

How I treat High-Risk AML

Sergio Amadori
Tor Vergata University
Roma

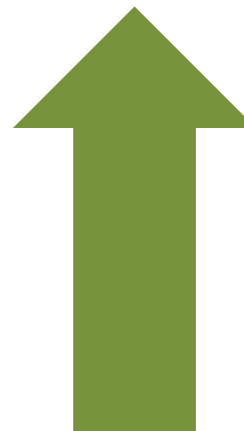
Current treatment paradigms



**7+3
HDAC/IDAC**

**Allo (Auto)
HSCT**

**HMAAs
LDAC**



Age <60y

- CR 70-80%
- Cure ~40%



Age >60y

- CR 40-60%
- Cure ~10%

What defines HR-AML

Clinical features

- Advanced age (>75y)
- Medical co-morbidities, Poor PS
- sAML, tAML

Biological features

- Adverse cytogenetics
- Unfavorable molecular abnormalities
- MRD+

Why is HR-AML high risk?

Poor
clinical
features

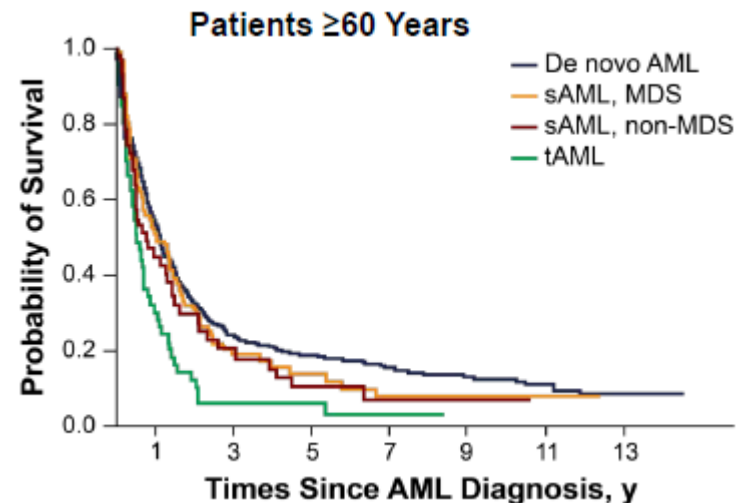
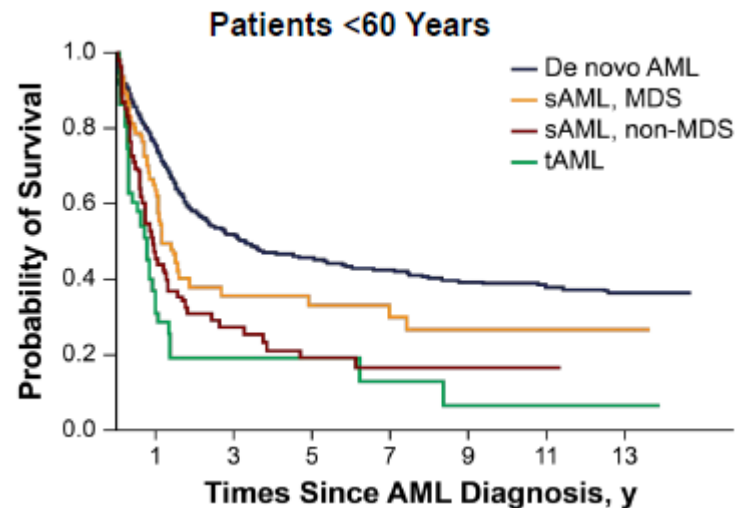


Adverse
biology

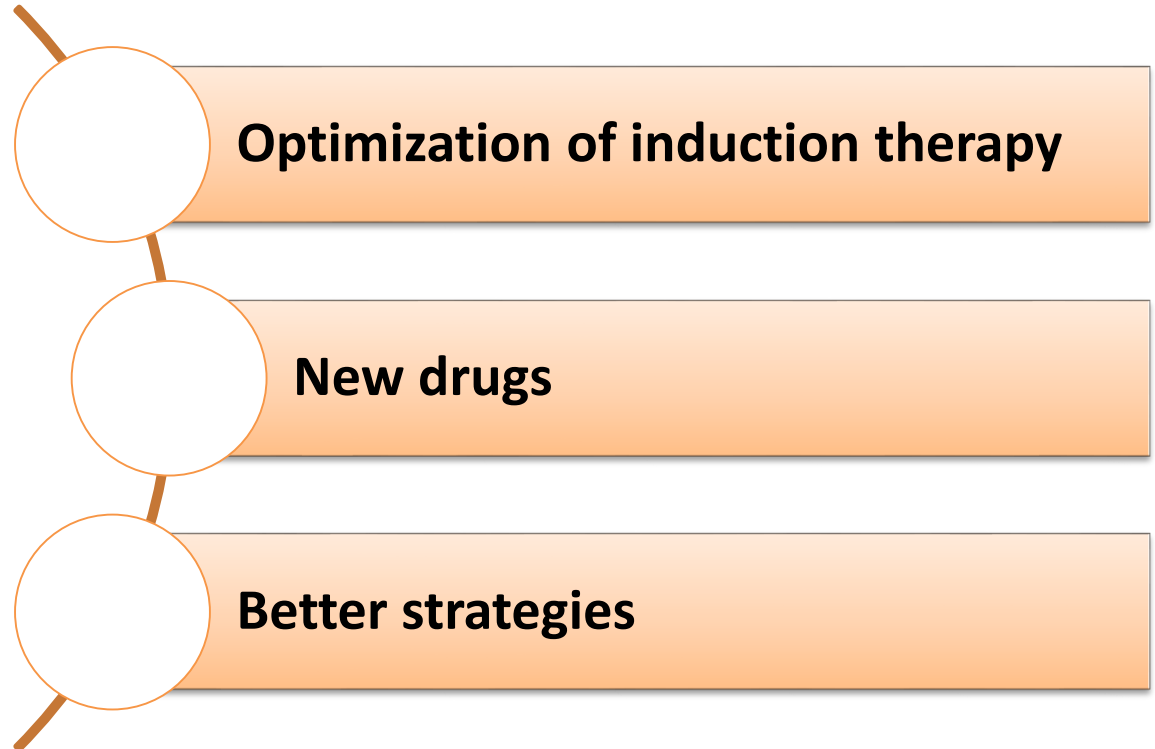
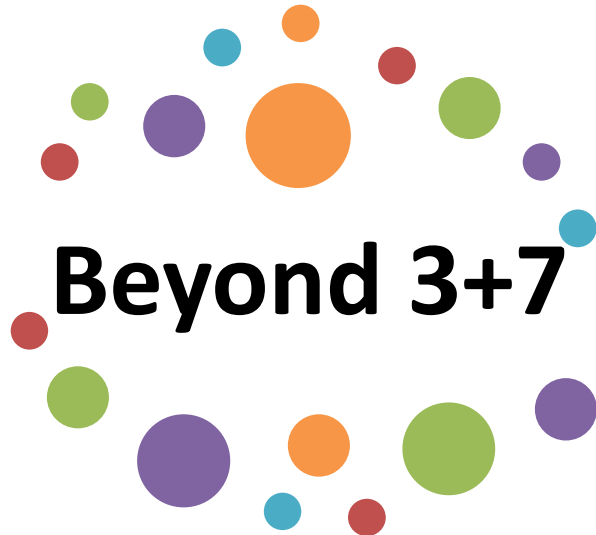


Drug resistance

- poor response to induction
- high relapse rate



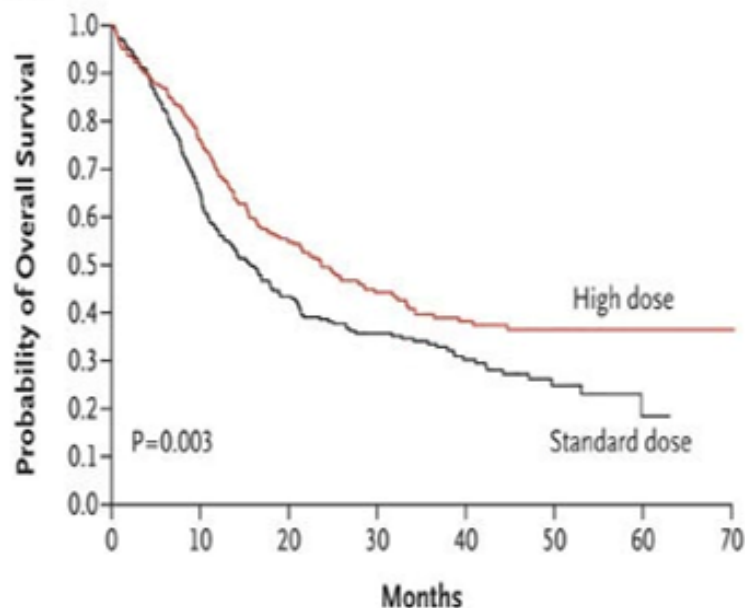
How can we do better?



Dauno intensification?

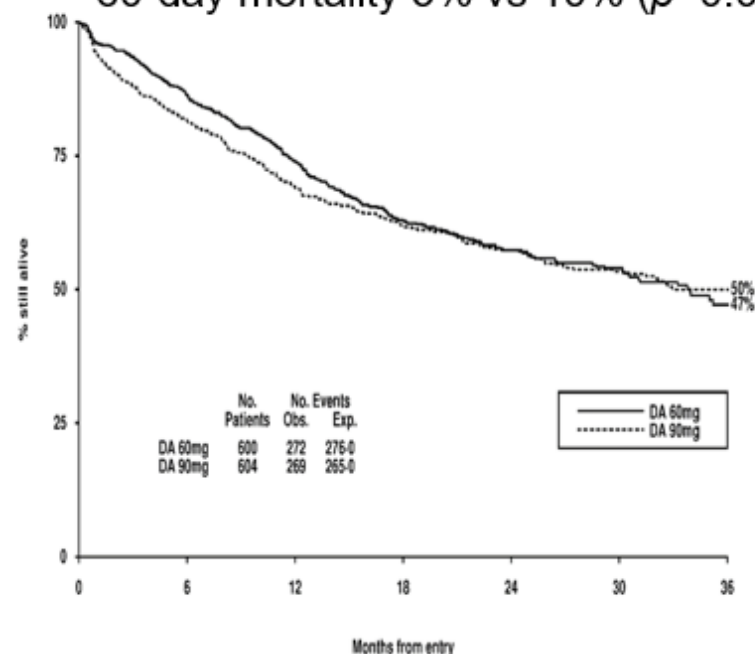
ECOG 1900 trial: (n=647)

Dauno 45 vs 90mg/m² in course 1
57% vs 71% CR rate ($p<0.001$)



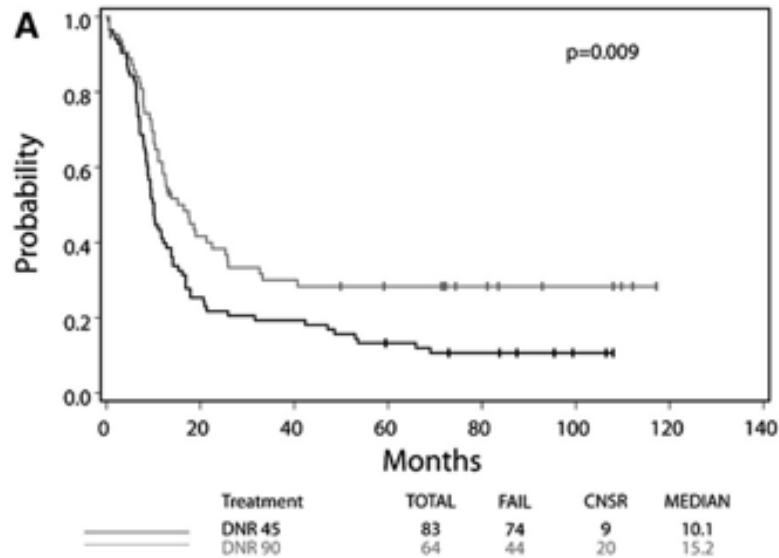
NCRI AML17 study: (n=1204)

Dauno 60 vs 90mg/m² in course 1
73% vs 73% CR rate
60-day mortality 5% vs 10% ($p=0.001$)

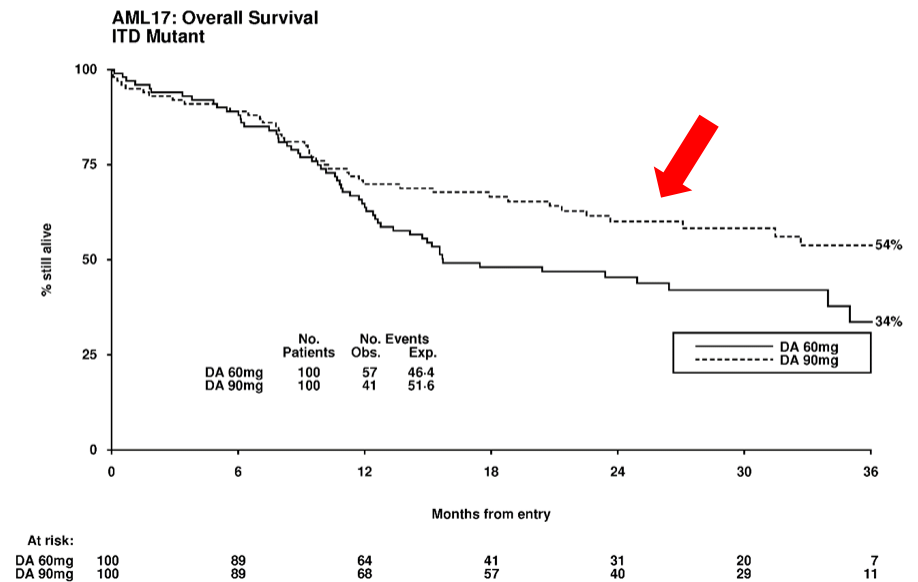


Dauno/90 for FLT3-ITDm AML?

FLT3-ITD^{mut}

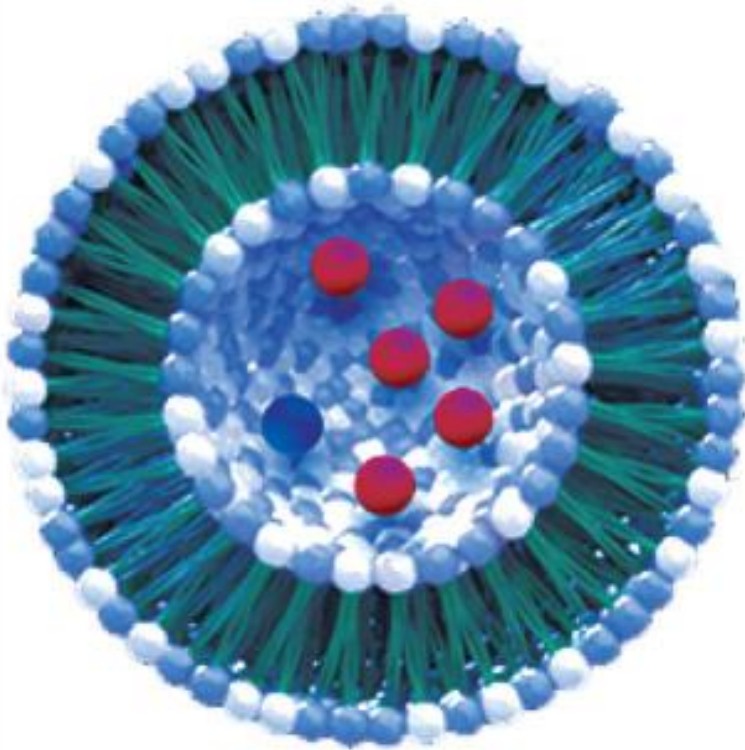


ECOG 1900



New drugs: CPX-351

Vyxeos



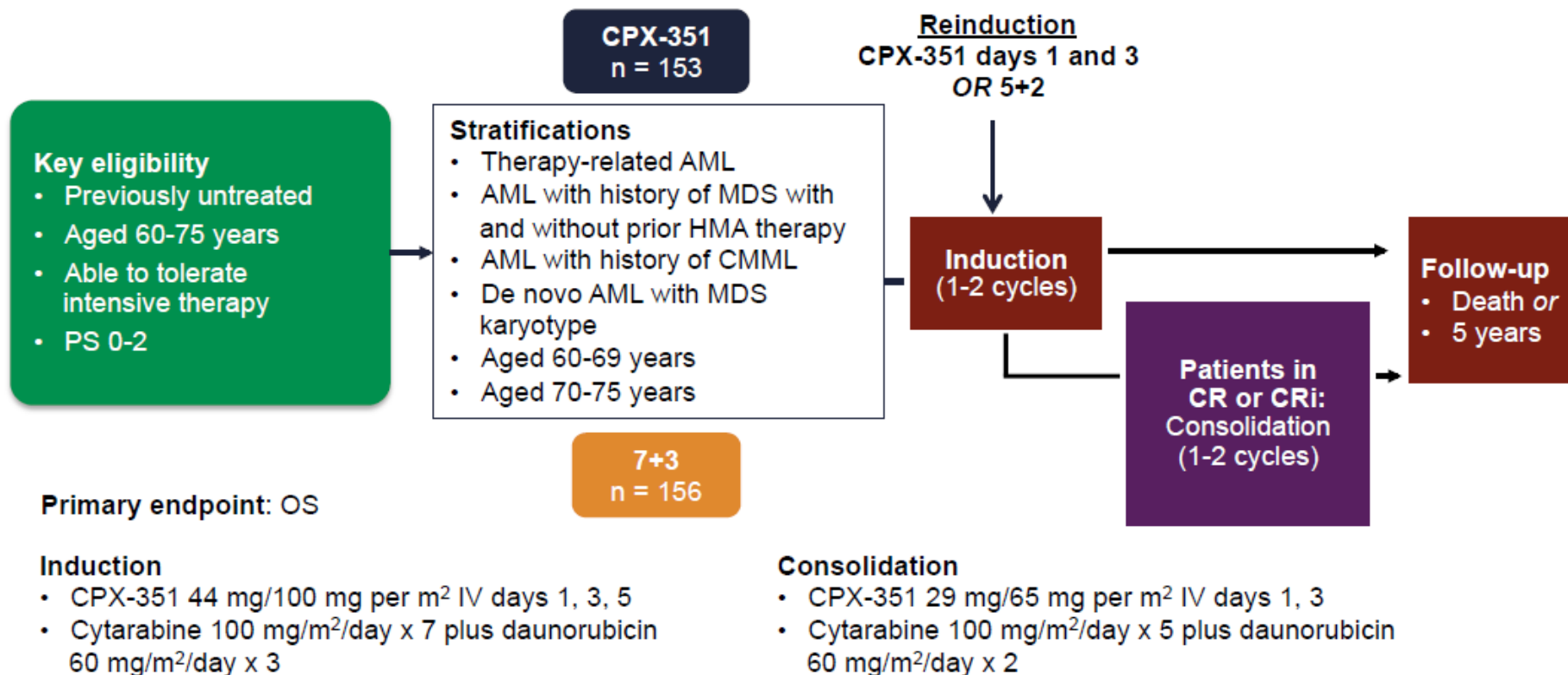
- 1:5 molar ratio of daunorubicin to cytarabine
- Synergistic activity in both in vitro and animal models
- 100-nm bilamellar liposomes
- 1 unit = 0.44 mg daunorubicin plus 1 mg cytarabine (1:5 molar ratio) complexed with copper
- Targets bone marrow and preferentially targets leukemic compared with normal marrow progenitors

Treatment of adults with newly diagnosed tAML or AML-MRC

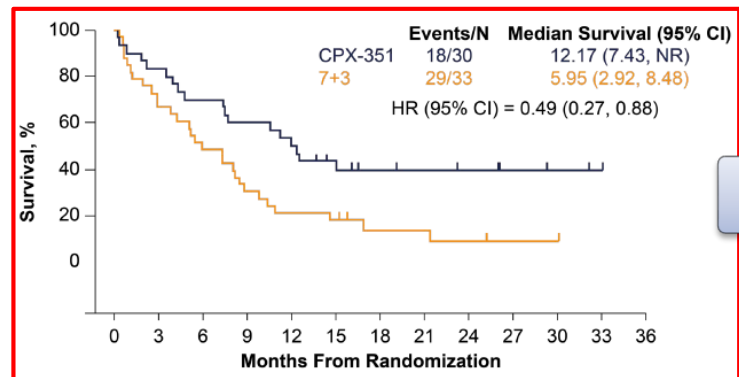
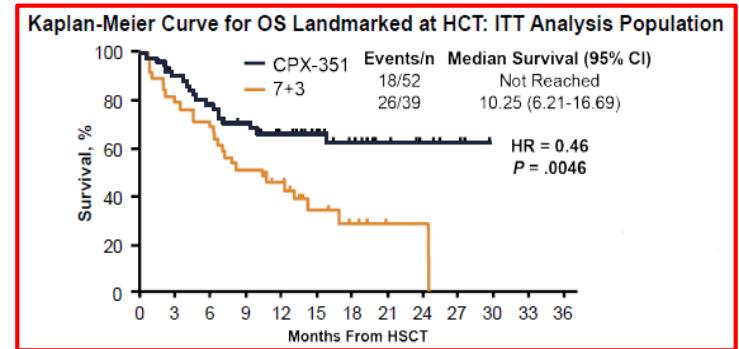
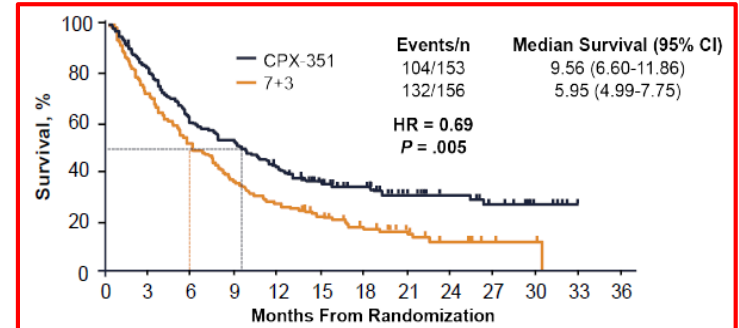
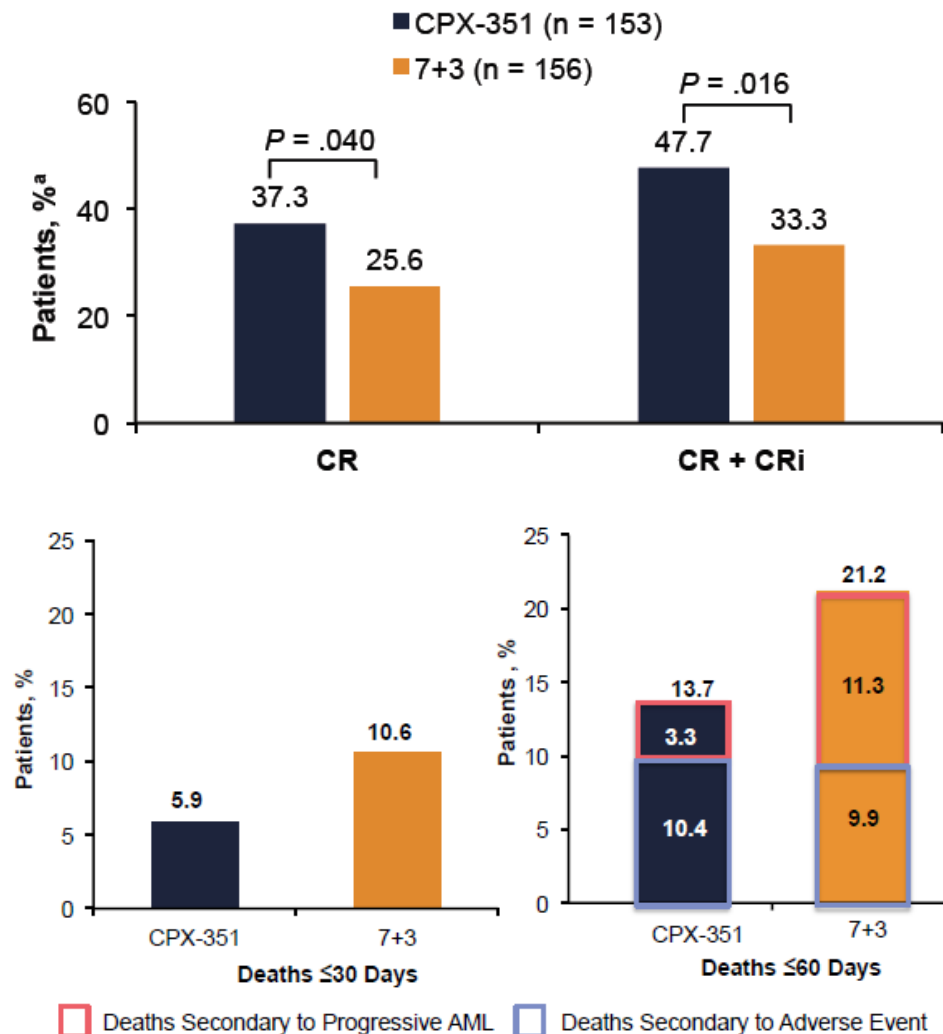
Aug 3, 2017



CPX-351 vs 3+7 in HR-AML (phase 3)

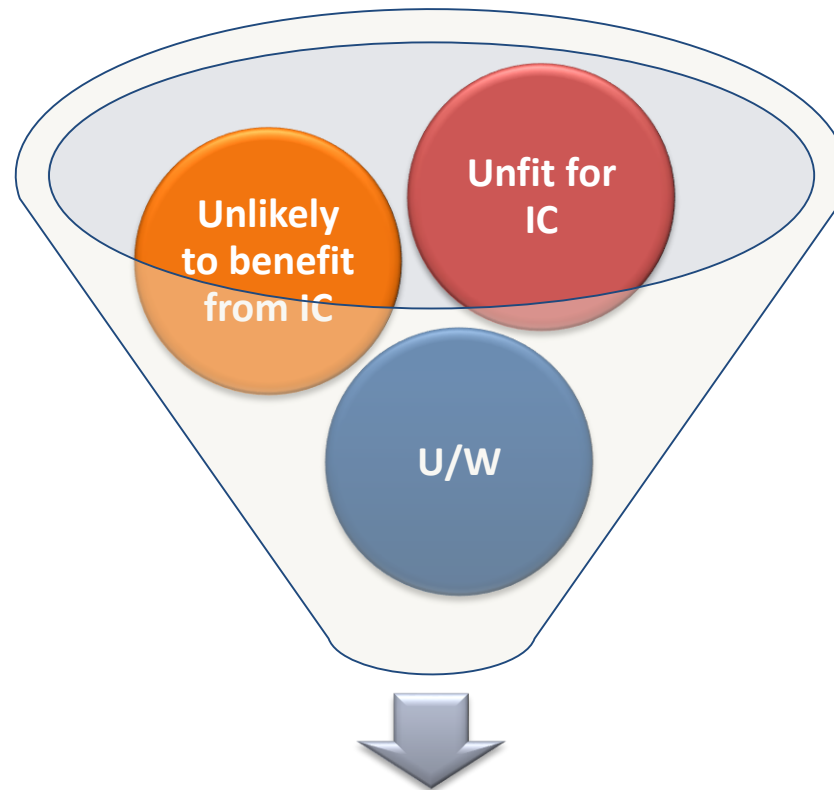


CPX-351 vs 3+7 in HR-AML



tAML

Can lower-intensity therapies improve care in elderly patients?



Epigenetic therapy as a new paradigm

Azacitidine Prolongs OS in LBC-AML

AZA-001 (N=358, INT-2/HR MDS)

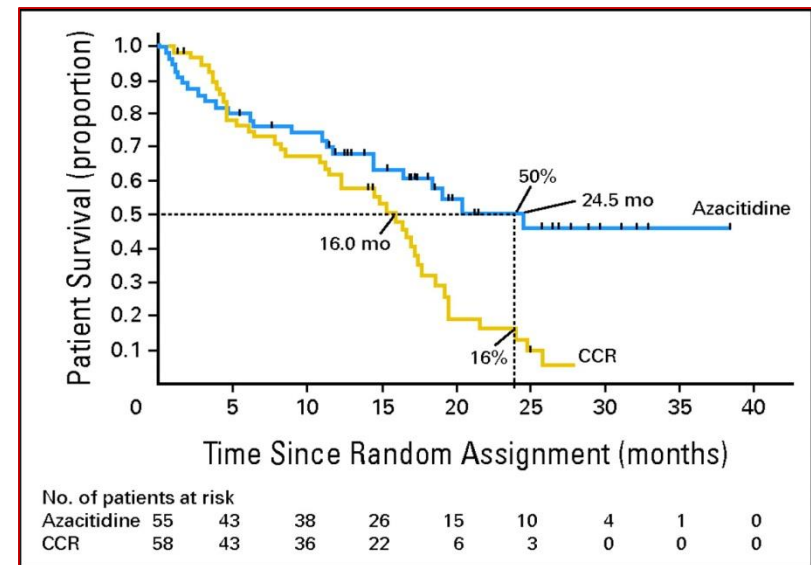
113 patients with 20-30% BM blasts

Median age 70 years (50-83)

55 random to AZA, 58 to CCR (47% BSC, 34% LDAC, 19% IC)

AZA 75 mg/m²/d sc x 7 days (median 8 cycles)

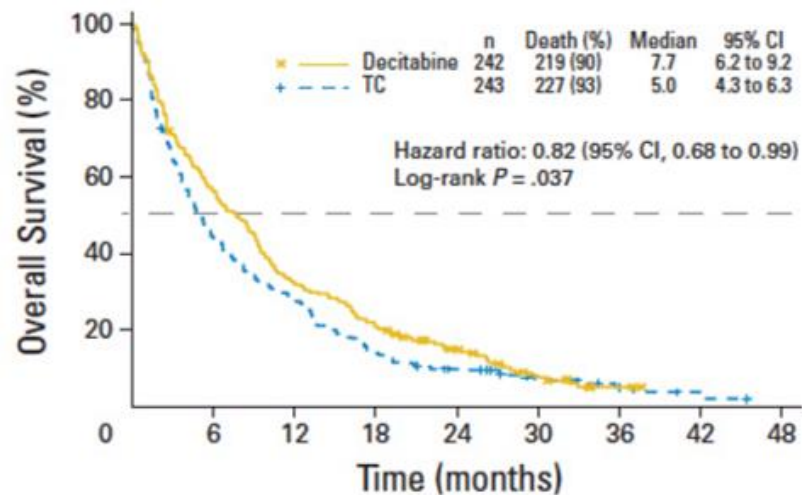
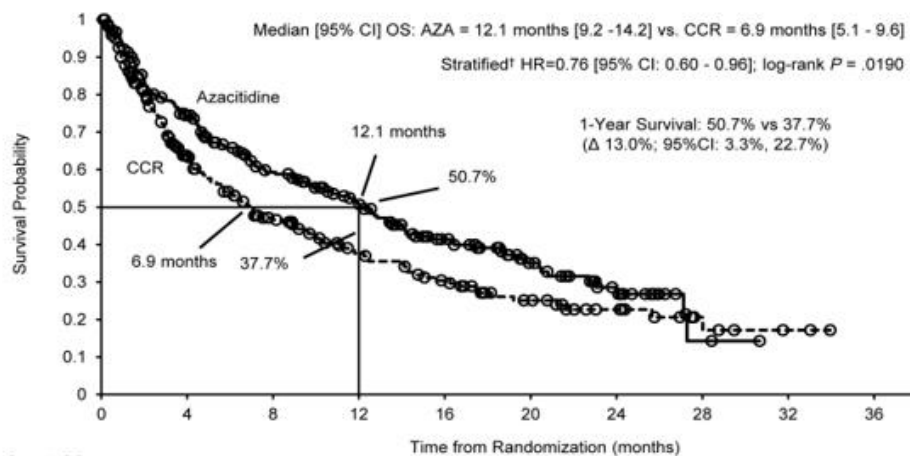
	AZA	CCR	P-value
Median OS (mo)	24.5	16.0	0.005
2-year OS (%)	50	16	0.001
CR (%)	18	16	NS
Hospitalizat (pt-yr)	3.4	4.3	0.03
Infection (pt-yr)	0.58	1.14	0.003



HMA vs TC in AML (phase 3 trials)

Overall Survival

Pre-planned Sensitivity Analysis of Overall Survival Censored for Subsequent AML Treatment*



HOVON-97 (phase 3)

- Randomized, multicenter feasibility study

Pts ≥ 60 yrs of age with AML* and $< 5\%$ bone marrow blasts after 2 cycles of chemotherapy (N = 116)

*Excluded: FAB M3, t(15;17), RAEB, RAEB-t with IPSS ≥ 5 .

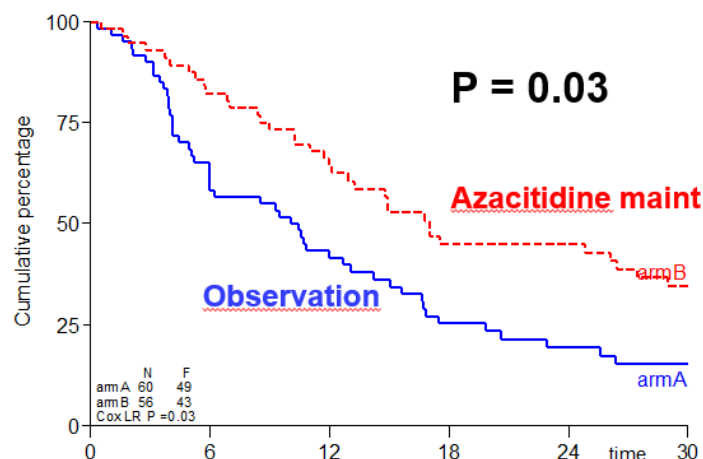
Azacitidine Maintenance
50 mg/m², Days 1-5 Q4W
for ≤ 12 cycles until relapse
(n = 56)

Observation
(n = 60)

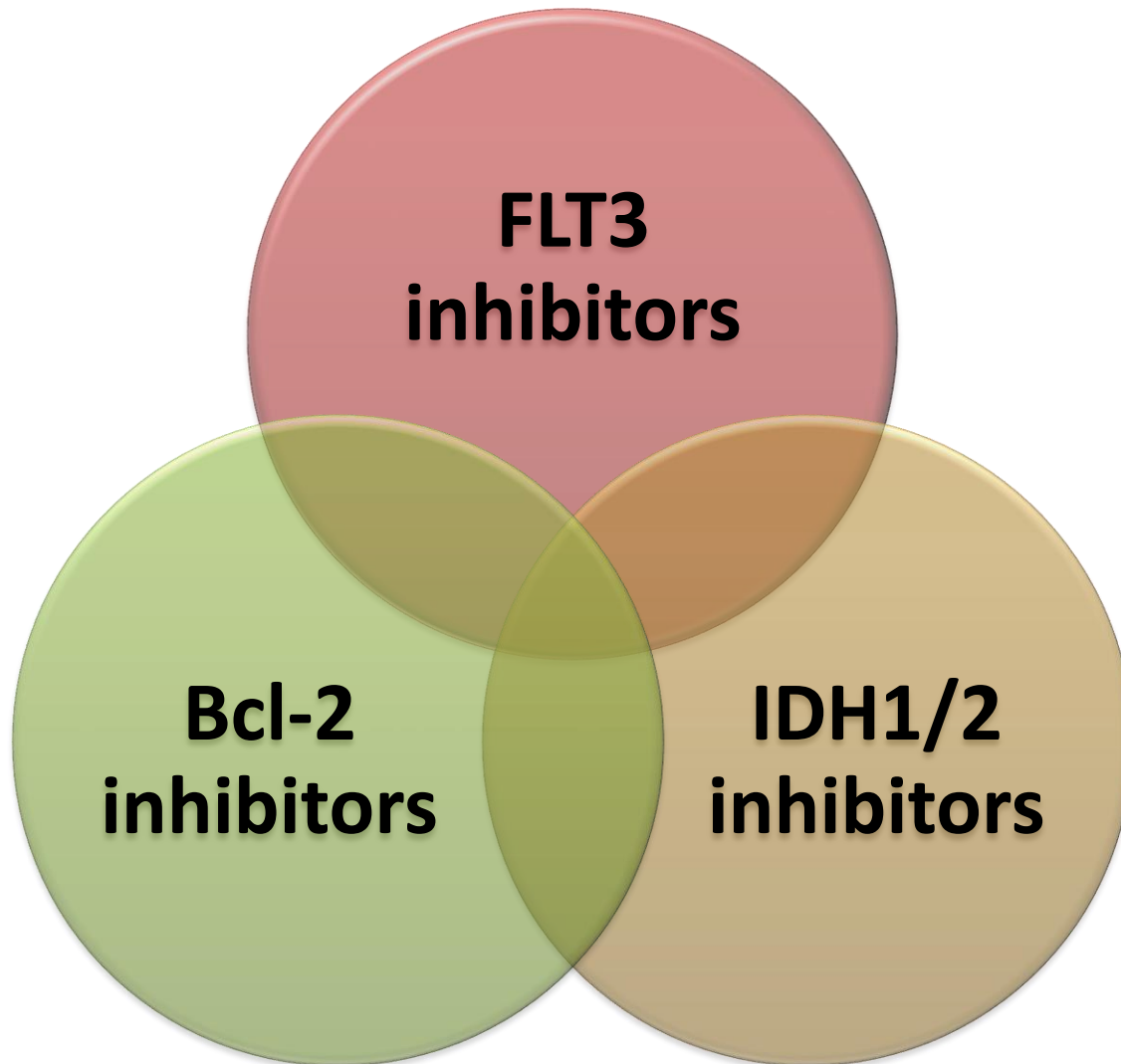
Follow-up ≥ 5 yrs

- Primary endpoint: DFS (time to relapse or death)

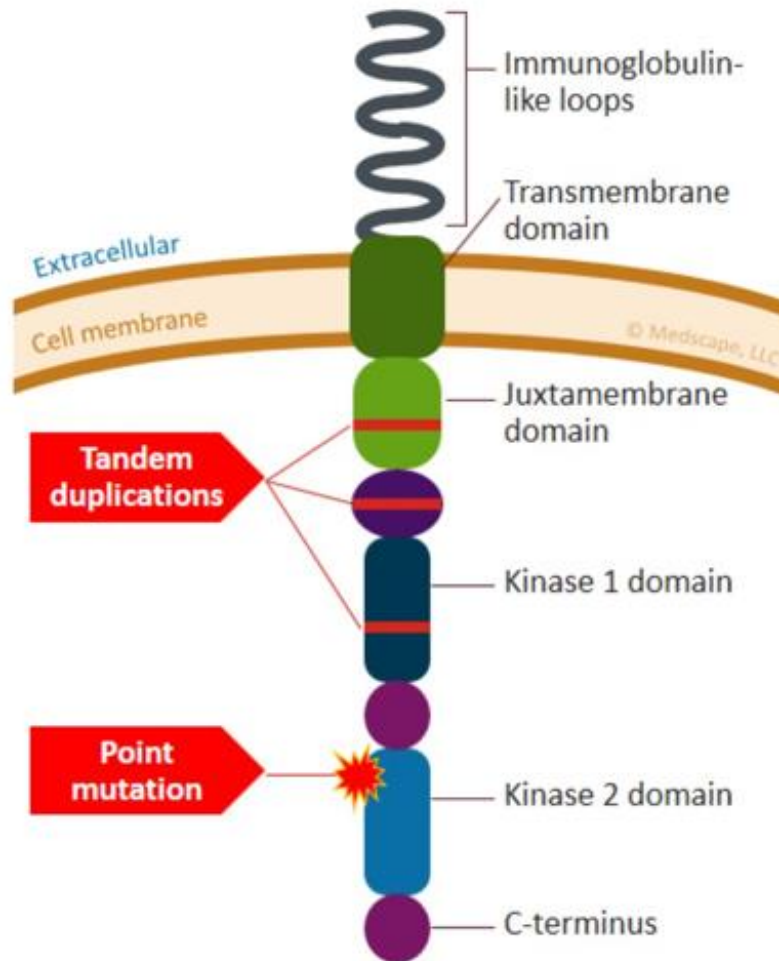
DFS



Targeted agents to watch....

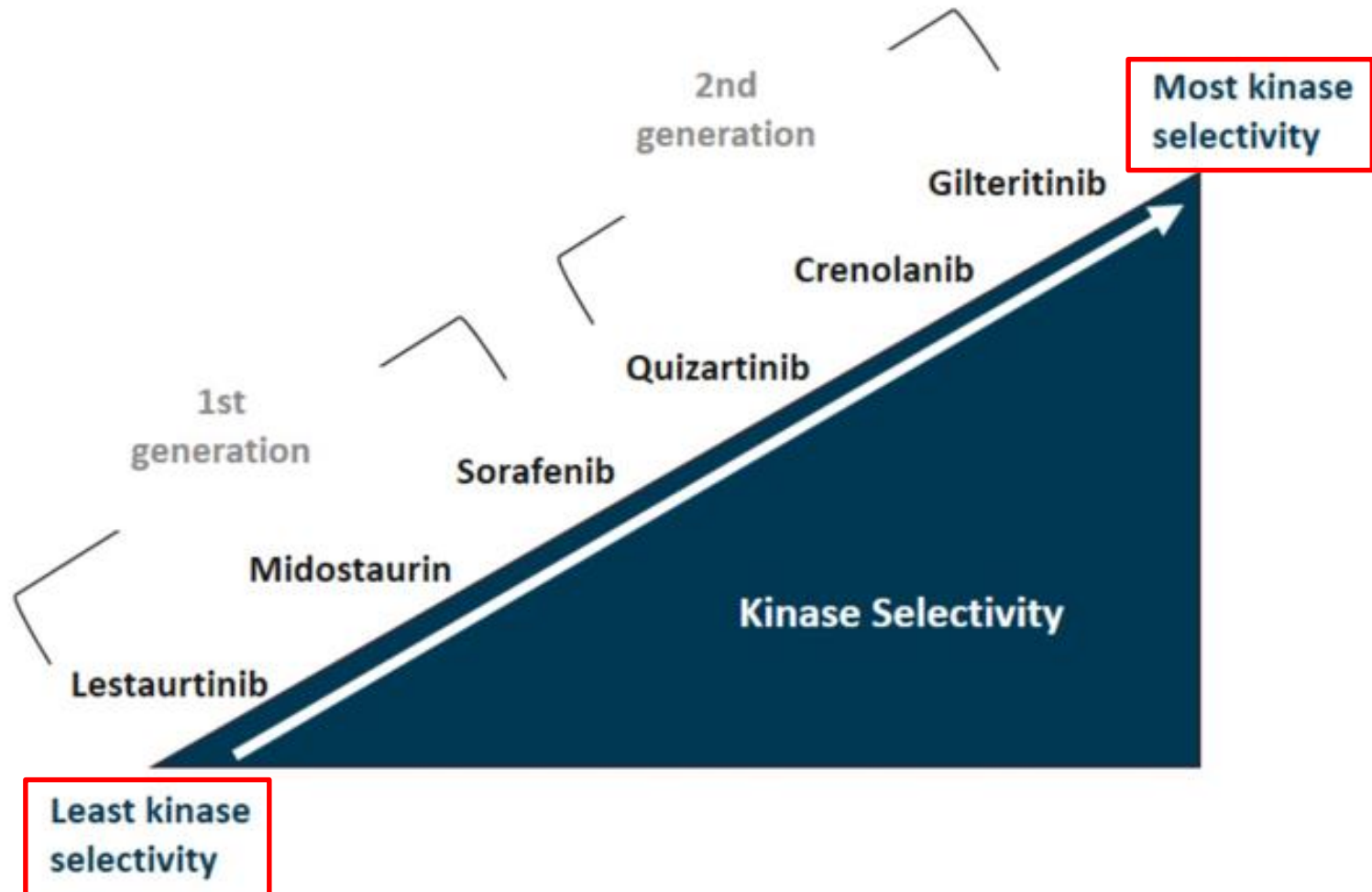


Targeting mFLT3



- *FLT3* mutations lead to constitutive activation of *FLT3* receptor
- *FLT3*-ITD mutations
 - Although CR rate is not typically negatively affected, the mutation is associated with poor prognosis due to higher relapse rate
 - Found in ≈25% to 30% of cytogenetically normal AML
- *FLT3*-TKD mutations
 - Found in ≈5% of cytogenetically normal AML
 - Prognostic significance unclear

FLT3 inhibitors in clinical development

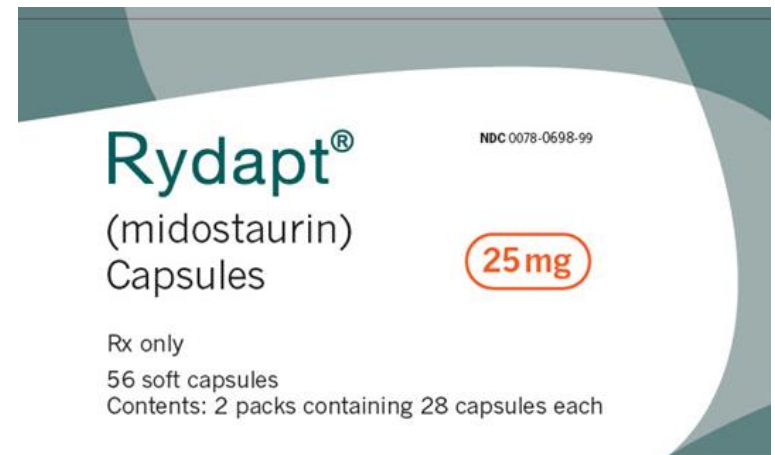


ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Midostaurin plus Chemotherapy for Acute Myeloid Leukemia with a *FLT3* Mutation

R.M. Stone, S.J. Mandrekar, B.L. Sanford, K. Laumann, S. Geyer, C.D. Bloomfield, C. Thiede, T.W. Prior, K. Döhner, G. Marcucci, F. Lo-Coco, R.B. Klisovic, A. Wei, J. Sierra, M.A. Sanz, J.M. Brandwein, T. de Witte, D. Niederwieser, F.R. Appelbaum, B.C. Medeiros, M.S. Tallman, J. Krauter, R.F. Schlenk, A. Ganser, H. Serve, G. Ehninger, S. Amadori, R.A. Larson, and H. Döhner

FDA-approved (April 2017)



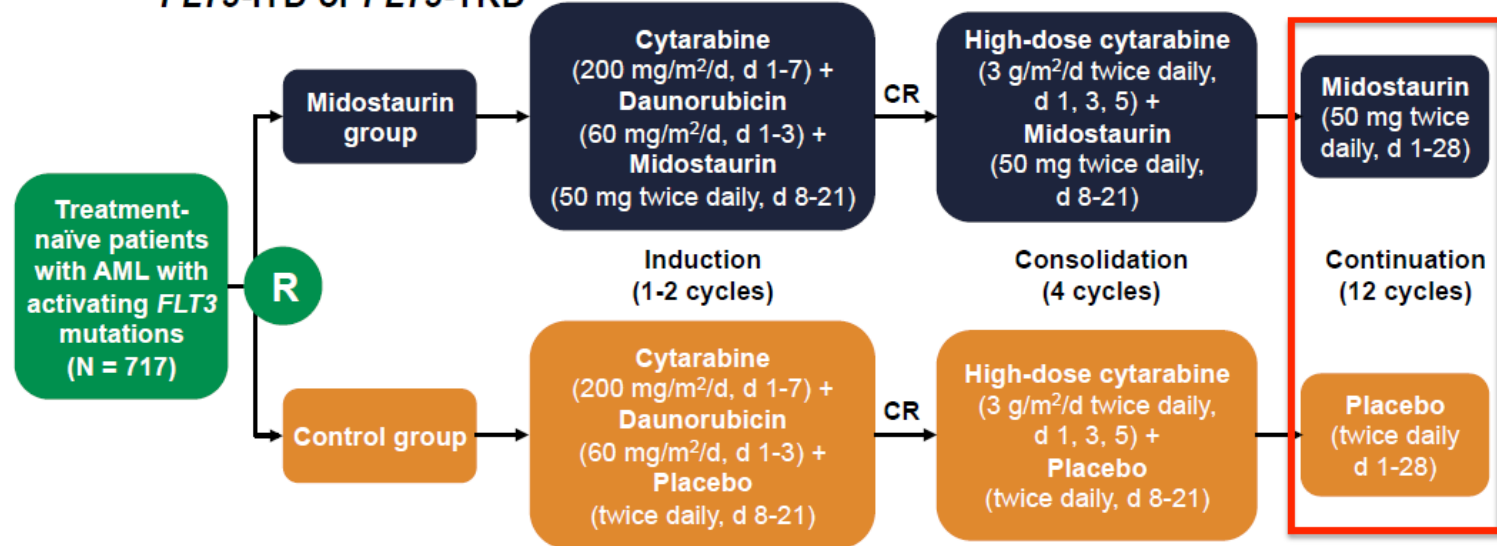
 NOVARTIS

RATIFY trial

CALGB 10603

FLT3-ITD or *FLT3*-TKD

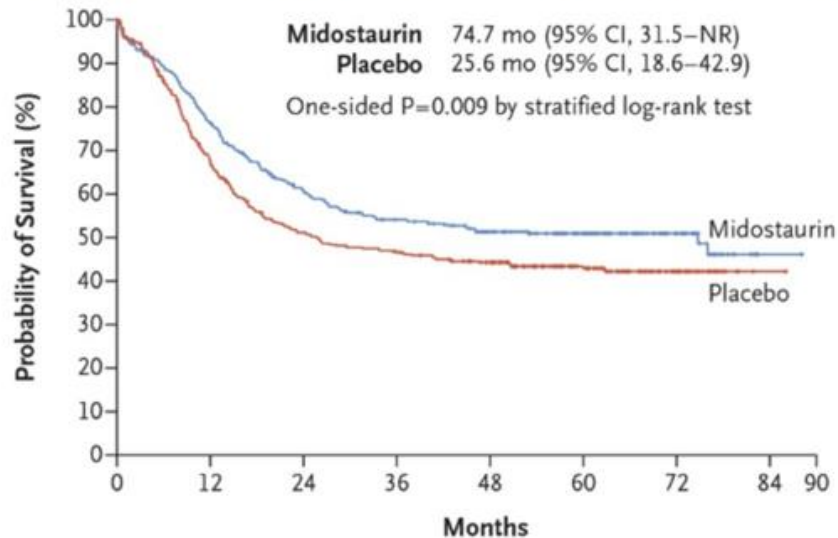
Age ≤60 years



mEFS	mRFS	mOS
8.2 vs 3.0 mos	26.7 vs 15.5 mos	74.7 vs 25.6 mos
$P = .002$	$P = .001$	$P = .009$

Overall Survival

22% reduced risk of death in midostaurin arm

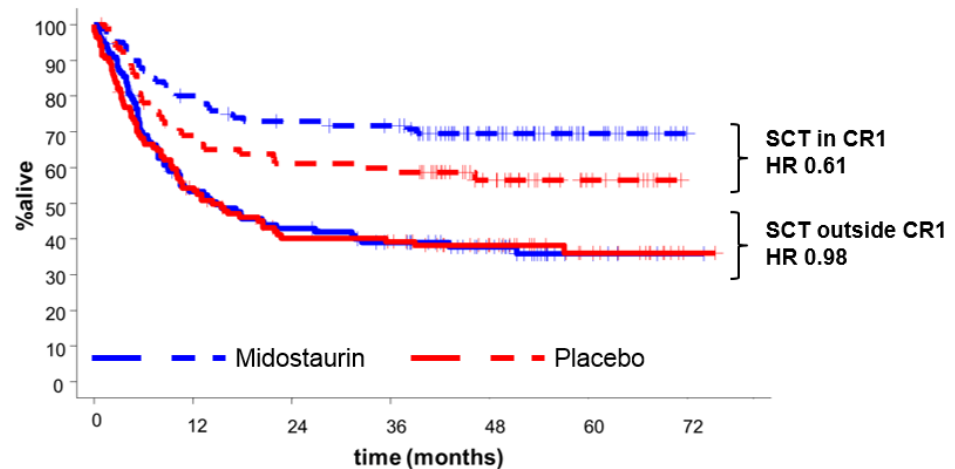


**Mido benefit maintained in
FLT3m subtypes**

**ITDm
(H/L ratio)**

TKDm

post-SCT



Quizartinib + AZA or LDAC

MDS, CMML, or AML

FLT3-ITD and one of the following:

- Age ≥60 years with previously untreated disease
- Age ≥18 years with refractory or relapsed disease with ≤1 prior treatment regimen (ie, 1st salvage)
- Any age who received HMA and progressed to AML

N = 61

**Physician's
Choice**

**Quizartinib
+
AZA**

N = 37

**Quizartinib
+
LDAC**

N = 24

Best Response, n (%)	Quizartinib + Azacitidine	Quizartinib + Cytarabine	All Patients
CR	8 (22)	2 (8)	10 (16)
CRp	2 (5)	5 (21)	7 (12)
CRi	15 (41)	7 (29)	22 (36)
CRc (CR + CRp + CRi)	25 (68)	14 (58)	39 (64)
OR (CRc + HI + PR)	26 (70)	16 (67)	42 (69)
NR	9 (24)	8 (33)	17 (28)
60-day mortality	2 (5)	0	2 (3)

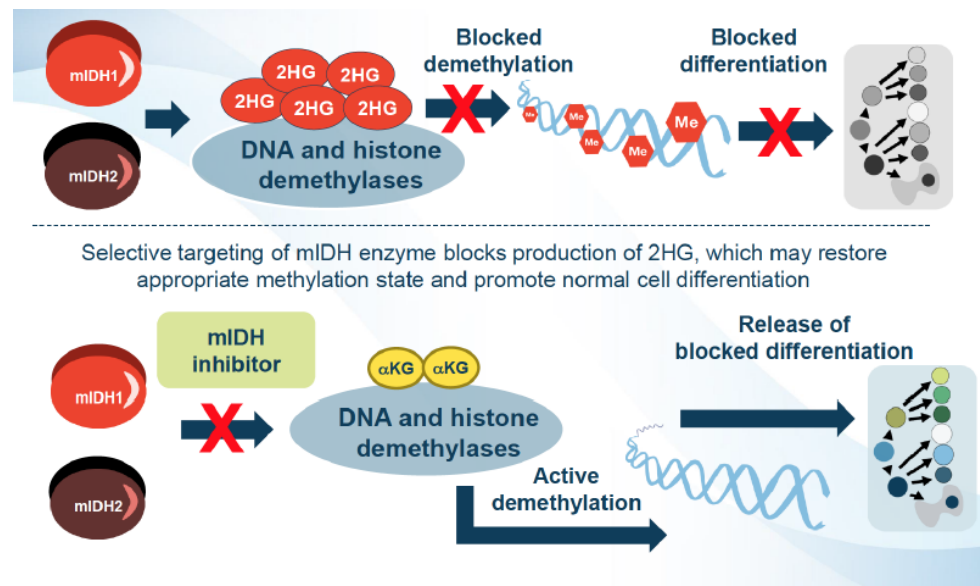
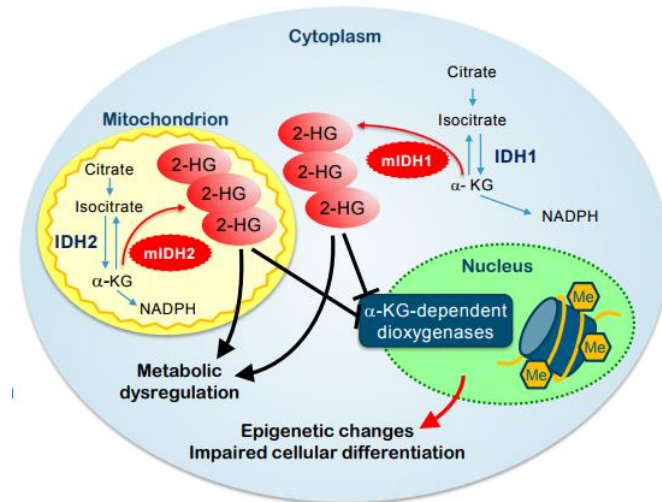
Targeting mIDHs

IDHs are critical enzymes of the citric acid cycle

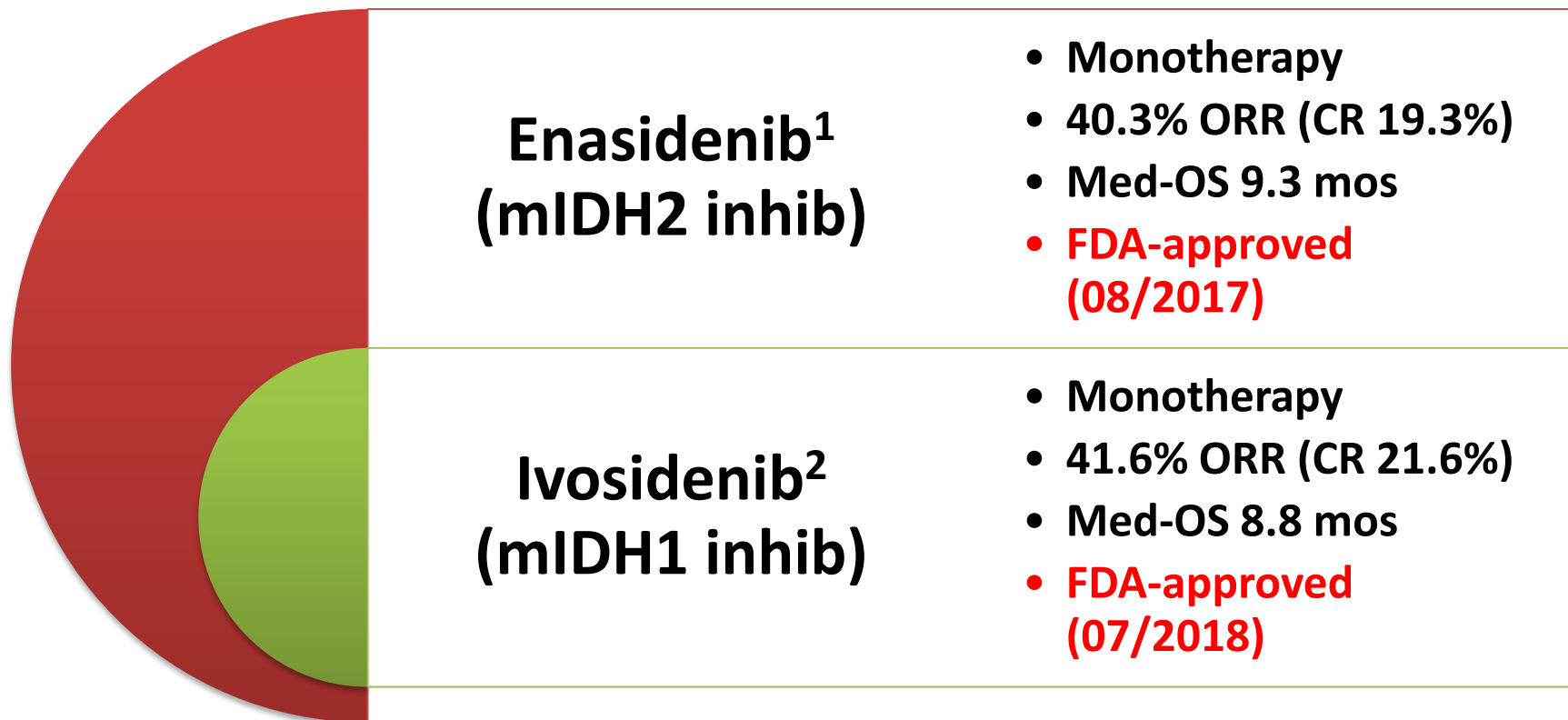
Mutant IDH 1 or 2 is seen in 15-20% of patients with AML

mIDH results in accumulation of 2-HG, leading to DNA+histone ipermethylation and a block in differentiation

Ivosidenib (AG-120) and Enasidenib (AG-221) are oral inhibitors of mIDH1 and mIDH2, respectively



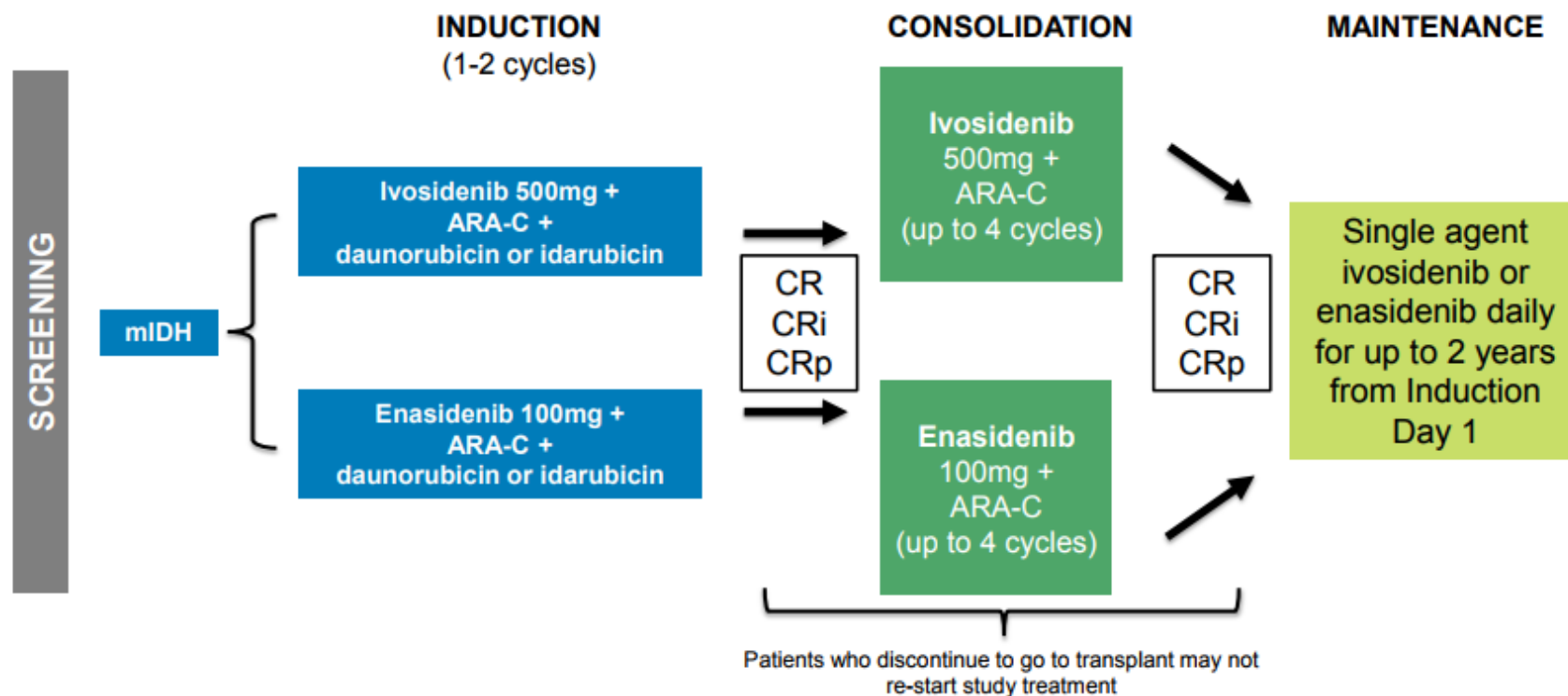
mIDH inhibitors in R/R AML



¹Stein EM et al, Blood 2017; ²DiNardo CD et al, NEJM 2018

mIDH inhibitors in ND-AML

Phase 1 study



Best response

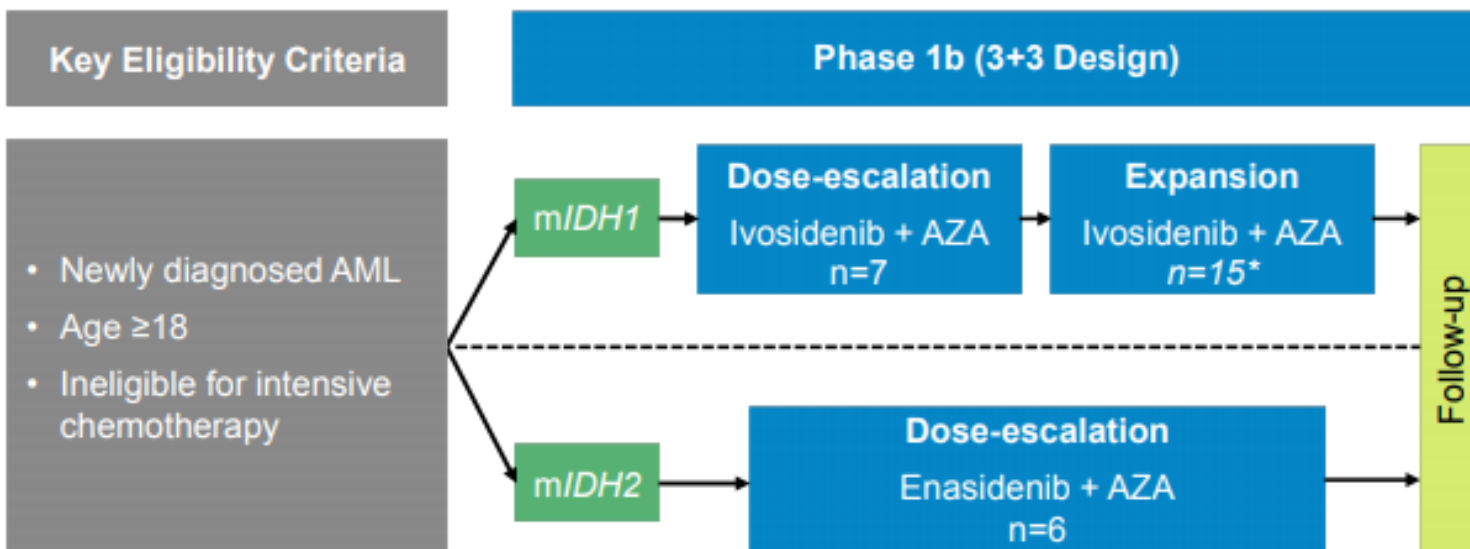
	Ivosidenib (AG-120) + CT			Enasidenib (AG-221) + CT		
Response, n (%)	All (n=30)	<i>De novo</i> (n=21)	sAML (n=9)	All (n=50)	<i>De novo</i> (n=27)	sAML (n=23)
CR+CRi/CRp	23 (77)	19 (91)	4 (44)	31 (62)	18 (67)	13 (57)
CR	19 (63)	15 (71)	4 (44)	25 (50)	16 (59)	9 (39)
CRi/CRp	4 (13)	4 (19)	-	6 (12)	2 (7)	4 (17)
MLFS	1 (3)	-	1 (11)	10 (20)	4 (15)	6 (26)
PR	2 (7)	1 (5)	1 (11)	-	-	-
Persistent disease	2 (7)	1 (5)	1 (11)	5 (10)	2 (7)	3 (13)
NE	2 (7)	-	2 (22)	4 (8)	3 (11)	1 (4)

Ivo or Ena + CT
generally well
tolerated

Response rates
encouraging,
especially in
sAML

Phase 3 planned

mIDH inhibitors + AZA in ND-AML



Parameter, n (%)	Ivosidenib 500 mg + AZA (N = 23)	Enasidenib 100/200 mg + AZA (N = 6)
Overall response*	18 (78)	4 (67)
CR	10 (44)	3 (50)
CRi/CRp	5 (22)	0
PR	0	0
MLFS	3 (13)	1 (17)

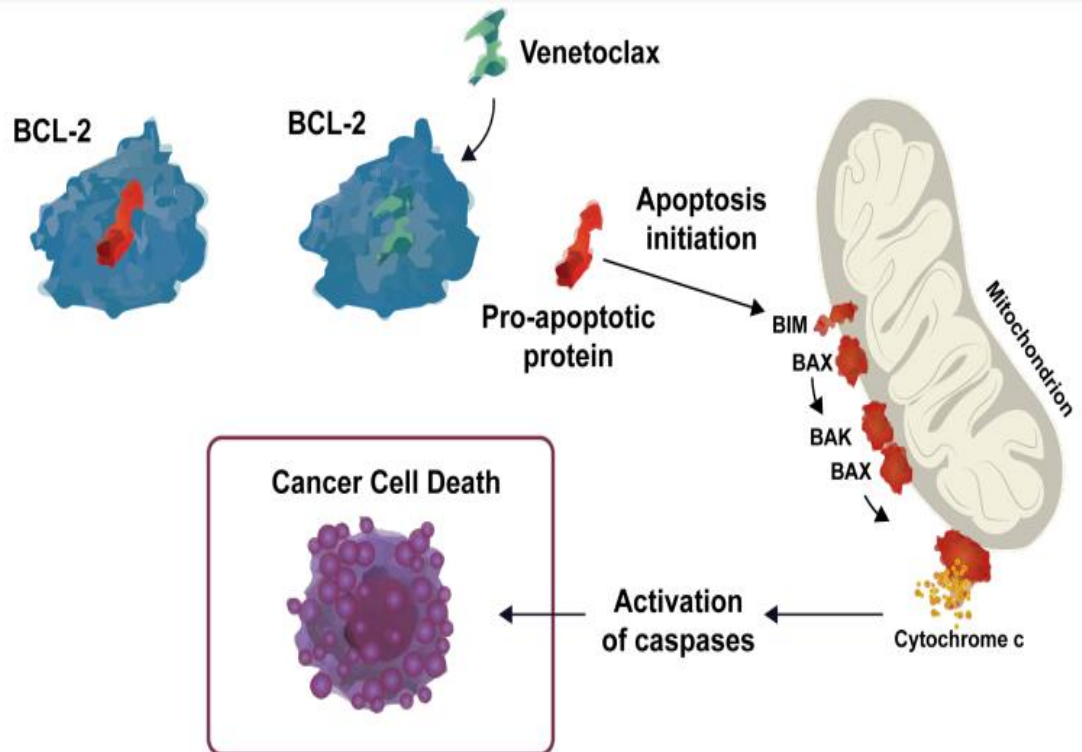
Targeting BCL-2

BCL-2 overexpression allows cancer cells to evade apoptosis by sequestering proapoptotic proteins

Venetoclax is an oral BCL-2 selective inhibitor

Binds to BCL-2 freeing proapoptotic proteins that initiate apoptosis

Phase 2 study in R/R AML: ORR 19%

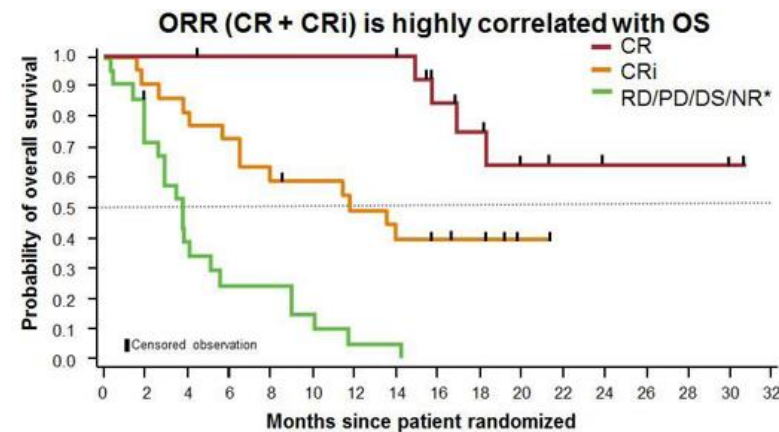
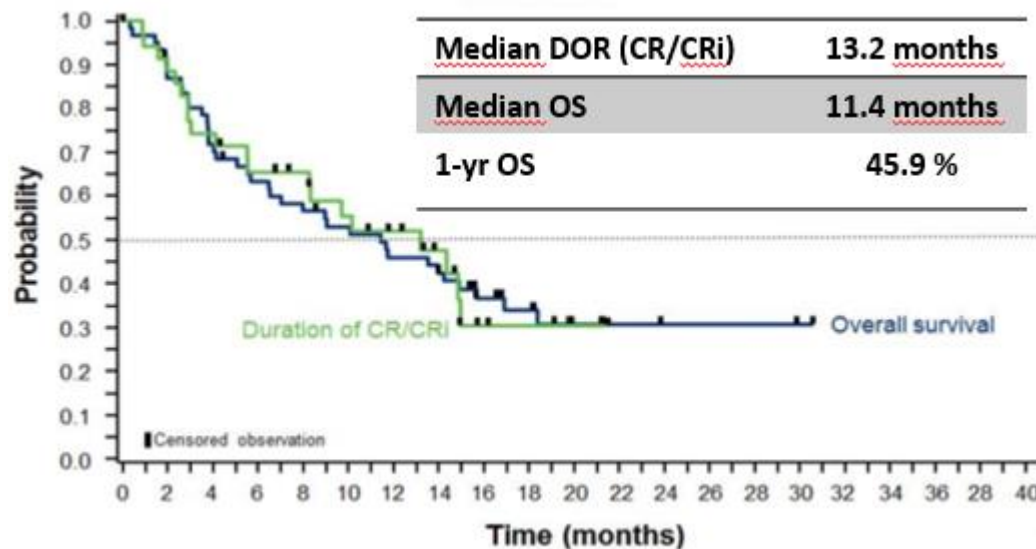


VEN + LDAC (phase 1/2)

Elderly pts with ND-AML
unfit for IC
(Median age 74y, 66-87)

Response	Overall (N = 61)	Intermediate Cytogenetics (n = 37)	Adverse Cytogenetics (n = 19)	No Prior HMA (n = 44)	Prior HMA (n = 17)	Secondary AML (n = 27)
CR + CRi	62	76	47	66	53	52
▪ CR	26	35	15	32	12	11
▪ CRi	36	41	32	34	41	41
PR	2	3	0	2	0	0

30/60-d mortality: 3%/13%



VEN+HMAs in ND-AML (phase 1b)

Outcome	All Patients* (N = 145)	Venetoclax 400 mg		Venetoclax 800 mg	
		Azacitidine (n = 29)	Decitabine (n = 31)	Azacitidine (n = 37)	Decitabine (n = 37)
CR + CRi, %	67	76	71	57	73
▪ CR	37	38	45	30	38
▪ CRi	30	38	26	27	35
MRD negativity in patients with CR/CRi, n/N (%)	28/97 (29)	10/22 (45)	7/22 (32)	7/21 (33)	3/27 (11)
Median DoR in patients with CR/CRi, mos (95% CI)	11.3 (8.9-NR)	NR (5.6-NR)	12.5 (5.1-NR)	11.7 (4.6-12.9)	9.2 (5.9-NR)
▪ Intermediate risk	12.9 (11.0-NR)	--	--	--	--
▪ Poor risk	6.7 (4.1-9.4)	--	--	--	--
▪ de novo AML	9.4 (7.2-11.7)	--	--	--	--
▪ Secondary AML	NR (12.5-NR)	--	--	--	--
Median OS, mos (95% CI)	17.5 (12.3-NR)	NR (11.0-NR)		17.5 (10.3-NR)	

*Including 11 patients who received venetoclax at 1200 mg.

- **CR/CRi rates in subgroups: intermediate-risk cytogenetics, 74%; poor-risk cytogenetics, 59%; de novo AML, 67%; secondary AML, 67%; aged < 75 yrs, 69%; aged ≥ 75 yrs, 64%**



- Deaths after starting venetoclax: ≤ 30 days, n = 5 (3%); ≤ 60 days, n = 11 (8%)
- No laboratory or clinical TLS observed
- Comparable AE rates with decitabine vs azacitidine

AML: Progress at last!

