

# BCL-2 and XPO1 inhibitors in Multiple Myeloma



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# Disclosures

## Honoraria & Speaker Bureau:

Abbvie, Amgen, BMS, Celgene, Genentech, Janssen, Karyopharm, Pfizer, Sanofi, Takeda

## Research Funding: Pfizer

# The Tao of Myeloma

Boise LH. Blood 2014

BCL2 Inhibitors  
MCL1 inhibitors

Proteasome Inhibitors  
DUBs inhibitors  
VP/p97 inhibitors

Abs BiTES CARs  
BCMA  
SLAMF7  
CD38  
CD138  
GPRC5D  
FCRH5  
CD56

BRD4 inh. /degraders

EP300 inhibitors

Steroids

DNA alkylating agents

Checkpoint inhibitors  
PD1/PDL1; LAG3; TIGIT

CELMODs (IMiDs)

XPO1 inhibitors

RAF/MEK/ERK  
inhibitors

AKT/mTORC  
PIM2 kinase  
inhibitors

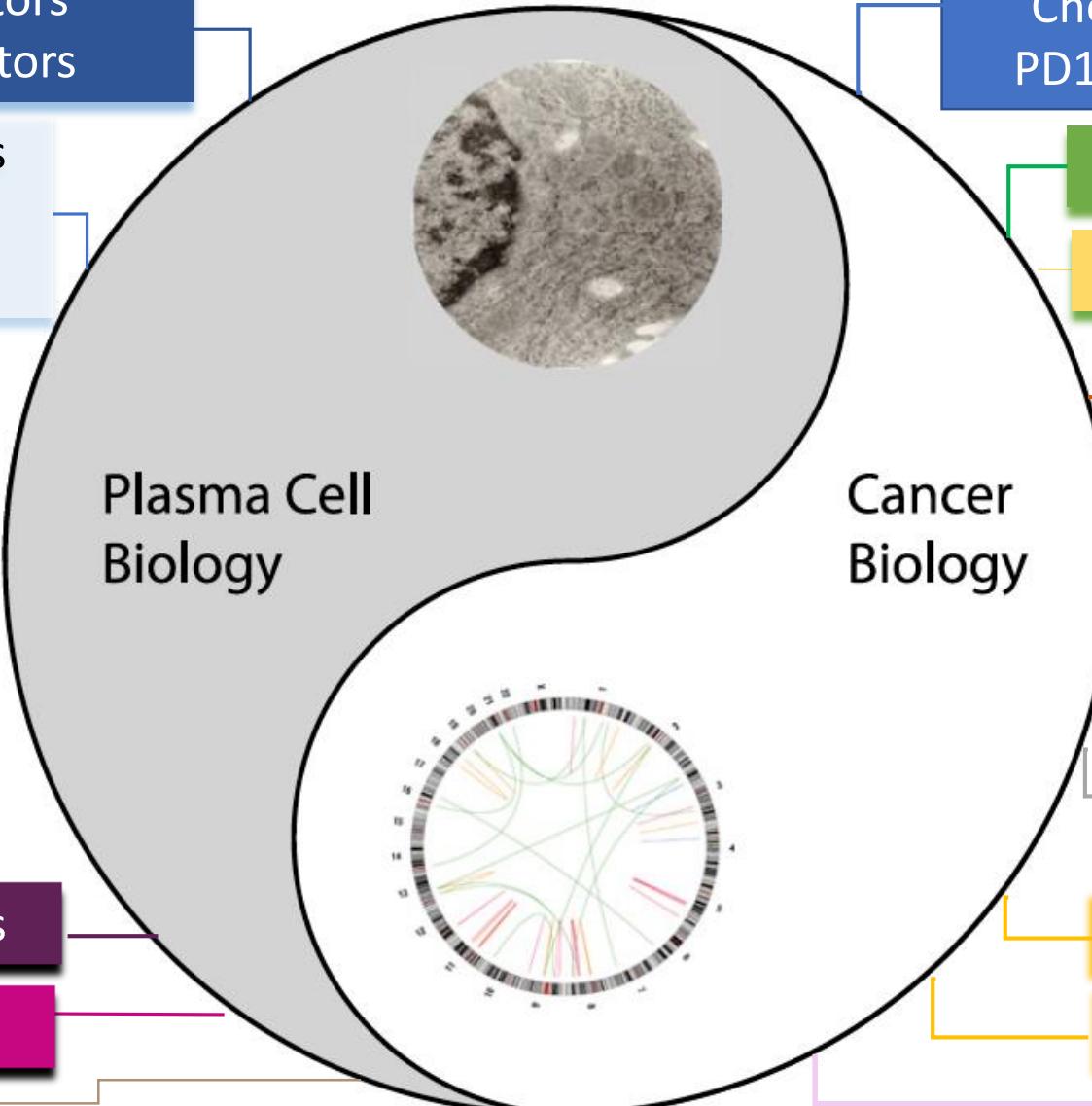
FGFR3  
inhibitors

HDAC inhibitors

PRMT5 inhibitors

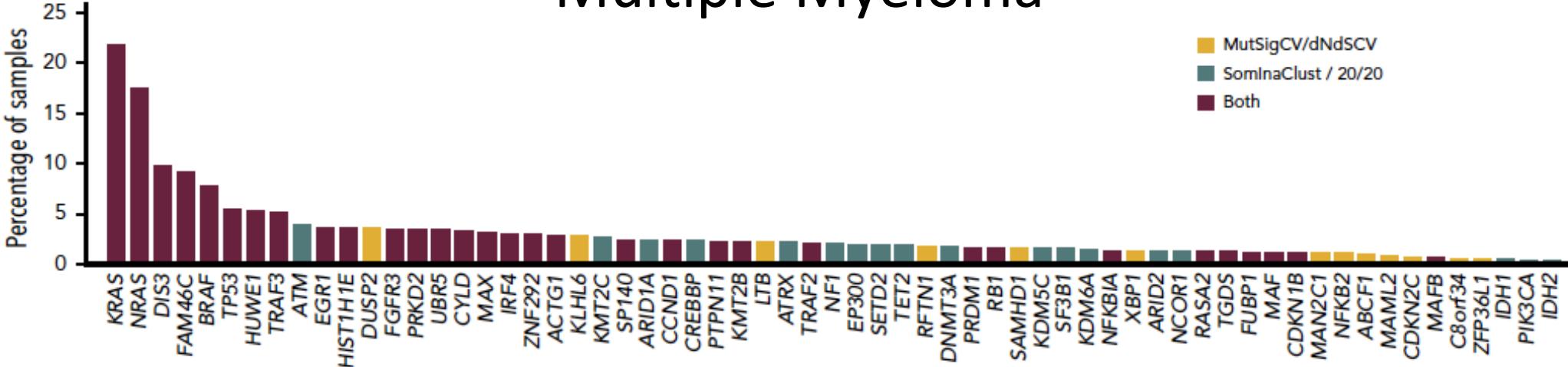
CDK7,9 inhibitors

KSP inhibitors

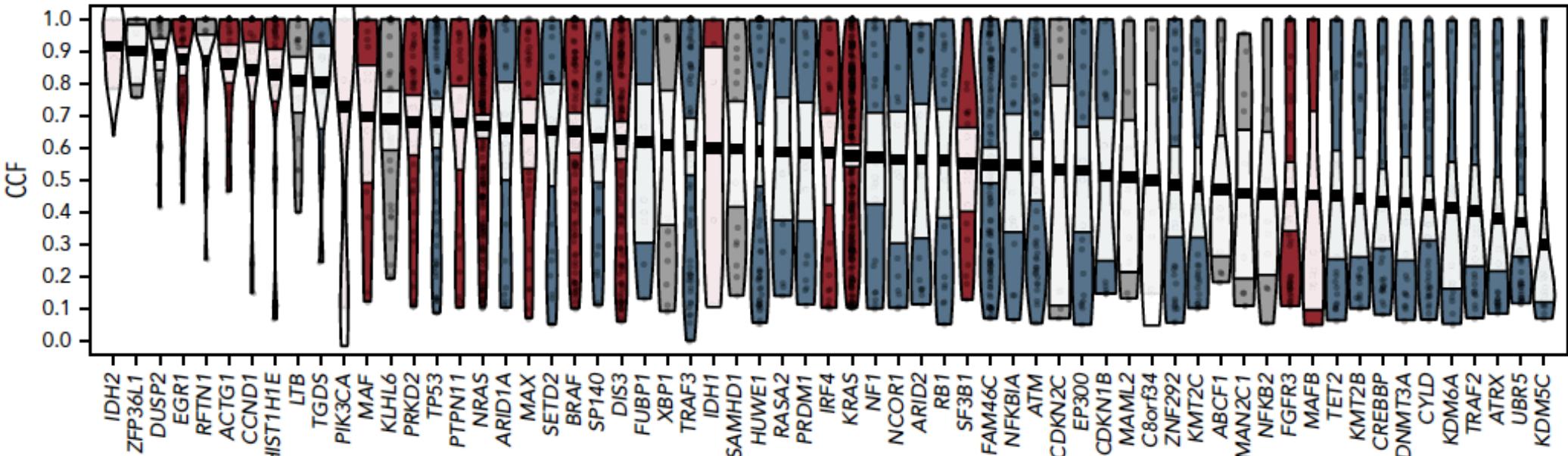


# Oncogenic dependencies and molecular subgroups in Multiple Myeloma

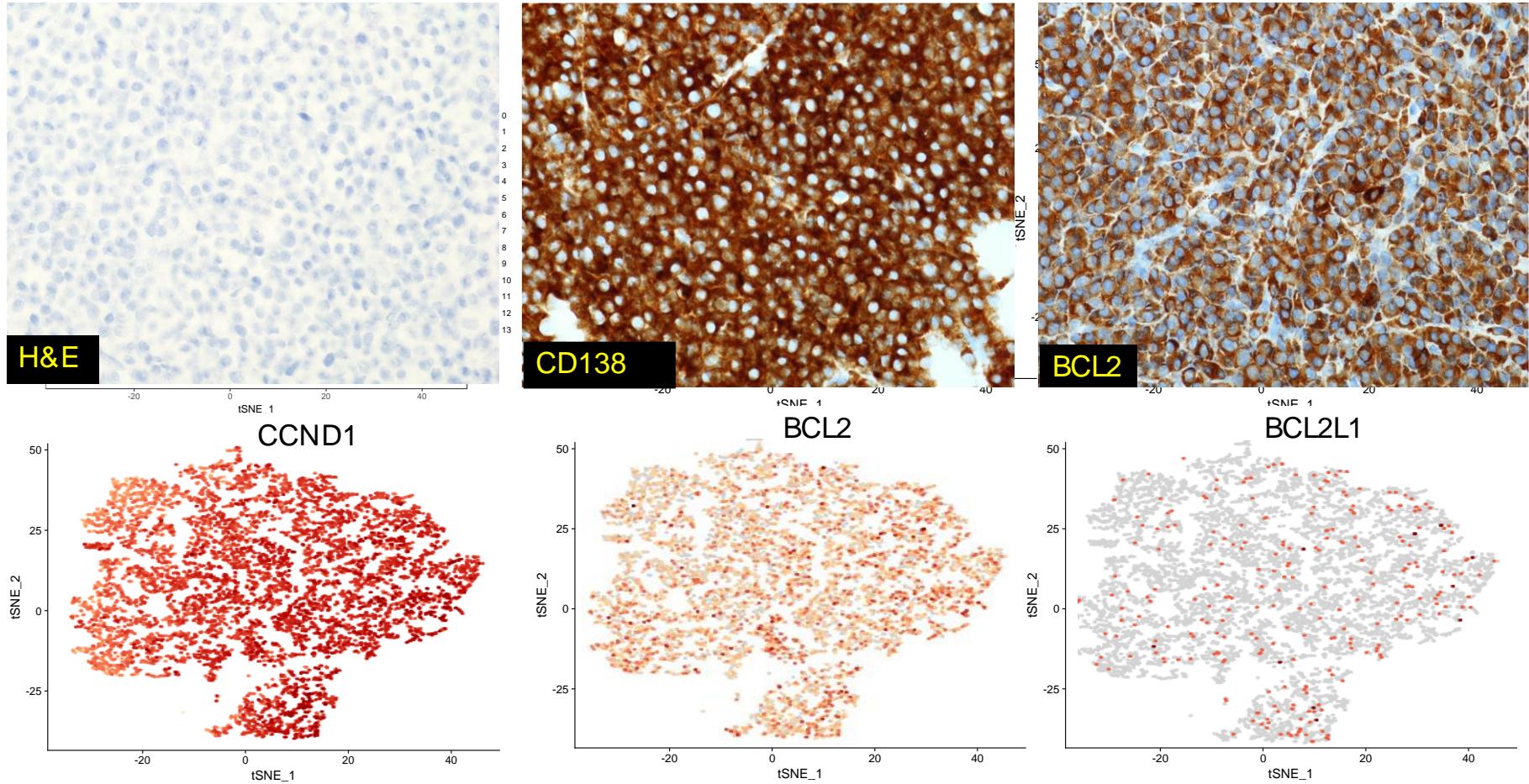
**A**



**B**



# t(11;14) myeloma: high CCND and BCL2 expression



# BCL-2 family

## Anti-apoptotic BCL-2 proteins:

BCL-2, BCL-W, BCL-XL, A1, MCL1



## Pro-apoptotic BCL-2 proteins:

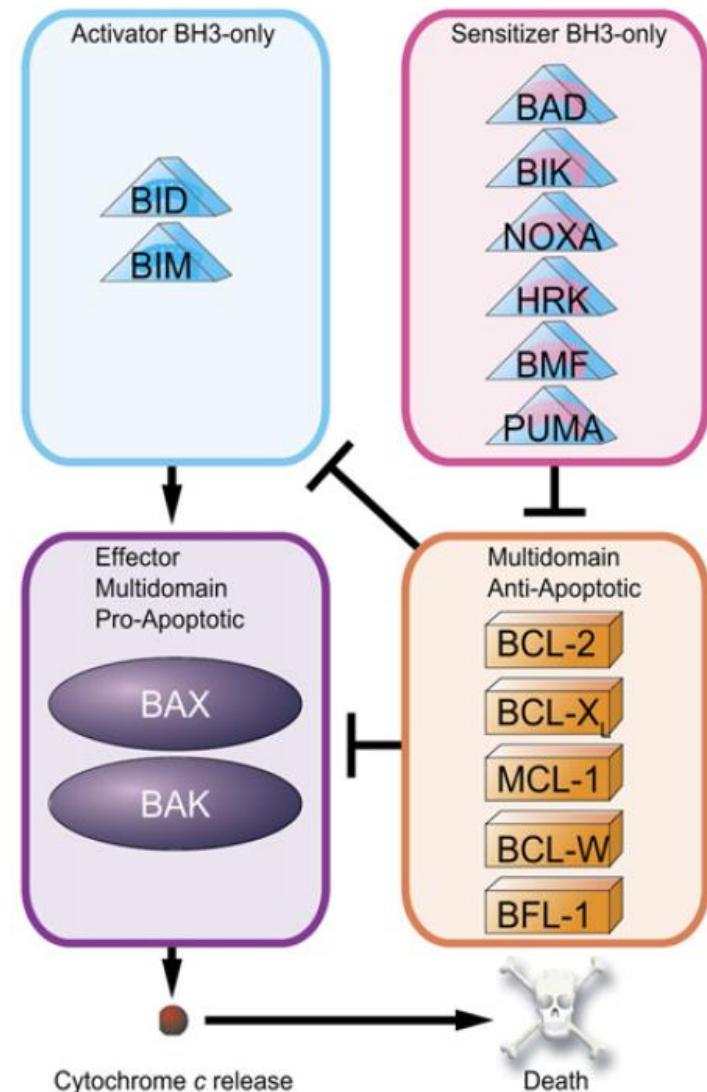
### Effectors

BAX , BAK and BOK



## BH3-only proteins (Activators and sensitizers)

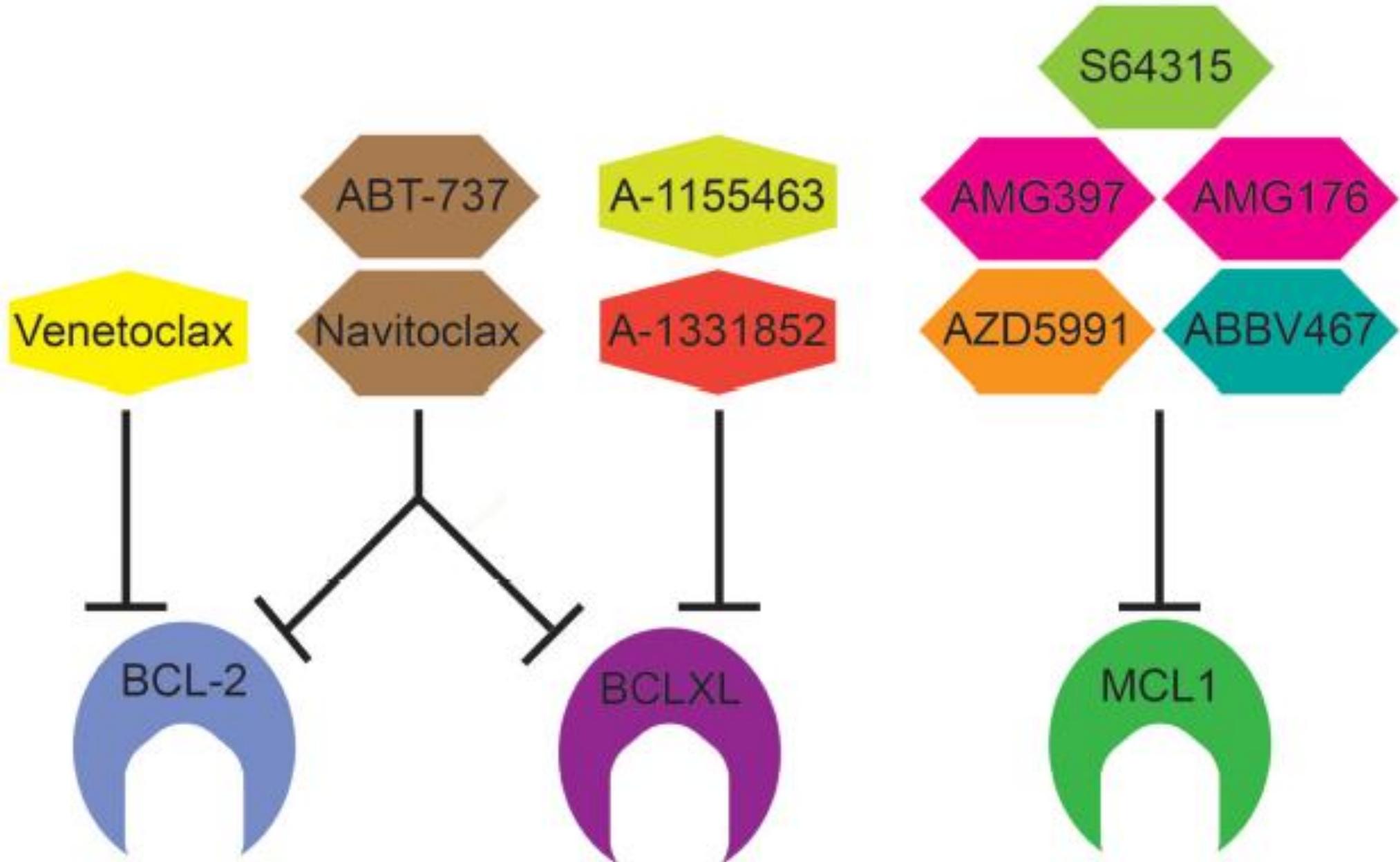
BID, BIM, BAD, BIK, BMF, BNIP3, HRK, NOXA and PUMA



Deng J et al, Cancer Cell 2007

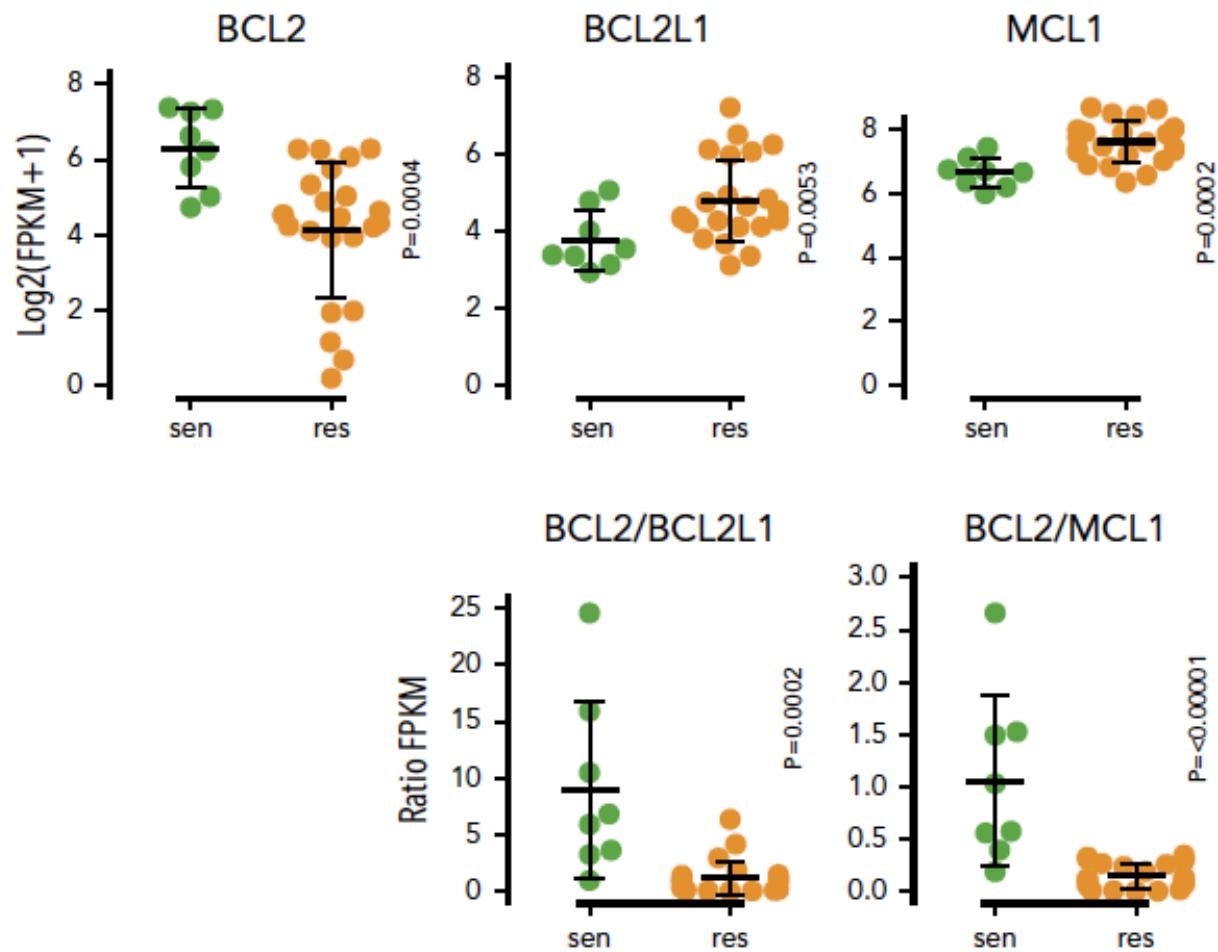
Tait S et al, Mol Cell Biol 2010

# BCL-2 family



# High Bcl-2 and B-cell genes expression in t(11;14) MM correlates with sensitivity to venetoclax

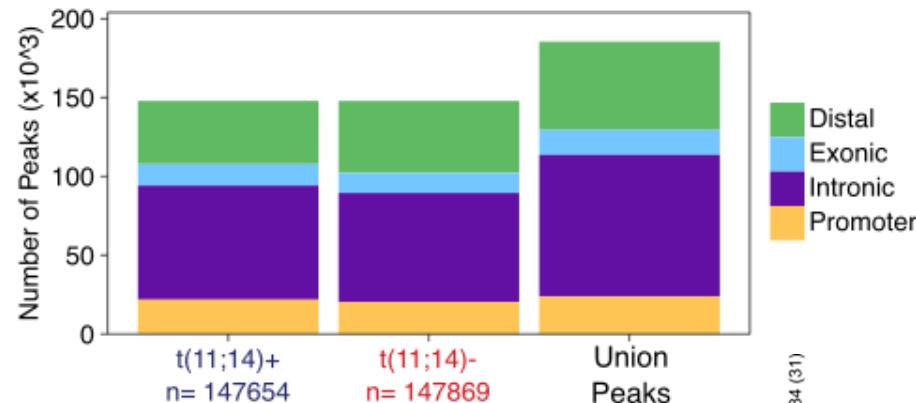
HMCL	LD <sub>50</sub> , nM	Translocation	Target genes
SKMM2	7 ± 0.4	t(11;14)	CCND1
NAN-7	15 ± 3	t(11;14)	CCND1
XG-5	40 ± 12	t(11;14)	CCND1
Karpas-620	60 ± 13	t(11;14)	CCND1
KMS-12-PE	60 ± 17	t(11;14)	CCND1
KMS-12-BM	150 ± 7.5	t(11;14)	CCND1
JJN-3	2000 ± 315	t(14;16)	c-MAF
NAN-1	2000 ± 540	t(14;16)	c-MAF
KMS-11	2000 ± 660	t(4;14)	MMSET/FGFR3
XG-2	3000 ± 700	t(12;14)	unknown
RPMI 8226	4000 ± 760	t(14;16)	c-MAF
XG-6	5800 ± 112	t(16;22)	c-MAF
OPM-2	6000 ± 910	t(4;14)	MMSET
NCI-H929	7200 ± 840	t(4;14)	MMSET/FGFR3
L-363	7000 ± 620	t(20;22)	MAFB
BCN	8000 ± 566	t(14;16)	c-MAF
NAN-3	9200 ± 780	t(4;14)	MMSET
LP-1	10 000 ± 1 400	t(4;14)	MMSET/FGFR3
AMO-1	13 500 ± 1 600	t(12;14)	unknown
KMM-1	20 000 ± 740	t(6;14)	CCND3
XG-1	> 20 000	t(11;14)	CCND1
U-266	> 20 000	t(11;14)	CCND1
MM.1S	> 20 000	t(14;16)	c-MAF
JIM-3	> 20 000	t(4;14)	MMSET/FGFR3
XG-7	> 20 000	t(4;14)	MMSET



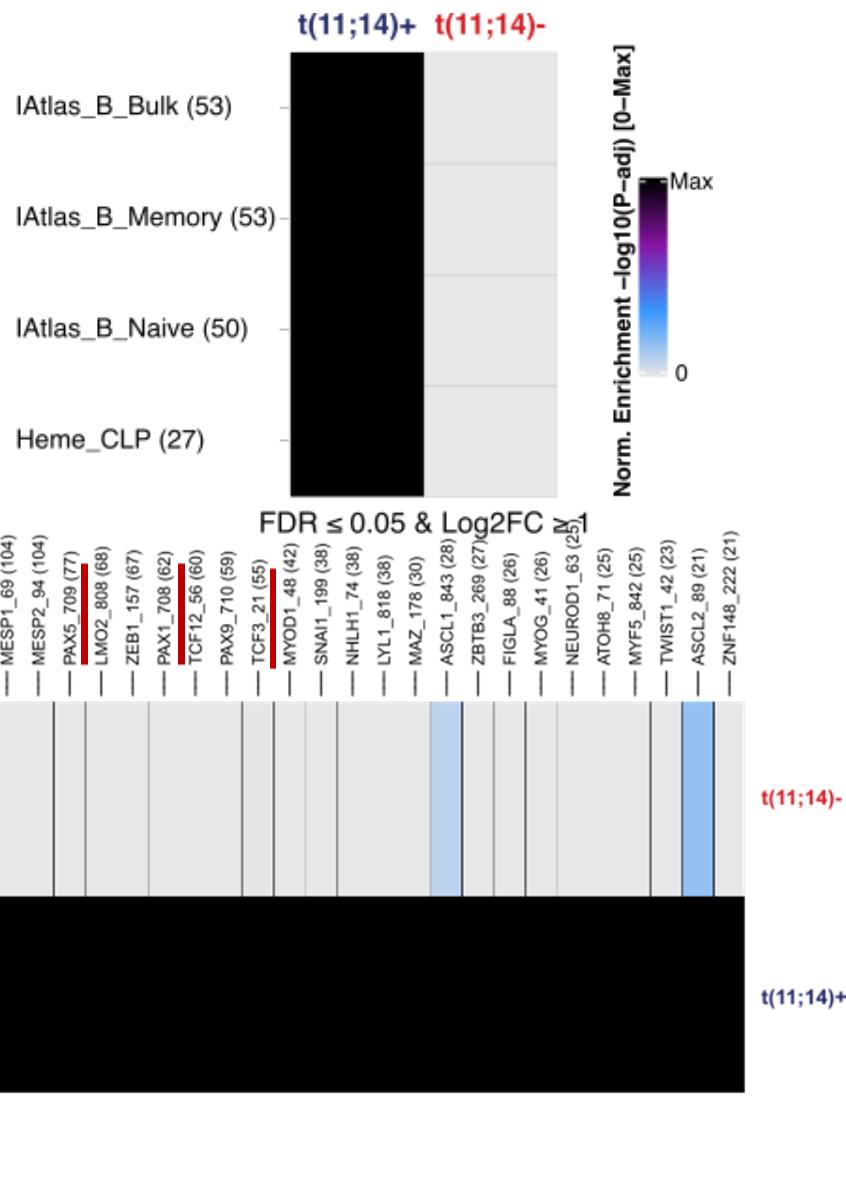
Bodet et al Blood 2011  
Touzeau et al Leukemia 2013  
Gupta et al Blood 2021

# t(11;14) MM is characterized by a “B cell-like” epigenetic signature

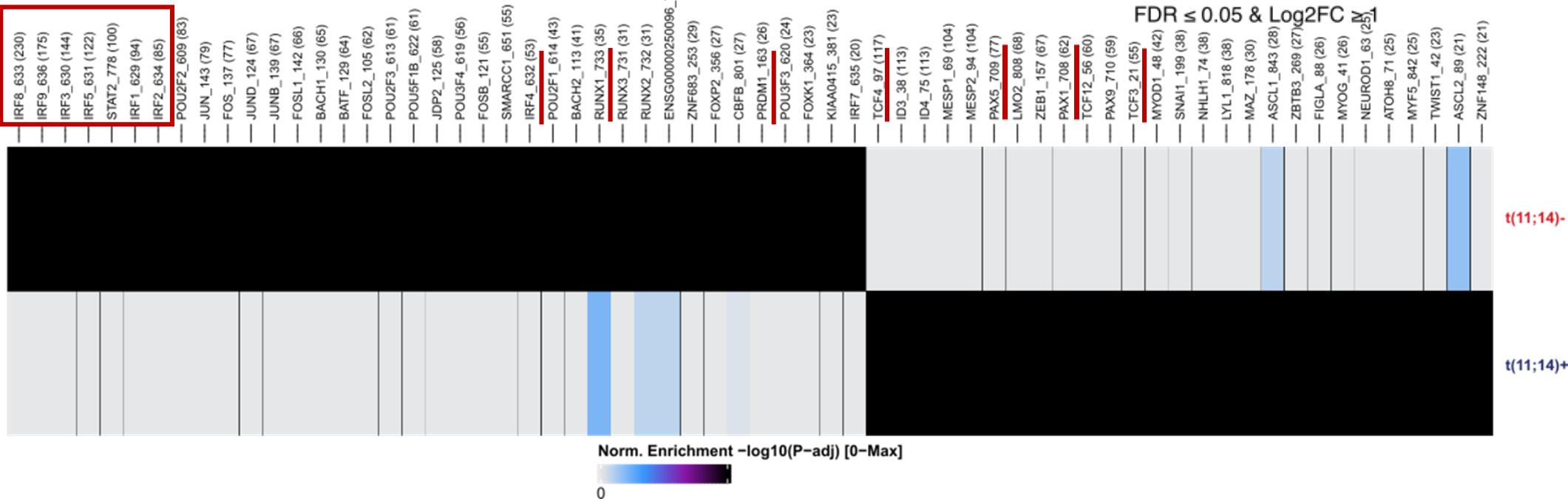
**A**



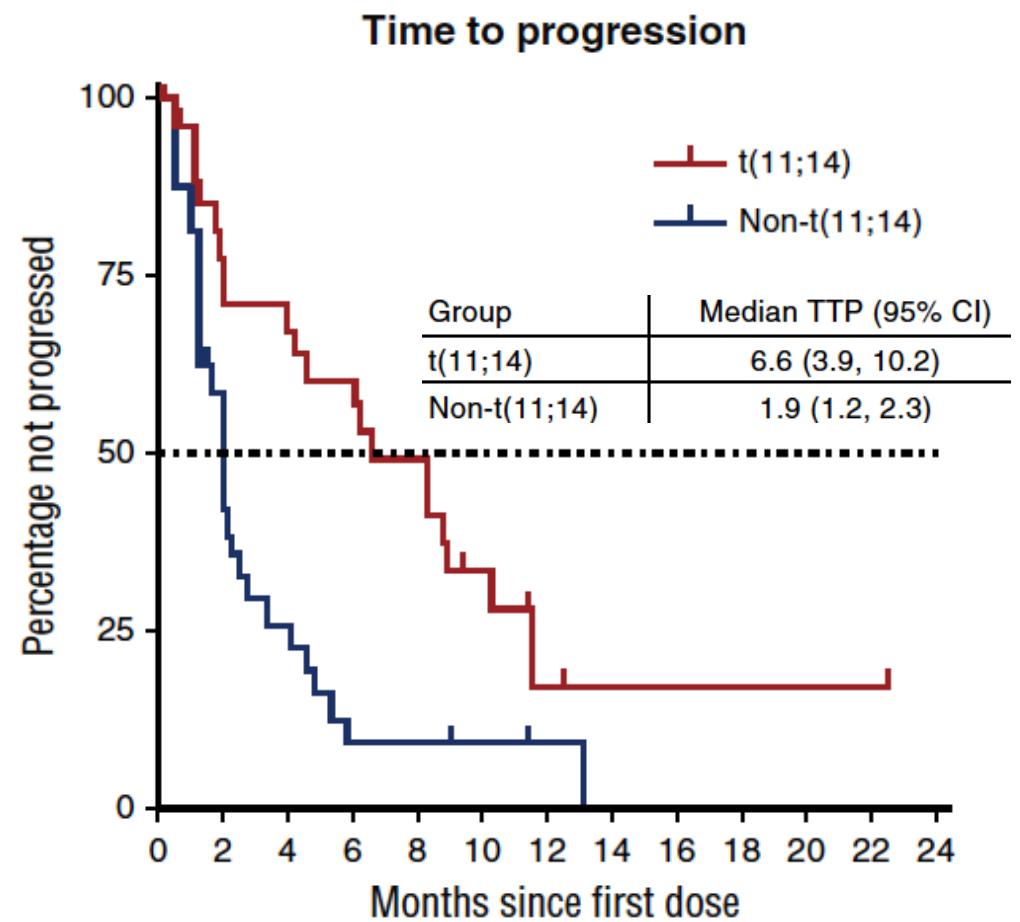
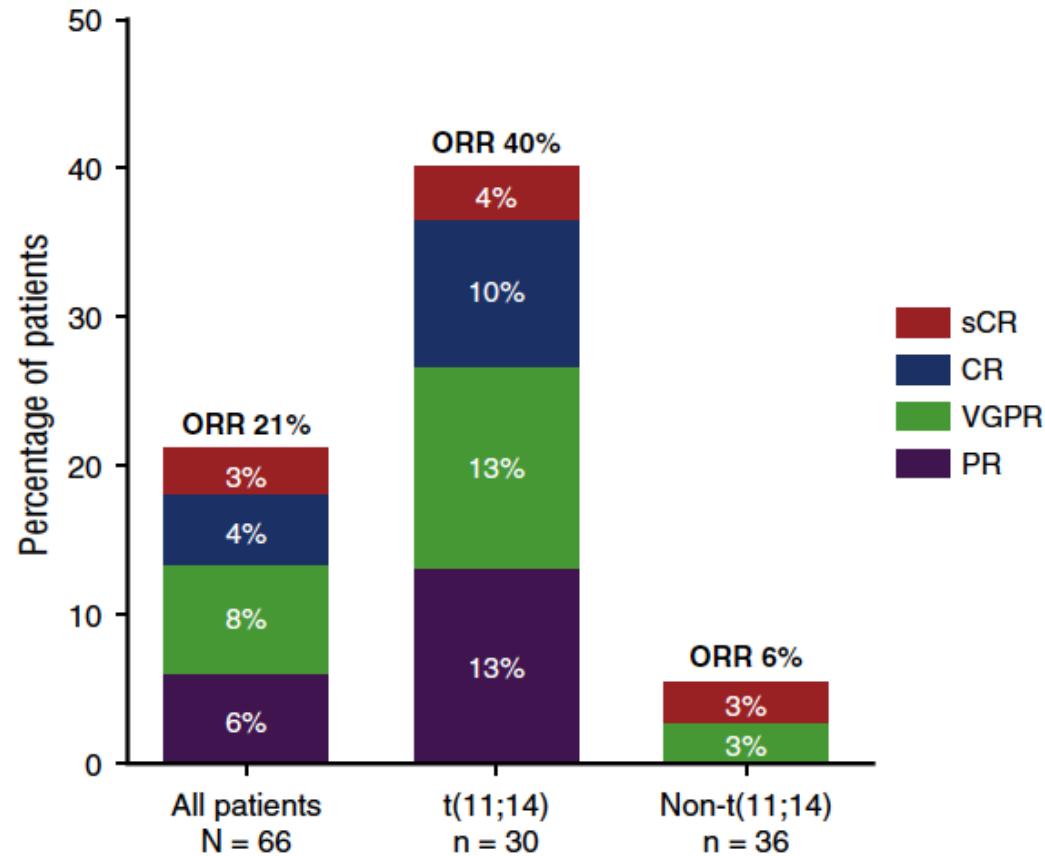
**B**



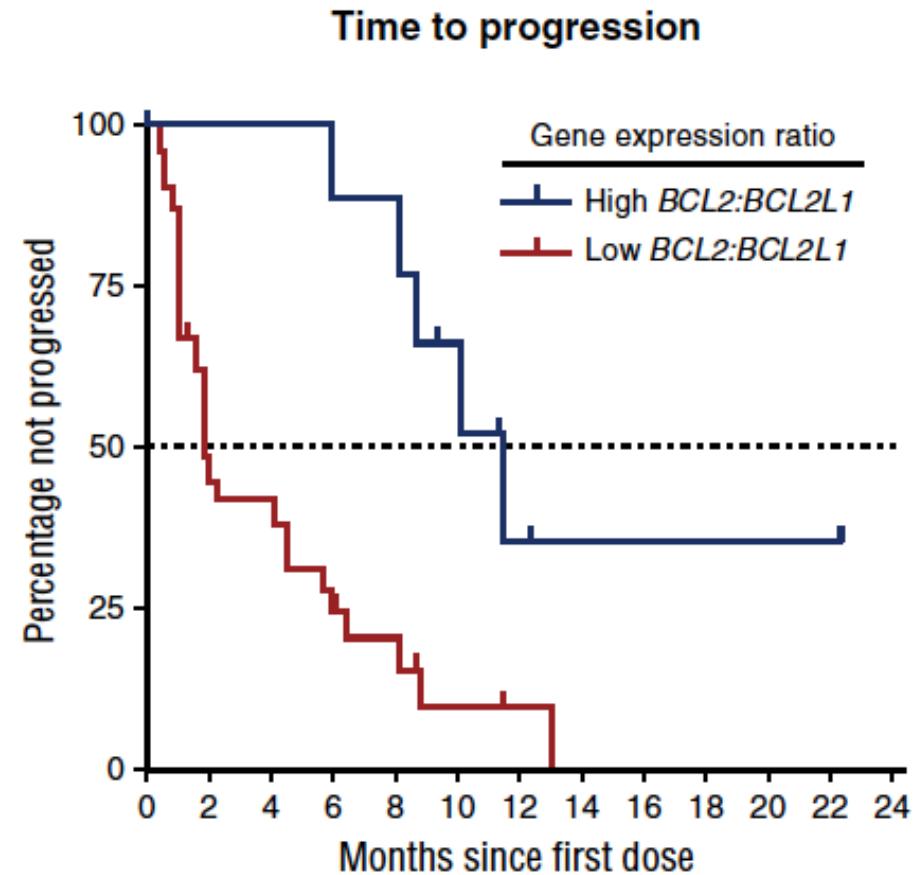
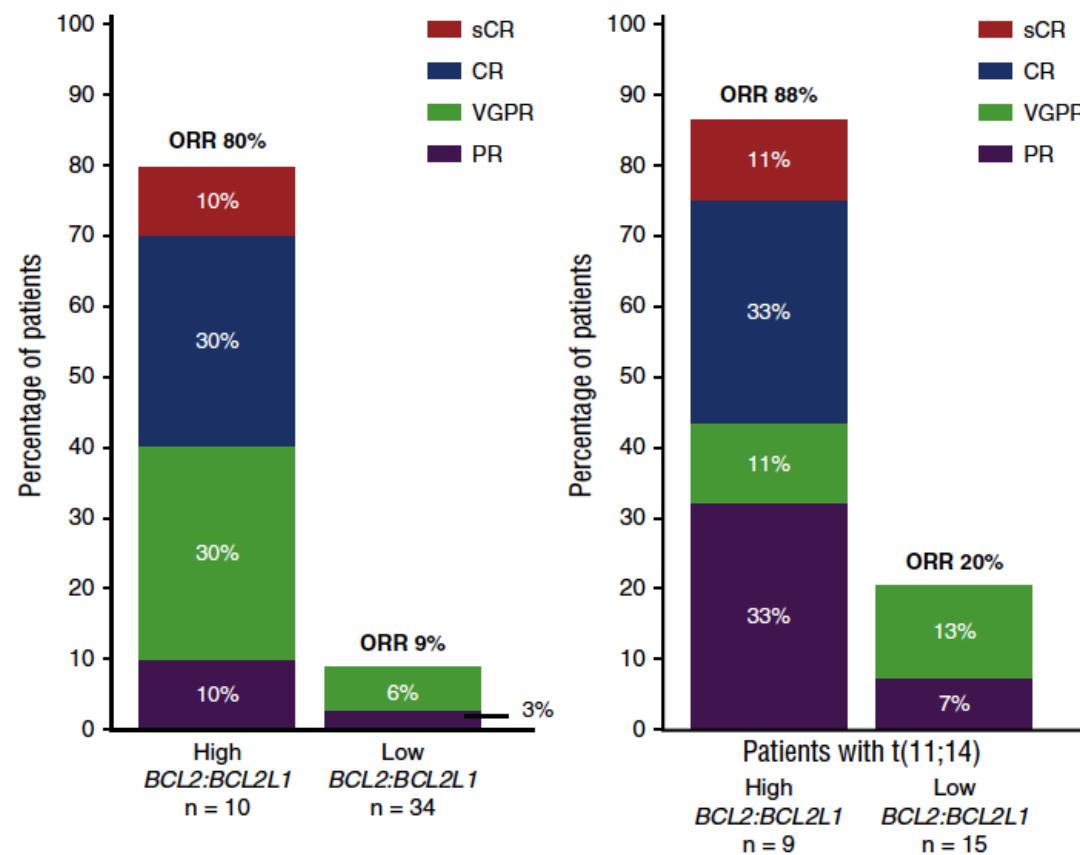
**D**



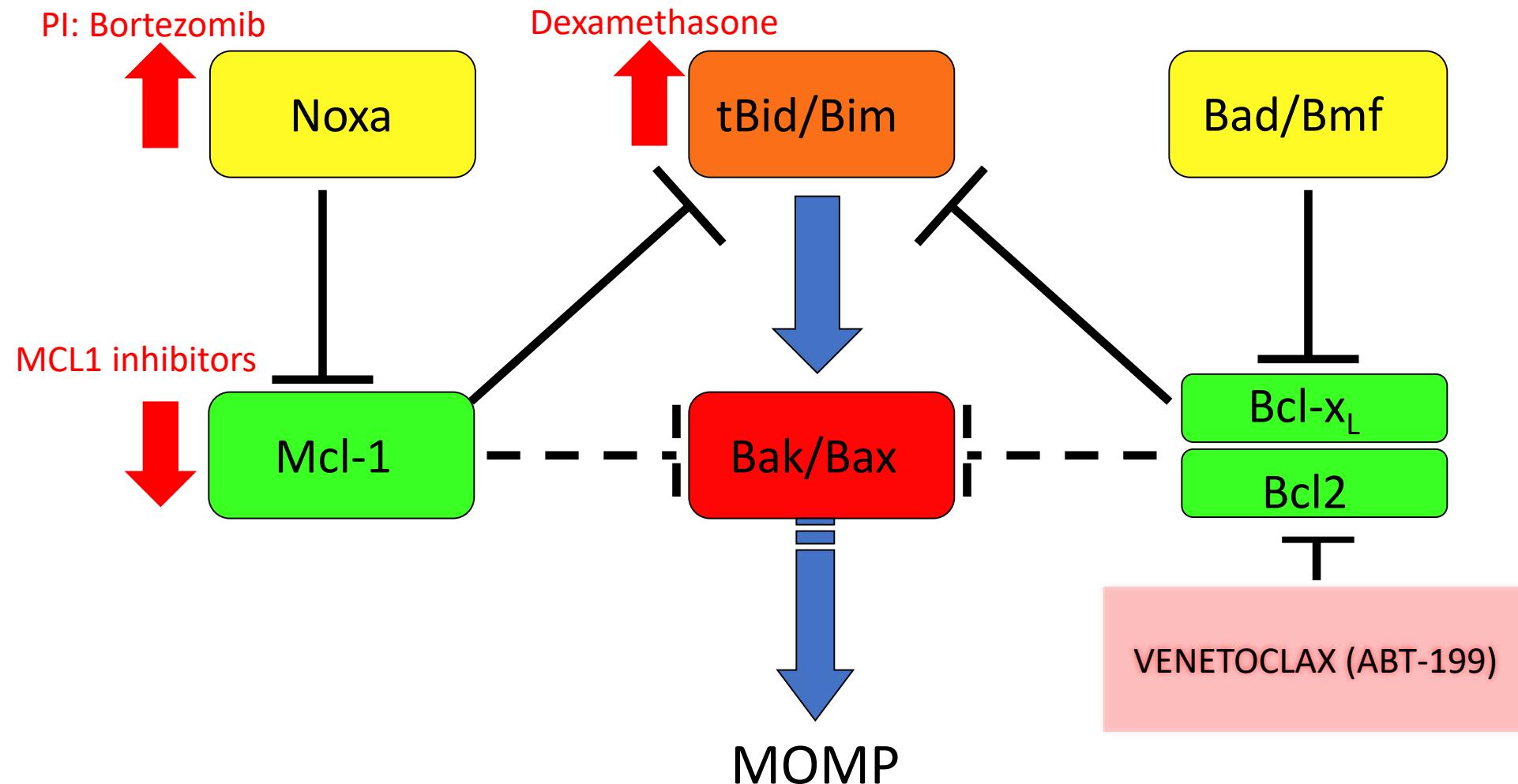
# Venetoclax single agent activity in relapsed/refractory with t(11;14) multiple myeloma



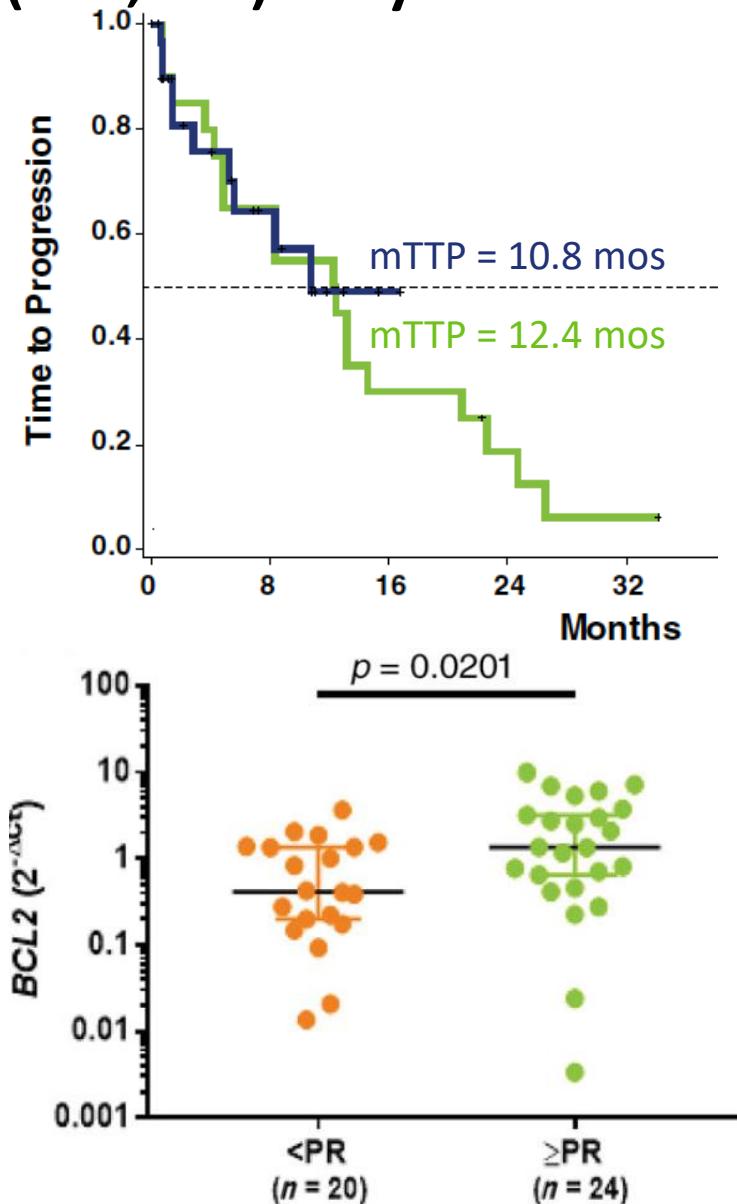
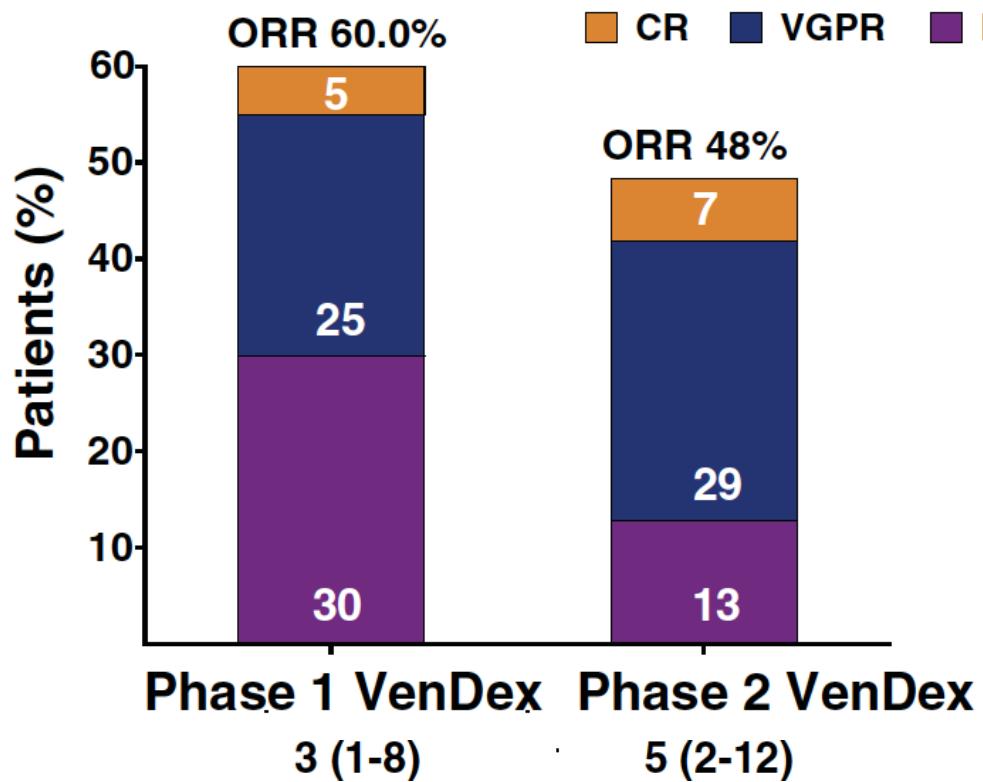
# Venetoclax single agent activity in relapsed/refractory myeloma with high BCL2:BCL2L1 ratio



# Strategies to enhance MM cells sensitivity to Venetoclax

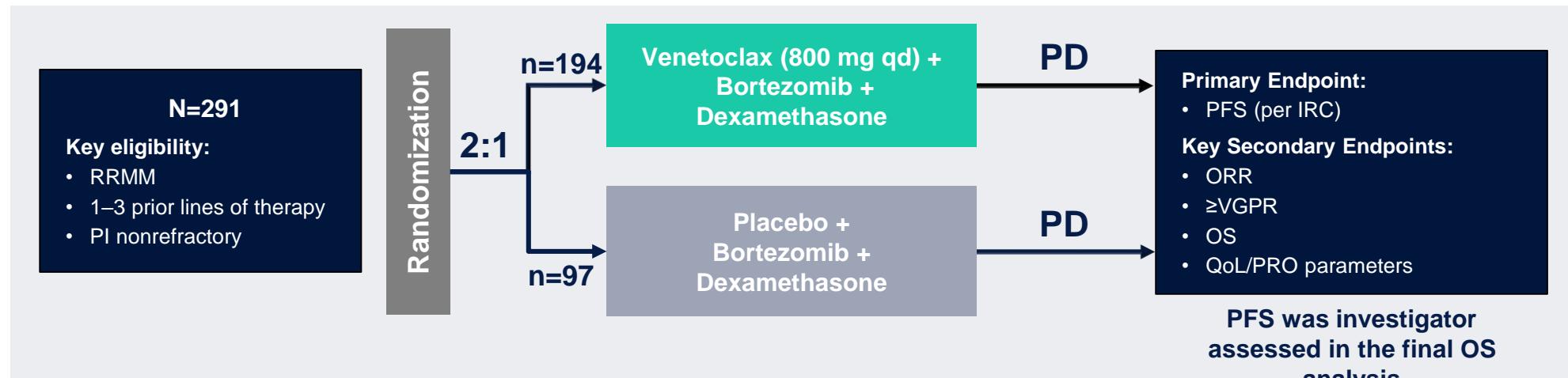


# Venetoclax with dexamethasone in relapsed/refractory t(11;14) Myeloma





# BELLINI (NCT02755597) is a Phase 3, randomized, placebo-controlled, double-blind, multicenter study of patients with RRMM treated with Ven + Bd or Pbo + Bd



**Cycles 1–8:** 21-day cycle, bortezomib 1.3 mg/m<sup>2</sup> Days 1, 4, 8, 11 and dexamethasone 20 mg Days 1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 9, 11, 12

**Cycles 9+:** 35-day cycle, bortezomib 1.3 mg/m<sup>2</sup> Days 1, 8, 15, 22 and dexamethasone 20 mg Days 1, 2, 8, 9, 15, 16, 22, 23

## Stratification factors

- Bortezomib sensitive vs naïve
- Prior lines of therapy: 1 vs 2 or 3

## Non-ranked secondary endpoints

PFS in high BCL-2 (IHC), DOR, TTP, MRD negativity rate,<sup>a</sup> other PROs (GHS, fatigue)

## Key subgroup analyses

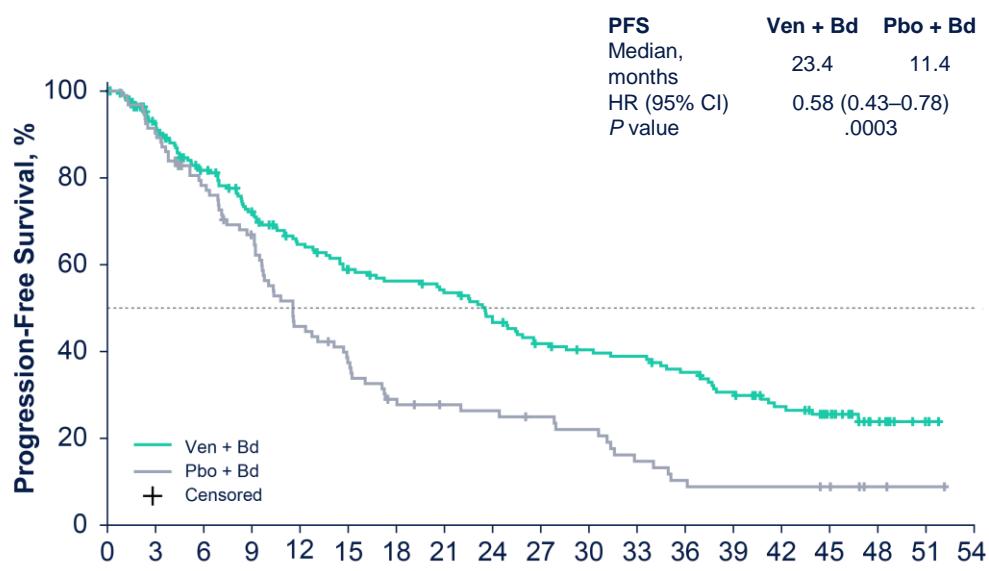
t(11;14), high/standard-risk cytogenetics, and *BCL2* expression (gene expression)

<sup>a</sup>MRD negativity in bone marrow was measured by next-generation sequencing at the time of suspected CR/sCR and at 6 and 12 months post-confirmation of CR/sCR. Bd, bortezomib + dexamethasone; CR, complete response; DOR, duration of response; GHS, global health status; IHC, immunohistochemistry; IRC, independent review committee; MRD, minimal residual disease; ORR, overall response rate; OS, overall survival; Pbo, placebo; PFS, progression-free survival; PI, proteasome inhibitor; PRO, patient-reported outcome; qd, daily; QoL, quality of life; RRMM, relapsed/refractory multiple myeloma; sCR, stringent CR; TTP, time to progression; Ven, venetoclax; VGPR, very good partial response.



PFS was significantly prolonged in the Ven + Bd arm compared with the Pbo + Bd arm; median OS was not reached in either treatment arm at a median follow-up of 45.6 months

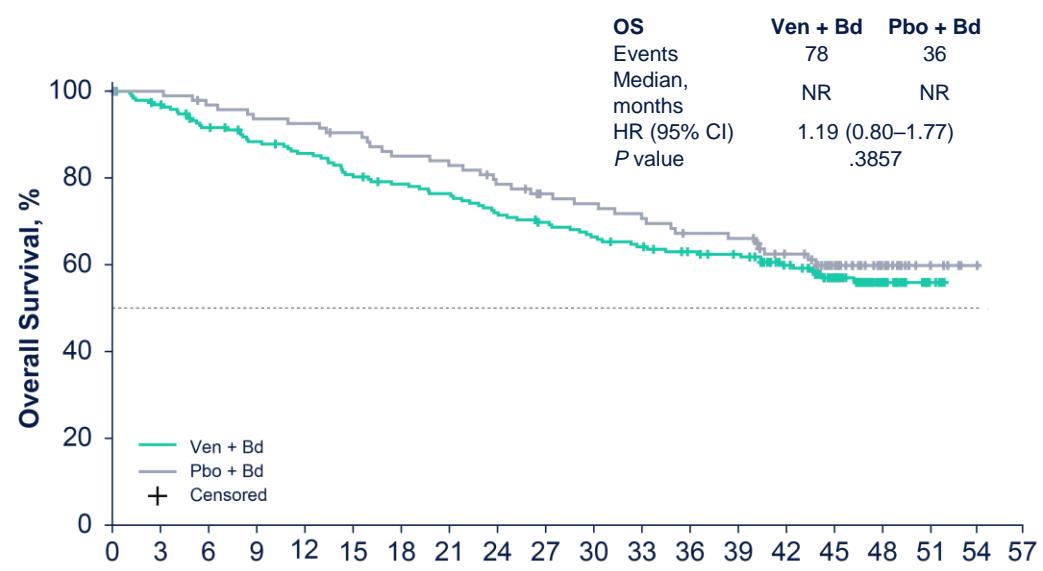
### Investigator-Assessed PFS in All Patients



### Patients at Risk

194	163	140	118	101	89	84	79	68	59	55	53	47	39	32	21	8	2	0
97	83	69	57	39	30	22	20	19	17	15	10	6	6	4	2	1	0	

### OS in All Patients



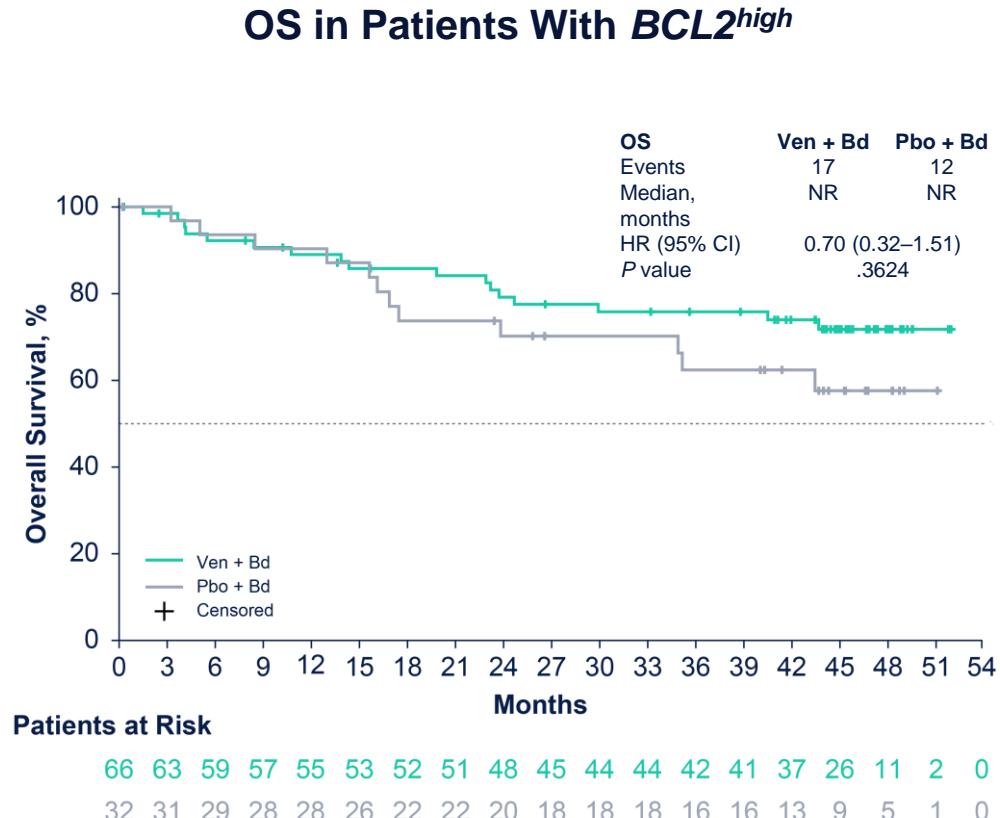
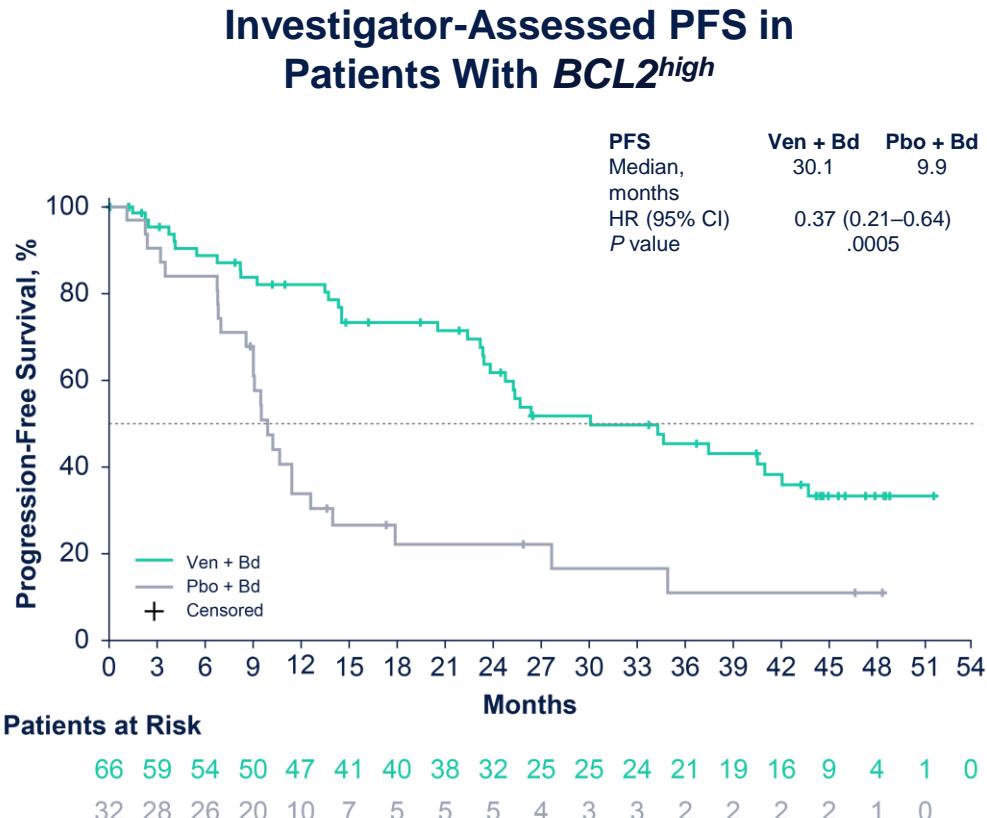
### Patients at Risk

194	186	173	164	158	149	143	139	131	124	118	113	107	103	89	68	30	6	0	
97	95	91	88	87	84	79	78	73	67	65	63	58	57	50	37	20	6	1	0

Bd, bortezomib + dexamethasone; HR, hazard ratio; NR, not reached; OS, overall survival; Pbo, placebo; PFS, progression-free survival; Ven, venetoclax.



Among patients with *BCL2*<sup>high</sup> expression, median PFS was 30.1 months in the Ven + Bd arm compared with 9.9 months in the Pbo + Bd arm ( $P=.0005$ )

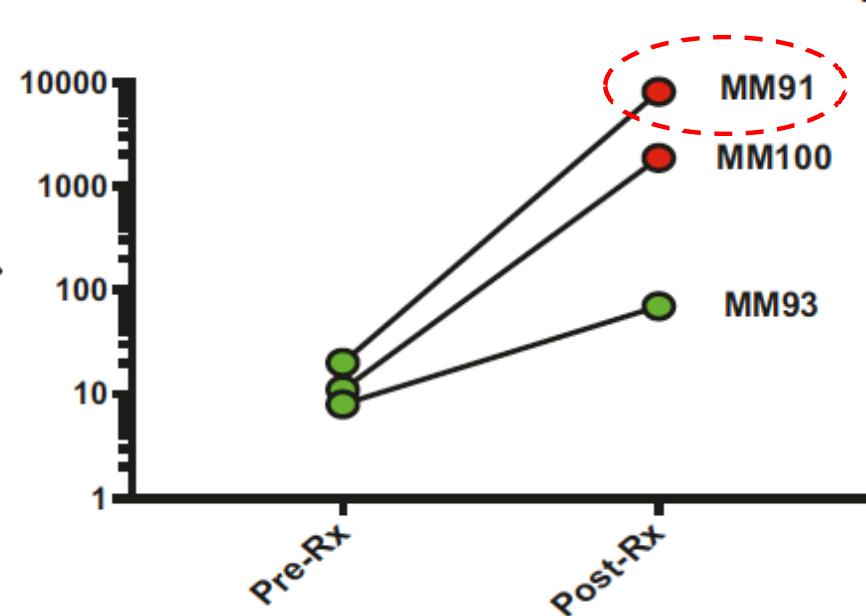
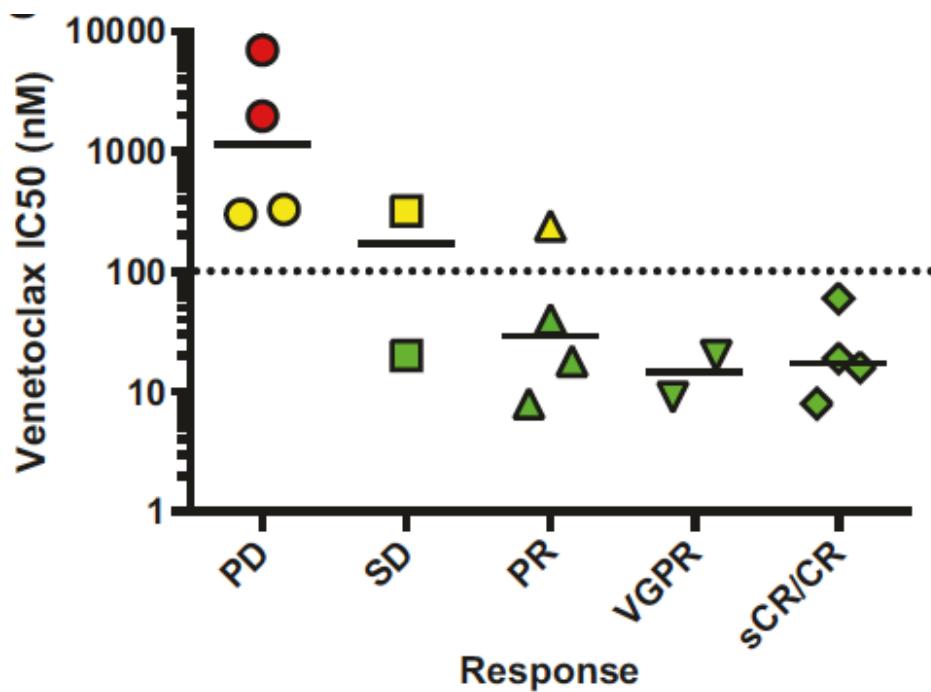


Bd, bortezomib + dexamethasone; HR, hazard ratio; NR, not reached; OS, overall survival; Pbo, placebo; PFS, progression-free survival; Ven, venetoclax.

Kumar S et al, Lancet Oncol. 2020; 21:1630-1642.

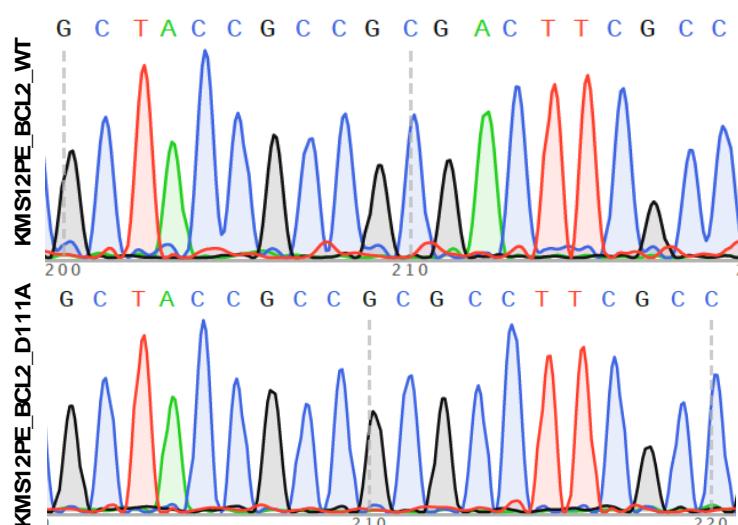
# Ex-vivo sensitivity profiling strongly correlates with clinical response to venetoclax

1000 folds increase in venetoclax IC50 at disease progression

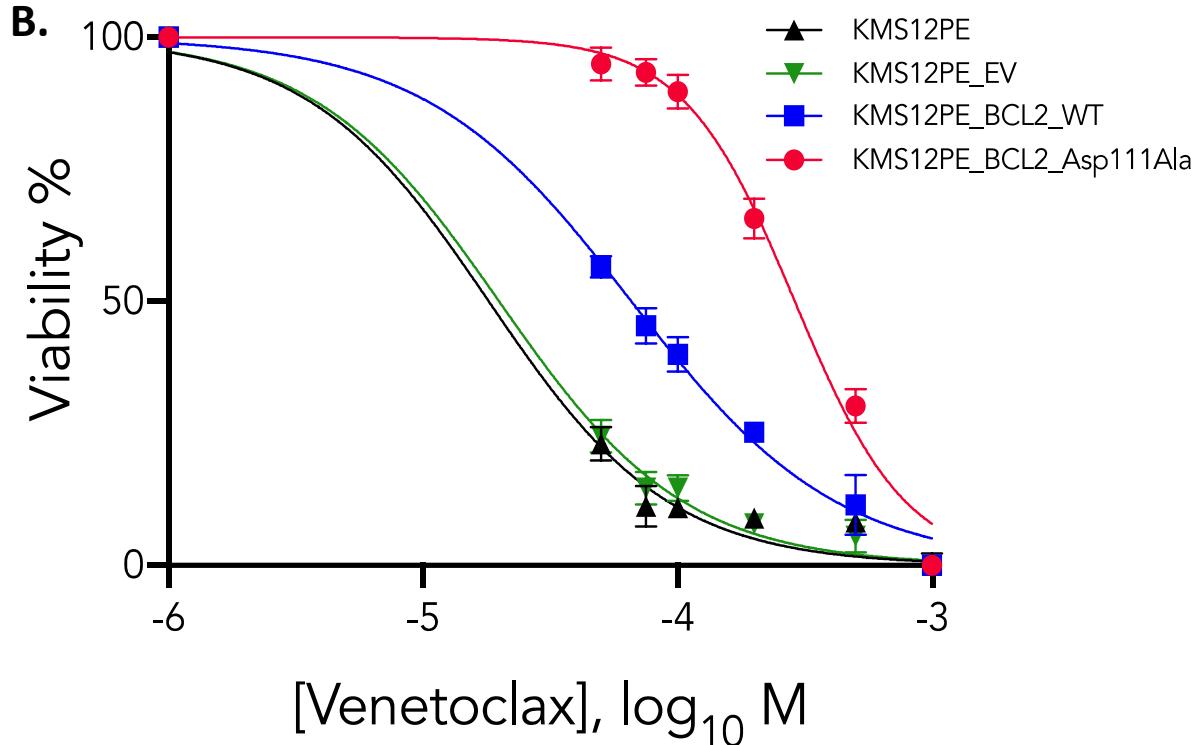


# Acquired BCL2 D111A mutation induces resistance to Venetoclax

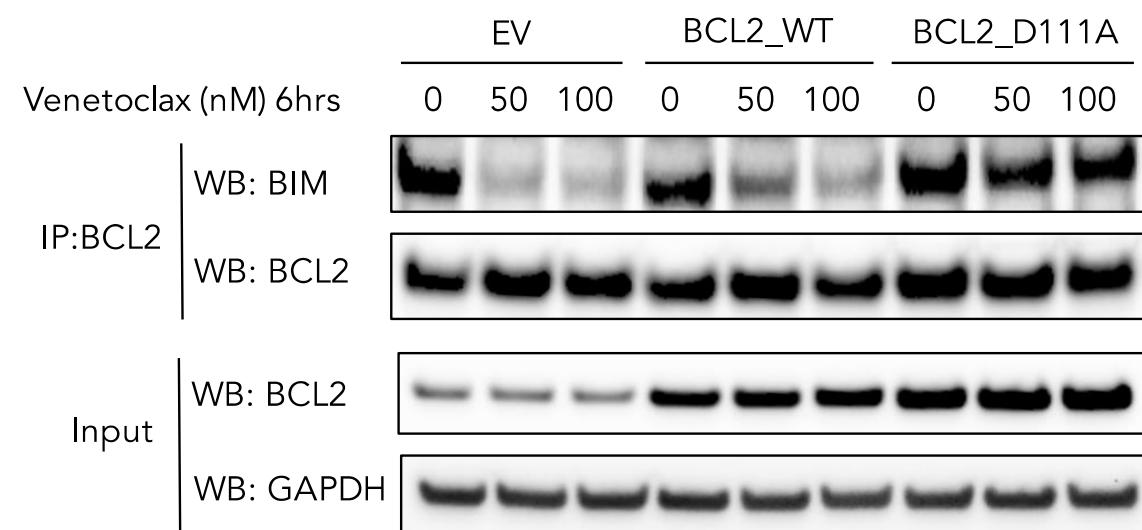
**A.**



**B.**



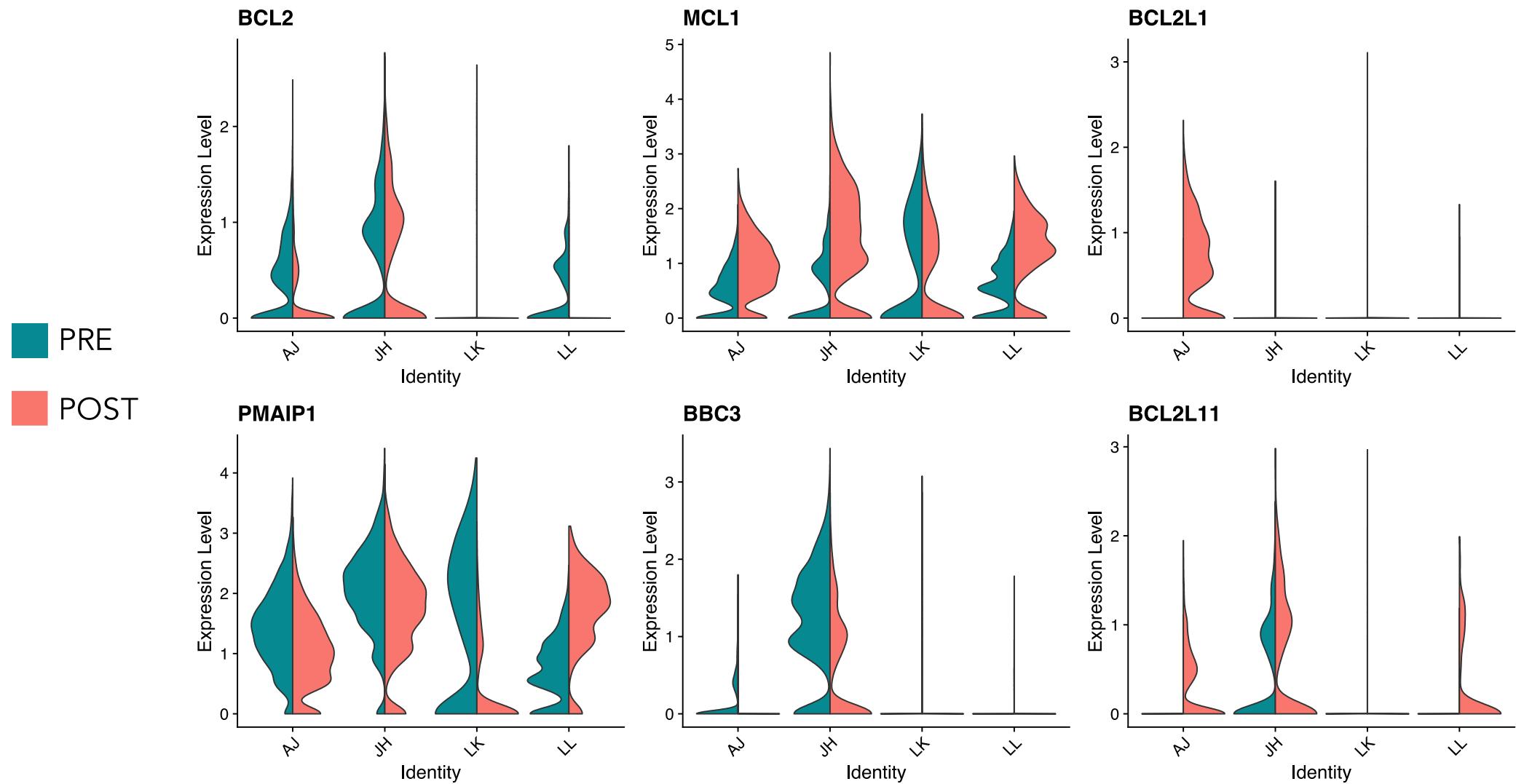
**C.**



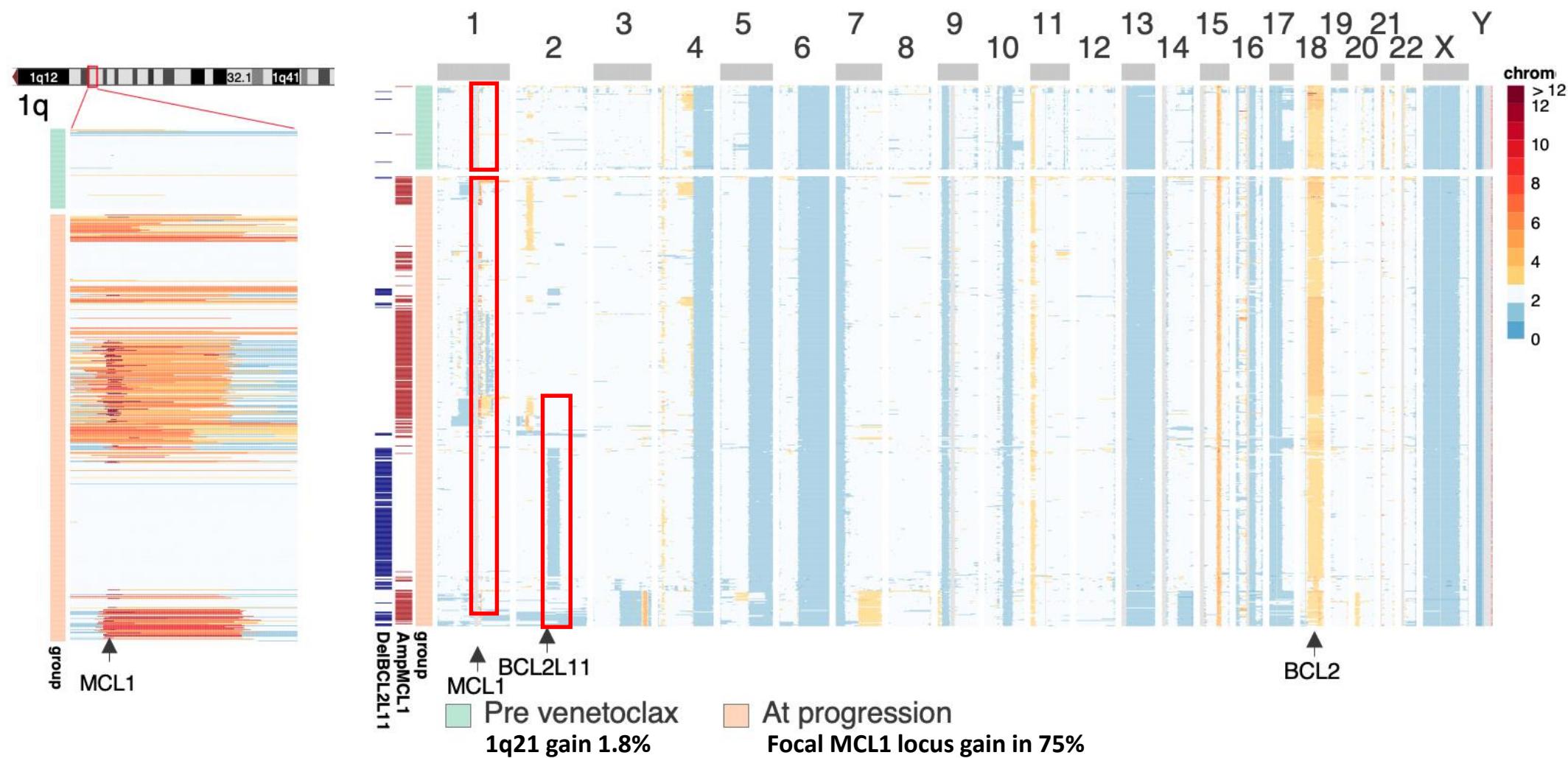
# How do MM patients acquire resistance to BCL2 inhibition with venetoclax?

- BCL2 mutations impeding venetoclax-mediated displacement of BIM and/or release of BAX/BAK
- 1q21 gain/amp: MCL1 dependency or co-dependency (BH3 priming)
- Upregulation of BCL2L1 (BH3 priming)
- Pro-apoptotic Bcl2 effector (BAX or BAK) or activators (BCL2L11) genes mutations

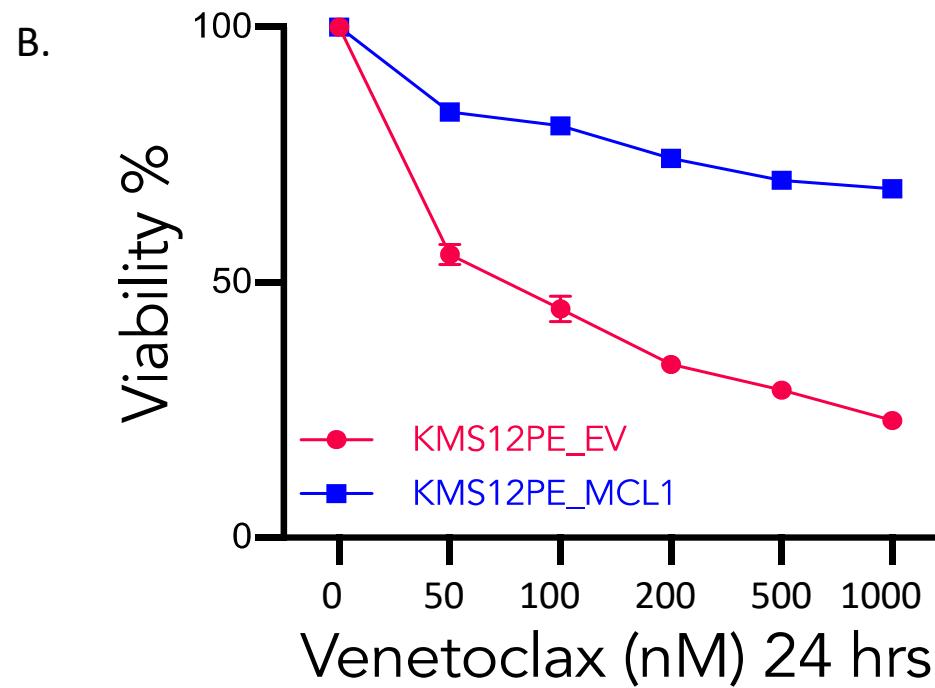
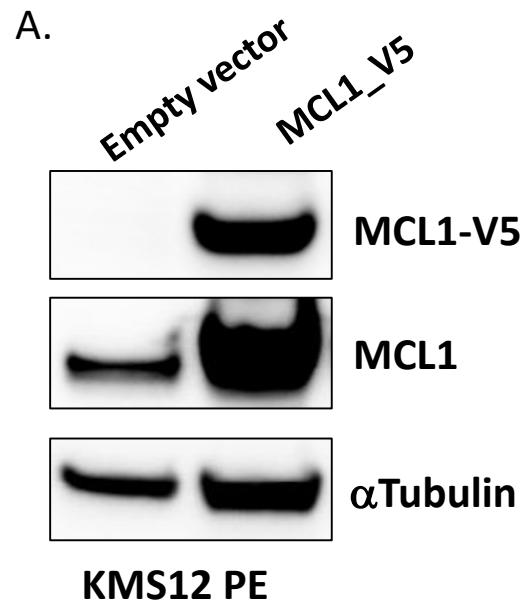
# scRNA transcript mRNA expression levels of levels of BCL2 genes pre & post venetoclax



scCNV identified focal copy number gain at the MCL1 locus (1q21) with subclonal loss at the BCL2L11 locus at the time of acquired venetoclax resistance

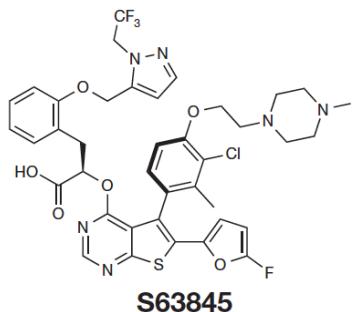


# Does MCL1 overexpression lead to Venetoclax resistance in a BCL2 dependent cell line? YES

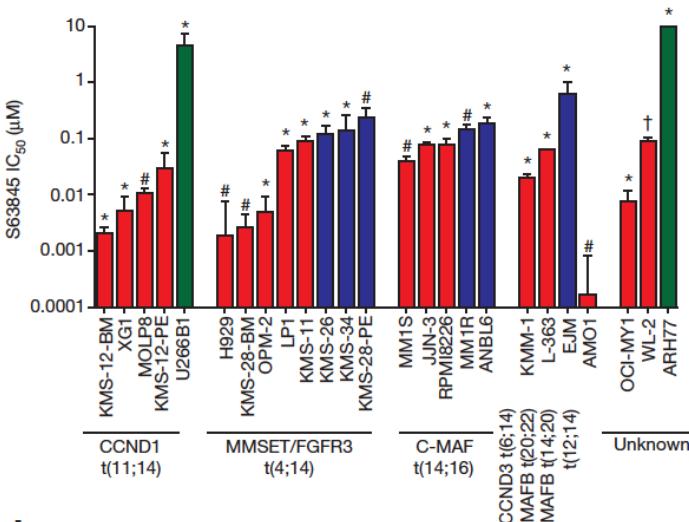


# Halted clinical development of MCL1 inhibitors in multiple myeloma due to cardiac toxicity signal

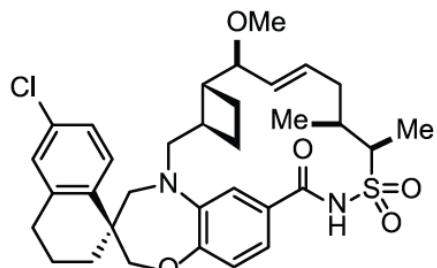
MIK665



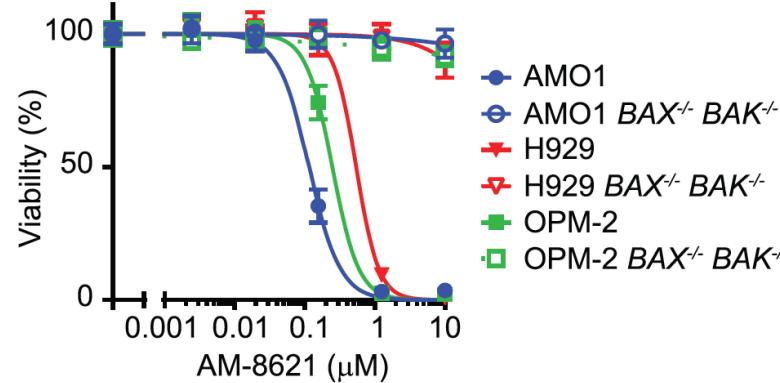
$K_i$  (MCL1, FP) < 1.2 nM  
 $K_D$  (MCL1, SPR) = 0.19 nM  
 $K_i$  (BCL2, FP) > 10,000 nM  
 $K_i$  (BCL-X<sub>L</sub>, FP) > 10,000 nM



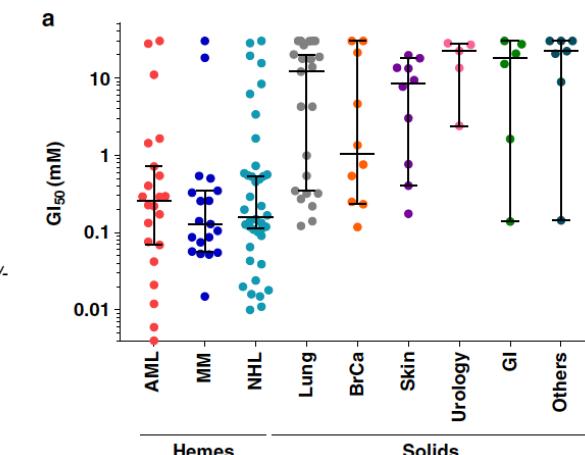
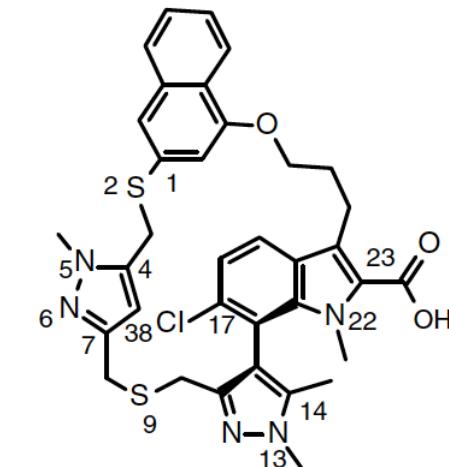
AMG176



(AMG 176),  $K_i$  = 0.00006 μM  
BCL-XL,  $K_i$  = 0.7 μM  
BCL-2,  $K_i$  = 0.95 μM  
Mouse MCL1,  $K_i$  = 0.044 μM  
Dog MCL1,  $K_i$  < 0.001 μM



AZD5991



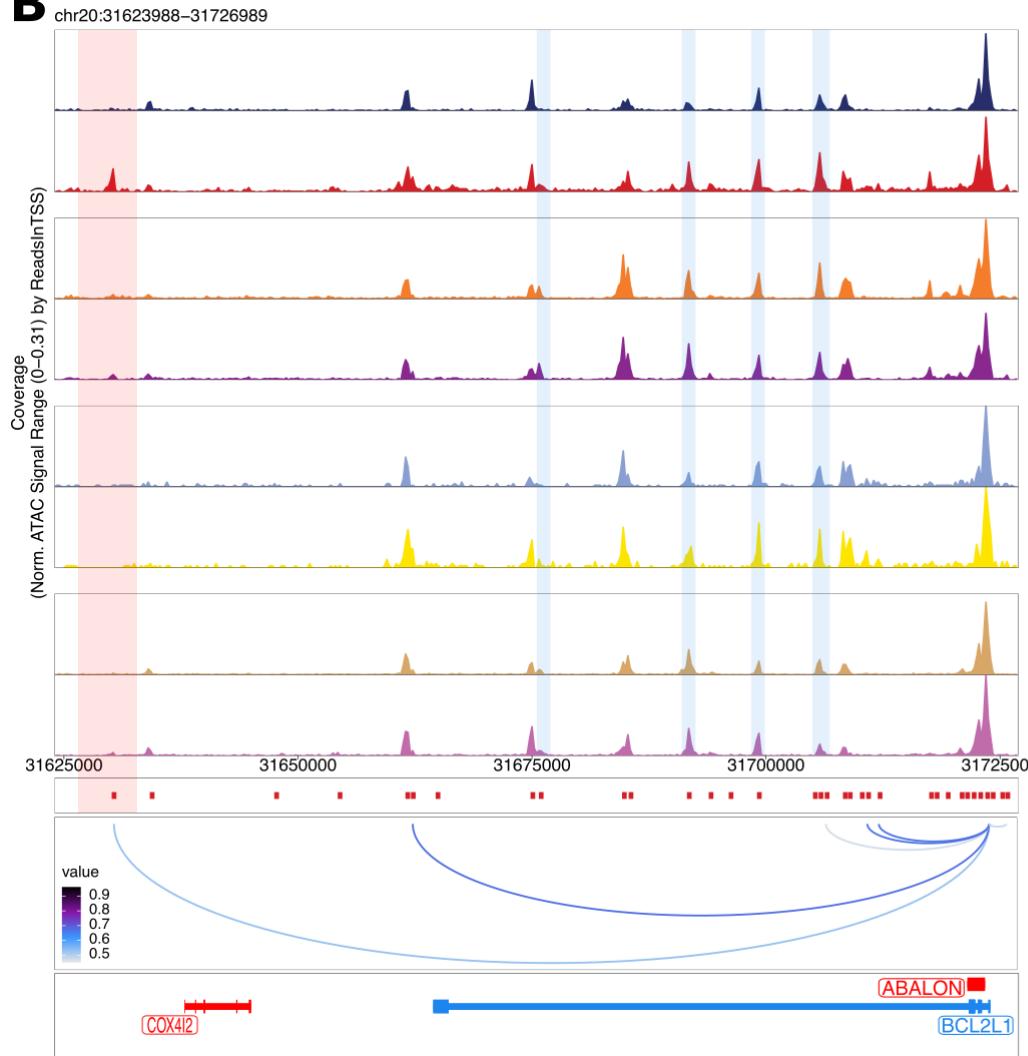
ClinicalTrials.gov: \NCT02992483)

ClinicalTrials.gov:  
NCT03797261

ClinicalTrials.gov:  
NCT03218683

# Acquired cis-regulatory elements at the BCL2L1 locus post venetoclax driven by IGLL5-BCL2L1 rearrangement

**B**



MM001 Pre

MM001 Post

MM007 Pre

MM007 Post

MM009 Pre

MM009 Post

MM010 Pre

MM010 Post

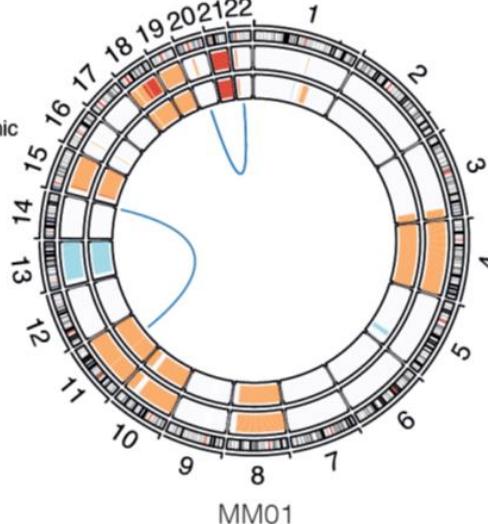
Peaks

Peak2Gene  
Links

Genes

Genomic  
copies

4  
3  
2  
1  
0



chr20:31600000-31730000

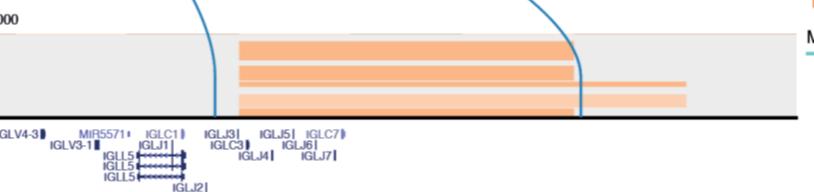
MM01 Pre

MM01 Post

Genomic  
copies

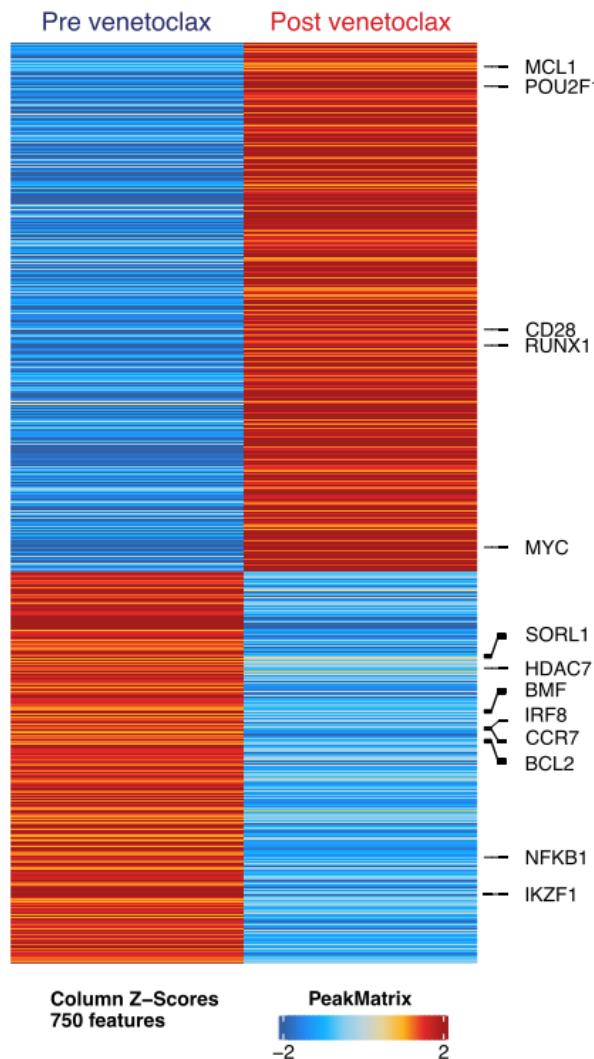
5  
4  
3  
2  
1  
0

Mate-pair

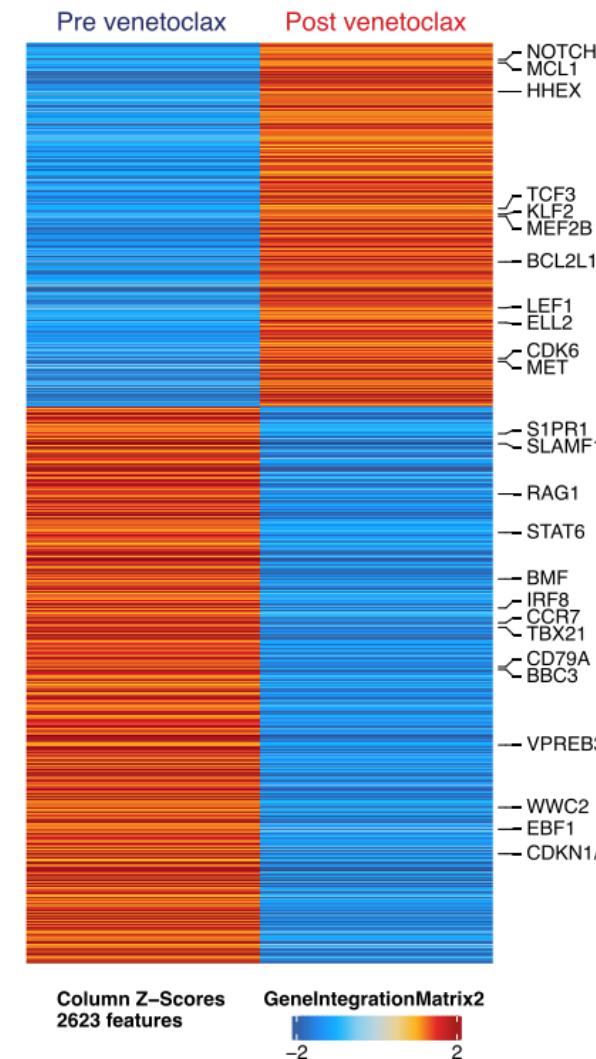


# Divergence of epigenomic and transcriptomic profiles in Pre vs Post Venetoclax from B-cell to plasma cells

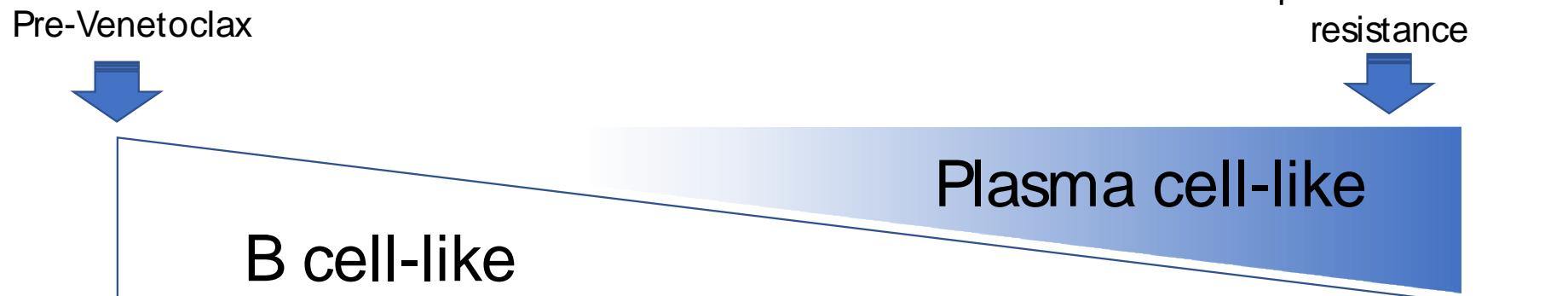
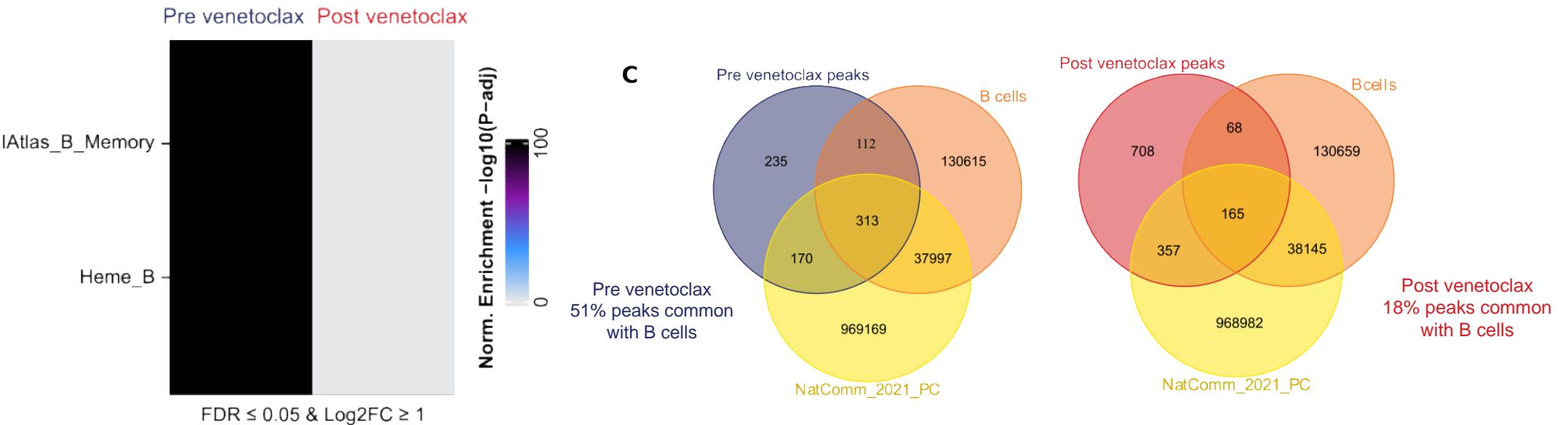
**A Differentially accessible chromatin**



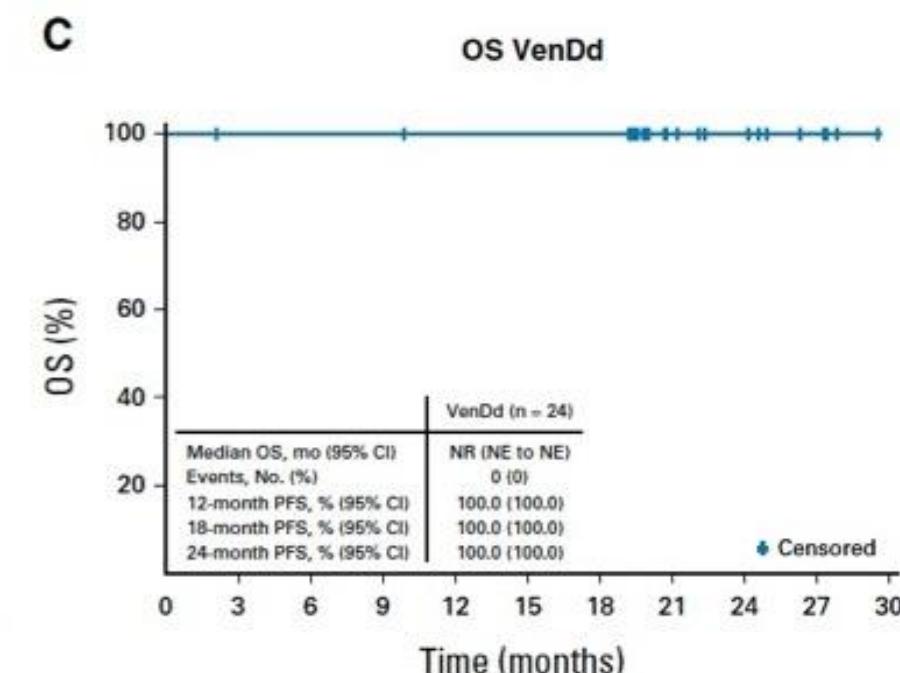
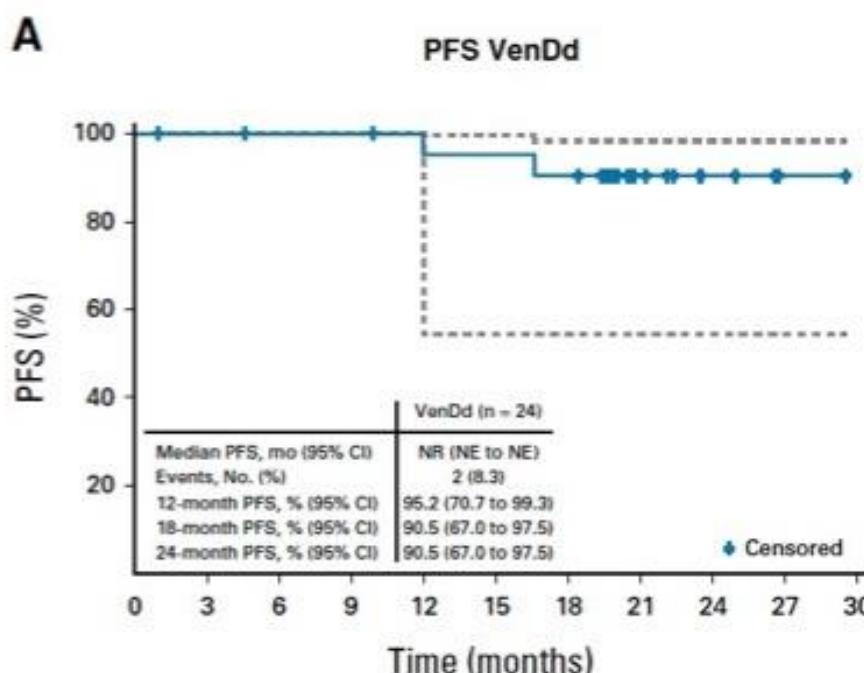
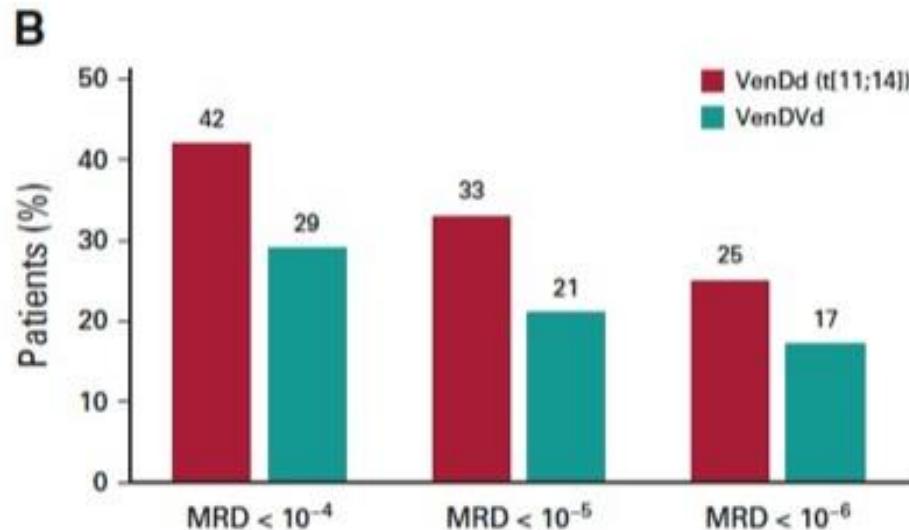
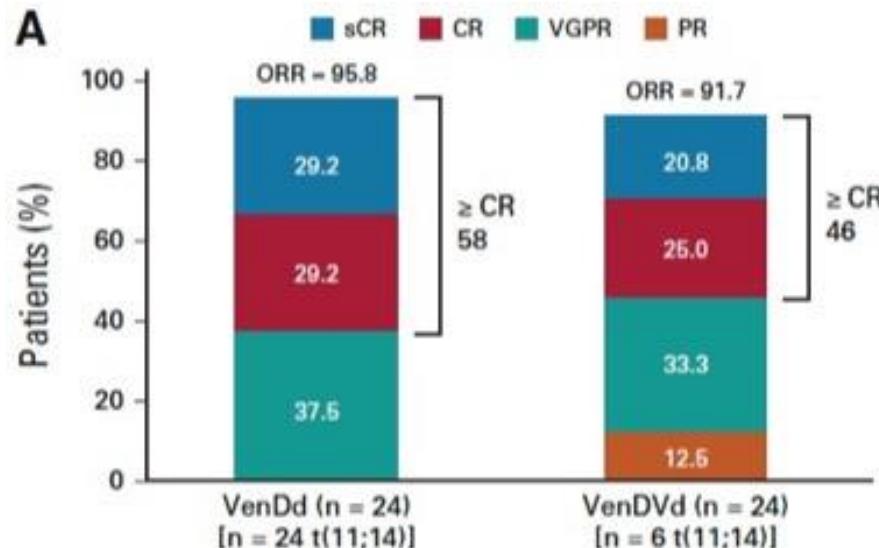
**B Differentially expressed genes**



# Loss of “B cell-like” epigenetic signature in post venetoclax resistant samples

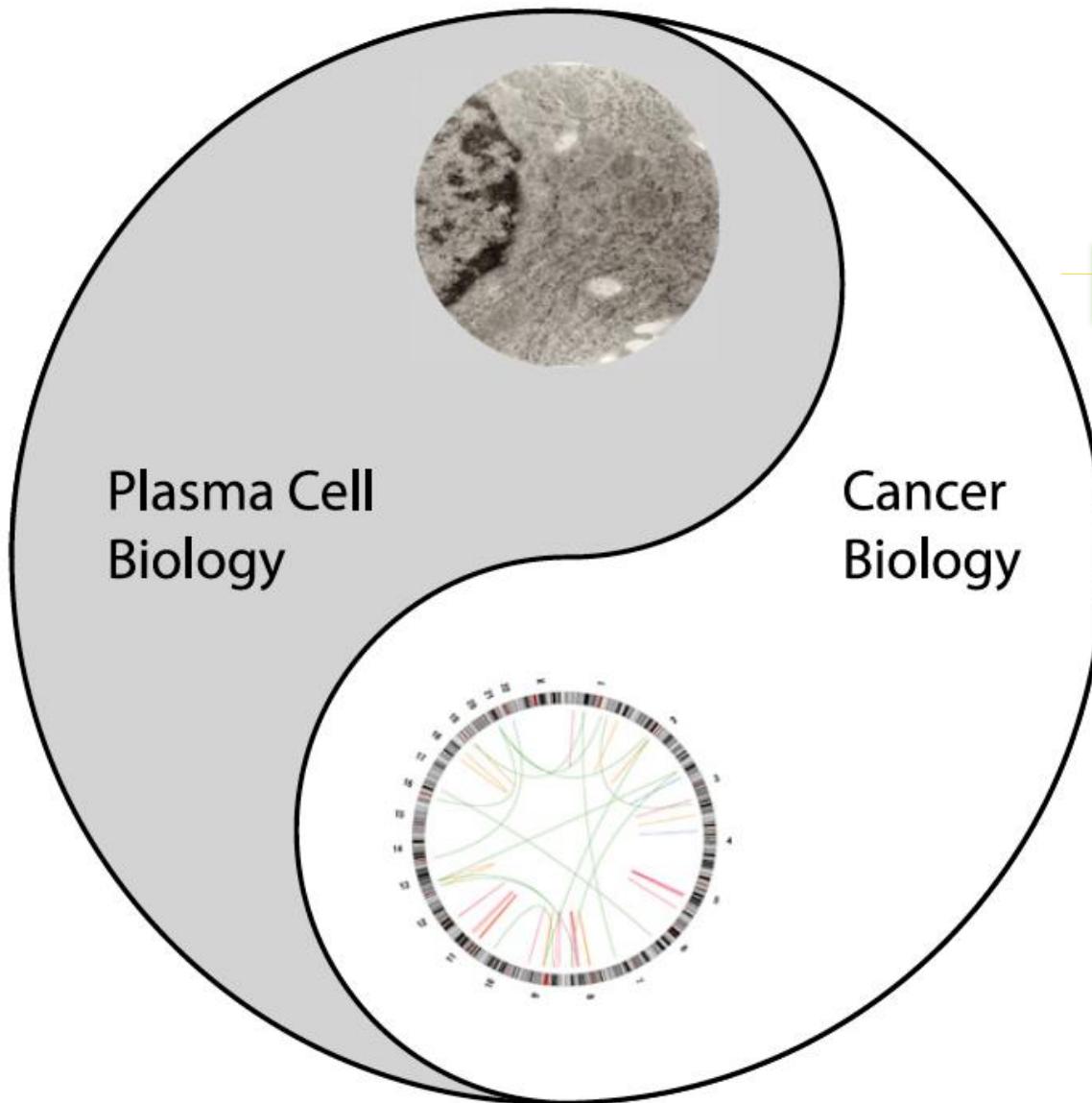


# Combination of Venetoclax with Daratumumab in relapsed myeloma



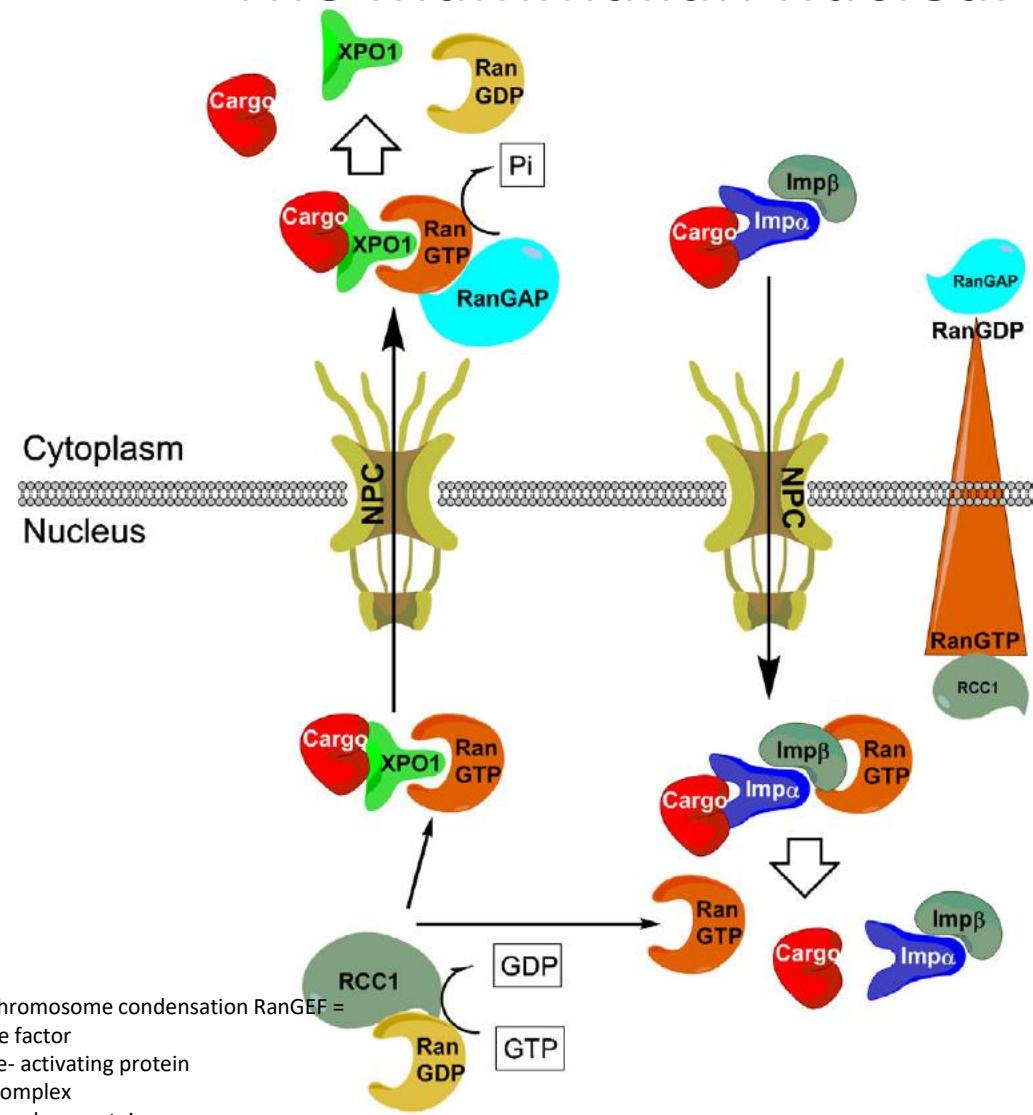
# The Tao of Myeloma

Boise LH. Blood 2014



XPO1 inhibitors

# The mammalian nuclear pore complex



Karyopherin are the major family of nuclear transport proteins: Importins and Exportins.

CRM1 (Chromosomal Maintenance 1, Exportin 1 or XPO1) is the major mammalian export protein.

XPO1 facilitates the transport of large macromolecules (>40 kDa) including RNA and protein across the nuclear membrane to the cytoplasm.

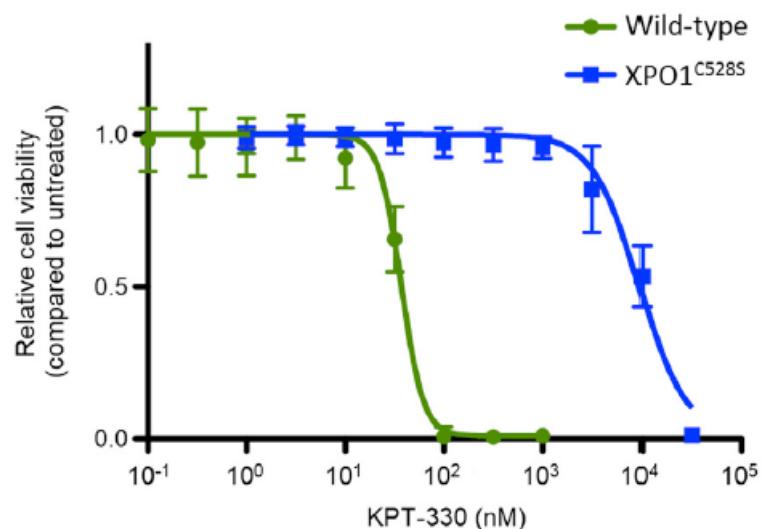
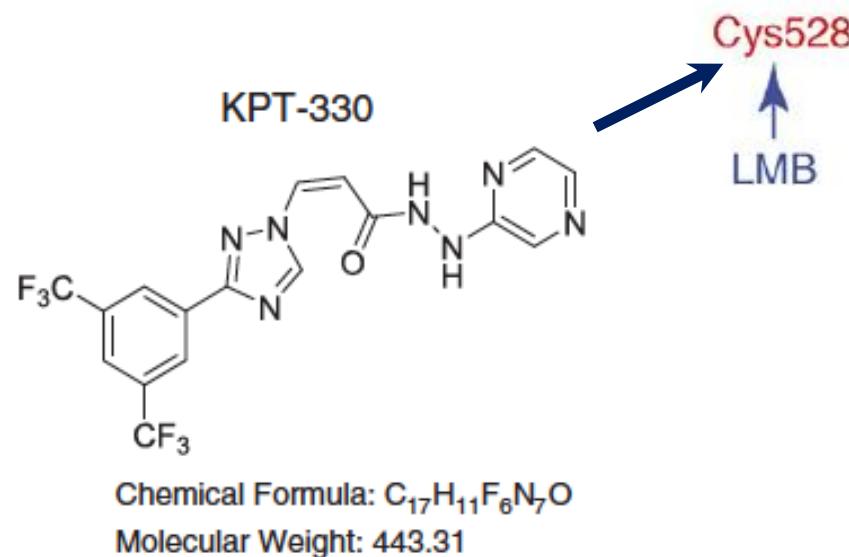
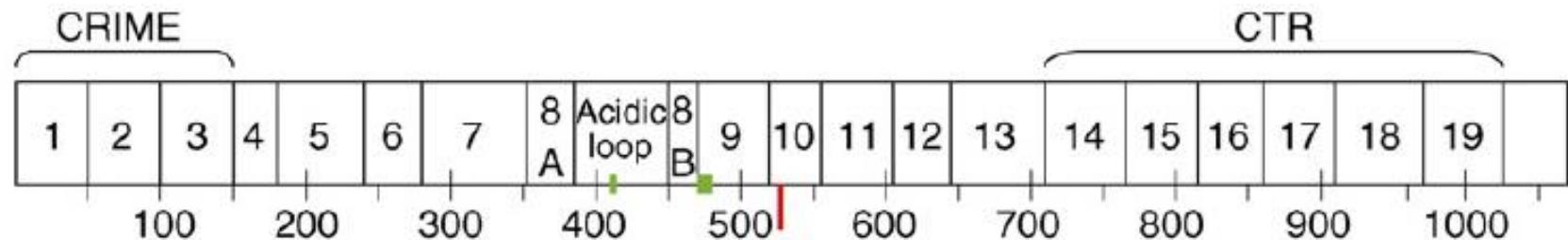
Stade et al, Cell 1997

Adachi et al, The Journal of Cell Biol 1989

Hutten et al Trends in Cell Biology 2007

Azmi et al, Nat Rev Clin Oncol 2021

# Small-molecule selective inhibitors of nuclear export (SINEs)

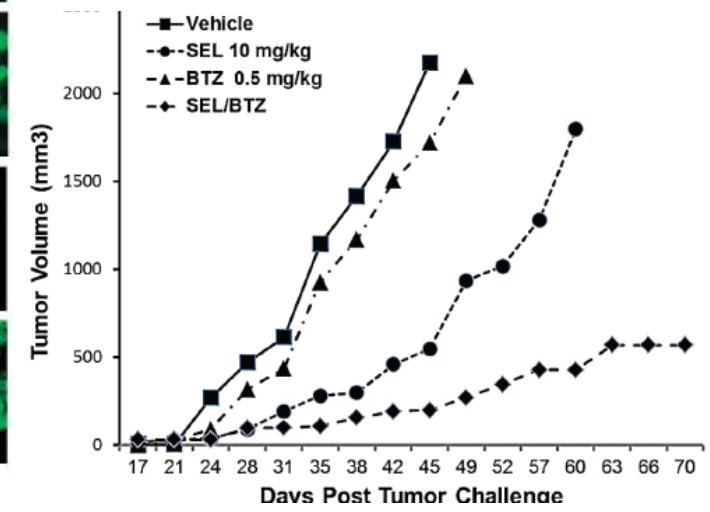
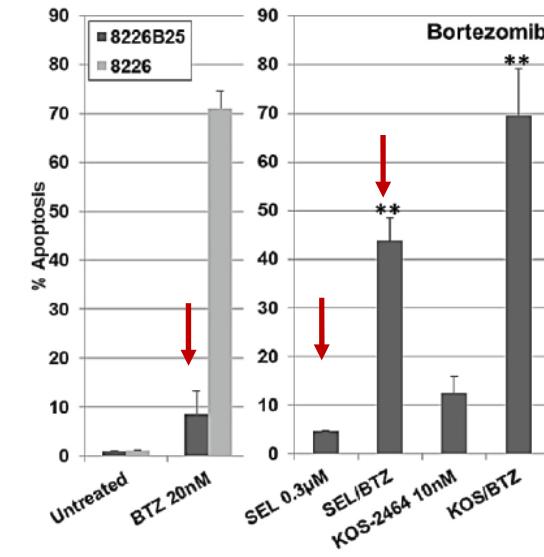
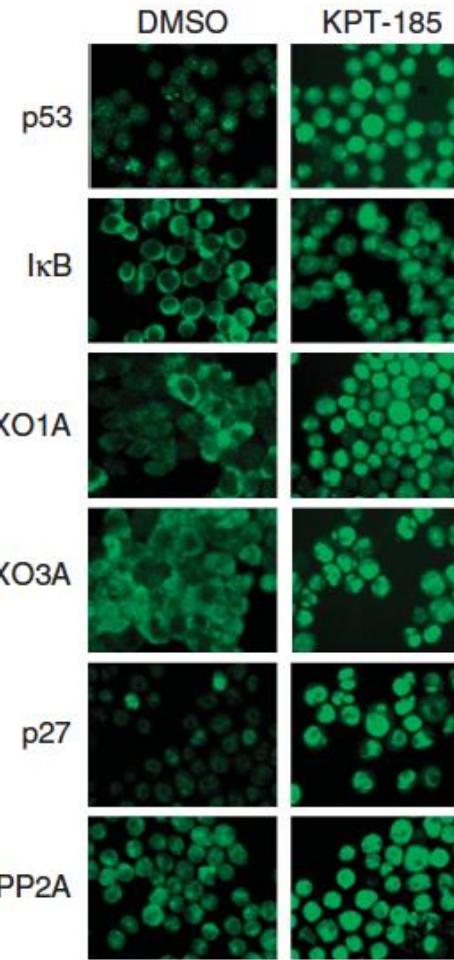
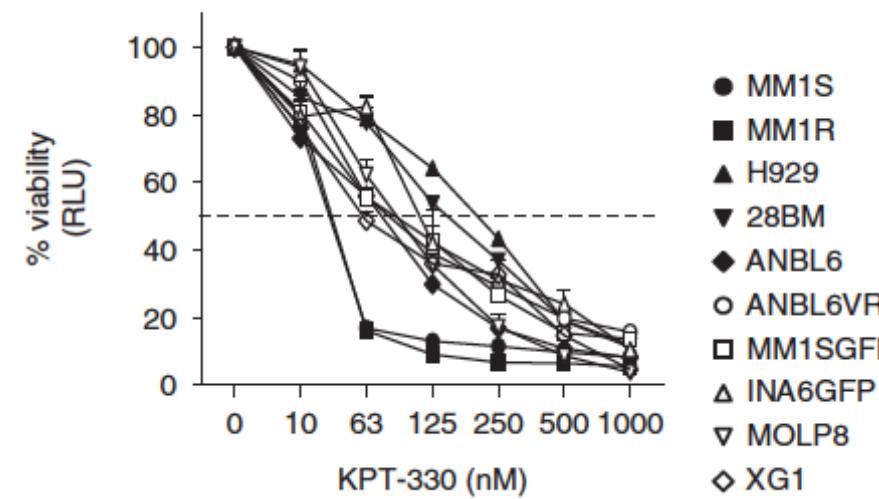
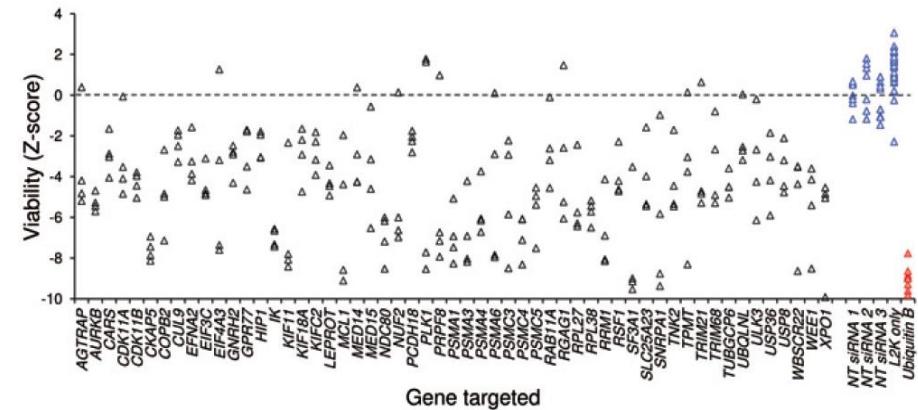


SINE compounds: KPT-185, KPT-251, KPT-276, selinexor, eltanexor and verdinexor

Kalid et al, J Comput Aided Mol Des 2012  
Neggers et al, Chemistry & Biology 2015

# XPO1as therapeutic target in Myeloma

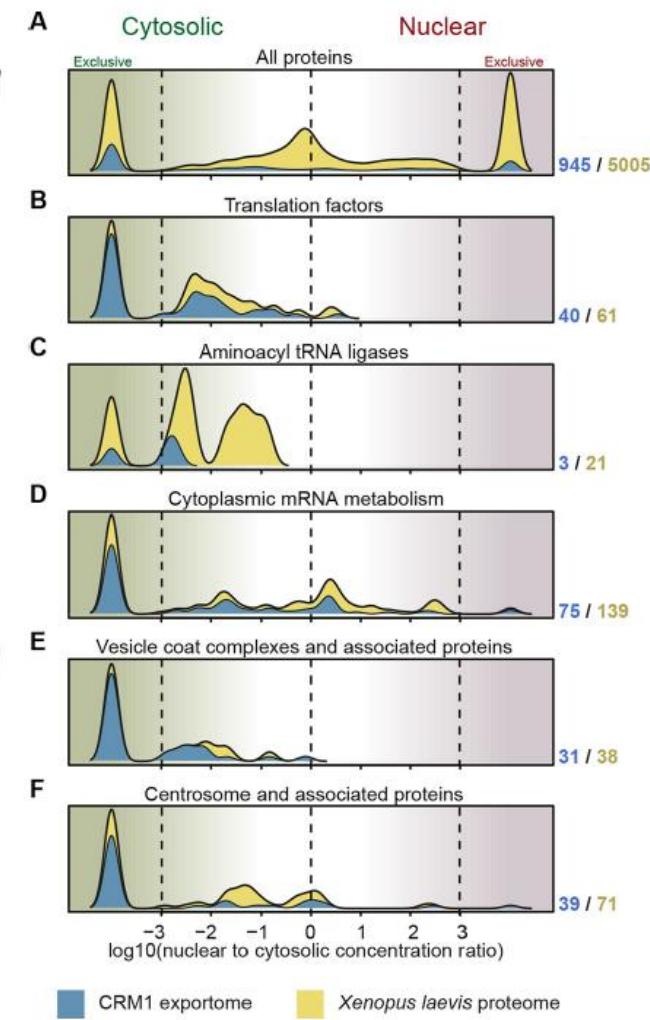
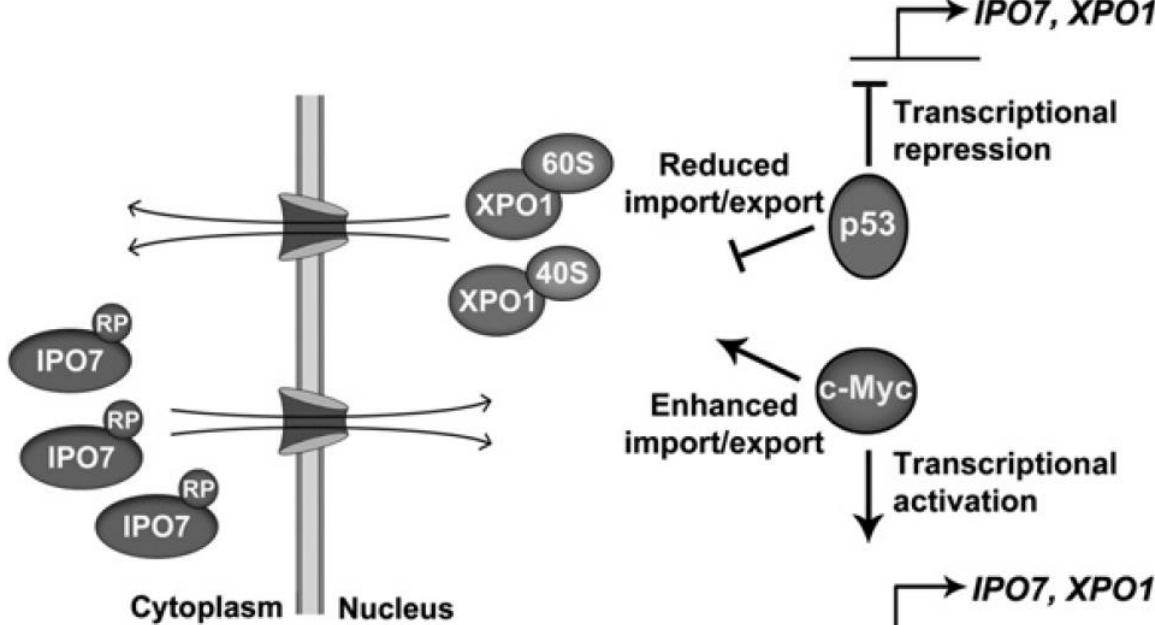
## Synergy with Proteasome inhibitors



Tiedemann et al Cancer Research 2011  
 Schmidt et al, Leukemia 2013  
 Tai et al, Leukemia 2014

Turner et al, Oncotarget 2016  
 Rosebeck et al, Mol Cancer Ther 2016

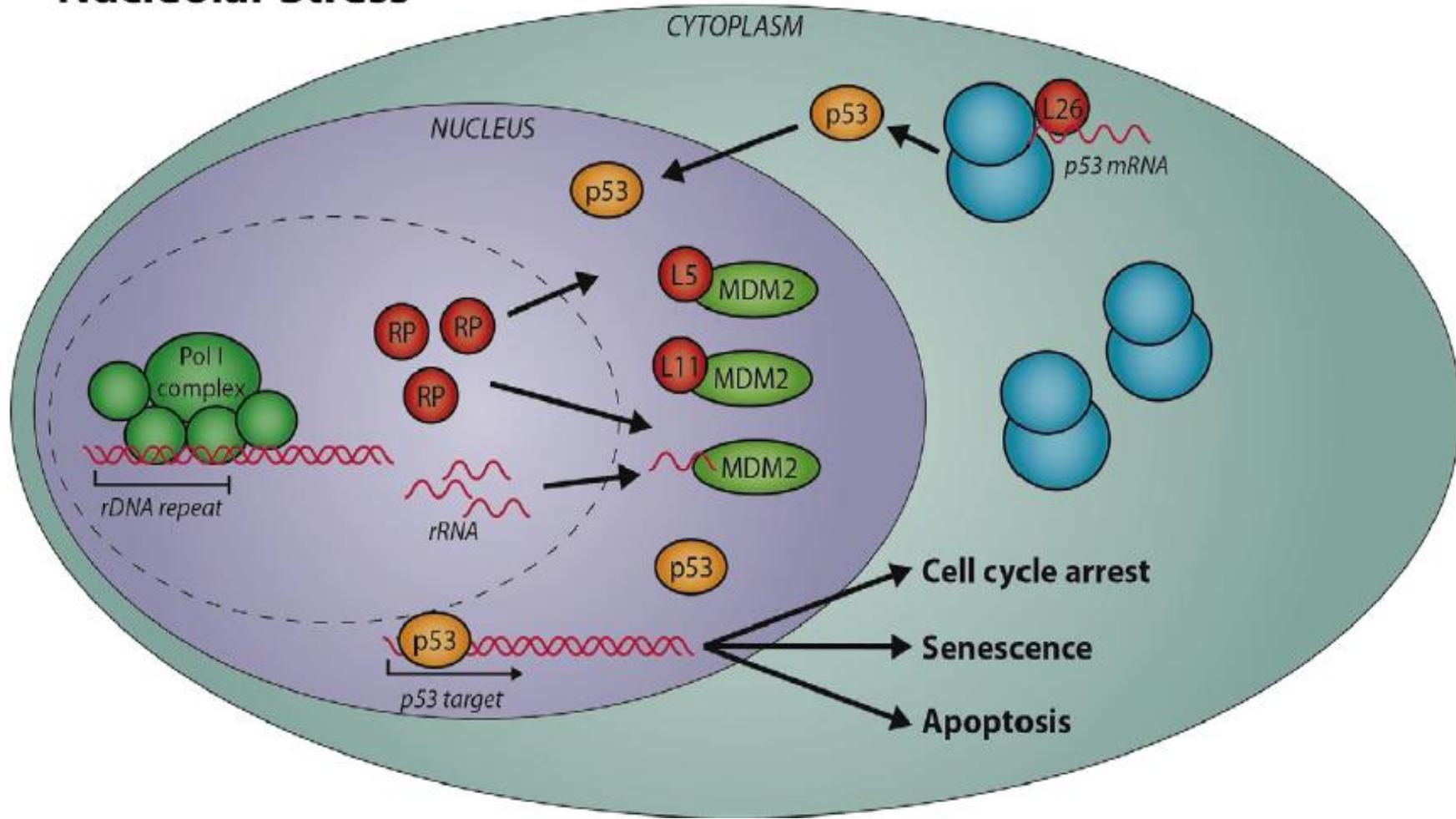
# XPO1 regulates translation & Ribosomal biogenesis



Golomb et al, Molecular Cell 2012  
 Kirli et al, eLife 2015  
 Fischer et al, eLife 2015  
 Moy et al, Genes and Development 1999  
 Rouquette et al, The EMBO Journal 2005

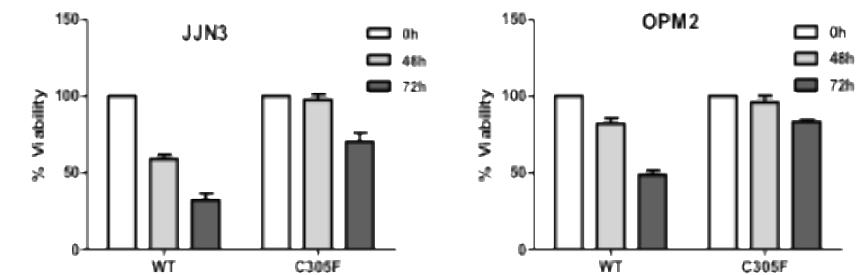
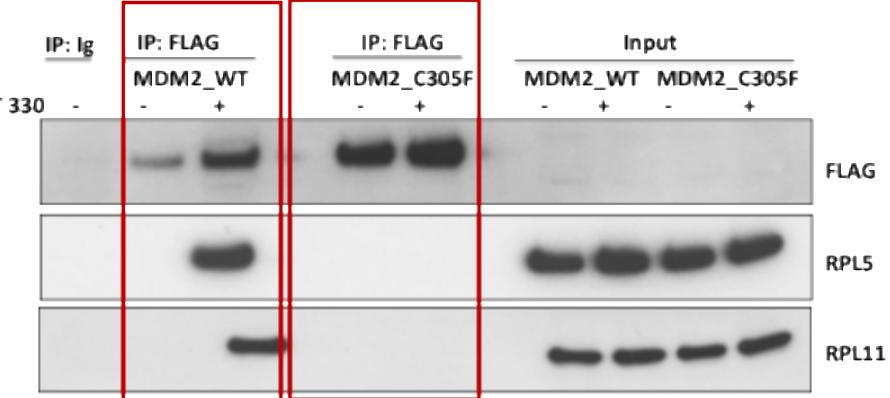
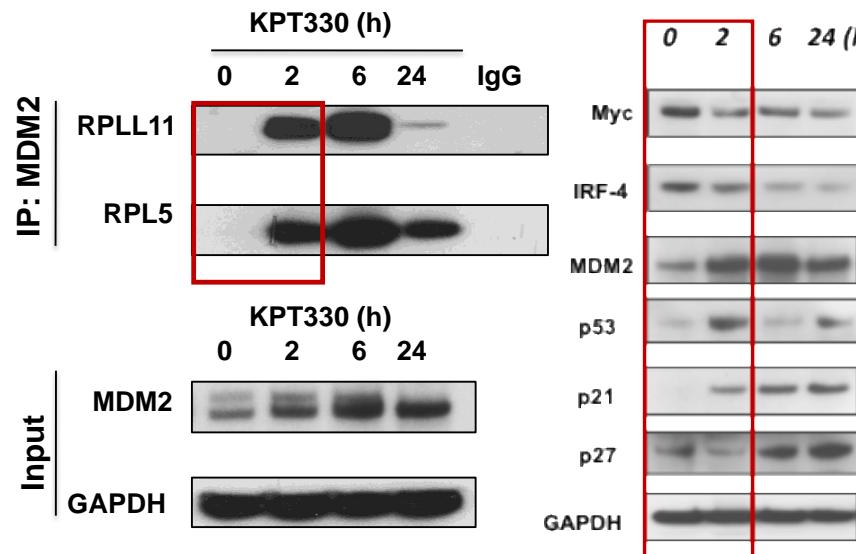
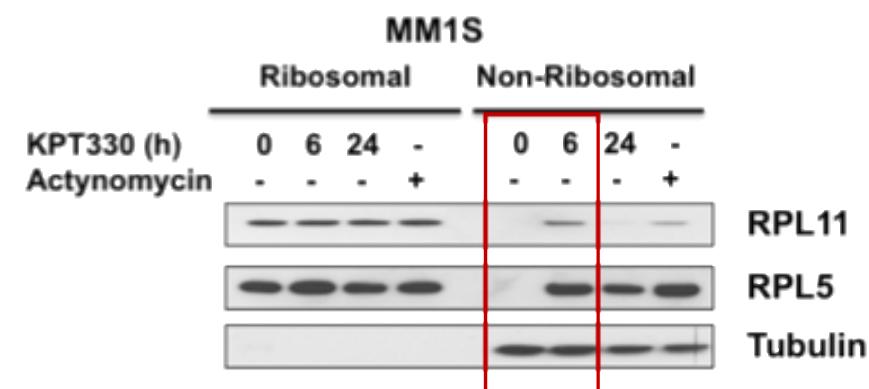
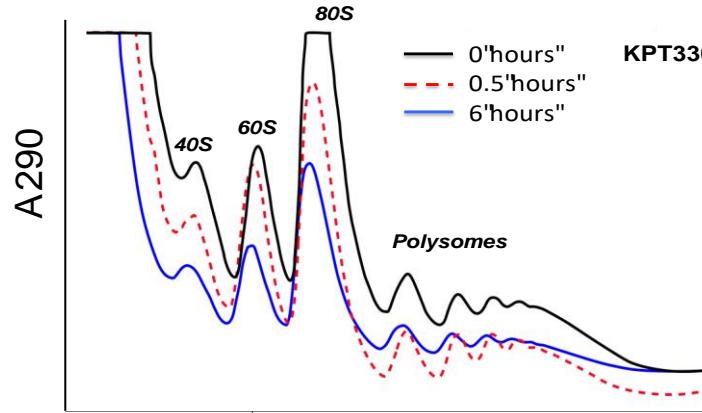
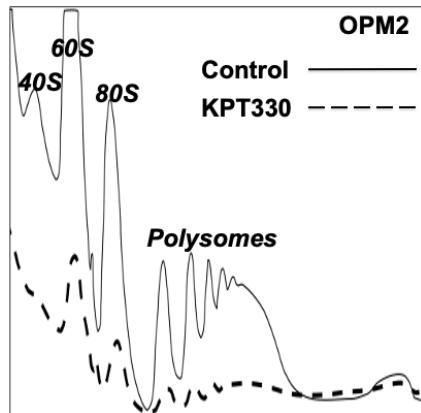
# Ribosomal stress response

## Nucleolar Stress

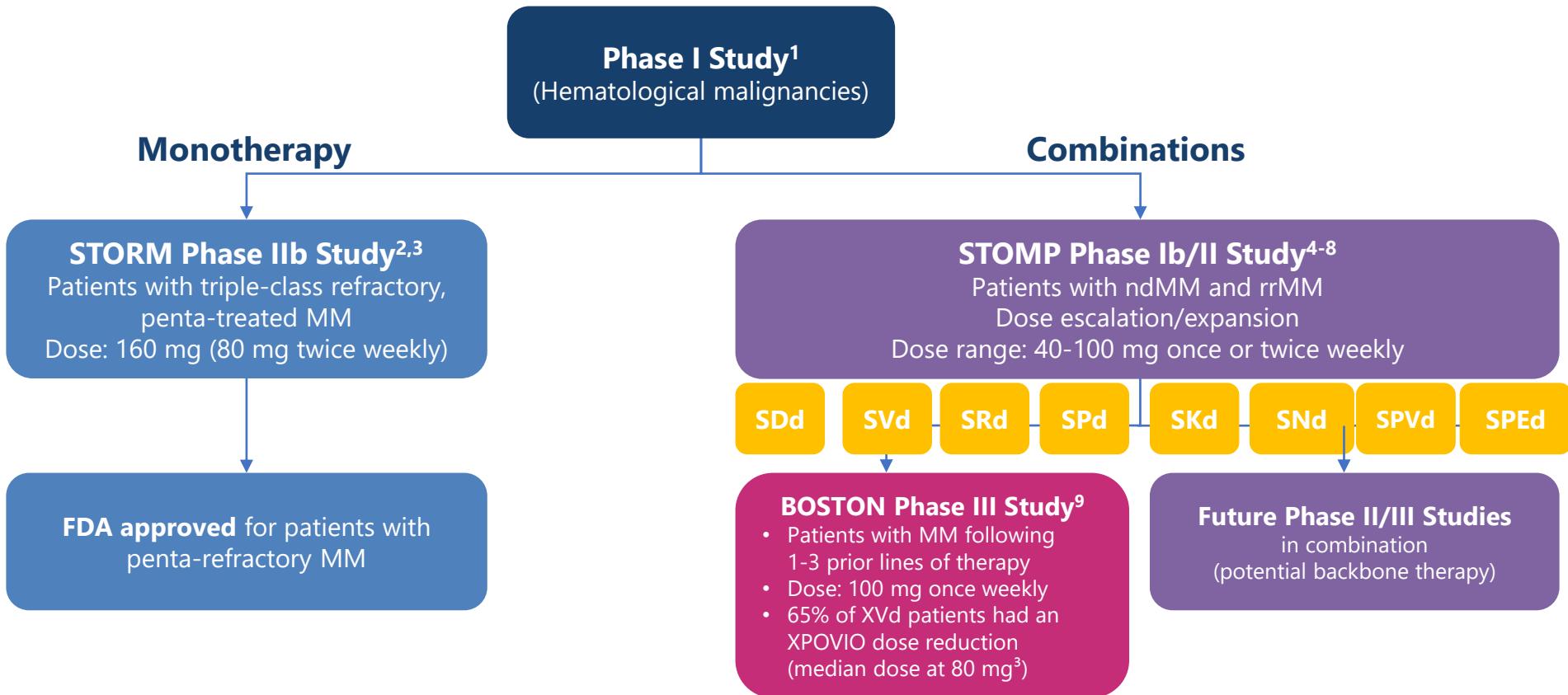


Golomb et al FEBS Lett. 2014  
Quin et al Biochimica et Biophysica Acta 2014

# XPO1 inhibition induces ribosomal stress response in MM cells

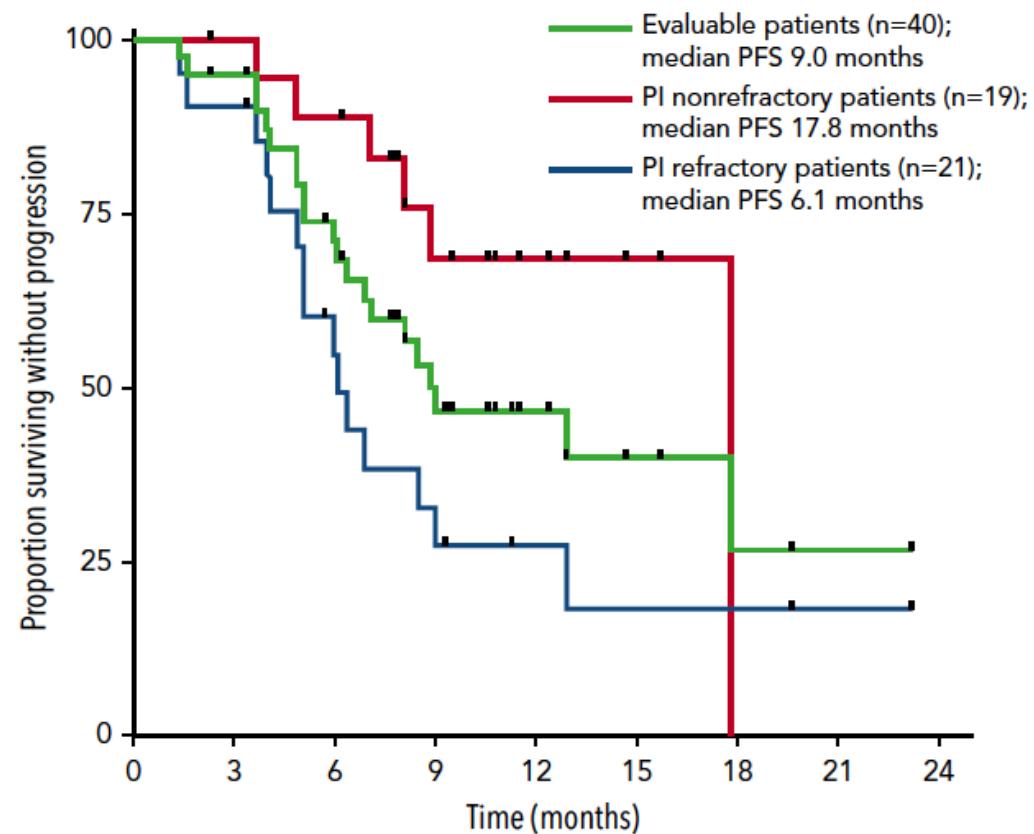
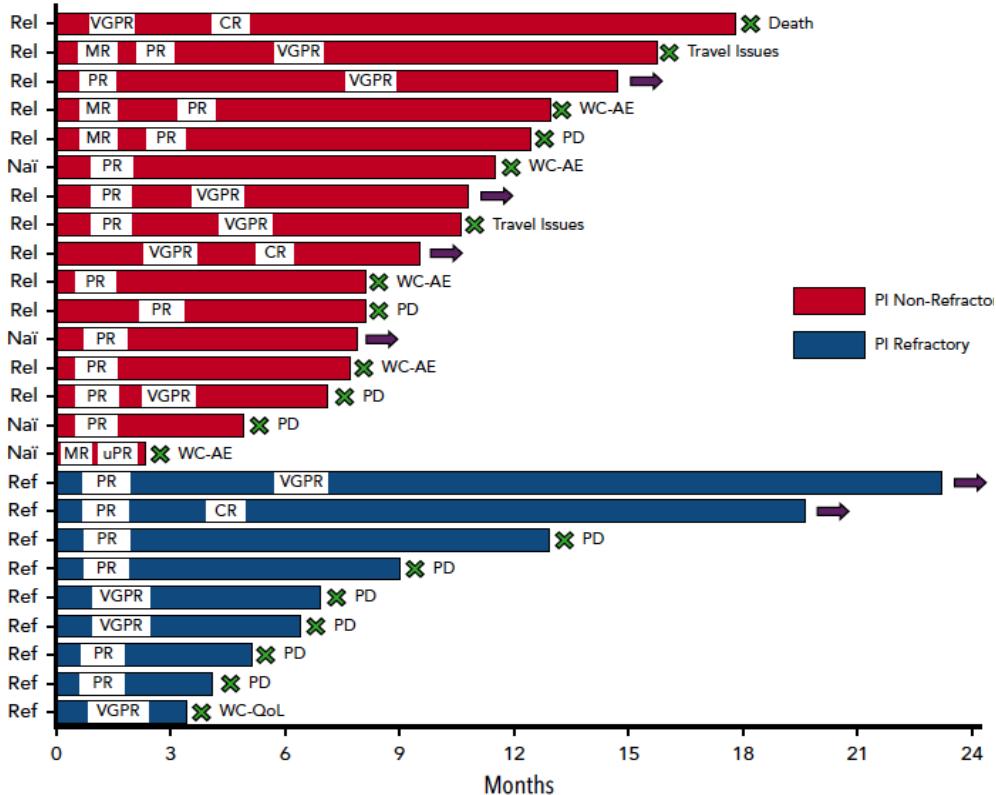


# SELINEXOR Clinical Development in Relapse and Refractory MM



1. Chen et al. Blood. 2018;131:855-63; 2. Vogl et al. J Clin Oncol. 2018;36:859-66; 3. Chari et al. N Engl J Med. 2019;381:727-38; 4. Chen et al. Blood. 2019;134(supplement\_1):141; 5. Bahlis et al. Blood. 2018;132:2546-54; 6. White et al. Blood. 2017;130(supplement\_1):1861; 7. Gasparetto et al. Blood. 2018;134(supplement\_1):3157; 8. Salcedo et al. Blood. 2019;20:198-200; 9. Grosicki et al. Lancet. 2020;396:1563-73.

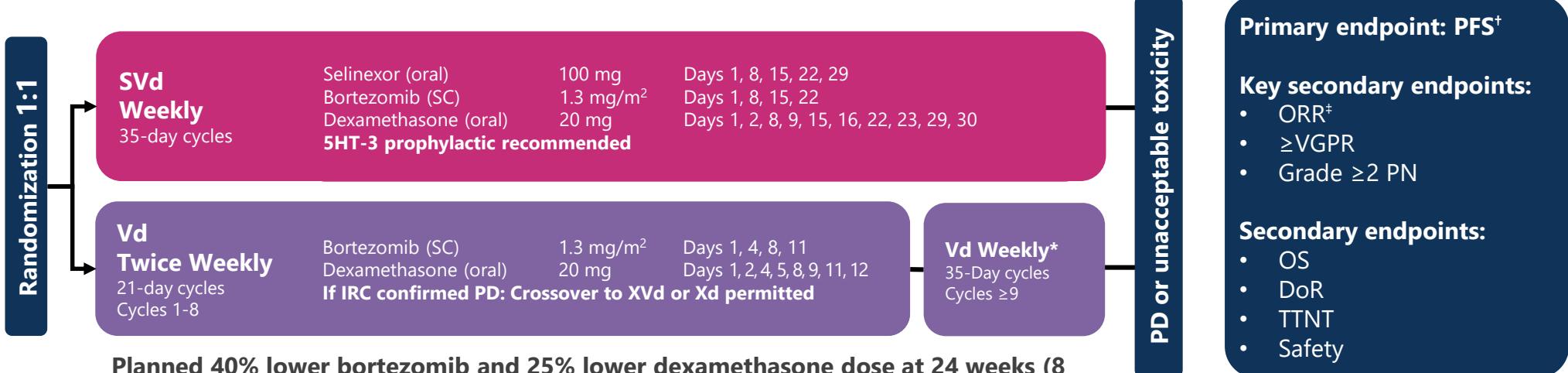
# Selinexor Bortezomib Dexamethasone (SVd) induces durable responses in relapsed /refractory Myeloma



## No. at Risk

	40	37	27	15	8	4	2	1	0
All Eval	40	37	27	15	8	4	2	1	0
PI Nonref	19	18	16	9	5	2	0	0	0
PI Ref	21	19	11	6	3	2	2	1	0

# BOSTON: Phase III, open-label, global, randomized, controlled trial



**Planned 40% lower bortezomib and 25% lower dexamethasone dose at 24 weeks (8 cycles) in SVd arm vs. Vd arm**

**Stratification:**

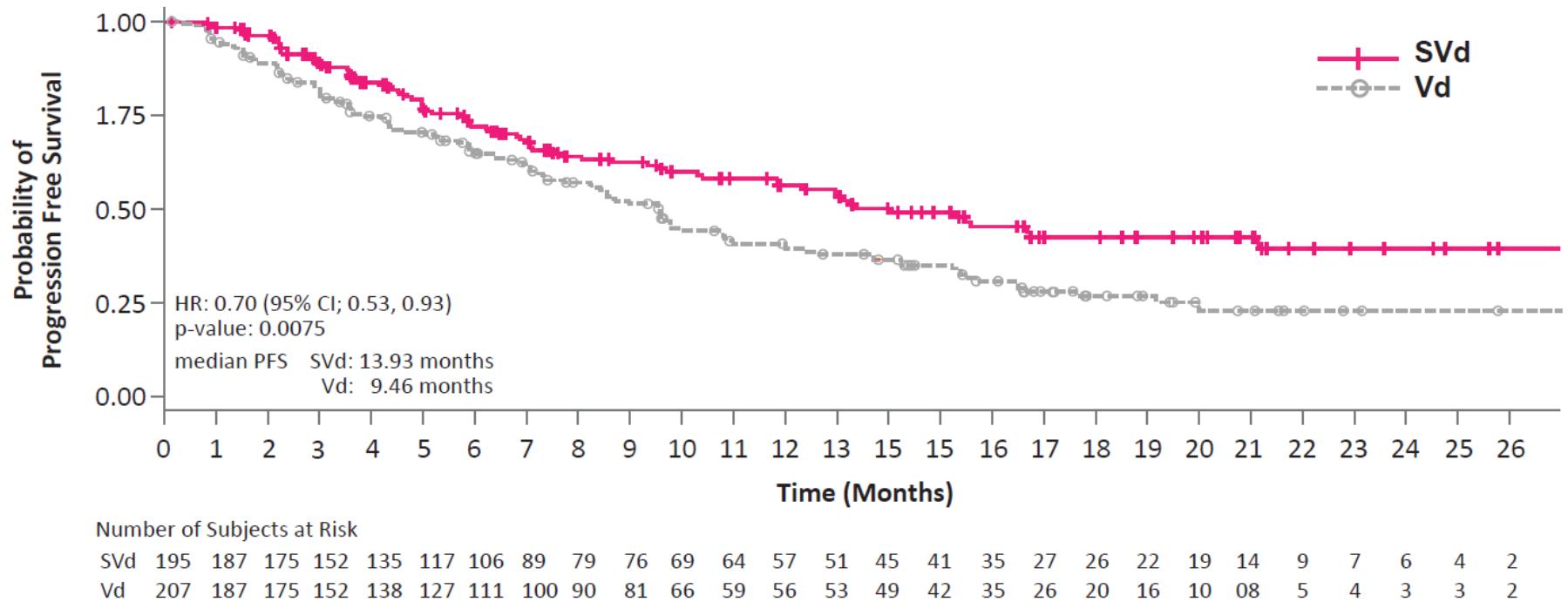
- Prior PI therapies (Yes vs. No)
- Number of prior anti-MM regimens (1 vs. >1)
- R-ISS stage at study entry (Stage III vs. Stage I/II)

\*Vd weekly dosing and schedule for cycles ≥9 as per XVd arm description; <sup>†</sup>PFS defined as: Time from date of randomization until the first date of progressive disease, per IMWG response criteria, or death due to any cause, whichever occurred first, as assessed by IRC; <sup>‡</sup>ORR defined as: Any response ≥PR (ie, PR, VGPR, CR, or sCR) based on the IRC's response outcome assessments, according to IMWG response criteria. All changes in MM disease assessments were based on baseline MM disease assessments.

5-HT3: 5-hydroxytryptamine; d: dexamethasone; DoR: duration of response; IMWG: International Myeloma Working Group; IRC: Independent Review Committee; ORR: objective response rate; OS: overall survival; PD: progressive disease; PFS: progression free survival; PI: proteasome inhibitor; PN: peripheral neuropathy; PR: partial response; R-ISS: revised international staging system; SC: subcutaneous; sCR: stringent complete response; TTNT: time to next treatment; VGPR: very good partial response; V: Velcade (bortezomib); X: XPOVIO (selinexor).

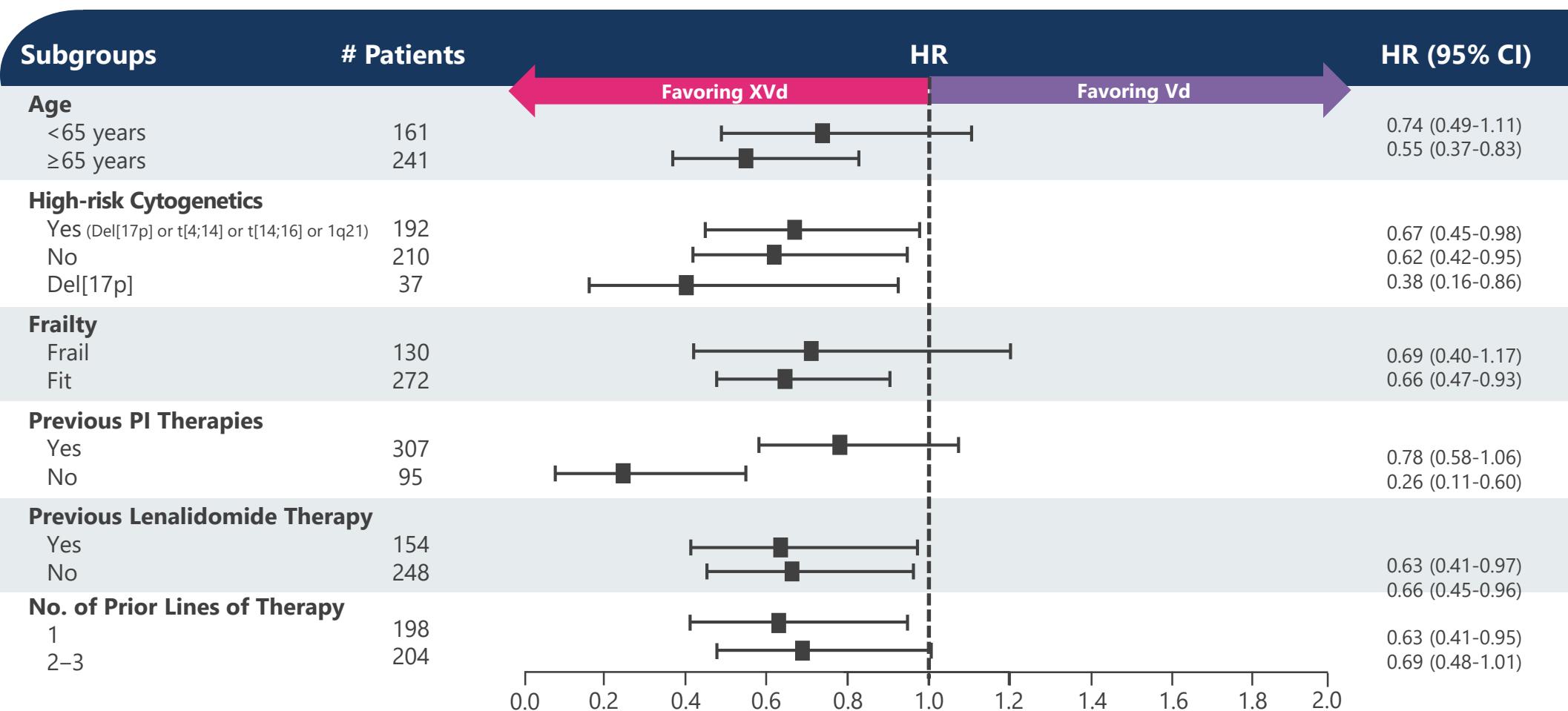
Grosicki et al. Lancet. 2020;396:1563-73.

# SVd improved Progression-free Survival compared to Vd



1. Grosicki et al. Lancet. 2020;396:1563-73.

# PFS Subgroup Analysis: Activity in high risk MM

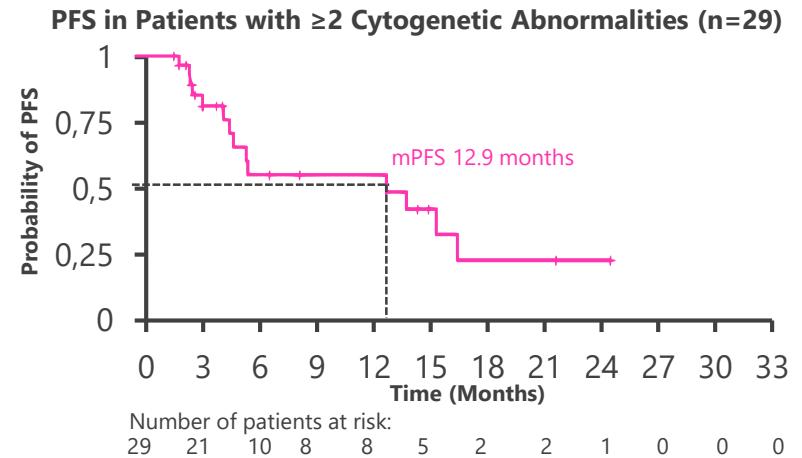
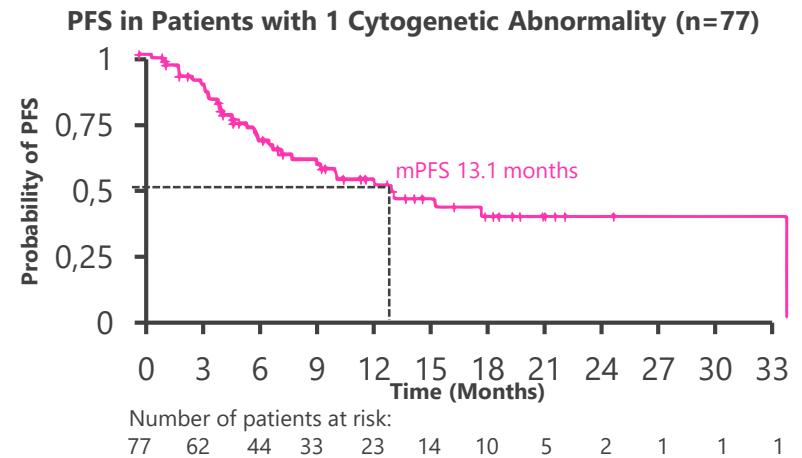


# Efficacy in Patients with High-risk Cytogenetics in BOSTON & STOMP

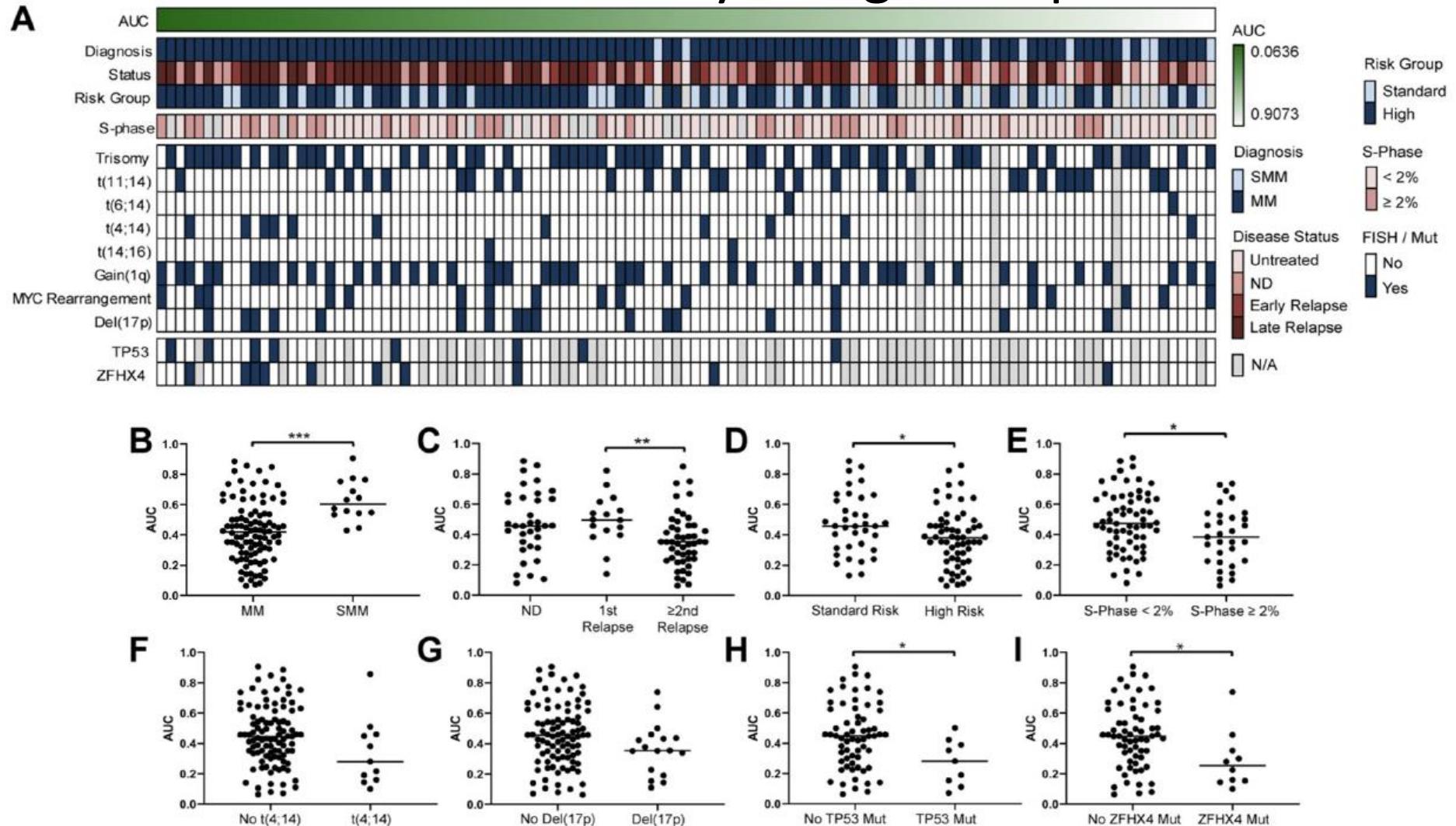
Category	Any High-risk (n=106)	Standard-risk (n=131)
mPFS, months	12.9	16.6
mOS, months	Not Reached	Not Reached
ORR, %	76.4%	69.5%

High-risk Abnormality	del (17p)	t(4;14)	t(14;16)	Amp 1q21
mPFS, months	12.2	13.2	5.3	13.9
mOS, months	Not Reached	20.44	16.43	Not Reached
ORR, %	72.0%	88.0%	90.0%	73.8%

- Bahlis et al. ASH; 2021 Dec 11-14 [Abstract 1634]
- Richard S et al. Am J Hematol 2021;96:1120-1130

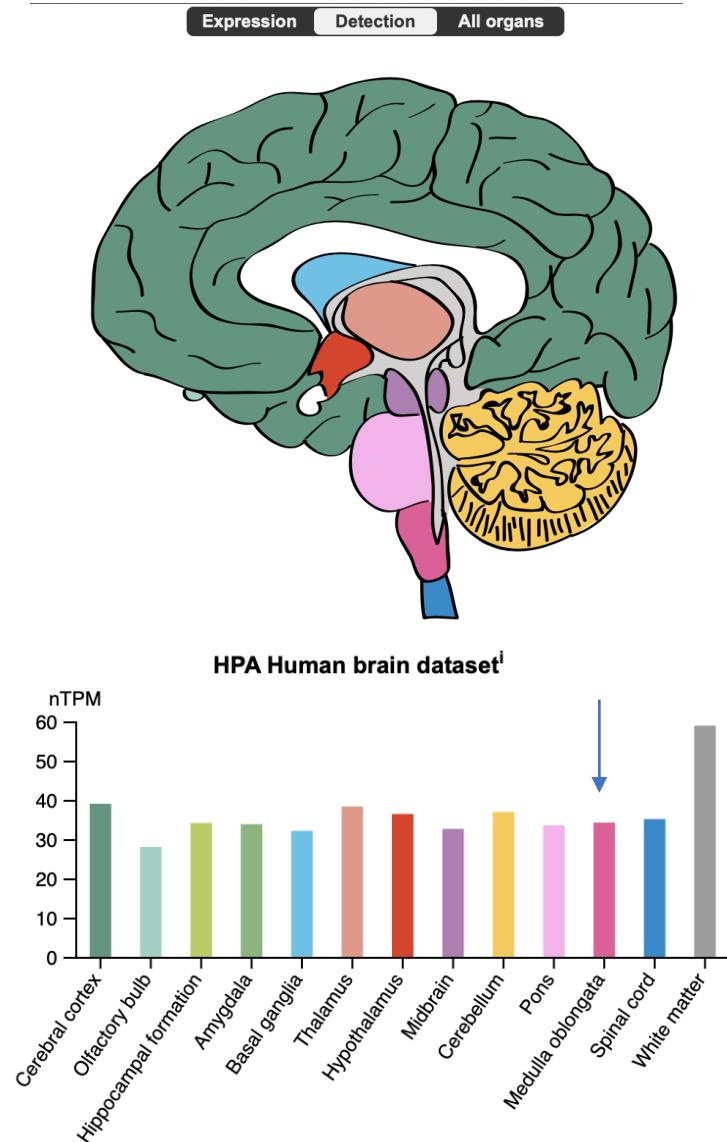


# Selinexor sensitivity in high-risk patients



# Management of GI toxicity with Selinexor based regimen

## Use of 5-HT3 or NK-1 receptor antagonist in combination with Olanzapine



	XVd (N=195)			Vd (N=204)		
	Any Grade n (%)	Grade 3 n (%)	Grade 4 n (%)	Any Grade n (%)	Grade 3 n (%)	Grade 4 n (%)
Nausea	98 (50)	15 (8)	0 (0)	20 (10)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Fatigue	82 (42)	26 (13)	0 (0)	37 (18)	2 (1)	0 (0)
Decreased appetite	69 (35)	7 (4)	0 (0)	11 (5)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Diarrhea	63 (32)	11 (6)	1 (< 1)	51 (25)	1 (< 1)	0 (0)
Peripheral Neuropathy <sup>‡</sup>	63 (32)	8 (4)	1 (< 1)	96 (47)	18 (9)	0 (0)
Upper Respiratory Tract Infection <sup>‡</sup>	57 (29)	7 (4)	0 (0)	45 (22)	4 (2)	0 (0)
Weight decreased	51 (26)	4 (2)	0 (0)	25 (12)	2 (1)	0 (0)
Asthenia	48 (25)	16 (8)	0 (0)	27 (13)	9 (4)	0 (0)
Cataract <sup>§</sup>	42 (22)	17 (9)	0 (0)	13 (6)	0 (0)	3 (2)
Vomiting	40 (21)	8 (4)	0 (0)	9 (4)	0 (0)	0 (0)

\*Events that occurred in at least 15% of patients and had a >5% difference between treatment arms. AEs were graded according to the NCI CTCAE, V 4.03. For patients who crossed over, AEs that occurred after the crossover are not included. <sup>†</sup>Includes high-level term Peripheral Neuropathies NEC. <sup>‡</sup>Includes upper respiratory infection, nasopharyngitis, pharyngitis, respiratory syncytial virus infection, respiratory tract infection, rhinitis and viral upper respiratory tract infection. <sup>§</sup>Per Ophthalmology exam during 24% patients on the XVd arm versus 8.5% patients on the Vd arm had new-onset cataracts and worsening of cataracts on study was noted in 20.5% patients on the XVd arm versus 7.9% on the Vd arm. Data cut-off February 18, 2020.

# Selinexor induces transient and reversible thrombocytopenia

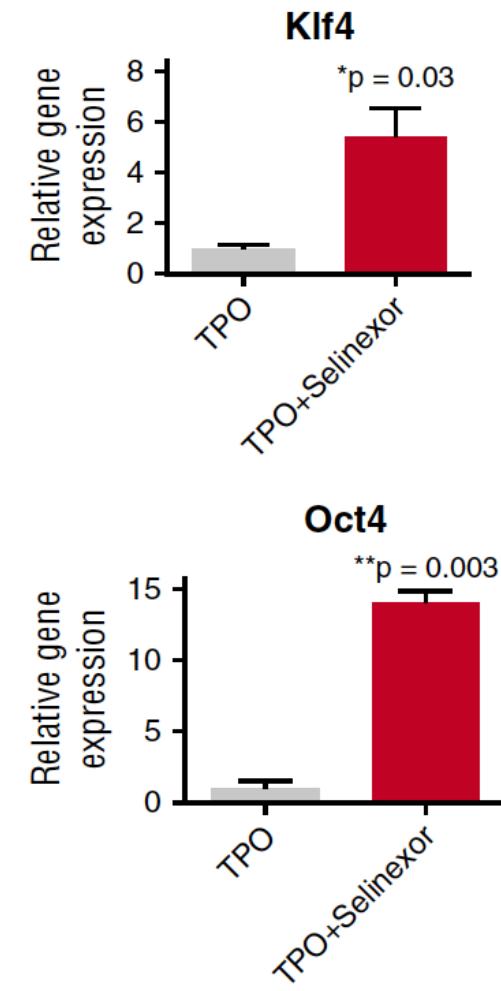
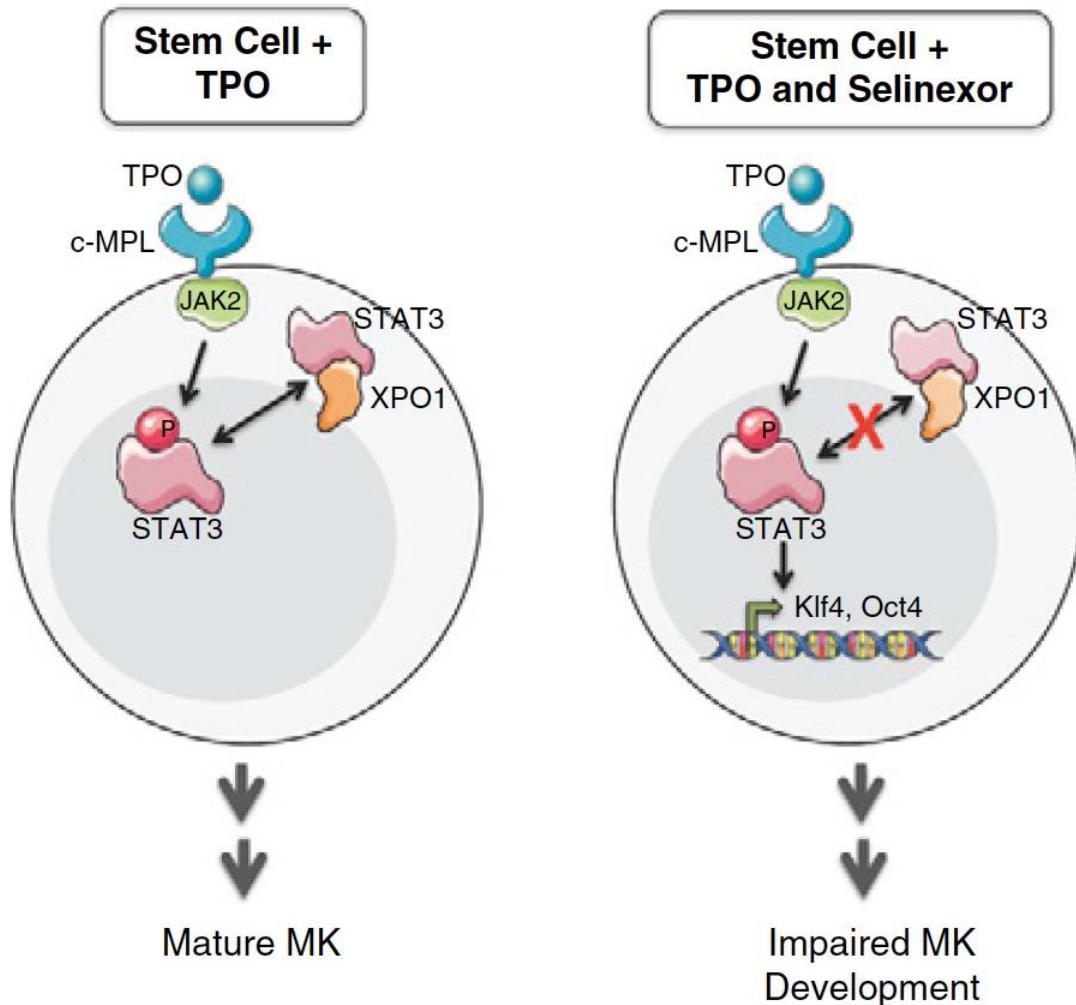
Selinexor, bortezomib, and dexamethasone group (n=195)	Bortezomib and dexamethasone group (n=204)*
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	Any grade†	Grade 3-4	Any grade‡	Grade 3-4
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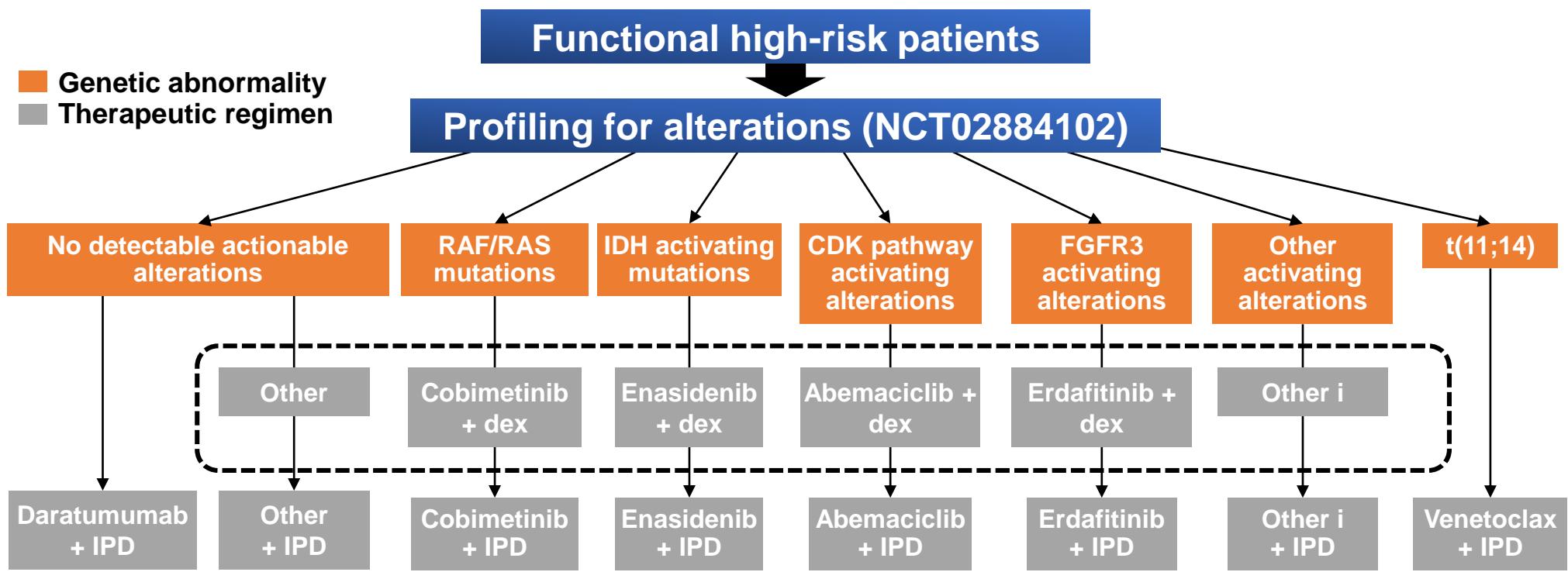
## Haematological adverse events

Thrombocytopenia	117 (60%)	77 (39%)	55 (27%)	35 (17%)
Anaemia	71 (36%)	31 (16%)	47 (23%)	20 (10%)
Neutropenia	29 (15%)	17 (9%)	12 (6%)	7 (3%)

# Selinexor-induced thrombocytopenia results from inhibition of thrombopoietin signaling in early megakaryopoiesis



# Targeted therapy in Multiple Myeloma



i, inhibitor

Other targets in clinical trials:

BRD4 inhibitors, EP300 inhibitors, MMSET/NSD2 inhibitors, Sumoylation inhibitors

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Paola Neri, MD, PhD



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Holly Lee, MD

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## Research nurses & coordinators



The Terry Fox Research Institute  
L'Institut de recherche Terry Fox



Canadian Institutes of Health Research  
Instituts de recherche en santé du Canada

## Collaborators

Jean Baptiste Alberge (Nantes University, currently DFCI, Boston)

Lawrence Boise (EMORY University, Atlanta)

