

2nd POSTGRADUATE CLL Conference

CLL pathogenesis: microenviromental and genetics

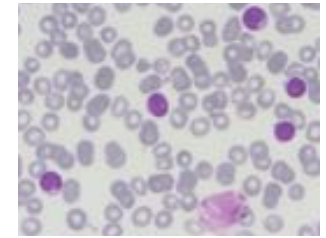
Dolors Colomer

Unitat d' Hematopatologia

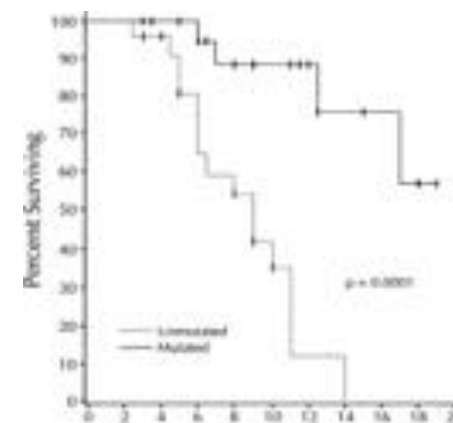
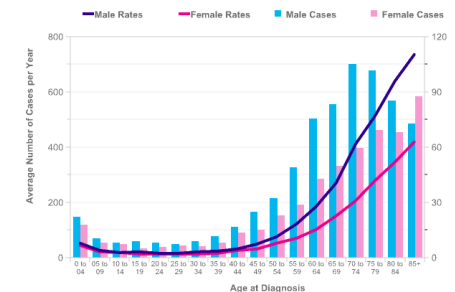
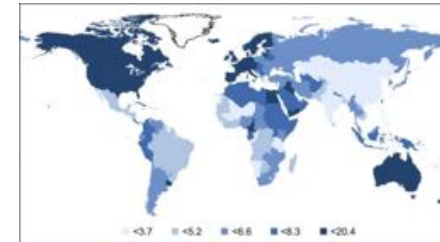
Hospital Clínic, IDIBAPS, Universitat Barcelona

No conflict of interest

Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia



- Most frequent leukemia in adults in Western countries (5-7 cases /100,000 /year)
- Median age at diagnosis 70 years and increases with age
- Male predominance
- Incurable and heterogeneous disease with two major molecular subtypes
- Familiar risk

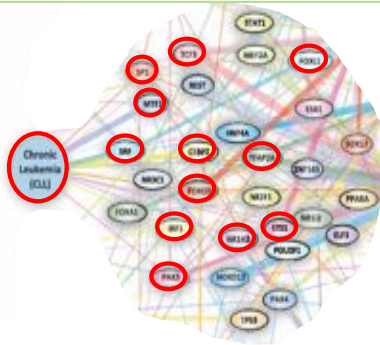


CLL Pathogenesis

Integrating genetic and microenvironment interactions

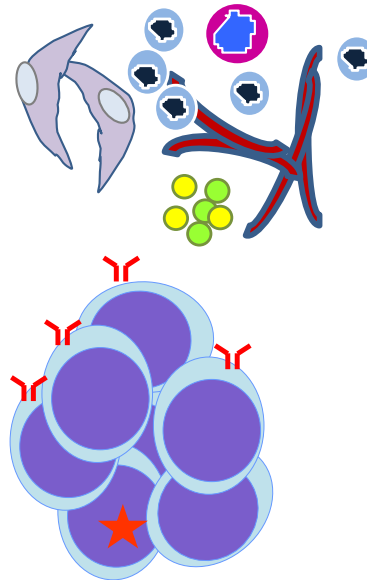
Genetic susceptibility

- Familial aggregation
- Susceptibility loci



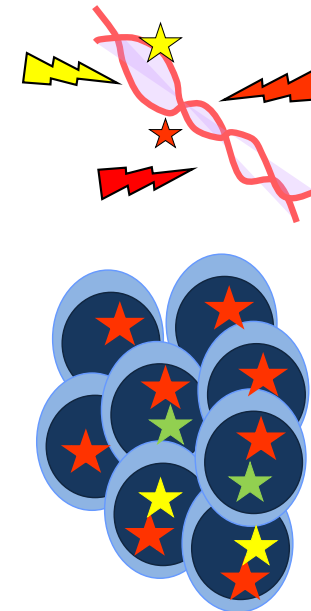
Microenvironment Interactions

- Skewed IG gene repertoire
- Stereotyped BCR



Somatic Genetic Alterations

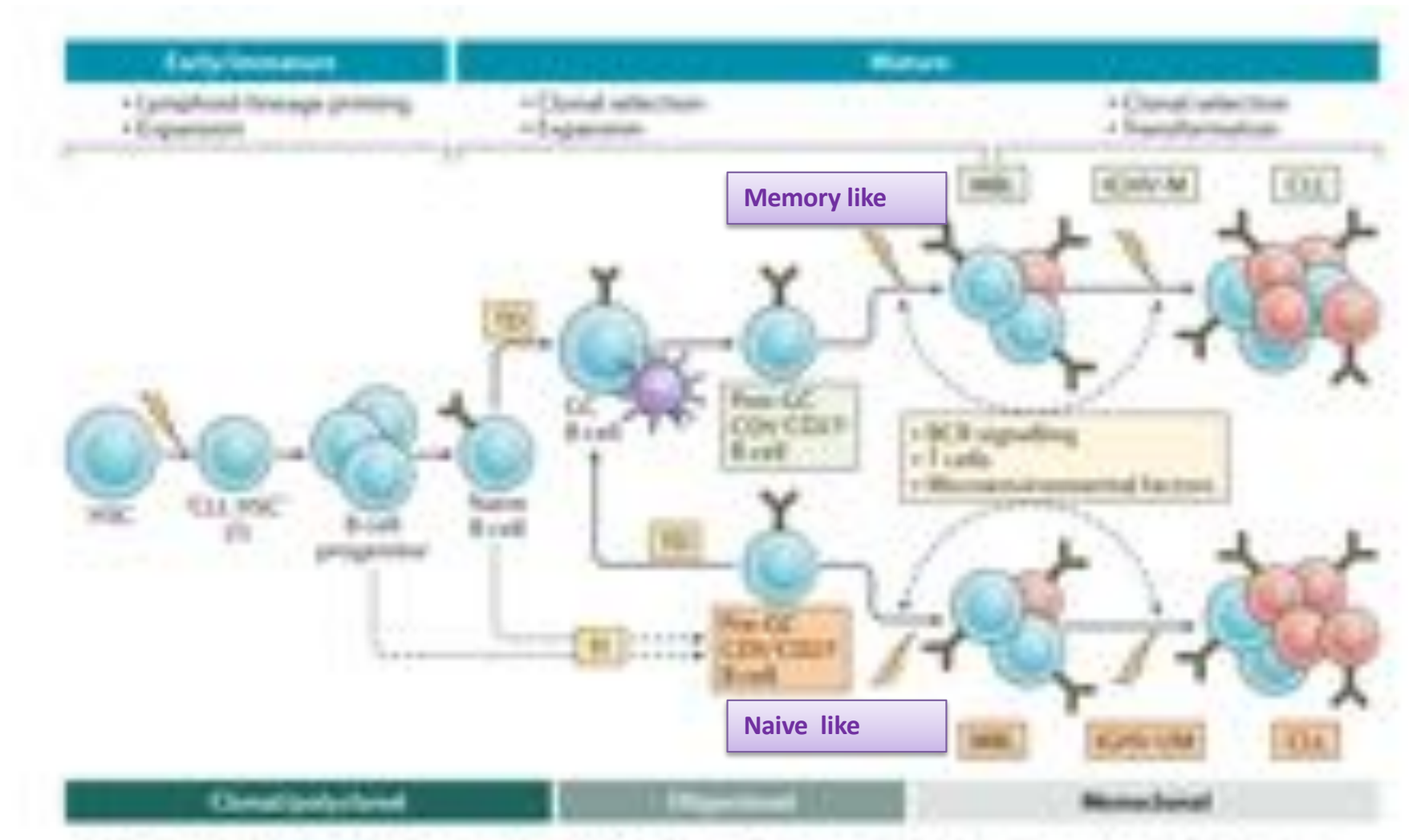
- Chromosomal abnormalities
- Recurrent somatic mutations



Microenvironment

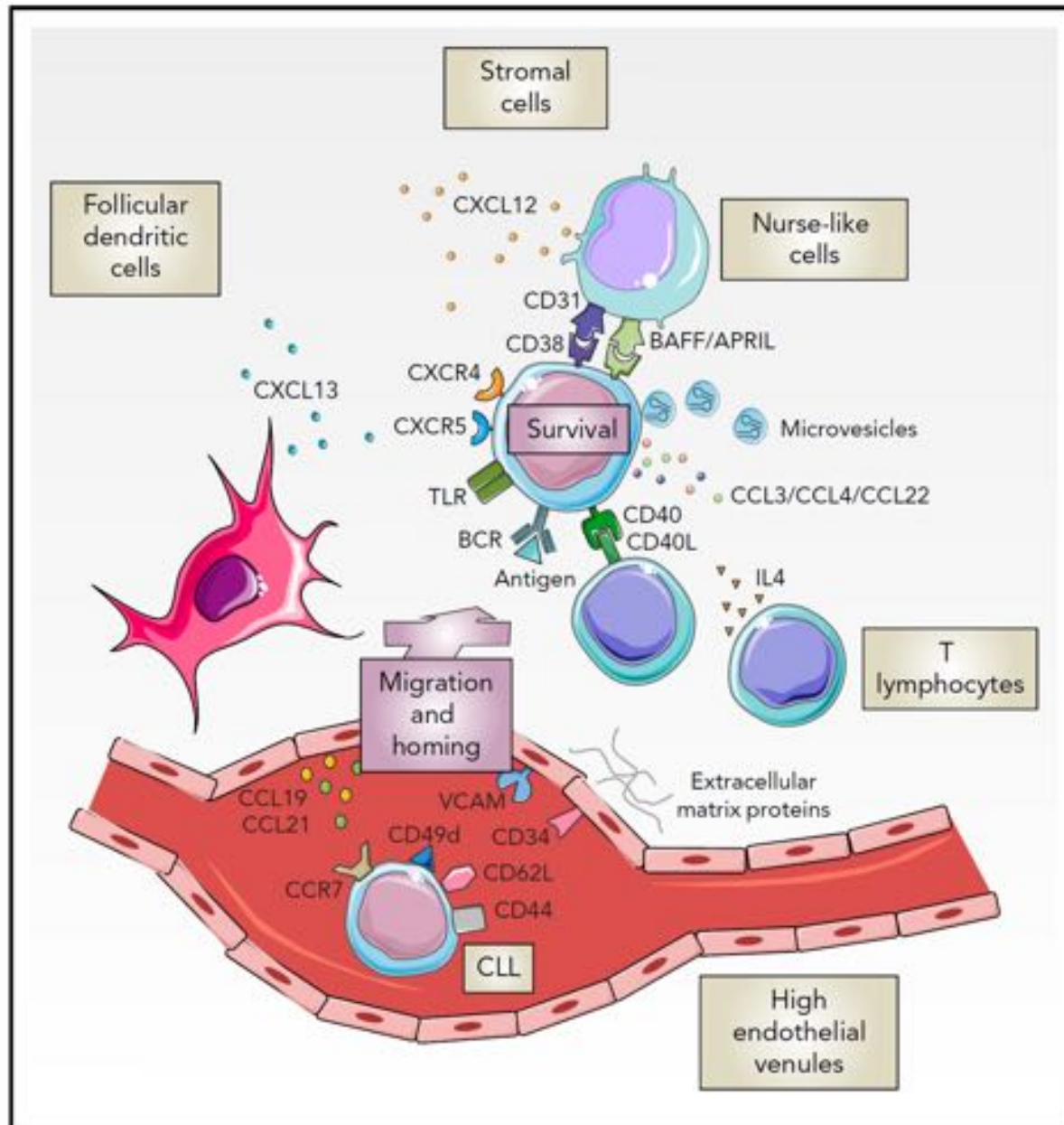
Genetic alterations

The cellular origin of CLL



Modified from Bosch F, Dalla-Favera R.. Nat Rev Clin Oncol. 2019 Jul 5. doi: 10.1038/s41571-019-0239-8.

CLL MICROENVIRONMENT

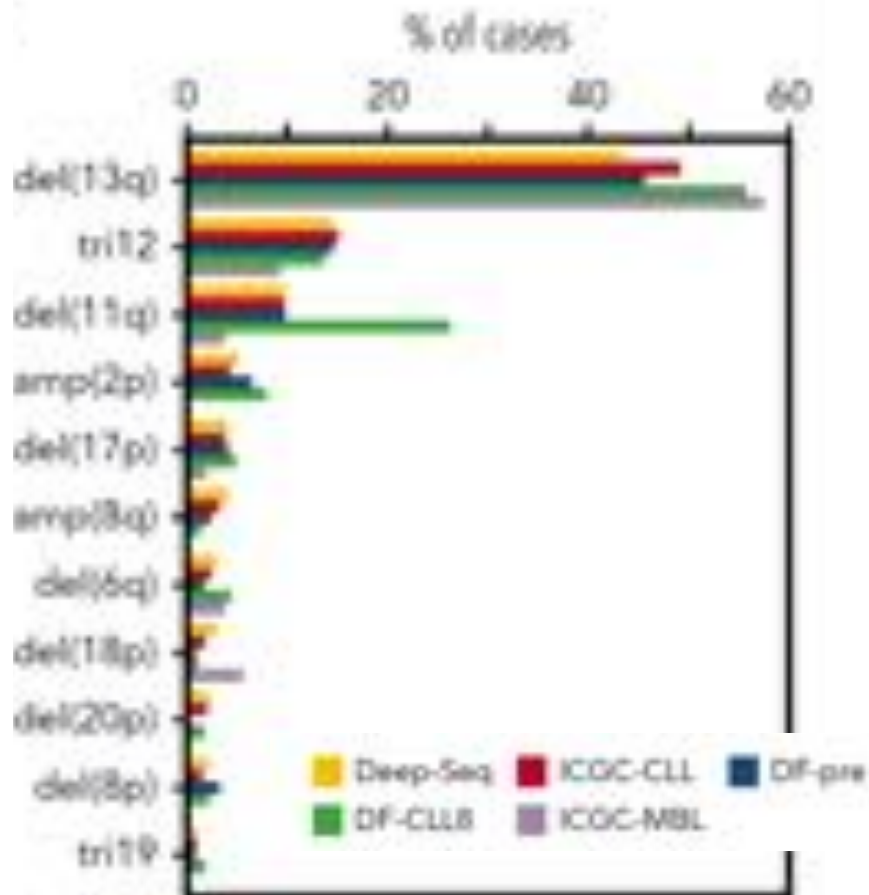


✓CLL cells recirculate between peripheral blood and tissues, mainly lymph nodes and bone marrow, where they receive survival and proliferation signals. These crucial interactions mainly occur in the proliferation centers of lymph nodes infiltrated by CLL that contain a loose meshwork of follicular dendritic cells (FDCs), a variable number of T cells, and other stromal cells

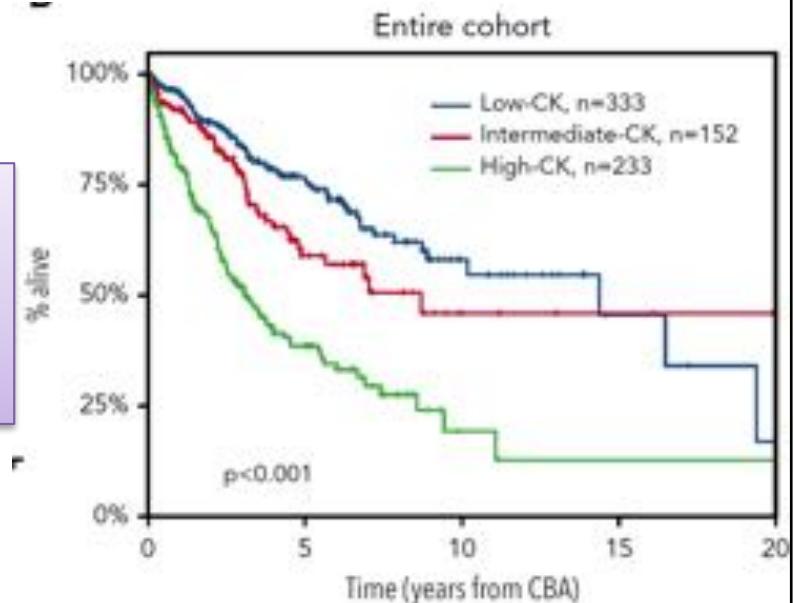
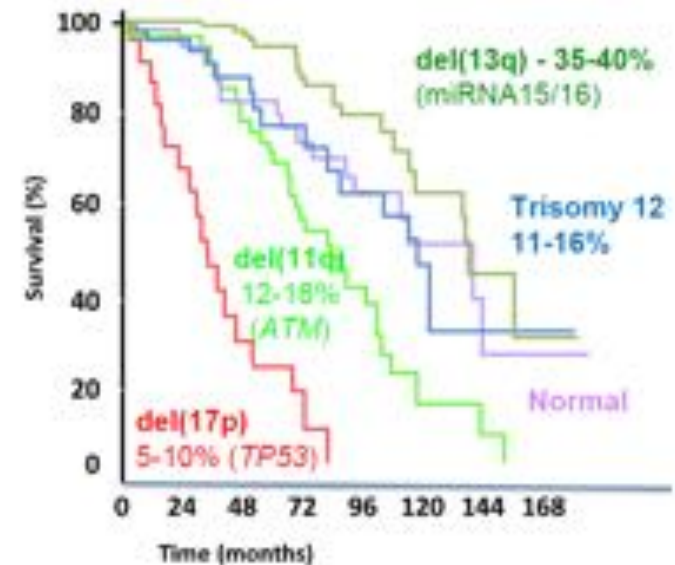
CLL: Genetics

Cytogenetics (abnormal >80% patients)

- ✓ Gains and losses (-11q, +12, -13q, -17p)
- ✓ Not specific, prognostic information
- ✓ Complex karyotype



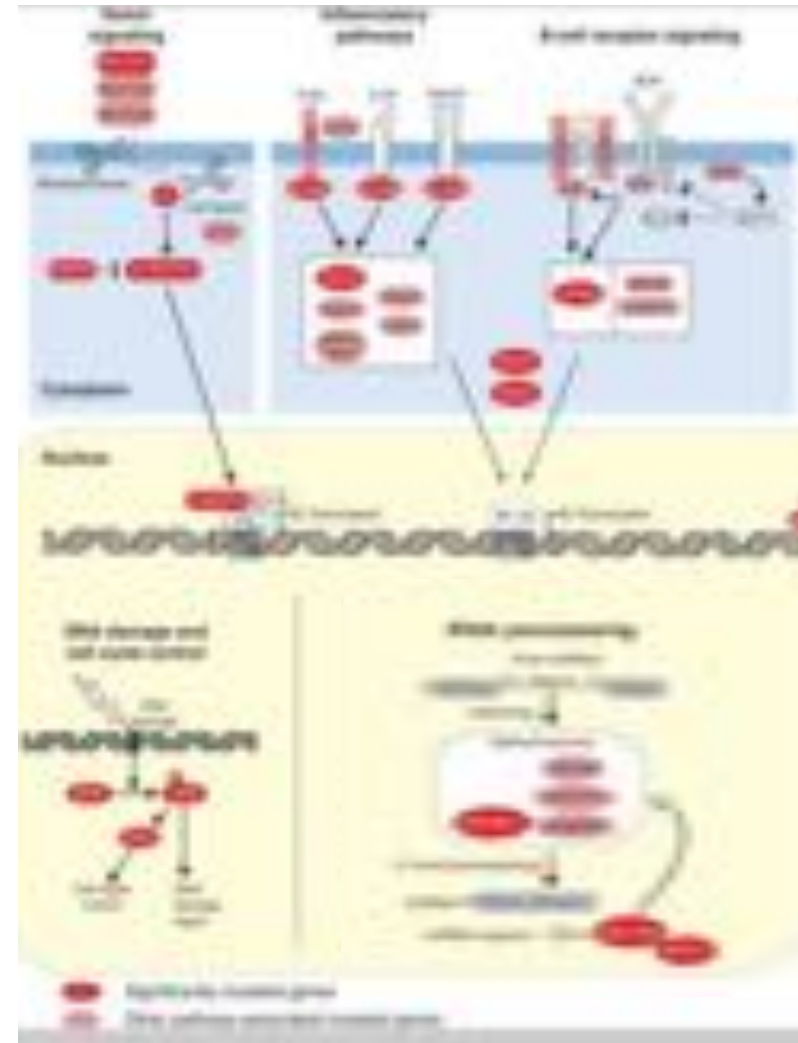
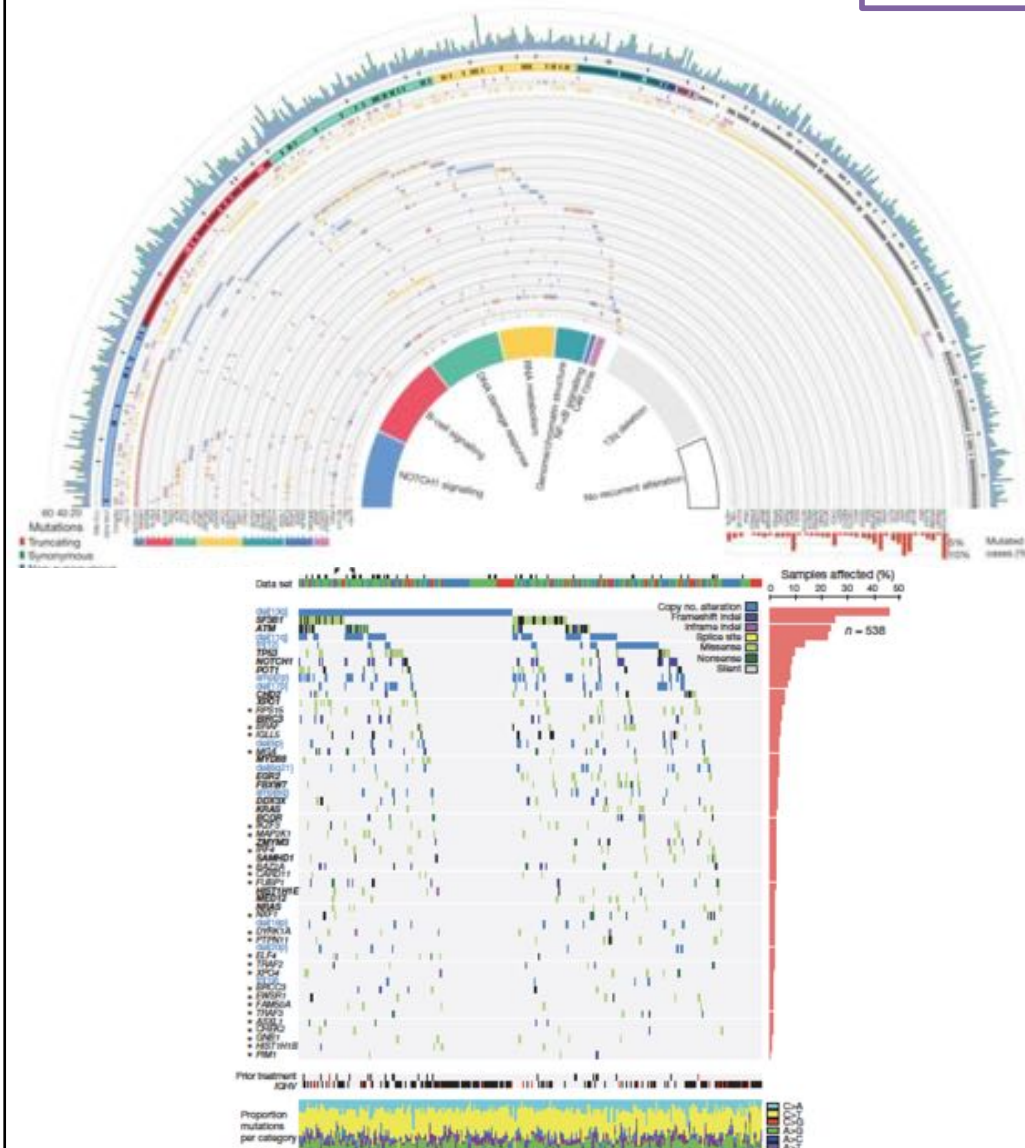
**NUMBER
ABERRATIONS**
Low CK : 3
Intermediate CK: 4
High CK ≥ 5



Modified Döhner H, N Engl J Med. 2000;343:1910-6; Puente XS, et al. Blood. 2018;131:2283-2296; Baliakas P, et al Blood. 2019;133(11):1205-1216.

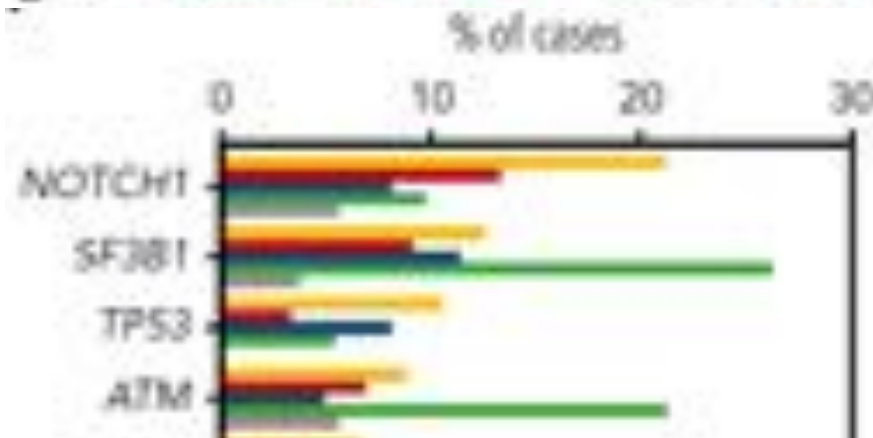
Mutational landscape CLL

✓ Mutational diversity



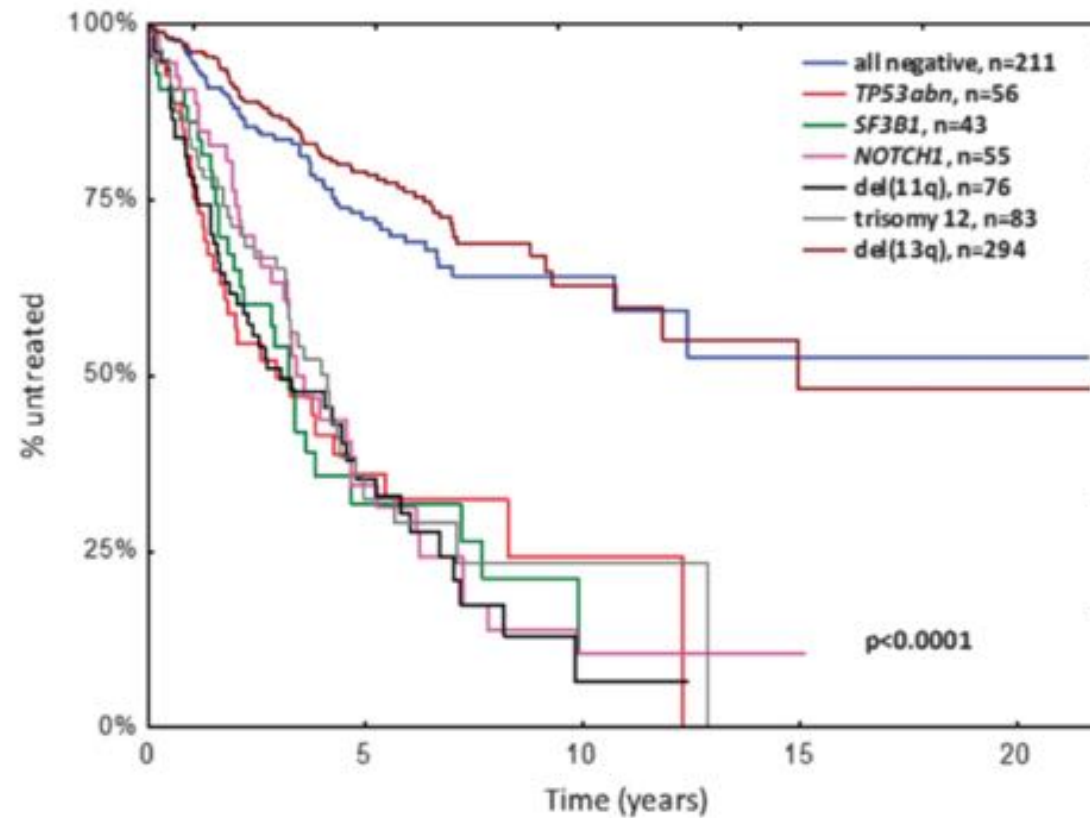
Puente XS, et al Nature. 2015;526:519-24; Landau DA, et al. Nature. 2015;526:525-30; Modified from Landau & Wu, Genome Med. 2013; 5(5): 47.

A word cloud of gene symbols arranged in the shape of a heart. The most prominent genes, shown in the largest font, are TP53, ATM, NOTCH1, and BIRC3. Other visible genes include MYD88, TRAF3, CHD2, CF3R1, NFKB2, STN8, MAPA, ZNF292, BDX3, G6R2, KLHL6, FSP2, MGA, and many others in smaller sizes. The colors of the text vary, including shades of orange, red, yellow, and grey.

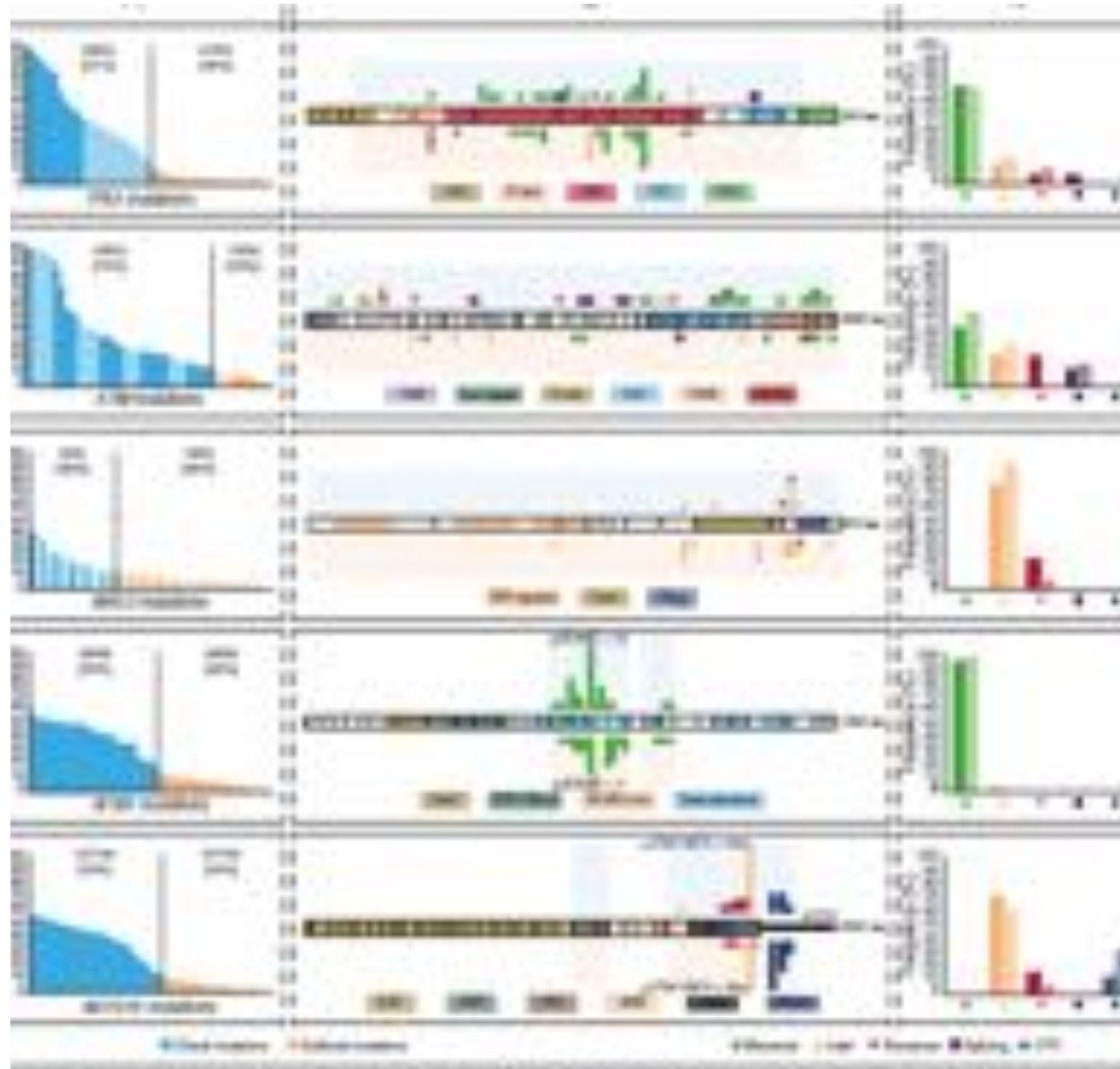


■ Deep-Seq ■ ICOC-CLL ■ DF-pre
■ DF-CLL ■ ICOC-MBL

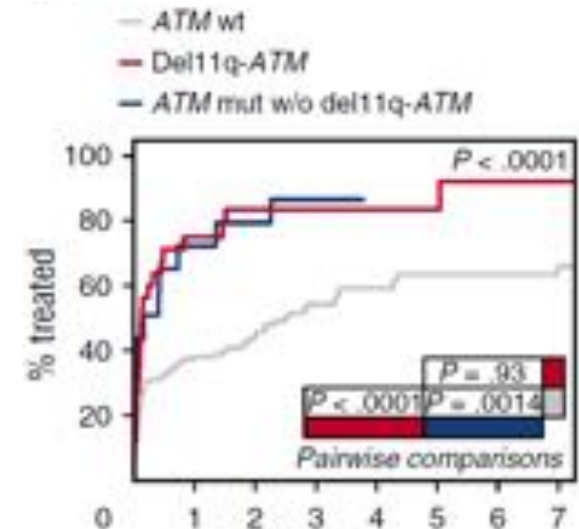
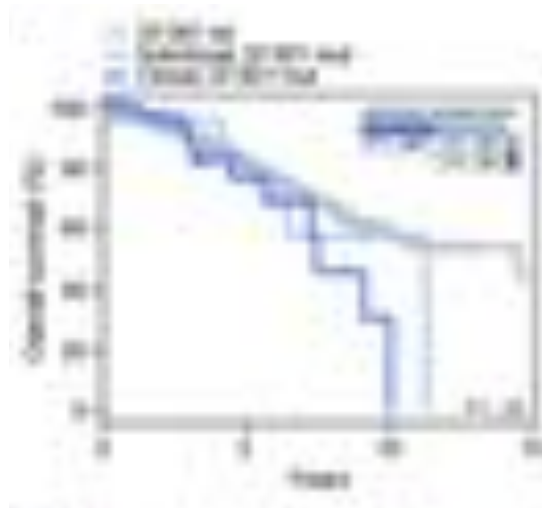
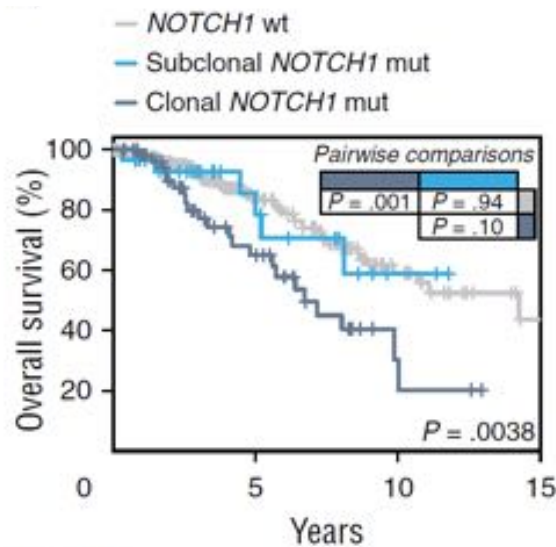
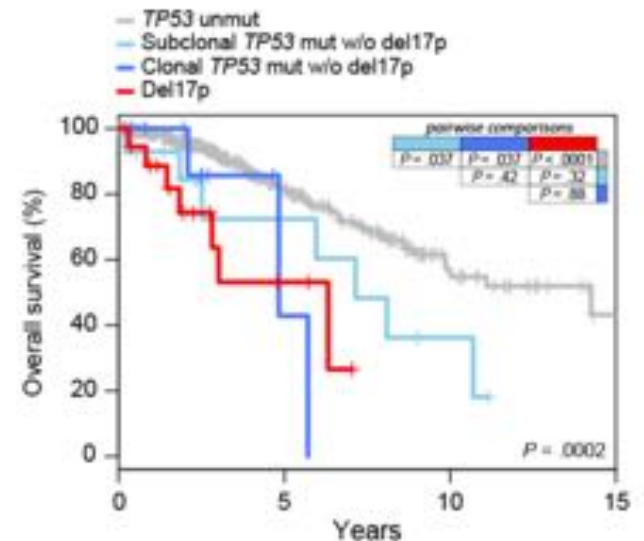
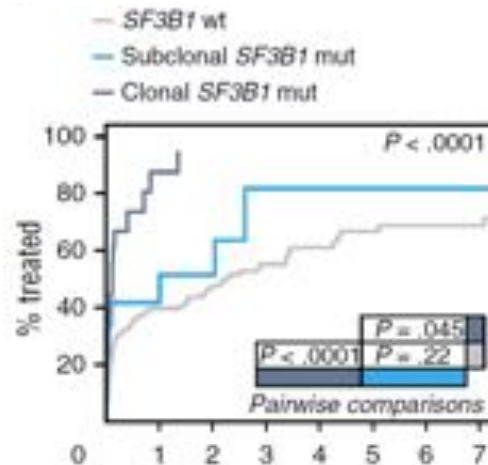
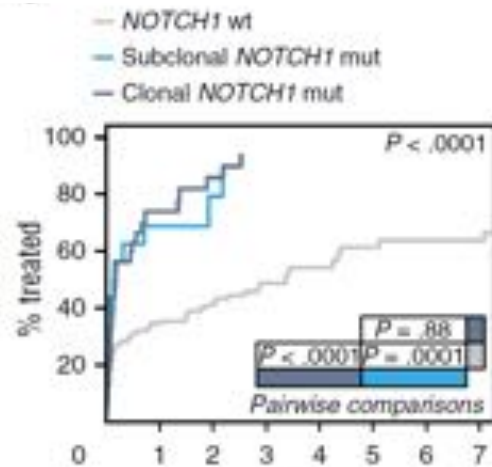
Recurrent mutations and structural variants refine prognosis



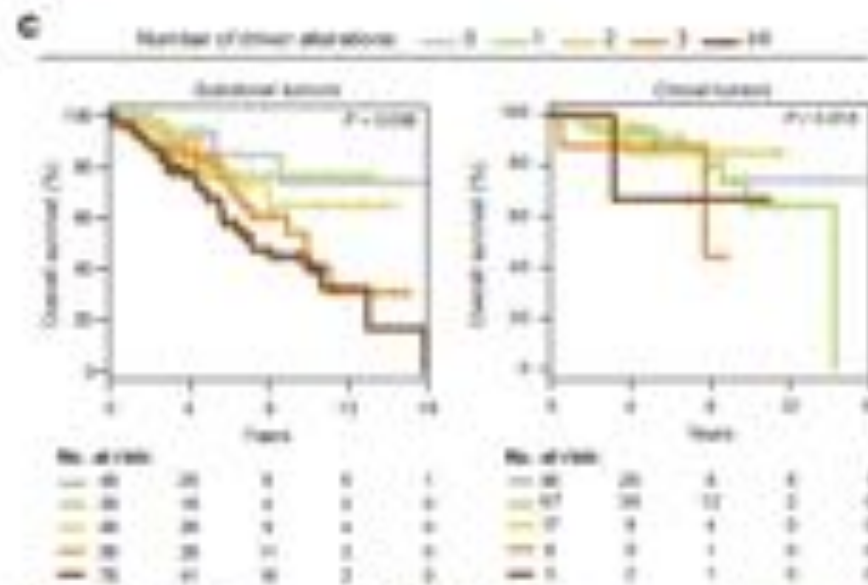
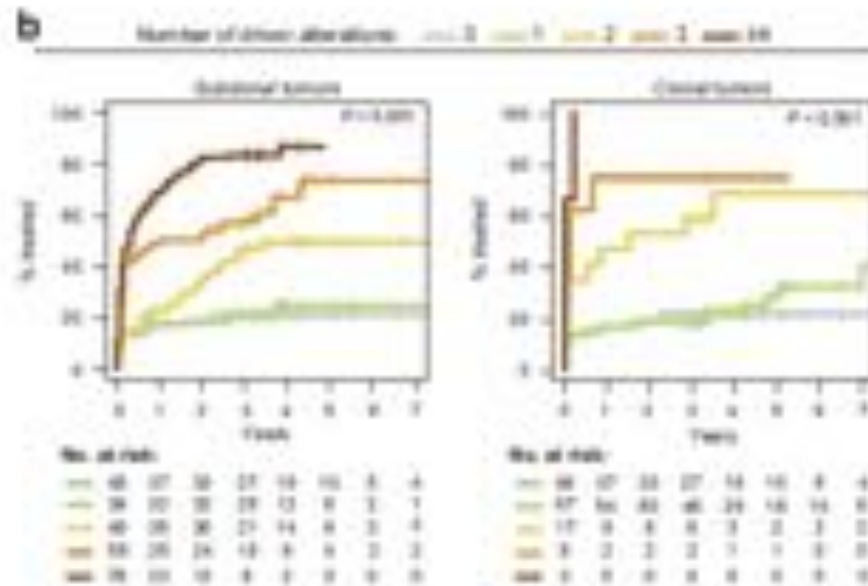
Most of the mutations are subclonal



Impact of subclonal mutations

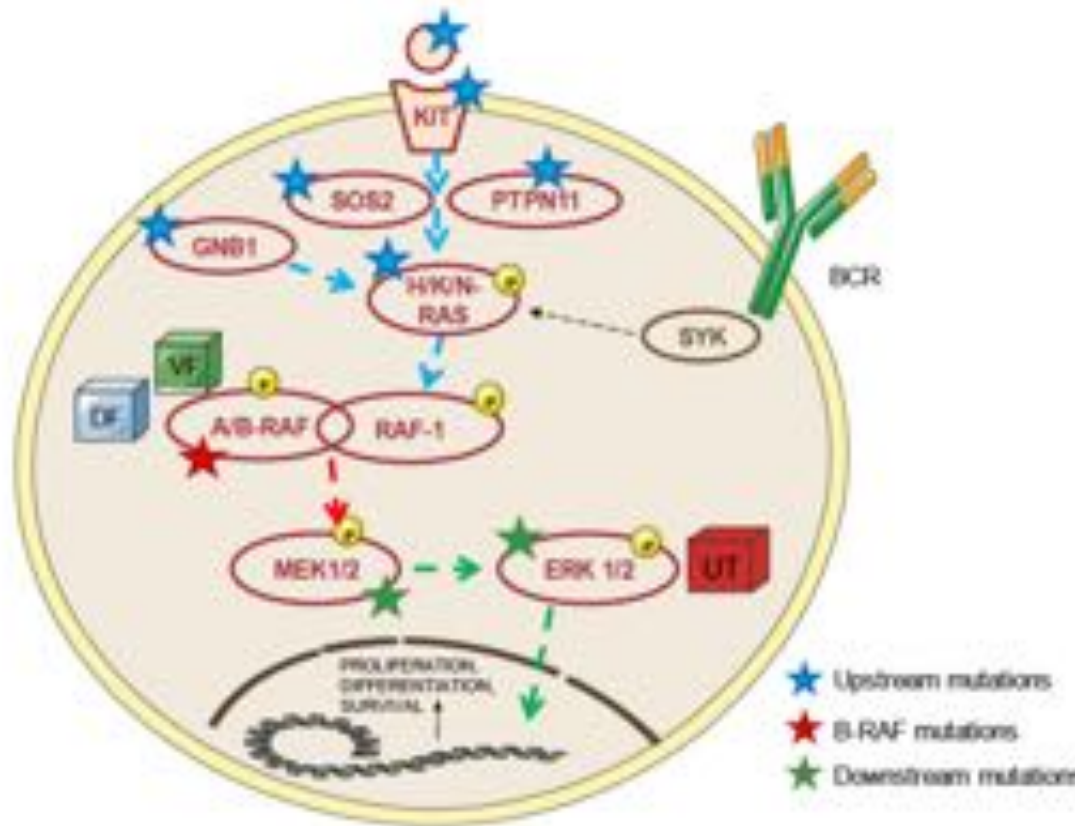


Role of the subclonal architecture and mutational complexity in CLL evolution

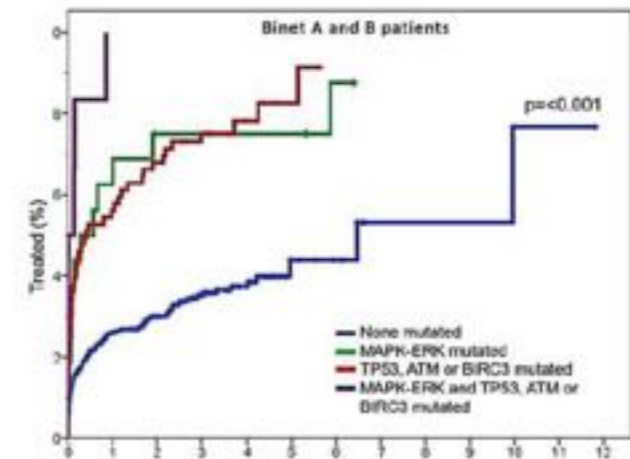
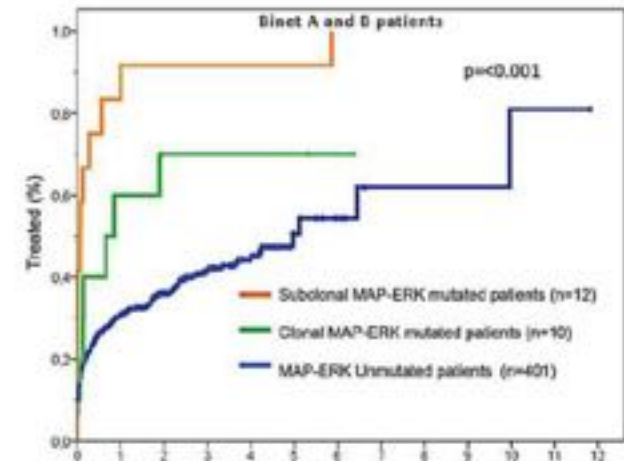


- ✓ The number of drivers in both clonal and subclonal tumors gradually shortened the TTFT of the patients with a similar prognostic value
- ✓ the number of drivers, rather than their clonal/subclonal representation, is the main predictor for short TTFT
- ✓ the number of drivers in subclonal tumors, but not in clonal tumors, was steadily associated with a worse outcome

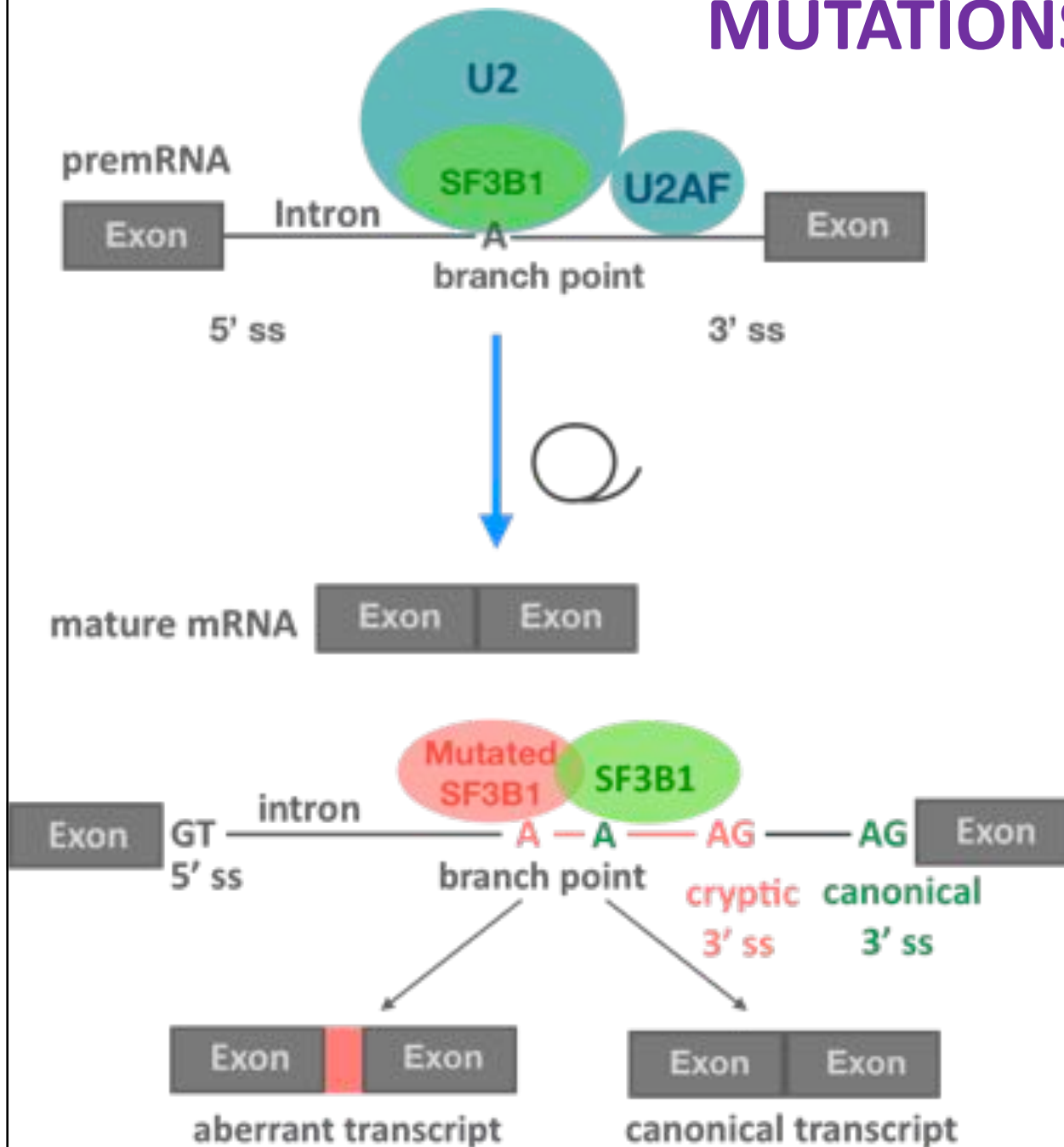
RAS-BRAF-MAPK-ERK pathway mutations define a clinically aggressive subgroup



- ✓ 5.5 % of CLL cases
- ✓ These mutations are missense, subclonal and mutually exclusive
- ✓ Predominantly U-IGHV
- ✓ High expression of ZAP-70, CD49d, CD38 and trisomy 12
- ✓ Worse 5-year time to first treatment

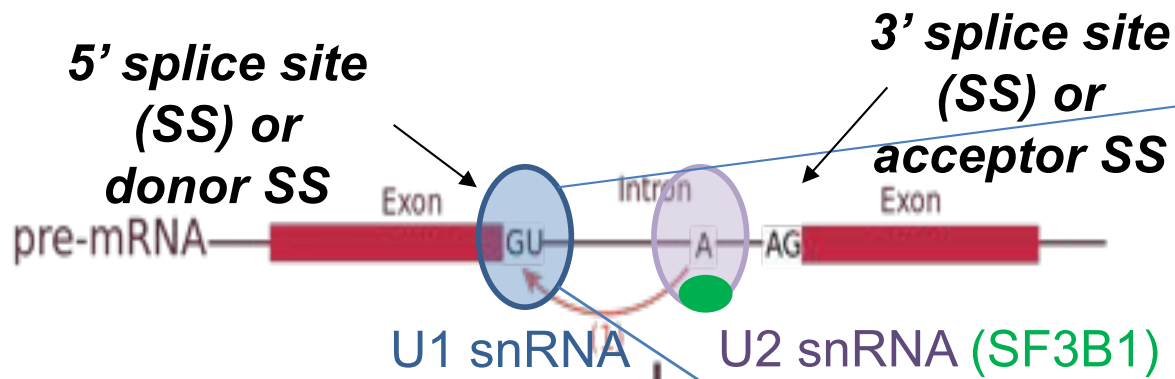


MUTATIONS IN SPLICING GENES



- ✓ SF3B1 mutated is mutated in >10% of patients with CLL with aggressive clinical and biological features
- ✓ SF3B1 is a critical component of the splicing machinery (U2 component) in which the introns from precursor messenger RNAs are removed.
- ✓ When SF3B1 is mutated change the branch point and new cryptic 3' sites is generated with the expression of aberrant transcripts

U1 a non-coding component of the spliceosome (snRNA)

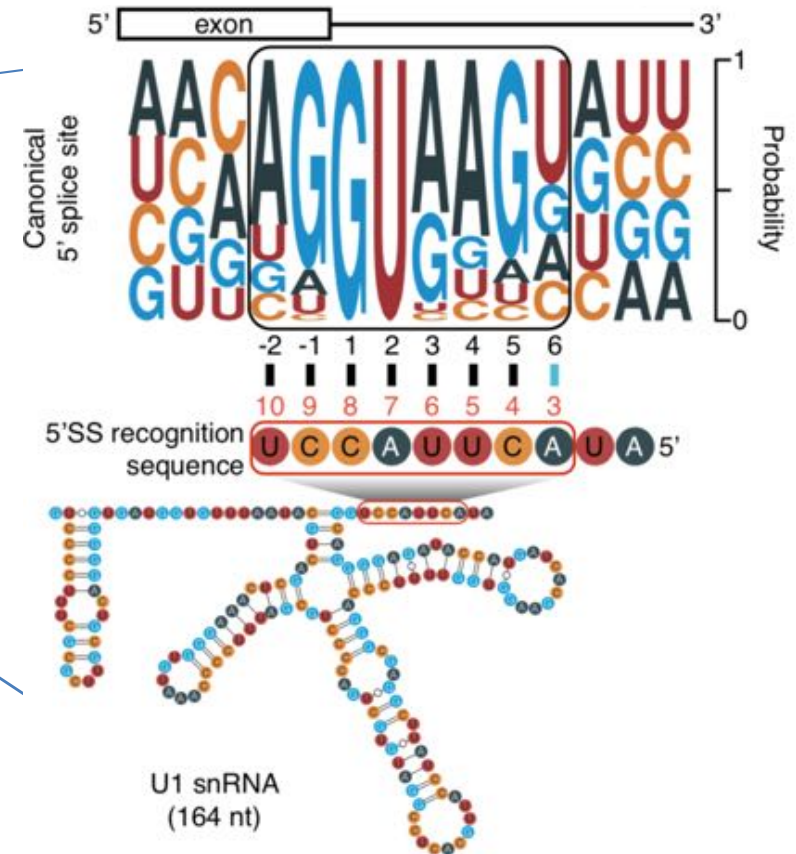


spliceosome

spliced mRNA

Normal Function: To recognize the 5'SS via base-pairing.

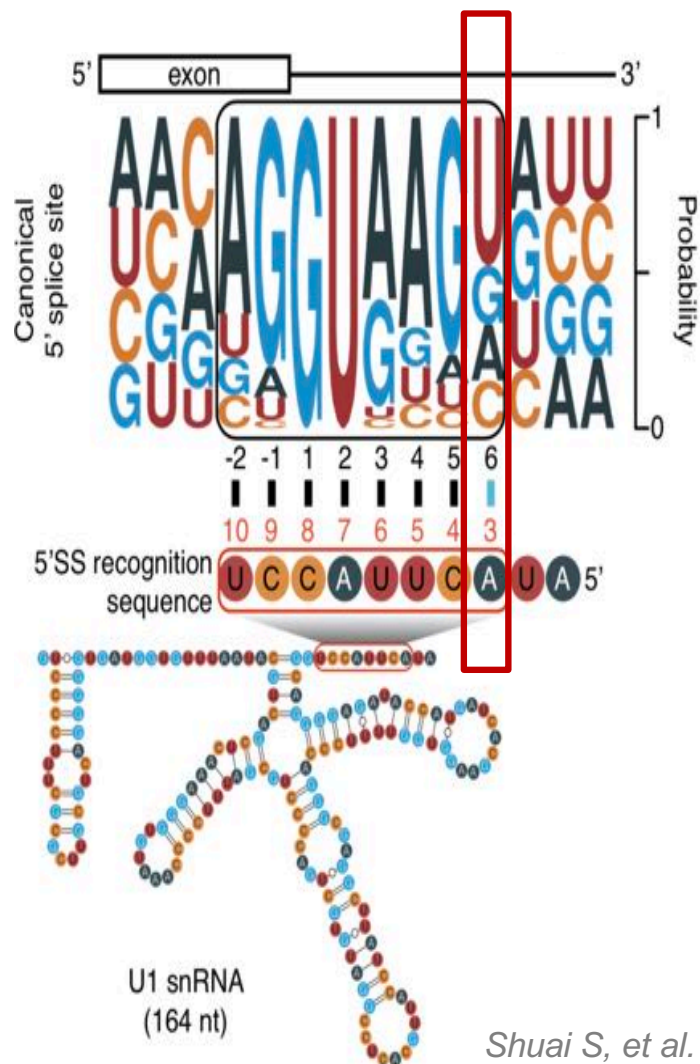
Spliced intron



+ 130 pseudogenes
with variant U1
sequences

7 isoforms
RNU1-1
RNU1-2
RNU1-3
RNU1-4
RNVU1-18
RNU1-27P
RNU1-28P

Mutations in U1 a non-coding component of the spliceosome (snRNA)



The mutation changes the preferential A-U base pairing between U1 and 5'SS to C-G base pairing, creating a novel splice junctions and altering the splicing pattern of multiple genes

A>G mutation:

26/135 (19.3%) medulloblastomas

1/230 (0.4 %) pancreatic adenocarcinomas

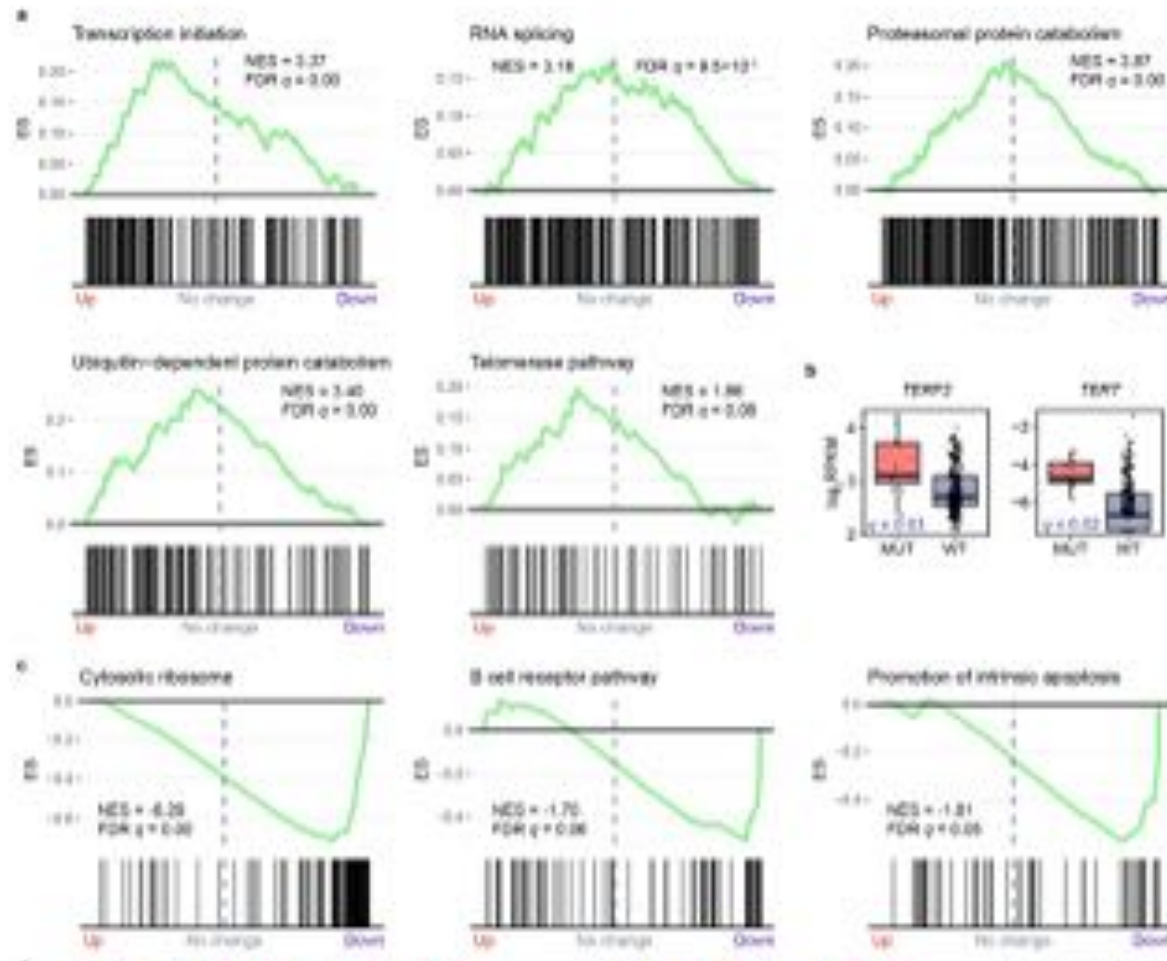
A>C mutation (g.3A>C):

12/318 (3.8%) CLL

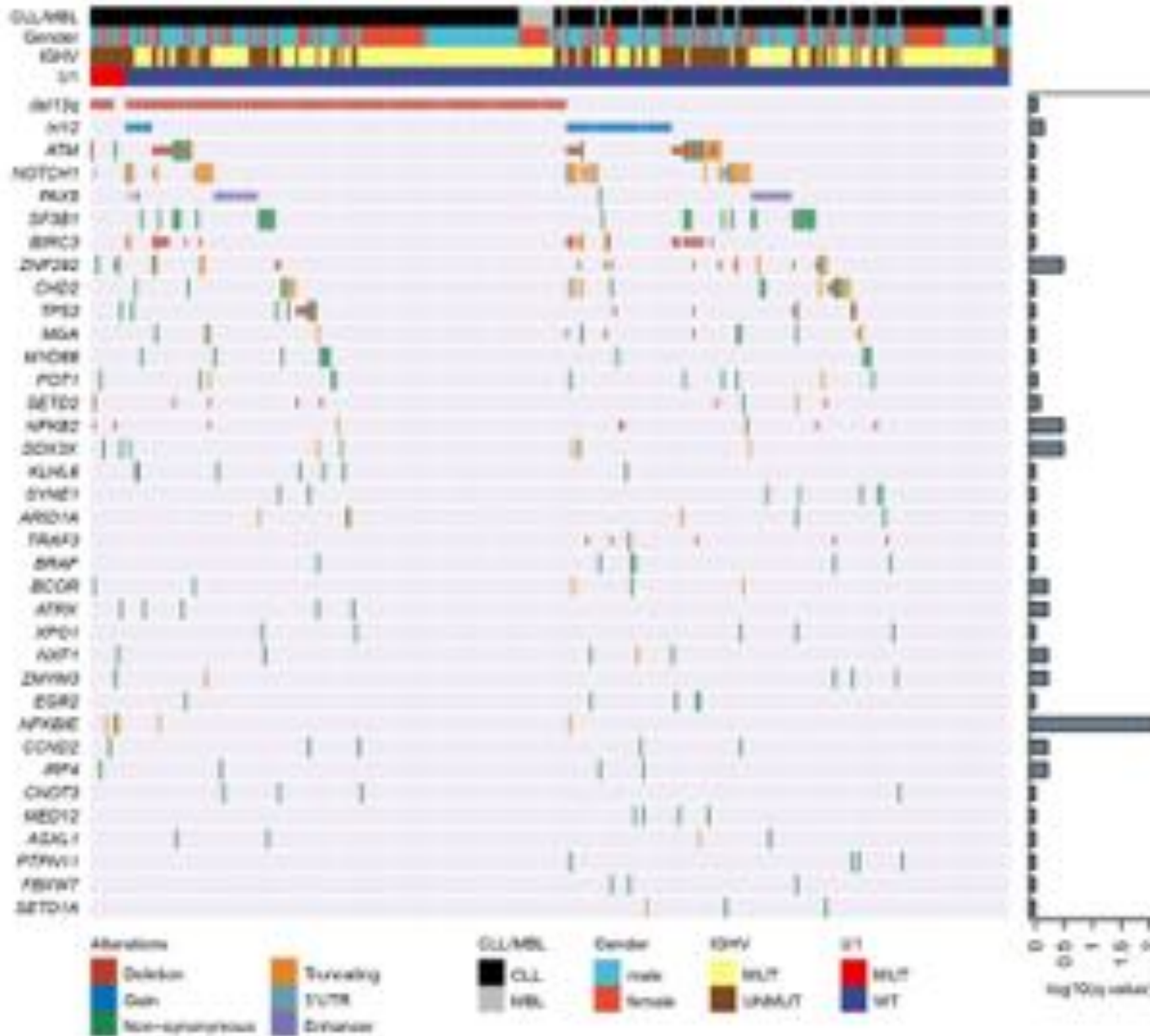
130/510 (5.9 %) hepatocellular carcinoma

Shuai S, et al. The U1 spliceosomal RNA is recurrently mutated in multiple cancers. *Nature*. 2019 Oct 9. doi: 10.1038/s41586-019-1651-z.

Functional effect of U1 mutation

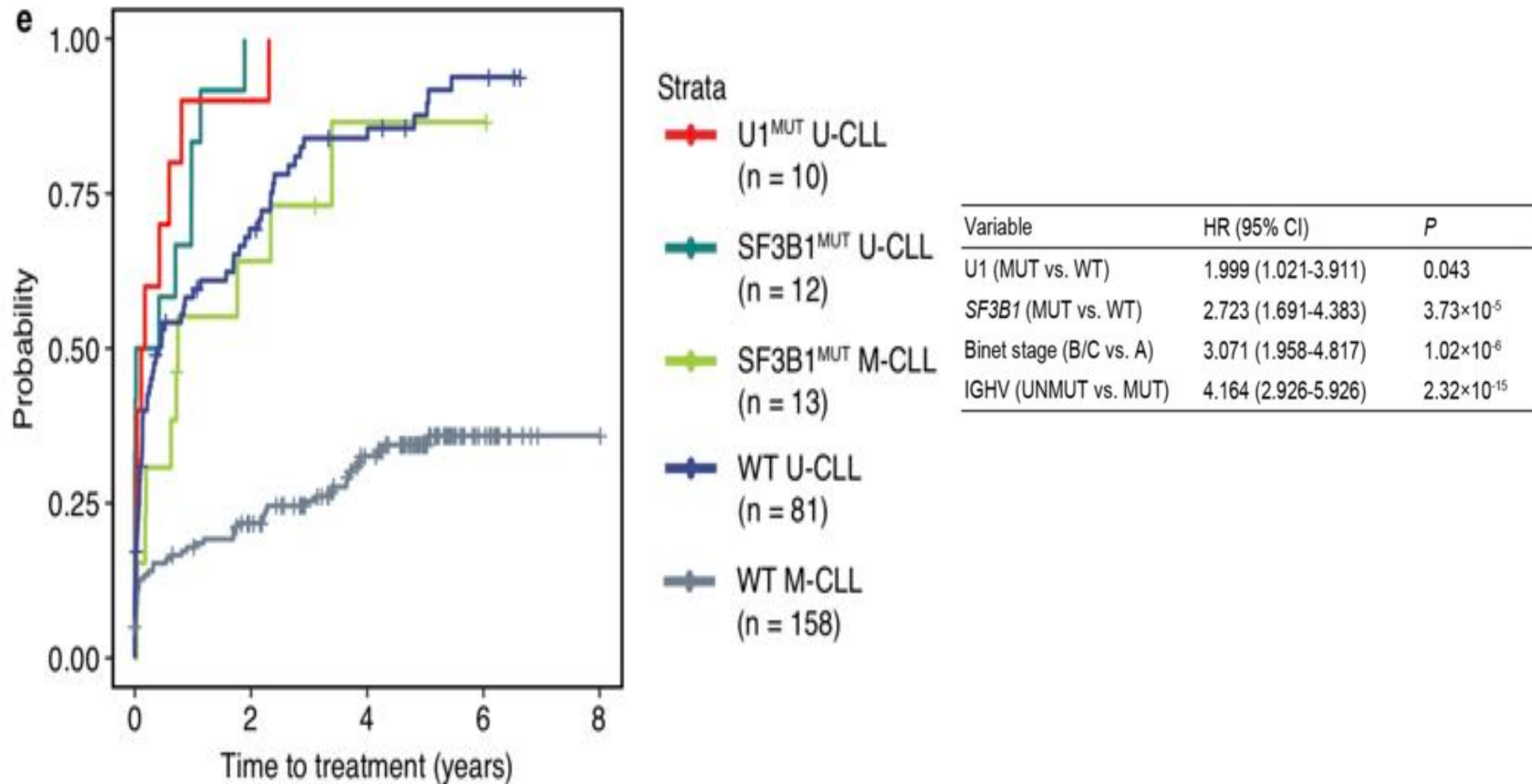


Relationship to other drivers



Shuai S, et al. The U1 spliceosomal RNA is recurrently mutated in multiple cancers. Nature 2019 Oct 9. doi: 10.1038/s41586-019-1651-z.

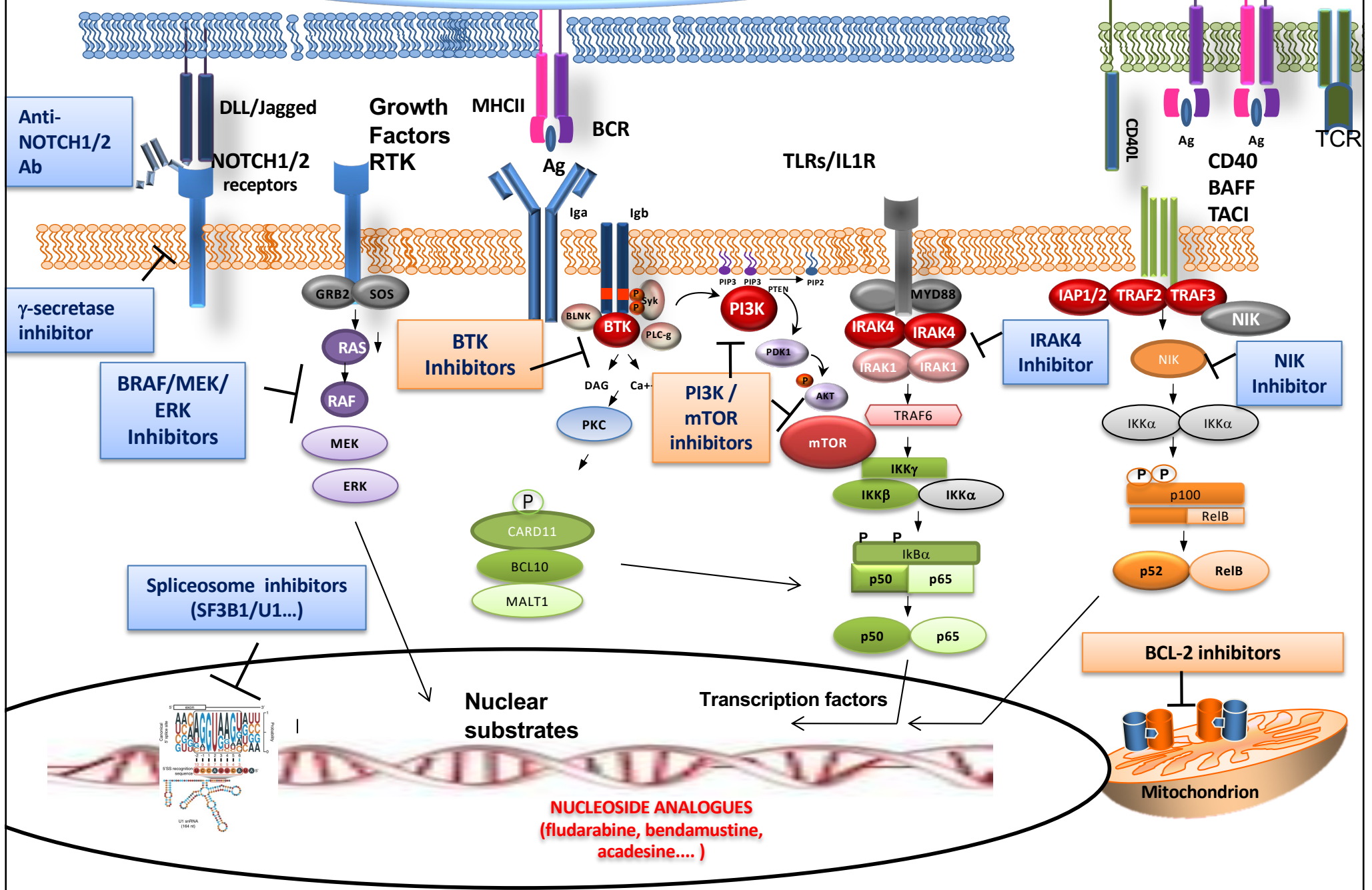
U1 mutation is associated with poor prognosis



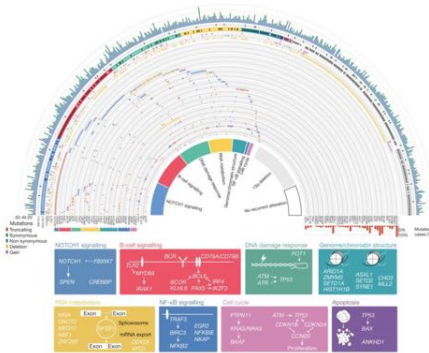
Mesenchymal stromal cells (MSCs)
Follicular Dendritic Cells (FDCs)
Endothelial Cells (ECs)

TARGETED THERAPIES

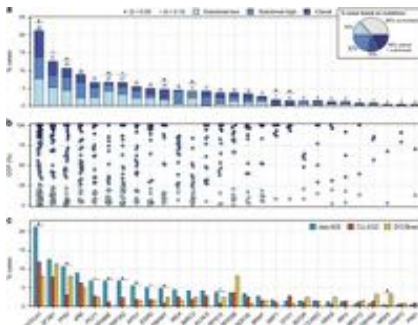
T CELLS



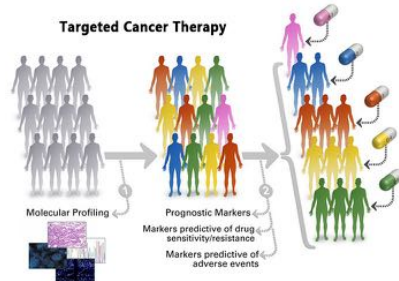
Summary



- **CLL is genetically highly heterogeneous**
 - Most genes mutated at low frequency
 - Clustering in functional pathways differentially represented in subsets patients



- **The subclonal architecture of the disease may modulate the evolution of the patients**
- **The integration of the genomic profile in the clinics may open new perspectives for the management of the patients**





Molecular pathology in lymphoid malignancies

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Biomedical Epigenomics

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And many other collaborators.....