



# Il futuro dello scenario terapeutico della LAL

Renato Bassan

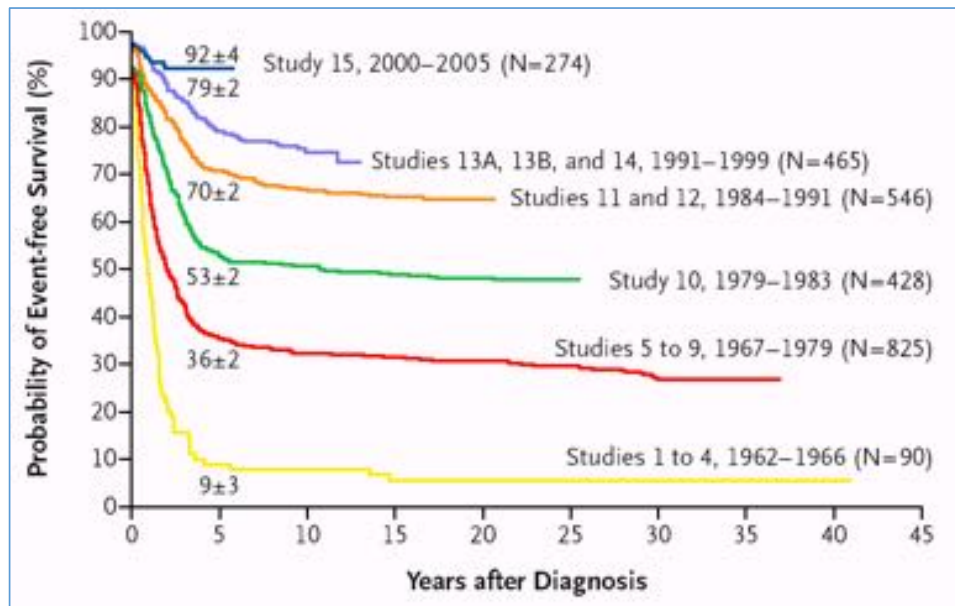
UOC Ematologia, Ospedale dell'Angelo,

Mestre – Venezia



# There was a future ...

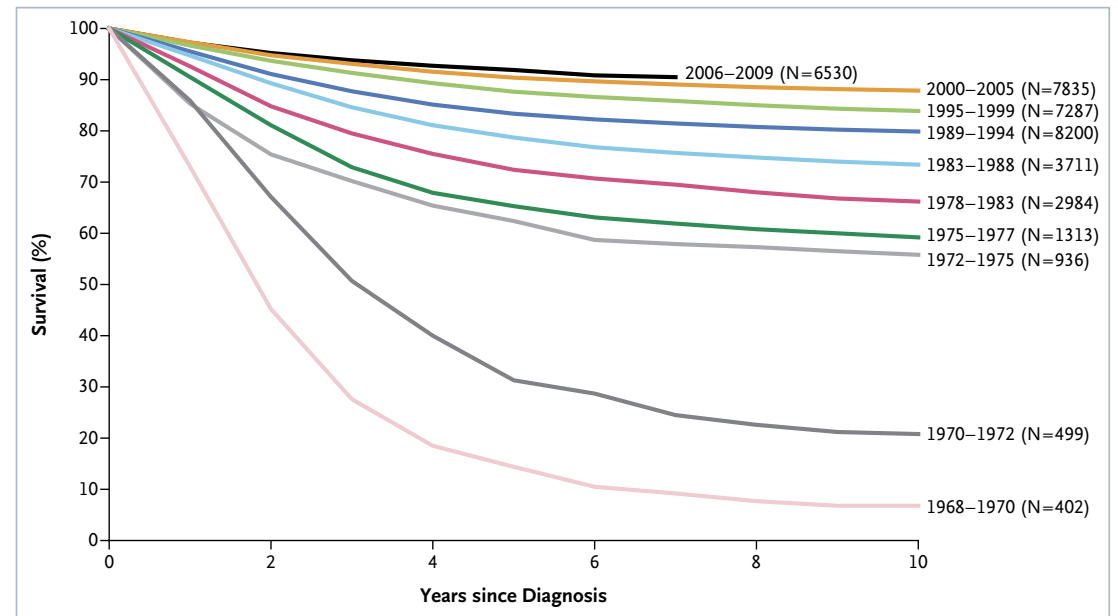
## St. Jude's Hospital



2628 children, 6 trials

C-H Pui. *Semin Hematol* 50:185–196. 2013

## CCG/COG



39.697 children, 10 trials

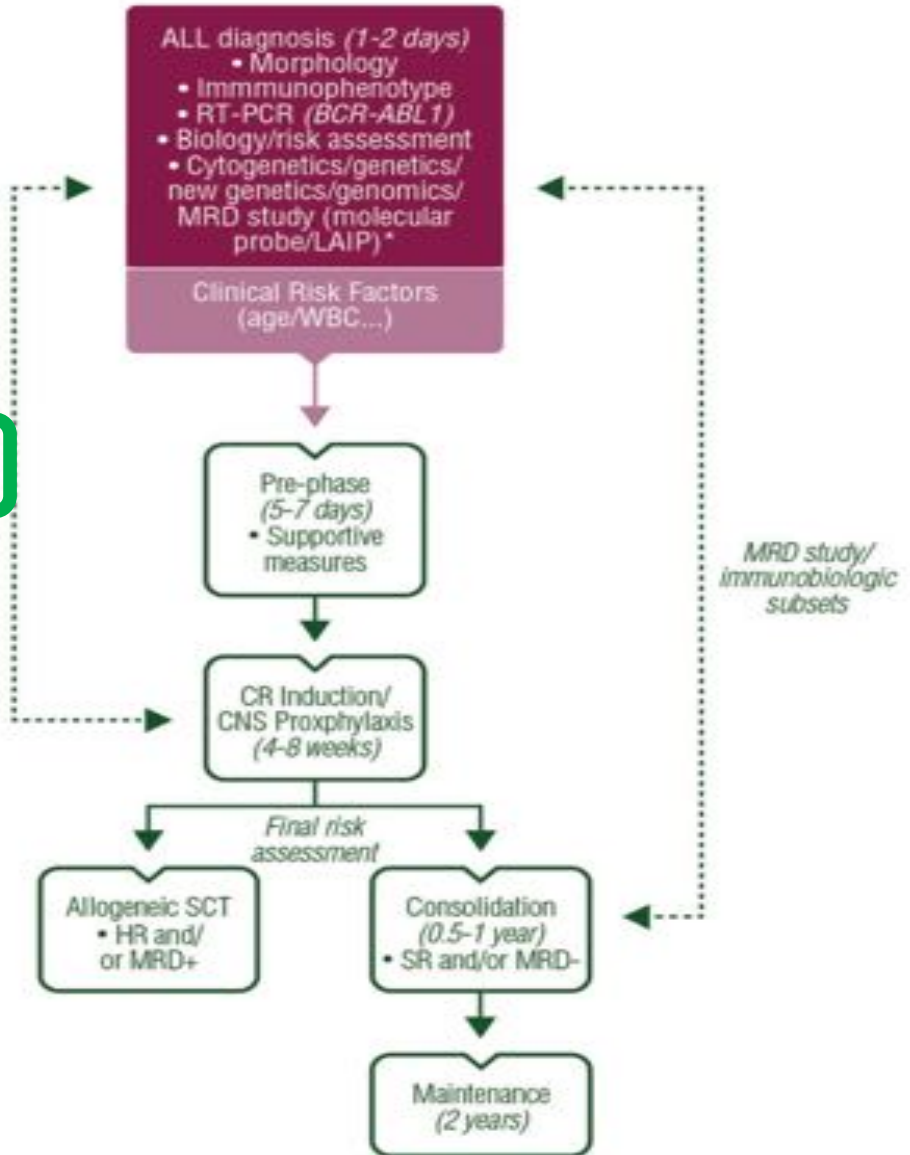
SP Hunger, CG Mullighan. *N Engl J Med* 373:1541-1552. 2015

# Essential steps in adult ALL

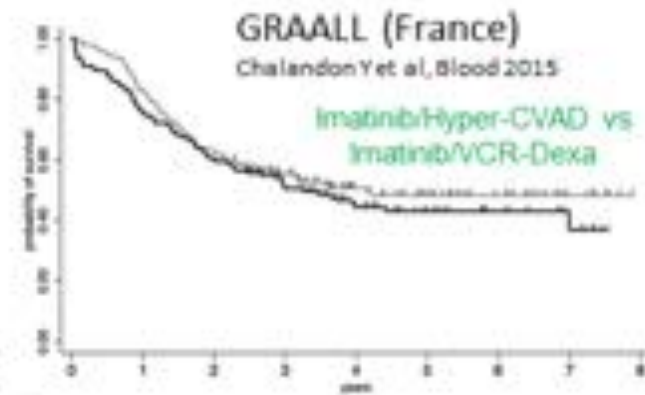
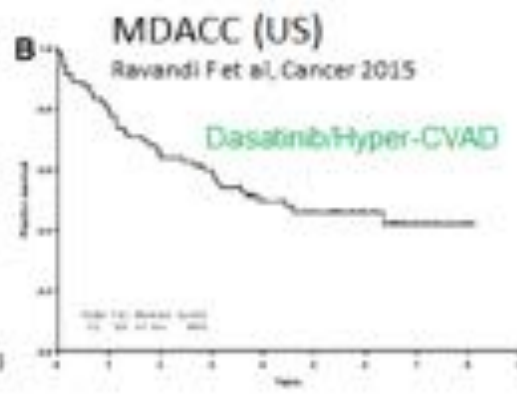
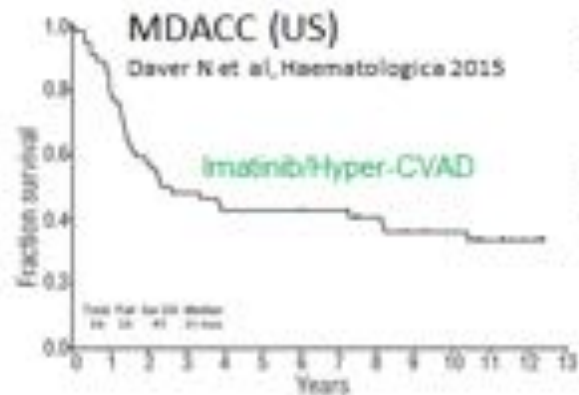
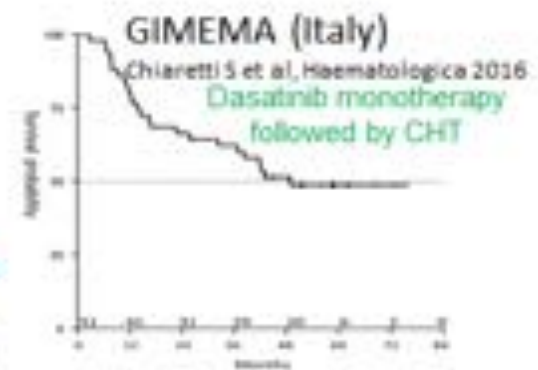
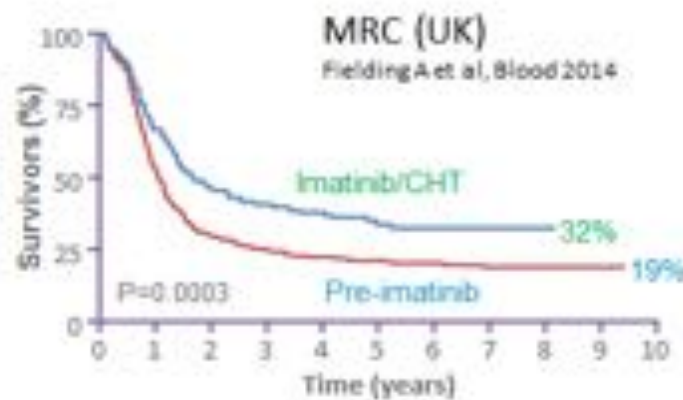
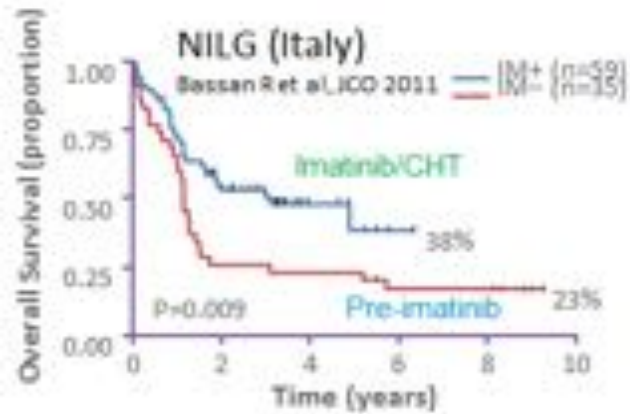
## ESMO Clinical Practice Guidelines

**ALL SUBSETS and TARGETS**  
(TKI [Ph+], monoclonals, ...)

Targeted therapy  
/monoclonals



# Ph+ ALL: progress with TKI therapy



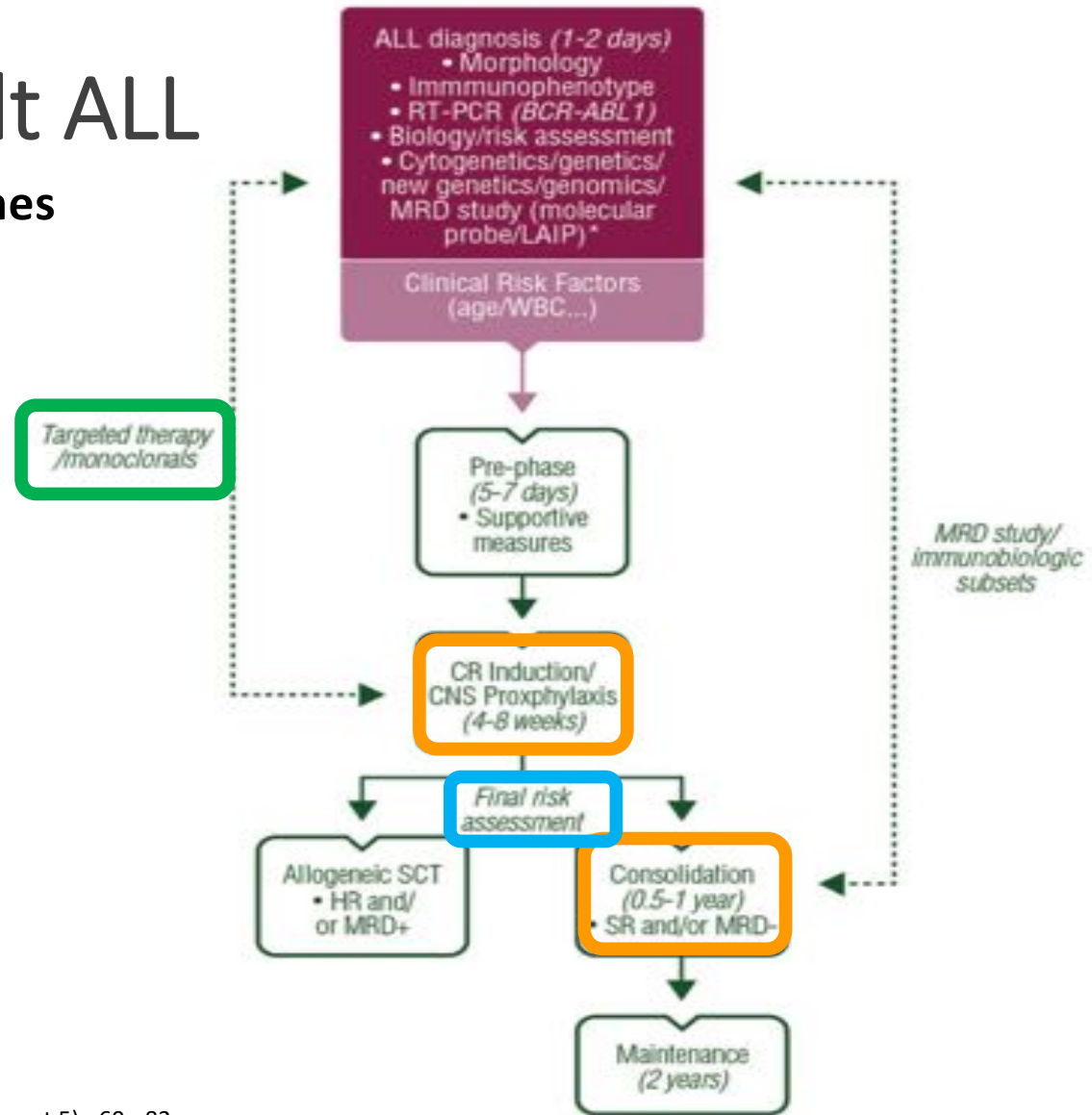
# Essential steps in adult ALL

## ESMO Clinical Practice Guidelines

**ALL SUBSETS and TARGETS**  
(TKI [Ph+], monoclonals, ...)

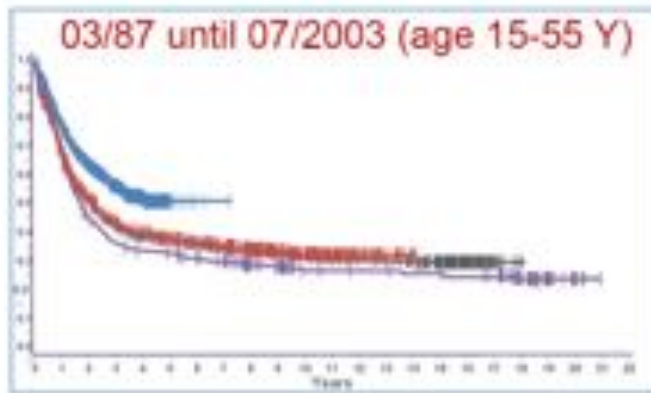
**RISK STRATIFICATION**  
(MRD and genetics)

**CHEMOTHERAPY**  
(pediatric-based [Ph-])

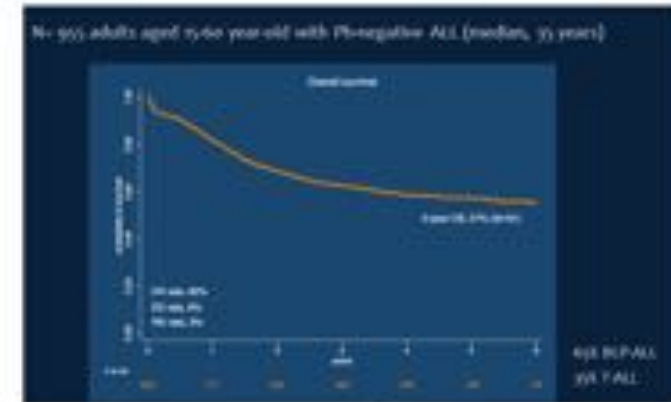


# Ph- ALL: progress with 'pediatric'-based and risk-oriented therapy

Germany: GMALL trials 03 - 07



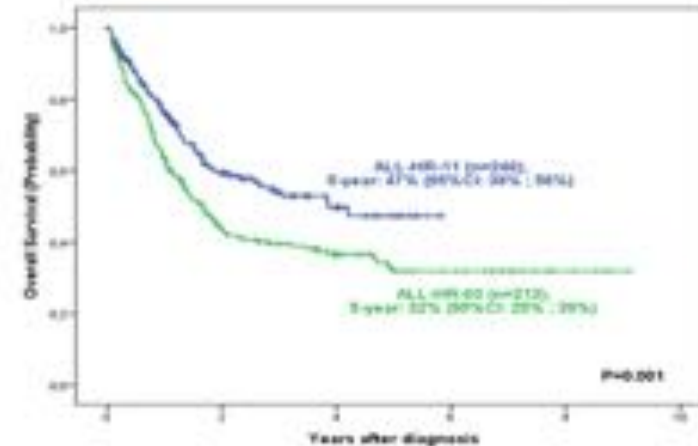
France: GRAALL trials 2003 - 2005



Italy: NILG trials 09/00 - 10/07

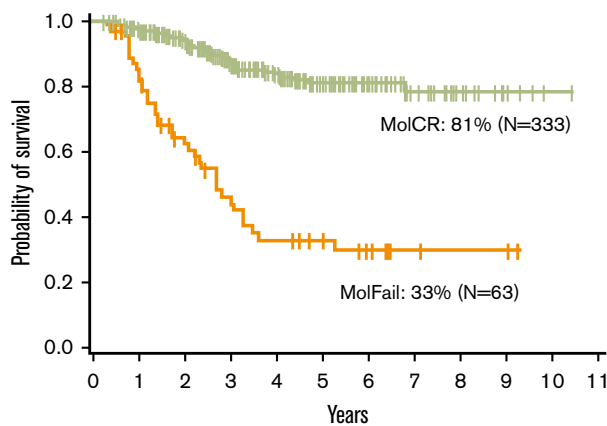


Spain: PETHEMA trials HR-03 - HR-11

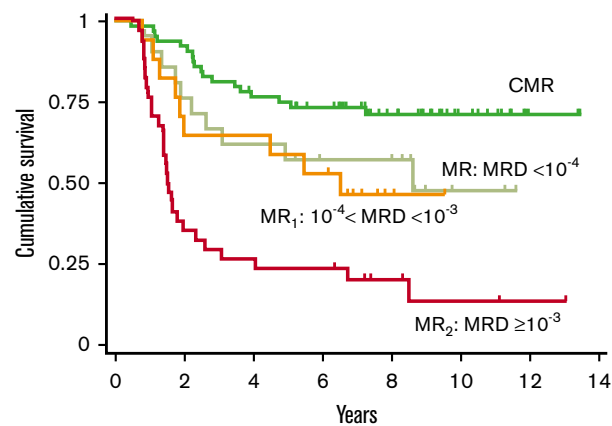


# Risk stratification for risk-oriented therapy: MRD

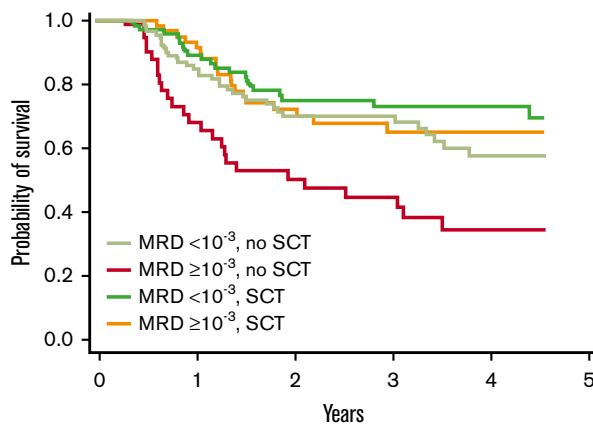
**A GMALL**



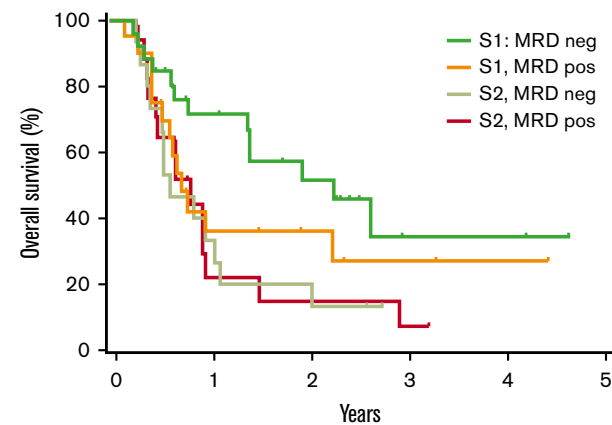
**B NILG**



**C GRAALL**



**D MDACC**



## These and other studies:

- **MRD most/only significant risk factor in M/V analysis**
- **MRD- pts do better**
  - can do without allo-SCT
- **MRD+ pts do worse**
  - (both CR1 and salvage 1)
  - benefit from allo-SCT
  - MRD  $\geq 10^{-3}$  is the worst

### reviewed in:

Bruggemann M and Kotrova M, *Blood Adv* 2017

### see also:

Goekbuget N et al, *Blood* 2017 (abstr)

Bassan R et al, *Clin Lymph Myeloma Leuk* 2017

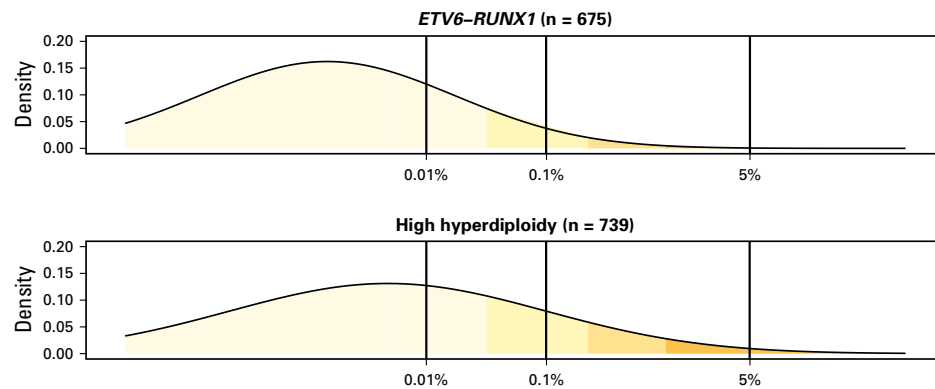
Berry DA et al, *JAMA Oncol* 2017

Bassan R, Bruggemann M et al, *Haematologica* 2019

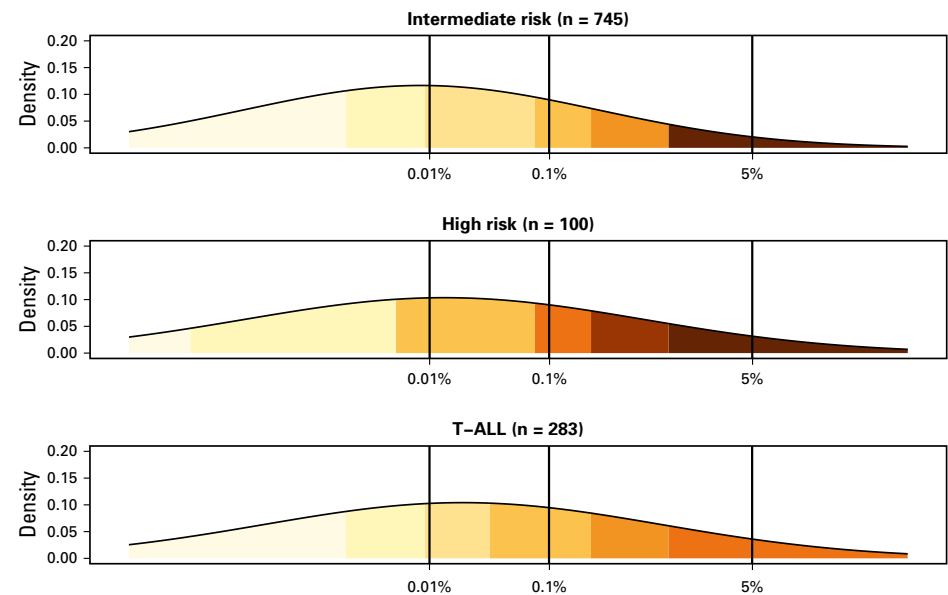
# Mixed genetic/MRD pediatric risk model

(O'Connor D et al, *J Clin Oncol* 2018)

## Good risk



## Intermediate risk, High risk



## T-ALL



Increasing Relapse Rate at 5 Years (1%–45%)



# Genetic risk classification: UKALL14 adult trial

(also pediatric UKALL, DCOG, NOPHO, CoALL etc. [ALL-together project, age 1-45 Y])

## GENETIC CLASSIFICATION

### Good risk:

*ETV6-RUNX1*,  
high hyperdiploidy (51-65)

### Intermediate risk:

*TCF3-PBX1*,  
all other cases *reclassified*  
according to **CNA**

### High risk:

*KMT2A (MLL)* rearranged,  
near haploidy/low hypodiploidy  
( $<40$ ), *iAMP21*,  
*TCF3-HLF*,  
complex karyotype

#### Good-risk CNA profile: Group A

No deletion of *IKZF1*, *CDKN2A/B*, *PAR1*, *BTG1*, *EBF1*, *PAX5*, *ETV6*, and *RB1*. Isolated deletions of *ETV6*, *PAX5*, *BTG1*. *ETV6* deletions with a single additional deletion of *BTG1*, *PAX5*, and *CDKN2A/B*.

#### Intermediate/poor-risk CNA profile: Group B

Any deletion of *IKZF1*, *PAR1*, *EBF1*, or *RB1*. All other CNA profiles not mentioned above.

# Risk stratification (PI<sub>UKALL</sub> score)

TWO WEIGHTED LOG-TRANSFORMED CONTINUOUS VARIABLES

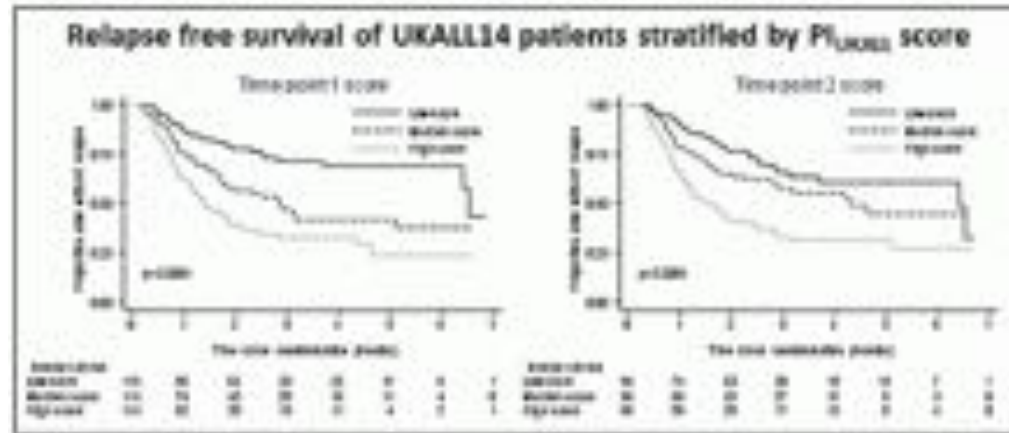
- WBC
- End of induction MRD (PI1, PI2)

TWO WEIGHTED BINARY VARIABLES

- High risk genetics
- Good risk genetics

**High relapse risk with MAC SCT  
(N=53, RR 42%)**

**Excellent outcome on chemo  
(N=51, EFS 90%)**



Selected examples of how PI<sub>UKALL</sub> can be used to identify patients on the same treatment pathway who have differential outcomes

	Hazard ratio (95% CI)	3 years rates (95% CI)	p value
Risk of relapse after myeloablative alloSCT (n=53)			
PI2 score ≤ -1.5	1	5% (1-19)	0.006
PI2 score > -1.5	11.1 (2-62)	42% (18-78)	
Event free survival (EFS) after RIC alloSCT (n=105)			
PI2 score ≤ -2.0	1	62% (45-75)	0.004
PI2 score > -2.0	2.3 (1.3-4.1)	31% (17-46)	
EFS of standard risk patients after maintenance chemotherapy (n=51)			
PI1 score ≤ -2.25	1	90% (66-98)	0.041
PI1 score > -2.25	5.1 (1.1-24.3)	71% (45-86)	

<sup>2</sup>Moorman A et al, *HemaSphere* 2019;3(S1):748-9 (abstr #S1621)

# What about the future?

Germany: GMALL trials 03 - 07



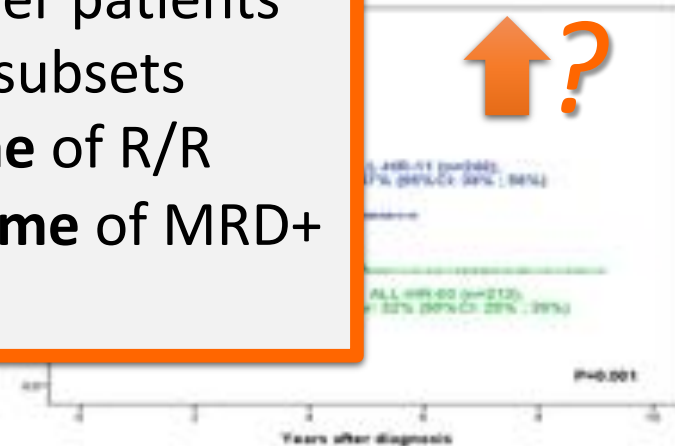
France: GRAALL trials 2003 - 2005



Italy: NILG trials 03 - 07



France: PETHEMA trials HR-03 - HR-11



- !/? Treatment intensity cannot be increased
- !/? No new chemo agent
- !/? TRM still high with SCT
- !/? Poor results in older patients
- !/? Prevalence of HR subsets
- !/? Very poor outcome of R/R
- !/? Suboptimal outcome of MRD+

# Approach: new targeted therapy frontline

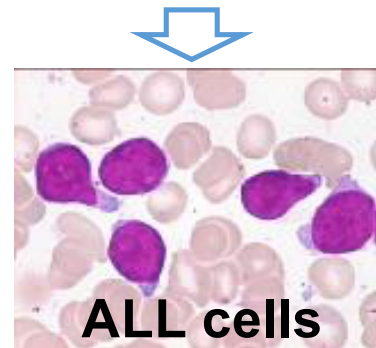
## Targeting B-/T-cell membrane antigens

- **Monoclonal antibodies and derivatives** (e.g. rituximab [CD20], inotuzumab ozogamicin [CD22], blinatumomab [CD19 x CD3])
- **Chimeric antigen receptor T-cells and NK-cells** (CD19, CD20, CD22; CD5, CD7)
- **Checkpoint inhibitors** (e.g. nivolumab, pembrolizumab [PD1, PD-L1])

Targeting proliferation, apoptosis and differentiation pathways

Dysfunctions related to abnormal ALL genetics and CNA

- **Inhibitors** (TKI, NOTCH1, BCL2/BCX, BCL6, JAK/STAT, HDAC, MYC, mTOR, PI3K, SYK, MEK, MDM2...)
- **Agonists** (P53, SMAC-mimetics, ...)
- **Differentiating agents** (IL-3, M-/GM-CSF)



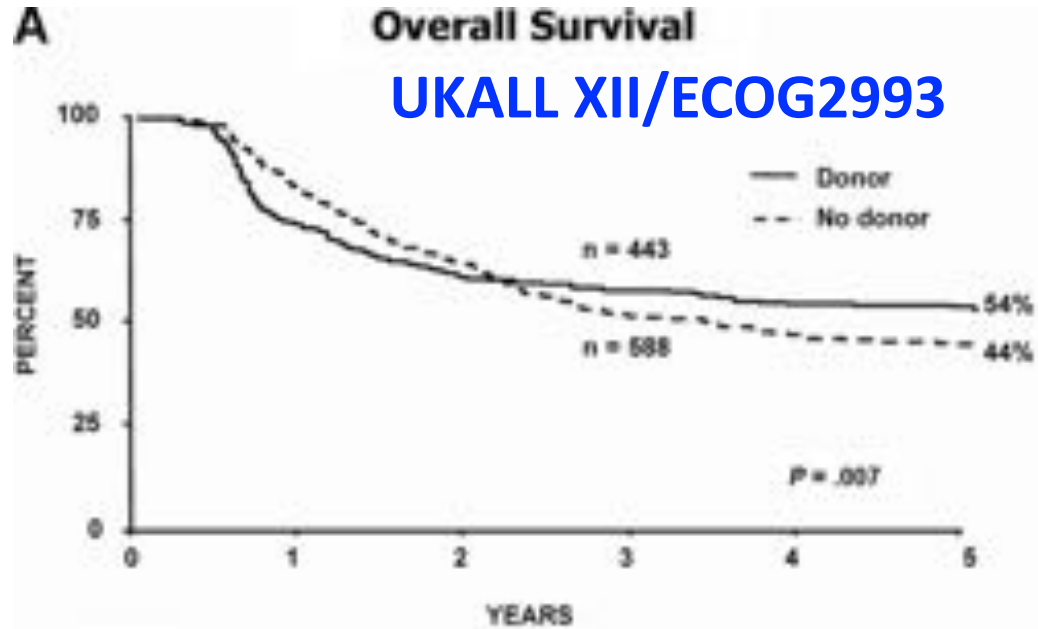
- **Inhibitors** (CXCR/CXCL, NOTCH3/4)

Targeting the permissive marrow niche

**Molecular profiling**  
• Actionable targets

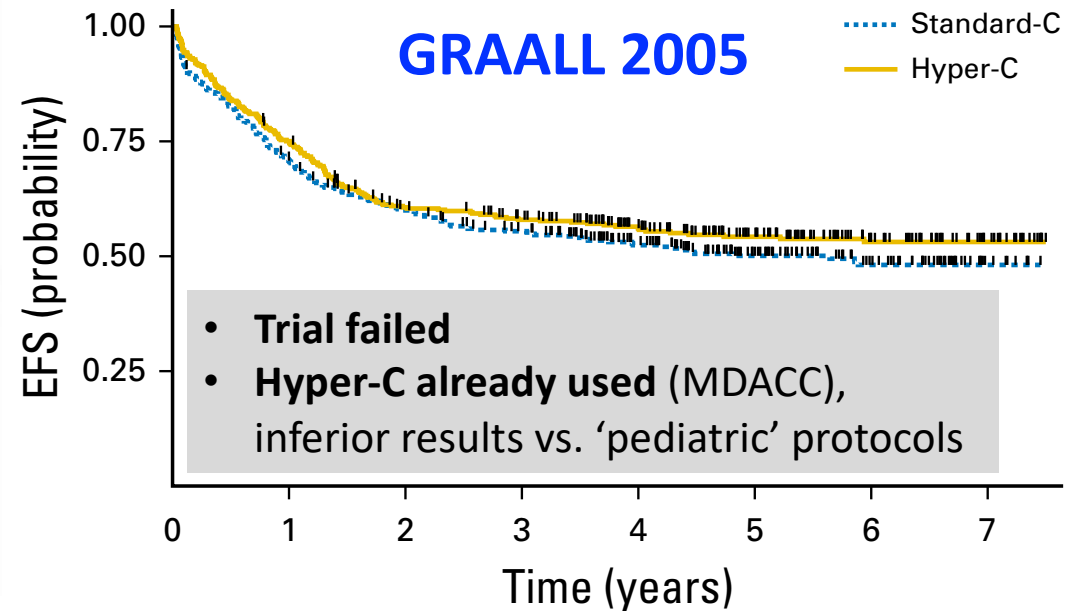
**New drug profiling, PDX models**  
• Drug sensitivity  
• Drug combinations

# Questions about randomized trials



- Superiority of allo-SCT in SR ALL
- Allo-SCT abandoned in SR ALL (MRD-based), applied in HR ALL (not UKALL-ECOG defined)

N = **1.031**; 1993 → 2008 (**13 Y**)

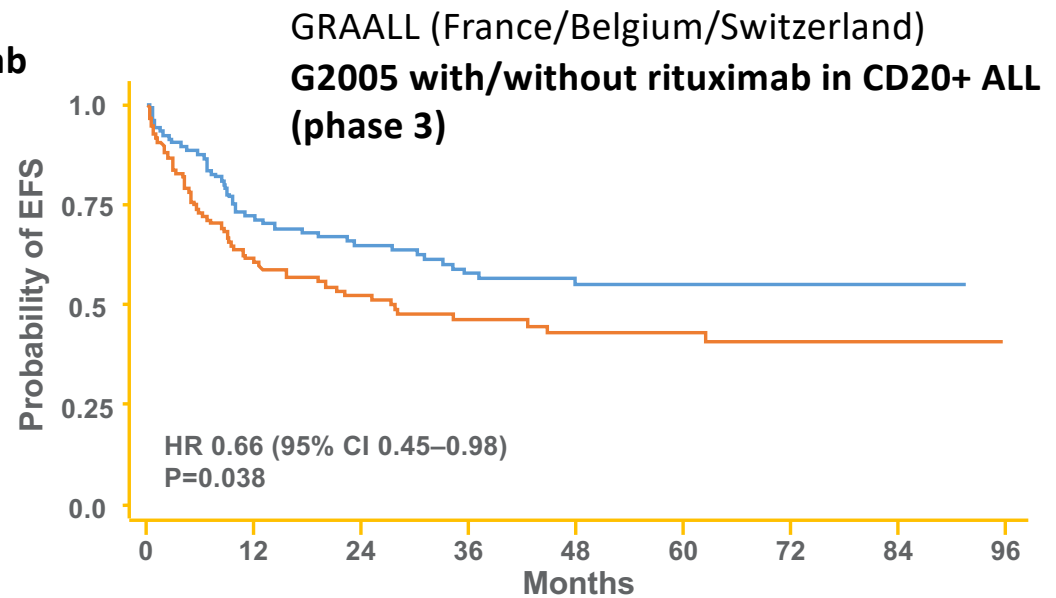
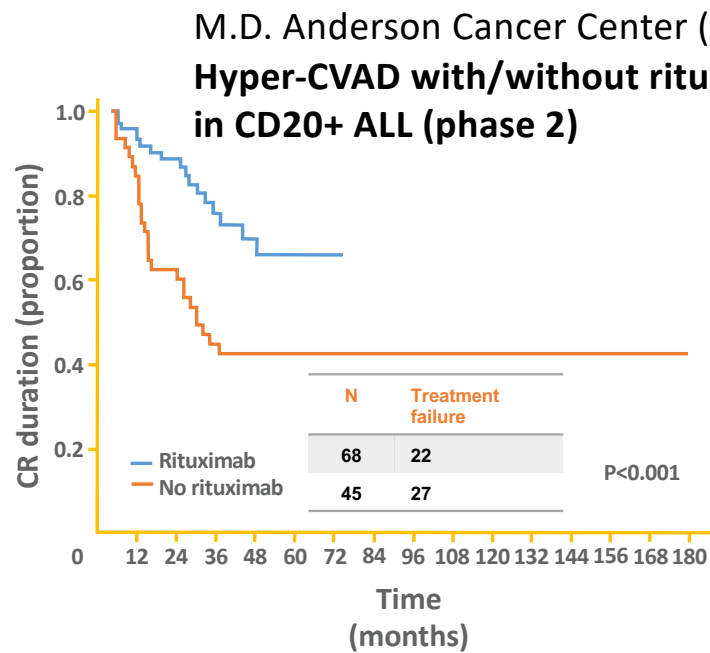


No. at risk:

Standard-C	398	279	228	200	155	104	67	32
Hyper-C	389	290	226	208	165	120	76	46

N = **787**; 2005 → 2018 (**13 Y**)

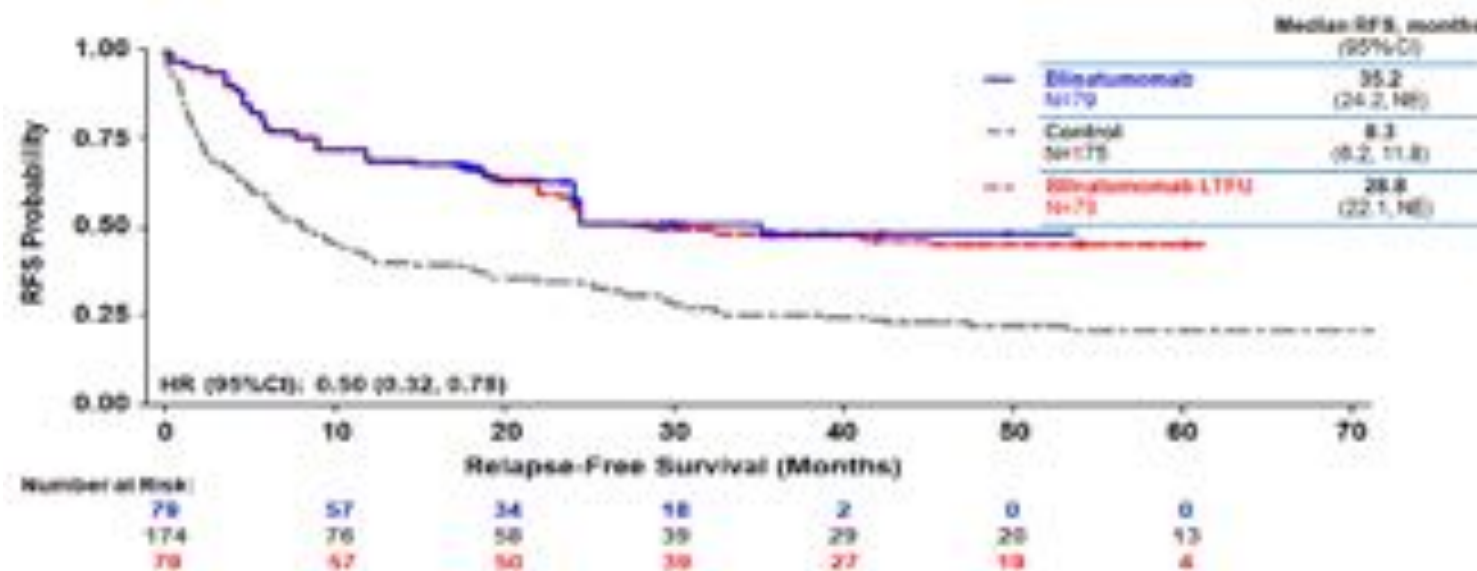
# Targeting CD20+ ALL (rituximab)



# Blinatumomab for MRD+ Ph-neg BCP-ALL\*

## Blinatumomab (#79) compared to historical SOC (#175)

- Patients in first CR with MRD  $\geq 10^{-3}$ : **79% MRD negative with blinatumomab**
- Kaplan–Meier curve of RFS after propensity score adjustment using stabilized inverse probability of treatment weighting (IPTW)



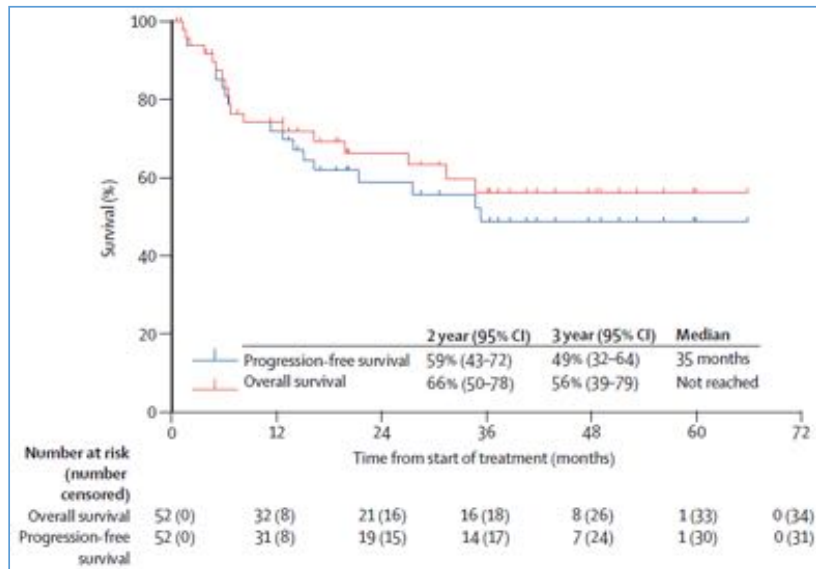
**\*LARGER TRIAL («Blast») IN MRD+ ALL vs. international reference set MRD+  $\geq 10^{-3}$**

Goekbuget N et al, ASH 2015; Blood 2017; Hematology 2019; (submitted 2019)

# Inotuzumab ozogamicin with/without blitamumomab and rituximab in elderly ALL

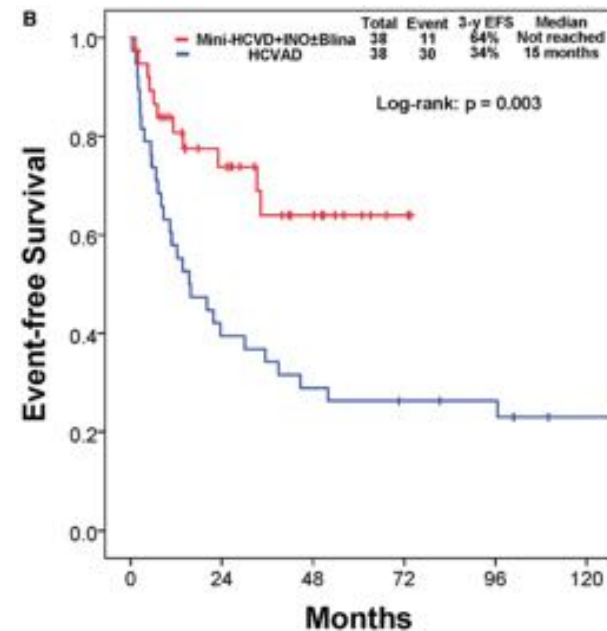
## Attenuated CVD/**InO**/rituximab

<b>N</b>	52
<b>Age (Y)</b>	68 (64-72)
<b>CR</b>	98%
<b>MRD neg</b>	96%



## Attenuated CVD/**InO**/blina/ritux

<b>N</b>	58
<b>Age (Y)</b>	68 (60-81)
<b>CR</b>	98%
<b>MRD neg</b>	-



Kantarjian HM et al, *Lancet Oncol* 2018; Jabbour EJ et al, *Cancer* 2019



# Platform for drug sensitivity screening

Primary ALL sample  
(patient)



Xenograft  
model  
(PDX)

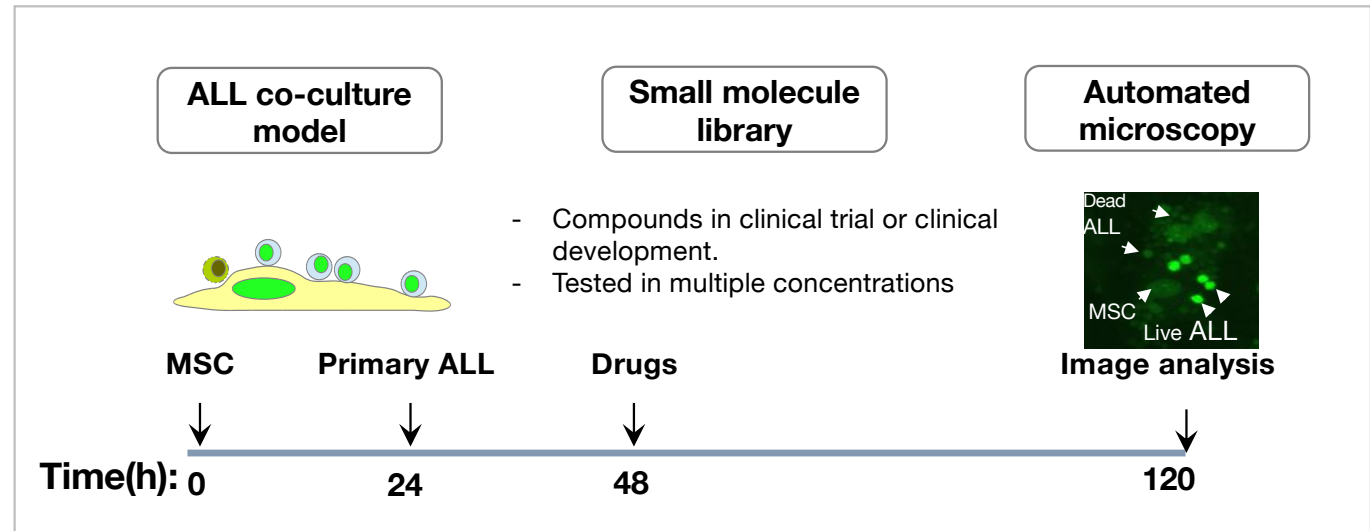


Stable disease geno-  
and phenotype

**Functional “Omics”  
In vivo drug activity**

*Blood* 2011, 2013

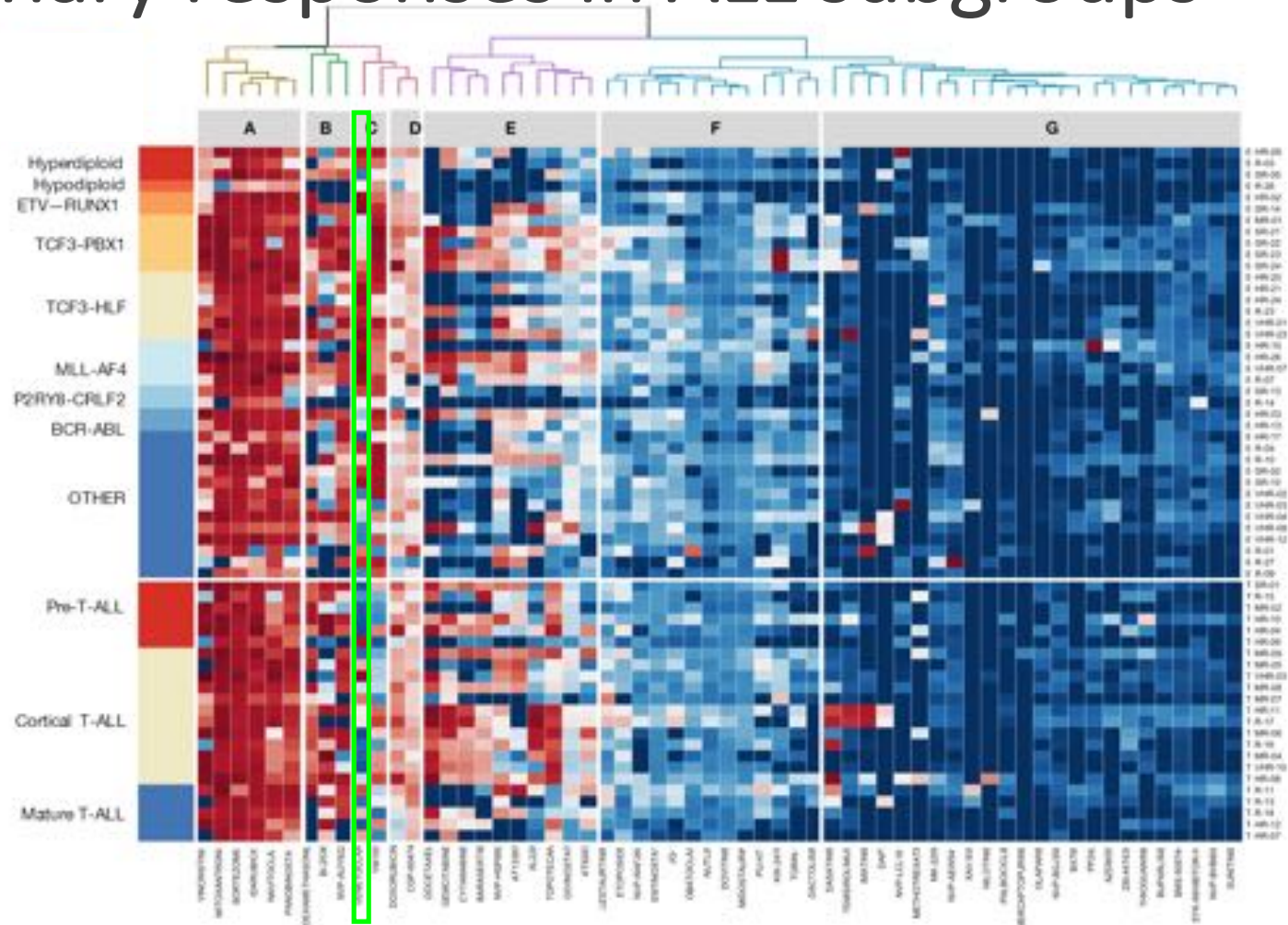
*Science Translational Medicine* 2016



**Drug response phenotypes**

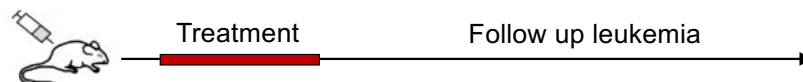
*Oncotarget* 2014, *Blood* 2017, *Nature Genetics* 2016

# Extraordinary responses in ALL subgroups



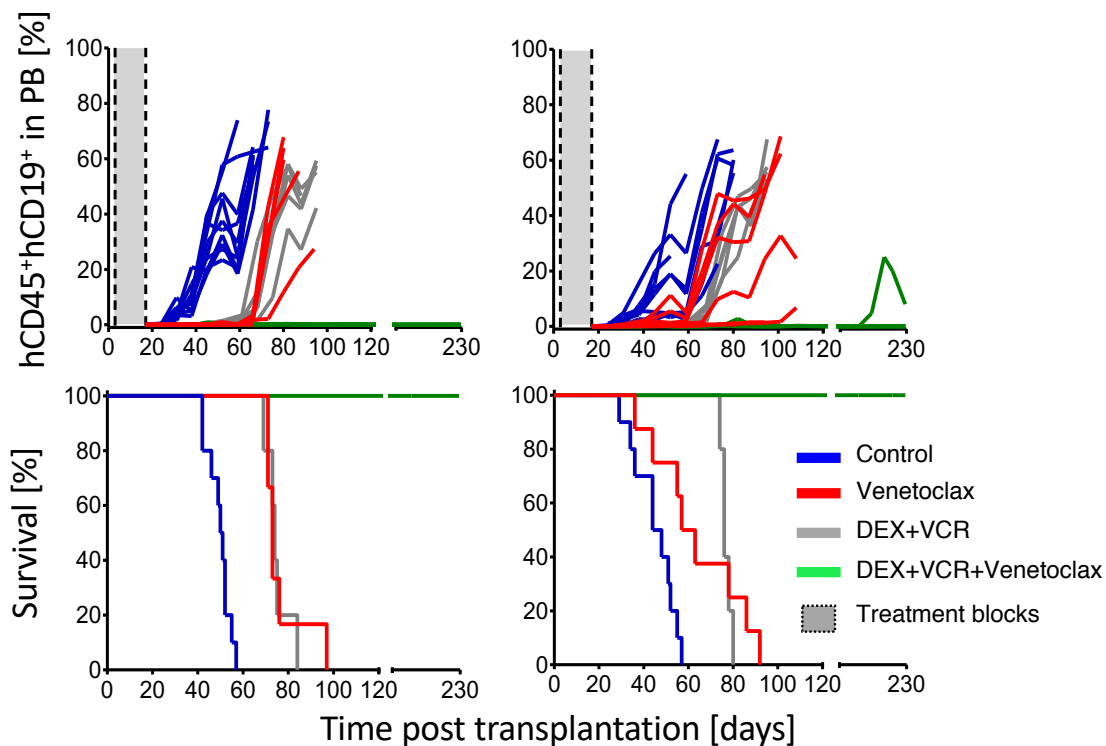
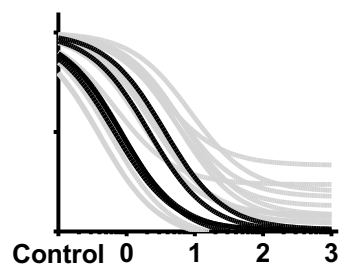
BCL2 inhibitor venetoclax

# Venetoclax eliminates ALL in combination with chemotherapy

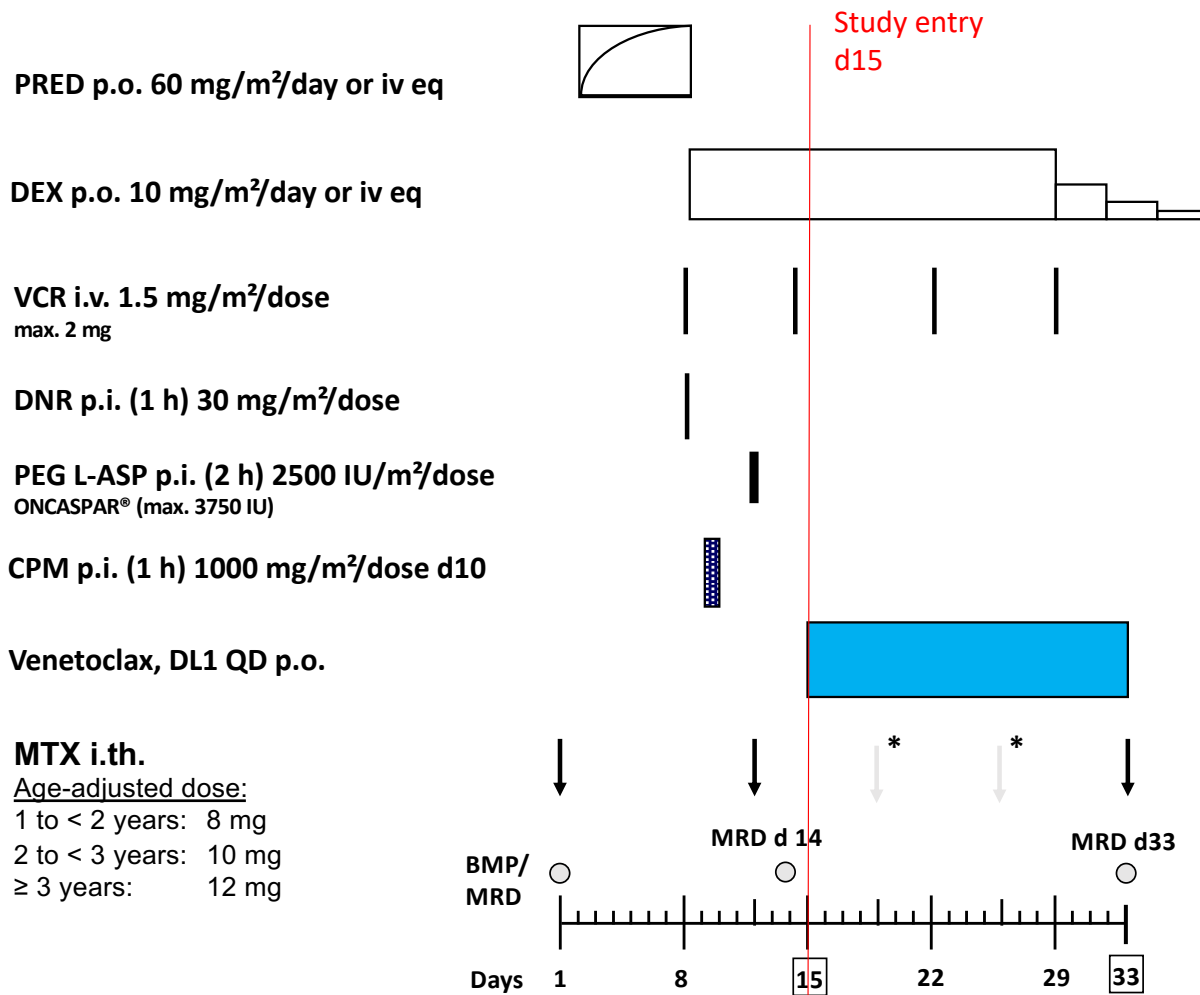


TCF3-HLF ALL

Venetoclax In vitro

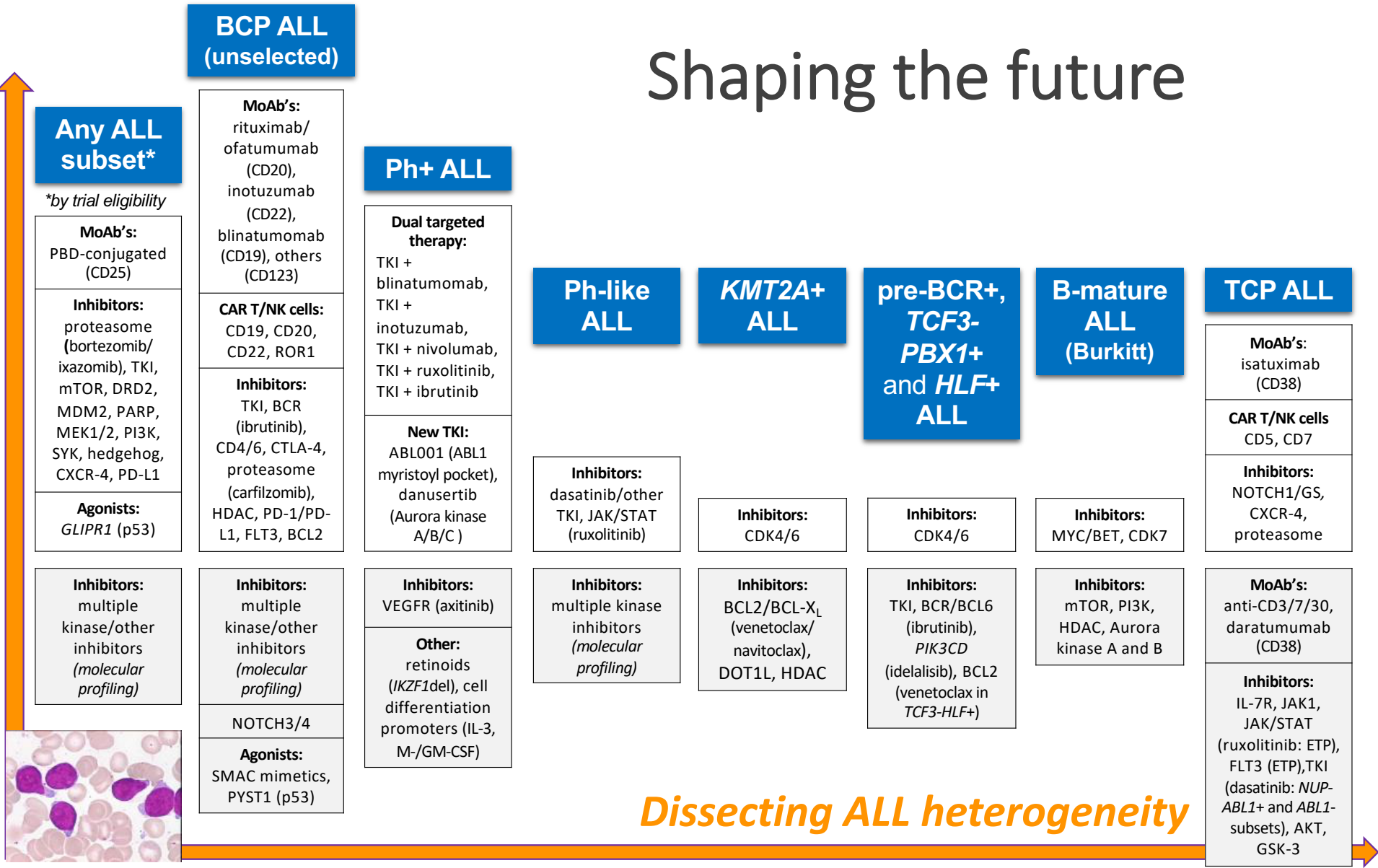


# Concept for TCF3-HLF ALL



# Shaping the future

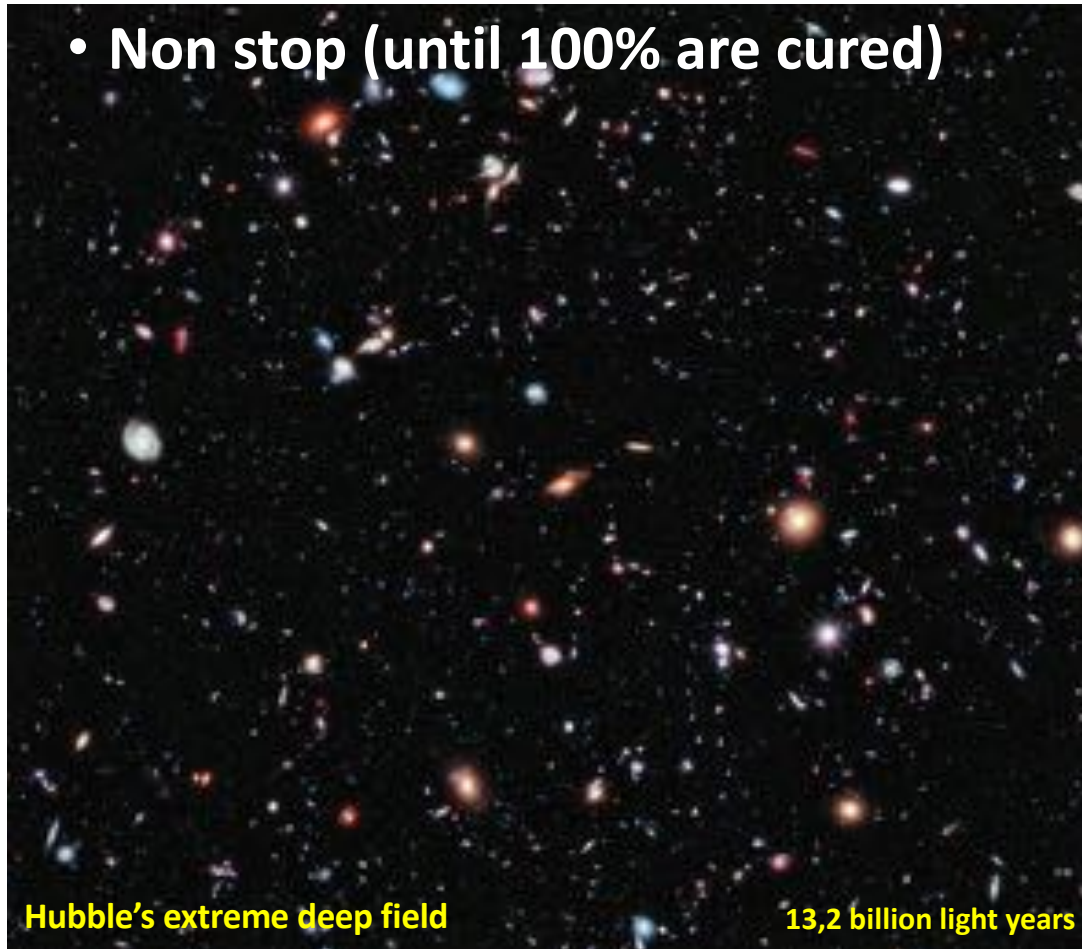
From preclinical testing to the clinics



Dissecting ALL heterogeneity

# Itinerary: today's end

- **Non stop (until 100% are cured)**



Hubble's extreme deep field

13,2 billion light years

## Thank you:

Tiziano Barbui  
Alessandro Rambaldi  
(*Bergamo*)

Robin Foà  
Sabina Chiaretti  
(*Roma*)

northernitaly  
leukemiagroup

GIMEMA

