

1<sup>ST</sup> INTERNATIONAL  
CONFERENCE ON

# Ph+Leukemias



**Bologna**, Royal Hotel Carlton

**September 29-30, 2025**

## **New immunotherapy strategies in Ph+ ALL**

Federico Lussana

Dipartimento di Oncologia-Ematologia Università degli Studi di Milano e  
Azienda Socio Sanitaria Territoriale Papa Giovanni XXIII, Bergamo

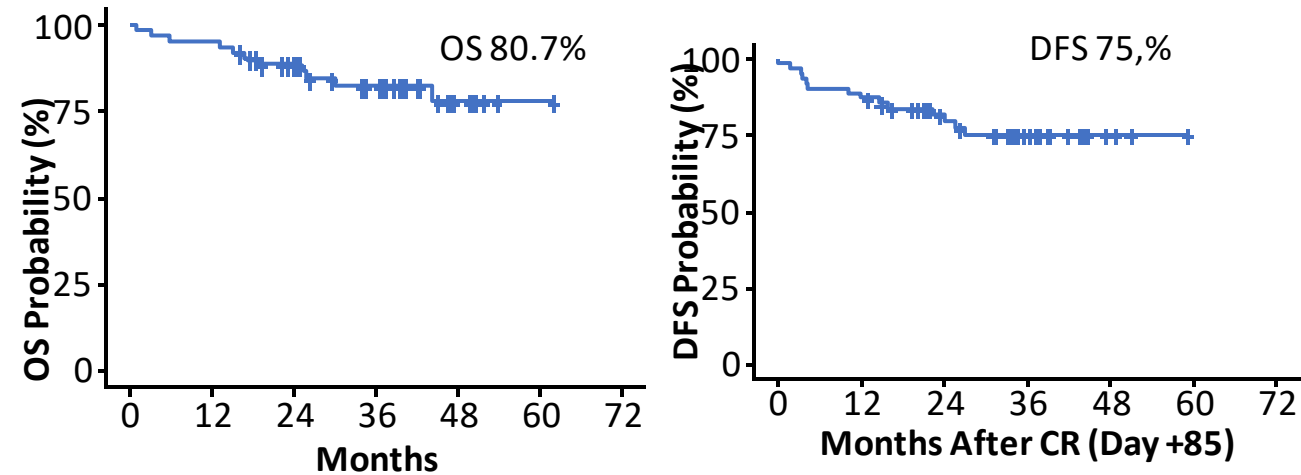
## Disclosures Federico Lussana

Company name	Research support	Employee	Consultant	Stockholder	Speakers bureau	Advisory board	Other
Abbvie					x	x	
Amgen					x	x	
Clinigen						x	
Incyte					x		
Jazz Pharmaceuticals					x		
Pfizer					x	x	



# Efficacy of a chemo-free induction-consolidation strategy in Ph+ ALL

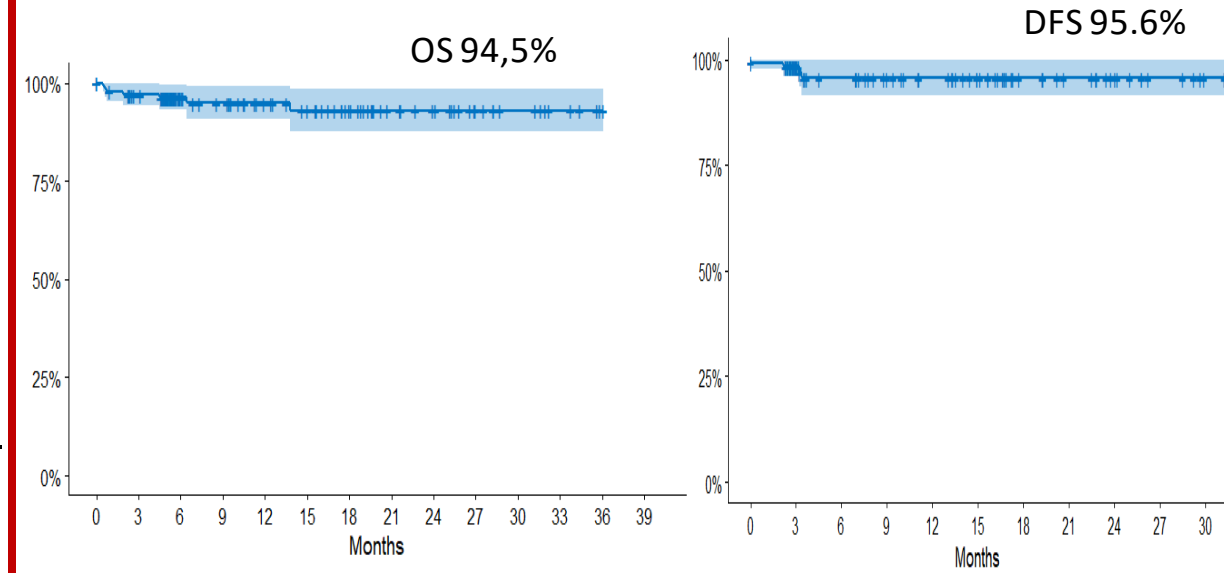
## GIMEMA D-ALBA trial



- Median FU: 53 months
- Primary endpoint: MRD negativity after 2 Blinatumomab cycles

Foà R et al. NEJM 2020 &. *J Clin Oncol.* **2024**;42:881-885.

## GIMEMA ALL 2820 trial



- Median FU: 8.5 months
- Primary endpoint: MRD negativity after 2 Blinatumomab cycles

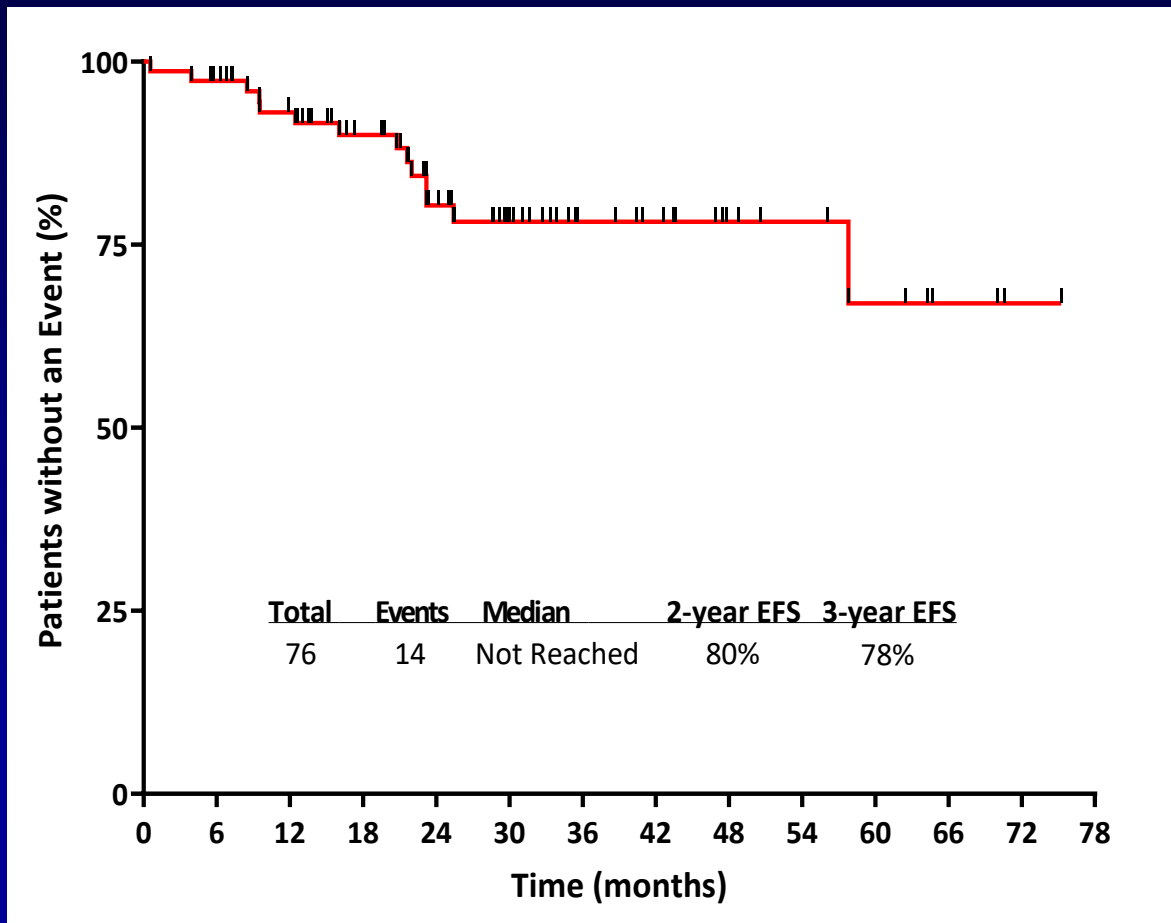
Chiaretti et al, abs 835, ASH 2024



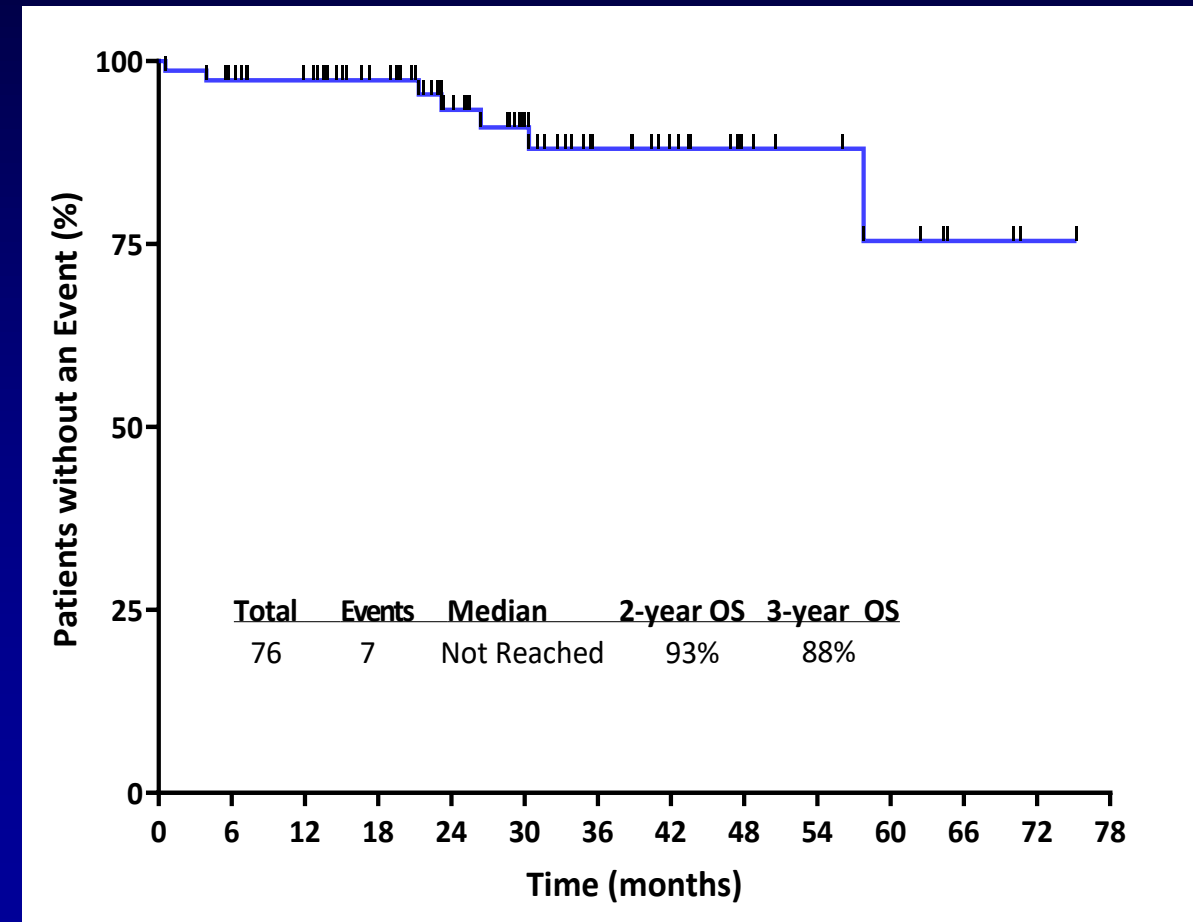
# Ponatinib + Blinatumomab in Ph+ ALL: Survival Outcomes

Median follow-up: 29 months (range, 5-75 months)

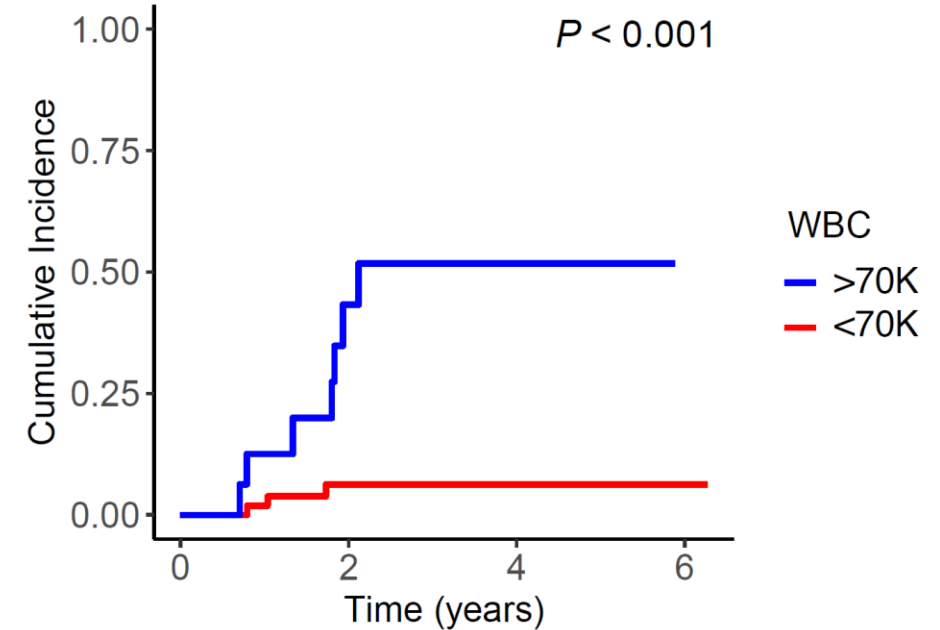
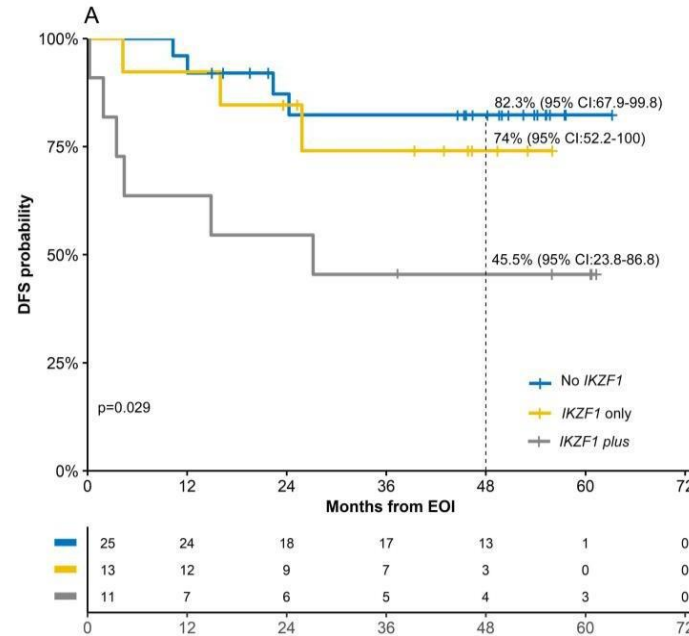
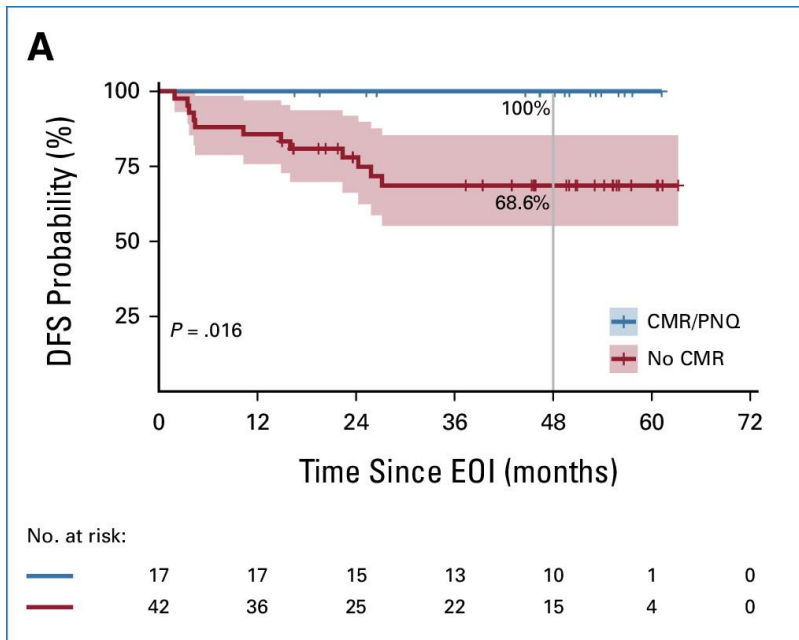
## Event-Free Survival



## Overall Survival



# Special concerns for patients receiving chemo-free strategies



- MRD
- *IKZF1*<sup>plus</sup>
- WBC >70K
- CNS disease

Foà R et al. NEJM 2020 & J Clin Oncol. 2024;42:881-885; Kantarjian H et al, JCO 2024



# Can new immunotherapies improve these results?

1. Combining new TKIs with immunotherapies
2. New CD19 BITEs
3. CAR-T cells used upfront and new constructs





# A phase I study of asciminib in combination with dasatinib, prednisone, and blinatumomab for Ph+ ALL in adults

## Eligibility

≥ 18 years  
Ph+ acute leukemia  
Newly diagnosed

## DLT definition

CTCAE v 5 non-heme toxicity gr 3+ during first combination cycle

## Induction (28 days)

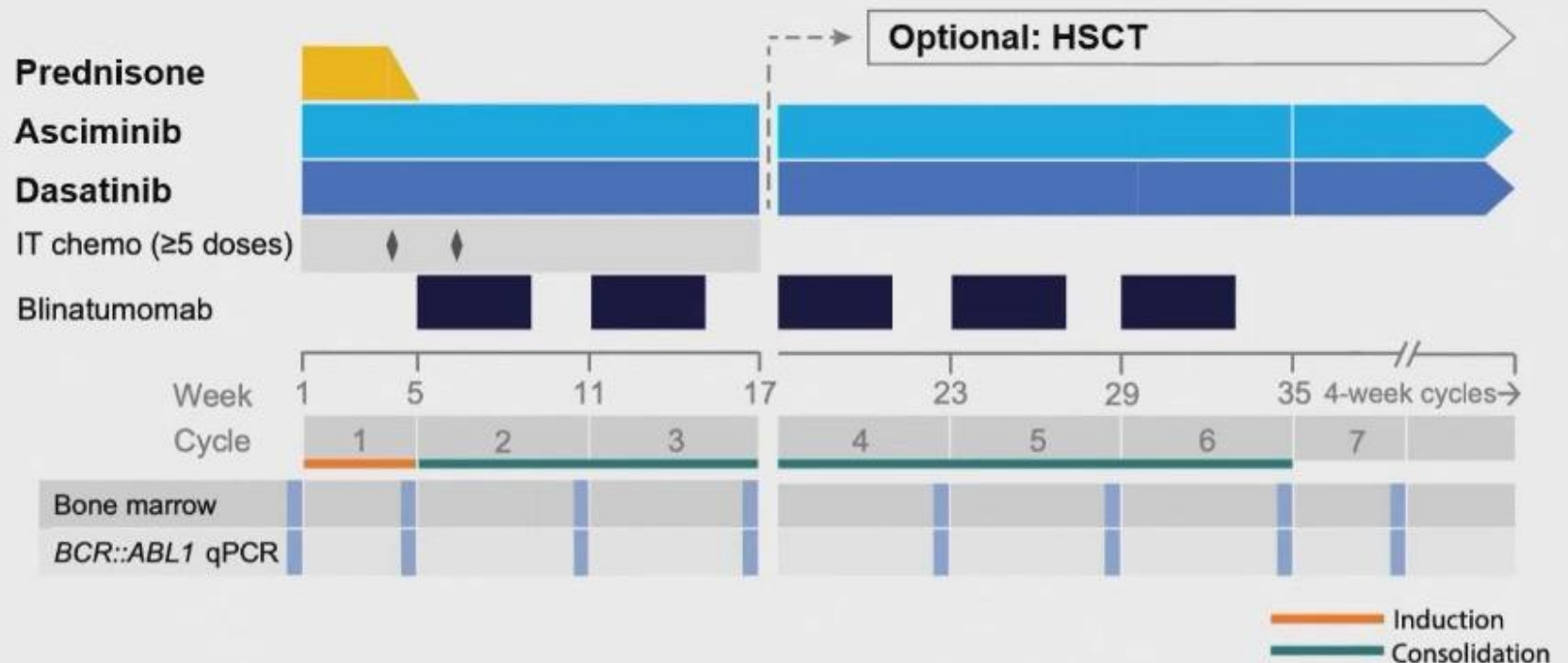
Asciminib 80 mg daily  
Dasatinib 140 mg daily  
Prednisone 60 mg/m<sup>2</sup> days 1-24

## Consolidation

Asciminib 80 mg daily  
Dasatinib 140 mg daily  
**Blinatumomab 28 mcg/day  
days 1-28/42-day cycle x 5**

## Maintenance

Asciminib 80 mg daily  
Dasatinib 140 mg daily



# Patients' characteristics

- Cohort enrolled 08/2023 – 09/2024 (data cut-off 04/02/25)

	Overall (n=15)
<b>Age (years); median [min, max]</b>	62 (25, 83)
<b>≥ 60 years</b>	<b>13 (87%)</b>
<b>Sex</b>	
Male	9 (60%)
Female	6 (40%)
<b>Race</b>	
White	13 (86.7%)
Black	1 (6.7%)
Other	1 (6.7%)
<b>Ethnicity</b>	
Non-Hispanic	14 (93.3%)
Hispanic	1 (6.7%)

	Overall (n=15)
<b>Diagnosis</b>	
<i>De novo</i> ALL	13 (86.7%)
CML blast crisis	2 (13.3%)
<b><i>BCR::ABL1</i> isoform</b>	
p190	11 (73.3%)
p210	4 (26.7%)
<b><i>IKZF1</i> plus</b>	
No	9 (60.0%)
Yes	5 (33.3%)
Unknown	1 (6.7%)
<b>WBC; median (min, max)</b>	11.1 (1.5, 176)
≥ 50 K/ $\mu$ L	3 (20%)



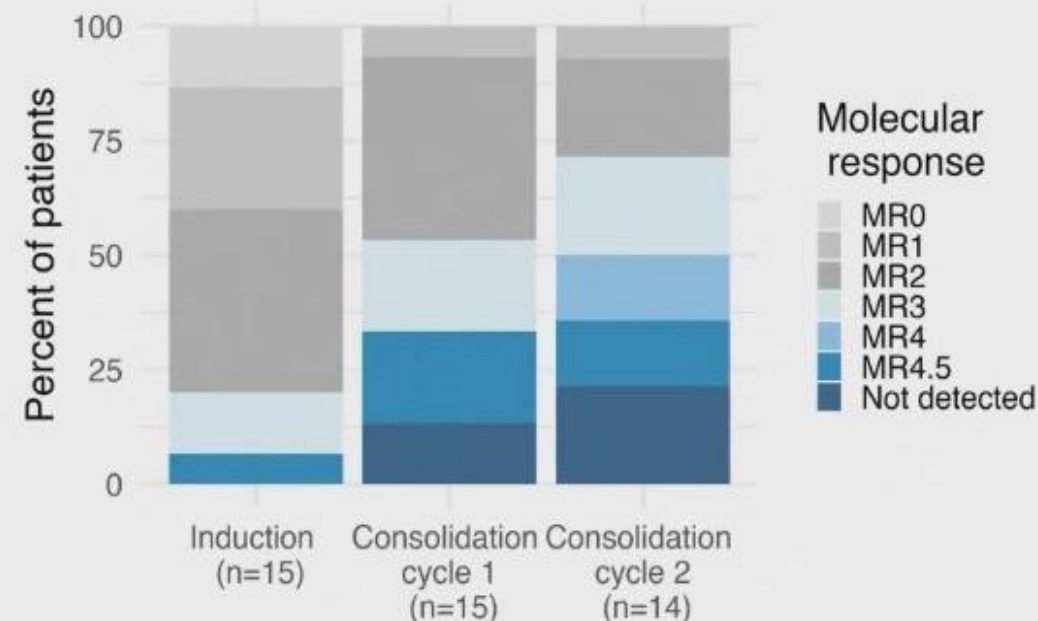
# Responses

	Induction (asciminib, dasatinib, prednisone)	Blinatumomab Cycle 1 (asciminib, dasatinib, blinatumomab)	Blinatumomab Cycle 2 (asciminib, dasatinib, blinatumomab)&
<b>Hematologic CR</b>	<b>100% (15/15)</b>	<b>100% (15/15)</b>	<b>100% (14/14)</b>
<b>Cytogenetic CR</b>	<b>86% (12/14)<sup>#</sup></b>	<b>100% (15/15)</b>	<b>100% (14/14)</b>
<b>Flow MRD Negativity (&lt;10<sup>-4</sup>)</b>	<b>79% (11/14)<sup>\$</sup></b>	<b>100% (15/15)</b>	<b>100% (14/14)</b>
<b><i>BCR::ABL1 MRD response</i></b>			
MR1	87% (13/15)	100% (15/15)	100% (14/14)
MR2	60% (9/15)	93% (14/15)	93% (13/14)
MR3	20% (3/15)	53% (8/15)	71% (10/14)
MR4	7% (1/15)	40% (5/15)	50% (7/14)
MR4.5	7% (1/15)	40% (5/15)	36% (5/14)
Not detected	0% (0/15)	13% (2/15)	21% (3/14)
<b><i>IGH NGS response*</i></b>			
<10 <sup>-4</sup>	67% (6/9) <sup>%</sup>	92% (12/13)	100% (13/13)
<10 <sup>-6</sup> (0-<1 transcripts)	33% (3/9) <sup>%</sup>	77% (10/13)	85% (11/13)

\*clonoSeq assay, 2 of 15 patients not trackable by this assay; %4 patients not assessed after Induction

<sup>#</sup>failed karyotype; <sup>\$</sup>missed assessment; &1 patient did not receive this cycle

## *BCR::ABL1* response

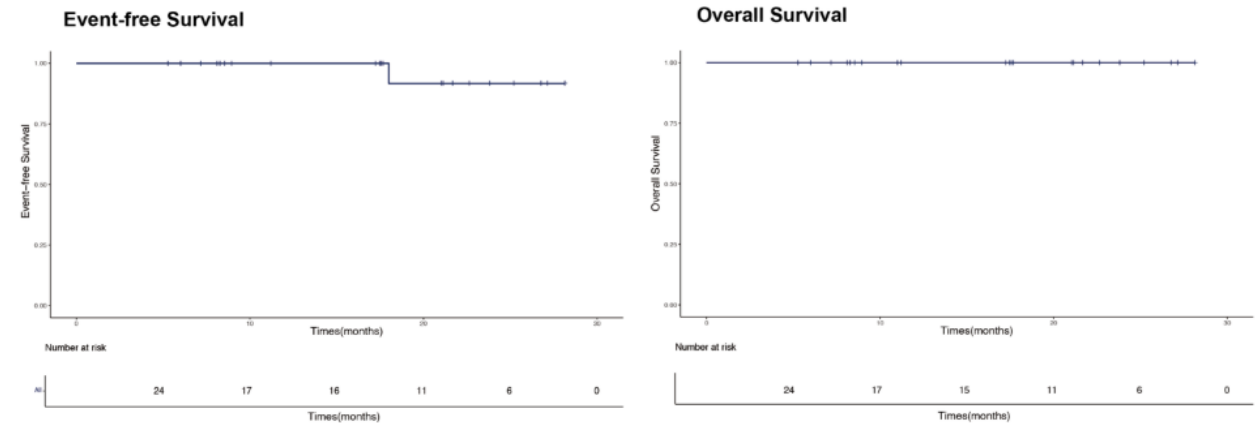
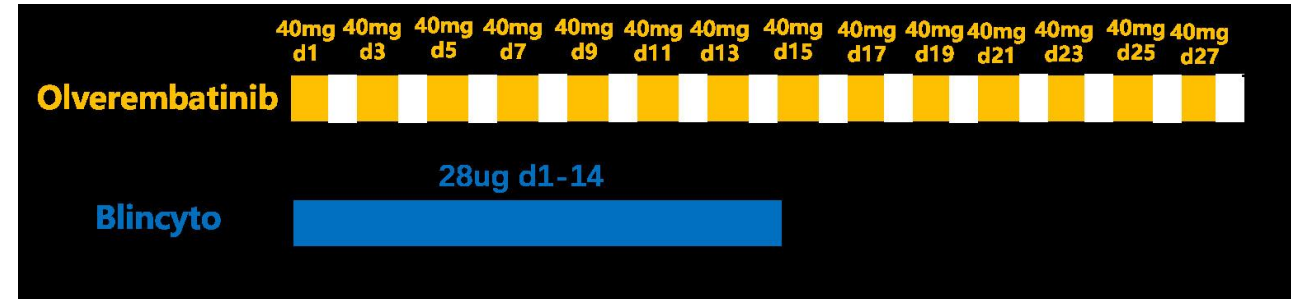


Central testing at Brigham and Women's Hospital Center for Advanced Molecular Diagnostics: *BCR::ABL1* mRNA RT-qPCR.

- p190 limit of detection = 0.001% (MR5)
- p210 limit of detection = 0.002% (MR4.7)

# OLVEREMBATINIB AND BLINATUMOMAB FOR THE FRONTLINE TREATMENT OF Ph-POS OR Ph-LIKE ALL

- 24 patients (19 with Ph-positive ALL and 5 with ABL-class Ph-like ALL)
- Patients received olverembatinib (40mg once every other day) and blinatumomab (administered for 2 weeks followed by a two-week break)
- All patients (100%) achieved CR following one cycle of treatment.
- At 18 months, the OS rate was 100%, and the EFS rate was 91.6%.
- No dose interruptions or cardiovascular toxicities were observed.

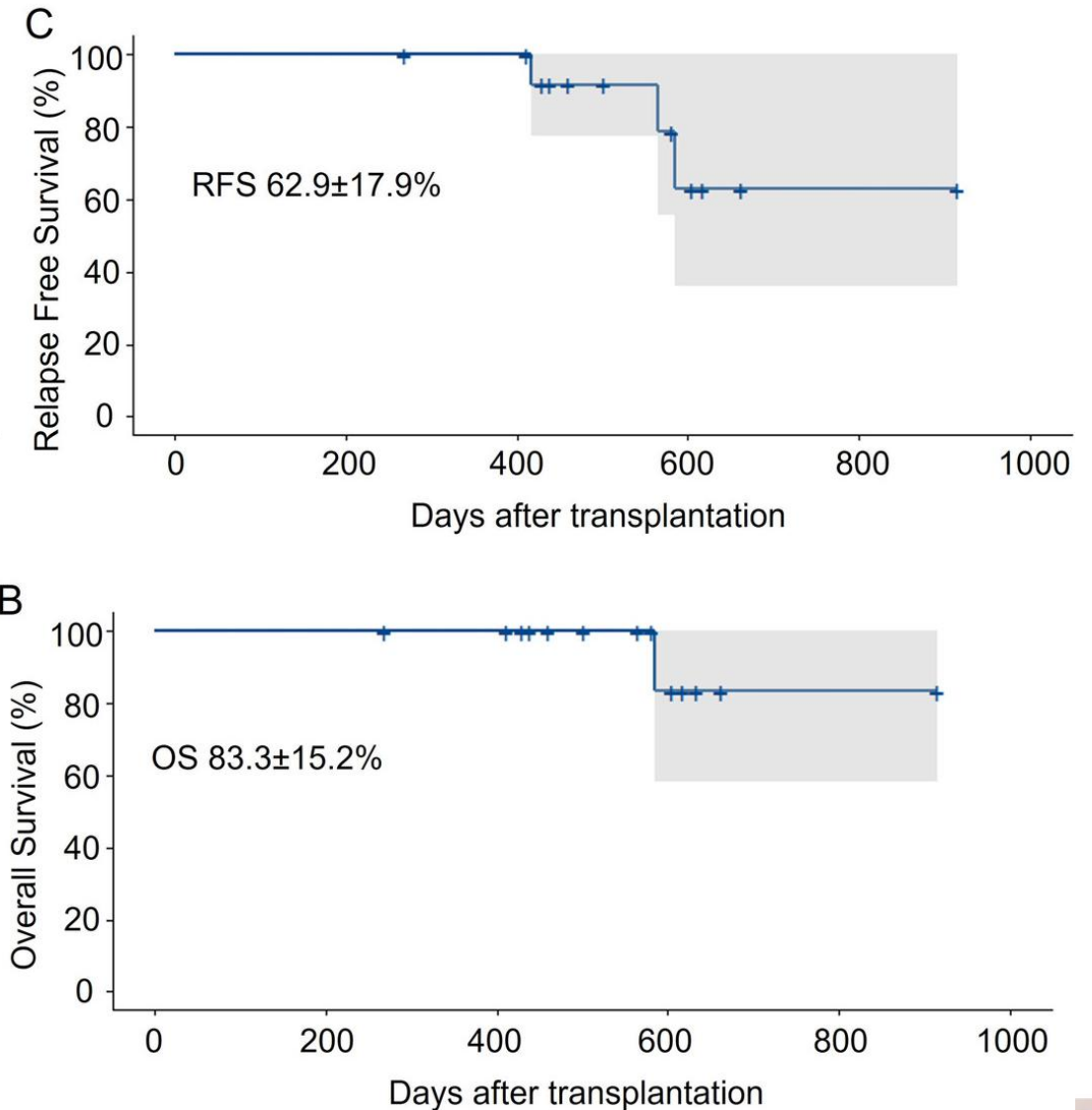


EHA Library. Xu X. 06/14/2025; 4160443; PS1367

# Olverembatinib in Combination With Inotuzumab Ozogamicin for the Treatment of Adult Ph+ ALL Patients With R/R Disease or Persistent MRD

- Phase 2 study of 14 patients, 5 had hematological relapse and 9 MRD pos
- Therapy: olverembatinib (40 mg QOD, d1-28) combined with INO (0.6 mg/m<sup>2</sup>, d1, d8 per 28-day cycle)
- Enrolled patients received a maximum of two treatment cycles before proceeding to HSCT
- 2-year OS rate and RFS rate were 83.3% ± 15.2% and 62.9% ± 17.9%, respectively
- 9 patients (64.3%) successfully underwent bridged HSCT with no cases of VOD and a 100-day post-transplantation mortality of 0%.

Zhang X et al. American J Hematol, 2025,



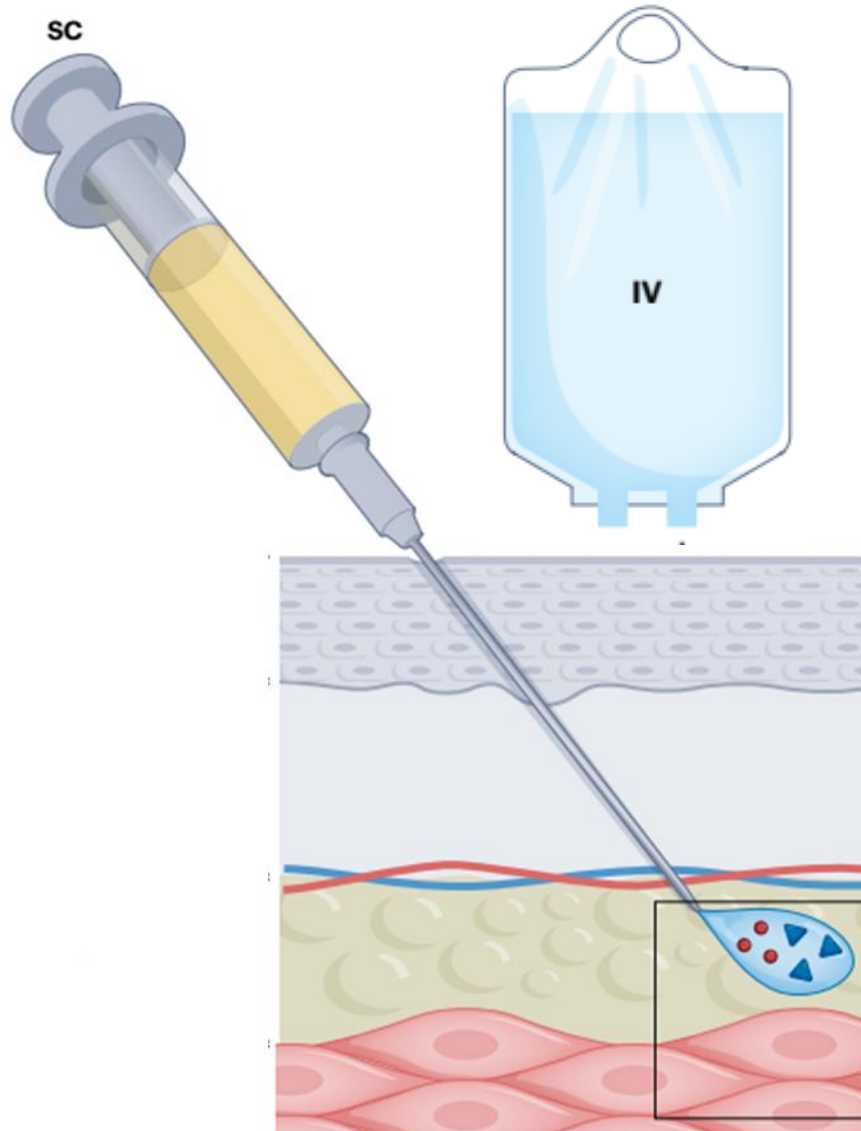
## New immunotherapy strategies:

1. Combining new TKIs with immunotherapies
- 2. New CD19 BITEs**
3. CAR-T cells used upfront and new constructs





# Subcutaneous (SC) Administration of Blinatumomab



Blinatumomab as a continuous IV infusion is a standard treatment regimen utilized in patients with R/R B-ALL

**SC delivery of blinatumomab was developed to evaluate higher doses with an aim to further improve efficacy and simplify administration to enhance convenience for patients**



**Can simplify administration, improve convenience, reduce treatment burden, and decrease cost for patients**



**Eliminate the need for a central line or continuous venous access and an infusion device (pump)**



**Abrogate the risk of device-related complications such as overdose caused by incorrect pump settings and dose interruptions from intravenous line occlusion**



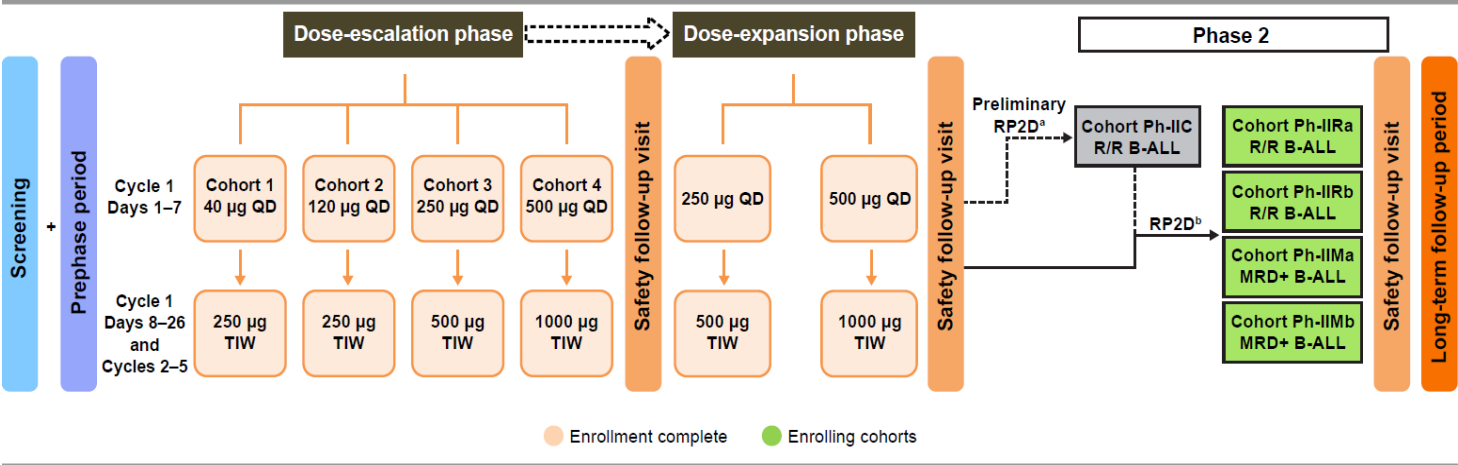
**Deliver the target dose earlier (cycle 1, day 1) and overall a higher dose of blinatumomab to patients**



**Improve overall health-related quality of life of the patients**



# Subcutaneous blinatumomab in R/R B-ALL

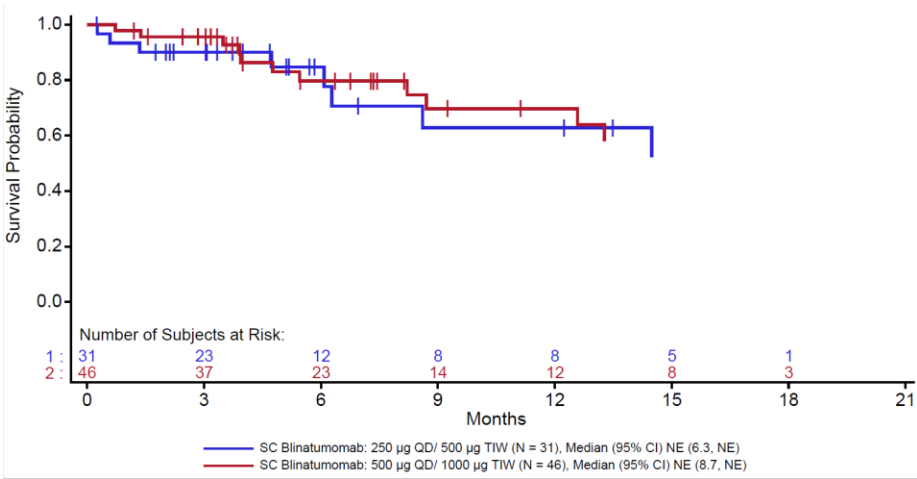


Jabbour E et al. Lancet Haematol 2025

Characteristics	250/500 µg group (N = 36)	500/1000 µg group (N = 52)
Male sex — n (%)	22 (61)	33 (63)
Age — years		
Mean	46 (19-78)	50 (19-76)
B-ALL Ph+, n (%)	7 (19)	8 (15)
Extramedullary disease, n(%)		
Yes	1 (3%)	3 (6%)
Prior therapy, n (%)		
Blinatumomab	8 (22)	9 (17)
CAR-T	7 (19)	7 (13)
HSCT	11 (31)	14 (27)
Inotuzumab	11 (31)	18 (35)

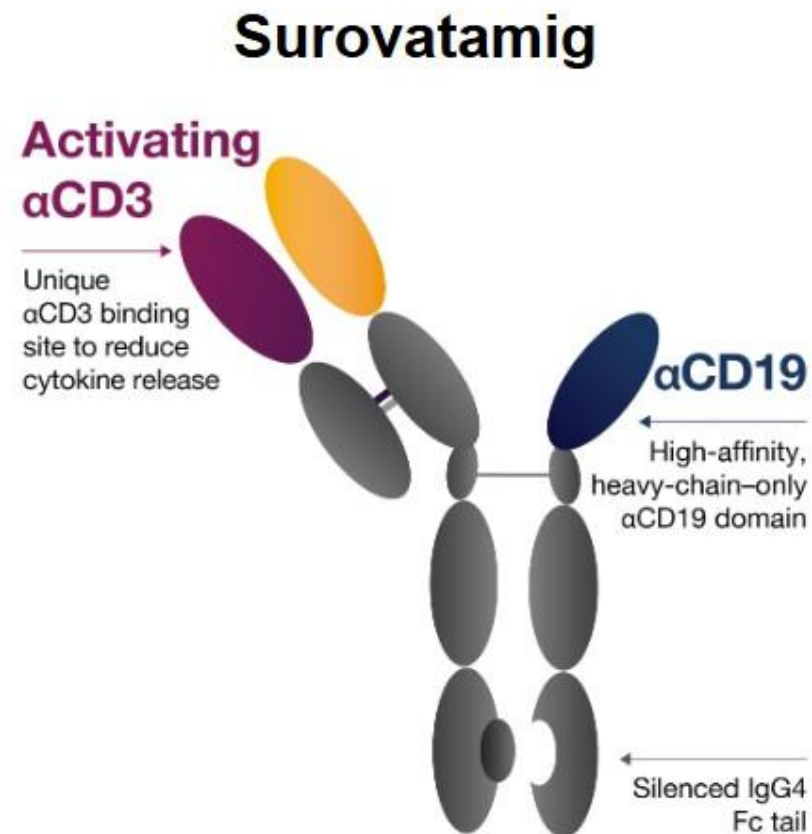
# Subcutaneous blinatumomab: responses and outcomes

	250µg/500µg cohort N=36	500µg/1000 µg cohort N=52	Total N=88
Response within 2 cycles			
CR/CRh	27 (75%)	41 (79%)	68 (77%)
CR/CRh, MRD<10 <sup>-4</sup>	24/27 (89%)	38/41 (93%)	62/68 (91%)
CR/CRh/CRI	32 (89%)	48 (92%)	80 (91%)
CR/CRh/Cri, MRD<10 <sup>-4</sup>	29/32 (91%)	43/48 (90%)	72/80 (90%)



# Surovatamig

- Surovatamig, previously known as AZD0486, is a novel IgG4 fully human CD19×CD3 bispecific T-cell engager<sup>1</sup> designed for low-affinity CD3 binding to reduce cytokine release from T-cell activation while preserving T-cell cytotoxicity against malignant B cells
- A phase 1, FIH trial in patients with B-NHL (NCT04594642) demonstrated activity and tolerability of surovatamig in R/R FL and DLBCL<sup>2,3</sup>
- Here, we present the preliminary results from a dose-escalation study of surovatamig in patients with R/R B-ALL (SYRUS; NCT06137118)



B-ALL, B-cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia; B-NHL, B-cell non-Hodgkin lymphoma; DLBCL, diffuse large B-cell lymphoma; FC, fragment crystallizable; FIH, first-in-human; FL, follicular lymphoma; IgG, immunoglobulin G; R/R, relapsed/refractory.

1. Malik-Chaudhry HK, et al. *MAbs*. 2021;313:1890411. 2. Hou JZ, et al. *Blood*. 2024;144(Suppl 1):341. 3. Gaballa S, et al. *Blood*. 2024;144(Suppl 1):868.

# Patients Enrolled in SYRUS Were Heavily Pre-treated, Many With Prior CD19 Therapy Exposure

Characteristic	Total (N=31) n (%)
Age, median (range), y	56 (17–75)
Female	13 (42)
Ph (+)	6 (19)
Median (range) prior therapies	3 (2–9)
Prior CD19 targeted therapy exposure	19 (61)
Blinatumomab-exposed	16 (52)
CAR-T-exposed	11 (35)
Double-exposed	8 (26)
Allo-SCT	10 (32)
Mean (range) bone marrow blasts	61% (5%–97%)
≥50% bone marrow blasts	21 (68)

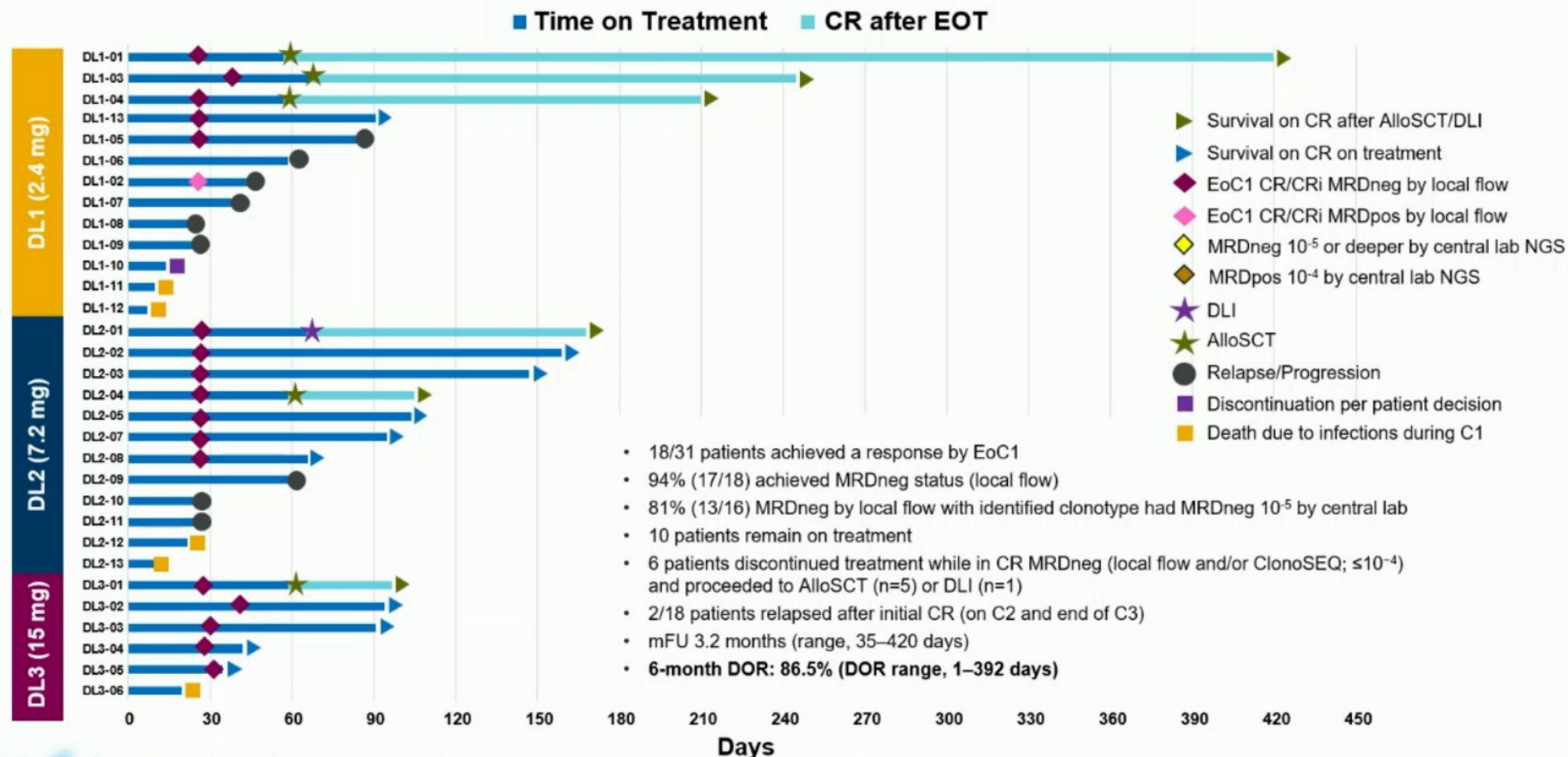
Values are n (%) unless otherwise specified.

Allo-SCT, allogeneic stem cell transplant; CAR-T, chimeric antigen receptor T-cell therapy; Ph (+), Philadelphia chromosome positive; y, years.





# Response Assessment at End of C1



Data cut-off: 31 March 2025. Central lab: Clonoseq or Genetron (China).

AlloSCT, allogeneic stem cell transplant; C, cycle; CR, complete response; CRi, complete response with incomplete count recovery; DL, dosing level; DLI, donor lymphocyte infusion; DOR, duration of response; EoC1, end of cycle 1; EOT, end of treatment; mFU, median follow-up; MRDneg/MRDpos, minimal residual disease negative/positive.



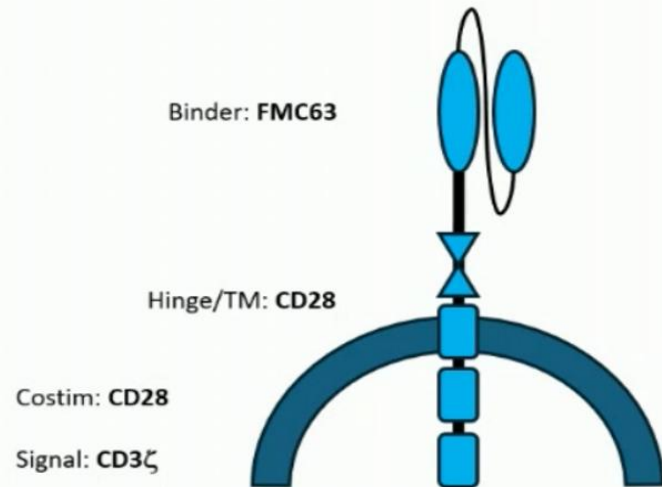


1. Combining new TKIs with immunotherapies
2. New CD19 BITEs
- 3. CAR-T cells used upfront and new constructs**



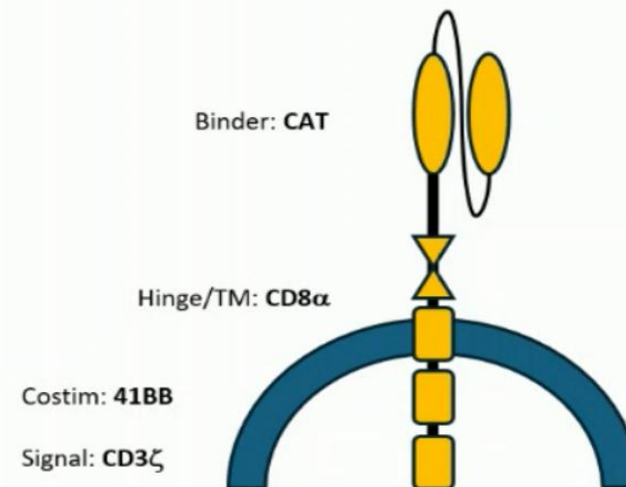
# CAR-T cell therapy in adult B-ALL

## Brexucabtagene Autoleucel



Manufacturing: 13d (92%)  
Infused: 77%  
LD: Flu 25x3, Cy 900x1  
Cell Dose:  $1 \times 10^6$ /kg

## Obecabtagene Autoleucel



Manufacturing: 21d (95%)  
Infused: 80%  
LD: Flu 30x4, Cy 500x2  
Cell Dose:  $410 \times 10^6$  (split dose)

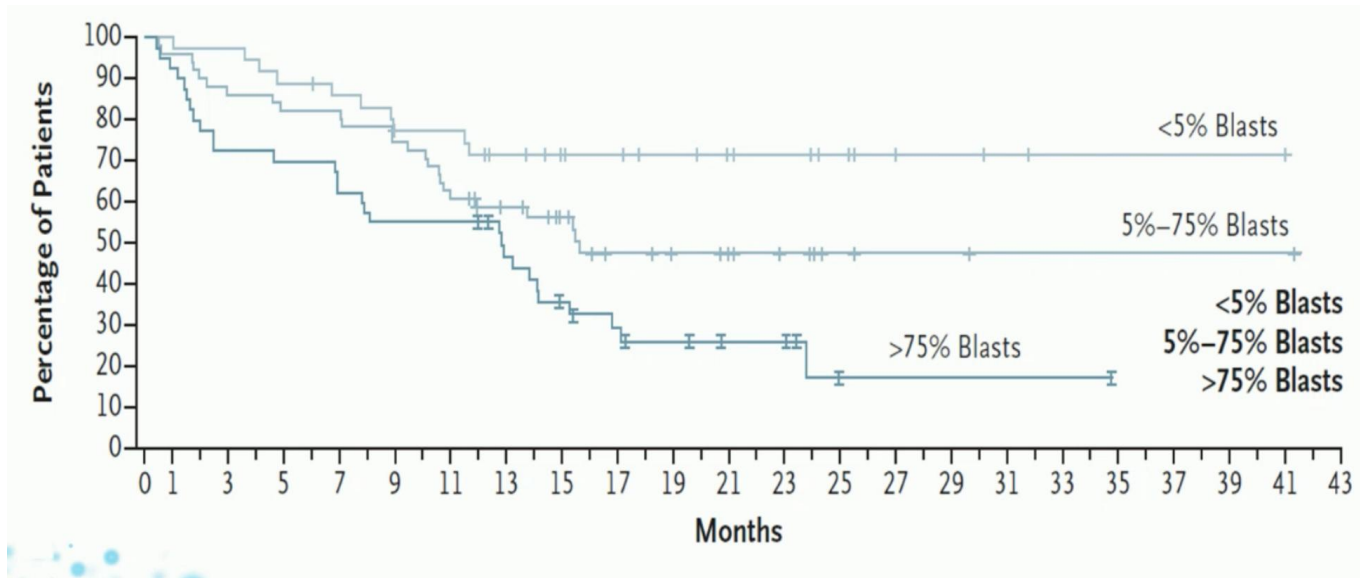
# Main clinical outcomes after blinatumomab or inotuzumab ozogamicin or brexu-cel or obe-cel in Relapsed/Refractory Adult BCP-ALL

Study	CR/CRi	Duration of Remission (months)	Progression or Event or Relapse Free Survival (months)	Median Overall Survival (months)
INOvate (Inotuzumab arm)	80.7%	4.6	Median PFS: 5 months	7,7
Tower (blina arm)	34%	7.2	EFS at 6 months: 31%	7,7
Zuma-3	71%	12.8	Median RFS: 11.6 months	18,2
Felix	77%	21.2	Median EFS: 11.9 months	15,6

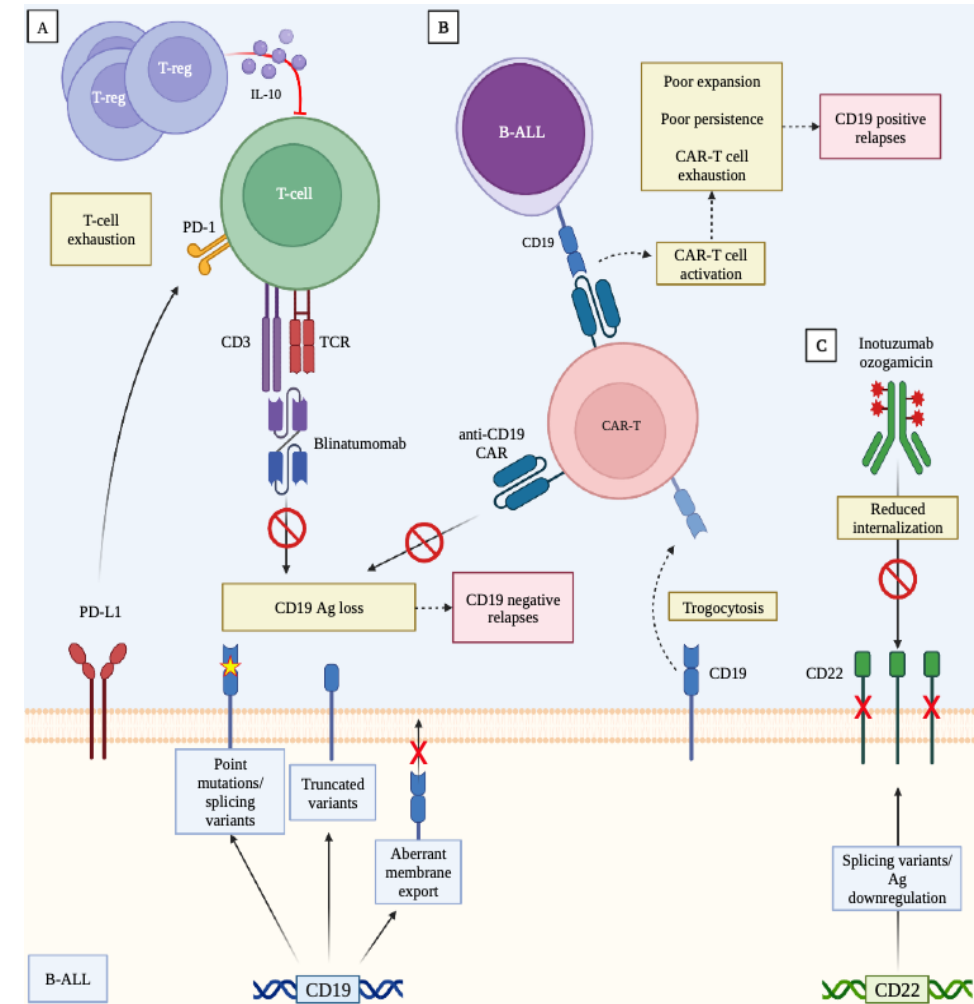
Kantakjian H et al.: N Engl J Med 2016;375:740-53. DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa1509277  
Kantarjian H et al.: N Engl J Med 2017;376:836-47. DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa1609783  
Shah BD, et al. Lancet 2021;398:491-502  
Roddie C et al. N Engl J Med 2024;391:2219-2230

# Mechanisms of resistance to the CAR-T

- Low tumor burden impact on OS
- Immune escape, primarily antigen loss
- T-Cell exhaustion

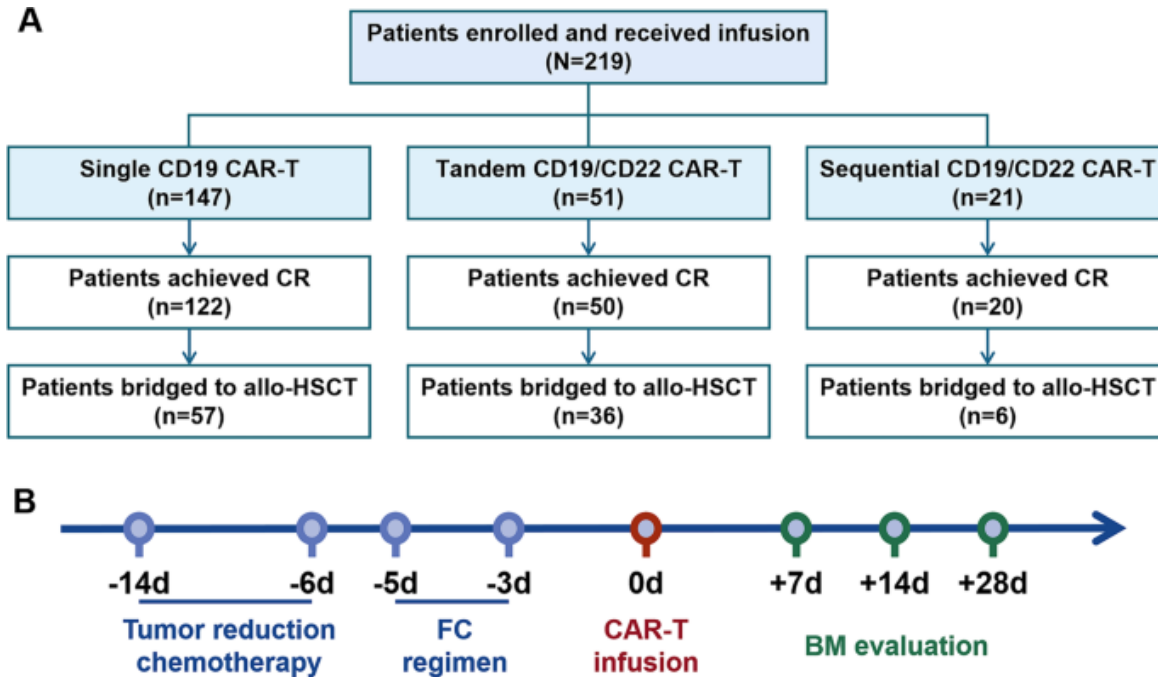


Roddie C et al. NEJMs 2024

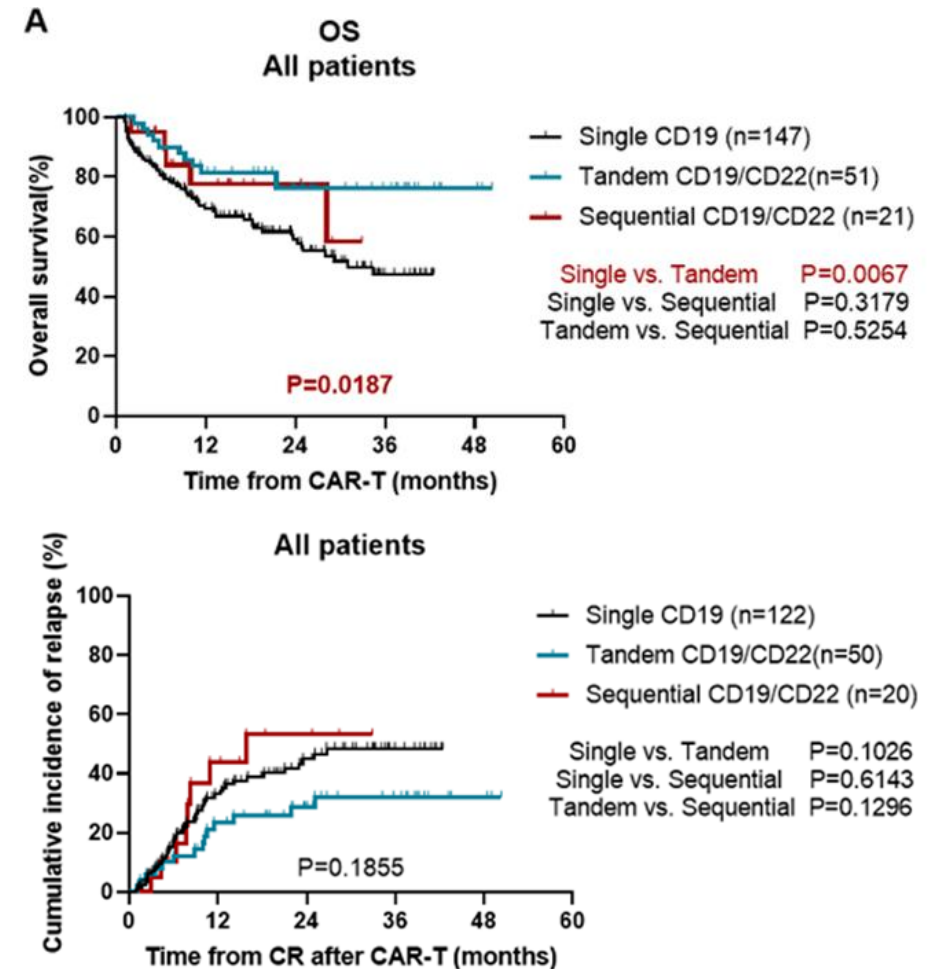


Lussana F et al. Cancers 2023

# Single-target (CD19) or dual-target (tandem or sequential CD19/CD22) CAR T-cell therapy?

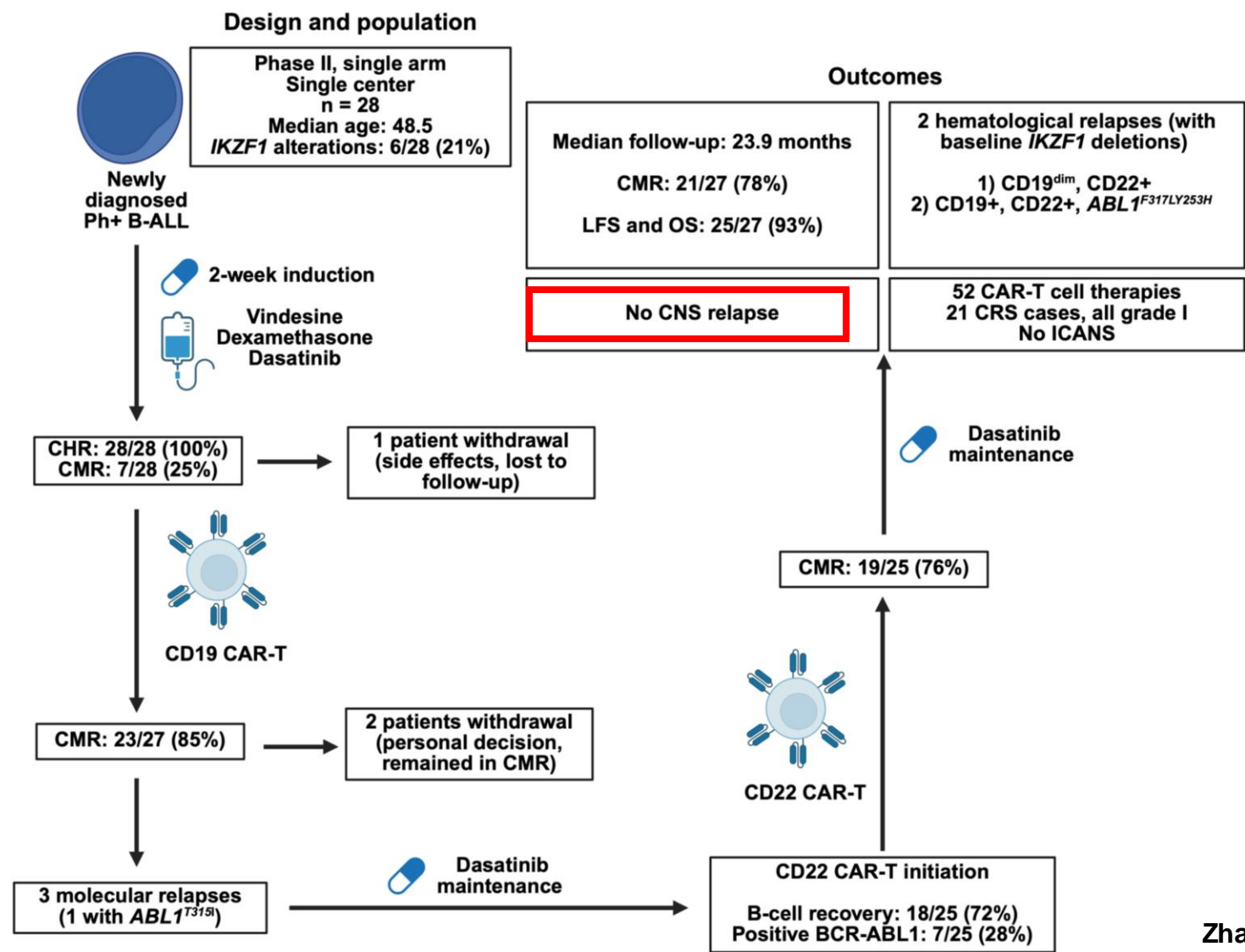


Liu S. et al. Blood Cancer Journal 2023



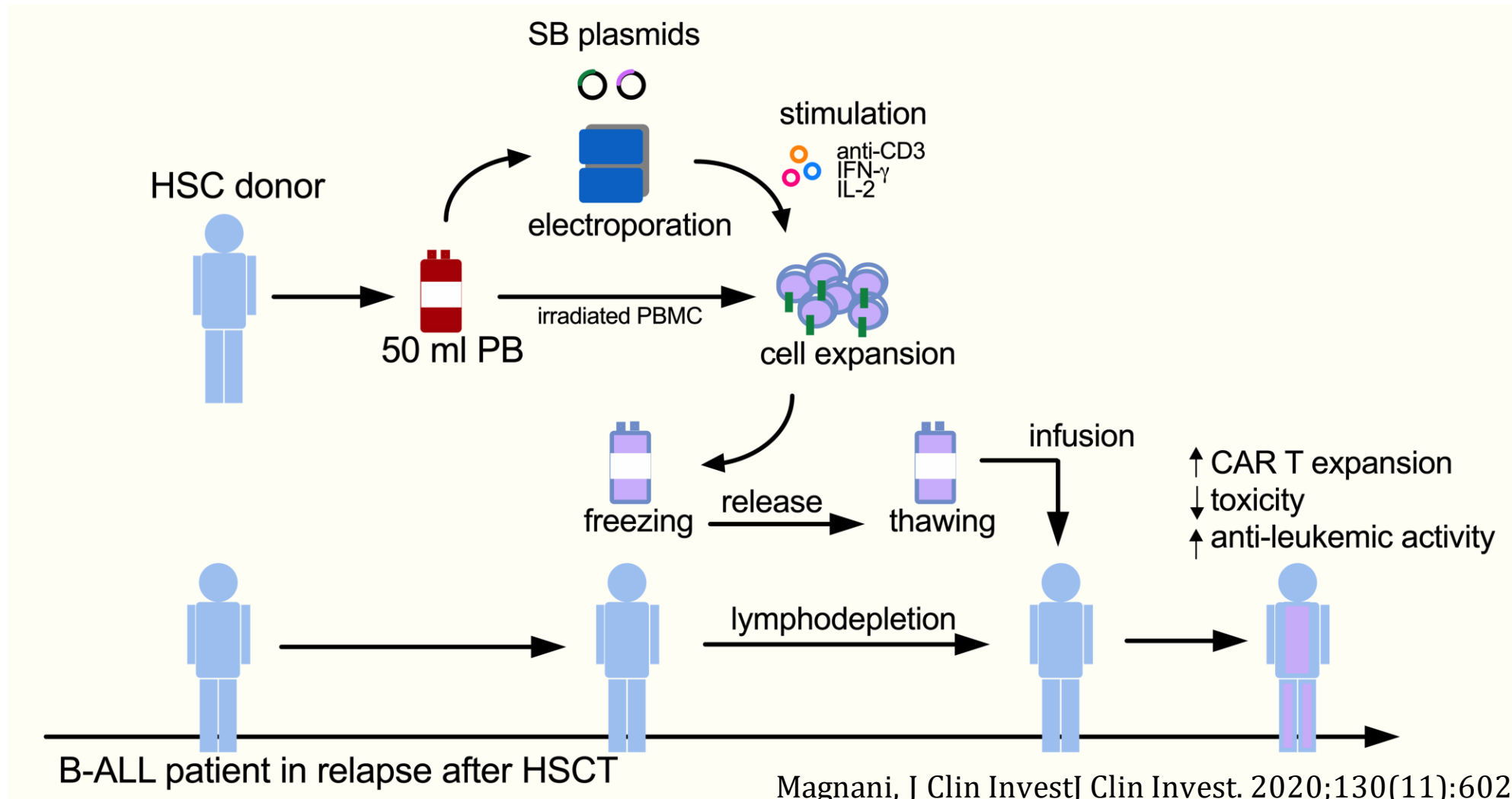


# Dasatinib+CAR-T newly diagnosed Ph+ALL



Zhang M et al. JAMA Oncology 2025

# A non-viral platform to generate allogeneic CAR-T cells

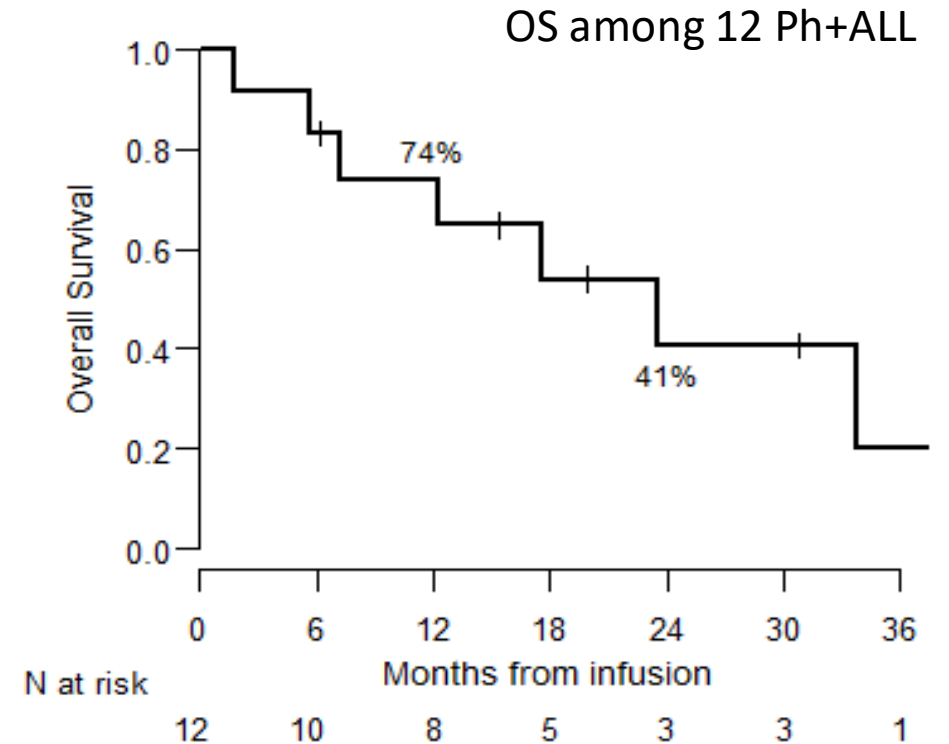
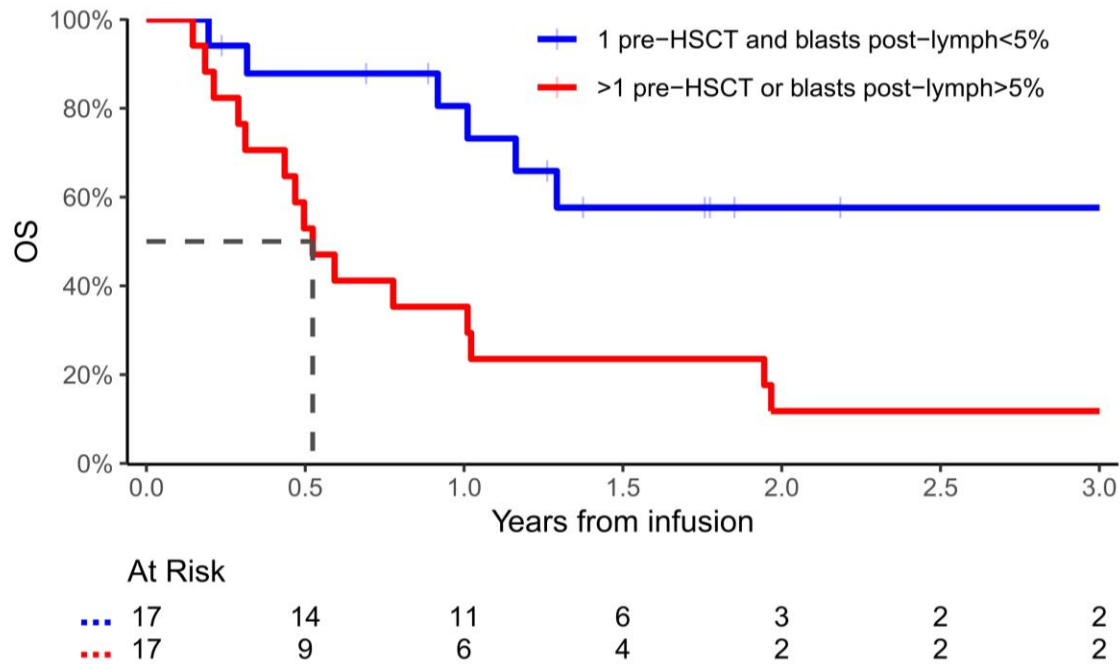


Magnani, J Clin Invest | Clin Invest. 2020;130(11):6021-6033

Lussana F et al. Blood Cancer J | journal 2025



# Allogeneic CAR-T: the efficacy of anti CD19 CARCIK



Lussana F, et al. *Blood Cancer Journal*, 2025

# Conclusions

- New immunotherapies continue to revolutionize Ph+ ALL treatment
- The future of Ph+ ALL therapy is **BRIGHT**
  - Upfront immunotherapy for all patients
  - Minimizing cytotoxic chemotherapy and reducing the need for alloHSCT consolidation
- The optimal timing and sequencing of CAR-T cell therapy in the context of modern treatment options for Ph+ ALL remains an area of active investigation
- The global implementation of these therapies faces challenges
  - Limited worldwide access/COST
  - Long-term data and more patients are critical to understand the curative potential of new approaches compared to other more sustainable strategies
  - Unclear long-term toxicities



# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

## **The Hematology and Transplant Team**

### **Alessandro Rambaldi**

Anna Grassi  
Tamara Intermesoli  
Alessandra Algarotti  
Benedetta Rambaldi  
Giuliana Rizzuto  
Maria Chiara Finazzi  
Gianluca Cavallaro  
Marta Castelli

## **The Molecular Lab**

Cristian Meli  
Anna Salvi  
Manuela Tosi  
Roberta Cavagna  
Clara Belotti  
Silvia Salmoiraghi  
Orietta Spinelli

## **Laboratorio di Terapia Cellulare**

### **Gilberto Lanzani**

Martino Introna  
Josee Golay  
Elisa Gotti  
Silvia Panna  
Irene Cattaneo  
Olga Pedrini  
Chiara Capelli



## **Laboratorio di Terapia Cellulare e Genica Stefano Verri, IRCCS San Gerardo Monza**

Chiara Magnani  
Giuseppe Gaipa  
Daniela Belotti  
Giada Matera  
Stefania Cesana  
Valentina Colombo  
Michele Quaroni

## **Clinica Pediatrica Università di Milano Bicocca e Fondazioni Tettamanti, Monza**

Andrea Biondi  
Adriana Balduzzi  
Giovanna Lucchini  
Chiara Magnani  
Giuseppe Dastoli  
Sarah Tettamanti  
Chiara Buracchi  
Grazia Fazio  
Giovanni Cazzaniga