



# The young side of LYMPHOMA

gli under 40 a confronto

Verona, Centro Congressi Camera di Commercio  
26-27 settembre 2025

Attualità nella terapia di I linea  
nel paziente giovane con MCL

**Simone Ragaini, MD, PhD candidate**

Dipartimento di Biotecnologie Molecolari e Scienze per la Salute,  
Università di Torino, Divisione di Ematologia Universitaria  
(Direttore Prof. B. Bruno)  
Torino, Italia



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DI TORINO**

Disclosures of Simone Ragaini

| Company name | Research support | Employee | Consultant | Stockholder | Speakers honoraria | Advisory board | Other |
|--------------|------------------|----------|------------|-------------|--------------------|----------------|-------|
| Pierre Fabre |                  |          |            |             | x                  |                |       |
| Beigene      |                  |          |            |             | x                  |                |       |
| Roche        |                  |          |            |             | x                  |                |       |
| Novartis     |                  |          |            |             | x                  |                |       |
| Astrazeneca  |                  |          |            |             | x                  |                |       |
| Gilead/Kyte  |                  |          |            |             |                    |                | x     |
|              |                  |          |            |             |                    |                |       |
|              |                  |          |            |             |                    |                |       |

# Break the mold in young MCL patients

- **ASCT**: dead or alive? (its long-term efficacy was demonstrated in the pre-rituximab and pre-cytarabine era)
- Is **risk-adapted treatment** in MCL feasible?
- Is **tailored monitoring** in MCL feasible?

Martin Dreyling, Blood 2005  
Anna-Katharina Zoellner, The Lancet Haematology  
2021

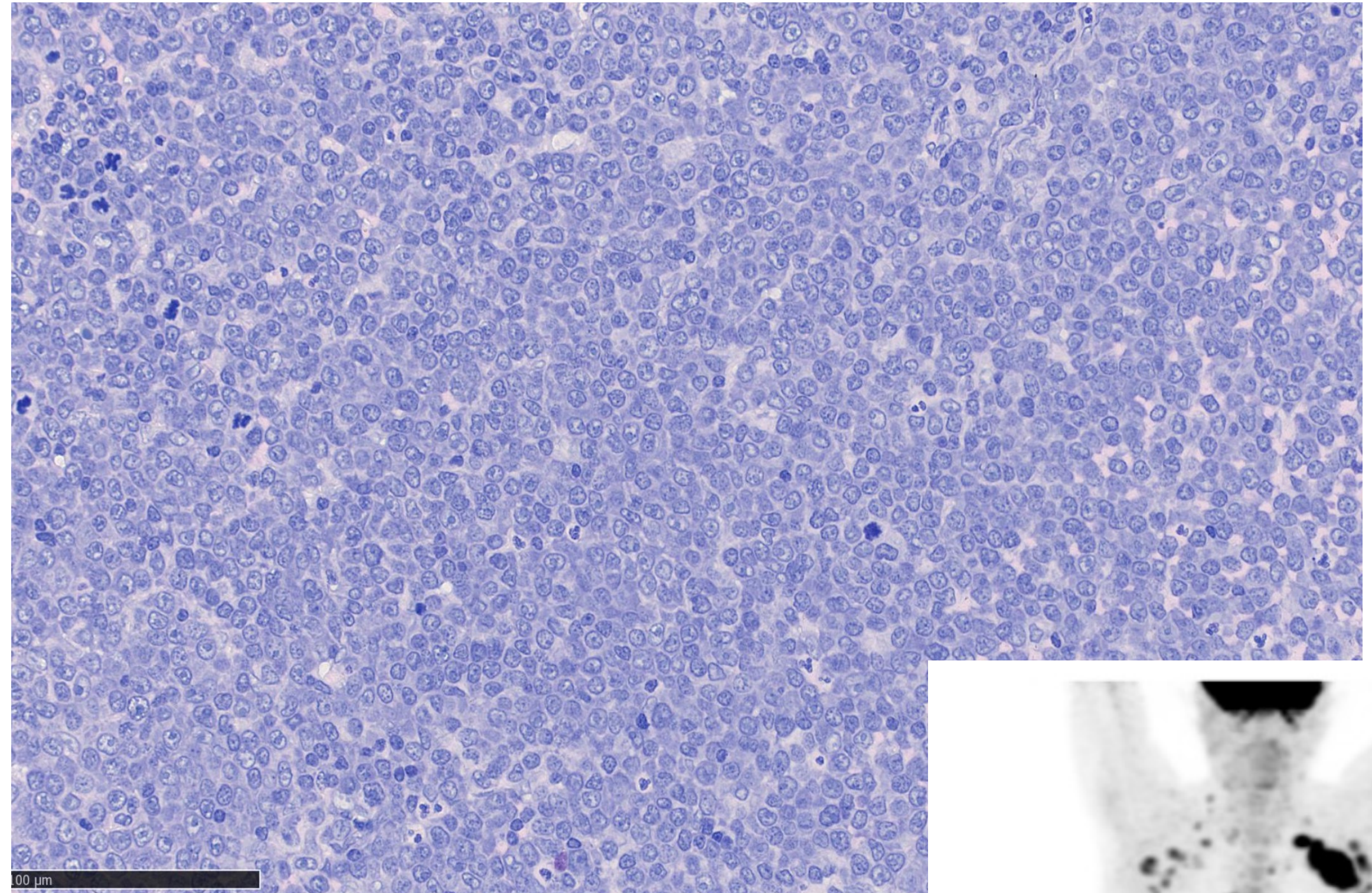
Male, 46 y.o.

- Previous smoker - Fit
- Familiarity for colo-rectal cancer
- Lawyer
- January 2024: weight loss, onset of palpable adenopathies

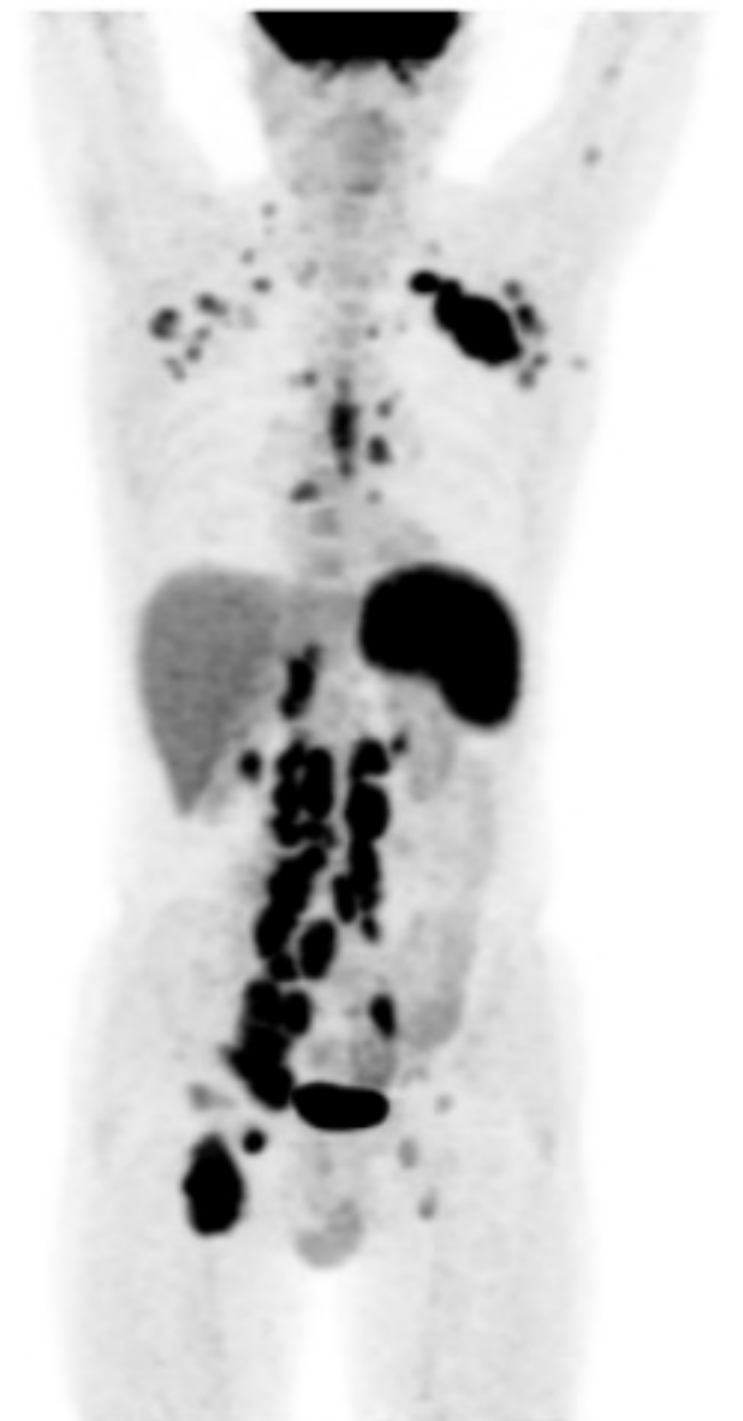
**Blood exams:** WBC 4000  
Hb 14.2 PLTs 155.000  
LDH increased

**Nodal biopsy:** classic mantle cell lymphoma  
CCND1- CD5+ SOX11+ Ki67 30% *TP53* WT  
AM: 30% MCL infiltration, t(11:14)+

**PET scan:** FDG uptake in supra and sub-diaphragmatic adenopathies (SUV Max 9) and spleen (SUV 6)



MCL Stage IV,  
MIPI IR MIPIc HR



# Best treatment option ?

- 6 R-CHOP/R-DHAP + ASCT + RITUXIMAB MAINTENANCE
- 6 R-CHOP+IBRUTINIB/R-DHAP (ARM I TRIANGLE) + IR MAINTENANCE
- 6 R-CHOP+IBRUTINIB/R-DHAP + ASCT (ARM A+I TRIANGLE) + IR

MAINTENANCE

- 6 R-BAC





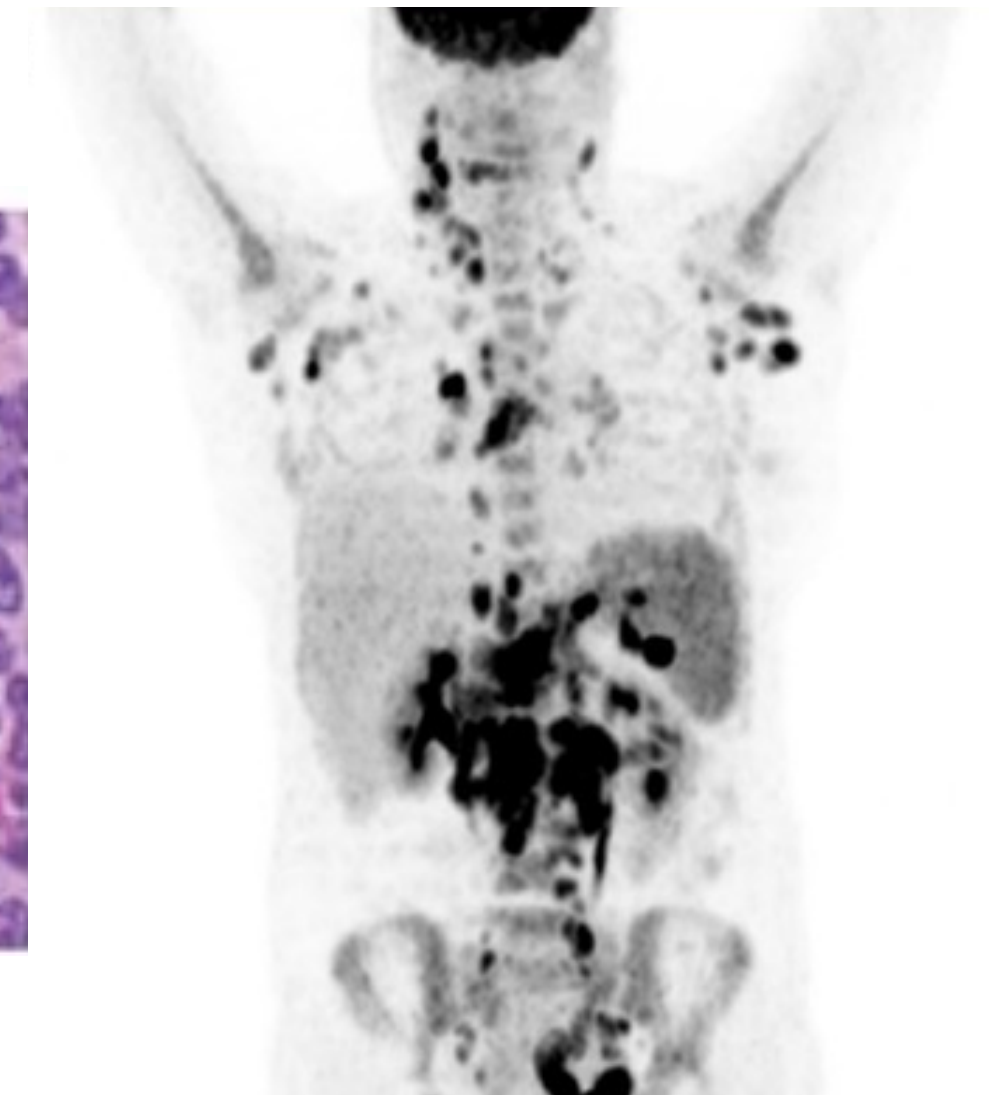
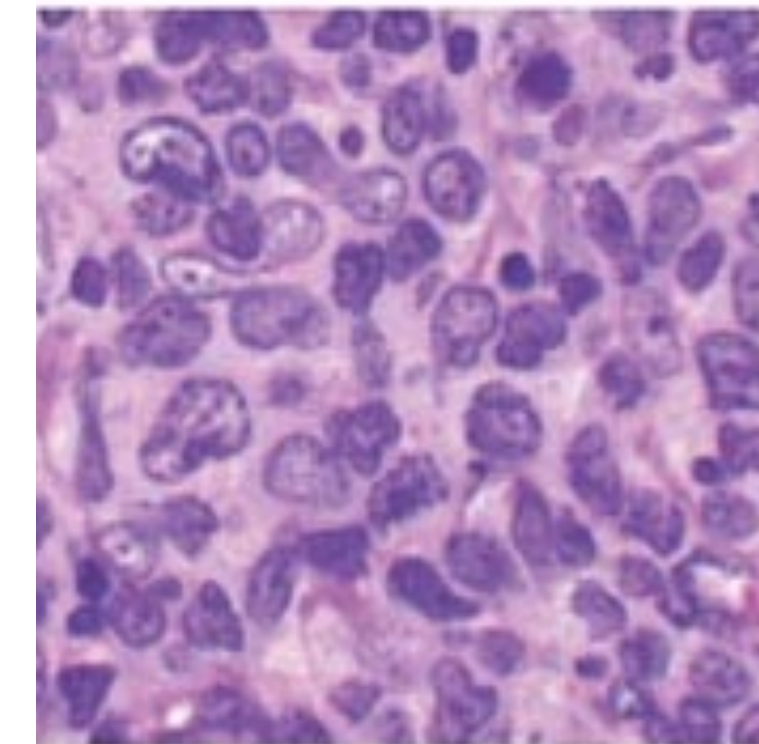
Male, 50 y.o.

- Fit
- Engineer
- March 2024: onset of palpable adenopathies

**Blood exams:** WBC  
7000 Hb 14 PLTs  
200.000 cr 0.92 **LDH**  
**2000**

**Nodal biopsy:** pleomorphic  
mantle cell lymphoma  
**CCND1+ CD5+ SOX11+**  
**Ki67 50% p53 IHC 50%**  
**TP53 mut.**

**MCL Stage IV,  
MIPIc HR**



**PET scan:** multiple supra and sub-diaphragmatic adenopathies  
(SUV Max 9)

# Best treatment option ? (clinical trial not available)

- 6 R-CHOP/R-DHAP + ASCT + RITUXIMAB MAINTENANCE
- 6 R-CHOP+IBRUTINIB/R-DHAP (ARM I TRIANGLE) + IR MAINTENANCE
- 6 R-CHOP+IBRUTINIB/R-DHAP + ASCT (ARM A+I TRIANGLE) + IR

MAINTENANCE

- 6 R-BAC



# The role of targeted treatment in mantle cell lymphoma: is transplant dead or alive?

Martin Dreyling<sup>1</sup> and Simone Ferrero,<sup>2</sup> on behalf of European Mantle Cell Lymphoma Network

|                         | Author                                | Study Features         | Evaluable patients | Therapeutic regimen                                    | ORR% (CR%)            | Median PFS (years) | Median OS (years)             | Dropout rate     | TRM              | Secondary tumors rate |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| ASCT Based regimens     | Dreyling <i>et al.</i> , 2005 [18]    | Phase III, randomized  | 122                | R-CHOP + TBI + ASCT                                    | 98 (81)               | 3,3                | NR (83% 3-y OS)               | 13%              | 5%               | 5%                    |
|                         |                                       |                        |                    | <i>vs.</i><br>R-CHOP + TBI + interferon-α              | <i>vs.</i><br>99 (37) | <i>vs.</i><br>1,4  | <i>vs.</i><br>NR (77% 3-y OS) | <i>vs.</i><br>na | <i>vs.</i><br>0% |                       |
|                         | Hermine <i>et al.</i> , 2012 [34]     | Phase III, randomized  | 455                | R-CHOP + TBI + ASCT                                    | 98 (63)               | 3,8                | 6,8                           | na               | 4%               | na                    |
|                         |                                       |                        |                    | <i>vs.</i><br>R-CHOP/R-DHAP + HD-araC + ASCT           | <i>vs.</i><br>99 (61) | <i>vs.</i><br>7,3  | <i>vs.</i><br>NR              |                  |                  |                       |
|                         | Damon <i>et al.</i> , 2009 [26]       | Phase II               | 77                 | R-CHOP + methotrexate + HD-araC/etoposide + ASCT       | 88 (69)               | NR (56% 5-y PFS)   | NR (64% 5-y OS)               | 13%              | 3%               | na                    |
|                         | Van't Veer <i>et al.</i> , 2009 [27]  | Phase II               | 87                 | R-CHOP + HD-araC + ASCT                                | 70 (64)               | NR (36% 4-y PFS)   | NR (66% 4-y OS)               | 30%              | 5%               | na                    |
|                         | Geisler <i>et al.</i> , 2012 [39]     | Phase II               | 160                | R-Maxi-CHOP + HD-araC+ ASCT                            | 96 (54)               | 7,4                | NR (64% 10-y OS)              | 9%               | 5%               | 4%                    |
|                         | Delarue <i>et al.</i> , 2013 [28]     | Phase II               | 60                 | R-CHOP/R-DHAP + HD-araC + ASCT                         | 100 (96)              | 6,9                | NR (75% 5-y OS)               | 18%              | 1,5%             | 18%                   |
|                         | Touzeau <i>et al.</i> , 2013 [29]     | Retrospective          | 396                | Different ASCT-based schedules                         | 83 (77)               | NR (67% 3-y PFS)   | NR (83% 3-y OS)               | na               | 2,5%             | 6%                    |
|                         | Kolstad <i>et al.</i> , 2014 [40]     | Phase II               | 160                | R-Maxi-CHOP + HD-araC+/- Zevalin + ASCT                | 94 (82)               | NR (71% 4-y PFS)   | NR (78% 4-y OS)               | 9%               | 6%               | 3%                    |
| Non-ASCT based regimens | Le Gouill <i>et al.</i> , 2014 [42]   | Phase III, randomized  | 299                | R-DHAP + ASCT +/- rituximab maintenance                | na (92)               | NR (74% 3-y PFS)   | NR (83% 3-y OS)               | 14%              | na               | na                    |
|                         | Cortelazzo <i>et al.</i> , 2015* [99] | Phase III, randomized  | 260*               | R-CHOP+R-CTX+HD-araC+ASCT +/- lenalidomide maintenance | 86 (78)               | NR (78% 2-y PFS)   | NR (89% 2-y OS)               | 22%*             | 2%               | na                    |
|                         | Romaguera <i>et al.</i> , 2010 [6]    | Phase II, monocentric  | 97                 | R-Hyper-CVAD                                           | 97 (87)               | 4,6                | NR (64% 10-y OS)              | 29%              | 8%               | 5%                    |
|                         | Merli <i>et al.</i> , 2012 [31]       | Phase II, multicentric | 60                 | R-Hyper-CVAD                                           | 83 (72)               | NR (73% 5-y PFS)   | NR (61% 5-y OS)               | 63%              | 6,5%             | 1,5%                  |
|                         | Bernstein <i>et al.</i> , 2013 [32]   | Phase II, multicentric | 49                 | R-Hyper-CVAD                                           | 86 (55)               | 4,8                | 6,8                           | 39%              | 2%               | 4%                    |
|                         |                                       |                        |                    |                                                        |                       |                    |                               |                  |                  |                       |
|                         |                                       |                        |                    |                                                        |                       |                    |                               |                  |                  |                       |

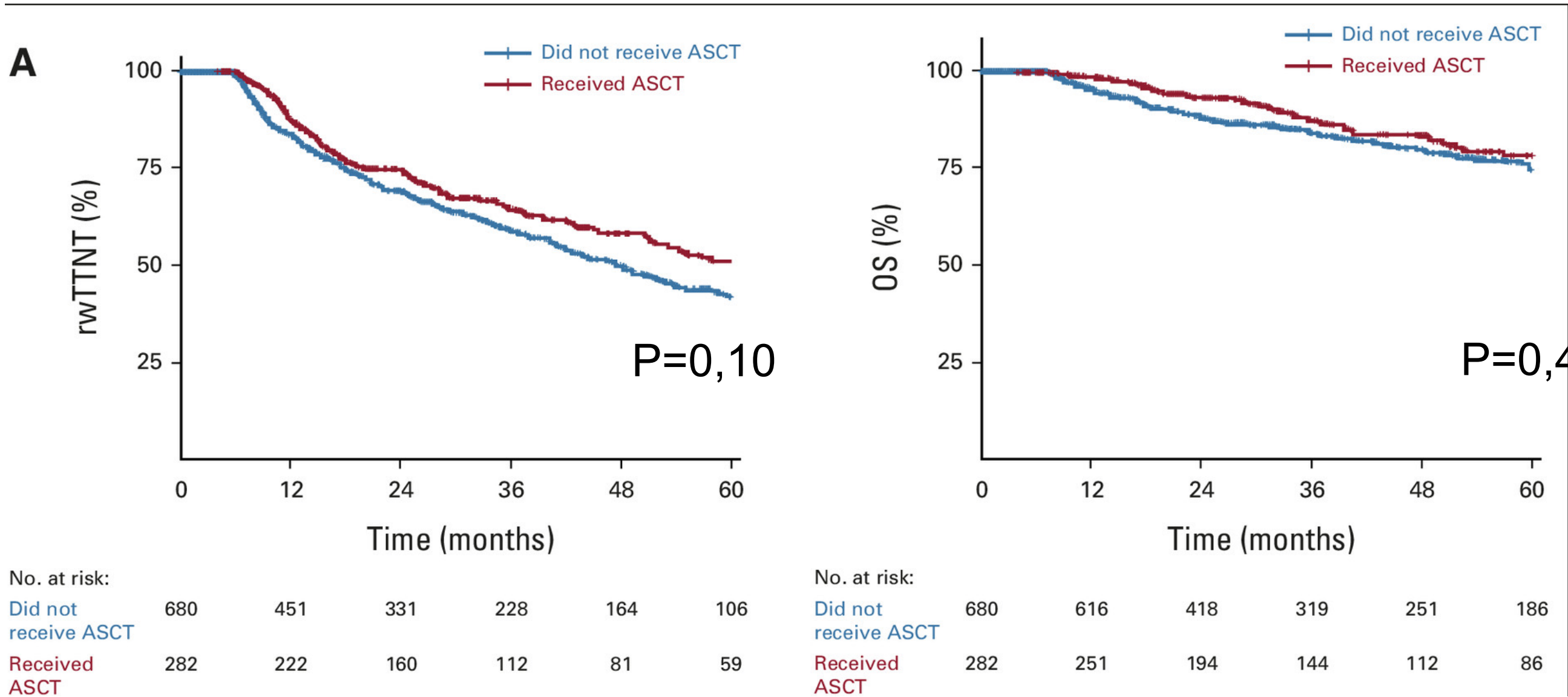
- TRM up to 6%
- Major adverse events are infectious (neutropenic fever, pneumonia) and gastrointestinal (10%–15% of patients)

# Treatment Outcomes and Roles of Transplantation and Maintenance Rituximab in Patients With Previously Untreated Mantle Cell Lymphoma: Results From Large Real-World Cohorts

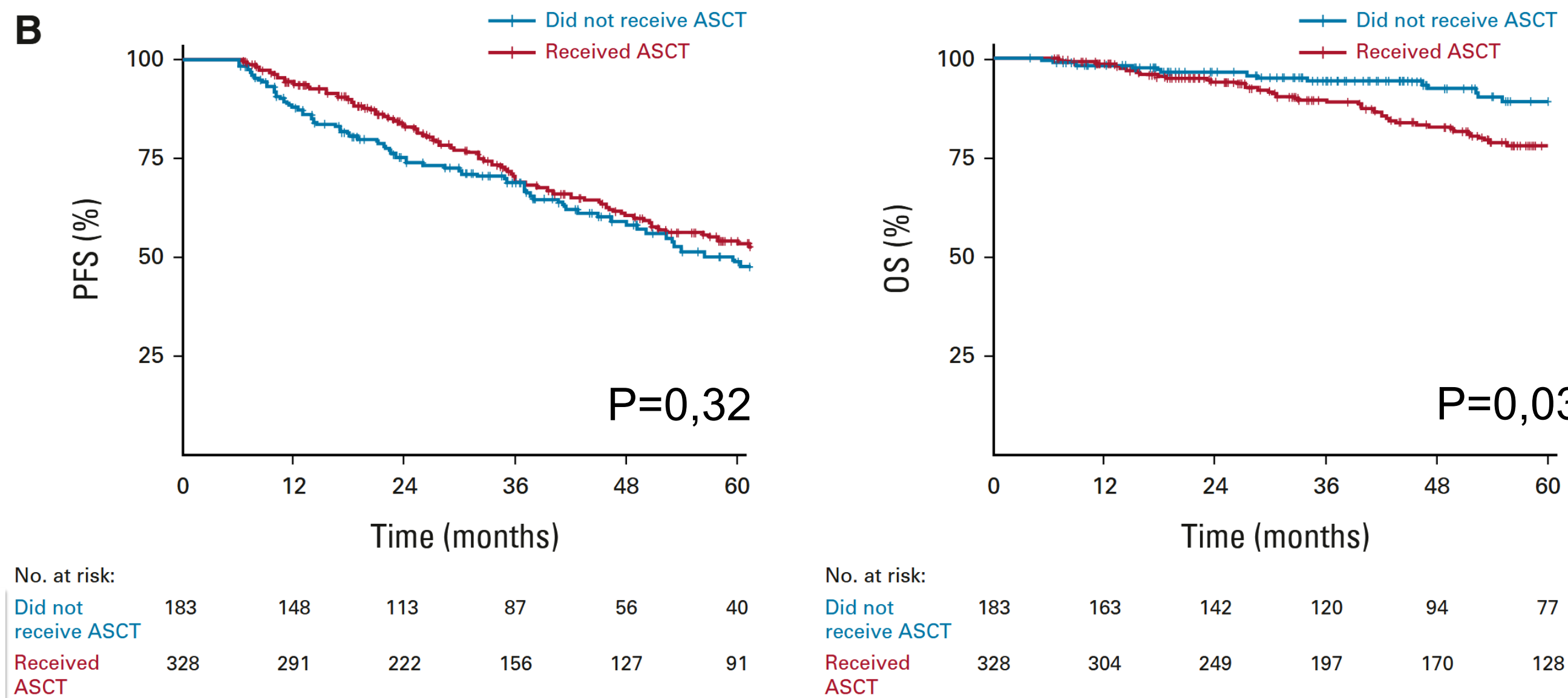
Authors: [Peter Martin, MD](#)  , [Jonathon B. Cohen, MD, MS](#) , [Michael Wang, MD](#) , [Anita Kumar, MD](#) , [Brian Hill, MD, PhD](#), [Diego Villa, MD](#) , [Jeffrey M. Switchenko, PhD, MS](#) , [... SHOW ALL ...](#), and [Gilles Salles, MD, PhD](#)  | [AUTHORS INFO & AFFILIATIONS](#)

- Retrospective data from 4,216 patients with mantle cell lymphoma in the Flatiron Health electronic record-derived deidentified database diagnosed between 2011 and 2021, mostly in US
- Validation in an independent cohort of 1,168 patients from 12 academic centers.
- rwTTNT and OS in the ASCT-eligible cohort by ASCT status (yes v no) in the Flatiron cohort;

Flatiron cohort



Validation cohort





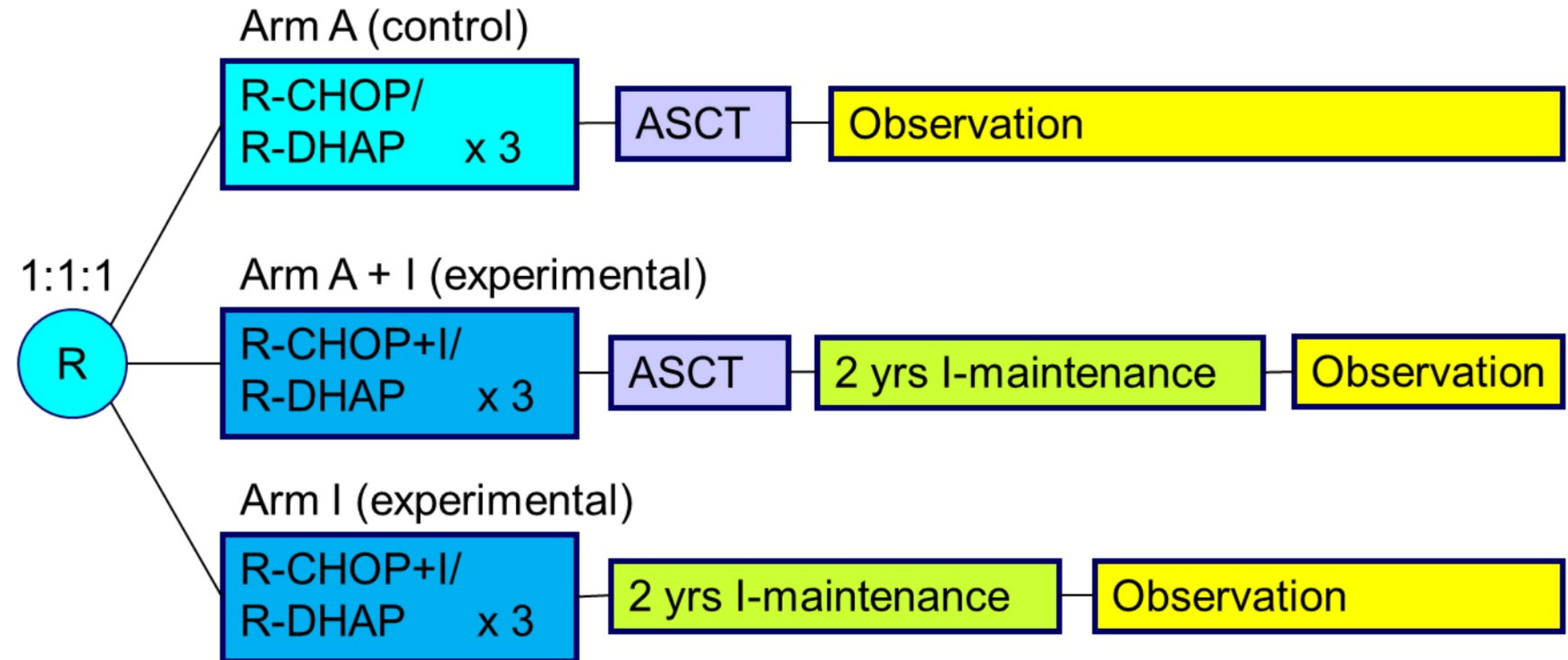
## TRIANGLE: Trial Design

- MCL patients
- previously untreated
- stage II-IV
- younger than 66 years
- suitable for HA and ASCT
- ECOG 0-2

▪ Primary outcome: FFS

▪ Secondary outcomes:

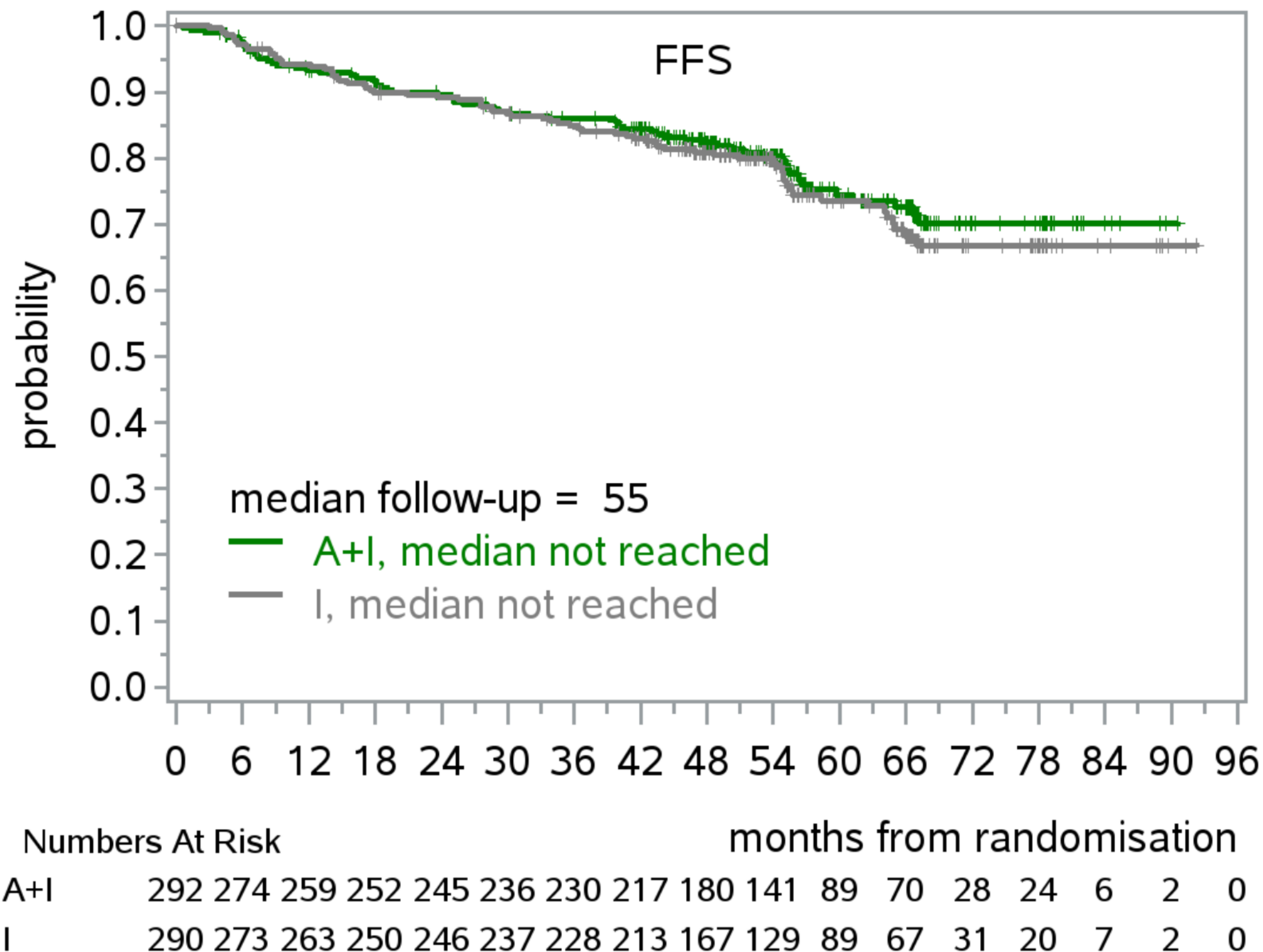
- Response rates
- PFS, RD
- OS
- Safety



- R maintenance was added following national guidelines in all 3 trial arms
- Rituximab maintenance (without or with Ibrutinib) was started in 168 (58 %)/165 (57 %)/158 (54 %) of A/A+I/I randomized patients.



## TRIANGLE: FFS Superiority of A+I vs. I ?



■ Superiority of A+I vs. I rejected

■ 4-year FFS A+I: 82%

■ 4-year FFS I: 81%

■ p-value (overrunning, one-sided):  
p=0.21

■ HR (A+I vs. I): HR=0.83

What is the optimal age cut-off for the new intensive induction therapy that omits ASCT in MCL?

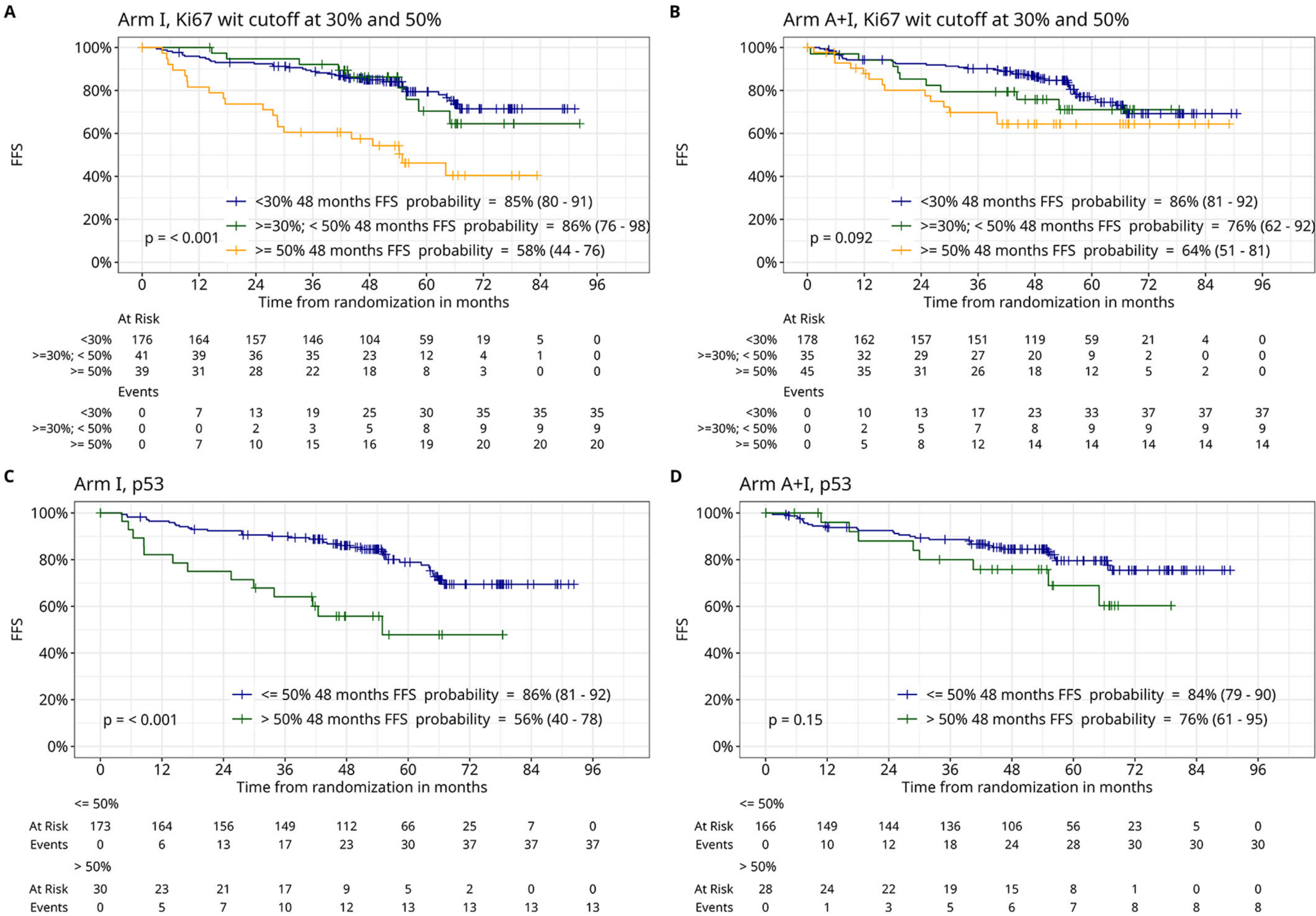
267 | EVALUATION OF ESTABLISHED PROGNOSTIC MARKERS IN YOUNGER MANTLE CELL LYMPHOMA PATIENTS UNDER IBRUTINIB CONTAINING REGIMENS—AN ANALYSIS EMBEDDED IN THE MULTIPLY PROJECT

K. Gutmair, S. Reinke, S. Beà, E. Campo, M. Ladetto, J. Doorduijn, E. Giné, M. Jerkeman, J. Walewski, M. Hutchings, U. Mey, J. Riise, M. Trneny, V. Vergote, O. Shpilberg, M. Gomes da Silva ... See all authors



Poster @ICML 2025 –  
First published: 16 June 2025

- After adjusting p53 for MIPI, Ki67 and cytology, the discrimination remained significant in arm I ( $> 50\%$  vs.  $\leq 50\%$  I: HR: 2.18,  $p = 0.026$ ), but not in A+I (HR: 1.64,  $p = 0.2$ ).
- The prognostic value of established biological factors (high Ki-67, p53 alterations) seems to be partly overcome by ASCT and ibrutinib, suggesting a synergistic potential of this combination in high-risk patients.



137 | IBRUTINIB ADDED TO MCL TREATMENT HAS STRONG IMPACT ON MRD RESPONSE AND DISEASE KINETICS: RESULTS FROM THE TRIANGLE TRIAL



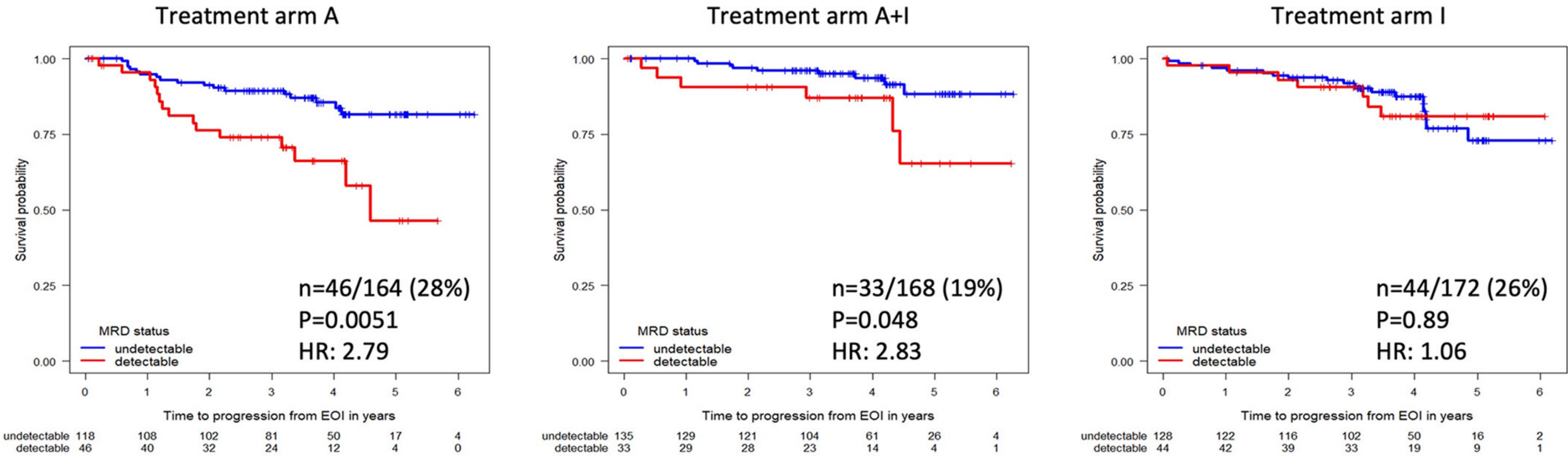
June 2025



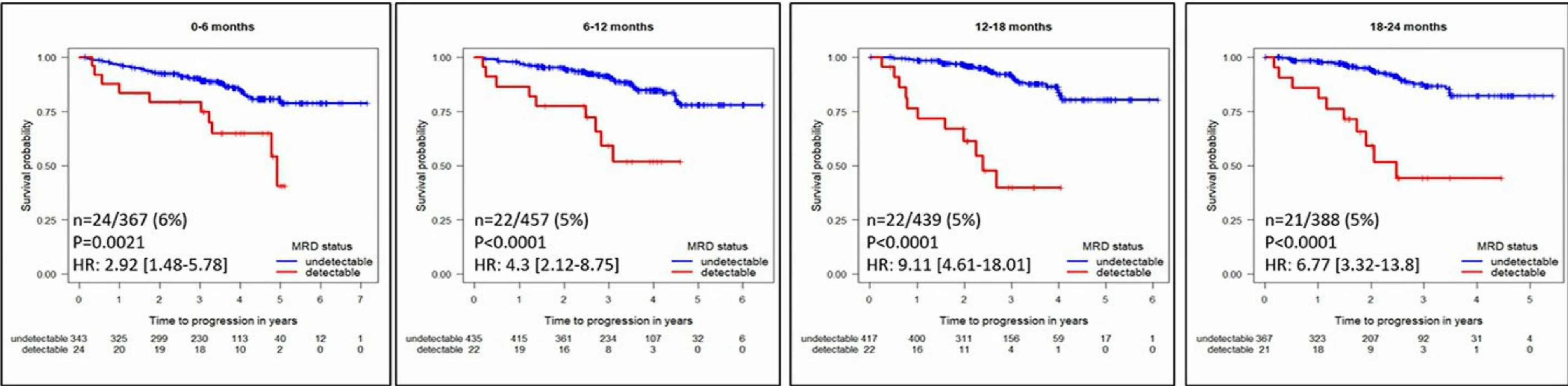
M. Khouja, V. Jurinovic, S. Ferrero, E. Genuardi, B. Kehden, A. M. Civita, C. U. Niemann, R. García Sanz, A. M. Herrera, C. Homburg, O. J. Verhagen, V. H. van der Velden, S. Kubetzko ... See all authors

- MRD at EOI also significantly correlated with time to progression (TTP) in arms A and A+I, but not in arm I
- Landmark analysis confirmed the prognostic value of MRD during maintenance, peaking at 12–18 months.

MRD at EOI



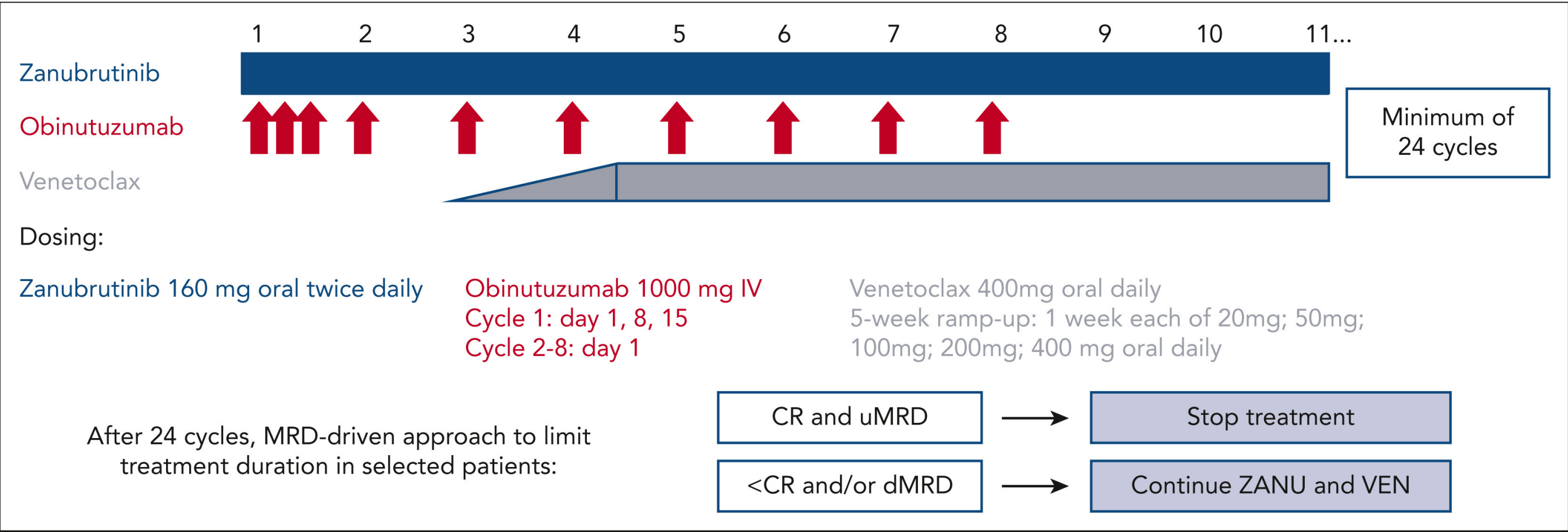
Landmark analysis during maintenance therapy



# Zanubrutinib, obinutuzumab, and venetoclax for first-line treatment of mantle cell lymphoma with a *TP53* mutation

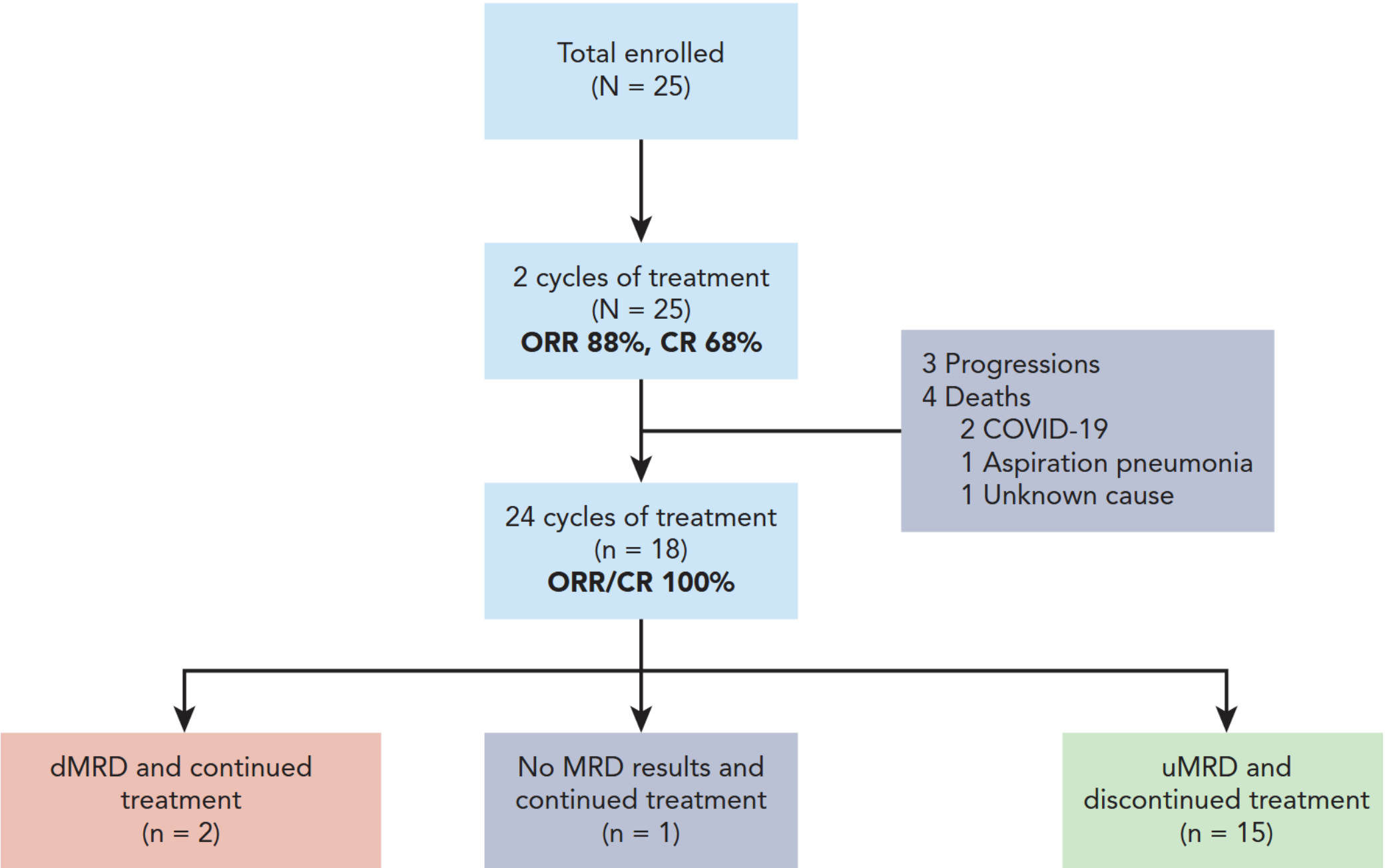
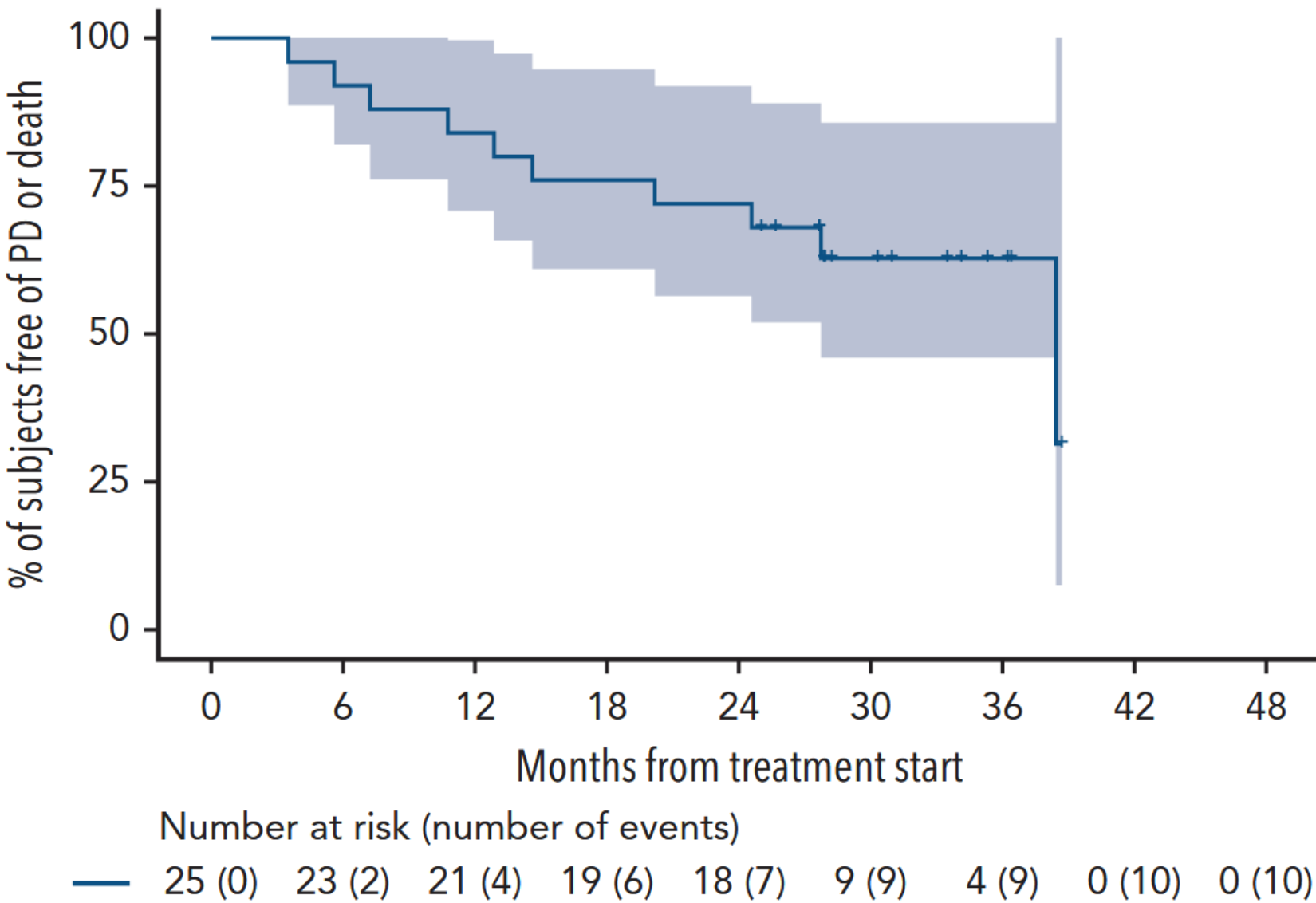
Clinical Trials & Observations

Anita Kumar, Jacob Soumerai, Jeremy S. Abramson, Jeffrey A. Barnes, Philip Caron, Shalini Chhabra, Maria Chabowska, Ahmet Dogan, Lorenzo Falchi, Clare Grieve, J. Erika Haydu, Patrick Connor Johnson, Ashlee Joseph, Hailey E. Kelly, Alyssa Labarre, Jennifer Kimberly Lue, Rosalba Martignetti, Joanna Mi, Alison Moskowitz, Colette Owens, Sean Plummer, Madeline Puccio, Gilles Salles, Venkatraman Seshan, Elizabeth Simkins, Natalie Slupe, Honglei Zhang, Andrew D. Zelenetz



- Median age was 68 (29-82) years
- 2-year progression-free 72%
- 2-year overall survival 76%
- Common Aes low grade and included diarrhea (64%), neutropenia (32%), and infusion-related reactions (24%).

Median follow-up of 28.2 months





# Your chemo is no good here: management of high-risk MCL

Hematology 2024 | ASH Education Program

**Yazeed Sawalha and Kami Maddocks**

Department of Internal Medicine, Division of Hematology, Arthur G. James Comprehensive Cancer Center, The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center, Columbus, OH

| Study name (identifier)                   | Phase | Treatment(s)                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Key inclusion criteria                                                                                                                                                        |
|-------------------------------------------|-------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| CARMAN (EuCT 2022-502405-15-00)           | 2     | Ibrutinib + rituximab → ibrutinib + R-CHOP or ibrutinib monotherapy → brexucabtagene → ibrutinib maintenance vs ibrutinib + R-CHOP/R-DHAP → ASCT (≤65 y) or ibrutinib + R-CHOP or BR (>65 y) → ibrutinib and RM | Age ≤75y<br>High intermediate or high MIPI-c and/or <i>TP53</i> mutation or p53 expression >50%                                                                               |
| NCT05861050                               | 1/2   | Glofitamab (with obinutuzumab pretreatment), venetoclax, and lenalidomide                                                                                                                                       | ≥1 high-risk feature: blastoid/pleomorphic, Ki-67 ≥ 50%, <i>TP53</i> aberration or p53 overexpression, complex karyotype, high MIPI, bulky disease, other high-risk mutations |
| MCL Elderly III (Eudra CT 2020-002935-30) | 2     | Ibrutinib + venetoclax + rituximab vs BR + ibrutinib                                                                                                                                                            | ≥60 and transplant ineligible                                                                                                                                                 |
| ALTAMIRA (NCT05214183)                    | 2     | Acalabrutinib + rituximab                                                                                                                                                                                       | ≥60 and transplant ineligible                                                                                                                                                 |
| WINDOW-3 (NCT05495464)                    | 1     | Acalabrutinib + rituximab → brexucabtagene                                                                                                                                                                      | High-risk including high MIPI-c, blastoid, Ki-67 ≥ 50%, <i>TP53</i> aberrations or other high-risk mutations, or bulky disease                                                |

**3 RTX ODHA alternating 3 RTX CHOP → PMR**  
(March 2022)

**How is going our young MCL patient ?**

**Ibrutinib → CMR**  
(Aug 2022)

MCL relapse with palpable  
abdominal mass (Jan 2024)

**Radiotherapy + CAR-T (PMR)**

**R-BAC (PMR)**

**Glofitamab (SD)**

**Pirtobrutinib (SD)**  
**Venetoclax (SD)**

**Allo-HSCT**



## Take-home messages

- In **standard-risk younger patients** with MCL, frontline treatment should follow **arm I of the TRIANGLE trial** (optimal age cut-off for intensive chemotherapy?)
- **High-risk MCL younger patients might still benefit from ASCT**, but ongoing trials of **chemo-free regimens** (potentially including CAR-T cell therapy) are likely to define the most effective options in the near future.
- **Rituximab maintenance remains effective even after ibrutinib** has been used in the frontline setting.
- Although currently not yet applied routinely, **MRD assessment remains a valuable predictor of MCL progression**, and **MRD+ patients may benefit from additional therapeutic interventions**.



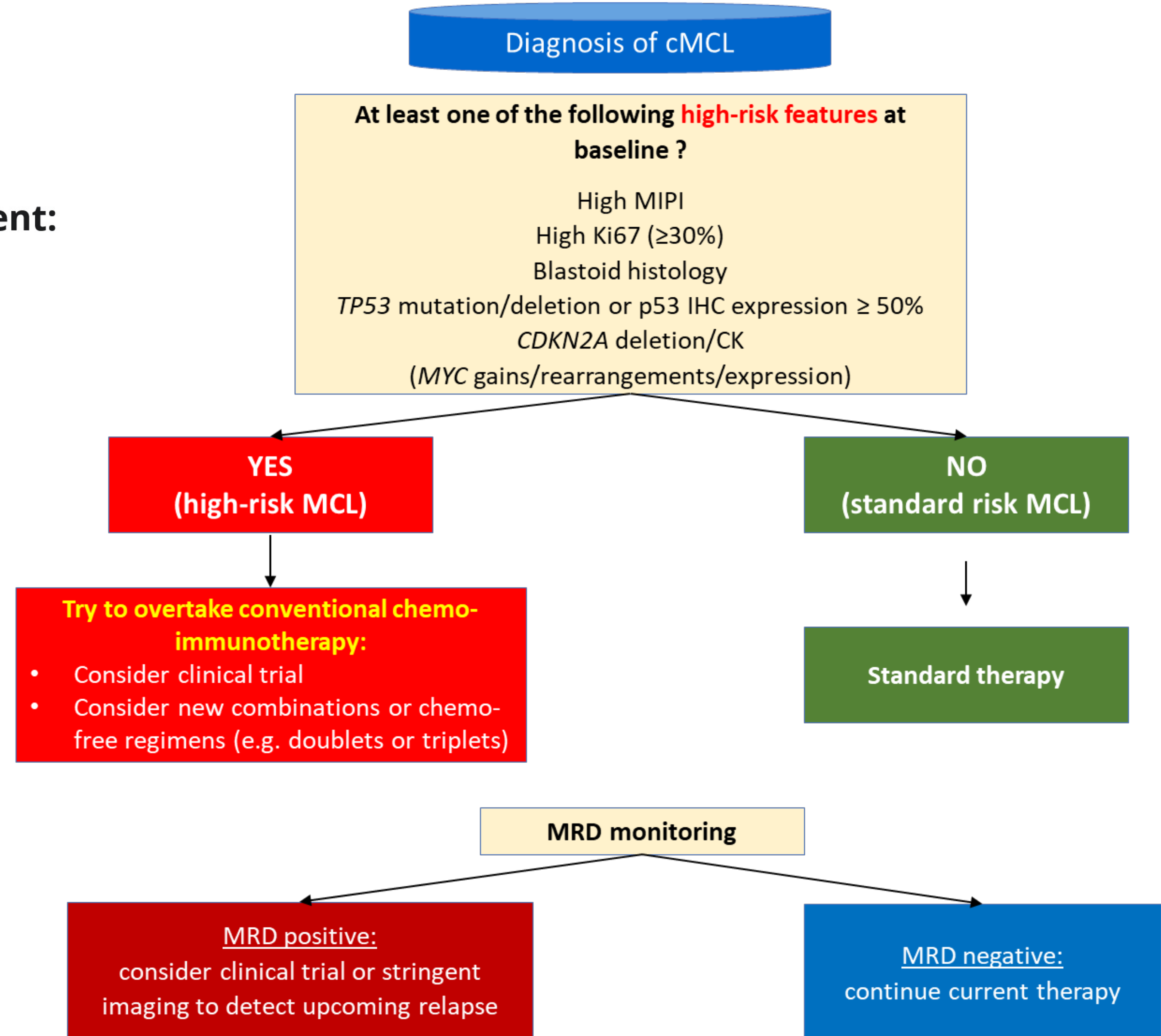


SUPPLEMENT ARTICLE | [Open Access](#) |

## Advancing Mantle Cell Lymphoma Risk Assessment: Navigating a Moving Target

Simone Ferrero , Simone Ragaini

First published: 15 June 2025 | <https://doi.org/10.1002/hon.70072>



# The young side of LYMPHOMA

gli under 40 a confronto

## DIVISION OF HEMATOLOGY TORINO UNIVERSITY

Benedetto Bruno

### LAB & LYMPHO TEAM

Enrico Amaducci

Matteo Arata

Federica Cavallo

Aurora Civita

Michele Clerico

Chiara Consoli

Daniela Drandi

**Simone Ferrero**

Elisa Genuardi

Alessio Lonardo

Grazia Mallia

Maria Chiara Montalbano

Carlotta Montana

Veronica Peri

Francesca Perutelli

Mariapia Pironti

Simone Ragaini

Sonia Rizzitelli

Sofia Russo

Chiara Salierno

Candida Vitale

Velleda Zorzetto



**UNIVERSITÀ  
DI TORINO**



Biological and Bioinformatics  
Studies Committee  
Aggressive Lymphomas  
Committee  
FIL-MCL Clinical Trials



Martin Dreyling  
Eva Ginè



Martin Dreyling  
Silvia Beà  
Marco Ladetto

