

# Bimekizumab 2-year Efficacy by Prior Biologic Use in Moderate to Severe HS: Data from BE HEARD EXT

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## Objective

To report bimekizumab (BKZ) efficacy outcomes using pooled data from BE HEARD I&II (BHI&II) and their open-label extension (OLE) BE HEARD EXT (BHEXT) by prior biologic use to Week 96.

## Background

- Prior biologic use may identify patients with inflammatory skin conditions as more difficult to treat with subsequent biologics.<sup>1</sup> However, additional research (sub-group analyses), including for hidradenitis suppurativa (HS), is needed.<sup>1</sup>
- BKZ is a humanized IgG1 monoclonal antibody that selectively inhibits interleukin (IL)-17F in addition to IL-17A.<sup>2</sup>

## Methods

- BHI&II were two identically designed, randomized, double-blinded, placebo (PBO)-controlled, multicenter trials that included an initial (Weeks 0–16) and maintenance (Weeks 16–48) treatment period (Figure 1).<sup>3</sup>
- BHI&II Week 48 completers could enroll in the OLE BHEXT and receive open-label BKZ 320 mg Q4W (achievement of ≥90% HS Clinical Response [≥HiSCR90]) or BKZ Q2W (achievement of <HiSCR90).<sup>4</sup>
- Data were pooled from the BHI&II studies and BHEXT. Here, we report HiSCR50/75/90/100 achievement and abscess and inflammatory nodule (AN) count of 0/1/2 achievement at Week 48/96 for all patients randomized to BKZ in BHI&II who enrolled in BHEXT (BKZ Total).
- Data reported as observed case (OC).

## Results

- At baseline, 1,014 patients were randomized. Among 657 BHI&II Week 48 completers who entered the BHEXT, 556 patients received continuous BKZ (biologic-experienced: 112 [20.1%]; biologic-naïve: 444 [79.9%]). Of these, 79.5% (biologic-experienced; n=89) and 80.4% (biologic-naïve; n=357) remained in the study at Week 96.
- Baseline demographics were comparable across biologic-experienced and biologic-naïve patients, although higher proportions of Hurley Stage III disease were seen in biologic-experienced patients vs biologic-naïve patients (64.3% vs 40.8%; Table 1).
- Clinically meaningful HiSCR50/75/90/100 response rates observed at Week 48 were maintained or increased to Week 96 among both biologic-experienced and biologic-naïve patients (Figure 2).
- Clinically meaningful proportions of biologic-experienced and biologic-naïve patients achieved an AN count of 0/1/2 at Week 48, with further increases to Week 96 (Figure 3).

## Conclusions

Over 2 years, BKZ demonstrated high response rates for HiSCR50/75/90/100 and AN count of 0/1/2 in biologic-naïve and biologic-experienced patients, with biologic-naïve patients demonstrating numerically higher response rates throughout. Given the smaller sample size for biologic-experienced patients and the use of OC data, results should be interpreted with caution.

## Plain Language Summary



**Why was this study needed?**  
Hidradenitis suppurativa (HS) is a painful, long-term skin condition. Researchers are looking for new ways to better treat HS. Biologics are used to treat HS, and bimekizumab is a new biologic in development for the treatment of HS. There is limited research on whether patients' previous use of biologics may impact their response to bimekizumab treatment.



**What did this study show?**  
The results of the study showed that bimekizumab worked for patients whether or not they had taken biologics previously.



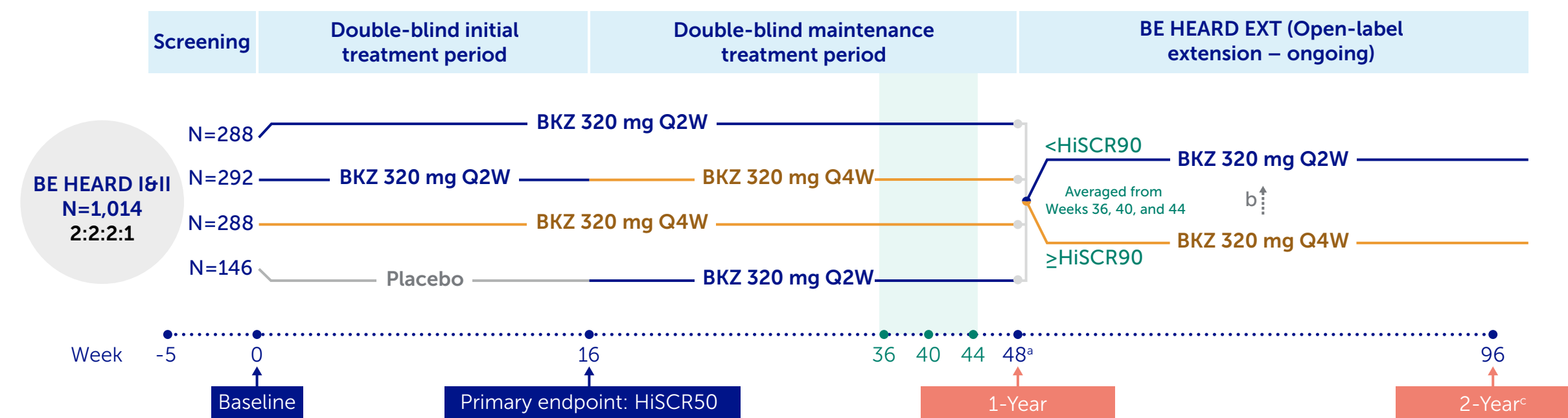
**Why is this important?**  
Bimekizumab may help to reduce the impact of the disease in patients with HS. This includes both patients who have previously taken biologics, and those who have not.

Table 1 Baseline characteristics

	Biologic-experienced* n=112	Biologic-naïve n=444
Age (years), mean ± SD	37.5 ± 12.6	36.0 ± 12.0
Sex, female, n (%)	55 (49.1)	244 (55.0)
Racial group, white, n (%)	97 (86.6)	351 (79.1)
Weight (kg), mean ± SD	97.1 ± 24.3	96.0 ± 23.3
BMI (kg/m <sup>2</sup> ), mean ± SD	32.4 ± 7.6	32.5 ± 7.9
Duration of HS (years), mean ± SD	8.3 ± 6.9	7.2 ± 7.2
Hurley Stage, n (%)		
II	40 (35.7)	263 (59.2)
III	72 (64.3)	181 (40.8)
Total AN count, mean ± SD	17.6 ± 27.3	16.7 ± 15.6
Total DT count, mean ± SD	5.6 ± 5.7	3.3 ± 3.7
Baseline antibiotic use, n (%)	7 (6.3)	47 (10.6)

OLE set: only included patients who entered BE HEARD EXT at Week 48. BKZ Total (n=556) comprised patients randomized to BKZ from baseline in BE HEARD I&II who entered BE HEARD EXT and continued to receive BKZ. a) Patients received prior biologic therapy for any indication.

Figure 1 Study design



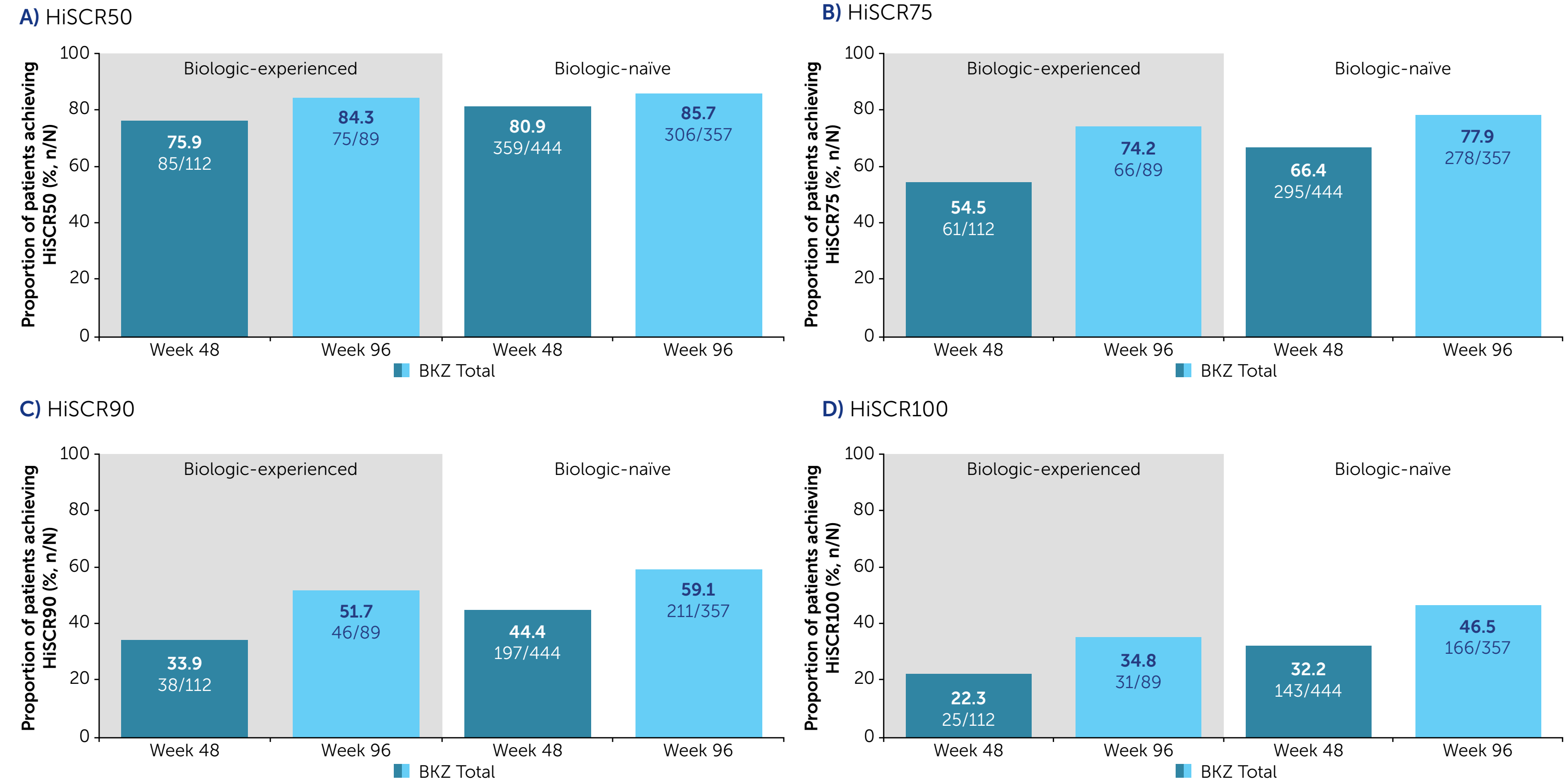
At baseline, 1,014 patients with moderate to severe HS were randomized 2:2:1 to BKZ 320 mg Q2W to Week 48, BKZ 320 mg Q4W to Week 48, BKZ 320 mg Q2W to Week 16 then BKZ 320 mg Q4W to Week 48, or placebo to Week 16 then BKZ 320 mg Q2W to Week 48. a) Patients who completed Week 48 of BHI&II could enroll in BHEXT and receive open-label BKZ Q2W or BKZ Q4W based on HiSCR90 responder status using the average lesion counts from Week 36, Week 40, and Week 44 of BHI&II. b) In the first 48 weeks of the ongoing BHEXT, dose adjustment from BKZ Q4W to BKZ Q2W was permitted based on prespecified criteria for reduction in improvement from baseline in AN count. c) Cumulative 2-year data (48 weeks in BHI&II and 48 weeks in BHEXT).

Abbreviations: AN: abscess and inflammatory nodule; BHI&II: BE HEARD I&II; BHEXT: BE HEARD EXT; BKZ: bimekizumab; DT: draining tunnel; HiSCR: HS Clinical Response; HiSCR50/75/90/100: ≥50%/75%/90%/100% reduction in the total abscess and inflammatory nodule count from baseline with no increase from baseline in abscess or draining tunnel count; HS: hidradenitis suppurativa; IL: interleukin; OC: observed case; OLE: open-label extension; PBO: placebo; Q2W: every 2 weeks; Q4W: every 4 weeks; SD: standard deviation.

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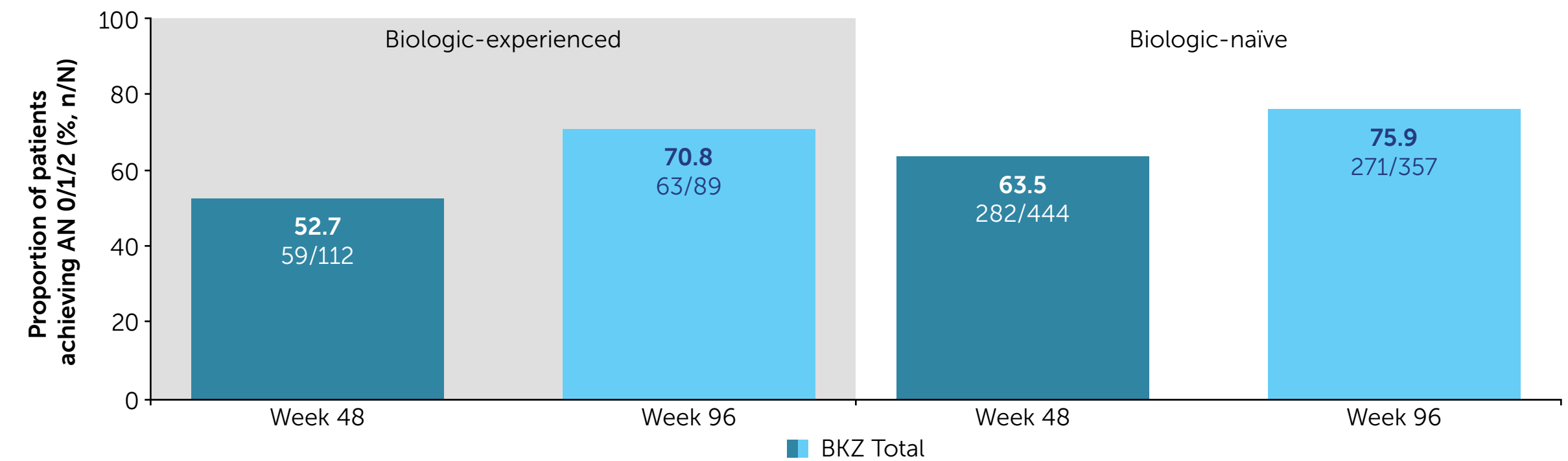
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Figure 2 HiSCR50/75/90/100 achievement by prior biologic use subgroup at Week 48 and 96 (OC)



OLE set: only included patients who entered BE HEARD EXT at Week 48. BKZ Total (n=556) comprised patients randomized to BKZ from baseline in BE HEARD I&II who entered BE HEARD EXT and continued to receive BKZ. HiSCR50/75/90/100: ≥50%/75%/90%/100% reduction from baseline in the total AN count with no increase from baseline in abscess or draining tunnel count. OC, n/N: denominator represents number of patients with a non-missing lesion count assessment in the given week, and percentages are calculated accordingly.

Figure 3 AN count of 0/1/2 achievement by prior biologic use subgroup at Week 48 and 96 (OC)



OLE set: only included patients who entered BE HEARD EXT at Week 48. BKZ Total (n=556) comprised patients randomized to BKZ from baseline in BE HEARD I&II who entered BE HEARD EXT and continued to receive BKZ. OC, n/N: denominator represents number of patients with a non-missing lesion count assessment in the given week, and percentages are calculated accordingly.



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