



7<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON  
ACUTE PROMYELOCYTIC LEUKEMIA  
ROME, September 24-27, 2017

Chairmen: F. Lo-Coco, M.A. Sanz  
Honorary President: F. Mandelli

# Characteristics and outcome of elderly APL patients treated with PETHEMA protocols

7<sup>th</sup> International Symposium  
on Acute Promyelocytic leukemia

David Martínez Cuadrón  
Hospital Universitari i Politècnic La Fe, Valencia  
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### Disclosures of DAVID MARTINEZ CUADRON

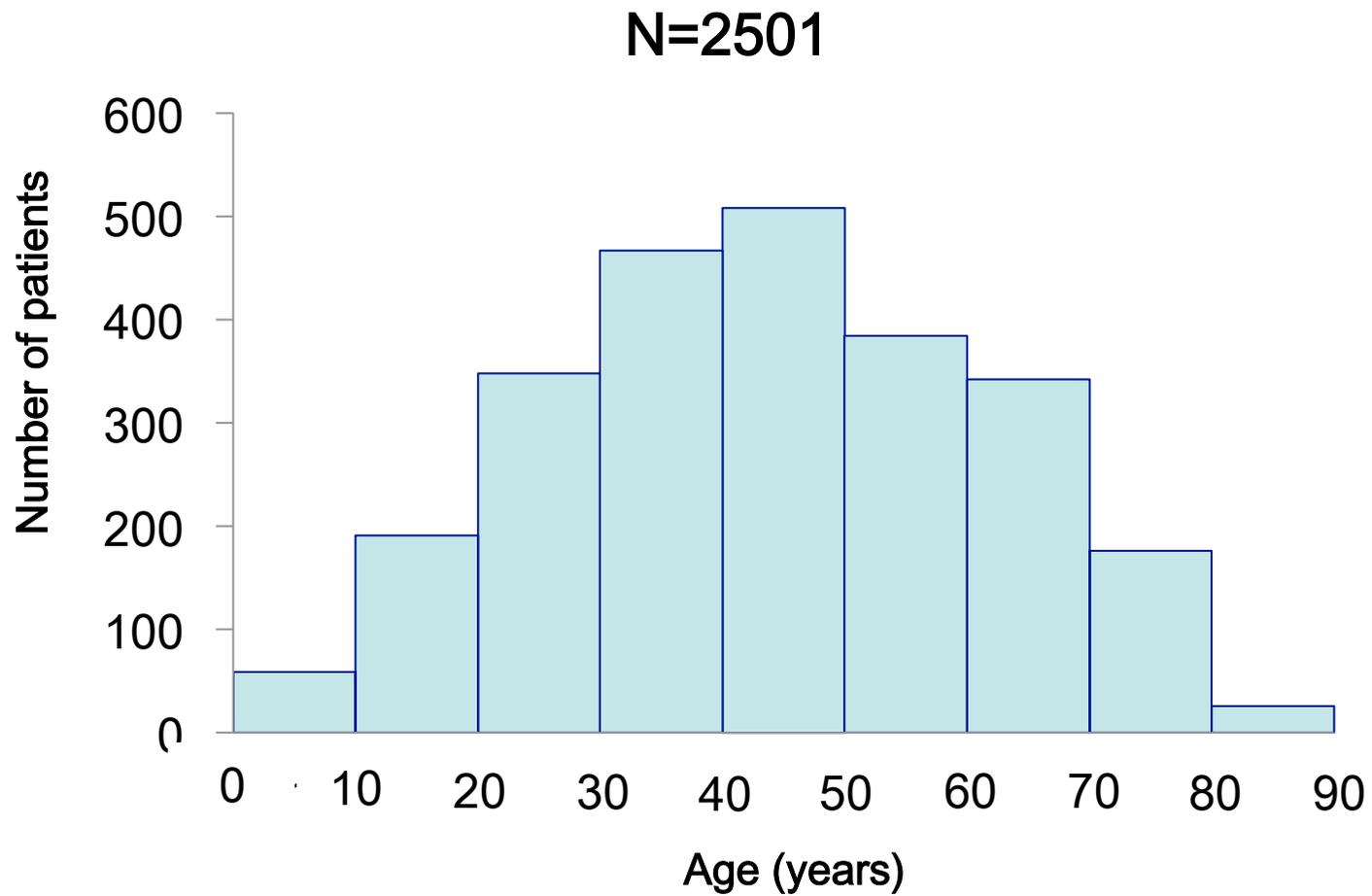
Company name	Research support	Employee	Consultant	Stockholder	Speakers bureau	Advisory board	Other
Janssen					X		
AMGEN					X		
Pfizer						X	
Gilead					X		

**No relevant conflicts of interest to declare or Company Name(s)**

# Background

- Therapeutic results in patients aged more than or equal to 60 years with APL have been generally reported as being less effective compared to younger patients
- Toxicity of the treatment
  - Higher induction death rate
  - Lower tolerability and compliance in post-remission phase

# PETHEMA APL registry



# Main published trials in $\geq 60$ years APL patients (ATRA + chemotherapy)

	GIMEMA <sup>1</sup> (n = 60)	European APL group <sup>2</sup> (n = 129)	PETHEMA <sup>3</sup> (n = 104)	JALSG (n=46) <sup>4</sup>	German AMLCG <sup>5</sup> (n=56)
<b>CR (%)</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>82</b>
<b>Death in CR (%)</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>OS (%)</b>	<b>68 (5 y)</b>	<b>58 (4 y)</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>63 (10 y)</b>	<b>45 (7 y)</b>
<b>DFS (%)</b>	<b>65 (5 y)</b>	<b>53 (4 y)</b>	<b>79 (6 y)</b>	<b>65 (10 y)</b>	<b>48 (7 y)</b>
<b>CIR (%)</b>	<b>27 (5 y)</b>	<b>16 (4 y)</b>	<b>9 (6 y)</b>	<b>28 (10 y)</b>	<b>24 (7 y)</b>

1- Latagliata, *et al.*, Br J Haematol 2011; 2- Adès, *et al.*, Leukemia 2005; 3- Sanz, *et al.*, Blood 2004;  
4- Ono, *et al.*, Cancer Sci 2012; 5- Lengfelder, *et al.*, Ann Hematol 2013

# Standard Therapy for elderly APL

- Since the advent of ATRA, dramatic improvements in elderly APL
- Worse therapeutic results in elderly compared to younger APL patients
- Underreported population in the context of clinical trials (oriented to fit patients)
- Do specific protocols for elderly APL patients translate into better outcomes?

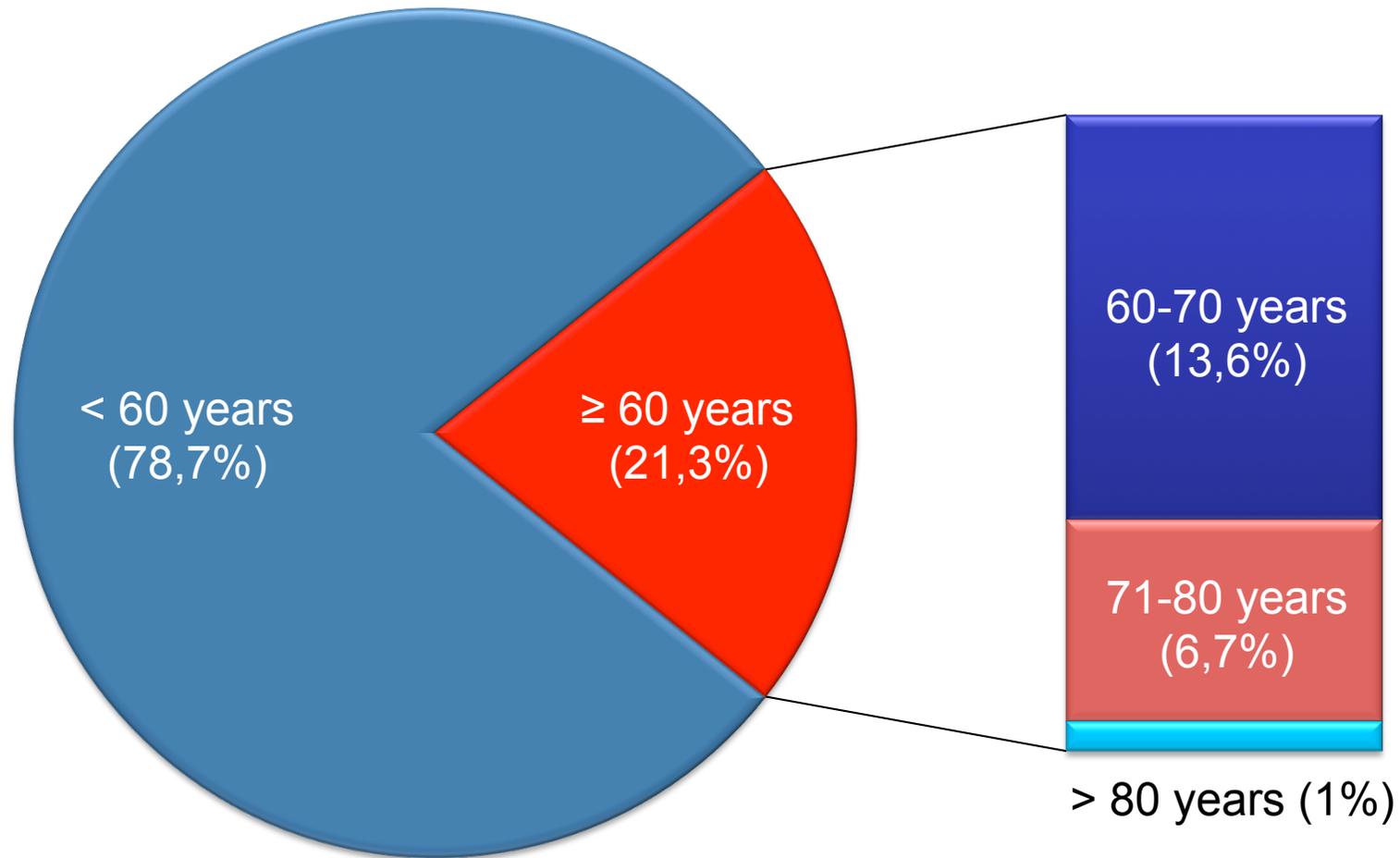
# Study of outcomes of older patients included in PETHEMA trials

- To estimate the real frequency of APL elderly patients
- To analyze the clinical and biological characteristics of APL patients older than or equal to 60 years
- To analyze the outcomes for elderly patients treated with 3 consecutive multicenter PETHEMA trials

# Reported patients

N = 1.823, Nov 1996-Nov 2014

Median follow-up: 70 months (range, 1-221)



# Characteristics of elderly vs. younger patients

PETHEMA registry (LPA96/99/2005)

	< 60 yo n (%)	≥ 60 yo n (%)	<i>P</i>
<b>Total number of patients</b>	1.434 (100)	389 (100)	
<b>WBC &lt; 10 (x 10<sup>9</sup>/L)</b>	1.009 (71)	304 (79)	0.006
<b>Platelets &gt; 40 (x 10<sup>9</sup>/L)</b>	339 (24)	124 (32)	0.001
<b>Creatinine &gt;1,3 (mg/dL)</b>	37 (3)	40 (11)	<0.001
<b>Urea &gt; 50 (mg/dL)</b>	59 (6)	64 (25)	<0.001
<b>Uric acid &gt; 7 (mg/dL)</b>	57 (5)	33 (11)	<0.001
<b>Fibrinogen &gt; 170 (mg/dL)</b>	629 (48)	207 (59)	<0.001
<b>Albumin &lt; 3,5 (g/dL)</b>	206 (18)	107 (35)	<0.001

# Characteristics of elderly vs. younger patients

PETHEMA registry (LPA96/99/2005)

	< 60 yo n (%)	≥ 60 yo n (%)	<i>P</i>
<b>Secondary APL</b>	74 (5)	73 (19)	<0.001
<b>ECOG 2-4</b>	269 (21)	143 (41)	<0.001
<b>No hemorrhage</b>	259 (19)	96 (27)	0.001
<b>Low relapse-risk</b>	271 (19)	110 (28)	<0.001
<b>CD2 &lt;20%</b>	552 (73)	166 (82)	0.014
<b>CD34 &lt;10%</b>	681 (72)	193 (82)	0.002

# Exclusion criteria of elderly patients for the PETHEMA protocols

November 1996 – November 2014

	n (%)
<b>Total patients ≥ 60 years</b>	389 (100)
<b>Non-eligible</b>	121 (31)
Secondary APL	73 (19)
Unfit	43 (11)
Protocol violation	5 (1)
<b>Eligible</b>	268 (69)
268 elderly patients (69 %) of 389 registered patients	

# Induction results

	< 60 yo n (%)	≥ 60 yo n (%)	<i>P</i>
<b>Number of eligible patients</b>	1289 (100)	268 (100)	
<b>CR</b>	1.206 (94)	216 (81)	<0.001
<b>Induction death</b>	77 (6)	52 (19)	
Hemorrhage	44 (3.4)	23 (8.6)	0.03
Infection	14 (1.1)	17 (6.3)	0.09
Diff. syndrome	10 (0.8)	7 (2.6)	0.99
Other	9 (0.7)	5 (1.8)	<0.001

# Therapeutic schedule (AIDA-based)

- LPA96 → no age- nor risk-adapted
- LPA99 → no age- but risk-adapted
- LPA2005 → age- and risk-adapted

# PETHEMA LPA2005 Trial

## Risk- and age-adapted

All patients aged  $\geq 60$

### INDUCTION

**AIDA**

IDA 12 mg/m<sup>2</sup> d2, 4, 6, ~~8~~

### CONSOLIDATION

Low risk

IDA 5 mg x4 + ATRA

MTZ 10 mg x3 + ATRA

IDA 12 mg x1 + ATRA

Intermediate and high risk

IDA 7 mg x4 + ATRA

MTZ 10 mg x3 + ATRA

IDA 12 mg x2 + ATRA

### MAINTENANCE

2 years

ATRA + MP + MTX

# Demographic and baseline characteristics according to trial

Characteristic	LPA96/99 (n=135) Median (range)	LPA2005 (n=133) Median (range)	<i>P</i>
<b>Age, years</b>	68 (60-83)	67 (60-84)	.92
<b>WBC (x 10<sup>9</sup>/L)</b>	1.9 (0.2-122.3)	1.5 (0.3-112.4)	.29
<b>Platelets (x 10<sup>9</sup>/L)</b>	25 (2-207)	25 (2-235)	.96
<b>Creatinine (mg/dL)</b>	1 (0.3-2.4)	0.9 (0.5-9)	.21
<b>Uric acid (mg/dL)</b>	4.2 (1.2-10.1)	4.9 (1.1-10.5)	.005*
<b>Fibrinogen (mg/dL)</b>	175 (0-720)	210 (20-890)	.31
<b>Albumin (g/dL)</b>	3.7 (2.2-6)	4 (2-6)	.01*

# Demographic and baseline characteristics according to trial

Characteristic	LPA96/99 (n=135)	LPA2005 (n=133)	<i>P</i>
<b>Female</b>	72 (53)	70 (53)	.99
<b>ECOG 2-3</b>	45 (35)	35 (31)	.68
<b>Coagulopathy</b>	99 (73)	37 (60)	.09
<b>Low relapse-risk</b>	42 (31)	37 (28)	.38
<b>CD56 &lt;20%</b>	63 (83)	58 (92)	.18

# Induction outcome according to protocol

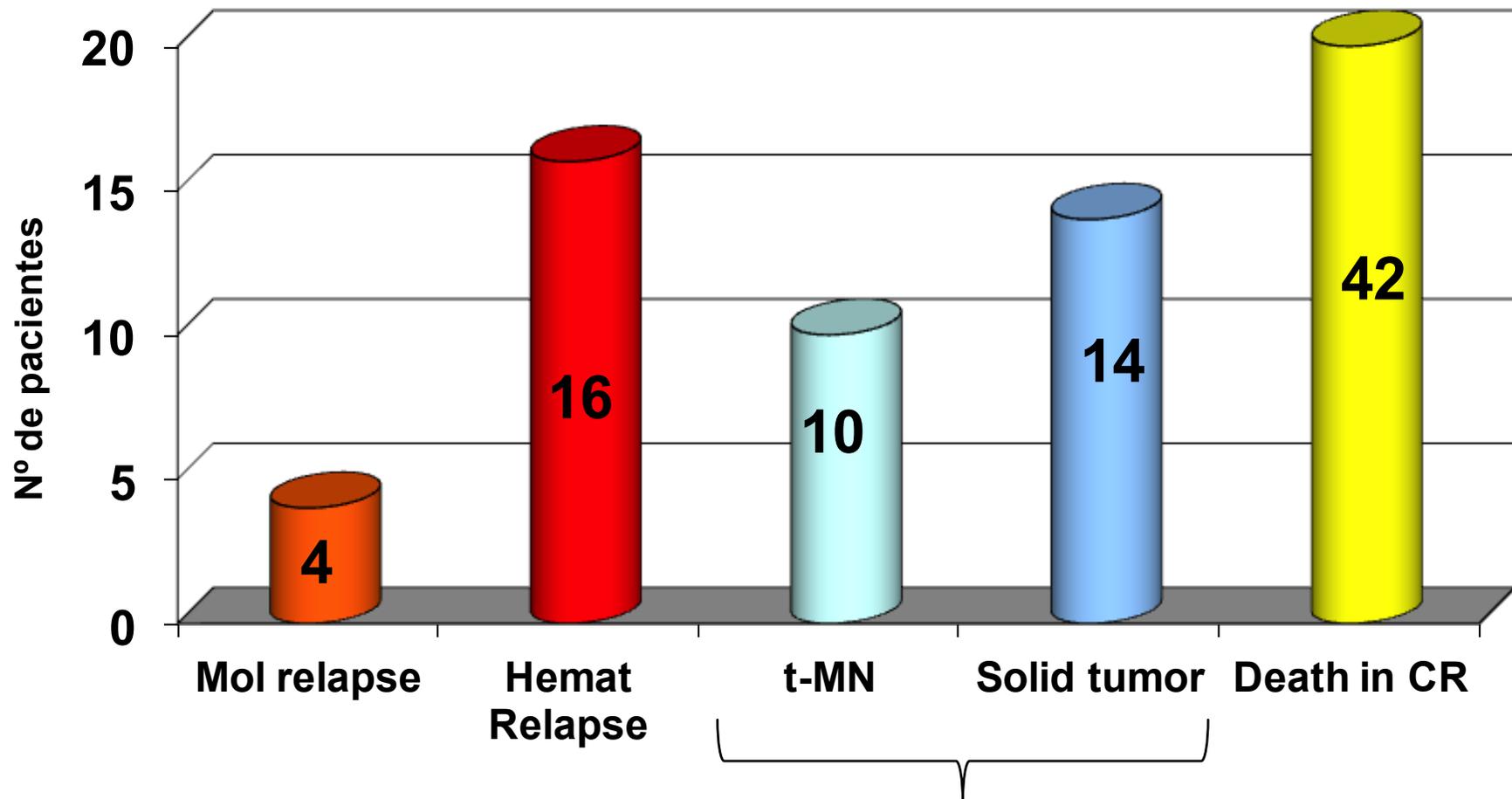
	LPA96/99 n (%)	LPA2005 n (%)	<i>P</i>
<b>Complete remission</b>	105 (78)	111 (83)	.31
<b>Induction death</b>	30 (22)	22 (17)	
Bleeding	13 (10)	10 (7)	.99
Infection	11 (8)	6 (4)	.68
Differentiation syndrome	4 (3)	3 (2)	.99
Other	2 (1)	3 (2)	.99

# Hematologic toxicity/Hospitalization Second consolidation

	LPA96/99 n (%)	LPA2005 n (%)	<i>P</i>
Grade 4 neutropenia >15 days	79 (81)	50 (58)	.002
Grade 3 thrombocytopenia >15 days	68 (72)	27 (31)	.001
Hospitalization >10 days	41 (44)	21 (26)	.02

Grade 4 neutropenia: neutrophils count < 0.5 x 10<sup>9</sup>/L; Grade 3 thrombocytopenia: platelets count < 50 x 10<sup>9</sup>/L

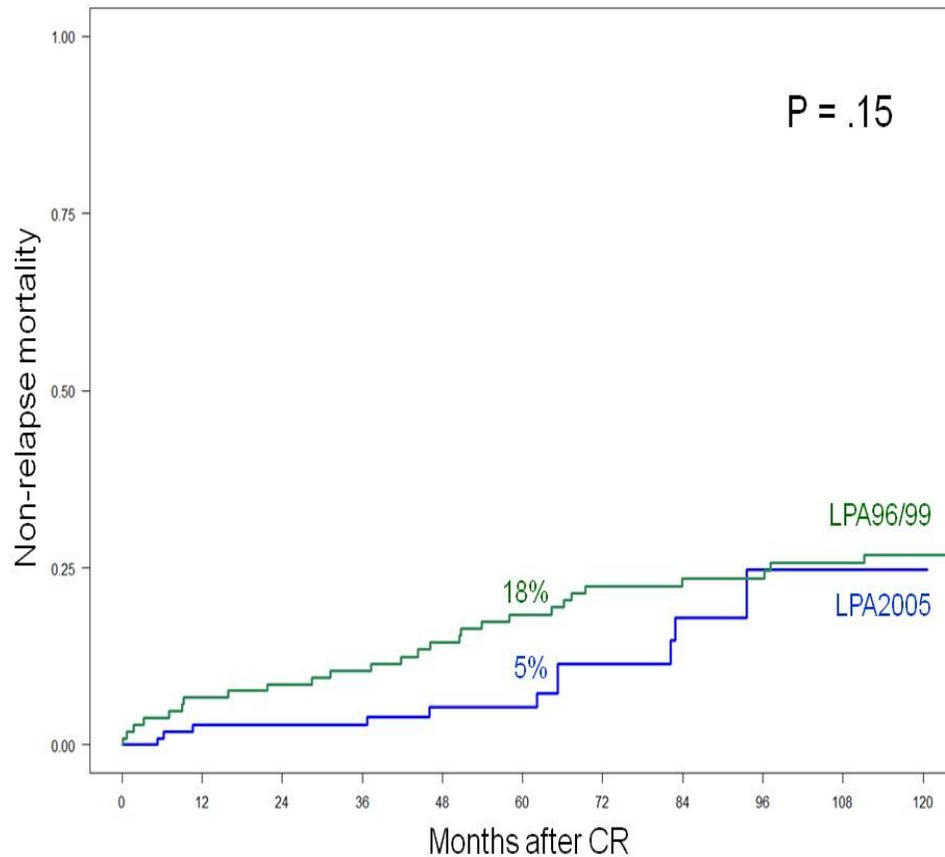
# Post-remission events in elderly APL



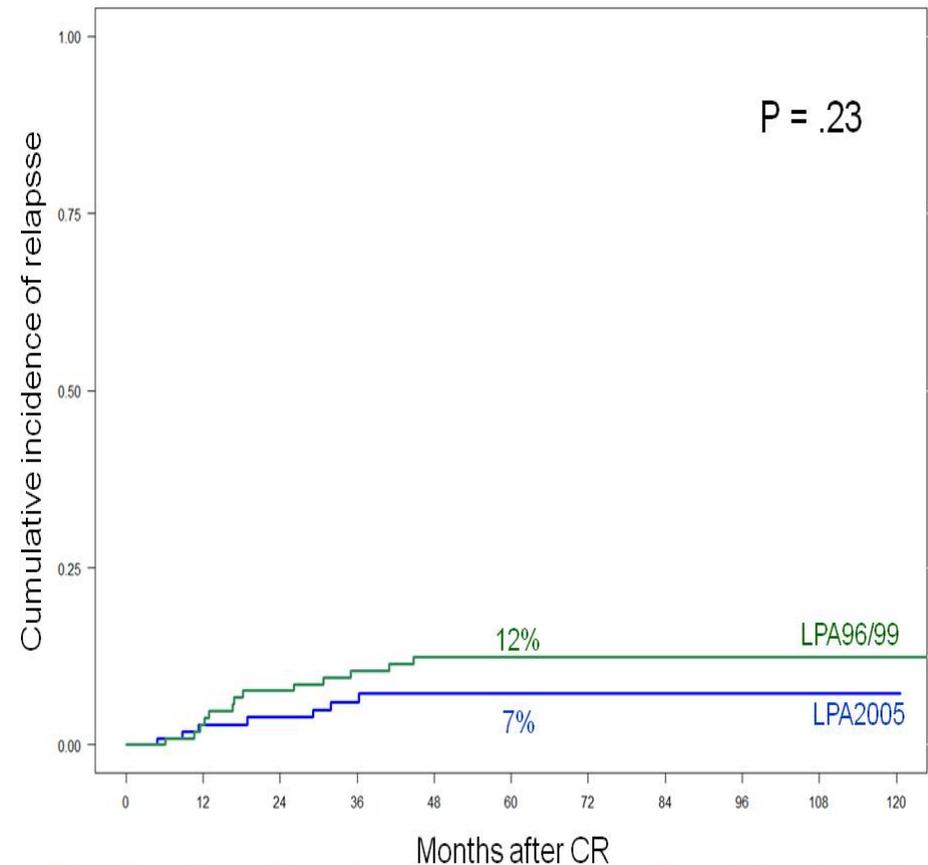
11% in  $\geq 60$  years vs 3% in younger  
( $P < 0,001$ )

# Non-relapse mortality & cumulative relapse according to trial (age vs. non-age adapted)

## NRM

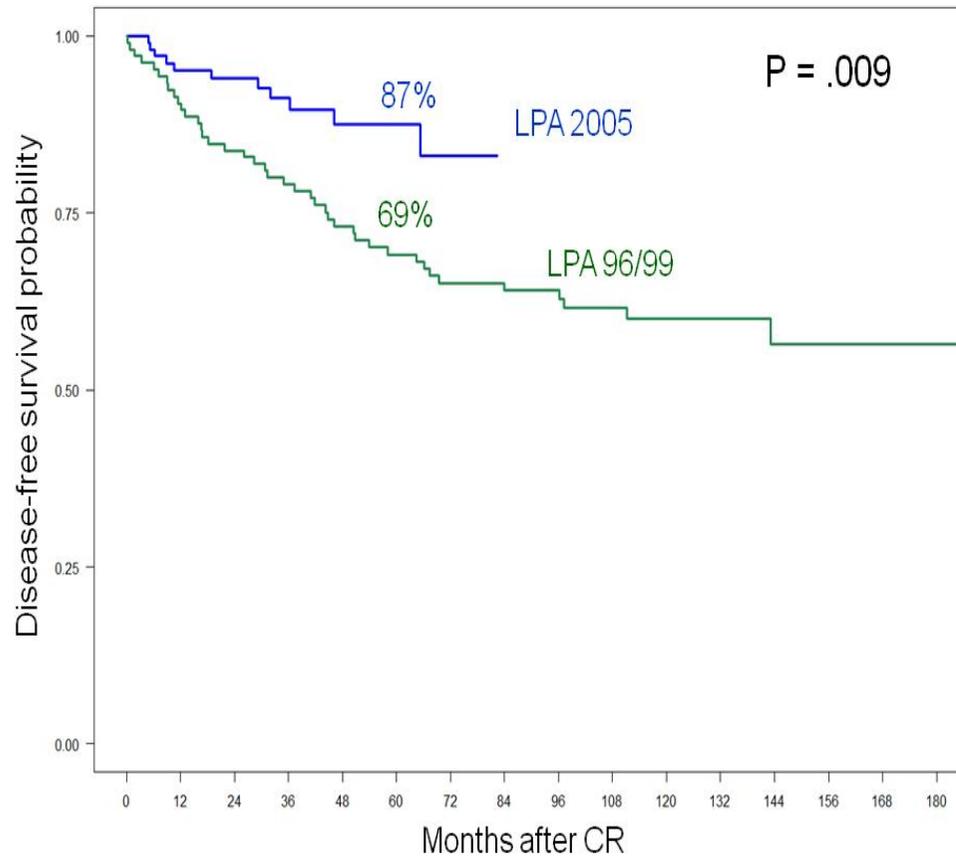


## CIR

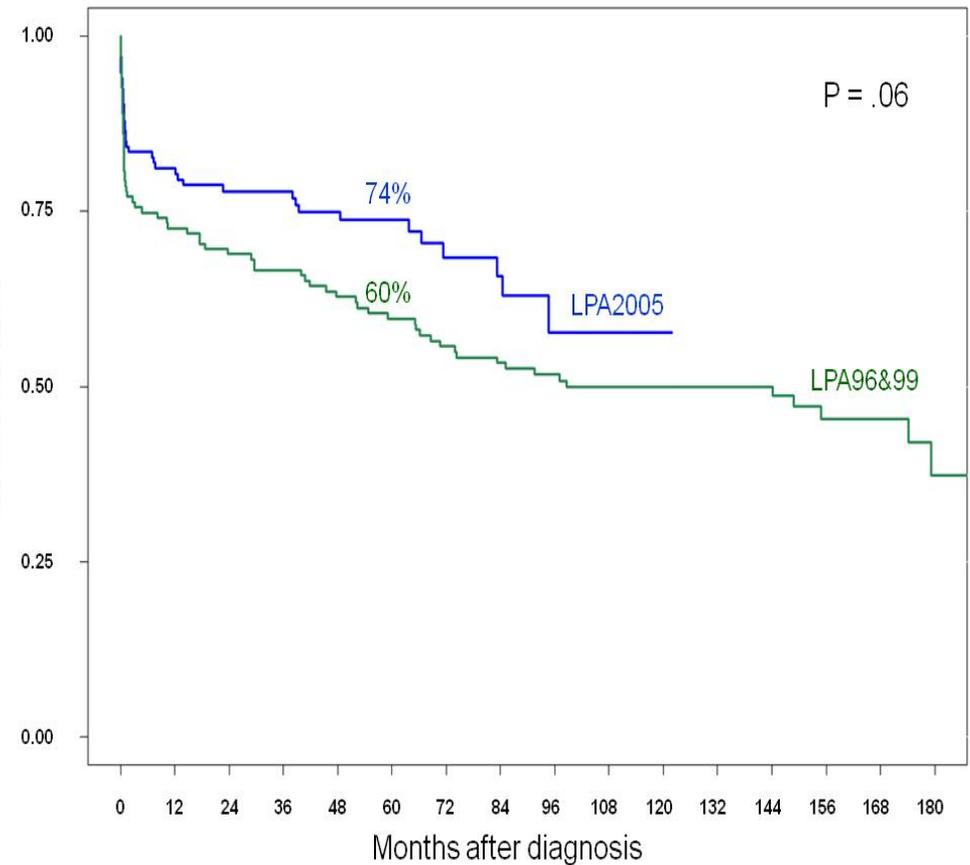


# Disease-free & overall survival according to trial (age vs. non-age adapted)

## DFS



## OS



# PETHEMA LPA2012 Trial

## Age-adapted

All patients aged  $\geq 60$

### INDUCTION

**AIDA**

IDA 12 mg/m<sup>2</sup> d2, 4, 6, ~~8~~

### CONSOLIDATION

(Dose reduction)

Low risk schedule

IDA 5 mg x4 + ATRA

MTZ 10 mg x3 + ATRA

IDA 12 mg x1 + ATRA

### MAINTENANCE

2 years

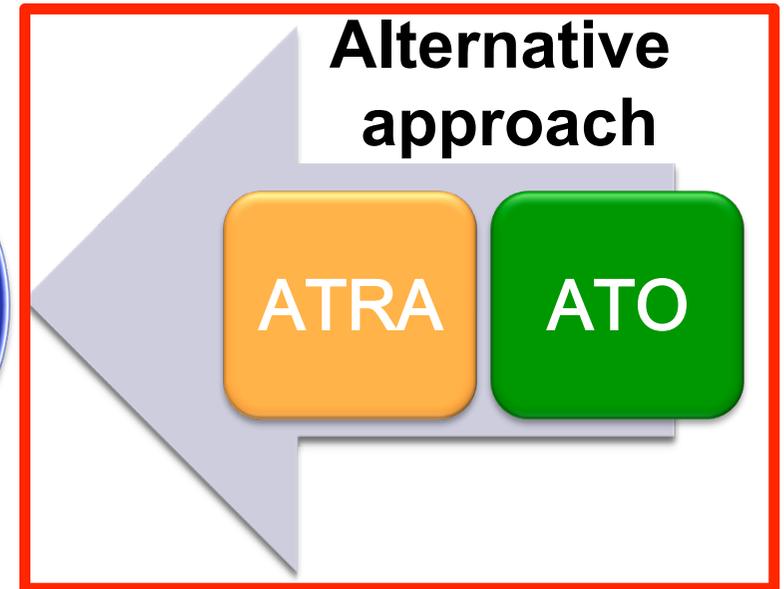
ATRA + MP + MTX

# The next step in older patients

**Conventional  
approach**



**Alternative  
approach**



**The main goal is to offer an optimal therapy to  
most of older patients**

# PETHEMA LPA2017 protocol

APL PML/RAR $\alpha$  positive, *de novo* o secondary  
Start **ATRA** if suspicions

**Low-intermediate risk (WBC  $\leq 10 \times 10^9/L$ )  
or age  $\geq 70$  years**

## Induction (ATO+ATRA)

**ATRA** 45 mg/m<sup>2</sup>/d VO day 1 until CR  
**ATO** 0,15 mg/kg IV day 1 until CR  
**Prednisone** 0,5 mg/kg VO x 14 days

## Consolidation (28 weeks)

**ATRA** 45 mg/m<sup>2</sup>/d x 14 d (weeks 1-2 y 5-6)  
**ATO** 0,15 mg/kg/d x 5 d (M-F) (weeks 1-4)

**ATRA** 45 mg/m<sup>2</sup>/d x 14 d (weeks 9-10 y 13-14)  
**ATO** 0,15 mg/kg/d x 5 d (M-F) (weeks 9-12)

**ATRA** 45 mg/m<sup>2</sup>/d x 14 d (weeks 17-18 y 21-22)  
**ATO** 0,15 mg/kg/d x 5 d (M-F) (weeks 17-20)

**ATRA** 45 mg/m<sup>2</sup>/d x 14 d (weeks 25-26)  
**ATO** 0,15 mg/kg/d x 5 d (M-F) (weeks 25-28)

**High risk (WBC  $> 10 \times 10^9/L$ )  
and age  $< 70$  years**

## Induction (AIDA)

**IDA** 12 mg/m<sup>2</sup>/d days 1,3,5,7 ( $\geq 60$  years: days 1,3,5)  
**ATRA** 45 mg/m<sup>2</sup>/d day 1 until CR  
**Prednisone** 0,5 mg/kg VO x 14 days

## Consolidation

**Age between 60 and 69 years**

**IDA** 5 mg/m<sup>2</sup>/d (days 1,2,3,4)  
**ATRA** 45 mg/m<sup>2</sup>/d x 15 d

**MTZ** 10 mg/m<sup>2</sup>/d (days 1,2,3)  
**ATRA** 45 mg/m<sup>2</sup>/d x 15 d

**IDA** 12 mg/m<sup>2</sup>/d (day 1)  
**ATRA** 45 mg/m<sup>2</sup>/d x 15 d

**Age  $< 60$  years**

**IDA** 5 mg/m<sup>2</sup>/d (days 1,2,3,4)  
**Ara-C** 1000 mg/m<sup>2</sup>/d (days 1,2,3,4)  
**ATRA** 45 mg/m<sup>2</sup>/d x 15 d

**MTZ** 10 mg/m<sup>2</sup>/d (days 1,2,3,4,5)  
**ATRA** 45 mg/m<sup>2</sup>/d x 15 d

**IDA** 12 mg/m<sup>2</sup>/d (day 1)  
**Ara-C** 500 mg/m<sup>2</sup>/d (days 1,2,3,4)  
**ATRA** 45 mg/m<sup>2</sup>/d x 15 d

## Maintenance (12 weeks)

**ATRA** 45 mg/m<sup>2</sup>/d x 14 d (weeks 1-2 y 5-6)  
**ATO** 0,15 mg/kg/d lu-vi (weeks 1-4)

**ATRA** 45 mg/m<sup>2</sup>/d x 14 d (weeks 9-10)  
**ATO** 0,15 mg/kg/d x 5 d (M-F) (weeks 9-12)

**APOLLO trial if available**

# APL in Elderly Patients: PETHEMA experience

## Concluding remarks

- APL is a very rare disease in elderly patients, lack of reliable information
- Due to frequent poor clinical condition and comorbidities, patients are often excluded from trials
- Induction death remains the most challenging cause of therapeutic failure (up to 20% in “eligible” patients, much more in “non-eligible”)
- “Age-adapted” AIDA-based regimens with reduced intensity appear to improve long-term outcomes