2nd edition Unmet challenges in high risk hematological malignancies: from benchside to clinical practice

Turin, September 13-14, 2021 Starhotels Majestic *Scientific board:* **Marco Ladetto** (Alessandria) **Umberto Vitolo** (Candiolo-TO)

Biological identification of high risk Mantle Cell Lymphoma

and the statement and the

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Clinical-Experimental Hematology, Department of Hematology and Oncology University Hospital Schleswig-Holstein, Germany ^{2nd} edition Unmet challenges in high risk hematological malignancies: from benchside to clinical practice

Conflict of interest

• No conflict of interest

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Model of molecular pathogenesis in MCL



Swerdlow S.H. et al WHO 2018

Model of molecular pathogenesis in MCL



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Cytology of MCL



MCL: two major subgroups (WHO 2016)

Nodal MCL

nodal and leukemic involvement

Leukemic non-nodal MCL

• Clinically leukemic presentation and splenomegally

- Cell of origin naive B-cell
- No germinal center reactions
- unmutated IGHV
- SOX-11 overexpression
- Higher degree of genomic instability (ATM, CDKN2A, chromotin modifier mutations
- 10-20% of MCL
- Cell of origin is memory B cells with mutated IGHV
- SOX-11 negative
- genomic stability few epigenetic modifications
- germinal center experienced B-cell

Swerdlow SH et al. The 2016 revision of the WHO classification of lymphoid neoplasms. Blood. 2016;127(20):2375-2390.

Treatment options: what did we achieve ? Current treatment standards

Overall survival with ASCT ± maintenance

Survival rates from randomization following ASCT*1,2



Overall survival without ASCT ± maintenance

Survival rates from second or first randomization, respectively*3,4



*Tick marks indicate censored data; shaded areas 95% confidence intervals. IFN, interferon; R, rituximab; R-CHOP, rituximab, cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, vincristine, prednisone; VR-CAP, rituximab, cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, bortezomib, prednisone. 1. Le Gouill S, *et al.* N Engl J Med 2017;377:1250–1260; 2. Hermine O, *et al.* Lancet 2016;388:565–575; 3. Kluin-Nelemans HC, *et al.* J Clin Oncol 2019;38:248–256; 4. Robak T, *et al.* Lancet Oncol 2018;19:1449–1458.

Unmet medical need in MCL - Younger patients -





Outcome of patients from the MCL2 and MCL3 trials after POD

Eskelund Hemasphere 2020

Prognostic markers for MCL – identification of risk groups



MIPI is a strong indicator of prognosis and OS in patients with MCL



Hoster E, et al. Blood 2008;111:558-565.

Prognostic markers for MCL – identification of risk groups



EU-MCL network study: Proliferation as predictor of outcome



Tiemann BJH 2005

EU-MCL network study: Modified combination of the Ki-67 index and MIPI

 years from start of therapy

probability

0.0

Numbers At Risk

З

Overall survival

MIPI low, Ki67 <30%

MIPI low, Ki67>30% MIPI intermediate, Ki67<30%

MIPI high, Ki67<30% MIPI intermediate, Ki67>30%

MIPI high, Ki67 >30%

Hoster et al, JCO 2016

Proliferation: a key marker for outcome

Identifying subgroups via a proliferation signature-based score



Rauert-Wunderlich Br J Haematol 2019

Proliferation: a key marker for outcome

Identifying subgroups via a proliferation signature-based score



Rauert-Wunderlich Br J Haematol 2019

Genetic complexity: a keymarker for outcome

Complex karyotype in patients with MCL predicts inferior survival and poor response to intensive induction therapy



Greenwell et al. Cancer 2018, 124(11), 2306-2315

Recurrent mutations and SNV in MCL



Beà et al. Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A. 2013



Zhang et al. Blood 2014



Rahal et al. Nat Med 2014

recurrent mutations in MCL >5%

- DNA repair genes and cell cycle regulators TP53, ATM, CCND1
- epigenetic regulation genes KMT2D, WHSC1
- cell-signaling pathways genes NOTCH1-2, BIRC3, TRAF2

Recurrent mutations and SNV in MCL



	MSKCC	Nordic	FIL
ATM	49%	27%	42%
TP53	22%	11%	8%
KMT2D	20%	14%	12%
CCND1	20%	9%	12%
WHSC1	12%	6%	16%
BIRC3	13 (8%)	4%	6%
NOTCH1	13 (8%)	4%	8%

1. Joffe E Blood (2019) 134 (Supplement_1) : 22.

2. Eskelund, C. et. al. Blood Oct 26;130(17):1903-1910

3. Ferrero, S., et al. Haematologica, 2019

TP53 mutations: a keymarker for outcome



TP53 changes are significantly enriched in known high risk features:

- 48.3% of the TP53 disrupted patients had Ki-67 ≥30%,
- 37.9% scored in the higher MIPI-c risk classes (i.e. "intermediate-high" and "high"
- 22.6% with blastoid morphology

Joffe E Blood (2019) 134 (Supplement_1) : 22.
Eskelund, C. et. al. Blood Oct 26;130(17):1903-1910
Ferrero, S., et al. Haematologica, 2019

Expression of TP53 is associated with outcome in MCL Results of the EU-MCL studies



Aukema S Blood 2018

TP53mut patients experience early POD and may not benefit from autologous SCT



Joffe E Blood (2019) 134 (Supplement_1) : 22.



Ferrero, S., et al. Haematologica, 2019

MIPI+: the MIPI-g concept

Scoring of MIPI-c groups and KMT2D and TP53 disruptions and grouping into 3 risk classes

- 0 points, low risk group (LR 121 patients70.3%);
- 1-2 points, intermediate risk group (IR 38 patients, 22.1%);
- ≥3 points high risk group (HR 13 patients, 7.6%)



	MIPI-g	MIPI-c
PFS	0.675	0.592
OS	0.776	0.700

Ferrero, S., et al. Haematologica, 2019



MCL0208 phase 3 trial



(aCGH)

4CNVs associated with a shorter PFS after multivariate analysis





4CNVs split MIPI-g low risk patient





A novel "genetics-only" score (MIPI-go)

Variables	HR	p value	Point
KMT2D mutations	2.43	0.012	1
TP53 disruption	2.63	0.003	1
MIPI-c high risk	1.42	0.382	0
4CNV	2.56	0.002	1







C-index		MIPI-g	MIPI-go
	PFS	0.675	0.715
	OS	0.776	0.782

Clinical, molecular and histological features of MCL at diagnosis

	Ultra-high-risk MCL	High-risk MCL	Standard risk classic/nodular MCL	Non-nodular indolent MCL
ular features	TP53 mutated with other high-risk gene mutations (KMT2D, NSD2,CCND1, NOTCH1, CDKN2A, NOTCH2, SMARCA4)	High karyotype complexity <i>TP53</i> mutated with high variant allele frequency (>10%) or del(17p) by FISH	Normal karyotype	Low karyotype complexity
Molec	Few or no mutations of IGHV			Hypermutated IGHV
	High expression of SOX11	High expression of SOX11	High expression of SOX11	Very low or no expression of <i>SOX11</i>
Histology	<i>De novo</i> blastoid/pleomorphic histology K-i67 >30% issues with blastoid/ pleomorphic histology	Blastoid/pleomorphic histology Ki-67 >30% in classic histology	Classical histology Ki-67 <30%	Restricted to mantle zone of lymphoid follicles However, blood and spleen involvement may be noted
Clinical features	Bulky disease, clinically aggressive course	Bulky disease, clinically aggressive course	Bulky or non-bulky disease	Low-risk MIPI Leukemic non-nodal disease

1. Jain P, Wang M. Am J Hematol 2019;94:710–725;

Fernandez V, et al. Cancer Res 2010;70:1408–1418;
Sakhdari A. Ann Diagn Patho 2019;41:38–42.

Prognostic markers for MCL – identification of risk groups



Prognostic impact of MRD in MCL

European MCL Younger trial:

Remission Duration according to MRD Status after ASCT



n = 231





Hermine Lancet 2016



European MCL trials: Landmark Analysis: PFS and OS of patients in remission after ASCT (MCL Younger) or postinduction (MCL Elderly).

406 pats. In first remission 406 (67%) 225 Younger and 151 Elderly.

Cox regression: independent of MIPI, trial and treatment arm



Summary

- Pretherapeutic risk stratification is well established in MCL
 - Ki67 >30%, blastoid histology, TP53 alterations have been validated in clinical studies
- The MIPI- + concept defining clinico- biological subroups should be refined as basis for clinical trials
- Harmonization of diagnostic methods is needed for clinical trials
- MRD is an independent prognostic factor indicating early relapse after treatment
- Clinical trials focussing on high risk MCL are needed
 - Critical: turn around time, validated methods

