# Development of Crizotinib for the Treatment of ALK-positive NSCLC

# A Case Study in Genomics-Based Drug Development

March 21, 2012

Institute of Medicine Drug Discovery Workshop

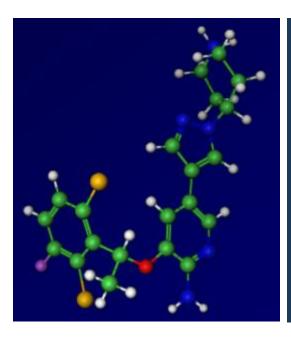
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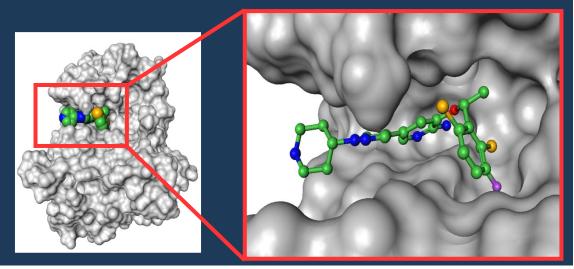
Pfizer, Inc.

# **Crizotinib: Overview**

- Formulary name: PF-02341066
- Generic name: Crizotinib
- Trade name: XALKORI™
- Chemical formula: C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>22</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>FN<sub>5</sub>O
- Mechanism of action: ATP competitive kinase inhibitor
- Main targets: c-Met, ALK, ROS
- Approved by US FDA August 26, 2011



#### Crizotinib in the ALK ATP binding pocket



#### DRUG: Crizotinib - Indications and Usage<sup>1</sup>

XALKORI® is a kinase inhibitor indicated for the treatment of patients with locally advanced or metastatic non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) that is anaplastic lymphoma kinase (ALK)-positive as detected by an FDA-approved test. (1) This indication is based on response rate. There are no data available demonstrating improvement in patient reported outcomes or survival with XALKORI.

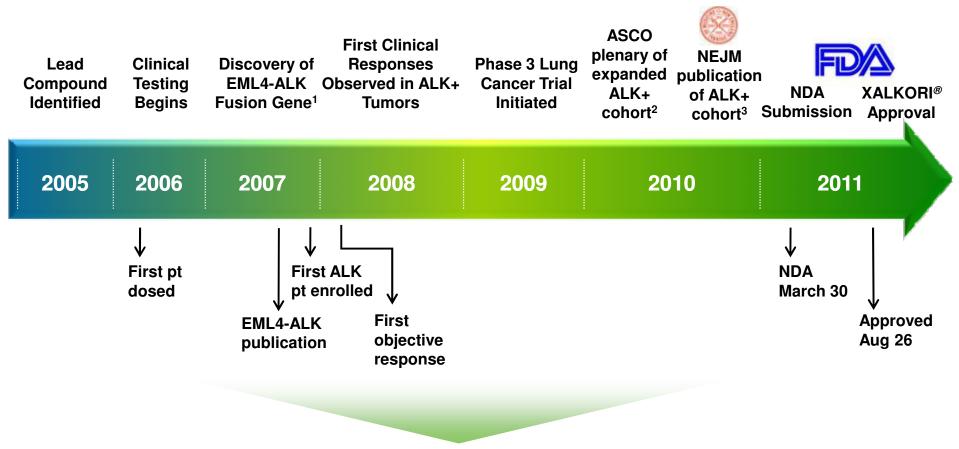
#### **DEVICE:** Abbott Vysis<sup>®</sup> ALK Break Apart FISH Probe Kit - Intended Use<sup>2</sup>

The Vysis ALK Break Apart FISH Probe Kit is a qualitative test to detect rearrangements involving the ALK gene via fluorescence in situ hybridization (FISH) in formalin-fixed paraffin-embedded (FFPE) non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) tissue specimens to aid in identifying those patients eligible for treatment with XALKORI<sup>®</sup> (crizotinib). This test is for prescription use only.

1. XALKORI label; Reference FDA website

2. Vysis ALK BAP FISH Probe Kit Package Insert; http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/cdrh\_docs/pdf11/P110012c.pdf

## Crizotinib Development: From Compound Identification to FDA Approval



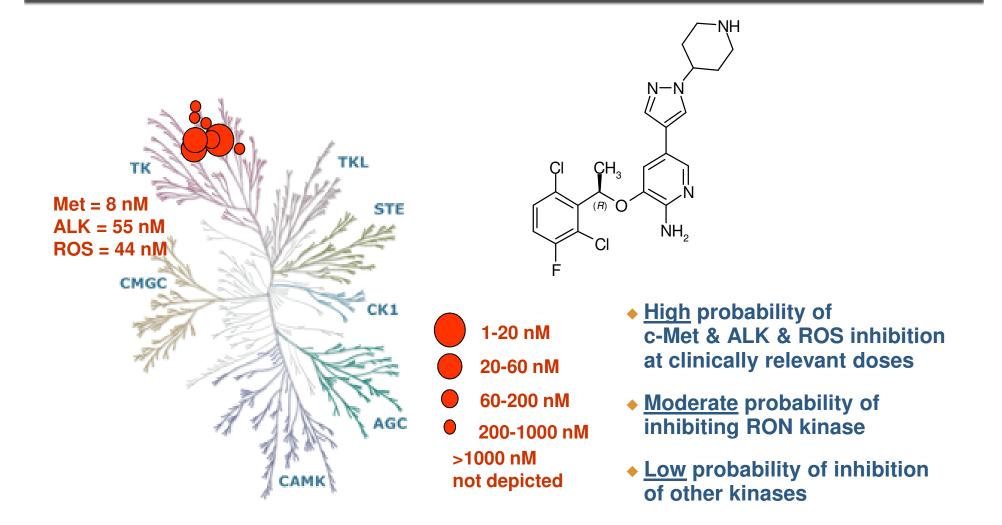
#### Rapid Timeline from Compound Identification, Target Discovery and Clinical Results

1. Soda et al. *Nature* 2007, 448: 561.

2. Bang JY et al. Oral presentation at ASCO, 2010

3. Kwak et al. *New Engl J Med*. 2010;363:1693–03 4

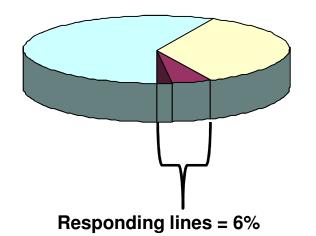
# **Crizotinib Target Profile**



ALK= anaplastic lymphoma kinase.

## Understanding Molecular Correlates with Response To Crizotinib

#### Screening of >700 tumor cell lines for sensitivity to growth inhibition



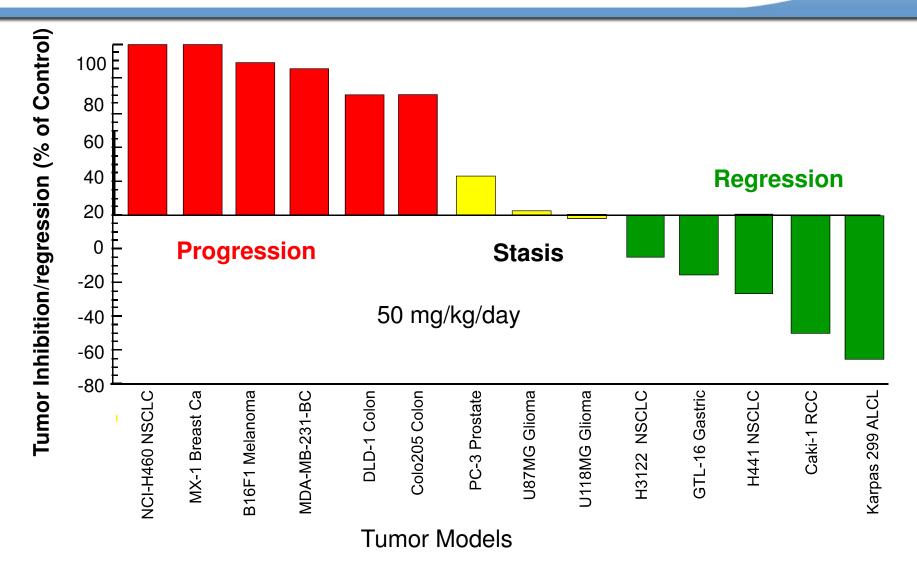
ratio T/U <0.2 @ 500 nM</li>
ratio T/U 0.2-0.5 @ 500 nM
ratio T/U >0.5-75 @ 500 nM
ratio T/U > 0.5-75 @ 500 nM

ratio T/U >0.75 @ 500 nM

#### Crizotinib sensitive cell lines included:

- gastric, esophageal and NSCLC with MET amplification
- Neuroblastoma with ALK mutation or amplification
- anaplastic large cell lymphoma with NPM-ALK fusion
- NSCLC with EML4-ALK fusion
- NSCLC with ROS fusion

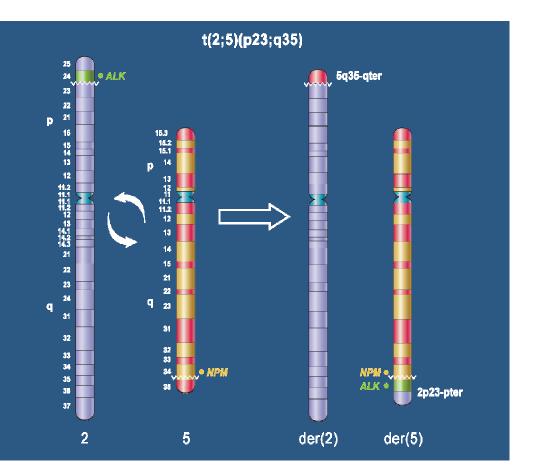
# Spectrum of Response to Crizotinib in Preclinical Tumor Models



Models exhibiting dysregulation of MET or ALK are highly sensitive to crizotinib\_

## **Discovery of ALK in Lymphoma**

- ALK first discovered in a subset of anaplastic large-cell lymphoma (ALCL), leading to the name anaplastic lymphoma kinase.
- ALK fused to the N-terminal portion of nucleophosmin (*NPM-ALK*), leading to constitutive activation of ALK activity.



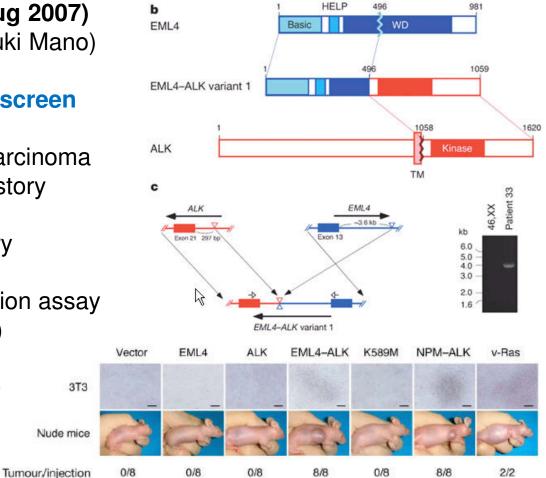
Morris et al., *Science* 1994; 263:1281-1284 Mathew et al. *Blood* 1997; 89:1678-1685

# **Functional Genomic Screen Leading to ALK in NSCLC**

Soda et al. Nature 448, 561 (2 Aug 2007) (principal investigator: Prof. Hiroyuki Mano)

"Classical" functional genomic screen

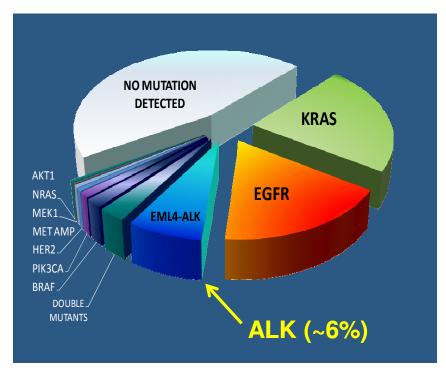
- surgically resected lung adenocarcinoma from 62 yo man with smoking history
- retroviral cDNA expression library
- screened in 3T3 cell transformation assay (anchorage independent growth)
- confirmed as tumorigenic *in vivo*
- bonafide oncogene



• also: Rikova et al. Cell v 131 (14 Dec 2007): Phosphoproteomic survey in NSCLC

## **Challenges: low frequency population**

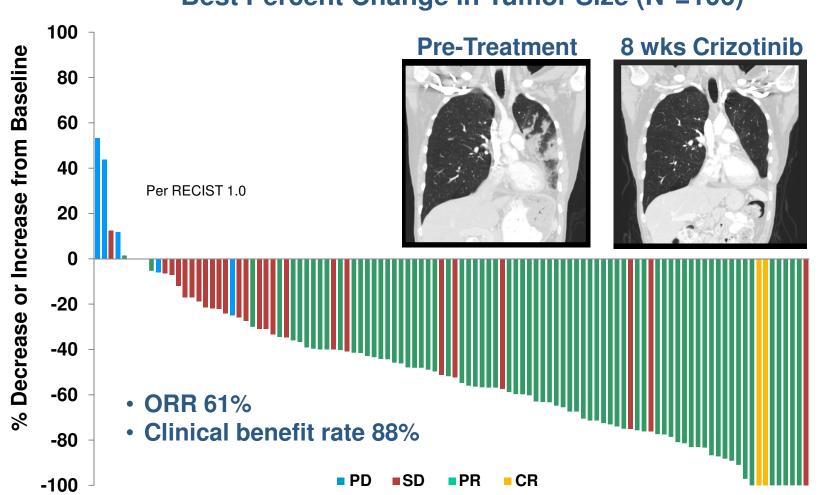
#### Lung Cancer Mutation Consortium (Adenocarcinomas)



ALK = anaplastic lymphoma kinase; EGFR = epidermal growth factor receptor; Her2 = human epidermal growth factor receptor 2; PIK3CA = phosphoinositide-3-kinase, catalytic, alpha chain

- N=830 registered (varying numbers per test)
- Mutations identified in 60%
- Mutually exclusive in 95%
- ALK gene fusion identified by FISH analysis

#### ALK-Positive Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer Study A8081001: Tumor Responses to Crizotinib by Patient



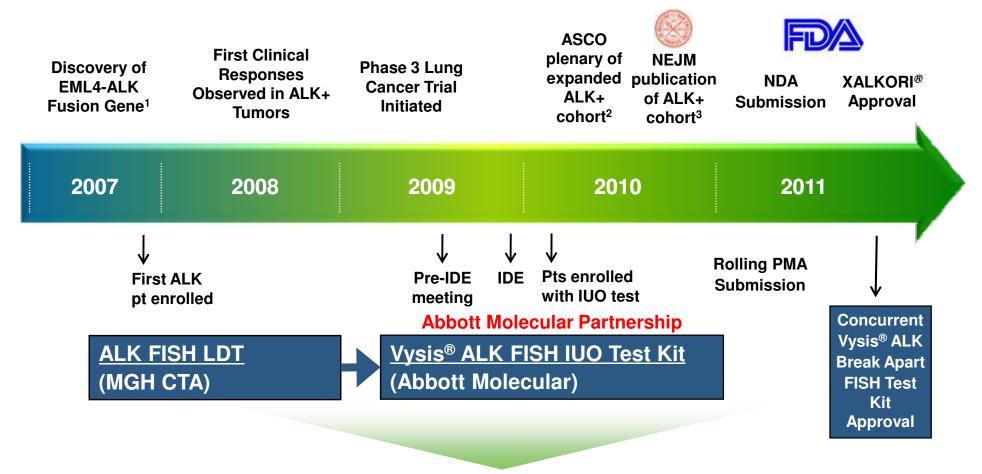
#### **Best Percent Change in Tumor Size (N\*=106)**

\*N is based on the RE population that excludes patients with Early Death and Indeterminate

Camidge et al., ASCO 2011; Abs #2501 Kwak et al. 2011. New Engl J Med 364, 588

- Rationale for molecularly-defined target populations established pre-clinically based on target kinase profile and pre-clinical in vitro / in vivo efficacy
- Pivotal data supporting ALK gene fusion as a potential oncogenic driver in NSCLC rapidly established the key clinical predictive marker hypothesis
- Clinical efficacy supporting the ALK predictive marker hypothesis and clinical proof-of-concept early in development (Phase 1) resulted in the rapid integration of companion diagnostic test development into the clinical program
- The rapid clinical development timeline presented challenges to the co-development of a companion diagnostic test

### **ALK CDx Development:** From Phase 1 LDT to PMA approval



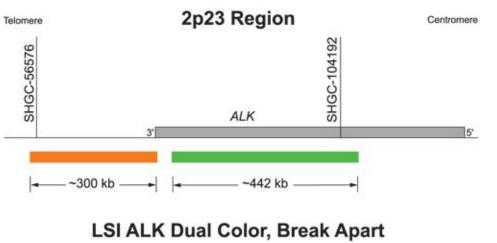
#### Rapid Transition from LDT to IUO to PMA

- 1. Soda et al. Nature 2007, 448: 561.
- 2. Bang JY et al. Oral presentation at ASCO, 2010
- 13 3. Kwak et al. New Engl J Med. 2010;363:1693-03

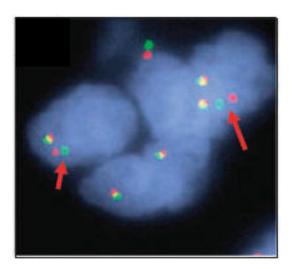
# **Companion Diagnostic Test for ALK**

#### Platform Selection - FISH:

- clinically established platform
- break-apart assay for gene rearrangement independent of ALK fusion partner
- sample: utilizes FFPE tissue sections
- sensitive: interpretation can be made on a minimum of 50 tumor cells
- cut-off: positive defined as  $\geq$  15% of cells exhibiting ALK gene rearrangement
- considered lowest technical and regulatory risk



**Rearrangement Probe** 



## **Clinical Development of Crizotinib in ALK-Positive Advanced NSCLC**

Protocol	Setting	Trial Design	Primary Endpoints
A8081001	All Lines Solid Tumors ALK-Positive NSCLC	Single-Arm, Open-Label	Safety, PK, ORR
A8081005	≥2 <sup>nd</sup> -Line	Single-Arm, Open-Label	ORR, Safety
A8081007 (confirmatory Phase 3)	2 <sup>nd</sup> -Line	Crizotinib vs. Pemetrexed or Docetaxel, Open-Label	PFS
A8081014 (confirmatory Phase 3)	1 <sup>st</sup> -Line	Crizotinib vs. Pem/Carbo or Pem/Cis, Open-Label	PFS



# **Diagnostic Co-Development for Crizotinib**

### **Technical Issues**

- Assay platform selection
- Specimen type(s) and analyte stability
- Selecting a cut-off value: clinical vs biologic rationale

## **Operational Issues**

- Tissue procurement
- CDx-focused Informed Consent Document
- Clinical data on biomarker negative population

# **Partnership Coordination**

- Integration of diagnostic testing into clinical trials
- Coordination of PMA submission with NDA submission

# **Drug-Diagnostic Co-Development**

- Advancing a candidate companion diagnostic test through early development and into PMA-enabling late development requires close integration with the clinical development plan
- Similar to the sequence of decisions committing increasing resources to advance a drug candidate through the pipeline (e.g. candidate nomination for FIH study, POM, POC), development of a candidate companion diagnostic test also a requires rigorous, data-driven evaluation:
  - Define quality predictive marker hypotheses that warrant clinical testing
  - Develop reliable clinical assays of sufficient quality to test hypothesis early in development (fit-for-purpose; technically rigorous; beware LDT)
  - Anticipate transition to IUO (plan for success)
  - Data-driven decision to initiate IUO development for use in pivotal studies

# Summary: Crizotinib as a Case Study for Drug Discovery and Development

- Quality science pre-clinical and clinical disease biology
- Flexibility in clinical development
- Rigorous clinical IVD test development and validation
- Informed Dx development strategy anticipating IUO/PMA
- Productive collaboration with diagnostic company partner