

The background of the slide features a microscopic view of cells on the left, transitioning into a DNA double helix structure in the center, and a red gradient on the right. The text is overlaid on this background.

**HOT  
NEWS**

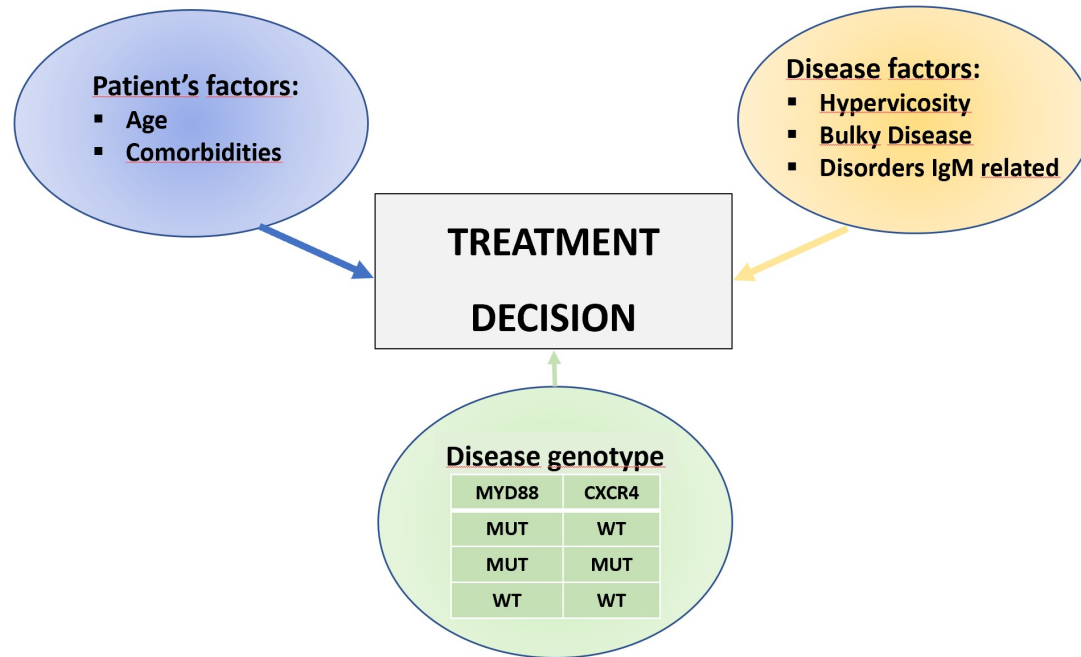
**IN HEMATOLOGY**

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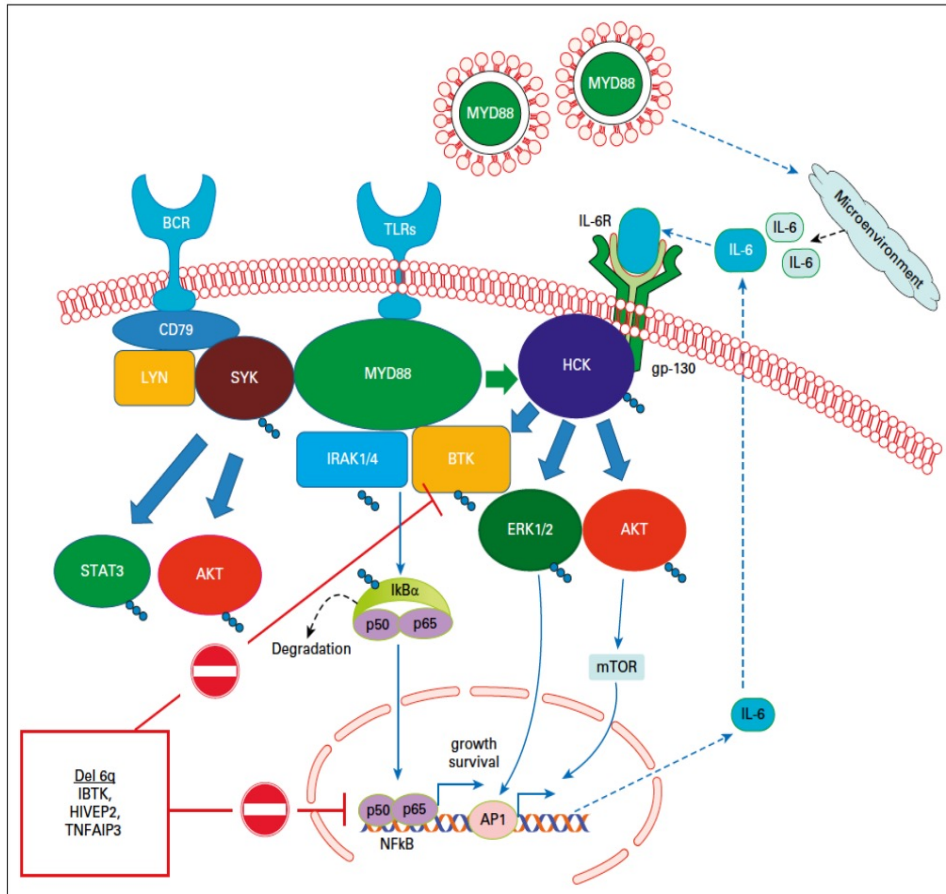
## **MACROGLOBULINEMIA DI WALDENSTROM**

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Division of Hematology  
Niguarda Hospital, Milano*

# WM TREATMENT



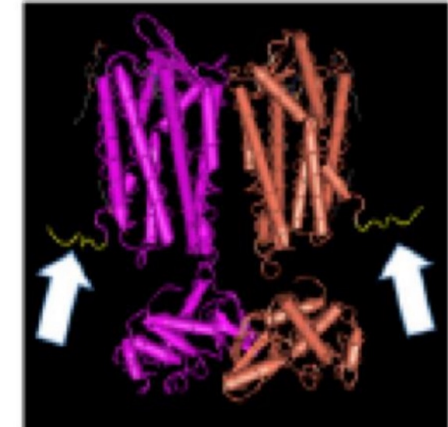
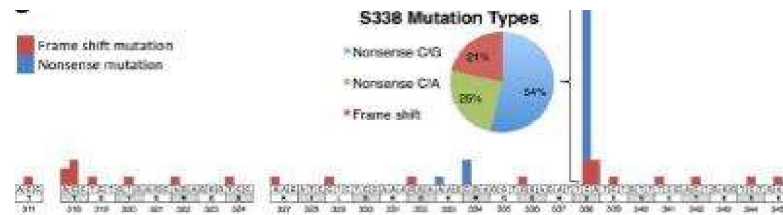
# MYD88 in WM



- ~ 95% of WM patients carry the somatic mutation of MYD88 (L265P)
- MYD88, IRAK1/IRAK4 and BTK are components of the Myddosome complex that activates NFκB
- 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

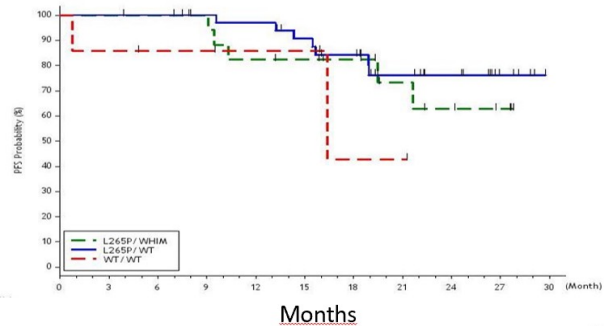
- ✓ higher IgM levels
- ✓ higher incidence of hyperviscosity
- ✓ higher BM infiltration
- ✓ shorter time to first treatment

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

# WM TREATMENT

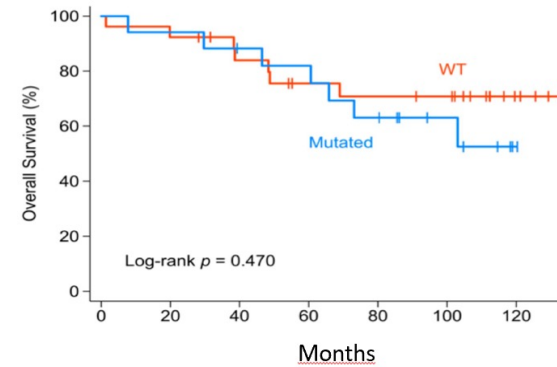
## PFS according to MYD88 & CXCR4 mutation status

### Ibrutinib Monotherapy R/R

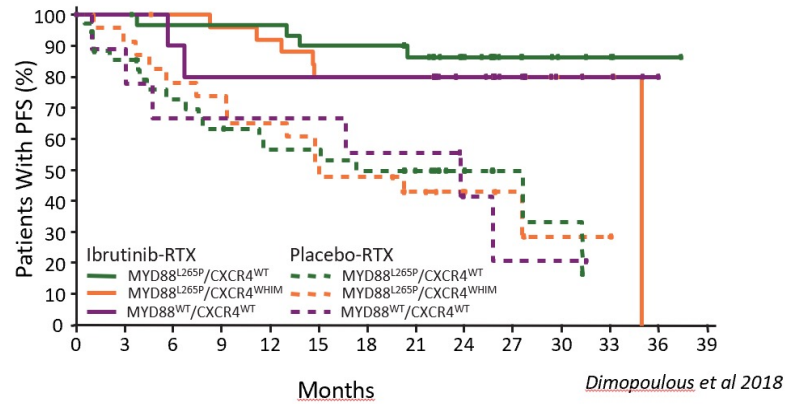


Treon et al, 2015

### Bortezomib Rituximab First Line according to CXCR4

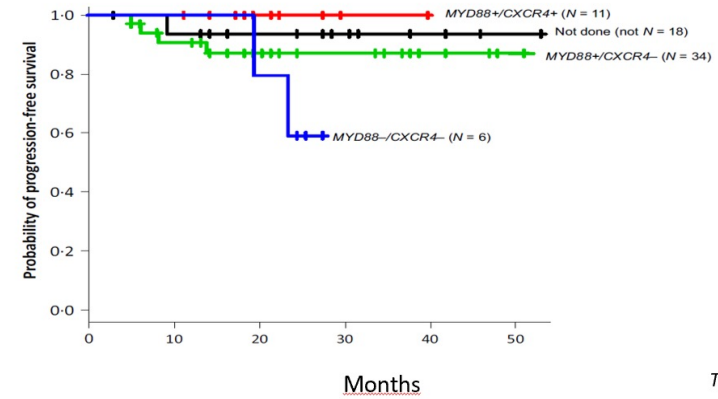


Sklavenitis et al, 2018



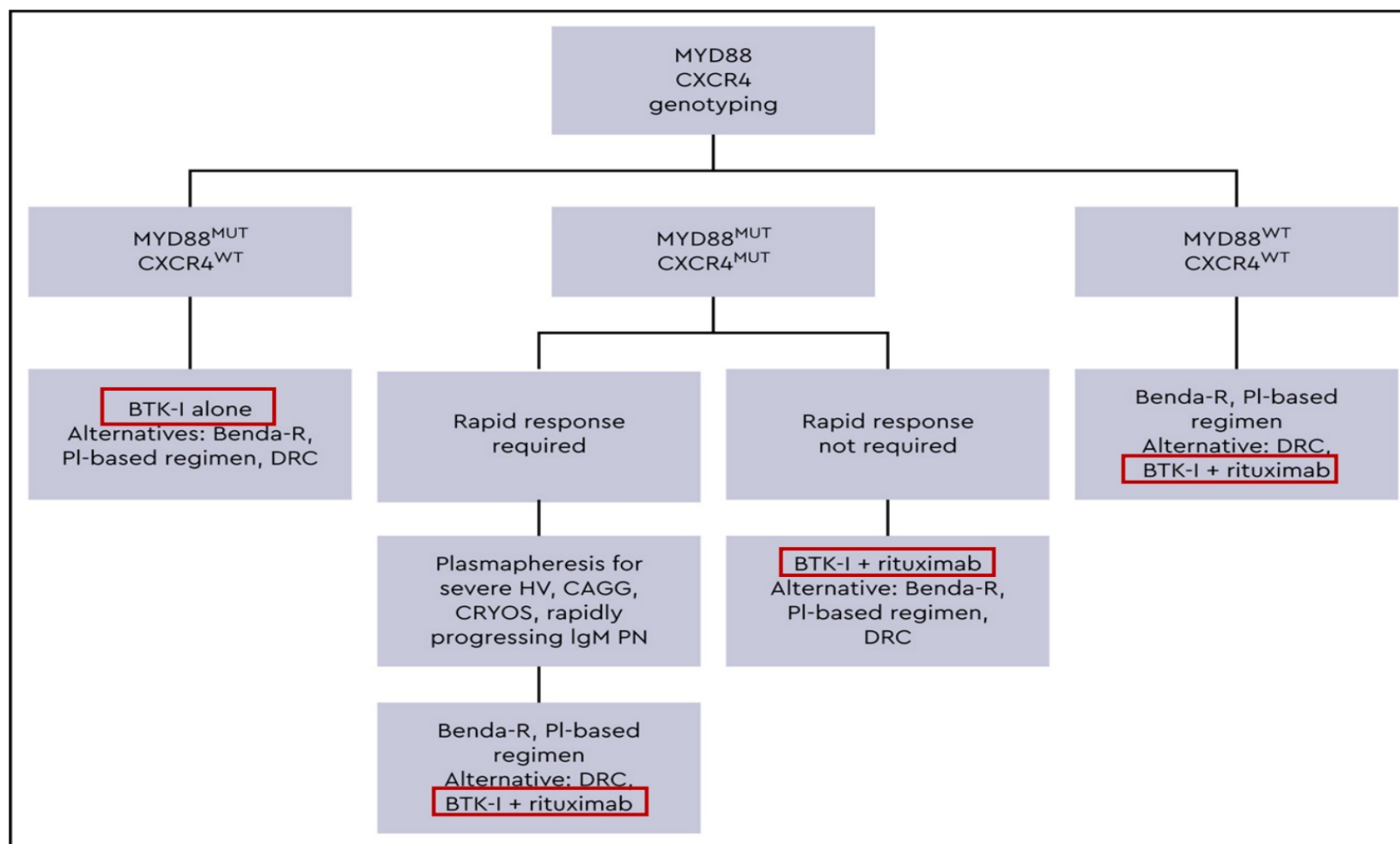
Dimopoulos et al 2018

### Bendamustine Rituximab First Line



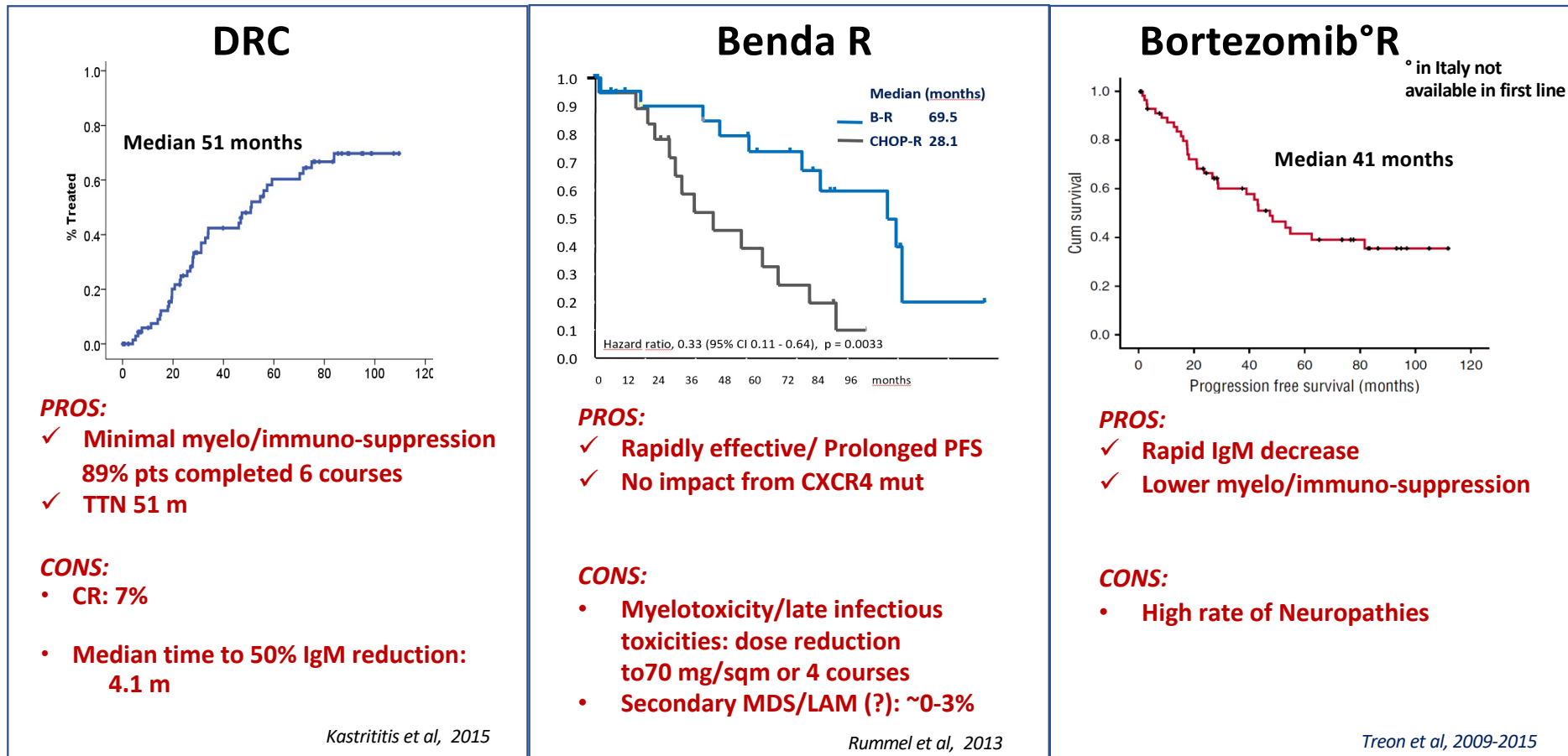
Tricot et al, 2018

# WM: Genomic based treatment algorithm



# WM TREATMENT FIRST LINE TREATMENT

## Rituximab Combination Treatment



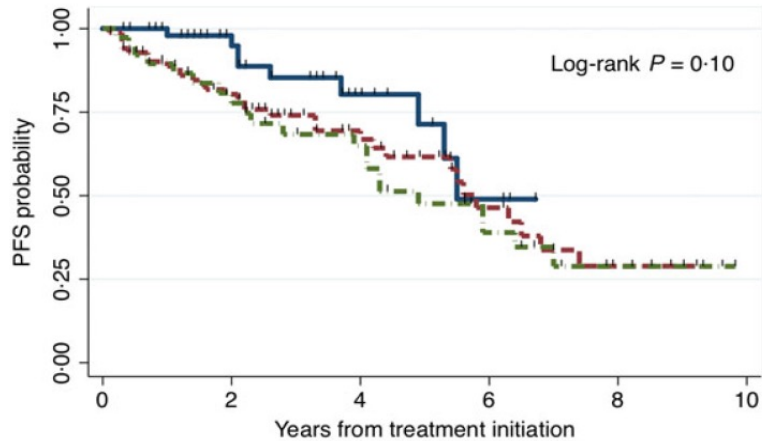
# WM TREATMENT FIRST LINE TREATMENT

## *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

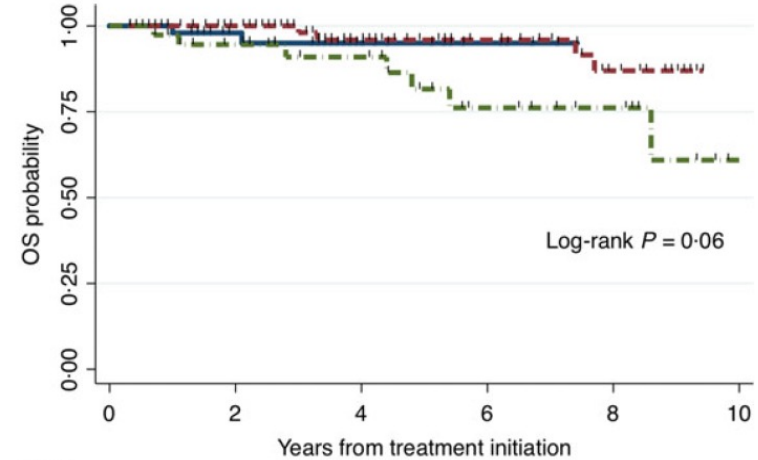
(A)



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)



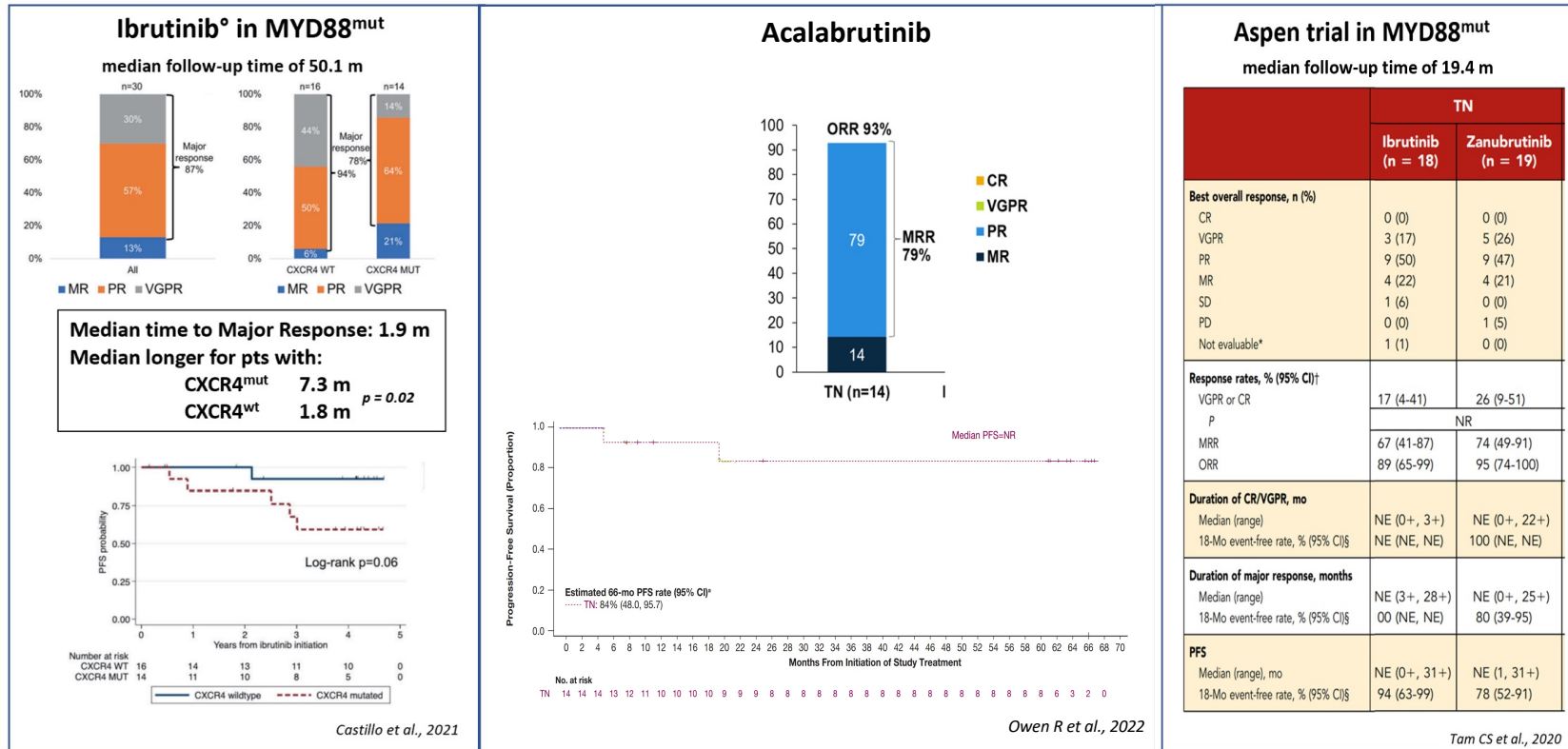
Number at risk	0	2	4	6	8	10
Benda-R	57	33	13	5	0	0
BDR	85	70	39	27	17	2
CDR	38	30	22	12	8	1





# WM TREATMENT FIRST LINE TREATMENT

## BTKi



<sup>o</sup> 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

# Bendamustine rituximab (BR) versus ibrutinib (Ibr) as primary therapy for Waldenström macroglobulinemia (WM): An international collaborative study

**Multi-institutional, international study in Europe and the USA**  
**Median follow-up: 4.2 years**

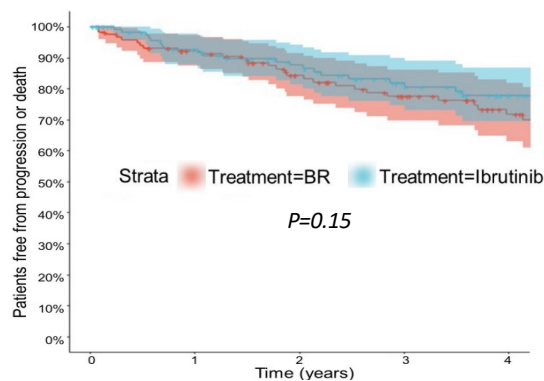


**347 TN pts:**

- 208 BR
- 139 ibrutinib

**1:1 age-matched analysis of 246 pts *MYD88*<sup>mut</sup>**  
**Ibrutinib (n=123) BR (n=123)**  
**Significant higher responses with BR**  
**Discontinuation due to AE: 13% BR and 33% ibrutinib**

## Progression-free survival



**4-year OS: BR 95% (95% CI 91–99)**

**versus**

**Ibrutinib 86% (95% CI 80-93)**

$p=0.3$

**In a bivariate analysis adjusting for age and the treatment type only age emerged as a predictor for OS (HR 7.2,  $p=0.0001$ )**

**For patients with *MYD88* L265P mutation, selection between the two approaches should be dictated by:**

- Potential toxicities
- Patient comorbidities
- Patient/clinician preference (parenteral fixed duration vs. continuous oral)
- Access to therapies

AE, adverse event; BR, bendamustine–rituximab; CI, confidence interval; HR, hazard ratio; MUT, mutant; OS, overall survival; PFS, progression-free survival; pts, patients; TN, treatment-naive; WM, Waldenström's macroglobulinemia.  
Abeykoon JP *et al.* Abstract 7566 presented at the 2022 American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) Annual Meeting; Chicago, IL, USA, June 3–7, 2022.

# WM TREATMENT FIRST LINE TREATMENT

UNFIT PATIENTS → UNMET CLINICAL NEED

## Rituximab mono

ORR 44-65%

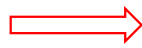
Short PFS

**Effective in specific  
IgM related disease symptoms**

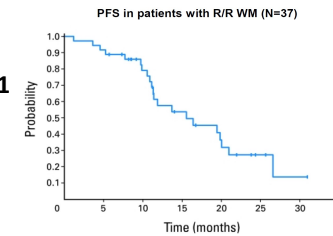
Gertz et al , 2009  
Dimopoulos et al, 2010

# RELAPSED/REFRACTORY WM

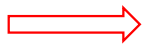
Long Reponse Duration



- ✓ Repeat First Line Treatment
- ✓ Change Rituximab Combination Treatment
- Bortezomib R<sup>1</sup>
- ✓ BTKi<sup>°</sup>



Short Reponse Duration  
Refractory



- ✓ BTKi<sup>°</sup>

<sup>°</sup>EMA approved:

Ibrutinib (AIFA: reimbursed in monotherapy)

Ibrutinib Rituximab (AIFA: not reimbursed)

Zanubrutinib (AIFA: pending)

# RELAPSED/REFRACTORY WM

## Ibrutinib Phase II study

Median study follow-up: 59 months

### 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> <sup>Mut</sup> <i>CXCR4</i> <sup>WT</sup>	<i>MYD88</i> <sup>Mut</sup> <i>CXCR4</i> <sup>Mut</sup>	<i>MYD88</i> <sup>WT</sup> <i>CXCR4</i> <sup>WT</sup>	<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

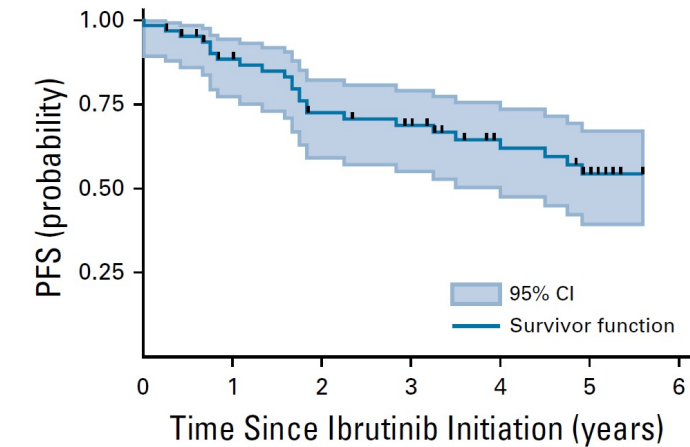
NOTE. Data presented as No. (%). Response rates, including categorical responses and median time to attainment of least a minor and a major response for all patients and those stratified by *MYD88* and *CXCR4* mutation status, are provided. *P* values denote three-way comparisons among genomic cohorts.

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

# RELAPSED/REFRACTORY WM

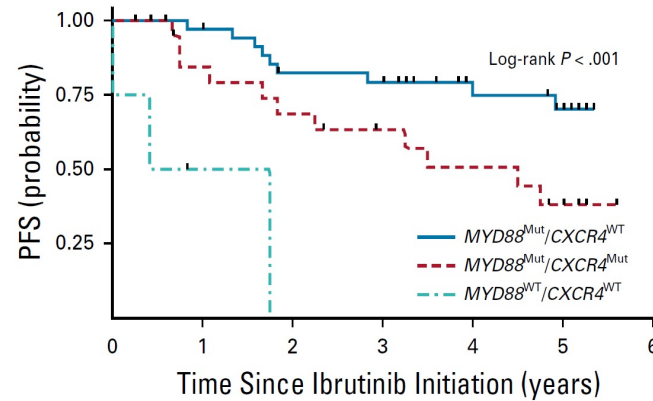
## Ibrutinib Phase II study

Median study follow-up: 59 months



No. at risk:

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
63	51	39	35	26	19	0	



No. at risk:

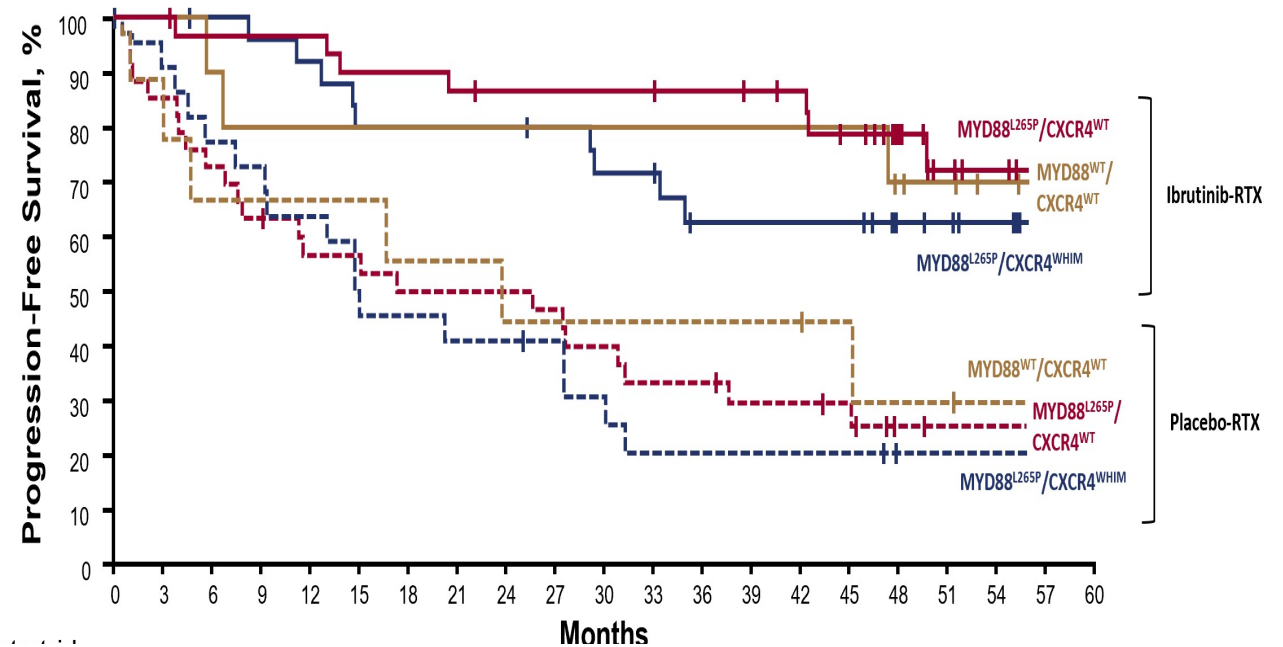
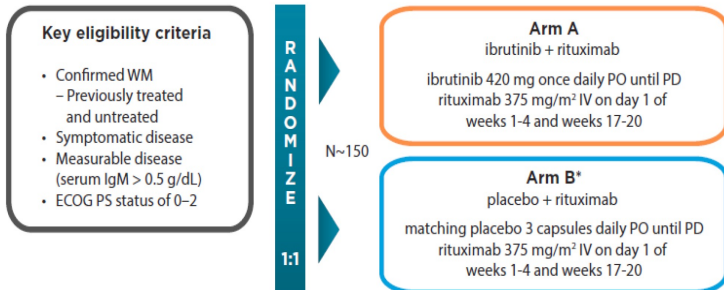
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
$MYD88^{Mut}/CXCR4^{WT}$	36	34	26	25	18	14	0
$MYD88^{Mut}/CXCR4^{Mut}$	22	16	13	10	8	5	0
$MYD88^{WT}/CXCR4^{WT}$	4	1	0	0	0	0	0

### 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)





# Ibrutinib in R/R WM Clinical Trials

## Adverse Events/Tolerance

### Ibrutinib monotherapy: phase II study

Median FU 59 m

**Hematological AE Grade  $\geq$  3**

- Neutropenia: 15.9%
- Thrombocytopenia: 11.1%

**AE of interest with BTKi**

- Atrial arrhythmia any grade 12.7%
- Hypertension grade 2: 6%
- Pneumonia grade 2-4: 8%

- ✓ **8% off-study due to AE**
- ✓ **19% dose reductions** (cytopenia, dermatitis/rash, stomatitis)

### Ibrutinib plus R: Innovate study

Median FU: 50 months

**Hematological AE Grade  $\geq$  3**

- Neutropenia: 13%
- Thrombocytopenia: 1%

**• AE of clinical interest any grade**

- Atrial fibrillation 19%
- Hypertension: 25%
- Infections  $\geq$  3: 29%

- ✓ **11% off-study due to AE**
- ✓ **23% dose reductions**

# Second generation BTKi

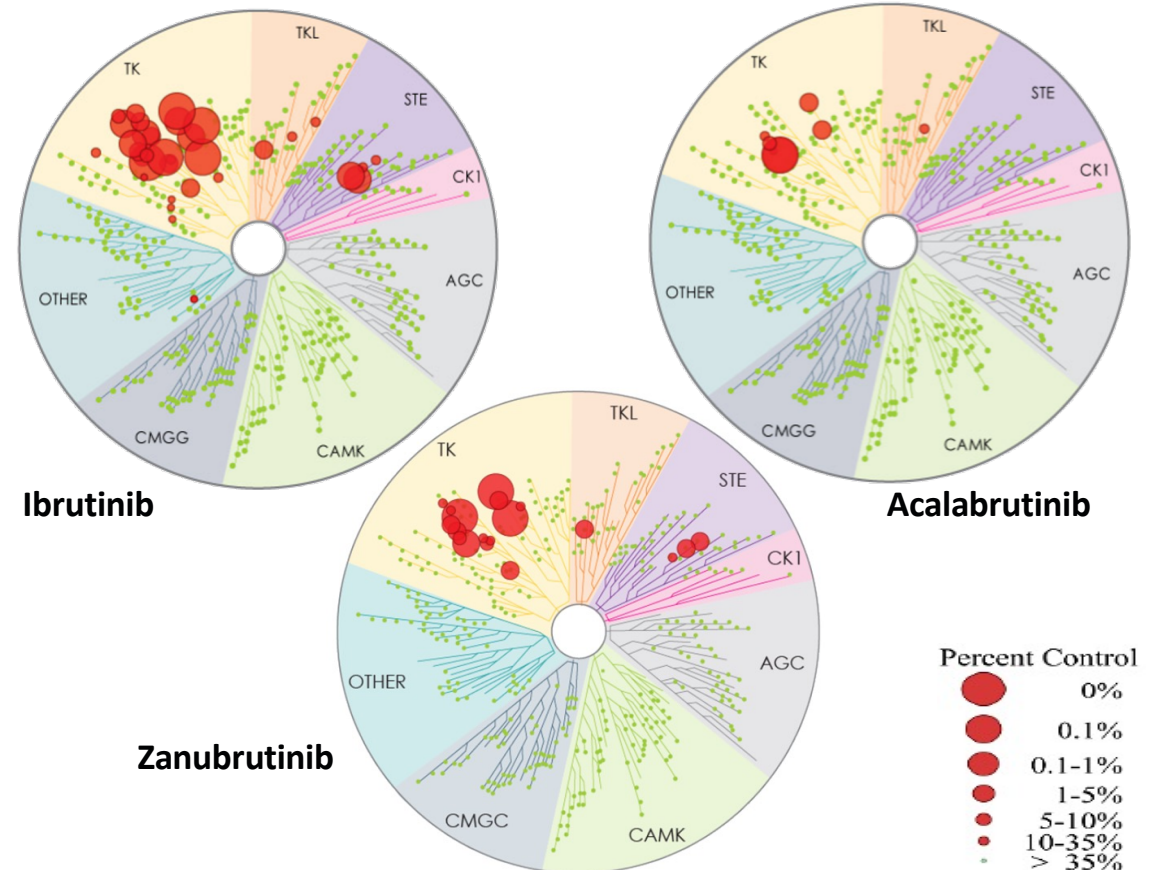
## Kinase Selectivity Profiles

IC<sub>50</sub>/EC<sub>50</sub> (nM)

Kinase	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

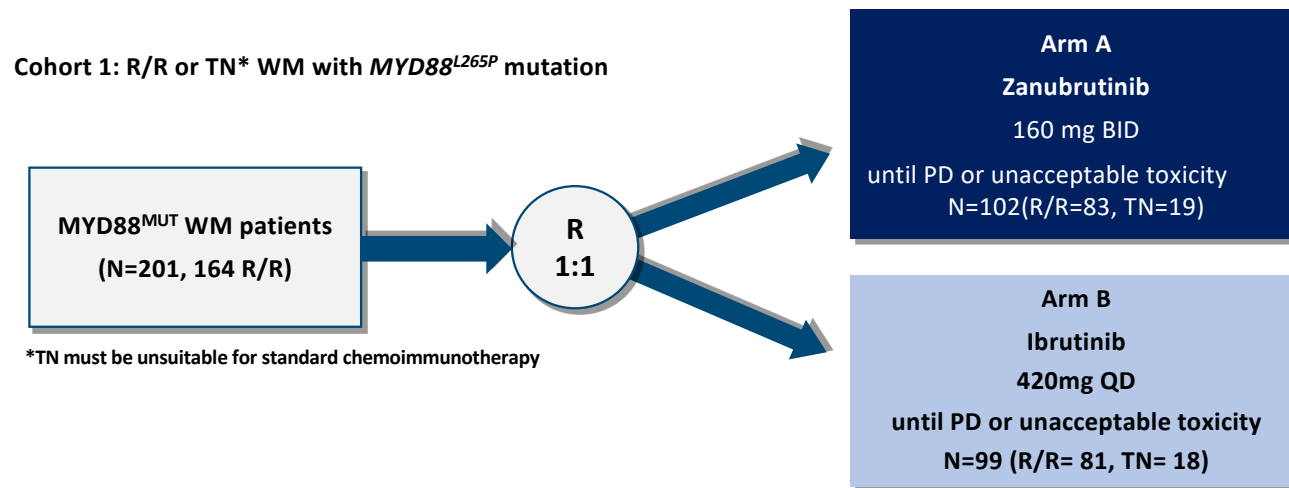
### Kinase Selectivity Profiling at 1 μmol/L (in vitro)

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

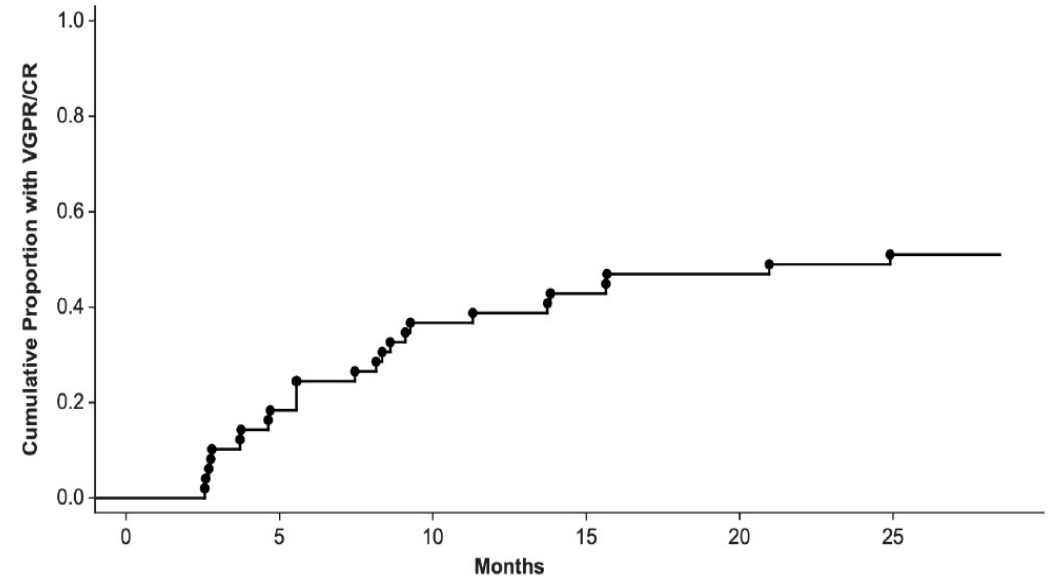
WM=Waldenström's macroglobulinemia, BID=twice daily, CR=complete response, ITT=intent-to-treat, MRR=major response rate, MUT=mutation, PD=progressive disease, PFS=progression-free survival, PR=partial response, QD=once daily, R=randomization, R/R=relapsed/refractory, TN=treatment naive, VGPR=very good 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
<b>Best overall response, n (%)</b>			
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)
<b>VGPR/CR rate by genotype, % (95% CI)</b>			
MYD88 <sup>L265P</sup> /CXCR4 <sup>WT</sup> (n = 39)			59.0 (42.1-74.4)
MYD88 <sup>L265P</sup> /CXCR4 <sup>WHIM</sup> (n = 11)			27.3 (6.0-61.0)
MYD88 <sup>L265P</sup> /CXCR4 <sup>FS</sup> (n = 6)			33.3 (4.3-77.7)
MYD88 <sup>L265P</sup> /CXCR4 <sup>NS</sup> (n = 5)			20.0 (0.5-71.6)
MYD88 <sup>WT</sup> (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)



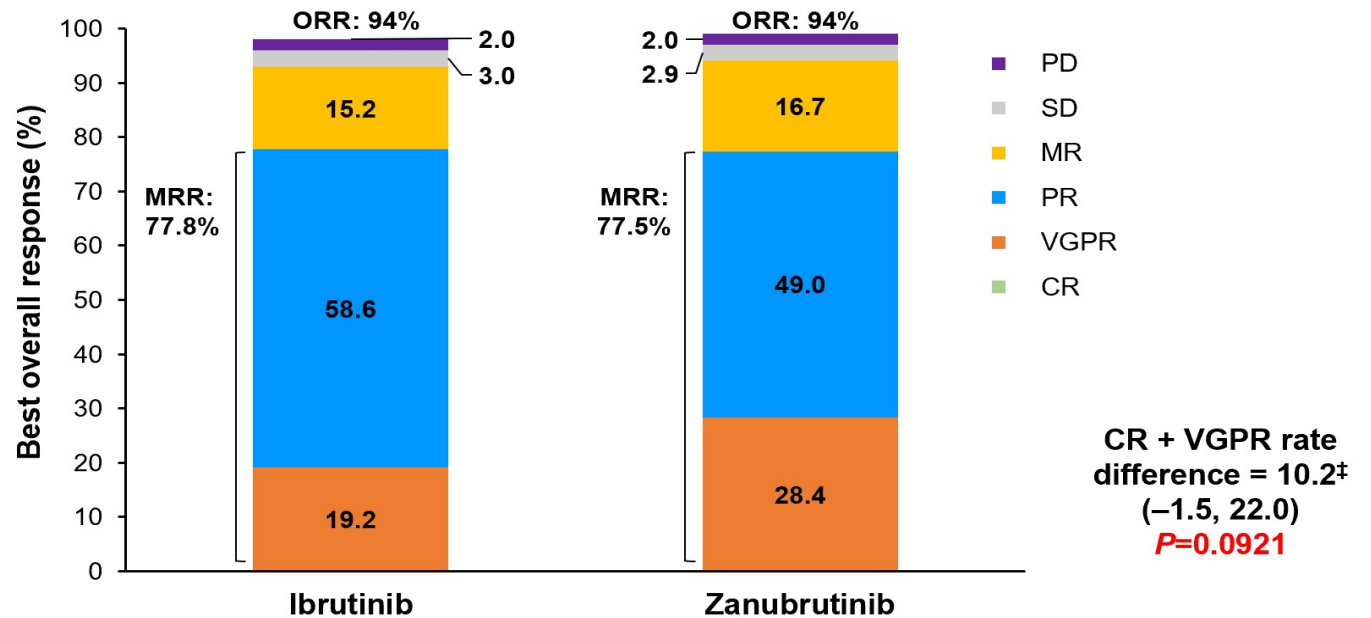
# ZANUBRUTINIB IN WM

## ASPEN STUDY: Zanubrutinib vs Ibrutinib Efficacy According to IRC

Median Follow-up 19.4 m

Best overall response in the ITT population\*

- 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

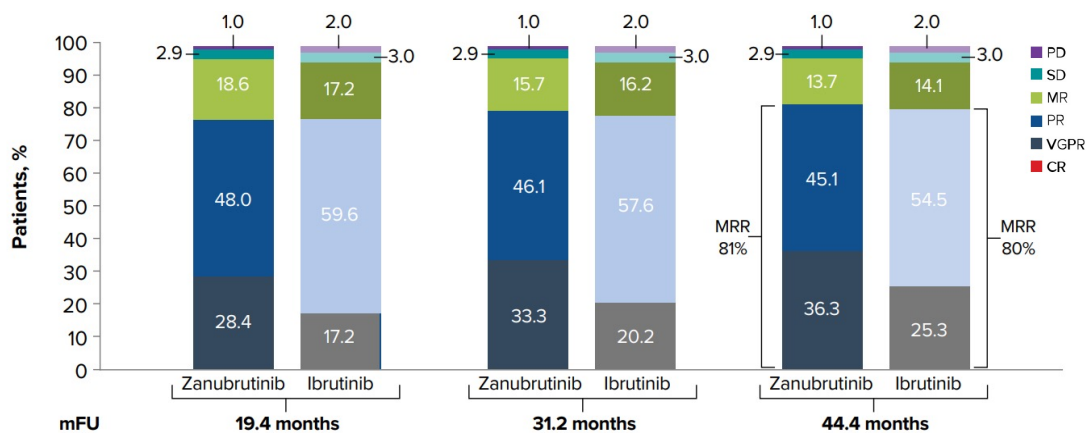
# ZANUBRUTINIB IN WM

## ASPEN STUDY: Zanubrutinib vs Ibrutinib

### Efficacy

Follow-up 44 m

Responses by investigators



**Median time to CR+VGPR:  
shorter for zanubrutinib 6.7 m vs ibrutinib: 16.6 m**

Primary objective significant superior CR+VGPR  
According to IRC with zanubrutinib: not achieved

Responses by CXCR4 status

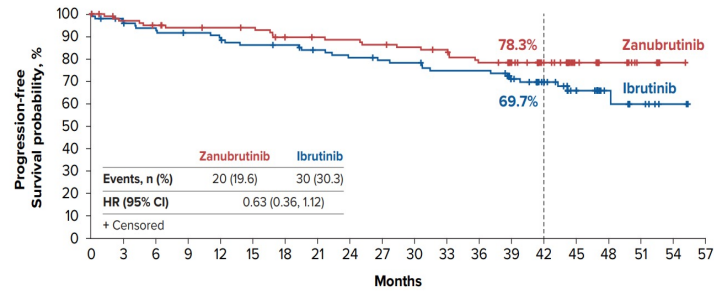
	CXCR4 <sup>MUT</sup>		CXCR4 <sup>WT</sup>	
	Ibrutinib (n=20)	Zanubrutinib (n=33)	Ibrutinib (n=72)	Zanubrutinib (n=65)
<b>VGPR or better</b>	2 (10.0)	<b>7 (21.2)</b>	22 (30.6)	<b>29 (44.6)</b>
<b>Major response</b>	13 (65.0)	<b>26 (78.8)</b>	61 (84.7)	54 (83.1)
<b>Overall response</b>	19 (95.0)	30 (90.9)	68 (94.4)	63 (96.9)
<b>Time to major response, median (months)</b>	6.6	3.4	2.8	2.8
<b>Time to VGPR, median (months)</b>	31.3	11.1	11.3	6.5

# Zanubrutinib in R/R WM

## Phase III randomized study: Ibrutinib versus Zanubrutinib (Aspen study)

MYD88<sup>MUT</sup>

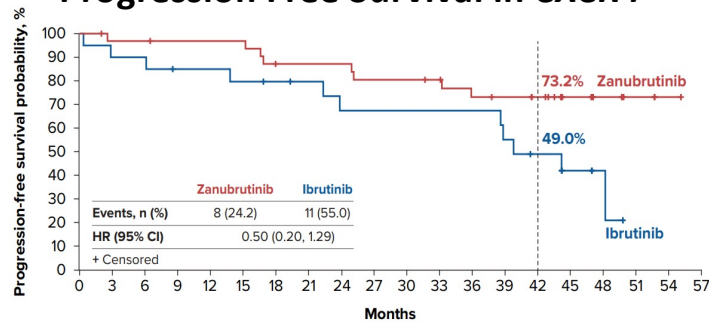
### Progression Free Survival



No. of Patients at Risk:

Months	0	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30	33	36	39	42	45	48	51	54	57
Zanubrutinib	102	96	93	90	89	88	82	81	80	78	76	74	68	60	43	25	15	8	1	0
Ibrutinib	99	92	88	85	83	79	78	74	71	69	68	64	64	52	41	27	11	6	2	0

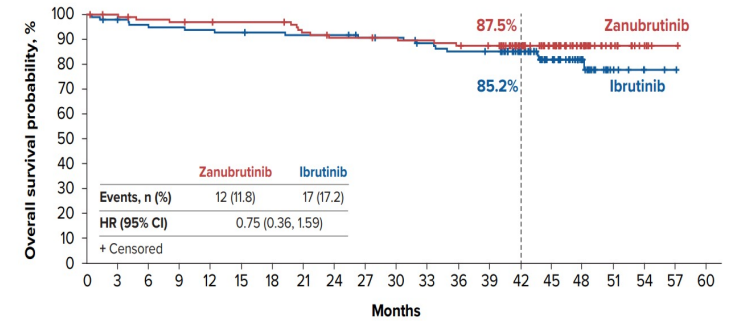
### Progression Free Survival in CXCR4<sup>mut</sup>



No. of Patients at Risk:

Months	0	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30	33	36	39	42	45	48	51	54	57
Zanubrutinib	33	31	31	30	30	30	26	26	26	24	24	23	20	19	17	10	6	3	1	0
Ibrutinib	20	18	18	16	16	15	14	13	11	11	11	11	11	9	7	4	2	0	0	0

### Overall Survival



No. of Patients at Risk:

Months	0	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30	33	36	39	42	45	48	51	54	57	60
Zanubrutinib	102	100	97	96	95	94	94	89	86	86	85	84	82	80	65	49	27	13	5	1	0
Ibrutinib	99	96	93	92	91	90	89	88	88	85	84	80	77	76	62	43	21	7	3	1	0

# Zanubrutinib in R/R WM

## Phase III randomized study: Ibrutinib versus Zanubrutinib (Aspen study)

### Long-Term Safety and Tolerability

#### Overall Safety Summary

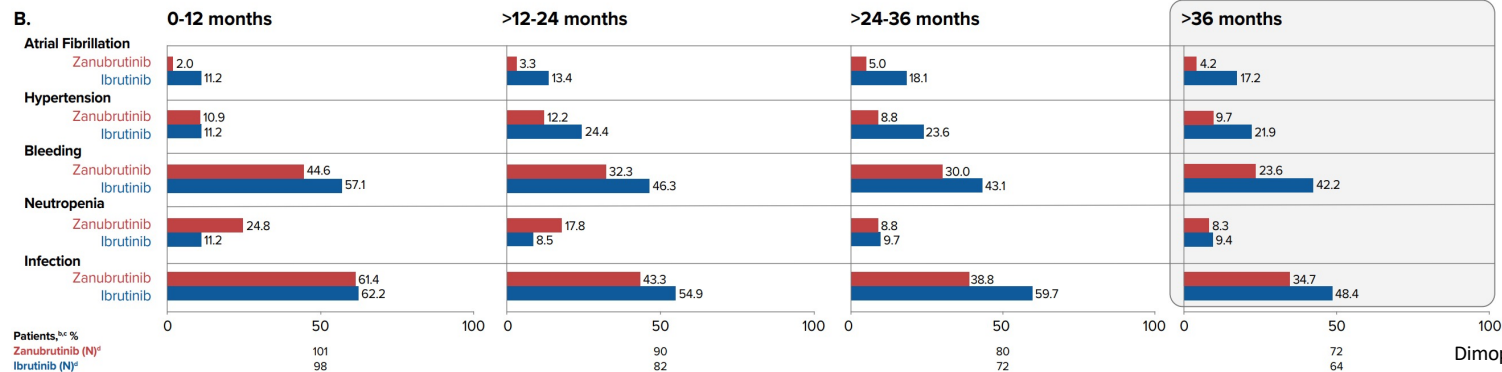
Category, n (%)	Cohort 1	
	Ibrutinib (n=98)	Zanubrutinib (n=101)
<b>Patients with ≥1 AE</b>	98 (100.0)	100 (99.0)
Grade ≥3	71 (72.4)	75 (74.3)
Serious	49 (50.0)	57 (56.4)
AE leading to death	5 (5.1) <sup>a</sup>	3 (3.0) <sup>b</sup>
AE leading to treatment discontinuation	20 (20.4) <sup>d</sup>	9 (8.9) <sup>e</sup>
AE leading to dose reduction	26 (26.5)	16 (15.8)
AE leading to dose held	62 (63.3)	63 (62.4)
COVID-19–related AE	4 (4.1)	4 (4.0)

#### Advers Events of interest

AEs, <sup>a</sup> n (%)	All grades		Grade ≥3	
	Ibrutinib (n=98)	Zanubrutinib (n=101)	Ibrutinib (n=98)	Zanubrutinib (n=101)
<b>Infection</b>	78 (79.6)	80 (79.2)	<b>27 (27.6)</b>	22 (21.8)
Bleeding	61 (62.2)	56 (55.4)	10 (10.2)	9 (8.9)
<b>Diarrhea</b>	<b>34 (34.7)</b>	23 (22.8)	2 (2.0)	3 (3.0)
<b>Hypertension*</b>	<b>25 (25.5)</b>	15 (14.9)	<b>20 (20.4)*</b>	10 (9.9)
<b>Atrial fibrillation/flutter*</b>	<b>23 (23.5)*</b>	8 (7.9)	<b>8 (8.2)*</b>	2 (2.0)
<b>Anemia</b>	22 (22.4)	18 (17.8)	6 (6.1)	<b>12 (11.9)</b>
<b>Neutropenia*<sup>b</sup></b>	20 (20.4)	<b>35 (34.7)*</b>	10 (10.2)	<b>24 (23.8)*</b>
Thrombocytopenia	17 (17.3)	17 (16.8)	6 (6.1)	11 (10.9)
Second primary malignancy/ nonskin cancers	17 (17.3)/ 6 (6.1)	17 (16.8)/ 6 (5.9)	3 (3.1)/ 3 (3.1)	6 (5.9)/ 4 (4.0)

Bold text indicates rate of AEs with ≥10% (all grades) or ≥5% (grade ≥3) difference between arms.  
Data cutoff: October 31, 2021. \*Descriptive purposes only, 1-sided P < 0.025 in rate difference in all grades and/or grade ≥3.  
<sup>a</sup>AE categories (grouped terms) of preferred terms by Medical Dictionary for Regulatory Activities v24.0. <sup>b</sup>Including preferred terms of neutropenia, neutrophil count decreased, febrile neutropenia, and neutropenic sepsis.

#### Adverse Events of Interest





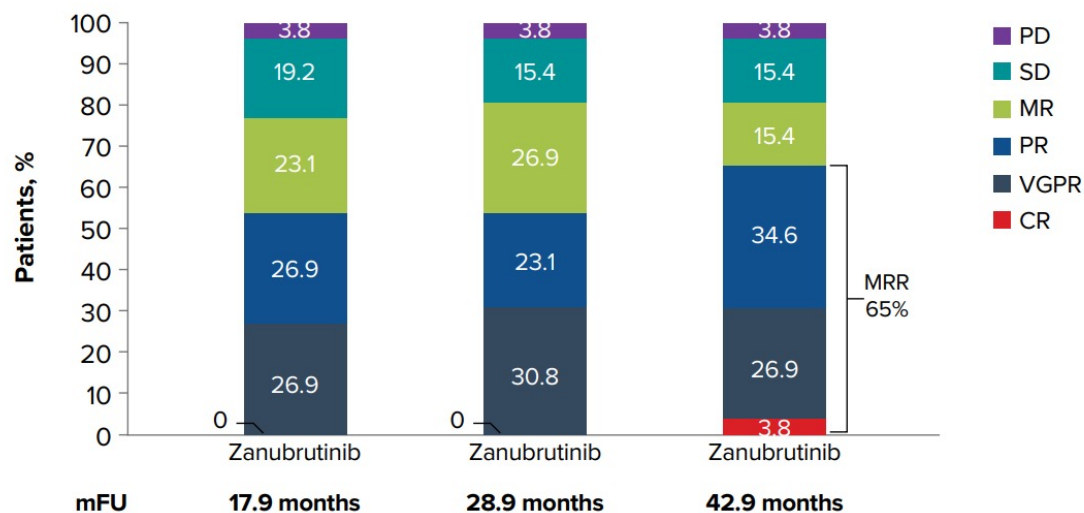
# Zanubrutinib in R/R WM

## Aspen Trial Outcomes Cohort 2 *MYD88*<sup>WT</sup>

Patients with *MYD88*<sup>WT</sup> WM  
N=28 (23 R/R)

Arm C: Zanubrutinib  
N=28  
160 mg BID until PD

### Responses Overtime



### At 42 months:

**PFS: 53.8% (95% CI: 33.3, 70.6)**

**OS: 83.9% (95% CI: 62.6, 93.7)**

# A Phase II, expanded access study of zanubrutinib in pts with WM

BGB-3111-216 is a single-arm, expanded access study of zanubrutinib in TN patients who were unsuitable for standard chemoimmunotherapy or pts with R/R WM

## Treatment response

BOR, n (%)	Overall (N=41)
Very good partial response	16 (39.0)
Partial response	14 (34.1)
Minor response	5 (12.2)
Stable disease	2 (4.9)
Progressive disease	4 (9.8)
Major response rate	30 (73.2)
Overall response rate	35 (85.4)



Between December 2019 and June 2021:

50 patients: 17 TN  
33 R/R (median prior therapies = 2)  
IPSSWM: 54% intermediate, 40% high-risk disease

Median treatment exposure was 9.2 months (range: 1.4–20.0)

Grade  $\geq 3$  TEAEs of special interest were:

- Hypertension 8%
- Infection 8%
- Atrial fibrillation/flutter 2%
- Neutropenia 2%
- Second primary malignancy 2%



Real-world expanded access study results were consistent with the established zanubrutinib profile in WM or other B-cell malignancies when administered as oral monotherapy at 160 mg BID or 320 mg QD in pts with intermediate or high-risk R/R or TN WM

# 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

> SD

**Maintenance:**  
2 years q3months

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

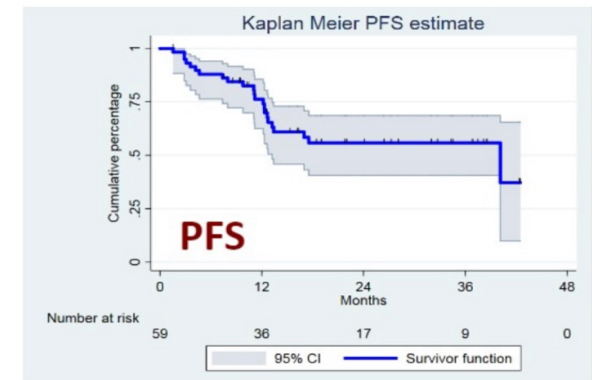
- Rituximab 1400 mg sc d1

**59 pts**  
**Mdian prior tx: 2**

**ORR: 85%**

**VGPR: 15%**

**PR 46%**

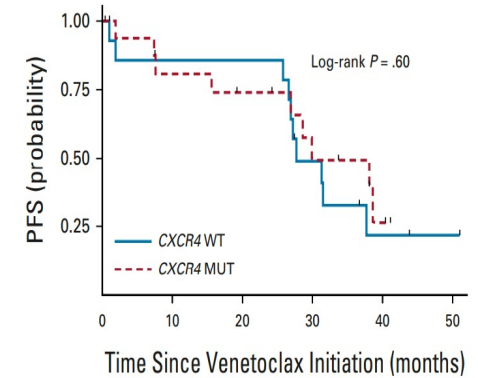
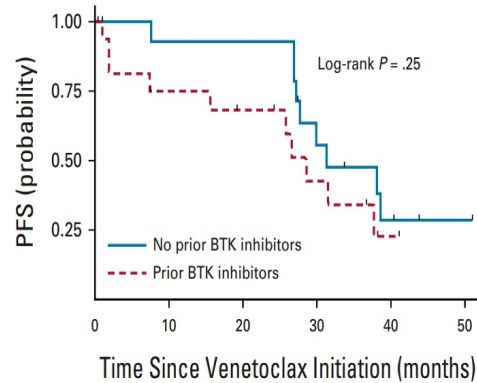
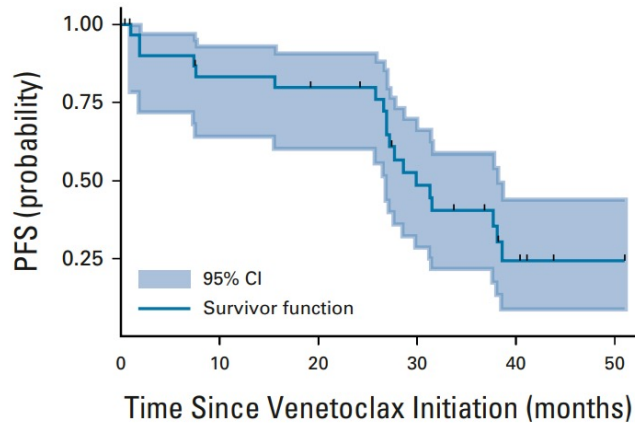
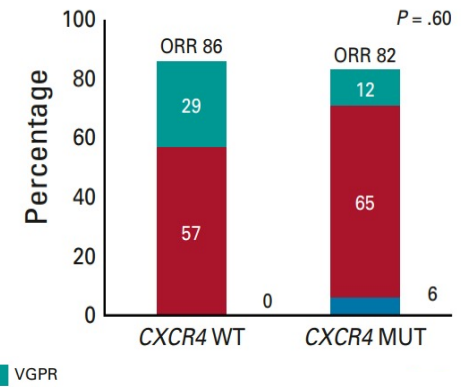
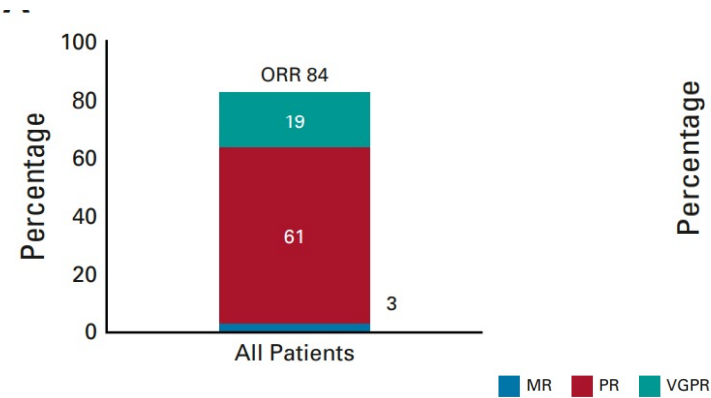


Kersten et al, 2019

# WHAT COMES NEXT IN WM?

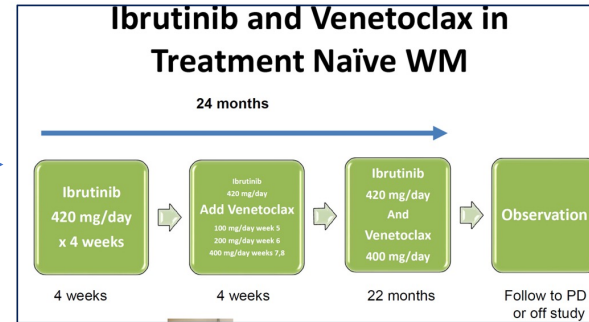
## Venetoclax Monotherapy

<b>32 pts</b>	
<b>Median prior Tx:</b>	<b>2(1-10)</b>
<b>Prior BTKi:</b>	<b>66%</b>
<b>MYD88<sup>mut.</sup>:</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>CXCR4<sup>mut.</sup>:</b>	<b>53%</b>



# 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
- ✓ In combination with Ibrutinib:ongoing Castillo et al 2020

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



# HOT NEWS IN WM 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
  - Effective, prolonged PFS
    - Zanubrutinib: Deeper responses
      - Better outcomes in MYD88<sup>wt</sup> and CXCR4<sup>mut</sup>
      - Better tolerability=adherence dose intensity
- Everyday clinical practice: Lack of salvage regimens after BTKi failure!!!!