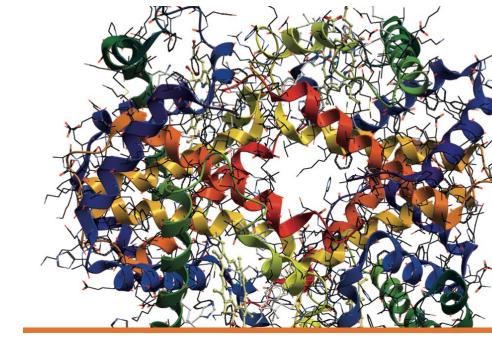


# AGGIORNAMENTO SU DIAGNOSI E TERAPIA DELLE EMOGLOBINOPATIE

Milano, 15 Novembre 2024 | Starhotels E.C.H.O.



Con il patrocinio di



# Terapie delle sindromi talassemiche

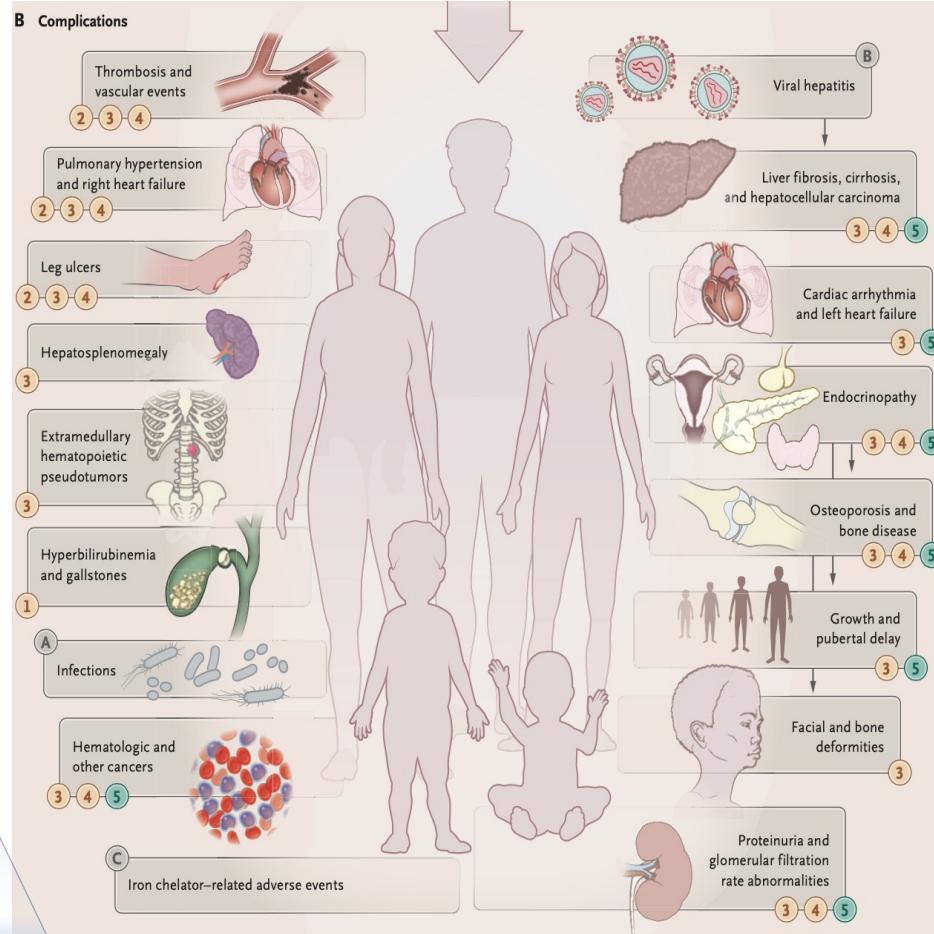
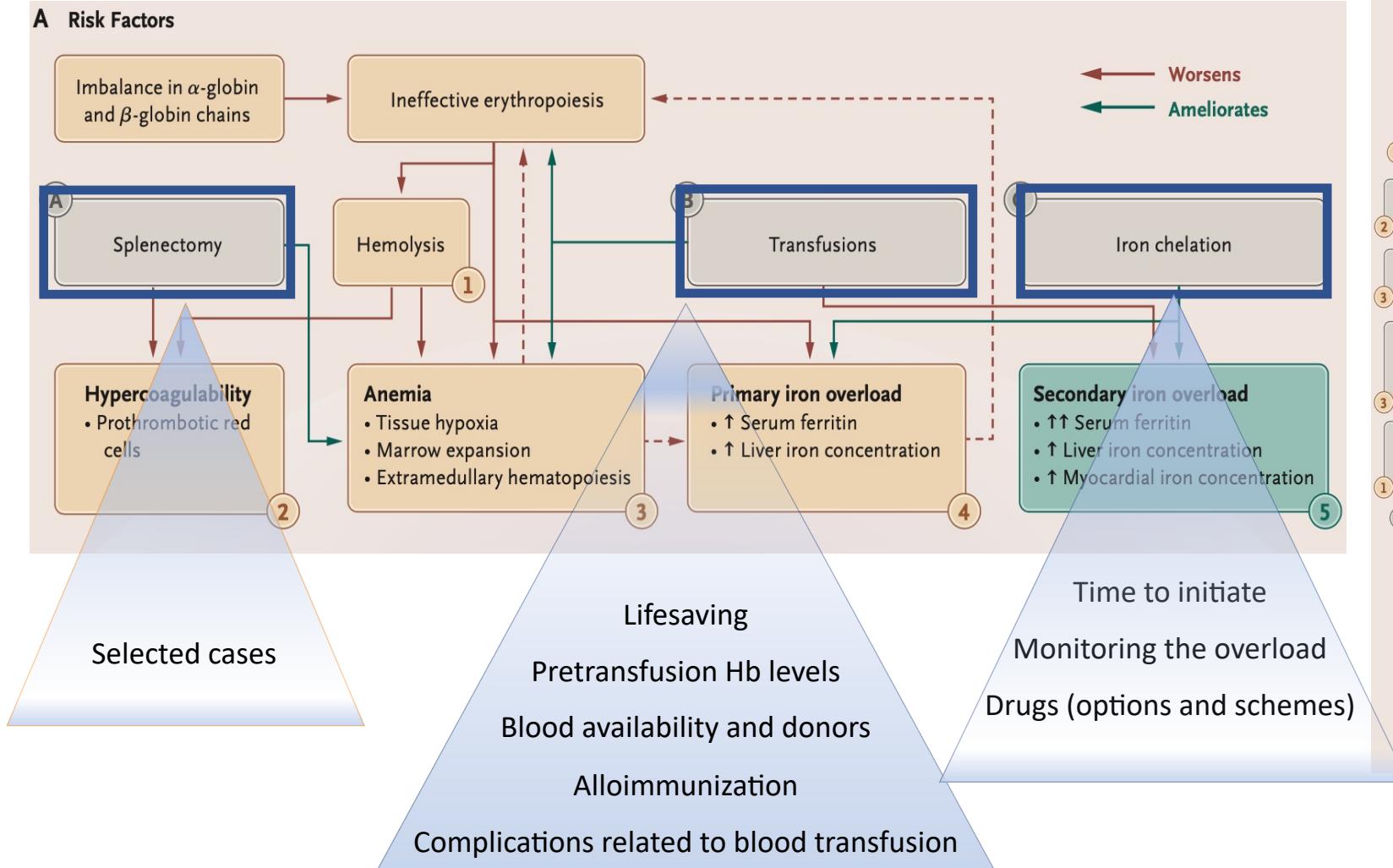
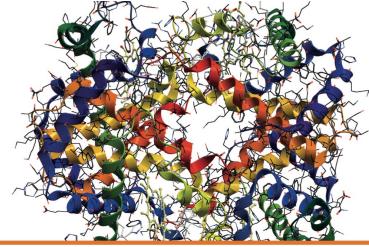
Elena Cassinero

SS Emoglobinopatie, disturbi ereditari del metabolismo e del sistema immunitario

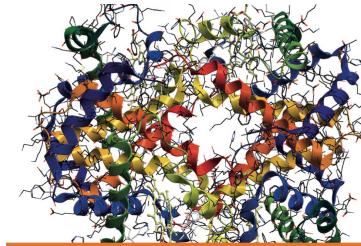
Dipartimento Area Medica

Fondazione IRCCS Ca' Granda - Ospedale Maggiore Policlinico

# Terapie «cardine»

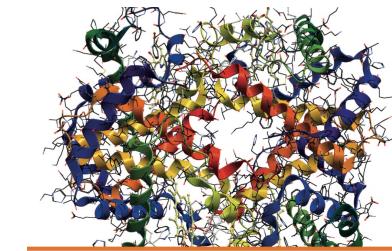


# Blood transfusions: guidelines



Transfusion	Iron Chelation Therapy	Splenectomy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>TDT patients must receive regular blood transfusions for survival</li><li>Indications for transfusion NTDT:<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Occasional blood transfusions</b>: Surgery, Severe infections, Pregnancy</li><li><b>Frequent blood transfusions</b>: (a) Children with growth failure and poor performance at school (b) Adults with diminished exercise tolerance, failure of secondary sexual development, declining hemoglobin level and with a huge enlargement of spleen (&gt;3 cm/year)</li><li><b>Preventive transfusions</b>: Patients at high risk of thrombotic disease, PHTN, extramedullary hematopoiesis leg ulcers.</li></ol></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Indication to initiate ICT:</b> TDT: SF levels <math>\geq 1000 \mu\text{g/L}</math>  <b>Indications to intensify ICT:</b> TDT: SF <math>\geq 2500 \text{ ng/mL}</math> and/or LIC <math>&gt; 7 \text{ mg/g dry wt. liver}</math> and/or cardiac T2* <math>&lt; 20 \text{ msec.}</math>  <b>Indications to stop ICT:</b> TDT: SF <math>&lt; 300 \text{ ng/mL}</math> and/or LIC <math>&lt; 3 \text{ mg/g dry wt. liver}</math>  NTDT patients: SF <math>&lt; 300 \text{ ng/mL}</math> and/or LIC <math>&lt; 3 \text{ mg/g dry wt. liver}</math></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Main <b>indications for splenectomy</b> in both TDT and NTDT are: (a) <b>hypersplenism leading to cytopenias</b> and (b) <b>splenomegaly heralding imminent rupture</b> or accompanied by left upper quadrant pain or early satiety.</li><li>Also indicated in TDT patients with <b>increased blood requirement</b> preventing adequate control with iron chelation therapy</li><li>Also indicated in NTDT patients with <b>worsening anemia</b> leading to poor growth and development</li><li>Splenectomy, however, should be restricted to certain indications in view of the associated increased risk of venous thrombosis, pulmonary hypertension, and overwhelming post-splenectomy infections.</li><li><b>Splenectomy is becoming obsolete in patients with TDT</b></li></ul>

# Blood transfusions: guidelines in TDT



LIFELONG REGULAR BLOOD TRANSFUSIONS

TARGET HB LEVELS: 9.5-10.5 G/DL



TIMETABLE: EVERY 2 TO 5 WEEKS



REGULAR GROWTH

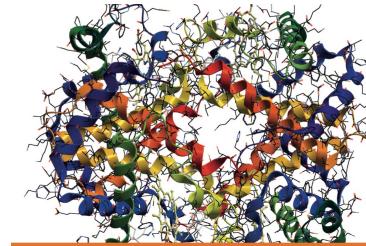
NORMAL PHYSICAL and DAILY ACTIVITIES

BONE MARROW SUPPRESSION

MINIMIZES TRANSFUSIONAL IRON ACCUMULATION

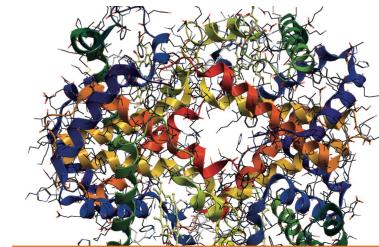
TIME TO TRANSFUSE ONE UNIT OF BLOOD: 60-90 MINUTES

# Blood transfusions: guidelines



Transfusion	Iron Chelation Therapy	Splenectomy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>TDT patients must receive regular blood transfusions for survival</li><li>Indications for transfusion NTDT:<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Occasional blood transfusions</b>: Surgery, Severe infections, Pregnancy</li><li><b>Frequent blood transfusions</b>: (a) Children with growth failure and poor performance at school (b) Adults with diminished exercise tolerance, failure of secondary sexual development, declining hemoglobin level and with a huge enlargement of spleen (&gt;3 cm/year)</li><li><b>Preventive transfusions</b>: Patients at high risk of thrombotic disease, PHTN, extramedullary hematopoiesis leg ulcers.</li></ol></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Indication to initiate ICT:</b> TDT: SF levels <math>\geq 1000 \mu\text{g/L}</math> NTDT: SF <math>\geq 800 \text{ ng/mL}</math> and/or LIC <math>\geq 5 \text{ mg/g dry wt. liver}</math></li><li><b>Indications to intensify ICT:</b> TDT: SF <math>\geq 2500 \text{ ng/mL}</math> and/or LIC <math>&gt; 7 \text{ mg/g dry wt. liver}</math> and/or cardiac T2* <math>&lt; 20 \text{ msec.}</math> NTDT: LIC after 6 months of treatment <math>&gt; 7 \text{ mg/g dry wt. liver}</math> or SF <math>&gt; 1500-2000 \text{ ng/mL}</math> and <math>&lt; 15\%</math> decrease from baseline.</li><li><b>Indications to stop ICT:</b> TDT: SF <math>&lt; 300 \text{ ng/mL}</math> and/or LIC <math>&lt; 3 \text{ mg/g dry wt. liver}</math> NTDT patients: SF <math>&lt; 300 \text{ ng/mL}</math> and/or LIC <math>&lt; 3 \text{ mg/g dry wt. liver}</math></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Main <b>indications for splenectomy</b> in both TDT and NTDT are: (a) <b>hypersplenism leading to cytopenias</b> and (b) <b>splenomegaly heralding imminent rupture</b> or accompanied by left upper quadrant pain or early satiety.</li><li>Also indicated in TDT patients with <b>increased blood requirement</b> preventing adequate control with iron chelation therapy</li><li>Also indicated in NTDT patients with <b>worsening anemia</b> leading to poor growth and development</li><li>Splenectomy, however, should be restricted to certain indications in view of the associated increased risk of venous thrombosis, pulmonary hypertension, and overwhelming post-splenectomy infections.</li><li><b>Splenectomy is becoming obsolete in patients with TDT</b></li></ul>

# Safe blood transfusions



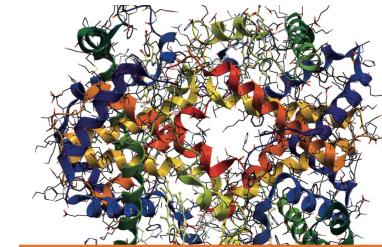
**Table 1.** Current international recommendations for safe blood transfusion of patients with transfusion-dependent β-thalassemia.

Thalassemia International Federation 2021 recommendations for transfusions

- Patients with confirmed β-thalassemia should receive RBC transfusions every 2–5 weeks to maintain a pre-transfusion level of hemoglobin in the range 9–10.5 g/dL (11–12 g/dL recommended for patients with cardiac complications)
- Ensure appropriately screened donor blood is available (voluntary, regular and non-remunerated donations preferred)
- Extended RBC antigen typing of patients to be carried out prior to first transfusion. Type for at least D, C,c, E, e, and K antigens
- Transfuse ABO, Rh-compatible blood at each transfusion, matched for ABO, C, c, E, e, and K antigens if possible
- A full cross-match and screening for new antibodies should be carried out before each transfusion (centers that meet regulatory requirements perform an electronic cross match)
- Leukoreduced packed RBCs should be used for transfusion; filtration before storage is highly recommended but blood bank pre-transfusion filtration is acceptable (bedside filtration is only acceptable if the other two filtration options are not available)
- Washed RBCs should be used for patients who have severe allergic reactions
- RBCs stored in CPD-A should be transfused within 1 week of collection; RBCs stored in additive solutions should be transfused within 2 weeks of collection
- Post-transfusion hemoglobin levels should be kept lower than 14–15 g/dL
- Records for each patient should be kept detailing annual transfusion requirement, red cell antibodies, and any transfusion reactions/allergic reactions

CPD-A, citrate-phosphate-dextrose-adenine; RBC, red blood cell [8].

# Alloimmunisation



41 studi



Risk factors

Age, female gender, splenectomy

Units received/frequency

Etnic correlation between donors and recipient

Higher alloAb in NTDT

Protective factors for alloantibodies



Increased antigen matching for Rh and kell

Use of leucoreduced RBC



# Anemia e valori di Hb

---

Di fronte a pazienti con tratto talassemico o con talassemia  
(trasfusione/non trasfusione dip.)

La riduzione marcata dei livelli di Hb nonostante supporto trasfusionale puo' essere secondaria a differenti cause (gravidanza e parto, infezioni, perdite, positività per HP etc) e prevede accertamenti per verificare la causa della riduzione rispetto ai valori abituali

Es. ematomi intraddominali post partum, parvovirus, immunizzazione etc

**I livelli ridotti di Hb rispetto all'abituale devono avere  
una causa che deve essere ricercata**



## Anemia e valori di Hb

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Di fronte a pazienti con tratto talassemico o con talassemia  
(trasfusione/non trasfusione dip.)

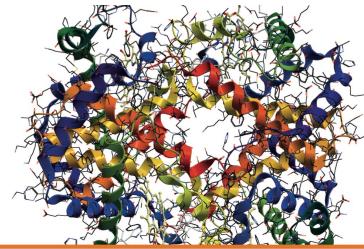
Terapia con ferro ev o per os solo in caso di carenza marziale verificata con tutti i parametri (emocromo, sideremia, transferrina, ferritina, saturazione transferrina) previe indagini per identificarne la causa.

Es. perdita per stillicidio cronico da emorroidi sanguinanti e da metrorragie

**Il paziente talassemico, che non ha condizione di sideropenia, non necessita di terapia marziale per correggere i valori di Hb**

# Blood transfusions and iron overload

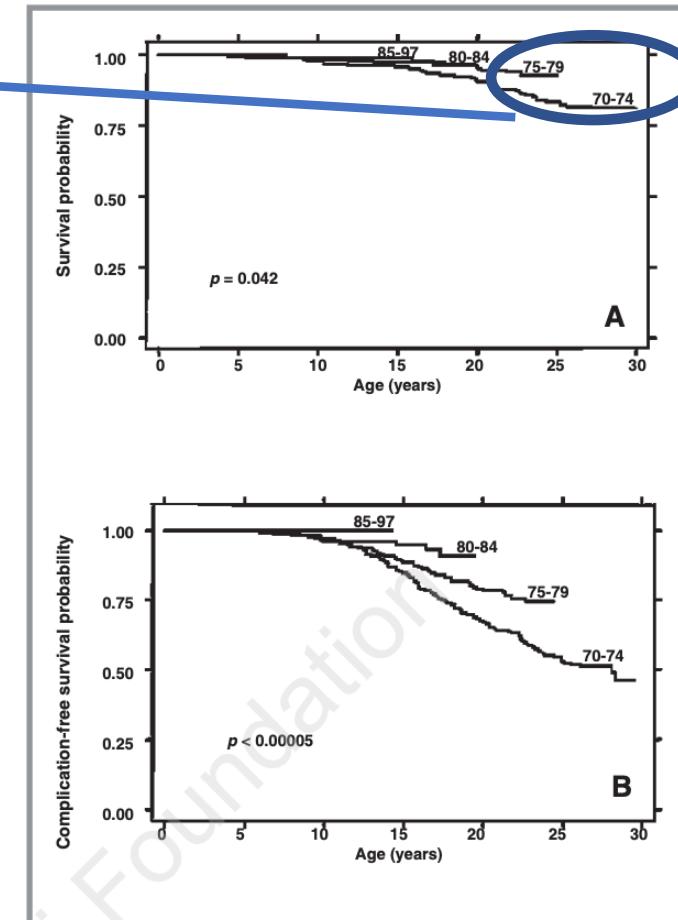
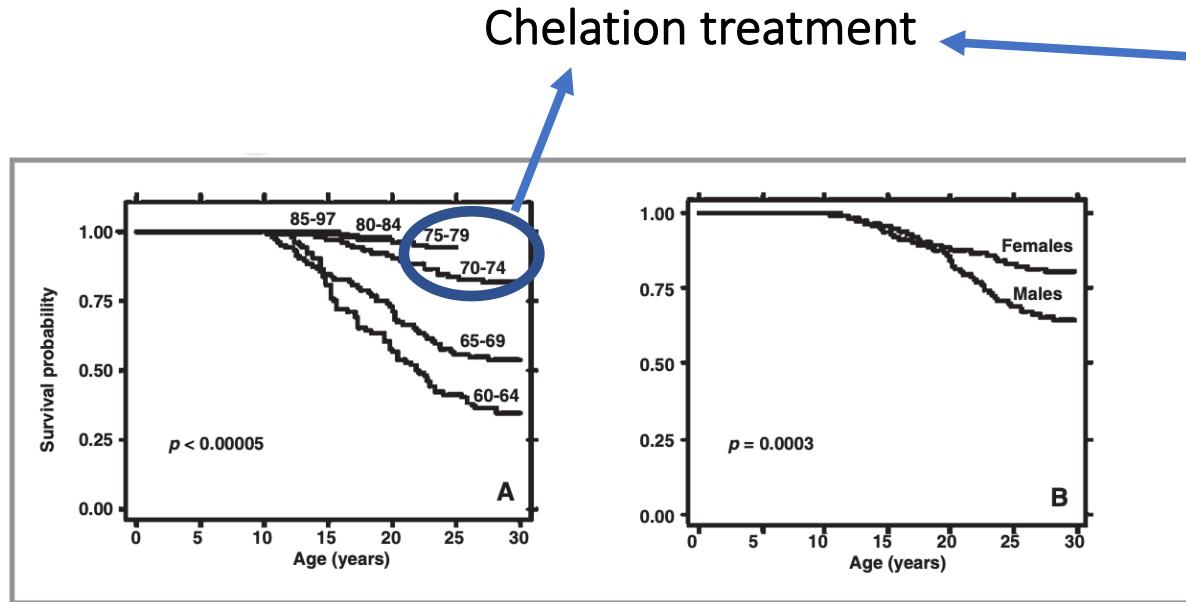
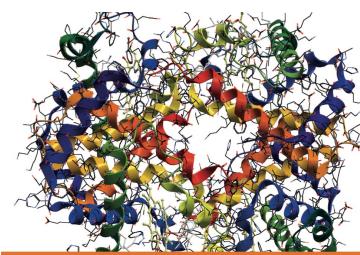
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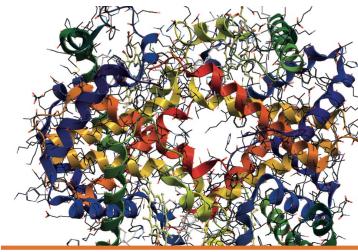
- A unit processed from 420 ml of donor blood contains approximately 200 mg of iron
- Iron intake (mg/kg/day) = [blood transfused (ml) x hematocrit (%) x 1.08]/weight/days
- Total body iron: 3–4 g
- Absence of mechanisms reducing the exceeding iron



# Chelation treatment: increased survival



# Chelation treatment: what we look for?

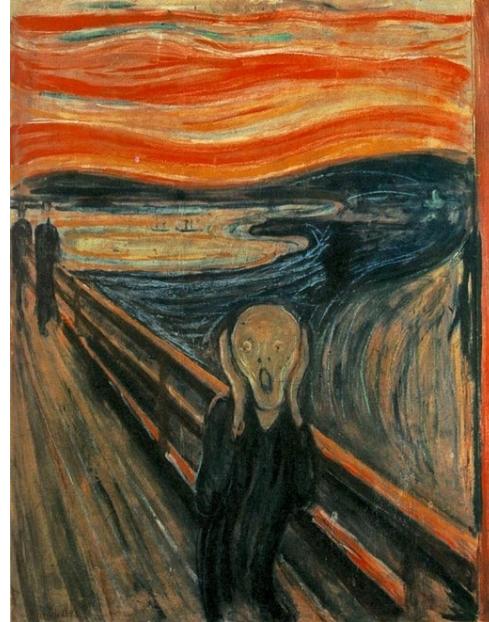


Iron burden

Target of iron overload

Transfusional iron intake and history of the patients for chelation therapy

Choosing drug



Dosage of chelators

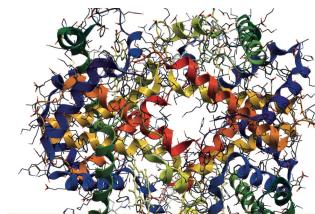
Patient/family preferences

Adverse effect profiles

Adherence

**Guidelines for chelation treatment in some group of patients**  
**Tailored therapy**

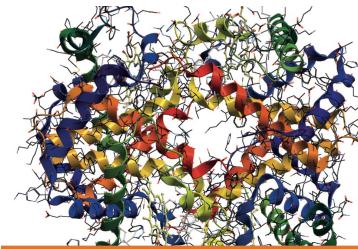
# Chelation treatments available



Parameter	Deferoxamine	Deferiprone	Deferasirox
<b>Administration</b>	SC or IV 8-12 hours, 5-7 days/week	Oral 3 times daily	Oral Once daily
<b>Half-life of iron free drug</b>	20-30 min	3-4 hr	12-16 hr
<b>Lipid solubility</b>	Low	Intermediate	High
<b>Route of iron excretion</b>	Urinary and fecal	Urinary	Fecal
<b>Recommended dose</b>	30-60 mg/kg/day	75-100 mg/kg/day	7-28 mg/kg/die
<b>EIP guidelines indication</b>			
TDT	>2 years: first-line	2-6 years: no sufficient data >6 years: second-line*	2-6 years: first-line (US), second-line (EU) >6 years: first-line
NTDT	No sufficient data	No sufficient data	>10 years: first-line
<b>Most relevant clinical data</b>			
TDT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduction in SF and LIC</li> <li>Improvement in cardiac T2*</li> <li>Improvement in cardiac dysfunction with continuous infusion</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improvement of cardiac T2 in monotherapy or combination with deferoxamine (higher doses than commonly used in clinical practice)†<sup>125,126</sup></li> <li>Improvement in cardiac dysfunction in combination with deferoxamine*†<sup>127</sup></li> <li>Improvement in endocrine dysfunction in combination with deferoxamine or deferasirox<sup>128,129</sup></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduction in SF and LIC up to five years and cardiac T2* up to three years of therapy even in severely loaded patients</li> <li>Non-inferior to deferoxamine for improvement of cardiac T2*</li> <li>Improvement in hepatic fibrosis and inflammation</li> <li>Stabilization of heart function</li> <li>Stabilization of endocrine function</li> </ul>
NTDT	Data restricted to case series and small studies	Data restricted to case series and small studies	Significant reduction in SF and LIC up to two years of therapy
<b>Main adverse events</b>	Ocular, auditory, bone growth retardation, local reactions, allergy	Gastrointestinal, arthralgia, agranulocytosis/neutropenia	Gastrointestinal, increased creatinine, increased hepatic enzymes
<b>Pregnancy</b>	Contraindicated (but has been used in third trimester)	Contraindicated	Contraindicated

Modified from Taher AT, Lancet 2018; 391: 155–67

# Unmet needs



## ACCESSIBILITY

- Limited access to regular and safe blood transfusions
- Limited availability of iron chelators
- Lack of specialists and multidisciplinary teams

## COST

- Financial and economic burden to patient and the family
- Higher medication and medical costs

## ADVERSE EVENTS

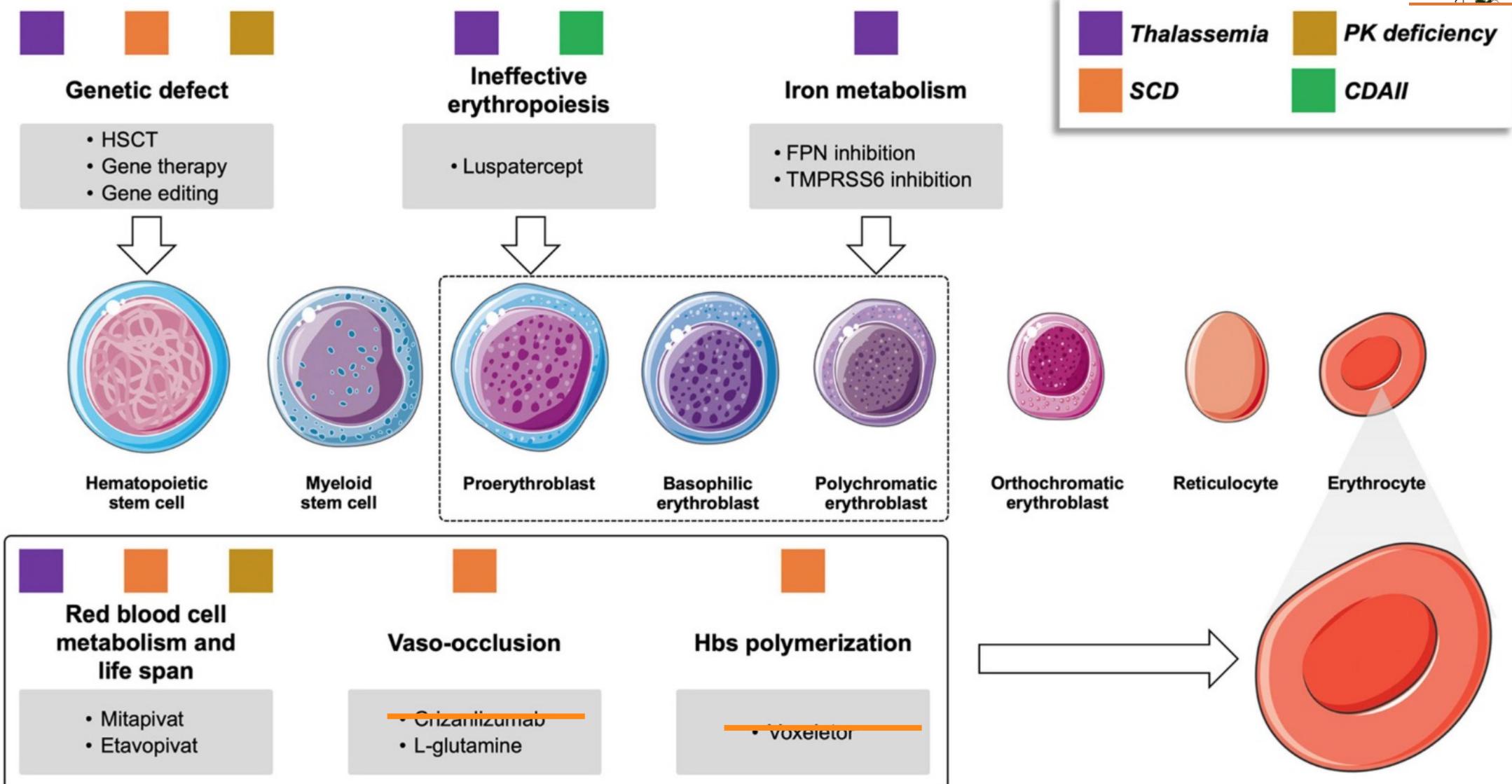
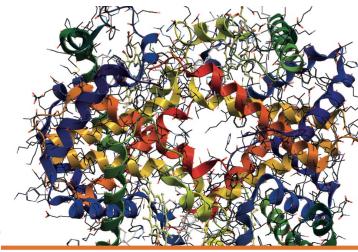
- Alloimmunization
- Transfusion-related reactions (allergic, hemolytic, etc)
- Infections

## CONVENIENCE

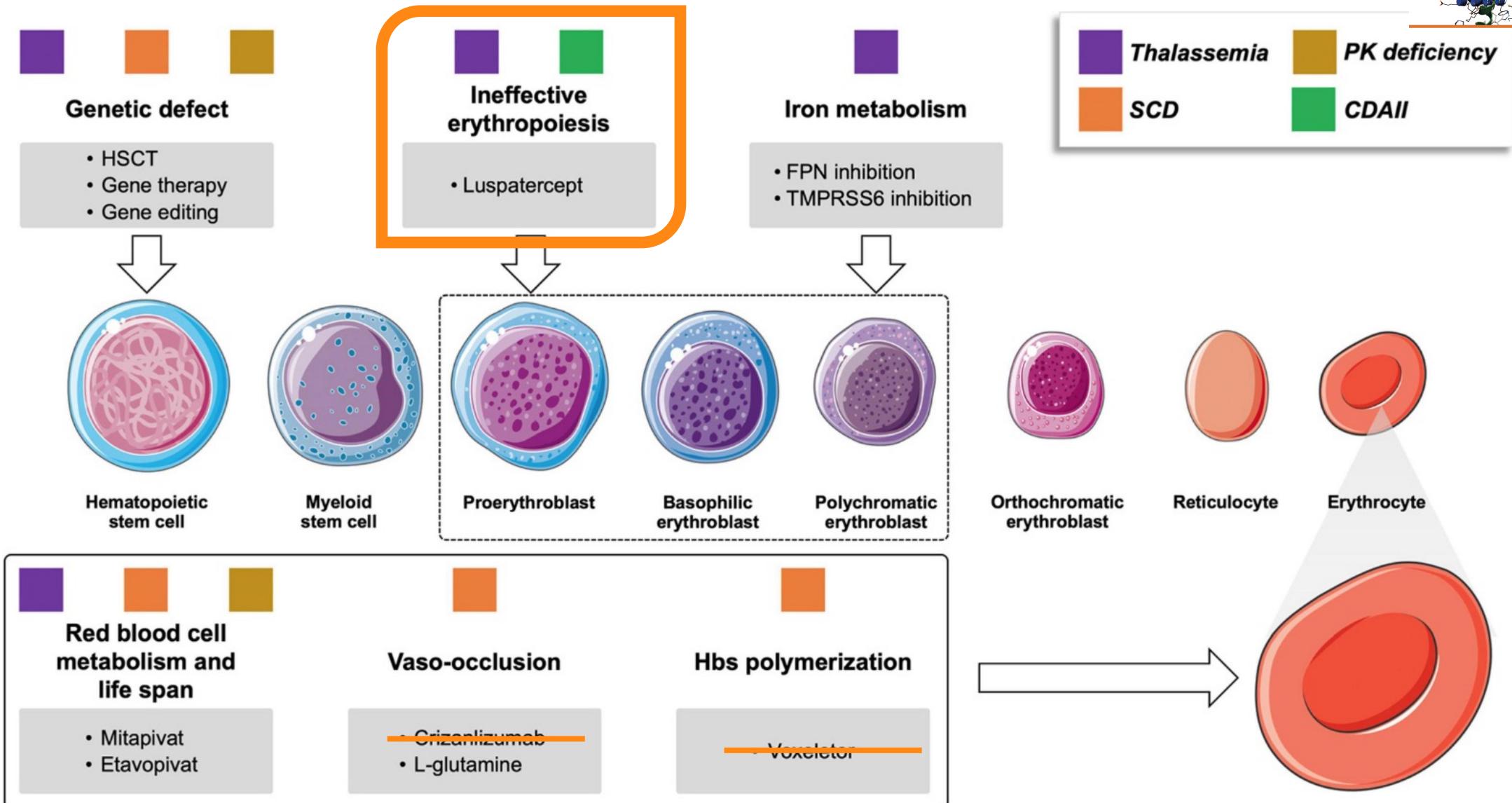
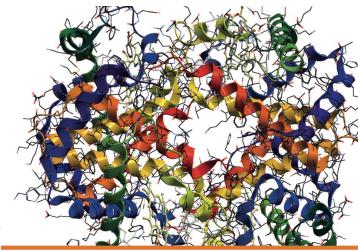
- Lack of compliance and adherence to therapy
- Frequent monitoring and outpatient visits needed



# Novel treatments: future and not

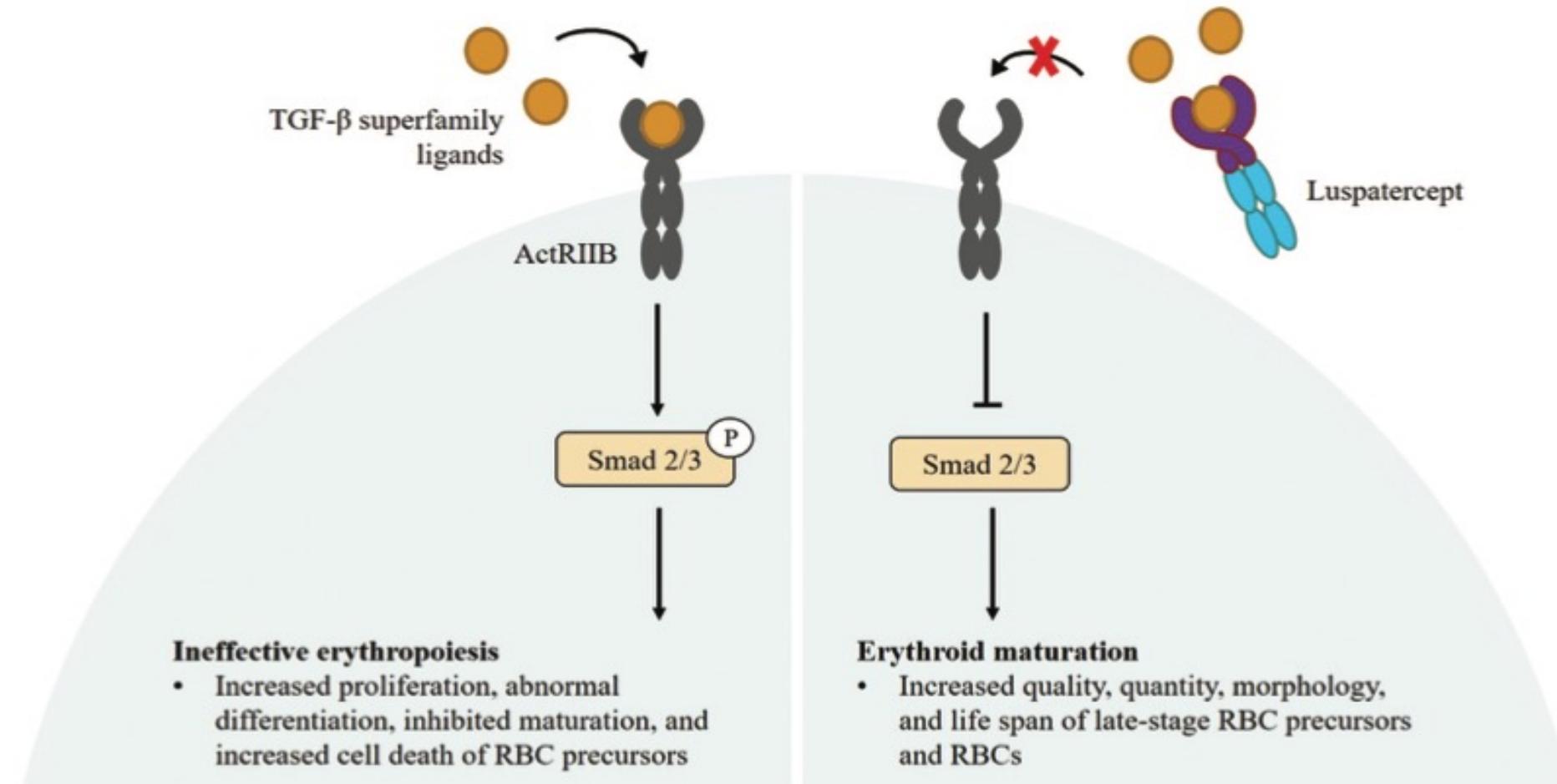


# Novel treatments: future and not

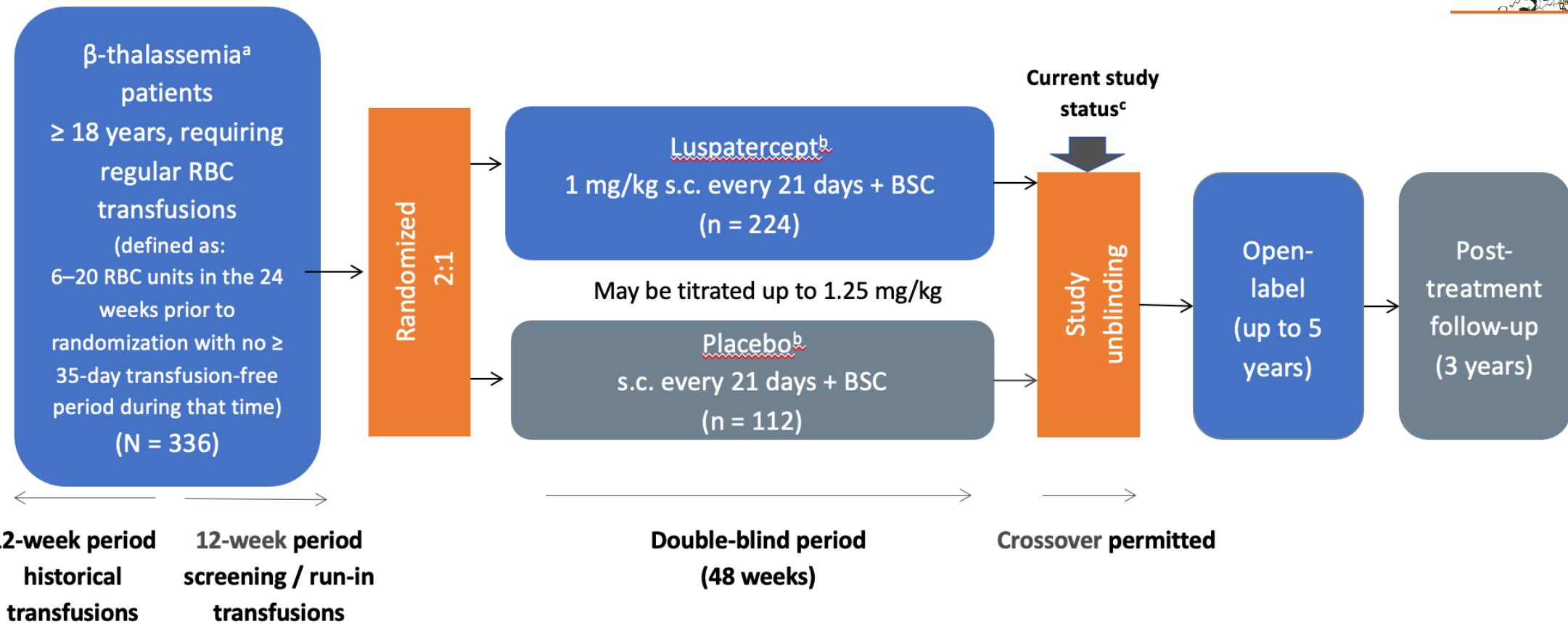
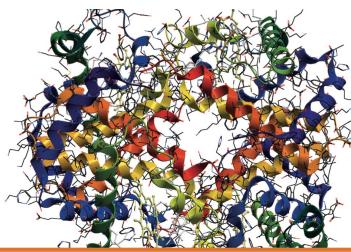


# Luspatercept

Luspatercept competes with the extracellular domain of the activin receptor to act as a ligand trap for TGF- $\beta$ , reducing Smad 2/3 signaling, improving erythrocyte maturation, and reducing ineffective erythropoiesis.



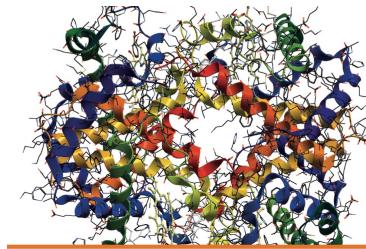
# Luspatercept: fase 3, BELIEVE STUDY



<sup>a</sup> β-thalassemia or hemoglobin E / β-thalassemia (β-thalassemia with mutation and / or multiplication of α-globin was allowed. <sup>b</sup> RBC transfusions and iron chelation therapy to maintain each patient's baseline hemoglobin level. <sup>c</sup> The trial is fully enrolled and patients continue to receive treatment or follow-up.

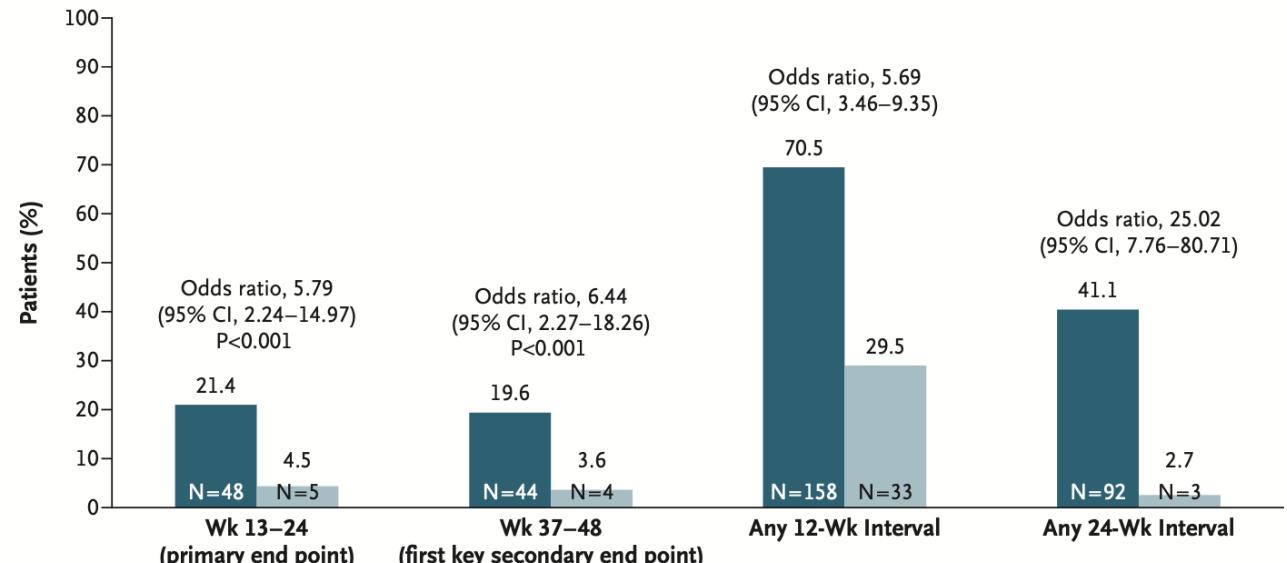
BSC, best supportive care; RBC, red blood cell; <sup>s.c.</sup>, subcutaneously.

# Believe: results

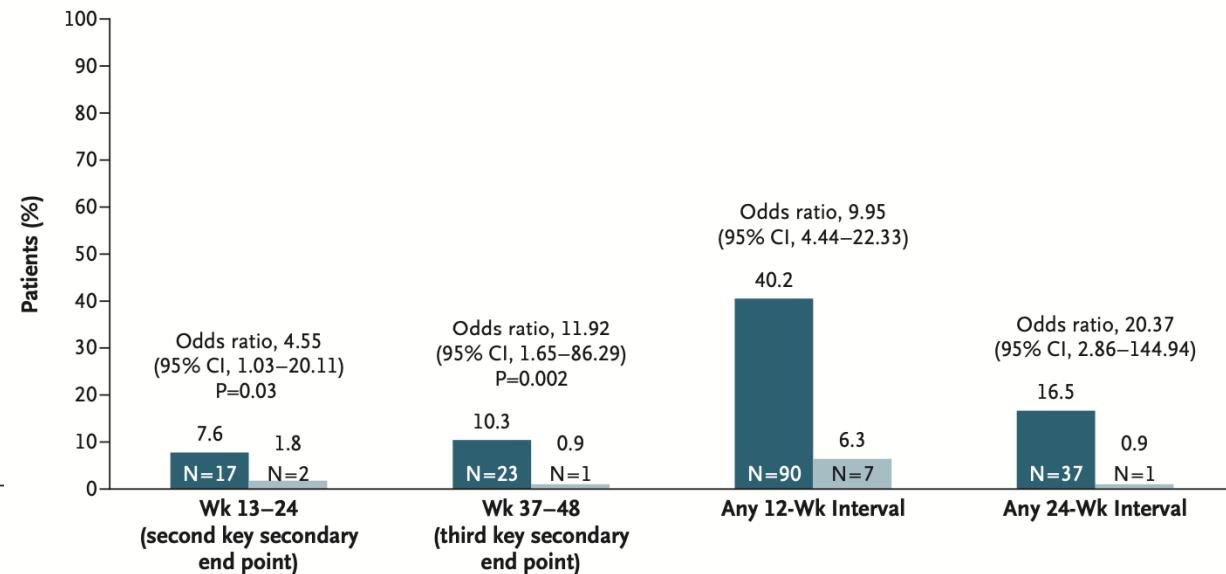


■ Luspatercept (N=224) ■ Placebo (N=112)

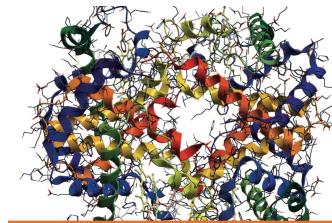
**A Reduction in Transfusion Burden of  $\geq 33\%$  from Baseline**



**B Reduction in Transfusion Burden of  $\geq 50\%$  from Baseline**



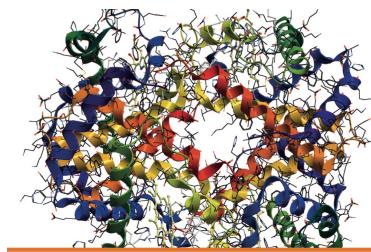
# Luspatercept: adverse events



Adverse Event†	Luspatercept Group (N=223)		Placebo Group (N=109)		Adverse Event†	Luspatercept Group (N=223)		Placebo Group (N=109)	
	Any Grade	Grade ≥3	Any Grade	Grade ≥3		Any Grade	Grade ≥3	Any Grade	Grade ≥3
	number (percent)					number (percent)			
Patients with ≥1 adverse event	214 (96.0)	65 (29.1)	101 (92.7)	17 (15.6)	Back pain	61 (27.4)	3 (1.3)	32 (29.4)	1 (0.9)
Upper respiratory tract infection	59 (26.5)	2 (0.9)	36 (33.0)	0	Abdominal pain	18 (8.1)	0	7 (6.4)	0
Headache	58 (26.0)	1 (0.4)	26 (23.9)	1 (0.9)	Vomiting	18 (8.1)	1 (0.4)	8 (7.3)	0
Bone pain	44 (19.7)	3 (1.3)	9 (8.3)	0	Hypertension	18 (8.1)	4 (1.8)	3 (2.8)	0
Arthralgia	43 (19.3)	0	13 (11.9)	0	Influenza-like illness	17 (7.6)	0	8 (7.3)	0
Pyrexia	36 (16.1)	0	23 (21.1)	0	Hyperuricemia	16 (7.2)	6 (2.7)	0	0
Cough	32 (14.3)	1 (0.4)	12 (11.0)	0	Abdominal pain upper	15 (6.7)	0	7 (6.4)	0
Fatigue	30 (13.5)	0	14 (12.8)	0	Viral upper respiratory tract infection	14 (6.3)	1 (0.4)	2 (1.8)	0
Oropharyngeal pain	28 (12.6)	0	12 (11.0)	0	Musculoskeletal pain	14 (6.3)	0	9 (8.3)	0
Diarrhea	27 (12.1)	1 (0.4)	11 (10.1)	0	Pain	13 (5.8)	0	4 (3.7)	0
Dizziness	25 (11.2)	0	5 (4.6)	0	Gastroenteritis	12 (5.4)	2 (0.9)	8 (7.3)	0
Myalgia	22 (9.9)	0	11 (10.1)	0	Nasal congestion	12 (5.4)	0	5 (4.6)	0
Asthenia	22 (9.9)	0	11 (10.1)	0	Liver iron concentration increased	12 (5.4)	6 (2.7)	2 (1.8)	1 (0.9)
Pain in extremity	21 (9.4)	0	9 (8.3)	0	Neck pain	10 (4.5)	0	8 (7.3)	0
Pharyngitis	20 (9.0)	1 (0.4)	13 (11.9)	0	Osteoporosis	9 (4.0)	0	6 (5.5)	0
Nausea	20 (9.0)	0	6 (5.5)	0	Musculoskeletal chest pain	5 (2.2)	0	7 (6.4)	0
Influenza	19 (8.5)	0	6 (5.5)	0	Urinary tract infection	4 (1.8)	0	7 (6.4)	0

# Luspatercept approval

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## AGENZIA ITALIANA DEL FARMACO

DETERMINA 24 novembre 2021

Riclassificazione del medicinale per uso umano , ai sensi dell'articolo 8, comma 10, della legge 24 dicembre 1993, n. 537. (Determina n. DG/1401/2021). (21A07129)

(GU n.292 del 9-12-2021)

Art. 3

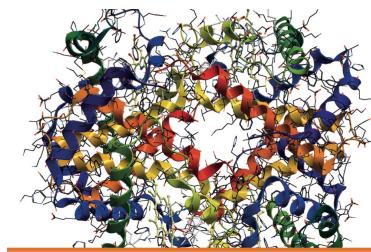
### Classificazione ai fini della fornitura

La classificazione ai fini della fornitura del medicinale luspatercept e' la seguente:

per l'indicazione beta-talassemia: medicinale soggetto a prescrizione medica limitativa, da rinnovare volta per volta, vendibile al pubblico su prescrizione di centri di riferimento per le talassemie ed emoglobinopatie identificati nell'ambito del servizio sanitario regionale (RNRL);

# Luspatercept in clinical practice

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## CRITERI DI PRESCRIZIONE/UTILIZZO secondo PT AIFA

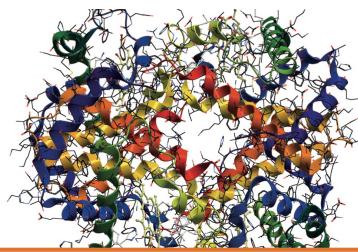
Luspatercept è attualmente approvato per soggetti con **età>18 anni**

Luspatercept è indicato in soggetti con **β-Talassemia Trasfusione Dipendente (TDT)**, senza distinzione di genotipo.

**Trasfusione di 6-24 U di EC nelle 24 settimane precedenti l'inizio della terapia**

# Luspatercept in clinical practice

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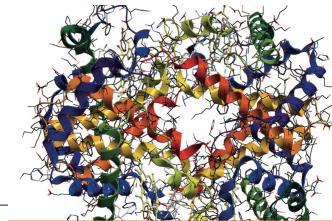
## CRITERI DI PRESCRIZIONE/UTILIZZO secondo PT AIFA

**Assenza di danno d'organo maggiore** (Diabete mellito non controllato, malattia cardiaca, insufficienza cardiaca classificata secondo (NYHA)  $\geq 3$  e/aritmia cardiaca non controllata, malattia epatica con livelli di ALT  $\geq 3$  volte il limite di riferimento, clearance della creatinina  $< 60$  mL/min, proteinuria di grado maggiore al 3 secondo NCI CTCAE versione 5.0.

Luspatercept è **controindicato in soggetti con storia di neoplasia onco-ematologica**.

**Valutazione attenta della storia familiare e personale di trombosi**

# Luspatercept in clinical practice



Received: 29 June 2024 | Revised: 24 August 2024 | Accepted: 27 August 2024  
DOI: 10.1002/ajh.27474

## CORRESPONDENCE



## Real-world efficacy and safety of luspatercept and predictive factors of response in patients with transfusion-dependent $\beta$ -thalassemia

Received: 30 December 2023 | Revised: 4 March 2024 | Accepted: 16 March 2024  
DOI: 10.1002/ccr3.8795

## CASE REPORT

Clinical Case Reports Open Access WILEY

## Luspatercept's use in a patient with transfusion-dependent beta-thalassemia and intrathoracic extramedullary hematopoiesis (EMH)

Mohammed Najdat Sejari<sup>1</sup> | Awni Alshurafa<sup>2</sup> | Mohamed A. Yassin<sup>2</sup>

LETTER TO BLOOD | NOVEMBER 30, 2023

## Splenic iron decreases without change in volume or liver parameters during luspatercept therapy

Clinical Trials & Observations

Christopher C. Denton, Sadanand Vodala, Saranya Veluswamy, Thomas C. Hofstra, Thomas D. Coates, John C. Wood

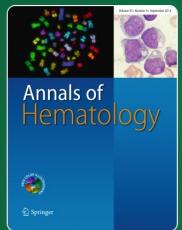


Blood (2023) 142 (22): 1932–1934.

<https://doi.org/10.1182/blood.2023021839>

Article history

[Home](#) > [Annals of Hematology](#) > Article



Annals of Hematology

## Acute liver injury after SARS-CoV-2 vaccination and luspatercept administration in a patient with $\beta$ -thalassemia

LETTER TO THE EDITOR | Published: 03 January 2024  
Volume 103, pages 1025–1026, (2024) [Cite this article](#)

Received: 26 January 2024 | Accepted: 9 April 2024  
DOI: 10.1111/bjh.19480

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## Unplanned pregnancy in women with beta-thalassaemia treated with luspatercept



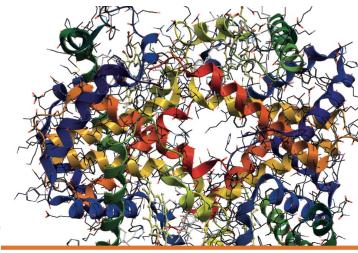
## ORIGINAL RESEARCH ARTICLE

## Can Cyprus Afford Luspatercept? A Budget Impact Analysis of the Reimbursement of Luspatercept for the Management of Thalassaemia in Cyprus

Olga Pitsillidou<sup>1,2</sup> · Panagiotis Petrou<sup>2,3</sup> · M. J. Postma<sup>1,4</sup>

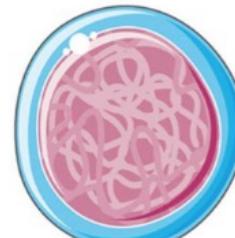
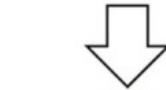
Accepted: 3 March 2024 / Published online: 4 April 2024  
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# Novel treatments: future and not



## Genetic defect

- HSCT
- Gene therapy
- Gene editing

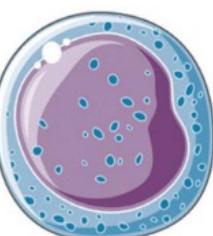
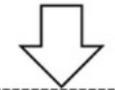


Hematopoietic stem cell



## Ineffective erythropoiesis

- Luspatercept

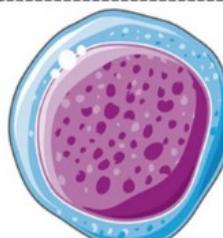
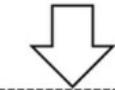


Myeloid stem cell

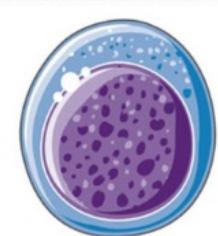


## Iron metabolism

- FPN inhibition
- TMPRSS6 inhibition



Proerythroblast



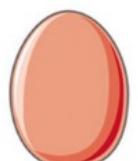
Basophilic erythroblast



Polychromatic erythroblast



Orthochromatic erythroblast



Reticulocyte



Erythrocyte



## Red blood cell metabolism and life span

- Mitapivat
- Etavopivat



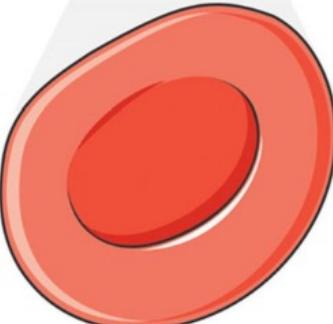
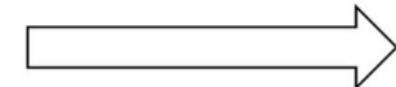
## Vaso-occlusion

- Crizanlizumab
- L-glutamine

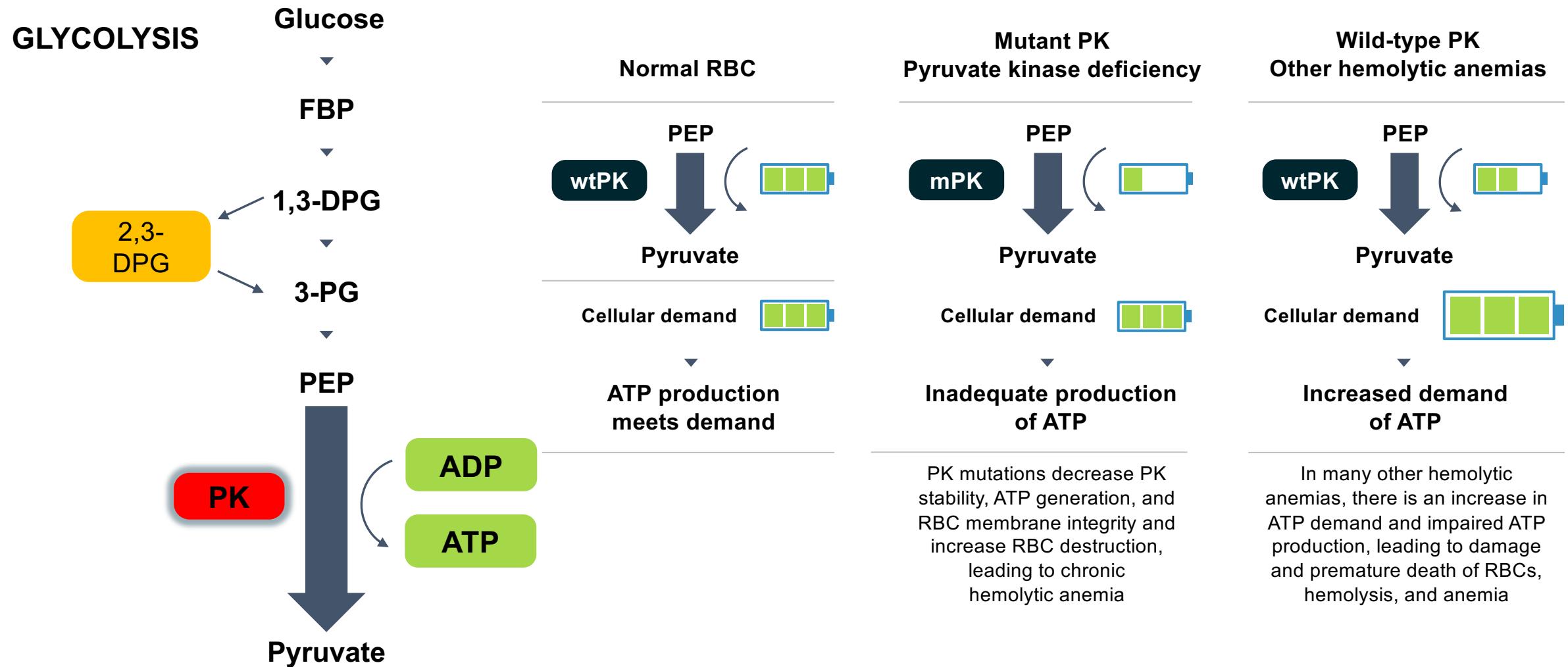


## Hbs polymerization

- Voxelotor

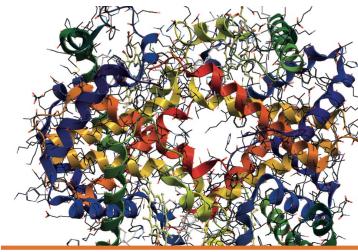


# PK activation represents a unique mechanism of action with the potential to address a broad range of hemolytic anemias

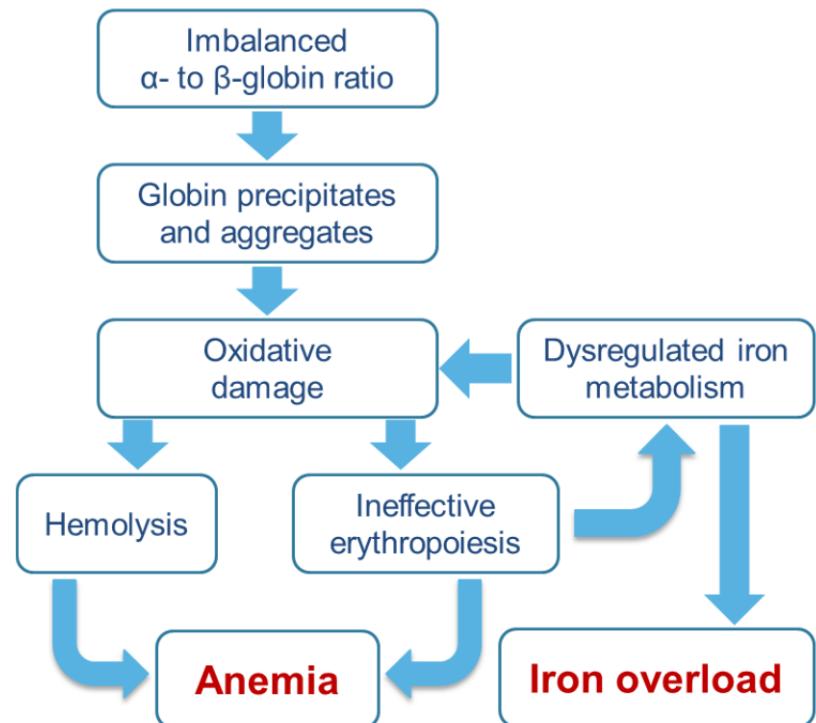


ADP = adenosine diphosphate; ATP = adenosine triphosphate; DPG = diphosphoglycerate; FBP = fructose bisphosphate; PEP = phosphoenolpyruvate; PG = phosphoglycerate; PK = pyruvate kinase; wt = wild-type.

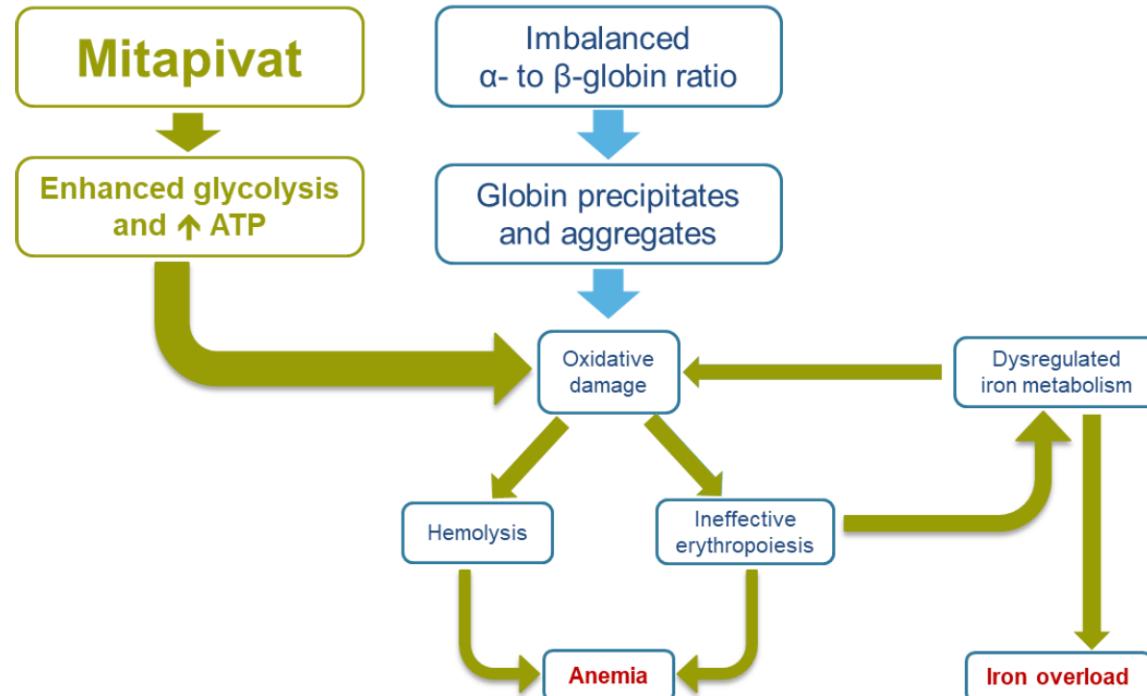
# Mitapivat mechanisms in thalassemia



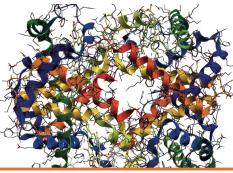
## Pathophysiology



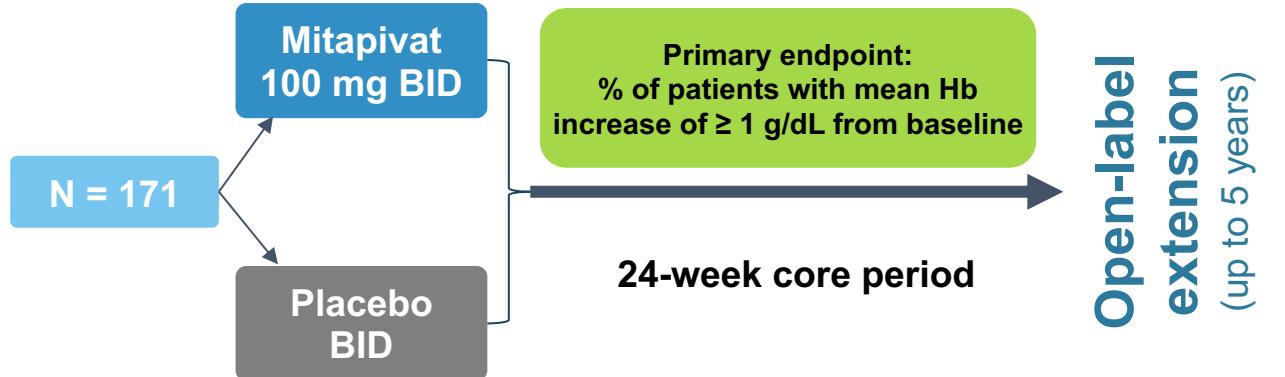
## Mechanism of Action



# Two Phase 3, global, randomized, controlled trials of mitapivat in adults with $\alpha$ - or $\beta$ -thalassemia



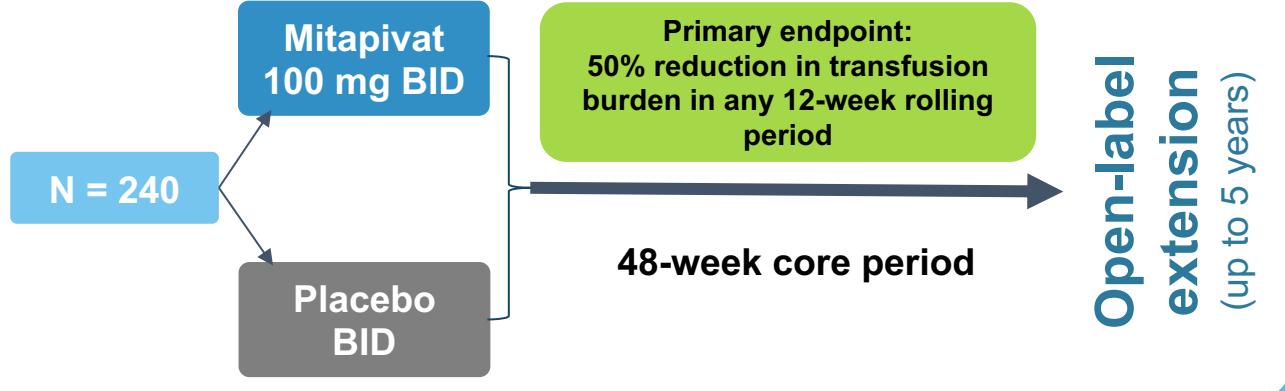
2:1 randomization



## Key inclusion criteria

- $\geq 18$  years
- $\beta$ -thalassemia  $\pm \alpha$ -globin mutations, HbE  $\beta$ -thalassemia, or  $\alpha$ -thalassemia (HbH disease)
- Non-transfusion-dependent ( $\leq 5$  RBC units during the 24-week period before randomization and no RBC transfusions  $\leq 8$  weeks prior)
- Hb  $\leq 10.0$  g/dL

2:1 randomization



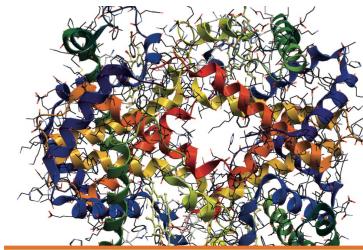
## Key inclusion criteria

- $\geq 18$  years
- $\beta$ -thalassemia  $\pm \alpha$ -globin mutations, HbE  $\beta$ -thalassemia, or  $\alpha$ -thalassemia (HbH disease)
- Transfusion-dependent (6–20 RBC units transfused and  $\leq 6$ -week transfusion-free period during the 24-week period before randomization)

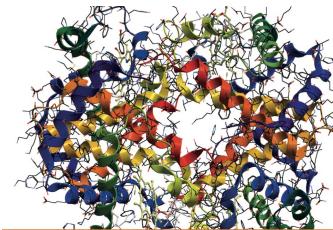
BID = twice daily; Hb = hemoglobin; HbE = hemoglobin E; HbH = hemoglobin H; RBC = red blood cell.

ClinicalTrials.gov: ENERGIZE (NCT04770753); ClinicalTrials.gov: ENERGIZE-T (NCT04770779).

# Countries involved



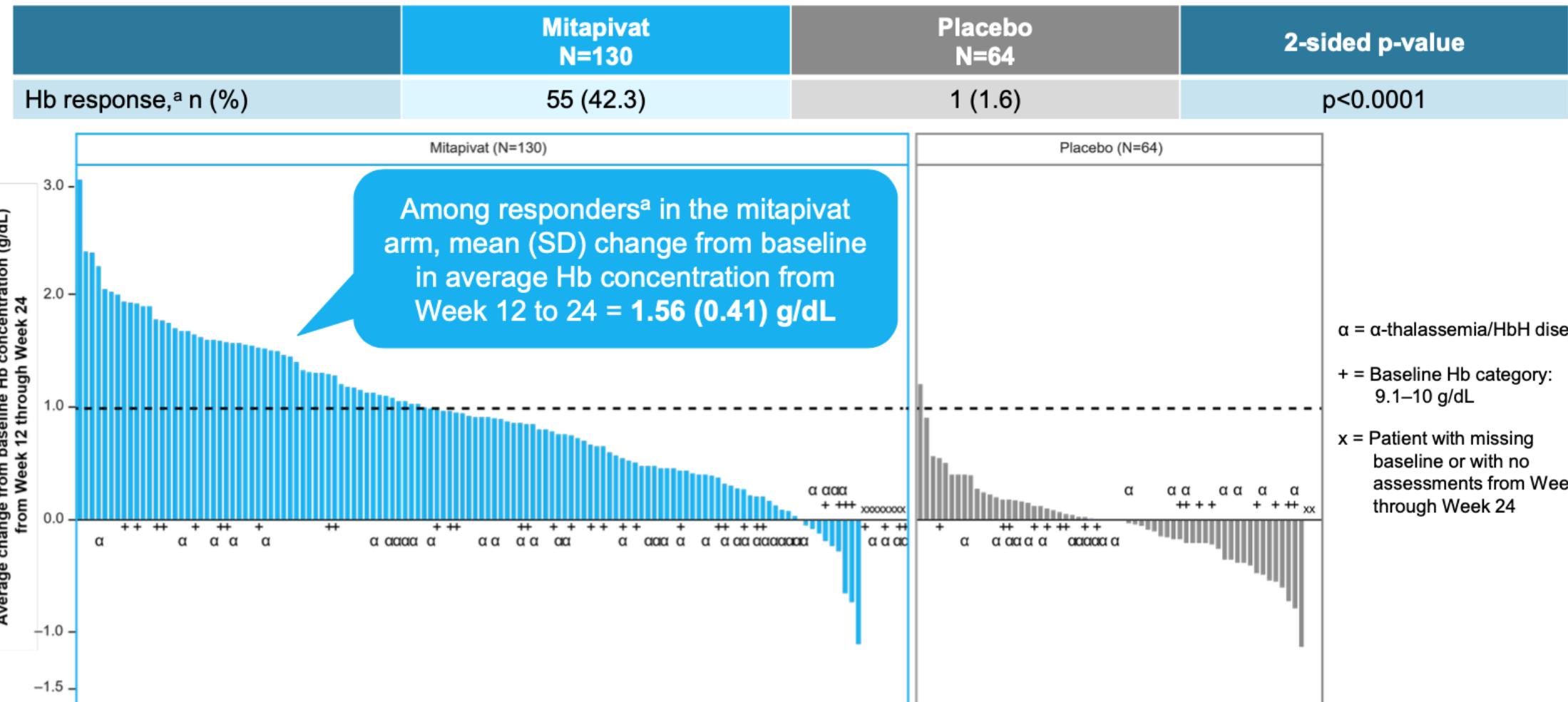
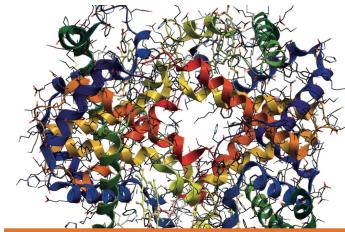
# ENERGIZE: population



Demographics and disease characteristics	Mitapivat (N=130)	Placebo (N=64)
Age, mean ( $\pm$ SD), years	42.4 (13.0)	38.9 (13.0)
Female, n (%)	84 (64.6)	39 (60.9)
Thalassemia type, n (%)		
$\alpha$ -thalassemia/HbH disease	42 (32.3)	20 (31.3)
$\beta$ -thalassemia	88 (67.7)	44 (68.8)
Transfusion burden, <sup>a</sup> n (%)		
0	114 (87.7)	54 (84.4)
1–2	10 (7.7)	7 (10.9)
3–5	6 (4.6)	3 (4.7)
>5	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Prior splenectomy, <sup>b</sup> n (%)	47 (36.2)	25 (39.1)
Prior cholecystectomy, <sup>b</sup> n (%)	45 (34.6)	16 (25.0)
Received iron chelation in prior year, <sup>c</sup> n (%)	46 (35.4)	22 (34.4)
Hb, median (range), g/dL	8.4 (5.3–10.4)	8.4 (5.9–10.7)
Indirect bilirubin, median (range), $\mu$ mol/L	23.4 (2.2–155.8)	22.6 (2.7–81.6)
LDH, median (range), U/L	264 (108–1208)	267 (110–1009)
Haptoglobin, <sup>d</sup> median (range), g/L	0.1 (0.1–1.7)	0.1 (0.1–2.8)
Reticulocyte percentage, median (range), %	4.6 (0.3–29.8)	4.4 (0.0–21.9)
Erythropoietin, median (range), IU/L	65.1 (8.3–1587.0)	64.1 (15.7–4710.0)

Analysis conducted on Full Analysis Set. <sup>a</sup>A Hb response was defined as an increase of  $\geq 1.0$  g/dL in average Hb concentration from Week 12 through Week 24, compared with baseline. Hb, hemoglobin; HbH, hemoglobin H

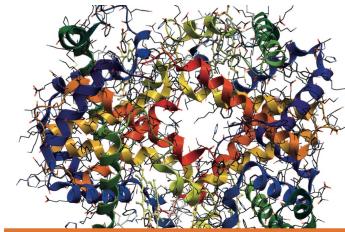
# ENERGIZE: results



Analysis conducted on Full Analysis Set.  $\alpha$ A Hb response was defined as an increase of  $\geq 1.0$  g/dL in average Hb concentration from Week 12 through Week 24, compared with baseline. Hb, hemoglobin; HbH, hemoglobin H

# ENERGIZE: conclusions

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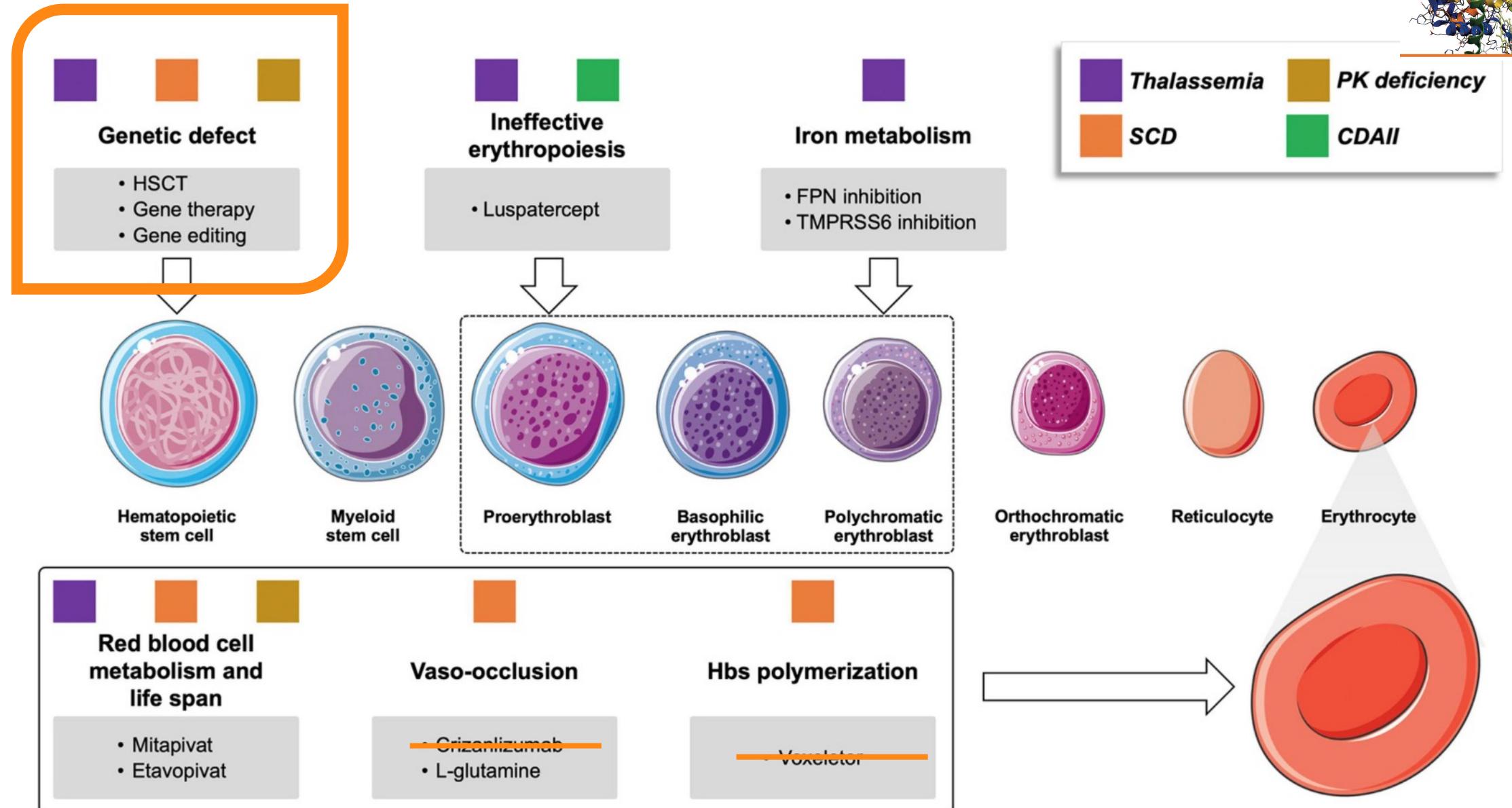
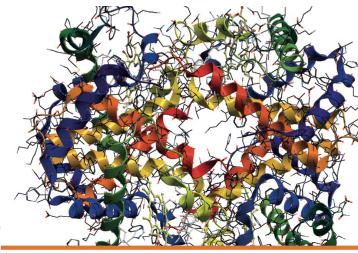


- This global study was the first to enroll patients with α-thalassemia in addition to β-thalassemia
- The primary and key secondary endpoints were met, with statistically significant improvements in Hb and fatigue with mitapivat vs placebo
  - All prespecified subgroup analyses favored mitapivat vs placebo
- Improvements in markers of hemolysis and erythropoietic activity were observed, consistent with the mechanism of mitapivat<sup>1–3</sup>
- Mitapivat was generally well tolerated in this study, with a low treatment discontinuation rate and a safety profile consistent with other studies<sup>3–6</sup>

Hb, hemoglobin; NTDT, non-transfusion-dependent thalassemia

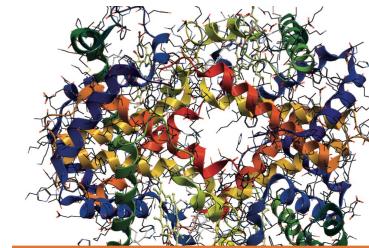
1. Kung C et al. *Blood* 2017;130:1347–56;
2. Matte A et al. *J Clin Invest* 2021;131:e144206;
3. Kuo KHM et al. *Lancet* 2022;400:493–501;
4. Al-Samkari H et al. *NEJM* 2022;386:1432–42;
5. Glenthøj A et al. *Lancet Haematol* 2022;9:e724–32;
6. Idowu M et al. *Blood* 2023;142:271.

# Novel treatments: future and not



# Gene editing - CRISPR-Cas9

The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE



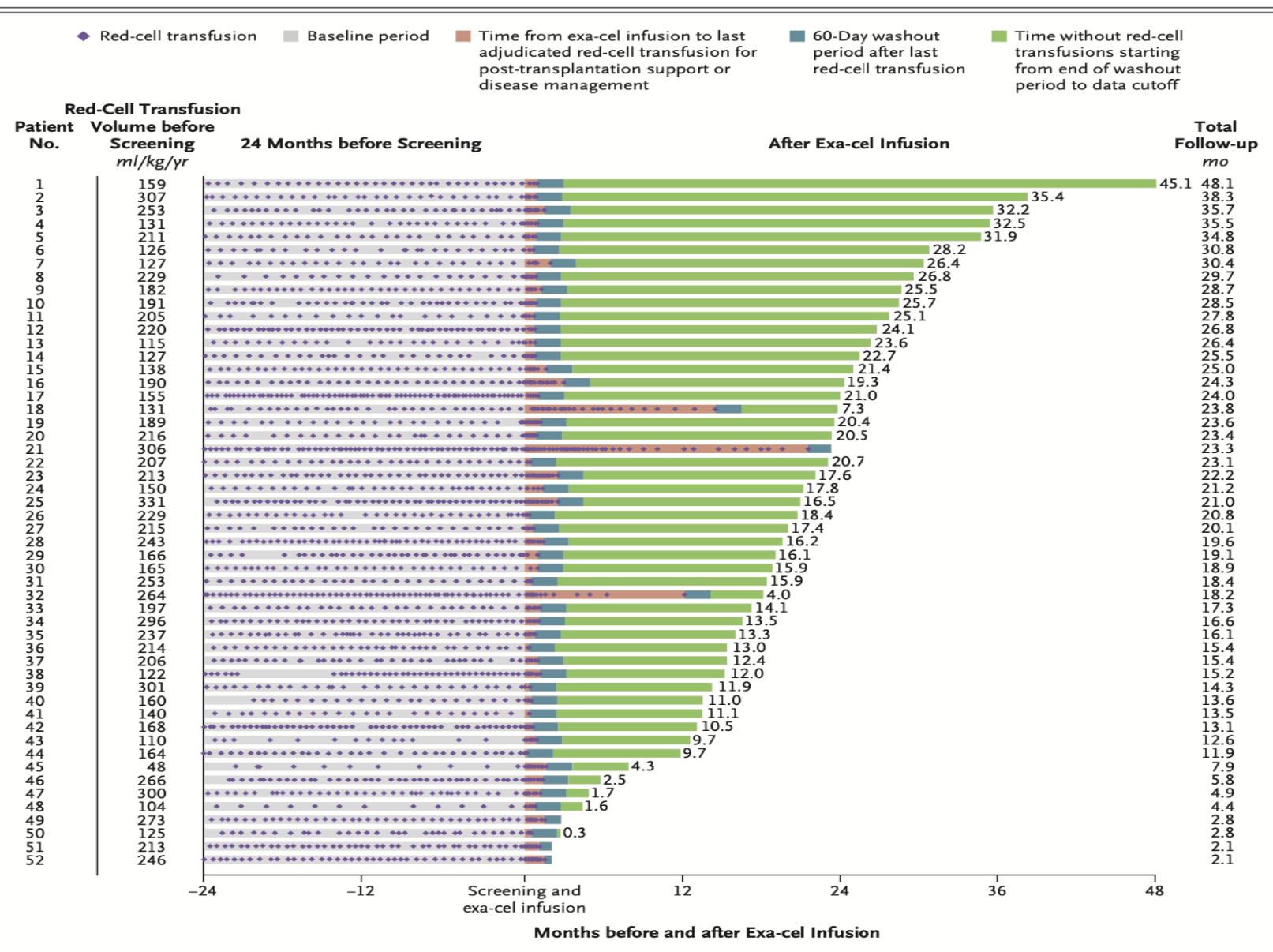
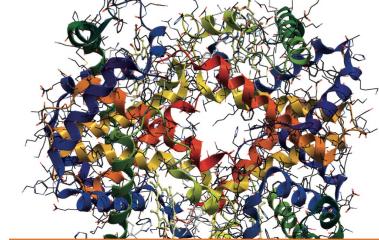
ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## Exagamglogene Autotemcel for Transfusion-Dependent $\beta$ -Thalassemia

F. Locatelli, P. Lang, D. Wall, R. Meisel, S. Corbacioglu, A.M. Li, J. de la Fuente, A.J. Shah, B. Carpenter, J.L. Kwiatkowski, M. Mapara, R.I. Liem, M.D. Cappellini, M. Algeri, A. Kattamis, S. Sheth, S. Grupp, R. Handgretinger, P. Kohli, D. Shi, L. Ross, Y. Bobruff, C. Simard, L. Zhang, P.K. Morrow, W.E. Hobbs, and H. Frangoul, for the CLIMB THAL-111 Study Group\*  
H. Frangoul, for the CLIMB THAL-111 Study Group\*

Characteristic	Full Analysis Population (N=52)	Primary Efficacy Population (N=35)
Sex — no. (%)		
Male	27 (52)	18 (51)
Female	25 (48)	17 (49)
Age at screening		
Mean — yr	21.5±6.7	21.1±6.1
Distribution — no. (%)		
12 to <18 yr	18 (35)	11 (31)
≥18 to 35 yr	34 (65)	24 (69)
Race or ethnic group — no. (%)†		
White	18 (35)	15 (43)
Asian	22 (42)	13 (37)
Data not collected per local regulations	7 (13)	4 (11)
Other	2 (4)	0
Multiracial	3 (6)	3 (9)

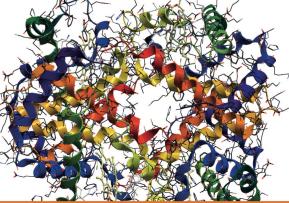
# Gene editing - CRISPR-Cas9



Among the 35 evaluable patients, transfusion independence (weighted average hemoglobin level of ≥9 g per deciliter without red-cell transfusion for at least 12 consecutive months) occurred in all except Patients 18, 21, and 32.

# GRAZIE

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**Personale amministrativo**

Roberto Saiani

Anna Coletta

Paola Frigerio

**Datamanager**

Valdine Medoh

**Laboratorio**

Elena Di Pierro

Valentina Brancaleoni

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