

LEUKEMIA2020-2021

April 26-27, 2021

Coordinator: A.M. Carella
AIL President: S. Amadori



Novel approaches to targeted epigenetic therapy

Simona Sica

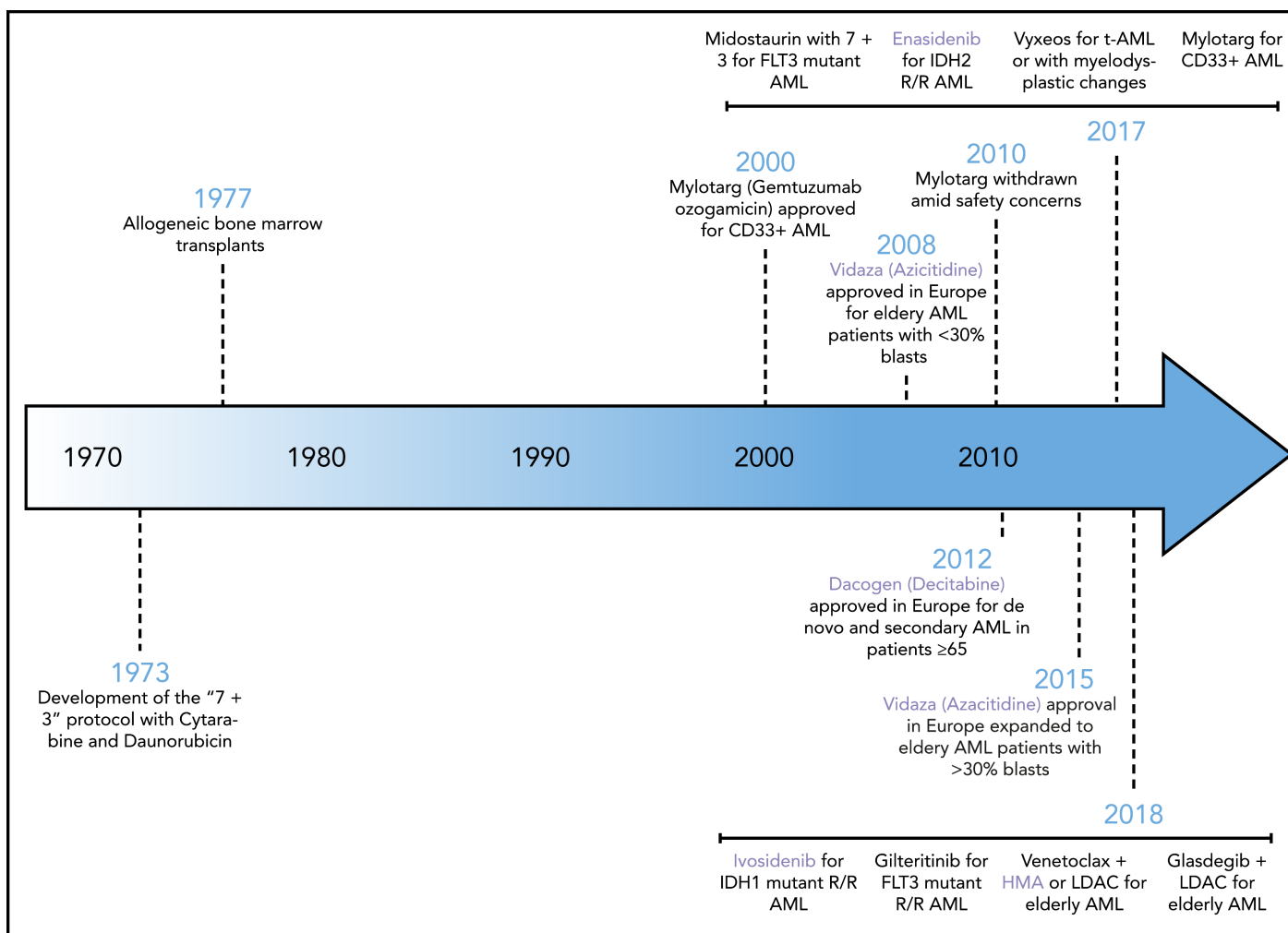
Fondazione Policlinico Universitario
A. Gemelli - IRCCS

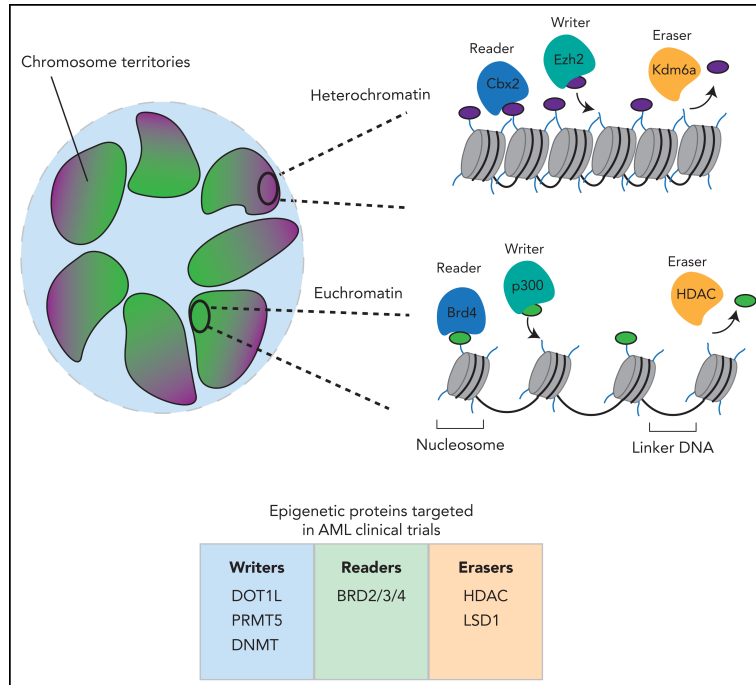
- disclosures
- Advisory board: Jazz Pharma, Alexion, Amgen

Epigenetics

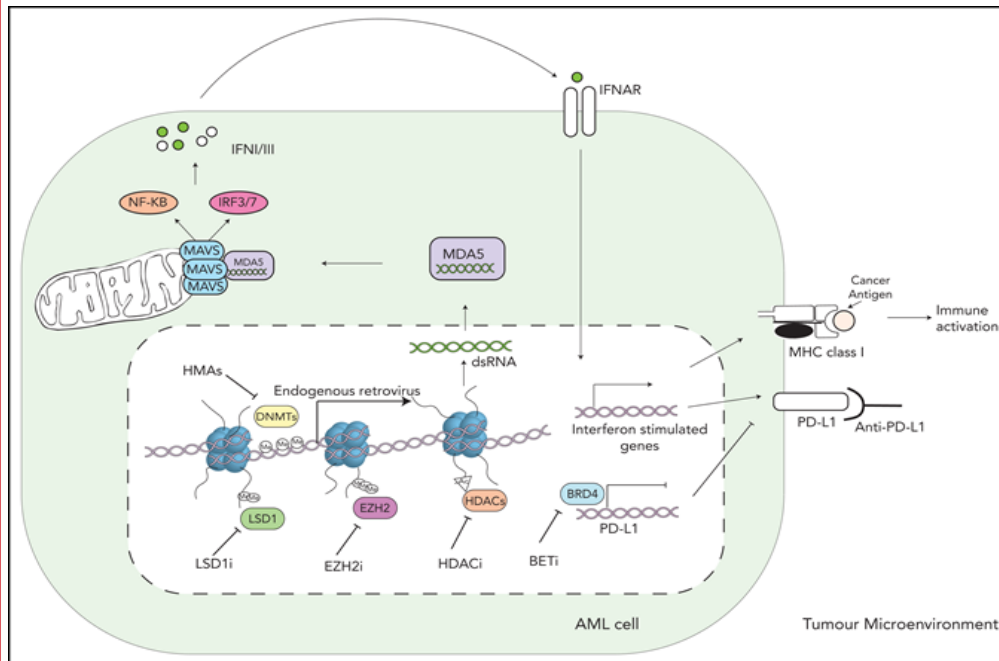
- Study of the events that regulates access to DNA template to facilitate transcription, DNA repair and DNA replication
- Many of the mutations found in AML are located in epigenetic regulators

Epigenetic therapies in acute myeloid leukemia: where to from here?



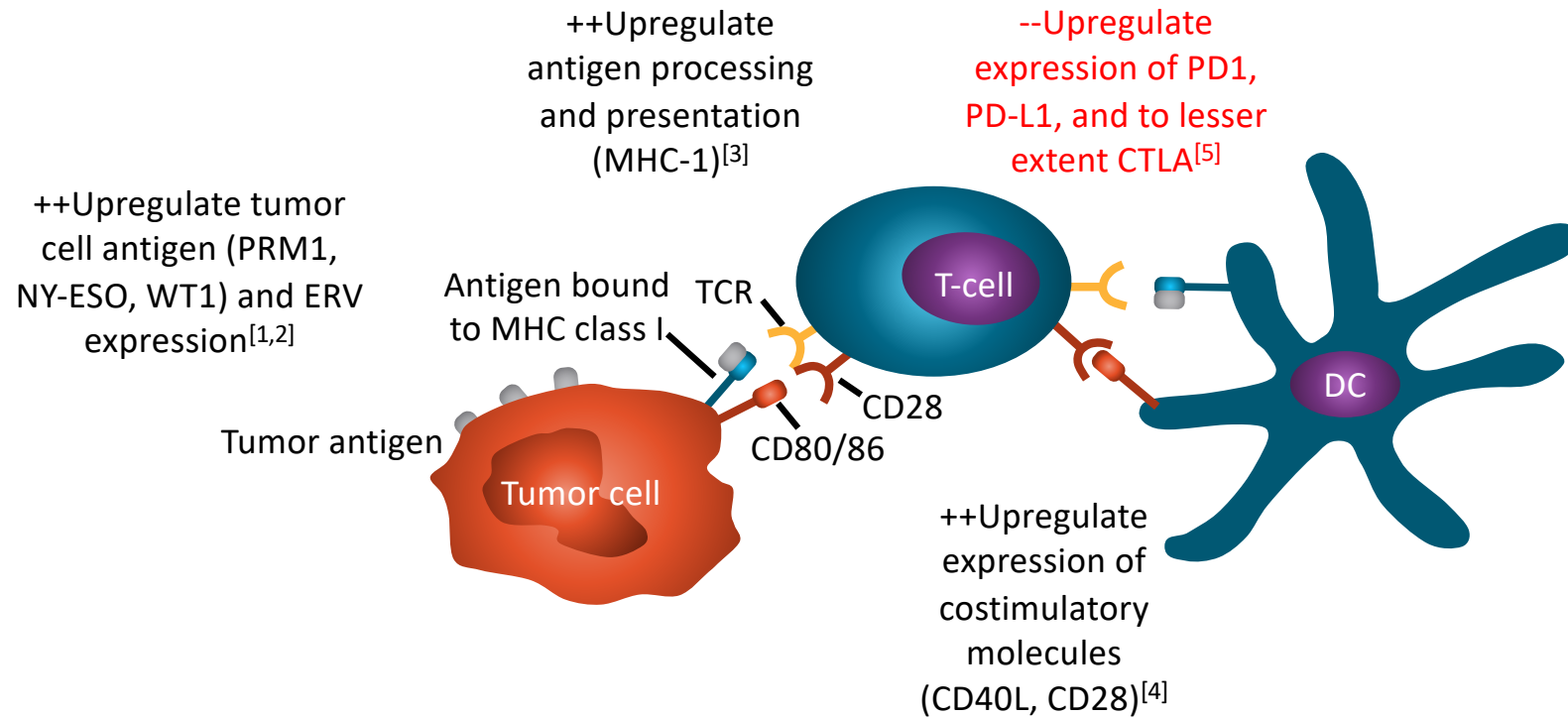


Both active and repressive histone modifications are regulated by writers, readers or erasers proteins



A large body of emerging evidence suggests that DNA hypomethylating agents can have direct or indirect effect on immuno-modulatory effect on malignant cells through derepression of immune-related genes signaling IFN, ERV with upregulation of apoptotic and IFN response genes

Hypomethylating Agents and Immune Regulation



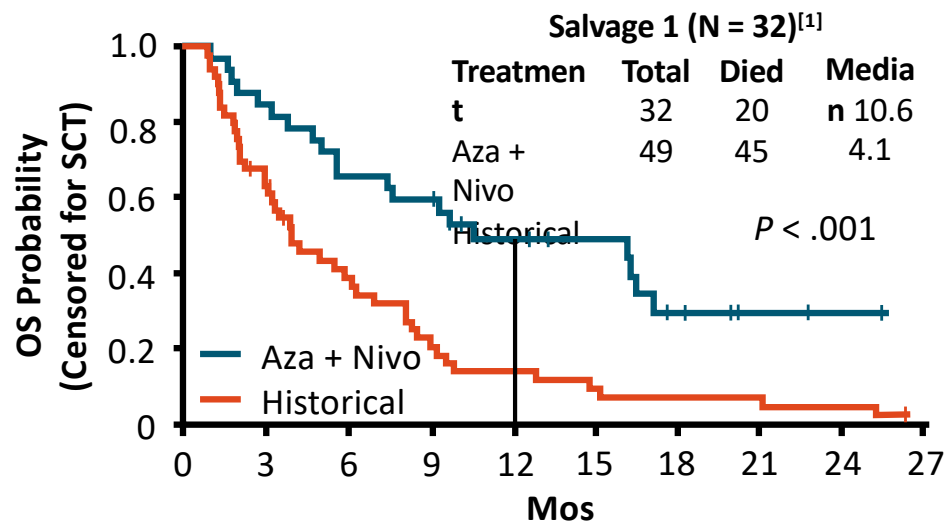
1. Sato. Cold Spring Harb Perspect Med. 2017;7. 2. Goodyear. Blood. 2010;116:1908.
3. Li. Oncotarget. 2014;5:587. 4. Wang. PLoS One. 2013;8:e62924. 5. Yang. Leukemia. 2014;28:1280.

Combinations with immunotherapies

Epigenetic therapies in combination with immunotherapies

Azacitidine + nivolumab (MDX-1106) +/-or ipilimumab (MDX-010)	DNMT + PD-1 + CTLA-4	2	2015	NCT02397720
Azacitidine + pembrolizumab (MK-3475)	DNMT + PD-1	2	2016	NCT02845297
Decitabine + ipilimumab (MDX-010)	DNMT + CTLA-4	1	2016	NCT02890329
Guadecitabine + atezolizumab (MPDL 3280A)	DNMT + PD-L1	1/2	2016	NCT02935361
Decitabine + PDR001 +/-or MBG453	DNMT + PD-1 + TIM-3	1	2017	NCT03066648
Azacitidine + Hu5F9-G4	DNMT + CD47	1	2017	NCT03248479
Decitabine + CDX-1401 + poly ICLC + nivolumab (MDX-1106)	DNMT + DEC-205 + TLR-3 + PD-1	1	2017	NCT03358719
Decitabine + avelumab	DNMT + PD-L1	1	2018	NCT03395873
Azacitidine + nivolumab (ADVL1412)	DNMT + PD-1	1/2	2019	NCT03825367

OS of Azacitidine + Nivolumab vs Historical HMA Combinations at MDACC; Censored for SCT



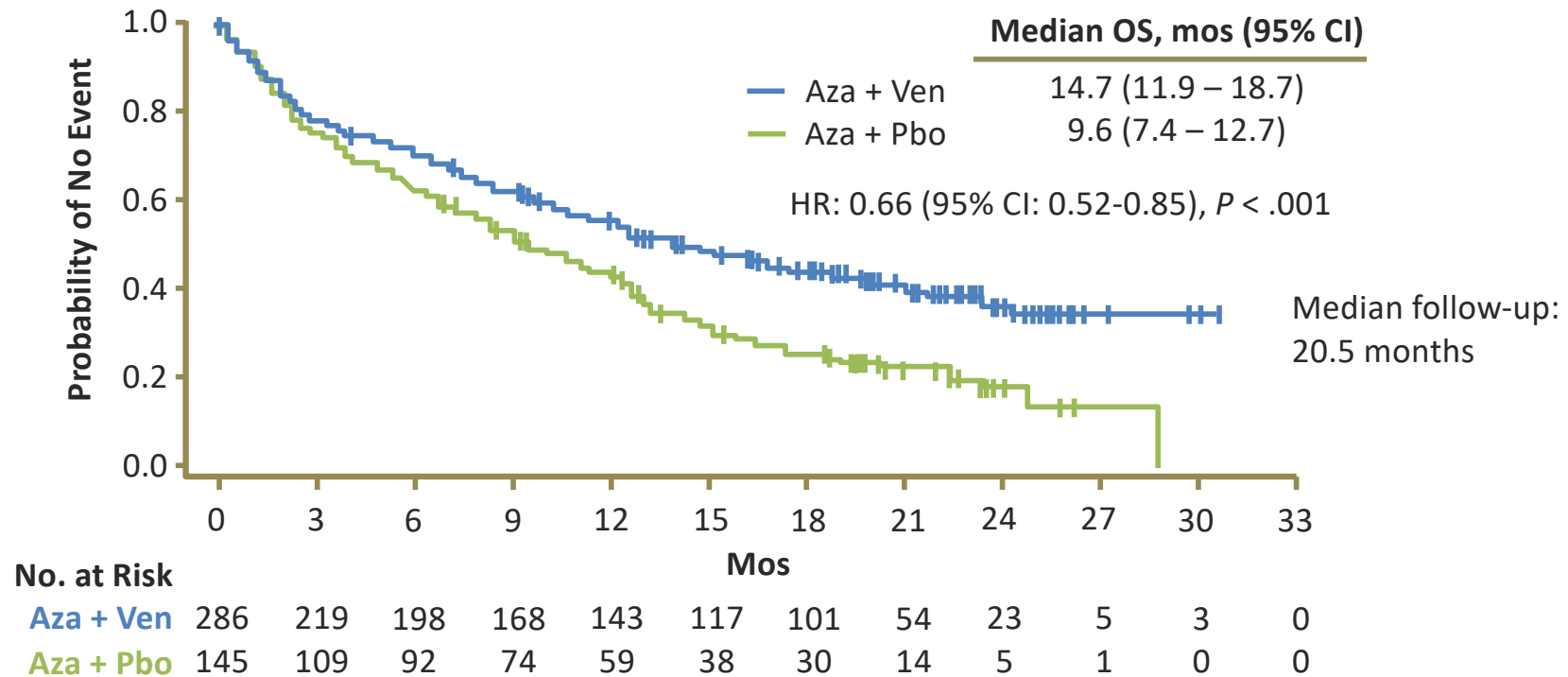
- Salvage 1^[1]
 - Median age: 72 yrs
 - Secondary AML: 42%
 - Adverse cytogenetics: 35%
- Expected survival in salvage 1/2: 5-7 mos, 12-mo OS (N = 655): 16%^[2]
- Survival with HMA + venetoclax in salvage (off protocol): 3-4 mos^[3]

1. Daver. EHA 2017. Abstr S474. 2. Stahl. Blood Adv. 2018;2:923. 3. DiNardo. Am J Hematol. 2018;93:401.

Drug	Targets	Phase	Date	Clinical trial
Combinations of epigenetic therapies				
Azacitidine + entinostat (MS275)	DNMT + HDAC	2	2011	NCT01305499
Azacitidine + FT-2102	DNMT1 + IDH1	1/2	2016	NCT02719574
Azacitidine + LSD1 inhibitor (NCB059872)	DNMT1 + LSD1	1/2	2016	NCT02712905
Azacitidine + ivosidenib (AG-120)	DNMT + IDH1	3	2017	NCT03173248
Azacitidine + pracinostat (SB939)	DNMT + HDAC	3	2017	NCT03151408
Decitabine + vorinostat before or during FLAG	DNMT + HDAC	1	2017	NCT03263936
Azacitidine + PRMT5 inhibitor (GSK3326595)	DNMT + PRMT5	1	2018	NCT03614728
Low-dose azacitidine + vorinostat after alloHSCT	DNMT + HDAC	1	2019	NCT03843528

Epigenetic therapies in combination with targeted therapies				
Azacitidine + milademetan	DNMT + MDM2	1	2014	NCT02319369
Decitabine + rapamycin or ribavirin	DNMT + mTOR	1/2	2014	NCT02109744
Decitabine + BI836858	DNMT + CD33	2	2015	NCT02632721
Decitabine + BP1001	DNMT + Grb-2	2	2016	NCT02781883
Azacitidine + gilteritinib (ASP2215)	DNMT + FLT3	2/3	2016	NCT02752035
Decitabine + talazoparib	DNMT + PARP	1/2	2016	NCT02878785
Decitabine + onvansertib	DNMT + PLK1	1b/2	2017	NCT03303339
Azacitidine + AZD2811 nanoparticles	DNMT + AURKB	2	2017	NCT03217838
Azacitidine + SL-401	DNMT + IL3	1	2017	NCT03113643
Decitabine + AMG-232	DNMT + MDM2	1	2017	NCT03041688
Decitabine + pevonedistat (MLN4924)	DNMT + NEDD8	1	2017	NCT03009240
Azacitidine + pevonedistat	DNMT + NEDD8	3	2017	NCT03268954
Decitabine + venetoclax (ABT-199)	DNMT + BCL-2	2	2018	NCT03404193
Azacitidine + pevonedistat	DNMT + NEDD8	2	2018	NCT03709576
Azacitidine + HMPL-523	DNMT + SYK	1	2018	NCT03483948
Decitabine + quizartinib (AC-220)	DNMT + FLT3	1/2	2018	NCT03661307
Azacitidine + enasidenib mesylate (AG-221 mesylate)	DNMT + IDH2	2	2018	NCT03683433
Azacitidine + nintedanib (BIBF-1120)	DNMT + VEGF + FGFR + PDGFR	1	2018	NCT03513484
Belinostat (PCD-101) + pevonedistat (MLN4924)	HDAC + NEDD8	1	2018	NCT03772925
Azacitidine + glasdegib (PF-04449913)	DNMT + SHH	3	2018	NCT03416179
Pracinostat + gemtuzumab ozogamicin	HDAC + CD33	1	2019	NCT03848754
Azacitidine or decitabine + venetoclax (ABT-199)	DNMT + BCL-2	3	2019	NCT03941964
Azacitidine + APR-246	DNMT + P53	2	2019	NCT03931291

VIALE-A: Venetoclax + Azacitidine vs Azacitidine—OS





National
Comprehensive
Cancer
Network®

NCCN Guidelines Version 1.2021 Acute Myeloid Leukemia (Age ≥18 years)

[NCCN Guidelines Index](#)
[Table of Contents](#)
[Discussion](#)

THERAPY FOR RELAPSED/REFRACTORY DISEASE¹

Clinical trial¹

Targeted therapy:

- Therapy for AML with *FLT3*-ITD mutation
 - ▶ Gilteritinib² (category 1)
 - ▶ Hypomethylating agents (azacitidine or decitabine) + sorafenib^{3,4}
- Therapy for AML with *FLT3*-TKD mutation
 - ▶ Gilteritinib² (category 1)
- Therapy for AML with *IDH2* mutation
 - ▶ Enasidenib⁵
- Therapy for AML with *IDH1* mutation
 - ▶ Ivosidenib⁶
- Therapy for CD33-positive AML
 - ▶ Gemtuzumab ozogamicin⁷

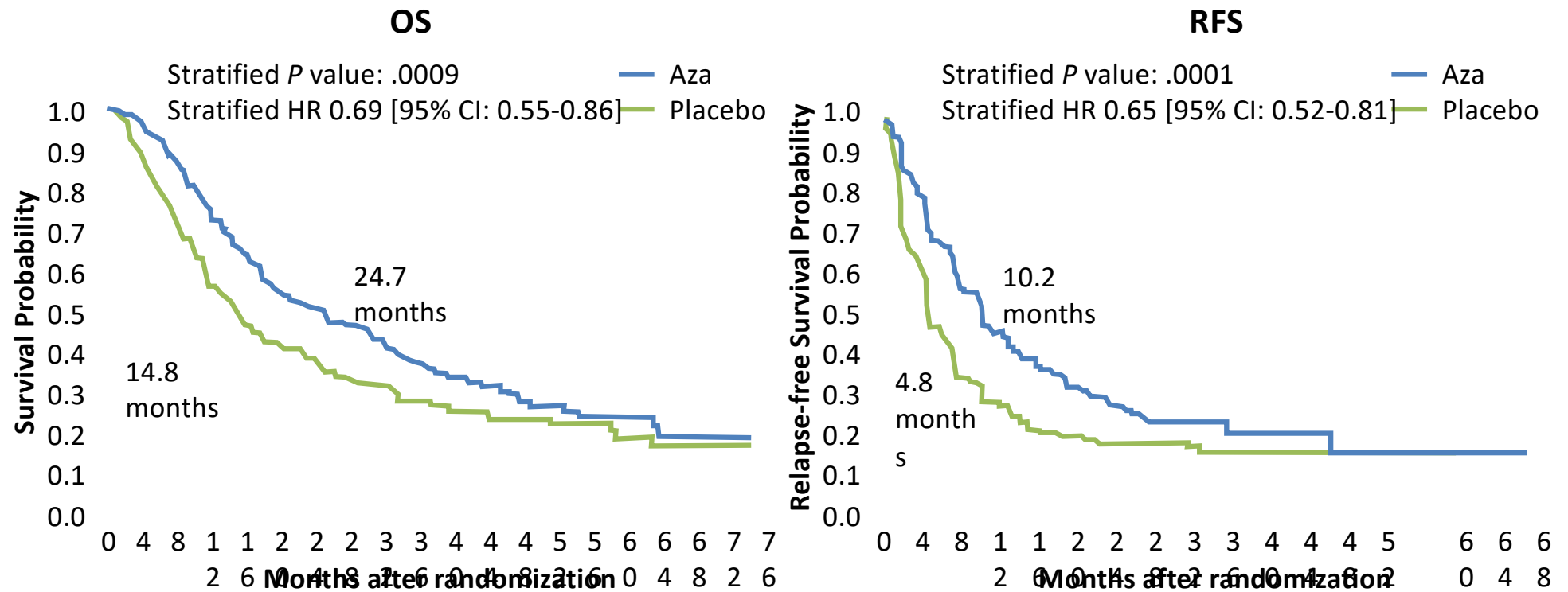
Aggressive therapy for appropriate patients:

- Cladribine + cytarabine + G-CSF ± mitoxantrone or idarubicin^{8,9}
- HiDAC (if not received previously in treatment) ± (idarubicin or daunorubicin or mitoxantrone)¹⁰
- Fludarabine + cytarabine + G-CSF ± idarubicin^{11,12}
- Etoposide + cytarabine ± mitoxantrone¹³
- Clofarabine ± cytarabine ± idarubicin^{14,15}

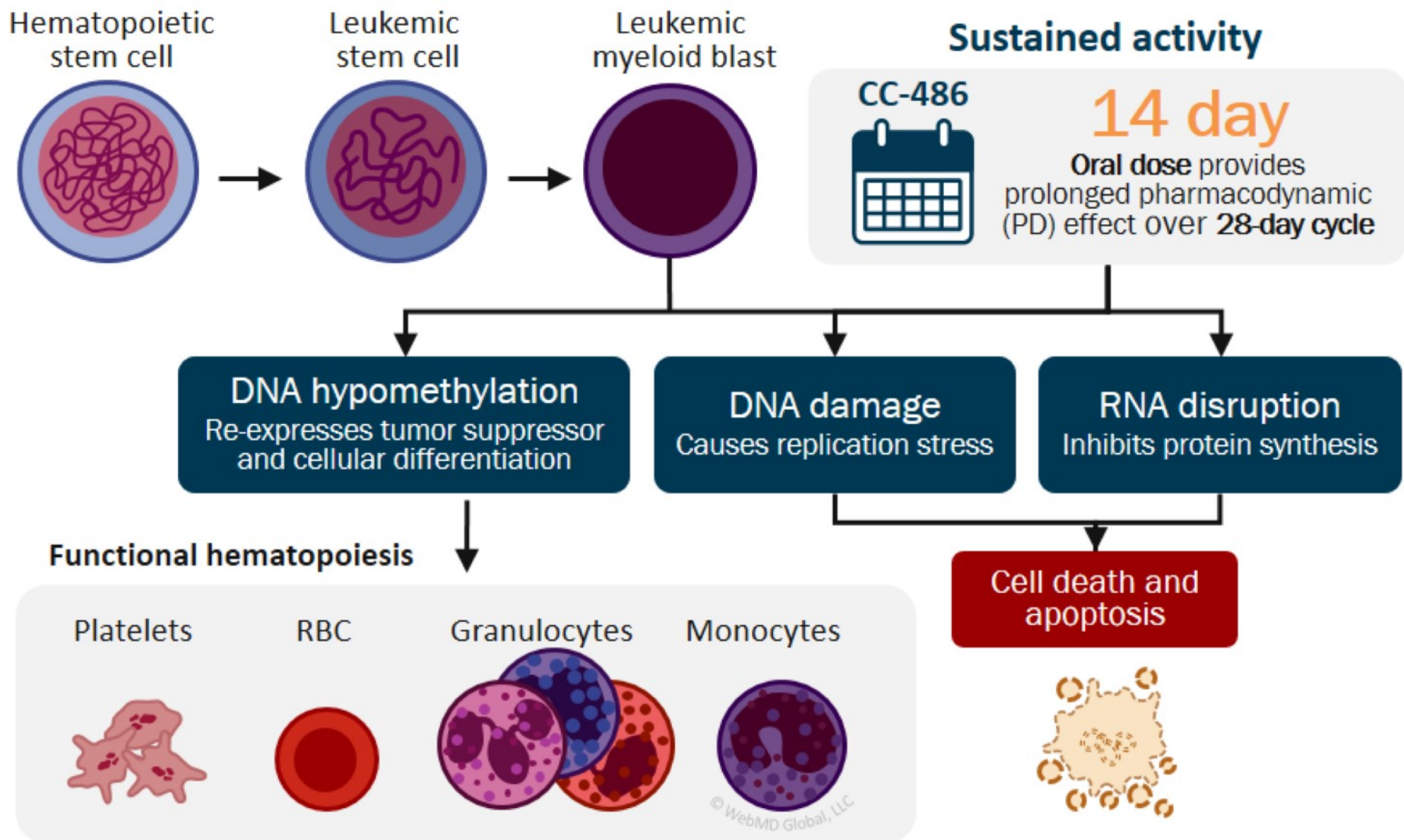
Less aggressive therapy:

- Hypomethylating agents (azacitidine or decitabine)
- LDAC (category 2B)
- Venetoclax¹⁶ + HMA/LDAC^{17,18}

QUAZAR AML-001: Survival and RFS



Biologic Consequences of CC-486 vs Azacitidine



Open-Label Phase 1b Trial of Ivosidenib + Azacitidine for Newly Diagnosed *IDH1*-Mutant AML

Patients

- N = 23
 - Dose-finding phase: n = 7
 - Dose expansion phase: n = 16
- Confirmed *IDH1* mutation
- Unfit for intensive chemotherapy
- No prior treatment with azacitidine or decitabine
- ECOG PS 0-2
- Adequate renal and hepatic function
- Median age (range): 76 y (61 - 88)

Treatment

- Continuous 28-day cycles
 - Oral ivosidenib 500 mg once daily
 - SC azacitidine 75 mg/m² on days 1-7 of each cycle
- Treatment continued until disease progression, unacceptable toxicity, withdrawal of consent, or investigator judgment
- Key objectives: safety and clinical activity
- Median treatment duration (range): 15.1 mo (0.3 - 32.2)
- Median follow-up: 16 mo

Open-Label Phase 1b Trial of Ivosidenib + Azacitidine

Hematologic Responses and TEAEs

Hematologic Response Category	Response	Grade ≥ 3 TEAEs Occurring in ≥ 3 Pts	Pts, n (%)
CR + CRh, n (%) [95% CI]	16 (69.6) [47.1, 86.8]	Any cause	23 (100)
Median time to CR/CRh, mo (range)	2.8 (0.8-11.5)	Thrombocytopenia	14 (60.9)
Median DOR, mo (95% CI)	NE (12.2, NE)	Anemia	10 (43.5)
CR, n (%) [95% CI]	14 (60.9) [38.5, 80.3]	Febrile neutropenia	10 (43.5)
Median time to CR, mo (range)	3.7 (0.8-15.7)	Neutropenia	7 (30.4)
Median DOR, mo (95% CI)	NE (9.3, NE)	Sepsis	5 (21.7)
ORR*, n (%) [95% CI]	18 (78.3) [56.3, 92.5]	ECG QT Prolonged	3 (13.0)
Median time to response, mo (range)	1.8 (0.7-3.8)		
Median DOR, mo (95% CI)	NE (10.3, NE)		

12-month survival estimate (95% CI): 82% (58.8%, 92.8%)

*ORR = CR + CRi + CRp + PR + MLFS

DiNardo CD, et al. *J Clin Oncol*. 2020. [Epub ahead of print.]

AG221-AML-005: Addition of Enasidenib to Azacitidine in Newly Diagnosed AML with Mutated *IDH2*

- Dose-finding (3+3) phase Ib study followed by randomized phase II study

Adult patients with
mutant *IDH2* ND AML,
ineligible for intensive
CT and no history of
treatment with
hypomethylating agents
(N = 101)

2:1

Enasidenib 100 mg QD +
Azacitidine 75 mg/m²/day SQ x 7 days/28-day cycle
(n = 68)

Azacitidine Monotherapy
75 mg/m²/day SQ x 7 days/28-day cycle
(n = 33)

- Primary endpoint: ORR
- Key secondary endpoints: CR, safety, OS, EFS

AG221-AML-005: Response Rates

- ORR and CR rates significantly higher with enasidenib + azacitidine vs azacitidine alone

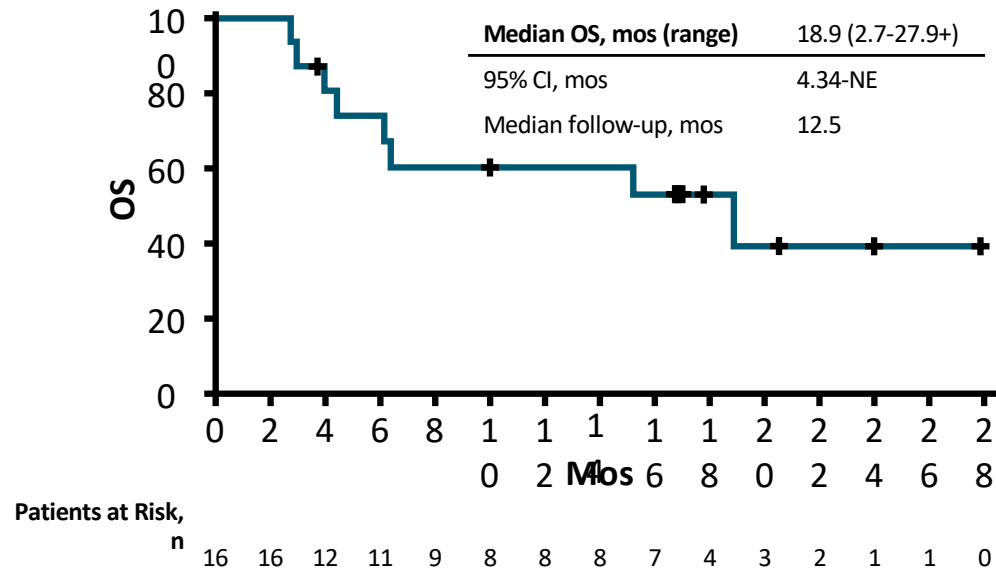
Endpoint	Enasidenib + Azacitidine (n = 68)	Azacitidine Monotherapy (n = 33)	P Value
ORR, % (95% CI)	71 (58-81)	42 (26-61)	.0064
CR, % (95% CI)	53 (41-65)	12 (3-28)	.0001
CRi/CRp, n (%)	7 (10)	4 (12)	--
PR, n (%)	3 (4)	4 (12)	--
MLFS	2 (3)	2 (6)	--
SD, n (%)	13 (19)	13 (39)	--
Disease progression, n (%)	2 (3)	1 (3)	--
Missing data or not evaluable, n (%)	5 (7)	5 (15)	--

Endpoint	Enasidenib + Azacitidine (n = 68)	Azacitidine Monotherapy (n = 33)	P Value
Median time to first response, mos (range)	1.9 (0.7-9.0)	2.0 (0.8-5.8)	--
Median time to CR, mos (range)	5.5 (0.7-19.5)	3.7 (3.0-4.1)	--
Median duration of response, mos (95% CI)	24.1 (11.1-NR)	12.1 (2.8-14.6)	.0548

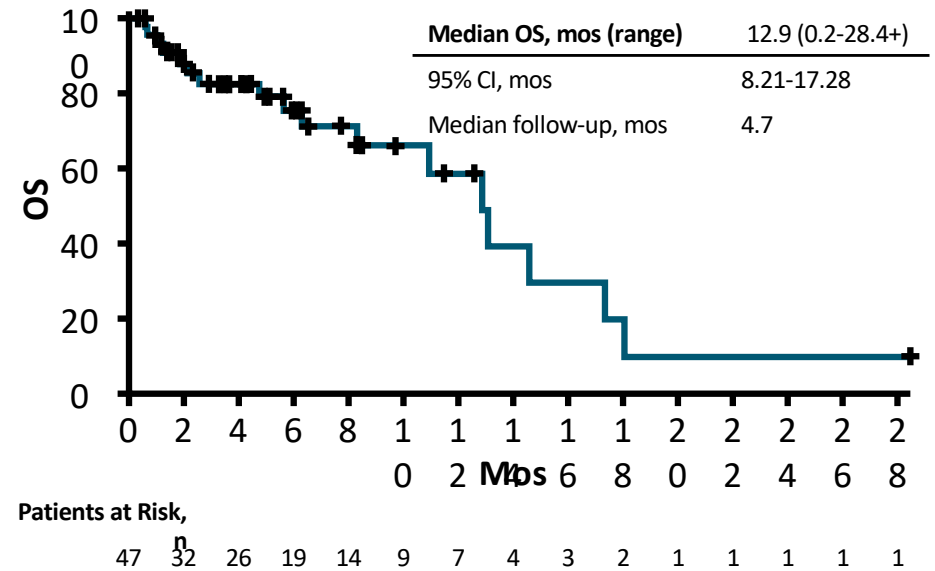
DiNardo. ASCO 2020. Abstract 7501.

Magrolimab + Azacitidine in Untreated AML: Preliminary OS

TP53 Wild Type (n = 16)

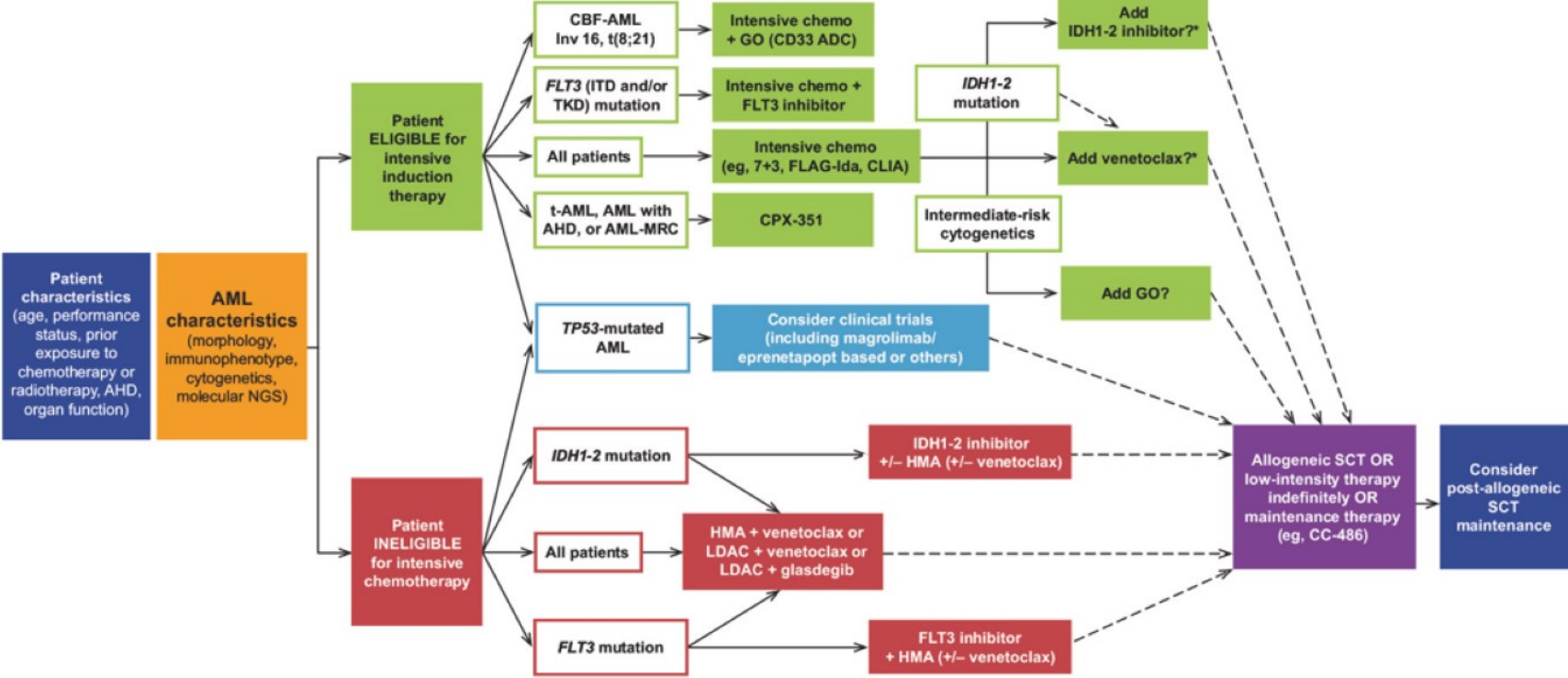


TP53 Mutant (n = 47)

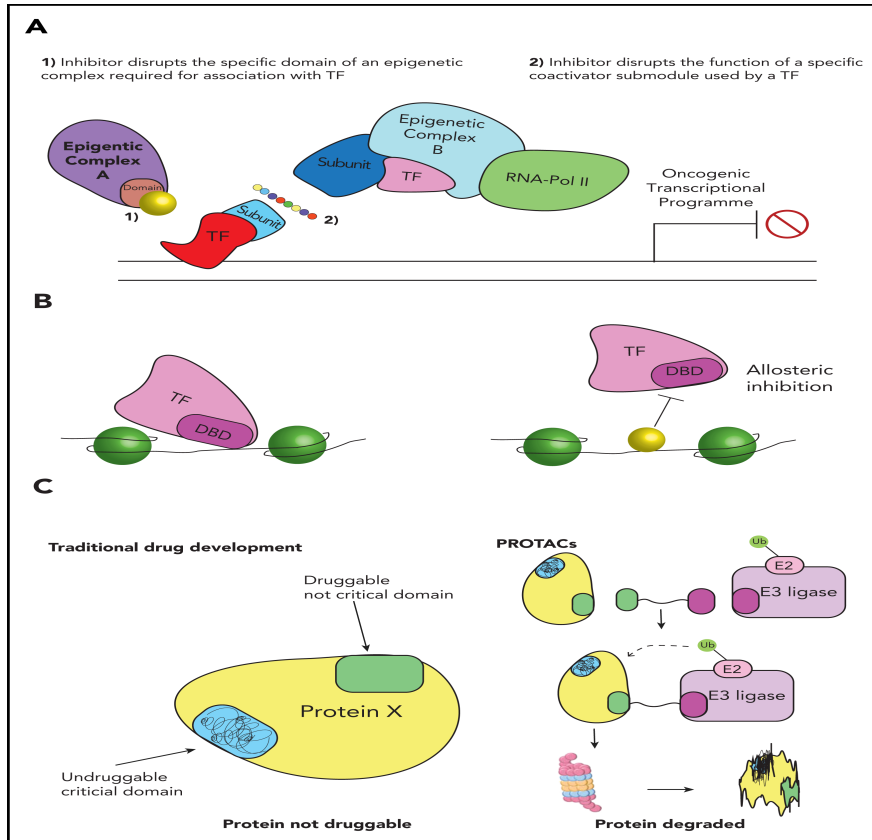


Sallman. ASH 2020. Abstr 330. Reproduced with permission.

Diagnostic and Treatment Paradigm for Newly Diagnosed AML



Daver N, et al. *Blood Cancer J.* 2020;10:107.



Disrupting specific epigenetic programs

Conclusions

- Epigenetics therapies are not cytotoxic drugs
- Many of these drugs take months to exert their maximum effect
- Immune system may play a critical role in their clinical activity
- Appropriate combination therapies required

Grazie