Bimekizumab in Black/African American Patients with Hidradenitis Suppurativa: 3-Year BE HEARD EXT Data

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Disclosures & Acknowledgements

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TM: Investigator for Acelyrin, Bristol Myers Squibb, ChemoCentryx, Eli Lilly and Company, Galderma, Janssen, and Pfizer. Consultant for AbbVie, Arcutis, Bodewell, Bristol Myers Squibb, Eli Lilly and Company, Janssen, LEO Pharma, Novartis, and Pfizer.

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GAO: Boards member for Hidradenitis Suppurativa Foundation, Dermatology Foundation, Skin of Color Society Advisory Board. Consultant for AbbVie, Incyte, Novartis, Nutrafol, Reframe Beauty, Sanofi-Regeneron, UCB, and Unilever. Received grants from Johnson and Johnson.

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AVM: Received honoraria for disease-relevant consultancy/advisory boards from AbbVie, Amgen, Boehringer Ingelheim, Bristol Myers Squibb, Incyte, LEO Pharma, Novartis, Pfizer, Sanofi, and UCB.

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Background

- **Hidradenitis suppurativa (HS) disproportionately affects the Black and African American population**; however, these patients often remain underrepresented in clinical trials.[1]
- Black/African American patients with HS experience substantial unmet needs, including **more advanced disease, longer diagnostic delays, and greater comorbidity burden**.[2]
- **Bimekizumab** is a humanized IgG1 monoclonal antibody that inhibits interleukin (IL)-17F in addition to IL-17A.[3]

OBJECTIVE: To report bimekizumab **efficacy** and **HRQoL outcomes** in Black/African American patients with moderate to severe HS to Year 3.

1. Elhage KG et al. Arch Dermatol Res 2023;315:1793-96; **2.** Serrano L et al. J Natl Med Assoc 2022;114:613–16; **3.** Adams R et al. Front Immunol 2020;11:1894. **HRQoL:** health-related quality of life; **HS:** hidradenitis suppurativa; **IL:** interleukin.

Study Design & Outcomes

- Data were pooled from the phase 3 BE HEARD I&II trials and their open-label extension, BE HEARD EXT, in patients with moderate to severe HS.[1,2]
- Data are reported for patients randomized to bimekizumab 320 mg from baseline in BE HEARD I&II who enrolled in BE HEARD EXT (Bimekizumab Total; OLE set).
- Data are reported as observed case (OC) and modified non-responder imputation (mNRI).
- The following outcomes are reported for Black/African American, Bimekizumab Total, and all other patients, at Year 1 (Week 48) and Year 3 (Week 148):

Efficacy

HS Clinical Response (HiSCR)50/75/90/100 rates
≥50/75/90/100% reduction from baseline in the total abscess and inflammatory nodule count with no increase from baseline in abscess or draining tunnel count

HRQoL

Hidradenitis Suppurativa Quality of Life (HiSQOL) total score ≤14
No/mild impact of HS on patient's life

Dermatology Life Quality Index (DLQI) total score of 0 or 1
No effect of HS on patient's life

1. Kimball AB et al. Lancet 2024;403:2504–19 (NCT04242446, NCT04242498); **2.** Sayed CJ et al. J Am Acad Dermatol 2026;94:867–78 (NCT04901195). **DLQI:** Dermatology Life Quality Index; **HiSCR:** Hidradenitis Suppurativa Clinical Response, defined as ≥50/75/90/100% reduction from baseline in the total abscess and inflammatory nodule count, with no increase from baseline in abscess or draining tunnel count; **HiSQOL:** Hidradenitis Suppurativa Quality of Life; **HRQoL:** health-related quality of life; **HS:** hidradenitis suppurativa; **mNRI:** modified non-responder imputation; **OC:** observed case; **OLE:** open-label extension.

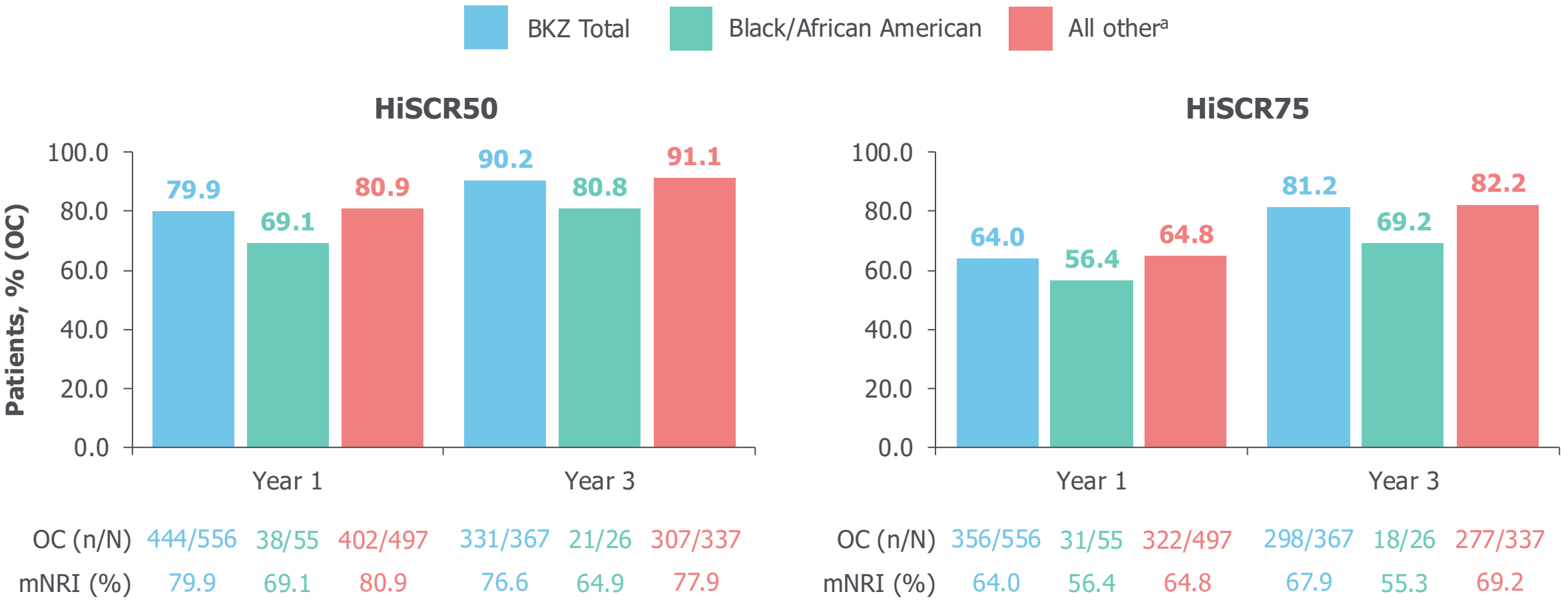
Baseline Characteristics

- Of 1,014 patients in BE HEARD I&II, 110 were Black/African American. Among 556 Bimekizumab Total patients, 55 were Black/African American.

	BKZ Total N=556	Black/African American N=55	All other[a] N=497
Age, years, mean (SD)	36.3 (12.2)	34.3 (11.4)	36.4 (12.2)
Sex, n (%)			
Male	257 (46.2)	10 (18.2)	246 (49.5)
Female	299 (53.8)	45 (81.8)	251 (50.5)
Weight, kg, mean (SD)	96.2 (23.5)	103.2 (24.0)	95.6 (23.3)
BMI, kg/m^2, mean (SD)	32.5 (7.8)	36.3 (8.4)	32.1 (7.6)
Duration of HS, years, mean (SD)	7.4 (7.1)	7.3 (5.3)	7.4 (7.3)
Hurley stage[b], n (%)			
II	303 (54.5)	23 (41.8)	279 (56.1)
III	253 (45.5)	32 (58.2)	218 (43.9)
≥3 draining tunnels, n (%)	276 (49.6)	28 (50.9)	246 (49.5)
IHS4 score, mean (SD)	35.6 (31.5)	36.5 (32.9)	35.5 (31.5)
HiSQOL total score, mean (SD)	24.6 (12.8)	29.5 (14.1)	24.1 (12.6)
DLQI total score, mean (SD)	11.0 (6.8)	12.7 (7.7)	10.9 (6.7)
HSSDD Worst Skin Pain, mean (SD)	5.5 (2.5)	6.3 (2.7)	5.5 (2.4)

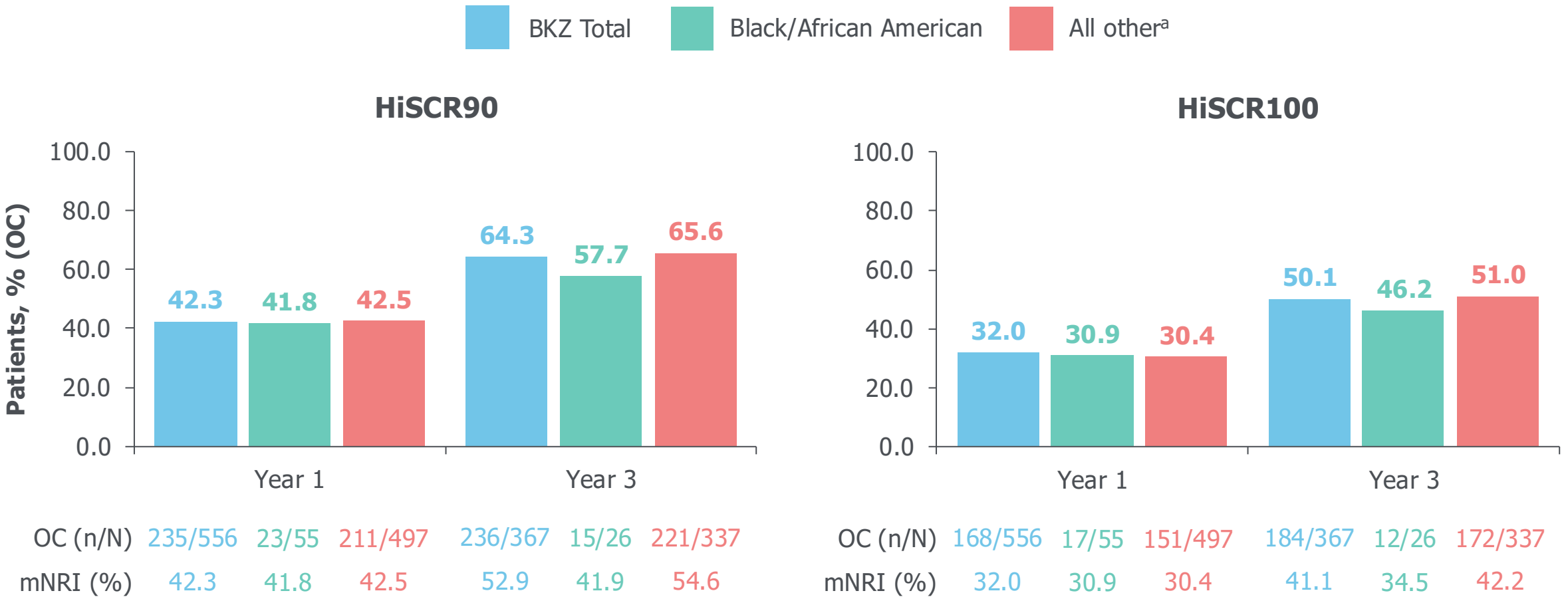
OLE set; only included patients who entered BE HEARD EXT at Week 48. Data are reported for patients randomized to bimekizumab from baseline in BE HEARD I&II who entered BE HEARD EXT and continued to receive bimekizumab (N=556).**[a]** Race data missing for 4 patients; **[b]** Refers to the worst overall Hurley stage derived from the Hurley stages recorded across all anatomical regions. **BKZ:** bimekizumab; **BMI:** body mass index; **DLQI:** Dermatology Life Quality Index; **HiSCR:** HS Clinical Response; **HiSCR50/75/90/100:** ≥50%/≥75%/≥90%/100% reduction from baseline in the total abscess and inflammatory nodule count with no increase from baseline in abscess or draining tunnel count; **HiSQOL:** Hidradenitis Suppurativa Quality of Life; **HS:** hidradenitis suppurativa; **HSSDD:** Hidradenitis Suppurativa Symptom Daily Diary; **IHS4:** International Hidradenitis Suppurativa Severity Score System; **SD:** standard deviation.

Proportions of Black/African American, BKZ Total, and All Other Patients Achieving HiSCR50/75



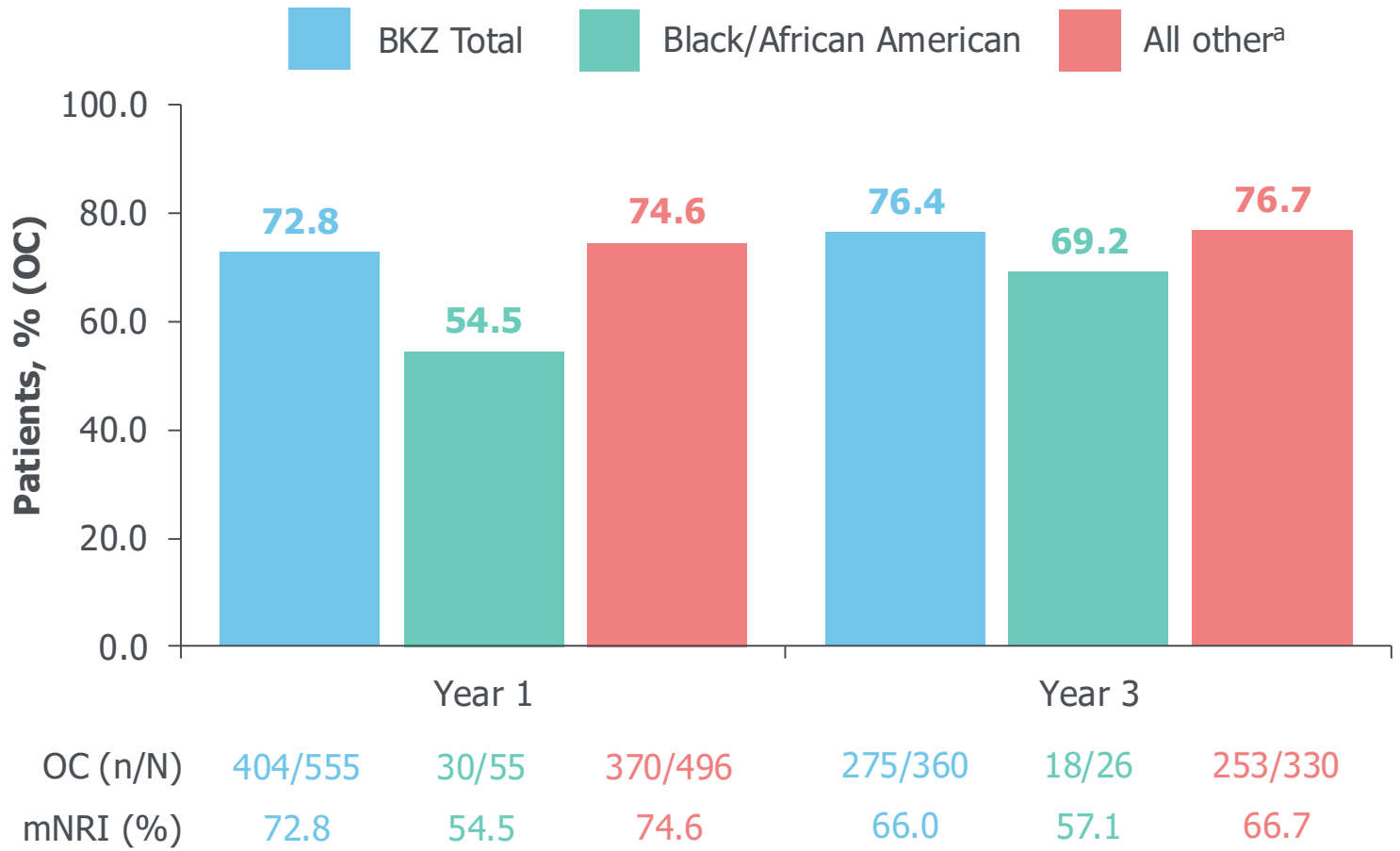
[a] Race data missing for 4 patients. OC: n represents patients achieving HiSCR50/75 at Year 1 or Year 3; N represents the total number of patients with non-missing data in each subgroup, and percentages were calculated accordingly. mNRI: patients who discontinued due to lack of efficacy or adverse events were considered non-responders; multiple imputation was used for all other missing data. **BKZ:** bimekizumab; **HiSCR:** HS Clinical Response; **HiSCR50/75/90/100:** ≥50%/≥75%/≥90%/100% reduction from baseline in the total abscess and inflammatory nodule count with no increase from baselinein abscess or draining tunnel count; **HiSQOL:** Hidradenitis Suppurativa Quality of Life; **mNRI:** modified non-responder imputation; **OC:** observed case.

Proportions of Black/African American, BKZ Total, and All Other Patients Achieving HiSCR90/100



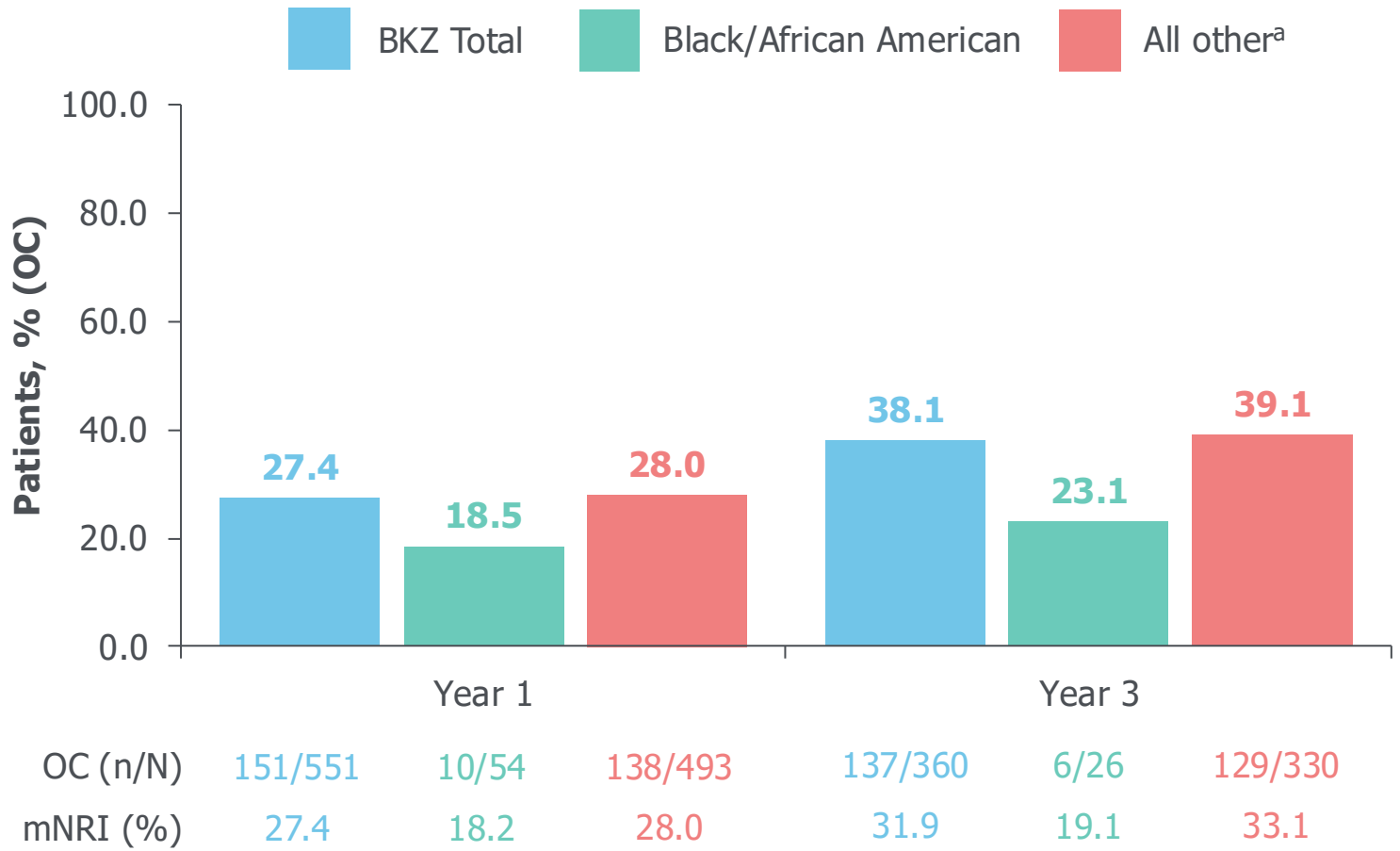
[a] Race data missing for 4 patients. OC: n represents patients achieving HiSCR90/100 at Year 1 or Year 3; N represents the total number of patients with non-missing data in each subgroup, and percentages were calculated accordingly. mNRI: patients who discontinued due to lack of efficacy or adverse events were considered non-responders; multiple imputation was used for all other missing data. **BKZ:** bimekizumab; **HiSCR:** HS Clinical Response; **HiSCR50/75/90/100:** ≥50%/≥75%/≥90%/100% reduction from baseline in the total abscess and inflammatory nodule count with no increase from baselinein abscess or draining tunnel count; **HiSQOL:** Hidradenitis Suppurativa Quality of Life; **mNRI:** modified non-responder imputation; **OC:** observed case.

Proportions of Black/African American, BKZ Total, and All Other Patients With HiSQOL Total Score ≤14 (No/Mild Impact of HS on Patient's Life)



[a] Race data missing for 4 patients. OC: n represents patients reporting HiSQOL total scores ≤ 14 at Year 1 or Year 3; N represents the total number of patients with non-missing data in each subgroup, and percentages were calculated accordingly. mNRI: patients who discontinued due to lack of efficacy or adverse events were considered non-responders; multiple imputation was used for all other missing data. **BKZ:** bimekizumab; **HiSQOL:** Hidradenitis Suppurativa Quality of Life; **mNRI:** modified non-responder imputation; **OC:** observed case.

Proportions of Black/African American, BKZ Total, and All Other Patients With DLQI 0/1



[a] Race data missing for 4 patients. OC: n represents patients reporting DLQI total scores of 0 or 1 at Year 1 or Year 3; N represents the total number of patients with non-missing data in each subgroup, and percentages were calculated accordingly. mNRI: patients who discontinued due to lack of efficacy or adverse events were considered non-responders; multiple imputation was used for all other missing data. **BKZ:** bimekizumab; **DLQI:** Dermatology Life Quality Index; **mNRI:** modified non-responder imputation; **OC:** observed case.

Conclusions

Over 3 years, bimekizumab demonstrated **high levels of clinical efficacy and improvements in HRQoL across Black/African American patients** and the overall BE HEARD HS population.

The effects of bimekizumab observed at Year 1 were **sustained or improved at Year 3.**

These findings support the long-term use and **continued benefit of bimekizumab in Black/African American patients**, a population disproportionately affected by HS.

Limitation: Given the small proportion of Black/African American patients in the Bimekizumab Total group, findings should be interpreted with caution.

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Substantial contributions to study conception/design, or acquisition/analysis/interpretation of data: **TM, RC, VYS, GAO, AM, HV, BH, KB, NT, CCZ**; drafting of the publication, or reviewing it critically for important intellectual content: **TM, RC, VYS, GAO, AM, HV, BH, KB, NT, CCZ**; final approval of the publication: **TM, RC, VYS, GAO, AM, HV, BH, KB, NT, CCZ**.

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