

LBCCL: algoritmo di trattamento

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CAR-T:

**e la storia continua...
migliorando**

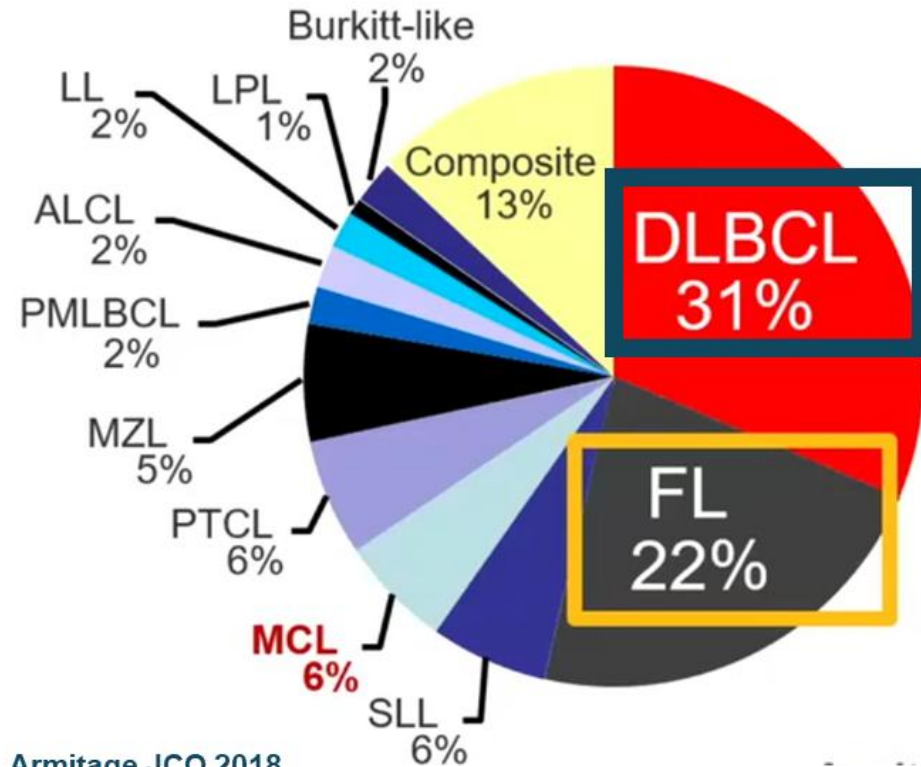
Roma, 9 Aprile 2025
Starhotels Metropole



Disclosures for Antonello Pinto

Company name	Research support	Employee	Consultant	Stockholder	Speakers bureau	Advisory board	Other
Roche			X		X	X	
BMS						X	
Eli Lilly			X		X	X	
Beigene						X	
SOBI					X	X	
MSD						X	
Autolus Ther.				X			
IGM BioSci.				X			
Incyte			X		X		
Takeda						X	
Abbvie					X		



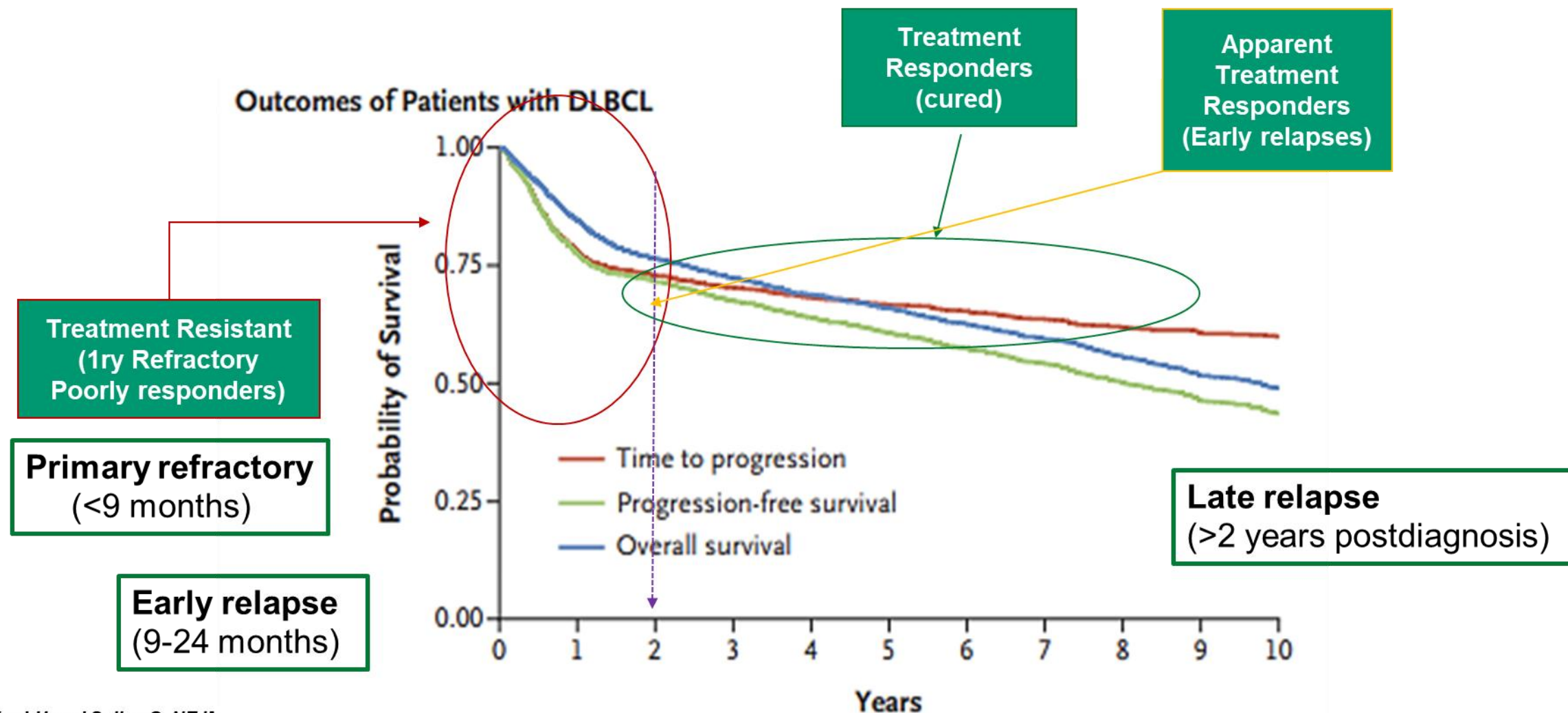


Armitage JCO 2018

Yesterday, love was
such an easy game to
play...



Outcomes of Patients with DLBCL



Sehn LH and Salles G, NEJM

Hilton LK, et al. J Clin Oncol 2023; 41:4164

...of R-CHOP-eligible pts

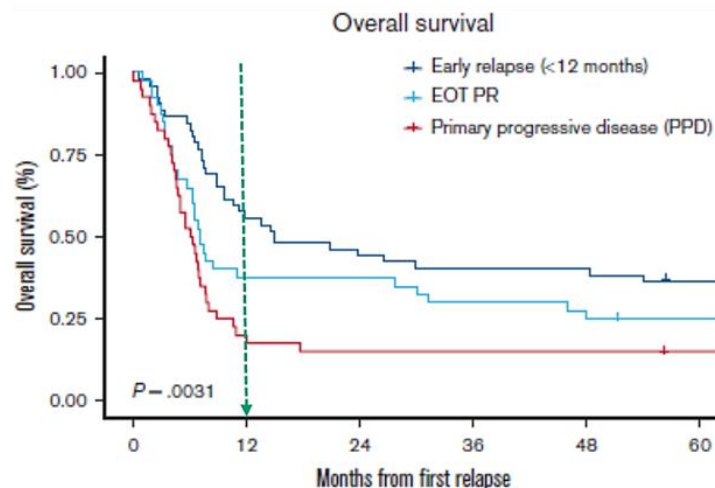


Redefining *Primary Refractoriness*: to what ? (R-CHOP)

Defining primary refractory large B-cell lymphoma

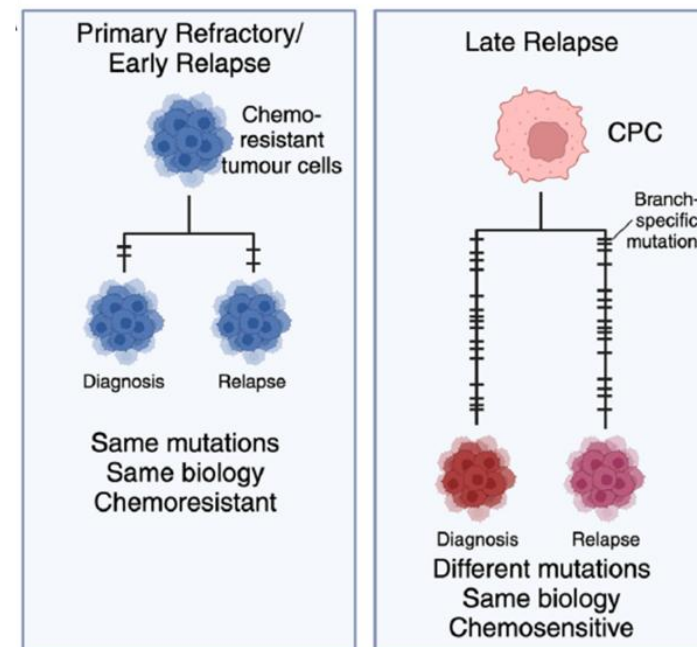
Key Points

- Patients with SD/PD to 1L therapy have lower responses to 2L therapy and poor OS compared with other subgroups of primary refractory disease.
- We advocate for the following definition of primary refractory LBCL: patients with SD or PD during, or by the end of, 1L treatment.



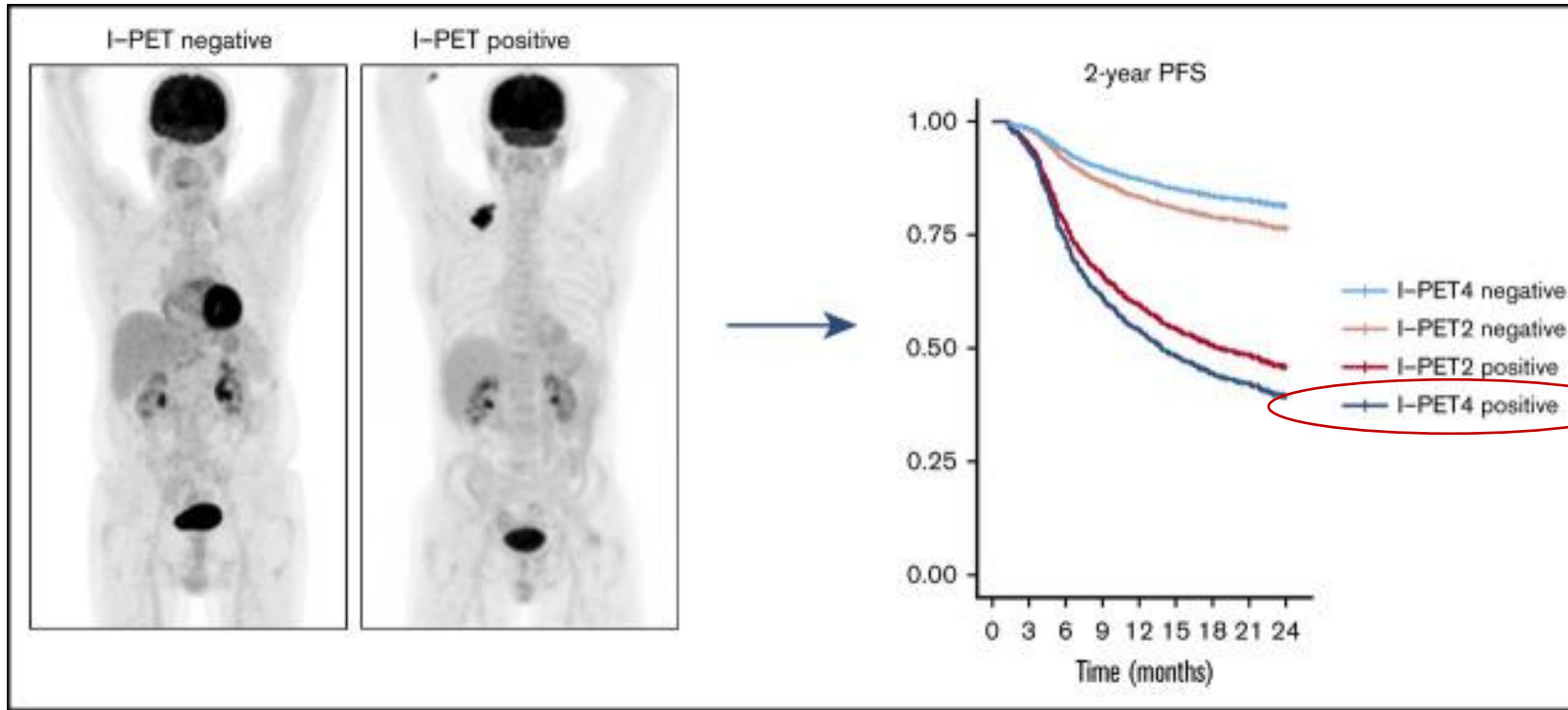
Patients with stable (SD) or progressive disease (PD) during or by the EOT are defined as “primary refractory LBCL”. This is the group of patients with clear chemoresistance and most in need of better treatment options.

Patients with inadequate response or EOT PR (ie, PR as best response by EOT) and early relapse (ie, relapse within 12 months) have similar outcomes and may be better grouped as “early relapse”



Hilton et al. (2023) *Semin Hematol.* 60(5):267

Timing of response assessment

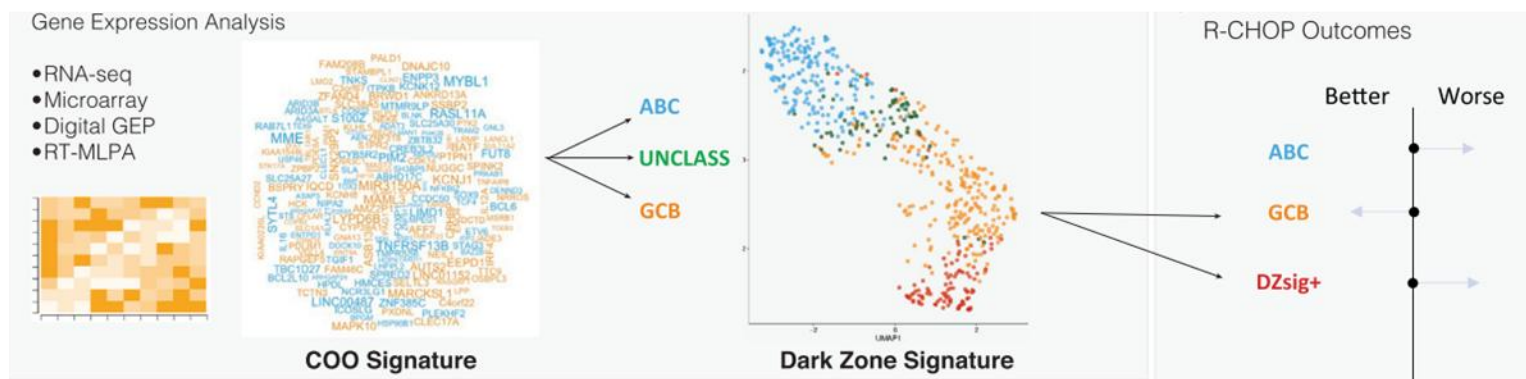
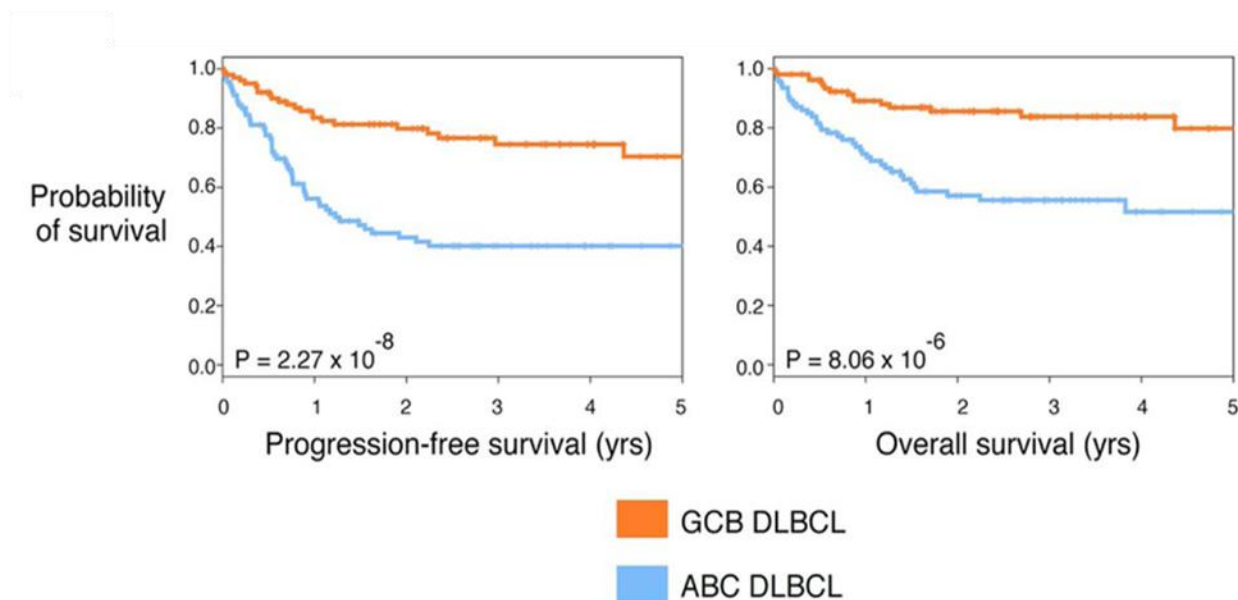
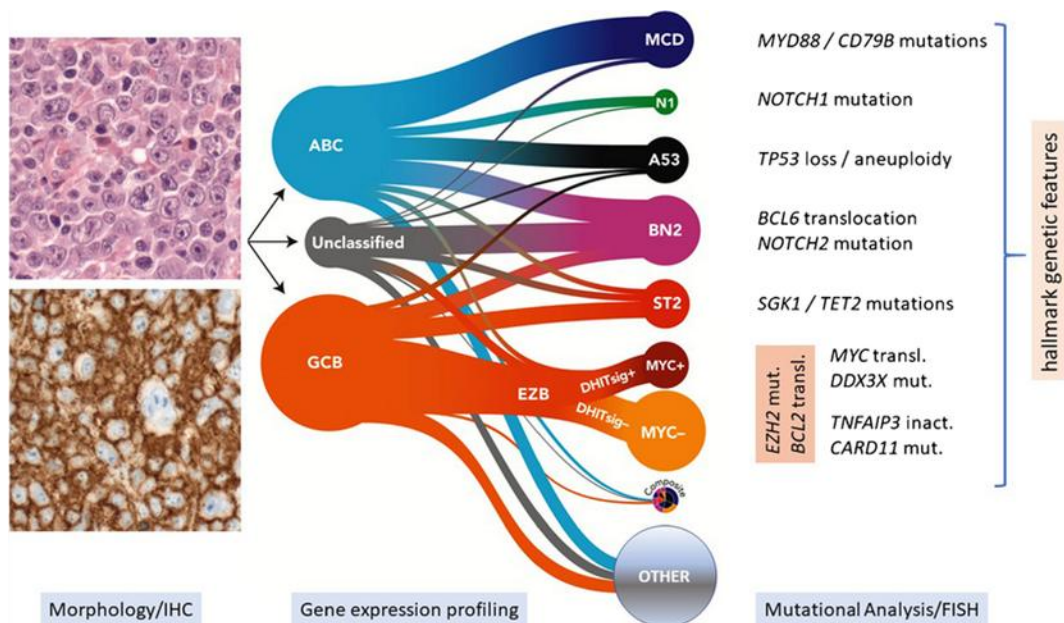


Eertink JJ et al. Optimal timing and criteria of interim PET in DLBCL: a comparative study of 1692 patients. *Blood Adv.* 2021;5(9):2375

Early activation of the CAR-T pathway
(eligible pts.)

Early activation of a non-chemotherapy
salvage pathway:

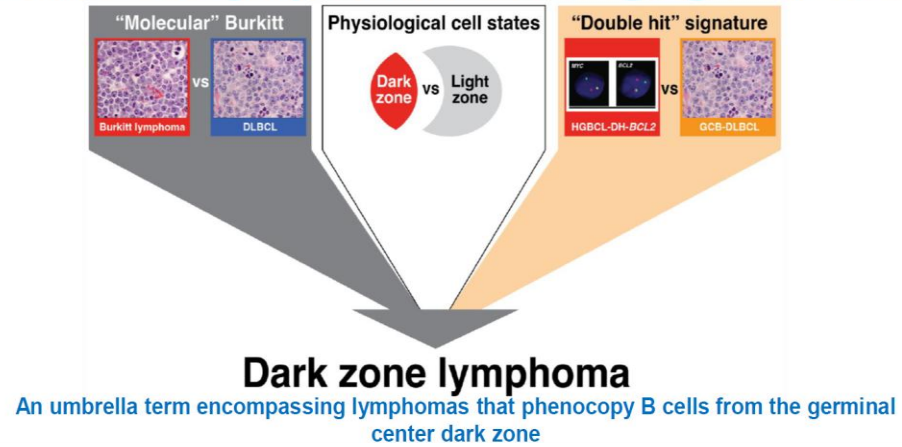
- a) Bispecifics (regulatory issues)
- b) Short-chemo (?) plus bispecifics
 - I. Stem cells collection
 - II. Deferred CAR-T pathway
 - III. ASCT
 - IV. Bispecifics-only salvage



He, M.Y., Kridel, R., *Leukemia* 35, 2151–2165 (2021)
 Hilton LK, Scott DW, Morin RD.; *Semin Hematol.* 2023;60(5):267-276.
 Dunleavy K, Grant C, Wilson WH.; *Ther Adv Hematol.* 2013;4(1):43-57



Dark zone lymphomas: converging evidence



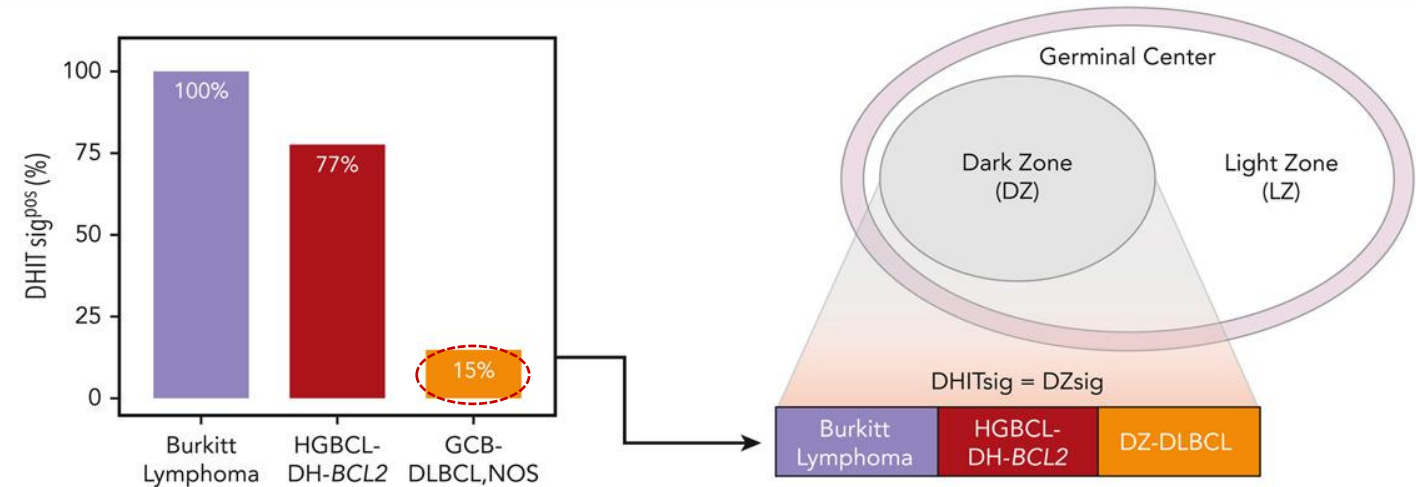
Defined ICC/WHO entities:

- All Burkitt lymphoma
- Most HGBCL-DH-*BCL2* (“double hit”)

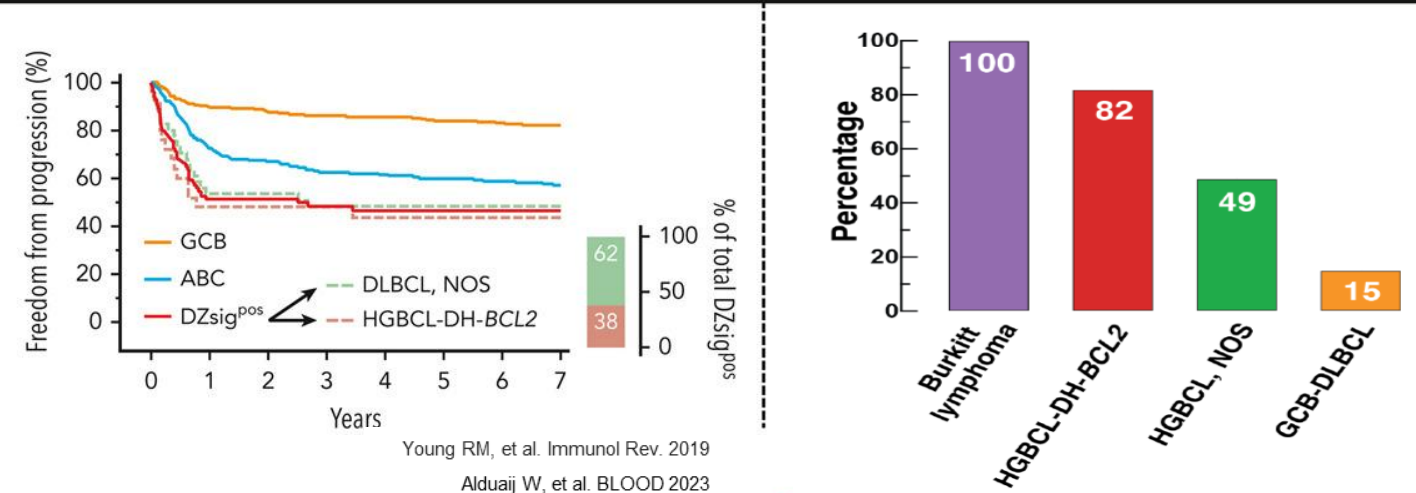
Not otherwise specified groups:

- Half of high-grade B-cell lymphoma, NOS
- 15% of GCB-DLBCL, NOS

1. DHITsig expression extends beyond HGBCL-DH-*BCL2* to identify dark zone lymphomas, and was thus renamed the “dark zone signature” (DZsig)

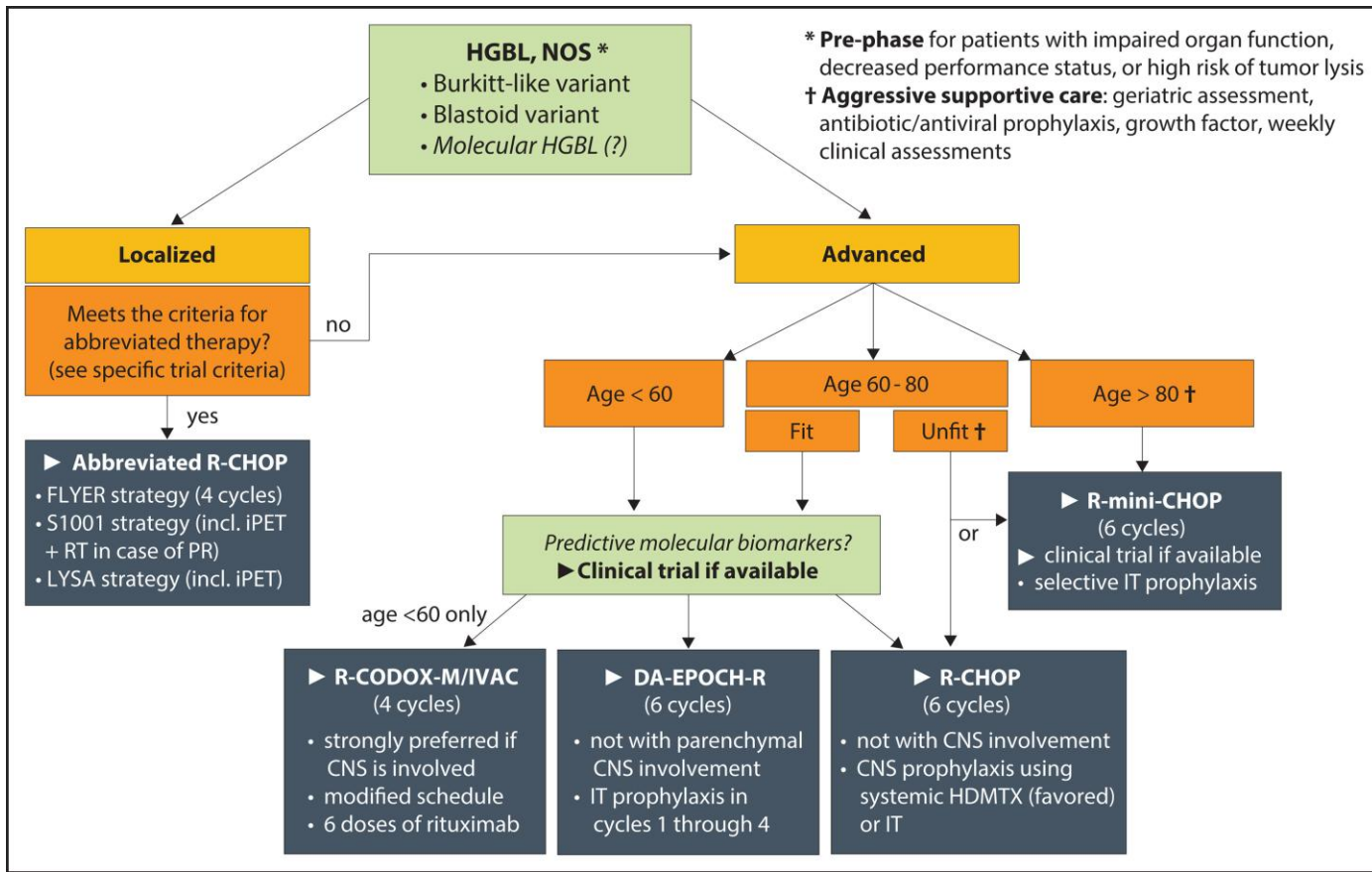
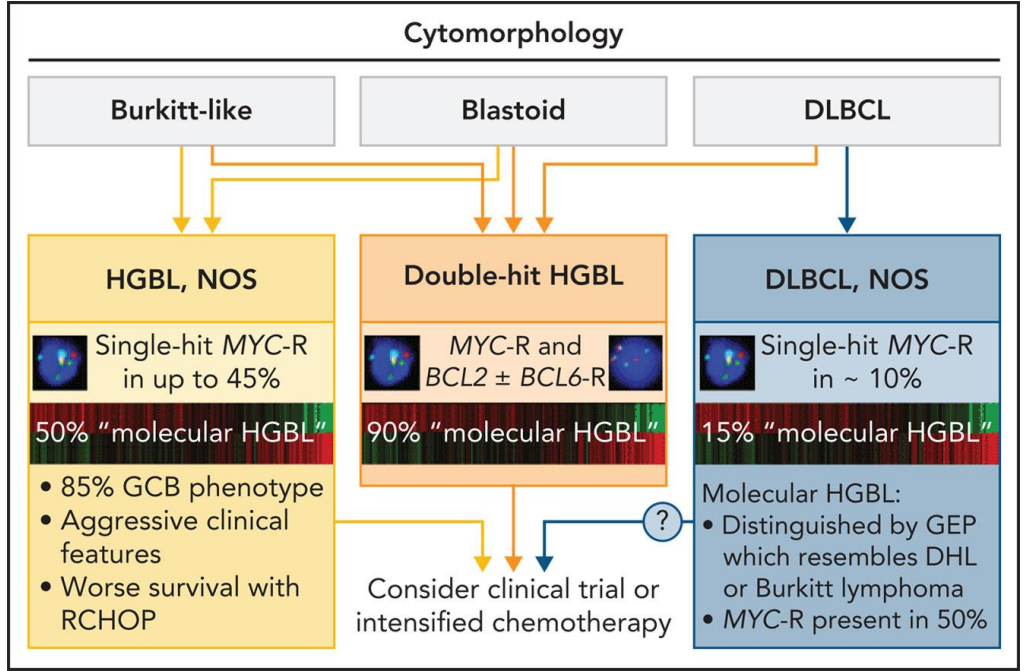


2. Among tumors of DLBCL morphology, gene expression profiling-defined molecular subgroups are associated with outcomes and diagnosis-to-treatment interval



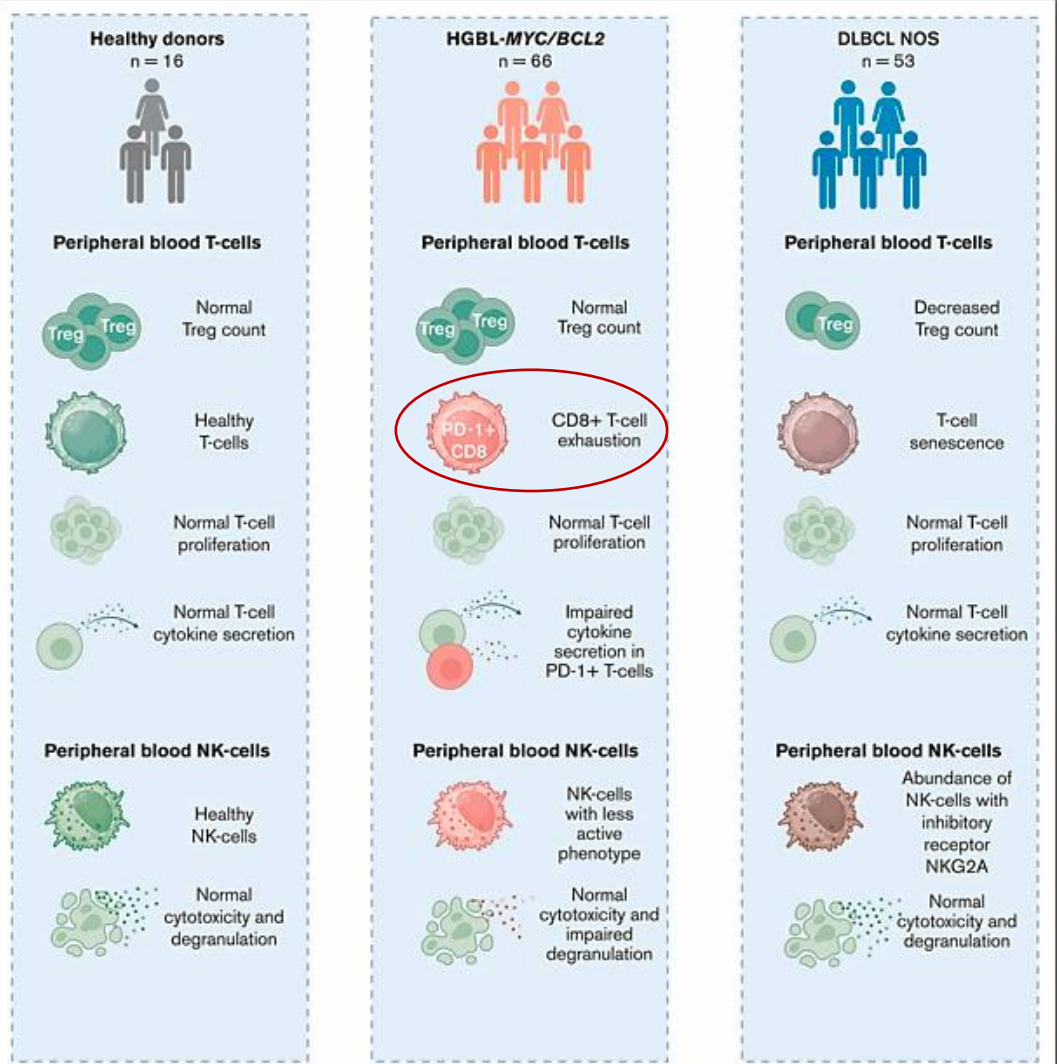
Young RM, et al. Immunol Rev. 2019

Alduaj W, et al. BLOOD 2023



Olszewski AJ, et al. Blood (2022)

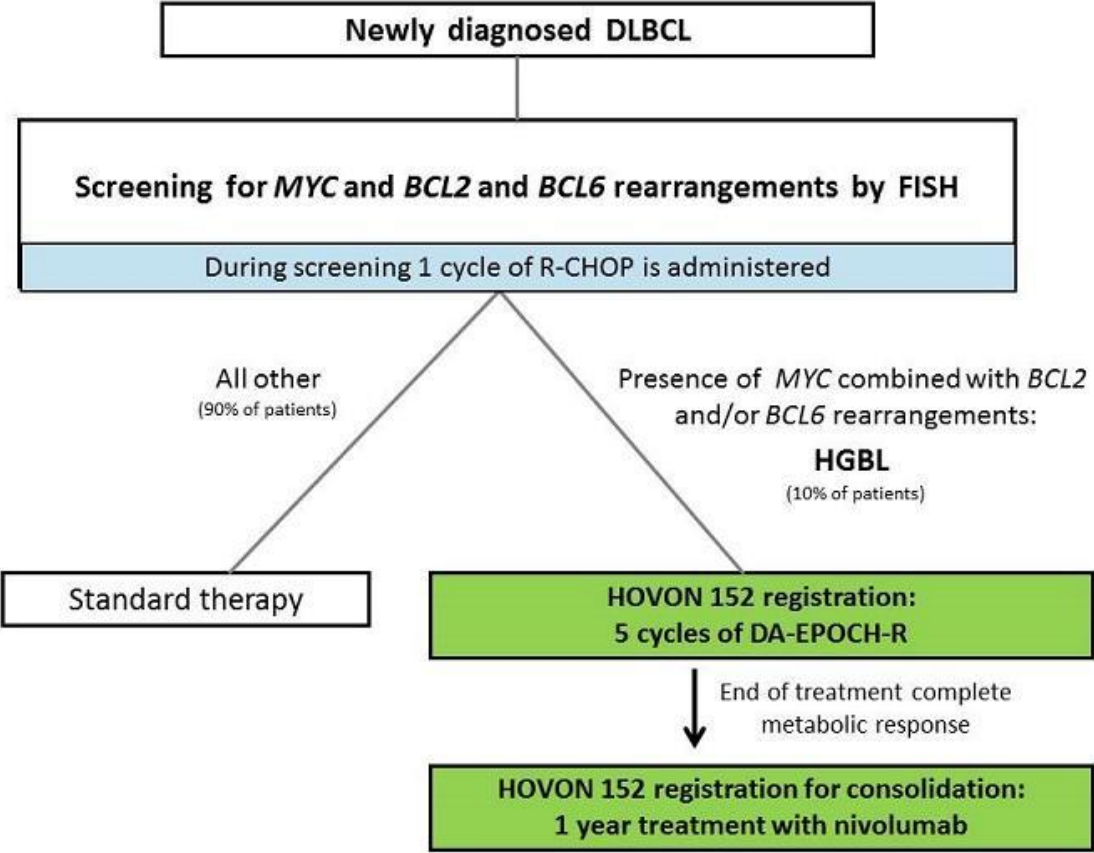




• 2024 Mar 12;8(5):1094-1104. doi: 10.1182/bloodadvances.2023011687.



HOVON-152 Trial

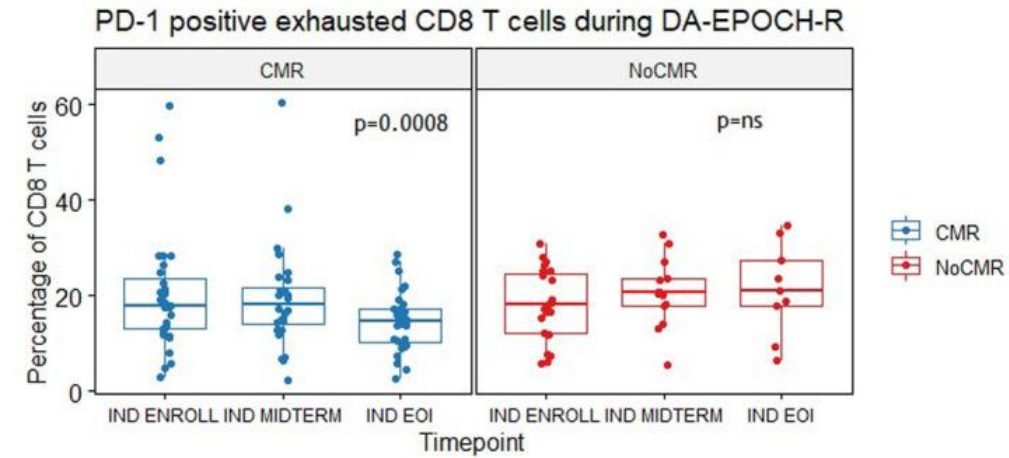
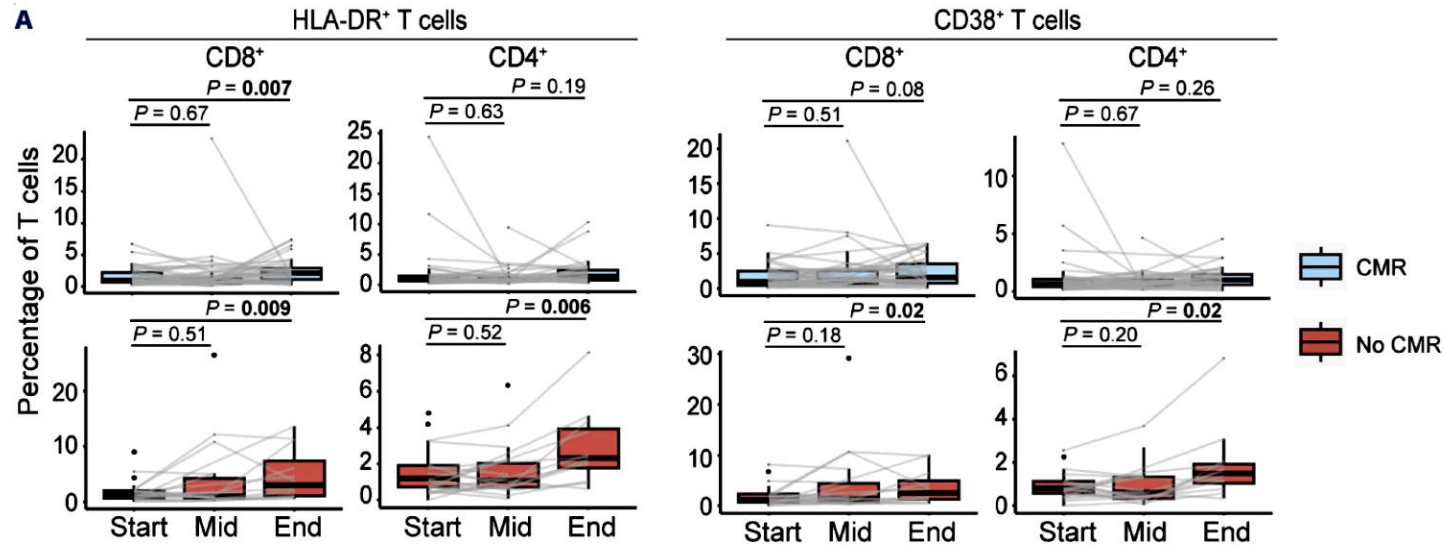


66% (95% CI 55%-75%) of the patients with HGBL-DH/TH achieve CMR after DAEPOCH-R.



Response to DA-EPOCH-R is associated with activation of 'fitter' cytotoxic T cells in patients with newly diagnosed double and triple hit high-grade B-cell lymphoma

HOVON-152 Phase II Trial



66% (95% CI 55%-75%) of the patients with HGBL-DH/TH achieve CMR after DAEPOCH-R.



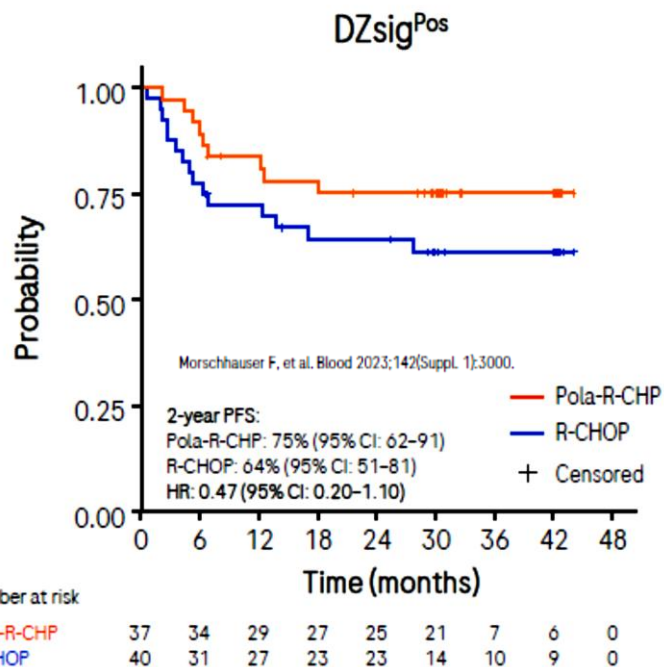
Are we improving in 1L ?

Five-year analysis of the POLARIX study: Prolonged follow-up confirms positive impact of polatuzumab vedotin plus rituximab, cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, and prednisone (Pola-R-CHP) on outcomes

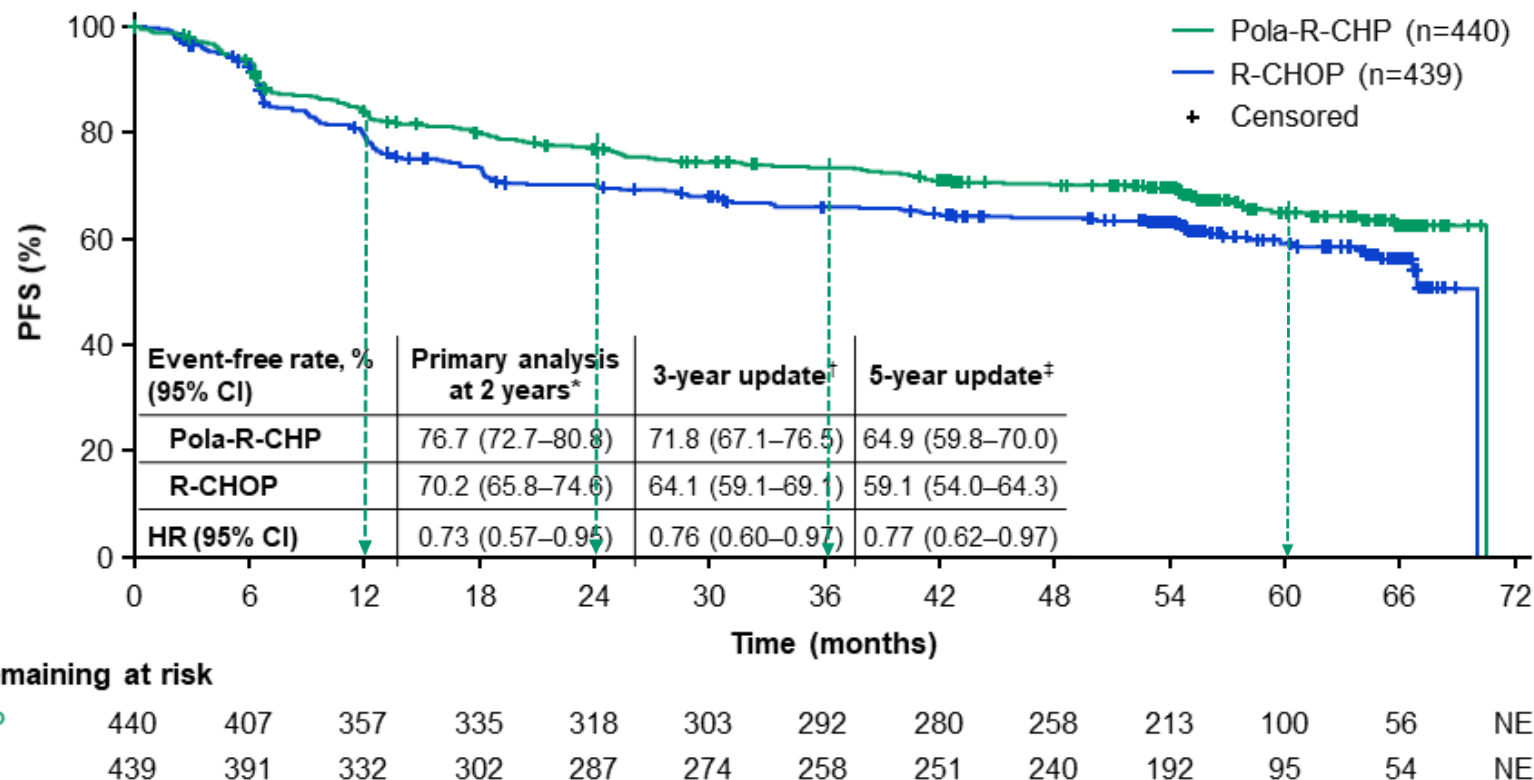
Gilles Salles¹, Franck Morschhauser², Laurie H. Sehn³, Alex F. Herrera⁴, Jonathan W. Friedberg⁵, Marek Trnėný⁶, Georg Lenz⁷, Jeff P. Sharman⁸, Charles Herbaux⁹, John M. Burke¹⁰, Matthew Matasar¹¹, Graham P. Collins¹², Yuqin Song¹³, Antonio Pinto¹⁴, Shinya Rai¹⁵, Koji Izutsu¹⁶, Calvin Lee^{17*}, Saibah Chohan¹⁸, Matthew Sugidono¹⁷, Yanwen Jiang¹⁷, Connie Lee Batlevi¹⁷, Mark Yan¹⁸, Jamie Hirata^{17*}, Hervė Tilly¹⁹, Christopher R. Flowers²⁰

¹Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, NY, USA; ²University of Lille, Lille, France; ³BC Cancer Centre for Lymphoid Cancer and the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Canada; ⁴City of Hope, Duarte, CA, USA; ⁵Wilmot Cancer Institute, University of Rochester, Rochester, NY, USA; ⁶Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic; ⁷University Hospital Münster, Münster, Germany; ⁸Willamette Valley Cancer Institute and Research Center, Florence, OR, USA; ⁹University of Montpellier, Montpellier, France; ¹⁰Rocky Mountain Cancer Centers/US Oncology, Aurora, CO, USA; ¹¹Rutgers Cancer Institute, New Brunswick, NJ, USA; ¹²Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, Oxford, United Kingdom; ¹³Peking University Cancer Hospital, Beijing, China; ¹⁴National Cancer Institute, Fondazione G. Pascale, IRCCS, Naples, Italy; ¹⁵Department of Hematology and Rheumatology, Kindai University, Faculty of Medicine, Osaka-Sayama City, Japan; ¹⁶National Cancer Center Hospital, Tokyo, Japan; ¹⁷Genentech, Inc., South San Francisco, CA, USA; ¹⁸Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd, Mississauga, Canada; ¹⁹Centre Henri-Becquerel and University of Rouen, Rouen, France; ²⁰M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX, USA

*This affiliation was active at the time of the analysis



Initial PFS benefit of Pola-R-CHP over R-CHOP is maintained at 5 years



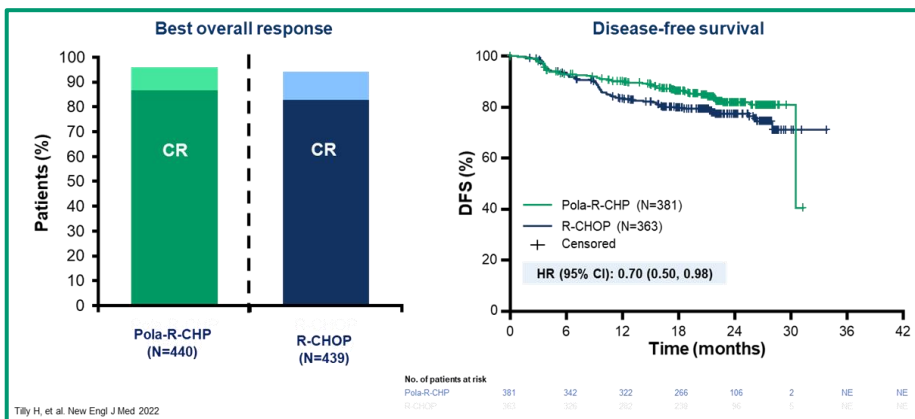
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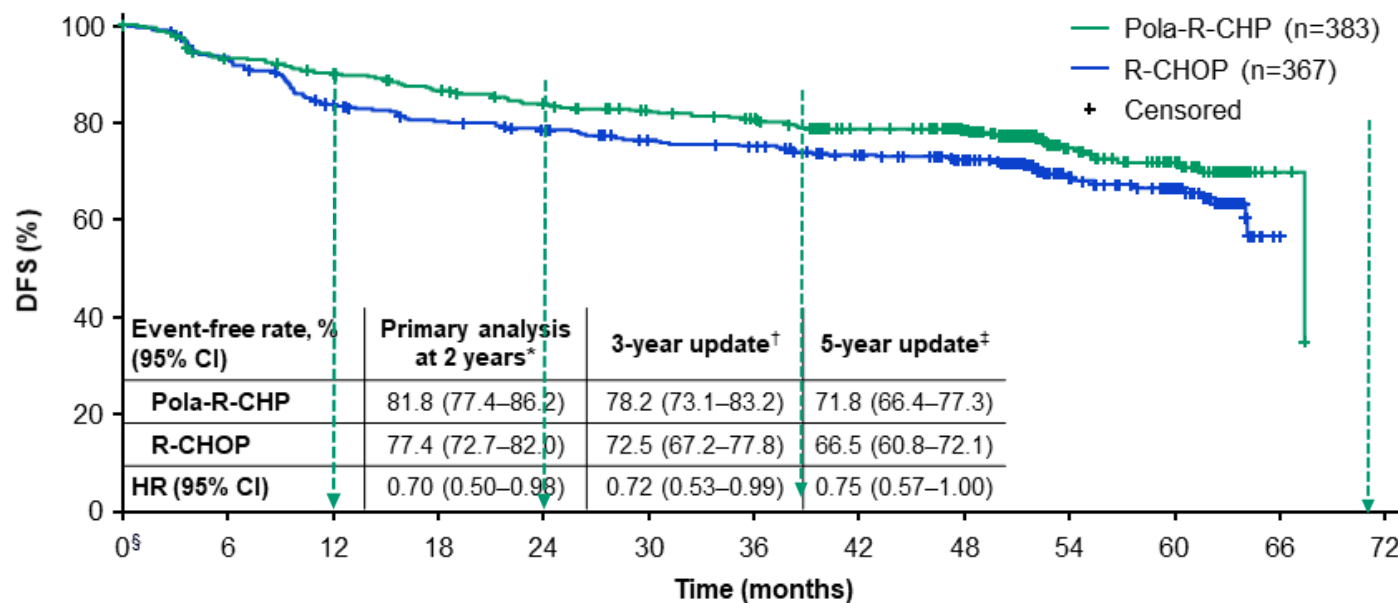
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Presented at the 66th ASH Annual Meeting | December 7–10, 2024



Complete remission obtained after Pola-R-CHP treatment is maintained with 5-year follow-up

DFS (DoCR) in the global ITT population



Patients remaining at risk

Pola-R-CHP	383	347	333	317	301	286	277	251	222	105	79	3	NE
R-CHOP	367	336	295	279	268	253	247	230	206	98	72	NE	NE

FDA Approval Summary: Polatuzumab Vedotin in the First-Line Treatment of Select Large B-Cell Lymphomas

Maryam Sarraf Yazdy¹, Yvette L. Kasamon¹, Wenjuan Gu¹, Lisa R. Rodriguez¹, Susan Jin¹, Vishal Bhatnagar¹, Nicholas C. Richardson¹, Marc R. Theoret^{1,2}, Richard Pazdur^{1,2}, and Nicole J. Gormley¹

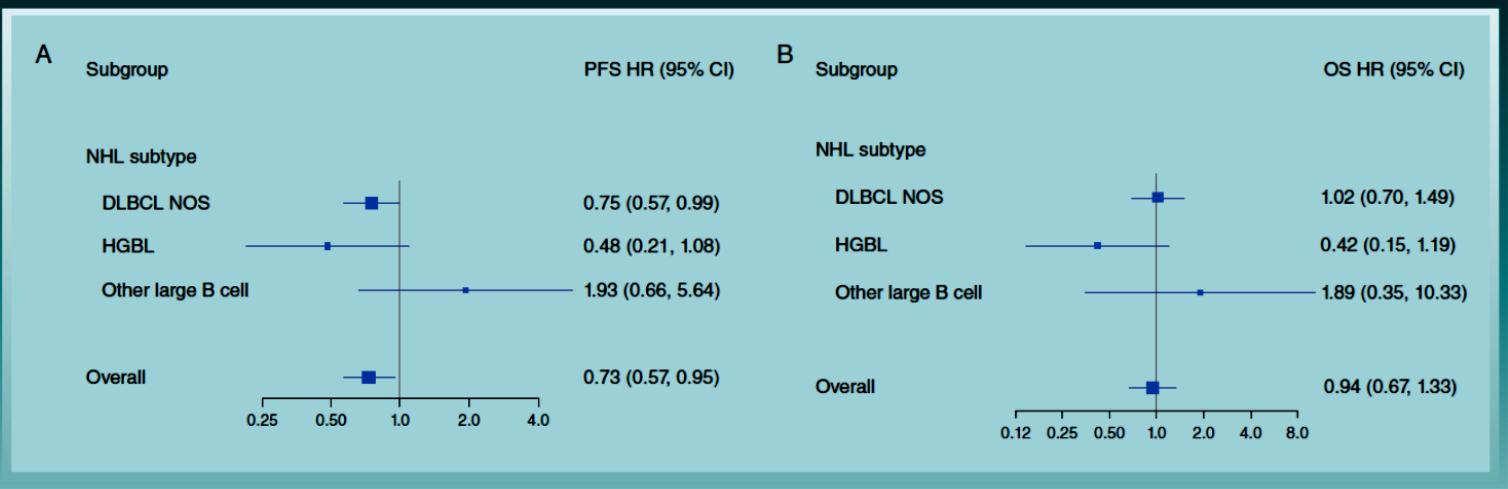
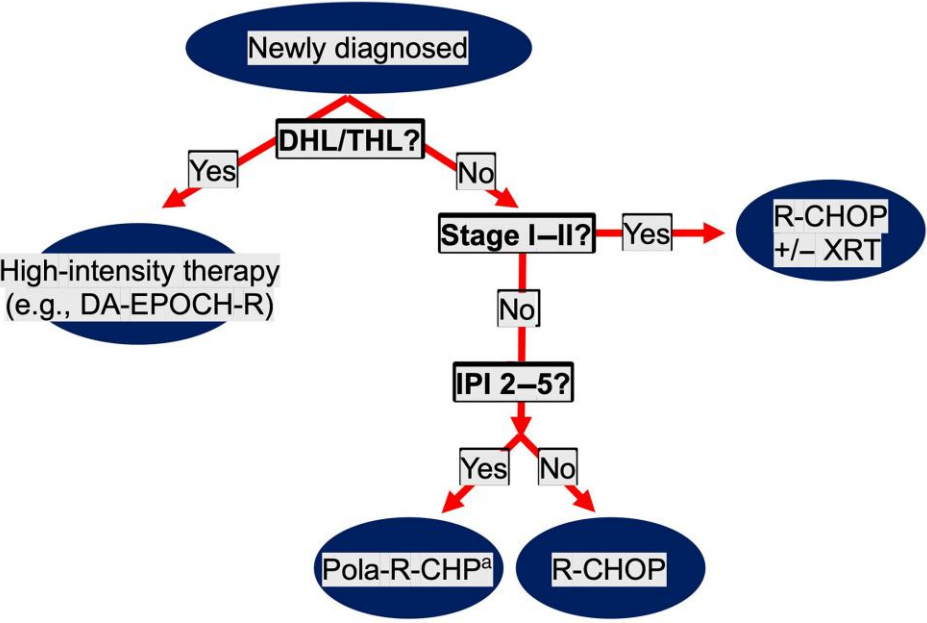


Figure 2. Forest plots of PFS (A) and OS (B) by the type of non-Hodgkin lymphoma. NHL, non-Hodgkin lymphoma. Source: FDA analysis.

Based on the PFS rate and supported by modified EFS in a randomized phase 3 study, pola+R-CHP has clinically meaningful efficacy in patients with previously untreated DLBCL, NOS, or HGBL and who have an IPI score of 2 or greater.



Tavakkoli et al. Am J Hematol (2023)

1st Line

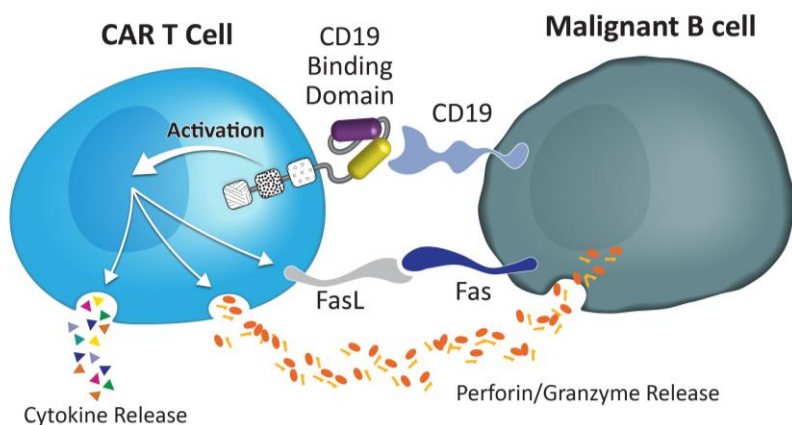
IPI 0	IPI 1-2	IPI 3-5	HGBL-DzSig+	'Old'/unfit/frail
4 x R-CHOP (+2R ?)	6 x R-CHOP (+2R ?)	6 x Pola-R-CHP	DA-EPOCH-R BL-like CIT, Pola-R-CHP	R-mini-CHOP, Polar-Bear-like, R-CEOP/COMP, Non-anthr. CT ?

2nd Line



T-cell Redirection strategies are changing the scenario

CAR T



Similarities

- Both CAR Ts and bsAbs bring together T cells and B cells
- Interaction causes activation of the T cell and release of cytokines, granzyme, and perforin
- Results in T cell mediated killing of the tumor cell

Differences

CAR T therapy **modifies the extracellular antigen-binding domain** on T cells

Binding

Bispecific antibodies **induce effector T cell binding to the tumor cell**

CAR T therapies rely on **ex vivo activated and expanded T cells**

T-cell

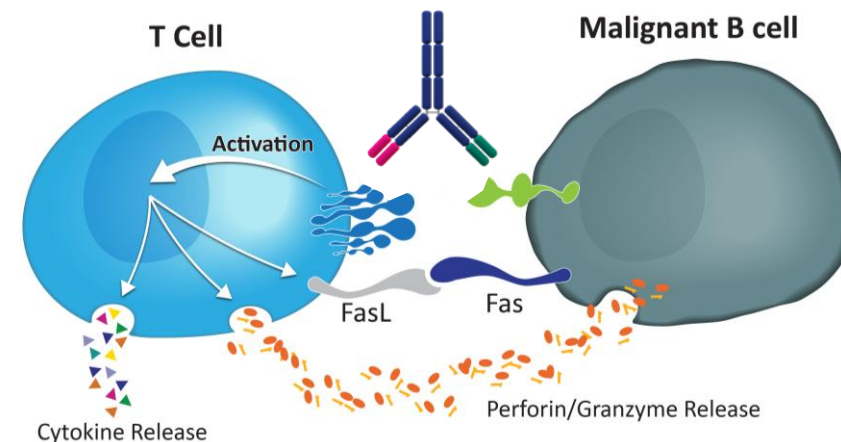
Bispecific antibodies use **the patient's endogenous T cells**

Yes

2nd Signal

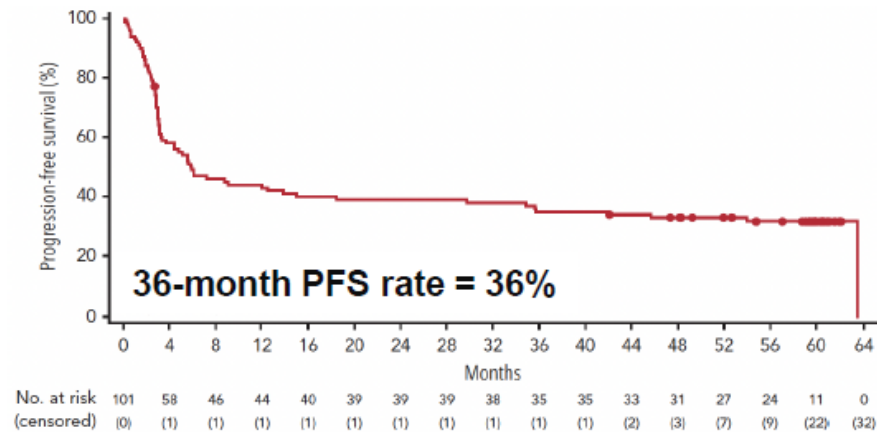
No (...not yet...)

Bispecific Antibody

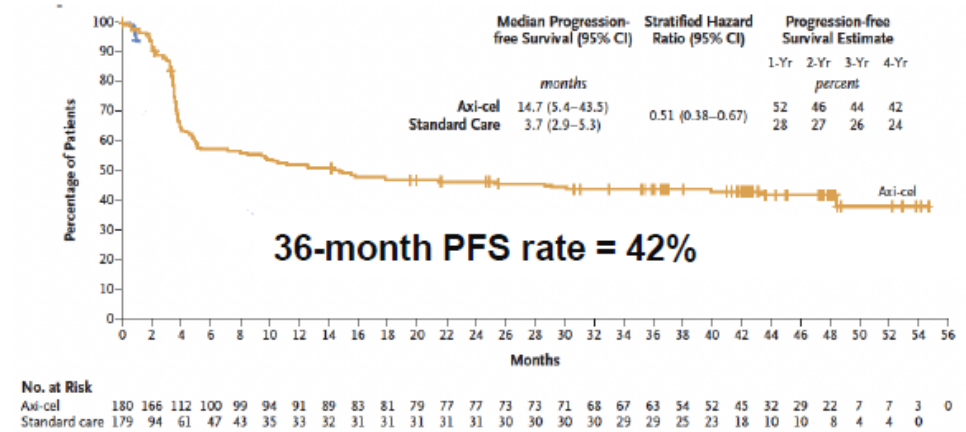


bsAb, bispecific antibody; CAR T, chimeric antigen receptor T-cell; MOA, mechanism of action.

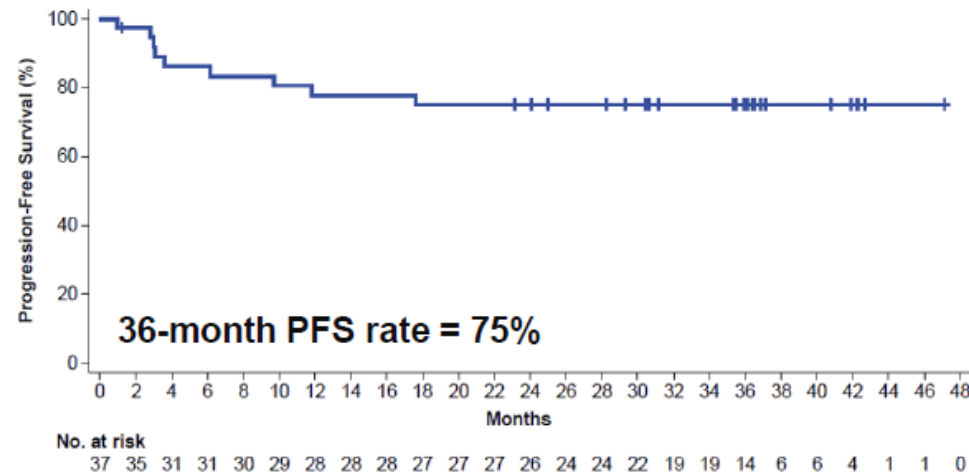
ZUMA-1: Axi-cel in $\geq 3^{\text{rd}}$ line



ZUMA-7: Axi-cel in 2nd line



ZUMA-12: Axi-cel in 1st line



Neelapu et al, *Blood* 2023; 141(19):2307-2315
 Westin JR et al. *N Eng J Med* 2023; 389(2):148-157
 Neelapu et al, *Blood* 2025 Feb 12

How many LBCL can we cure with CAR T cells?

It depends

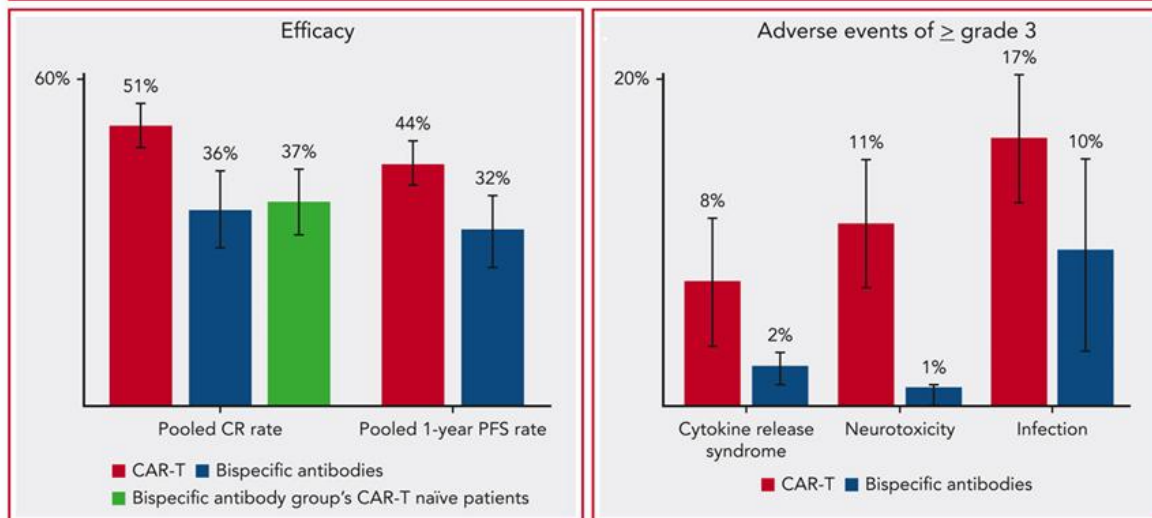
Category		% Cured
3 rd line	All LBCLs treated with CAR-T	~40%
	PMBCL and tFL	~60%
	DLBCL-NOS and HGBCL	~30%
	THRLBCL	0%
	2 nd line LBCL	~40-50%
	1 st line high-risk LBCL	~75%
	All 3 rd line R/R LBCL (up to 40% treated with CAR-T)	~15%



Comparison of CAR T-Cell Therapy and Bispecific Antibodies As Third-Line or Later Treatment for Diffuse Large B-Cell Lymphoma (DLBCL): A Meta-Analysis

CAR-T cell therapy: 10 studies including 742 patients

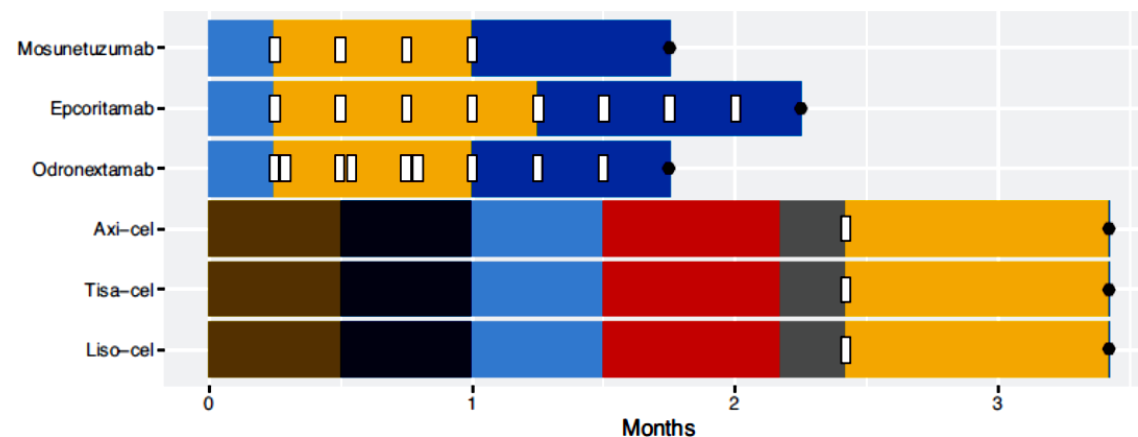
Bispecific antibodies: 6 studies including 605 patients



Conclusion: In patients with relapsed/refractory DLBCL, CAR-T cell therapy has demonstrated superior efficacy compared to bispecific antibodies, although with a higher incidence of severe adverse effects.

Kim et al. DOI: 10.1182/*blood*.2023023419

blood
Visual
Abstract



David A. Russler-Germain and Nancy L. Bartlett -Hematology 2024 | ASH Education Program

1st Line

IPI 0	IPI 1-2	IPI 3-5	HGBL-DzSig+	'Old'/unfit/frail
4 x R-CHOP (+2R ?)	6 x R-CHOP (+2R ?)	6 x Pola-R-CHP	DA-EPOCH-R BL-like CIT, Pola-R-CHP	R-mini-CHOP, Polar-Bear-like, R-CEOP/COMP, Non-anthr. CT ?

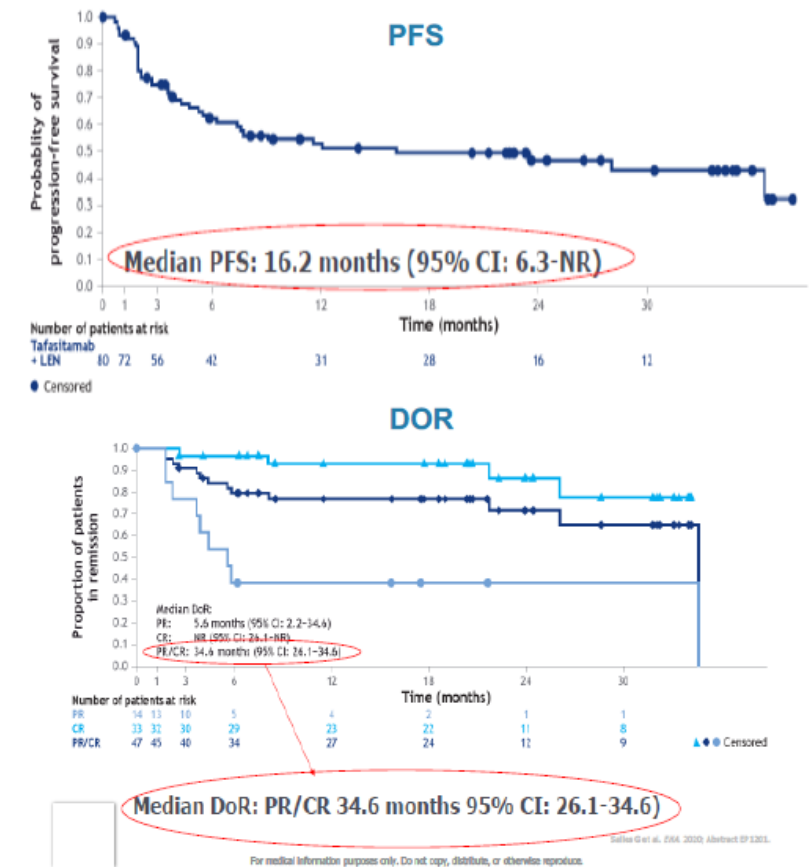
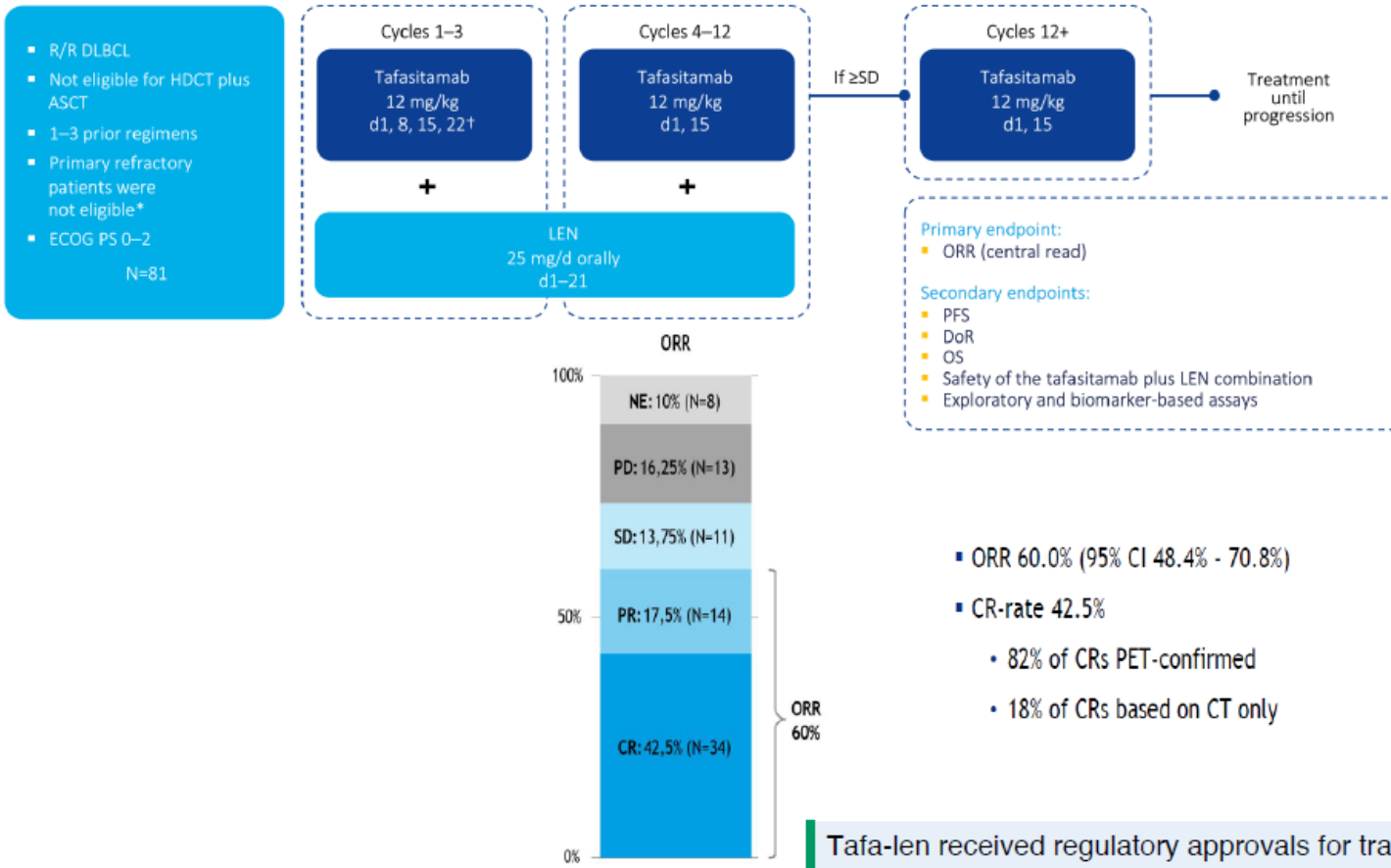
2nd Line

1ry Ref./Early Rel. (≤ 12 Mos.)	1ry Ref./Early Rel. (≤ 12 Mos.)	Late Relapse ≥ 12 Months	
CAR-T Eligible	CAR-T Ineligible/not-available	HDT-ASCT Eligible	CAR-T Ineligible/not available
CAR-T Axicel/Lisocel	Clinical study - ASCT - ???	Plat./based Salvage / ASCT	Tafa/Lena, Pola-BR, R-GemOx, R2
			Clinical study



Tafasitamab and Lenalidomide

L-MIND trial: Phase 2 single-arm, open-label, multicentre study



Autologous transplant vs. CAR-T therapy in patients with DLBCL treated while in complete remission

Mazyar Shadman^{1,2}, Kwang W. Ahn^{3,4}, Manmeet Kaur^{3,4}, Lazaros Lekakis⁵, Amer Beitinjaneh⁵, Madiha Iqbal⁶, Nausheen Ahmed⁷, Brian Hill⁸, Nasheed M. Hossain⁹, Peter Riedell¹⁰, Ajay K. Gopal^{1,2}, Natalie Grover¹¹, Matthew Frigault¹², Jonathan Brammer¹³, Nilanjan Ghosh¹⁴, Reid Merryman¹⁵, Aleksandr Lazaryan¹⁶, Ron Ram^{17,18}, Mark Hertzberg¹⁹, Bipin Savani²⁰, Farrukh Awan²¹, Farhad Khimani¹⁶, Sairah Ahmed^{22,23}, Vaishalee P. Kenkre²⁴, Matthew Ulrickson²⁵, Nirav Shah^{3,26}, Mohamed A. Kharfan-Dabaja⁶, Alex Herrera²⁷, Craig Sauter⁸ and Mehdi Hamadani^{3,18}

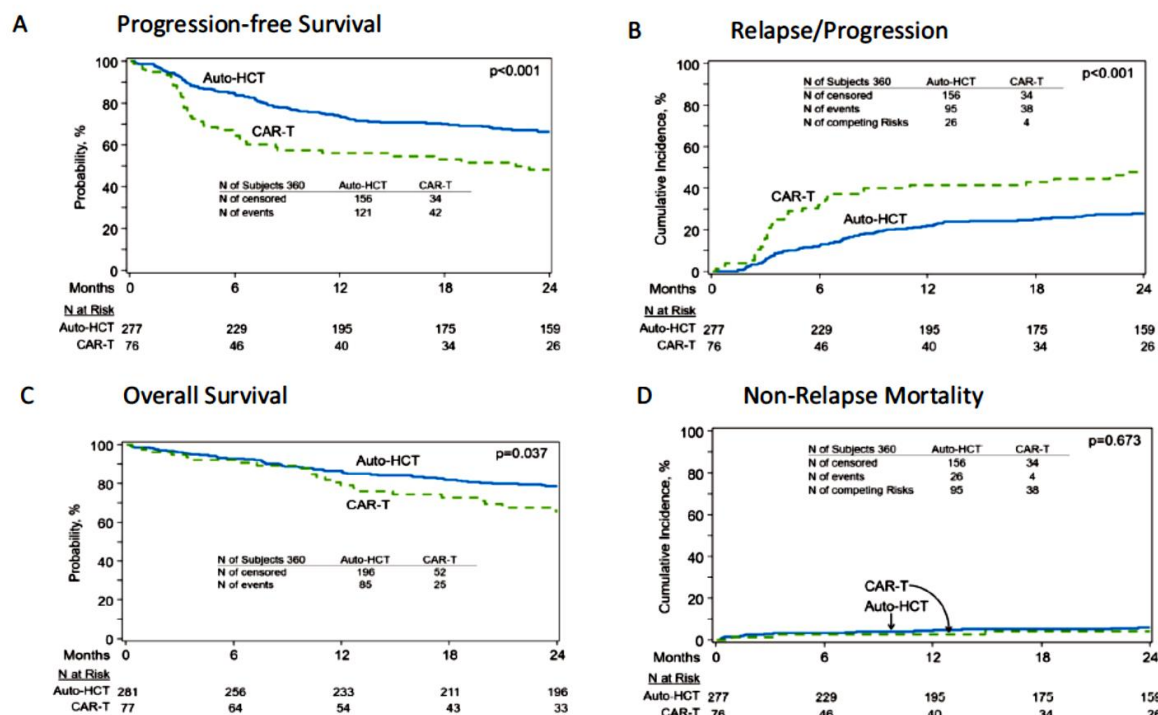
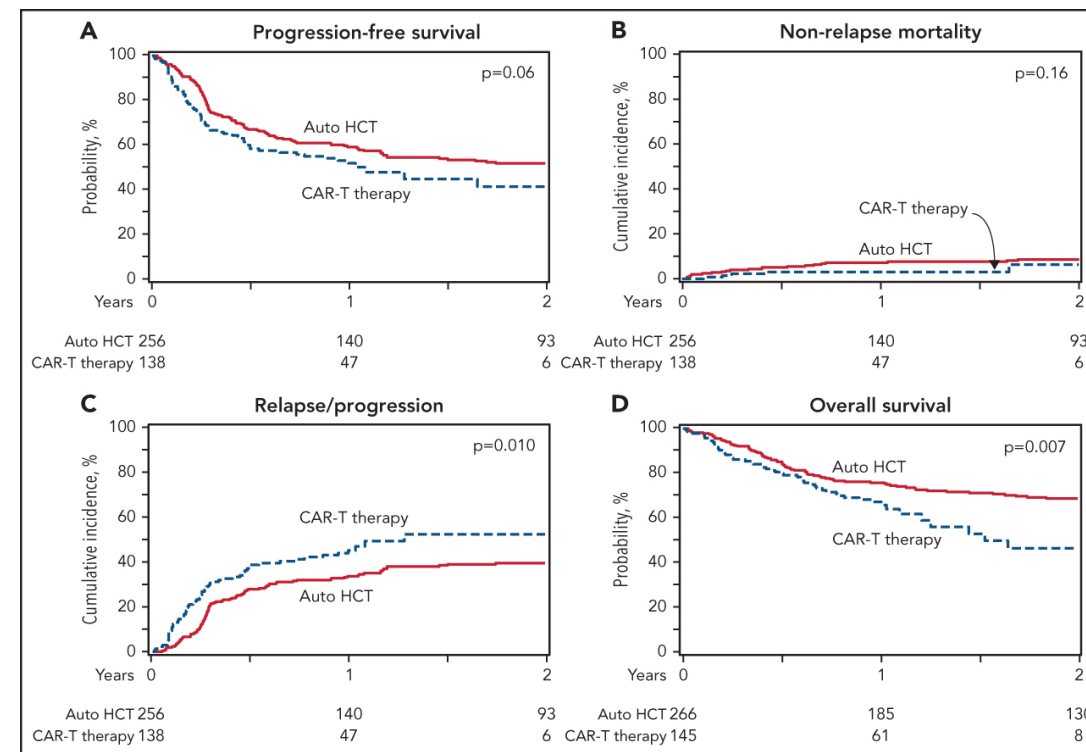
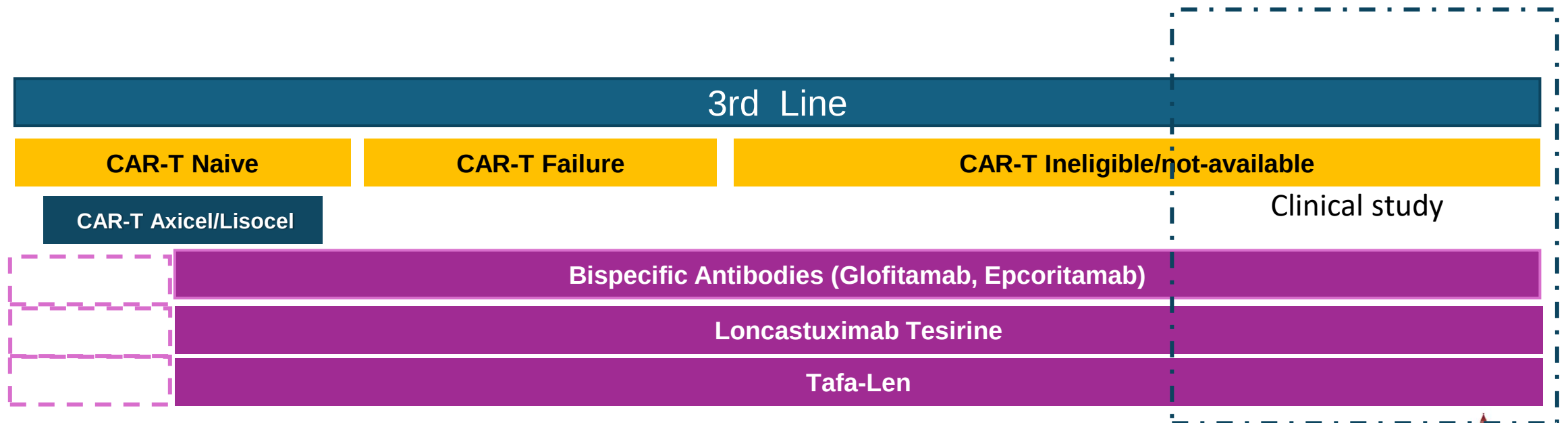


Fig. 1 Auto-HCT vs CAR-T in patients with DLBCL in CR. **A** progression-free survival. **B** Cumulative incidence of relapse. **C** Overall survival. **D** Non-relapse Mortality.

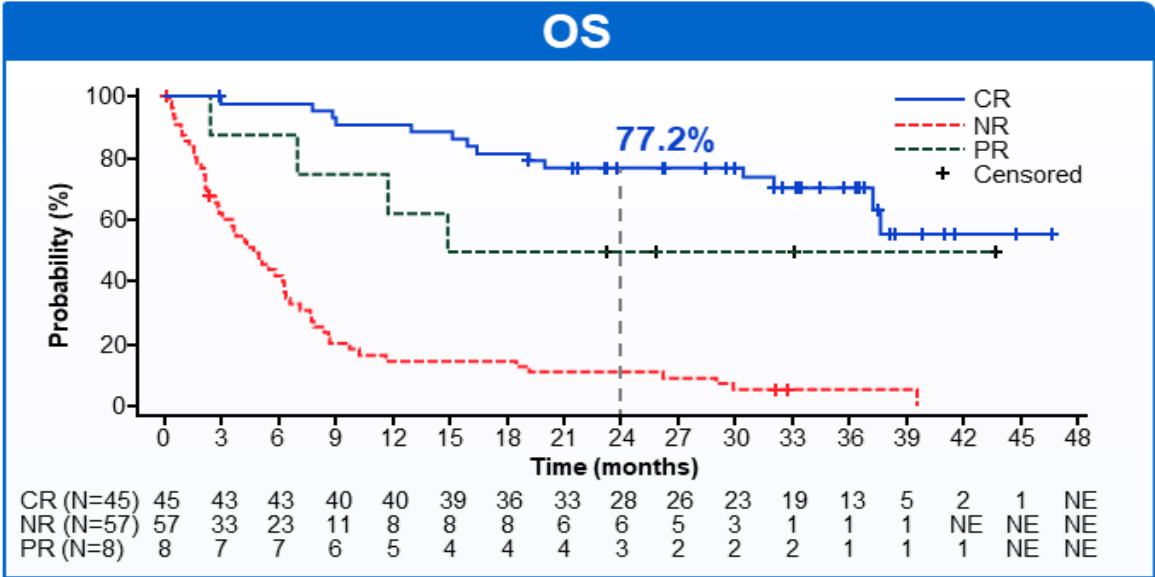
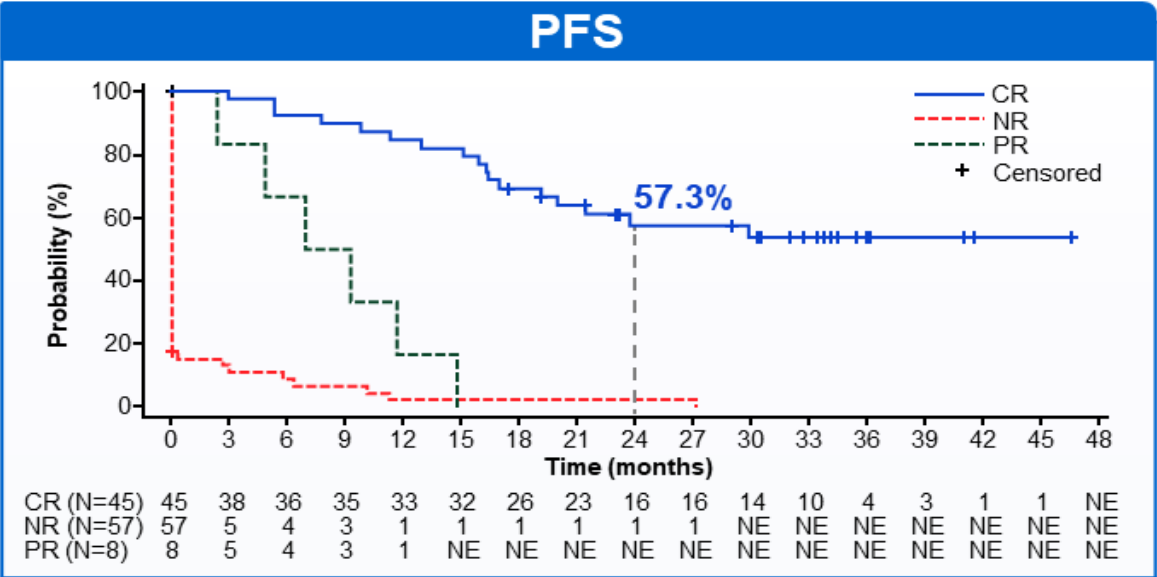
Autologous transplant vs chimeric antigen receptor T-cell therapy for relapsed DLBCL in partial remission

Mazyar Shadman^{1,2}, Marcelo Pasquini³, Kwang Woo Ahn^{3,4}, Yue Chen³, Cameron J. Turtle^{1,2}, Peiman Hematti⁵, Jonathon B. Cohen⁶, Farhad Khimani⁷, Siddhartha Ganguly⁸, Reid W. Merryman⁹, Jean A. Yared¹⁰, Frederick L. Locke⁷, Nausheen Ahmed⁸, Pashna N. Munshi¹¹, Amer Beitinjaneh¹², Patrick M. Reagan¹³, Alex F. Herrera¹⁴, Craig S. Sauter^{15,16}, Mohamed A. Kharfan-Dabaja¹⁷ and Mehdi Hamadani^{3,18}





Fixed-duration glofitamab monotherapy continues to demonstrate durable responses in patients with relapsed or refractory large B-cell lymphoma: 3-year follow-up from a pivotal Phase II study



Landmark PFS from EOT in patients with CR at EOT* N=45	
Median PFS, months (95% CI)	NE (20.0–NE)
24-month PFS rate, % (95% CI)	57.3 (41.2–73.4)

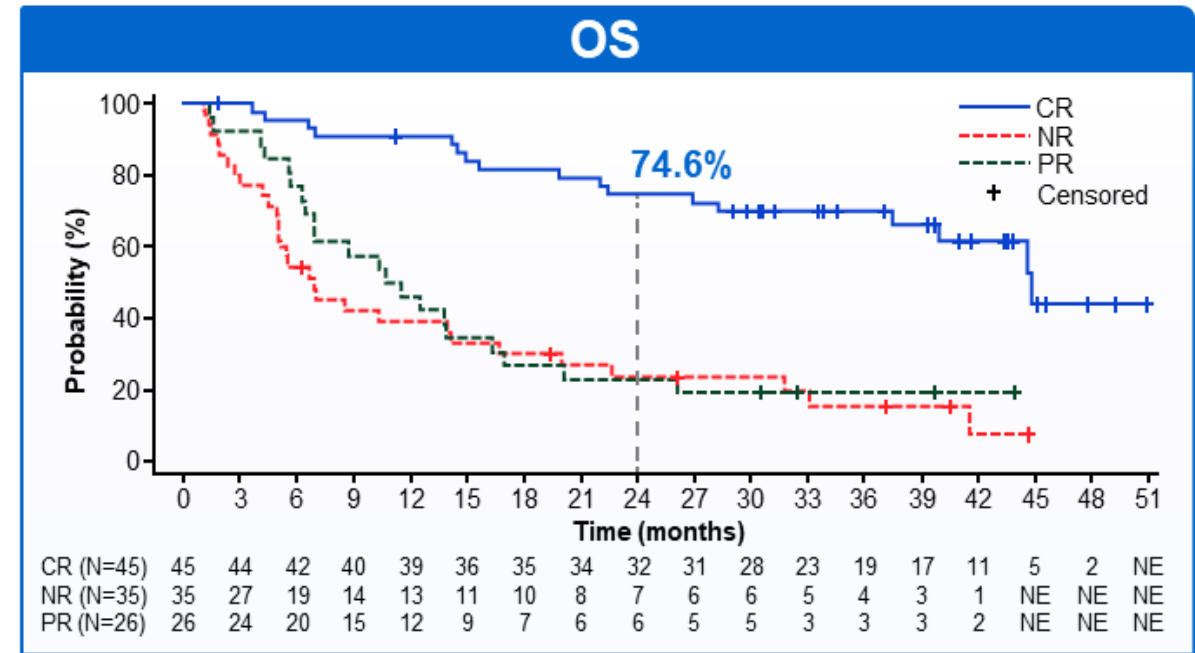
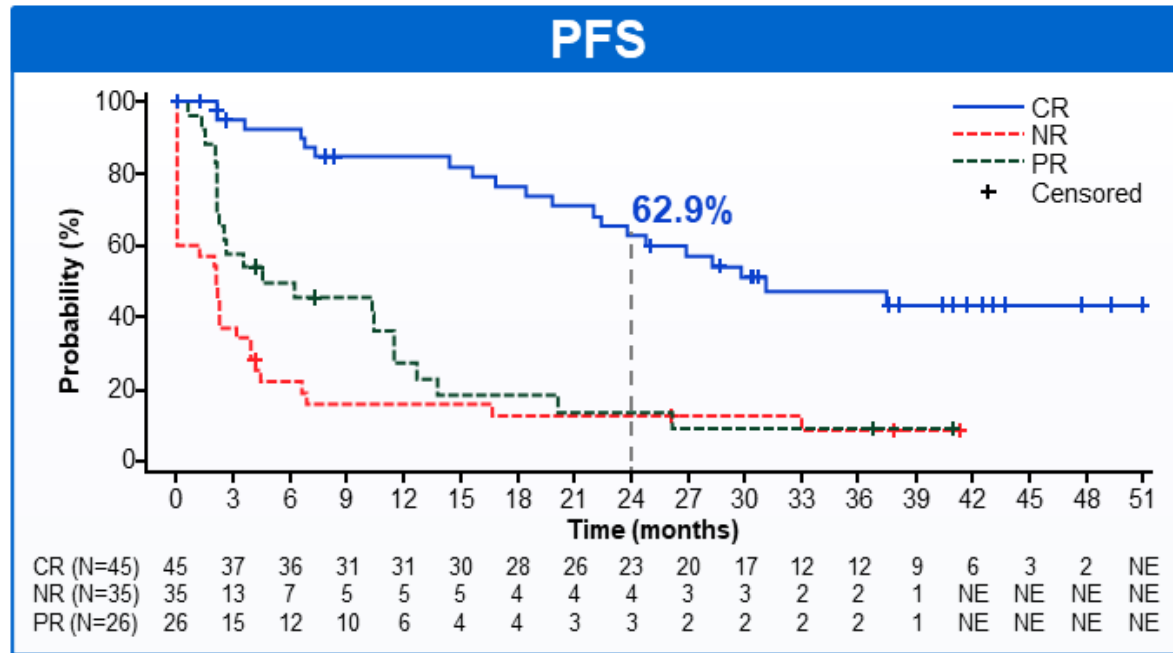
Landmark OS from EOT in patients with CR at EOT* N=45	
Median OS, months (95% CI)	NE (37.2–NE)
24-month OS rate, % (95% CI)	77.2 (64.8–89.6)

Most patients with a CR at EOT remained progression-free and alive at 24 months after EOT

Dickinson, et al. ASH 2024



Landmark analysis by response at Cycle 3

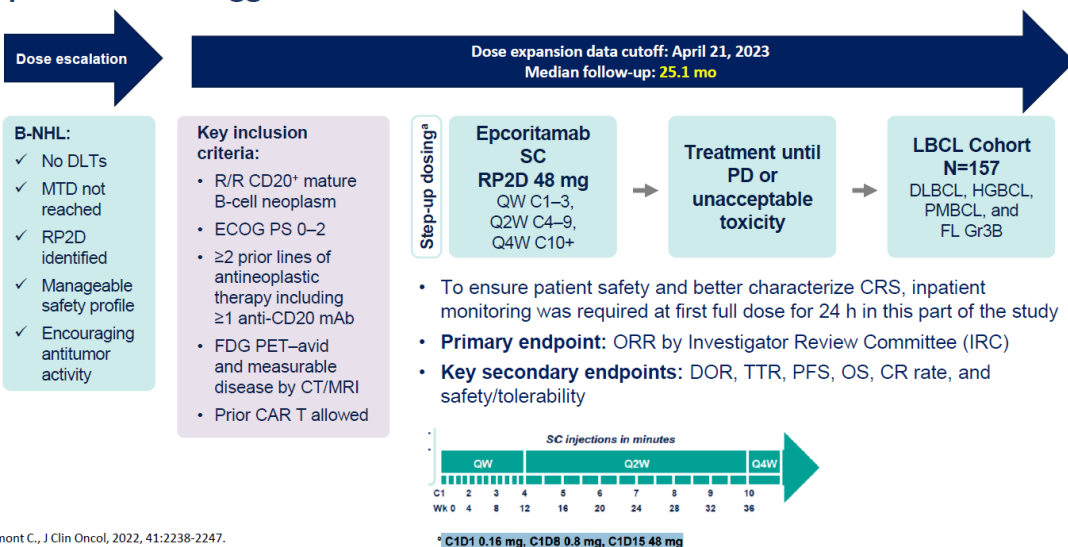


Landmark PFS from C3 in patients with CR at C3*		N=45
Median PFS, months (95% CI)	31.1 (23.8–NE)	
24-month PFS rate, % (95% CI)	62.9 (47.5–78.4)	

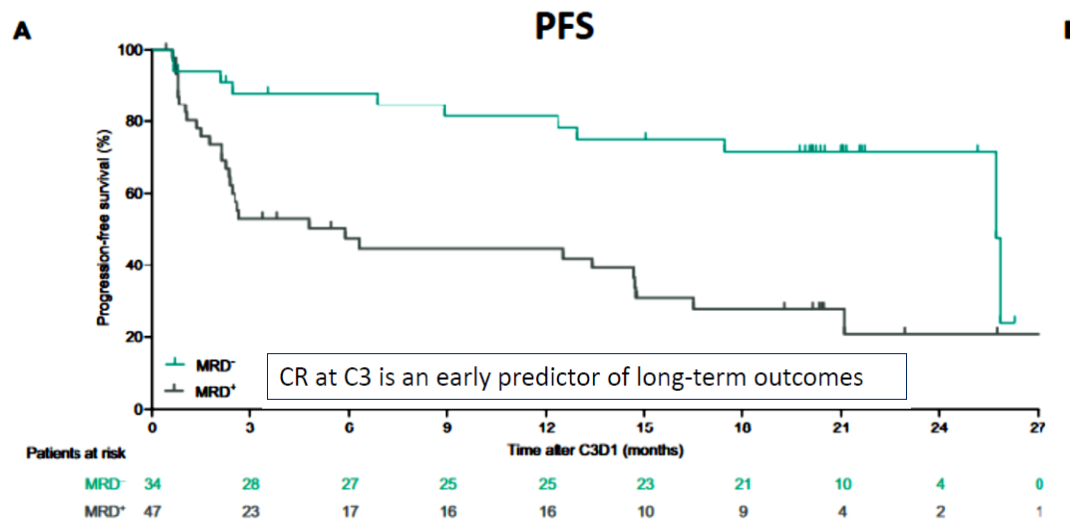
Landmark OS from C3 in patients with CR at C3*		N=45
Median OS, months (95% CI)	44.8 (40.0–NE)	
24-month OS rate, % (95% CI)	74.6 (61.6–87.6)	

Most patients with a CR at C3 remained progression-free and alive after 24 months

Epcoritamab in aggressive LBCL

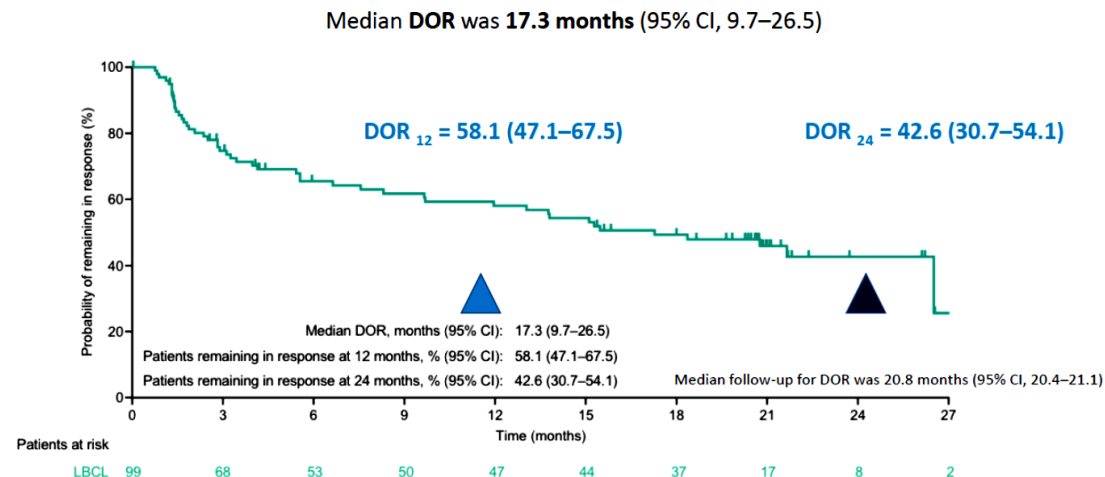


Thieblemont C., J Clin Oncol, 2022, 41:2238-2247.

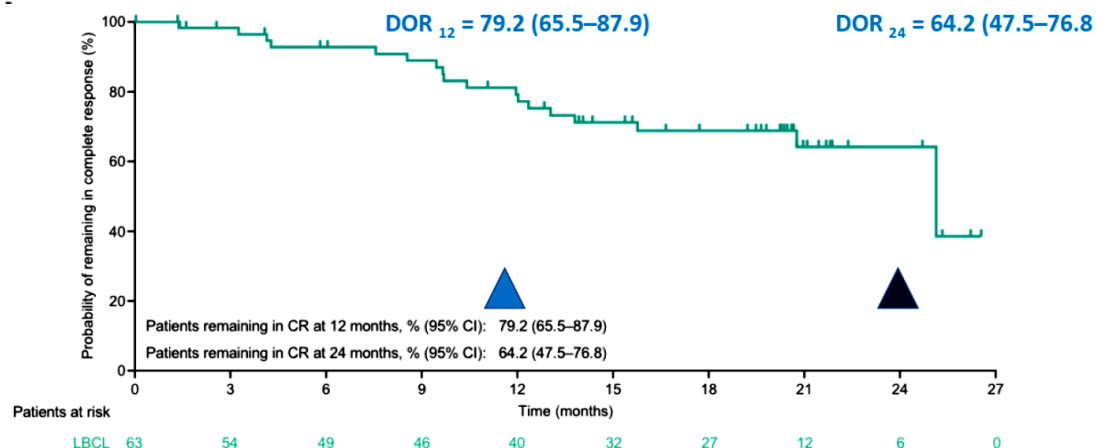


Thieblemont, *Leukemia* 2024

Duration of Response



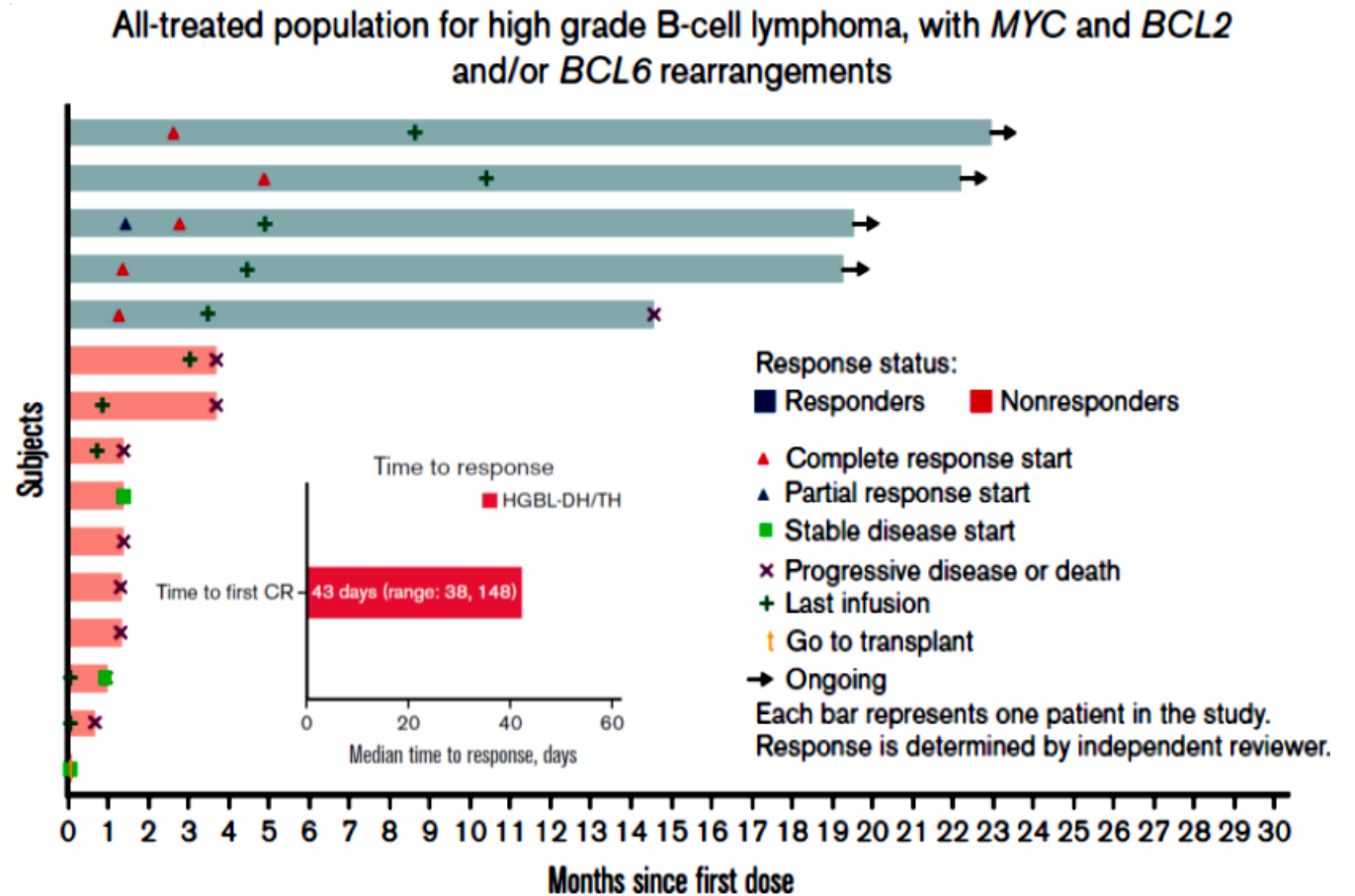
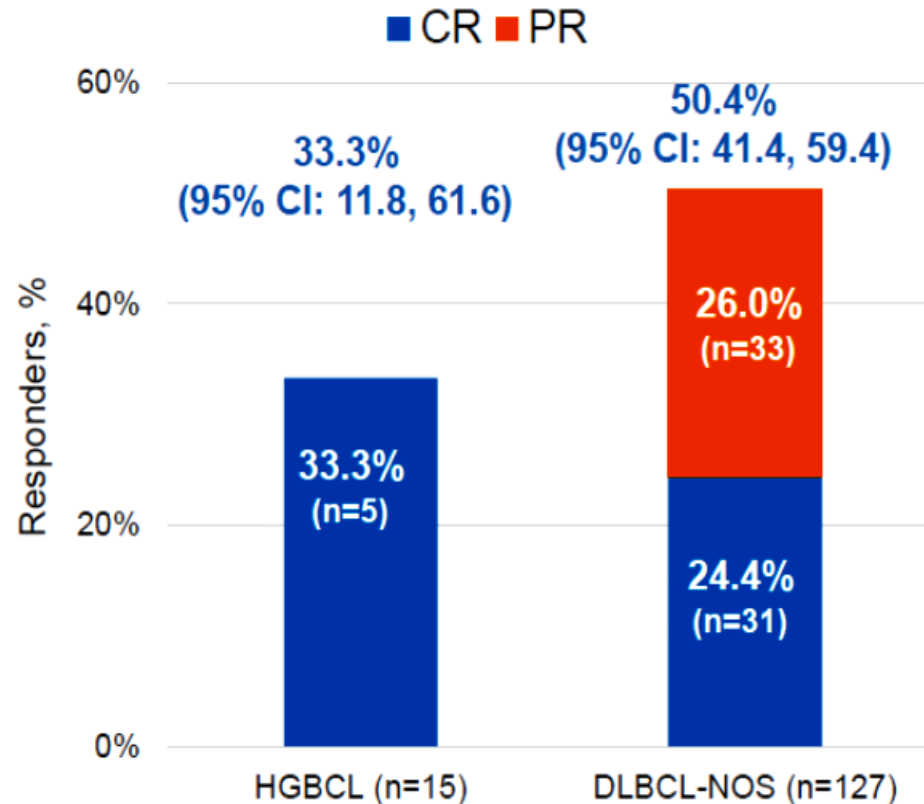
Duration of Complete Response



An estimated **64.2%** of complete responders remained in CR at 24 months

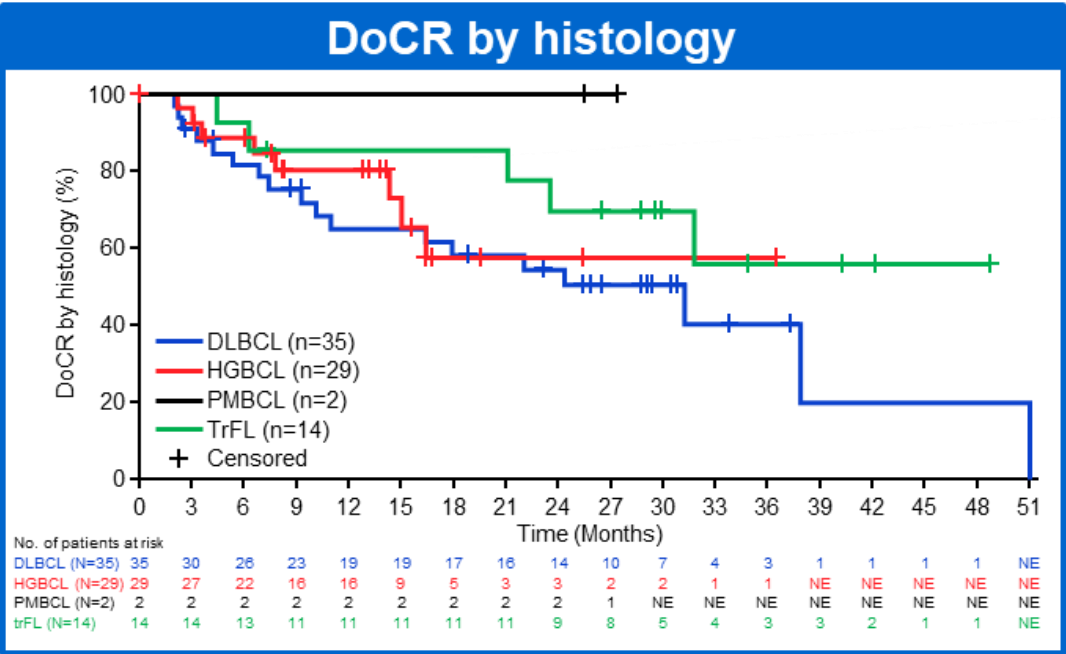
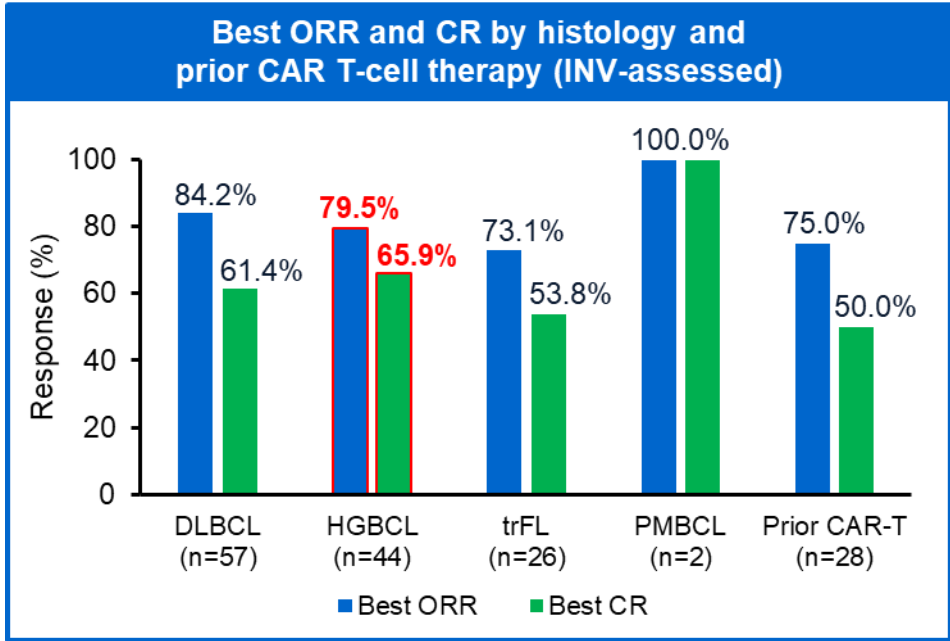
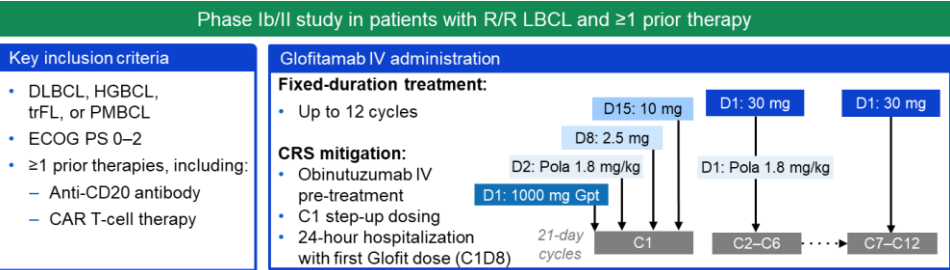
Loncastuximab tesirine activity in HGBCL (LOTIS-2 subset analysis)

HGBCL/DLBCL NOS Response Rates



Alderuccio et al. Blood Adv. 2022;6(16):4736-9

Glofitamab in combination with polatuzumab vedotin maintains durable responses and a manageable safety profile in patients with heavily pre-treated relapsed/refractory (R/R) large B-cell lymphoma (LBCL) including high-grade B-cell lymphoma (HGBCL): extended follow-up of a Phase Ib/II study

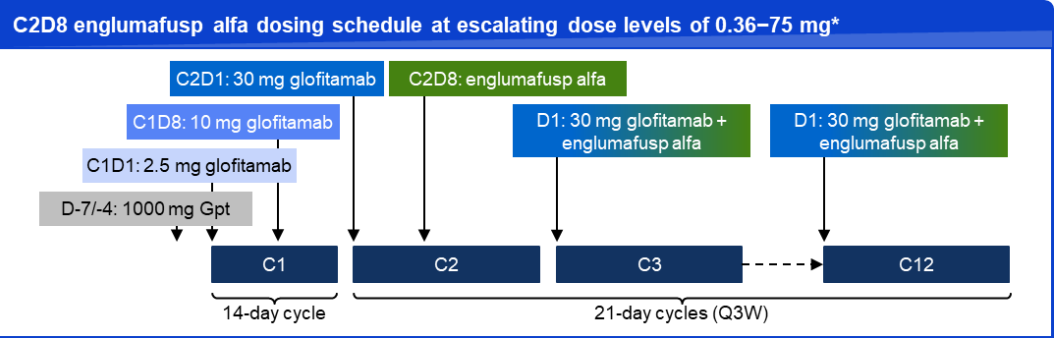
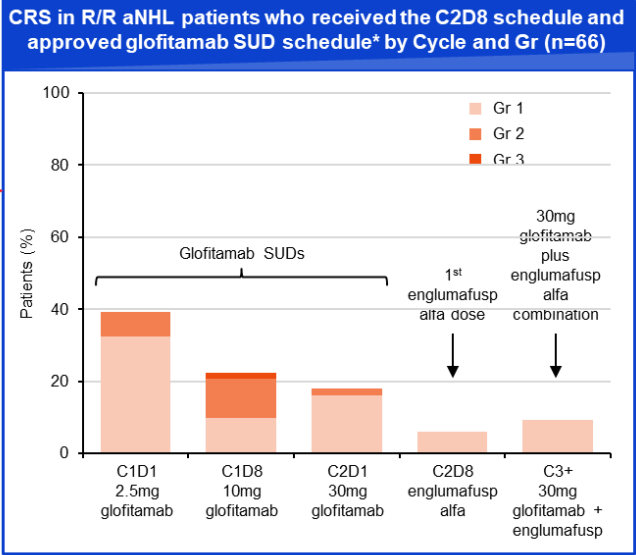
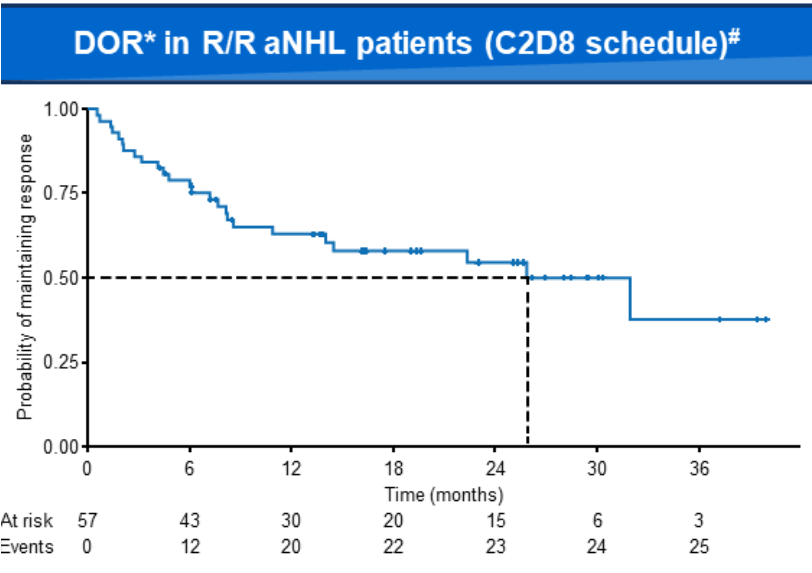
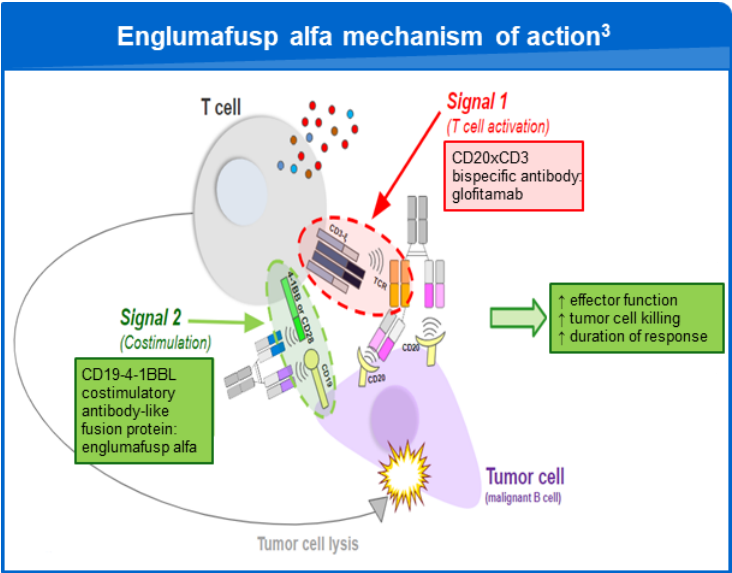


Median DoCR by histology, months (95% CI)	
DLBCL	31.2 (10.9–NE)
HGBCL	NE (15–NE)
trFL	NE (23.5–NE)
PMBCL	NE (NE–NE)

Clinical cut-off date: September 2, 2024.

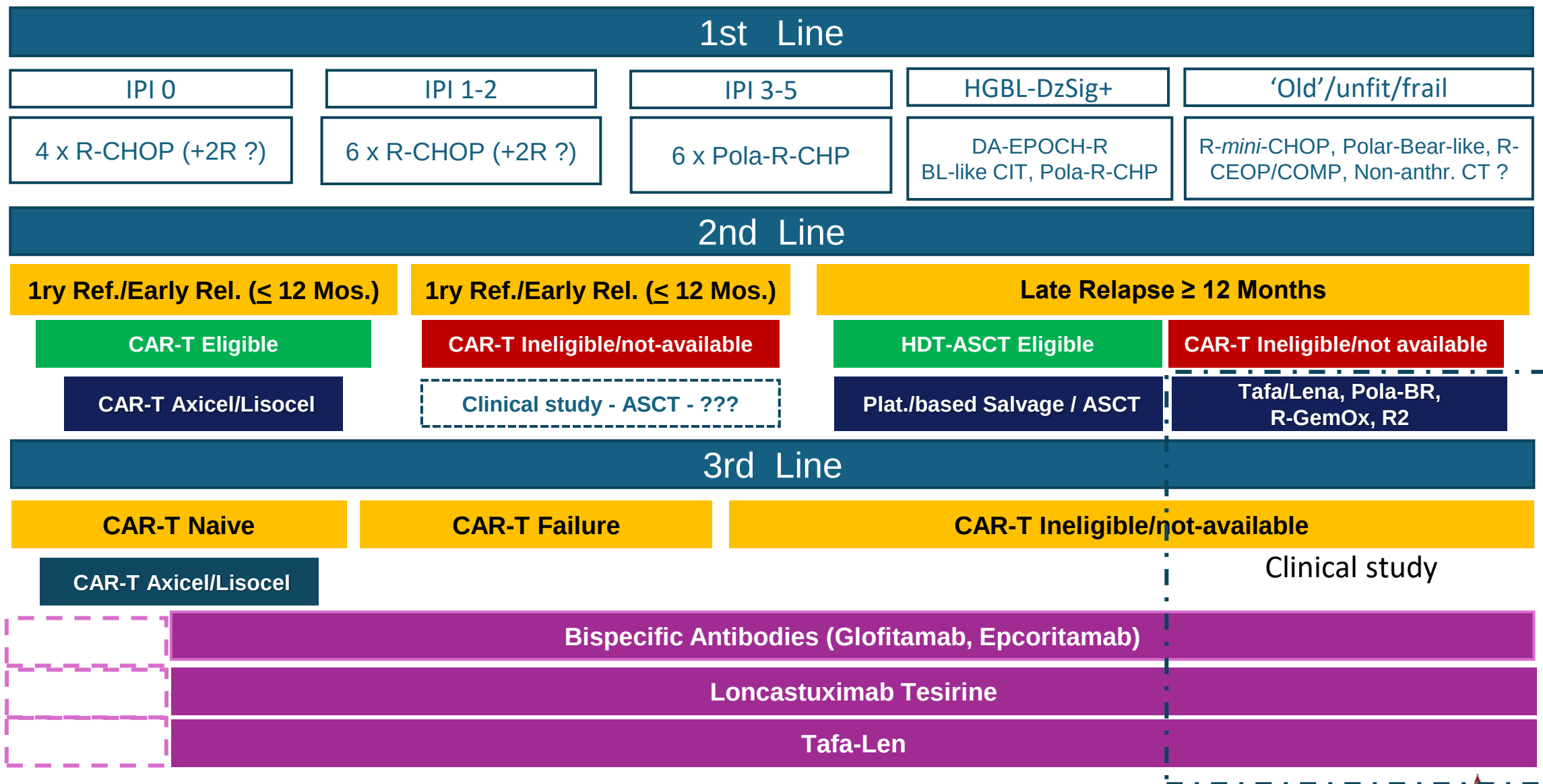


Englumafusp Alfa (CD19-4-1BBL) Combined with Glofitamab is Safe and Efficacious in Patients with R/R B-NHL: Extended Follow-Up Analysis of the Dose-Escalation Part of Phase I Trial BP41072

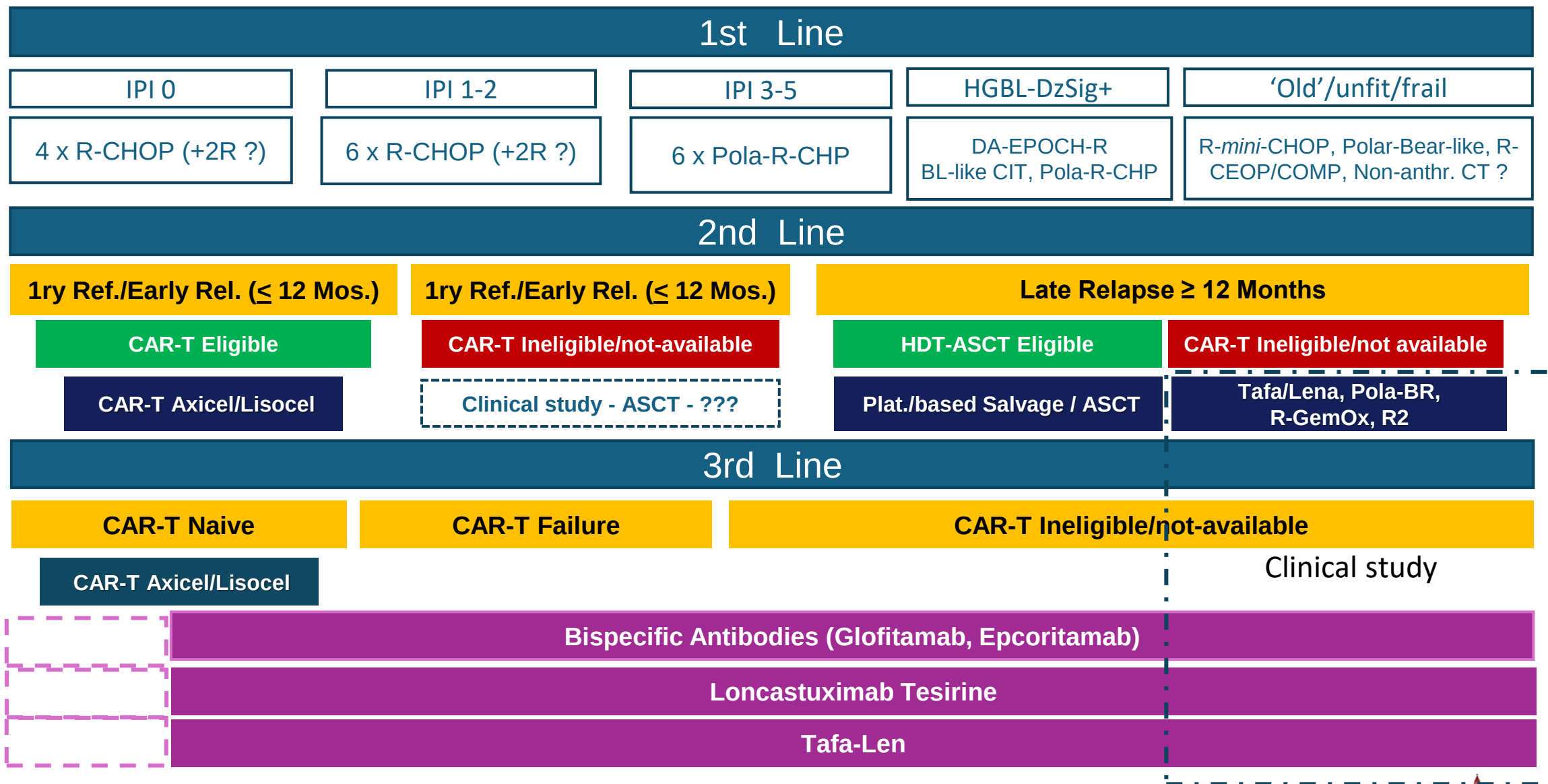


32/57 (56.1%) responders in response at data cut-off*

n (%), C2D8 schedule	BOR	CMR	mDOR (95% CI)
R/R aNHL (n=83)*	57 (68.6)	47 (56.6)	25.9 months (7.2, NE)
3L+ (n=70)	47 (67.2)	37 (52.9)	14.3 months (8.2, 32.0)
2L (n=13)	10 (76.9)	10 (76.9)	NE (NE, NE)
Prior CAR-T (n=42) [†]	27 (64.4)	20 (47.6)	14 months (6.1, NE)
No prior CAR-T (n=41) [§]	30 (73.2)	27 (65.9)	32 months (14.5, NE)





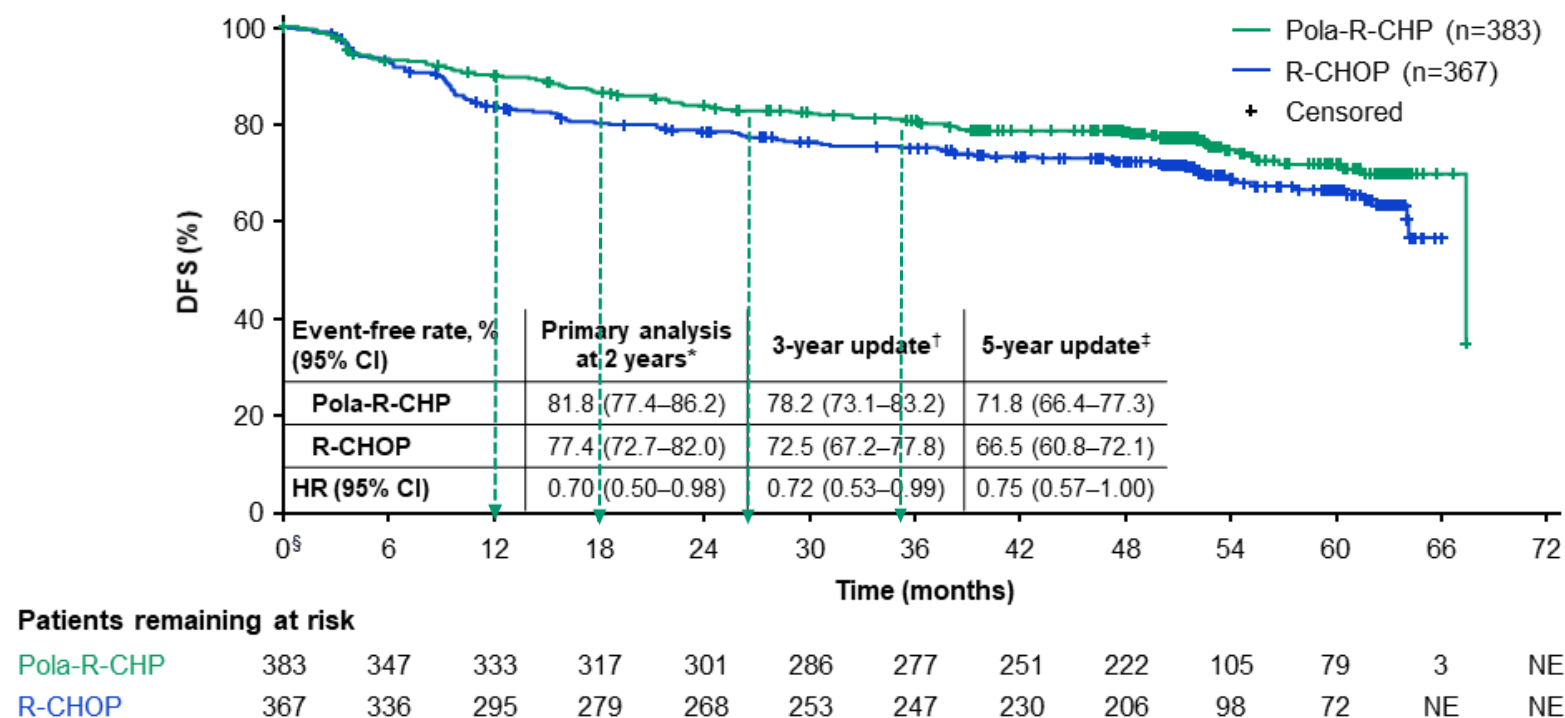


A. Pinto (2025 - Personal view)



Complete remission obtained after Pola-R-CHP treatment is maintained with 5-year follow-up

DFS (DoCR) in the global ITT population



Complete remissions are durable and sustained with longer follow-up.

*Data cut-off: June 28, 2021; †Data cut-off: June 15, 2022; ‡Data cut-off: July 5, 2024; §CR assessment occurred at the 0-month timepoint.
CR, complete remission; DFS, disease-free survival; DoCR, duration of complete remission.

Salles G et al, Oral Presentation ASH 2024 (abstract #469).

Epcoritamab in aggressive LBCL



B-NHL:

- ✓ No DLTs
- ✓ MTD not reached
- ✓ RP2D identified
- ✓ Manageable safety profile
- ✓ Encouraging antitumor activity

Key inclusion criteria:

- R/R CD20⁺ mature B-cell neoplasm
- ECOG PS 0–2
- ≥2 prior lines of antineoplastic therapy including ≥1 anti-CD20 mAb
- FDG PET-avid and measurable disease by CT/MRI
- Prior CAR T allowed

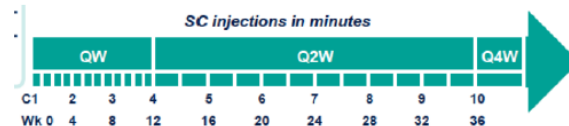
Step-up dosing^a

Epcoritamab SC
RP2D 48 mg
 QW C1–3,
 Q2W C4–9,
 Q4W C10+

Treatment until PD or unacceptable toxicity

LBCL Cohort N=157
 DLBCL, HGBCL, PMBCL, and FL Gr3B

- To ensure patient safety and better characterize CRS, inpatient monitoring was required at first full dose for 24 h in this part of the study
- **Primary endpoint:** ORR by Investigator Review Committee (IRC)
- **Key secondary endpoints:** DOR, TTR, PFS, OS, CR rate, and safety/tolerability



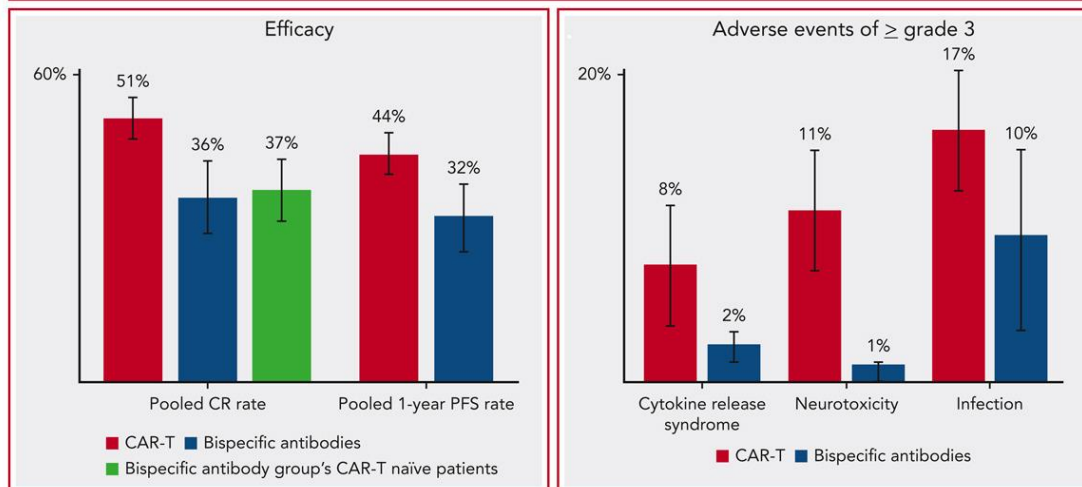
^a C1D1 0.16 mg, C1D8 0.8 mg, C1D15 48 mg

Thieblemont C., J Clin Oncol, 2022, 41:2238-2247.

Comparison of CAR T-Cell Therapy and Bispecific Antibodies As Third-Line or Later Treatment for Diffuse Large B-Cell Lymphoma (DLBCL): A Meta-Analysis

CAR-T cell therapy: 10 studies including 742 patients

Bispecific antibodies: 6 studies including 605 patients



Conclusion: In patients with relapsed/refractory DLBCL, CAR-T cell therapy has demonstrated superior efficacy compared to bispecific antibodies, although with a higher incidence of severe adverse effects.

Kim et al. DOI: 10.1182/*blood*.2023023419

 **blood**
Visual
Abstract



CAR-T: e la storia continua...migliorando

Roma, 9 Aprile 2025

