



photon

Baseline Characteristics of Patients Who Did or Did Not Maintain 12- & 16-Week Aflibercept 8 mg Dosing Intervals in the Phase 2/3 PHOTON Trial

Sobha Sivaprasad,¹ on behalf of the PHOTON study investigators

¹Moorfields Eye Hospital, London, UK

Disclosures

- Dr Sivaprasad receives funding/fees from Allergan, Apellis, Bayer, Biogen, Boehringer Ingelheim, EyeBiotech, Novartis, Optos, and Roche.
- This study was sponsored by Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (Tarrytown, NY) and co-funded by Bayer AG (Leverkusen, Germany). The sponsors participated in the design and conduct of the study, analysis of the data, and preparation of this presentation
- The results of this analysis were previously presented at the ASRS Annual Meeting, July 28–Aug 1, 2023
- Study disclosures: This study includes research conducted on human patients. Institutional Review Board approval was obtained prior to study initiation
- Writing support was provided by Stephanie Agbu, PhD, and Disha Patel, PhD, of Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Medical writing support for this encore, under the direction of the author, was provided by ApotheCom and funded by Bayer Consumer Care AG (Basel, Switzerland), in accordance with GPP guidelines (Ann Intern Med 2022;175:1298–1304)

PHOTON: Study Design and Dosing Schedule

Multi-center, randomized, double-masked study in patients with DME^a

Randomized 1 (2q8) : 2 (8q12) : 1 (8q16)

Primary endpoint at Week 48: Mean change in BCVA (non-inferiority)

Key secondary endpoint: Proportion of patients with ≥2-step improvement in DRSS at Week 48

	Day 1	Wk 4	Wk 8	Wk 12	Wk 16	Wk 20	Wk 24	Wk 28	Wk 32	Wk 36	Wk 40	Wk 44	Wk 48
2q8 (n=167)	X	X	X	X	X	o	X	o	X	o	X	o	X
8q12 (n=328)	X	X	X	o	o	X	o	o	X	o	o	X	o
8q16 (n=163)	X	X	X	o	o	o	X	o	o	o	X	o	o

Note: Aflibercept 2 mg arm received 5 initial monthly injections versus aflibercept 8 mg arms, which received only 3 initial monthly injections

DRM Criteria for Shortening Dosing Interval

- >10-letter loss in BCVA compared with Week 12, due to persistent or worsening DME

AND

- >50 μm increase in CST compared with Week 12

DRM in Year 1

Intervals can only be **shortened**

Multiple opportunities to shorten interval

Minimum interval for all patients was **Q8**

Week 16 and 20: Patients on **8q12** and **8q16** meeting DRM criteria shortened to Q8

Week 24: Patients on **8q16** meeting DRM criteria shortened to Q12

Week 32 and 44 for **8q12** and Week 40 for **8q16**: Treatment interval shortened by 4 weeks for patients meeting DRM criteria

Stippled boxes = initial treatment phase; X = active injection; o = sham injection. Note: Figure does not reflect all dosing options once a patient's dosing interval is shortened.

^aTreatment naïve and pre-treated.

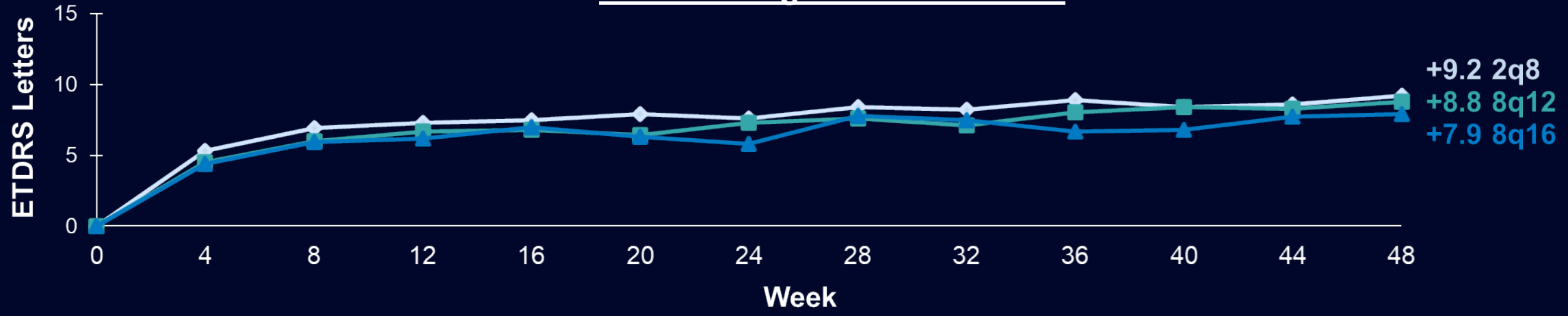
CST, central subfield thickness; DRM, dose regimen modification; DME, diabetic macular edema.



DME

PHOTON: 48-Week BCVA Primary Endpoint Met in Both 8 mg Groups

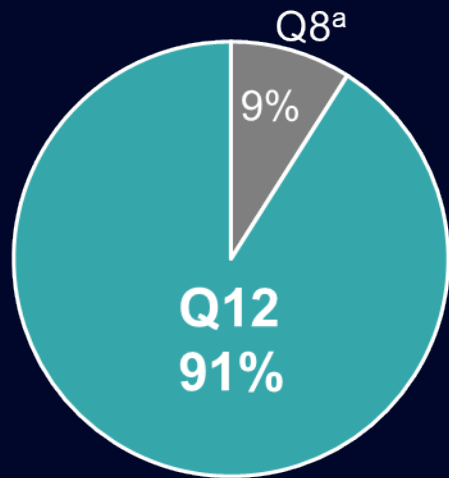
BCVA Change From Baseline^a



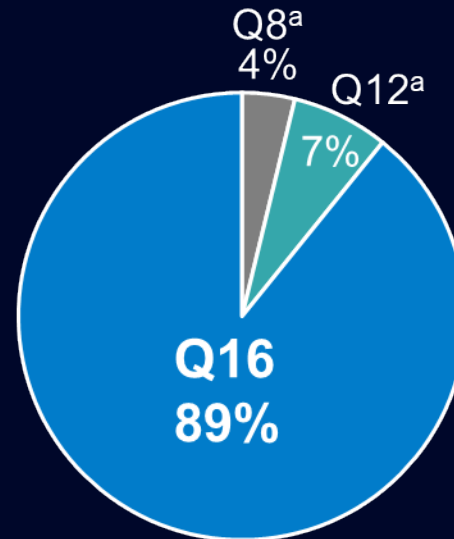
	LS mean change from baseline ^b	Difference in LS means vs aflibercept 2q8	Two-sided 95% CI	One-sided test for non-inferiority at four-letter margin
2q8	8.7	—	—	—
8q12	8.1	-0.57	-2.26, 1.13	p < 0.0001
8q16	7.2	-1.44	-3.27, 0.39	p = 0.0031

^aObserved values (censoring data post-ICE); FAS: 2q8 n=167; 8q12 n=328; 8q16 n=163 (at baseline). ^bLS mean values (censoring data post-ICE); FAS: 2q8 n=167; 8q12 n=328; 8q16 n=163 (at baseline). LS mean values were generated using MMRM, with baseline BCVA as a covariate, treatment group (aflibercept 2q8, 8q12, 8q16) and stratification variables (geographic region [Japan vs rest of the world], baseline CST [<400 μm vs ≥400 μm], prior treatment for DME [yes vs no]) as fixed factors, and interaction terms for baseline and visit and for treatment and visit. ETDRS, Early Treatment Diabetic Retinopathy Study; FAS, full analysis set; ICE, intercurrent event; LS, least squares; MMRM, mixed model for repeated measures.

Proportion of 8 mg Patients Maintaining Q12- and Q16-Week Intervals Through Week 48

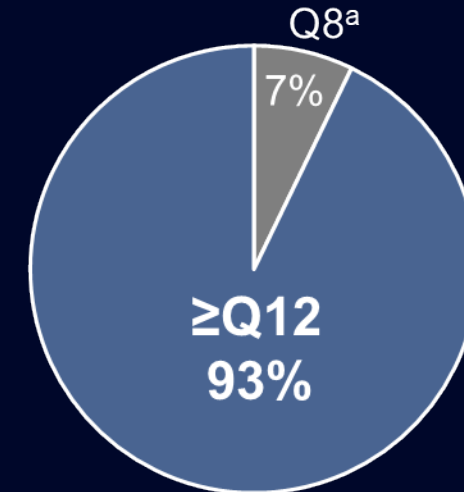


8q12 (n=300)^b



8q16 (n=156)^b

93% of 8 mg patients maintained dosing intervals ≥ 12 weeks



All 8 mg (n=456)^b

Objectives of this analysis:

- To describe baseline characteristics of patients with maintained vs shortened dosing intervals
- To identify baseline characteristics associated with shortened dosing intervals
- To evaluate visual and anatomic outcomes at Week 48 in patients with maintained vs shortened dosing intervals

^aPatients shortened based on DRM assessments at some point through Week 48.

^bPatients completing Week 48.

Baseline Demographics by Dosing Interval

n (%)
Age (years)
Sex (%)
Female
Male
Race (%) ^b
White
Black or African American
Asian
Other ^c
Not reported

8q12 (n=300) ^a	
Maintained	Shortened
273 (91.0)	27 (9.0)
62.2 (10.9)	59.1 (13.9)
36.3	25.9
63.7	74.1
69.6	70.4
10.3	14.8
15.8	14.8
2.9	0
1.5	0

8q16 (n=156) ^a	
Maintained	Shortened
139 (89.1)	17 (10.9)
62.0 (9.6)	60.1 (9.9)
41.0	29.4
59.0	70.6
77.0	88.2
6.5	0
14.4	11.8
0.7	0
1.4	0

Data are mean (SD) unless otherwise indicated.

^aPatients from the FAS who completed Week 48.

^bThe sum of proportions may not equal 100% due to rounding.

^cOther includes American Indian or Alaskan Native, Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander, and Multiple.

Baseline Demographics by Dosing Interval

	8q12 (n=300) ^a		8q16 (n=156) ^a	
	Maintained	Shortened	Maintained	Shortened
n (%)	273 (91.0)	27 (9.0)	139 (89.1)	17 (10.9)
Ethnicity (%) ^b				
Hispanic or Latino	16.1	3.7	23.0	5.9
Not Hispanic or Latino	81.3	96.3	75.5	88.2
Not reported	2.6	0	1.4	5.9
Type 2 diabetes (%)	94.5	92.6	95.0	94.1
Duration of diabetes (years)	15.5 (10.1)	11.1 (9.7)	15.6 (10.5)	15.8 (11.0)
NEI VFQ-25 total score	77.1 (17.3)	76.1 (16.4)	78.7 (15.5)	72.4 (16.8)
BMI (kg/m ²)	30.3 (6.1)	29.3 (6.6)	31.1 (6.3)	30.5 (4.8)
Hemoglobin A1c (%)	8.0 (1.5)	7.8 (1.4)	7.9 (1.5)	7.8 (1.9)
Hemoglobin A1c category (%) ^b				
≤8%	57.5	70.4	63.3	70.6
>8%	41.8	29.6	35.3	29.4

Data are mean (SD) unless otherwise indicated.

^aPatients from the FAS who completed Week 48.

^bThe sum of proportions may not equal 100% due to rounding or missing values.

BMI, body mass index; NEI VFQ-25, National Eye Institute Visual Functioning Questionnaire-25.

Baseline Ocular Characteristics by Dosing Interval

	8q12 (n=300) ^a		8q16 (n=156) ^a	
	Maintained	Shortened	Maintained	Shortened
n (%)	273 (91.0)	27 (9.0)	139 (89.1)	17 (10.9)
BCVA (ETDRS letters)	63.9 (10.1)	59.4 (10.0)	62.7 (11.2)	53.7 (12.8)
CRT (μm)	444.9 (129.8)	511.4 (117.5)	447.1 (112.5)	534.8 (134.3)
Baseline DRSS score (%)				
Level 43 or better	61.2	51.9	66.9	58.8
Level 47 or worse	33.7	40.7	26.6	41.2
Ungradable	5.1	7.4	6.5	0
Prior DME treatment, n (%)	42.5	55.6	44.6	47.1

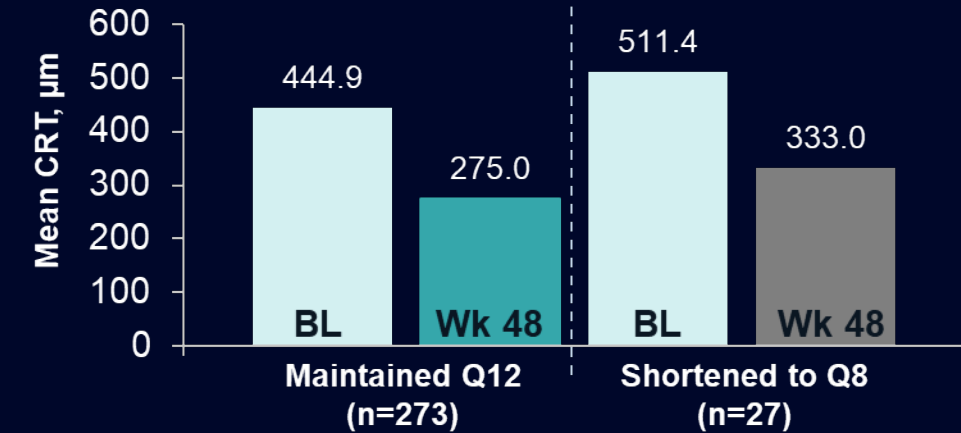
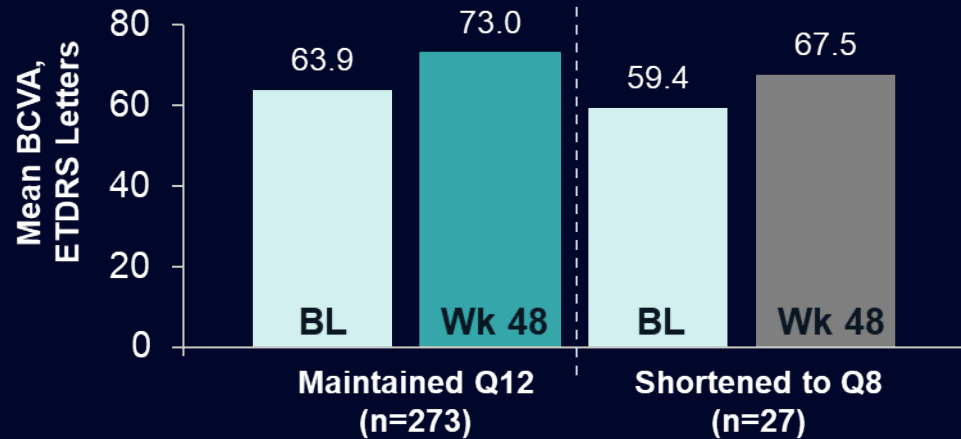
Compared with patients who maintained their randomized dosing intervals, those whose dosing intervals were shortened had on average **lower** BCVA and **greater** CRT at baseline

Data are mean (SD) unless otherwise indicated.

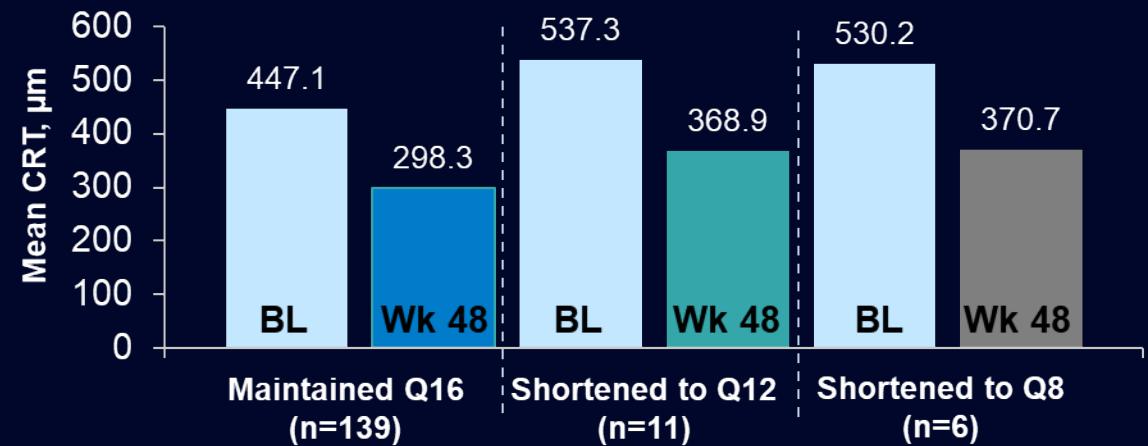
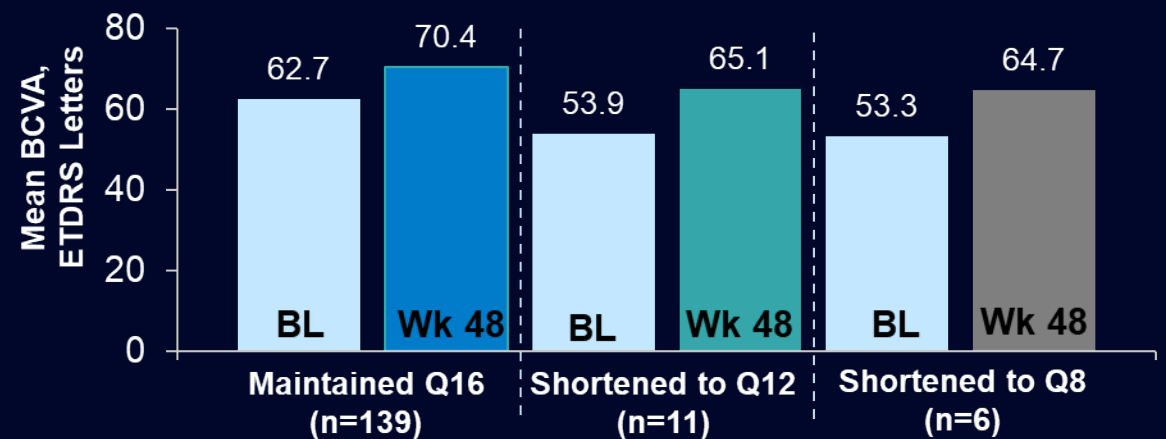
^aPatients from the FAS who completed Week 48.

Absolute BCVA and CRT at Baseline and Week 48 by Dosing Interval

8q12 (n=300)^a



8q16 (n=156)^a



^aPatients from the FAS who completed Week 48. FAS, observed values (censoring data post-ICE).

Conclusions

- Aflibercept 8q12 and 8q16 demonstrated non-inferior BCVA gains compared to aflibercept 2q8 at Week 48, with a large majority of patients maintaining their randomized 12- or 16-week dosing intervals
 - Dosing intervals were shortened in approximately 10% of patients
- Lower BCVA and greater CRT at baseline were associated with shortened dosing intervals in patients receiving aflibercept 8 mg in this trial
- Patients treated with aflibercept 8 mg with shortened dosing intervals had meaningful BCVA gains and CRT improvements at Week 48, although absolute BCVA and CRT values at Week 48 were not equivalent to those of patients with maintained dosing intervals