



# Responses to Hydroxyurea (HU) in Polycythemia Vera (PV)

## PV Chart Survey

A retrospective chart review of patients with PV was conducted by Incyte Corporation in the United States between April and July 2014 to investigate treatment patterns in a real-world setting.<sup>1</sup> The study evaluated the prevalence of complete clinicohematologic response (CHR) among those currently receiving HU.<sup>2</sup>

Included patients were  $\geq 18$  years of age who were alive at the time of chart abstraction or deceased within prior 6 months, had been diagnosed with PV within the past 3 to 15 years, had received HU therapy for  $\geq 2$  months in the past 5 years, had medical record data 12 months pre- and post-HU initiation, and were not a part of a PV-related clinical trial.<sup>1</sup>

A total of 1,309 patient charts were reviewed by 329 hematologic oncologists, medical oncologists, and hematologists.<sup>1</sup>

### Select patient characteristics included<sup>1</sup>:

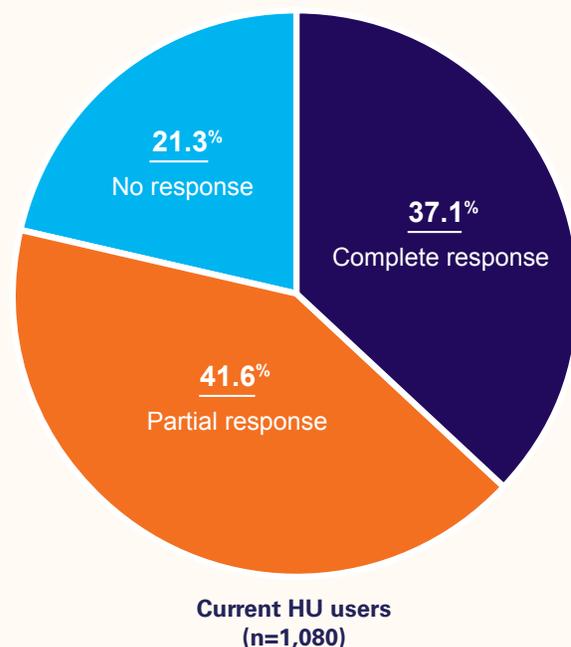
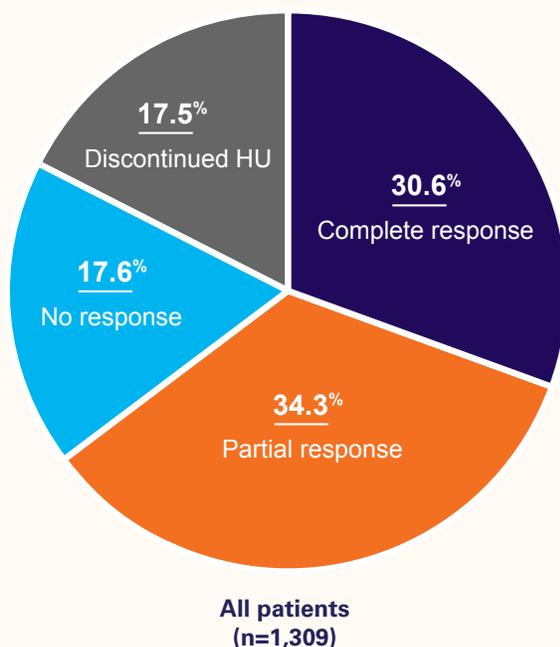
- Mean age, 62.5 years
- Mean time since diagnosis, 5.2 years
- 82.5% (1,080/1,309) of patients currently treated with HU
  - Mean duration of HU therapy, 47 months
- 17.5% (229/1,309) of patients discontinued HU therapy

### Clinicohematologic response was defined per ELN response criteria as<sup>3</sup>:

- **Complete:** Hct  $< 45\%$  without phlebotomy **and** platelet count  $\leq 400 \times 10^9/L$  **and** WBC count  $\leq 10 \times 10^9/L$  **and** normal spleen size on imaging **and** no disease-related symptoms\*
- **Partial:** In patients who do not fulfill the criteria for complete response, Hct  $< 45\%$  without phlebotomy **or** response in 3 or 4 of the 5 criteria
- **No Response:** Any response that does not satisfy partial response

\*Disease-related symptoms: microvascular disturbances, pruritus, or headache.

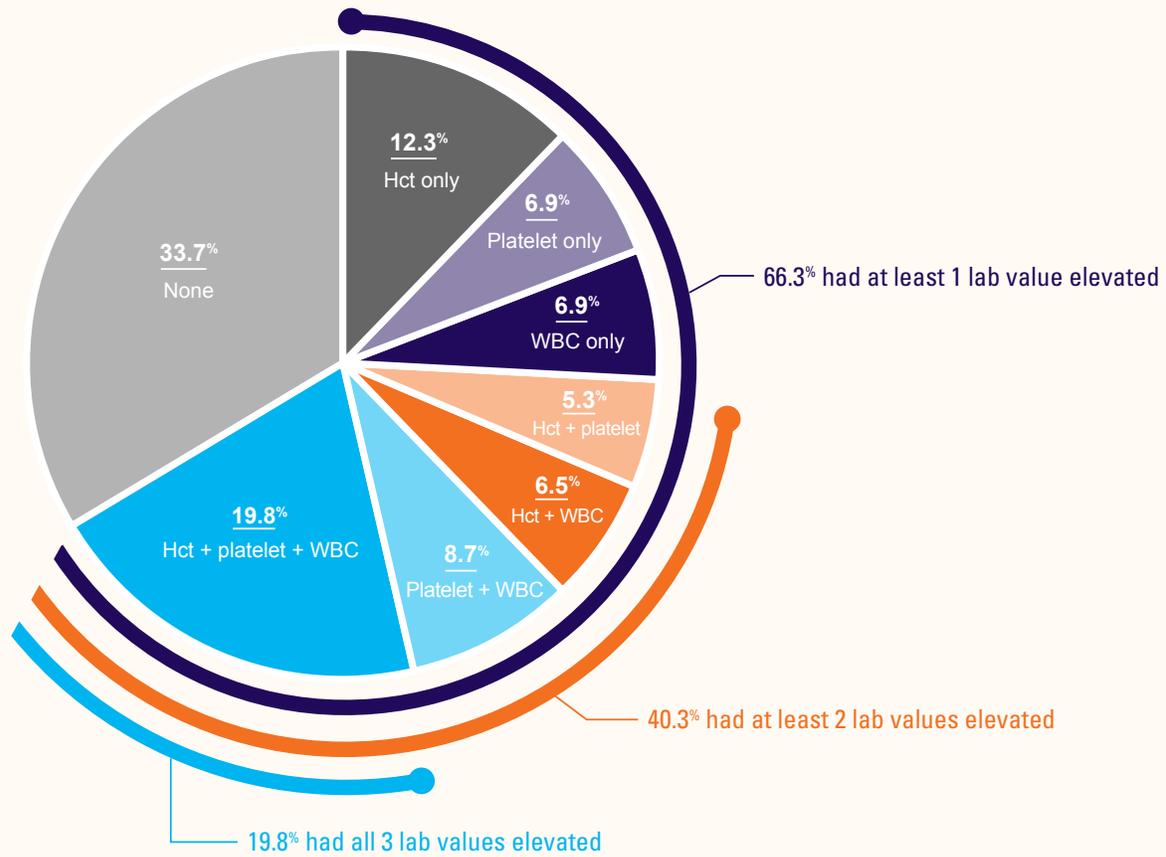
**PV chart survey: Among those currently receiving HU, only 37.1% achieved a complete response based on the ELN criteria<sup>2a</sup>**



ELN, European LeukemiaNet; Hct, hematocrit; HU, hydroxyurea; PV, polycythemia vera; WBC, white blood cell.

<sup>a</sup>ELN response criteria are based on the following: Hct level, platelet count, WBC count, spleen size, and disease-related symptoms (microvascular disturbances, pruritus, headache).

**PV chart survey: Two-thirds (66.3%) of patients receiving HU (n=1,080) had at least 1 elevated lab value<sup>2</sup>**



ELN, European LeukemiaNet; Hct, hematocrit; HU, hydroxyurea; PV, polycythemia vera; WBC, white blood cell.

**References**

1. Parasuraman S, DiBonaventura M, Reith K, Concialdi K. *Blood*. 2014;124(21):1852.
2. Parasuraman S, DiBonaventura M, Reith K, Concialdi K. Presented at: 56th ASH<sup>®</sup> Annual Meeting & Exposition; December 6-9, 2014; San Francisco, CA. Abstract 1852.
3. Barosi G, Birgegard G, Finazzi G, et al. *Blood*. 2009;113(20):4829-4833.



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