

# Bimekizumab maintenance of response at every visit over 4 years in patients with psoriasis achieving clear skin at Week 16: Results from four phase 3 trials

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## Objective

To assess whether bimekizumab (BKZ) treated patients who achieve complete skin clearance (PASI 100; 100% improvement in Psoriasis Area and Severity Index) after 16 weeks of treatment maintain key efficacy thresholds at every visit, or the vast majority of visits, over 4 years.

## Background

- Achieving and maintaining long-lasting skin clearance is key for patients living with psoriasis.<sup>1,2</sup> However, loss of disease control over time is often seen with biologics;<sup>3</sup> therefore, evaluating whether high efficacy levels are maintained at every visit, or the vast majority of visits, in the long-term is important.
- The National Psoriasis Foundation (NPF) has reported that the most preferred time for evaluating patient response after starting new therapies is 3 months. The NPF-defined target response at this time, and every 6 months following, is body surface area (BSA) ≤1%.<sup>4</sup>
- BKZ, a monoclonal IgG1 antibody which selectively inhibits interleukin (IL)-17F in addition to IL-17A,<sup>5</sup> is approved for the treatment of moderate to severe plaque psoriasis in the US.<sup>6</sup>

## Methods

- Data were pooled from BE SURE, BE VIVID, and BE READY phase 3 trials, and their open-label extension (OLE) BE BRIGHT (Figure 1).<sup>7–10</sup>
- Included patients received BKZ 320 mg every 4 weeks (Q4W) to Week 16, then they received BKZ Q4W or every 8 weeks (Q8W) into the OLE; all received BKZ Q8W from Week 100/104 (OLE Week 48) or the next scheduled visit.
- Proportions of patients achieving PASI 100 at Week 16 who maintained BSA ≤1%, PASI 90/75 (≥90/75% improvement in PASI), and PASI ≤2 responses at every subsequent study visit from Week 16–Year 4 (Week 196/200; 29/30 further visits [study-dependent]) are reported.
- Proportions of patients who maintained their response at every visit except at most 1 and at most 2 are also reported.
- Data are reported for all patients who received continuous BKZ treatment from baseline and entered the OLE, regardless of dosing regimen (BKZ Total), and for the subset who received BKZ Q4W to Week 16, then Q8W continuously into the OLE (Q4W/Q8W; the approved dosing regimen for the majority of patients).<sup>6,11</sup>
- Patients discontinuing treatment due to a lack of efficacy or treatment-related adverse events were considered non-responders at subsequent timepoints; last observation carried forward was used for other missing data (mNRI-LOCF).

## Results

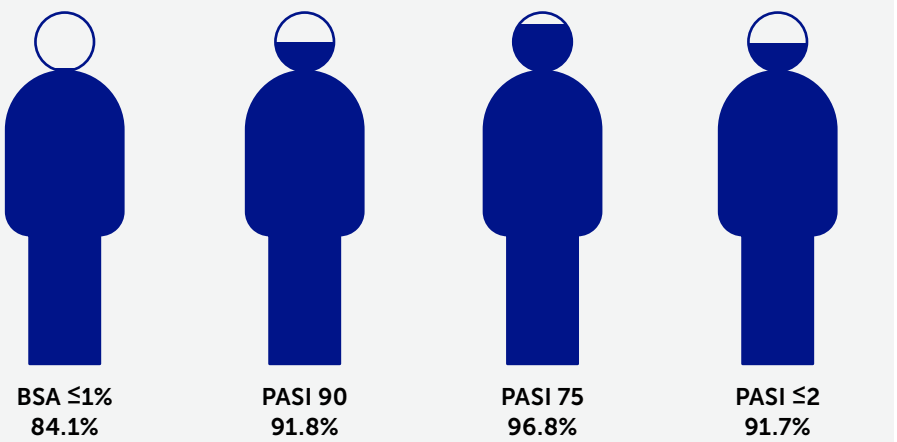
- Of 989 BKZ-randomized patients, 62.7% achieved PASI 100 at Week 16 (non-responder imputation).
- Overall, 503 BKZ-randomized patients who achieved PASI 100 at Week 16, received continuous BKZ and entered the OLE were included in these analyses (Q4W/Q8W: N=147).
- In patients who achieved clear skin at Week 16 (PASI 100), BSA ≤1%, PASI 90, PASI 75, and PASI ≤2 were maintained at every study visit from Week 16–Year 4 by 69.4%, 80.9%, 93.0%, and 81.3% of patients, respectively (mNRI-LOCF; Figure 2).
  - In the approved dose group (Q4W/Q8W), BSA ≤1%, PASI 90, PASI 75, and PASI ≤2 were maintained at every subsequent study visit through 4 years by 68.7%, 77.6%, 92.5%, and 78.2% of patients, respectively.
  - Baseline characteristics for Week 16 PASI 100 responders and those who maintained BSA ≤1% at every visit are presented in Table 1.
- Proportions of patients who maintained BSA ≤1%, PASI 90, PASI 75, and PASI ≤2 at every visit except at most 1 visit were 79.5%, 87.5%, 95.2%, and 87.9%, respectively, and at every visit except at most 2 visits were: 84.1%, 91.8%, 96.8%, and 91.7% (Figure 2).
  - Similar results were observed in the Q4W/Q8W group (Figure 2).

## Conclusions

High proportions of Week 16 PASI 100 responders maintained BSA ≤1% (NPF-defined target response),<sup>4</sup> PASI 90, PASI 75, and PASI ≤2 at every visit through 4 years. The vast majority maintained these responses at every visit except at most 2 visits through 4 years.

## Summary

The vast majority of BKZ-treated patients with complete skin clearance at Week 16 (N=503) maintained their BSA ≤1%, PASI 90, PASI 75, and PASI ≤2 responses at every visit except at most 2 visits from Week 16 through 4 years



**Table 1** Baseline characteristics for Week 16 PASI 100 responders and those who maintained BSA ≤1% at every visit

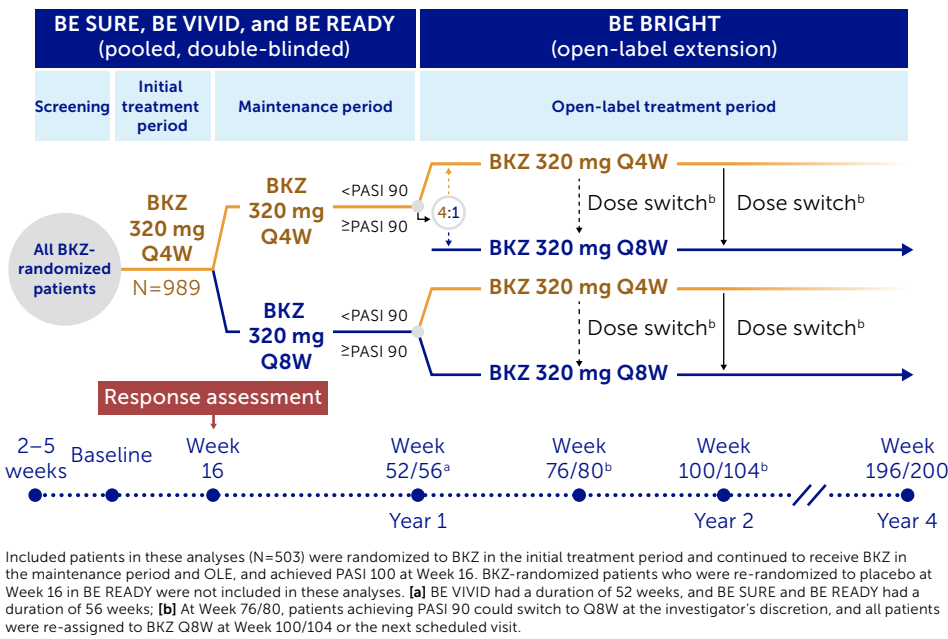
	BKZ Total Week 16 PASI 100 responders (N=503)	BKZ Q4W/Q8W Week 16 PASI 100 responders (N=147)	BKZ Total Continuous BSA ≤1% responders at every visit (N=349)	BKZ Q4W/Q8W Continuous BSA ≤1% responders at every visit (N=101)
<b>Age (years), mean (SD)</b>	44.8 (13.2)	44.4 (13.5)	44.2 (12.9)	44.0 (13.7)
<b>Sex, male, n (%)</b>	352 (70.0)	102 (69.4)	249 (71.3)	69 (68.3)
<b>Racial group, white, n (%)</b>	441 (87.7)	139 (94.6)	310 (88.8)	95 (94.1)
<b>Weight (kg), mean (SD)</b>	87.8 (19.3)	87.4 (18.9)	87.7 (18.8)	85.4 (18.2)
<b>Duration of psoriasis (years)</b>				
Mean (SD)	18.0 (12.3)	19.6 (12.4)	17.1 (11.6)	19.5 (11.8)
Q1	8.4	9.5	7.7	9.5
Median	15.6	18.4	14.6	18.4
Q3	25.4	27.4	24.5	25.7
≤2 years, n (%)	23 (4.6)	5 (3.4)	14 (4.0)	2 (2.0)
<b>PASI, mean (SD)</b>	21.3 (7.2)	20.7 (7.0)	21.0 (7.0)	20.8 (7.0)
<b>BSA (%), mean (SD)</b>	26.7 (14.9)	24.3 (11.9)	26.3 (14.6)	24.0 (11.8)
<b>IGA, n (%)</b>				
<b>3: moderate</b>	331 (65.8) <sup>a</sup>	102 (69.4)	239 (68.5)	72 (71.3)
<b>4: severe</b>	171 (34.0)	45 (30.6)	110 (31.5)	29 (28.7)
<b>DLQI, mean (SD)</b>	10.9 (6.4)	11.0 (6.2)	10.5 (6.3)	10.8 (6.2)
<b>Any prior systemic therapy, n (%)</b>	415 (82.5)	122 (83.0)	288 (82.5)	83 (82.2)
<b>Any prior biologic therapy, n (%)</b>	210 (41.7)	58 (39.5)	142 (40.7)	39 (38.6)
Anti-TNF	74 (14.7)	16 (10.9)	47 (13.5)	8 (7.9)
Anti-IL-17	126 (25.0)	34 (23.1)	88 (25.2)	23 (22.8)
Anti-IL-23	29 (5.8)	13 (8.8)	21 (6.0)	10 (9.9)
Anti-IL-12/23	28 (5.6)	10 (6.8)	19 (5.4)	8 (7.9)

Only patients who entered the OLE were included in these analyses. <sup>a</sup>One additional patient had an IGA of 2 (mild) at baseline.

**BKZ**: bimekizumab; **BSA**: body surface area; **DLQI**: Dermatology Life Quality Index; **IGA**: Investigator's Global Assessment; **IL**: interleukin; **LOCF**: last observation carried forward; **mNRI-LOCF**: modified non-responder imputation-last observation carried forward; **NPF**: National Psoriasis Foundation; **OLE**: open-label extension; **PASI**: Psoriasis Area and Severity Index; **PASI 75/90/100**: ≥75%/≥90%/100% improvement from baseline in PASI; **SD**: standard deviation; **Q1**: first quartile; **Q3**: third quartile; **Q4W**: every 4 weeks; **Q8W**: every 8 weeks; **TNF**: tumor necrosis factor.

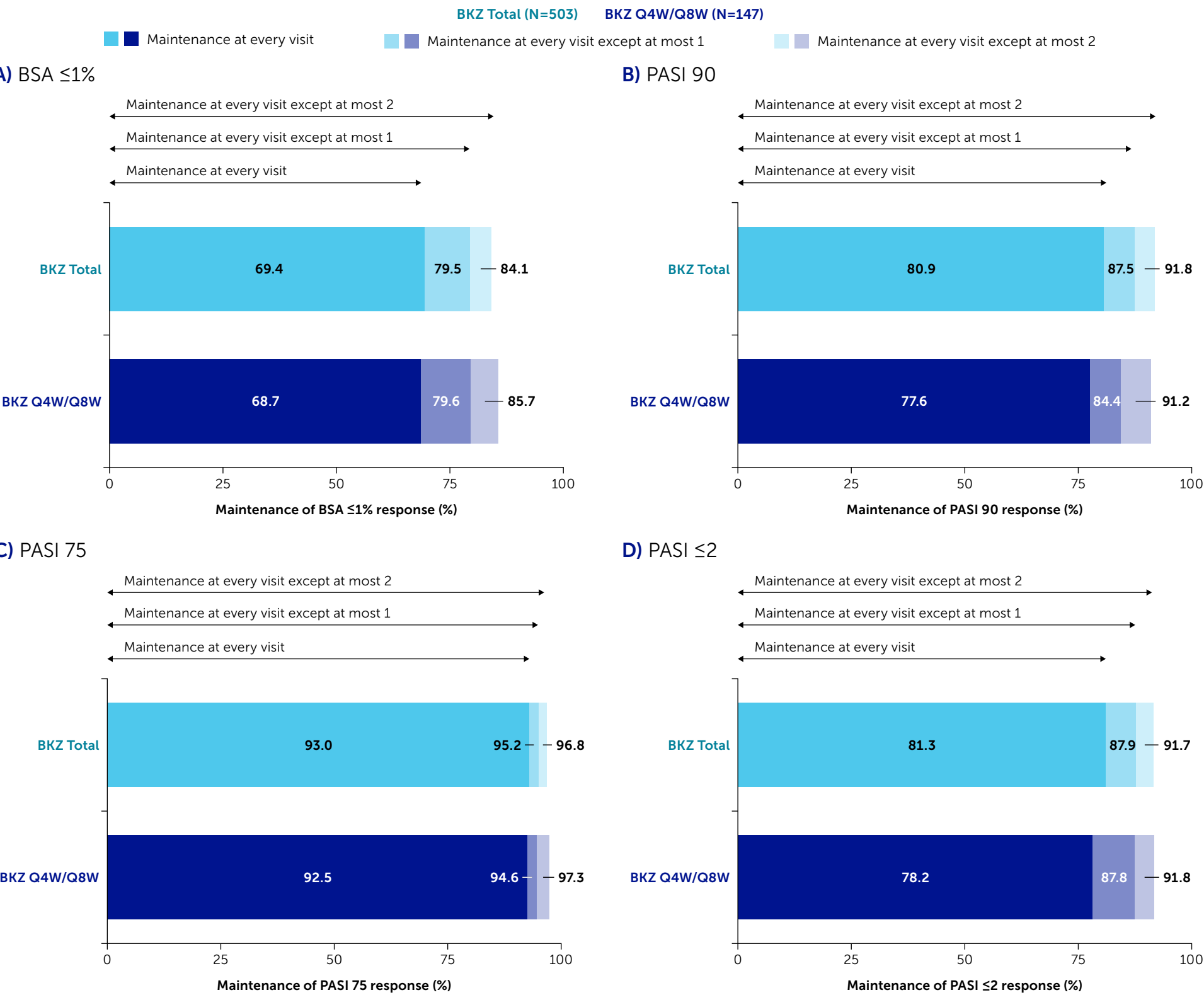
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Available at: <https://www.ema.europa.eu/en/medicines/human/EPAR/bimzelx> [Accessed November 2024]. **Author Contributions:** Substantial contributions to study conception/design, or acquisition/analysis/interpretation of data: **ML, RBW, PF, GK, NTI, RGL, BS, BH, HH, RW, AA**. Drafting of the publication, or reviewing it critically for important intellectual content: **ML, RBW, PF, GK, NTI, RGL, BS, BH, HH, RW, AA**. 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**Figure 1** Study design



**Figure 2**

Week 16 PASI 100 responders who maintained their response at every visit, and at every visit except at most 1, or except at most 2, through 4 years (mNRI-LOCF)



Response levels were assessed at every study visit from Week 16–Year 4 (29/30 further visits [study-dependent]). For inclusion in the analysis, Week 16 PASI 100 was assessed based on observed Week 16 PASI response data. One BKZ-randomized patient in the BE READY trial did not have a Week 16 PASI assessment; however, this patient had a PASI 100 response at Week 12 and Week 20 of BE READY, which was maintained through Week 56. This patient was included in the analysis and assigned as a PASI 100 responder at Week 16. Patients discontinuing treatment due to a lack of efficacy or treatment-related adverse events were considered non-responders at subsequent timepoints. LOCF was used to impute all other missing data.

**BKZ**: bimekizumab; **BSA**: body surface area; **DLQI**: Dermatology Life Quality Index; **IGA**: Investigator's Global Assessment; **IL**: interleukin; **LOCF**: last observation carried forward; **mNRI-LOCF**: modified non-responder imputation-last observation carried forward; **NPF**: National Psoriasis Foundation; **OLE**: open-label extension; **PASI**: Psoriasis Area and Severity Index; **PASI 75/90/100**: ≥75%/≥90%/100% improvement from baseline in PASI; **SD**: standard deviation; **Q1**: first quartile; **Q3**: third quartile; **Q4W**: every 4 weeks; **Q8W**: every 8 weeks; **TNF**: tumor necrosis factor.

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