Immunotherapy for the Treatment of Hematologic Malignancies

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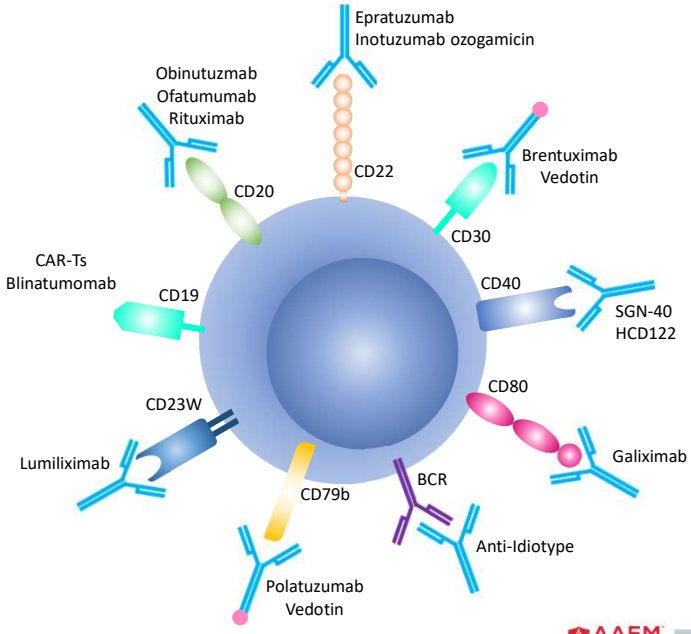
Disclosures

- Consulting Fees: Kite, Celgene, TG therapeutics, LOXO, Incyte, Verastem, Miltenyi Biotec
- Contracted Research: Miltenyi Biotec, BMS



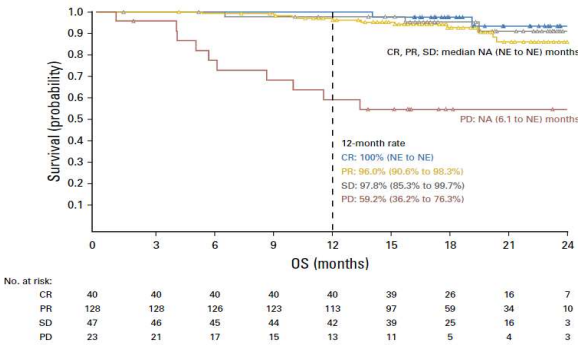
Checkpoint inhibitors

FDA-approved Checkpoint inhibitors: Lymphoma

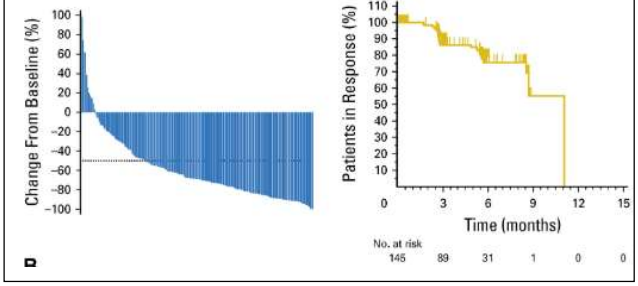
Drug	Approved	Indication	Dose
Nivolumab	2016	Classical Hodgkin lymphoma, relapsed after HSCT and brentuximab vedotin or ≥3 previous therapies	240 mg q2w or 480 mg q4w
Pembrolizumab	2017	Adult/pediatric refractory classical Hodgkin lymphoma or relapsed after 3 previous therapies	200 mg q3w adults 2 mg/kg (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%

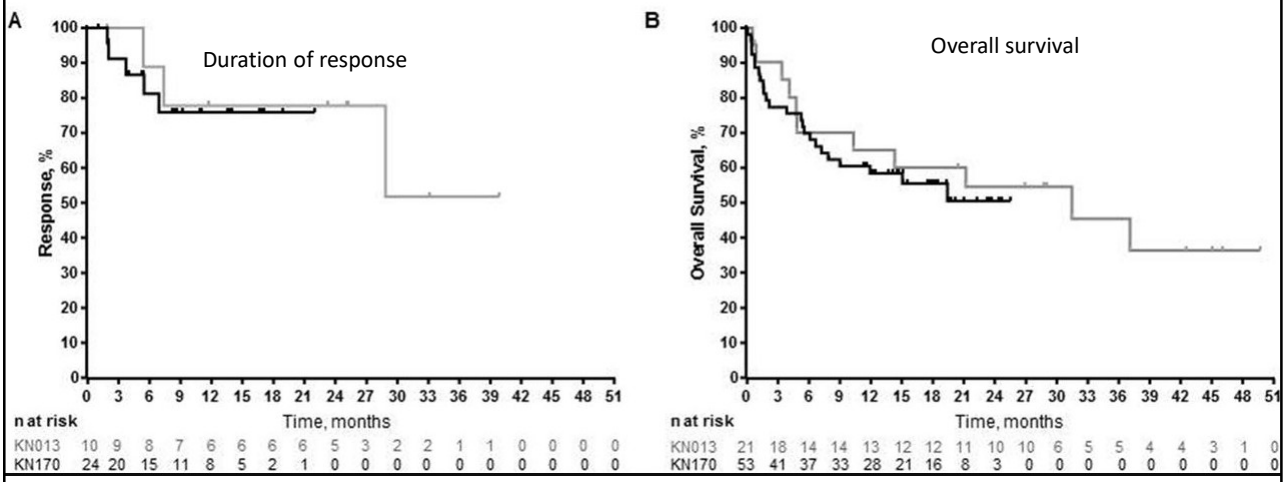


Keynote-087
ORR = 69%
CR = 22.4%
Activity seen regardless of PD-L1 expression



Armand, J Clin Oncol 2018.
Chen, J Clin Oncol 2017.

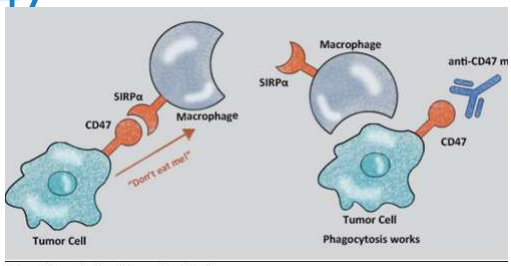
Pembrolizumab in Primary Mediastinal Large B cell Lymphoma

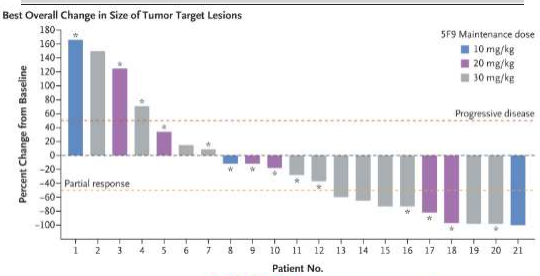


Armand, Blood 2018.

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%



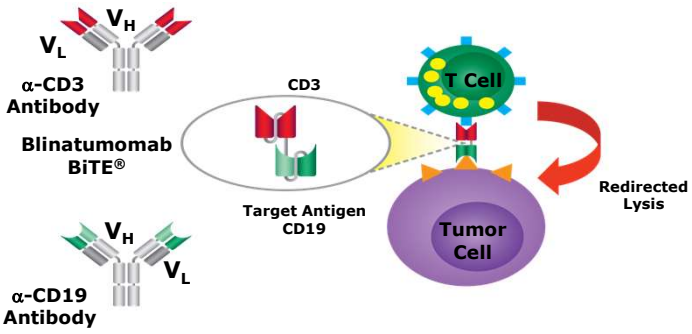


Advani, NEJM 2018.

Bi-specific T-cell engagers (BiTEs)

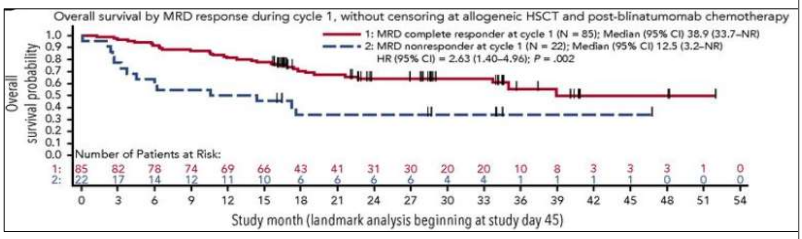
BiTE (Blinatumomab) Therapy

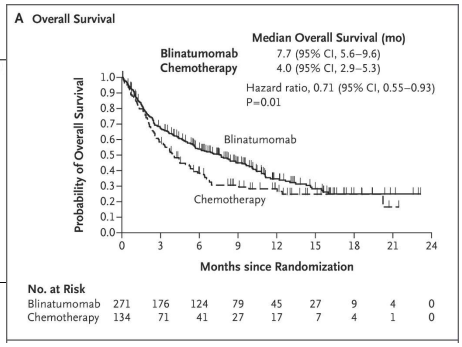
- Facilitates T cell engagement with CD19+ tumor cells (Similar to CD19 CAR T)
- Approval:
- Adult/pediatric R/R B-cell precursor acute lymphoblastic leukemia
- Adult/pediatric B-cell precursor acute lymphoblastic leukemia in 1st or 2nd complete remission, MRD ≥ 0.1%



Bargou et al. Science 2008

Blinatumomab: B-ALL





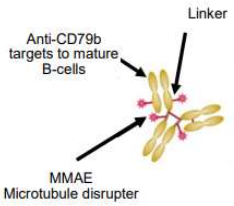
Gökbuget, Blood 2018.
Kantarjian, NEJM 2017.

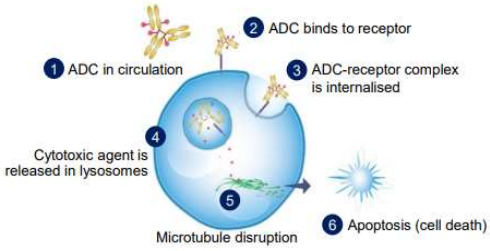
Antibody-drug conjugates (ADC)

FDA-Approved Antibody-Drug Conjugates

Drug	Target antigen	Year of approval	Indication
Brentuximab vedotin	CD30	2011	• 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-bendamustine[3]

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

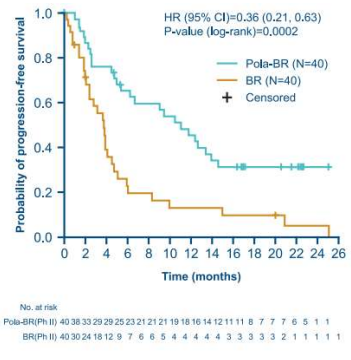
Slide credit: Tilly et al. ICML 2019

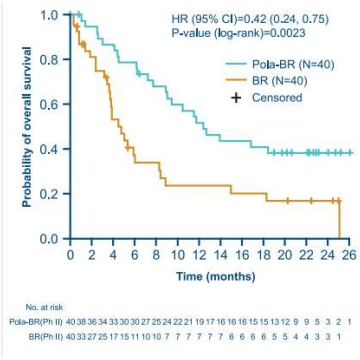
Polatuzumab vedotin: DLBCL

- 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

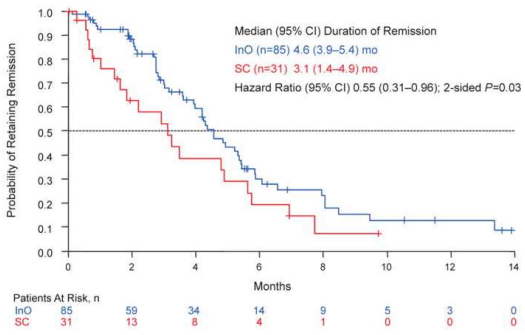


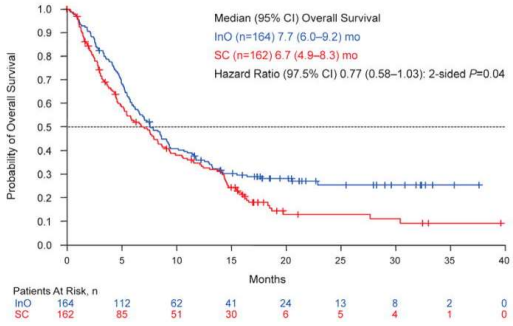


Sehn, Blood 2018.

Inotuzumab ozogamicin for ALL

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



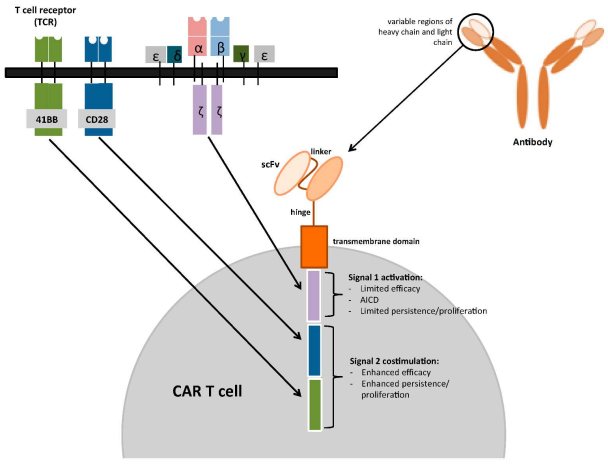


Kantarjian, NEJM 2016.

Chimeric Antigen Receptor Therapy (CAR T)

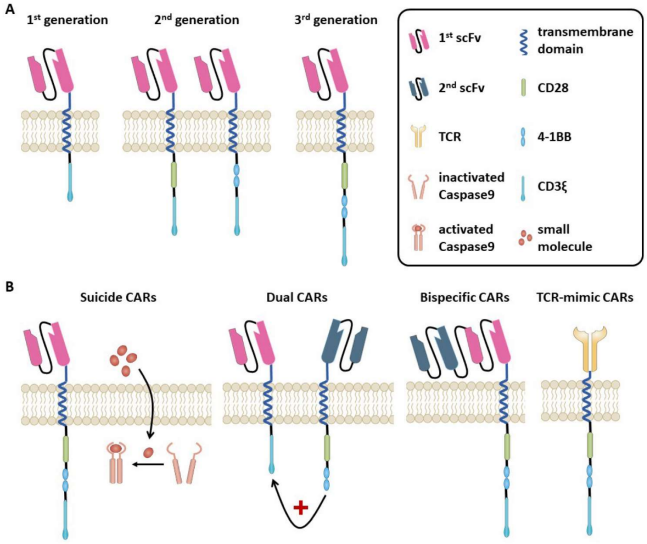
Chimeric antigen receptors

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



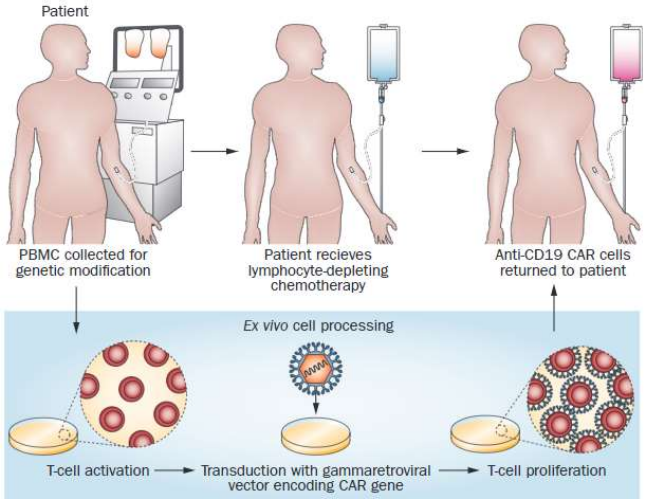
Klampasta, Cancers 2017.

Evolution of CAR Constructs



Hofman, J Clin Med 2019.

CAR T manufacturing and administration

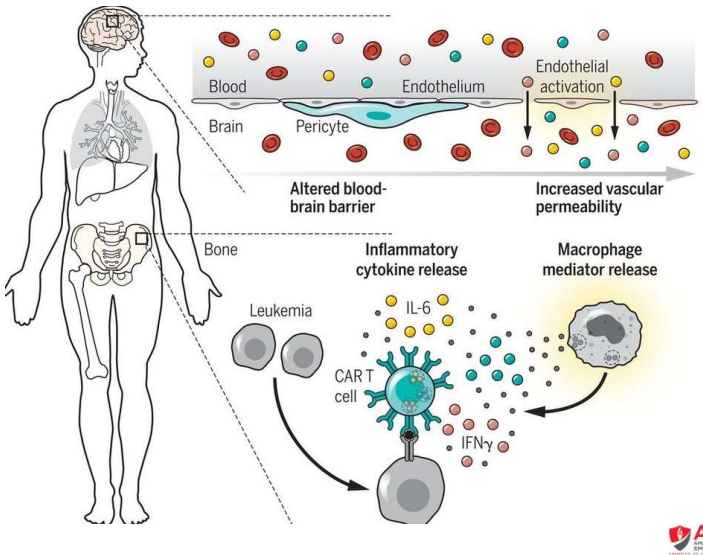


Kochenderfer, Nat Rev Clin Oncol 2013.

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

Hemodynamic instability
Tachycardia
Hypotension
Capillary leak syndrome

Organ dysfunction
AST and ALT elevation
Hyperbilirubinemia
Respiratory failure

Treatment

Steroids
Anti-epileptics

Tocilizumab
Steroids

June et al. Science 2018

FDA-Approved CAR T cell therapies

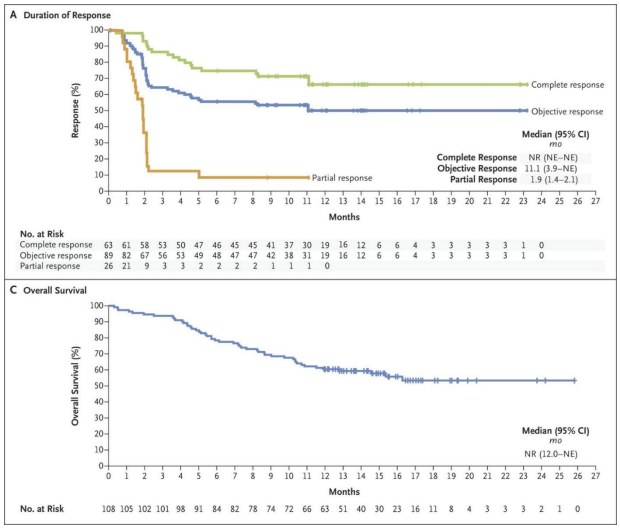
DRUG	APPROVED	INDICATION	DOSE
Axicabtagene ciloleucel	2017	Adults with r/r large B-cell lymphoma. Including diffuse large B-cell lymphoma, primary mediastinal large B-cell lymphoma, high-grade B-cell lymphoma, and DLBCL arising from follicular lymphoma	2 x 10^6 CAR-positive, viable T-cells per kg bodyweight (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)

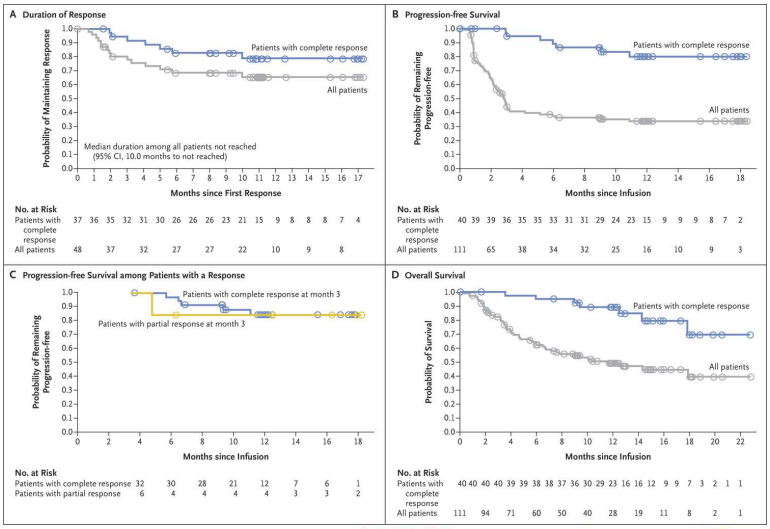
- CD19/CD28ʒ
- ORR = 82%
- CR = 54%
- 1.5-yr estimated OS = 52%
- CRS grade ≥3 = 13%
- Neurotox grade ≥3 = 28%



Neelapu, NEJM 2017.

CD19 CAR in DLBCL - JULIET (Tisa-cel)

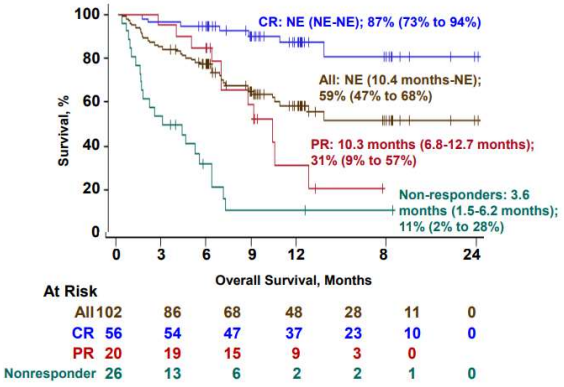
- CD19/4-1-BB
- ORR = 52%
- CR = 40%
- 1-yr estimated OS = 49%
- CRS grade ≥3 = 18%
- Neurotox grade ≥3 = 11%



Schuster, NEJM 2019.

CD19 CAR in DLBCL - TRANSCEND (Liso-Cel)

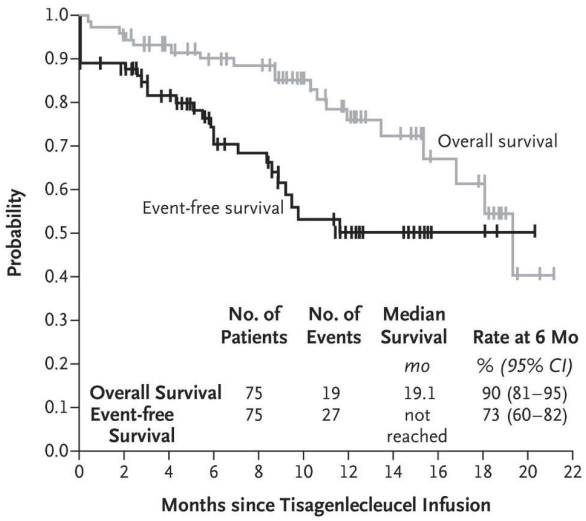
- CD19/4-1-BB, CD4:CD8 = 1:1
- ORR = 75%
- CR = 55%
- 1-yr estimated OS = 59%
- CRS grade ≥3 = 1%
- Neurotox grade ≥3 = 13%



Abramson JS, et al. HemaSphere. 2018;2(S1): Abstract S800.

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

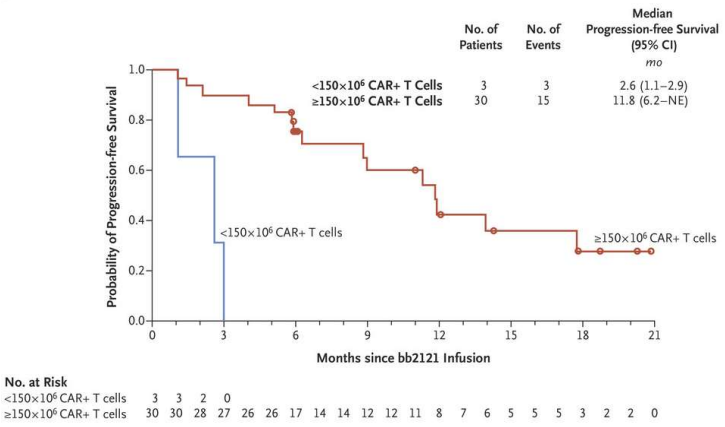
- CD19/4-1-BB
- ORR = 81%
- CR = 60%, CRi = 21%
- CRS grade ≥3 = 47%
- Neurotox grade ≥3 = 13%



Maude et al. NEJM 2018

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%

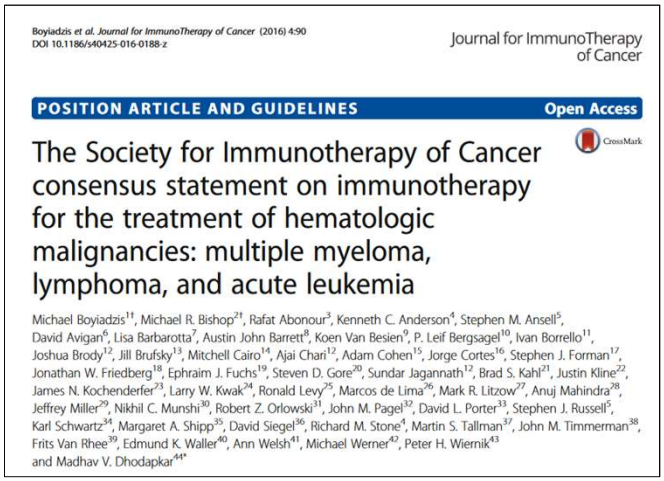


Raje, NEJM 2019.

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[11], Michael R. Bishop[21], Rafat Abonour[3], Kenneth C. Anderson[4], Stephen M. Ansell[5], David Avigan[6], Lisa Barbarotta[7], Austin John Barrett[8], Koen Van Besien[9], P. Leif Bergsagel[10], Ivan Borrello[11], Joshua Brody[12], Jill Brufsky[13], Mitchell Cairo[14], Ajai Chari[12], Adam Cohen[15], Jorge Cortes[16], Stephen J. Forman[17], Jonathan W. Friedberg[18], Ephraim J. Fuchs[19], Steven D. Gore[20], Sundar Jagannath[12], Brad S. Kahl[21], Justin Kline[22], James N. Kochenderfer[23], Larry W. Kwak[24], Ronald Levy[25], Marcos de Lima[26], Mark R. Litzow[27], Anuj Mahindra[28], Jeffrey Miller[29], Nikhil C. Munshi[30], Robert Z. Orlowski[31], John M. Pagel[32], David L. Porter[33], Stephen J. Russell[5], Karl Schwartz[34], Margaret A. Shipp[35], David Siegel[36], Richard M. Stone[4], Martin S. Tallman[37], John M. Timmerman[38], Frits Van Rhee[39], Edmund K. Waller[40], Ann Welsh[41], Michael Werner[42], Peter H. Wiernik[43] and Madhav V. Dhodapkar[44*]

Case Studies

Case Study 1

- Patient is a 52-year old male with Diffuse Large B-cell Lymphoma. He was diagnosed in 2018 and received R-CHOP chemotherapy and achieved a complete remission. Unfortunately, he relapsed 6 months later. He then received salvage chemotherapy with R-ICE, but had refractory disease. What is the best next treatment option:

A. Bendamustine-Polatuzuamb-Rituximab
B. Gemcitabine-Oxaliplatin-Rituximab
C. Tisagenlecleucel
D. Blinatumumab

Case Study 1

- The patient went on to receive anti-CD19 CAR T-cell therapy with Tisagenlecleucel. His course was complicated by Grade 1 CRS that did not require treatment. At Day 28, he had a partial response. Unfortunately at Day 90, he had clinical evidence of relapse. Biopsy demonstrated CD19-relapsed DLBCL. What is the next best treatment option:

A. Pembrolizumab (off-label)
B. Bendamustine-Polatuzumab-Rituximab
C. Axicabtagene clioleucel
D. Blinatumomab

Case Study 1

- At this point, with CD19 negative disease, unlikely that a different CAR-T cell product or using anti-PD1 inhibitors to reinvigorate the CARs will be effectively. Similarly blinatumomab also targets CD19 and is not approved for DLBCL. The best option here is bendamustine-polatuzumab-rituximab which targets anti-CD79b along with bendamustine both which the patient has not had prior exposure to.

- This patient went on to receive bendamustine-polatuzumab-rituximab achieved a complete remission, and then proceeded with an allogeneic transplant and remains in remission to date.

Case Study 2

- A 26 year old female has high risk B-cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia. She starts multi-drug induction chemotherapy using the CALGB 10403 regimen. Unfortunately MRD assessment after Cycle 2 demonstrates a complete morphologic remission with MRD positive disease. What is the next best option?

A. Tisagenlecleucel
B. Blinatumumab
C. Inotuzumab
D. Cycle 3 CALGB 10403

Case Study 2

- MRD positivity after induction is now well documented as a poor prognostic indicator with ALL. In addition with her high-risk disease reasonable to proceed to a second line regimen. Blinatumomab is studied and has approval in this setting and is the best option. Inotuzumab can be considered but is not as well studied in this setting. CAR T-cell therapy is not approved for MRD positive disease after one line of therapy.

Case Study 2

- The patient receives blinatumomab and unfortunately has morphologic relapse of her ALL with circulating and bone marrow blasts. Flow cytometry demonstrates CD19+, CD22+, CD20+ B-cell ALL from her peripheral blood. What is the next best option:

A. Tisagenlecleucel
B. Inotuzumab
C. Rituximab
D. HyperCVAD chemothearpy

Case Study 2

- While CAR T-cell therapy would be the best option given its potential curative intent and refractory disease, this patient is 26 years old and unfortunately it is not approved due to her age. This case highlights the real-life challenges of CAR T-cell therapy and its limited availability at this time for B-cell ALL.

- As CAR T-cell therapy is not approved, the best option for this patient would be inotuzumab.