



ALMA MATER STUDIORUM
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA

L'IMMUNOTERAPIA SOLO NEL PAZIENTE REFRATTARIO/RESISTENTE?

Michele Cavo

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Bologna, Italy*

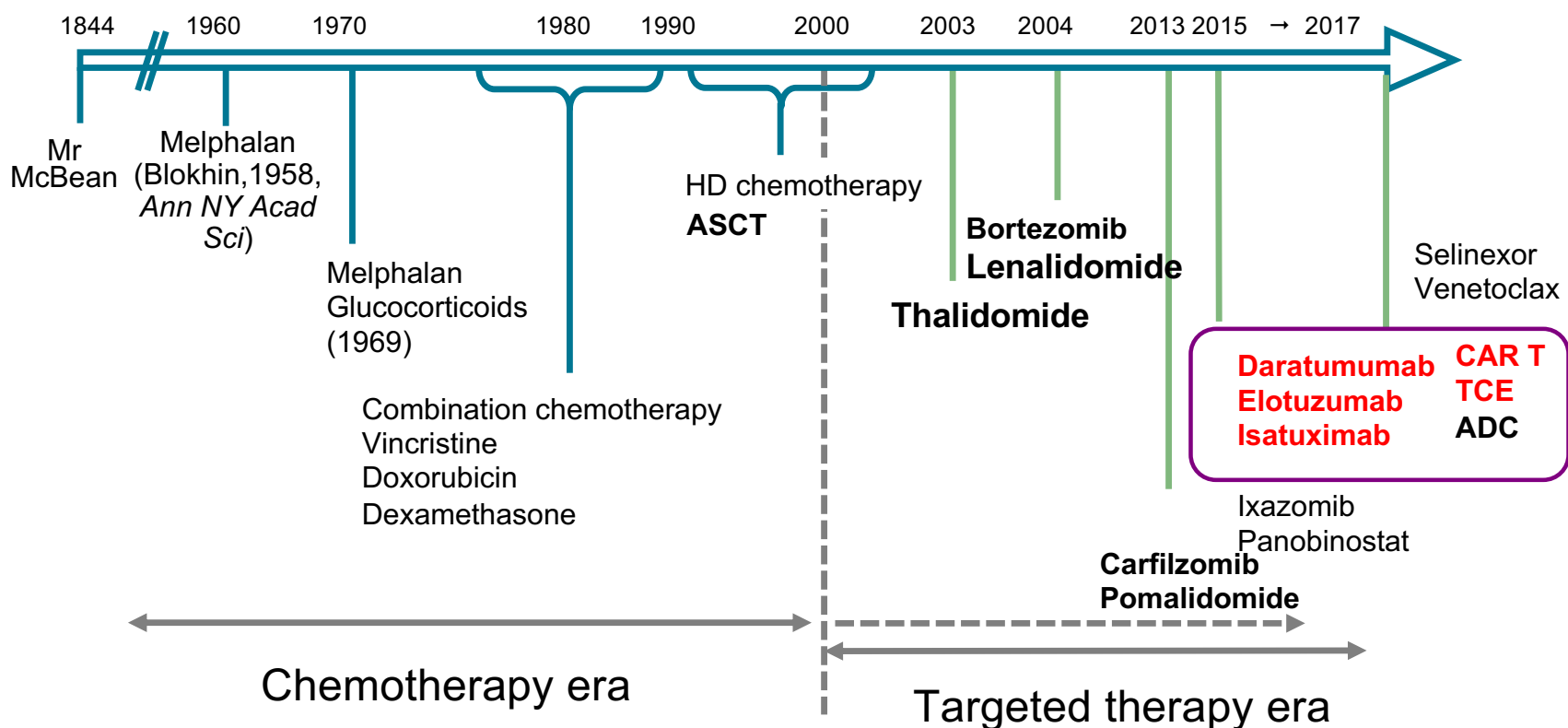
*Forum in Ematologia. Verso il 2020
Bari, 21 Ottobre 2019*

Disclosures – Michele Cavo

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Employee	No relevant conflicts of interest to declare
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Speakers Bureau	Janssen, Celgene, Amgen, Takeda
Honoraria	Janssen, Celgene, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Amgen, Takeda, Sanofi
Scientific Advisory Board	Janssen, Celgene, Takeda, Amgen, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Sanofi

Presentation includes discussion of the off-label use of a drug or drugs

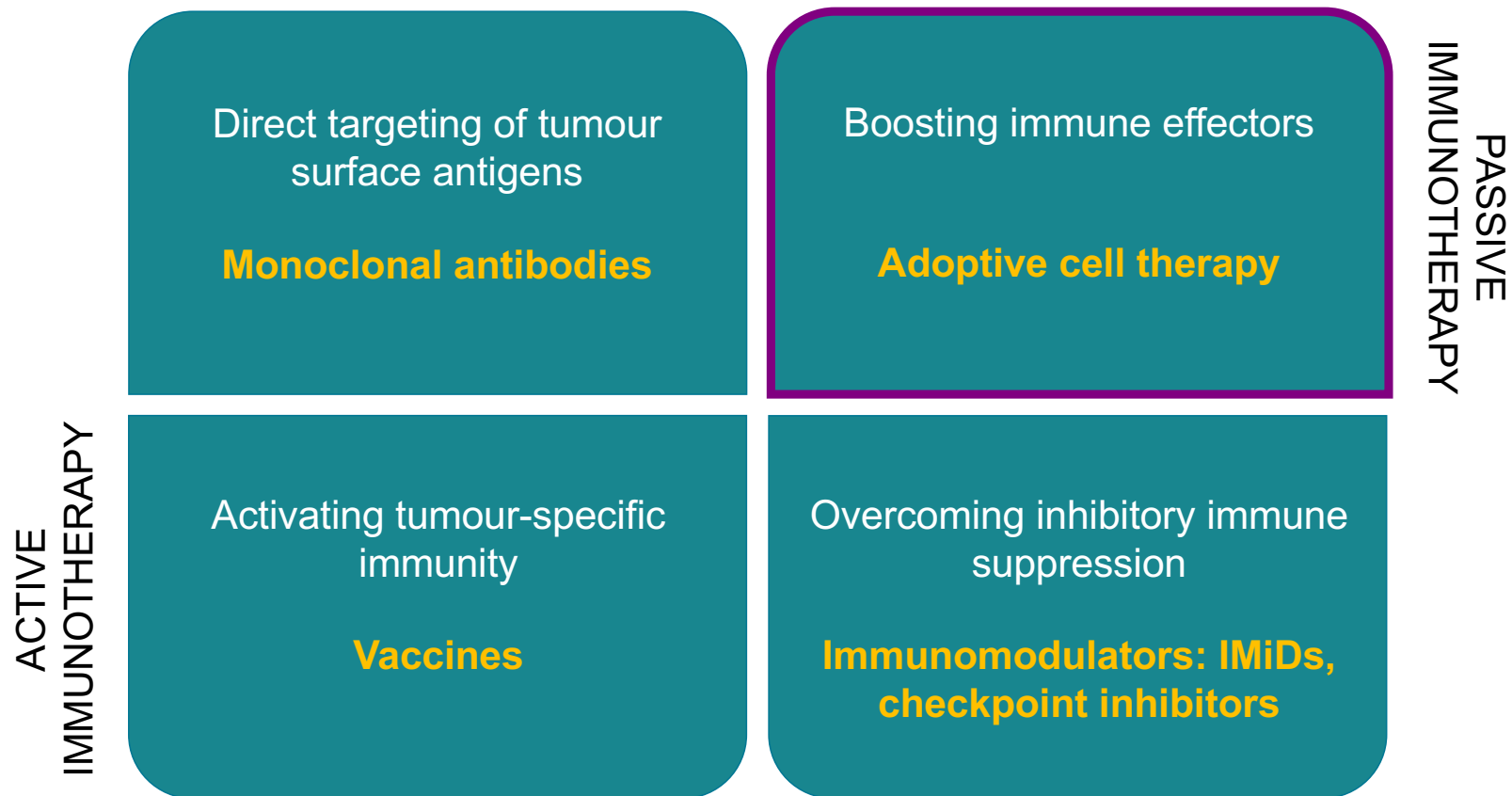
Do we need new treatments for MM?



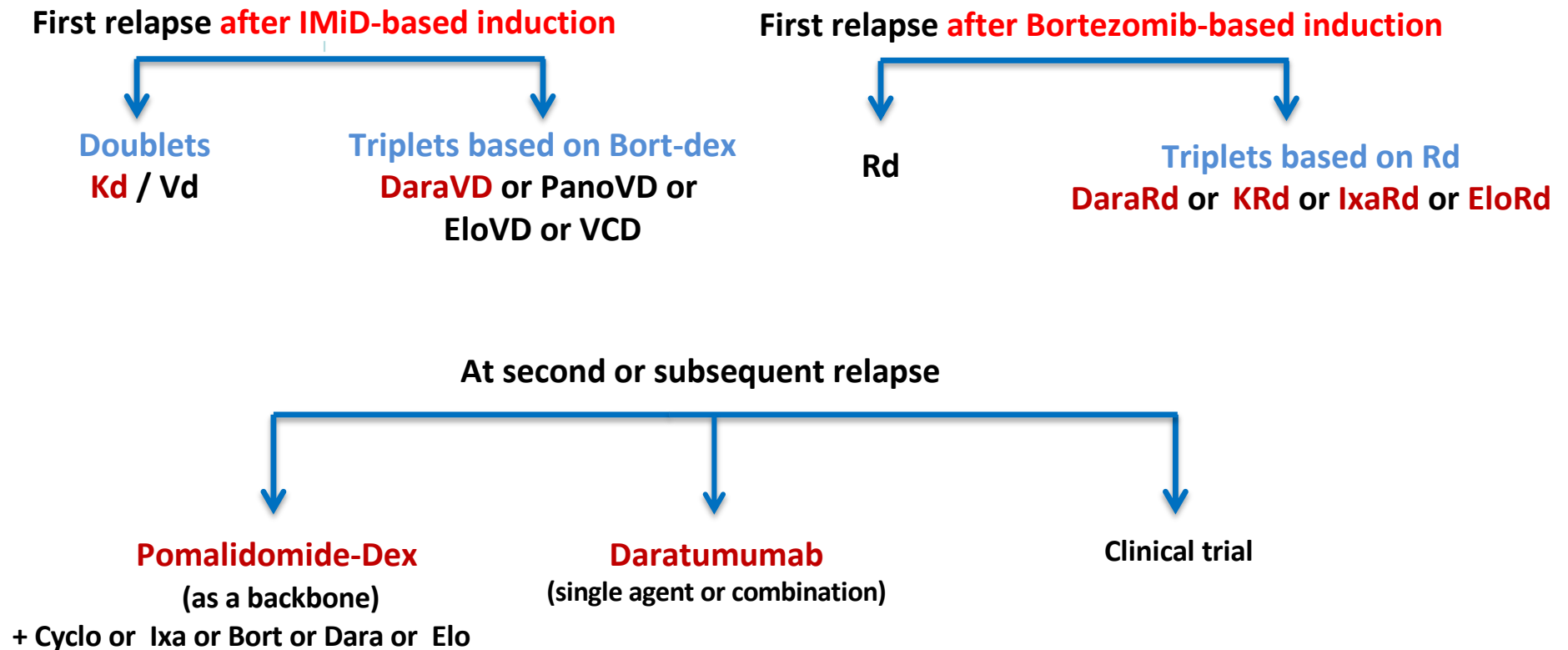
ADC, antibody drug conjugate; ASCT, autologous stem cell transplantation; CAR T, chimeric antigen receptor T cell; HD, high-dose; MM, multiple myeloma; TCE, T-cell engager.

Cavo M, *personal communication*

The immunotherapy era of MM



Treatment of RRMM: ESMO guidelines 2017



Options of therapy for RRMM patients

Induction Bortezomib-based combination

Induction Bortezomib-based combo

ASCT (melphalan 200)

~~Lenalidomide-dex~~

~~Nothing/Consolidation/Maintenance~~

Relapse

PIs based combinations

IMiDs based combinations

Kd

18.7 m, HR:0.53
CR 13%

DaraVD

PFS: 16.7 m, HR 0.32
CR 30%

KRd

PFS: 26.3m, HR: 0.69
CR 32%

DaraRd

PFS: 58%@30m,HR:0.44
CR 46%

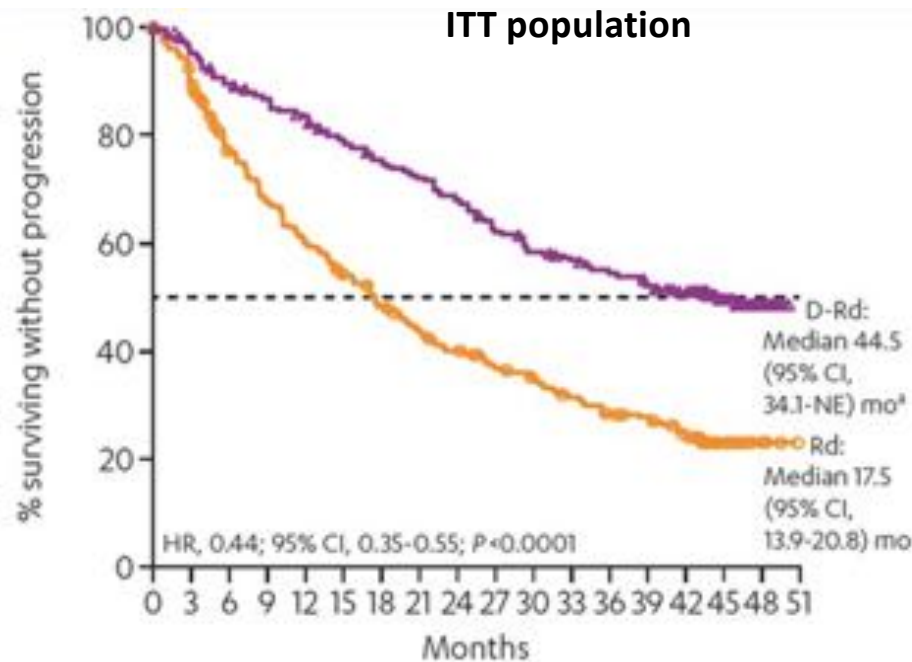
EloRd

PFS: 19.4m, HR: 0.71
CR 5%

IxaRd

PFS: 20.6m, HR: 0.74
CR 12%

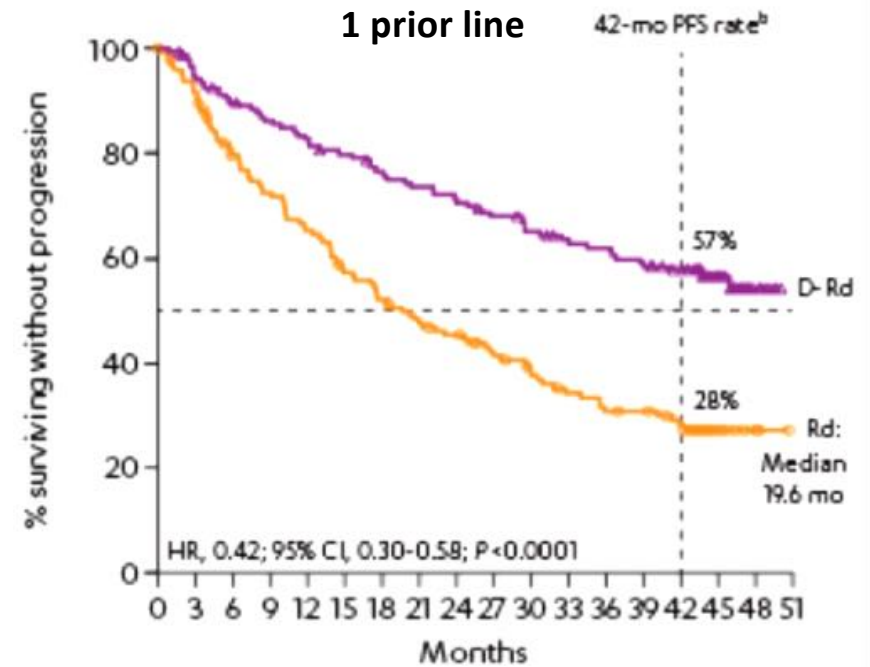
POLLUX: PFS at median follow up of 44.3 months



No. at risk

Rd	283	249	206	181	160	144	127	112	102	91	83	75	66	63	53	20	4	0
D-Rd	286	266	249	238	229	215	204	195	184	168	156	151	143	135	123	54	11	0

mPFS: **44.5 months** vs 17.5 months (HR:0.44; p < 0.0001)
 56% reduction in the risk of progression or death in patients receiving D-Rd



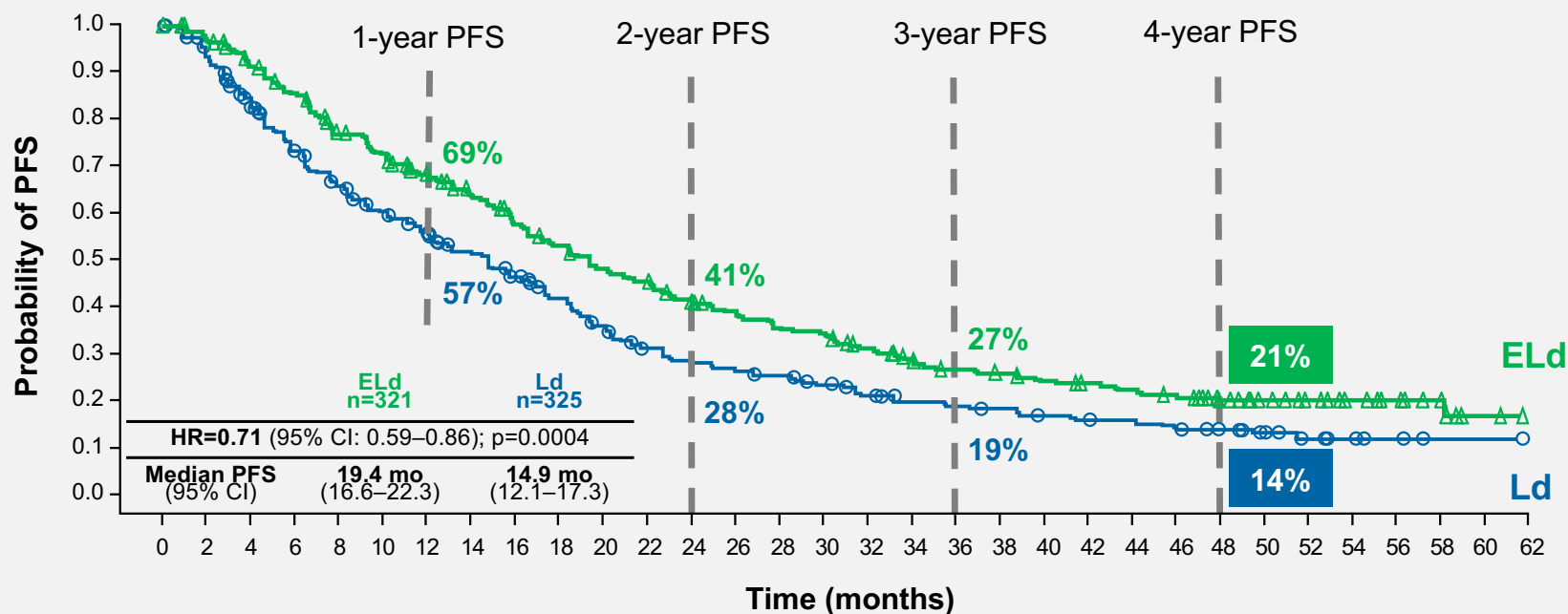
No. at risk

Rd	146	132	110	100	90	78	71	64	60	52	45	40	36	35	30	11	3	0
D-Rd	149	137	129	123	118	113	107	103	99	94	89	85	83	79	71	31	7	0

mPFS : **NR** vs 19.6 months
 @42 months: 57% vs 28% (HR:0.42; p < 0.0001)
 58% reduction in the risk of progression or death in patients receiving D-Rd



ELOQUENT-2 trial: Elo-Rd vs Rd



Patients at risk

ELd	321	304	280	260	233	216	196	180	160	147	132	125	111	103	94	91	79	70	63	60	55	52	49	46	36	31	24	17	13	6	2	0
Ld	325	295	249	216	192	173	158	141	124	108	91	76	68	64	61	54	47	41	39	37	33	31	30	27	22	13	9	6	3	1	1	0

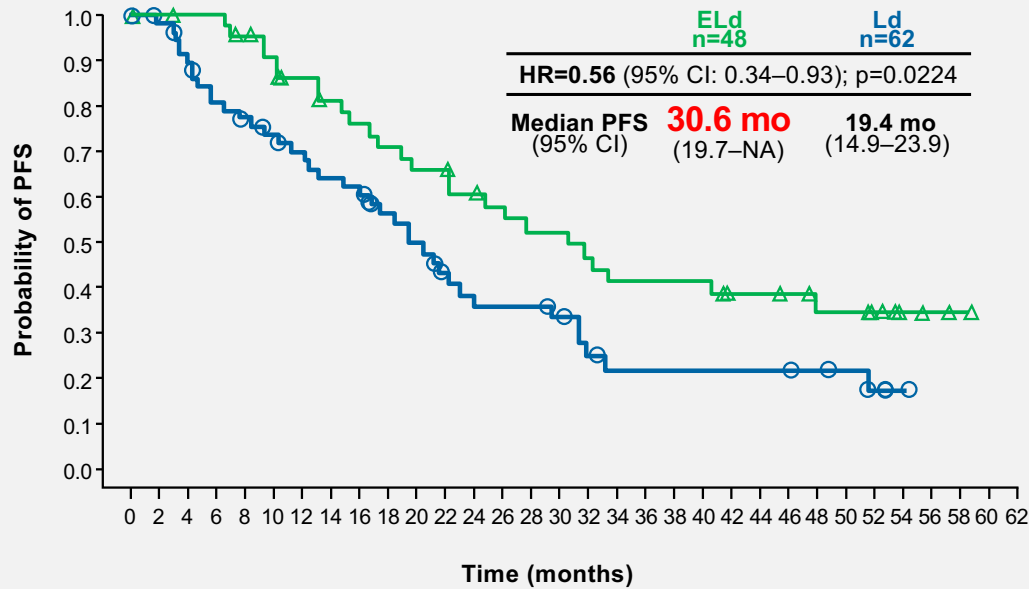
- At 4 years, ELOQUENT-2 has the longest follow-up for PFS in RRMM
- 29% reduction in the risk of progression or death (sustained over time)
- 50% relative improvement in the PFS rate at 4 years (21% vs 14%) in favor of ELd



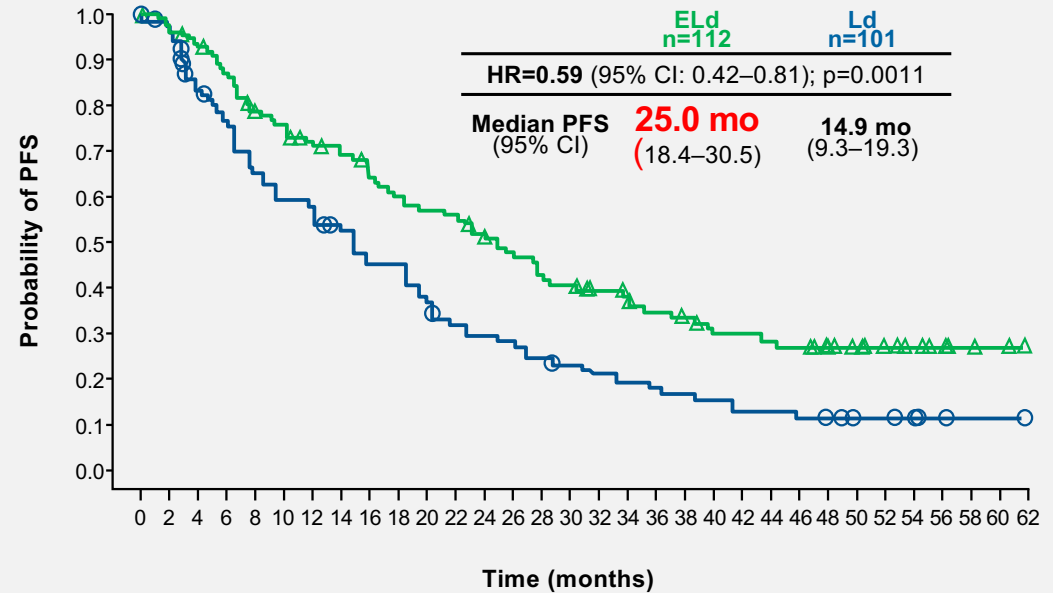
Progression-Free Survival – Median Time Since Diagnosis (3.5 years) and Prior Lines of Therapy

≥Median time from diagnosis

1 prior line of therapy



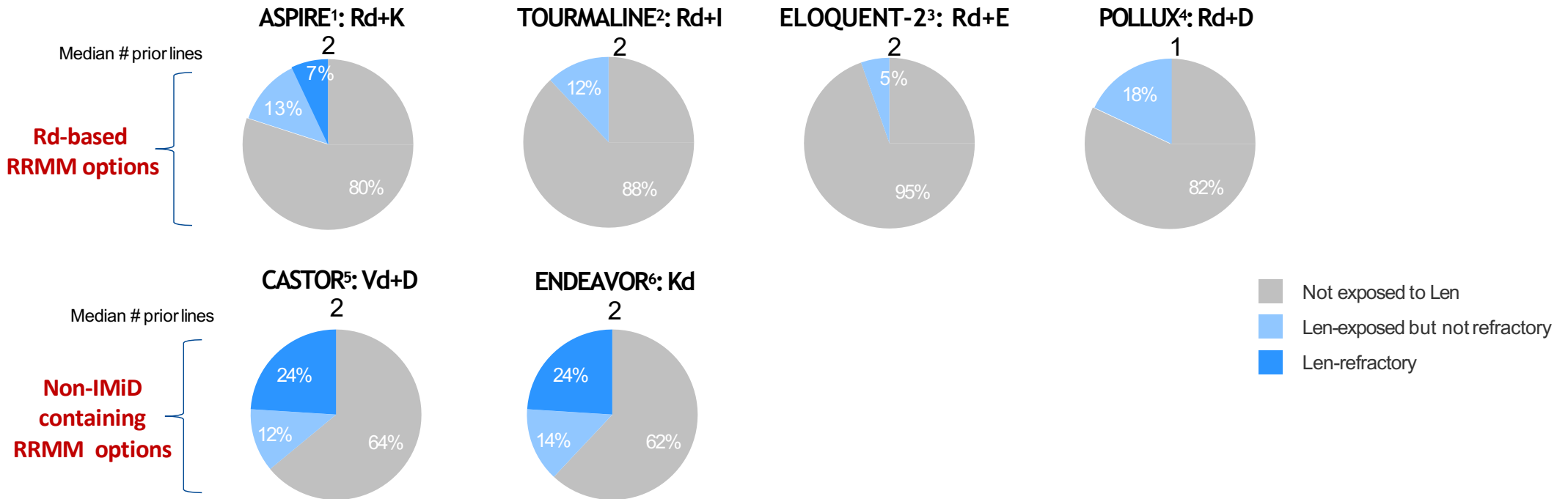
>1 prior line of therapy



- Greatest benefit in patients with ≥3.5 years (median time) since diagnosis and 1 prior line of therapy
- 44% reduction in the risk of progression or death

Len-refractory patients are growing and have been underrepresented in previous clinical trials

% Len-exposed, Len-refractory and non-Len exposed patients in early-RRMM* combination trials



*Median 1-2 prior lines. † Includes Kd patients in both study arms.

D, daratumumab; d, dexamethasone; E, elotuzumab; I, isatuximab; IMiD, immunomodulatory drug; K, carfilzomib; P, pomalidomide; R/Len, lenalidomide; RRMM, relapsed/refractory multiple myeloma; V, bortezomib.

1. Siegel D et al. *J Clin Oncol*. 2018;36:728-37; 2. Moreau P et al. *N Engl J Med*. 2016;374:1621-1634; 3. Lonial S et al. *N Engl J Med*. 2015;373:621-631; 4. Dimopoulos M et al. *N Engl J Med* 2016;375:1319-1331;

5. Palumbo A et al. *N Engl J Med*. 2016;375:754-766. 6. Dimopoulos MA et al. *Lancet Oncol*. 2017; 18:1327-37;

Options of therapy for RRMM patients

Induction Bortezomib-based combination

Induction Bortezomib-based combo

↓
ASCT (melphalan 200)

**Lenalidomide-dex
(VRd)**

↓
Nothing/Consolidation/Maintenance

Relapse

PIs based combinations

IMiDs based combinations

Kd

18.7 m, HR:0.53
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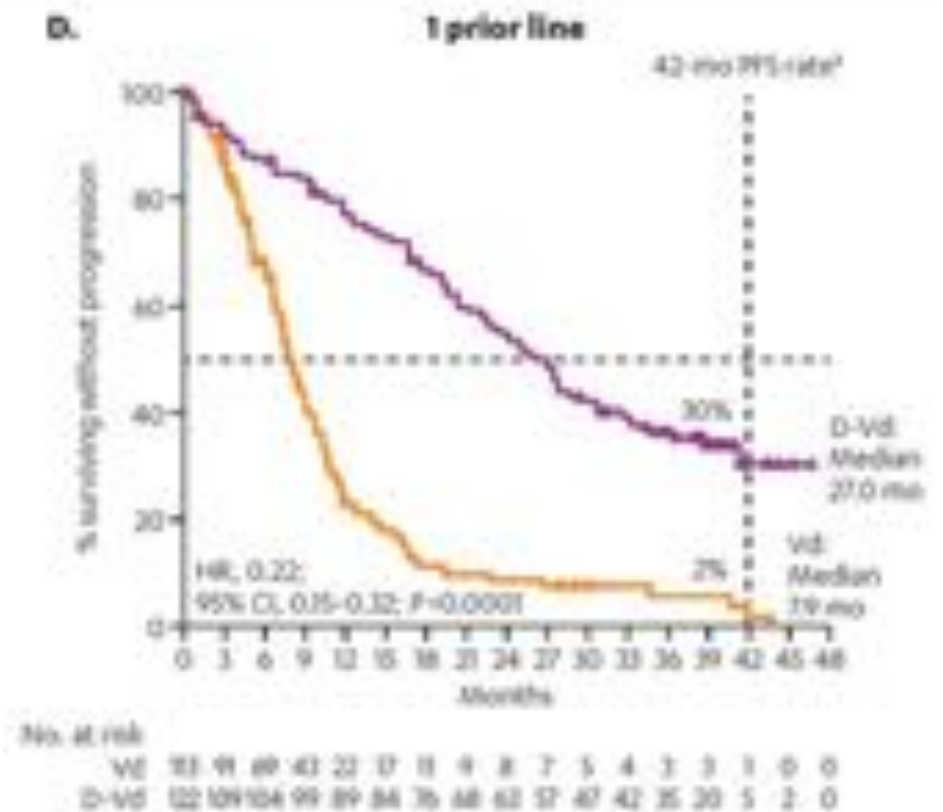
IxaRd

PFS: 20.6m, HR: 0.74
CR 12%

CASTOR: PFS at median follow up 40 months



mPFS: **16.7 months vs 7.1 months (HR: 0.31; p<0.0001)**
69% reduction in the risk of progression or death in patients receiving D-Vd



mPFS: **27 mesi vs 7.9 mesi (HR: 0.22; p<0.0001)**
78% reduction in the risk of progression or death in patients receiving D-Vd

Patients refractory to frontline lenalidomide


	Endeavor ¹		Castor ²	
	Kd	Vd	DaraVd	Vd
Len-refractory to any prior line, n=	113	122	60	81
Median PFS, months	8.6	6.6	7.8	4.9
Len-refractory 1 prior line, n=	UK	UK	UK	UK
Median PFS, months	UK	UK	UK	UK

Comment on Mikhael et al, page 123

Facing lenalidomide-refractory myeloma

Michele Cavo | Bologna University School of Medicine

In this issue of *Blood*, Mikhael et al report the results of a phase 1b study of isatuximab combined with standard-dose pomalidomide and dexamethasone in patients with relapsed/refractory multiple myeloma (RRMM) who had received ≥ 2 prior lines of treatment that included lenalidomide and a proteasome inhibitor (PI).¹

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Treatment of relapse: the changing landscape....

First relapse after IMiD-based induction

Doublets
Kd / Vd

Triplets based on Bortezomib
DaraVD or PanoVD or
EloVD or VCD

First relapse after Bortezomib-based induction

Rd

Triplets based on Rd
DaraRd or KRd or IxaRd or EloRd

First relapse after PI and/or IMiD-based induction and refractoriness to lenalidomide

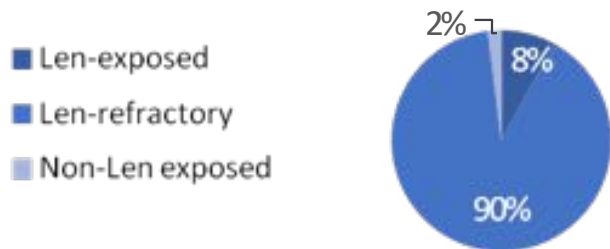
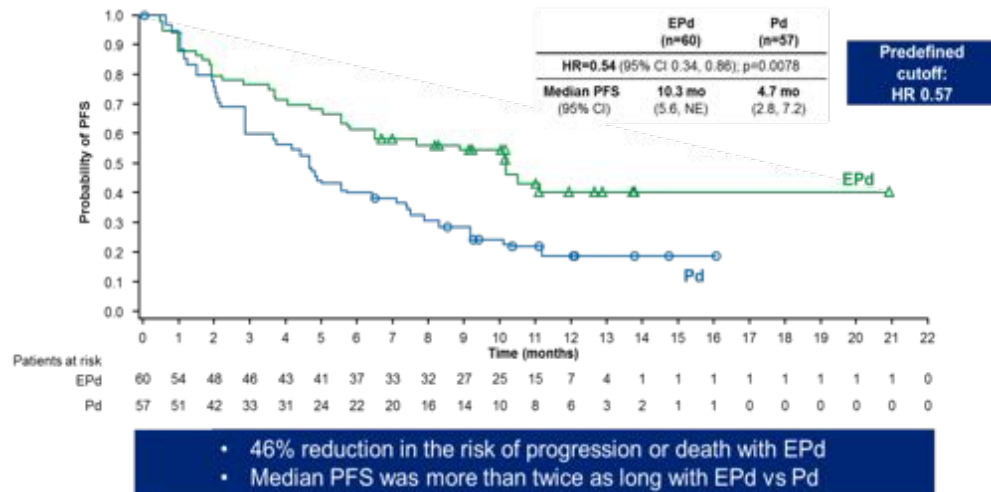
Poma-dex + Bort (**OPTIMISMM**)
Poma-dex + Cyclo
Poma-dex + Dara (**APOLLO**)
Poma-dex + Isa (**ICARIA**)
Poma-dex + Elo (**ELOQUENT-3**)
Poma-dex + K

Kd + Dara (**CANDOR**)
Kd + Isatuximab (**IKEMA**)
Kd + Cyclo
Kd + Venetoclax

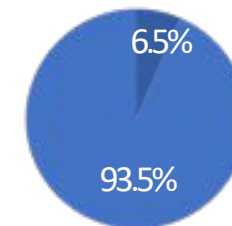
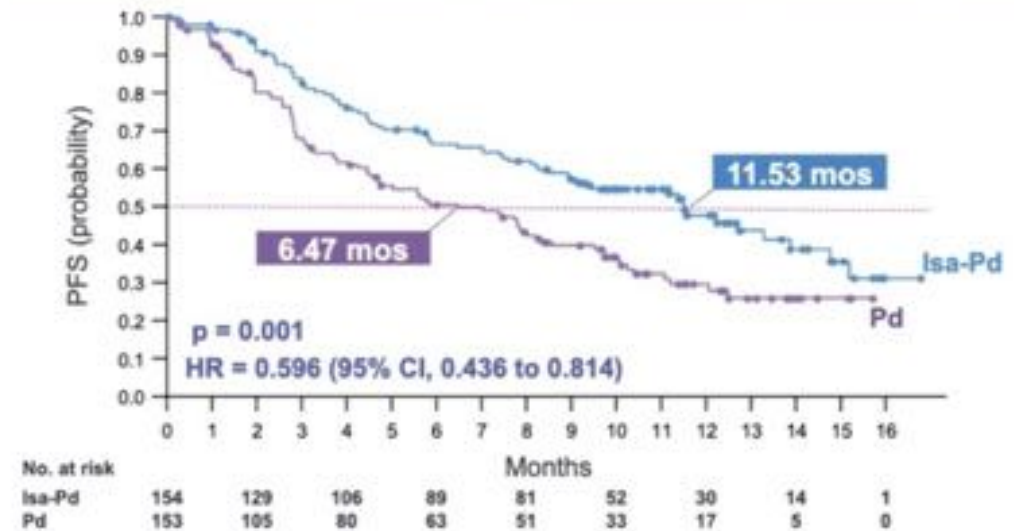
Vd + Selinexor
Vd + Venetoclax

POM-DEX-based triplets (+ELOTUZUMAB or ISATUXIMAB) in LEN-refractory RRMM patients with median 3 prior therapy

Phase 2 ELOQUENT-3 Trial: EloPd vs Pd



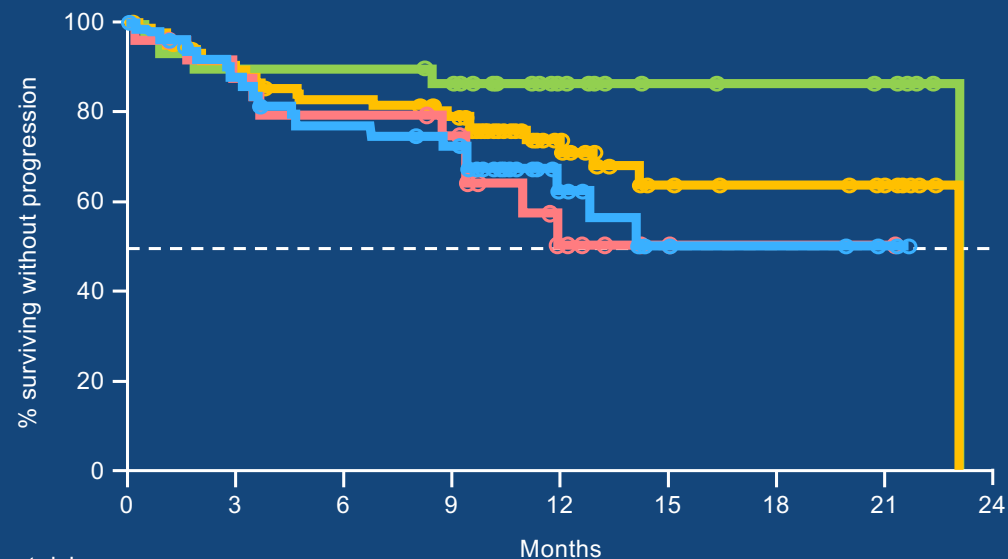
Phase 3 ICARIA Trial: IsaPd vs Pd



Dara-Kd: PFS Across Subgroups

- Median follow-up: 12.0 months

	Median PFS, mo	12-month PFS, %
All-treated	NE	71%
Len-exposed but not refractory	NE	87%
Len-refractory	14.1 (95% CI, 12.0-NE)	62%
PI/IMiD-refractory	NE (95% CI, 9.4-NE)	51%



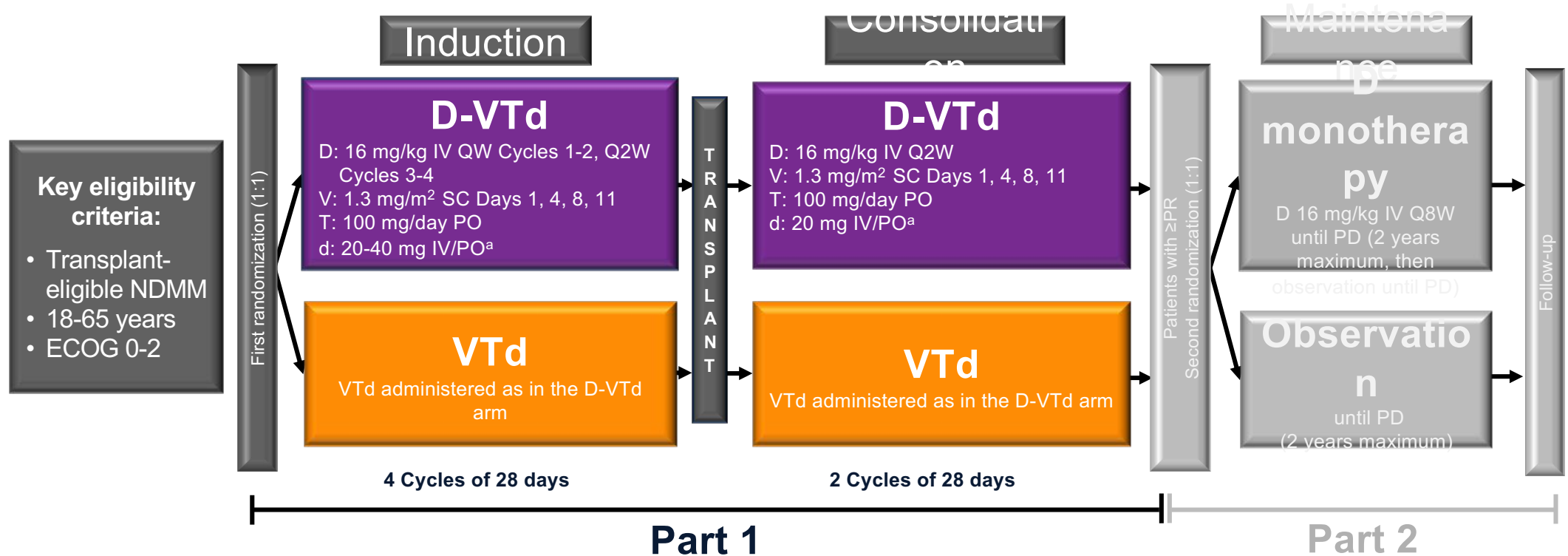
	Months								
No. at risk	0	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24
All-treated	85	72	66	60	26	13	11	8	0
Len-refractory	51	41	35	32	12	6	5	3	0
Len-exposed	30	27	27	25	13	7	6	5	0
PI/IMiD-refractory	25	21	19	17	6	2	1	1	0

Encouraging PFS observed in lenalidomide- and PI/IMiD-refractory patients

Phase 3 CASSIOPEIA Study Design



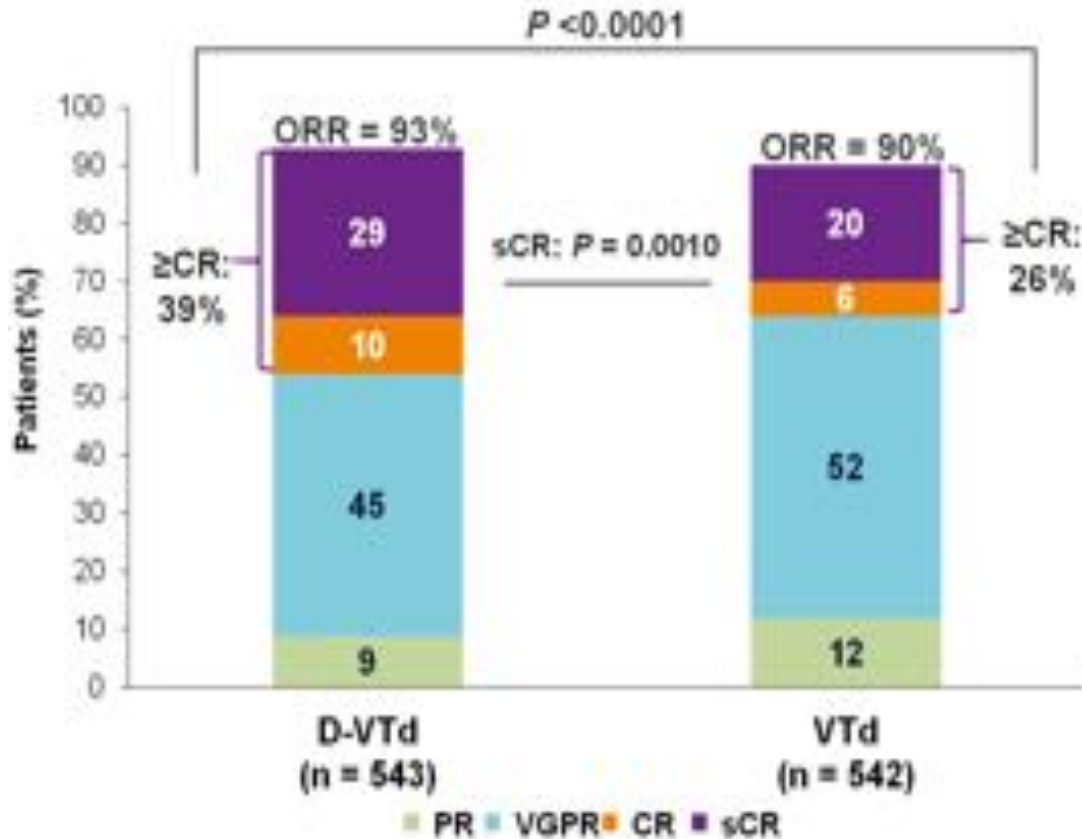
- Phase 3 study of D-VTd versus VTd in transplant-eligible NDMM (N = 1,085), sites from the 9/2015 to 8/2017



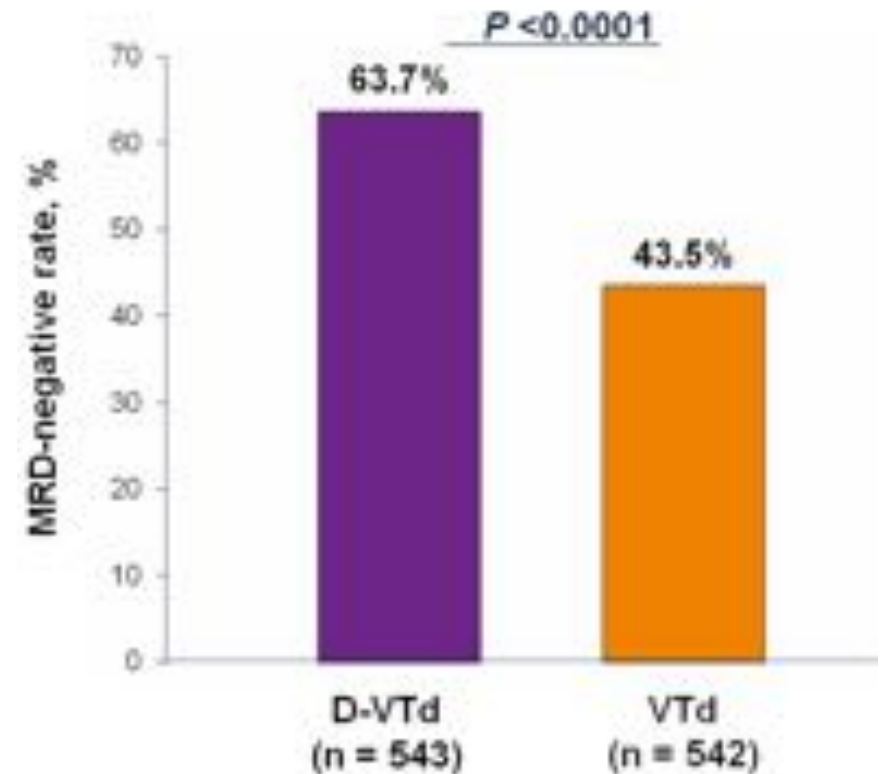
D-VTd, daratumumab/bortezomib/thalidomide/dexamethasone; VTd, bortezomib/thalidomide/dexamethasone; ECOG, Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group; IV, intravenous; QW, weekly; Q2W, every 2 weeks; SC, subcutaneous; PO, oral; PR, partial response; Q8W, every 8 weeks; PD, progressive disease; sCR, stringent complete response; PFS, progression-free survival; MRD, minimal residual disease; CR, complete response; OS, overall survival.
^aDexamethasone 40 mg on Days 1, 2, 8, 9, 15, 16, 22, 23 of Cycles 1-2 and Days 1 & 2 of Cycles 3-4; 20 mg on Days 8, 9, 15, 16 of Cycles 3-4; 20 mg on Days 1, 2, 8, 9, 15, 16 of Cycles 5-6.

CASSIOPEIA study: depth of response

Post-consolidation rates of response



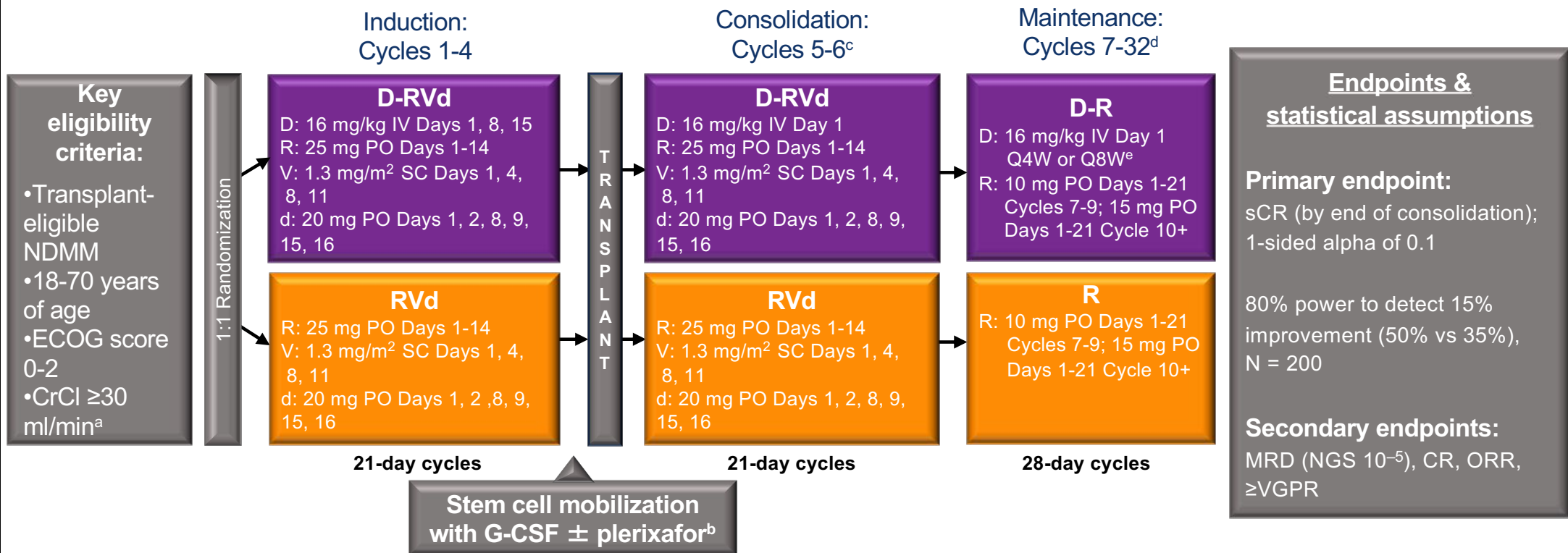
MRD (Flow Cytometry; 10^{-5})



**D-VTd improved the rate of sCR (primary study endpoint),
≥CR and MRD negativity**

GRIFFIN (NCT02874742): Dara-VRD vs VRD

- Phase 2 study of D-RVd vs RVd in transplant-eligible NDMM, 35 sites in US with enrollment from 12/2016 and 4/2018



D-RVd, daratumumab-lenalidomide/bortezomib/dexamethasone; RVd, lenalidomide/bortezomib/dexamethasone; NDMM, newly diagnosed multiple myeloma; US, United States; ECOG, Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group; CrCl, creatinine clearance; IV, intravenously; PO, orally; SC, subcutaneously; G-CSF, granulocyte colony-stimulating factor; D-R, daratumumab-lenalidomide; Q4W, every 4 weeks; Q8W, every 8 weeks; sCR, stringent complete response; MRD, minimal residual disease; NGS, next-generation sequencing; CR, complete response; ORR, overall response rate; VGPR, very good partial response.

^aLenalidomide dose adjustments were made for patients with CrCl ≤ 50 mL/min. ^bCyclophosphamide-based mobilization was permitted if unsuccessful. ^cConsolidation was initiated 60-100 days post transplant. ^dPatients who complete maintenance cycles 7-32 may continue single-agent lenalidomide thereafter. ^eProtocol Amendment 2 allowed for the option to dose daratumumab Q4W, based on pharmacokinetic results from study SMM2001 (NCT02316106).

Post-Consolidation MRD Negativity

MRD-Negative Status (10^{-5}), ^a n (%)	D-RVd	RVd	Odds Ratio (95% CI)	P value ^b
In ITT population				
MRD negative regardless of response	46/104 (44.2)	15/103 (14.6)	4.70 (2.38-9.28)	<0.0001
MRD negative with CR or better	30/104 (28.8)	10/103 (9.7)	3.73 (1.71-8.16)	0.0007
In patients achieving CR or better	30/51 (58.8)	10/41 (24.4)	4.65 (1.76-12.28)	0.0014
In patients who received ASCT	45/94 (47.9)	14/78 (17.9)	4.31 (2.10-8.85)	<0.0001

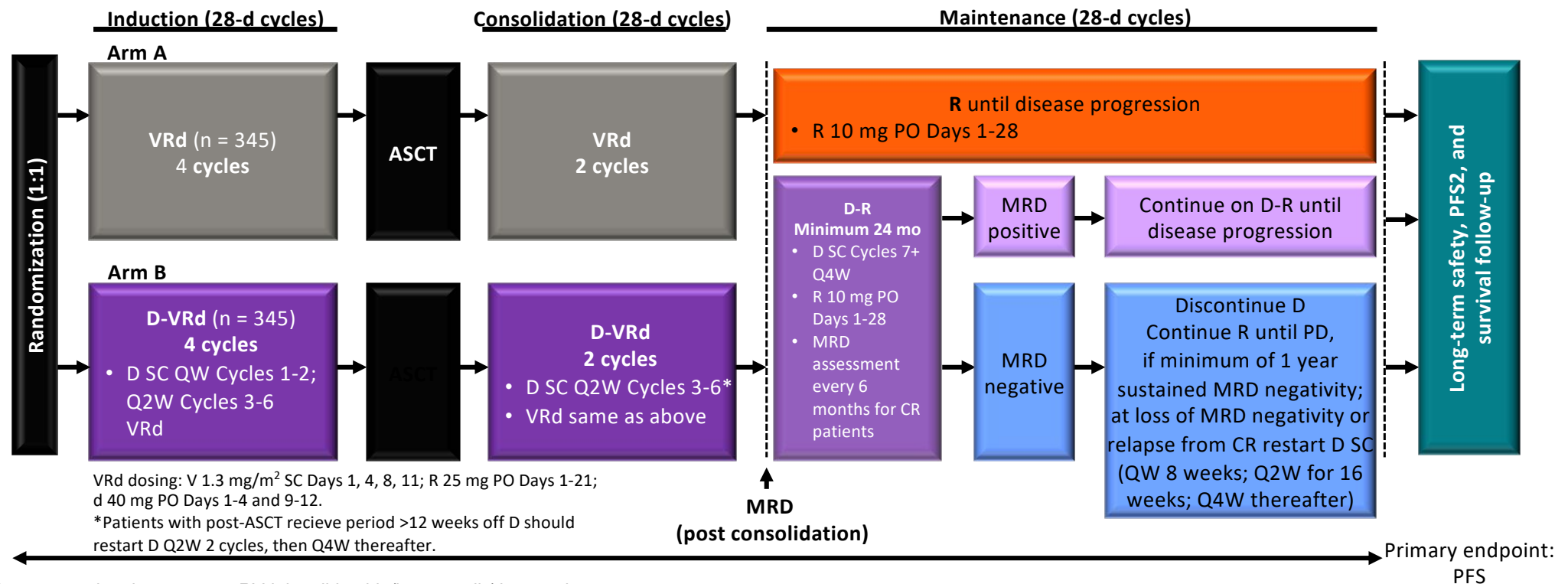
D-RVd improved MRD-negativity (10^{-5}) rates at the end of consolidation

^aThe threshold of MRD negativity was defined as 1 tumor cell per 10^5 white cells. MRD status is based on assessment of bone marrow aspirates by next-generation sequencing in accordance with International Myeloma Working Group criteria. MRD assessments occurred in patients who had both baseline (with clone identified/calibrated) and post-baseline MRD (with negative, positive, or indeterminate result) samples taken (D-RVd, n = 71; RVd, n = 55). Patients with a missing or inconclusive assessment were considered MRD positive. ^bP values were calculated from the Fisher's exact test.

Daratumumab-VRd vs VRd

PERSEUS phase 3 trial: Design

- Collaborative study with European Myeloma Network (EMN)
- Phase 3 study of DARA in combination with VRd versus VRd for newly diagnosed transplant-eligible patients; N ≈ 690



DSC, daratumumab subcutaneous; RVd, lenalidomide/bortezomib/dexamethasone;
 ASCT, autologous stem cell transplant; QW, weekly; Q2W, every 2 weeks; Q4W, every 4 weeks;
 MRD, minimal residual disease; PO, by mouth; PFS2, progression-free survival on next line of therapy.
 Protocol EMN17/54767414MMY3014.

www.clinicaltrials.gov identifier: NCT03710603, accessed March 2019

EMN18 phase III study design

Induction

DARA-VCD x4 28-d cycl

Daratumumab 16 mg/kg
C1-2 d1,8,15,22; C3-4 d1,15
Bortezomib 1.3 mg/mq
Cyclophosph 300 mg/mq } d1,8,15,22
Dexamethasone 40 mg

PBSC collection + double ASCT

VTD x4 28-d cycles

Bortezomib 1.3 mg/mq, d1,4,8,11
Thalidomide 100 mg d1-28
Dexamethasone 20 mg d1,2,4,5,8,9,11,14

Consolidation

DARA-VCD x4 28-d cycl

Daratumumab 16 mg/kg
C1-2 d1,8,15,22; C3-4 d1,15
Bortezomib 1.3 mg/mq
Cyclophosph 300 mg/mq } d1,8,15,22
Dexamethasone 40 mg

VTD x4 28-d cycles

Bortezomib 1.3 mg/mq, d1,4,8,11
Thalidomide 100 mg d1-28
Dexamethasone 20 mg d1,2,4,5,8,9,11,14

Maintenance

DARA-IXAZOMIB

2 yrs
Daratumumab 16 mg/kg, d1/28
Ixazomib 3 mg C1-4, d1,8,15
4 mg C ≥5

IXAZOMIB 2 yrs

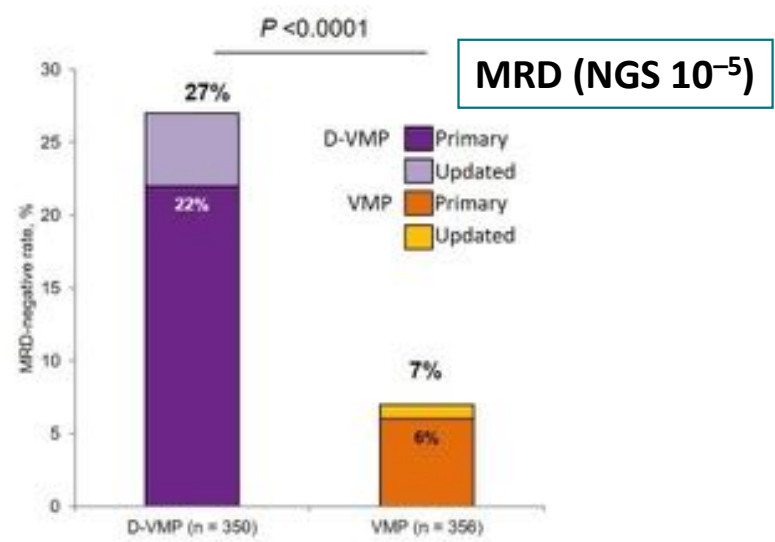
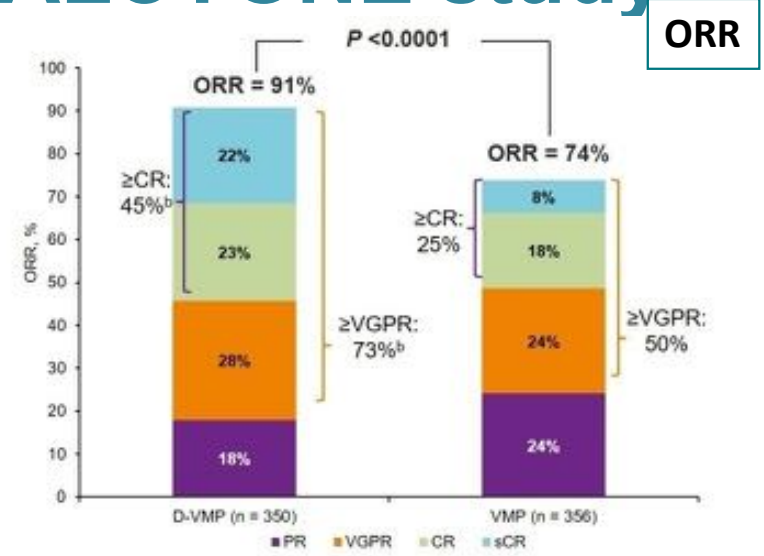
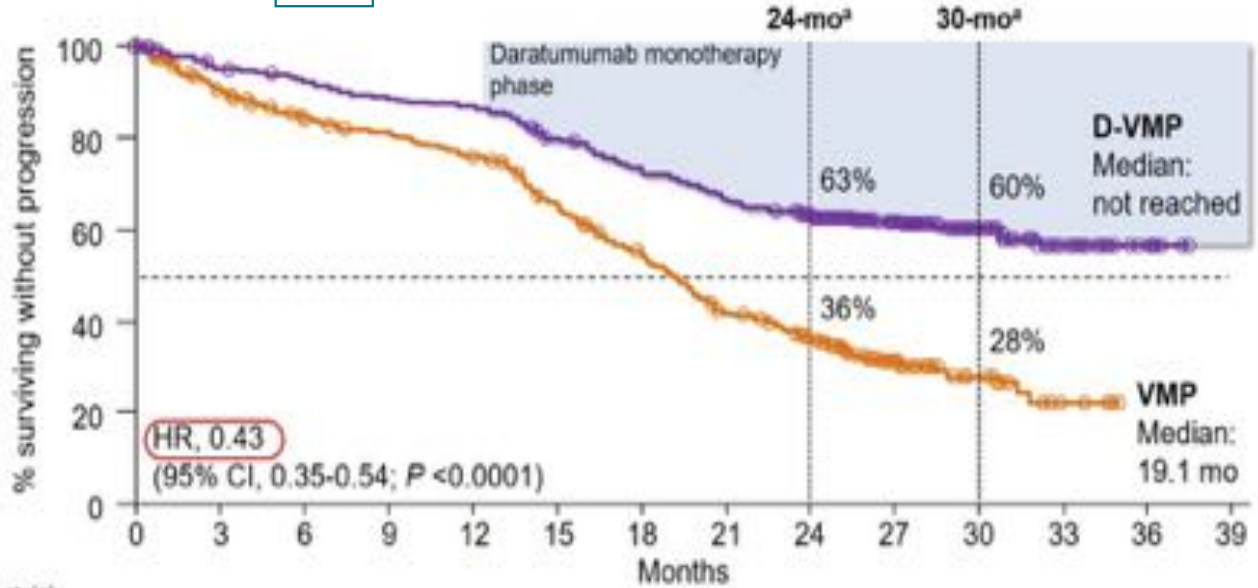
Ixazomib 3 mg C1-4, d1,8,15
4 mg C ≥5

R1

R2

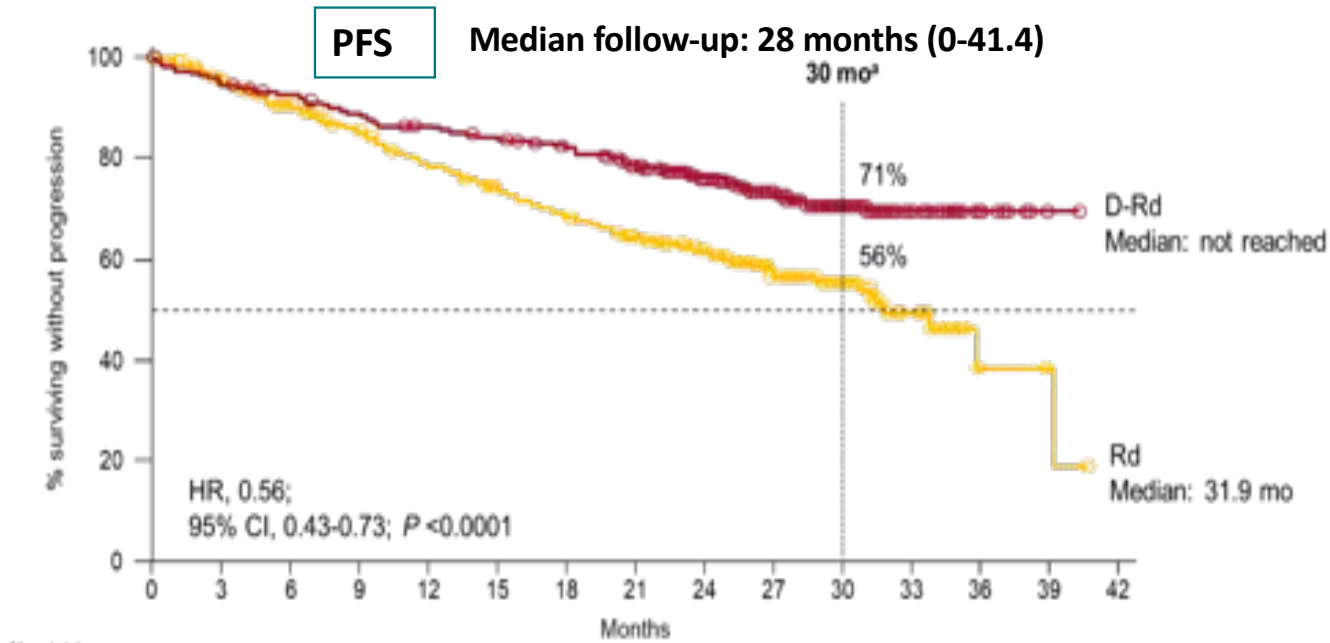
Daratumumab + VMP vs VMP: ALCYONE study

PFS Median follow-up: 27.8 (0-39.2) months



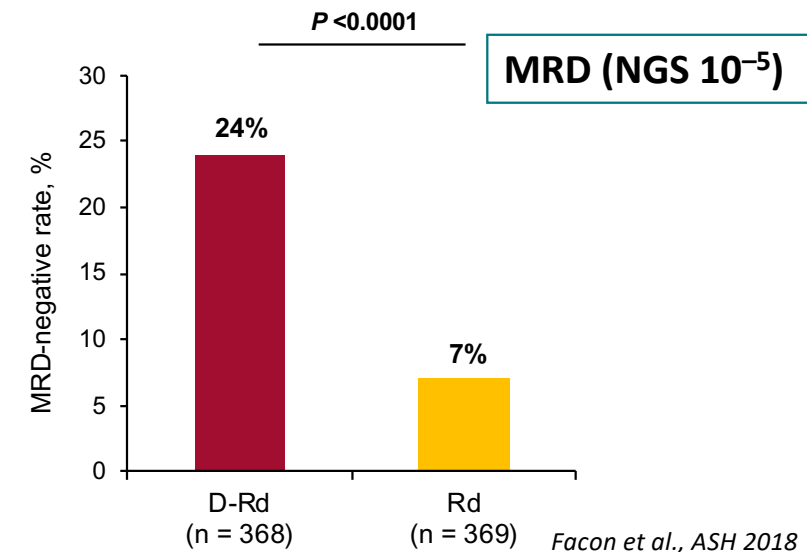
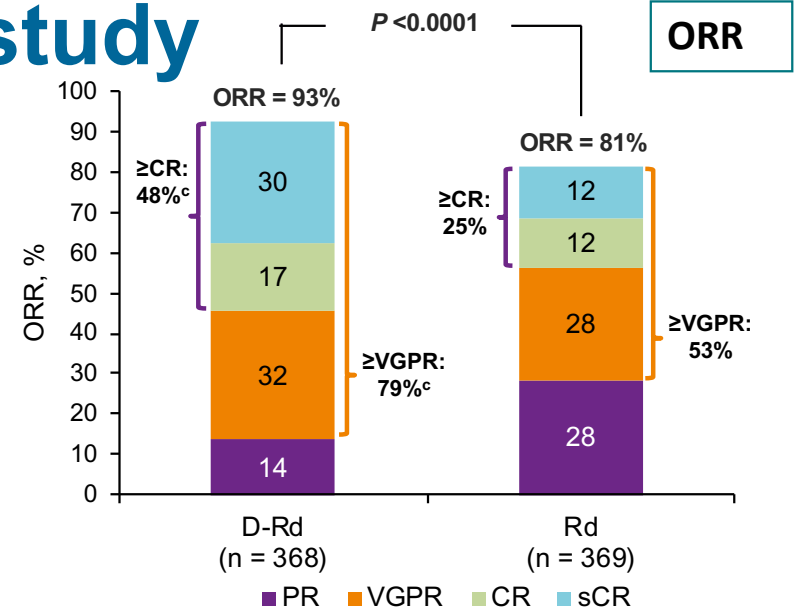
- 57% reduction in the risk of progression or death in patients receiving D-VMP vs VMP
- Significantly higher ORR, ≥VGPR rate, and ≥CR rate with D-VMP; >2-fold increase in sCR rate with D-VMP
- Deepening MRD-negative rate with longer follow-up for D-VMP

Daratumumab + Rd vs Rd: MAIA study



No. at risk	0	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30	33	36	39	42
Rd	369	332	307	280	254	236	219	200	149	94	50	18	3	2	0
D-Rd	368	347	335	320	309	300	290	271	203	146	86	35	11	1	0

- 44% reduction in the risk of progression or death in patients receiving D-Rd vs Rd
- Significantly higher ORR, \geq CR rate, \geq VGPR rate, and MRD-negative rate with D-Rd than Rd
- Safety profile is consistent with findings from POLLUX for D-Rd and the population evaluated in ALCYONE

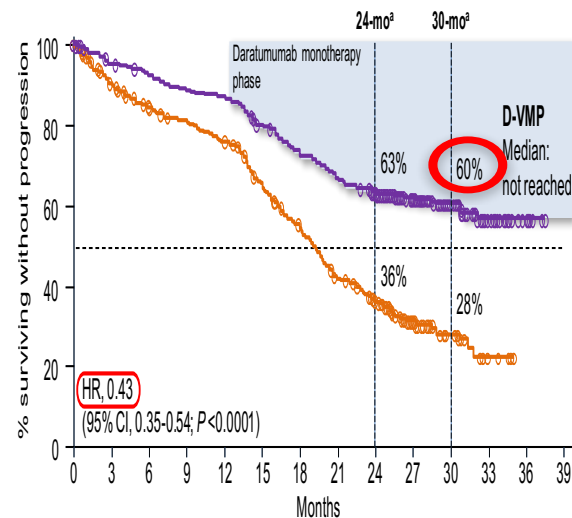


Three new SOC for NDMM patients non-eligible for ASCT

Dara VMP

ORR/CR
MRD-ve

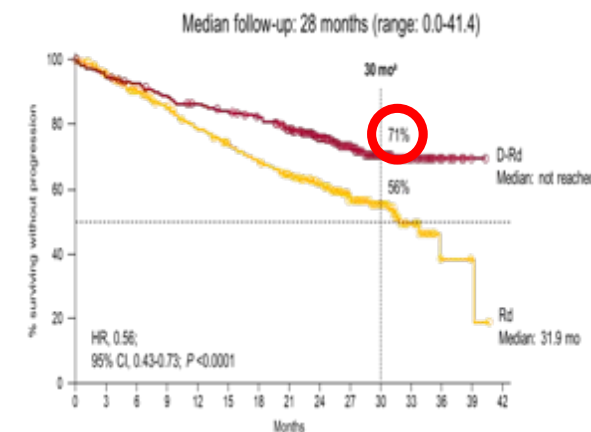
91%/45%
27%



No. at risk	0	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30	33	36	39
VMP	356	304	277	262	245	206	169	127	102	59	27	5	0	0
D-VMP	350	322	312	298	292	265	243	220	203	138	73	31	9	0

Dara Rd

93%/48%
24%



44% reduction in the risk of progression or death in patients receiving D-Rd

CI, confidence interval; HR, hazard ratio.

VRd

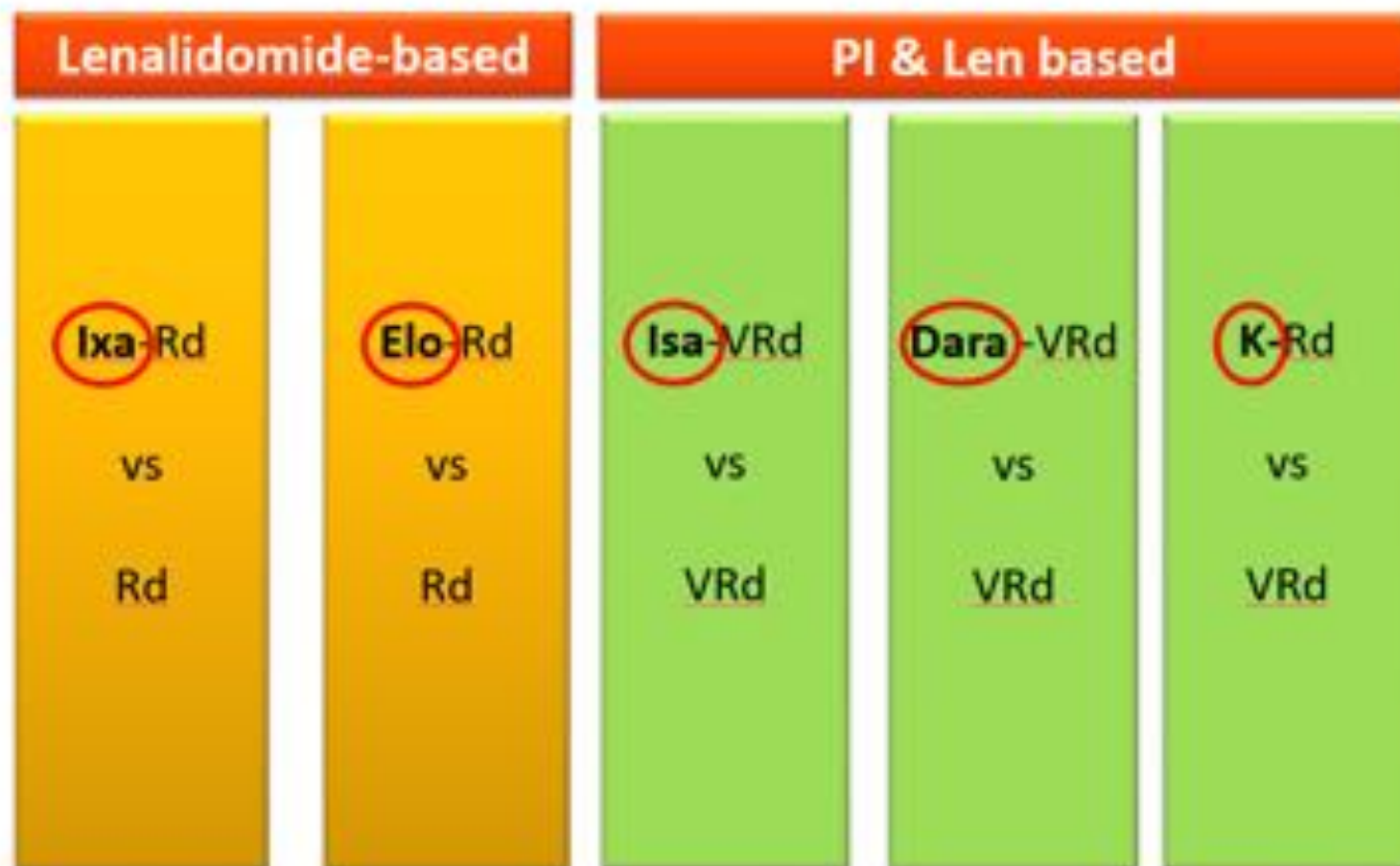
81%/16%
NA

Median PFS (months)

Age (years)	VRd	Rd
<65	48	34
≥65	34	24
>75	34	17

- VRd as SWOG will not be used but as VRd lite (few pts)
- DRd is better than DVMP in PFS but similar ORR, CR rate and MRD-ve
- DVMP might be optimized with V extended in combination with Dara ?
- High-risk CA pts remain a challenge

Future first line therapy in non-transplant eligible patients



clinicaltrials.gov identifiers: NCT02195479; NCT02252172; NCT01335399; NCT01850524; NCT03319667; NCT01863550

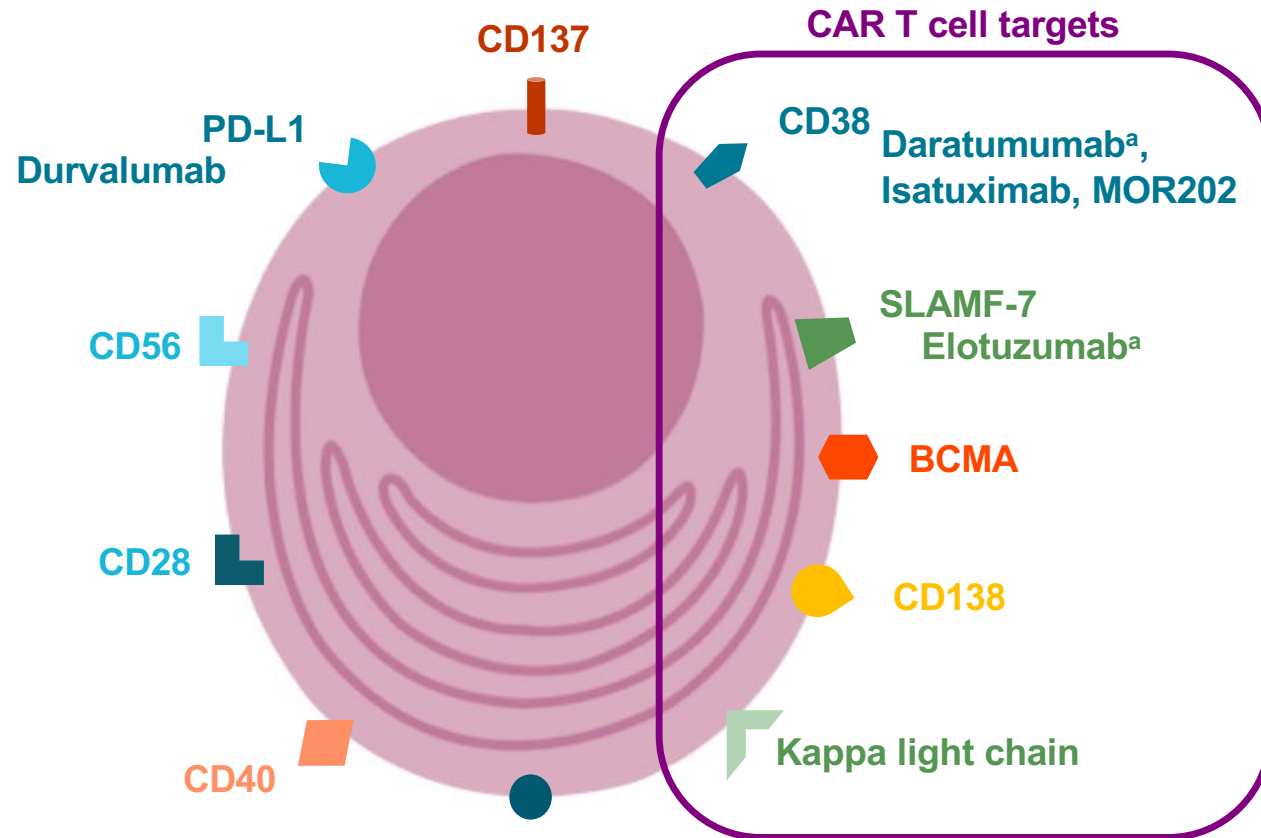
Surface antigens on clonal plasma cells



IL-6^a



RANKL^a

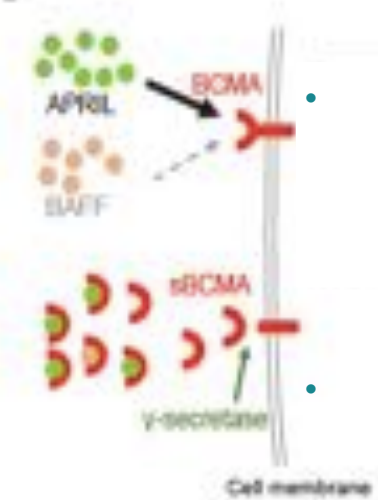
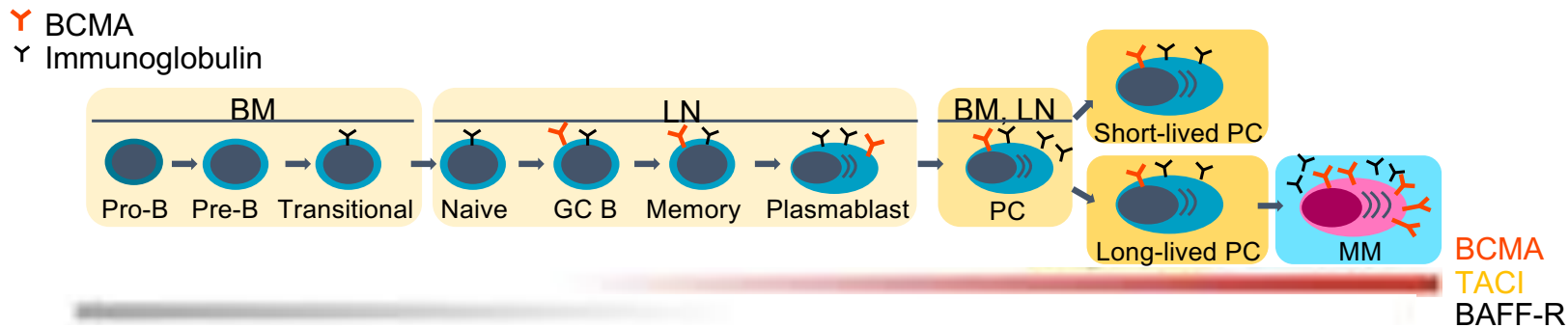


^a Approved by the FDA and EMA.

BCMA, B-cell maturation antigen; IL-6, interleukin-6; PD-L1, programmed cell death-ligand; RANKL, receptor activator of nuclear factor kappa-B ligand.

Bhatnagar V, et al. *Oncologist*. 2017;22:1347-53. Gormley NJ, et al. *Clin Cancer Res*. 2017;23:6759-63. Jelinek T, et al. *Front Immunol*. 2018;9:2431. Moreno L, et al. *Clin Cancer Res*. 2019;25:3176-87. Raab MS, et al. *Blood*. 2016;128:1152. Rawstron AC, et al. *Haematologica*. 2008;93:431-8.

BCMA: an ideal target for immunotherapy



- BCMA is an antigen expressed specifically on PCs and myeloma cells
 - higher expression in myeloma cells than normal PCs
 - key role in B-cell maturation and differentiation
 - promotes myeloma cell growth, chemoresistance, and immunosuppression in the BM microenvironment
- Expression of BCMA increases as the disease progresses from MGUS to advanced myeloma

APRIL, a proliferation-inducing ligand; BAFF-R, B-cell activating factor receptor; GC, germinal centre; LN, lymph node; MGUS, monoclonal gammopathy of unknown significance; sBCMA, soluble BCMA; TACI, transmembrane activator and CAML interactor.

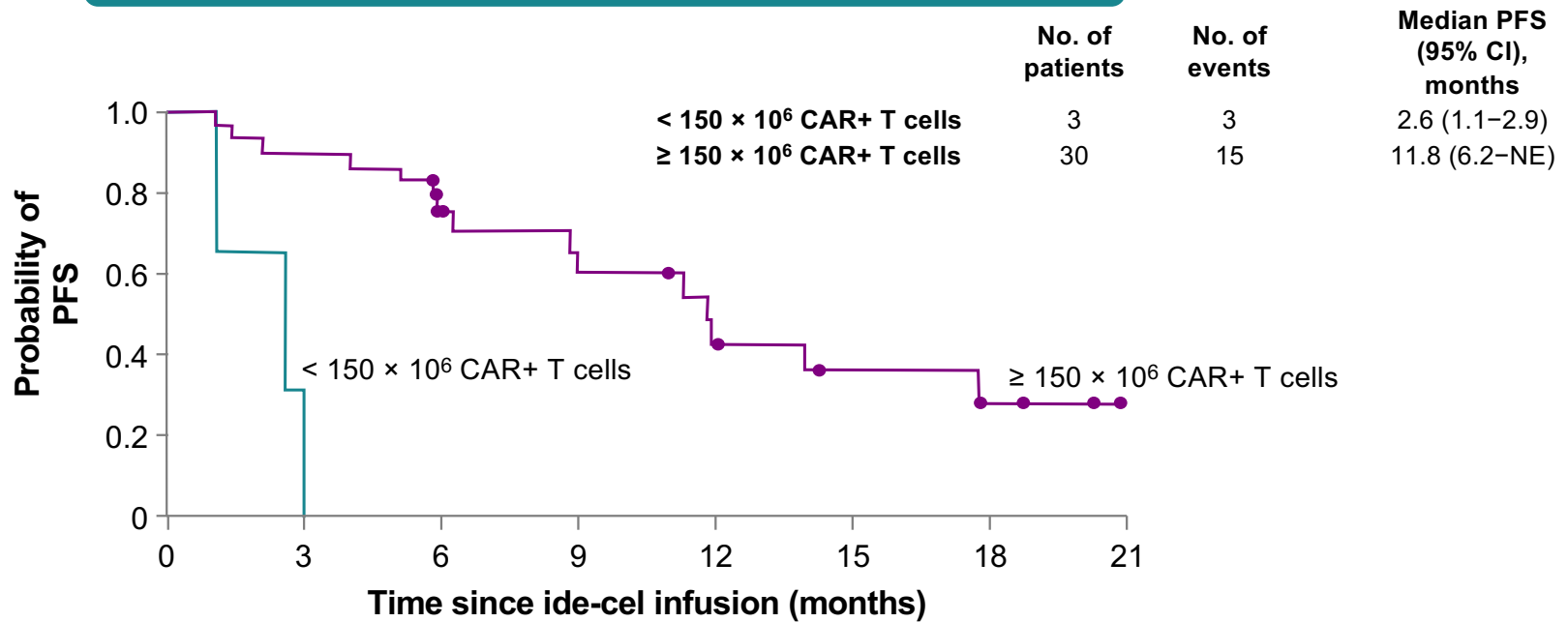
Cho SF, et al. Front Immunol. 2018;9:1821. Moreaux J, et al. Blood. 2004;103:3148-57. Sanchez E, et al. Br J Haematol. 2012;158:727-38.

CAR-T therapies targeting BCMA: intense field of clinical research

Agent	Target	Clinical Trial ID (Phase)	Recent Clinical Efficacy Data
CAR T Therapies in RRMM			
bb2121	BCMA	NCT02658929 (I)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • n = 43¹ (n = 18 efficacy evaluable patients) • ORR: 94% at $\geq 150 \times 10^6$ CAR T cells dose • CR/unconfirmed CR: 56% • mPFS: NR (6-month: 81%; 9-month: 71%)
bb21217	BCMA	NCT03274219 (I)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • n = approximately 50² (n = 7 efficacy evaluable patients) • ORR: 86% at 150×10^6 CAR T cells dose • \geqCR: 7%
JCARH125	BCMA	NCT03430011 (II)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • n = 19³ (n = 8 efficacy evaluable) • \geqCR: 67% (3 confirmed responses)
KITE-585	BCMA	NCT03318861 (I)	NA
LCAR-B38M	BCMA (bispitope)	NCT03090659 (I)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • n = 57⁴ • ORR: 68% • \geqCR: 74% • mPFS: 15 months • mOS: NR
MCARH171	BCMA	NA (I)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • n = 11⁵ • ORR: 64%
P-BCMA-101	BCMA	NCT03288493 (I)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • n = 12⁶ (n = 6 efficacy evaluable patients) • ORR: 83% • \geqCR: 17%

Ide-cel CRB-401 phase 1 trial: PFS

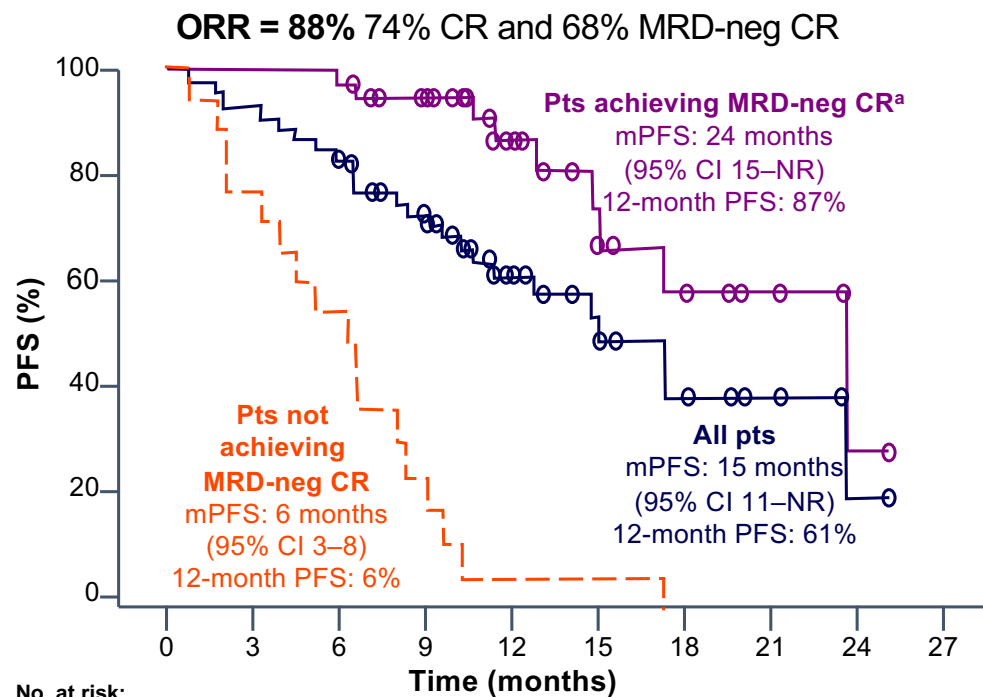
PFS at $< 150 \times 10^6$ and $\geq 150 \times 10^6$ CAR T cells



No. at risk

$< 150 \times 10^6$ CAR+ T cells	3	3	2	0																		
$\geq 150 \times 10^6$ CAR+ T cells	30	30	28	27	26	26	17	14	14	12	12	11	8	7	6	5	5	5	3	2	2	0

LCAR-B38M: Legend Biotech phase 1 trial - updated single-centre experience (LEGEND 2)



- **CAR T cells:** $0.07\text{--}2.1 \times 10^6$
 Median dose: 0.5×10^6 cells/kg
- **Split infusion:** Day 1 20%, Day 3 30%, Day 7 50%
- **Conditioning:** Cyclophosphamide 300 mg/m^2

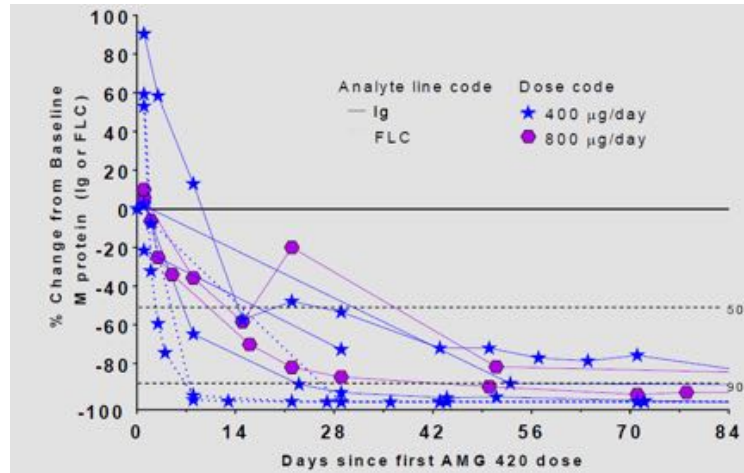
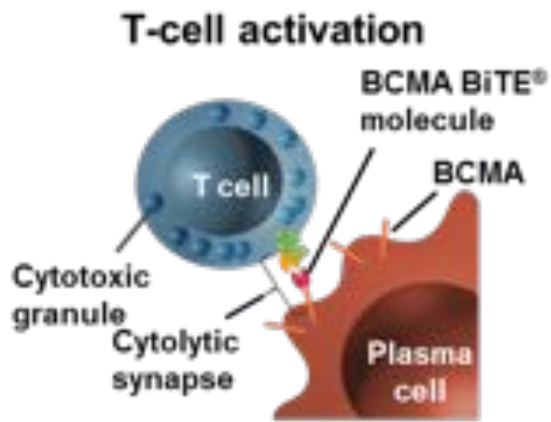
- mDOR = 16 months (95% CI 12–NR)
- mDOR for MRD-neg CR: 22 months (95% CI 14–NR)
- 12-month OS: 75%; 94% for patients achieving MRD-neg CR
- Patients not achieving MRD-neg CR had poor outcome: mPFS 6 months, mOS 8 months, 12-month OS 29%

Toxicity profile

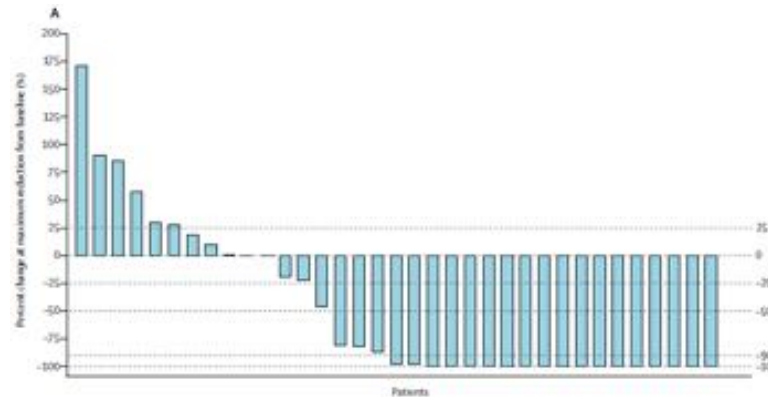
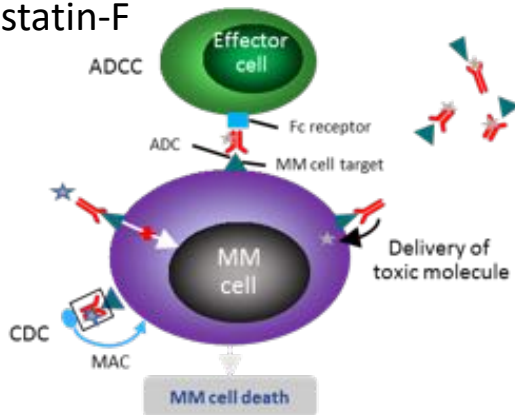
- 35% grade 2 CRS; 7% grade 3; no grade 4
- TOZ use: 46%

New mAbs (bispecific and drug conjugate) targeting BCMA

- **BiTEs: AMG 420**, binds BCMA on tumor cells and plasma cells and CD3 on T cells



- **BCMA-antibody drug conjugate: GSK2857916**, humanized, IgG1 anti-BCMA antibody conjugated to monomethyl Auristatin-F



Conclusions

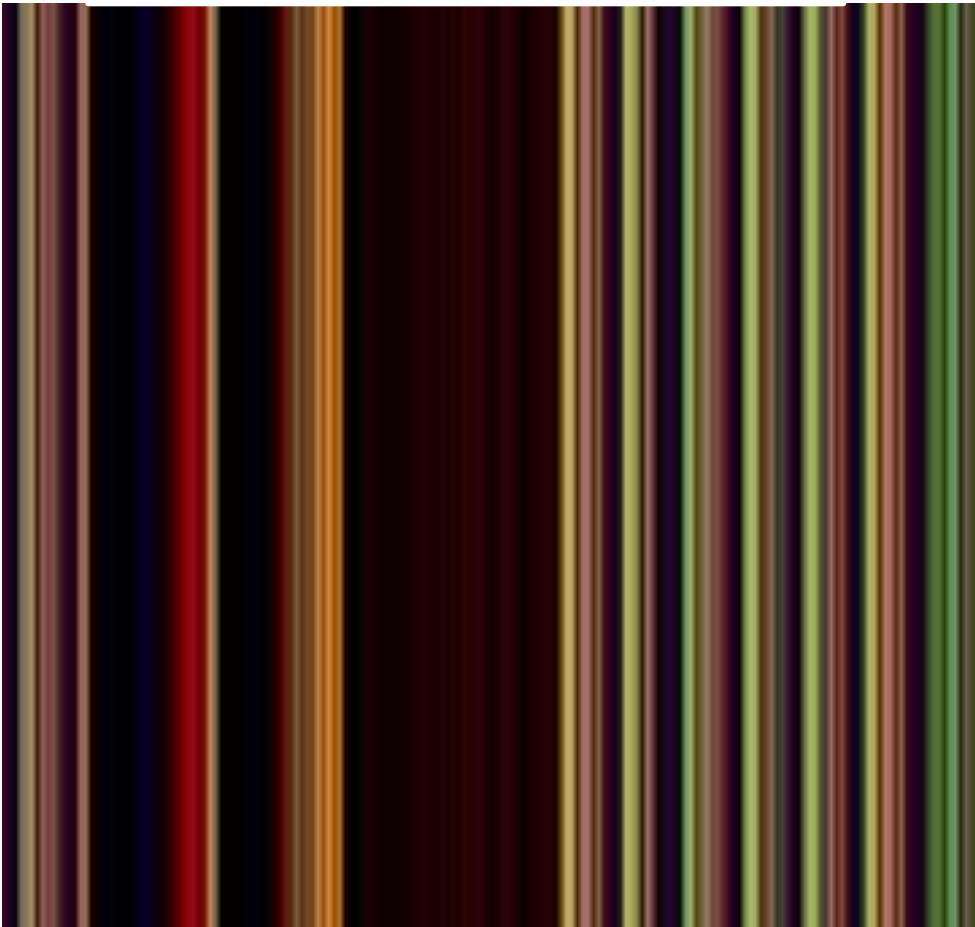
- First line therapy influences treatment options at subsequent relapse
- Switch of class is a paradigm in treatment sequencing for RRMM
- Patients at first relapse will be more frequently len-refractory and dara-refractory, and this is a challenge
- Novel pom-based and carf-based triplets incorporating an anti-CD38 mAb are under evaluation and will be available very soon
- Triplets and quadruplets incorporating an anti-CD38 mAb will become the new SoC for NDMM
- CAR-T and BiTes, actually explored in advanced phases of the disease, will move in earlier phases and in adequately selected patients

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