

Aggressive B-Cell Non-Hodgkin Lymphomas

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Disclosures

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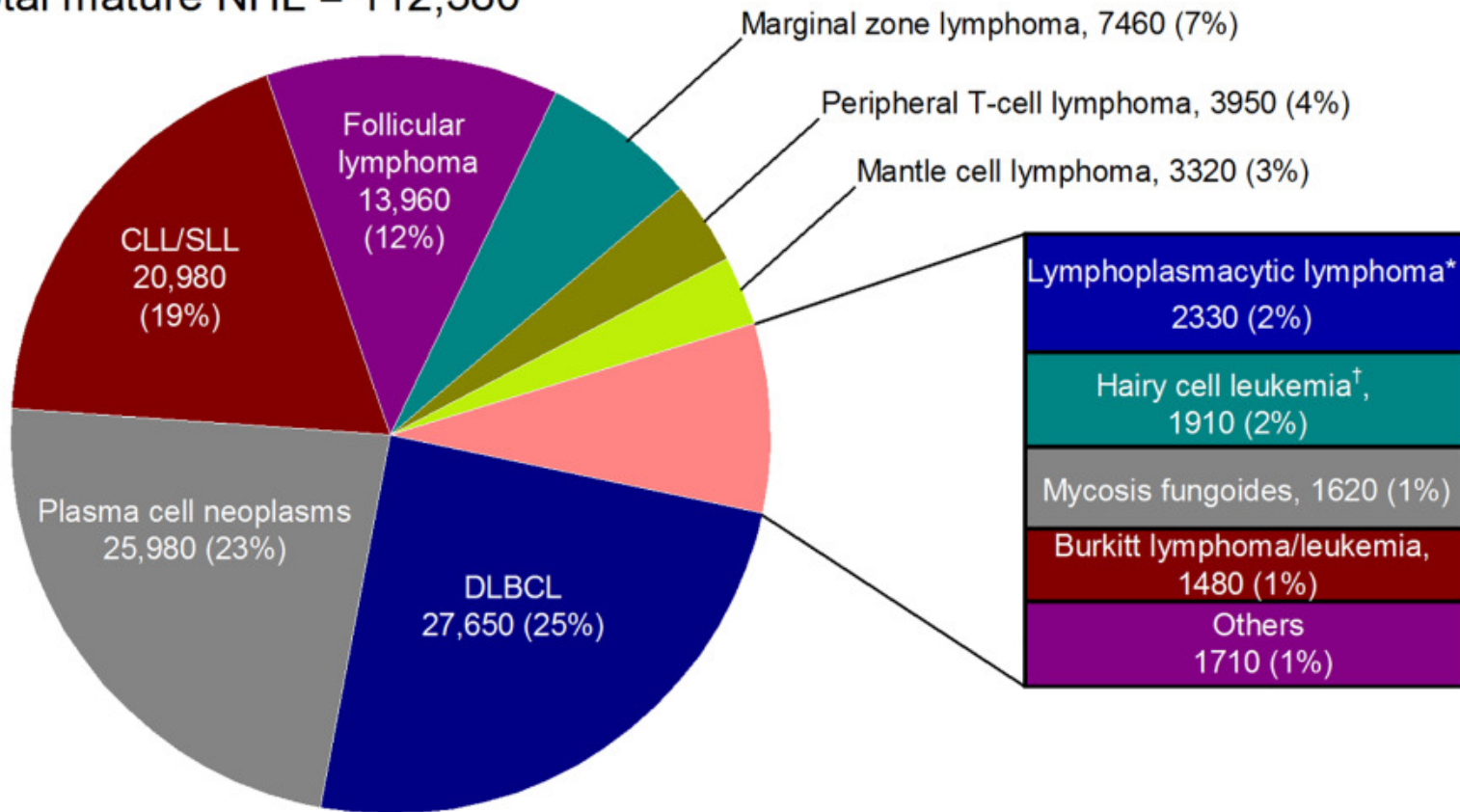
Astrazeneca
Millenium/Takeda
Beigene
Karyopharm

Outline

- Incidence of B-NHL
 - Diffuse Large B-Cell Lymphoma
 - Staging and Pretreatment Evaluation
 - Limited-Stage Disease
 - Advanced-Stage Disease
 - Biologic Risk Stratification
 - Relapsed/Refractory Disease
 - Primary Mediastinal Large B-Cell Lymphoma
 - High-Grade B-Cell Lymphoma
 - Mantle Cell Lymphoma
- 

Estimated Cases and Distribution of Mature Non-Hodgkin Lymphomas: 2016

Total mature NHL = 112,380



DLBCL incidence: 7 per 100k

Table 1 WHO classification of mature large B-cell lymphoid neoplasms

Diffuse large B-cell lymphoma (DLBCL), NOS		
– Germinal centre B-cell type ^a	←	80% of DLBCL are “NOS”
– Activated B-cell type ^a		
T-cell/histiocyte-rich large B-cell lymphoma		
Primary DLBCL of the central nervous system (CNS)		
EBV+ DLBCL, NOS ^a		
<i>EBV+ mucocutaneous ulcer^a</i>		
DLBCL associated with chronic inflammation		
Lymphomatoid granulomatosis		
Primary mediastinal/thymic large B-cell lymphoma	←	
Intravascular large B-cell lymphoma		
ALK+ large B-cell lymphoma		
Plasmablastic lymphoma		
Primary effusion lymphoma		
<i>HHV8+ DLBCL, NOS^a</i>		
Burkitt lymphoma		
<i>Burkitt-like lymphoma with 11q aberration^a</i>		
High grade B-cell lymphoma, with MYC and BCL2 and/or BCL6 rearrangements ^a		
High grade B-cell lymphoma, NOS ^a		←
B-cell lymphoma, unclassifiable, with features intermediate between DLBCL and classical Hodgkin lymphoma		

The provisional entities are listed in italics
^aChanges from the 2008 classification
NOS not otherwise specified, EBV/Epstein Barr virus

Diffuse Large B-Cell Lymphoma: Staging and Pretreatment Evaluation



DLBCL: Initial Work-Up


- Diagnosis
 - Incisional or excisional biopsy is preferred
 - Core needle biopsy can be considered if above not feasible
- Patient evaluation
 - B-symptoms: temp > 101°F (38.3°C), drenching NS, unexplained weight loss > 10% over 6 months
 - Comorbidities and functional assessment
 - Laboratory studies (e.g., LDH, Hep B serologies)
 - Consider fertility preservation
 - Consider assessment of LVEF

DLBCL Pathology - Key testing

Question 1- Adequacy of sample for Dx? Morphology, clonality, other

Assay	Role	Notes
Flow	Clonality, cell surface markers	DLBCL can be flow negative
IHC	Biologic risk stratification	Hans criteria for Cell of Origin (COO) Double Expressor: MYC >40% and BCL2 >50%
FISH	Diagnosis - MYC breakapart, then BCL2/6	("Double hit" is now high-grade B-cell lymphoma)

Pretreatment evaluation

- Echo/MUGA (especially if cardiac risk factors, HTN)
 - Fertility evaluation and preference
 - Laboratory workup (Hep B, HIV, LDH)
 - Imaging and other staging
 - Venous access
- 

Defining “nodal sites” ; benefit of PET

PET-CT vs CT- in roughly 20%:

- Detection of more *extranodal* sites (GI, head+neck, skin+soft tissue most common)
- Upstaging: stage migration in light of IPI shift

Ann-Arbor → Lugano nodal sites

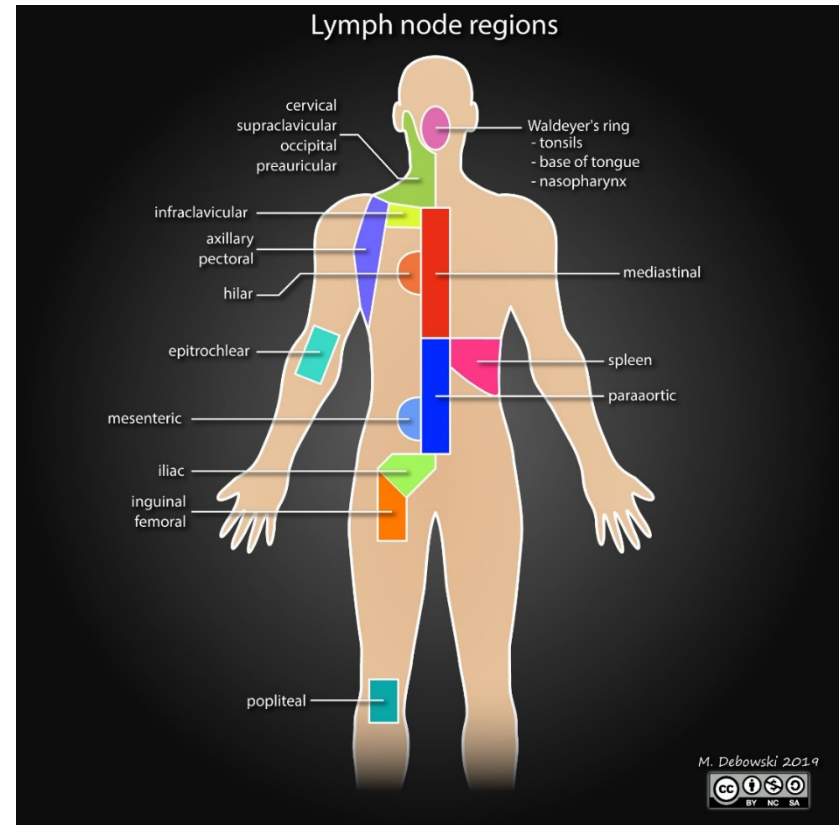


Image -Dr Maciej Debowski, Radiopaedia.org, rID: 65530

Is BM Bx necessary in the PET era?

Guidelines still say yes, but:

- BM Bx utilization in staging is decreasing in practice*
- PET-CT sensitivity high (meta-analysis: 88%)**
- Impact on Px debatable (marrow often detects low-grade dz)

Consider marrow for:

- Key treatment decisions (stage/therapy change)
- Required in clinical trials
- Baseline cytopenias
- Uncertain PET result

*Bischin PMID 31993568

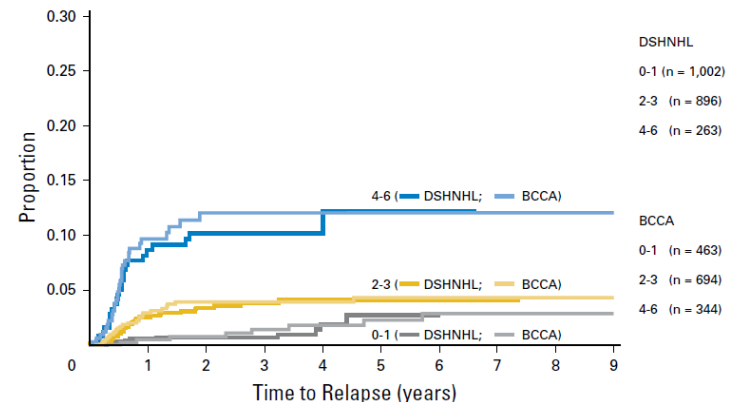
**Adams E J Nuc Med 2014

DLBCL: Role of Lumbar Puncture

- CNS IPI:
 - Risk factors: same as standard IPI plus kidney or adrenal involvement
 - Low (0-1) or intermediate (2-3) risk: defer LP
 - Risk of CNS relapse < 5%
 - **High (4-6) risk: intervene**
 - Risk of CNS relapse > 10%

ALSO

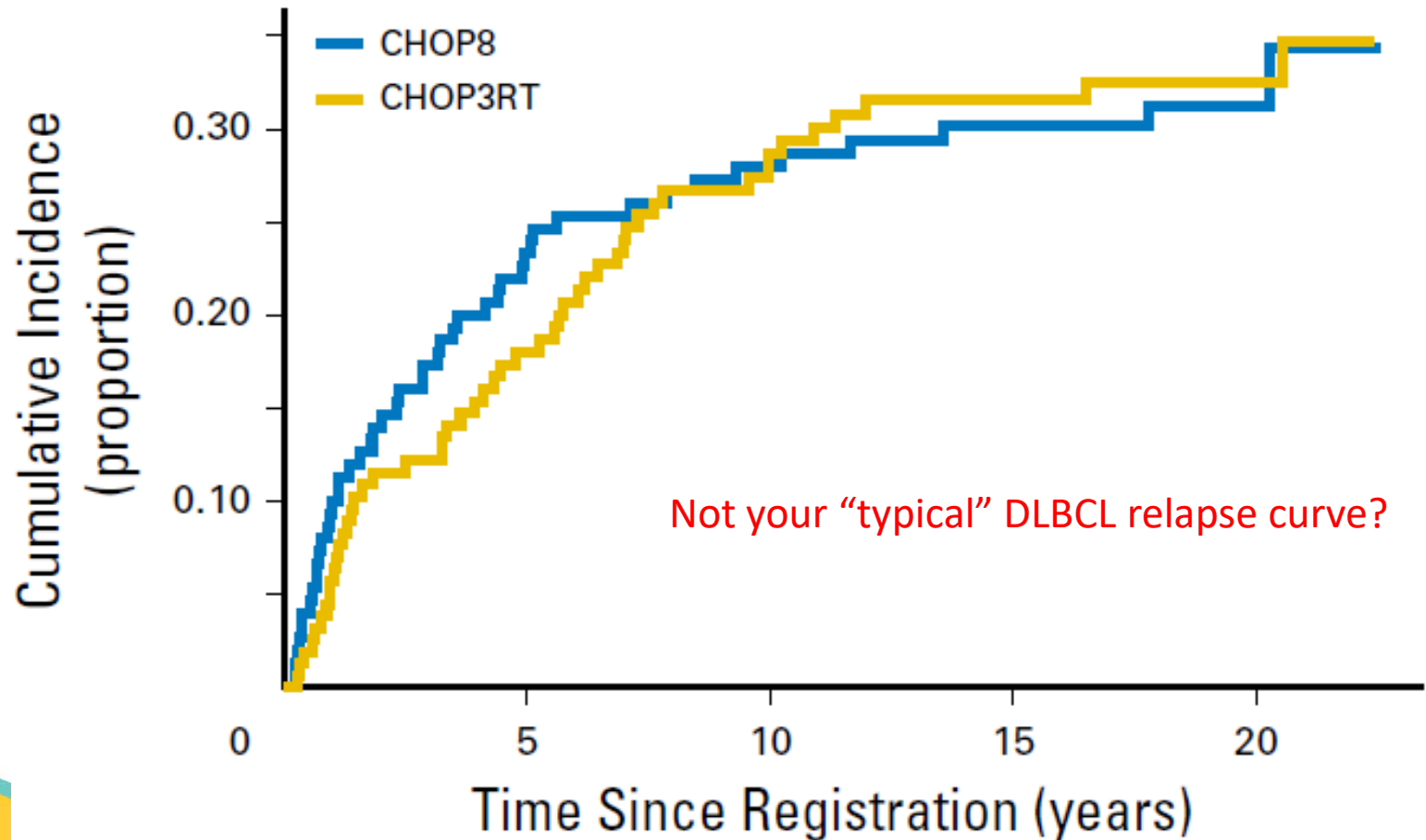
- HIV-associated
- Testicular involvement
- Breast DLBCL
- ?MYC and BCL2 over-expression (i.e., “double-expressor lymphoma”)- not a validated risk factor (Klanova Blood 2019)



Diffuse Large B-Cell Lymphoma: Limited Stage Disease



Limited stage DLBCL: Long-Term Risk of Relapse



Limited stage DLBCL case study

40 M previously healthy male developed R armpit swelling

R axillary Bx Path- GCB DLBCL

Flow cytometry: negative

Morphology: Diffuse sheets of large atypical cells

IHC: CD10+ (GCB subtype), MYC 5%

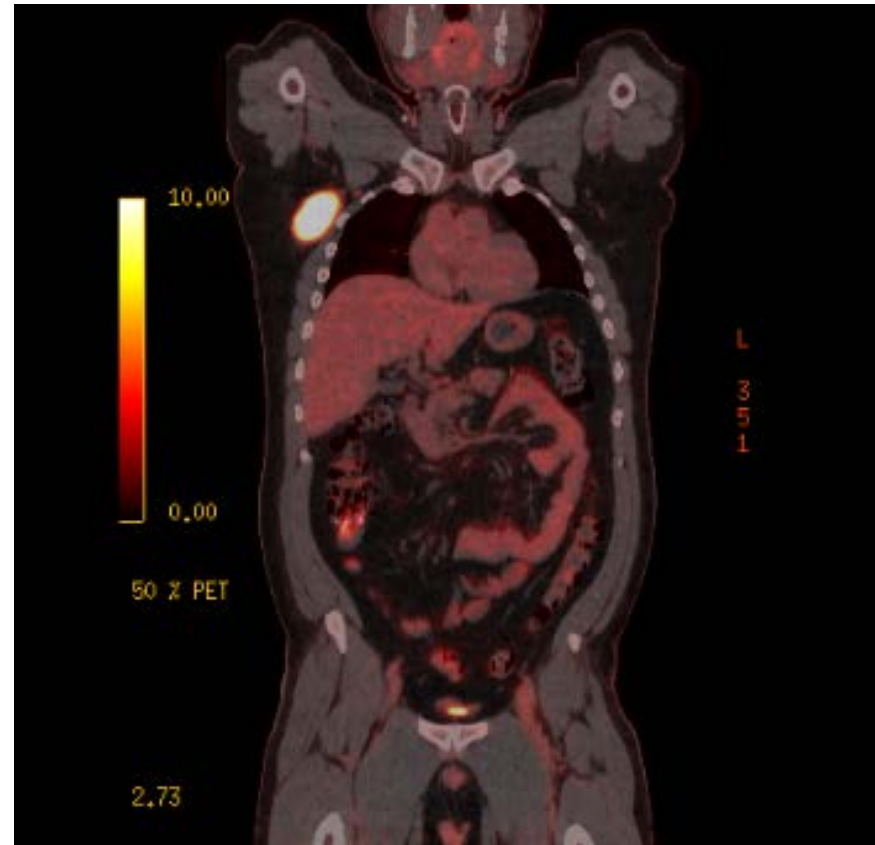
FISH: BCL6 rearrangement (only)

PET: 1. FDG avid right axillary LAD, Deauville 5.

Size 4.5 cm

2. No other sites.

BM Bx - negative



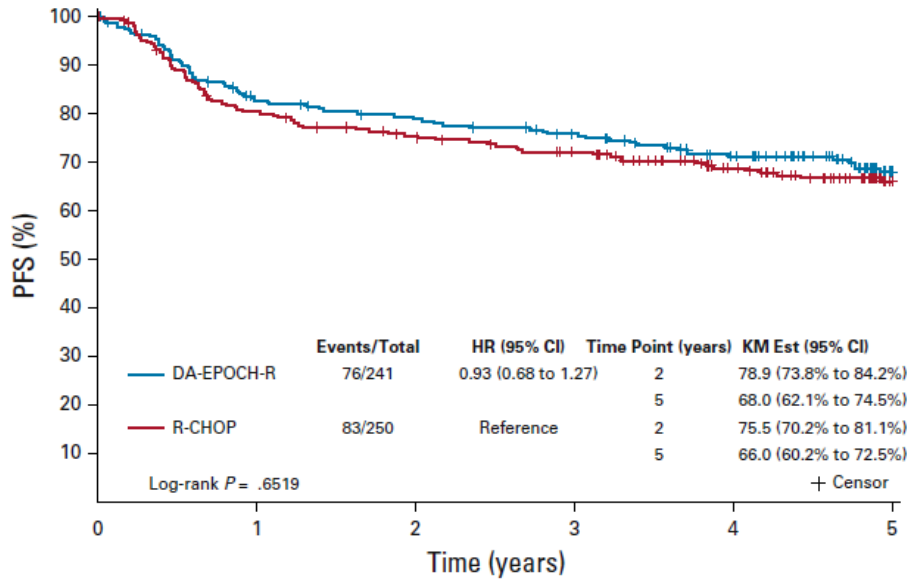
Therapy for Limited Stage DLBCL: Short-course options

Regimen	Population/findings	Downsides	Consider In (presenter opinion)
RCHOP x 3 + IFRT Miller NEJM 1998, Persky JCO 2008, Stephens JCO 2016	Int-High grade NHL	RT acute/late effects (40-46 Gy)	IPI risks present; elderly/frail with optimal XRT field-
- OPTIONS WITHOUT RADIOTHERAPY-			
RCHOP-14 x 4-6 Lamy Blood 2018 Randomized PET-4 CR pts: XRT vs observation	Lower risk DLBCL; PET-CR after 4 cycles 89% 5 yr EFS w/RCHOP alone	q14 day RCHOP needs GCSF	No IPI risks + desire a brief treatment course could do RHCOP-14 x 4
RCHOP-21 x 4 + 2 R FLYER: Poeschel Lancet 2019 Randomized: 4 RCHOP + 2R vs 6 RCHOP	Lowest risk DLBCL (stage 2 OK / no IPI risks, no bulk 7.5cm) 96% 3 yr PFS w/4 RCHOP	May undertreat stage II? Extra 2 R needed?	Young/no IPI risks
R-CHOP-21 x 4 S1001: Persky JCO 2020 Stratified: RCHOP x 3 - PET negative DV 1-3: 1 more - PET positive: XRT + RIT	All limited stage DLBCL (nonbulky 10 cm) 89% 5 yr PFS in PET neg w/4 RCHOP	Too few PET + pts to judge that arm. Inferior for non-GCB and double expressor	PET-3 negative - May be best in low biologic risk pts

Diffuse Large B-Cell Lymphoma: Advanced-Stage Disease

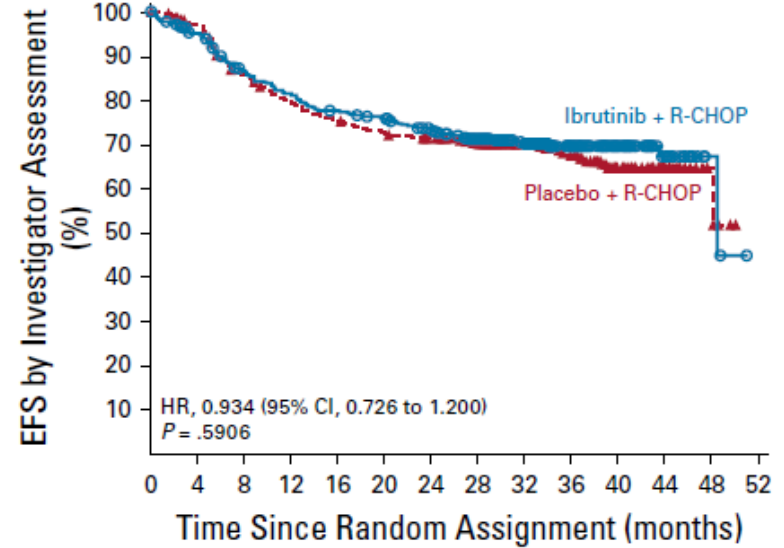


Randomized trials for 1L DLBCL- Outcome of “typical” studies

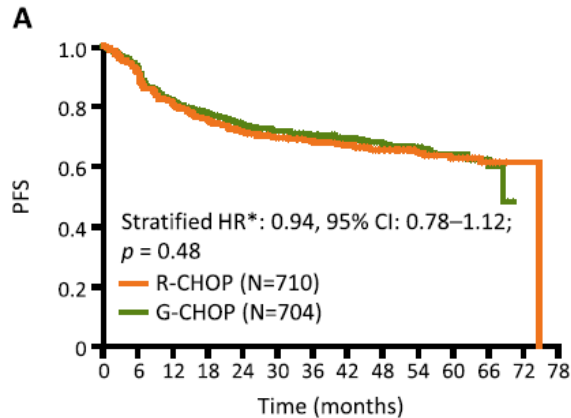


No. at risk:					
DA-EPOCH-R	241	193	181	168	146
R-CHOP	250	196	179	165	137

DA-EPOCH+R vs RCHOP
Bartlett JCO 2019



RCHOP ibrutinib vs RCHOP
Younes JCO 2019



GCHOP vs RCHOP
Sehn J Hem Onc 2020

NCCN – IPI: Zhou *Blood* 2014

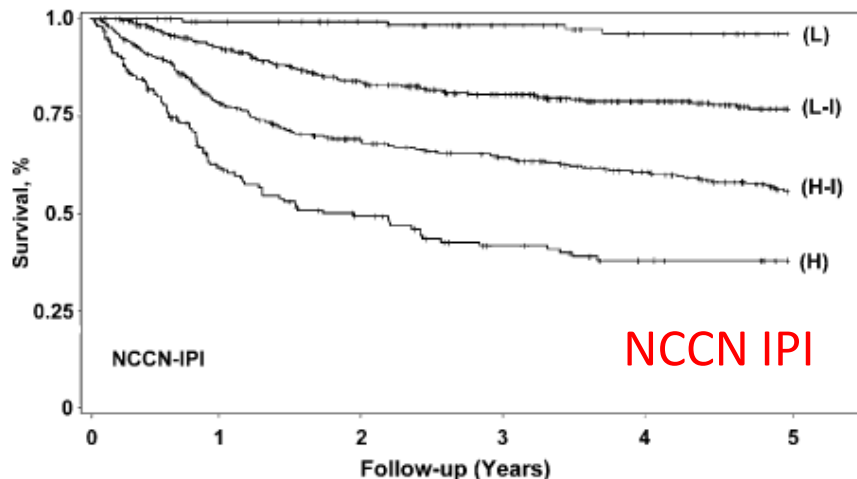
Table 3. The NCCN-IPI

NCCN-IPI	Score
Age, y	
>40 to ≤60	1
>60 to ≤75	2
>75	3
LDH, normalized	
>1 to ≤3	1
>3	2
Ann Arbor stage III-IV	1
Extranodal disease*	1
Performance status ≥2	1

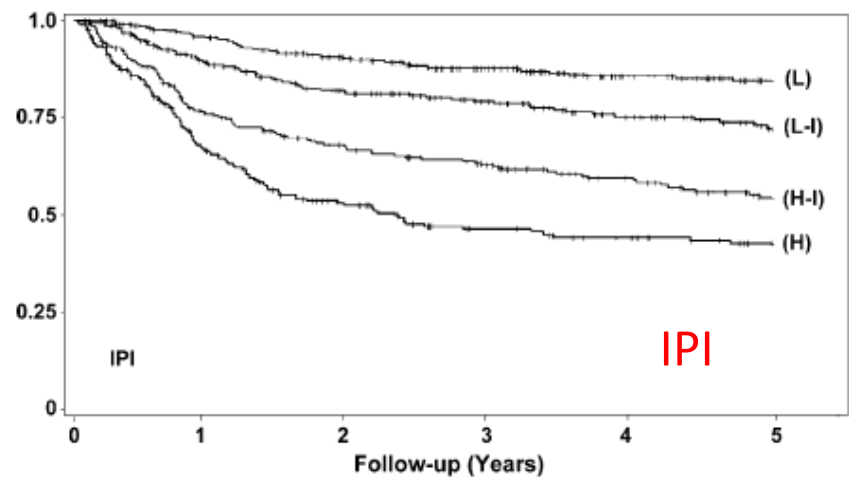
*Disease in bone marrow, CNS, liver/GI tract, or lung.

Benefits to NCCN IPI

- DLBCL pt specific
- High LDH elevations represented
- Slightly wider range/better discrimination of groups



Low (L) High-Intermediate (H-I)
 Low-Intermediate (L-I) High (H)

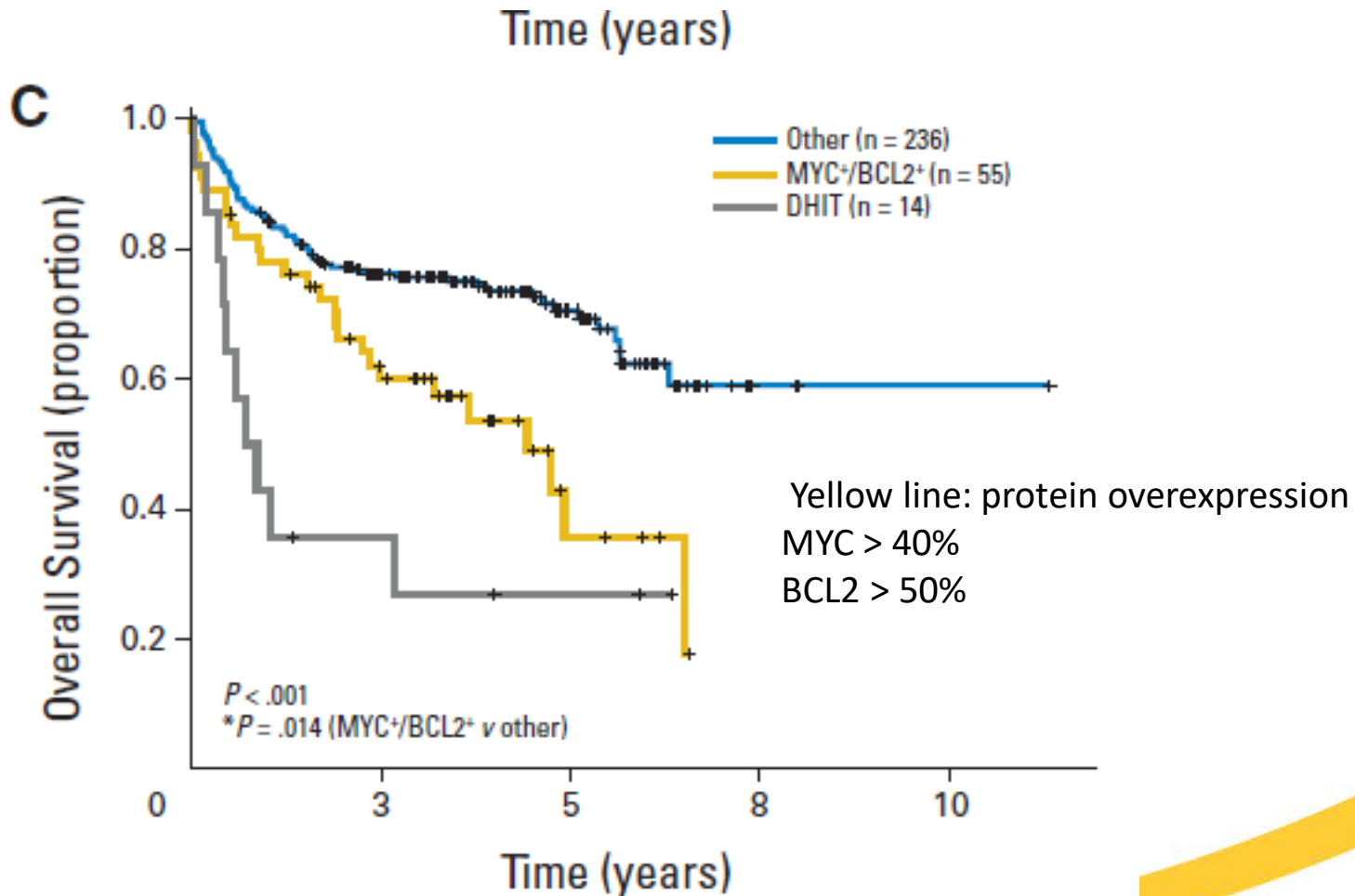


Low (L) High-Intermediate (H-I)
 Low-Intermediate (L-I) High (H)

MYC dysregulation: protein and translocation

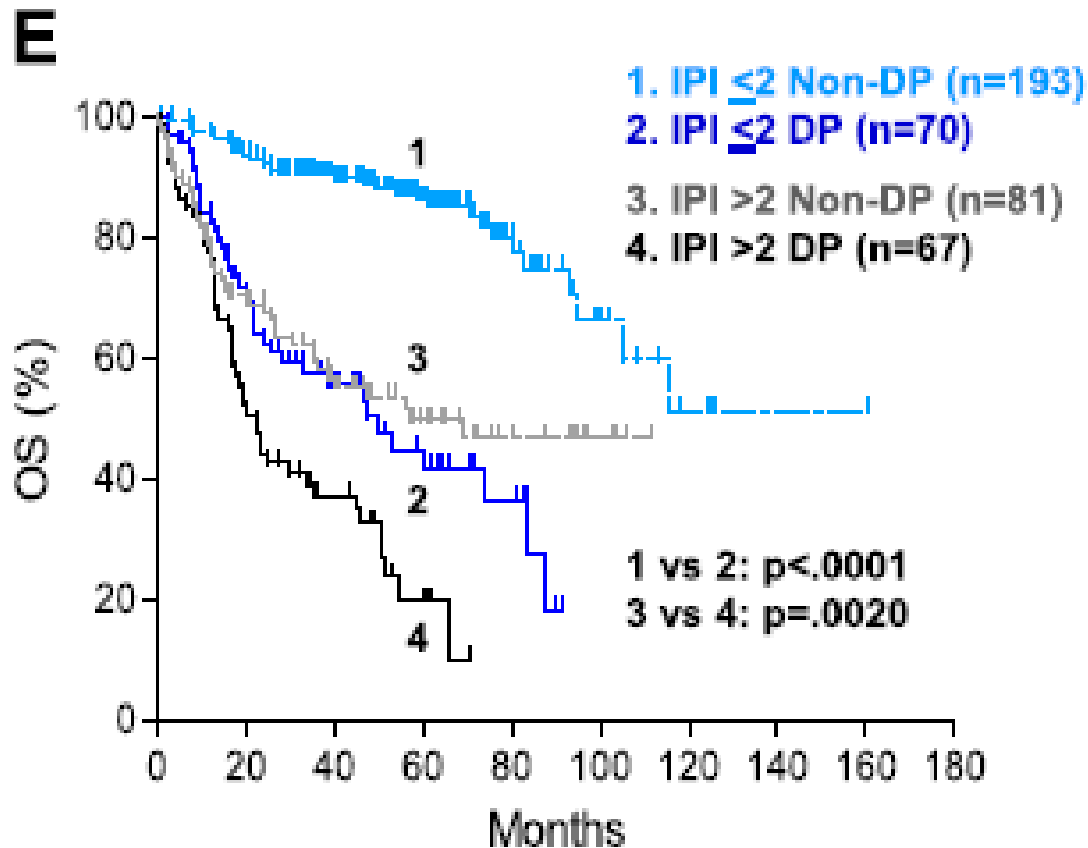
Double expressor (protein) \approx 30%

Double hit \approx 10%



Double expression of MYC and BCL2

≈ 30% of new DLBCL




“double positive” = DP
IHC cutoffs
40% for MYC
70% for BCL2 (50% in 1 study)

Hu Blood 2013

How urgent is DLBCL treatment?



Accelerated workup and treatment:

- SVC syndrome
 - Neurologic compromise or involvement
 - Tumor lysis syndrome
 - Poor PS, disease-related or unclear
 - Very high (3x or greater) LDH elevations
 - Metabolic- lactic acidosis, hyperCa
- 

Randomized First-Line DLBCL Trials vs R-CHOP

- RCH-P with polatuzumab (Polarix): Fully accrued
- RCHOP + Enzastaurin (ENGINE): IPI 3-5
- RCHOP+ tafasitamab (MOR208, CD19 MoAb)
- RCHOP + acalabrutinib for non-GCB

- Nonrandomized- RCHOP + checkpoint blockade

DLBCL: Post-Treatment Surveillance

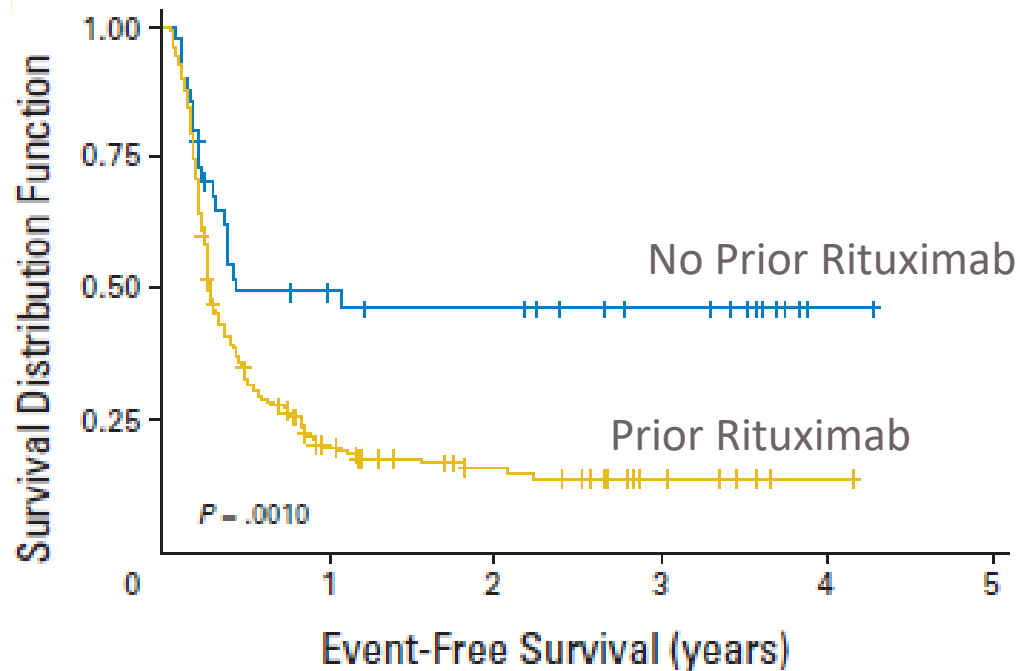
- **Relapses** occur mostly in the first 2 years
- **Limited utility** of surveillance imaging¹
 - Most relapses (60%) identified BEFORE a schedule follow up visit
 - **Imaging detects** few relapses in asymptomatic pts
 - **Survival** no different in relapses detected in planned follow up vs not

1. Thompson, et al. *J Clin Oncol*. 2014;32(31):3506-3512.1

Diffuse Large B-Cell Lymphoma: Relapsed/Refractory Disease




CORAL: Impact of Early Relapse (& prior rituximab)

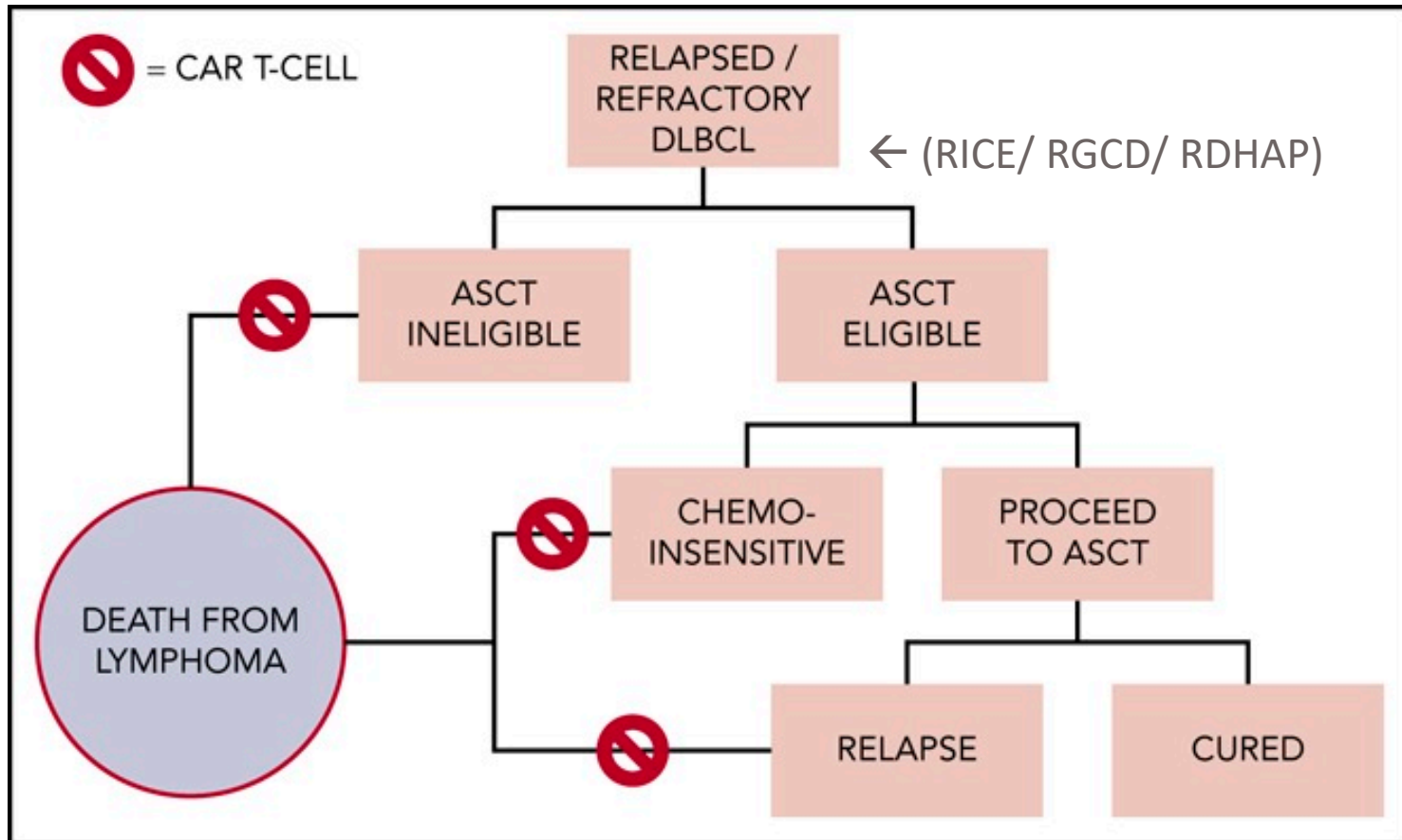


- **CONCLUSION:** For relapse < 12 mo from diagnosis, salvage therapy followed by auto transplant yields relatively poor outcome.

Strategy in Treating Relapsed DLBCL


1. Goal setting: Bridge to cellular therapy vs. Stand-alone tx)
 - Fitness for auto, Car T-cell; allo
 - Address high risk: early relapse, high sIPI, MYC+
 2. Select specific therapy
 - Expected toxicities (organ/hematologic)
 - preferences/logistics
- 

Strategy in Treating Relapsed DLBCL: ASCT and Car-T therapy

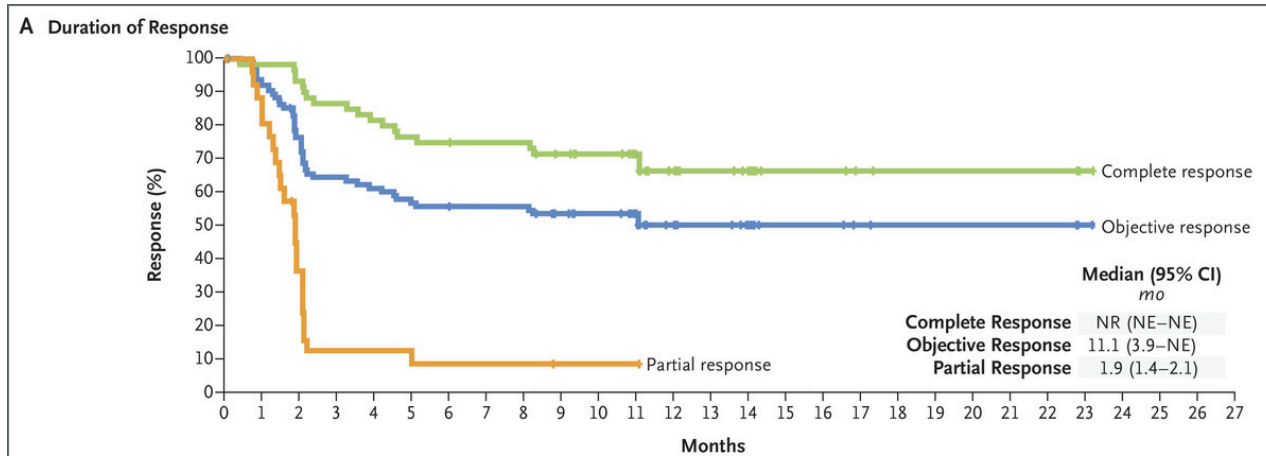


Chimeric antigen receptor T (CAR-T) Therapy

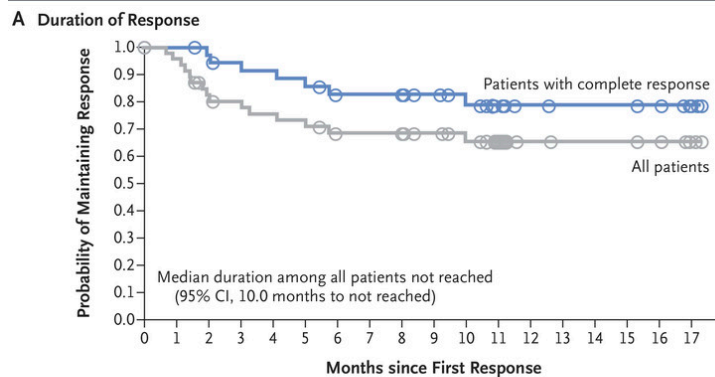
Approved for relapsed/ref DLBCL failing ≥ 2 lines:

- Yescarta (axicabtagene ciloleucel, axi-cel):
Kite, Oct 2017
 - Kymriah (tisagenlecleucel): Novartis, May
2018
- 

CD19 CAR-T cells: CR's appear to be *cured*



Axi-cel



Tisagenlecleucel

No. at Risk	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Patients with complete response	37	36	35	32	31	30	26	26	26	23	21	15	9	8	8	8	7	4
All patients	48	37	32	27	27	22	10	9	8									


Axi-cel: Neelapu SS et al. *N Engl J Med* 2017;377:2531-2544.

Tisagen: SJ Schuster et al. *N Engl J Med* 2019;380:45-56.



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DLBCL Relapsed After, or Ineligible for, auto/Car-T

- Polatuzumab + BR- approved 6/2019
 - Selinexor- approved 6/23/20 (after 2 prior tx)
 - Lenalidomide+ Tafasitamab- approved 7/31/20 (
- 

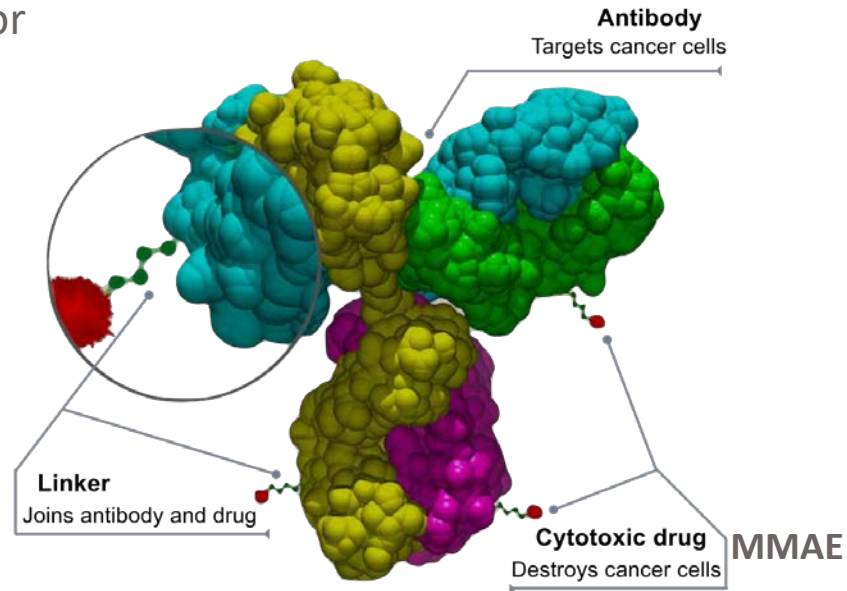
Polatuzumab vedotin: CD79b-targeted Ab with MMAE payload

CD79b

- A component of the B-cell receptor
- Expressed on mature B cells

Published data for pola in B-NHL

- Single agent phase I
- Randomized phase 2:
 - Pola+R vs pina+R
- Pola + RCHOP phase I/II
- **Randomized phase II**
 - **Pola BR vs BR**



Polatuzumab vedotin+ BR

Pivotal trial design/accrual: (phase Ib/expansion) +

- *Randomized phase 2* : Pola BR vs BR, 40 pts per arm
- Objective: 65% CR rate w/pola BR (c/w 40%)

Dose: 1.8 mg/kg polatuzumab + BR (90 mg/m²)

Notable eligibility criteria:

- No transformed disease
- “Ineligible for second-line stem cell transplant (SCT)”
- 6 month life expectancy
- No car T-cells within 100 days, no prior allo

Polatuzumab vedotin+ BR

Efficacy: CR 40% with pola BR vs. 18%

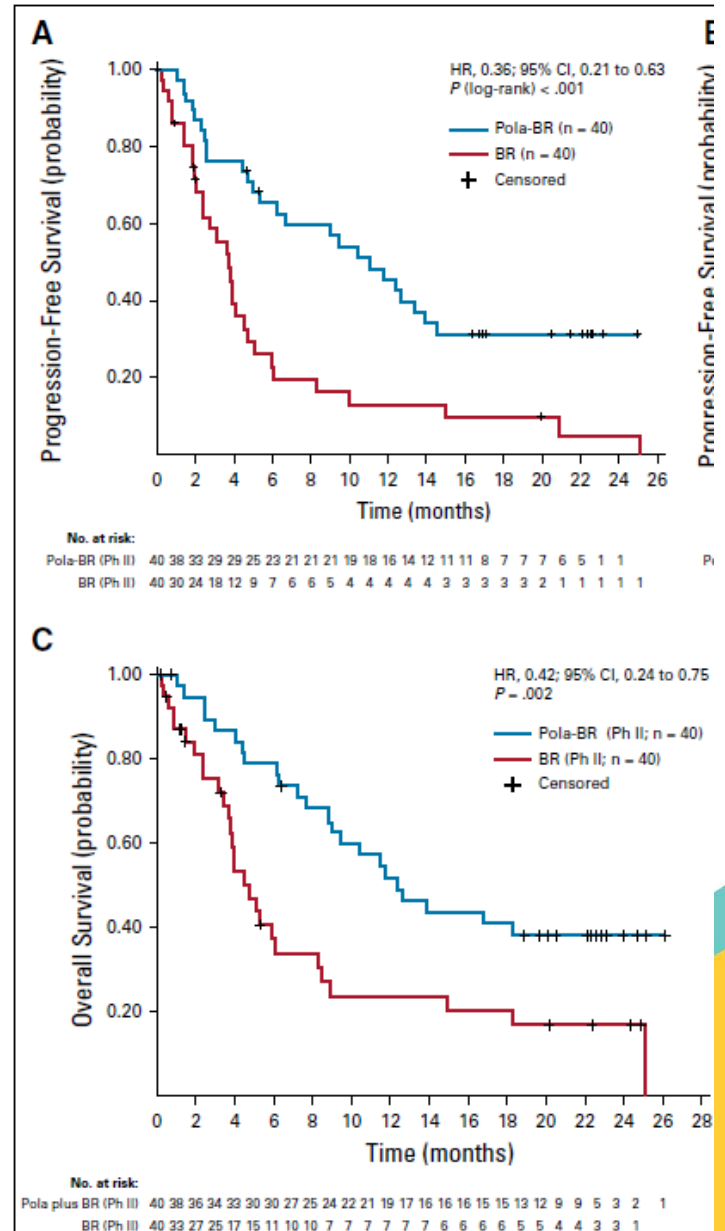
- Median PFS: 9.5 months in pola BR vs 3.7 in BR
- OS 12.4 vs 4.7 mo
- Toxicity: 23% grade 3-4 infection
 - 42% received all 6 cycles
 - 33% d/c therapy due to AE
 - 54% had a treatment delay

Limitations

- BR as a backbone
- Uncertain impact if bridging for future car T-cell therapy

PFS

OS



Selinexor: Oral small molecule targeting nuclear export (exportin)

Pivotal trial design/Accrual: Single arm phase 2. Accrued 267 over 4 yrs @ 59 sites

Dose: 60 mg PO, Days 1 and 3 of each week

Notable eligibility criteria

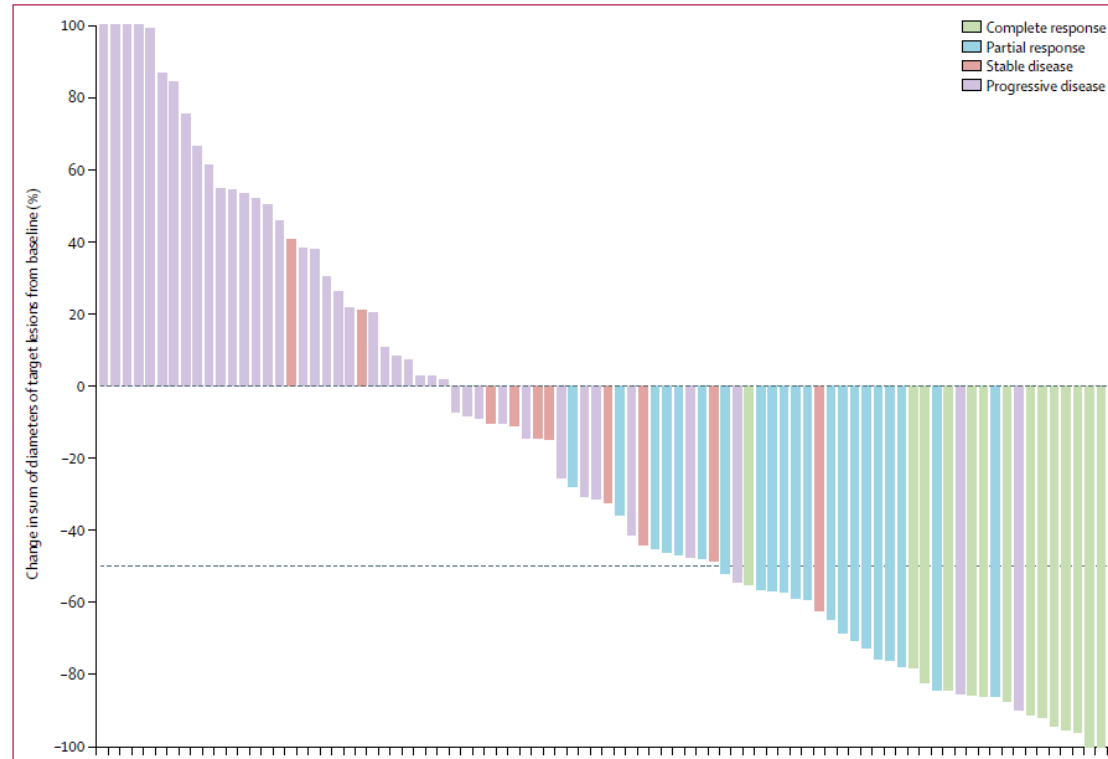
- 60 day “washout” from prior therapy

Selinexor: Oral small molecule targeting nuclear export (exportin)

Efficacy

28% ORR; 2.6 mo PFS/9 mo OS
OS
12% CR (15 pts)

Toxicity: fatigue/nausea (mostly grade 1-2);
cytopenias (plts) most common grade 3 or higher AE



Limitations:

Efficacy and durability limited. Pt selection.

Tafasitamab (CD19 Mo Ab) + lenalidomide:

Design/accrual: single arm phase 2; 156 screened/81 treated over 23 mo.

Dosing: Tafasitamab: 12 mg/kg IV over 2 h, 28 day cycles

- Cycles 1–3 weekly 1, 8, 15, and 22
 - an additional loading dose C1 D4
- Cycle 4 onward: IV q 14 days

Lenalidomide: 25 mg for 3 out of 4 weeks for **up to 12 cycles**

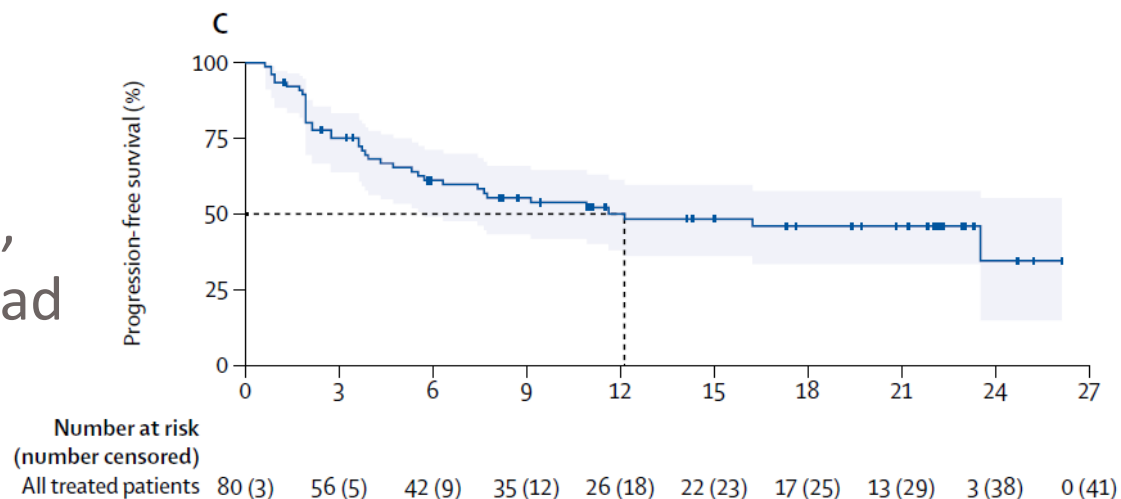
Notable eligibility:

- Ineligible for transplant (age > 70 or other reasons)
- At MOST, 3 prior regimens
- Primary refractory disease excluded

Tafasitamab (CD19 Mo Ab) + lenalidomide:

Efficacy: 13 month follow:
ORR 60% including 43 % PR/
18 % CR

Toxicity: neutropenia/plts,
F+N in 12%. 51% of pts had
an SAE.



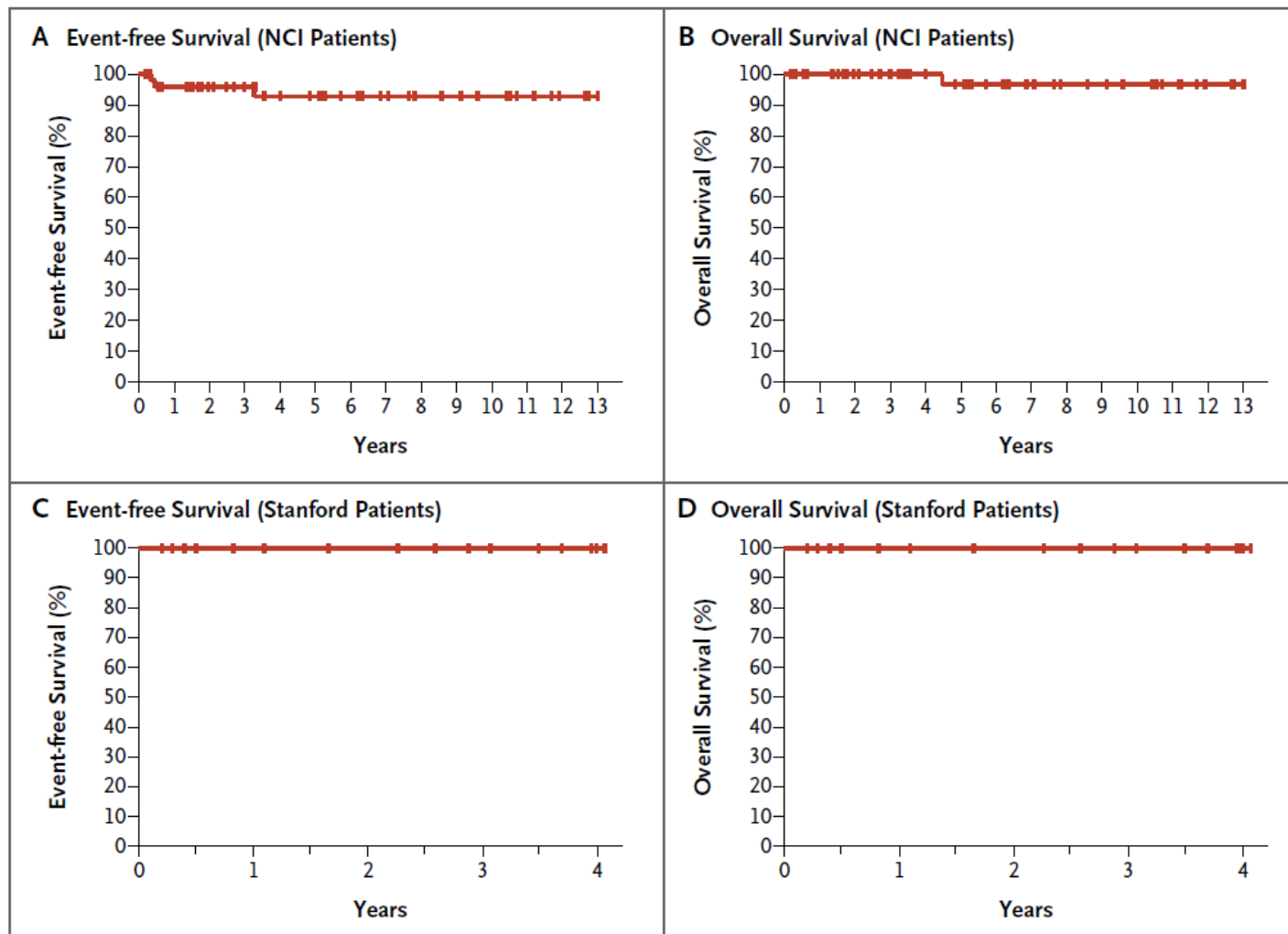
Limitations: Small, single arm trial; pt selection (half screened were ineligible) . Chronic therapy. PFS needs more follow-up.

Primary Mediastinal Large B-Cell Lymphoma



Phase II Study of DA-EPOCH-R (no XRT)

NCI:
N = 51
Prospective



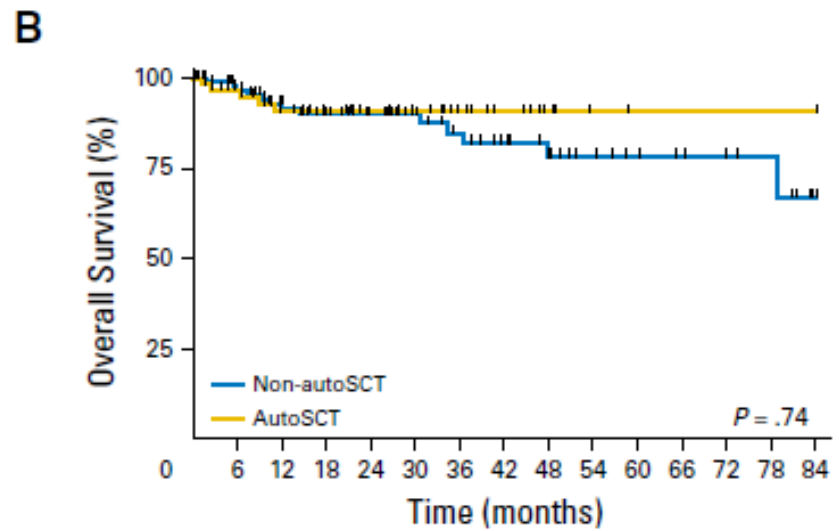
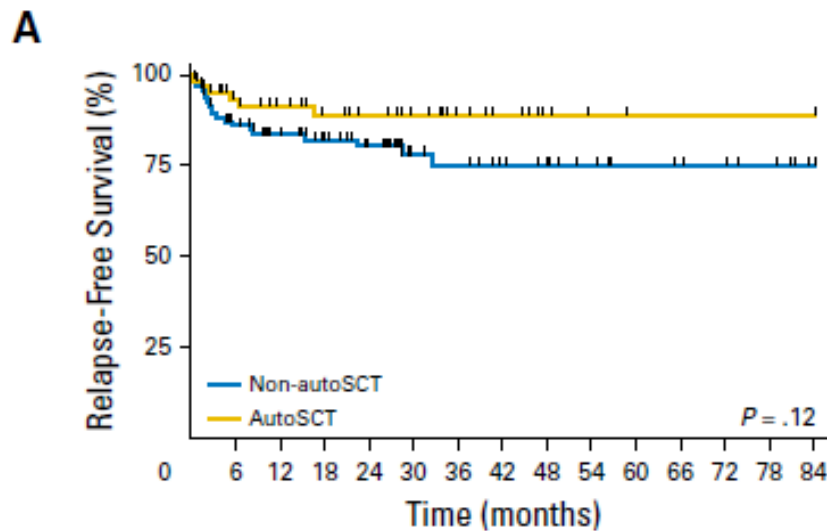
Stanford:
N = 16
Retrospective

High-Grade B-Cell Lymphomas

- HGBL, with *MYC* and *BCL2* and/or *BCL6* rearrangements
 - Double (DHL) or triple-hit lymphomas (THL)
 - Gene rearrangements by FISH/cytogenetics
 - Copy-number abnormalities DO NOT COUNT
 - Protein over-expression is NOT included
- HGBL, not otherwise specified
- Treatment: Intensified regimens are recommended
 - No randomized trials
 - Low IPI patients may be an exception

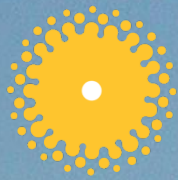
DHL in CR1: Role of Auto SCT

- 159 patients with DHL who achieved CR1
- Compared outcomes by initial regimen and use of stem cell transplant vs observation in CR1
- Median f/u = 26.5 months (range, 0.2-114.6)



Mantle Cell Lymphoma

- **Features**
 - Male predominance, EN disease/stage IV usual
 - CD5+ CD23- typical.
 - **t11;14 by FISH** and /or cyclin D1+ by IHC.
- **Treatment**
 - Initially observe in some cases
 - Young/Fit: Consider intensive induction (Nordic, R+HyperCVAD) → auto SCT
 - Older: BR or VR-CAP (>RCHOP)
- **Special Subgroups**
 - Leukemic Variant: watch/wait
 - TP53 *mutation* : clinical trial and early incorporation of novel agents; ASCT unlikely to benefit



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Thank You



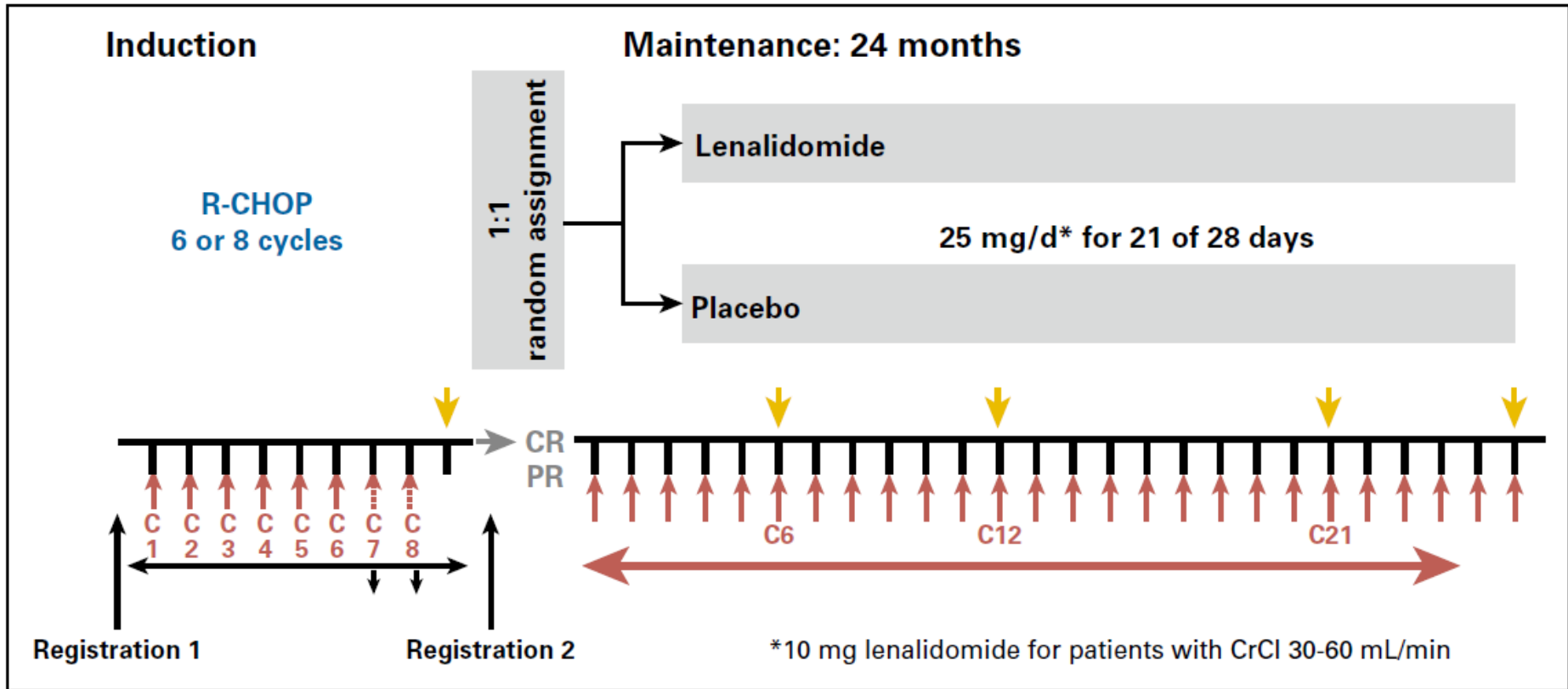
DLBCL in First Remission... Maintenance?

- Maintenance rituximab
 - After R-CHOP, **no benefit** with R maintenance in DLBCL¹
- Maintenance lenalidomide- REMARC study
 - DLBCL > 60 years old²

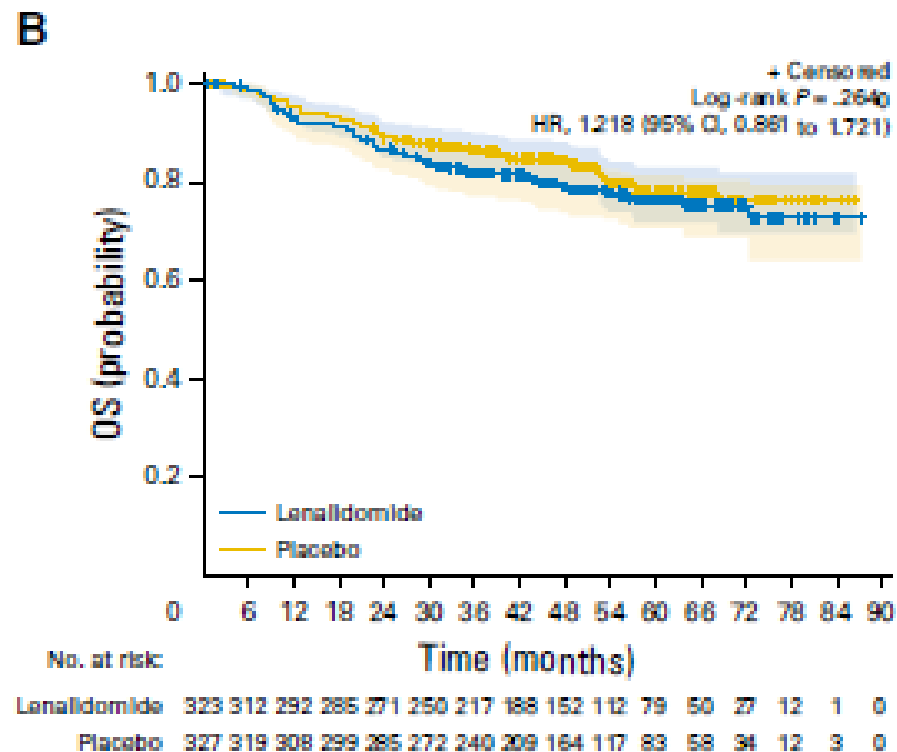
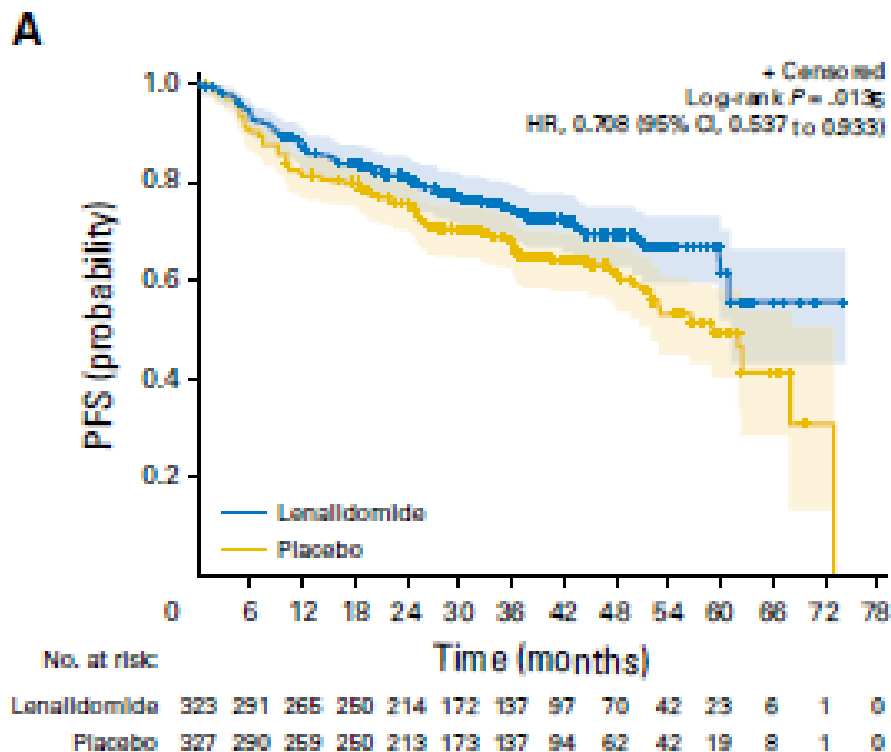
¹Haberman, *et al. J Clin Oncol.* 2006;24(19):3121-3127.

²Thieblemont *J Clin Oncol.* 2017 Aug 1

Maintenance with Lenalidomide: REMARC



Len Maintenance – REMARC PFS and OS



- Not FDA approved, unclear impact on salvage therapy, NCCN Category 2B