→8mg, n=186; 8mg, n=375).

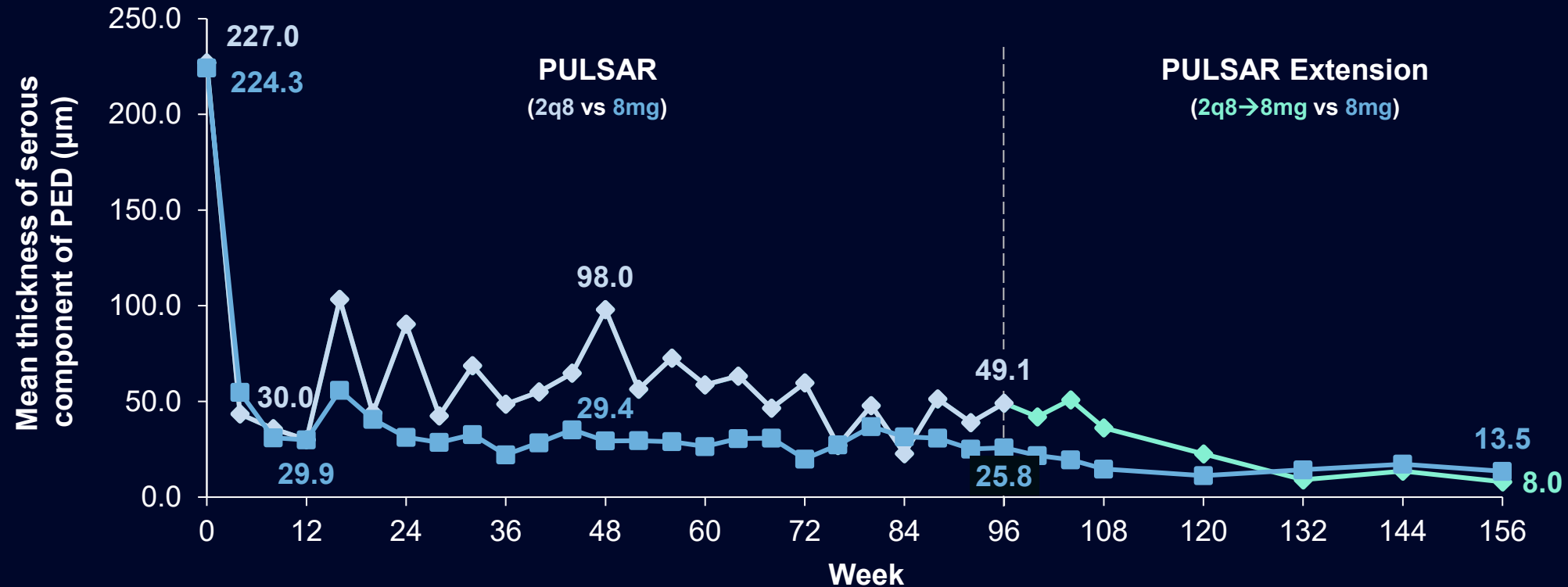
Reduction of Proportion of Patients with Presence of Sub-RPE Fluid at Key Timepoints

Patients with presence of sub-RPE fluid



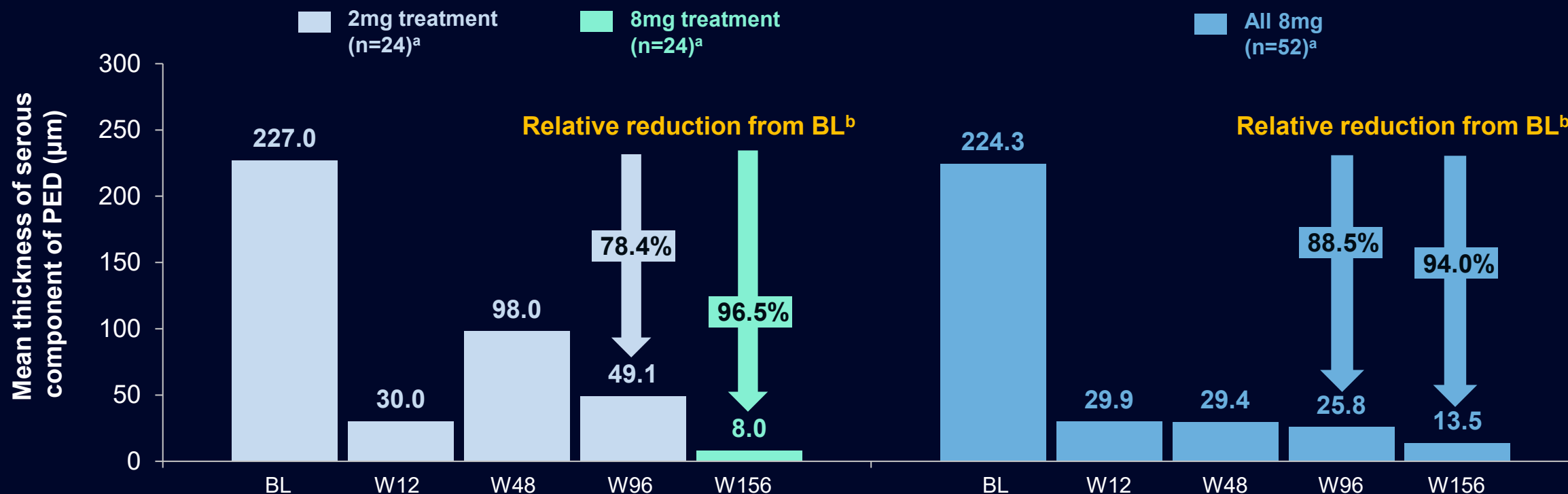
- At Week 96, the proportion of patients with presence of **sub-RPE fluid** decreased from **52.9% to 19.3%** and from **50.4% to 14.4%** at **W96** in patients receiving **aflibercept 2 mg and 8 mg**, respectively
- From **W96 to W156**, the proportion of patients with presence of sub-RPE fluid in the **2q8→8mg** group decreased further following **switch to aflibercept 8 mg**, while the proportion of patients in the 8mg group remained stable

Thickness of Sub-RPE Fluid Involving the Foveal Center Through Week 156



- **Marked reductions in thickness of sub-RPE fluid** involving the foveal center were achieved with **aflibercept 2 mg and 8 mg** at **Week 12** and **sustained through Week 96**
- **Further reductions** were observed at **Week 156** in patients who **switched from aflibercept 2 mg to 8 mg** and in patients who continued to receive **aflibercept 8 mg**

Reductions in Thickness of Sub-RPE Fluid Involving the Foveal Center at Key Timepoints



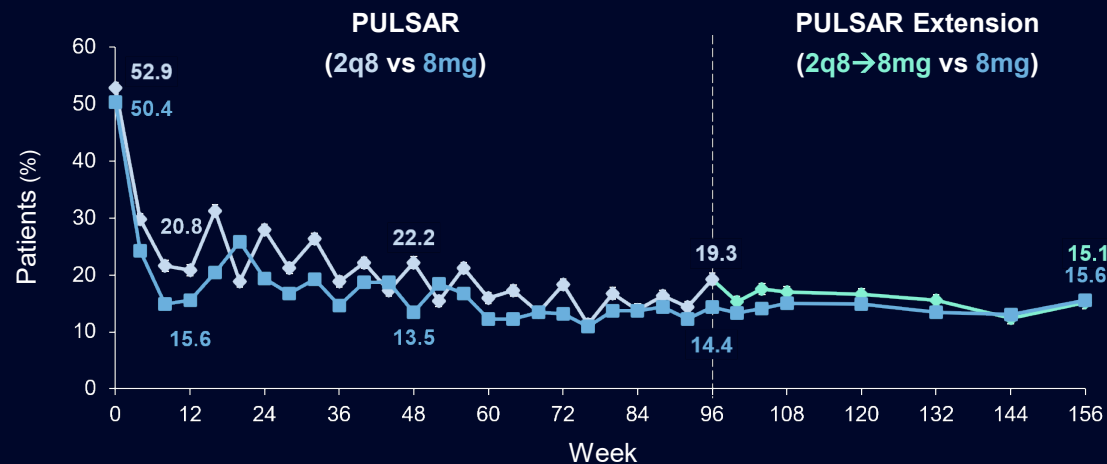
- From **BL to Week 96**, the thickness in sub-RPE fluid involving the foveal center decreased by **78.4%** and **88.5%** in patients who received aflibercept 2 mg and 8 mg, respectively
- At Week 156**, these values decreased further to **96.5%** in patients who switched from aflibercept 2 mg to 8 mg, and to **94.0%** in those who received aflibercept 8 mg throughout

^aPatients with sub-RPE fluid presence at center point, observed cases. ^bCalculated as the mean change from BL in thickness of sub-RPE fluid presence at center point at a particular timepoint divided by the BL value, then multiplied by 100.

Conclusions

- Early **improvements in PED outcomes** were **generally maintained through Week 96** and **sustained or improved from Week 96 to Week 156** in the following patient groups:
 - **2q8→8mg** group following switch from aflibercept 2 mg to aflibercept 8 mg, with **fewer injections**
 - **8mg** group who had been receiving aflibercept 8 mg over **extended dosing intervals**
- At Week 156, the proportion of patients with **sub-RPE fluid resolution** was **comparable in the 2q8→8mg and 8mg groups**

Patients with Presence of Sub-RPE Fluid Through Week 156^a



Thickness of Sub-RPE Fluid Involving the Foveal Center Through Week 156

