

CAR-T: Continuation in a Revolution of Cancer Therapeutics

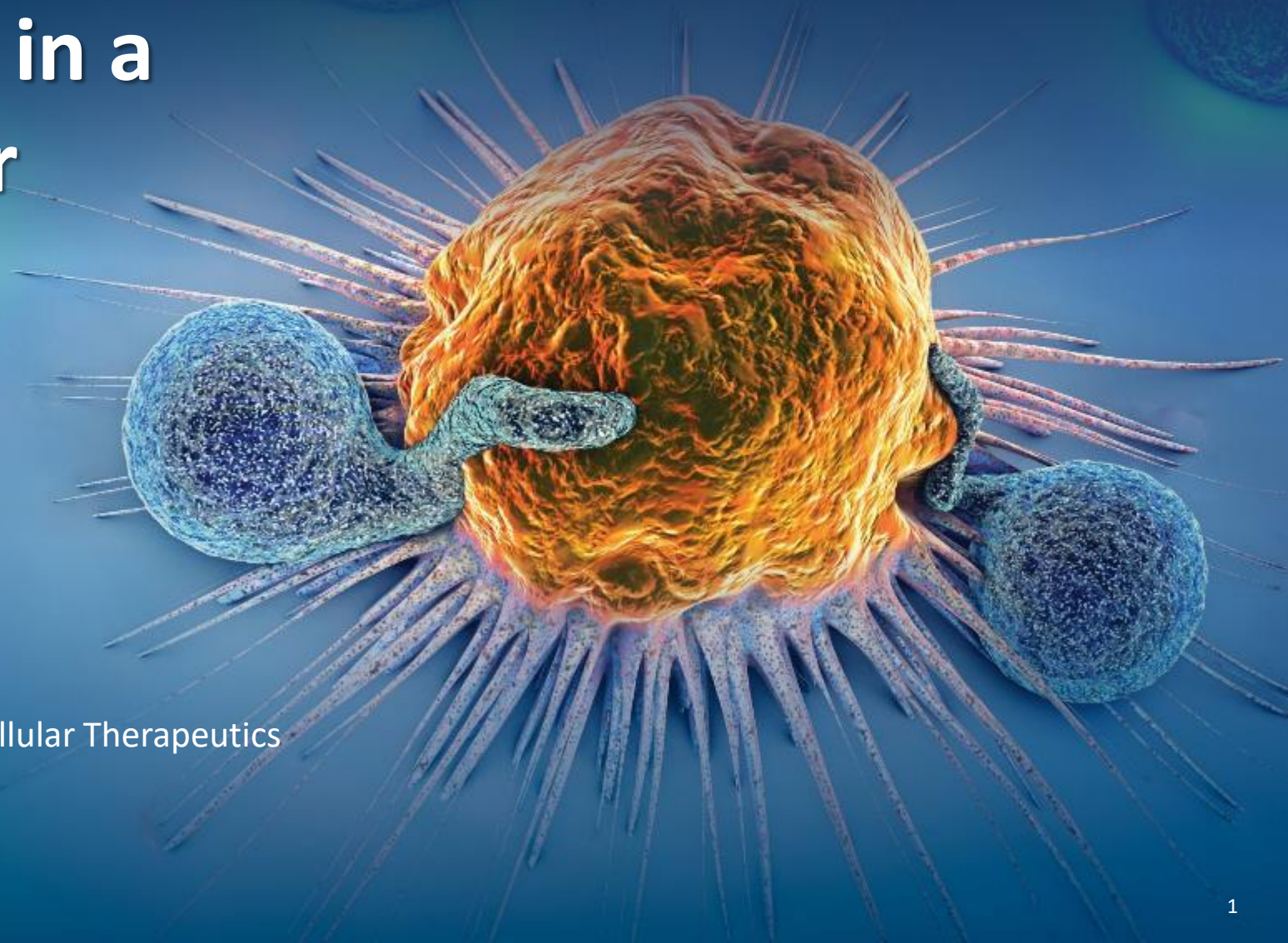
Joseph McGuirk, DO, FACP

Professor of Medicine

Schutte-Speas Professor of Hematology-Oncology

Medical Director, BMT and Cellular Therapeutics

Division Director, Hematologic Malignancies and Cellular Therapeutics

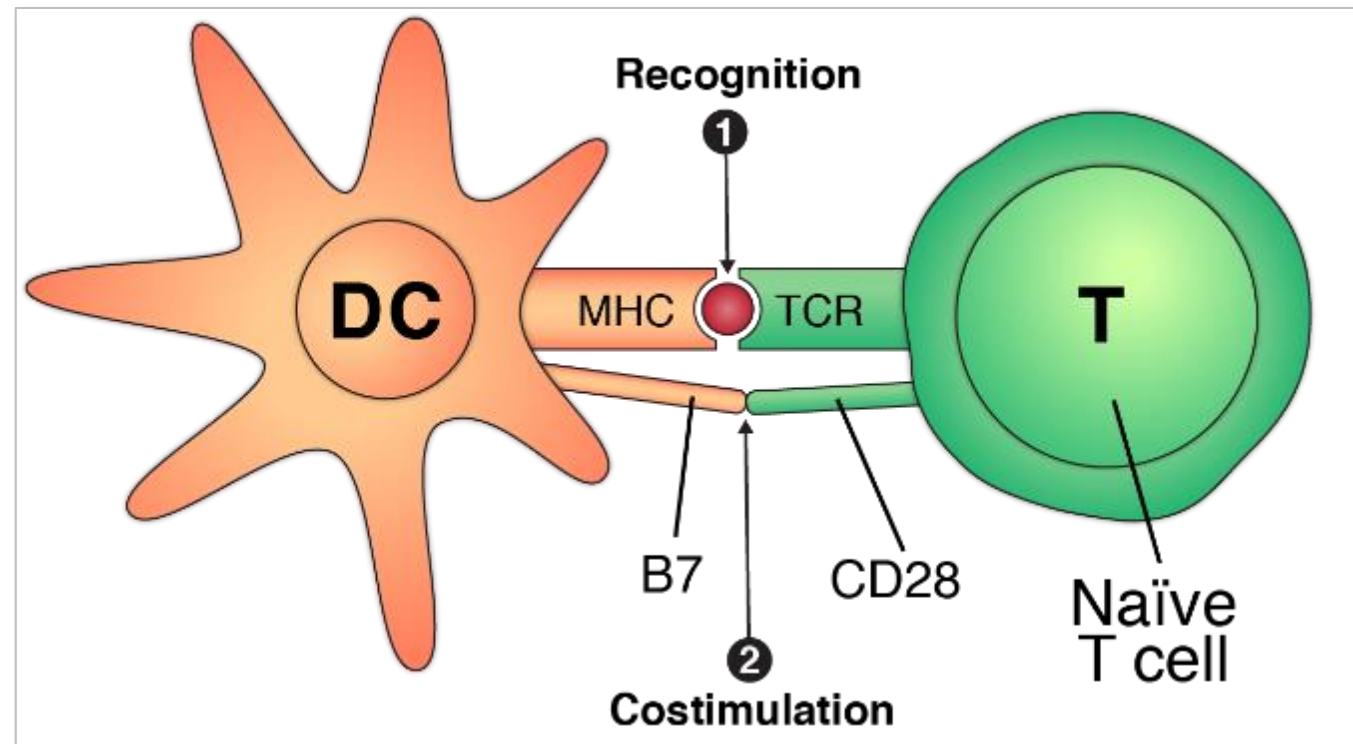


Disclosures

- **Kite**
- **AlloVir**
- **Novartis**
- **Nektar**
- **BMS**
- **Envision**
- **Caribou**
- **Sana**
- **Legend Biotech**
- **CRISPR**

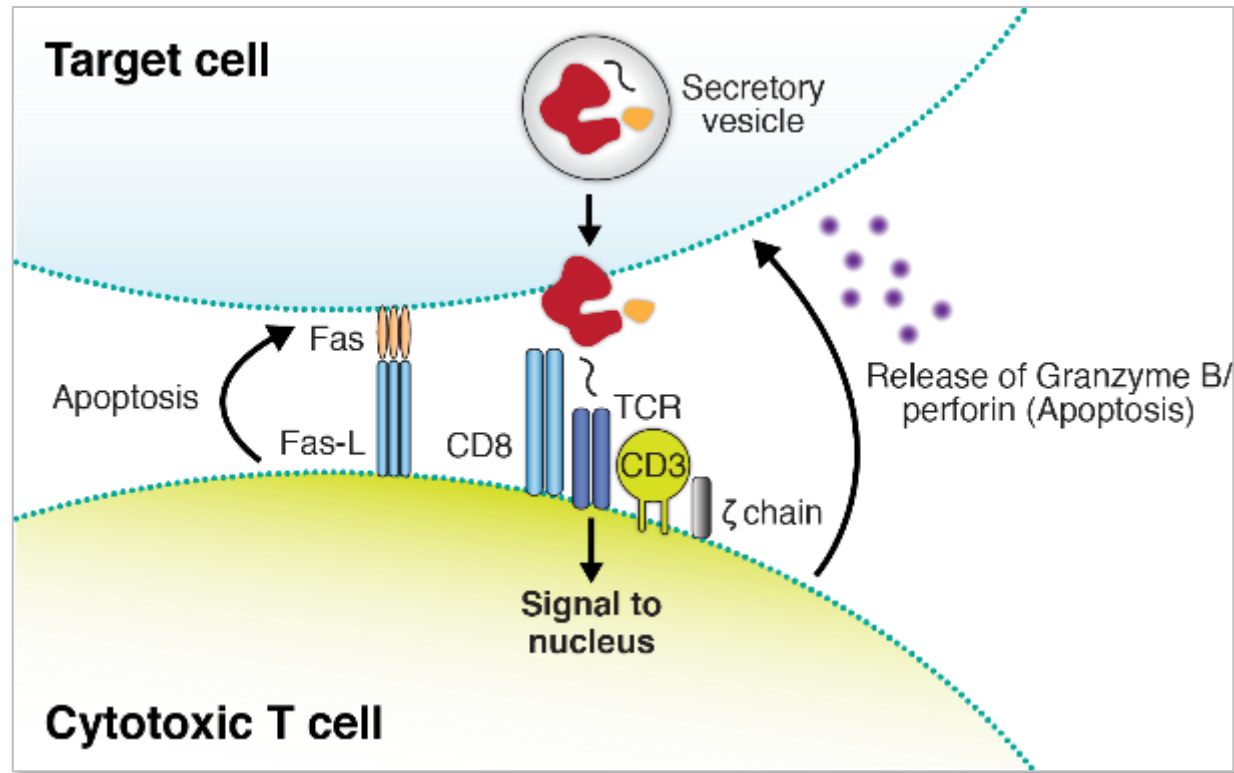
T Cell Activation

- **Signal 1: Recognition: TCR binds to MHC (or HLA):antigen**
- **Signal 2: Co-stimulation: CD28 binds to its ligand on APC**

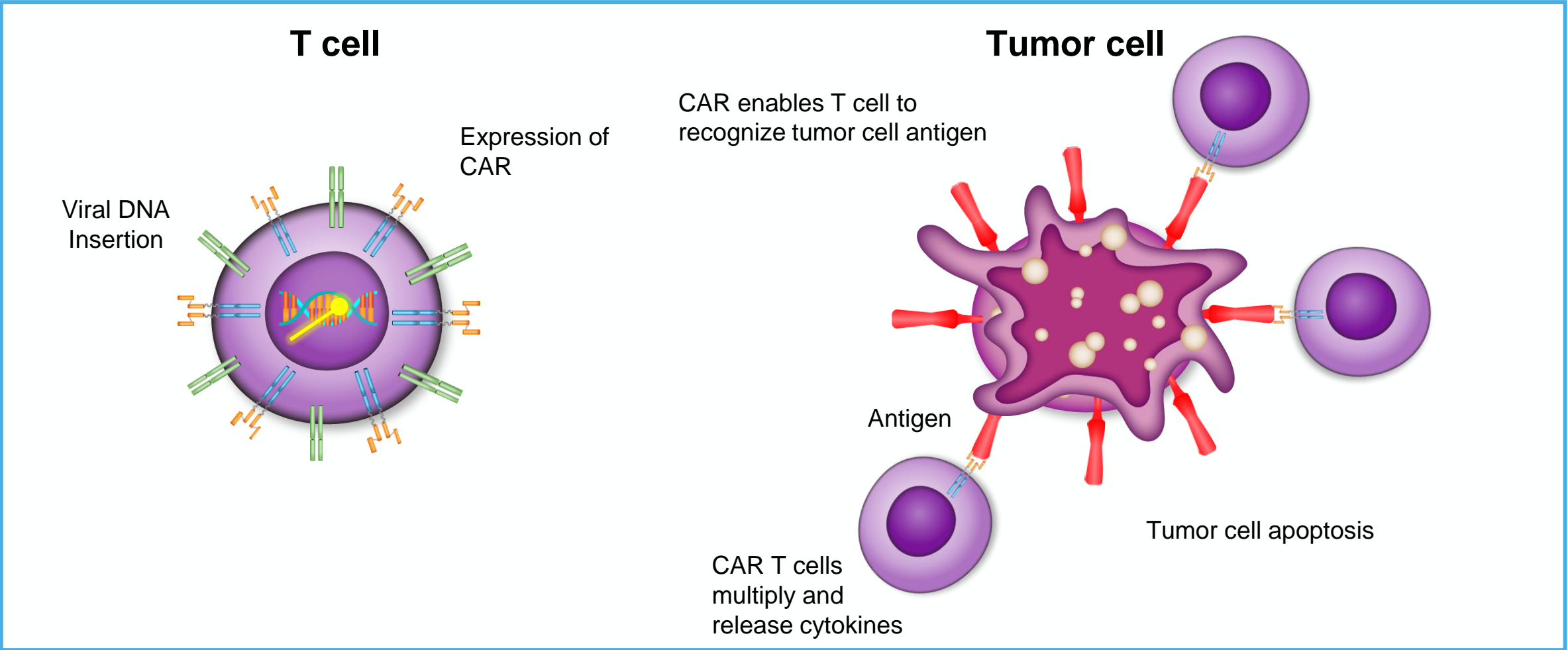


Activated T Cells: Effector CD8 CTLs

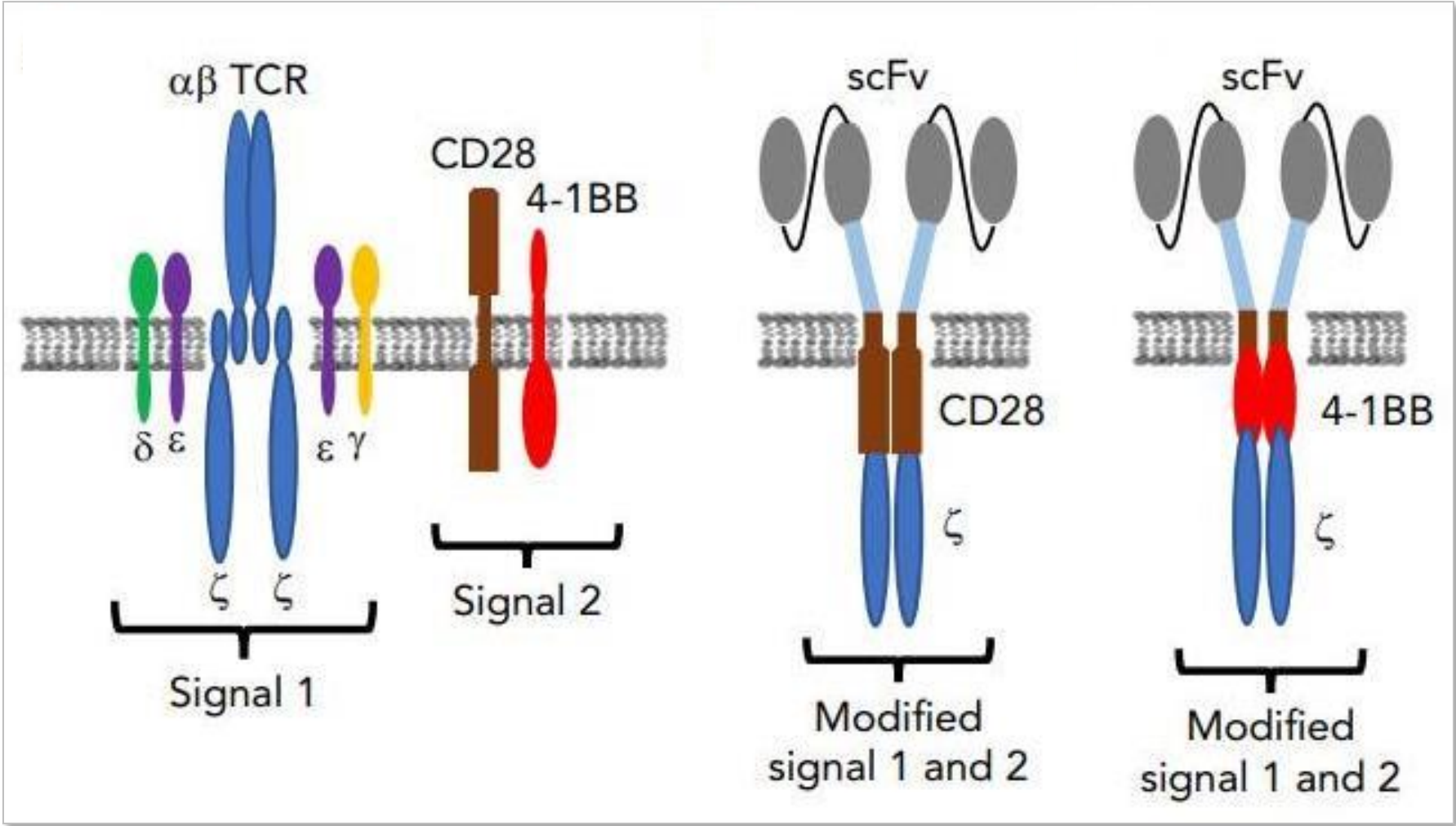
- **CTLs induce apoptosis through multiple mechanisms, including:**
 - Release of cytotoxic granules containing perforin and granzyme B
 - Surface receptor engagement such as Fas/FasL



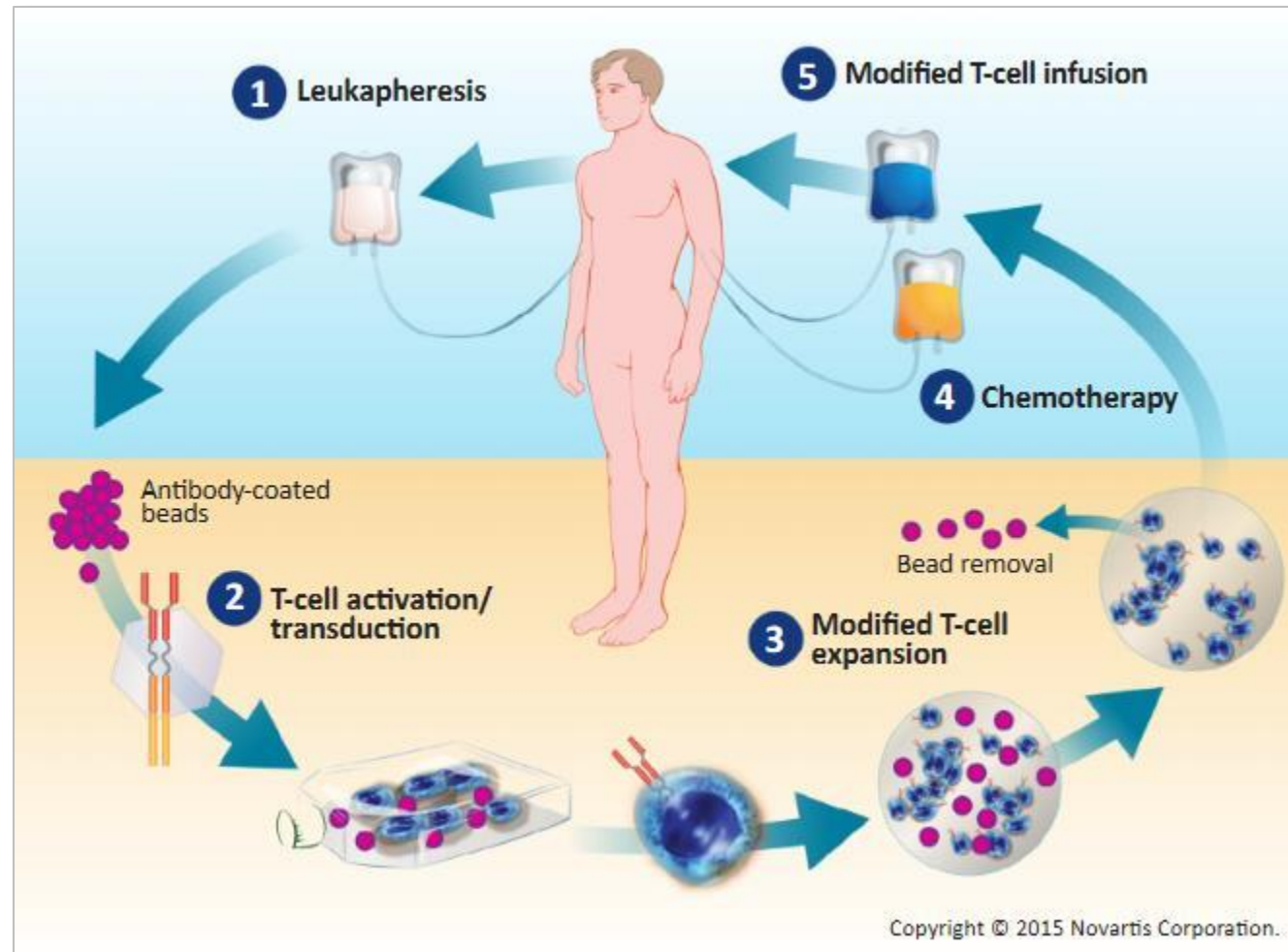
CAR T Cells: Mechanism of Action



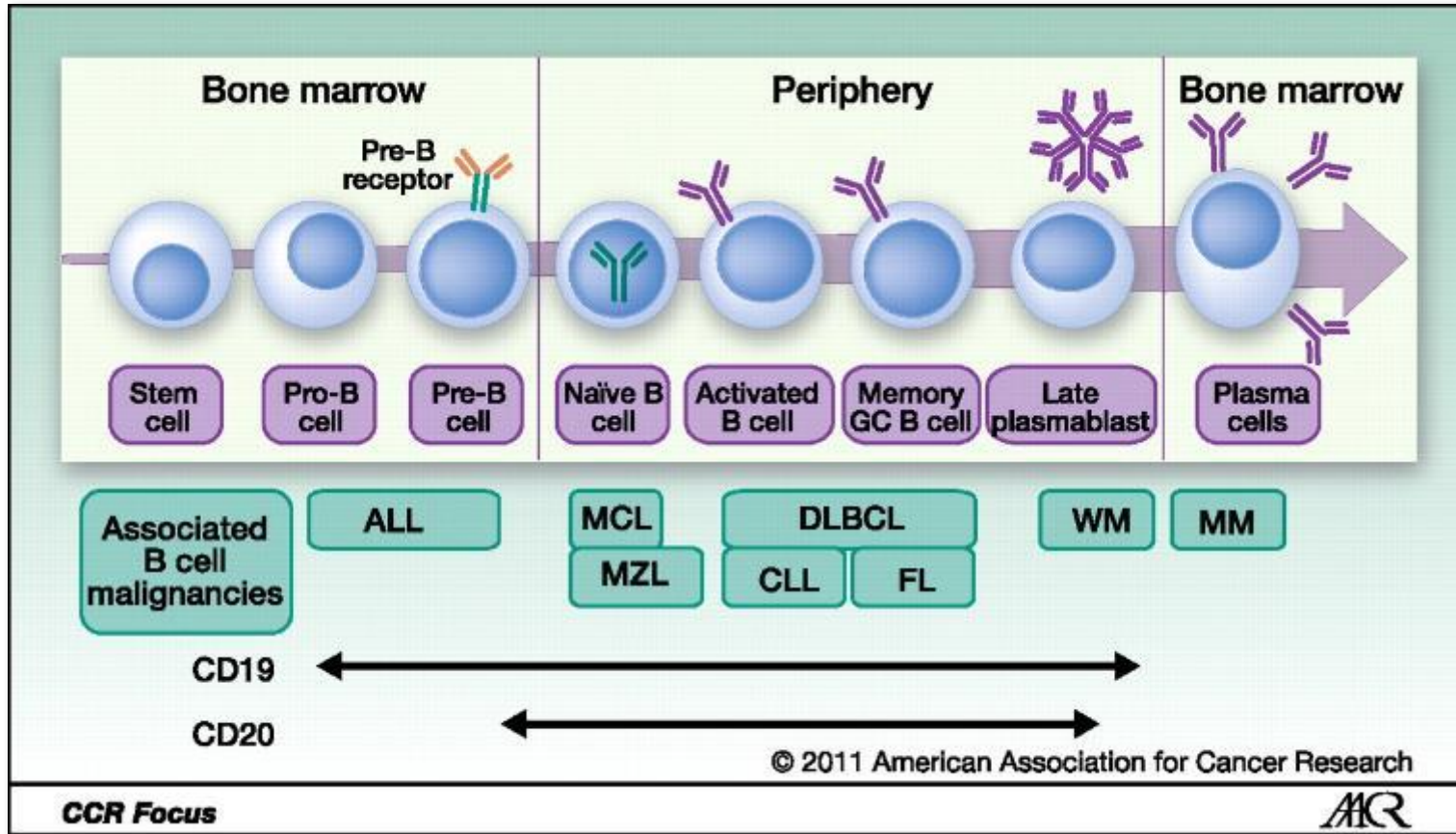
Chimeric Antigen Receptors



T-Cell Therapies- KU CAR HUB Team

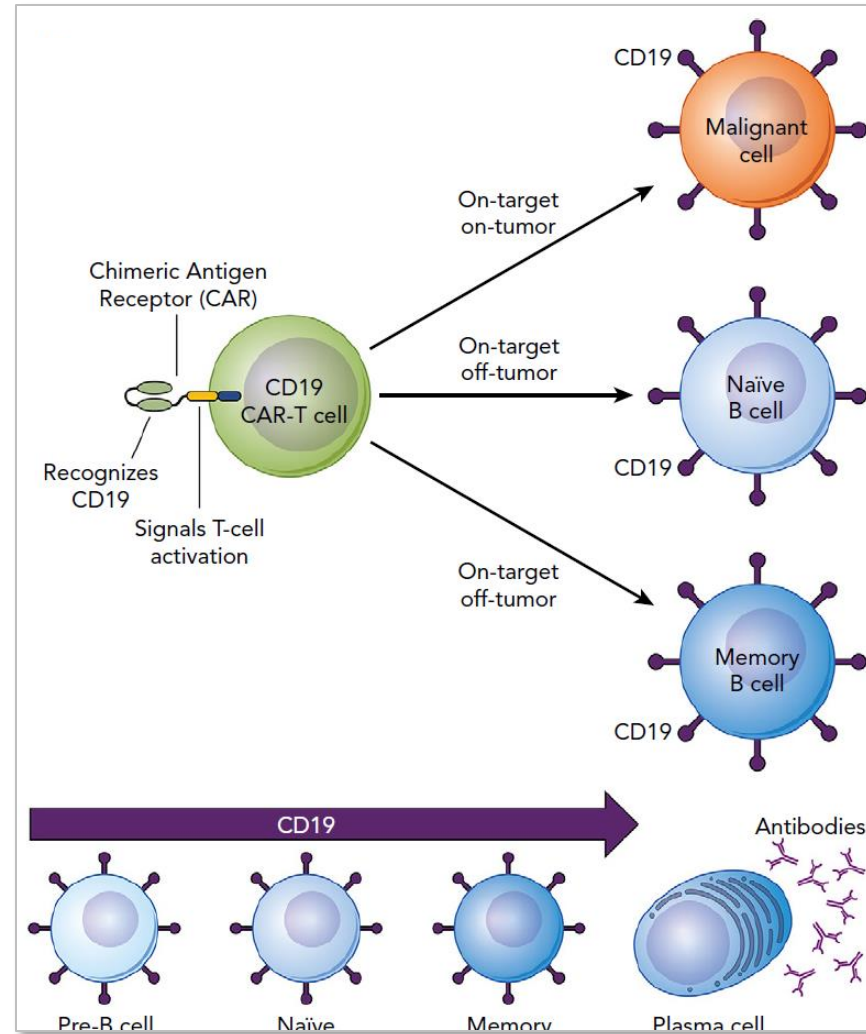


Rationale for CD19 as a CAR T-Cell Therapy Target



- CD19 is expressed on precursor and mature B-cells
- Not expressed on BM stem cells or other tissues
- Present on a wide range of B-cell malignancies

On-target, off-tumor side-effects of CD19-targeted CAR T-cell therapy



J Hill and S. Seo. Blood (2020) 136 (8): 925–935

The Revolution of Immunotherapy

ASCO Cancer.Net

CAR T-Cell Immunotherapy:
The 2018 Advance of the Year



ASCO
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF
CLINICAL ONCOLOGY

Clinical Cancer
Advances
2018

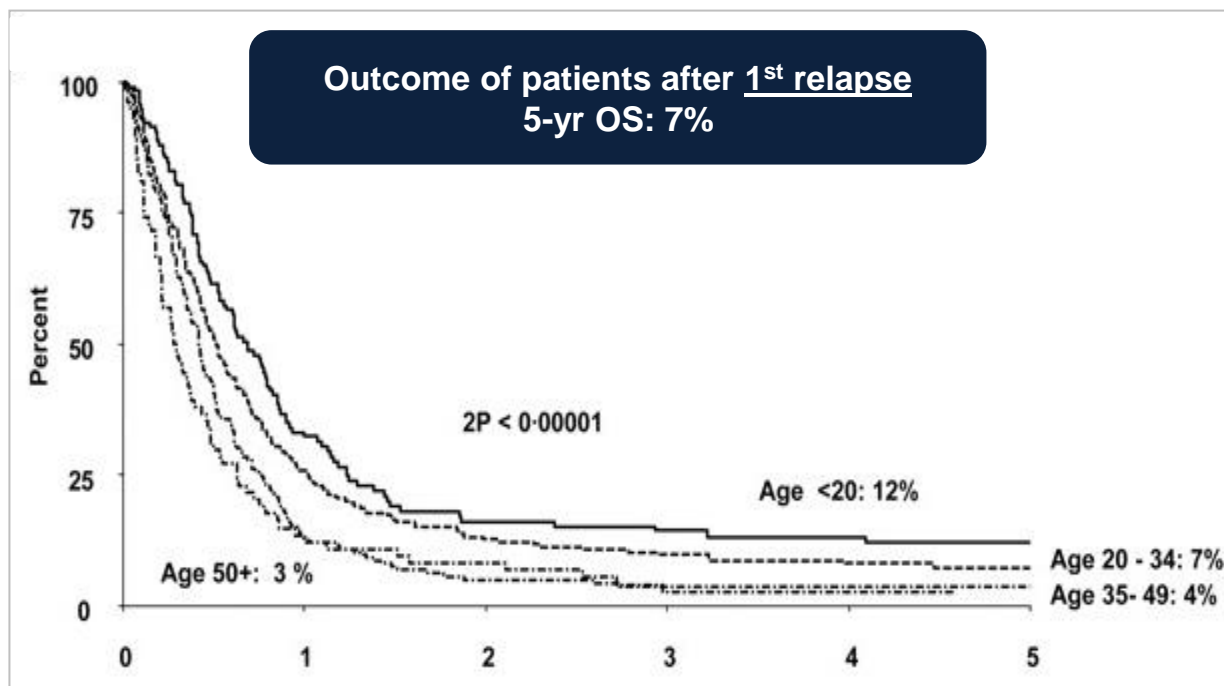
ASCO'S ANNUAL REPORT ON PROGRESS AGAINST CANCER

The cover features a collage of images: a man with glasses, a doctor with a patient, a DNA helix, a family, and a doctor with a patient. A large green arrow points from the text to the central image of a doctor.



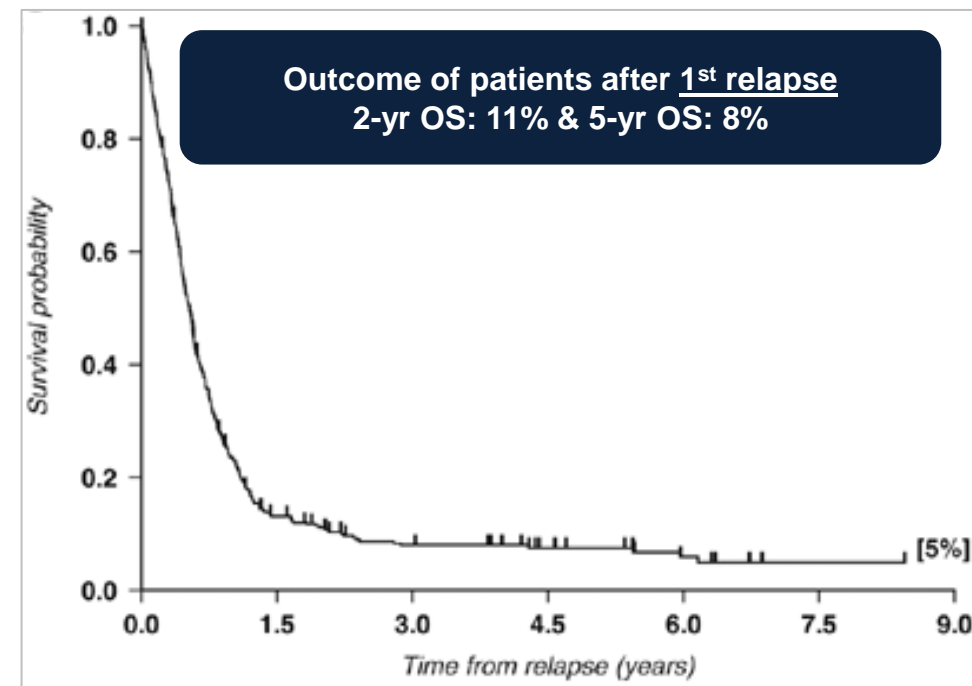
Poor Prognosis of Relapsed ALL in Adults

MRC UKALL2/ ECOG2993 Study (n=609)



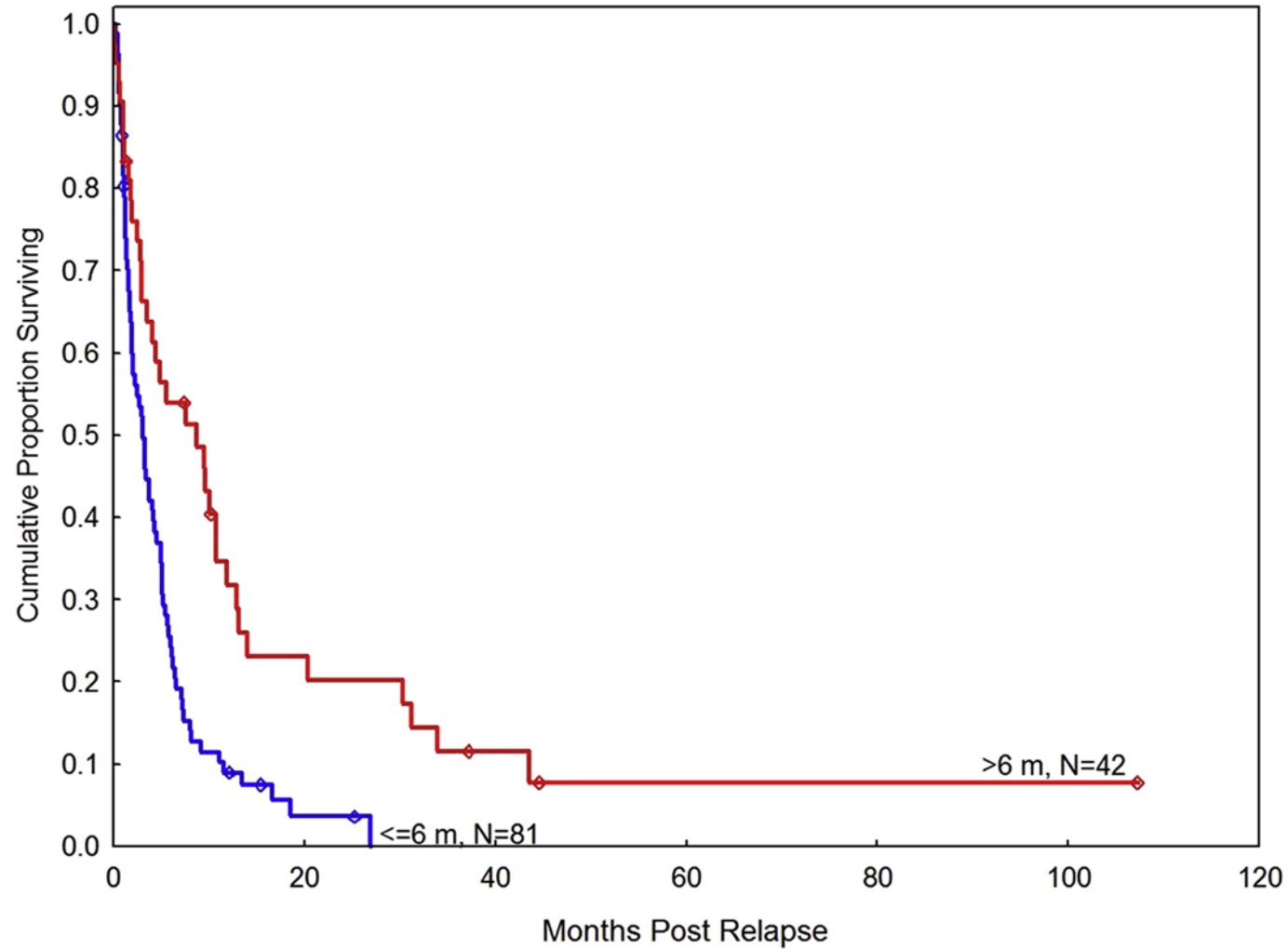
Fielding A, et al. Blood 2007;109(3):944-950

LALA-94 Study (n=421)



Tavernier E, et al. Leukemia 2007;21:1907-1914

Outcomes for Adults with Relapsed ALL after Allogeneic SCT



Poon, et al. BBMT 2013;19, 1064

Survival Rates

Tisagenlecleucel in Children and Young Adults with B-Cell Lymphoblastic Leukemia

N=75
Median F/U= 31.1 months
Allo-SCT= 61%

CR	61/75	81%
RFS	6 months	80%
	12 months	59%
EFS	6 months	73%
	12 months	50%
OS	6 months	90%
	12 months	76%

Maude SL, et al. N Engl J Med. 2018 Feb 1;378(5):439-448.

Long-Term Follow-up of CD19 CAR Therapy in Adult Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia

N= 53
Median F/U= 29 months
Allo-SCT= 36%

CR	44 (83%)
Median EFS	6.1 months
Median OS	12.9 months

Park JH et al. N Engl J Med. 2018 Feb 1;378(5):449-459.

Brexucabtagene Zuma-3 Adult Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia

N= 116
Median F/U= 16.4 months
Allo-SCT= 45%

CR	71%
Median DOR	12.8 months
Median OS	18.2 months

Shad, BD, et al. The Lancet

FDA Approval

Emily is now 8 years cancer free after successful CAR T cell therapy treating her leukemia

emilywhiteheadfoundation.org





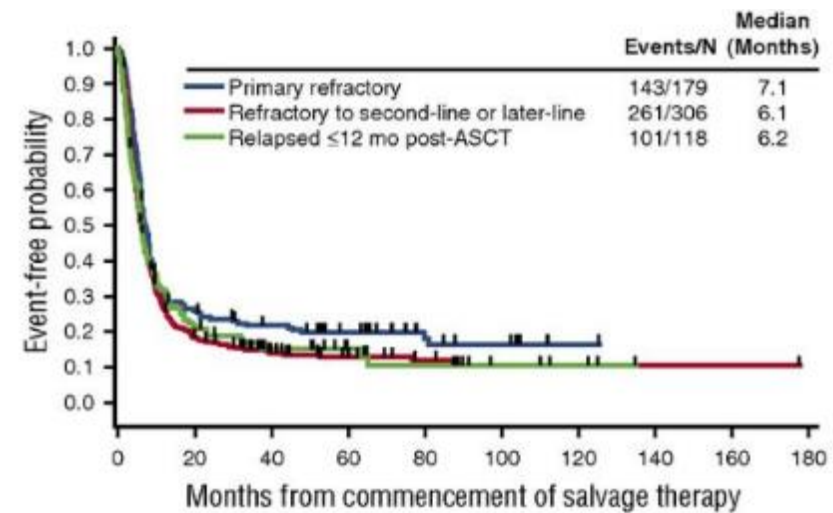
SCHOLAR-1: The First and Largest Patient-Level Meta-Analysis of Chemorefractory DLBCL

SCHOLAR-1: is a retrospective analysis of 636 patients with refractory DLBCL

Integrated data from:

- **Two large phase 3 studies**
 - LYSARC-CORAL
 - Canadian Cancer Trials Group-LY.12
- **Two observational cohorts**
 - MD Anderson Cancer Center
 - Mayo Clinic/University of Iowa

**Median OS was 6.3 months
(95% CI, 5.9-7.0)**



The pooled CR was 7%

Multicenter CD19 CAR T-cell Trials in Aggressive NHL

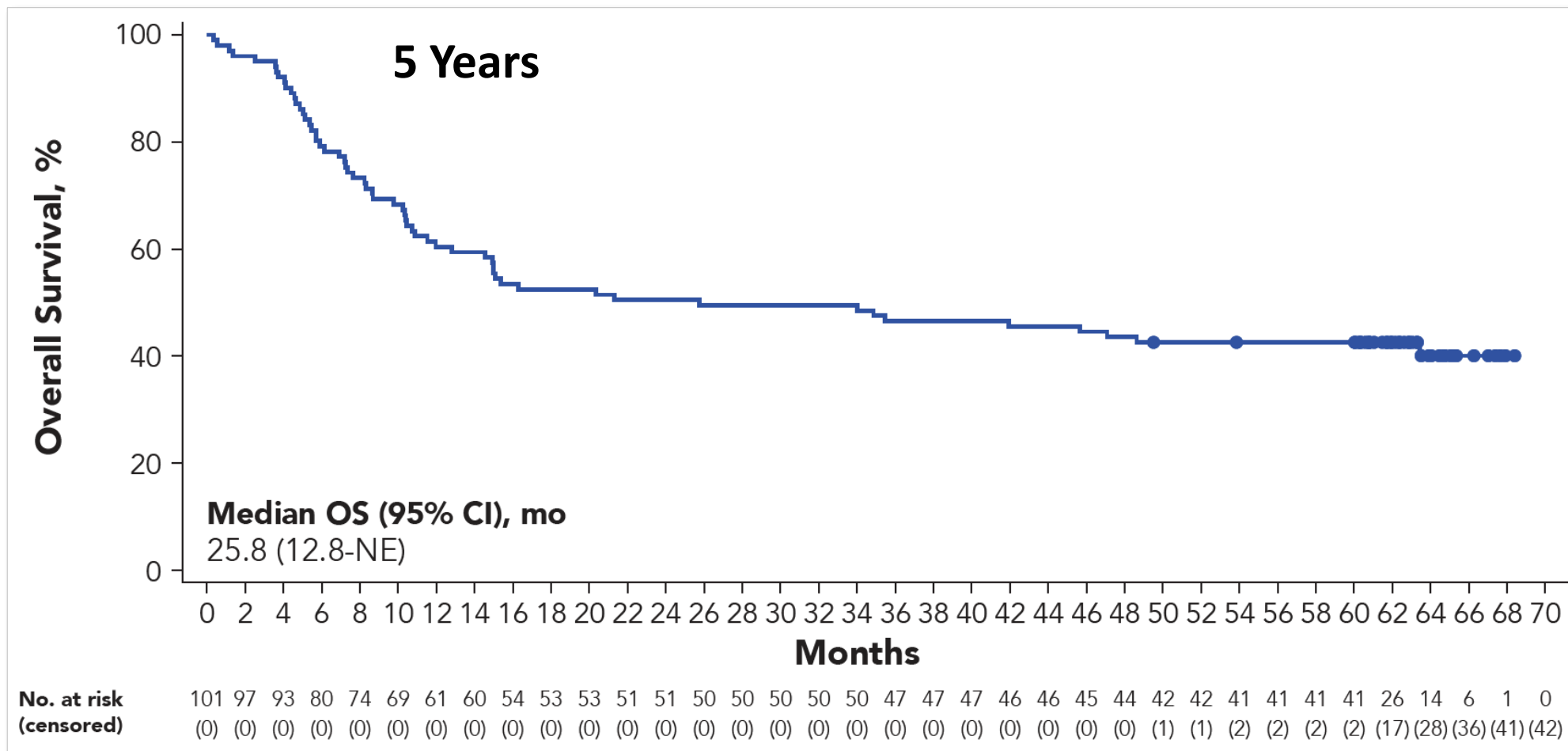
Study / Sponsor	ZUMA1 / Kite	JULIET / Novartis	TRANSCEND / Juno
Reference	Neelapu et al, NEJM 2017	Schuster, McGuirk, et al, NEJM 2018	Abramson et al, ASH 2019
CAR T design	CD19/CD3 ζ /CD28	CD19/CD3 ζ /4-1BB	CD19/CD3 ζ /4-1BB
CAR T dose	2 x 10 ⁶ /kg	0.6-6 x 10 ⁸	0.5-1.5 x 10 ⁸
Conditioning therapy	Cy/Flu	Cy/Flu or Bendamustine	Cy/Flu
Lymphoma subtypes	DLBCL / PMBCL / TFL	DLBCL / TFL	DLBCL/PMBCL/TFL/FL Gr 3B
Treated/Enrolled	101/111 (91%)	111/165 (67%)	268/342 (78%)
Relapsed/Refractory	Refractory	Relapsed or refractory	Relapsed or refractory
Relapse post-ASCT	21%	49%	34%
Bridging therapy	0%	92%	59%
Median Time from apheresis to CAR T	17 days (to CAR T delivery)	54 days (to CAR T infusion)	24 days ("optimized subset")
ORR / CR (%)	83 / 58	52 / 40	73 / 53

↓
FDA Approved

↓
FDA Approved

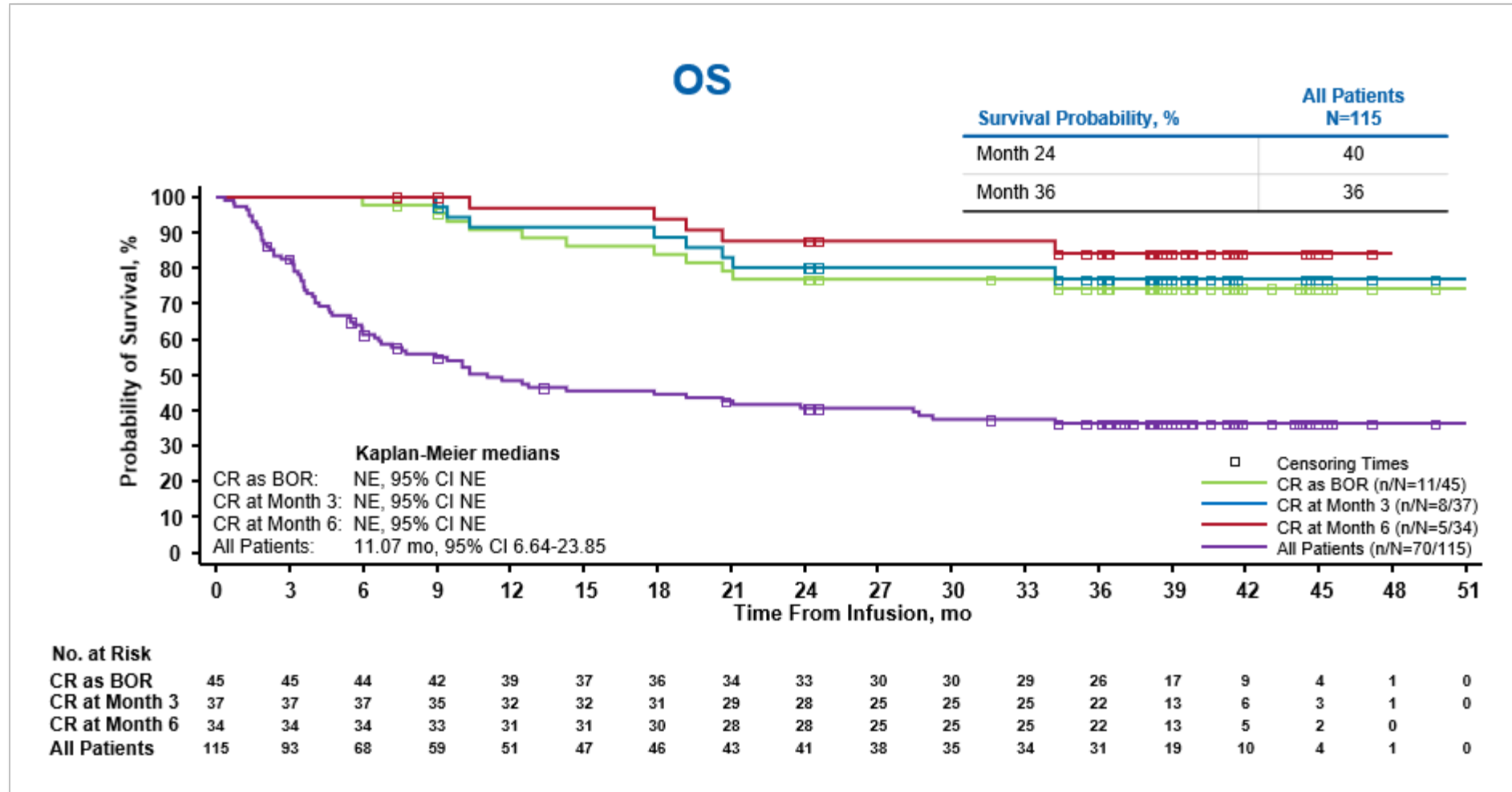
↓
FDA Approved

ZUMA-1 (Axicabtagene): Overall Survival



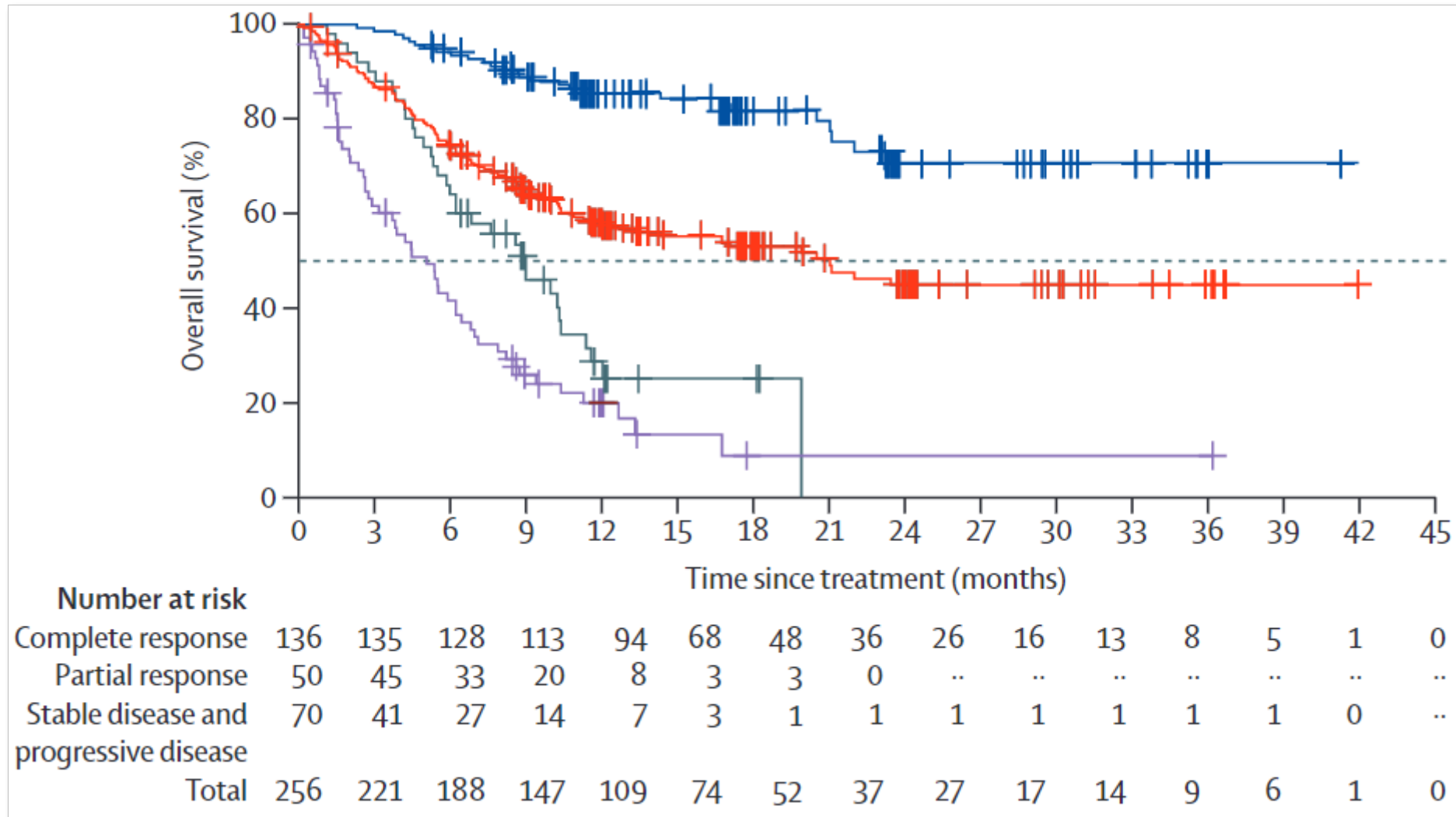
Jacobson CA, et al. ASH 2021, Abstract 1764

JULIET (Tisagenlecleucel): Overall Survival



Juliet 40-Month ASH 2020

TRANSCEND (Lisocabtagene): Overall Survival



Abramson, J; et al, The Lancet, Vol 396, Sept 19, 2020

Real-world efficacy and safety outcomes with axi-cel in patients with r/r large B-cell lymphoma comparable to the ZUMA-1 clinical trial

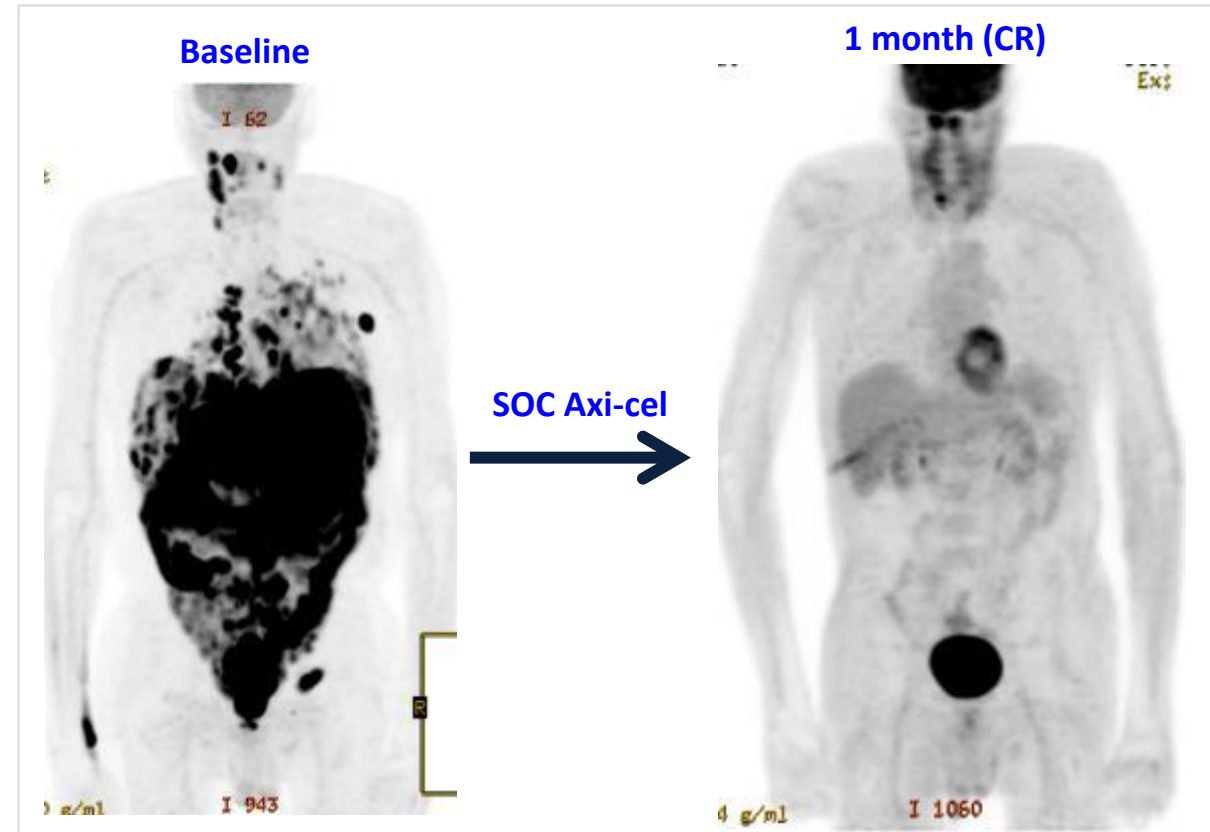
68 yo M with DLBCL-GCB

Prior therapies – 7

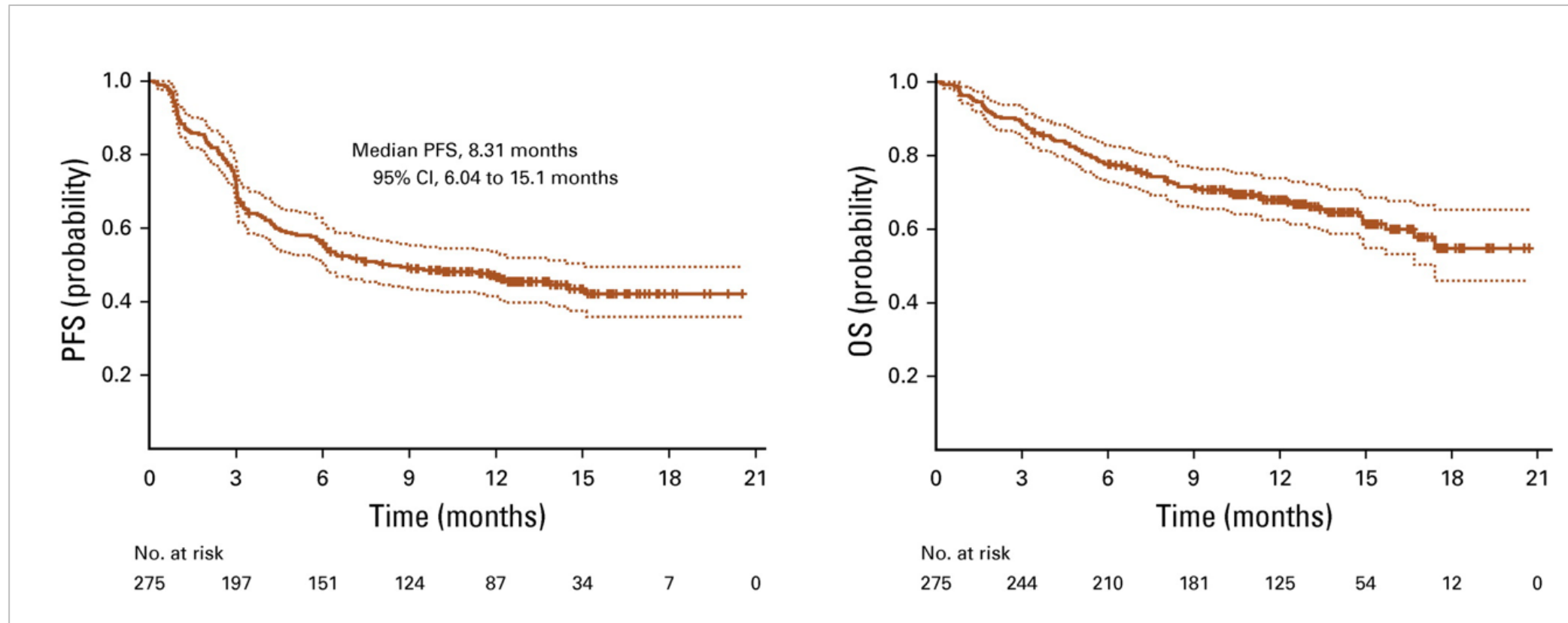
- R-CHOP
- ICE → Zevalin
- R-ESHAP
- R-Hypercytozan
- Gemcitabine
- Bendamustine
- R-Hypercytozan

Co-morbidities

- ECOG PS 3
- EF – 45%
- Pulmonary embolism
- GI bleed
- Obstructive jaundice → Biliary catheter



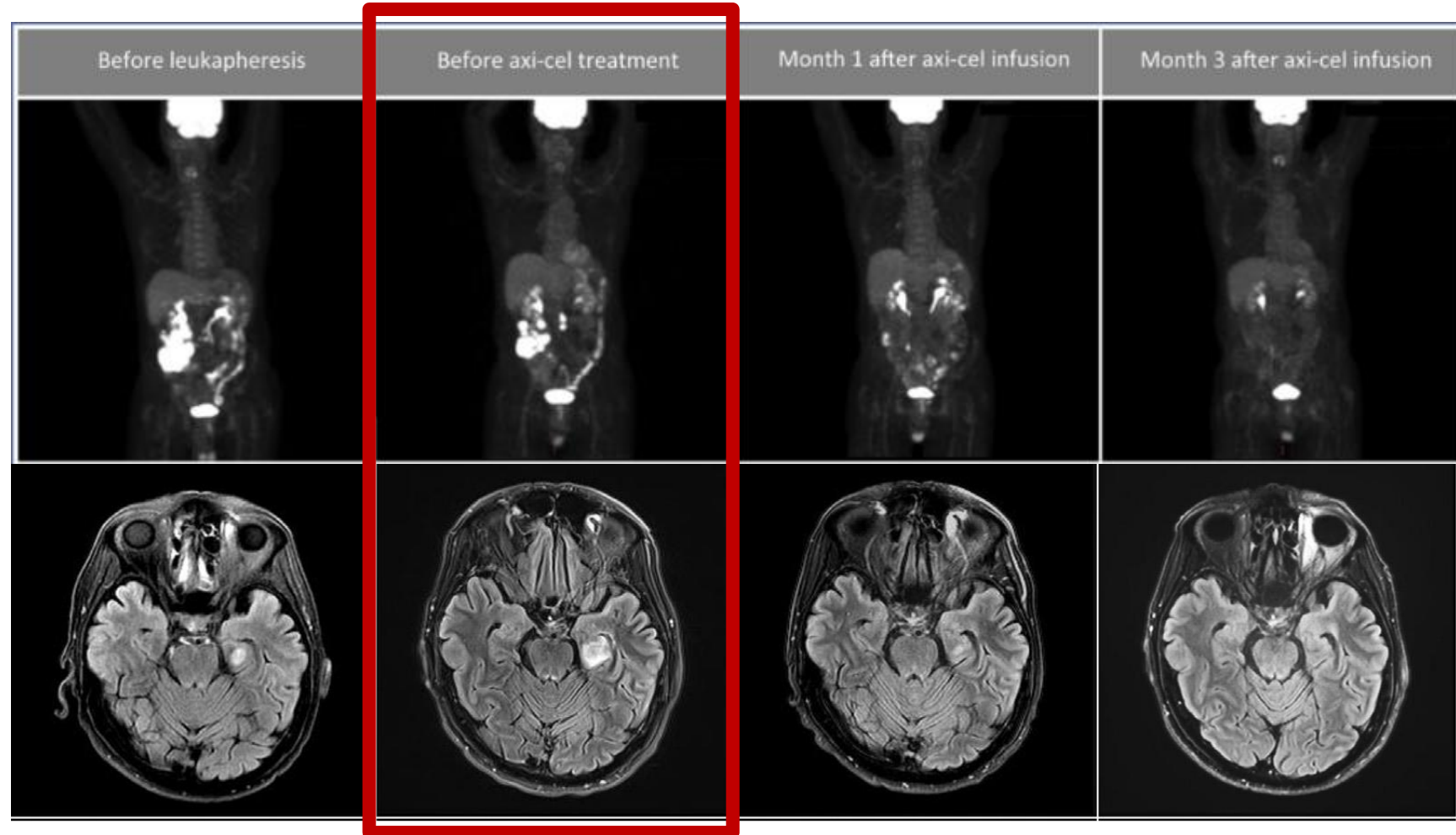
Axicabtagene Ciloleucel CD19 Chimeric Antigen Receptor (CAR) T-cell Therapy for Relapsed/Refractory Large B-cell Lymphoma: Real World Experience



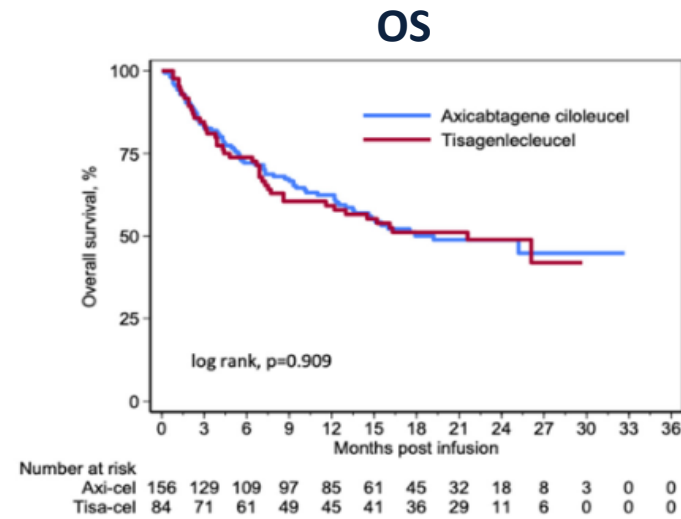
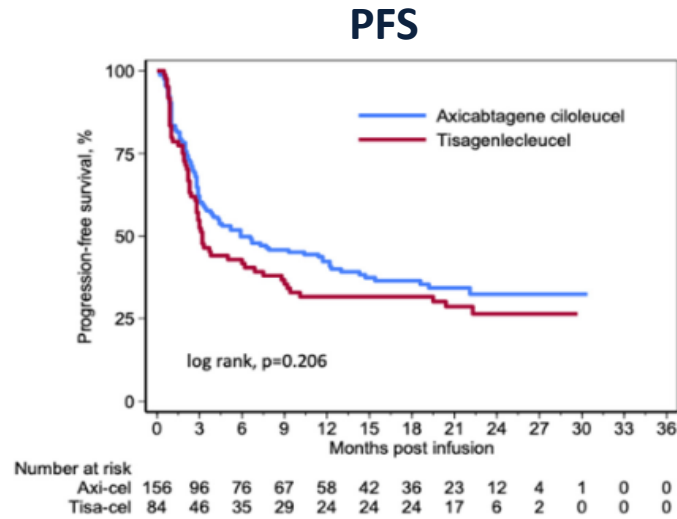
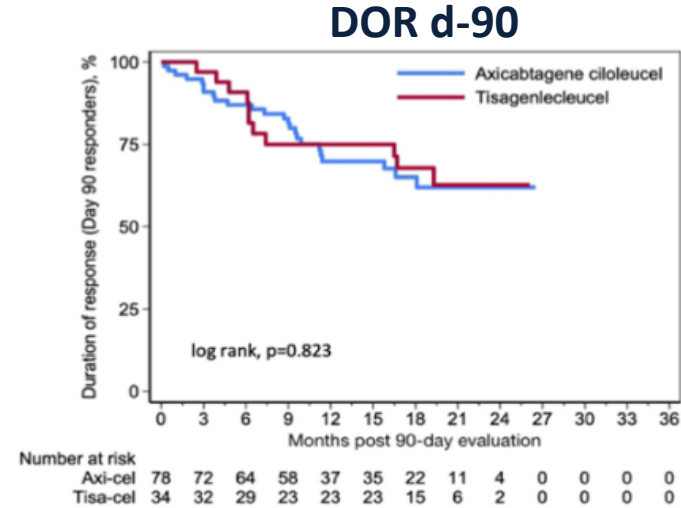
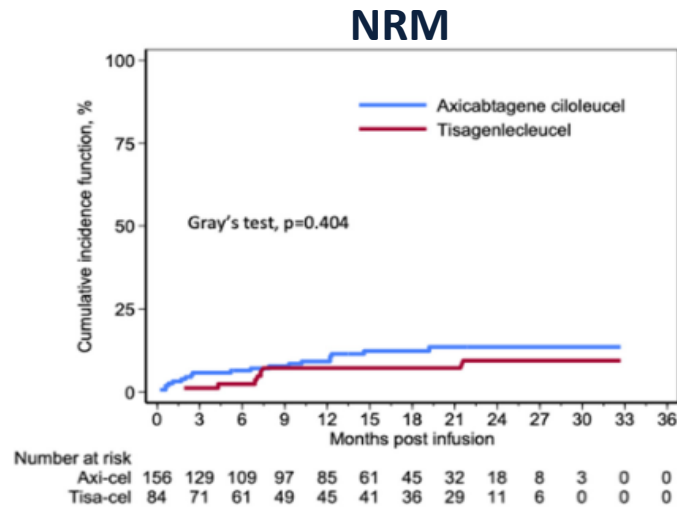
Loretta J. Nastoupil, Joseph McGuirk, et al. J Clin Oncol. 2020 May 13

Response Post Axi-Cel Infusion

- **Complete response**
 - By day 30 for CNS disease
 - By 3 months for systemic disease
- **He remains in CR 1 year post infusion**



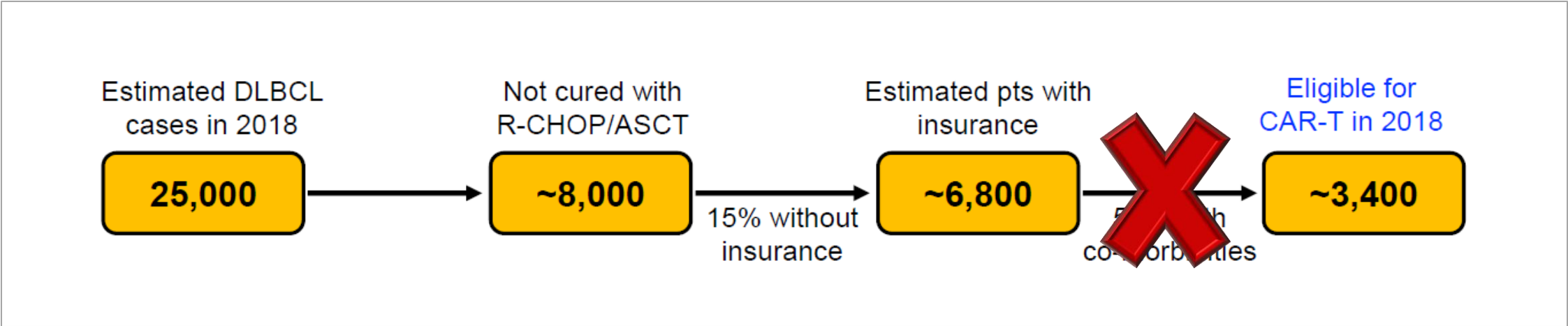
Patterns of Use, Outcomes, and Resource Utilization Among Recipients of Commercial Axicabtagene Ciloleucel and Tisagenlecleucel for Relapsed/Refractory Aggressive B-Cell Lymphomas



Riedell, P., McGuirk, J. et al. In Press TCT



Real-World CAR T Adoption has been slow in US

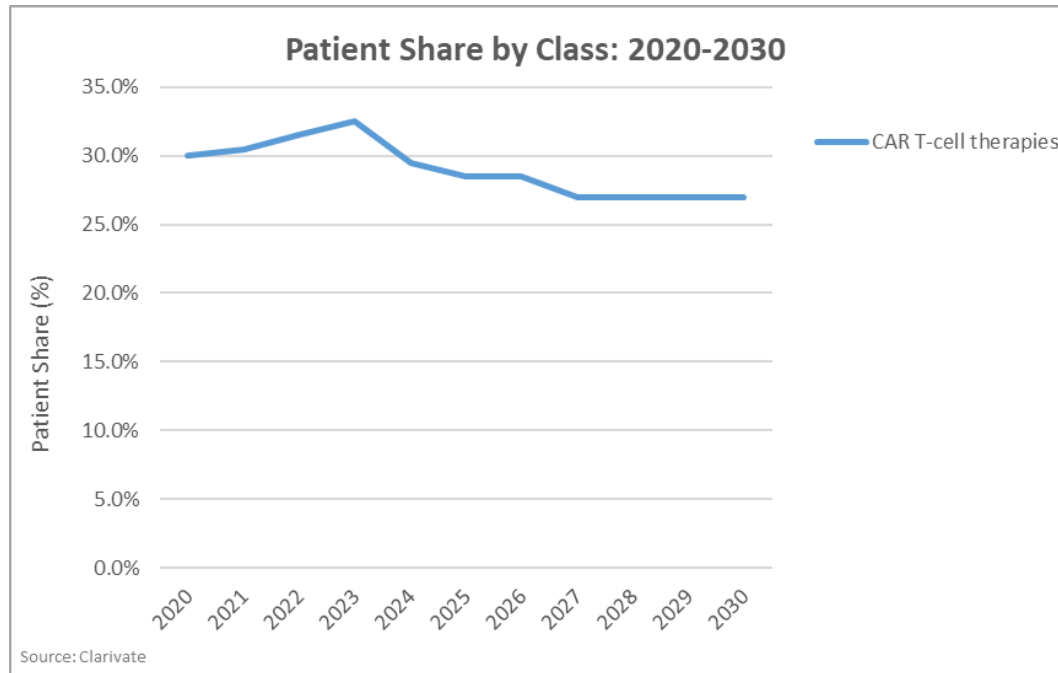


Number of patients treated with axi-cel in 2018 ~700

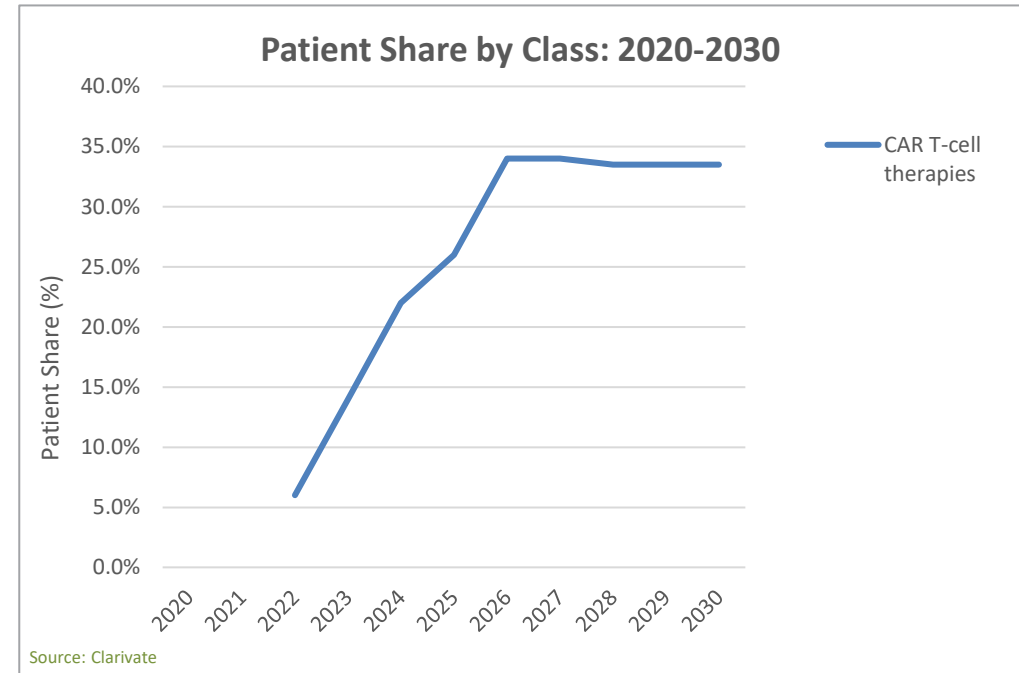
Jacobson, et al. 2019 ASH Abstracts 4107

Access Barriers to Autologous CAR T therapies

3L DLBCL - United States

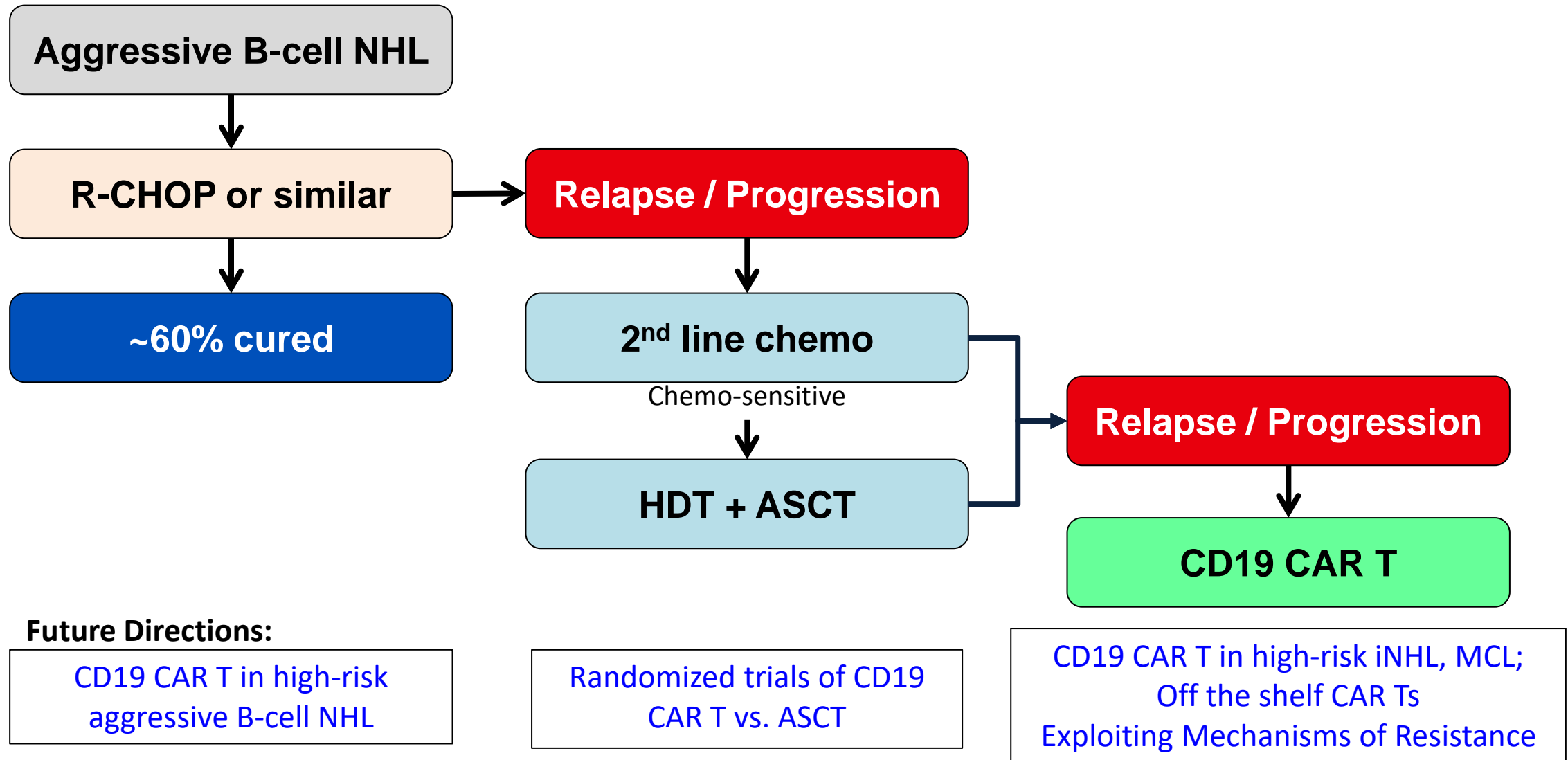


2L DLBCL – United States



Source: Clarivate Analytics

CD19 CAR T in NHL: Current Management of DLBCL



Global Randomized CAR T Studies in R/R DLBCL

ZUMA-7

TRANSFORM

BELINDA

VS

Autologous Stem Cell Transplant

CD19-Directed CAR-T Cell Therapy Versus Standard of Care in 2L

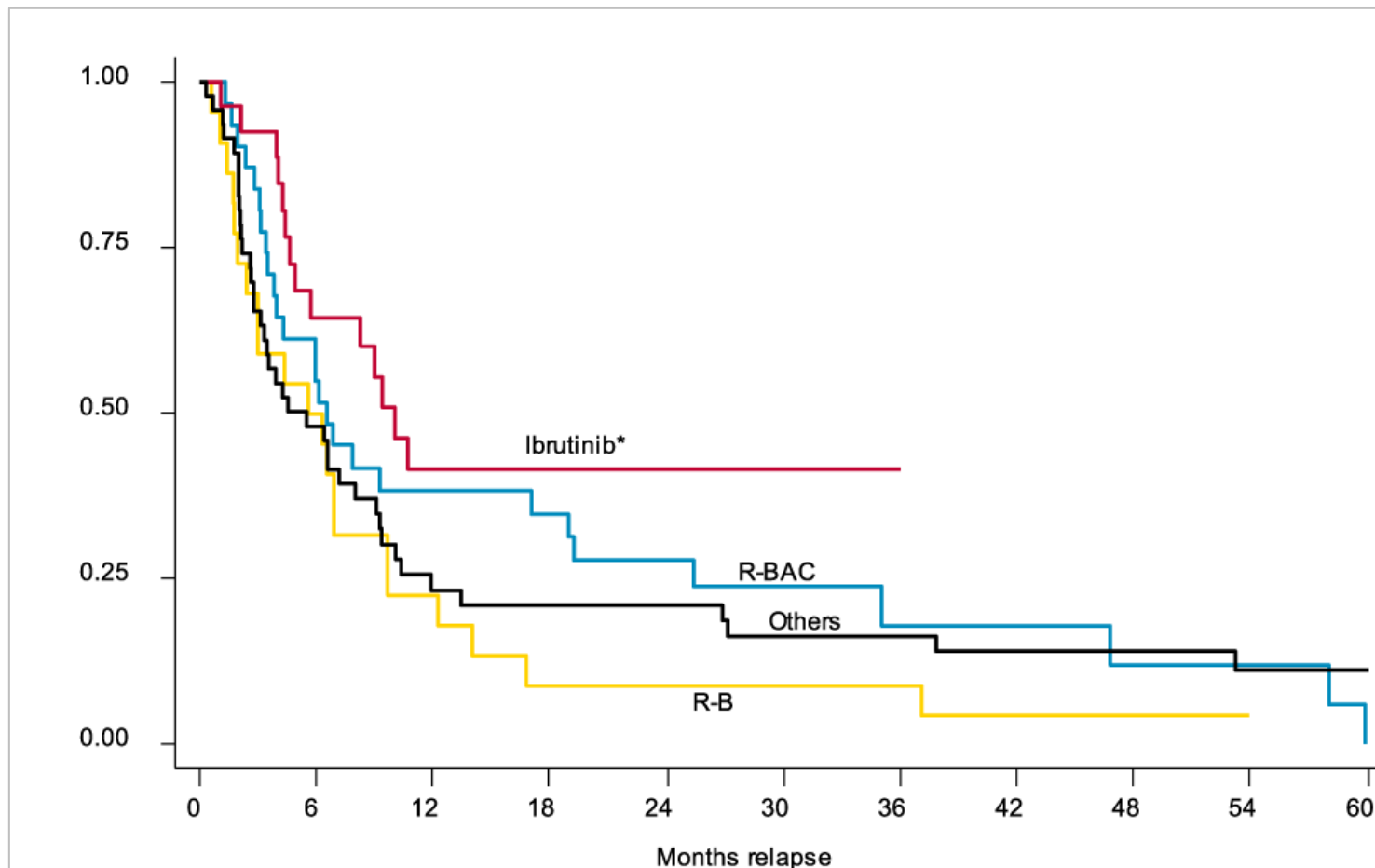
	Lisocabtagene Maraleucel (Breyanzi®)		Axicabtagene Ciloleucel (Yescarta®)		Tisagenlecleucel (Kymriah®)	
Trial	PHASE 3 TRANSFORM		PHASE 3 ZUMA-7		PHASE 3 BELINDA	
Median Follow-up (months)	6.2		24.9		10	
Bridging Therapy	Yes		Yes Optional Steroid-Only Bridging (No Chemotherapy)		Yes Bridging chemotherapy as needed	
Crossover Allowed	Yes		No		Yes, if no response at week 12	
Treatment Arm	Liso-cel (n=92)	SOC (n=92)	Axi-cel (n=180)	SOC (n=179)	Tisa-cel (n=162)	SOC (n=160)
EFS Definition	Time from randomization to death from any cause, PD, failure to achieve CR or PR, or start of new antineoplastic therapy due to efficacy concerns, whichever occurs first		<u>EFS</u> : time from randomization to the earliest date of disease progression per Lugano Classification, new lymphoma therapy, or death from any cause		Time from the date of randomization to the date of the first documented disease progression or stable disease at or after the week 12 (+/- 1 week) assessment	
Median EFS (months; 95% CI)	10.1 (6.1-NR)	2.3 (2.2-4.3)	8.3 (4.5-15.8)	2.0 (1.6-2.8)	3.0 (2.9-4.2)	3.0 (3.0-3.5)
HR (95% CI); P-value	0.349 (0.229-0.530); P<0.0001		0.398 (0.308-0.514); P<0.0001		1.07 (0.82-1.40); P=0.69)	

FDA Approved

FDA Approved

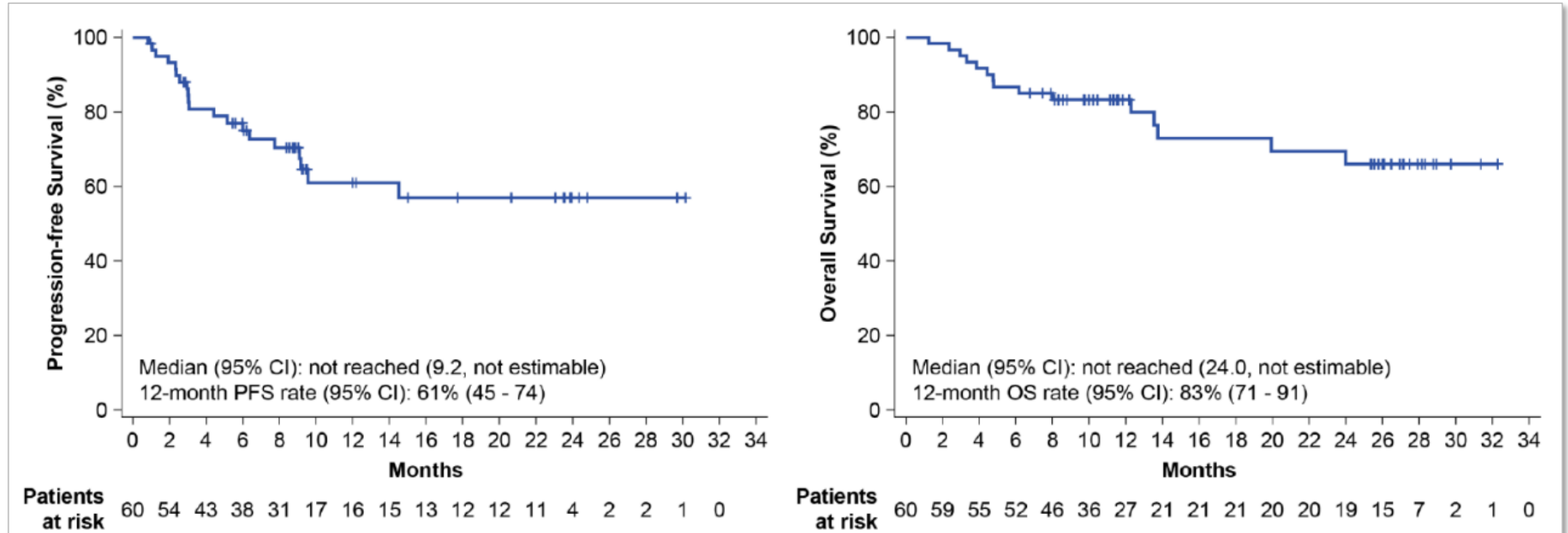
R/R Mantle Cell Lymphoma in younger patients

OS for patients with early progression of Disease



ZUMA 2 (Brexucabtagene): CAR-T Mantle Cell Lymphoma

Median PFS and median OS were not reached after a median follow-up of 12.3 months



FDA Approved

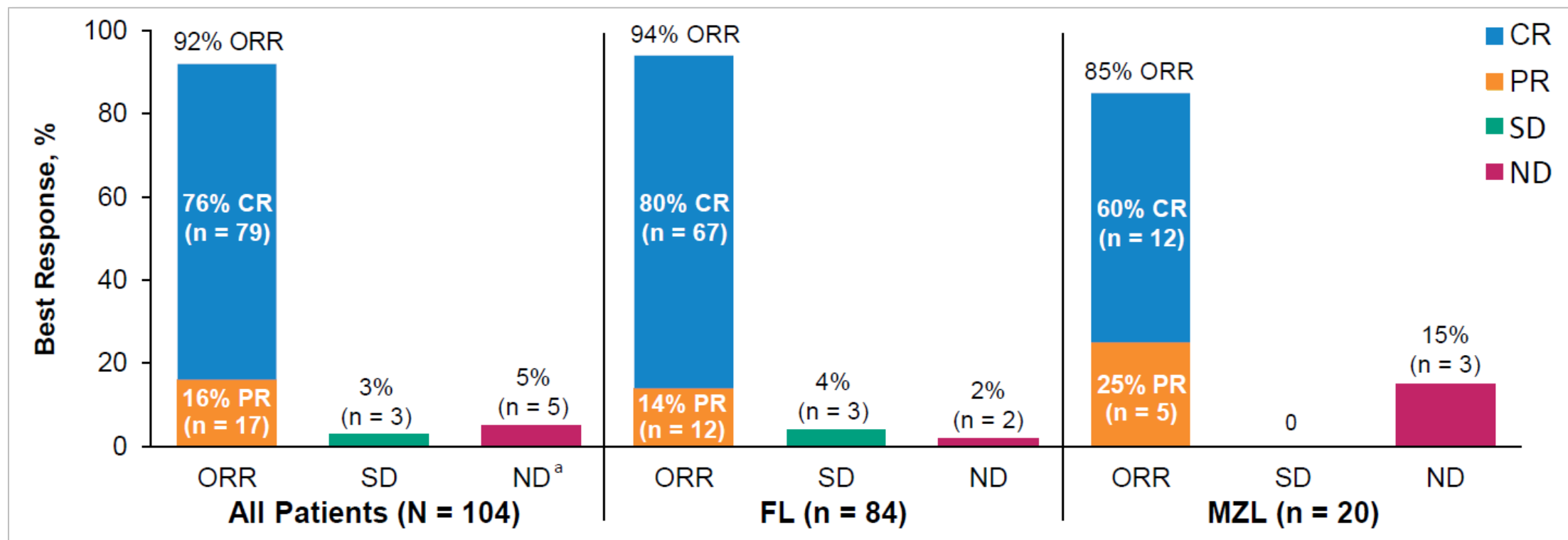
ML Wang, et al, NEJM, April 2, 2020

Representative PET Scans of Complete Response

- 50-year-old male patient with 3 prior therapies who presented with multi-compartmental MCL
- With KTE-X19, he achieved PR at month 1 and CR at month 3 and remains in remission 18 months

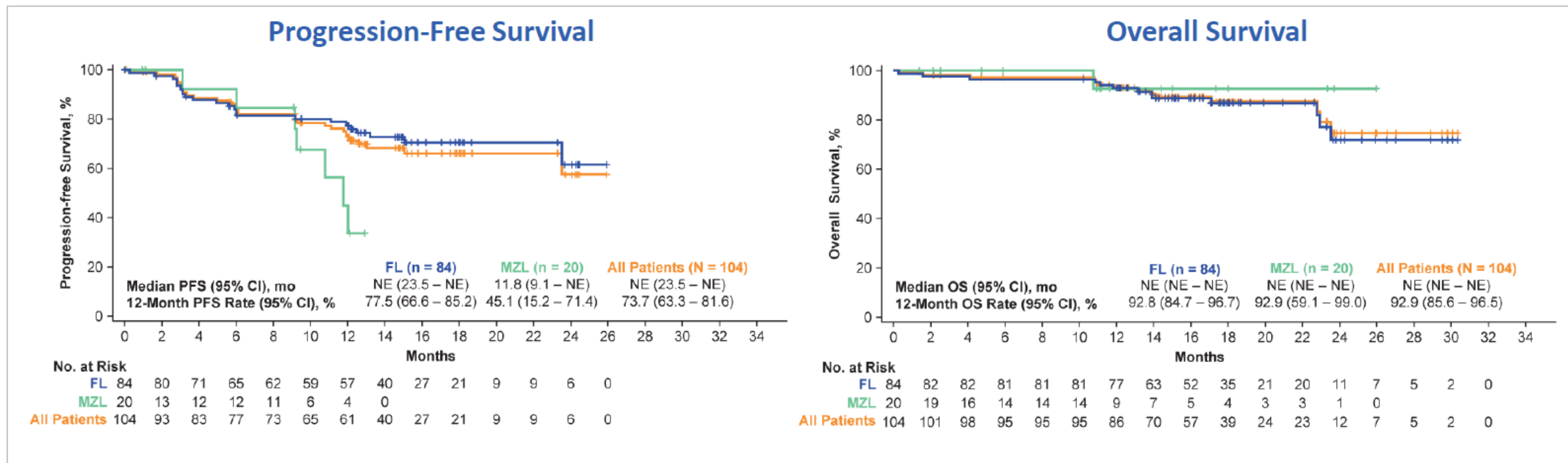


ZUMA 5: Follicular Lymphoma R/R



Jacobson, et. al.; The Lancet, Vol 23, January 2022

ZUMA 5: Progression-Free Survival and Overall Survival



FDA Approved

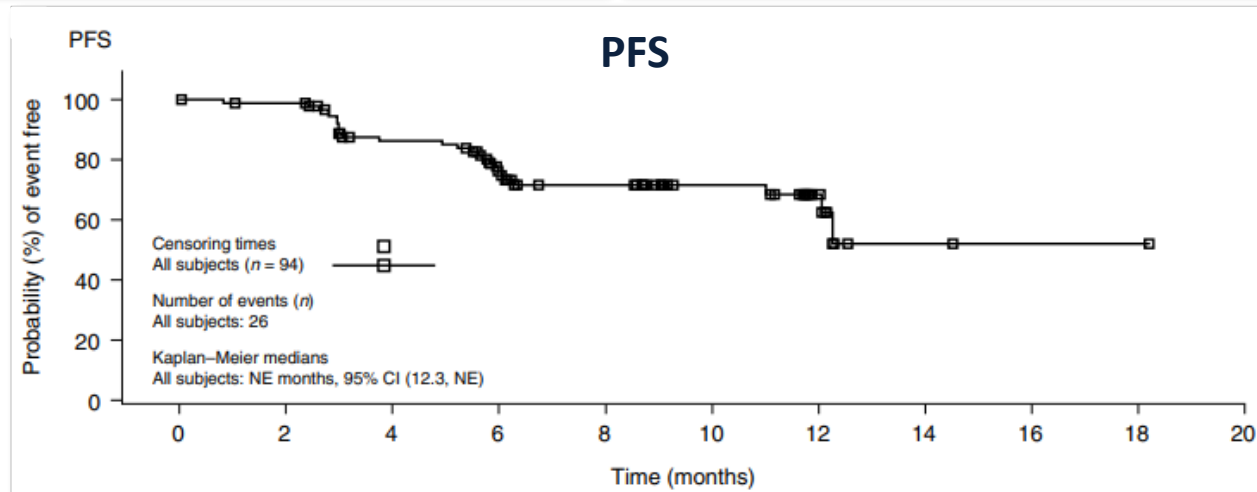
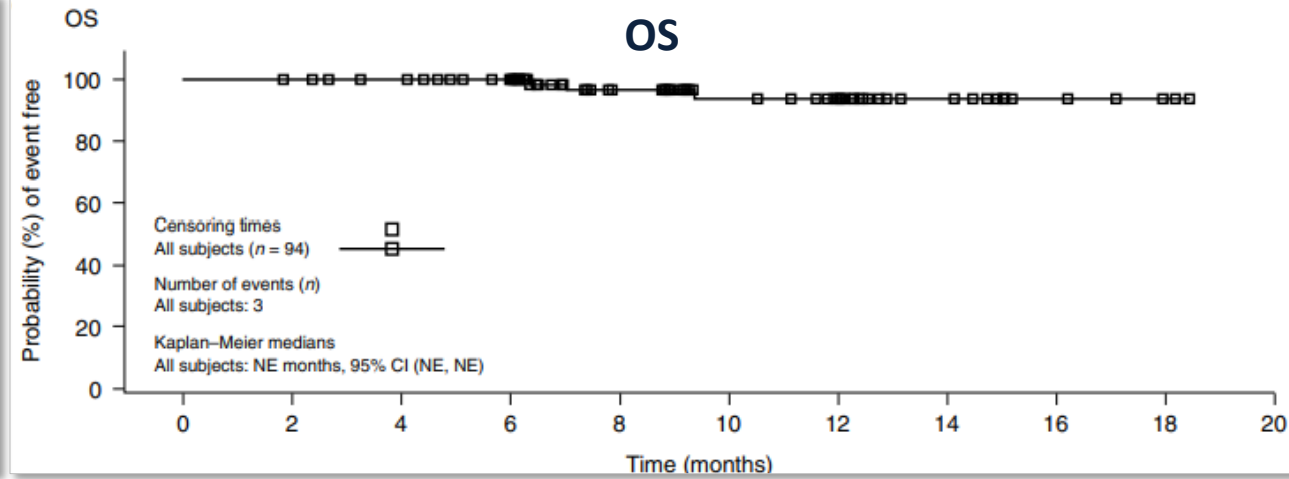
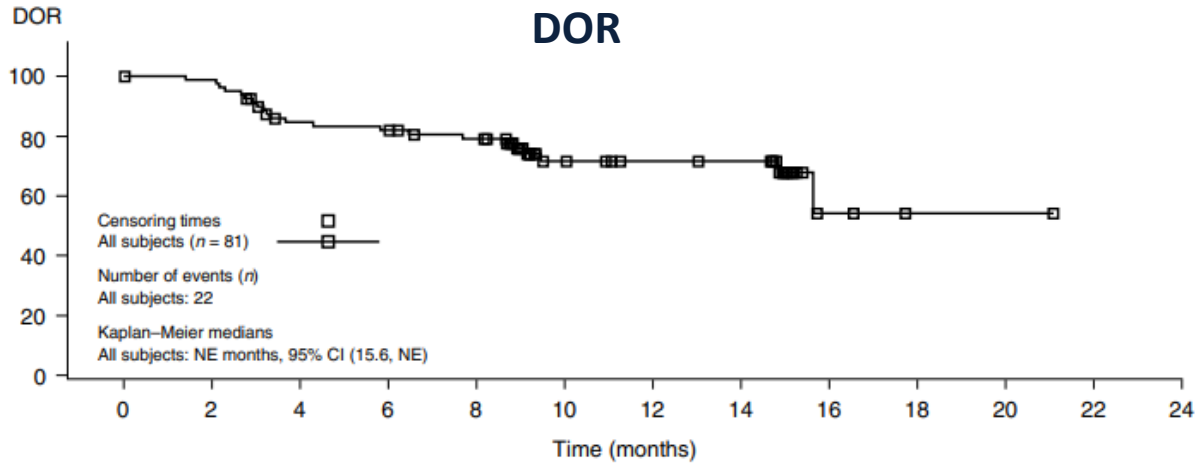
Jacobson, et. al.; The Lancet, Vol 23, January 2022

ELARA (Tisagenlecleucel): Overall Response and Complete Response Rate

Response Rate, %	Patients Evaluable for Efficacy^a (n=52)
CR	65.4 ^a
PR	17.3
ORR (CR + PR)	82.7

Fowler, McGuirk, et al; Nature Medicine (2022) 28, 325-332

ELARA



FDA Approved

Fowler, McGuirk, et al; Nature Medicine (2022) 28, 325-332

ZUMA 12: Newly Dx HR DLBCL

High-Risk LBCL

- High-grade B cell lymphoma, with *MYC* and *BCL2* and/or *BCL6* translocations, or
- LBCL with IPI score ≥ 3 any time before enrollment

Systemic Therapy

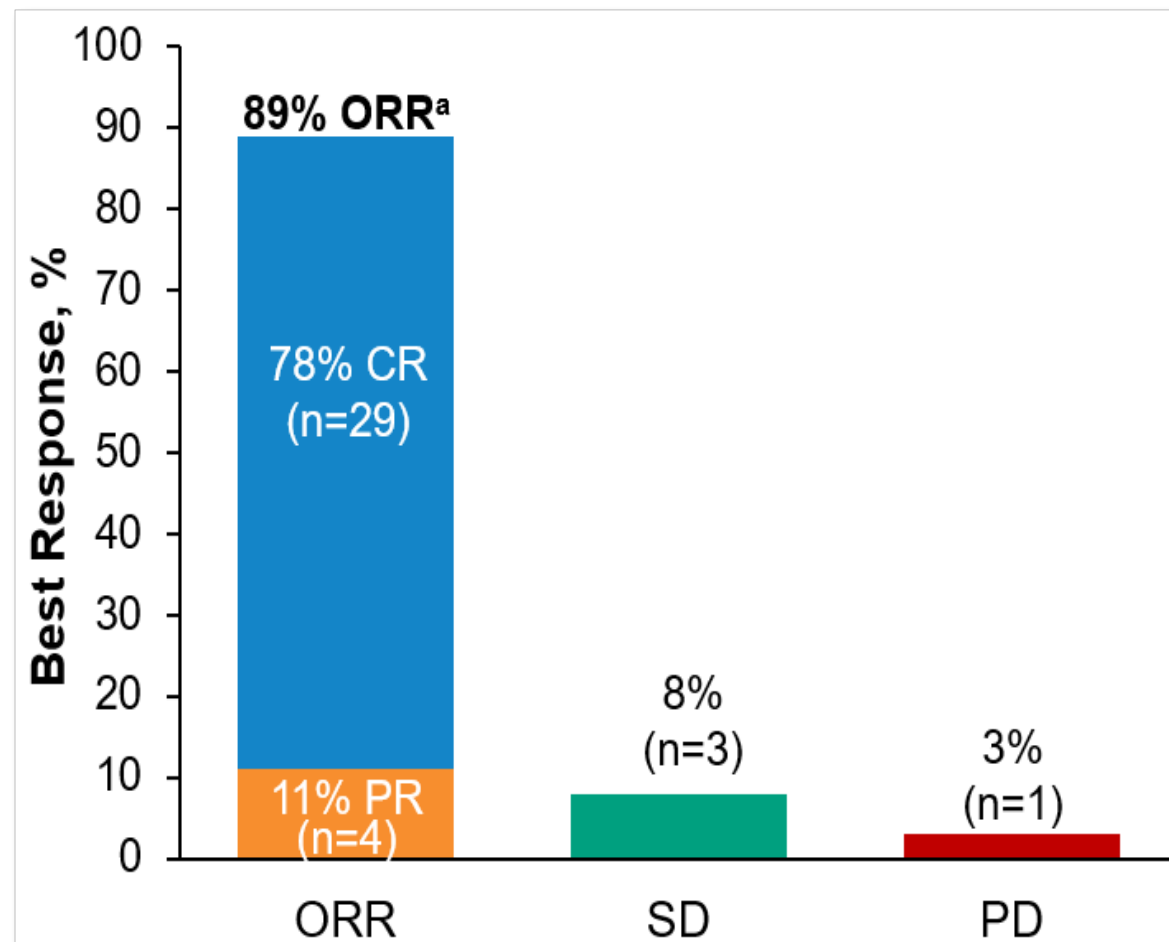
- 2 Cycles of an anti-CD20 mAb + anthracycline-containing regimen

Dynamic Risk Assessment

- Positive interim PET (DS 4 or 5)

Additional Key Inclusion Criteria

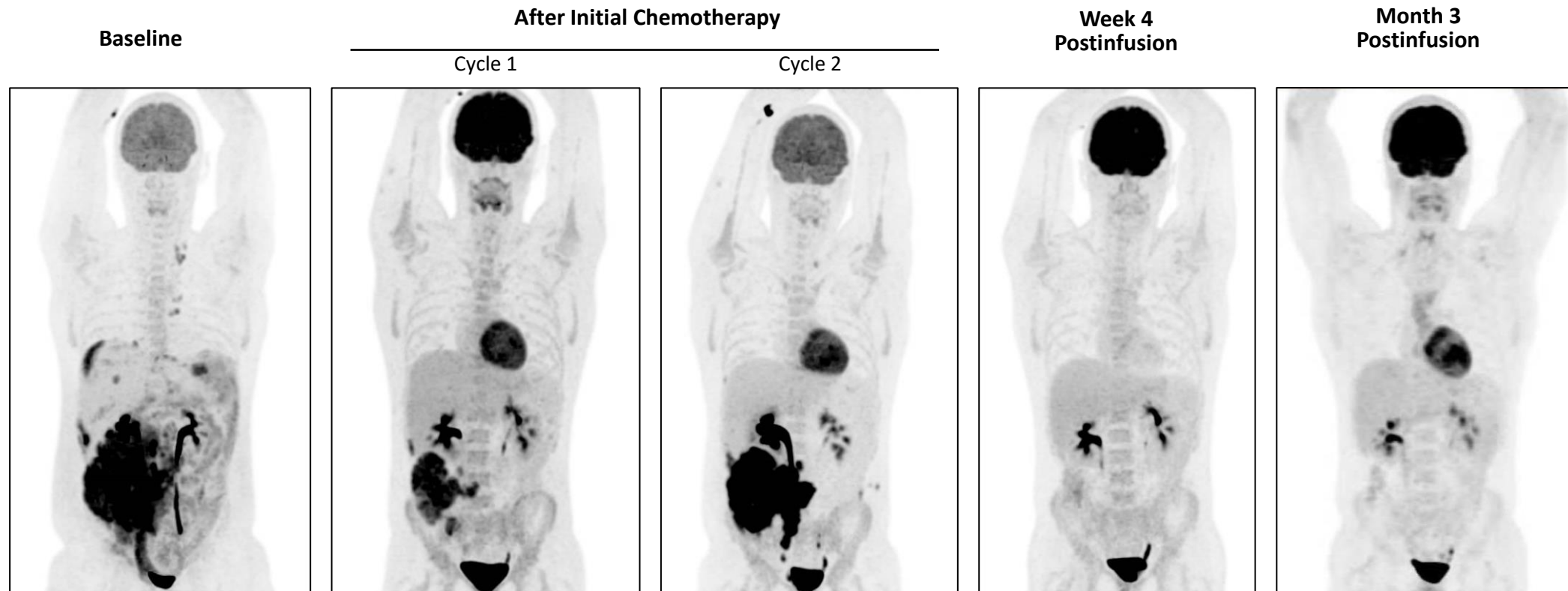
- Age ≥ 18 years
- ECOG 0 – 1



Neelapu, et. al.; ASH 2021; Abstract 739

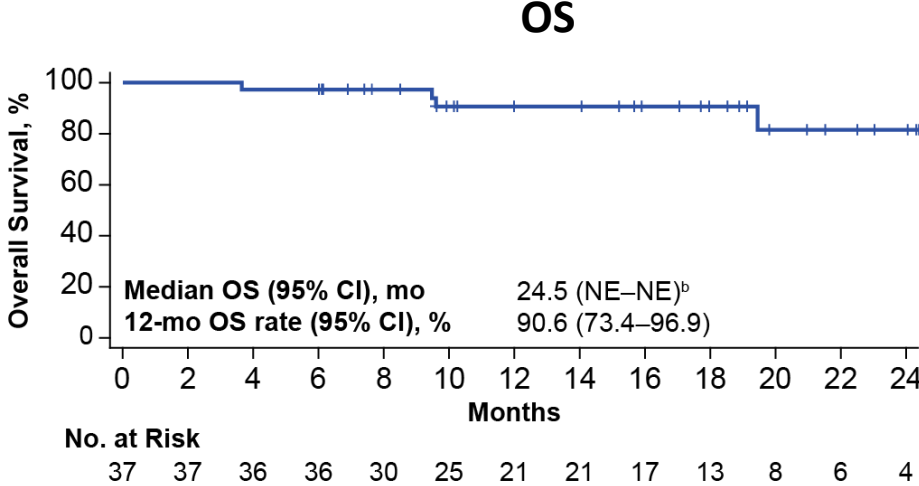
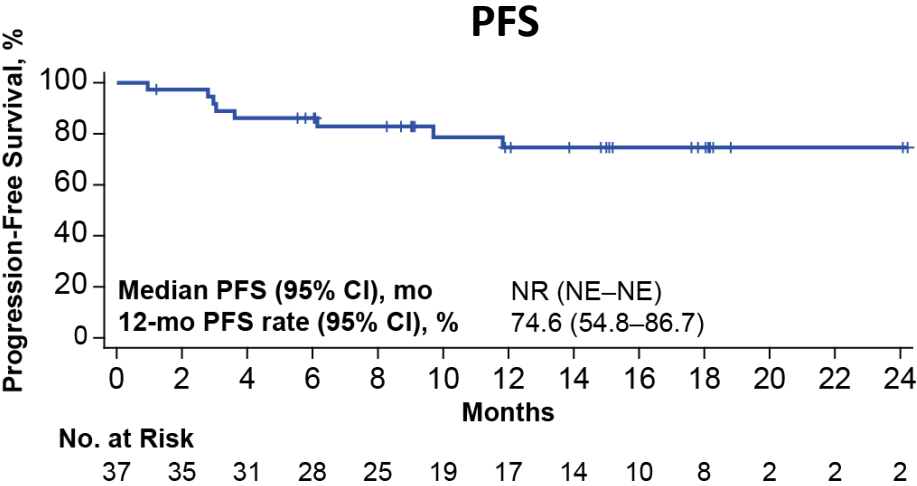
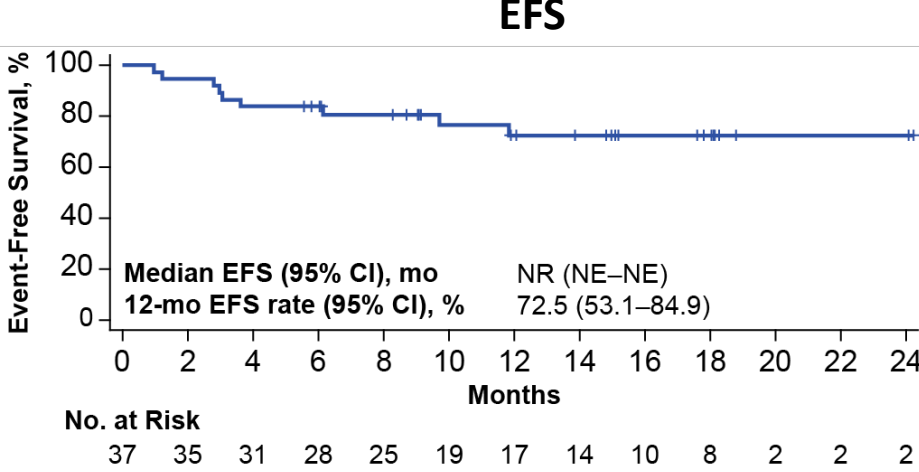
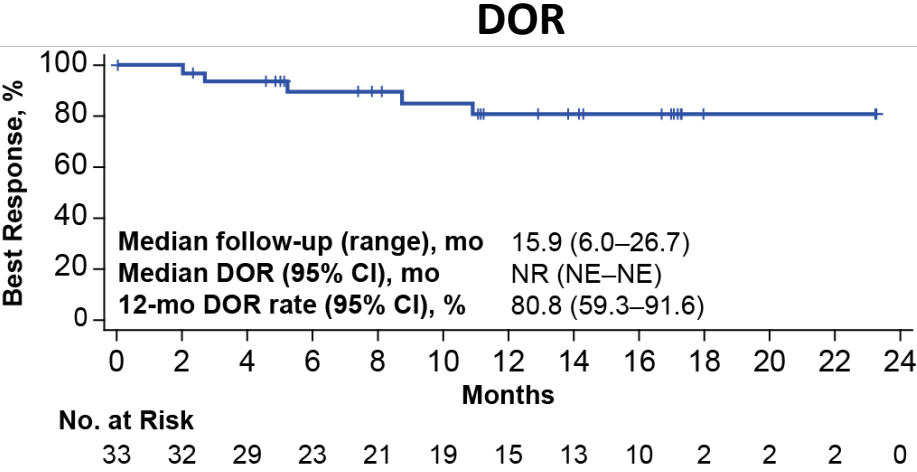
Representative Images of a Complete Response

- 23-year-old male with HGBL-NOS per investigator (MYC rearrangement), IPI 3, and tumor burden (SPD) 7424 mm²
- After axi-cel infusion, he achieved a CR at Month 3 and remains in response 7 months later

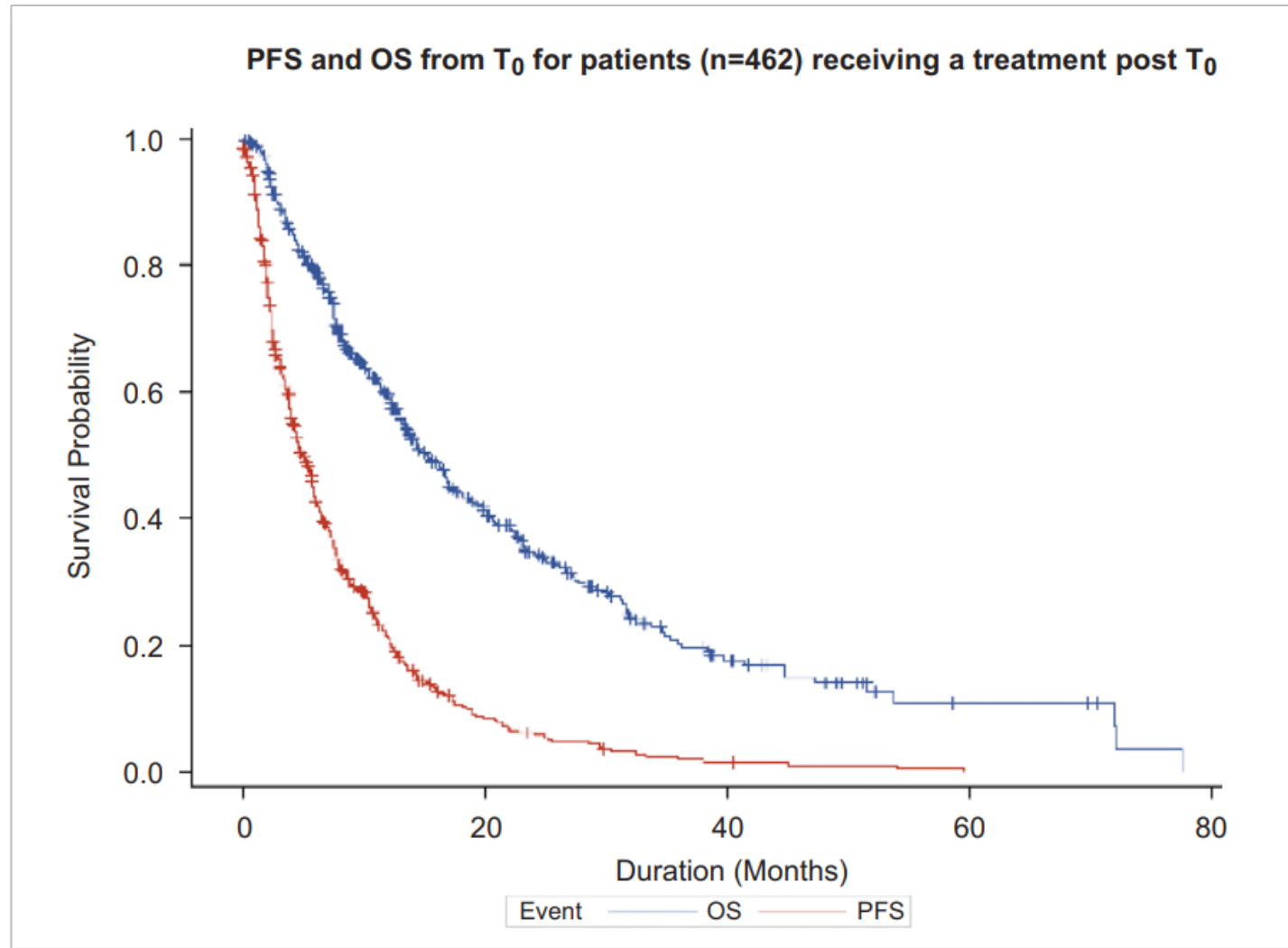


Neelapu, et. al.; ASH 2021; Abstract 739

Duration of Response, Event-Free Survival, Progression-Free Survival, and Overall Survival

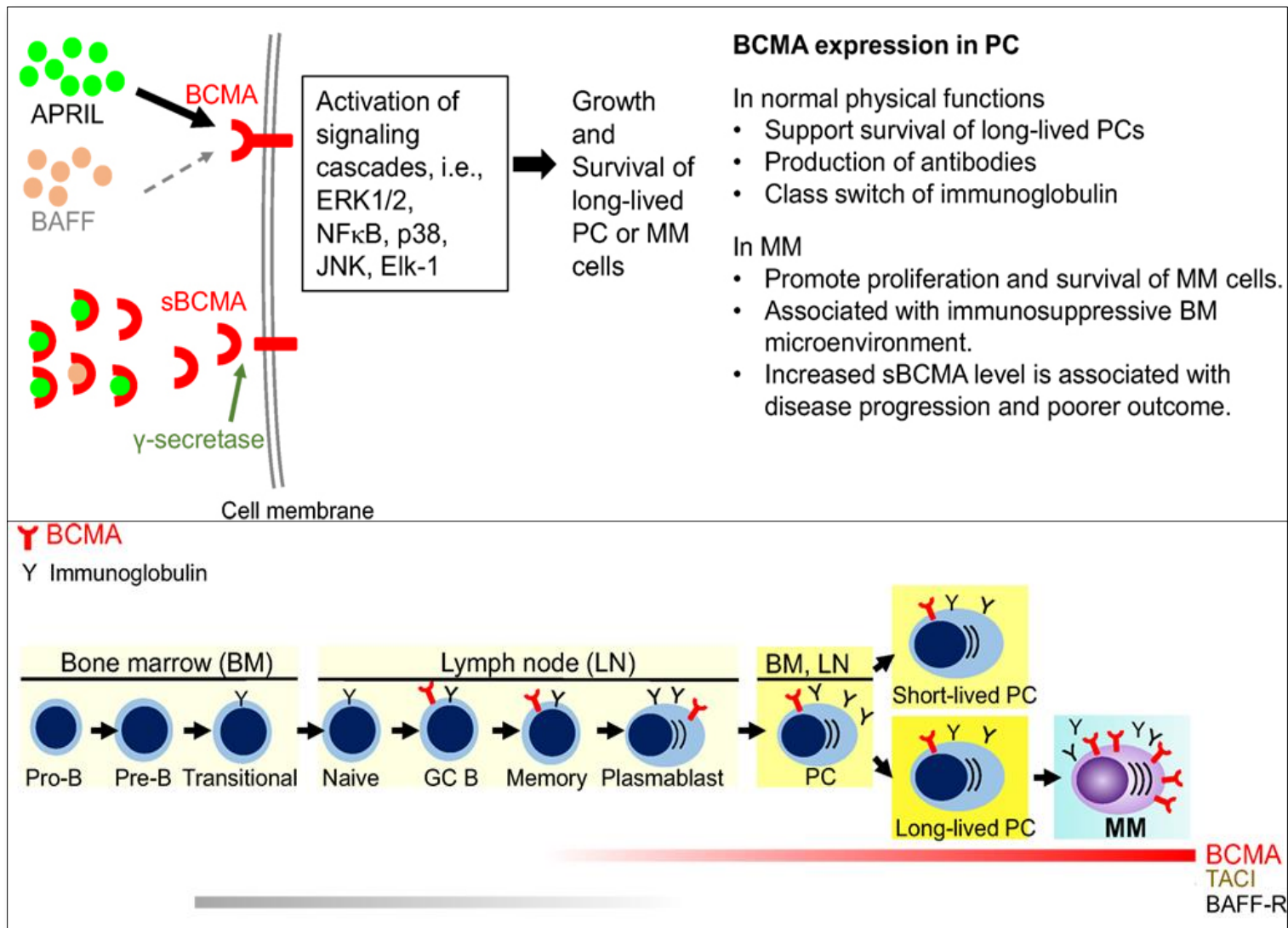


Myeloma Survival Rates



Kumar SK, et al. Leukemia (2017) 31, 2443–2448

BCMA Target



Cho S-F et al, Frontiers in Immunology, 2018

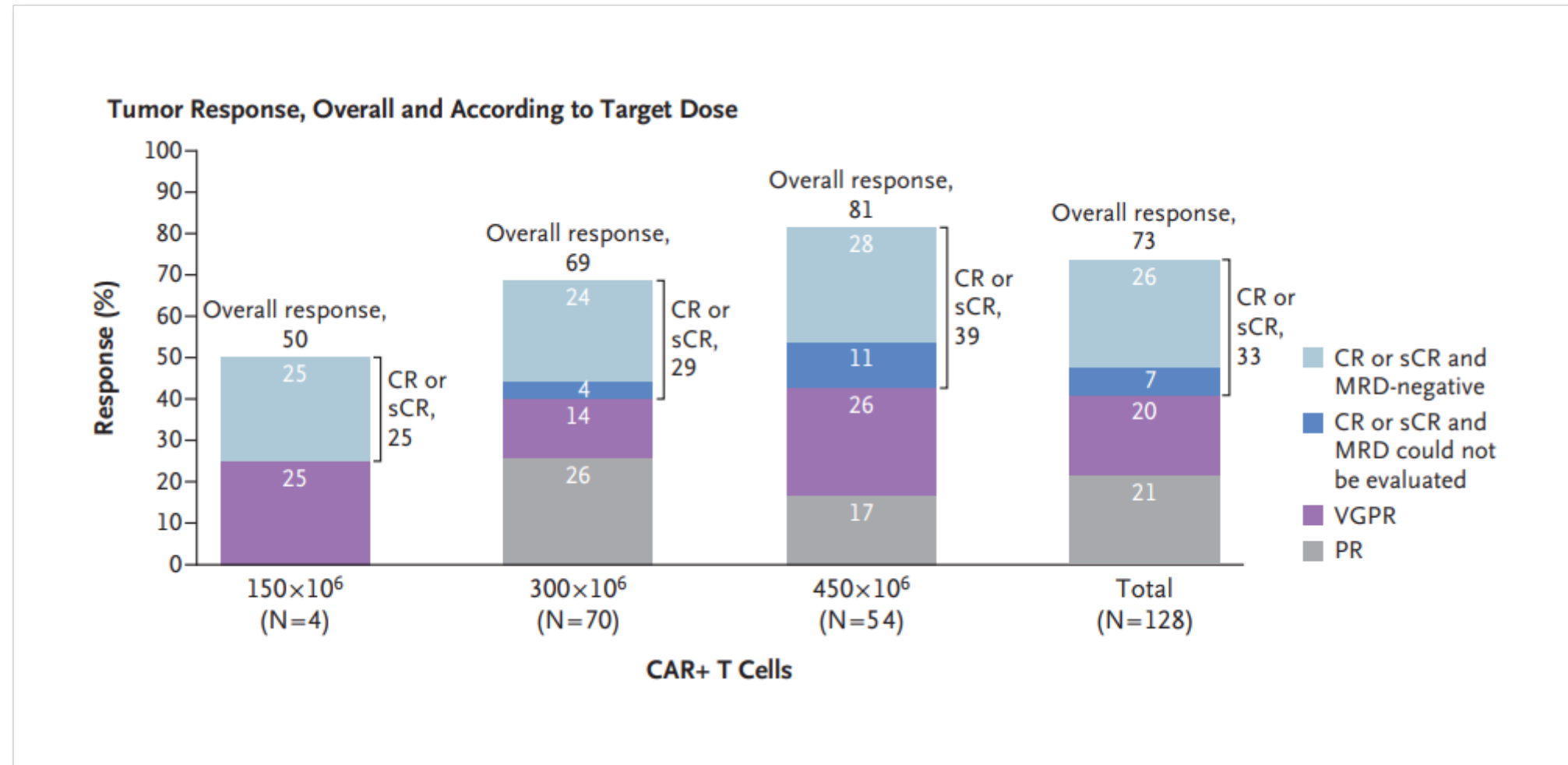
Idecabtagene Vicleucel in Relapsed & Refractory Multiple Myeloma

- **Relapsed after at least three previous regimens**
 - Proteasome inhibitor
 - Immunomodulatory agent
 - Anti-CD38 antibody
- **Primary end point was an overall response (partial response or better)**
- **Secondary end point was complete response or better**

Results	
Median follow-up	13.3 months
ORR	73%
CR	33%
Median PFS	8.8 months

Munshi, N et al. NEJM 384;8, February 25, 2021

Idecabtagene Vicleucel in Relapsed & Refractory Multiple Myeloma



FDA Approved

Munshi, N et al. NEJM 384;8, February 25, 2021

Ciltacabtagene Autoleucel, an Anti-B-cell Maturation Antigen Chimeric Antigen Receptor T-Cell Therapy, for Relapsed/Refractory Multiple Myeloma: CARTITUDE-1 2-Year Follow-Up

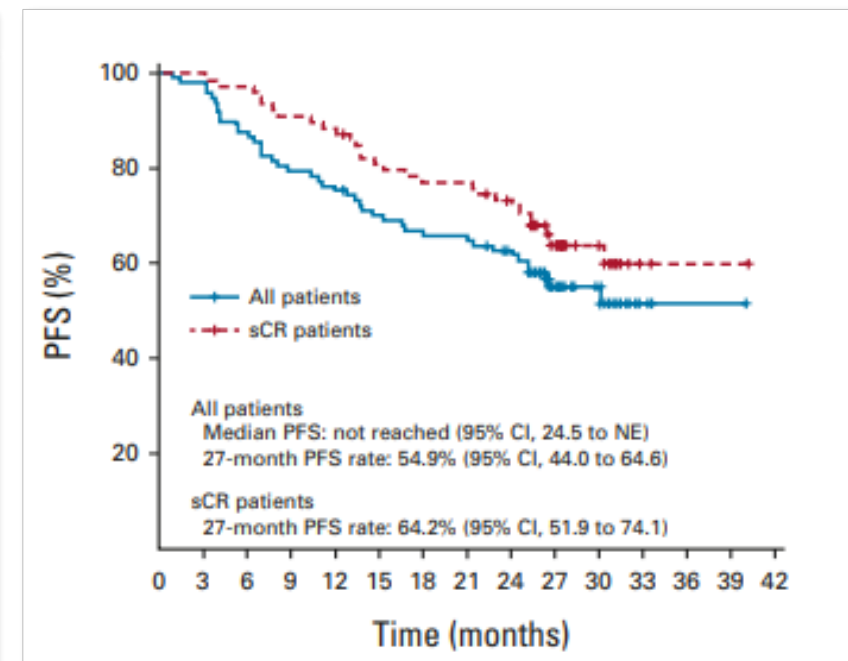
- MFU = 27.7 months
- ≥ 3 prior lines of therapy or:
 - double refractory to a proteasome inhibitor & immunomodulatory drug
 - prior proteasome inhibitor, immunomodulatory drug, & anti-CD38 therapy
- ORR = 97.9%
- sCR = 82.5%
- Median duration of response was not estimable
- Median PFS was not reached
- PFS = 54.9%
- OS = 70.4%
- ORR high across all subgroups
- Duration of response, PFS and/or OS were shorter in patients with:
 - high-risk cytogenetics
 - ISS Stage III
 - High tumor burden
 - Plasmacytomas

Martin, T, et al. JCO, July 2022

Ciltacabtagene Autoleucel, an Anti-B-cell Maturation Antigen Chimeric Antigen Receptor T-Cell Therapy, for Relapsed/Refractory Multiple Myeloma: CARTITUDE-1 2-Year Follow-Up

Variable	Total (N = 97)
Overall response	
Patients with a response, No. ^b	95
Rate, % (95% CI)	97.9 (92.7 to 99.7)
Best overall response rate, % (95% CI)	
sCR	82.5 (73.4 to 89.4)
MRD-negative sCR ^c	44.3 (34.2 to 54.8)
CR	0 (NE to NE)
VGPR	12.4 (6.6 to 20.6)
PR	3.1 (0.6 to 8.8)
Minimal response	0 (NE to NE)
SD	0 (NE to NE)
PD	1.0 (0 to 5.6)
Not evaluable	1.0 (0 to 5.6)

Variable	Total (N = 97)
Median duration of response, months (95% CI)	NE (23.3 to NE)
Median time to first response, months (range)	1.0 (0.9 to 10.7)
Median time to best response, months (range)	2.6 (0.9 to 17.8)
Median time to CR or better, months (range)	2.9 (0.9 to 17.8)
MRD negativity, No. (%)	
No. of patients evaluable for MRD at 10 ⁻⁵	61
Rate, No. (%)	56 (91.8)
No. of patients evaluable for MRD at 10 ⁻⁶	52
Rate, No. (%)	39 (75.0)



Martin, T, et al. JCO, July 2022

Problems

- **ACCESS**

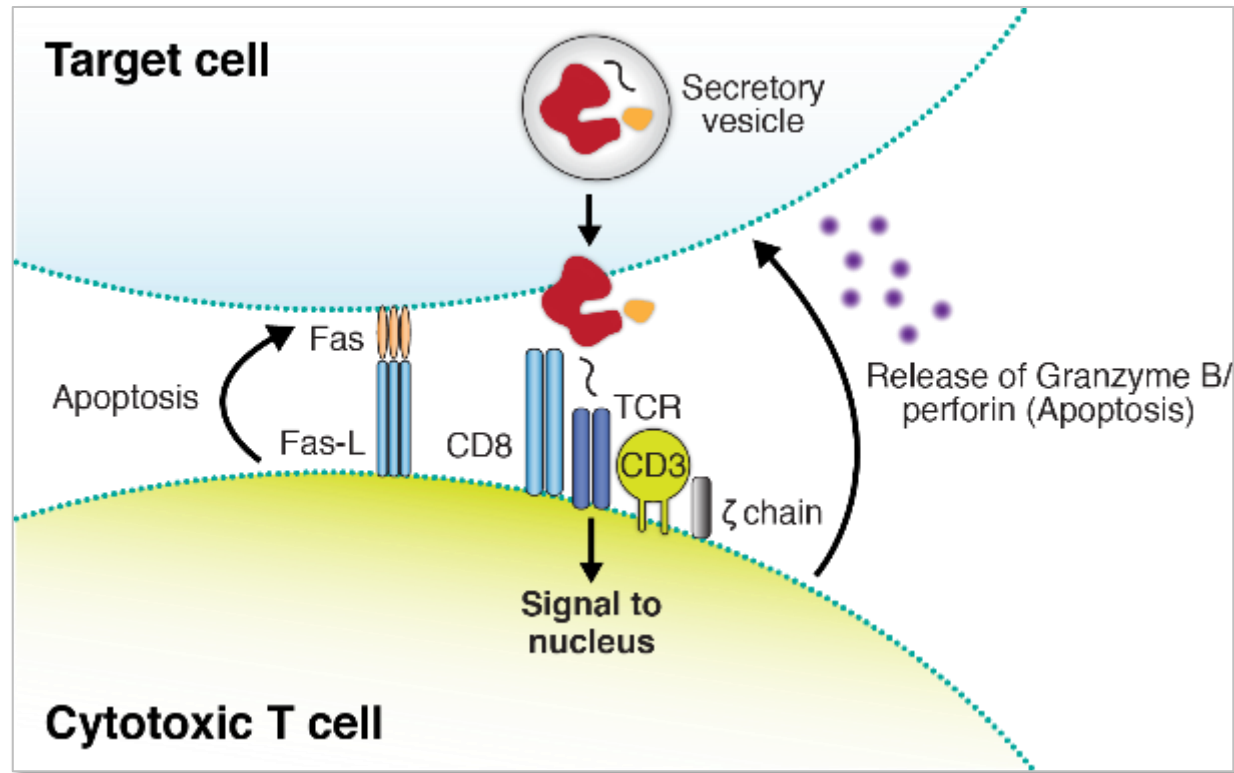
- Production Capabilities (lack of clinical window for leukapheresis)
- Long manufacturing times
- Need for bridging therapy

- **Lack of Response/Relapse**

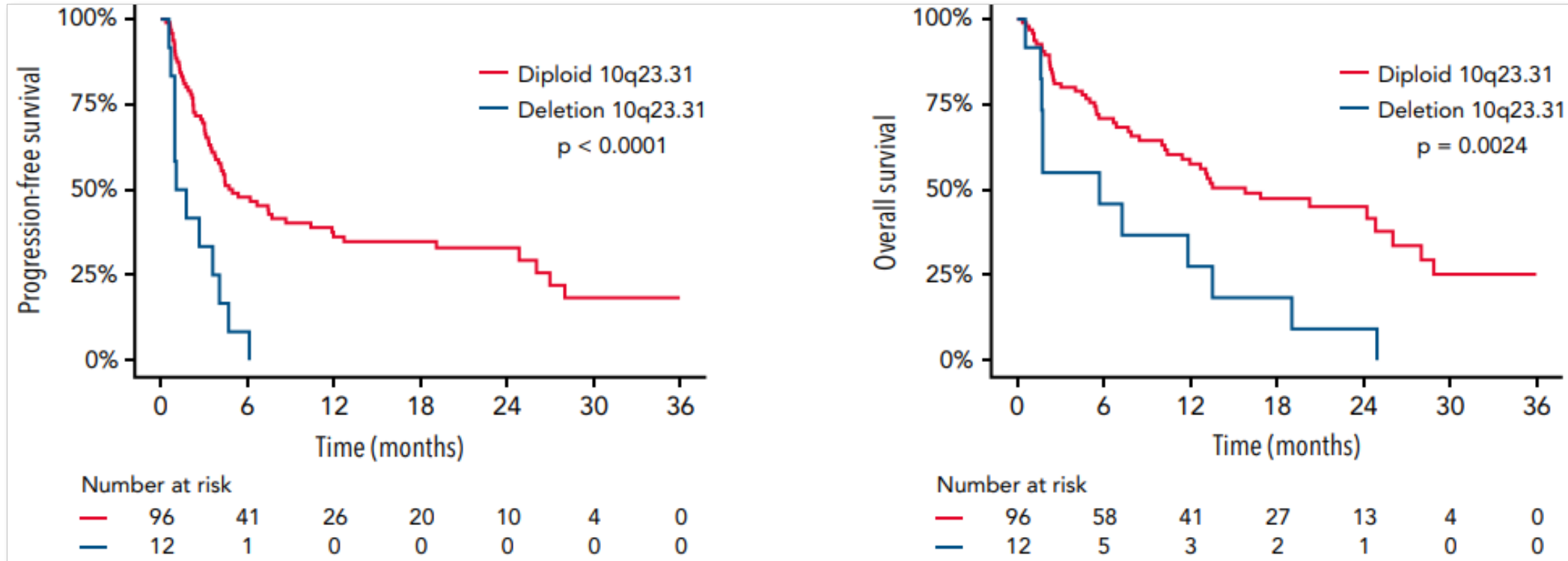
- Suboptimal construct/T-Cell exhaustion
- Antigen loss
- Fas Receptor Loss

Activated T Cells: Effector CD8 CTLs

- **CTLs induce apoptosis through multiple mechanisms, including:**
 - Release of cytotoxic granules containing perforin and granzyme B
 - Surface receptor engagement such as Fas/FasL



Risk assessment with low-pass whole-genome sequencing of cell-free DNA before CD19 CAR T-cell therapy for large B-cell lymphoma



Cherng, H. et al., Blood, Vol 140, August 2022

Rationale for Allogeneic CAR T-Cell Therapy

- Potential to improve efficacy as the T-cell fitness is expected to be better than autologous products and ability to select specific t-cell subsets
- Consistent product quality
- No wait period as they are off the shelf
- Precise placement of the gene construct in the genome
- Long-term risk of insertional mutagenesis unlikely
- **Problem! Rejection or GVHD**



T-cell intrinsic fitness in apheresis product may affect CAR T efficacy

nature
medicine

LETTERS

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41591-018-0010-1>

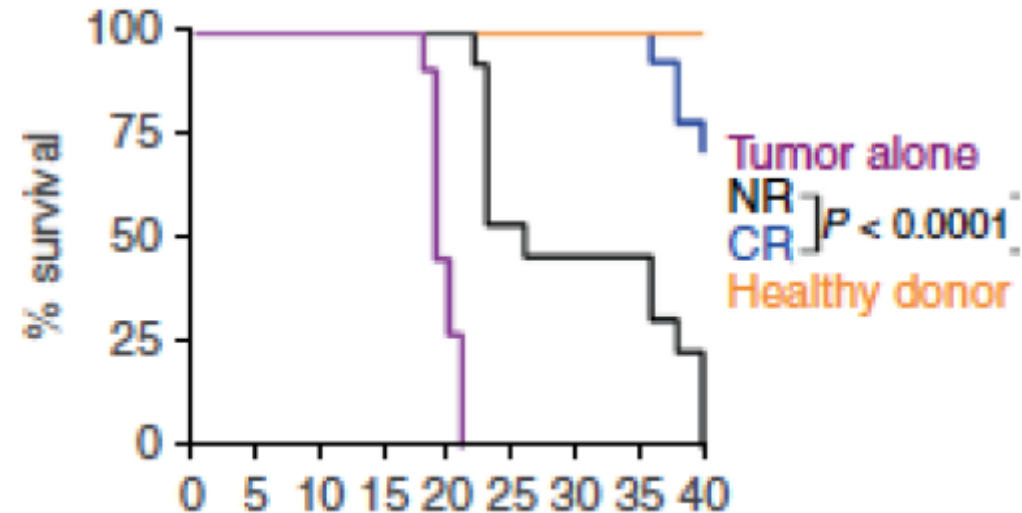
Determinants of response and resistance to CD19 chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) T cell therapy of chronic lymphocytic leukemia

Joseph A. Fraietta^{1,2,3}, Simon F. Lacey^{1,2,3,9}, Elena J. Orlando^{4,9}, Iulian Pruteanu-Malinici⁴, Mercy Gohil³, Stefan Lundh², Alina C. Boesteanu², Yan Wang², Roddy S. O'Connor², Wei-Ting Hwang⁵, Edward Pequignot², David E. Ambrose², Changfeng Zhang², Nicholas Wilcox², Felipe Bedoya², Corin Dorfmeier², Fang Chen², Lifeng Tian², Harit Parakandi², Minnal Gupta², Regina M. Young², F. Brad Johnson¹, Irina Kulikovskaya², Li Liu², Jun Xu², Sadik H. Kassim⁴, Megan M. Davis^{1,2}, Bruce L. Levine^{1,2}, Noelle V. Frey^{2,6}, Donald L. Siegel^{1,2,7}, Alexander C. Huang^{3,8}, E. John Wherry^{3,8}, Hans Bitter⁴, Jennifer L. Brogdon⁴, David L. Porter^{1,6}, Carl H. June^{1,2,3} and J. Joseph Melenhorst^{1,2,3,*}

Fraietta et al, *Nat Med* Apr 2018

- Rationale for allogeneic CAR or banking T cells when healthy

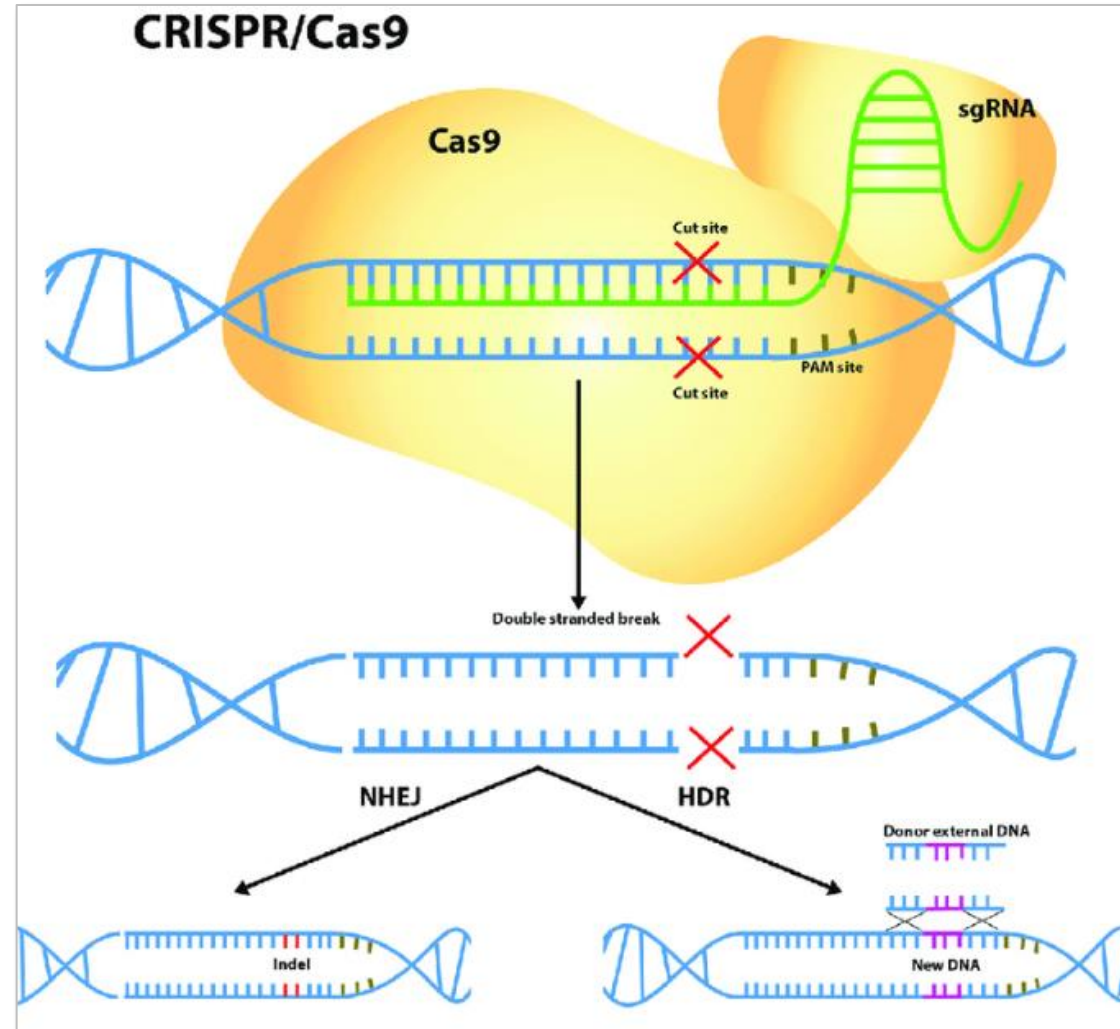
- Increased frequency of CD27⁺CD45RO⁻CD8⁺ T cells before CAR T generation associated with durable remission in CLL
- CD27⁺PD-1⁻CD8⁺ CAR T cells associated with response



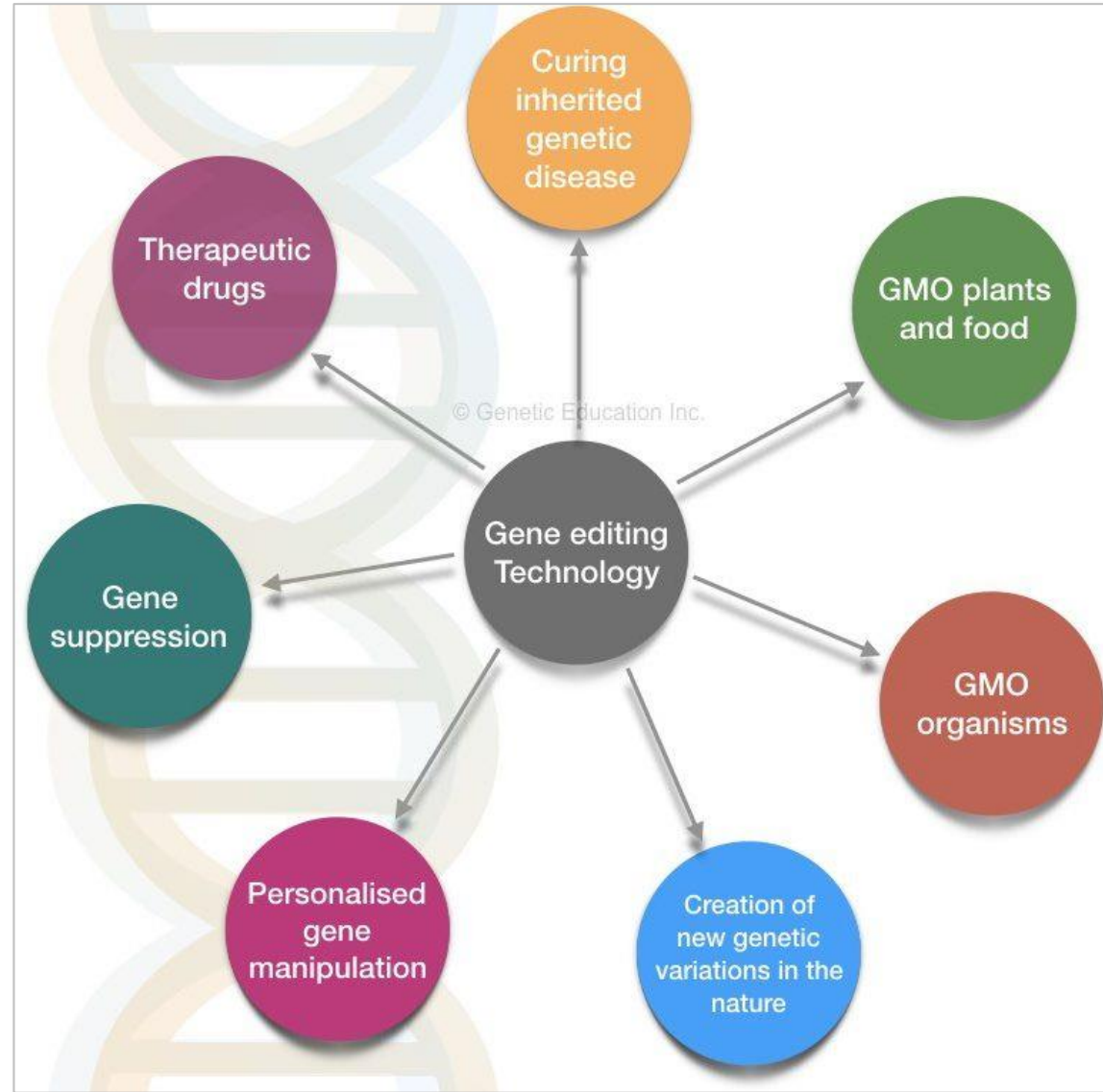
Precise Gene Editing-CRISPR



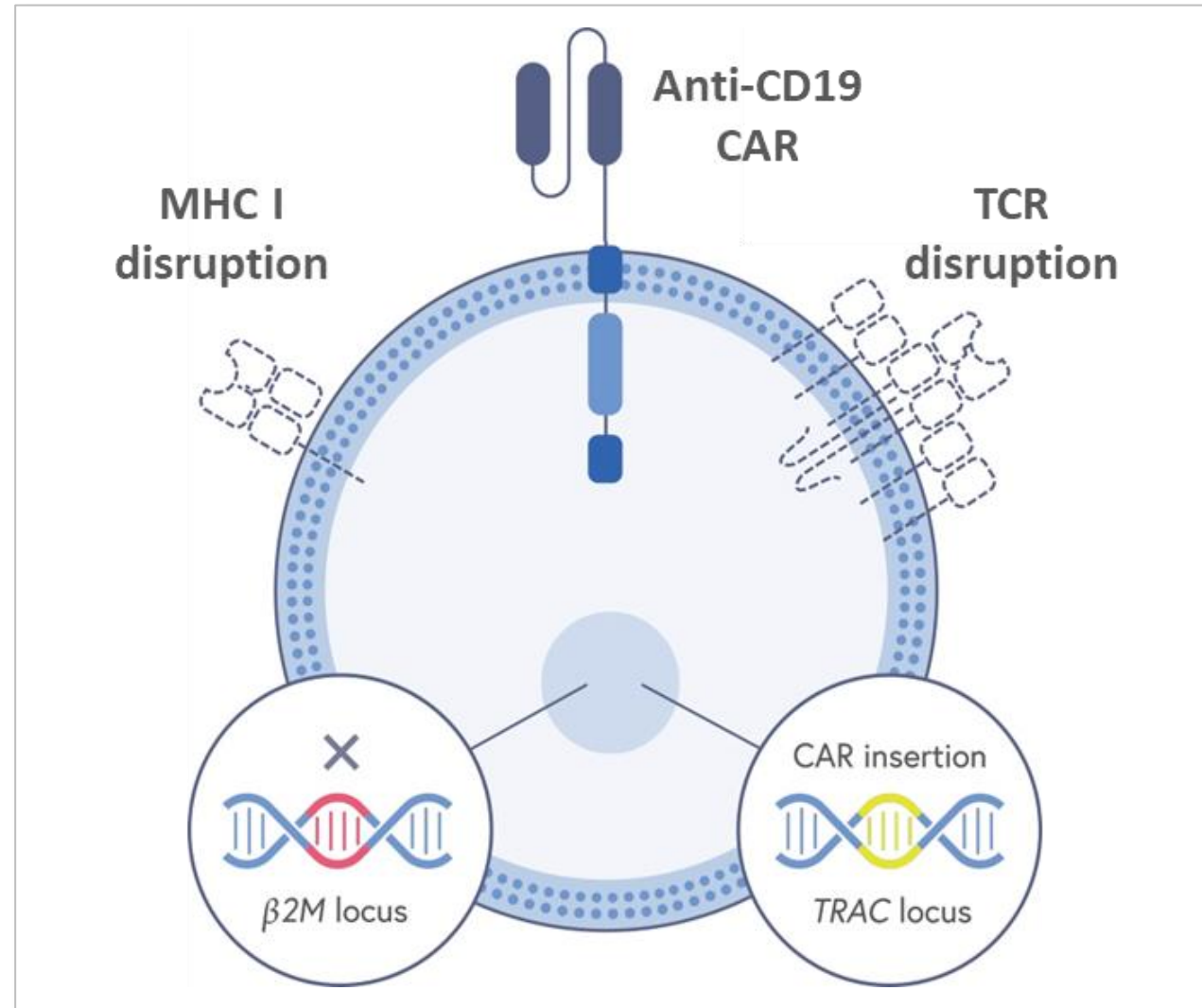
Precise and Simple Gene Editing



Potential Applications

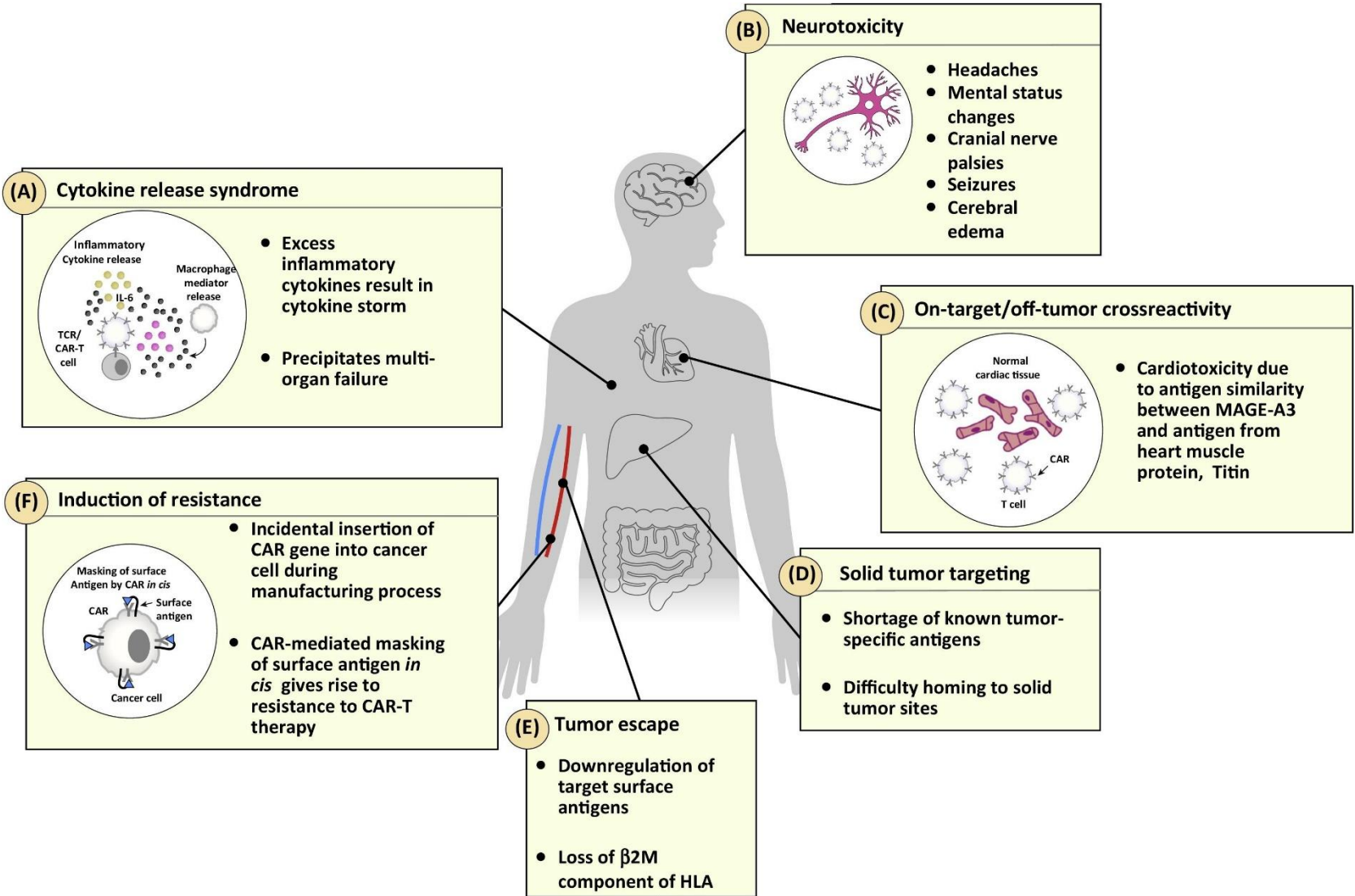


Gene-Edited Allogeneic Anti-CD19 CAR-T: Mitigating Rejection and GVHD

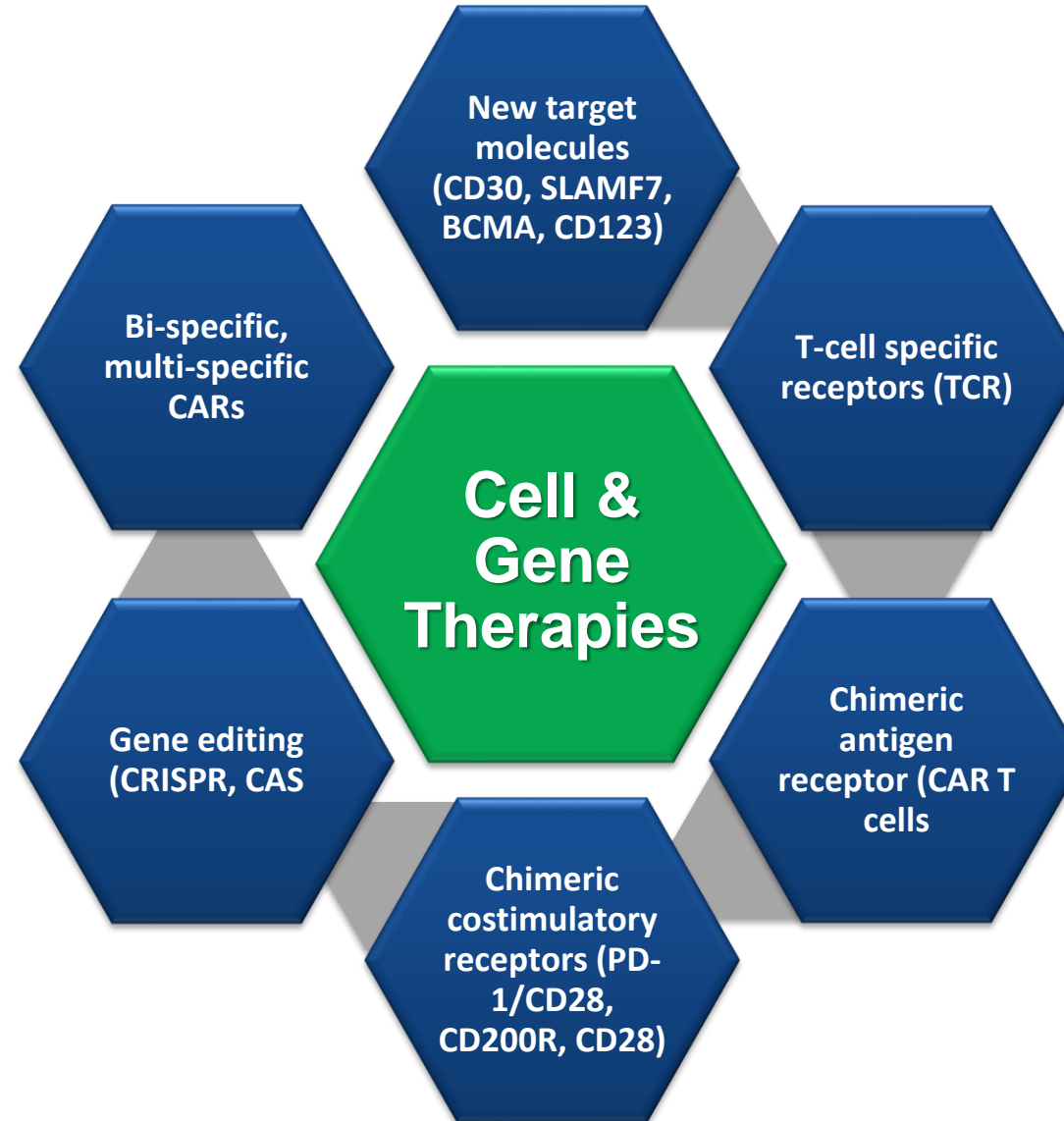


McGuirk ASCO 2021, June 4-8, 2021

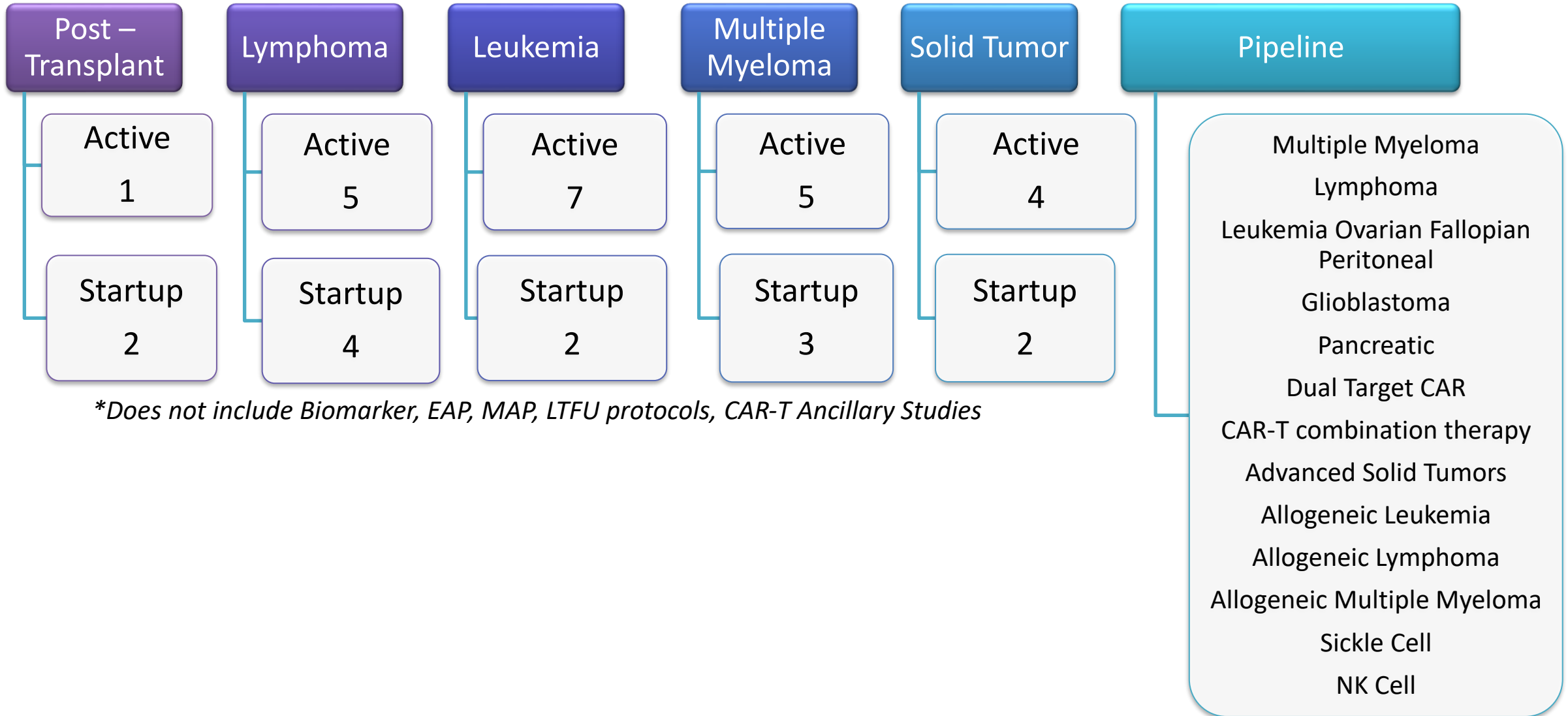
CAR-T Toxicities



Continued Advances



Cell Therapy Clinical Trials at KUCC



University of Kansas Cancer Center Current State

- **NCI Comprehensive Cancer Center Designation**
- **Cambridge Tower expansion (3 floors)**
- **Expand Cellular Therapeutics program**
 - Including solid tumors
- **Increase the availability of clinical trials and increase clinical research trials accruals**
- **Development of novel clinical laboratory research**
- **Collaboration with NCI & CMH on Tri-Specific LAR CD19, 20, 22**





Where cancer meets
its match.

THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS
CANCER CENTER

© The University of Kansas Hospital