

# **Acute Myeloid Leukemia**

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## DICHIARAZIONE

Relatore: SERGIO AMADORI

Come da nuova regolamentazione della Commissione Nazionale per la Formazione Continua del Ministero della Salute, è richiesta la trasparenza delle fonti di finanziamento e dei rapporti con soggetti portatori di interessi commerciali in campo sanitario.

- Posizione di dipendente in aziende con interessi commerciali in campo sanitario **(NIENTE DA DICHIARARE)**
- Consulenza ad aziende con interessi commerciali in campo sanitario **(NIENTE DA DICHIARARE)**
- Fondi per la ricerca da aziende con interessi commerciali in campo sanitario **(NIENTE DA DICHIARARE)**
- Partecipazione ad Advisory Board **(Amgen, Celgene, Daiichi-Sankyo, Janssen, Novartis, Pfizer)**
- Titolarità di brevetti in compartecipazione ad aziende con interessi commerciali in campo sanitario **(NIENTE DA DICHIARARE)**
- Partecipazioni azionarie in aziende con interessi commerciali in campo sanitario **(NIENTE DA DICHIARARE)**

## Clinical trials

- Risk-adapted/MRD-directed therapy in adult AML (GIMEMA AML-1310)

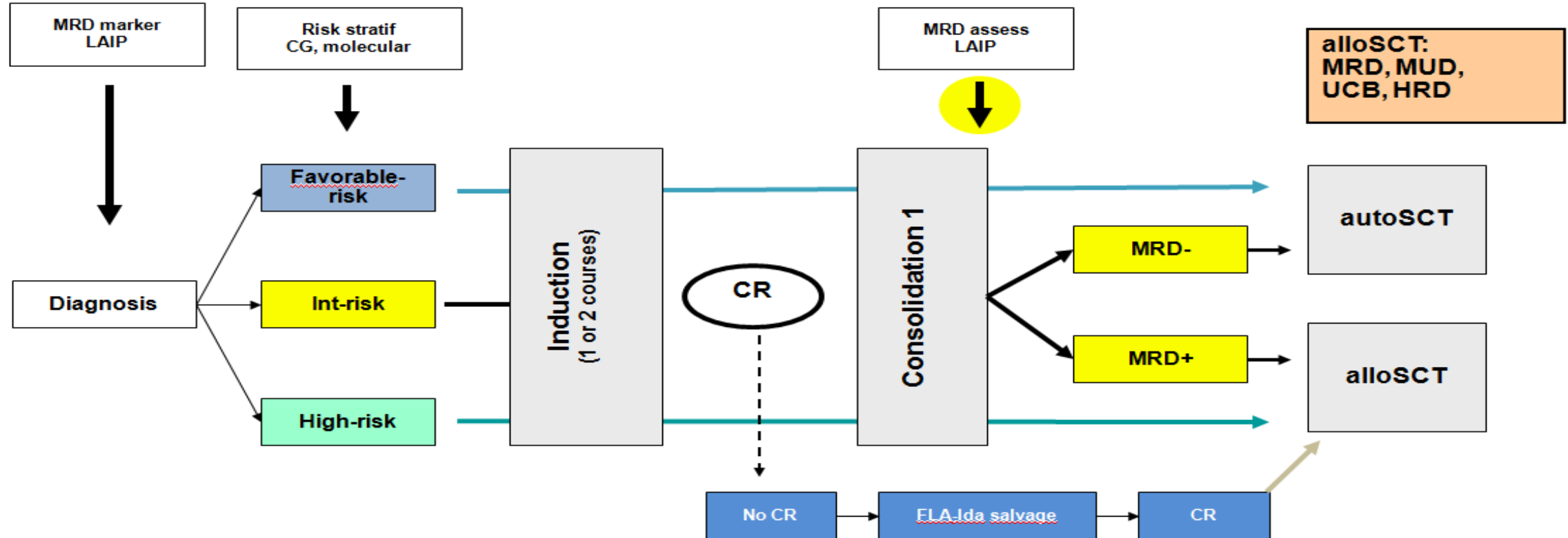
## Novel targeted agents to watch....

- Venetoclax + LDAC in older unfit patients with ND-AML (update)
- Venetoclax + HMAs in older patients with ND-AML (update)
- Enasidenib in mut-IDH2 R/R AML (update)
- Nivolumab + AZA in R/R AML (update)

**Risk-adapted, MRD-directed therapy for young adults with newly diagnosed AML: Results of the AML-1310 trial of the GIMEMA group**

**Venditti A et al, abstract S111**

# AML-1310 study design



Low-risk: CBF/Kit<sup>wt</sup>; NPM1+/FLT3-  
 Int-risk: all others  
 High-risk: Adverse K; FLT3-ITD




- INDUCTION
  - Daunorubicin : 50 mg/m<sup>2</sup> iv D 1,3,5
  - SD-Ara-C: (100 mg/m<sup>2</sup> c.i. D 1-10)
  - Etoposide: 100 mg/m<sup>2</sup> iv D 1-5
- CONSOLIDATION
  - Daunorubicin : 50 mg/m<sup>2</sup> iv D 4-6
  - ID-Ara-C: 500 mg/m<sup>2</sup>/q12 hrs, over 2 hrs, D 1-6


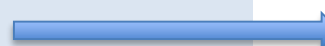
# AML1310: Patient characteristics (n=500; 01/12-05/15)

<u>Age, yrs</u>	
median	49
range	18-61

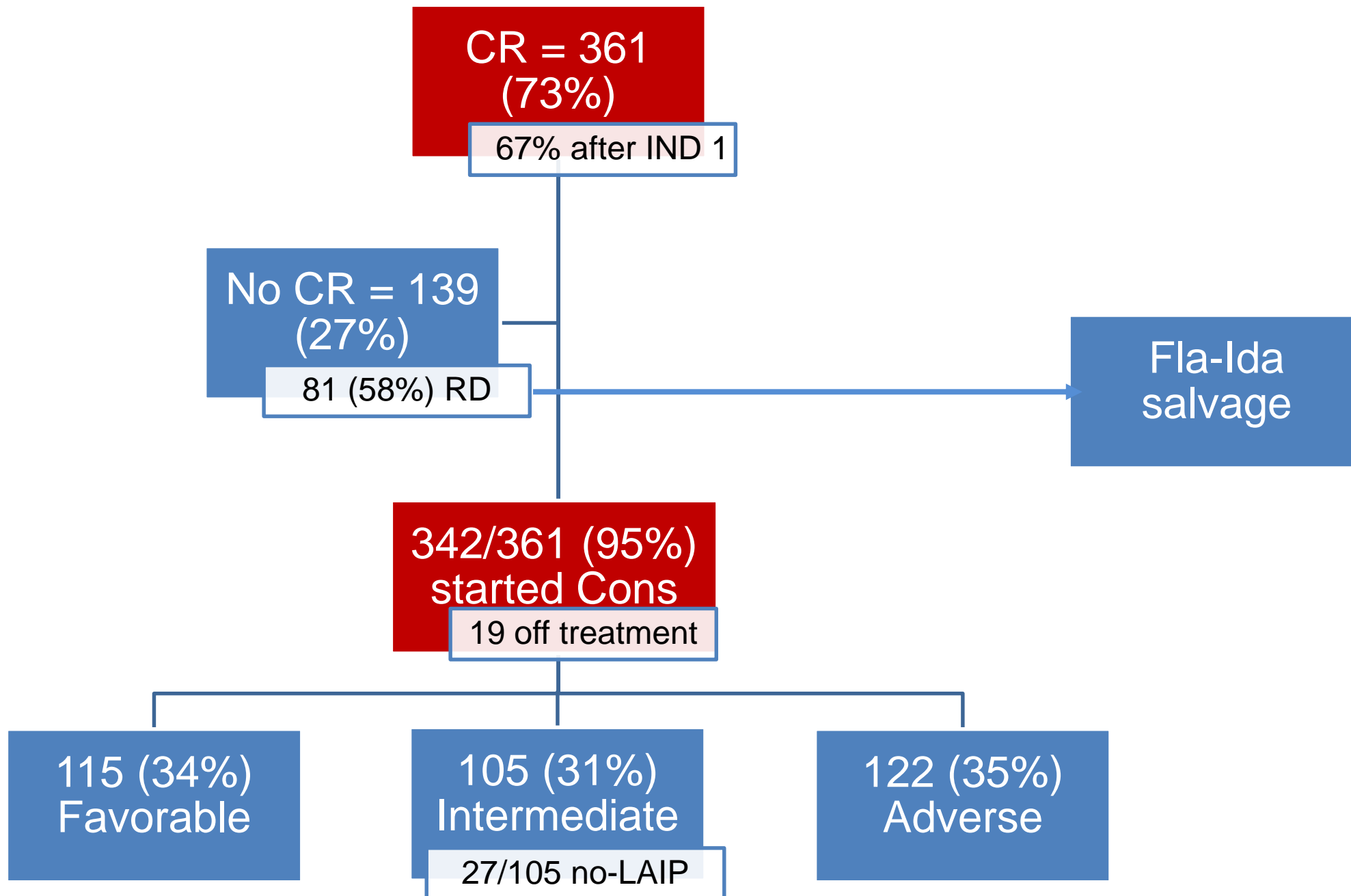
<u>Gender</u>	
M/F	260/240

<u>WBCcx10<sup>9</sup>/L</u>	
median	13.9
range	0.16-352

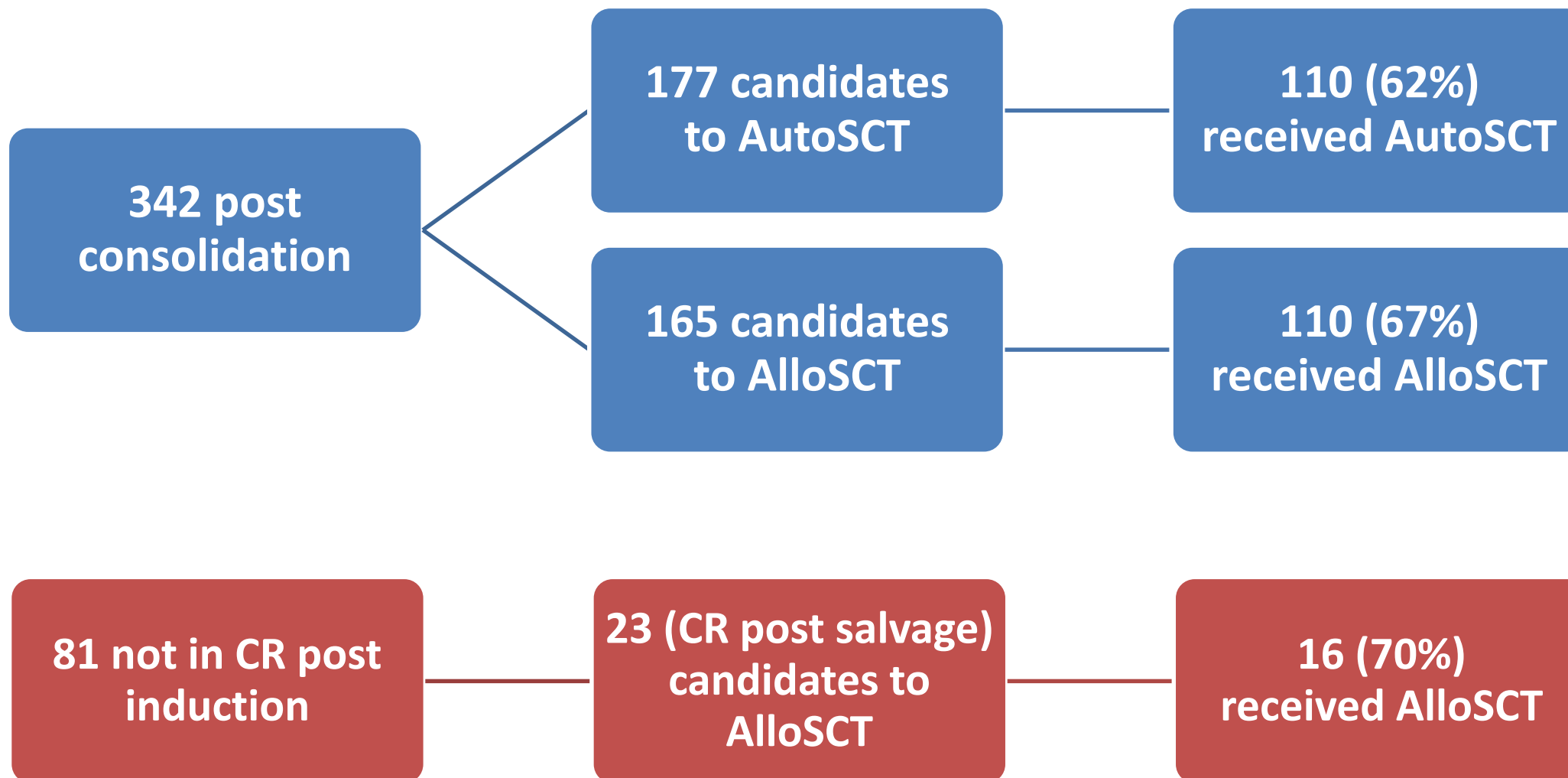
<u>ELN category</u>			
Favorable	138 (28%)		AutoSCT
Intermediate	174 (35%)		Wait for MRD after Cons
Adverse	188 (38%)		AlloSCT

<u>LAIP not detected</u>			
Favorable	4		AutoSCT
Intermediate	43		
Adverse	0		
Total	47 (9%)		

# AML1310: results (n=500)



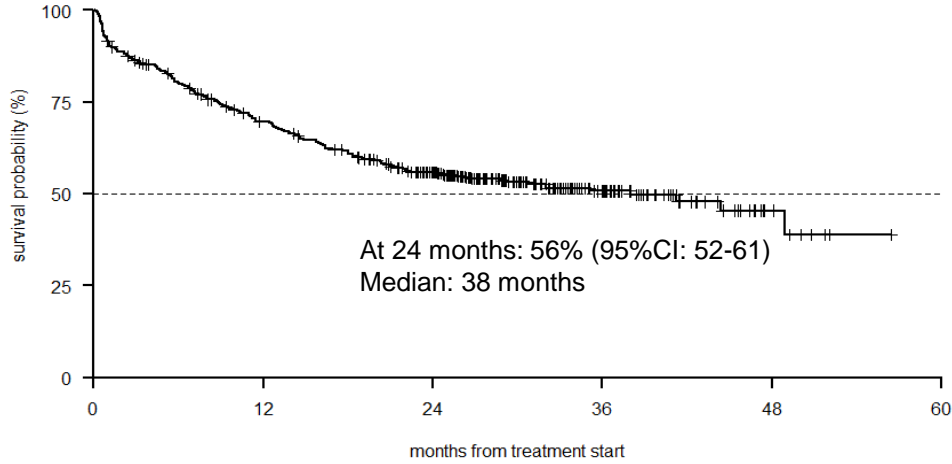
# AML1310: results



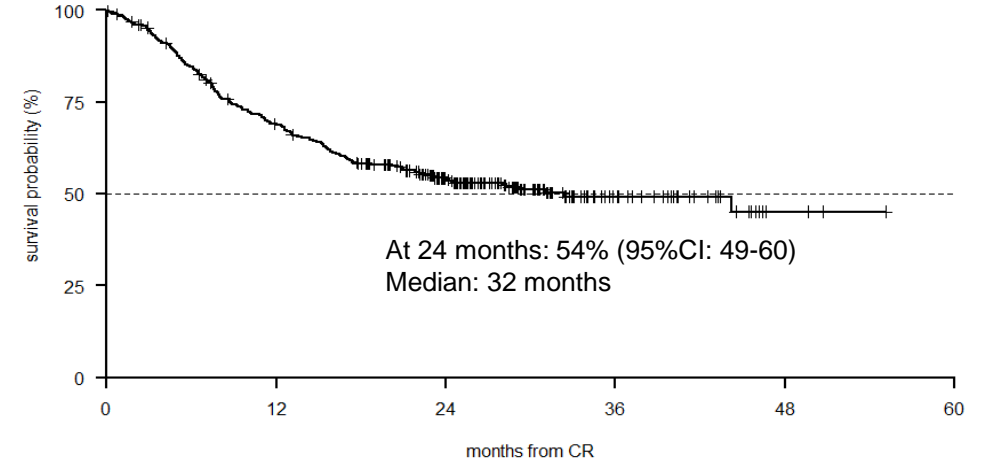


# AML1310: results (median follow-up: 27.8 months)

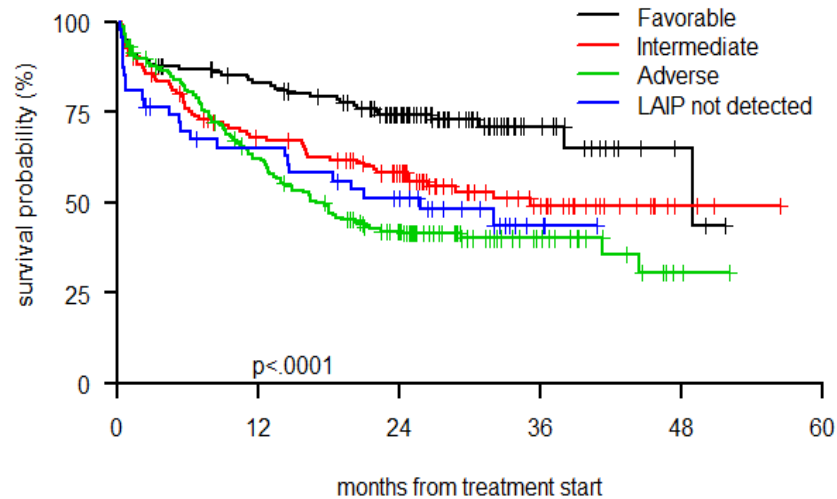
### Overall Survival



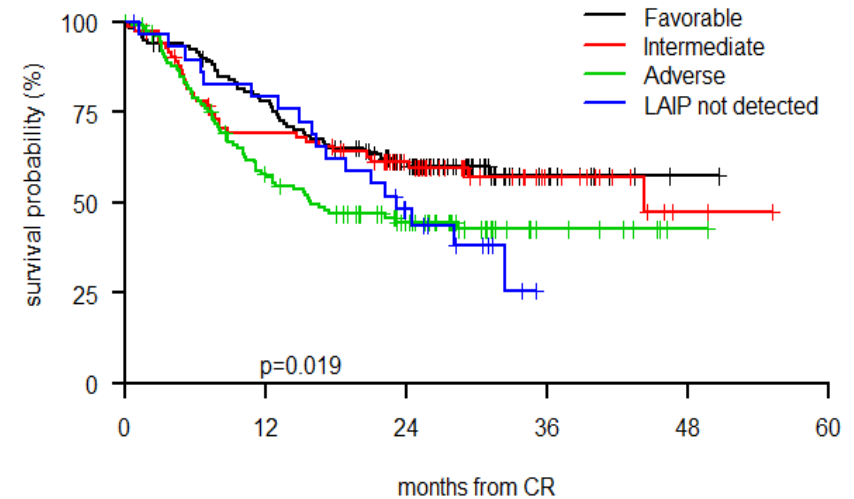
### Disease Free Survival



### OS by ELN category

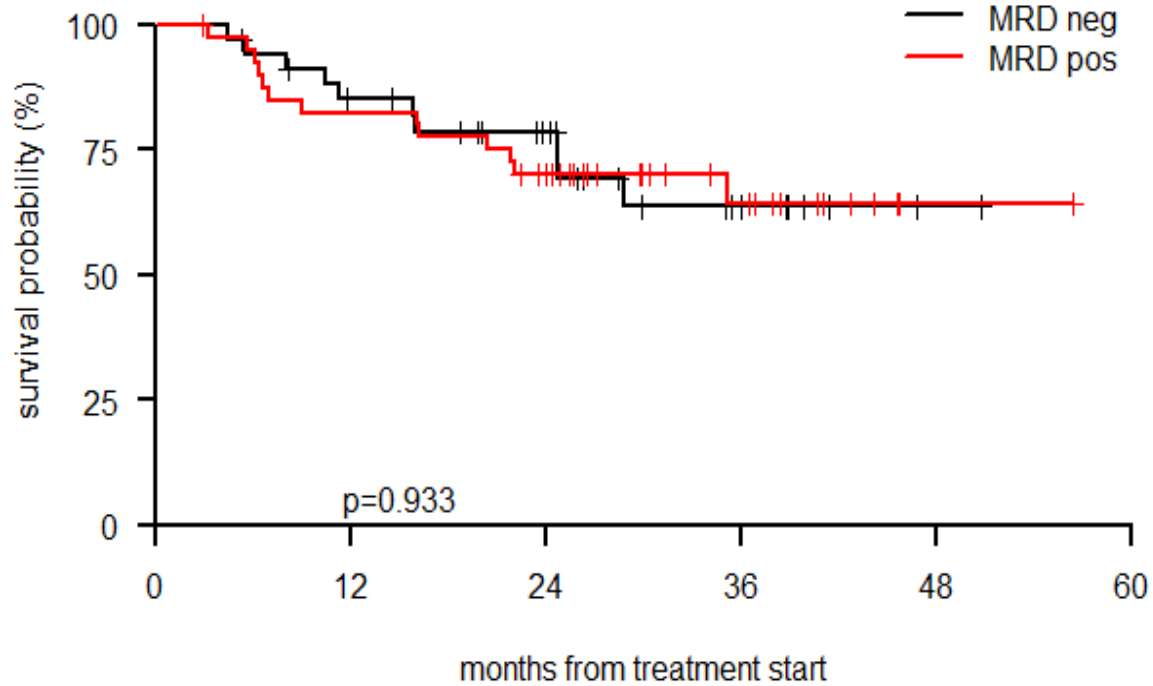


### DFS by ELN category

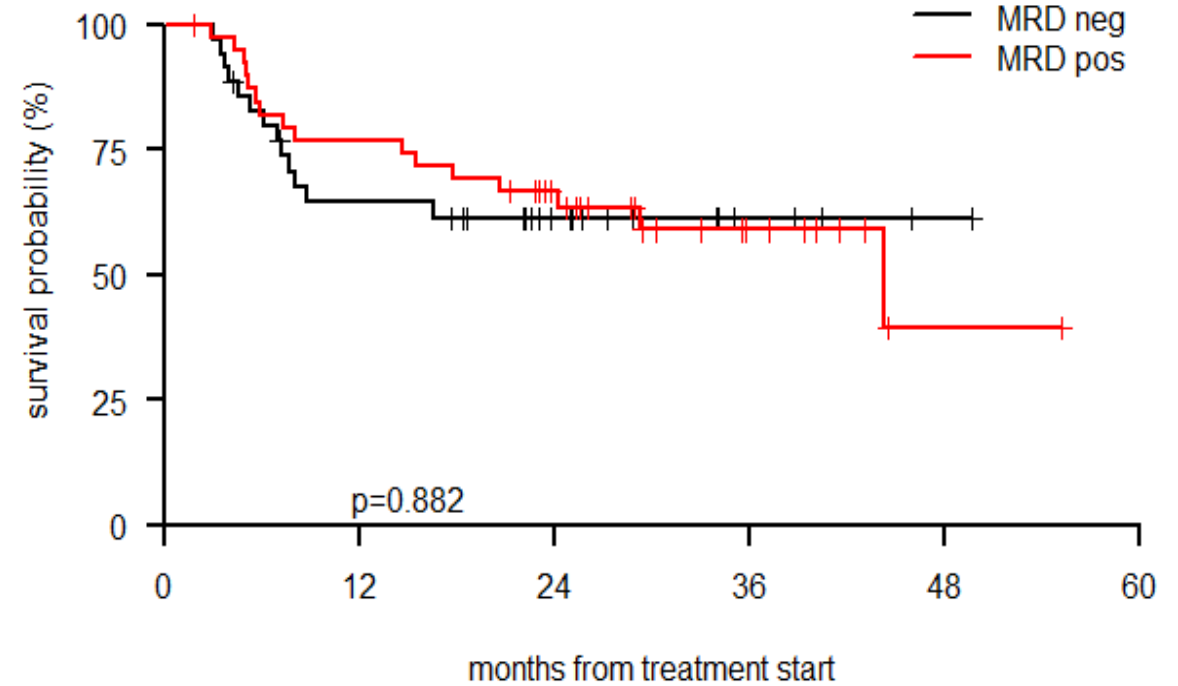


# AML1310: intermediate-risk OS and DFS by MRD status

### Intermediate-risk: OS by MRD status



### Intermediate-risk: DFS by MRD status



# AML1310: Conclusions

- **A risk-stratified therapeutic approach integrating upfront genetics and post-consolidation MRD status is feasible in a multicenter setting**
  - centralized genetic and MRD studies
- AutoSCT might still have a role in the post-remission treatment of patients with AML (fav-risk + interm-risk<sup>MRDneg</sup>)
- Using all the available sources of stem cells, alloSCT was delivered to 67% of patients (adv-risk + interm-risk<sup>MRDpos</sup>)

**Updated safety and efficacy of a phase 1/2 study of Venetoclax + LDAC in treatment-naive patients with AML  $\geq 65$  years and unfit for standard induction therapy**

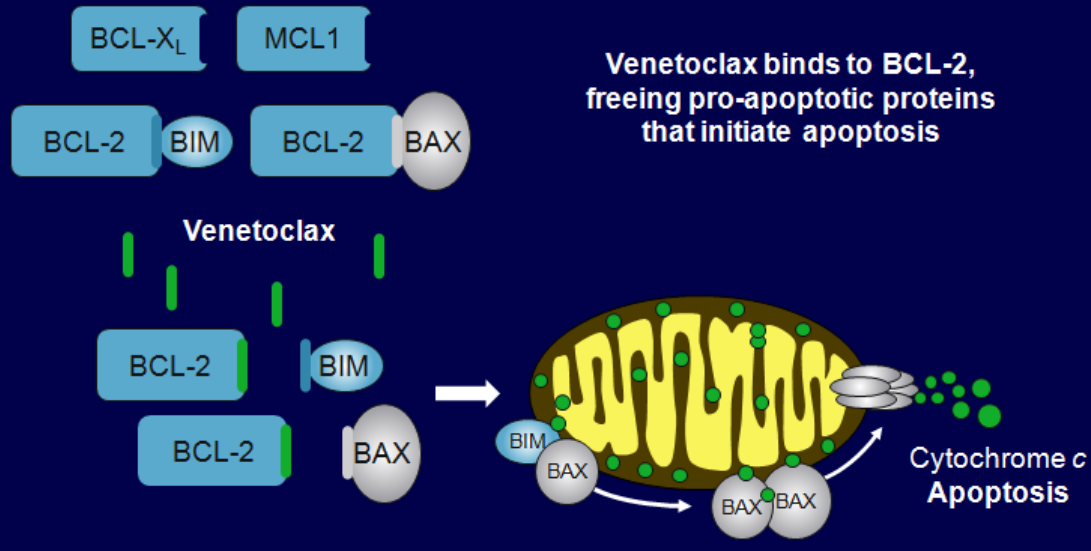
**Wei AH et al, abstract S473**

**Safety and efficacy of Venetoclax in combination with Decitabine or Azacitidine in treatment-naive, elderly patients  $\geq 65$  years with AML**

**Pratz K et al, abstract S472**

# VEN: mechanism of action

**BCL-2 overexpression allows cancer cells to evade apoptosis by sequestering pro-apoptotic proteins**



**Bcl-2: a promising therapeutic target in AML**

- Overexpression enhances survival of AML blasts
- Associates with chemoresistance and poor survival

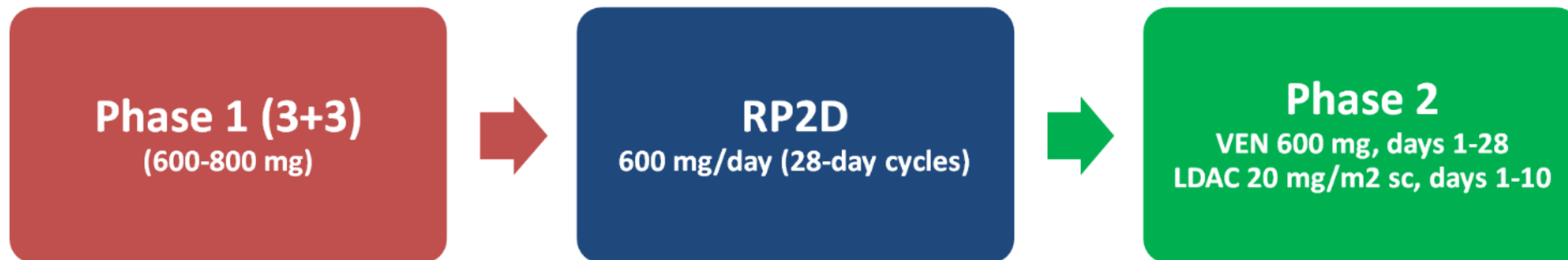
**Venetoclax: selective, oral Bcl-2 inhibitor**

- Active in AML cell lines and primary patient samples

**Venetoclax monotherapy in AML**

- Phase 2 study in R/R AML: CR/CRi rate 19%

# VEN + LDAC trial



## Inclusion criteria

- Adults  $\geq 65$ y with untreated AML, ineligible for standard induction therapy, ECOG PS 0-2

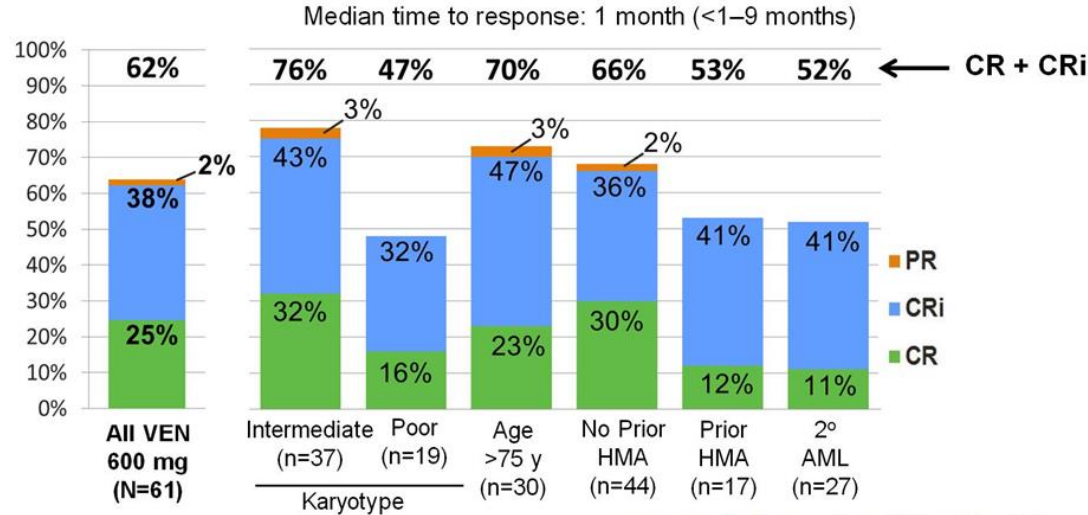
## Objectives

- Primary: safety and efficacy at the RP2D
- Secondary: response rates, DOR and OS

## Patients treated at RP2D (600 mg/day)

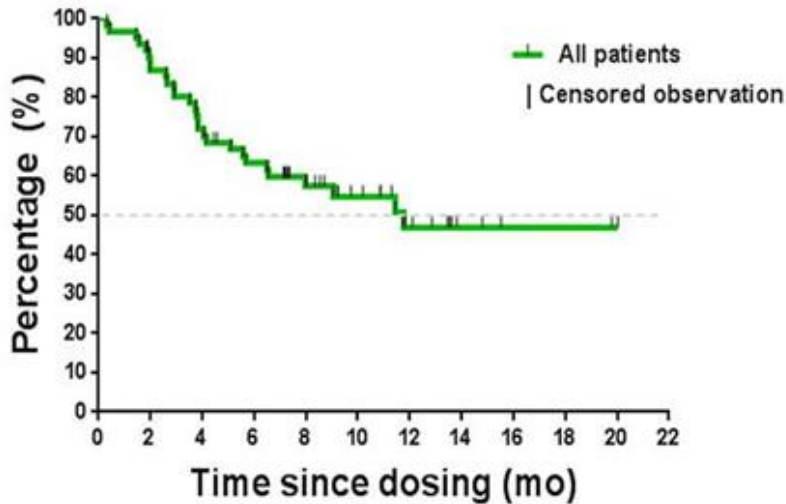
- Patients: n=61
- phase 1: n=8
- phase 2, n=53

# Outcomes (N=61)

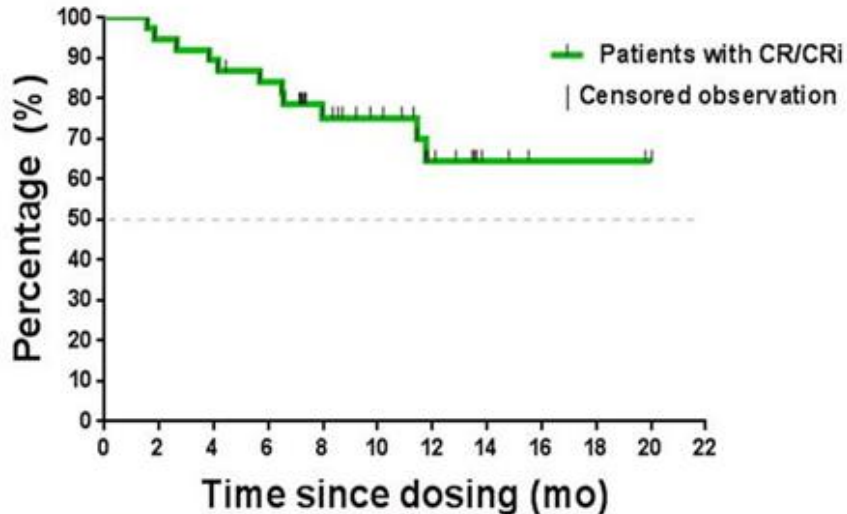


Grade 3 or 4 (≥10% of Patients)	VEN 600 mg N=61
<b>Hematologic, n (%)</b>	
Thrombocytopenia	27 (44)
Febrile neutropenia	22 (36)
Neutropenia	20 (33)
Anemia	17 (28)
<b>Nonhematologic, n (%)</b>	
Hypokalemia	10 (16)
Hypophosphatemia	8 (13)
Hypertension	7 (12)

## OS for All Patients



## OS for Patients with CR/CRi

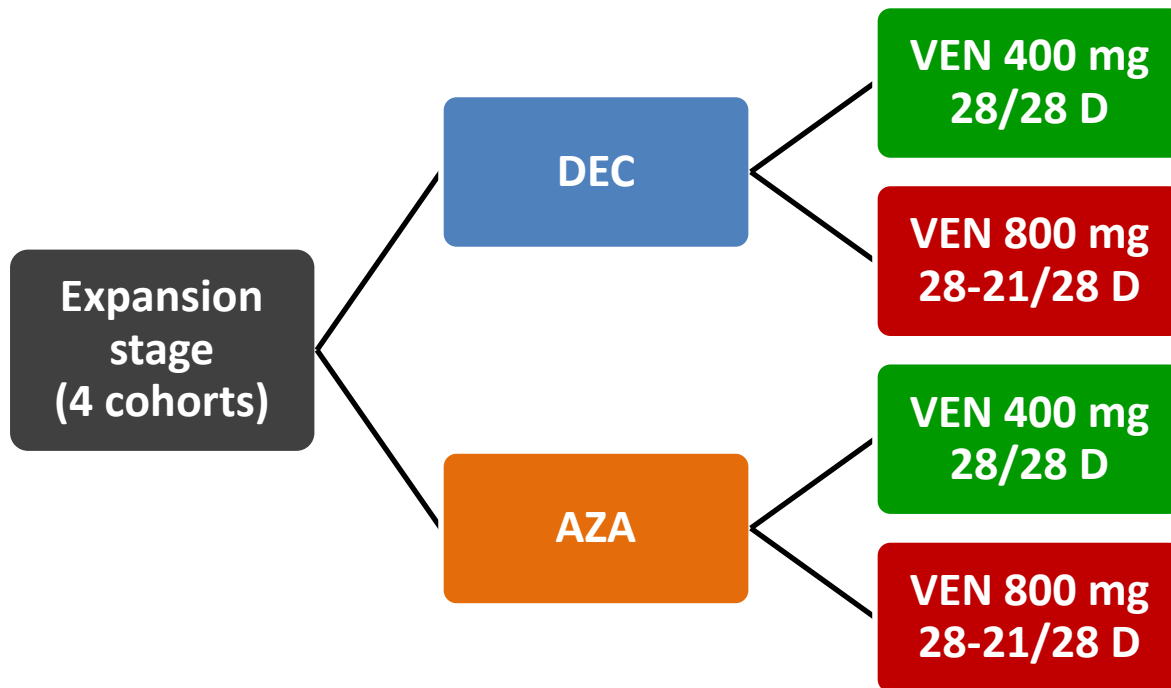


30d mortality 3%

Phase 3 ongoing

# VEN + HMAs trial

- Phase 1b, open-label, multicenter study with dose-escalation and expansion stages
  - VEN + DEC (20 mg/m<sup>2</sup> iv, D1-5, 28D cycles) or VEN + AZA (75 mg/m<sup>2</sup> iv/sc, D1-7, 28D cycles)
  - Dose escalation stage: CR/CRi rate 60% (Pollyea D et al, ASCO 2016)



## Eligibility criteria

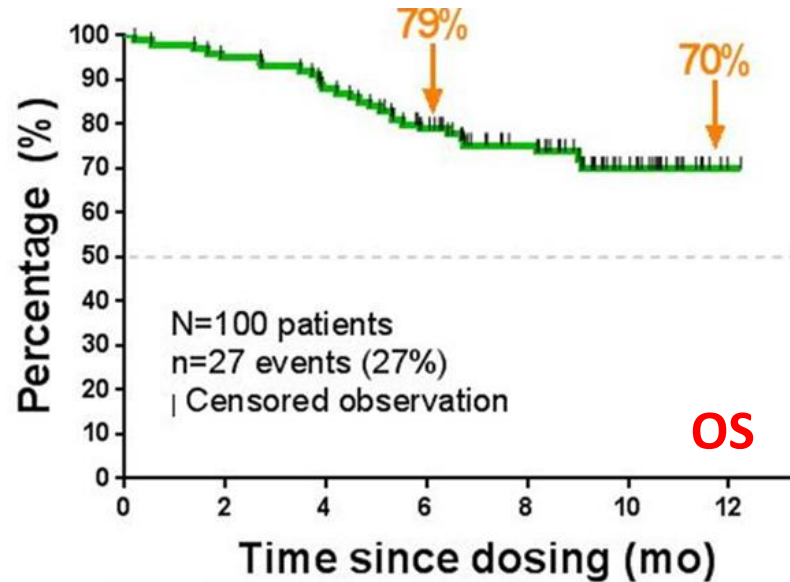
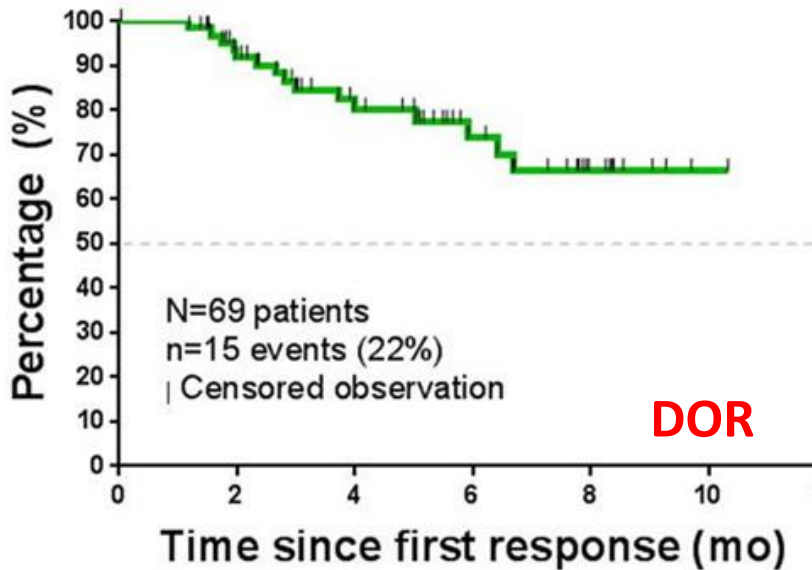
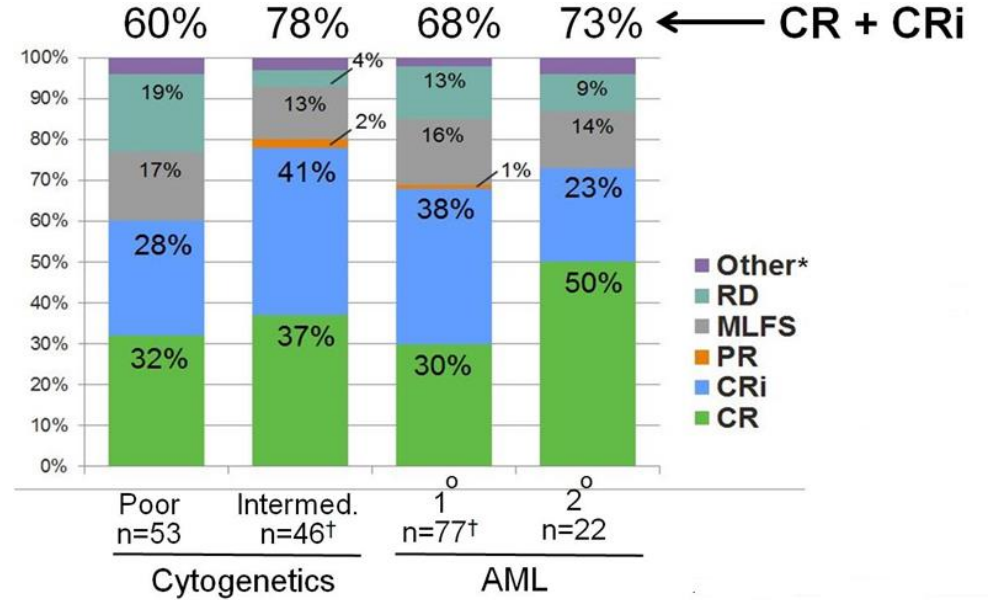
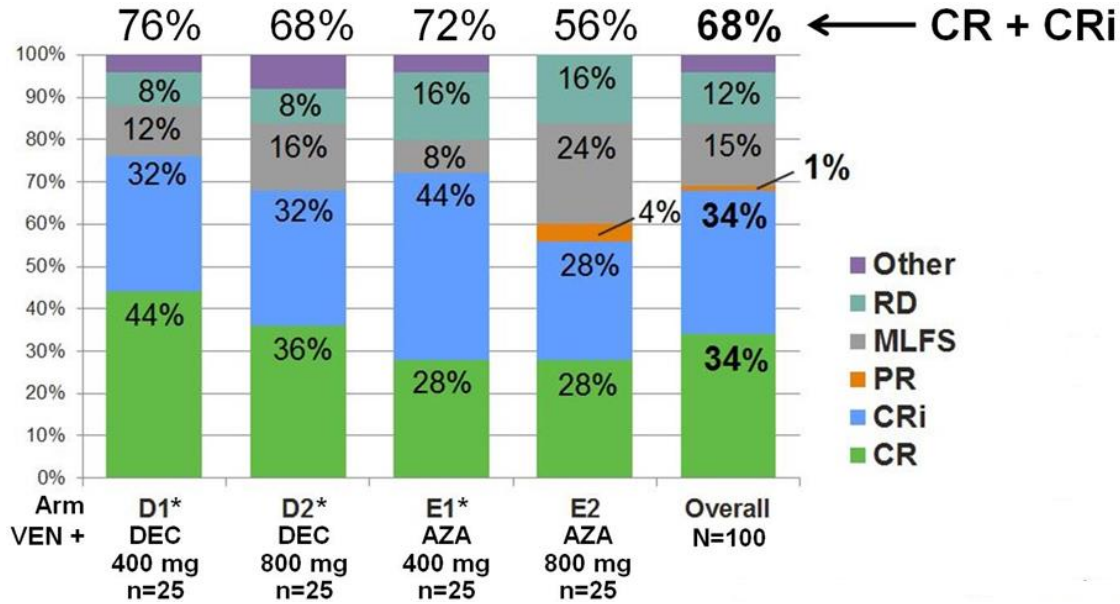
- Patients ≥65y with untreated AML; Int/Adv CG; ECOG ≤2; ineligible for standard induction therapy

## Objectives

- Primary: efficacy and safety
- Secondary: CR, CRi, DOR, OS



# Outcomes (N=100)



30/60d mortality 3%/15%

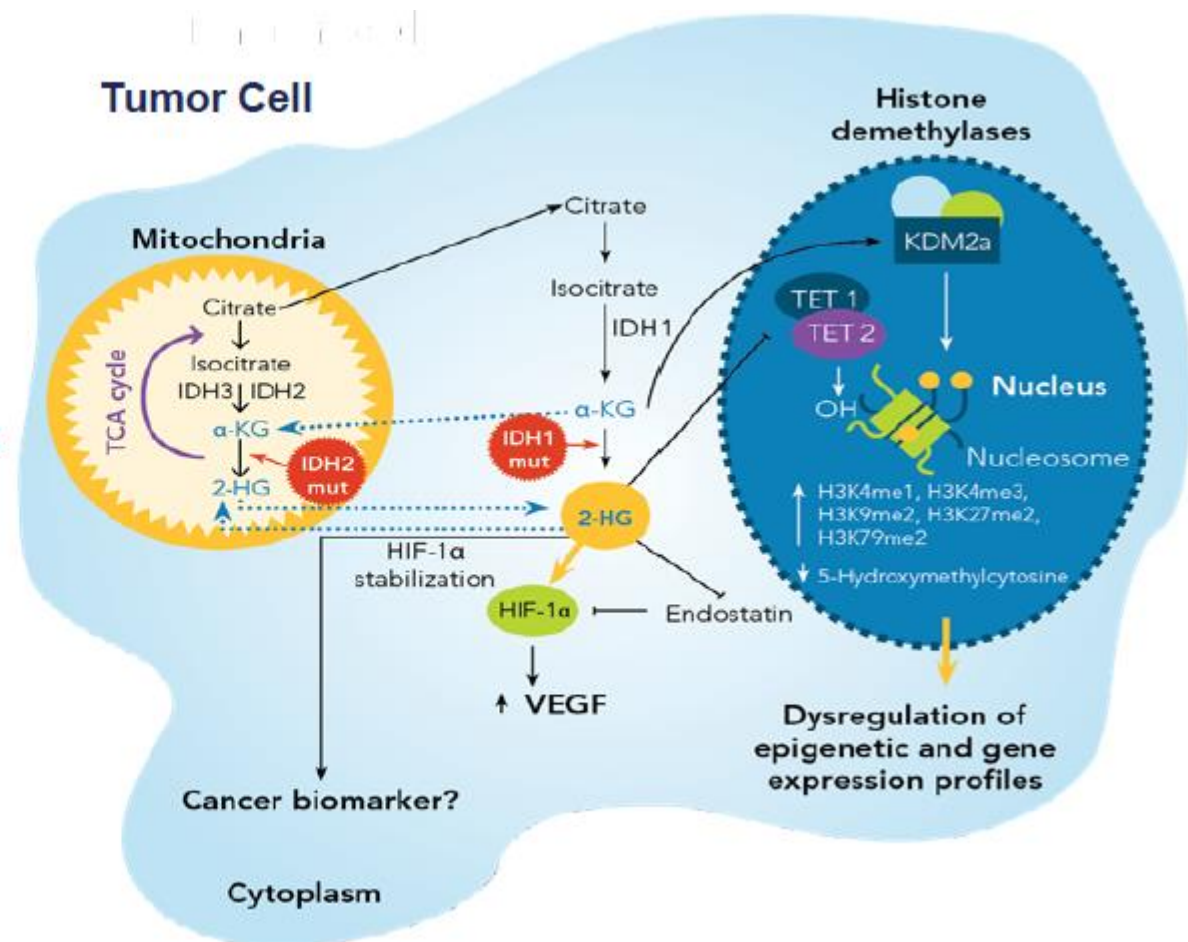
Phase 3 (VEN+AZA) ongoing

**Enasidenib (AG-221) in mutant-IDH2 relapsed or refractory AML: results of a phase 1 dose-escalation and expansion study**

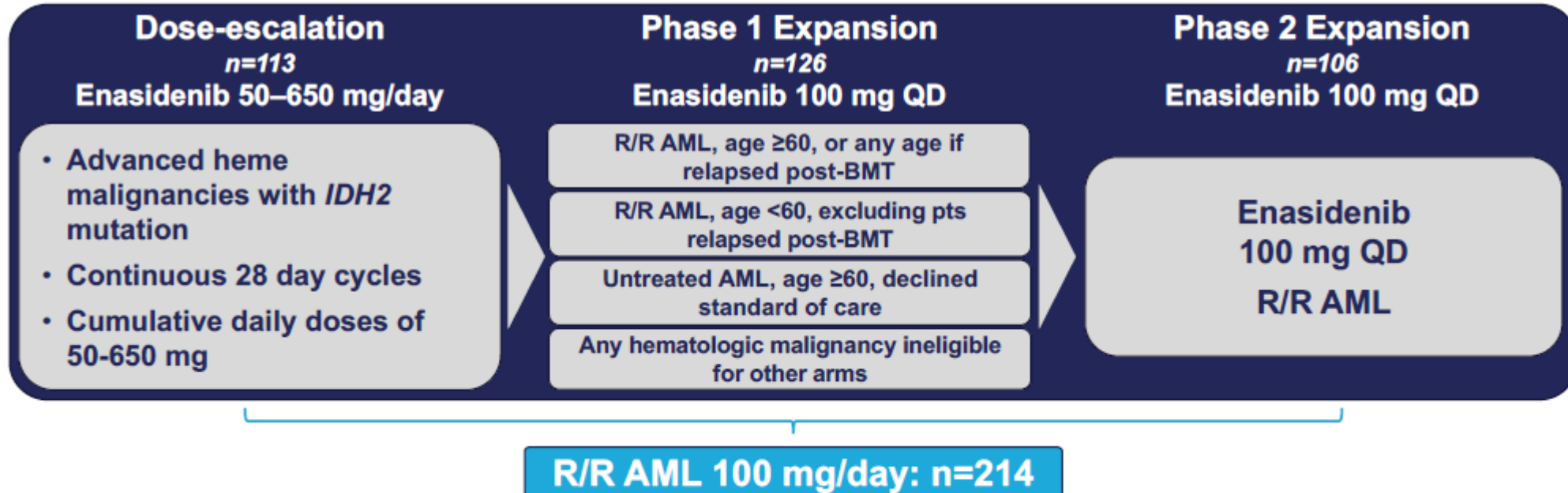
**Stein EM et al, abstract S471**

# Enasidenib: mechanism of action

- IDH2 is an enzyme of the citric acid cycle
- Mutant *IDH2* (*mIDH2*) occurs in ~12% of patients with AML<sup>1</sup>
- *mIDH2* produces 2-HG, which alters DNA methylation and leads to a block in cellular differentiation
- Enasidenib (AG-221) is a selective, oral, potent inhibitor of *mIDH2* enzyme
- Enasidenib induces differentiation of leukemic cells



# Phase 1/2 study design



## Key Endpoints:

- Safety, tolerability, MTD, DLTs
  - MTD not reached at doses up to 650 mg/day
- Responses assessed by local investigator per IWG criteria<sup>1</sup>
- Assessment of clinical activity, with focus on 100-mg daily dose in patients with R/R AML

# Outcomes

	Relapsed/Refractory AML	
	Enasidenib 100 mg/day (n=214)	All doses (N=281)
<b>Overall response rate, % [n/N]</b> [95% CI]	<b>37% (79/214)</b> [30.4, 43.8]	<b>38% (108/281)</b> [32.7, 44.4]
<b>Best response</b>		
CR, n (%) [95% CI]		<b>55 (19.6)</b> [5.1, 24.7]
CRi or CRp, n (%)		22 (7.8)
PR, n (%)		16 (5.7)
MLFS, n (%)		15 (5.3)
SD, n (%)		137 (48.8)
PD, n (%)		15 (5.3)
NE, n (%)		3 (1.1)
<b>Time to first response (mos), median (range)</b>	<b>1.9 (0.5–11.1)</b>	<b>1.9 (0.5-11.1)</b>
<b>Duration of response (mos), median [95%CI]</b>	<b>5.6 [4.6, 7.4]</b>	<b>5.6 [4.6, 6.5]</b>
<b>Time to CR (mos), median (range)</b>	<b>3.7 (0.7–11.2)</b>	<b>3.8 (0.5-11.2)</b>
<b>Duration of response in pts with CR (mos), median [95%CI]</b>	<b>8.8 [5.6, NR]</b>	<b>7.4 [6.4, 14.7]</b>

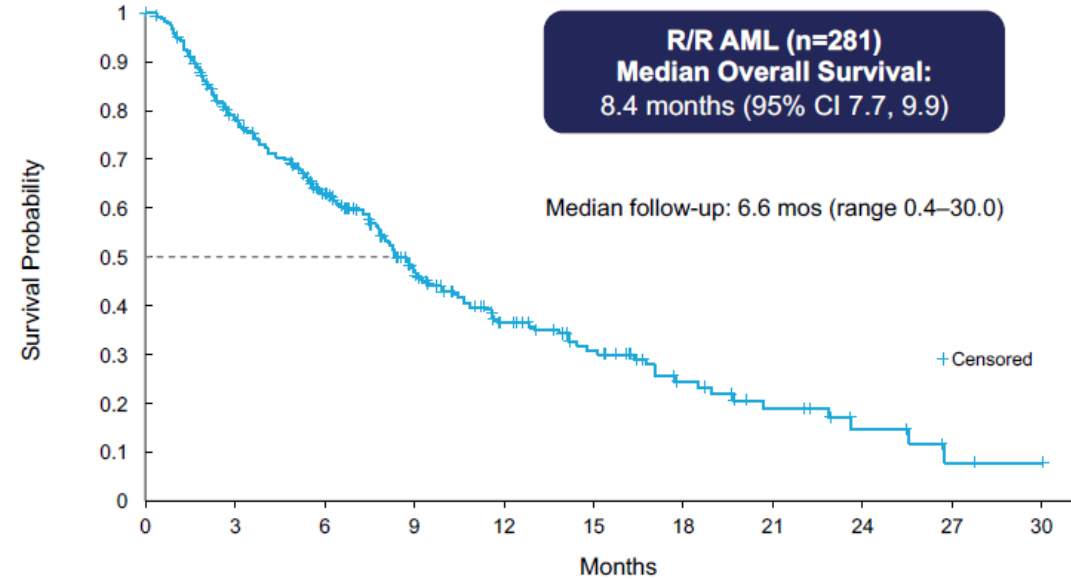
**FDA-approved August 1, 2017  
(R/R mIDH2 AML)**

**Most common Tx-related G3-4 AEs: hyperbilirub 11%, DS 7%**

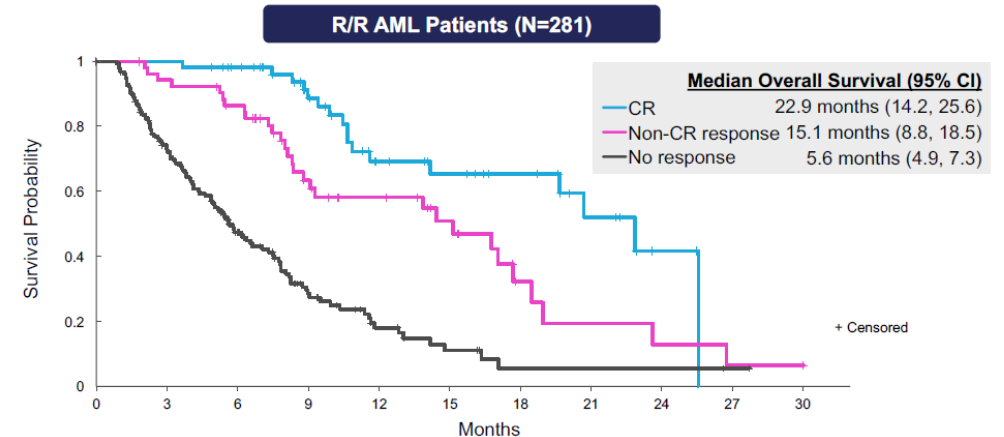
**Differentiation of AML blasts drives clinical efficacy**

**Phase 3 (ENA vs CCR) in older pts with late-stage AML**

**Phase 1/2 (ENA + chemo) in ND-AML**



**OVERALL SURVIVAL BY BEST RESPONSE**



# **Phase 1b/2 study of nivolumab in combination with azacytidine in patients with relapsed AML**

**Daver N et al, abstract S474**

# Nivolumab: an anti-PD-1 MoAb

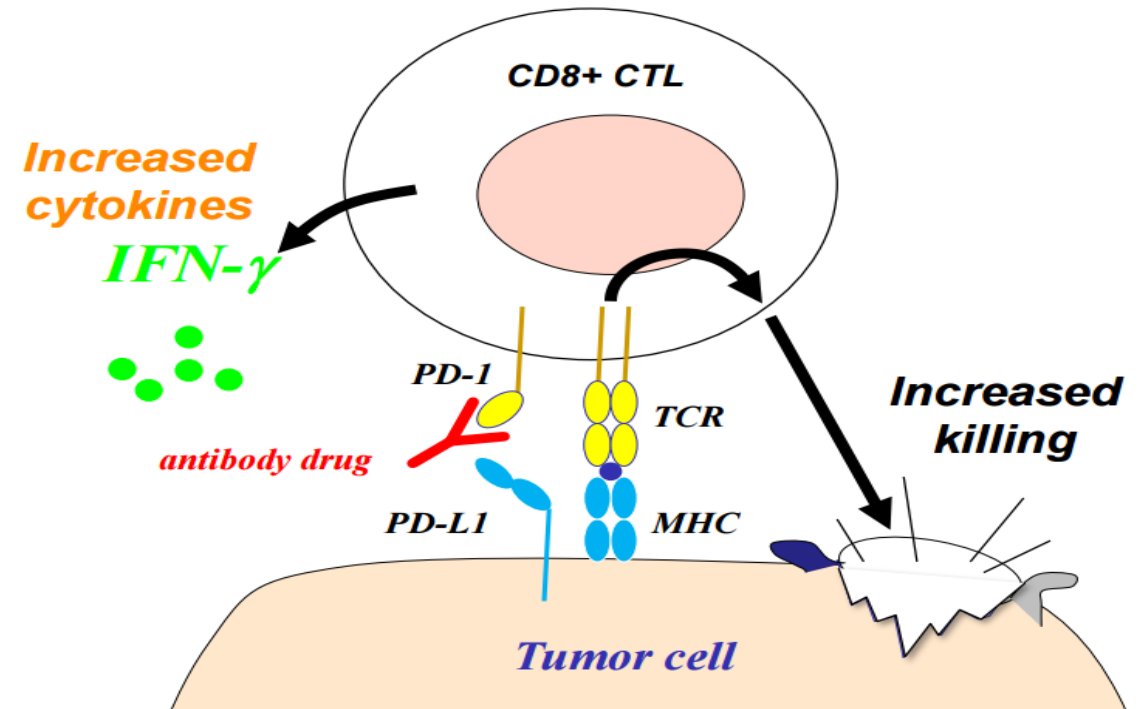
The PD-1/PD-L1 pathway plays a major role in immune evasion and CTL exhaustion in AML and MDS<sup>1,2</sup>

HMAs upregulate PD-1 and PD-L1 genes promoting resistance to epigenetic therapy<sup>3</sup>

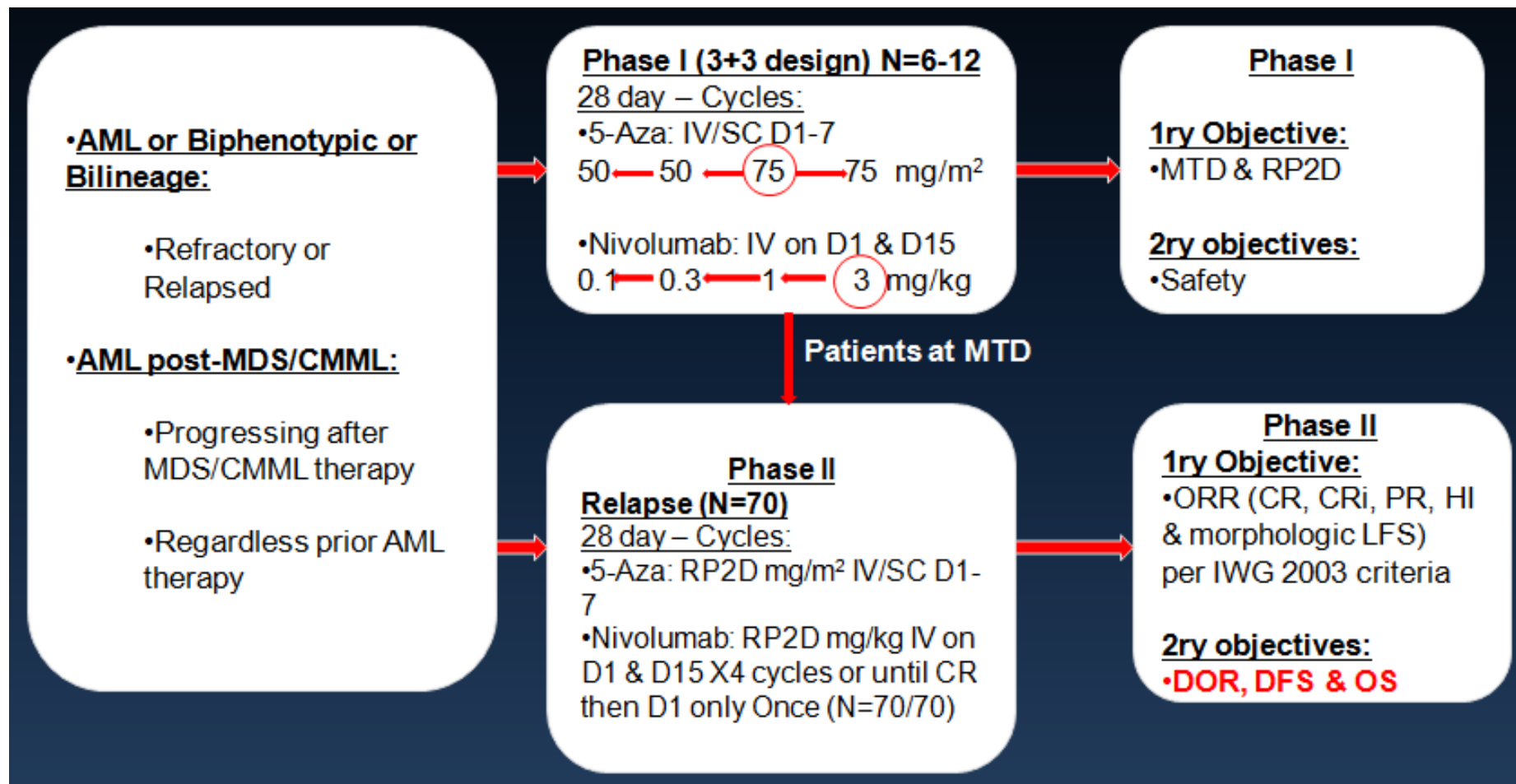
PD-1/PD-L1 blockade may improve response and abrogate resistance to HMAs

Nivolumab (OPDIVO) is a fully human MoAb that binds PD-1

**PD-1 or PD-L1 Blockade Stimulates anti-tumor T cell response**



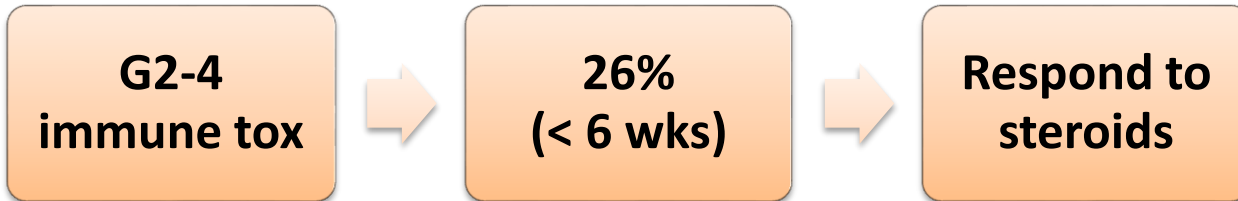
# AZA + NIVO (phase 1b/2)



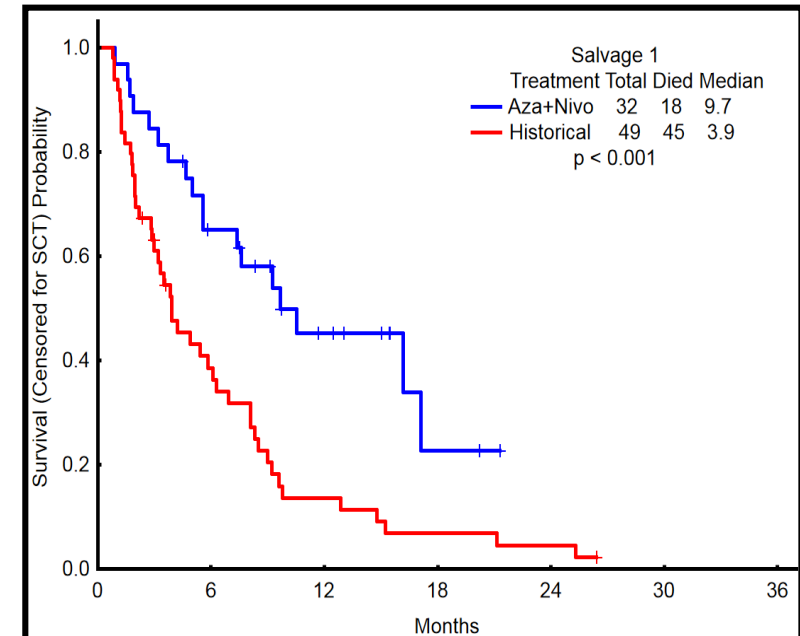
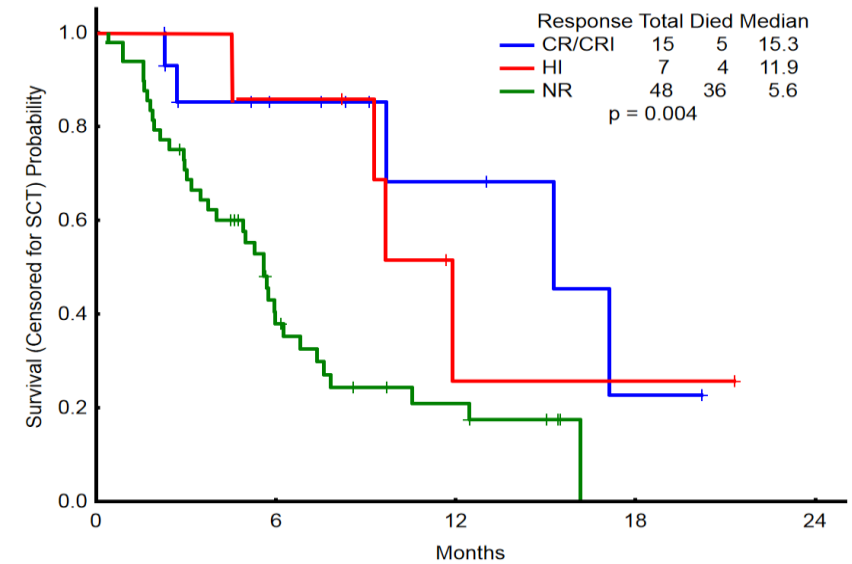


# Outcomes (N=70)

Best response / Outcome	N (%) / Med [Range]
Evaluable	70
<b>ORR</b>	<b>22 (32)</b>
CR/CRi	15 (22)
HI + 50% blast reduction (6mo+)	7 (10)
<b>50% reduction in blast</b>	<b>17 (24)</b>
<b>Progression/Stable dis (6 mo+)</b>	<b>26 (37) [21/5]</b>
<b>8-week mortality</b>	<b>5 (7)</b>
Median cycles to response	2 [1 - 13]
Median follow-up	8.6 mo [2.8 – 21.3]



Plans: 1) AZA+NIVO frontline in AML > 65y;  
2) AZA + NIVO + IPI (anti-CTLA-4)



# Temi per il gruppo di lavoro AML

- **MRD: nuovo endpoint surrogato (OS, EFS) nella AML?**
  - Quali tecnologie?; quali time-points?
- **L'era della chemio intensiva di prima linea (“AML Dogma”) è ormai prossima alla fine?**
  - *Eccellenti risultati (CR/CRi, tossicità) con nuovi farmaci mirati (Venetoclax in primis) in combinazione con HMAs o chemio a bassa intensità (LDAC) in pazienti anziani poor-risk (età/fitness, biologia)*
    - **Tutti gli anziani?**
    - **Anche nei giovani?**
    - **Chi dovrebbe continuare ad essere trattato con chemio intensiva?**