



Management of the elderly unfit CLL patient treated with Venetoclax Obinutuzumab

Alberto Fresa, MD
Fondazione Policlinico Universitario Agostino Gemelli IRCCS

REVOLUTIONARY ROAD IN CLL

Innovazione rivoluzionaria nella terapia della leucemia linfatica cronica

Roma, 11 aprile 2024
UNAHOTELS Decò

Disclosures

Company name	Research support	Employee	Consultant	Stockholder	Speakers bureau	Advisory board	Other
Abbvie					x		x
AstraZeneca					x		x
Beigene							x
Johnson & Johnson					x		x

Clinical presentation

Female, **79 years**, CLL stage A/I at diagnosis in 2010 → wait and watch

Comorbidities: thalassaemia trait, AF undergoing treatment, hypertension under control with 2 antiipertensive drugs, osteoporosis with vertebral fractures, total thyroidectomy for thyroid nodules, appendectomy, tonsillectomy, benign gastric polyp removal, allergy to NSAIDs, penicillins and cephalosporins
→ **CIRS 9**

February 2022

CBC: WBC 40.360/mmc, ANC 5.000/mmc, ALC 34.100/mmc, Hb 10,1 g/dl, MCV 69, fl, Plts 144.000/mmc
Abdominal ultrasound: Splenomegaly 15 cm. Hepatic steatosis. Renal cyst 10 x 6.7 cm.

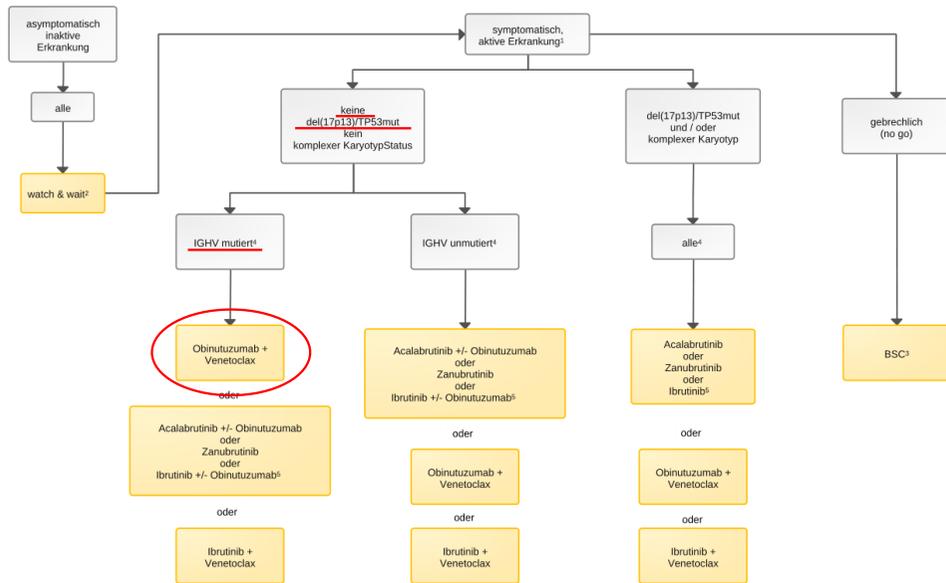
August 2022

CBC: WBC 55.630/mmc, ANC 5.500/mmc, ALC 49.300/mmc, Hb 9,9 g/dl, MCV 69,6 fl, Plts 96.000/mmc
Abdominal ultrasound: Splenomegaly 20 cm. Hepatic steatosis. Renal cyst 10 x 6.7 cm.

IGHV mutated 3-07, TP53 wild type, BIRC3 mutated, FISH positive for del13q, negative for del17p, del11q, tris12

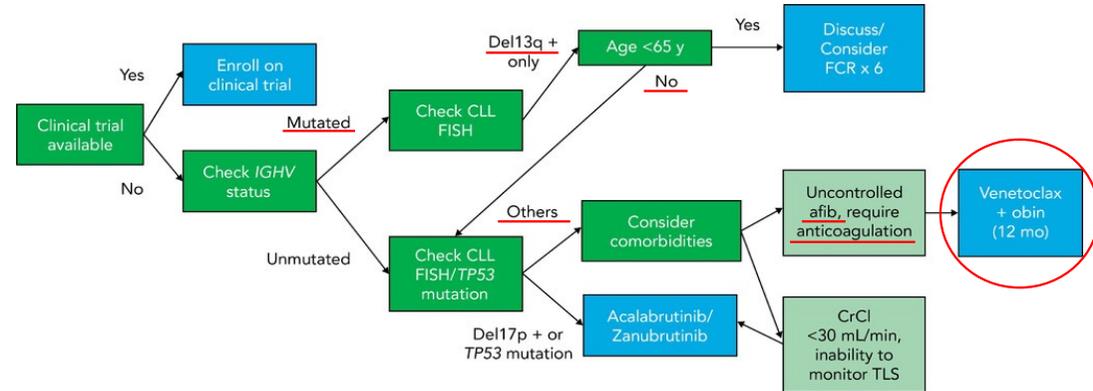
Treatment choice

ONKOPEdia 2023



Onkopedia guidelines update: Clemens-Martin Wendtner, Othman Al-Sawaf, Mascha Binder, et al. Chronische Lymphatische Leukämie (CLL).

NCCN 2023



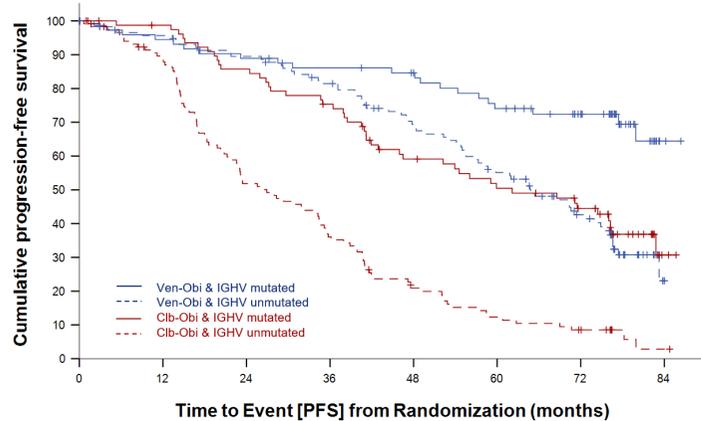
NCCN Guidelines Update: Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia/Small Lymphocytic Lymphoma. J Natl Compr Canc Netw. 2023;21(5.5):563-566

Treatment choice

CLL14 6-year update

PROGRESSION-FREE SURVIVAL – IGHV status

Median observation time 76.4 months



Median PFS
 Ven-Obi & IGHVmut: NR
 Ven-Obi & IGHVunmut: 64.8 m
 HR 0.38, 95%CI [0.23-0.61], p<0.001

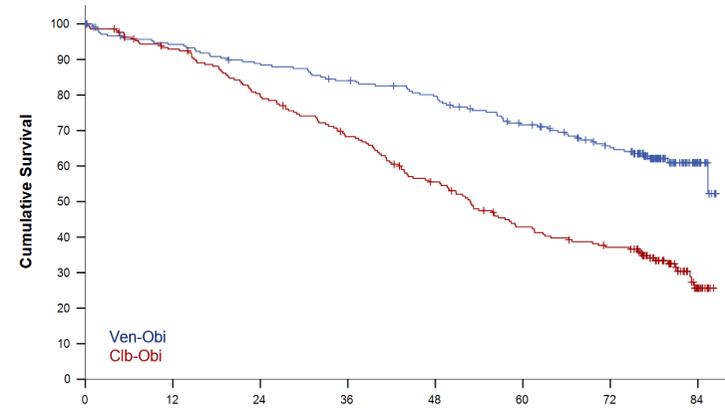
Clb-Obi & IGHVmut: 62.2 m
 Clb-Obi & IGHVunmut: 26.9 m
 HR 0.33, 95% CI [0.23-0.47], p<0.001

Time to Event [PFS] from Randomization (months)

Ven-Obi & IGHV mutated	76	68	64	60	57	49	39	2
Ven-Obi & IGHV unmutated	121	110	101	90	73	57	37	1
Clb-Obi & IGHV mutated	83	76	66	57	42	35	28	2
Clb-Obi & IGHV unmutated	123	101	59	41	22	13	8	1

TIME TO NEXT TREATMENT

Defined as time to death or next-antileukemic treatment



Median TTNT
 Ven-Obi: not reached
 Clb-Obi: 52.9 m

6-year TTNT rate
 Ven-Obi: 65.2%
 Clb-Obi: 37.1%

Next anti-leukemic therapy:
 Ven-Obi: 67 PDs – 39 NLT
 Clb-Obi: 141 PDs – 103 NLT

HR 0.44, 95% CI [0.33-0.58]
 P<0.0001

Time to Event [TTNT] from Randomization (months)

Ven-Obi	216	195	183	172	161	140	118	20
Clb-Obi	216	194	166	140	111	83	70	10

Al-Sawaf O, et al. EHA 2023. Abstract S145 (Oral).

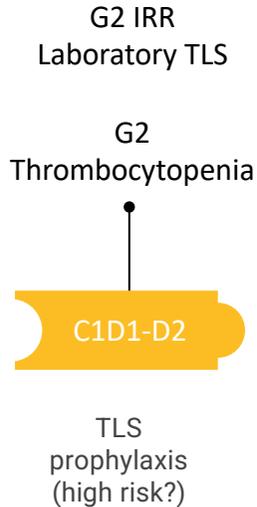
REVOLUTIONARY ROAD IN CLL

Innovazione rivoluzionaria nella terapia della leucemia linfatica cronica



Roma, 11 aprile 2024 UNAHOTELS Decò

Treatment journey



❖ Infusion related reaction (IRR) on C1D1 and C1D2

Fever, chills and hypotension resolved with steroids and IV fluids

❖ Laboratory tumor lysis syndrome (TLS risk: intermediate)

ALC before treatment 49500/mmc, no lymphadenopathies >5 cm, BUT splenomegaly 20cm
Hyperuricemia and hypocalcemia treated with rasburicase and calcium supplementation

❖ G2 Thrombocytopenia

Drop in platelet count 54000/mmc, BUT only transient and self-resolved by C1D8
Absence of non-overt disseminated intravascular coagulation
No need to withhold anticoagulant therapy



Safety concerns

Table S6. Overview of adverse events with an incidence rate of ≥10% of patients in either treatment group (safety population).

Adverse events	Venetoclax–obinutuzumab (N=212)	Chlorambucil–obinutuzumab (N=214)
At least one adverse event – no. of patients (%)	200 (94.3)	213 (99.5)
Adverse events with an incidence rate of ≥10% in any treatment group – no. of patients (%)		
Blood and lymphatic system disorders	145 (68.4)	137 (64.0)
Neutropenia*	122 (57.5)	122 (57.0)
Thrombocytopenia	51 (24.1)	50 (23.4)
Anemia	35 (16.5)	40 (18.7)
Injury, poisoning, and procedural complications	95 (44.8)	110 (51.4)
Infusion-related reaction	95 (44.8)	110 (51.4)
Gastrointestinal disorders	89 (42.0)	74 (34.6)
Diarrhea	59 (27.8)	32 (15.0)
Nausea	40 (18.9)	46 (21.5)
Constipation	28 (13.2)	19 (8.9)
General disorders and administration site conditions	68 (32.1)	60 (28.0)
Pyrexia	48 (22.6)	33 (15.4)
Fatigue	32 (15.1)	30 (14.0)
Respiratory, thoracic, and mediastinal disorders	34 (16.0)	25 (11.7)
Cough	34 (16.0)	25 (11.7)
Nervous system disorders	24 (11.3)	21 (9.8)
Headache	24 (11.3)	21 (9.8)

Adverse events are reported by *Medical Dictionary for Regulatory Activities* (MedDRA) superclass and preferred terms and NCI CTCAE grade.

* GCSF could be administered at the discretion of the treating physician according to local practice

Table 2. Grade 3 or 4 Adverse Events (Safety Population).*

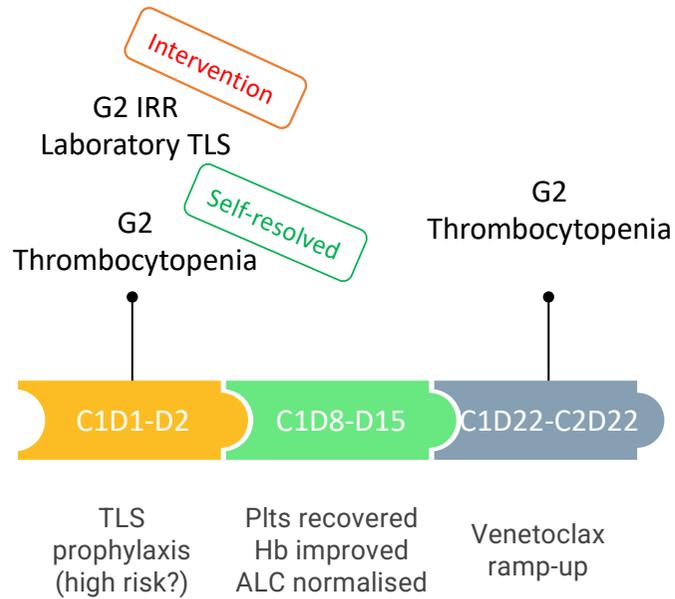
Adverse Event	Venetoclax–Obinutuzumab (N=212)†			Chlorambucil–Obinutuzumab (N=214)		
	Maximum Grade 3	Maximum Grade 4	Maximum Grade 3 or 4	Maximum Grade 3	Maximum Grade 4	Maximum Grade 3 or 4
	<i>number of patients (percent)</i>					
Adverse event of grade 3 or 4	81 (38.2)	86 (40.6)	167 (78.8)	93 (43.5)	71 (33.2)	164 (76.6)
Adverse events of grade 3 or 4 that occurred in ≥3% of the patients in either treatment group‡:						
Blood and lymphatic system disorders	59 (27.8)	69 (32.5)	128 (60.4)	61 (28.5)	57 (26.6)	118 (55.1)
Neutropenia	52 (24.5)	60 (28.3)	112 (52.8)	56 (26.2)	47 (22.0)	103 (48.1)
Thrombocytopenia	20 (9.4)	9 (4.2)	29 (13.7)	19 (8.9)	13 (6.1)	32 (15.0)
Anemia	16 (7.5)	1 (0.5)	17 (8.0)	13 (6.1)	1 (0.5)	14 (6.5)
Febrile neutropenia	7 (3.3)	4 (1.9)	11 (5.2)	4 (1.9)	4 (1.9)	8 (3.7)
Leukopenia	5 (2.4)	0	5 (2.4)	9 (4.2)	1 (0.5)	10 (4.7)
Infections and infestations	31 (14.6)	6 (2.8)	37 (17.5)	31 (14.5)	1 (0.5)	32 (15.0)
Pneumonia	8 (3.8)	1 (0.5)	9 (4.2)	8 (3.7)	0	8 (3.7)
Injury, poisoning, and procedural complications	21 (9.9)	5 (2.4)	26 (12.3)	29 (13.6)	1 (0.5)	30 (14.0)
Infusion-related reaction	16 (7.5)	3 (1.4)	19 (9.0)	21 (9.8)	1 (0.5)	22 (10.3)
Investigations	26 (12.3)	6 (2.8)	32 (15.1)	16 (7.5)	7 (3.3)	23 (10.7)
Neutrophil count decreased	7 (3.3)	2 (0.9)	9 (4.2)	4 (1.9)	6 (2.8)	10 (4.7)
Aspartate aminotransferase increased	5 (2.4)	0	5 (2.4)	7 (3.3)	0	7 (3.3)
Alanine aminotransferase increased	4 (1.9)	0	4 (1.9)	7 (3.3)	0	7 (3.3)
Metabolism and nutrition disorders§	19 (9.0)	6 (2.8)	25 (11.8)	11 (5.1)	1 (0.5)	12 (5.6)
Hyperglycemia	6 (2.8)	2 (0.9)	8 (3.8)	2 (0.9)	1 (0.5)	3 (1.4)
Gastrointestinal disorders¶	16 (7.5)	1 (0.5)	17 (8.0)	6 (2.8)	1 (0.5)	7 (3.3)
Diarrhea	9 (4.2)	0	9 (4.2)	1 (0.5)	0	1 (0.5)
Cardiac disorders	9 (4.2)	1 (0.5)	10 (4.7)	10 (4.7)	2 (0.9)	12 (5.6)
Neoplasms benign, malignant, and unspecified, including cysts and polyps	10 (4.7)	3 (1.4)	13 (6.1)	7 (3.3)	1 (0.5)	8 (3.7)
Vascular disorders**	12 (5.7)	2 (0.9)	14 (6.6)	7 (3.3)	0	7 (3.3)
General disorders and administration-site conditions ††	14 (6.6)	0	14 (6.6)	6 (2.8)	0	6 (2.8)

Fischer K, et al. N Engl J Med 2019

REVOLUTIONARY ROAD IN CLL
Innovazione rivoluzionaria nella terapia della leucemia linfatica cronica

Roma, 11 aprile 2024 UNAHOTELS Decò

Treatment journey



G2 Thrombocytopenia

During the ramp-up, we observed a decrease in platelet count to 58000/mmc, which was transient and self-resolved

- C2D1** Plts 84000/mmc → ramp-up to ven 50 mg + Obinutuzumab administration
- C2D8** Plts 58000/mmc → ramp-up to ven 100 mg
- C2D15** Plts 91000/mmc → ramp-up to ven 200 mg
- C2D22** Plts 116000/mmc → ramp-up to ven 400 mg
- C3D1** Plts 112000/mmc

No need to withhold anticoagulant therapy



Safety concerns

Table S6. Overview of adverse events with an incidence rate of ≥10% of patients in either treatment group (safety population).

Adverse events	Venetoclax–obinutuzumab (N=212)	Chlorambucil–obinutuzumab (N=214)
At least one adverse event – no. of patients (%)	200 (94.3)	213 (99.5)
Adverse events with an incidence rate of ≥10% in any treatment group – no. of patients (%)		
Blood and lymphatic system disorders	145 (68.4)	137 (64.0)
Neutropenia*	122 (57.5)	122 (57.0)
Thrombocytopenia	51 (24.1)	50 (23.4)
Anemia	35 (16.5)	40 (18.7)
Injury, poisoning, and procedural complications	95 (44.8)	110 (51.4)
Infusion-related reaction	95 (44.8)	110 (51.4)
Gastrointestinal disorders	89 (42.0)	74 (34.6)
Diarrhea	59 (27.8)	32 (15.0)
Nausea	40 (18.9)	46 (21.5)
Constipation	28 (13.2)	19 (8.9)
General disorders and administration site conditions	68 (32.1)	60 (28.0)
Pyrexia	48 (22.6)	33 (15.4)
Fatigue	32 (15.1)	30 (14.0)
Respiratory, thoracic, and mediastinal disorders	34 (16.0)	25 (11.7)
Cough	34 (16.0)	25 (11.7)
Nervous system disorders	24 (11.3)	21 (9.8)
Headache	24 (11.3)	21 (9.8)

Adverse events are reported by *Medical Dictionary for Regulatory Activities* (MedDRA) superclass and preferred terms and NCI CTCAE grade.

* GCSF could be administered at the discretion of the treating physician according to local practice

Table 2. Grade 3 or 4 Adverse Events (Safety Population).*

Adverse Event	Venetoclax–Obinutuzumab (N=212)†			Chlorambucil–Obinutuzumab (N=214)		
	Maximum Grade 3	Maximum Grade 4	Maximum Grade 3 or 4	Maximum Grade 3	Maximum Grade 4	Maximum Grade 3 or 4
	<i>number of patients (percent)</i>					
Adverse event of grade 3 or 4	81 (38.2)	86 (40.6)	167 (78.8)	93 (43.5)	71 (33.2)	164 (76.6)
Adverse events of grade 3 or 4 that occurred in ≥3% of the patients in either treatment group‡						
Blood and lymphatic system disorders	59 (27.8)	69 (32.5)	128 (60.4)	61 (28.5)	57 (26.6)	118 (55.1)
Neutropenia	52 (24.5)	60 (28.3)	112 (52.8)	56 (26.2)	47 (22.0)	103 (48.1)
Thrombocytopenia	20 (9.4)	9 (4.2)	29 (13.7)	19 (8.9)	13 (6.1)	32 (15.0)
Anemia	16 (7.5)	1 (0.5)	17 (8.0)	13 (6.1)	1 (0.5)	14 (6.5)
Febrile neutropenia	7 (3.3)	4 (1.9)	11 (5.2)	4 (1.9)	4 (1.9)	8 (3.7)
Leukopenia	5 (2.4)	0	5 (2.4)	9 (4.2)	1 (0.5)	10 (4.7)
Infections and infestations	31 (14.6)	6 (2.8)	37 (17.5)	31 (14.5)	1 (0.5)	32 (15.0)
Pneumonia	8 (3.8)	1 (0.5)	9 (4.2)	8 (3.7)	0	8 (3.7)
Injury, poisoning, and procedural complications	21 (9.9)	5 (2.4)	26 (12.3)	29 (13.6)	1 (0.5)	30 (14.0)
Infusion-related reaction	16 (7.5)	3 (1.4)	19 (9.0)	21 (9.8)	1 (0.5)	22 (10.3)
Investigations	26 (12.3)	6 (2.8)	32 (15.1)	16 (7.5)	7 (3.3)	23 (10.7)
Neutrophil count decreased	7 (3.3)	2 (0.9)	9 (4.2)	4 (1.9)	6 (2.8)	10 (4.7)
Aspartate aminotransferase increased	5 (2.4)	0	5 (2.4)	7 (3.3)	0	7 (3.3)
Alanine aminotransferase increased	4 (1.9)	0	4 (1.9)	7 (3.3)	0	7 (3.3)
Metabolism and nutrition disorders§	19 (9.0)	6 (2.8)	25 (11.8)	11 (5.1)	1 (0.5)	12 (5.6)
Hyperglycemia	6 (2.8)	2 (0.9)	8 (3.8)	2 (0.9)	1 (0.5)	3 (1.4)
Gastrointestinal disorders¶	16 (7.5)	1 (0.5)	17 (8.0)	6 (2.8)	1 (0.5)	7 (3.3)
Diarrhea	9 (4.2)	0	9 (4.2)	1 (0.5)	0	1 (0.5)
Cardiac disorders	9 (4.2)	1 (0.5)	10 (4.7)	10 (4.7)	2 (0.9)	12 (5.6)
Neoplasms benign, malignant, and unspecified, including cysts and polyps	10 (4.7)	3 (1.4)	13 (6.1)	7 (3.3)	1 (0.5)	8 (3.7)
Vascular disorders**	12 (5.7)	2 (0.9)	14 (6.6)	7 (3.3)	0	7 (3.3)
General disorders and administration-site conditions ††	14 (6.6)	0	14 (6.6)	6 (2.8)	0	6 (2.8)

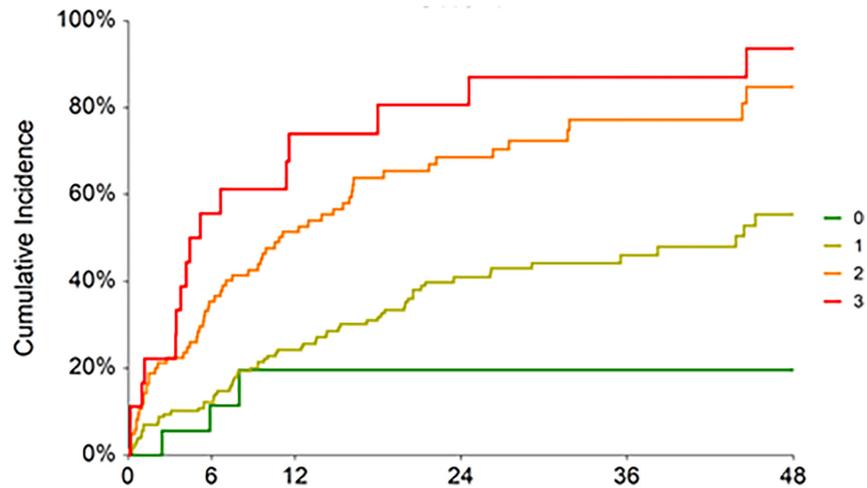
Fischer K, et al. N Engl J Med 2019

REVOLUTIONARY ROAD IN CLL
Innovazione rivoluzionaria nella terapia della leucemia linfatica cronica



Infections during Venetoclax

Venetoclax Infectious Risk Score



Risk factors for any grade infections

COPD [HR 2.04 (1.37–3.03)]

Previous treatments [HR 2.59 (1.14–5.89)]

Previous infections last 12 months [HR 1.99 (1.43 – 2.76)]

Risk factors for grade 3-5 infections

COPD [HR 2.21 (1.24-3.93)]

Number At Risk

18	15	8	2	2	1
159	133	108	53	23	11
85	54	37	17	8	3
18	8	4	3	2	1

Autore F, et al. Am J Hematol 2024

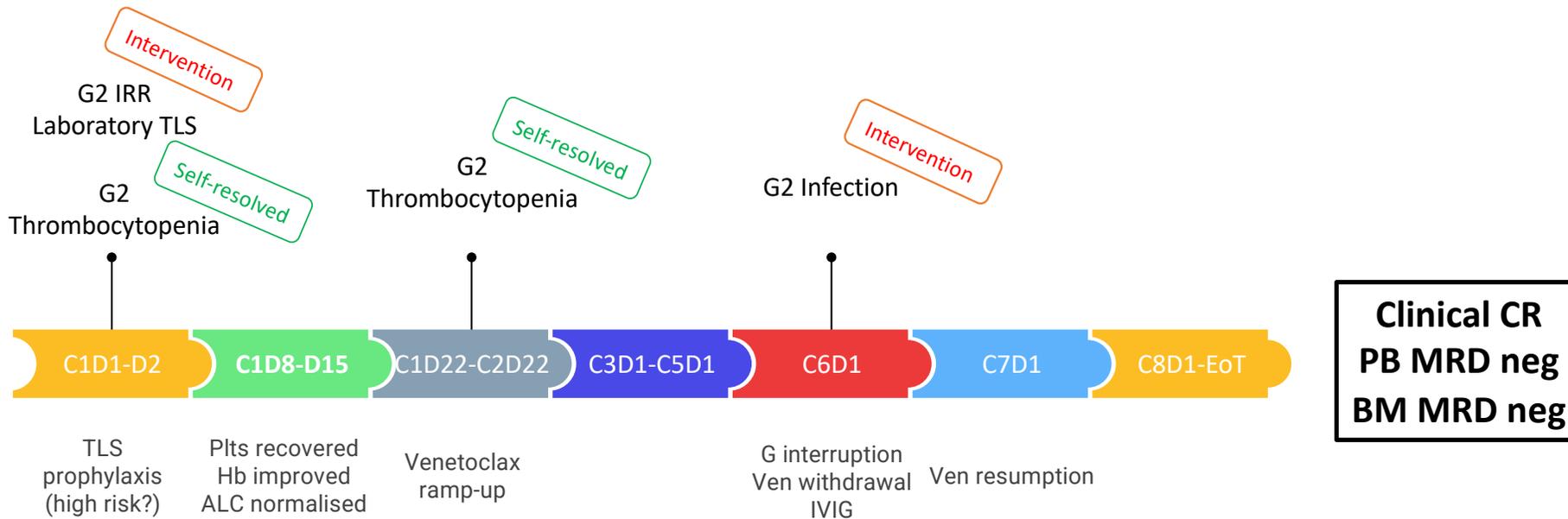
REVOLUTIONARY ROAD IN CLL

Innovazione rivoluzionaria nella terapia della leucemia linfatica cronica



Roma, 11 aprile 2024 UNAHOTELS Decò

Treatment journey



«If you know the enemy and know yourself, you need not fear the result of a hundred battles»

Sun Tzu

REVOLUTIONARY ROAD IN CLL

Innovazione rivoluzionaria nella terapia della leucemia linfatica cronica

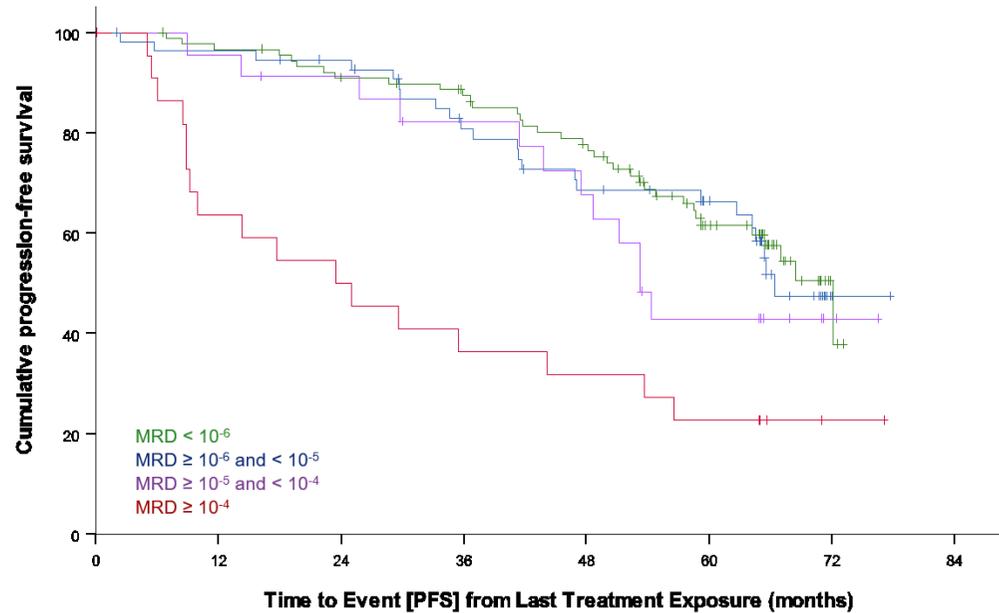


Roma, 11 aprile 2024 UNAHOTELS Decò

Depth of remission

PFS AFTER VEN-OB1 ACCORDING TO MRD STATUS

End-of-treatment MRD status in peripheral blood, by NGS



	0	12	24	36	48	60	72	84
MRD < 10^{-6}	90	86	79	73	63	38	4	0
MRD $\geq 10^{-6}$ and < 10^{-5}	56	53	50	40	33	26	2	0
MRD $\geq 10^{-5}$ and < 10^{-4}	23	22	20	17	14	8	2	0
MRD $\geq 10^{-4}$	23	14	11	8	7	5	1	0

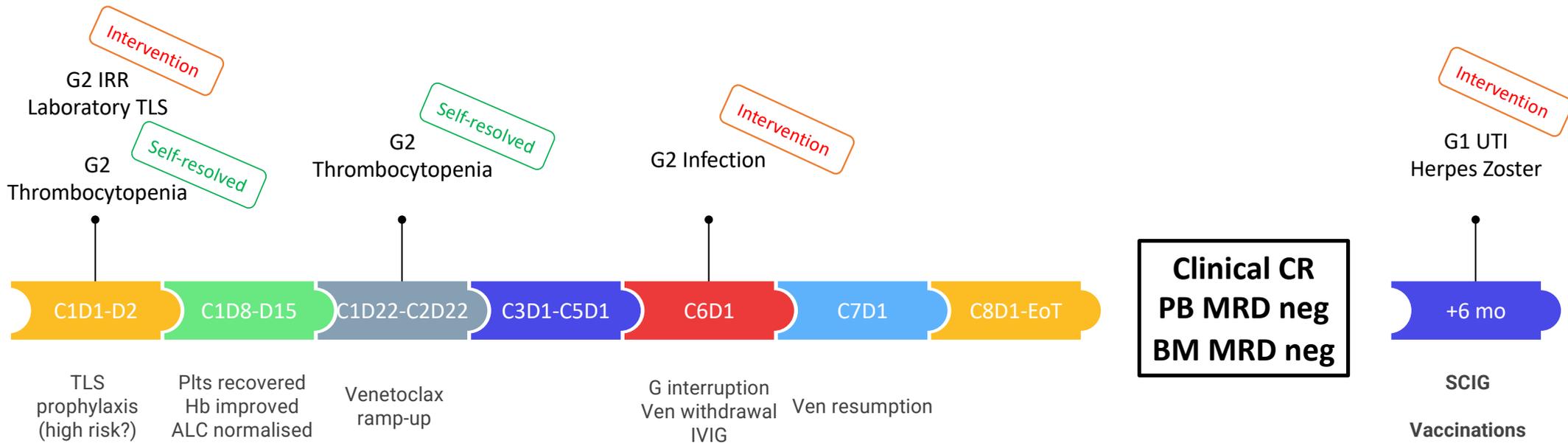
Al-Sawaf O, et al. EHA 2023. Abstract S145 (Oral).



REVOLUTIONARY ROAD IN CLL
 Innovazione rivoluzionaria nella terapia della leucemia linfatica cronica

Roma, 11 aprile 2024 UNAHOTELS Decò

Treatment journey



Ig replacement for secondary immunodeficiency

- IgG <400 mg/dl AND history of recurrent, severe or unusual infections
- IgG <150 mg/dl

Recombinant Zoster Vaccine

- Patients aged 50 years and older.
- Patients aged 18 years and older who are or will be at increased risk of Zoster due to immunodeficiency or immunosuppression caused by known disease or therapy.

Otani IM, et al. J Allergy Clin Immunol. 2022

Kamboj M, et al. ASCO guidelines, JCO 2024



REVOLUTIONARY ROAD IN CLL

Innovazione rivoluzionaria nella terapia della leucemia linfatica cronica

Roma, 11 aprile 2024 UNAHOTELS Decò



Thank you

REVOLUTIONARY ROAD IN CLL

Innovazione rivoluzionaria nella terapia della leucemia linfatica cronica



Roma, 11 aprile 2024 UNAHOTELS Decò