



CAR-TALKING

News dal mondo CAR-T

Bari, Hotel Excelsior
22 maggio 2023

Altri Approcci terapeutici di salvataggio nel Linfoma Follicolare

Vincenzo Pavone

AO Cardinale G.Panico U.O Ematologia e TMO –Tricase(LE)

UNMET CLINICAL NEED

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Results of new MoAb, bi-specific, drug
conjugated MoAb and checkpoint inhibitors

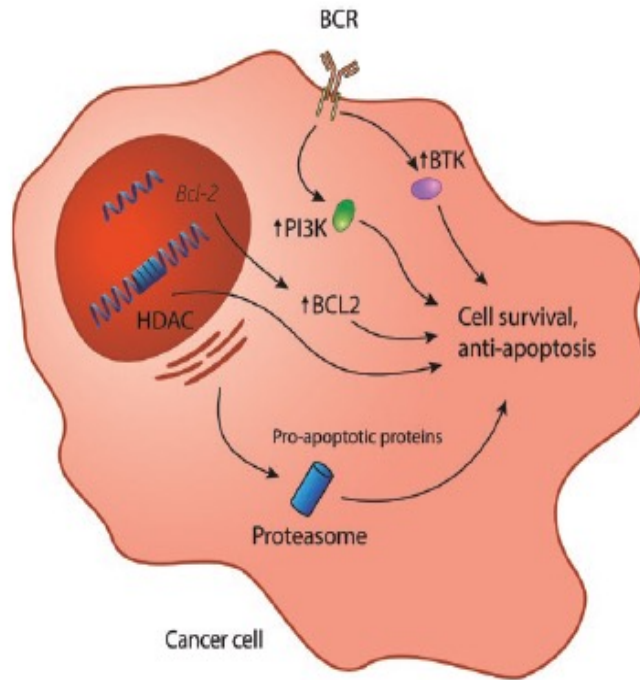


Figure 2 Schematic representation of key pathways that may promote cell survival in B-cell lymphoma. Several pathways that promote cell survival in B-cell lymphoma have been identified: increased expression of kinases PI3K and BTK, downstream of the B-cell receptor and increased BCL2 expression after chromosomal mutations. HDAC influences gene expression, and dysregulation may promote tumor survival. How HDAC inhibitors work exactly has not been fully elucidated. Chromosomal translocations or mutation may lead to increased expression of BCL2, which inhibits apoptosis. The proteasome is responsible for the degradation of various proteins, including factors regulating the progression of the cell cycle and pro-apoptotic proteins. Proteasome inhibition leads to apoptosis, possibly due to the increased presence of pro-apoptotic proteins or by toxic stress caused by protein accumulation. HDAC: histone deacetylase; BCR: B-cell receptor; BTK: Bruton's tyrosine kinase; PI3K: phosphoinositide 3-kinase.

Upcoming immunotherapeutic combinations for B-cell lymphoma

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Summary

After initial introduction for B-cell lymphomas as adjuvant therapies to established cancer treatments, immune checkpoint inhibitors and other immunotherapies are now integrated in mainstream regimens, both in adult and pediatric patients. We here provide an overview of the current status of combination therapies for B-cell lymphoma, by in-depth analysis of combination therapy trials registered between 2015–2020. Our analysis provides new insight into the rapid evolution in lymphoma treatment, as propelled by new additions to the treatment arsenal. We conclude with prospects on upcoming clinical trials which will likely use systematic testing approaches of more combinations of established chemotherapy regimens with new agents, as well as new combinations of immunotherapy and targeted therapy. Future trials will be set up as basket or umbrella-type trials to facilitate the evaluation of new drugs targeting specific genetic changes in the tumor or associated immune microenvironment. As such, lymphoma patients will benefit by receiving more tailored treatment that is based on synergistic effects of chemotherapy combined with new agents targeting specific aspects of tumor biology and the immune system.

The Challenge of Follicular NHL

- Indolent behavior and is responsive to many treatments, but remains incurable
 - Most patients have a prolonged survival, but a subset exhibit treatment-resistant disease that will affect their longevity
 - Wide range of treatment options of varying intensity
 - Goal is to control the disease, while maintaining quality of life
-

Key aspects in the management of r/r FL

- Risk is heterogeneous but prognostic indexes are missing in the r/r setting
- Current recommendations based on weak evidence (i.e., ASCT)
- Key decisional factors
 - duration of response, tumor burden, prior therapy
 - patients' age and comorbid conditions
 - availability of active drugs/therapies
- Few registered agents

• BR, bendamustine and rituximab; r/r relapsed/refractory.

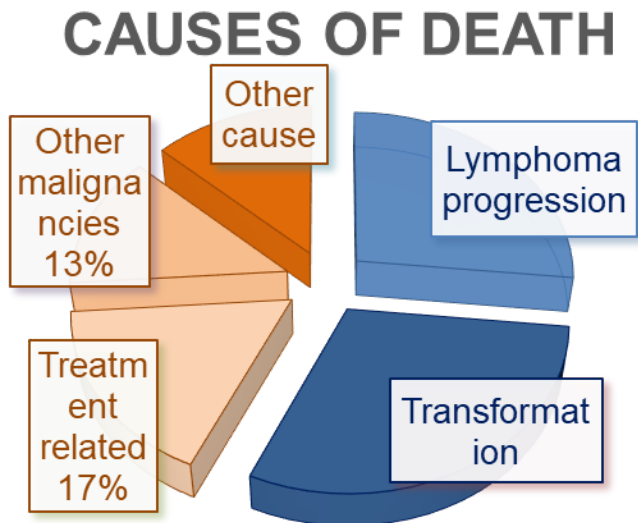
• Luminari S, personal communication. Dreyling M, et al. Newly diagnosed and relapsed follicular lymphoma: ESMO Clinical Practice Guidelines for diagnosis, treatment and follow-up. *Ann Oncol.* 2021;32:298-308.
Gopal AK, et al. PI3K δ inhibition by idelalisib in patients with relapsed indolent lymphoma. *N Engl J Med.* 2014;370:1008-18. Puvvada SD, et al. Yttrium-90-ibritumomab tiuxetan (Zevalin $\text{\textcircled{R}}$) radioimmunotherapy after cytoreduction with ESHAP chemotherapy in patients with relapsed follicular non-Hodgkin lymphoma: final results of a phase II study. *Oncology.* 2018; 94:274-80. Karmali R, et al. Rituximab: a benchmark in the development of chemotherapy-free treatment strategies for follicular lymphomas. *Ann Oncol.* 2018;29:332-40. Zinzani PL, et al. Venetoclax-rituximab with or without bendamustine vs bendamustine-rituximab in relapsed/refractory follicular lymphoma. *Blood.* 2020;136:2628-37. Cheson BD, et al. Overall survival benefit in patients with rituximab refractory indolent non-Hodgkin lymphoma who received obinutuzumab plus bendamustine induction and obinutuzumab maintenance in the GADOLIN study. *J Clin Oncol.* 2018;36:2259-66.

Common features of FL

- Can be asymptomatic *W&W is an option*
 - Can be localized *RT is an option*
 - Relapsing remitting course *Strategy matters*
 - Survival is improving *Late effects matter*
 - Can transform into aggressive-subtypes *Suspect TFL at each relapse*
-

Cause of Death in Follicular Lymphoma in the First Decade of the Rituximab Era: A Pooled Analysis of French and US Cohorts

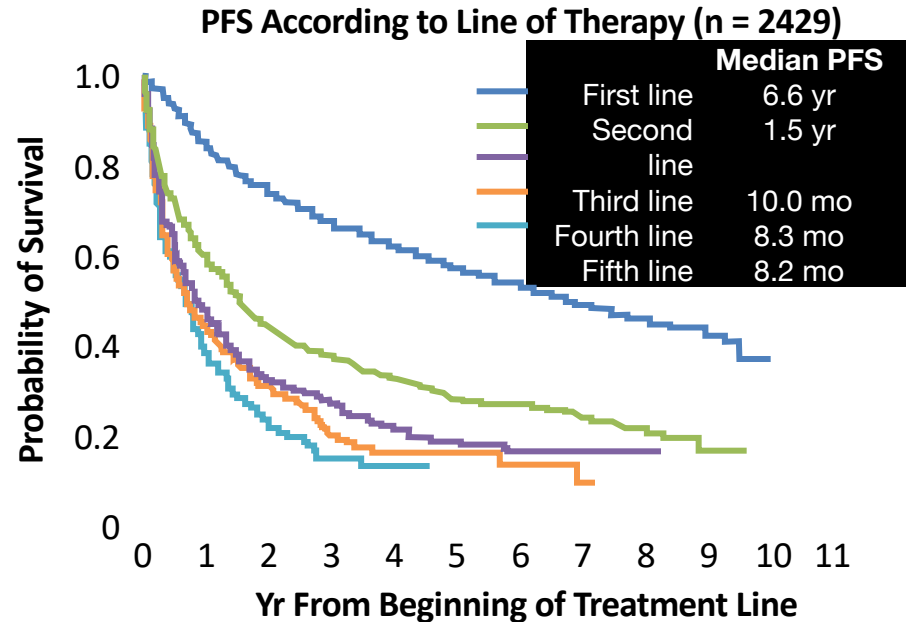
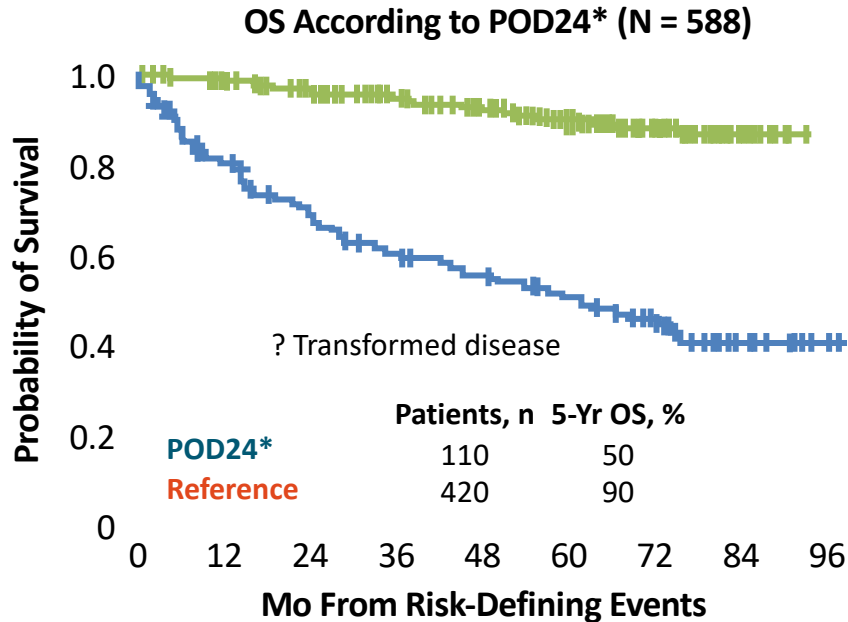
Clémentine Sarkozy, MD¹; Matthew J. Maurer, MS²; Brian K. Link, MD³; Hervé Ghesquieres, MD, PhD¹; Emmanuelle Nicolas, MD⁴; Carrie A. Thompson, MD²; Alexandra Traverse-Glehen¹; Andrew L. Feldman, MD²; Cristine Allmer²; Susan L. Slager²; Stephen M. Ansell, MD, PhD²; Thomas M. Habermann, MD²; Emmanuel Bachy¹; James R. Cerhan, MD, PhD²; and Gilles Salles, MD, PhD¹



10-year incidence (%) of FL deaths

	FL related	FL unrelated
Age		
< 60 yrs	9.4	1.5
61 – 70 yrs	14.2	5.8
>70 years	25.4	16.6
FLIPI		
0-1	4.0	3.7
2	10.0	6.4
<u>3-5</u>	27.4	5.2
EFS24		
Achieved	6.7	5.7
<u>Not achieved</u>	36.1	7.0
tFL		
no	8.1	6.2
<u>yes</u>	45.9	4.7

National LymphoCare Study: Outcomes According to POD24 and Line of Therapy



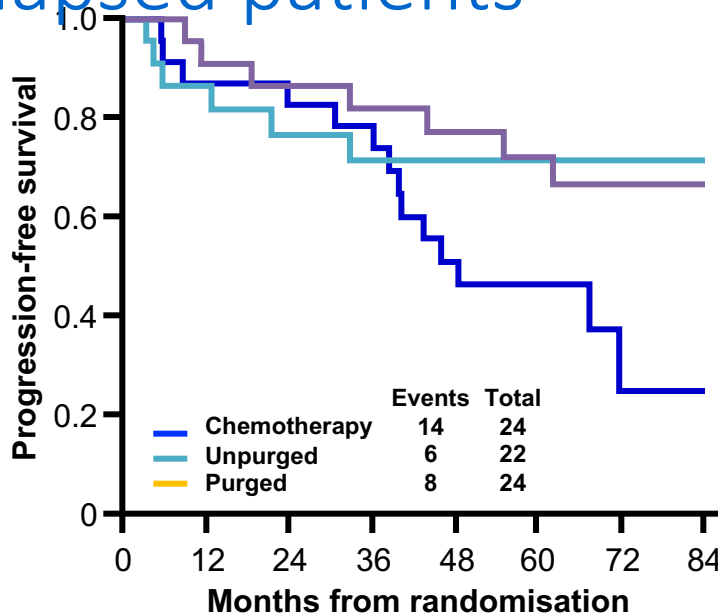
*POD24: relapse within 24 mo after initial therapy. Given figure is of patients treated with 1L R-CHOP. Similar results found for independent validation set and for 1L R-CVP/R-fludarabine in exploratory analyses.

High-dose chemotherapy and ASCT prolongs survival in relapsed patients

- The CUP trial

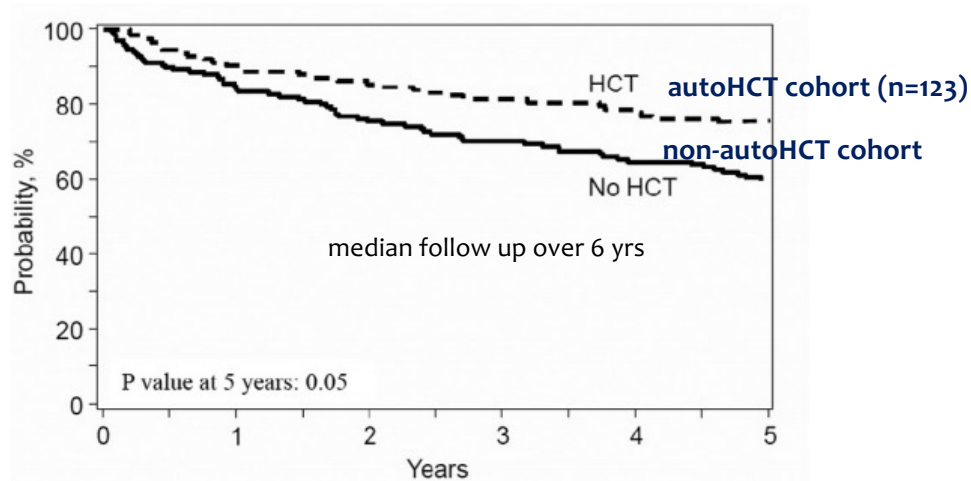
- Relapsed follicular lymphoma
- 24 chemotherapy
- 33 HDCT unpurged
- 32 HDCT purged (R)

- p=0.037



Patients at risk	0	12	24	36	48	60	72	84
Chemotherapy	24	20	19	18	11	8	2	1
Unpurged	22	18	15	14	14	12	10	4
Purged	24	20	19	18	17	13	7	3

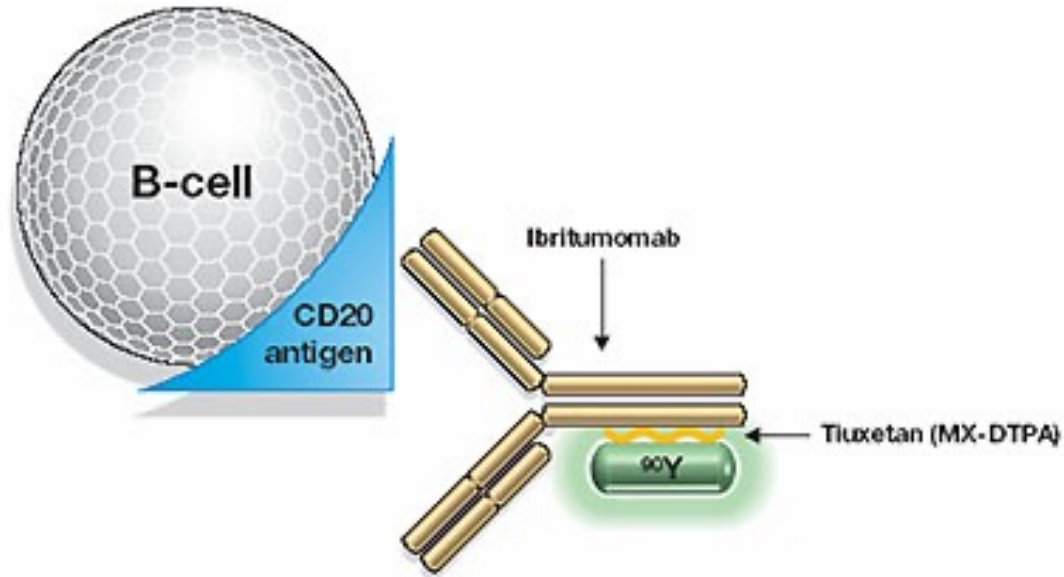
Overall Survival of patients receiving HCT within 1 yrs of therapy failure compared to no HCT

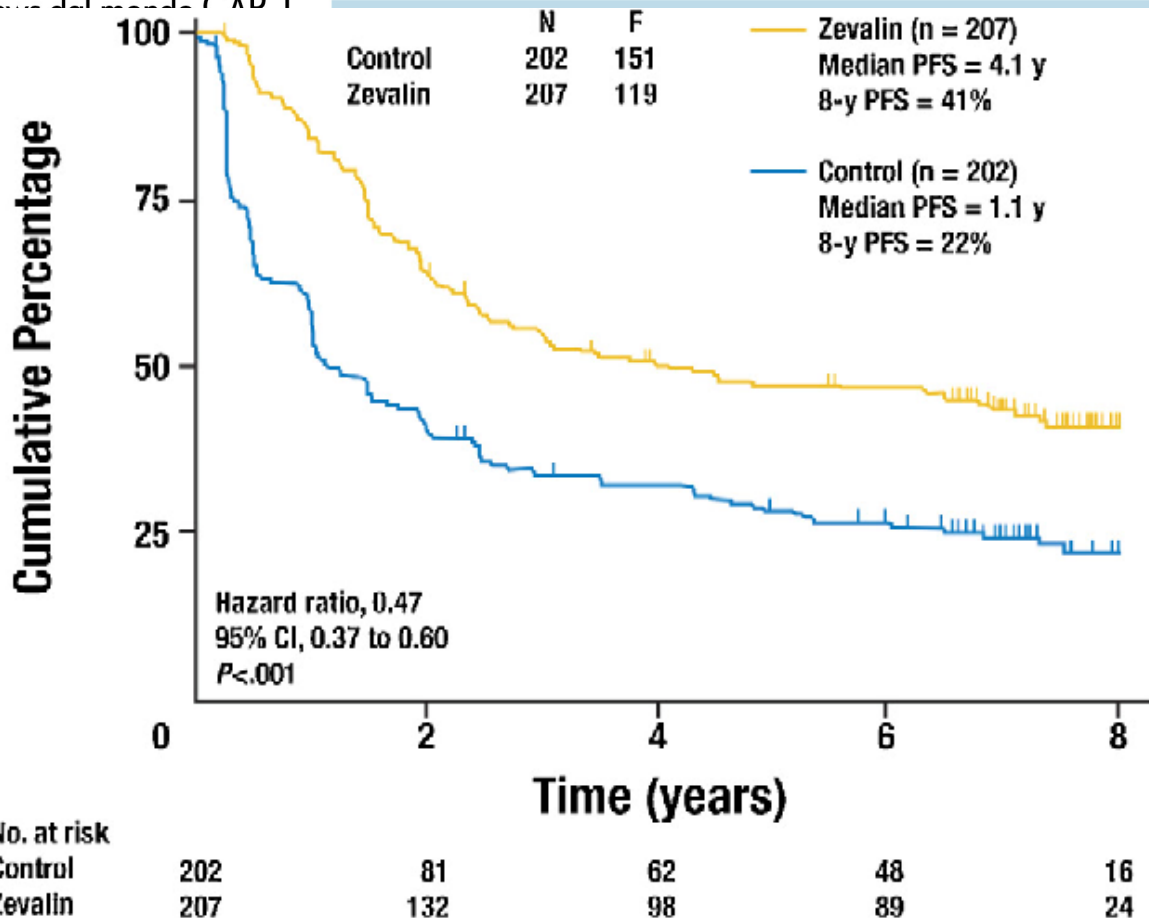


improved OS for pts receiving autoHCT within 1 year of treatment failure (5-yrs OS 73% vs 60%)

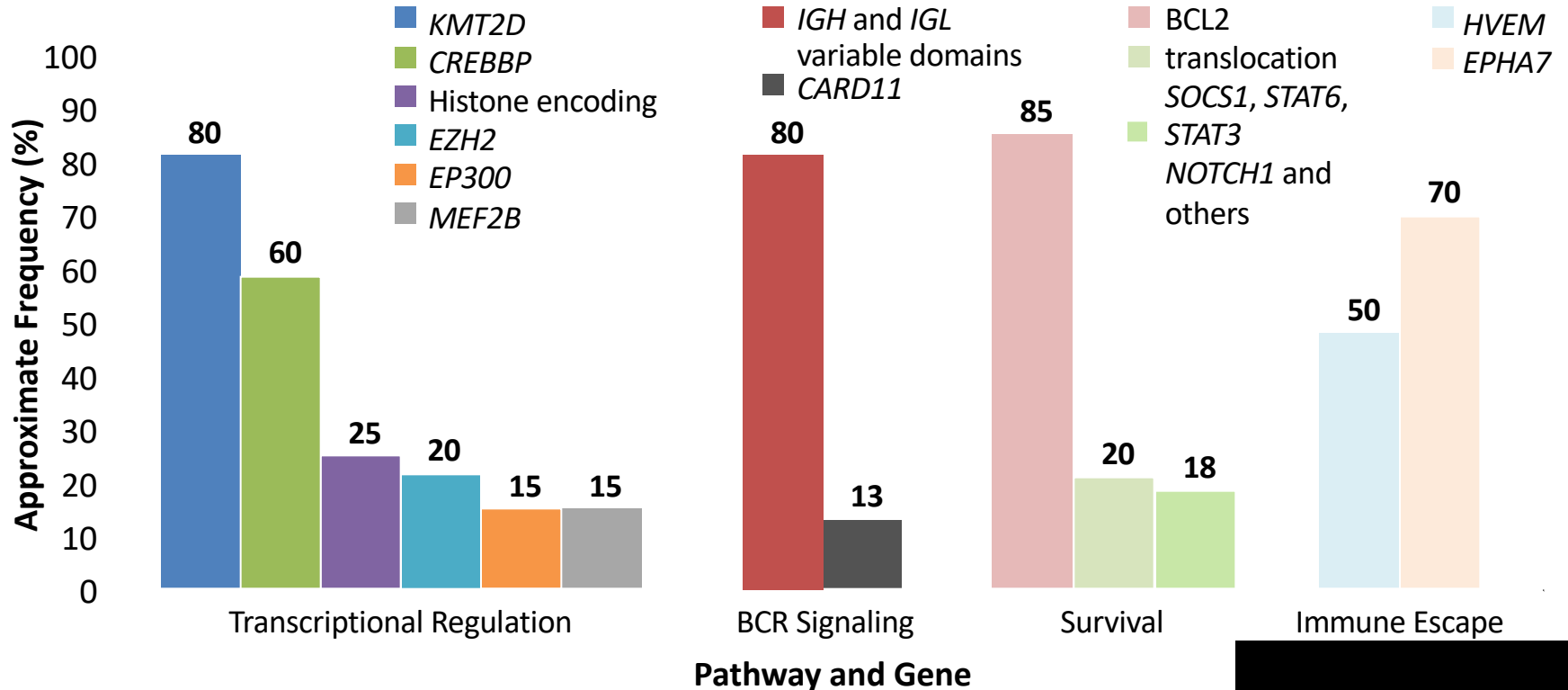
- this support consideration of early consolidation with autoHCT in select FL patients experiencing ETF
- With refined understanding of high-risk FL biology and identification of predictive biomarkers at diagnosis of FL, autoHCT could be considered as a component of precision medicine trials with a goal of changing the natural history of high-risk FL

Yttrium-90 labelled Zevalin®

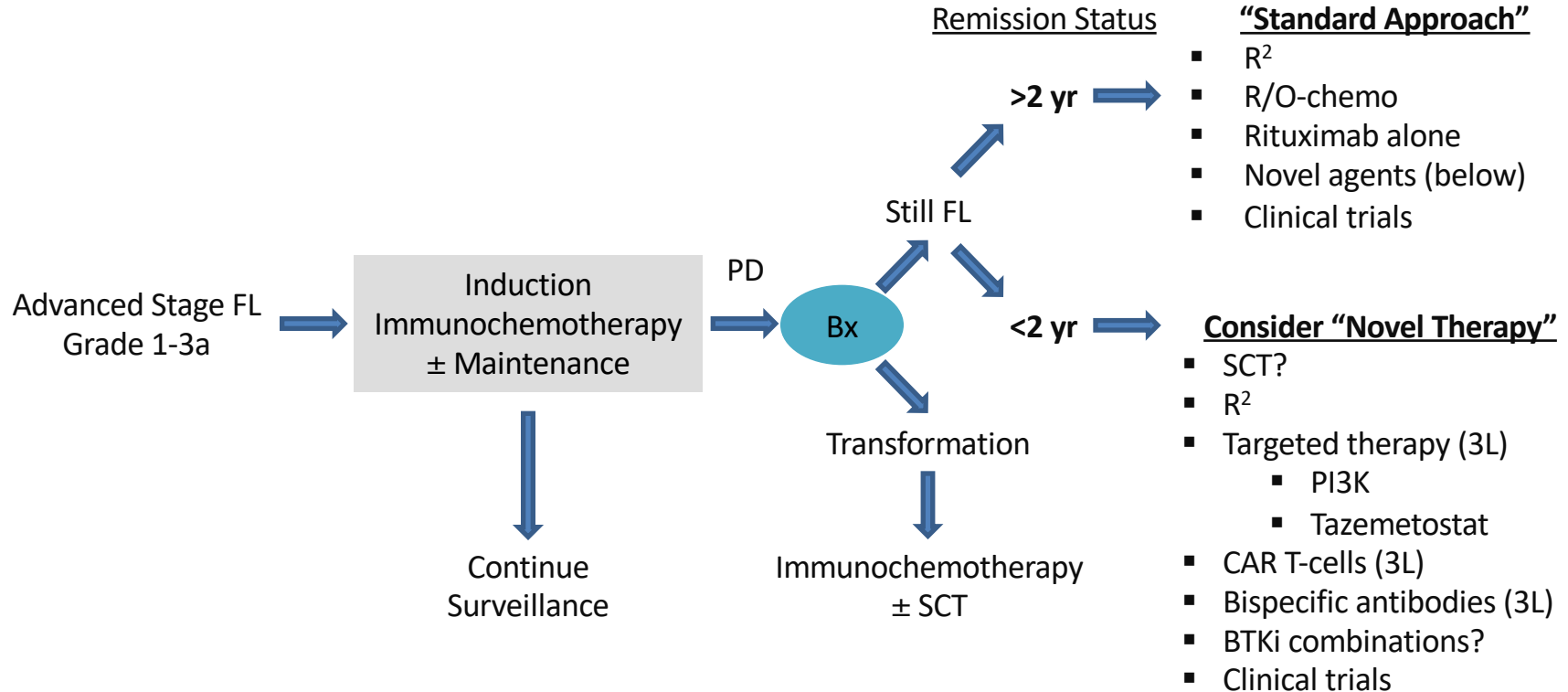




Common Genetic Alterations in Follicular Lymphoma



Treatment of Follicular Lymphoma

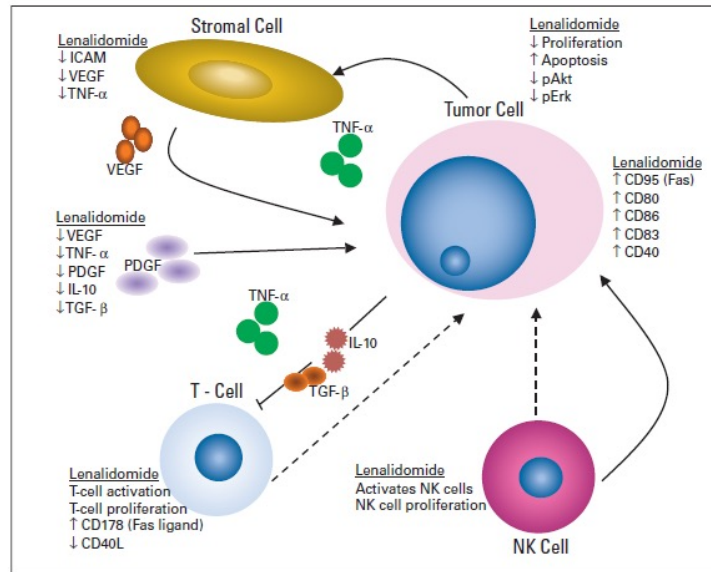


Immunomodulatory drug

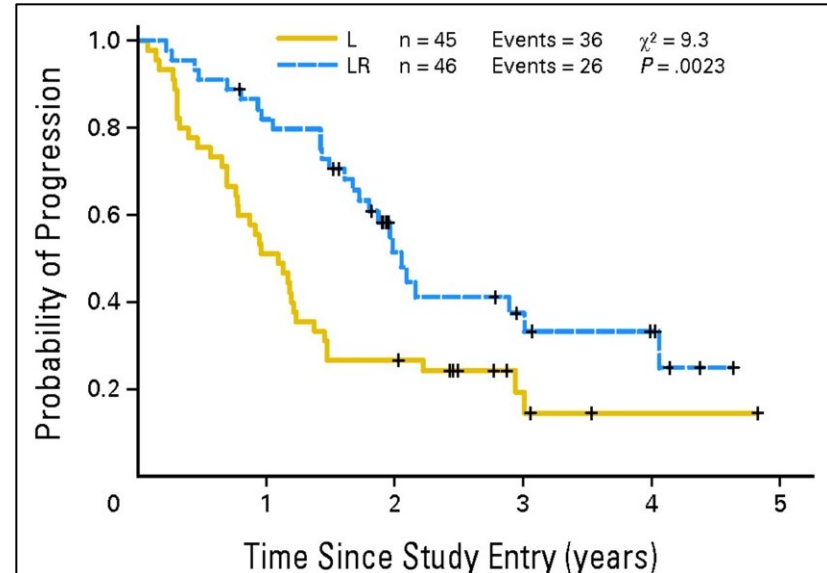
- lenalidomide
-

Lenalidomide is a member of the IMiD class of agents, has a pleiotropic mechanism of action, and works in synergy with rituximab in follicular lymphoma (R²)

Action of lenalidomide¹



Time to progression²



Erk, extracellular signal regulated kinase; L, lenalidomide; LR, lenalidomide and rituximab; NK, natural killer; pAkt, phosphorylated pErk, phosphorylated Erk.

1. Chiappella A, Vitolo U. Adv Hemat. 2012;12:498342. 2. Leonard JP, et al. J Clin Oncol. 2015;33:3635-40.

AUGMENT: R² vs Rituximab Monotherapy in R/R iNHL

» Multicenter, placebo-controlled, randomized phase III trial

*Stratified by prior rituximab (yes vs no), time since last therapy
(≤ vs >2 yr), histology (FL vs MZL)*

Adult patients with R/R
grade 1-3a FL or MZL;
≥1 prior
chemo/immunotherapy;
not rituximab refractory
(N = 358)

Rituximab 375 mg/m² +
Lenalidomide 20 mg/day*
(n = 178[†])

Rituximab 375 mg/m² +
Placebo (PBO)
(n = 180[†])

R- Lena:
†FL, n =
147

MZL, n =
31
R-PBO:
†FL, n =
148
MZL, n = 32

≤12 cycles or until PD,
relapse, or intolerability;
5-yr follow-up for OS,
SPMs, subsequent
treatment, and histologic
transformations

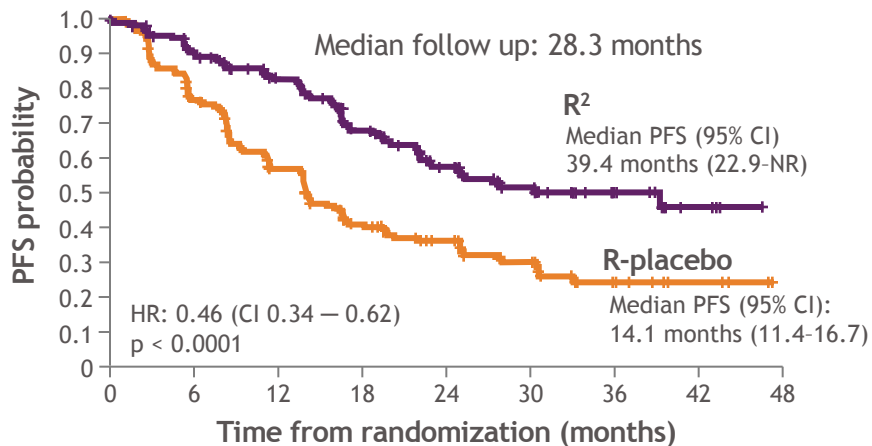
Rituximab: Days 1, 8, 15, 22 of cycle 1; Day 1 of cycles 2-5. Lenalidomide: Days 1-21 of 28.
*10 mg/day if CrCl 30-59 mL/min.

- Primary endpoint: PFS by IRC (2007 IWG criteria without PET)



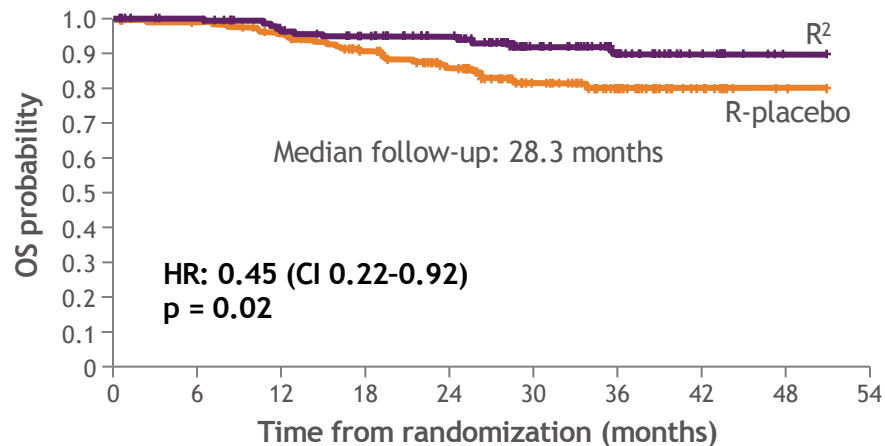
AUGMENT: PFS and OS advantage for R² in relapsed/refractory follicular lymphoma

PFS (ITT, IRC)



Number at risk		0	6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48
R ²	178	148	124	91	59	39	20	7	0	
R-placebo	180	132	92	58	40	26	10	4	0	

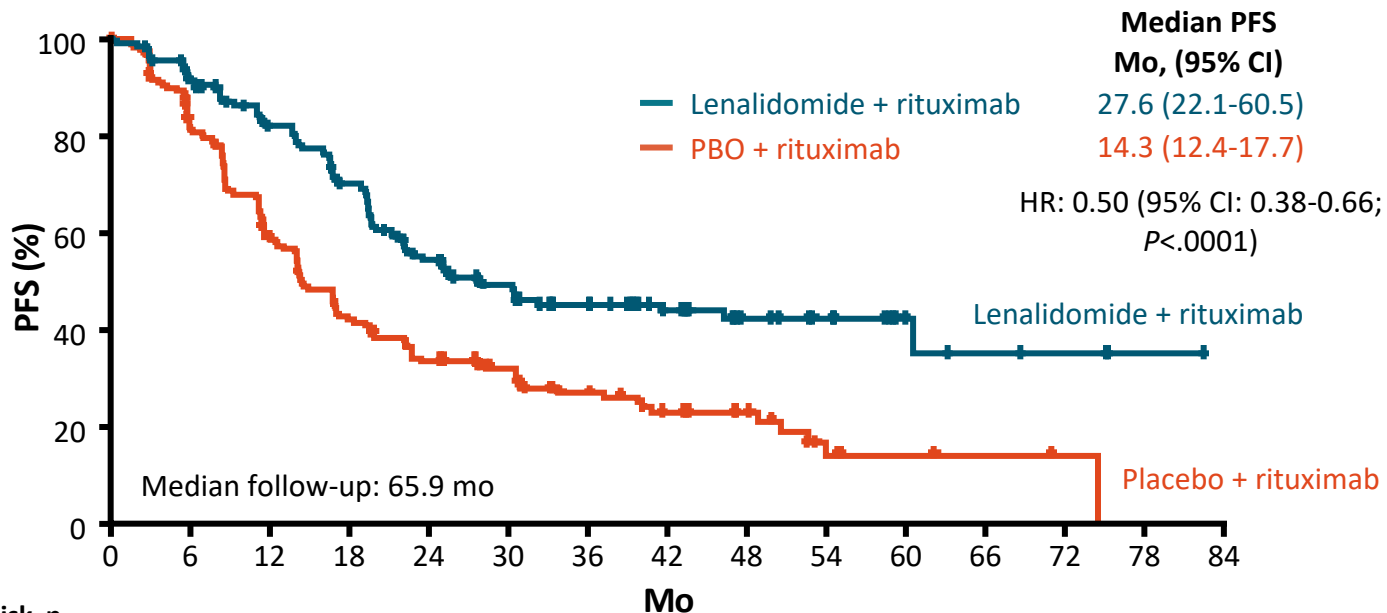
OS (patients with FL)



Number at risk		0	6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48	54
R ²	147	142	130	121	105	70	39	13	1	0	
R-placebo	148	145	137	117	94	64	35	12	2	0	

- 41 total deaths (15 with R²; 26 with R-placebo) in treated patients
- 2-year OS (95% CI) was 95% (90-98) for R² and 86% (79-91) for R-placebo

AUGMENT: 5-Yr PFS (ASH 2022)



	0	6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48	54	60	66	72	78	84
Patients at Risk, n															
Lenalidomide + rituximab	178	151	128	107	79	62	49	34	18	13	6	4	3	1	0
PBO + rituximab	180	141	98	69	53	41	29	21	13	5	3	2	1	0	0

AUGMENT: 5-Yr Safety (ASH 2022)

TEAE, n (%)	Lenalidomide + Rituximab (n = 176)	PBO + Rituximab (n = 180)
Any grade	174 (99)	173 (96)
▪ Related to lenalidomide or PBO	159 (90)	118 (66)
▪ Related to rituximab	134 (76)	105 (58)
Grade 3/4	121 (69)	58 (32)
▪ Related to lenalidomide or PBO	101 (57)	38 (21)
▪ Related to rituximab	57 (32)	20 (11)

- Most common grade 3/4 TEAE was neutropenia:
 - 50% with lenalidomide + rituximab vs 13% with PBO + rituximab**
- No new safety signals detected in updated safety analysis as compared to primary analysis including no increase in secondary malignancies

BTK Inhibitor

- zanubrutinib
-

ROSEWOOD: Next-Generation BTK Inhibitor Zanubrutinib With Obinutuzumab in R/R FL

» Global, randomized, open-label phase II trial

Stratification by geographic region, number of prior lines, rituximab refractory status

Adults with grade 1-3a R/R FL **previously treated with ≥ 2 prior regimens**, including an anti-CD20 antibody and appropriate alkylator-based combination therapy; no prior BTK inhibitor; ECOG PS 0-2 (N = 217)

2:1

Zanubrutinib + Obinutuzumab*
(n = 145)

Obinutuzumab*
(n = 72)

Treated until disease progression or unacceptable toxicity[†]

*Zanubrutinib dosed at 160 mg PO BID. Obinutuzumab dosed at 1000 mg IV on Days 1,8,15 of cycle 1 and Day 1 of cycles 2-6, then Q8W to ≥ 20 doses.

[†]Patients assigned to obinutuzumab with centrally confirmed PD or no response at 12 mo could crossover to receive combination therapy.

- **Primary endpoint:** IRC-assessed ORR according to Lugano classification
- **Key secondary endpoints:** investigator-assessed ORR, CR, DoR, PFS, OS, safety

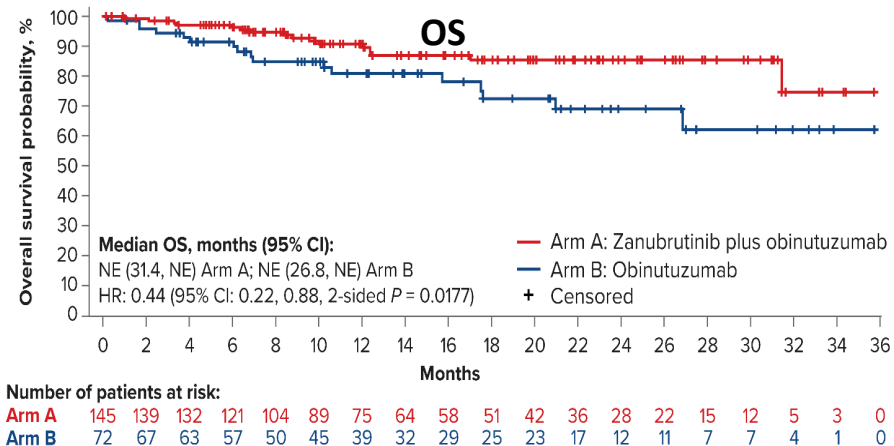
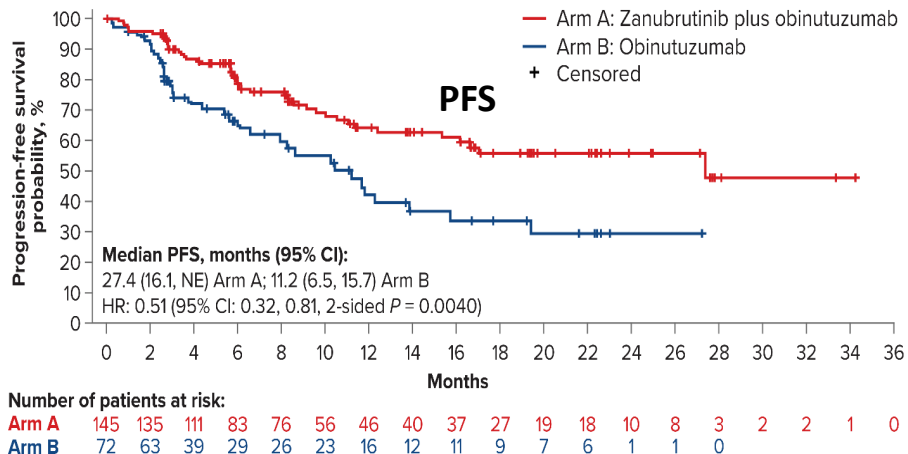
ROSEWOOD: Response

Response by ICR	Zanubrutinib + Obinutuzumab (n = 145)	Obinutuzumab (n = 72)	P Value
ORR, %	68.3	45.8	.0017
Best overall response, n (%)			
CR	54 (37.2)	14 (19.4)	.0083
PR	45 (31.0)	19 (26.4)	--
SD	25 (17.2)	14 (19.4)	--
Nonprogressive disease	3 (2.1)	4 (5.6)	--
PD	13 (9.0)	15 (20.8)	--
D/c prior to first assessment	4 (2.8)	6 (8.3)	--
NE	1 (0.7)	0 (0)	--

Median follow-up: 12.5 mo.

- Combination with improved ORR vs obinutuzumab across most patient subgroups, except in patients with bulky disease
- 29 patients in the obinutuzumab arm crossed over** to receive zanubrutinib and obinutuzumab, with 7 patients (24.1%) achieving an objective response, including 2 patients with CR

ROSEWOOD: PFS and OS



Ongoing phase III MAHOGANY trial is evaluating
zanubrutinib + obinutuzumab vs R² in patients with R/R FL
 after ≥1 line of systemic therapy including an anti-CD20 mAb (NCT

Anti CD19

- tafasitamab
-

InMIND: Tafasitamab + R² vs R² Alone in R/R FL or MZL

» Global, double-blind, placebo-controlled, randomized phase III trial

– Tafasitamab: Fc-engineered humanized **anti-CD19 mAb**

FL: POD24 (yes vs no), refractory to anti-CD20 tx (yes vs no), prior lines tx (<2 vs ≥2)

12 cycles

MZL: prior lines tx (<2 vs ≥2)

Adults with R/R

FL (grade 1-3a)

or MZL

previously treated with

≥1 anti-CD20 mAb;

no prior R²;

ECOG PS 0-2

(Planned N = 618;

FL, 528; MZL, 60-90)

**Tafasitamab 12 mg/kg IV* +
Rituximab[†]/Lenalidomide[‡]**

**Placebo IV[§] +
Rituximab[†]/Lenalidomide[‡]**

5-yr follow-up

*Tafasitamab given Days 1, 8, 15, 22 of cycles 1-3 and Days 1, 15 of cycles 4-12 on 28-day cycle.

†Rituximab dosed at 375 mg/m² IV; given on Days 1, 8, 15, 22 of cycle 1, then Day 1 of cycles 2-5.

‡Lenalidomide dosed at 20 mg PO QD given on Days 1-21 for 12 cycles. §Placebo given as 0.9% saline solution IV.

- **Primary endpoint:** PFS by investigator per Lugano 2014 criteria in FL population
- **Key secondary endpoints:** PFS in overall population, PET/CR at EOT and OS in FL population

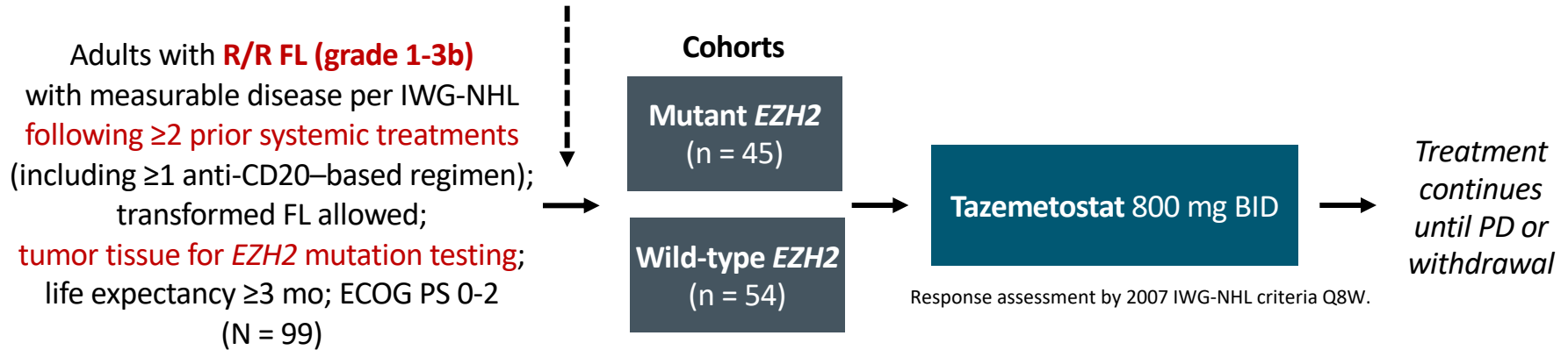
Epigenetic Modifiers

- Tazemetostat
-

Phase II Study: Tazemetostat in R/R FL

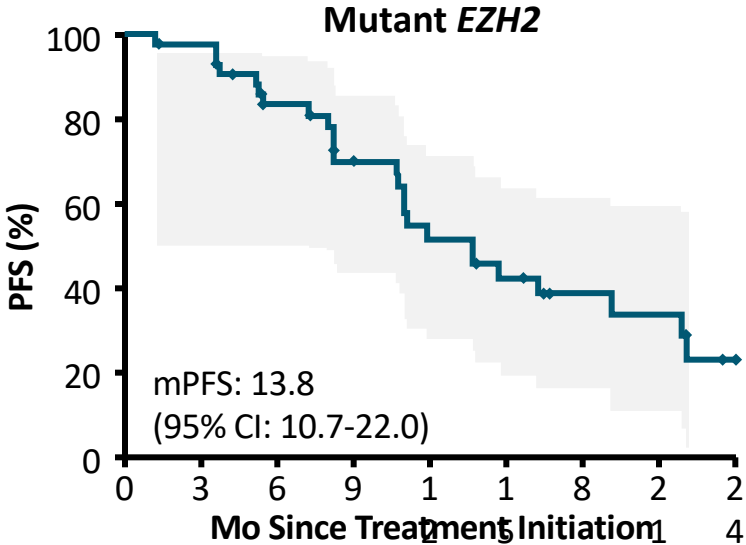
- Open label, multicohort, **single-arm phase II study**

SCREENING: Central testing of archival tissue for EZH2 hot spot activating mutations

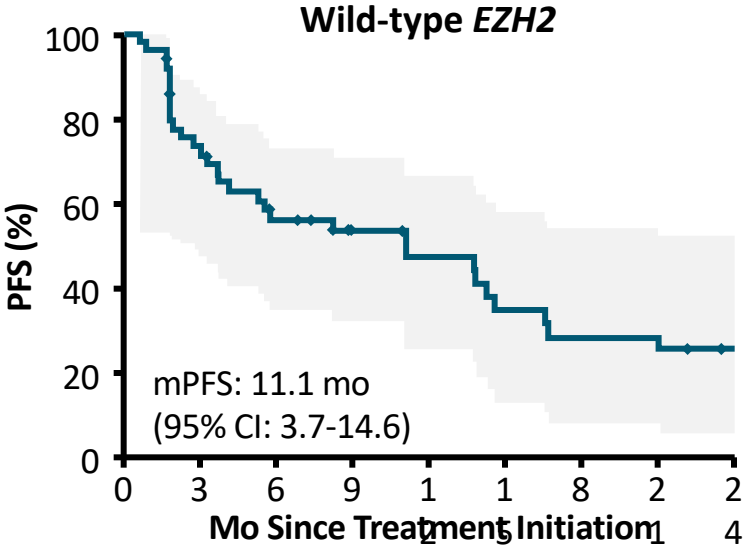


- Primary endpoint:** ORR; Results: **69% (EZH2 mut); 35% (EZH2 W-T)**
- Secondary endpoints:** DoR, PFS, safety/tolerability

Phase II Study: PFS by IRC



Patients at Risk, n	45	43	32	24	17	13	8	7	3
(number censored)	(0)	(1)	(6)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(15)	(16)	(17)



Patients at Risk, n	54	35	24	18	15	11	9	9	2
(number censored)	(0)	(6)	(9)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)

- Approved by FDA for adults with *EZH2*mut+ R/R FL after ≥2 prior systemic therapies or any adult with R/R FL without alternative treatment options

SYMPHONY-1 Phase Ib: Tazemetostat + R² in R/R FL

- Phase Ib safety run-in analysis (stage 1) of international, randomized, double-blind phase Ib/III trial (median follow-up: 11.2 mo)
 - Stage 2: phase III design comparing tazemetostat at RP3D + R² vs placebo + R² in patients with R/R FL
 - Stage 3 (to be executed if stage 2 futility analysis finds that efficacy fails in overall population but is promising for *EZH2*-mutated subpopulation): in patients with *EZH2*-mutated R/R FL

Adults with **R/R FL grades 1-3A**;
tumor tissue for *EZH2* mut testing;
≥1 prior systemic CT, IO, or CIT;
prior HSCT, CAR T-cell tx permitted;
no prior lenalidomide, tazemetostat,
or other *EZH2* inhibitor;
measurable disease per Lugano;
ECOG PS 0-2
(N = 44)

Phase Ib: Dose Escalation (3 + 3 Design)

**Tazemetostat 400/600/800 mg BID x 28-d cycles +
Rituximab 375 mg/m² IV on D1,8,15,22 of cycle 1,
then D1 of cycles 2-5 +
Lenalidomide 20 mg* PO QD on D1-21 of
28-d cycles x 12**

- Primary endpoints:** safety/tolerability, tazemetostat RP3D
- Secondary endpoint:** safety PK parameters

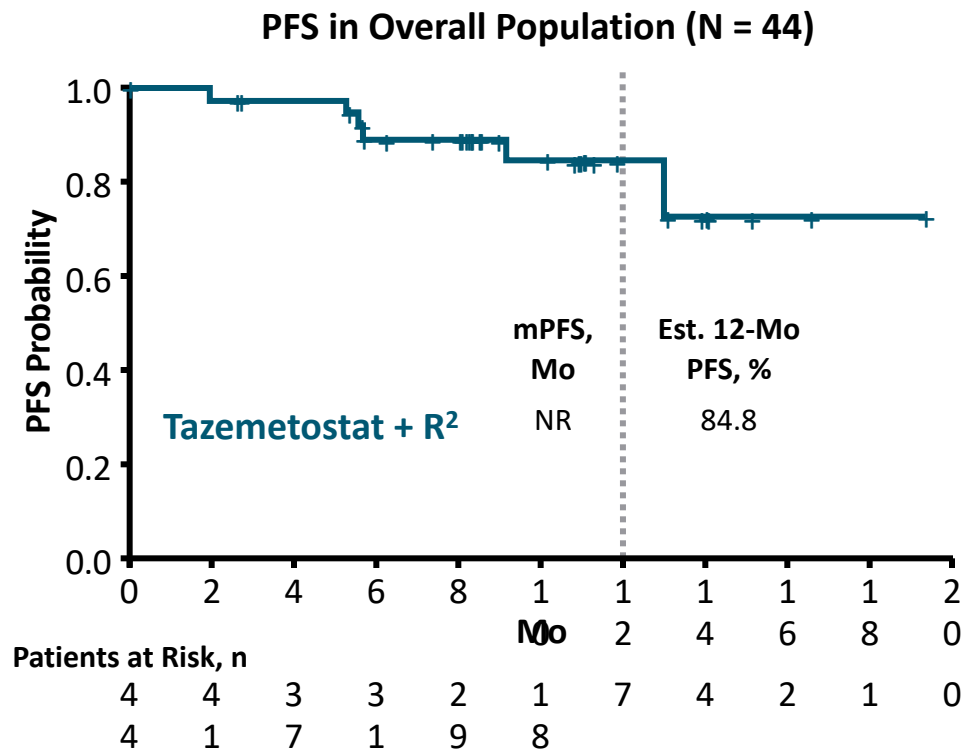
*10 mg if CrCl <60 mL/min.

SYMPHONY-1 Phase Ib: Efficacy in Overall Population

Response	Tazemetostat + R ² (n = 41)
ORR, n (%)	40 (97.6)
▪ CR	21 (51.2)
▪ PR	19 (46.3)
▪ SD	1 (2.4)
Median DoR, mo	NR

At data cutoff (June 14, 2022):

- 56.8% (25/44): treatment ongoing
- 6.8% (3/44): PD



Conclusions: Tazemetostat

- » Single-agent tazemetostat active in patients with R/R FL
 - ORR greater in patients with *EZH2* mutation
- » Combination of **tazemetostat with R² was generally well tolerated** and demonstrated preliminary antitumor activity in patients with R/R FL
 - RP3D identified as 800 mg BID
 - **ORR in overall population was 97.6%** and ranged from 96.2% to 100% across subgroups (including *EZH2* mutation status, rituximab sensitivity, POD24)
 - **Median DoR not reached**
- » Randomized phase III portion of SYMPHONY-1 will compare tazemetostat 800 mg BID + R² vs PBO + R² in pts with R/R FL after ≥1 prior therapy

PI3K Inhibitors

PI3K Inhibitors: Established Agents

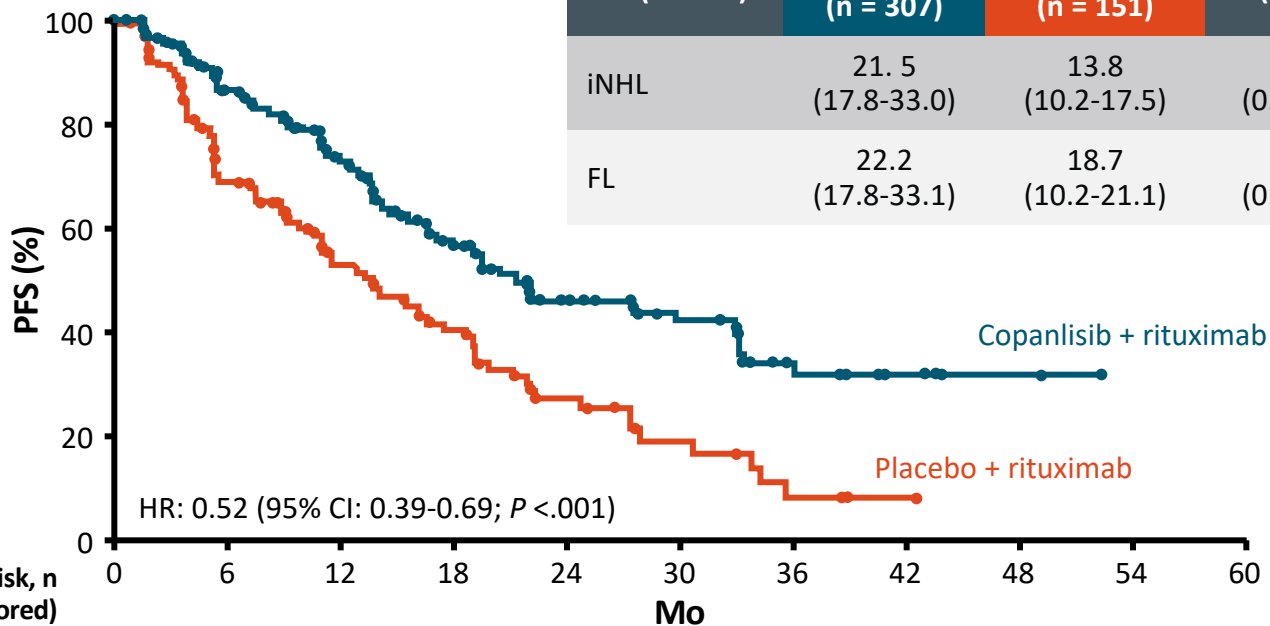
Agent	Idelalisib¹	Duvelisib²	Copanlisib ^{3,4}
Isoform target	Delta	Delta, gamma	Alpha, delta
Trial	Phase II DELTA	Phase II DYNAMO	Phase II CHRONOS-1
Population (N)	iNHL with relapse ≤6 mo or refractory to R and alkylating agent (125 iNHL*)	iNHL with relapse ≤6 mo or refractory to R and either CT or RIT (129 iNHL [‡] /83 FL)	iNHL with relapse after or refractory to R and alkylating agent (142 iNHL [†] /104 FL)
Approval (yr)	≥2 prior therapies (2014)	≥2 prior therapies (2018)	≥2 prior therapies (2017)
ORR, n (%)	71 (57)	61 (47)/35 (42)	86 (61)/61 (59)
■CR, n (%)	7 (6)	2 (2)/1 (1)	24 (17)/21 (20)
Median PFS, mo	11	9.5	12.5
Median OS, mo	20.3	28.9	42.6
Grade ≥3 AEs	Diarrhea (13%), elevated ALT (13%), elevated AST (8%)	Diarrhea (15%), pneumonia (5%), fatigue (5%), elevated ALT (5.4%), elevated AST (3.1%)	Hyperglycemia (40%), pneumonia (11%), diarrhea (8.5%), elevated ALT (0.7%) 31% discontinuation

*Including FL, n = 72; SLL, n = 28; MZL, n = 15; LPL/WM, n = 10. †Including FL, n = 104; MZL, n = 23; SLL, n = 8; LPL/WM, n = 6; DLBCL, n = 1 (originally assessed as iNHL).

‡Including FL, n = 83, SLL, n = 28; MZL, n = 18.

CHRONOS-3: PFS

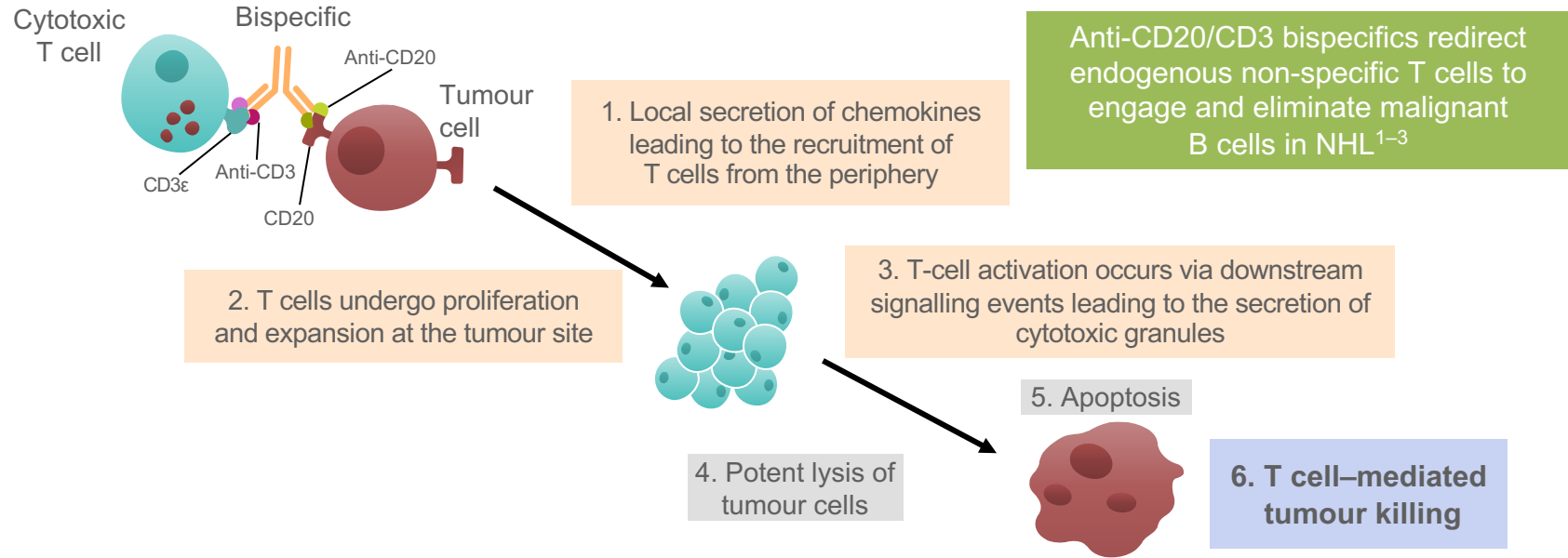
	Median PFS, Mo (95% CI)	Copanlisib + Rituximab (n = 307)	Placebo + Rituximab (n = 151)	HR (95% CI)	1-Sided P Value
iNHL	21.5 (17.8-33.0)	13.8 (10.2-17.5)	0.52 (0.39-0.69)	<.0001	
FL	22.2 (17.8-33.1)	18.7 (10.2-21.1)	0.58 (0.40-0.83)	.001	



	0	6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48	54	60
Copanlisib + rituximab	307 (0)	204 (67)	146 (97)	88 (125)	49 (149)	31 (164)	15 (175)	6 (183)	2 (187)	0 (189)	0 (189)
Placebo + rituximab	151 (0)	85 (26)	53 (41)	33 (49)	16 (56)	8 (60)	3 (61)	1 (63)	0 (64)	0 (64)	0 (64)

Bispecific Antibodies

Mode of action of anti-CD20/CD3 bispecific antibodies

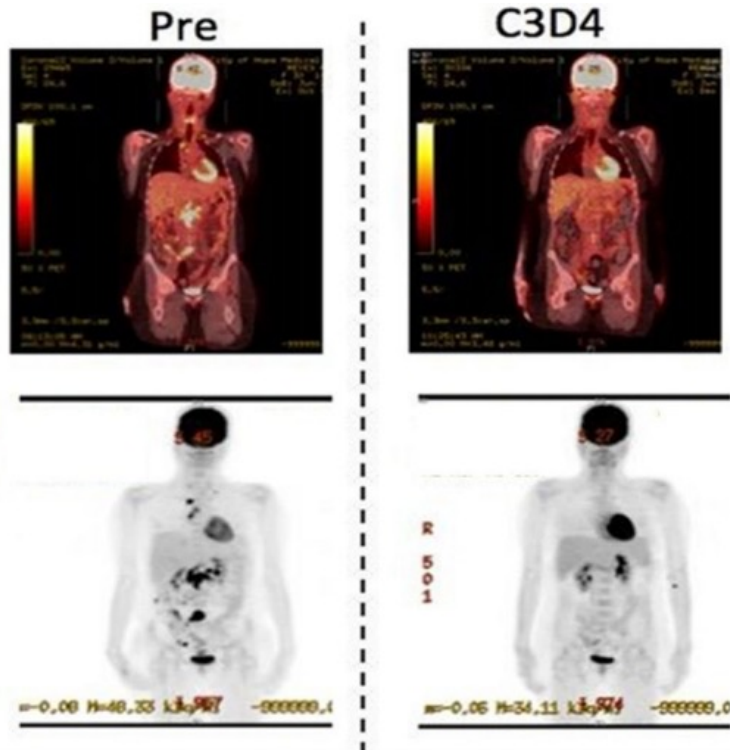


» NHL, non-Hodgkin lymphoma


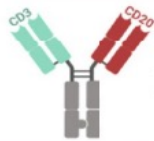
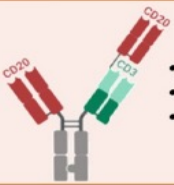
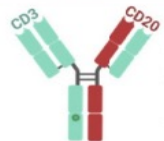

» 1. Sun LL, et al. *Sci Transl Med* 2015;7:287ra70;
 2. Dieckmann NM, et al. *J Cell Science* 2016;129:2:2881-6
 3. Bacac M, et al. *Clin Cancer Res* 2018;24:4:785-97 Adapted from Aldoss I, et al. *Leukemia* 2017;31:777-87

Novel Agents for DLBCL: Bispecific Antibodies

CR in a CAR-T-refractory patient with DLBCL



The bispecific antibody panorama

Bi-Specific Antibody	Targets	Design	Ig Fragment Formats
blinatumomab	CD19 x CD3		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> two murine scFv joined by a glycine-serine linker monovalent CD19 and monovalent CD3 binding cloned from anti-CD19 (clone HD37) and anti-CD3 (clone L2K-07) murine mAbs
→ mosunetuzumab	CD20 x CD3		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> humanized mouse heterodimeric IgG1-based antibody monovalent CD20 and monovalent CD3ε binding modified Fc devoid of FcγR and complement binding
→ glotitamab	(CD20) ₂ x CD3		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> humanized mouse IgG1-based antibody bivalent CD20 and monovalent CD3ε binding modified Fc devoid of FcγR and complement binding
→ odronextamab	CD20 x CD3		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> fully human IgG4-based heterodimeric antibody monovalent CD20 and monovalent CD3ε binding Fc-dependent effector function-minimized antibody with Fc of the anti-CD3ε heavy chain modified to reduce Protein A binding common κ light chain from anti-CD3ε mAb
→ epcoritamab	CD20 x CD3		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> humanized mouse IgG1-based heterodimeric antibody monovalent CD20 and monovalent CD3 binding IgG1 Fc modified to minimize Fc-dependent effector functions and to control Fab-arm exchange of mAb half-molecules, resulting in high bispecific product yield

Bispecific Antibodies

- mosunetuzumab
-

Mosunetuzumab monotherapy demonstrates durable efficacy with a manageable safety profile in patients with relapsed/refractory follicular lymphoma who received ≥ 2 prior therapies: updated results from a pivotal phase II study

Pivotal, single-arm, multicenter, phase II expansion in patients with R/R FL and ≥ 2 prior therapies¹

Key inclusion criteria

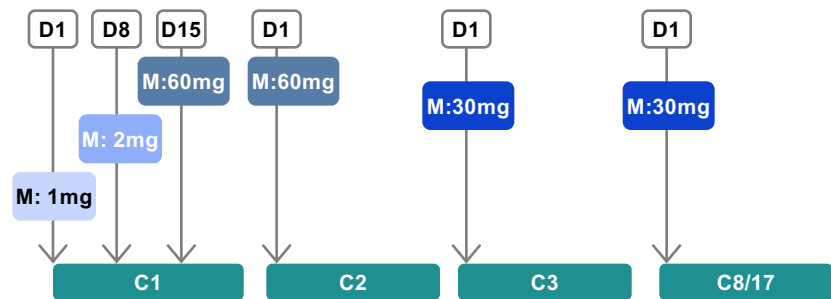
- FL grade 1–3A
- ECOG PS 0–1
- **≥ 2 prior therapies including an anti-CD20 antibody and an alkylator**

Data analysis

- Study met its primary endpoint: **60% CR rate versus 14% historical control** ($p < 0.0001$)^{2,3}
- Updated efficacy and safety analysis with median **28.3 months of follow-up** (10 months after the previous report)

Mosunetuzumab administration

- IV mosunetuzumab administered in 21-day cycles with step-up dosing in C1
- Fixed-duration treatment:
 - **8 cycles if CR after C8;**
 - **17 cycles if PR/SD after C8**
- Re-treatment with mosunetuzumab permitted at relapse for patients who achieved CR
- No mandatory hospitalization



1. Bartlett NL, et al. ASH 2022. Abstract 610;
 2. Dreyling M, et al. J Clin Oncol 2017;35:3898–3905;
 3. Budde LE, et al. Lancet Oncol 2022;23:1055–1065

Baseline characteristics and response

N=90

Median age, years (range) 60 (29–90)

Male 61%

Ann Arbor stage

I/II 23%

III/IV 77%

Median lines of prior therapy, n (range) 3 (2–10)

Refractory to last prior therapy 69%

Refractory to any prior anti-CD20 therapy 79%

Progression of disease within 24 months from start of first-line therapy (POD24) 52%

Double refractory to prior anti-CD20 and alkylator therapy 53%

Prior autologous stem cell transplant 21%

Efficacy endpoint in the overall population by investigator assessment

% (95% CI)

ORR 78% (68–86)

CR 60% (49–70)

→ Time to first response (median [range]): **1.4 months**

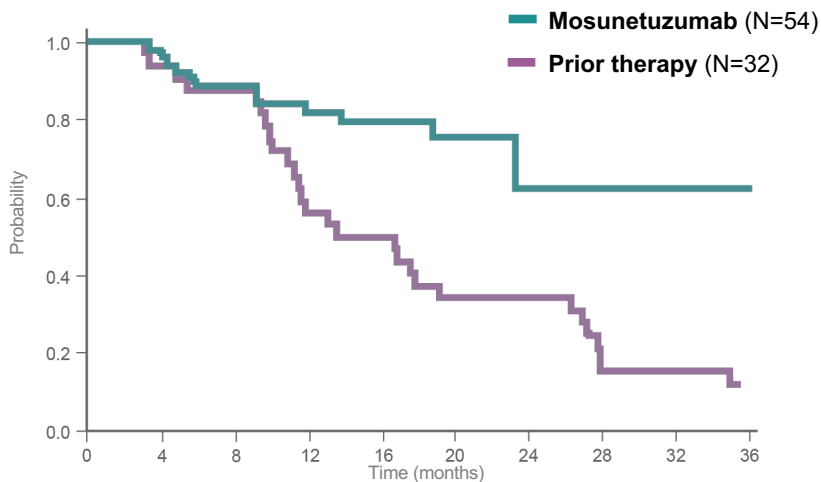
→ (1.0–11)

Time to first CR (median [range]): **3.0 months**

Mod. da: Barlett NL, et al. ASH 2022. Abstract 610

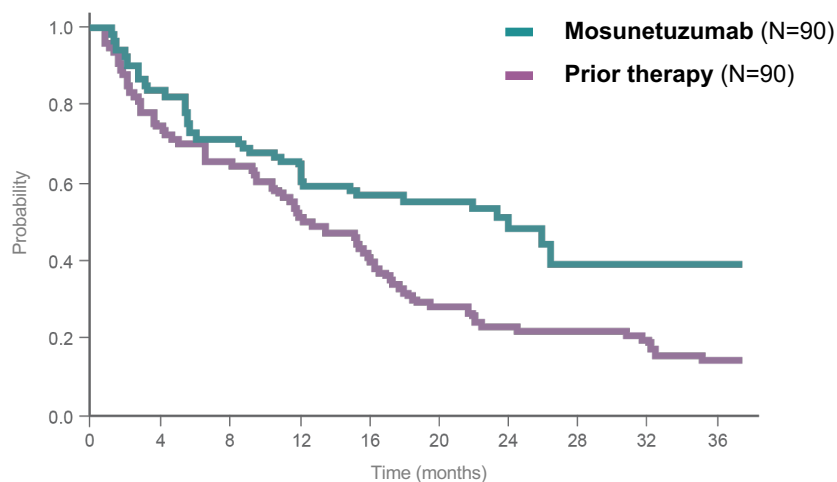
DOCR

DOCR and PFS with mosunetuzumab versus last prior therapy



	Mosunetuzumab (N=54)	Last prior therapy (N=32)
Median DOCR, months (95% CI)	NR (23–NR)	15 (11–26)

PFS



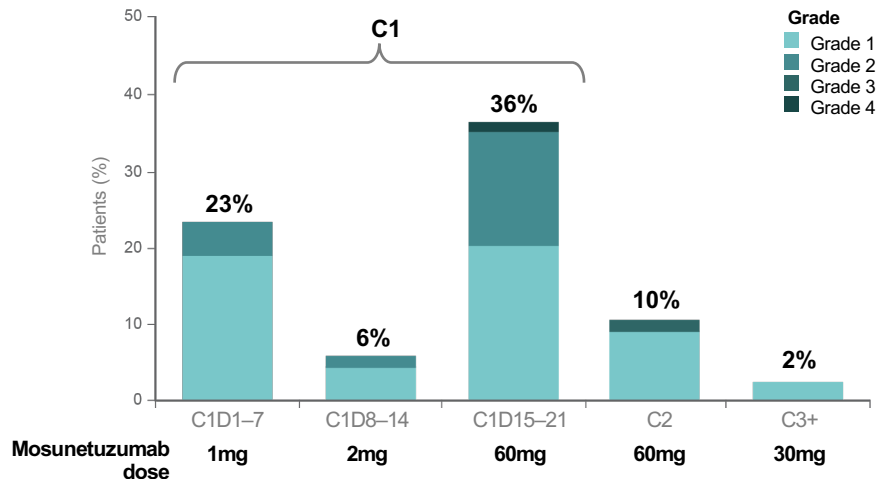
	Mosunetuzumab (N=90)	Last prior therapy (N=90)
Median PFS, months (95% CI)	24 (12–NR)	12 (10–16)

Extended DOCR and 12-month improvement in median PFS with mosunetuzumab compared with last prior therapy

CRS summary

CRS by ASTCT criteria ¹		N=90
	CRS (any grade)	44%
→	Grade 1	26%
→	Grade 2	17%
	Grade 3	1%
	Grade 4	1%
Median time to CRS onset, hours (range)		
	C1D1	5.2 (1.2–24)
→	C1D15	27 (0.1–391)
Median CRS duration, days (range)		
		3 (1–29)
Corticosteroids for CRS management		
		11%
Tocilizumab for CRS management		
		8%
→	Events resolved	100%

CRS BY CYCLE AND GRADE



All CRS events resolved; no new events were reported with 10 months of additional follow-up
No correlation observed between the occurrence of CRS and tumor

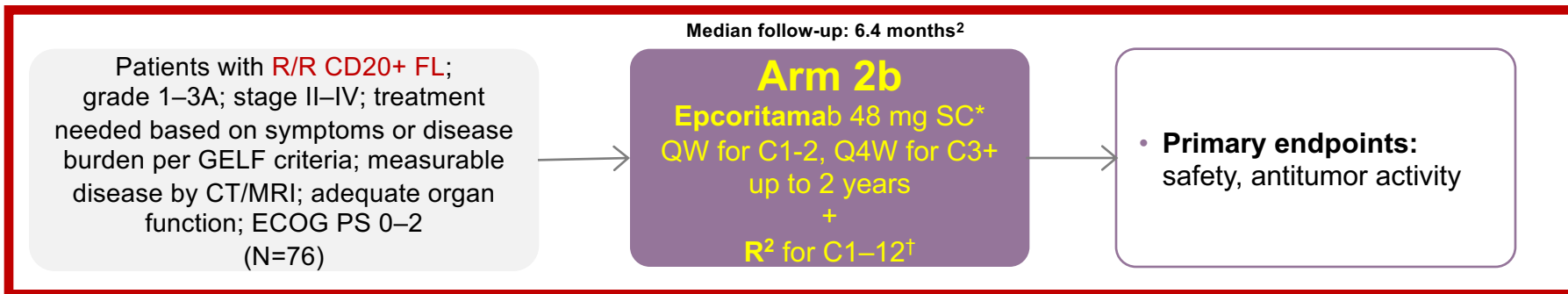
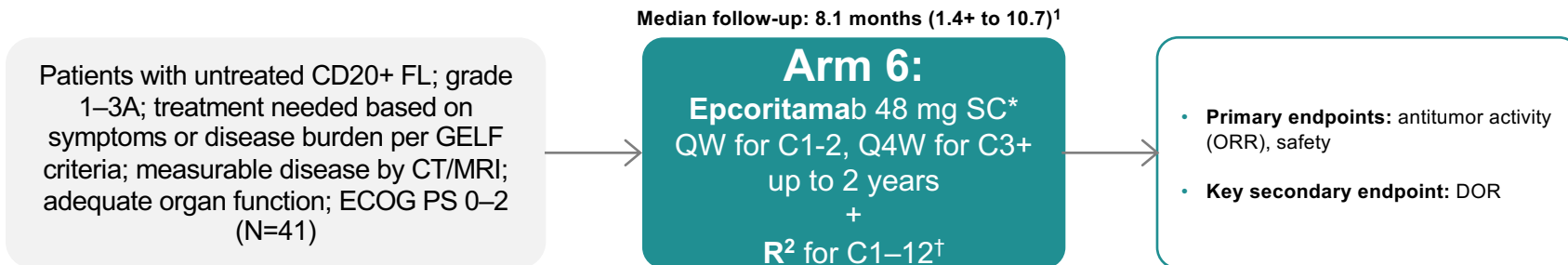
¹As per Lee DW, et al. *Biol Blood Marrow Transplant* 2019; 25: 625–638
 ASTCT: American Society for Transplantation and Cellular Therapy

Anticorpi BISPECIFICI

- epcoritamab
-

EPCORE NHL-2: study design

- Multicenter, open-label phase Ib/II trial (current analysis reported data from arm 6 and arm 2b)



*Epcoritamab administered in 28-day cycles, with step-up dosing comprising priming and intermediate doses prior to first full dose, along with corticosteroid as CRS prophylaxis. †Rituximab 375 mg/m² IV QW for C1, Q4W for C2-6 (arm 6) or C2-5 (arm 2b); lenalidomide 20 mg PO QD x 21 days for C1-12.

GELF: Groupe d'Etude des Lymphomes Folliculaires

EPCORE NHL-2: baseline characteristics

Characteristic	1L FL ¹ (N=41)	R/R FL ² (N=76)
Median age, yr (range)	57 (39–78)	64 (30–79)
Female, N (%)	20 (49)	37 (49)
Median time from dx to first dose, weeks (range)	12 (2–352)	--
Ann Arbor stage, N (%)	I-II*	3 (7)
	III	16 (39)
	IV	22 (54)
Histologic grade, N (%)	1	5 (12)
	2	29 (71)
	3A	7 (17)
FLIPI, N (%) [†]	0-1	10 (24)
	2	14 (34)
	3-5	14 (34)
ECOG PS, N (%)	0	34 (83)
	1	6 (15)
	2	1 (2)

Characteristic	R/R FL ² (N=76)
Median time from dx to first dose, months (range)	59 (4–331)
Median time from end of last line of tx to first dose, months (range)	16 (0.2–198)
Median no. prior lines of tx, n (range)	1 (1–9)
• 1 prior line, N (%)	41 (54)
• 2 prior lines, N (%)	21 (28)
• ≥3 prior lines, N (%)	14 (18)
Primary refractory [‡] disease, N (%)	29 (38)
Double refractory [§] disease, N (%)	30 (39)
POD24,|| N (%)	32 (42)
Refractory [‡] to last line of tx, N (%)	29 (38)
Prior ASCT, N (%)	8 (11)
Prior CAR-T-cell therapy, N (%)	2 (3)

*For R/R arm 2b, all patients stage II. †Unknown for 3 and 6 patients in 1L and R/R FL arms, respectively.

[‡]No response or relapse within 6 months after prior therapy. [§]Refractory to both anti-CD20 and an alkylating agent ^{||}Progression within 2 years of initiating first-line treatment including immunochemotherapy. Dx: diagnosis; tx: treatment

EPCORE NHL-2: CRS events

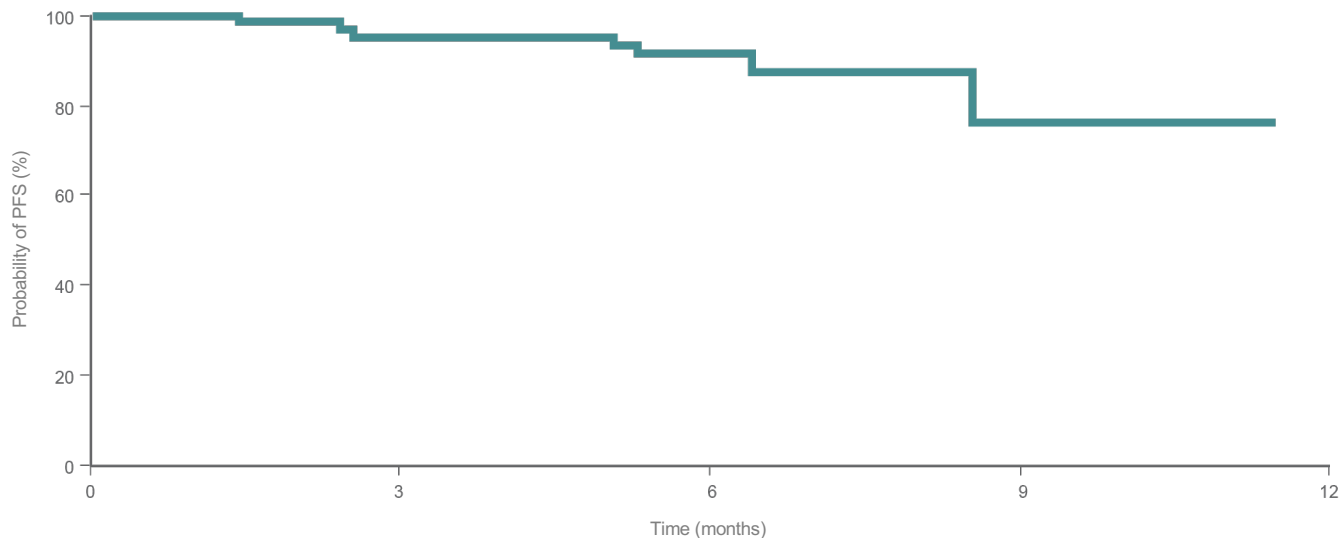
CRS outcome, N (%)	1L FL ¹ (N=41)	R/R FL ² (N=76)
CRS	22 (54)	33 (43)
• Grade 1	16 (39)	25 (33)
• Grade 2	6 (15)	8 (11)
Median time to onset after first full dose, days (range)	3 (1–6)	2 (1–9)
CRS resolution	22 (100)	33 (100)
Median time to resolution, days (range)	4 (1–10)	2 (1–23)
CRS leading to tx d/c	0	0
Tocilizumab use	4 (10)	8 (11)

CRS events by dosing period, %	1L FL ¹ (N=41)		R/R FL ² (N=76)	
	Gr 1	Gr 2	Gr 1	Gr 2
Priming C1D1	5	0	3	3
Intermediate C1D8	2	0	0	0
First full C1D15	32	15	32	9
Second full C1D22	3	0	1	0
Third full+ C2D1+	10	0	3	0

- No grade ≥ 3 CRS events were observed
- CRS timing was predictable; most cases occurred following first full dose

EPCORE NHL-2: PFS in R/R FL

PROGRESSION-FREE SURVIVAL



**Median PFS not reached (95% CI, 8.5–
not reached)**

Glofitamab, a Novel, Bivalent CD20-Targeting T-Cell–Engaging Bispecific Antibody, Induces Durable Complete Remissions in Relapsed or Refractory B-Cell Lymphoma: A Phase I Trial

Martin Hutchings, PhD¹; Franck Morschhauser, MD, PhD²; Gloria Iacoboni, MD^{3,4}; Carmelo Carlo-Sella, MD⁵; Fritz C. Othmer, MD, PhD⁶; Anna Sureda, MD, PhD⁷; Gilles Salles, MD⁸; Joaquín Martínez-López, MD, PhD, MBA⁹; Michael Crump, MD¹⁰; Denise N. Thomas, MSc¹¹; Peter N. Morcos, PharmD¹²; Cristiano Ferlini, MD¹³; Ann-Marie E. Bröske, PhD¹²; Anton Belousov, PhD¹³; Marina Bacac, PhD¹³; Natalie Dimier, PhD¹⁴; David J. Carlisle, PhD^{2,4}; Linda Lundberg, PhD^{2,5}; David Perez-Callejo, MD, PhD¹⁵; Pablo Umaña, PhD^{1,3}; Tom Moore, MD¹²; Martin Weisser, MD²; and Michael J. Dickinson, MBBS, DMedSci¹⁶

PURPOSE Glofitamab is a T-cell–engaging bispecific antibody possessing a novel 2:1 structure with bivalency for CD20 on B cells and monovalency for CD3 on T cells. This phase I study evaluated glofitamab in relapsed or refractory (R/R) B-cell non-Hodgkin lymphoma (B-NHL). Data for single-agent glofitamab, with obinutuzumab pretreatment (*Gpt*) to reduce toxicity, are presented.

METHODS Seven days before the first dose of glofitamab (0.005-30 mg), all patients received 1,000 mg *Gpt*. Dose-escalation steps were determined using a Bayesian continuous reassessment method with overdose control. Primary end points were safety, pharmacokinetics, and the maximum tolerated dose of glofitamab.

RESULTS Following initial single-patient cohorts, 171 patients were treated within conventional multipatient cohorts and received at least one dose of glofitamab. This trial included heavily pretreated patients with R/R B-NHL; most were refractory to prior therapy (155; 90.6%) and had received a median of three prior therapies. One hundred and twenty-seven patients (74.3%) had diffuse large B-cell lymphoma, transformed follicular lymphoma, or other aggressive histology, and the remainder had indolent lymphoma subtypes. Five (2.9%) patients withdrew from treatment because of adverse events. Cytokine release syndrome occurred in 86 of 171 (50.3%) patients (grade 3 or 4: 3.5%); two (1.2%) patients experienced grade 3, transient immune effector cell–associated neurotoxicity syndrome-like symptoms. The overall response rate was 53.8% (complete response [CR], 36.8%) among all doses and 65.7% (CR, 57.1%) in those dosed at the recommended phase II dose. Of 63 patients with CR, 53 (84.1%) have ongoing CR with a maximum of 27.4 months observation.

CONCLUSION In patients with predominantly refractory, aggressive B-NHL, glofitamab showed favorable activity with frequent and durable CRs and a predictable and manageable safety profile.

TABLE 3. Summary of Efficacy Data in Patients Receiving Glofitamab by Dose Level and Histology as of August 3, 2020 (Primary Efficacy Population)

Response	All Histologies	aNHL ^a	DLBCL	tFL	FL (Gr 1-3A)
All cohorts, No.	171	127	73	29	44
Overall response rate ^b					
No. (%)	92 (53.8)	61 (48.0)	30 (41.4)	16 (55.2)	31 (70.5)
95% CI	46.0 to 61.4	39.1 to 57.1	29.7 to 53.2	35.7 to 73.6	54.8 to 83.2
CR					
No. (%)	63 (36.8)	42 (33.1)	21 (28.8)	10 (34.5)	21 (47.7)
95% CI	29.6 to 44.5	25.0 to 42.0	18.8 to 40.6	17.9 to 54.3	32.5 to 63.3
PR					
No. (%)	29 (17.0)	19 (15.0)	9 (12.3)	6 (20.7)	10 (22.7)
95% CI	11.7 to 23.4	9.3 to 22.4	5.8 to 22.1	8.0 to 39.7	11.5 to 37.8
≥ 10 mg cohorts, No.	98	69	38	14	29
Overall response rate ^b					
No. (%)	62 (63.3)	42 (60.9)	21 (55.3)	9 (64.3)	20 (69.0)
95% CI	52.9 to 72.8	48.4 to 72.4	38.3 to 71.4	35.1 to 87.2	49.2 to 84.7
CR					
No. (%)	51 (52.0)	34 (49.3)	16 (42.1)	9 (64.3)	17 (58.6)
95% CI	41.7 to 62.2	37.0 to 61.6	26.3 to 59.2	35.1 to 87.2	38.9 to 76.5
PR					
No. (%)	11 (11.2)	8 (11.6)	5 (13.2)	0	3 (10.3)
95% CI	5.7 to 19.2	5.1 to 21.6	4.4 to 28.1	—	—
RP2D 2.5/10/30 mg, No.	35	14	5	3	21
Objective response rate ^b					
No. (%)	23 (65.7)	10 (71.4)	3 (60.0)	3 (100.0)	13 (61.9)
95% CI	47.8 to 80.9	41.9 to 91.6	—	—	38.4 to 81.9
CR					
No. (%)	20 (57.1)	9 (64.3)	2 (40.0)	3 (100.0)	11 (52.4)
95% CI	39.4 to 73.7	35.1 to 87.2	—	—	29.8 to 74.3
PR					
No. (%)	3 (8.6)	1 (7.1)	1 (20.0)	0	2 (9.5)
95% CI	1.8 to 23.1	0.2 to 33.9	—	—	1.2 to 30.4

Abbreviations: aNHL, aggressive non-Hodgkin lymphoma; CR, complete response; CT, computed tomography; DLBCL, diffuse large B-cell lymphoma; FL, follicular lymphoma; Gr, grade; MCL, mantle cell lymphoma; PET, positron emission tomography; PMBCL, primary mediastinal B-cell lymphoma; PR, partial response; RP2D, recommended phase II dose; tFL, transformed follicular lymphoma; tMZL, transformed marginal zone lymphoma.

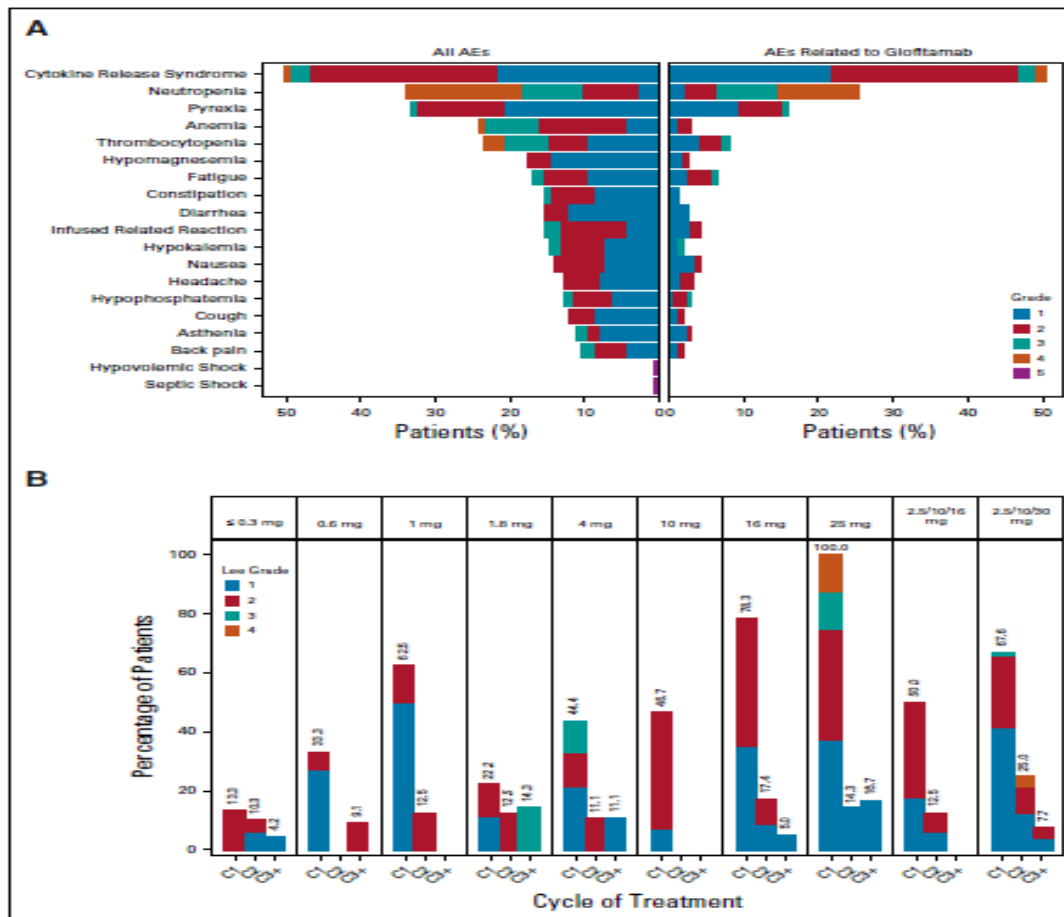
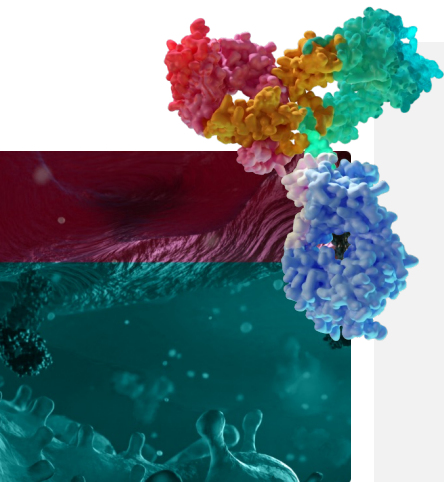


FIG 1. (A) Shows adverse events with an incidence of $\geq 10\%$ or an NCI-CTCAE grade of 5 as of August 3, 2020. (B) Shows the incidence of CRS by cycle and dose (Less grade).¹⁰ CRS events were predominantly confined to cycles 1 and 2. Step-up

Conclusioni



- **Mosunetuzumab:** conferma dati di attività, efficacia e sicurezza
 - Utilizzo in combinazione (*ongoing phase III*), possibilità di uso sottocute
- **Odronextamab:** dati molto promettenti di attività e sicurezza, *step-up dosing* più lungo
 - Ambizioso programma di sviluppo per FL 1^a linea, R/R in combinazione
- **Epcoritamab:** conferma dati di attività in combinazione con R², elevata maneggevolezza

BISPECIFIC

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CAR-T

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CHECK-IN

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MOAB

NEW MOAB

BISPECIFIC

CAR-T

IMiDS



NEW MOAB

MULTITARGET

COMBINATION



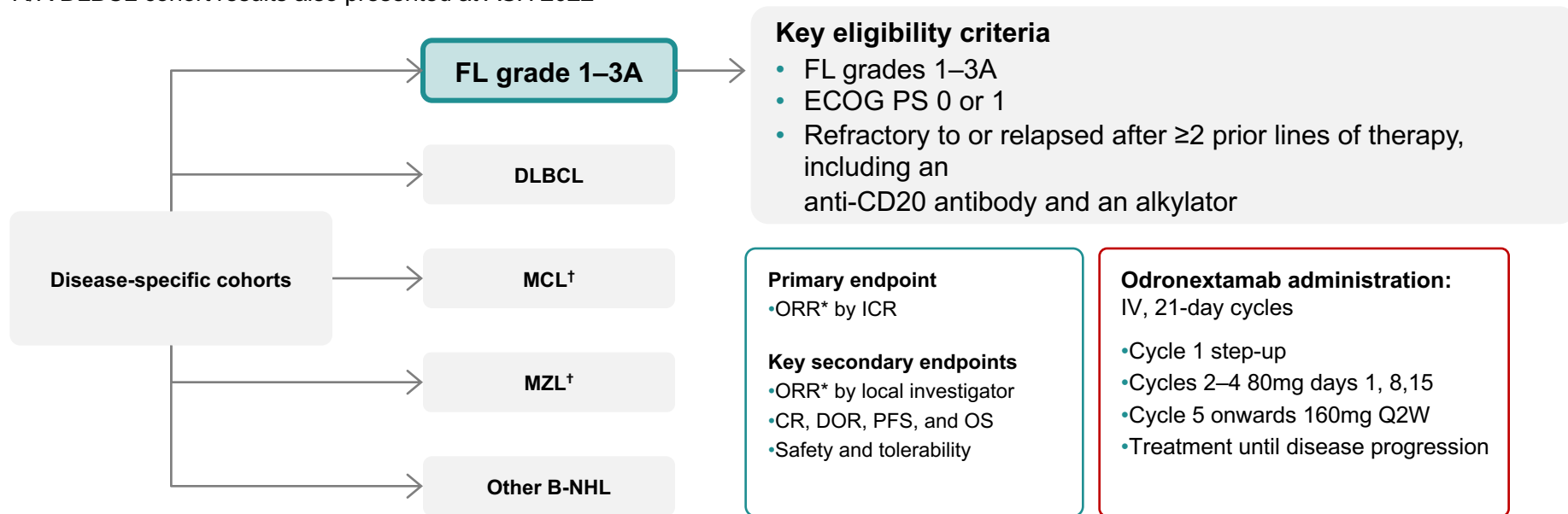
Anticorpi BISPECIFICI

- odronextamab
-

Odronextamab in patients with relapsed/refractory (R/R) follicular lymphoma (FL) grade 1–3A: results from a prespecified analysis of the phase 2 study ELM-2

ELM-2 phase 2, open-label, multi-cohort, multicenter study of odronextamab monotherapy for patients with R/R B-NHL (NCT03888105)¹

- R/R DLBCL cohort results also presented at ASH 2022²



^{*}According to Lugano criteria. [†]New enrolment is currently paused.
 CD, cluster of differentiation; ICR, independent central review; MCL, mantle cell lymphoma; MZL, marginal zone lymphoma; Q2W, every 2 weeks

Mod. da: 1. Kim TM, et al. ASH 2022. Abstract n. 949;

2. Kim WS, et al. ASH 2022. Abstract n. 444

Baseline characteristics

- Heavily pretreated, highly refractory patient population

Patient and disease characteristics	N=131
Median age, years (range)	61 (22–84)
Age ≥65	38.9%
Male	53.4%
Ann Arbor stage (I-II, III-IV)	15.3%/84.7%
FLIPI risk score 0–1, 2, 3–5	14.5%/26.7%/58.8%
Bulky disease (investigator assessment)	13.7%
Median no. of prior lines, n (range)	3.0 (2–13)
Prior ASCT	30.5%
Prior PI3K inhibitor	13.7%
Prior R ² (lenalidomide + rituximab)	13.7%
Refractory to last line of therapy	71.0%
Refractory to anti-CD20 antibody	74.8%
Double refractory to alkylator/anti-CD20 Ab	43.5%
POD24	48.1%

	N=131
Cycle 1 step-up regimen (1/20 mg)/(0.7/4/20 mg)	51.9%/48.1%
Median duration of exposure, weeks (range)	22.1 (0.4–137.0)
Median number of doses (range)	19 (1–61)
Median number of cycles (range)	9.1 (0.1–66.5)
Completed cycle 1	95.4%
Completed ≥4 cycles	80.9%
Treatment ongoing	42.7%
Treatment discontinued	57.3%
Disease progression	19.8%
Patient or physician decision/withdrawal of consent	17.6%
Adverse event	9.9%
Death	9.9%

Odronextamab efficacy: objective response rate

Best overall response	Independent central review N=121*	Investigator evaluation N=121*
Objective response rate (ORR) [†]	81.8% [95% CI: 73.8–88.2%]	81.8% [95% CI: 73.8–88.2%]
Complete response	75.2%	70.2%
Partial response	6.6%	11.6%
Stable disease	5.8%	2.5%
Progressive disease	4.1%	5.8%

Week 12 response assessment by independent central review	1/20 step-up regimen N=68	0.7/4/20 step-up regimen N=53
ORR	72.1% [95% CI: 59.9–82.3%]	75.5% [95% CI: 61.7–86.2%]
Complete response	61.8%	71.7%

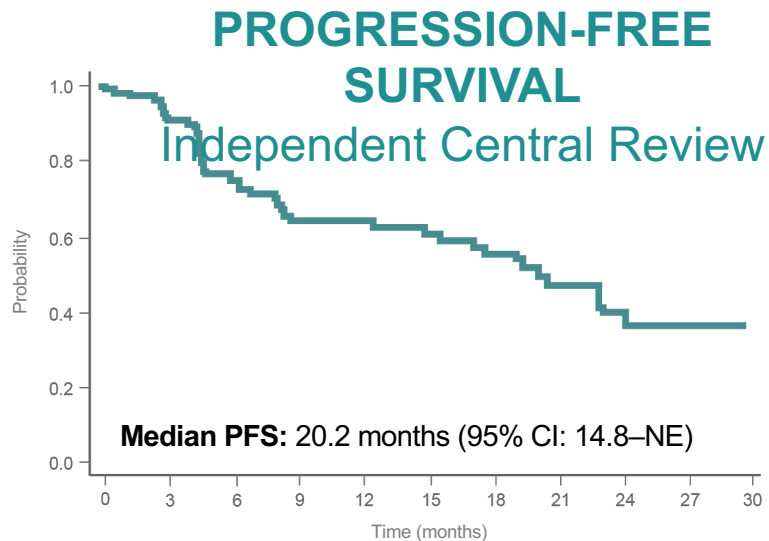
- **Majority of R/R FL patients achieved a complete response**
- **92% of responders were complete responders**
- **Consistent efficacy observed at week 12 regardless of cycle 1 step-up regimen**

- Median opportunity of follow-up: 22.4 months (range, 2.6–33.0)

Data cut of date: Sep 15, 2022.

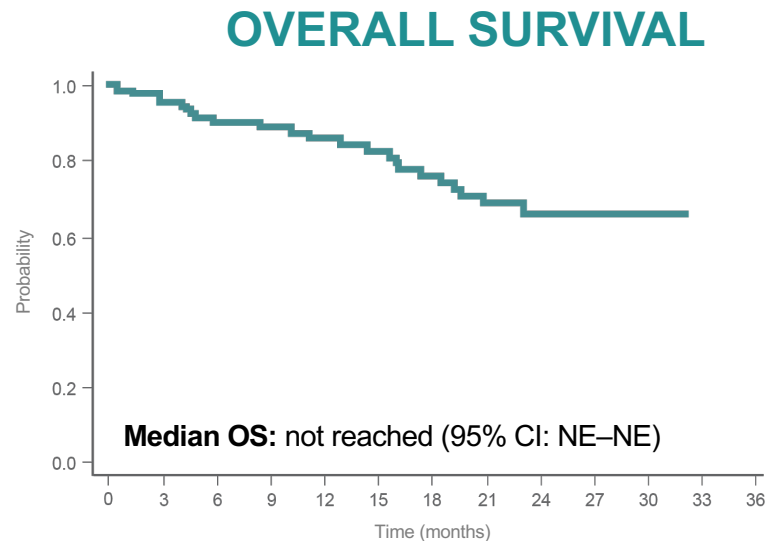
*Efficacy evaluable (with an opportunity for assessment at 12 weeks); [†]ORR = complete responses + partial responses

Progression-free survival and overall survival



12-month PFS rate: 64.0% (95% CI: 52.7–73.3)

18-month PFS rate: 55.3% (95% CI: 43.1–65.8)



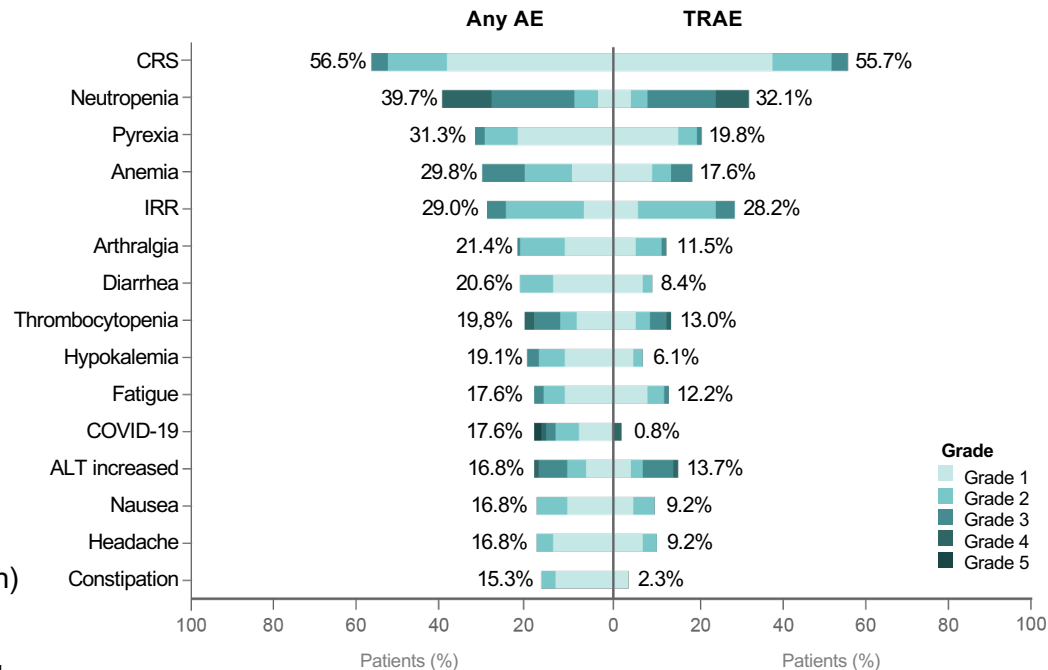
12-month OS rate: 86.1% (95% CI: 77.0–91.9)

18-month OS rate: 76.3% (95% CI: 64.8–84.5)

Odronextamab safety profile

AEs (≥15% any grade) and TRAEs

Treatment-emergent adverse events, N (%)	Patients, N=131	
	All events	TRAEs
Any TEAE	131 (100%)	118 (90.1%)
Grade ≥3 TEAE	102 (77.9%)	73 (55.7%)
Serious AE	81 (61.8%)	53 (40.5%)
Grade 5 TEAE	17 (13.0%)	3 (2.3%)
Related to COVID-19	7 (5.3%)	0
Other grade 5 events	10 (7.6%)	3 (2.3%)
TEAE leading to treatment discontinuation	15 (11.5%)	10 (7.6%)



- Grade 5 TRAEs: pneumonia, PML, systemic mycosis (N=1 each)
- TRAEs leading to treatment discontinuation: IRR (N=2); IRR and tremor (N=1); ALT increase; arthralgia; CRS; epilepsy; PML; viral bronchitis; weight decrease (N=1 each)

Data cut of date: Sep 15, 2022.

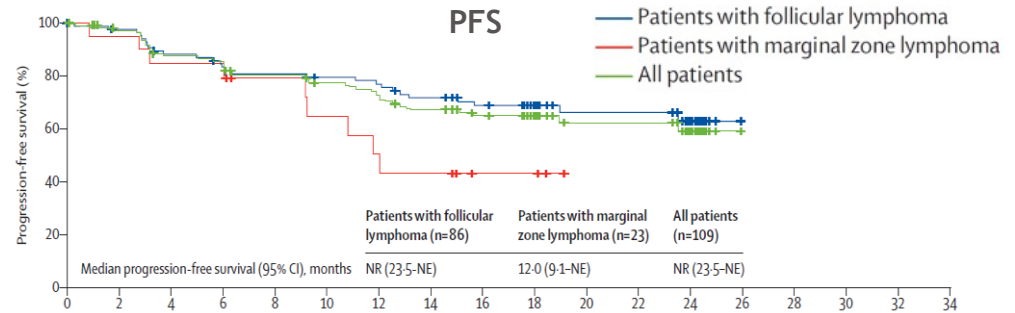
AEs per NCI-CTCAE v5.0. CRS per Lee DW, et al. Biol Blood Marrow Transplant 2019; 25: 625-638

ALT, alanine aminotransferase; IRR, infusion-related reaction; PML, progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy; TEAE, treatment-emergent AE; TRAE, treatment-related AE.

CAR-T

ZUMA-5: efficacy and safety of patients with relapsed/refractory follicular lymphoma receiving axicabtagene ciloleucel

Patient characteristics	Patients (N = 148)
Median age, years (range)	60 (53-67)
Tumor type, n (%)	124 (83.8)
FL	24 (16.2)
MZL	
Stage III-IV disease, n (%)	106 (85)
Median prior lines, n (range)	3 (2-4)
Refractory disease, n (%)	84 (68)
Prior HSCT, n (%)	33 (22)
TEAEs of interest	Axi-cel
Grade ≥ 3 CRS, n (%) ^a	8 (6)
Grade ≥ 3 neurological toxicity, n (%)	19 (15)



Number at risk (number censored)	0	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24	26	28	30	32	34
Patients with follicular lymphoma	86 (0)	82 (2)	73 (3)	68 (4)	64 (6)	61 (8)	59 (8)	54 (9)	49 (12)	40 (21)	24 (36)	24 (36)	12 (47)	0 (59)	..	..	..	..
Patients with marginal zone lymphoma	23 (0)	19 (3)	16 (4)	15 (5)	11 (8)	9 (8)	7 (8)	6 (8)	3 (11)	3 (11)	0 (14)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
All patients	109 (0)	101 (5)	89 (7)	83 (9)	75 (14)	70 (16)	66 (16)	60 (17)	52 (23)	43 (32)	24 (50)	24 (50)	12 (61)	0 (73)	..	..	..	..

- Out of 86 patients, 95% achieved best ORR and 79% achieved best CR
- 12-month DOR was achieved by 72% of patients
- 18-month OS was 87.4% (median OS was not achieved)

Axicabtagene ciloleucel has not yet obtained approved outside the USA for r/r FL. The safety and efficacy of axicabtagene ciloleucel as systemic therapy. In the EU, axicabtagene ciloleucel has received positive CHMP opinion for the treatment of relapsed and refractory follicular lymphoma. Accessed May 2022.

^a CRS was graded using Lee criteria, 2014.

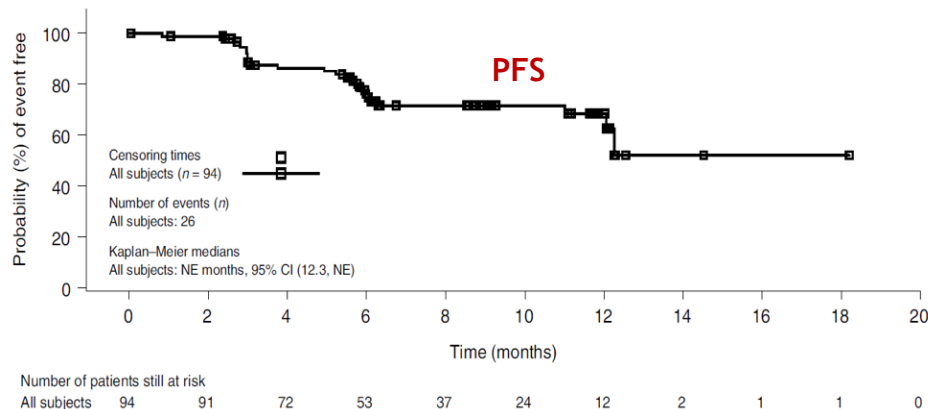
Axi-cel, axicabtagene ciloleucel; CHMP, Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use; HSCT, haematopoietic SCT.

Jacobson CA, et al. Lancet Oncol.2022;23:91-103.

ELARA: efficacy and safety of patients with relapsed/refractory follicular lymphoma receiving tisagenlecleucel

Characteristics	Patients (N = 97)
Median age, years, (range)	57 (49-64)
Stage III-IV disease, n (%)	83 (85.6)
Median prior lines, n (range)	4 (2-13)
Refractory to last line of therapy, n (%)	76 (78.4)
Prior HSCT, n (%)	35 (36.1)

TEAEs of interest	Tisa-cel
Grade ≥ 3 CRS, % ^a	0
Grade ≥ 3 neurological toxicity, n (%)	3 (3.1)



- Out of 94 patients, 86.2% achieved best ORR and 69.1% achieved best CRR
- Median DOR, PFS, and OS were not reached
- 9-months DOR was 86.5%
- 12-month PFS was 85.5%

In the EU, tisagenlecleucel is indicated for adult patients with r/r FL after two or more lines of systemic therapy. In the USA, Novartis has been granted accelerated approval for tisagenlecleucel for the treatment of adult patients with r/r FL after 2 or more lines of systemic therapy. Available from: <https://www.novartis.com/news/media-releases/fda-approves-novartis-kymriah-car-t-cell-therapy-adult-patients-relapsed-or-refractory-follicular-lymphoma>. Last updated May 2022. Accessed May 2022.

^a CRS was graded using Lee criteria, 2014.

NE, neurological event; tisa-cel, tisagenlecleucel.

Fowler NH, et al. Nat Med. 2022;28:325-32.

Terapia di seconda linea del Linfoma follicolare. Esiste una sequenza ottimale?

- Il LF rec/refr ha un andamento clinico eterogeneo; numerose opzioni oltre immunoc
 - Il tempo alla recidiva rappresenta un fattore prognostico rilevante (POD24)
 - Considerare anche: caratteristiche paziente; rischio di trasformazione; obiettivo della terapia; rapporto beneficio/tossicità; preferenze del paziente;
 - **Recidiva ultraprecoce**
 - **Ora ASCT, in futuro CART (bispec combo?)**
 - **Recidiva intermedia**
 - **Ora immunoc/R2, in futuro bispecifici (combo), CART?**
 - **Recidiva tardiva**
 - **R2, in futuro bispec (mono or combo + Len), BTK-inh? CART?**
-

Eppur si muove...

La terapia nel MONDO LINFOMI

***Il razionale biologico
delle combinazioni nei
linfomi non Hodgkin***

Dr Vincenzo Pavone



BARI, 28 GIUGNO 2022

Immunotherapy Landscape

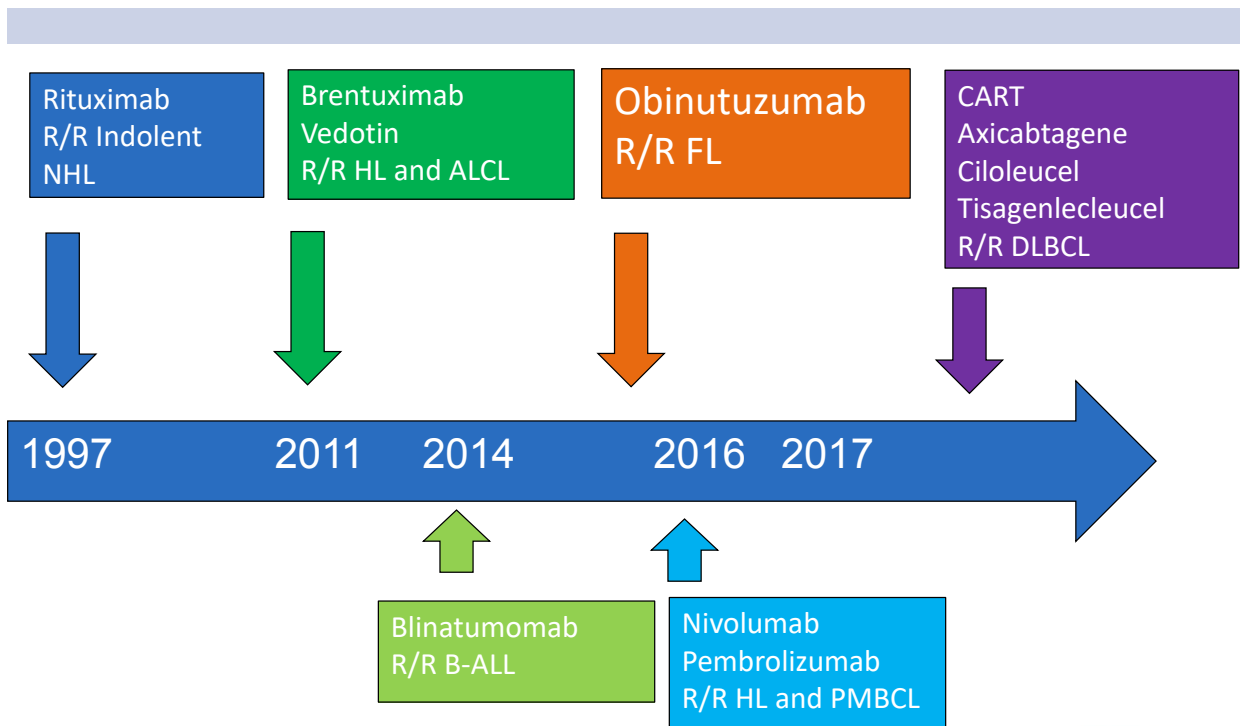
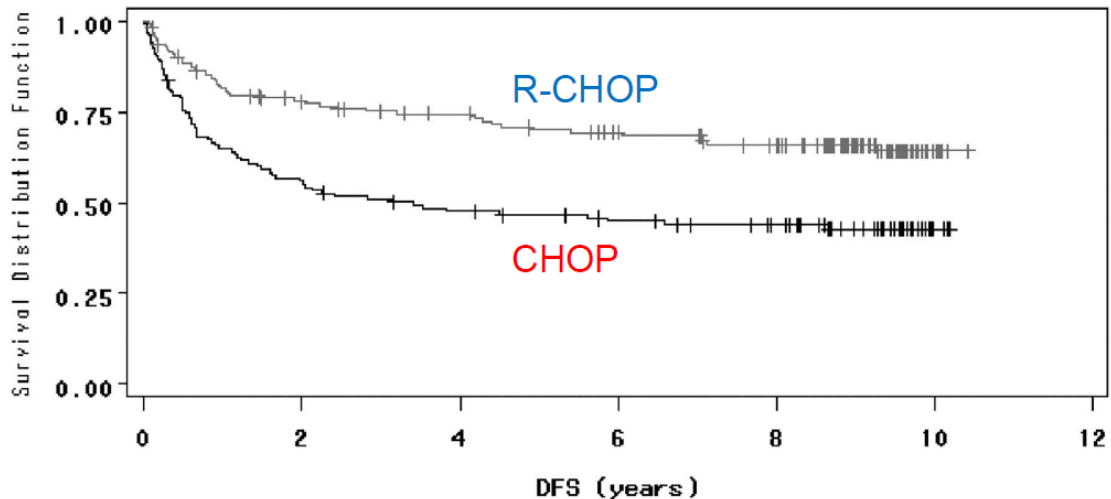


Table 10. Selected immunotherapy approaches clinically approved for treatment of NHL.

Class of Agents/Agent	Targeted Structure	Effective in NHL Subtypes
Monospecific monoclonal antibodies		
Rituximab	CD20	All B-NHL [11,12]
Obinutuzumab	CD20	CLL/SLL [13], FL frontline [14], R/R FL [15]
Tafasitamab	CD19	R/R B-NHL [26], R/R DLBCL [27]
Alemtuzumab	CD52	Mycosis fungoides [33], T-PLL [34]
Mogamulizumab	CCR4	Adult T-cel leukemia/lymphoma [37,38]
Bispecific monoclonal antibodies		
Blinatumomab	CD3-CD19	R/R B-NHL [48] R/R DLBCL [49,50]
Mosunetuzumab	CD3-CD20	R/R B-NHL [52]
Glofitamab	CD3-CD20	R/R B-NHL [56,57]
Checkpoint inhibitors		
Pembrolizumab	PD-1	R/R PMBCL [80,81], Richter's syndrome [93], mycosis fungoides [95]
Nivolumab	PD-1	R/R PMBCL [83], PCNSL and PTL [77]
Pidilizumab	PD-1	DLBCL after autologous SCT [75]
CAR-T cells		
Tisagenlecleucel	CD19	R/R aggressive NHL [141]
Axicabtagene ciloleucel	CD19	R/R aggressive NHL [142,143]
Lisocabtagene maraleucel	CD19	R/R aggressive NHL [144]
Brexucabtagene autoleucel	CD19	R/R MCL [150]
Immunomodulatory agents		
Lenalidomide	Cereblon	R/R FL and MZL [180] MCL frontline [182,183], R/R PCNSL [184], R/R DLBCL [185]
Avadomide	Cereblon	R/R DLBCL [194]

Abbreviations: B-NHL = B-non Hodgkin's lymphoma, CLL/SLL = chronic lymphocytic leukemia/small lymphocytic lymphoma, FL = follicular lymphoma, R/R = relapsed/refractory, DLBCL = diffuse large B-cell lymphoma, T-PLL = T-prolymphocytic leukemia, PMBCL = primary mediastinal B-cell lymphoma, PCNSL = primary central nervous system lymphoma, PTL = primary testicular lymphoma, SCT = stem cell transplantation, MCL = mantle cell lymphoma, MZL = marginal zone lymphoma.

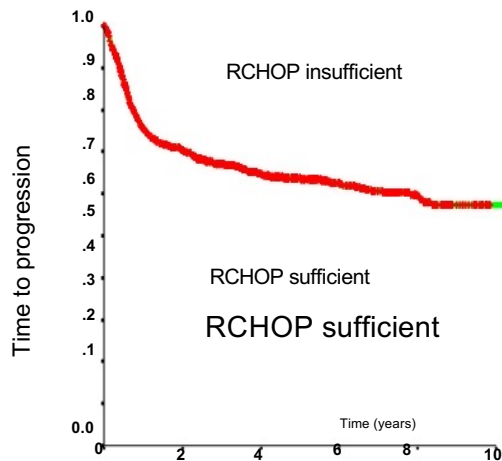
Disease-free survival in patients treated with CHOP and R-CHOP -10 yrs F/U



STRATA: — BRAS_RANDOM=Arm A : CHOP
 + + + Censored BRAS_RANDOM=Arm A : CHOP
 — BRAS_RANDOM=Arm B : CHOP + Rituximab
 + + + Censored BRAS_RANDOM=Arm B : CHOP + Rituximab

Bertrand Coiffier et al. Blood 2010;116:2040-2045

Heterogeneity of outcomes in DLBCL



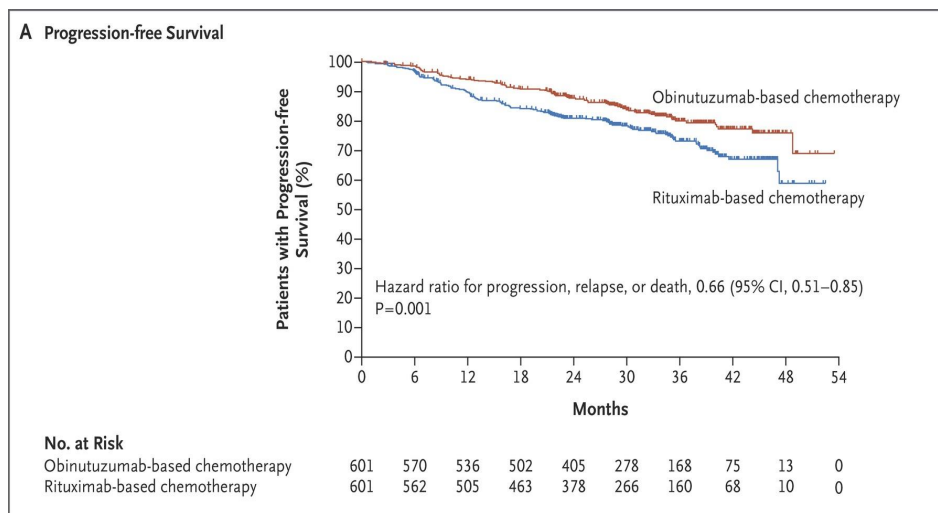
- Clinical factors
 - IPI (R-IPI)
- Interim PET scan
- GEP
 - ACB vs GCB
- Protein expression
 - MYC and BCL2
- Chromosomal alterations
 - MYC, BCL2, BCL6
- Deep sequencing analysis

Two broad strategies:

- Target both subgroups
 - possibly overtreating RCHOP “sufficient group”
- Target RCHOP “insufficient” group provided
 - it can be identified
 - It cab be targeted

Obinutuzumab (Gallium)

- Randomized Phase III in untreated FL
- R-bendamustine vs O-bendamustine plus O maintenance
- PFS benefit with O vs. R (3 yr PFS 80% vs. 73.3%, $p=0.01$)



Marcus R et al. NEJM 2017

Polatuzumab vedotin plus bendamustine and rituximab in relapsed/refractory DLBCL: survival update and new extension cohort data

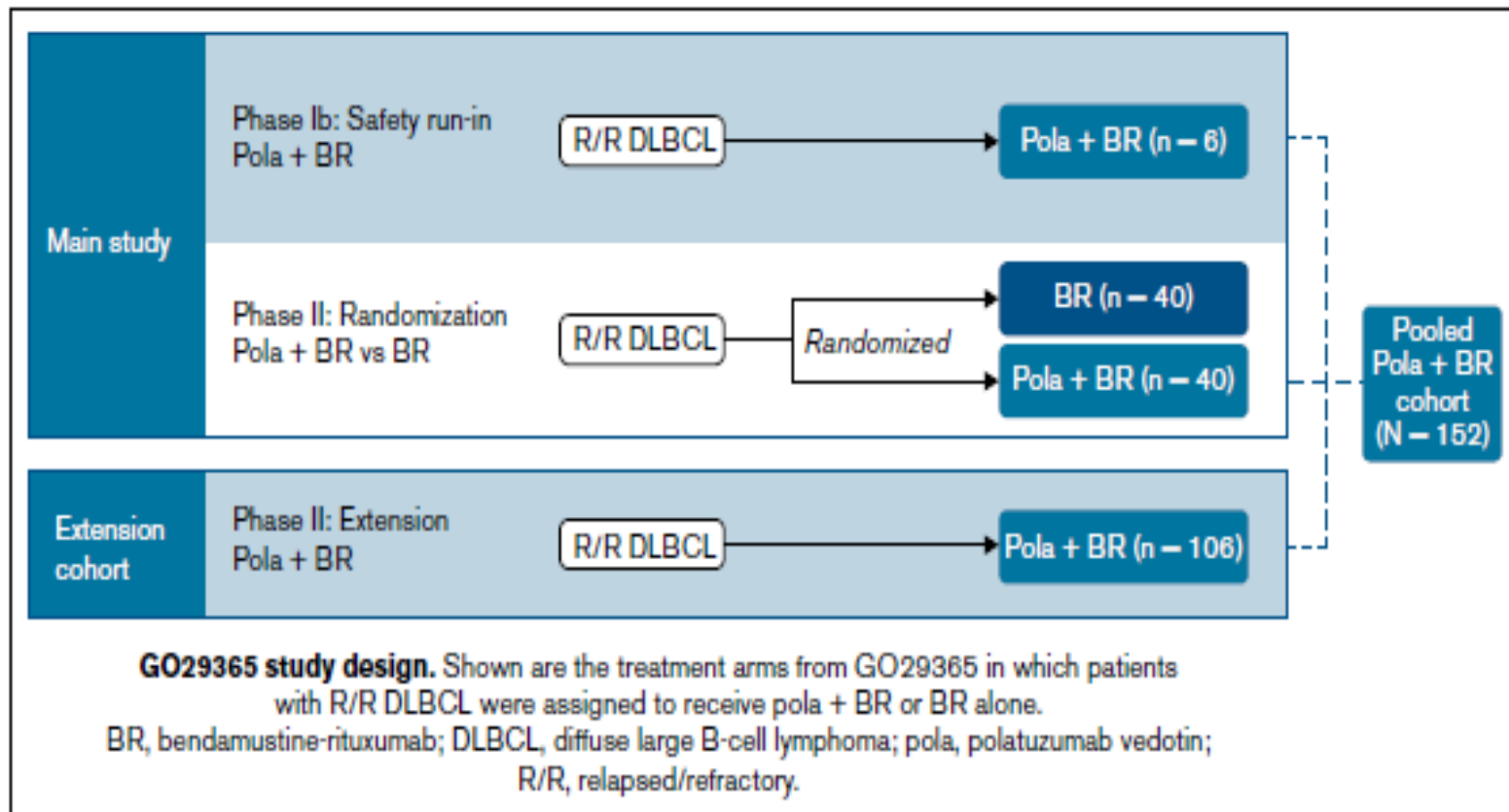
Laurie H. Sehn,¹ Mark Hertzberg,² Stephen Opat,³ Alex F. Herrera,⁴ Sarit Assouline,⁵ Christopher R. Flowers,⁶ Tae Min Kim,⁷ Andrew McMillan,⁸ Muhit Ozcan,⁹ Violaine Safar,¹⁰ Gilles Salles,¹⁰ Grace Ku,¹¹ Jamie Hirata,¹¹ Yi Meng Chang,¹² Lisa Musick,¹¹ and Matthew J. Matasar¹³

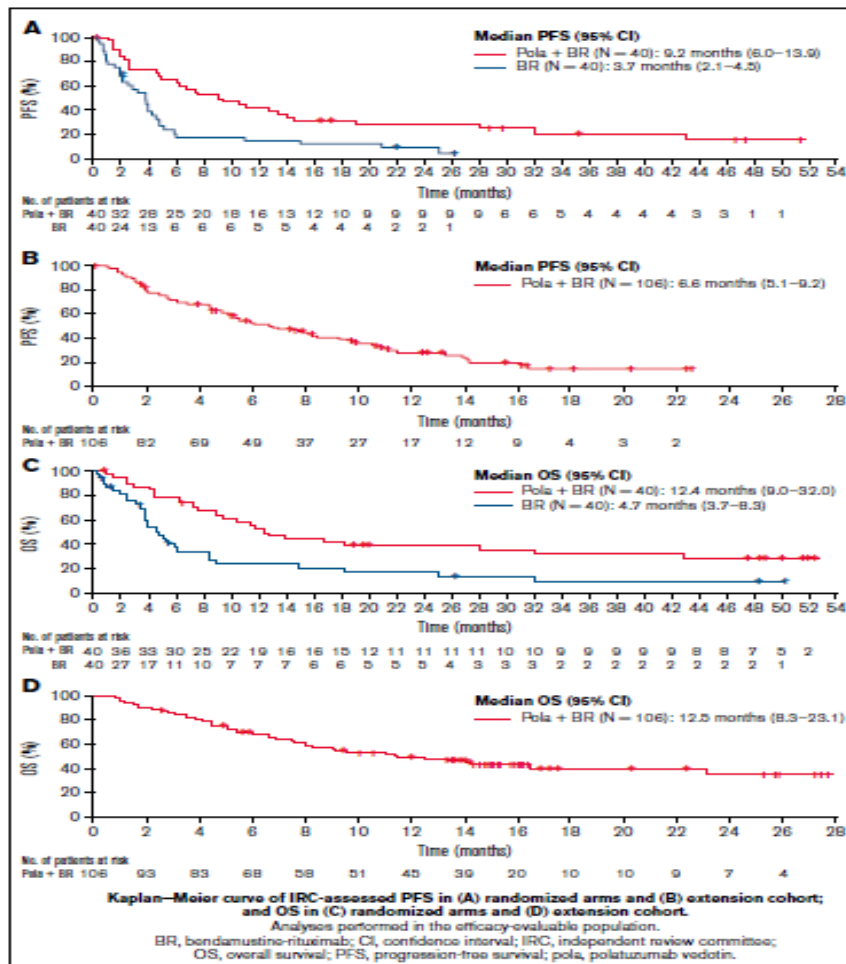
¹BC Cancer Centre for Lymphoid Cancer and The University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Canada; ²Prince of Wales Hospital and University of New South Wales, Sydney, NSW, Australia; ³Clinical Haematology, Monash Health and Monash University, Clayton, VIC, Australia; ⁴City of Hope Medical Centre, Duarte, CA; ⁵Jewish General Hospital, Montreal, QC, Canada; ⁶Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University, Atlanta, GA; ⁷Seoul National University Hospital, Seoul, South Korea; ⁸Center for Clinical Haematology, Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust, Nottingham, UK; ⁹Ankara University, Ankara, Turkey; ¹⁰Centre Hospitalier Lyon-Sud, Lyon, France; ¹¹Genentech, Inc., South San Francisco, CA; ¹²F. Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd, Mississauga, ON, Canada; and ¹³Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York, NY

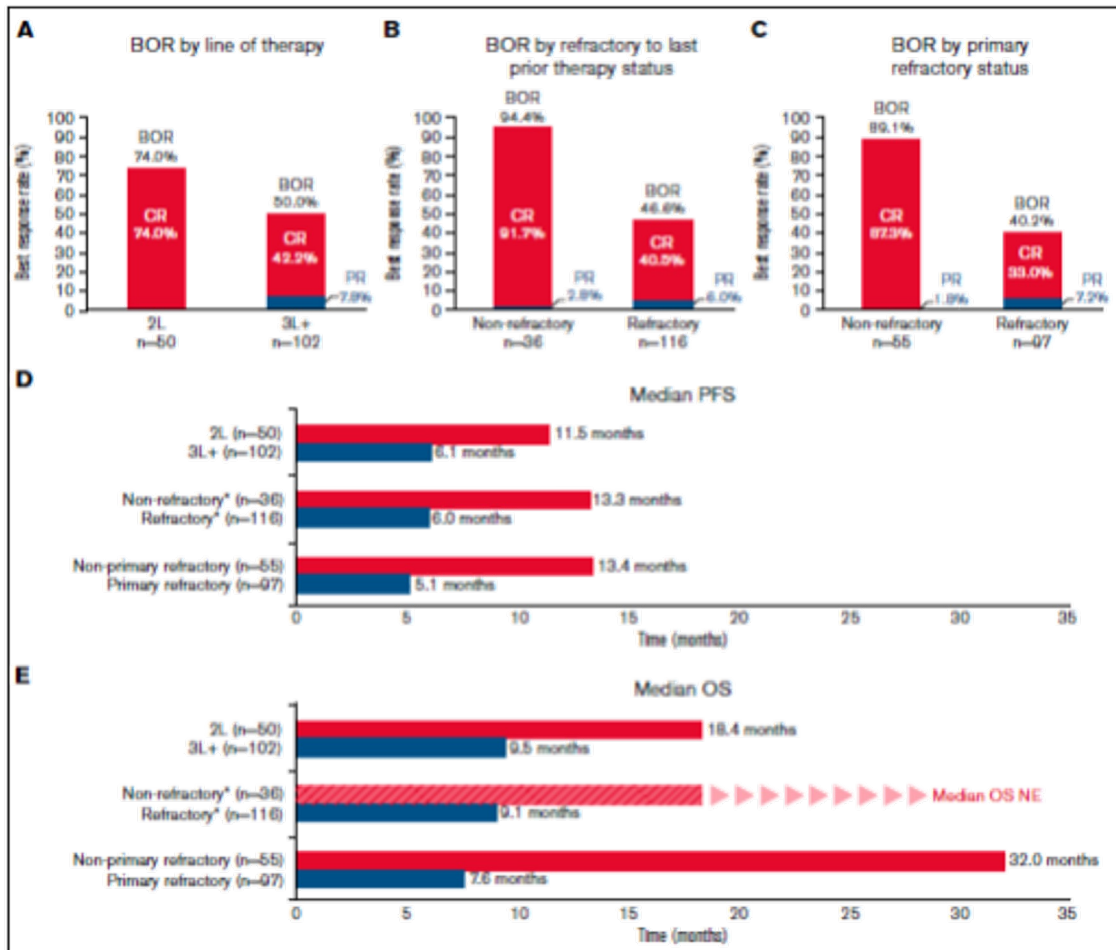
Key Points

- Consistent with previous results, pola + BR has a tolerable safety profile.
- The survival benefit of pola + BR vs BR persists with longer follow-up; efficacy in the pola + BR extension and randomized arms was similar.

Polatuzumab vedotin plus bendamustine and rituximab (pola + BR) received regulatory approvals for relapsed/refractory diffuse large B-cell lymphoma (R/R DLBCL) based on primary results from the randomized arms of the GO29365 study. After the randomized phase, 106 additional patients received pola + BR in a single-arm extension cohort. We report updated results from the randomized arms and results of the extension cohort. In this phase 1b/2 study, patients with R/R DLBCL who were transplant ineligible received up to six 21-day cycles of pola + BR or BR. The primary end point of the randomized arms was the complete response (CR) rate at end of treatment. Primary objectives of the extension cohort were safety, pharmacokinetic profile, and efficacy of pola + BR. As of 7 July 2020, a total of 192 patients with R/R DLBCL were enrolled in the pola + BR cohort (n = 152 [safety run-in, n = 6; randomized, n = 40; extension cohort, n = 106]) or the BR cohort (n = 40). Significant survival benefit with pola + BR vs BR persisted in the randomized arms (median progression-free survival, 9.2 vs 3.7 months [hazard ratio, 0.39; 95% confidence interval, 0.23-0.66]; median overall survival, 12.4 vs 4.7 months [hazard ratio, 0.42; 95% confidence interval, 0.24-0.72]). In the extension cohort, the independent review committee-assessed objective response rate was 41.5%, and the CR rate was 38.7%; median independent review committee-assessed progression-free survival and overall survival were 6.6 months and 12.5 months, respectively. No new safety signals with pola + BR were identified. Pola + BR is an effective treatment option for patients with R/R DLBCL, with a well-characterized and manageable safety profile. This trial was registered at www.clinicaltrials.gov as #NCT02257567.







Trial in Progress: A Multicentre, Parallel Arm, Open-Label Trial of Frontline R-CHOP/Polatuzumab Vedotin-RCHP and Glofitamab in Younger Patients with Higher Risk Diffuse Large B Cell Lymphoma (COALITION)

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⁶ Malignant Haematology and Stem cell Transplantation, Alfred Hospital, Melbourne, Australia

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Abstract Background:

R-CHOP remains a standard frontline treatment for patients with DLBCL and high-grade B-cell lymphoma (HGBL). A significant proportion of patients will have refractory disease or subsequently relapse, particularly those with high-risk features such as an elevated IPI score or rearrangements of MYC and BCL2 and/or BCL6 (double/triple hit (DH/TH)). This population remains in need of improved induction treatments that can reduce the requirement for subsequent therapies which are associated with significant toxicities and diminishing response rates.

Rationale:

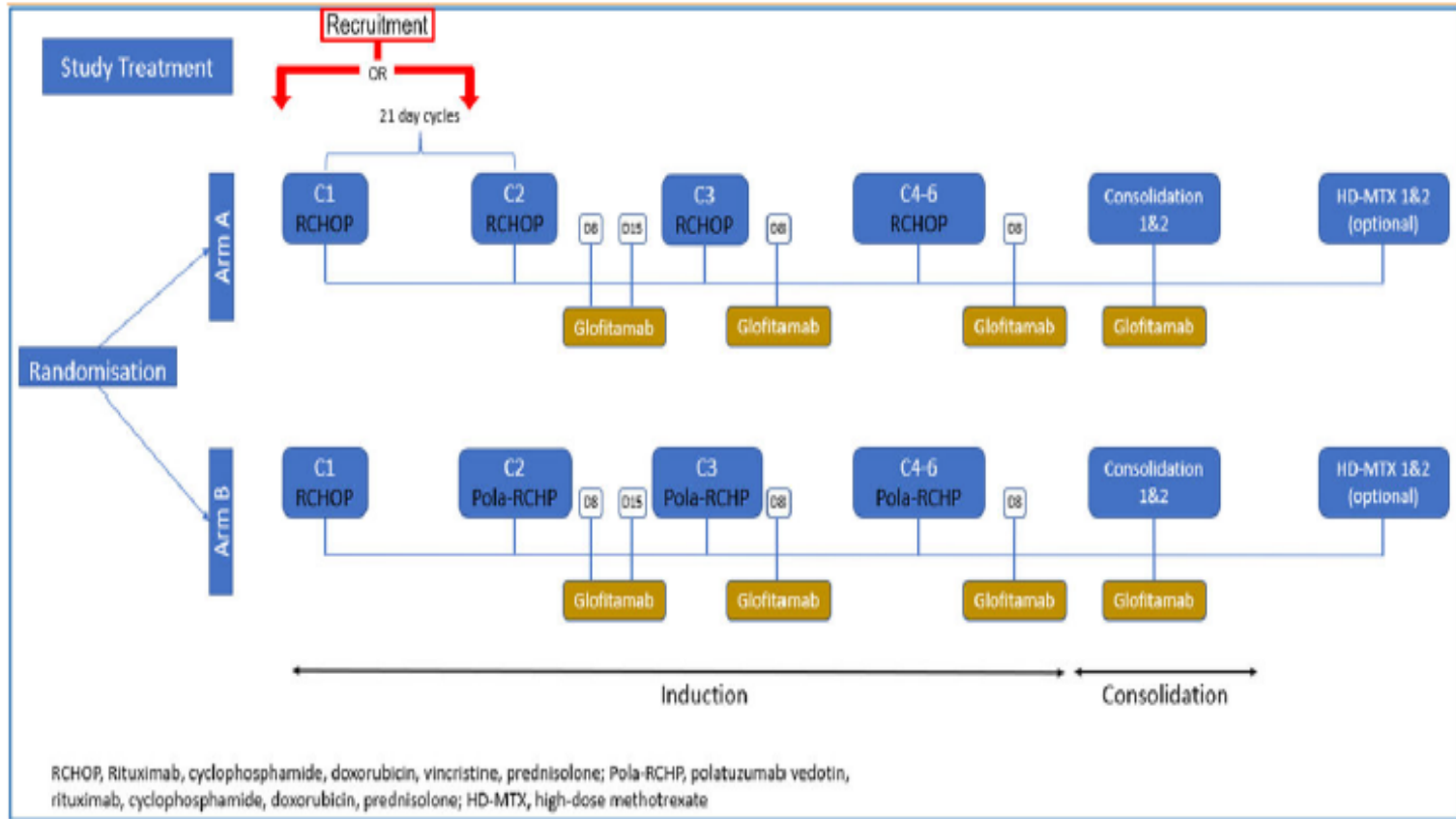
Glofitamab is a novel full-length bispecific antibody with a unique 2:1 configuration (two CD20 binding domains and one CD3 binding domain). In combination with a single pre-dose of obinutuzumab, glofitamab has demonstrated >70% complete remission in aggressive B-cell lymphoma at the recommended target dose in a phase 1 trial (Carlo-Stella, EHA 2021). Pre-clinical studies suggest that glofitamab's activity is retained in the presence of concomitant cytotoxic and CD20 antibody therapies, making it an attractive agent for combination with R-CHOP-like induction. Polatuzumab vedotin (pola) is an antibody-drug conjugate approved for R/R DLBCL in combination with BR, and is currently in evaluation for the front-line treatment of DLBCL in combination with RCHP in a randomised trial.

The safety and preliminary efficacy of glofitamab in combination with R-CHOP, or pola-RCHP as a front-line treatment for high risk DLBCL is being evaluated.

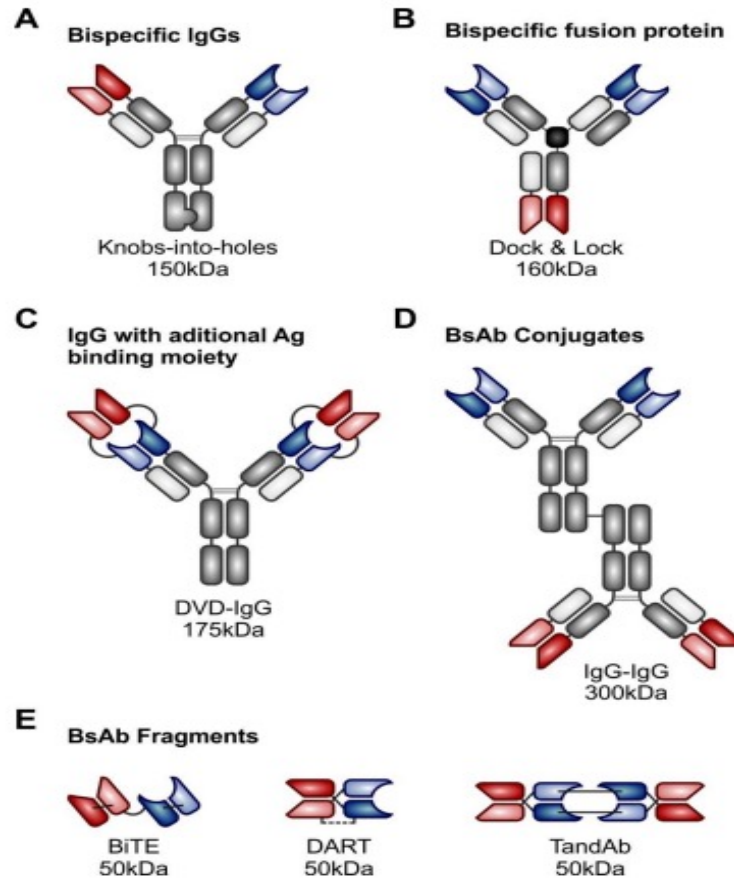
Study Design and Methods:

This is a parallel-arm phase Ib/II trial. Treatment consists of an initial cycle of R-CHOP, followed by 5 cycles of combination induction treatment and 2 cycles of consolidation glofitamab monotherapy. Key inclusion criteria are: age 18-65 years, a diagnosis of DLBCL or HGBL, high-risk features (IPI >3 or NCCN-IPI >4 or presence of DH/TH), treatment naive or after 1 cycle of R-CHOP, ECOG 0-3. The primary endpoint is the safety of the combination and secondary endpoints include complete response rates at interim and end of treatment FDG-PET assessments by Lugano criteria, progression free survival and overall survival. Correlative studies assessing baseline immunologic profiles, tumour phenotype and potential resistance mechanisms are planned.

Approximately 40 patients will be treated in each arm across 12-14 Australian sites. The trial commenced recruitment in July 2021 (NCT04914741). The ability to recruit prior to either cycle 1 or cycle 2 allows seamless cross-referral from non-trial sites.

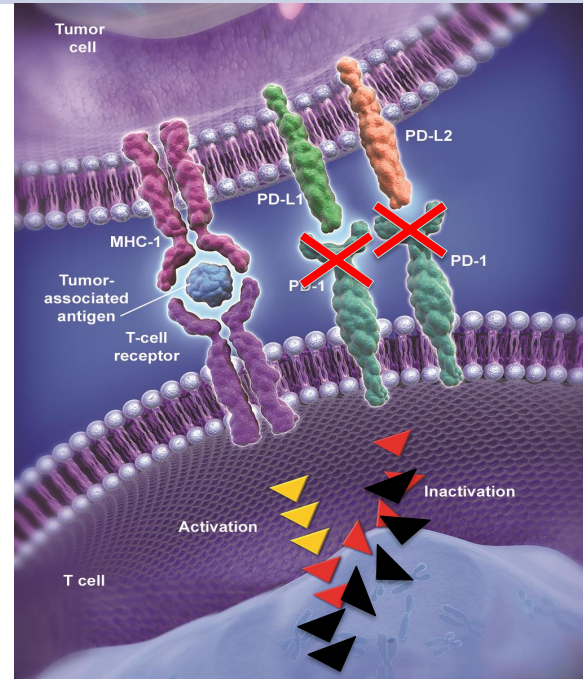


Vaccines 2020, 8, 708



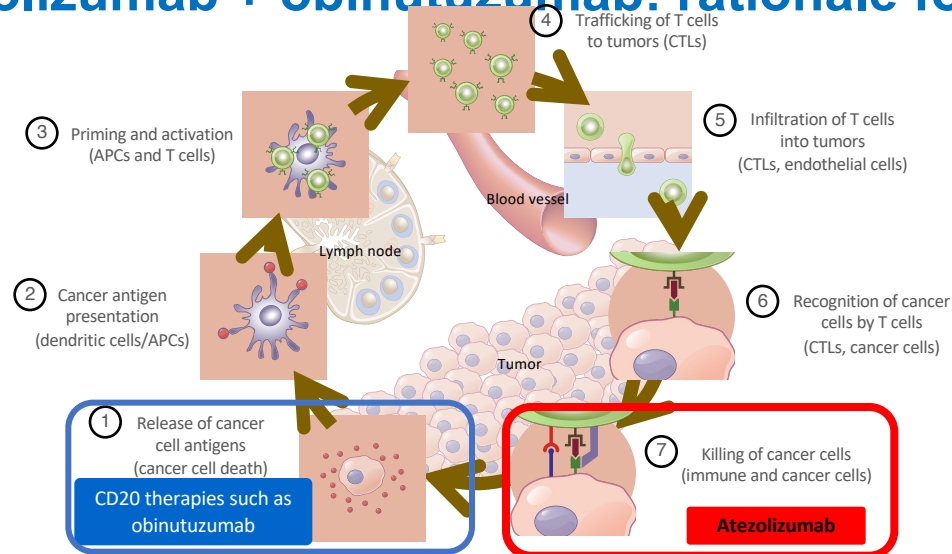
The PD-1 and PD-L1/L2 Pathway

- ◆ PD-1 is an immune checkpoint receptor
- ◆ Binding of PD-1 by its ligands PD-L1 or PD-L2 leads to downregulation of T-cell function
- ◆ This mechanism is usurped by many tumors
- ◆ PD-1 blockade through mAb therapy can restore effective anti-tumor immunity



Topalian et al. *N Engl J Med.* 2012.
Garon et al. *N Engl J Med.* 2015.
Robert et al. *Lancet.* 2014.

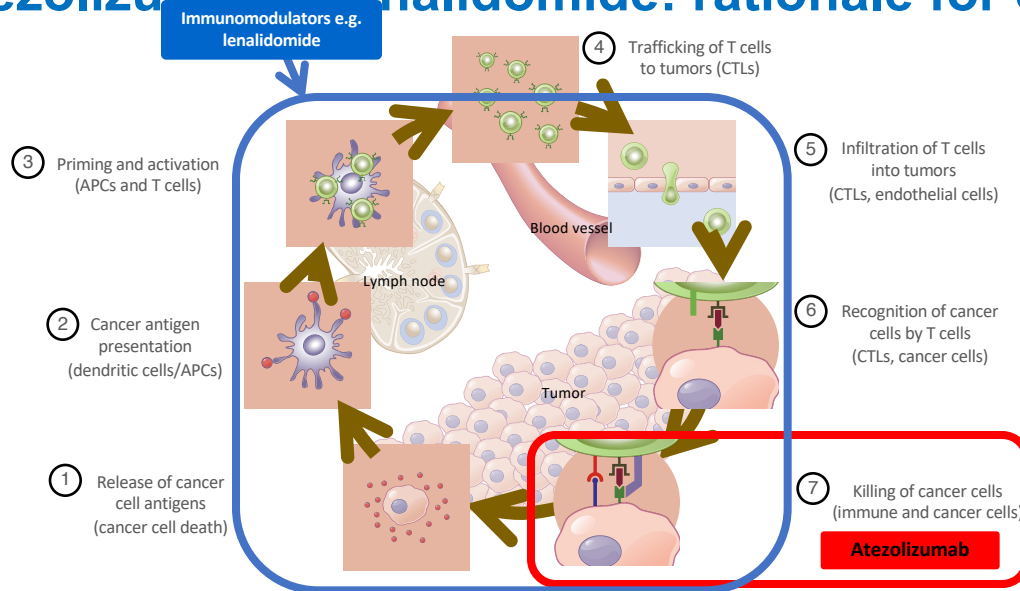
Atezolizumab + obinutuzumab: rationale for combination



References: 1. Anderson KC, et al. *Blood*. 1984;63:1424-1433. 2. Mössner E, et al. *Blood*. 2010;115:4393-4402. 3. Merelli B, et al. *Crit Rev Oncol Hematol*. 2014;89:140-165.

Chen DS & Mellman I. *Immunity* 2013;39:1-10, Images adapted from reference.

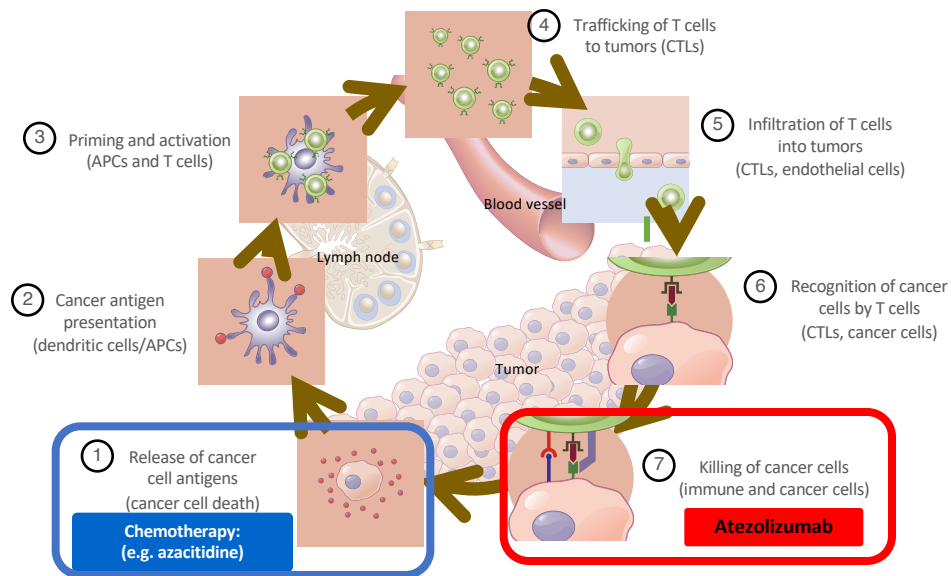
Atezolizumab + lenalidomide: rationale for combination



References: 1. Kotla V, et al. *J Hematol Oncol.* 2009;2:36. 2. Dimopoulos MA, et al. *Crit Rev Oncol Hematol.* 2013;88(suppl 1):S23-35.

Chen DS & Mellman I. *Immunity* 2013;39:1–10, Images adapted from reference.

Atezolizumab + azacitidine: rationale for combination



References: 1. Zitvogel L, et al. *Nat Rev Immunol*, 2008. 8, 59-73. 2. Chen DS, Mellman I. *Immunity*. 2013;39:1-10. 3. Giaccone G, et al. ECC. 2015 [abstract P247]. 4. Liu SV, et al. ASCO. 2015 [abstract 8030]

Chen DS & Mellman I. *Immunity* 2013;39:1–10, Images adapted from reference.

CHECKPOINT INHIBITORS

Table 6. Selected clinical trials that incorporate immune checkpoint inhibitors in experimental therapy of NHL.

Drug Combination	Mode of Action of the Combination Agent(s) Other Than Immune Checkpoint Inhibitors	Study Phase	Disease Status	Estimated Study Completion Date	ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier (Other Identifier)
Nivolumab + R(ituximab)-GemOx compared to R-GemOx	immunochemotherapy gemcitabine + oxaliplatin (GemOx)	2/3	R/R elderly B-NHL	November 2024	NCT03366272 (NIVEAU)
Avelumab +/- Utomilumab +/- Rituximab +/- Azacitidine +/- bendamustin +/- Gemcitabine +/- Oxaliplatin	CD137 (4-1BB) antigen agonist antibody utomilumab, anti-CD20 antibody rituximab, epigenetic modulator azacitidine, conventional chemotherapy GemOx	1/3	R/R DLBCL	December 2019	NCT02951156 (JAVELIN DLBCL)
Nivolumab + DA-EPOCH-R + Nivolumab as a consolidation	immunochemotherapy regimen (dose-adjusted EPOCH-R)	2	B-NHL	December 2021	NCT03749018
Nivolumab + Copanlisib	pan-PI3K inhibitor copanlisib	2	R/R DLBCL, PMBCL	October 2021	NCT03484819
Pembrolizumab		2	untreated B-NHL	September 2024	NCT03498612
Pembrolizumab		2	R/R grey-zone lymphoma, R/R PCNSL, R/R DLBCL	July 2022	NCT03255018
Pembrolizumab + R-CHOP	R-CHOP immunochemotherapy regimen	2	DLBCL, high-grade B-NHL	August 2024	NCT03995147
Pembrolizumab + Rituximab +/- Lenalidomide	anti-CD20 antibody, immunomodulatory agent lenalidomide	2	R/R FL, R/R DLBCL	November 2021	NCT02446457

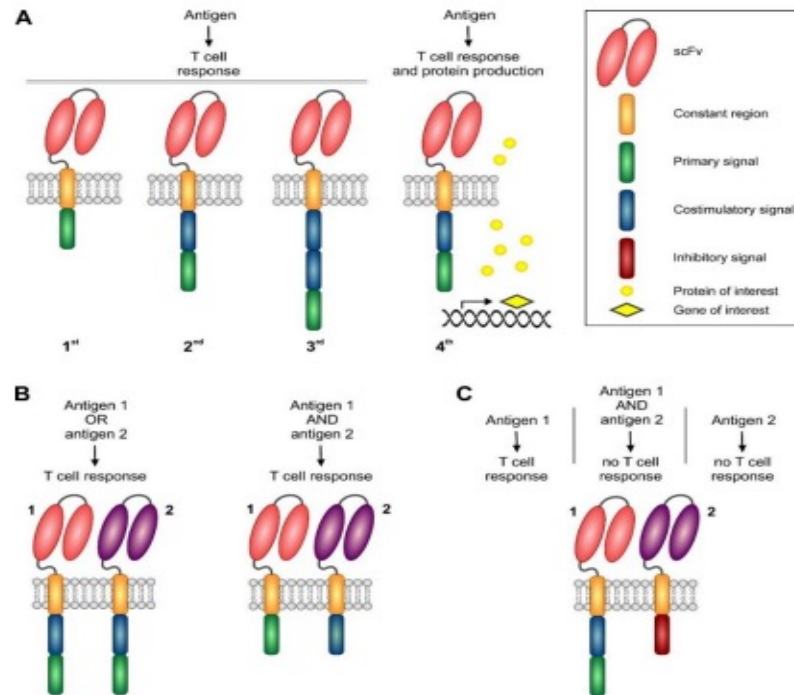


Figure 4. Schematic representation of design of four generations of CAR. **Legend: Conventional CARs:** (A) 1st to 3rd generation are defined by their signaling domains: a primary signaling domain only (1st generation); signaling and co-stimulatory domains (2nd generation); combined co-stimulatory domains (3rd generation); a release of activating cytokine upon CAR engagement (4th generation). **Co-expression of two different CARs:** (B) engagement of either CAR triggers downstream activation (left); engagement of both CARs triggers downstream activation (right); (C) engagement of inhibitory CAR prevents T-cell activation in the presence of cells that express the target antigen 2.

Table 8. Selected clinical trials that incorporate CAR T-cell products in experimental therapy of NHL

Drug Combination	Mode of Action	Study Phase	Disease Status	Estimated Study Completion Date	ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier (Other Identifier)
Axi-cel	Anti-CD19 CAR T-cells versus ASCT (2nd line therapy)	3	R/R hgb-NHL	January 2022	NCT03391466 (ZUMA-7)
Liso-cel	Anti-CD19 CAR T-cells versus ASCT (2nd line therapy)	3	R/R hgb-NHL	January 2024	NCT03575351 (TRANSFORM)
Tiso-cel	Anti-CD19 CAR T-cells versus ASCT (2nd line therapy)	3	R/R hgb-NHL	December 2025	NCT03570892 (BELINDA)
Axi-cel	Anti-CD19 CAR T-cells	2	R/R FL, R/R MZL	February 2022	NCT03105336 (ZUMA-5)
Liso-cel	Anti-CD19 CAR T-cells	2	R/R B-NHL ineligible for ASCT	April 2021	NCT03483103 (TRANSCEND-PILOT-017006)
KTE-X19	Anti-CD19 CAR T-cells	1	R/R SLL/CLL	August 2021	NCT03624056
Liso-cel + ibrutinib	Anti-CD19 CAR T-cells + BTK inhibitor ibrutinib	1/2	R/R CLL/SLL	October 2021	NCT03331198
Axi-cel + acalabrutinib	BTK inhibitor acalabrutinib administered before leukapheresis	1/2	R/R hgb-NHL	March 2024	NCT04257578
CD30 CAR T cells	Anti-CD30 CAR T-cells	1	R/R HL, CD30+ NHL	April 2021	NCT02917083 (RELY-30)
AUTO4	Anti-TRBC1 CAR T-cells	1/2	R/R T-NHL	July 2021	NCT03590574
CD4CAR	Anti-CD4 CAR T-cells	1	R/R T-NHL	December 2022	NCT03829540
Axi-cel	Anti-CD19 CAR T-cells	1	DLBCL (PET+ after 2 cycles of therapy)	June 2021	NCT03761056 (ZUMA-12)
ALTCARCD30	ASCT followed by anti-CD30 CAR T-cells	1	R/R HL, CD30+ NHL	September 2021	NCT02663297
AlloSCT + CAR-T	T-cell depleted alloSCT + donor anti-CD19 CAR T-cell-based consolidation	1	B-ALL, CLL, NHL	September 2023	NCT04556266
CAR 20/19	Bispecific anti-CD20/anti-CD19 CAR T-cells	1/2	R/R B-NHL	May 2023	NCT04186520
Liso-cel + avadomide, ibendomide, ibrutinib, or darvalumab	Anti-CD19 CAR T-cells in combination with immunomodulatory drugs avadomide/ibendomide, BTK inhibitor ibrutinib or anti PD-L1 checkpoint darvalumab	1/2	R/R hgb-NHL	August 2023	NCT03310619 (PLATFORM)
AUTO3 + pembrolizumab	Dual anti-CD19/anti-CD22 CAR T-cells + anti PD-1 immune checkpoint inhibitor	1/2	R/R hgb-NHL	March 2021	NCT03287817 (ALEXANDER)

CD19

Optimal TARGET in DLBCL nHL

Broadly expressed than CD20

Is expressed in CD20 down regulation following Rituximab exposure

CD19: Role in Lymphomagenesis

Modulating BCR

B cell activation both antigen independent and immunoglobulin induced via protein kinase (BTK, RAS)

Essential to the chronic activated of BCR → Lymphomagenesis

↑
C-MYC levels and function

The use of tafasitamab in diffuse large B-cell lymphoma

Johannes Düll, Max Topp and Gilles Salles

Abstract: Patients who relapse or are refractory after first-line therapy for diffuse large B-cell lymphoma (DLBCL) frequently have poor prognoses, especially when they are not candidates for autologous stem cell transplant (ASCT). Tafasitamab is a humanized monoclonal anti-CD19 antibody that has recently been approved by the FDA in combination with lenalidomide for the treatment of relapsed/refractory (R/R) DLBCL in patients who are not eligible for ASCT. Tafasitamab has an Fc region which has been modified to have an increased affinity for Fcγ receptors, to potentiate antibody-dependent cellular cytotoxicity and antibody-dependent cell-mediated phagocytosis. Here, we review the development, mode of action and clinical data for tafasitamab in combination with lenalidomide in R/R DLBCL, and discuss the various ways in which this novel antibody could be utilized in the treatment sequence to improve clinical outcomes for patients with DLBCL.

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20406207211027458

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TAFASITAMAB

Second generation of CD-19-targeting MoAb
with specific engineered Fc variant region

↑ ADCC via interaction of CD19 – MoAbFc
with effector cell FCYRs



Immuno response by NK activated cytotoxic attack

↑ ADCC

LENALIDOMIDE IN DLBCL nHL

Altere the balance of pro and antinflammatory cytokines in microenvironment

↓ Angiogenesis

↑ Cell Cycle arrest and Apoptosis

↓ Down regulate expression of checkpoint inhibitors

↑ proliferation of NK and NK cytotoxicity and of CD8 and CD4

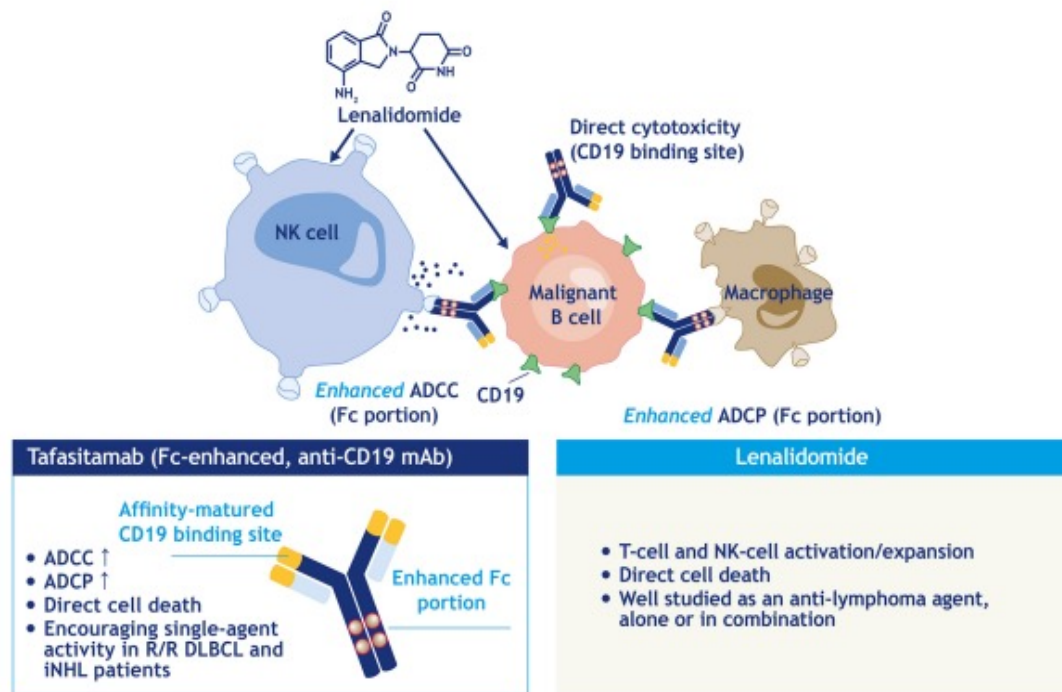
↑ ADCC

TAFASITAMAB plus LENALIDOMIDE



AMPLIFICATION of NK Cell Mediated ADCC

Ps Baseline peripheral NK-Cell count <100 μ l: PFS in 6 -CHOP



ADCC, antibody-dependent cellular cytotoxicity; ADPC, antibody-dependent cellular phagocytosis; DLBCL, diffuse large B-cell lymphoma; iNHL, indolent non-Hodgkin's lymphoma; mAb, monoclonal antibody; NK, natural killer; R/R, relapsed/refractory.

Figure 1. Combination mechanism of action of tafasitamab and lenalidomide.⁴¹

J Düll, M Topp *et al.*

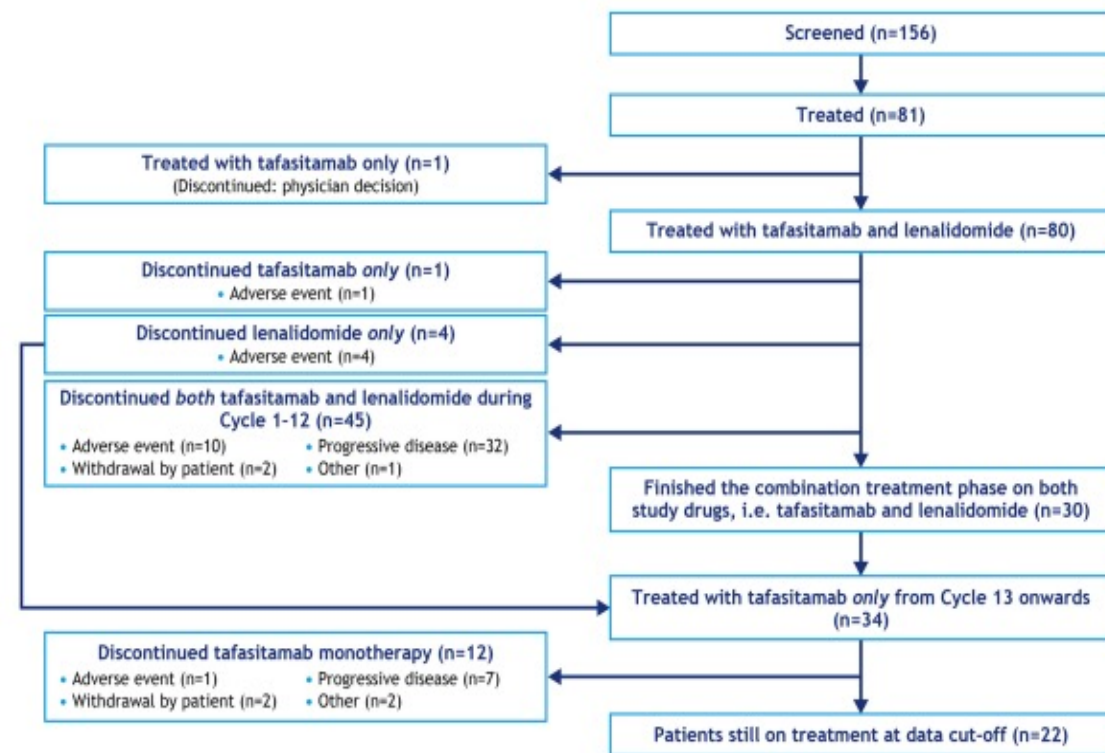


Figure 2. L-MIND schema.⁴³

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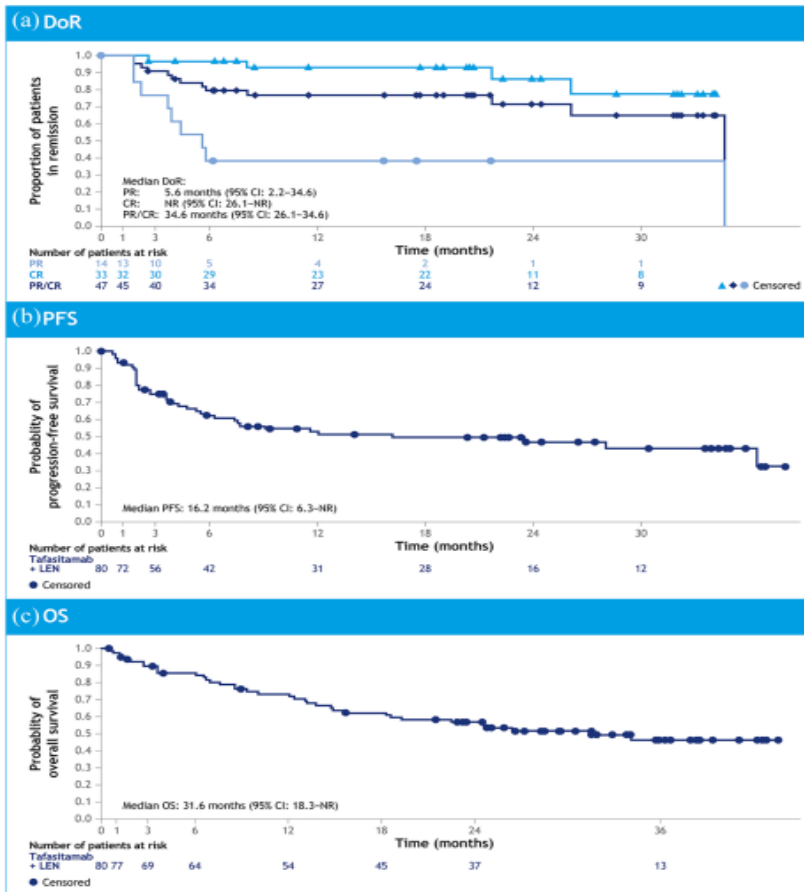
Table 1. ORR and CRR in the primary and long-term analyses of L-MIND.

	Tafasitamab plus lenalidomide N= 80 ^b	
	Primary analysis Data cut-off: 30 November 2018 ³³	Follow-up analysis Data cut-off: 30 November 2019 ⁴²
Best objective response, n (%)		
CR	34 (43)	32 (40)
PR	14 (18)	14 (18)
ORR = CR + PR; n (%) [95% CI] ^a	48 (60) [48-71]	46 (58) [45.9-68.5]
Median DoR - IRC; months (95% CI)	21.7 [21.7-NR]	34.6 [26.1-34.6]
Median PFS - IRC; months (95% CI)	12.1 [5.7-NR]	12.1 [6.3-NR]
Median OS, months (95% CI)	NR [18.3-NR]	31.6 [18.3-NR]

^aUsing the two-sided 95% Clopper-Pearson exact method based on a binomial distribution.

^bOne patient received tafasitamab only and was excluded from 81 enrolled patients.

CI, confidence interval; CR, complete response; CRR, complete response rate; DoR, duration of response; IRC, independent review committee; NR, not reached; ORR, objective response rate; OS, overall survival; PFS, progression-free survival; PR, partial response.



CI, confidence interval; CR, complete response; DoR, duration of response; LEN, lenalidomide; NR, not reached; OS, overall survival; PFS, progression-free survival; PR, partial response.

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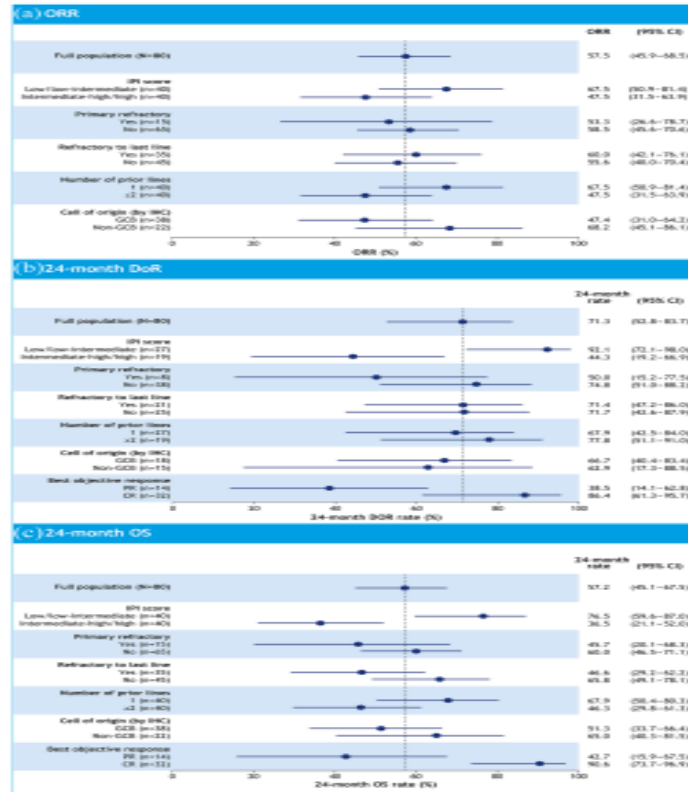
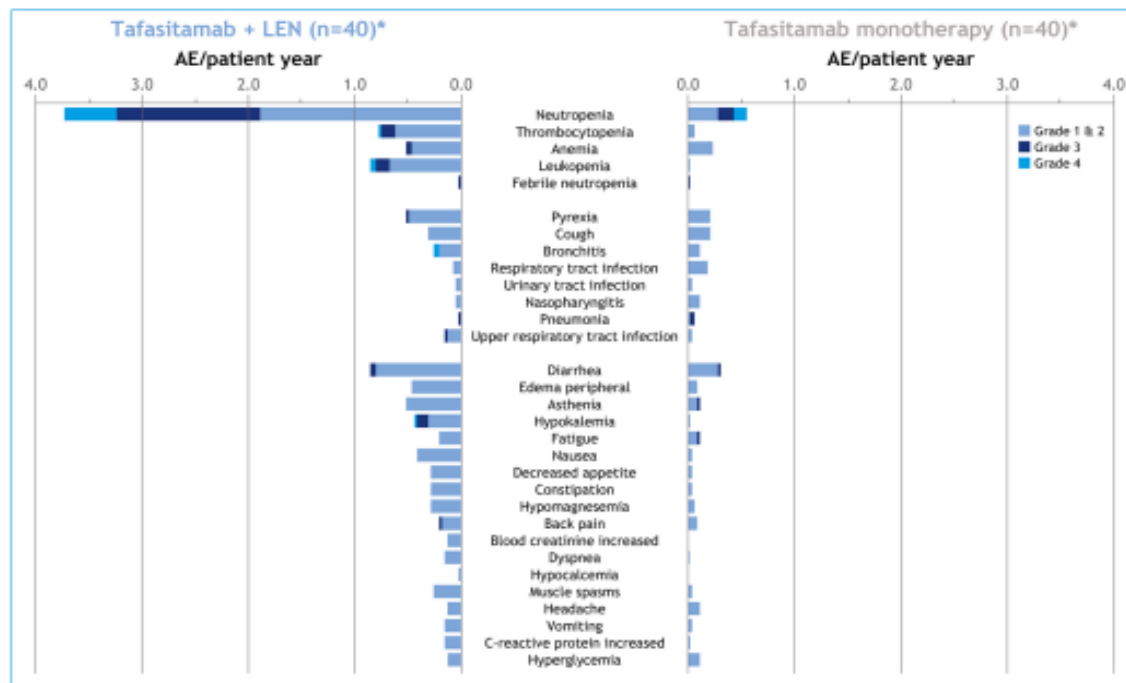


Figure 4. Forest plots for (a) ORR, (b) 24-month duration of response and (c) 24-month OS.⁴²

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AE, adverse event; LEN, lenalidomide. *n = 40 includes 30 patients who completed 12 cycles of tafasitamab plus lenalidomide and continued tafasitamab monotherapy, and 10 patients who discontinued lenalidomide but continued tafasitamab monotherapy.

Figure 5. AEs per patient-year during combination and monotherapy phases.⁴³

*n = 40 includes 30 patients who completed 12 cycles of tafasitamab plus lenalidomide and continued tafasitamab monotherapy and 10 patients who discontinued lenalidomide but continued tafasitamab monotherapy.

AE, adverse event; LEN, lenalidomide.

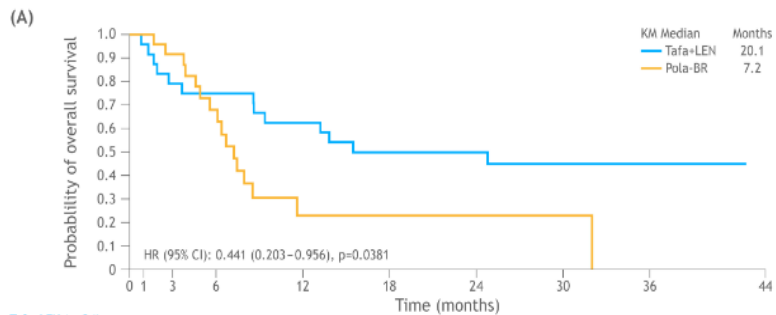
Tafasitamab Plus Lenalidomide Versus Pola-BR, R2 e CAR T: confronto dei risultati di RE-MIND2, uno studio di coorte osservazionale e retrospettivo nel linfoma diffuso a grandi cellule B recidivante/refrattario

Grzegorz S. Nowakowski, Dok Hyun Yoon, Patrizia Mondello, Erel Joffe, Isabelle Fleury, Anthea Peters, Richard Greil, Matteo Ku, Reinhard Marchi, Kibum Kim, Pier Luigi Luigi Zinzani, Judith Trotman, Lorenzo Sabatelli, Dan Huang, Eva E. Waltl, [Marco Winderlich](#), Sumeet Ambarkhane, Nuwan C. Kurukulasuriya, Raul Cordova, Georg Hess, Gilles Salles

Abstract

Background

Several therapies are recommended by NCCN/ESMO guidelines for autologous stem cell transplant (ASCT)-ineligible patients with relapsed/refractory (R/R) diffuse large B-cell lymphoma (DLBCL). In the single-arm, Phase II L-MIND study (NCT02399085), the chemotherapy-free regimen tafasitamab + lenalidomide (LEN) demonstrated efficacy for this patient population. In the absence of randomized clinical trial data, RE-MIND2 (NCT04697160), an observational, retrospective cohort study, compared patient outcomes from L-MIND with matched patient populations treated with NCCN/ESMO recommended therapies for ASCT-ineligible patients with R/R DLBCL.

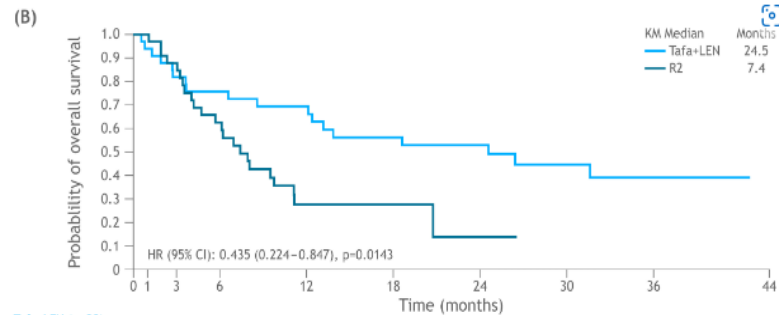


Tafa+LEN (n=24)

At risk	24	23	19	18	15	11	10	8	4	0
Event(s)	0	1	5	6	9	12	12	13	13	13
Censored	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	7	11

Pola-BR (n=24)

At risk	24	24	22	13	3	2	1	1	0	0
Event(s)	0	1	2	7	15	15	15	16	16	16
Censored	0	0	0	4	6	7	8	8	8	8

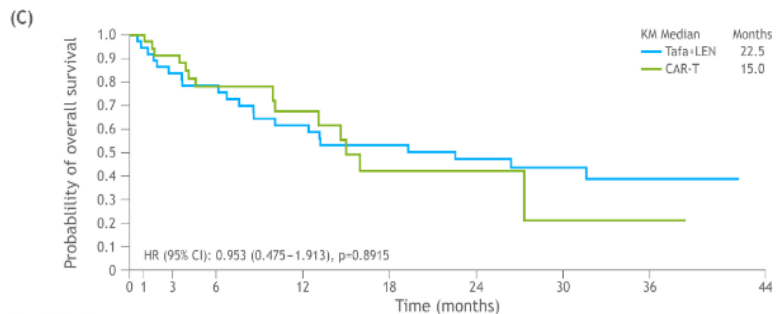


Tafa+LEN (n=33)

At risk	33	31	27	24	21	17	15	8	5	0
Event(s)	0	2	6	8	10	14	15	17	18	18
Censored	0	0	1	1	2	2	3	8	10	15

R2 (n=33)

At risk	33	33	28	19	5	3	1	0	0	0
Event(s)	0	0	4	12	22	22	23	23	23	23
Censored	0	0	1	2	6	8	9	10	10	10



Tafa+LEN (n=37)

At risk	37	35	31	28	22	18	15	9	5	0
Event(s)	0	2	6	8	14	17	19	20	21	21
Censored	0	0	0	1	1	2	3	8	11	16

CAR-T (n=37)

At risk	37	37	30	22	11	5	2	1	1	0
Event(s)	0	0	3	7	9	13	13	14	14	14
Censored	0	0	4	8	17	19	22	22	22	23

	Tafasitamab+LEN vs Pola-BR		Tafasitamab+LEN vs R2		Tafasitamab+LEN vs CAR-T	
	Tafasitamab + LEN (n=24)	Pola-BR (n=24)	Tafasitamab + LEN (n=33)	R2 (n=33)	Tafasitamab + LEN (n=37)	CAR-T (n=37)
ORR, n (%) (95% CI)	15 (62.5) (40.6-81.2)	14 (58.3) (36.6-77.9)	21 (63.6) (45.1-79.6)	10 (30.3) (15.6-48.7)	22 (59.5) (42.1-75.2)	28 (75.7) (58.8-88.2)
Fisher's exact test p-value of ORR	1.0000		0.0130		0.2140	
CRR as best response, n (%) (95% CI),	7 (29.2) (12.6-51.1)	5 (20.8) (7.1-42.2)	13 (39.4) (22.9-57.9)	5 (15.2) (5.1-31.9)	14 (37.8) (22.5-55.2)	16 (43.2) (27.1-60.5)
Fisher's exact test p-value of CRR	0.7400		0.0514		0.8131	
PFS (months), median (95% CI)	8.0 (1.9-19.9)	5.0 (2.5-5.6)	5.9 (3.6-36.7)	2.8 (2.0-5.8)	6.3 (3.6-22.5)	4.0 (3.1-12.8)
HR* (95% CI), p-value*	0.482 (0.217-1.073) 0.0740 Time dependent HR** ≤4 months of FU: 0.819 (0.339-1.978); 0.6572 ≥4 months of FU: 0.119 (0.027-0.529); 0.0052		0.511 (0.281-0.927) 0.0272		0.612 (0.302-1.240) 0.1731	
DoR, median (95% CI)	17.7 (3.6-34.8)	2.3 (0.3-6.1)	34.8 (3.6-34.8)	12.4 (2.7-19.3)	26.1 (4.4-NR)	5.9 (2.0-10.0)

Abbreviations: CAR-T, CD19 chimeric antigen receptor T-cell therapies; CI, confidence interval; CRR, complete response rate; DoR, duration of response; EFS, event-free survival; FU, Follow-up; LEN, lenalidomide; ORR, objective response rate; PFS, progression-free survival; pola-BR, polatumumab vedotin + bendamustine + rituximab; HR, hazard ratio; R2, rituximab + lenalidomide. *Cox proportional hazard model. **Time dependent HRs are also used because hazards are not proportional. †Calculated using Wald Test.

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RESEARCH REPORT



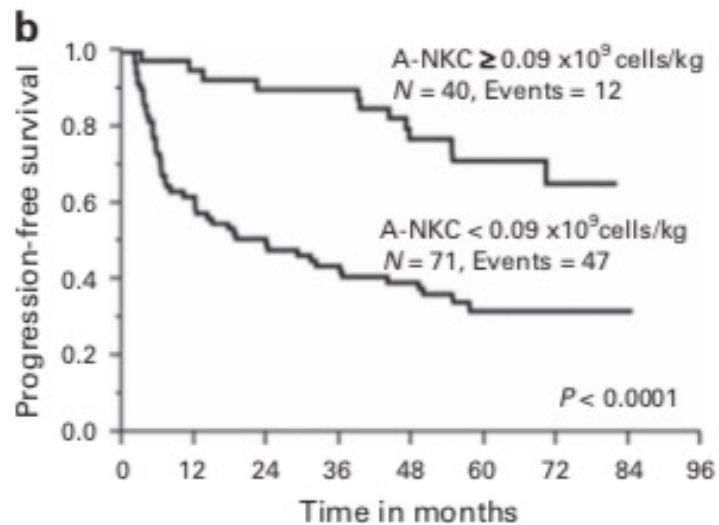
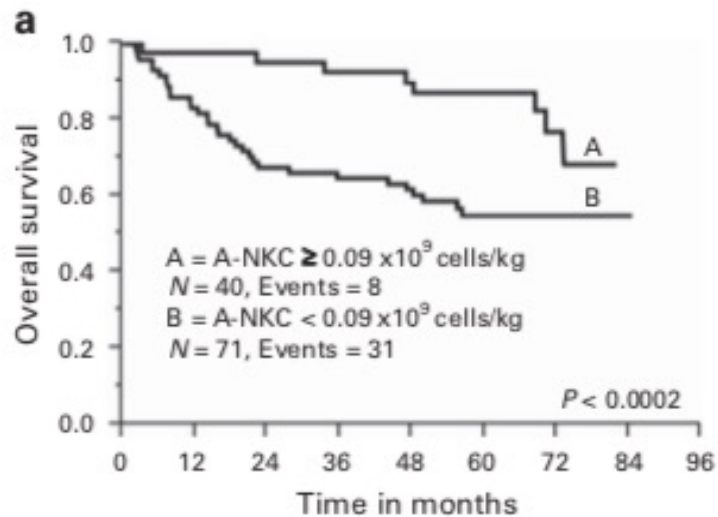
Tafasitamab mediates killing of B-cell non-Hodgkin's lymphoma in combination with $\gamma\delta$ T cell or allogeneic NK cell therapy

Jung Hyun Her¹ · Dominik Pretscher² · Maria Patra-Kneuer³ · Juergen Schanzer³ · Sung Yoo Cho¹ · Yu Kyeong Hwang¹ · Timm Hoeres² · Rainer Boxhammer³ · Christina Heitmueller³ · Martin Wilhelm² · Stefan Steidl³ · Jan Endell³

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Abstract

Tafasitamab is an Fc-modified monoclonal antibody that binds to CD19, a cell-surface antigen that is broadly expressed on various types of B-cell non-Hodgkin's lymphoma (NHL). Antibody-dependent cellular cytotoxicity (ADCC), a key mode of action of tafasitamab, is mediated through the binding of tafasitamab's Fc region to Fc γ RIIIa receptors on immune effector cells and results in antitumor activity. Despite the proven clinical activity of tafasitamab in combination with lenalidomide in the treatment of diffuse large B-cell lymphoma (DLBCL), a higher number of immune cells in cancer patients may improve the activity of tafasitamab. Here, we characterized two ex vivo-expanded Fc γ RIIIa receptor—expressing cell types— $\gamma\delta$ T and MG4101 natural killer (NK) cells—as effector cells for tafasitamab in vitro, and found that in the presence of these cells tafasitamab was able to induce ADCC against a range of NHL cell lines and patient-derived cells. We also explored the concept of effector cell supplementation during tafasitamab treatment in vivo by coadministering MG4101 NK cells in Raji and Ramos xenograft models of NHL. Combination treatment of tafasitamab and allogeneic MG4101 NK cells in these models demonstrated a survival benefit compared with tafasitamab or MG4101 monotherapy (Raji: 1.7- to 1.9-fold increase in lifespan; Ramos: 2.0- to 4.1-fold increase in lifespan). In conclusion, adoptive cell transfer of ex vivo-expanded allogeneic NK or autologous $\gamma\delta$ T cells in combination with tafasitamab treatment may potentially be a promising novel approach to increase the number of immune effector cells and enhance the antitumor effect of tafasitamab.



Venetoclax and Navitoclax in Combination with Chemotherapy in Patients with Relapsed or Refractory Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia and Lymphoblastic Lymphoma

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ABSTRACT

Combining venetoclax, a selective BCL2 inhibitor, with low-dose navitoclax, a BCL-X_L/BCL2 inhibitor, may allow targeting of both BCL2 and BCL-X_L without dose-limiting thrombocytopenia associated with navitoclax monotherapy. The safety and preliminary efficacy of venetoclax with low-dose navitoclax and chemotherapy was assessed in this phase I dose-escalation study (NCT03181126) in pediatric and adult patients with relapsed/refractory (R/R) acute lymphoblastic leukemia or lymphoblastic lymphoma. Forty-seven patients received treatment. A recommended phase II dose of 50 mg navitoclax for adults and 25 mg for patients <45 kg with 400 mg adult-equivalent venetoclax was identified. Delayed hematopoietic recovery was the primary safety finding. The complete remission rate was 60%, including responses in patients who had previously received hematopoietic cell transplantation or immunotherapy. Thirteen patients (28%) proceeded to transplantation or CAR T-cell therapy on study. Venetoclax with navitoclax and chemotherapy was well tolerated and had promising efficacy in this heavily pretreated patient population.

SIGNIFICANCE: In this phase I study, venetoclax with low-dose navitoclax and chemotherapy was well tolerated and had promising efficacy in patients with relapsed/refractory acute lymphoblastic leukemia or lymphoblastic lymphoma. Responses were observed in patients across histologic and genomic subtypes and in those who failed available therapies including stem cell transplant.

See related commentary by Larkin and Burd, p. 1324.

Combinations

- ADC + Checkpoint inhibitors
 - BV + nivolumab
 - BV + nivolumab + ipilimumab
- ADC + BITE
 - Polatuzumab plus CD20/CD3 Ab
- BITE + PD1 inhibitors
 - Blinatumomab plus pembrolizumab
 - CD20/CD3 Ab + atezolimumab
- CART + PD1 inhibitors



Grazie per l'attenzione