



# **BENDAMUSTINE + RITUXIMAB IN CLL**

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Bologna 13. November 2017

# **CONFLICT OF INTERESTS**

## **1. Advisory Boards**

Janssen, Gilead, Roche, Abbvie, GSK

## **2. Honoraria**

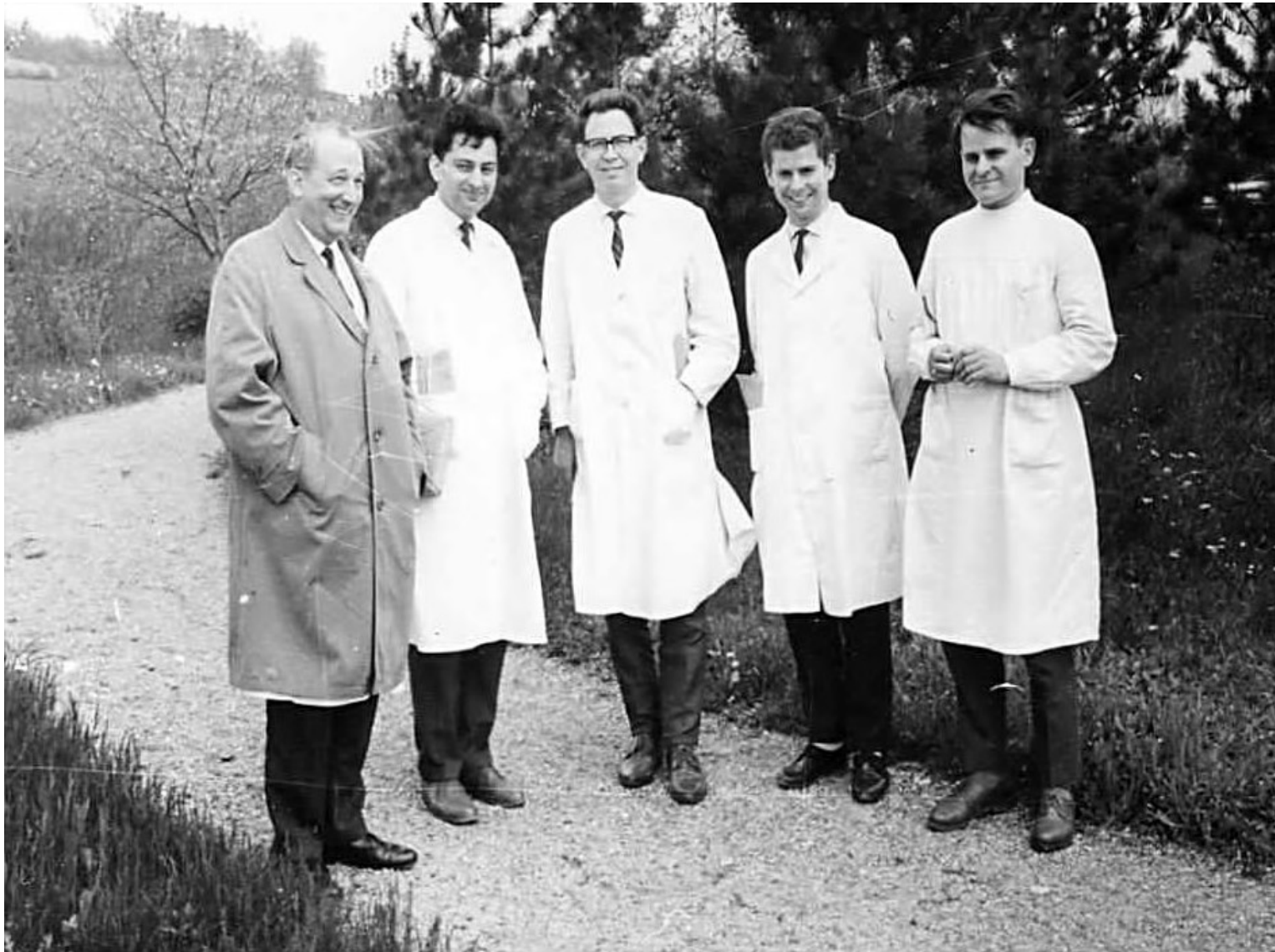
Roche, GSK, Gilead, Janssen, Abbvie, Celgene

## **3. Research support**

Roche, Jannse, Abbvie, Gilead,

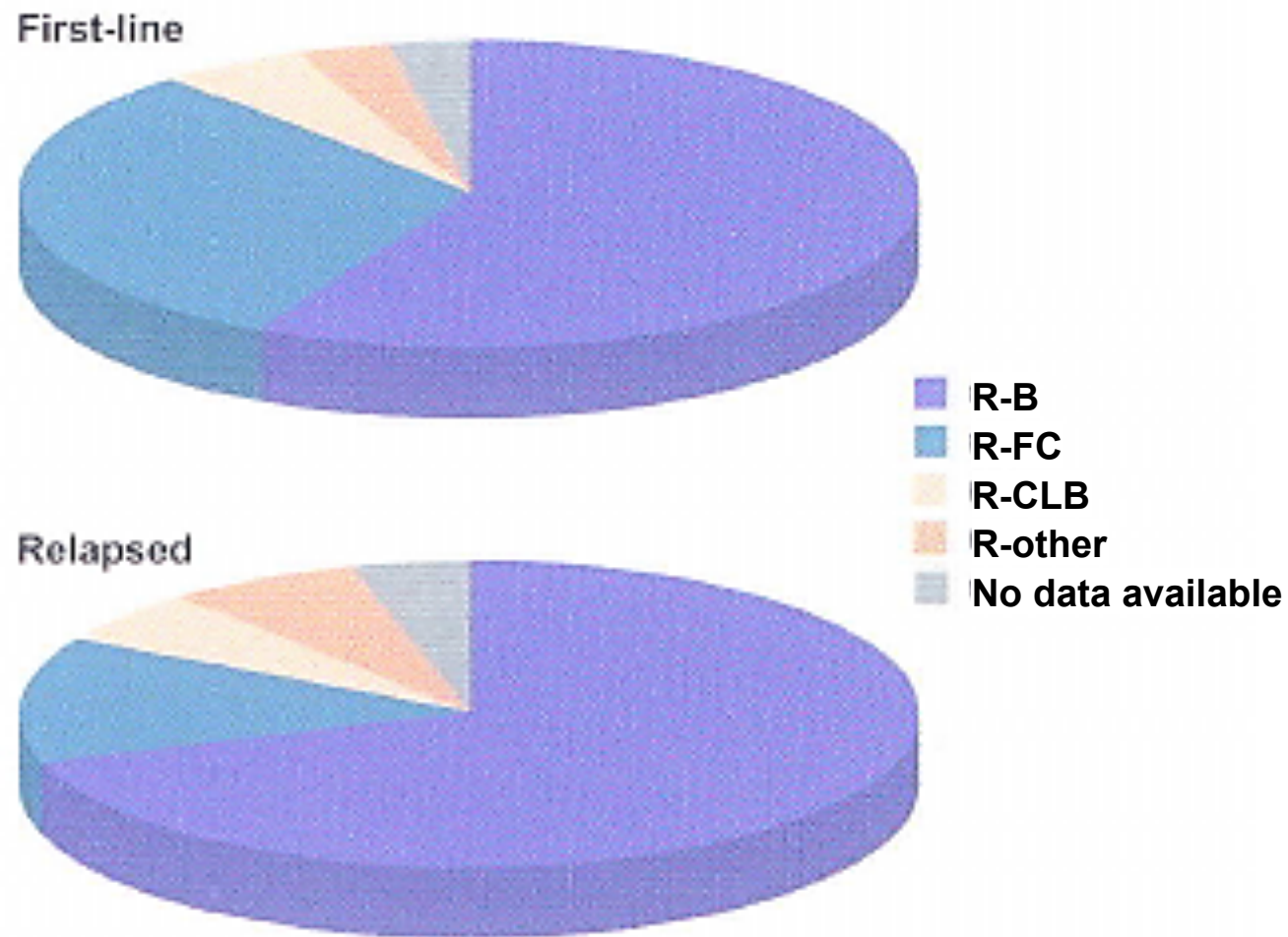
# BENDAMUSTINE

W.Ozegowski, D.Krebs, Institute of Microbiology and Experimental Therapy,  
Jena (1962)



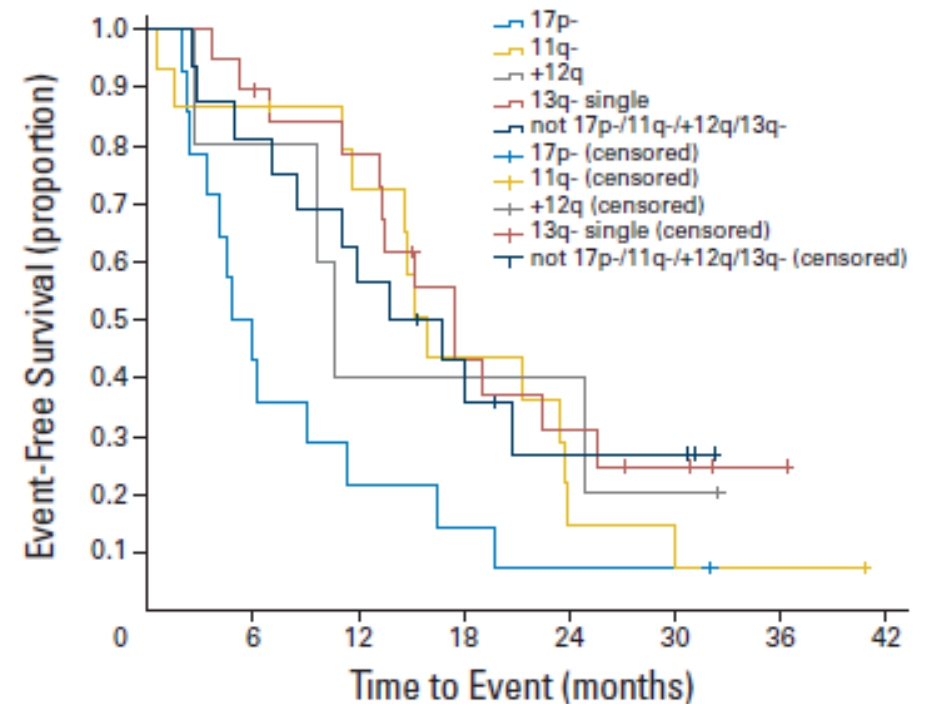
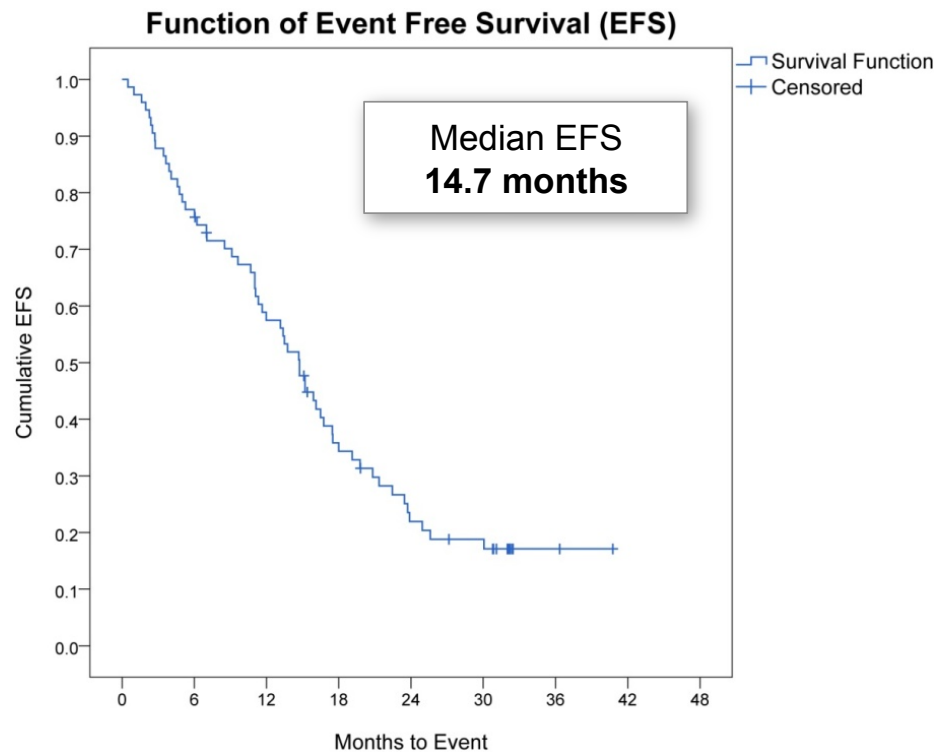
# USE OF BR FOR TREATMENT OF CLL IN GERMANY

Data of the registry of private hematologists in Germany



# BR IN RELAPSE THERAPY OF CLL

Event free survival (EFS) after 24 months median observation time



## BR IN FIRST LINE THERAPY OF CLL PHASE II TRIAL IN 117 PATIENTS

Treatment efficacy ITT

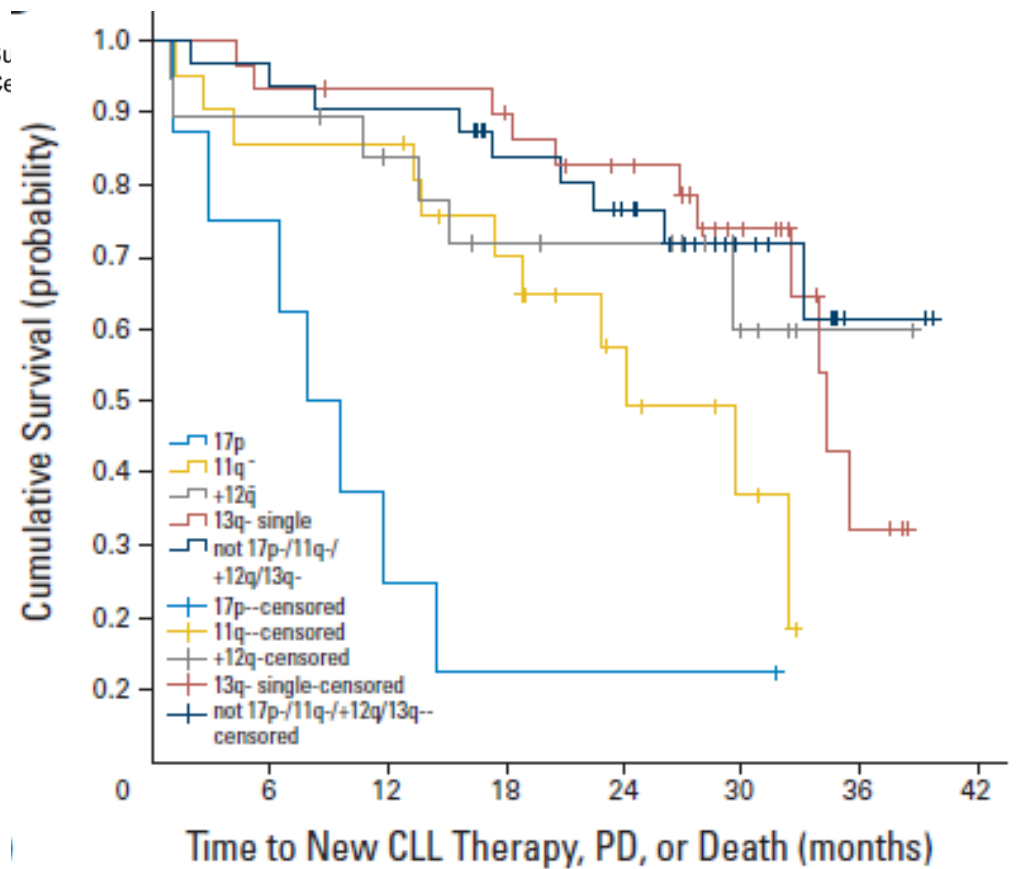
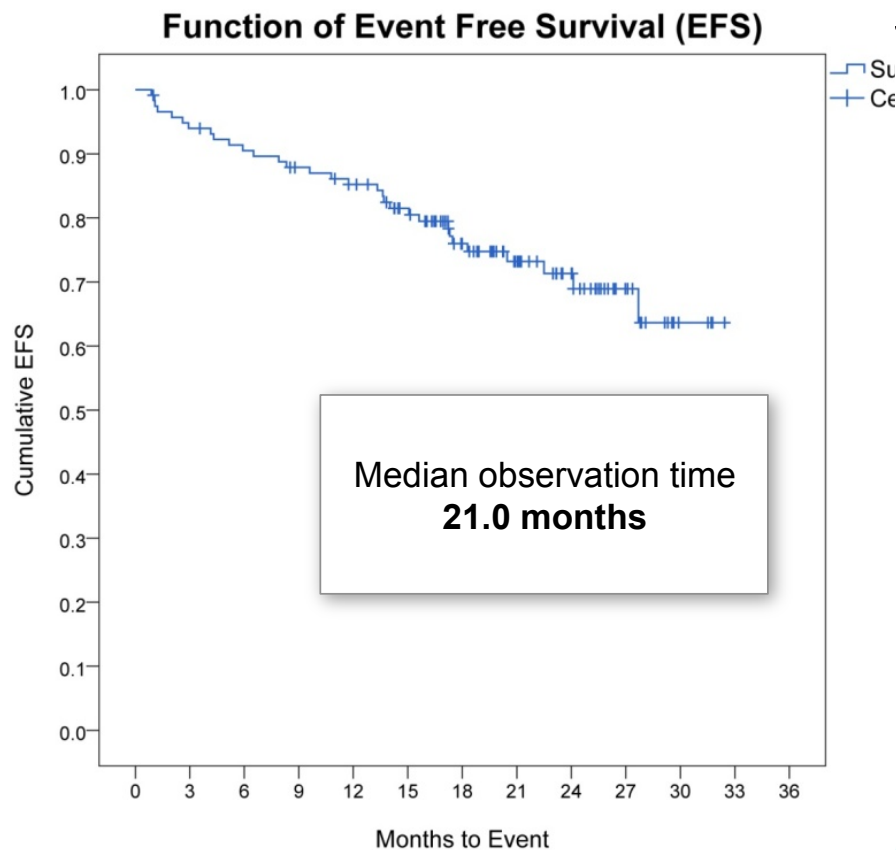
Response	N = 117	%
ORR	103	88
CR	27	23

Treatment efficacy in prognostic subgroups

Genetic subgroups*	N	ORR (%)	CR (%)
+12	19	18 (95)	4 (21)
11q-	20	18 (90)	8 (40)
17p-	8	3 (37)	- (-)
IGHV unmutated	66	59 (89)	18 (27)

# BR IN FIRST LINE THERAPY OF CLL

Event free survival (EFS)



## BR IN FIRST LINE THERAPY OF CLL

### Adverse events

<b>Adverse Events</b> (CTC Version 3.0)	<b>Grade 3/4/5 (n)</b>	<b>Grade 3/4/5 (%)</b>
<b>Leukopenia</b>	35	30
<b>Neutropenia</b>	24	20
<b>Thrombocytopenia</b>	27	23
<b>Anemia</b>	24	20
<b>Tumor lysis syndrome</b>	3	3
<b>Hemolysis</b> (before start of therapy)	2	2
<b>Allergic reactions</b>	11	9
<b>Infections</b>	12	10
<b>TRM: 3.4% (3 infections, 1 liver failure)</b>		



# CLL10 STUDY: FCR VS BR IN FRONT-LINE

Design: Phase III non-inferiority trial

Patients with untreated, active CLL **without del(17p)** and good physical fitness  
(CIRS  $\leq 6$ , creatinine clearance  $\geq 70$  ml/min)

Randomization



FCR

Fludarabine 25 mg/m<sup>2</sup> i.v., days 1-3  
Cyclophosphamide 250 mg/m<sup>2</sup>, days 1-3,  
Rituximab 375 mg/m<sup>2</sup> i.v. day 0, cycle 1  
Rituximab 500 mg/m<sup>2</sup> i.v. day 1, cycle 2-6



BR

Bendamustine 90mg/m<sup>2</sup> day 1-2  
Rituximab 375 mg/m<sup>2</sup> day 0, cycle 1  
Rituximab 500 mg/m<sup>2</sup> day 1, cycle 2-6

## CLL10 STUDY: FCR VS BR IN FRONTLINE

ITT Best Response according to IWCLL & MRD

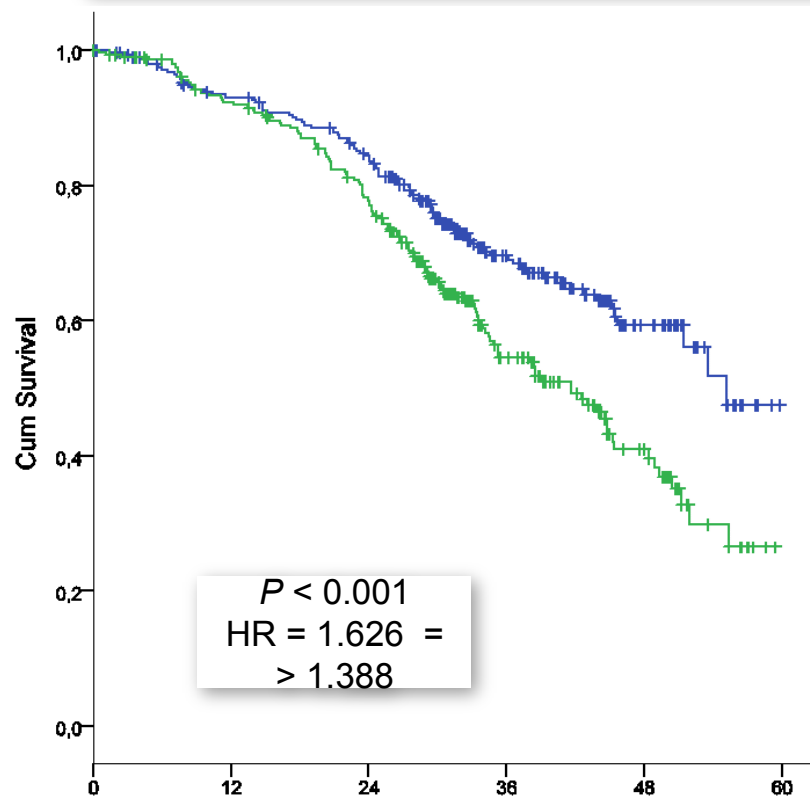
<b>Response</b>	<b>FCR (%) n=282</b>	<b>BR (%) n=279</b>	<b>p value</b>
CR (CR + CRi)	39.7	30.8	0.034
ORR	95.4	95.7	1.0
<b>MRD negativity</b>	<b>FCR %(N) n=282</b>	<b>BR %(N) n=279</b>	
BM at FR	26.6% (75/282)	11.1% (31/279)	
PB at FR	48.6% (137/282)	38.4% (107/279)	

# CLL10 STUDY: FCR VS BR IN FRONT-LINE

ITT Progression-free survival = Primary endpoint

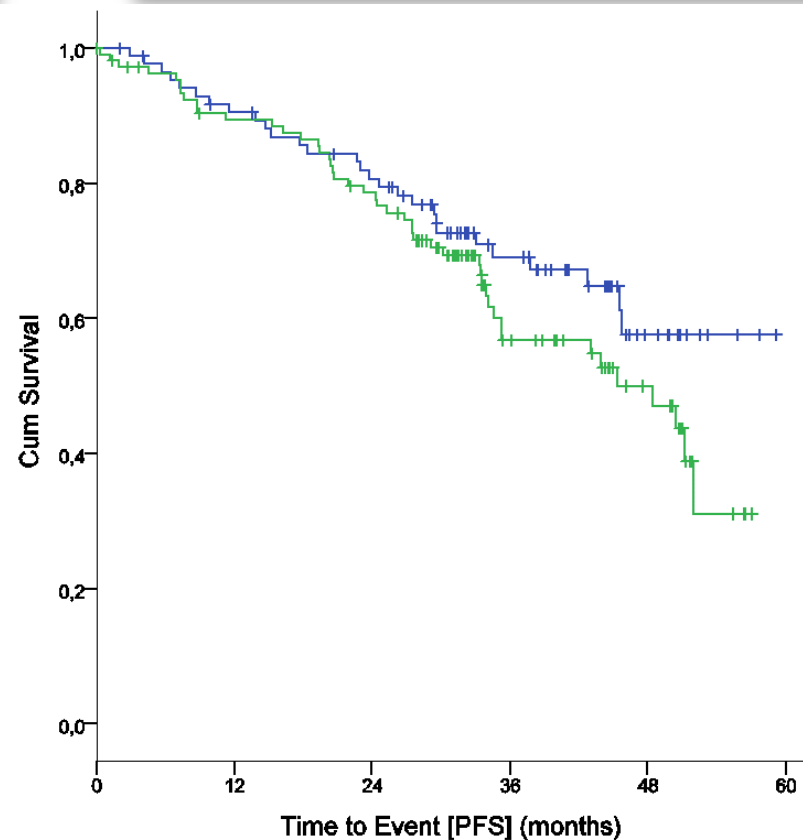
Median PFS all patients

FCR 55.2 months BR 41.7 months



Patients > 65 years:  $P = 0.170$

FCR not reached BR 48.5 months

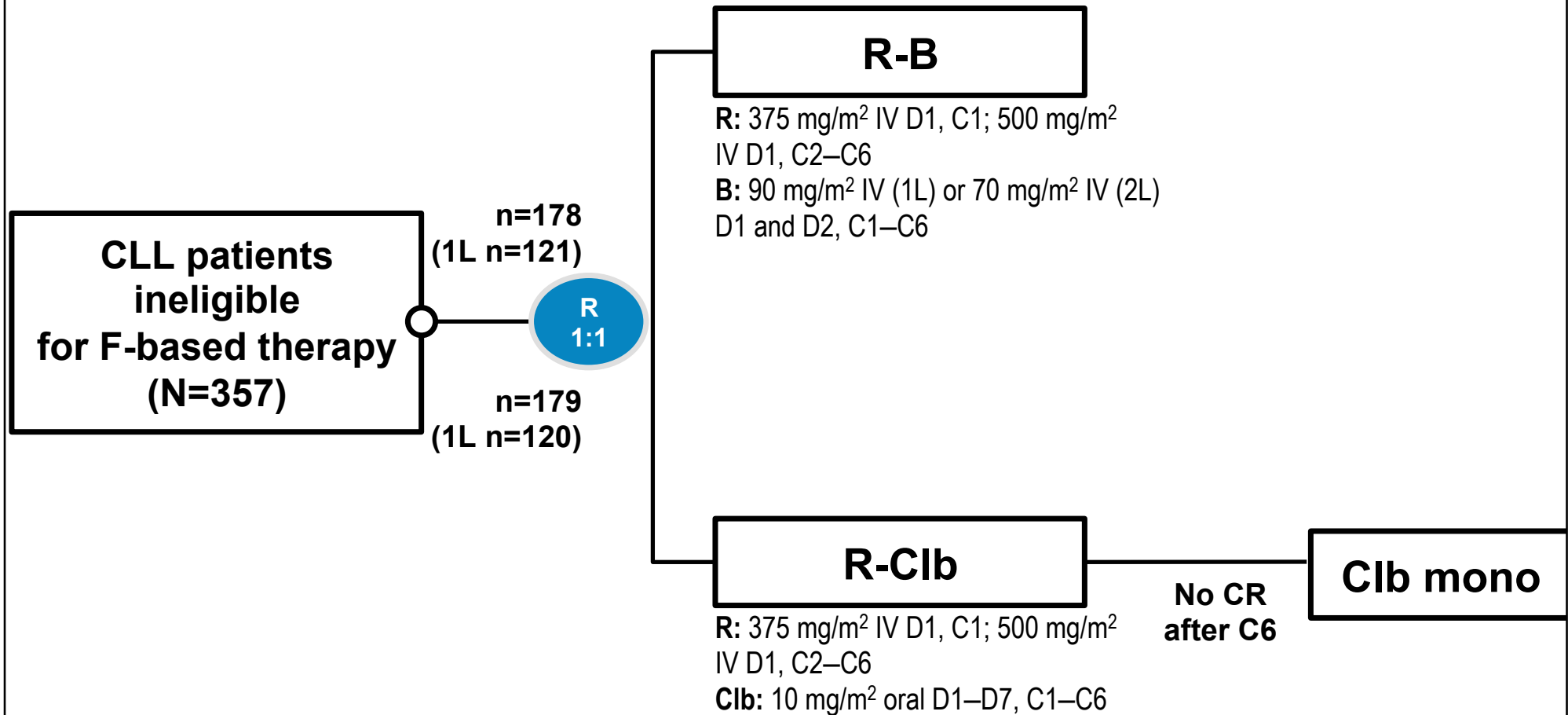


## CLL10 TRIAL: TOXICITY

		FCR (n=279)	BR (n=278)
Severe infections	all	35.2	27.5
	> 65 only	47.7	20.6
SPM		49 (18%)	35 (12%)
Solid tumor		28 (10%)	25 (9%)
Skin tumor		9 (3%)	8 (3%)
AML/MDS	all	12 (4%)	2 (1%)
	> 65 only	6 (7%)	1 (1%)
RT		5 (2%)	8 (3%)

# MABLE STUDY: CLBR VS BR IN PTS NOT SUITABLE FOR FCR

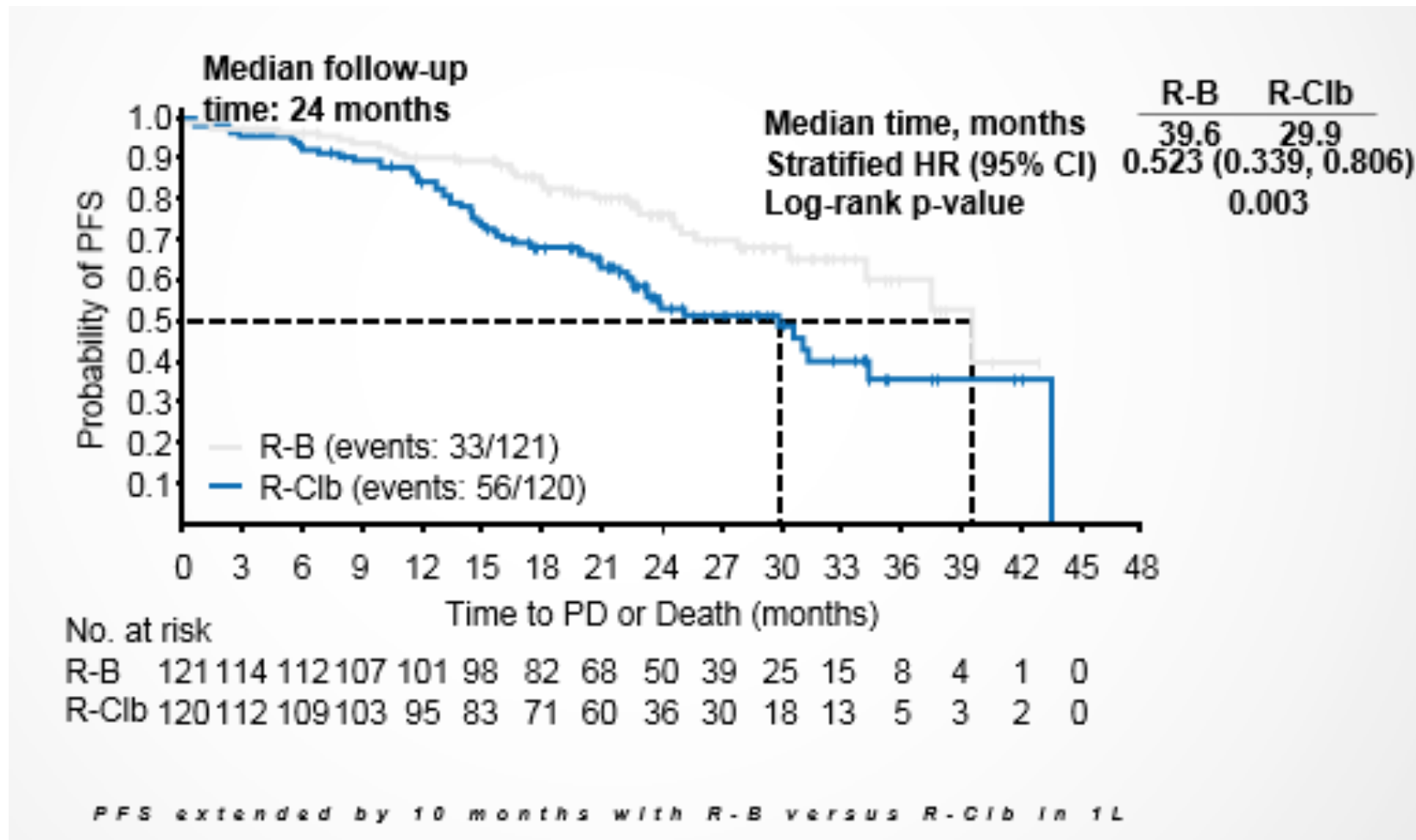
Design: Primary endpoint = confirmed CR rate at 6 months



# MABLE STUDY: CR RATE & PFS

Primary endpoint:

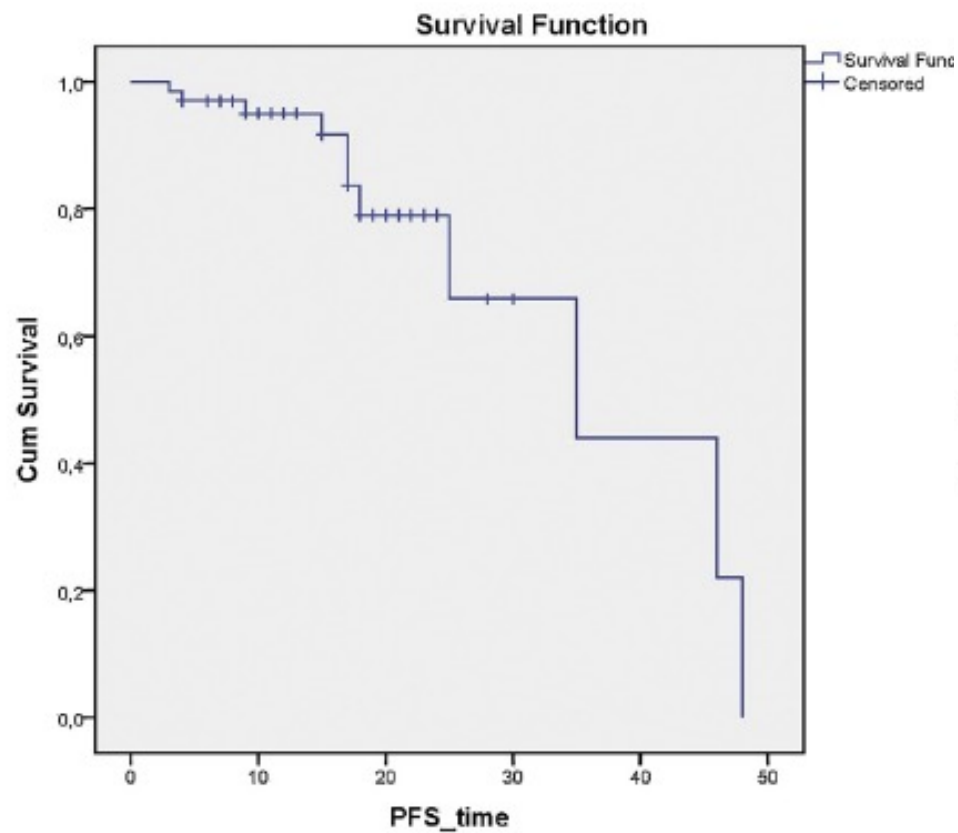
CR rate at C6 was higher with R-B (24%) versus R-Clb (9%;  $p=0.002$ )



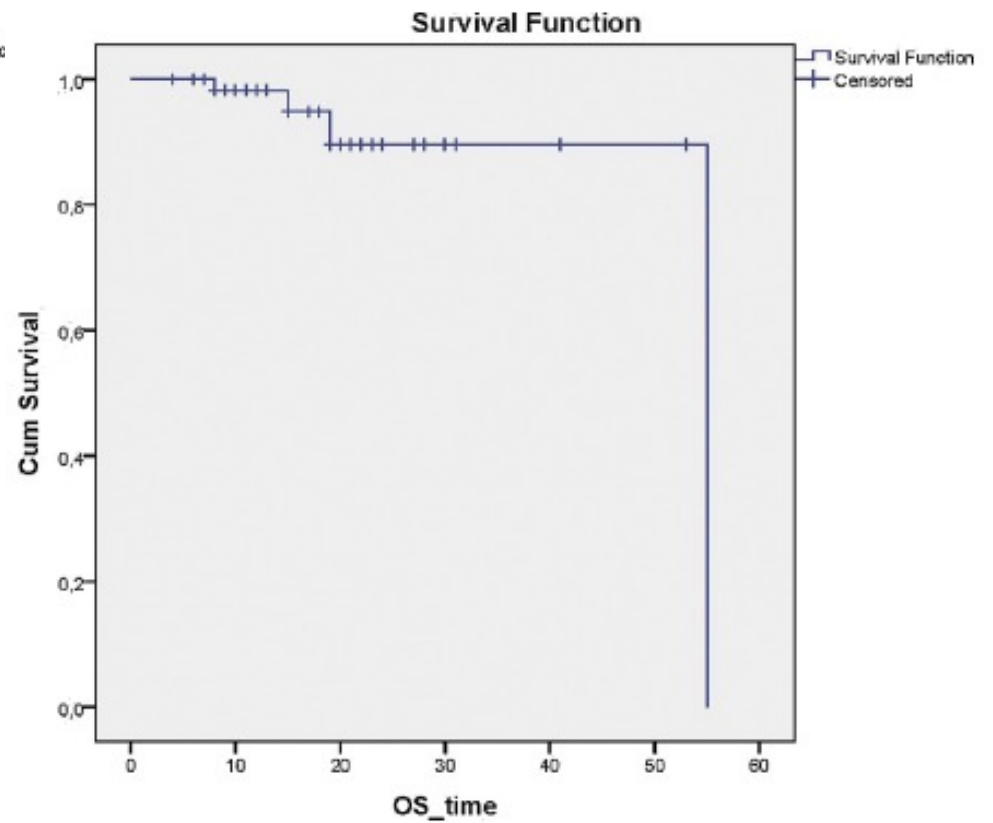
# BR IN FRONTLINE OF ELDERLY PATIENTS: REAL WORLD

Retrospective analysis of 70 patients  $\geq 65$  years in 12 Italian centers

PFS: 79% at 2 years



OS: 89% at 2 years



Other chemoimmunotherapies based on bendamustin

**BENDAMUSTINE PLUS  
OFATUMUMAB OR OBINUTUZUMAB**



# BENDAMUSTINE PLUS OFATUMUMAB: PHASE II STUDY

44 patients with previously untreated CLL

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<b>Response, n (%)</b>	<b>Response without CT scan (n=44)</b>	<b>Response with CT scan (n=44)</b>
Overall response	42 (95)	37 (84%)
Complete response	19 (43%)	12 (27%)

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## GREEN-STUDY: RESPONSE ASSESSMENT

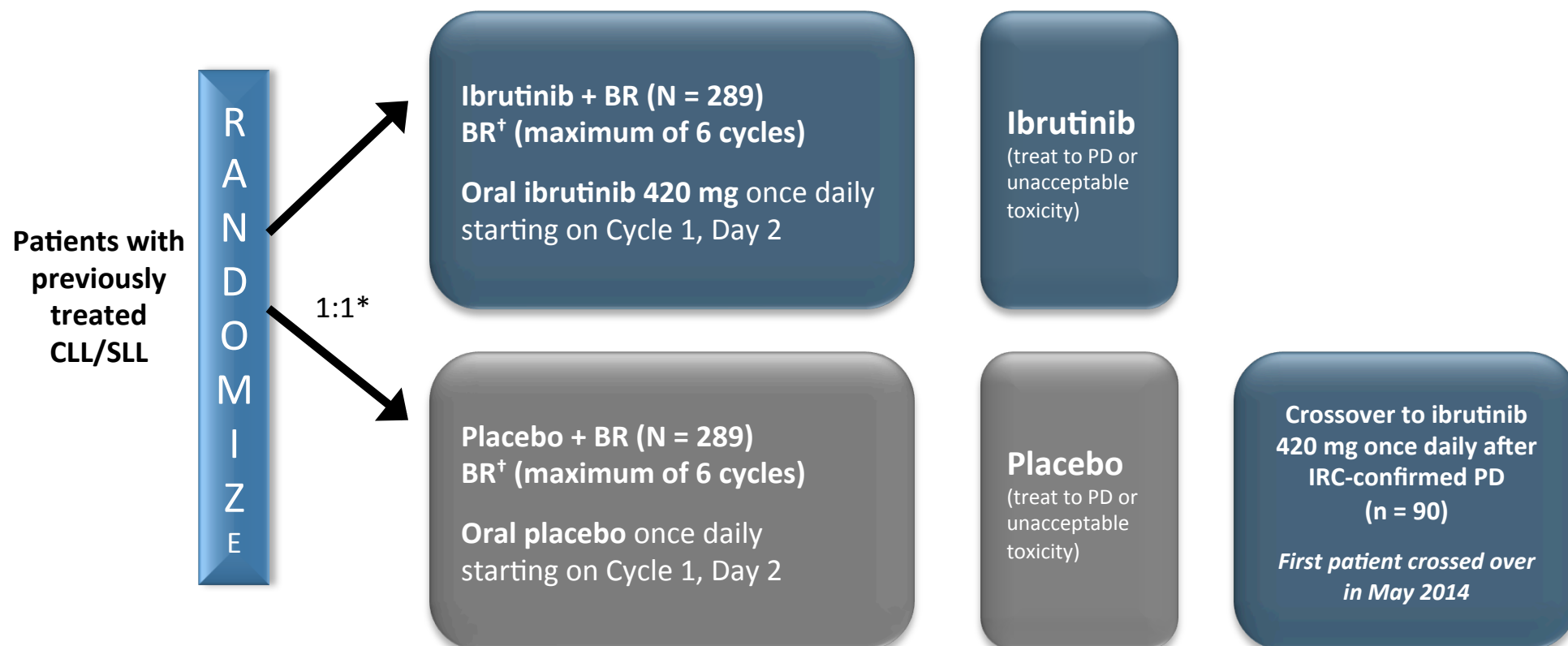
Phase IV study in 158 patients receiving bendamustine plus obinutuzuamb

<b>Response, n (%)</b>	<b>G-B cohort, N=158</b>	<b>Fit patients, n=74</b>	<b>Unfit patients, n=84</b>
Overall response	124 (78.5%)	60 (81.1%)	64 (76.2%)
Complete response	51 (32.3%)	22 (29.7%)	29 (34.5%)

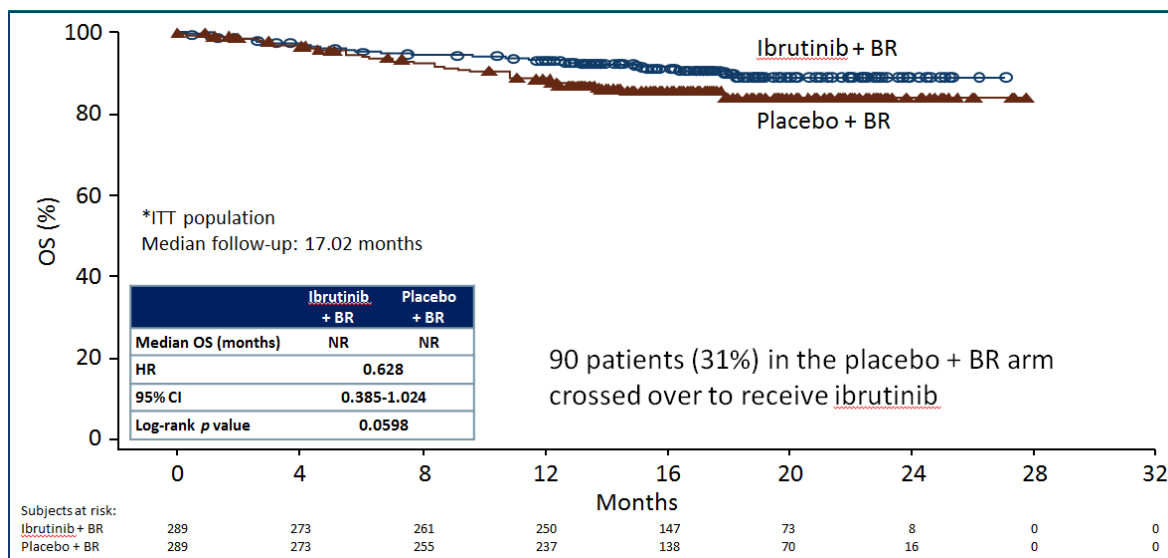
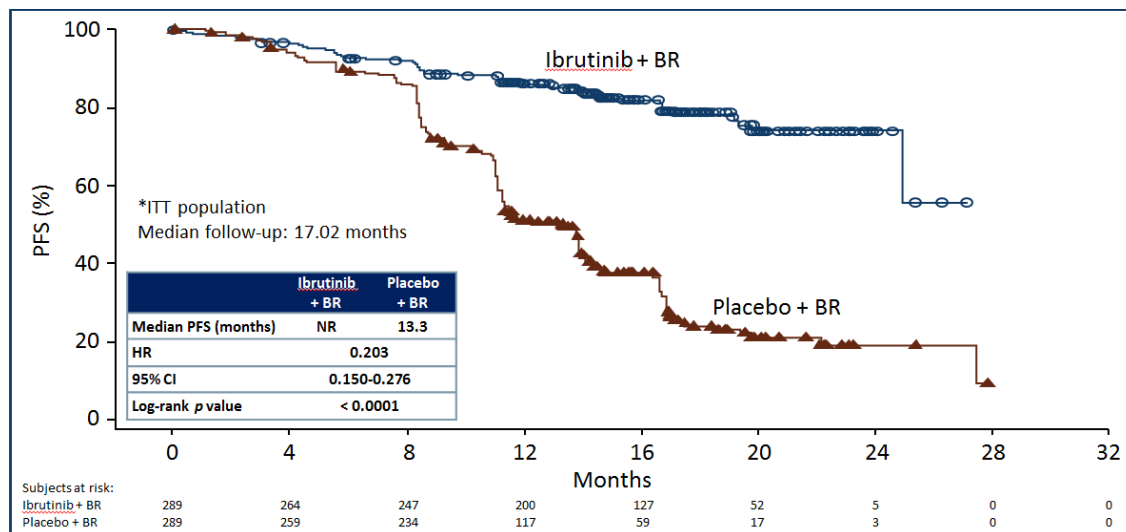
<b>Analysis population</b>	<b>Blood</b>	<b>Bone marrow</b>
ITT	93/158 (58.9%)	45/158 (28.5%)
MRD evaluable	93/102 (91.2%)	45/64 (70.3%)

**BR IN COMBINATION WITH NOVEL AGENTS**

# HELIOS: PHASE 3 STUDY DESIGN



# BR + IBRUTINIB VS BR + PLACEBO: PFS & OS



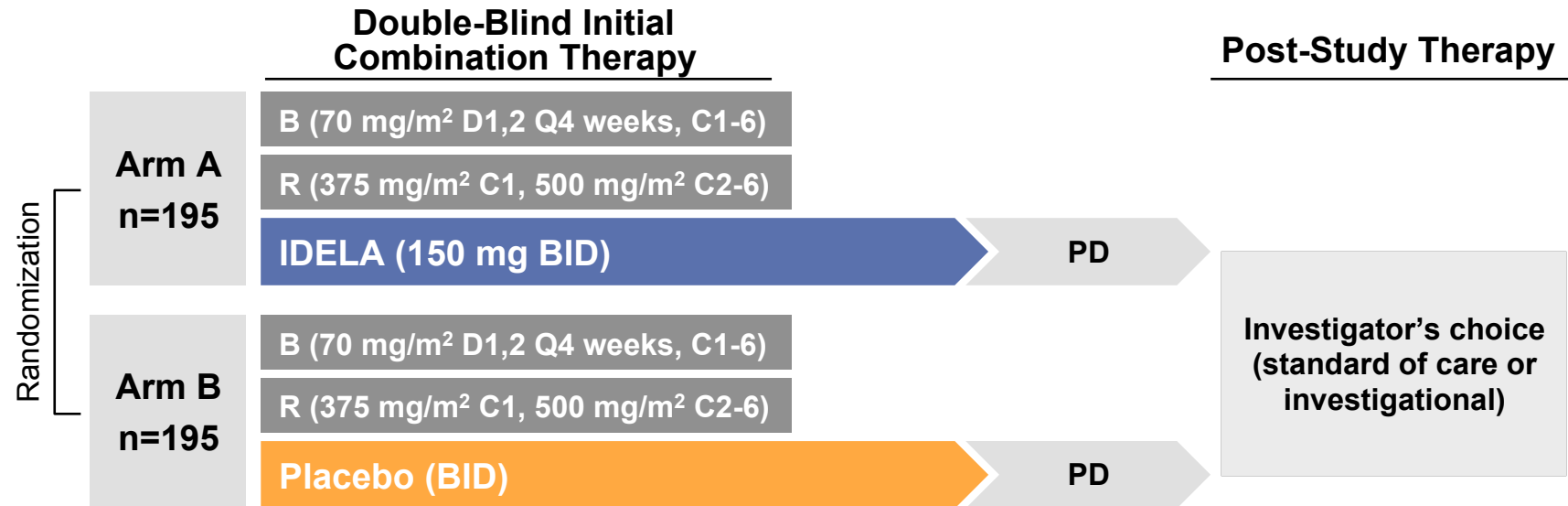
# HELIOS-STUDY MRD NEGATIVITY IN THE IBRUTINIB ARM

Median observation time of 25 months at 2nd analyses

	BR+Ibrutinib	BR + Placebo
1st analysis at 17 months observation	13%	5%
2nd analysis at 25 months observation	18%	5%

# BR +/- IDELALISIB

## STUDY 115 DESIGN



Pre-specified interim analysis at 67% of events

### Stratification

- ◆ 17p deletion and/or TP53 mutation
- ◆ IGHV mutation status
- ◆ Refractory vs relapsed disease

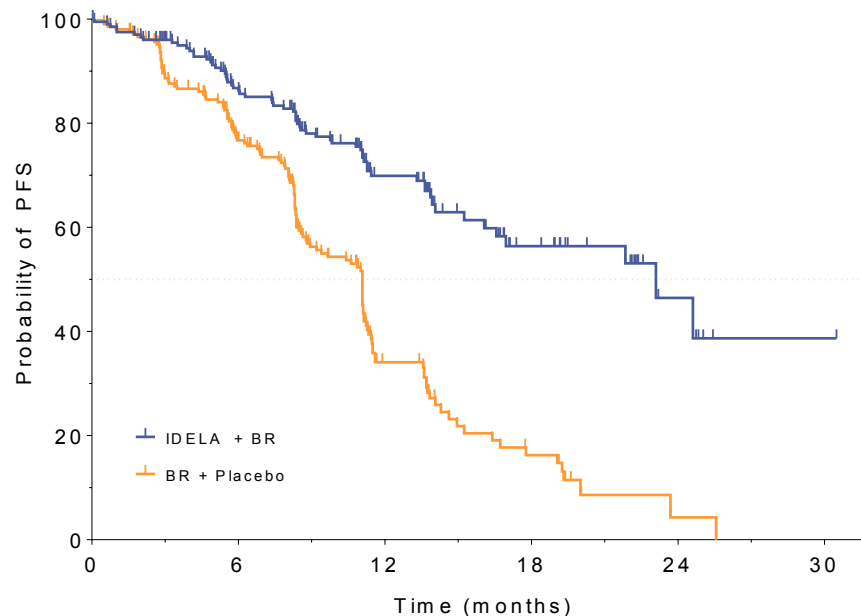
### Endpoints

- ◆ Primary: PFS
- ◆ Secondary: ORR, nodal response, OS, CR

# BR PLUS IDELALISIB VERSUS PLACEBO: PFS & OS

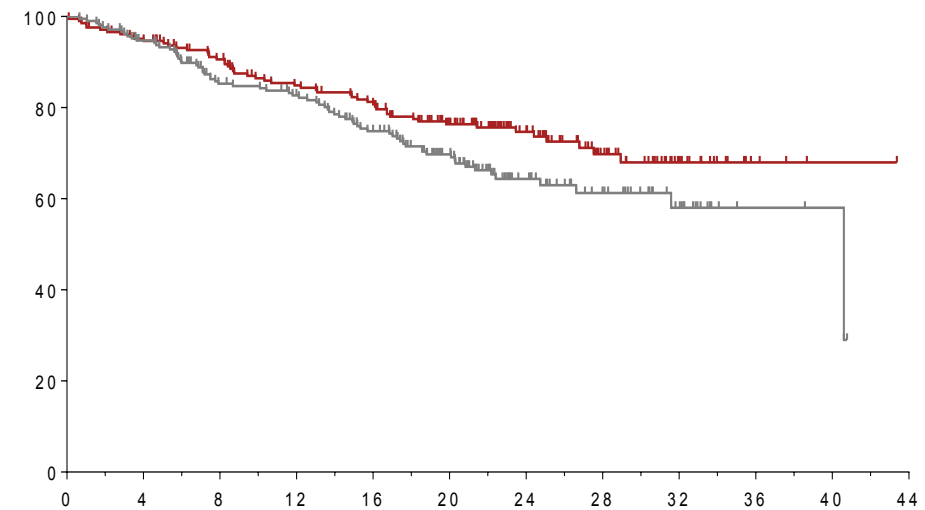
Median observation time 12 mo

	IDELA + BR	BR + Placebo
Median PFS (mo)	23.1	11.1
HR (95% CI)	0.33 (0.24, 0.45)	
p-value	<0.0001	



Median observation time 21 mo

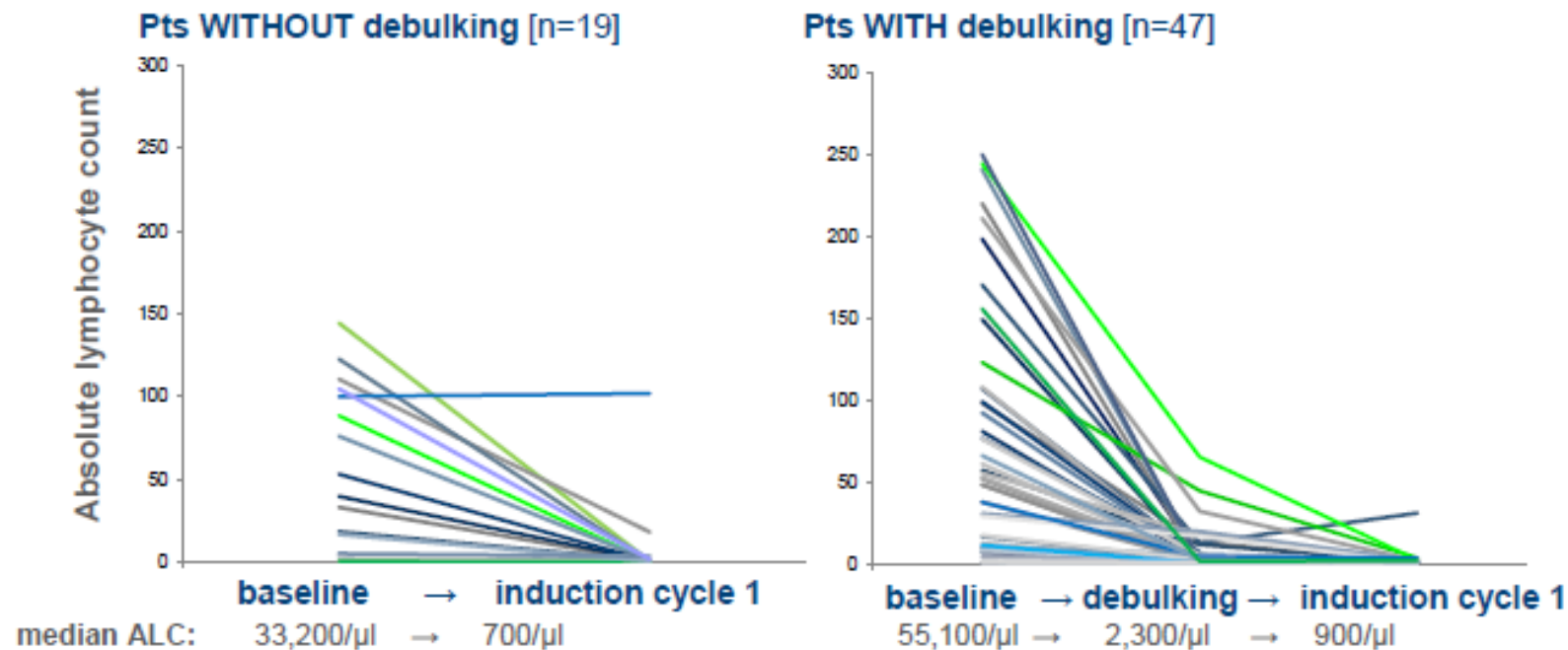
	IDELA+BR	PBO+BR
Median OS, mo	NR	40.6
Hazard Ratio, 95% CI	0.67 (0.47, 0.96)*	
P-value	0.04 (stratified) <sup>†</sup>	
Median follow-up, mo (range)	21 (0.1, 43.3)	





# FUTURE POSSIBLE ROLE OF BENDAMUSTINE: DEBULKING ?

Debulking with 1 – 2 cycles Bendamustine befor Venetoclax + Obinutuzumab:  
Phase II including 66 treatment naive and relapsed CLL patients



## SUMMARY

- BR is a feasible and effective 1st line therapy  
in elderly patients without TP53 mut/del
- No very long lasting remission duration observed with BR
- B + Ofa alternative combination, but less data available
- B + Obi with higher rates of MRD negativity, but not approved
- The benefit of combinations of BR with kinase inhibitors  
in R/R CLL is unclear
- Possible benefit of BR in the future: debulking ?



**For prevention of toxic epidermal necrolysis with bendamustine the following safety precautions should be undertaken:**

- No Cotrimoxazole prophylaxis for PJP during treatment with bendamustine
- Low dose steroid administration (f.e. 20mg prednisolone daily) d1-d10 of cycle 1 with bendamustine
- Stop Allopurinol 48h before bendamustine administration and restart 24h after day 2 administration.

**The MRD negativity rate measured in peripheral blood at the end BR frontline treatment ranges between:**

- > 70%
- 55-70%
- 40-54%
- 25-39%
- 10-24%

## **Which statement is NOT correct?**

- BR has not been compared to CLB+Obinutuzumab
- BR is superior to CLBR
- BR is not inferior to FCR
- There is no OS difference between BR and FCR
- There is no OS difference between CLBR and BR