

Realizing Precision Medicine in CLL

facts, challenges and considerations

Kostas Stamatopoulos

Institute of Applied Biosciences
CERTH, Thessaloniki, Greece

Disclosures

Honoraria	Janssen, Gilead, Novartis, Abbvie
Scientific Advisory Board	Janssen, Gilead
Research funding	Janssen, Gilead, Abbvie

CLL treatment evolution

1960 – 2013
only 5 drugs

CLL treatment evolution

1960 – 2013
only 5 drugs

2014 – 2019
many new options

drastic changes in the
overall treatment
strategy

the challenge

**which medicine?
which combination?
which patient?
which diagnostics?**

CLL treatment in 2019 – considerations

age and physical status

patient preferences

biological background



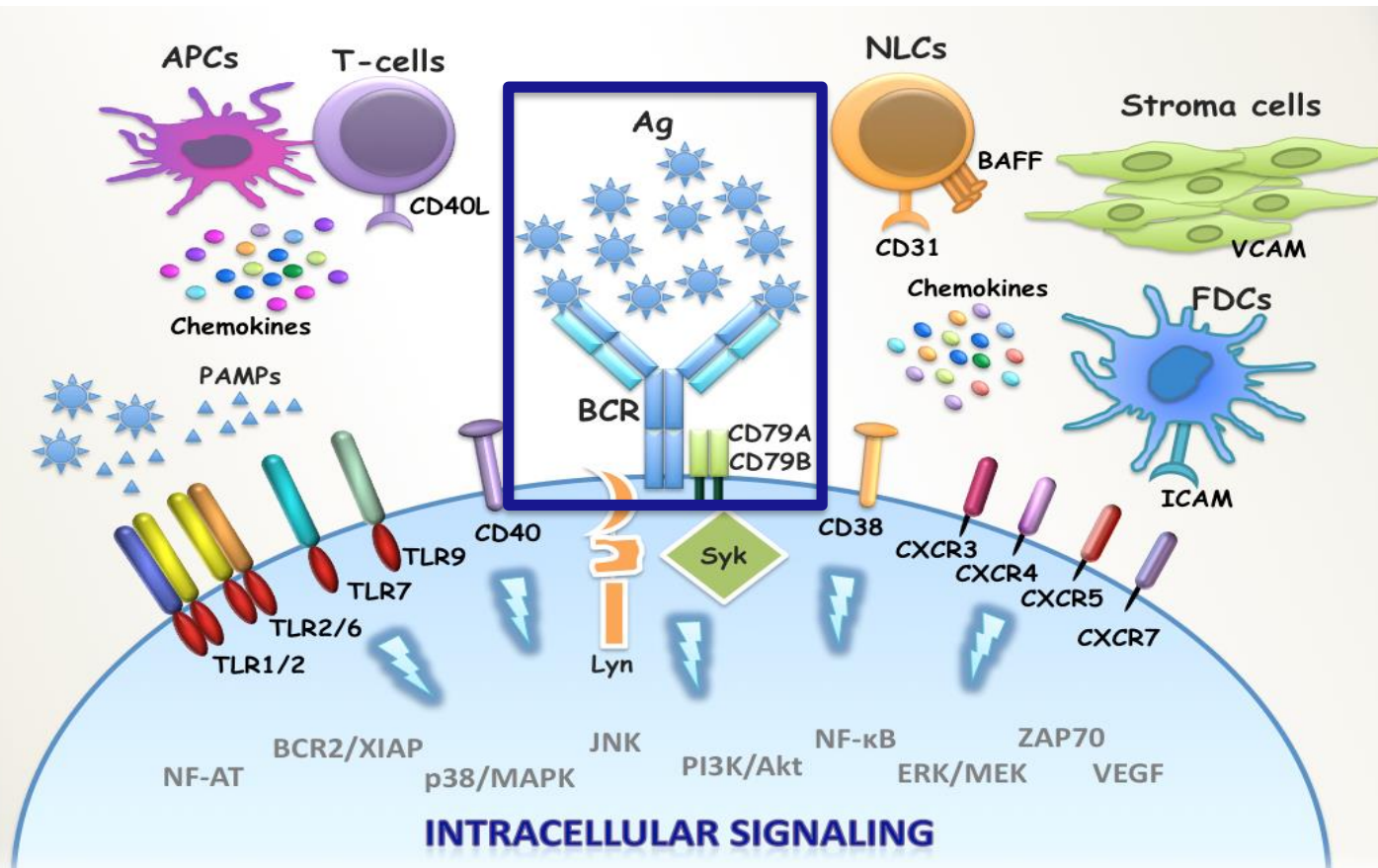
Guidelines for diagnosis, indications for treatment, response assessment and supportive management of chronic lymphocytic leukemia

Michael Hallek, Bruce D. Cheson, Daniel Catovsky, Federico Caligaris-Cappio, Guillermo Dighiero, Hartmut Döhner, Peter Hillmen, Michael Keating, Emili Montserrat, Nicholas Chiorazzi, Stephan Stilgenbauer, Kanti R. Rai, John C. Byrd, Barbara Eichhorst, Susan O'Brien, Tadeusz Robak, John F. Seymour and Thomas J. Kipps

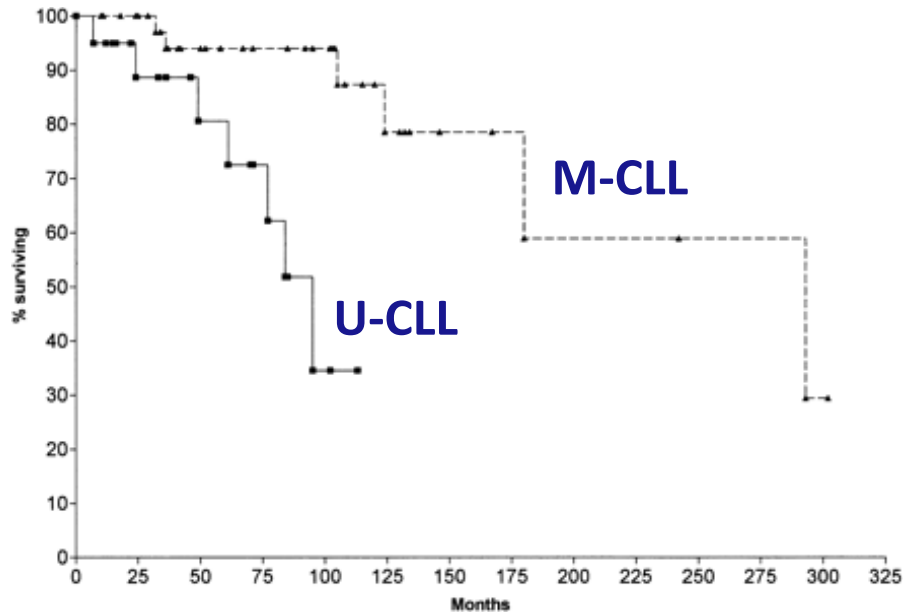
	General practice	Clinical trial
FISH for del(13q), del(11q), del(17p), add(12)	Always	Always
<i>TP53</i> mutations	Always	Always
IG genes	Always	Always

no single lesion
accounts for more
than 10-15% of cases

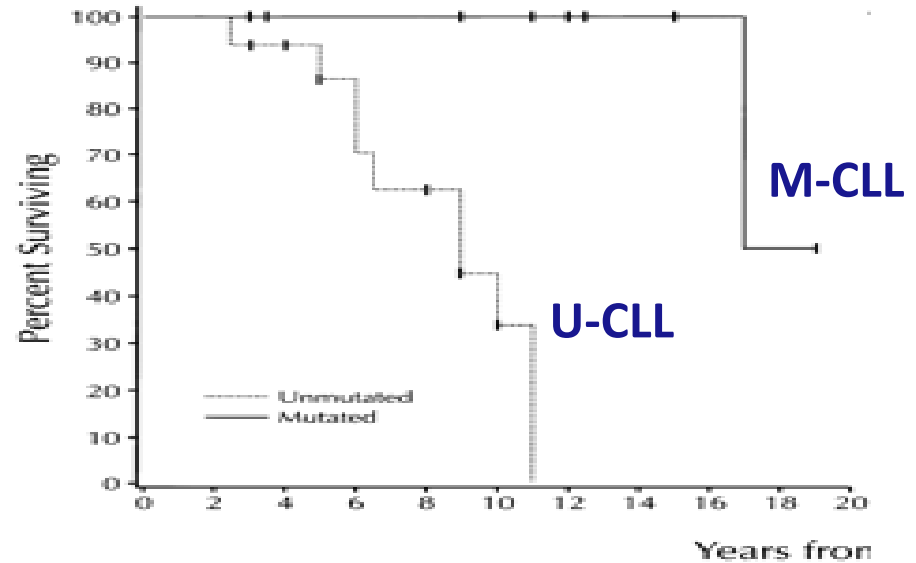
B cell receptor immunoglobulin *a unique biomarker for **all** CLL*



CLL - better with mutated IG receptors



Hamblin et al. Blood 1999;94:1848-54

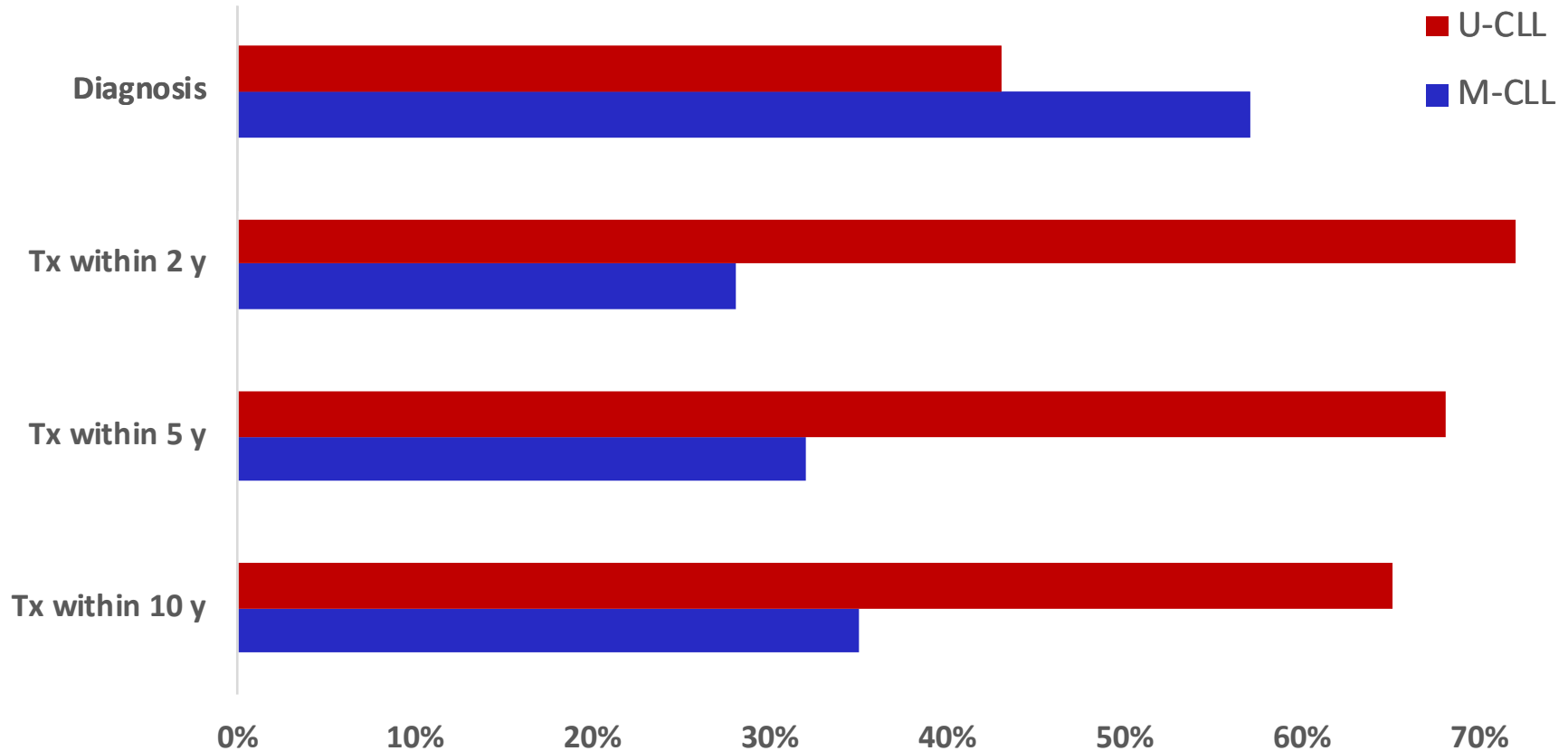


Damle et al. Blood 1999; 94:1840-7

U-CLL: unmutated IG; M-CLL: mutated IG

U-CLL vs M-CLL

let's see what happens



U-CLL: unmutated IG; M-CLL: mutated IG

Agathangelidis et al. Blood 2012; 119(19):4467-75
Baliakas et al. Lancet Haematol 2014 ;1(2):e74-84

BcR IG

the ultimate driver in CLL

CLL treatment in 2019

facts and
considerations

frontline paradigms

chemoimmunotherapy

biological agents

only a **minority** of CLL patients are eligible for intensive chemoimmunotherapy

10-12% of the annual symptomatic population of CLL patients are del17p/*TP53* mutated

no place for
chemoimmunotherapy

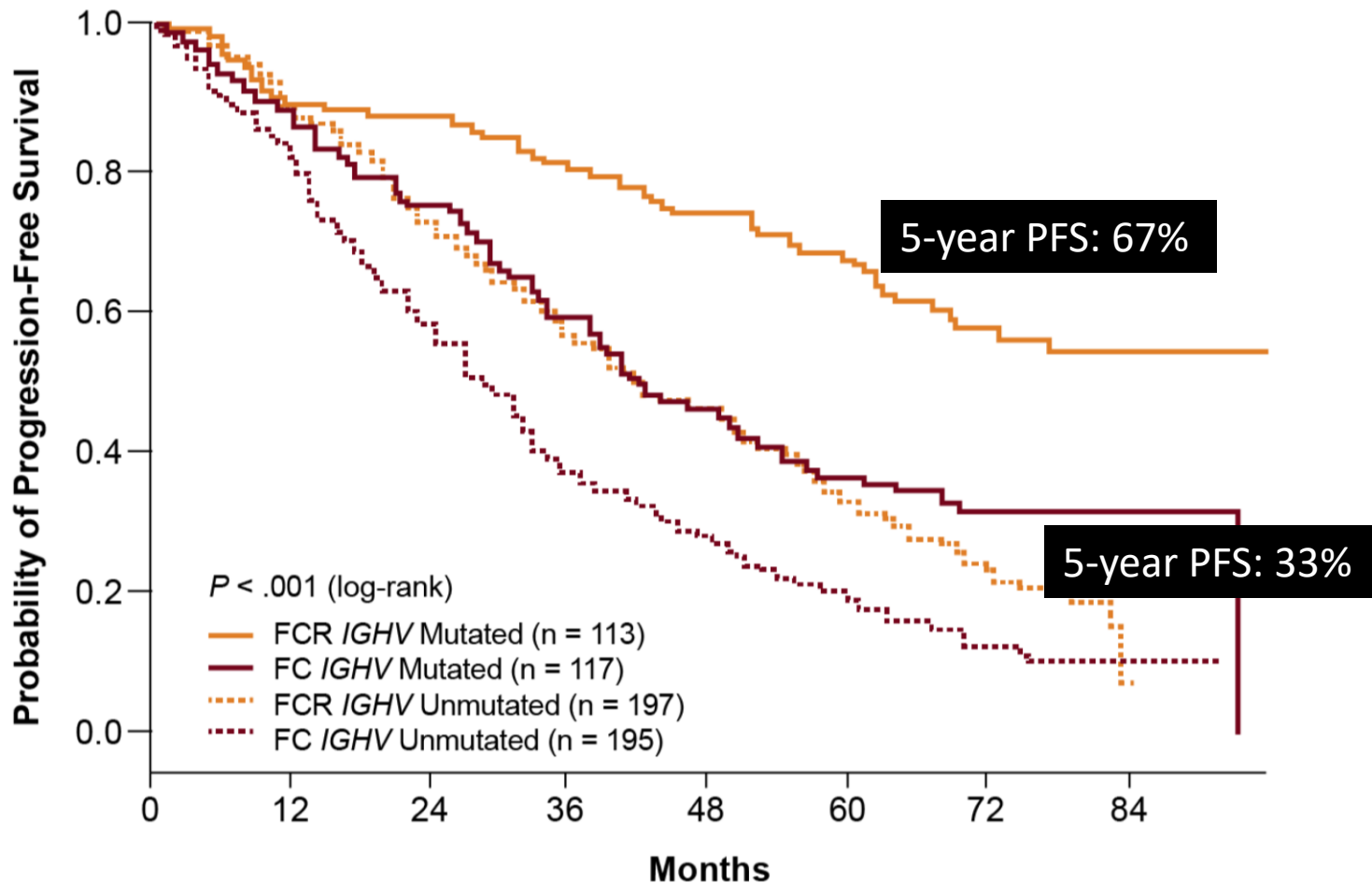
60% of the annual symptomatic population of CLL patients in the EU are considered elderly or younger with a major comorbidity

no place for
chemoimmunotherapy

TP53 wildtype CLL
fit patients

FCR: maximum benefit for IG-mutated

FCR: limited benefit for IG-unmutated



FCR is a valid option for a **small minority** of fit CLL patients with low risk disease

First-line CIT options for unfit patients

Study	Regimen	Median PFS (months)
Hillmen P et al, Lancet, 2015 Phase III	Ofatumumab- Chlorambucil	22.4
Goede V et al, NEJM, 2014 Phase III	Rituximab-Chlorambucil	16.3
	Obinutuzumab-Chlorambucil	26.7

not optimal

frontline paradigms in 2019

biological agents

venetoclax

ibrutinib

E1912: ECOG-E1912

ibrutinib plus rituximab versus FCR in patients with untreated CLL aged 70 years or younger

E1912: ECOG-E1912 | study design

Stratified by age (< vs ≥ 60 yrs), ECOG PS (0/1 vs 2), stage (III-IV vs I-II), del(11q22.3) vs other

Patients with **previously untreated CLL** requiring treatment per IWCLL 2008, aged ≤ 70 yrs, ECOG PS 0-2, CrCl > 40 mL/min, ability to tolerate FCR, **no del(17p) by FISH** (N = 529)



Ibrutinib 420 mg PO QD for cycles 1-7 +
Rituximab 50 mg/m² IV on Day 1, cycle 2, then 325 mg/mg² on Day 2, cycle 2, then 500 mg/m² on Day 1, cycles 3-7
(n = 354)

Fludarabine 25 mg/m² IV on Days 1-3 for cycles 1-6 +
Cyclophosphamide 250 mg/m² IV on Days 1-3 for cycles 1-6 +
Rituximab 50 mg/m² IV on Day 1, cycle 1, then 325 mg/mg² on Day 2, cycle 1, then 500 mg/m² on Day 1, cycles 2-6
(n = 175)

Ibrutinib maintenance until PD

28-day cycles.

Primary endpoint: PFS

Secondary endpoints: OS, safety

PFS significantly prolonged with ibrutinib + R vs FCR

PFS Outcome	ITT Population		Eligible Population	
	Ibrutinib + R	FCR	Ibrutinib + R	FCR
No. events/cases	37/354	40/175	33/332	39/166
HR (95% CI)	0.35 (0.22-0.50)		0.32 (0.20-0.51)	
1-sided P value	< .00001		< .00001	

Significant PFS benefit with ibrutinib + R vs FCR in U-CLL, trend toward PFS improvement in M-CLL

PFS Outcome by IGHV Status	U-CLL		M-CLL	
	Ibrutinib + R	FCR	Ibrutinib + R	FCR
No. events/cases	20/210	21/71	8/70	6/44
HR (95% CI)	0.26 (0.14-0.50)		0.44 (0.14-1.36)	
1-sided P value	< .00001		.07	

U-CLL: unmutated IGHV genes | M-CLL: mutated IGHV genes

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

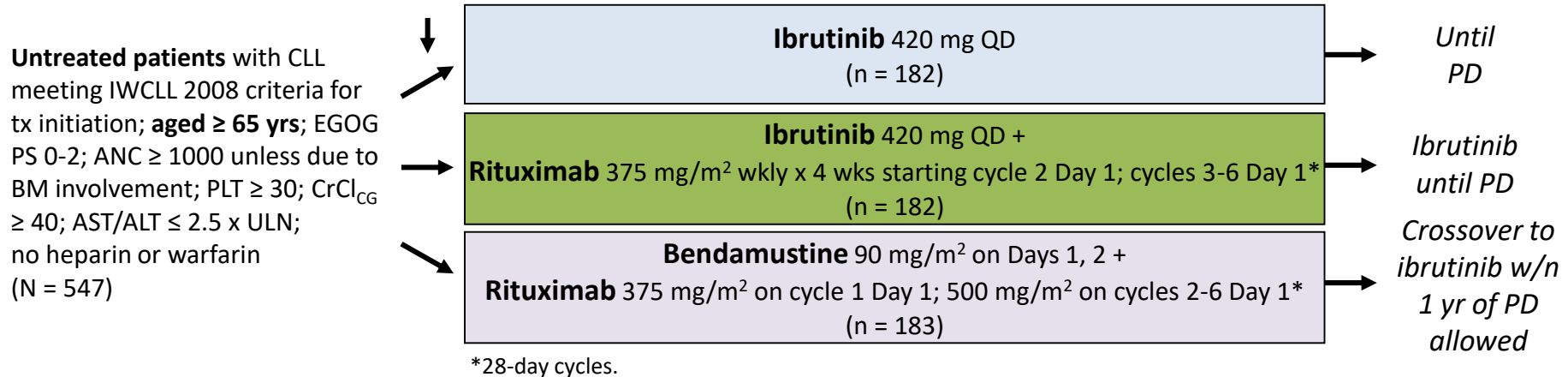
Ibrutinib Regimens versus Chemoimmunotherapy in Older Patients with Untreated CLL

J.A. Woyach, A.S. Ruppert, N.A. Heerema, W. Zhao, A.M. Booth, W. Ding, N.L. Bartlett, D.M. Brander, P.M. Barr, K.A. Rogers, S.A. Parikh, S. Coutre, A. Hurria,* J.R. Brown, G. Lozanski, J.S. Blachly, H.G. Ozer, B. Major-Elechi, B. Fruth, S. Nattam, R.A. Larson, H. Erba, M. Litzow, C. Owen, C. Kuzma, J.S. Abramson, R.F. Little, S.E. Smith, R.M. Stone, S.J. Mandrekar, and J.C. Byrd

ALLIANCE A041202: Study Design

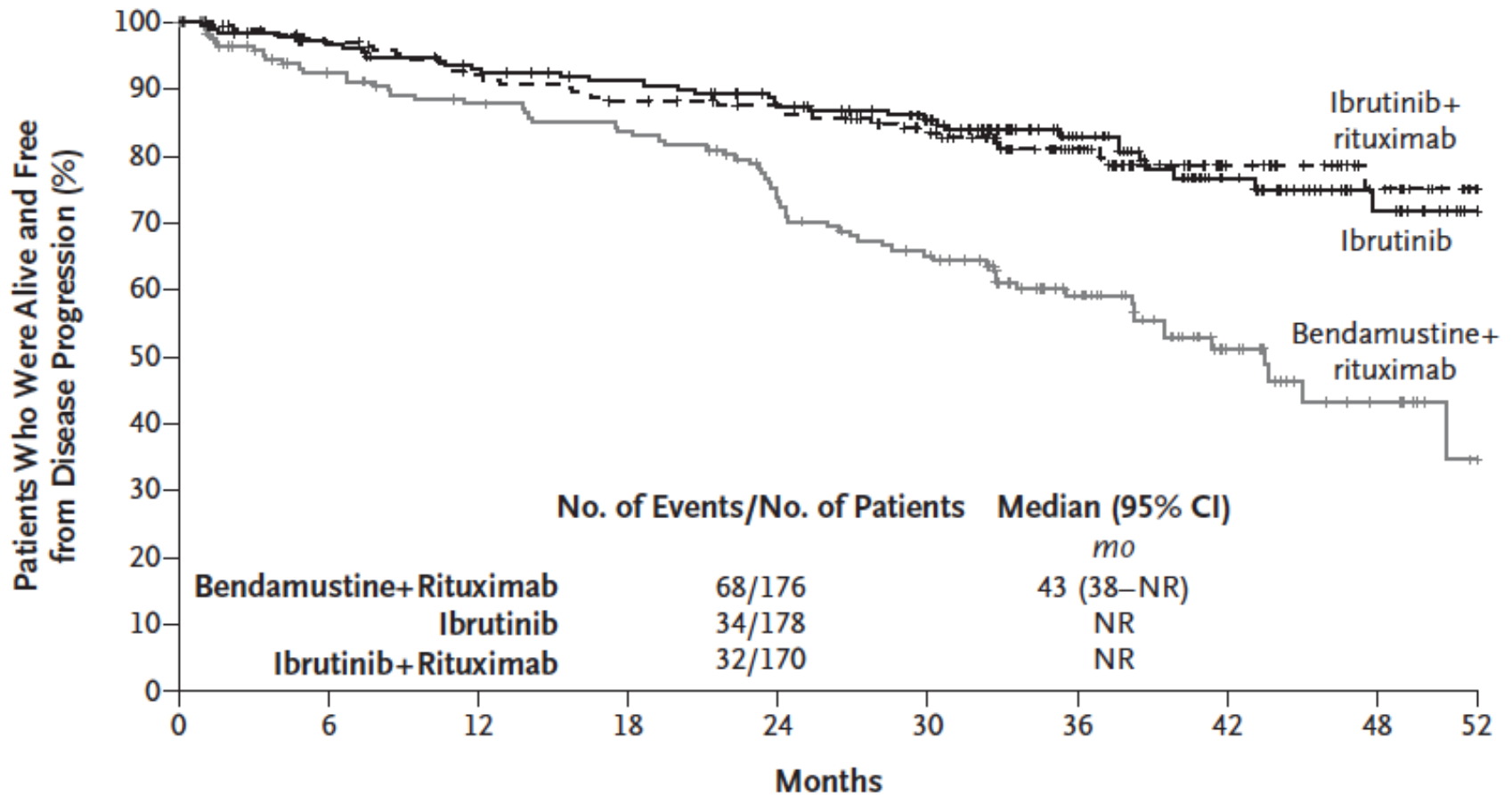
Multicenter, randomized, double-blind phase III study (data cutoff: October 4, 2018)

Stratified by Rai stage (high vs intermediate risk), del(11q22.3) or del(17p13.1) (presence vs absence), ZAP-70 methylation (< vs ≥ 20%)

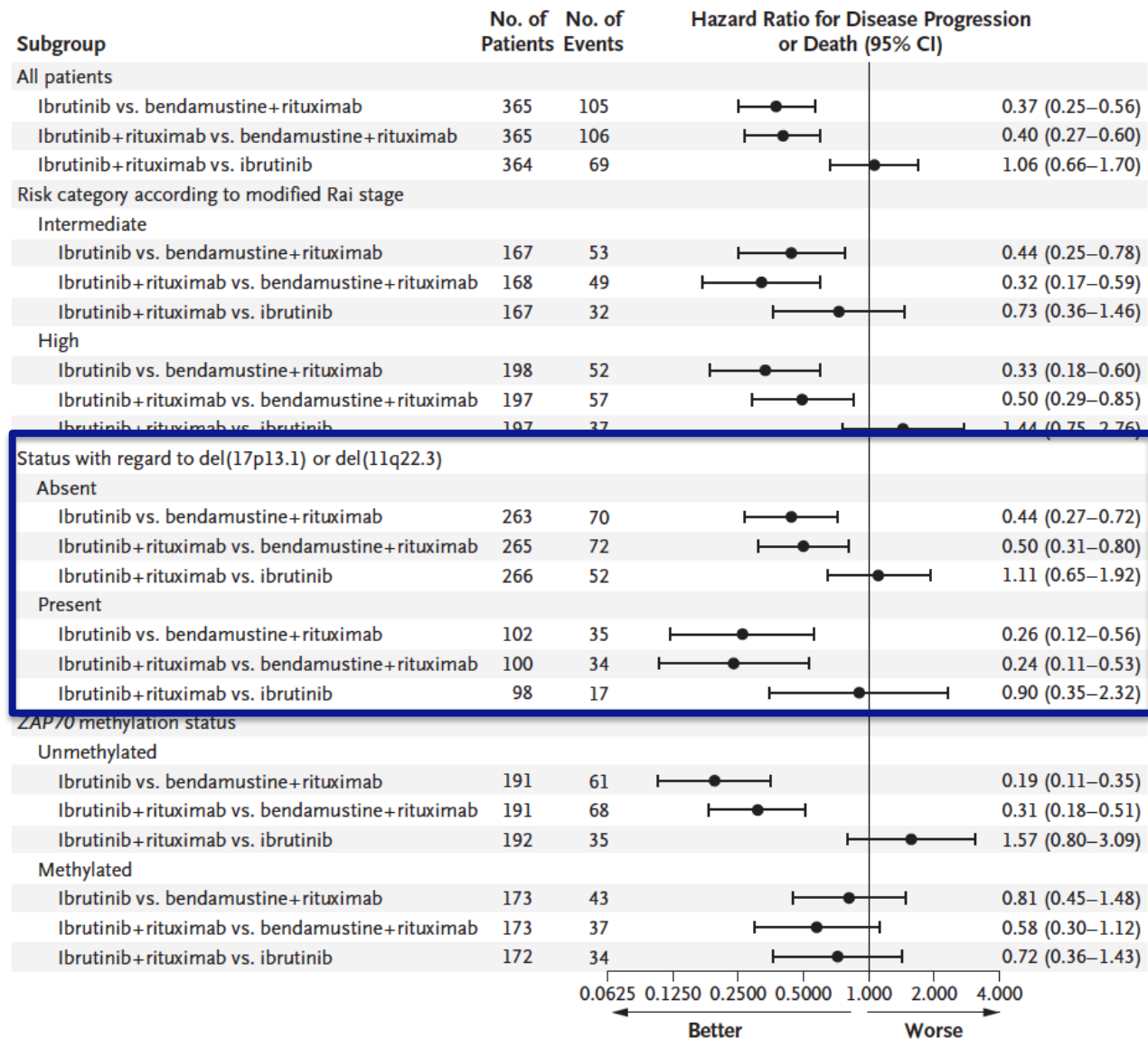


Primary endpoint: PFS

PFS significantly better for ibrutinib vs BR and ibrutinib + R vs BR
no difference for ibrutinib + R vs ibrutinib



PFS significantly better for ibrutinib vs BR and ibrutinib + R vs BR no difference for ibrutinib + R vs ibrutinib



venetoclax

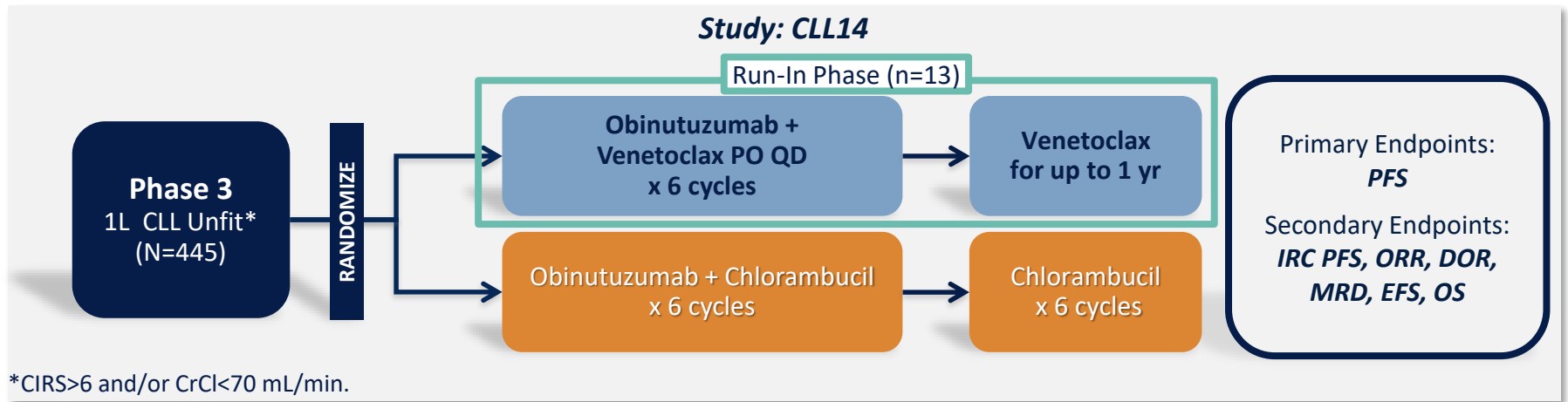
ibrutinib

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Venetoclax and Obinutuzumab in Patients with CLL and Coexisting Conditions

K. Fischer, O. Al-Sawaf, J. Bahlo, A.-M. Fink, M. Tandon, M. Dixon, S. Robrecht, S. Warburton, K. Humphrey, O. Samoylova, A.M. Liberati, J. Pinilla-Ibarz, S. Opat, L. Sivcheva, K. Le Dû, L.M. Fogliatto, C.U. Niemann, R. Weinkove, S. Robinson, T.J. Kipps, S. Boettcher, E. Tausch, R. Humerickhouse, B. Eichhorst, C.-M. Wendtner, A.W. Langerak, K.-A. Kreuzer, M. Ritgen, V. Goede, S. Stilgenbauer, M. Mobasher, and M. Hallek

CLL14 – study design



Treatment Schedule	
Obinutuzumab (IV)	
Cycle 1:	100 mg D1; 900 mg D2; 1000 mg D8/D15
Cycles 2-6:	1000 mg D1
Venetoclax‡ (PO)	
Cycle 1:	20 mg QD D22-28
Cycle 2:	50 mg QD D1-7; 100 mg QD D8-14; 200 mg QD D15-21; 400 mg QD D22-28
Cycles 3-12:	400 mg QD D1-28

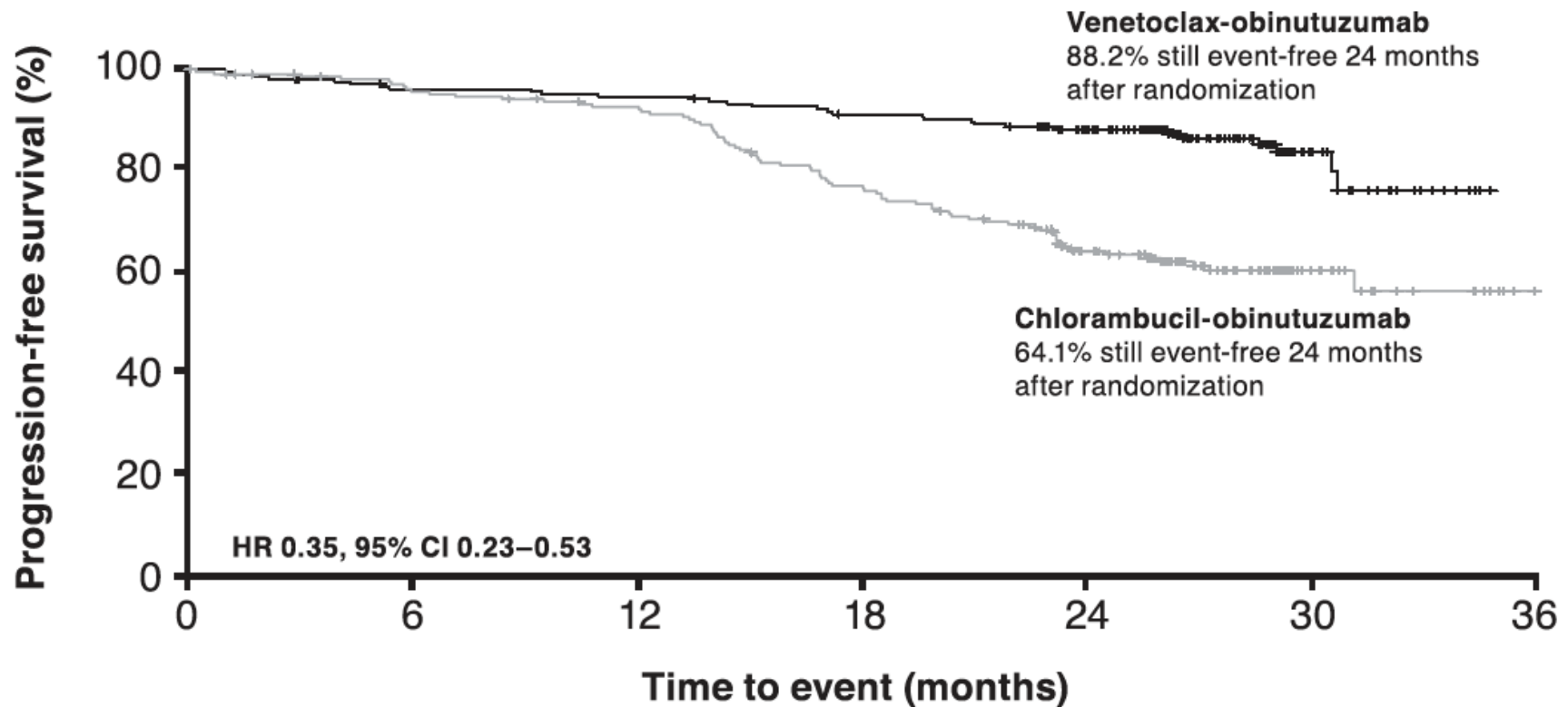
‡Venetoclax ramp-up during course 1 and 2.

Fixed-duration **Ven+G** induced **deep**
MRD-negativity rates in previously untreated
pts with CLL and comorbidities

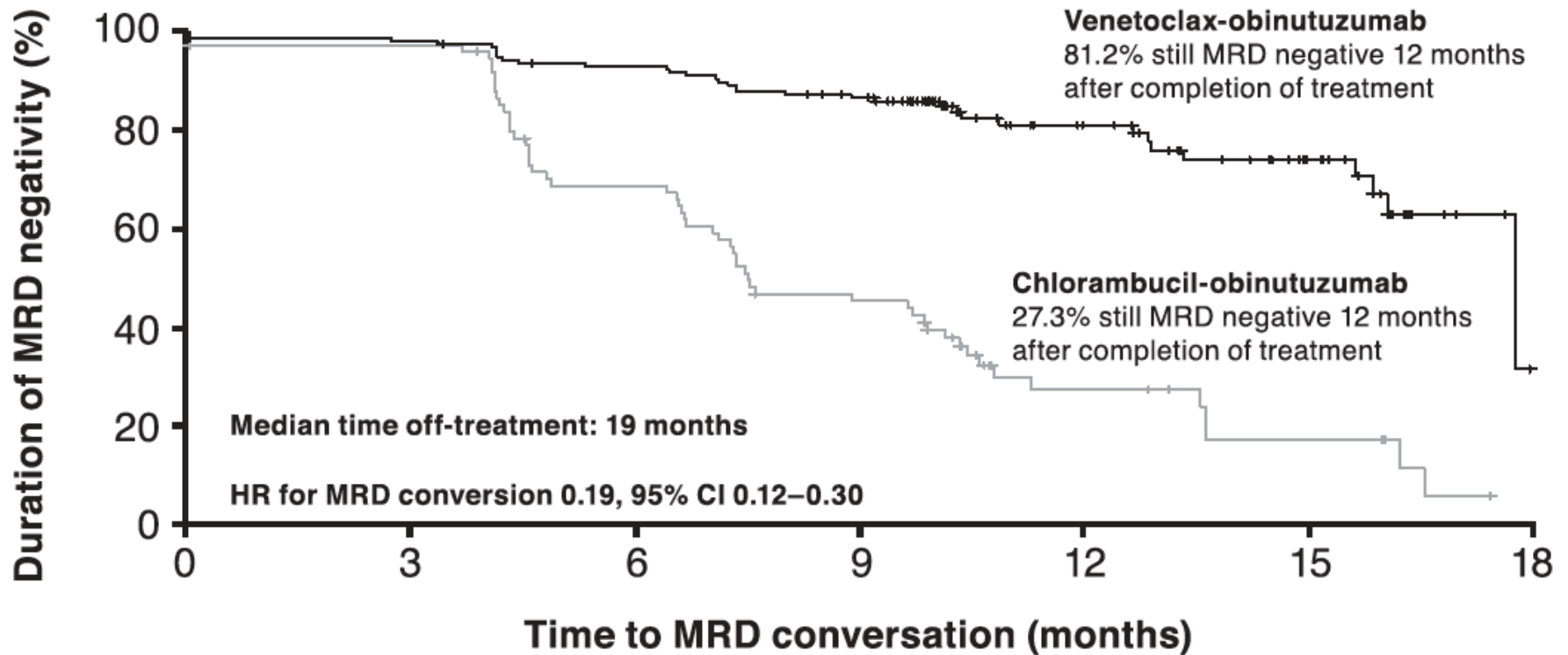
All pts (ITT) N	ClbG 216	VenG 216
MRD level, n (%)		
<10 ⁻⁶	9 (4.2)	67 (31.0)
≥10 ⁻⁶ and <10 ⁻⁵	33 (15.3)	75 (34.7)
≥10 ⁻⁵ and <10 ⁻⁴	32 (14.8)	26 (12.0)
≥10 ⁻⁴ and <10 ⁻²	50 (23.1)	13 (6.0)
≥10 ⁻²	62 (28.7)	10 (4.6)
No sample/not evaluable	30 (13.9)	25 (11.6)

MRD assessment: ASO-PCR, NGS

Fixed-duration Ven+G induced **high**
MRD-negativity rates in previously untreated
pts with CLL and comorbidities

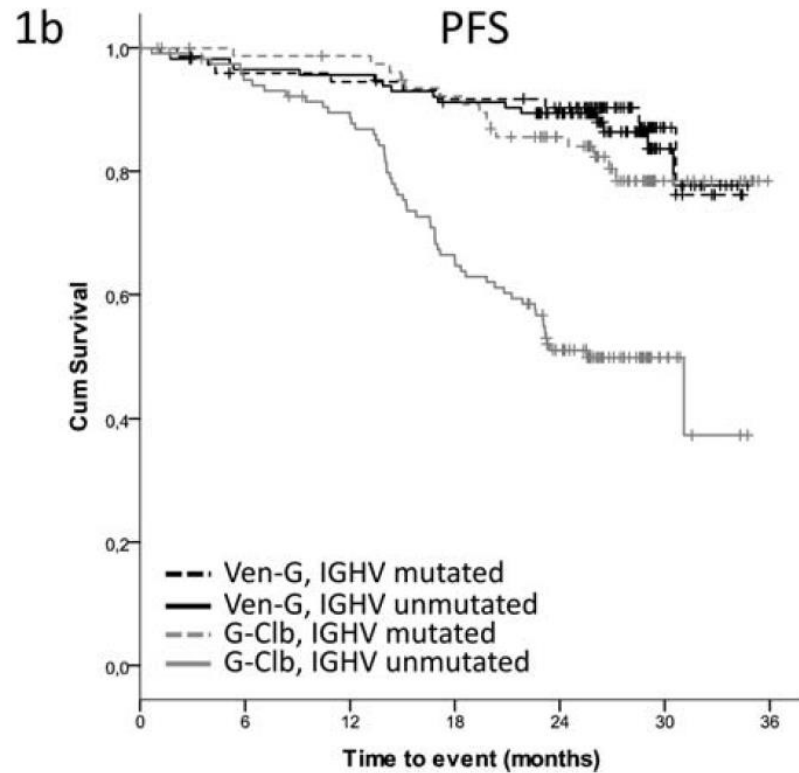
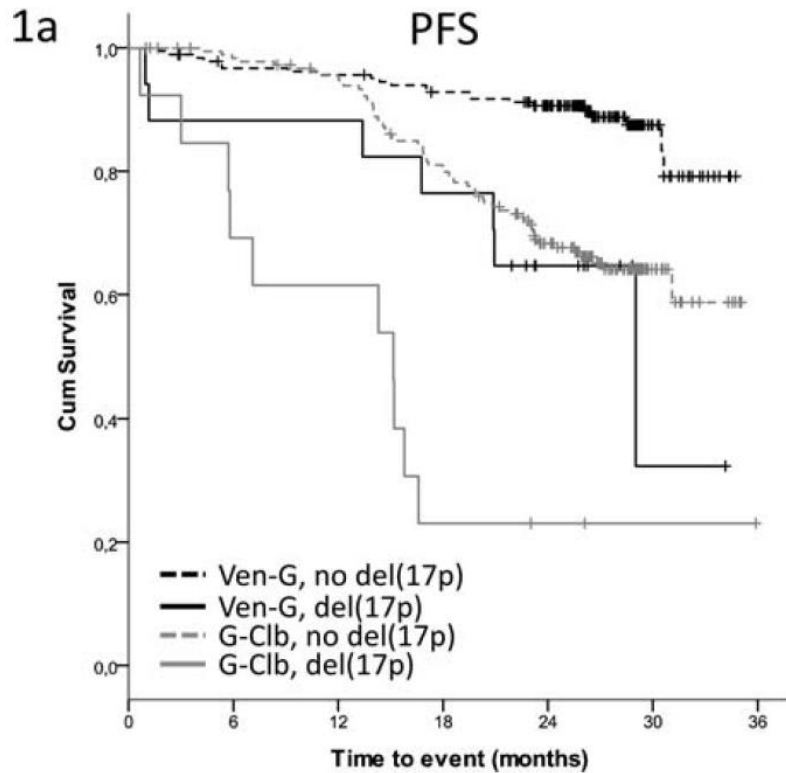


Fixed-duration Ven+G induced **long-lasting MRD-negativity** rates in previously untreated pts with CLL and comorbidities



Ven+G

**only TP53 aberrations are adverse
IGHV-unmutated experience particular benefit**



a bright future for CLL

CLL treatment in 2019 – facts and goals

targeted agents, particularly ibrutinib and venetoclax, have improved our therapeutic armamentarium in a very impressive way

complete eradication of CLL is an obvious and desired endpoint

therapies leading to MRD negative remissions consistently result in a significant improvement in clinical outcome, including longer OS

precision medicine is
becoming a **reality** in the
clinical management of **CLL**

things in perspective

Case 1

2015/08

Female age 63 yrs

Lymphocytosis, anemia, bulky lymph nodes

Flow-cytometry: typical CLL (score 5)

Clinical Stage: Binet C

FISH Monoallelic interstitial deletion of 13q14.3 (75%)

IGHV genes IGHV3-23 | 100% germline identity | U-CLL

TP53 gene analysis by Sanger Sequencing (2015-08-23)
no pathogenic *TP53* variant was detected

Case 1

ultra-high risk CLL

Case 1

FISH

Monoallelic interstitial deletion of 13q14.3 (67%)

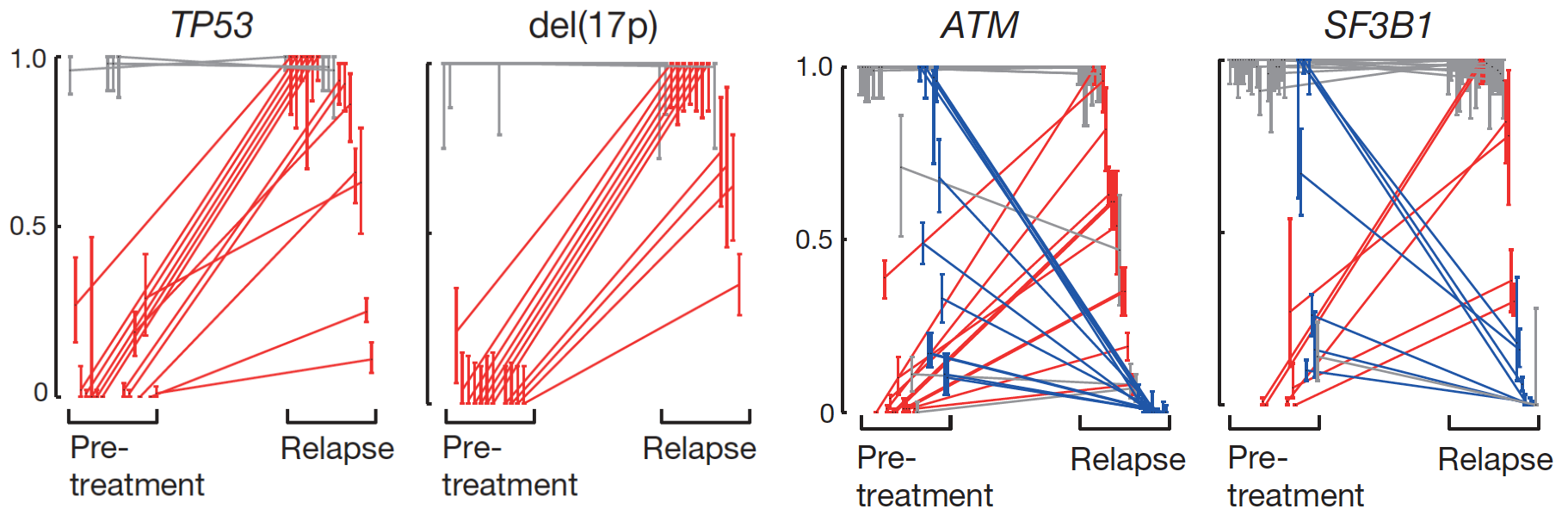
***TP53* gene analysis by NGS (2017-01-26)**

Variant (Protein)	VAF	Depth	Interpretation
p.S215G	33%	3363	Pathogenic

***TP53* gene analysis by NGS (2015-08-23)**

Variant (Protein)	VAF	Depth	Interpretation
p.S215G	6%	4352	Pathogenic

Chemo(immuno)therapy selects *TP53* mutant subclones



Case 1

*had you known in 2015, would you
have treated with FCR?*

we must and
will change this!

join forces!

ERIC

European research initiative on CLL

INAB | CERTH, Thessaloniki

Anastasia Hadzidimitriou

Andreas Agathangelidis

Maria Karypidou | Anna Vardi

Stamatia Laidou | Elsa Vlachonikola

Katerina Gemenetzi | Chryssi Galigalidou

Eva Minga | Fotis Psomopoulos

G. Papanicolaou Hospital, Thessaloniki

Niki Stavroyianni

Achilles Anagnostopoulos

Aliki Xochelli

IMGT, Montpellier

Marie-Paule Lefranc

Veronique Giudicelli

Royal Bournemouth Hospital

Zadie Davis

David Oscier

San Raffaele, Milan

Paolo Ghia

Marta Muzio

Karolinska Institute, Stockholm

Richard Rosenquist

Lesley-Ann Sutton

Uppsala University

Panagiotis Baliakas

Pitié Salpêtrière, Paris

Fred Davi

Nikea General Hospital, Athens

Chrysoula Belessi

Erasmus MC, Rotterdam

Anton Langerak