

LEUKEMIA 2020-2021



April 26-27, 2021

Coordinator: A.M. Carella

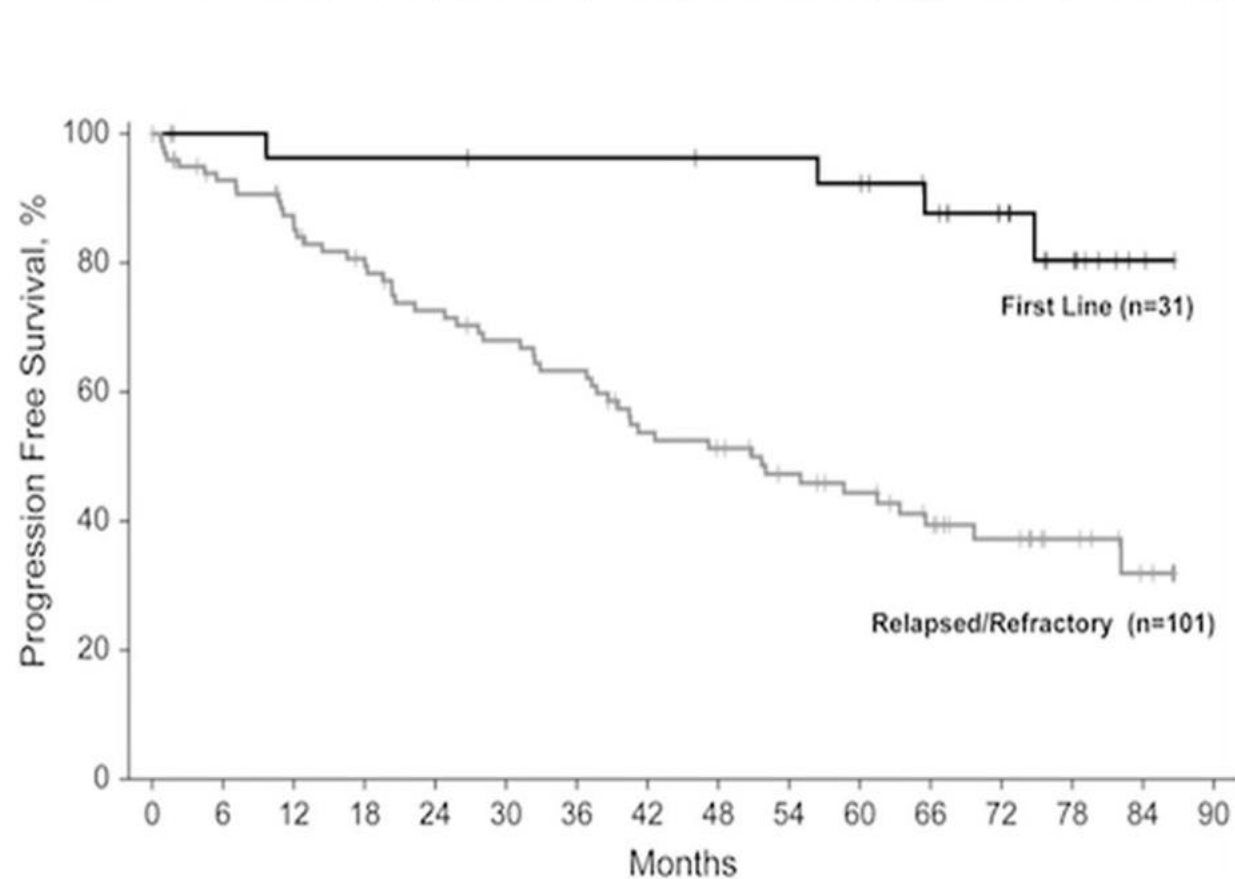
AIL President: S. Amadori

Treatment with novel drugs: until progression? NO

Marco Montillo
Niguarda Cancer Center
Niguarda Hospital
Milano - Italy

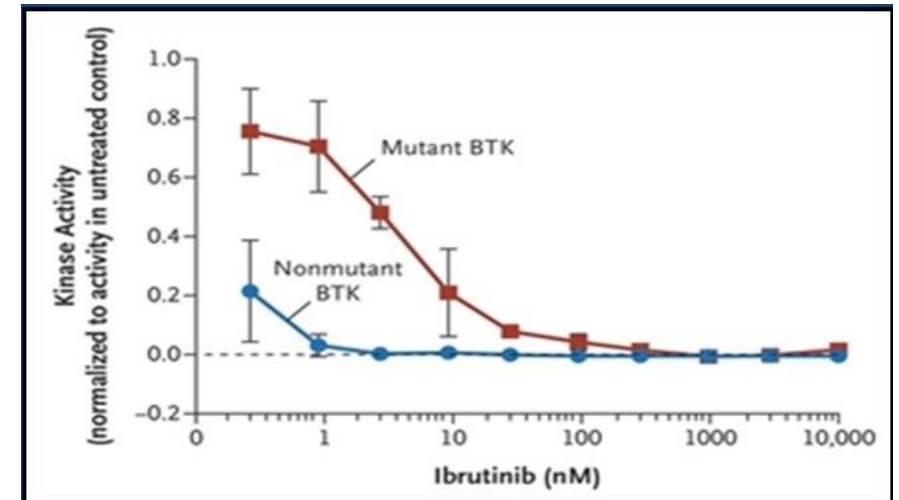
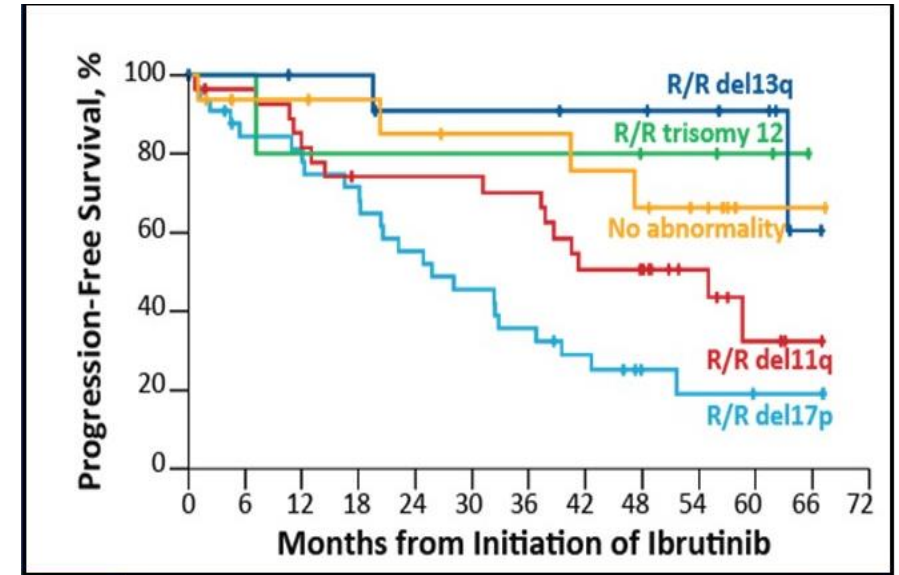
Frontline Ibrutinib monotherapy can lead to very durable responses but requires continuous drug dosing

Figure 1. PFS for All-Treated First Line and Relapsed/Refractory Patients with CLL



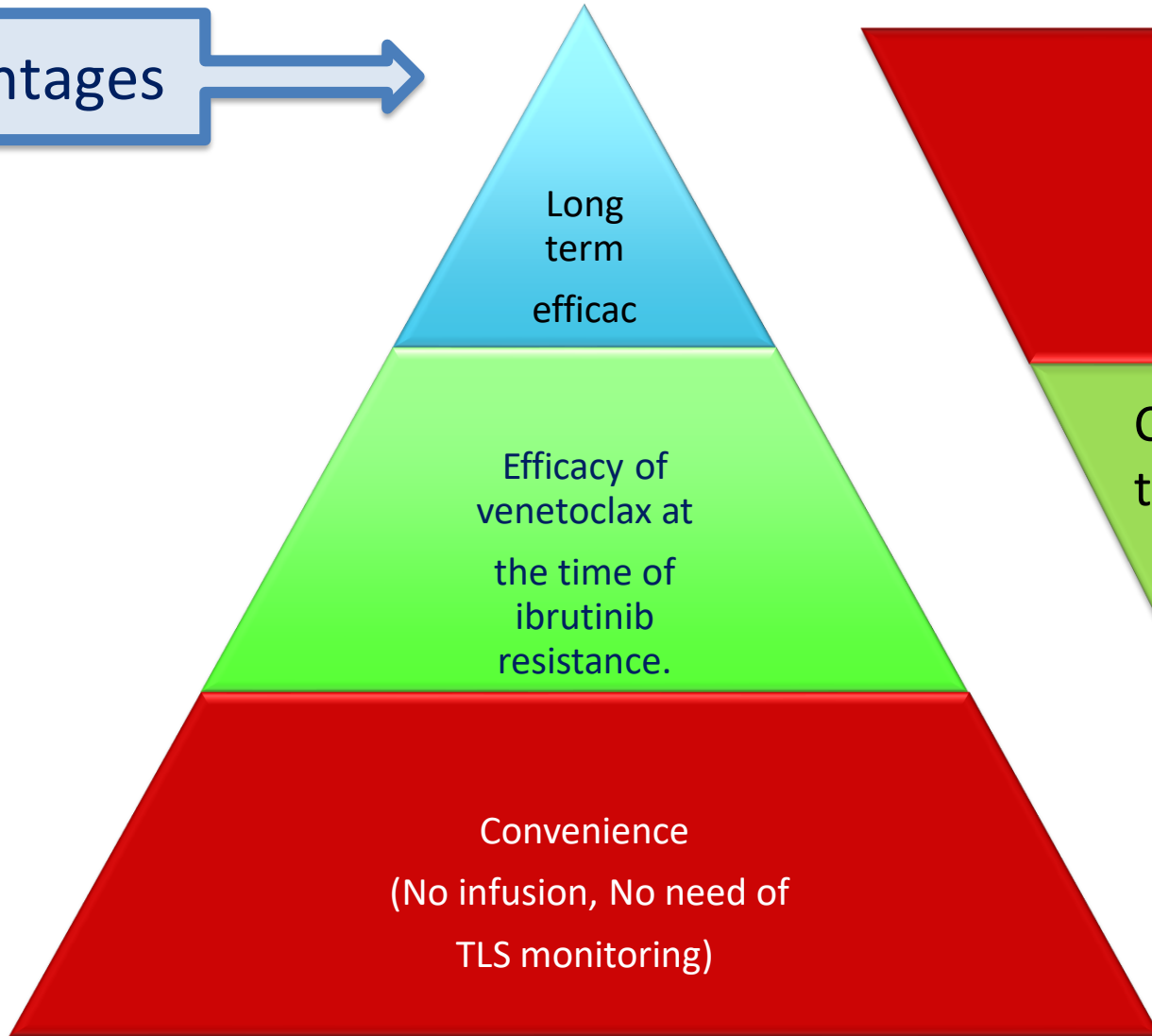
Why not use indefinite novel agent monotherapy ?

- Achievement of uMRD is rare
- Duration of response in del(17p)/complex karyotype is relatively short
- Resistance mutations described
- Potential for ongoing toxicities
- Long term adherence issues
- Cost



Ibrutinib : Factors to consider

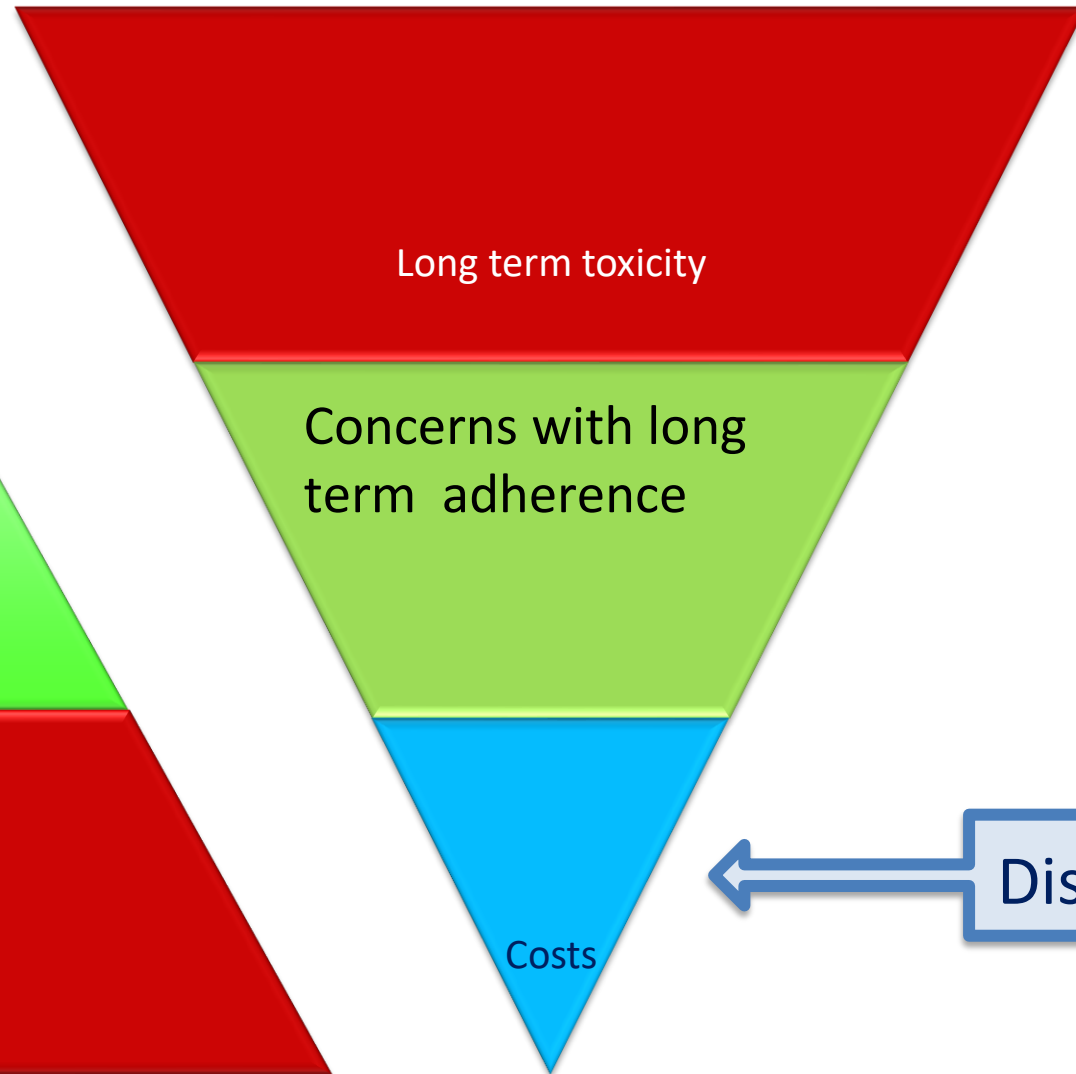
Advantages



Long term efficac

Efficacy of venetoclax at the time of ibrutinib resistance.

Convenience
(No infusion, No need of TLS monitoring)



Long term toxicity

Concerns with long term adherence

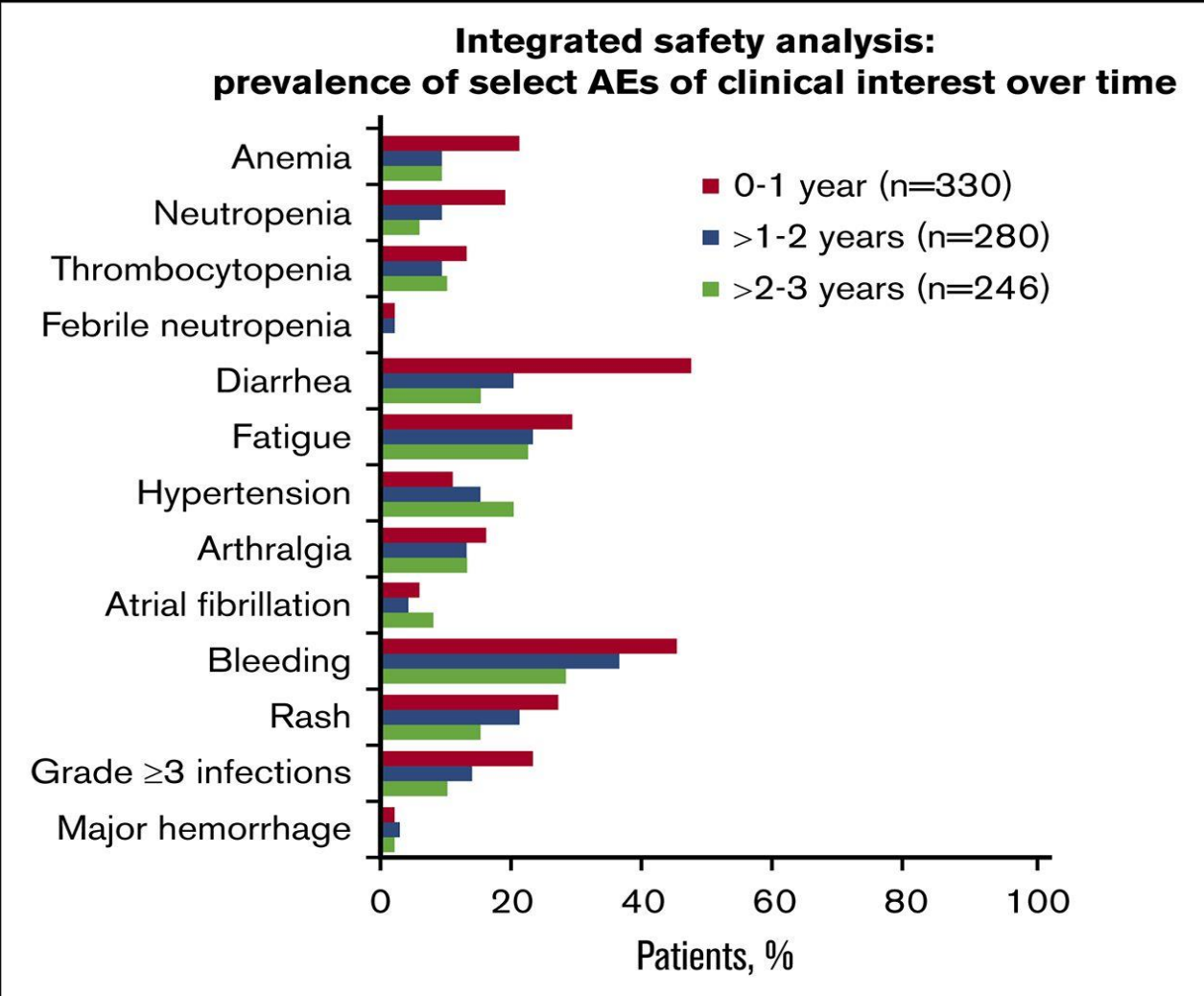
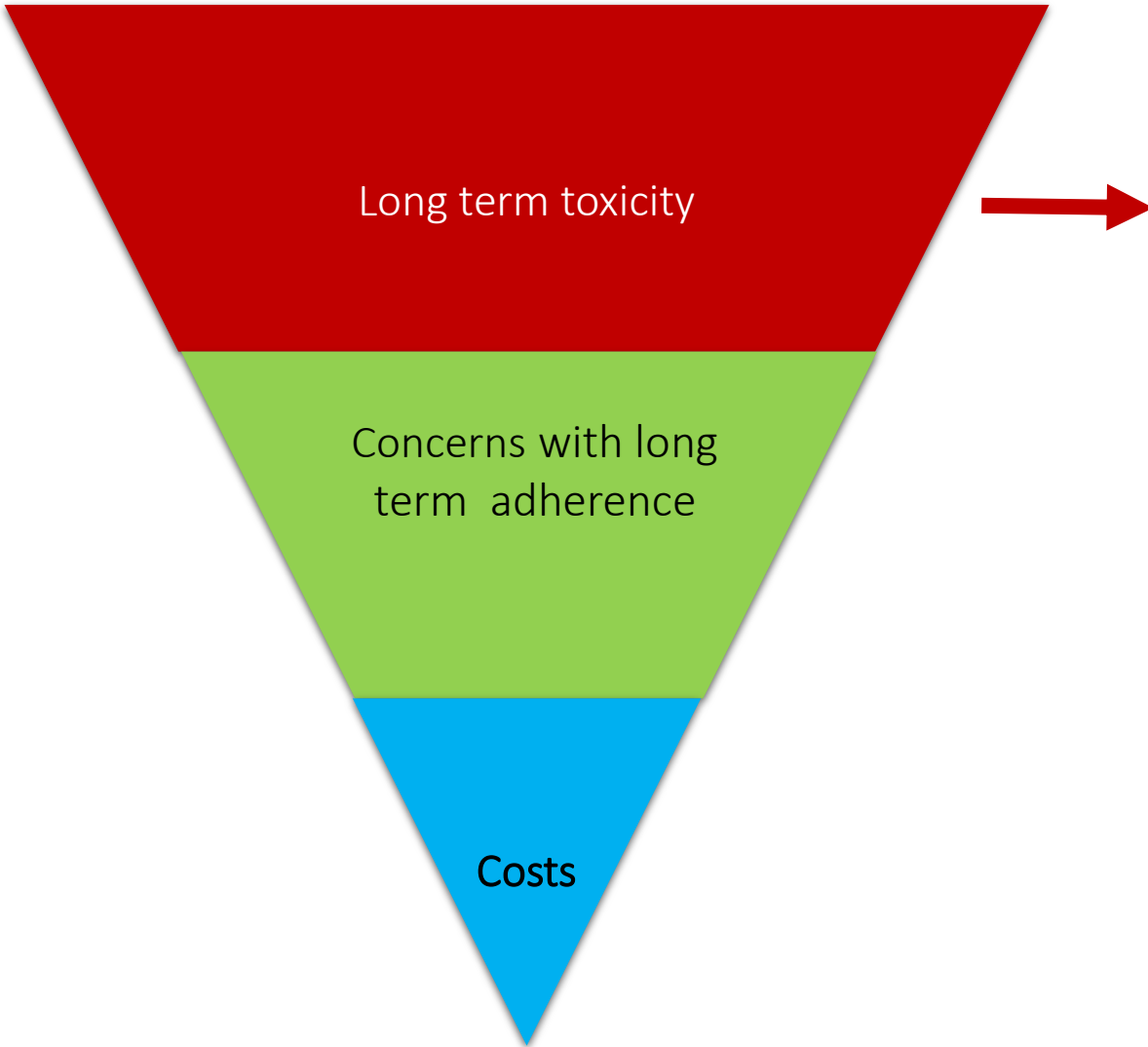
Costs

Disadvantages



Long-term safety of single-agent ibrutinib in patients with CLL in 3 pivotal studies (RESONATE, RESONATE2, PCYC-1102/1103)

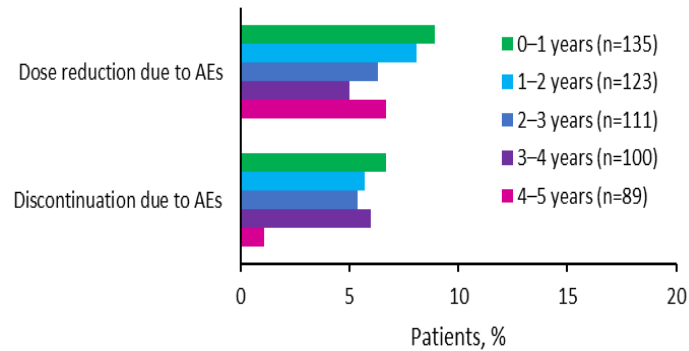
Disadvantages



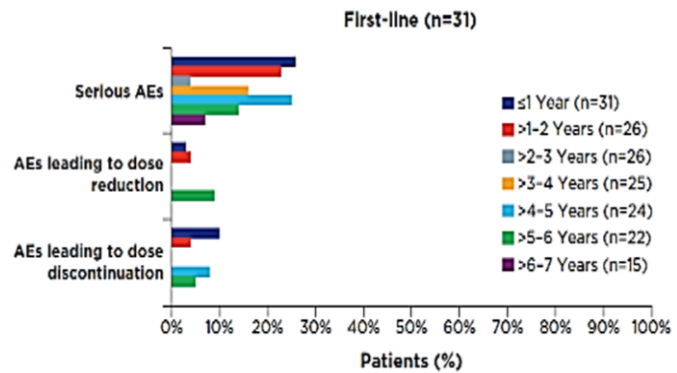
Dose Reductions and Discontinuations due to AEs by year of treatment

Treatment Naïve

Resonate-2^a



PCYC-1102^b



^aBurger et al., 2019

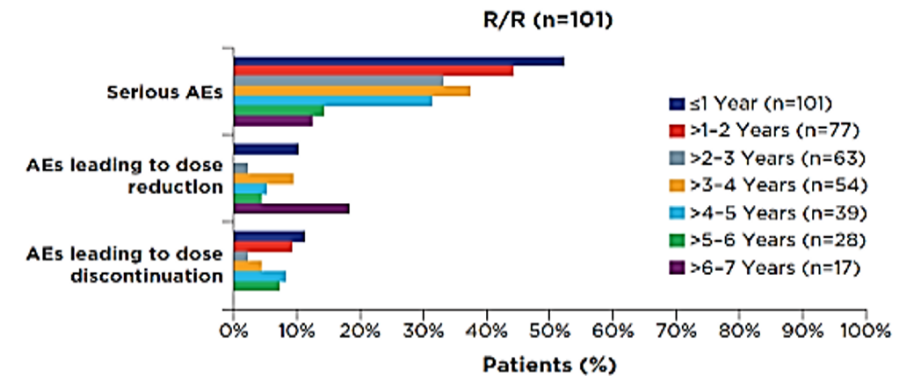
^bByrd et al., 2018

Relapsed Refractory

Resonate^c

Year	Discontinuations due to AE (%)
0-1 y	6%
1-2 y	3%
2-3 y	4%
3-4 y	4%
4-5 y	6%
5-6 y	4%

PCYC-1102^d



^cByrd et al., 2018

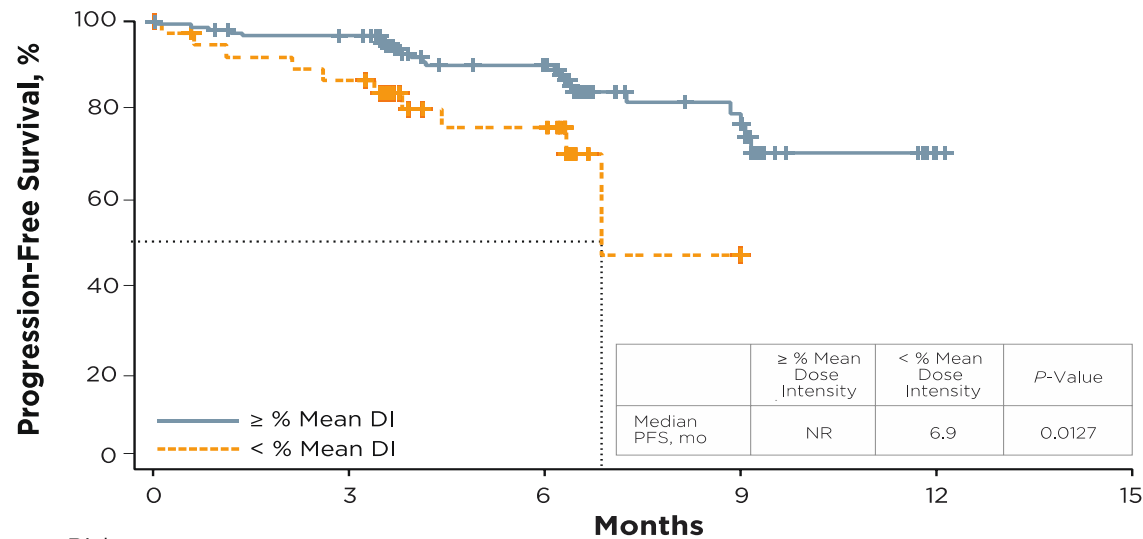
^dMunir et al., 2019

Ibrutinib discontinuation

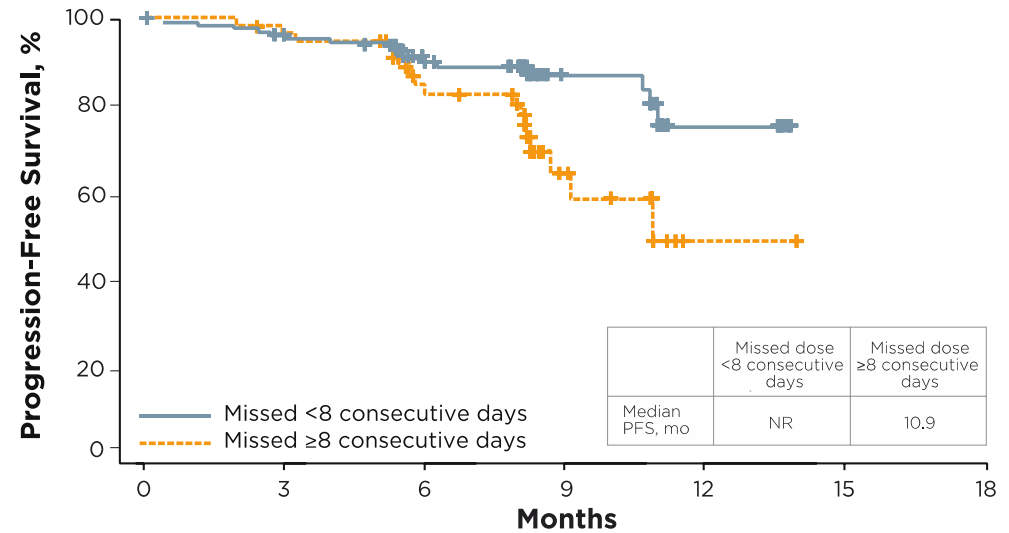
Impact of ibrutinib dose adherence on therapeutic efficacy in patients with previously treated CLL/SLL

Paul M. Barr,¹ Jennifer R. Brown,² Peter Hillmen,³ Susan O'Brien,⁴ Jacqueline C. Barrientos,⁵ Nishitha M. Reddy,⁶ Steven Coutre,⁷ Stephen P. Mulligan,⁸ Ulrich Jaeger,⁹ Richard R. Furman,¹⁰ Florence Cymbalista,¹¹ Marco Montillo,¹² Claire Dearden,¹³ Tadeusz Robak,¹⁴ Carol Moreno,¹⁵ John M. Pagel,¹⁶ Jan A. Burger,⁴ Samuel Suzuki,¹⁷ Juthamas Sukbuntherng,¹⁷ George Cole,¹⁷ Danelle F. James,¹⁷ and John C. Byrd¹⁸

PFS by Mean Dose Intensity

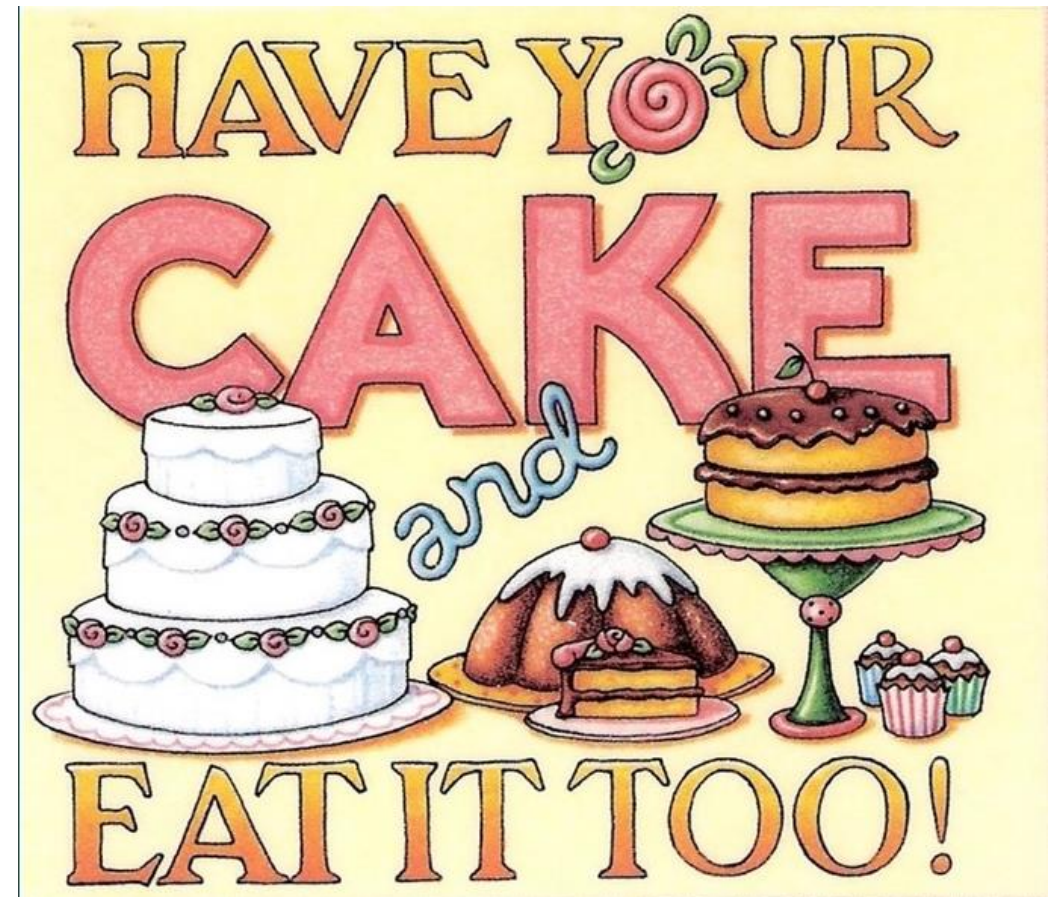


PFS by Missed Dose ≥8 Consecutive Days



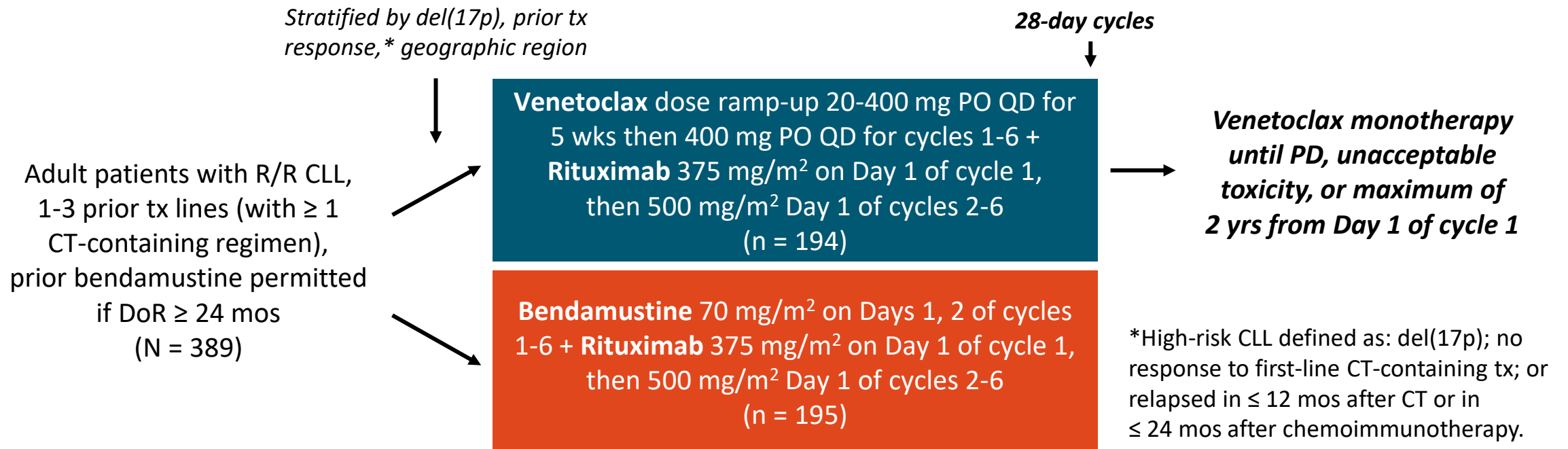
DI: proportion of administered vs. planned doses of the full 420 mg ibrutinib dose.

**It is possible to have a highly effective,
time limited, novel agent only
regimen for a diverse array of CLL patients?**



Phase III Trial of Venetoclax + Rituximab vs BR in Previously Treated CLL/SLL (MURANO): Study Design

- Multicenter, randomized, open-label phase III trial



- Primary endpoint: investigator-assessed PFS
- Secondary endpoints: IRC-assessed PFS and MRD negativity, IRC-assessed CR \rightarrow ORR \rightarrow OS (hierarchical testing), safety

Venetoclax : Factors to consider

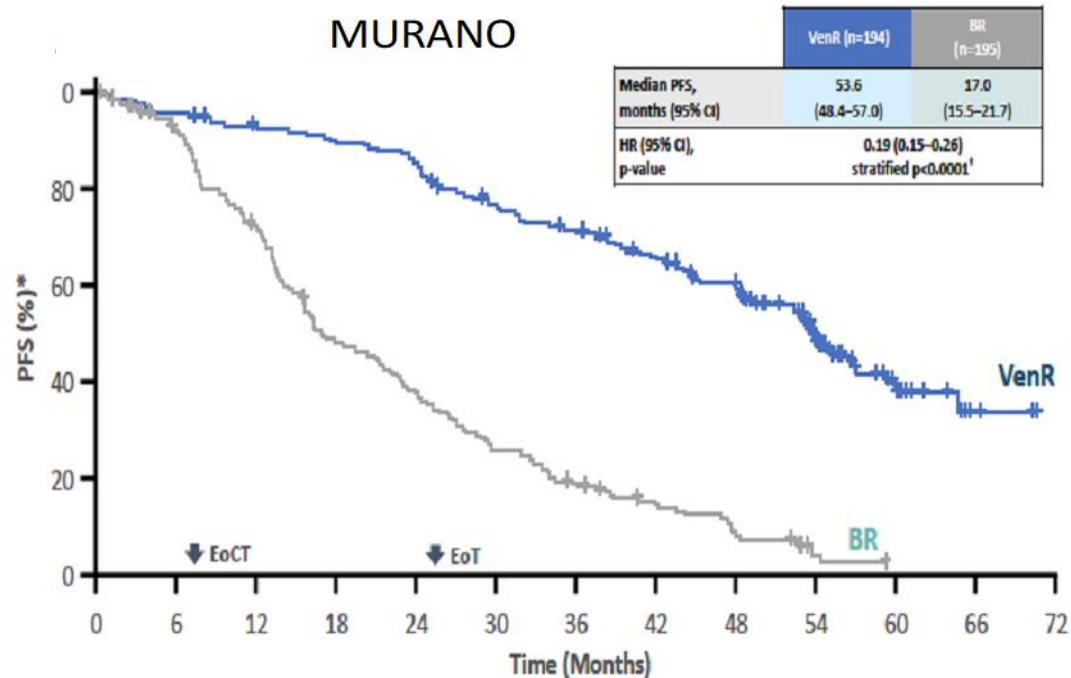
Advantages

Long term efficacy

Is ibrutinib effective at the time of venetoclax progression ?

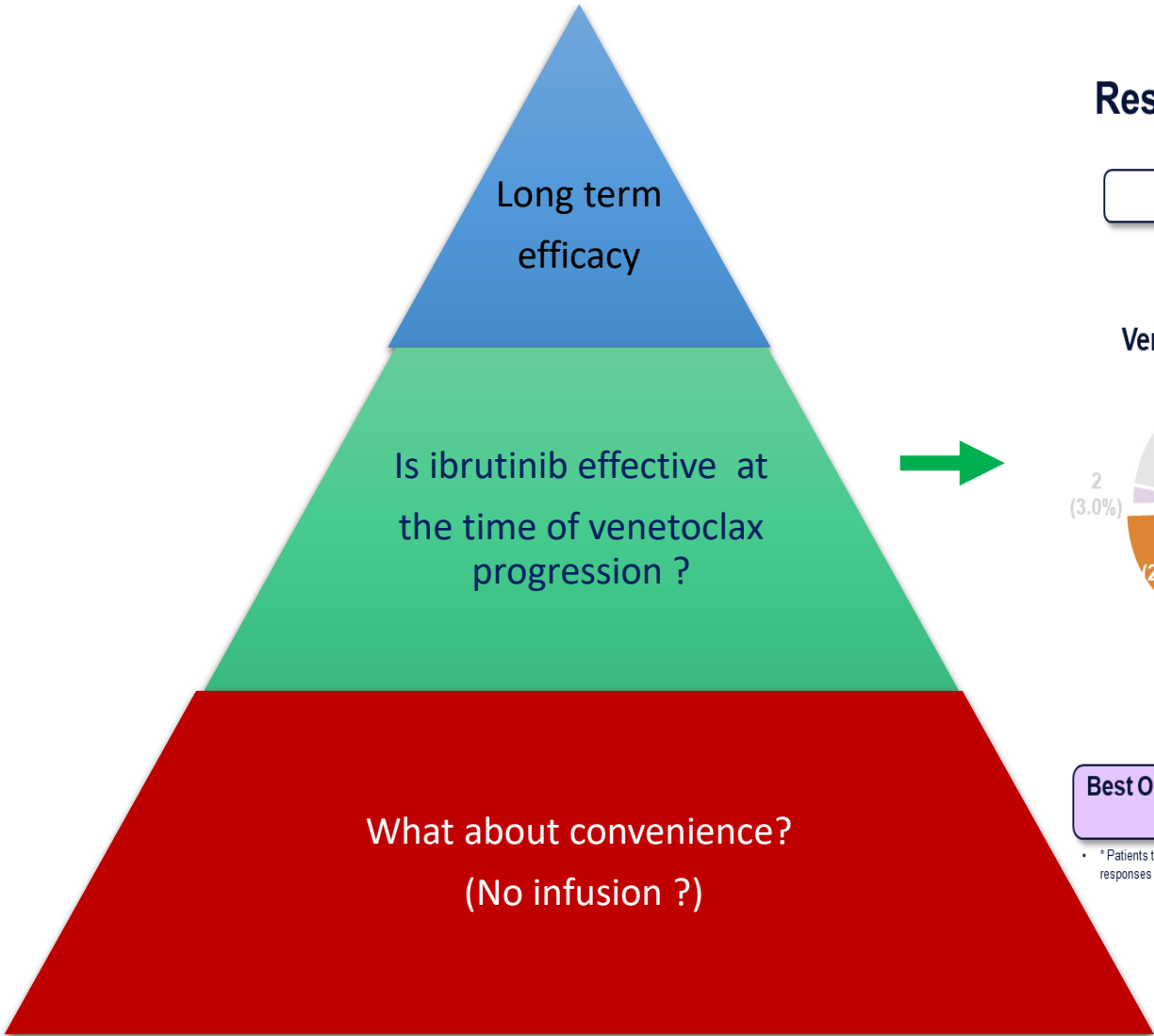
What about convenience?
(No infusion ?)

PFS - 5-year Follow up



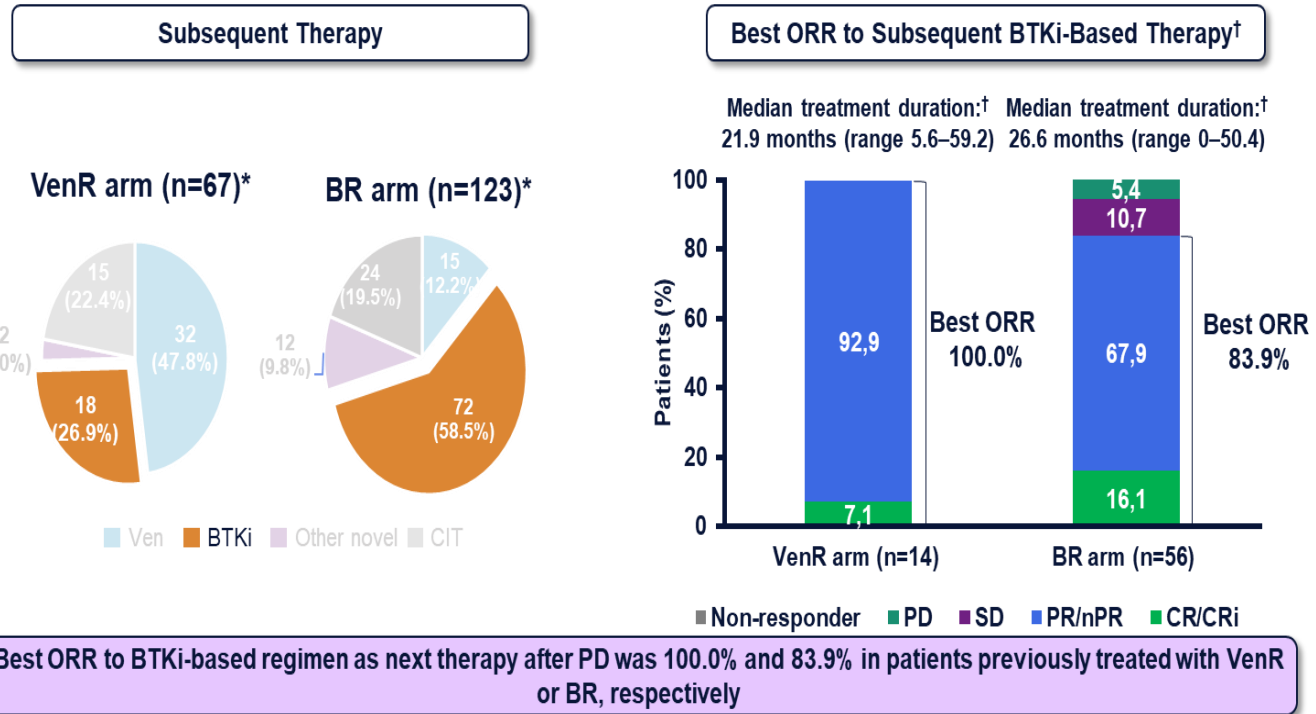
At the 5-year analysis (median follow-up 59 months), the risk of progression or death was decreased by 81% with VenR vs BR

Venetoclax : Factors to consider



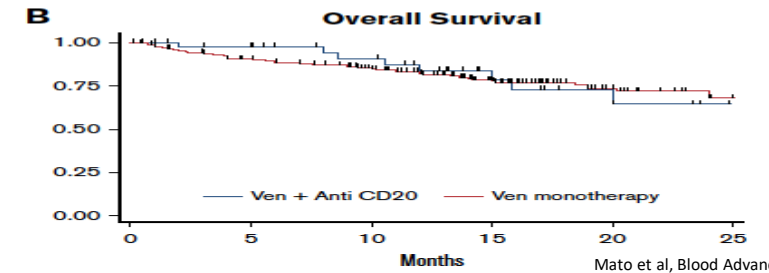
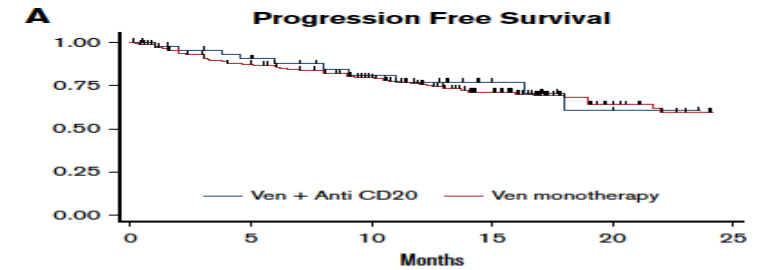
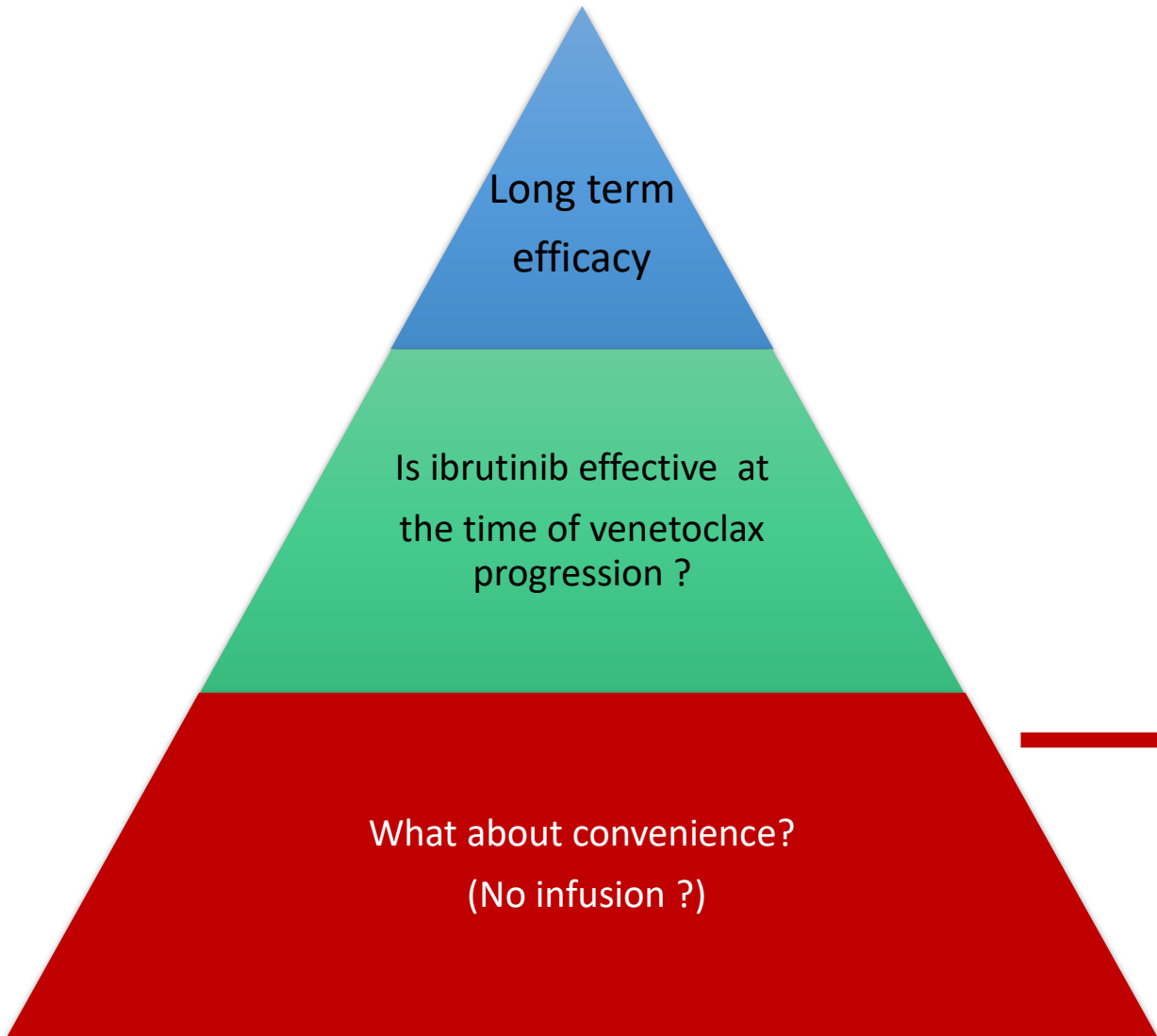
MURANO Study

Response Rates to Subsequent BTKi-Based Therapy Were High

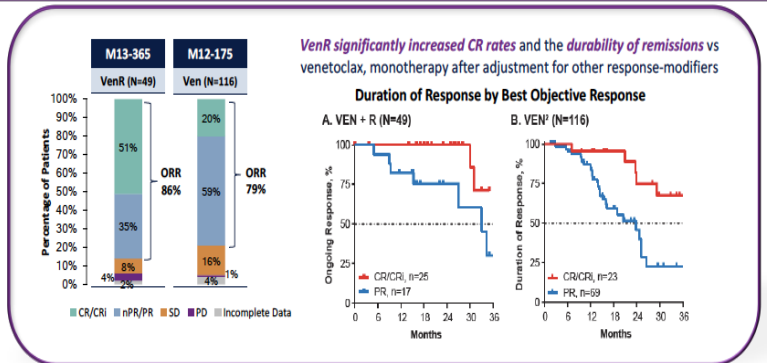


* Patients treated; † Calculated among patients with evaluable responses (i.e. reported by the investigators prior to discontinuation/initiation of subsequent line of therapy; responses in patients who were treated for insufficient time to have their response assessed, or those who had no response assessments, were considered unevaluable).

Venetoclax : Factors to consider



Indirect cross-study comparison³

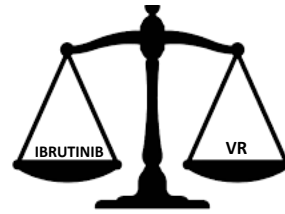


VenR significantly increased CR rates and the durability of remissions vs venetoclax, monotherapy after adjustment for other response-modifiers

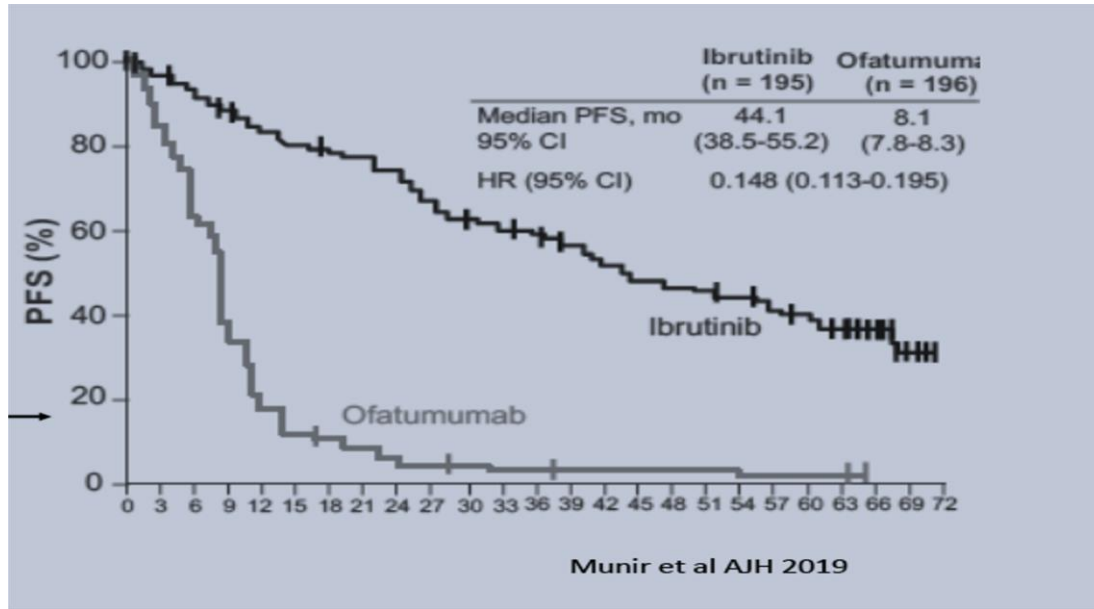
Currently, there are no direct comparative clinical data for combination vs monotherapy. However, the VenR efficacy results from MURANO give strong rationale for VenR and this level of efficacy (deep responses and PFS) has not been reported with venetoclax monotherapy.

³si specifica che si fa riferimento ad una indicazione terapeutica approvata da EMA in data 25/10/2018.
Tale indicazione non è ancora rimborsata dal Servizio Sanitario Nazionale

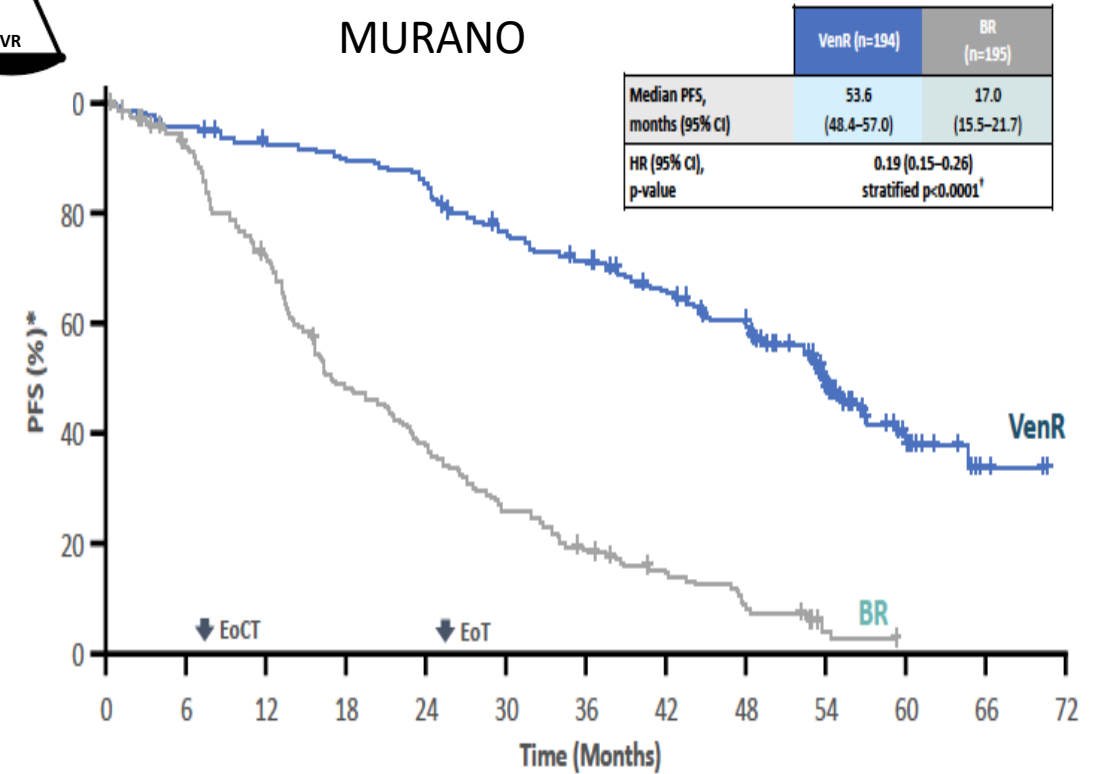
PFS of R/R CLL pts treated with Ibrutinib (RESONATE-6 year FU or VR MURANO – 5 Year FU)



RESONATE



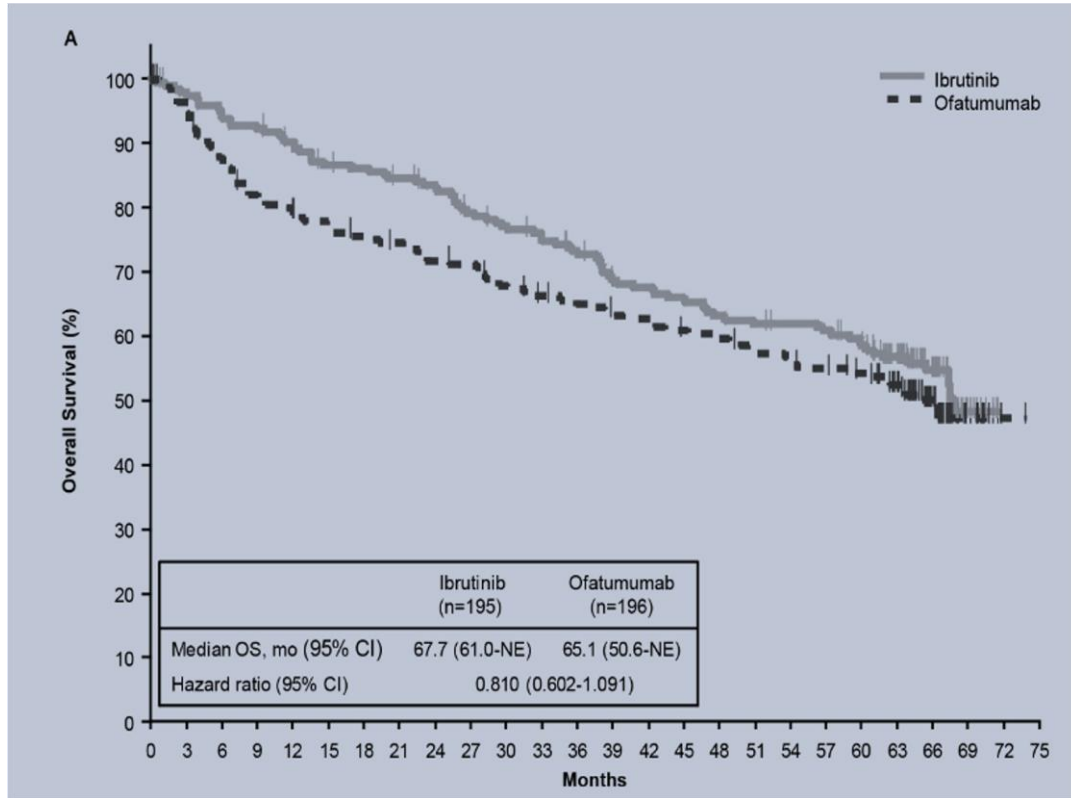
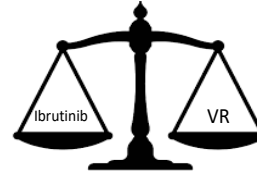
MURANO



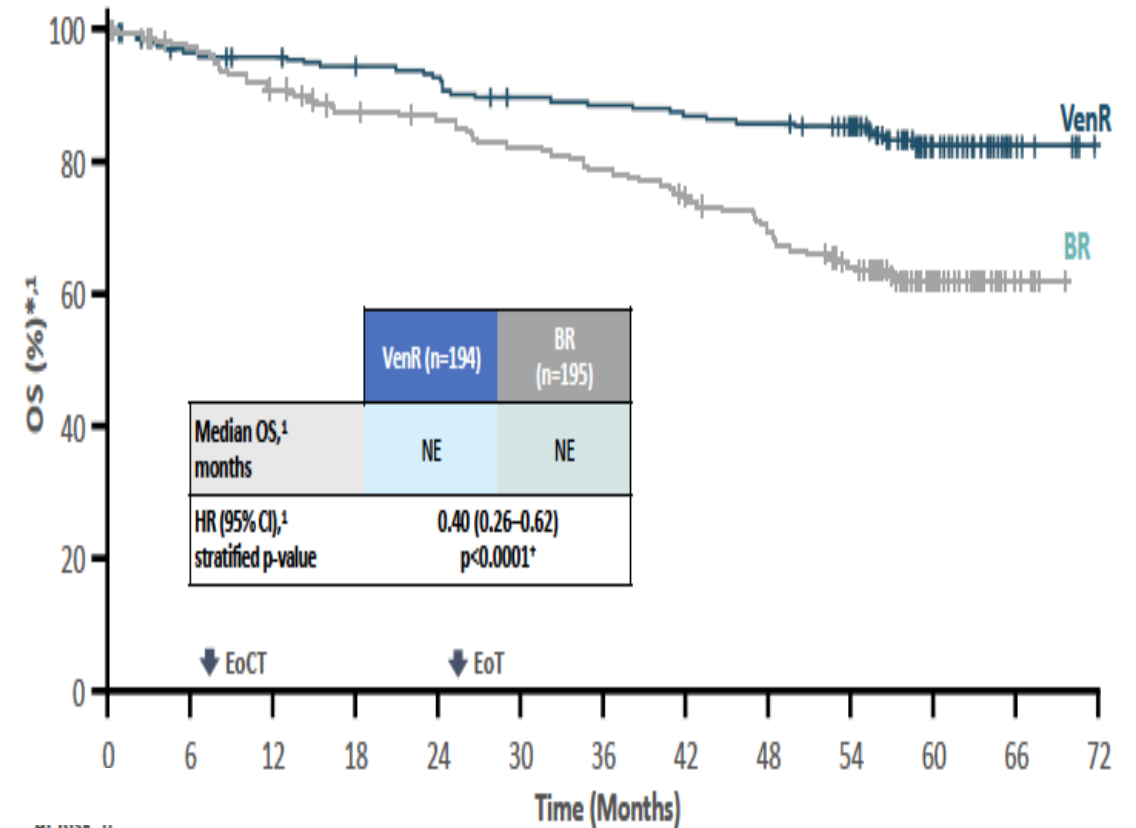
At the 6-year analysis (median follow-up 65.3 months), the risk of progression or death was decreased by 85% with Ibrutinib vs Ofatumumab

At the 5-year analysis (median follow-up 59 months), the risk of progression or death was decreased by 81% with VenR vs BR

OS of R/R CLL pts treated with Ibrutinib (RESONATE-6 year FU or VR (MURANO – 5 Year FU))

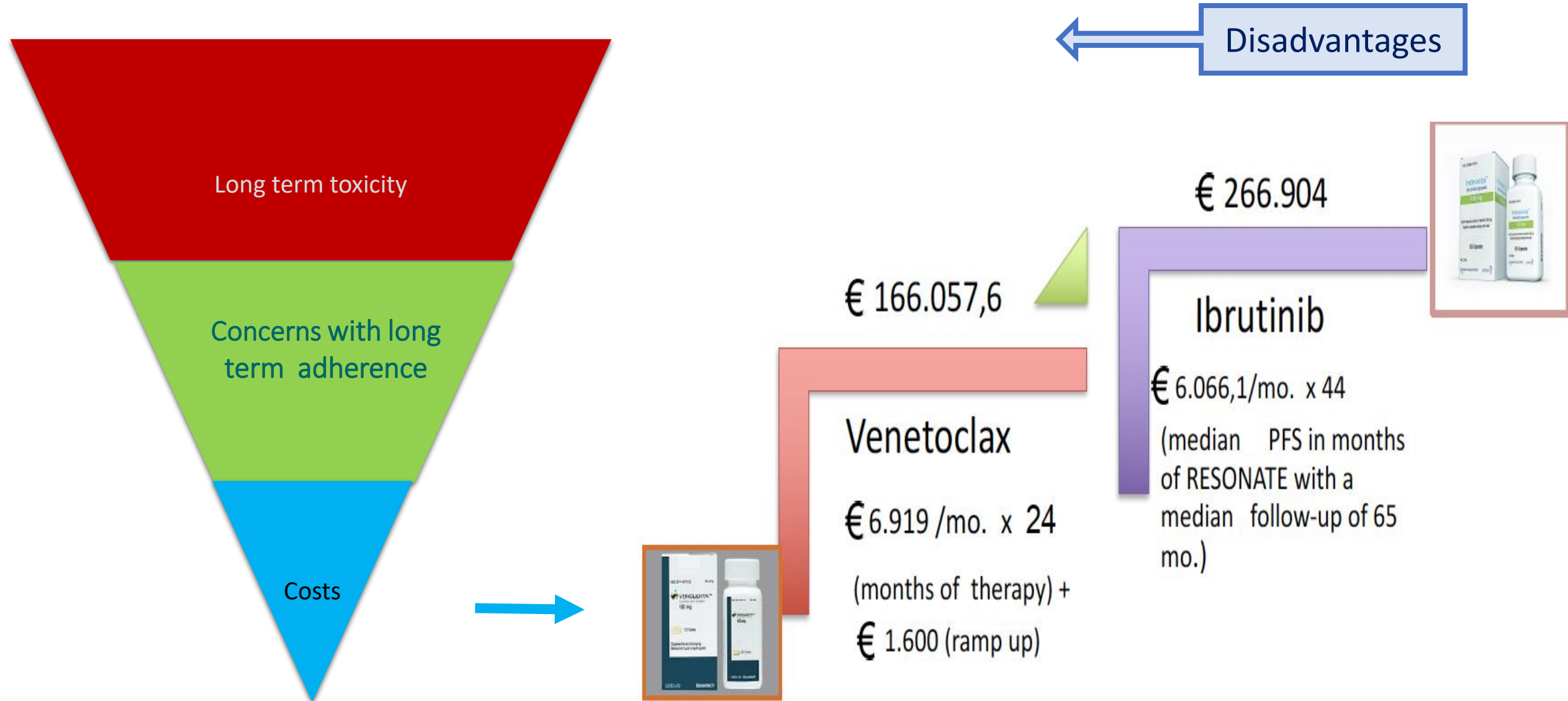


At the 6-year analysis (median follow-up 65.3 months), the risk of progression or death was decreased by 19% with Ibrutinib vs Ofatumumab

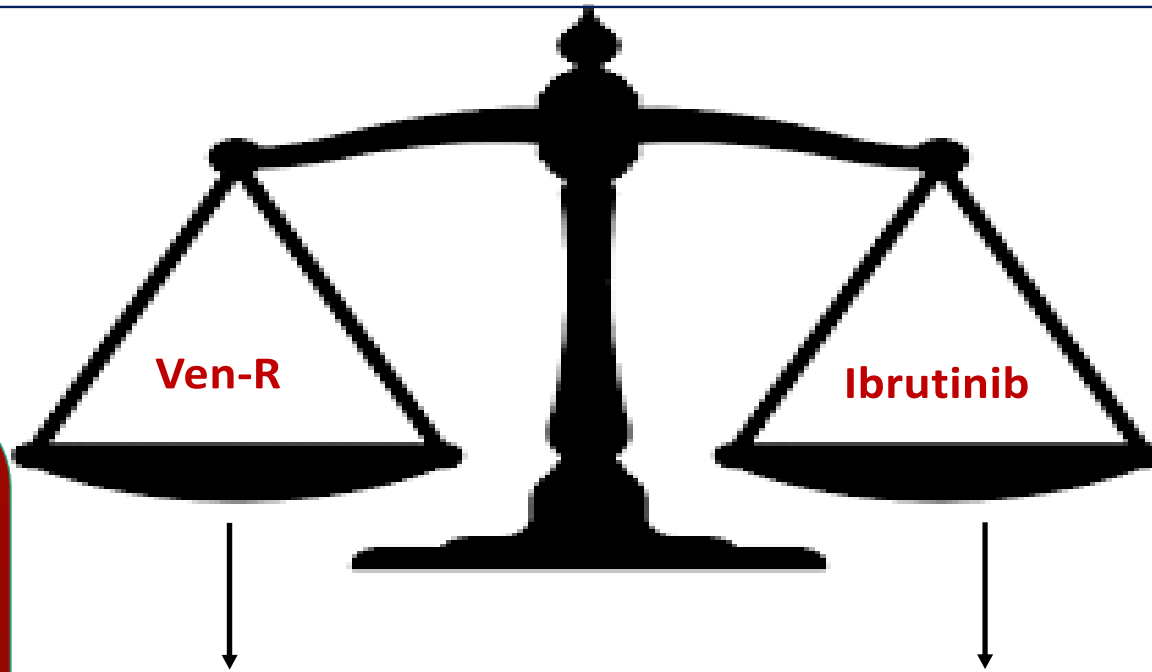


At the 5-year analysis, the risk of death was decreased by 60% with VenR vs BR,¹ despite a high proportion of patients with PD in the BR arm receiving novel targeted agents as their first follow-up therapy (99/123; 80.5%)²

Comparison between costs of ibrutinib and venetoclax treatment



Time-Limited versus continuous therapy in R/R CLL Patients



Time limited

Continuous

- Long-term efficacy (FU, @ 5 years)
- No cardiac or bleeding risks
- Less concern with adherence.
- Potential for cost-saving

- Long-term efficacy (FU, @ 6 years)
- No infusions, TLS monitoring.
- More data on efficacy of ven after ibrutinib

CLL14: First-line Obinutuzumab + Venetoclax or Chlorambucil in CLL

- Open-label, multicenter, randomized phase III trial

Patients with previously untreated CLL and coexisting medical conditions (CIRS > 6 and/or CrCl < 70 mL/min) (N = 432)

Venetoclax PO 5-wk ramp up from 20 to 400 mg/day starting on Day 22 of cycle 1, then 400 mg/day until end of cycle 12 + **Obinutuzumab** IV 1000 mg Days 1, 8, 15 of cycle 1, then 1000 mg Day 1 of cycles 2-6 (n = 216)

Chlorambucil PO 0.5 mg/kg Days 1, 15 of cycles 1-12 + **Obinutuzumab** IV 1000 mg Days 1-2, 8, 15 of cycle 1, then 1000 mg Day 1 in cycles 2-6 (n = 216)

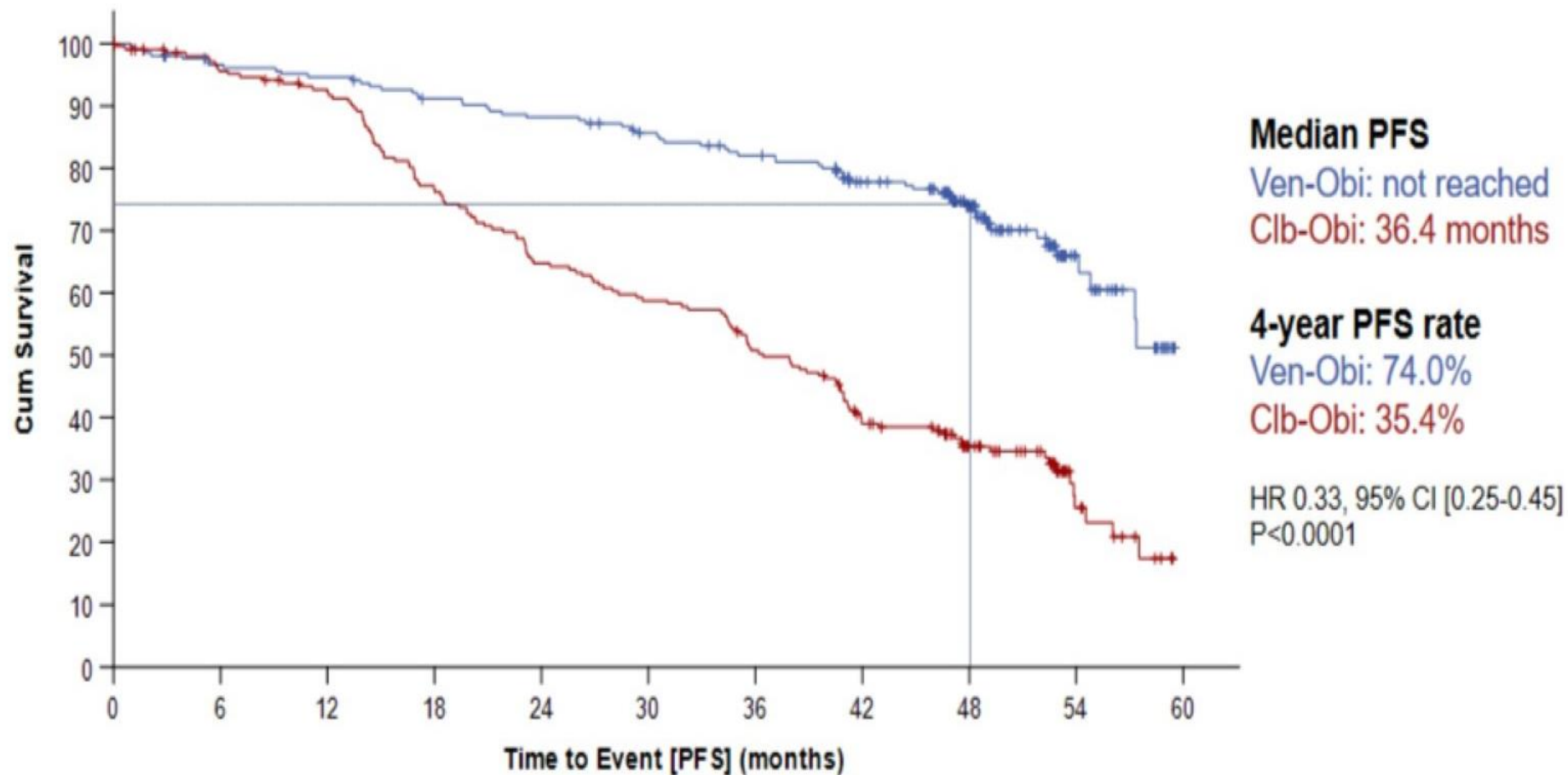
Total 28-day cycles

- Venetoclax: 12
- Chlorambucil: 12
- Obinutuzumab: 6

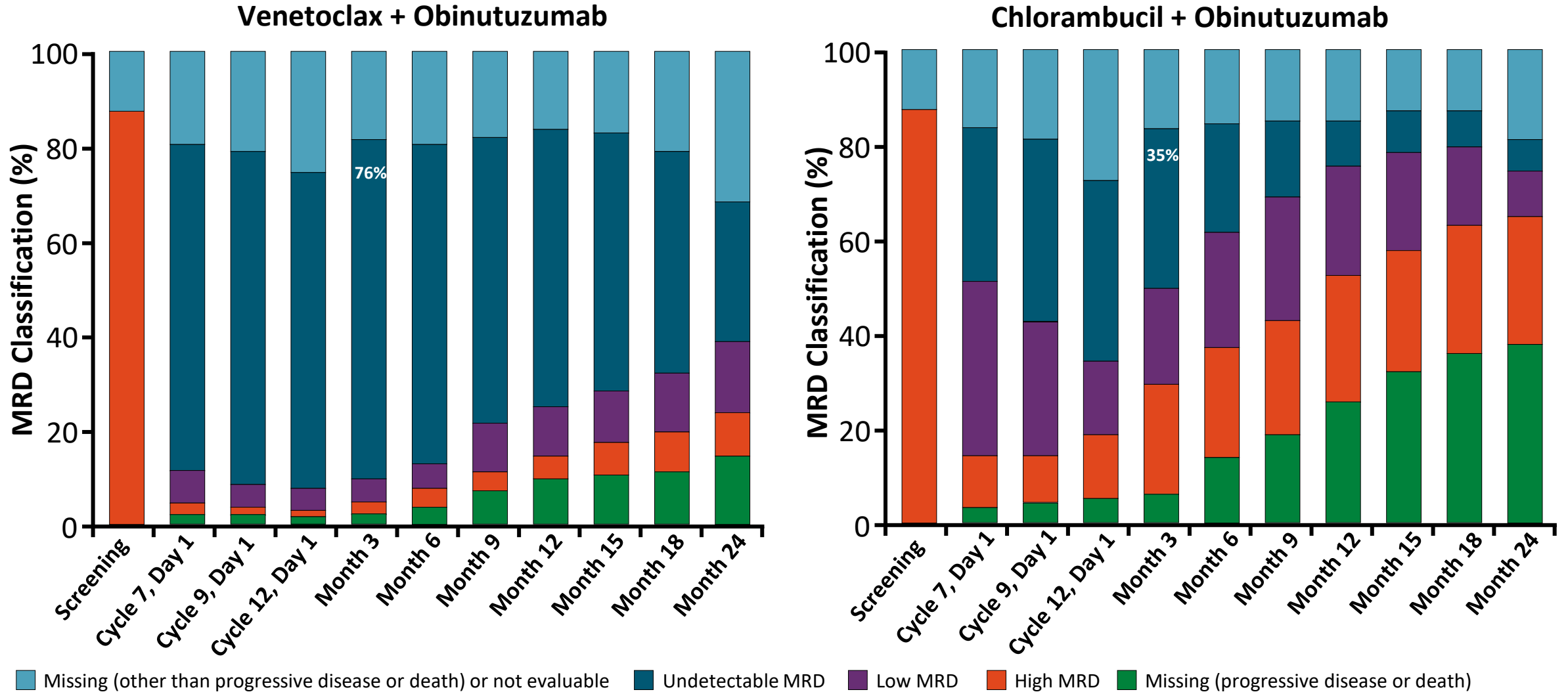
- Primary endpoint: investigator-assessed PFS
- Secondary endpoints: IRC-assessed PFS, ORR, MRD negativity, OS, safety

CLL14: Progression-Free Survival (4 Year Follow-up)

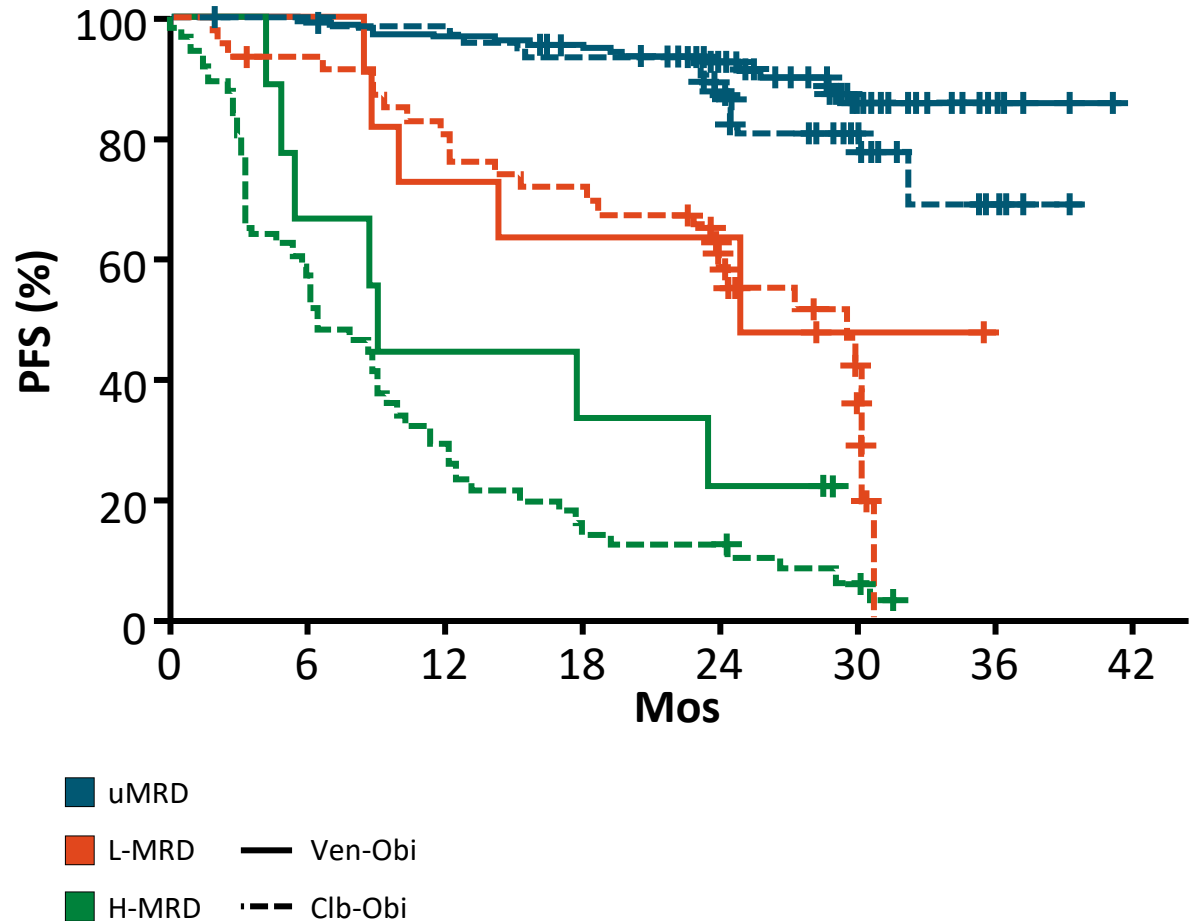
Median observation time 52.4 months



CLL14: MRD Negativity



CLL14: Landmark Analysis for PFS by MRD Status



- Should venetoclax + obinutuzumab be continued after 12 mos in certain subsets?
 - TP53 deleted/mutated
 - Detectable MRD

or
- Should MRD be monitored after discontinuation and venetoclax resumed at re-emergence of MRD?

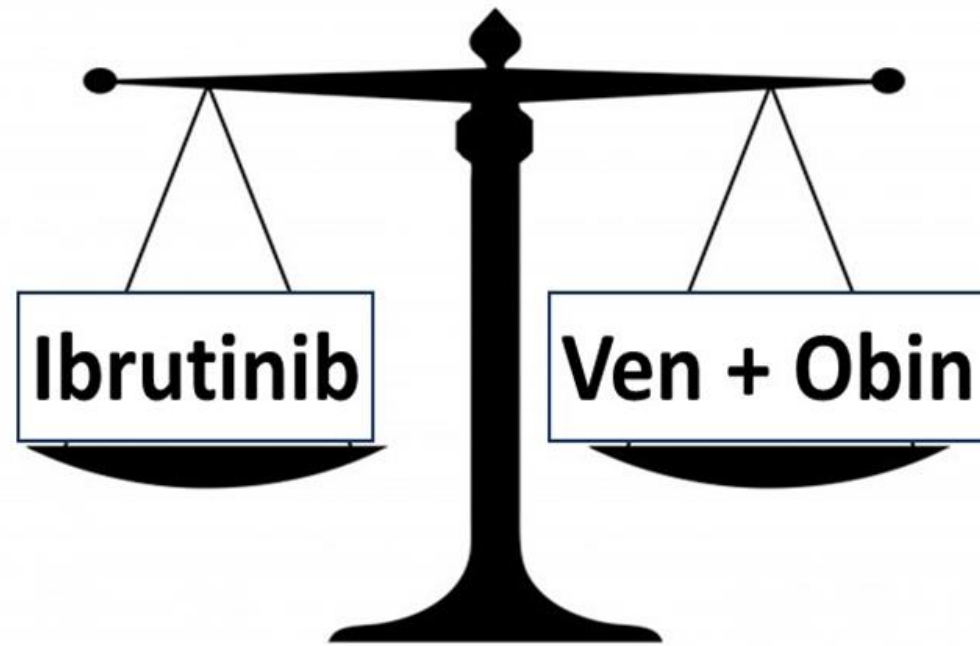
CLL14: Safety

Grade 3/4 AE During Treatment, %	Venetoclax + Obinutuzumab (n = 212)	Chlorambucil + Obinutuzumab (n = 214)
Hematologic AEs	59	55
▪ Neutropenia	52	47
▪ Thrombocytopenia	14	15
▪ Anemia	8	6
▪ Febrile neutropenia	4	3
Injury, poisoning, procedural complications	11	12
▪ Infusion-related reaction	9	10
Infections and infestations	12	12
▪ Pneumonia	3	3
Metabolism, nutrition disorders*	10	8

Grade 5 AE, n (%)	Venetoclax + Obinutuzumab (n = 212)	Chlorambucil + Obinutuzumab (n = 214)
Total events	19 (9)	11 (5)
Events during therapy	4 (2)	5 (2)
▪ Infections and infestations	3 (1)	3 (1)
▪ Neoplasms	1 (< 1)	2 (< 1)
Events after therapy completion	16 (8)	6 (3)
▪ Cardiac disorders	3 (1)	1 (< 1)
▪ Infections and infestations	7 (3)	1 (< 1)
▪ Neoplasms	2 (< 1)	3 (1)
▪ Other reasons	2 (< 1)	1 (< 1)

*P = .02

Time-Limited versus continuous therapy in naïve CLL Patients



- Long term efficacy data
- Convenience (No infusions, TLS monitoring)
- Phase 3 data compared to FCR and BR
- More data for efficacy of Ven at time of Ibrutinib progression
- Potential for 1-year time limited therapy
- Non known cardiac or bleeding risks
- Less concern for longterm adherence
- Potential for cost-savings if 1-year of therapy is durable

Long term follow-up: progression while on treatment

Patients disposition

	Treatment Naïve			Relapse/Refractory	
	Resonate-2 ^a Ib N=136	Illuminate ^b Ib Obi N= 113	ECOG ^c IR N=354	PCYC-1102 ^d N=101	Resonate ^e N=195
Median duration of ibrutinib tx	57.1 m	40.7 m	43 m	82 m	41 m
Patients remaining on ibrutinib tx	79 (58%)	68 (60%)	73%	16 (16%)	0 (study closed)
Primary Reasons for discontinuation					
Progressive Disease while on tx	8 (6%)	7%*	23 (7%)	38 (38%)	72 (36.9%)
Adverse Event	29 (21%)	25 (22%)	48 (14%)	23 (23%)	32 (16.4%)
Consent withdrawal	7 (5%)	6 (5%)		8 (8%)	15 (7.7%)
Investigator Decision	4 (3%)	3 (3%)		15 (15%)	20 (10.3%)
Lost Follow-up/Other	-	3 (3%)	Others reasons 7%	1 (1%)	43 (22.1%) [^]
Death	8 (6%)	n*		-	13 (6.7%)

*PD plus Death: 7%

[^] study terminated by sponsor

^aBurger et al., 2019

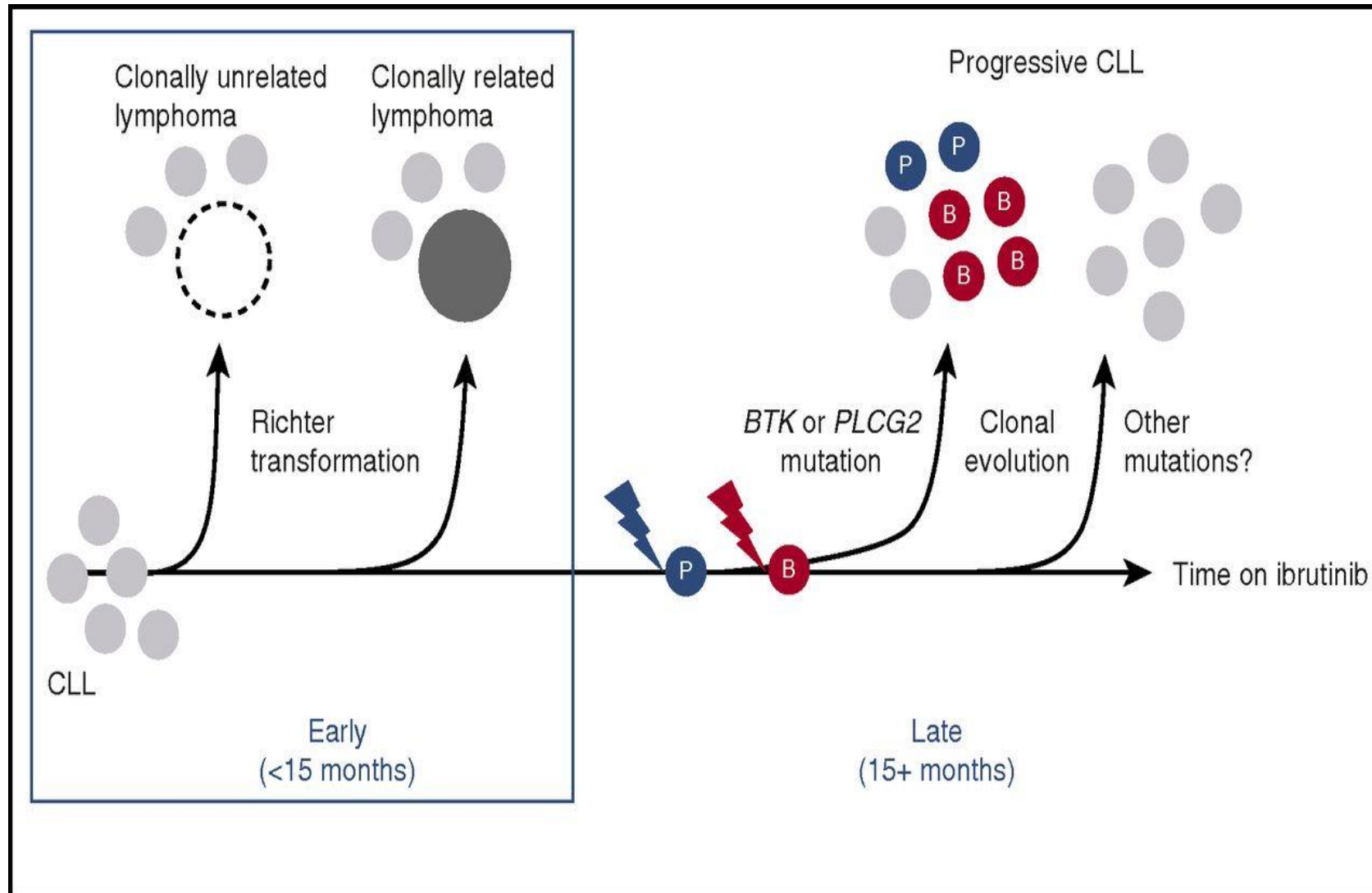
^bMoreno et al., 2019

^cShanafelt et al., 2019

^aByrd et al., 2020

^dMunir et al., 2019

Ibrutinib-resistant CLL: unwanted and unwonted!



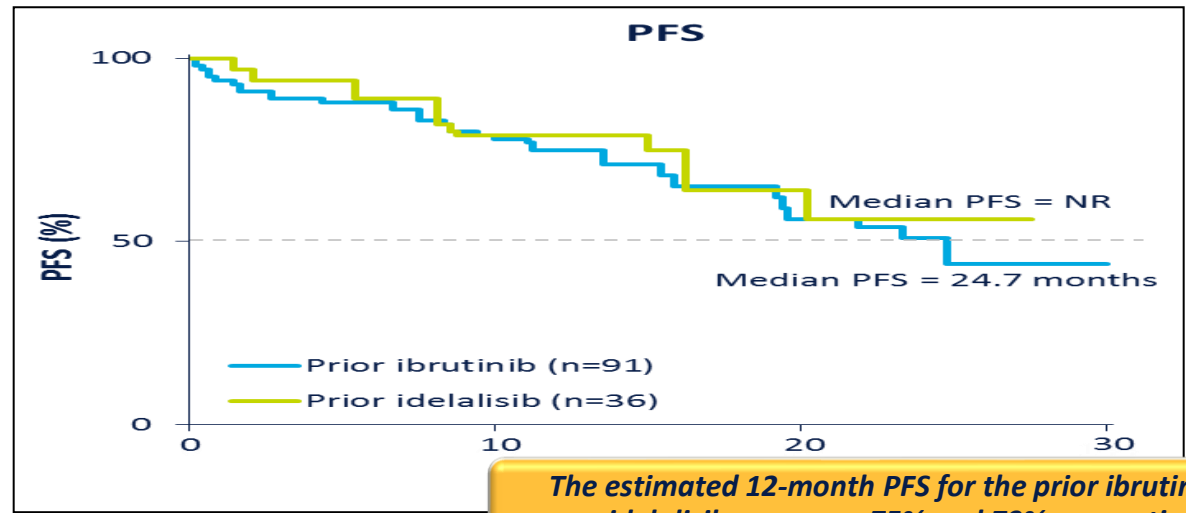
Mertens D, Stilgenbauer S Blood 2017

How can we overcome resistance to BTKi ?

- **Venetoclax** →

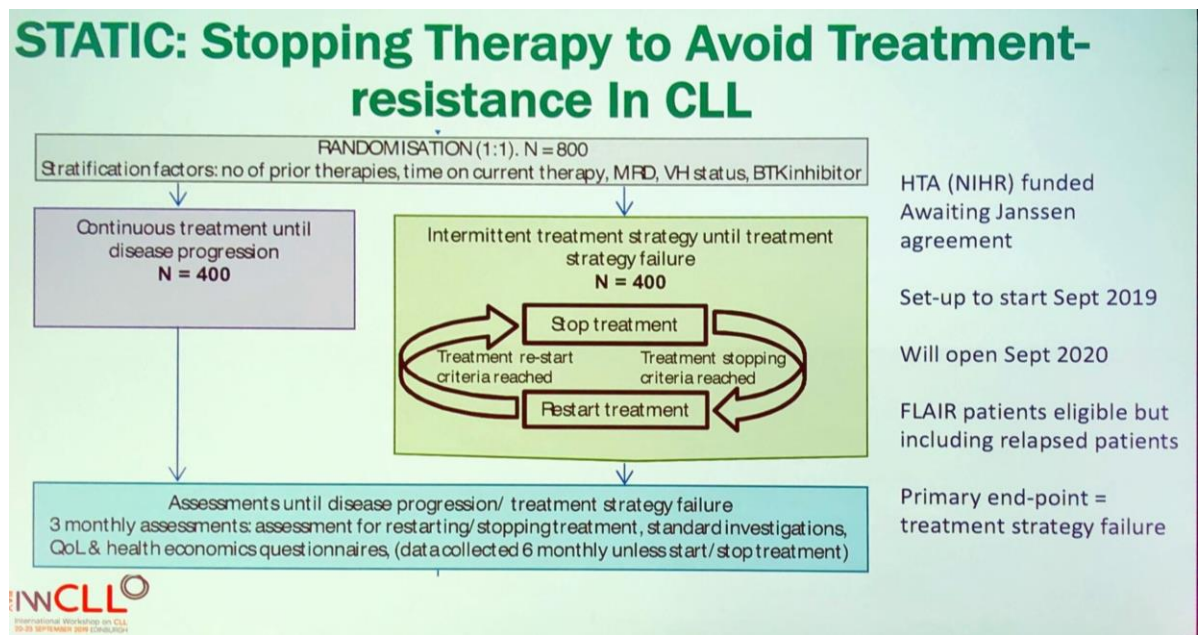
- XP01 inhibitors
- BRD4 inhibitors
- ROR1 targeting agents
- CAR-T cells

- **Prevention ?** →

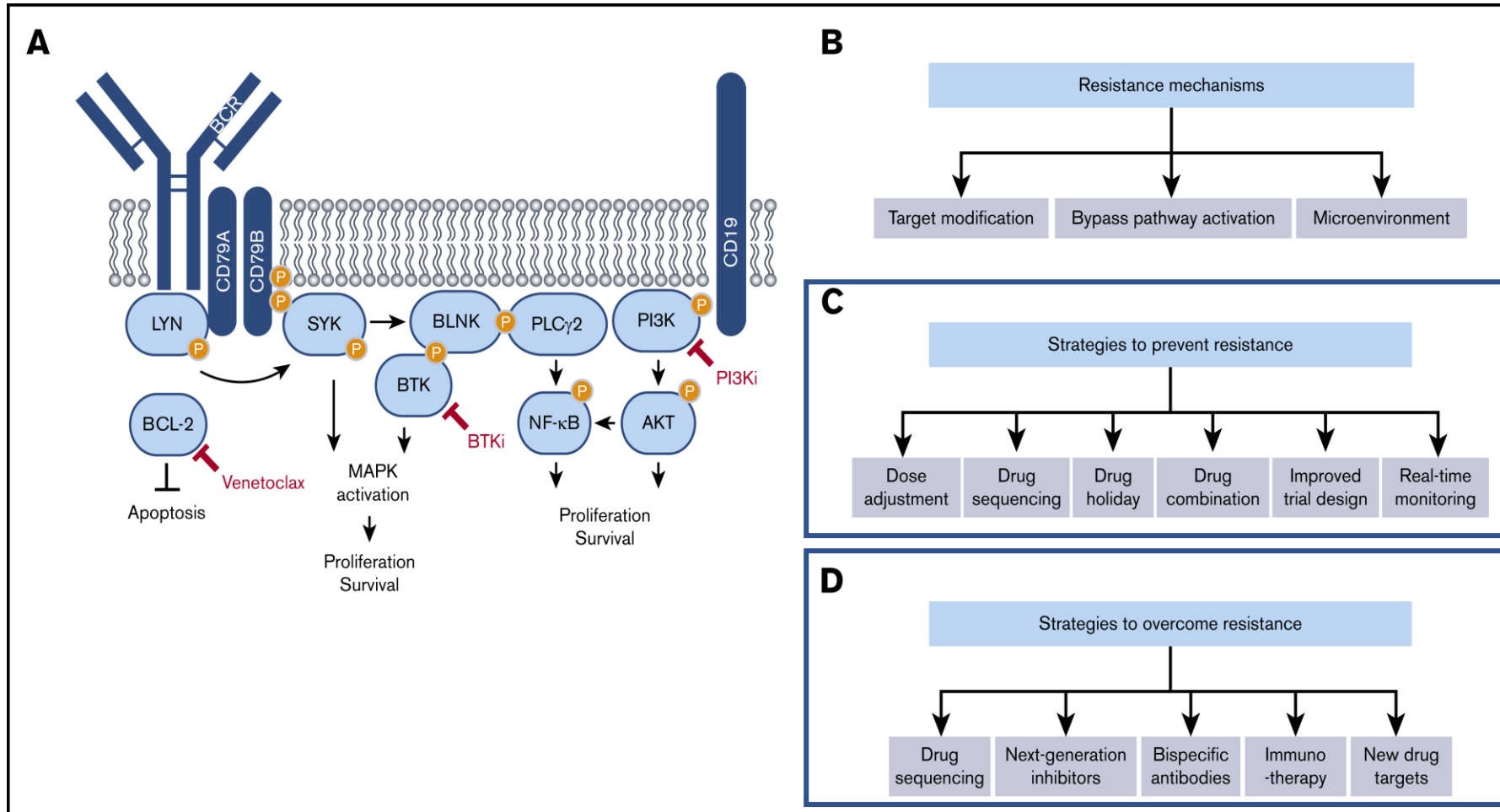


The estimated 12-month PFS for the prior ibrutinib and idelalisib arms was 75% and 79%, respectively

1. Jones JA, et al. Lancet Oncol. 2017 Dec 12. doi: 10.1016/S1470-2045(17)30909-9
 2. Coutre S, et al. Blood. 2018 Jan 5. doi: 10.1182/blood-2017-06-788133



Overcoming resistance to targeted therapies in CLL



Skånland SS, Mato AR Blood Adv, 2021

My Key take-aways

- Novel agents have eclipsed chemoimmunotherapy as initial treatment for CLL in the vast majority of patients
- Safety profile of Venetoclax looks favorable and distinct from ibrutinib
- Rates of uMRD are promising, which in the R/R setting is associated with durability of response to venetoclax
- Ven+Obinutuzumab as a time-limited regimen and is an immediately practice-changing combination for frontline CLL treatment