

Immunotherapy for the Treatment of Hematologic Malignancies

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Professor of Medicine

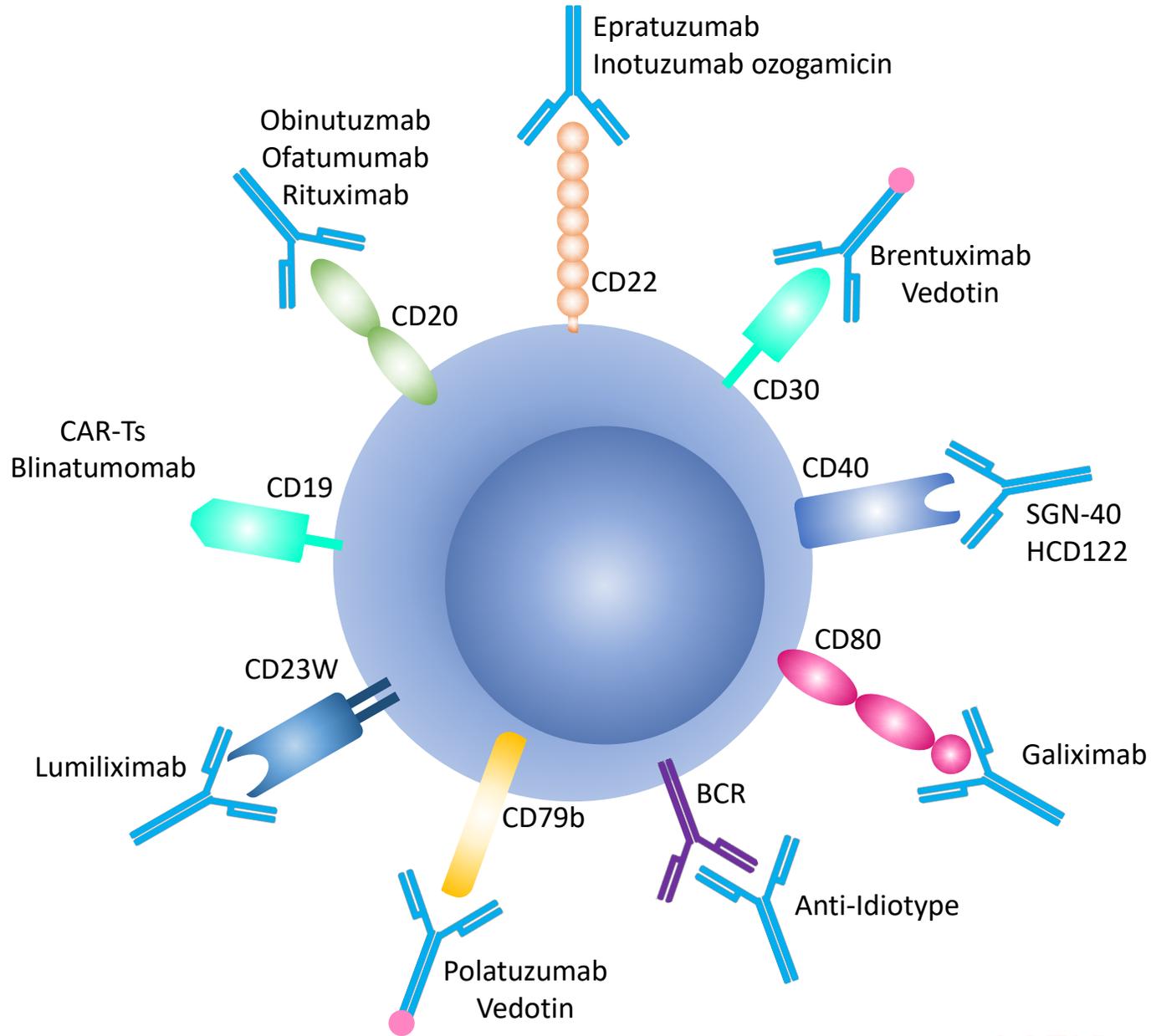
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Disclosures

- Consulting Fees: Amgen, Abbvie, Astra Zeneca, Haryophatm, Pharmacyclics, Morphosys, Gebmab, Bayer.
- I will be discussing non-FDA approved indications during my presentation.



Checkpoint inhibitors

FDA-approved Checkpoint inhibitors: Lymphoma

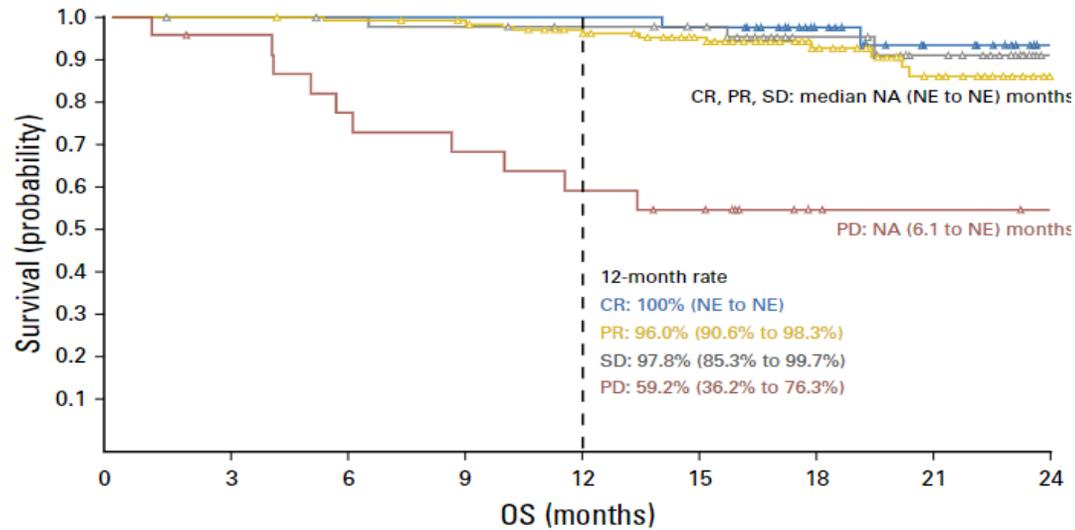
Drug	Approved	Indication	Dose
Nivolumab	2016	Classical Hodgkin lymphoma, relapsed after HSCT and brentuximab vedotin or ≥ 3 previous therapies	240 mg q2w or 480 mg q4w
Pembrolizumab	2017	Adult/pediatric refractory classical Hodgkin lymphoma or relapsed after 3 previous therapies	200 mg q3w adults 2 mg/kg (up to 200 mg) q3w (pediatric)
Pembrolizumab	2018	Adult/pediatric refractory primary mediastinal large B-cell lymphoma or relapsed after 2 previous therapies	200 mg q3W adults 2 mg/kg (up to 200 mg) q3w (pediatric)

Checkpoint inhibitors: Hodgkin Lymphoma

Checkmate-205

ORR = 69%

CR = 16%



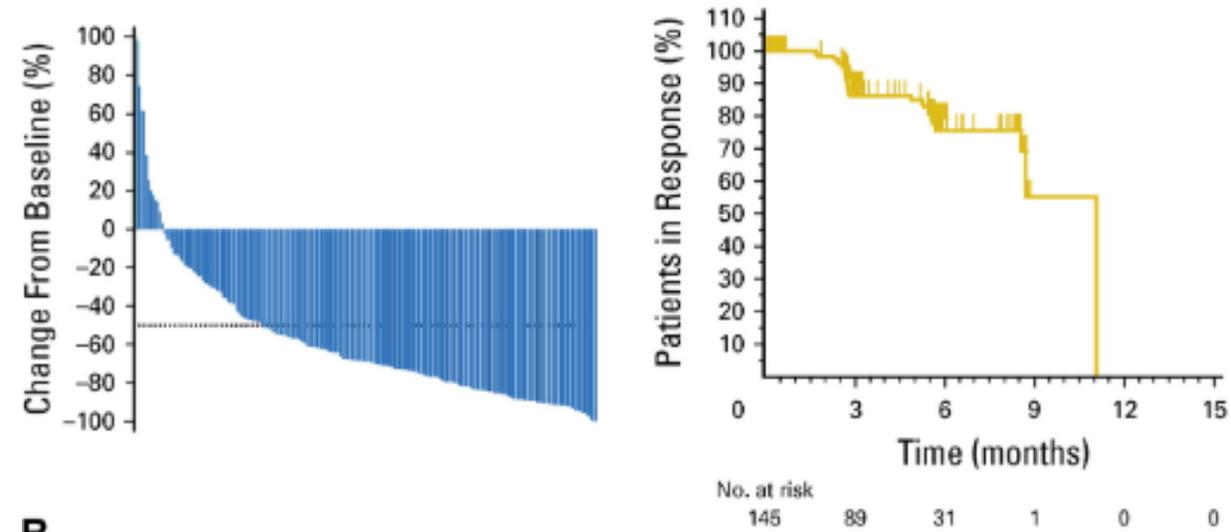
No. at risk:	0	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24
CR	40	40	40	40	40	39	26	16	7
PR	128	128	126	123	113	97	59	34	10
SD	47	46	45	44	42	39	25	16	3
PD	23	21	17	15	13	11	5	4	3

Keynote-087

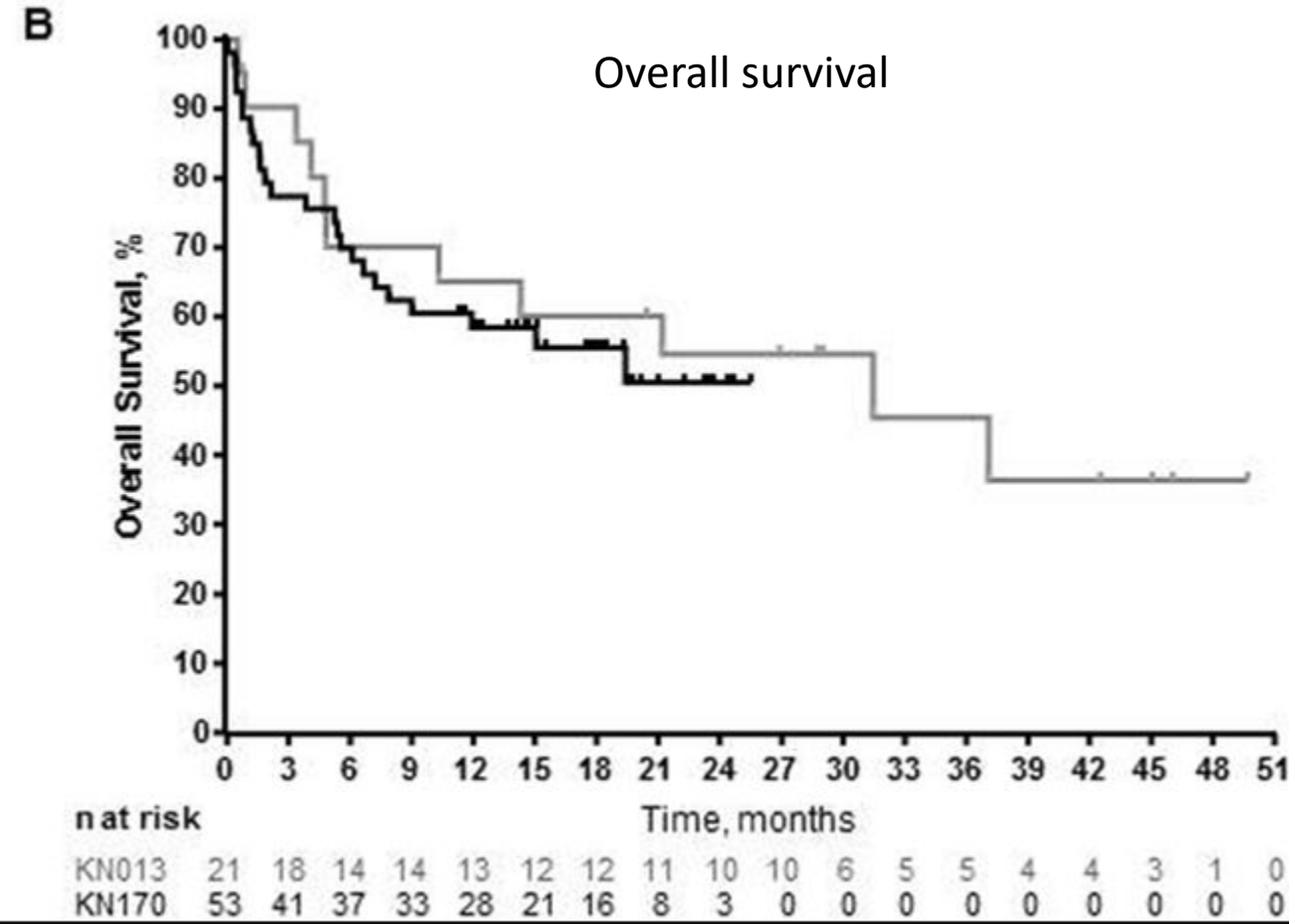
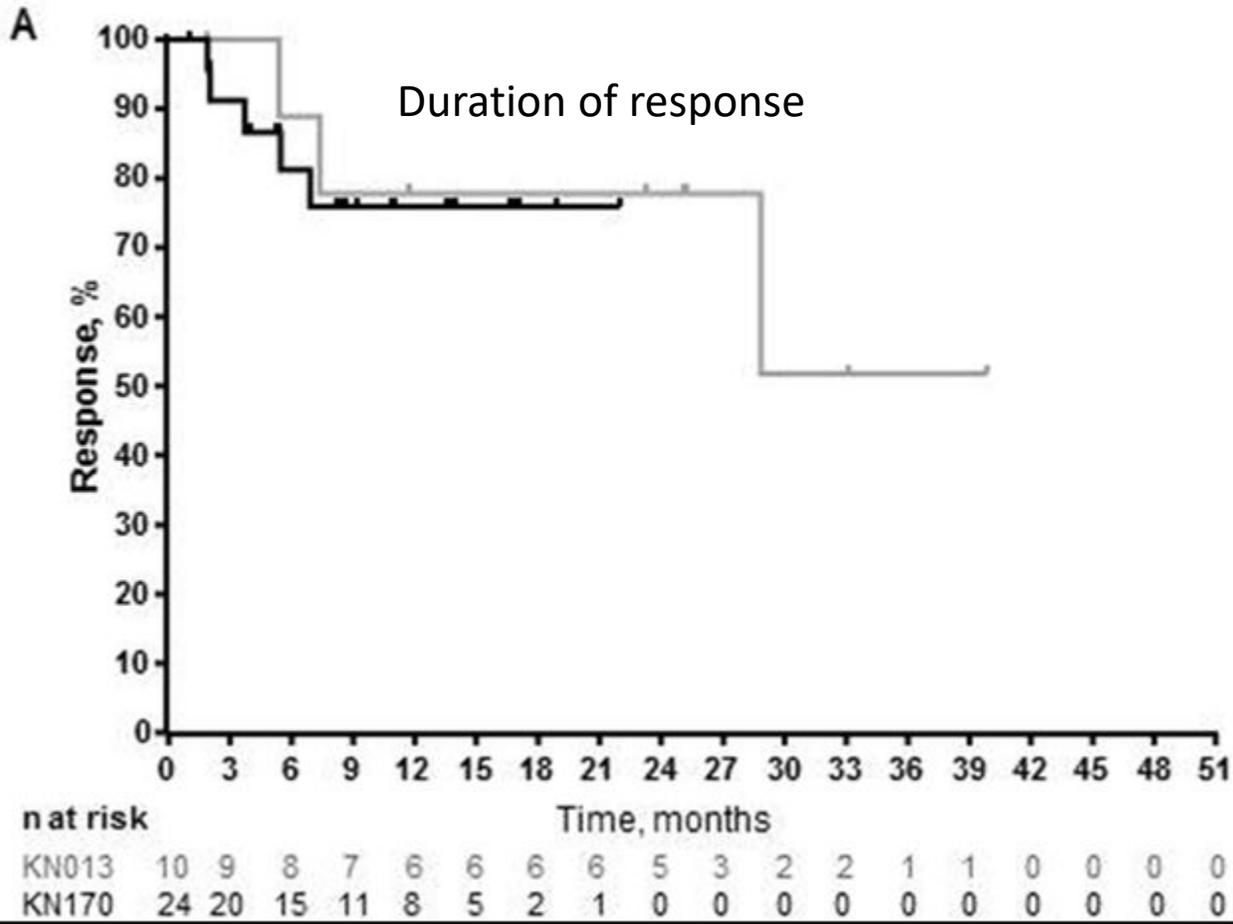
ORR = 69%

CR = 22.4%

Activity seen regardless of PD-L1 expression

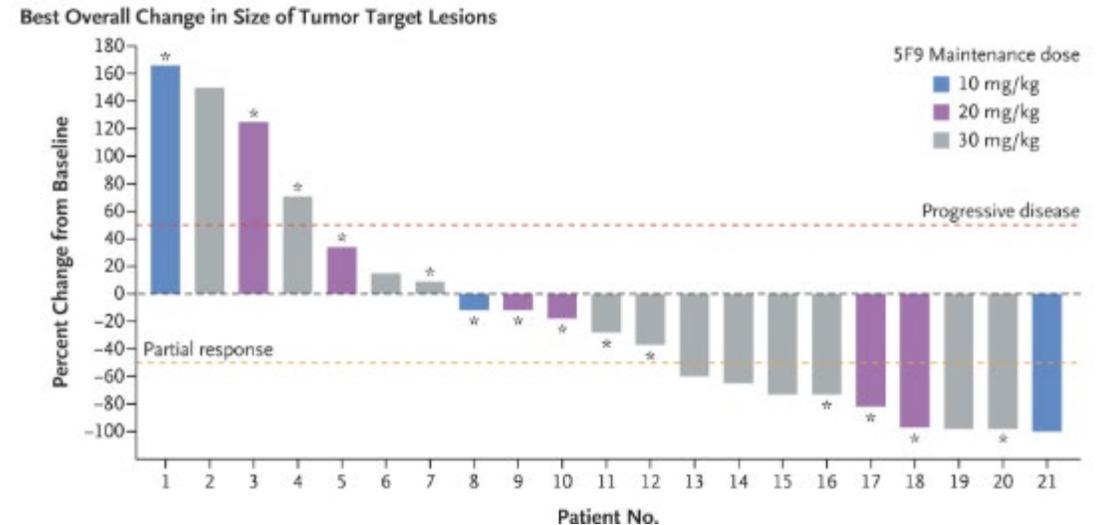
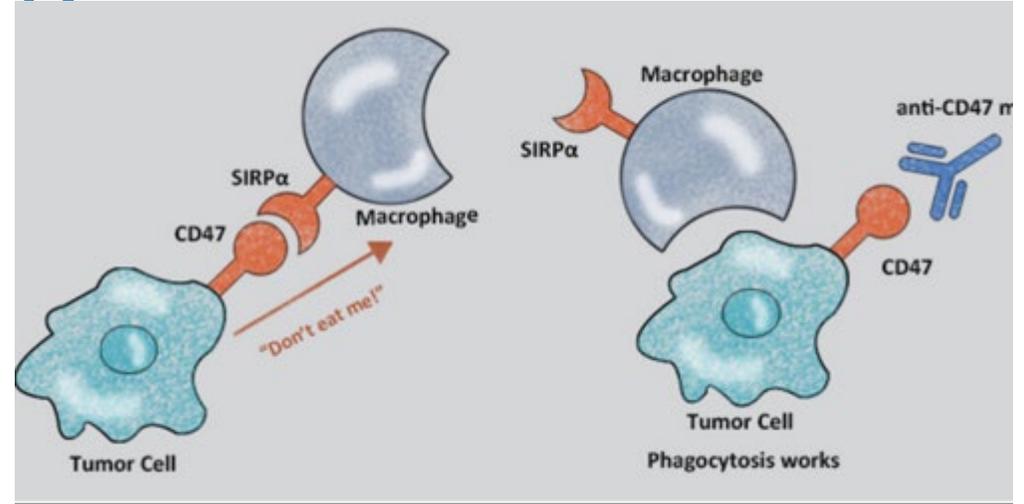


Pembrolizumab in Primary Mediastinal Large B cell Lymphoma



In development: Macrophage checkpoint: CD47

- Phase 1b: Hu5F9-G4 + rituximab in rituximab refractory disease
- DLBCL – ORR = 40%, CR = 33%
- Follicular lymphoma – ORR = 71%, CR = 43%

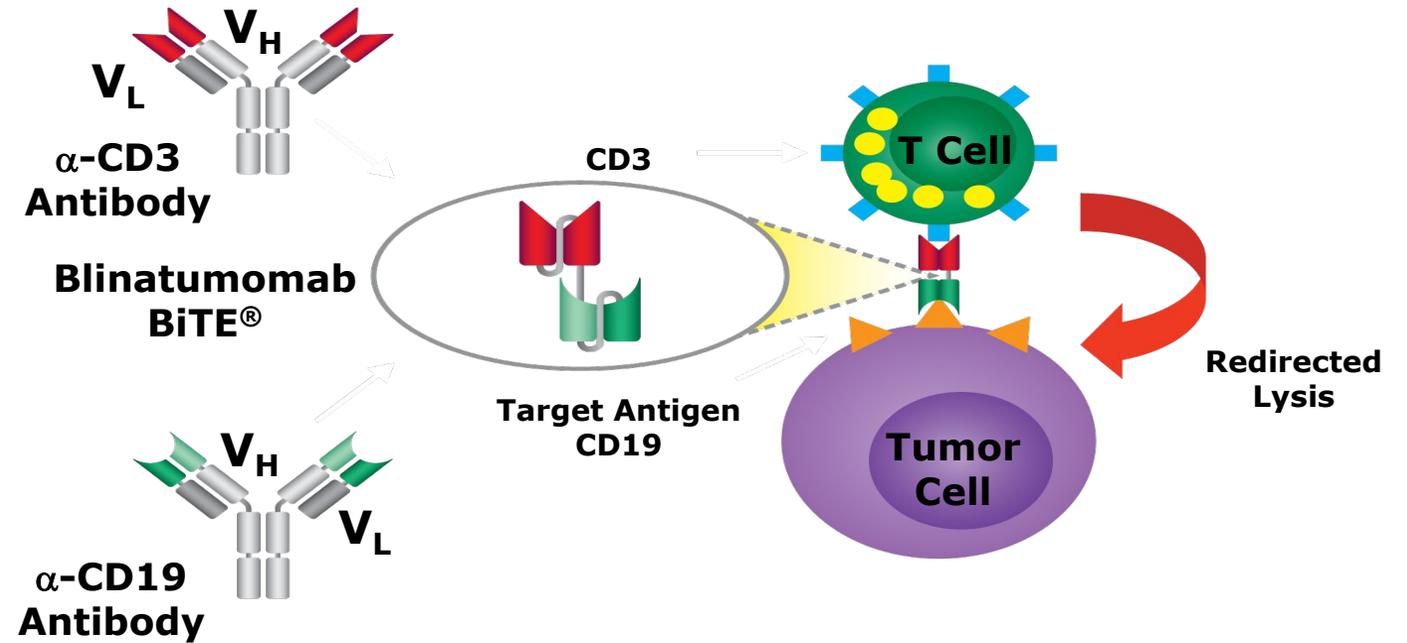




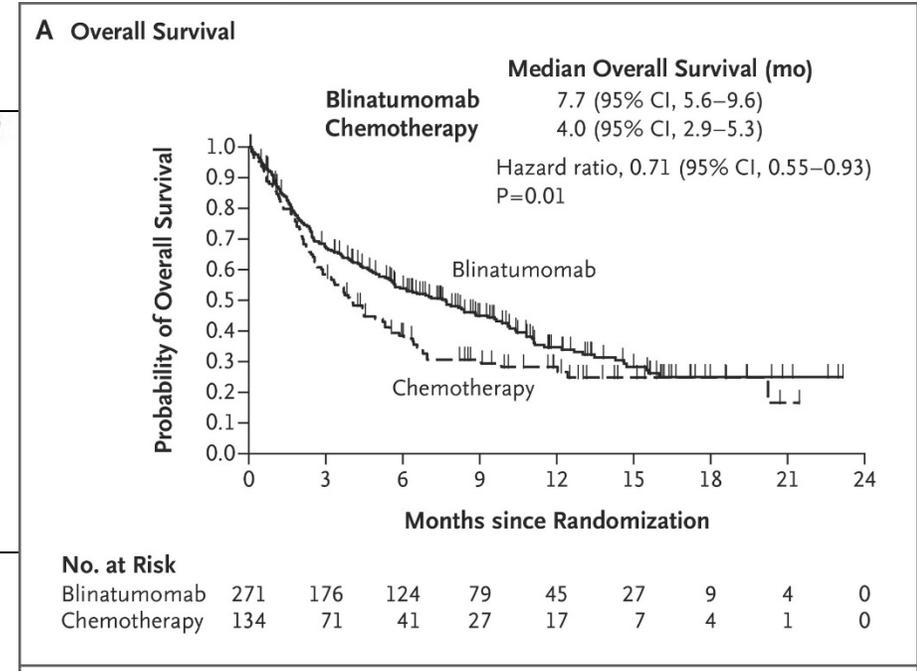
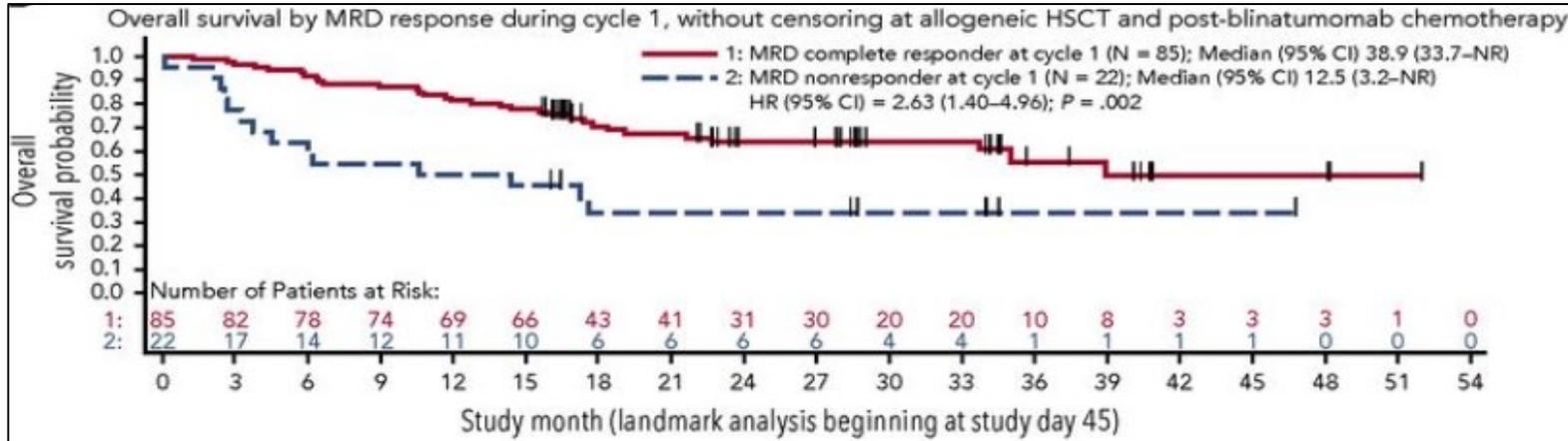
Bi-specific T-cell engagers (BiTEs)

BiTE (Blinatumomab) Therapy

- Facilitates T cell engagement with CD19+ tumor cells (Similar to CD19 CAR T)
- Approval:
- Adult/pediatric R/R B-cell precursor acute lymphoblastic leukemia
- Adult/pediatric B-cell precursor acute lymphoblastic leukemia in 1st or 2nd complete remission, MRD $\geq 0.1\%$



Blinatumomab: B-ALL



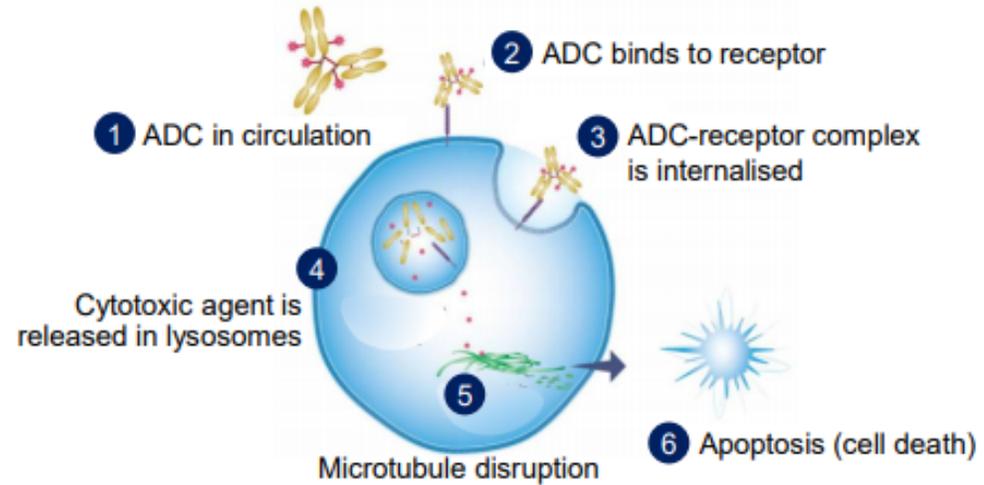
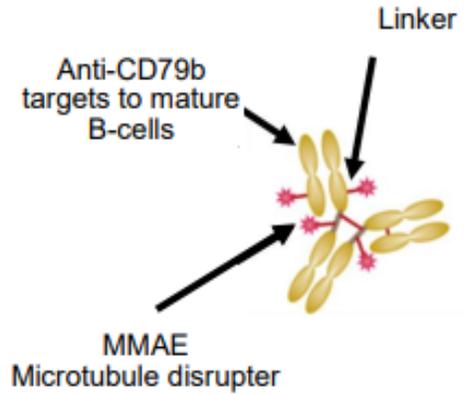
Gökbuget, Blood 2018.
 Kantarjian, NEJM 2017.

Antibody-drug conjugates (ADC)

FDA-Approved Antibody-Drug Conjugates

Drug	Target antigen	Year of approval	Indication
Brentuximab vedotin	CD30	2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classical Hodgkin lymphoma, relapsed after HSCT or ≥ 2 previous therapies Anaplastic large cell lymphoma ≥ 1 previous therapies
		2018	cHL - first line with combination chemo
Inotuzumab ozogamicin	CD22	2017	Relapsed/refractory/MRD+ B-cell ALL
Polatuzumab vedotin (w/ bendamustine & rituximab)	CD79b	2019	DLBCL ≥ 2 previous therapies

Polatuzumab vedotin: DLBCL



Polatuzumab vedotin has demonstrated efficacy in R/R DLBCL in combination with rituximab^{1,2} and rituximab-bendamustine³

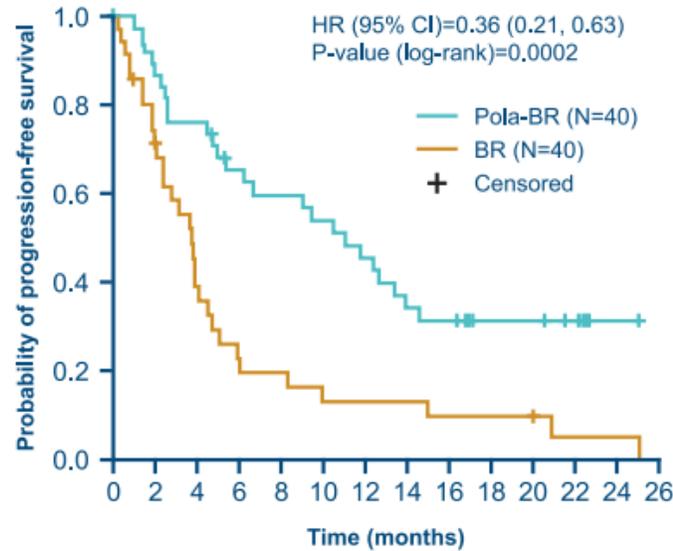
Treatment	Best overall response
Pola +/- rituximab	51–56% ^{1,2}
Pola + rituximab + bendamustine	68% ³

ADC, antibody-drug conjugate; MMAE, monomethyl auristatin E

1. Palanca-Wessels A, et al. Lancet Oncol 2015;16:704–15; 2. Morschhauser F, et al. Lancet Hematology 2019;6:e254–65; 3. Sehn H, et al. Blood 2018;132:1683

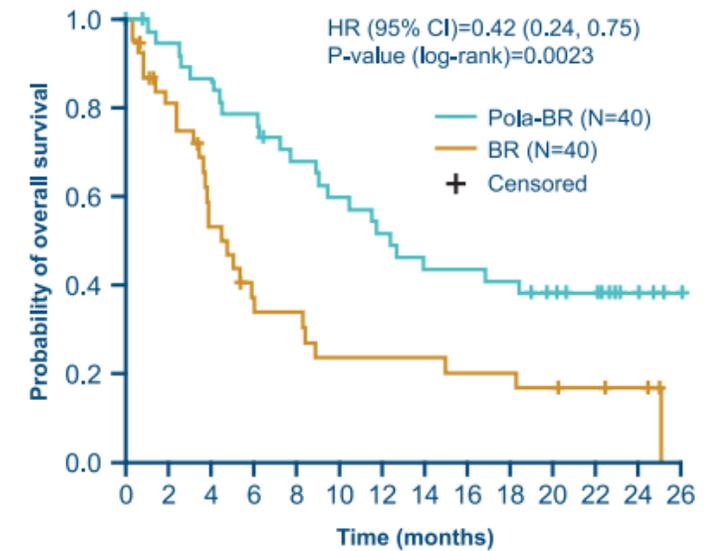
Polatuzumab vedotin: DLBCL

- Randomized phase 2 study
- Pola-BR vs. BR in R/R DLBCL
- Higher CR = 40% vs. 18% (p: 0.03)
- Median PFS = 7.6 m (HR=0.34, p<0.01)
- Median OS = 12.4 m (HR=0.42, p<0.01)
- Ongoing phase 3 (POLARIX)
- Frontline DLBCL- R-CHOP vs R-CHP+Pola



No. at risk

Pola-BR(Ph II)	40	38	33	29	25	23	21	21	19	18	16	14	12	11	11	8	7	7	7	6	5	1	1
BR(Ph II)	40	30	24	18	12	9	7	6	6	5	4	4	4	4	3	3	3	3	2	1	1	1	1

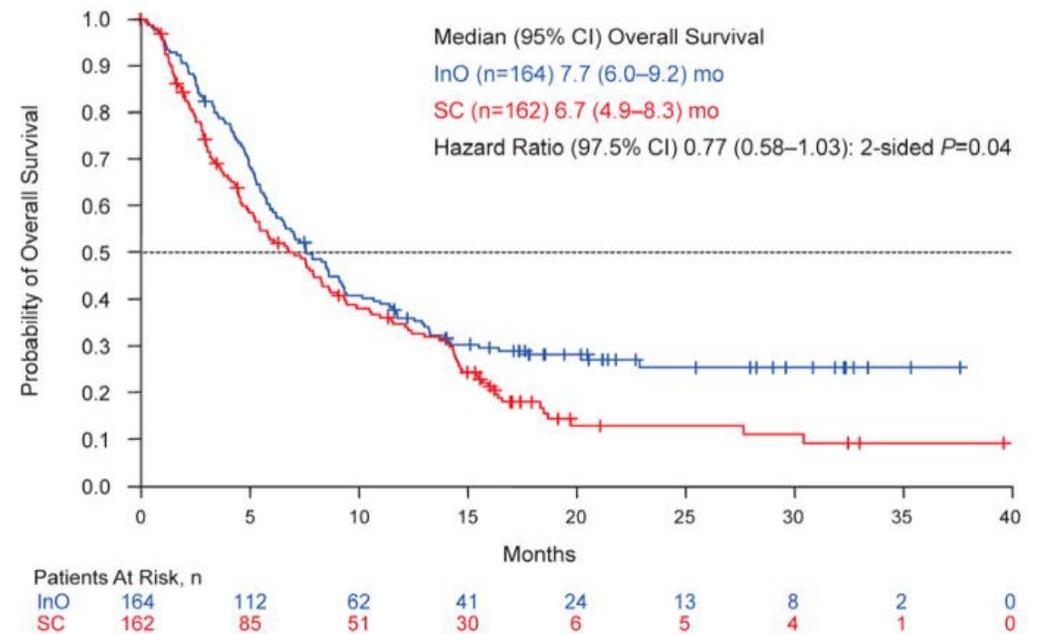
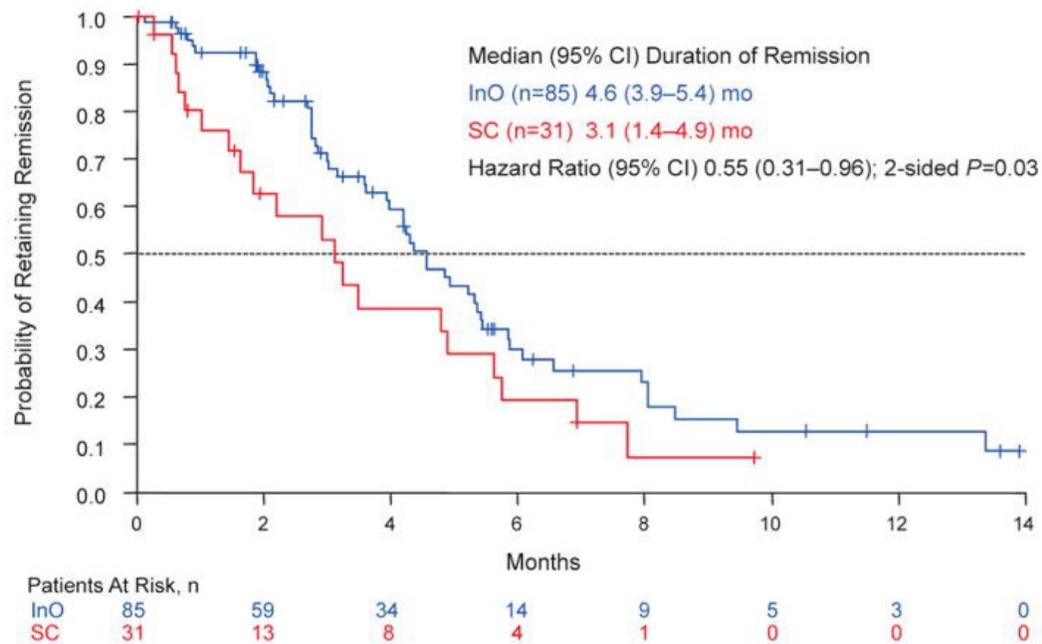


No. at risk

Pola-BR(Ph II)	40	38	36	34	33	30	27	25	24	22	21	19	17	16	16	15	15	13	12	9	5	3	2	1
BR(Ph II)	40	33	27	25	17	15	11	10	10	7	7	7	7	7	6	6	6	6	5	4	4	3	3	1

Inotuzumab ozogamicin for ALL

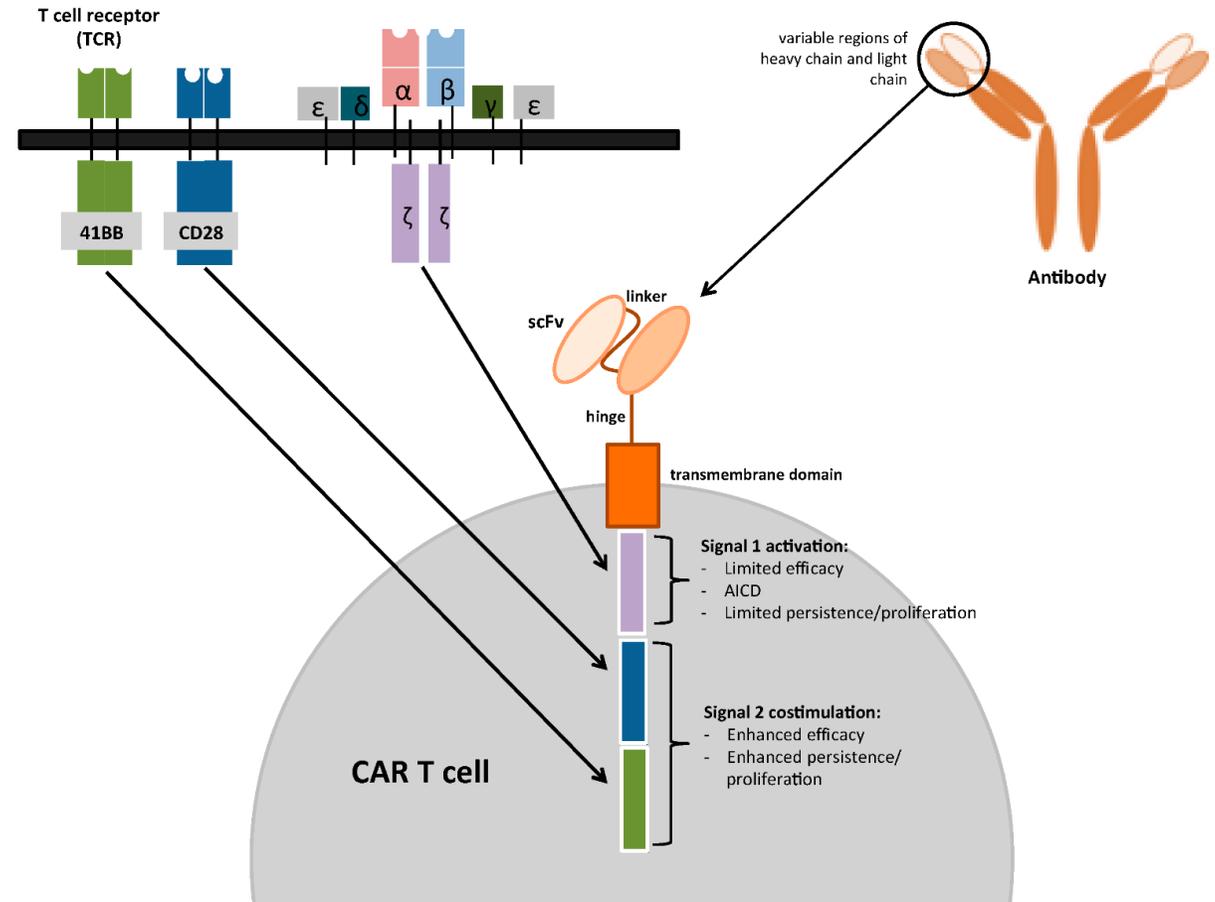
- Anti-CD22 antibody conjugated to calicheamicin
- Higher response, MRD-negativity, PFS, and OS than standard-of-care



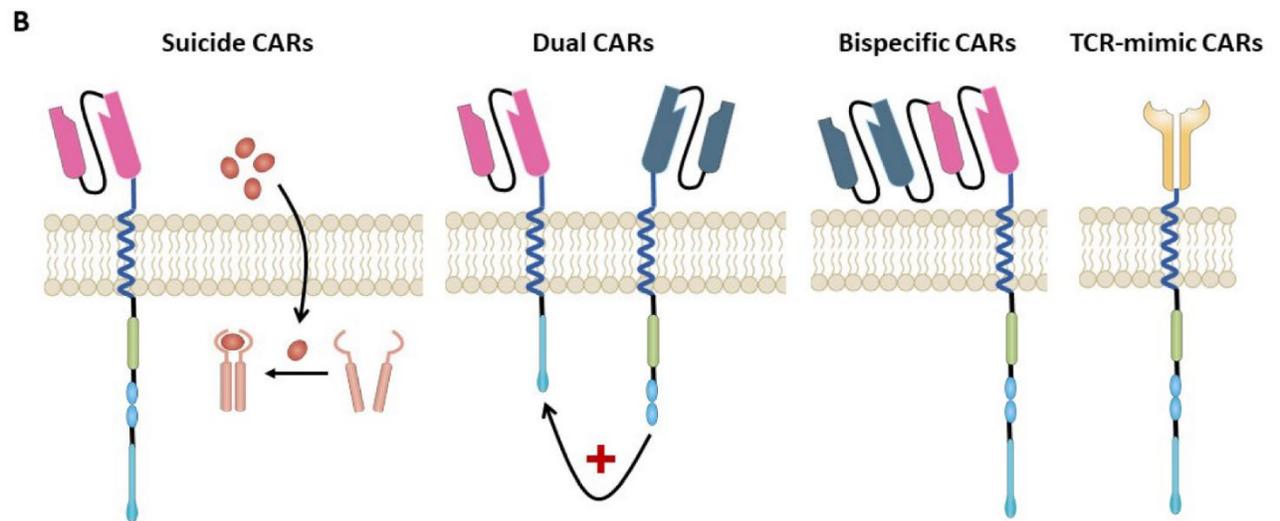
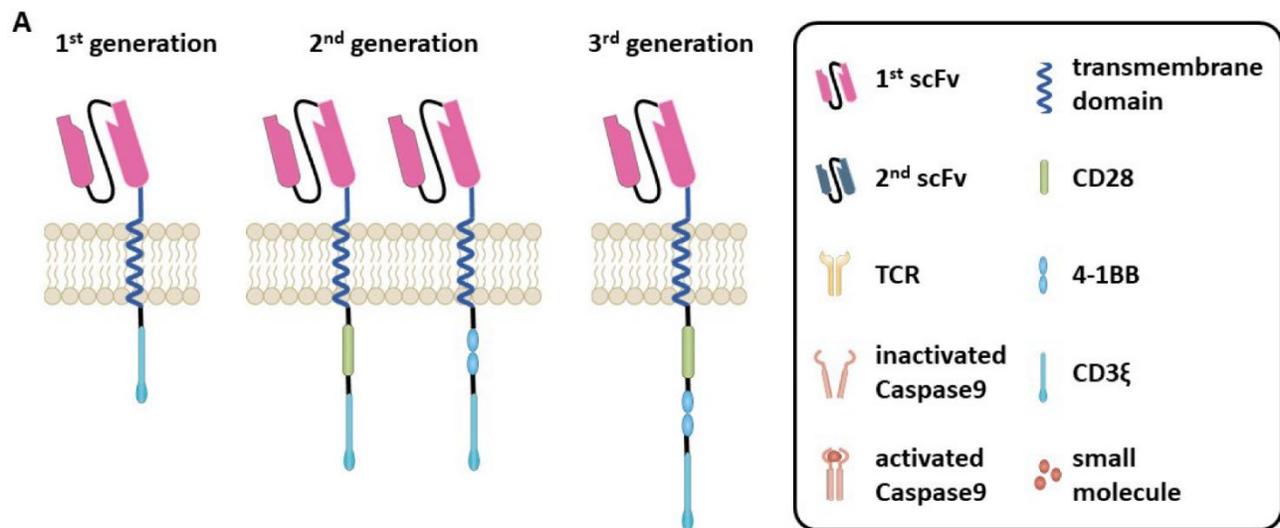
Chimeric Antigen Receptor Therapy (CAR T)

Chimeric antigen receptors

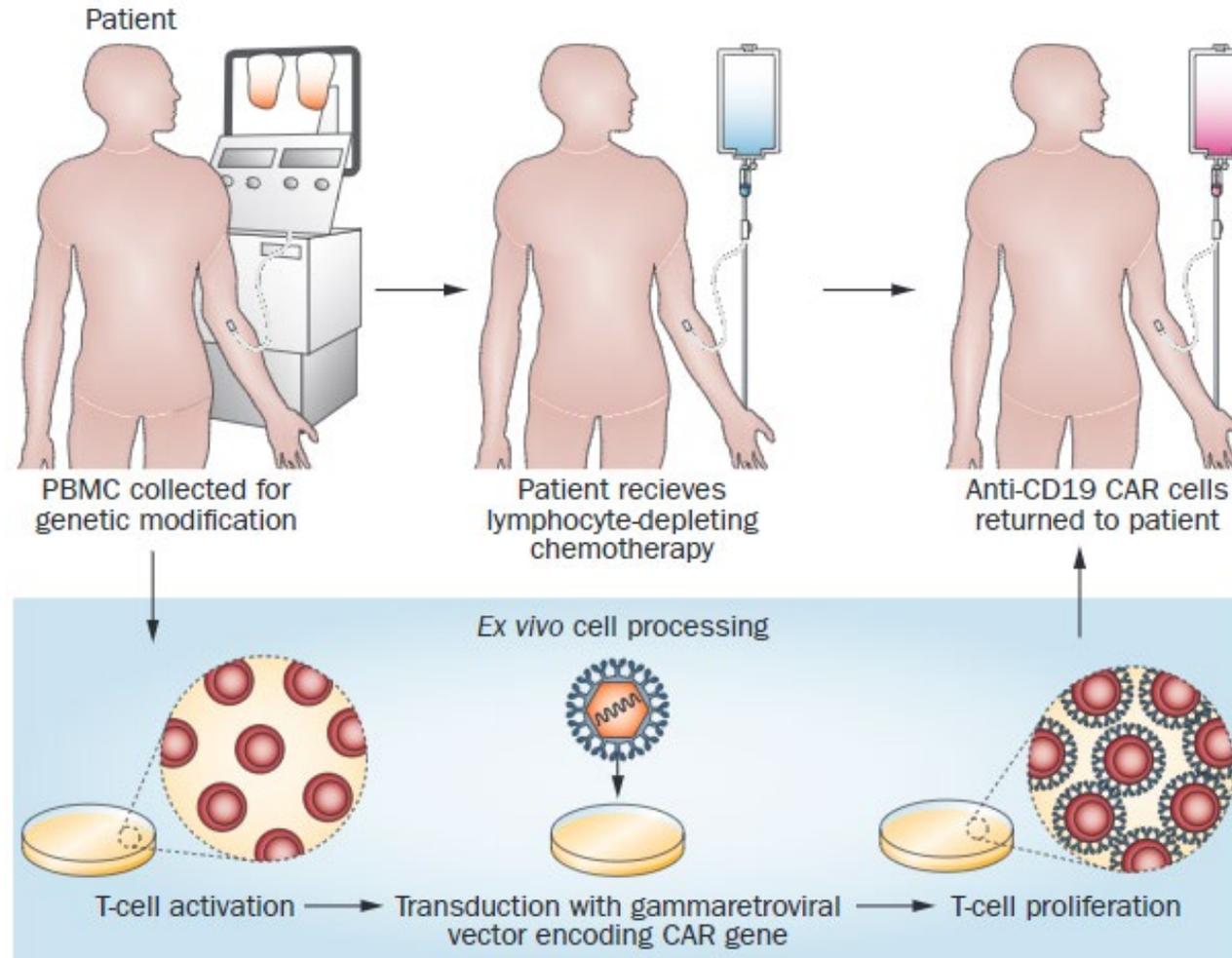
- Specific and potent: B - specific, T - toxic
- Overcome immune tolerance
- Targets surface molecules in native conformation
- Independent of antigen presenting cell and MHC complex



Evolution of CAR Constructs



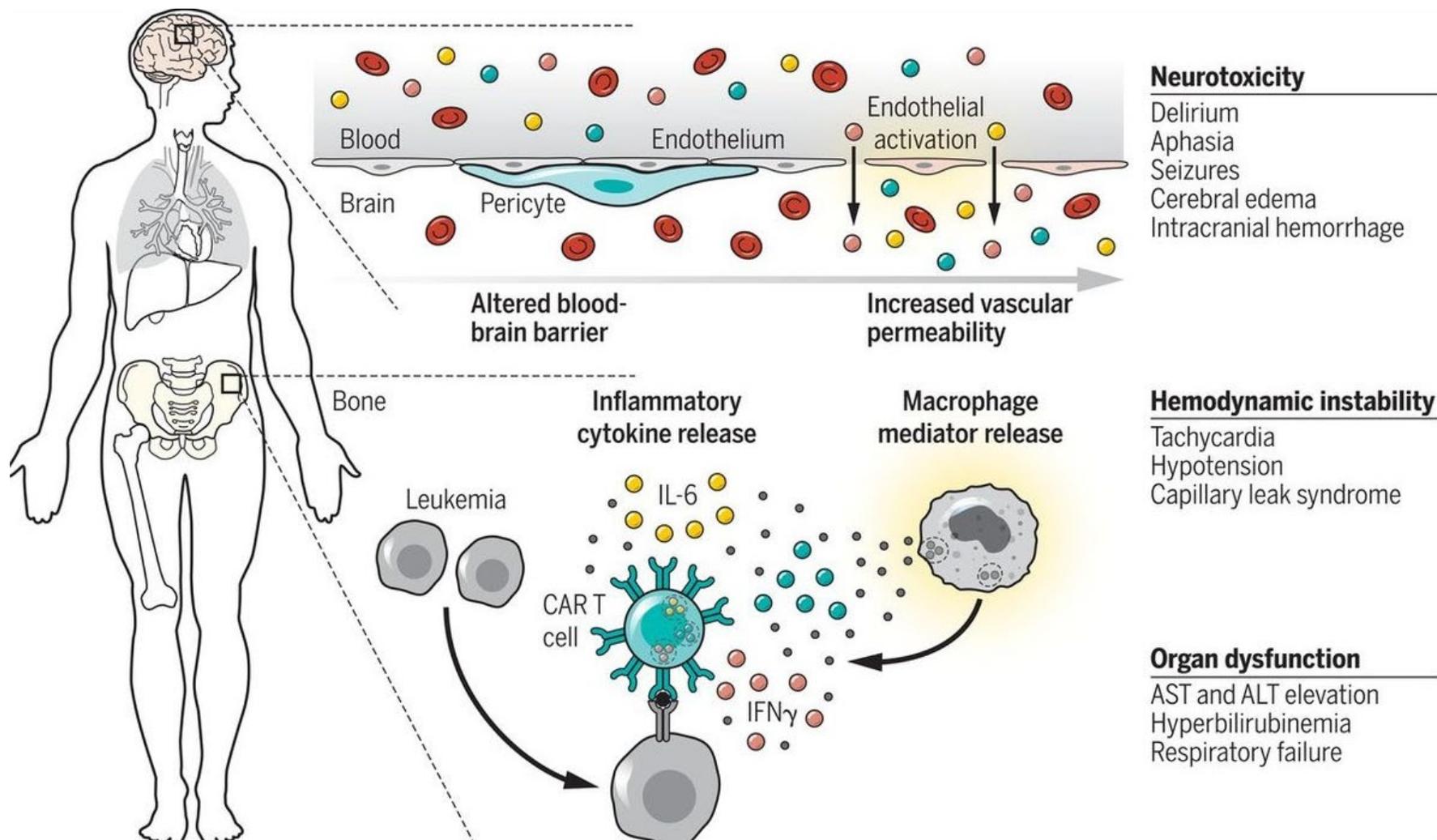
CAR T manufacturing and administration



CAR T Side Effects

- Cytokine Release Syndrome (CRS)
- Neurotoxicity
- B Cell aplasia
- Macrophage Activation Syndrome (MAS)/HLH

CAR T Side Effects



Neurotoxicity

Delirium
Aphasia
Seizures
Cerebral edema
Intracranial hemorrhage

Treatment

Steroids
Anti-epileptics

Hemodynamic instability

Tachycardia
Hypotension
Capillary leak syndrome

Tocilizumab
Steroids

Organ dysfunction

AST and ALT elevation
Hyperbilirubinemia
Respiratory failure

FDA-Approved CAR T cell therapies

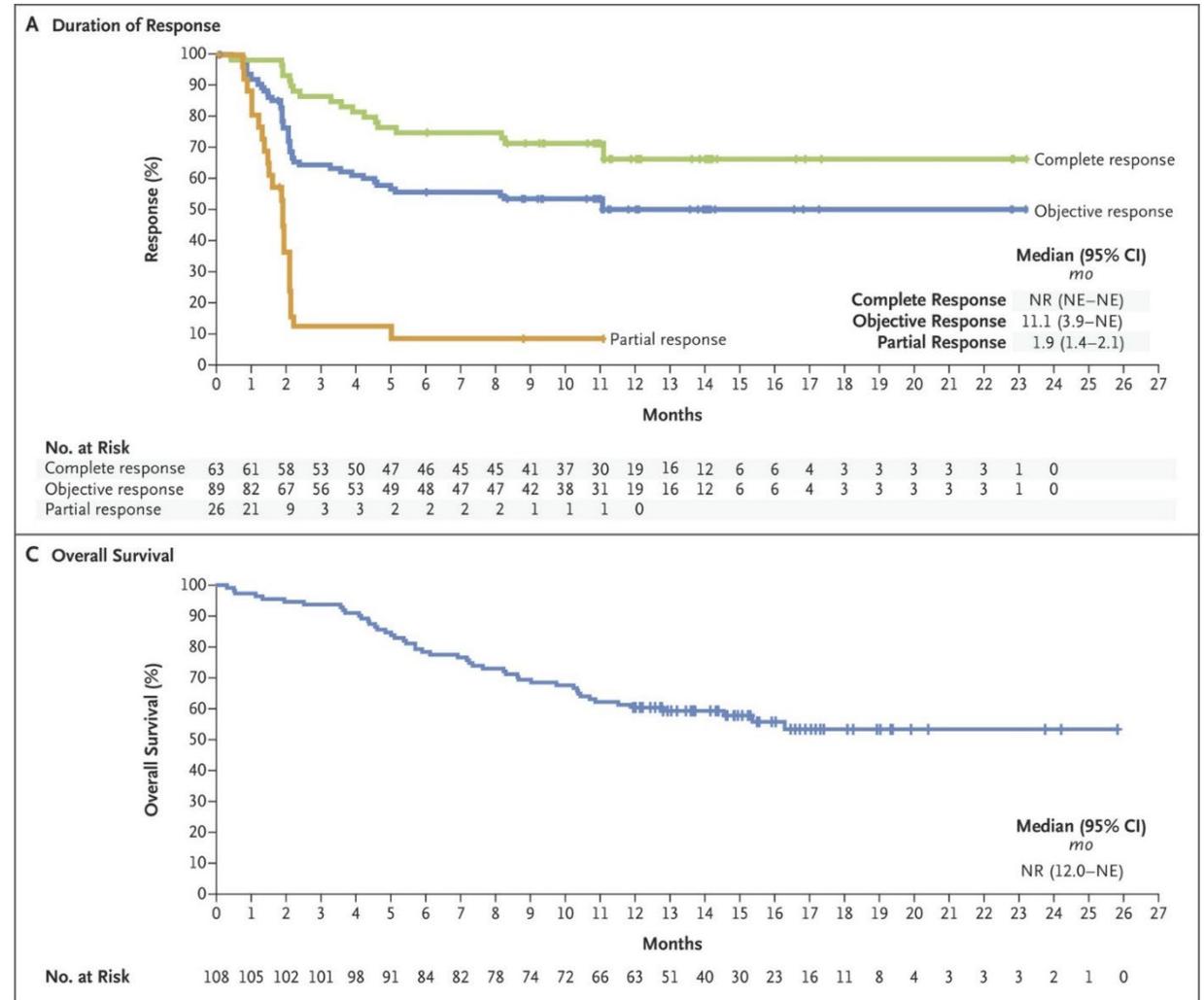
DRUG	APPROVED	INDICATION	DOSE
Axicabtagene ciloleucel	2017	Adults with r/r large B-cell lymphoma. Including diffuse large B-cell lymphoma, primary mediastinal large B-cell lymphoma, high-grade B-cell lymphoma, and DLBCL arising from follicular lymphoma	2 x 10 ⁶ CAR-positive, viable T-cells per kg bodyweight (up to 2x10 ⁸)
Tisagenlecleucel	2017	Patients ≤25 yr with refractory B-cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia or in 2+ relapse	0.2-0.5x10 ⁶ CAR-positive, viable T-cells per kg if under 50 kg 0.1-2.5x10 ⁸ CAR-positive, viable T-cells if over 50 kg
Tisagenlecleucel	2018	Adults with r/r large B-cell lymphoma after 2+ therapies Including DLBCL, high-grade B-cell lymphoma, DLBCL arising from follicular lymphoma	0.6-6.0 x 10 ⁸ CAR-positive, viable T-cells

Eligibility considerations for CAR

- Disease
 - Relative stability during CAR T manufacturing (~2-6 weeks)
 - Bridging therapy (chemo, RT, steroids, lenalidomide, ibrutinib)
 - CNS control
- Patient
 - Adequate cell counts
 - DVT, bleeding, infection, neuro disorders
 - Functional status: at screen vs. day of CAR T infusion
- Other
 - Social support, reimbursement

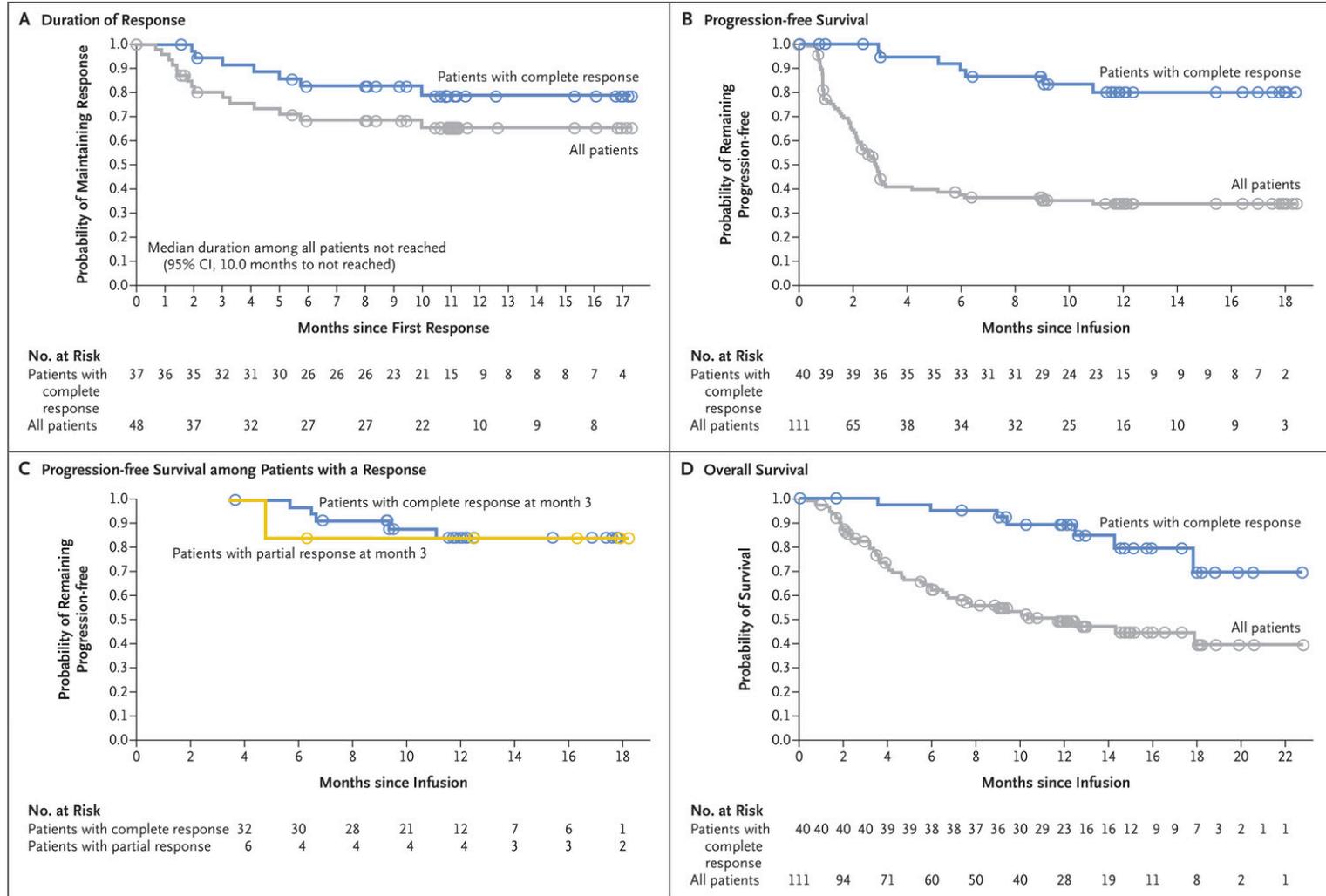
CD19 CAR in DLBCL- ZUMA1 (Axi-cel)

- CD19/CD28₃
- ORR = 82%
- CR = 54%
- 1.5-yr estimated OS = 52%
- CRS grade ≥ 3 = 13%
- Neurotox grade ≥ 3 = 28%



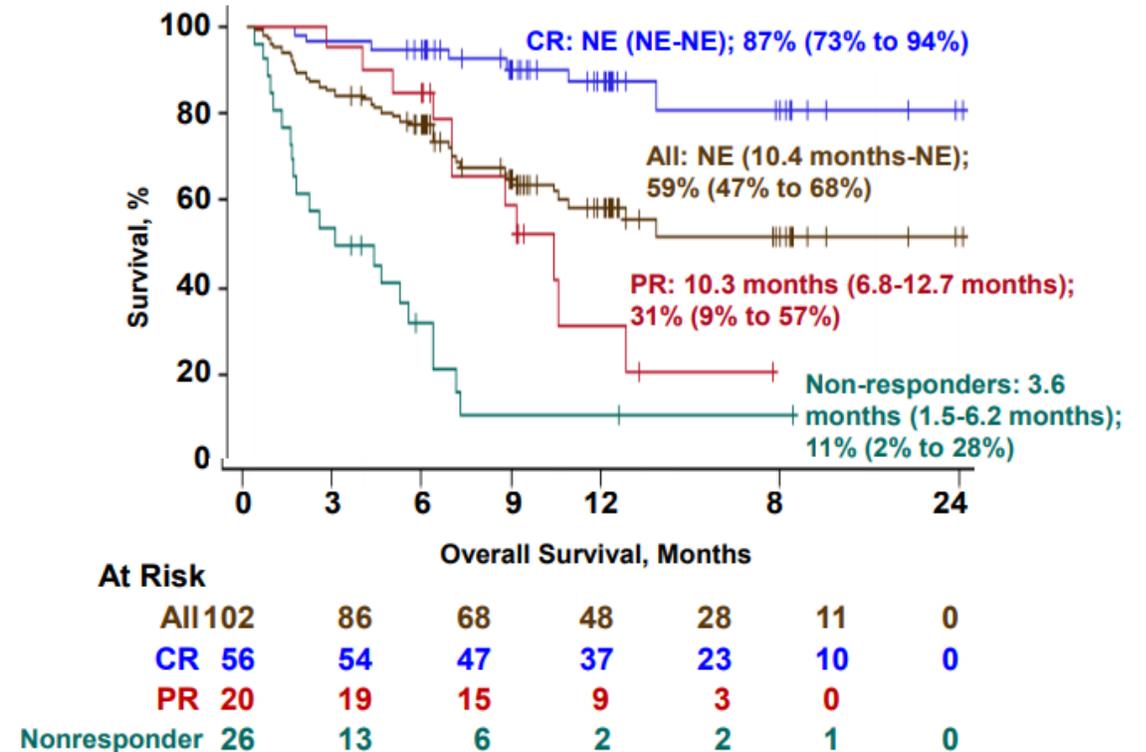
CD19 CAR in DLBCL - JULIET (Tisa-cel)

- CD19/4-1-BB
- ORR = 52%
- CR = 40%
- 1-yr estimated OS = 49%
- CRS grade ≥ 3 = 18%
- Neurotox grade ≥ 3 = 11%



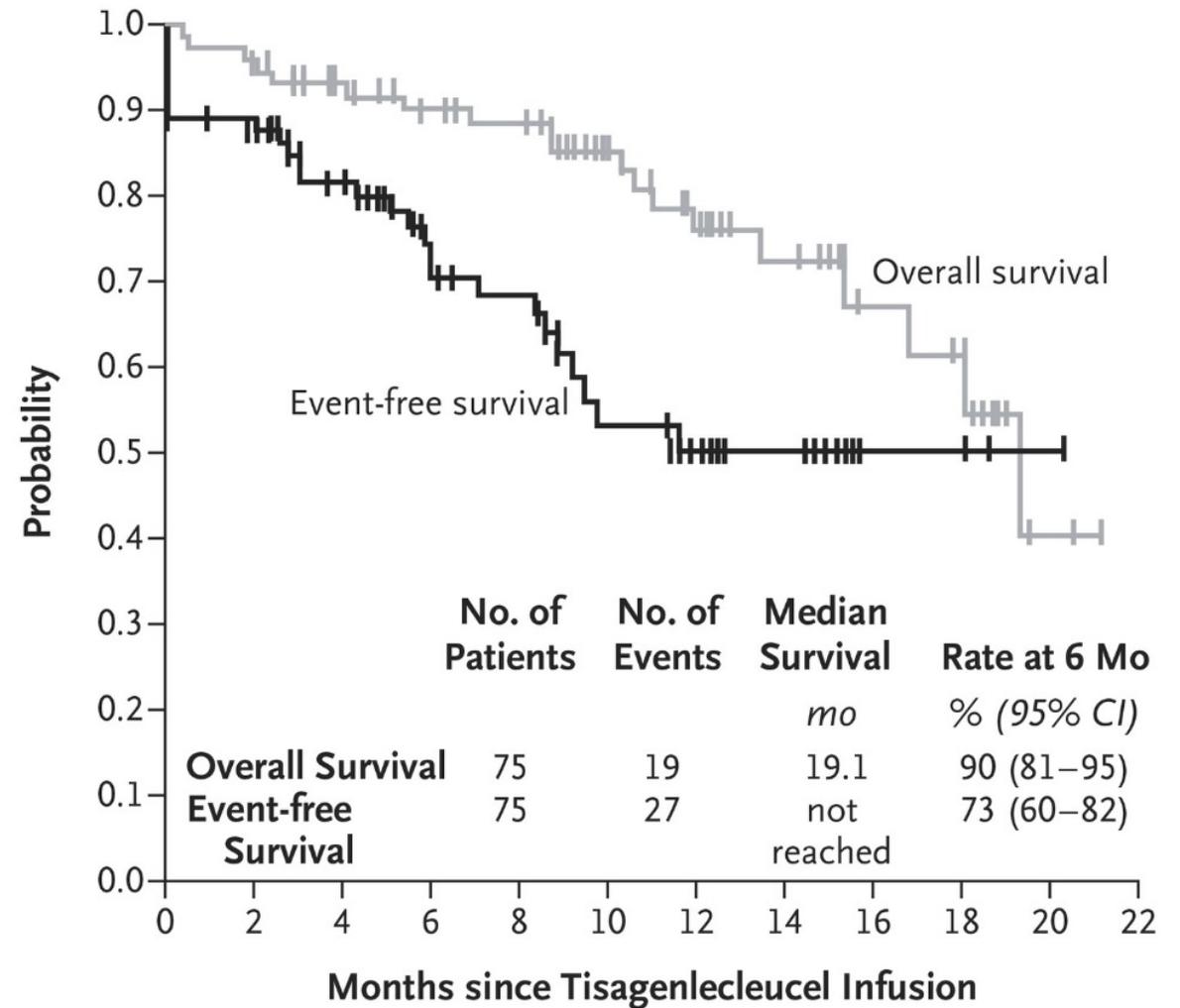
CD19 CAR in DLBCL - TRANSCEND (Liso-Cel)

- CD19/4-1-BB, CD4:CD8 = 1:1
- ORR = 75%
- CR = 55%
- 1-yr estimated OS = 59%
- CRS grade ≥ 3 = 1%
- Neurotox grade ≥ 3 = 13%



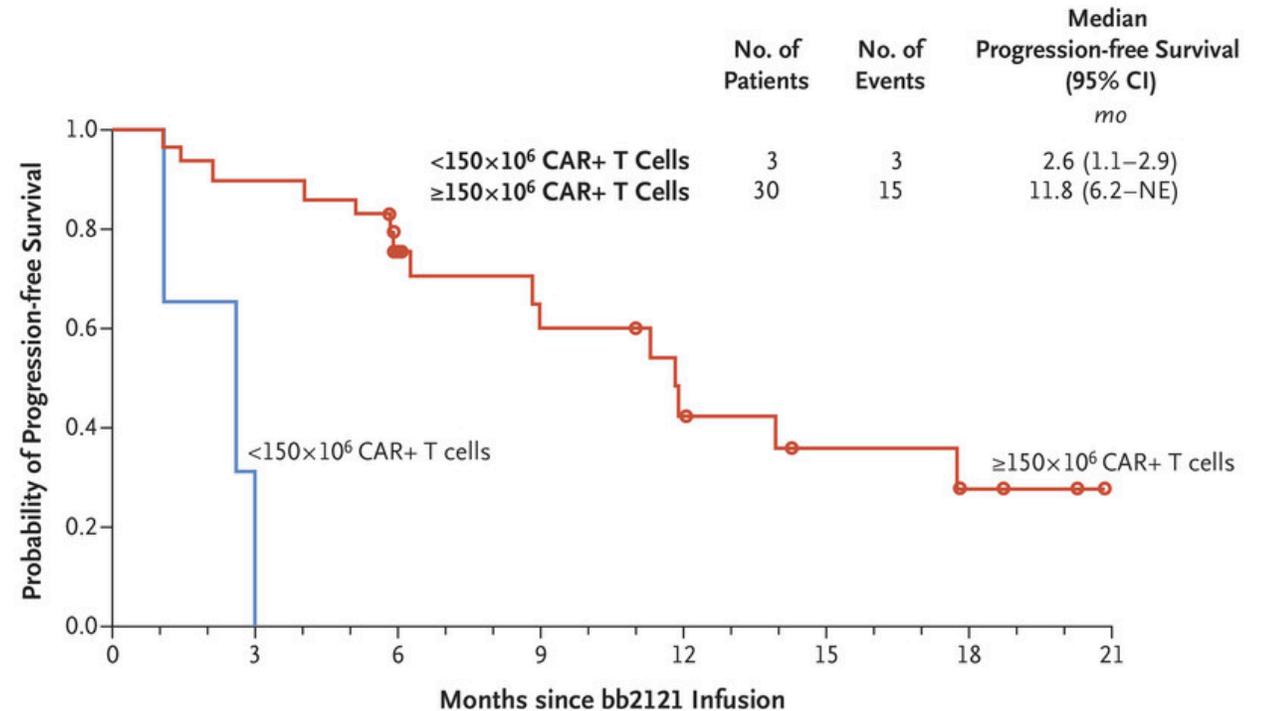
CD19 CAR in B-ALL: ELIANA (Tisa-cel)

- CD19/4-1-BB
- ORR = 81%
- CR = 60%, CRi = 21%
- CRS grade ≥ 3 = 47%
- Neurotox grade ≥ 3 = 13%



In Development: BCMA+ CAR T Therapy for Myeloma

- **bb2121**
 - B cell maturation antigen (BCMA)
 - Phase I CRB-401 study
 - Previously treated patients with relapsed/refractory multiple myeloma
 - ORR: 85%, CR: 45%



No. at Risk		0	3	6	9	12	15	18	21													
$<150 \times 10^6$ CAR+ T cells	3	3	2	0																		
$\ge 150 \times 10^6$ CAR+ T cells	30	30	28	27	26	26	17	14	14	12	12	11	8	7	6	5	5	5	3	2	2	0

Conclusions

- Many immunotherapy options for hematological malignancies
- Checkpoint inhibitors for Hodgkin lymphoma and PMBCL – high response rate, excellent tolerance, durable responses if CR
- Blinatumomab and inotuzumab for ALL – effective salvage, deeper remissions
- Polatuzumab vedotin for DLBCL – effective salvage, potential to become frontline
- CAR T therapy – ever-increasing indications; patient selection and toxicity management still concerns

Additional Resources

Boyiadzis et al. *Journal for Immunotherapy of Cancer* (2016) 4:90
DOI 10.1186/s40425-016-0188-z

Journal for Immunotherapy
of Cancer

POSITION ARTICLE AND GUIDELINES

Open Access



The Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer consensus statement on immunotherapy for the treatment of hematologic malignancies: multiple myeloma, lymphoma, and acute leukemia

Michael Boyiadzis^{1†}, Michael R. Bishop^{2†}, Rafat Abonour³, Kenneth C. Anderson⁴, Stephen M. Ansell⁵, David Avigan⁶, Lisa Barbarotta⁷, Austin John Barrett⁸, Koen Van Besien⁹, P. Leif Bergsagel¹⁰, Ivan Borrello¹¹, Joshua Brody¹², Jill Brufsky¹³, Mitchell Cairo¹⁴, Ajai Chari¹², Adam Cohen¹⁵, Jorge Cortes¹⁶, Stephen J. Forman¹⁷, Jonathan W. Friedberg¹⁸, Ephraim J. Fuchs¹⁹, Steven D. Gore²⁰, Sundar Jagannath¹², Brad S. Kahl²¹, Justin Kline²², James N. Kochenderfer²³, Larry W. Kwak²⁴, Ronald Levy²⁵, Marcos de Lima²⁶, Mark R. Litzow²⁷, Anuj Mahindra²⁸, Jeffrey Miller²⁹, Nikhil C. Munshi³⁰, Robert Z. Orlowski³¹, John M. Pagel³², David L. Porter³³, Stephen J. Russell⁵, Karl Schwartz³⁴, Margaret A. Shipp³⁵, David Siegel³⁶, Richard M. Stone⁴, Martin S. Tallman³⁷, John M. Timmerman³⁸, Frits Van Rhee³⁹, Edmund K. Waller⁴⁰, Ann Welsh⁴¹, Michael Werner⁴², Peter H. Wiernik⁴³ and Madhav V. Dhodapkar^{44*}

Case Studies

Case Study 1

- **67 year-old male**
- **Stage III DLBCL with IPI of 3.**
- **High proliferation rate (90%). IHC: CD10-, BCL6- and MUM1 +. MYC 30% and BCL2 40%.**
- **FISH negative for BCL2 and MYC.**

Case Study 1

- **67 year-old male**
- **Stage III DLBCL with IPI of 3.**
- **High proliferation rate (90%). IHC: CD10-, BCL6- and MUM1 +. MYC 30% and BCL2 40%.**
- **FISH negative for BCL2 and MYC.**

Lymph node biopsy: diffuse large B-cell lymphoma – non GCB subtype

Treatment?

- 1. R-CHOP
- 2. R-CHOP + ibrutinib
- 3. R-CHOP + lenalidomide
- 4. DA-EPOCH-R
- 5. R-CHOP + bortezomib

Case Study 1

- . Received R-CHOP x 6 cycles
- . CR by EOT-PET
- . Remained in CR for 9 months
- . Relapsed with diffuse lymphadenopathy and high LDH

Repeat biopsy – recurrent DLBCL

Case Study 1

- **RICE x 4 cycles**

Achieved CR

6 months later – diffuse lymphadenopathy and high LDH

Imaging and biopsy confirm recurrent disease

Next Treatment?

- 1. Anti CD-19 CAR T-cells
- 2. Anti CD20/CD3 bi-specific antibody
- 3. Allogeneic transplant
- 4. Polatuzumab + BR
- 5. Tafacitamab + lenalidomide

Case Study 2

- 29 year old female
- 4 week history of cough and shortness of breath
- Imaging – 13 cm mediastinal mass and diffuse lymphadenopathy above and below the diaphragm
- Biopsy- aggressive B-cell lymphoma
- Diagnosis - Primary Mediastinal B-Cell lymphoma

Case Study 2

Treatment

- R-CHOP x 6 cycles
- Initial CR but relapse within 3 months of treatment
- Received RICE with a view to auto transplant but progression on this.

Next Treatment?

- 1. Anti CD-19 CAR T-cells
- 2. Anti CD20/CD3 bi-specific antibody
- 3. Allogeneic transplant
- 4. Pembrolizumab
- 5. Tafacitamab + lenalidomide