

# Aggressive Lymphoma Workshop

Bologna, Royal Hotel Carlton

**May 8-9, 2023**

President: **Pier Luigi Zinzani**

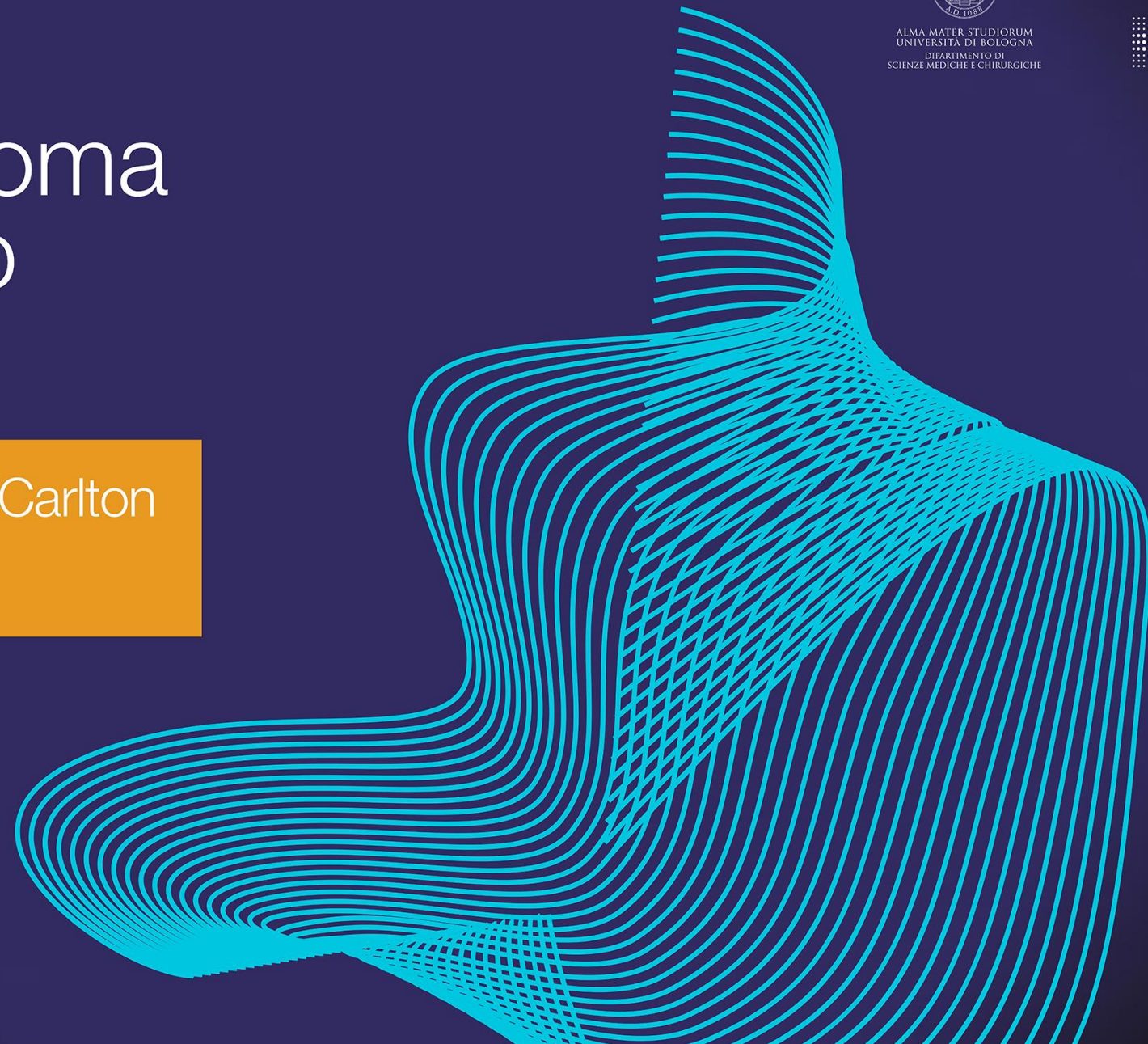


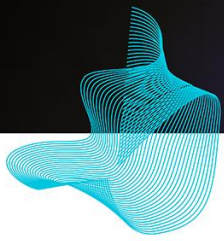
ALMA MATER STUDIORUM  
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA  
DIPARTIMENTO DI  
SCIENZE MEDICHE E CHIRURGICHE

POLICLINICO DI  
**SANT'ORSOLA**



SERVIZIO SANITARIO REGIONALE  
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## **SESSION IV: UPDATE ON FRONTLINE TREATMENTS AND BEYOND**

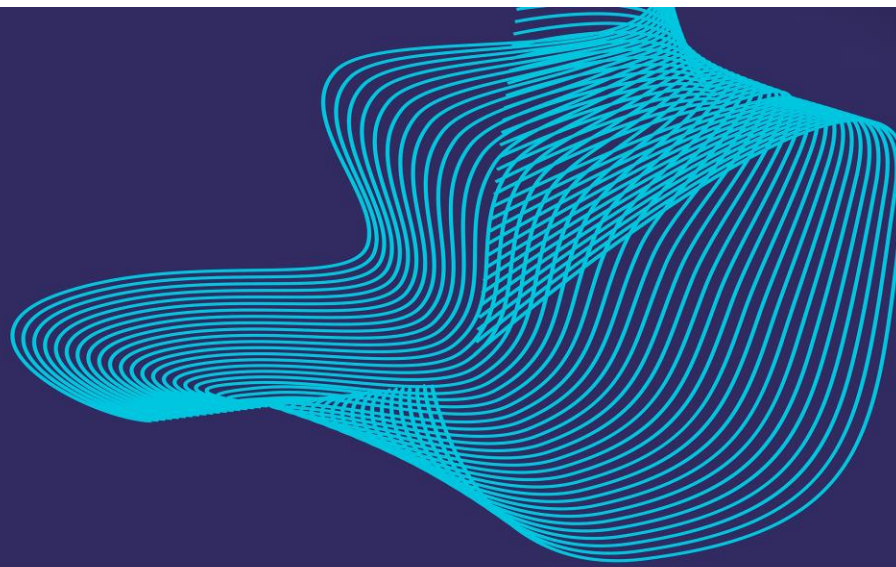
Chairmen: G.S. Nowakowski, A. Pinto

02.45 pm How to treat early stage DLBCL A. Lopez-Guillermo

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## Disclosures of Armando López-Guillermo

Company name	Research support	Employee	Consultant	Stockholder	Speakers bureau	Advisory board	Other
Roche	X		X			X	
Gilead/Kite	X		X			X	X
BMS/Celgene	X					X	
Janssen						X	
Incyte						X	
Abbvie						X	

# Outline

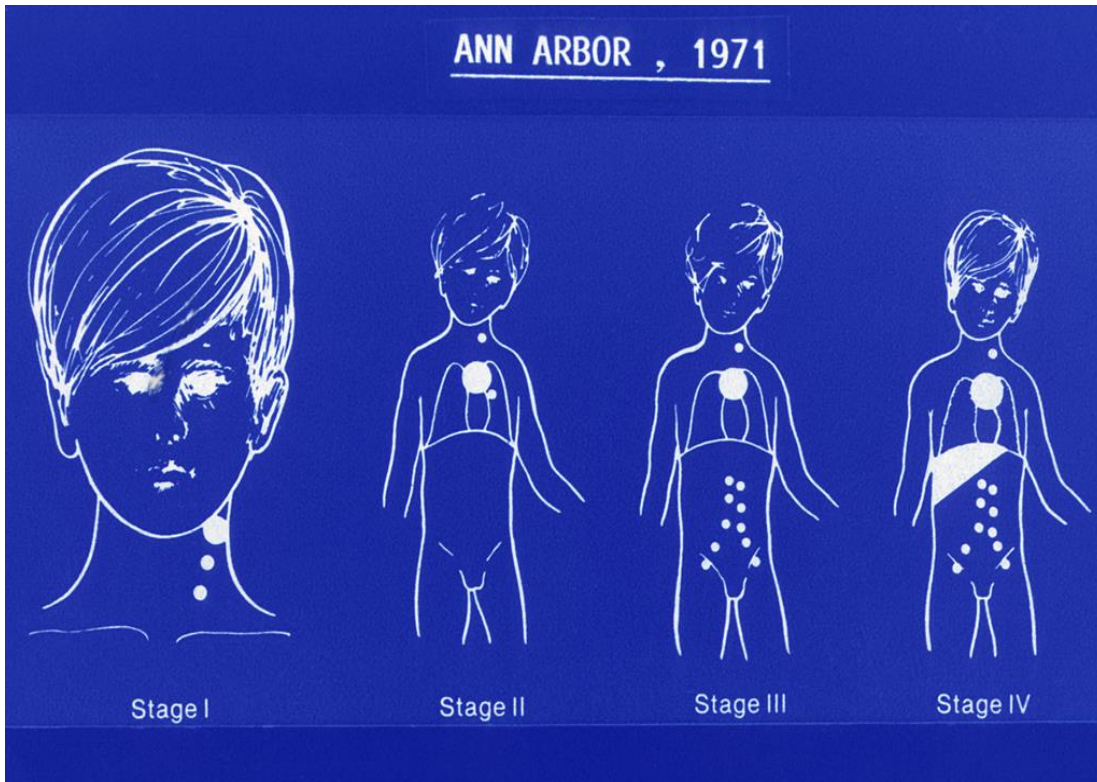
- Staging (Lugano classification) and prognostic impact
- Treatment before Rituximab
- Treatment in the Rituximab era
- Specific situations

# Outline

- Staging (Lugano classification) and prognostic impact
- Treatment before Rituximab
- Treatment in the Rituximab era
- Specific situations



# Staging in lymphomas



- Defines disease location and extent
- Suggests prognostic information
- Allows comparisons among studies
- Provides a baseline against which response or disease progression can be compared
- Initial staging criteria were designed for HL and superseded by the Ann Arbor classification
- Staging remains according to Ann Arbor

# Early stage DLBCL

- “Limited”, “localized” or “early” stage DLBCL occurs in 25-30% of DLBCL
- Overall, the outcome of these patients is good (10-yr OS 80%)
- No standard definition of early stage
  - In general: stages I or II, in absence of bulky disease (10cm?)
- Few specific studies on prognosis and low number on treatment
- Important issue: how to assess staging (PET/CT)

# Revised staging system (Lugano classification)

## Revised staging system for primary nodal lymphomas

Stage	Involvement	Extranodal (E) status
Limited I	One node or a group of adjacent nodes	Single E lesions without nodal involvement
II	2 or more nodal groups on the same side of the diaphragm	Stage I or II nodal extend with limited contiguous E involvement
II bulky	II as above with “bulky” disease	n/a
Advanced III	Nodes on both sides of diaphragm; nodes above diaphragm with spleen involvement	n/a
IV	Additional noncontiguous extralymphatic involvement	n/a



# Prognosis of early stage DLBCL

- Overall, the outcome is good: 10-year OS 80%
- However, there is a continuous pattern of relapse beyond 5 years
  - 20% at 5 years – 30% at 10 years
  - Related to more localized therapies?
  - Are relapses or second lymphomas?
- Scores better than IPI: stage modified IPI or NCCN-IPI
- Extranodal sites?
- Subdiaphragm sites (SEER database)?
- No influence of COO, double hit or double expression?

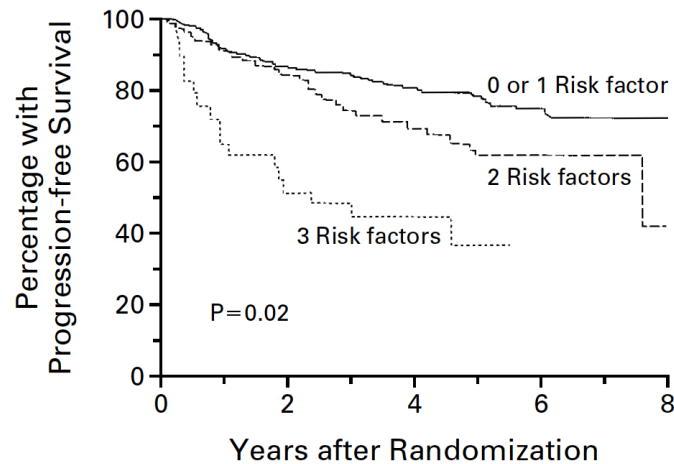
# Stage-modified International Prognostic Index (smIPI)

## IPI

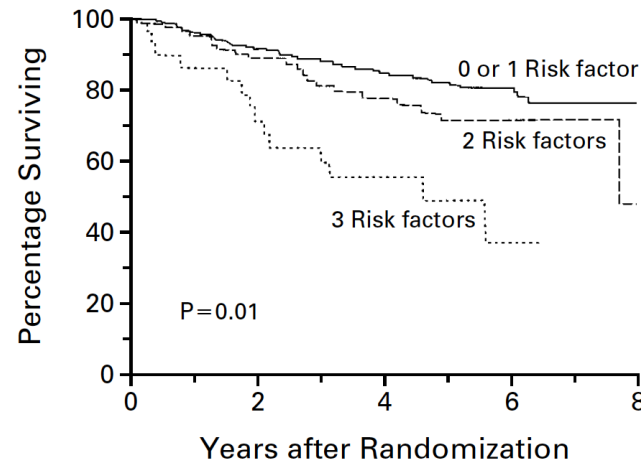
Age ( $\leq 60$  vs.  $> 60$  yrs)  
 PS (ECOG 0-1 vs. 2-4)  
 Extranodal involvement (0-1 vs.  $\geq 2$ )  
 Ann Arbor stage (I-II vs. III-IV)  
 Serum LDH (N vs. High)

## smIPI

Age ( $\leq 60$  vs.  $> 60$  yrs)  
 PS (ECOG 0-1 vs. 2-4)  
 Ann Arbor stage (**I vs. II**)  
 Serum LDH (N vs. High)

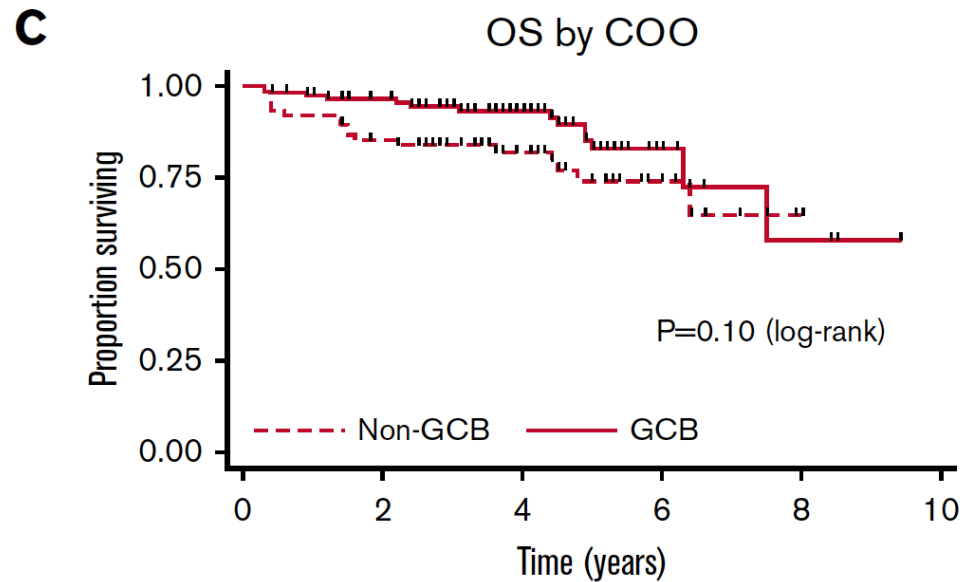


No. AT RISK	0	2	4	6	8
0 or 1 Risk factor	289	257	172	94	7
2 Risk factors	82	74	47	26	10
3 Risk factors	28	18	10	4	0



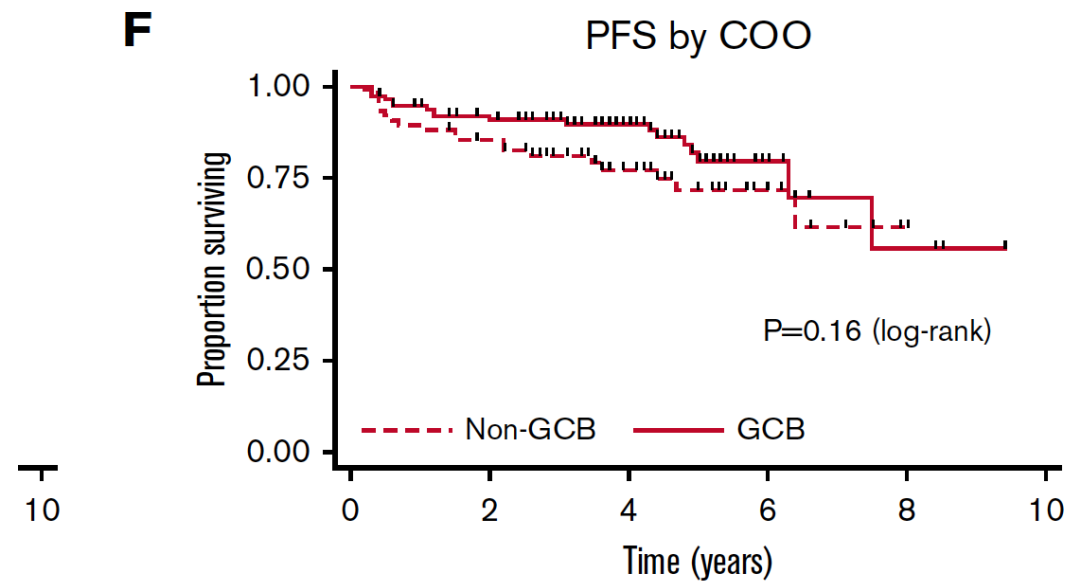
No. AT RISK	0	2	4	6	8
0 or 1 Risk factor	289	272	182	99	21
2 Risk factors	82	77	51	30	19
3 Risk factors	28	23	14	6	0

# Cell of origin (COO) does not predict outcome in stage I-II patients with DLBCL



Number at risk

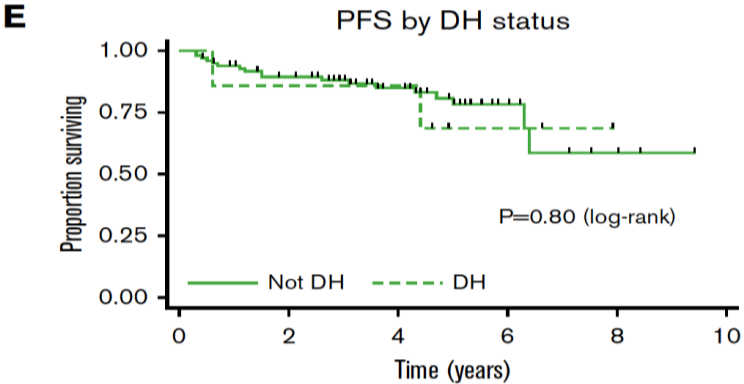
Non-GCB	76	61	37	12	1	0
GCB	116	98	58	11	4	0



Number at risk

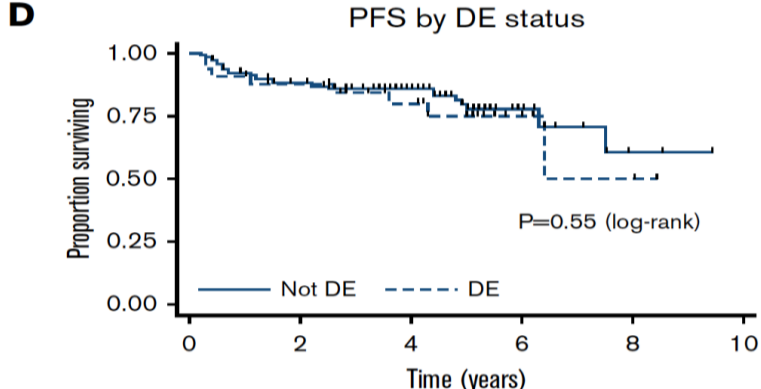
Non-GCB	76	61	35	11	1	0
GCB	116	95	56	11	4	0

# Double-hit or double-expression do not predict outcome in stage I-II patients with DLBCL



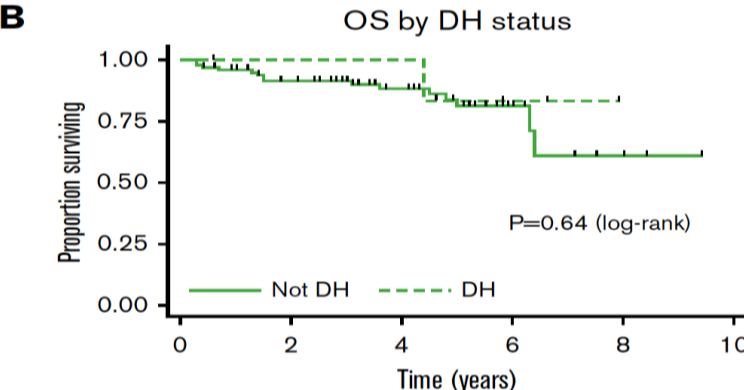
Number at risk

Not DH	99	75	47	13	4	0
DH	7	5	5	2	0	0



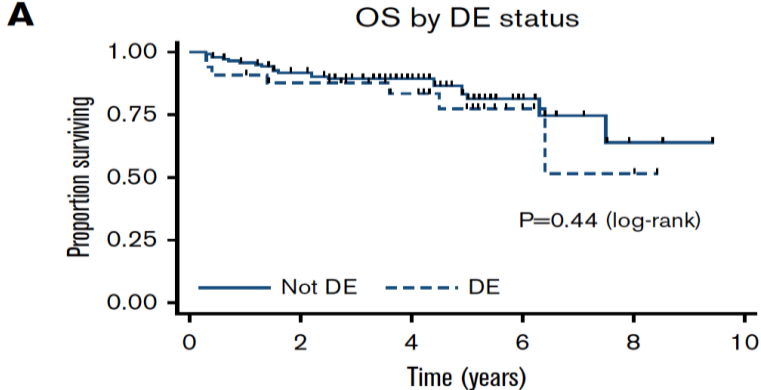
Number at risk

Not DE	142	111	67	15	3	0
DE	33	27	18	6	2	0



Number at risk

Not DH	99	76	48	13	4	0
DH	7	6	6	2	0	0



Number at risk

Not DE	142	114	70	16	3	0
DE	33	27	18	6	2	0

# Outline

- Staging (Lugano classification) and prognostic impact
- **Treatment before Rituximab**
- Treatment in the Rituximab era
- Specific situations

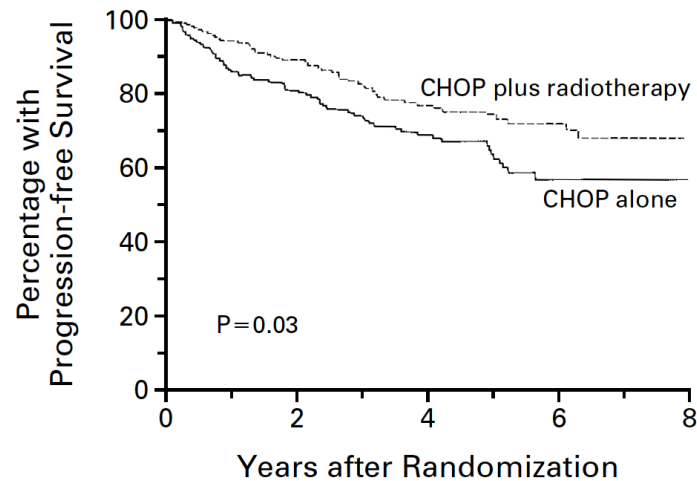


# Selected randomized trials in early-stage DLBCL before Rituximab

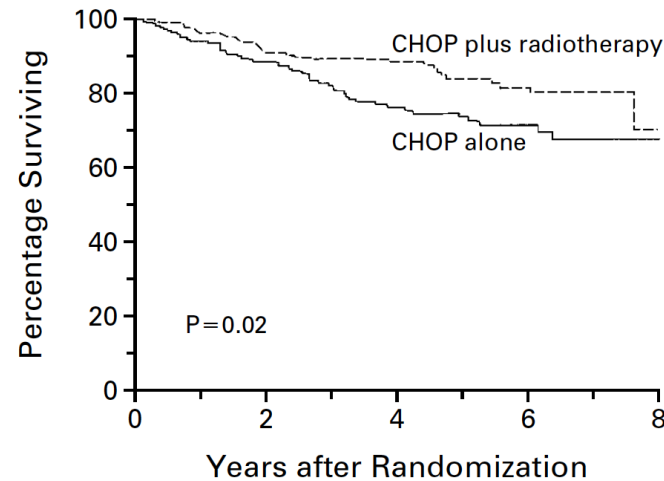
Reference	N	Stage	Treatment arms	5-year PFS (%)	Other details
Miller 1998 Stephens 2016	401	I or II nonbulky	CHOPx8 CHOPx3 + IFRT	64 77*	No differences with long follow-up (median PFS: 11.1 vs. 12 years)
Bonnet 2007	576	I-II (with no risk factors of IPI)	CHOPx4 CHOPx4 + IFRT	61 64	≥60 years

# CHOP x 8 vs. CHOPx3 plus RT in early stage aggressive lymphoma

- Biopsy-proven intermediate or high-risk NHL
- I – IE non bulky; II – IIE non bulky
- CT scan
- RT: involved field radiotherapy (40 to 55 Gy)



No. AT Risk	0	2	4	6	8
CHOP alone	201	172	111	55	14
CHOP plus radiotherapy	200	178	119	70	17



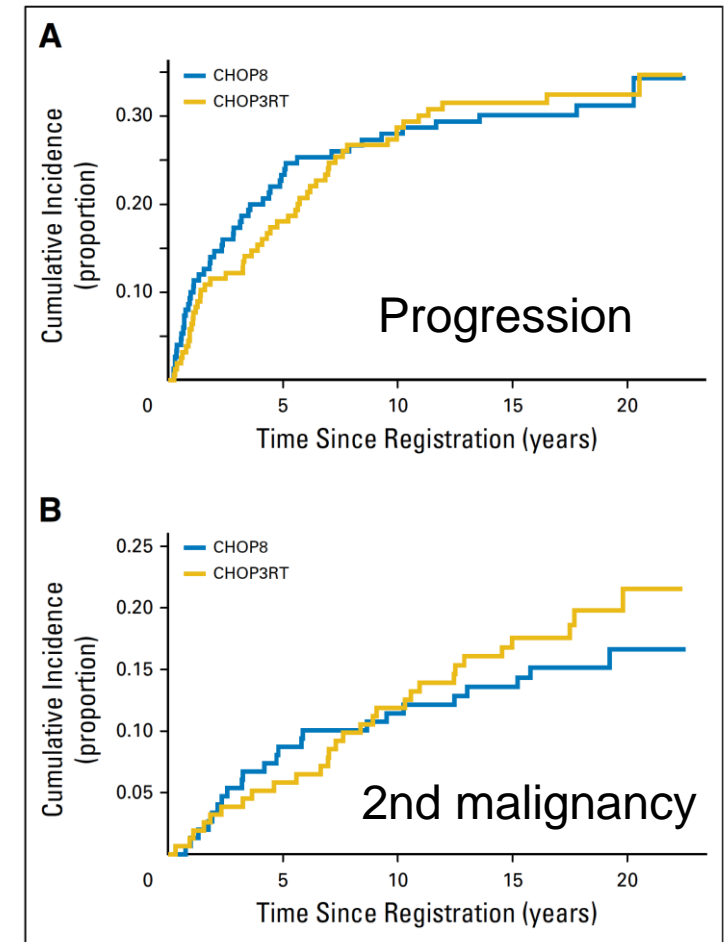
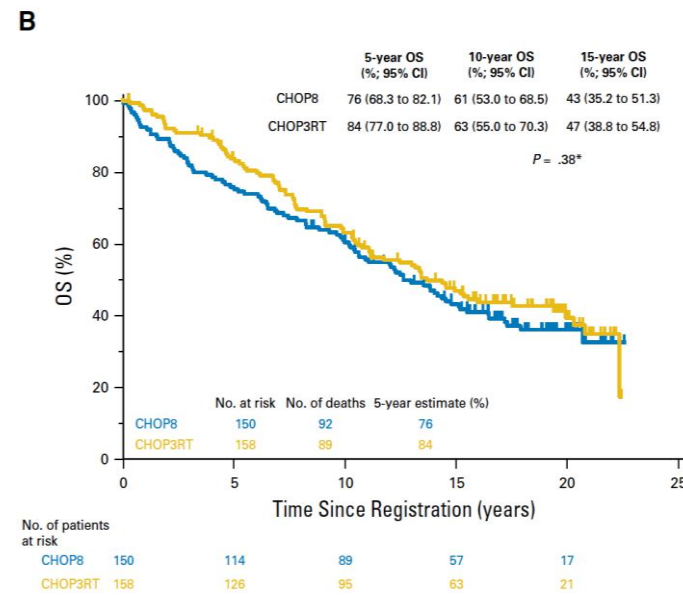
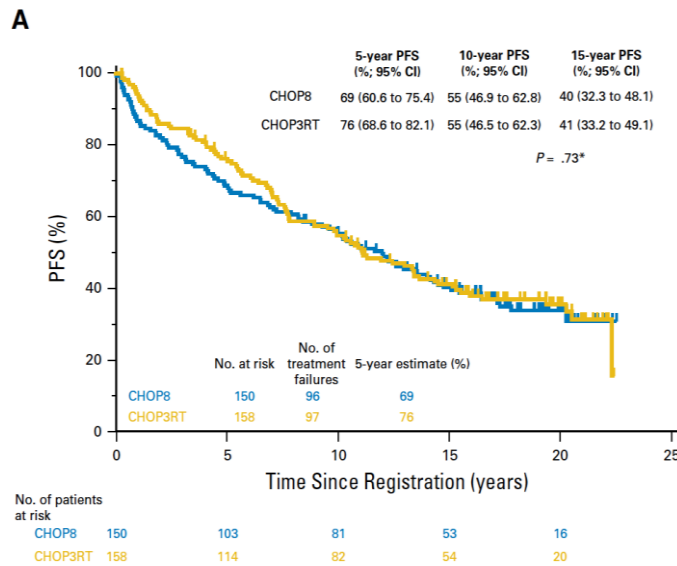
No. AT Risk	0	2	4	6	8
CHOP alone	201	187	120	61	14
CHOP plus radiotherapy	200	185	128	75	17

## CHOP+RT:

- = CR rate
- Less toxic (neutropenia or ventricular function)
- ↑ PFS and OS

# CHOP x 8 vs. CHOPx3 plus RT in early stage aggressive lymphoma

- Biopsy-proven intermediate or high-risk NHL
- I – IE non bulky; II – IIE non bulky
- CT scan
- RT: involved field radiotherapy (40 to 55 Gy)



# Outline

- Staging (Lugano classification) and prognostic impact
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# Key strategies to improve the outcome in early stage DLBCL

1. Standard chemotherapy (CT) (MInT)
2. Combined modality (CT +- abbreviated + IFRT) (SWOG S0014)
3. Abbreviated CT (FLYER)
4. PET-adapted treatment



# R-CT > CT in early stage DLBCL

- SWOG S0014<sup>1</sup> (phase 2)      R-CHOPx3 + IFRT (>CHOPx3 +RT)
- MInT<sup>2,3</sup> (phase 3)\*      R-CHO(E)Px6 > CHO(E)Px6

\* Not exclusively early stage, but favorable  
(about 70%)

Bulk received RT 30-40 Gy

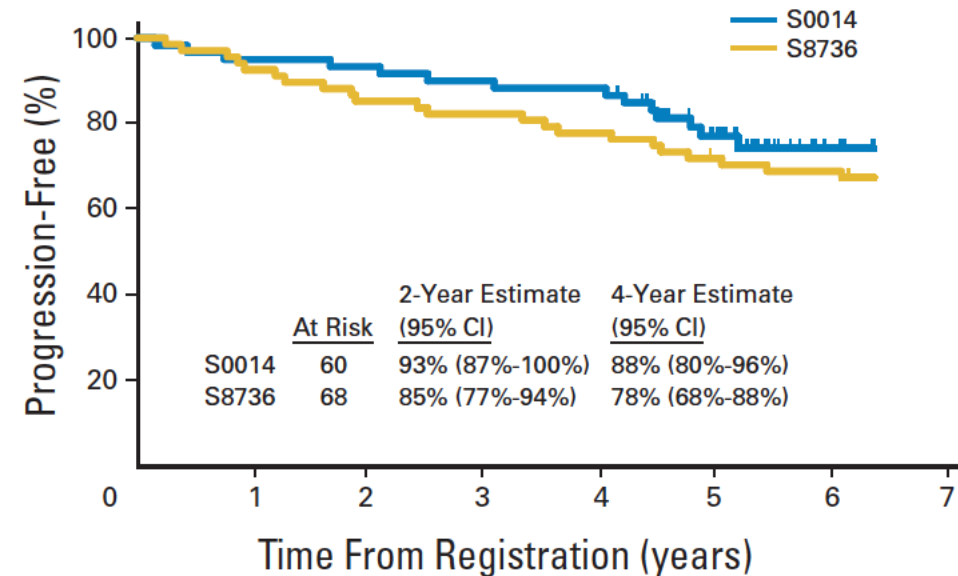
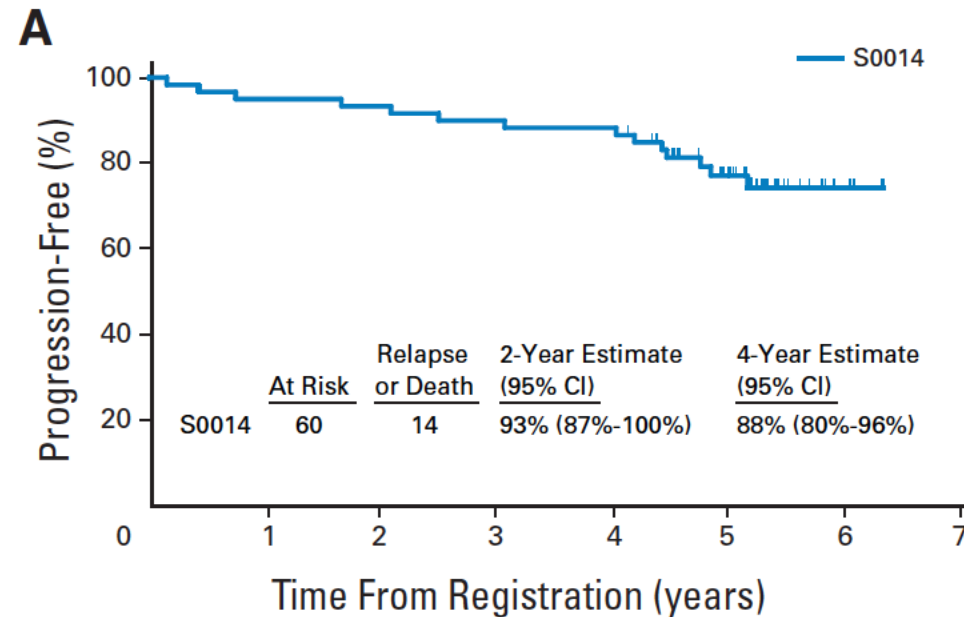
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R-CHOPx3 + IFRT (>CHOPx3 +IFRT)

- MInT<sup>2,3</sup> (phase 3)\*

R-CHO(E)Px6 > CHO(E)Px6



# R-CT > CT in early stage DLBCL

- SWOG S0014<sup>1</sup> (phase 2)

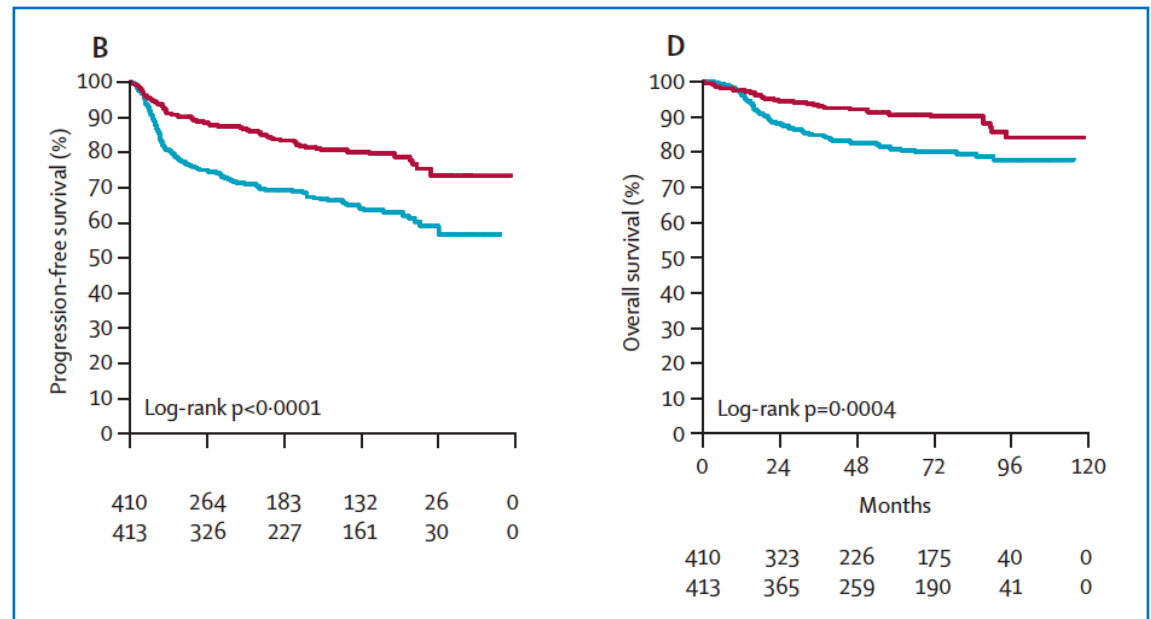
R-CHOPx3 + IFRT (>CHOPx3 +IFRT)

- MInT<sup>2,3</sup> (phase 3)\*

R-CHO(E)Px6 > CHO(E)Px6

\* Not exclusively early stage, but favorable (about 70%)

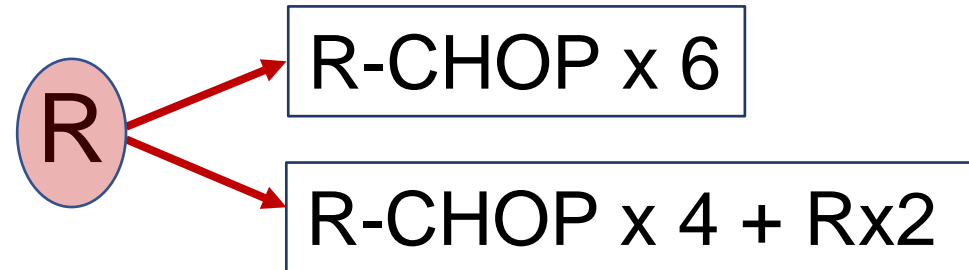
Bulk received IFRT 30-40 Gy



# R-CHOPx6 vs. R-CHOPx4 + Rx2 in early stage DLBCL (FLYER trial)

ClinicalTrials.gov NCT00278421

- DLBCL
- 18-60 years
- Stage I or II
- No IPI risk factor
- No bulky



Non-inferiority trial (margin -5.5%)

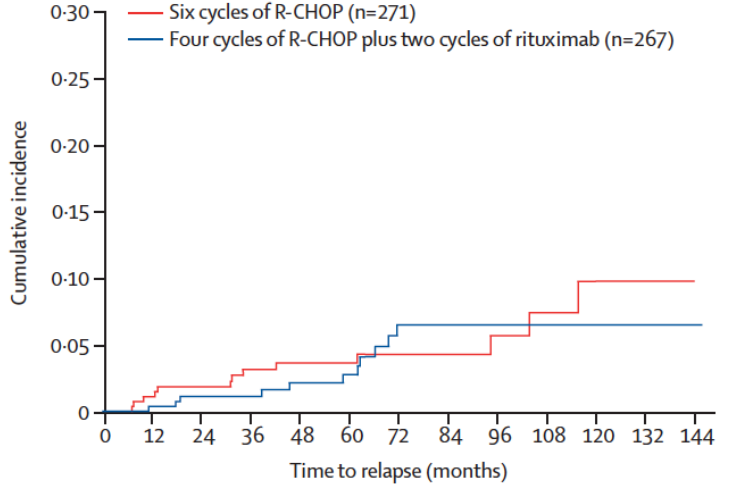
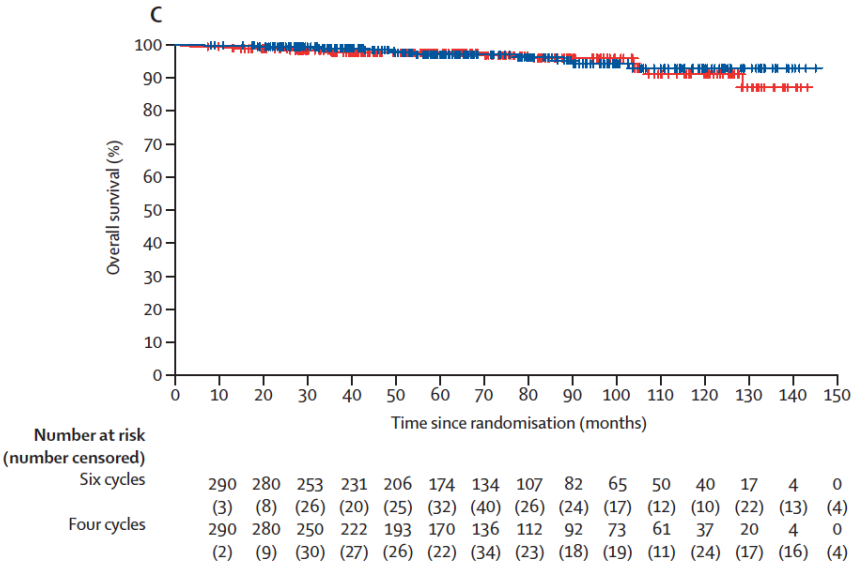
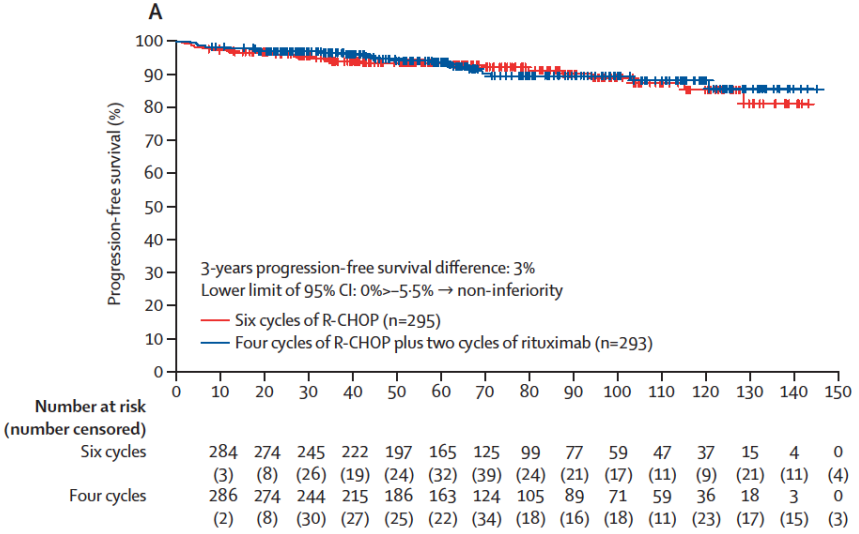
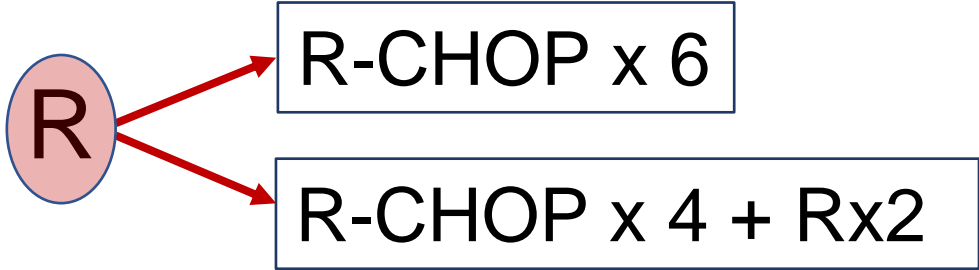
End-point: PFS (3 years)

No radiotherapy (except for testicular lymphoma)

# R-CHOPx6 vs. R-CHOPx4 + Rx2 in early stage DLBCL (FLYER trial)

ClinicalTrials.gov NCT00278421

CR rate: 91% vs. 92%





# Key strategies to improve the outcome in early stage DLBCL

1. Standard chemotherapy (CT) (MInT)
2. Combined modality (CT +/- abbreviated + RT) (SWOG S0014)
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4. PET-adapted treatment

## CLINICAL TRIALS AND OBSERVATIONS

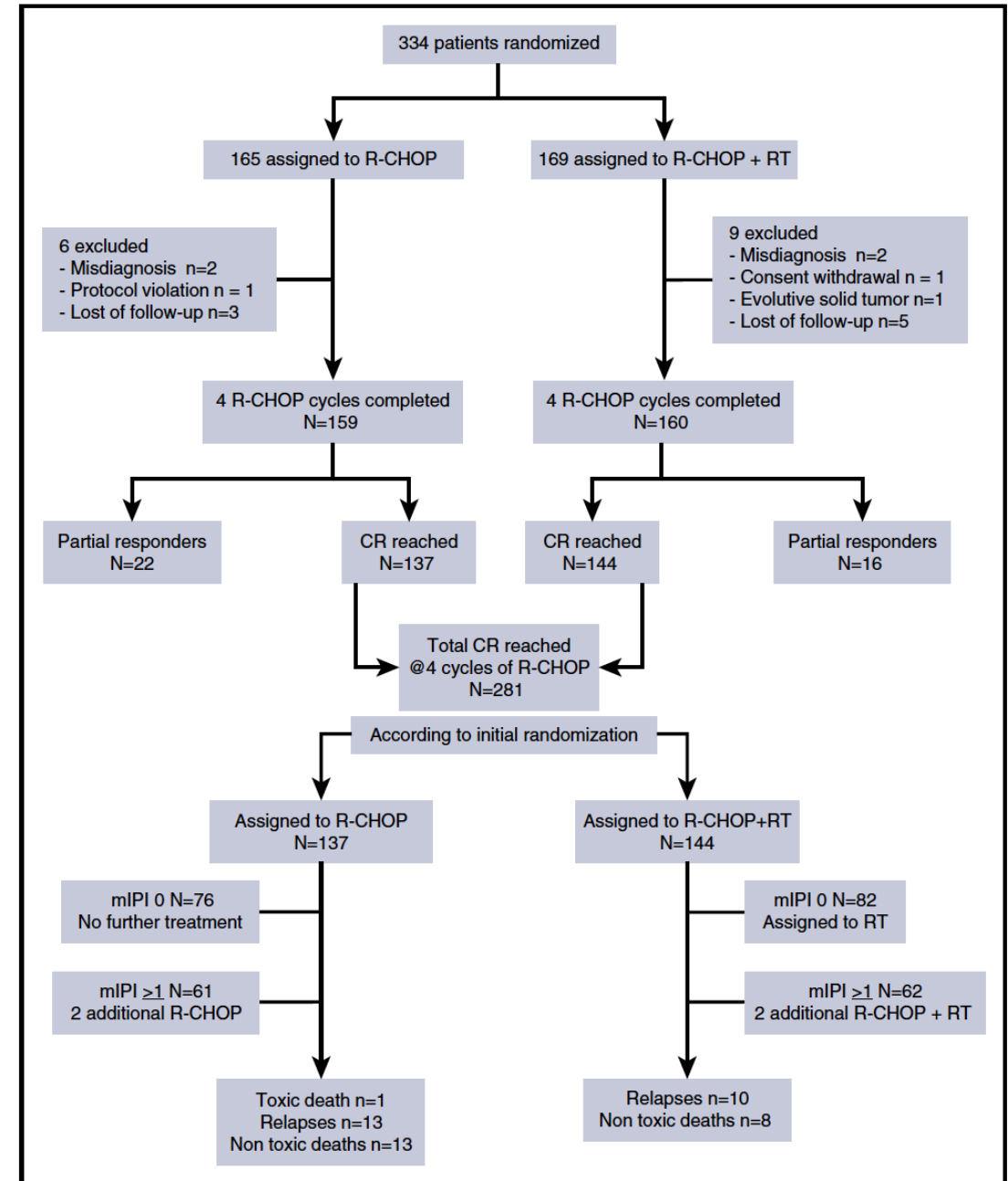
# R-CHOP 14 with or without radiotherapy in nonbulky limited-stage diffuse large B-cell lymphoma

Thierry Lamy,<sup>1</sup> Gandhi Damaj,<sup>2</sup> Pierre Soubeyran,<sup>3</sup> Emmanuel Gyan,<sup>4</sup> Guillaume Cartron,<sup>5</sup> Krime Bouabdallah,<sup>6</sup> Rémy Gressin,<sup>7</sup> Jérôme Cornillon,<sup>8</sup> Anne Banos,<sup>9</sup> Katell Le Du,<sup>10</sup> Mohamed Benchalal,<sup>11</sup> Marie-Pierre Moles,<sup>12</sup> Steven Le Gouill,<sup>13</sup> Joel Fleury,<sup>14</sup> Pascal Godmer,<sup>15</sup> Hervé Maisonneuve,<sup>16</sup> Eric Deconinck,<sup>17</sup> Roch Houot,<sup>18</sup> Kamel Laribi,<sup>19</sup> Jean Pierre Marolleau,<sup>20</sup> Olivier Tournilhac,<sup>21</sup> Bernard Branger,<sup>22</sup> Anne Devillers,<sup>23</sup> Jean Philippe Vuillez,<sup>24</sup> Thierry Fest,<sup>25</sup> Philippe Colombat,<sup>26</sup> Valérie Costes,<sup>27</sup> Vanessa Szablewski,<sup>27</sup> Marie C. Béné,<sup>28</sup> and Vincent Delwail,<sup>29</sup> on behalf of the LYSA Group

Blood 2018;131:174-81

- DLBCL
- 18-75 years
- Stage I or II
- No bulky

- Involved field RT
- 40Gy in 20 fractions
- 4 weeks after last R-CHOP

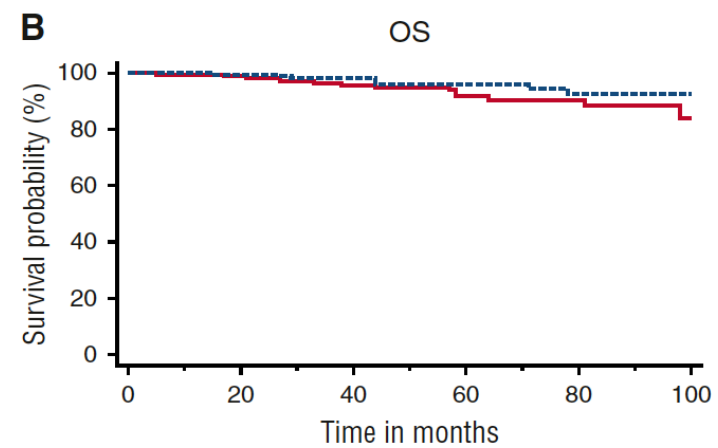
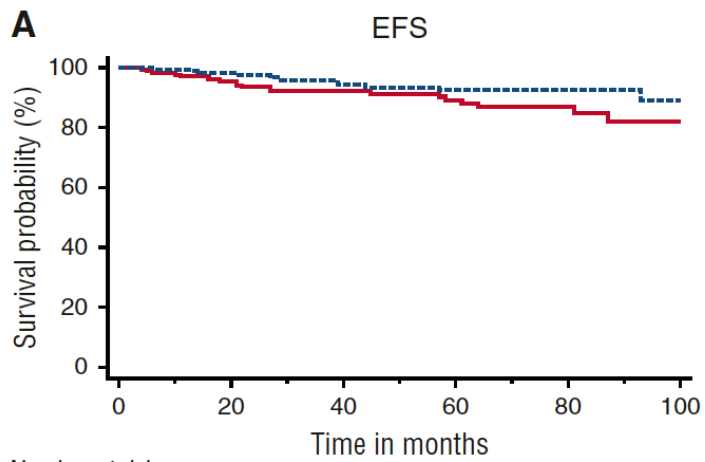


CLINICAL TRIALS AND OBSERVATIONS

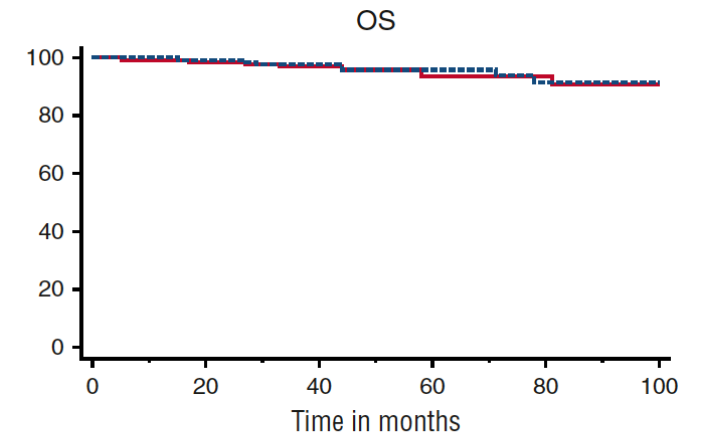
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Blood 2018;131:174-81



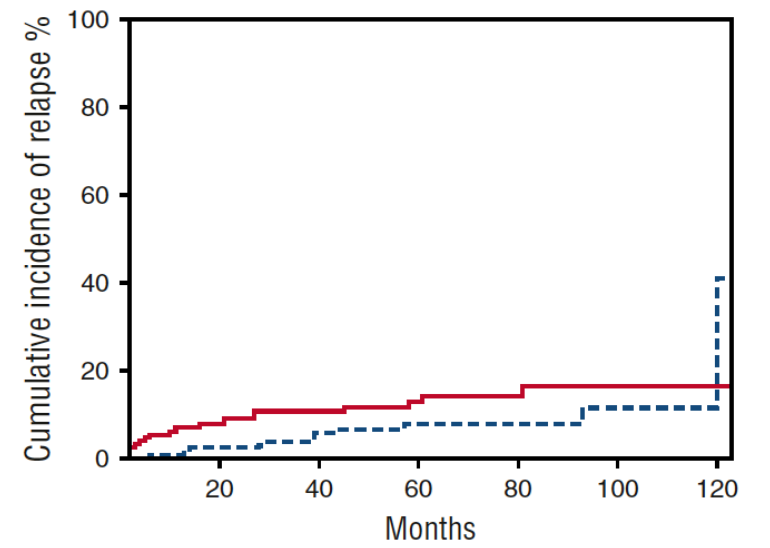
From time of inclusion



Number at risk

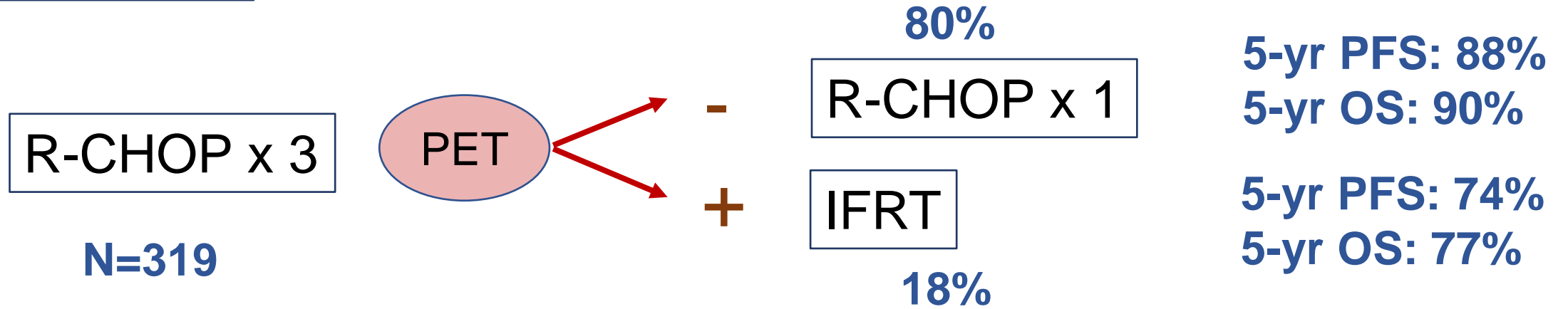
Group: R-CHOP	137	127	98	76	37	16
Group: R-CHOP + RT	144	131	105	76	34	19

## Patients in CR after 4th cycle



# Abbreviated R-CHOP with PET-directed IFRT

- DLBCL
- Stage I or II
- No bulky



Single center experience (British Columbia)  
IFRT: involved-site radiotherapy

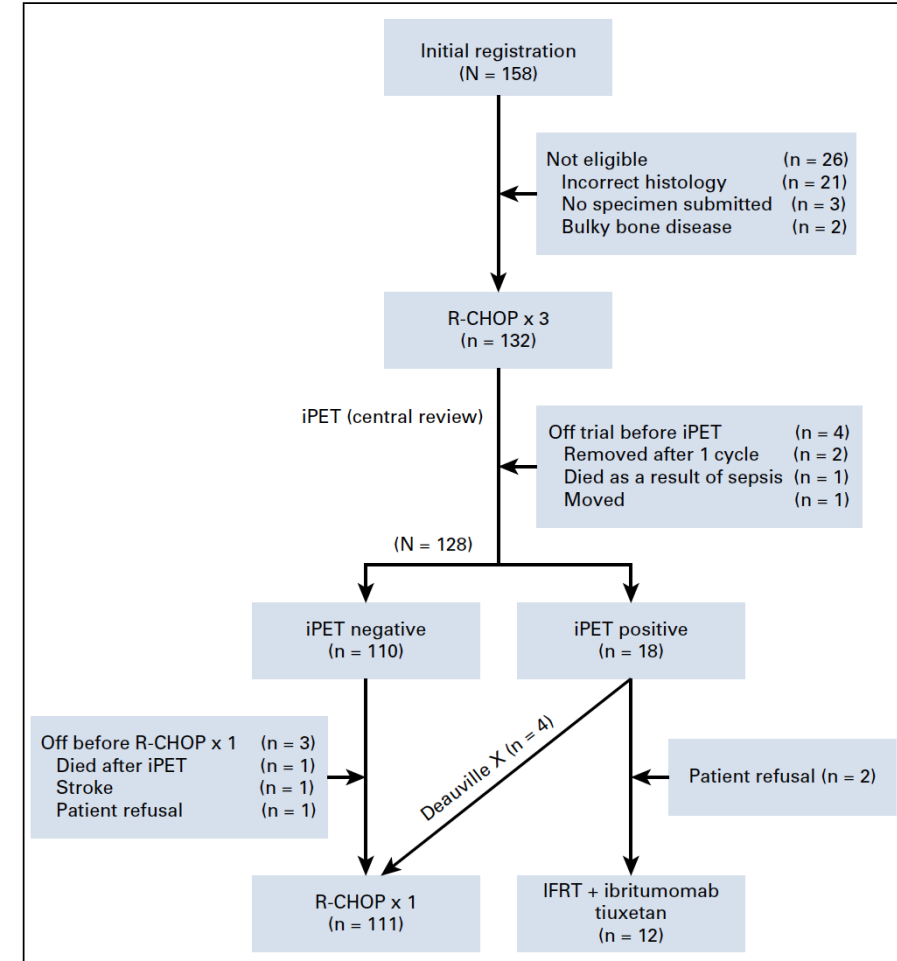
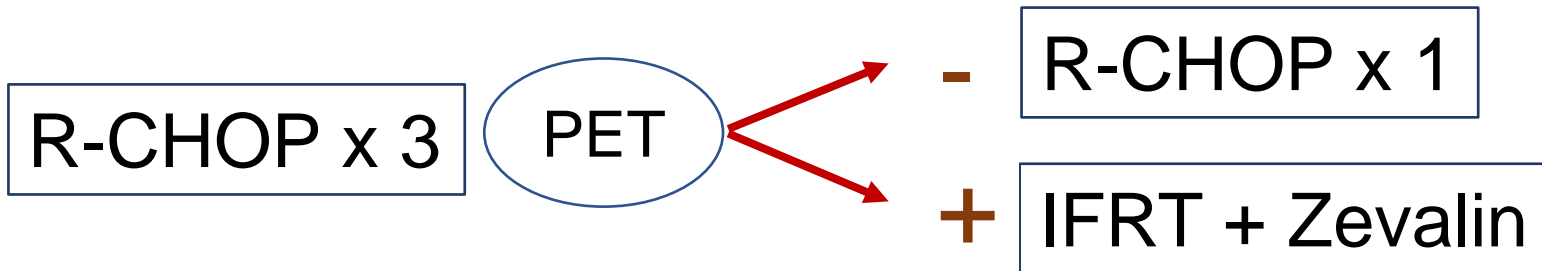
original reports

# Positron Emission Tomography–Directed Therapy for Patients With Limited-Stage Diffuse Large B-Cell Lymphoma: Results of Intergroup National Clinical Trials Network Study S1001

Daniel O. Persky, MD<sup>1</sup>; Hongli Li, MS<sup>2</sup>; Deborah M. Stephens, DO<sup>3</sup>; Steven I. Park, MD<sup>4-5</sup>; Nancy L. Bartlett, MD<sup>6</sup>; Lode J. Swinnen, MD<sup>7</sup>; Paul M. Barr, MD<sup>8</sup>; Jerome D. Winegarden III, MD<sup>9</sup>; Louis S. Constine, MD<sup>10</sup>; Thomas J. Fitzgerald, MD<sup>11</sup>; John P. Leonard, MD<sup>12</sup>; Brad S. Kahl, MD<sup>5</sup>; Michael L. LeBlanc, PhD<sup>2</sup>; Joo Y. Song, MD<sup>13</sup>; Richard I. Fisher, MD<sup>14</sup>; Lisa M. Rimsza, MD<sup>15</sup>; Sonali M. Smith, MD<sup>16</sup>; Thomas P. Miller, MD<sup>1</sup>; and Jonathan W. Friedberg, MD<sup>8</sup>

J Clin Oncol 2020;38:3003-11

- DLBCL
- Stage I or II
- Age >18
- ECOG 0-2
- No bulky (10 cm)



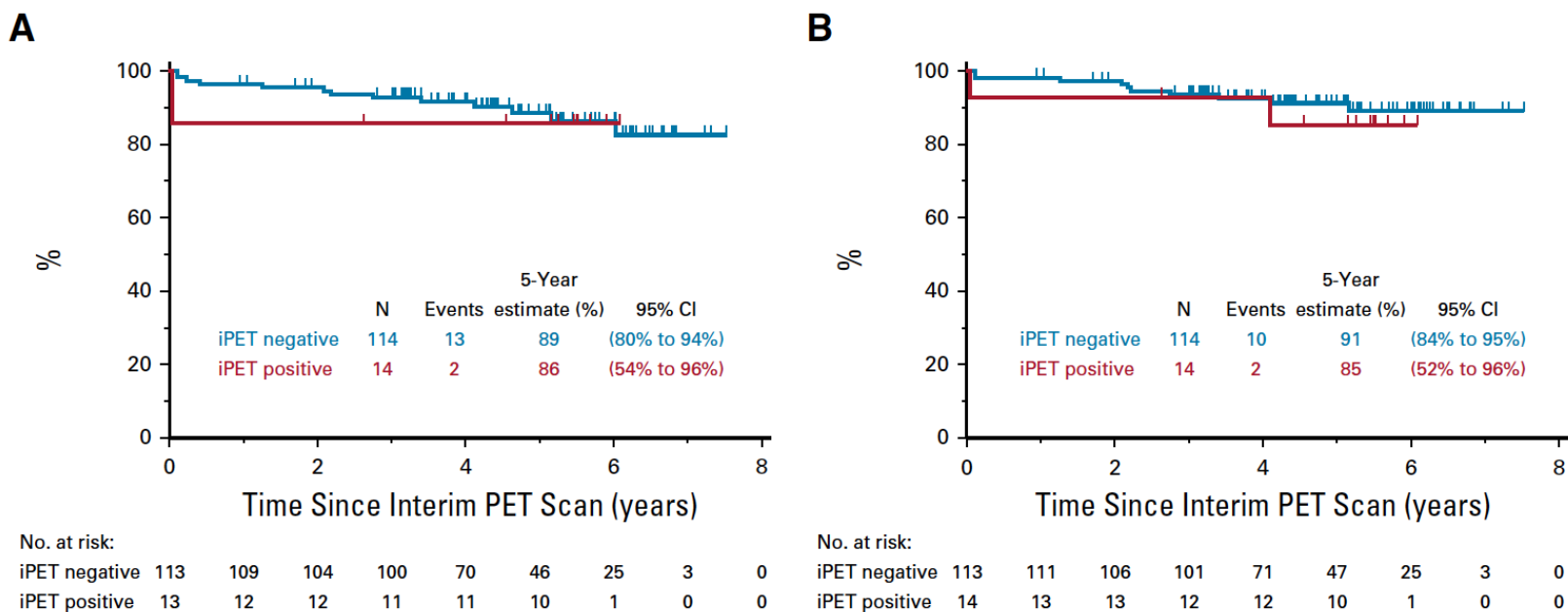


original reports

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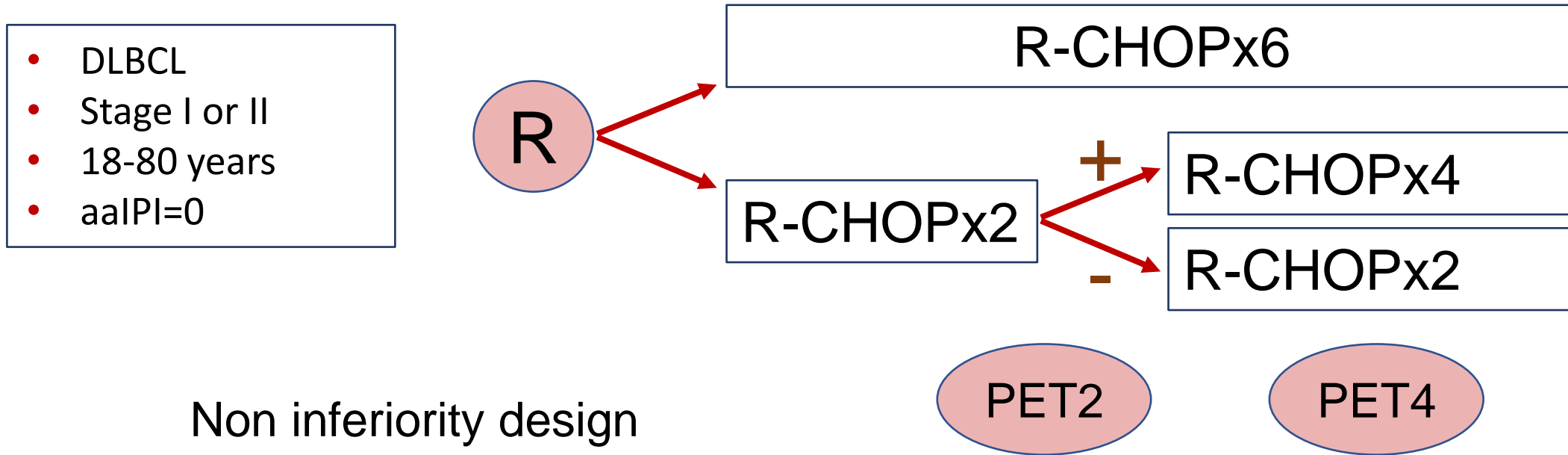
J Clin Oncol 2020;38:3003-11



**CONCLUSION** To our knowledge, S1001 is the largest prospective study in the United States of limited-stage DLBCL in the rituximab era, with the best NCTN results in this disease subset. With PET-directed therapy, 89% of the patients with a negative iPET received R-CHOP × 4, and only 11% had a positive iPET and required radiation, with both groups having excellent outcomes. The trial establishes R-CHOP × 4 alone as the new standard approach to limited-stage disease for the absolute majority of patients.

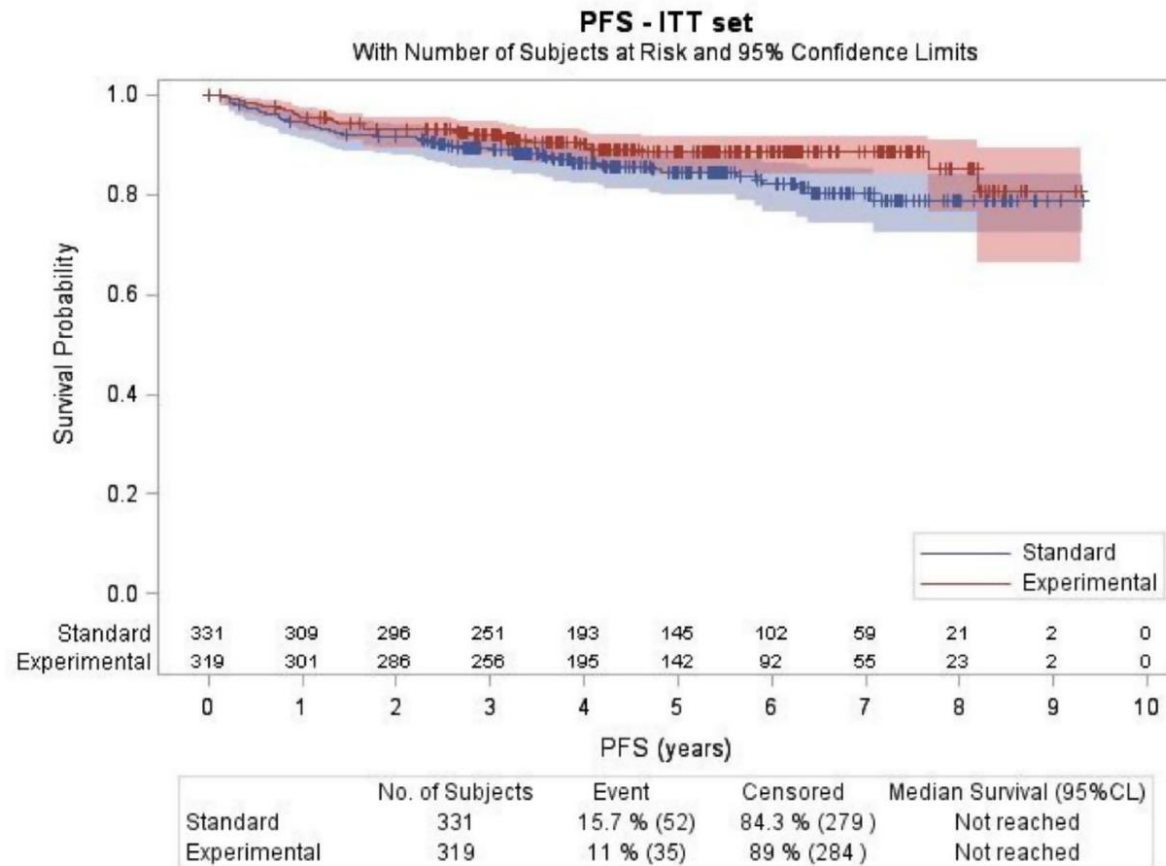
005 | EARLY POSITRON EMISSION TOMOGRAPHY RESPONSE-ADAPTED TREATMENT IN LOCALIZED DIFFUSE LARGE B-CELL LYMPHOMA (AAIPI=0) : RESULTS OF THE PHASE 3 LYSA LNH 09-1B TRIAL

S. Bologna<sup>1</sup>, T. Vander Borgh<sup>2</sup>, J. Briere<sup>3</sup>, V. Ribrag<sup>4</sup>, G. L. Damaj<sup>5</sup>, C. Thieblemont<sup>6</sup>, P. Feugier<sup>7</sup>, F. Peyrade<sup>8</sup>, L. Lebras<sup>9</sup>, D. Coso<sup>10</sup>, D. Sibon<sup>11</sup>, C. Bonnet<sup>12</sup>, F. Morschhauser<sup>13</sup>, H. Ghesquieres<sup>14</sup>, S. Becker<sup>15</sup>, P. Olivier<sup>16</sup>, B. Fabiani<sup>17</sup>, H. Tilly<sup>18</sup>, C. Haioun<sup>19</sup>, J. N. Bastie<sup>20</sup>



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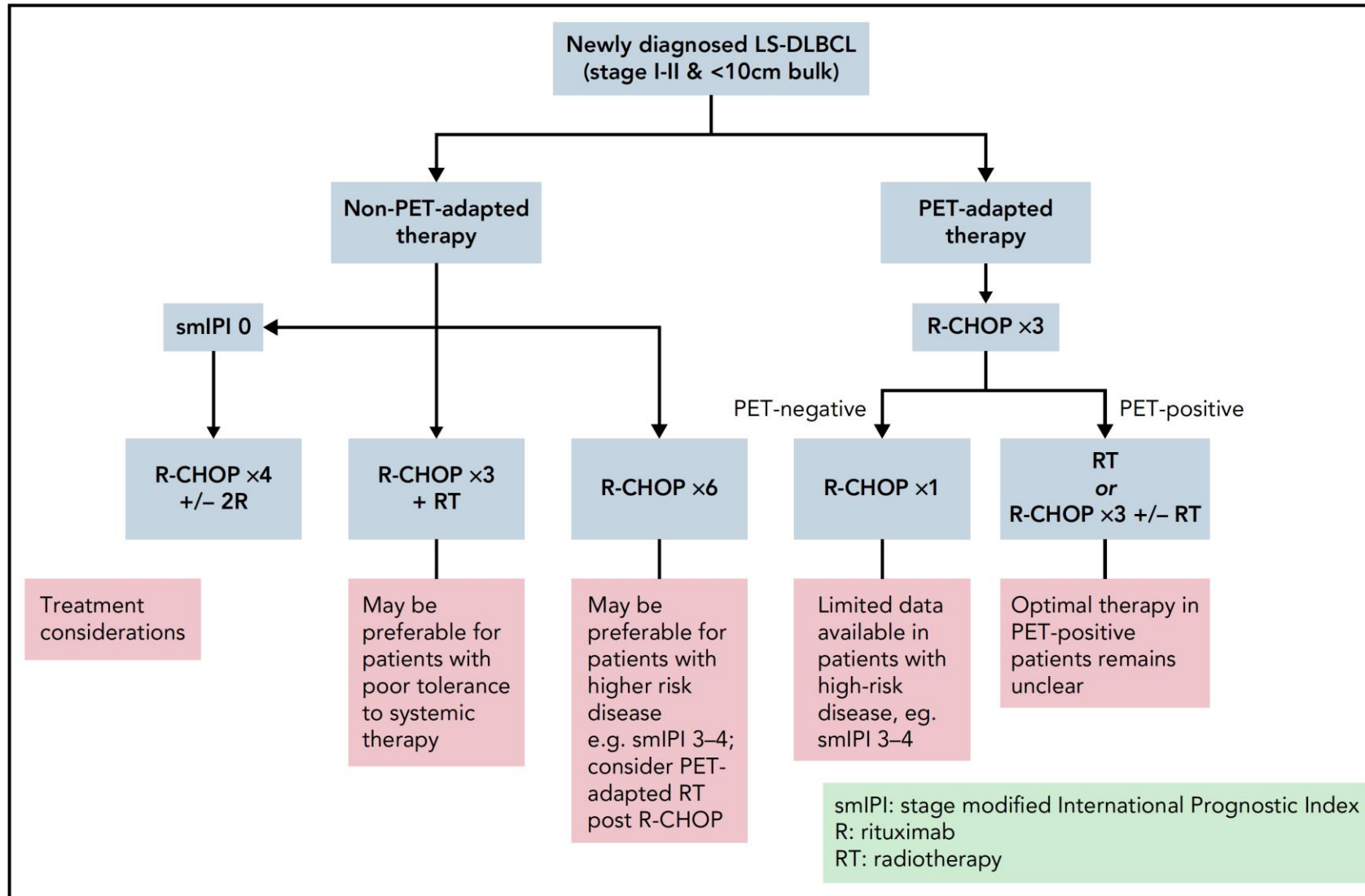
S. Bologna<sup>1</sup>, T. Vander Borgh<sup>2</sup>, J. Briere<sup>3</sup>, V. Ribrag<sup>4</sup>, G. L. Damaj<sup>5</sup>, C. Thieblemont<sup>6</sup>, P. Feugier<sup>7</sup>, F. Peyrade<sup>8</sup>, L. Lebras<sup>9</sup>, D. Coso<sup>10</sup>, D. Sibon<sup>11</sup>, C. Bonnet<sup>12</sup>, F. Morschhauser<sup>13</sup>, H. Ghesquieres<sup>14</sup>, S. Becker<sup>15</sup>, P. Olivier<sup>16</sup>, B. Fabiani<sup>17</sup>, H. Tilly<sup>18</sup>, C. Haioun<sup>19</sup>, J. N. Bastie<sup>20</sup>



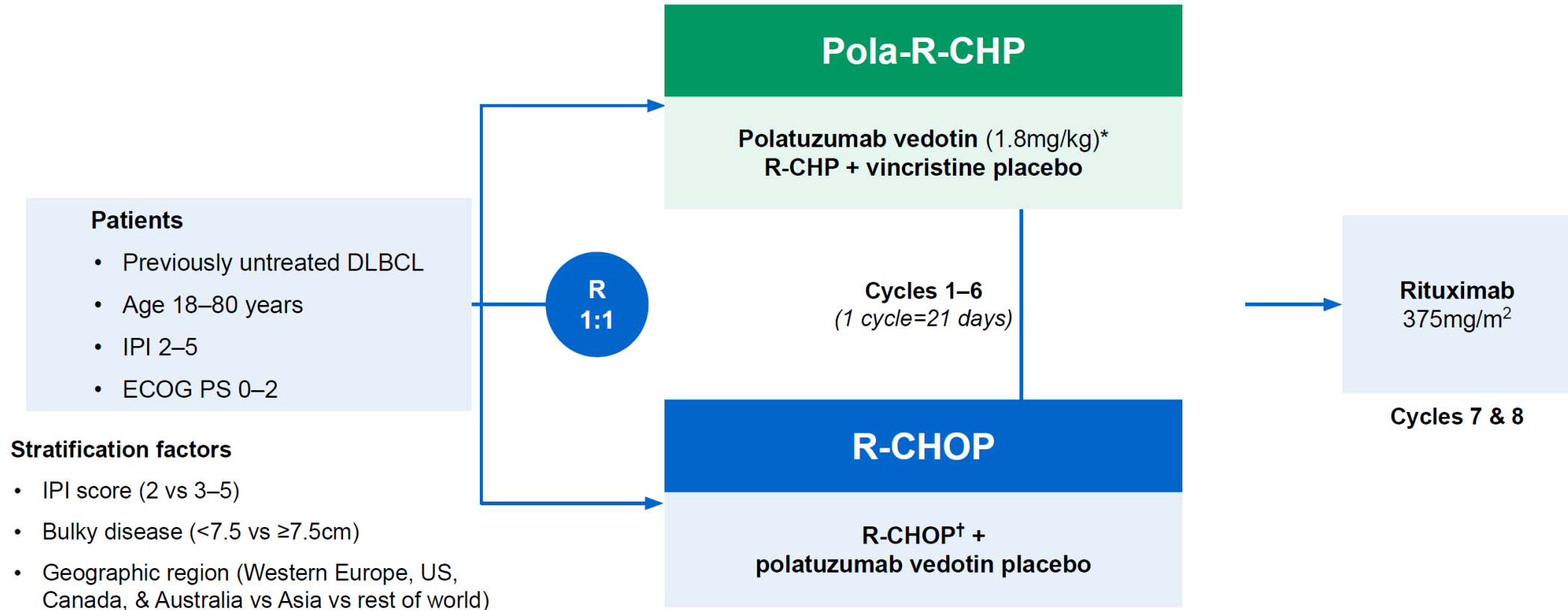
- Experimental arm: 80% negative PET2
- Overall, PET2 does not predict outcome
- Patients with positive PET4 in either arm taken off study

Non inferiority: HR 0.724 (90%CI: 0.504-1.040)

# Treatment of limited-stage DLBCL

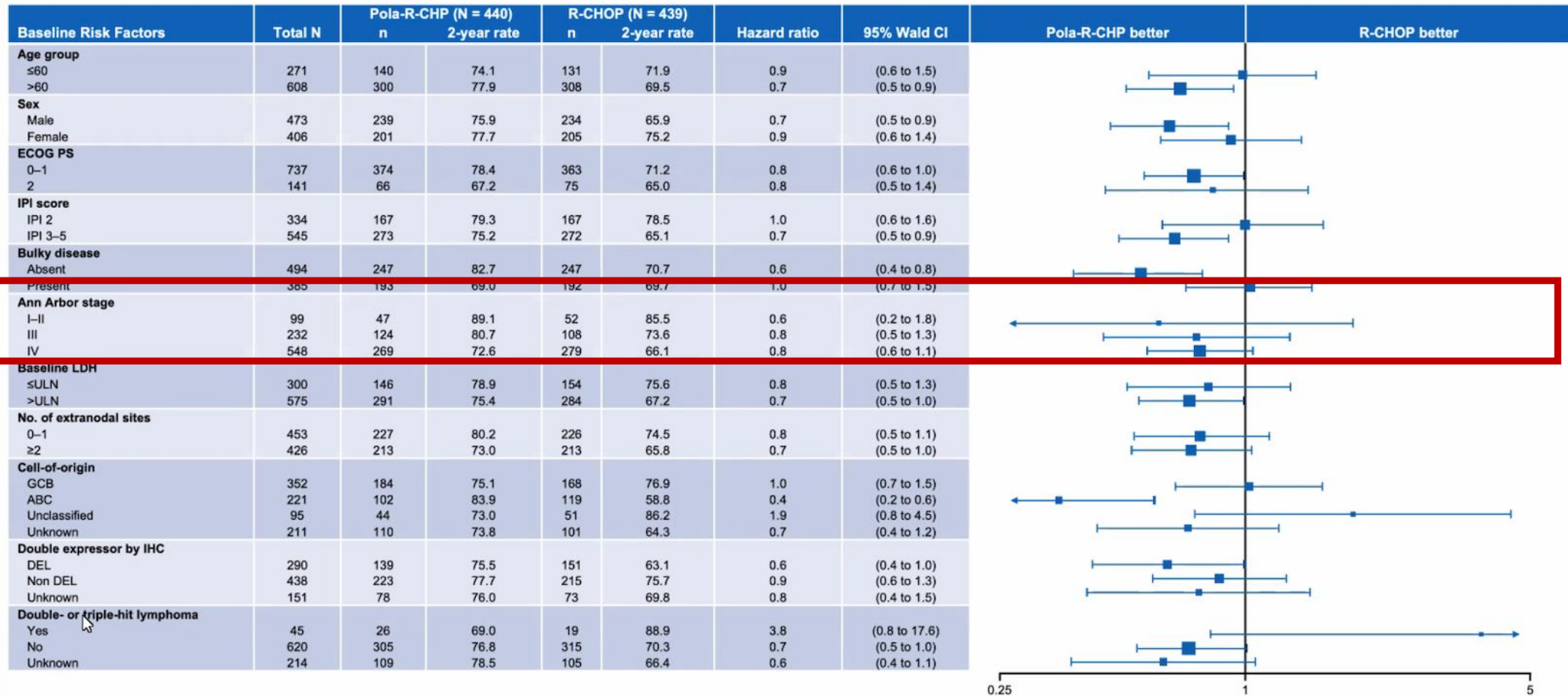


# POLARIX: A randomized double-blinded study



\*IV on Day 1; <sup>†</sup>R-CHOP: IV rituximab 375mg/m<sup>2</sup>, cyclophosphamide 750mg/m<sup>2</sup>, doxorubicin 50mg/m<sup>2</sup>, and vincristine 1.4mg/m<sup>2</sup> (max. 2mg) on Day 1, plus oral prednisone 100mg once daily on Days 1–5. IPI, International prognostic index; ECOG PS, Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group performance status; R, randomized.

# PFS (by INV) by subgroup (unstratified)



# Outline

- Staging (Lugano classification) and prognostic impact
- Treatment before Rituximab
- Treatment in the Rituximab era
- **Specific situations**

# Early stage DLBCL in special populations

- Aggressive lymphomas other than DLBCLnos
  - In S1001: 22 patients (17%) had high-grade B-cell lymphoma “nos” and 4 (3%) double hit (DH)<sup>1</sup>
  - The outcome was similar (i.e., 4/4 DH in maintained CR)<sup>1</sup>
  - Other histologic subtypes did not confer unique outcome in early stage aggressive lymphomas<sup>2</sup>
- *MYC* rearrangement +/- *BCL2* and/or *BCL6*<sup>3</sup>
- No differences in the outcome according to COO, DH or DE<sup>4</sup>



# Targeted drugs according to molecular classification

Cell of origin	Molecular classification	Genetic alterations	Drugs
GCB	EZB / C3	<i>EZH2, BCL2, CREBBP</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>iBCL2 (venetoclax)</li> <li>imTOR (tensirolimus, everolimus)</li> <li>iEZH/iHDAC (tazemetostat, ...)</li> <li>iPI3K (idelalisib, copanlisib, ...)</li> </ul>
	C4	Core histone genes, Immune evasion <i>JAK/STAT, BCR/PI3K, NFkB</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>iPI3K (idelalisib, copanlisib, ...)</li> <li>iproteasoma (bortezomib, carfilzomib)</li> <li>JAK/STAT (ruxolotinib)</li> <li>iPD-1 (nivolumab, pembrolizumab)</li> </ul>
	B2N / C1	<i>BCL6; NOTCH2</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>iBTK (ibrutinib, acalabrutinib)</li> <li>lproteasoma (bortezomib, carfilzomib)</li> <li>iPD1 (nivolumab, pembrolizumab)</li> </ul>
Unclas. GCB/ABC	C2	<i>TP53</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>APR-246</li> <li>MDM2/MDM\$</li> <li>XPO1 (selinexor)</li> </ul>
	MCD / C5	<i>MYD88, CD79B, BCL2, MALT1</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>iBTK (ibrutinib, acalabrutinib)</li> <li>iSYK (entospletinib, fosfamatinib)</li> <li>iPD1 (nivolumab, pembroluzumab)</li> <li>iMALT1 (fenotiacines, MI-1)</li> </ul>
ABC	N1	<i>NOTCH1</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>iNOTCH</li> <li>Lenalidomida</li> </ul>

# Conclusions

- Limited stage DLBCLs have good prognosis with current R-CHOP-based +/-IFRT treatment.
- R-CHOPx4 (+Rx2) is adequate for low-risk (smIPI 0) cases.
- PET-based strategy is useful, since it allows to tailor the number of cycles or the use of IFRT in cases with insufficient metabolic response.
- The development of new biomarkers could guide the use of novel targeted therapies.