

4th edition

Unmet challenges in high risk
hematological malignancies:
from benchside to clinical practice

Turin, March 26-27, 2026

Starhotels Majestic

Scientific board:

Marco Ladetto (Alessandria)

Umberto Vitolo (Candiolo -TO)



**The evolving strategies in
the treatment of young
adults and elderly patients
with ALL**

Alessandro Rambaldi

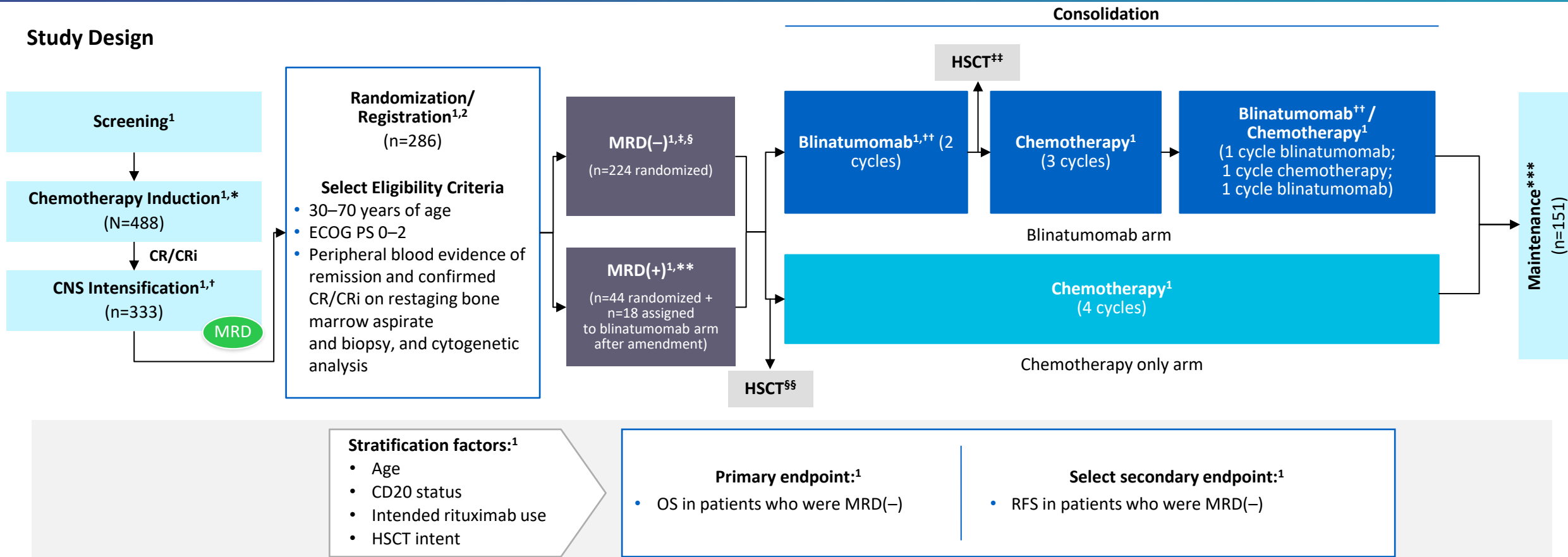
Disclosures

Company name	Research support	Employee	Consultant	Stockholder	Speakers bureau	Advisory board	Other
Amgen			✓			✓	✓
Pfizer			✓				
Novartis			✓			✓	
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Jazz			✓			✓	✓
Omeros			✓			✓	✓
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Incorporating blinatumomab in the frontline treatment of BCP ALL

ECOG-ACRIN E1910: A Global, Randomized, Controlled, Phase 3 Trial of Blinatumomab Alternating With Chemotherapy vs Chemotherapy Alone in Frontline Consolidation in Adult Patients With Ph(-) B-ALL

Study Design



Stratification factors:¹

- Age
- CD20 status
- Intended rituximab use
- HSCT intent

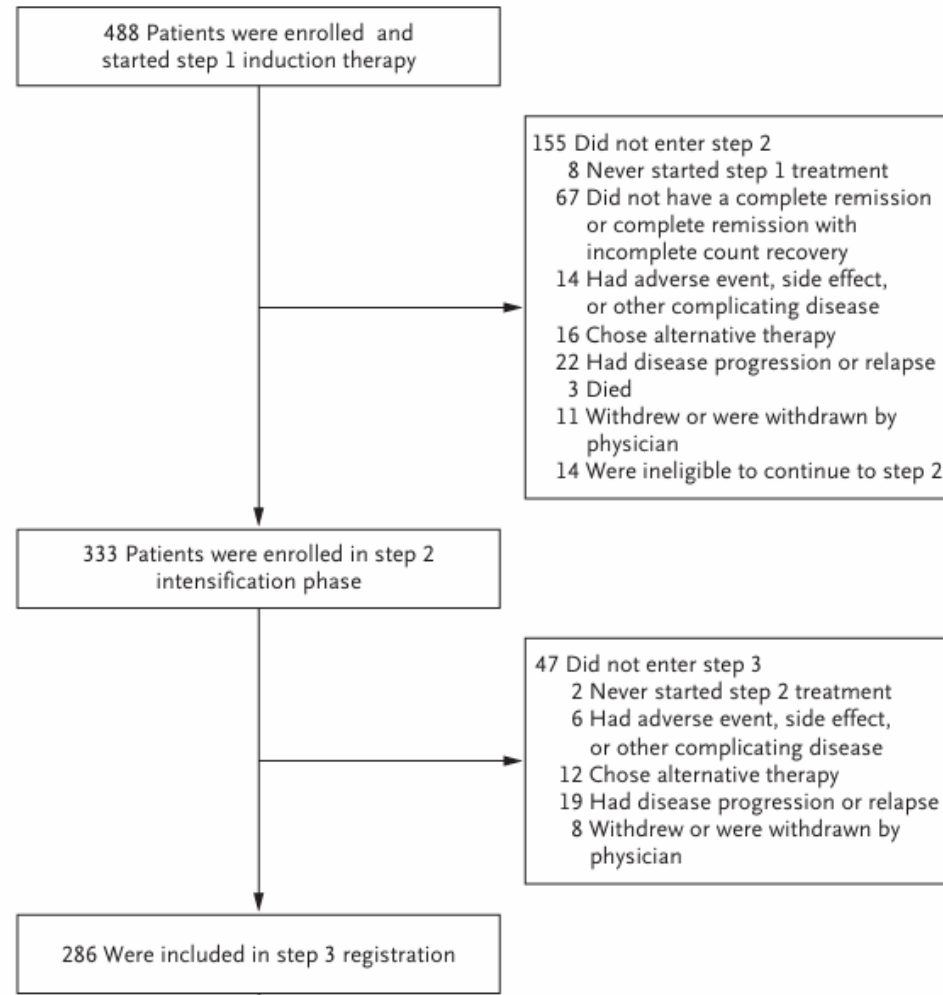
Primary endpoint:¹

- OS in patients who were MRD(-)

Select secondary endpoint:¹

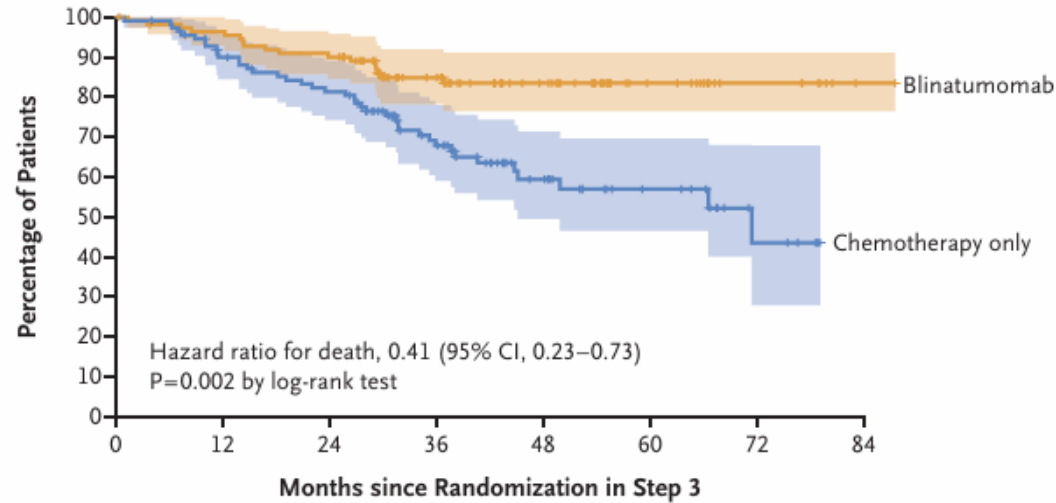
- RFS in patients who were MRD(-)

ECOG-ACRIN E1910: A Global, Randomized, Controlled, Phase 3 Trial of Blinatumomab Alternating With Chemotherapy vs Chemotherapy Alone in Frontline Consolidation in Adult Patients With Ph(-) B-ALL



Blinatumomab for MRD-Negative Adult ALL Patients with Newly Diagnosed Ph- B-ALL: The ECOG-ACRIN E1910 Study

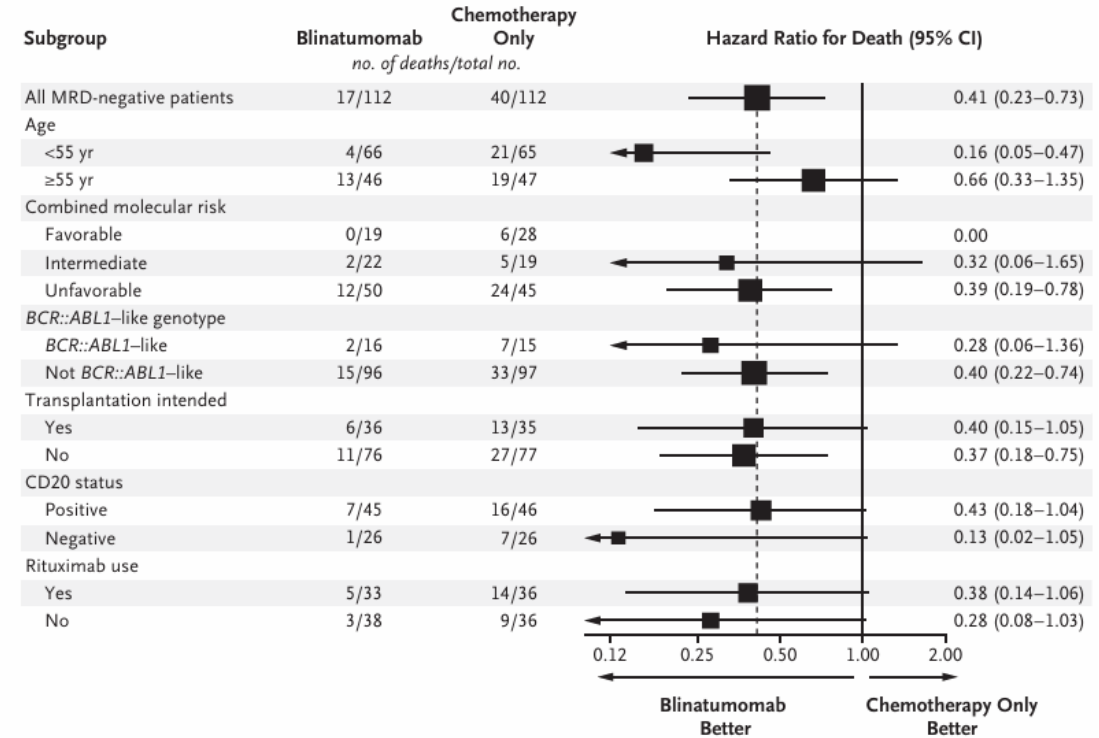
A Overall Survival among Patients with MRD-Negative Status



No. at Risk

	0	12	24	36	48	60	72	84
Blinatumomab	112	106	99	65	41	19	8	1
Chemotherapy only	112	96	85	53	28	15	5	0

B Subgroup Analysis

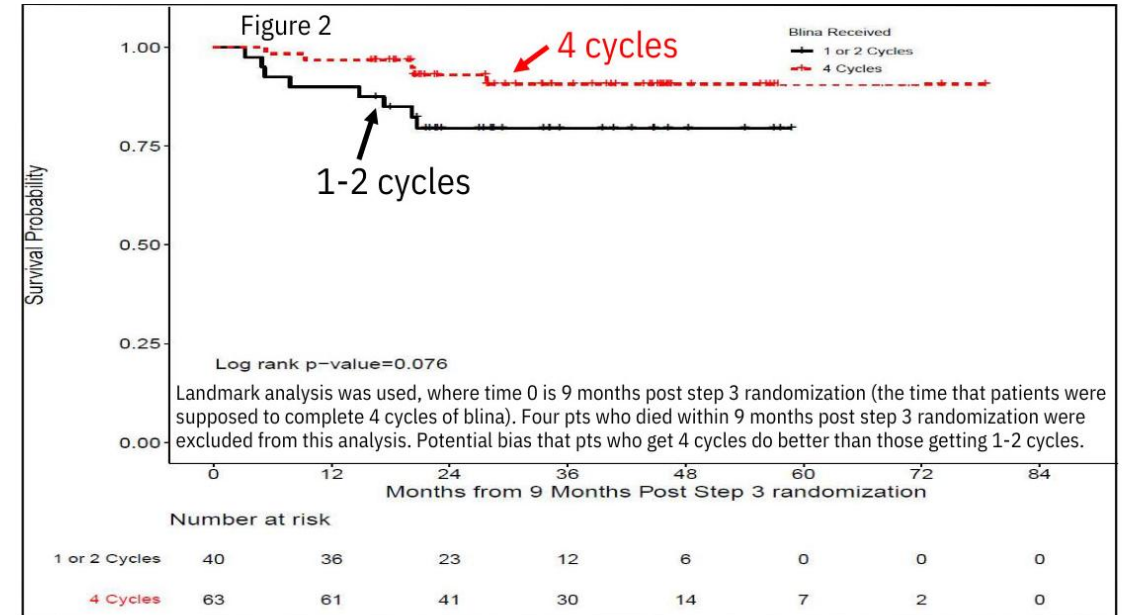
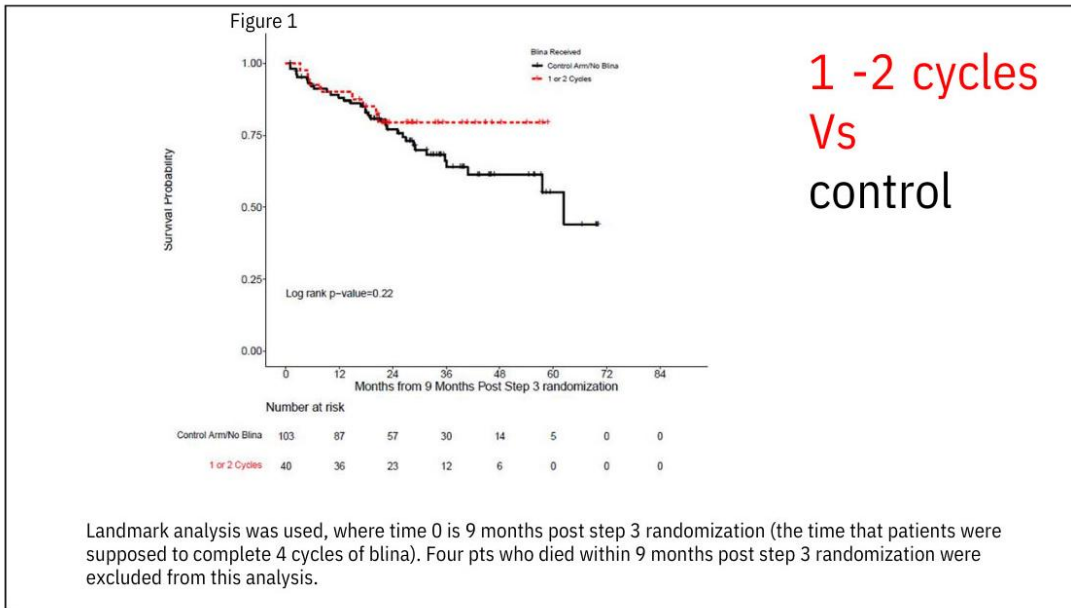


Litzow MR et al.: *N Engl J Med* 2024;391:320-33

When should blinatumomab be incorporated?

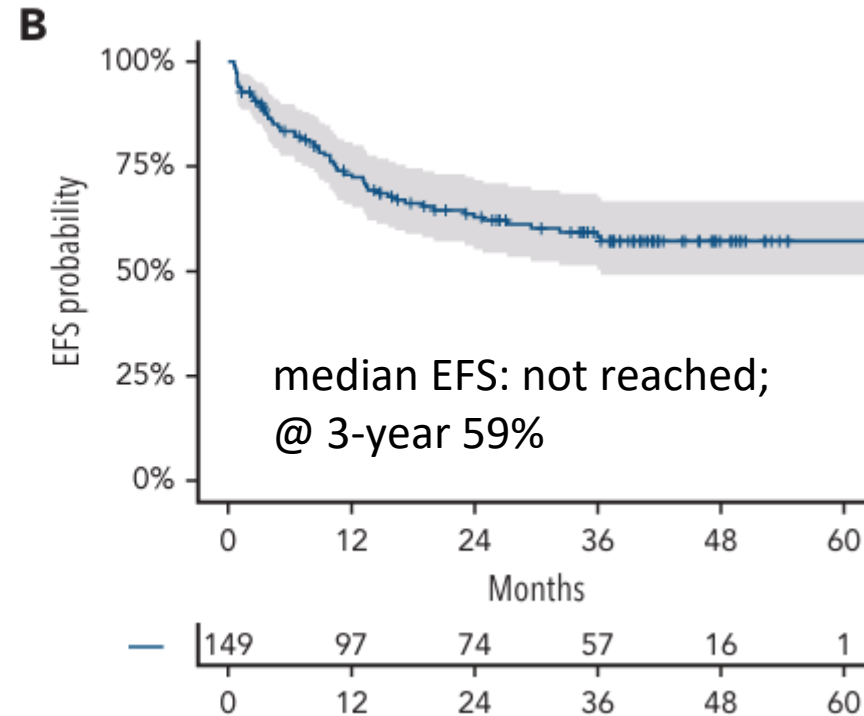
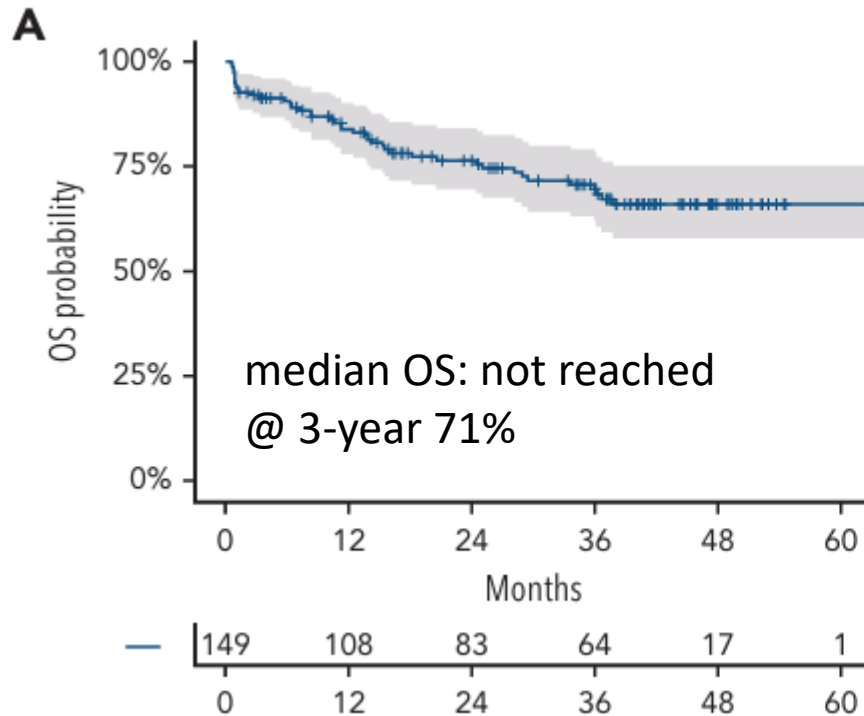
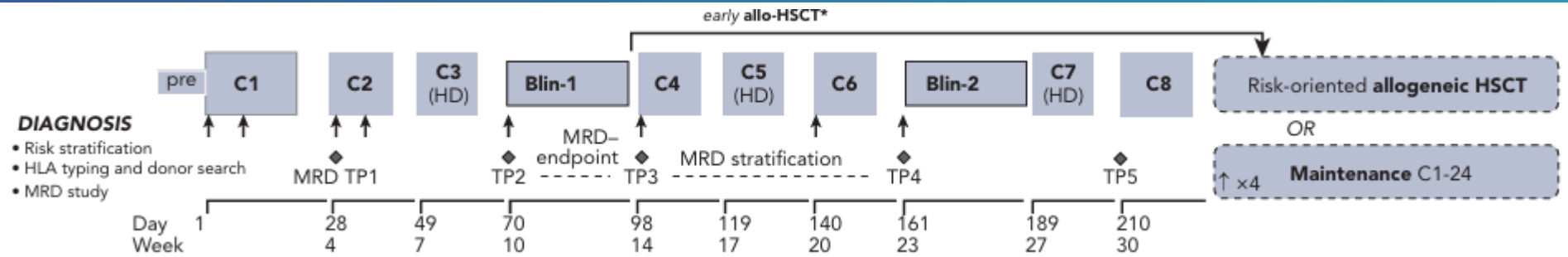
- Only 224 of the original 488 enrolled patients “made it” to randomization
- More than half (264 patients) did not undergo randomization, most commonly due to refractory or relapsed disease.
- This suggests that some adults with B-ALL have inherently chemotherapy-resistant leukemia and would benefit from early exposure to blinatumomab, perhaps subverting impending treatment failure.
- Studies are underway investigating blinatumomab as part of earlier induction therapy

Outcomes of Consolidation Therapy By Number of Cycles of Blinatumomab Received In the ECOG-ACRIN E1910 Randomized Phase NCTN Trial



Up-front blinatumomab improves MRD clearance and outcome in adult Ph+ B-lineage ALL: the GIMEMA LAL2317 phase 2 study

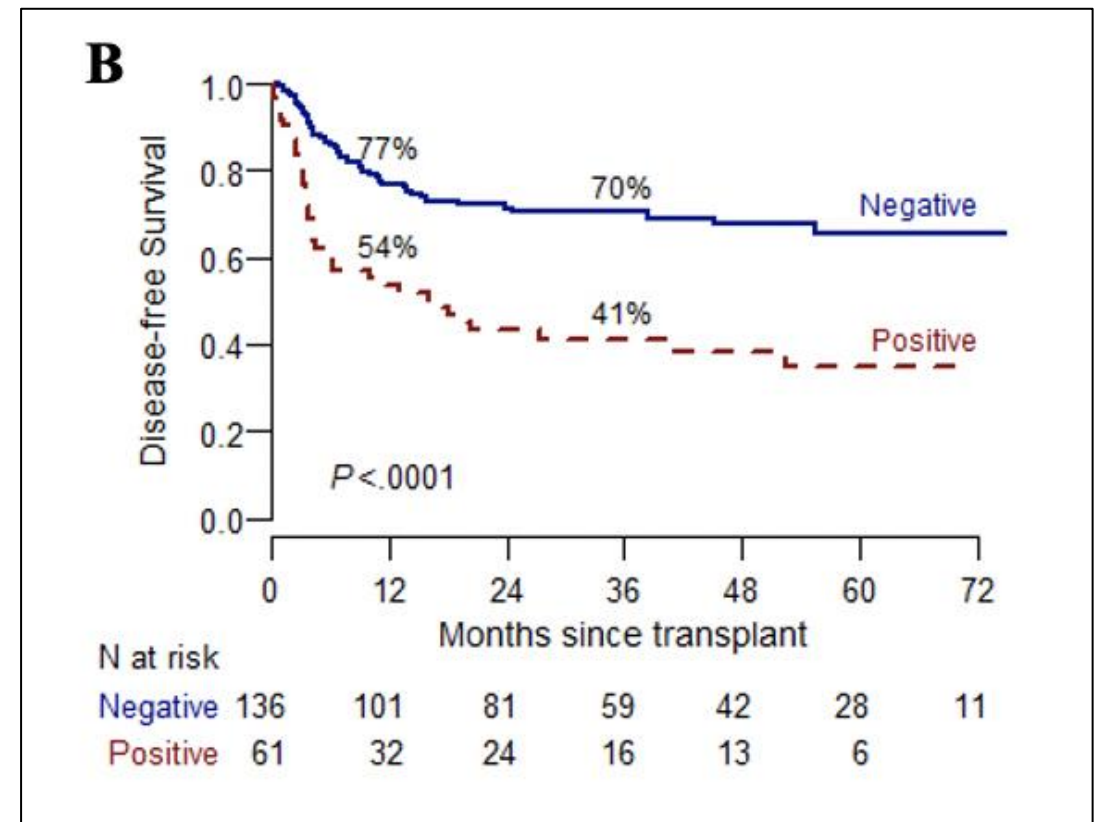
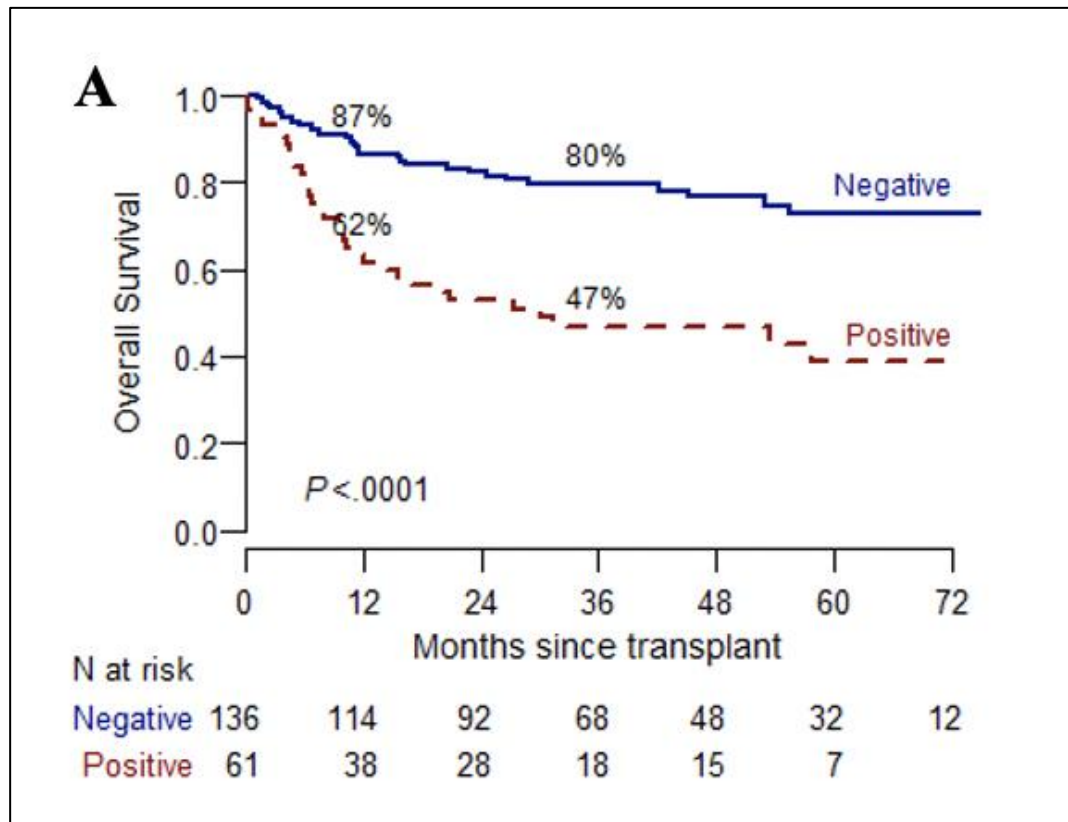
median age, 41 years
(range, 18-65)



Is transplant (always) the good equalizer?

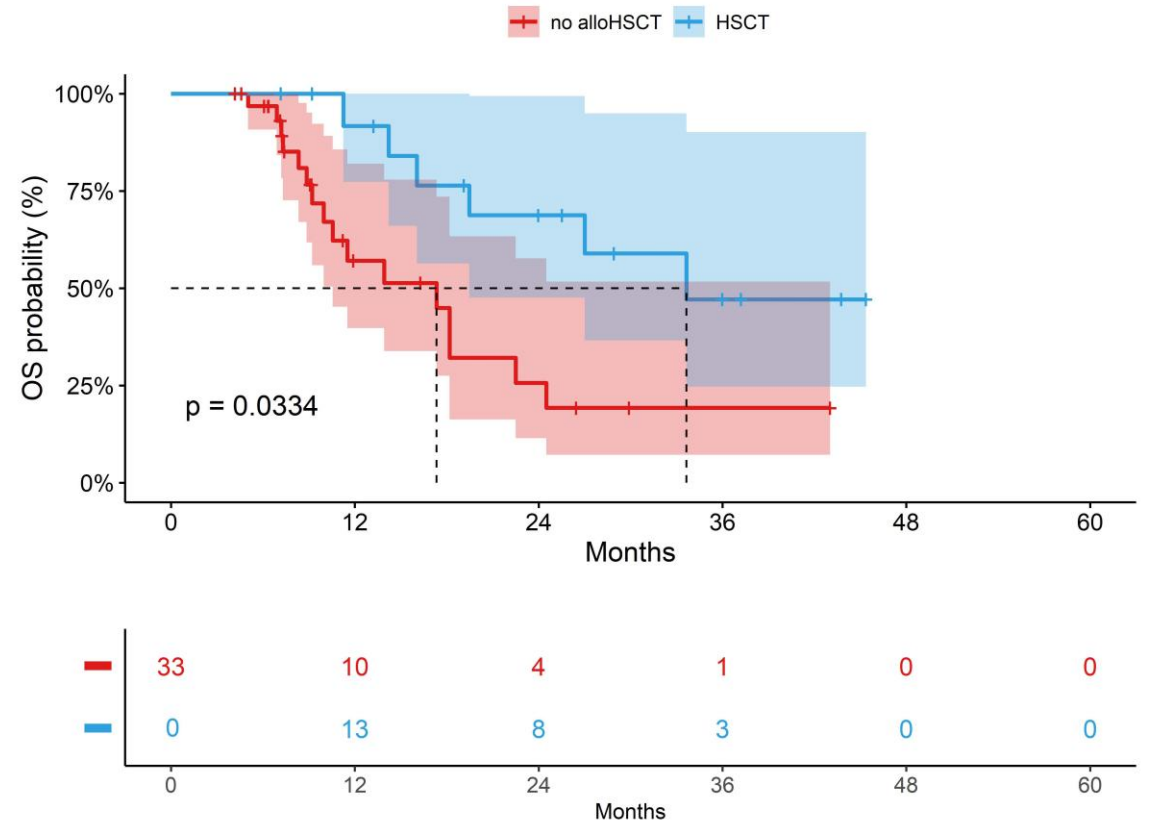
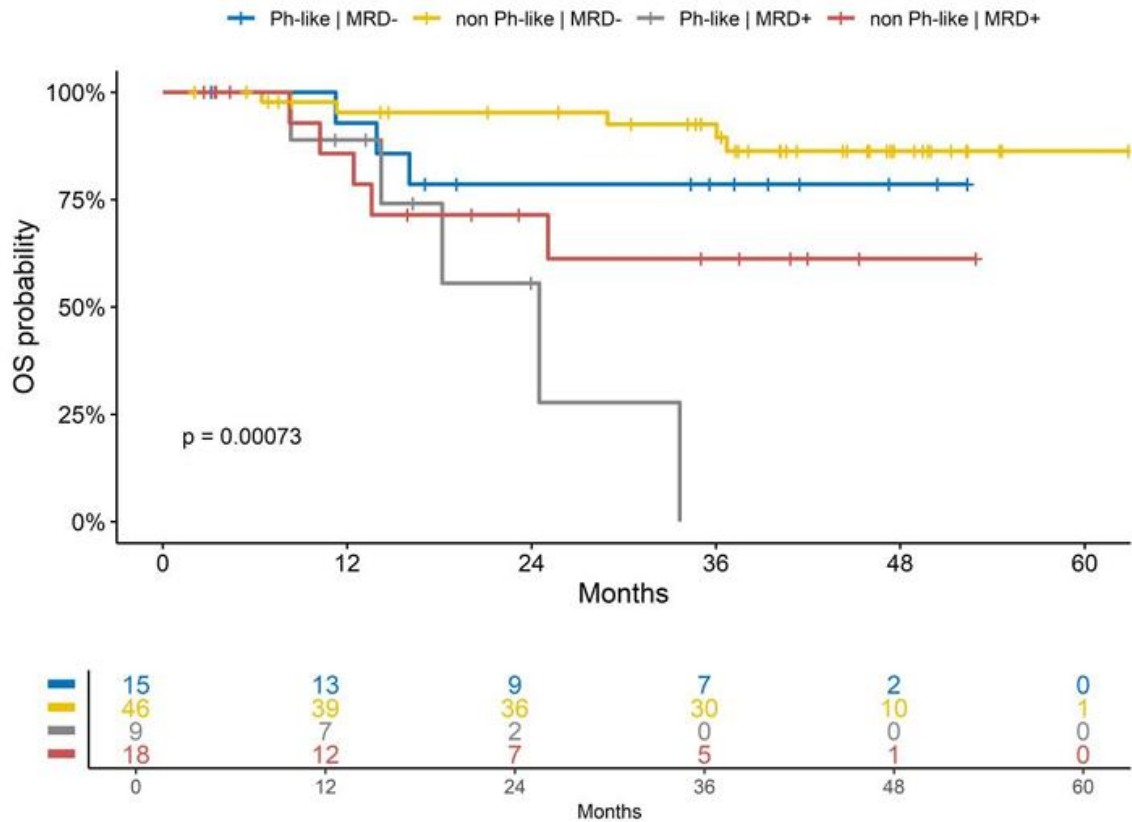
(Should we transplant an MRD+ patient in CR1?)

Main outcomes of allo-SCT in adult Ph- B-ALL treated with the GIMEMA LAL 1913 Protocol in the Italian Real-Life



- Higher risk of disease relapse and a worse OS in patients with pre-transplant MRD positivity

Overall Survival in Ph-like patients

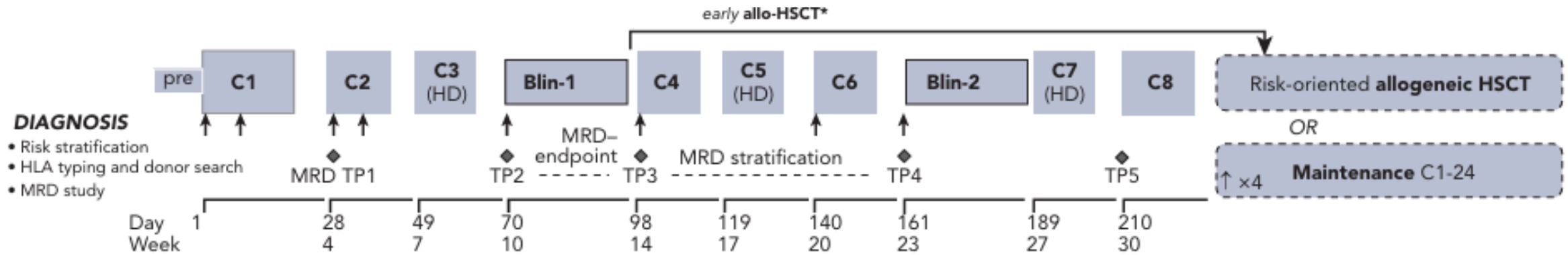


Bassan R et al.: Blood 2025; 145 (21) 2447-2459.

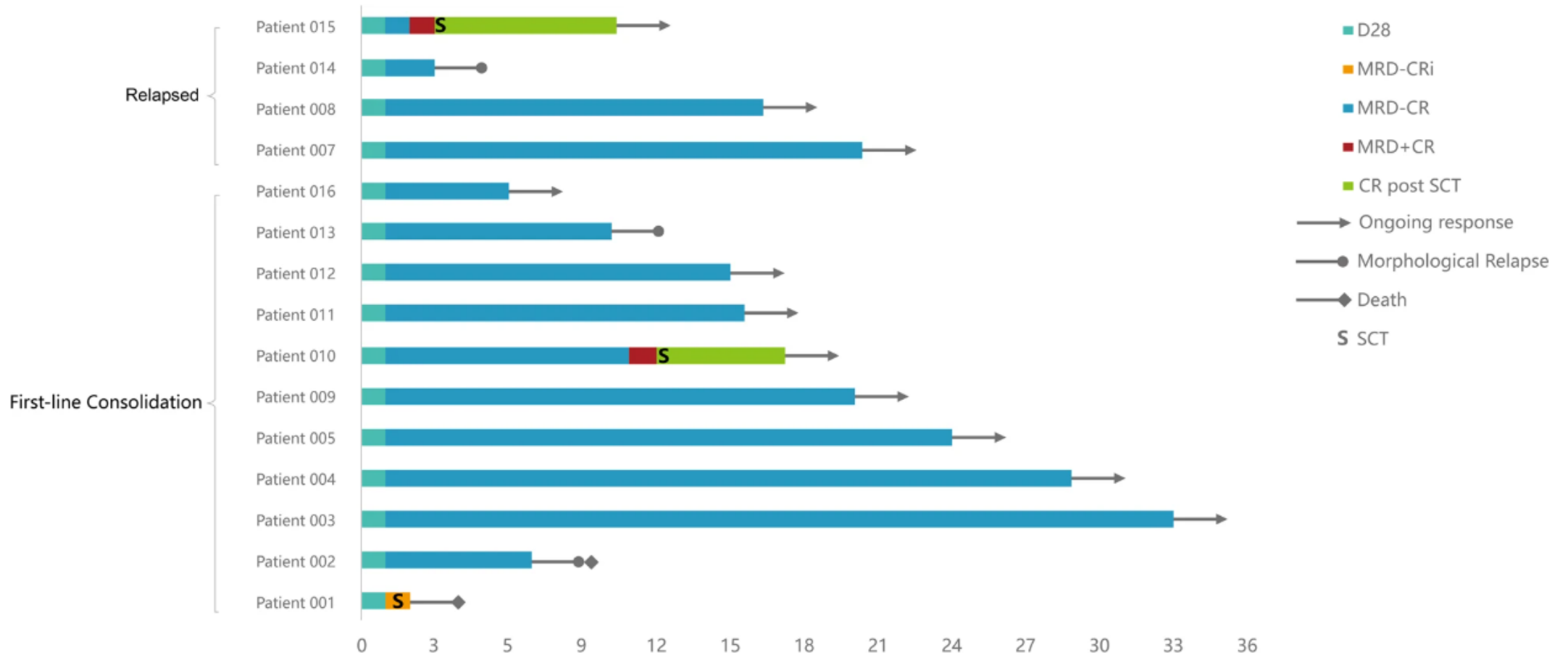
Lussana F et al, in preparation
Please do not copy/distribute

**Should we consider a change in the current place in
therapy of alloHSCT ?**

How to change the national treatment program for adult ALL?



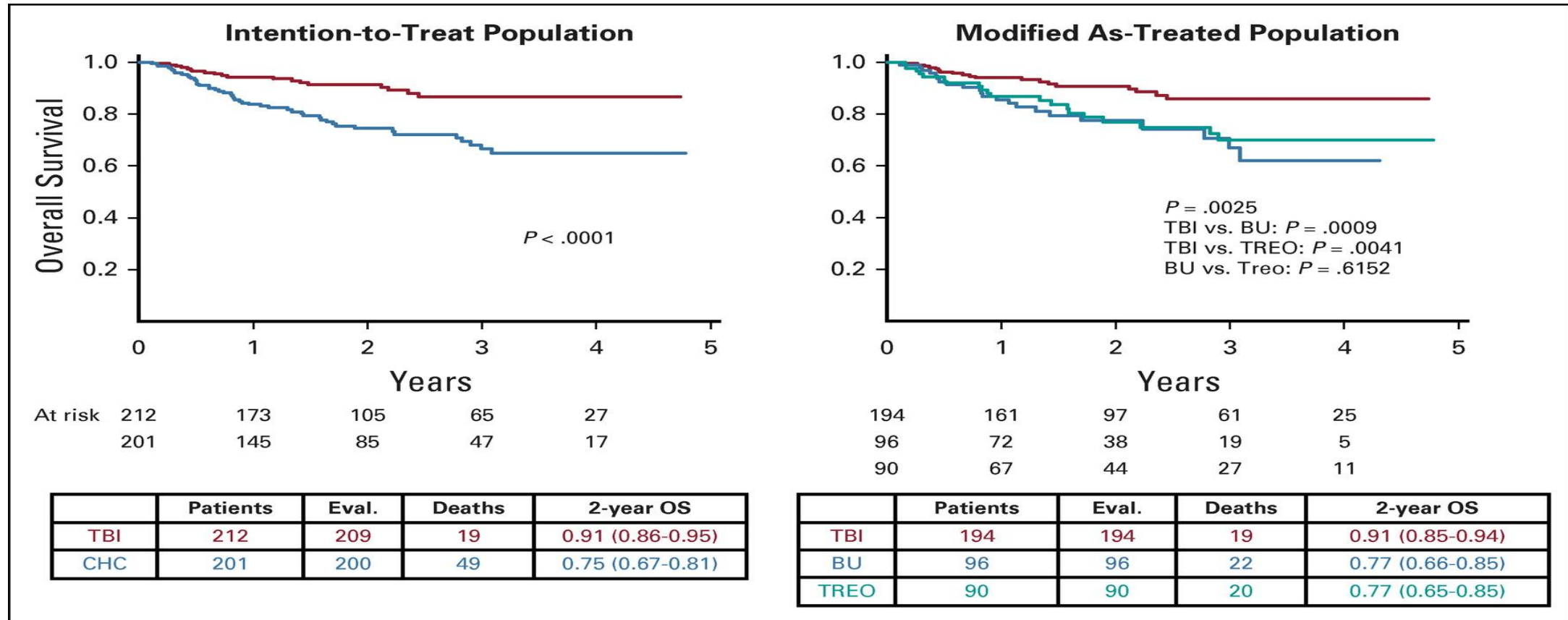
CAR-T cells for MRD positive adult B cell ALL: a phase I clinical study



The bar chart shows the clinical response and follow-up of patients during CAR-T therapy. Each bar represents an individual patient and the study number.

How should we do an AlloH SCT ?

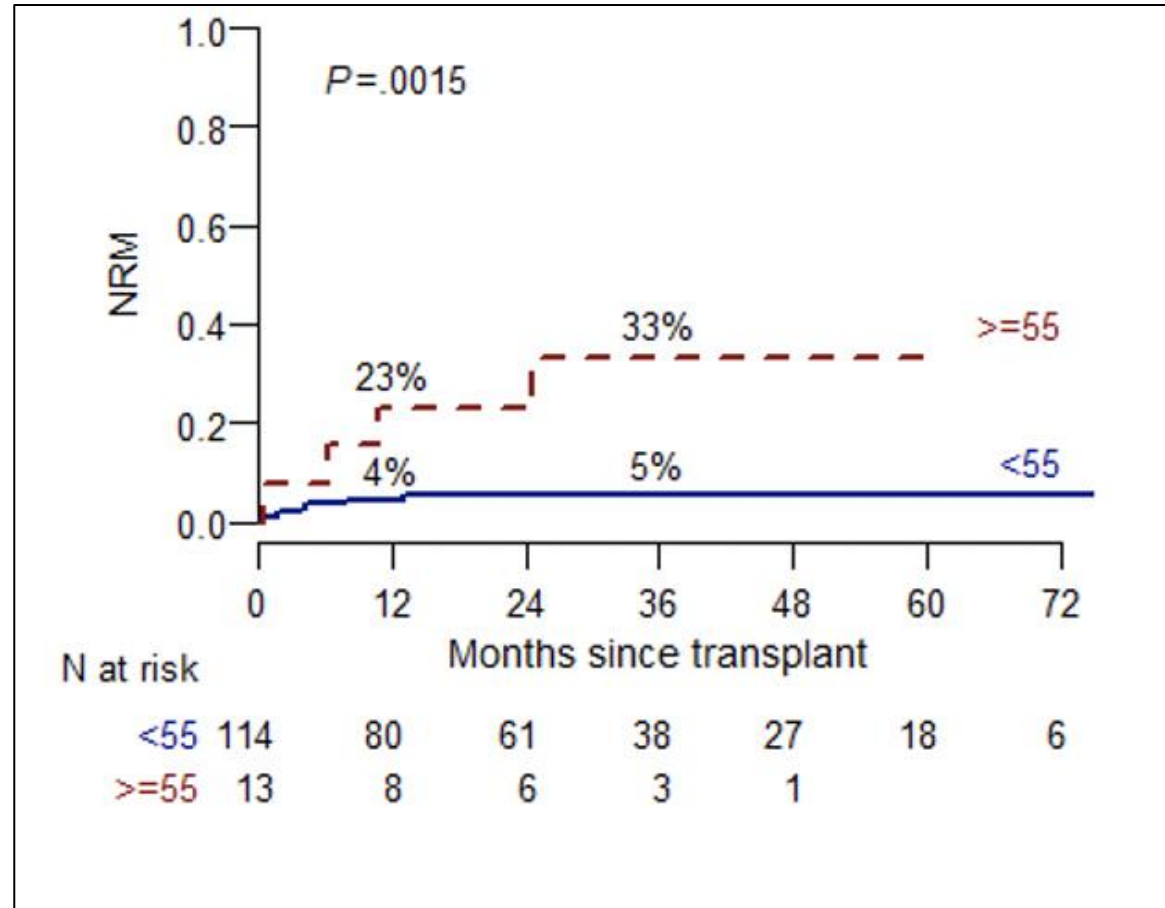
AlloHSCT in pediatric patients: the FORUM trial (TBI vs CHEMO)



Peters C et al. Journal of Clinical Oncology 2021 39295-307

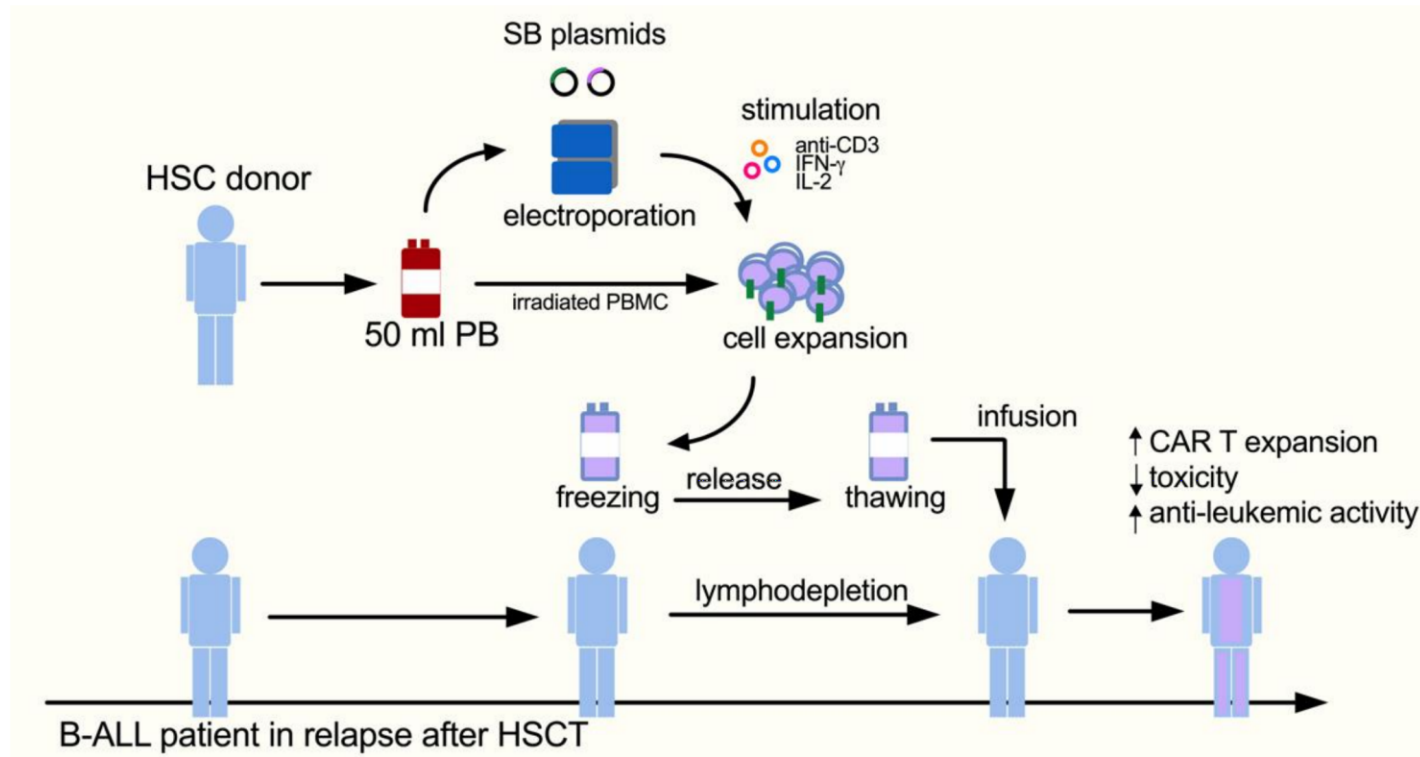
NRM in adult ALL patients receiving TBI

- Patients aged ≥ 55 years receiving TBI had a significantly higher NRM compared to the younger population (33% vs 5%, $p = .0015$)



DONOR-DERIVED CAR1K-CD19 CELLS ENGINEERED WITH SB TRANSPOSON IN B-ALL RELAPSED AFTER ALLO-SCT

36 adult and pediatric patients enrolled at 2 sites



Safety

- **CRS:** Grade 1-2 = 41%, Grade 3+ = 0%
- **ICANS:** Grade 1-2 = 3%; Grade 3+ = 0%
- **GVHD:** 0%

Magnani CF et al., J Clin Invest. 2020;130(11):6021-6033
Lussana F et al., Blood Cancer J. 2025;15(1):54.

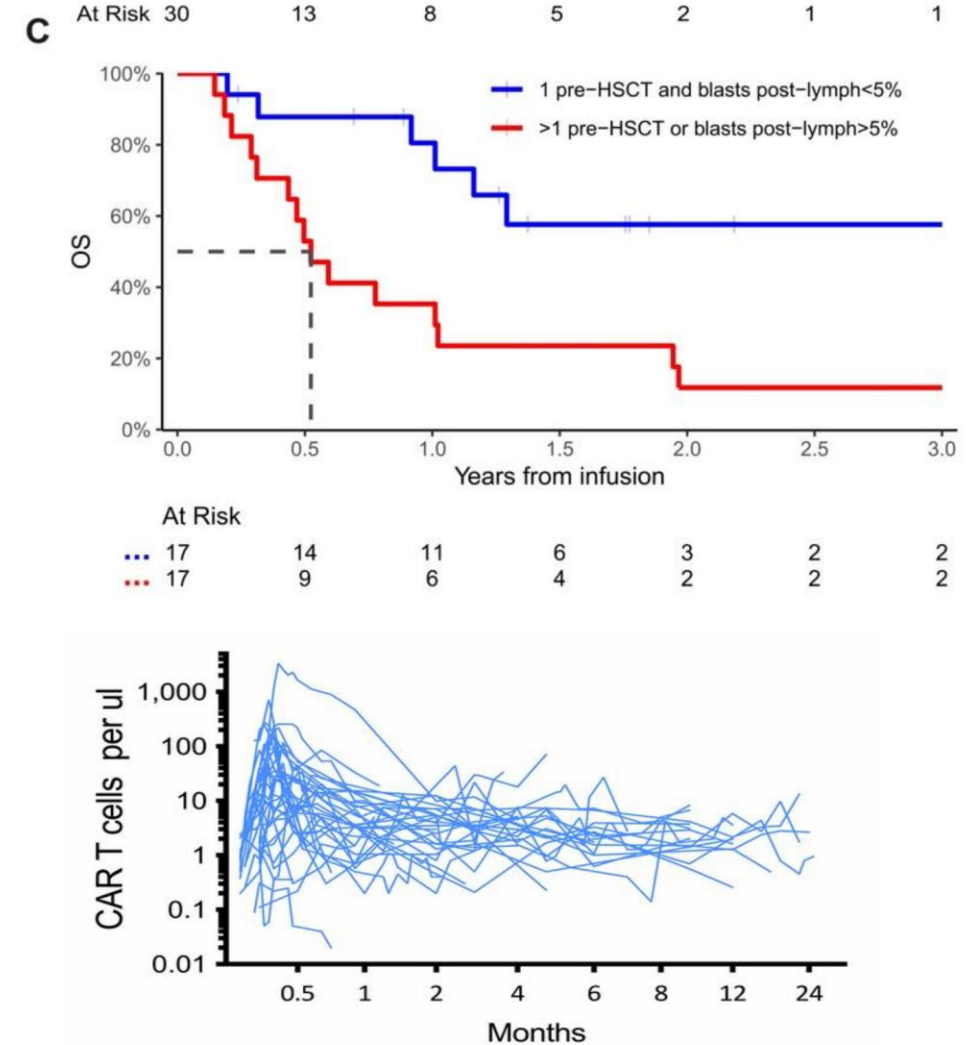
DONOR-DERIVED CARCIK-CD19 CELLS ENGINEERED WITH SB TRANSPOSON IN B-ALL RELAPSED AFTER ALLO-SCT

Efficacy

- Median follow-up 2.2 years
- 30/36 reached CR (83%)
- 86% were MRD-negative
 - 12 patients (33%) did not experience a relapse
 - 3 patients (25%) underwent a second alloHSCT
 - 6 patients (17%) are still disease-free without additional therapies (1 with CAR-T circulating after 40 months)
 - 3 died in CR

Magnani CF et al., J Clin Invest. 2020;130(11):6021-6033

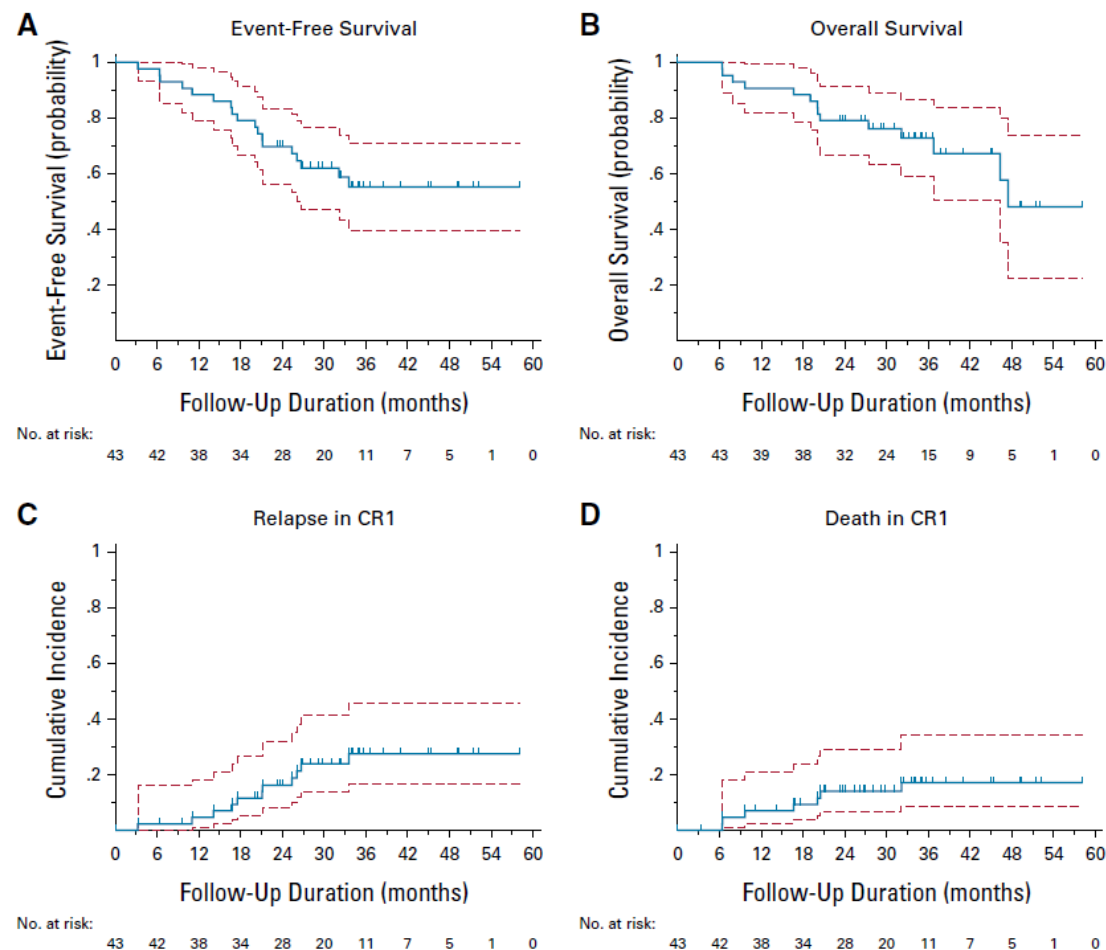
Lussana F et al., Blood Cancer J. 2025;15(1):54.



The treatment for the older patients

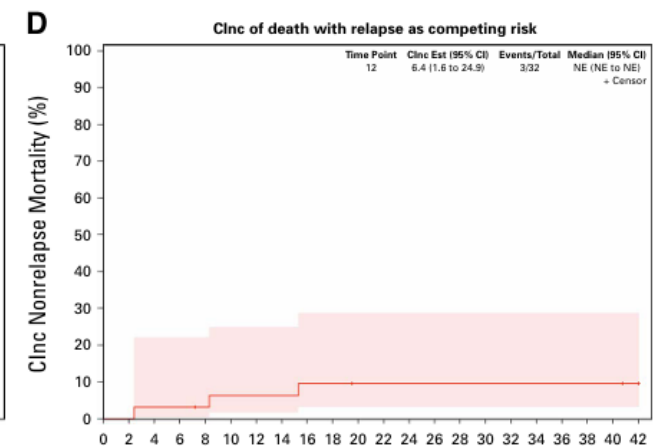
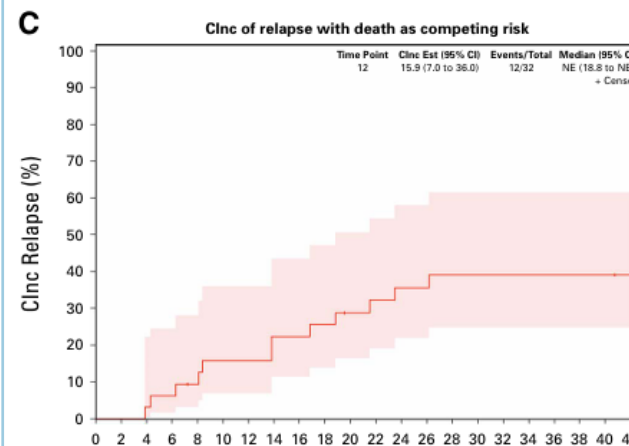
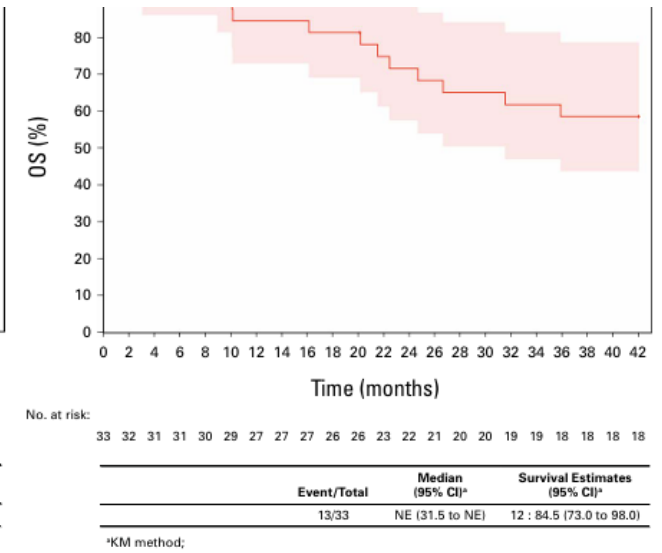
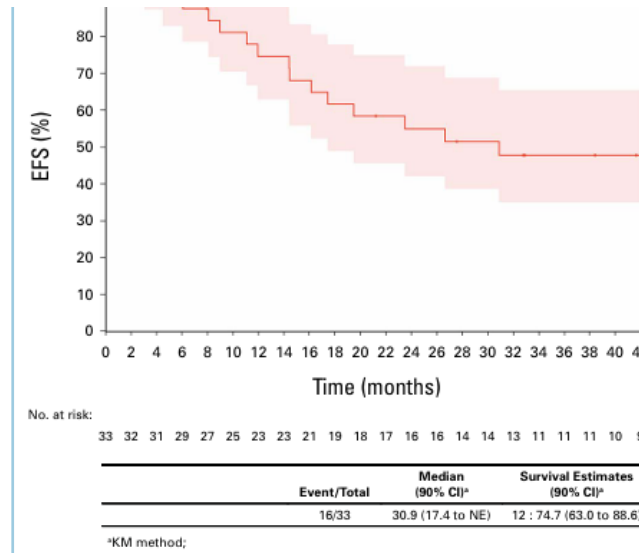
First-Line Inotuzumab Ozogamicin in Older Patients With BP-ALL

- 43 BP-ALL with a median age of 64 years (range, 56-80), two cycles of inotuzumab ozogamicin induction therapy.
- All patients achieved complete remission (CR/CR with incomplete hematologic recovery).
- (53%) and (71%) patients had no evidence of molecularly assessed MRD (minimum 10^{-4} threshold) after 2nd and 3rd inductions, respectively.
- After a median follow-up of 2.7 years, EFS at one (primary endpoint) and 3 years was 88% and 55% while overall survival (OS) was 91% and 73%, respectively.

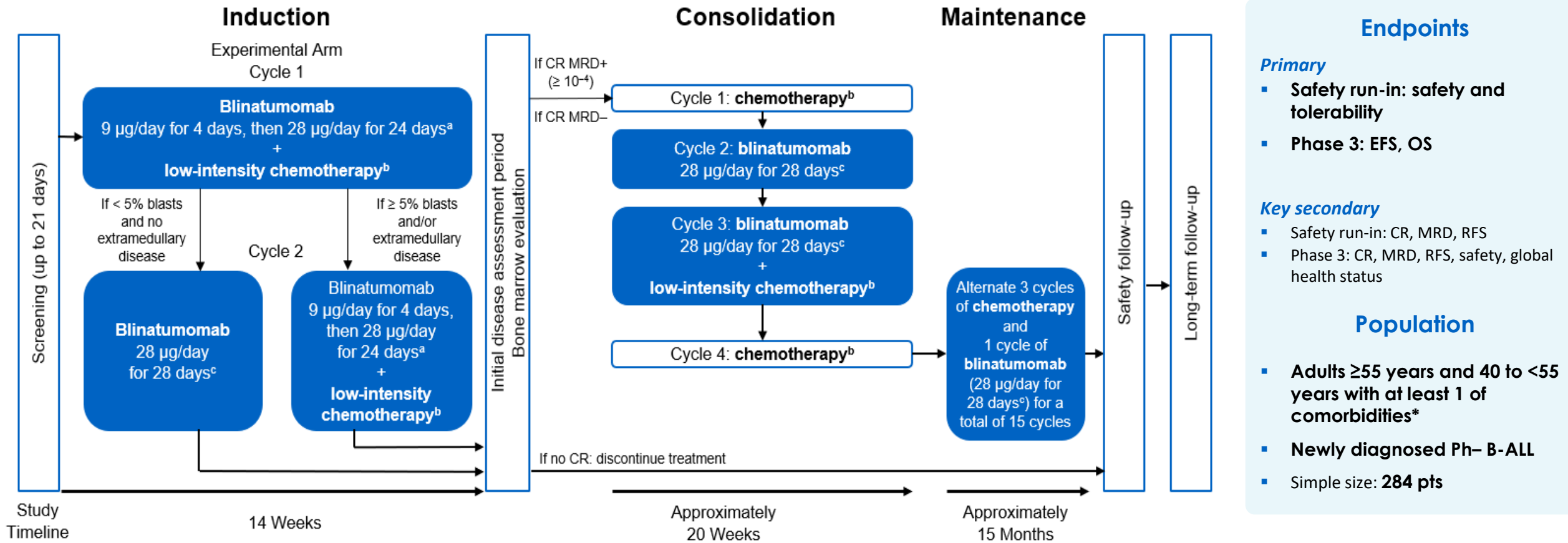


Inotuzumab Ozogamicin Then Blinatumomab for Older Adults With Newly Diagnosed B-Cell ALL: Alliance Study A041703 Cohort 1 Results

At a median follow-up of 30 months, the 1-year EFS and overall survival were 75% and 85%, respectively



Blinatumomab Alternating With Low-Intensity Chemotherapy (CT) Treatment for Older Adults With Newly Diagnosed Philadelphia (Ph)-Negative BCP-ALL: the Phase 3 Randomized Controlled Golden Gate Study



Endpoints

Primary

- Safety run-in: safety and tolerability
- Phase 3: EFS, OS

Key secondary

- Safety run-in: CR, MRD, RFS
- Phase 3: CR, MRD, RFS, safety, global health status

Population

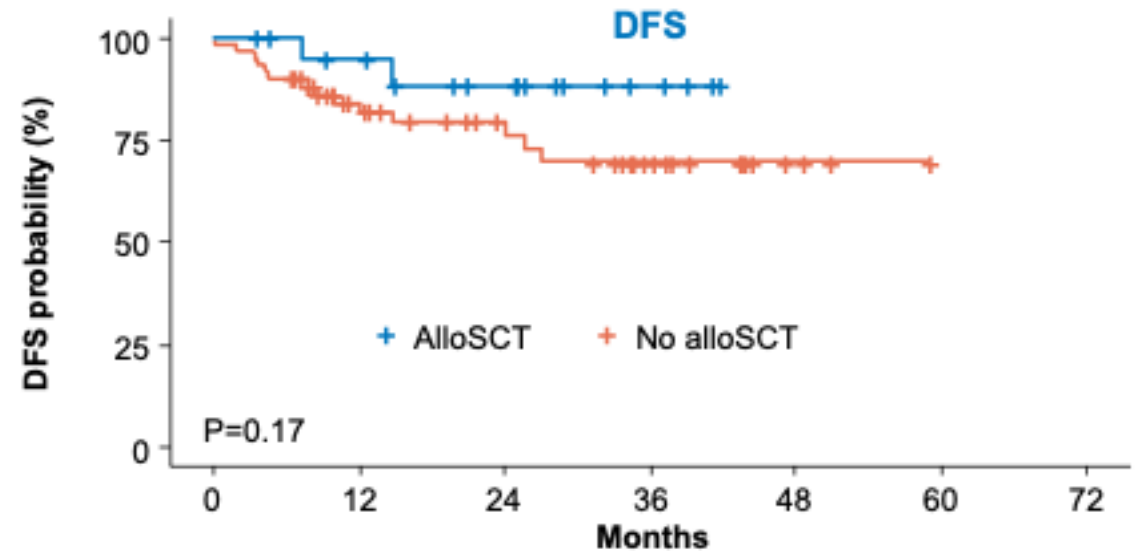
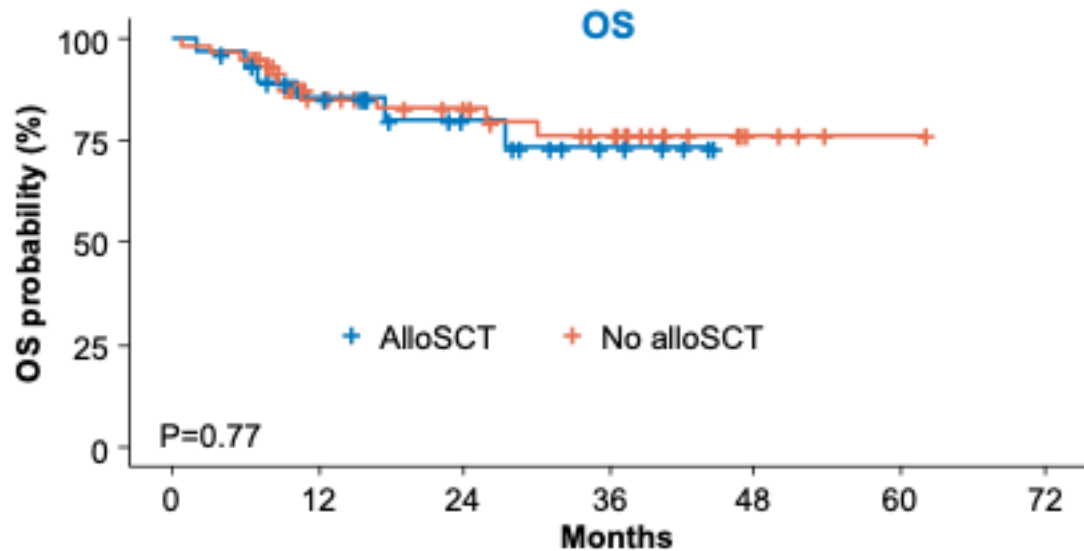
- Adults ≥55 years and 40 to <55 years with at least 1 of comorbidities*
- Newly diagnosed Ph- B-ALL
- Simple size: 284 pts

• Jabbour, e et al.: Blood (2022) 140 (Supplement 1): 6134–6136.

**What about the “lucky patients” with a Ph+ ALL?
Moving on from the incredible recent past to the
future!**

OS and DFS of allografted and non-allografted patients

(median [range] follow-up: 40 [0.9–62.5] months)



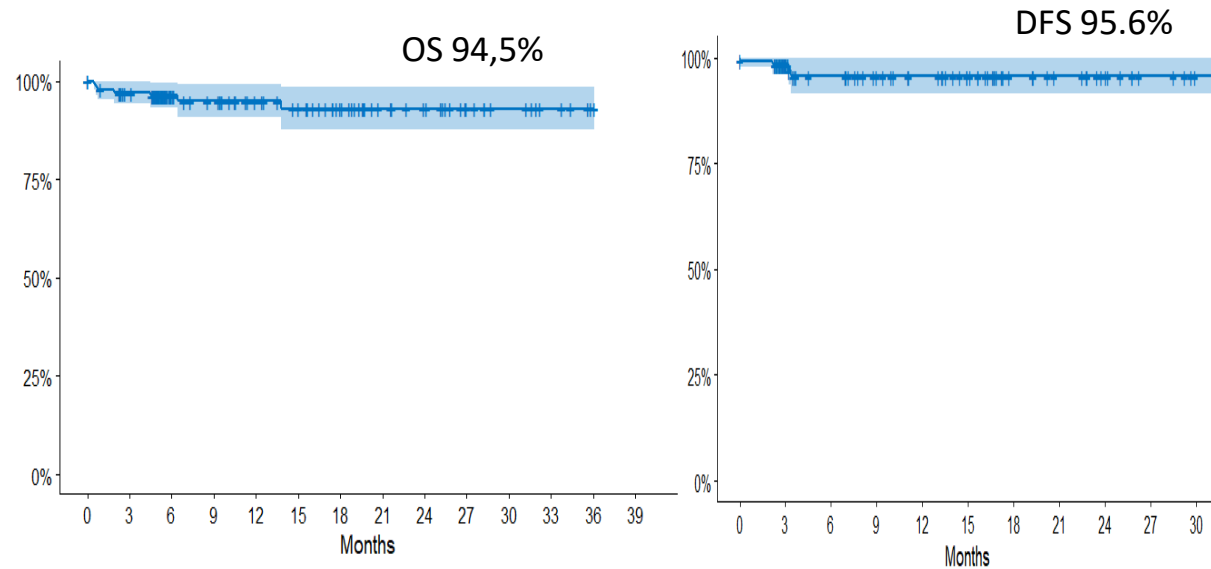
- After blinatumomab treatment, 29 patients continued treatment with a TKI (72% with dasatinib)
- **46% of patients underwent alloSCT**; out of these, 6 were in second CHR

- Relapse was seen in 9 patients
 - 4 were hematologic relapses, 4 CNS, and 1 nodal relapse
 - Median time to relapse was 4.4 months (1.9–25.8)
- 6 deaths were reported in first CHR, of which 3 occurred after alloSCT

GIMEMA D-ALBA trial. Median age 54 (24–82)

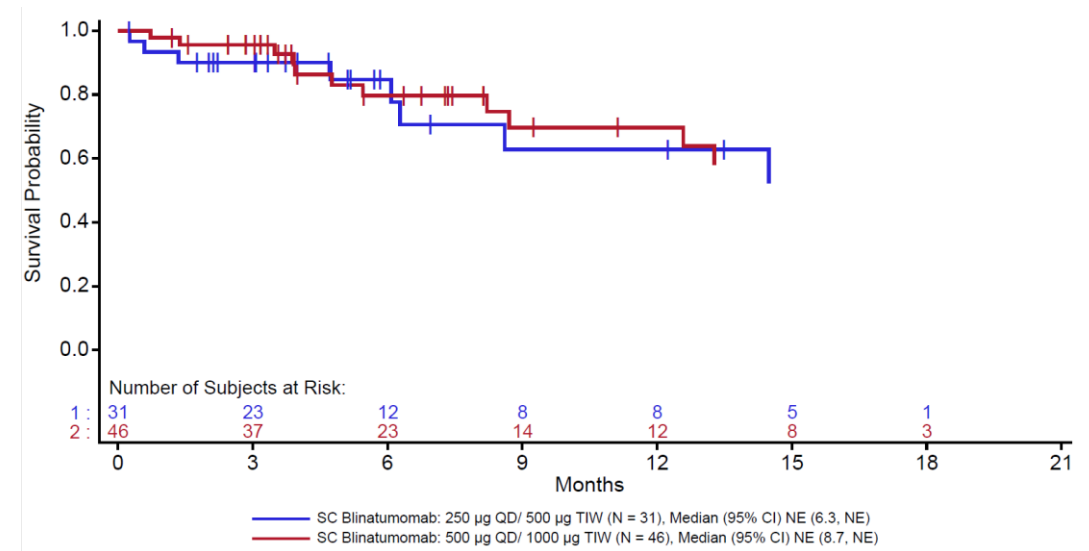
The GIMEMA 2820 clinical trial: OS, DFS, and response rates in the experimental arm

GIMEMA ALL 2820 trial



- Patients elected to AlloHSCT: about 20%

Combining a TKI to subcutaneous blinatumomab



Jabbour E, Lussana F et al. Lancet Haematol 2025

Conclusions

- In Ph negative adult ALL, pediatric inspired chemotherapy programs with the addition of front-line blinatumomab led to a significant improvement in the outcome of adult
- Patients at high risk of relapse due to molecular or cytogenetics adverse features and lack of early MRD clearance should be referred to alloHSCT as soon as possible since transplant remains a curative treatment option for chemo-resistant patients
- The achievement of molecular remission before transplant is recommended. Post transplant immunotherapy may represent another important treatment option
- For older patients the primary goal is to avoid unnecessary toxicity and to offer immunotherapy as soon as possible
- In patients timely selected to transplant, the NRM has declined