

Illumin-8: Real-World Use of Aflibercept 8 mg in Eyes With Neovascular Age-Related Macular Degeneration

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In the PULSAR trial, aflibercept 8 mg achieved similar BCVA outcomes to aflibercept 2 mg with fewer injections in patients with nAMD through 96 weeks.^{1,2} Real-world evidence describing the use of aflibercept 8 mg in treatment-naïve and previously treated patients with nAMD could be informative for clinical practice.

This analysis (Illumin-8 study) aimed to describe real-world outcomes in patients with nAMD in the American Academy of Ophthalmology IRIS[®] Registry (Intelligent Research in Sight) who received initial aflibercept 8 mg treatment or were previously treated with aflibercept 2 mg before switching to aflibercept 8 mg.*

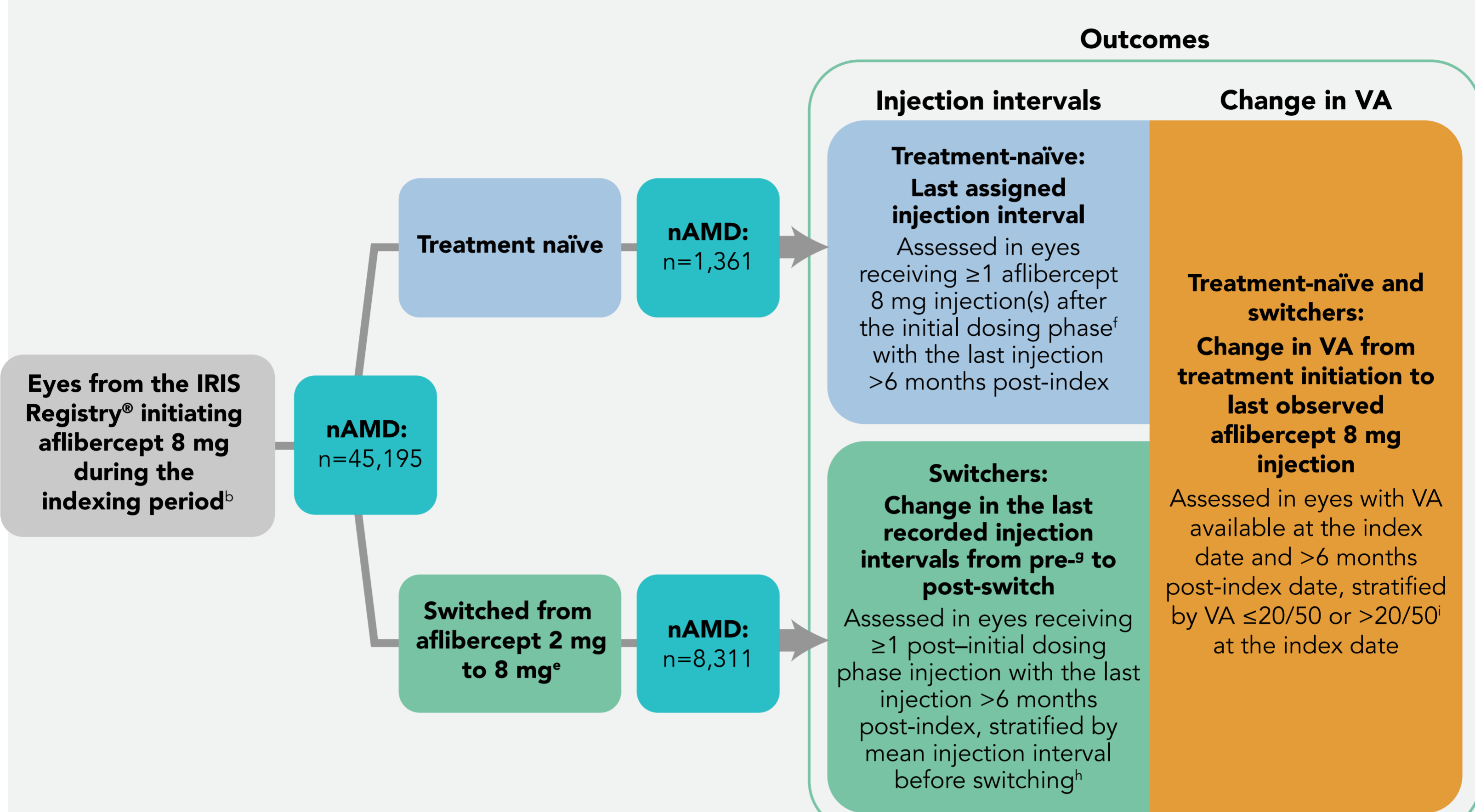
* Safety parameters were not assessed in this analysis.

1. Lanzetta P, Korobelnik JF, Heier JS, et al. *Lancet*. 2024;403:1141-1152. doi:10.1016/S0140-6736(24)00063-1; 2. Korobelnik JF, Lanzetta P, Leal S, et al. *Ophthalmology*. 2026;133:39-50. doi:10.1016/j.ophtha.2025.08.022

Treatment-naïve patients initiating aflibercept 8 mg and patients who switched to aflibercept 8 mg from aflibercept 2 mg were evaluated for real-world outcomes

Eligibility Criteria

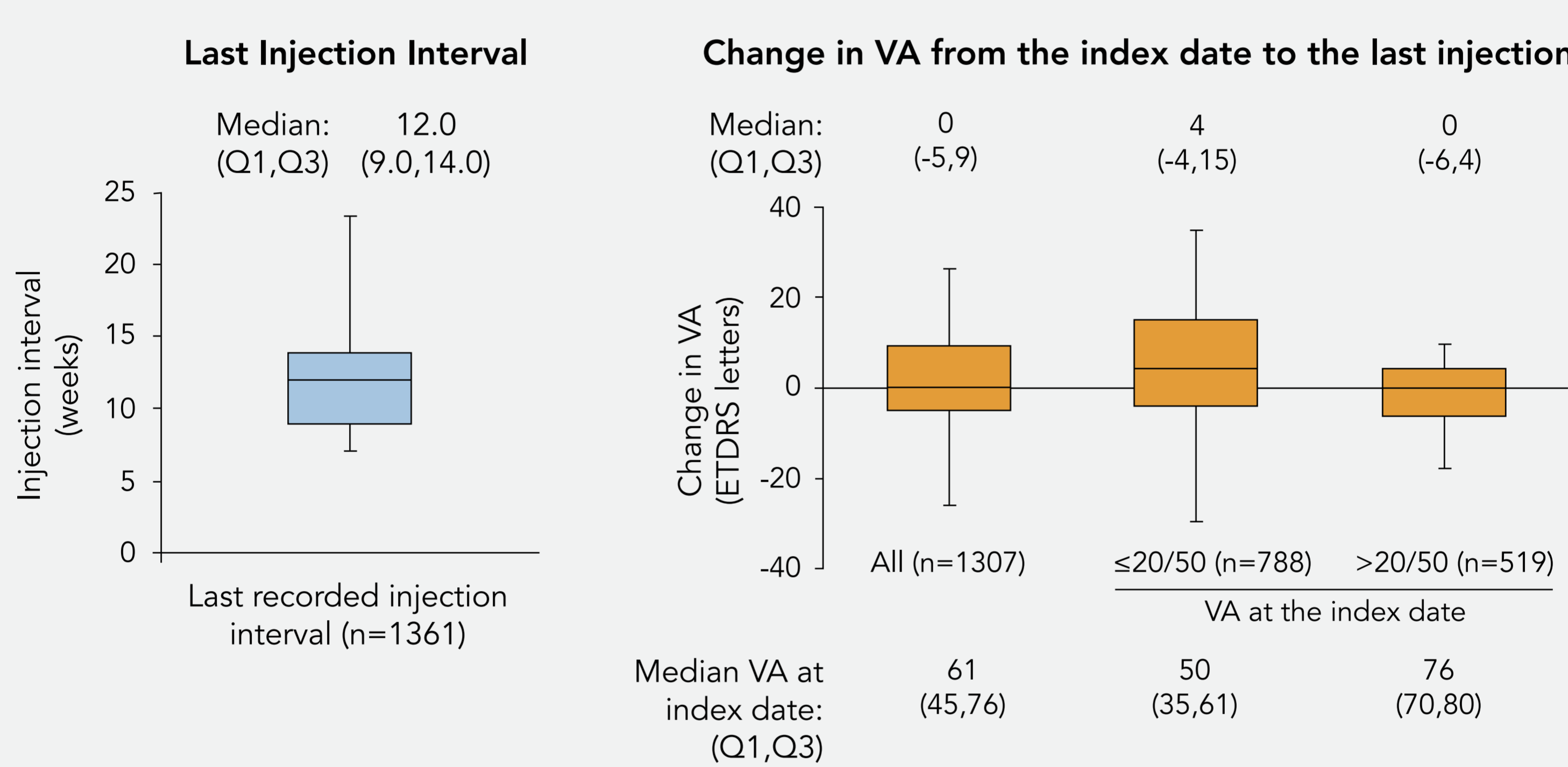
- Aged ≥50 years with nAMD on the index date^a
- Initiated aflibercept 8 mg during the indexing period,^b and no other anti-VEGF or other treatments^c on the index date
- No diagnosis of DME/DR or RVO during the baseline period^d or on the index date
- For patients with both eyes treated on the index date and eligible for inclusion, one eye was randomly selected



^a Index date: date of the first aflibercept 8 mg injection. ^b Indexing period: August 18, 2023 to June 30, 2024. ^c Other treatments included intravitreal steroids and laser therapy. ^d Baseline period: 12 months prior to the index date. ^e Eyes switched within 16 weeks prior to index date with a last pre-switch injection interval ≥6 weeks. ^f First 3 injections or 90 days, whichever occurred first. ^g Pre-switch phase was 12 months prior to the index date. ^h Eyes were stratified by mean injection interval before switching (6 to ≤8, >8 to ≤10, >10 to ≤12, >12 to ≤16, and >16 weeks). ⁱ Equivalent to ≤65 or >65 ETDRS letters.

DME = diabetic macular edema; DR = diabetic retinopathy; ETDRS = Early Treatment Diabetic Retinopathy Study; RVO = retinal vein occlusion; VA = visual acuity; VEGF = vascular endothelial growth factor.

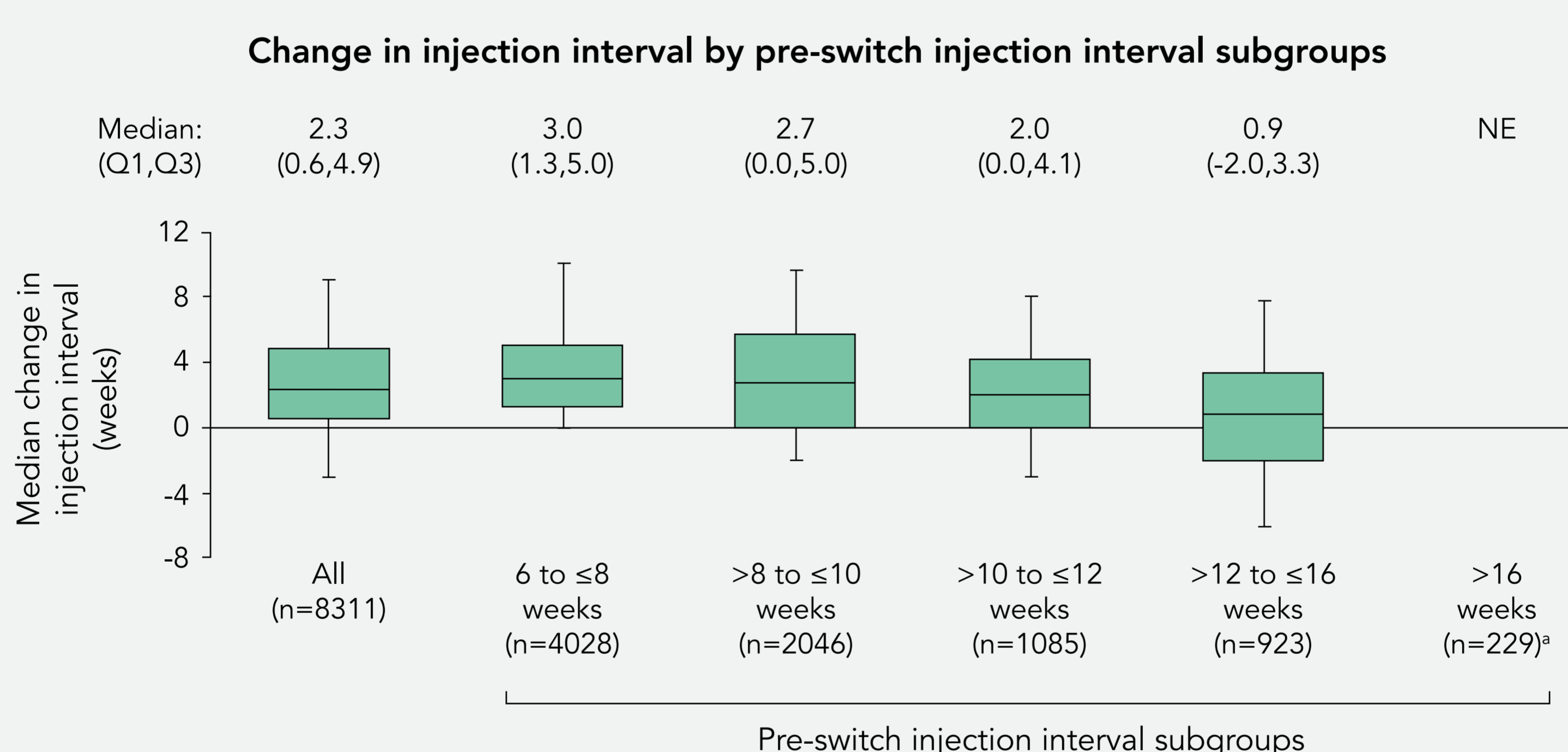
For treatment-naïve patients, the median injection interval was ~12 weeks with a median VA change of +4 letters in patients with VA 20/50 or worse



Median injection intervals of ~12 weeks were achieved >6 months after initiating aflibercept 8 mg in treatment-naïve patients

Box and whisker plots indicate medians (middle line), Q1 and Q3 (upper and lower bounds of the boxes), and 5% and 95% percentiles (whiskers). Mean (SD) injection interval: 12.9 (6.8) weeks. Mean (SD) change in VA: 1.5 (17.7) letters for all eyes, 4.6 (19.9) letters for eyes with VA ≤20/50 at the index date, and -3.3 (12.1) letters for those with VA >20/50 at the index date.

For patients who switched to aflibercept 8 mg, median change in the last pre-switch interval was ~2 weeks, while median VA was unchanged



Injection interval extensions of ~2 weeks were achieved after switching to aflibercept 8 mg while VA was maintained for patients who switched to aflibercept 8 mg

Box and whisker plots indicate medians (middle line), Q1 and Q3 (upper and lower bounds of the boxes), and 5% and 95% percentiles (whiskers). Mean (SD) change in injection interval: 2.8 (5.1) weeks (for all eyes). All interval extensions were achieved with no change in VA. ^a This subgroup was NE.

NE, not evaluated.

Limitations

- **Electronic medical records were used**
These may not reflect complete medical and ocular history
- **This analysis represents early real-world experience with aflibercept 8 mg with a limited follow-up period**
- **Routine clinical VA testing was used**
This is not as accurate as BCVA used in clinical trials
- **Patients switching or discontinuing aflibercept 8 mg treatment prior to 6 months are not reflected in the analysis of treatment-naïve patients**
- **A subset of patients who had ≥2 injections prior to switching to aflibercept 8 mg from other anti-VEGF therapies were included in the analysis, which may not represent the wider population treated with aflibercept 8 mg**

Conclusion

- In this early real-world analysis of the IRIS Registry[®], after 6 months, treatment-naïve patients with nAMD achieved injection intervals of 12 weeks, with VA gains among eyes with VA ≤20/50 at the index date
- Treatment with aflibercept 8 mg extended injection intervals for patients with nAMD who switched from aflibercept 2 mg by ~2 weeks with maintained VA
- Additional analyses with longer follow-up periods are ongoing to assess the long-term effectiveness and durability of aflibercept 8 mg in treatment-naïve and previously treated patients with nAMD in the real-world setting