



**HOT
NEWS**

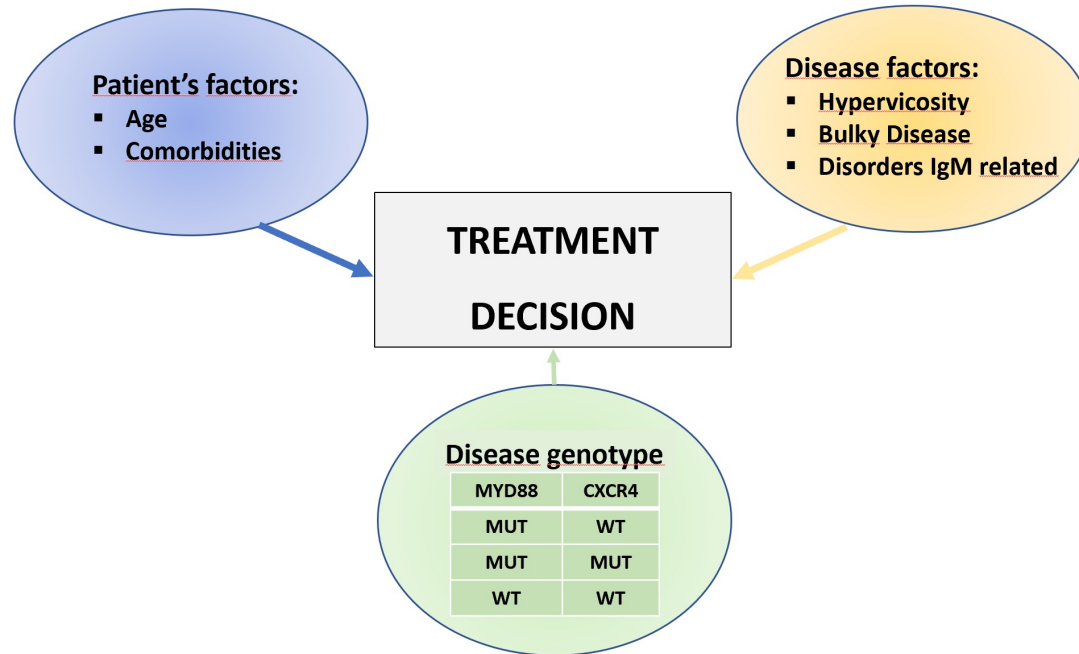
IN HEMATOLOGY

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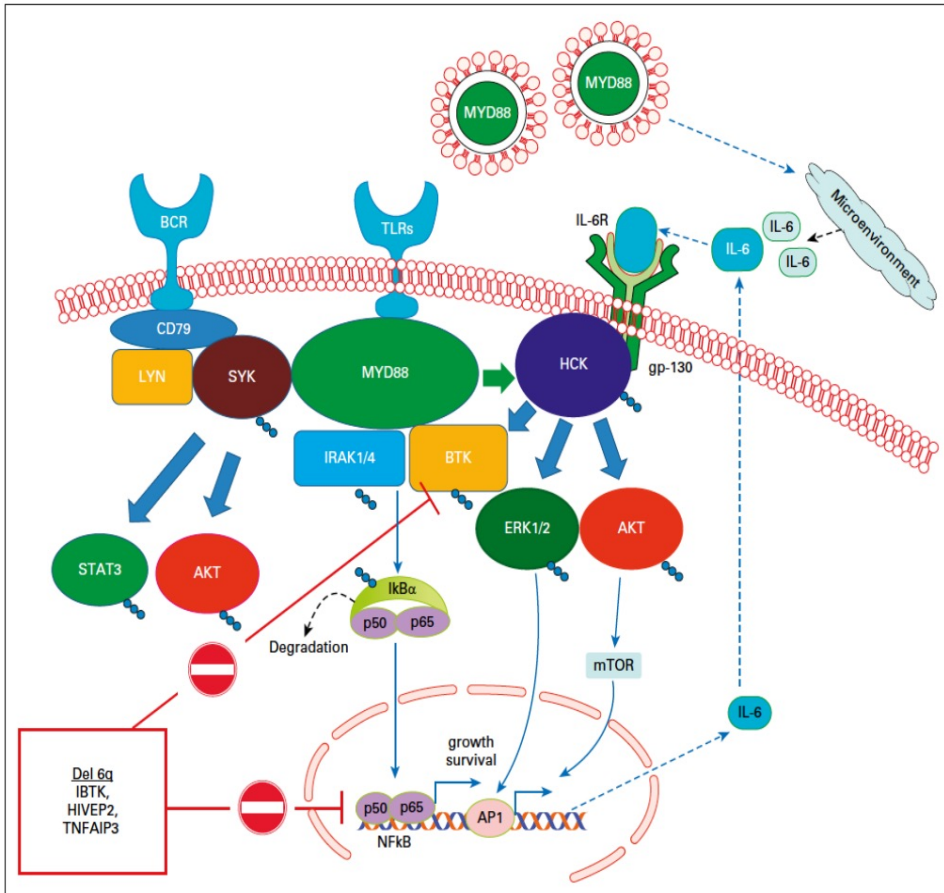
MACROGLOBULINEMIA DI WALDENSTROM

*Alessandra Tedeschi
Division of Hematology
Niguarda Hospital, Milano*

WM TREATMENT



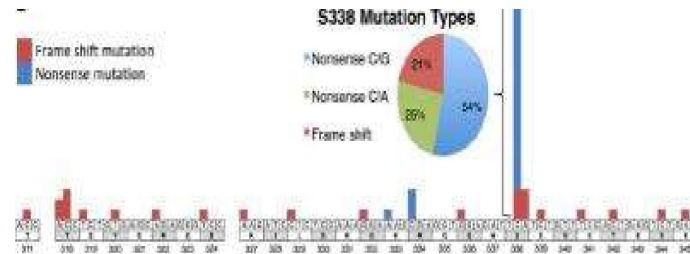
MYD88 in WM



- ~ 95% of WM patients carry the somatic mutation of MYD88 (L265P)
- MYD88, IRAK1/IRAK4 and BTK are components of the Myddosome complex that activates NFKB
- Mutated MYD88 upregulates hematopoietic cell kinase (HCK) transcription and activates HCK via IL-6. Activated HCK promotes survival through BTK, PI3K/AKT and MAPK/ERK1/2
- Evidence of cross talk between mutated MYD88 and BCR pathway with SYK activation that triggers STAT3 and AKT prosurvival signaling

CXCR4 in WM

- ❖ Over 30 nonsense (NS) or frameshift (FS) C-tail mutations
- ❖ The most common CXCR4 mutation is S338X (~ 50% of all CXCR4 mutations)
- ❖ Similar to germline mutations typical of WHIM syndrome
- ❖ Detected in 30-40% of WM patients, and usually associated with MYD88 mutations



PATIENTS WITH CXCR4 mutations

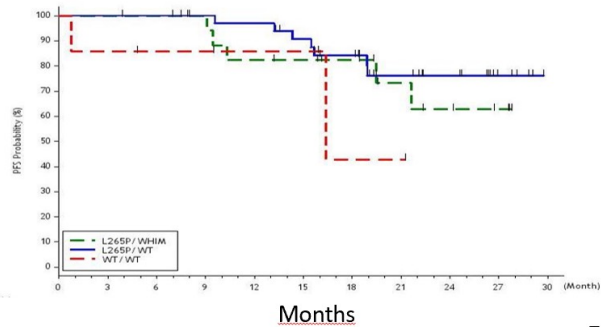
- ✓ **higher IgM levels**
- ✓ **higher incidence of hyperviscosity**
- ✓ **higher BM infiltration**
- ✓ **shorter time to first treatment**

*Treon SP et al, 2014;
Poulain S et al, 2016;
Schmidt J et al, 2015;
Treon SP et al, 2015.*

WM TREATMENT

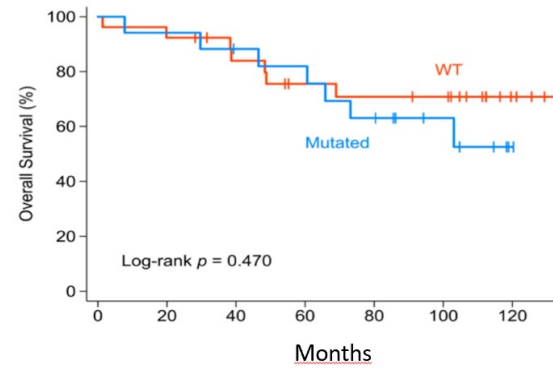
PFS according to MYD88 & CXCR4 mutation status

Ibrutinib Monotherapy R/R

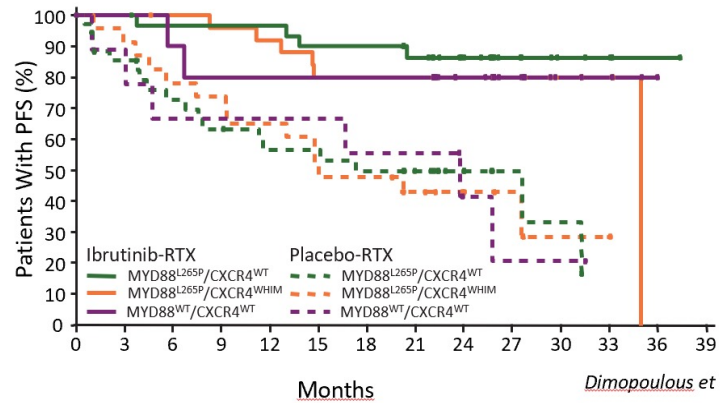


Treon et al, 2015

Bortezomib Rituximab First Line according to CXCR4

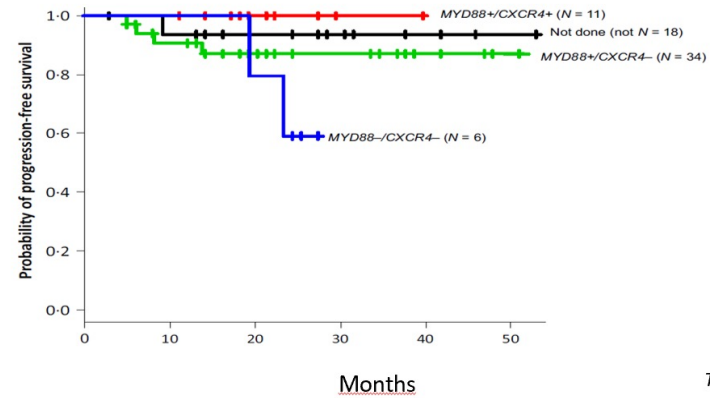


Sklavenitis et al, 2018



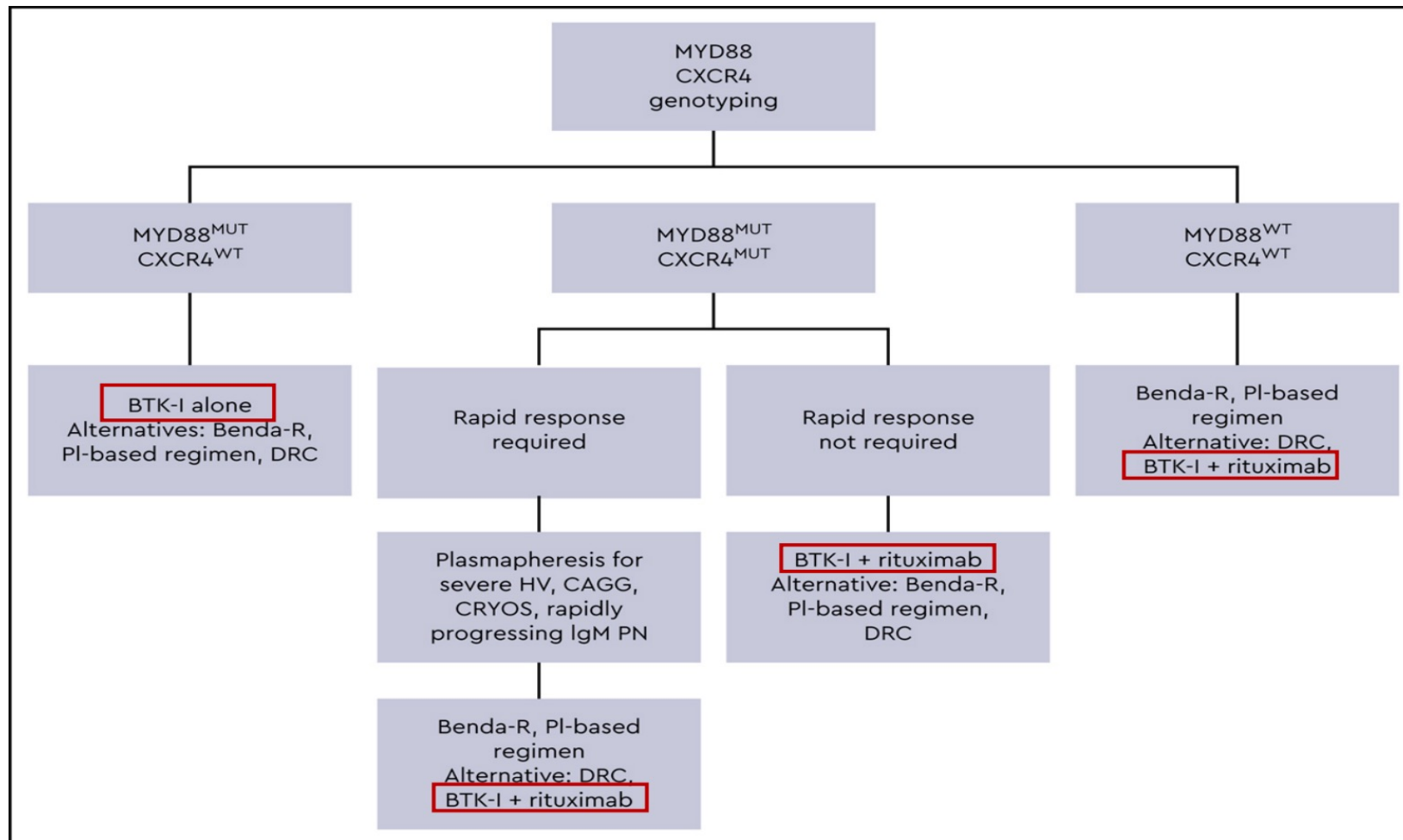
Dimopoulos et al 2018

Bendamustine Rituximab First Line



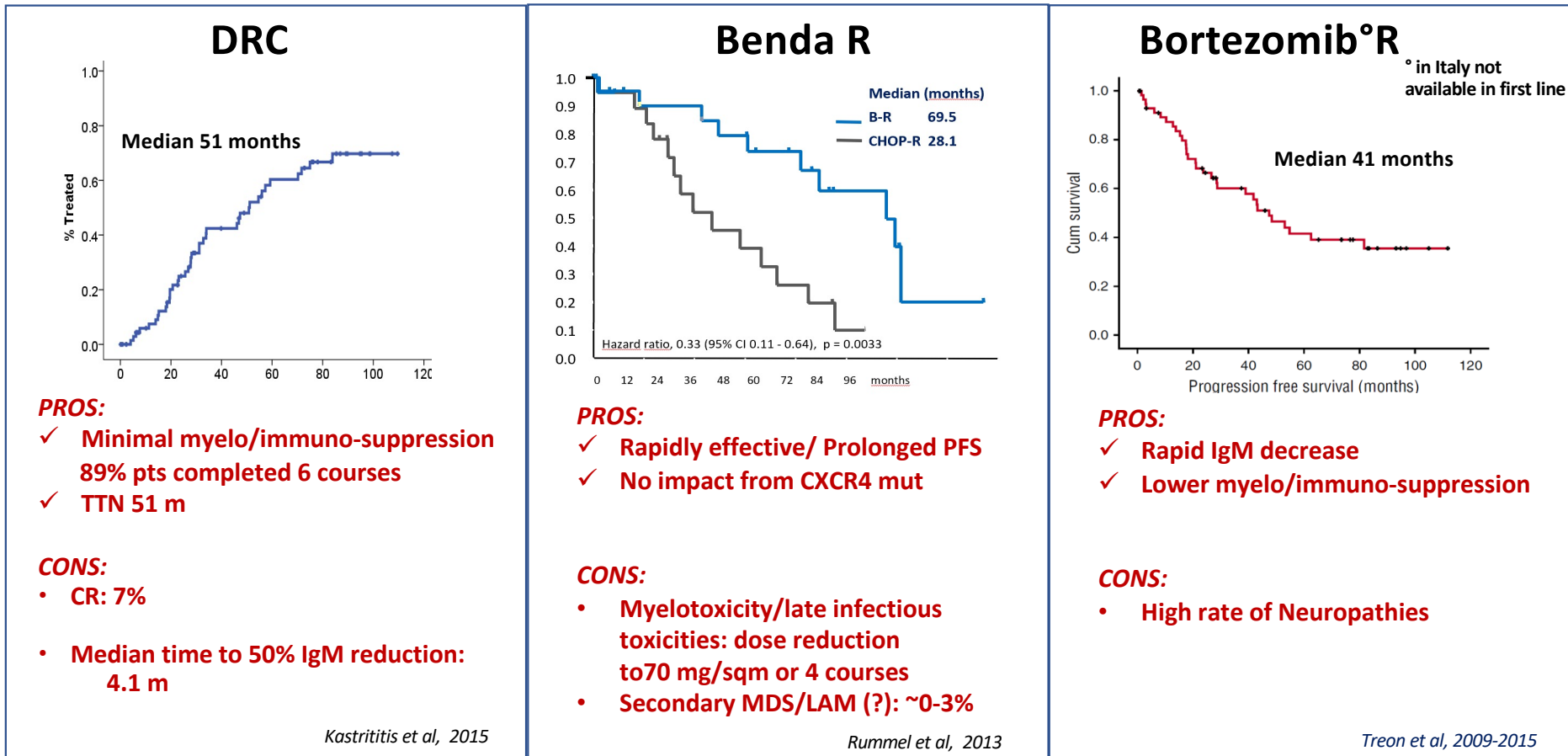
Tricot et al, 2018

WM: Genomic based treatment algorithm



WM TREATMENT FIRST LINE TREATMENT

Rituximab Combination Treatment



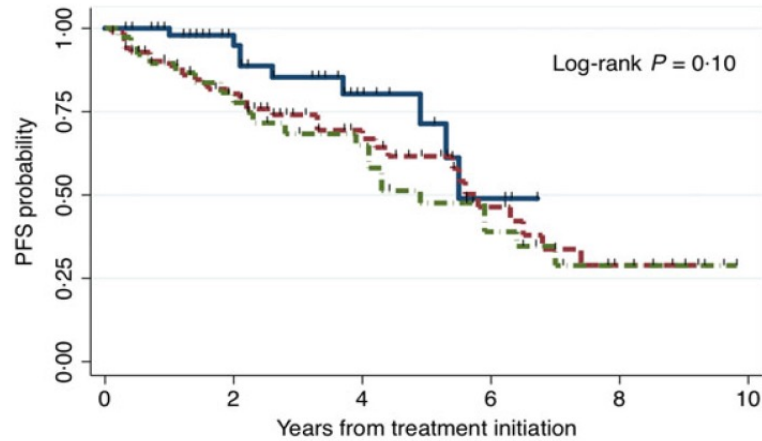
WM TREATMENT FIRST LINE TREATMENT

Response and survival for primary therapy and maintenance rituximab

Benda-R 57 pts (31%)
 BDR 87 pts (48%)
 CDR 38 pts (21%)

No difference in response rates

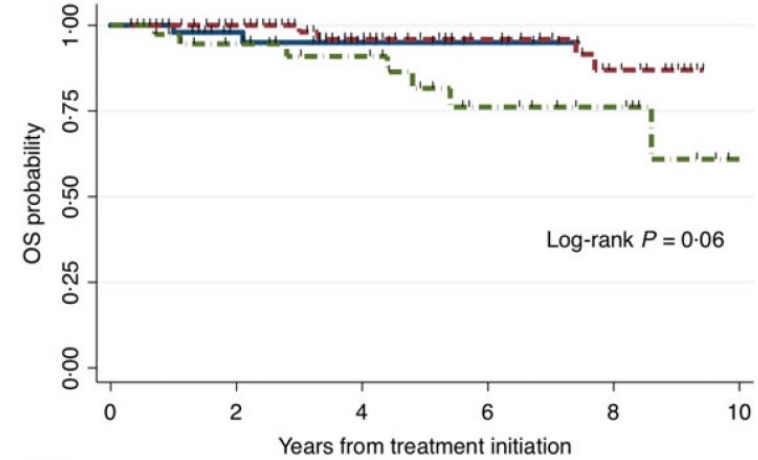
(A)



Number at risk						
	0	2	4	6	8	10
Benda-R	57	32	12	3	0	0
BDR	85	54	27	12	4	0
CDR	38	27	19	9	4	0



(A)

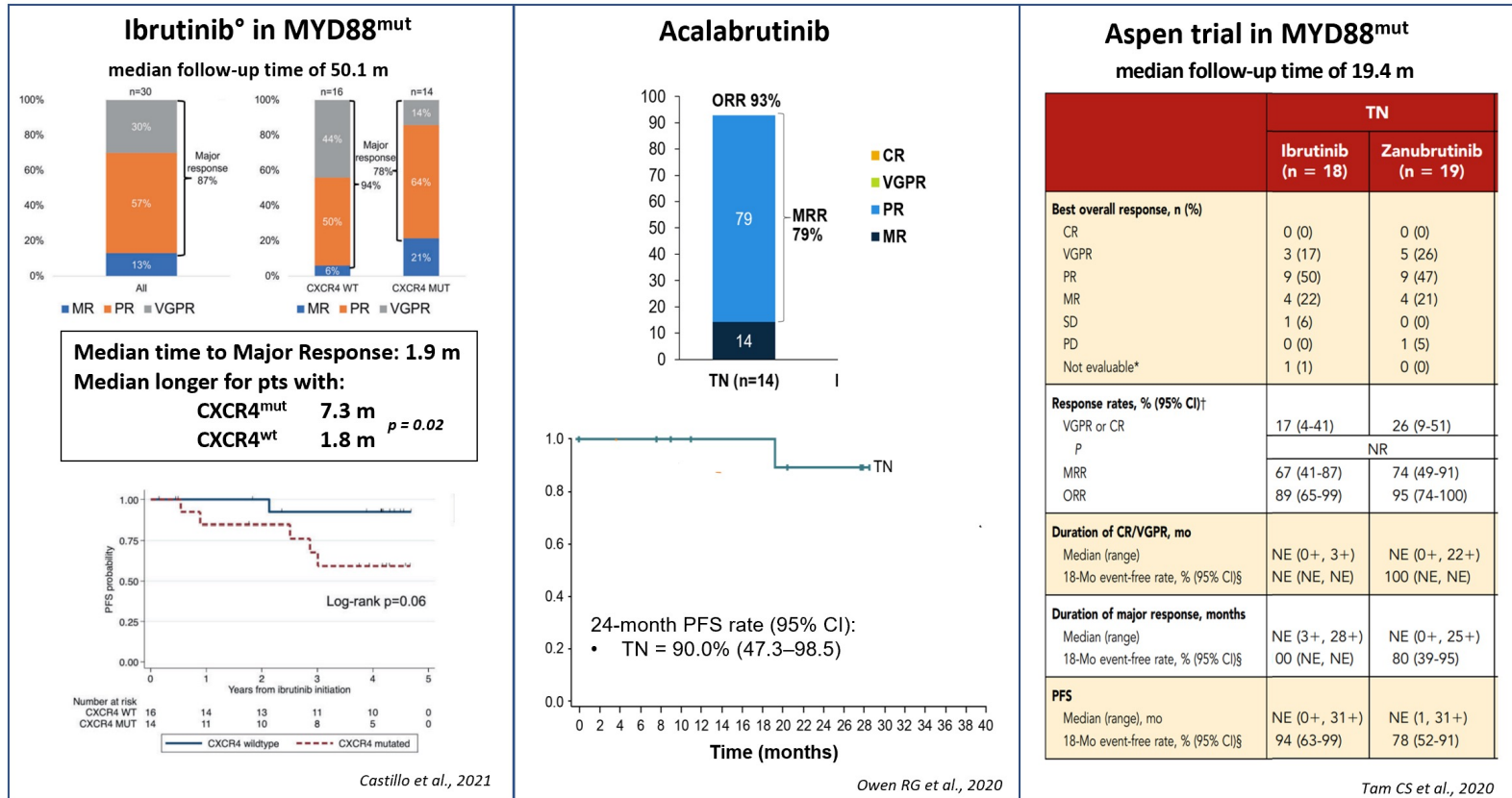


Number at risk						
	0	2	4	6	8	10
Benda-R	57	33	13	5	0	0
BDR	85	70	39	27	17	2
CDR	38	30	22	12	8	1



WM TREATMENT FIRST LINE TREATMENT

BTKi*



* approved by EMA in unfit PTS not reimbursed in Italy

WM TREATMENT FIRST LINE TREATMENT

Rituximab combination treatments



Effective, Long Time to Retreatment



Fixed duration



Myelosuppression/Immunosuppression

BTKi



Effective, prolonged PFS



Continuous treatment



Resistance Development

WM TREATMENT FIRST LINE TREATMENT

UNFIT PATIENTS → UNMET CLINICAL NEED

Rituximab mono

ORR 44-65%

Short PFS

**Effective in specific
IgM related disease symptoms**

Gertz et al , 2009
Dimopoulos et al, 2010

Consensus treatment recommendations from the tenth International Workshop for Waldenström Macroglobulinaemia



Lancet Haematol 2020;
7: e827–37

Jorge J Castillo, Ranjana H Advani, Andrew R Branagan, Christian Buske, Meletios A Dimopoulos, Shirley D'Sa, Marie José Kersten, Veronique Leblond, Monique C Minnema, Roger G Owen, M Lia Palomba, Dipti Talaulikar, Alessandra Tedeschi, Judith Trotman, Marzia Varettoni, Josephine M Vos, Steven P Treon, Efsthios Kastiris

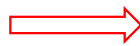
- **CONSENSUS** that CDR, or bendamustine plus rituximab, BDR ibrutinib alone, and ibrutinib plus rituximab
 - are preferred options as **primary therapy**
 - these regimens can also be used in the management of **relapsed or refractory pts**
- **NO** consensus on which treatment regimen provides the best safety and efficacy profile.
central to this lack of consensus is the absence of prospective randomised studies
- **NO** consensus on the recommendations for fixed or indefinite duration regimens
- **CONSENSUS** that there are currently noconvincing data to recommend the combination of ibrutinib and rituximab over ibrutinib alone.

**THE CHOICE OF PRIMARY AND SUBSEQUENT THERAPY SHOULD BE PERSONALISED
CONSIDERING THE: TOXICITY PROFILE**

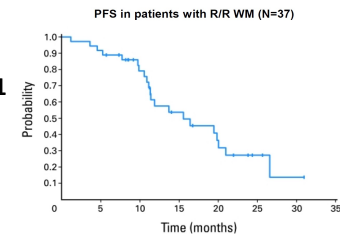
**ADMINISTRATION SCHEDULE AND ROUTE
DRUG ACCESSIBILITY
PTS PREFERENCE**

RELAPSED/REFRACTORY WM

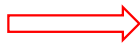
Long Reponse Duration



- ✓ Repeat First Line Treatment
- ✓ Change Rituximab Combination Treatment
- Bortezomib R¹
- ✓ BTKi[°]



Short Reponse Duration
Refractory



- ✓ BTKi[°]

[°]EMA approved:

Ibrutinib (AIFA: reimbursed in monotherapy)

Ibrutinib Rituximab (AIFA: not reimbursed)

Zanubrutinib (AIFA: pending)

RELAPSED/REFRACTORY WM

Ibrutinib Phase II study

Baseline characteristics (ibrutinib n=63):

- Median age: 63 (44-86) yrs
- Median n° of prior therapies: 2 (1-9)
- 40% pts refractory to most recent therapy
- Median bone marrow involvement: 60%

Variable	All	<i>MYD88</i> ^{Mut} <i>CXCR4</i> ^{WT}	<i>MYD88</i> ^{Mut} <i>CXCR4</i> ^{Mut}	<i>MYD88</i> ^{WT} <i>CXCR4</i> ^{WT}	<i>P</i>
No. of patients	63	36	22	4	
Overall response rate	57 (90.5)	36 (100.0)	19 (86.4)	2 (50.0)	< .0100
Major response rate	50 (79.4)	35 (97.2)	15 (68.2)	0 (0.0)	< .0001
Categorical responses					
No response	6 (9.5)	0 (0.0)	3 (13.6)	2 (50.0)	< .0001
Minor response	7 (11.1)	1 (2.8)	4 (18.2)	2 (50.0)	
Partial response	31 (49.2)	18 (50.0)	13 (59.1)	0 (0.0)	
Very good partial response	19 (30.2)	17 (47.2)	2 (9.1)	0 (0.0)	
Median time to response, months					
Major response (≥ partial response)	1.8	1.8	4.7	NA	.0200

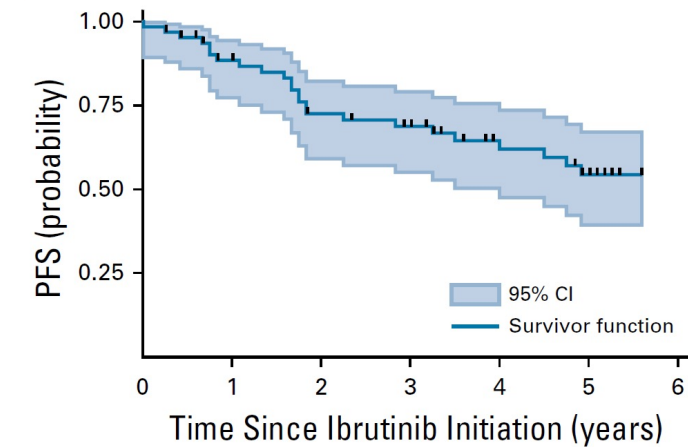
NOTE. Data presented as No. (%). Response rates, including categorical responses and median time to attainment of least a minor and a major response for all patients and those stratified by *MYD88* and *CXCR4* mutation status, are provided. *P* values denote three-way comparisons among genomic cohorts.

Abbreviations: Mut, mutant; NA, not applicable; WM, Waldenström macroglobulinemia; WT, wild type.

RELAPSED/REFRACTORY WM

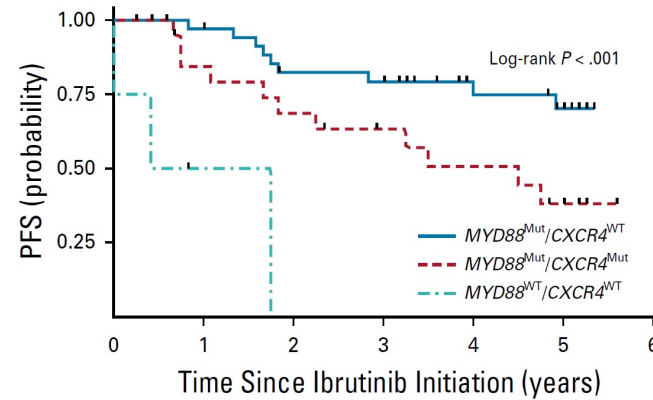
Ibrutinib Phase II study

Median study follow-up: 59 months



No. at risk:

63	51	39	35	26	19	0
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No. at risk:

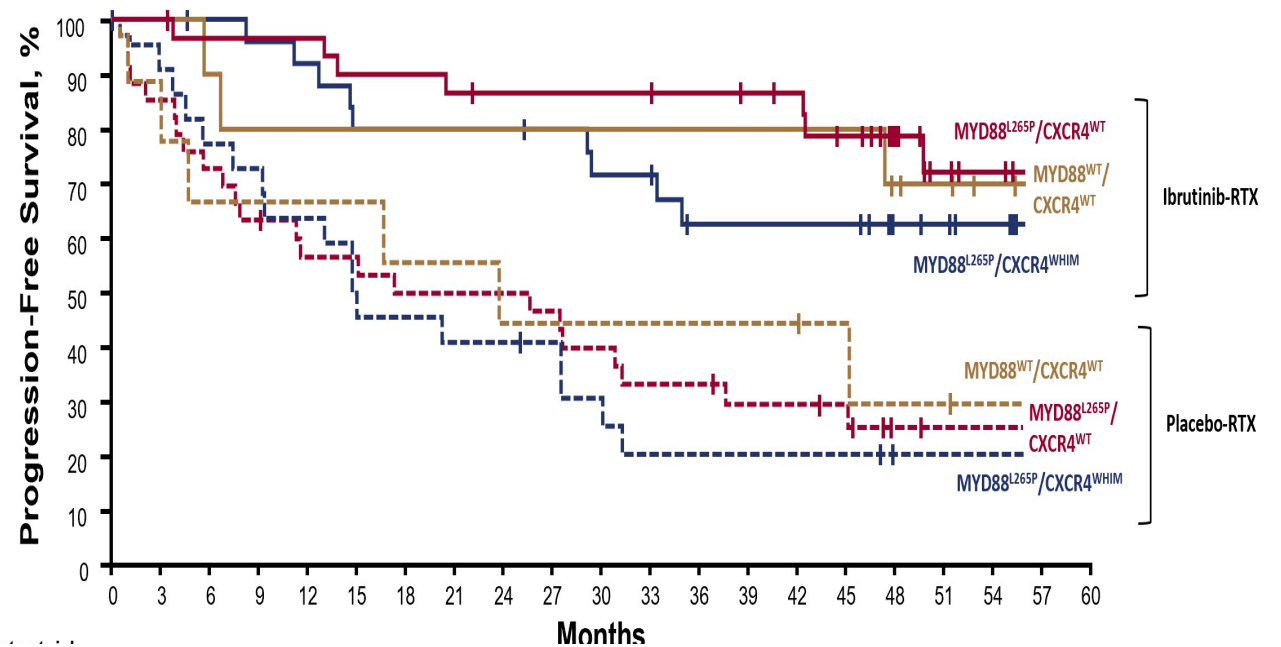
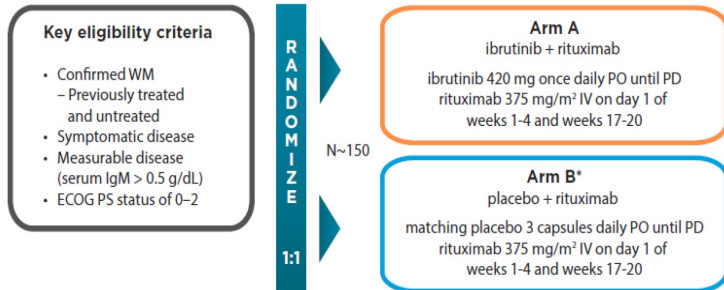
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
<i>MYD88^{Mut}/CXCR4^{WT}</i>	36	34	26	25	18	14	0
<i>MYD88^{Mut}/CXCR4^{Mut}</i>	22	16	13	10	8	5	0
<i>MYD88^{Mut}/CXCR4^{Mut}</i>	4	1	0	0	0	0	0

By multivariable analysis:

- **BM involvement 50%,**
 - **prior treatment with three or more lines of therapy**
 - **presence of MYD88_{WT}, and CXCR4_{Mut} disease**
- were significant predictors for shorter PFS**

RELAPSED/REFRACTORY WM

Innovate Study: Ibrutinib plus R vs Placebo plus R (Innovate study)



RELAPSED/REFRACTORY WM

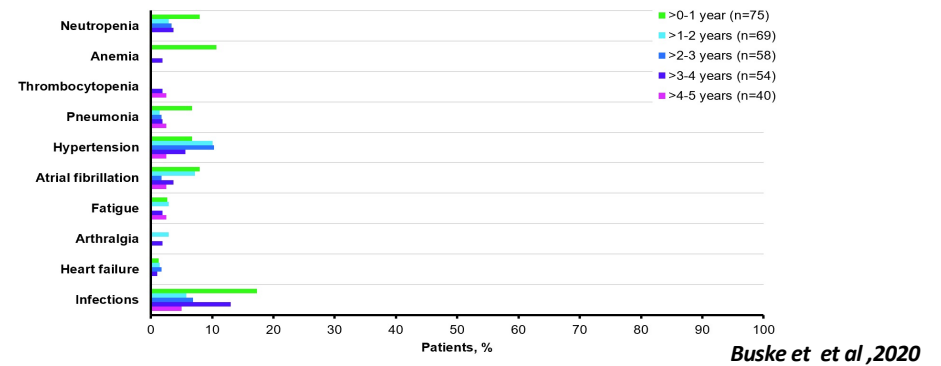
Ibrutinib Toxicity

Safety in 63 RR pts, median FU 59 m

- 12.7% atrial arrhythmia
- 19% patients experienced dose reductions

Treon et al.JCO 2020

Prevalence of Grade ≥ 3 AEs of Clinical Interest With Ibrutinib-RTX



Second generation BTKi

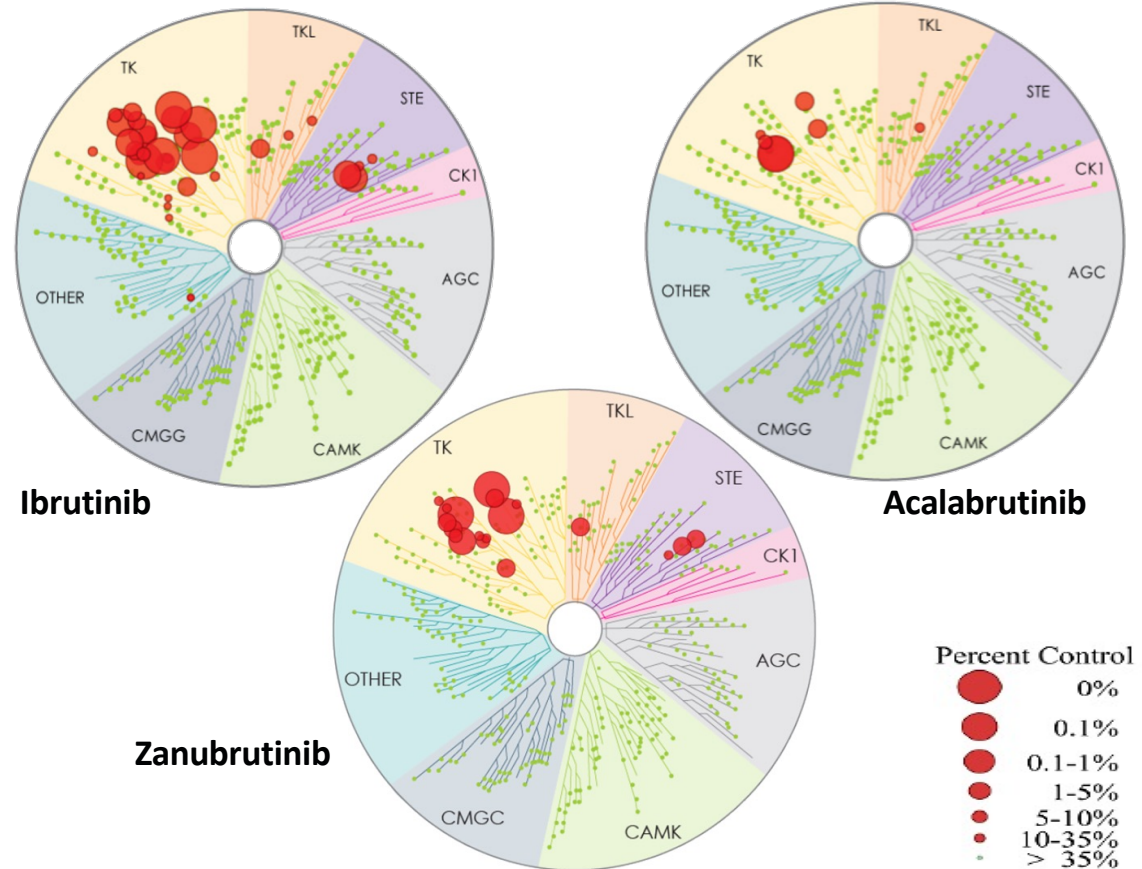
Kinase Selectivity Profiles

IC₅₀/EC₅₀ (nM)

Kinase	IC ₅₀ /EC ₅₀ (nM)		
	Ibrutinib	Acalabrutinib	Zanubrutinib
BTK	1.5	5.1	0.5
TEC	10	126	44
ITK	4.9	>1000	50
BMX	0.8	46	1.4
EGFR	5.3	>1000	21
ERBB4	3.4	16	6.9
JAK3	32	>1000	1377
BLK	0.1	>1000	2.5

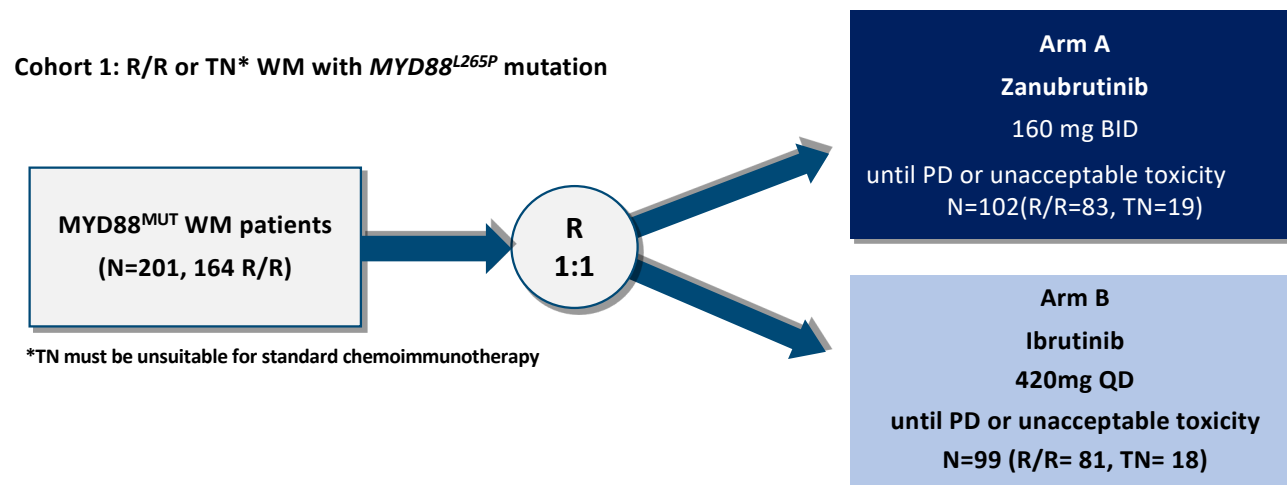
Kinase Selectivity Profiling at 1 μmol/L (in vitro)

Larger red circles represent stronger inhibition



ZANUBRUTINIB IN WM

ASPEN STUDY: Zanubrutinib vs Ibrutinib



Primary endpoint:

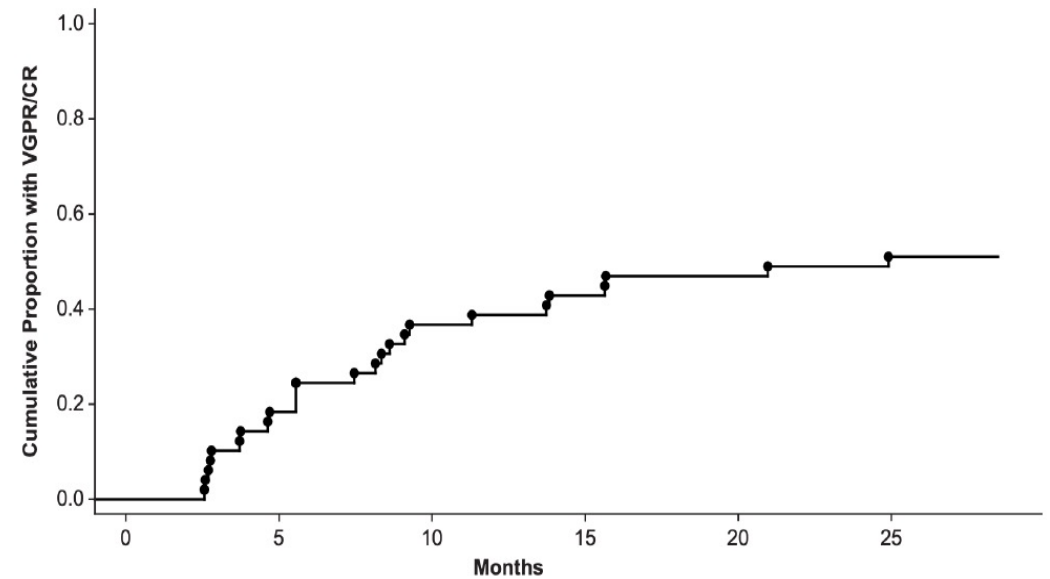
superiority of zanubrutinib in terms of CR or VGPR, per modified IWWM6, by independent review

WM=Waldenström's macroglobulinemia, BID=twice daily, CR=complete response, ITT=intent-to-treat, MRR=major response rate, MUT=mutation, PD=progressive disease, PFS=progression-free survival, PR=partial response, QD=once daily, R=randomization, R/R=relapsed/refractory, TN=treatment naïve, VGPR=very good partial response, WM=Waldenström's macroglobulinemia, WT=wild type.

Phase 1/2 BGB-3111-AU-003 Study Efficacy Results

	TN (n = 24)	R/R (n = 49)	Total (N = 73)
Duration of follow-up, median, mo	23.5	35.8	30.3
Best overall response, n (%)			
CR	0	1 (2.0)	1 (1.4)
VGPR	8 (33.3)	24 (49.0)	32 (43.8)
PR	13 (54.2)	14 (28.6)	27 (37.0)
MR	3 (12.5)	7 (14.3)	10 (13.7)
SD	0	3 (6.1)	3 (4.1)
PD	0	0	0
VGPR/CR rate, % (95% CI)	33.3 (15.6-55.3)	51.0 (36.3-65.6)	45.2 (33.5-57.3)
VGPR/CR rate by genotype, % (95% CI)			
MYD88 ^{L265P} /CXCR4 ^{WT} (n = 39)			59.0 (42.1-74.4)
MYD88 ^{L265P} /CXCR4 ^{WHIM} (n = 11)			27.3 (6.0-61.0)
MYD88 ^{L265P} /CXCR4 ^{FS} (n = 6)			33.3 (4.3-77.7)
MYD88 ^{L265P} /CXCR4 ^{NS} (n = 5)			20.0 (0.5-71.6)
MYD88 ^{WT} (n = 8)			25.0 (3.2-65.1)
ORR (MR or better), % (95% CI)	100.0 (85.8-100.0)	93.9 (83.1-98.7)	95.9 (88.5-99.1)
MRR (PR or better), % (95% CI)	87.5 (67.6-97.3)	79.6 (65.7-89.8)	82.2 (71.5-90.2)

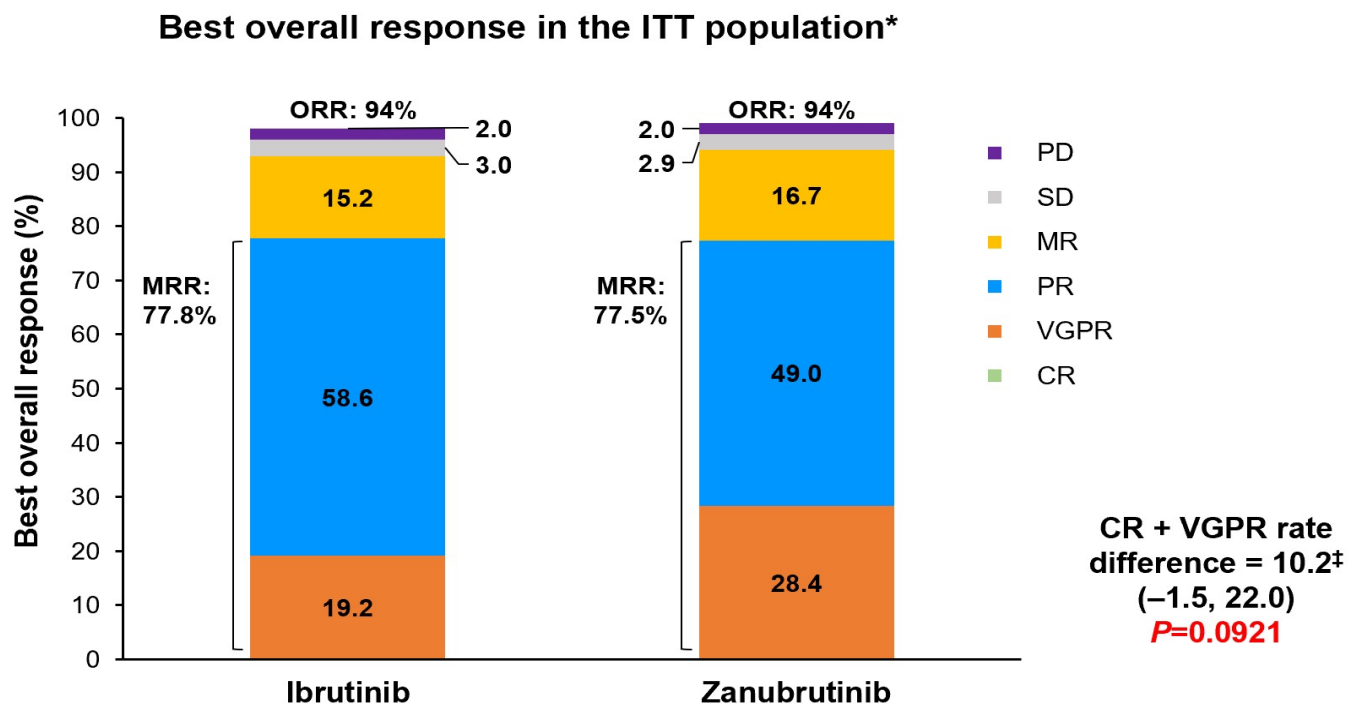
VGPR/CR Rate Increases Over Time (R/R Pts WM Cohort)



ZANUBRUTINIB IN WM

ASPEN STUDY: Zanubrutinib vs Ibrutinib Efficacy According to IRC

- Superiority in **CR + VGPR rate** for zanubrutinib compared with ibrutinib in the R/R population (primary study hypothesis) was not significant



Overall concordance between IRC and investigators = 94%. *Data cut-off: August 31, 2019. †Adjusted for stratification factors and age group.

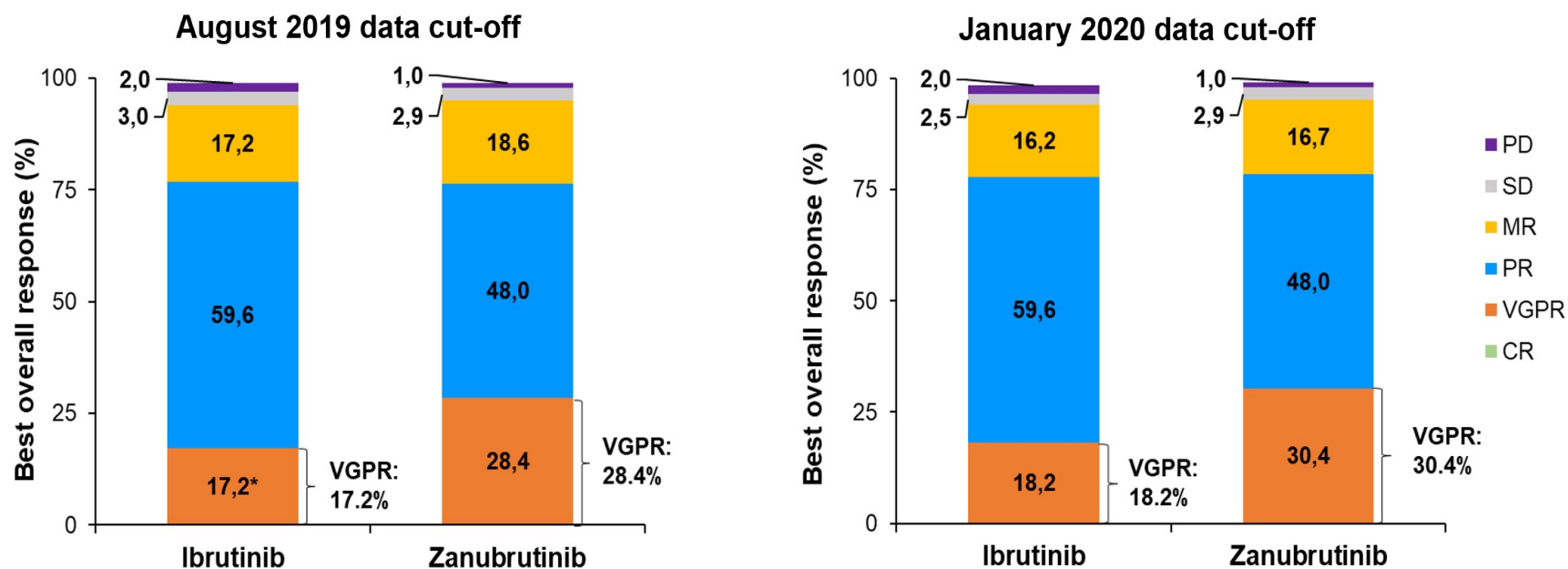
CR, complete response; IRC, independent review committee; ITT, intention-to-treat; MR, minor response; MRR, major response rate; ORR, overall response rate; PD, progressive disease; PR, partial response; R/R, relapsed/refractory; SD, stable disease; VGPR, very good partial response.

Tam CS *et al.* Abstract 8007 presented at the 2020 American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) Annual Meeting (virtual); May 29–31, 2020.

Tam CS *et al.*, 2020

ZANUBRUTINIB IN WM

ASPEN STUDY: Zanubrutinib vs Ibrutinib Efficacy According to Investigators



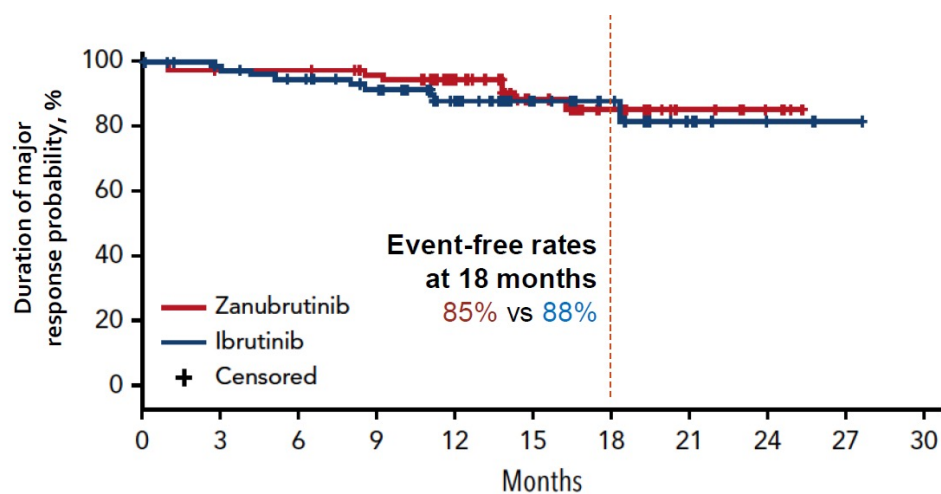
IgM reduction: AUC for IgM reduction over time was significantly greater for zanubrutinib vs. ibrutinib ($P=0.037$)

*Excluded 2 patients with VGPR by IRC: MR (extramedullary disease present) and PR (immunoglobulin M assessment by local serum protein electrophoresis M-protein test).
AUC, area under the curve; CR, complete response; IgM, immunoglobulin M; MR, minimal response; PD, progressive disease; PR, partial response; SD, stable disease; VGPR, very good partial response.

ZANUBRUTINIB IN WM

Zanubrutinib vs Ibrutinib: Duration of major response and CR/VGPR

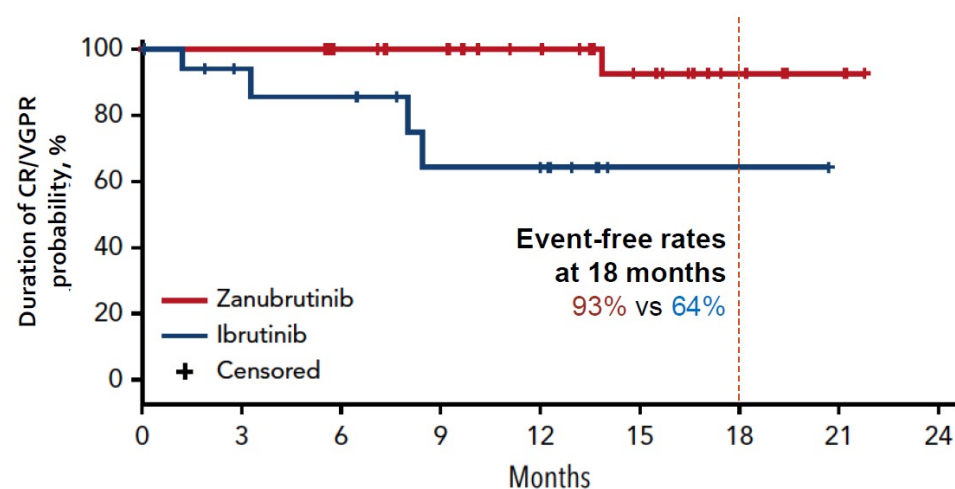
Duration of major response



No. of Patients at Risk

Zanubrutinib	79	72	71	66	52	32	21	10	6	0
Ibrutinib	77	72	67	59	44	29	15	7	3	1

Duration of CR/VGPR



Zanubrutinib	29	27	24	22	18	12	5	2	0
Ibrutinib	19	11	10	6	5	1	1	0	0

- CR, complete response; VGPR, very good partial response.

ZANUBRUTINIB IN WM

Zanubrutinib vs Ibrutinib: Tollerability

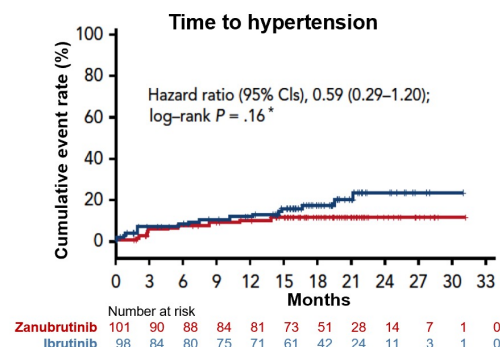
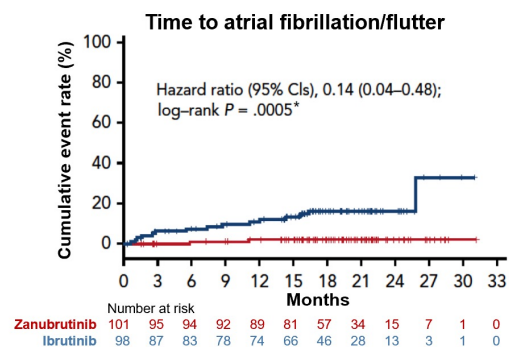
Category, n (%)	Zanubrutinib (n=101)	Ibrutinib (n=98)
Patients with ≥1 AE	98 (97.0)	97 (99.0)
Grade ≥3	59 (58.4)	62 (63.3)
Serious	40 (39.6)	40 (40.8)
Fatal AEs	1 (1.0)*	4 (4.1)‡
AEs leading to treatment discontinuation	4 (4.0)†	9 (9.2)§
AEs leading to dose reduction	14 (13.9)	23 (23.5)
AEs leading to dose held	47 (46.5)	55 (56.1)
Patients with ≥1 treatment-related AE	80 (79.2)	84 (85.7)
Patients with ≥1 AE of interest	86 (85.1)	81 (82.7)

- *Cardiac arrest after plasmapheresis. †G5 cardiac arrest after plasmapheresis; G4 neutropenia; G4 subdural hemorrhage; G2 plasma cell myeloma. ‡Cardiac failure acute; sepsis (n=2); unexplained death. §G5 sepsis (n=2); G5 unexplained death; G3 acute myocardial infarction; G3 hepatitis; G3 pneumonia; G2 drug-induced liver injury; G2 pneumonitis; G1 pneumonitis.
- AE, adverse event.

ZANUBRUTINIB IN WM

Zanubrutinib vs Ibrutinib: AE of interest

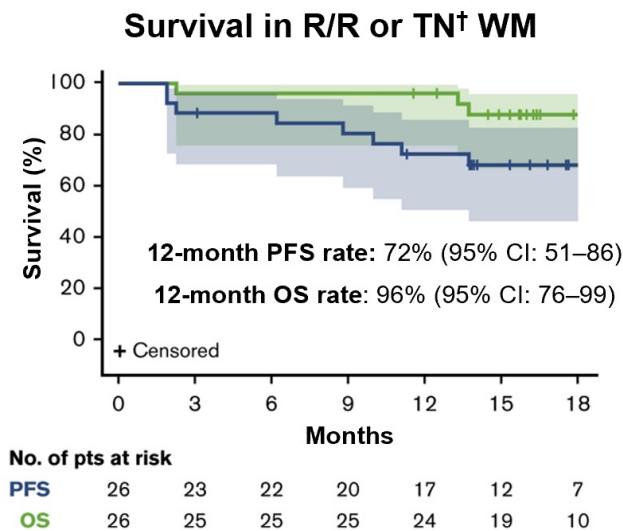
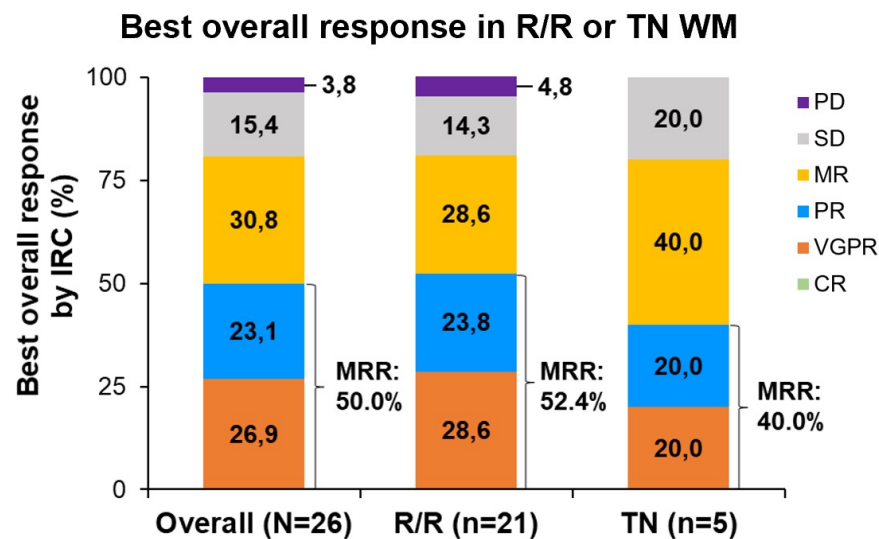
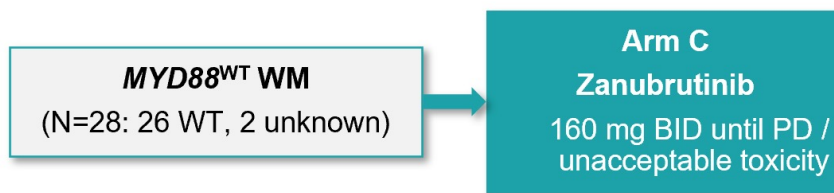
Event preferred term, n (%)	All grades (≥20%)		Grade ≥3 (≥5%)	
	Ibrutinib (n=98)	Zanubrutinib (n=101)	Ibrutinib (n=98)	Zanubrutinib (n=101)
Atrial fibrillation/Flutter	18 (18.4)	3 (3.0)	7 (7.1)	0 (0.0)
Diarrhea (PT)	32 (32.7)	22 (21.8)	2 (1.0)	3 (3.0)
Hemorrhage	59 (60.2)	51 (50.5)	9 (9.2)	6 (5.9)
Major hemorrhage	10 (10.2)	6 (5.9)	9 (9.2)	6 (5.9)
Hypertension	20 (20.4)	13 (12.9)	15 (15.3)	8 (7.9)



AE, adverse event; CI, confidence interval; PT, preferred term.

ZANUBRUTINIB IN WM

Zanubrutinib in MYD88^{wt}



BID, twice a day; CI, confidence interval; CR, complete response; IRC, independent review committee; MR, minimal response; MRR, major response rate; OS, overall survival; PD, progressive disease; PFS, progression-free survival; PR, partial response; pts, patients; R/R, relapsed/refractory; SD, stable disease; TN, treatment-naïve; VGPR, very good partial response; WM, Waldenström's macroglobulinemia; WT, wild-type.

WHAT COMES NEXT IN WM?

Proteasome inhibitors

First Line

CARFILZOMIB

Induction (q 21 days x 6 cycles)
iv CFZ, DEXA, Rituximab

Maintenance: (every 8 w for 8 cycles)
iv CFZ, DEXA, Rituximab

Median PFS: 51 m

ORR: 87.1%

MR: 67.7%

CR/VGPR: 36%

IXAZOMIB

Induction: (q 21 days x 6 cycles)
Oral Ixazomib, DEXA, Rituximab

Maintenance: (every 8 w for 8 cycles)
iv CFZ, DEXA, Rituximab

18 m PFS: 90%

ORR: 96%

MR: 77%

VGPR: 15%

Low Neuropathy Rate: ~20%
Grade 2: 0
Grade 3: 3,2%
NO impact from CXCR4 mut

Treon et al, 2014; Meid et al, 2018 Castillo et al, 2018

Relapsed Refractory

Induction:
8 cycles q28 days

- Ixazomib citrate 4 mg d1,8,15
- Rituximab 1400 mg sc d1
- Dexamethasone 20 mg d1,8,15,22

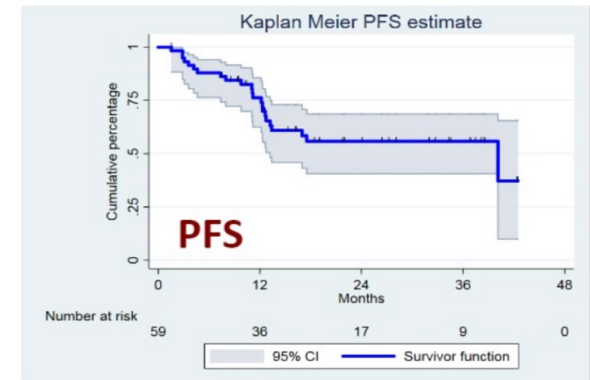
> SD

Maintenance:
2 years q3months

- Rituximab 1400 mg sc d1

59 pts
Mdian prior tx: 2

ORR: 85%
VGPR: 15%
PR 46%

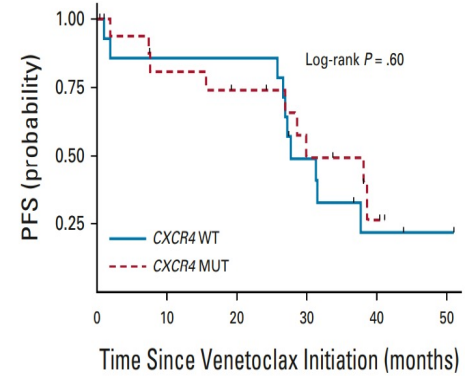
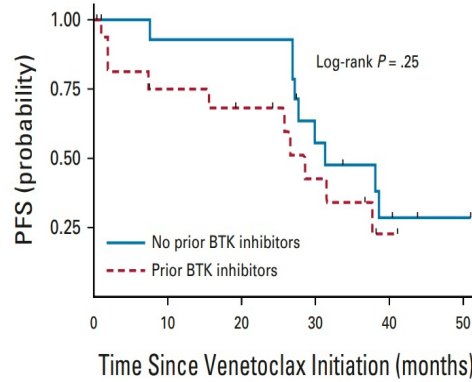
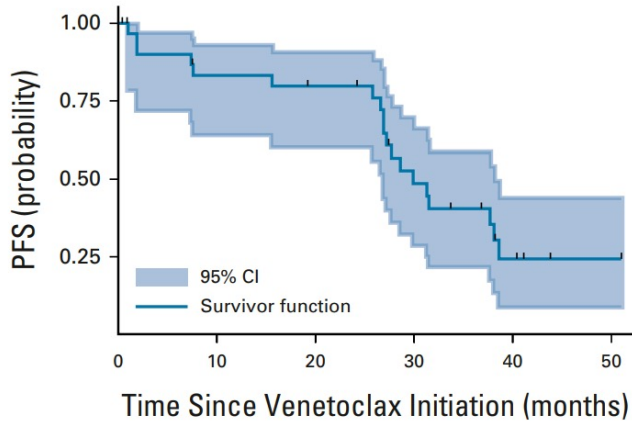
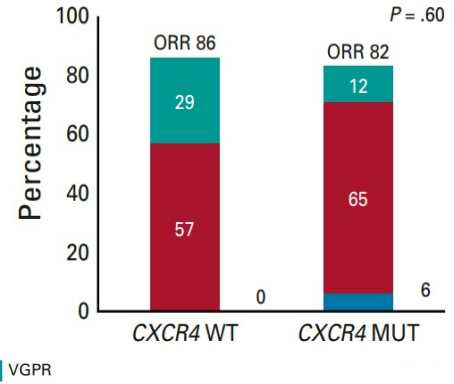
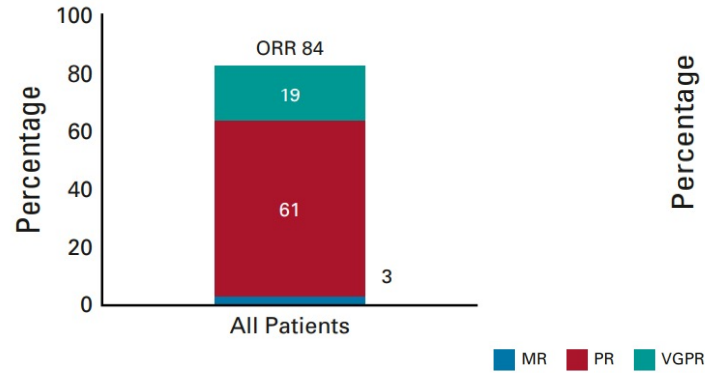


Kersten et al, 2019

WHAT COMES NEXT IN WM?

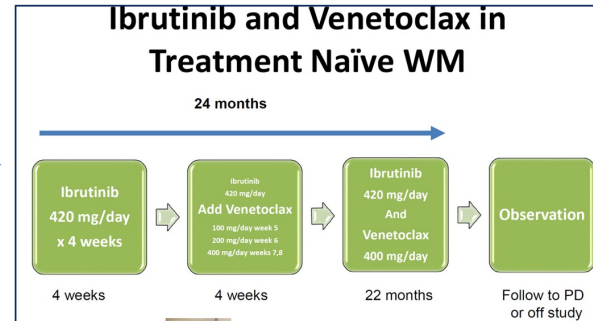
Venetoclox Monotherapy

32 pts	
Median prior Tx:	2(1-10)
Prior BTKi:	66%
MYD88^{mut}:	100%
CXCR4^{mut}:	53%



WHAT COMES NEXT IN WM?

Combination treatments to allow therapy discontinuation →



New target agents →

- ✓ Pirtobrutinib (19 WM: ORR 68% no difference if prior BTKi)
- ✓ Anti MALT1 Mato et al 2021
- ✓ Anti ERK in combination with Ibrutinib

Daratumumab →

- ✓ Monotherapy: 23%ORR, median PFS 2 m Castillo et al 2020
- ✓ In combination with Ibrutinib:ongoing

European Study Ongoing: Phase II randomized study (CZAR-1)



HOT NEWS IN WM CONCLUSIONS

Conclusions

FIRST LINE

- The choice of primary therapy should be personalized (consider toxicity, patients and disease characteristics)
- Although there is a lack of prospective randomised studies consensus that DRC or Bendamustine Rituximab are preferred options
- Monotherapy may be a choice in unfit patients (BTKi)

RELAPSED/REFRACTORY

- BTKi best salvage regimens
 - Zanubrutinib: better tolerability=adherence dose intensity
- Everyday clinical practice: Lack of salvage regimens after BTKi failure!!!!