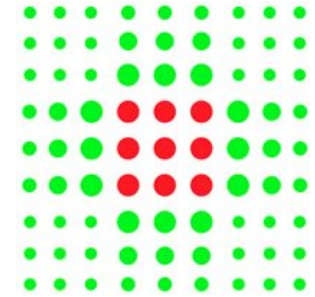




**1st CUNEO CITY IMMUNOTHERAPY CONFERENCE
(CCITC) -May 17-19 2018-**



**IMMUNOTHERAPY IN HEMATOLOGICAL
MALIGNANCIES 2018**

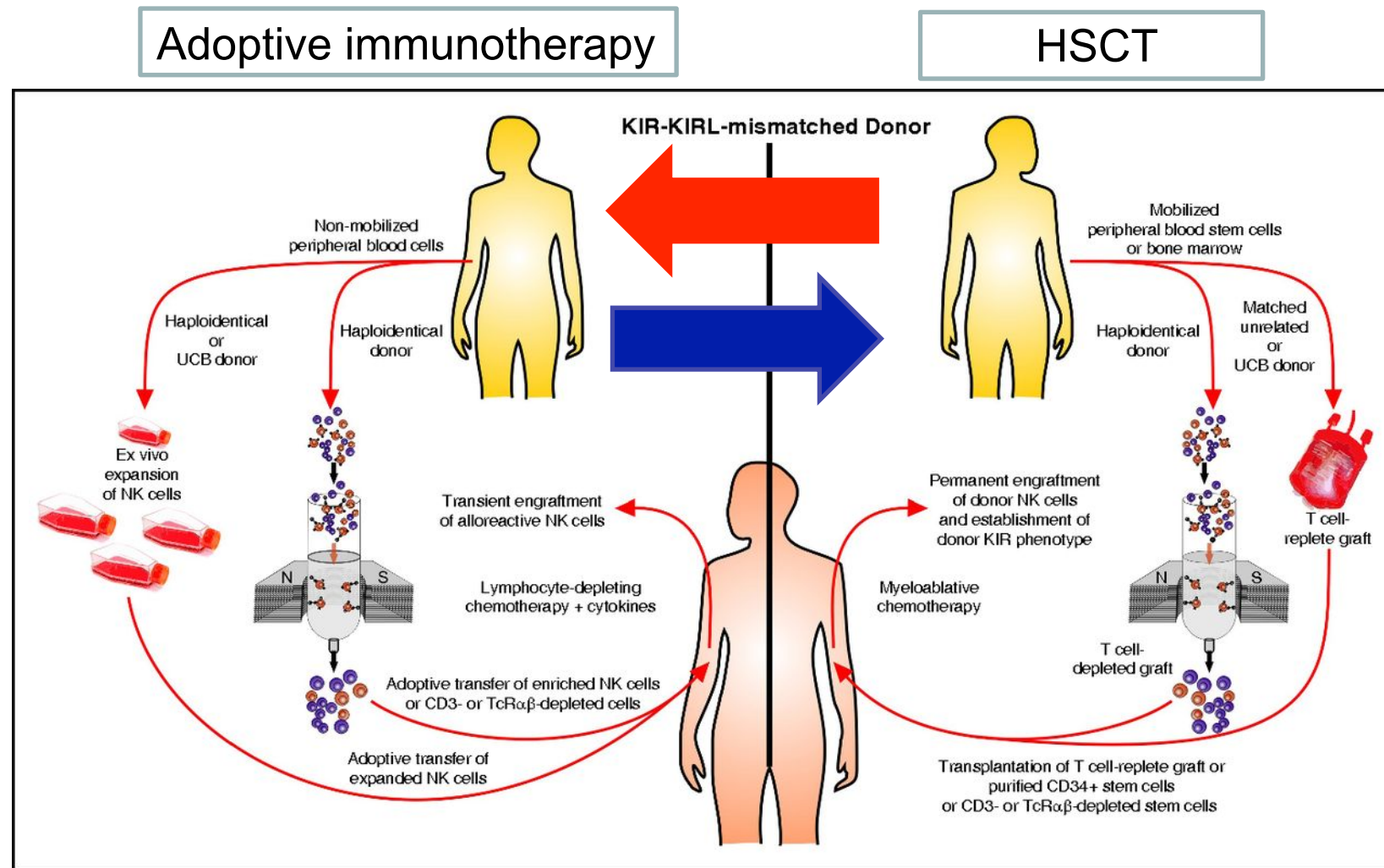
Exploiting NK-cell alloreactivity in AML

Antonio Curti

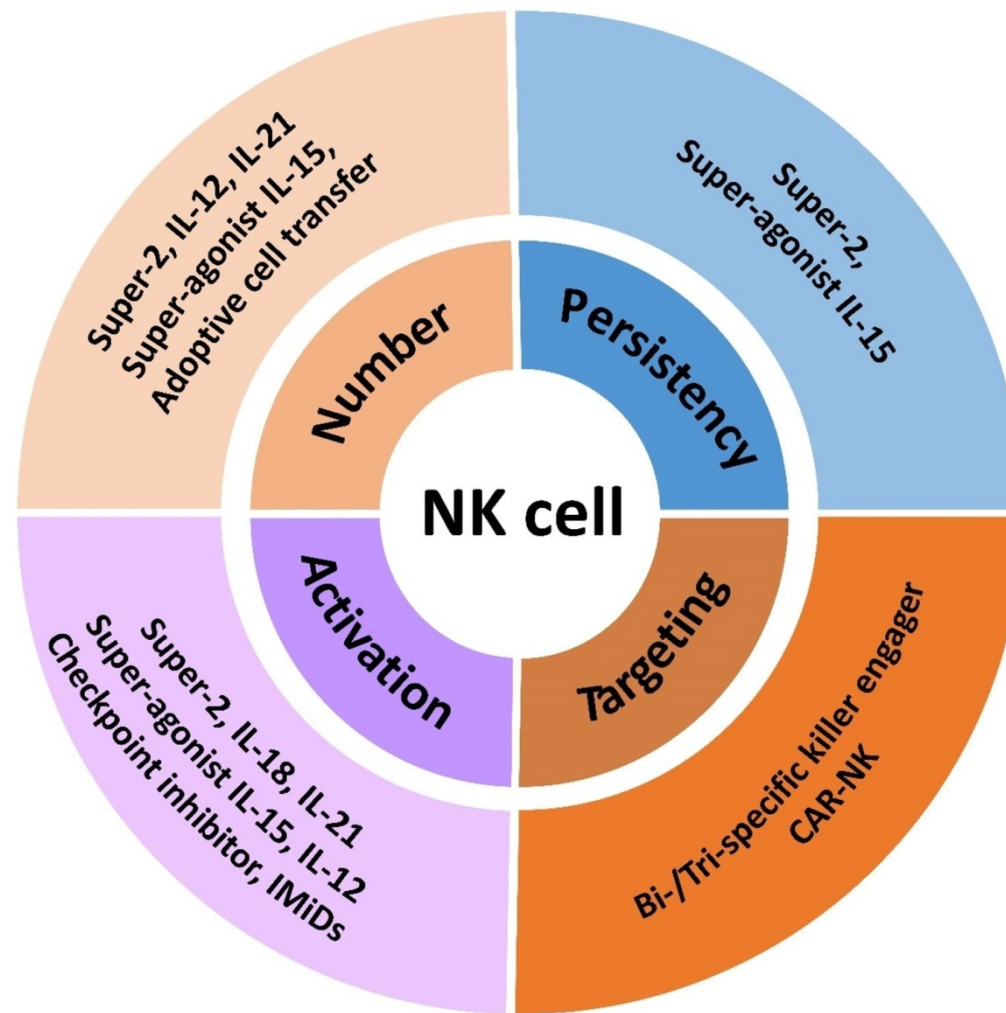
Institute of Hematology "L. and A. Seràgnoli", University Hospital S.Orsola-Malpighi.
Bologna



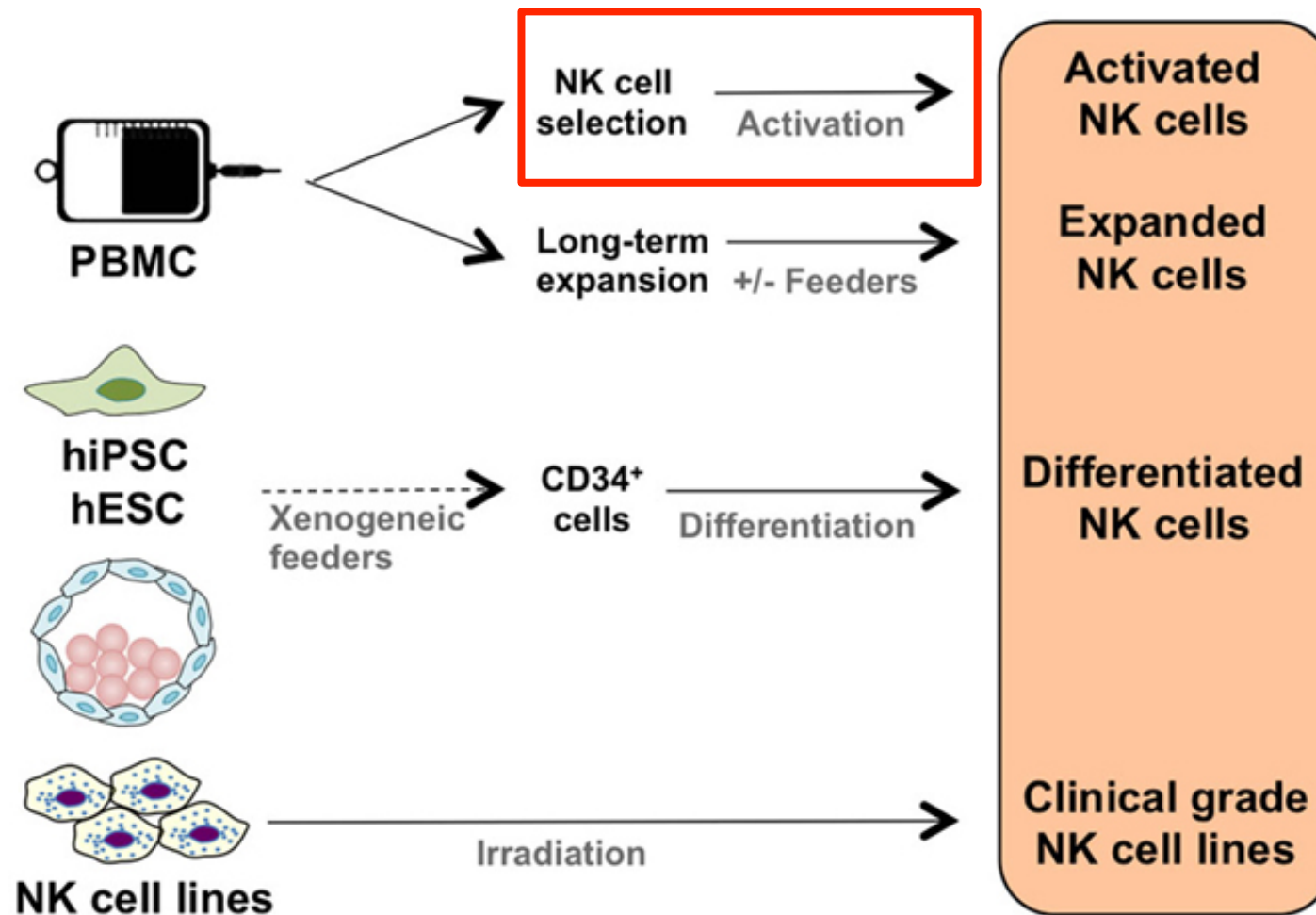
Clinical exploitation of alloreactive NK cells



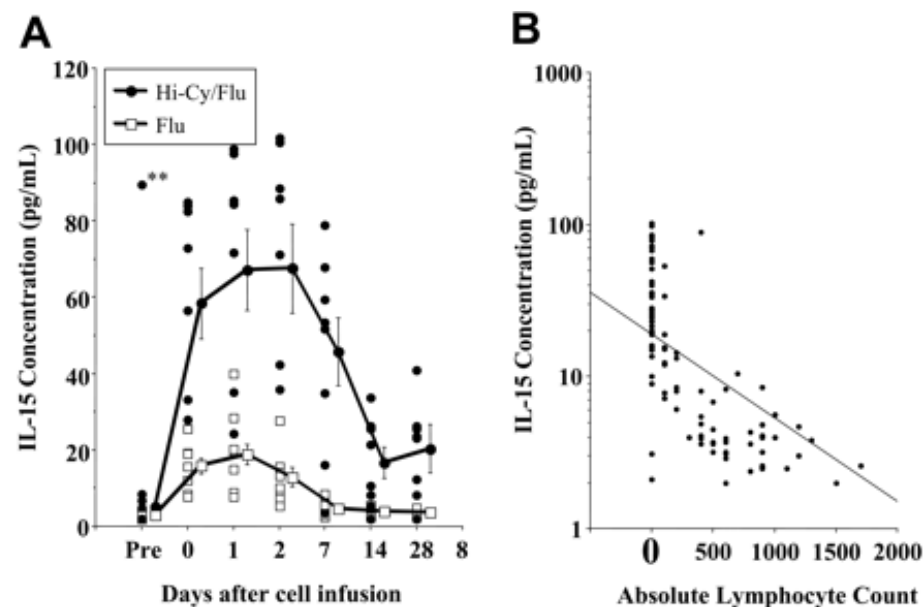
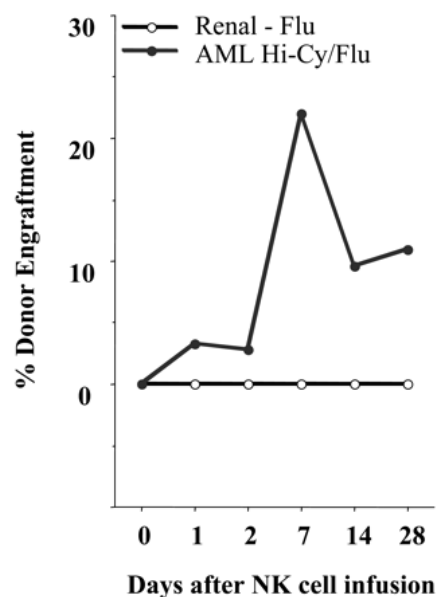
Factors influencing NK-cell based immunotherapy against cancer



Different manufacturing strategies to obtain NK cells are under investigation

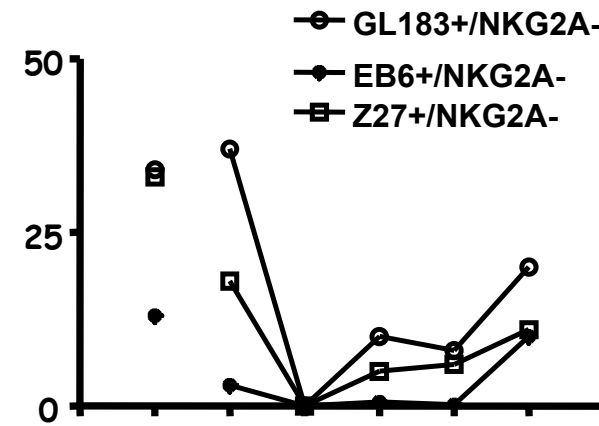
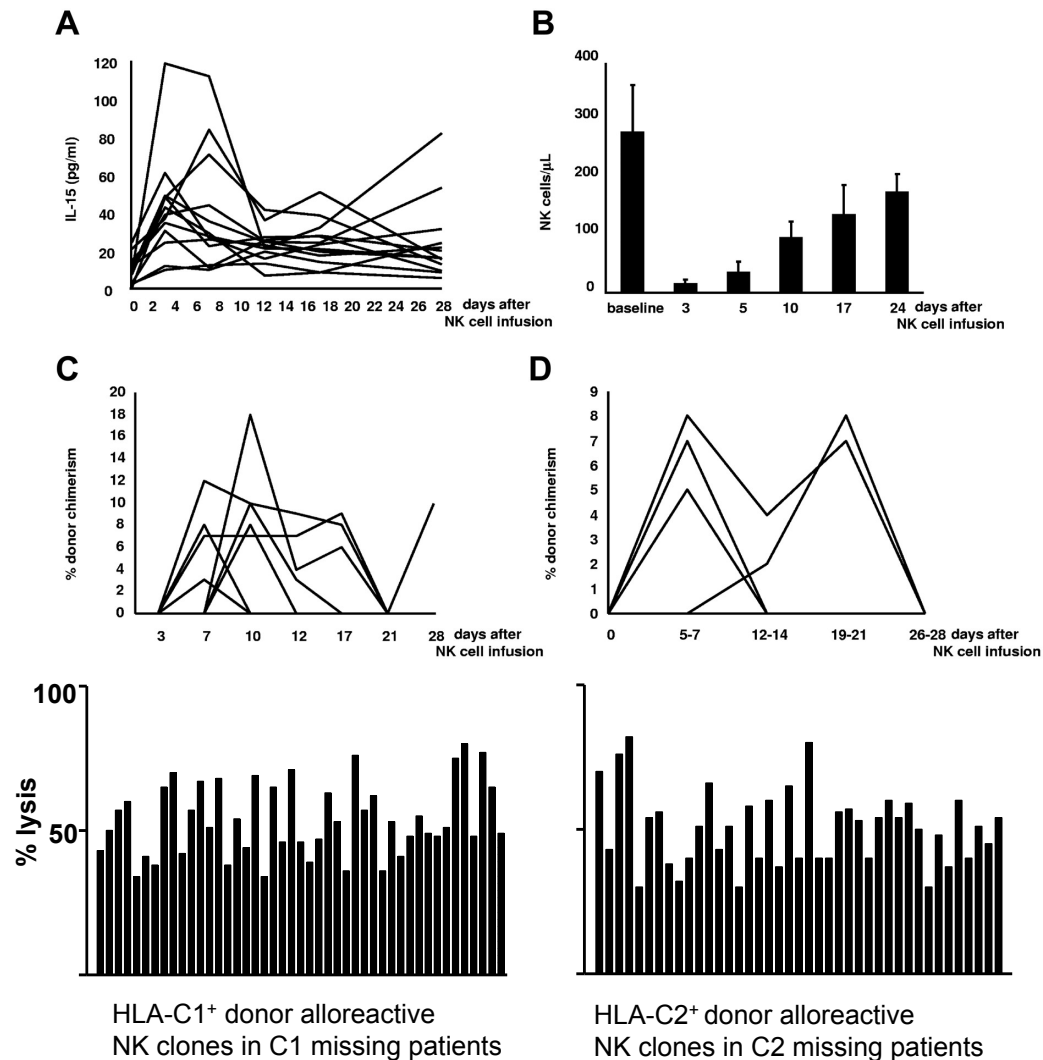


Expansion of haploidentical NK cells after infusion into cancer patients

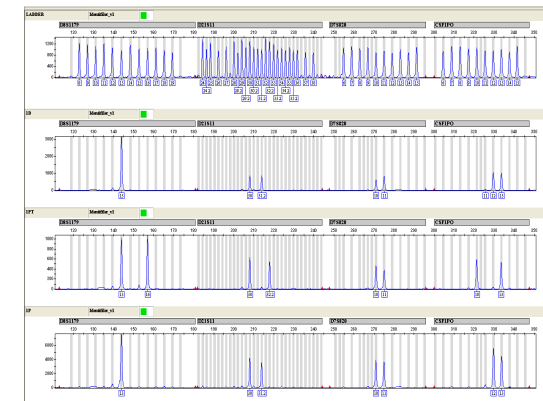


Five/19 poor-prognosis patients with AML achieved complete remission after infusion of partially purified haploidentical NK cells.

Infused NK cells are alloreactive against AML

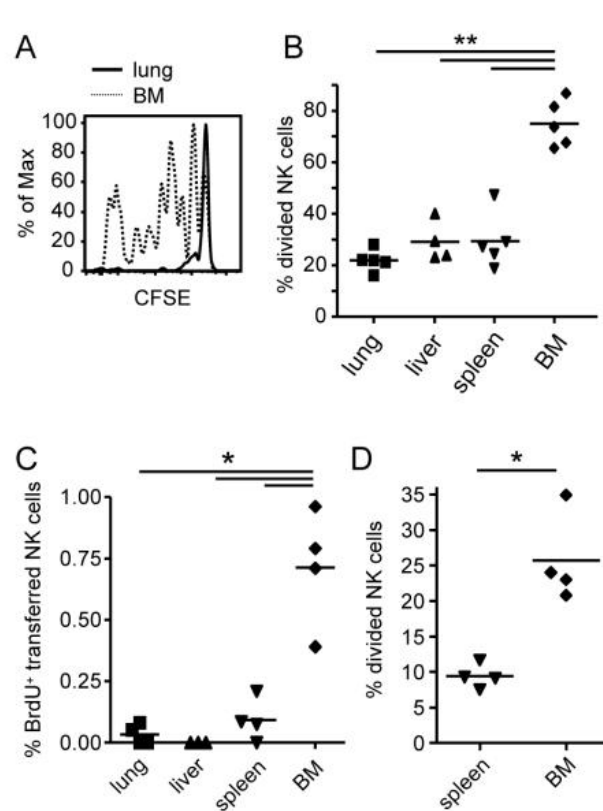


VNTR analysis

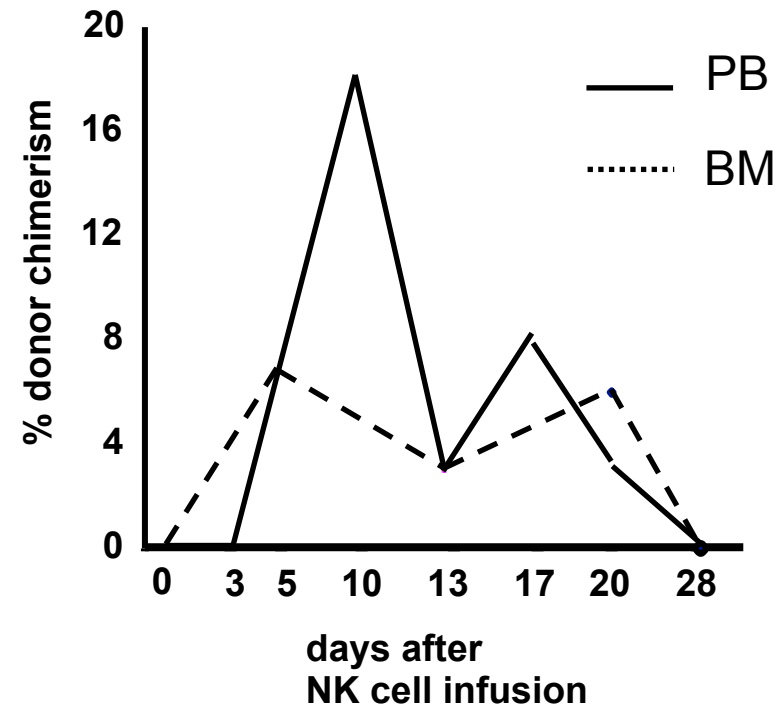


Infused NK cells are capable of homing in recipient's bone marrow

Long-lived NK cells proliferate homeostatically in the BM

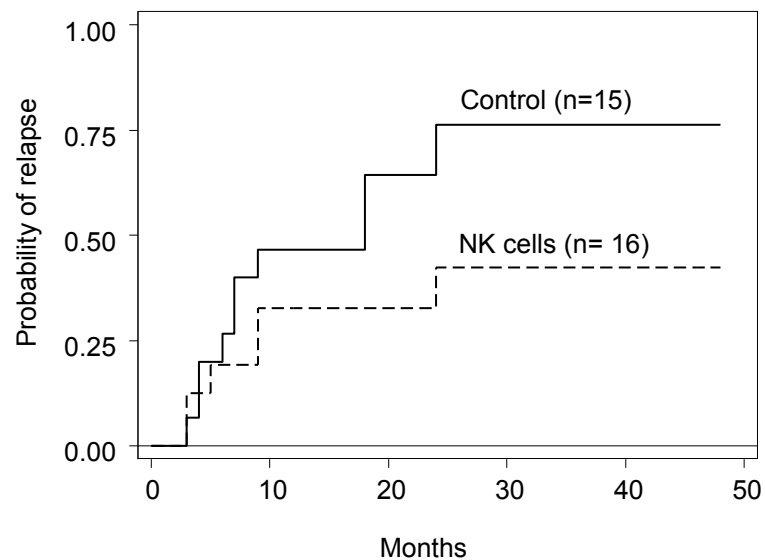


Van Helden MJ et al. J Immunol 2012

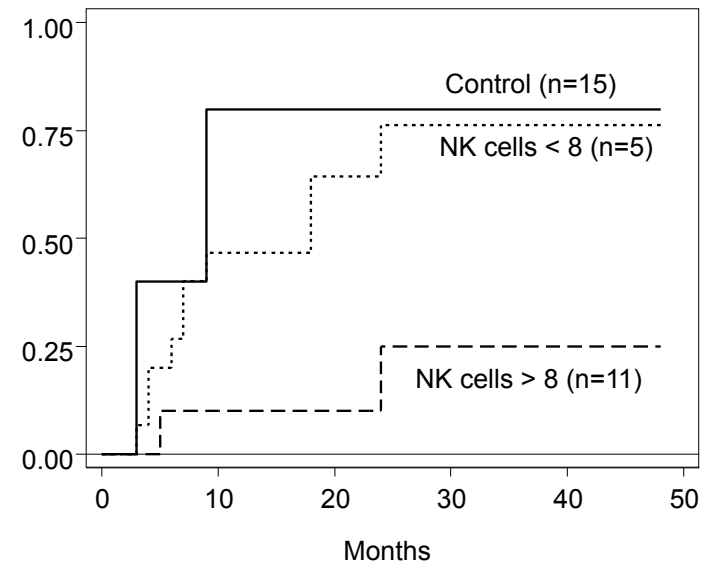


Curti et al. Blood 2011

Larger NK alloreactivity is associated with reduced relapse

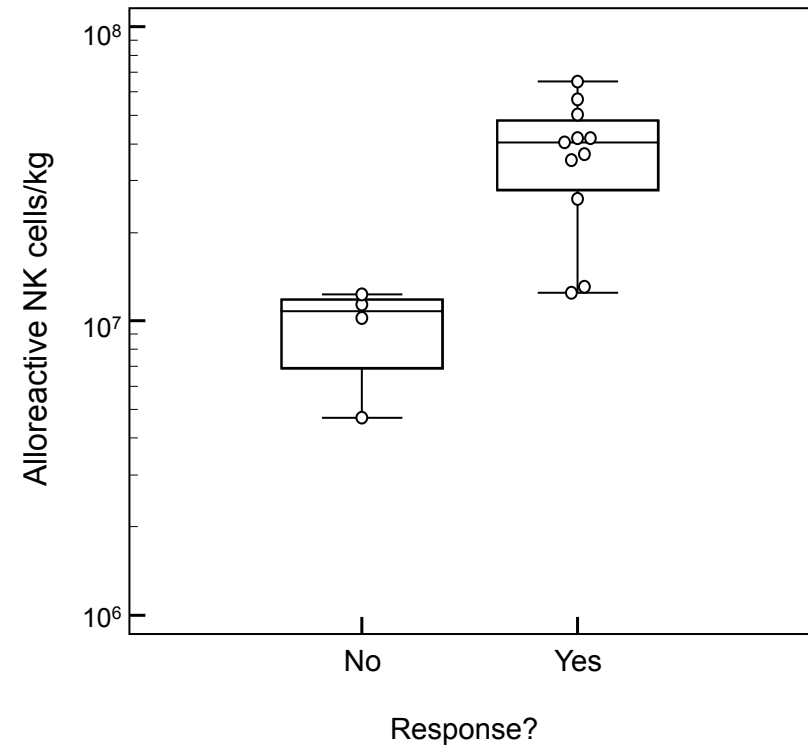
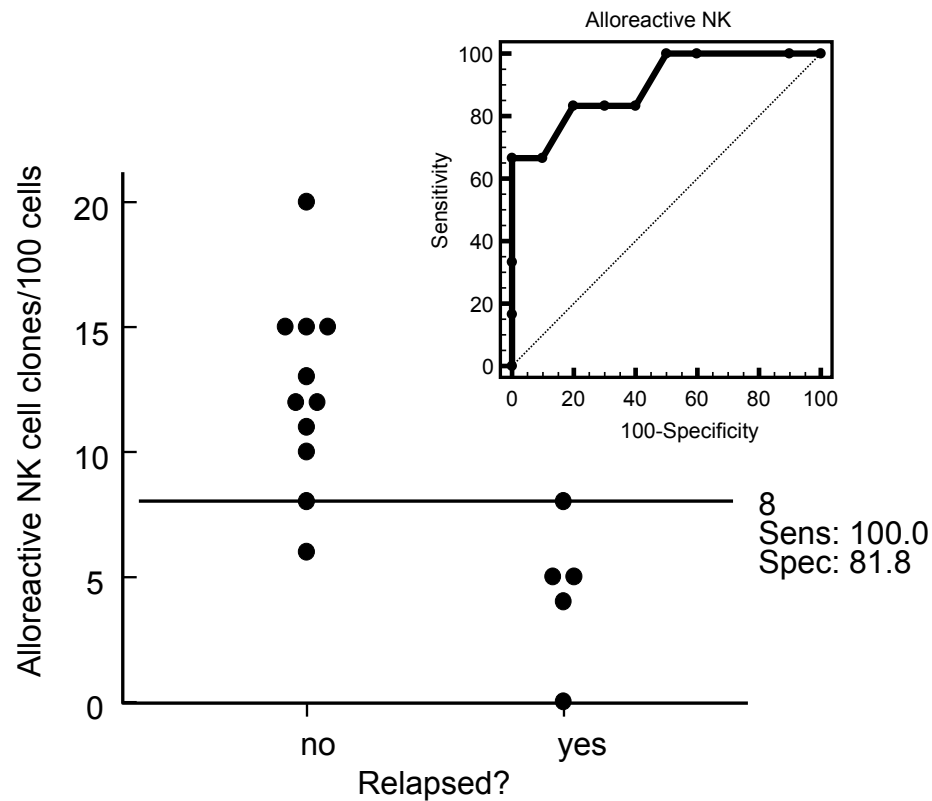


NK cells vs. control
HR 0.49 (95% 0.18-1.30)
 $P=0.138$ Log Rank test

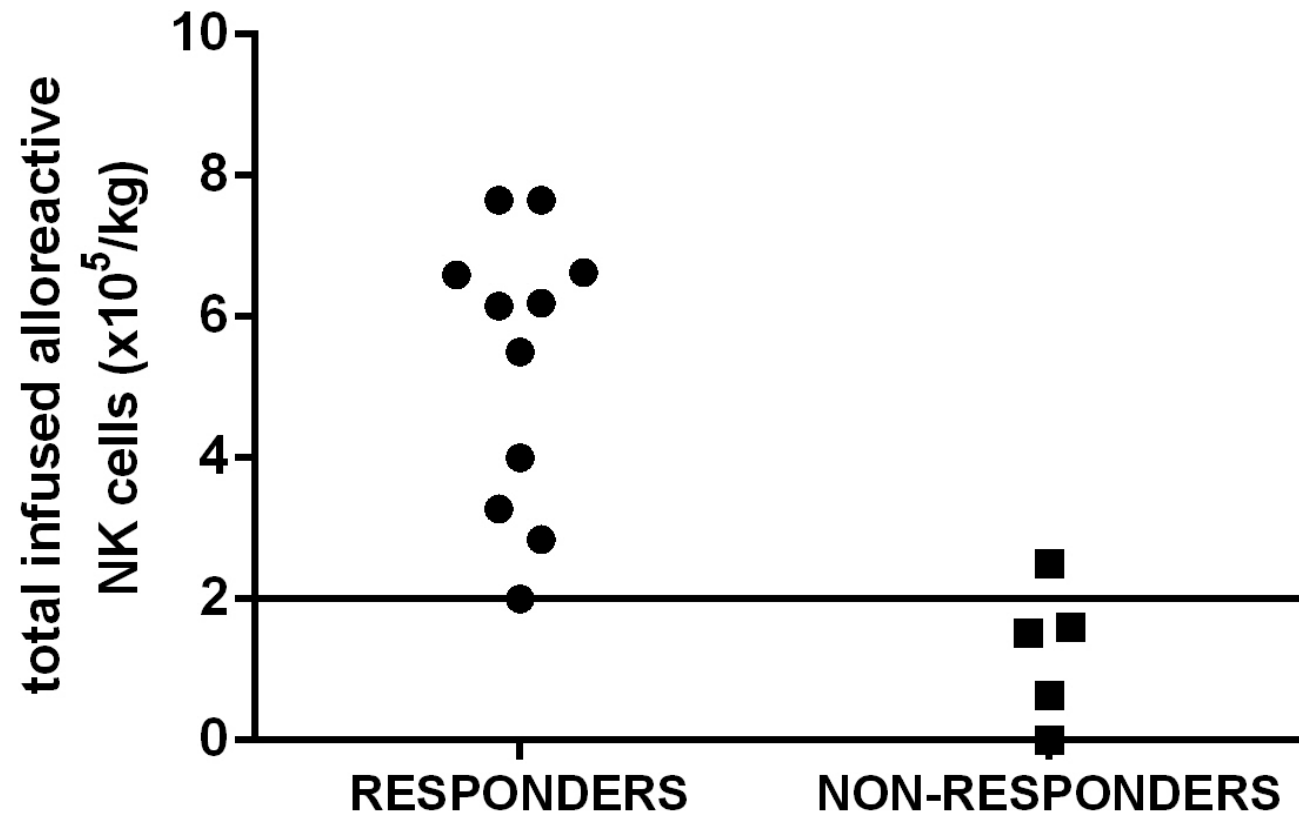


NK >8 vs. control
HR 0.15 (95% 0.03-0.70)
 $P=0.03$ Log Rank test

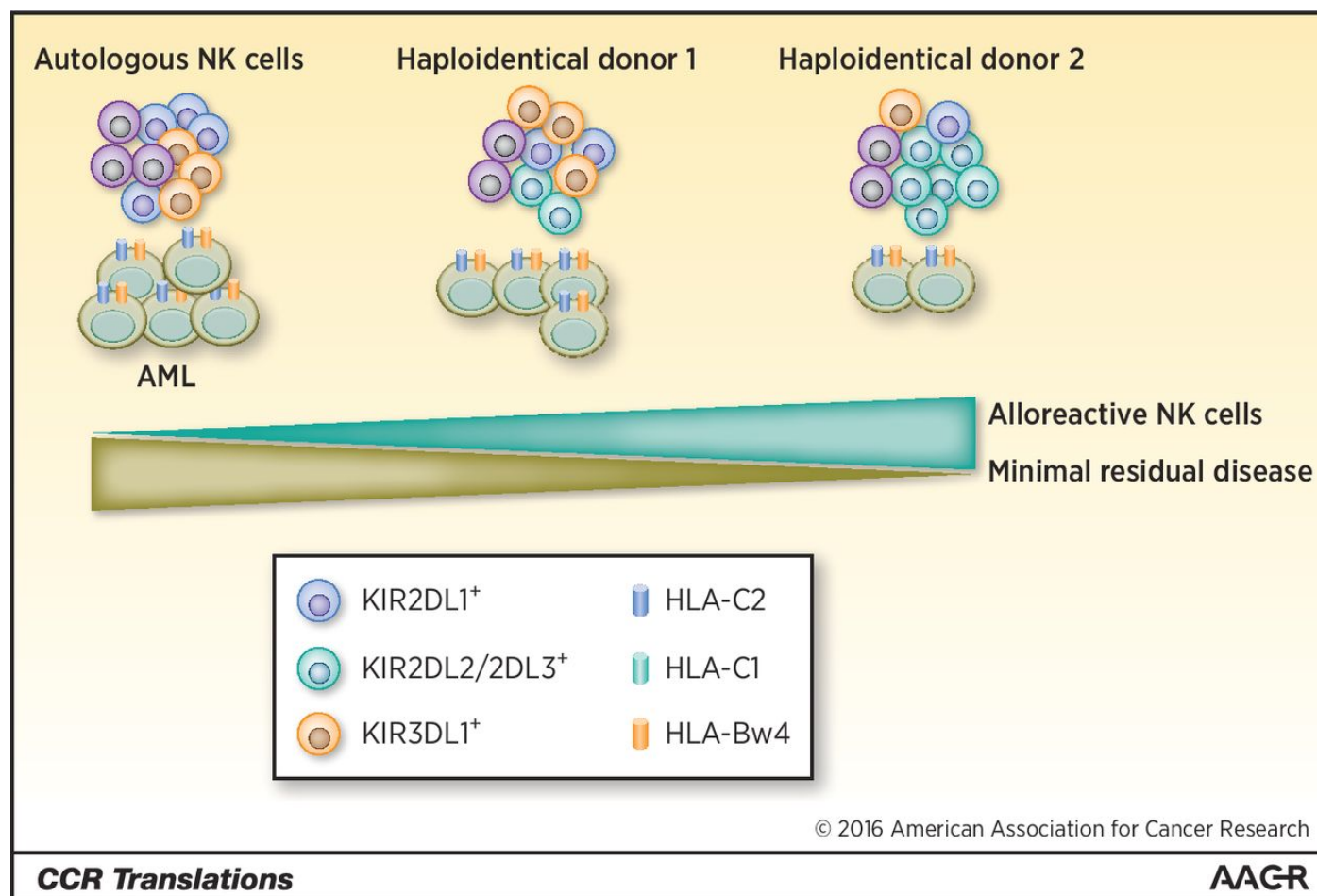
A threshold of alloreactive NK cell clones is predictive for response



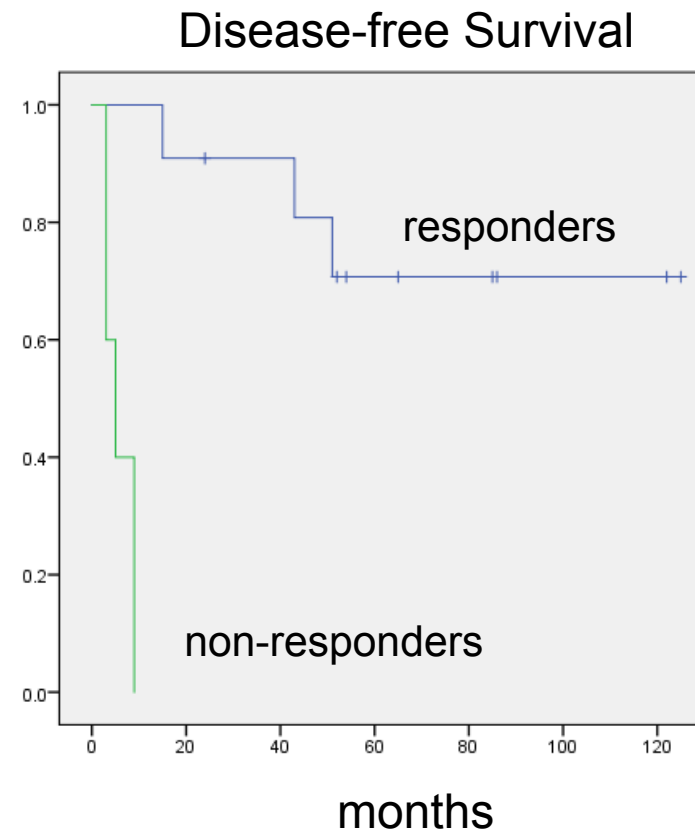
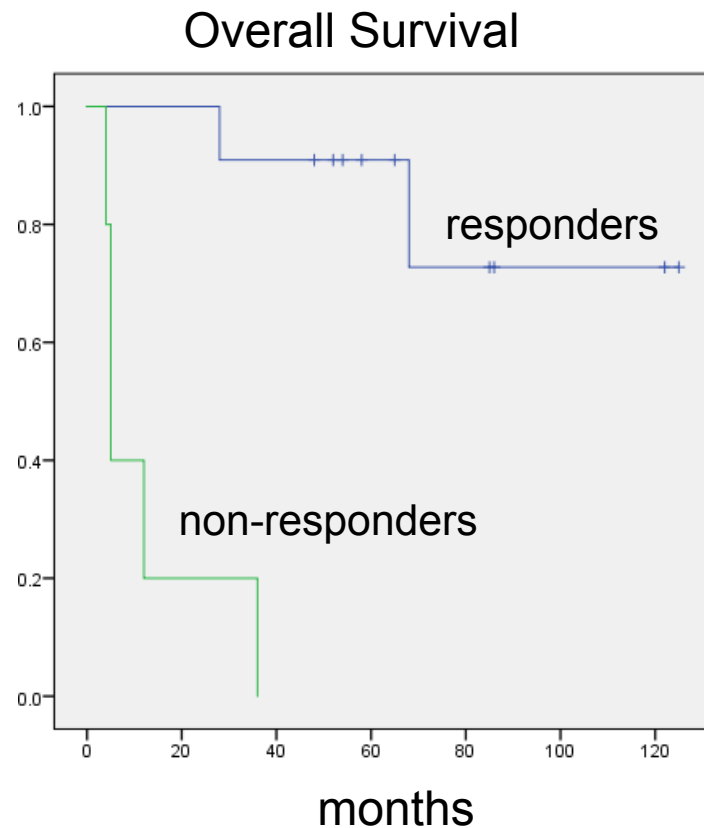
A threshold of alloreactive NK cell cells is predictive for response



The frequency of alloreactive NK cells may impact on the control of MRD in AML

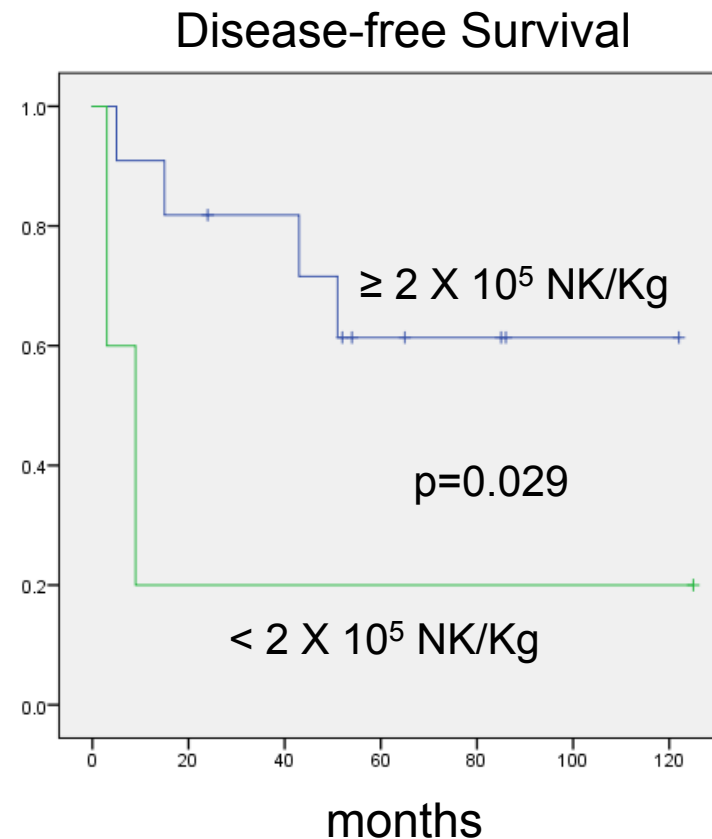
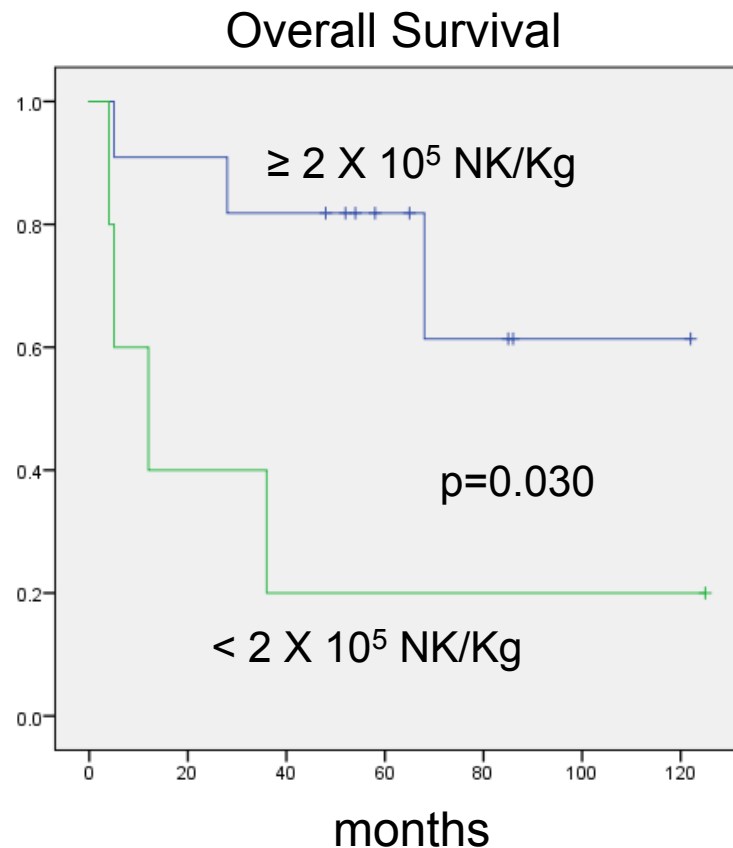


Response to NK infusion predicts durable remission after long-term follow up

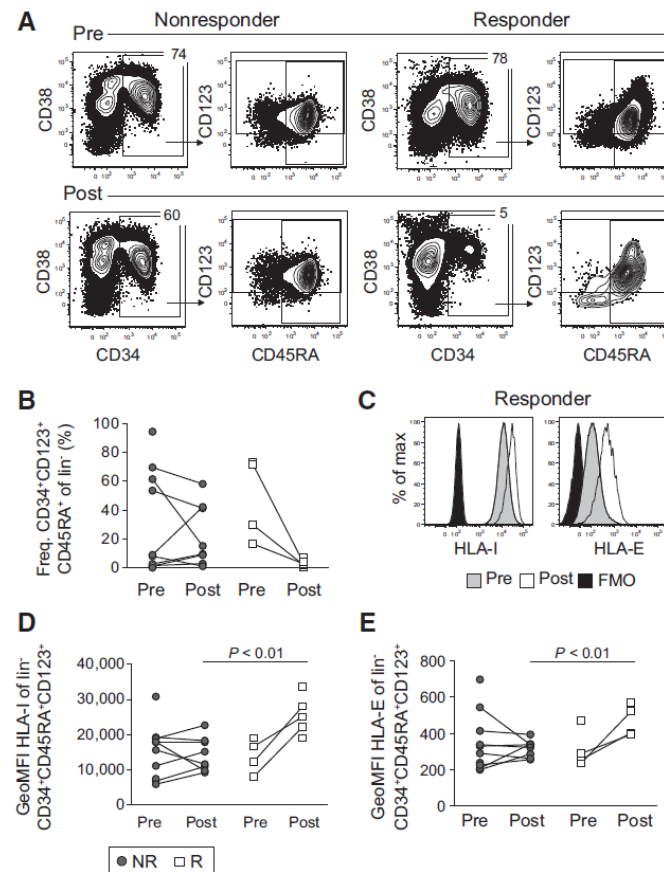
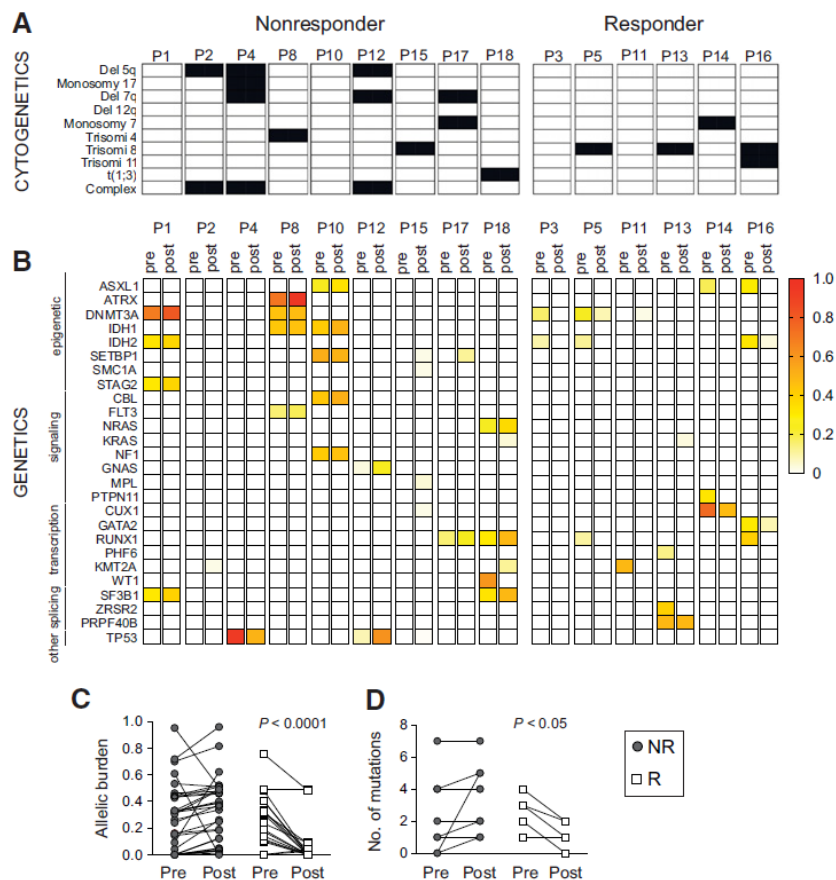


$p=0.0001$

The number of infused donor NK alloreactive cells correlates with prolonged OS and DFS



Infused NK cells have immunoediting capacity of leukemia burden and reduce high-risk clones



An algorithm for donor selection and cell processing based on NK functional dose

NKAML: A Pilot Study to Determine the Safety and Feasibility of Haploidentical Natural Killer Cell Transplantation in Childhood Acute Myeloid Leukemia

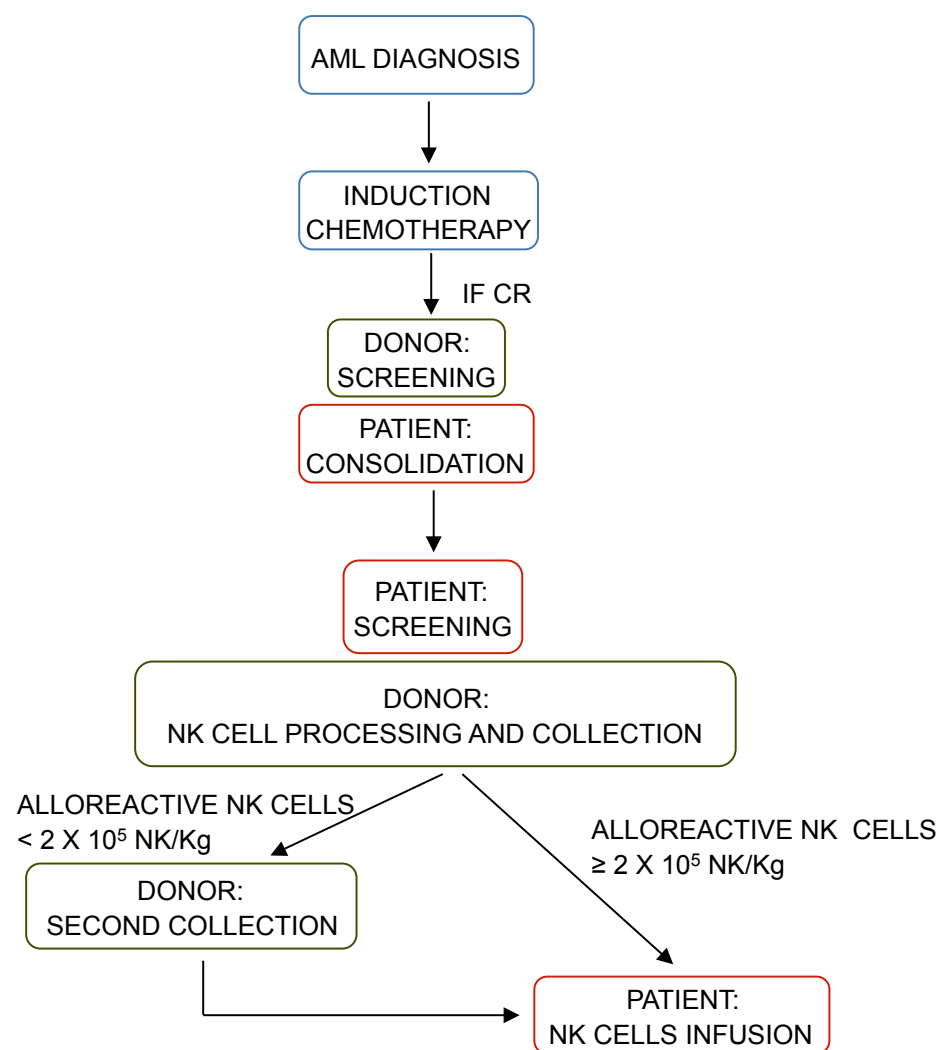
Jeffrey E. Rubnitz, Hiroto Inaba, Raul C. Ribeiro, Stanley Pounds, Barbara Rooney, Teresa Bell, Ching-Hon Pui, and Wing Leung

NK Cell Graft

NK Cells ($10^6/\text{kg}$)	T Cells ($10^6/\text{kg}$)	B Cells ($10^6/\text{kg}$)
38.7	ND	0.106
27.2	ND	1.700
31.1	ND	0.652
37.3	ND	0.148
80.9	ND	0.135
5.2	ND	0.007
7.3	ND	0.004
13.3	0.001	ND
47.7	ND	0.087
13.4	ND	0.082

VOLUME 28 • NUMBER 6 • FEBRUARY 20 2010

JOURNAL OF CLINICAL ONCOLOGY



Lemoli et al, Exp Hematol, 2017

NK-based clinical program

NKAML:

Infusion of alloreactive NK cells as consolidation strategy for adult acute myeloid leukemia patients: a multicenter clinical trial.

ENROLLING

MRDNK:

Infusion of alloreactive NK cells for acute myeloid leukemia patients, eligible for allogeneic stem cell transplantation, with persistent minimal residual disease after conventional chemotherapy.

UNDER APPROVAL

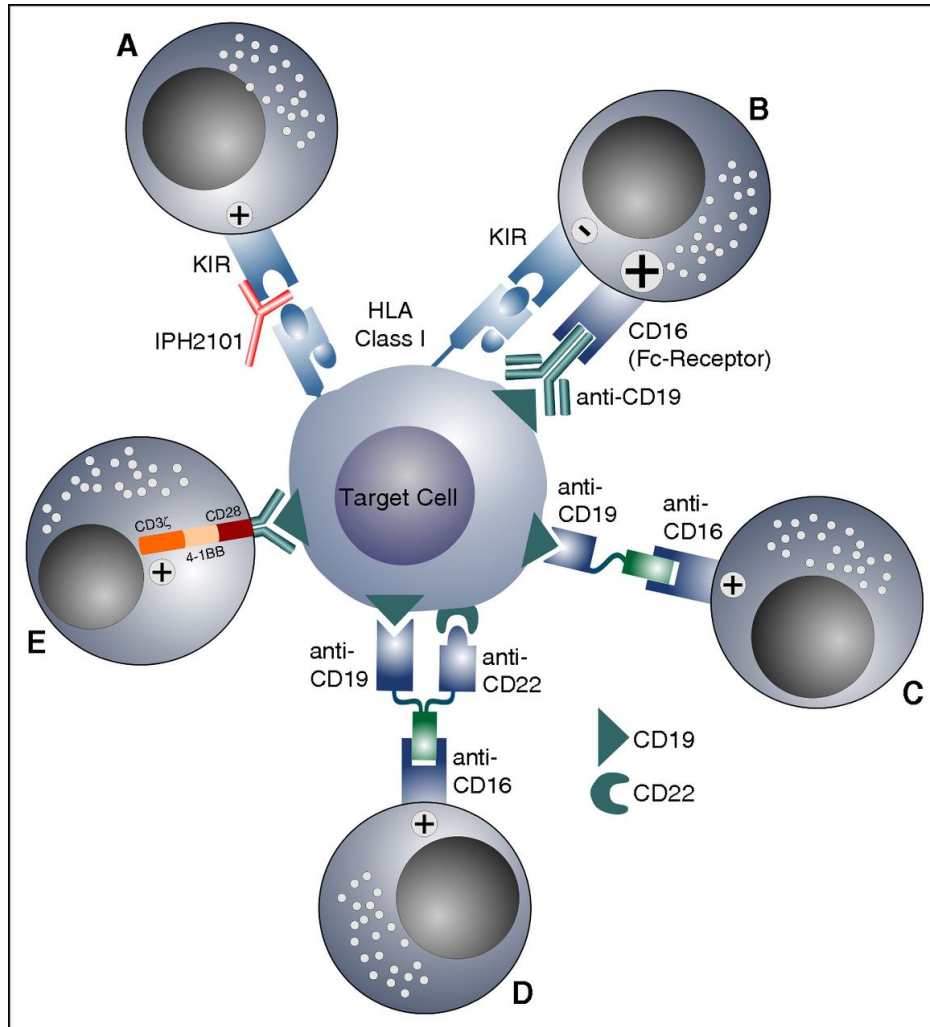
Financial Support by Italian Ministry of Health

**INFUSION OF ALLOREACTIVE NK
CELLS AS CONSOLIDATION
STRATEGY FOR ELDERLY ACUTE
MYELOID LEUKEMIA PATIENTS:
A MULTICENTER CLINICAL STUDY**

“NKAML”

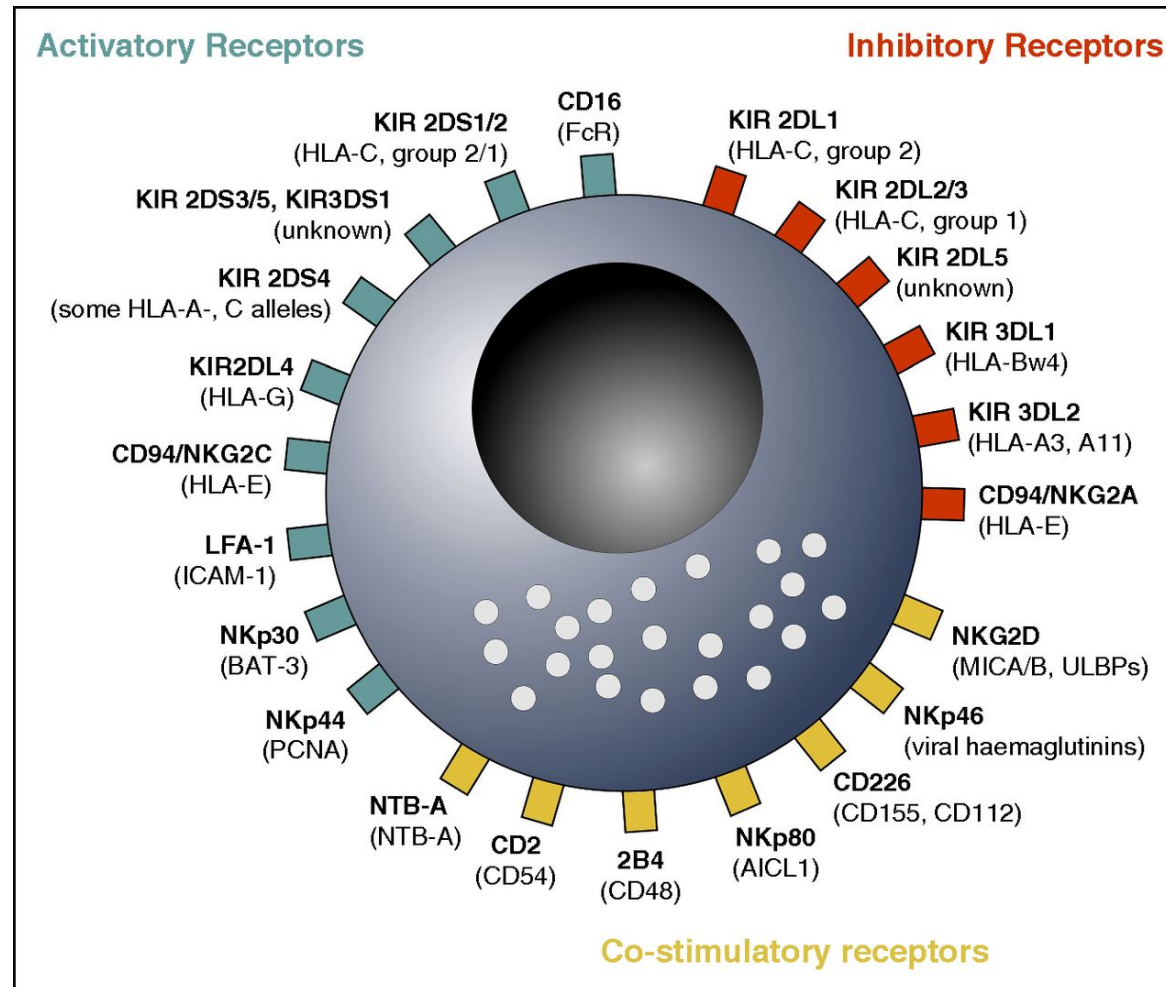


Strategies to overcome the KIR-KIRL-mediated inhibition of NK cells



- Blocking KIR-KIRL interaction
- Activation of CD16 (Fc-receptor) on NK cells with an antibody directed against leukemic cells
- Bispecific and Trispecific killer engagers activate NK cells via the Fc-receptor against leukemia cells
- CAR-NK cells directed against leukemia antigens

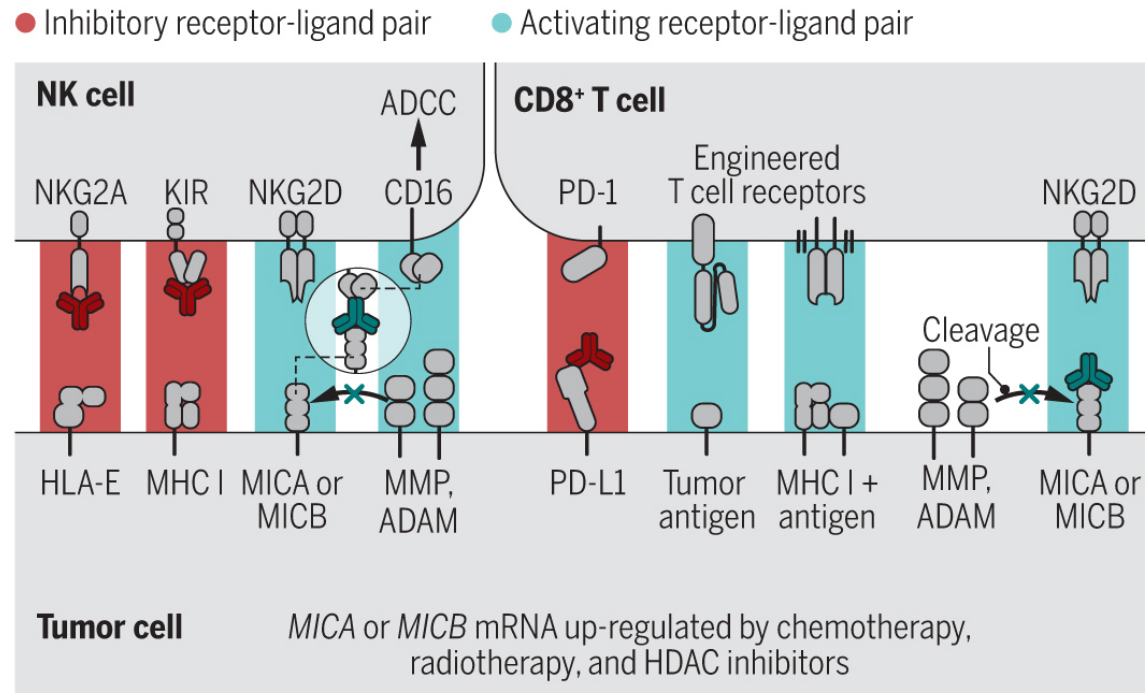
NK cells “naturally” kill cell targets without prior sensitization



Combinatorial strategies with MICA-MICB mAb

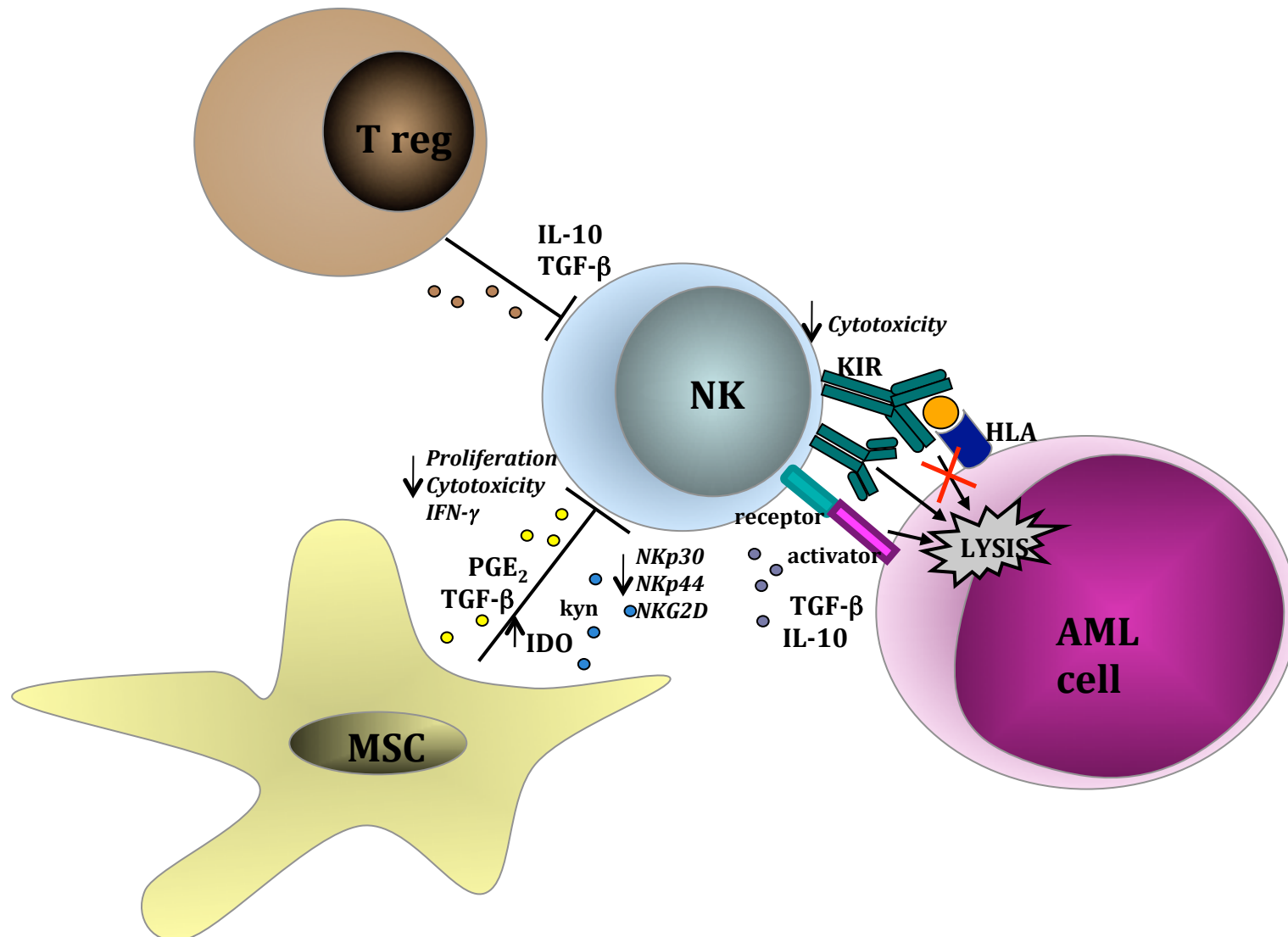
Combinatorial strategies with MICA-MICB mAb

The MICA-MICB mAb stabilizes these NKG2D ligands on tumor cells, inducing tumor cell killing by NK and CD8⁺ T cells. Combinations with immune checkpoint inhibitors (anti-PD-1 or anti-PD-L1), engineered immune cells, or antibodies blocking NKG2A or KIR could amplify antitumor activity. HLA-E, human leukocyte antigen E.

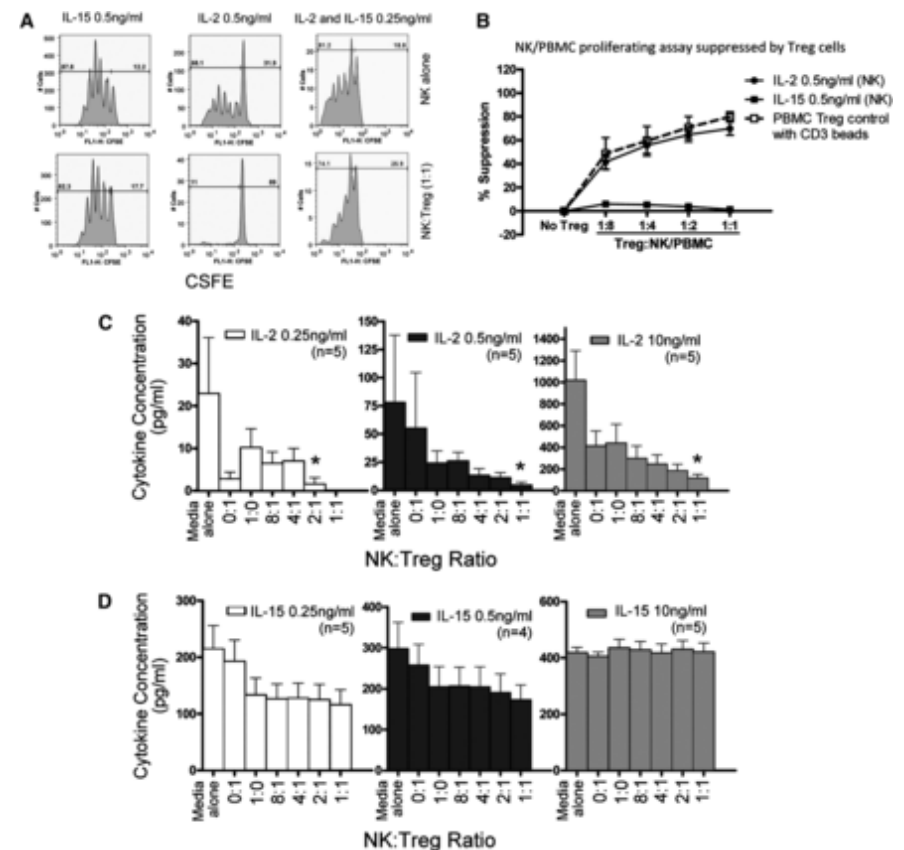
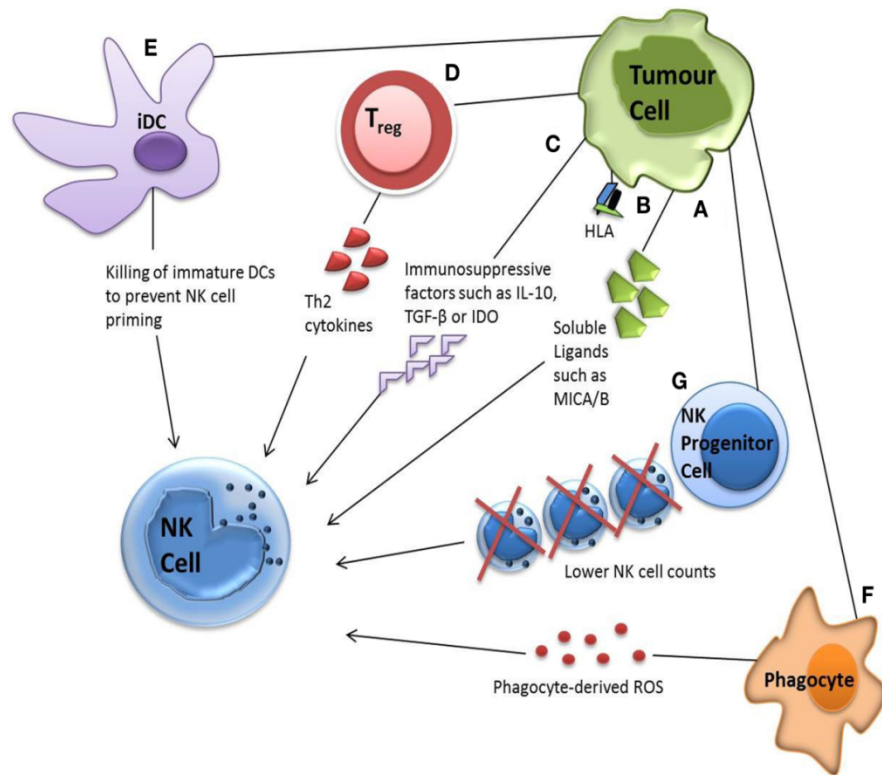


Adelheid Cerwenka, and Lewis L. Lanier *Science*
2018;359:1460-1461

How components of BM microenvironment may inhibit NK activity against AML

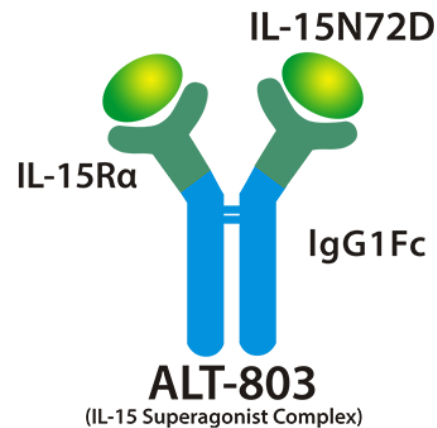


Patient-derived factors on alloreactive NK immunotherapy: the role of Tregs

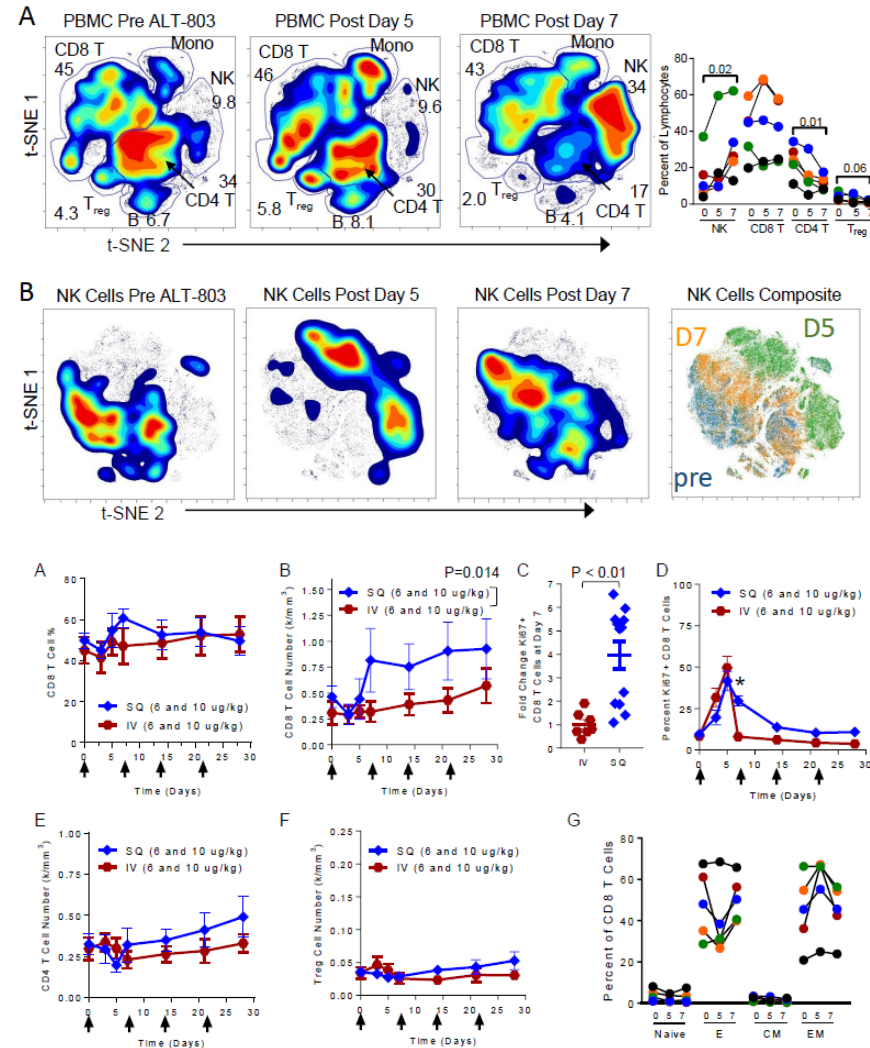


First-in-human Phase 1 Clinical Study of the IL-15 Superagonist Complex ALT-803 to Treat Relapse after Transplantation

Rizwan Romee, Sarah Cooley, Melissa M. Berrien-Elliott, Peter Westervelt, Michael R. Verneris, John E. Wagner, Daniel J. Weisdorf, Bruce R. Blazar, Celalettin Ustun, Todd E. DeFor, Sithara Vivek, Lindsey Peck, John F. DiPersio, Amanda F. Cashen, Rachel Kylo, Amy Musiek, Andr s Schaffer, Milan J. Anadkat, Ilana Rosman, Daniel Miller, Jack O. Egan, Emily K. Jeng, Amy Rock, Hing C. Wong, Todd A. Fehniger and Jeffrey S. Miller



ALT-803 is novel IL-15 superagonist complex consisting of an IL-15 mutant (IL-15N72D) bound to an IL-15 receptor α /IgG1 Fc fusion protein. **ALT-803** has improved pharmacokinetic properties, longer persistence in lymphoid tissues and enhanced anti-tumor activity compared to native, non-complexed IL-15 in vivo.



Conclusions

- The demonstration of the significant clinical activity of alloreactive purified NK cells outside the transplantation setting is the rationale for exploiting this strategy as adoptive immunotherapy
- The results from early safety studies have clearly paved the way for designing a new generation of efficacy clinical studies
- Biological issues need full elucidation and clinical correlation
- NK alloreactivity may represent the platform for expanding the field to innovative NK cell-based approaches

Acknowledgements

**Institute of Hematology
«L. and A. Seràgnoli»
University of Bologna**

Sarah Parisi
Darina Ocadlikova
Mariangela Lecciso
Marilena Ciciarello
Valentina Salvestrini
Dorian Forte
Giulia Corradi

Francesca Bonifazi
Maria Rosa Motta,
Simonetta Rizzi
Elisa Dan

Cristina Papayannidis
Stefania Paolini

Michele Cavo

**Clinic of Hematology, IRST
S. Martino, Genoa, Italy**
Roberto M. Lemoli



Ministero della Salute
Ricerca Finalizzata



**Dept. Hematology,
University of Perugia**

Andrea Velardi
Loredana Ruggeri
Elena Urbani

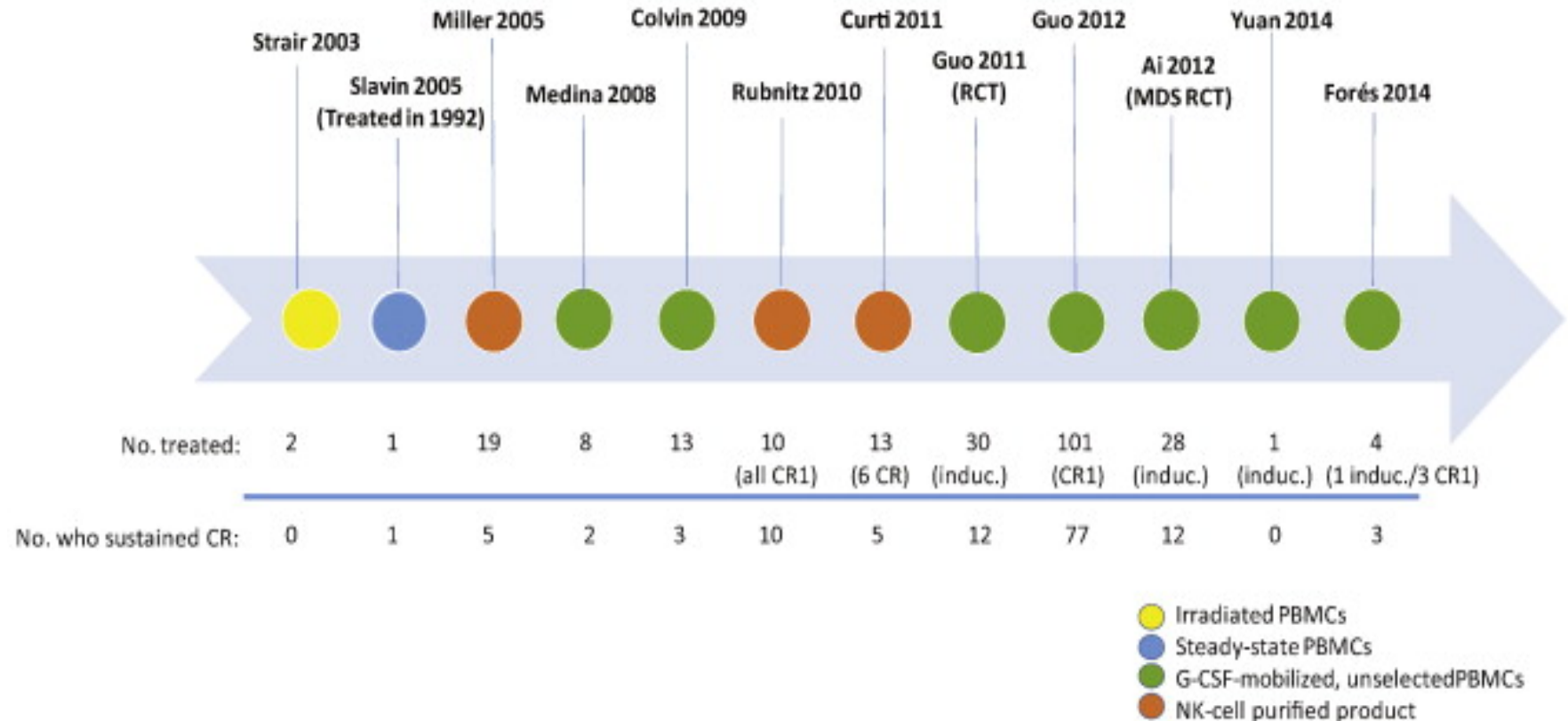
**Immunogenetics
Laboratory
Hospital S.Orsola-Bologna**

Andrea Bontadini
Fiorenza Fruet
Valeria Giudice

**Department of Medical
and Surgical Sciences
University of Bologna**

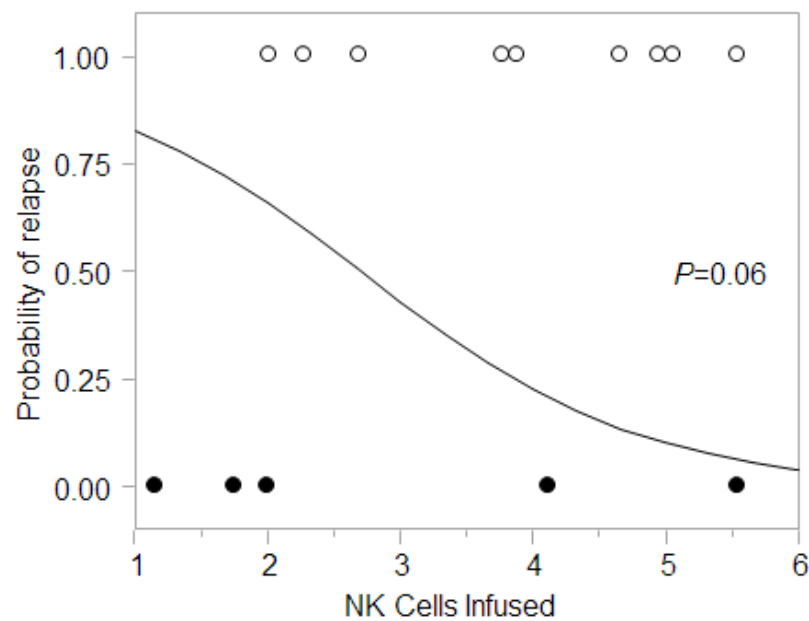
Russell E. Lewis

Time-line summary of alloreactive immunotherapy for AML

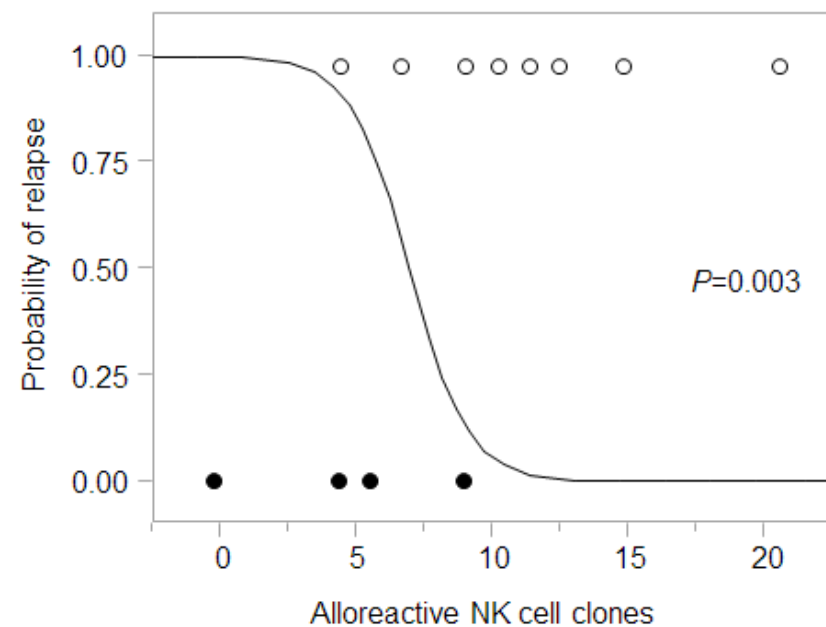


The percentage of donor alloreactive NK cells correlates with relapse rate

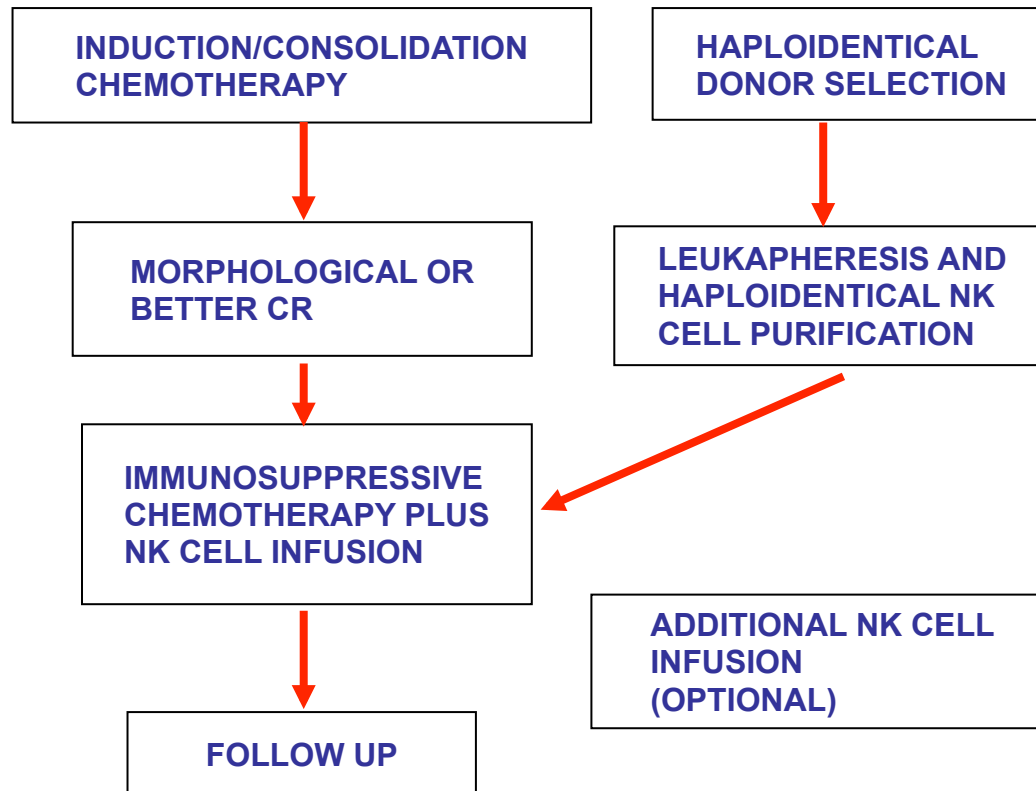
A.



B.



Infusion of alloreactive NK cells into AML patients in CR



54 high risk AML patients were screened for the availability of one haploidentical KIR ligand mismatched donor

26 patients (48%) had one suitable donor.

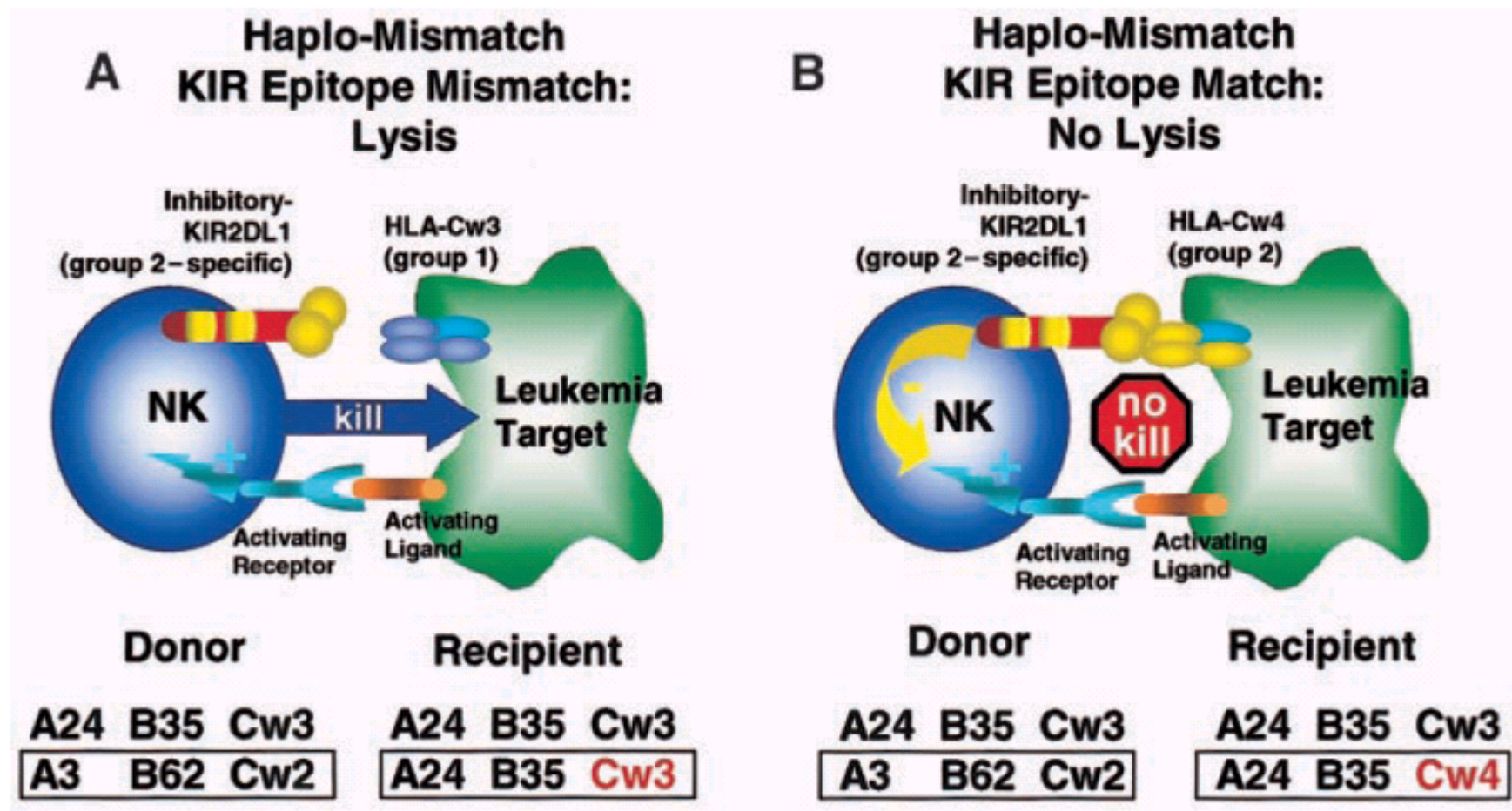
21 patients (38%) infused.

17 patients infused in CR

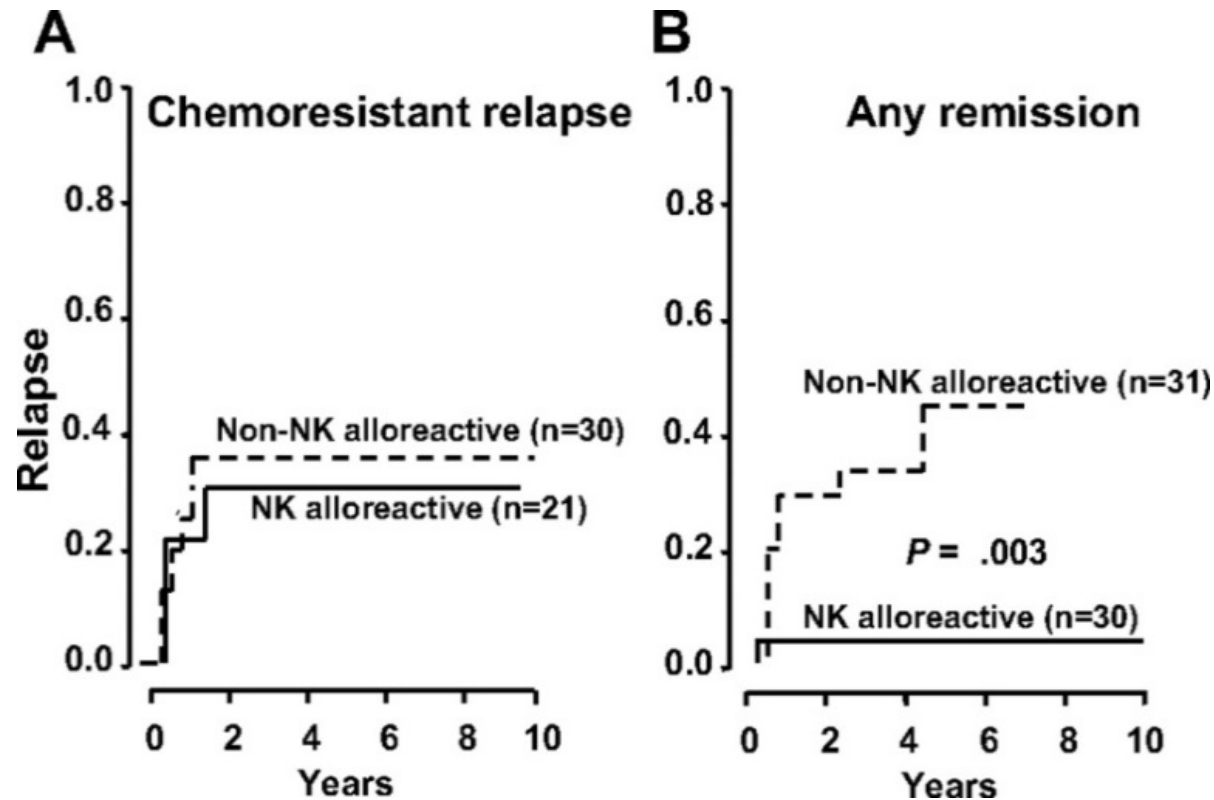
16 evaluable patients for clinical response

9 CR patients are disease-free after a median follow-up of 27 months

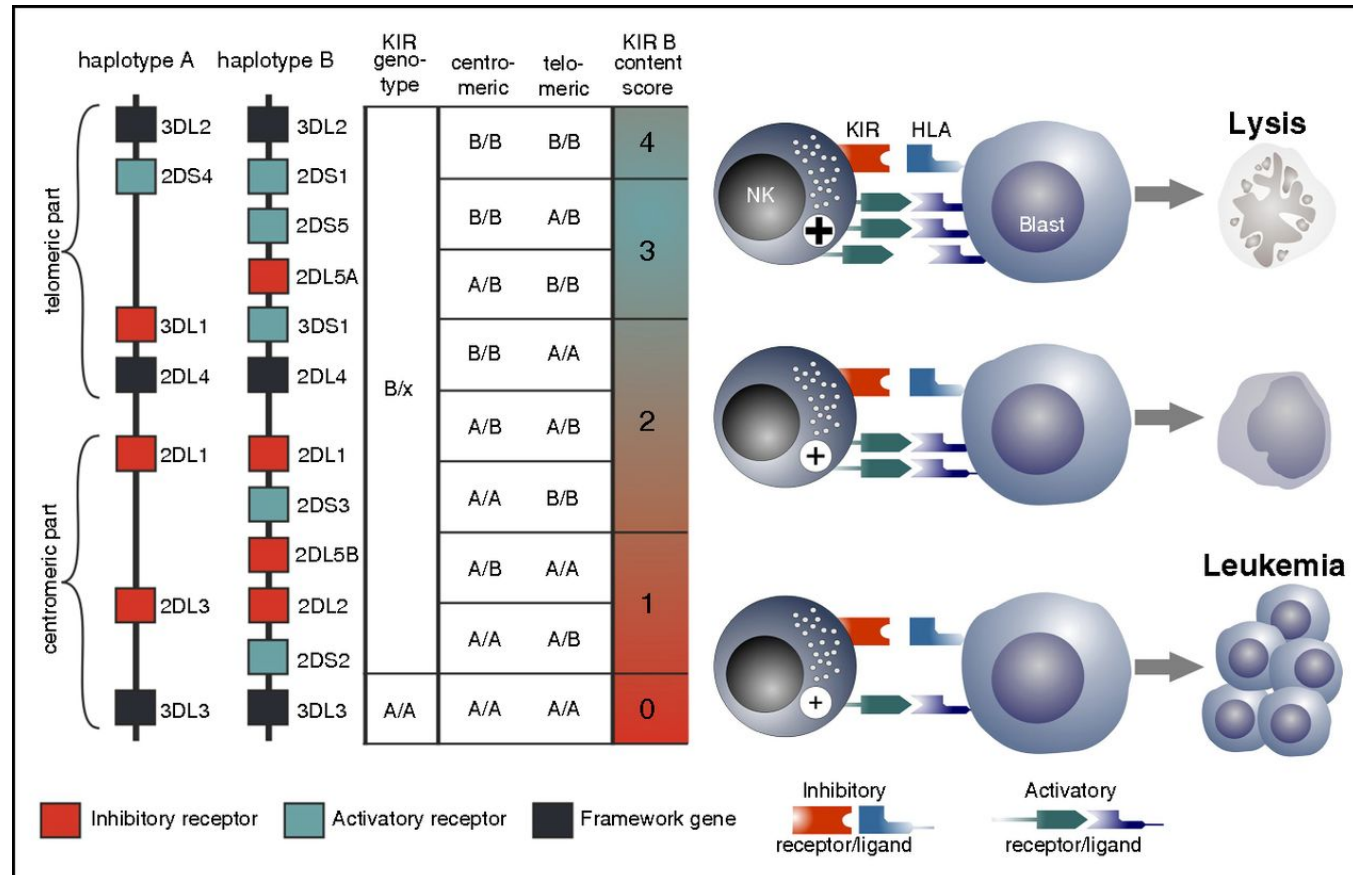
KIR-KIRL mismatch in haploidentical SCT: the missing-self



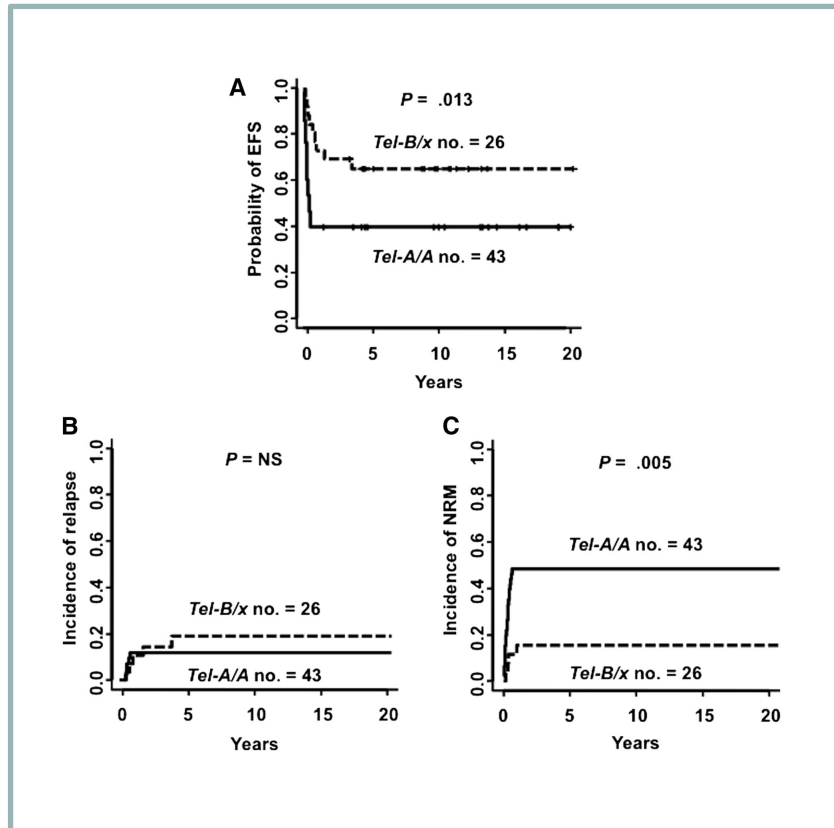
Clinical impact of KIR-L mismatch on relapse rate after haploSCT



Defining the optimal donor: KIR-L mismatch plus activating KIRs



KIR-L mismatch and activating KIRS: improved clinical outcome after haploSCT



Mancusi et al. Blood 2015

