



Fred Hutch · Seattle Children's · UW Medicine

Indolent Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma: 2021

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UW/FHCRC/VAPSHCS

Disclosures

Research Support

- * TG Therapeutics
- * BeiGene
- * AstraZeneca / Acerta Pharma
- * GlaxoSmithKline
- * MorphoSys

Consulting / Advisory

- * MorphoSys

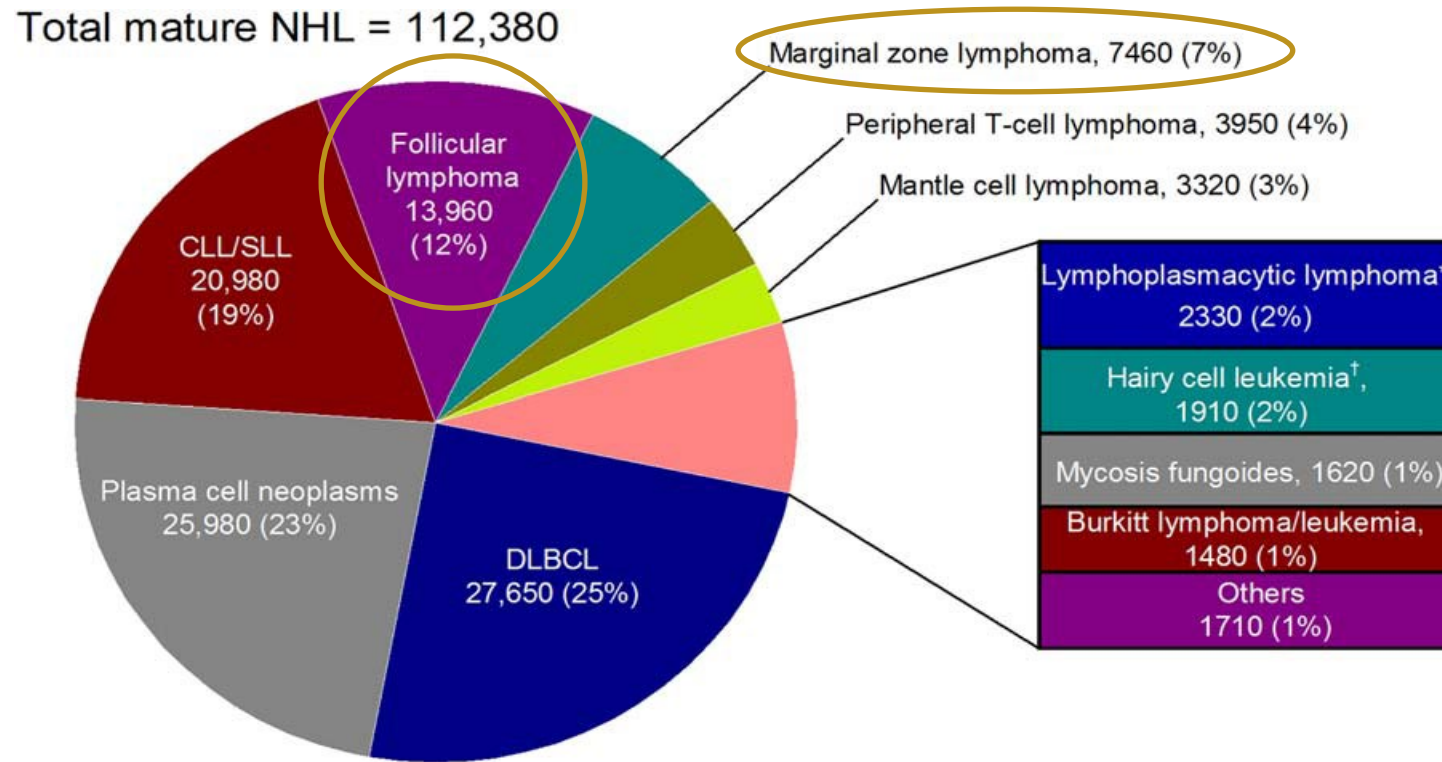
Objectives

- Review key epidemiology and pathology
- Management
 - Discuss indications for treatment, options for frontline and relapsed/refractory
- Highlight areas of unmet need and anticipated next steps
- Cover recent updates and approvals

Natural History

- Presents with advanced disease that usually progresses slowly
- Iterative treatment responses and relapses
- Generally considered incurable with conventional therapies
 - Exceptions include certain examples of limited stage disease treated with local therapies
- Most patients die from causes unrelated to lymphoma

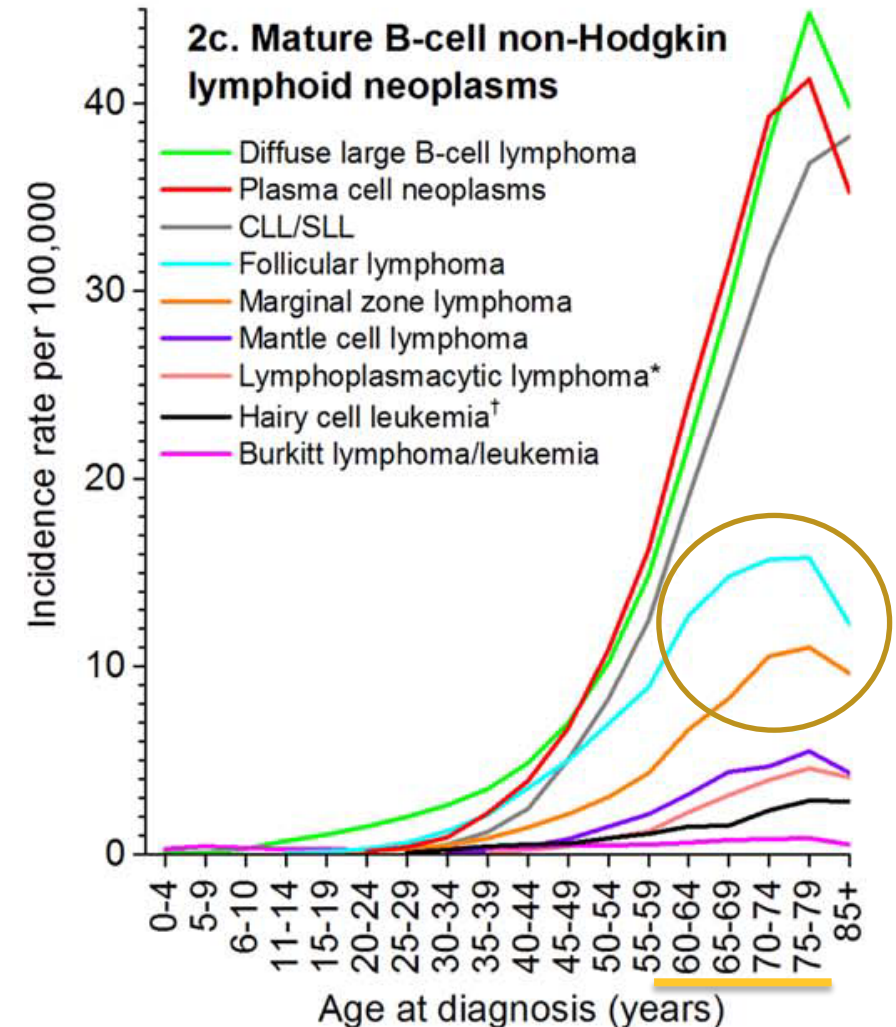
Epidemiology



Estimated Cases and Distribution of Mature Non-Hodgkin Lymphoid Neoplasm Subtypes: US, 2016

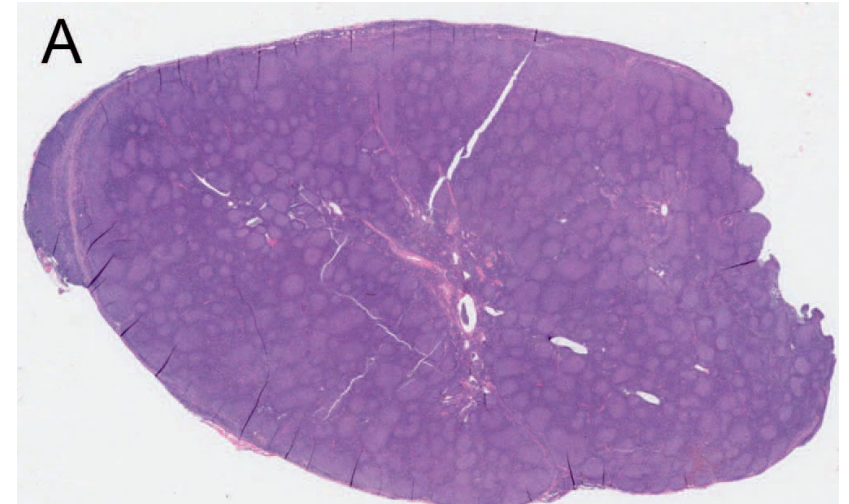
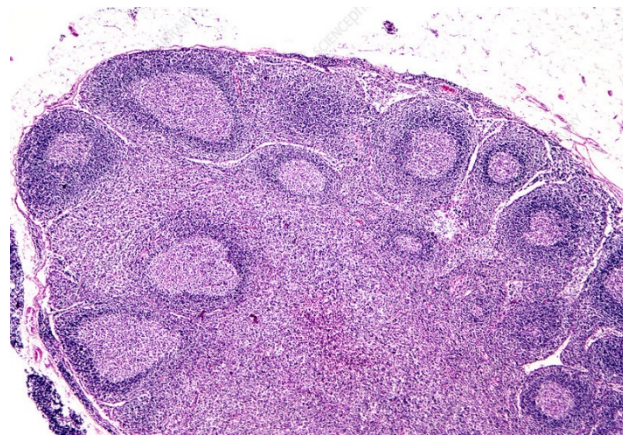
Risk Factors

- Follicular lymphoma
 - Autoimmune conditions
 - Cigarette smoking (women)
 - Benzene, other solvents
 - Agent Orange, other herbicides
- Marginal zone lymphoma
 - As above, also specific infections (e.g. H pylori)



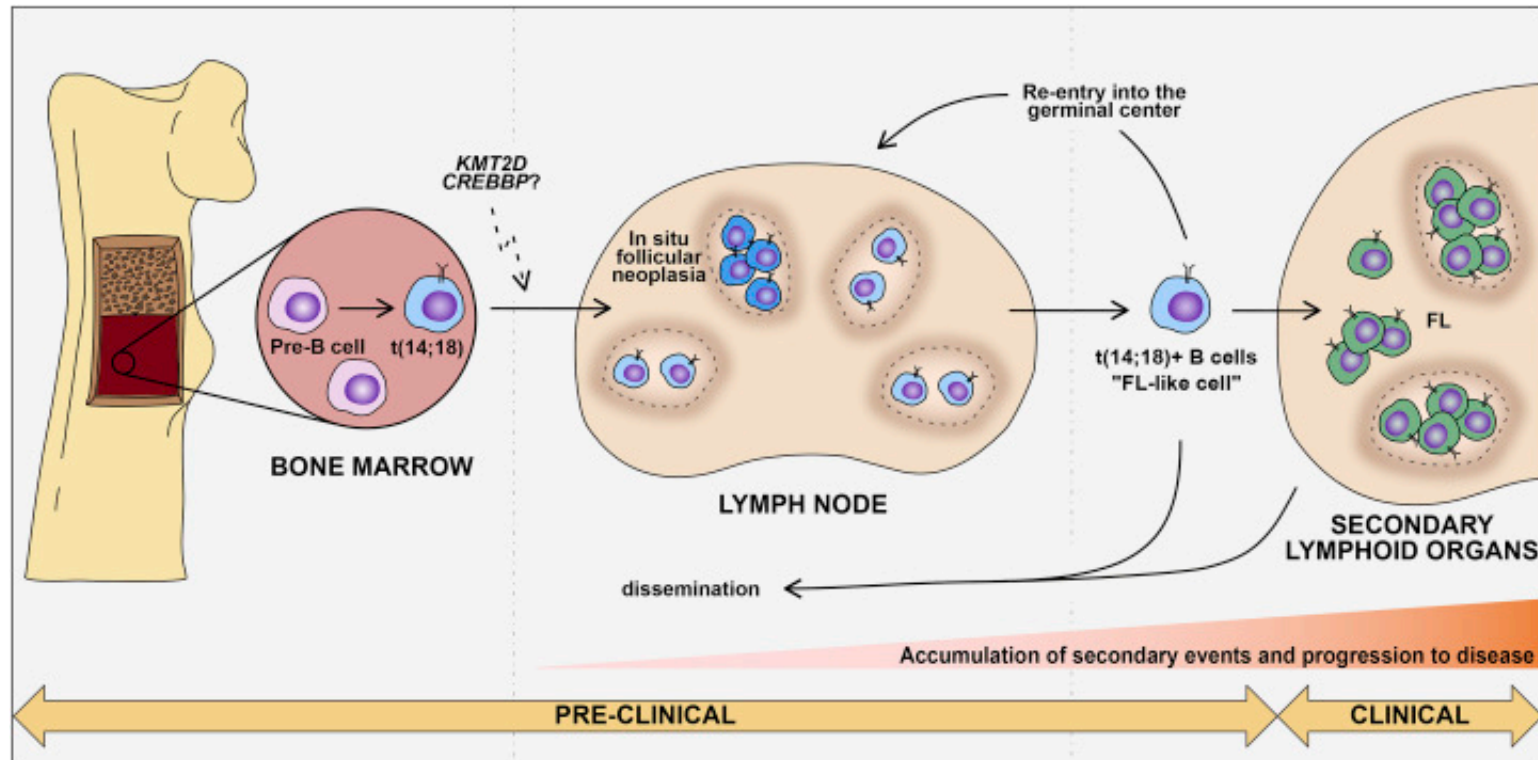
Work-up

- Excisional or incisional biopsy preferred to core (FNA inadequate)
- Labs including LDH, hepatitis B
- Diagnostic CT, whole-body PET
- Marrow exam (clinical stage I-II disease)



Typical Follicular Lymphomagenesis

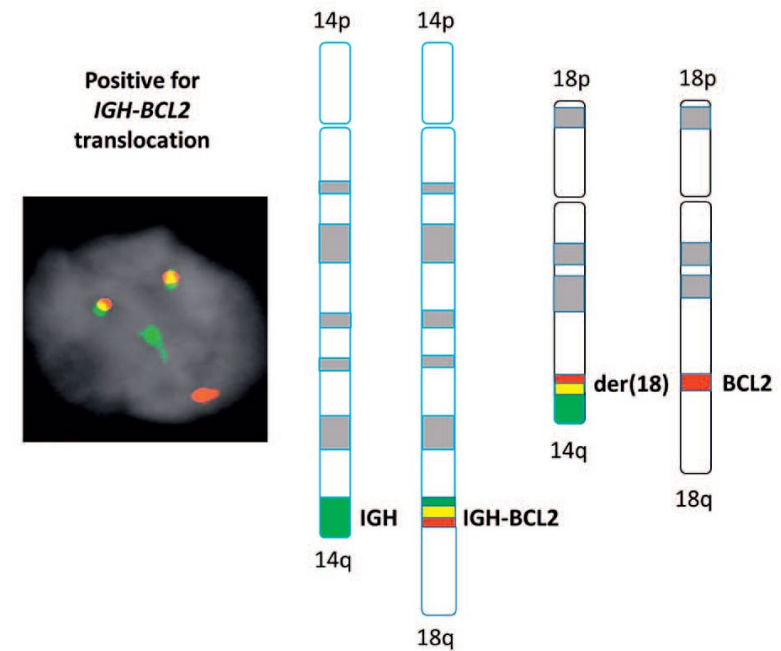
- B cells differentiate in lymph node germinal centers
- Maturation occurs by random genetic modification followed by antigen driven selection



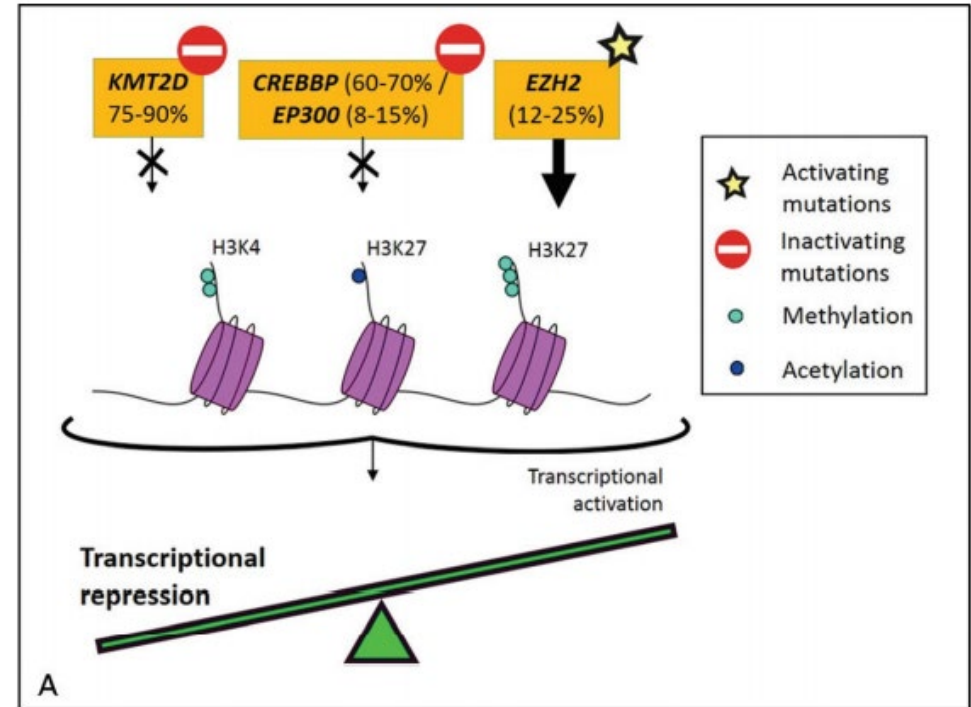
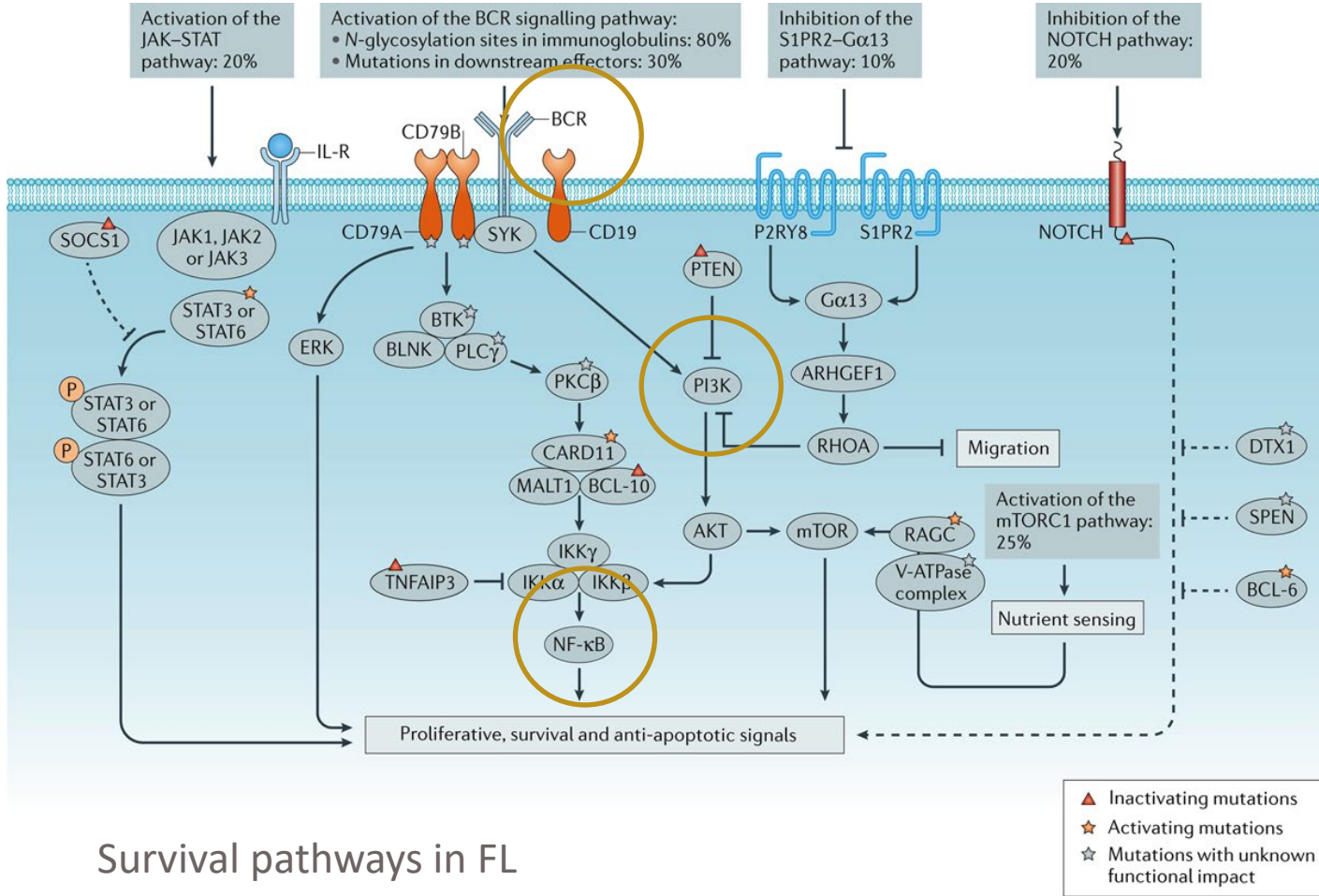
- 1st step: acquisition of t(14;18) that occurs in the bone marrow (pre-B cell stage)
 - Leads to constitutive expression of anti-apoptotic protein BCL-2
- B cells with t(14;18) that enter the germinal center (highly mutagenic environment) are at risk for developmental arrest leading to clonal expansion, new mutations, and ultimately FL

Molecular Characteristics: Typical FL

- Light chain restricted
- Pan B-cell markers (CD20+, CD19+)
- Arise from germinal center B-cells, thus CD10+ and BCL6+
- Also typically BCL2+ and CD5-
- [t(14;18)(q32;q21)] ~85% of cases
 - Juxtaposes Ig heavy chain promoter with *BCL-2*
 - Constitutive BCL-2 expression (anti-apoptosis)
 - Variants [t(2;18)] and [t18;22)]
 - Alternative *BCL-2* juxtapositions (kappa LC / lambda LC)



Pathways in Follicular Lymphomagenesis



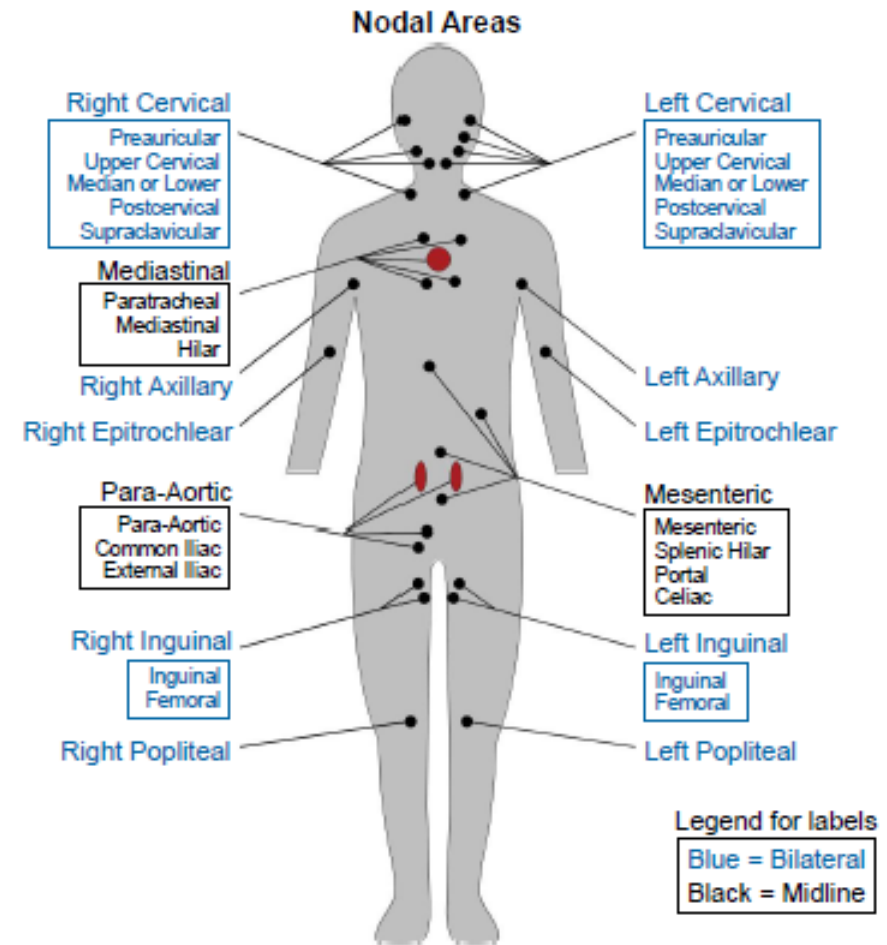
Alterations in epigenetic modifiers occur >90% of cases of FL (most > 1)
 *histone methyltransferases
 *histone acetyltransferases
 → typically, early events

Pediatric-type FL (PTFL)

- Definitive entry in 2016 WHO Lymphoma Classification (testable!)
- Clinical presentation
 - Localized disease (H&N location common)
 - Males > Females
 - Younger age typical (though not necessary)
- Key pathologic/molecular features
 - High Ki67 (> 30%)
 - No t(14;18) on FISH (or rearrangements in *BCL6*, *IRF4/MUM1*)
 - (Epimutations less common)
 - (Low genetic complexity)
- Local therapy preferred: Excision > RT > Systemic therapy

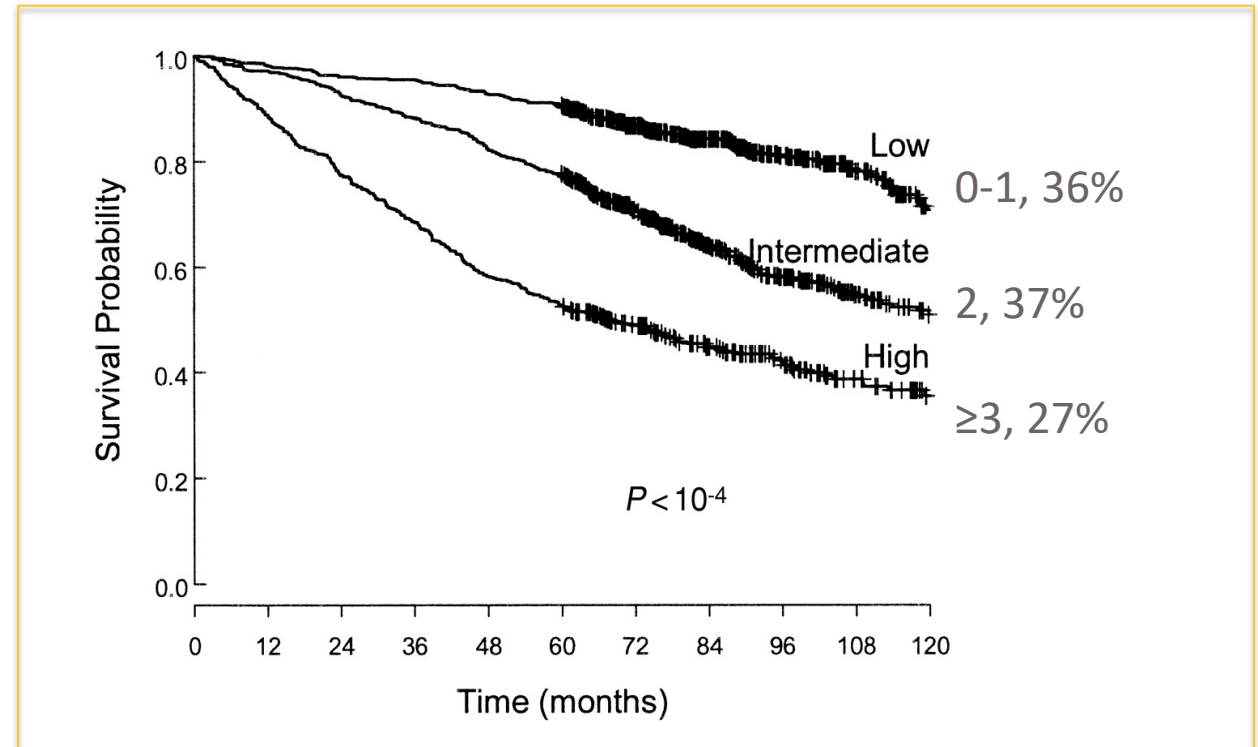
Clinical Characteristics of Follicular Lymphoma

- Median age at diagnosis approximately 65 years
- Multiple sites of waxing and waning adenopathy
- Approximately 25% present with B symptoms
- 65-70% stage III/IV



Follicular Lymphoma International Prognostic Index

- N = 4,167 diagnosed 1985 - 1992
- Adverse factors
 - Nodal areas (> 4)
 - LDH (elevated)
 - Age (> 60)
 - Stage (III/IV)
 - Hemoglobin (< 12 g/dL)



Next Generation FLIPs

	FLIPI	FLIPI-2	PRIMA-PI	M7-FLIPI
Age	✓	✓		✓
Stage	✓			✓
Hemoglobin	✓	✓		✓
LDH	✓			✓
Nodal sites	✓			✓
B2M ≥ 3 gm/L		✓	✓	
Marrow inv		✓	✓	
Mass ≥ 6 cm		✓		
ECOG				✓
7-gene mutations				✓

Federico et al. J Clin Oncol 27: 4555-4562, 2009; Jurinovic et al. Blood 128: 1112-20; Huet et al, ICML 2017; Salles et al. Blood. 2018 Jul 5;132(1):49-58.

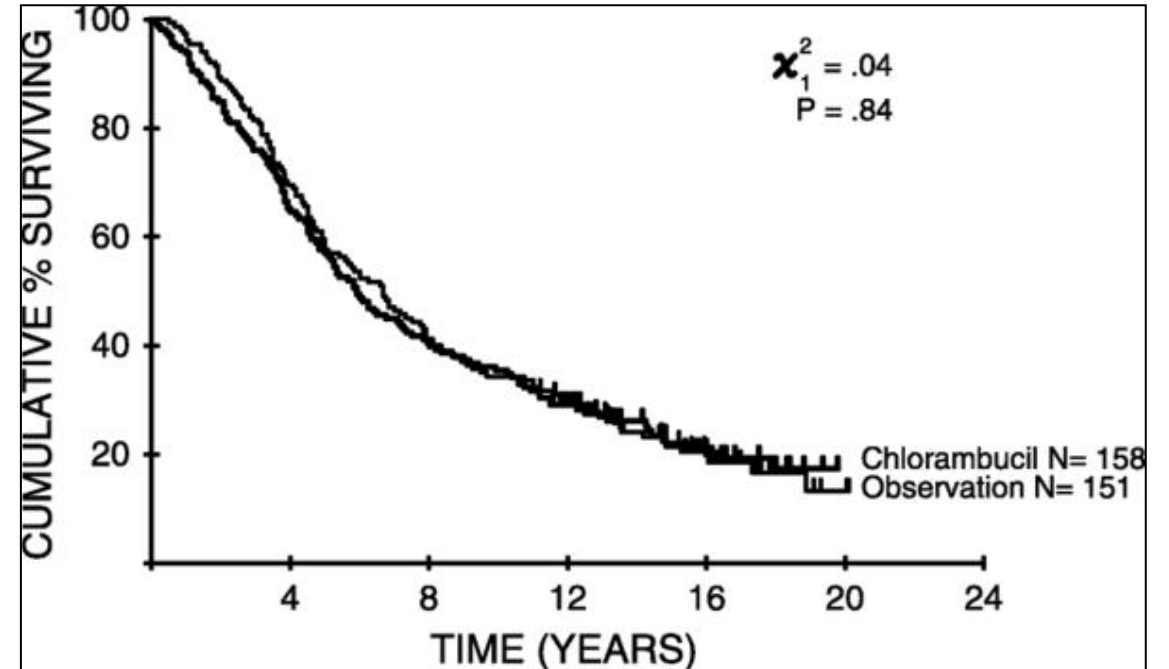
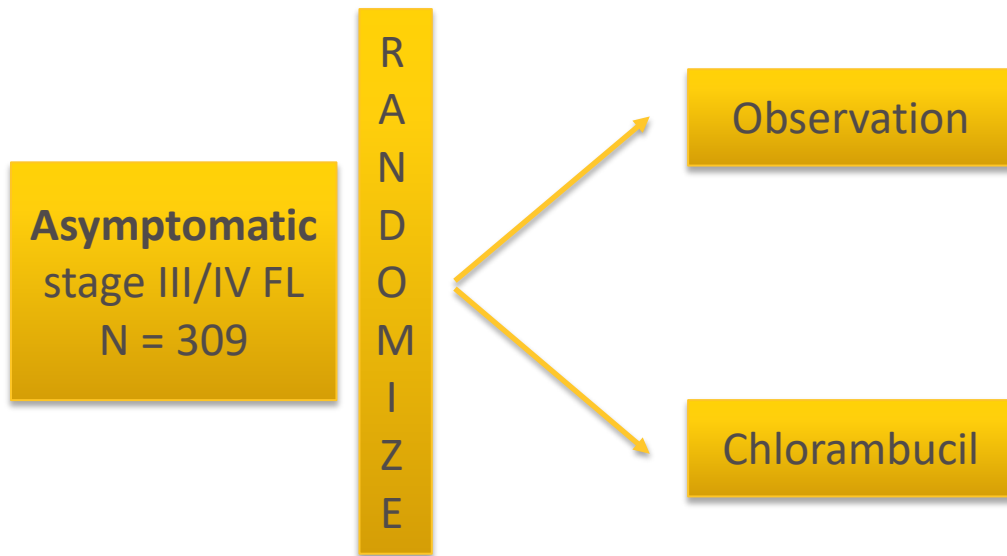
Advanced Stage FL: Treatment Initiation

Table 2. Spontaneous Regressions in Initially Untreated Patients.*

	NO. OF PATIENTS (%)	MONTHS TO REGRESSION		MONTHS OF REGRESSION	
		<i>median</i>	<i>range</i>	<i>median</i>	<i>range</i>
Total	19/83	8	2-120	>13	>4->72
FSC/NLPD	13/44 (30)	7	2-120	15	>4->72
FM/NM	3/18 (17)		2-23		>4-12
SL/DLWD	3/21 (14)		26-93		6->72

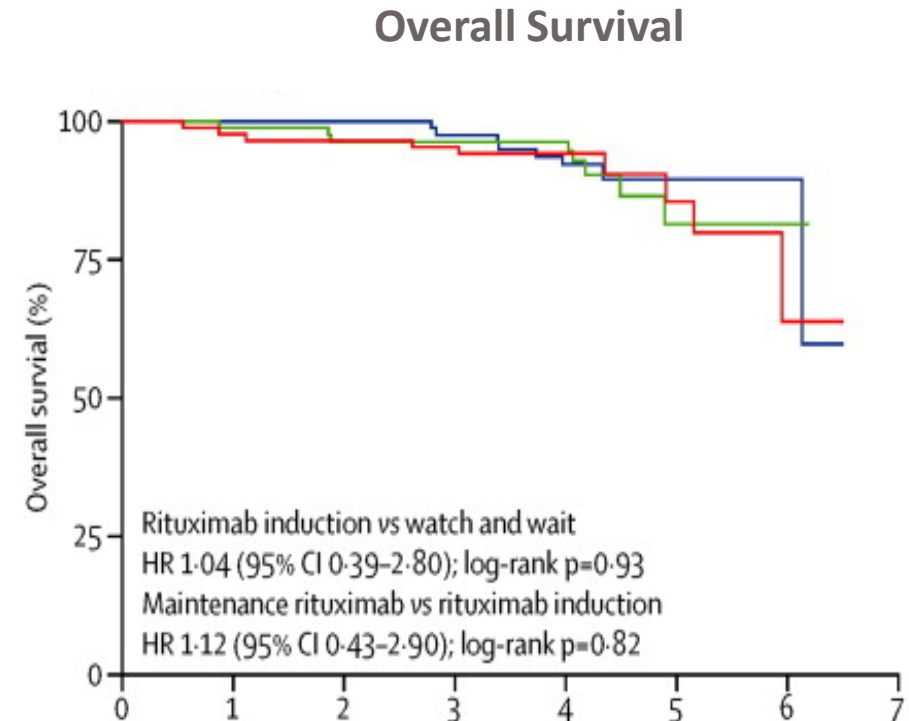
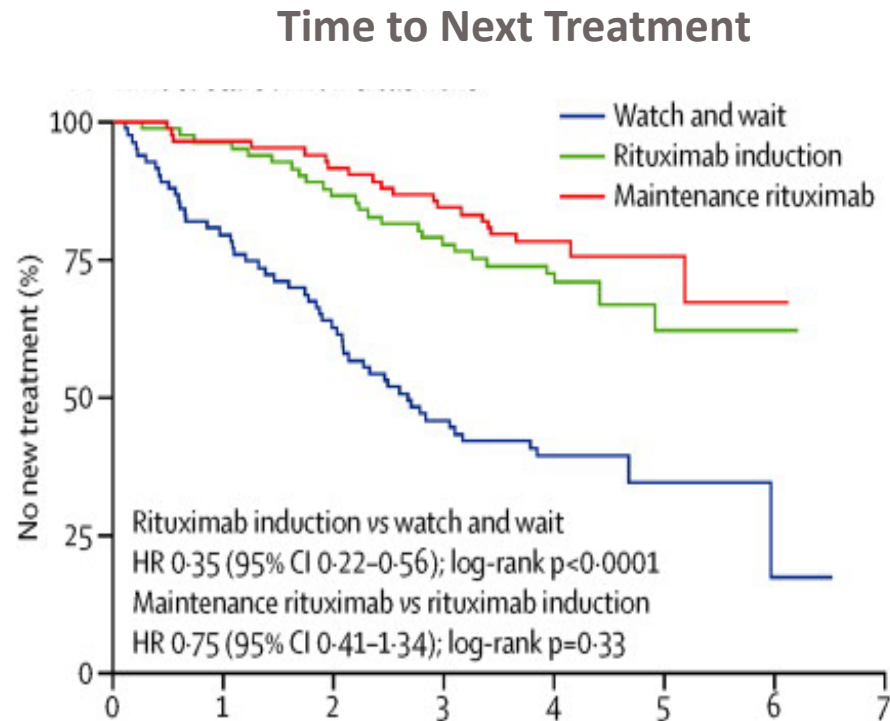
FSC = Follicular small cleaved; FM = follicular mixed; SL = small lymphocytic; DLWD = diffuse well differentiated lymphocytic

Advanced Stage Early Treatment (Chlorambucil)



19% did not require treatment at 10 years

Advanced Stage Early Treatment (Rituximab)



- Those that received induction plus maintenance rituximab had some benefit related to anxiety
- Conversation on toxicities, costs, and potential for never requiring therapy

Groupe d'Etude des Lymphomes Folliculaires Criteria

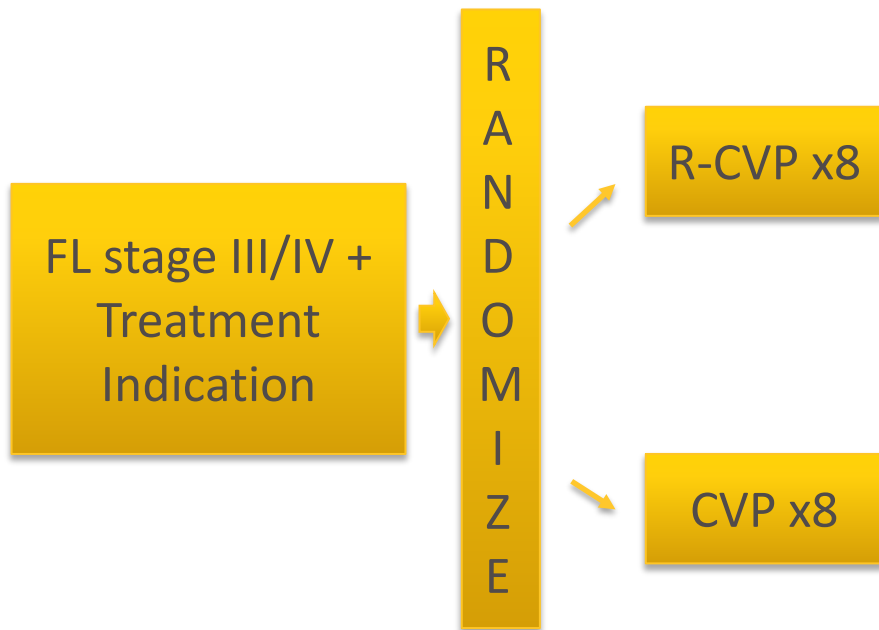
- Involvement of ≥ 3 nodal sites, each ≥ 3 cm
- Any lesion ≥ 7 cm
- B symptoms
- Splenomegaly
- Threatened organ function
- Pleural/peritoneal effusion
- Cytopenias (leukocytes $< 1k$ or platelets $< 100k$) or leukemia

- NCCN: also, steady or rapid progression; candidate for trial

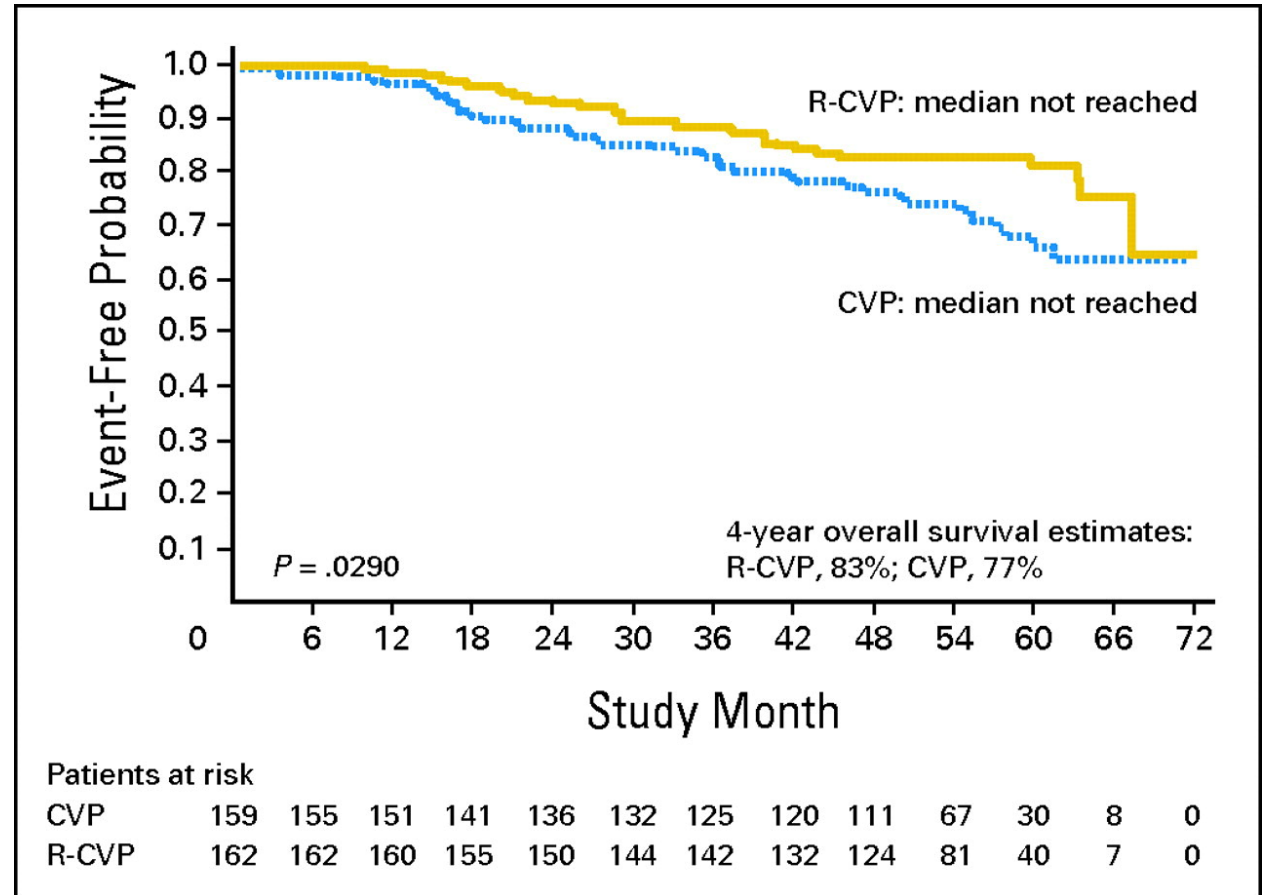
- Median time between diagnosis and start of treatment = 2 to 3 years

} “Bulky”

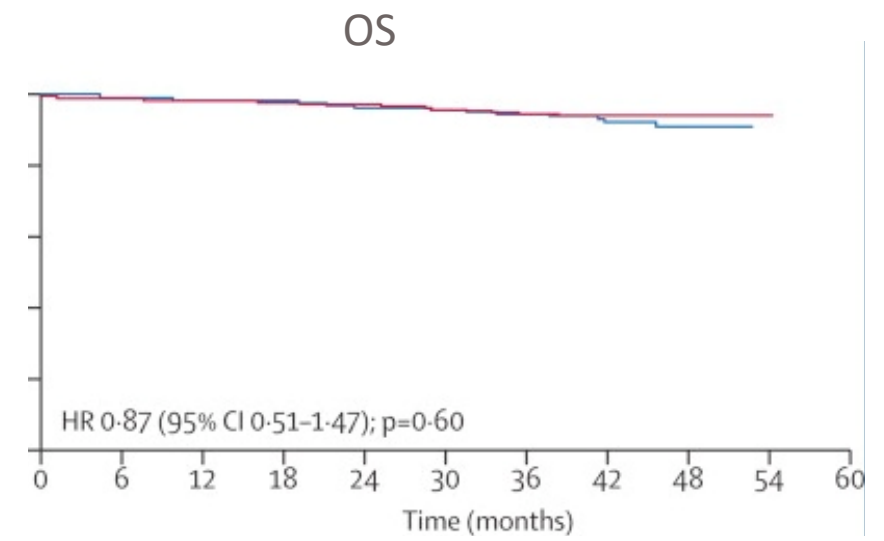
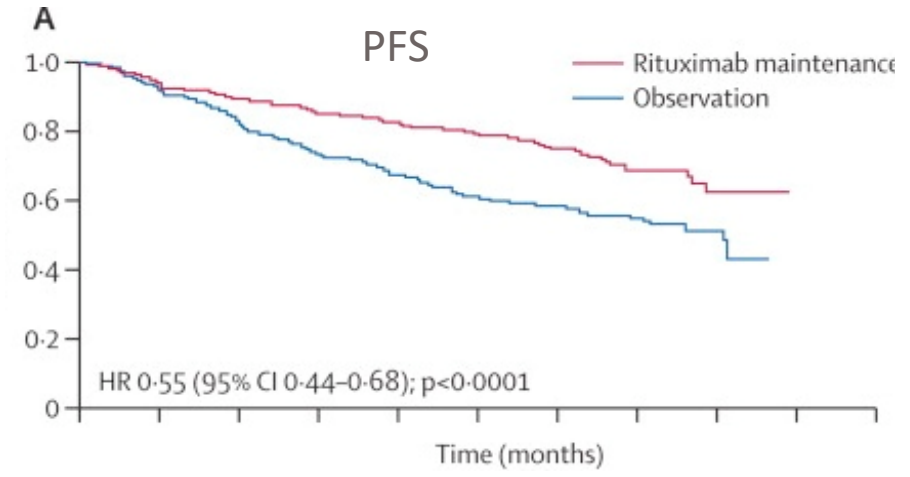
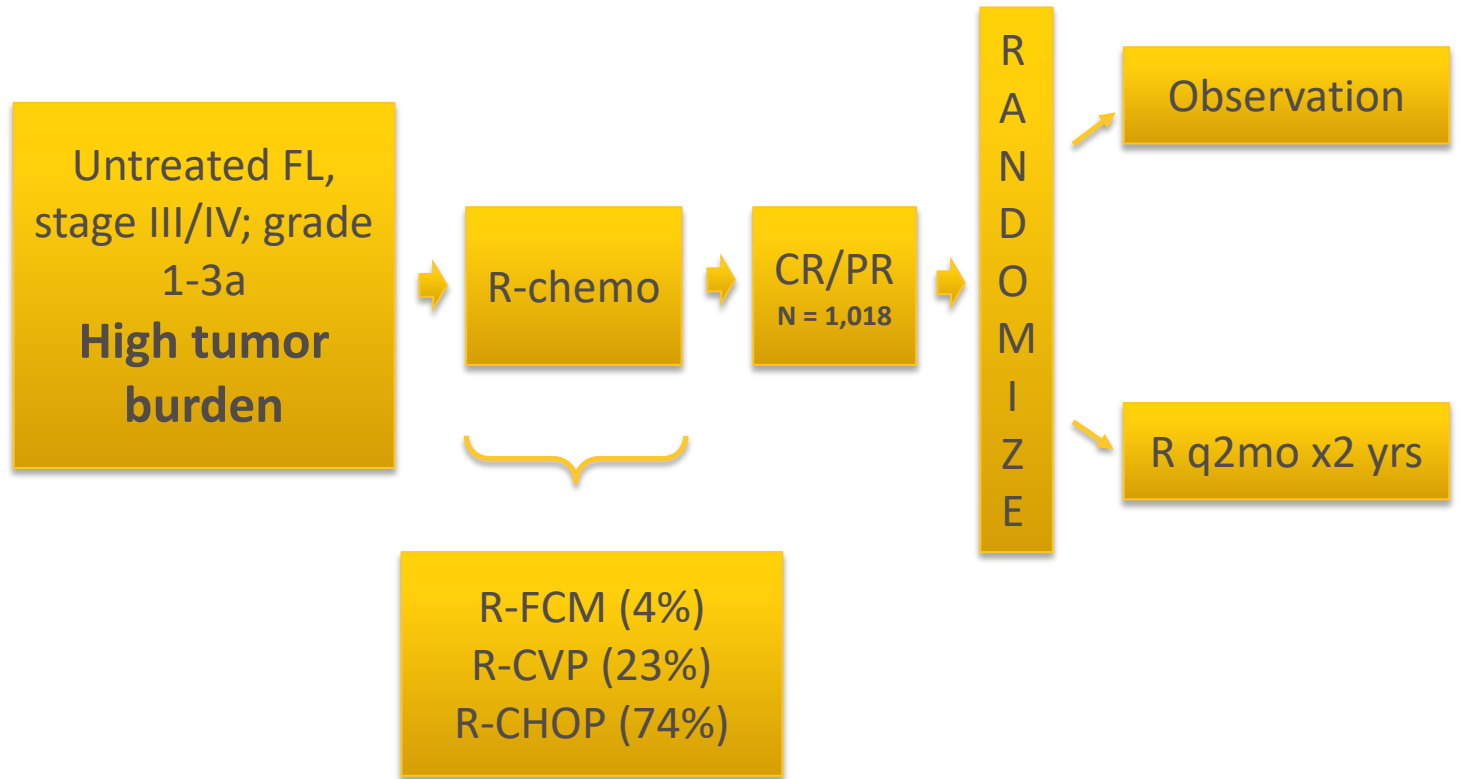
Frontline Treatment: Addition of Rituximab



Consistent benefit with addition of R to chemo shown across 4 randomized studies in PFS, OS and response rates



Primary Rituximab and (Maintenance v Observation) PRIMA

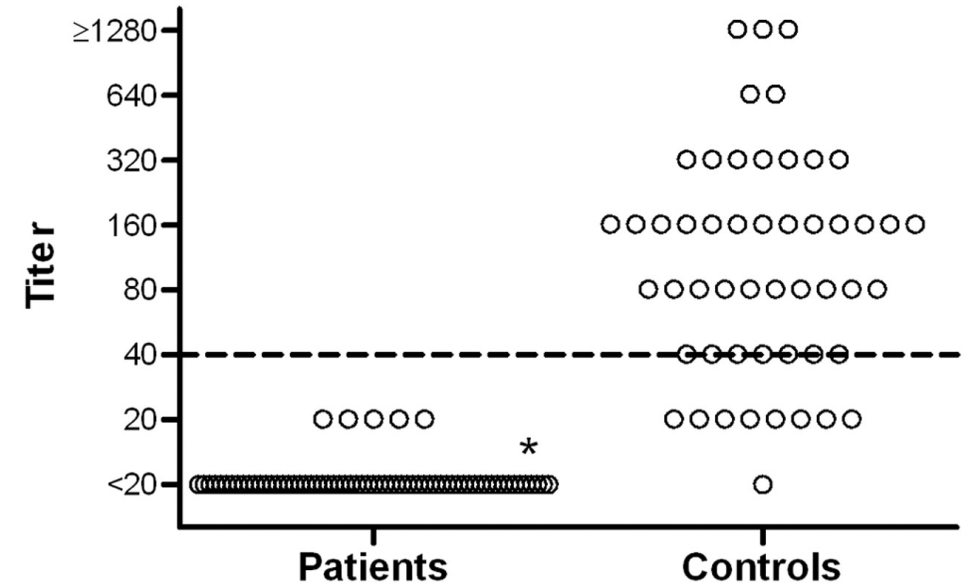
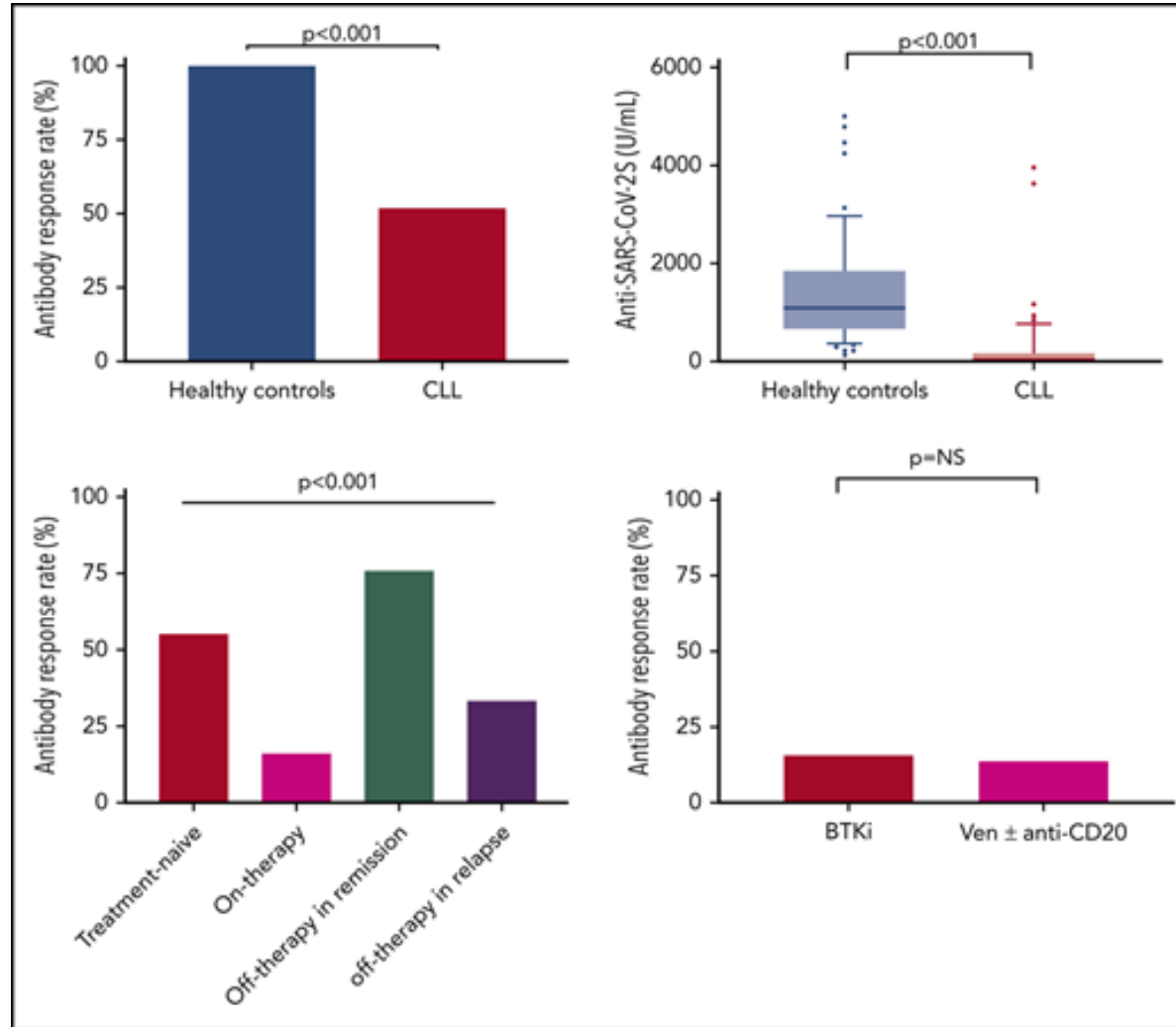


PRIMA: Toxicity

	Observation (n=508)		Rituximab maintenance (n=501)	
	Grade 3/4	Leading to treatment discontinuation	Grade 3/4	Leading to treatment discontinuation
All adverse events	84 (17%)	8 (2%)	121 (24%)	19 (4%)†
Neoplasia	17 (3%)	6 (1%)	20 (4%)	5 (1%)
Neutropenia	5 (1%)	0	18 (4%)	0
Febrile neutropenia	2 (<1%)	0	1 (<1%)	1 (<1%)
Infections	5 (1%)	0	22 (4%)	4 (1%)
CNS disorders	13 (3%)	0	10 (2%)	0
Cardiac disorders	5 (1%)	0	11 (2%)	1 (<1%)
Pregnancy	NA	2 (<1%)	NA	3 (1%)

➤ Logistics, financial

anti-CD20 antibody toxicity: 2021

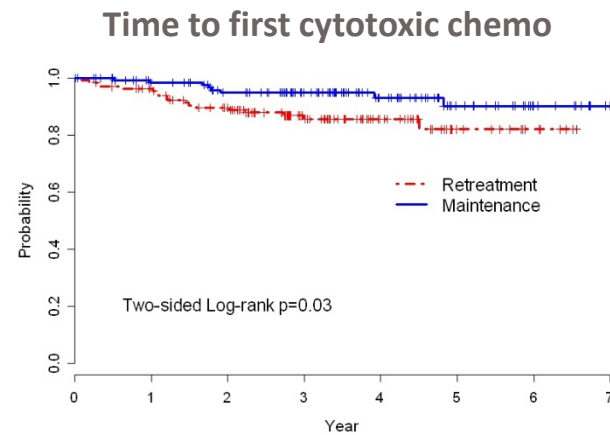
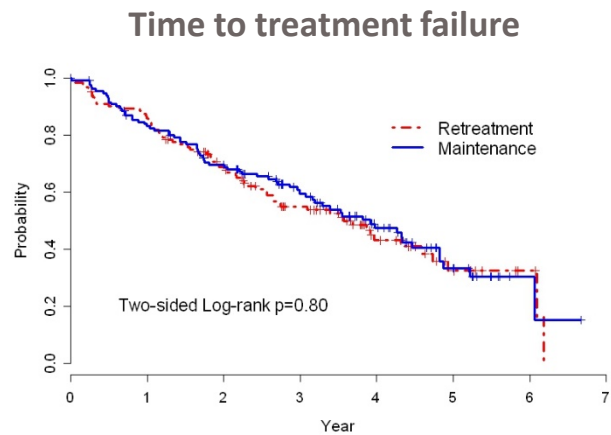
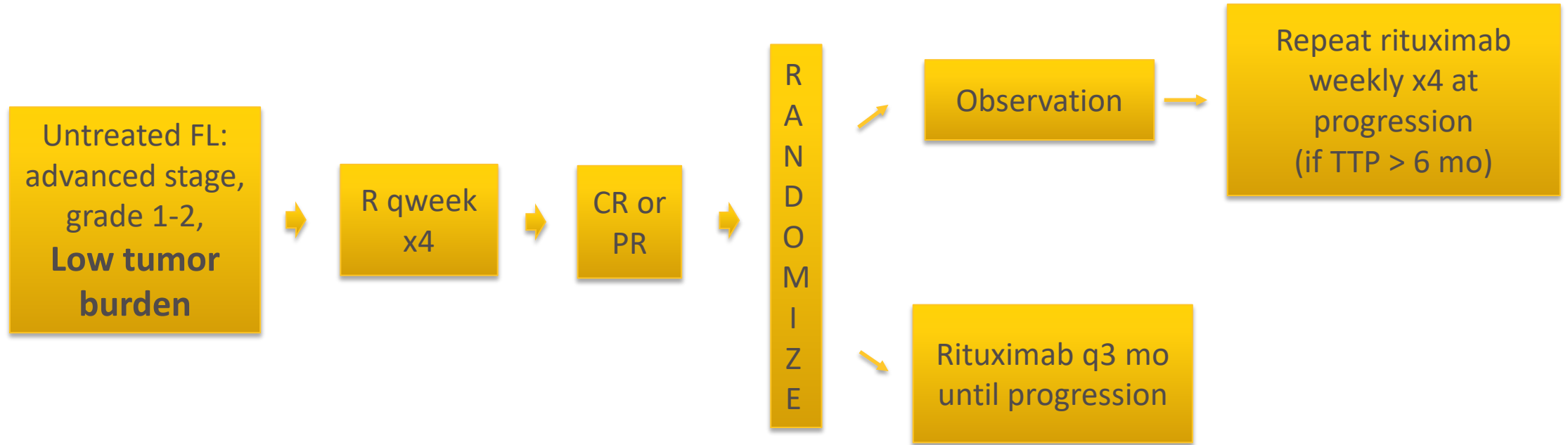


Compared to 82% of adequate responses in control group, 0 or 67 patients with lymphoma receiving rituximab responded to H1N1 virus vaccine

Herishanu et al. Blood. 2021.

Yri et al. Blood, Nov 2011

Rituximab Extended Schedule or Re-treatment (RESORT)



Doses of Rituximab

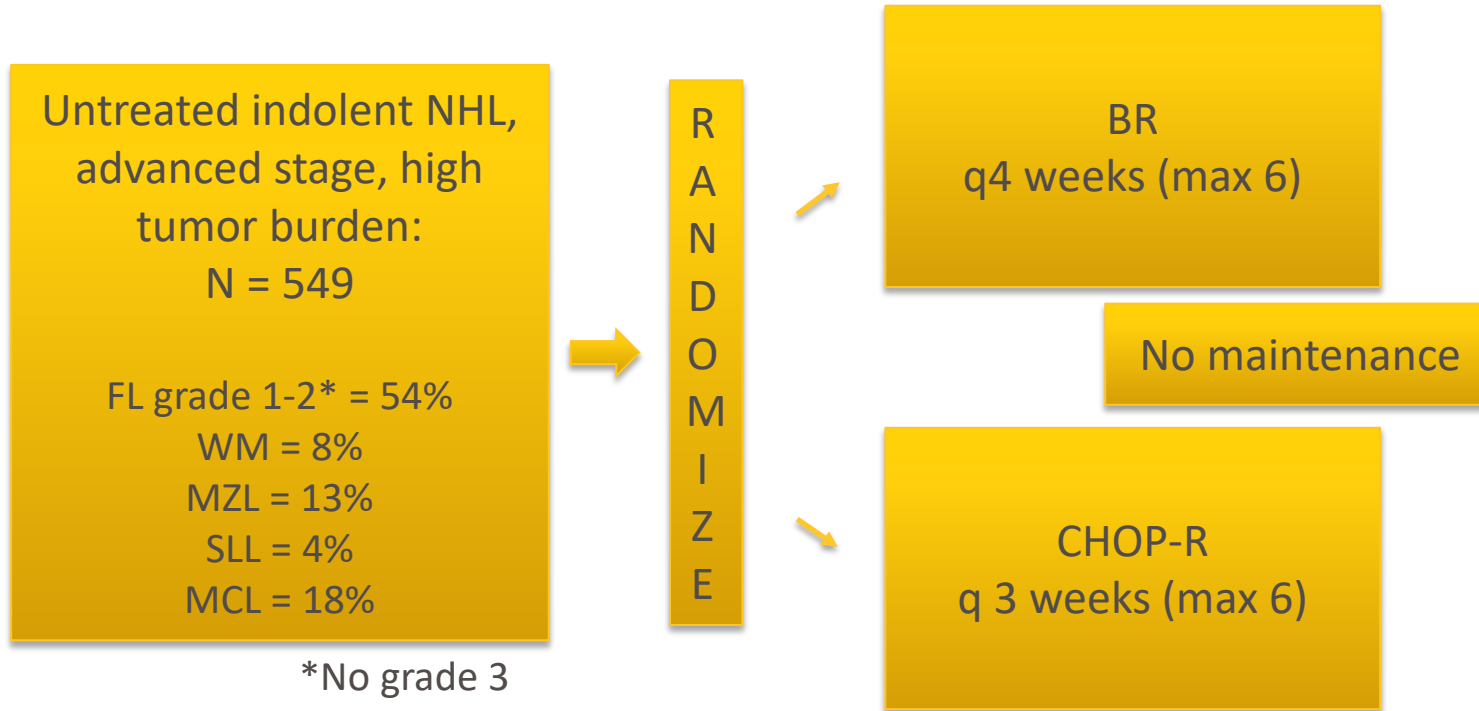
	Min	Max	Median	Mean
Re-treat	4	16	4	4.5
Maint	5	31	15.5	15.8

Rituximab Hyaluronidase

- Subcutaneous injection over ~ 5 minutes
- Efficacy and safety are similar to IV
- May be substituted after patients have received 1st full dose of IV rituximab
- Time-saving (for patients and infusion clinic) → monitor for 15 min post injection
- Injection-site erythema in 11%



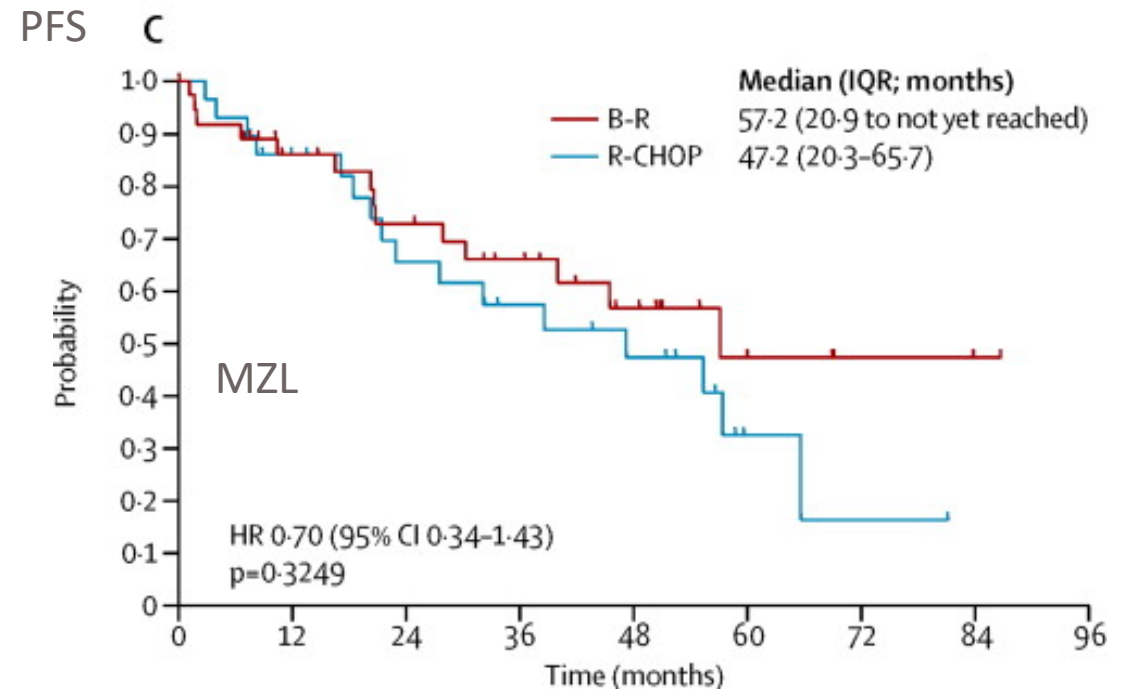
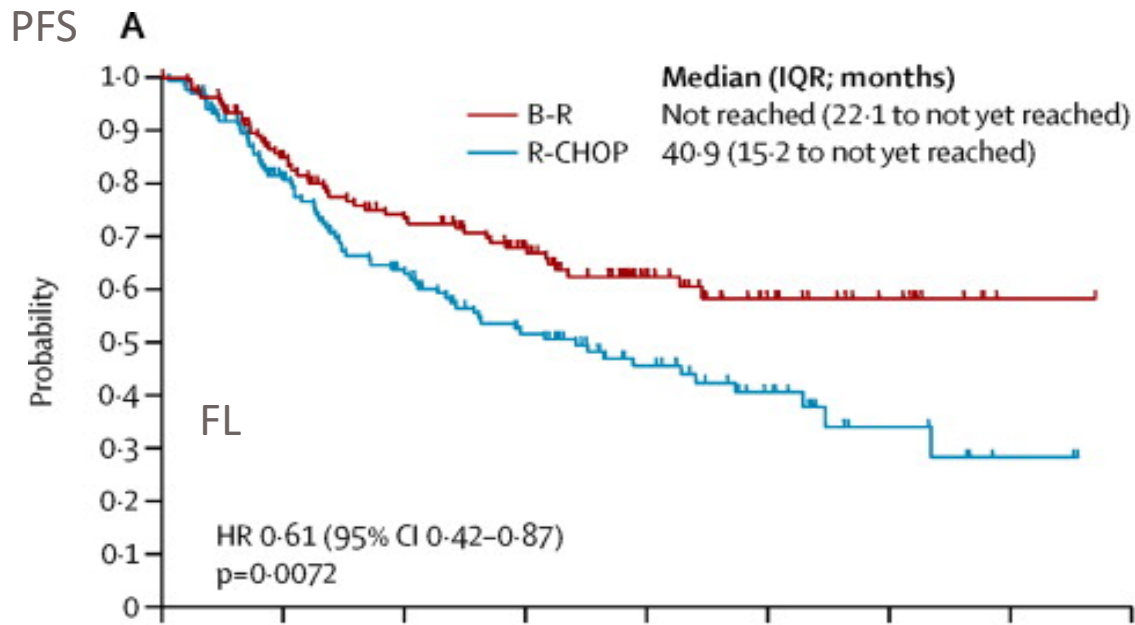
BR vs CHOP-R (StIL NHL1)



	B-R N = 260	CHOP-R N = 253	P
Alopecia	0	245	< 0.0001
Paresthesias	18	73	< 0.0001
Stomatitis	16	47	< 0.0001
Allergic reaction	40	15	0.0003
Infections	96	127	0.0025
Sepsis	1	8	0.0190
Neutropenia G3/4	11%	47%	

StIL NHL1

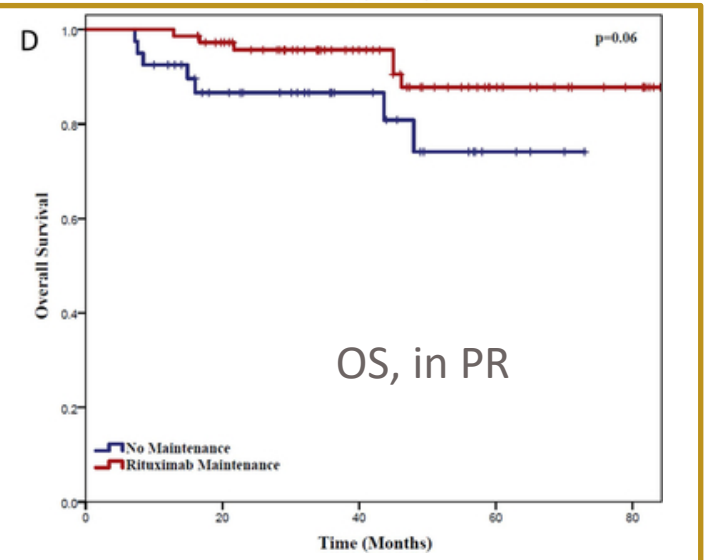
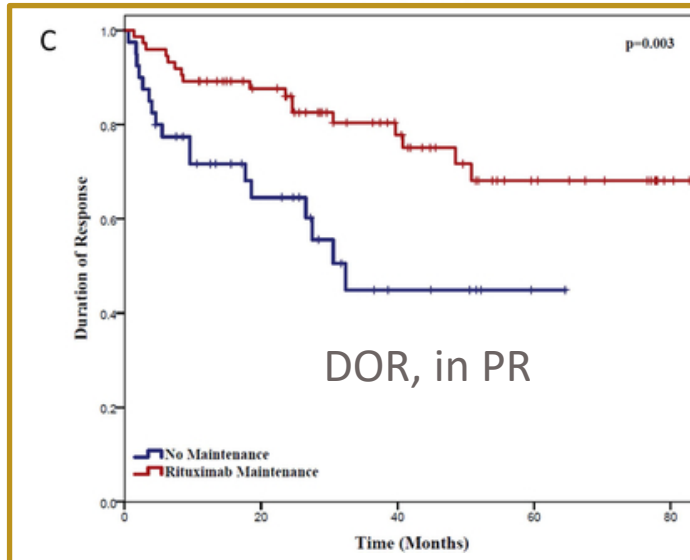
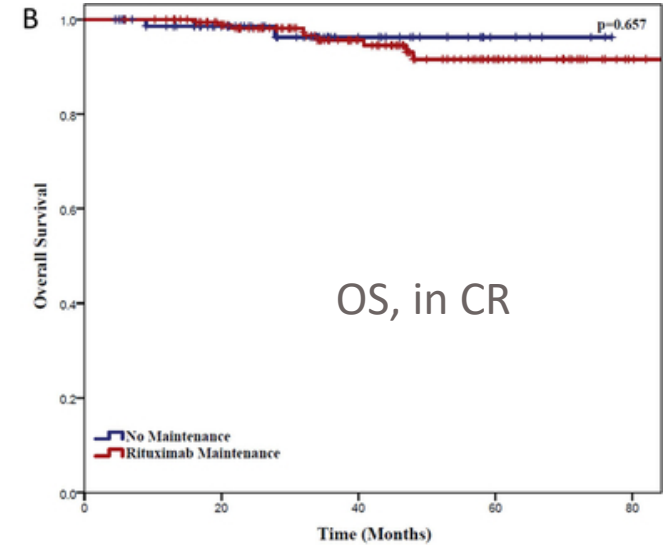
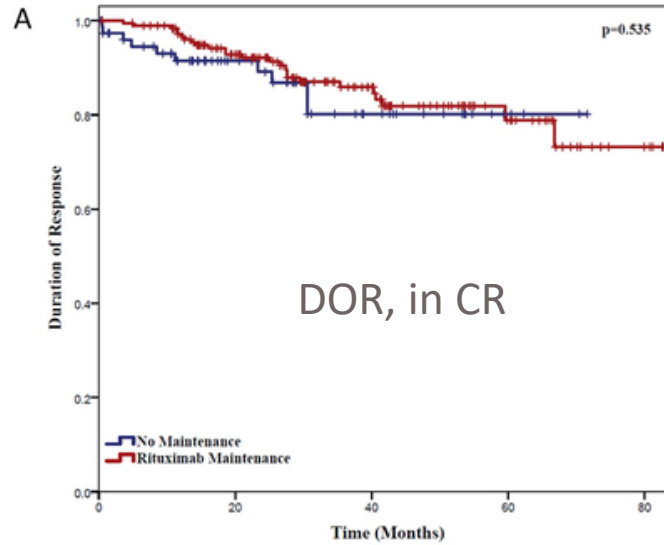
	BR	CHOP-R	P
ORR	93%	91%	NS
CR	40%	30%	0.03



- No difference in OS
- Comparable findings in North America “BRIGHT” study

Maintenance Rituximab after BR

- Retrospective, limited to patients in CR or PR after induction BR (at least 4 cycles)
- Findings comparable to other, cross-trial analyses



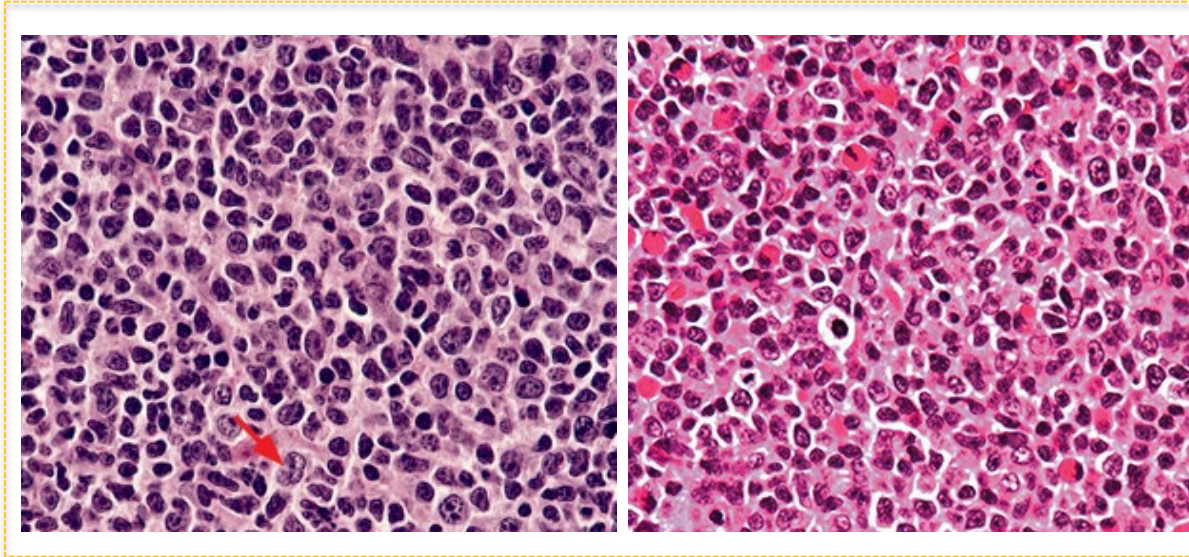
Maintenance Rituximab after R-chemo

For	Neutral/Against
PR	CR
Concern for toxicity from 2 nd line	Toxicity
	Cost, time

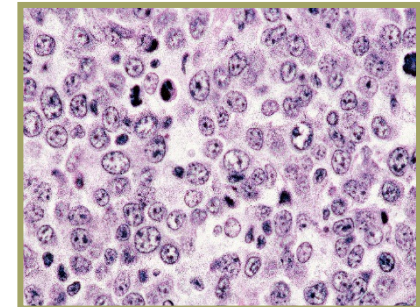
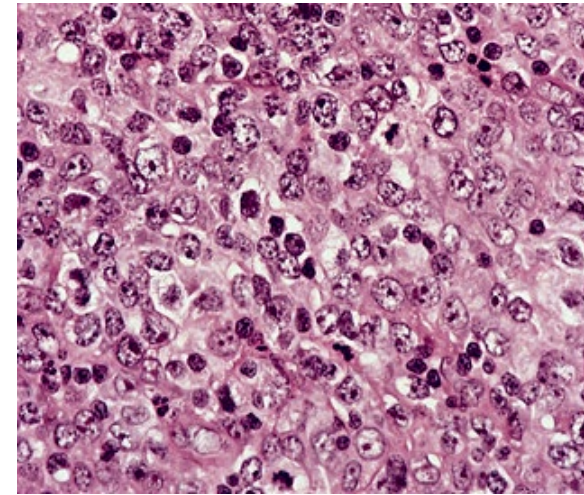
BR for Frontline Treatment of FL



FL Histologic Grade

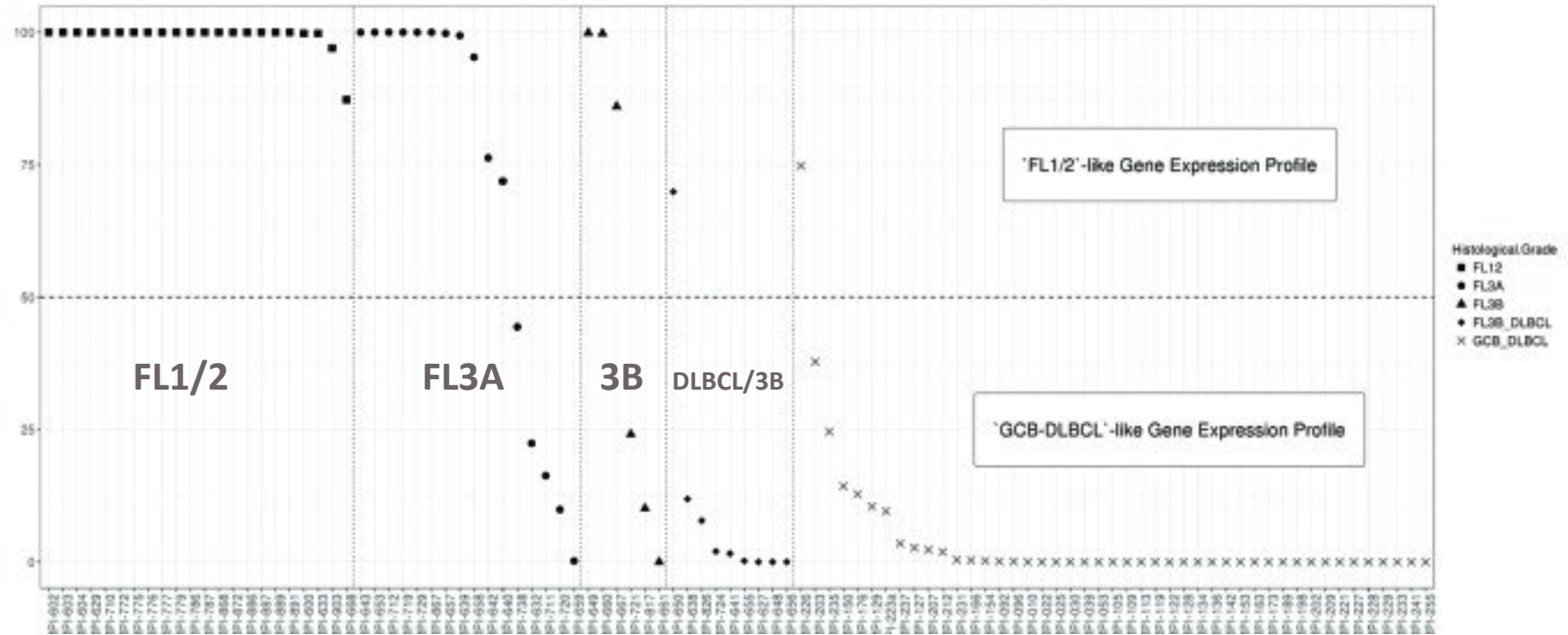
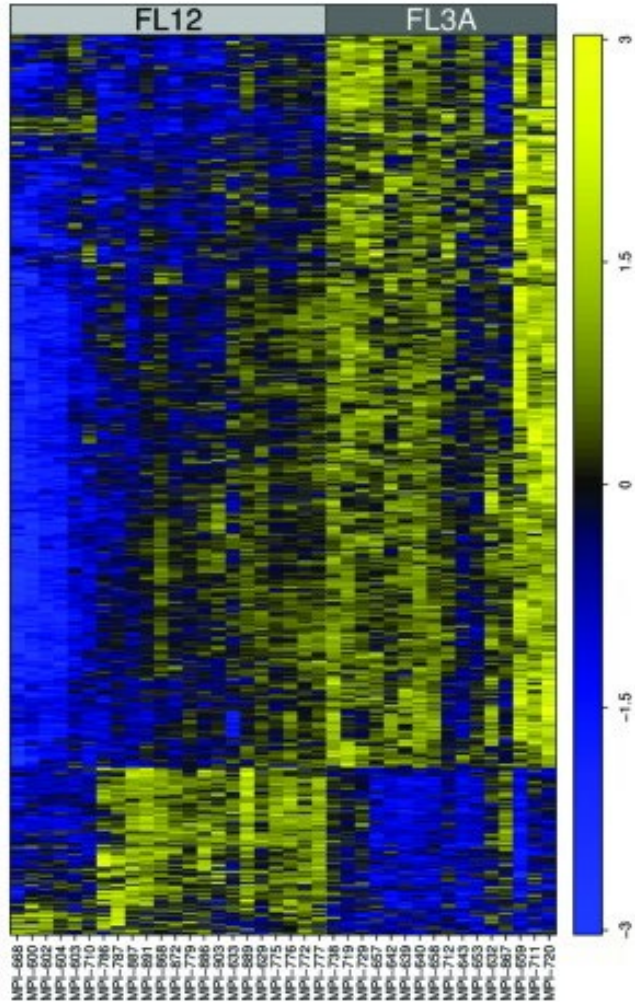


25-30% of FL

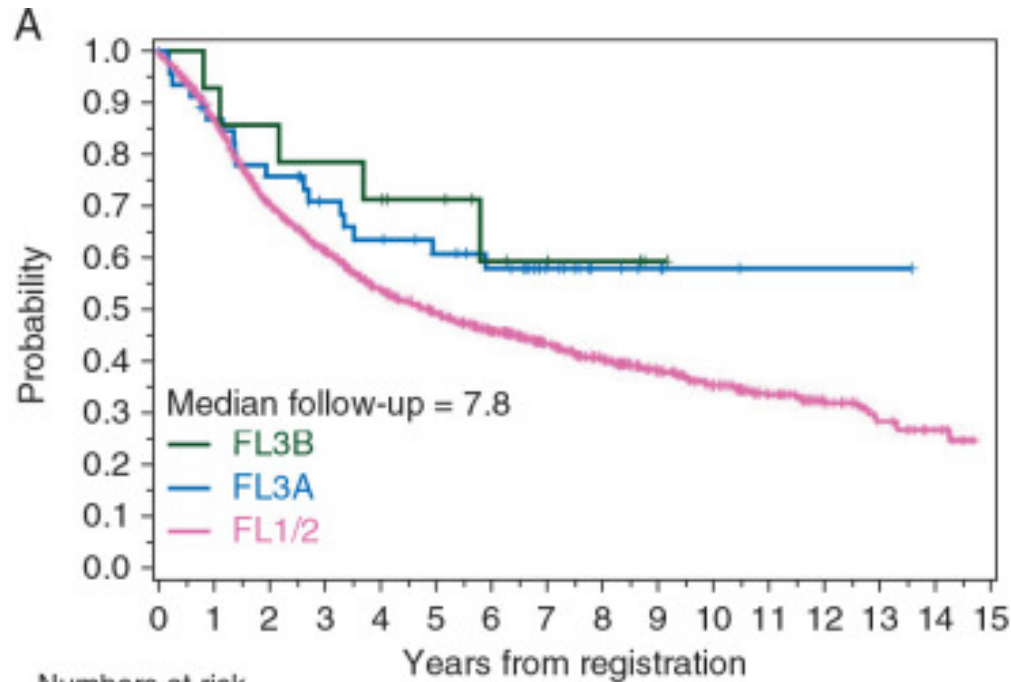


	1/2	3A	3B
Diffuse areas	Absent	Absent	Present
Centrocytes	Present	Present	Absent
Marrow invasion	Frequent	Frequent	Uncommon
CD10+	100%	83%	43%
<i>BCL2</i> break	88%	58%	9%

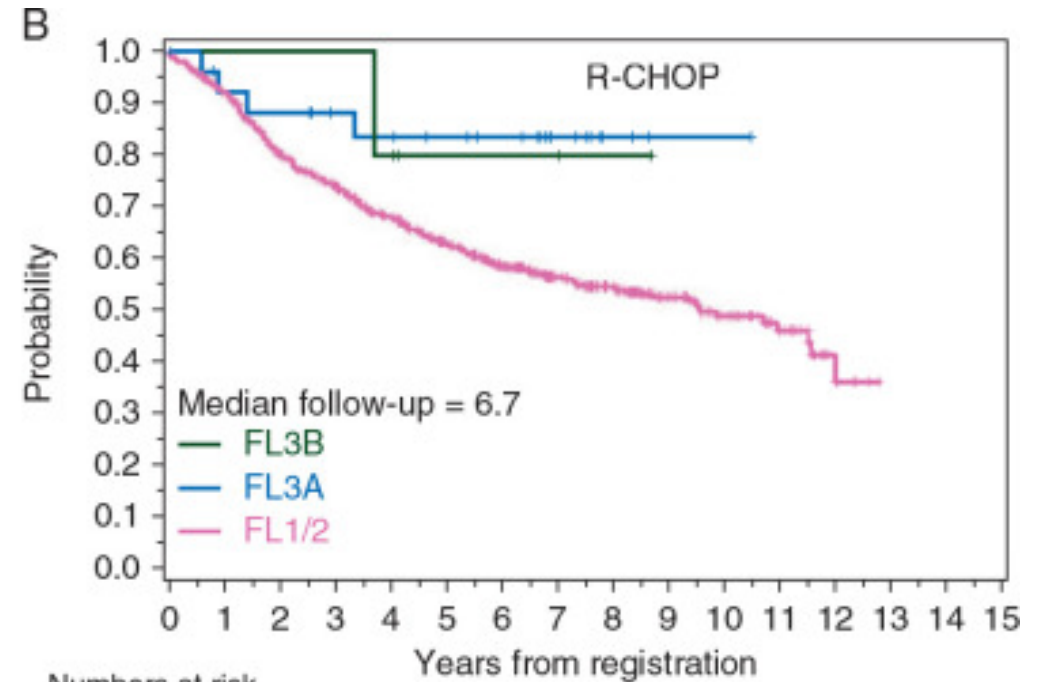
FL Histologic Grade



FL PFS by Grade



Numbers at risk	
FL3B	14 13 12 11 10 8 5 4 3 1 0
FL3A	47 39 34 29 26 23 20 12 6 4 2 1 0
FL1/2	158412891016 855 702 606 510 407 318 232 164 112 65 37 19



Numbers at risk	
FL3B	5 4 2 1 0
FL3A	27 23 22 19 18 16 14 8 3 1 0
FL1/2	744 625 516 452 375 319 259 195 150 90 53 28 6 0

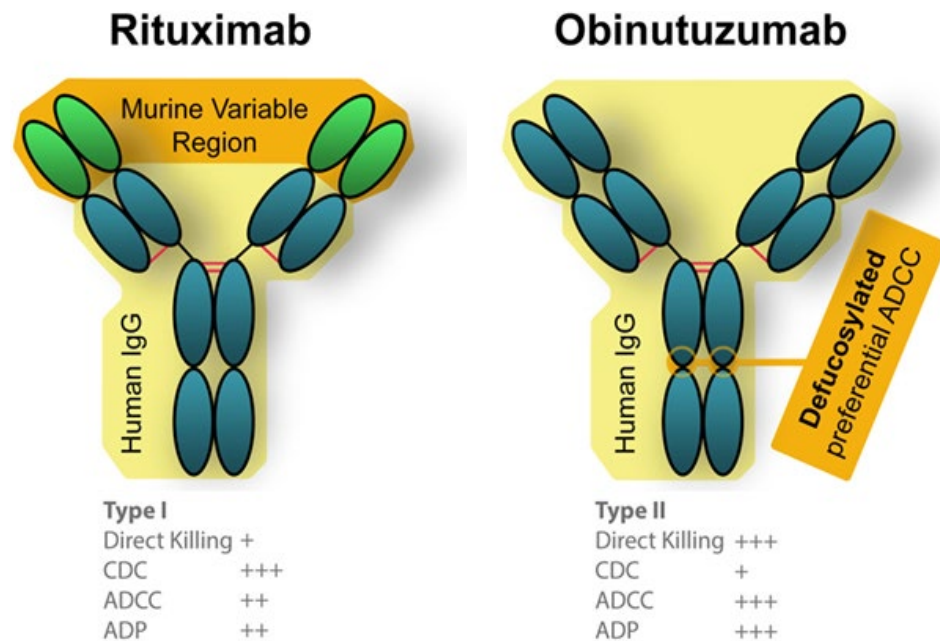
R-Chemo Frontline for Advanced FL: Conclusions

- BR a preferred standard for bulky disease, treatment indication
- R-CHOP perfectly acceptable alternative considering no difference in OS
 - Deserves particular consideration in case of 3A grade

- Maintenance rituximab can be offered
 - Benefit and limitations in shared-decision making

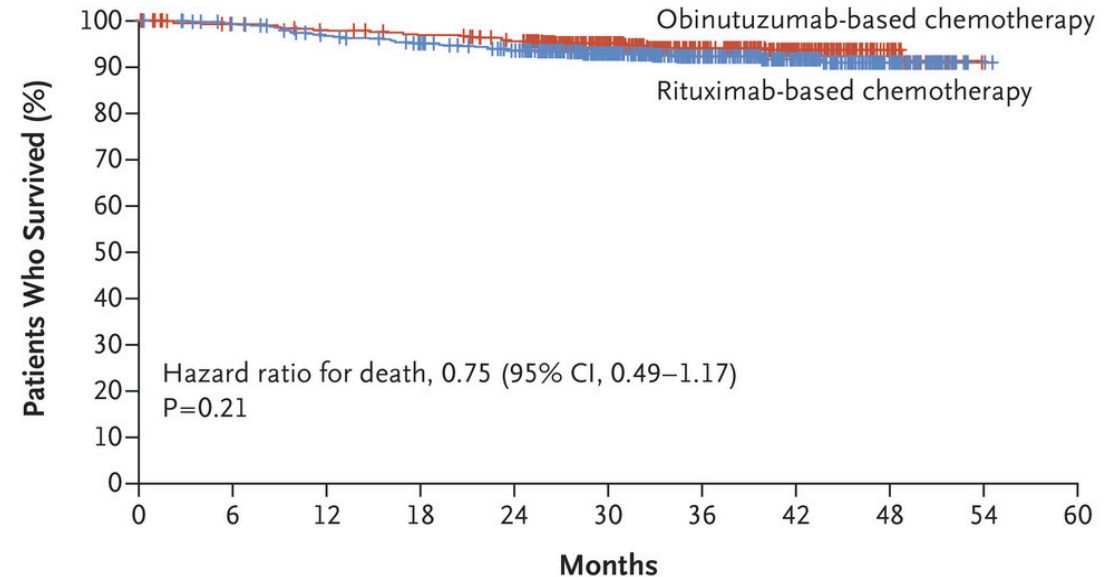
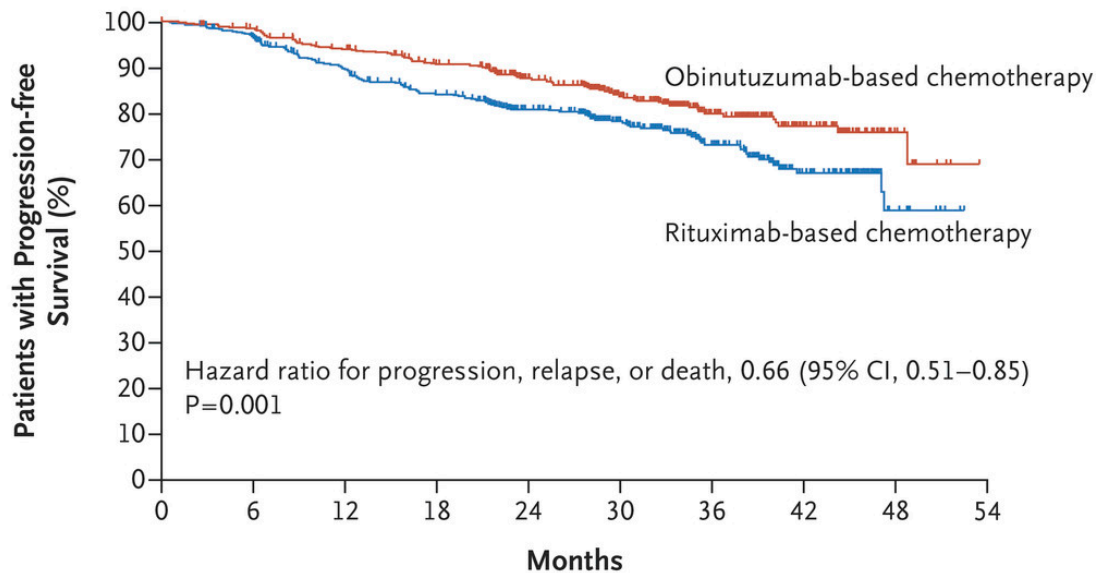
Alternatives to R-Chemo: #1, O-Chemo

- Obinutuzumab binds overlapping epitope of CD20 (as rituximab) but in different orientation: results in different CD20 arrangement in cell membrane and increased apoptosis (type II)
- By manipulating glycosylation of cells that produce obinutuzumab, improvement in direct cell death and higher antibody dependent cell-mediated cyto-toxicity (via NK cell recruitment) is achieved



GALLIUM: R-Chemo vs O-Chemo, Frontline FL

- High tumor burden FL only, grades 1 – 3A
- Maintenance antibody given q2 mo x2 years
- Dosing: obinutuzumab: 1000 mg days 1, 8, 15 of C1 then 1000 mg D1 subsequent cycles



Approximately 35% more O than R

GALLIUM: Higher Toxicity with O-Chemo, Bendamustine

Table 3. Adverse Events and Serious Adverse Events, According to Treatment Phase, and Selected Grade 3 to 5 Adverse Events during Treatment, According to Chemotherapy Agent and Treatment Phase in the Safety Population.*

Event	Overall Trial†		Induction Phase		Maintenance and Observation Phases		Follow-up	
	Obinutuzumab Group (N=595)	Rituximab Group (N=597)	Obinutuzumab Group (N=595)	Rituximab Group (N=597)	Obinutuzumab Group (N=548)	Rituximab Group (N=535)	Obinutuzumab Group (N=427)	Rituximab Group (N=428)
No. of events	10,311	9343	7012	6533	3002	2578	295	230
Patients with ≥1 adverse event — no. (%)								
Any event	592 (99.5)	587 (98.3)	580 (97.5)	577 (96.6)	501 (91.4)	458 (85.6)	130 (30.4)	106 (24.8)
Event of grade 3 to 5	444 (74.6)	405 (67.8)	357 (60.0)	336 (56.3)	205 (37.4)	169 (31.6)	56 (13.1)	33 (7.7)
Event of grade 5‡	24 (4.0)	20 (3.4)§	4 (0.7)	3 (0.5)	10 (1.8)	10 (1.9)	10 (2.3)	7 (1.6)
Infection¶	—	—						
Bendamustine	—	—	27/338 (8.0)	26/338 (7.7)	52/312 (16.7)	39/305 (12.8)	25/270 (9.3)	6/263 (2.3)
CHOP	—	—	14/193 (7.3)	13/203 (6.4)	7/179 (3.9)	11/187 (5.9)	2/128 (1.6)	2/143 (1.4)
CVP	—	—	3/61 (4.9)	4/56 (7.1)	5/57 (8.8)	1/43 (2.3)	1/44 (2.3)	2/45 (4.4)

➤ Bendamustine associated OIs: PJP and VZV prophylaxis, especially with B-O

Bendamustine toxicities, cont (age > 65 yrs)

Clinical Infectious Diseases

MAJOR ARTICLE



Increased Risk of Infectious Complications in Older Patients With Indolent Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma Exposed to Bendamustine

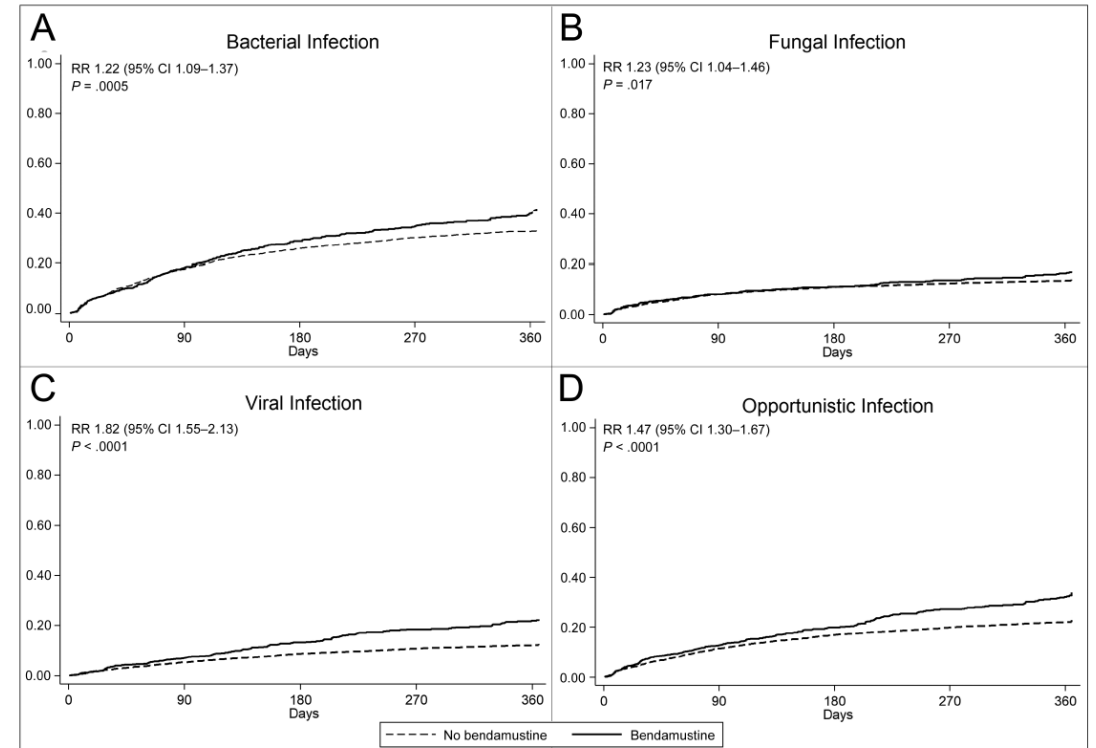
Monica Fung,¹ Eric Jacobsen,² Arnold Freedman,² Daniel Prestes,³ Dimitrios Farmakiotis,⁴ Xiangmei Gu,³ Paul L. Nguyen,⁵ and Sophia Koo^{2,3}

N = 9395 with indolent NHL from SEER
2006 - 2013
75% with FL

Prolonged CD4+ T-lymphopenia = presumed culprit
→ May persist even 3 years after treatment

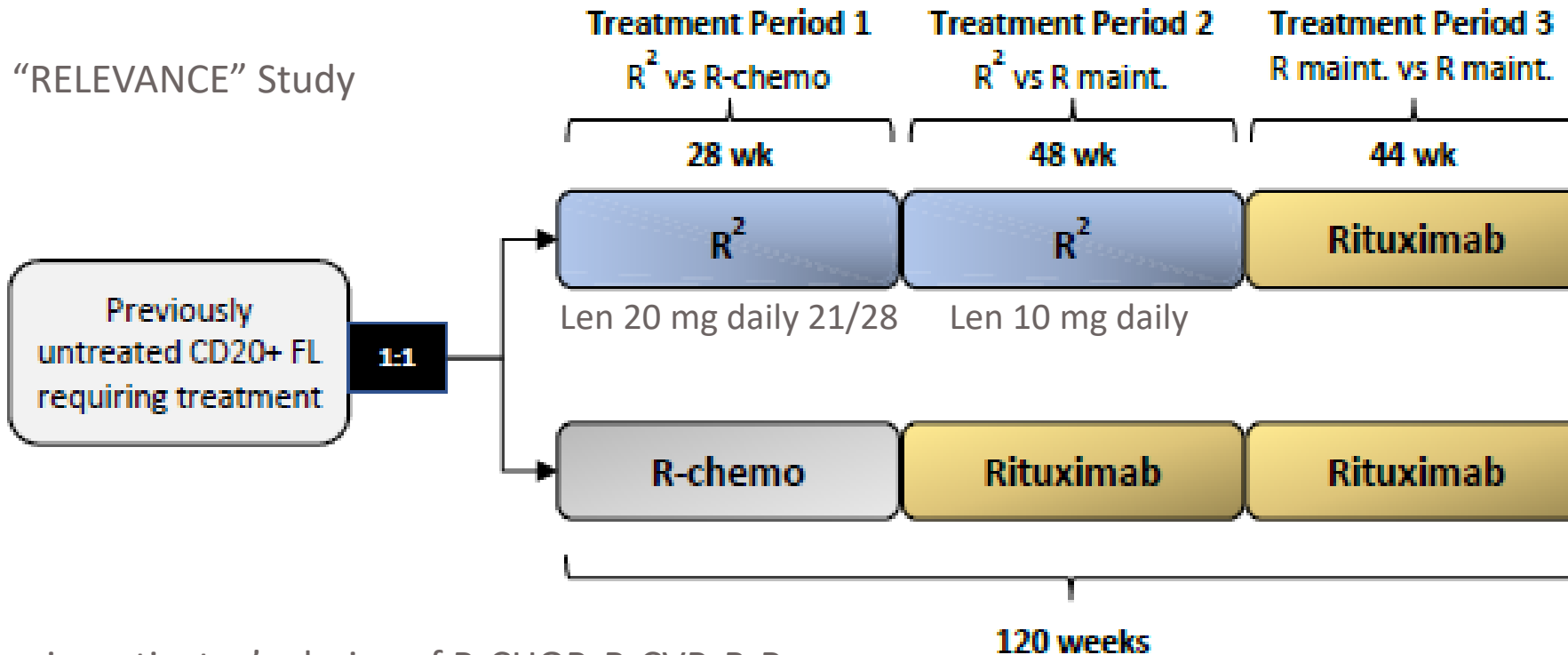
(This is not observed after, e.g., R-CHOP)

NCCN advises prophylaxis for PJP and VZV if bendamustine given



Alternatives to R-Chemo: #2, R-Lenalidomide

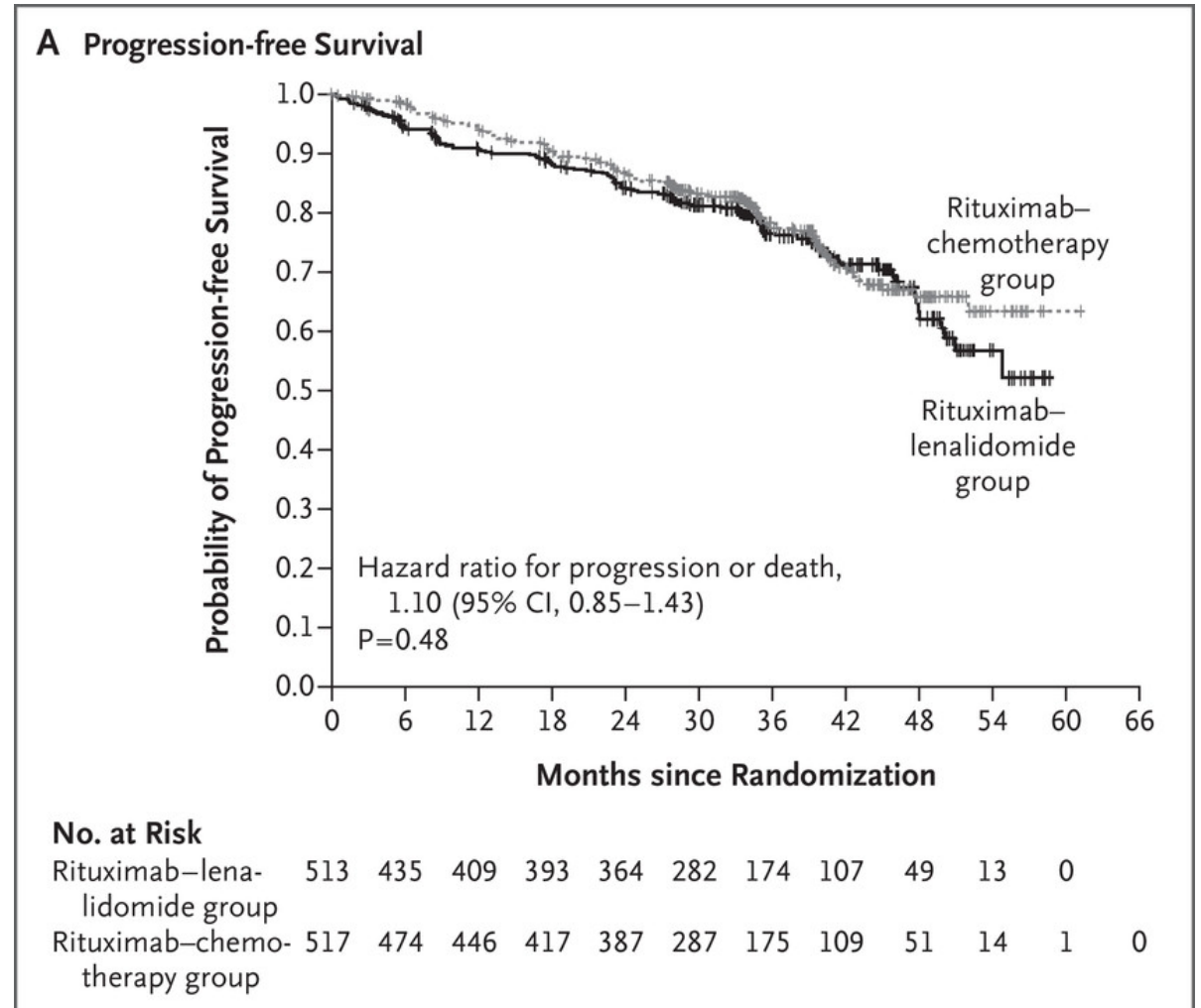
- Lenalidomide: immune-mediated inflammatory disease immunomodulatory agent
- Combined with rituximab: enhanced antibody-dependent cellular cytotoxicity and direct cytotoxicity



R-chemo = investigator's choice of R-CHOP, R-CVP, B-R

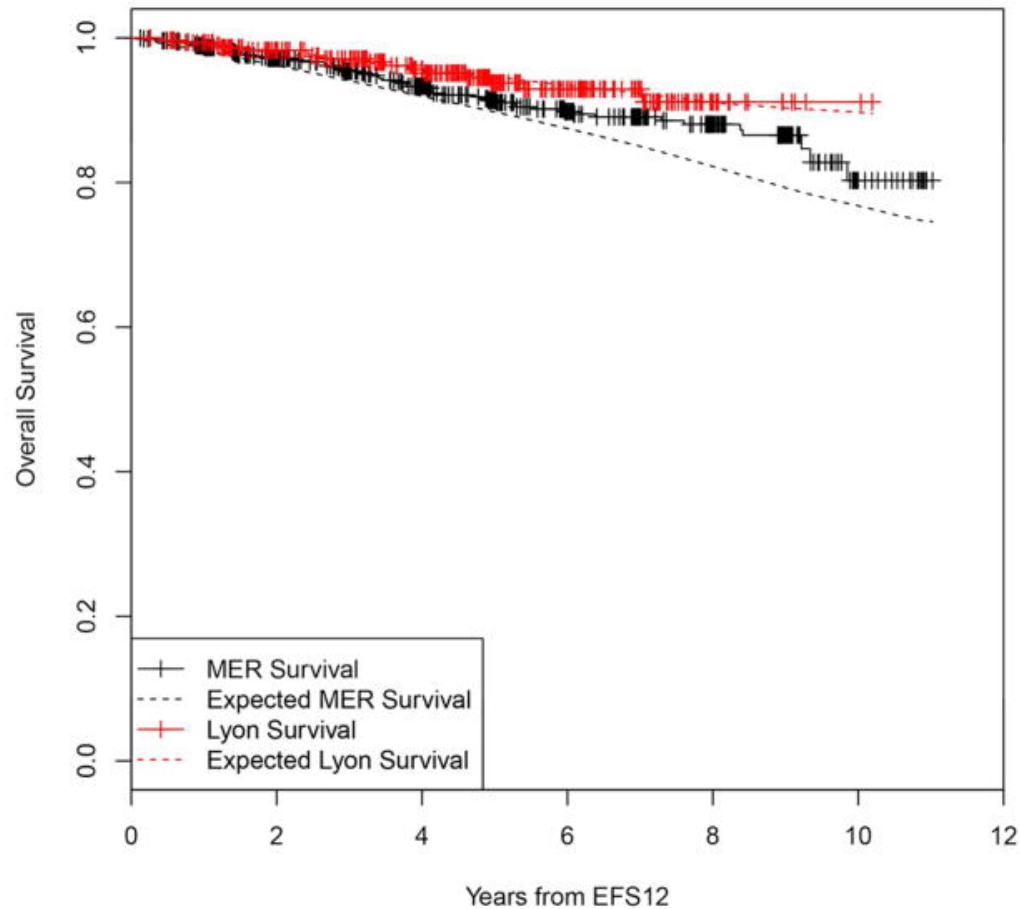
RELEVANCE: “Inferior” Primary End-Point?

- N = 1,030
- CR / CRu at 24 months
 - R2 = 48%
 - R-chemo = 53% (P = 0.13)
- Toxicity
 - Overall, comparable frequencies
 - R2 = less nausea, febrile neutropenia
 - R2 = more rash, diarrhea
 - R2 = toxicities drawn out
- No FDA approval (though NCCN listed)

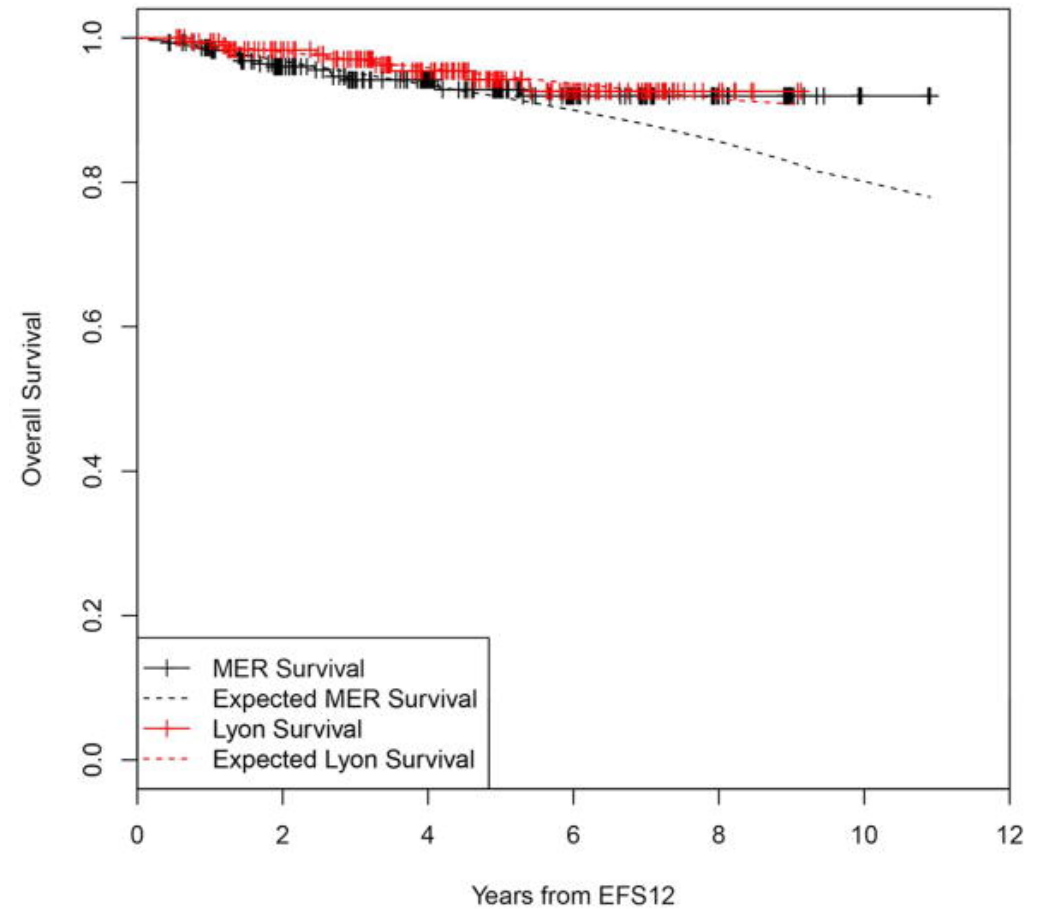


Outcomes of Patient with FL and “EFS12”

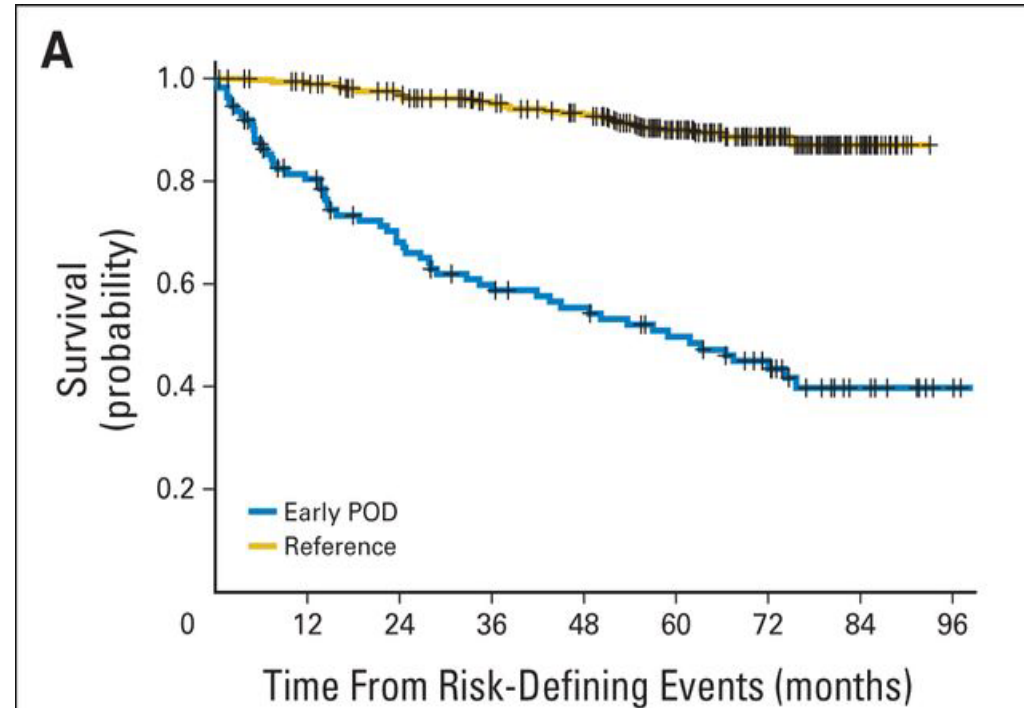
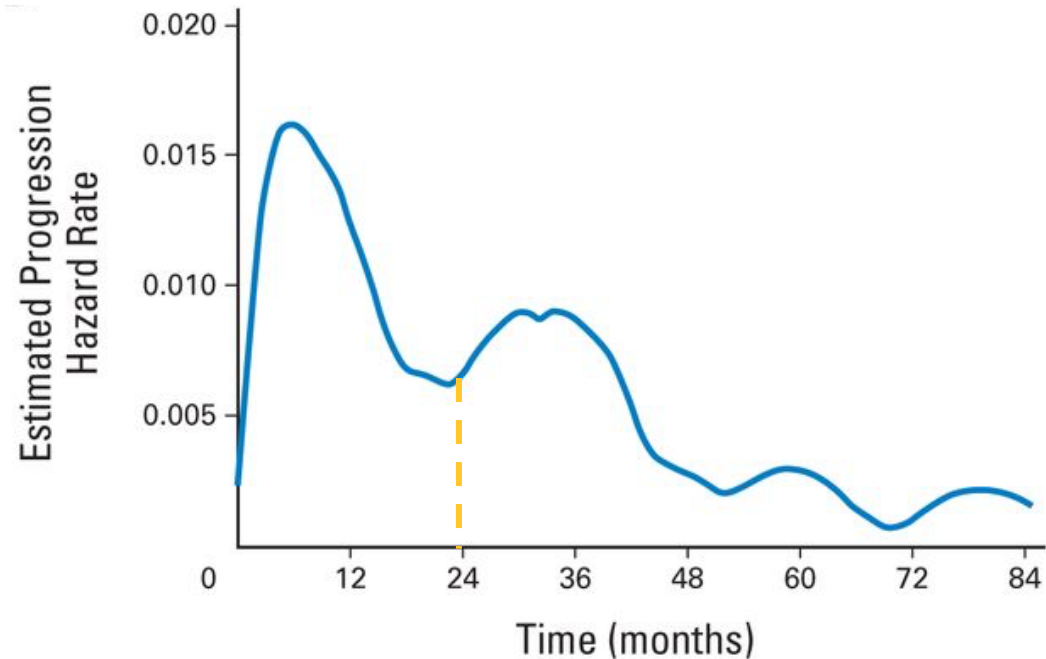
A All Patients Achieving EFS12



B Immunochemotherapy Treated Patients Achieving EFS12



Follicular Lymphoma: Relapse



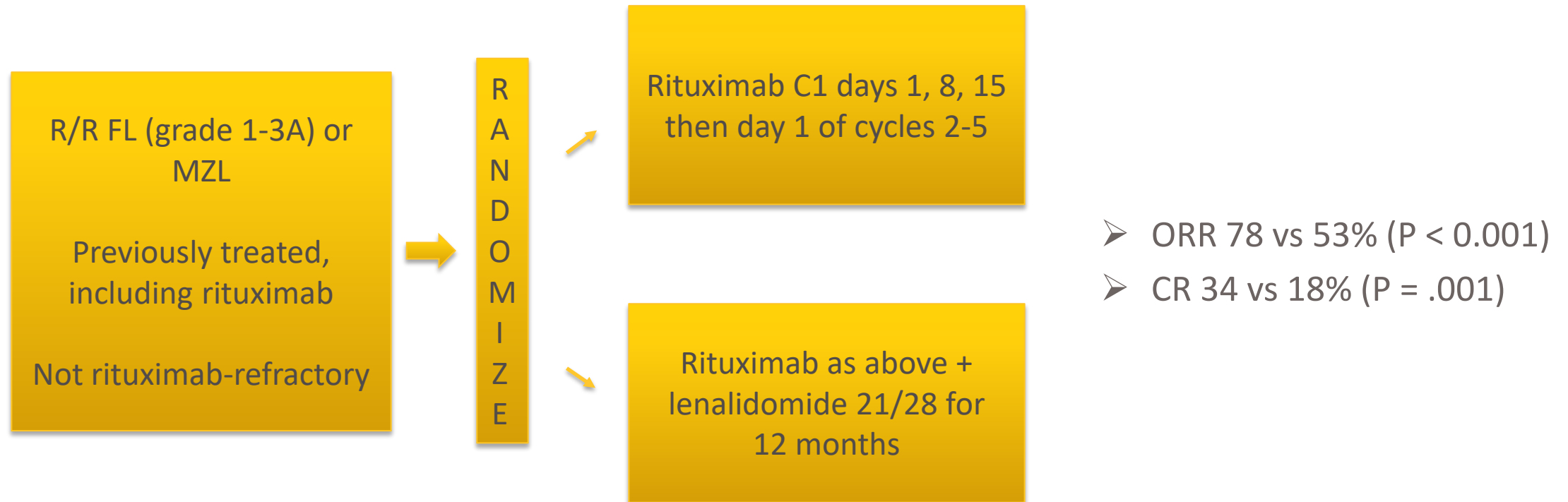
- Risk of progression highest in 24 months after R-CHOP
- In the 20% with “early” (< 24 mo) progression, survival markedly worse (independent of FLIPI)
- To date, no reliable marker for early POD or preferred treatment
- Data have been recapitulated in e.g. BR-treated, MZL

Relapsed FL: Treatment

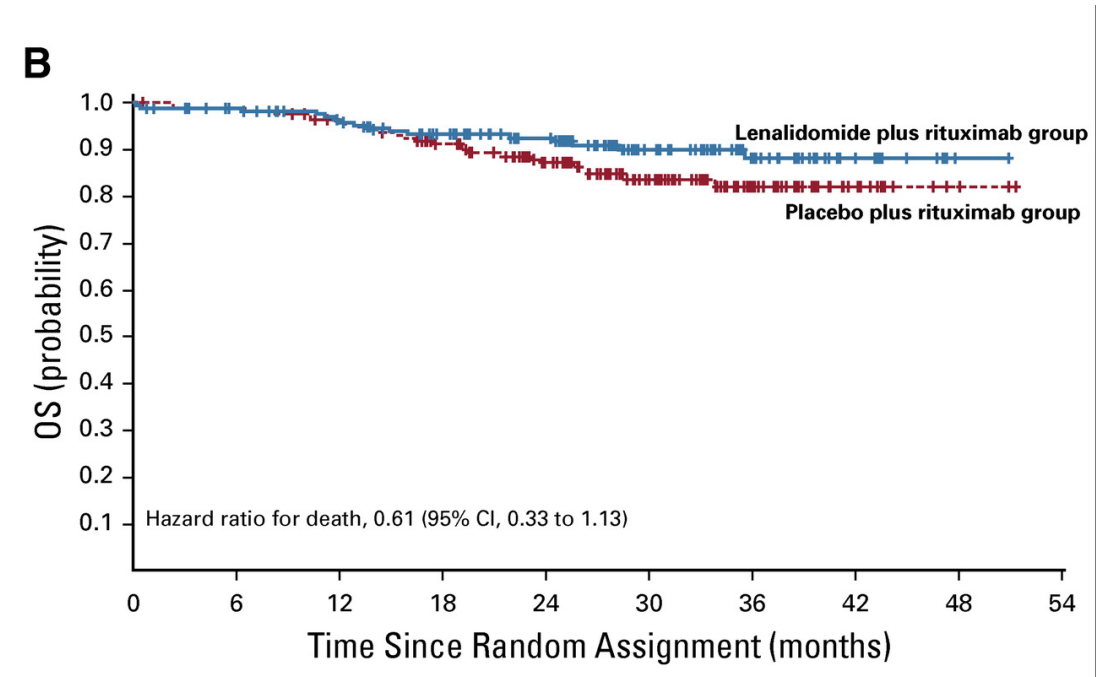
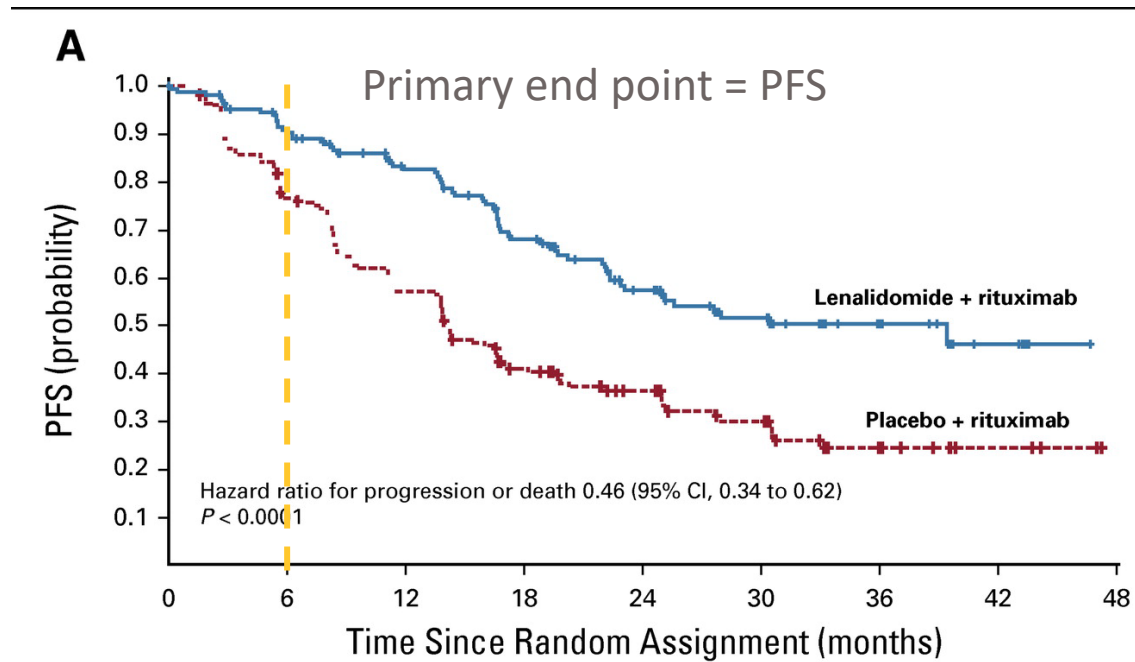
- Treatment indication?

R2 in the R/R Setting: AUGMENT

- FL grade 1 – 3A or MZL, previously treated, and in need of treatment for relapse. Prior treatment necessarily included rituximab, though cannot be considered rituximab-refractory



AUGMENT: Results



Other Oral Oncolytics for R/R iB-NHL

	FL	MZL
BTK inhibitors		Ibrutinib
PI3K inhibitors	Idelalisib Copanlisib Duvelisib Umbralisib	Umbralisib

	Setting	ORR	CR	mPFS
Idelalisib (δ)	Double refractory (R, alkylator) FL	56%	6%	11.0 mo
Duvelisib (γ, δ)	Double refractory (R, alkylator) FL	47%	2%	9.5 mo
Copanlisib* (α, δ)	≥ 2 prior lines of therapy for FL	59%	12%	11.0 mo
Umbralisib ($\delta +$ casein kinase-1 ϵ^{**})	≥ 3 prior lines of therapy for FL; ≥ 1 prior anti-CD20 therapy in MZL	45% (FL) 49% (MZL)	5% (FL) 16% (MZL)	10.6 mo (FL) NR (MZL)
Ibrutinib	≥ 1 prior anti-CD20 therapy in MZL	48%	3%	14.2 mo

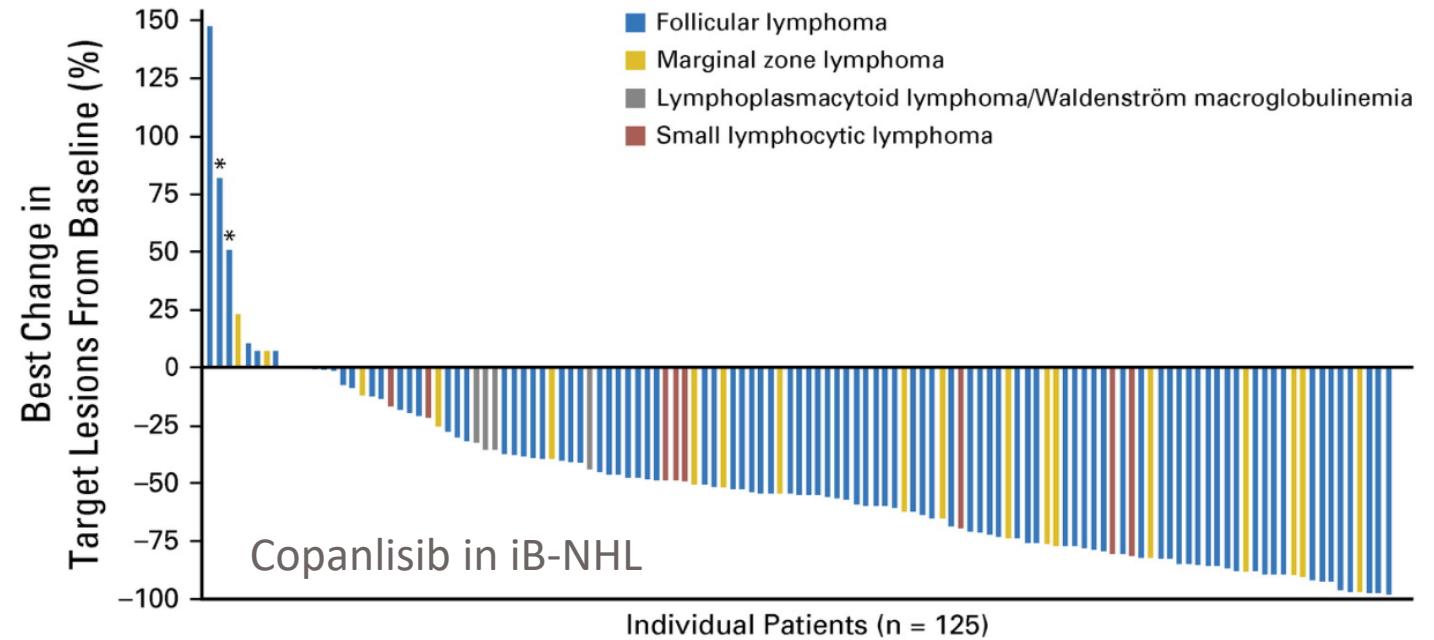
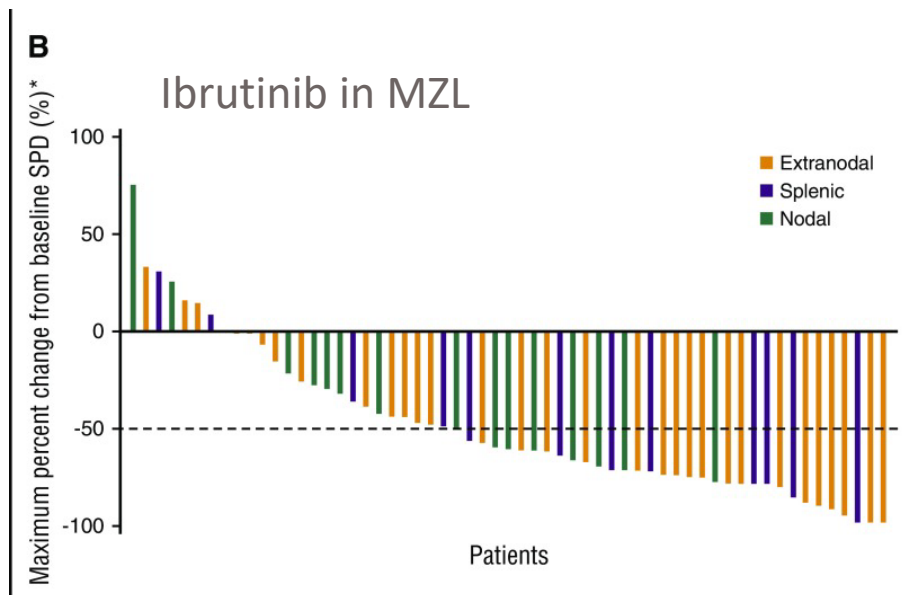
*IV on days 1, 8, 15 q28

** Targeting CK-1 ϵ to stimulate immunomodulatory activity of T-reg cells

Gopal et al. N Eng J Med. 2014 Mar 13;370(11):1008-18
 Dreyling et al. J Clin Oncol. 2017 Dec 10;35(35):3898-3905
 Flinn et al. J Clin Oncol. 2019 Apr 10;37(11):912-922
 Noy et al. Blood. 2017 Apr 20;129(16):2224-2232
 Zinzani et al. J Clin Oncol. 2021 May 20;39(15):1609-1618

Single Arm Phase 2 Studies of Oral Oncolytics for R/R iBNHL

➤ Primary endpoint = ORR



Dreyling et al. J Clin Oncol. 2017 Dec 10;35(35):3898-3905
Noy et al. Blood. 2017 Apr 20;129(16):2224-2232

Toxicities of Targeted Oral Oncolytics

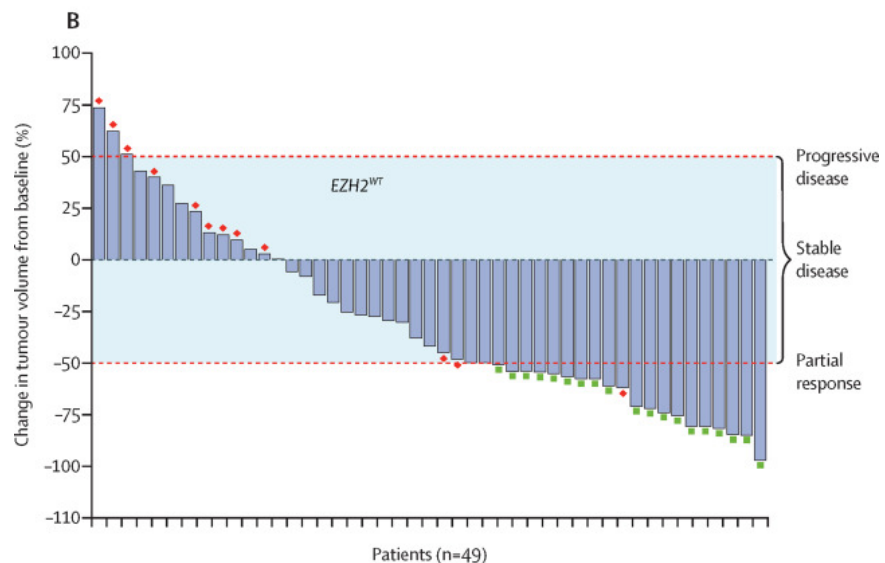
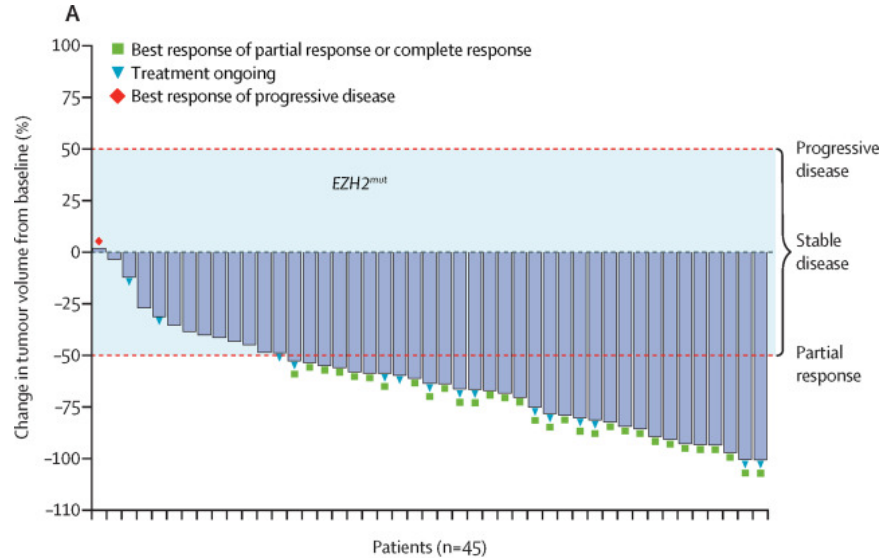
	Key Toxicities	Recommended prophylaxis
Idelalisib Duvelisib	Opportunistic infections, transaminitis, diarrhea/colitis, pneumonitis, intestinal perforation, dermatologic events	PJP; CMV monitoring
Copanlisib	Ol's, Hyperglycemia (short-lived), hypertension	PJP
Ibrutinib	Atrial fibrillation, hemorrhage	
Umbralisib	? Better tolerated (no TRM reported)	PJP; consider CMV

X	Idelalisib (CYP3A4 Inhibitors (Strong)) Simvastatin	D	Copanlisib Voriconazole (CYP3A4 Inhibitors (Strong))
X	Idelalisib (CYP3A4 Inhibitors (Strong)) Sonidegib		
X	Idelalisib St John's Wort	C	Duvelisib (CYP3A4 Substrates (High risk with Inhibitors)) Grapefruit Juice (CYP3A4 Inhibitors (Moderate))

Zeste Homolog 2 (EZH2)

- Genetic lesions that disrupt histone-modifying enzymes occur in nearly all cases of FL
- Gain of function mutation to *EZH2* found in ~20% of FL
 - Results in epigenetic silencing and B cell proliferation
 - WT EZH2 also supports B cell proliferation in germinal centers (lesser degree)
- Reduction in histone methyltransferase EZH2 activity → B cell differentiation

Zeste Homolog 2 (EZH2) Inhibitor: Tazemetostat



➤ ORR in N = 45 *EZH2* mutant FL = 69% (13% CR);
mPFS = 13 mo

➤ ORR in N = 54 *EZH2* WT FL = 34% (4% CR);
mPFS = 11 mo

➤ AEs = fatigue, URI, MSK pain, nausea, abdominal pain. **Only 4% serious TRAEs and zero TRM.**

➤ FDA approval: *EZH2* mutant FL: 2 prior therapies;
EZH2 WT FL: no satisfactory alternatives

Topics of Special Interest in iB-NHL: 2021

➤ Early relapse

➤ Prediction

	High risk FLIPI*, %	High risk m7-FLIPI, %	High risk POD24-PI, %
Sensitivity	70-78	43-61	61-78
Specificity	56-58	79-86	67-73

*High-risk pre-treatment FLIPI found in 75% of patients with POD24 and 40% of patients without POD24

➤ Bottom line: ongoing research into clinical, molecular, radiographic factors

➤ Management

➤ Biopsy if possible: HT identified in 20% - 75% of cases of early relapse

➤ Cellular therapy

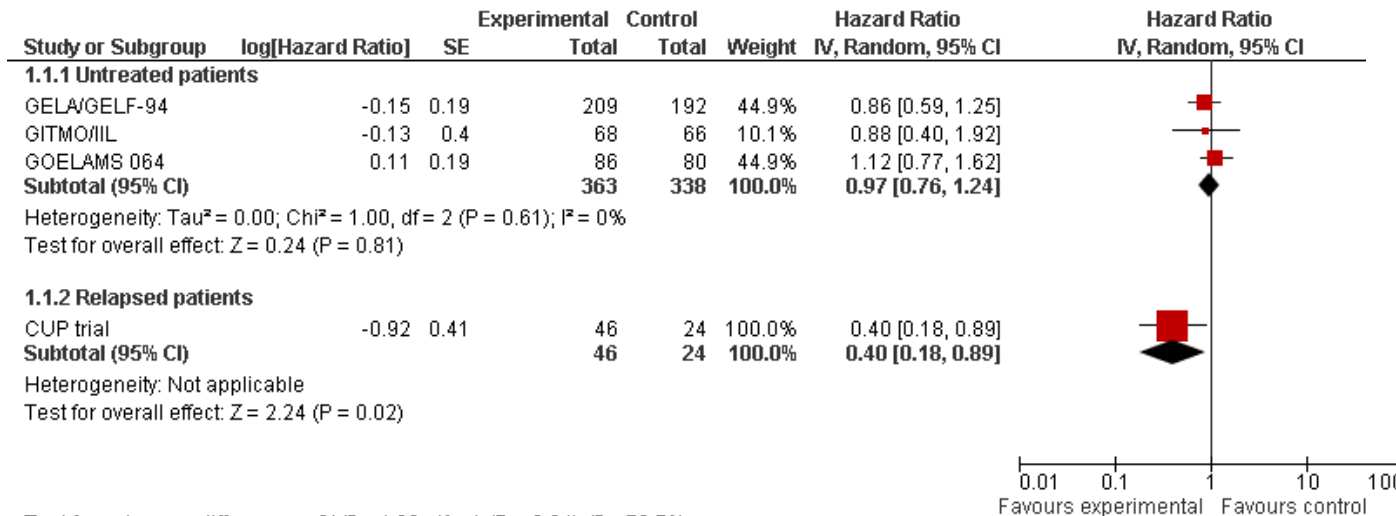
➤ Autologous SCT

➤ CAR-T

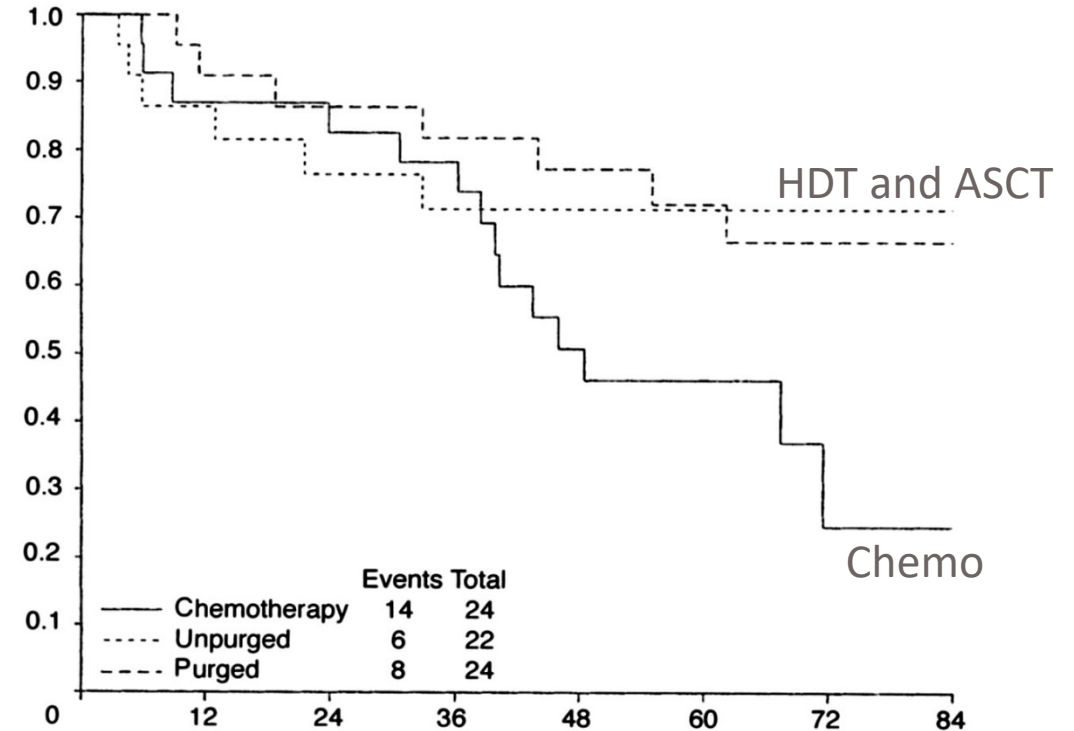
➤ Bi-specifics

High Dose Therapy and Autologous SCT in FL

- CUP trial (2003, pre-rituximab)
- Randomized 70 patients with at least PR to 3 cycles of R-CHOP(like) for relapsed FL to HDT and autoSCT or 3 more cycles



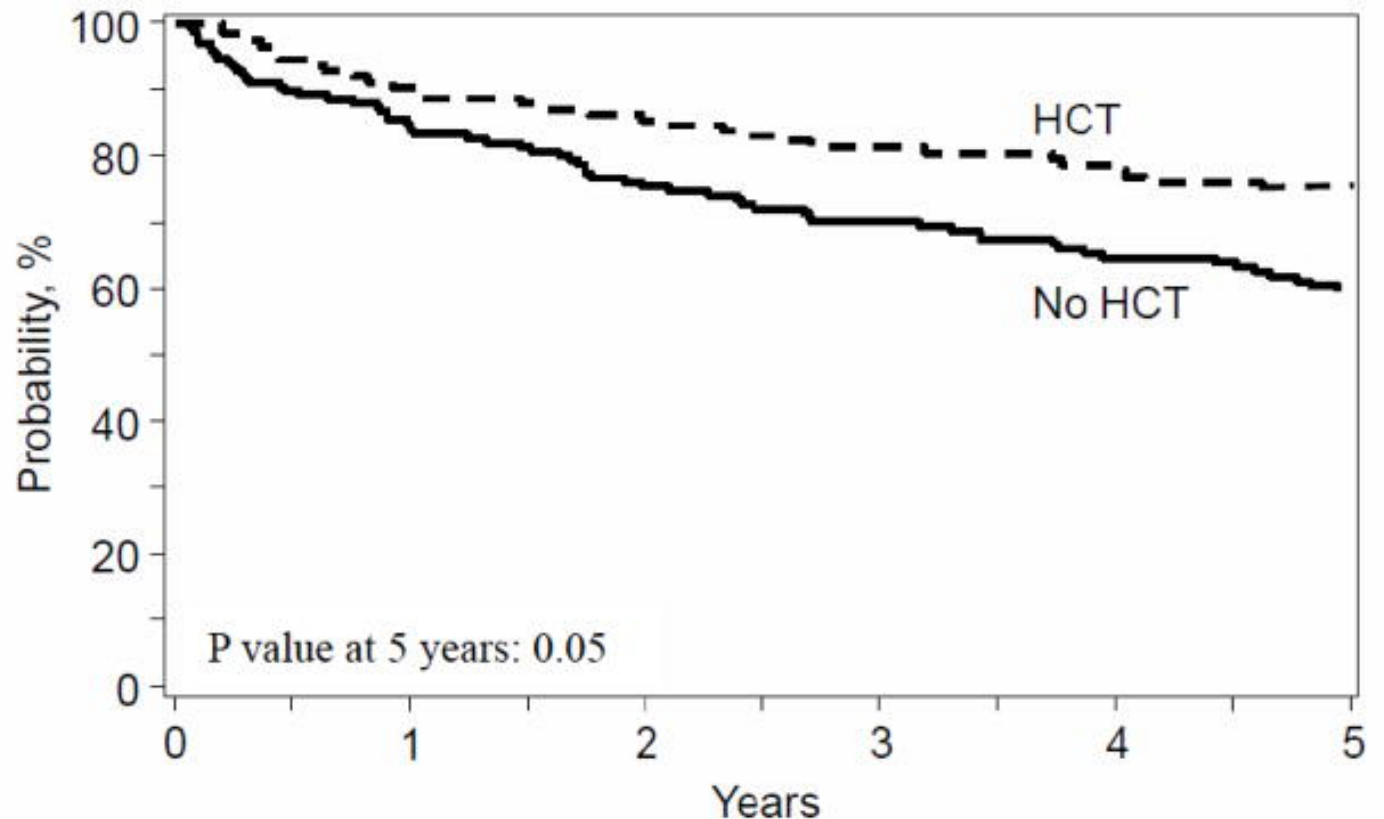
Test for subgroup differences: Chi² = 4.29, df = 1 (P = 0.04), I² = 76.7%



HDT and ASCT for Early Relapse FL

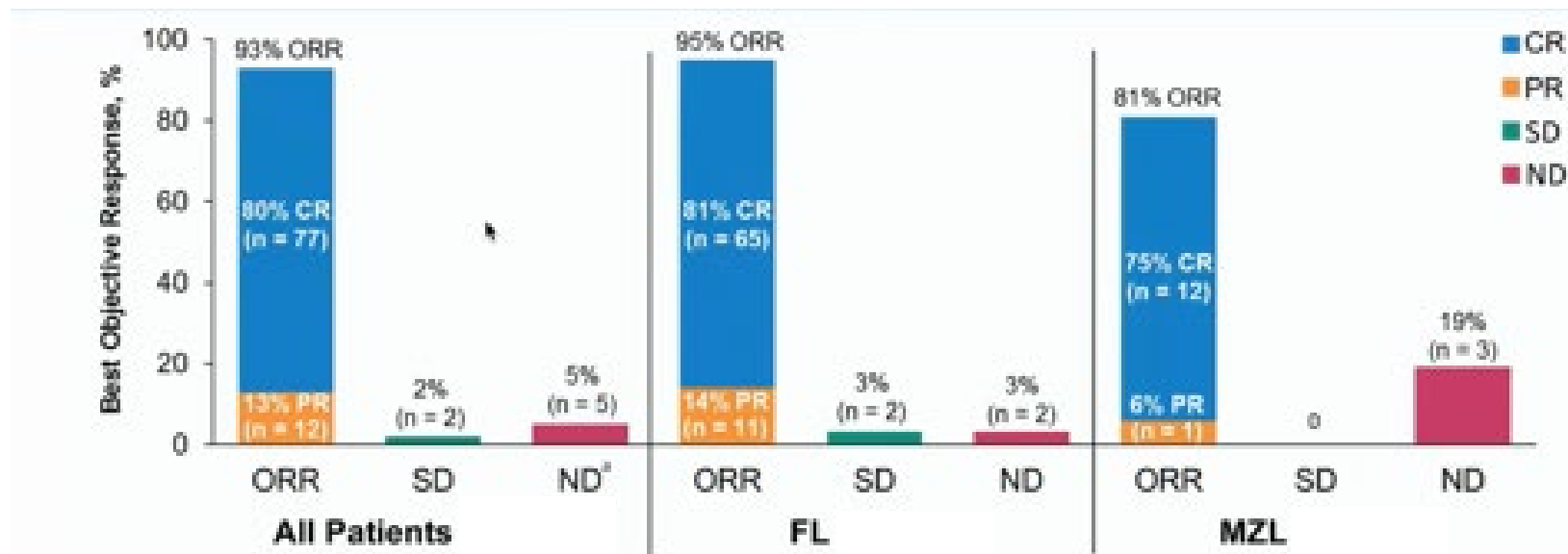
- Retrospective analysis of CIBMTR and NLCS (N = 174 + 175)
- Overall, no significant improvement in OS with ASCT
- Planned subgroup: OS benefit if early ASCT (within 1 year of ETF), 73 vs 60% at 5 years

Overall Survival of Patients Receiving HCT Within 1 year of Therapy Failure Compared to no HCT



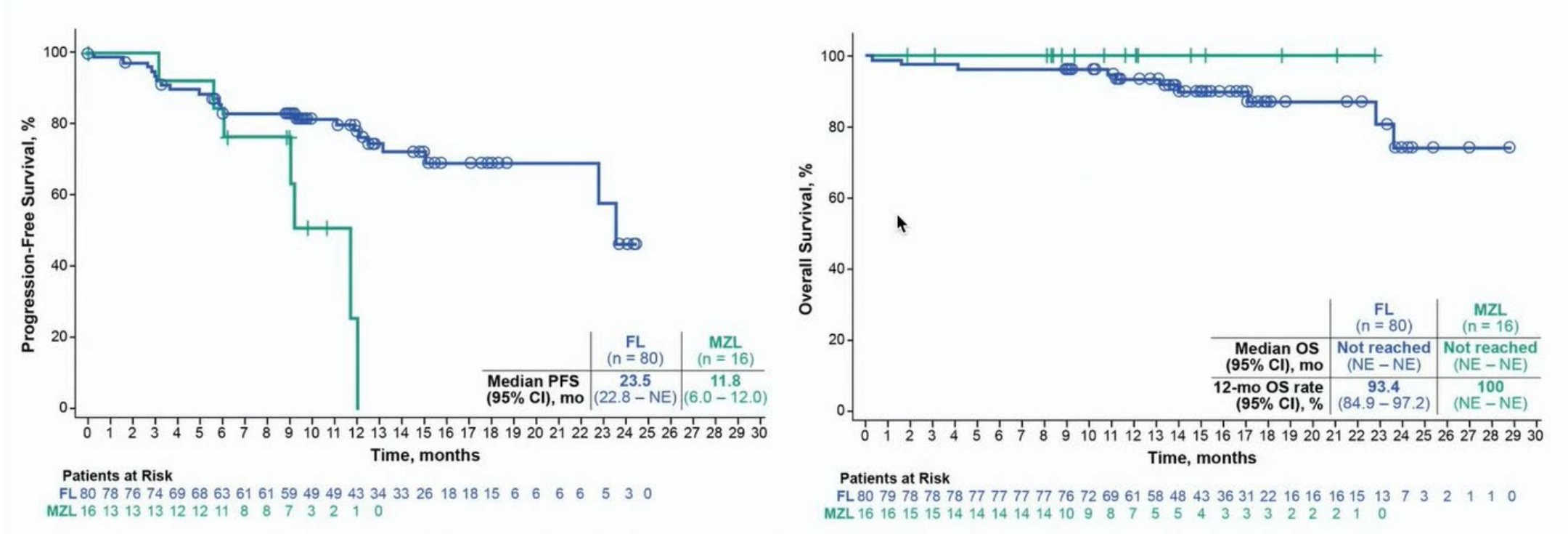
CAR-T for iB-NHL

- ZUMA-5: R/R iB-NHL: axicabtagene ciloleucel (axi-cel)
 - N = 129 (108 FL, 21 MZL)
 - 63% with POD24
 - ORR 92% in 98 evaluable patients



• The median time to first response was 1 month (range, 0.8 – 3.1)

CAR-T for iB-NHL



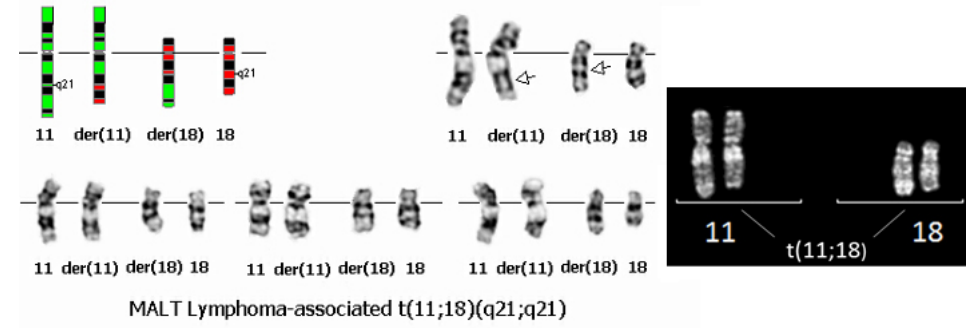
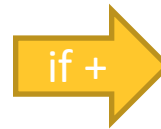
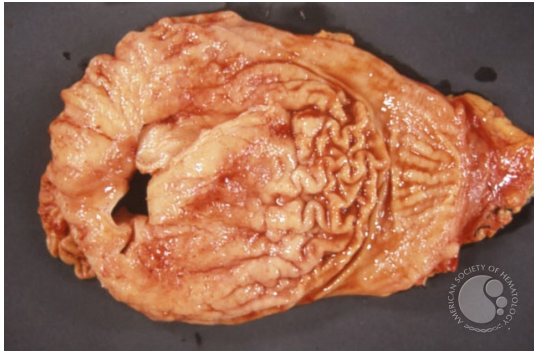
- With 23.3 months follow-up: ORR equal across POD24
- 52% with POD24 and 70% without POD24 had ongoing responses
- **Estimated 18-month PFS 55% (with POD24) vs 84% (without POD24)**

**FDA approved
R/R FL ≥ 2 lines therapy**

Marginal Zone Lymphomas

- Extranodal MZL of mucosa-associated lymphoid tissue (e.g. gastric MALT); nodal MZL; splenic MZL
- Immunophenotype: typically negative for CD10, CD5, and BCL2
- Limited stage: observe vs treat definitively (RT or surgery +/- RT in certain cases e.g. pulmonary MALT)
- Advanced stage: generally apply FL principles and management

Marginal Zone Lymphoma: gastric MALT



* Presence of t(11;18) predicts lack of CR to H. pylori eradication

Site	Putative pathogen	Treatment	ORR
Gastric MALT	Helicobacter pylori	PPI + triple antibiotics	~75%
Ocular adnexal MALT	Chlamydia psittaci	Doxycycline	~50%
Splenic MZL	Hepatitis C	IFN, DAA's	~75%

Zucca et al. Clin Cancer Res 2014;20:5207-5216

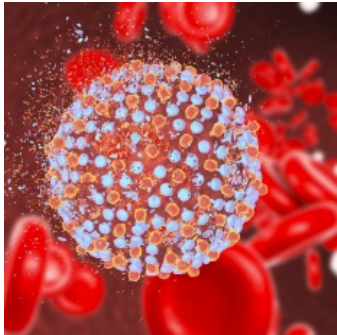
ASH Image Bank 05/02/2003

<https://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/health/conditions-and-diseases/helicobacter-pylori>

<http://atlasgeneticsoncology.org/Anomalies/t1118ID2022.html>

Marginal Zone Lymphoma: splenic MZL

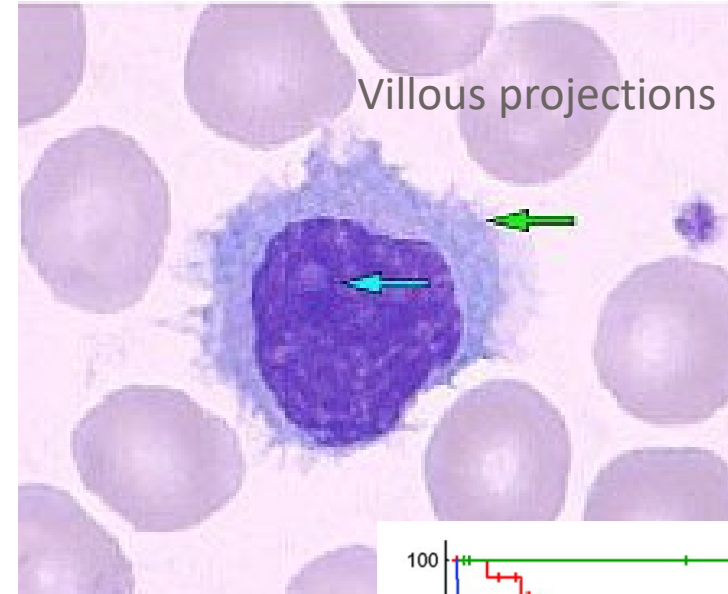
- Observe if asymptomatic and no splenomegaly
- If splenomegaly:



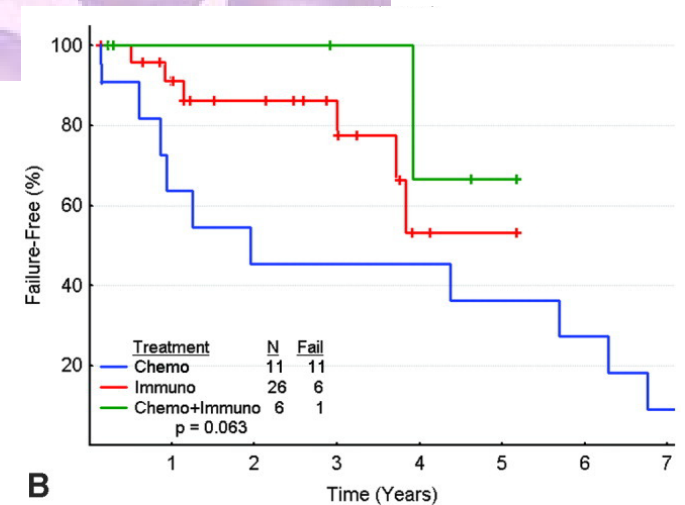
Hepatitis C?



Treat hepatitis C or
Give rituximab (or
Splenectomy or
Observe)



Excellent results (> 90%
resolution of splenomegaly)
possible with rituximab alone



<https://medlineplus.gov/hepatitisc.html>

<https://www.leukemia-cell.org/atlas/index.php?pg=images--mature-b-cell-neoplasms--splenic-marginal-zone-lymphoma#2>

Tsimberidou et al, Cancer. 2006 Jul 1;107(1):125-35

Summary

- iB-NHL often not a life-limiting diagnosis
- Clinical variables
 - remain standard for prognostic stratification
 - inform treatment initiation and follow-up
- New options in frontline and relapsed settings allow better precision fitting of treatment to patient
- Oral targeted oncolytics associated with important limitations and toxicities
- Cellular therapies likely to have a growing role in certain iB-NHL, e.g. early relapse

Questions

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