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## Real World Clinical Experience with Idebenone in the Treatment of Leber's Hereditary Optic Neuropathy --Manuscript Draft--

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<b>Abstract:</b>	<p><b>Background :</b> Leber's hereditary optic neuropathy (LHON) leads to bilateral central vision loss. In a clinical trial setting, idebenone has been shown to be safe and to provide a trend towards improved visual acuity, but long-term evidence of effectiveness in real world clinical practice is sparse.</p> <p><b>Methods:</b> Open-label, multicenter, retrospective, non-controlled analysis of long-term visual acuity and safety in 111 LHON patients treated with idebenone (900 mg/day) in an expanded access program. Eligible patients had a confirmed mitochondrial DNA mutation and had experienced onset of symptoms (most recent eye) within 1 year prior to enrolment. Data on visual acuity and adverse events were collected as per normal clinical practice. Efficacy was assessed as the proportion of patients with either a Clinically Relevant Recovery (CRR) or stabilization (Clinically Relevant Stabilization, CRS) of visual acuity. In the case of CRR, time to and magnitude of recovery over time were also assessed.</p> <p><b>Results :</b> At time of analysis, 87 patients had provided longitudinal efficacy data. Average treatment duration was 25.6 months. CRR was observed in 46.0% of patients. Analysis of treatment effect by duration showed that the proportion of patients with recovery, as well as the magnitude of recovery increased with treatment duration. Average gain in best corrected visual acuity for responders was 0.72 logarithm of the minimal angle of resolution, equivalent to more than seven lines on the Early Treatment Diabetic Retinopathy Study chart. Furthermore, 50% of patients who had a visual acuity below 1.0 logMAR in at least one eye at initiation of treatment successfully maintained their vision below this threshold by last observation. Idebenone was well tolerated, with the majority of adverse events classified as minor.</p> <p><b>Conclusions :</b> These data demonstrate the benefit of idebenone treatment in recovering lost vision and maintaining good residual vision in a real-world setting. Together, these findings indicate that idebenone treatment should be initiated early and be maintained for at least 24 months to maximize efficacy. Safety results were consistent with the known safety profile of idebenone.</p>

LHON treatment with Idebenone in clinical practice

- 1 **Real World Clinical Experience with Idebenone in the Treatment of Leber's**
- 2 **Hereditary Optic Neuropathy**
- 3 (Running title: **LHON treatment with Idebenone in clinical practice**)

## LHON treatment with Idebenone in clinical practice

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## LHON treatment with Idebenone in clinical practice

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29



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110 **Conflict of interest**

111 M. Silva, G. Metz and X. Llòria are regular employees of Santhera. T. Klopstock has  
112 received research support, consultancy fees, speaker honoraria and travel funds from  
113 GenSight Biologics and Santhera Pharmaceuticals, unrelated to this paper.

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115 Idebenone, Leber's hereditary optic neuropathy, LHON, visual acuity, real world data,  
116 retrospective

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121

122 **PRÉCIS**

123 Idebenone treatment can result in both stabilization of residual visual acuity and recovery of  
124 lost vision, with a treatment duration of at least 2 years needed to maximize the probability of  
125 recovery.

126

127 **Abstract**

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153 months to maximize efficacy. Safety results were consistent with the known safety profile of  
154 idebenone.

155

156 **Introduction**

157 Leber's hereditary optic neuropathy (LHON) is a form of blindness due to retinal ganglion  
158 cell (RGC) dysfunction,<sup>1</sup> caused by mutations in mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) which affect  
159 complex I (NADH-ubiquinone oxidoreductase) of the mitochondrial respiratory chain.<sup>2,3</sup>  
160 Although rare (estimated prevalence of 1 in 27,000-45,000), it affects all ages and gender,  
161 causing rapid and severe, bilateral (usually sequential), painless loss of central vision.<sup>4-7</sup>  
162 Spontaneous recovery is rare.<sup>8-11</sup> Idebenone is a synthetic short-chain benzoquinone that  
163 bypasses the dysfunctional complex I, and restores mitochondrial function, thus increasing  
164 ATP production and reducing lipid peroxidation and oxidative stress.<sup>12-14</sup>  
165 The first randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial of idebenone in LHON patients  
166 (Rescue of Hereditary Optic Disease Outpatient Study (RHODOS)) demonstrated a trend  
167 towards improved best corrected visual acuity (BCVA) in the idebenone-treated intent-to-  
168 treat (ITT) population compared with placebo.<sup>15</sup> Idebenone (RAXONE®, idebenone 150 mg  
169 tablets, Santhera Pharmaceuticals, Pratteln, Switzerland) is since 2015 the first and currently  
170 only approved treatment for adults and adolescents with LHON<sup>1</sup>.  
171 In 2011, the manufacturer set up an international Expanded Access Programme (EAP) to  
172 provide special access to idebenone, within local regulations, provided they had a genetically  
173 confirmed LHON and disease duration of less than 12 months since onset of vision loss (most  
174 recently affected eye). All requests for access to idebenone were unsolicited, and the  
175 manufacturer was not involved in any clinical decision. Here, we describe the EAP patient

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<sup>1</sup> In the European Union and some other countries.

176 population and report on clinical outcomes and safety, following ongoing long-term treatment  
177 with idebenone in clinical practice.

178 **Methods (see also Supplemental Data A)**

179 Idebenone dose and duration of therapy were entirely at the discretion of the treating  
180 physician. Patient follow-up was in accordance with routine clinical practice, typically at  
181 3-monthly intervals.

182 For each participant, data on visual acuity (VA) and adverse events (AEs) was collected.

183 BCVA was generally assessed using Early Treatment Diabetic Retinopathy Study (ETDRS)  
184 charts with logarithm of the minimal angle of resolution (logMAR) values, or converted from  
185 standard Snellen notation to logMAR for analysis purposes.<sup>16</sup> Clinically Relevant

186 Stabilization of BCVA (CRS) was defined as a patient having a logMAR of <1.0 at baseline  
187 (below the threshold of severe vision loss/legal blindness in the United States<sup>17</sup>) in at least

188 one eye which was maintained in this eye at their last follow-up visit (LV). A Clinically

189 Relevant Recovery of BCVA (CRR) was defined as an improvement from off-chart (i.e.

190 unable to read any letters on an ETDRS chart from 1 meter; > 1.68 logMAR) to on-chart by

191 at least one full line (five letters); or an improvement in on-chart BCVA by at least two lines

192 (10 letters; 0.2 logMAR). The time to initial observation of a CRR was taken as the criterion

193 for an event-based analysis, and the magnitude of recovery is reported as the best recovery

194 observed for a patient. Safety and pregnancy information was collected according to the

195 applicable pharmacovigilance (PV) requirements.

196 Ethics approval was obtained by the Ethical Committee of the Ludwig-Maximilian

197 University of Munich in accordance with the declaration of Helsinki.

**198 Results**

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3  
4 199 At the time of data cut-off (June 2018), 111 patients from 38 sites in 10 countries, had  
5  
6 200 received at least one dose of idebenone and were included in the safety population (SP). Of  
7  
8 201 those, 87 patients carrying one of the three major LHON mtDNA mutations, having onset  
9  
10 202 within the 12 months previous to treatment start and providing post-baseline BCVA data  
11  
12 203 were included in the Efficacy Population (EP). Mean treatment duration was 25.6 months  
13  
14 204 (2.4 to 70.4) (Table 1).  
15  
16

17  
18 205 Patient demographics were generally representative of the known disease characteristics of  
19  
20  
21 206 LHON. Three patients, all G11778A carriers, reportedly had one eye declared unaffected at  
22  
23 207 baseline, namely, a 14 year-old male, a 16 year-old male and a 21 year-old female.  
24  
25

**208 *Clinically Relevant Stabilization of BCVA***

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27  
28  
29  
30 209 In the EP, 24/87 subjects had a BCVA at baseline  $<1.0$  logMAR in at least one eye, 50%  
31  
32 210 (12/24) of which experienced CRS (Table 1 and 2). For patients with CRS, mean BCVA  
33  
34  
35 211 improved from 0.47 logMAR at baseline to 0.29 logMAR at LV.  
36  
37

38 212 Of the three patients with one unaffected eye at baseline, the 16 year-old patient deteriorated  
39  
40 213 to off-chart BCVA in both eyes after 6 months of therapy, with no recovery thereafter.  
41  
42

43 214 However, both the 14 year-old male patient and the 21 year-old female patient still had  
44  
45 215 normal BCVA at LV after 12 months follow-up. These two patients also had CRR in the  
46  
47 216 fellow eye, which had presented with BCVA worse than 1.0 logMAR at start of treatment.  
48  
49

**217 *Clinically Relevant Recovery of BCVA from Nadir (Table 3).***

218 40/87 patients (46.0%) (by eyes, 67/173; 38.7%)<sup>2</sup> had CRR from nadir to LV. Time to *initial*  
 219 observation in patients with CRR varied between 2.5 to 26.5 with a mean of 9.5 months (Fig.  
 220 1). The magnitude of recovery of patient's best recovering eye, averaged 0.45 logMAR at  
 221 *initial* observation of CRR and increased to 0.72 logMAR by the LV. This increase of the  
 222 magnitude of response with longer treatment duration is confirmed when the magnitude of  
 223 CRR was analyzed specifically in 22 eyes that had demonstrated CRR by 6 months and for  
 224 which 12 month and beyond follow-up data were available (Fig. 2, right). Eyes that  
 225 eventually achieve a CRR and important VA improvement can, nevertheless, show some  
 226 degree of transient deterioration into a nadir, despite treatment start (Fig. 2, left and  
 227 Supplemental Data B: Table. 4). Eyes can show CRR regardless of VA category achieved at  
 228 nadir. For 173 eyes in 87 patients (one patient's eye had vision loss attributed to another  
 229 ocular pathology), at nadir 86 (49.7%) were off-chart; 76 (43.9%) had  
 230 BCVA 1.0 – 1.68 logMAR; and 11 (6.4%) had BCVA below 1.0 logMAR. For eyes that at  
 231 nadir were off-chart, 24.4% had a CRR, compared with 53.9% from those between  
 232 1.0 – 1.68 logMAR and 45.5% of those better than 1.0 logMAR at nadir (Supplemental Data  
 233 B: Table 4).

234 The overall outcome resulting from the shift of patients across BCVA categories is visualized  
 235 in Fig. 3.

### *Safety*

237 The cumulative exposure to idebenone in the SP was 1,981 patient-months. Although patient  
 238 adherence data are not available, prescribed idebenone doses were recorded. The majority of

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<sup>2</sup> The proportion of eyes with CRR is lower than the proportion of patients with CRR as not all patients experienced recovery in both eyes.

1 239 patients were treated with idebenone (150 mg tablets) at a daily dose of 900 mg (300 mg  
2  
3 240 TID).

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6 241 In the 111 patients treated with idebenone, 65 AEs (60.7% mild; 4.5% moderate; 4.5%  
7  
8 242 severe) had been reported in 32 patients. The most common AEs were gastrointestinal  
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10  
11 243 (n = 17), with diarrhea the most frequent (n = 5). Nine serious AEs were reported in seven  
12  
13 244 patients (all considered “not related” to treatment). Three case with fatal outcome, unrelated  
14  
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16 245 to idebenone use, was reported. Nine patients discontinued treatment due to AEs.

## 17 18 246 **Discussion**

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22 247 The data from this EAP provide unique and novel insights into the efficacy and safety of  
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24 248 idebenone treatment in LHON in a real world setting. Patients with LHON experience rapid  
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27 249 vision loss, thus two therapeutic goals may be defined depending on the stage of progression.  
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29 250 For patients who have suffered a relevant degree of vision loss, the aim is to improve BCVA  
30  
31 251 as much as possible, at least to CRR. For patients with relevant residual vision, stabilization  
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33  
34 252 of BCVA is important, particularly if ‘severe vision loss’ has not yet been reached (CRS).  
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36 253 Achieving either goal, CRR or CRS, may be considered a Clinically Relevant Benefit (CRB)  
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38  
39 254 for patients.

### 40 41 42 255 *Clinically Relevant Stabilization*

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44  
45 256 Vision loss in untreated patients is rapid,<sup>5</sup> with over 70% of eyes progressing to a BCVA  
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48 257 worse than 1.0 logMAR (20/200 Snellen) within three months.<sup>4, 18</sup> Accordingly, only 27.6%  
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51 258 patients had a BCVA better than 1.0 logMAR at baseline (mean 4.6 months after symptom  
52  
53 259 onset) (Table 1). While it is to be expected that most patients would further progress if  
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55  
56 260 untreated, with treatment, half of those (12/24, 50.0%) maintained a BCVA below this

1 261 threshold after an average follow-up time of 24.3 months. Interestingly, the mean BCVA for  
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3 262 these patients improved from 0.47 to 0.29 logMAR, corresponding to nine letters on the  
4  
5 263 ETDRS chart. Compared to the natural disease-course, early idebenone treatment provides an  
6  
7 264 opportunity to prevent severe vision loss over a timespan when further BCVA deterioration  
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9 265 would be expected for most patients.<sup>19</sup>

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12  
13 266 In most cases, the journey to LHON diagnosis after symptom onset takes weeks or months,  
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15 267 usually not allowing for treatment initiation until the second eye becomes affected. Notably,  
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18 268 in the EAP, only three patients had one unaffected eye at treatment start, two of which  
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20 269 maintained this status at LV. While the numbers are low, this contrasts with a previous case  
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22  
23 270 series, in which all six patients starting idebenone treatment with an unaffected eye  
24  
25 271 subsequently experienced BCVA decrease in these eyes.<sup>8</sup> While this is a good indication of a  
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27 272 favorable effect, the small numbers mean it remains to be seen whether idebenone can indeed  
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30 273 prevent onset of symptoms, i.e. in patients starting treatment “in-between” onset in the eyes.  
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33 274 This can be further explored once better referral and earlier diagnosis result in widespread  
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35 275 early treatment of the disease.

### 36 37 38 276 *Clinically Relevant Recovery*

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42 277 Vision loss in patients with LHON is mostly permanent.<sup>19</sup> However, in the EAP, almost one  
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44 278 in two patients (40/87, 46.0%) treated with idebenone experienced CRR after a mean  
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47 279 treatment duration of 9.48 months. This is comparable to the 45.5% (20/44) responder rate  
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49 280 for idebenone-treated patients in a case series using similar criteria to define recovery,<sup>8</sup> and of  
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52 281 42.9% (6/14) reported for a smaller patient cohort treated with idebenone and vitamin B2.<sup>9</sup>  
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54 282 Both of these retrospective studies reported lower rates of recovery, 32.2%<sup>8</sup> and 28.6%,<sup>9</sup> for  
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56  
57 283 the untreated, in-study control groups. While the EAP did not have a control group, a recently

1 284 conducted, large retrospective case record survey provided rates of CRR using identical  
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3 285 criteria as in the EAP.<sup>20, 21</sup> Here, 31.1% of untreated patients (23/74) experienced CRR, a  
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5 286 proportion again in line with the untreated groups of the two cohort studies.<sup>8, 9</sup>  
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9 287 *Rate of Recovery as a Function of Treatment Duration*

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12 288 This EAP provides a large dataset in patients treated for an average of more than 2 years (in  
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14 289 RHODOS was 6 months).

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17 290 In the EAP, time from start of therapy to initial observation of CRR varies from 2.5 months  
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19  
20 291 to 26.5 months (Table 3). This provides evidence for a benefit of longer idebenone treatment  
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22 292 in LHON, as only 45.0% of the total responders had experienced their first recovery by  
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25 293 6 months. The responder rate increased with treatment duration up to 12 months, but 33%  
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27 294 patients experienced CRR later, with some only showing initial improvement after 24 months  
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30 295 of treatment. (Fig. 1).

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36 297 *Magnitude of Recovery as a Function of Treatment Duration*

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40 298 Evaluating the impact of continued therapy *after an initial CRR has been observed* is very  
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42 299 relevant. At the initial CRR, the average magnitude of best recovery by subject was 23 letters,  
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45 300 which increased to 36 letters (7 lines ETDRS) by LV. This effect was also observed for  
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47 301 individual eyes with CRR (n = 67) where after first worsening to a nadir, later improved at  
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50 302 initial observation of CRR and further at LV (mean recovery of 35 letters from nadir) (Fig. 2,  
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52 303 left). Finally, in a subset of eyes demonstrating early CRR (within 6 months), the magnitude  
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304 of CRR continued to increase with prolonged treatment, from 21 letters after 6 months to  
305 50 letters by LV (average treatment duration of 35 months).

306 *Rate of Recovery and Outcome as a Function of Vision Loss During Therapy*

307 An interesting question to address is whether the results of therapy are dependent on the  
308 degree of BCVA loss, both in terms of responder rate and to a change in categorical BCVA  
309 outcomes, as defined by BCVA thresholds related to quality of life.<sup>17</sup> At treatment start,  
310 27.6% patients presented with a BCVA <1.0 logMAR and 19.5% were already off-chart,  
311 highlighting the rapid vision loss described elsewhere.<sup>11, 19, 22</sup> Visual outcomes showed some  
312 further worsening after treatment initiation, reaching a nadir. At the final available  
313 assessment, however, visual outcomes were markedly improved compared to nadir, with  
314 more than a tripling of patients with BCVA <1.0 logMAR from nadir (9.2%) to LV (32.2%)  
315 and a reduction in off-chart patients (44.8% to 32.2%) (Fig. 3). In line with a case series  
316 using idebenone<sup>8</sup>, our results also show that the probability of therapeutic success is  
317 maximized by early treatment initiation, as indicated by a higher responder rate in less  
318 affected eyes (CRR of 24.4% vs 53.9% for eyes off-chart and on-chart at nadir, respectively  
319 (Supplemental Data B)

320 Also, for responders, the magnitude of improvement can be very marked, regardless of the  
321 severity at nadir.

322 *Impact of LHON Mutation on the Reported Analyses*

323 The most frequent mitochondrial gene variant causing LHON, G11778A, is considered to  
324 correlate with the most severe prognosis, whereas the T14484C mutation is typically  
325 associated with a milder phenotype and the G3460A mutation has an intermediate prognosis.

1 326 <sup>2, 10, 22</sup> The largest subgroup of patients in the EAP were G11778A . They experienced a  
2  
3 327 slightly lower rate of CRS than the entire cohort, a lower rate of CRR, a smaller magnitude of  
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5 328 recovery by the LV and longer treatment duration to recovery. As expected, although with  
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7 329 small number of patients, T14484C patients had the highest rate of CRS and CRR, the largest  
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9 330 magnitude of recovery and the shortest treatment duration before CRR while the  
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12 331 corresponding rates for patients with the G3460A mutation mostly fell in between the other  
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15 332 two mutations (Table 1, 2, 3).

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18 333 With the obvious limitations resulting from varying observation duration and definitions of  
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20 334 treatment response,<sup>10, 15, 23-27</sup> rates of spontaneous recovery of VA have been documented in  
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23 335 several studies and can be as low as 4% for the G11778A mutation.<sup>23-27</sup> In the RHODOS  
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25 336 placebo group, spontaneous recovery across all mutations occurred in 10.3% of patients over  
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28 337 6 months.<sup>15</sup> Overall, the CRR rate observed in our data exceeds the reported rates of  
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30 338 spontaneous recovery.

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34 339 Idebenone was well tolerated, with a good safety profile, in line with results from the  
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36 340 RHODOS trial.<sup>15</sup> No new safety signals have been observed.

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39 341 Although our analysis has the inherent limitations from the retrospective nature of the data  
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42 342 and a lack of control group, it provides however an important view of long term response and  
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44 343 tolerability of idebenone in patients within the first year of disease onset in the second eye in  
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47 344 a real world setting.

## 50 345 **Conclusions**

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53 346 Our results suggest that the overall outcome of idebenone treatment indicates a better  
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56 347 long-term prognosis than expected from limited natural history data. Although treatment

LHON treatment with Idebenone in clinical practice

1 348 response is observed despite severity of visual impairment, early treatment initiation

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3 349 improves the chances of response.

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6 350 A treatment duration of at least 18-24 months is needed to maximize the probability of CRR

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8 351 as a certain degree of transient deterioration to a nadir may occur despite therapy initiation

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10 352 and that continued treatment after initial CRR provides further benefit. The risk balance of

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12 353 idebenone 900 mg/day is in line with the previously published clinical trial.

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436 **Figure 1. Time to Initial Observation of Clinically Relevant Recovery (CRR)**

437 Cumulative percentage of total number of patients with CRR, as a function of time on treatment  
438 to initial CRR, (n = 40). All mutations,

440 **Figure 2. Magnitude of Mean BCVA Recovery Over Time in Eyes with CRR**

441 Magnitude of best corrected visual acuity (BCVA) recovery in eyes with clinically relevant  
442 recovery (CRR). *Left:* Average BCVA observed at baseline (BL), nadir, initial observation of  
443 CRR and at the last observation visit (LV) for all eyes that experienced CRR (n=67). *Right:*  
444 Improvement of BCVA over time, at given treatment durations, in those eyes that experienced  
445 CRR within 6 months of treatment initiation and where follow-up data were available (n=22).  
446 All mutations. All off-chart VA values were imputed to 1.8 logMAR. Error bars indicate the  
447 95% CI.

449 **Figure 3. Shift of Patients, over treatment time, across Categories of BCVA (Efficacy  
450 Population, n= 87)**

451 Bar chart for distribution of patients based on blindness categories for best corrected visual  
452 acuity (BCVA) at baseline (BL), at nadir, and at last observation visit (LV). All mutations.

454 **Table 1 – Patient Demographics and baseline (BL) values <sup>a</sup>. Efficacy Population (EP) by**  
 455 **mutation <sup>b</sup>**

	All	G11778A	G3460A	T14484C
Patients in the EP	87/87 (100%)	54/87 (62.1%)	17/87 (19.5%)	16/87 (18.4%)
Treatment duration [months] <sup>c</sup>	25.6 ± 16.9 (2.4 – 70.4)	24.9 ± 17.4 (3.2 – 70.4)	27.7 ± 16.7 (4.4 – 61.0)	25.5 ± 16.0 (2.4 – 53.8)
Gender male	71/87 (82%)	45/54 (83%)	13/17 (77%)	13/16 (81%)
Age at onset [years]	31.4 ± 17.3 (6.6 – 78.9)	33.3 ± 17.5 (12.1 – 78.9)	28.4 ± 16.8 (6.6 – 64.5)	28.1 ± 16.9(8.5 – 56.2)
Adolescent at onset (age 12-17 years)	22/87 (25.3%)	11/54 (20.4%)	6/17 (35.3%)	5/16 (31.3%)
Childhood onset (< 12 years of age)	3/87 (3.4%)	0/54 (0%)	1/17 (5.9%)	2/16 (12.5%)
Time since onset at baseline <sup>e</sup> [months]	4.6 ± 3.0 (0.3 – 11.5)	4.3 ± 2.7 (0.4 – 11.4)	5.9 ± 3.7 (0.3 – 11.5)	4.4 ± 2.8 (0.9 – 9.3)
Interval of onset between eyes <sup>f g</sup> [months]	1.7 ± 2.5 (0.0 – 12.6)	1.8 ± 2.5 (0.0 – 10.0)	1.9 ± 3.1 (0.0 – 12.6)	0.9 ± 1.3 (0.0 – 4.7)
BCVA at baseline [logMAR]	1.23 ± 0.52 (-0.18 – 1.8)	1.22 ± 0.59 (-0.18 – 1.8)	1.37 ± 0.38 (0.40 – 1.80)	1.12 ± 0.39 (0.28 – 1.80)
Baseline BCVA off-chart <sup>h</sup>	17/87 (20%)	13/54 (24%)	3/17 (18%)	1/16 (6%)
Baseline BCVA from 1.0 to 1.68 logMAR	46/87 (53%)	25/54 (46%)	11/17 (65%)	10/16 (63%)
Baseline BCVA <1.0 logMAR	24/87 (28%)	16/54 (30%)	3/17 (18%)	5/16 (31%)

Values are given as n (%) or mean ± standard deviation and minimum – maximum (in parentheses); percentages may not total 100% due to rounding; BCVA = best corrected visual acuity; CRR = clinically relevant recovery; CRS = clinically relevant stabilization; logMAR = logarithm of the minimal angle of resolution

<sup>a</sup> data cut-off: June 2018; <sup>b</sup> For information on EP flow see Supplemental Data A; <sup>c</sup> Treatment duration was not pre-determined and was decided by the treating physician according to his/her criteria as per routine clinical practice; <sup>d</sup> BCVA off-chart values are imputed to 1.8 logMAR see Supplemental Data A; <sup>e</sup> Time since onset: time from symptoms onset to start of treatment (baseline) in the most recently affected eye; <sup>f</sup> Three patients were reported by the treating physician to have one asymptomatic eye at baseline; <sup>g</sup> Time between onset of 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> affected eye; <sup>h</sup> Off-chart values: not reading any letter on the ETDRS chart at 1m (i.e. >1.68 logMAR) (Supplemental Data A);

458 **Table 2 – Clinically Relevant Stabilization (CRS) for subset of patients with BCVA at**  
 459 **baseline <1.0 logMAR. Efficacy Population (EP) <sup>a b</sup> by mutation**

	All	G11778A	G3460A	T14484C
BCVA stabilization: Patients with CRS <sup>c</sup>	12/24 (50%)	7/16 (44%)	1/3 (33%)	4/5 (80%)
BCVA at baseline <sup>d</sup> [logMAR]	0.47 ± 0.36 (-0.18 – 0.96)	0.31 ± 0.34 (0.18 – 0.88)	0.94	0.62 ± 0.28 (0.28 – 0.96)
BCVA at last observation <sup>d</sup> [logMAR]	0.29 ± 0.29 (-0.16 – 0.8)	0.35 ± 0.34 (-0.16 – 0.8)	0.34	0.17 ± 0.29 (-0.14 – 0.42)
Treatment duration <sup>d</sup> [months]	30.1 ± 19 (9.9 – 67.8)	25.5 ± 20.6 (10.7 – 67.8)	40.0	35.8 ± 18.6 (9.9 – 53.8)

460 Values are given as n (%) or mean ± standard deviation and minimum – maximum (in parentheses); Percentages  
 461 may not total 100% due to rounding; BCVA = best corrected visual acuity; CRS = clinically relevant  
 462 stabilization; logMAR = logarithm of the minimal angle of resolution

463 <sup>a</sup>Data cut-off: June 2018; <sup>b</sup> For information on EP flow see Supplemental Data A; <sup>c</sup> CRS: BCVA had to be  
 464 maintained in an eye with BCVA <1.0 logMAR at start of the treatment; <sup>d</sup> Calculations only consider patients  
 465 with CRS (12 patients);

467 **Table 3 – Clinically Relevant Recovery (CRR) by patient. Efficacy Population (EP) <sup>a b</sup>**  
 468 **by mutation**

	All	G11778A	G3460A	T14484C
BCVA Recovery: Patients with CRR <sup>c</sup>	40/87 (46.0%)	21/54 (39%)	7/17 (41%)	12/16 (75%)
Time to initial CRR [months]	9.5 ± 7.0 (2.5 – 26.5)	11.2 ± 7.8 (2.5 – 26.5)	7.3 ± 3.4 (2.5 – 12.9)	7.8 ± 6.8 (3.0 – 25.6)
<b>Magnitude of recovery at initial CRR</b>				
logMAR	0.45 ± 0.31 0.20 - 1.62	0.39 ± 0.32 0.20 - 1.62	0.39 ± 0.20 0.22 - 0.76	0.60 ± 0.30 0.22 - 1.20
Number of letters ETDRS	22 ± 15 (10 – 81)	19 ± 16 (10 – 81)	19 ± 10 (11 – 38)	30 ± 15 (11 – 60)
<b>Magnitude of recovery at last observation</b>				
logMAR	0.72 ± 0.46 0.20 - 1.80	0.52 ± 0.39 0.20 - 1.76	0.61 ± 0.31 0.24 - 1.10	1.12 ± 0.40 0.46 - 1.80
number of letters ETDRS	36 ± 23 (10 – 90)	26 ± 19 (10 – 88)	30 ± 15 (12 – 55)	56 ± 20 (23 – 90)

469 Values are given as n (%) or mean ± standard deviation and minimum – maximum (in parentheses); percentages

470 may not total 100% due to rounding; BCVA = best corrected visual acuity; CRR = clinically relevant recovery;

471 ETDRS = Early Treatment Diabetic Retinopathy Study; logMAR = logarithm of the minimal angle of resolution

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473 <sup>a</sup> Data cut-off June 2018; <sup>b</sup> For information on EP flow see Supplemental Data A; <sup>c</sup> CRR is improvement from off-  
 474 chart BCVA to on-chart by the equivalent of at least one full line on an ETDRS chart (five letters) or an  
 475 improvement in on-chart BCVA by the equivalent of at least two lines (10 letters).

476

477 **Table 4 –Clinically Relevant Recovery (CRR) by Individual Eyes as a Function of**  
 478 **BCVA at Nadir. Efficacy Population (EP) <sup>a b</sup>**

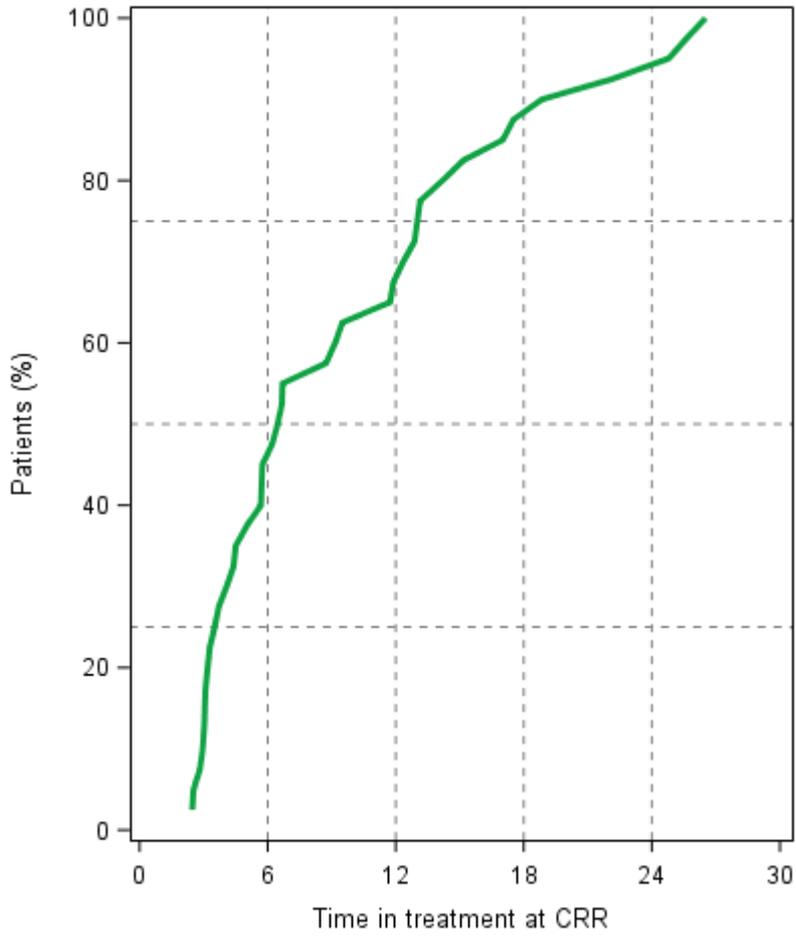
VA category at nadir	Eyes	Eyes with CRR <sup>c</sup> within category	Eyes with CRR and BCVA [logMAR] at last observation		
			BCVA >1.0	>0.5 BCVA <1.0	BCVA ≤0.5
Off-chart	86/173 (49.7%)	21/86 (24%)	14	2	5
From 1.0 to 1.68 logMAR	76/173 (44%)	41/76 (54%)	12	13	16
Below 1.0 logMAR	11/173 (6%)	5/11 (46%)	na	0	5
All <sup>d</sup>	173/173 (100%)	67/173 (39%)	26	15	26

479 Values are given as n (%); Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding; BCVA = best corrected visual  
 480 acuity; CRR = clinically relevant recovery; logMAR = logarithm of the minimal angle of resolution; na = not  
 481 applicable

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 483 <sup>a</sup> Data cut-off June 2018; <sup>b</sup> For information on EP flow see Supplemental Data A; <sup>c</sup> CRR is improvement from  
 484 off-chart BCVA to on-chart by the equivalent of at least one full line on an ETDRS chart (five letters) or an  
 485 improvement in on-chart BCVA by the equivalent of at least two lines (10 letters) at LV; <sup>d</sup> One patient had  
 486 vision loss in one eye not related to LHON.

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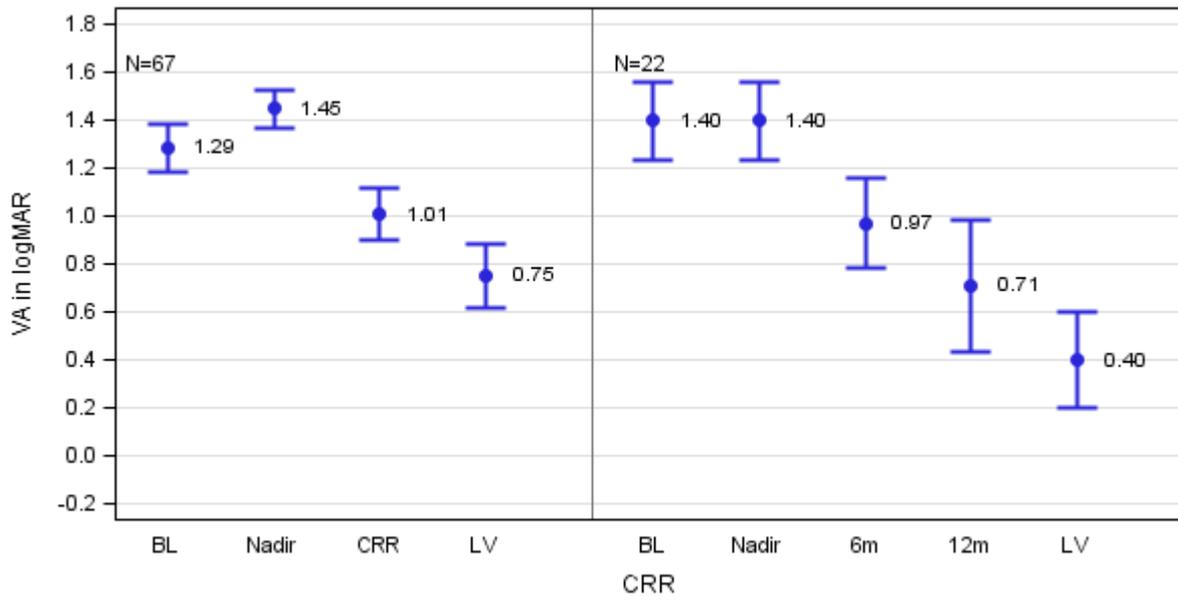
488 Fig. 1



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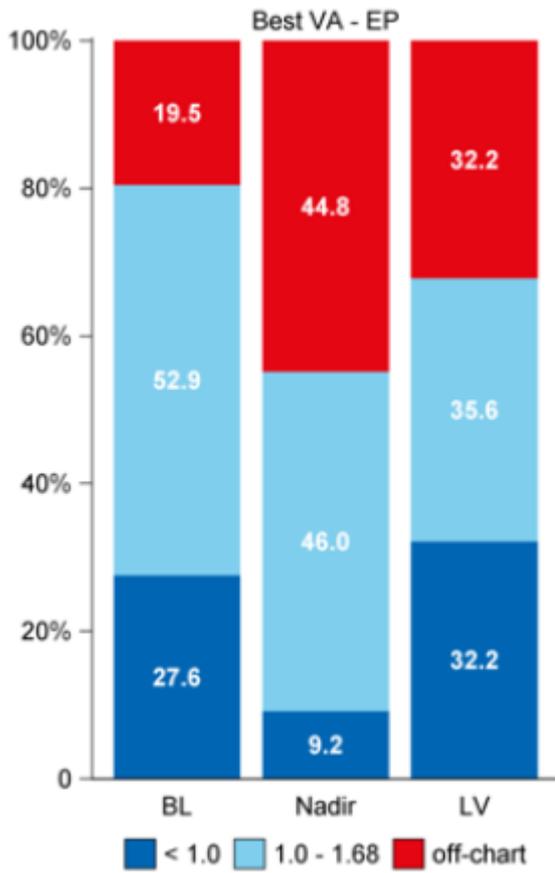
491 **Fig.2**



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494 **Fig. 3**



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497 **Supplemental Data: A**

498 **CLINICAL SITES**

499 A total of 111 patients had been enrolled by treating physicians at 38 different sites in 10  
500 countries. Most enrolling sites were in Europe (N=27), followed by the US (N=6) and  
501 Australia/New Zealand (N=5).

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503 **DATA**

504 **Data collection**

505 Data was collected from available medical records, by means of Case Record Forms (CRF):

- 506 - Demographic data (age, gender)
- 507 - Date of onset of symptoms on each eye
- 508 - Genetic confirmation (mutation)
- 509 - Best Corrected Visual Acuity (BCVA) (see below)
  - 510 ○ At start of treatment (Baseline)
  - 511 ○ At follow-up visits
- 512 - Date of each visit
- 513 - Dose
- 514 - Adverse events

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516 **Statistical Methods**

1 517 There was no planned sample size as all requests for access to Raxone® for eligible patients  
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3 518 which were bona fide and unsolicited had been granted. All treating physicians were  
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5 519 approached and invited to contribute data from their treated patients.  
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7  
8 520 Efficacy criteria was based in the Responder Analyses (CRR, CRS and CRB) (see below) with  
9  
10 521 Best Corrected Visual Acuity (BCVA) as efficacy variable. BCVA was assessed using ETDRS  
11  
12 522 (Early Treatment Diabetic Retinopathy Study) charts with logMAR (logarithm of the minimal  
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14 523 angle of resolution) values as units. In cases where VA was assessed using Snellen  
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16 524 fraction/units, logMAR values were calculated using standard conversion methods.<sup>3 4</sup>  
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21 525 If VA was > 1.68 logMAR or off-chart (regardless of being assessed as counting fingers, hand  
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23 526 motion, light perception or no-light perception) it was imputed to 1.8 logMAR in order to  
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25 527 standardize visual acuity data from different physicians. The value 1.8 logMAR was based on  
26  
27 528 the CRR definition: it is considered a CRR any off-chart VA that recovers to at least 1.6  
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29 529 logMAR (being 1.6 logMAR the equivalent to reading one full line in the ETDRS chart).  
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34 530 Continuous data was summarised using the mean, standard deviation, median, 1st and 3rd  
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36 531 quartiles, minimum and maximum. Categorical data was presented in contingency tables with  
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38 532 frequencies and percentages.  
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42 533 CRR was summarised by means of descriptive statistics and Kaplan-Meier estimates, presented  
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44 534 with the 95% confidence interval (using the Greenwood formula) and reverse Kaplan-Meier  
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55 <sup>3</sup> Kniestedt C & Stamper RL Visual acuity and its measurement. *Ophthalmol Clin North Am.* 2003;16:155-70, v.

56 <sup>4</sup> Kaiser P. Prospective evaluation of visual acuity assessment: a comparison of Snellen versus ETDRS charts in  
57 clinical practice (an AOS thesis) *Trans Am Ophthalmol Soc* 2009;107:311-324

1 535 curves. Unless stated otherwise data was analysed using the observed cases or missing data  
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3 536 were imputed with the last available observation carried forward (LOCF).

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9 538 **PATIENT DISPOSITION/ANALYSIS POPULATIONS**

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12 539 Data from a total of 111 patients was collected. The following populations were defined for  
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15 540 the analysis of safety and efficacy data:

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18 541 ○ Safety Population (SP): used for analysis of safety information. It includes all patients  
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21 542 enrolled in the EAP who received at least one dose of Raxone® (111 patients).

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23 543 ○ Efficacy Population (EP): is defined as the sub-population of the SP who carried one  
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25 544 of the 3 major LHON-causative mtDNA mutations, who had time since onset at  
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28 545 Baseline of less than 12 months in the most recently affected eye and for whom post-  
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31 546 Baseline VA efficacy data was available (87 patients).

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37 548 **DEFINITIONS**

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40 549 - **Nadir**: Nadir is defined as the value when VA reaches its worst point (highest  
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43 550 logMAR value). Time of nadir is the first time that nadir is reached, which can take  
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45 551 place at baseline, or during the course of the treatment.

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52 553 - **CRR (Clinically Relevant Recovery)**: It is defined as an improvement:  
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## LHON treatment with Idebenone in clinical practice

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- a patient has a CRR if at least one eye has a CRR;
  - time of CRR is the time when the 1st CRR occurred;
  - improvement of VA at CRR is the improvement observed at the time of 1st CRR;
  - improvement of VA at last visit is the best improvement observed in both eyes.

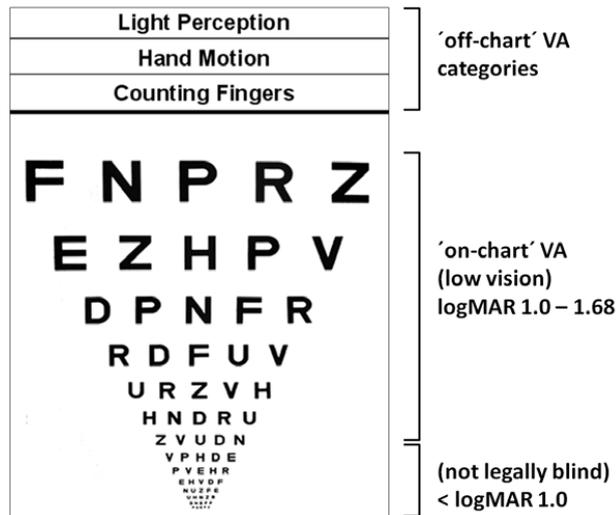
- **CRS (Clinically Relevant Stabilisation of residual VA):** is defined as a patient having a logMAR of <1.0 at Baseline (below the threshold of severe vision loss, legal blindness in the United States) in at least one eye and maintaining a logMAR of <1.0 in that eye at their last follow-up assessment. A patient has a CRS if at least one eye has a CRS.

- **Magnitude of Improvement:** “Magnitude of improvement from baseline” is defined as the difference between VA logMAR at the visit and VA logMAR at baseline. “Magnitude of improvement from nadir” is defined as the difference between VA logMAR at the visit and VA logMAR at nadir.

- o A decrease in logMAR of 0.02 (-0.02) is equivalent to an improvement in reading ability of one letter (+1 letter) and an increase in logMAR of 0.02 (+0.02) is equivalent to the deterioration in reading ability of one letter (-1 letter).

## LHON treatment with Idebenone in clinical practice

- 591 - **Visual Impairment Categories:** Both at eye and subject level, BCVA values (in  
 592 logMAR) were classified in three categories (This classification allows to observe  
 593 changes related to quality of life relevant to the patient's function.)
- 594 - **Off-chart:** not reading any letter on the ETDRS chart at 1m (i.e. >1.68  
 595 logMAR)
  - 596 - **From 1.0 to 1.68 logMAR:** not reading any letter on the ETDRS chart at 4m  
 597 (i.e. >1.00 logMAR) but being able to read at least one letter on the ETDRS  
 598 chart at 1m (i.e. 1.68 logMAR)
  - 599 - **<1.0 logMAR:** Being able to read at one or more letters on the ETDRS chart at  
 600 4m.



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**Supplemental Data: B**

**ANALYSES OF CLINICALLY RELEVANT RECOVERY (CRR) IN INDIVIDUAL EYES AS A FUNCTION OF BCVA AT NADIR**

The final BCVA outcome at last observation (LV) was analyzed for eyes with CRR, compared to blindness category at nadir (Table 4). Of 21 eyes that were off chart at nadir and subsequently experienced CRR, 14/21 (66.7%) reached a full line on-chart, 7/21 (33.3%) experienced improvement of more than six lines, reaching a BCVA <1.0, five of which achieved a BCVA ≤0.5 logMAR. For those eyes with a BCVA between 1.0 – 1.68 logMAR at nadir (n = 41), the majority (29; 70.7%) improved to <1.0 logMAR, with 16 improving to ≤0.5 logMAR. Lastly, all eyes with BCVA at nadir <1.0 logMAR (n = 5) had a BCVA ≤0.5 logMAR at last observation. Overall, 67 eyes (38.7%) experienced CRR. Out of these 41/67 (61.2%) had a BCVA <1.0 logMAR at last observation, with 26/67 (38.8%) reaching ≤0.5 logMAR.

**TABLE 4**

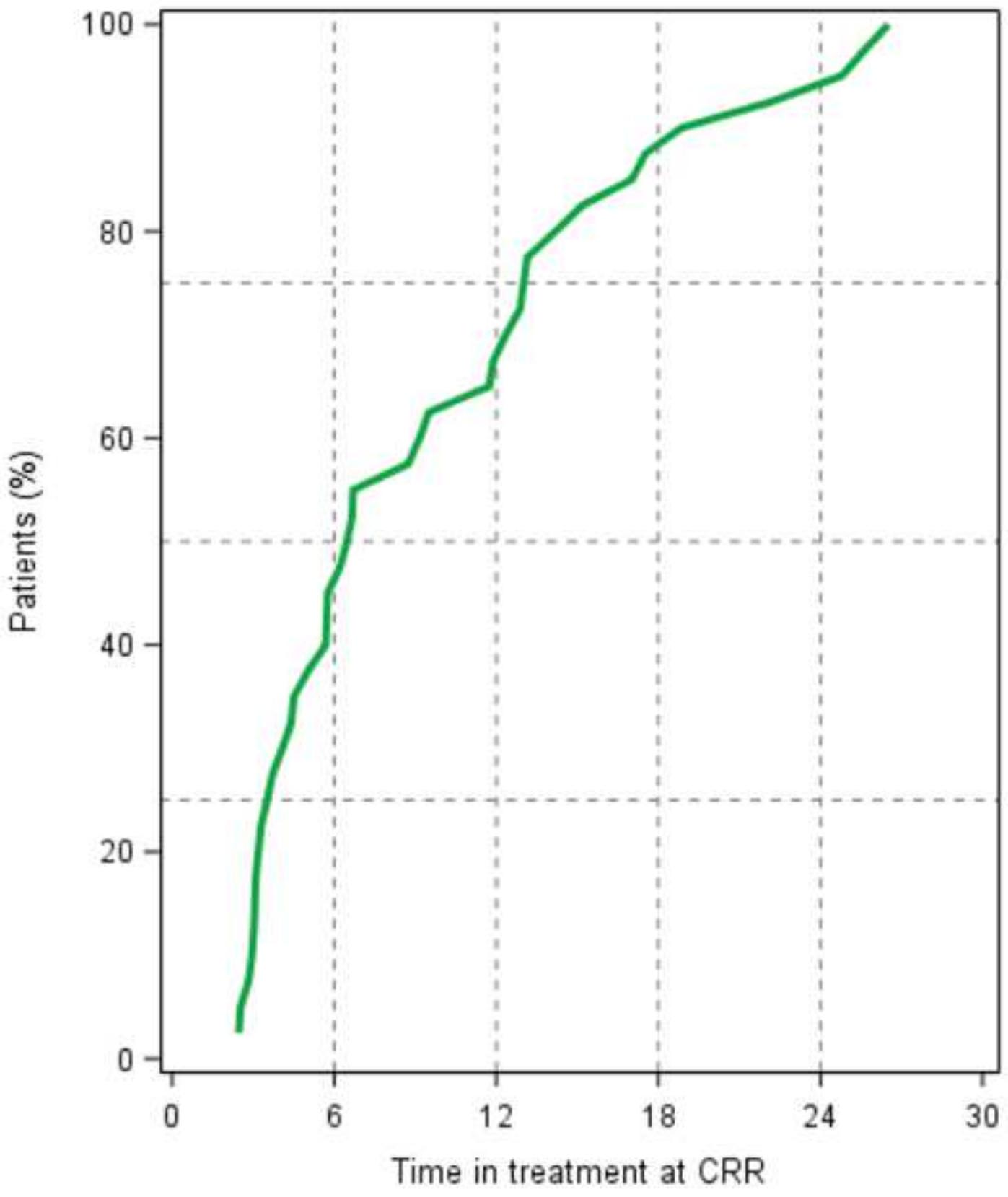
1 **Table 1 – Patient Demographics and baseline (BL) values <sup>a</sup>. Efficacy Population (EP) by**  
 2 **mutation <sup>b</sup>**

	All	G11778A	G3460A	T14484C
Patients in the EP	87/87 (100%)	54/87 (62.1%)	17/87 (19.5%)	16/87 (18.4%)
Treatment duration [months] <sup>c</sup>	25.6 ± 16.9 (2.4 – 70.4)	24.9 ± 17.4 (3.2 – 70.4)	27.7 ± 16.7 (4.4 – 61.0)	25.5 ± 16.0 (2.4 – 53.8)
Gender male	71/87 (82%)	45/54 (83%)	13/17 (77%)	13/16 (81%)
Age at onset [years]	31.4 ± 17.3 (6.6 – 78.9)	33.3 ± 17.5 (12.1 – 78.9)	28.4 ± 16.8 (6.6 – 64.5)	28.1 ± 16.9(8.5 – 56.2)
Adolescent at onset (age 12-17 years)	22/87 (25.3%)	11/54 (20.4%)	6/17 (35.3%)	5/16 (31.3%)
Childhood onset (< 12 years of age)	3/87 (3.4%)	0/54 (0%)	1/17 (5.9%)	2/16 (12.5%)
Time since onset at baseline <sup>e</sup> [months]	4.6 ± 3.0 (0.3 – 11.5)	4.3 ± 2.7 (0.4 – 11.4)	5.9 ± 3.7 (0.3 – 11.5)	4.4 ± 2.8 (0.9 – 9.3)
Interval of onset between eyes <sup>f g</sup> [months]	1.7 ± 2.5 (0.0 – 12.6)	1.8 ± 2.5 (0.0 – 10.0)	1.9 ± 3.1 (0.0 – 12.6)	0.9 ± 1.3 (0.0 – 4.7)
BCVA at baseline [logMAR]	1.23 ± 0.52 (-0.18 – 1.8)	1.22 ± 0.59 (-0.18 – 1.8)	1.37 ± 0.38 (0.40 – 1.80)	1.12 ± 0.39 (0.28 – 1.80)
Baseline BCVA off-chart <sup>h</sup>	17/87 (20%)	13/54 (24%)	3/17 (18%)	1/16 (6%)
Baseline BCVA from 1.0 to 1.68 logMAR	46/87 (53%)	25/54 (46%)	11/17 (65%)	10/16 (63%)
Baseline BCVA <1.0 logMAR	24/87 (28%)	16/54 (30%)	3/17 (18%)	5/16 (31%)

Values are given as n (%) or mean ± standard deviation and minimum – maximum (in parentheses); percentages may not total 100% due to rounding; BCVA = best corrected visual acuity; CRR = clinically relevant recovery; CRS = clinically relevant stabilization; logMAR = logarithm of the minimal angle of resolution

<sup>a</sup> data cut-off: June 2018; <sup>b</sup> For information on EP flow see Supplemental Data A; <sup>c</sup> Treatment duration was not pre-determined and was decided by the treating physician according to his/her criteria as per routine clinical practice; <sup>d</sup> BCVA off-chart values are imputed to 1.8 logMAR see Supplemental Data A; <sup>e</sup> Time since onset: time from symptoms onset to start of treatment (baseline) in the most recently affected eye; <sup>f</sup> Three patients were reported by the treating physician to have one asymptomatic eye at baseline; <sup>g</sup> Time between onset of 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> affected eye; <sup>h</sup> Off-chart values: not reading any letter on the ETDRS chart at 1m (i.e. >1.68 logMAR) (Supplemental Data A);

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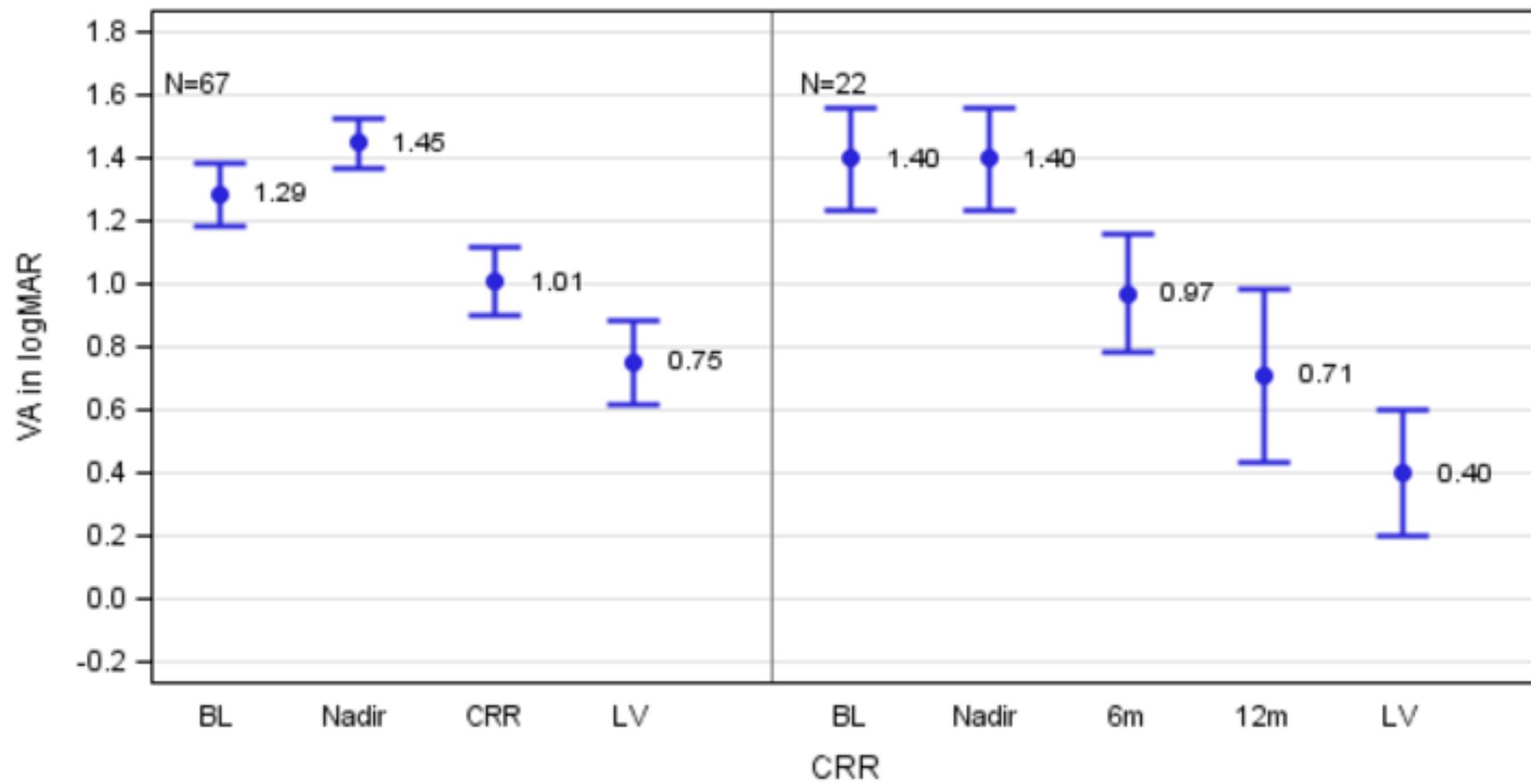


1 **Table 2 – Clinically Relevant Stabilization (CRS) for subset of patients with BCVA at**  
 2 **baseline <1.0 logMAR. Efficacy Population (EP)<sup>a b</sup> by mutation**

	All	G11778A	G3460A	T14484C
BCVA stabilization: Patients with CRS <sup>c</sup>	12/24 (50%)	7/16 (44%)	1/3 (33%)	4/5 (80%)
BCVA at baseline <sup>d</sup> [logMAR]	0.47 ± 0.36 (-0.18 – 0.96)	0.31 ± 0.34 (0.18 – 0.88)	0.94	0.62 ± 0.28 (0.28 – 0.96)
BCVA at last observation <sup>d</sup> [logMAR]	0.29 ± 0.29 (-0.16 – 0.8)	0.35 ± 0.34 (-0.16 – 0.8)	0.34	0.17 ± 0.29 (-0.14 – 0.42)
Treatment duration <sup>d</sup> [months]	30.1 ± 19 (9.9 – 67.8)	25.5 ± 20.6 (10.7 – 67.8)	40.0	35.8 ± 18.6 (9.9 – 53.8)

3 Values are given as n (%) or mean ± standard deviation and minimum – maximum (in parentheses); Percentages  
 4 may not total 100% due to rounding; BCVA = best corrected visual acuity; CRS = clinically relevant  
 5 stabilization; logMAR = logarithm of the minimal angle of resolution  
 6

7 <sup>a</sup>Data cut-off: June 2018; <sup>b</sup>For information on EP flow see Supplemental Data A; <sup>c</sup>CRS: BCVA had to be  
 8 maintained in an eye with BCVA <1.0 logMAR at start of the treatment; <sup>d</sup>Calculations only consider patients  
 9 with CRS (12 patients);

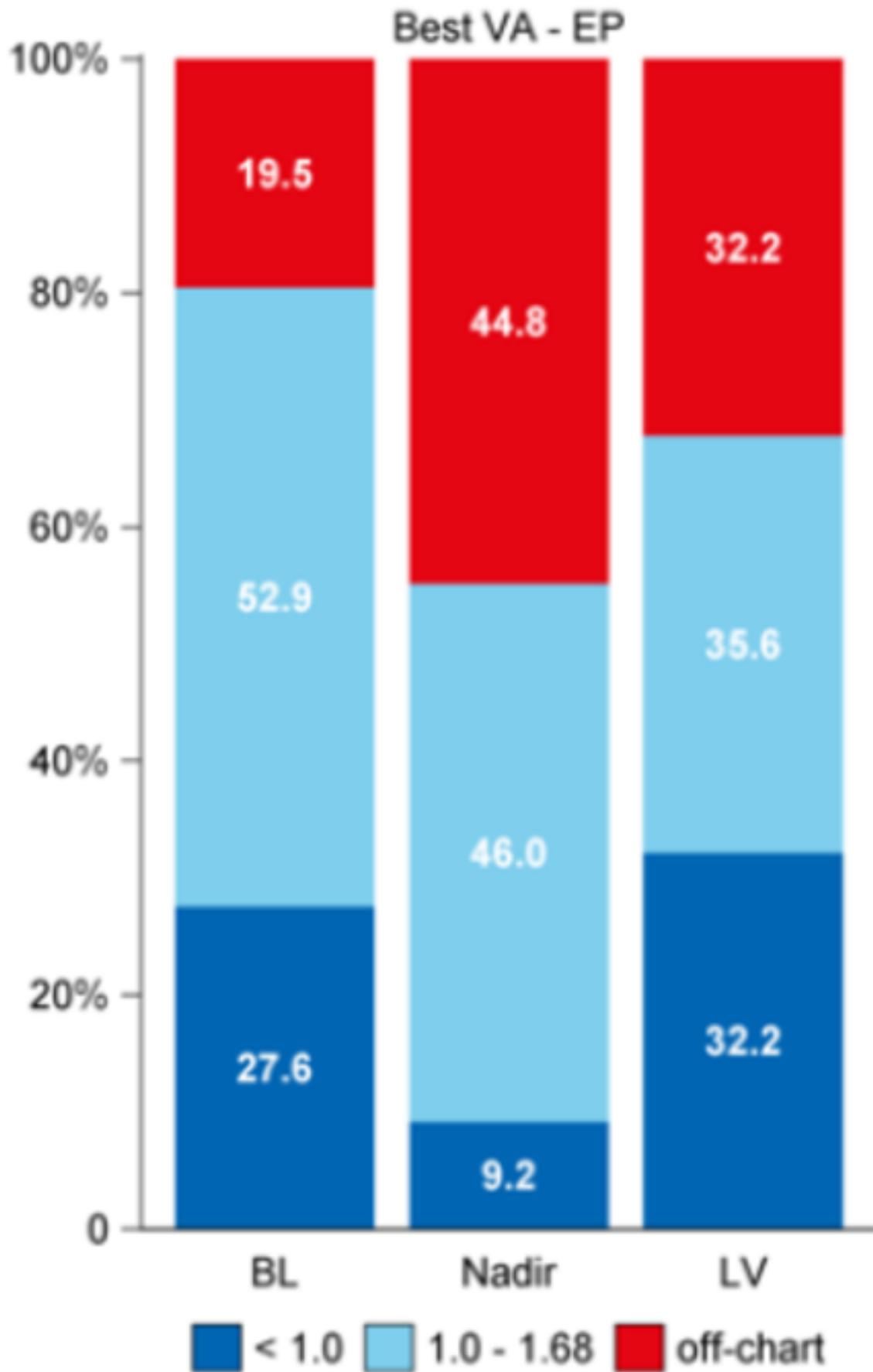


1 **Table 3 – Clinically Relevant Recovery (CRR) by patient. Efficacy Population (EP)<sup>a b</sup> by**  
 2 **mutation**

	All	G11778A	G3460A	T14484C
BCVA Recovery: Patients with CRR <sup>c</sup>	40/87 (46.0%)	21/54 (39%)	7/17 (41%)	12/16 (75%)
Time to initial CRR [months]	9.5 ± 7.0 (2.5 – 26.5)	11.2 ± 7.8 (2.5 – 26.5)	7.3 ± 3.4 (2.5 – 12.9)	7.8 ± 6.8 (3.0 – 25.6)
<b>Magnitude of recovery at initial CRR</b>				
logMAR	0.45 ± 0.31 0.20 - 1.62	0.39 ± 0.32 0.20 - 1.62	0.39 ± 0.20 0.22 - 0.76	0.60 ± 0.30 0.22 - 1.20
Number of letters ETDRS	22 ± 15 (10 – 81)	19 ± 16 (10 – 81)	19 ± 10 (11 – 38)	30 ± 15 (11 – 60)
<b>Magnitude of recovery at last observation</b>				
logMAR	0.72 ± 0.46 0.20 - 1.80	0.52 ± 0.39 0.20 - 1.76	0.61 ± 0.31 0.24 - 1.10	1.12 ± 0.40 0.46 - 1.80
number of letters ETDRS	36 ± 23 (10 – 90)	26 ± 19 (10 – 88)	30 ± 15 (12 – 55)	56 ± 20 (23 – 90)

3 Values are given as n (%) or mean ± standard deviation and minimum – maximum (in parentheses); percentages  
 4 may not total 100% due to rounding; BCVA = best corrected visual acuity; CRR = clinically relevant recovery;  
 5 ETDRS = Early Treatment Diabetic Retinopathy Study; logMAR = logarithm of the minimal angle of  
 6 resolution  
 7

8 <sup>a</sup> Data cut-off June 2018; <sup>b</sup> For information on EP flow see Supplemental Data A; <sup>c</sup> CRR is improvement from  
 9 off-chart BCVA to on-chart by the equivalent of at least one full line on an ETDRS chart (five letters) or an  
 10 improvement in on-chart BCVA by the equivalent of at least two lines (10 letters).



## LHON treatment with Idebenone in clinical practice

**Table 4 –Clinically Relevant Recovery (CRR) by Individual Eyes as a Function of BCVA at Nadir. Efficacy Population (EP) <sup>a b</sup>**

VA category at nadir	Eyes	Eyes with CRR <sup>c</sup> within category	Eyes with CRR and BCVA [logMAR] at last observation		
			BCVA >1.0	>0.5 BCVA <1.0	BCVA ≤0.5
Off-chart	86/173 (49.7%)	21/86 (24%)	14	2	5
From 1.0 to 1.68 logMAR	76/173 (44%)	41/76 (54%)	12	13	16
Below 1.0 logMAR	11/173 (6%)	5/11 (46%)	na	0	5
All <sup>d</sup>	173/173 (100%)	67/173 (39%)	26	15	26

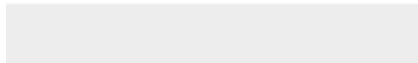
Values are given as n (%); Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding; BCVA = best corrected visual acuity; CRR = clinically relevant recovery; logMAR = logarithm of the minimal angle of resolution; na = not applicable

<sup>a</sup>Data cut-off June 2018; <sup>b</sup>For information on EP flow see Supplemental Data A; <sup>c</sup>CRR is improvement from off-chart BCVA to on-chart by the equivalent of at least one full line on an ETDRS chart (five letters) or an improvement in on-chart BCVA by the equivalent of at least two lines (10 letters) at LV; <sup>d</sup> One patient had vision loss in one eye not related to LHON.



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**Supplemental Data File (.doc, .tif, pdf, etc.)**  
Supplemental Data A\_Catarino et al.docx





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