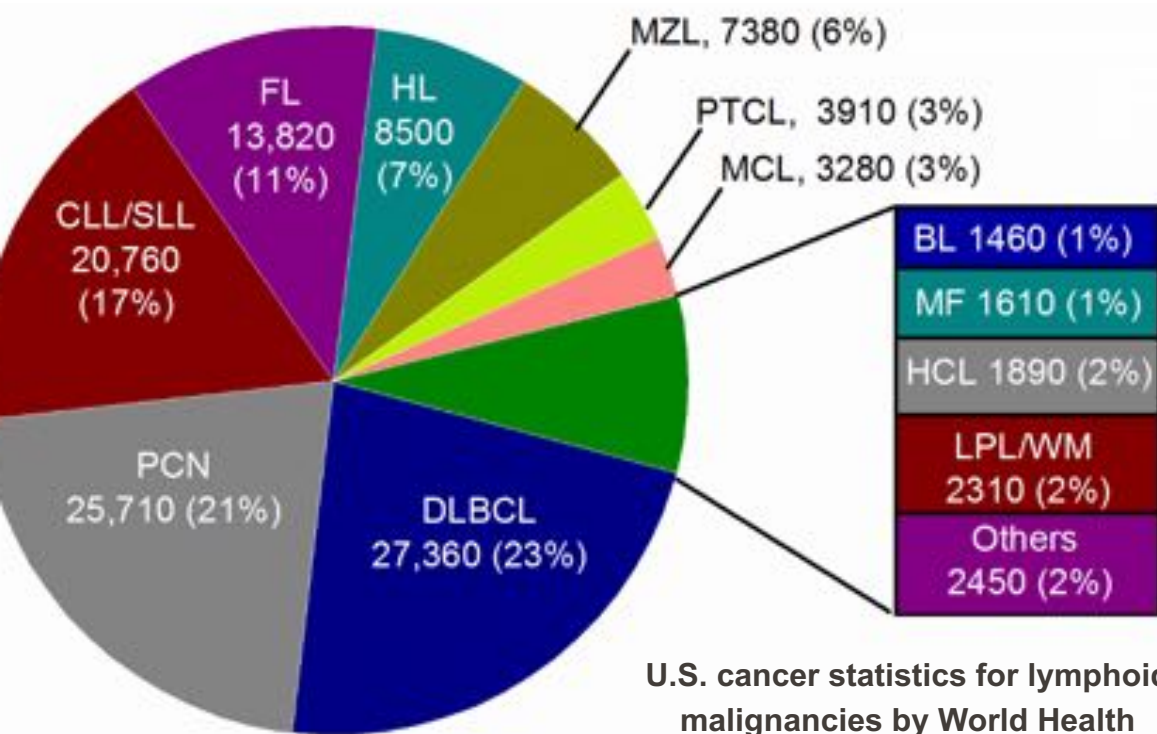


# Lymphoma Data Science from Populations to Precision Medicine and Back

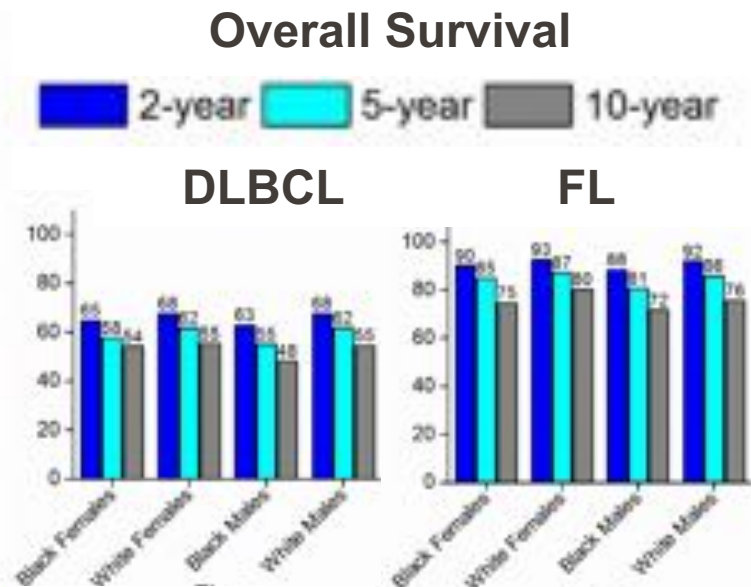
13<sup>th</sup> Lois F. O'Grady Distinguished Lecture

Christopher Flowers, MD, MS, FASCO  
Chair, Professor  
Department of Lymphoma/Myeloma

# Annual Incidence of Lymphoid Cancers in the United States



U.S. cancer statistics for lymphoid malignancies by World Health Organization subtypes



Teras LR, DeSantis CE, Morton LM, Cerhan JR, Jemal A, Flowers CR  
*CA Cancer J Clin.* 2016

# Applying Population Sciences to Clinical Outcomes

- National Cancer DataBase
- SEER; SEER-Medicare
- NLCS Chair 2007 – 2014
- CONNECT CLL Chair
- CONNECT NHL Chair
- REAL-MIND Chair
- InterLymph
- FLASH Steering Comm.
  - (IPD 22 FL RCTs)
- SEAL Steering Comm.
  - (IPD 16 DLBCL RCTs)

National LymphoCare Study FL (n = 2727)



[Nastoupil](#) Br J Haematol. 2016

[Casulo](#) Ann Oncol. 2015

[Casulo](#) J Clin Oncol. 2015

Wagner-Johnston Blood. 2015

Nabhan Br J Haematol. 2015

[Nastoupil](#) Leuk Lymphoma. 2015

[Nastoupil](#) Cancer. 2014

Martin Cancer. 2013

[Nooka](#) Ann Oncol. 2013

Friedberg J Clin Oncol. 2012

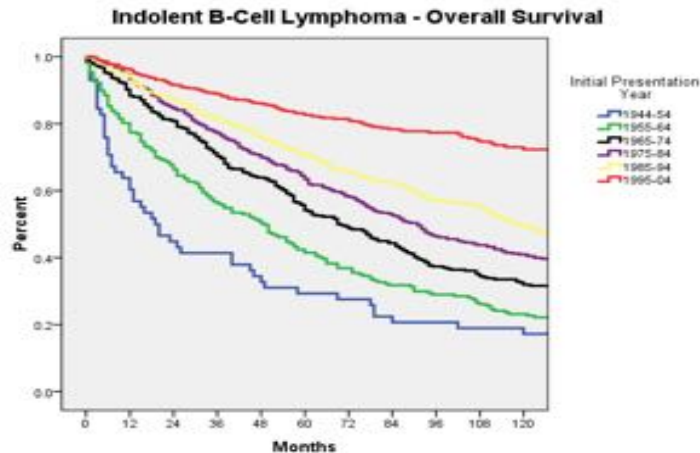
Nabhan Cancer. 2012

Friedberg J Clin Oncol. 2009

# Follicular Lymphoma

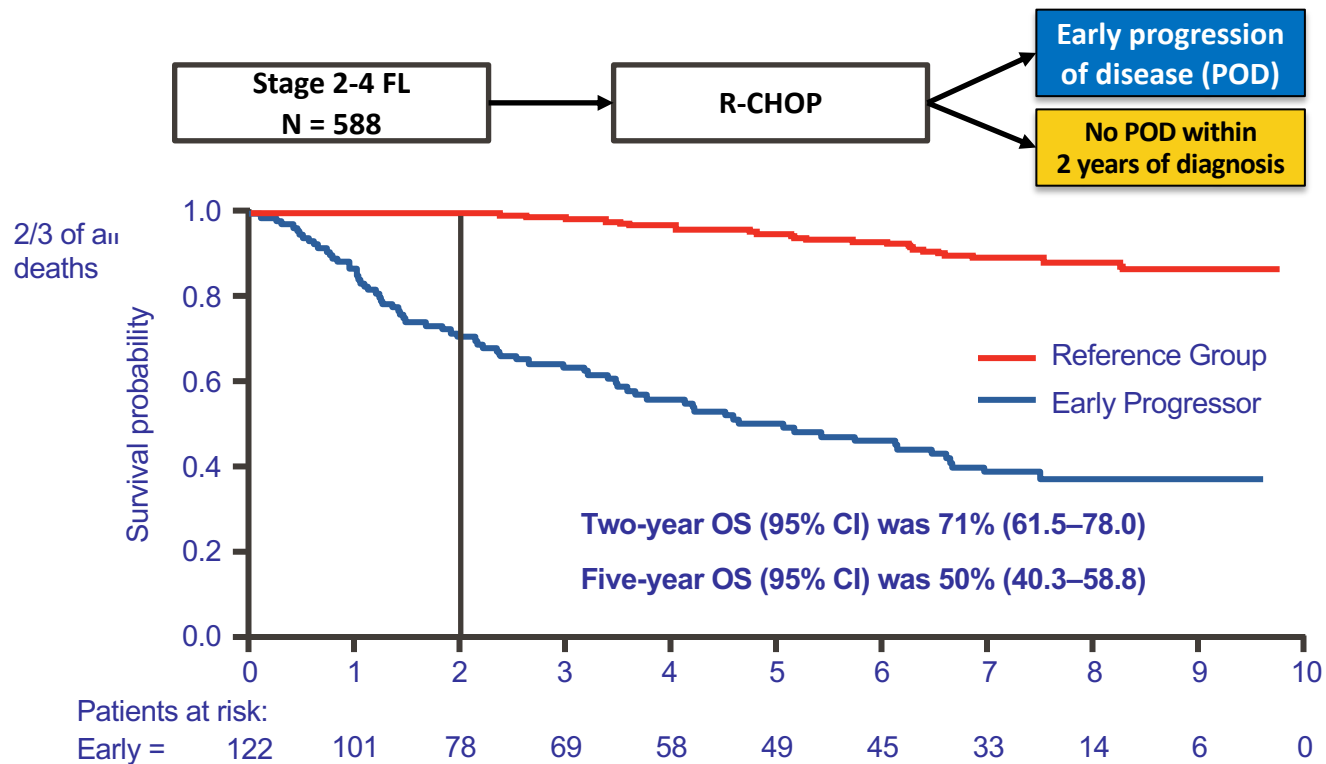
2<sup>nd</sup> most common NHL

- 30,000 new people diagnosed/year
- Indolent course with median survival 20+ yrs
- Incurable; Waxing and waning course
- Risk of transformation over time



Neelapu S. *60 Years of Survival Outcomes at the MD Anderson Cancer Center*. Springer. 2013. pp. 241-250.

# OS of Patients With FL Who Relapsed Within 2 Years of R-CHOP (“Early POD”)



# Progression of Disease in 24 Months Predicts Poor Survival

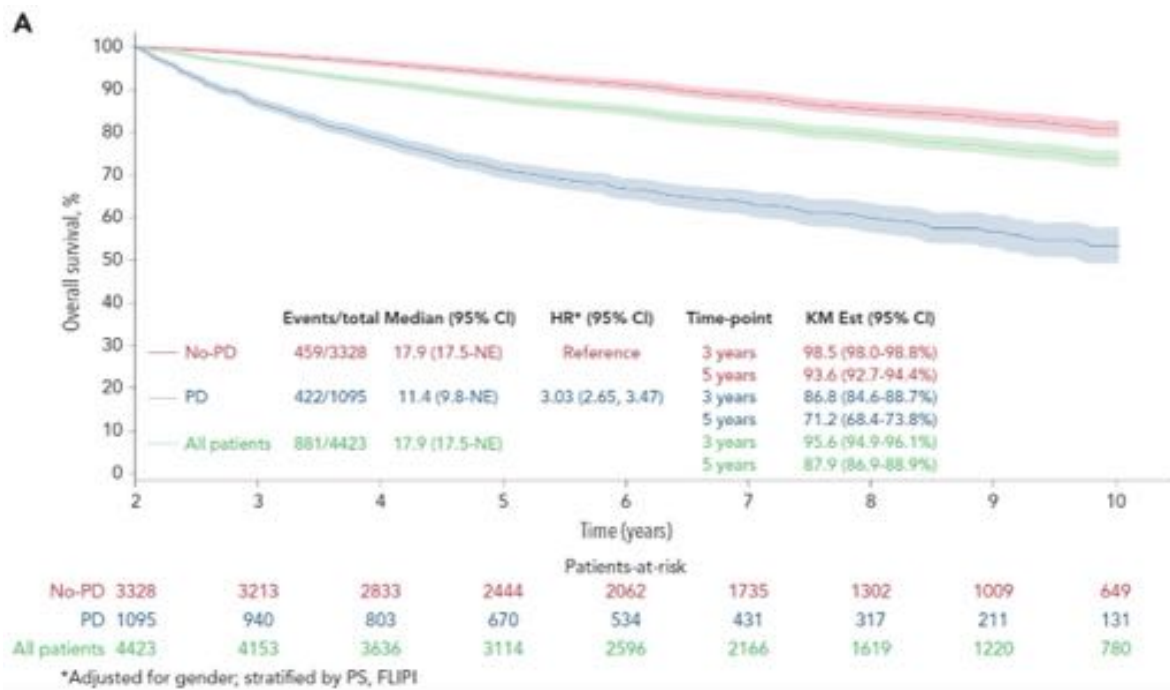
Analysis of >5000 patients on 13 clinical trials

- POD24 independently associated with increased risk of death or progression
- POD24 predicted by:

- Male sex
- Poor PS
- High-risk FLIPI
- Elevated  $\beta$ 2-microglobulin

For patients with POD24,  
death more likely in the  
following:

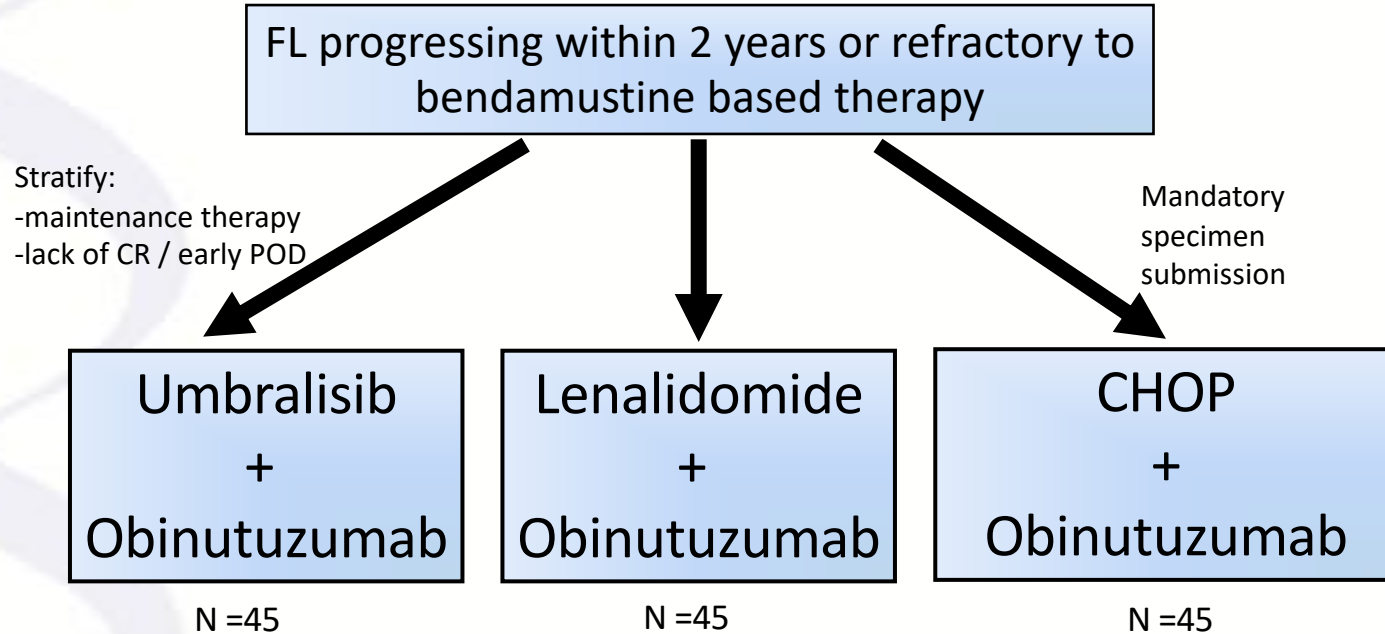
- Age >60
- Male sex
- PS  $\geq$ 2
- High-risk FLIPI
- Hgb <12
- Elevated  $\beta$ 2-microglobulin



Casulo et al, 2022

# S1608: Randomized phase II trial in early progressing or refractory FL

Paul Barr (SWOG), Brian Link (Alliance), Chris Flowers (ECOG)



Primary clinical objective: CR by PET/CT

Primary translational objective: Validation of m7-FLIPI in this high-risk population

# NOT the FLASH

## I will discuss today...

---



# **Follicular Lymphoma Analysis of Surrogate Hypotheses (FLASH) Group Collaborators**

---

**Evaluation of Complete Response Rate at 30 Months  
as a Surrogate Endpoint for Progression-Free  
Survival in First-Line Follicular Lymphoma Studies:  
Analyses of Individual Patient Data of 3837 Patients  
From the FLASH Database**

# Follicular Lymphoma Analysis of Surrogate Hypotheses (FLASH) Group Collaborators



Academic collaboration of clinicians and statisticians with expertise in FL and/or surrogate endpoint assessment

- Mayo Clinic independent statistical center; 13 Studies

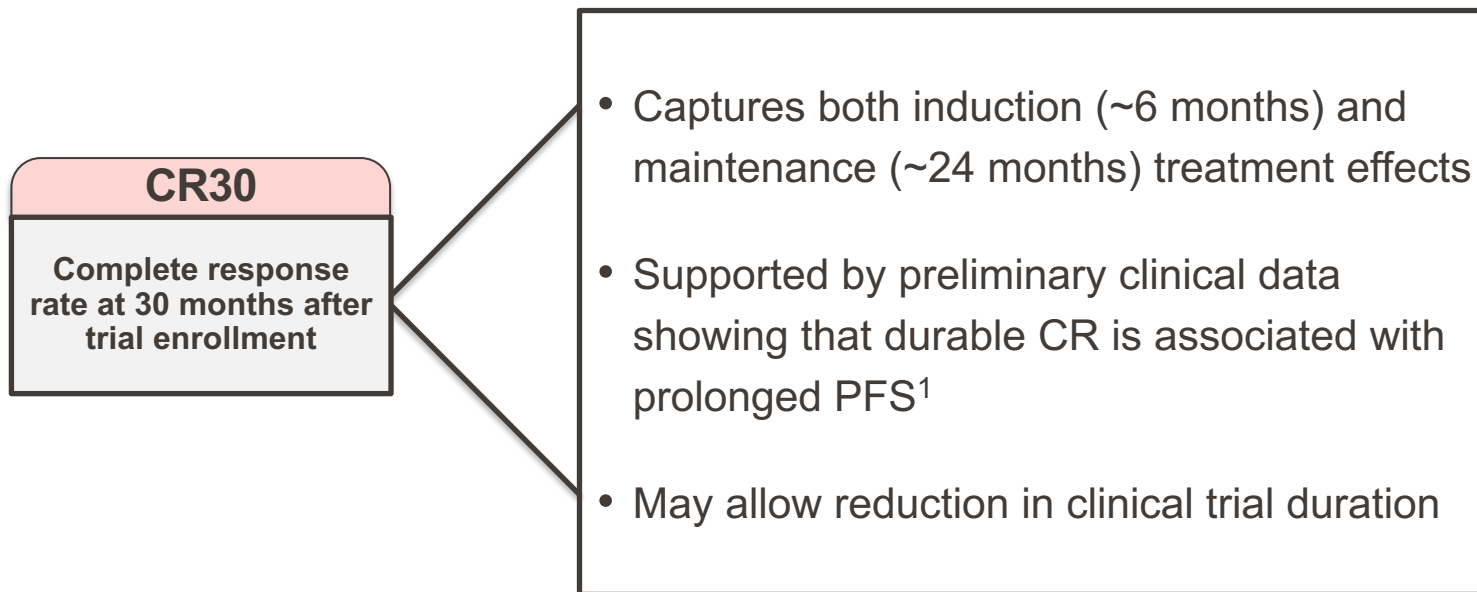
Met with US FDA and the European Medicines Agency (EMA) to prospectively define meta-analysis approach and statistical methods

## **Objective**

- Establish a surrogate endpoint for PFS to reduce duration of clinical trials and expedite patient access to effective new therapies



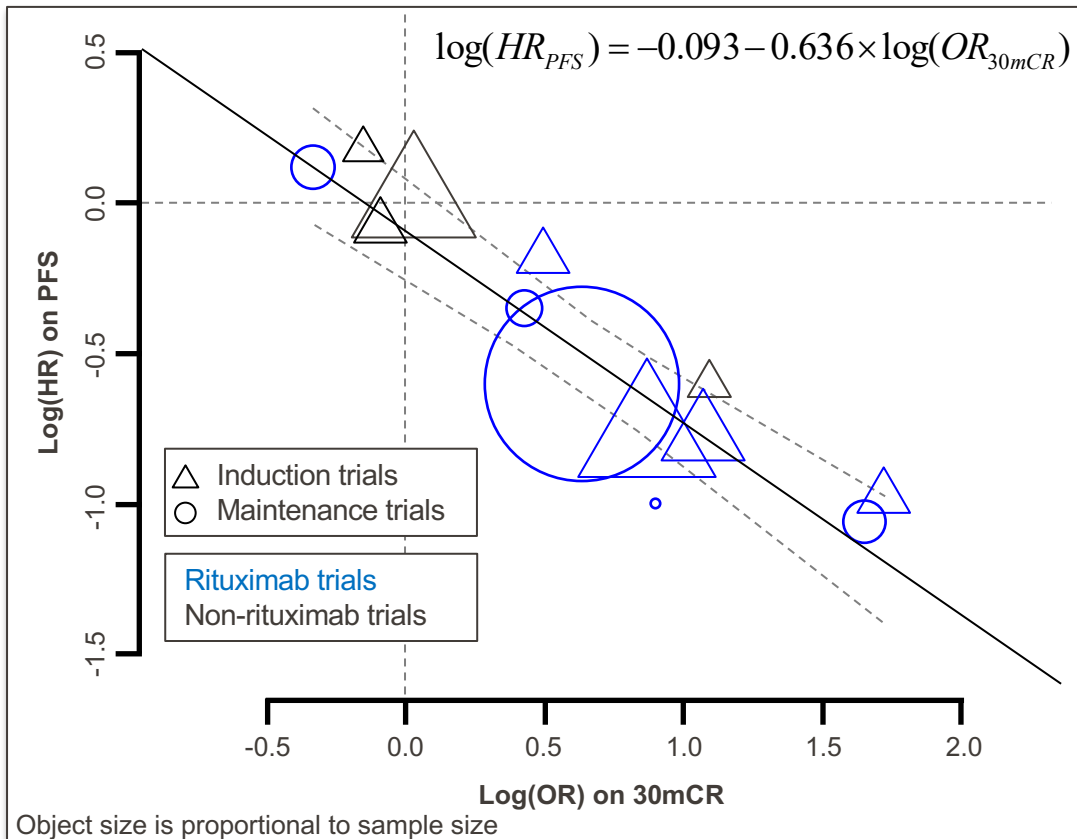
# Principal Surrogacy Candidate



# 13 Studies and 26 Treatment Arms

| Study Name     | Reference                         | Line of Treatment | Control Arm |                       | Experimental Arm |                            |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------|-----------------------|------------------|----------------------------|
|                |                                   |                   | n           | Treatment             | n                | Treatment                  |
| CALGB 7951     | Peterson 2003                     | Induction         | 86          | Cyclophosphamide      | 103              | CHOP-B                     |
| ECOG 1496      | Hochster 2009                     | Maintenance       | 113         | CVP/observation       | 115              | CVP/R maintenance          |
| EORTC 20921    | Hagenbeek 2006                    | Induction         | 117         | CVP                   | 114              | F                          |
| FavId 06       | Freedman 2009                     | Maintenance       | 130         | Rituximab/placebo     | 127              | Rituximab/idiotype vaccine |
| GOELAMS 064    | Gyan 2009<br>Deconinck 2005       | Induction         | 81          | CHVP/CHVP-IFN-a       | 85               | VCAP/ASCT                  |
| M39021         | Marcus 2008                       | Induction         | 160         | CVP                   | 162              | R-CVP                      |
| M39023/OSHO-39 | Herold 2007                       | Induction         | 96          | MCP/IFN-a             | 105              | R-MCP/IFN-a                |
| ML16865/NLG    | Kimby 2015                        | Induction         | 117         | Rituximab             | 111              | Rituximab + IFN-a          |
| ML17638/FIL    | Vitolo 2013                       | Maintenance       | 101         | R-FND/observation     | 101              | R-FND/R maintenance        |
| PRIMA          | Salles 2010                       | Maintenance       | 513         | R-chemo/observation   | 505              | R-chemo/R maintenance      |
| SAKK 35/98     | Ghielmini 2004<br>Martinelli 2010 | Maintenance       | 23          | Rituximab/observation | 22               | Rituximab/R maintenance    |
| STUDY 1/GLSG   | Nickenig 2006                     | Induction         | 362         | CHOP/ASCT, IFN-a      | 146              | MCP/ASCT, IFN-a            |
| STUDY A/GLSG   | Hiddemann 2005                    | Induction         | 290         | CHOP/ASCT, IFN-a      | 292              | R-CHOP/ASCT, IFN-a         |

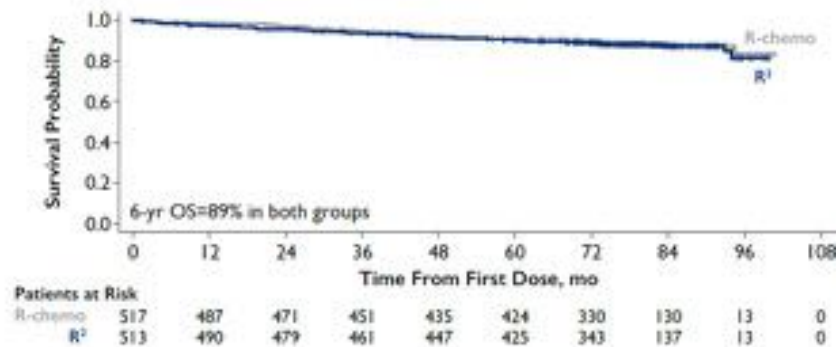
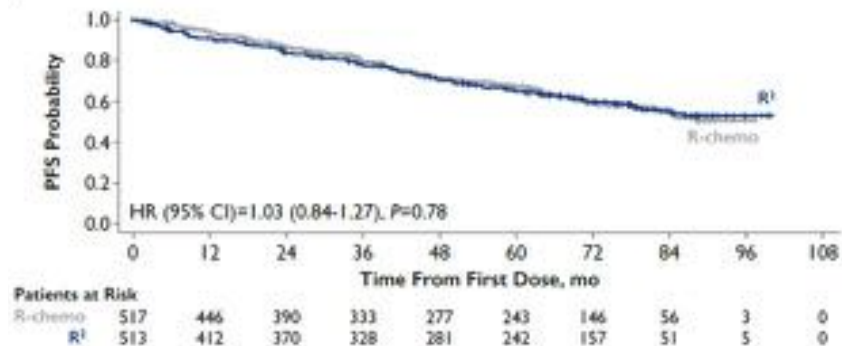
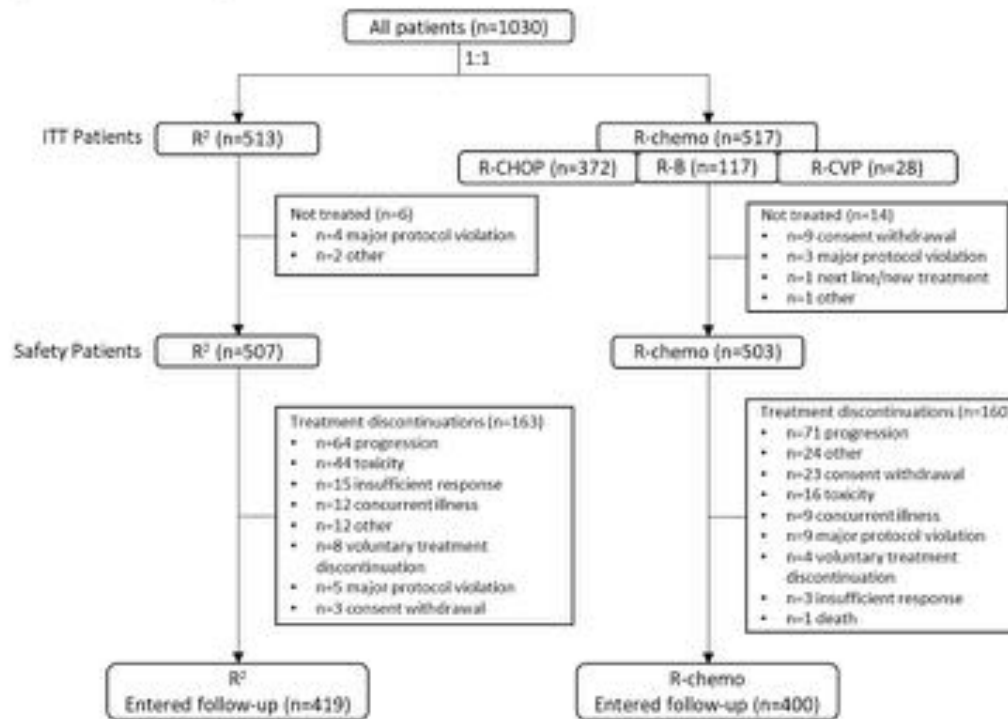
# Results: Primary Surrogacy Evaluation



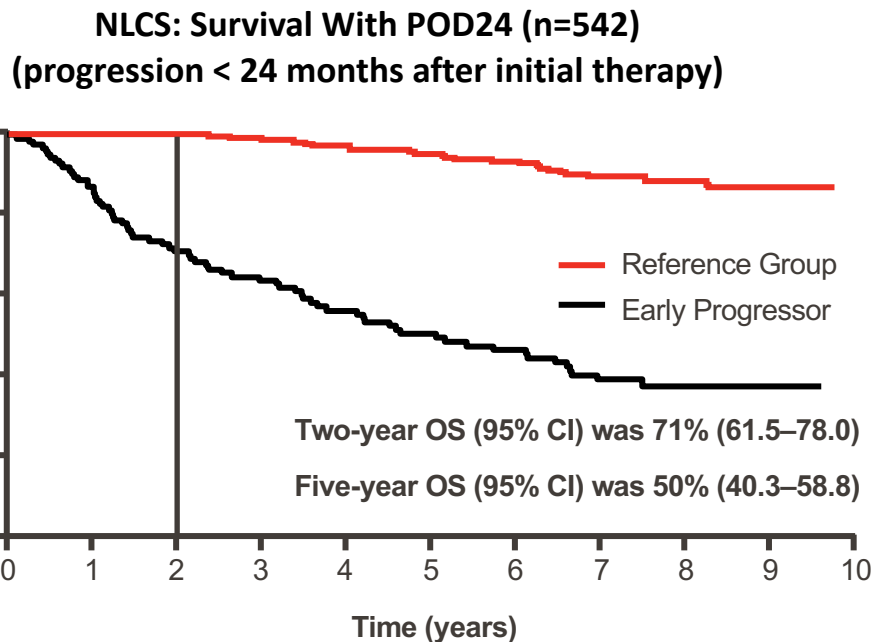
| $R^2_{WLS}$<br>(95% CI) | $R^2_{Copula}$<br>(95% CI) |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| 0.88<br>(0.77, 0.96)    | 0.86<br>(0.72, 1.00)       |

**30 month complete  
response rate met  
the pre-specified  
surrogacy  
qualification criteria  
for PFS**

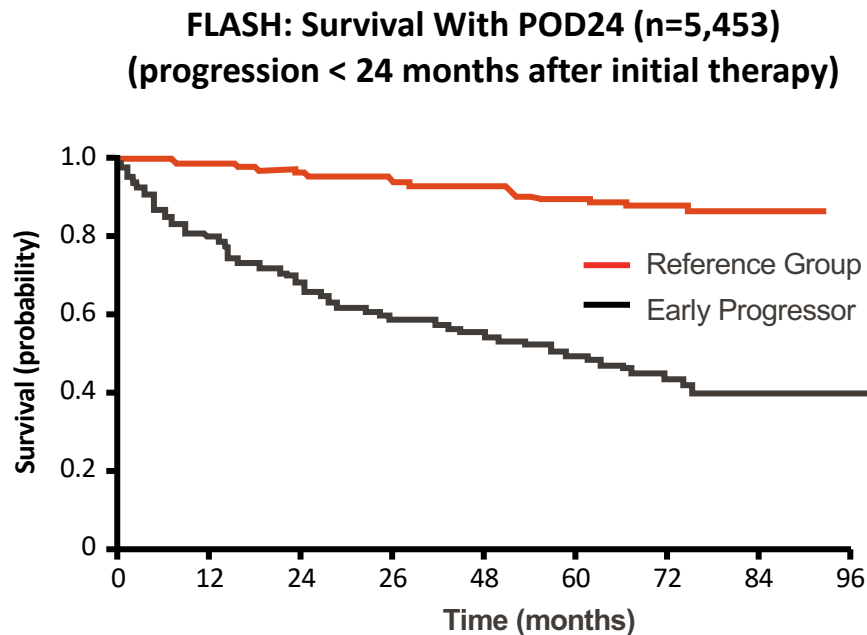
# RELEVANCE: R<sup>2</sup> vs R-chemo in Frontline FL



# Example: Connections Between Cohort Study and RCTs

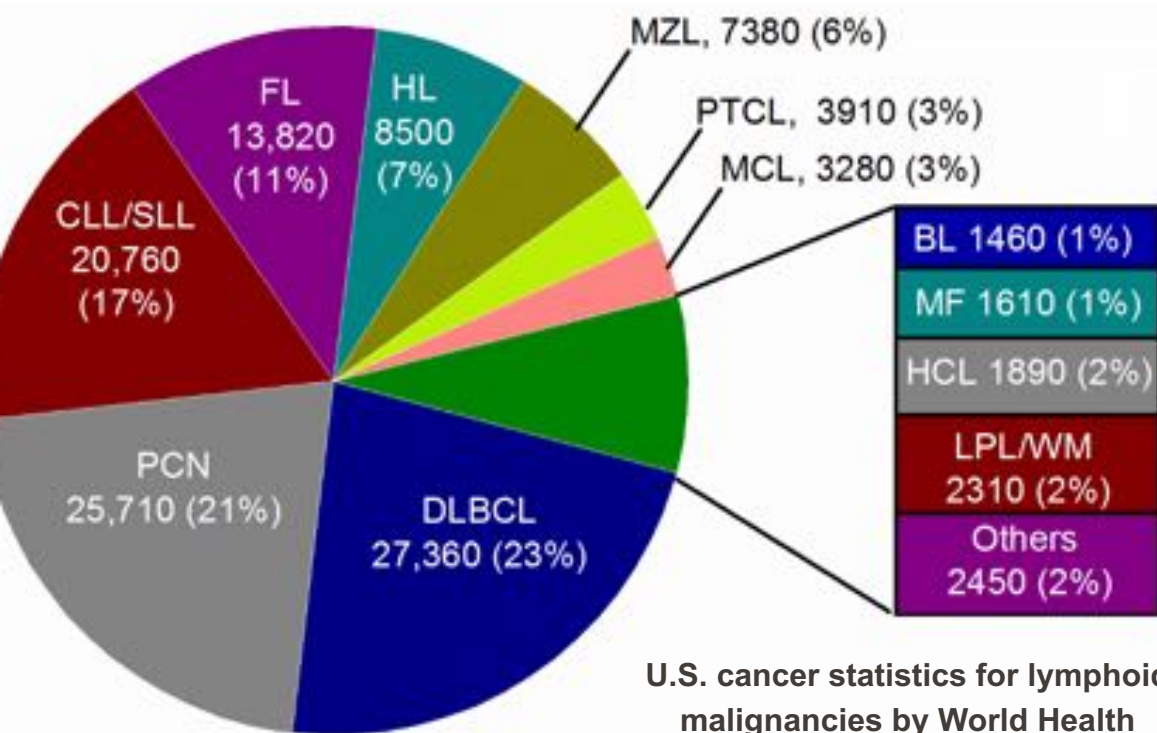


Casulo et al. *JCO*. 2015;33:2516.



Casulo et al. *Blood*. 2022

# Annual Incidence of Lymphoid Cancers in the United States

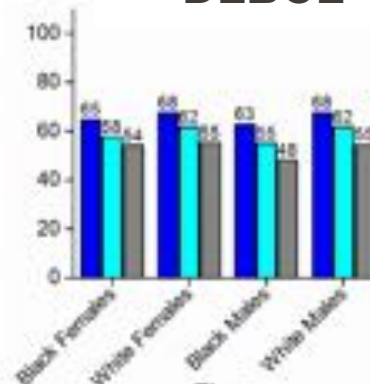


U.S. cancer statistics for lymphoid malignancies by World Health Organization subtypes

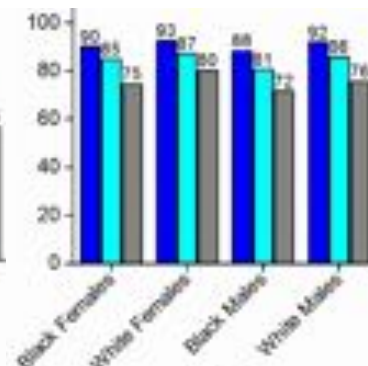
## Overall Survival

2-year 5-year 10-year

### DLBCL

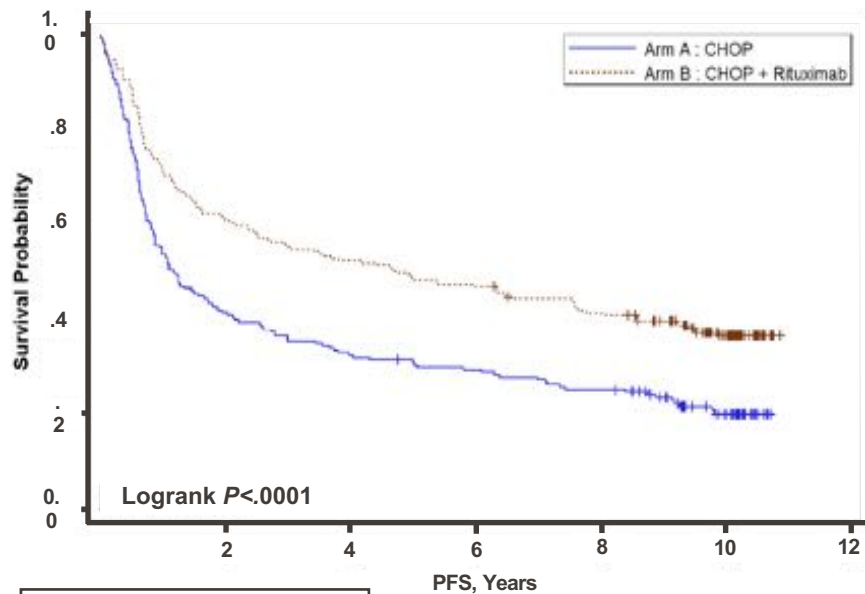


### FL



Teras LR, DeSantis CE, Morton LM, Cerhan JR, Jemal A, Flowers CR  
*CA Cancer J Clin.* 2016

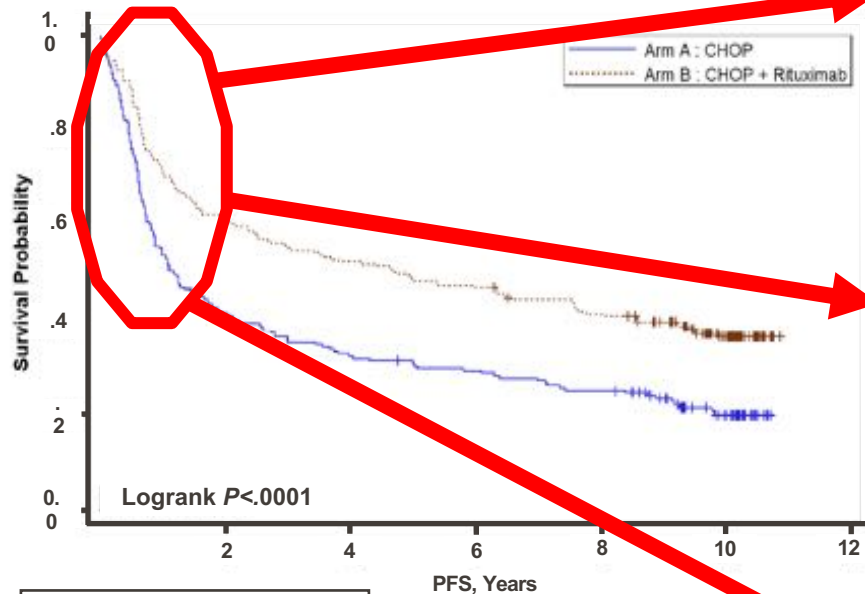
# DLBCL: Strategies to Improve Beyond R-CHOP-21



Age > 60 years  
PS > 2  
Stage III-IV  
Extranodal sites > 2  
LDH > Nml

IPI

# DLBCL: Strategies to Improve Beyond R-CHOP-21



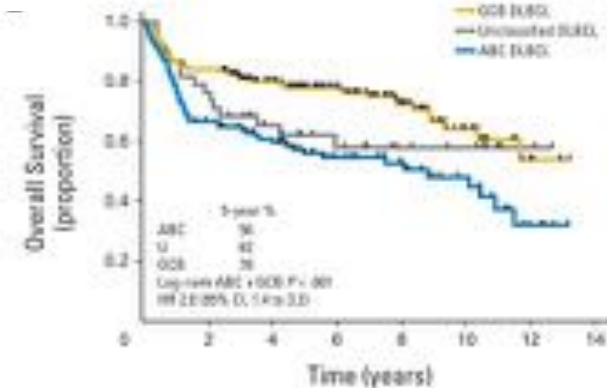
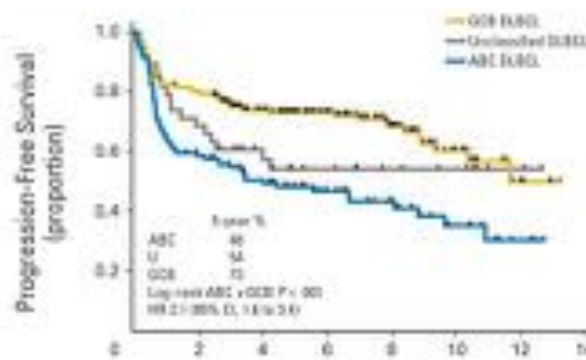
Intensification over  
R-CHOP-21?

Better predict/evaluate  
quality of response?

Take into consideration  
biological diversity of DLBCL

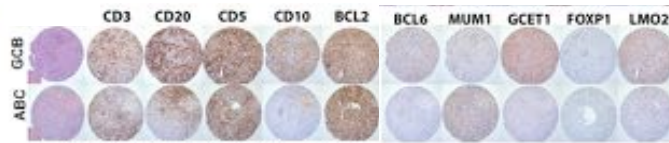
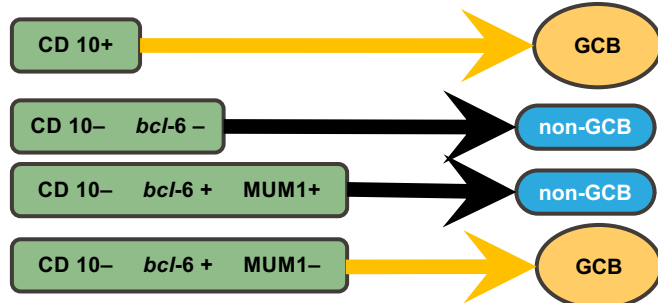
Age > 60 years  
PS > 2  
Stage III-IV  
Extranodal sites > 2  
LDH > Nml

IPI

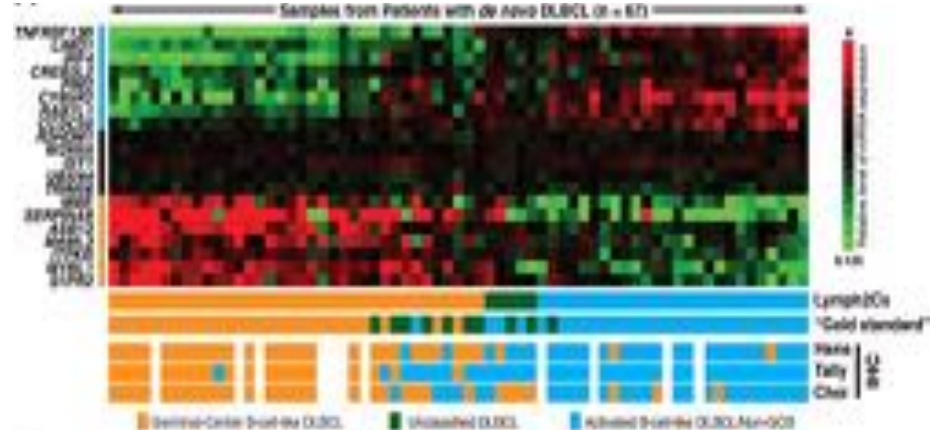


**Hans et al. *Blood*. 2004;103:275**

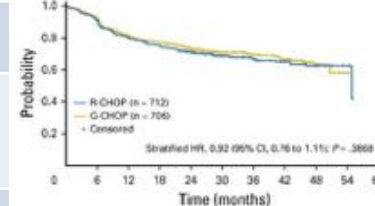
**LYMPHOMA  
SUBTYPE**



Scott et al. **Blood**. 2014

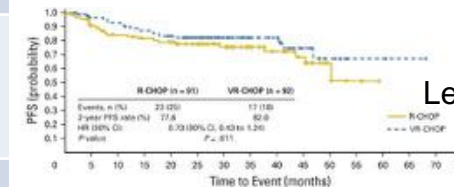


| Trial                         | Comparison                                | Result    |
|-------------------------------|---|-----------|
| <b>GOYA</b>                   | R-CHOP vs. G-CHOP<br>(n=1,418)            | Negative  |
| <b>CALGB 50303</b>            | R-CHOP vs. R-DA-EPOCH<br>(n=524)          | Negative  |
| <b>PYRAMID<br/>(non-GCB)</b>  | R-CHOP vs. Bortezomib+R-CHOP<br>(n=206)   | Negative  |
| <b>REMoDL-B</b>               | R-CHOP vs. Bortezomib+R-CHOP<br>(n=1,085) | Negative  |
| <b>LYM-2034<br/>(non-GCB)</b> | R-CHOP vs. Bortezomib+R-CHP<br>(n=164)    | Negative  |
| <b>PHOENIX<br/>(ABC)</b>      | R-CHOP vs. Ibrutinib+R-CHOP<br>(n=838)    | Negative  |
| <b>ECOG 1412</b>              | R-CHOP vs. Lenalidomide+R-CHOP<br>(n=345) | ?Positive |
| <b>ROBUST<br/>(non-GCB)</b>   | R-CHOP vs. Lenalidomide+R-CHOP<br>(n=570) | Negative  |

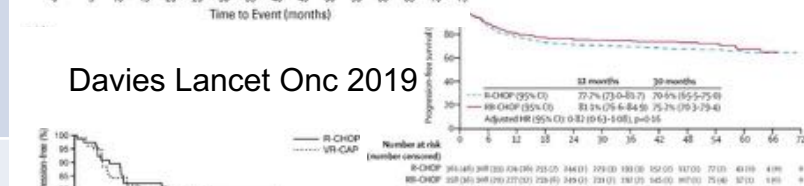


Vitolo *J Clin Oncol* 2017

Bartlett *J Clin Oncol* 2019



Leonard *J Clin Oncol* 2017



Davies *Lancet Onc* 2019

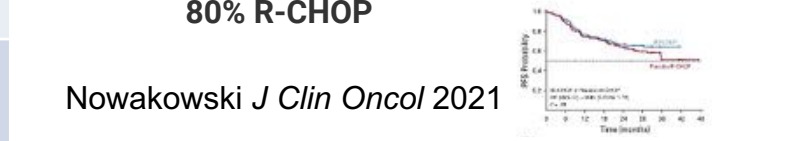
Offner *Blood* 2015



Younnes *J Clin Oncol* 2019

**2-year OS: 87% len/R-CHOP  
80% R-CHOP**

Nowakowski *JCO* 2021



Nowakowski *J Clin Oncol* 2021

# Progression-Free Survival as a Surrogate End Point for Overall Survival in First-Line Diffuse Large B-Cell Lymphoma: An Individual Patient - Level Analysis of Multiple Randomized Trials (SEAL)

Qian Shi, Norbert Schmitz, Fang-Shu Ou, Jesse G. Dixon, David Cunningham, Michael Pfreundschuh, John F. Seymour, Ulrich Jaeger, Thomas M. Habermann, Corinne Haioun, Hervé Tilly, Hervé Ghesquieres, Francesco Merli, Marita Ziepert, Raoul Herbrecht, Jocelyne Flament, Tommy Fu, Bertrand Coiffier, and Christopher R. Flowers

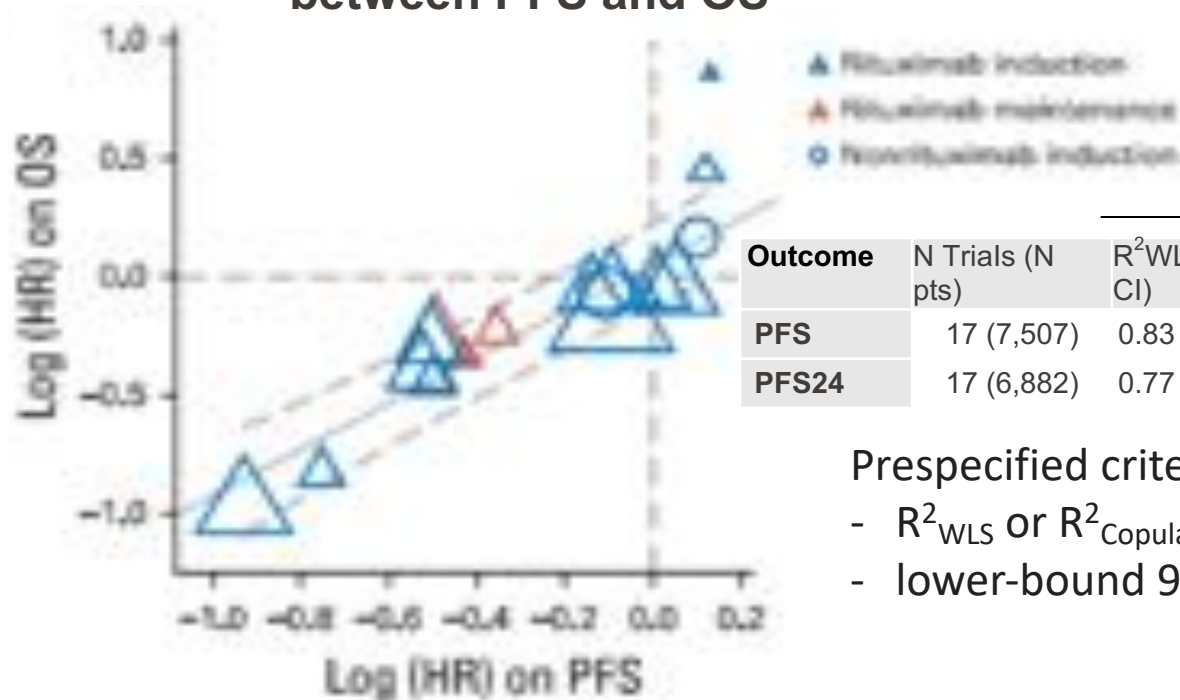
**RCTs Included in the Analysis (n=13)**

|                          | Control<br>(N=3,450) | Experimental<br>(N=4,057) | Total<br>(N=7,507) |
|--------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|
| Age (categorical), years |                      |                           |                    |
| <60                      | 1,566 (45)           | 1,562 (39)                | 3,128 (42)         |
| 60-69                    | 1,034 (30)           | 1,386 (34)                | 2,420 (32)         |
| ≥70                      | 850 (25)             | 1,109 (27)                | 1,959 (26)         |
| Sex                      |                      |                           |                    |
| Female                   | 1,580 (46)           | 1,896 (47)                | 3,476 (46)         |
| Male                     | 1,870 (54)           | 2,161 (53)                | 4,031 (54)         |
| ECOG Performance Status  |                      |                           |                    |
| Missing                  | 3                    | 1                         | 4                  |
| 0                        | 1,627 (47)           | 1,837 (45)                | 3,464 (46)         |
| 1                        | 1,328 (38)           | 1,641 (40)                | 2,969 (40)         |
| ≥ 2                      | 492 (14)             | 578 (14)                  | 1,070 (14)         |
| IPI score                |                      |                           |                    |
| Missing                  | 393                  | 384                       | 777                |
| 0-1                      | 1,022 (33)           | 1,217 (33)                | 2,239 (33)         |
| 2                        | 734 (24)             | 968 (26)                  | 1,702 (25)         |
| 3                        | 768 (25)             | 878 (24)                  | 1,646 (24)         |
| 4-5                      | 533 (17)             | 610 (17)                  | 1,143 (17)         |
| Ann Arbor Stage          |                      |                           |                    |
| Missing                  | 14                   | 9                         | 23                 |
| I/II                     | 1,223 (35)           | 1,492 (37)                | 2,715 (36)         |
| III                      | 787 (23)             | 1,022 (25)                | 1,809 (24)         |
| IV                       | 1,426 (41)           | 1,534 (38)                | 2,960 (40)         |

**J Clin Oncol. 2018; 36(25): 2593-2602.**

# Progression-Free Survival is a Surrogate End Point for Overall Survival in First-Line Diffuse Large B-Cell Lymphoma

## Trial-level treatment effect correlation between PFS and OS



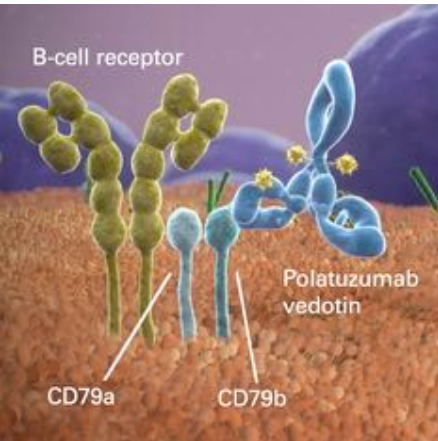
### Trial Level surrogacy:

### Patient Level surrogacy:

| Outcome | N Trials (N pts) | R <sup>2</sup> WLS (95% CI) | R <sup>2</sup> Copula (95% CI) | Global OR (95% CI) |
|---------|------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| PFS     | 17 (7,507)       | 0.83 (0.57-0.94)            | <b>0.85 (0.73-0.98)</b>        | 0.85 (0.84-0.86)   |
| PFS24   | 17 (6,882)       | 0.77 (0.51-0.92)            | 0.78 (0.59-0.96)               | 61.1 (52.6-69.6)   |

### Prespecified criteria for surrogacy:

- $R^2_{WLS}$  or  $R^2_{Copula} \geq 0.80$  and neither  $< 0.7$
- lower-bound 95% CI  $> 0.60$



# POLARIX: 1L DLBCL Phase 3

The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## Polatuzumab Vedotin in Previously Untreated Diffuse Large B-Cell Lymphoma

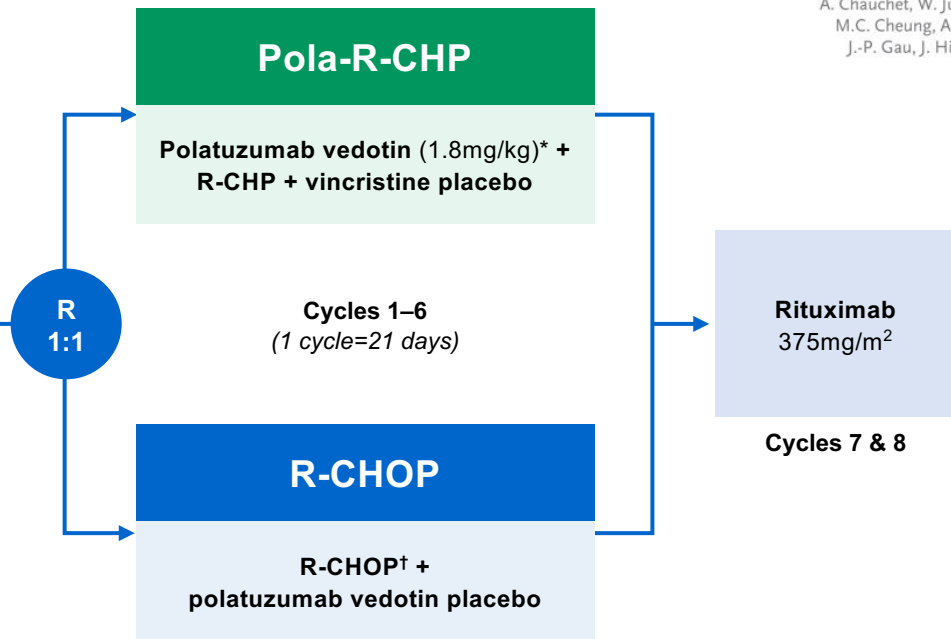
H. Tilly, F. Morschhauser, L.H. Sehn, J.W. Friedberg, M. Trnėný, J.P. Sharman, C. Herbaux, J.M. Burke, M. Matasar, S. Rai, K. Izutsu, N. Mehta-Shah, L. Oberic, A. Chauchet, W. Jurczak, Y. Song, R. Greil, L. Mykhalska, J.M. Bergua-Burgués, M.C. Cheung, A. Pinto, H.-J. Shin, G. Haggood, E. Munhoz, P. Abrisqueta, J.-P. Gau, J. Hirata, Y. Jiang, M. Yan, C. Lee, C.R. Flowers, and G. Salles

### Patients

- Previously untreated DLBCL
- Age 18–80 years
- IPI 2–5
- ECOG PS 0–2

### Stratification factors

- IPI score (2 vs 3–5)
- Bulky disease (<7.5 vs ≥7.5cm)
- Geographic region (Western Europe, US, Canada, & Australia vs Asia vs rest of world)



### Primary endpoint

Progression-free survival  
(Investigator-assessed)

### Secondary endpoints

- Event-free survival
- Complete response rate at end of treatment (PET/CT, IRC-assessed)
- Disease-free survival
- Overall survival

### Safety endpoints

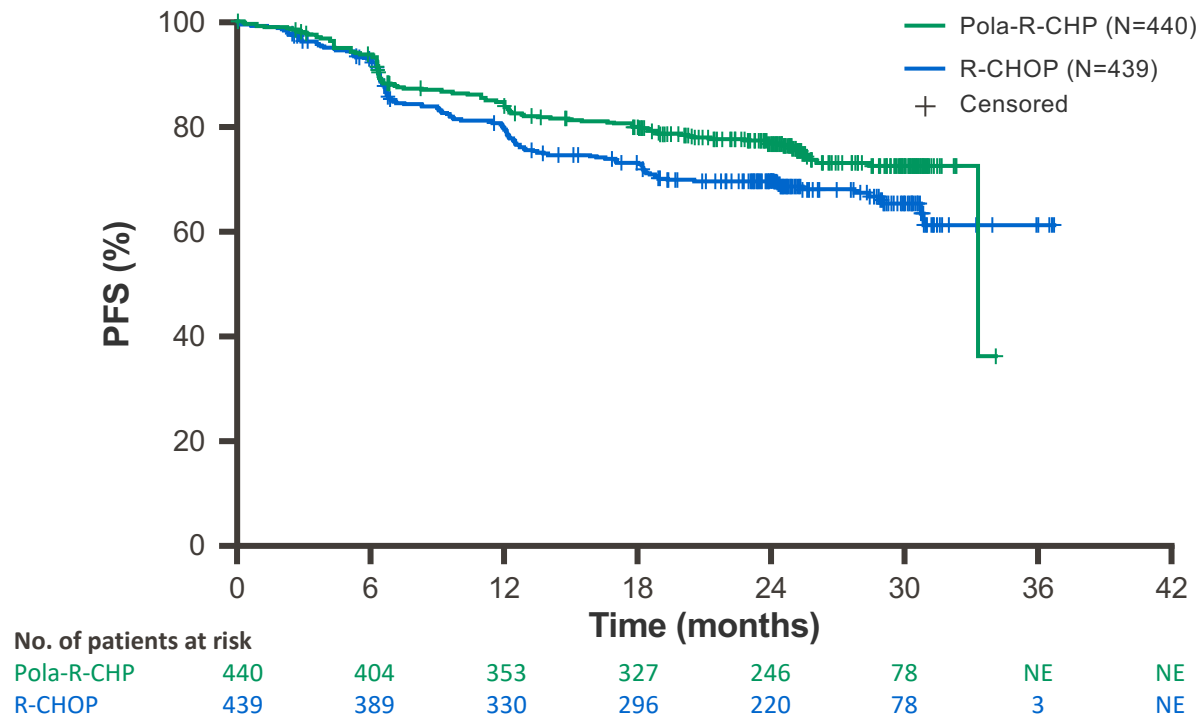
Incidence, nature, and severity of adverse events

CCOD: June 28, 2021

Median follow up at the primary analysis: 28.2 months

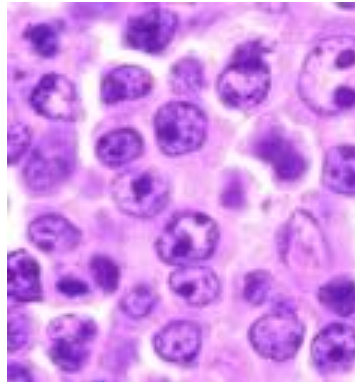
# Primary endpoint: Progression-free survival

## *Pola-R-CHP significantly improved PFS vs R-CHOP*



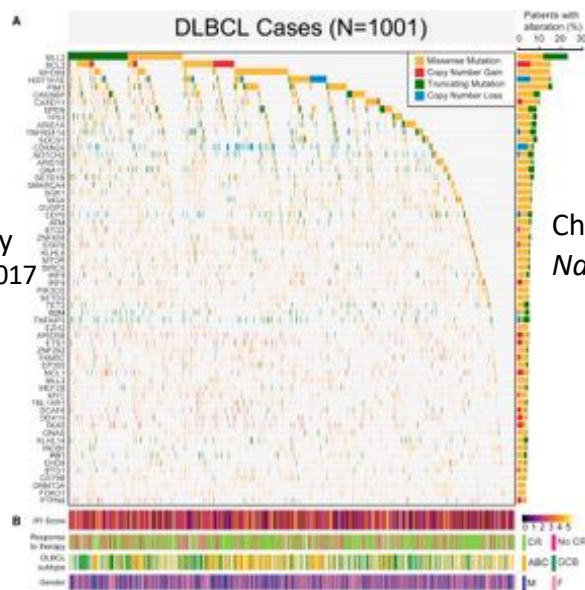
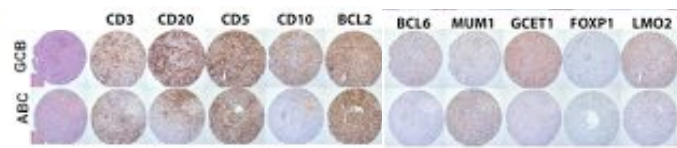
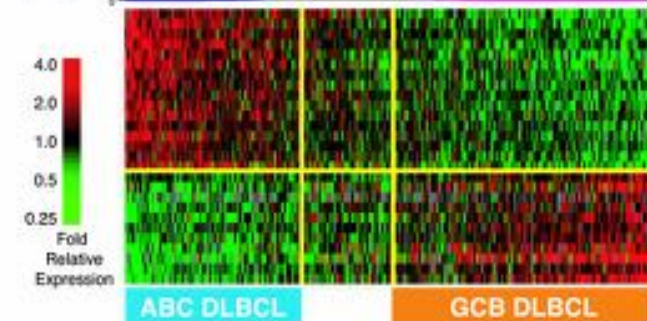
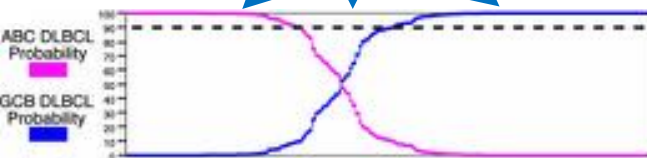
**HR 0.73** (P=0.02)  
95% CI: 0.57, 0.95

- Pola-R-CHP demonstrated a **27% reduction in the relative risk of disease progression, relapse, or death** vs R-CHOP
- **24-month PFS:**  
76.7% with Pola-R-CHP vs 70.2% with R-CHOP ( $\Delta=6.5\%$ )



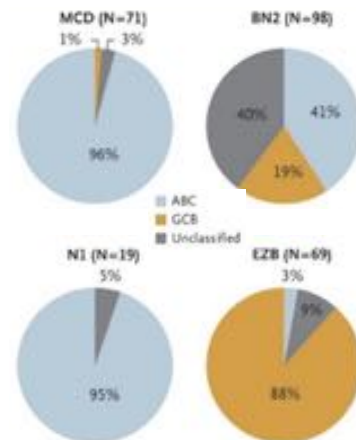
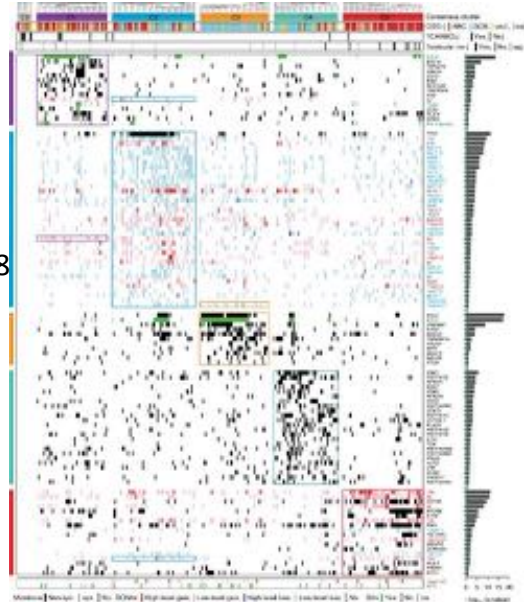
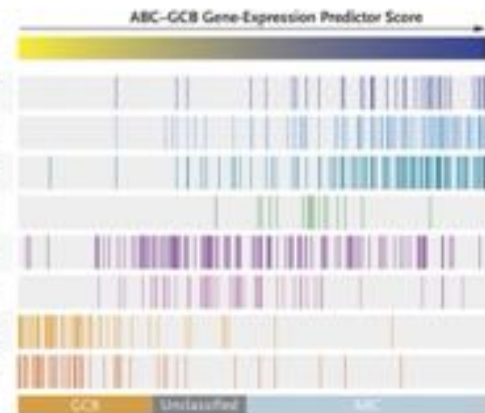
Reddy  
Cell 2017

Chapuy  
*Nat Med* 2018

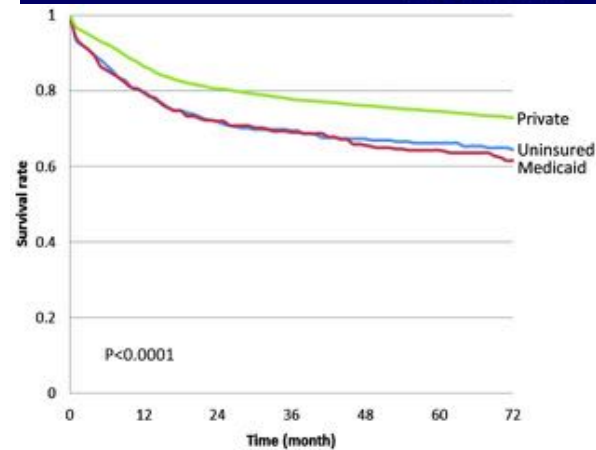
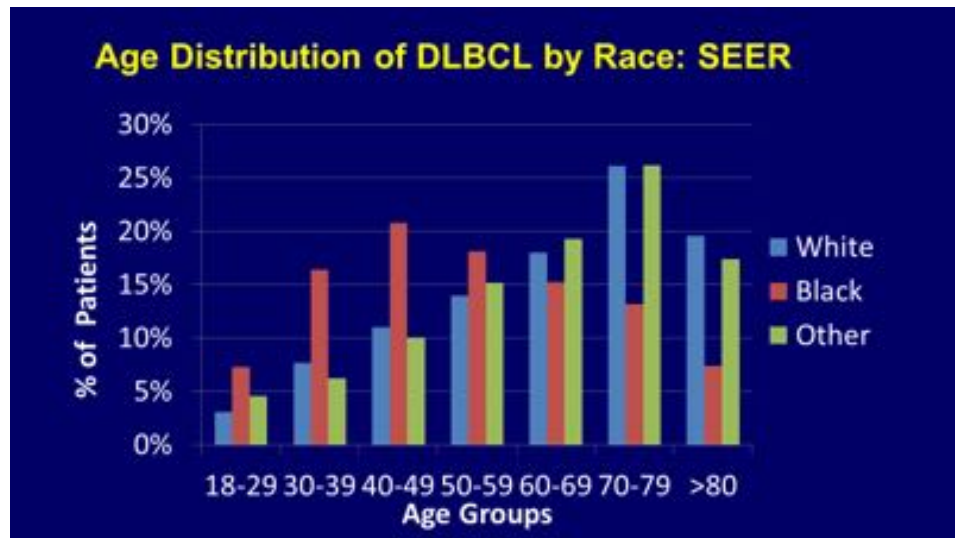
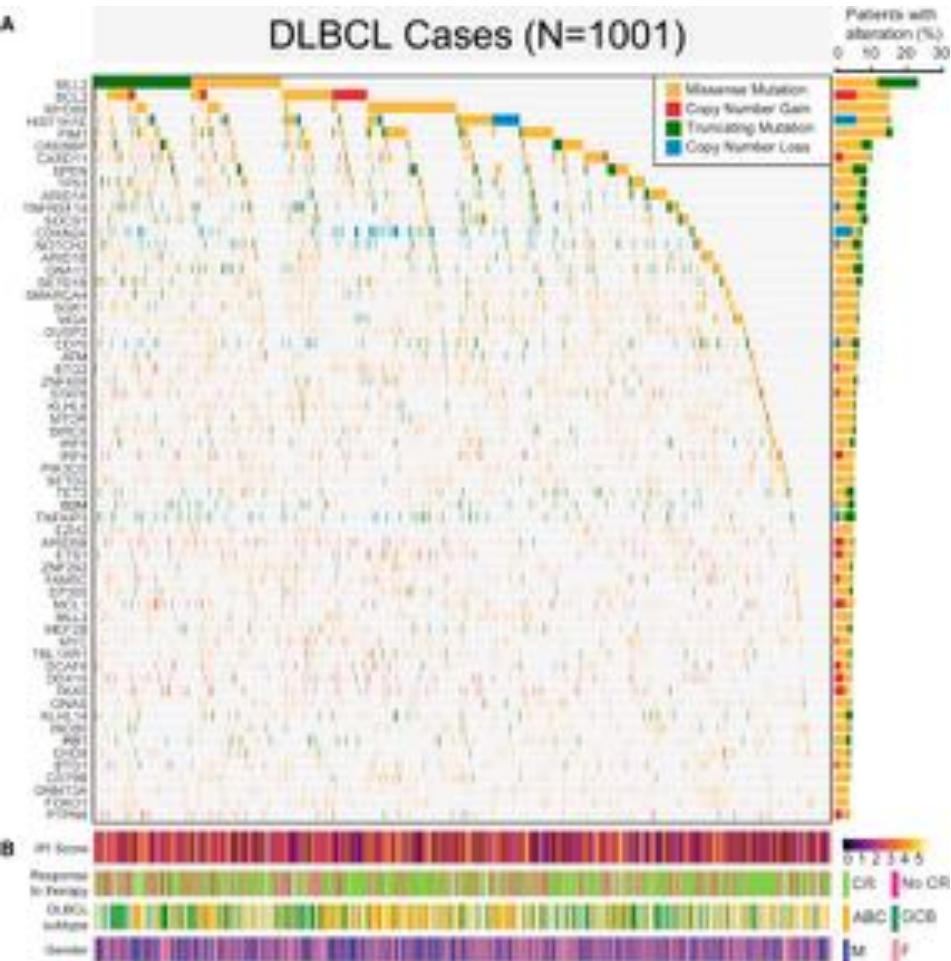


*Schmitz NEJM 2018*

| Genetic Feature                                 | Log <sub>10</sub><br>P Value | Unclas-<br>sified GCB | ABC<br>prevalence (%) |      |
|---|------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------|
| CD79b+MYD88 <sup>L265P</sup><br>double mutation | -6.4                         | 0.6                   | 1.7                   | 11.5 |
| CD79b mutation                                  | -13.8                        | 0.6                   | 6.1                   | 25.4 |
| MYD88 <sup>L265P</sup> mutation                 | -17.0                        | 1.2                   | 7.8                   | 28.8 |
| NOTCH1 mutation                                 | -3.8                         | 0.0                   | 0.9                   | 6.1  |
| BCL6 fusion                                     | -4.1                         | 11.6                  | 33.0                  | 18.6 |
| NOTCH2 mutation                                 | -5.3                         | 3.0                   | 20.0                  | 6.4  |
| BCL2 translocation                              | -20.4                        | 28.0                  | 5.2                   | 0.7  |
| EZH2 mutation                                   | -12.1                        | 22.0                  | 5.2                   | 1.3  |

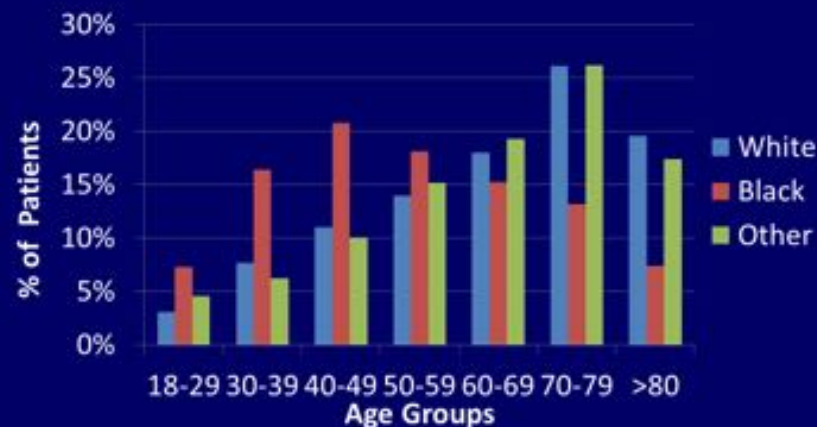


# DLBCL Molecular AND Clinical Heterogeneity



# Disparities in Lymphoma

## Age Distribution of DLBCL by Race: SEER



## African American Present 10 year Younger Across WHO Classified Lymphoid Malignancies

| NHL Subtype                                 | ICD-O-3 | Median Age |       |       |
|---|---------|------------|-------|-------|
|   |         | White      | Black | Other |
| B-CELL NEOPLASM                             |         |            |       |       |
| B-cell prolymphocytic leukemia              | 9833    | 75.5       | 57    | 46.5  |
| Lymphoplasmacytic lymphoma                  | 9671    | 71         | 60    | 69    |
| Follicular lymphoma, NOS                    | 9690    | 66         | 56    | 65    |
| Follicular lymphoma Grade 1                 | 9695    | 63         | 58    | 59    |
| Follicular lymphoma Grade 2                 | 9691    | 64         | 60    | 62    |
| Follicular lymphoma Grade 3                 | 9698    | 65         | 55    | 67    |
| Diffuse large B-cell lymphoma               | 9680    | 68         | 52    | 66    |
| Immunoblastic diffuse large B-cell lymphoma | 9684    | 60         | 48    | 67    |
| Primary effusion lymphoma                   | 9678    | 58         | 50.5  |       |
| Mediastinal (thymic) large cell lymphoma    | 9679    | 35         | 21.5  | 39    |
| Burkitt lymphoma                            | 9687    | 41         | 39.5  | 49    |
| T-CELL AND NK-CELL NEOPLASM                 |         |            |       |       |
| Peripheral T-cell lymphoma, unspecified     | 9702    | 65         | 54    | 65.5  |
| Classical Hodgkin lymphoma                  | 9650    | 50         | 39    | 41    |

[Disparities in survival by insurance status in follicular lymphoma.](#) Goldstein JS, Nastoupil LJ, Han X, Jemal A, Ward E, **Flowers CR.** *Blood.* 2018 Sep 13;132(11):1159-1166

[Impact of Treatment and Insurance on Socioeconomic Disparities in Survival after Adolescent and Young Adult Hodgkin Lymphoma: A Population-Based Study.](#) Keegan TH, DeRouen MC, Parsons HM, Clarke CA, Goldberg D, **Flowers CR,** Glaser SL. *Cancer Epidemiol Biomarkers Prev.* 2016 Feb;25(2):264-73.

[Population-specific prognostic models are needed to stratify outcomes for African-Americans with diffuse large B-cell lymphoma.](#) Chen Q, Ayer T, Nastoupil LJ, Koff JL, Staton AD, Chhatwal J, **Flowers CR.** *Leuk Lymphoma.* 2016;57(4):842-51

[Racial differences in chronic lymphocytic leukemia. Digging deeper.](#) **Flowers CR,** Pro B. *Cancer.* 2013 Oct 15;119(20):3593-5.

[Examining racial differences in diffuse large B-cell lymphoma presentation and survival.](#) **Flowers CR,** Shenoy PJ, Borate U, Bumpers K, Douglas-Holland T, King N, Brawley OW, Lipscomb J, Lechowicz MJ, Sinha R, Grover RS, Bernal-Mizrachi L, Kowalski J, Donnellan W, The A, Reddy V, Jaye DL, Foran J. *Leuk Lymphoma.* 2013 Feb;54(2):268-76.

[Disparities in the early adoption of chemoimmunotherapy for diffuse large B-cell lymphoma in the United States.](#) **Flowers CR,** Fedewa SA, Chen AY, Nastoupil LJ, Lipscomb J, Brawley OW, Ward EM. *Cancer Epidemiol Biomarkers Prev.* 2012 Sep;21(9):1520-30

[Racial differences in presentation and management of follicular non-Hodgkin lymphoma in the United States: report from the National LymphoCare Study.](#) Nabhan C, Byrtek M, Taylor MD, Friedberg JW, Cerhan JR, Hainsworth JD, Miller TP, Hirata J, Link BK, **Flowers CR.** *Cancer.* 2012 Oct 1;118(19):4842-50.

[Racial differences in the presentation and outcomes of chronic lymphocytic leukemia and variants in the United States.](#) Shenoy PJ, Malik N, Sinha R, Nooka A, Nastoupil LJ, Smith M, **Flowers CR.** *CLML* 2011 Dec;11(6):498-506.

[Racial differences in the presentation and outcomes of diffuse large B-cell lymphoma in the United States.](#) Shenoy PJ, Malik N, Nooka A, Sinha R, Ward KC, Brawley OW, Lipscomb J, **Flowers CR.** *Cancer.* 2011 Jun 1;117(11):2530-40.

[Charting the Future of Cancer Health Disparities Research: A Position Statement from the American Association for Cancer Research, the American Cancer Society, the American Society of Clinical Oncology, and the National Cancer Institute.](#) Polite BN, Adams-Campbell LL, Brawley OW, Bickell N, Carethers JM, **Flowers CR,** Foti M, Gomez SL, Griggs JJ, Lathan CS, Li CI, Lichtenfeld JL, McCaskill-Stevens W, Paskett ED. *J Clin Oncol.* 2017 Sep 10;35(26):3075-3082.

# Insurance, Socioeconomic Disparities and Survival for Adolescent and Young Adult Hodgkin Lymphoma

## Objective

Evaluate impact of sociodemographic characteristics (race/ethnicity, neighborhood SES, and health insurance) on survival among AYAs diagnosed with early- and late-stage Hodgkin lymphoma.

## Approach

9,353 AYA patients (15-39 years) \diagnosed with Hodgkin lymphoma (1988 to 2011) from the California Cancer Registry.

Multivariate Cox proportional hazards regression

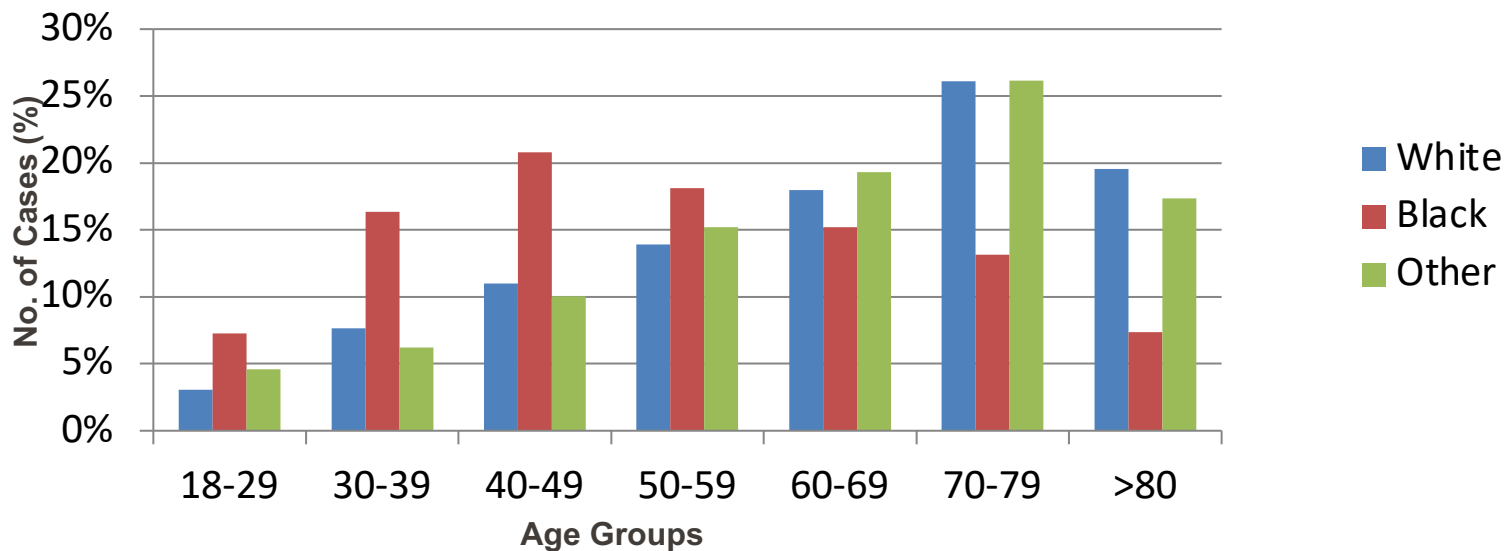
# Key Findings

- Improvements in HL-specific survival over time
- In multivariable analyses, HL-specific survival worse for Blacks than Whites with early-stage and late-stage disease and worse for Hispanics than Whites with late-stage disease.
- Worse survival if reside in lower SES neighborhoods.
- Worse survival with public health insurance or uninsured

# Age at Diagnosis by Race for InterLymph Clustering of WHO Classified Lymphoid Malignancies

| NHL Subtype                                    | ICD-O-3 | White median Age | Black median Age | Other median age |
|--|---------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| <b>B-CELL NEOPLASM</b>                         |         |                  |                  |                  |
| B-cell prolymphocytic leukemia                 | 9833    | 75.5             | 57               | 46.5             |
| Lymphoplasmacytic lymphoma                     | 9671    | 71               | 60               | 69               |
| Follicular lymphoma, NOS                       | 9690    | 66               | 56               | 65               |
| Follicular lymphoma Grade 1                    | 9695    | 63               | 58               | 59               |
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| Diffuse large B-cell lymphoma                  | 9680    | 68               | 52               | 66               |
| Immunoblastic diffuse large B-cell lymphoma    | 9684    | 60               | 48               | 67               |
| Primary effusion lymphoma                      | 9678    | 58               | 50.5             |                  |
| Mediastinal (thymic) large cell lymphoma       | 9679    | 35               | 21.5             | 39               |
| Burkitt lymphoma                               | 9687    | 41               | 39.5             | 49               |
| <b>T-CELL AND NK-CELL NEOPLASM</b>             |         |                  |                  |                  |
| Precursor T-cell neoplasm                      |         |                  |                  |                  |
| Peripheral T-cell lymphoma, unspecified        | 9702    | 65               | 54               | 65.5             |
| <b>HODGKIN LYMPHOMA</b>                        |         |                  |                  |                  |
| Classical Hodgkin lymphoma                     | 9650    | 50               | 39               | 41               |
| Lymphocyte-depleted classical Hodgkin lymphoma | 9653    | 58.5             | 43               | 69               |

# Age distribution of DLBCL by Race



# Features at Presentation by Race

Black patients with DLBCL present:

- Younger age
- More Advanced stage
- Worse survival

Black patients with DLBCL:

- More likely uninsured
- More likely Medicaid insured
- Less likely to receive chemoimmunotherapy

# Disparities in the Early Adoption of Chemoimmunotherapy for Diffuse Large B-cell Lymphoma in the United States

## Objective:

To investigate the factors affecting diffusion of chemoimmunotherapy for DLBCL.

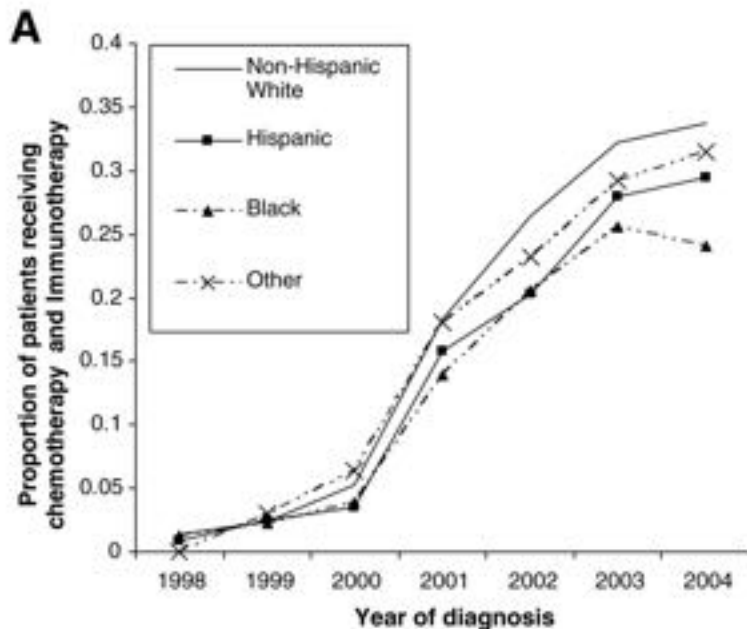
## Approach:

National Cancer Database (NCDB) to compare chemoimmunotherapy use with chemotherapy alone demographics, stage, health insurance, area-level socioeconomic status (SES), facility characteristics, and type of treatment for DLBCL patients diagnosed in 2001–2004.

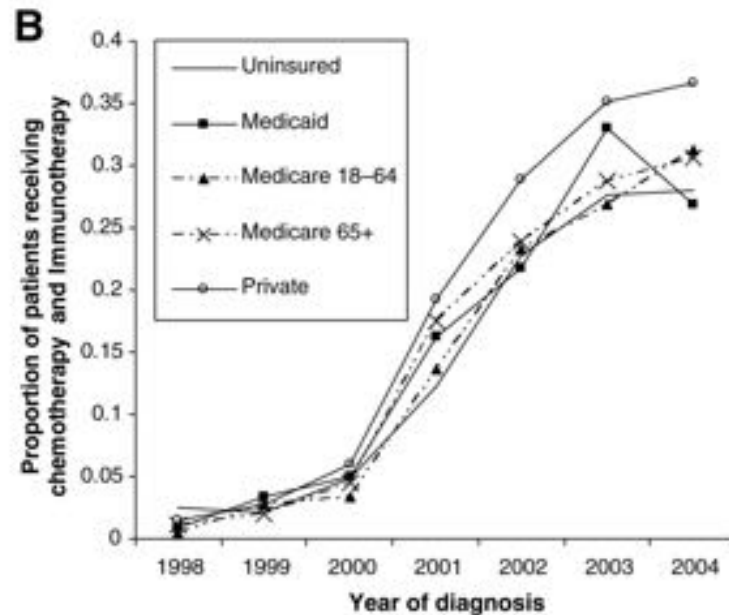
- Among 38,002 patients with DLBCL, 27% received chemoimmunotherapy and 50% chemotherapy alone.

# Receipt of chemotherapy and immunotherapy

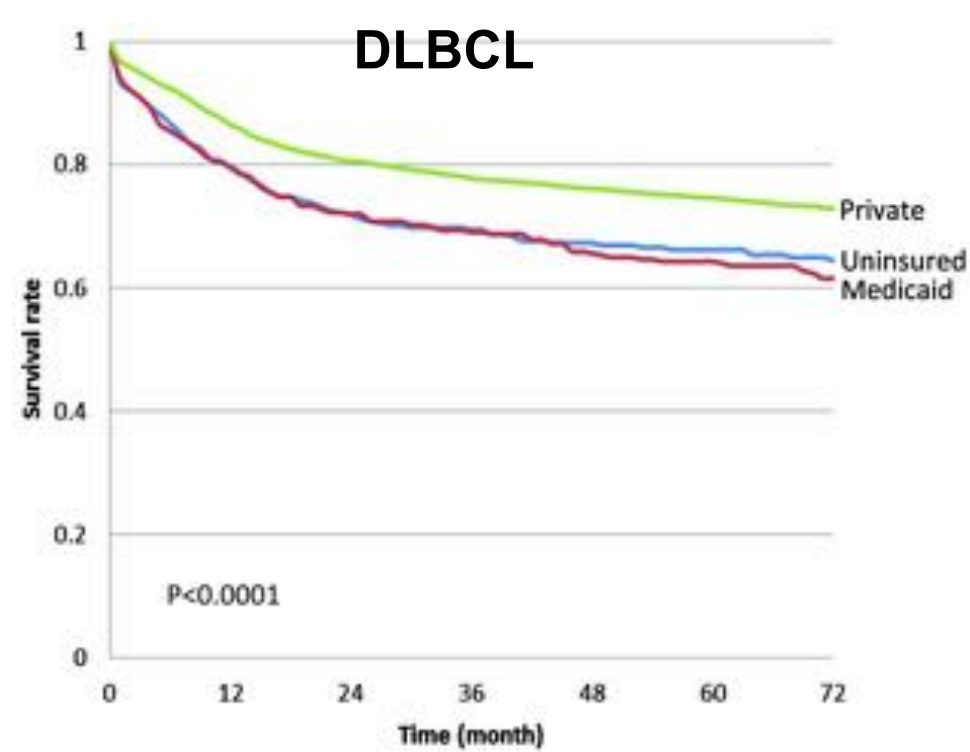
Race/ethnicity



Insurance status



# Insurance status influences Lymphoma survival

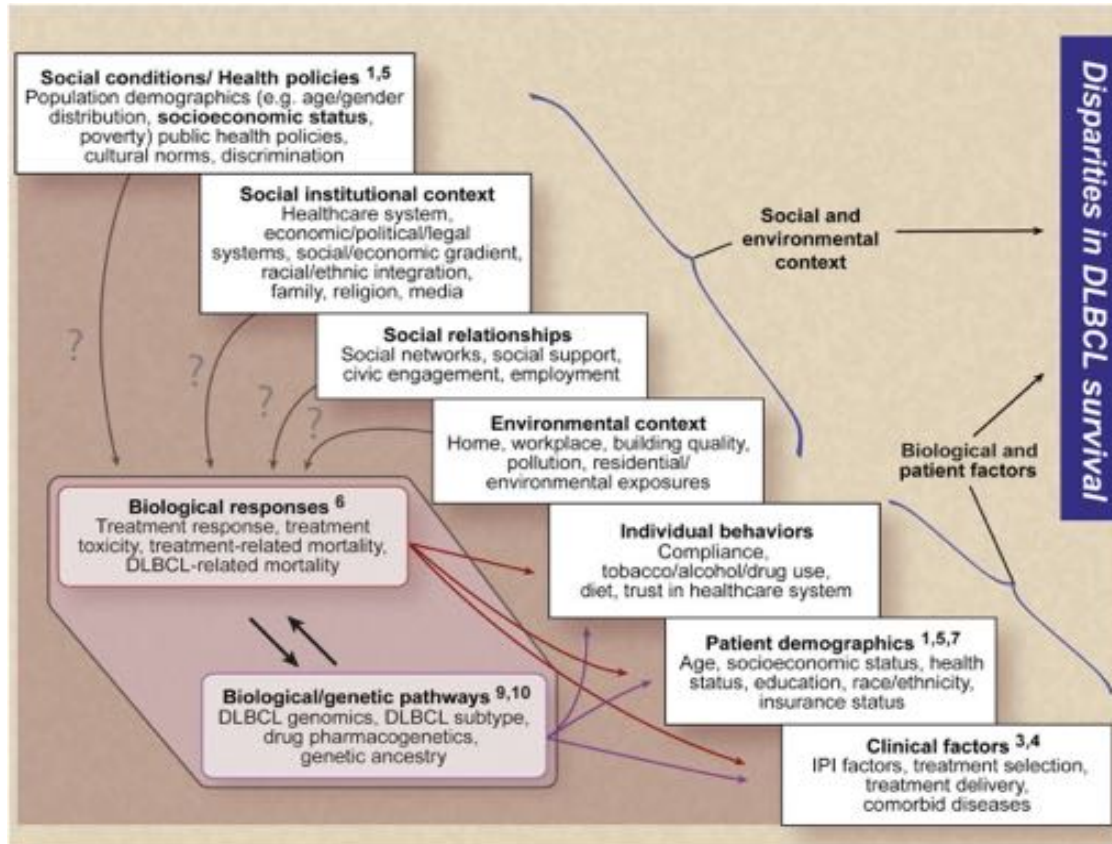


Han et al. Cancer 2014

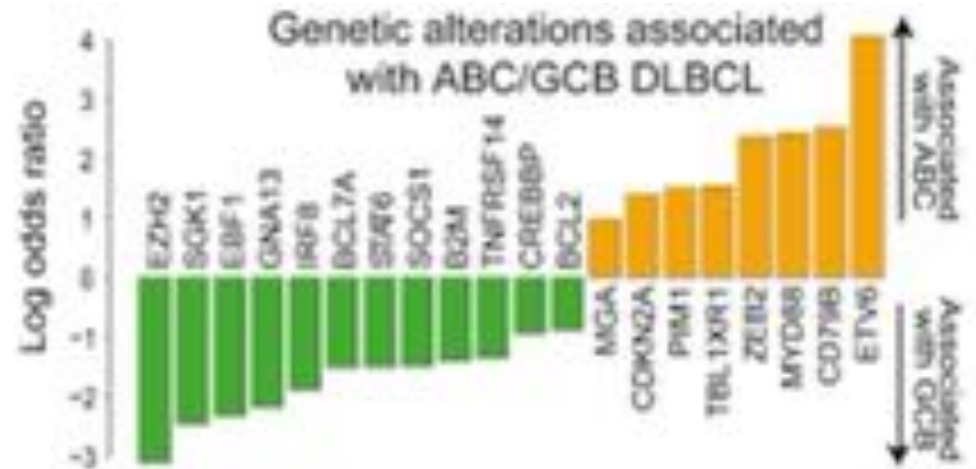
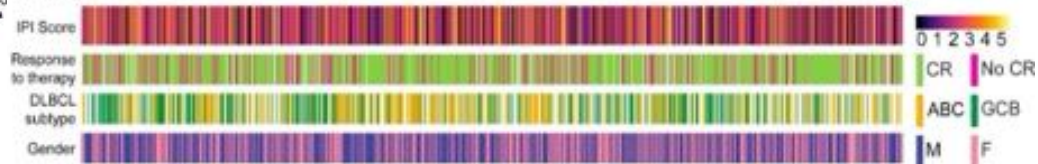
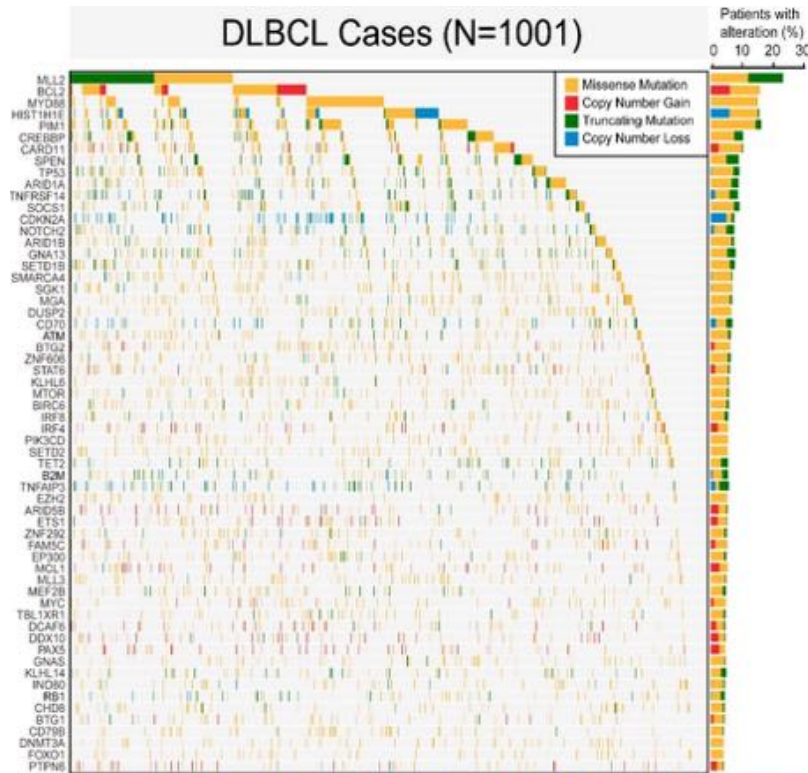
**FL**  
**Goldstein** et al. *Blood* 2018;132:1159-1166

| Factor           | Model 1             | Model 2             | Model 3             | Model 4             |
|------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Insurance status |                     |                     |                     |                     |
| Private          | 1                   | 1                   | 1                   | 1                   |
| Uninsured        | 1.43<br>(1.18-1.74) | 1.39<br>(1.14-1.70) | 1.28<br>(1.05-1.57) | 1.28<br>(1.05-1.57) |
| Medicaid         | 1.53<br>(1.29-1.83) | 1.48<br>(1.23-1.78) | 1.40<br>(1.16-1.68) | 1.37<br>(1.14-1.65) |
| % No HS Degree   |                     |                     |                     |                     |
| <14              |                     | 1                   | 1                   | 1                   |
| 14-19.9          |                     | 1.25<br>(1.05-1.48) | 1.23<br>(1.04-1.46) | 1.22<br>(1.03-1.45) |
| 20-28.9          |                     | 1.33<br>(1.12-1.57) | 1.32<br>(1.11-1.56) | 1.31<br>(1.10-1.55) |
| ≥29              |                     | 1.65<br>(1.37-1.99) | 1.61<br>(1.34-1.94) | 1.59<br>(1.32-1.92) |
| Stage            |                     |                     |                     |                     |
| I                |                     |                     | 1                   | 1                   |
| II               |                     |                     | 1.10<br>(0.91-1.33) | 1.06<br>(0.88-1.29) |
| III              |                     |                     | 1.66<br>(1.37-2.02) | 1.57<br>(1.29-1.92) |
| IV               |                     |                     | 2.43<br>(2.08-2.84) | 2.27<br>(1.93-2.66) |

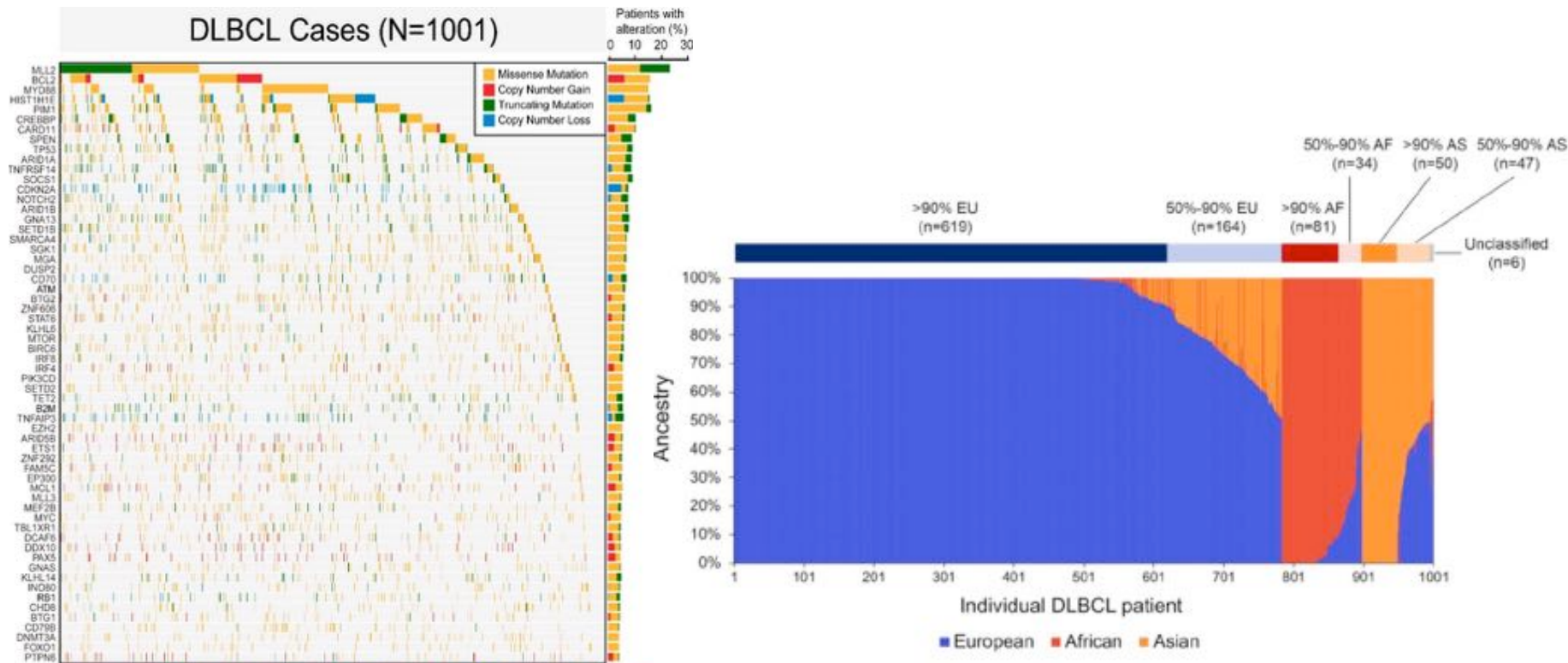
# Social, environmental, biological, and patient-related factors and disparities in DLBCL



## MD Anderson | Department of Lymphoma/Myeloma



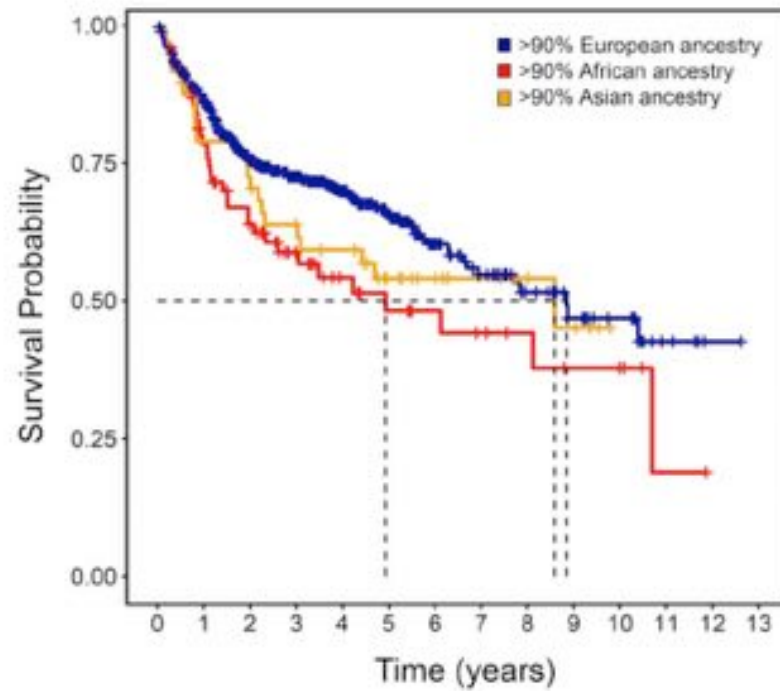
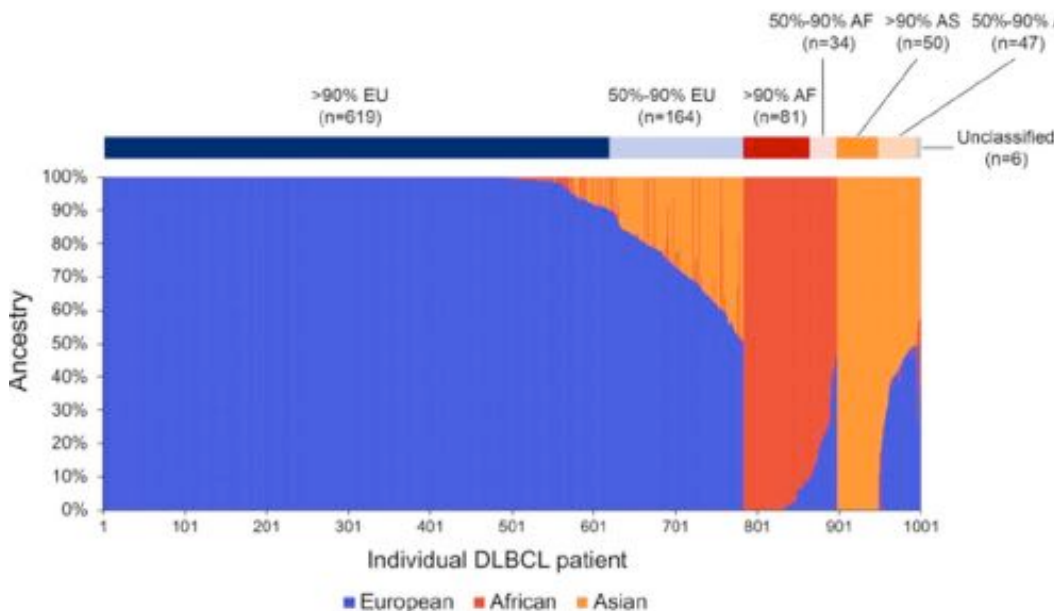
# Genetic ancestry analysis of 1001 DLBCL patients from Reddy



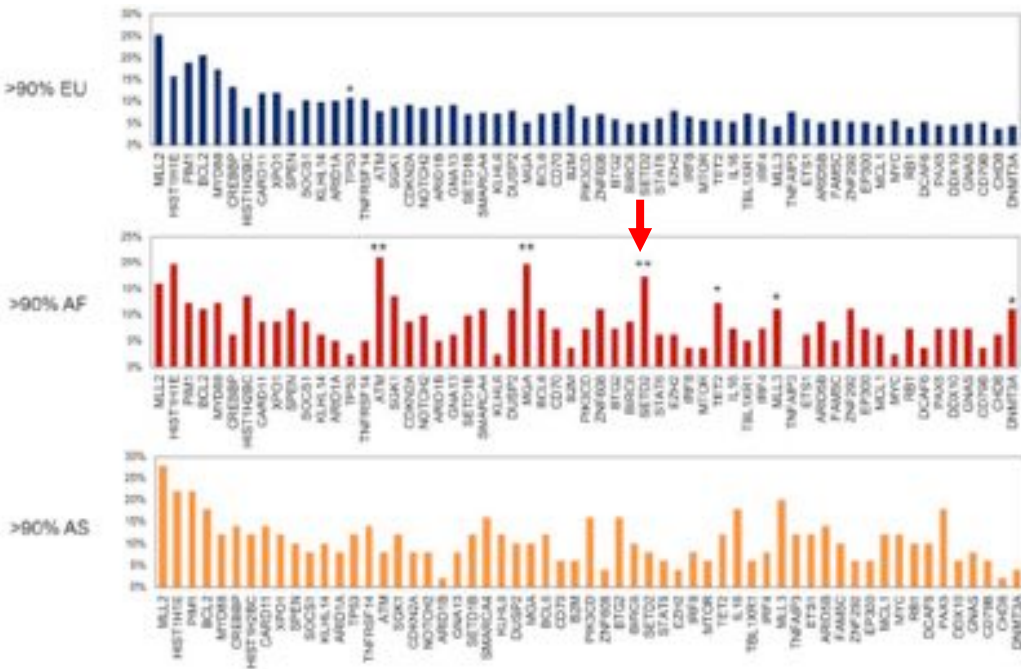
# Genetic ancestry analysis of 1001 DLBCL patients from Reddv

| Characteristics                 | No. of Patients (%)  |        |                 |        |                |        |                |        | <i>p<sup>a,b</sup></i> |                       |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|--------|-----------------|--------|----------------|--------|----------------|--------|------------------------|-----------------------|
|                                 | All Patients N = 750 |        | >90% EU N = 619 |        | >90% AF N = 81 |        | >90% AS N = 50 |        | >90% AF vs<br>>90% EU  | >90% AS vs<br>>90% EU |
| Age, y                          |                      |        |                 |        |                |        |                |        |                        |                       |
| Mean                            | 62                   |        | 63              |        | 52             |        | 60             |        | <.001                  | .91                   |
| ≤60                             | 318                  | (44.5) | 244             | (41.2) | 52             | (72.2) | 22             | (44.0) |                        |                       |
| >60                             | 396                  | (55.5) | 348             | (58.8) | 20             | (27.8) | 28             | (56.0) |                        |                       |
| Sex                             |                      |        |                 |        |                |        |                |        |                        |                       |
| Male                            | 420                  | (56.1) | 349             | (56.5) | 41             | (50.6) | 30             | (60.0) | .38                    | .81                   |
| Female                          | 329                  | (43.9) | 269             | (43.5) | 40             | (49.4) | 20             | (40.0) |                        |                       |
| LDH                             |                      |        |                 |        |                |        |                |        |                        |                       |
| Elevated                        | 363                  | (54.8) | 277             | (50.7) | 51             | (76.1) | 35             | (71.4) | <.001                  | .008                  |
| Normal                          | 299                  | (45.2) | 269             | (49.3) | 16             | (23.9) | 14             | (28.6) |                        |                       |
| Stage of disease<br>(Ann Arbor) |                      |        |                 |        |                |        |                |        |                        |                       |
| I/II                            | 277                  | (38.1) | 242             | (40.3) | 18             | (23.7) | 17             | (34.0) | .007                   | .47                   |
| III/IV                          | 450                  | (61.9) | 359             | (59.7) | 58             | (76.3) | 33             | (66.0) |                        |                       |
| ECOG PS                         |                      |        |                 |        |                |        |                |        |                        |                       |
| 0-2                             | 488                  | (71.9) | 396             | (71.4) | 51             | (88.9) | 41             | (82.0) | .77                    | .15                   |
| 3-4                             | 191                  | (28.1) | 159             | (28.6) | 23             | (31.1) | 9              | (18.0) |                        |                       |
| >1 Extranodal sites             |                      |        |                 |        |                |        |                |        |                        |                       |
| Yes                             | 166                  | (23.8) | 121             | (20.6) | 29             | (46.8) | 16             | (34.0) | <.001                  | .05                   |
| No                              | 531                  | (76.2) | 467             | (79.4) | 33             | (53.2) | 31             | (66.0) |                        |                       |
| B symptoms                      |                      |        |                 |        |                |        |                |        |                        |                       |
| Yes                             | 252                  | (35.9) | 205             | (35.0) | 28             | (41.2) | 19             | (38.8) | .001                   | .71                   |
| No                              | 450                  | (64.1) | 390             | (65.0) | 40             | (58.8) | 30             | (61.2) |                        |                       |
| Subtype                         |                      |        |                 |        |                |        |                |        |                        |                       |
| ABC                             | 239                  | (40.0) | 202             | (39.8) | 21             | (42.9) | 16             | (40.0) | .31                    | .57                   |
| GCB                             | 261                  | (43.7) | 232             | (45.7) | 17             | (34.7) | 12             | (30.0) |                        |                       |
| Unclassified                    | 97                   | (16.2) | 74              | (14.6) | 11             | (22.4) | 12             | (30.0) |                        |                       |

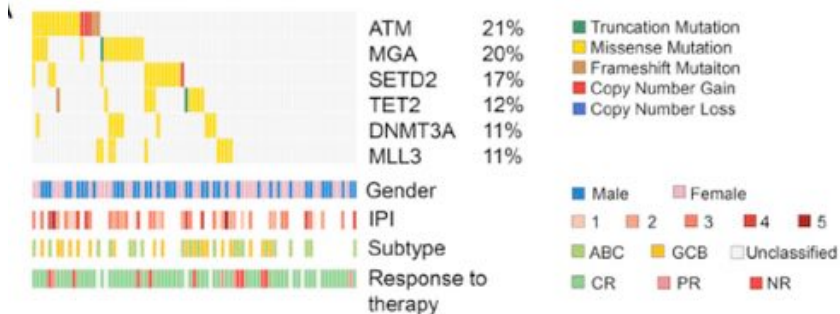
# Genetic ancestry analysis of 1001 DLBCL patients from Reddy



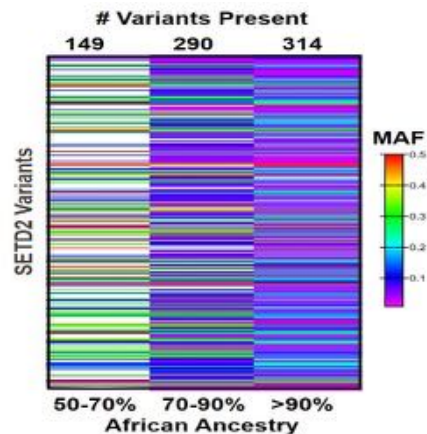
# Genetic ancestry analysis of 1001 DLBCL patients from Reddy



Mutational analysis of 150 DLBCL driver genes

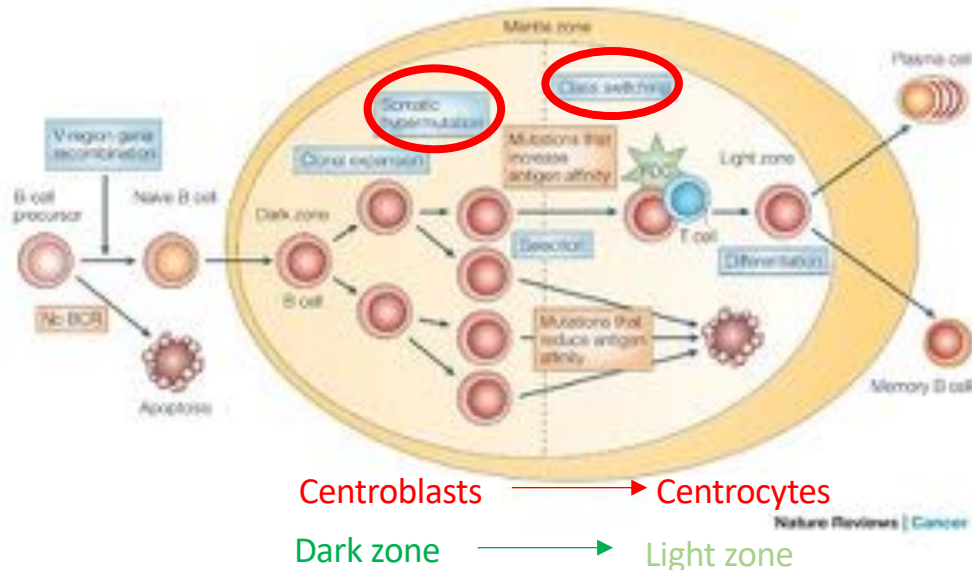


*SETD2* variants increase in number and decrease in MAF with increased African ancestry



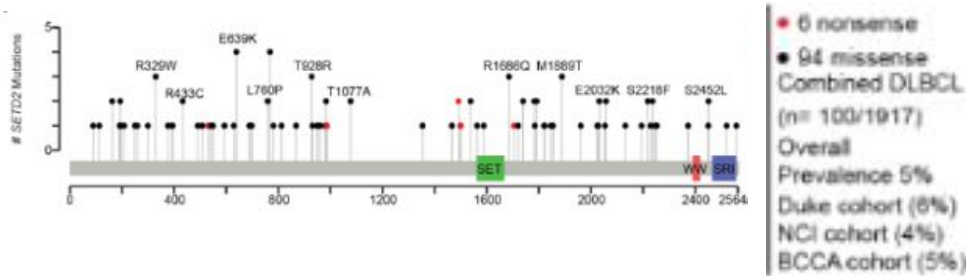
# SETD2: Sole methyl transferase for H3K36m3 methylation

- SETD2 -/- = tumor suppressor
- SETD2 +/- = typical SET2 mutation in DLBCL
- SETD2 +/- = hyperplasia, competitive fitness & reduces checkpoint & apoptosis  
associated with  $\uparrow$  AICDA somatic hypermutation,  $\uparrow$  translocations (*Activation Induced RNA Cytidine Deaminase Changes C:G into U:G mismatch, converting it to a T:A base pair; also converts C:G to A:T*)  
 $\uparrow$  non template strand H3K36me3 loss = DNA damage in non-template strand  
= greater RNA Pol II processivity  
=  $\uparrow$  mutational burden



# 1. *Setd2* haploinsufficiency induces GC hyperplasia and dark zone polarization

Available genomic profiling datasets (n=1917 DLBCLs) revealed the presence of missense (94%) and nonsense (6%) mutations of *SETD2* in 5% of cases overall ):



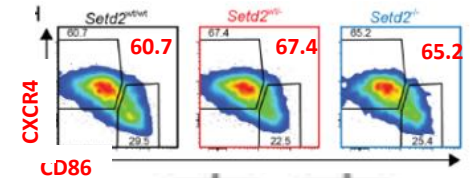
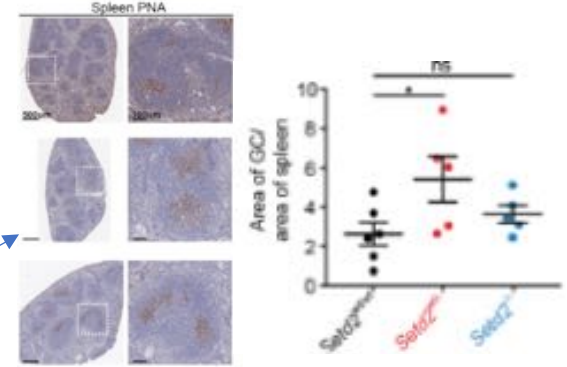
We focused in *Setd2* +/- :

1. haploinsufficiency resulted in a **distinct** and **more clearly pre-neoplastic phenotype** than homozygous deletion, and
2. homozygous loss is deleterious to DLBCL cells
3. Failed to get homozygous human DLBCL cell lines (4/5)

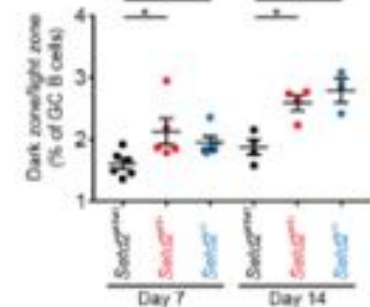
➤ *Setd2* <sup>w/wt</sup>  
 ➤ *Setd2* <sup>wt/-</sup>  
 ➤ *Setd2* <sup>-/-</sup>

Immunization → Imaging & Flow cytometry

Enlarged GC in het, but not -/-



DZ polarization in both het, & -/-



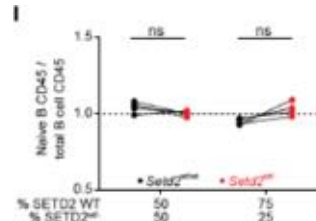
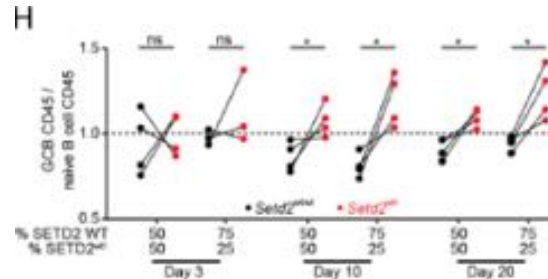
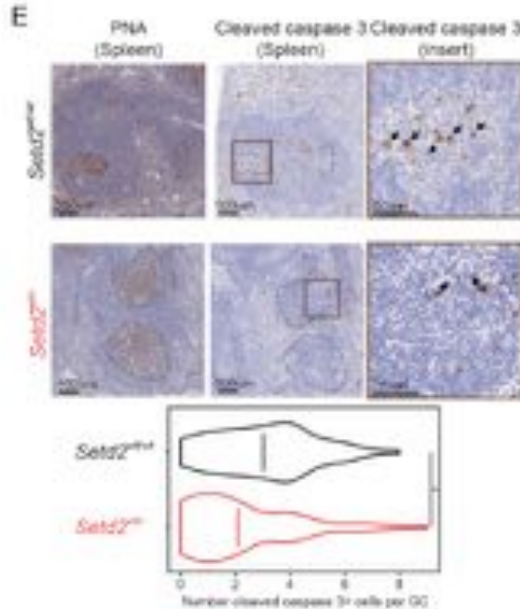
## 2. Setd2<sup>wt/-</sup> confers a fitness advantage to GCB cells, associated with reduced rates of apoptotic cell death



## 3. And with impaired DNA damage sensing

↓ Casp3 cleavage in GCs (also ↓ Annexin V)

In Mixed Chimeras: growth advantage for Set<sup>±/-</sup> GC B-cells (but no advantage for naïve B-cells)

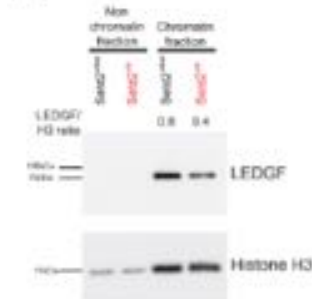
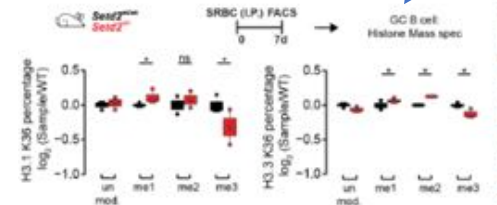


### In Setd2<sup>±/-</sup> GC B cells:

↓ γH2AX DNA damage marker (but decrease only in non-dividing GC B cells)

↓ CHK1 phosphorylation (normally triggered by ssDNA damage during SHM)

↓ H3K36m3 in both replication dependent H3.1 and replication-independent H3.2

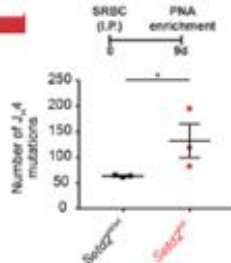
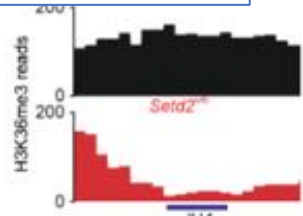


↓ LEDGF bound to chromatin (and consequently less H4K16 ac)

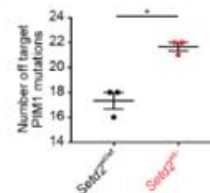
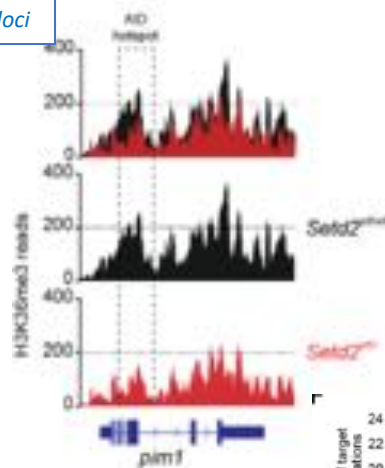
### 3. H3K36me3 loss is associated with increased SHM and off target AICDA mutations

- AICDA
- SHM at Ig loci: eg: Ig J<sub>H</sub>4 variable region
  - Off target mutations at accessible chromatin (canonical targets include DLBCL oncogenes; eg. *PIM1*)

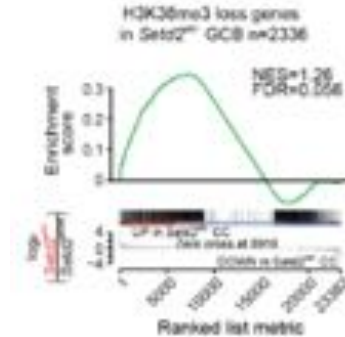
↓ H3K36m3 at J4H locus = ↑ # mutations at loci



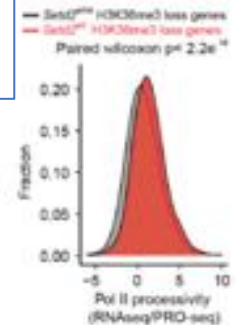
↓ H3K36m3 at PIM1 = ↑ # mutations at loci



↓ H3K36m3 in GC B cells = ↑ enriched induction of expression





↓ H3K36m3 = ↑ RNA Pol II Processivity (perturbing tx-coupled DNA damage sensing?)



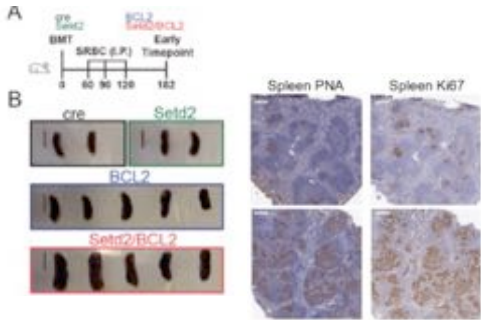
4. *Setd2* haploinsufficiency results in accelerated lymphomagenesis: *Setd2* as tumor suppressor

- Publicly available RNAseq datasets confirm BCL2 is highly expressed in *SETD2* *mut* DLBCL patients
- Mouse model showed acceleration & dissemination of lymphomagenesis → highly malignant & invasive high grade DLBCL

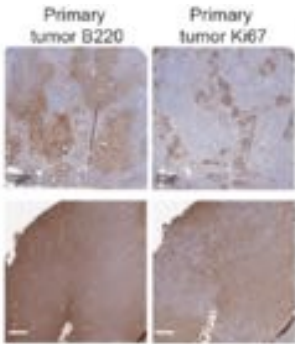
 *Setd2* +/- strain x  *Rosa26lox-stop-lox-BCL2-IRES-GFP* strain

- 4 mouse strains
- *Setd2*/BCL2
  - BCL2
  - *Setd2*
  - cre

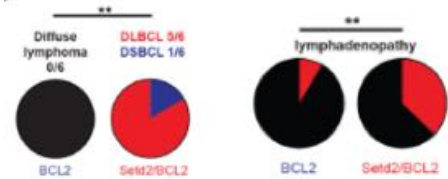
*Setd2*/BCL2 = enlarged spleens & disrupted GCs



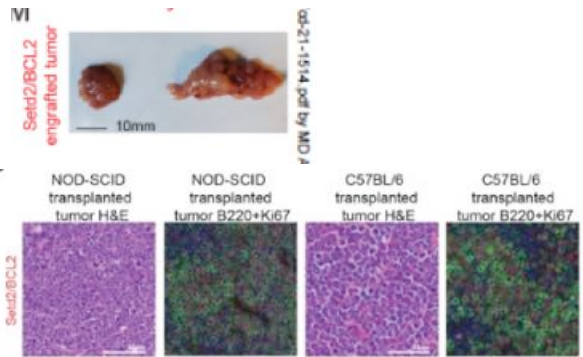
*Setd2*/BCL2 = total effacement of lymphoid tissue architecture



*Setd2*/BCL2 = 100% diffuse lymphoma penetrance & adenopathy



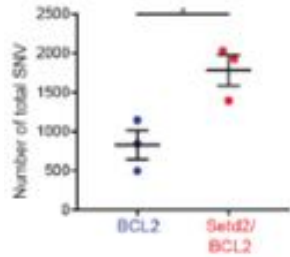
These lymphomas were distributed across the board as GCB, ABC and unclassified based on the cell of origin classification system & could be engrafted into RAG1 KO, NOD-SCID and C57BL/6 (immunocompetent) mice



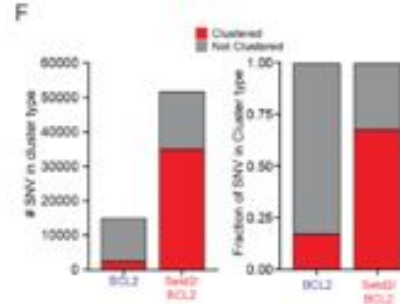
## 5. SETD2 lymphomas display a high abundance of clustered AICDA signature mutations skewed to non-template strand DNA.

*Setd2/BCL2 = 30 genes w/ exonic non-synonymous mutations, including canonical AICDA off target genes (vs. only 5 in BCL2)*

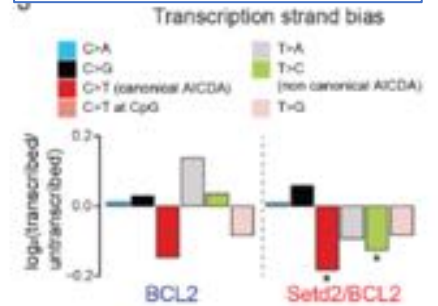
*Setd2/BCL2 = significant increase in global abundance of SNVs*



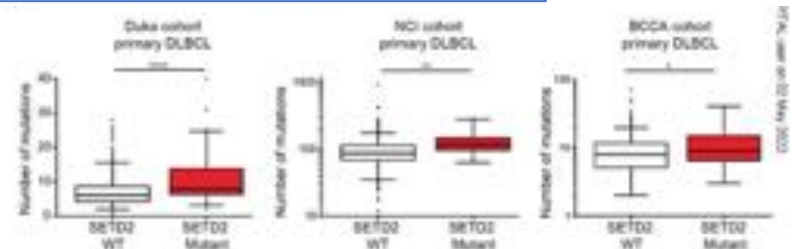
*Setd2/BCL2 = mutations mainly due to clustered SNVs (<1kb)*



*Setd2/BCL2 = Off targeted AICDA mutations target non-transcribed strand = assoc. w/ Pol II elongation*



*Cohorts of human DLBCL patients also show increased SNVs in tumors that are SETD2 mutants*





(U01 CA195568) **The Lymphoma Epidemiology of Outcomes Cohort Study**



Chris Flowers MD, MS



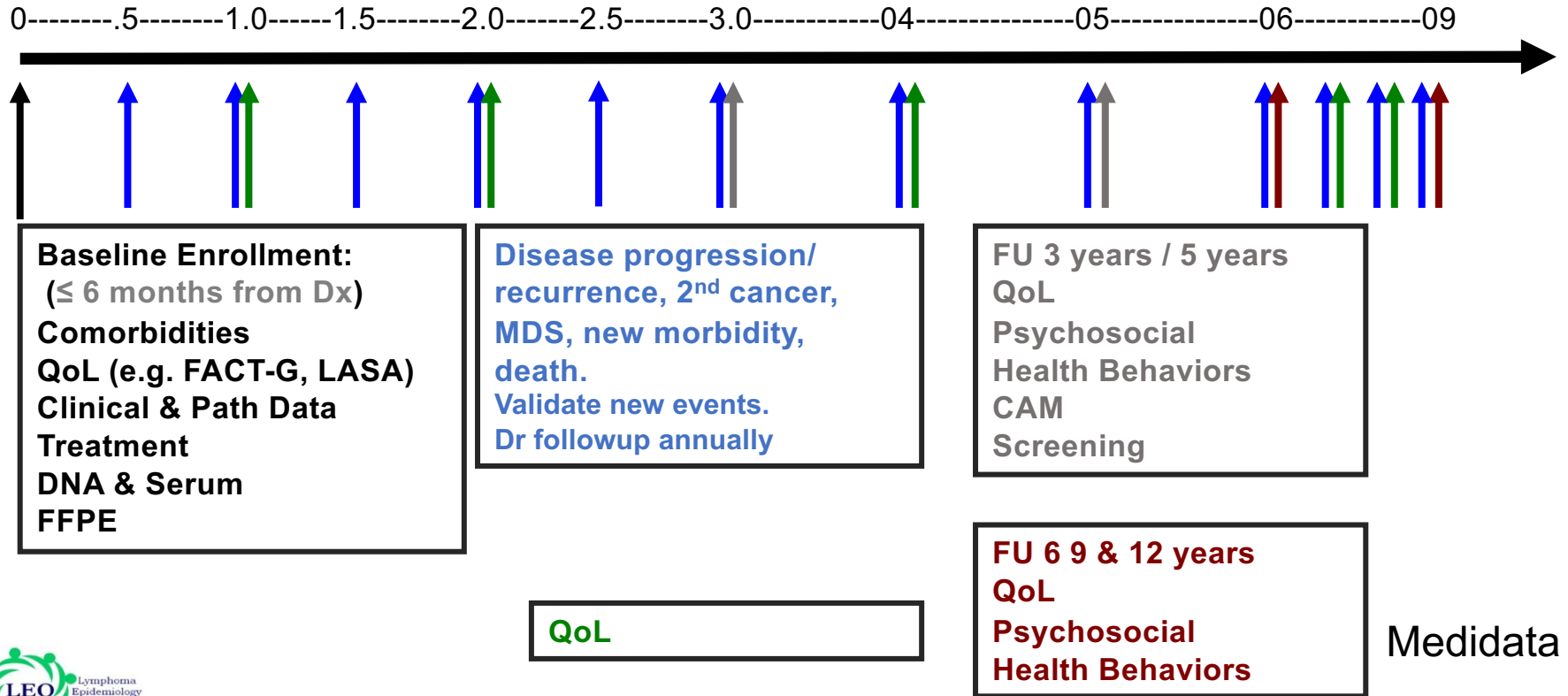
Jim Cerhan MD, PhD



**GOAL:**

TO FACILITATE  
RESEARCH THAT USES  
**LEO** INFRASTRUCTURE  
AND SUPPORTS  
INTERACTION WITH  
LYMPHOMA TRIALS

# LEO Study Design & Protocol





Christopher Flowers, MD



Jonathon Cohen, MD



James Cerhan, MD, PhD



Loretta Nastoupil, MD



Brian Link, MD



Brad Kahl, MD



Jonathon Friedberg, MD



Weill Cornell Medical College



Izidore Lossos, MD



Peter Martin, MD



John Leonard, MD

**ECOG Lymphoma  
Chair**

**SWOG Lymphoma Chair**

**Alliance Lymphoma Chair**

# LEO Overview

**Figure A1. Schematic of the LEO Cohort Study, 2002-2026**

|                       |                                  |      |  |      |      |      |      |                                  |                                  |      |      |      |      |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|------|--|------|------|------|------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|------|------|------|------|
| LEO Cohort            | 2002                             | 2015 | 2016                                       | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021                             | 2022                             | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 |
| LEO-MER Subcohort     | Enrollment <sup>†</sup> (N=4856) |      | Follow-up protocol* <sup>††</sup>          |      |      |      |      |                                  |                                  |      |      |      |      |
| LEO - First 5 Years   |                                  |      | Enrollment <sup>†</sup> (N=7781)           |      |      |      |      | Follow-up protocol* <sup>§</sup> |                                  |      |      |      |      |
| LEO - Renewal 5 Years |                                  |      |  |      |      |      |      |                                  | New Targeted Enrollment (N~3400) |      |      |      |      |
| Funding Source        | SPORE + other                    |      | U01 CA195568 + Bridge Funding <sup>‡</sup> |      |      |      |      | X                                | 2U01 CA195568-A1                 |      |      |      |      |

<sup>†</sup>Baseline enrollment includes *Enrollment* and *Risk Factor* Questionnaires; clinical abstraction; plasma, serum, and DNA banking; pathology

\*Follow-up every 6 months for the first 3 years, then annually thereafter for new events; survivorship survey at Follow-up 3 years after diagnosis

<sup>††</sup>Survivorship Surveys at Follow-up 6 and 9 years

<sup>§</sup>Survivorship Surveys at Follow-up 3 and 5 years

<sup>‡</sup>Bridge funding only covered basic maintenance of cohort (biorepository and data center) and follow-up

# LEO Enrollment Reflects Demographics for Lymphoma in US

| Comparison of LEO and SEER |                  |                   |
|----------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
|                            | LEO<br>2015-2016 | SEER<br>2011-2015 |
| <b>Gender:</b> Female      | 44.1%            | 44.7%             |
| <b>Race:</b> White         | 85.0%            | 83.1%             |
| Black                      | 7.4%             | 7.5%              |
| Asian                      | 2.6%             | 7.1%              |
| >1 Race                    | 3.5%             | 0.5%              |
| <b>Ethnicity:</b> Hispanic | 9.9%             | 13.1%             |
| <b>Age:</b> <40 years      | 9.8%             | 6.9%              |
| 40-49                      | 11.9%            | 8.4%              |
| 50-59                      | 22.3%            | 17.6%             |
| 60-69                      | 28.9%            | 25.1%             |
| 70-79                      | 20.2%            | 23.5%             |
| 80+                        | 6.8%             | 18.5%             |
| <b>Subtype:</b> DLBCL      | 33.9%            | 37.2%             |
| Follicular                 | 22.2%            | 17.7%             |
| Mantle cell                | 9.3%             | 4.5%              |
| Marginal zone              | 8.3%             | 10.7%             |
| PTCL                       | 10.9%            | 10.2%             |
| Other NHL                  | 15.3%            | 19.6%             |

## Addresses Rural Populations and High Mortality Regions

### US NHL Mortality Rates and Residence at Diagnosis of LEO Cohort

Residence of LEO Participants Enrolled 2015-2019  
By Rural-Urban Code<sup>†</sup>



- Nonmetro - Completely rural or less than 2,500 urban population, not adjacent to a metro area
- Nonmetro - Completely rural or less than 2,500 urban population, adjacent to a metro area
- Nonmetro - Urban population of 2,500 to 19,999, not adjacent to a metro area
- Nonmetro - Urban population of 2,500 to 19,999, adjacent to a metro area
- Nonmetro - Urban population of 20,000 or more, not adjacent to a metro area
- Nonmetro - Urban population of 20,000 or more, adjacent to a metro area
- Metro - Counties in metro areas of fewer than 250,000 population
- Metro - Counties in metro areas of 250,000 to 1 million population
- Metro - Counties in metro areas of 1 million population or more

Age-Adjusted Death Rates by State (2011-2015)  
All Races, Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma (both sexes)<sup>\*</sup>



Rate per 100,000



<sup>\*</sup>Source: National Vital Statistics System. Rates are age-adjusted to the 2000 US standard population using SEER\*Stat. More information: <https://gis.cancer.gov/canceratlas/data>

<sup>†</sup>Source: Parker T. Rural-Urban Continuum Codes (2013) [<https://www.crs.usda.gov/data-products/rural-urban-continuum-codes/>]

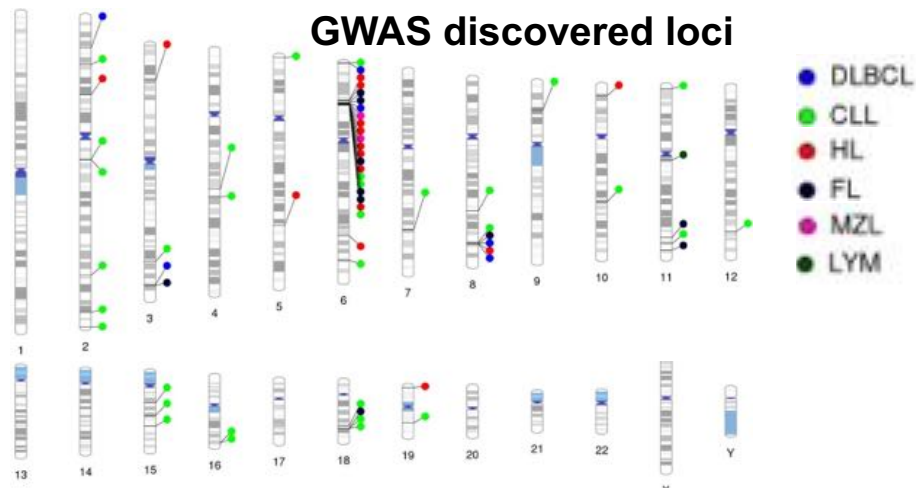


- 11 NHL subtypes; primary site of disease
- 23,096 controls : 14,129 cases
- 13 publications *JNCI Monograph* 2014
- Genome Wide Association studies of risk (GWAS)

## Identifying risk factors for Lymphoid Malignancies

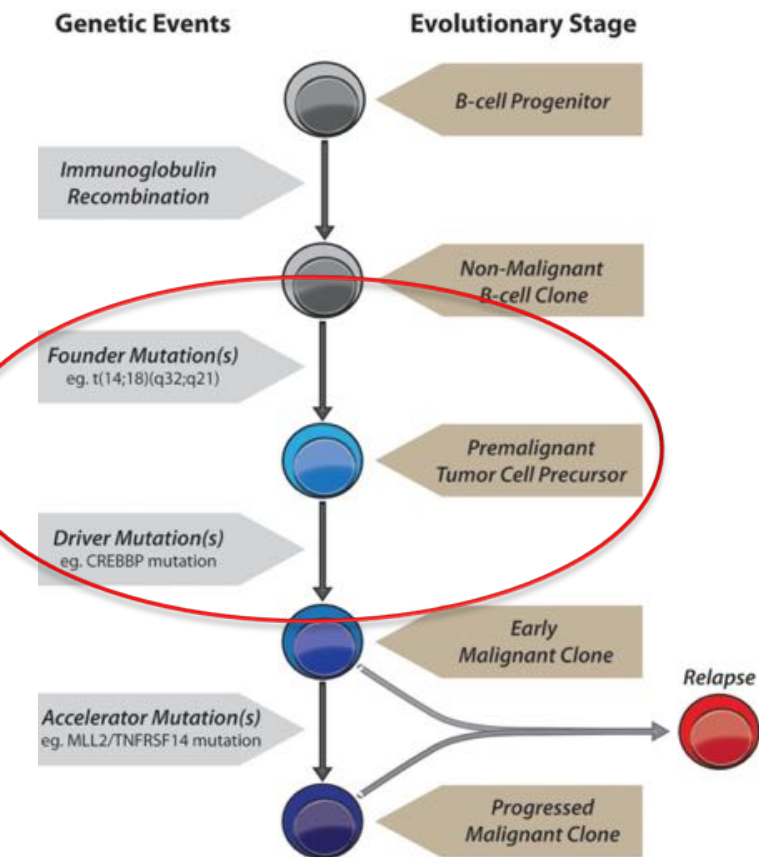
| DLBCL Risk Factors  | OR   | 95% CI    |
|---|------|-----------|
| B-cell activating autoimmune disease  | 2.36 | 1.80-3.09 |
| Hepatitis C virus seropositivity  | 2.02 | 1.47-2.76 |
| Family history of NHL   | 1.95 | 1.54-2.47 |
| Higher young adult body mass index (≥35 vs 18.5 to 22.4 kg/m <sup>2</sup> ) | 1.58 | 1.12-2.23 |
| Field crop/vegetable farm worker  | 1.78 | 1.22-2.60 |
| Hair dresser  | 1.65 | 1.12-2.41 |
| Seamstress/embroiderer  | 1.49 | 1.13-1.97 |

Cerhan et al. *J Natl Cancer Inst Monogr.* 2014



Cerhan and Slager *Blood* 2015

# Precursor Targeted Trials in At Risk Populations



Michael R. Green et al. *Blood* 2013;121:1604-1611

## Identifying Individuals at Risk for FL

| FL Risk Factors                            | OR   | 95% CI    |
|--|------|-----------|
| women with Sjögren syndrome                | 3.37 | 1.23-9.19 |
| spray painters                             | 2.66 | 1.36-5.24 |
| 1° relative with NHL                       | 1.99 | 1.55-2.54 |
| ↑young adult BMI per 5 kg/m <sup>2</sup> ↑ | 1.15 | 1.04-1.27 |

Linnet et al. *J Natl Cancer Inst Monogr.* 2014

### GWAS discovered loci (future)

- MHC Class I and II: 6p21.33, 6p21.32, (rs17203612), (rs3130437, near *HLA-C*), DRβ1
- Outside of HLA region: 11q23.3 (near *CXCR5*), 11q24.3 (near *ETS1*), 3q28 (in *LPP*), 18q21.33 (near *BCL2*), and 8q24 (near *PVT1*)

Cerhan and Slager *Blood* 2015

## Precursor Screening At Risk Individuals

- e.g. t (14;18) + CREBBP mutation

## Targeted Low Toxicity Therapy in At Risk Individuals

- e.g. HDAC3i

# Research Leaders in Lymphoma/Myeloma

## FIH/Indolent



**Christopher Flowers, MD, MSc**  
Chair, Professor  
Department of Lymphoma/Myeloma



**Loretta Nastoupil, MD**  
Associate Professor  
Department of Lymphoma/Myeloma

## Aggressive



**Jason Westin, MD**  
Associate Professor  
Department of Lymphoma/Myeloma

## Translational



**Michael Green, PhD**  
Associate Professor  
Department of Lymphoma/Myeloma

## CAR T



**Sattva Neelapu, MD**  
Deputy Chair, Professor  
Department of Lymphoma/Myeloma

## Mantle Cell



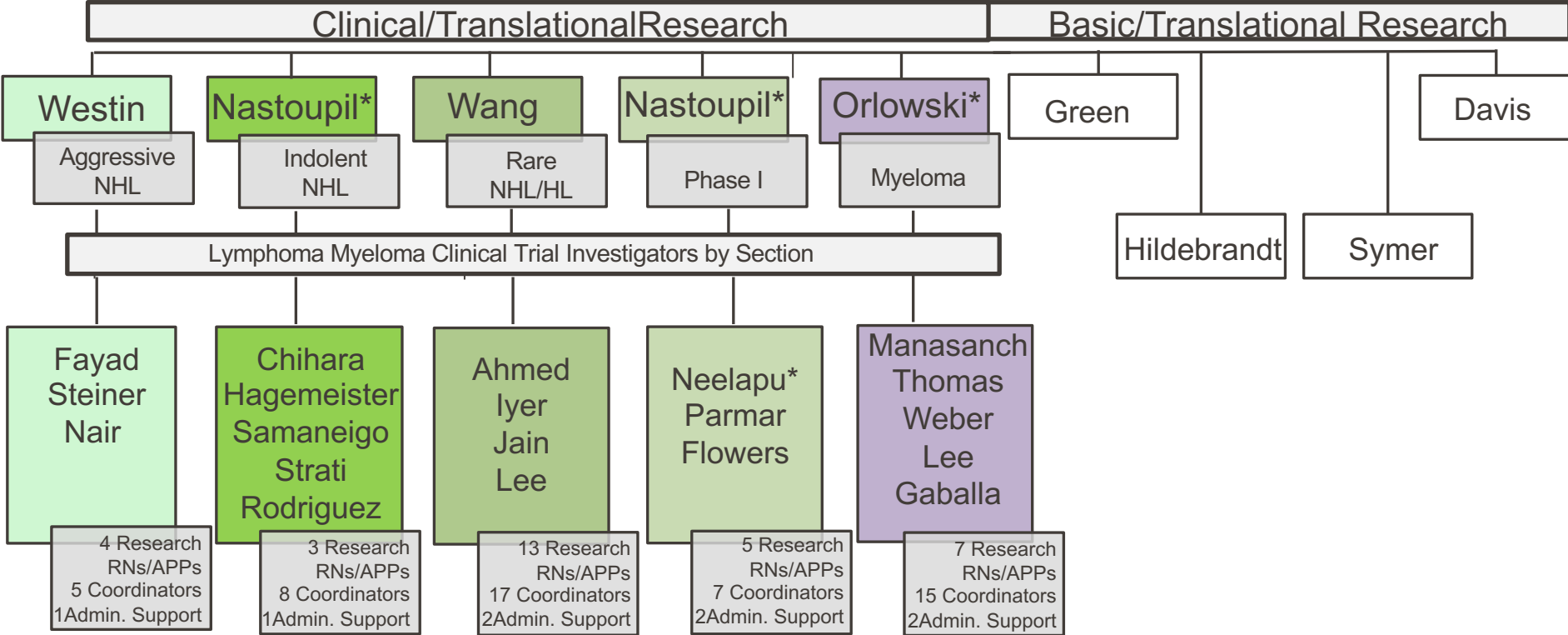
**Michael Wang, MD**  
Professor  
Department of Lymphoma/Myeloma

## Myeloma



**Robert Z. Orlowski, M.D., Ph.D.**  
Professor  
Department of Lymphoma/Myeloma

# Research Leaders in Lymphoma/Myeloma



\*Deputy Chair

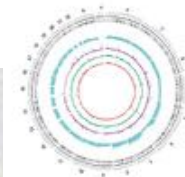
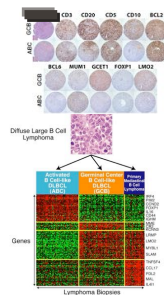
# Thank you!

## Lymphoma Epidemiology of Outcomes



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**Questions?**

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**MD Anderson**  
**Cancer Center**

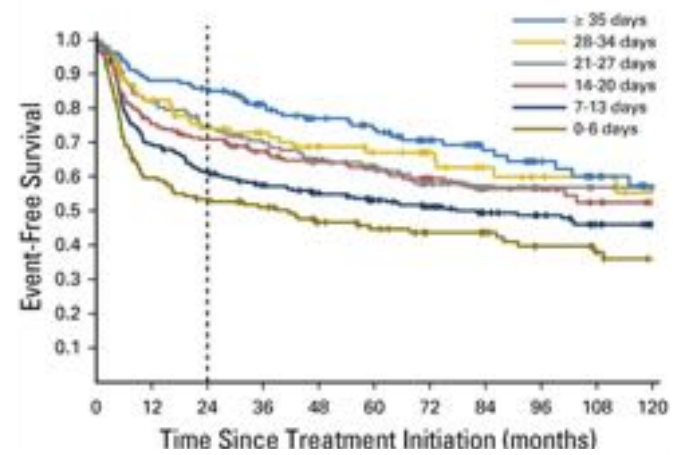
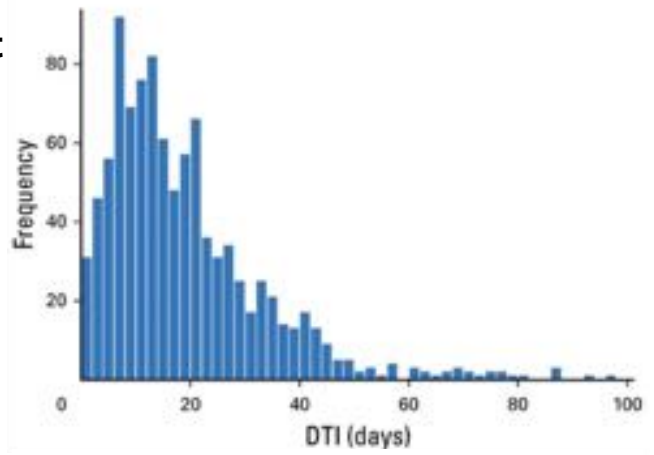
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**Christopher Flowers, MD, MS, FASCO**  
Chair, Professor  
Department of Lymphoma/Myeloma

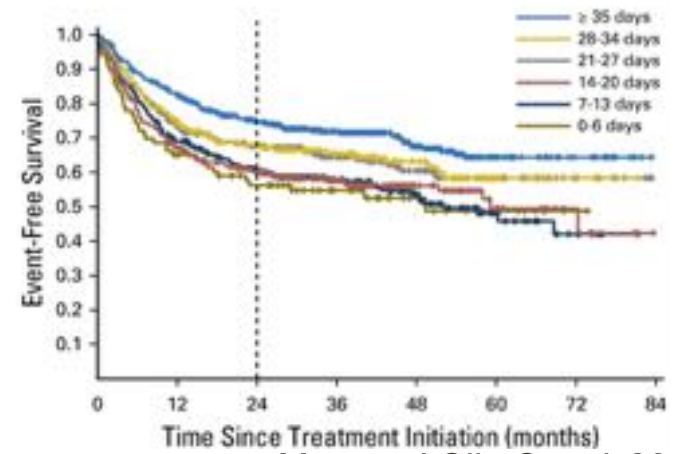
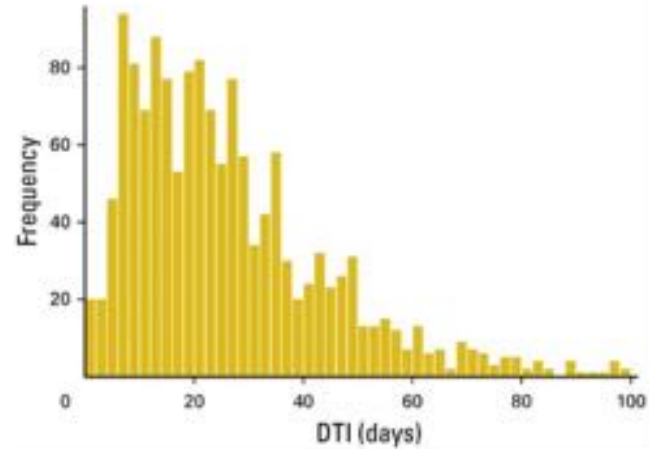
**Contact: [crflowers@mdanderson.org](mailto:crflowers@mdanderson.org)**

# Diagnosis-to-Treatment Interval Is an Important Clinical Factor in Newly Diagnosed DLBCL and Has Implication for Bias in Clinical Trials

Mayo/Iowa DLBCL Cohort  
(n=986)



LYSA DLBCL Cohort  
(n=1446)



# Barriers to Clinical Trial Participation

---

- **Patient Issues**

- Disinterest - “I don’t want to be a guinea pig”
- Distance - “ I don’t live close to any site”
- Debt - “ I cannot afford to come” - Dr. Barbara Bierer’s presentation
- Distrust - “ I’ve done my own research and...”

- **Doctor, Institutional, or Insurance issues**

- Time - “we are too busy”
- Trial cost reimbursement - “we will lose money”
- “My insurance company said I can only talk to you - no tests, no treatment and no trial” 😞

# Barriers to Clinical Trial Participation

---

- **Pharmaceutical Industry**
  - No interest in that group of patients
  - Drug is going off patent
- **Government – National Clinical Trials Network**
  - CTEP “We do not have enough money to fund the trial”
  - NCTN Sites “I don’t think my site can accrue to that patient group - its not worth opening”
- **Bias against a people group or bias against an idea**
  - Subject of Dr. Barrett’s presentation

# Protocol Design

---

- **Relevant issue?**
  - Is the problem important for patients or society? Worth it?
- **Do we have what it takes to answer this question?**
  - Technical advances can make an old idea now feasible
- **“Can we do it ourself or does it need NCTN?”**
  - Ex. NCTN mantle cell trials - relevant questions that require the entire US
- **What is the optimal design? Dr. Winderlich’s talk**
- **“What do patient advocates thing? Would patients be interested**

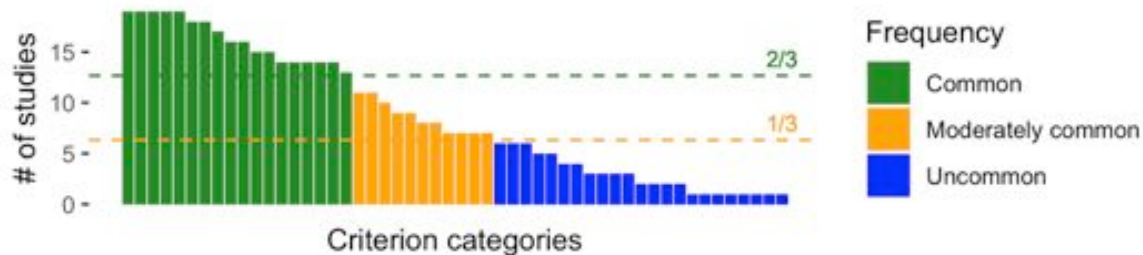
# RCTs in DLBCL (n=19)

| Study               | Identifier         | Accrual start year | Treatment  | Reference   |
|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--|---|
| LNH 98-5            | LYSARC             | 1998               | CHOP21; R-CHOP21   | Coiffier et al. (2002),<br>Feugier et al. (2005),<br>Coiffier et al. (2010) |
| E4494               | NCT00003150        | 1998               | CHOP21; R-CHOP21; 2nd Rand<br>Observation; Rituximab                         | Habermann et al. (2006)   |
| LNH 98-3            | NCT00169169        | 1999               | ACVBP; ACE; 2nd Rand<br>Observation; Rituximab                               | Haïoun et al. (2009)  |
| RICOVER-60          | NCT00052936        | 2000               | 6 cycles CHOP14; 8 cyclesCHOP14;<br>6 cycles R-CHOP14; 8 cycles R-<br>CHOP14 | Pfreundschuh et al.<br>(2008)   |
| MINT                | NCT00064116        | 2000               | CHOP-like; R-CHOP-like   | Pfreundschuh et al.<br>(2006) and (2011)                                    |
| MegaCHOEP           | NCT00129090        | 2003               | R-CHOEP14; R-MegaCHOEP   | Schmitz et al. (2012)   |
| Anzinter 3          | NCT01148446        | 2003               | R-CHOP21; R-miniCEOP   | Merli et al. (2012)   |
| LNH 03-1B           | NCT00140595        | 2003               | ACVBP; R-ACVBP   | Ketterer et al. 2012  |
| LNH 03-2B           | NCT00140595        | 2003               | R-CHOP21; R-ACVBP  | Récher et al (2011)   |
| LNH 03-6B           | NCT00144755        | 2003               | R-CHOP21; R-CHOP14   | Delarue et al. (2013)   |
| NHL-13              | NCT00400478        | 2004               | Observation; Rituximab   | Jaeger et al. (2015)  |
| PIX203              | NCT00268853        | 2005               | R-CHOP21; R-CPOP   | Herbrecht et al. (2013)   |
| R-CHOP 14 vs.<br>21 | ISCRTN<br>16017947 | 2005               | R-CHOP21; R-CHOP14   | Cunningham et al.<br>(2013)   |
| MAIN                | NCT00486759        | 2007               | R-CHOP (14/21); RA-CHOP (14/21)  | Seymour et al. (2014)   |
| Pyramid             | NCT00931918        | 2009               | RCHOP; Vc-RCHOP (bortezomib-<br>RCHOP)                                       | Leonard et al. (2017)   |
| E1412               | NCT01856192        | 2013               | RCHOP; R2CHOP (lenalidome<br>RCHOP)  | King et al. (2018)  |
| PHOENIX             | NCT01855750        | 2013               | RCHOP; RCHOP+ibrutinib   |   |
| ROBUST              | NCT02285062        | 2015               | R-CHOP vs. R-CHOP + lenalidomide   | Nowakowski et al. 2016  |
| POLARIX             | NCT03274492        | 2017               | R-CHOP; polatuzumab vedotin + R-<br>CHP                                      |   |

| Common criteria ( $\geq 2/3$ of studies) | Number of studies |
|--|-------------------|
| Age (years)                              | 19                |
| Histology                                | 19                |
| History of other malignancies            | 19                |
| Prior DLBCL treatment                    | 19                |
| Renal function                           | 19                |
| Hepatic function                         | 18                |
| HIV status                               | 18                |
| Cardiac function                         | 17                |
| CNS involvement by lymphoma              | 16                |
| Performance status                       | 16                |
| Contraindications to study therapy       | 15                |
| IPI score                                | 15                |
| Female reproductive                      | 14                |
| HBV status                               | 14                |
| Other organ dysfunction                  | 14                |
| Platelet count (platelets/ $\mu$ L)      | 14                |
| WBC count (cells/ $\mu$ L)               | 14                |
| Stage                                    | 13                |

| Moderately common criteria (1/3–2/3)                                      | Number of studies |
|---|-------------------|
| HCV status  | 11                |
| Participation in other study or treatment with other investigational drug | 11                |
| Other neurologic pathology  | 10                |
| Immunologic history   | 9                 |
| Other infectious disease status   | 9                 |
| Imaging   | 8                 |
| Minimum life expectancy   | 8                 |
| Contraindicated therapies   | 7                 |
| History of transformed lymphoma   | 7                 |
| Male reproductive   | 7                 |
| Psychiatric history   | 7                 |

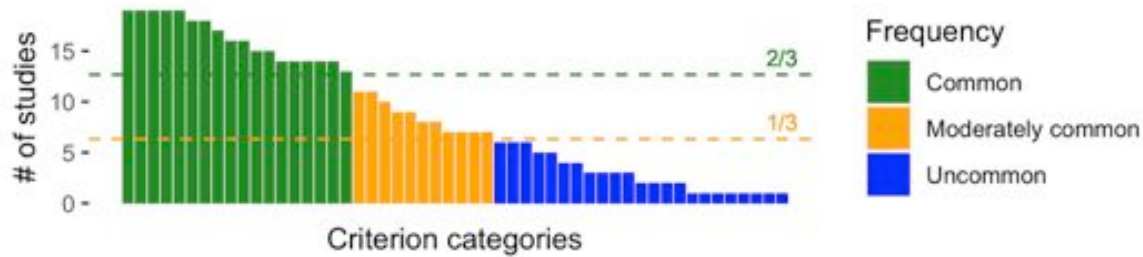
| Uncommon criteria ( $< 1/3$ )            | Number of studies |
|--|-------------------|
| Pulmonary function                       | 6                 |
| Sex                                      | 6                 |
| Surgical history                         | 6                 |
| Diabetes mellitus                        | 6                 |
| Patient compliance                       | 6                 |
| Adult patient under tutelage             | 4                 |
| Uncontrolled hypertension                | 4                 |
| Hemoglobin (g/dL)                        | 3                 |
| History of PTLD                          | 3                 |
| Hypercoagulability                       | 3                 |
| Organ transplant history                 | 3                 |
| Bone marrow infiltration                 | 2                 |
| Coagulopathy                             | 2                 |
| Gastrointestinal function                | 2                 |
| HTLV-1 status                            | 2                 |
| Comprehensive Geriatric Assessment score | 1                 |
| LDH level                                | 1                 |
| Orthopedic history                       | 1                 |
| Physical exam findings                   | 1                 |
| Rheumatologic disease                    | 1                 |
| Substance use                            | 1                 |
| Tumor invasion of major blood vessels    | 1                 |
| Vaccination history                      | 1                 |



| Common criteria ( $\geq 2/3$ of studies) | Number of studies |
|--|-------------------|
| Age (years)                              | 19                |
| Histology                                | 19                |
| History of other malignancies            | 19                |
| Prior DLBCL treatment                    | 19                |
| Renal function                           | 19                |
| Hepatic function                         | 18                |
| HIV status                               | 18                |
| Cardiac function                         | 17                |
| CNS involvement by lymphoma              | 16                |
| Performance status                       | 16                |
| Contraindications to study therapy       | 15                |
| IPI score                                | 15                |
| Female reproductive                      | 14                |
| HBV status                               | 14                |
| Other organ dysfunction                  | 14                |
| Platelet count (platelets/ $\mu$ L)      | 14                |
| WBC count (cells/ $\mu$ L)               | 14                |
| Stage                                    | 13                |

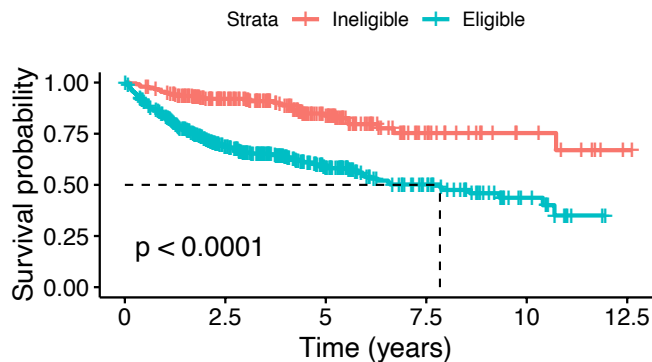
| Moderately common criteria (1/3–2/3)                                      | Number of studies |
|---|-------------------|
| HCV status  | 11                |
| Participation in other study or treatment with other investigational drug | 11                |
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| Imaging   | 8                 |
| Minimum life expectancy   | 8                 |
| Contraindicated therapies   | 7                 |
| History of transformed lymphoma   | 7                 |
| Male reproductive   | 7                 |
| Psychiatric history   | 7                 |

| Uncommon criteria ( $< 1/3$ )            | Number of studies |
|--|-------------------|
| Pulmonary function                       | 6                 |
| Sex                                      | 6                 |
| Surgical history                         | 6                 |
| Diabetes mellitus                        | 6                 |
| Patient compliance                       | 6                 |
| Adult patient under tutelage             | 4                 |
| Uncontrolled hypertension                | 4                 |
| Hemoglobin (g/dL)                        | 3                 |
| History of PTLD                          | 3                 |
| Hypercoagulability                       | 3                 |
| Organ transplant history                 | 3                 |
| Bone marrow infiltration                 | 2                 |
| Coagulopathy                             | 2                 |
| Gastrointestinal function                | 2                 |
| HTLV-1 status                            | 2                 |
| Comprehensive Geriatric Assessment score | 1                 |
| LDH level                                | 1                 |
| Orthopedic history                       | 1                 |
| Physical exam findings                   | 1                 |
| Rheumatologic disease                    | 1                 |
| Substance use                            | 1                 |
| Tumor invasion of major blood vessels    | 1                 |
| Vaccination history                      | 1                 |

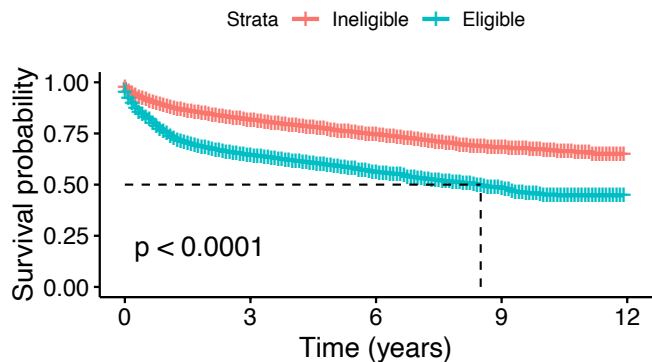
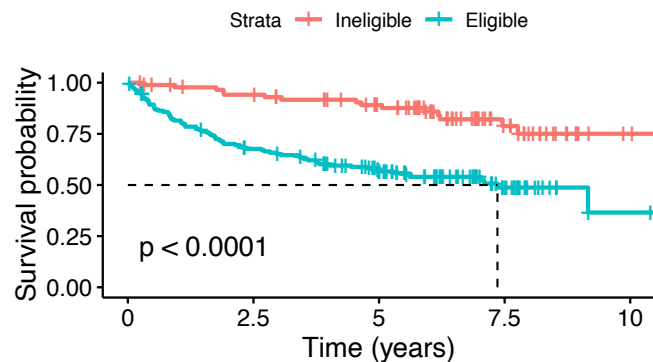


# Impact of Eligibility Criteria on DLCBL outcomes: OS

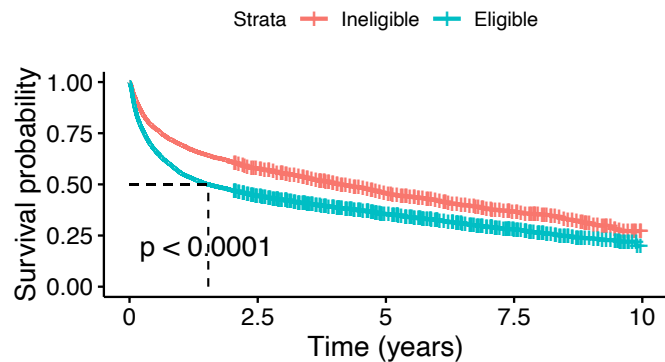
Reddy et al.



Chapuy et al.

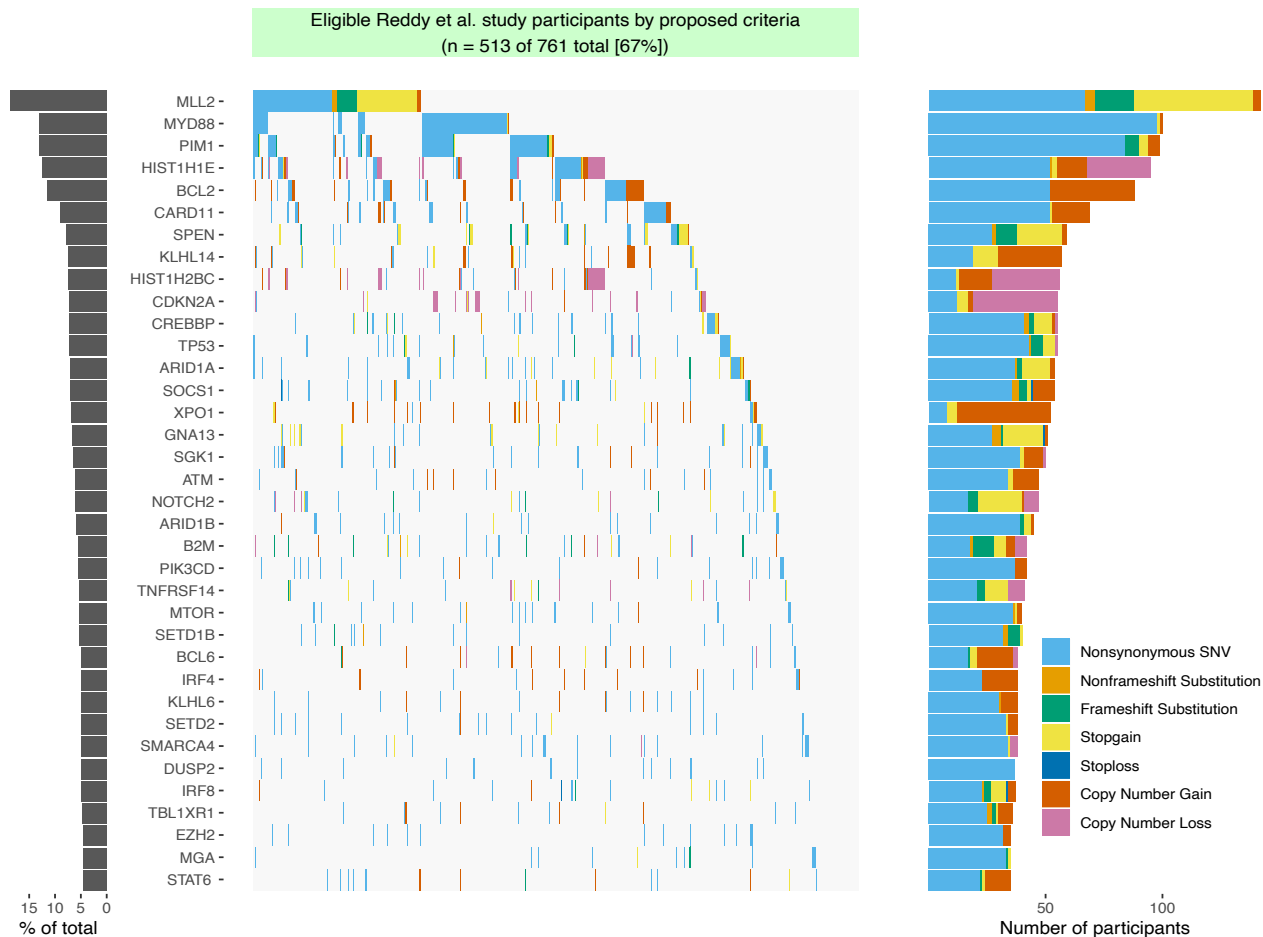


SEER national



SEER-Medicare

# Impact of Eligibility Criteria on DLCBL genetic alterations: Reddy et al.



# Barriers to Lymphoma Trial Participation

**TABLE 2.** Organ Function–Based Exclusion Criteria in Various Frontline DLBCL Trials

| Parameter                        | PHOENIX                   | ROBUST   | ECOG 1412  | REMoDL-B  | GOYA                      | ENGINE                    | CALGB 50303   |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|--|--|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|
| ANC<br>( $\times 10^9/L$ )       | $> 1,000$                 | $> 1,500$<br>( $> 1,000$<br>for BM inv)  | $\geq 1,500$   | $> 1,000$<br>(lower unless<br>because of<br>lymphoma) | $> 1,500$                 | $> 1,500$                 | $> 1,000$     |
| Platelets<br>( $\times 10^9/L$ ) | $> 75$ , unless BM inv    | $> 75$<br>( $> 50$<br>for BM inv)  | $\geq 100$   | $> 100$   | $> 75$                    | $> 75$                    | $> 100$       |
| Bilirubin<br>(mg/dL)             | $< 1.5 \times \text{ULN}$ | $< 1.5 \times \text{ULN}$<br>or if total<br>bilirubin is<br>$> 1.5 \times$<br>ULN, the<br>direct bilirubin<br>must be normal | $< 1.5 \times \text{ULN}$<br>or if total<br>bilirubin is<br>$> 1.5 \times \text{ULN}$ ,<br>the direct<br>bilirubin must<br>be normal | $< 3.5 \text{ mg/dL}$                                 | $< 1.5 \times \text{ULN}$ | $< 1.5 \times \text{ULN}$ | $< 2.0$       |
| CrCl (mL/min)                    | $> 40$                    | $> 30$   | $> 30$   | $> 30$  | $> 40$                    | $> 50$                    | $> 50$        |
| Hemoglobin (g/dL)                | Not mentioned             | $> 7.5$  | Not mentioned  | Not mentioned   | $> 9$                     | $> 10$                    | Not mentioned |

NOTE. Total bilirubin ULN 1.2 mg/dL.

Abbreviations: ANC, absolute neutrophil count; BM, bone marrow; CrCl, creatinine clearance; DLBCL, diffuse large B-cell lymphoma; ULN, upper limit of normal.

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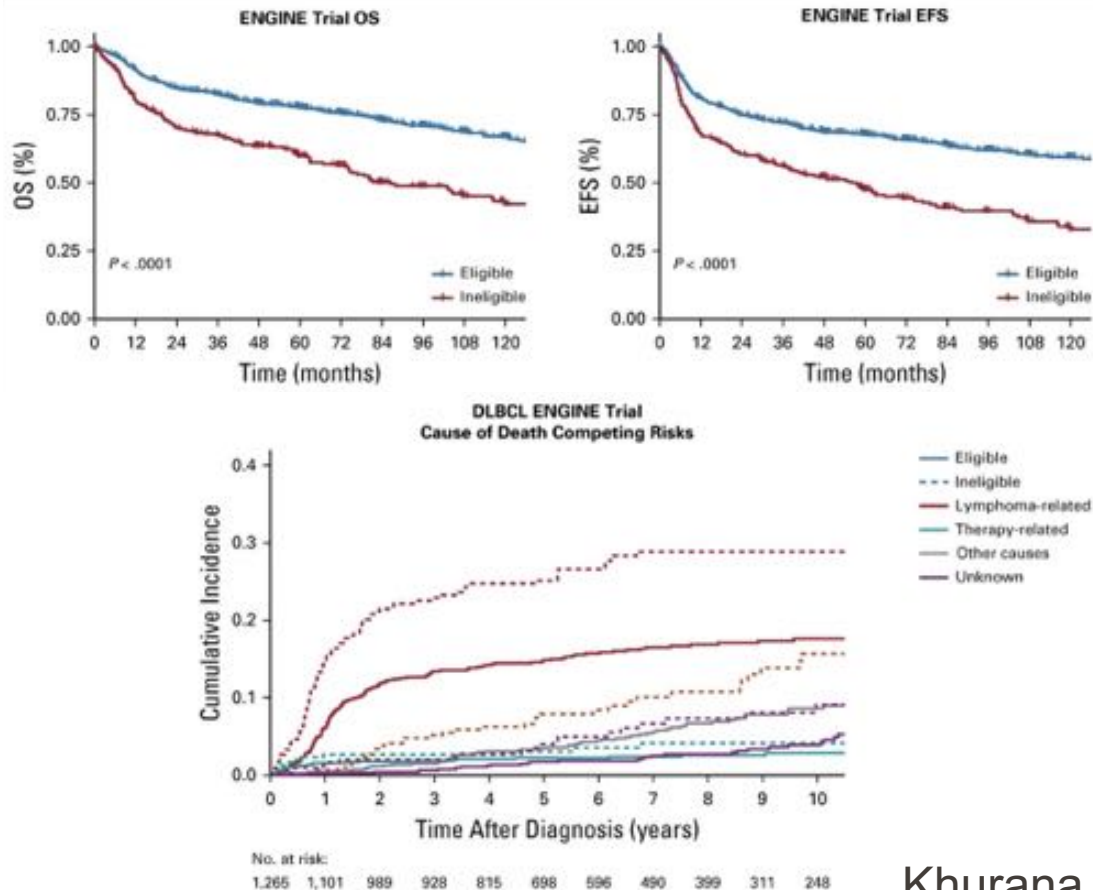
# Barriers to Lymphoma Trial Participation

**TABLE 3.** Percent Estimation of Patient Exclusion From MER Cohort Based on the Trial-specific Organ Function–Based Exclusion Criteria

| Parameter           | PHOENIX | ROBUST | ECOG 1412 | REMoDL-B | GOYA | ENGINE | CALGB 50303 |
|---------------------|---------|--------|-----------|----------|------|--------|-------------|
| Total, %            | 12.3    | 10.0   | 11.3      | 9.2      | 15.9 | 24.1   | 17.2        |
| ANC, %              | 1.3     | 2.5    | 2.5       | 1.3      | 2.5  | 2.5    | 1.3         |
| Platelets, %        | 3.2     | 3.2    | 4.7       | 4.7      | 3.2  | 3.2    | 4.7         |
| Hepatic function, % | 3.8     | 3.8    | 3.8       | 1.5      | 3.8  | 3.8    | 3.2         |
| Renal function, %   | 5.2     | 2.0    | 2.0       | 2.0      | 5.2  | 10.5   | 10.5        |
| Hemoglobin, %       | 0.0     | 1.3    | 0.0       | 0.0      | 6.3  | 12.7   | 0.0         |

Abbreviations: ANC, absolute neutrophil count; MER, Molecular Epidemiology Resource.

# Barriers to Lymphoma Trial Participation



# Other “Protocol Busters”

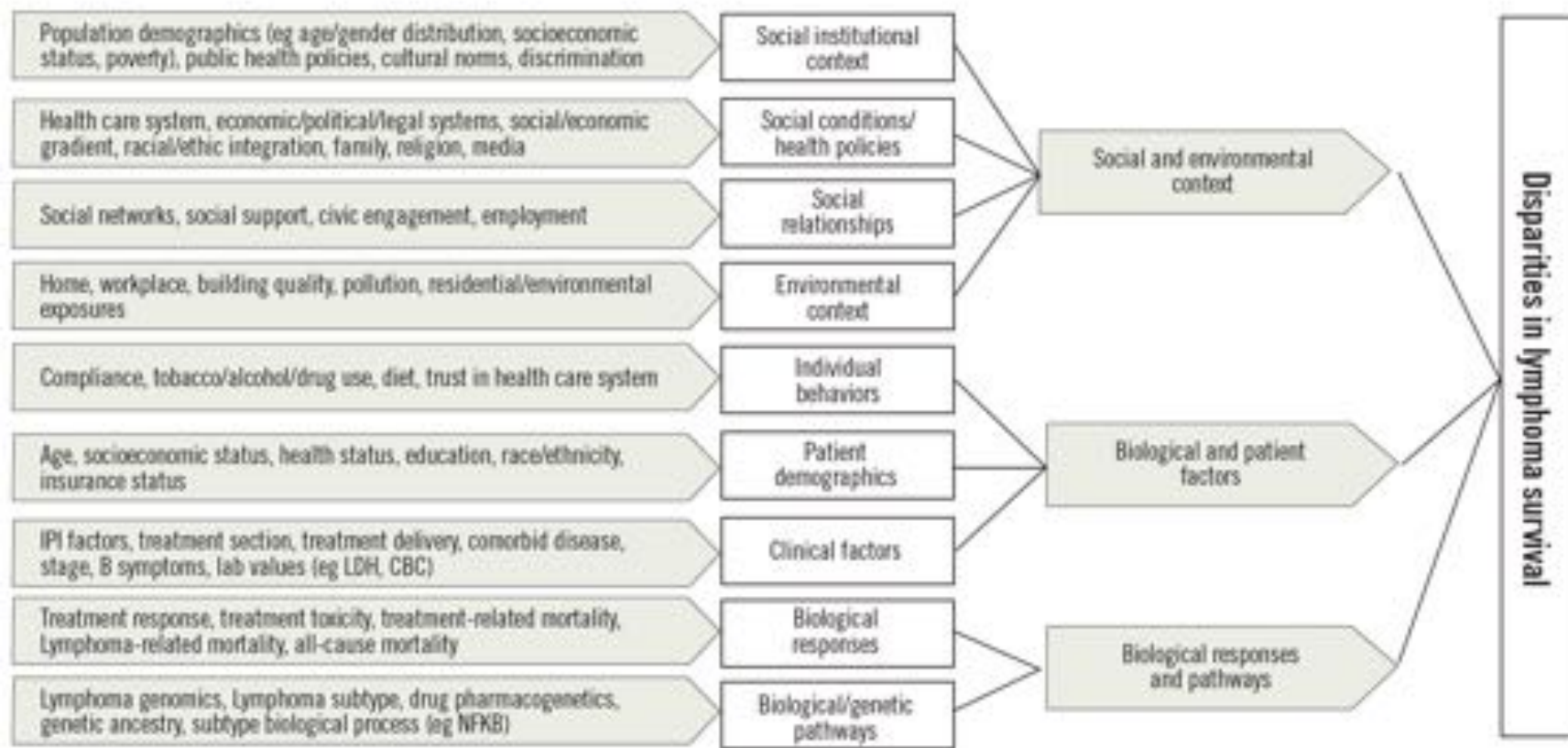
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- Pathology eligibility too strict
  - And not reflective of real world
- Other cancer not allowed
  - Even though they may not interfere with the new cancer
- Eligibility test windows
  - What you write determines compliance or noncompliance
- Pre-phase therapy allowed?
- Regulatory issues

Consensus recommendations for eligibility criteria in first-line DLBCL RCTs based on a Delphi-method survey of lymphoma clinical trials experts

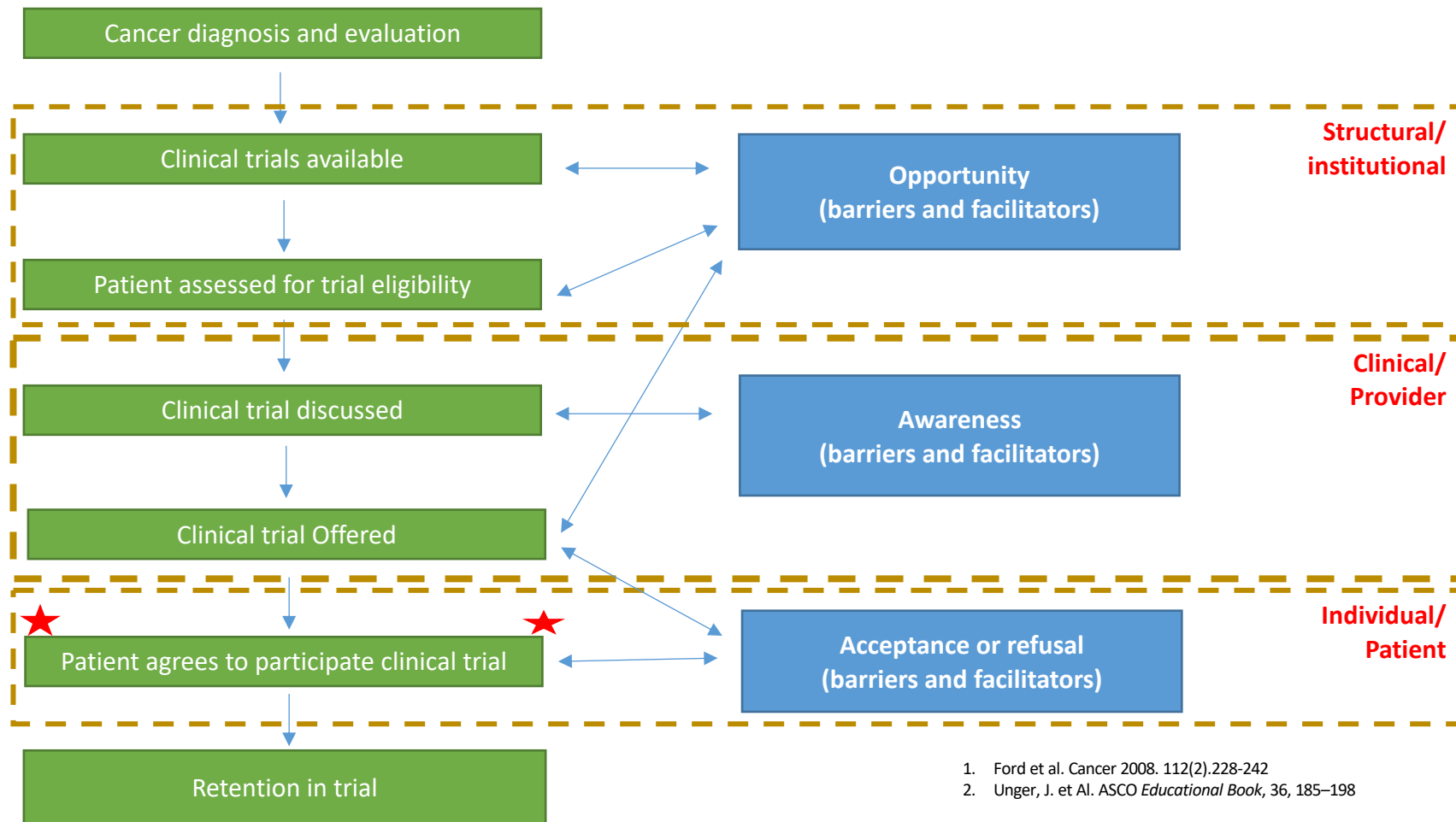
| Criterion   | Recommendation   |
|---|--|
| Pregnancy status  | Pregnant women should be excluded from enrollment.   |
| Breastfeeding status  | Breastfeeding should be prohibited during trial participation.   |
| Female: contraception or abstinence                                       | Effective contraception or abstinence from heterosexual intercourse is required for enrollment if of childbearing potential.   |
| Male: contraception or abstinence   | Effective contraception or abstinence from heterosexual intercourse is required for enrollment.  |
| Participation in other study or treatment with other investigational drug | Study participants should receive no concurrent treatment OR have received no treatment within the last 30 days with any other investigational therapy.<br>Participation in nontherapeutic studies (e.g., subject registries) is permitted.          |
| IPI score   | IPI score range should be determined based on the target population for a given study.   |
| Ann Arbor Stage   | Patients with Ann Arbor stages II–IV should be eligible for enrollment.<br>Inclusion of patients with stage-I disease should depend on the study hypothesis and should be determined on a trial-by-trial basis.                                      |
| Age at diagnosis  | At baseline, patients aged $\geq 18$ years should be eligible for trial participation.<br>Determine final age range based on study intervention and target population  |
| Performance status  | Recommend including patients with PS of ECOG 0–2 and ECOG 3 if poor PS is due to lymphoma.   |
| Renal function  | Exclude patients based on a selected threshold value unless dysfunction is attributable to lymphoma.   |
| Hepatic function  | Selection of threshold value should take into account specific therapies in trial.   |
| CNS involvement   | No known CNS involvement by lymphoma permitted in frontline trials evaluating strategies to improve standard of care therapy. Testing for CNS lymphoma is not required for enrollment and should be performed only when based on clinical suspicion. |
| Presence of other significant, uncontrolled, concomitant disease          | No other significant, uncontrolled, concomitant disease should be permitted at investigator's discretion.  |

# Social, Biologic, and Environmental Factors That Contribute to Disparities in Lymphoma Survival



## Steps to CCT enrollment

## Category of influences



1. Ford et al. Cancer 2008. 112(2).228-242
2. Unger, J. et Al. ASCO Educational Book, 36, 185–198