



**C'è una soglia di età anagrafica al di sopra della quale un paziente non dovrebbe essere candidato alla terapia cellulare CAR-T?**

**Le ragioni del si**

**Michele Spina  
Aviano**

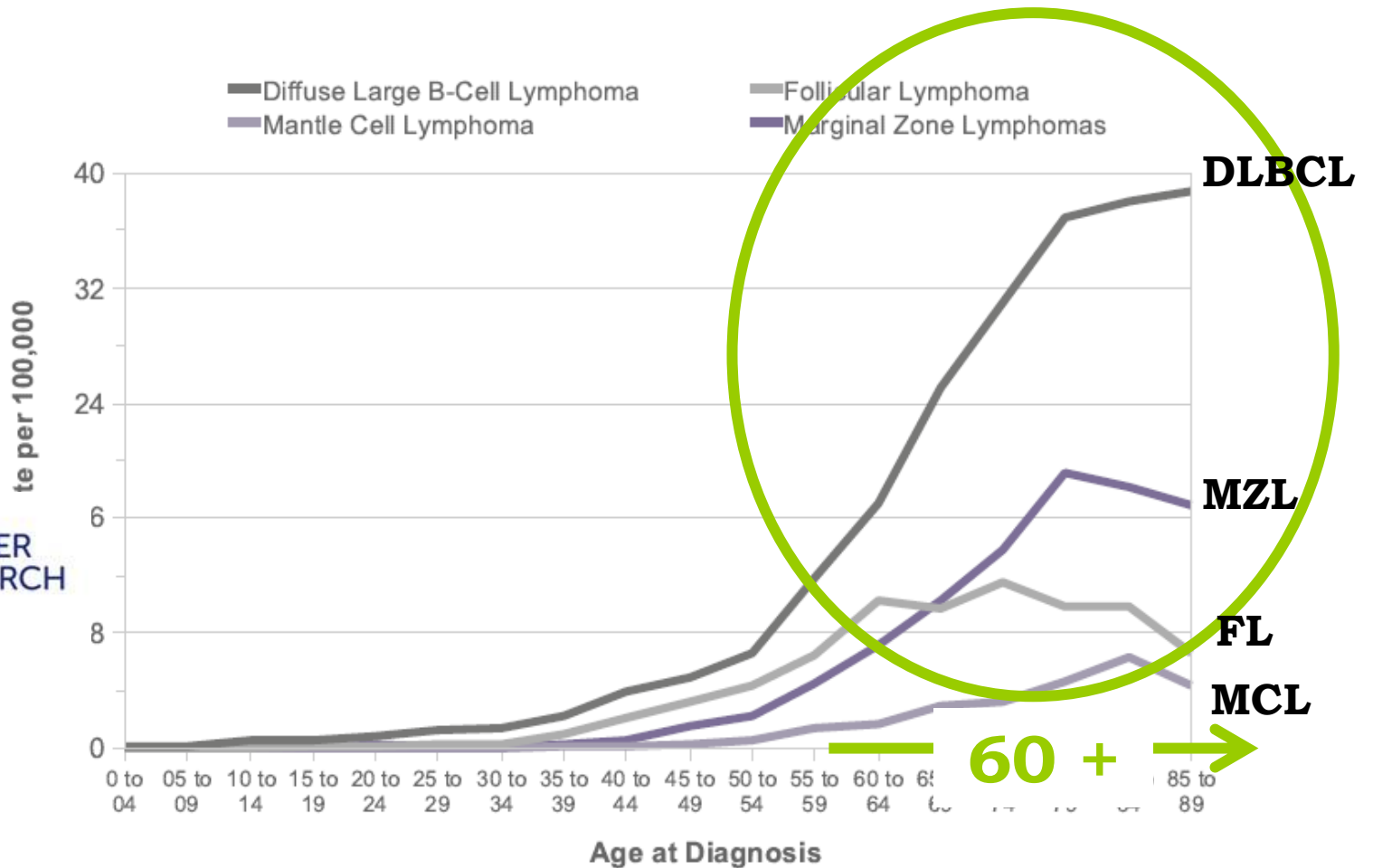
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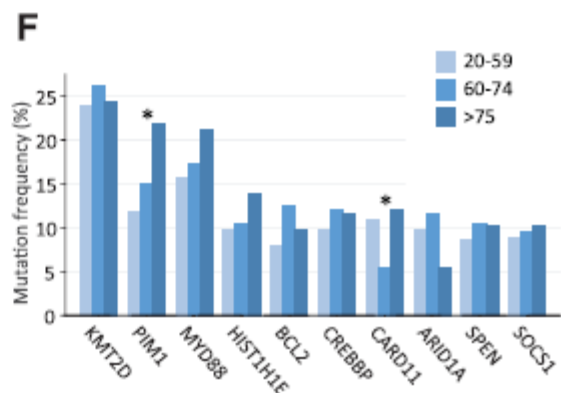
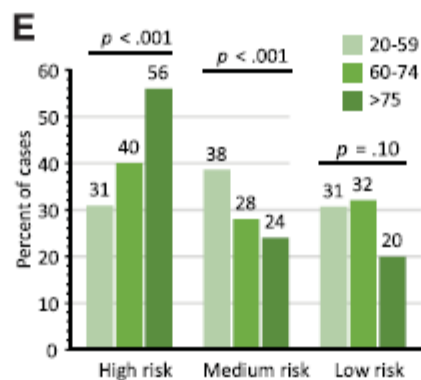
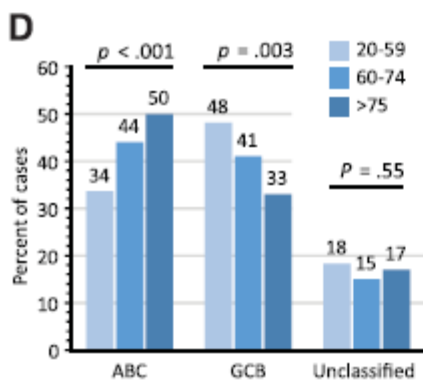
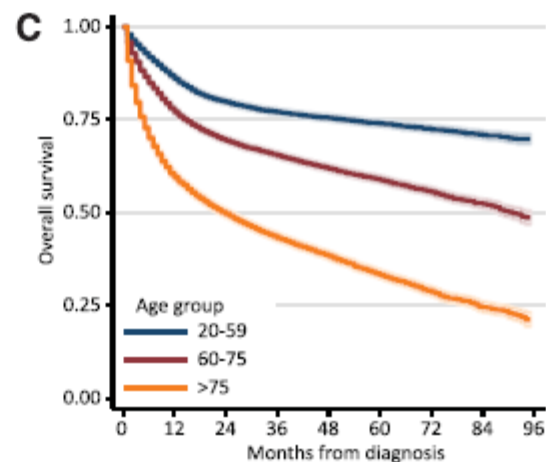
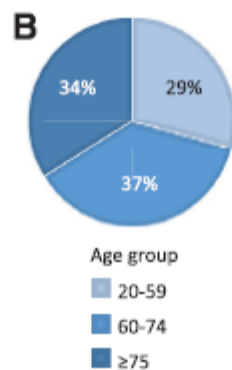
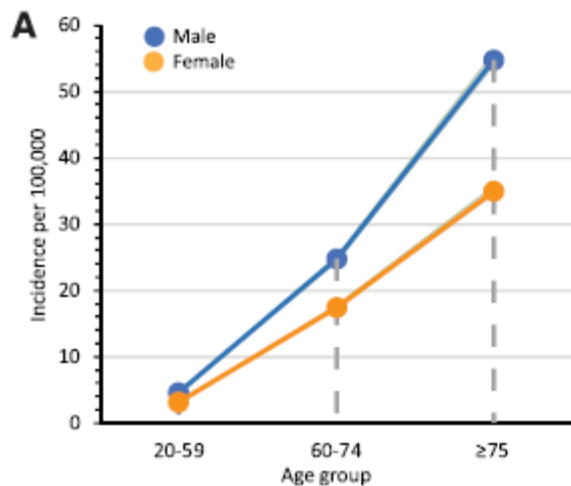
**HOT**  
**QUESTIONS IN**  
**TRASPLANTATION**  
**AND CELLULAR**  
**THERAPIES**

## Disclosures of Michele Spina

Company name	Research support	Employee	Consultant	Stockholder	Speakers bureau	Advisory board	Other
Gilead					X	X	
Abbvie						X	
Servier					X	X	
Novartis						X	
Istituto Gentili						X	
Incyte						X	
BeiGene						X	

**Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma Subtypes: 2004-2011**  
**Age-Specific Incidence Rates, UK (Estimates Based on HMRN data)**





# Changes in the Survival of Older Patients With Hematologic Malignancies in the Early 21st Century

Dianne Pulte, MD<sup>1,2</sup>; Lina Jansen, PhD<sup>1</sup>; Felipe A. Castro, PhD<sup>1</sup>; and Hermann Brenner, MD, MPH<sup>1,3,4</sup>

*Cancer, July 2016*

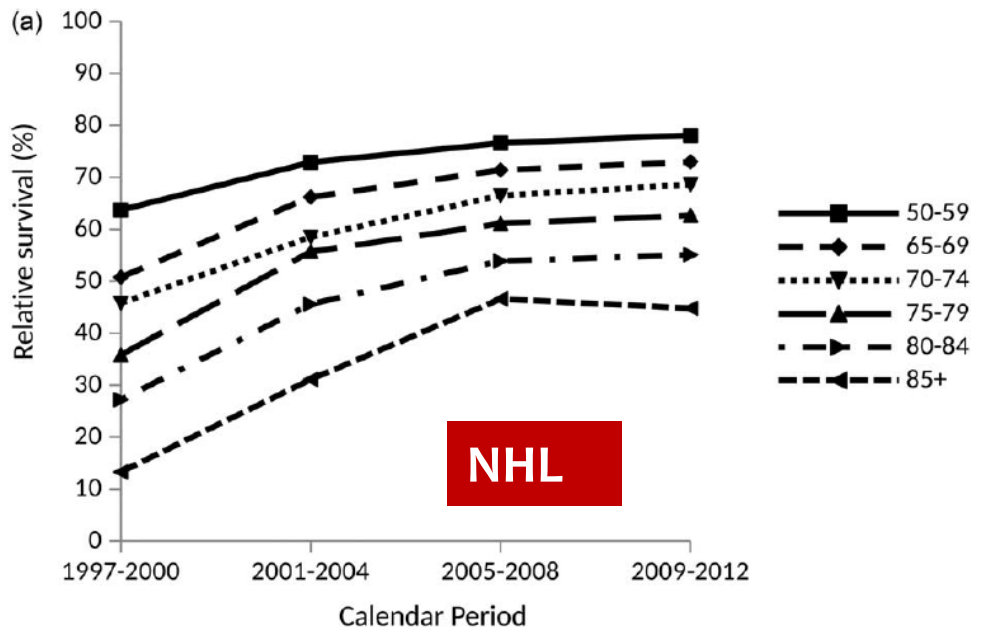
**TABLE 1.** Five-Year Relative Survival of Patients With Hematological Malignancies by Time Period and Age Group

Malignancy	Age, y	5-y Relative Survival, % (Standard Error)				Difference Between 1997-2000 and 2009-2012, %
		1997-2000	2001-2004	2005-2008	2009-2012	
NHL	50-59	63.7 (0.8)	72.9 (0.7) <sup>a</sup>	76.6 (0.6) <sup>a</sup>	78.1 (0.6) <sup>a</sup>	- +14.4
	65-69	50.8 (0.9)	66.2 (1.0) <sup>a</sup>	71.4 (1.0) <sup>a</sup>	73.0 (0.9) <sup>b</sup>	+22.2
	70-74	45.8 (0.9)	58.5 (1.0) <sup>a</sup>	66.5 (1.0) <sup>a</sup>	68.6 (1.0) <sup>b</sup>	+22.8
	75-79	35.8 (0.9)	55.7 (1.1) <sup>a</sup>	61.1 (1.1) <sup>a</sup>	62.7 (1.1) <sup>b</sup>	+26.9
	80-84	27.2 (0.9)	45.6 (1.4) <sup>a</sup>	53.9 (1.3) <sup>a</sup>	55.1 (1.3) <sup>b</sup>	+27.9
	≥85	13.3 (0.8)	31.1 (1.7) <sup>a</sup>	46.6 (1.9) <sup>a</sup>	44.8 (1.6)	+31.5



<sup>a</sup> $P \leq .01$  versus the preceding period.

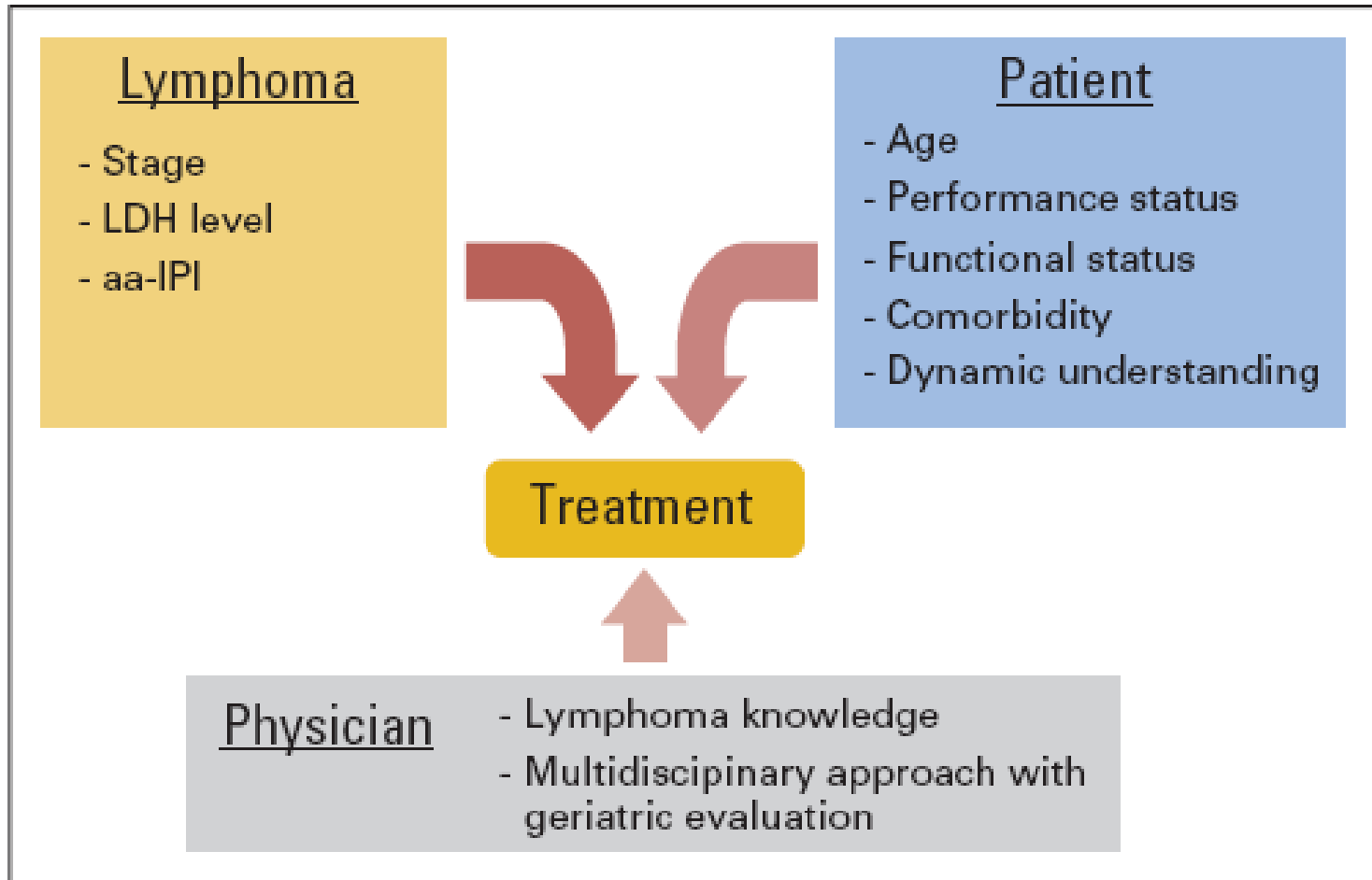
<sup>b</sup> $P \leq .05$  versus the preceding period.



**For older patients with NHL survival has, in general, been increasing at least as fast as for younger patients**

The age-related disparity in survival has actually been decreasing

# Integrated approach to assess therapeutic options in older patients



# The relevance of a geriatric assessment for elderly patients with a haematological malignancy – A systematic review

Hamaker ME et al, LEUKEMIA RESEARCH, 2014

- **18 publications from 15 studies**

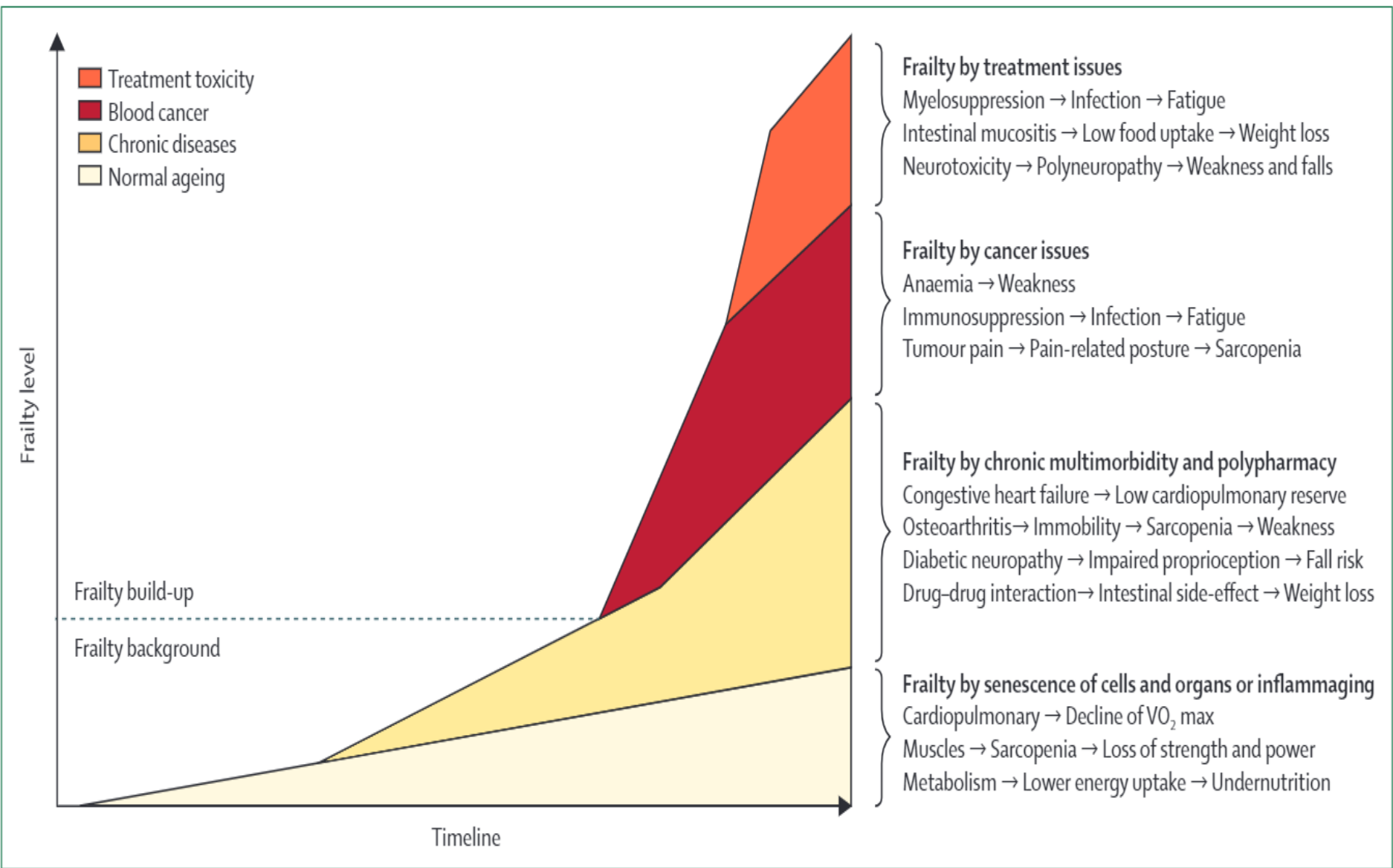
# GA impairments: associated with a shorter OS in a relevant proportion of studies

# In a multivariate analysis , when geriatric parameters were included, age and PS lost their predictive value for mortality in most studies

@ **GA can detect multiple health issues**, even in patients with good PS and implements non-oncologic interventions in over 70% of patients

@ Impairments in geriatric domains:

- appear to be associated with toxicity
- **should be integrated in individualised treatment algorithms**



**Figure 1: Components of frailty in older patients with haematological malignancies**  
 Several examples of pathways to frailty are provided below each of the four scenarios.



ORIGINAL ARTICLE: CLINICAL

# Comprehensive geriatric assessment is an essential tool to support treatment decisions in elderly patients with diffuse large B-cell lymphoma: a prospective multicenter evaluation in 173 patients by the Lymphoma Italian Foundation (FIL)

Alessandra Tucci<sup>1</sup>, Maurizio Martelli<sup>2</sup>, Luigi Rigacci<sup>3</sup>, Paola Riccomagno<sup>4</sup>, Maria Giuseppina Cabras<sup>5</sup>, Flavia Salvi<sup>6</sup>, Caterina Stelitano<sup>7</sup>, Alberto Fabbri<sup>8</sup>, Sergio Storti<sup>9</sup>, Stefano Fogazzi<sup>1</sup>, Salvatrice Mancuso<sup>10</sup>, Maura Brugiattelli<sup>11</sup>, Angelo Fama<sup>2</sup>, Paolo Paesano<sup>2</sup>, Benedetta Puccini<sup>3</sup>, Chiara Bottelli<sup>1</sup>, Daniela Dalceggio<sup>1</sup>, Francesco Bertagna<sup>12</sup>, Giuseppe Rossi<sup>1</sup> & Michele Spina<sup>13</sup>; for the Italian Lymphoma Foundation (FIL)

Table II. Characteristics of patients classified according to CGA\*.

CGA category	All	Fit	Unfit	Frail	<i>p</i> -Value
No. of evaluable patients (%)	173	79 (46%)	28 (16%)	66 (38%)	
M/F	91/82	52/27	13/15	26/40	
Median age	77	74	79	81	< 0.0001
Ann Arbor stage III-IV (%) <sup>†</sup>	57	57	58	58	NS
B symptoms (%) <sup>‡</sup>	32	25	24	37	NS
IPI risk class intermediate-high/high (%) <sup>§</sup>	43	41	44	54	NS

Table IV. Overall survival time according to patient and treatment characteristics (univariate and multivariate Cox regression analysis).

Variables	Univariate HR (95% CI)	<i>p</i> -Value	Multivariate HR (95% CI)	<i>p</i> -Value
Age < 80 vs. ≥ 80 years	2.67 (1.61-4.44)	0.0002		
Stage I-II vs. III-IV	1.59 (0.92-2.74)	0.09		
IPI (intermediate-low/low vs. intermediate-high/high)	3.72 (1.80-7.68)	0.0003	4.60 (1.35-15.64)	0.008
CGA	5.61 (2.95-10.64)	0.0001	3.69 (1.09-12.51)	0.03
ADL (≤ 5 vs. 6)	0.3 (0.17-0.51)	0.0001		
IADL (≤ 6 vs. ≥ 7)	0.24 (0.14-0.41)	0.0001		
CIRS-G grade 2 (< 5 vs. ≥ 5)	2.89 (1.04-8.03)	0.04		
CIRS-G grade 3-4 (0 vs. ≥ 1)	2.14 (1.22-3.73)	0.007		
Curative vs. palliative treatment approach	0.27 (0.16-0.46)	0.0001		
Treatment dose (< 70% vs. ≥ 70%)	0.38 (0.17-0.86)	0.02		

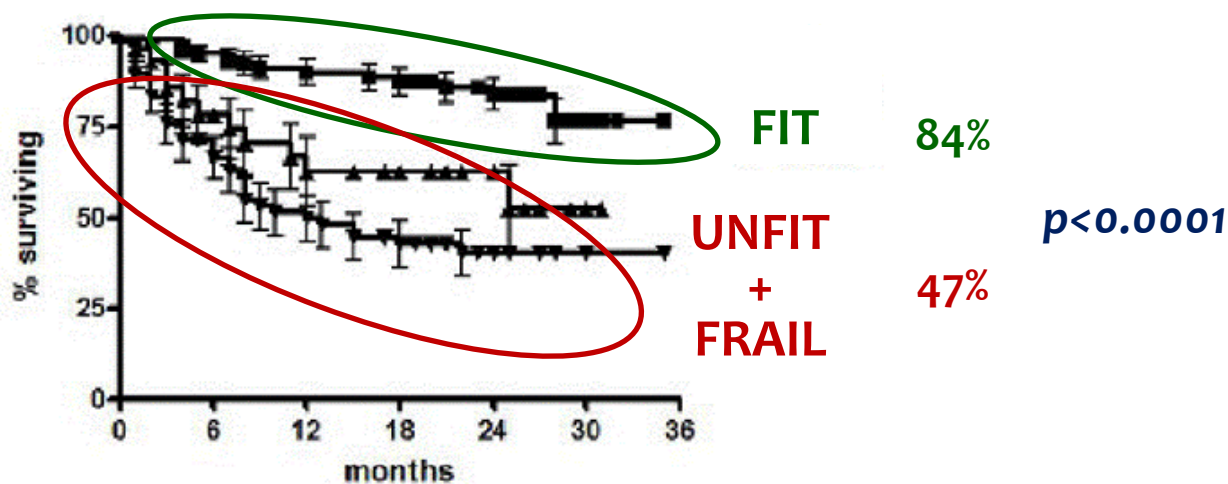


Figure 1. Actuarial overall survival curves of elderly patients with DLBCL classified as “fit,” “unfit” and “frail” according to CGA, independent of treatment received.

# ELDERLY PROJECT



STUDI CLINICI

ARCHIVIO PAZIENTI



Un progetto della Fondazione Italiana Linfomi per eseguire la valutazione geriatrica multidimensionale dei pazienti anziani con linfoma diffuso a grandi cellule B. Maggiori informazioni sono disponibili consultando la [brochure](#).

+ ADD PATIENT

1. General Data
2. Disease Status
3. Activity of Daily Living (ADL)
4. Instrumental Activity of Daily Living (IADL)
5. CIRS-G

# Simplified Geriatric Assessment in Older Patients With Diffuse Large B-Cell Lymphoma: The Prospective Elderly Project of the Fondazione Italiana Linfomi



Check for updates

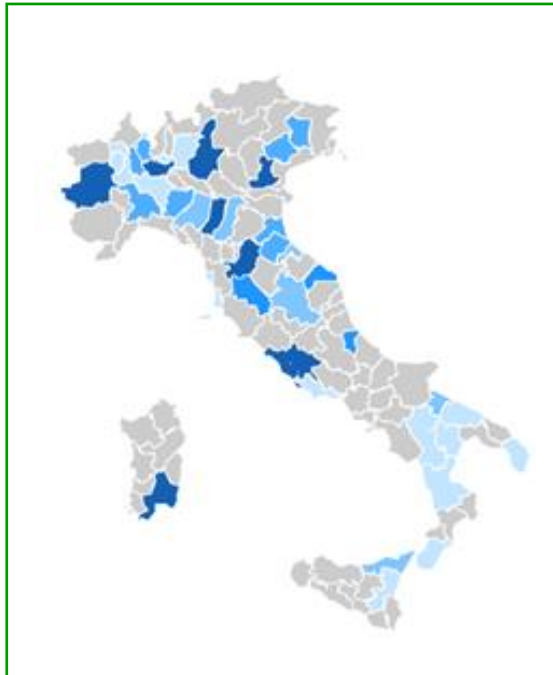
Francesco Merli, MD<sup>1</sup>; Stefano Luminari, MD<sup>1,2</sup>; Alessandra Tucci, MD<sup>3</sup>; Annalisa Arcari, MD<sup>4</sup>; Luigi Rigacci, MD<sup>5</sup>; Eliza Hawkes, MD<sup>6</sup>; Carlos S. Chiattonne, MD<sup>7,8</sup>; Federica Cavallo, MD<sup>9</sup>; Giuseppina Cabras, MD<sup>10</sup>; Isabel Alvarez, MD<sup>1</sup>; Alberto Fabbri, MD<sup>11</sup>; Alessandro Re, MD<sup>3</sup>; Benedetta Puccini, MD<sup>5</sup>; Allison Barraclough, MD<sup>12</sup>; Marcia Torresan Delamain, MD<sup>13</sup>; Simone Ferrero, MD<sup>9</sup>; Sara Veronica Usai, MD<sup>10</sup>; Angela Ferrari, MD<sup>1</sup>; Emanuele Cencini, MD<sup>11</sup>; Elsa Pennese, MD<sup>14</sup>; Vittorio Ruggero Zilioli, MD<sup>15</sup>; Dario Marino, MD<sup>16</sup>; Monica Balzarotti, MD<sup>17</sup>; Maria Christina Cox, MD<sup>18</sup>; Manuela Zanni, MD<sup>19</sup>; Alice Di Rocco, MD<sup>20</sup>; Arben Lleshi, MD<sup>21</sup>; Barbara Botto, MD<sup>22</sup>; Stefan Hohaus, MD<sup>23</sup>; Michele Merli, MD<sup>24</sup>; Roberto Sartori, MD<sup>25</sup>; Guido Gini, MD<sup>26</sup>; Luca Nassi, MD<sup>27</sup>; Gerardo Musuraca, MD<sup>28</sup>; Monica Tani, MD<sup>29</sup>; Chiara Bottelli, MD<sup>3</sup>; Sofia Kovalchuk, MD<sup>5</sup>; Francesca Re, MD<sup>30</sup>; Leonardo Flenghi, MD<sup>31</sup>; Annalia Molinari, MD<sup>32</sup>; Giuseppe Tarantini, MD<sup>33</sup>; Emanuela Chimienti, MD<sup>21</sup>; Luigi Marcheselli, MS<sup>34</sup>; Caterina Mammi, PhD<sup>35</sup>; and Michele Spina, MD<sup>21</sup>

# Elderly Project: Clinical Characteristics and sCGA

**Enrollment period: Dec 2013 – Dec 2017**

- **37 Italian centres**
- **1353 patients (1207 eligible)**

	<i>N. (%)</i>
<b>Age (median) [range]</b>	<b>76 [65-94]</b>
<b>Gender (male)</b>	<b>609 (50%)</b>
<b>IPI (3-5) [N=1102]</b>	<b>612 (56%)</b>



Fitness Status  
by sCGA

	<i>N. (%)</i>
<b>FIT</b>	<b>520 (43%)</b>
<b>UNFIT</b>	<b>300 (25%)</b>
<b>FRAIL</b>	<b>387 (32%)</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1207 (100%)</b>

● 1-9 ● 14-23 ● 30-40 ● 54-67  
● 97+

The emergence of chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) T-cell therapy has changed the treatment landscape for diffuse large B-cell lymphoma (DLBCL); however, real-world experience reporting outcomes among older patients treated with CAR T-cell therapy is limited.

## Evaluation of the safety and efficacy of humanized anti-CD19 chimeric antigen receptor T-cell therapy in older patients with relapsed/refractory diffuse large B-cell lymphoma based on the comprehensive geriatric assessment system

Huan Zhang<sup>a</sup>, Man Liu<sup>b</sup>, Qing Li<sup>a</sup>, Cuicui Lyu<sup>a</sup>, Yan-Yu Jiang<sup>a</sup>, Juan-Xia Meng<sup>a</sup>, Jing-Yi Li<sup>a</sup> and Qi Deng<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Department of Hematology, Tianjin First Central Hospital, School of Medicine, Nankai University, Tianjin, China; <sup>b</sup>Department of Surgery Plastic, Tianjin First Central Hospital, School of Medicine, Nankai University, Tianjin, China

**Table 1.** Grouping criteria for comprehensive geriatric assessment system.

CGA category	Fit	Unfit	Frail
Age (years)	$\geq 65$ to $< 80$	$\geq 80$	$\geq 80$
ADL (score)	6	5	$\leq 4$
IADL (score)	8	6–7	$\leq 5$
CIRS-G	No comorbidity score 3–4 and $< 5$ comorbidities score 2	No comorbidity score 3–4 and 5–8 comorbidities score 2	$\geq 1$ comorbidity score 3–4 or $> 8$ comorbidities score 2

CGA: comprehensive geriatric assessment; ADL: activity of daily living; IADL: instrumental activity of daily living; CIRS-G: Cumulative Illness Rating Score for Geriatrics.

**Table 2.** Baseline characteristics of the patients ( $n = 31$ ).

CGA category	FIT	Unfit/frail	<i>p</i> value
Median age (range), years	68 (65–80)	76 (73–86)	.013
Man	9 (52.9%)	7 (50.0%)	.532
ECOG > 1	1 (0.6%)	5 (35.7%)	<.001
Karnofsky < 90	1 (0.6%)	5 (35.7%)	<.001
ADL			<.001
6	17 (100.0%)	10 (71.4%)	
5	0 (0.0%)	3 (21.4%)	
<4	0 (0.0%)	1 (7.14%)	
IADL			<.001
8	17 (100.0%)	9 (64.3%)	
6–7	0 (0.0%)	4 (28.6%)	
≤6	0 (0.0%)	1 (7.14%)	
CIRS-G			.006
No comorbidity score 3–4	17 (100.0%)	12 (85.7%)	
≥1 comorbidity score 3–4	0 (0.0%)	2 (14.3%)	
<5 comorbidities score ≤2	17 (100.0%)	0 (0.0%)	
≥5 comorbidities score ≤2	0 (0.0%)	14 (100.0%)	
LDH, pre-lymphodepletion			.071
>upper limit of normal	14 (82.4%)	12 (85.7%)	
<upper limit of normal	3 (17.6%)	2 (14.3%)	
Tumor cross-sectional area (mm <sup>2</sup> )			.542
≥4000	8 (47.1%)	9 (64.3%)	
<4000	9 (52.9%)	5 (35.7%)	
Double/triple-hit			.638
Yes	7 (41.2%)	6 (42.9%)	
No	10 (58.8%)	8 (57.1%)	
Disease stage			.735
I/II	3 (17.6%)	2 (14.3%)	
III/IV	14 (82.4%)	12 (85.7%)	
IPI			.953
0–2	8 (47.1%)	6 (42.9%)	
3–5	9 (52.9%)	8 (57.1%)	
Extranodal disease			.631
Yes	5 (29.4%)	3 (21.4%)	
No	12 (70.6%)	11 (78.6%)	
Number of prior therapies			.753
1–4	3 (17.6%)	4 (28.6%)	
≥5	14 (83.4%)	10 (71.4%)	
Refractory category			.052
Refractory to second-line or later therapy	17 (100.0%)	11 (64.7%)	
Best response as progressive disease to last previous therapy	9 (52.9%)	8 (57.1%)	
Relapse after autologous stem-cell transplantation	3 (17.6%)	0 (0.0%)	

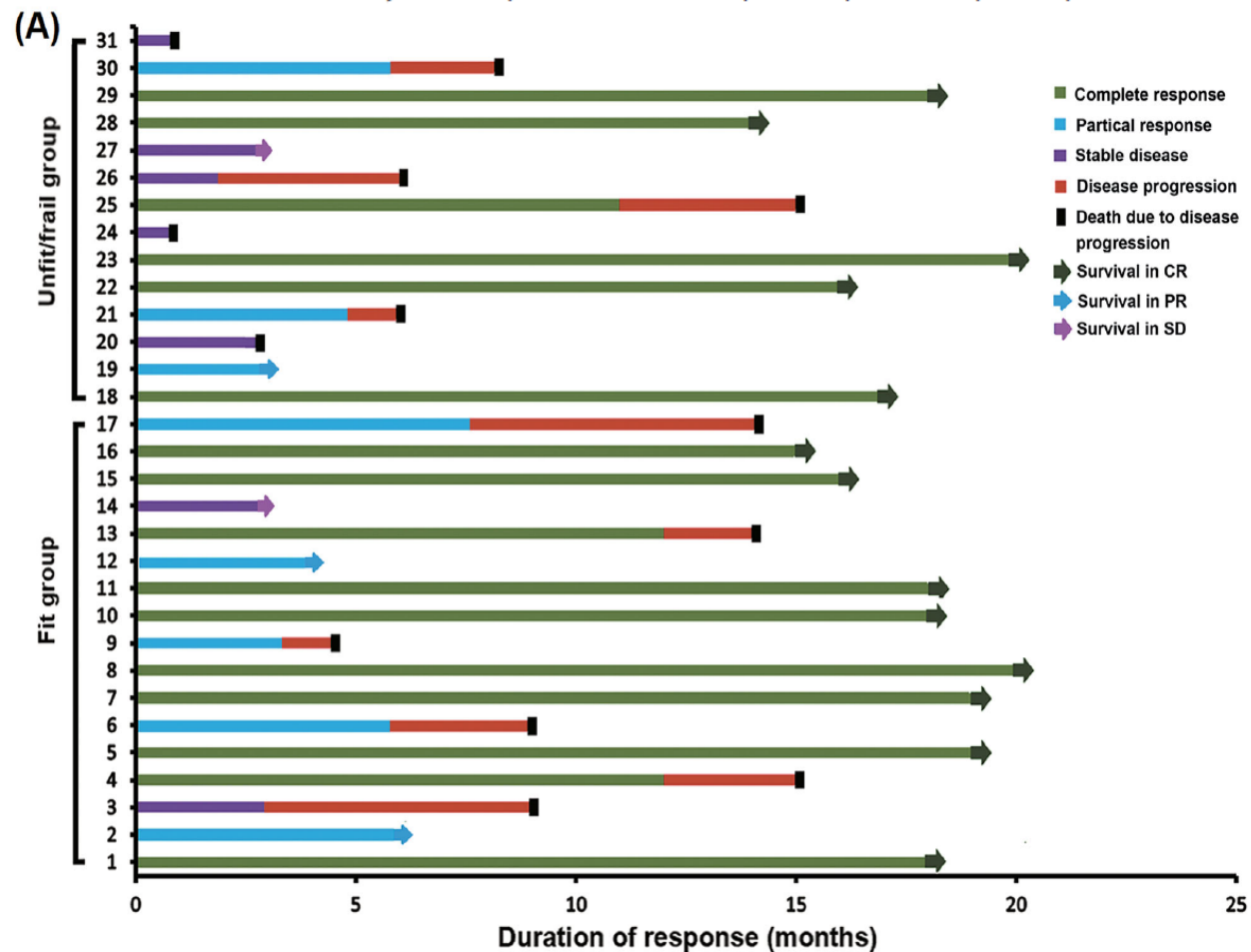
CGA: comprehensive geriatric assessment; double/triple-hit MYC rearrangement plus rearrangement of BCL2/BCL6 by fish; IPI: International Prognostic Index; tumor cross-sectional area: sum of the product of the perpendicular diameters of up to six target measurable nodes and extranodal sites.



**Table 3.** Clinical responses in CGA subgroup.

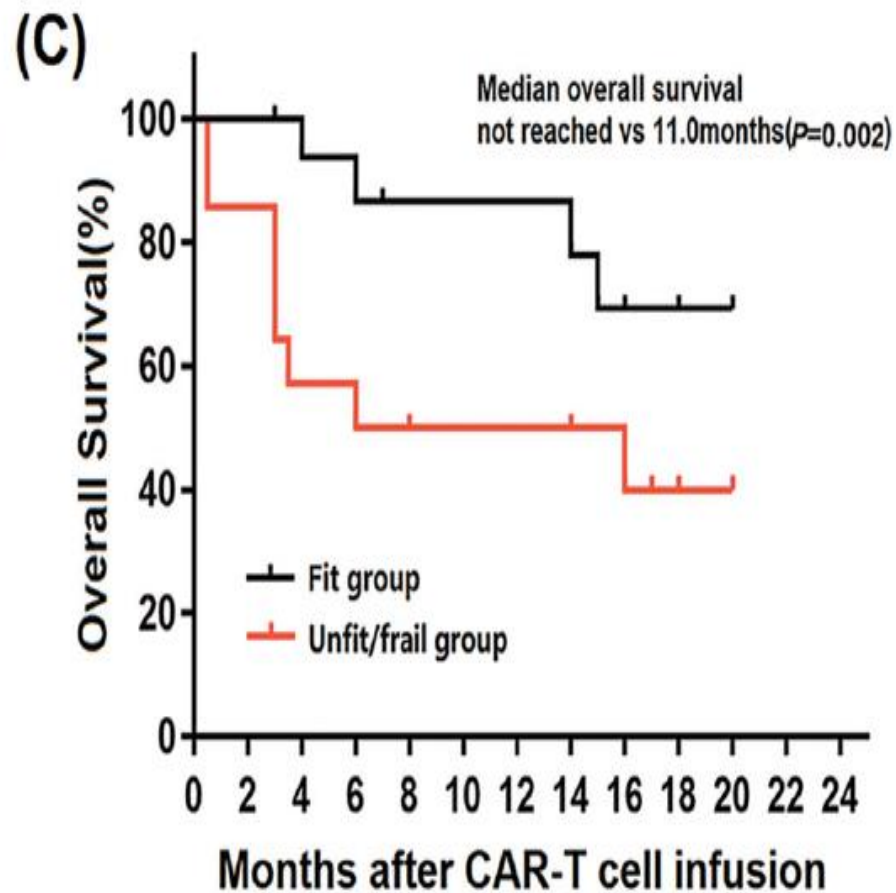
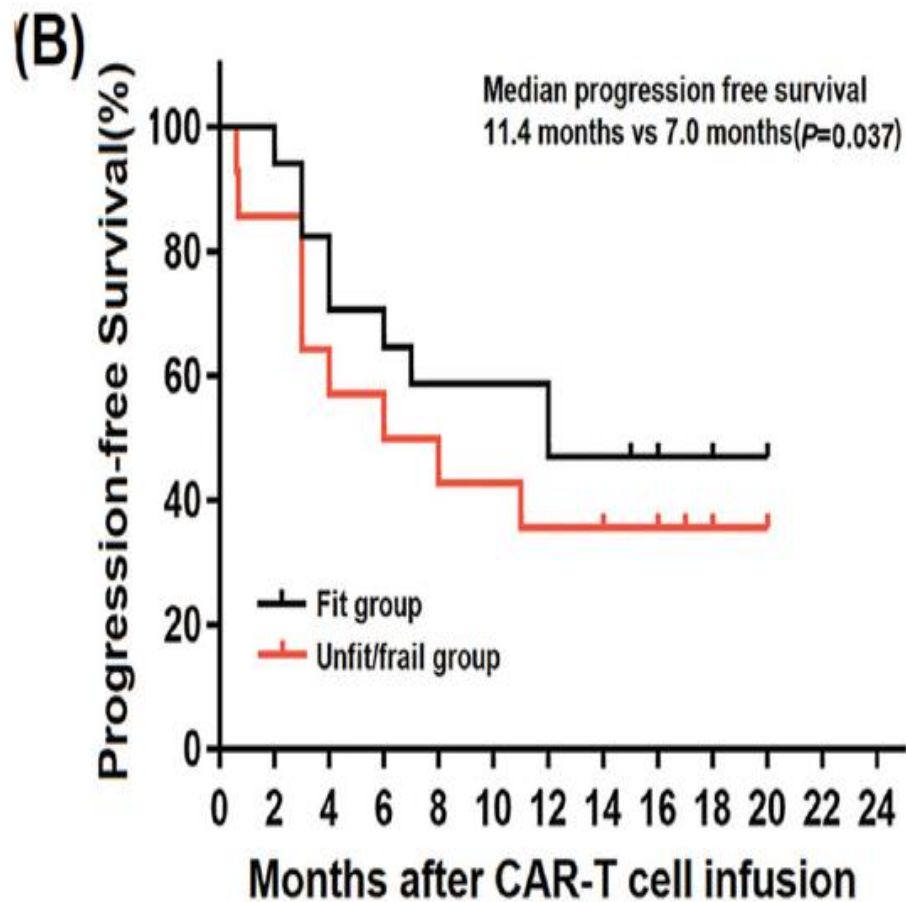
	Number	ORR	CR	PR
Overall	31	24 (77.4%)	16 (51.6%)	8 (25.6%)
Fit	17	15 (88.2%)	10 (58.8%)	5 (29.4%)
Unfit/frail	14	9 (64.3%)	6 (42.9%)	3 (21.4%)
$\chi^2$		2.542	1.927	1.136
<i>p</i>		.003	.012	.181

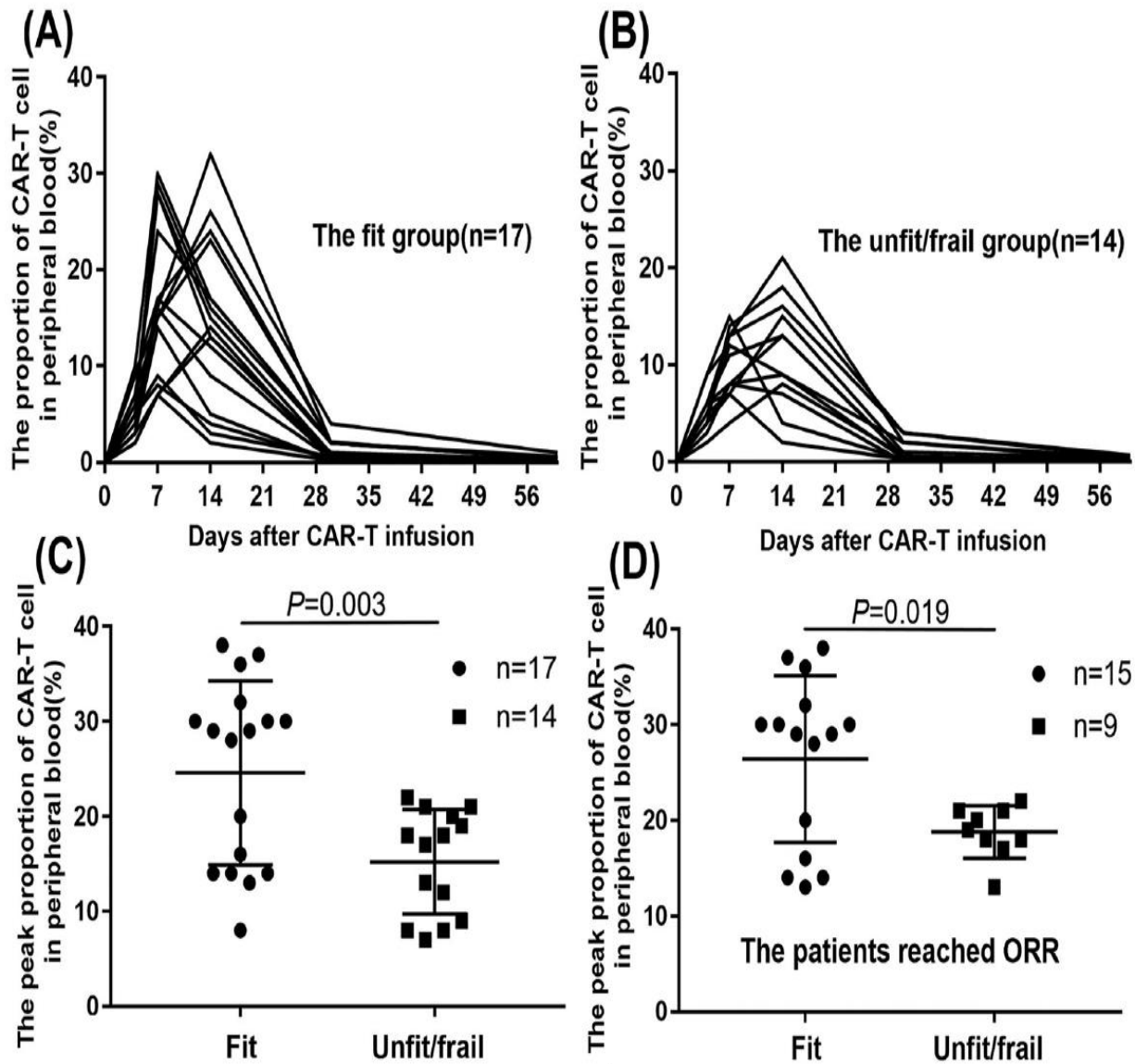
ORR: objective response rate; CR: complete response; PR: part response



**Table 5.** CGA subgroup analysis of adverse events, *n* (%).

	Fit group ( <i>n</i> = 17)	Unfit/frail group ( <i>n</i> = 14)	$\chi^2$	<i>p</i>
CRS			7.513	.023
Grade 0	12 (70.6%)	3 (21.4%)		
Grade 1–2	4 (23.5%)	8 (57.1%)		
Grade $\geq 3$	1 (5.9%)	3 (21.4%)		
Hematological			8.123	.017
Grade 0	11 (64.7%)	2 (14.3%)		
Grade 1–2	2 (11.8%)	5 (35.7%)		
Grade $\geq 3$	4 (23.5%)	7 (50.0%)		
Cardiovascular events			4.803	.022
Grade 0	15 (88.2%)	8 (57.1%)		
Grade 1–2	2 (14.3%)	2 (14.3%)		
Grade $\geq 3$	0 (0.0%)	4 (28.6%)		
Increased aminotransferase			5.656	.016
Grade 0	13 (76.5%)	6 (42.9%)		
Grade 1–2	3 (17.6%)	6 (42.9%)		
Grade $\geq 3$	0 (0.0%)	3 (21.4%)		
Increased creatinine			3.958	.026
Grade 0	14 (82.4%)	9 (64.3%)		
Grade 1–2	3 (17.6%)	4 (28.6%)		
Grade $\geq 3$	0 (0.0%)	1 (7.1%)		





**Figure 3.** The expansion of anti-CD19 CAR T-cells. (A) The proportions of anti-CD19 CAR T-cells changed within 60 days after infusion in the fit group ( $n=17$ ). (B) The proportions of anti-CD19 CAR T-cells changed within 60 days after infusion in the unfit/frail group ( $n=14$ ). (C) The peak proportion of anti-CD19 CAR T-cells in the fit group was significantly higher than that in the unfit/frail group ( $24.59\% \pm 9.39\%$  vs.  $15.21\% \pm 5.30\%$ ;  $p=0.003$ ). (D) The proportion of anti-CD19 CAR T-cells in patients with an ORR was higher in the fit group than in the unfit/frail group ( $29.12\% \pm 8.41\%$  vs.  $18.78\% \pm 2.57\%$ ;  $p=0.019$ ).

In conclusion, despite the limitations of a small sample size and short follow-up time, our results demonstrate positive efficacy and controlled side effects of humanized anti-CD19 CAR T-cell therapy in elderly patients. Elderly patients should not be excluded from receiving CAR T-cell therapy. The CGA system is used to stratify elderly patients with R/R DLBCL under CAR T-cell therapy to effectively predict their treatment response, adverse reactions, and long-term survival. In the future, we look forward to more prospective randomized controlled studies that will guide treatment through CGA stratification, and this will help develop a combination of CGA scales suitable for elderly R/R DLBCL patients and standardize them to help more effectively stratify patients and guide treatment.

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<https://doi.org/10.1007/s11912-022-01272-6>

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GERIATRIC ONCOLOGY (L BALDUCCI, SECTION EDITOR)

# CAR T-Cell Therapy in the Older Person: Indications and Risks

Geoffrey Shouse<sup>1</sup>  · Alexey V. Danilov<sup>1,2</sup> · Andy Artz<sup>1</sup>

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**Table 2** Outcomes in older adults from clinical trial and real-world evidence for approved CART products comparing patients  $\geq 65$  years to  $< 65$  years of age. *Axi-Cel* axicabtagene ciloleucel, *Tisa-Cel* tisagenlecleucel, *Liso-Cel* lisocabtagene maraulecel, *Brexu-Cel* brexucabtagene autoleucel, *Ide-Cel* idecabtagene vicleucel, *DLBCL* diffuse large B cell lymphoma, *MCL* mantle cell lymphoma, *MM* multiple myeloma, *B-ALL* B-cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia, *ORR* objective response rate, *CR* complete response, *G* grade, *CRS* cytokine release syndrome, *NTX* neurotoxicity, *Infxn* infection, *NR* not reported, *n* number of patients

Product	Disease	Reference	Number of patients	% Patients age $\geq 65$ years	ORR $\geq 65$ vs $< 65$ years <i>n</i> (%)	CR $\geq 65$ vs $< 65$ years <i>n</i> (%)	G $\geq 3$ CRS $\geq 65$ vs $< 65$ years <i>n</i> (%)	G $\geq 3$ NTX $\geq 65$ vs $< 65$ years <i>n</i> (%)	G $\geq 3$ Infxn $\geq 65$ vs $< 65$ years <i>n</i> (%)
Axi-Cel	DLBCL	(6)	108	25%	22 (92%) vs 62 (81%)	18 (75%) vs 41 (53%)	2 (7%) vs 10 (12%)	12 (44%) vs 23 (28%)	5 (19%) vs 25 (31%)
Tisa-Cel	DLBCL	(7)	111	23%	13 (59%) vs 35 (49%)	NR	NR	NR	NR
Axi-Cel and Tisa-Cel	DLBCL	(26)	49	51%	NR	51% overall and not different among groups	2 (8%) vs 3 (12%)	6 (25%) vs 4 (16%)	10 (42%) vs 15 (60%)
Axi-Cel and Tisa-Cel	DLBCL	(25)	804	41%	NR	NR	(All grades) 197 (59%) vs 302 (64%)	(All grades) 142 (43%) vs 171 (36%)	(Sepsis) 11 (3%) vs 5 (1%)
Liso-Cel	DLBCL	(5)	269	42%	82 (76%) vs 104 (70%)	65 (60%) vs 71 (48%)	NR	NR	NR
Brexu-Cel	MCL	(10)	60	53%	30 (94%) vs 26 (93%)	NR	NR	NR	NR
Ide-Cel	MM	(8)	128	35%	45 (70%) vs 83 (90%)	NR	NR	NR	NR
Axi-Cel	Follicular	(11)	86	31%	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Brexu-Cel	B-ALL	(9)	65	15%	NR	8 (100%) vs 47 (71%)	NR	NR	NR

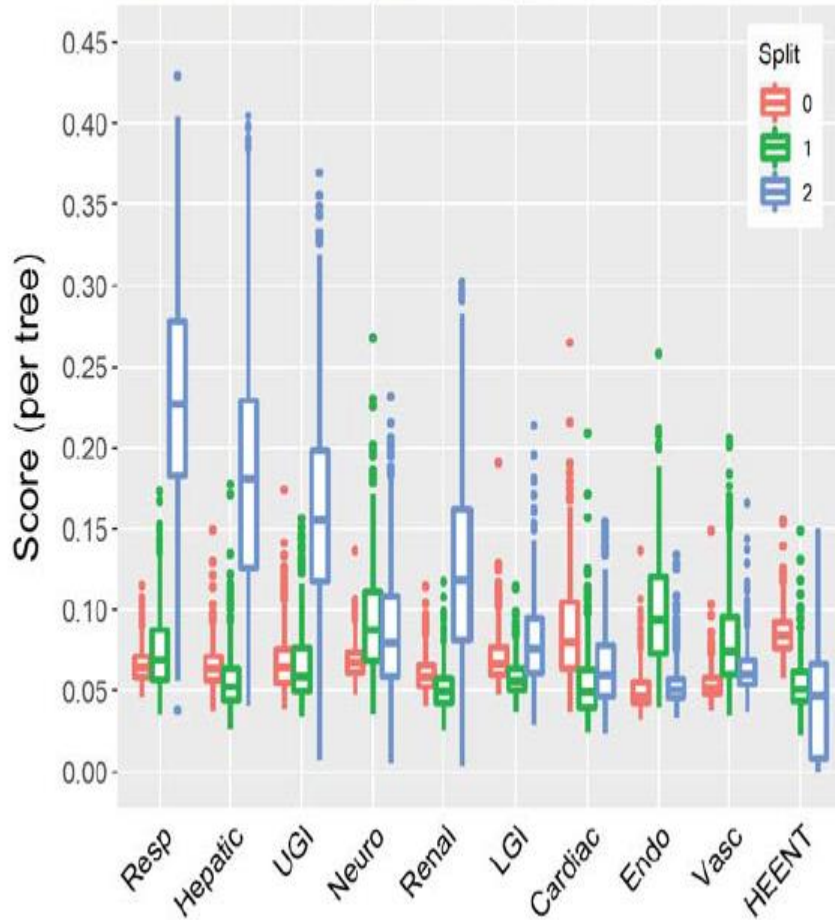
**A validated composite comorbidity index predicts outcomes of CAR T-cell therapy in patients with diffuse large B cell lymphoma**

Geoffrey Shouse<sup>1\*</sup>, Andy Kaempf<sup>2\*</sup>, Max J. Gordon<sup>3</sup>, Andy Artz<sup>1</sup>, David Yashar<sup>1</sup>, Audrey M. Sigmund<sup>4</sup>, Gordon Smilnak<sup>5</sup>, Steven Bair<sup>6</sup>, Agrima Mian<sup>7</sup>, Lindsey Fitzgerald<sup>8</sup>, Amneet Bajwa<sup>4</sup>, Samantha Jaglowski<sup>4</sup>, Neil Bailey<sup>9</sup>, Mazyar Shadman<sup>10</sup>, Krish Patel<sup>9</sup>, Deborah M. Stephens<sup>8</sup>, Manali Kamdar<sup>6</sup>, Brian Hill<sup>7</sup>, Jordan Gauthier<sup>10</sup>, Reem Karmali<sup>5</sup>, Loretta J. Nastoupil<sup>3\*</sup>, Adam S. Kittai<sup>4\*</sup> and Alexey V. Danilov<sup>1\*</sup>



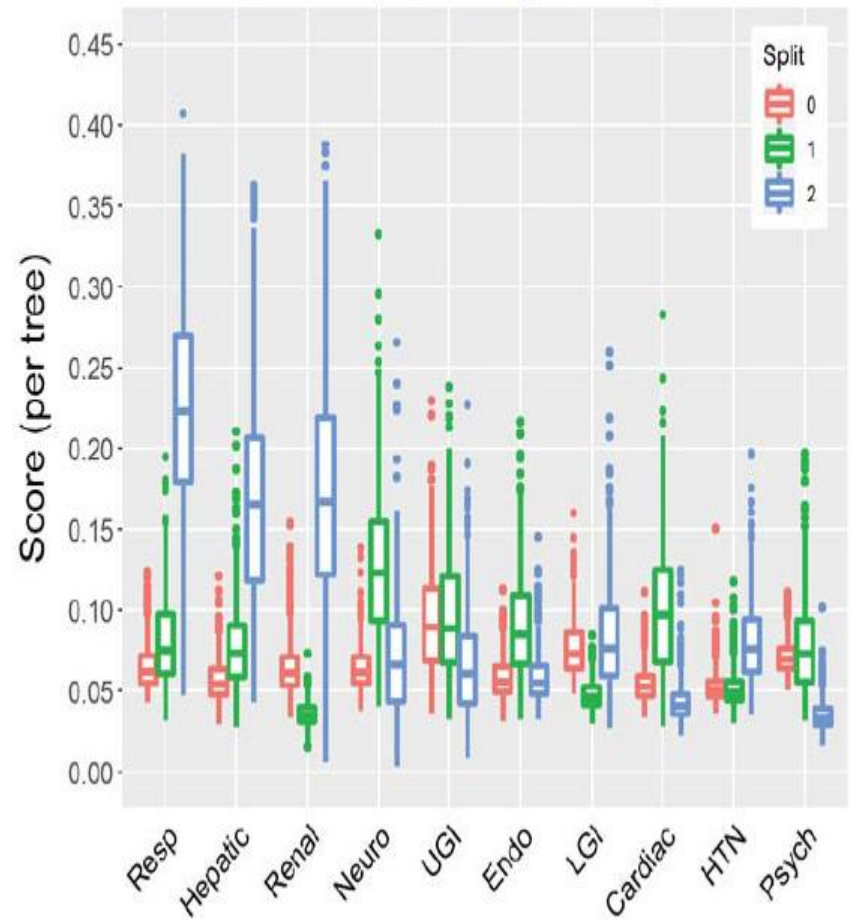
### A PFS: Weighted Nodal Split Score by CIRS var.

500 random subsets (each n=397), one RSF per subset



### B OS: Weighted Nodal Split Score by CIRS var

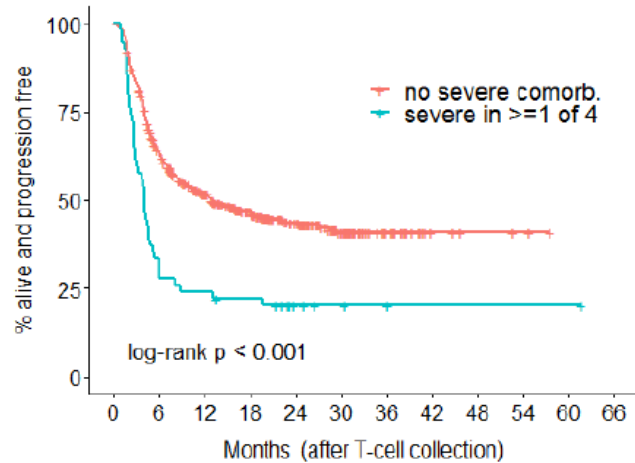
500 random subsets (each n=397), one RSF per subset



**Severe CIRS score (>2) in the respiratory, upper GI, renal and hepatic system “SEVERE 4” had the strongest impact on PFS and OS**

# Figure 2

LC: PFS Kaplan-Meier curves by Severe4 (n=577)

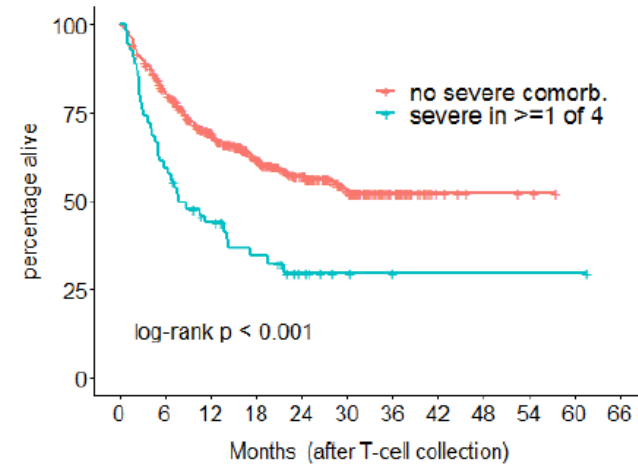


Number at risk

no	523	317	226	149	95	53	24	5	3	2	0	0
yes	54	17	13	11	5	3	1	1	1	1	1	0

## B

LC: OS Kaplan-Meier curves by Severe4 (n=577)

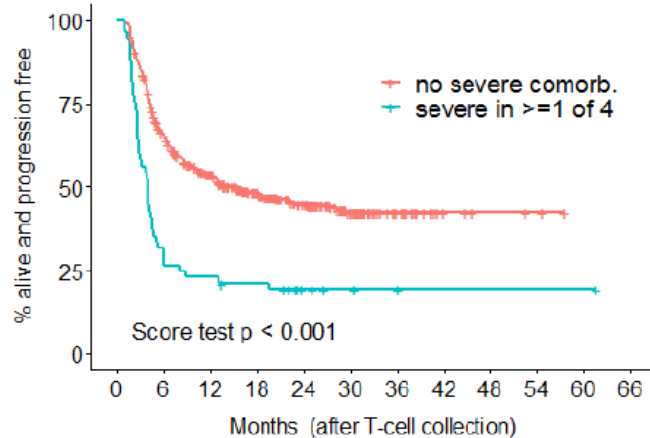


Number at risk

no	523	404	301	195	126	69	30	6	3	2	0	0
yes	54	32	21	15	7	3	1	1	1	1	1	0

LC: PFS Kaplan-Meier curves by Severe4 (n=550)

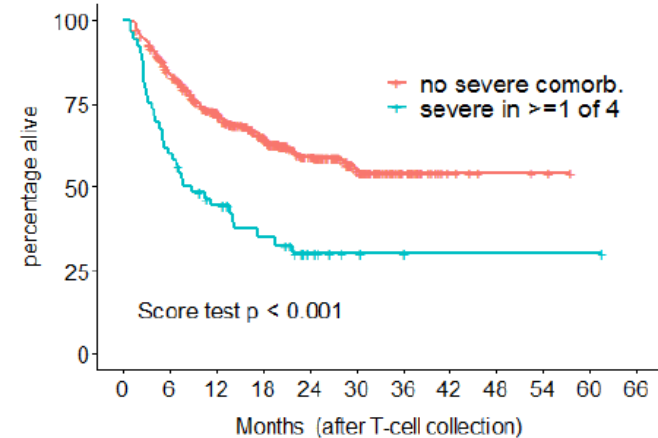
Left Truncation time from T-cell collection to CART infusion



## D

LC: OS Kaplan-Meier curves by Severe4 (n=550)

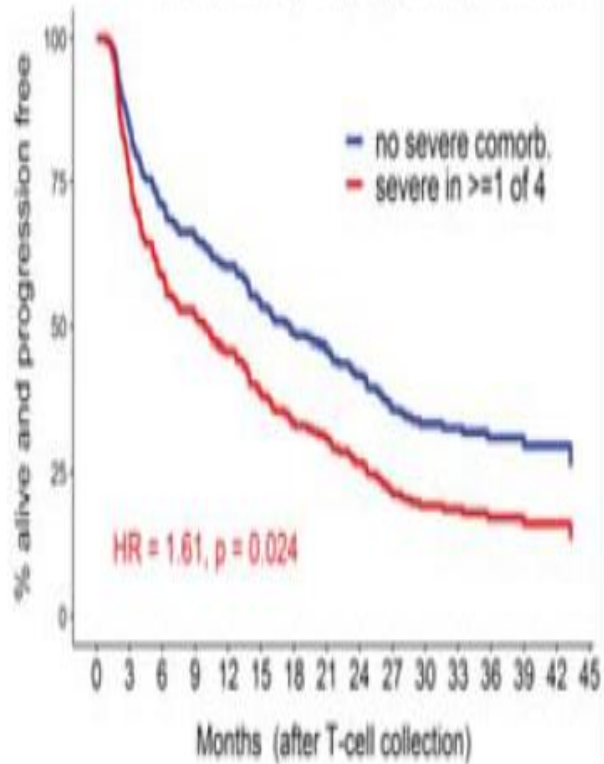
Left Truncation time from T-cell collection to CART infusion



A

Validation: PFS adjusted Cox curves by "Severe4" (n=218)

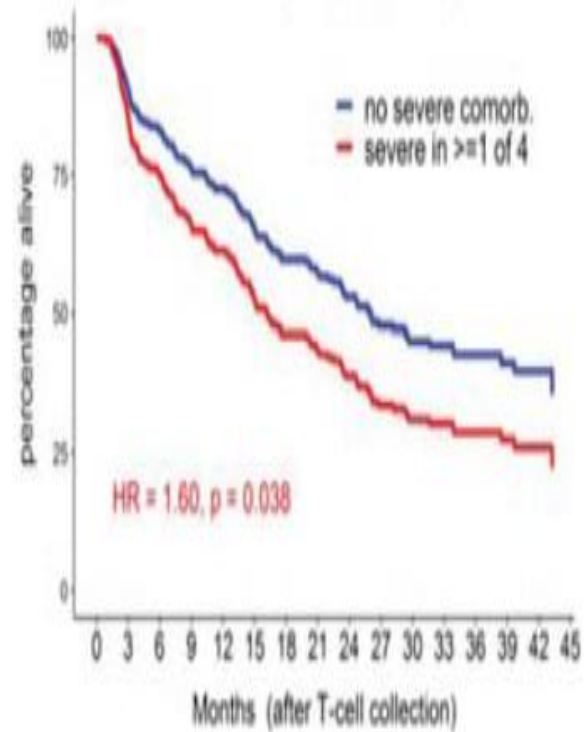
"Severe4" = severe comorbidity in Resp., Upper GI, Hepatic, or Renal



B

Validation: OS adjusted Cox curves by "Severe4" (n=218)

"Severe4" = severe comorbidity in Resp., Upper GI, Hepatic, or Renal



## Comorbidities Predict Inferior Survival in Patients Receiving Chimeric Antigen Receptor T Cell Therapy for Diffuse Large B Cell Lymphoma: A Multicenter Analysis



Adam S. Kittai<sup>1,\*</sup>, Ying Huang<sup>1</sup>, Max Gordon<sup>2</sup>, Nathan Denlinger<sup>1</sup>, Agrima Mian<sup>3</sup>, Lindsey Fitzgerald<sup>4</sup>, Jennifer Bishop<sup>2</sup>, Sarah Nagle<sup>2</sup>, Deborah M. Stephens<sup>4</sup>, Samantha Jaglowski<sup>1</sup>, Brian Hill<sup>3</sup>, Alexey V. Danilov<sup>5</sup>

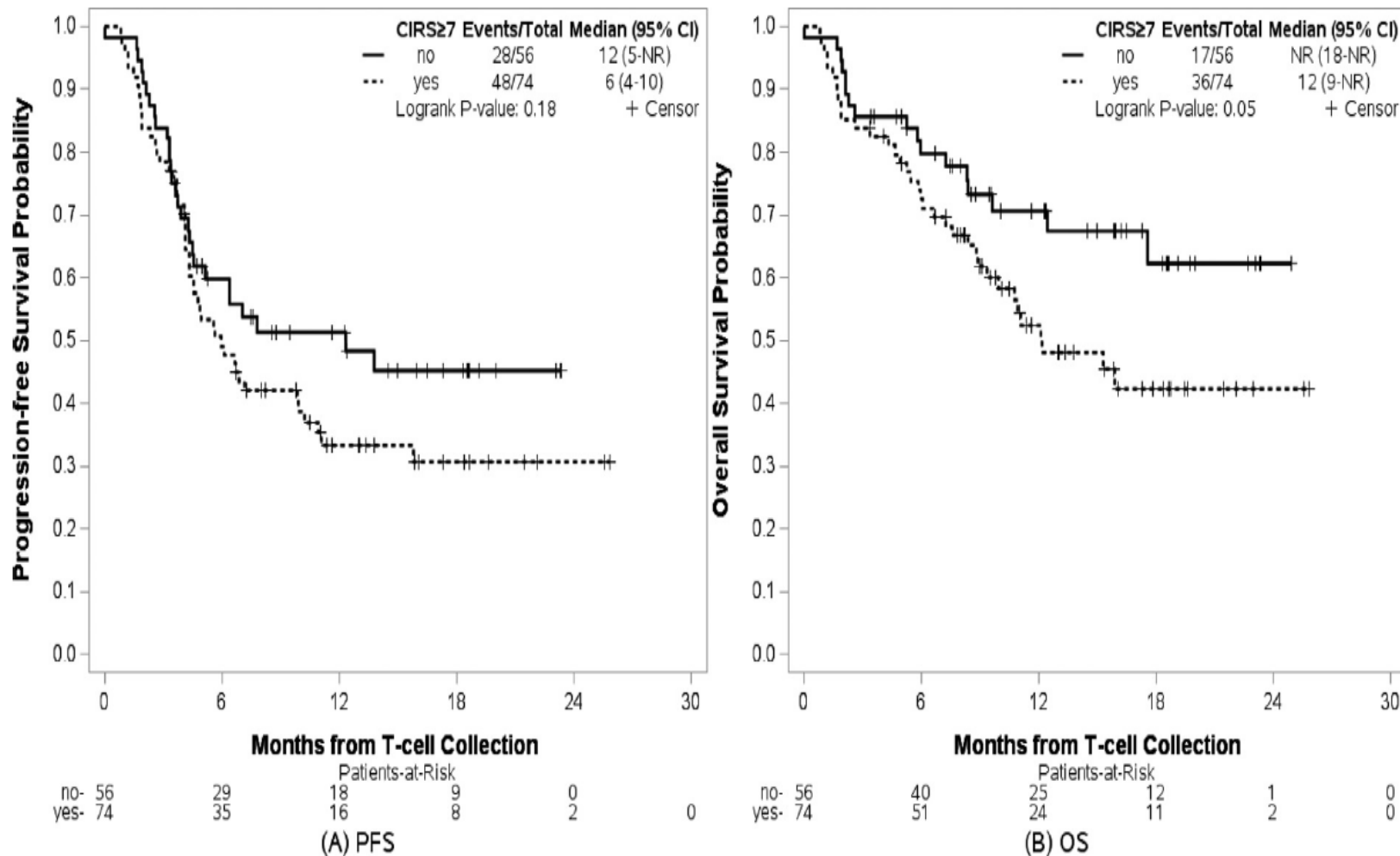
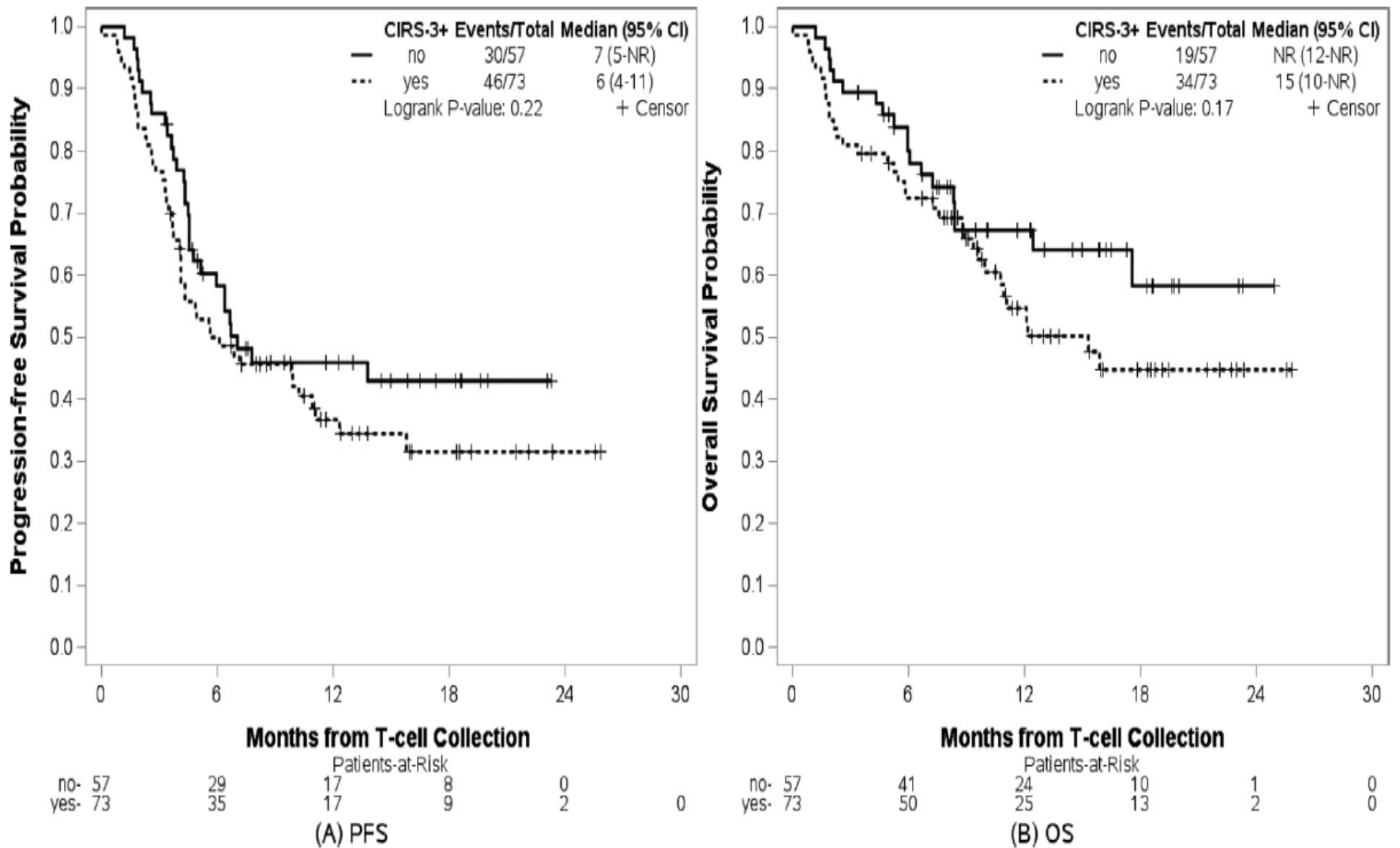
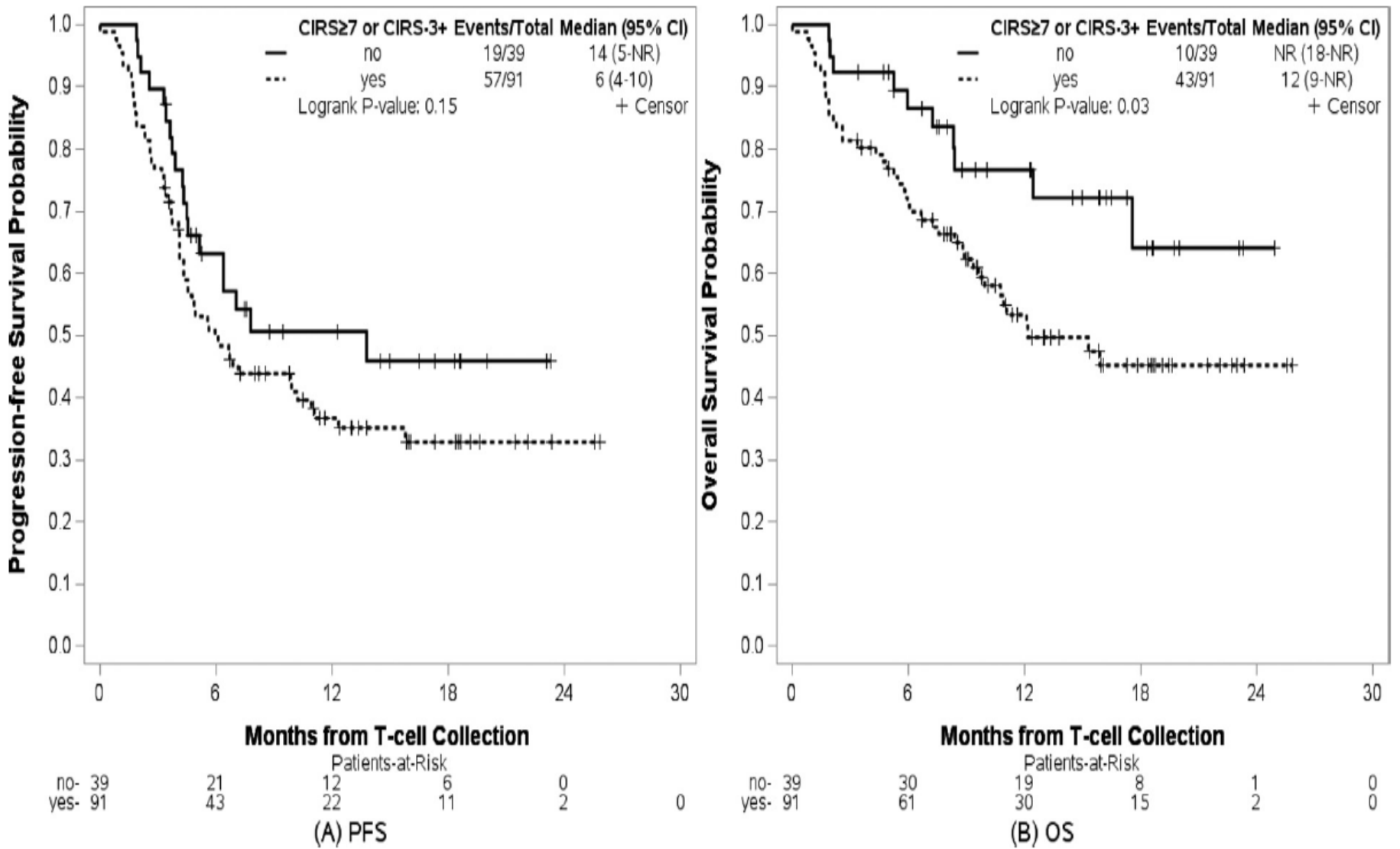


Figure 2. PFS and OS of patients with DLBCL treated with CAR-T therapy by CIRS  $\geq$ 7.

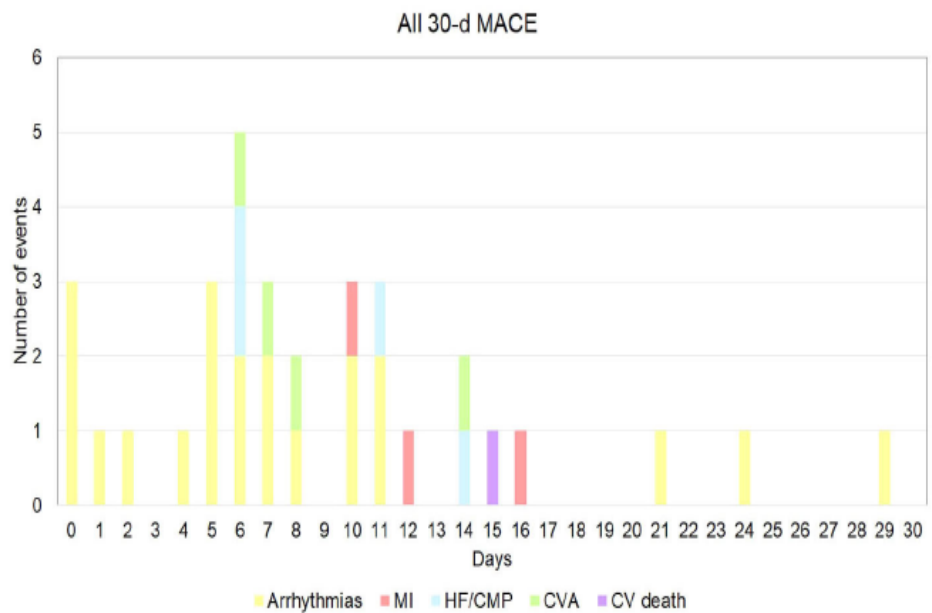
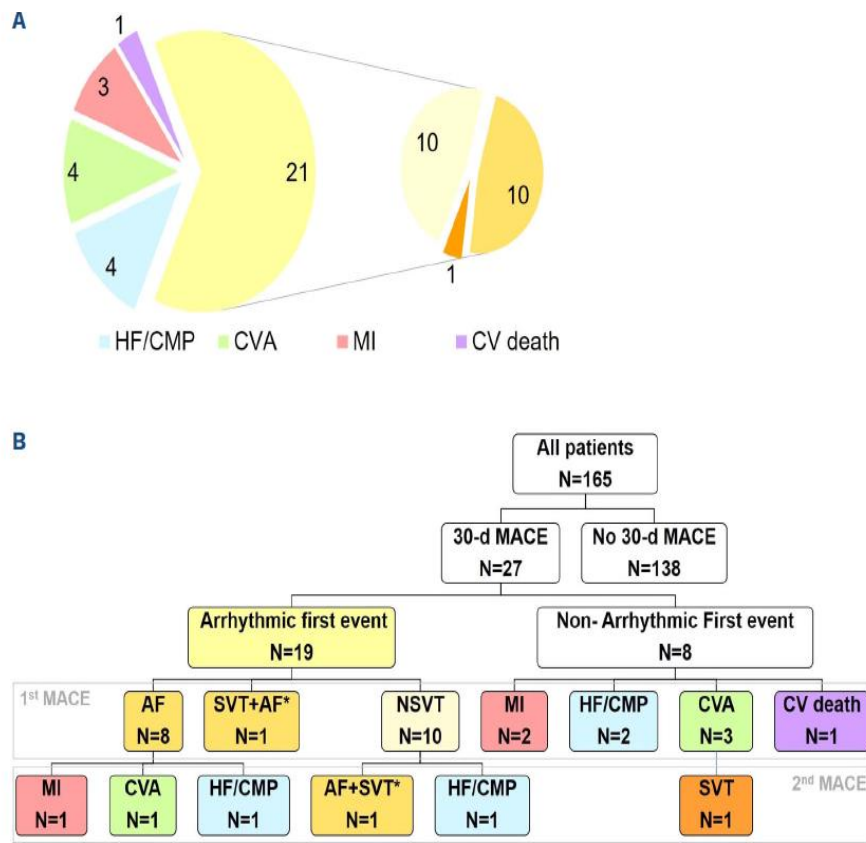


**Figure 3.** PFS and OS of patients with DLBCL treated with CAR-T therapy by CIRS-3+.



**Figure 4.** PFS and OS of patients with DLBCL treated with CAR-T therapy by either CIRS  $\geq$ 7 or CIRS-3+.

# Cardiovascular events in patients treated with chimeric antigen receptor T-cell therapy for aggressive B-cell lymphoma



**27/165 (16%)**

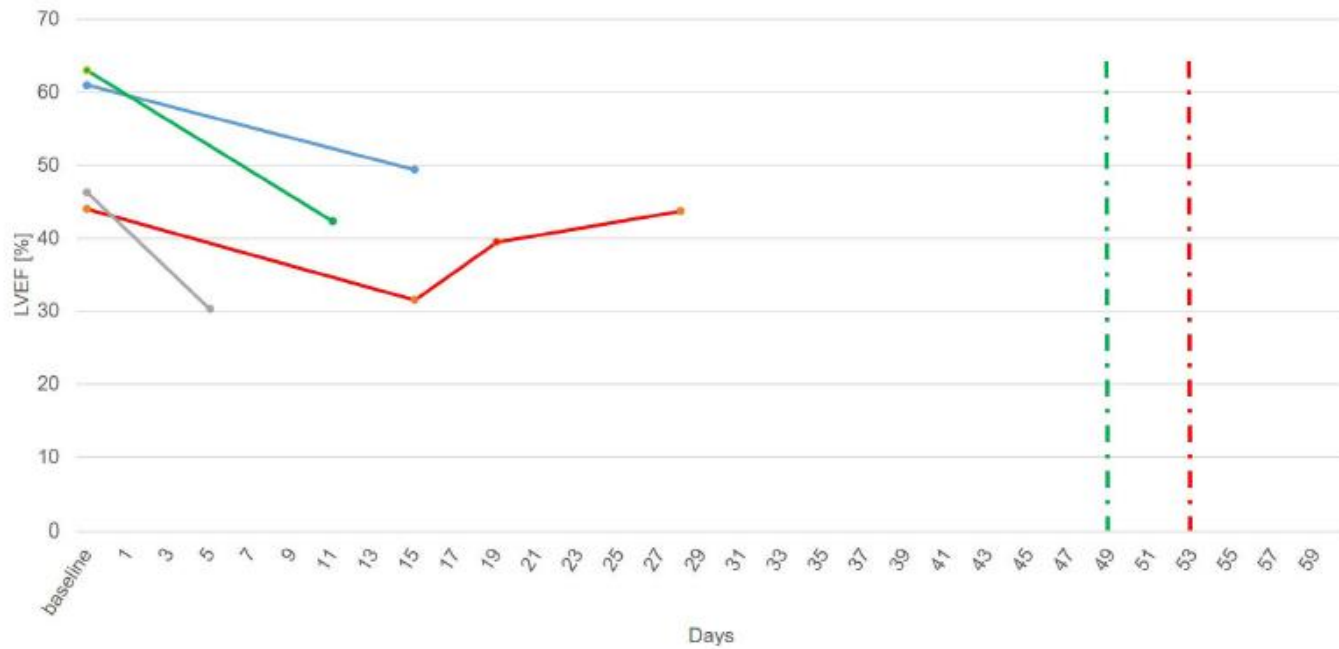
**Figure 1. Nature, recurrences, and timing of 30-day major adverse cardiovascular events** (A) Cumulative occurrences of 30-day major adverse cardiovascular event (30-d MACE). (B) Nature and recurrences of 30-d MACE. \*Events happened on the same day, counted as 1 atrial fibrillation (AF) event. The patients who presented clinical heart failure had a decrease in left ventricular ejection fraction. (C). Timing of 30-d MACE. Day 0 represents the day of chimeric antigen receptor T-cell therapy infusion. AF: atrial fibrillation; CMP: cardiomyopathy; HF: heart failure; CV: cardiovascular; CVA: cerebrovascular accident; MI: myocardial infarction; NSVT: non-sustained ventricular tachycardia; SVT: supraventricular tachycardia.

					Patients who presented at least one 30-d MACE (N = 27)	
Characteristics/ Outcomes	All patients (N= 165)	Patients who did not present 30-d MACE (N = 138)	Patients who presented at least one 30- d MACE (N = 27)	P	Arrhythmic event(s) only (N = 15)	At least one non- arrhythmic event (N = 12)
<b>Cohort</b>						
Age, median [range], y	60 [18-88]	59 [18-88]	69 [24-83]	<b>0.001</b>	68 [42-82]	70 [24-83]
Age >60 years	87 (53%)	66 (48%)	21 (78%)	<b>0.004</b>	13 (48%)	8 (30%)
Age <60 years	78 (47%)	72 (52%)	6 (22%)		2 (7%)	4 (15%)

**Baseline echocardiographic features<sup>#</sup>**

Left ventricular ejection fraction, median [range]	58% [38-75]	58% [38-75]	53% [39-68]	0.131	58% [39-66]	50% [44-68]
Presence of diastolic dysfunction	49%	43%	82%	<b>0.004</b>	89%	75%





**Figure 3. Evolution of left ventricular ejection fraction of patients who presented a drop of ejection fraction of at least 10% during day 0-30.** LVEF: left ventricular ejection fraction. Day 0 represents the day of chimeric antigen receptor T-cell therapy infusion. The colored dashed lines indicate the day of death for the patient of the corresponding color.

# Outcomes of older patients in ZUMA-1, a pivotal study of axicabtagene ciloleucel in refractory large B-cell lymphoma

Sattva S. Neelapu,<sup>1</sup> Caron A. Jacobson,<sup>2</sup> Olalekan O. Oluwole,<sup>3</sup> Javier Munoz,<sup>4</sup> Abhinav Deol,<sup>5</sup> David B. Miklos,<sup>6</sup> Nancy L. Bartlett,<sup>7,8</sup> Ira Braunschweig,<sup>9</sup> Yizhou Jiang,<sup>10</sup> Jenny J. Kim,<sup>10</sup> Lianqing Zheng,<sup>10</sup> John M. Rossi,<sup>10</sup> and Frederick L. Locke<sup>11</sup>

**Table 1. Patient characteristics, efficacy, and safety**

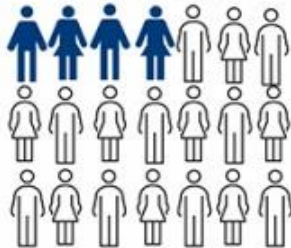
Characteristic	≥65 y (n = 27)	<65 y (n = 81)
<b>Grade ≥3 AEs*</b>		
Any grade ≥3 AE, n (%)	27 (100)	79 (98)
Neutropenia†	20 (74)	66 (81)
Anemia	13 (48)	36 (44)
Thrombocytopenia‡	12 (44)	31 (38)
Decreased white blood cell count	9 (33)	22 (27)
Encephalopathy	8 (30)	17 (21)
Lymphocyte count decreased	8 (30)	14 (17)
<b>Grade ≥3 infection</b>		
Infection, n (%)	5 (19)	25 (31)
<b>Grade ≥3 CRS§</b>		
Any grade ≥3 CRS, n (%)	2 (7)	10 (12)
Pyrexia	3 (12)	9 (12)
Hypotension	2 (8)	8 (11)
Hypoxia	3 (12)	6 (7)
<b>Grade ≥3 neurologic event§</b>		
Any grade ≥3 neurologic event, n (%)	12 (44)	23 (28)
Encephalopathy	8 (30)	17 (21)
Confusional state	2 (7)	8 (10)
Aphasia	0	8 (10)
Agitation	3 (11)	2 (2)
Delirium	3 (11)	0



## CAR T-Cell Therapy Utilization and Outcomes in Older Patients with Relapsed/Refractory Diffuse Large B-Cell Lymphoma (DLBCL)

**CAR T-cell utilization in patients with DLBCL who received two or more lines of treatments among Medicare Fee-for-Service beneficiaries:**

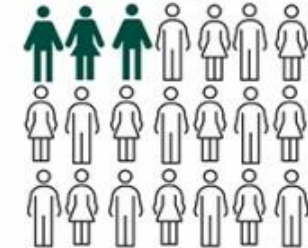
19% of DLBCL Patients Aged 65-69 Utilize CAR T



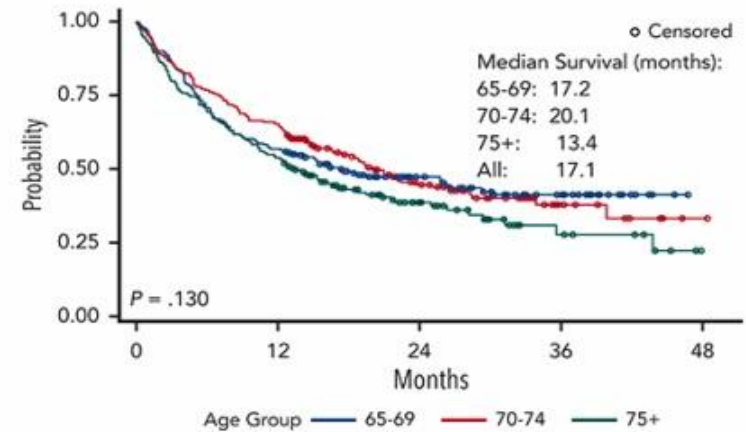
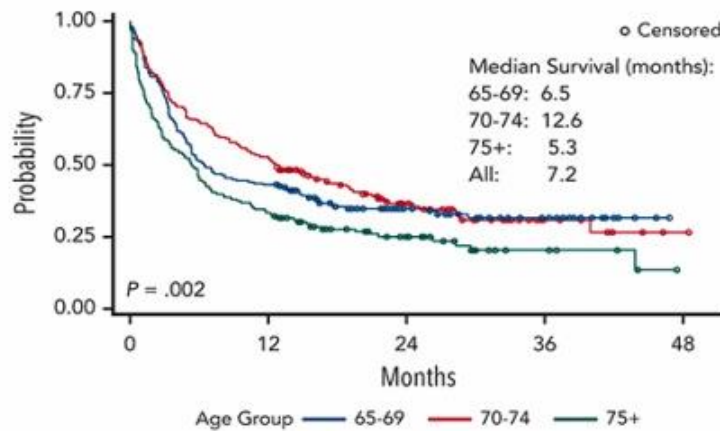
22% of DLBCL Patients Aged 70-74 Utilize CAR T



13% of DLBCL Patients Aged 75+ Utilize CAR T



**Event-free survival and overall survival from CAR T-cell therapy:**



**Conclusion:** While CAR T-cell therapy in older patients is associated with favorable event-free survival comparable to outcomes in younger patients, CAR T-cell usage is low in older patients with DLBCL, which suggests an unmet need for more accessible, effective, and tolerable therapy.

**Blood  
Visual  
Abstract**

Chihara et al. DOI: 10.1182/blood.2023020197

**Table 2. Cox proportional hazards model for EFS and OS**

Characteristic	Categories	EFS						OS					
		Univariate			Multivariate			Univariate			Multivariate		
		HR	95% CI	P value	HR	95% CI	P value	HR	95% CI	P value	HR	95% CI	P value
Age groups	≥75 vs 65-69 y	1.37	1.07-1.74	.011	1.41	1.10-1.82	.007	1.25	0.96-1.62	.105	1.2	0.91-1.58	.188
	≥75 vs 70-74 y	1.54	1.19-1.98	.001	1.46	1.13-1.89	.004	1.29	0.98-1.70	.066	1.2	0.90-1.58	.207
Sex	Male vs female	0.99	0.81-1.22	.943	0.92	0.75-1.14	.449	1.06	0.85-1.33	.577	1	0.80-1.26	.973
Urban/suburban residence	Rural vs urban	1.14	0.88-1.47	.317		—	—	1.22	0.93-1.60	.158		—	—
Bridging therapy	Present vs absent	1.34	1.09-1.64	.005	1.27	1.03-1.56	.028	1.49	1.19-1.86	<.001	1.39	1.11-1.75	.005
Charlson Comorbidity Index	≥5 vs 0-4	1.57	1.28-1.94	<.0001	1.56	1.26-1.92	<.0001	1.63	1.30-2.05	<.0001	1.58	1.26-1.99	<.0001

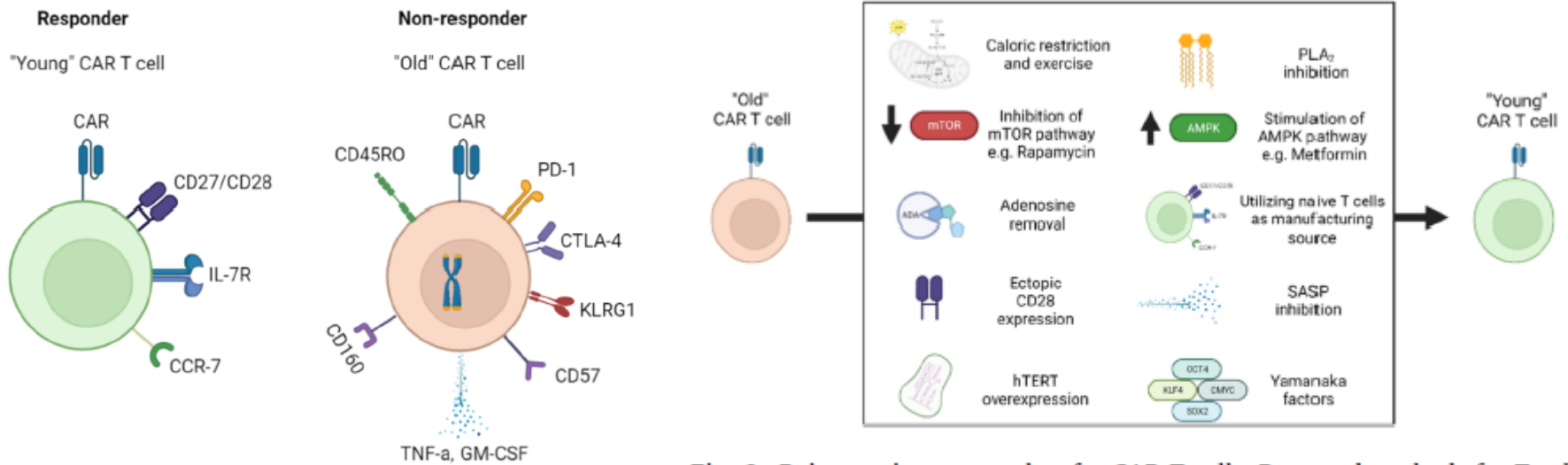


Fig. 2. Features of young and old CAR T cells that determine therapy outcome. CAR T cells of responding patients have higher expression of co-stimulatory receptors and markers associated with a central memory T cell phenotype. Non-responding CAR T cells display higher levels of exhaustion and terminally differentiated markers. Created with BioRender.com.

Fig. 3. Rejuvenation approaches for CAR T cells. Proposed methods for T cell rejuvenation include lifestyle changes (CR and exercise), pharmacological intervention (Rapamycin, Metformin, SASP and PLA<sub>2</sub> inhibition) and gene editing approaches (ADA, CD28, hTERT, OSKM). Created with BioRender.com.

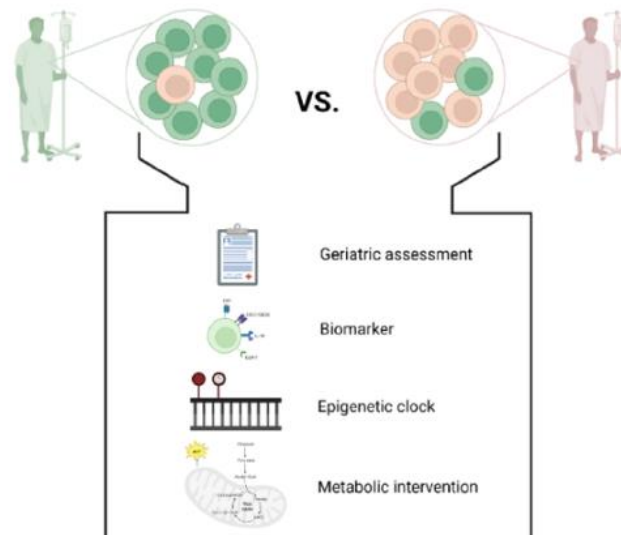


Fig. 4. Possible clinical approaches for differentiating and ameliorating aging phenotypes. These include improved geriatric assessment, biomarker analysis, age prediction with epigenetic clock and metabolic intervention for patients. Created with BioRender.com.

# CONCLUSIONS

- Elderly patients (i.e. >75 yrs) are at increasing risk of toxicity
- CGA can be an useful tool to select patients
- Limited data are available regarding the long term efficacy of CAR-T cells in elderly patients in a RWE
- More data on immunological aspect of these patients are warranted
- A better selection of patients will lead to a better use of this treatment in order to maximize the outcome and minimize the side effects and costs.