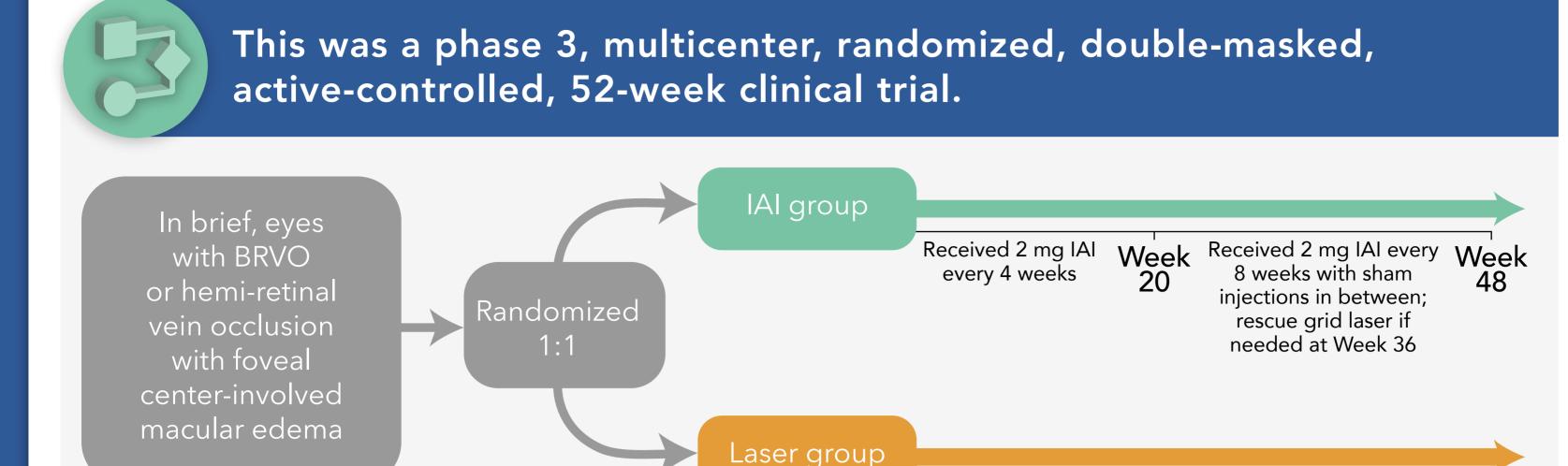
Intravitreal Aflibercept for Macular Edema Following Branch Retinal Vein Occlusion: 52-Week Results of the VIBRANT Study

Clark L W, Boyer D S, Heier J S, et al. *Ophthalmology*. 2016;123:330-336. doi: http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ophtha.2015.09.035

In this paper, the researchers determined efficacy and safety outcomes in eyes with macular edema after branch retinal vein occlusion (BRVO) treated with 2 mg intravitreal aflibercept injection (IAI) compared with grid laser.



If prespecified rescue criteria were met, 1 additional laser from Week 12 to 20 and IAI every 8 weeks after 3 monthly doses from Week 24 onward (the laser/IAI group)

Week Received sham injections Week

every 4 weeks from

baseline to Week 48



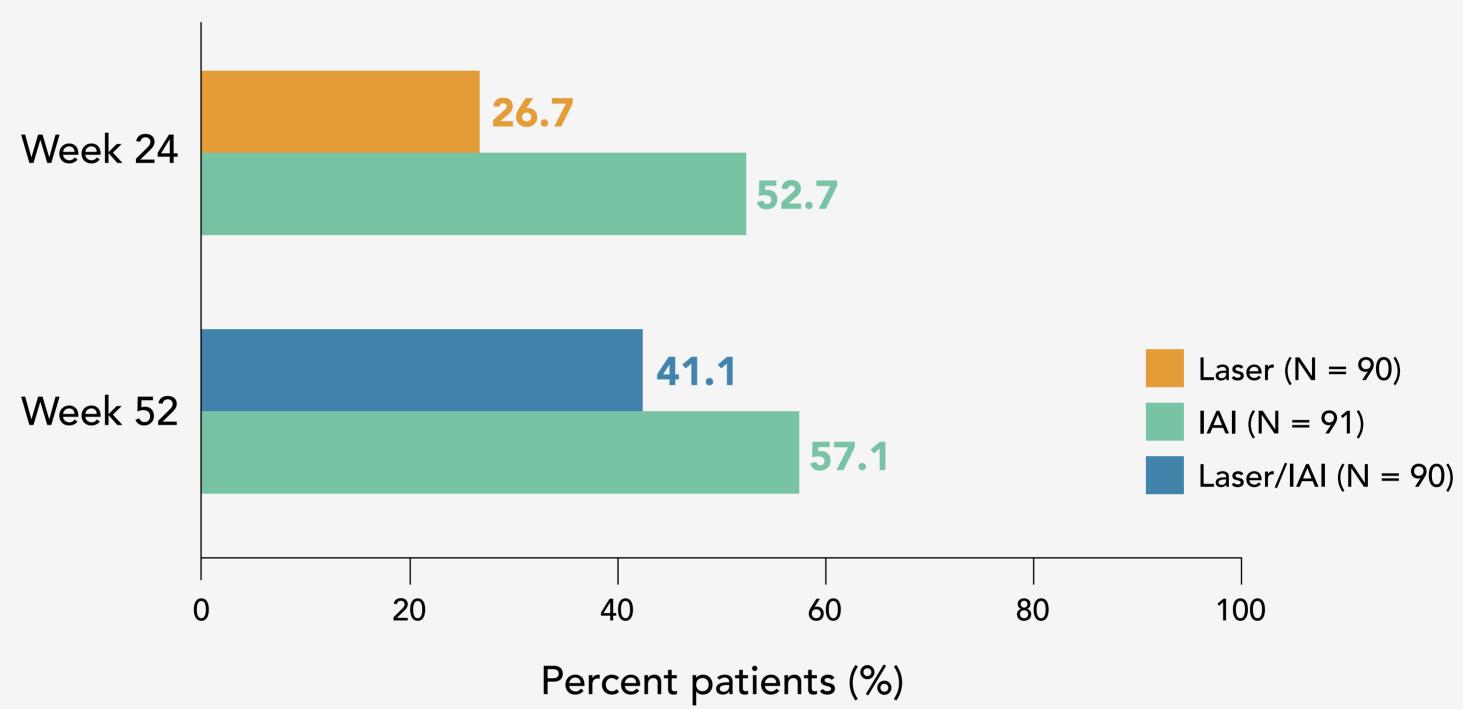
After 6 monthly IAIs, injections every 8 weeks maintained control of macular edema and visual benefits through Week 52. In the laser group, rescue IAI given from Week 24 onward resulted in substantial visual improvements at Week 52.

All eyes

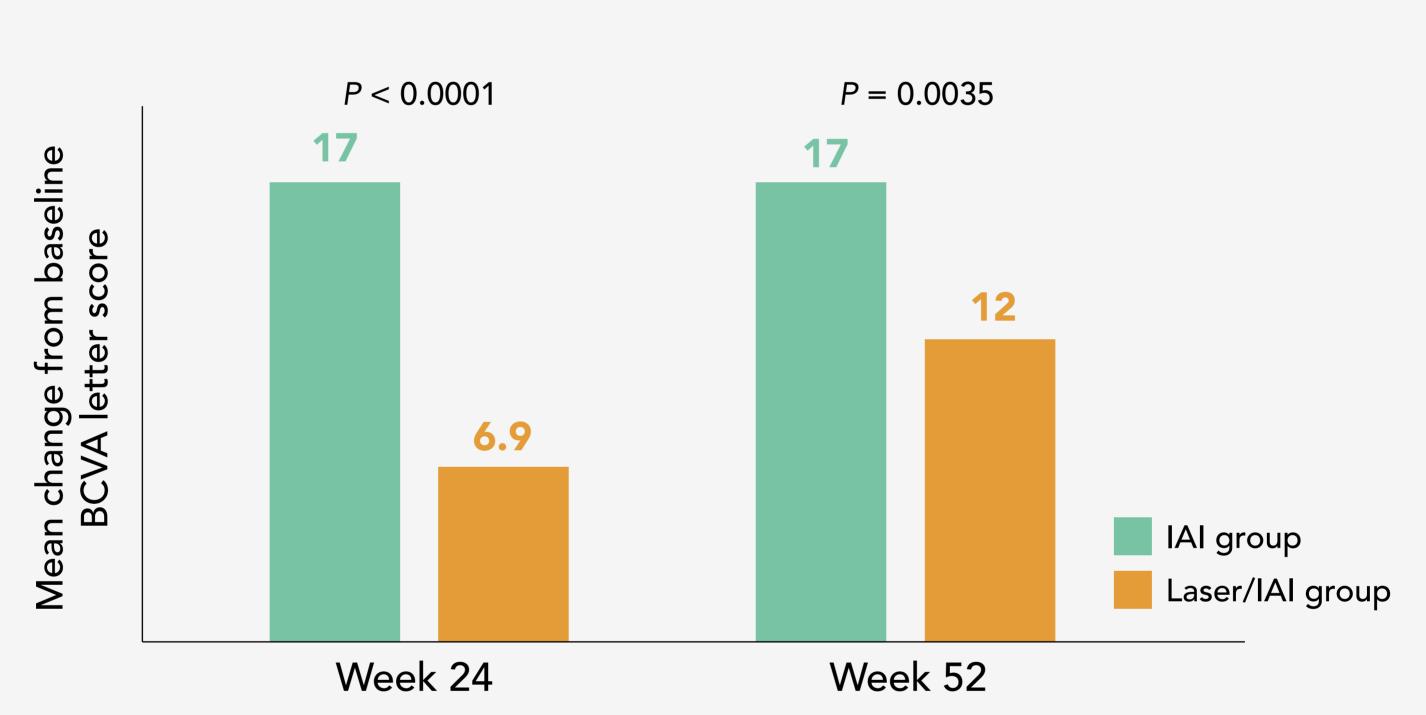
received grid

laser

Proportion of patients who gained ≥ 15 Early Treatment Diabetic Retinopathy Study (ETDRS) letters in best-corrected visual acuity (BCVA) from baseline

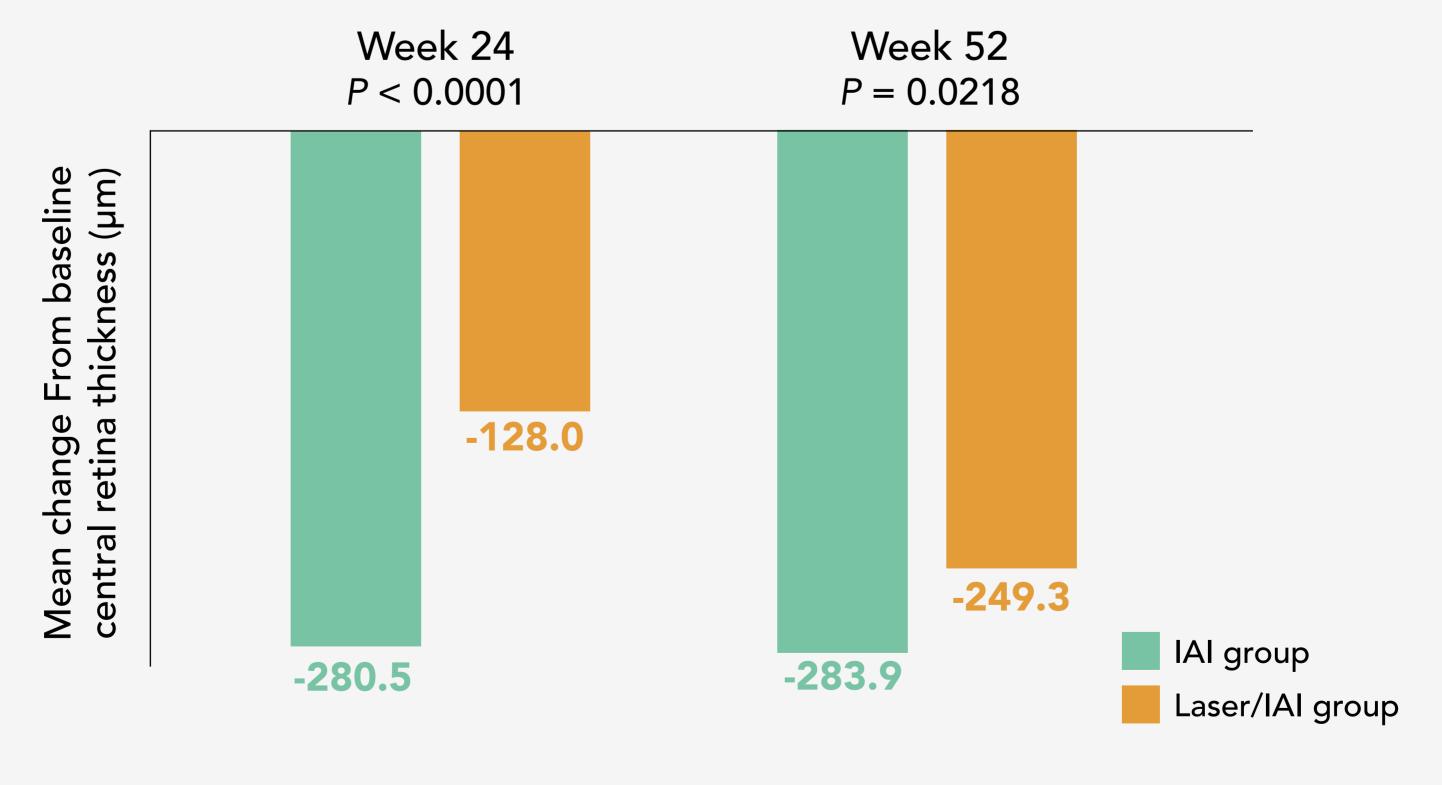


Mean change from baseline in BCVA at 24 and 52 weeks



The mean change from baseline BCVA letter score in the IAI group compared with the laser/IAI group was 17.0 versus 6.9 (P < 0.0001) at Week 24 and 17.1 versus 12.2 (P = 0.0035) at Week 52.

Mean change from baseline in central retinal thickness (CRT) at 24 and 52 weeks



The mean reduction from baseline CRT in the IAI and laser/IAI groups was -280.5 versus -128.0 mm (P < 0.0001) at Week 24, and -283.9 versus -249.3 mm (P = 0.0035) at Week 52.



In the laser group, rescue IAI given from Week 24 onward resulted in substantial visual improvements at Week 52. IAI is an effective treatment for macular edema due to BRAVO. This is consistent with the 12-month results in the BRAVO trial. A big difference between BRAVO and this study was macular laser was applied on day 0. This was truly a head-to-head comparison of anti-VEGF with laser, which showed that anti-VEGF was superior visually and anatomically.