



# GIORNATE EMATOLOGICHE VICENTINE

X edizione

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**La prevenzione della malattia leucemica nell'adulto dopo trapianto**

*Enrico Maffini*

U.O. Trapianto e Terapie cellulari Avanzate. Ist.Seragnoli. IRCCS Bologna

# GIORNATE EMATOLOGICHE VICENTINE

X edizione

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## Introduzione

- La ricaduta della neoplasia ematologica rappresenta la principale causa di fallimento del trapianto allogenico nella leucemia mieloide acuta.
- La terapia di salvataggio dei pazienti ricaduti post trapianto è inefficace e la prognosi generalmente infausta (2 year OS 15-25%)<sup>1</sup>.
- Una terapia di «mantenimento/profilassi», definita come una terapia iniziata mentre il paziente è ancora in remissione completa, è un approccio promettente per ridurre il rischio di ricaduta post trapianto.
- La maggior parte delle ricadute si verifica entro 6-12 mesi, pertanto qualsiasi strategia di profilassi dovrebbe essere iniziata precocemente.

1 Schmid C, et al. Treatment, risk factors, and outcome of adults with relapsed AML after reduced intensity conditioning for allogeneic stem cell transplantation. Blood. 2012;119:1599–1606

# Strategies to prevent Disease Relapse

- . Optimizing the antileukemic activity of the conditioning regimen
- . Early withdrawal of immune suppression
- . Donor lymphocyte infusion
- . Post-transplant maintenance therapy with targeted agents
- . Post-transplant maintenance with hypomethylating agents

## Open questions

- Quali pazienti beneficiano della profilassi?
  - ✓ Rischio citogenetico/molecolare intrinseco
  - ✓ Status al trapianto e presenza/assenza di MRD
  - ✓ Intensità del regime di condizionamento
- Quale strategia utilizzare?
  - ✓ Sospensione precoce dell'immunosoppressione
  - ✓ Non target therapy
  - ✓ Target therapy
  - ✓ Immunoterapia cellulare (DLI profilattiche)
  - ✓ Condizionamento
- Per quanto tempo?

# Open questions..

- Cosa fare se il paziente è peristentemente MRD positivo (NPM o IF) in corso di mantenimento?
- Cosa fare se il paziente rimane MRD positivo (NPM o IF) al termine del mantenimento?
- Quali sono i cut-off di MRD positività predittivi nel post trapianto?

*There are consistent data demonstrating that MRD positivity by means of NPM1 (Nuclophosphmin-1)mutation (i.e. 100 to 1000 copies of mutated NPM1 per 10,000 ABL transcripts or 1% to 10% NPM1/ABL, respectively, is associated with a 60-90% risk of hematologic relapse.*

# 1. Condizionamento

- . Myeloablative fractionated busulfan-based conditioning regimen in patients with AML and MDS: Results of a randomized clinical trial comparing 2 fractionation schedules. Popat, et al. ASCO Meeting 2023 - NCT02250937
- . Muffly L, et al. Preliminary data from a phase 1 study of JSP191 (Briquilimab), an anti-CD117 monoclonal antibody, in combination with low dose irradiation and fludarabine conditioning is well-tolerated, facilitates chimerism and clearance of minimal residual disease in older adults with MDS/AML undergoing allogeneic HCT. Presented at: 2022 Transplantation & Cellular Therapy Meetings

# 1. Condizionamento

- . Phase I/II Study of Sorafenib Added to Busulfan and Fludarabine Conditioning Regimen in Patients With Relapsed/Refractory AML Undergoing Stem Cell Transplantation - NCT03247088
- . Adding Venetoclax to fludarabine/busulfan RIC transplant for high-risk MDS and AML is feasible, safe, and active. Garcia, et al. Blood Adv (2021) 5 (24): 5536–5545. - The protocol was amended to separately assess the safety and efficacy of posttransplant maintenance therapy with hypomethylating agents and venetoclax following venetoclax plus FluBu2. NCT03613532

## 2. Early IS withdrawal

- A quali categorie di pazienti riservare il taper precoce dell'IS?

.....*Rischio citogenetico sfavorevole secondo ELN 2017/2022*

.....*Pazienti con malattia non in remissione al momento del trapianto*

.....*Pazienti MRD+ pretrapianto che ricevono un condizionamento RIC*

.....*Pazienti in CR>=2*

.....*Primary induction failure*

- Qual è il timing ottimale di tapering e sospensione?

- Va differenziato in base al tipo di donatore?

### 3. Hypomethylating Agents

#### ■ PRO

- ✓ E' applicabile a un maggior numero di pazienti rispetto alla terapia target
- ✓ Non esercita una pressione clone-selettiva, può conservare la sua efficacia a fronte della eterogeneità clonale della malattia che è in rapida evoluzione dopo il trapianto

#### ■ CONS

- ✓ Evidenze di efficacia meno forti

### 3. Hypomethylating Agents

- The value of maintenance therapy with hypomethylating agents (HMA) in the post-transplant setting has long been debated.
- 2022 European LeukemiaNet does not recommend subcutaneous azacytidine maintenance

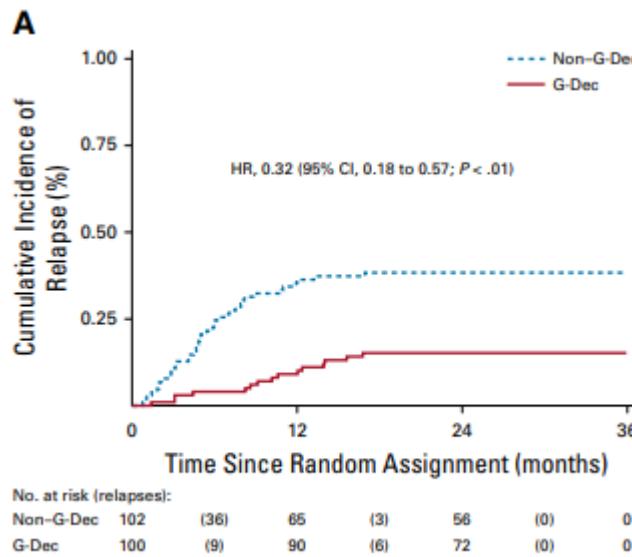
# 3. Hypomethylating Agents

## ⑥ Effect of rhG-CSF Combined With Decitabine Prophylaxis on Relapse of Patients With High-Risk MRD-Negative AML After HSCT: An Open-Label, Multicenter, Randomized Controlled Trial

Lei Gao, MD, PhD<sup>1</sup>; Yanqi Zhang, PhD<sup>2</sup>; Sanbin Wang, MD, PhD<sup>3</sup>; Peiyin Kong, MD, PhD<sup>1</sup>; Yi Su, MM<sup>4</sup>; Jiong Hu, MD<sup>5</sup>; Ming Jiang, MD<sup>6</sup>; Hai Bai, MD<sup>7</sup>; Tao Lang, MD<sup>8</sup>; Jishi Wang, MD, PhD<sup>9</sup>; Li Liu, MD, PhD<sup>10</sup>; Tonghua Yang, MD<sup>11</sup>; Xiaobing Huang, MD<sup>12</sup>; Fang Liu, MD<sup>9</sup>; Shifeng Lou, MD<sup>13</sup>; Yao Liu, MD, PhD<sup>1</sup>; Cheng Zhang, MD, PhD<sup>1</sup>; Hong Liu, MM<sup>1</sup>; Li Gao, MD, PhD<sup>1</sup>; Jia Liu, MM<sup>1</sup>; Lidan Zhu, MM<sup>1</sup>; Qin Wen, PhD<sup>1</sup>; Ting Chen, MM<sup>1</sup>; Ping Wang, MM<sup>1</sup>; Jun Rao, MD<sup>1</sup>; Min Mao, MD<sup>9</sup>; Cunbang Wang, MD<sup>7</sup>; Xianlin Duan, MD<sup>6</sup>; Le Luo, MD, MM, MS<sup>3</sup>; Xiangui Peng, MM<sup>1</sup>; Kaniel Cassady, PhD<sup>14</sup>; Jiang F. Zhong, PhD<sup>15</sup>; and Xi Zhang, MD, PhD<sup>1</sup>

- . phase II, open-label, multicenter, randomized controlled trial.
  - . 204 HR-AML who had received HCT 60-100 days before randomization, MRD-neg
  - . randomly assigned 1:1 to either rhG-CSF combined with minimal dose Dec (G-Dec group: 100 mg/m<sup>2</sup> of rhG-CSF on days 0-5 and 5 mg/m<sup>2</sup> of Dec on days 1-5) or no intervention (non-G-Dec group).
- .The primary outcome was relapse after transplantation

# 3. Hypomethylating Agents



. 2-year RI in the G-Dec group was 15.0% (95% CI, 8.0% to 22.1%), compared with 38.3% (95% CI, 28.8% to 47.9%) in the non–G-Dec group ( $P < .01$ ), with a hazard ratio (HR) of 0.32 (95% CI, 0.18 to 0.57;  $P < .01$ ).

. No statistically significant difference between the G-Dec and non–G-Dec groups in the 2-year cumulative incidence of cGVHD without relapse 23.0% vs. 21.7%, with an HR of 1.07 (95% CI, 0.60 to 1.92;  $P = .81$ ).

# 3. Hypomethylating Agents

**A phase 3 randomized study of 5-azacitidine maintenance vs observation after transplant in high-risk AML and MDS patients.** Oran et al. Blood Adv 2021

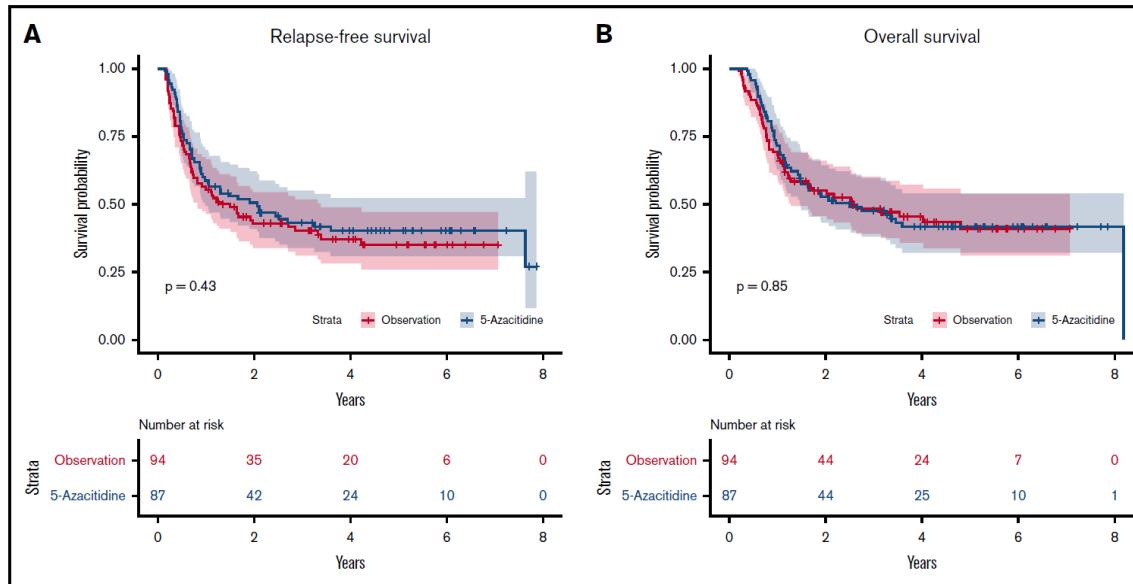
**TABLE.** Primary and Secondary Endpoints With Azacitidine Maintenance

	Azacitidine	Control	p Value
<b>Survival outcomes</b>			
Median relapse-free survival	2.07 years	1.28 years	0.43
Median overall survival	2.52 years	3.56 years	0.43
Relapse incidence at 1 year	41%	39%	Not available
Transplant-related mortality at 1 year	4.3%	5.3%	Not available
<b>Graft-versus-host disease</b>			
Grade 2-4 aGVHD at day 100	25.5%	28.7%	0.73
Grade 3-4 aGVHD at day 100	4.3%	2.1%	Not available
Chronic GVHD at 1 year	25.8%	30.8%	Not available

GVHD = graft-versus-host disease

The Phase III study by Oran et al. failed to meet its Primary endpoint.

# 3. Hypomethylating Agents



Perchè non si evidenzia un beneficio?

- ✓ Sopravvivenza inaspettatamente alta nel placebo?
- ✓ Molti withdrawal in corso di studio?

*Solo il 27% dei pazienti ha completato 12 cicli, la mediana è stata 4.*

- ✓ Dose troppo bassa?  
(32 mg/m<sup>2</sup> x 5 days)

Oran et al. Blood Adv 2021

### 3. Hypomethylating Agents

Ci sono meta-analisi che analizzano la bontà dell'efficacia terapeutica degli ipometilanti nel post-trapianto?

# 3. Hypomethylating Agents

Maintenance With Hypomethylating Agents After  
Allogeneic Stem Cell Transplantation in Acute Myeloid  
Leukemia and Myelodysplastic Syndrome: A  
Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis.  
Kungwankiatticha et al. *Front Med.* 2022

The meta-analysis eligibility criteria were fulfilled by 14 studies. The overall survival and relapse-free survival of the HMA maintenance group were superior to the observation group, with a pooled risk ratio (RR) of 1.38 and 1.46, respectively. Moreover, the cumulative incidence of relapse was significantly lower in those who received HMAs.

### 3. Hypomethylating Agents

**Conclusions:** The current systematic review and meta-analysis illustrated that AML and MDS patients receiving HMA maintenance after allo-SCT had better outcomes in regards to OS, RFS, NRM, CIR as well as a reduced incidence of chronic GVHD

BUT.... meta-analysis in the context of post-transplant setting is still challenging and POTENTIALLY misleading!!

### 3. Hypomethylating Agents

- . patients who died prematurely are by default in the control group without HMA due to a well-known statistical bias called “immortal time bias”.
- . The elapsed time between allo-HCT and HMA initiation is an immortality period during which subjects who were candidate to receive HMA but died prematurely are counted as patients without HMA.
- . the authors of the meta-analysis combined the outcomes of individual studies by pooling unadjusted risk ratio without accounting for confounding factors and without considering that the outcomes were censored events.

# 3. Hypomethylating Agents

Clinical Review & Education

JAMA Guide to Statistics and Methods

## Immortal Time Bias in Observational Studies

Kabir Yadav, MDCM, MS, MSHS; Roger J. Lewis, MD, PhD

Research Article

**Immortal Time Bias in Observational Studies  
of Time-to-Event Outcomes: Assessing Effects  
of Postmastectomy Radiation Therapy Using  
the National Cancer Database**

Cancer Control  
Volume 25: 1-7  
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DOI: 10.1177/1073274818789355  
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### 3. Hypomethylating Agents

- Le principali tossicità riportate negli studi e riscontrate nella pratica clinica sono le citopenie: neutropenia e piastrinopenia in particolare.

Among studies of HMA maintenance therapy, the most common  $\geq 3$  grade AEs were thrombocytopenia, neutropenia and infection with median incidence rates of 35.1%, 35.1%, and 33.3% respectively.

- Le citopenie possono richiedere il delay del ciclo successivo.
- I demetilanti post trapianto non aumentano il tasso di GVHD acuta e cronica e la NRM.
- Sono realmente efficaci?

### 3. Hypomethylating Agents

- A quali categorie di pazienti riservare la profilassi con demetilanti?

.....*Rischio citogenetico sfavorevole secondo ELN 2017/2022*

.....*Pazienti con malattia non in remissione al momento del trapianto*

.....*Pazienti MRD+ pretrapianto che ricevono un condizionamento RIC*

.....*Primary induction failure*

- Qual è la durata ottimale del mantenimento?

Negli studi con Ipometilanti il numero di cicli (di 28 giorni) varia da 6 a 12.

### 3. Hypomethylating Agents

- Trial clinici con ipometilanti in grado di darci qualche elemento in più, per decidere di utilizzarli o meno?
- Se si, in quale setting?
- Approcci combinatori?

### 3. Hypomethylating Agents

The randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled phase III AMADEUS trial (NCT04173533) is currently ongoing to evaluate the efficacy of maintenance therapy with Oral-AZA in patients with MDS or AML post-HCT.

After transplant, patients receive Oral-AZA 200 mg or placebo on days 1 to 14 of each 28-day treatment cycle, for up to 12 cycles.

Patient stratification prior to randomization is based on conditioning intensity, age (< 60 or  $\geq$  60 y), and donor type ( sibling or unrelated). The primary endpoint is RFS rate 1 year from randomization.

### 3. Hypomethylating Agents+Ven

Maintenance Therapy with Venetoclax/Azacitidine Can be Safely Given after Venetoclax/FluBu2 RIC Allogeneic Transplantation for the Treatment of High Risk MDS/AML: Results of a Phase 1 Study. Garcia et al. Blood 2022

- . Between D42-D90, Ven+Aza maintenance therapy (Ven 400 mg on D1-D14 and Aza 36 mg/m<sup>2</sup> IV on D1-D5) was initiated in pts who engrafted and had no evidence of morphologic relapse or uncontrolled GVHD in 42-day (dose level 1) or 28-day (dose level 2) cycles for up to 1 year.
- . 27 pts enrolled (median age of 67y - range 47-78):  
10 AML; 16 MDS  
44% were flow MRD negative  
56% had Ven exposure prior to HCT  
Baseline TP53mut was present in 59%

### 3. Hypomethylating Agents+Ven

Maintenance Therapy with Venetoclax/Azacitidine Can be Safely Given after Venetoclax/FluBu2 RIC Allogeneic Transplantation for the Treatment of High Risk MDS/AML: Results of a Phase 1 Study. Garcia et al. Blood 2022

- . 22 of 27 pts received VenAza maintenance therapy.
- . Among 22 pts that received VenAza maintenance therapy, 1y PFS and 1y OS were 65% (95% CI: 40,82) and 79% (95% CI: 52,92), respectively
- . Cumulative incidence of grade  $\geq 2$  acute GVHD at 6 mo was 22%, and chronic GVHD at 1y was 23%
- . Pre-transplant flow MRD negativity was associated with improved 1y OS (88% vs 50%,  $p=0.03$ ) and 1y PFS
- . At time of HCT, NGS was positive in 89% (24/27), but this reduced to 42% (10/24) at D28 and 58% (14/24) at D100. PFS was similar for those with or without TP53mut at HCT

### 3. Hypomethylating Agents+Ven

Low-dose decitabine plus venetoclax is safe and effective as post-transplant maintenance therapy for high-risk acute myeloid leukemia and myelodysplastic syndrome. Wei, et al. 2021 Cancer Sci

- . 20 AML/MDS high-risk patients were included in a prospective trial
- . Decitabine was given at a dose of 15 mg/m<sup>2</sup> for 3 days and venetoclax at a dose of 200 mg daily for 21 days starting day +100 after transplantation.
- . The 2-year OS and EFS were 85.2% and 84.7%, respectively.
- . The 100-day acute and chronic GvHD rates were 55% and 20%, respectively.
- . No grade ≥3 adverse events were observed

## 4. Target-therapy - FLT3

Mutations in FLT3 confer poor prognosis ofr AML patients, particulary those with ITD,as they have more frequent and earlier relapses. (Kottaridis et al Blood 2001; Pratcorona et al Blood 2013)

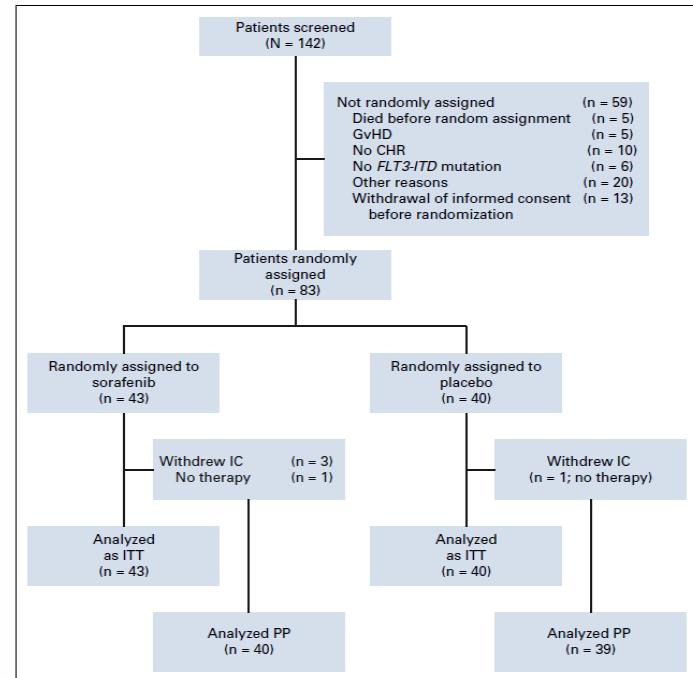
Relapse rates remain high still after allogeneic HCT.

Post-HCT maintenance therapy with TKI may improve outcomes in FLT3 mutated AML.

# 4. Target-therapy - FLT3

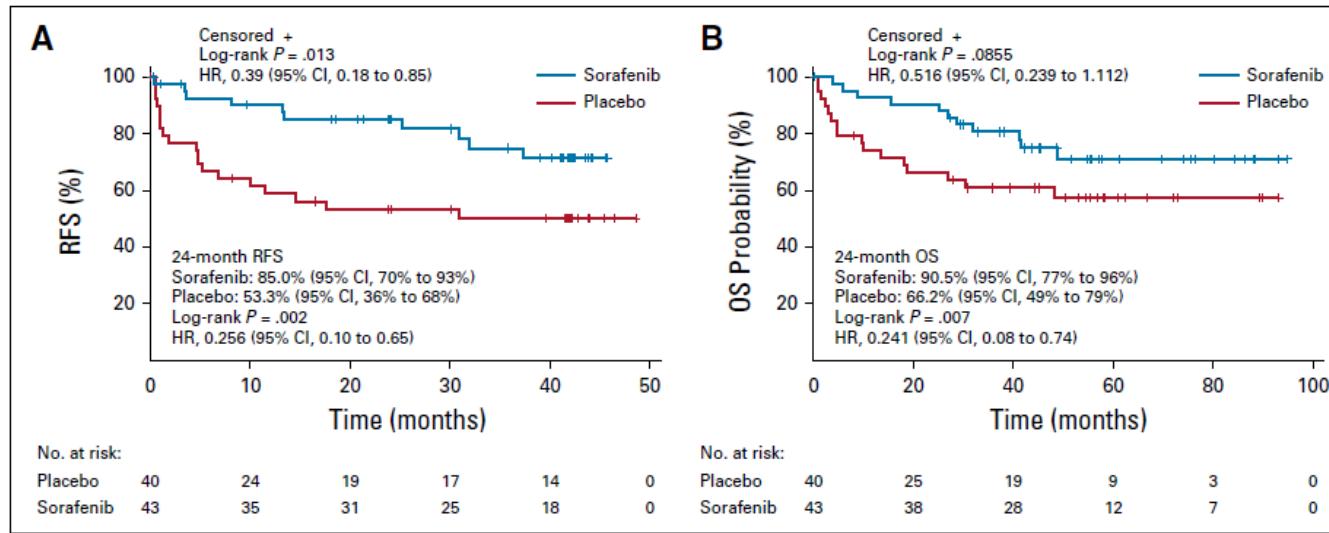
SORMAIN trial (German Clinical Trials Register: DRKS00000591), phase II  
randomized, placebo-controlled, double-blind. *Burchert et al. JCO 2020*

- Popolazione: 83 pazienti adulti (età 18-75, mediana 54) con LAM FLT3-ITD + in remissione completa post trapianto allogenico
- Study design: pazienti randomizzati 1:1 a ricevere Sorafenib (n=43) o placebo (n=40) per 24 mesi, iniziando tra il giorno +60 e +100 dopo trapianto
- Endpoint primario: Relapse Free Survival



# 4. Target-therapy - FLT3

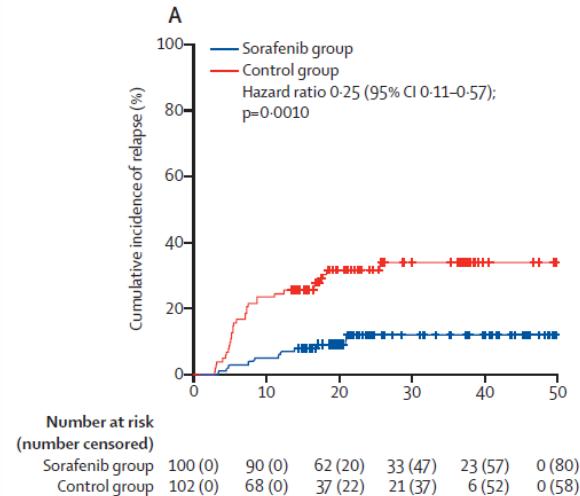
SORMAIN trial (German Clinical Trials Register: DRKS00000591), phase II



# 4. Target-therapy - FLT3

Xuan et al. Lancet 2020, phase III

- Popolazione: 202 pazienti adulti (età 26-43, mediana 35) con LAM FLT3-ITD + in remissione completa post trapianto allogenico
- Study design: Pazienti randomizzati a ricevere Sorafenib (n=100) vs non mantenimento (n=102) a partire dal giorno +30-+60 e fino al +180
- Endpoint primario: Incidenza cumulativa di ricaduta a 1 anno.



# 4. Target-therapy - FLT3

Xuan et al. Lancet 2023

Extended follow-up showed (Median FU 60.4 months):

- . improved **OS**: 72% [95% CI 62·1-79·7] vs 55·9% [45·7-64·9]; p=0·011),
- . extended **LFS**: 70% [60·0-78·0] vs 49% [39·0-58·3]; 0·47, 0·30-0·73; p=0·0007), and **GRFS** (58% [47·7-67·0] vs 39·2% [29·8-48·5]; 0·56, 0·38-0·83; p=0·0030),
- . lower cumulative incidence of **Relapse** (15·0% [8·8-22·7] vs 36·3% [27·0-45·6]; 0·33, 0·18-0·60; p=0·0003)
- . no increase in **NRM** (15·0% [8·8-22·7] vs 14·7% [8·6-22·3]; 0·79, 0·39-1·62; p=0·98) for patients in the sorafenib group

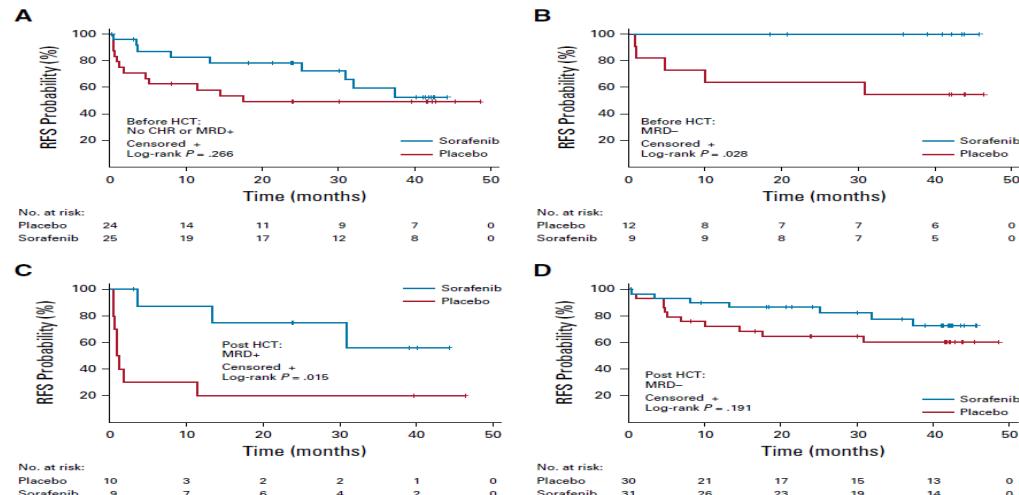
The 5-year follow-up results of our randomised phase 3 trial support the use of sorafenib maintenance post-transplantation as a standard of care for patients with *FLT3*-ITD acute myeloid leukaemia undergoing allogeneic HSCT.

# 4. Target-therapy - FLT3

- Qual è il beneficio del mantenimento con Sorafenib nei pazienti che hanno ricevuto midostaurina (o altri TKIs) pre-trapianto?

- ✓ Solo 9 pazienti nel SORMAIN avevano ricevuto la Midostaurina in induzione....ma.....
- ✓ I pazienti MRD- pre-trapianto ottengono i migliori risultati dal mantenimento

- ✓ E' possibile che una terapia pre-trapianto con Chemio+Midostaurina, che aumenta la probabilità di remissioni complete MRD neg, sinergizzi con il Sorafenib di mantenimento nel migliorare l'outcome.



## 4. Target-therapy - FLT3

- Qual è il meccanismo d'azione principale del Sorafenib nel post trapianto: l'inibizione di FLT3-ITD o altre attività immuno-stimolatorie off-target?
- L'efficacia del Sorafenib può essere replicata e potenzialmente migliorata da inibitori più potenti e selettivi di FLT3 nel post trapianto?
  - . MIDOSTAURINA
  - . GILTERITINIB

## 4. Target-therapy - FLT3

- . Nello studio RATIFY i pazienti sottoposti a trapianto allogenico di consolidamento della CR1 non continuano la **midostaurina** post-trapianto (non indicazione label nel post allogenico).
- . In uno studio di fase II (AMLSG 16-10) midostaurina e chemioterapia intensiva, seguita da HCT e midostaurina single-agent come mantenimento ha dimostrato migliore EFS rispetto ai controlli storici (Schlenk, et al. Blood 2017).
- . Nello studio RADIUS, randomizzato SOC vs SOC+ midostaurina (50 mg x 2/die) x 12 mesi post trapianto, c'è un trend di riduzione del rischio di ricaduta ma la RFS a 18 mesi non è risultata diversa tra i due bracci: 89% (69–96%) con midostaurina e 76% (54–88%) con SOC (HR, 0.46 [95% CI, 0.12–1.86]; P = 0.27), probabilmente per la scarsa numerosità del campione e la RFS inaspettatamente alta del gruppo di controllo. (Maziarz et al. 2021 BMT)
- . Clinical trial (NCT03951961) – MAURITIUS Trial : Midostaurin in MRD Positive AML After Allogeneic Stem Cell Transplantation - Terminato x Insufficiente Reclutamento.

## 4. Target-therapy - FLT3

### BMT-CTN 1506 MORPHO Trial - Gilteritinib

- Patients with FLT3-ITD–mutant AML, who were enrolled across 16 countries and 110 centers, must have had a morphologic first remission with only 1 or 2 induction treatments.
- Allogeneic transplant was conducted within 1 year of first response and any conditioning, donor, or graft-vs-host disease (GVHD) prophylaxis treatment was permitted.
- 356 patients were randomized to receive maintenance gilteritinib at 120 mg orally daily or placebo for 24 months
- 60% of patients received myeloablative conditioning therapy and 60% also received a FLT3 inhibitor before transplant.

## BMT-CTN 1506 MORPHO Trial

- the study failed to reach its primary end point for RFS, in fact patients treated with gilteritinib achieved a numerical but not statistically significant improvement in RFS (HR, 0.679; 95% CI, 0.459-1.005; 2-sided P = .0518), The 2-year RFS rates were 77.2% with gilteritinib vs 69.9% with placebo, **BUT...**
- - Gilteritinib appears to have a benefit for the 50% of patients with detectable MRD pre- or post-transplant vs. those without detectable MRD. HR 0.51 favouring Gilteritinib vs. placebo (95% CI, 0.316-0.838; P=0.0065).
- - Gilteritinib resulted in 68.8% MRD eradication vs. 43.6% of placebo.
- RFS benefit with Gilteritinib was lower in MRD-negative disease patients (P= 0.57)

## 4. Target-therapy - FLT3

. Sorafenib è ancora il miglior TKI per il mantenimento?

Non ci sono studi di comparazione diretta Sorafenib vs Midostaurina/Gilteritinib

. Qual è la durata ottimale della terapia di mantenimento?

La durata del mantenimento differisce nei vari studi tra 6 mesi (Xuan et al.), 12 mesi (altri studi) e 24 mesi (SORMAIN trial).

. Concerns:

- Rischio di pressione selettiva e induzione di escape clones se il mantenimento dura troppo a lungo.

*Of the 43 patients who relapsed, five of 11 assigned sorafenib and 17 of 32 allocated control had FLT3- ITD mutations; one patient assigned sorafenib acquired an FLT3 tyrosine kinase domain (FLT3-TKD) mutation at relapse. The other 20 patients were FLT3 wild-type at relapse. (Chinese trial)*

- Rischio di ricadute tardive se il mantenimento dura troppo poco.

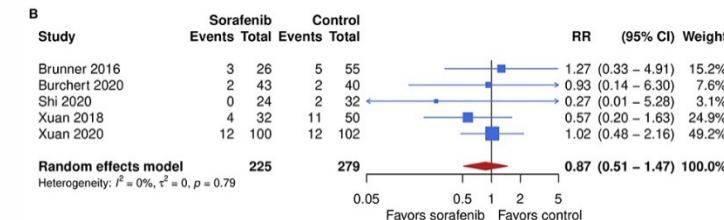
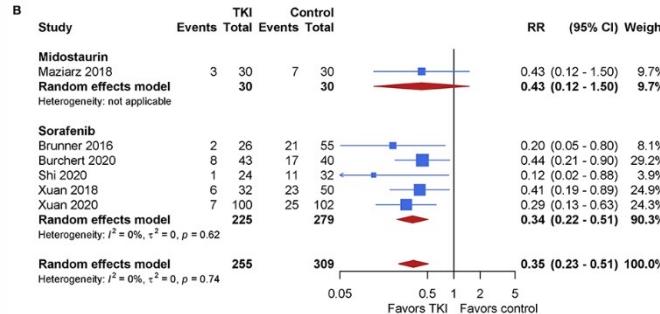
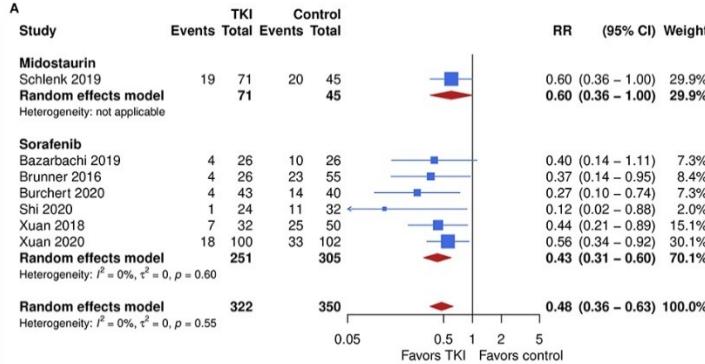
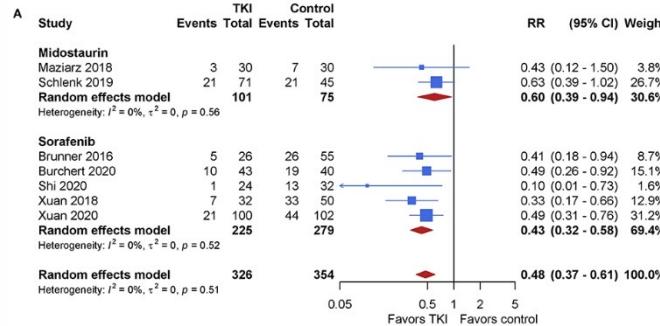
*4 of 10 RFS events occurred after the end of sorafenib treatment and might be preventable by longer maintenance duration (SORMAIN).*

## 4. Target-therapy - FLT3

TKI Maintenance After Stem-Cell Transplantation for *FLT3-ITD* Positive Acute Myeloid Leukemia: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis. Gagelmann et al. Front Imm 2021

- . Meta-analysis comprising 7 studies comprising 680 patients were included. Five studies evaluated sorafenib and 2 studies evaluated midostaurin.
- . relapse was significantly reduced after TKI therapy, showing an overall pooled risk ratio (RR) of 0.35 (95% confidence interval [CI], 0.23-0.51;  $P < 0.001$ ), with a marked 65% reduced risk for RI
- . overall pooled RR for relapse-free survival and overall survival showed significantly improved outcome after TKI maintenance therapy, being 0.48

# 4. Target-therapy - FLT3



## 4. Target-therapy – IDH

- Ivosidenib & Enasidenib both effectively inhibit R-2-hydroxyglutarate and can restore normal myeloid differentiation.
- In large multicenter phase 1/2 studies, these agents have demonstrated favorable toxicity profiles and the ability to induce durable remissions both alone and in combination with other therapies in both relapsed/refractory and newly diagnosed AML.
- Ivosidenib and enasidenib have received regulatory approval from the US FDA for the treatment of IDH1- and IDH2-mutated AML.
- Several trials are ongoing to test IDH inhibition efficiency at preventing AML relapse (NCT03515512; NCT03728335; NCT04522895; NCT03564821)

## 4. Target-therapy – p53 Reactivator

- - Eprenetapopt/Azacitidine Maintenance After Allogeneic HSCT for TP53-Mutant AML and MDS – Mishra A, et al.
- - Phase II, multicenter, open-label trial to assess efficacy and safety of eprenetapopt combined with azacitidine as maintenance therapy after HCT
- - Patients with mTP53 MDS or AML received up to 12 cycles of eprenetapopt 3.7 g once daily intravenously on days 1-4 and azacitidine 36 mg/m<sup>2</sup> once daily intravenously/subcutaneously on days 1-5 in 28-day cycles.
- - Median RFS was 12.5 months (95% CI, 9.6 to not estimable) and the 1-year RFS probability was 59.9%

## 5. DLI

- PROS

- ✓ Alcune evidenze di efficacia nella LAM ad alto rischio citogenetico

A registry-based matched-pair analysis evaluated the efficacy of prophylactic donor lymphocyte infusion (proDLI).

Adults receiving proDLI in complete remission (CR) and controls were pair-matched for age, diagnosis, cytogenetics, stage, donor, gender, conditioning and T-cell depletion.

Eighty-nine pairs were identified (median follow-up: 6.9 years).

Within the entire cohort, no difference was observed.

However, among patients with high-risk acute myeloid leukaemia (AML) (unfavourable cytogenetics and/or transplanted beyond first CR), proDLI recipients had improved overall survival (69.8% vs. 40.2% in controls, P = 0.027).

ProDLI has moderate efficacy but can contribute to improved outcome in high-risk AML.

## 5. DLI

- CONS/LIMITAZIONI DI APPLICABILITÀ'

- ✓ Rischio di GVHD acuta e cronica, anche severa
- ✓ Il rischio di GVHD è tanto maggiore quanto più precocemente vengono applicate (a parità di altri fattori, quali il tipo di donatore)
- ✓ Possono essere applicate a partire dal +90/+100, in associazione a un taper precoce dell'IS, in pazienti senza GVHD acuta, senza infezioni e off immuno-suppression (da almeno 1 mese) → NON prevengono le ricadute precocissime
- ✓ La schedula di somministrazione non è standardizzata

# Conclusioni

- La profilassi della ricaduta post trapianto rimane ad oggi di primaria importanza nella LAM ad alto rischio per la prognosi sfavorevole dei pazienti che ricadono.
- Non ci sono evidenze forti né trial randomizzati al di fuori del contesto della LAM FLT3-ITD+ e del Sorafenib, il cui uso resta ancora off-label.
- La precoce sospensione dell'immunosoppressione e l'immunoterapia rappresentano le strategie più promettenti.
- È necessario uno sforzo collegiale per produrre dati di efficacia e sicurezza più robusti e per una migliore stratificazione dei pazienti che possono beneficiarne.
- E' da chiarire in quali pazienti una strategia profilattica sia superiore a una strategia pre-emptive MRD-driven.

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Enrico Maffini,

U.O. Trapianto e Terapie cellulari  
Avanzate. Ist.Seragnoli. IRCCS  
Bologna