

Il concetto della "durata fissa" dal farmacologo all'ematologo

- Nel paziente in prima linea

Antonio Cuneo M.D. PhD.



REVOLUTIONARY ROAD IN CLL

Innovazione rivoluzionaria nella terapia
della leucemia linfatica cronica

Bologna, 20 maggio 2024
Royal Hotel Carlton

DISCLOSURE - Antonio Cuneo

Company name	Research support	Employee	Consultant	Stockholder	Speakers bureau	Advisory board	Other
Abbvie					X	X	
Astrazeneca					X	X	
Beigene					X	X	
Janssen					X	X	
Lilly					x	X	



Options for fixed duration therapy for first-line treatment of CLL

Fixed duration



Venetoclax+O
(12 mos. Oral and IV)

Ibrutinib + Venetoclax
(15 mos. Oral)

FCR only «fit» and IGHV mutated
(6 mos. IV)

Clor+O/BR only «unfit» and IGHV mutated
(6 mos, Orale and IV)

Ven-based regimens

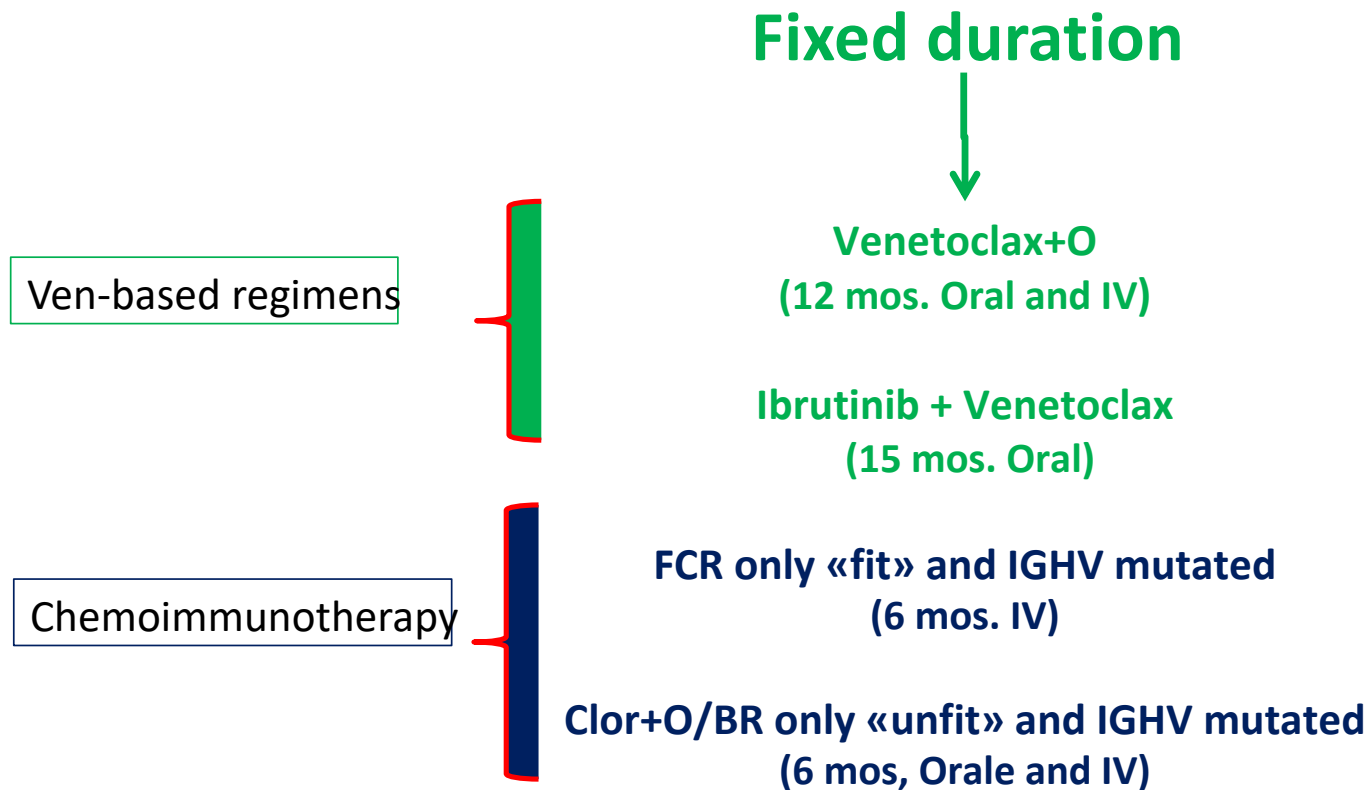
Chemoimmunotherapy

Assessing Adoption of Standard of Care and Comparing Clinical and Demographic Differences in First-Line Treatment of CLL

- Community oncologists since 2020
- Integra Connect PrecisionQ real-world de-identified database of over 3 million cancer patients (pts) across 500 sites of care
- 1L tx of 6,328 CLL pts between 1/1/2020 and 6/30/2023

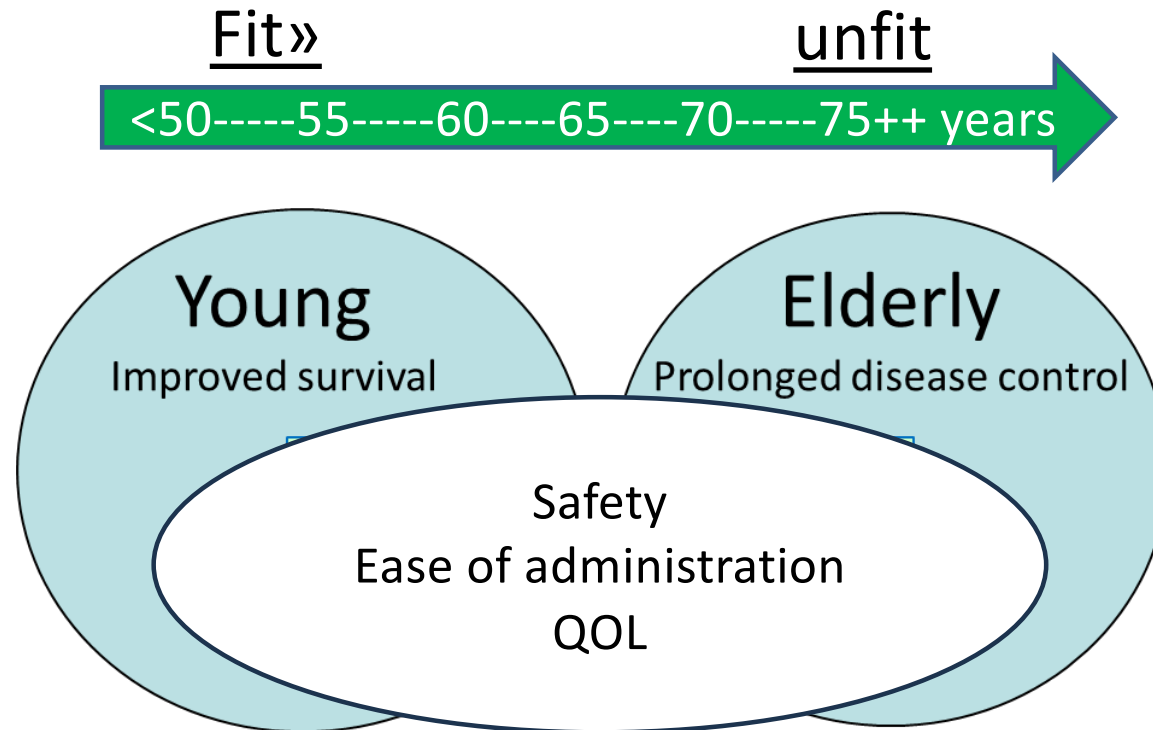
Drug Utilization in 1L: 2020 to June 2023					
		2020	2021	2022	Jan-Jun 2023
Drug Class	BTKi	1065 (55.8%)	1069 (56.6%)	984 (58.2%)	473 (56.3%)
	BCL2i	278 (14.6%)	305 (16.1%)	317 (18.7%)	166 (19.8%)
	aCD20	186 (9.8%)	107 (5.7%)	67 (4.0%)	44 (5.2%)
	Chemo	377 (19.8%)	409 (21.6%)	322 (19.0%)	156 (18.6%)
BTKi	acalabrutinib	330 (31.0%)	548 (51.3%)	613 (62.3%)	258 (54.5%)
	zanubrutinib	2 (0.2%)	13 (1.2%)	48 (4.9%)	124 (26.2%)
	ibrutinib	733 (68.8%)	508 (47.5%)	323 (32.8%)	91 (19.2%)

Options for fixed duration therapy for first-line treatment of CLL

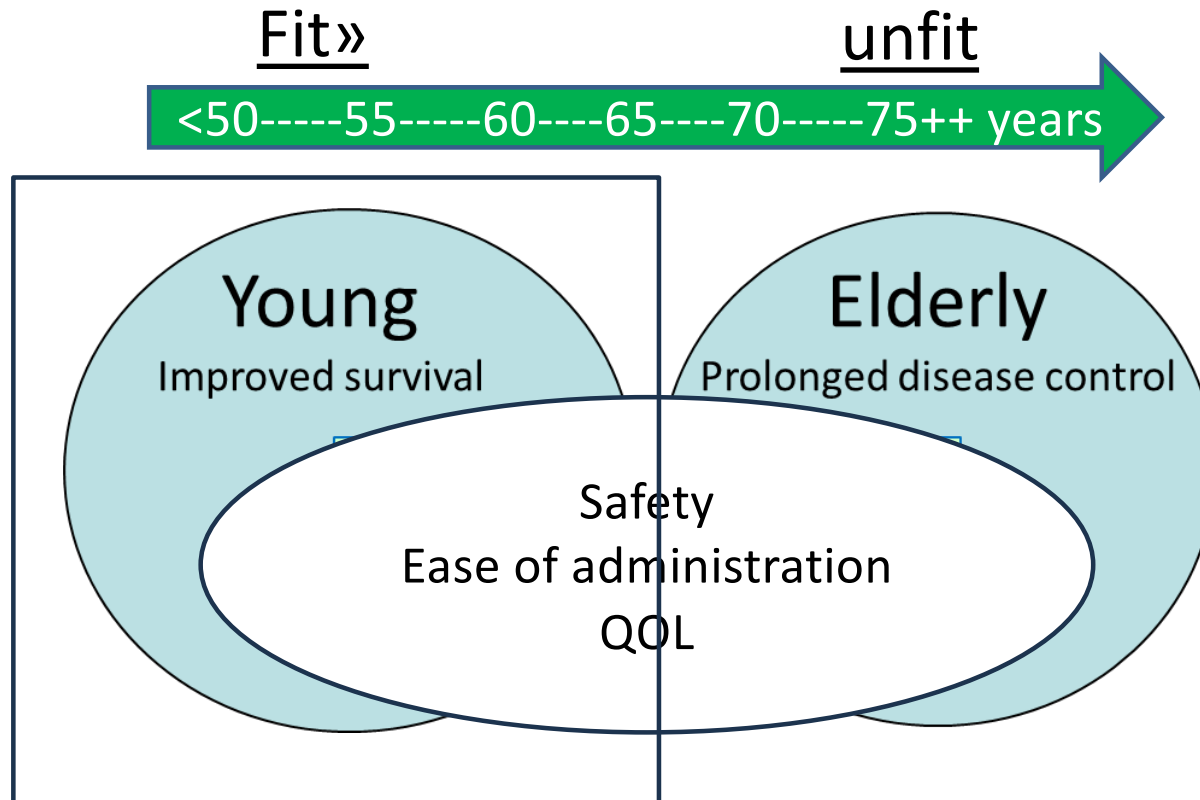


- Any role for CIT?
- Ven based combinations
- MRD-guided treatment

Goals of treatment in CLL



Goals of treatment in CLL



Improved **Overall survival** with Ibrutinib+Rituximab vs FCR: Updated Results of the E1912 Trial with a **5.8 years median follow-up**

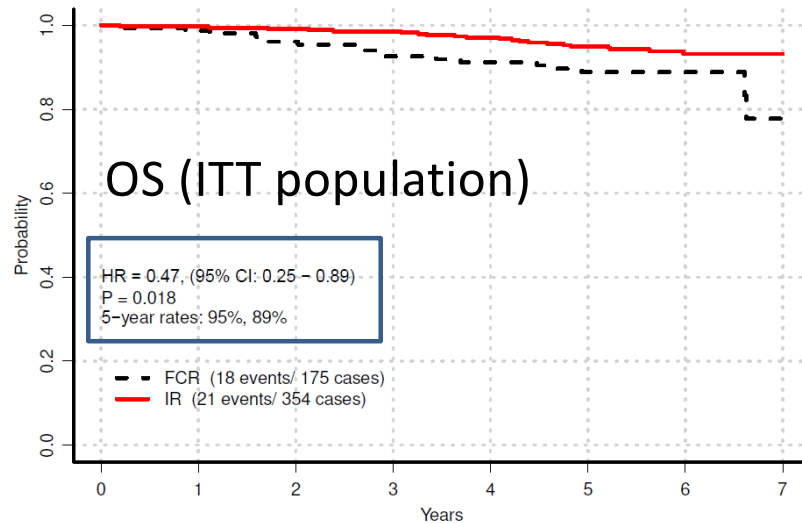
Ibrutinib 420 mg PO QD for cycles 1-7 +
Rituximab 50 mg/m² IV on Day 1, cycle 2, then 325 mg/m² on Day 2, cycle 2, then 500 mg/m² on Day 1, cycles 3-7
(n = 354)

Ibrutinib

Fludarabine 25 mg/m² IV on Days 1-3 +
Cyclophosphamide 250 mg/m² IV on Days 1-3 for cycles 1-6 +
Rituximab 50 mg/m² IV on Day 1, cycle 1, then 325 mg/m² on Day 2, cycle 1, then 500 mg/m² on Day 1, cycles 2-6
(n = 175)

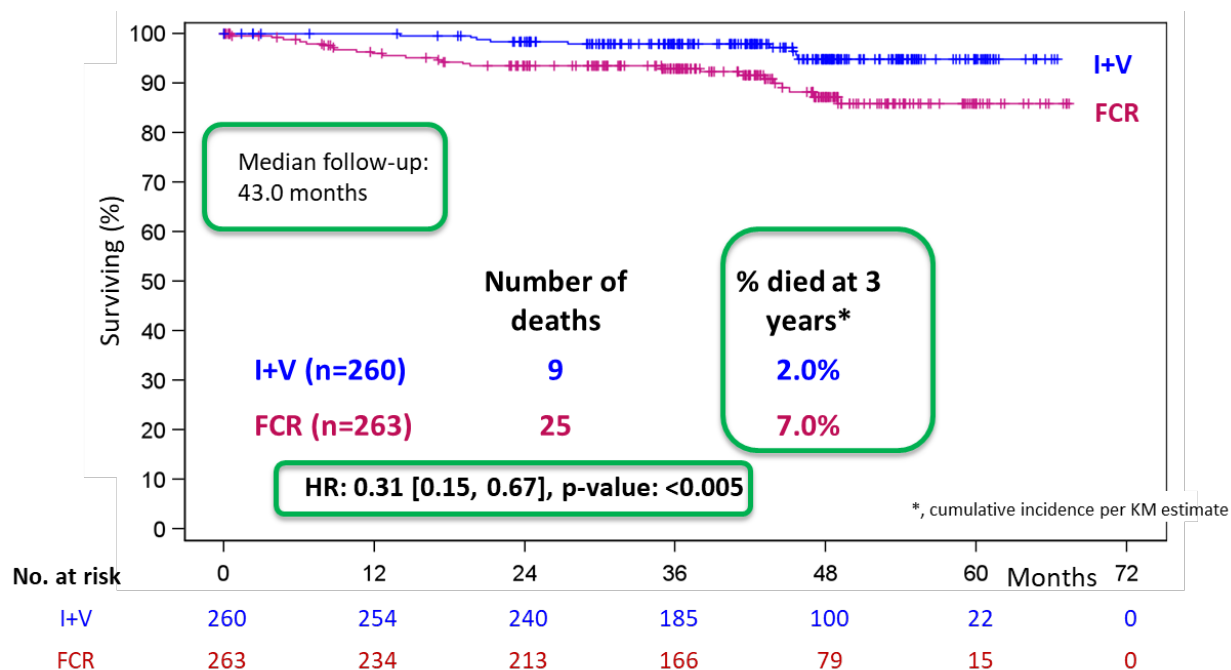
Supplemental Table 3a: Causes of Death

Cause of Death	IR (n=354)	FCR (n=175)
AML	0	3
Cardiac	1	1
CLL	5	6
COVID-19	3	0
Other cancer	5	3
Other cause	2	1
Other medical cause	3	2
Sepsis	1	1
Unknown	1	1
Total	21	18



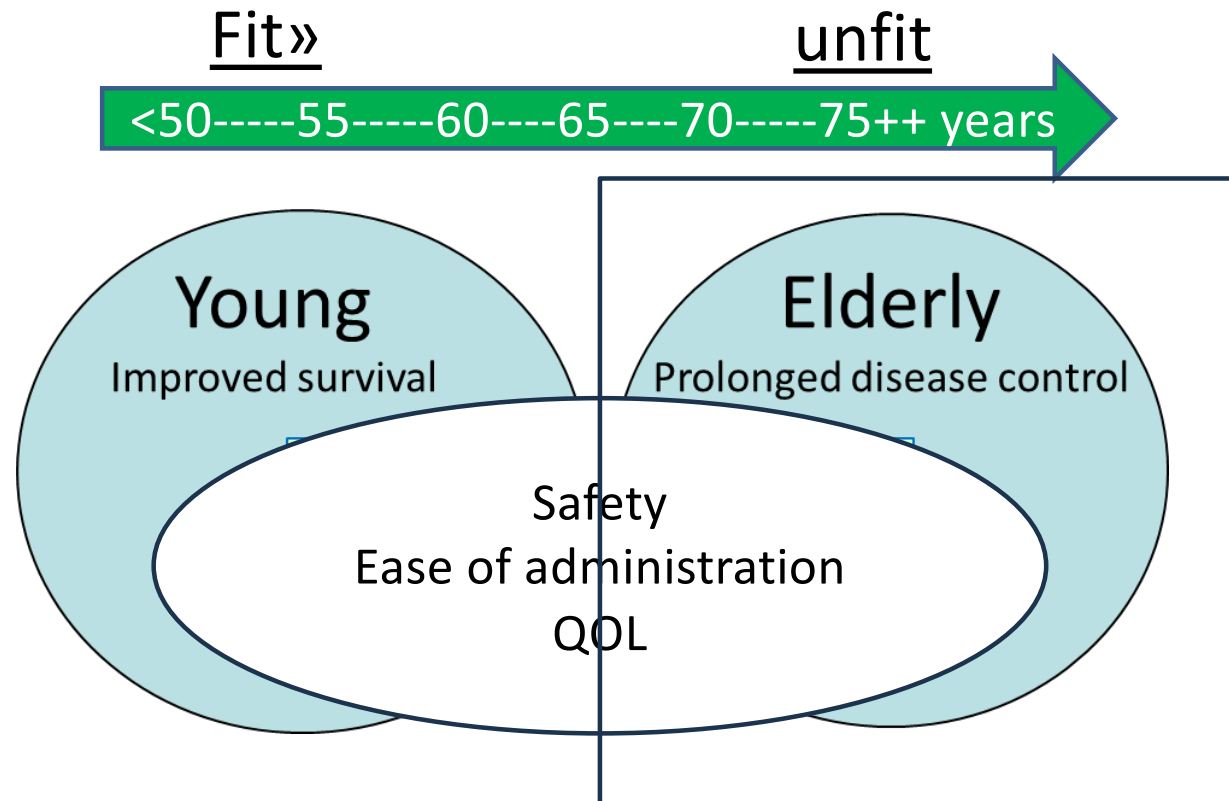
Number at risk	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
FCR	175	155	143	131	126	96	47	3
IR	354	347	343	338	329	300	139	20

1 cardiac death to date in E1912



	FCR	I+V
Infection	7	1
Sudden/Cardiac	2	3
COVID-19	2	2
Richter's transformation	2	1
Non-haem malignancy	2	1
Allogeneic SCT – infection	1	0
Allogeneic SCT – GvHD	1	0
Disease progression	1	0
Hemorrhage	1	0
Lymphoma	1	0
Treatment related MDS/BMF	3	0
Total:	23	8

Goals of treatment in CLL

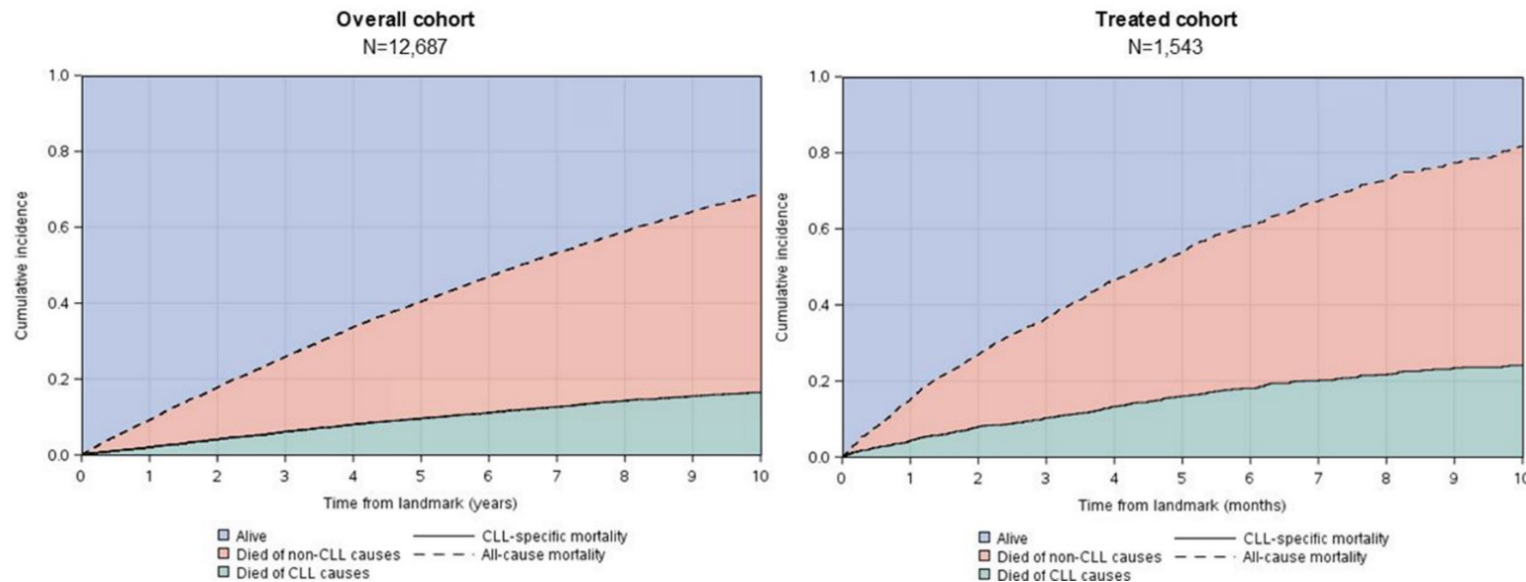


Prognosis of Older Adults with CLL By Comorbidity and Frailty: A SEER-Medicare Cohort Study:

Most older adults diagnosed with CLL die from non-CLL causes

- 12,687 patients (1,543 treated) patients.
- Mean age at diagnosis (SD) in the overall cohort was 77 (7.3) years

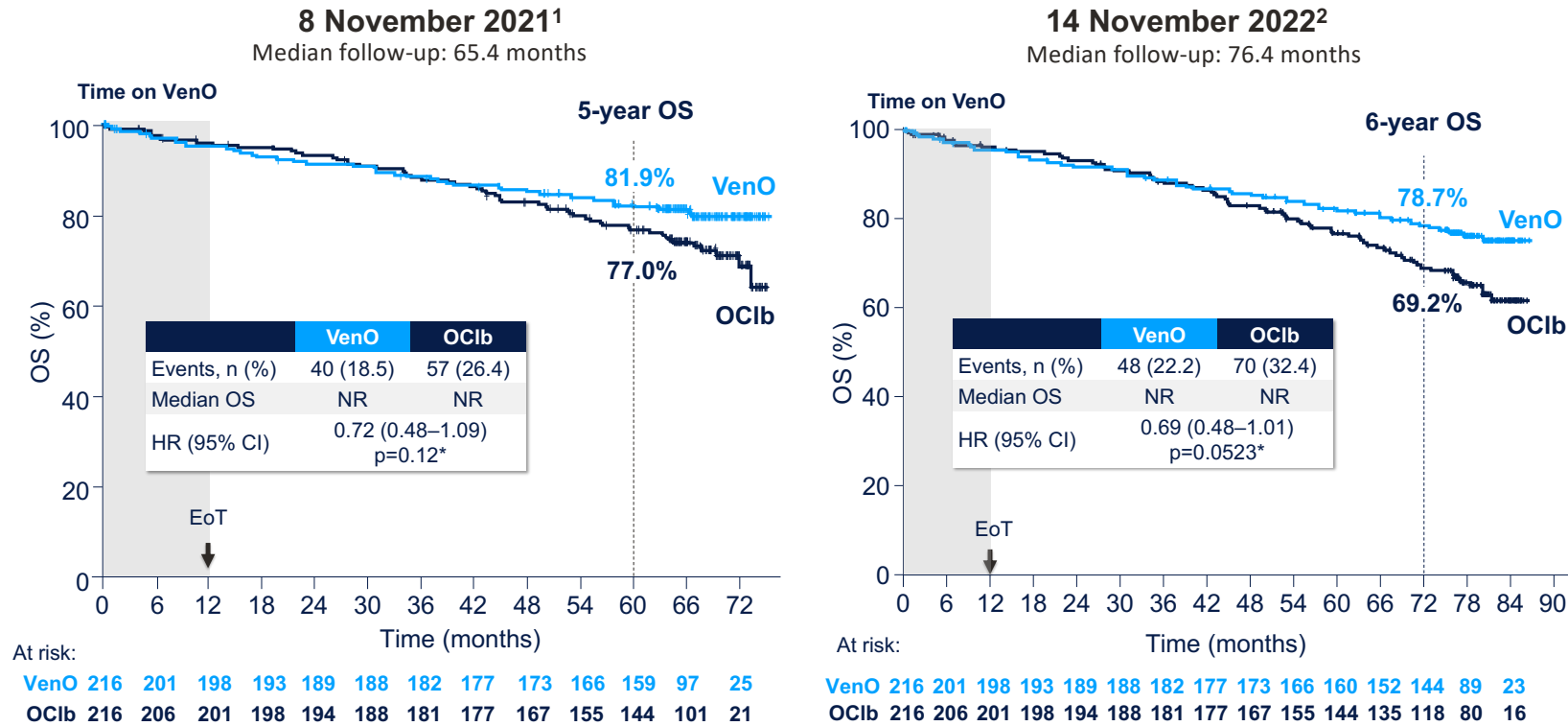
Figure. Landmark analysis of the cumulative incidence of mortality, broken down by cause of death. The blue section indicates the proportion of patients alive; the green section indicates the proportion of deaths attributed to CLL; the red section indicates the proportion of deaths attributable to other causes.



5-y analysis

6-y analysis

Overall survival

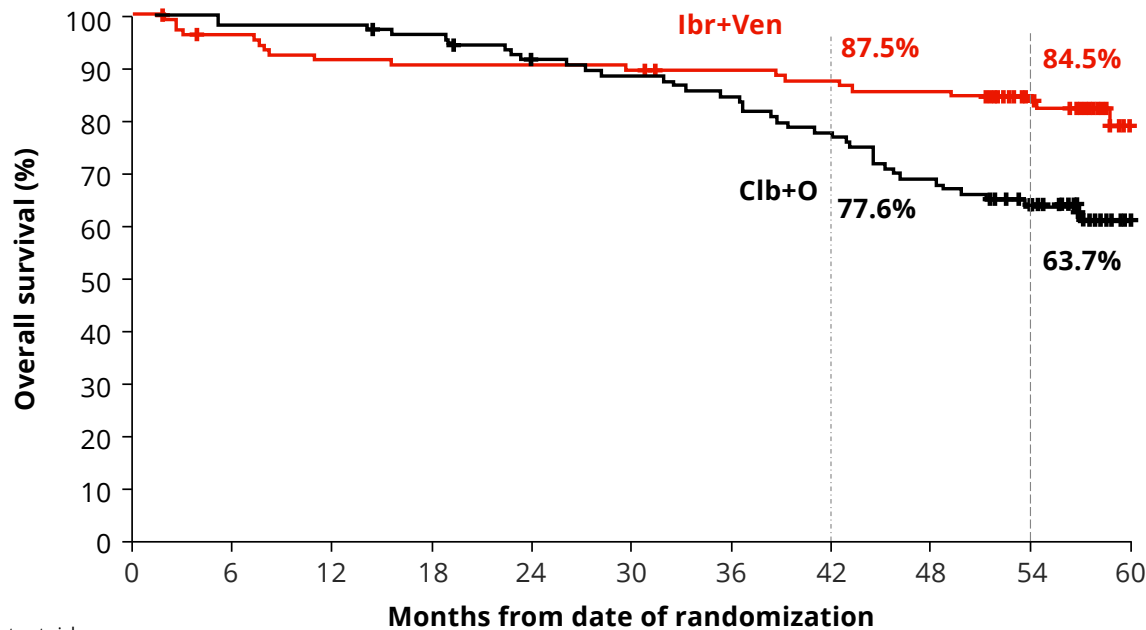


Patients treated with VenO fixed treatment combination continued to show a consistent improvement in OS compared to patients treated with OC1b.

*Descriptive.
CI, confidence interval; EoT, end of treatment; HR, hazard ratio; IGHV, immunoglobulin heavy chain; NR, not reached; OC1b, obinutuzumab and chlorambucil; OS, overall survival; VenO, venetoclax and obinutuzumab.
1. Al-Sawaf O, et al. *Nat Commun* 2023; 14:2147; 2. Al-Sawaf O, et al. EHA 2023. Abstract S145 (Oral).

GLOW: Ibr+Ven Remained Associated With Improved Overall Survival at 57 Months of Study Follow-up

Overall Survival (ITT)



Patients at risk	0	6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48	54	60
Ibr+Ven	106	100	95	94	94	93	91	89	87	74	19
Clb+O	105	103	103	100	93	90	86	79	70	57	17

- Ibr+Ven reduced the risk of death by 55% versus Clb+O
 - HR 0.453 (95% CI, 0.261-0.785); $p = 0.0038$
- Estimated 54-month OS rates:
 - **84.5%** for patients treated with Ibr+Ven
 - **63.7%** for patients treated with Clb+O

p value is nominal.

Presented by G. Follows at the 65th ASH Annual Meeting and Exposition; December 9-12, 2023; San Diego, CA, USA



GLOW: Summary of Deaths

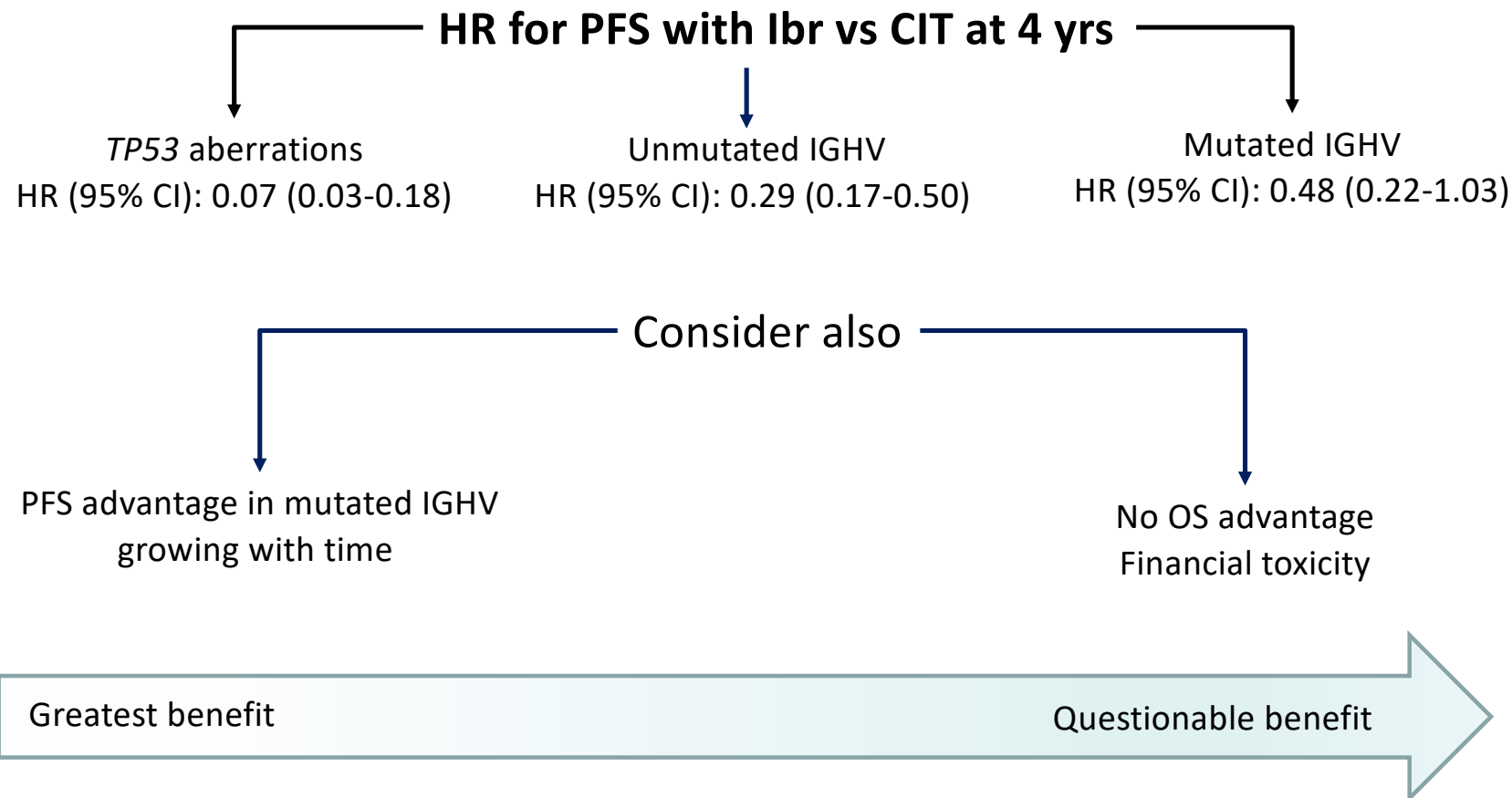
	Ibr+Ven (n = 106)		Clb+O (n = 105)	
Total number of deaths	19		39	
Reasons for deaths	On treatment	Post randomized treatment ^a	On treatment	Post randomized treatment ^a
Infection related ^b	1	3	1	13
Second primary malignancy	1	1	0	7
Cardiac	2 ^c	0	0	4
Sudden/unknown	2	3	0	4
Progressive disease	0	1	0	2
Vascular disorders	1	2	0	3
Other	0	2	1	4
Total	7	12	2	37

- **At 57 months of follow-up, there were 19 deaths in Ibr+Ven versus 39 in Clb+O arms**
 - 3 deaths in Ibr+Ven and 13 in Clb+O were due to post-treatment infections
 - 2 deaths in Ibr+Ven and 7 in Clb+O were due to second primary malignancies

^aEither before or after initiation of subsequent antileukemic therapy. ^bIncluding 2 and 7 deaths due to COVID-19 in the Ibr+Ven and Clb+O arm, respectively. ^c1 patient had 3 causes of death: tachy-brady syndrome, cardiac failure, and pneumonia.




BTKI in CLL: benefit for all?



“With universalistic national health-systems at breaking point (10) we are facing times when one has to consider the magnitude of clinical benefit (figure 1) and to adapt this to the patient expectations in each and every economical context rather than to choose simply based on the medical reasoning and the efficacy and tolerability of the treatments”.


Cost-effectiveness analyses of BTKi in first line treatment of CLL

Source/ country	WTP/QALY	Treatment	Comparator	Target population	ICER	Comments	Cost effective
NICE/ UK	£20.000-30.000	V+O	Chlor+O	Unsuitable for FCR/BB	NR	 Dominant effect V+O vs Chlor+O° (more effective and less costly)	YES^
NICE/ UK	£20.000-30.000	Acalabrutinib	Chlor+O	CLL unsuitable for FRC/BR, including 17p-	<£30,000 per QALY gained	/	YES ^

^Considering commercial arrangements

Data From: Urso A et al. Cancers (Basel). 2023 Jul 29;15(15):3859. doi: 10.3390/cancers15153859.

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NICE/UK	£20,000-30,000	Ibrutinib and Venetoclax	FRC/BR	CLL suitable for FRC/BR, including 17p-	<£30,000 per QALY gained	Considering confidential discounts	YES
			Chlor+O and V+O	unsuitable for FRC/ BR, including 17p-	<£30,000 per QALY gained	 Dominant effect vs Chlo+O°	YES
			Acalabrutinib and Ibrutinib		NR	Cost saving and a small QALY loss compared with acalabrutinib and ibrutinib	YES

Data From: Urso A et al. Cancers (Basel). 2023 Jul 29;15(15):3859. doi: 10.3390/cancers15153859.

Fixed duration



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- Any role for CIT? **NO**
 - OS advantage with targeted agents is a possible goal
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 - PFS advantage with targeted agents
 - Pharmaco economic evaluation: dominant effect with ven based combo
- Ven based combinations
- MRD-guided treatment

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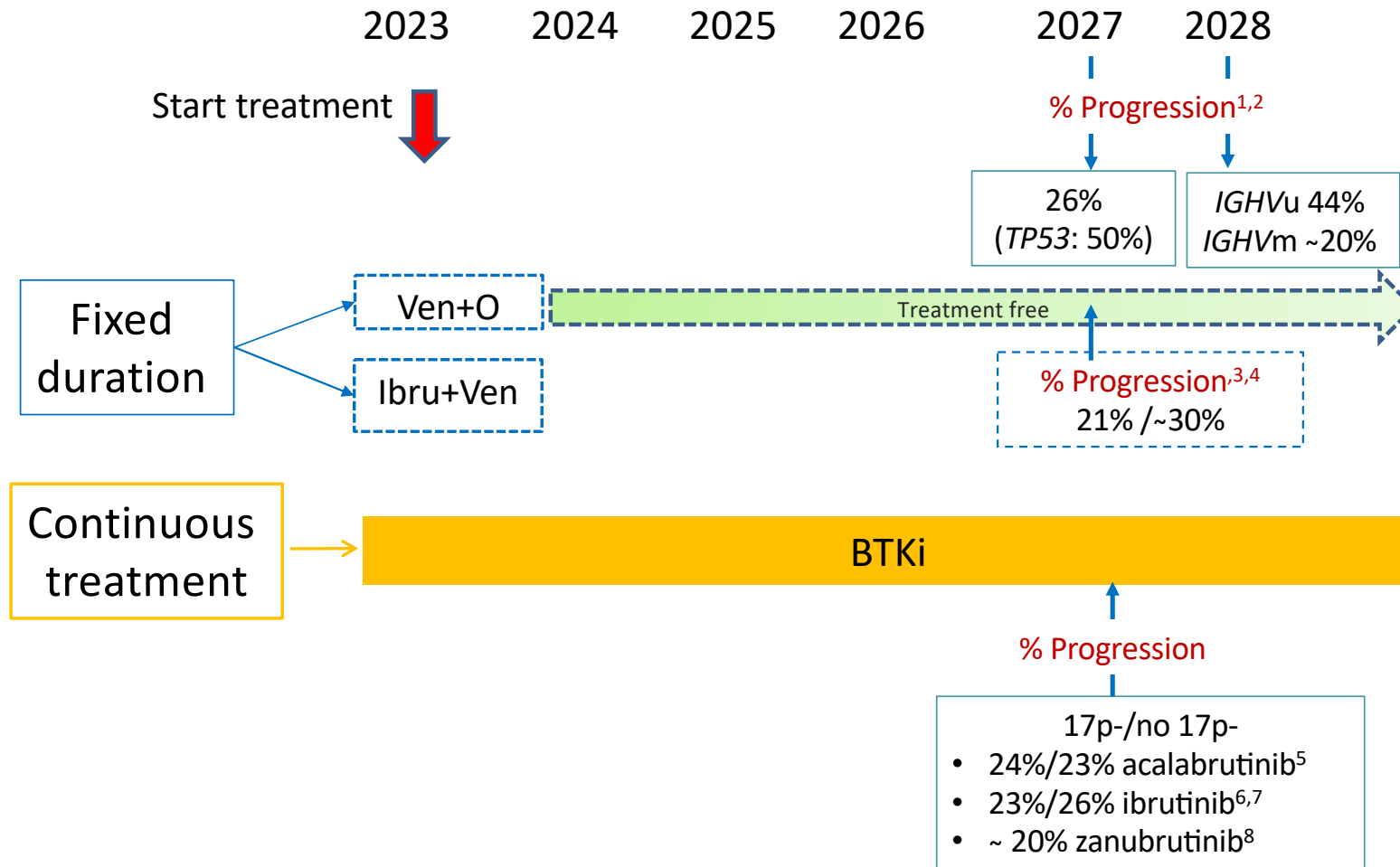
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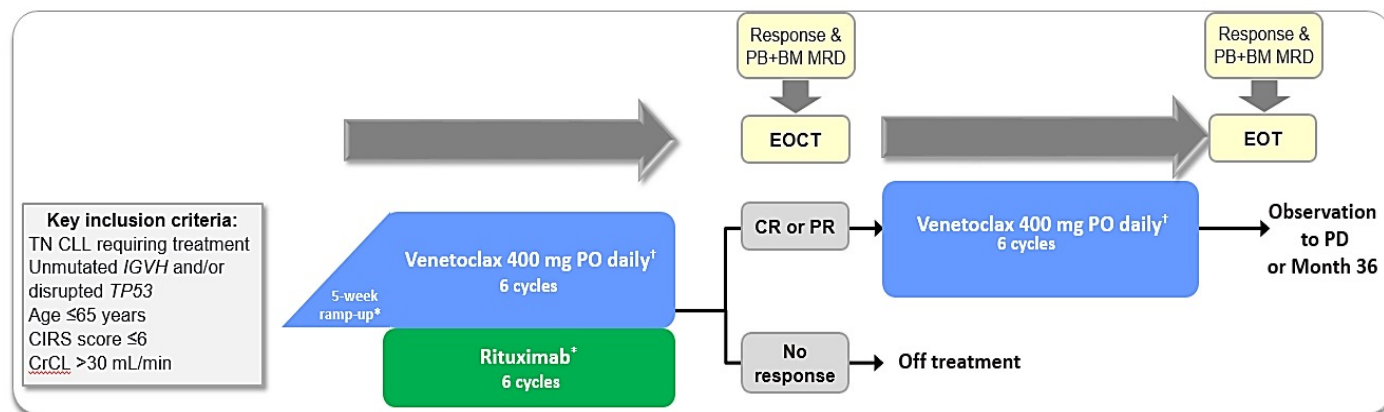
- MRD-guided treatment

Prolonged disease control in CLL treated with 1st line target therapy



¹Al-Sawaf O. JCO 2021; ²Al-Sawaf O. Nat Comm 2023; ³Tedeschi EHA 2023; ⁴Ghia P, ASH 2023; ⁵Sharman JP. Leukemia. 2022; ⁶Woyach J ASH 2021; ⁷Moreno C. Haematologica, 2022; ⁸Munir T #639; EHA2023

Front-Line Venetoclax and Rituximab for the Treatment of Young Patients with CLL and Unfavorable Biologic Profile. The GIMEMA Study 'Veritas'



Baseline characteristics, n (%)	N=75*
Median age, years (range)	53.45 (38–65)
Lymphocyte count x 10 ⁹ /L (range)	96.2 (5.3–556.5)
Bulky nodes (lymph nodes size ≥5 cm) (%)	18 (25)
Binet stage B/C (%)	37 (49) - 26 (35)
TLS risk: high (%)	33 (44)
Beta-2 microglobulin ≥ 3.5 mg/L	27 (41)
Increased LDH	26 (35)
CD38 ≥30%	38 (51)
<i>TP53</i> mutation	9 (12)
Unmutated <i>IGHV</i>	71 (96)

* Venetoclax, PO daily: 20 mg week 1, 50 mg week 2, 100 mg week 3, 200 mg week 4, 400 mg week 5 onwards;

[†] Venetoclax 400 mg PO daily, day 1–28 of each cycle;

* Rituximab IV: 375 mg/m² on day 1 month 1, 500 mg/m² on day 1 months 2–6.

EOCt, end of combination therapy; EOT, end of treatment ; ORR, overall response rate.

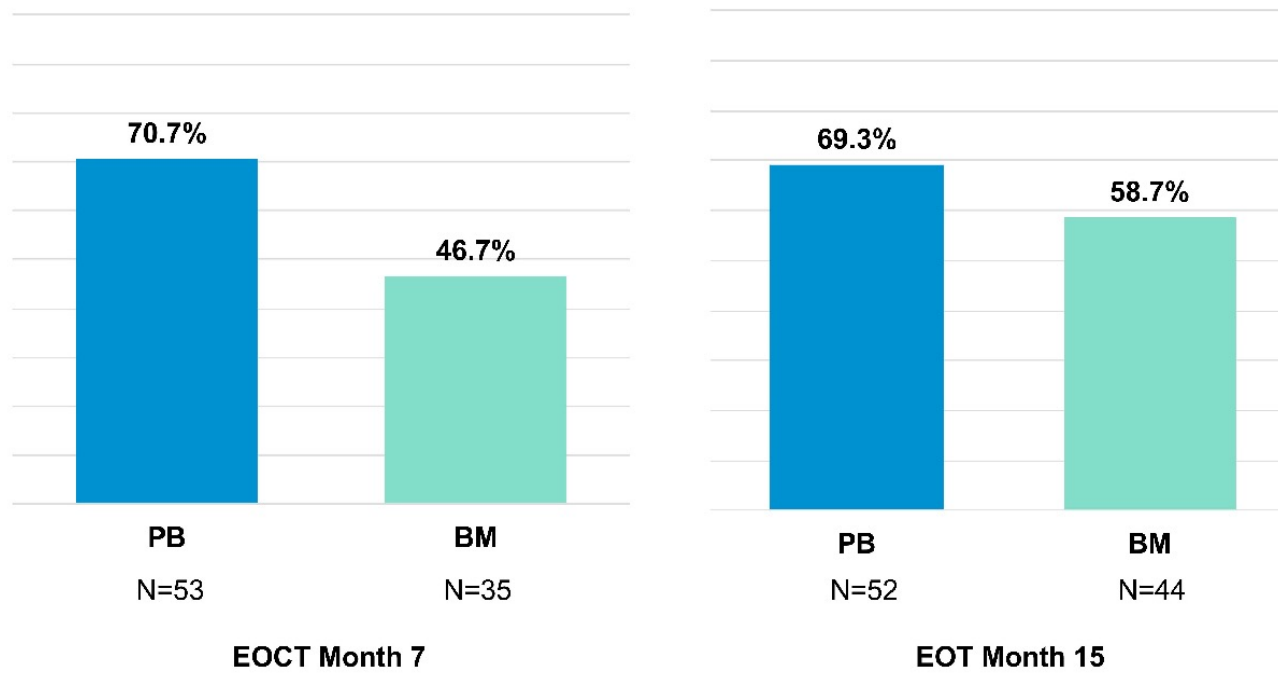
Primary endpoint:

CR rate at EOT

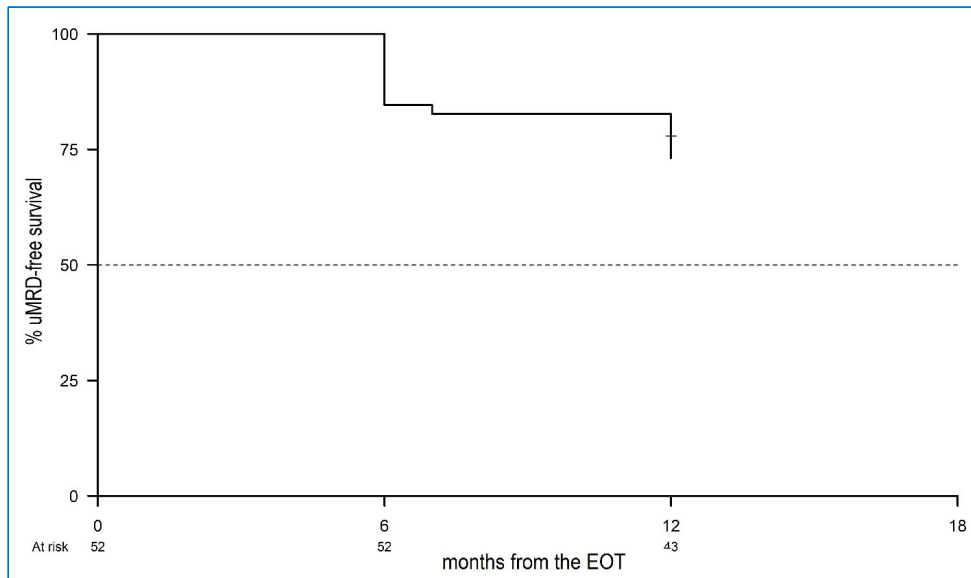
Key Secondary endpoints:

- ORR at EOT
- uMRD response rate at EOT
- PFS
- OS
- Safety

Rates of responses with undetectable MRD (10^{-4}) in the PB and BM by allele-specific oligonucleotide PCR at the end of combination therapy and end of treatment

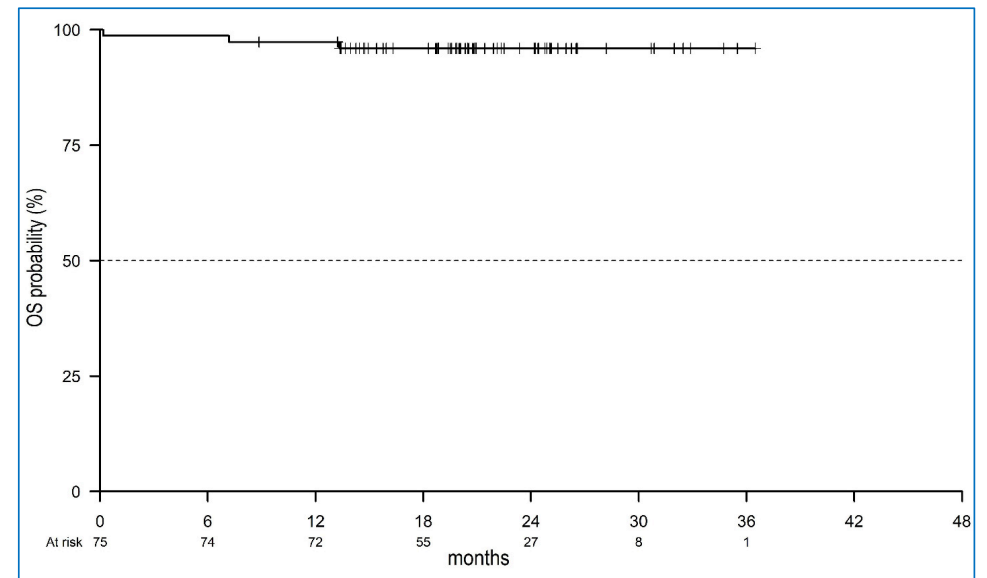


Undetectable minimal residual disease-free survival.



Overall survival of the whole cohort of 75 patients enrolled in the study

median follow-up of 20.8 months



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- **Ven based combinations**

- *Prolonged disease control and long treatment-free interval*
- *uMRD in a sizeable fraction of cases*

- MRD-guided treatment

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- **MRD-guided treatment**

Examples of studies used MRD assessment to guide treatment decision

Relapsed refractory CLL

- *Clarity*¹:
 - MRD- after 6-12 mos: ibru ven for the same time required to achieve uMRD
 - MRD+ after 6-12 mos: ibru ven for \leq 2yrs and then Ibrutinib
- *HOVON141/VISION*²:
 - MRD- after 15 mos: randomize stop vs ibrutinib until progression
 - MRD+ after 15 mos: ibrutinib until progression

First line CLL

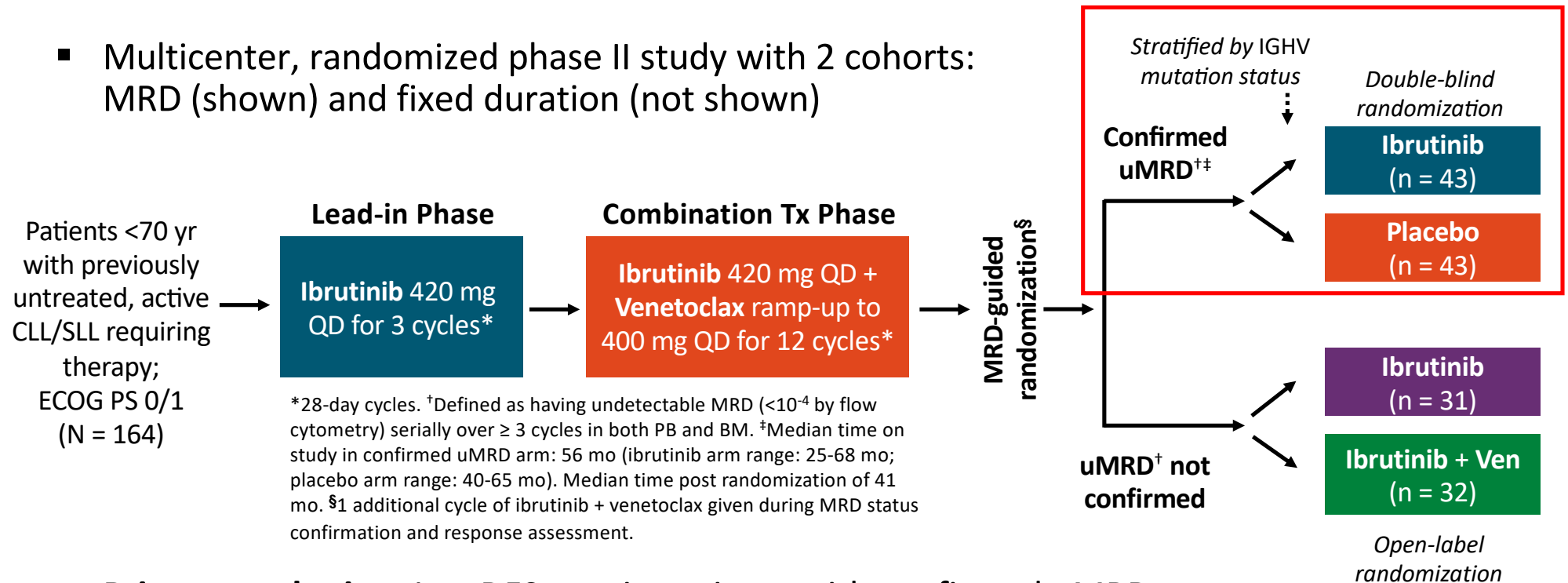
- *Flair*³:
 - Ibru ven for twice as long time to achieve u MRD
- *CAPTIVATE*⁴
 - MRD- after 15 mos: randomize stop vs ibrutinib until progression
 - MRD+ after 15 mos: ibrutinib vs Ibru + ven

¹Hillmen P. J Clin Oncol. 2019 Oct 20;37(30):2722-2729. ²Kater A. Lancet Oncol. 2022 Jun;23(6):818-828;

³Hillmen P. 2024 Jan 25;390(4):326-337; . ⁴Allan. ASH 2022. Abstr 92.

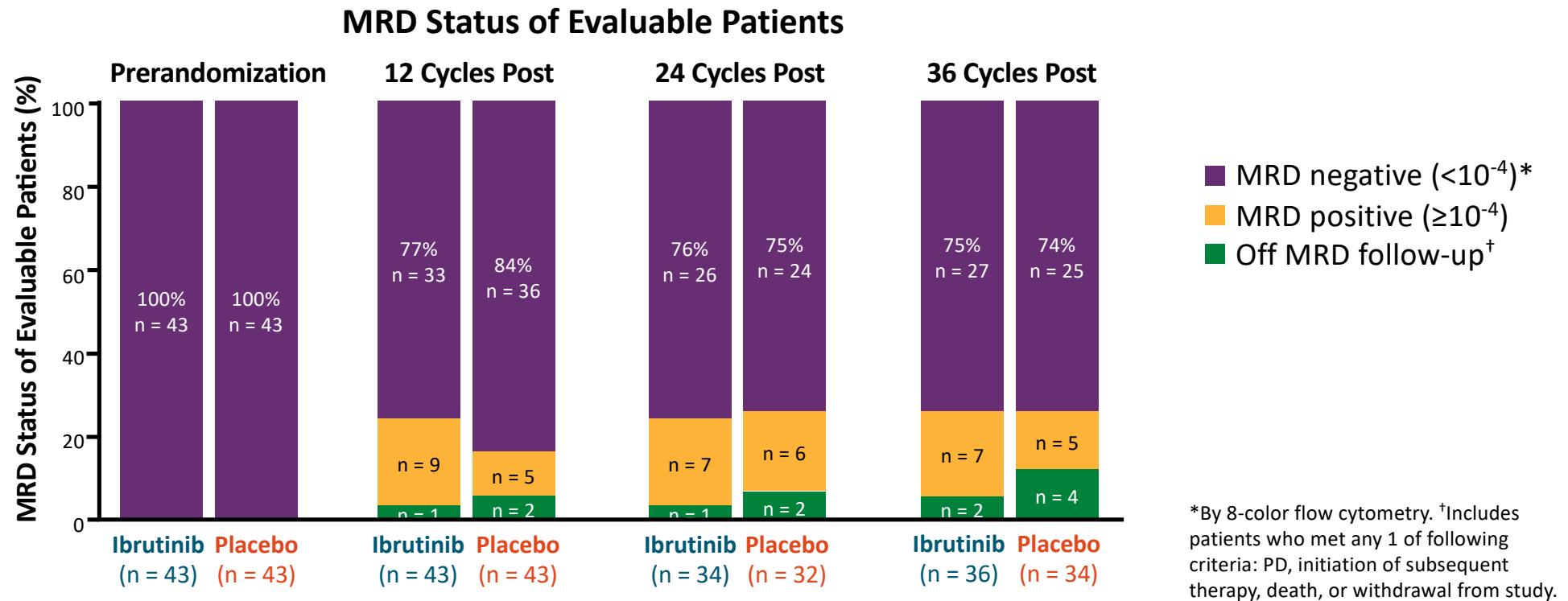
CAPTIVATE MRD Cohort Update: Study Design

- Multicenter, randomized phase II study with 2 cohorts: MRD (shown) and fixed duration (not shown)



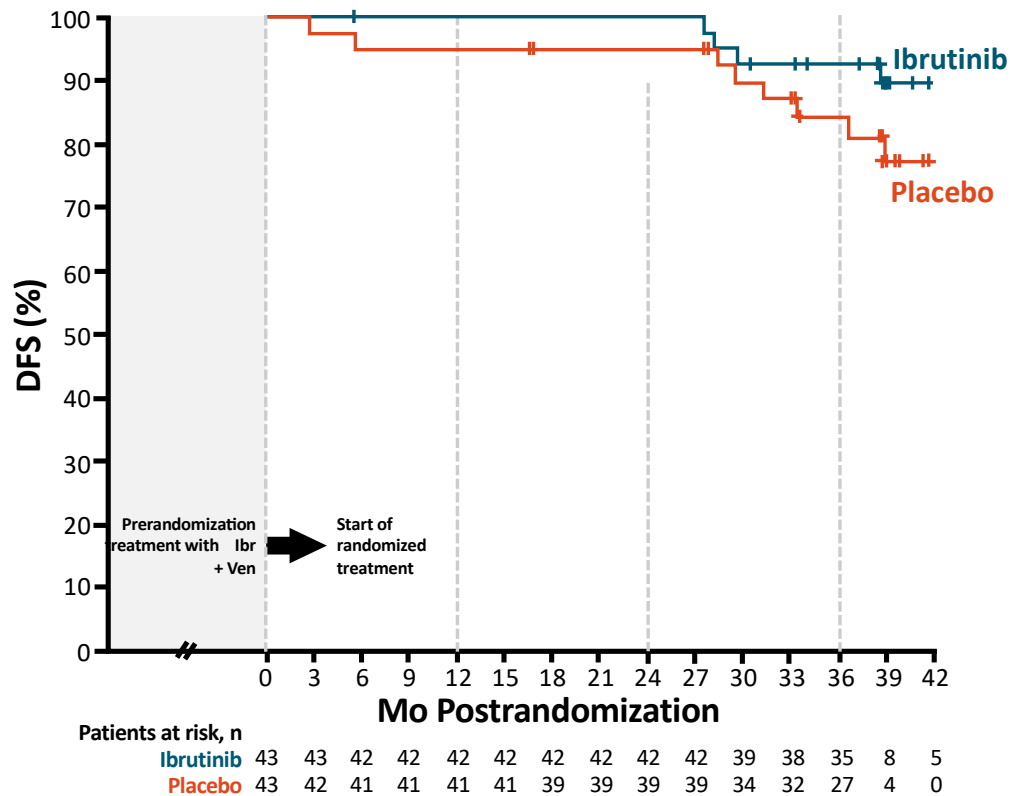
- **Primary endpoint:** 1-yr DFS rate in patients with confirmed uMRD
- **Secondary endpoints:** undetectable MRD, response rates, safety

CAPTIVATE MRD Cohort Update: CR and MRD Status (Secondary Endpoints)



- Sustainability of uMRD similar in ITT population

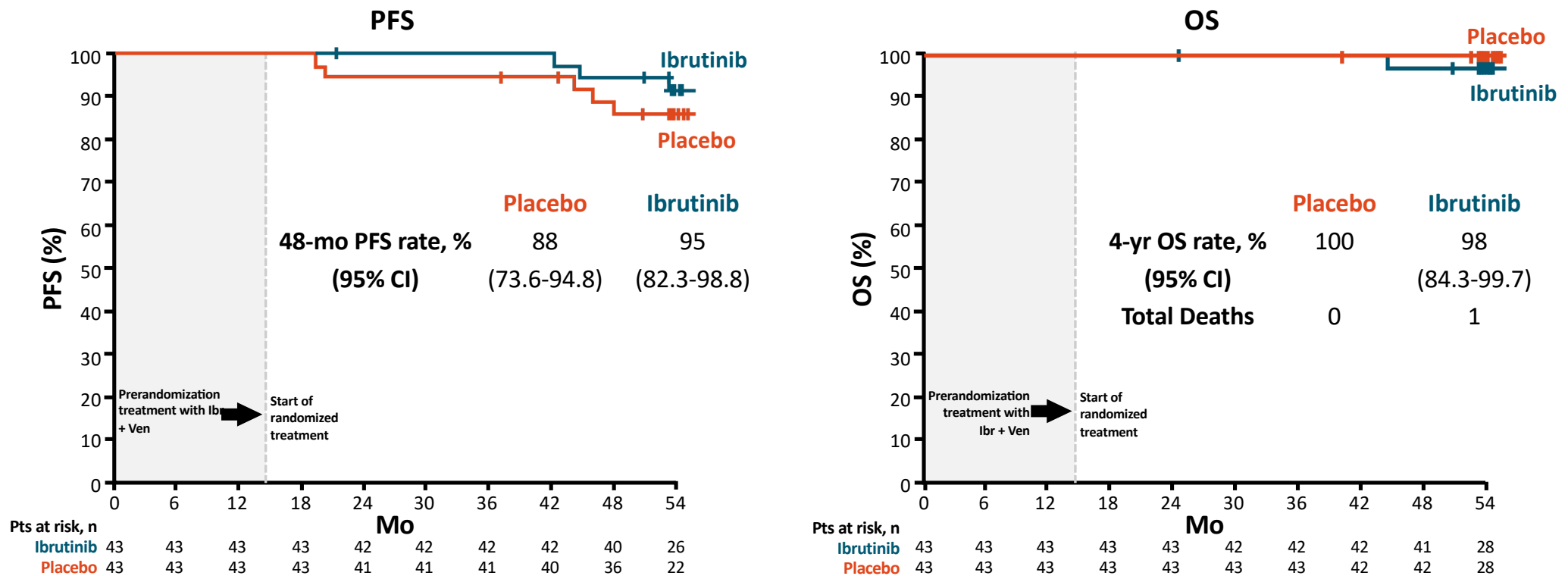
CAPTIVATE MRD Cohort Update: 3-Yr DFS (Primary Endpoint)



Outcome	Confirmed uMRD (n = 86)	
	Ibrutinib (n = 43)	Placebo (n = 43)
3-yr DFS,* %	93	85
Difference, % (95% CI)	8.3 (-5.5 to 22.1)	
Log-rank P value	.1621	
HR (95% CI)	0.435 (0.131-1.446)	

*DFS = time from randomization to MRD relapse, PD per investigator assessment, or death, whichever soonest.

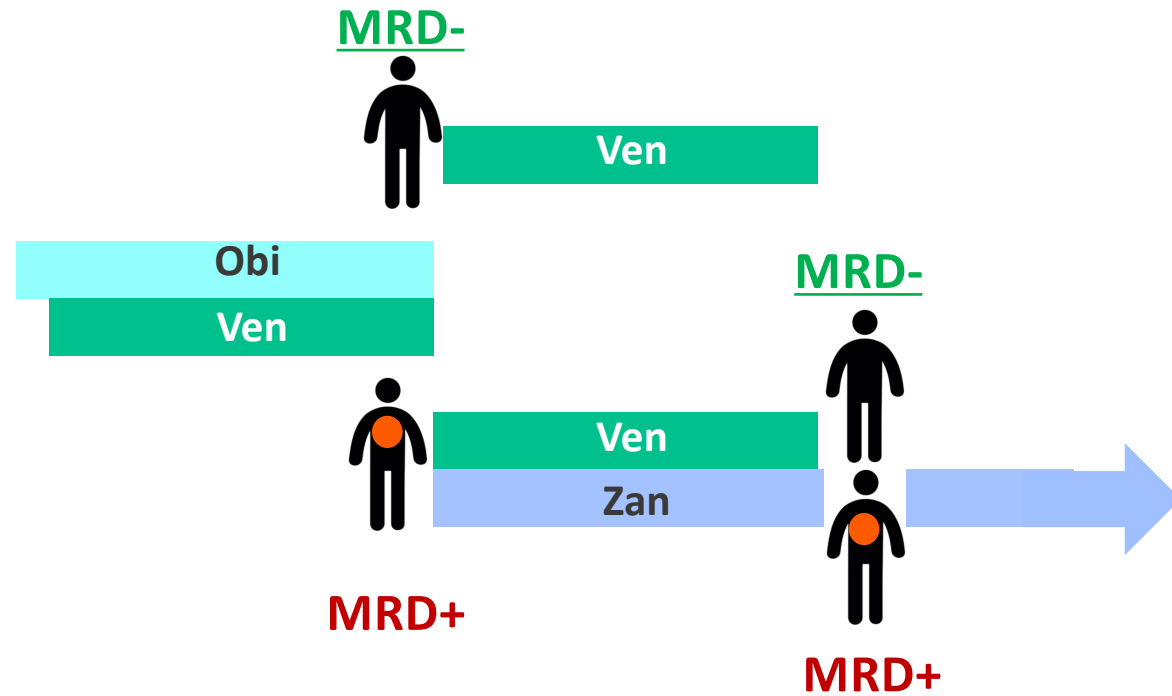
CAPTIVATE MRD Cohort Update: PFS and OS (Secondary Endpoints)



- 48-mo PFS rates in patients with unmutated *IGHV* similar to overall population
- 3-yr DFS, 4-yr PFS, 4-yr OS rates in patients with del(17p), TP53, or complex karyotype similar to overall population

THE GIMEMA VIS TRIAL: STUDY DESIGN

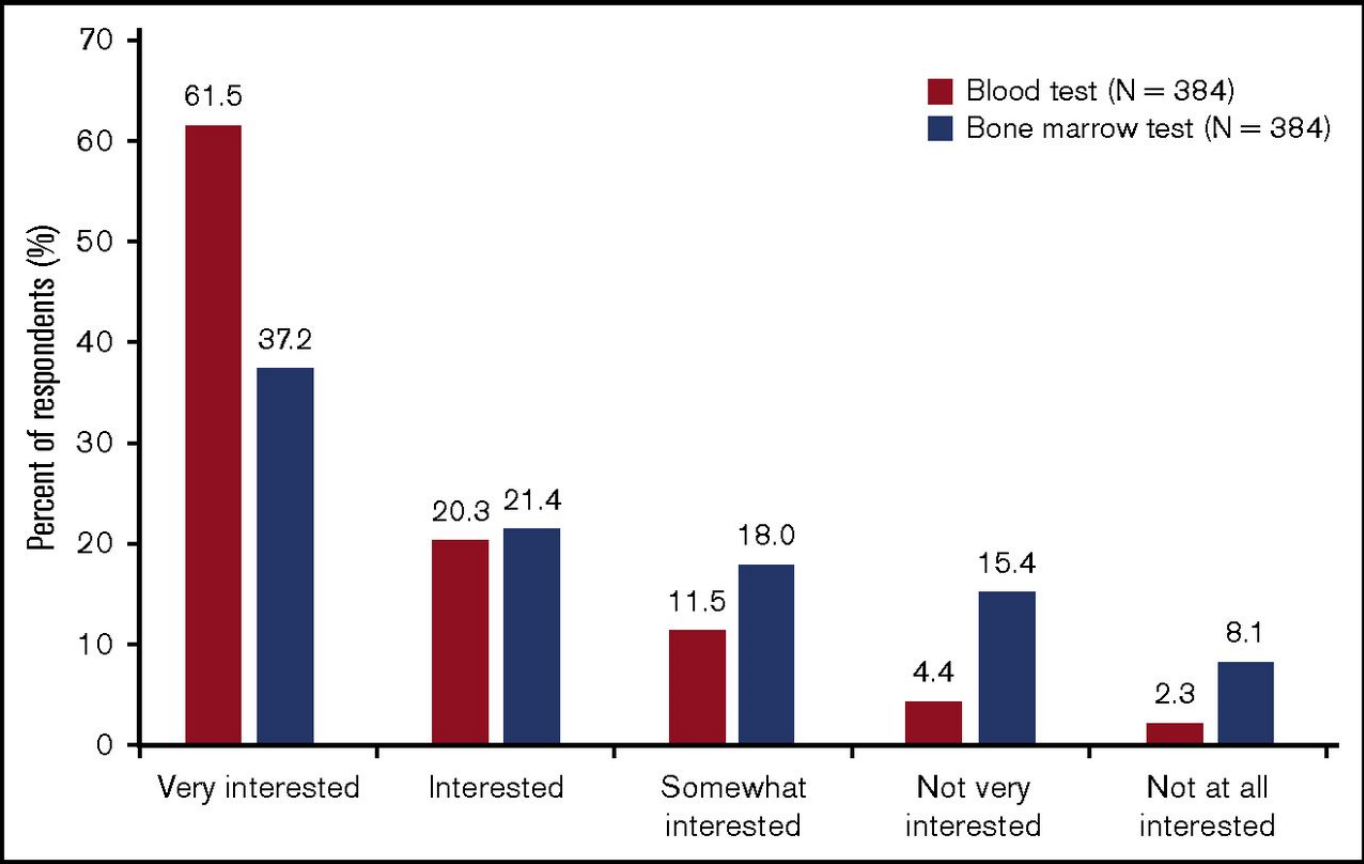
Previously untreated patients
Age ≤ 65 yrs
U-IGHV and/or
TP53 mut



The patients' priorities

- 384 patients with a self-reported physician diagnosis of CLL
- Choice between pairs of hypothetical treatments for CLL
- Each treatment was defined by 5 attributes with several predefined levels
 - progression-free survival (PFS; 10-60 months),
 - diarrhea (none to severe),
 - chance of severe infection (0-30%),
 - chance of organ damage (0-8%),
 - mode and schedule of administration (pill versus intravenous administration)

MRD testing: “Suppose that you have finished a 6-month course of medicine for CLL. The standard blood test does not find any cancer cells in your blood. Your doctor offers you one of the new, more sensitive blood tests. How interested would you be in getting this new?”



Patient Preferences for Fixed Versus Treat-to-Progression Therapies in Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia

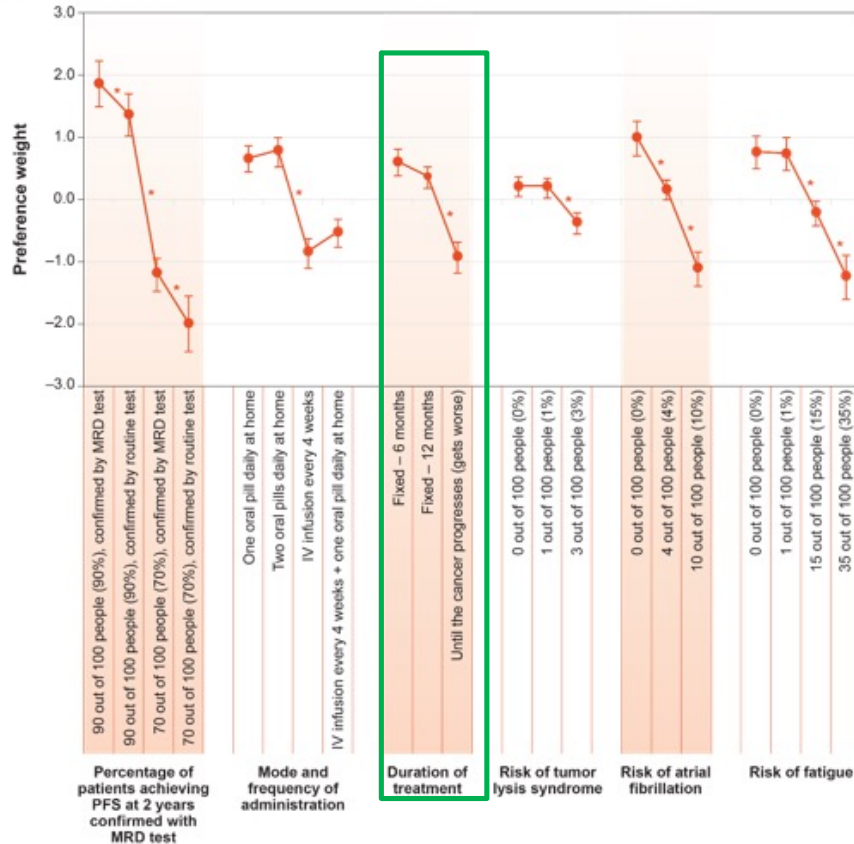
Arliene Ravelo,^{1*} Kelley Myers,² Claire Ervin,² Robyn Brumble,³ Cooper Bussberg,² Brian Koffman,³ Beenish S. Manzoor,⁴ Juliana M.L. Biondo,¹ Carol Mansfield²

Table 1. Attributes and levels for the DCE.

Type of attribute	Technical attribute label	Attribute levels
Efficacy	Percentage of patients achieving PFS at 2 years confirmed with MRD test *	90 out of 100 people (90%), confirmed by MRD test
		90 out of 100 people (90%), confirmed by routine test
		70 out of 100 people (70%), confirmed by MRD test
		70 out of 100 people (70%), confirmed by routine test
Process	Mode and frequency of administration	One oral pill daily at home
		Two oral pills daily at home
		IV infusion every 4 weeks
		IV infusion every 4 weeks + one oral pill daily at home
Process	Duration of treatment	Fixed -- 6 months
		Fixed -- 12 months
		Until the cancer progresses (gets worse)
Safety	Risk of TLS	0 out of 100 people (0%)
		1 out 100 people (1%)
		3 out of 100 people (3%)
Safety	Risk of atrial fibrillation	0 out of 100 people (0%)
		4 out of 100 people (4%)
		10 out of 100 people (10%)
Safety	Risk of fatigue	0 out of 100 people (0%)
		1 out 100 people (1%)
		15 out of 100 people (15%)
		35 out of 100 people (35%)

*In the online survey, the attribute defined by chance of PFS and results confirmed with MRD testing were presented as two distinct attributes. There are four combinations between the two levels of chance of PFS (70% vs 90%) and the two testing confirmation levels (routine tests vs. MRD tests).
IV, intravenous; MRD, measurable residual disease; PFS, progression-free survival.

Figure 2. Relative preference weights for treatment attributes (N=229).



*Asterisks placed above line segments denote attribute level changes that are statistically different from 0 at the 95% CI.
 Note: The preference weights measure the relative impact each attribute level has on the average respondent's treatment choice. Preference weights are relative to one another and do not have an absolute interpretation. The attribute levels with larger preference weights are preferred to attribute levels associated with smaller preference weights. The utility variation caused by a change in the levels of each attribute is represented by the vertical distance between the preference weights for any two levels of that attribute. Larger differences between preference weights indicate that respondents viewed the change as relatively more important. The vertical bars surrounding each mean preference weight denote the 95% CI (computed by the delta method).

Summary

Past research has shown efficacy as the most important factor, yet qualitative interview participants in this study also identified treatment duration as an important factor in their decision when choosing a chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL) therapy

This finding was confirmed by the quantitative preference study, which revealed a preference for fixed-duration therapies over treat-to-progression regardless of the timeframe (6 or 12 months)

The results from this study provide insight into which features adults with CLL consider important for their treatments and can help inform shared decision-making when selecting alternative therapies for CLL

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- Ven based combinations

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- **MRD-guided treatment**

- *Prolonged disease control*
- *Surrogate endpoint of PFS/OS in trials*
- *Need to take into account patients' preferences*