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# Primary Results from 8–11 Years of Follow-up in the CLASSIC-MS Study Show Long-Term Efficacy for Patients Who Received Cladribine Tablets in ORACLE MS

Thomas Leist, Gavin Giovannoni, Aida Aydemir, Elisabetta Verdun Di Cantogno,  
on behalf of the CLASSIC-MS Steering Committee

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Medical writing assistance was provided by Claire Mwape of inScience Communications, Springer Healthcare Ltd, UK, and was funded by the healthcare business of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany.

## DISCLOSURES

**TL** has received consultancy fees or clinical research grants from Acorda, Bayer, Biogen, Daiichi, EMD Serono, Novartis, ONO, Pfizer, and Teva Neuroscience.

**GG** has received speaker honoraria and consulting fees from AbbVie, Actelion (Janssen/J&J), Almirall, Atara Bio, Bayer, Biogen, Celgene (BMS), FivePrime, GlaxoSmithKline, GW Pharma, Ironwood, Merck & Co., Novartis, the healthcare business of Merck KGaA (Darmstadt, Germany), Pfizer Inc., Protein Discovery Laboratories, Roche, Sanofi, Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd, UCB, and Vertex Pharmaceuticals; and has received research support unrelated to this study from Biogen, Ironwood, Merck & Co., Novartis, and Takeda.

**AA** and **EVDC** are employees of EMD Serono Research & Development Institute, Inc., Billerica, MA, USA.

# Primary Results from 8–11 Years of Follow-up in the CLASSIC-MS Study Show Long-Term Efficacy for Patients Who Received Cladribine Tablets in ORACLE MS

T. Leist<sup>1</sup>, G. Giovannoni<sup>2</sup>, A. Aydemir<sup>3</sup>, E. Verdun Di Cantogno<sup>3</sup>, on behalf of the CLASSIC-MS Steering Committee

<sup>1</sup>Division of Clinical Neuroimmunology, Jefferson University, Philadelphia, PA, USA; <sup>2</sup>Blizard Institute, Barts and The London School of Medicine and Dentistry, Queen Mary University of London, London, UK; <sup>3</sup>EMD Serono Research & Development Institute, Inc., Billerica, MA, USA



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## CONCLUSIONS

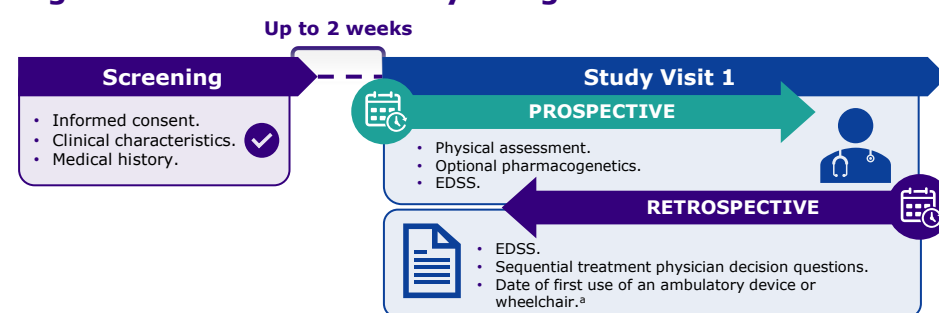
With a median of 9.5 years' follow-up since last dose, findings suggest that patients with a FCDE exposed to cladribine tablets experienced:

- Delayed conversion to CDMS, with more patients remaining relapse-free than never exposed patients.
- Sustained efficacy (long-term mobility/disability).

## INTRODUCTION

- CLASSIC-MS (NCT03961204) was an exploratory, ambispective Phase IV study designed to evaluate the long-term efficacy of cladribine tablets in the real-world setting in patients who were previously enrolled in the Phase III (parent) trials CLARITY,<sup>[1]</sup> CLARITY Extension,<sup>[2]</sup> and ORACLE-MS.<sup>[3]</sup>

Figure 1. CLASSIC-MS Study Design



<sup>a</sup>Was determined through retrospective chart review and/or at Study Visit 1, e.g. if conversion or disability progression occurred between last regular clinical visit and Study Visit 1. EDSS, Expanded Disability Status Scale

## OBJECTIVE

To report on long-term efficacy findings for patients who participated in ORACLE MS, in terms of:

Conversion to clinically definite multiple sclerosis (CDMS) and relapse rates

### Mobility

(no wheelchair use in the previous 3 months and not bedridden at any time prior to first visit in CLASSIC-MS; i.e. Expanded Disability Status Scale [EDSS] score <7)

### Disability status

(no use of an ambulatory device at any time since last parent study dose [LPSD]; i.e. EDSS score <6)

## METHODS

- CLASSIC-MS patients who participated in ORACLE MS,<sup>[3]</sup> having experienced a first clinical demyelinating event (FCDE), were evaluated.
- All patients must have received ≥1 course of cladribine tablets or placebo during the parent study, in which patients were assigned 1:1:1 to either cladribine tablets 3.5 mg/kg, cladribine tablets 5.25 mg/kg, or placebo.
- A total of 227 patients were included in the analysis, with 156 (68.7%) having been exposed to cladribine tablets during the ORACLE MS parent trial. The remaining 71 patients (31.3%) were never exposed to cladribine tablets.
- **Median time since LPSD** in this cohort of the CLASSIC-MS study was **9.5** (range 8.2, 11.2) **years**.
- Conversion to CDMS was determined according to the McDonald 2017 criteria.

## RESULTS

Table 1. Patient Demographics and Disease Characteristics at Parent Study Baseline and Study Visit 1 of CLASSIC-MS

	Never exposed to cladribine tablets (N=71)	Exposed to cladribine tablets (N=156)	Total (N=227)
Age at Study Visit 1, years (mean ± SD)	42.9 ± 8.37	42.7 ± 8.26	42.7 ± 8.28
Female, n (%)	44 (62.0)	105 (67.3)	149 (65.6)
EDSS score at parent study baseline (mean ± SD)	1.61 ± 0.86	1.73 ± 0.82	1.69 ± 0.83
EDSS score at CLASSIC-MS baseline (mean ± SD)	2.40 ± 1.86	2.04 ± 1.54	2.15 ± 1.65
Time from CDMS conversion (years), mean ± SD	8.58 ± 2.41	7.43 ± 2.78	7.87 ± 2.69
Missing, n (%)	13 (18.3)	63 (40.4)	76 (33.5)
Employment status at Study Visit 1, n (%)			
Employed for wages	46 (64.8)	95 (60.9)	141 (62.1)
Self-employed	5 (7.0) <sup>55 (77.5%)</sup>	29 (18.6) <sup>132 (84.6%)</sup>	34 (15.0)
Homemaker	4 (5.6)	8 (5.1)	12 (5.3)
Not in active employment <sup>a</sup>	12 (16.9)	14 (9.0)	26 (11.5)
Unknown <sup>b</sup>	4 (5.6)	10 (6.4)	14 (6.2)

<sup>a</sup>Not in active employment includes retired and out of work/unable to work. <sup>b</sup>Unknown includes those with missing/not reported data or information not collected at study site. CDMS, clinically definite multiple sclerosis; EDSS, Expanded Disability Status Scale

- Patient characteristics are shown in **Table 1**.
  - Of the patients exposed to cladribine tablets, 84.6% (n=132) were **actively employed** at inclusion in CLASSIC-MS compared with 77.5% (n=55) of the never exposed patients.

### Conversion to CDMS and Proportion of Patients Relapse-Free

- The proportion of patients **converting to CDMS** was lower in the exposed cohort, and this cohort also showed a longer time to conversion (**Table 2**).

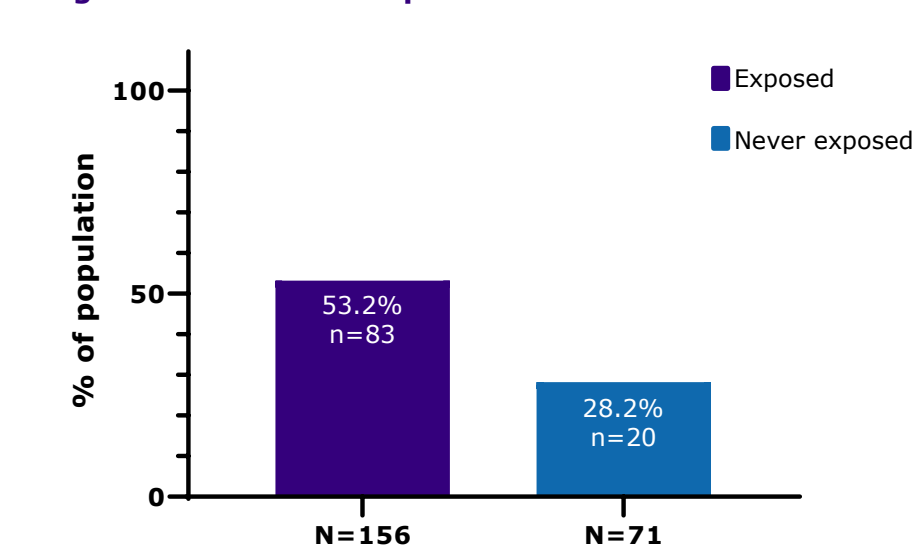
Table 2. Proportion of Patients Converting to CDMS and Time-to Conversion Since Dosing in ORACLE MS

	Never exposed to cladribine tablets (N=71)	Exposed to cladribine tablets (N=156)	Total (N=227)
Since first parent study dose			
Patients who converted to CDMS <sup>a</sup> , n (%)	55 (77.5)	78 (50.0)	133 (58.6)
Median time to conversion to CDMS, years (min, max)	1.21 (0.0, 10.7)	3.36 (0.0, 11.1)	2.02 (0.0, 11.1)
Since last parent study dose			
Patients who converted to CDMS <sup>a</sup> , n (%)	50 (70.4)	67 (42.9)	117 (51.5)
Median time to conversion to CDMS, years (min, max)	0.41 (0.0, 9.7)	2.81 (0.0, 9.1)	1.70 (0.0, 9.7)

<sup>a</sup>Conversion to CDMS status was derived using both parent study and CLASSIC-MS data. CDMS, clinically definite multiple sclerosis.

- Over half of patients (53.2%) exposed to cladribine tablets were relapse-free since LPSD compared with 28.2% in the never exposed cohort (**Figure 2**).

Figure 2. Patients Relapse-free Since LPSD



### Long-term Mobility and Disability Status

- For patients exposed to ≥1 dose of cladribine tablets in ORACLE MS (vs never exposed patients):
  - 98.7% vs 94.2% did not use a wheelchair in the previous 3 months and were not bedridden at any time prior to first visit in CLASSIC-MS (odds ratio\* 0.40; 95% confidence interval: 0.070, 2.319; *p* = 0.3079; **Figure 3**).
  - 97.4% vs 94.4% did not use an ambulatory device at any time since LPSD (**Figure 4**).

\*Adjusted odds ratio from a logistic regression model with fixed effects for treatment group and disease duration.

Figure 3. Long-term Mobility

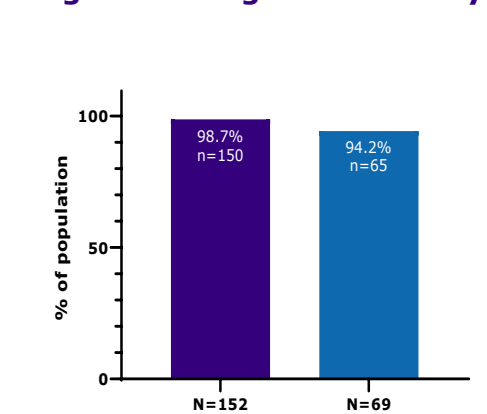
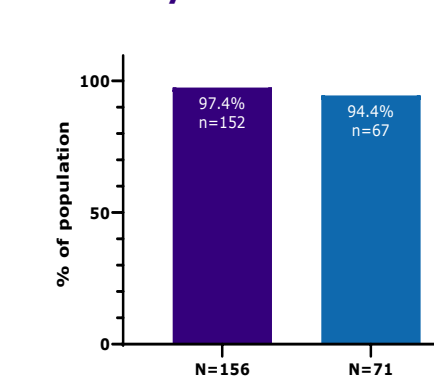


Figure 4. Long-term Disability Status



Missing data were not included in the analysis (n=4 and n=2 for exposed and never exposed cohorts, respectively).

- REFERENCES**
1. Giovannoni G, et al. *N Engl J Med*. 2010;362:416–426.
  2. Giovannoni G, et al. *Mult Scler*. 2018;24:1594–1604.
  3. Leist T, et al. *Lancet Neurol*. 2014;13:257–267.

Cladribine tablets 10 mg (3.5 mg/kg cumulative dose over 2 years) are indicated for the treatment of patients with MS in the United States (relapsing forms of MS, including relapsing-remitting disease and active secondary progressive disease, in adults). The CLASSIC-MS study: NCT03961204.

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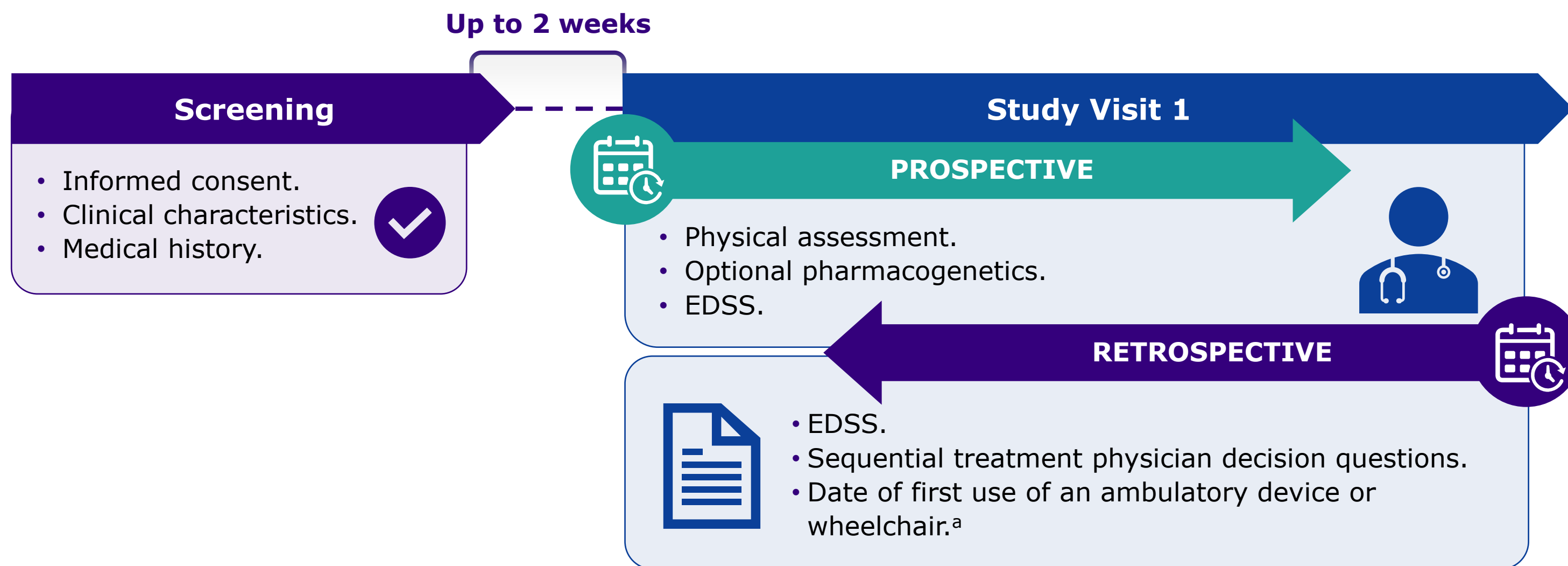
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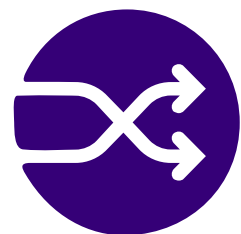
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## RESULTS

**Table 2. Proportion of Patients Converting to CDMS and Time-to Conversion Since Dosing in ORACLE MS**

		<b>Never exposed to cladribine tablets (N=71)</b>	<b>Exposed to cladribine tablets (N=156)</b>	<b>Total (N=227)</b>
Conversion to CDMS <sup>a</sup> <b>since first parent study dose</b>	<b>Number of patients, n (%)</b>	<b>55 (77.5)</b>	<b>78 (50.0)</b>	<b>133 (58.6)</b>
	Median time to conversion, years (min, max)	1.21 (0.0, 10.7)	3.36 (0.0, 11.1)	2.02 (0.0, 11.1)
Conversion to CDMS <sup>a</sup> <b>since last parent study dose</b>	<b>Number of patients, n (%)</b>	<b>50 (70.4)</b>	<b>67 (42.9)</b>	<b>117 (51.5)</b>
	Median time to conversion, years (min, max)	0.41 (0.0, 9.7)	2.81 (0.0, 9.1)	1.70 (0.0, 9.7)

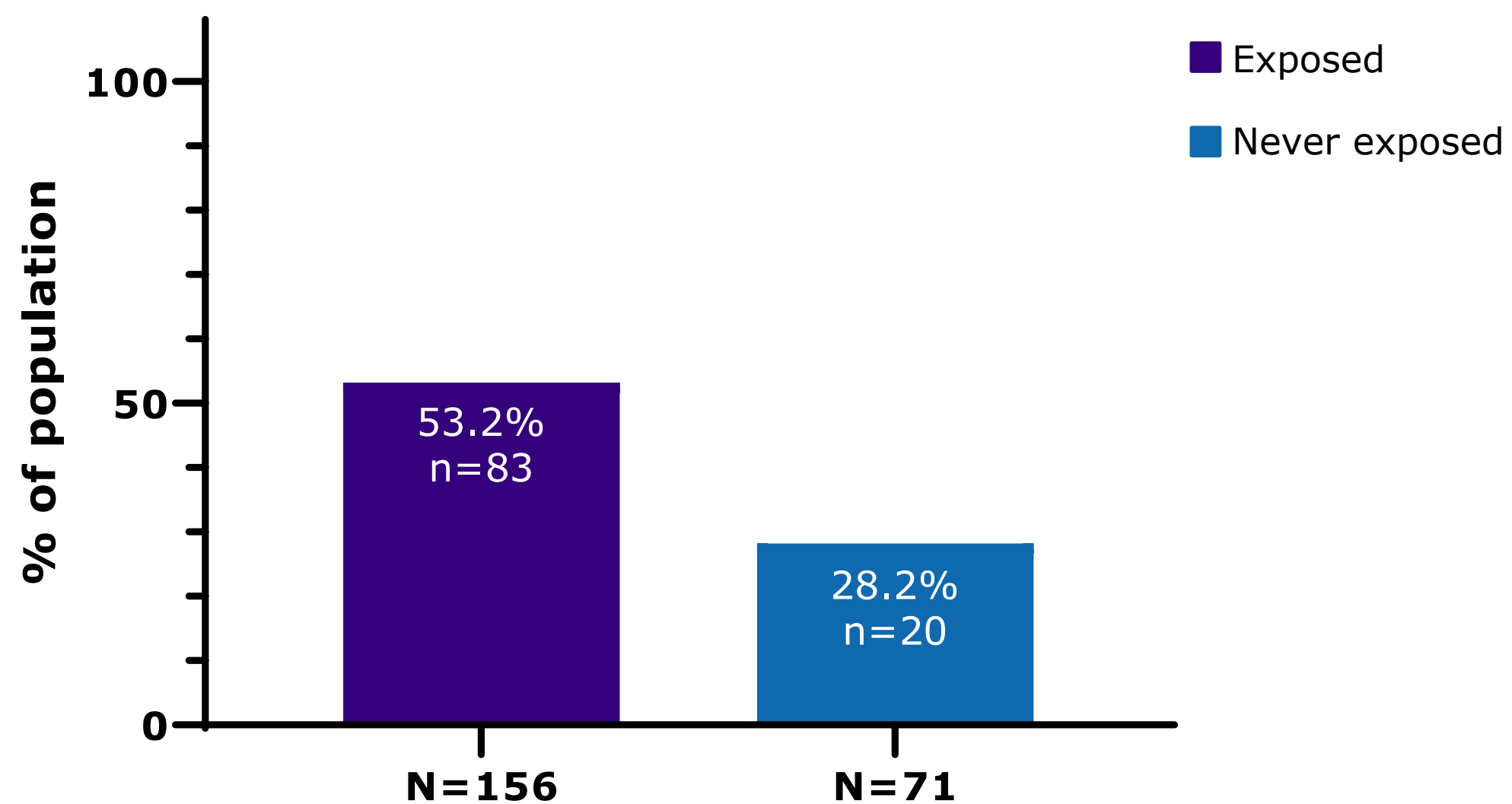
<sup>a</sup>Conversion to CDMS status was derived using both parent study and CLASSIC-MS data.

**The proportions of patients converting to CDMS were lower in the exposed cohort, and this cohort also showed a longer time to conversion.**



## RESULTS

**Figure 2. Patients Relapse-free Since Last Parent Study Dose**



**Over half of patients (53.2%) exposed to cladribine tablets were relapse-free since last parent study dose compared with 28.2% in the never exposed cohort.**

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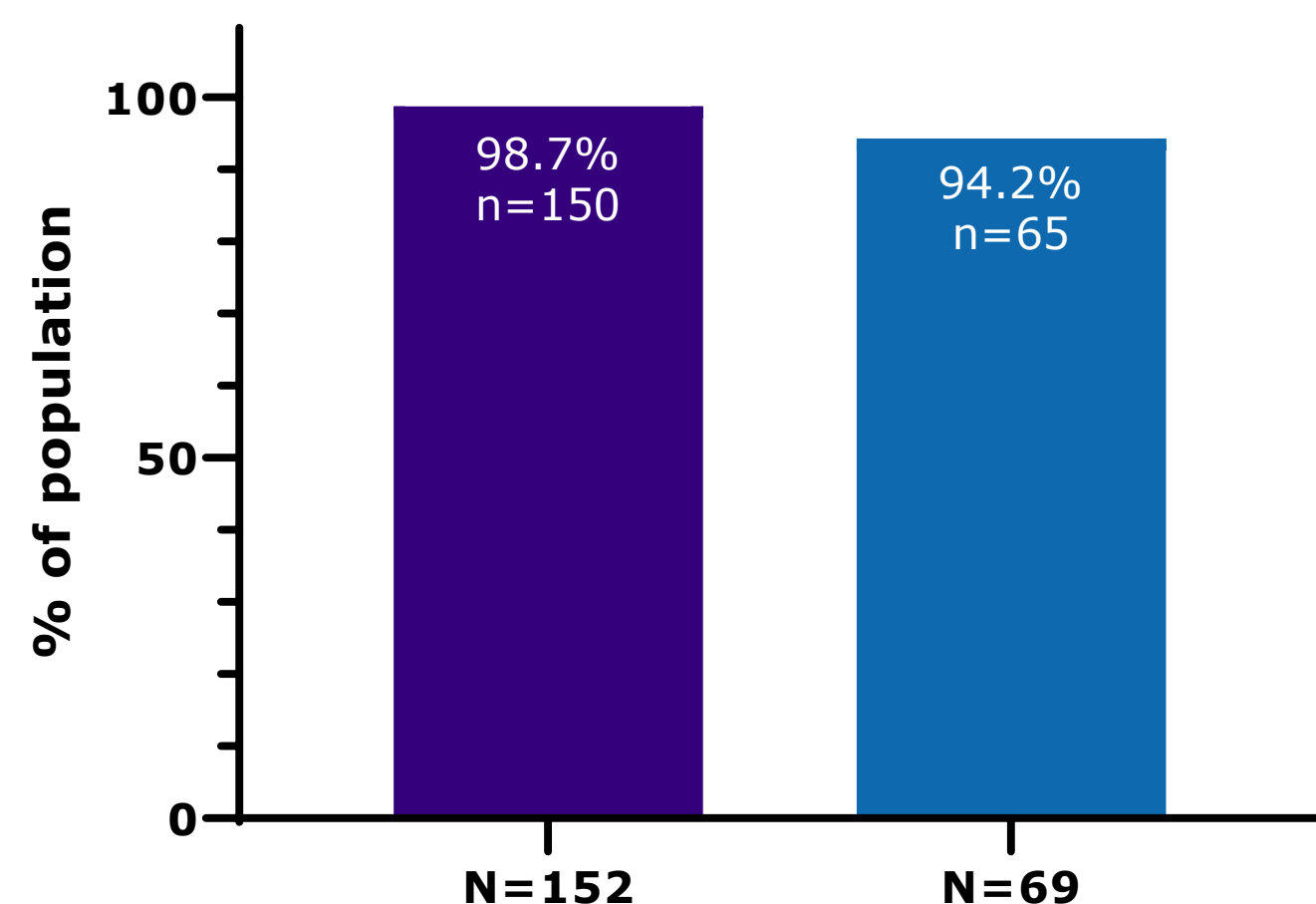
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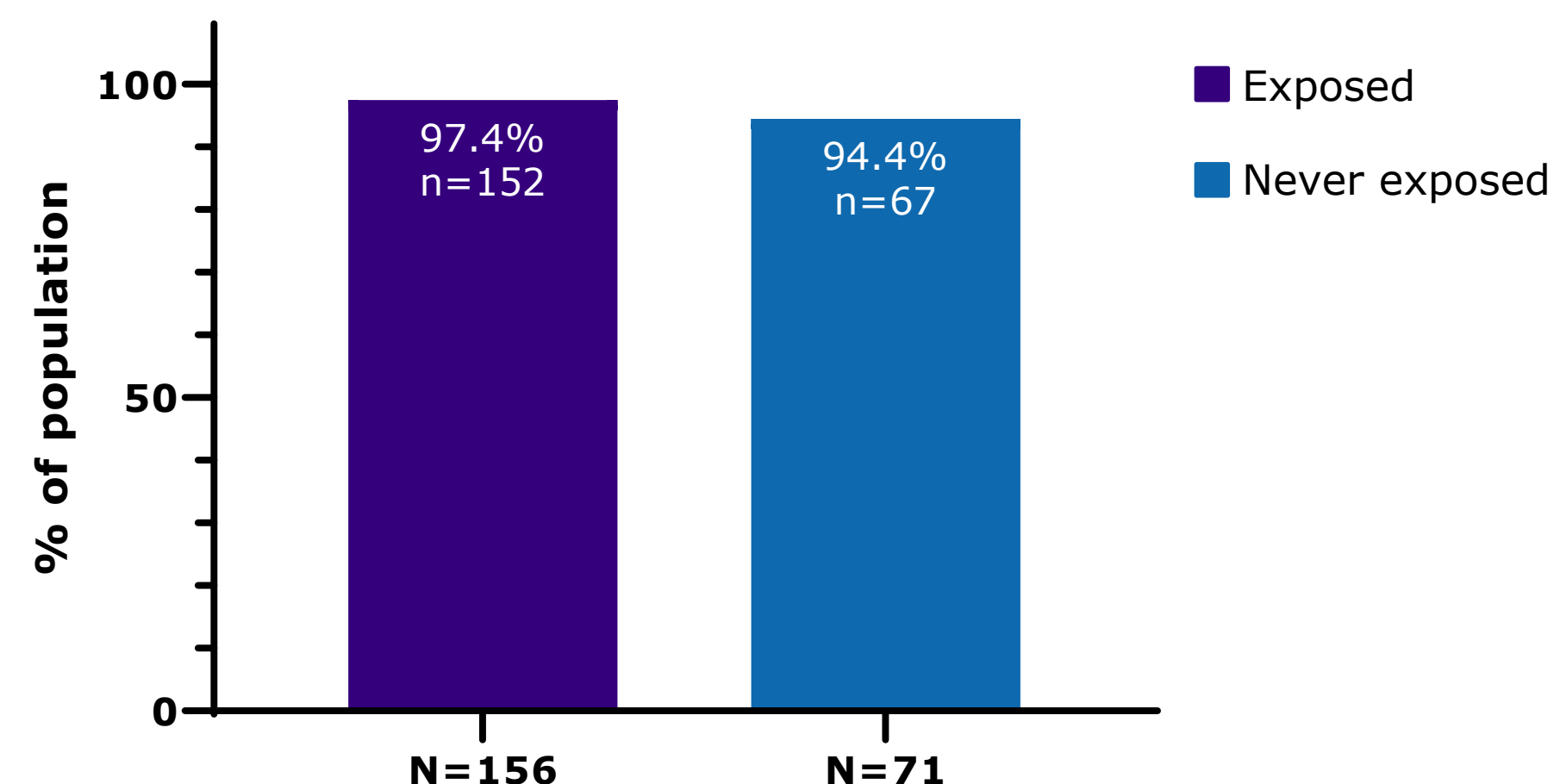
## RESULTS

Figure 3. Long-term Mobility



Missing data were not included in the analysis (n=4 and n=2 for exposed and never exposed cohorts, respectively).

Figure 4. Long-term Disability Status



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  - **97.4% vs 94.4% did not use an ambulatory device at any time since last parent study dose.**

\*Adjusted odds ratio from a logistic regression model with fixed effects for treatment group and disease duration.



## CONCLUSIONS

**With a median of 9.5 years' follow-up since last dose, findings suggest that patients with a FCDE exposed to cladribine tablets experienced:**

- **Delayed conversion to CDMS, with more patients remaining relapse-free than never exposed patients.**
- **Sustained efficacy (long-term mobility/disability).**