

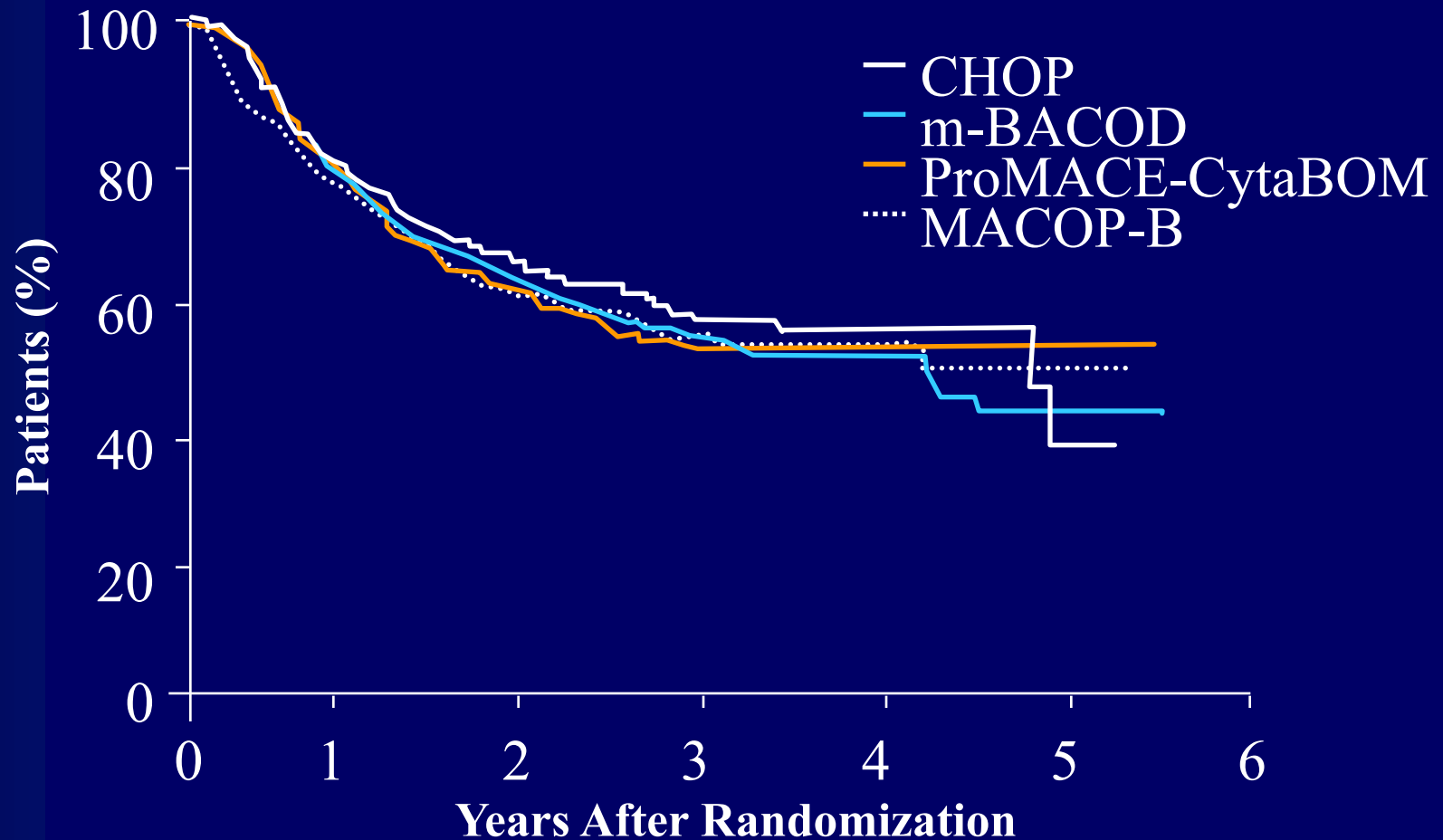
# Updates in the Management of DLBCL

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**UC Davis School of Medicine**

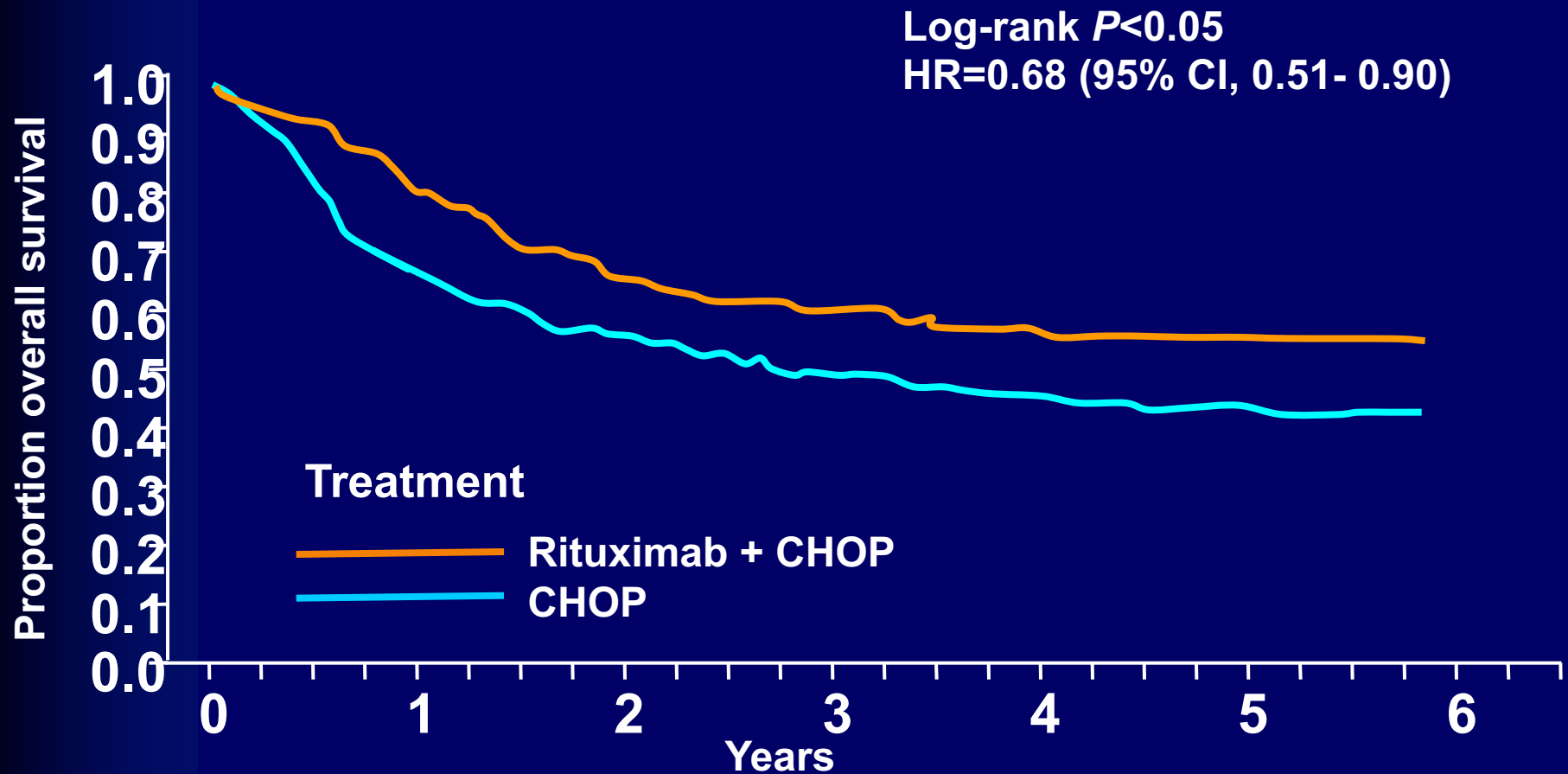
# National High Priority Lymphoma Study: Progression-Free Survival



Adapted from Fisher. *N Engl J Med.* **1993**;328:1002.

# LNH 98-5 Trial: Overall Survival

## Median 5-Year Follow-up

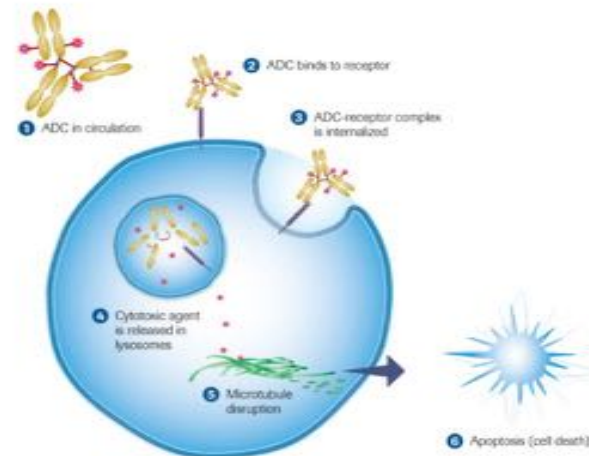
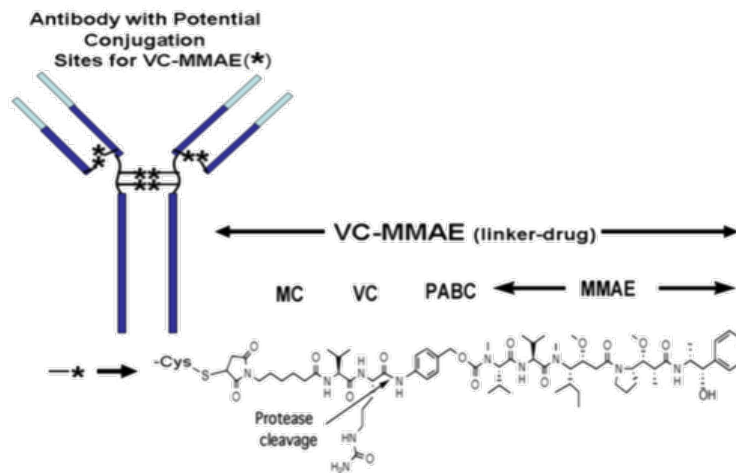


**CHOP/R-CHOP has been the SOC for 20-30 years**

**Can we do better?**

# Polatuzumab vedotin

- Polatuzumab vedotin (pola) is an antibody drug conjugate (ADC) consisting of a potent microtubule inhibitor monomethyl auristatin E (MMAE) conjugated to CD79b monoclonal antibody via a protease-cleavable peptide linker



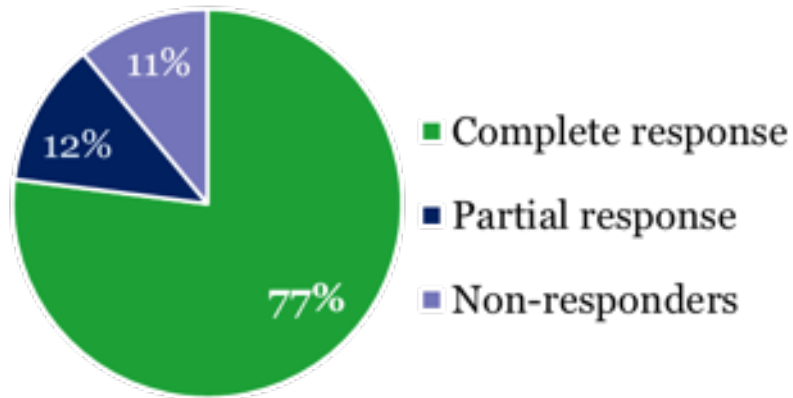
- Pola has demonstrated efficacy in R/R DLBCL in combination with rituximab<sup>1,2</sup>

Treatment	Best overall response
Pola +/- rituximab	51–56% <sup>1,2</sup>

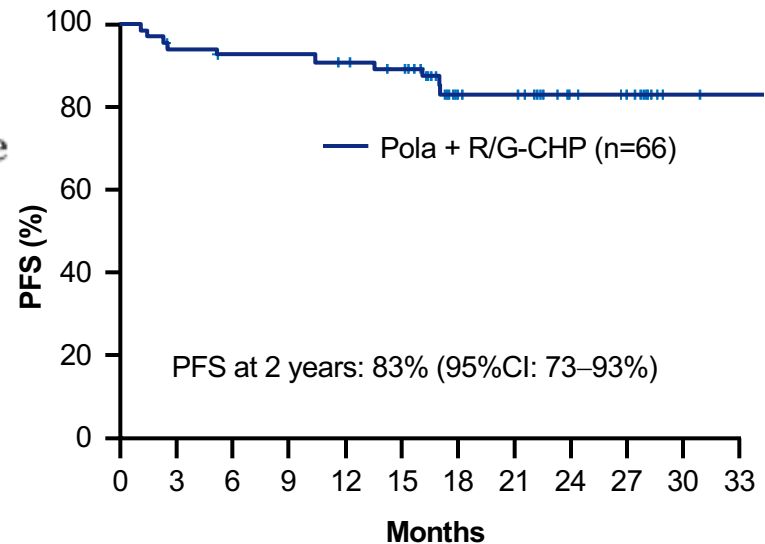
# In frontline: Pola-R-CHP in a phase 1b/2 trial

1 The safety and tolerability of pola-R-CHP is similar to that of R-CHOP

2 Tumour responses to pola-R-CHP assessed by PET



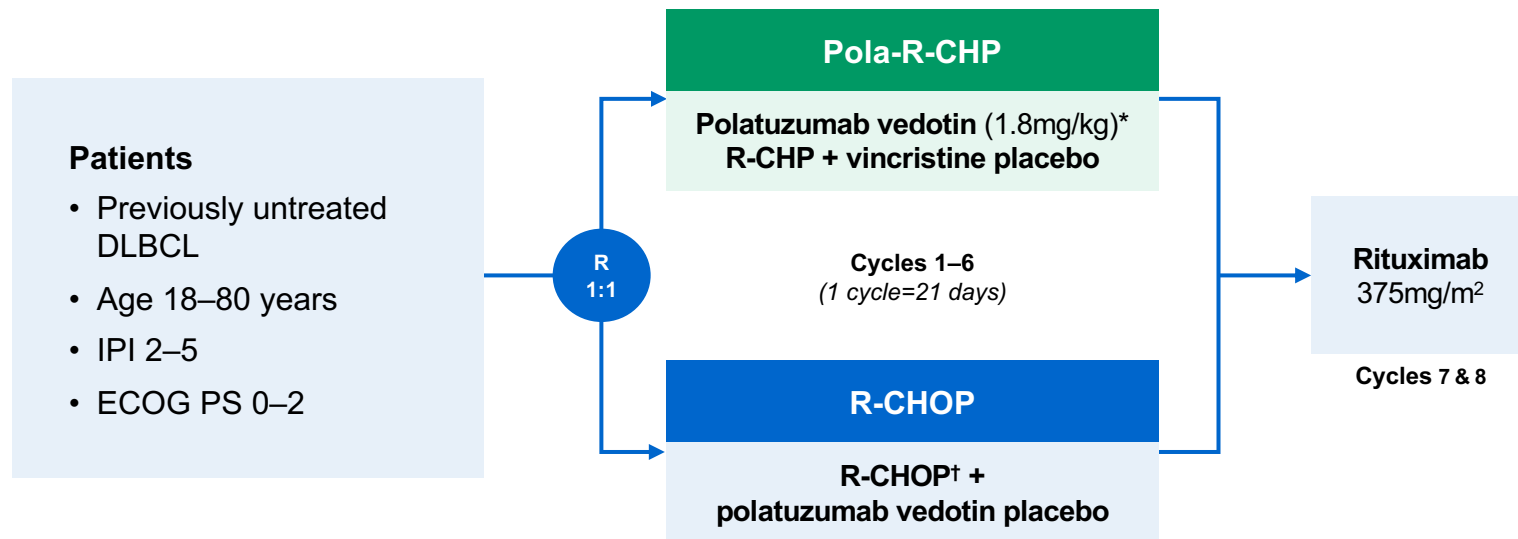
3 PFS in patients with 1L DLBCL receiving pola + R/G-CHP



G, obinutuzumab; R-CHP, rituximab, cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, and prednisone;  
R-CHOP, rituximab, cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, vincristine, and prednisone

Tilly H, et al. Lancet Oncol 2019; [Epub ahead of print]

# Phase 3 POLARIX Study: Polatuzumab Vedotin + R-CHP Versus R-CHOP for Newly Diagnosed DLBCL—Study Design



## 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: PFS (INV)
- Secondary endpoints: EFS, CR at EOT, DFS, OS, safety

# POLARIX: Baseline Characteristics

Characteristic	Polatuzumab Vedotin + R-CHP (n = 440)	R-CHOP (n = 439)
Median age, yr (range)	65 (19-80)	66.0 (19-80)
Male, n (%)	239 (54)	234 (53)
ECOG PS 0/1, n (%)	374 (85)	363 (83)
Bulky disease (≥7.5 cm), n (%)	193 (44)	192 (44)
Elevated LDH, n (%)	291 (66)	284 (65)
Median time from diagnosis to treatment initiation, days	26	27
Ann Arbor stage III/IV, n (%)	393 (89)	387 (88)
Extranodal sites (≥2), n (%)	213 (48)	213 (49)

Characteristic, n (%)	Polatuzumab Vedotin + R- CHP (n = 440)	R-CHOP (n = 439)
IPI score		
▪ 2	167 (38)	167 (38)
▪ 3-5	273 (62)	272 (62)
Cell of origin		
▪ ABC	102 (31)	119 (35)
▪ GCB	184 (56)	168 (50)
▪ Unclassified	44 (13)	51 (15)
<i>MYC/BCL2</i> expression	139 (38)	151 (41)
<i>MYC/BCL2/BCL6</i> rearrangement	26 (8)	19 (6)

Tilly. ASH 2021. Abstr LBA1. Tilly. NEJM. 2021;[Epub]



# POLARIX: Polatuzumab Vedotin + R-CHP vs R-CHOP

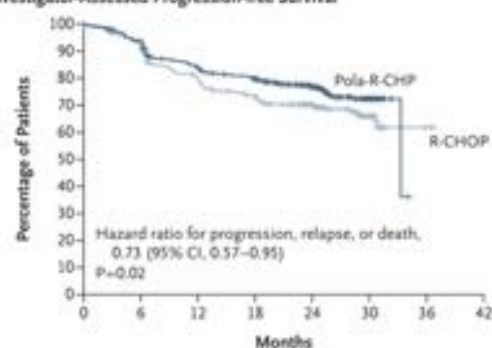
## Response

Best ORR, %	Polatuzumab Vedotin + R-CHP (n = 440)	R-CHOP (n = 439)
CR	86.6	82.7
PR	9.3	11.4

**Table 1. Demographic and Clinical Characteristics at Baseline (Intention-to-Treat Population).<sup>a</sup>**

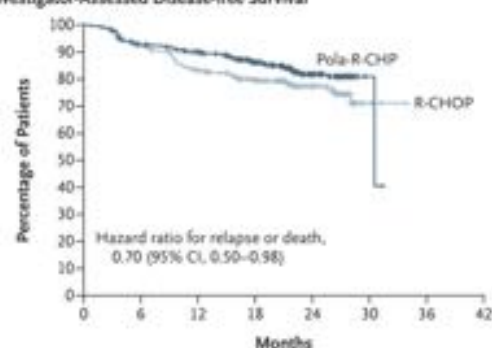
Characteristic	Pola-R-CHP (N = 440)	R-CHOP (N = 439)
Median age (range) — yr	65 (19–80)	66 (19–80)
Age category — no. (%)		
<60 yr	140 (31.8)	131 (29.8)
≥60 yr	300 (68.2)	308 (70.2)
Female sex — no. (%)	201 (45.7)	205 (46.7)
Geographic region — no. (%) <sup>†</sup>		
Western Europe, United States, Canada, and Australia	302 (68.6)	301 (68.6)
Asia	81 (18.4)	79 (18.0)
Rest of world	57 (13.0)	59 (13.4)
Ann Arbor stage — no. (%) <sup>‡</sup>		
I or II	47 (10.7)	52 (11.8)
III or IV	393 (89.3)	387 (88.2)
No. of extranodal sites — no. (%)		
0 or 1	227 (51.6)	226 (51.5)
≥2	213 (48.4)	213 (48.5)
Bulky disease — no. (%) <sup>§</sup>	193 (43.9)	192 (43.7)
ECOG performance status score — no. (%) <sup>¶</sup>		
0 or 1	374 (85.0)	363 (82.7)
2	66 (15.0)	75 (17.1)
Lactate dehydrogenase level — no. (%) <sup>  </sup>		
Normal	146 (33.2)	154 (35.1)
Elevated	291 (66.1)	284 (64.7)
IPI score — no. (%) <sup>††</sup>		
2	167 (38.0)	167 (38.0)
3 to 5	273 (62.0)	272 (62.0)
Median time from initial diagnosis to treatment initiation (IQR) — days	26 (16.0–37.5)	27 (19.0–41.0)
Cell of origin — no./total no. (%) <sup>‡‡</sup>		
Germinal-center B-cell-like subtype	184/330 (55.8)	168/338 (49.7)
Activated B-cell-like subtype	102/330 (30.9)	119/338 (35.2)
Unclassified	44/330 (13.3)	51/338 (15.1)
Double-expressor lymphoma — no./total no. (%) <sup>‡‡</sup>	139/362 (38.4)	151/366 (41.3)
Double-hit or triple-hit lymphoma — no./total no. (%) <sup>‡‡</sup>	26/331 (7.9)	19/334 (5.7)

**A Investigator-Assessed Progression-free Survival**



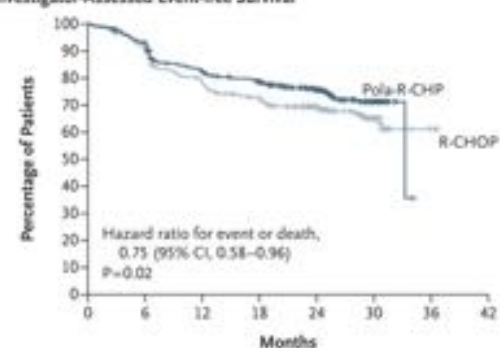
No. at Risk								
Pola-R-CHP	440	404	353	327	246	78	NE	NE
R-CHOP	439	389	330	296	220	78	3	NE

**C Investigator-Assessed Disease-free Survival**



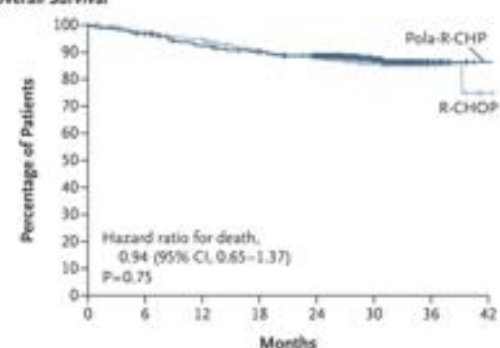
No. at Risk								
Pola-R-CHP	381	342	322	266	106	2	NE	NE
R-CHOP	363	326	282	238	96	5	NE	NE

**B Investigator-Assessed Event-free Survival**



No. at Risk								
Pola-R-CHP	440	402	348	323	243	78	NE	NE
R-CHOP	439	386	327	294	218	78	3	NE

**D Overall Survival**



No. at Risk								
Pola-R-CHP	440	423	397	384	362	140	15	1
R-CHOP	439	414	401	376	355	132	20	1

**Table 3. Adverse Events during the Treatment Period (Safety Population).\***

Adverse Event	Pola-R-CHP (N = 435)		R-CHOP (N = 438)	
	Any Grade	Grade 3 or 4	Any Grade	Grade 3 or 4
	<i>number of patients (percent)</i>			
Peripheral neuropathy†	230 (52.9)	7 (1.6)	236 (53.9)	5 (1.1)
Nausea	181 (41.6)	5 (1.1)	161 (36.8)	2 (0.5)
Neutropenia	134 (30.8)	123 (28.3)	143 (32.6)	135 (30.8)
Diarrhea	134 (30.8)	17 (3.9)	88 (20.1)	8 (1.8)
Anemia	125 (28.7)	52 (12.0)	114 (26.0)	37 (8.4)
Constipation	125 (28.7)	5 (1.1)	127 (29.0)	1 (0.2)
Fatigue	112 (25.7)	4 (0.9)	116 (26.5)	11 (2.5)
Alopecia	106 (24.4)	0	105 (24.0)	1 (0.2)
Decreased appetite	71 (16.3)	5 (1.1)	62 (14.2)	3 (0.7)
Pyrexia	68 (15.6)	6 (1.4)	55 (12.6)	0
Vomiting	65 (14.9)	5 (1.1)	63 (14.4)	3 (0.7)
Febrile neutropenia	62 (14.3)	60 (13.8)	35 (8.0)	35 (8.0)
Headache	56 (12.9)	1 (0.2)	57 (13.0)	4 (0.9)
Cough	56 (12.9)	0	53 (12.1)	0
Decreased weight	55 (12.6)	4 (0.9)	52 (11.9)	1 (0.2)
Asthenia	53 (12.2)	7 (1.6)	53 (12.1)	2 (0.5)
Dysgeusia	49 (11.3)	0	57 (13.0)	0

# POLARIX: Polatuzumab Vedotin + R-CHP vs R-CHOP

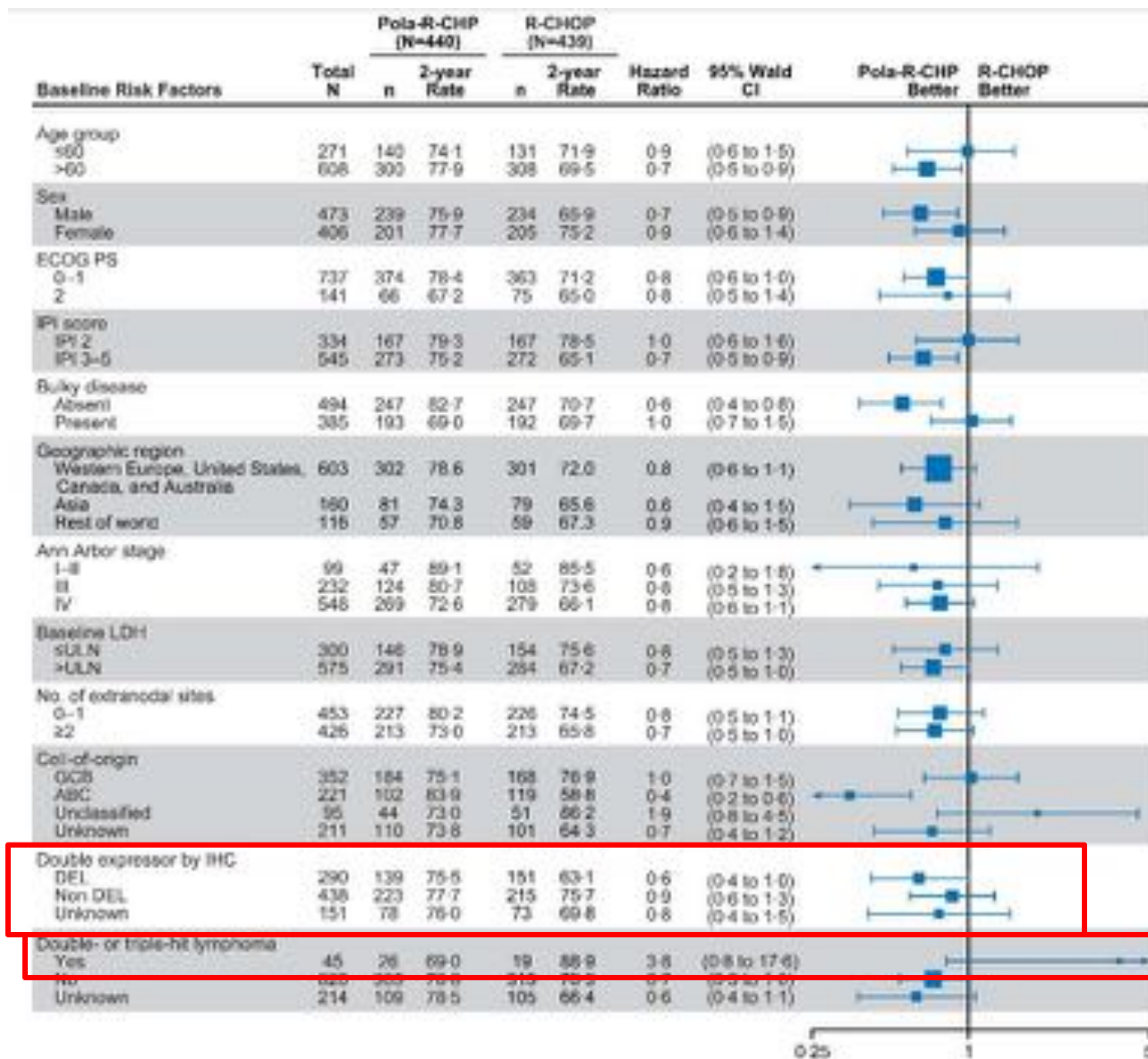
## Subsequent Therapy Not Specified in the Protocol

Subsequent Therapy at Data Cutoff, %	Polatuzumab Vedotin + R-CHP (n = 99)	R-CHOP (n = 133)
Radiotherapy	9.3	13.0
Systemic therapy	17.0	23.5
SCT	3.9	7.1
CAR T-cell	2.0	3.6

- At data cutoff, 99 of 440 patients (22.5%) in the polatuzumab vedotin arm and 133 of 439 patients (30.3%) in the R-CHOP arm had received  $\geq 1$  subsequent course of therapy not specified in the trial protocol
- Unblinding was permitted for individual patients after disease progression, with 8 patients in the R-CHOP arm receiving polatuzumab vedotin as part of subsequent therapy

# Phase 3 POLARIX Study: PFS (INV) by Subgroup

## Exploratory Analysis

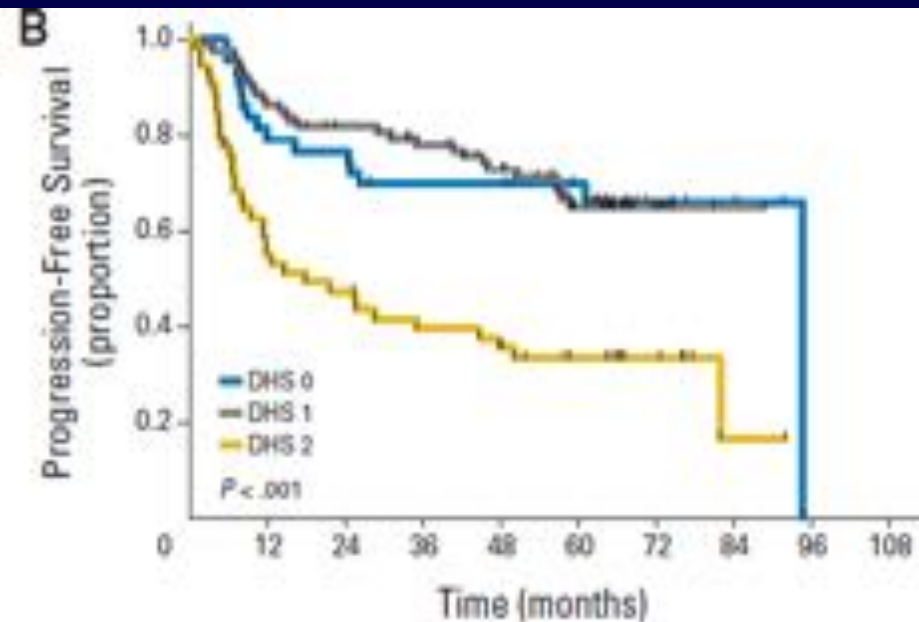
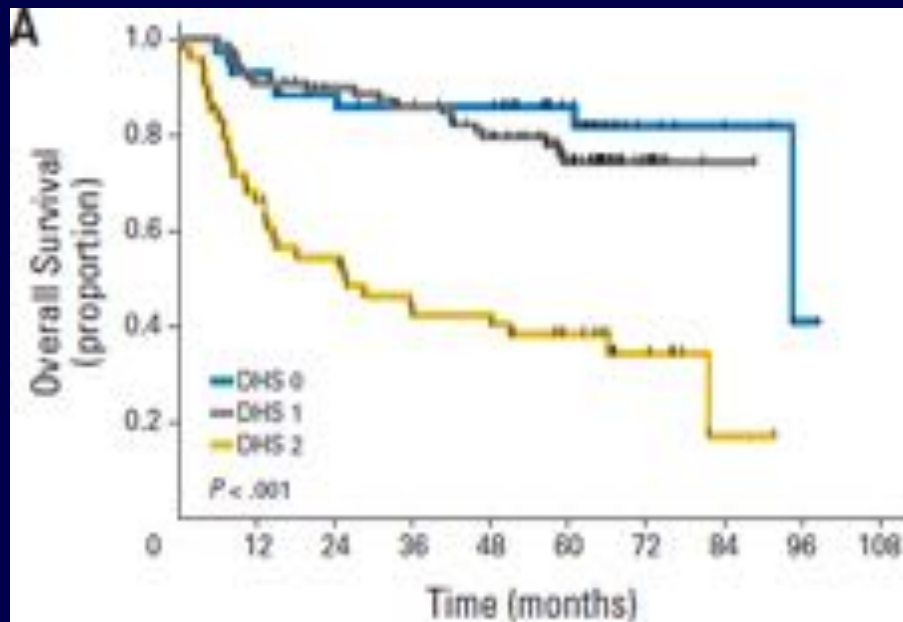


	Pola-R-CHP		R-CHOP		Univariate PFS HR (95% CI)
	Prevalence (%)	2-year PFS (%)	Prevalence (%)	2-year PFS (%)	
<b>BCL2 IHC</b>	N=359		N=365		
BCL2+	56	75	55	63	0.65 (0.46–0.92)
BCL2–	44	79	45	80	0.97 (0.60–1.56)
<b>MYC IHC</b>	N=366		N=368		
MYC+	64	78	70	69	0.68 (0.48–0.96)
MYC–	36	75	30	74	0.92 (0.57–1.51)
<b>BCL2-R</b>	N=332		N=334		
Yes	28	77	23	76	0.90 (0.51–1.59)
No	72	76	77	70	0.78 (0.55–1.09)
<b>MYC-R</b>	N=331		N=336		
Yes	12	77	10	71	0.86 (0.36–2.08)
No	88	76	90	71	0.78 (0.57–1.06)
<b>BCL6-R*</b>	N=38		N=34		
Yes	26	70	29	100	Not evaluable
No	74	79	71	58	0.46 (0.17–1.26)

\*BCL6-R only tested in patients with MYC-R; N=patients with central lab results

- DEL vs non-DEL in the R-CHOP arm (UVA HR 1.53, 95% CI 1.06–2.21; MVA HR 1.29, 95% CI 0.88–1.91)
- No prognostic difference between DEL and non-DEL in the Pola-R-CHP arm
- BCL2+ associated with inferior PFS vs BCL2– in the R-CHOP arm (UVA HR 1.96, 95% CI 1.31–2.93; MVA HR 1.74, 95% CI 1.14–2.66)
- No prognostic difference between BCL2+ and BCL2– in the Pola-R-CHP arm
- No prognostic impact of MYC+ vs MYC– was detected in either arm

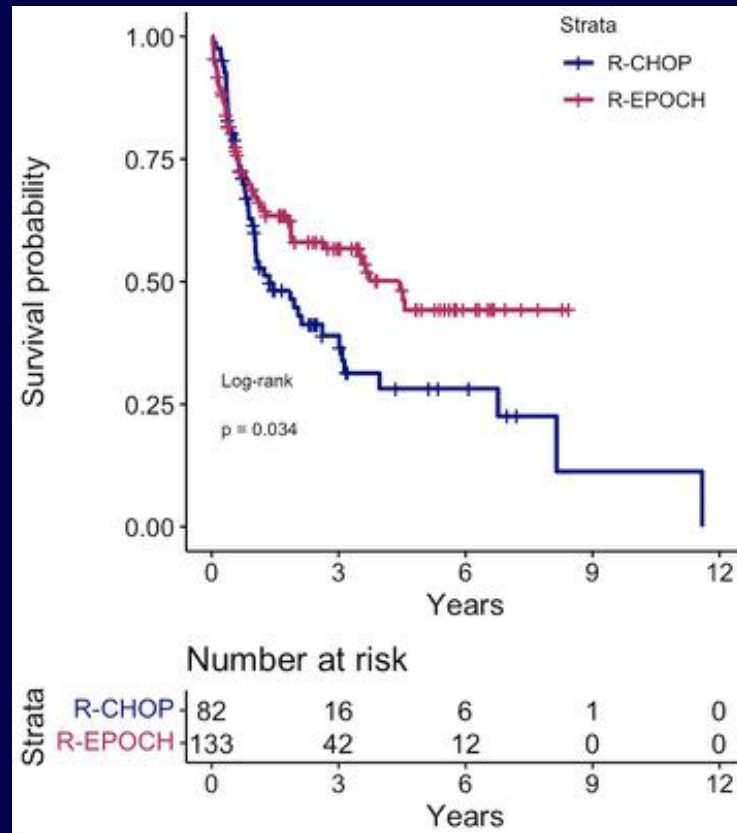
# Double Expression - Prognosis



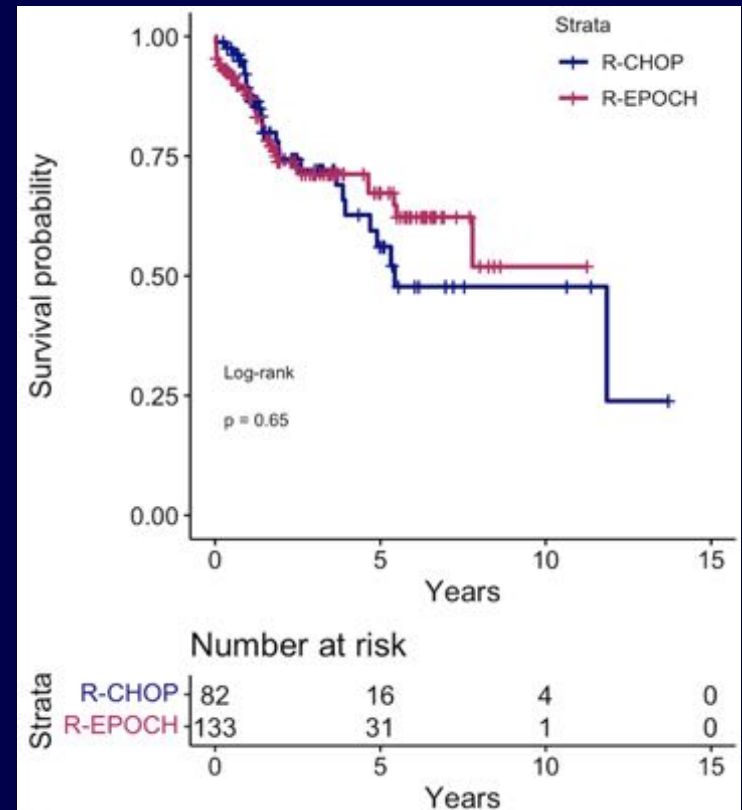


# R-DA-EPOCH for DEL

PFS



OS





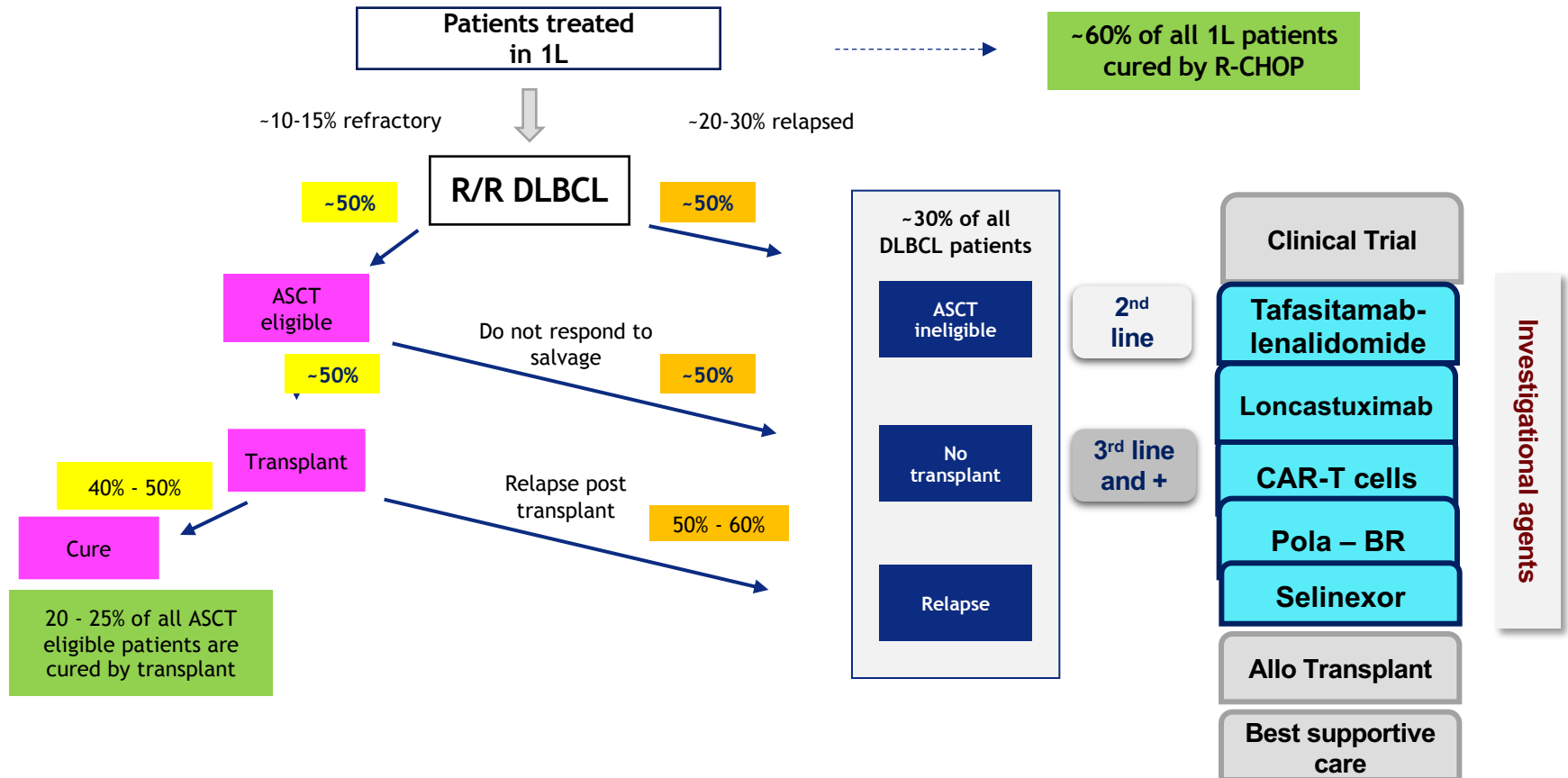
# POLARIX: Conclusions

- In patients with intermediate-risk or high-risk untreated DLBCL, polatuzumab vedotin + R-CHP significantly increased PFS vs R-CHOP
  - HR: 0.73 (95% CI: 0.57-0.95;  $P < .02$ )
- Frequency of AEs similar between treatment arms
- Exploratory analyses of various subgroups and other prognostic classification systems are ongoing
- Investigators conclude these data support use of polatuzumab vedotin + R-CHP in patients with untreated DLBCL and may represent a new SOC for previously untreated DLBCL ?

# Relapsed/Refractory DLBCL



# Relapsed and refractory DLBCL



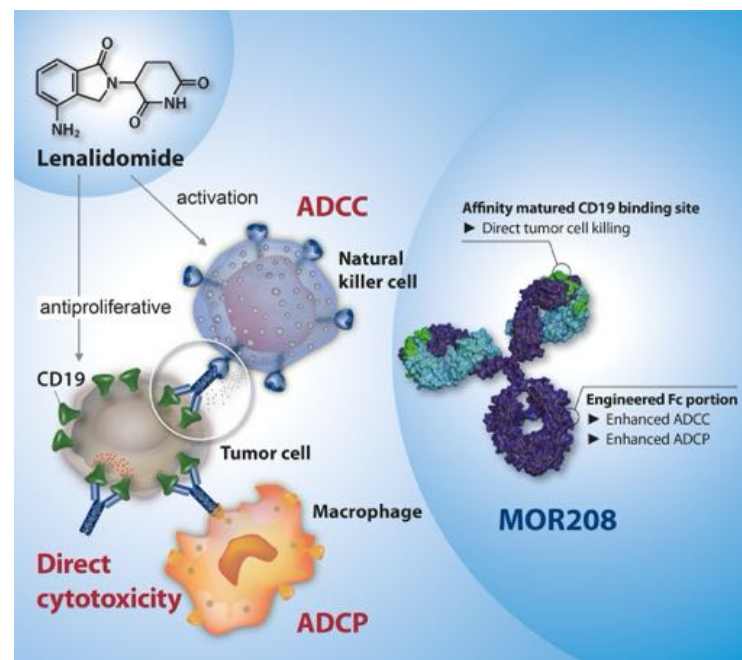
# Tafasitamab (MOR208) and Lenalidomide: A Novel Immunological Combination

## Tafasitamab (MOR208: Fc-engineered, anti-CD19 mAb)

- ↑ ADCC
- ↑ ADCP
- Direct cell death
- Encouraging single-agent activity in R/R DLBCL and iNHL patients

## Lenalidomide

- T and NK cell activation/expansion
- Direct cell death
- Has been well studied as an antilymphoma agent, alone or in combination



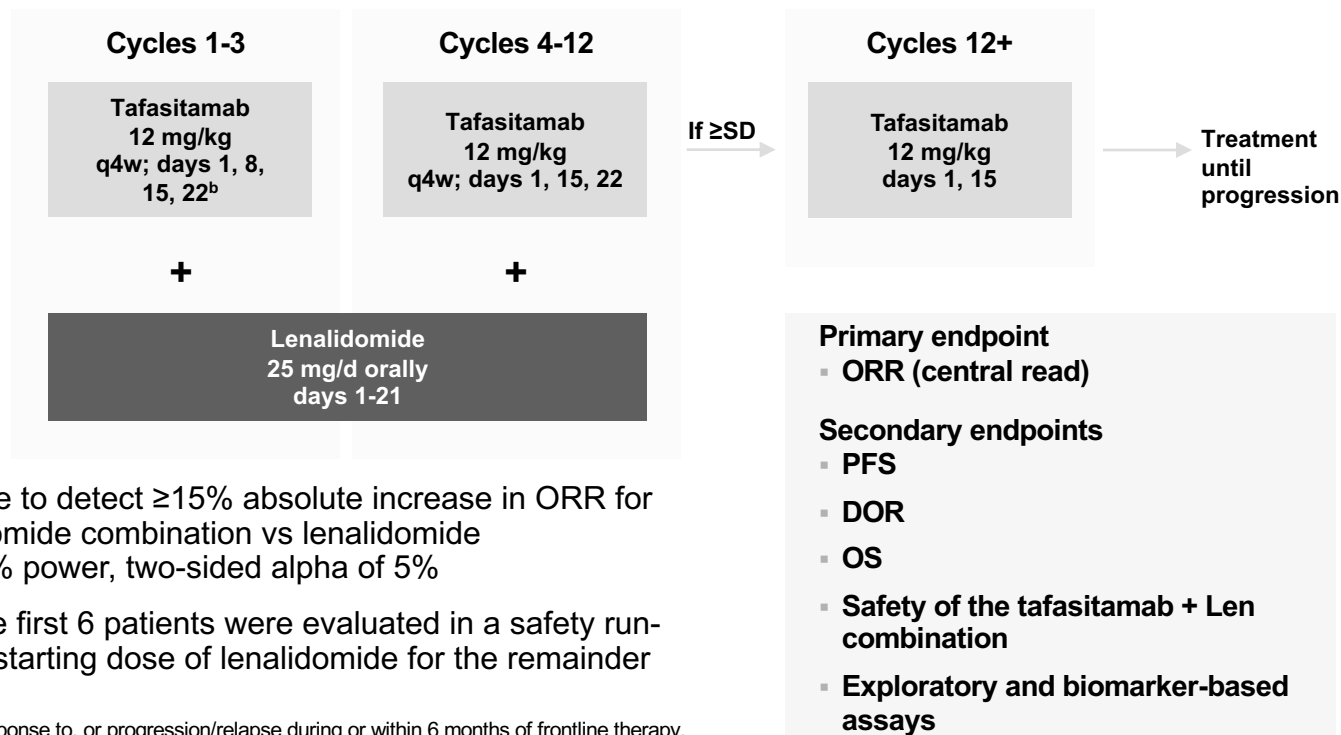
# L-MIND Study Design<sup>1,2</sup>

- R/R DLBCL
- Not eligible for HDC + ASCT
- 1-3 prior regimens
- Primary refractory patients were not eligible<sup>a</sup>
- Patients with double/triple-hit DLBCL were excluded
- ECOG PS 0-2

- Sample size suitable to detect  $\geq 15\%$  absolute increase in ORR for tafasitamab/lenalidomide combination vs lenalidomide monotherapy at 85% power, two-sided alpha of 5%
- Safety data from the first 6 patients were evaluated in a safety run-in to determine the starting dose of lenalidomide for the remainder of the study

<sup>a</sup> Primary refractory defined as no response to, or progression/relapse during or within 6 months of frontline therapy.

<sup>b</sup> A loading dose of tafasitamab was administered on day 4 of cycle 1.

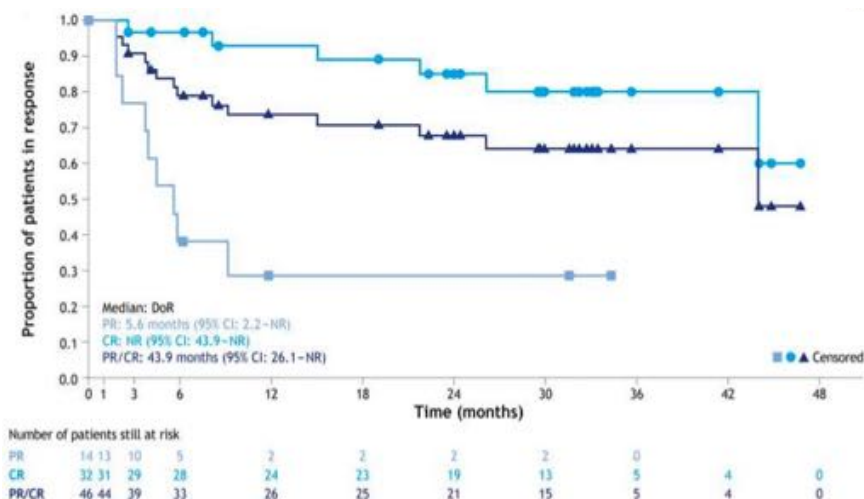


1. Duell J, et al. ASCO 2021. Abstract 7513. 2. ClinicalTrials.gov. NCT02399085. Accessed March 28, 2022. <https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT02399085>

# L-MIND $\geq 35$ Months of Follow-Up: Response Rate and DOR by Best Response

Response, n (%)	Follow-Up Analysis <sup>a</sup> (n=80)
ORR (CR+PR)	46 (57.5)
CR	32 (40.0)
PR	14 (17.5)
SD	13 (16.3)
PD	13 (16.3)
NE <sup>b</sup>	8 (10.0)

**IRC-Assessed DOR by Best Response**



- Of 34 patients who received tafasitamab monotherapy after discontinuing lenalidomide (30/34 patients had completed 12 cycles of tafasitamab plus lenalidomide), 19 remained on therapy as of the data cutoff date

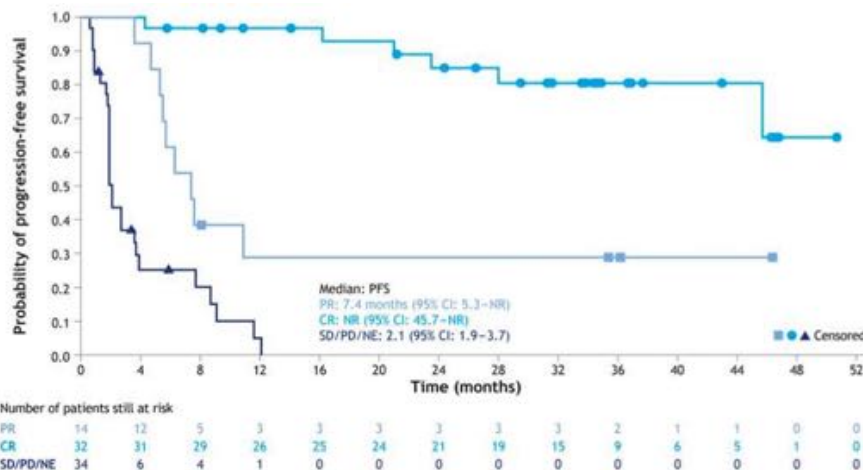
- Of responders, the median DOR was 43.9 months

Data cutoff: October 30, 2020. <sup>a</sup> One patient received tafasitamab only. <sup>b</sup> Nonevaluable patients had no valid postbaseline response assessments.

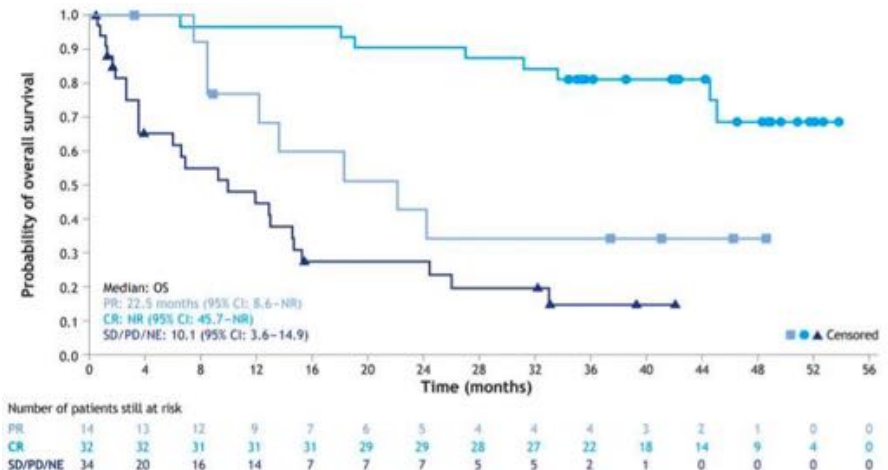
Duell J, et al. *Haematologica*. 2021;106(9):2417-2426.

# L-MIND $\geq 35$ Months of Follow-Up: PFS and OS by Best Response

IRC-Assessed PFS by Best Response



IRC-Assessed OS by Best Response



- Of responders, the median PFS was 11.6 months and median OS was 33.5 months

Data cutoff: October 30, 2020.

Duell J, et al. *Haematologica*. 2021;106(9):2417-2426.



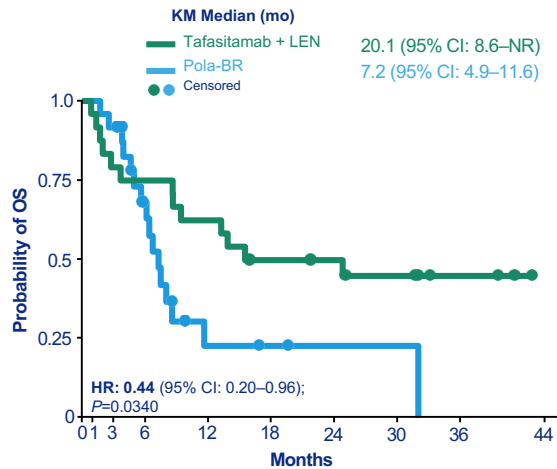
# Retrospective Analysis

## Tafasitamab vs R2 vs CAR T

### Primary Endpoint: Overall Survival\*



**Tafasitamab + LEN vs Pola-BR Cohort**



**Tafasitamab + LEN (n=24)**

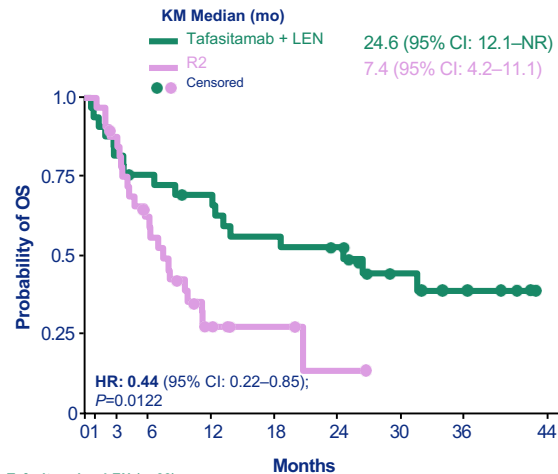
At risk	24	23	19	18	15	11	10	8	4	0
Event(s)	0	1	5	6	9	12	12	13	3	13
Censored	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	7	11

**Pola-BR (n=24)**

At risk	24	24	22	13	3	2	1	1	0	0
Event(s)	0	0	2	7	15	15	15	15	16	16
Censored	0	0	0	4	6	7	8	8	8	8

Median duration of follow-up: tafasitamab plus + LEN: 32 months;  
Pola-BR: 16.6 months

**Tafasitamab + LEN vs R2 Cohort**



**Tafasitamab + LEN (n=33)**

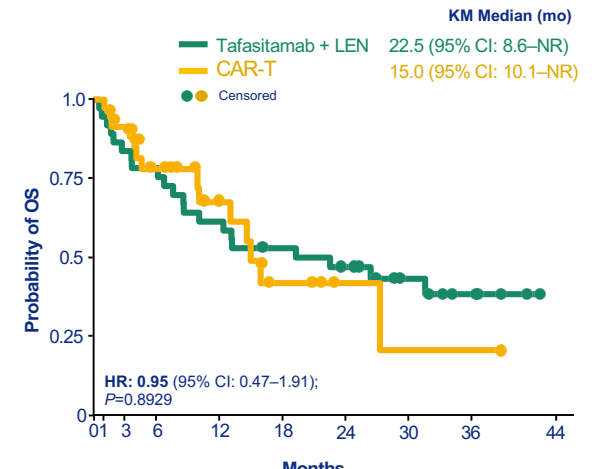
At risk	33	31	27	24	21	17	15	8	5	0
Event(s)	0	2	6	8	10	14	15	17	18	18
Censored	0	0	0	1	2	2	3	8	10	15

**R2 (n=33)**

At risk	33	33	28	19	5	3	1	0	0	0
Event(s)	0	0	4	12	22	22	23	23	23	23
Censored	0	0	1	2	6	8	9	10	10	10

Median duration of follow-up: tafasitamab plus + LEN: 32 months;  
R2: 13.4 months

**Tafasitamab + LEN vs CAR-T Cohort**



**Tafasitamab + LEN (n=37)**

At risk	37	35	31	28	22	18	15	9	5	0
Event(s)	0	2	6	8	14	17	19	20	21	21
Censored	0	0	0	1	1	2	3	8	11	16

**CAR-T (n=37)**

At risk	37	37	30	22	11	5	2	1	1	0
Event(s)	0	0	3	7	9	13	13	14	14	14
Censored	0	0	4	8	17	19	22	22	22	23

Median duration of follow-up: tafasitamab plus + LEN: 32 months;  
CAR-T: 10.2 months

\*This study compares the L-MIND population with matching real-world cohorts and therefore contains limitations that may affect the interpretation of the results

P values were calculated using log-rank test.  
Nowakowski GS, et al. ASH 2021. Oral Presentation: Abstract 183.



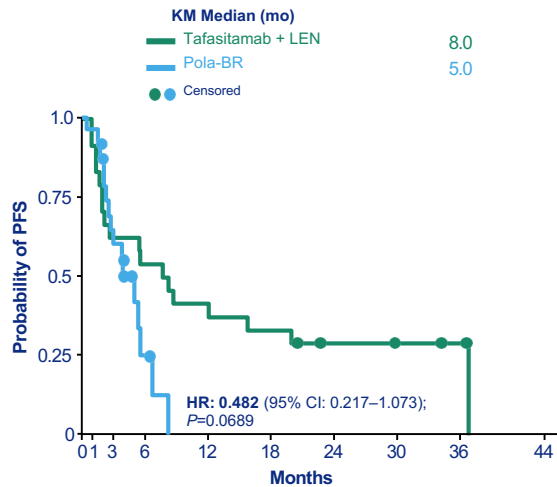
# Retrospective Analysis

## Tafasitamab vs R2 vs CAR T

### Primary Endpoint: PFS\*



**Tafasitamab + LEN vs  
Pola-BR Cohort**



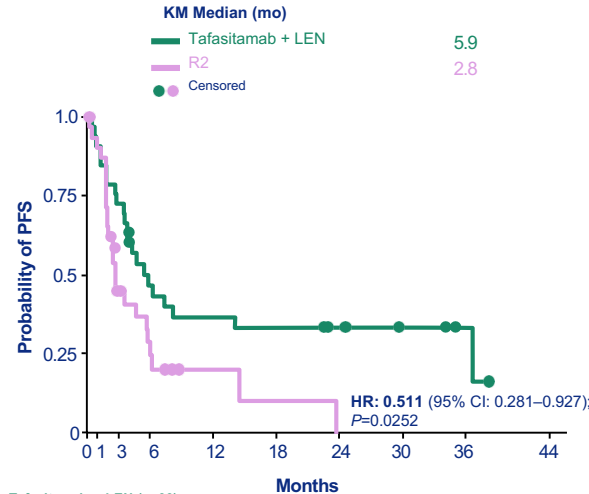
**Tafasitamab + LEN (n=24)**

At risk	24	22	15	13	10	8	5	4	2	0
Event(s)	0	2	9	11	14	16	17	17	17	18
Censored	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	5	6

**Pola-BR (n=24)**

At risk	24	23	13	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Event(s)	0	1	9	14	16	16	16	16	16	16
Censored	0	0	2	7	8	8	8	8	8	8

**Tafasitamab + LEN vs  
R2 Cohort**



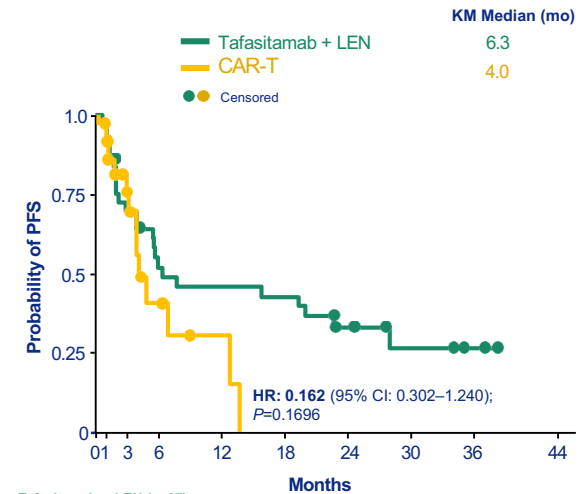
**Tafasitamab + LEN (n=33)**

At risk	33	30	24	14	11	10	7	5	2	0
Event(s)	0	3	9	17	20	21	21	21	21	22
Censored	0	0	0	2	2	2	5	7	10	11

**R2 (n=33)**

At risk	33	30	11	7	2	1	0	0	0	0
Event(s)	0	2	17	21	23	24	25	25	25	25
Censored	0	1	5	5	8	8	8	8	8	8

**Tafasitamab + LEN vs CAR-T  
Cohort**



**Tafasitamab + LEN (n=37)**

At risk	37	33	25	17	15	14	7	4	2	2
Event(s)	0	3	11	17	19	20	23	24	24	24
Censored	0	1	1	3	3	3	7	9	11	13

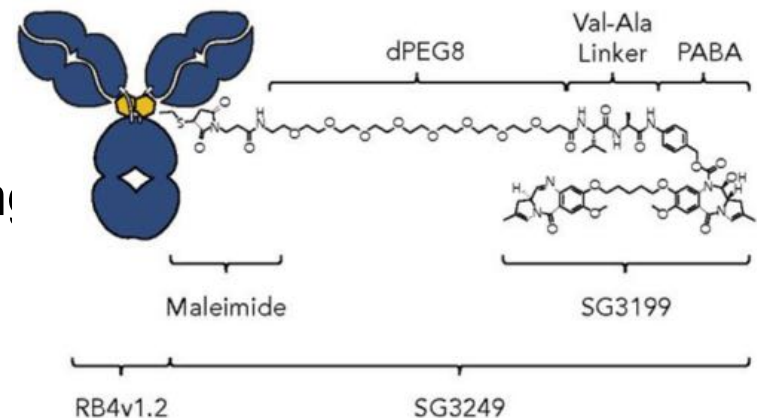
**CAR-T (n=37)**

At risk	37	33	12	5	2	0	0	0	0	0
Event(s)	0	3	7	12	13	15	15	15	15	15
Censored	0	1	18	20	22	22	22	22	22	22

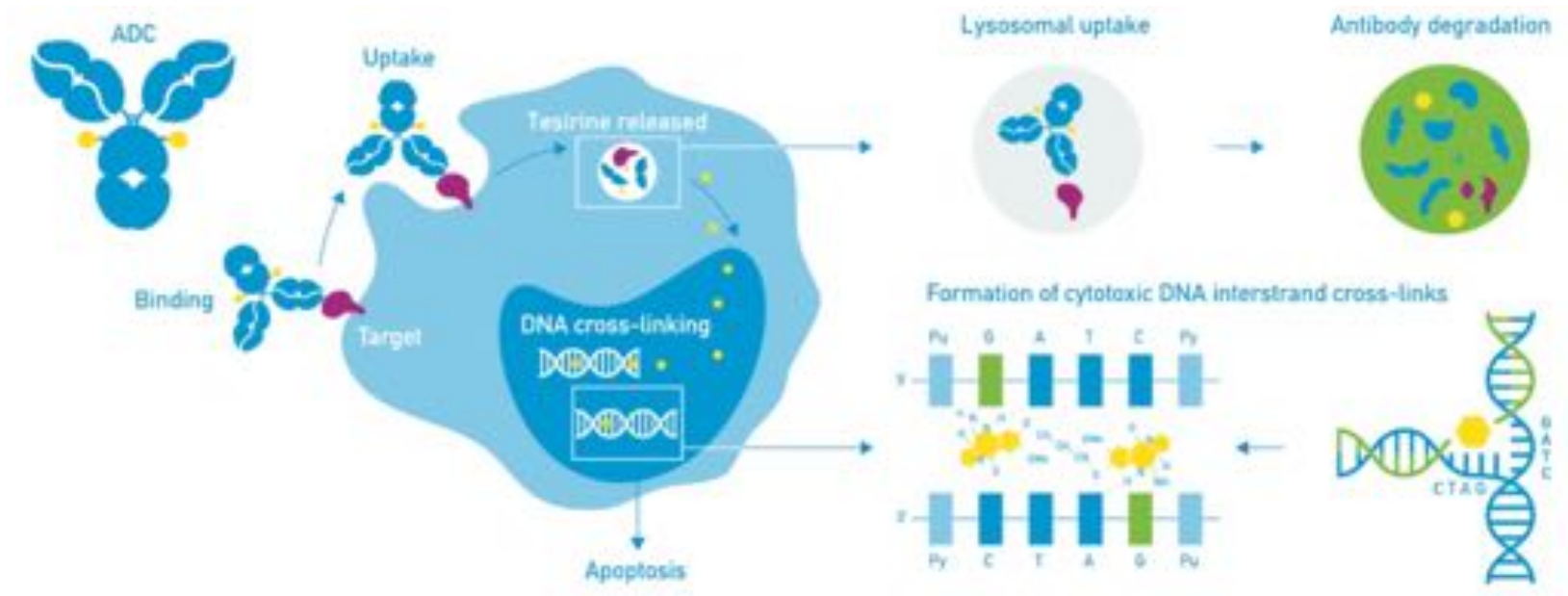
\*This study compares the L-MIND population with matching real-world cohorts and therefore contains limitations that may affect the interpretation of the results

# Loncastuximab Tesirine

- Loncastuximab tesirine is an FDA-approved CD19-directed antibody-drug conjugate indicated for adults with R/R large B-cell lymphoma after  $\geq 2$  lines of systemic therapy, including patients with HGBCL<sup>1</sup>
- ADC delivering SG3199, a cytotoxic minor groove interstrand cross-linking dimer payload<sup>1,2</sup>
  - Anti-CD19
  - Payload is a PBD toxin
  - DNA cross-linking agent

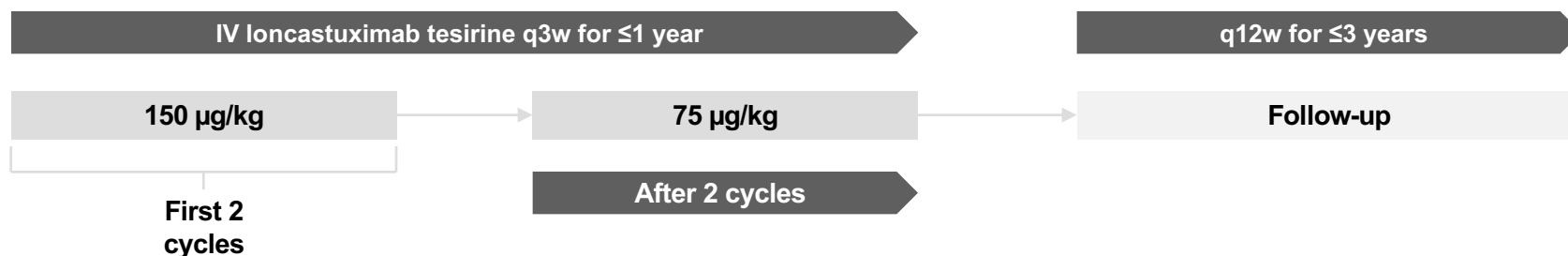


# Loncastuximab Tesirine: Mechanism of Action



# LOTIS-2: Study Design

- Patients with R/R DLBCL for whom salvage chemotherapy/SCT is unsuccessful and who have a poor prognosis and limited treatment options<sup>1,2</sup>
- Loncastuximab tesirine comprises a humanized anti-CD19 antibody conjugated to a potent PBD dimer toxin<sup>3</sup>
- LOTIS-2 is a multicenter, open-label, single-arm, phase 2 study in patients aged  $\geq 18$  years with pathologically defined R/R DLBCL and  $\geq 2$  prior systemic treatments<sup>4,6</sup>
  - Included patients with high-risk characteristics such as double-hit, triple-hit, transformed, or primary refractory DLBCL<sup>4</sup>

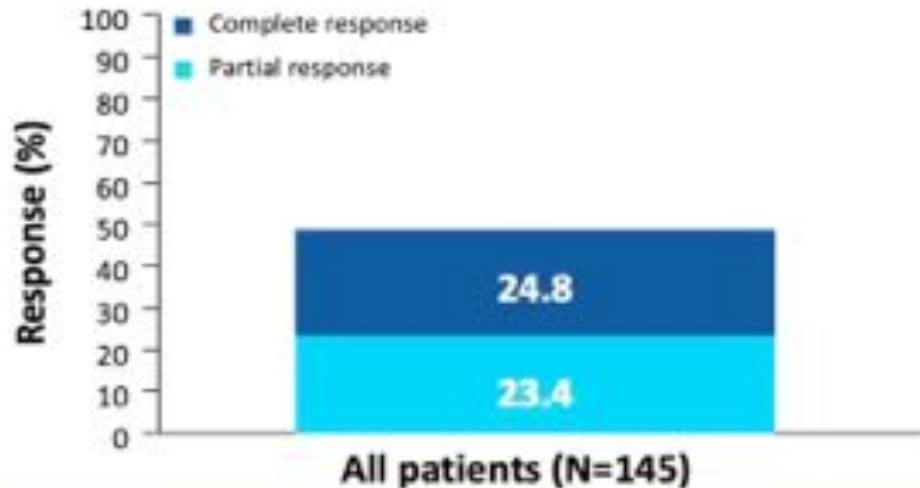


- Primary efficacy and safety data have been published ( $\geq 6$  months since first dose)<sup>4</sup>
- Presented are updated results ( $\geq 17$  months since first dose)

Study findings were previously presented as a poster at the International Conference on Malignant Lymphoma (ICML) Virtual Congress, June 18-22, 2021.

1. Crump M, et al. *Blood*. 2017;130(16):1800-1808. 2. Gisselbrecht C, et al. *Br J Haematol*. 2018;182(5):633-643. 3. Zammarchi F, et al. *Blood*. 2018;131(10):1094-1105. 4. Caimi PF, et al. *Lancet Oncol*. 2021;22(6):790-800. 5. Caimi PF, et al. ASH 2020. Abstract 1183. 6. Caimi PF, et al. ASCO 2021. Abstract 7546.

# LOTIS-2: Efficacy Results – ORR and DOR



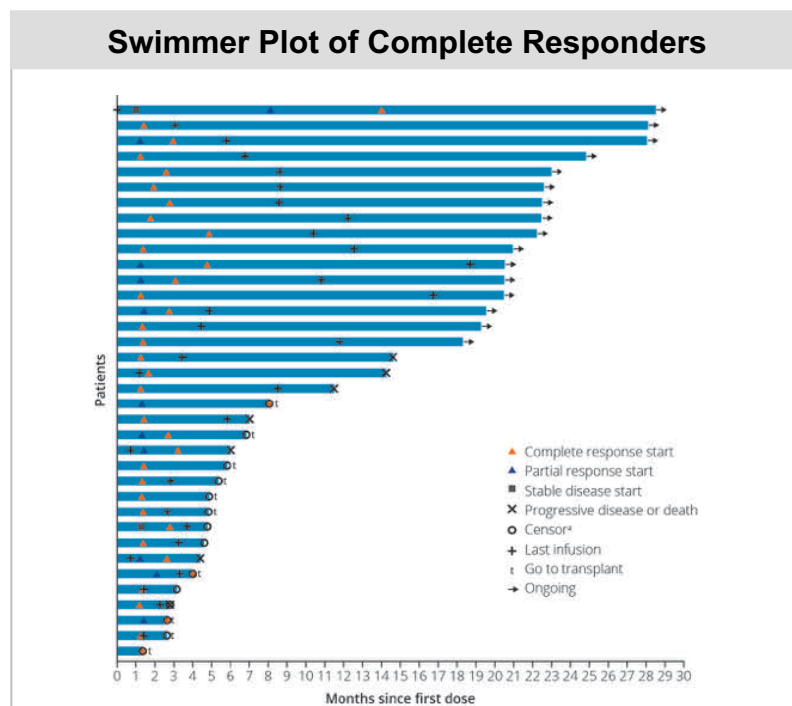
Loncastuximab tesirine  
ORR:  
**48.3%**

Loncastuximab tesirine  
DOR in responders  
(CR+PR):  
**13.4 mo**

Data cutoff: March 01, 2021. All-treated population.

Kahl BS, et al. SOHO 2021. Abstract ABCL-022.

## LOTIS-2: Efficacy Results – Complete Responders



Response	Remained in CR With No Further Treatment	PD or Death
CR, % (n/N)	44.4 (16/36)	36.1 (13/36)
CR excluding 10 patients censored due to SCT, % (n/N)	61.5 (16/26)	34.6 (9/26)

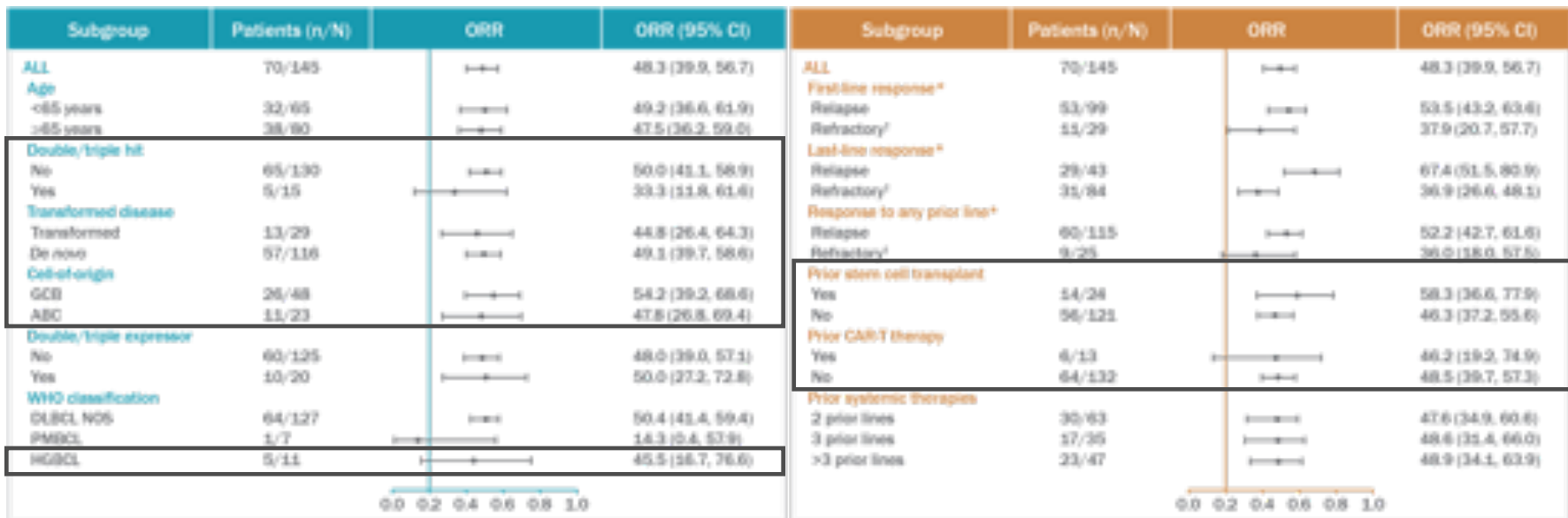
Data cutoff: March 01, 2021. All-treated population. Each bar represents 1 patient.

<sup>a</sup> Only for censored patients who discontinued the trial due to reasons other than progression or who went onto a different anticancer treatment other than SCT.

Kahl BS, et al. SOHO 2021. Abstract ABCL-022.

# LOTIS-2 Trial: Focus on High-Risk Groups

## High-Risk Subgroup Analysis of ORR



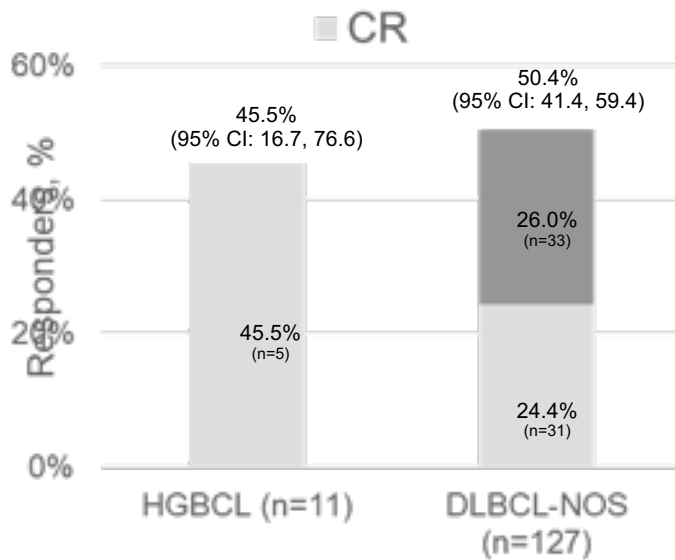
Data cutoff: August 06, 2020. ORR was assessed by independent reviewer.

\* Prior systemic therapies. † Refractory disease defined as no response to therapy.

Caimi PF, et al. ASH 2020. Abstract 1183.

# LOTIS-2: High-Grade BCL and Sequencing Around CAR T-Cell Therapy

HGBCL/DLBCL NOS Response Rates<sup>1</sup>



Lonca After CAR T-Cell Therapy Relapse<sup>2</sup>

		n=13
Best response to CAR T-cell therapy, n (%)	CR	7 (54)
	PR	2 (15)
	No response	4 (31)
Best response to Lonca post-CAR T-cell therapy, <sup>a</sup> n (%)	CR	2 (15)
	PR	4 (31)
	SD	1 (8)
	PD	2 (15)

CAR T-Cell Therapy After Lonca Failure<sup>3</sup>

		n=14
Best response to Lonca, n (%)	CR	1 (7)
	PR	5 (36)
	Refractory	8 (57)
Best response to CAR T-cell therapy post-Lonca, n (%)	CR	6 (43)
	PR	1 (7)
	Refractory	7 (50)

<sup>a</sup> 4 patients were not evaluable (30.8%).

1. Alderuccio J, et al. ASH 2021. Abstract 3575. 2. Caimi PF, et al. *Clin Lymphoma Myeloma Leuk*. 2021 Nov 12:S2152-2650(21)02437-X. Online ahead of print. 3. Thapa B, et al. *Blood Adv*. 2020;4(16):3850-3852.



# Conclusions

- Will Pola-CHP become the new SOC for previously untreated DLBCL?
  - For higher risk DLBCL/DEL?
- Can/should non-CAR T CD19-targeted therpiets be used as bridge to CAR T or an alternate to CAR T that can be given in the community?

