

# Clinica e Terapia delle Sindromi Mielodisplastiche

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*28 maggio 2022*

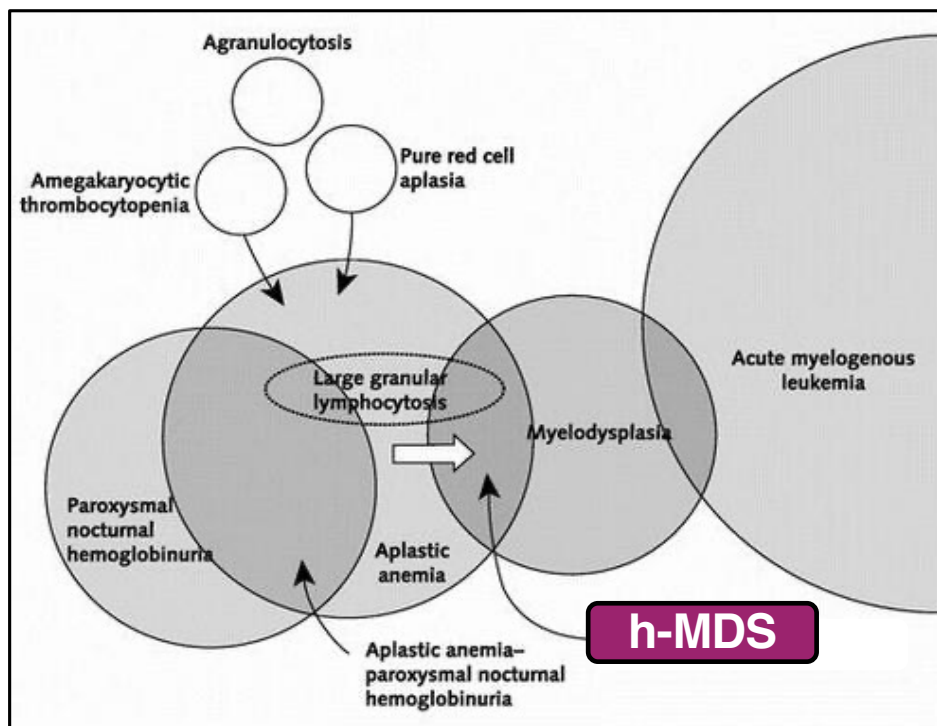
## Le sindromi mielodisplastiche **ipocellulari**

Renato Zambello, MD

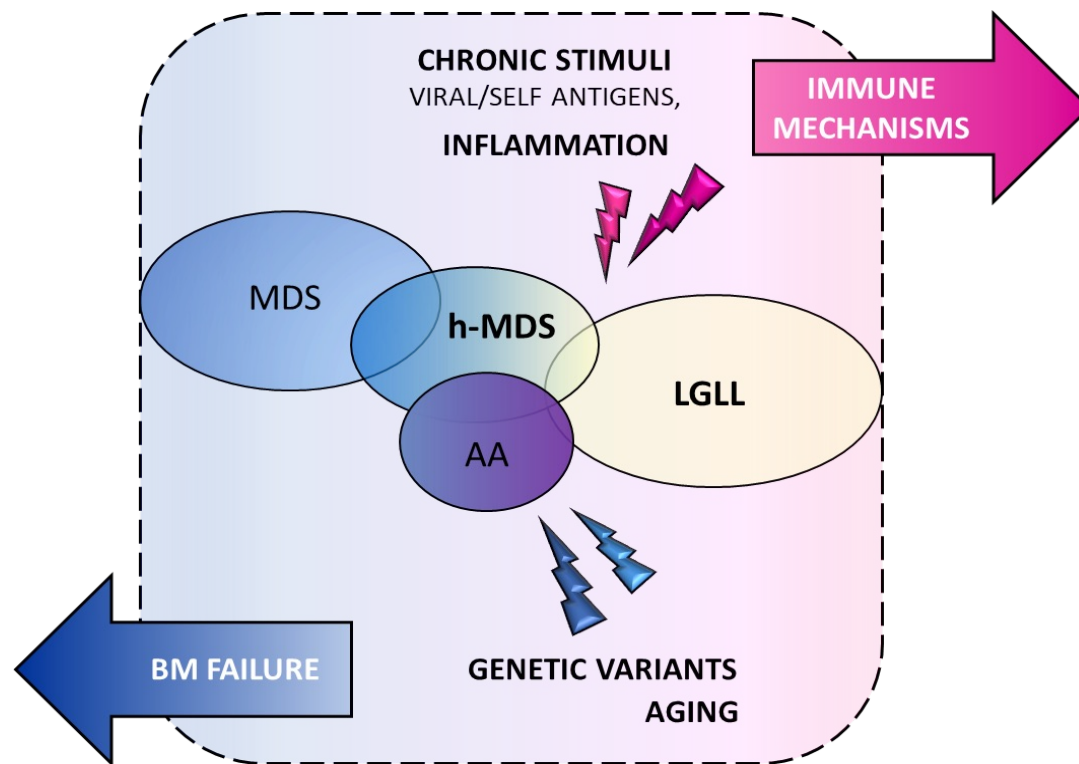
Dipartimento di Medicina - DIMED  
Ematologia e Immunologia Clinica  
Università di Padova



## h-MDS: AN OVERLAP AREA BETWEEN MDS, AA AND LGLL



Young NS. Ann Intern Med. 2002.



## 2016 WHO CLASSIFICATION OF MYELOID NEOPLASM AND ACUTE LEUKEMIA

MDS with fibrosis

**Hypocellular MDS**

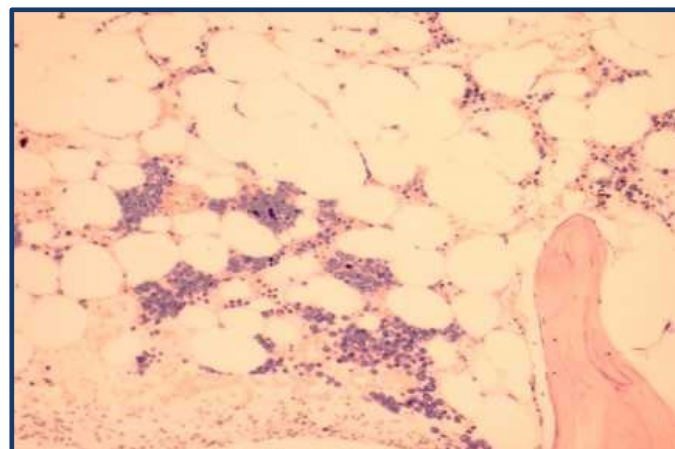
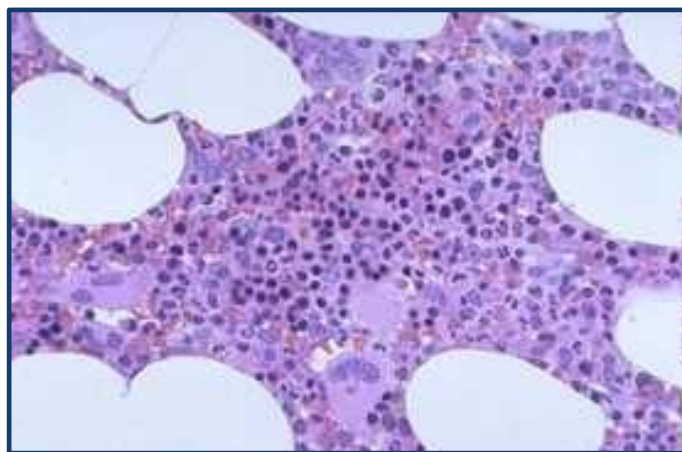
10-15% of MDS

Name	Dysplastic lineages	Cytopenias*	Ring sideroblasts as % of marrow erythroid elements	BM and PB blasts	Cytogenetics by conventional karyotype analysis
MDS with single lineage dysplasia (MDS-SLD)	1	1 or 2	<15%/<5%†	BM <5%, PB <1%, no Auer rods	Any, unless fulfills all criteria for MDS with isolated del(5q)
MDS with multilineage dysplasia (MDS-MLD)	2 or 3	1-3	<15%/<5%†	BM <5%, PB <1%, no Auer rods	Any, unless fulfills all criteria for MDS with isolated del(5q)
<b>MDS with ring sideroblasts (MDS-RS)</b>					
MDS-RS with single lineage dysplasia (MDS-RS-SLD)	1	1 or 2	≥15%/≥5%†	BM <5%, PB <1%, no Auer rods	Any, unless fulfills all criteria for MDS with isolated del(5q)
MDS-RS with multilineage dysplasia (MDS-RS-MLD)	2 or 3	1-3	≥15%/≥5%†	BM <5%, PB <1%, no Auer rods	Any, unless fulfills all criteria for MDS with isolated del(5q)
MDS with isolated del(5q)	1-3	1-2	None or any	BM <5%, PB <1%, no Auer rods	del(5q) alone or with 1 additional abnormality except -7 or del(7q)
<b>MDS with excess blasts (MDS-EB)</b>					
MDS-EB-1	0-3	1-3	None or any	BM 5%-9% or PB 2%-4%, no Auer rods	Any
MDS-EB-2	0-3	1-3	None or any	BM 10%-19% or PB 5%-19% or Auer rods	Any
<b>MDS, unclassifiable (MDS-U)</b>					
with 1% blood blasts	1-3	1-3	None or any	BM <5%, PB = 1%,‡ no Auer rods	Any
with single lineage dysplasia and pancytopenia	1	3	None or any	BM <5%, PB <1%, no Auer rods	Any
based on defining cytogenetic abnormality	0	1-3	<15%§	BM <5%, PB <1%, no Auer rods	MDS-defining abnormality
Refractory cytopenia of childhood	1-3	1-3	None	BM <5%, PB <2%	Any

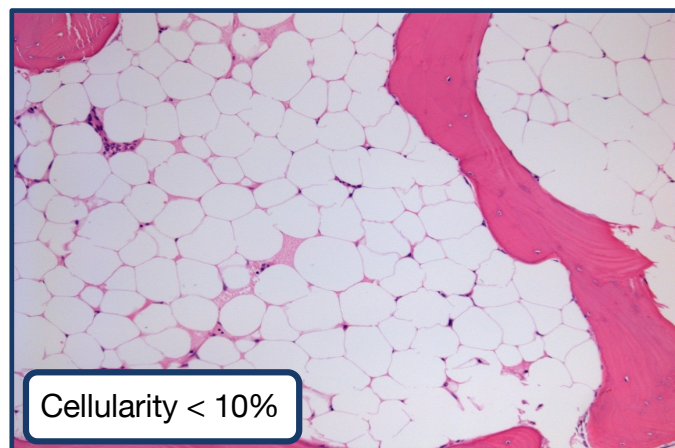
h-MDS are STILL not recognized as a distinct subgroup of MDS, but are rather defined by an age-adjusted reduction of bone marrow (BM) cellularity or, according to AA definition, by a BM cellularity ≤ 30%

## BONE MARROW HYSTOLOGY

**NORMAL CELLULARITY**



**Hypocellularity (<25%)  
(rather than aplastic)**



**Cellularity < 10%**

## BONE MARROW CELLULARITY IS AGE DEPENDENT

Table 1  
Characterization of patients

Age (years)	Number of cases	Male/female	Bone marrow cellularity (%) <sup>a</sup>
0-9	9	6/3	60.0 ± 20.0 <sup>b</sup>
10-19	13	4/9	56.5 ± 4.4
20-29	12	7/5	54.6 ± 4.6
30-39	11	4/7	54.6 ± 4.6
40-49	10	6/4	54.6 ± 18.2
50-59	9	9/0	52.4 ± 9.5
60-69	12	6/6	58.3 ± 8.3
70-79	13	9/4	56.5 ± 8.7
80-100	11	3/8	41.2 ± 5.9
Total	100	54/46	

<sup>a</sup> Bone marrow cellularity was measured by the image analyzing system and determined by the percentage of cellular marrow, represented by the formula: (area of hematopoietic cells)/(total area of bone marrow examined) × 100 (%).

<sup>b</sup> Values presented as mean ± S.E.M.

Ogawa et al. *Mechanisms of Ageing and Develop* 2000



Bone Marrow Examination • Decision Making and Problem Solving

### European consensus on grading bone marrow fibrosis and assessment of cellularity

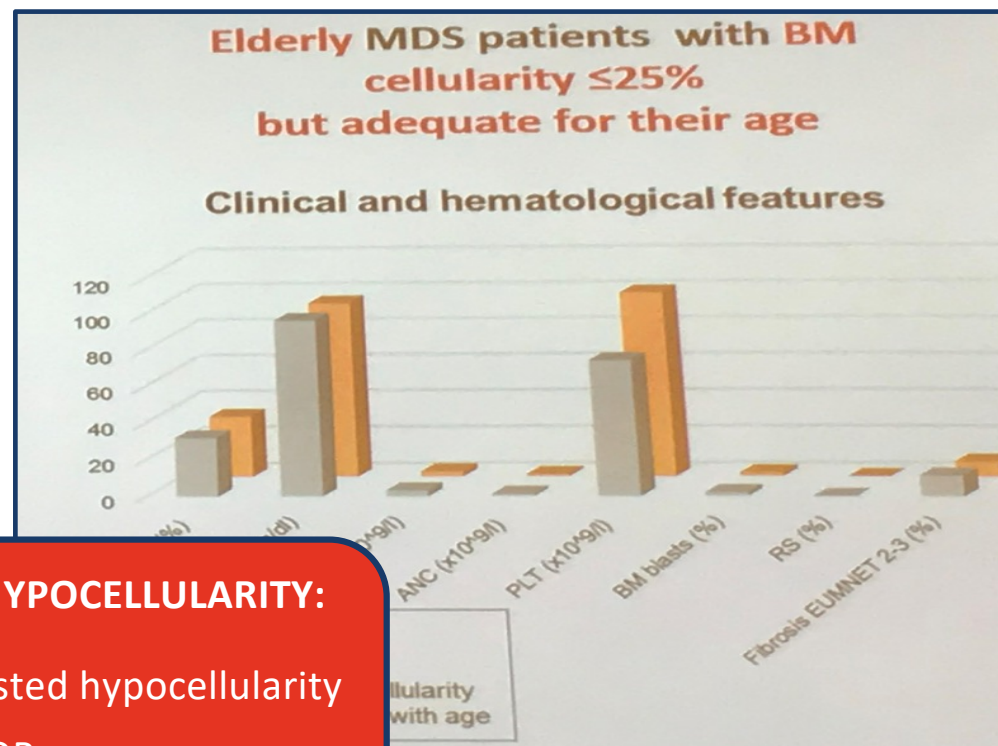
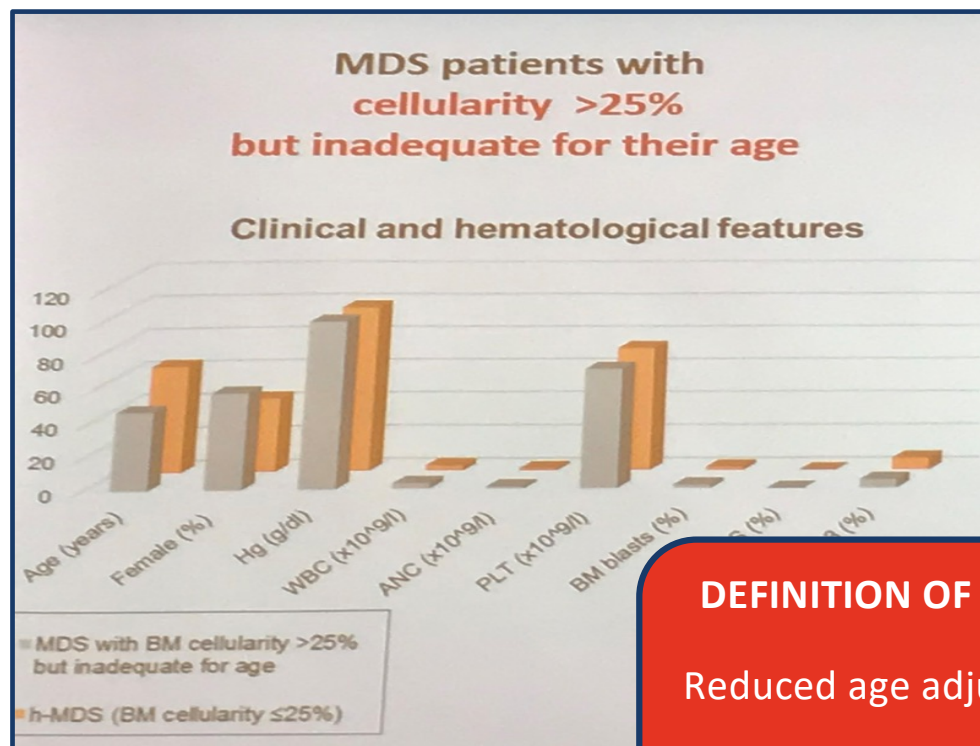
Table 2. Normal ranges of bone marrow cellularity for selected age groups, as adapted from the literature.<sup>27-29,3,31</sup>

Age (years)	% Hematopoietic area*
20-30	60-70
40-60	40-50
≥70	30-40

Thiele et al. *Haematologica* 2005



## HOW TO DEFINE BONE MARROW CELLULARITY?



**DEFINITION OF HYPOCELLULARITY:**  
 Reduced age adjusted hypocellularity  
 OR  
 Bone Marrow cellularity ≤25%

Bono E, et al. Leukemia. 2019

## h-MDS: AN OVERLAP AREA BETWEEN n-MDS AND AA DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS

	n-MDS	h-MDS	AA
MARROW CELLULARITY	Normal/Increased	Decreased	Decreased
MACROCYTOSIS	+	+	- (except for PNH clones)
DYSGRANULOPOIESIS	+	+	-
DYSMEGAKARYOPOIESIS	+	+	-
BLASTS	Often increased	+/-	Absent
RING SIDEROBLAST	+	+/-	-
FIBROSIS	Occasional	Occasional	-
KARYOTYPIC ABNORMALITIES	++	+	-/+
PROGRESSION	>25%	>25%	≈10%
RESPONSE TO IST	-	+	++
PNH DEFECT	Absent	Rare	≈30%
LGL	+	++	-
EXTRAHEMATOLOGICAL AUTOIMMUNITY	-	++	+/-
SOMATIC MUTATIONS	MDS related variant	↓SF3B1 ↓SRSF2, ZRSR2, U2AF1 ↓Co-mutatio	↑BCOR/BCORL ↓TET2
CLONE SIZE	++	+	-
LEUKEMIC EVOLUTION	+	+/-	-

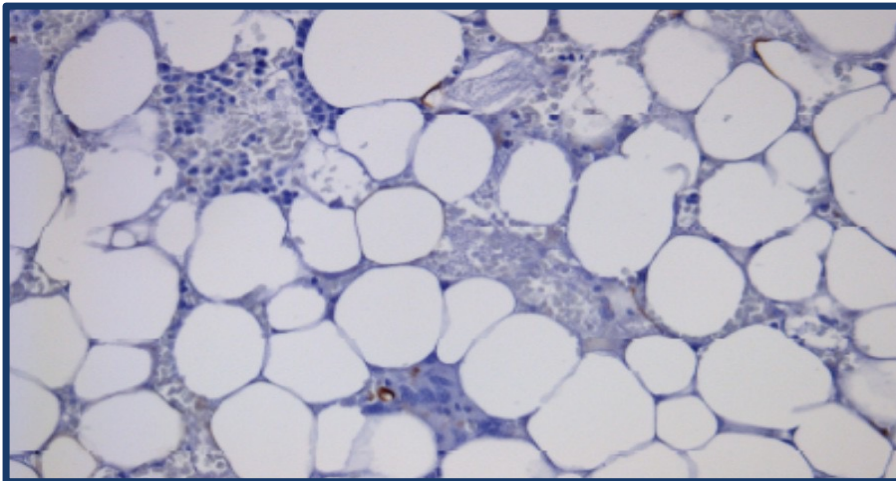
⇒ BM HYSTOLOGY

⇒ GENETICS

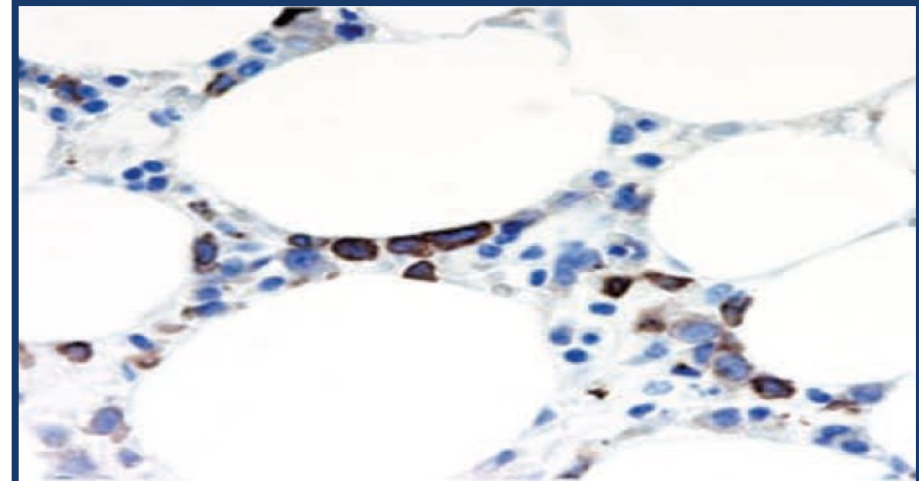
Adapted from J. Durrani, J.P. Maciejewski. Blood. 2019

**DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS: BM HYSTOLOGY**

APLASTIC ANEMIA



h-MDS



**CD34+ CELLS**

**..but they are not always present**



## DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS: ROLE OF GENETICS

Table 2: Comparison of genetic alterations between patients with h-MDS and NH-MDS

Variables	Number examined	Total cohort (%)	h-MDS (%)	NH-MDS (%)	P value
		Mutated	Mutated	Mutated	
<i>FLT3/ITD</i>	366	1.1%	1.0%	1.1%	>0.999
<i>NRAS</i>	369	2.2%	1.0%	2.6%	0.688
<i>KRAS</i>	367	1.1%	0%	1.5%	0.578
<i>JAK2</i>	368	0.8%	1.0%	0.7%	>0.999
<i>RUNX1</i>	367	11.4%	4.0%	14.2%	0.005*
<i>MLL/PTD</i>	352	0.6%	0%	0.8%	>0.999
<i>IDH1</i>	368	0.5%	1.0%	0.4%	0.470
<i>IDH2</i>	366	2.2%	0%	3.0%	0.113
<i>ASXL1</i>	366	17.8%	7.1%	21.7%	0.001*
<i>TET2</i>	282	12.4%	11.4%	12.7%	>0.999
<i>DNMT3A</i>	369	10.0%	3.0%	12.6%	0.006*
<i>TP53</i>	369	8.7%	3.0%	10.8%	0.020*
<i>SETBP1</i>	369	2.4%	1.0%	3.0%	0.454
<i>EZH2</i>	369	3.8%	0%	5.2%	0.014*
<i>SF3B1</i>	369	11.4%	12.0%	11.2%	0.854
<i>U2AF1</i>	369	7.9%	5.0%	8.9%	0.278
<i>SRSF2</i>	369	10.8%	6.0%	12.6%	0.089

\*Statistically significant if  $P < 0.05$ .

www.impactjournals.com/oncotarget/

Oncotarget, Vol. 7, No. 39

Research Paper

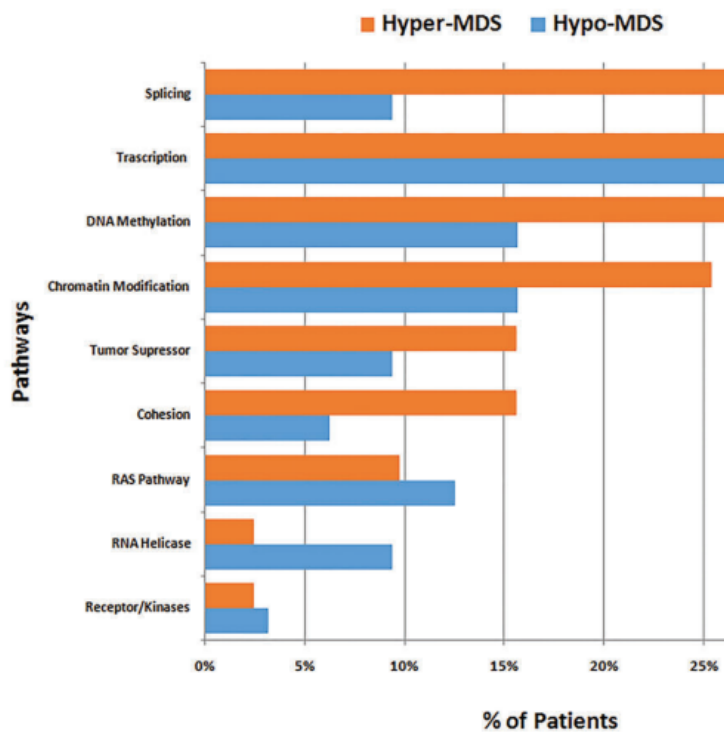
### Distinct mutation profile and prognostic relevance in patients with hypoplastic myelodysplastic syndromes (h-MDS)

Chi-Yuan Yao<sup>1,\*</sup>, Hsin-An Hou<sup>1,\*</sup>, Tzung-Yi Lin<sup>1</sup>, Chien-Chin Lin<sup>1,2</sup>, Wen-Chien Chou<sup>1,2</sup>, Mei-Hsuan Tseng<sup>1</sup>, Ying-Chieh Chiang<sup>1</sup>, Ming-Chih Liu<sup>3</sup>, Chia-Wen Liu<sup>3</sup>, Yuan-Yeh Kuo<sup>4</sup>, Shang-Ju Wu<sup>1</sup>, Xiu-Wen Liao<sup>5</sup>, Chien-Ting Lin<sup>1,5</sup>, Bor-Shen Ko<sup>1</sup>, Chien-Yuan Chen<sup>1</sup>, Szu-Chun Hsu<sup>2</sup>, Chi-Cheng Li<sup>5</sup>, Shang-Yi Huang<sup>1</sup>, Ming Yao<sup>1</sup>, Jih-Luh Tang<sup>1,5</sup>, Woei Tsay<sup>1</sup>, Chieh-Yu Liu<sup>6</sup>, Hwei-Fang Tien<sup>1</sup>

.....Our findings provide evidence that h-MDS indeed represent a distinct clinico-biological subgroup of MDS and can predict better leukemia-free survival and OS.

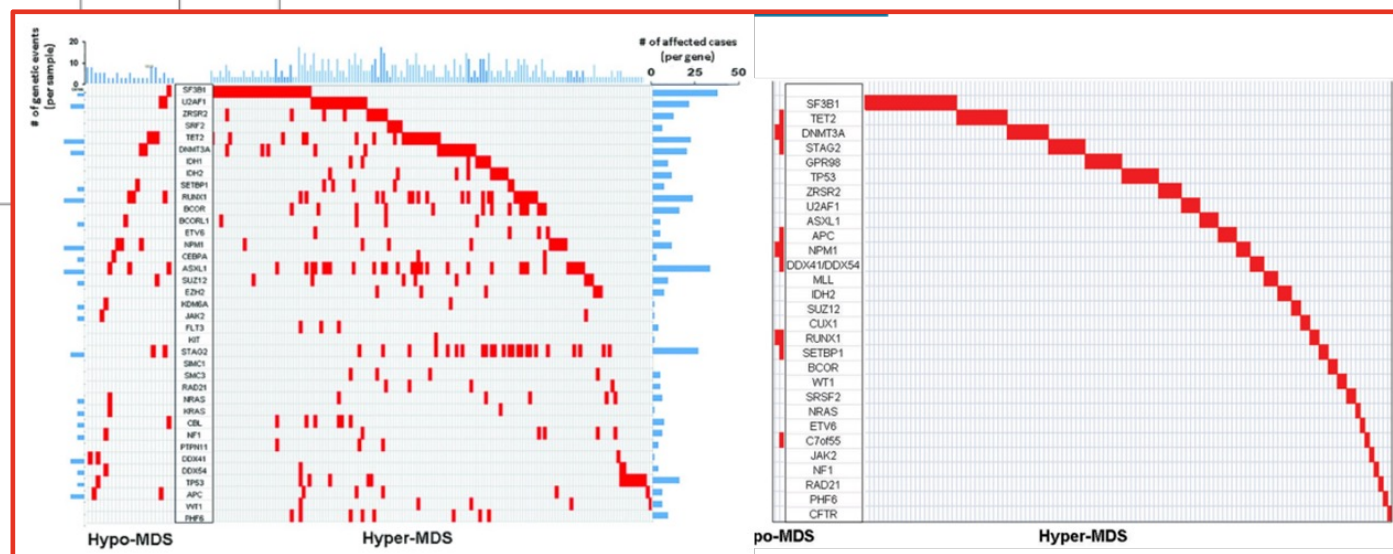
➡ LOW INCIDENCE  
IN h-MDS

Chi-Yuan Yao, et al. Oncotarget. 2016



**Figure 1.** Frequency of gene mutations involved in common functional pathways. Genes included in common functional pathways: Splicing: *SF3B1, SRSF2, ZRSR2, U2AF1/2*. DNA methylation: *TET2, DNMT3A, IDH1/2*. Transcription: *SETBP1, RUNX1, BCOR/BCORL1, ETV6, NPM1, CEBPA, GATA2*. Chromatin Modification: *ASXL1, SUZ12, EZH2, MLL, KDM6A*. Receptor/Kinases: *JAK2, FLT3, KIT*. Cohesion: *STAG2, SMC3, SIMC1, RAD21*. RAS Pathway: *KRAS/NRAS, CBL, NF1, PTPN11*. RNA Helicase: *DDX41, DDX54, DHX29*. Tumor Suppressor: *TP53, APC, WT1, PFH6*.

Patients:  
237 MDS  
32 h-MDS



Nazha A, et Al. Haematologica. 2015

Leukemia (2019) 33:2495–2505  
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41375-019-0457-1>

ARTICLE

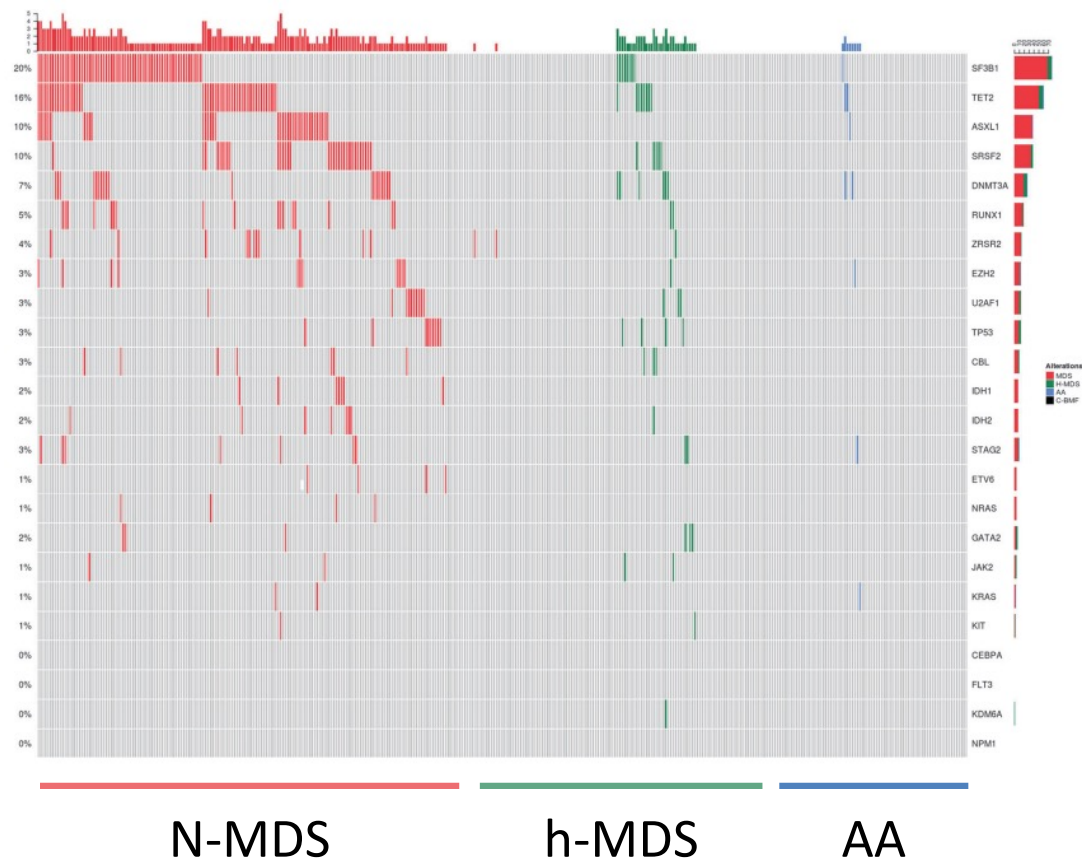
Myelodysplastic syndrome

## Clinical, histopathological and molecular characterization of hypoplastic myelodysplastic syndrome

Elisa Bono<sup>1</sup> · Donal McLornan<sup>2,3</sup> · Erica Travaglino<sup>1</sup> · Shreyans Gandhi<sup>2</sup> · Anna Galli<sup>1</sup> · Alesia Abigael Khan<sup>3</sup> · Austin G. Kulasekararaj<sup>2</sup> · Emanuela Boveri<sup>4</sup> · Kavita Raj<sup>2</sup> · Chiara Elena<sup>1</sup> · Robin M. Ireland<sup>2</sup> · Antonio Bianchessi<sup>1,5</sup> · Jie Jiang<sup>2</sup> · Gabriele Todisco<sup>1,5</sup> · Virginia Valeria Ferretti<sup>5</sup> · Mario Cazzola<sup>1,5</sup> · Judith. C. W. Marsh<sup>2</sup> · Luca Malcovati<sup>1,5</sup> · Ghulam J. Mufti<sup>2</sup>



nMDS: n 727  
 hMDS: n 278  
 AA: n 136



Bono E, et Al. Leukemia. 2019

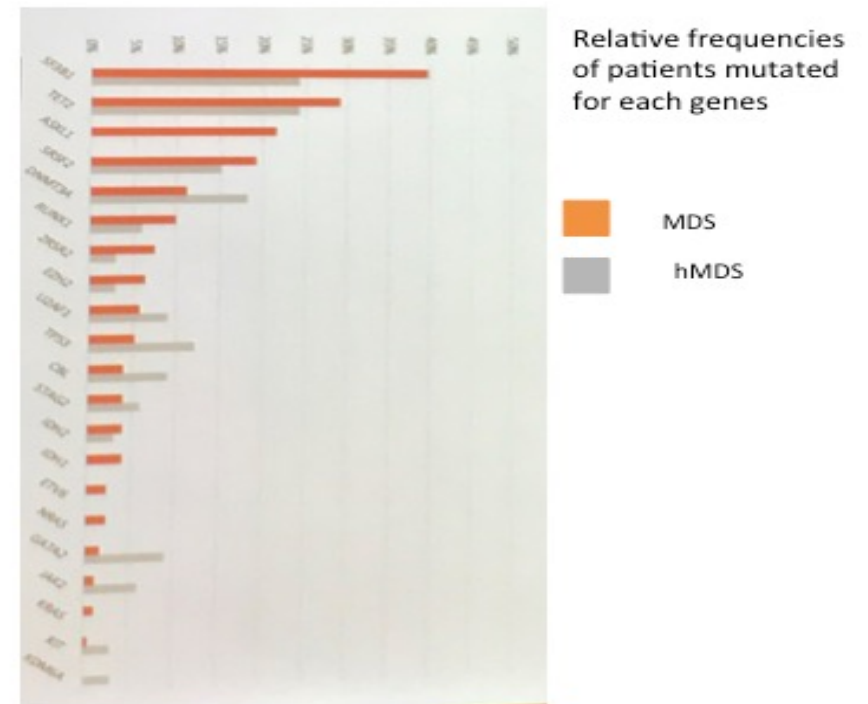
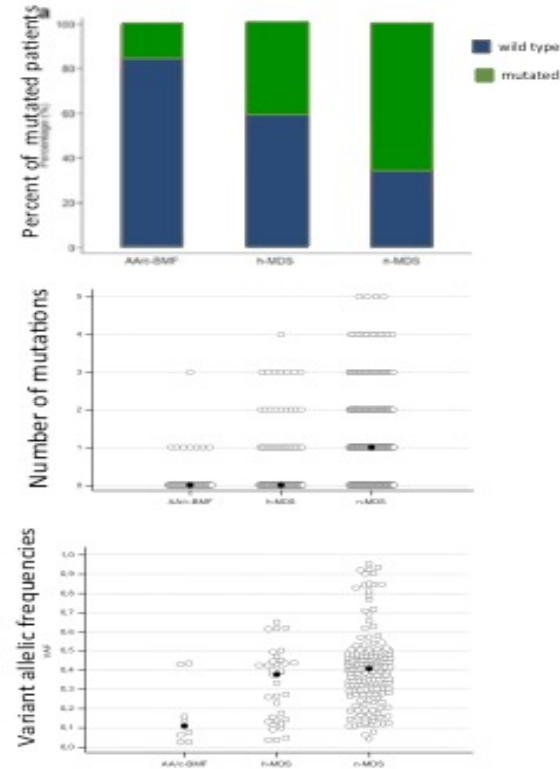
Leukemia (2019) 33:2495–2505  
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41375-019-0457-1>

ARTICLE

Myelodysplastic syndrome

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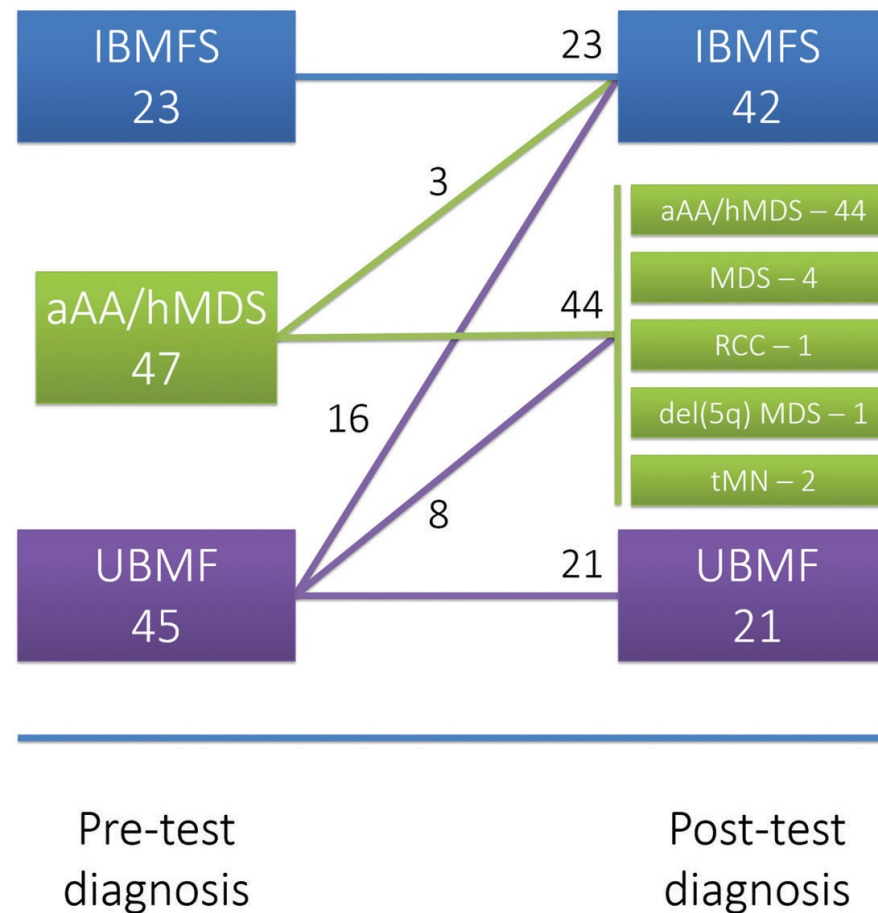


Bono E, et Al. Leukemia. 2019



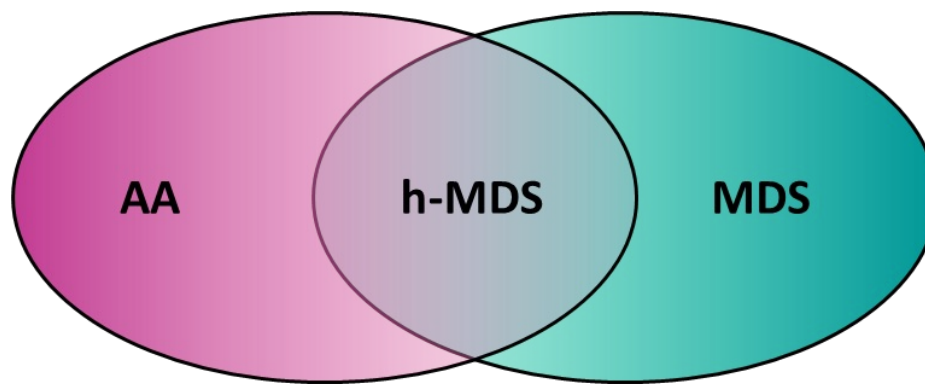
## Utility of clinical comprehensive genomic characterization for diagnostic categorization in patients presenting with hypocellular bone marrow failure syndromes

Piers Blombery,<sup>1,2,3</sup> Lucy C. Fox,<sup>3,4,5\*</sup> Georgina L. Ryland,<sup>3\*</sup> Ella R. Thompson,<sup>2,3</sup> Jennifer Lickiss,<sup>3</sup> Michelle McBean,<sup>3</sup> Satwica Yerneni,<sup>3</sup> David Hughes,<sup>6</sup> Anthea Greenway,<sup>6</sup> Françoise Mechinaud,<sup>6</sup> Erica M. Wood,<sup>5</sup> Graham J. Lieschke,<sup>1,7</sup> Jeff Szer,<sup>1</sup> Pasquale Barbaro,<sup>8</sup> John Roy,<sup>8</sup> Joel Wight,<sup>9</sup> Elly Lynch,<sup>10,11,12</sup> Melissa Martyn,<sup>10,11,12</sup> Clara Gaff<sup>2,10,12</sup> and David Ritchie<sup>1</sup>





## h-MDS: A GREY ZONE AREA?



AA - LIKE

MDS - LIKE

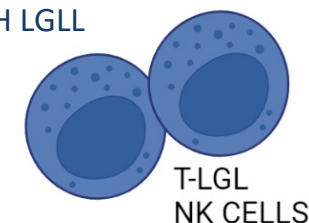
- ↑ cytotoxic and proinflammatory cells
- ↓ regulatory cells
- ↑ immune activation
- ↑ Response to IST, better prognosis

- ↓ immunosurveillance
- ↑ regulatory tumor permissive cells
- ↑ survival of dysplastic cells
- ↑ burden of genetic lesions
- ↑ Leukemic evolution, worse prognosis

*Adapted from Fattizzo B. Cancers. 2021*

## h-MDS: BIOLOGICAL FEATURES

ALTERATIONS OF BOTH INNATE AND ADAPTIVE IMMUNITY, CO-OCCURRENCE WITH LGLL



Types	Normocellular/Hypercellular MDS	hMDS
T-cytotoxic cells (CTLs)	Increased and oligoclonal. In high-risk patients, IFN- $\gamma$ -producing CTLs decrease favoring leukemia evolution.	Increased and clonal; produce interferon-gamma (IFN- $\gamma$ ) and decrease after response to IST.
T-CD4+ cells Th and Tregs	Increased T regs collaborate in the suppression of immune surveillance and leukemic evolution.	Increased and polyclonal Th cells producing IFN- $\gamma$ . Tregs are reduced and correlate with dyserythropoiesis.
<b>LGL clones</b>	Increased polyclonal and oligoclonal (both T-LGL and NK-LGL) more than in AA.	

Fattizzo B. *Cancers*. 2021

Large granular lymphocytic leukemia coexists with myeloid clones and myelodysplastic syndrome

Jibran Durrani<sup>1</sup> · Hassan Awada<sup>1</sup> · Ashwin Kishtagari<sup>1,2</sup> · Valeria Visconte<sup>1</sup> · Cassandra Kerr<sup>1</sup> · Vera Adema<sup>1</sup> · Yasunobu Nagata<sup>1</sup> · Teodora Kuzmanovic<sup>1</sup> · Sanghee Hong<sup>1</sup> · Bhumika Patel<sup>1,2</sup> · Aziz Nazha<sup>1,2</sup> · Alan Lichtin<sup>2</sup> · Sudipto Mukherjee<sup>2</sup> · Yogen Sauntharajah<sup>1,2</sup> · Hetty Carraway<sup>2</sup> · Mikkael Sekeres<sup>2</sup> · Jaroslaw P. Maciejewski<sup>1,2</sup>

Durrani J, *Leukemia*, 2019

13/240 (5%)

Characterization of myelodysplastic syndromes (MDS) with T-cell large granular lymphocyte proliferations (LGL)

Rami S. Komrokji<sup>1</sup> · Najla al Ali<sup>1</sup> · David Sallman<sup>1</sup> · Eric Padron<sup>1</sup> · Jeffrey Lancet<sup>1</sup> · Lubomir Sokol<sup>1</sup> · Christa Varnadoe<sup>2</sup> · P. K. Burnette<sup>3</sup> · Alan List<sup>4</sup>

Komrokji R, *Leukemia*, 2020

322/1177 (27%)

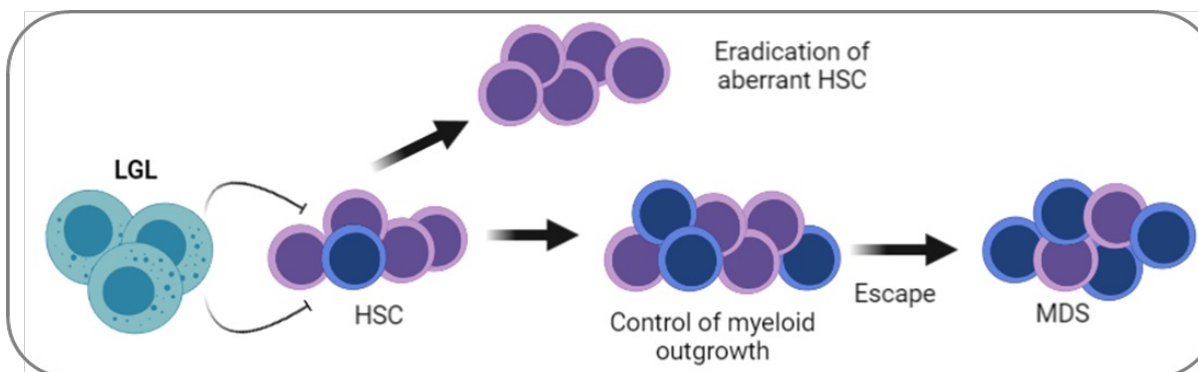
## COEXISTENCE OF H-MDS AND LGLL: MORE THAN A COINCIDENCE?

### PATHOGENETIC HYPOTHESES

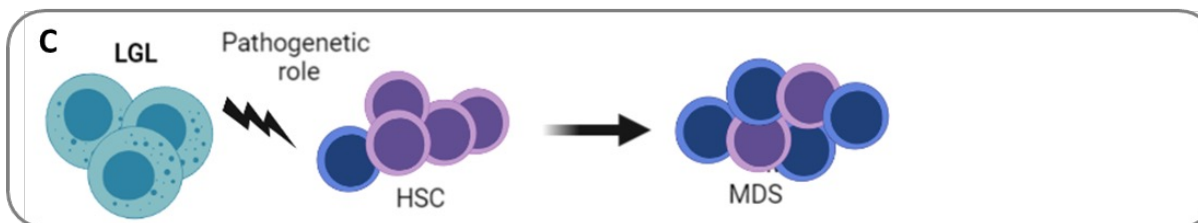
**COMMON MECHANISMS**  
(mutations, inflammation, antigenic pressure, aging)



**LGLL AS A CONSEQUENCE**  
(reactive response towards an aberrant HSC clone)



**LGLL AS A CAUSE**  
(Pathogenetic role, promotes a BM damage)



## H-MDS: RESULTS OF THE FISiM h-MDS MULTICENTER STUDY



Leukemia

[Online ahead of print. May 21, 2022](#)

[www.nature.com/leu](http://www.nature.com/leu)













LETTER

OPEN

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MYELODYSPLASTIC SYNDROME

### Hypocellular myelodysplastic syndromes (h-MDS): from clinical description to immunological characterization in the Italian multi-center experience

Giulia Calabretto<sup>1,2,14</sup>, Enrico Attardi<sup>3,4,14</sup>, Antonella Teramo <sup>1,2</sup>, Valentina Trimarco<sup>1</sup>, Samuela Carraro<sup>1</sup>, Sandra Mossuto<sup>4</sup>, Gregorio Barilà <sup>5</sup>, Cristina Vicenzetto<sup>1,2</sup>, Vanessa Rebecca Gasparini <sup>1,2</sup>, Monica Crugnola<sup>4,6</sup>, Pasquale Niscola<sup>4,7</sup>, Antonella Poloni <sup>4,8</sup>, Valentina Giallombardo <sup>4,9</sup>, Valentina Gaidano<sup>4,10</sup>, Carlo Finelli <sup>4,11</sup>, Roberta Bertorelle<sup>12</sup>, Cinzia Candiotti<sup>12</sup>, Marco Pizzi <sup>13</sup>, Gianni Binotto<sup>1,3</sup>, Monica Facco <sup>1,2</sup>, Fabrizio Vianello<sup>1</sup>, Livio Trentin <sup>1</sup>, Gianpietro Semenzato <sup>1,2</sup>, Renato Zambello <sup>1,2,4,14</sup> and Valeria Santini <sup>3,4,14</sup>

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- ✓ COMPARISON (clinical features, treatment, OS) of h-MDS vs n-MDS
- ✓ PHENOTYPIC AND MOLECULAR CHARACTERIZATION OF h-MDS AT THE DIAGNOSIS (Cytotoxic T lymphocytes, NK cells)

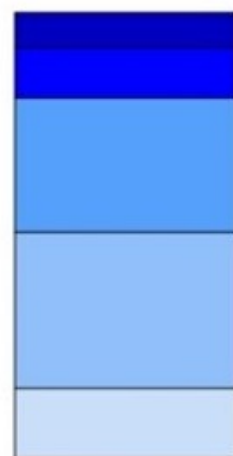
## RESULTS

CLINICAL FEATURES  
(N = 1945 PATIENTS)

MDS (N)	h-MDS (336)	n-MDS (1609)
BM Cellularity	≤ 30%	> 30%
Age (median)	75 years	74 years
Sex (M/F)	1.14	1.67

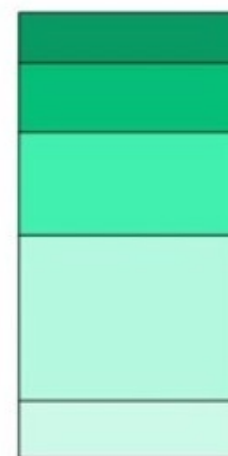
p < 0.01

h-MDS (N=336)



- Very High
- High
- Intermediate
- Low
- Very Low

n-MDS (N=1609)



- Very High
- High
- Intermediate
- Low
- Very Low

LR = IPSS-R < 3.5  
HR = IPSS-R ≥ 3.5



**271/336 (81%) LR**  
**65/336 (19%) HR**

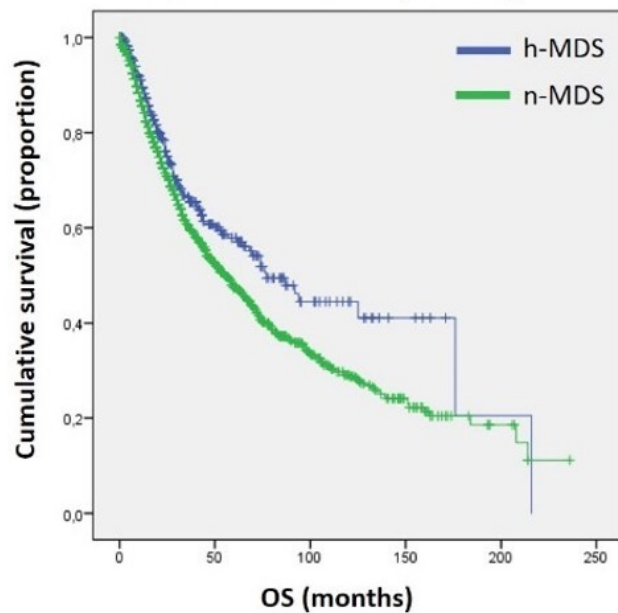
**1176/1609 (73%) LR**  
**433/1609 (27%) HR**

Calabretto G, Attardi E et al Leukemia 2022



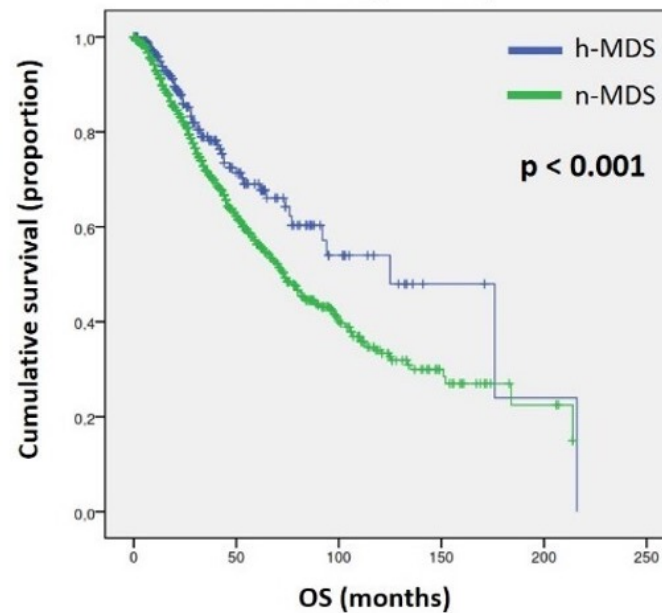
## RESULTS

### h-MDS vs n-MDS (n=1945)



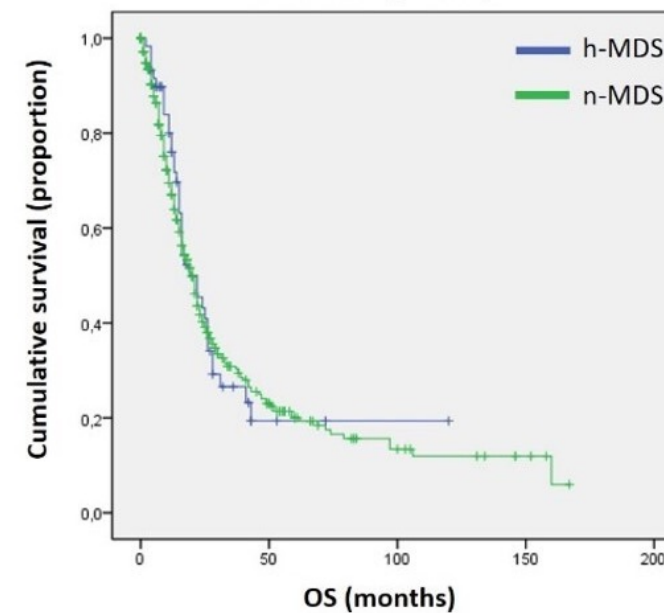
77 months for h-MDS  
vs 56 months for n-MDS  
( $p > 0.05$ )

### LR-MDS (n=1447)



**125 months for LR h-MDS  
vs 74 months for LR n-MDS  
( $p < 0.001$ )**

### HR-MDS (n=498)

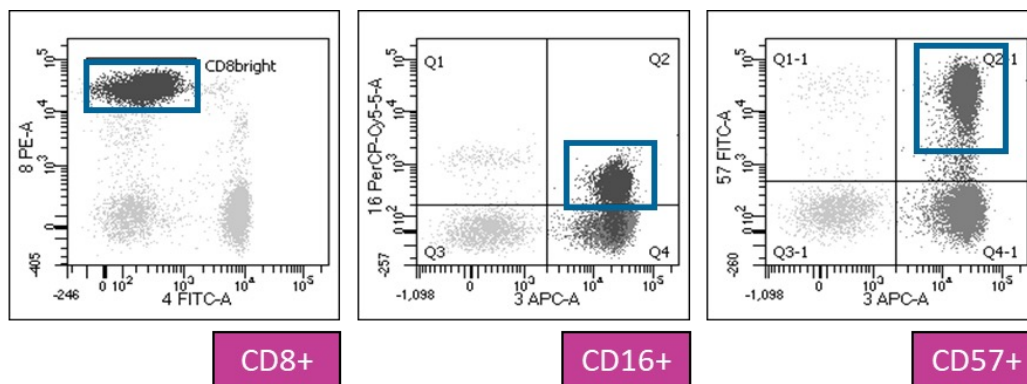


19 months for HR h-MDS  
vs 20 months for HR n-MDS  
( $p > 0.05$ )

Calabretto G, Attardi E et al Leukemia 2022

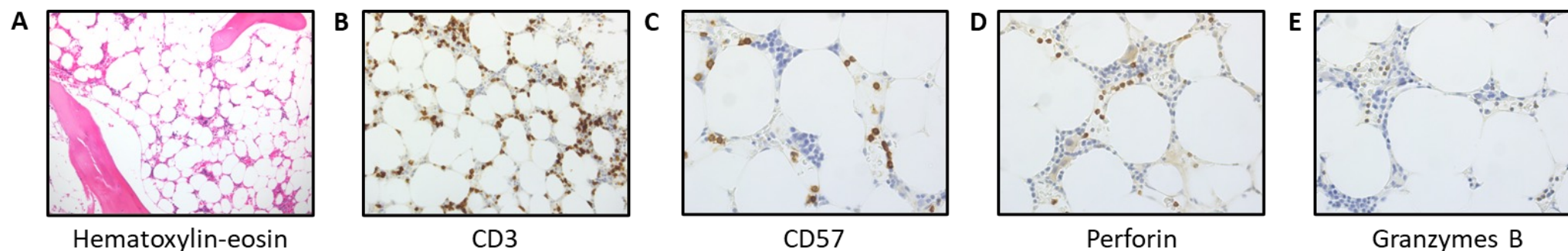
## RESULTS

### IMMUNOPHENOTYPICAL ANALYSIS (PB and BM) CD3+ T CELL CHARACTERIZATION



**CLONAL EXPANSION** of CD3+/CD8+/CD16±/CD56-/CD57+ cytotoxic T-cell subset in **6/12 (50%)** cases  
No recurrent TCR-Vβ immunodominant expansions

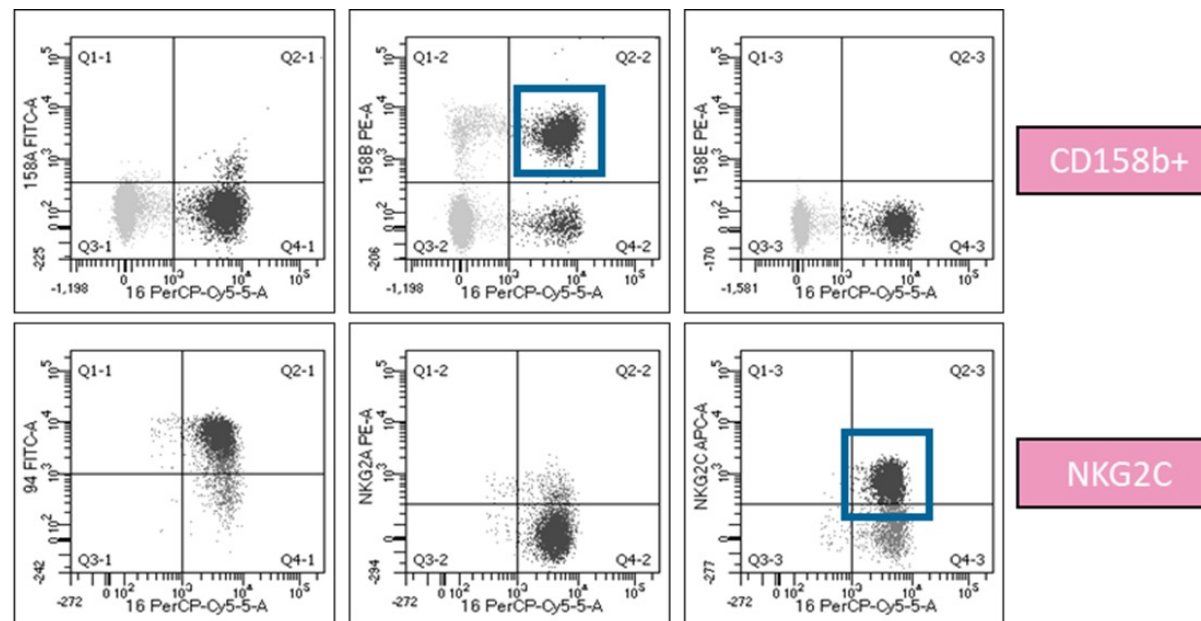
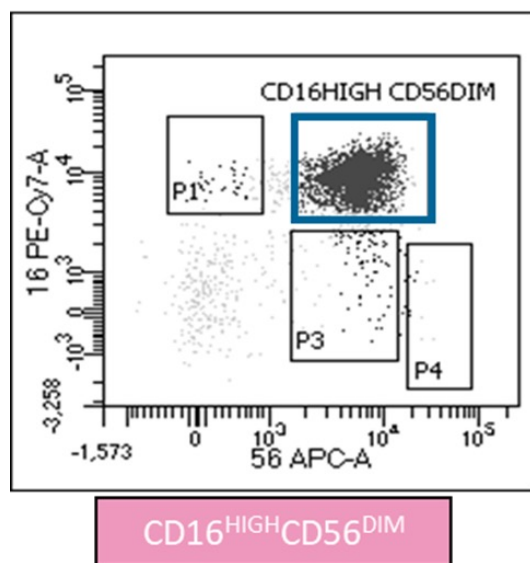
**BM INFILTRATION OF CYTOTOXIC T CELL**



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## RESULTS

### IMMUNOPHENOTYPICAL ANALYSIS (PB and BM) CD3- NK CELL CHARACTERIZATION



NK cell expansions in cells in **4/12 (33%)** cases  
 CD16<sup>HIGH</sup>CD56<sup>DIM</sup>, CD57+, CD62L-,  
**restricted pattern of NK cell receptor (CD158b+, NKG2C)**

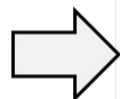
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## RESULTS

## EVALUATION OF CLONALITY

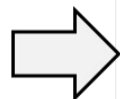
**T CELL CLONES  
ASSOCIATED WITH HR H-MDS  
5/6 (83%)**

TCR- $\gamma$  GENE REARRANGEMENT

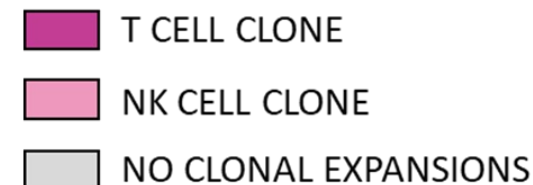


**NK CELL CLONES  
ASSOCIATED WITH LR H-MDS  
3/4 (75%)**

KIR EXPRESSION  
(Flow cytometry)



IPSS-R Pt.	Clonal expansion			
	HR		LR	
	T	NK	T	NK
h-MDS 1	T CELL CLONE	NO CLONAL EXPANSIONS		
h-MDS 2	T CELL CLONE	NO CLONAL EXPANSIONS		
h-MDS 3	T CELL CLONE	NO CLONAL EXPANSIONS		
h-MDS 4	T CELL CLONE	NO CLONAL EXPANSIONS		
h-MDS 5	T CELL CLONE	NO CLONAL EXPANSIONS		
h-MDS 6	NO CLONAL EXPANSIONS	NK CELL CLONE		
h-MDS 7	NO CLONAL EXPANSIONS	NO CLONAL EXPANSIONS		
h-MDS 8	NO CLONAL EXPANSIONS	NO CLONAL EXPANSIONS	T CELL CLONE	
h-MDS 9	NO CLONAL EXPANSIONS	NO CLONAL EXPANSIONS		NK CELL CLONE
h-MDS 10	NO CLONAL EXPANSIONS	NO CLONAL EXPANSIONS		NK CELL CLONE
h-MDS 11	NO CLONAL EXPANSIONS	NO CLONAL EXPANSIONS		NK CELL CLONE
h-MDS 12	NO CLONAL EXPANSIONS	NO CLONAL EXPANSIONS		



**T AND NK CELL CLONE  
MUTUALLY EXCLUSIVE IN h-MDS**

**Detection of monoclonal T populations in patients with KIR-restricted chronic lymphoproliferative disorder of NK cells**

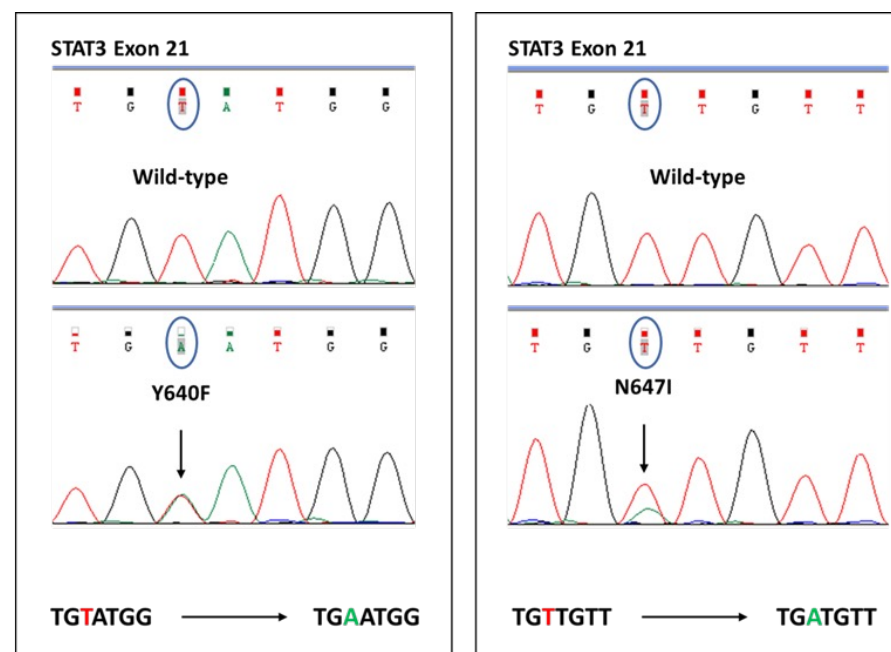
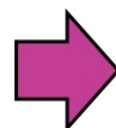
Cristina Gattazzo,<sup>1,2</sup> Antonella Teramo,<sup>2</sup> Francesca Passeri,<sup>1,2</sup> Elena De March,<sup>1</sup> Samuela Carraro,<sup>1</sup> Valentina Trimarco,<sup>1,2</sup> Federica Frezzato,<sup>1,2</sup> Tamara Berno,<sup>1</sup> Gregorio Barilà,<sup>1</sup> Veronica Martini,<sup>1,2</sup> Francesco Piazza,<sup>1,2</sup> Livio Trentin,<sup>1,2</sup> Monica Facco,<sup>1,2</sup> Gianpietro Semenzato,<sup>1,2</sup> and Renato Zambello<sup>1,2</sup>

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## RESULTS

## EVALUATION OF STAT3 and STAT5b MUTATIONS

Pt.	IPSS-R	STAT3	STAT5b
h-MDS 1	HR	WT	WT
h-MDS 2	HR	WT	WT
h-MDS 3	HR	N447I	WT
h-MDS 4	HR	Y640F	WT
h-MDS 5	HR	WT	WT
h-MDS 6	HR	WT	WT
h-MDS 7	HR	WT	WT
h-MDS 8	LR	WT	WT
h-MDS 9	LR	WT	WT
h-MDS 10	LR	WT	WT
h-MDS 11	LR	WT	WT
h-MDS 12	LR	WT	WT



2/12 (17%) h-MDS patients harbor **STAT3** somatic mutations in CD3+/CD57+ T-Lymphocytes



**DIAGNOSIS OF LGLL**



## RESULTS

## EVALUATION OF STAT3 and STAT5b MUTATIONS

Pt.	IPSS-R	STAT3	STAT5b
h-MDS 1	HR	WT	WT
h-MDS 2	HR	WT	WT
h-MDS 3	HR	N447I	WT
h-MDS 4	HR	Y640F	WT
h-MDS 5	HR	WT	WT
h-MDS 6	HR	WT	WT
h-MDS 7	HR	WT	WT
h-MDS 8	LR	WT	WT
h-MDS 9	LR	WT	WT
h-MDS 10	LR	WT	WT
h-MDS 11	LR	WT	WT
h-MDS 12	LR	WT	WT



Leukemia  
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41375-019-0644-0>

ARTICLE

Lymphoma

**Stat3 mutations impact on overall survival in large granular lymphocyte leukemia: a single-center experience of 205 patients**

Gregorio Barilà<sup>1,2</sup> · Antonella Teramo<sup>1,2</sup> · Giulia Calabretto<sup>1,2</sup> · Cristina Vicenzetto<sup>1,2</sup> · Vanessa Rebecca Gasparini<sup>1,2</sup> · Laura Pavan<sup>1</sup> · Matteo Leoncin<sup>1</sup> · Susanna Vedovato<sup>1</sup> · Anna Chiara Frigo<sup>3</sup> · Monica Facco<sup>1,2</sup> · Gianpietro Semenzato<sup>1,2</sup> · Renato Zambello<sup>1,2</sup>

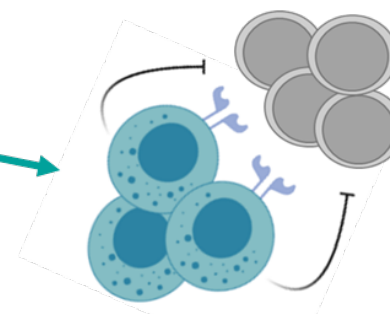
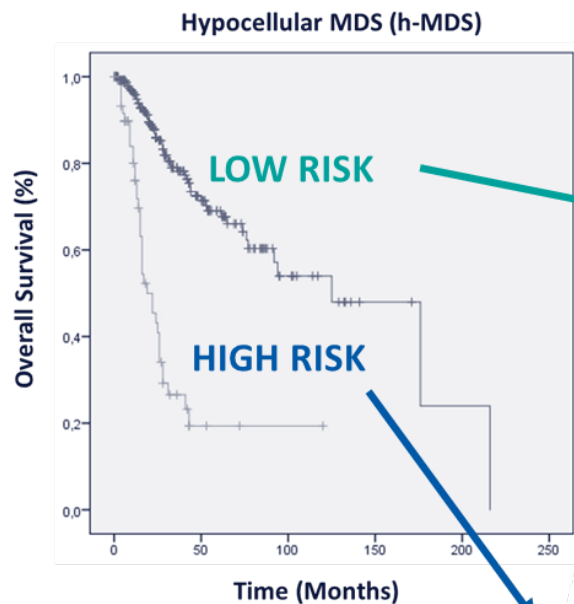
**NEGATIVE PROGNOSTIC ROLE?**

### SUMMARY

- ➔ **Clonal LGL expansion in almost all h-MDS patients**
- ➔ **LR h-MDS showed enrichment of NK cell subsets with restricted patterns of NK receptors**
- ➔ **T cytotoxic clones, with molecular findings typical of leukemic LGL (STAT3 mutations), were prevalent in HR h-MDS patients**
- ➔ **T and NK cell clone are mutually exclusive in h-MDS patients**

## DISCUSSION

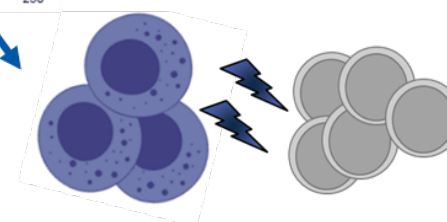
IPSS-R	Clonal expansion			
	HR		LR	
	T	NK	T	NK
Pt.				
h-MDS 1	■			
h-MDS 2	■			
h-MDS 3	■			
h-MDS 4	■			
h-MDS 5	■			
h-MDS 6		■		
h-MDS 7				
h-MDS 8			■	
h-MDS 9				■
h-MDS 10				■
h-MDS 11				■
h-MDS 12				■



CLONAL NK CELL EXPANSIONS

**CONTROL OF MYELOID OUTGROWTH?**

**IMMUNOSUPPRESSIVE THERAPY?**

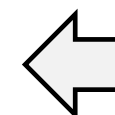


T CELL CLONES

**PATHOGENETIC ROLE?**

## RESULTS

MDS (N)	h-MDS (336)		n-MDS (1609)	
BM Cellularity	≤ 30%		> 30%	
Age (median)	75		74	
Sex (M/F)	1.14		1.67	
IPSS-R (N, %)	LR (271, 80.7)	HR (65, 19.3)	LR (1176, 73.1)	HR (433, 26.9)
Therapy (%)				
Observation/BSC	33.8	12.1	31.6	16.1
ESA	42.6	29.3	41.2	24.8
Lenalidomide	3.8	0	0.7	0.5
Differentiation therapy (ATRA)	4.6	5.2	6.4	7.9
<b>IST</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>0.5</b>
Azacitidine	5.1	36.2	2.8	25.1
Low-dose Chemotherapy	0	0	4.7	5.0
AML-Like Chemotherapy	0.4	1.7	0.3	6.2
HSCT	0	1.7	0.1	1.0
Experimental trials	1.7	5.2	3.9	6.2
Others	7.6	8.6	7.1	6.7



**IN our cohort,  
IST was rarely applied,  
irrespective of BM cellularity**

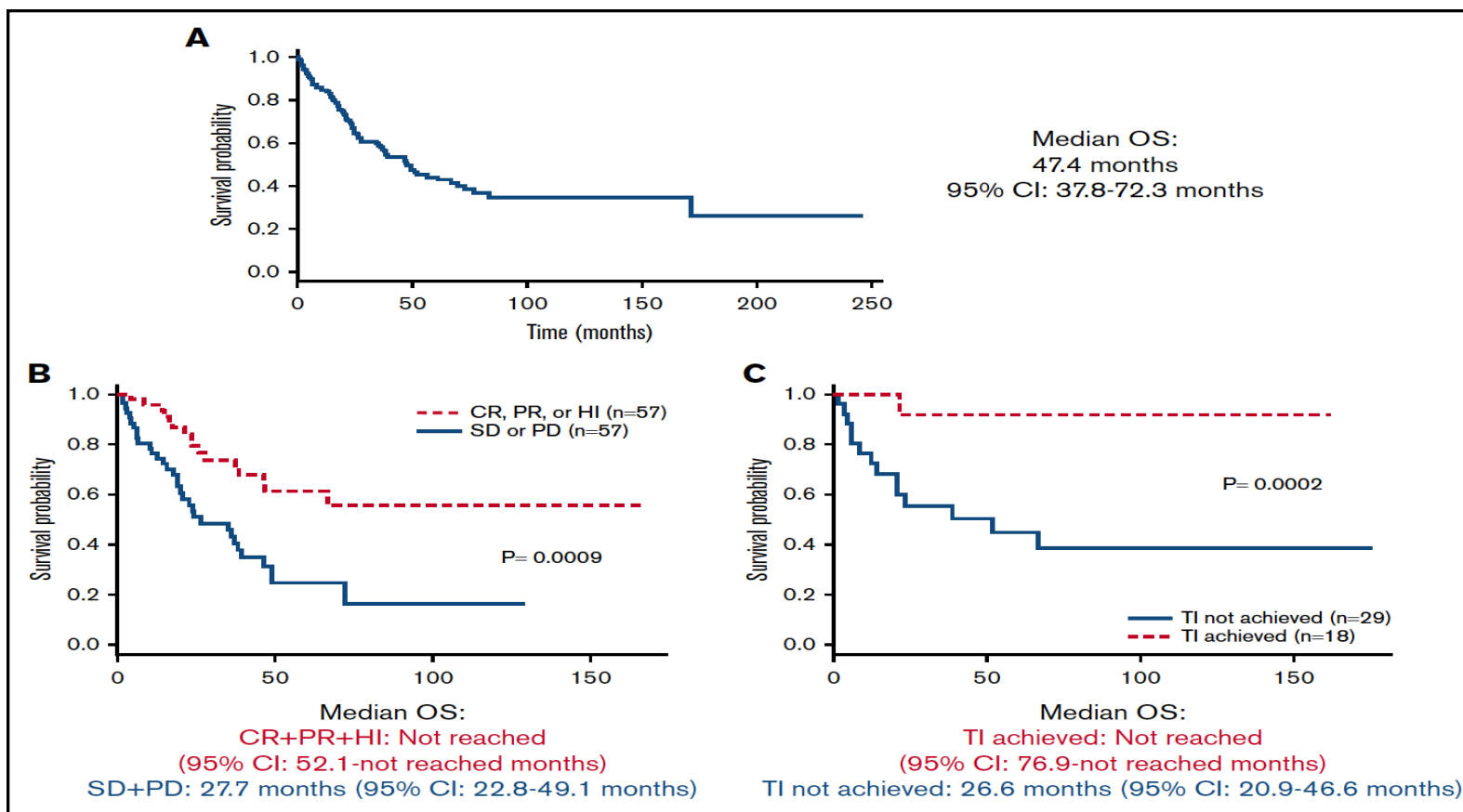
## IST CLINICAL TRIALS OF ATG BASED REGIMEN

Author (pub year)	Country	N	Age (median)	Treatment	RA (%)	HR (%)
Molldrem (2002)	US	61	60	hATG	61	34
Saunthararajah (2002)	US	72	59	hATG and/or CyA	46	29
Yazji (2003)	US	31	59	hATG and CyA	58	23
Steensma (2003)	US	8	60	hATG	25	0
Stadler (2004)	US	10	60	hATG	40	27
Broliden (2006)	Sweden	20	64	rATG and CyA	85	30
Lim (2007)	UK, Germany Italy	96	56	hATG	84	42
Sloand (2008)	US	116	60	hATG and CyA hATG	67	48 24
Passweg (2011)	Swiss, Germany	45	62	hATG and CyA vs BSC	47	31 9
Kadia (2012)	USA	24	62	rATG and CyA	ND (low/int1)	25

ORR ranging from 25% to 80%



## OS IN PATIENTS WITH MDS TREATED WITH IST

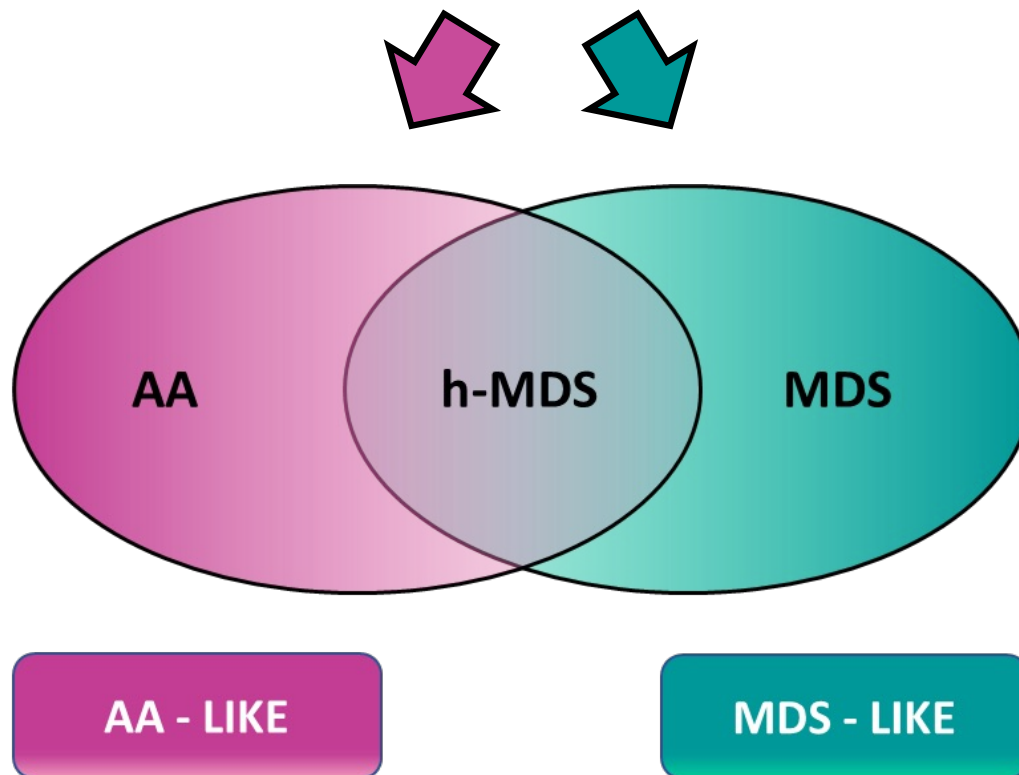


Stahl et al Blood Advances 2018

### CONCLUSIONS

- Hypocellular LR MDS is characterized by a better prognosis, irrespective of WHO classification;
- Despite IST is recommended for h-MDS, is still administered to exiguous proportion of LR h-MDS cases (at least in Italy) and the choice of therapy is not influenced by BM cellularity;
- KIR/NKG2 restricted NK cell expansions are detected in LR h-MDS, whereas cytotoxic clonal T cell populations in HR h-MDS. Prospective studies are needed to better define the prognostic roles of T and NK subsets in h-MDS.

### CHOICE OF THERAPY



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



**MDS Unit, Division of Hematology  
AOU Careggi-University of Florence  
Florence**



**Italian MDS Foundation  
ETS (FISIM - ETS)  
Bologna**



UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI  
DI PADOVA

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