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Citation for final published version:

Jones, Robert ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-3576-9496>, Plummer, Ruth, Moreno, Victor, Carter, Louise, Roda, Desamparados, Garralda, Elena, Kristeleit, Rebecca, Sarker, Debashis, Arkenau, Tobias, Roxburgh, Patricia, Walter, Harriet S., Blagden, Sarah, Anthoney, Alan, Klencke, Barbara J., Kowalski, Mark M. and Banerji, Udai 2022. A Phase I/II trial of Oral SRA737 (a Chk1 Inhibitor) given in combination with low-dose gemcitabine in patients with advanced cancer. *Clinical Cancer Research* , CCR-22-2074. 10.1158/1078-0432.CCR-22-2074 file

Publishers page: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1158/1078-0432.CCR-22-2074>  
<<http://dx.doi.org/10.1158/1078-0432.CCR-22-2074>>

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1 **TITLE PAGE**

2 **Title:**

3 A Phase I/II Trial of Oral SRA737 (a Chk1 Inhibitor) Given in Combination with Low-  
4 Dose Gemcitabine in Patients with Advanced Cancer

5 **Running title:** SRA737 plus low-dose gemcitabine in solid tumors

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36 **Keywords:** Chk1, SRA737, low dose gemcitabine, solid tumors, replication stress

37

38 **Additional information:**

39 **Financial support:** The trial was sponsored by Sierra Oncology, Inc.

40 **Conflict of interest:**

41 R. Jones declares no personal conflicts of interest. R. Plummer reports Honoraria for  
42 attending advisory boards from Pierre Faber, Bayer, Novartis, BMS, Cybrexa,  
43 Ellipses, CV6 Therapeutics, Immunocore, Genmab, Astex Therapeutics, Medivir,  
44 Onxeo, and Sanofi Aventis; honoraria for working as an IDMC member for Alligator  
45 Biosciences, GSK, and SOTIO Biotech AG; payment for delivery of educational talks  
46 or chairing educational meetings by AstraZeneca, Novartis, Bayer and BMS.  
47 V. Moreno reports consulting fees from Roche, Bayer, BMS, Janssen and Basilea.  
48 L. Carter reports personal fees from Athenex, Bicycle Therapeutics, Boehringer

49 Ingelheim. D. Roda declares no personal conflicts of interest. E. Garralda reports  
50 research with Novartis, Roche, Thermo Fisher, AstraZeneca, Taiho, BeiGene;  
51 speakers bureau with Merck Sharp & Dohme, Roche, Thermo Fisher, Lilly, Novartis  
52 and; consultancy with Roche/Genentech, F.Hoffmann/La Roche, Ellipses Pharma,  
53 Neomed Therapeutics, Boehringer Ingelheim, Janssen Global Services, SeaGen,  
54 Alkermes, Thermo Fisher, Bristol-Mayers Squibb, MabDiscovery, Anaveon, F-Star  
55 Therapeutics, Hengrui. R. Kristeleit reports grants from Clovis, MSD; advisory  
56 boards/consulting with GSK, Eisai, Astra Zeneca, Clovis, MSD, Basilea, Shattuck  
57 Labs, Zydus Cadila, iTEOS, InCyte, Regeneron. D. Sarker reports personal fees and  
58 nonfinancial support from Ipsen; personal fees from MSD, Bayer, Eisai,  
59 AstraZeneca, Surface Oncology, Sirtex Medical, Roche, and AAA; nonfinancial  
60 support from MiNA Therapeutics and Medivir; and grants from UCB and Inspirata  
61 outside the submitted work. T. Arkenau reports employment with HCA/Sarah  
62 Cannon; Advisory: BioNTech, Bayer, Servier, Roche, Cellcentric, Labgenius, Engitix,  
63 Bicycle, Daiichi. P. Roxburgh reports consultancy fees and research funding from  
64 AstraZeneca, GSK, Tesaro. H. Walter reports funding from Merck, Gilead, Beigene,  
65 BMS, Janssen, Lilly, Abbvie. S. Blagden reports research funding from Nucana PLC,  
66 Astex, Incyte, Tesaro, Redx, MSD, Roche, UCB, Sarah Cannon Institute, BergenBio,  
67 MiNA therapeutics; consulting for Ellipses, Amphista, Oxford Investment  
68 Consultants, RApportss, Theolytics; directorship of RNA Guardian Ltd. A. Anthony  
69 declares no personal conflicts of interest. B. Klencke reports employment by Sierra  
70 Oncology. M. Kowalski reports employment by Sierra Oncology during the conduct  
71 and reporting of the study. U. Banerji reports SRA737 was discovered in  
72 collaboration with The Institute of Cancer Research (ICR); UB is a employee of The  
73 ICR but does not receive royalties for discovery of SRA737; UB has attended a non-

74 compensated programme update meeting at Sierra Oncology; UB has received  
75 research funding unrelated to this manuscript from Verastem Oncology, Chugai,  
76 Avacta and Carrick Therapeutics and consultancy from Pegasy, Boehringer  
77 Ingelhiem, Idea Pharma, Astellas, Novartis and Karus Pharmaceuticals.

78 Preliminary data from this study were presented at the Annual Meeting of the  
79 American Society of Clinical Oncology (31 May to 4 June 2019, Chicago, Illinois) in  
80 abstract 3095 entitled: A phase I/II first-in-human trial of oral SRA737 (a Chk1  
81 inhibitor) given in combination with low-dose gemcitabine in subjects with advanced  
82 cancer.

83 **Translational Relevance**

84 Chk1 is a key component of the response to replication stress (RS) within DNA and  
85 a regulator of the G2/M cell cycle checkpoint. This manuscript describes the clinical  
86 study of the Chk1 inhibitor SRA737 delivered orally 24 and 48 hours after low dose  
87 gemcitabine (LDG). LDG has low myelotoxicity and causes RS in tumors, allowing  
88 unrepaired DNA within S phase cancer cells past the G2/M check point leading to  
89 cell death. In the expansion phase, patients with genetic alterations related to tumor  
90 suppression, DNA damage repair, or oncogenic drivers were enrolled, all of which  
91 would cause endogenous RS potentially enhancing response. Of 65 evaluable  
92 patients 7 partial tumor responses were observed, including 3 patients with  
93 anogenital cancer harboring alterations in FANC/BRCA/PIK3CA, intermediate to high  
94 tumor mutational burden, and possibly increased RS from HPV infection. These  
95 partial responses provide proof-of-concept of the efficacy of LDG plus SRA737 which  
96 warrants further evaluation.

97

98 **ABSTRACT**

99 **Purpose:** This was a phase I/II trial of the novel checkpoint kinase 1 (Chk1) inhibitor  
100 SRA737 given in combination with gemcitabine. Its objectives were to establish the  
101 safety profile, recommended phase 2 dose (RP2D), pharmacokinetics profile, and  
102 clinical activity of SRA737.

103 **Patients and Methods:** Patients with advanced solid tumors were enrolled into  
104 dose-escalation cohorts and treated in 28-day cycles with oral SRA737 on days 2, 3,  
105 9, 10, 16 and 17, and intravenous gemcitabine on days 1, 8 and 15. Treatment was  
106 continued until progression. Each expansion cohort included up to 20 patients with  
107 specific genetically defined tumors.

108 **Results:** The RP2D was determined to be 500 mg SRA737 combined with low-dose  
109 (250 mg/m<sup>2</sup>) gemcitabine. Of 143 enrolled patients, 77 were treated at doses of at  
110 least 500 mg SRA737 combined with 250 mg/m<sup>2</sup> gemcitabine. Common toxicities of  
111 nausea, vomiting, fatigue and diarrhea were primarily mild to moderate, and rarely  
112 led to treatment discontinuation. Anemia, neutropenia and thrombocytopenia were  
113 grade ≥3 in 8.3% to 11.7% of patients treated at the RP2D. The objective response  
114 rate (ORR) was 10.8% overall and notably the ORR in anogenital cancer was 25%.  
115 Partial tumor responses were observed in anogenital cancer, cervical cancer, high-  
116 grade serous ovarian cancer, rectal cancer, and small cell lung cancer.

117 **Conclusions:** SRA737 in combination with low-dose gemcitabine was well tolerated  
118 with lower myelotoxicity than has been seen at standard doses of gemcitabine or  
119 with other combinations of Chk1 inhibitors with gemcitabine. Tumor responses were  
120 observed in anogenital and other solid tumors.

121 **Trial Registration:** Clinicaltrials.gov ID: NCT02797977.



## 122 **Introduction**

123 DNA damage in cancer cells occurs as a result of multiple endogenous and  
124 exogenous factors. Endogenous factors include rapid proliferation caused by  
125 oncogenic signalling and inability to repair DNA damage due to defective repair or  
126 cell cycle checkpoints; exogenous factors may include chemotherapy or radiotherapy  
127 used in cancer treatment (1). Checkpoint kinase 1 (Chk1) is a key component of the  
128 ATR-Chk1-Wee1 pathway; it is activated in response to replication stress and  
129 double-strand DNA breaks and is associated with stability of the cell-cycle S-phase.  
130 Cancer cells can have a loss of fidelity of the G1/S checkpoint and oncogenic  
131 signalling, which leads to replication stress. In this context, the role of Chk1 in cell  
132 survival is critical (2). The current study investigated the combination of the novel  
133 Chk1 inhibitor SRA737 (Sierra Oncology, Inc., San Mateo, California) and low doses  
134 of the chemotherapeutic agent gemcitabine. Gemcitabine, a pyrimidine analogue,  
135 undergoes a series of phosphorylation steps to be converted to its active form,  
136 gemcitabine triphosphate, which is then incorporated into DNA and RNA where it  
137 causes DNA damage and replication stress (3, 4). Additionally, gemcitabine is an  
138 irreversible inhibitor of ribonucleotide reductase, a critical enzyme responsible for the  
139 production of the deoxynucleoside triphosphates (dNTP), which are important  
140 building blocks of DNA replication. Importantly, preclinical work has shown that low,  
141 non-cytotoxic concentrations of gemcitabine in combination with Chk1 inhibition can  
142 result in tumor growth inhibition, thought to be a consequence of dNTP depletion,  
143 resulting in stalled replication forks, replication stress and activation of Chk1 (5-7).  
144 SRA737 is a novel, orally bioavailable, selective Chk1 inhibitor that has shown  
145 activity as a single agent and in combination with gemcitabine in preclinical models  
146 (8-10). The combination of SRA737 and a low dose of gemcitabine is hypothesized

147 to have synergistic antitumor activity while circumventing some of the expected  
148 toxicities of DNA damage response inhibitors in combination with gemcitabine (11-  
149 17).

## 150 **Patients and methods**

### 151 **Study design**

152 The objectives of this first-in-human, phase I/II, open-label, dose-escalation study  
153 were to establish the safety profile, recommended phase 2 dose (RP2D),  
154 pharmacokinetics (PK) profile and clinical activity (including objective response rate  
155 [ORR] and duration of response [DOR]) of SRA737 in combination with low-dose  
156 gemcitabine. The trial (ClinicalTrials.gov identifier NCT02797977, EudraCT  
157 Number: 2015-004467-36) was conducted at 21 centers in the UK and Spain  
158 between 3 August 2016 and 8 April 2020. Research ethics committees approved the  
159 study protocol before initiation of patient enrolment, and the study was carried out in  
160 accordance with the Declaration of Helsinki, the International Conference on  
161 Harmonization Guidelines for Good Clinical Practice, and applicable local  
162 regulations. The study was approved in the UK by the Research Ethics Committees  
163 (REC) London Centre and in Spain by the Research Ethics Committee (REC) at 12  
164 de Octubre Hospital in Madrid. All patients provided written informed consent prior to  
165 taking part.

### 166 **Participants**

167 The dose-escalation phase included patients with solid tumors after prior standard-  
168 of-care chemotherapy, World Health Organization performance status 0–1 and organ  
169 function within limits of standard phase I studies (Supplementary Methods). Tumor  
170 type-specific expansion cohorts were planned to recruit up to approximately 20  
171 prospectively identified genetically defined patients in each cohort. Enrolment of  
172 expansion cohorts was initiated prior to the completion of dose escalation with  
173 subjects enrolled at the highest dose level determined to be safe and tolerable at the

174 time of their enrolment. Subjects were able to undergo intra-patient dose escalation  
175 to receive higher doses of SRA737 and/or gemcitabine if a higher dose level had  
176 been deemed safe and tolerable.

177 The prevalence of genetic alterations related to increased RS hypothesized to  
178 enhance response to Chk1 inhibition varies depending on the tumor type. In order to  
179 select for patients with higher levels of endogenous RS, and therefore potentially  
180 greater benefit from SRA737 + LDG in the expansion phase, patients were selected  
181 with tumor types known to harbor high levels of genomic instability: high-grade  
182 serous ovarian cancer (HGSOC), small cell lung cancer (SCLC), soft tissue sarcoma  
183 (STS), anogenital cancer or cervical cancer. In addition, patients with HGSOC or  
184 STS were required to have the presence of specific genetic alterations related to  
185 tumor suppression, DNA damage repair, replicative stress or oncogenic drivers.  
186 Tumor-specific eligibility criteria for expansion cohorts are summarized in **Table 1**.  
187 Based on the eligibility criteria of an earlier version of the protocol, patients with  
188 urothelial and rectal cancers were also enrolled in the expansion phase.

189 This analysis focuses on patients treated with the doublet combination of SRA737  
190 and low-dose gemcitabine.

### 191 **Treatment and dose escalation**

192 A single dose of SRA737 was given at one visit on day -7 to day -4 (prior to the start  
193 of cycle 1) for PK assessments. Study treatment was given in 28-day cycles:  
194 SRA737 was administered orally on days 2, 3, 9, 10, 16 and 17; and gemcitabine  
195 was given intravenously on days 1, 8 and 15 of each cycle. This dosing regimen was  
196 based on in vitro and in vivo preclinical modelling of SRA737 and gemcitabine which

197 demonstrated maximum efficacy when SRA737 was administered 16-24 hours  
198 following gemcitabine (10).

199 Dose escalation of SRA737 in combination with varying doses of gemcitabine was  
200 conducted in cohorts of three to six patients according to a rolling-six design wherein  
201 once the first subject completed the 7-day observation period following the first dose  
202 of gemcitabine, subsequent subjects in that cohort started treatment. Patients were  
203 assessed for dose-limiting toxicity from the first SRA737 dose (day -7 to day -4)  
204 until the end of cycle 1 (up to 35 days). Safety and other supporting data were  
205 reviewed by the cohort review committee consisting of the lead investigator, study  
206 investigators representing the site(s) currently enrolling patients, and representatives  
207 of the study sponsor prior to dose escalation of SRA737 and/or gemcitabine. A  
208 minimum of 3 subjects with no DLT, or 6 subjects with up to 1 DLT were required  
209 prior to escalation to the next SRA737 plus gemcitabine dose level. Dose escalation  
210 of SRA737 was started at 40 mg per day and increased in up to 100% increments  
211 until the  $C_{min}$  of SRA737 at 24 hours reached 100nM. Thereafter, the dose of SRA737  
212 was increased in less than 100% increments (typically 25-75%). Gemcitabine dose  
213 was started at 300 mg/m<sup>2</sup> and could escalate to a maximum of 600 mg/m<sup>2</sup>.

214 Expansion cohorts of up to 20 patients with specified tumor profiles were treated with  
215 SRA737 and gemcitabine doses selected by the cohort review committee based on  
216 all available safety and PK data; expansion doses were at, or lower than, the  
217 maximum tolerated doses from the dose-escalation phase. Patients could continue  
218 treatment until disease progression or discontinuation from the study due to  
219 unacceptable toxicity, investigator/sponsor decision or withdrawal of consent.

220 **Assessments**

221 Safety assessments, including adverse events, laboratory parameters,  
222 electrocardiograms and echocardiograms, were conducted throughout treatment and  
223 until 30 days after the last study treatment or initiation of new anticancer treatment.  
224 Toxicity was recorded using National Cancer Institute Common Terminology Criteria  
225 for Adverse Events version 4.03. Serial sampling of blood for PK assessment was  
226 conducted before and after dosing with single-agent SRA737 (10 time points over  
227 48 hours) and on cycle 1 day 10 following administration of SRA73 and gemcitabine.  
228 Plasma SRA737 was quantified using liquid chromatography-mass spectrometry  
229 (18).

230 Radiologic tumor assessments were performed every two cycles, and tumors were  
231 assessed using the Response Evaluation Criteria in Solid Tumors (RECIST) version  
232 1.1 (19). The ORR was defined as percentage of patients with a best response of  
233 complete response (CR) or partial response (PR) to treatment according to RECIST  
234 criteria. Clinical response data were summarized in cohorts defined by tumor type,  
235 including indication-specific expansion cohorts (anogenital, cervical, HGSOC, SCLC  
236 and STS), a grouping of patients with rectal cancer who were enrolled in the dose-  
237 escalation phase, and four patients with urothelial cancer enrolled under previous  
238 protocol versions.

239 **Statistical analysis**

240 The safety-evaluable population included all patients who received at least one dose  
241 of either investigational medicinal product (SRA737 or gemcitabine). The response-  
242 evaluable population included patients who had measurable disease at baseline,  
243 received at least 83% of planned SRA737 doses in cycle 1, and had at least one

244 postbaseline disease assessment or discontinued treatment due to disease  
245 progression, adverse event or death.

#### 246 **Data availability statement**

247 The trial sponsor, Sierra Oncology, commits to share clinical study data with qualified  
248 researchers to enable enhancement of public health. As such, Sierra will share  
249 anonymized patient-level data on request or if required by law or regulation.

250 Qualified scientific and medical researchers can request patient-level data for studies  
251 of Sierra pharmaceutical substances listed on ClinicalTrials.gov and approved by  
252 health authorities in the United States and the EU. Patient-level data for studies of  
253 newly approved pharmaceutical substances or indications can be requested 9  
254 months after US Food and Drug Administration and European Medicines Agency  
255 approvals. Such requests are assessed at Sierra's discretion, and the decisions  
256 depend on the scientific merit of the proposed request, data availability, and the  
257 purpose of the proposal. If Sierra agrees to share clinical data for research purposes,  
258 the applicant is required to sign an agreement for data sharing before data release,  
259 to ensure that the patient data are de-identified. In case of any risk of re-identification  
260 on anonymized data despite measures to protect patient confidentiality, the data will  
261 not be shared. The patients' informed consent will always be respected. If the  
262 anonymization process will provide futile data, Sierra will have the right to refuse the  
263 request. Sierra will provide access to patient-level clinical trial analysis datasets in a  
264 secured environment upon execution of the data sharing agreement. Sierra will also  
265 provide the protocol, statistical analysis plan, and the clinical study report synopsis if  
266 needed. For additional information or requests for access to Sierra clinical trial data  
267 for research purposes, please contact us at: [Medinfo@sierraoncology.com](mailto:Medinfo@sierraoncology.com).

268

## 269 **Figure Legends**

270 **Figure 1:** Enrolment by SRA737 and low-dose gemcitabine dose level.

271 **Description:** This figure represents the number of patients enrolled at each SRA737  
272 plus low-dose gemcitabine dose level. In addition, the number of patients who  
273 received their allocated treatment in each cohort and the number who were  
274 evaluable for dose limiting toxicity in the dose escalation phase are shown. The  
275 SRA737 dose is listed first, followed by gemcitabine dose. Abbreviations: AE,  
276 adverse event; C1, cycle 1; C1D1, cycle 1 day 1; DLT, dose-limiting toxicity; G1,  
277 grade 1; GI, gastrointestinal.

278

279 **Figure 2:** SRA737 and low-dose gemcitabine: best tumor response by tumor type.

280 **Description:** This figure displays the best tumor response per Response Evaluation  
281 Criteria in Solid Tumors (RECIST) version 1.1 criteria in the per-protocol response-  
282 evaluable population (REP). Prior lines of therapy, starting doses of study treatment,  
283 duration on study, and Grade 3 or higher AEs related to SRA737 for each patient are  
284 also shown. Three patients (1 with HGSOC, 2 with SCLC) included in the REP  
285 discontinued prior to completing a post-treatment tumor assessment and therefore  
286 best response could not be determined for these patients. Abbreviations: HGSOC,  
287 high-grade serous ovarian cancer; SCLC, small cell lung cancer; STS, soft tissue  
288 sarcoma

289

290 **Figure 3:** SRA737 and low-dose gemcitabine: duration on treatment and best  
291 response.

292 **Description:** This figure displays the duration on therapy (cycles) for each patient in  
293 the per-protocol response-evaluable population, and their categorical best tumor



294 response per Response Evaluation Criteria in Solid Tumors (RECIST) version 1.

295 Abbreviations: HGSOC, high-grade serous ovarian cancer; SCLC, small cell lung

296 cancer; STS, soft tissue sarcoma.

297

## 298 **Results**

### 299 **Patient demographics**

300 A total of 143 patients were enrolled in the SRA737 and low-dose gemcitabine  
301 treatment cohorts. They included 58 patients across 13 dose-escalation cohorts and  
302 85 patients in the expansion cohorts (**Fig. 1**). In the analysis of tumor response,  
303 groups of patients identified by tumor-type were defined (15 with anogenital cancer,  
304 15 with rectal cancer, 12 with cervical cancer, 24 with HGSOc, 22 with SCLC, 11  
305 with STS, and 4 with urothelial cancer). In these groups, a total of 18 patients who  
306 participated in dose escalation are included (15 with rectal cancer, 1 with anogenital  
307 cancer, 1 with cervical cancer, and 1 with STS). The RP2D was determined to be  
308 500 mg SRA737 combined with low-dose (250 mg/m<sup>2</sup>) gemcitabine. Including  
309 patients with intra-patient dose escalation, the majority (77 of 143) received SRA737  
310 at doses of at least 500 mg in combination with gemcitabine 250 mg/m<sup>2</sup>.

311 The median age of patients was 62 years (range 54–68 years), the male/female ratio  
312 was 39.2%/60.8%, and World Health Organization performance status 0/1 ratio was  
313 44.1%/55.9% (Supplementary Table 1). HGSOc (*n* = 24), SCLC (*n* = 22), anogenital  
314 cancer (*n* = 15) and rectal cancer (*n* = 15) were the most common tumor types. The  
315 median number of prior lines of therapy was two (range one to nine lines).

### 316 **Safety profile**

317 The most common treatment-emergent adverse events irrespective of relationship to  
318 SRA737 or gemcitabine included nausea (61.5%), vomiting (54.5%), fatigue (51.0%),  
319 diarrhea (49.0%) and anemia (45.5%). The incidence of grade ≥3 toxicities was low  
320 (**Table 2**).

321 In a previous study of SRA737 monotherapy in patients with advanced cancer, daily  
322 dose levels from 20 mg to 1300 mg were evaluated. The MTD was determined to be  
323 1000 mg QD with DLTs observed at daily doses of 1000 mg to 1300 mg including  
324 gastrointestinal events, neutropenia, and thrombocytopenia. The RP2D of SRA737  
325 monotherapy was 800 mg QD. At the monotherapy RP2D, common toxicities with  
326 SRA737 included diarrhoea, nausea, and vomiting which were generally mild to  
327 moderate.

328 The starting dose of SRA737 (40 mg QD) in combination with gemcitabine was  
329 chosen to be conservative due to the potential overlapping toxicity with gemcitabine  
330 and consideration that with the allowed 100% dose escalation increments, the  
331 150 mg dose modelled to exceed the minimal effective dose in humans could be  
332 reached in a timely manner by the third escalation cohort. The starting dose of  
333 300 mg/m<sup>2</sup> gemcitabine is approximately one-third of a typical clinical dose and is  
334 based on preclinical models where synergistic antitumor effect of SRA737 plus  
335 gemcitabine was observed at gemcitabine doses approximately one-third of the  
336 typical dose in that model.

337 Following the enrolment of 13 dose escalation cohorts (**Fig. 1**), no protocol-defined  
338 dose-limiting toxicities had occurred and the cohort review committee determined the  
339 MTD was not reached. As described later in this report, the RP2D was declared  
340 based on an overall assessment of tolerability in patients alongside preclinical data.

341 In 60 patients treated with the RP2D, the predominant toxicities were  
342 gastrointestinal, with nausea, diarrhea and vomiting reported by 63.3%, 55.0% and  
343 56.7% of patients, respectively. Although prophylactic antiemetics or antidiarrheals  
344 were not mandated in the study, their use was left to the clinical judgement of the

345 Investigators where clinically indicated. The rates of grade  $\geq 3$  events for these  
346 toxicities were 3.3%, 3.3% and 6.7%, respectively, and gastrointestinal adverse  
347 events led to treatment discontinuation in one patient due to nausea, two patients  
348 due to vomiting and one patient due to diarrhea. The relatively low rate of treatment  
349 discontinuation due to GI toxicities in comparison with the overall frequency of GI  
350 events reported suggests that these do not substantially affect the tolerability of  
351 SRA737 in combination with gemcitabine and, no special precautions are required.  
352 However, appropriate management of GI effects, including prophylaxis such as an  
353 anti-emetic regimen, would be advised with the SRA737 plus gemcitabine  
354 combination where clinically indicated.

355 Other toxicities of note were fatigue (58.3%), anemia (56.7%), neutropenia (46.7%)  
356 and thrombocytopenia (41.7%), with grade  $\geq 3$  events occurring in 3.3%, 11.7%,  
357 16.7% and 10.0%, respectively (**Table 3**).

358 Adverse events leading to treatment discontinuation were reported for 29 (20.3%)  
359 patients. The most common event leading to treatment discontinuation was disease  
360 progression (3 patients), followed by fatigue, lung infection, metastases to CNS,  
361 intestinal obstruction, thrombocytopenia, and vomiting (2 patients each); all other  
362 reasons for discontinuation applied to only 1 patient each. Events leading to  
363 discontinuation which were assessed as causally related to SRA737 occurred in only  
364 4.9% of subjects, and only two of these related AEs were reported in more than a  
365 single subject; fatigue and vomiting occurred in two subjects each. Fatal adverse  
366 events were reported for 10 patients (6 were progression of disease, 1 cardiac  
367 arrest, 1 lung infection, 1 respiratory failure, and 1 small bowel obstruction); none of

368 these were attributed to SRA737, however, one fatal event of cardiac arrest was  
369 considered possibly related to gemcitabine.

370 Adverse events related to cardiac failure have been recorded in previous phase I  
371 trials (13); cardiac parameters were therefore analyzed in the current study. Of the  
372 143 patients treated with SRA737 and low-dose gemcitabine, 80 had baseline and  
373 postbaseline (cycle 2 day 1) echocardiograms. Five patients had a  $\geq 10$  percentage  
374 point absolute reduction in ejection fraction, and of these, four had ejection fraction  
375 values of  $>50\%$  at all time points. One patient's ejection fraction dropped from 60%  
376 to 43% but this patient did not exhibit symptoms of cardiac failure. Grade 3 QTcF  
377 prolongation (QTcF values of  $>500$  msec and/or increase in QTcF by  $>60$  msec) was  
378 seen in seven patients; four of these patients had a maximum QTcF of  $<500$  msec,  
379 and none of the QTcF elevations was associated with cardiac signs or symptoms.  
380 One patient had cardiac arrest during the study, which was a grade 5 event.

### 381 **Pharmacokinetic profile**

382 The maximum plasma concentration ( $C_{max}$ ) of SRA737, area under the  
383 concentration-time curve from 0 to 12 hours ( $AUC_{0-12}$ ), half-life and clearance were  
384 measured at SRA737 doses of 40 mg to 600 mg (**Table 4**). The systemic exposure  
385 to SRA737 ( $AUC_{0-12}$  and  $C_{max}$ ) was approximately dose-proportional, particularly at  
386 doses within the 150 mg to 300 mg range (**Supplementary Fig. 1**).

387 In preclinical models, synergistic antitumor effect of SRA737 plus low-dose  
388 gemcitabine has been observed at gemcitabine doses approximately one-third of the  
389 typical dose in preclinical studies. SRA737 at dose levels of 150 mg or higher result  
390 in plasma concentrations modelled from preclinical work to exceed the minimal  
391 effective dose in humans. Based on this model, the plasma concentrations of

392 SRA737 observed in patients who received SRA737 at dose levels of 150 mg or  
393 higher, in combination with low-dose gemcitabine, are predicted to produce an  
394 antitumor effect, consistent with the efficacy signal observed in this clinical study.

#### 395 **Determination of the recommended phase 2 dose**

396 SRA737 at 500 mg administered 24 and 48 hours following gemcitabine infusion, in  
397 combination with gemcitabine at 250 mg/m<sup>2</sup> given on days 1, 8 and 15 of a 28-day  
398 cycle, was determined to be the RP2D. This decision was based on overall  
399 tolerability, particularly in terms of gastrointestinal and hematological toxicity, which  
400 may be associated with SRA737 and gemcitabine (**Table 2**), and a pharmacokinetic  
401 profile showing plasma concentrations of SRA737 reaching the minimal effective  
402 concentration of SRA737 extrapolated from preclinical models  
403 (**Supplementary Fig. 2**).

#### 404 **Tumor response**

405 Sixty-five patients were treated with SRA737 and low-dose gemcitabine and included  
406 in the per-protocol response-evaluable population for tumor types of anogenital  
407 cancer, cervical cancer, HGSOc, rectal cancer, SCLC, STS, and urothelial cancer.  
408 The ORR was 10.8% (7/65) across all cohorts. No CRs were observed, and  
409 7 patients had a best response of PR. PRs were seen in anogenital cancer,  
410 3/12 (25%); cervical cancer, 1/6 (16.7%); HGSOc, 1/15 (6.7%); rectal cancer,  
411 1/10 (10%); and SCLC, 1/9 (11.1%) (**Fig. 2**). The duration on therapy in patients in  
412 the expansion cohort is shown in **Fig. 3**.

413

## 414 **Discussion**

415 This is the first clinical report of a Chk1 inhibitor with a novel, low-dose (250 mg/m<sup>2</sup>)  
416 gemcitabine combination designed to provide exogenous replicative stress while  
417 minimizing gemcitabine-associated myelotoxicity and maximizing Chk1 inhibition. It  
418 is also the first clinical report of SRA737 used in combination.

419 Several Chk1 inhibitors have been evaluated in trials with gemcitabine  
420 chemotherapy (13, 15-18). However, the lowest dose of gemcitabine recommended  
421 for phase II evaluation was 500 mg/m<sup>2</sup> and the majority of clinical trials proposed that  
422 the 1000 mg/m<sup>2</sup> dose should be used for further study. However, at this standard  
423 dose of 1000 mg/m<sup>2</sup>, gemcitabine is known to have significant myelotoxicity. The  
424 pharmacological basis of previous single-agent, low-dose gemcitabine explored in a  
425 clinical setting stems from the knowledge that the rate-limiting enzyme for the  
426 activation of gemcitabine, deoxycytidine kinase, is saturated at concentrations of  
427 gemcitabine in circulation after infusion at 250 mg/m<sup>2</sup> (17). DNA repair studies now  
428 suggest that gemcitabine is a potent inducer of DNA replication fork stress via  
429 inhibition of ribonucleotide reductase, activating ATR and Chk1 to allow for DNA  
430 repair prior to mitosis (11, 20, 21). The current study exploits this hypothesis to  
431 evaluate low-dose gemcitabine (at levels of 50-300 mg/m<sup>2</sup>), with the RP2D of  
432 gemcitabine in combination with SRA737 being 250 mg/m<sup>2</sup>, which is significantly  
433 lower than that used in routine clinical practice. The RP2D of SRA737 in the  
434 combination was 500 mg for 2 days beginning 24 hours after gemcitabine  
435 administration. The plasma SRA737 concentrations achieved at these dose levels  
436 were in excess of 40-500 ng/mL, the range corresponding to the minimal effective  
437 dose extrapolated from preclinical models. Although the study protocol did include a

438 provision for non-mandatory tumor biopsy analysis to study pharmacodynamic  
439 effects, none were obtained and this is shortcoming of the current study.

440 The adverse-effect profile in the current study differs significantly from other  
441 gemcitabine and Chk1 inhibitor combinations (11-17). Interestingly, the  
442 Grade  $\geq 3$  neutropenia and thrombocytopenia rates in the current study were 11.7%  
443 and 8.3%, respectively, at the RP2D. These rates are lower than those described at  
444 maximally tolerated doses of Chk1 inhibitor and gemcitabine combinations:  
445 AZD7762 (57% and 0% at the MTD; thrombocytopenia at 33-83% at lower doses;  
446 ref 11); GDC-0425 (38% and 12%; ref 15); and GDC-0575 (79% and 14%; ref 16). At  
447 the RP2D, gastrointestinal side effects of nausea and vomiting occurred in 63.3%  
448 and 56.7% of patients, respectively; these were Grade  $\geq 3$  in 3.3% and 6.7% of  
449 patients, respectively. Similar upper gastrointestinal toxicities were seen in other oral  
450 Chk1 plus gemcitabine combinations, such as GDC-0425 and GDC-0575, but were  
451 less frequent with the intravenous Chk1 inhibitor AZD7762.

452 There were seven patients with partial responses in the current study – three with  
453 anogenital cancer and one each with rectal cancer, HGSOc, SCLC and cervical  
454 cancer. These occurred at gemcitabine dose levels of 250 mg/m<sup>2</sup> or lower. Clinical  
455 responses in Chk1 inhibitor and gemcitabine combinations have been seen in  
456 patients across a variety of tumor types in Chk1 inhibitor plus gemcitabine  
457 combinations: AZD7762 (non-small cell lung cancer [NSCLC]; ref 11),  
458 GDC-0425 (15) (triple-negative breast cancer [TNBC], melanoma), and GDC-0575  
459 (TNBC, sarcoma, NSCLC; ref 16). Of note, the doses of gemcitabine at which these  
460 responses were seen were 1000 mg/m<sup>2</sup> (AZD7762), 750–1000 mg/m<sup>2</sup> (GDC-0425)  
461 and 500 mg/m<sup>2</sup> (GDC-0575) however, it is difficult to analyze the contribution of



462 gemcitabine alone, versus the combination of gemcitabine and Chk1 inhibitors, to  
463 these reported responses. There have been no phase II trials of single agent full  
464 dose gemcitabine in anal cancers and response rates for full dose gemcitabine in  
465 cervical cancer range from 0-11% (22). Given the modest numbers of patients with  
466 anogenital cancer (response rate 25%) treated in this study it is difficult to  
467 extrapolate if full dose gemcitabine would have had equal activity to the combination  
468 of SRA737 + LDG. Equally, given the low response rate of full dose gemcitabine, it is  
469 unlikely that treatment with gemcitabine alone at the low 250 mg/m<sup>2</sup> dose would  
470 have resulted in responses; it is more likely that the combination was effective.

471 Several of the robust responses observed in this study were associated with  
472 genomic alterations in the FA/ BRCA network and related factors involved in  
473 replication fork repair. The response in anogenital cancers is noteworthy. Where  
474 genetic profiles were available for two of the three responding anogenital tumors,  
475 they showed alterations in FANC/BRCA genes or CDK12/ARID1A, and intermediate  
476 to high tumor mutational burden. Although it was not possible to confirm HPV  
477 infection in all samples, it is conceivable that an HPV infection could cause a  
478 functional abrogation of the G1/S checkpoint, as has been established in preclinical  
479 models (21).

480 The interaction of Chk1 inhibition with immune response has been documented in  
481 preclinical models (23, 24) and early clinical trials (25). The combination of SRA737  
482 with low-dose gemcitabine plus an immune checkpoint inhibitor has been shown to  
483 be effective in SCLC models (26). As it is unlikely there would be overlapping  
484 toxicities with combinations of SRA737 and low-dose gemcitabine doublets with anti-  
485 programmed death-1 antibodies, the addition of anti-programmed death-1 antibodies

486 could increase response rates in tumor types with an unmet need.. Given the  
487 preclinical data and observations in the expansion cohorts, anogenital tumors and  
488 small cell lung cancer are cancers with a significant unmet need for where SRA737 +  
489 low dose gemcitabine doublet or a further combination with a immune checkpoint  
490 inhibitor as a triplet therapy are of particular interest for further evaluation of  
491 SRA737.

492

### 493 **Acknowledgements**

494 Medical writing support was provided by Tina Ippolito, an independent consultant  
495 funded by Sierra Oncology. Andrew Dye, an employee of Sierra Oncology also  
496 provided medical writing support and data curation. Bryan Strouse, and employee of  
497 Sierra Oncology also contributed to data curation for this report. UK clinical trial sites  
498 acknowledge infrastructural funding from the Experimental Cancer Medical Centre  
499 and National Institute of Health and Care Research Biomedical Research Centres.  
500 The ICR/RMH in addition acknowledge Cancer Research UK funding to Cancer  
501 Centre Funding and funding to the Cancer Therapeutics Unit. U. Banerji is a  
502 recipient of the NIHR RP-2016-07-028.

### 503 **Authors' Contributions**

504 **Jones, Plummer, Moreno, Carter, Roda, Garralda, Kristeleit, Sarker, Arkenau,**  
505 **Roxburgh, Walter, Castellano, Blagden, Anthoney,** and **Banerji:** Investigation  
506 and review.

507 **Klencke:** review and editing

508 **Banerji** and **Kowalski:** Conceptualization, writing, review and editing.

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- 602

**Table 1: Tumor-specific eligibility requirements for expansion cohorts**

| <b>Expansion Cohort</b>       | <b>Tumor-type specific eligibility requirement</b>   |
|-------------------------------|--|
| HGSOC                         | Known germline BRCA mutations or alterations in genes related to tumor suppression, DNA damage repair, replicative stress or oncogenic drivers (Supplementary Methods) |
| STS                           | Alterations in genes related to tumor suppression, DNA damage repair, replicative stress or oncogenic drivers (Supplementary Methods)                                  |
| SCLC                          | Not required to have genetic testing due to the known high incidence of TP53 mutations   |
| Anogenital or cervical cancer | Not required to have genetic testing due to the known high incidence of human papillomavirus (HPV)   |

**Table 2.**

**Title:** Treatment-emergent adverse events reported by  $\geq 10\%$  of the overall patient population.

|                                      | SRA737 dose <500 mg<br>(N = 30) | SRA737 dose $\geq 500$ mg<br>(N = 113) | Overall<br>(N = 143) |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|----------------------|
| <b>Preferred term</b>                |                                 |  |                      |
| Any treatment-emergent adverse event | 29 (96.7)                       | 113 (100)                              | 142 (99.3)           |
| Nausea                               | 13 (43.3)                       | 75 (66.4)                              | 88 (61.5)            |
| Vomiting                             | 17 (56.7)                       | 61 (54.0)                              | 78 (54.5)            |
| Fatigue                              | 9 (30.0)                        | 64 (56.6)                              | 73 (51.0)            |
| Diarrhea                             | 11 (36.7)                       | 59 (52.2)                              | 70 (49.0)            |
| Anemia                               | 14 (46.7)                       | 51 (45.1)                              | 65 (45.5)            |
| Pyrexia                              | 7 (23.3)                        | 41 (36.3)                              | 48 (33.6)            |
| Thrombocytopenia                     | 8 (26.7)                        | 39 (34.5)                              | 47 (32.9)            |
| Neutropenia                          | 5 (16.7)                        | 44 (38.9)                              | 49 (34.3)            |
| Decreased appetite                   | 4 (13.3)                        | 40 (35.4)                              | 44 (30.8)            |
| ALT increased                        | 7 (23.3)                        | 33 (29.2)                              | 40 (28.0)            |
| AST increased                        | 7 (23.3)                        | 30 (26.5)                              | 37 (25.9)            |
| Constipation                         | 5 (16.7)                        | 30 (26.5)                              | 35 (24.5)            |
| Back pain                            | 8 (26.7)                        | 17 (15.0)                              | 25 (17.5)            |
| Influenza-like illness               | 5 (16.7)                        | 18 (15.9)                              | 23 (16.1)            |
| Urinary tract infection              | 4 (13.3)                        | 18 (15.9)                              | 22 (15.4)            |
| Cough                                | 2 (6.7)                         | 19 (16.8)                              | 21 (14.7)            |
| Dyspnea                              | 6 (20.0)                        | 15 (13.3)                              | 21 (14.7)            |
| Abdominal pain                       | 4 (13.3)                        | 16 (14.2)                              | 20 (14.0)            |
| Headache                             | 7 (23.3)                        | 12 (10.6)                              | 19 (13.3)            |
| Asthenia                             | 2 (6.7)                         | 14 (12.4)                              | 16 (11.2)            |

Data are *n* (%) of patients.

Note: the terms “thrombocytopenia” and “neutropenia” are inclusive of the terms “platelet count decreased” and “neutrophil count decreased”. Patients with multiple adverse events within the same preferred term were only counted once within the respective category.

Abbreviations: ALT, alanine aminotransferase; AST, aspartate aminotransferase.

**Table 3.**

**Title:** Treatment-emergent adverse events reported by ≥10% of patients treated at the recommended phase 2 dose.

| Preferred term                    | Patients treated at the recommended phase 2 dose of<br>500 mg SRA737 + 250 mg/m <sup>2</sup> gemcitabine (N = 60) |           |            |
|-----------------------------------|---|-----------|------------|
|                                   | Grade 1–2   | Grade 3–4 | All grades |
| Nausea                            | 36 (60.0)   | 2 (3.3)   | 38 (63.3)  |
| Fatigue                           | 33 (55.0)   | 2 (3.3)   | 35 (58.3)  |
| Diarrhea                          | 31 (51.7)   | 2 (3.3)   | 33 (55.0)  |
| Vomiting                          | 30 (50.0)   | 4 (6.7)   | 34 (56.7)) |
| Anemia                            | 27 (45.0)   | 7 (11.7)  | 34 (56.7)  |
| Neutropenia                       | 18 (30.0)   | 10 (16.7) | 28 (46.7)  |
| Thrombocytopenia                  | 19 (31.7)   | 6 (10.0)  | 25 (41.7)  |
| Pyrexia                           | 23 (38.3)   | 1 (1.7)   | 24 (40.0)  |
| Decreased appetite                | 22 (36.7)   | 1 (1.7)   | 23 (38.3)  |
| AST increased                     | 13 (21.7)   | 3 (5.0)   | 16 (26.7)  |
| ALT increased                     | 12 (20.0)   | 3 (5.0)   | 15 (25.0)  |
| Cough                             | 12 (20.0)   | 0         | 12 (20.0)  |
| Urinary tract infection           | 12 (20.0)   | 0         | 12(20.0)   |
| Constipation                      | 11 (18.3)   | 2 (3.3)   | 13 (21.7)  |
| Asthenia                          | 10 (16.7)   | 0         | 10 (16.7)  |
| Back pain                         | 9 (15.0)  | 0         | 9 (15.0)   |
| Dyspnoea                          | 9 (15.0)  | 1 (1.7)   | 10 (16.7)  |
| Rash                              | 9 (15.0)  | 0         | 9 (15.0)   |
| Abdominal pain                    | 8 (13.3)  | 2 (3.3)   | 10 (16.7)  |
| Hypomagnesemia                    | 6 (10.0)  | 1 (1.7)   | 7 (11.7)   |
| Influenza-like illness            | 6 (10.0)  | 0         | 6 (10.0)   |
| Rash maculopapular                | 6 (10.0)  | 0         | 6 (10.0)   |
| Edema peripheral                  | 5 (8.3)   | 1 (1.7)   | 6 (10.0)   |
| Lower respiratory tract infection | 2 (3.3)   | 4 (6.7)   | 6 (10.0)   |

Data are *n* (%) of patients.

Note: the terms “thrombocytopenia” and “neutropenia” are inclusive of the terms “platelet count decreased” and “neutrophil count decreased”. Patients with multiple adverse events within the same



preferred term were only counted once within the respective category.

Abbreviations: ALT, alanine aminotransferase; AST, aspartate aminotransferase.

**Table 4.****Title:** Pharmacokinetic parameters for plasma SRA737.

| Day         | Dose (mg) | t <sub>max</sub> (h) | C <sub>max</sub> (ng/mL) | AUC <sub>0-12</sub> (ng•h/mL) | t <sub>1/2</sub> (h) | CL (L/h)    | V <sub>d</sub> (L) |
|-------------|-----------|----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|-------------|--------------------|
| -7 to -4    | 40        | 1.8-2.3              | 61.4-155                 | -                             | 10.3-17.4            | 40-75       | -                  |
|             | 80        | 2.0-2.1              | 11-173                   | -                             | 10.8-11.9            | 69-104      | -                  |
|             | 150       | 2 (1-2)              | 548 ± 63.9               | 2630 ± 944                    | 12.7 ± 1.13          | 38.0 ± 15.9 | 717 ± 357          |
|             | 300       | 2 (1-6)              | 995 ± 449                | 4530 ± 1590                   | 11.7 ± 1.07          | 46.0 ± 16.5 | 764 ± 241          |
|             | 500       | 2 (1-8)              | 1470 ± 605               | 8330 ± 3390                   | 11.6 ± 2.22          | 42.3 ± 22.1 | 695 ± 342          |
|             | 600       | 2 (1-4)              | 1720 ± 556               | 10200 ± 2970                  | 10.7 ± 2.11          | 39.1 ± 11.4 | 597 ± 199          |
| C1D10       | 40        | 1.1-2.2              | 83.3-152                 | -                             | -                    | -           | -                  |
|             | 80        | 1.9-2.2              | 89.3-142                 | -                             | -                    | -           | -                  |
|             | 150       | 2 (2-2)              | 478 ± ID                 | 2390 ± ID                     | -                    | -           | -                  |
|             | 300       | 1 (1-4)              | 1080 ± 563               | 5140 ± 1610                   | -                    | -           | -                  |
|             | 500       | 2 (1-12)             | 1580 ± 645               | 9410 ± 4270                   | -                    | -           | -                  |
| C1D10/C1D17 | 600       | 2 (1-6)              | 1740 ± 509               | 9990 ± 2920                   | -                    | -           | -                  |

Note: data for 40 mg and 80 mg doses displayed as minimum–maximum; data for 150 mg to 600 mg doses displayed as median (minimum–maximum) for t<sub>max</sub> and as median ± SD for other parameters. “-“ indicates values that were not calculated. At C1D10 the T<sub>1/2</sub>, CL, and V<sub>d</sub> were not assessed due to the shortened PK sampling schedule at this timepoint.

Abbreviations: AUC<sub>0-12</sub>, area under the concentration-time curve from 0 to 12 hours; C1, cycle 1; CL, total clearance rate of the drug from plasma; C<sub>max</sub>, maximum plasma concentration; D10, day 10 (of cycle); D17, day 17 (of cycle); h, hour; t<sub>1/2</sub>, elimination half-life; t<sub>max</sub>, time of maximum plasma concentration; V<sub>d</sub>, apparent volume of distribution.

**Enrolled in SRA737 + low-dose gemcitabine treatment groups (N = 143\*)**  
**\*Includes 2 patients who were concurrently enrolled in dose-escalation and cohort expansion phases**

Enrolled in dose-escalation phase (N = 58\*)  
 \*Includes 2 patients who were concurrently enrolled in dose-escalation and cohort expansion phases

Allocated to 40 mg/300 mg/m<sup>2</sup>: N = 5  
 Received allocated treatment: N = 3\*  
 Evaluable for DLT: N = 3  
 \*1 patient received an incorrect C1D1 dose due to a dosing error and another discontinued prior to the C1D1 dose due to AE

Allocated to 80 mg/100 mg/m<sup>2</sup>: N = 4  
 Received allocated treatment: N = 4  
 Evaluable for DLT: N = 4

Allocated to 150 mg/100 mg/m<sup>2</sup>: N = 4  
 Received allocated treatment: N = 3\*  
 Evaluable for DLT: N = 3  
 \*1 patient discontinued due to an AE prior to receiving the C1D1 dose

Allocated to 300 mg/50 mg/m<sup>2</sup>: N = 3  
 Received allocated treatment: N = 3  
 Evaluable for DLT: N = 3

Allocated to 300 mg/100 mg/m<sup>2</sup>: N = 4  
 Received allocated treatment: N = 4  
 Evaluable for DLT: N = 4

Allocated to 500 mg/50 mg/m<sup>2</sup>: N = 4  
 Received allocated treatment: N = 4  
 Evaluable for DLT: N = 3\*  
 \*1 patient discontinued during C1 due to G1 pneumonitis (possibly related to gemcitabine)

Allocated to 500 mg/100 mg/m<sup>2</sup>: N = 4  
 Received allocated treatment: N = 4  
 Evaluable for DLT: N = 4

Allocated to 500 mg/150 mg/m<sup>2</sup>: N = 5  
 Received allocated treatment: N = 5  
 Evaluable for DLT: N = 4\*  
 \*1 patient discontinued during C1 due to cardiac arrest (unrelated to study treatment)

Allocated to 600 mg/100 mg/m<sup>2</sup>: N = 4  
 Received allocated treatment: N = 4  
 Evaluable for DLT: N = 4

Allocated to 500 mg/250 mg/m<sup>2</sup>: N = 4  
 Received allocated treatment: N = 4  
 Evaluable for DLT: N = 4

Allocated to 500 mg/200 mg/m<sup>2</sup>: N = 3  
 Received allocated treatment: N = 3  
 Evaluable for DLT: N = 3

Allocated to 600 mg/200 mg/m<sup>2</sup>: N = 6  
 Received allocated treatment\*: N = 5\*  
 Evaluable for DLT: N = 2\*\*  
 \*1 patient discontinued due to an AE prior to receiving the C1 dose of SRA737  
 \*\*1 patient missed doses during C1 due to thrombocytopenia (not considered to be DLT), 2 patients elected to withdraw from the study during C1

Allocated to 600 mg/250 mg/m<sup>2</sup>: N = 8  
 Received allocated treatment: N = 8  
 Evaluable for DLT: N = 4\*  
 \*4 patients missed doses during C1 due to AEs not considered to be DLT, primarily GI severity

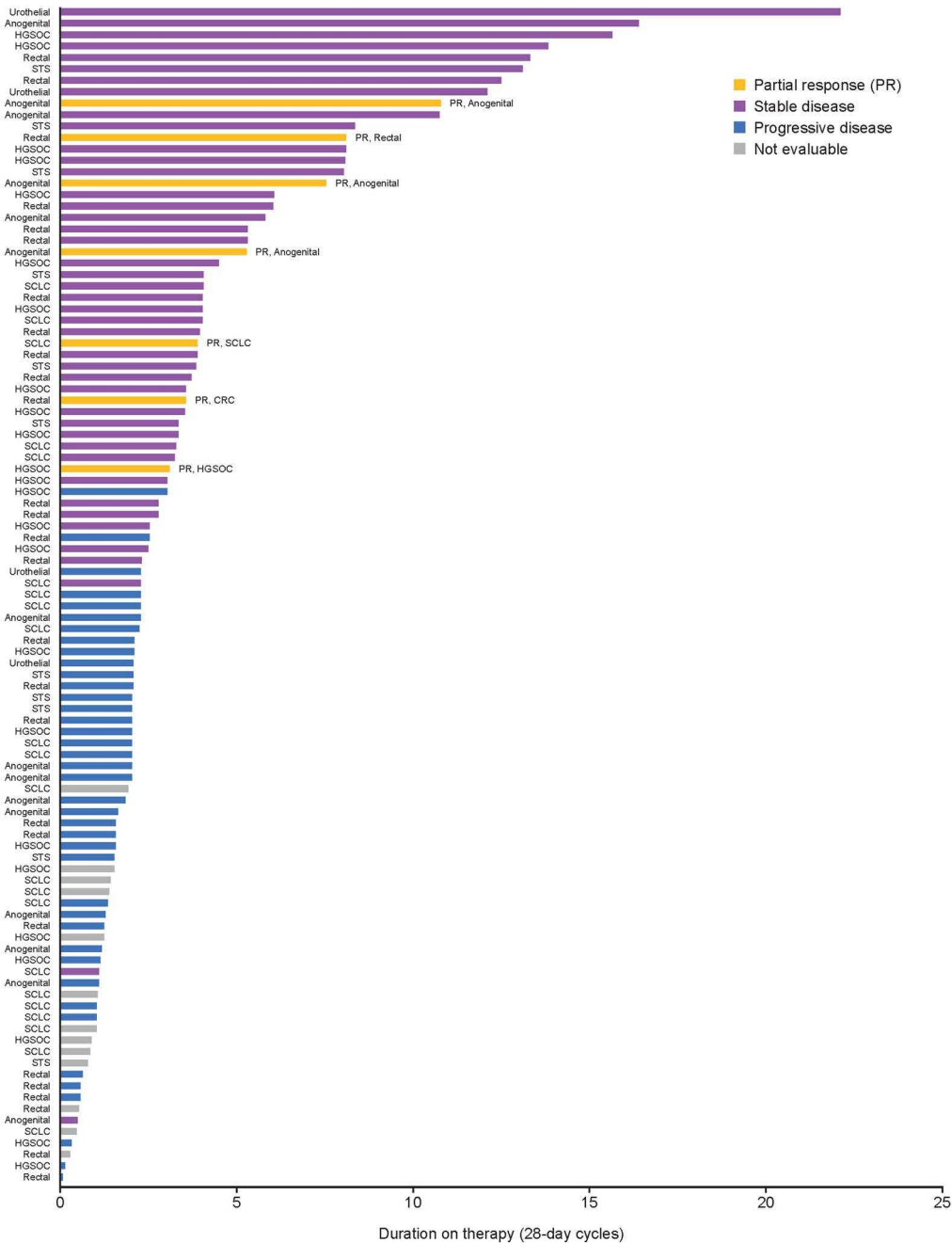
Enrolled in cohort expansion phase (N = 85\*)  
 \*Not including 2 patients concurrently enrolled in dose-escalation and cohort expansion phases

Allocated to 500 mg/100 mg/m<sup>2</sup>: N = 7  
 Received allocated treatment: N = 7

Allocated to 500 mg/150 mg/m<sup>2</sup>: N = 15  
 Received allocated treatment: N = 13\*  
 \*2 patients discontinued prior to receiving C1 doses of SRA737 + gemcitabine

Allocated to 500 mg/250 mg/m<sup>2</sup>: N = 63  
 Received allocated treatment: N = 56\*  
 \*7 patients discontinued prior to receiving C1 doses of SRA737 + gemcitabine





**Supplementary Table 1. Demographic and Disease Characteristics**

|   | All dose escalation<br>(N = 58) | Anogenital cancer<br>(N = 15) | Cervical cancer<br>(N = 12) | HGSOC<br>(N = 24)    | Rectal cancer<br>(N = 15) | SCLC<br>(N = 22)     | STS<br>(N = 11)      | Urothelial cancer<br>(N = 4) | Overall<br>(N = 143) |
|---|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Age, years</b>                         |                                 |                               |                             |                      |                           |                      |                      |                              |                      |
| Median<br>(Q1, Q3)                        | 63.5<br>(54.0, 71.0)            | 59.0<br>(55.0, 69.0)          | 48.0<br>(37.0, 58.5)        | 63.0<br>(55.5, 68.0) | 63.0<br>(52.0, 72.0)      | 61.5<br>(56.0, 65.0) | 60.0<br>(50.0, 68.0) | 60.5<br>(56.5, 66.5)         | 62.0<br>(54.0, 68.0) |
| Range                                     | 18, 81                          | 49, 75                        | 34, 75                      | 44, 79               | 40, 81                    | 32, 74               | 28, 77               | 53, 72                       | 18, 81               |
| <b>Sex, n (%)</b>                         |                                 |                               |                             |                      |                           |                      |                      |                              |                      |
| Male                                      | 32 (55.2)                       | 4 (26.7)                      | 0                           | 0                    | 11 (73.3)                 | 14 (63.6)            | 4 (36.4)             | 3 (75.0)                     | 56 (39.2)            |
| Female                                    | 26 (44.8)                       | 11 (73.3)                     | 12 (100)                    | 24 (100)             | 4 (26.7)                  | 8 (36.4)             | 7 (63.6)             | 1 (25.0)                     | 87 (60.8)            |
| <b>WHO PS at baseline, n (%)</b>          |                                 |                               |                             |                      |                           |                      |                      |                              |                      |
| 0   | 31 (53.4)                       | 5 (33.3)                      | 6 (50.0)                    | 13 (54.2)            | 12 (80.0)                 | 4 (18.2)             | 5 (45.5)             | 1 (25.0)                     | 63 (44.1)            |
| 1   | 27 (46.6)                       | 10 (66.7)                     | 6 (50.0)                    | 11 (45.8)            | 3 (20.0)                  | 18 (81.8)            | 6 (54.5)             | 3 (75.0)                     | 80 (55.9)            |
| <b>Line of therapy<sup>a</sup>, n (%)</b> |                                 |                               |                             |                      |                           |                      |                      |                              |                      |
| 1   | 14 (24.1)                       | 6 (40.0)                      | 4 (33.3)                    | 2 (8.3)              | 1 (6.7)                   | 8 (36.4)             | 2 (18.2)             | 1 (25.0)                     | 35 (24.5)            |
| 2   | 11 (19.0)                       | 5 (33.3)                      | 6 (50.0)                    | 5 (20.8)             | 1 (6.7)                   | 7 (31.8)             | 3 (27.3)             | 2 (50.0)                     | 38 (26.6)            |
| 3   | 18 (31.0)                       | 2 (13.3)                      | 2 (16.7)                    | 6 (25.0)             | 7 (46.7)                  | 5 (22.7)             | 4 (36.4)             | 1 (25.0)                     | 38 (26.6)            |
| 4   | 10 (17.2)                       | 1 (6.7)                       | 0                           | 2 (8.3)              | 4 (26.7)                  | 1 (4.5)              | 1 (9.1)              | 0                            | 15 (10.5)            |
| 5+  | 4 (6.9)                         | 1 (6.7)                       | 0                           | 9 (37.5)             | 2 (13.3)                  | 1 (4.5)              | 1 (9.1)              | 0                            | 16 (11.2)            |

Note: patients are displayed in cohorts defined by tumor type, including indication-specific expansion cohorts (anogenital, cervical, HGSOC, SCLC and STS), a grouping of patients with rectal cancer who were enrolled under dose escalation, and four patients with urothelial cancer enrolled under previous protocol versions. A total of 18 patients were “double counted” in that they appear under both “All dose escalation” and in their specific tumor-type cohorts. These 18 patients consisted of 15 dose-escalation patients with rectal cancer, one dose-escalation patient with anogenital cancer, one concurrently enrolled dose-escalation/expansion patient with cervical cancer, and one concurrently enrolled dose-escalation/expansion patient with STS.

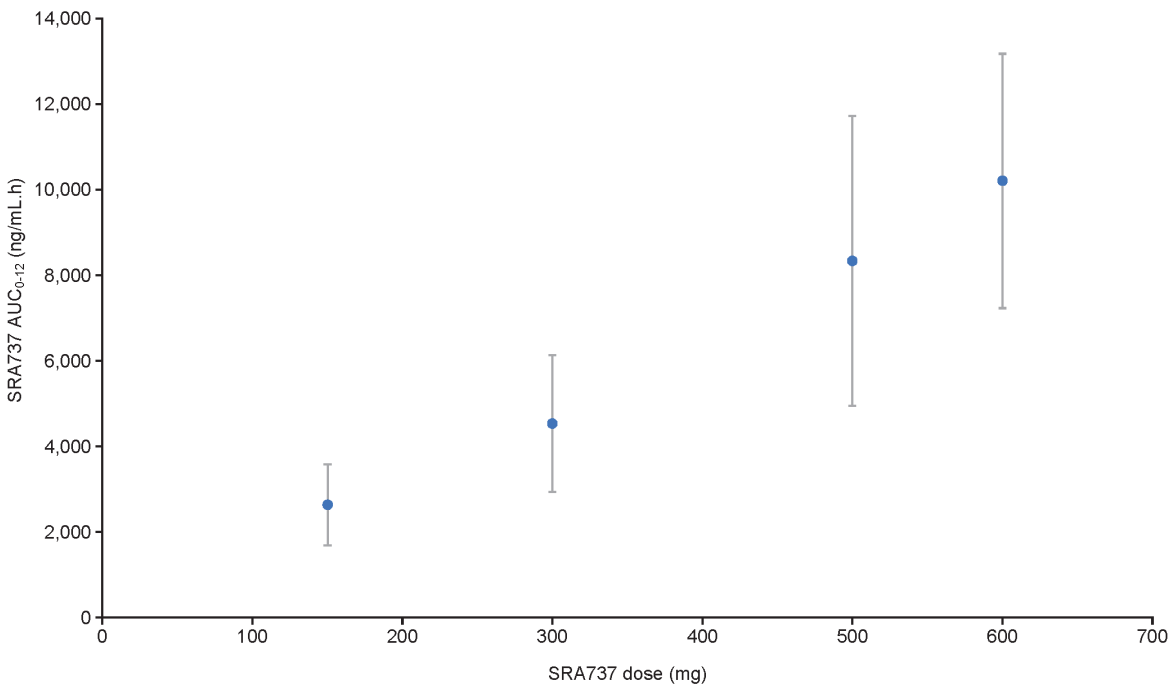
<sup>a</sup>Based on the last anticancer therapy before enrolment. One patient in the dose-escalation group did not have prior lines of therapy reported.

Abbreviations: HGSOC, high-grade serous ovarian cancer; SCLC, small cell lung cancer; STS, soft tissue sarcoma; SD, standard deviation; WHO PS, World Health Organization performance status.

## Supplementary Figure 1.

**Title:** Mean exposure ( $AUC_{0-12}$ ) by dose level following a single oral dose of SRA737.

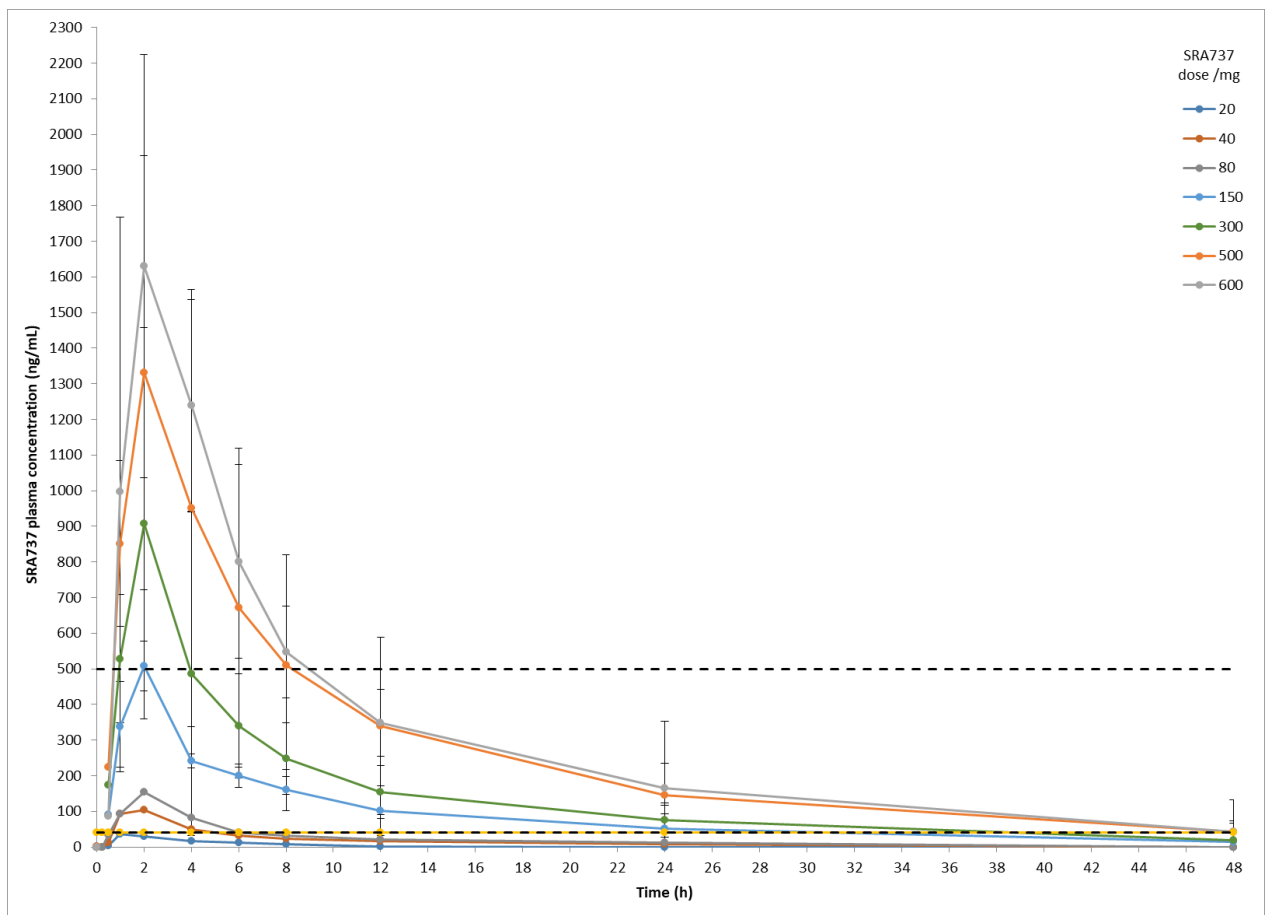
**Description:** This figure displays the mean area under the SRA737 plasma concentration-time curve from 0 to 12 hours ( $AUC_{0-12}$ ) following a single oral dose of SRA737 at doses of 150, 300, 500 and 600 mg. Error bars represent standard deviation.



1 **Supplementary Figure 2.**

2 **Title:** Mean plasma SRA737 concentration over time by dose level following a single  
3 oral dose of SRA737.

4 **Description:** This figure displays the mean SRA737 plasma concentration at each  
5 assessment timepoint by dose level. The dotted lines indicates a plasma  
6 concentration of 40-500 ng/mL, the range corresponding to the minimal effective  
7 dose extrapolated from preclinical models. Error bars represent standard deviation.



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# Supplementary Data

## Methods

### Inclusion criteria

Dose-escalation and cohort expansion patients:

Written (signed and dated) informed consent and be capable of co-operating with treatment and follow up.

In the dose-escalation phase, patients with a locally advanced or metastatic, histologically or cytologically proven solid tumor, relapsed after or progressing despite conventional treatment for which no conventional therapy is considered appropriate by the investigator or is declined by the patient.

Life expectancy of at least 12 weeks.

World Health Organization (WHO) performance status of 0–1.

Haematological and biochemical indices within the ranges shown below measured within 1 week prior to the patient receiving the first dose of study treatment.

- Haemoglobin  $\geq 90$  g/L
- Absolute neutrophil count  $\geq 1.5 \times 10^9$ /L
- Platelet count  $\geq 100 \times 10^9$ /L
- Bilirubin  $\leq 1.5 \times$  upper limit of normal (ULN) unless due to Gilbert's syndrome in which case up to  $3 \times$  ULN is permissible
- Alanine aminotransferase, aspartate aminotransferase and alkaline phosphatase  $\leq 2.5 \times$  ULN unless raised due to tumor in which case up to  $5 \times$  ULN is permissible
  - Serum creatinine  $\leq 1.5 \times$  ULN
- Electrolytes: magnesium, potassium and calcium. If electrolyte levels are low, it must be demonstrated that they can be normalized and maintained using supplements prior to the patient beginning study treatment

Supplement use should continue while on study as appropriate

Patients must be 18 years or older at the time consent is given.

Patients must have archival tumor tissue available for genetic tumor profiling OR accessible tumor and willingness to consent to a biopsy for the collection of tumor tissue.

Cohort expansion:

Patients in the indication-specific cohort expansion must have histologically or cytologically proven advanced malignancy of the types specified in Inclusion Criterion 11, for which no conventional therapy is considered appropriate by the investigator or is declined by the patient.

Have measurable disease according to Response Evaluation Criteria in Solid Tumors, version 1.1 (RECIST v1.1) criteria.

Patients must have predicted sensitivity to Chk1 inhibition based on factors including genetic profiling of tumor tissue or circulating tumor DNA, HPV status, and germline BRCA1 and BRCA2 gene status. All patients will have genetic profiling from tumor tissue or circulating tumor DNA; profiling to be performed prospectively if required to evaluate Chk1 sensitivity or otherwise performed retrospectively.

For patients with high-grade serous ovarian cancer (HGSOC), documented somatic or germline BRCA1 and BRCA2 wild-type status will confer eligibility without requirement for prospective genetic profiling. If documented BRCA status is not available, genetic profiling may be performed prospectively to determine eligibility.

Patients with small cell lung cancer (SCLC) are eligible without requirement for prospective genetic profiling on the basis of very high prevalence of cancer-related alterations in the tumor suppressor genes (e.g., TP53 and RB1) in this population.

For patients with soft tissue sarcoma (STS), and any others for whom genetic profiling is performed prospectively, eligibility was determined by the sponsor's review of genetic abnormalities detected in genes in the following categories, as detailed in the protocol:

Key tumor suppressor genes regulating G1 cell cycle progression/arrest such as RB1, TP53, etc. For relevant cancers, positive human papilloma virus (HPV) status is also considered for eligibility

The DNA damage response pathway including ATM, BRCA1, BRCA2, mismatch repair genetic alterations and/or high microsatellite instability

Genetic indicators of replicative stress such as gain of function/amplification of Chk1 or ATR or other related gene

Oncogenic drivers such as MYC, CCNE1, etc.

For patients with anogenital cancer, known HPV positive status will confer eligibility without requirement for prospective genetic profiling. If HPV status is not known or not positive, genetic profiling (or HPV testing where appropriate) may be performed prospectively to determine eligibility. Patients with cervical cancer or squamous cell carcinoma of the anus are eligible without requirement for prospective genetic profiling based on the very high prevalence of HPV positivity in these populations.

Patients must meet one of the following criteria:

HGSOC, defined by the following:

Histologically confirmed high-grade serous ovarian, fallopian tube, or primary peritoneal cancer

Platinum-resistant or refractory disease (defined per protocol), or the patient is intolerant to platinum therapy.

Small cell lung cancer

- i. Must have received at least one but no more than three prior regimens for advanced disease, unless otherwise approved by sponsor.

Soft tissue sarcoma

- i. Including undifferentiated pleiomorphic sarcoma/malignant fibrous histiocytoma (MFH) (including high-grade spindle cell sarcoma/pleomorphic liposarcomas), leiomyosarcoma and dedifferentiated liposarcomas. Other types of STS may be eligible with sponsor's approval
- ii. Must have received at least one but no more than three prior regimens for advanced disease, unless otherwise approved by sponsor.

Cervical/anogenital cancer

Including all cervical carcinoma and advanced/metastatic squamous cell carcinoma of the anus, penis, vagina, and vulva

Must have received at least one but no more than three prior regimens for advanced disease, unless otherwise approved by sponsor.

### **Exclusion criteria**

Have received prior or current anticancer therapy within the noted time periods prior to receiving SRA737 and have recovered from toxicity consistent with exclusion criterion 5:

Radiotherapy (except for symptom control and where the lesions will not be used as measurable disease), chemotherapy, PARP inhibitors, other targeted therapies, or other investigational medicinal products within 2 weeks

Nitrosoureas or mitomycin C within 6 weeks

Any prior treatment with a Chk1 inhibitor, or prior treatment with an ATR inhibitor within 6 months.

No more than three previous treatment regimens for advanced disease (not applicable to HGSOE expansion cohort), unless otherwise approved by sponsor. Prior gemcitabine therapy is permitted as previous therapy.

Other malignancies within the past 2 years with the exception of adequately treated tumors that are associated with an expected 5-year disease-free survival of  $\geq 95\%$ .

If, in the opinion of the investigator, the patient is highly likely to experience clinically significant myelosuppression, based on previous experience with chemotherapy.

Ongoing toxic manifestations of previous treatments greater than NCI-CTCAE Grade 1. Exceptions to this are alopecia or certain toxicities, which in the opinion of the investigator and the sponsor's medical monitor should not exclude the patient.

History of allergy to gemcitabine.

New or progressing brain metastases. Patients with brain metastases that have been asymptomatic and radiologically stable over an 8-week period and have not been treated with steroids during that time may be included with approval from the sponsor.

Women of childbearing potential (WOCBP) or women who are already pregnant or lactating. However, those patients who have a negative serum or urine pregnancy test before enrolment and agree to use two forms of contraception or agree to sexual abstinence, effective from the first administration of SRA737, throughout the trial and for 6 months afterwards are considered eligible.

Male patients with partners of childbearing potential, unless they agree to take measures not to father children by using a barrier method of contraception, effective from the first administration of SRA737, through the trial and for 6 months after their final SRA737 dose. Men with pregnant or lactating partners must be advised to use barrier method contraception (e.g., condom plus spermicidal gel) to prevent exposure of a fetus or neonate.

Major surgery from which the patient has not yet recovered.

At high medical risk because of nonmalignant systemic disease including active uncontrolled infection.

Known to be serologically positive for hepatitis B, hepatitis C or human immunodeficiency virus.

Serious cardiac condition, such as concurrent congestive heart failure, prior history of class III/IV cardiac disease (New York Heart Association [NYHA]), left ventricular ejection fraction <45% at baseline, history of cardiac ischaemia within the past 6 months, or prior history of cardiac arrhythmia requiring treatment, unless approved by the sponsor.

Prior bone marrow transplant or have had extensive radiotherapy to greater than 25% of bone marrow within the previous 8 weeks.

Peanut allergy unless this restriction is removed by the sponsor (refer to Section 6.1 for additional details).

QTcF >450 msec in adult males and >470 msec in adult females.

Impairment of GI function or GI disease that may significantly alter the absorption of SRA737 (e.g., ulcerative diseases, uncontrolled nausea, vomiting, diarrhea or malabsorption syndrome).

Not able to swallow capsules without chewing or crushing.

Is a participant or plans to participate in another interventional clinical trial, whilst taking part in this phase I/II study of SRA737. Participation in an observational trial or interventional clinical trial that does not involve administration of an IMP and which would not place an unacceptable burden on the patient in the opinion of the investigator and sponsor would be acceptable.

Any other condition, which, in the investigator's opinion, would not make the patient a good candidate for the clinical trial.

### Genetic profiling of tumor types

Patients must have predicted sensitivity to Chk1 inhibition for enrolment into the cohort expansion phase. Factors including genetic profiling of tumor tissue or ctDNA, HPV status (including very high prevalence of HPV positivity in some tumor types), and BRCA1 and BRCA2 gene status may be considered for evaluation of Chk1 sensitivity. Evaluation of genetic profiles will identify gene mutations documented or predicted to enhance sensitivity to Chk1 inhibition/loss. These genes of interest are grouped into four main classes, consistent with the Hallmarks of Cancer (Hanahan D, Weinberg RA. Hallmarks of cancer: the next generation. Cell. 2011;144(5):646–74). Note, this list is not exhaustive as scientific discoveries and technology continue to evolve.

| Tumor Suppressor  | DNA Damage Repair |        |        |         | Replicative Stress | Oncogenic Driver   |
|-------------------|-------------------|--------|--------|---------|--------------------|--------------------|
| CDKN1A            | ARID1A            | FANCE  | PALB2  | RAD54L  | ATR                | CCNE1              |
| CDKN1B            | ATM               | FANCF  | PMS2   | RPA1    | CHEK1              | FBXW7 <sup>2</sup> |
| CDKN2A            | BLM               | FANCG  | POLD1  | SETD2   | Other              | HRAS               |
| CDKN2B            | BRCA1             | FANCI  | POLE   | SMARCA4 |                    | KRAS               |
| CDKN2C            | BRCA2             | FANCL  | RAD50  | TP53BP1 |                    | NRAS               |
| PTEN              | CDK12             | FANCM  | RAD51  | XRCC2   |                    | MYC                |
| RB1               | CHEK2             | MLH1   | RAD51B | XRCC3   |                    | MYCN               |
| STK11             | FANCA             | MRE11A | RAD51C | Other   |                    | PARK2              |
| TP53              | FANCC             | MSH2   | RAD51D |         |                    | PIK3CA             |
| MDM2 <sup>1</sup> | FANCD2            | MSH6   | RAD52  |         |                    | Other              |
| Other             |                   |        |        |         |                    |                    |

<sup>1</sup>. Amplification or gain of function mutations are desired for this gene

<sup>2</sup>. Loss of function mutations are desired for this gene

Other genetic predictors that can be added to this list include mutations meeting any of the following criteria:

A new gene/mutation that has been identified and published in at least one peer reviewed article documenting its relationship or sensitivity to genetic alterations with a Chk1 or ATR mutation.

Data from patient-derived xenograft studies performed by the sponsor or its collaborator demonstrating evidence of genetic sensitivity.

Data of similar quality that have been reviewed by the sponsor but are not yet published or conducted by the sponsor or their collaborator.

Detection of microsatellite instability in a tumor sample may increase the probability of detecting a germline mutation in a DNA mismatch repair gene. Five mononucleotide repeat markers (BAT-25, BAT-26, NR-21, NR-24 and MONO-27) are used to determine microsatellite instability status. Genetic predictors may also be removed from this list as new information on the relationship or sensitivity of genetic alterations in genes included in the list becomes available or the technology employed in genomic profiling evolves. The Laboratory Manual will be updated if/when genes are added to, or removed from, this list.