

# Immunotherapy for the Treatment of Hematologic Malignancies

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### Disclosures

- No disclosures.
- Mayo clinic receives money for clinical trial conduct from BMS, Merck, Celgene, Kite Pharma.
- I will not be discussing non-FDA approved indications during my presentation. If I do, it would be within the context of a clinical trial.

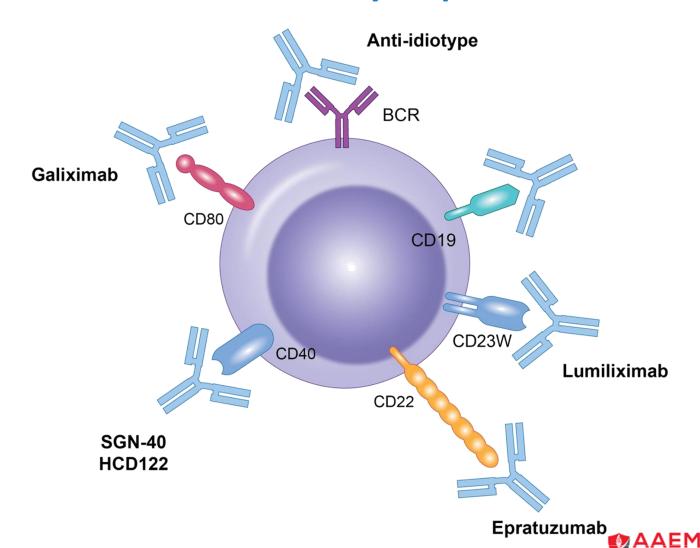








# Monoclonal Antibodies Targeting B Cell Lymphomas



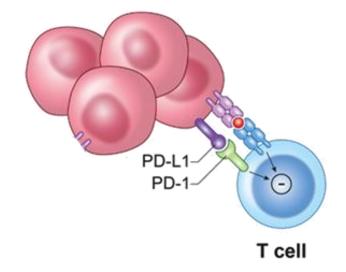






# FDA-approved Checkpoint Inhibitors for Lymphomas

- Nivolumab (anti-PD-1)
  - CheckMate 205/039: Patients with cHL that has relapsed or progressed after autologous hematopoietic stem cell transplantation and posttransplantation brentuximab vedotin
- Pembrolizumab (anti-PD-1)
  - KEYNOTE-087: Adult and pediatric patients with refractory cHL, or patients whose disease has relapsed after three or more lines of therapy
  - KEYNOTE-170: Adult and pediatric patients with refractory primary mediastinal large B-cell lymphoma (PMBCL), or those who have relapsed after 2 or more prior lines of therapy





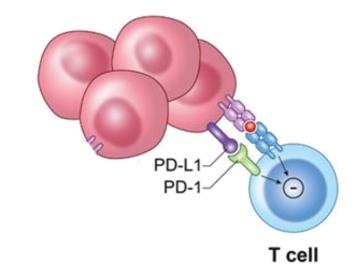






# Patient Selection Criteria for Checkpoint Inhibitor Therapies

- Expression of the ligand for checkpoint inhibition
  - e.g. PD-L1 expression for anti-PD-1 therapy
- Relapse or progression after previous therapies
  - Nivolumab: After prior HSCT and brentuximab therapy
  - Pembrolizumab: Relapse after three prior treatments, PMBCL
- Presence of co-morbidities
  - e.g. Presence of active autoimmune disease which could be worsened











### Nivolumab in Hodgkin Lymphoma

Variable	All Patients (N = 23)	Failure of Both Stem-Cell Transplantation and Brentuximab (N=15)	No Stem-Cell Transplantation and Failure of Brentuximab (N = 3)	No Brentuximab Treatment (N = 5)†
Best overall response — no. (%)				
Complete response	4 (17)	1 (7)	0	3 (60)
Partial response	16 (70)	12 (80)	3 (100)	1 (20)
Stable disease	3 (13)	2 (13)	0	1 (20)
Progressive disease	0	0	0	0
Objective response				
No. of patients	20	13	3	4
Percent of patients (95% CI)	87 (66–97)	87 (60–98)	100 (29–100)	80 (28–99)
Progression-free survival at 24 wk — % (95% CI)‡	86 (62–95)	85 (52–96)	NCJ	80 (20–97)
Overall survival — wk				
Median	NR	NR	NR	NR
Range at data cutoff¶	21–75	21–75	32–55	30–50

Ansell et al. NEJM 2015

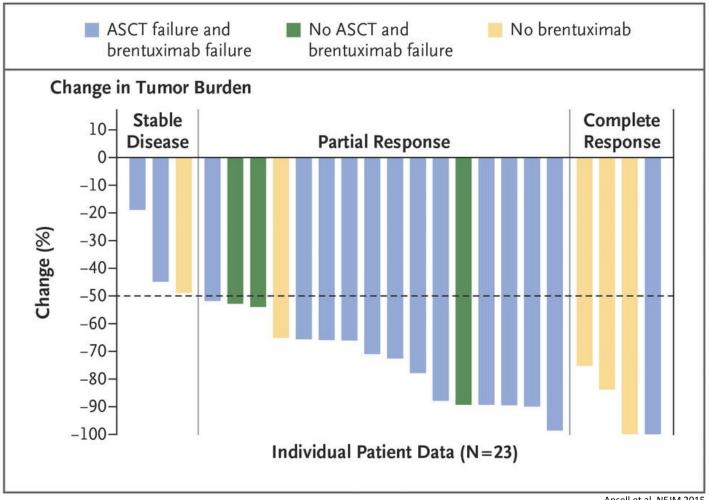








### Nivolumab in Hodgkin Lymphoma





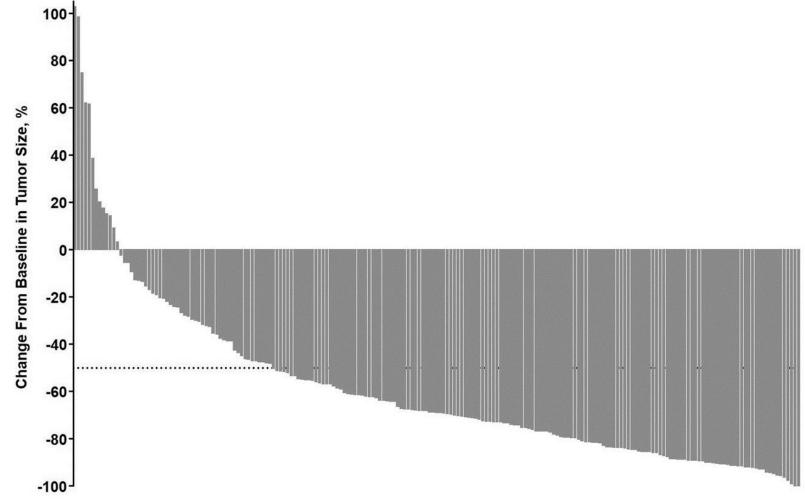








## Pembrolizumab in Hodgkin Lymphoma





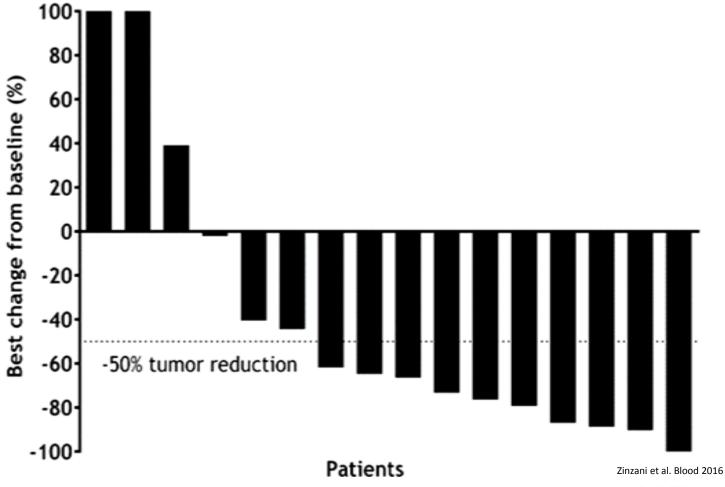








## Pembrolizumab in Primary Mediastinal Large B cell Lymphoma



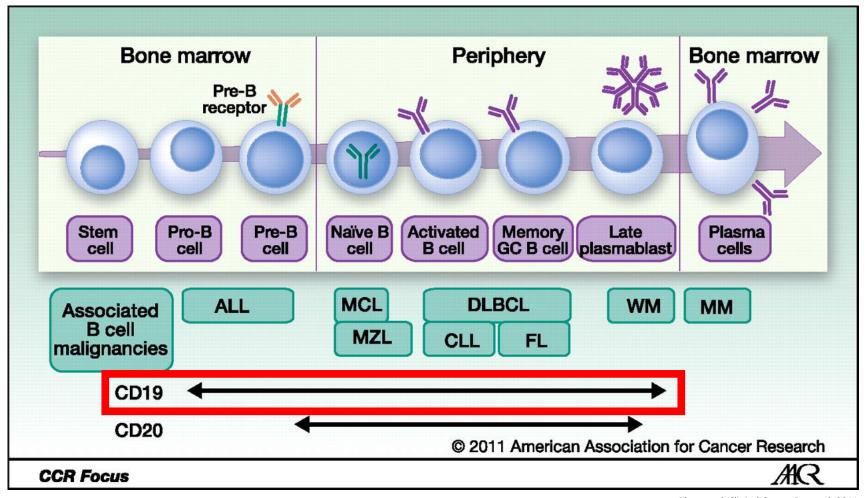








### B Cell Malignancies are CD19+



Blanc et al. Clinical Cancer Research 2011



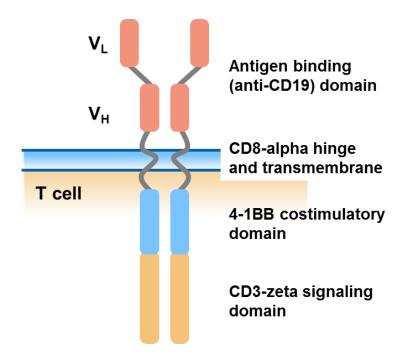


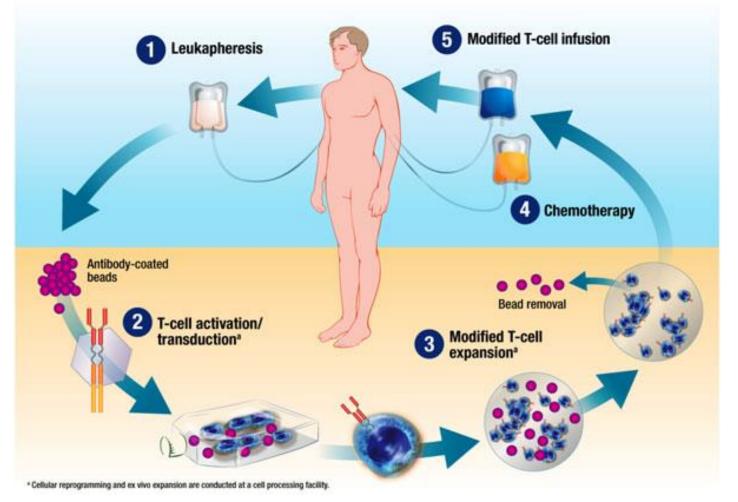




# Chimeric Antigen Receptor (CAR) T cell Therapy

 Engineering patient T cells to target and eliminate cells presenting specific antigens













# FDA-approved CAR T Cell Therapies for Lymphoma

- Axicabtagene ciloleucel (Yescarta)
  - ZUMA-1: Adult patients with relapsed or refractory large B cell lymphoma after two or more lines of systemic therapy, including diffuse large B cell lymphoma, high-grade B cell lymphoma, and DLBCL arising from follicular lymphoma
- Tisagenlecleucel (Kymriah)
  - JULIET: adult patients with relapsed/refractory large B cell lymphoma—including diffuse large B cell lymphoma (DLBCL), high-grade B cell lymphoma and DLBCL arising from follicular lymphoma—after 2 or more lines of systemic therapy.









# Patient Selection Criteria for CAR T Therapies

- Expression of the desired antigen for CAR T therapy
  - e.g. CD19
- Disease burden
  - CAR T trials: <30% to minimize the risk of cytokine release syndrome
- Presence of co-morbidities
  - e.g. Presence of active autoimmune diseases which could be worsened



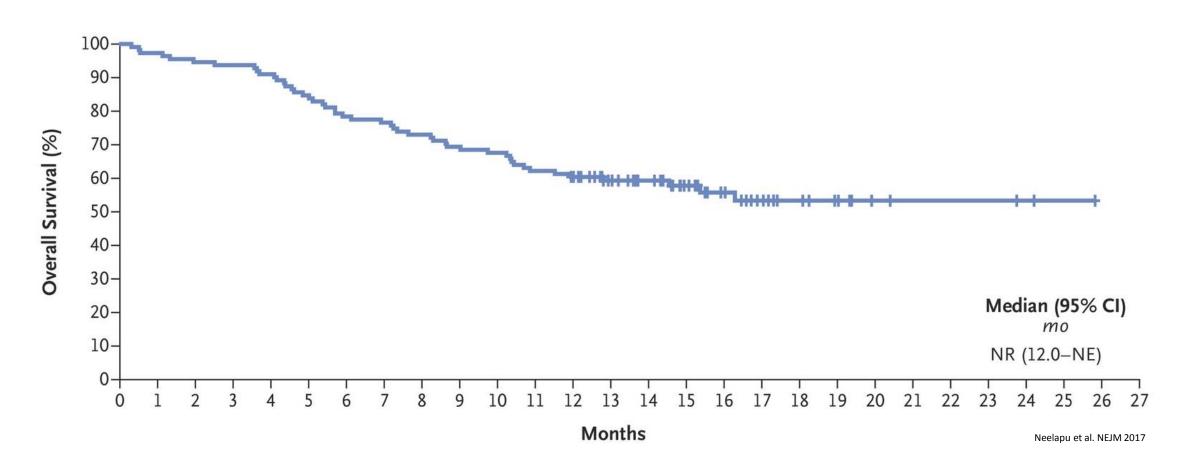






# Axicabtagene ciloleucel in B Cell Lymphoma

**Overall Survival** 





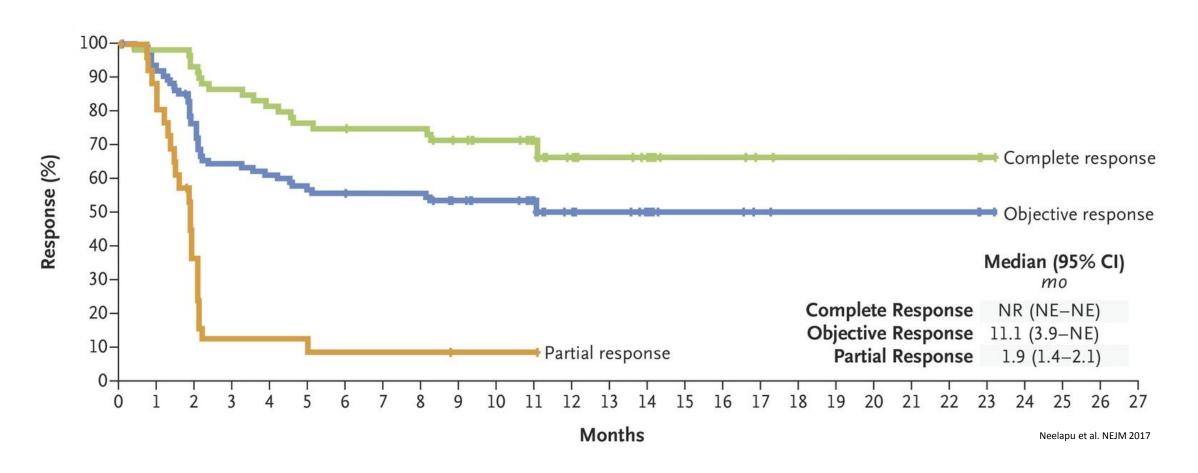






# Axicabtagene ciloleucel in B Cell Lymphoma

**Duration of Response** 





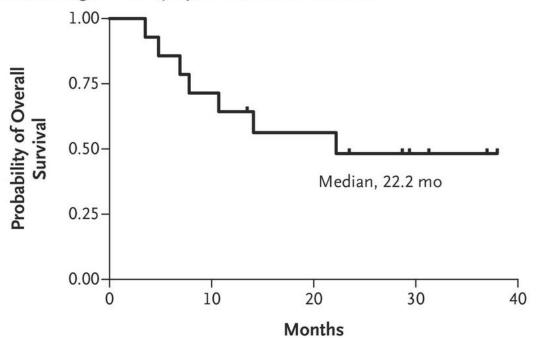




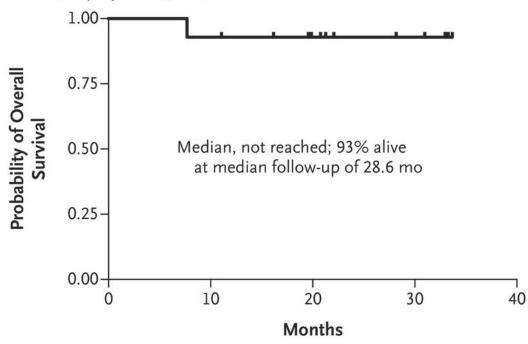


## Tisagenlecleucel in B Cell Lymphoma Overall Survival

### Diffuse Large B-Cell Lymphoma, Overall Survival



### Follicular Lymphoma, Overall Survival



Schuster et al. NEJM 2017



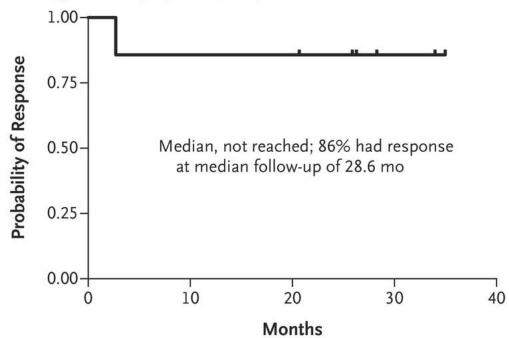




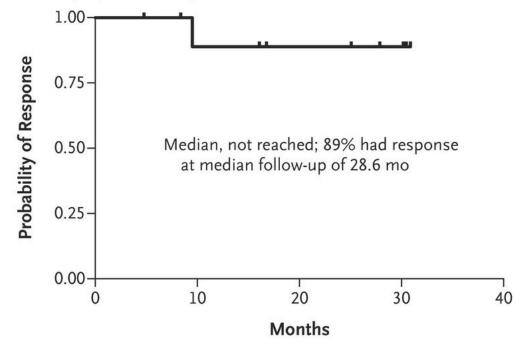


## Tisagenlecleucel in B Cell Lymphoma Duration of Response

### Diffuse Large B-Cell Lymphoma, Response Duration



### Follicular Lymphoma, Response Duration



Schuster et al. NEJM 2017



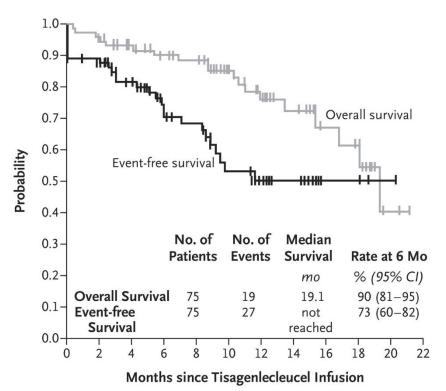




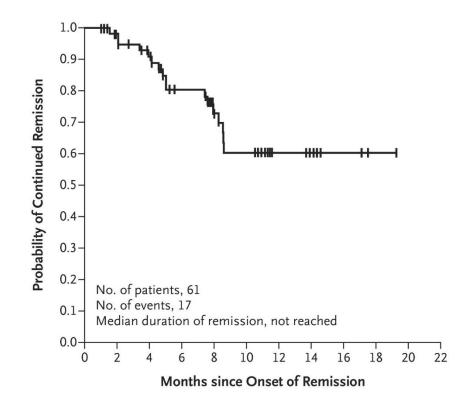


# FDA-approved CAR T Cell Therapies for Acute Leukemia Tisagenlecleucel

 ELIANA: patients up to age 25 years with B-cell precursor acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL) that is refractory or in second or later relapse



Maude et al. NEJM 2018





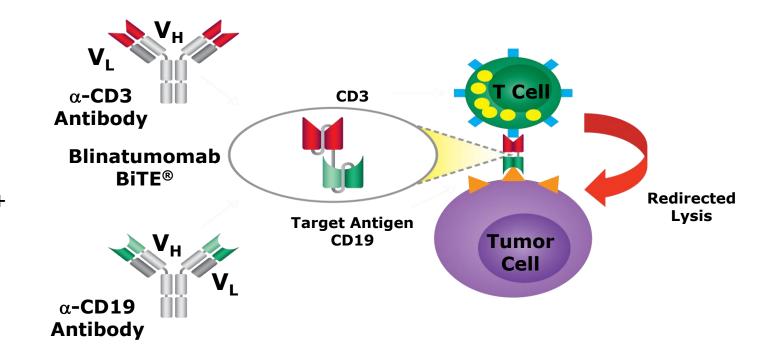






## BiTE (Blinatumumab) Therapy

- Combines anti-CD19 F(ab) with anti-CD3 F(ab)
- Lacks the Fc region
- Facilitates T cell engagement with CD19+ tumor cells (Similar to CD19 CAR T)
- FDA approval: Patients with relapsed/refractory B cell precursor ALL



Bargou et al. Science 2008

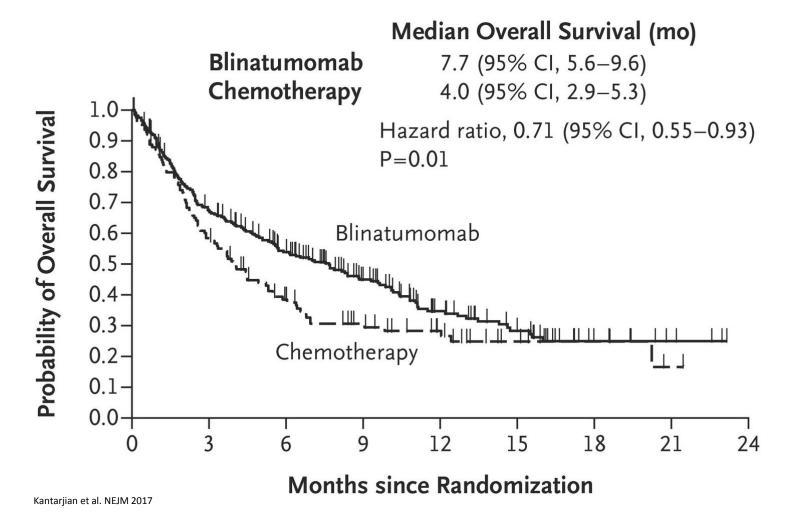








### Blinatumomab for B-ALL











# Immunotherapies for Multiple Myeloma

- No approved checkpoint inhibitors
  - KEYNOTE-183/185/023: Halted or discontinued due to risk/benefit profile
- Vaccine-based approaches
  - Non-antigen Specific
    - Attenuated measles
    - Whole cell FM-CSF
    - Dendritic tumor fusions
  - Antigen Specific
    - Idiotype: RNA < DNA, protein
    - Pulsed dendritic cells
    - Tumor-specific peptides





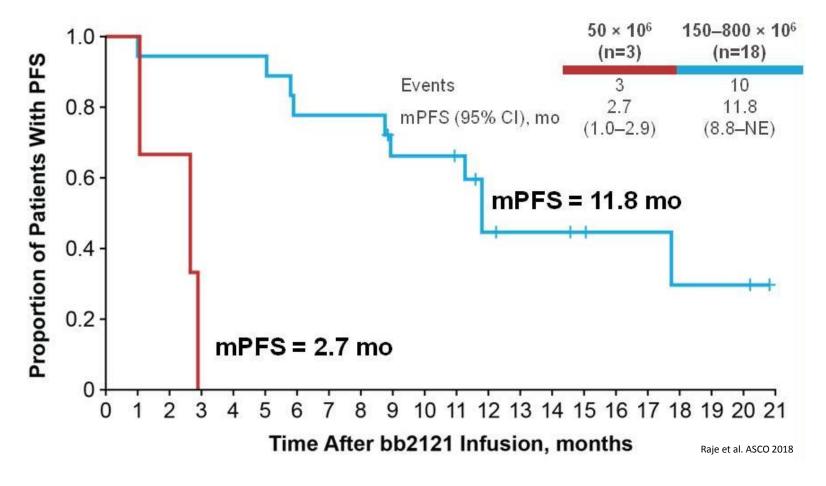






# In Development: BCMA+ CAR T Therapy for Myeloma

- bb2121
  - B cell maturation antigen (BCMA)
  - Phase I CRB-401 study
  - Previously treated patients with relapsed/refractory multiple myeloma



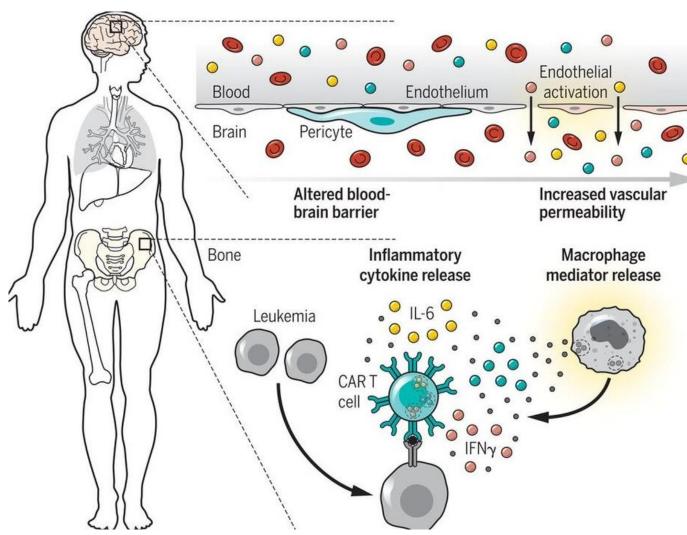








# Cytokine Release Syndrome (CRS)



### Neurotoxicity

Delirium Aphasia Seizures Cerebral edema Intracranial hemorrhage

### Hemodynamic instability

Tachycardia Hypotension Capillary leak syndrome

### **Organ dysfunction**

AST and ALT elevation Hyperbilirubinemia Respiratory failure

June et al. Science 2018

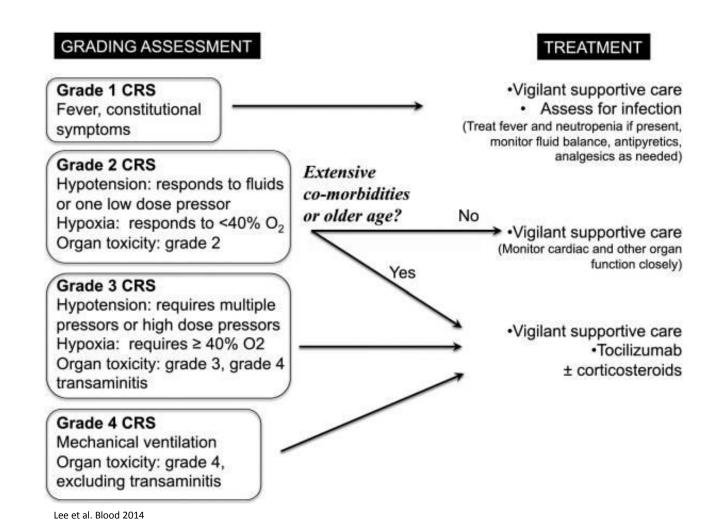




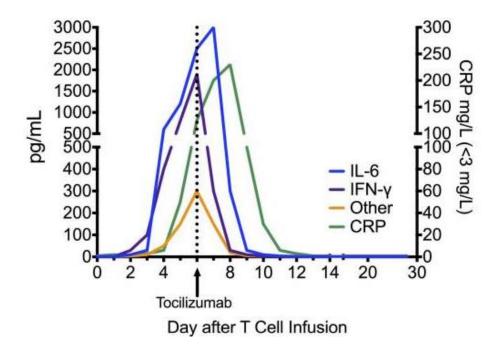




### **CRS** management



- Tocilizumab
  - Monoclonal antibody that blocks IL-6 signaling











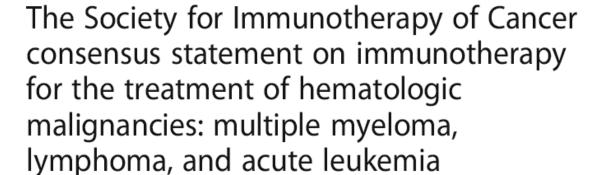
### **Further Resources**

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** 





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## Lymphoma Case #1









### History

- 21-year-old male patient
- Early 2016, began to develop increasing joint pain, and shortness of breath.
   Persistent itching and significant weight loss.
- Lymph node in the right neck.
- Referred to rheumatologist. He was found to have a polyarticular arthritis but also had evidence for clubbing, and a diagnosis of hypertrophic arthropathy was made.
- In view of the fact that this would likely be secondary to a malignancy, the patient had a CT scan of the chest. The CT chest showed a large mediastinal mass. The patient then underwent a CT-guided biopsy of the mass.

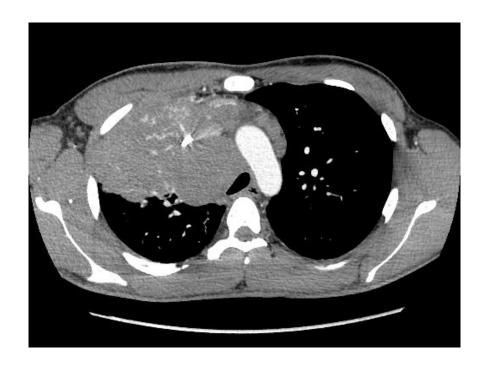


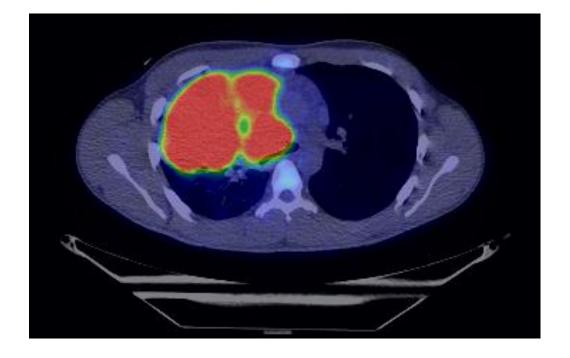






## CT/PET Scan













## **Pathology**

• Classic Hodgkin lymphoma, nodular sclerosis type









### Findings

- Classical Hodgkin lymphoma, nodular sclerosis type.
- Bone marrow aspirate and biopsy negative.
- Hemoglobin of 13.8, a white cell count of 18.2, and a platelet count of 338,000.
- LDH is elevated at 638. His sedimentation rate is elevated at 41.
- PET scan confirms a large FDG-avid hypermetabolic mass in the right mediastinum.
- Lymph nodes in the supraclavicular area as well as in the superior mediastinum and right hilar region.
- FDG uptake within the right lung field, consistent with involvement by lymphoma.
   Splenomegaly is also noted.
- Stage IIB with bulky disease









# What is the Standard of Care Management for this Patient?

- 1. ABVD x 4 cycles
- 2. ABVD x 4 cycles + RT
- 3. ABVD x 6 cycles
- 4. ABVD x 6 cycles +/- RT
- 5. AVD x 6 cycles +/- RT









# What is the Standard of Care Management for this Patient?

- 1. ABVD x 4 cycles
- 2. ABVD x 4 cycles + RT
- 3. ABVD x 6 cycles
- 4. ABVD x 6 cycles +/- RT
- 5. AVD x 6 cycles +/- RT









### Where the Field is Going

- ECHELON 1 BV+AVD vs ABVD
- Nivolumab + AVD
- BV + nivolumab for elderly









#### Treatment Schedule for Cohort D Monotherapy Combination phase phase Nivolumab (flat dose 240 Nivolumab (flat dose 240 mg) in combination with AVD\* mg) monotherapy Every 2 weeks Every 2 weeks 4 doses 6 Combocycles (Approximately 22 weeks) (Approximately 8 weeks) One Combocycle: q4 weeks One dose q2 weeks Combo-Combo-Combo-Combo -Combo-Combocycle 1 cycle 2 cycle 3 cycle 4 cycle 5 cycle 6 Monotherapy doses 1 to 4 47 47 Dose 1 (day, 1) Combination phase will end at Dose 2 (day 15) Dose 2 (Day 15) of Combocycle 6. Thereafter, subjects will enter FU/Observational phase. \*AVD without nivolumab is allowed if the criteria met.







4 doses of Nivolumab



