

2021

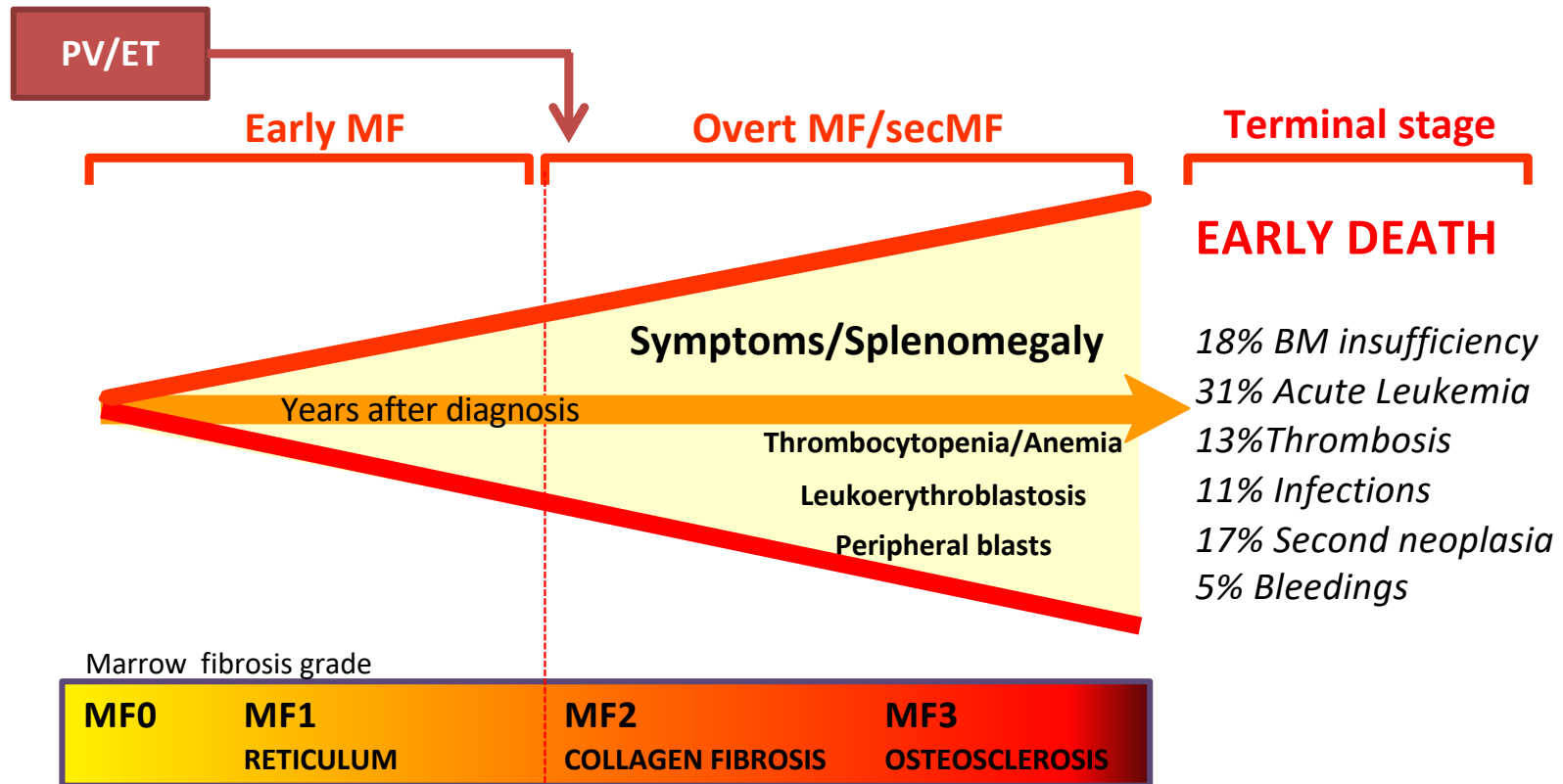


# Progetto Ematologia Romagna

## ***Mielofibrosi Primaria e Secondaria***

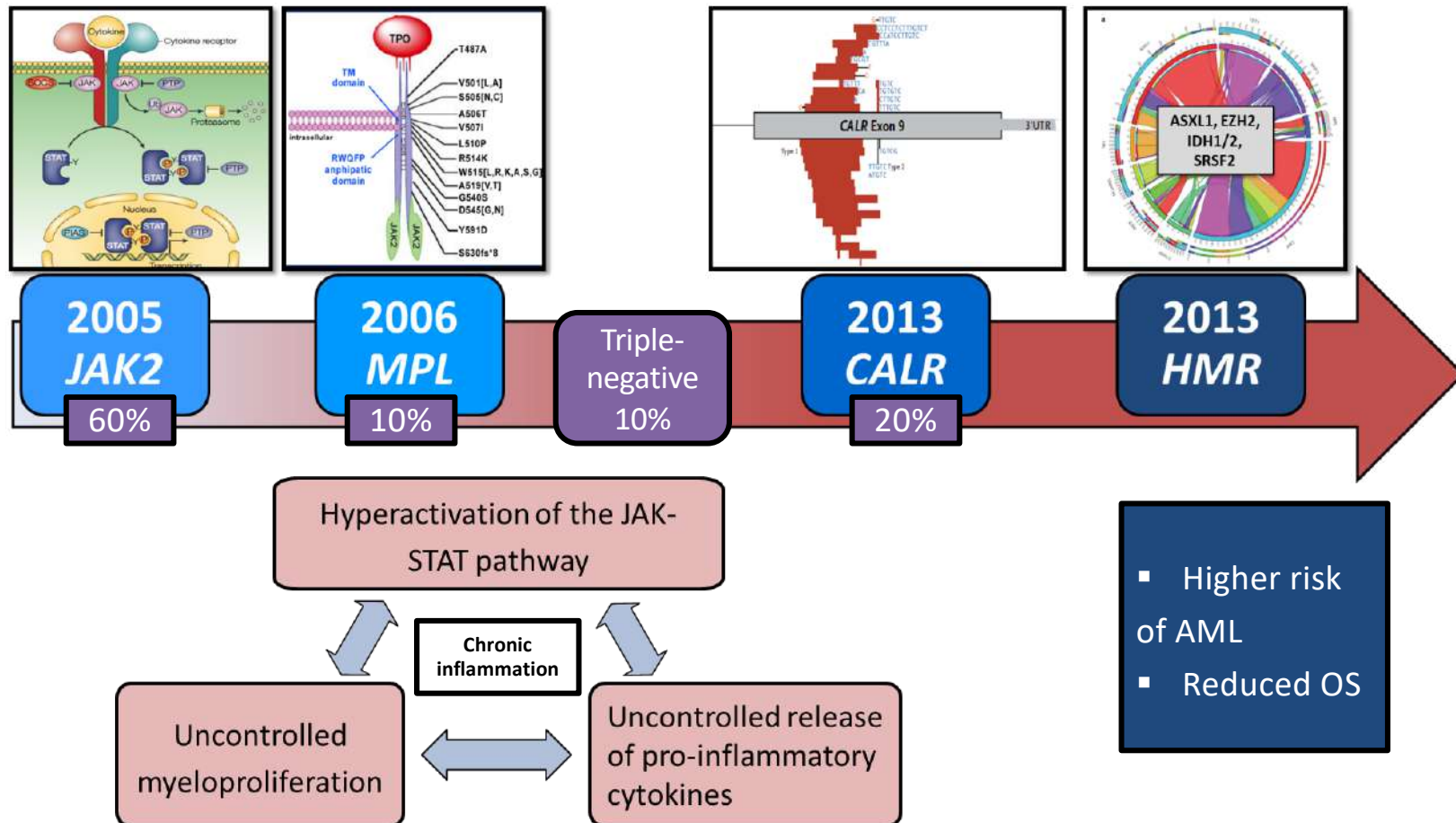
Francesca Palandri

# Myelofibrosis

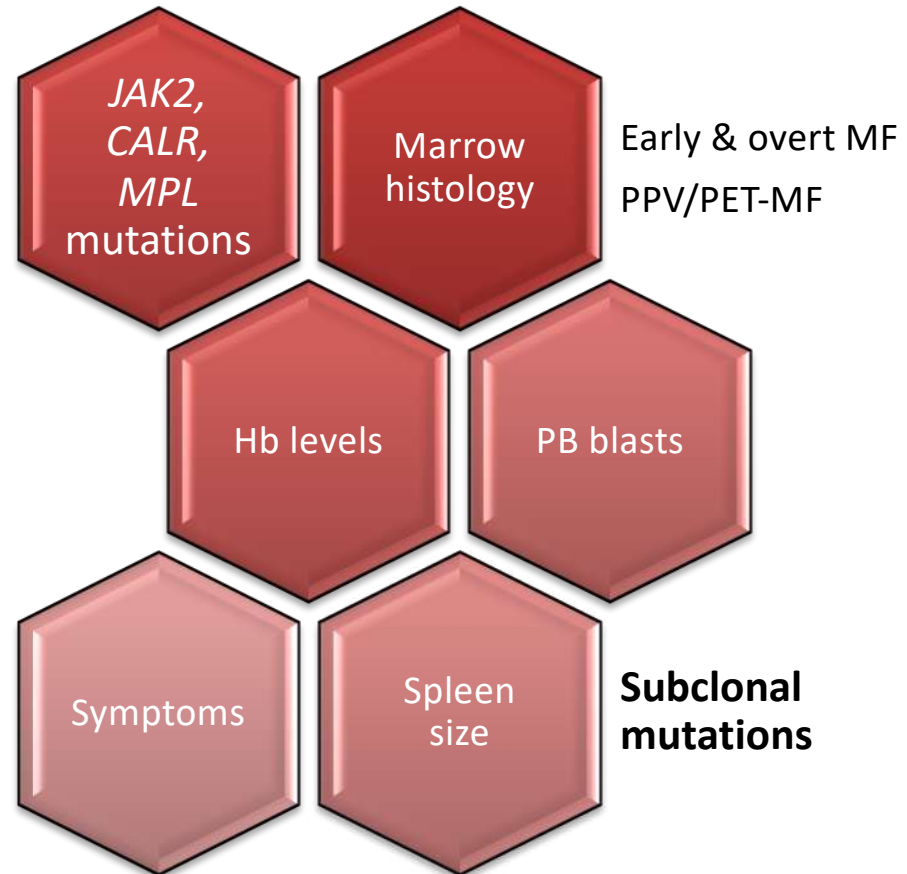
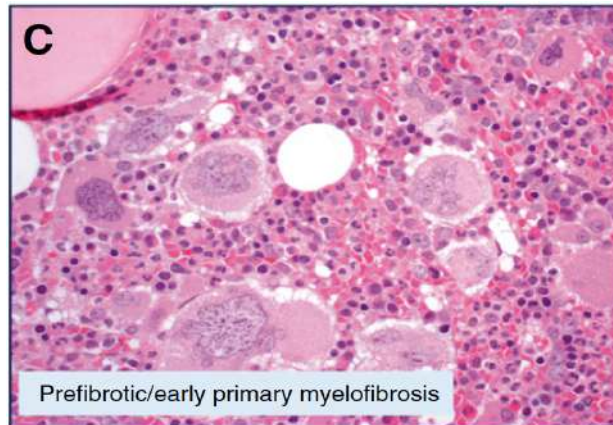
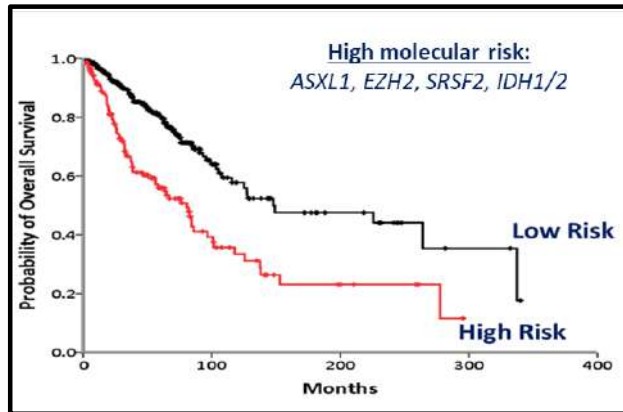


Barbui T, et al. J Clin Oncol. 2011 Feb 20;29(6):761-70. Caramazza D, et al. Leukemia. 2011 Jan;25(1):82-8. Tefferi A, et al. Leukemia. 2012 Jun;26(6):1439-41. Passamonti F, et al. Blood. 2010 Oct 14;116(15):2857-8. Cervantes F. Blood. 2009 Mar 26;113(13):2895-901. Arber et al. Blood. 2016; 127(20):2391-405. Thiele J, et al. Haematologica. 2005;90:1128-1132; Thiele J, Kvasnicka HM, et al. Ann Hematol. 2006;85(4):226-232, Vener C, et al. Blood. 2008, Palandri F et al. Leukemia 2015

# MF pathogenesis



# MF: Diagnostic Criteria



# WHO 2016: Early and Overt PMF

EARLY-MF diagnosis if: 1-3 plus one among 4-7	OVERT MF diagnosis if: 1-3 plus one among 4-8
<p>1. Megakaryocytic proliferation and atypia, without reticulin <b>fibrosis</b> <math>\leq</math> <b>grade 1</b>, accompanied by increased age-adjusted BM cellularity, granulocytic proliferation and often decreased erythropoiesis</p> <p>2. Not meeting WHO criteria for ET, PV, BCR-ABL1-positive CML, AML, MDS or other myeloid neoplasms</p> <p>3. Presence of <i>JAK2</i>, <i>CALR</i>, <i>MPL</i> mutations or in the absence, presence of <b>another clonal marker*</b> or absence of reactive BM reticulin fibrosis</p>	<p>1. Presence of megakaryocytic proliferation and atypia, accompanied by either reticulin and/or collagen <b>fibrosis grades 2 or 3</b></p> <p>2. Not meeting WHO criteria for ET, PV, BCR-ABL1-positive CML, MDS, or other myeloid neoplasms</p> <p>3. Presence of <i>JAK2</i>, <i>CALR</i>, <i>MPL</i> mutations or in the absence, presence of <b>another clonal marker*</b> or absence of reactive BM reticulin fibrosis</p>
<p>4. <i>Anemia not attributed to a comorbid condition</i></p> <p>5. <b><i>Leukocytosis</i> <math>\geq 11 \times 10^9/L</math></b></p> <p>6. <i>Palpable splenomegaly</i></p> <p>7. <i>Serum LDH increased to above ULN</i></p>	<p>4. <i>Anemia not attributed to a comorbid condition</i></p> <p>5. <b><i>Leukocytosis</i> <math>\geq 11 \times 10^9/L</math></b></p> <p>6. <i>Palpable splenomegaly</i></p> <p>7. <i>Serum LDH increased to above ULN</i></p> <p>8. <i>Leukoerythroblastosis</i></p>
<p>* in the absence of all 3 major clonal mutations, the search for the most frequent accompanying mutations (e.g. <i>ASXL1</i>, <i>EZH2</i>, <i>TET2</i>, <i>IDH1/IDH2</i>, <i>SRSF2</i>, <i>SF3B1</i>) is of help in determining the clonal nature of the disease</p>	

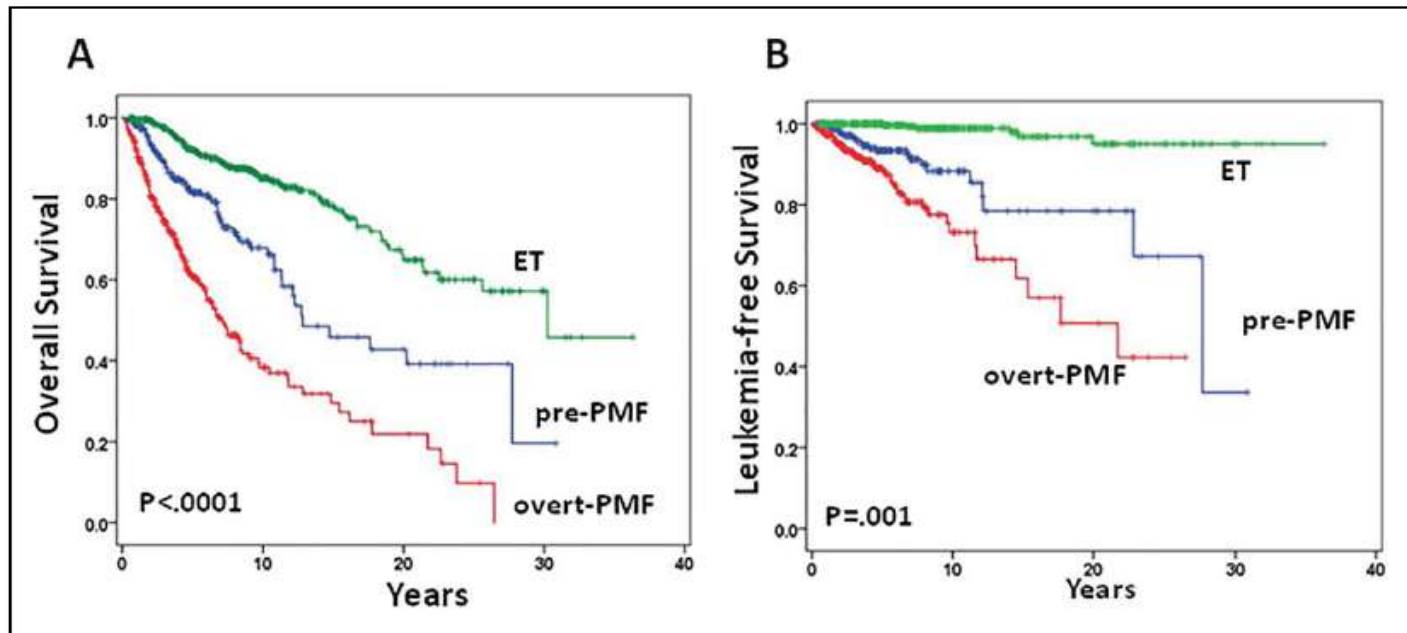
# Clinical presentation of pre-PMF

Variables	Pre-fibrotic PMF (n = 278)	Overt-PMF (n = 383)	P
Males, n (%)	156 (56.1)	249 (65.0)	.013
Age, y; median (range)	56.6 (18.0-90.3)	63.6 (14.0-89.8)	< .0001
Hemoglobin, g/L; median (range)	129 (107-175)	108 (47-150)	< .0001
Leucocytes, $\times 10^9/L$ ; median (range)	9.1 (1.5-150)	8.2 (1.4-109.0)	.009
Leucocytes $< 4.0 \times 10^9/L$ ; n (%)	10 (3.6)	57 (14.9)	< .0001
Platelets, $\times 10^9/L$ ; median (range)	488 (310-1500)	249 (19-3279)	< .0001
Circulating blasts $\geq 1\%$ ; n (%)	33 (11.9)	99 (25.8)	< .0001
Constitutional symptoms; n (%)	57 (20.5)	129 (33.7)	< .0001
Splenomegaly; n (%)	177 (63.7)	317 (82.8)	< .0001
> 10 cm from LCM; n (%)	29 (10.4)	92 (24.0)	< .0001
Patients with cytogenetics; n (%)	150 (54.0)	182 (48.0)	< .0001
Abnormal cytogenetics	27 (18.0)	69 (37.9)	.006
Unfavorable karyotype	6 (4.0)	22 (12.1)	

**Early-PMF includes patients with a less aggressive disease**

# Pre-PMF has a better outcome than Overt-PMF

- 661 PMF: 42% prePMF; 58% PMF
- Mortality: 23% (prePMF), 41% (PMF); Blast phase: 8% (prePMF), 13% (PMF)



Conventional scores (thrombosis & prognosis) may not be reliable in these patients!



# Secondary MF

<b>Required criteria (all required)</b>
Documentation of a previous diagnosis of PV or ET by WHO criteria
Bone marrow fibrosis grade 2–3 (on 0–3 scale) or grade 3–4 (on 0–4 scale)
<b>Additional criteria (two are required)</b>
Anemia or sustained loss of requirement of either phlebotomy (in the absence of cytoreductive therapy)
A leukoerythroblastic peripheral blood picture
Increasing splenomegaly*
Development of at least 1 of three constitutional symptoms**

\*increase in palpable splenomegaly >5 cm or appearance of a newly palpable splenomegaly

\*\*>10% weight loss in 6 months, night sweats, unexplained fever >37.5°C



# PMF is distinct from SMF: the MDACC study



1099 patients: 755 PMF, 344 SMF (181 PPV MF, 163 PET MF)



Diversity in clinical features

PMF: more RBC transfusion-dep, chr. 17 abnormalities

PPV MF: higher WBC count and symptomatology

PET MF: higher PLT count



Survival was longer in PET MF than in PMF or PPV MF

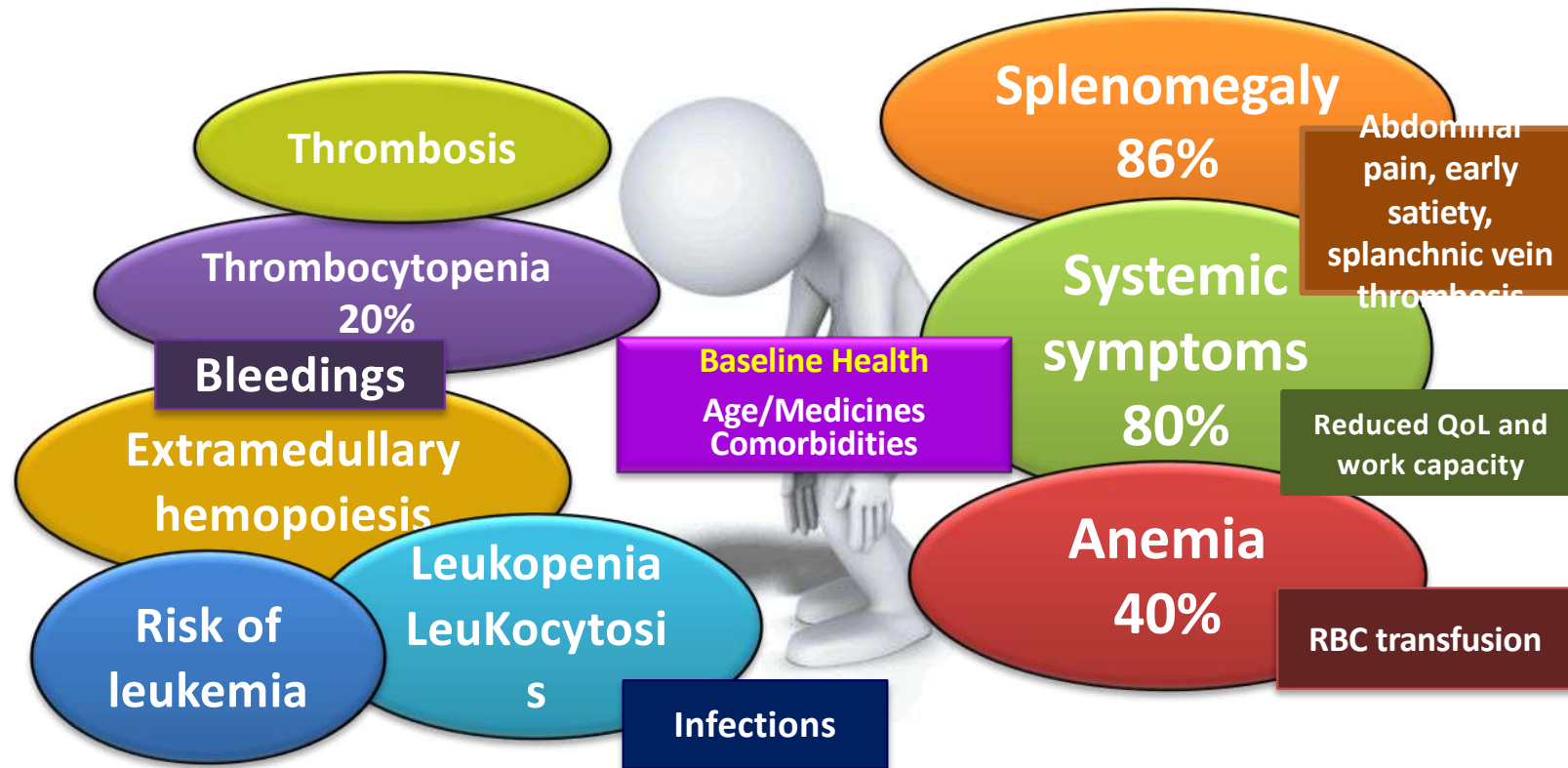


IPSS/DIPSS failed in predicting survival of SMF

PPV MF: int-2/high-risk undistinguishable survival

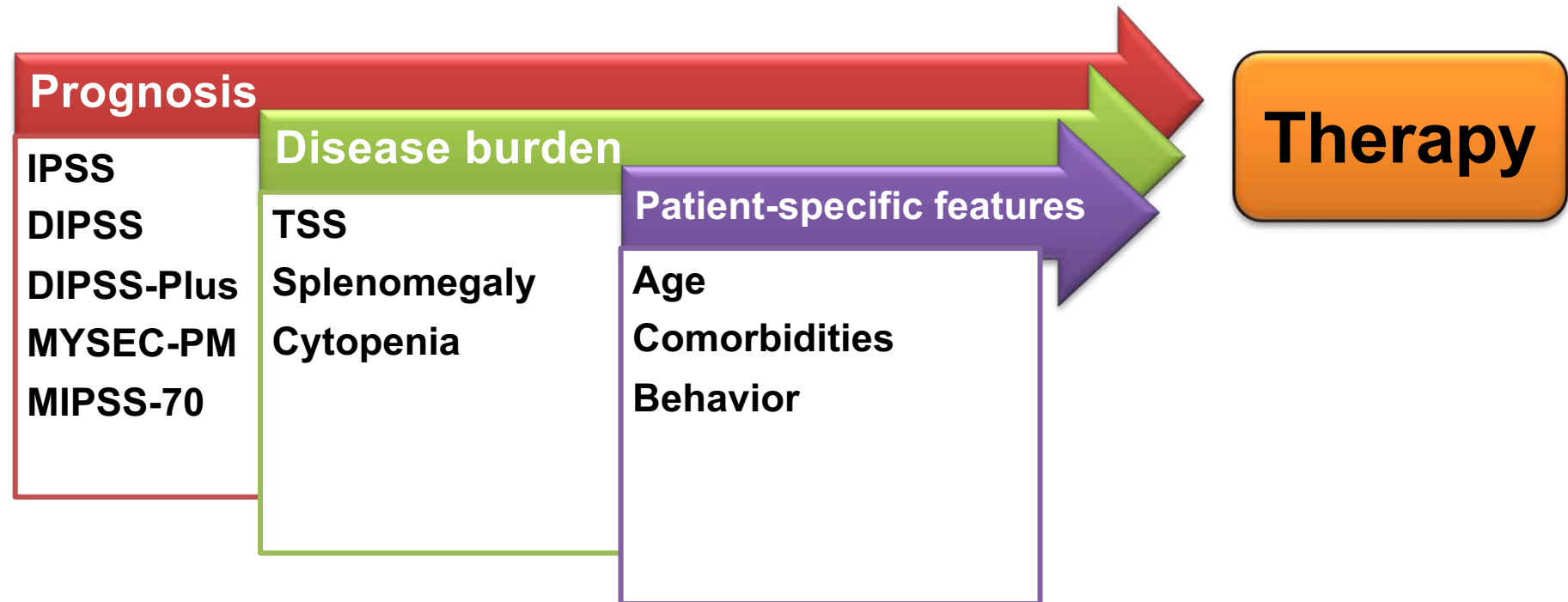
PET MF: low/int-1 risk as well as int-2/high risk undistinguishable survival

# MF is a personalized disease



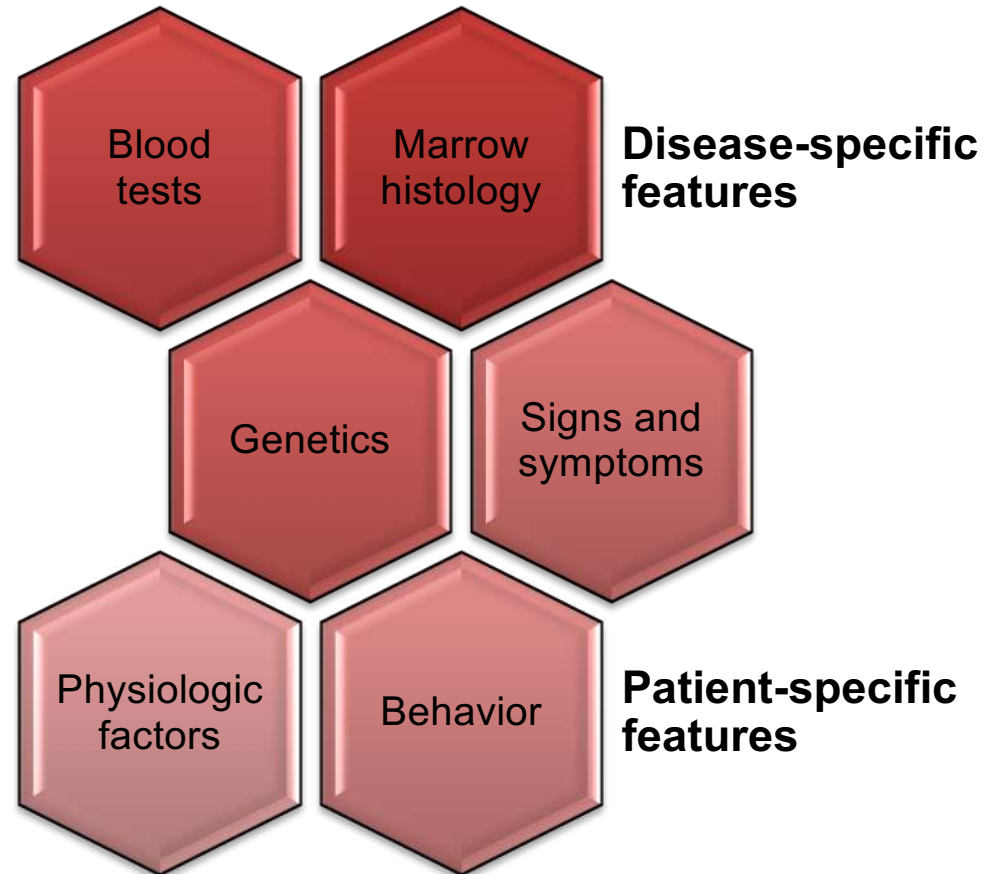
- A patient may present more than one clinical needs at the same time
- Prioritization of clinical needs may be necessary and may change over time
- Addressing one clinical need may worsen other clinical needs!

# MF: Strategy Matters



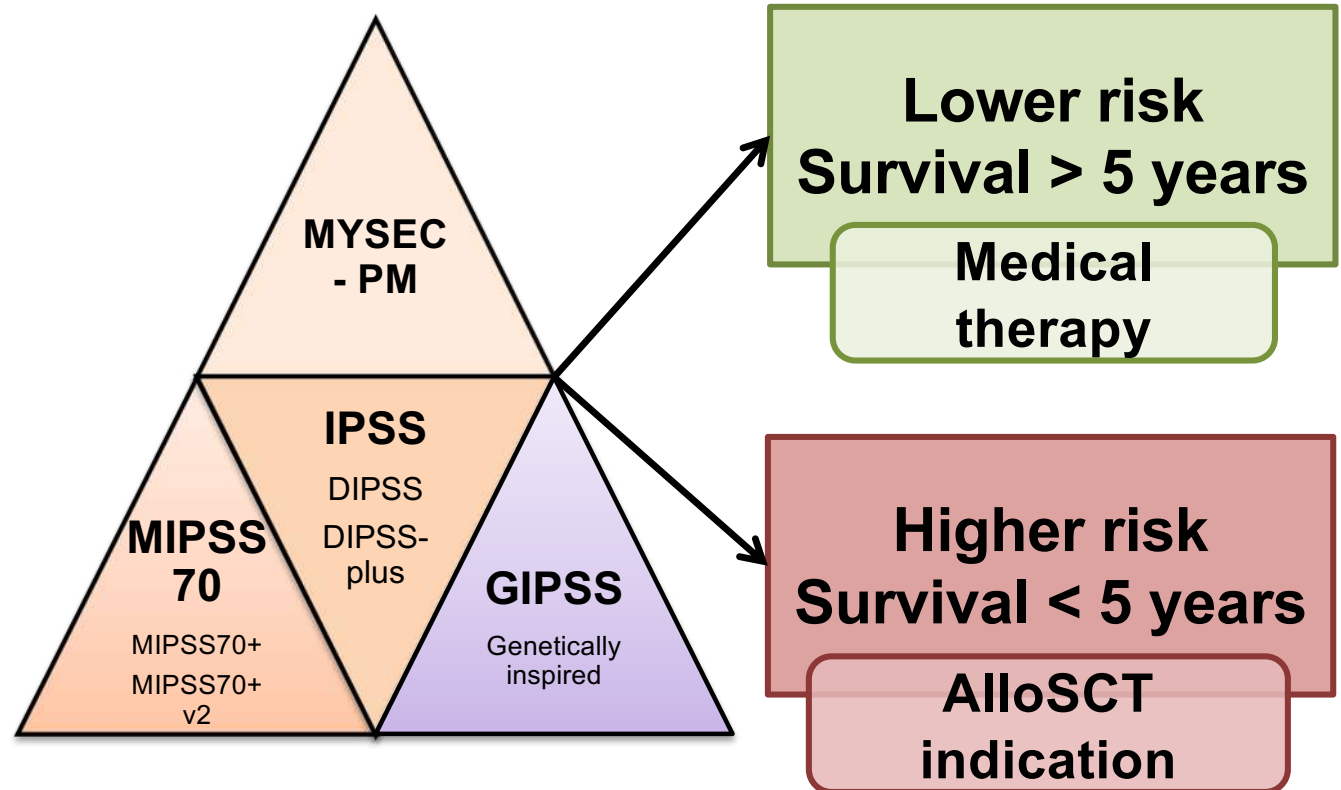
DIPSS, Dynamic International Prognostic Scoring System; IPSS, International Prognostic Scoring System; MIPSS-70, Mutation-Enhanced International Prognostic Scoring System 70+; MYSEC-PM, Myelofibrosis Secondary to PV and ET-Prognostic Model; TSS, Total Symptom Score.  
Tefferi A, et al. *Blood Cancer J.* 2018;8:72. Tefferi A, et al. *Am J Hematol.* 2021;96:145–62.

# First: Assessing Prognosis



# First: Prognostic Scores

- Age
- Constitutional symptoms
- Hemoglobin
- Leukocyte count
- Circulating blasts
- Platelet count
- RBC transfusion need
- Unfavorable karyotype
- HMR mutations
- Marrow fibrosis grade



alloSCT, allogeneic stem cell transplantation; GIPSS, Genetically Inspired Prognostic Scoring System; HMR, high molecular risk.  
 Tefferi A, et al. *Blood Cancer J.* 2018;8:72. Cervantes F, et al. *Blood.* 2009;113:2895–901. Passamonti F, et al. *Blood.* 2010;115:1703–8. Gangat N, et al. *J Clin Oncol.* 2010;29:392–7.  
 Passamonti F, et al. *Leukemia.* 2017;31:2726–31. Guglielmelli, *J Clin Oncol.* 2018;36:310–8. Tefferi A, et al. *J Clin Oncol.* 2018;36:1769–70. Tefferi A, et al. *Leukemia.* 2018;32:1189–99.

# Real-World Risk Assessment of Patients With MF at Community Oncology Practices in the USA

- 1/3 of patients did not receive a risk categorization at diagnosis
- In 50% of cases, risk categorization was based on clinical judgment without use of a formal risk stratification system
- In 30% of cases, risk categorization was based on DIPSS or DIPSS-Plus instead of IPSS
- Risk categorizations were inaccurate in approximately 43% of patients, of which 85% were underestimated

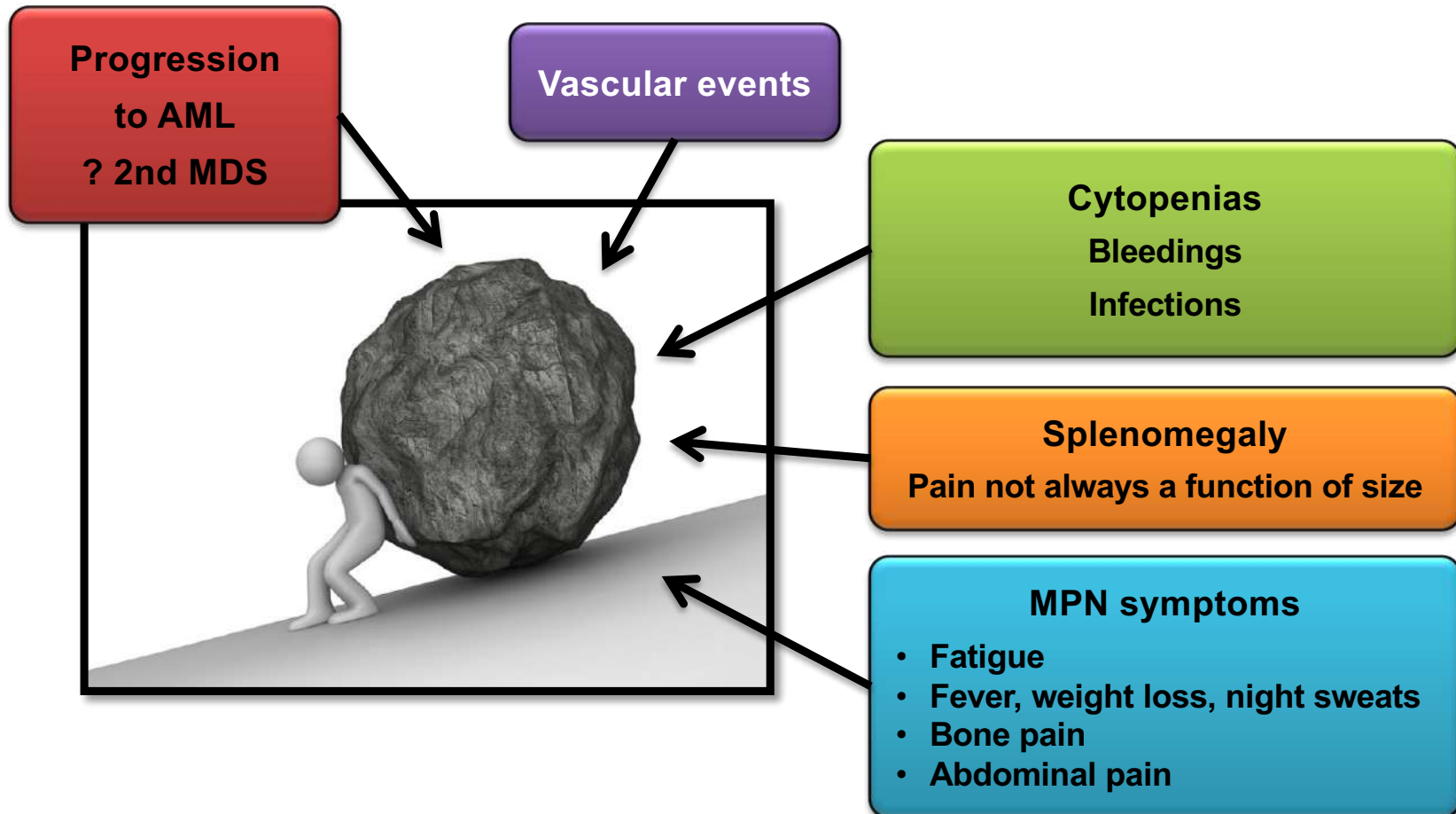
		Total	Data-Derived Risk Categorizations (IPSS only)*		
			Low	Intermediate	High
Risk categorization assigned by physicians	n (row %)	343	20 (5.8)	135 (39.3)	188 (54.8)
	Low	42	10 (23.8)	26 (61.9)	6 (14.3)
	Intermediate	200	10 (5.0)	97 (48.5)	93 (46.5)
	High	101	0	12 (11.9)	89 (88.1)
Incorrect risk categorization by physician, n (column %)		147 (42.9)	10 (50.0)	38 (28.1)	99 (52.7)
Underestimated, n (%) <sup>†</sup>		125 (85.0)	-	26 (68.4)	99 (100.0)
Overestimated, n (%) <sup>†</sup>		22 (15.0)	10 (100.0)	12 (31.6)	-
Risk not assigned by physician, n (row %)		148 <sup>‡</sup>	12 (8.2)	72 (49.3)	62 (42.5)

CI, confidence interval; IPSS, International Prognostic Scoring System.

\*Cohen's kappa (95% CI) = 0.2881 (0.2097–0.3664);  $P < .001$ . <sup>†</sup>Of incorrect total in each column. <sup>‡</sup>In 2 patients, an IPSS risk categorization could not be determined because of missing data pertaining to peripheral blast percentage.

Failure to assess prognosis is common and has a very bad impact on treatment strategy and outcome

# Second: Assessing the Burden of MF



AML, acute myeloid leukemia; MDS, myelodysplastic syndromes.

Emanuel RM, et al. *Clin Oncol.* 2012;30:4098–103. Mesa R, et al. *Leuk Res.* 2013;8:911–6. Mesa R, et al. *BMC Cancer.* 2016;16:167.



# MPN10-TSS

## An Easy Tool to Assess Symptoms in MPNs

- Inflammation
- Splenomegaly
- Anemia

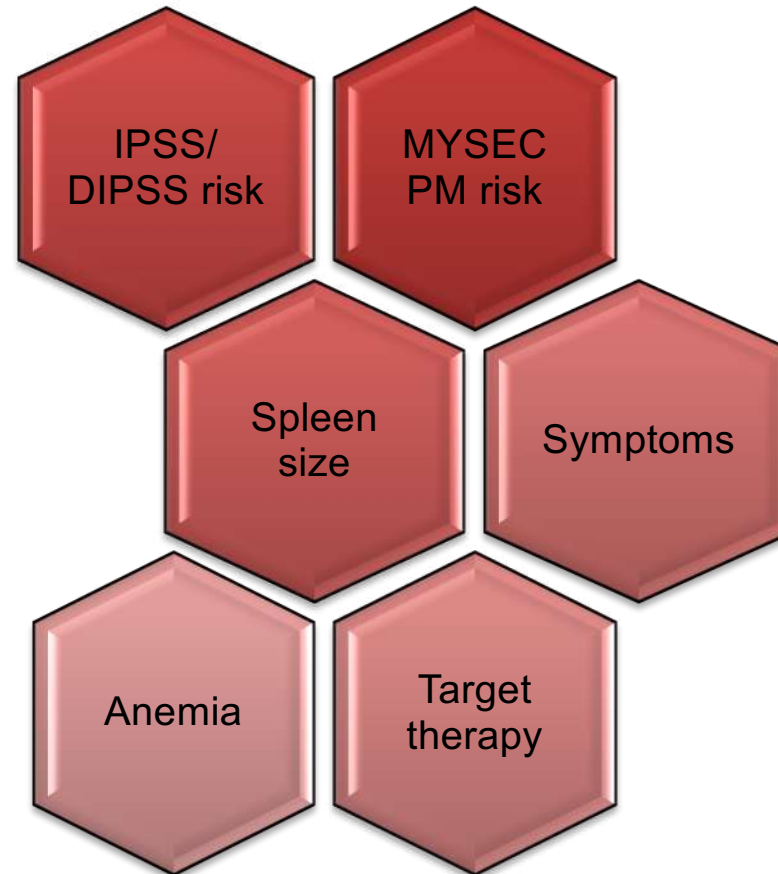
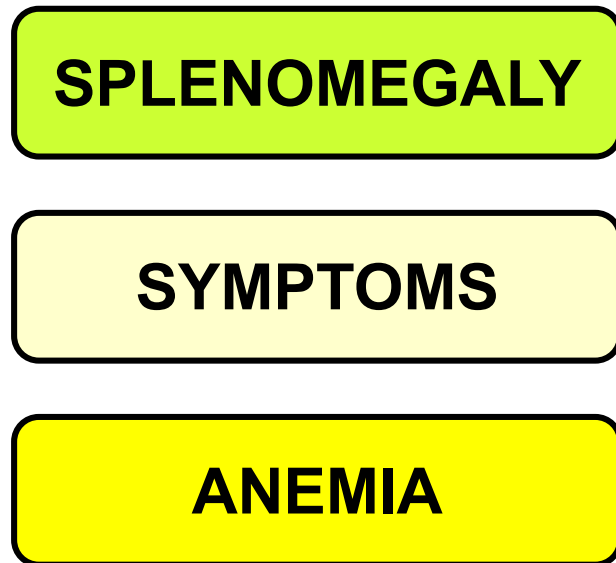
- In your practice, use the MPN10-TSS, a simple tool that in 10 quick questions describes symptoms related to inflammation, splenomegaly, and anemia
- MPN10 is important to evaluate:
  1. The burden of the disease at diagnosis
  2. The prognosis
  3. The response to therapies

	Value
<span style="display: inline-block; width: 10px; height: 10px; background-color: orange; border-radius: 50%; margin-right: 5px;"></span> <span style="display: inline-block; width: 10px; height: 10px; background-color: blue; border-radius: 50%; margin-right: 5px;"></span> <span style="display: inline-block; width: 10px; height: 10px; background-color: red; border-radius: 50%; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Fatigue	<input type="text" value="0"/>
<span style="display: inline-block; width: 10px; height: 10px; background-color: blue; border-radius: 50%; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Early satiety	<input type="text" value="0"/>
<span style="display: inline-block; width: 10px; height: 10px; background-color: blue; border-radius: 50%; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Abdominal discomfort	<input type="text" value="0"/>
<span style="display: inline-block; width: 10px; height: 10px; background-color: blue; border-radius: 50%; margin-right: 5px;"></span> <span style="display: inline-block; width: 10px; height: 10px; background-color: red; border-radius: 50%; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Inactivity	<input type="text" value="0"/>
<span style="display: inline-block; width: 10px; height: 10px; background-color: orange; border-radius: 50%; margin-right: 5px;"></span> <span style="display: inline-block; width: 10px; height: 10px; background-color: red; border-radius: 50%; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Problems with concentration	<input type="text" value="0"/>
<span style="display: inline-block; width: 10px; height: 10px; background-color: orange; border-radius: 50%; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Night sweats	<input type="text" value="0"/>
<span style="display: inline-block; width: 10px; height: 10px; background-color: orange; border-radius: 50%; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Itching	<input type="text" value="0"/>
<span style="display: inline-block; width: 10px; height: 10px; background-color: orange; border-radius: 50%; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Bone Pain	<input type="text" value="0"/>
<span style="display: inline-block; width: 10px; height: 10px; background-color: orange; border-radius: 50%; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Fever	<input type="text" value="0"/>
<span style="display: inline-block; width: 10px; height: 10px; background-color: orange; border-radius: 50%; margin-right: 5px;"></span> <span style="display: inline-block; width: 10px; height: 10px; background-color: blue; border-radius: 50%; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Unintentional weight loss last 6 months	<input type="text" value="0"/>
<b>MPN10 score</b>	<input type="text" value="0"/>

Prognostic variable
1 to 10 ranking (0 if absent; 1 most favorable; 10 least favorable)
(Absent) 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (Worst Imaginable)
(Absent) 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (Worst Imaginable)
(Absent) 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (Worst Imaginable)
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(Absent) 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (Worst Imaginable)
(Absent) 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (Worst Imaginable)

Scherber R, et al. *Blood*. 2011;118:401–8. Emanuel RM, et al. *J Clin Oncol*. 2012;30:4098–103.

# Third: The Choice of Medical Therapy



# Splenomegaly

- Splenomegaly is one of the presenting features of PMF and PET/PPV-MF
  - It plays a causative role in abdominal pain, early satiety, splanchnic vein thrombosis, and cytopenias
- Splenomegaly is progressive during the course of the disease
  - It is larger and more frequently detected in overt MF compared to early MF
  - Around 20% of patients without baseline splenomegaly show spleen enlargement 1 year after diagnosis

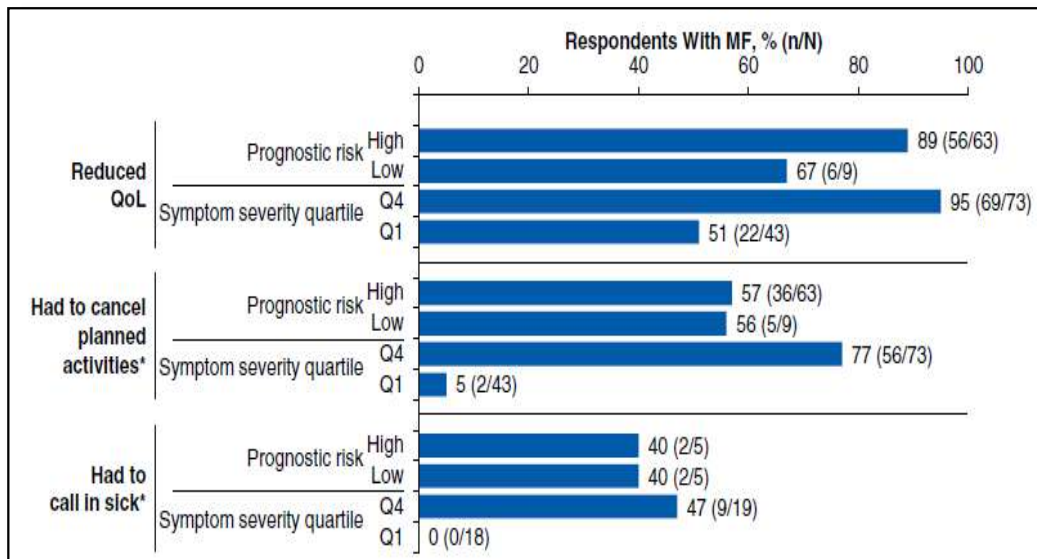
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Platelets, × 10 <sup>9</sup> /L; median (range)	488 (310–1500)	249 (19–3279)	< .0001
Constitutional symptoms; n (%)	57 (20.5)	129 (33.7)	< .0001
<b>Splenomegaly; n (%)</b>	177 (63.7)	317 (82.8)	< .0001
>10 cm from LCM; n (%)	29 (10.4)	92 (24.0)	< .0001

- **Hydroxyurea** was the most frequently used cytoreductive treatment in case of symptomatic splenomegaly, with dismal results
  - In a retrospective study of 40 patients, HU induced spleen response in 40% of cases; median response duration, 13.2 months (range, 3–126.2 months)

HU, hydroxyurea; LCM, left costal margin; MF, myelofibrosis; PET, post-essential thrombocythemia; PMF, primary myelofibrosis; PPV, post-polycythemia vera.  
 Passamonti F, et al. *Blood*. 2010;115:1703–8. Barbui T, et al. *Blood*. 2010;115:778–82. Guglielmelli P, et al. *Blood*. 2017;129:3227–36. Tefferi A, et al. *Mayo Clin Proc*. 2012;87:25–33.  
 Martinez-Trillos A, et al. *Ann Hematol*. 2010;89:1233–7.

# Symptoms

- Symptoms are frequently present in PMF and PET/PPV-MF, regardless of risk category
  - Constitutional symptoms are prognostic factors for survival
- Low response to corticosteroids



- DIPSS low-risk MF patients are moderately to highly symptomatic in 44% of the cases
- The reduction of QoL and social/working activity is similar in low and high-risk categories
- A cutoff criteria of the worst single symptom being > 5/10 using the MPN10 has been suggested for identifying patients who will most benefit from symptom-based treatment

# 2010: THE ADVENT OF RUXOLITINIB

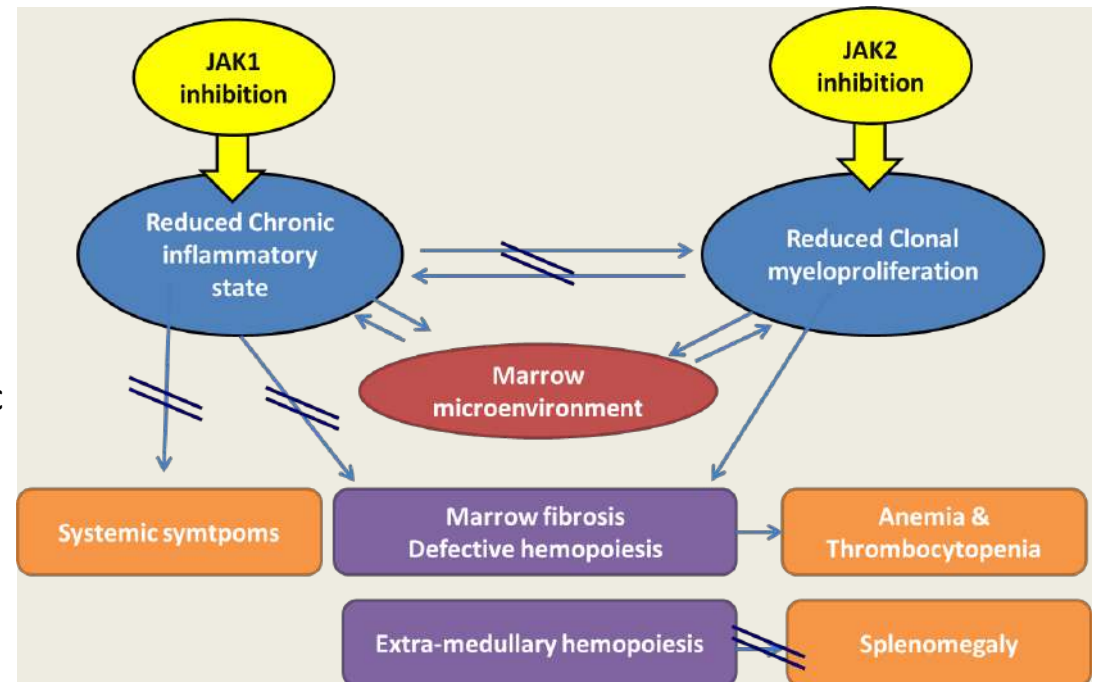
First JAK1/2 inhibitor approved for treatment of splenomegaly and symptoms related to MF  
Orally available, twice-daily, no food requirements

Potential mechanism of action:

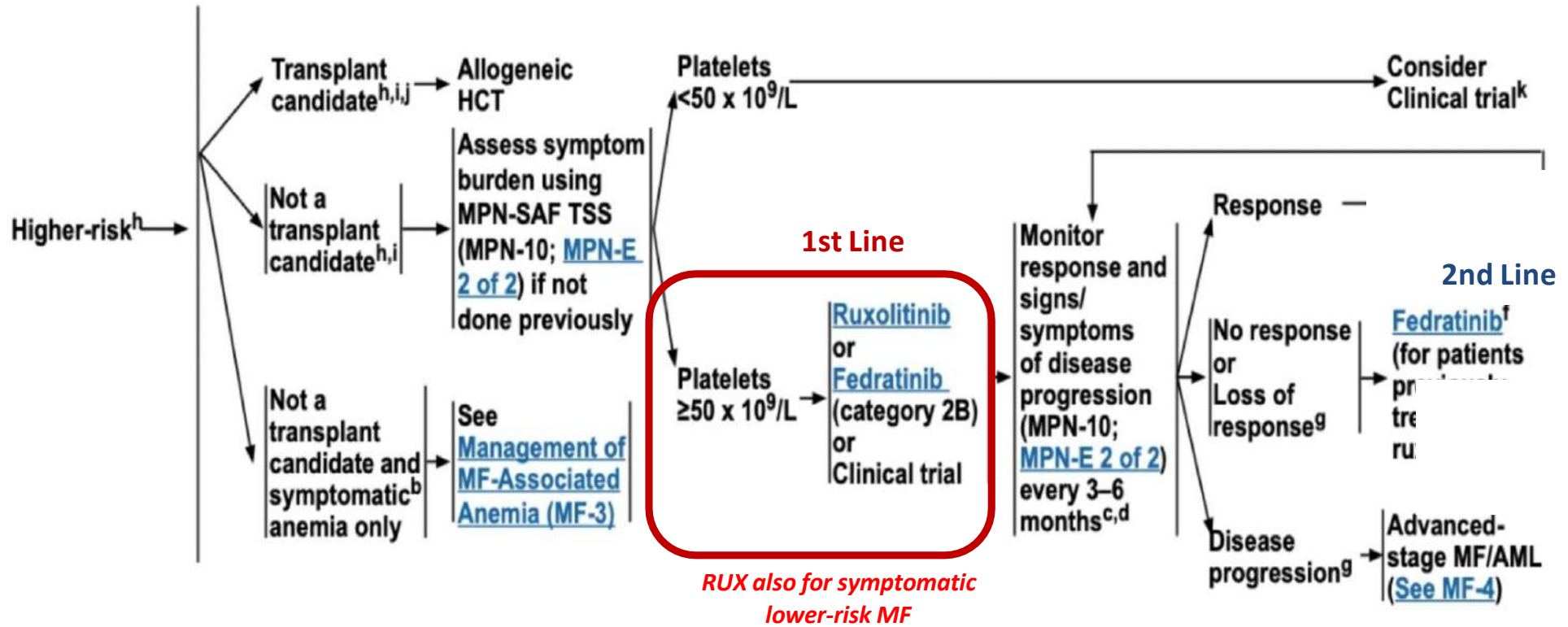
1. Suppresses the growth of malignant cells (*JAK2* inhibition)
2. Down-regulate the cytokines (*JAK1* inhibition) that contribute to hyperinflammation and hypermetabolic state

Not selective for *JAK2V617F* mutation

1. Benefit for patients with and without mutation
2. On-target side effects related to
  - *JAK2* inhibition (decreased erythropoiesis and thrombocytopoiesis)
  - *JAK1* inhibition (decreased immune surveillance)

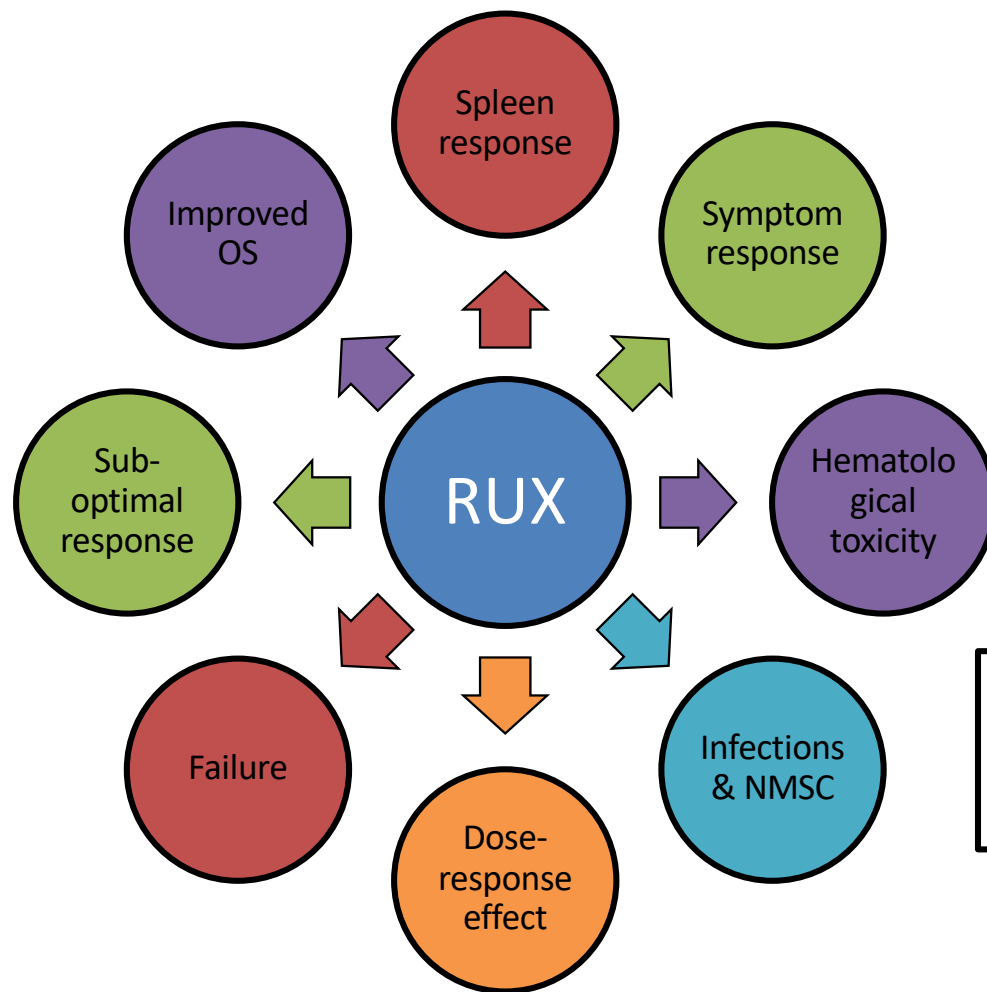


# RUX is the 1st-line agent for MF with splenomegaly & symptoms



**Higher risk MF:** int-2 and high risk DIPSS/MYSEC-PM/DIPSS plus high risk MIPSS70

# Cosa abbiamo imparato da ruxolitinib?



**Prof. Giuseppe A. Palumbo**  
**Università degli Studi di Catania**



# Status of Clinical Trials in MF

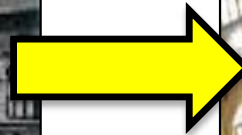


Piazza Maggiore, Bologna, Italy, 1950

# Status of Clinical Trials in MF



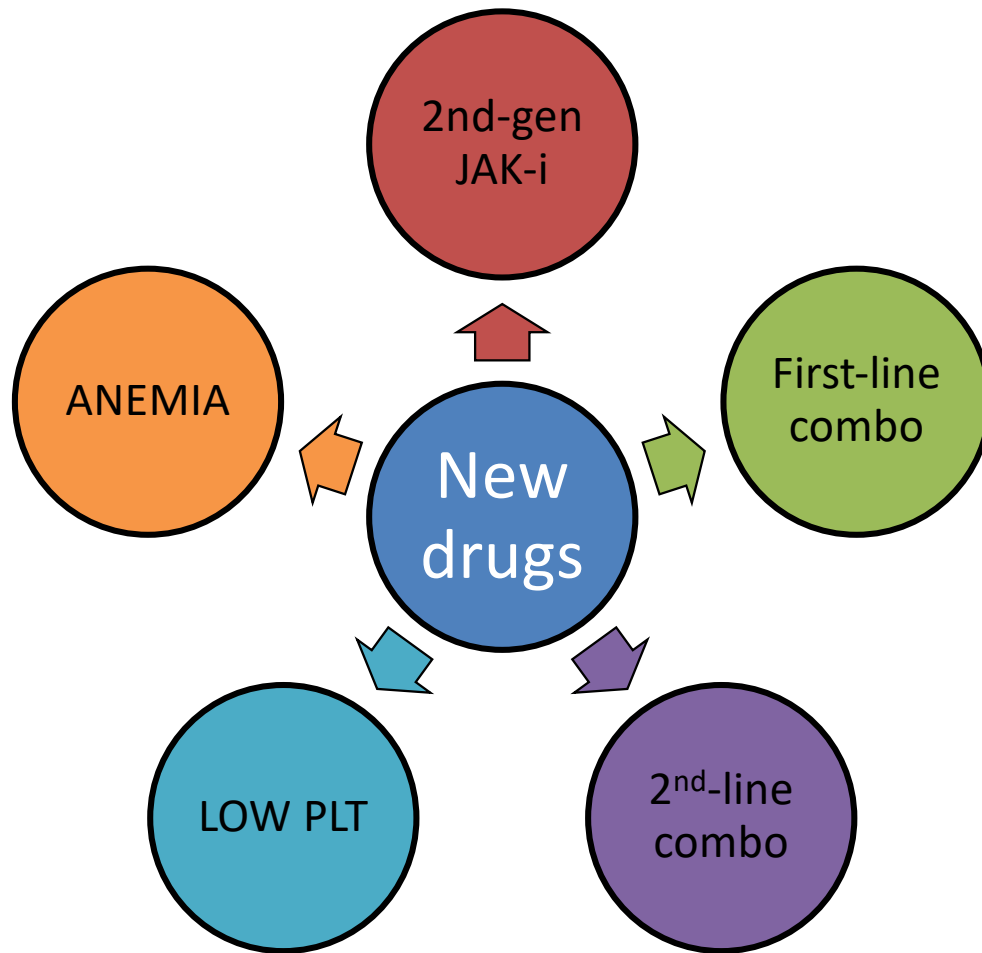
Piazza Maggiore, Bologna, Italy, 1950



Piazza Maggiore, Bologna, Italy, 2020

**MF patients should be encouraged to participate in clinical trials**

# Quali sono i nuovi farmaci?



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**Università degli Studi**  
**“La Sapienza”, Roma**





2021



*Grazie!*

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PROGETTO EMATOLOGIA ROMAGNA

Ravenna, 16 ottobre 2021