



EUROPEAN
HEMATOLOGY
ASSOCIATION

EMA-MSH Hematology Tutorial on Hodgkin Lymphoma

April 17-18, 2024 | Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Classical Hodgkin Lymphoma: not always a good prognosis disease

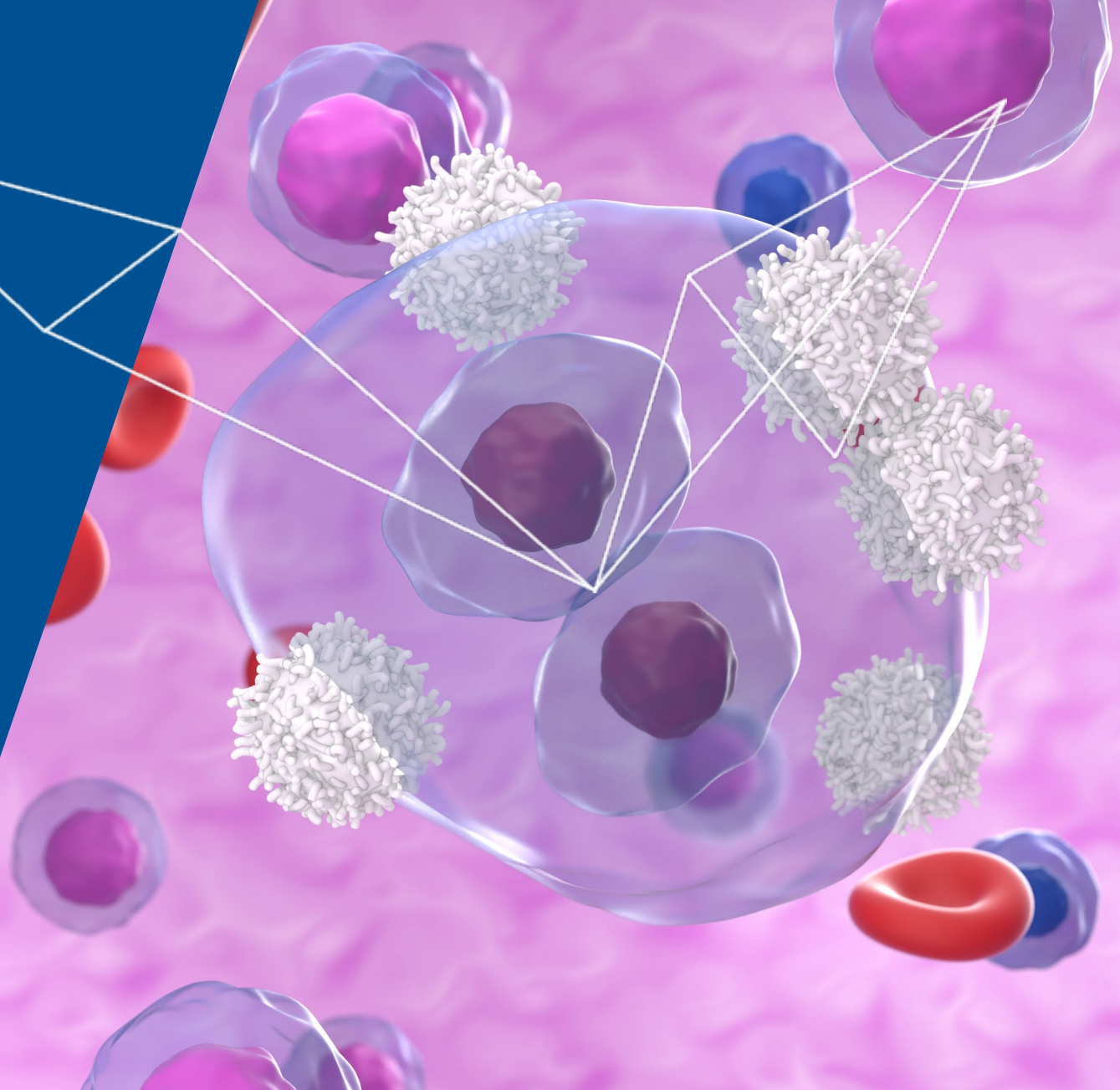
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Transplantation

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Milan, Italy

April 17, 2024



| Disclosures

Research support PI

Celgene

Consultant

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Major stockholder

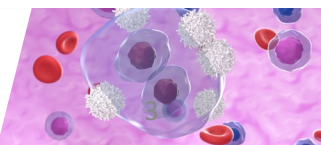
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Honoraria

Celgene, Gilead, Lilly, Takeda

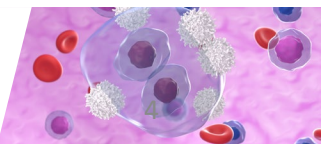
Scientific advisory board

Lilly, Takeda



| Agenda & learning objectives

- To stratify patients affected by relapsed/refractory (r/r) classical Hodgkin lymphoma (HL) accordingly to risk factors
- To optimize the choice of second line treatment intended as bridge to autologous stem cell transplantation (ASCT)
- To consolidate high-risk patients after ASCT
- To choose salvage treatment for transplant ineligible r/r patients



How many patients require salvage therapy?

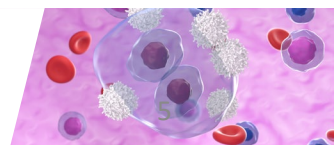
Stage	pts	refractory N	(%)	relapsed N	(%)
Limited (I-II)	241	0	0	6	2,5
Advanced	460	32	7	87	19

British Columbia dataset 1990-2000

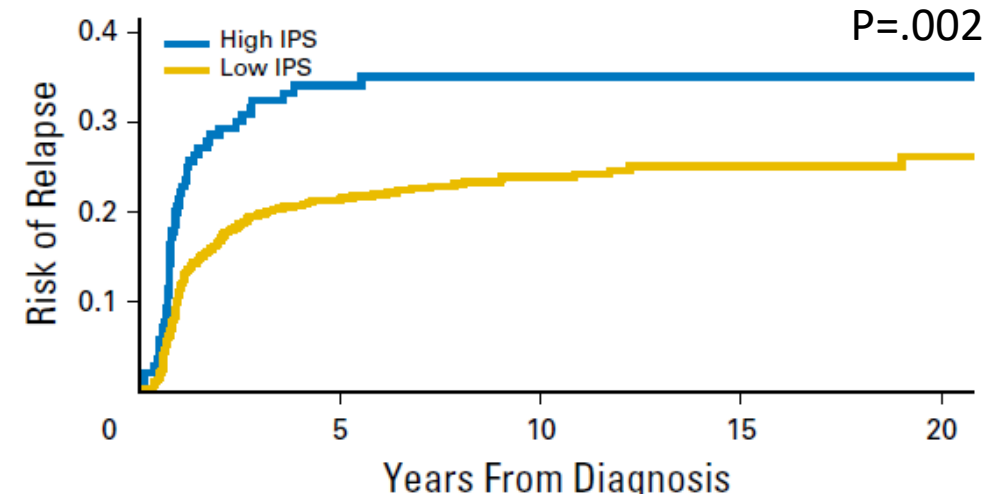
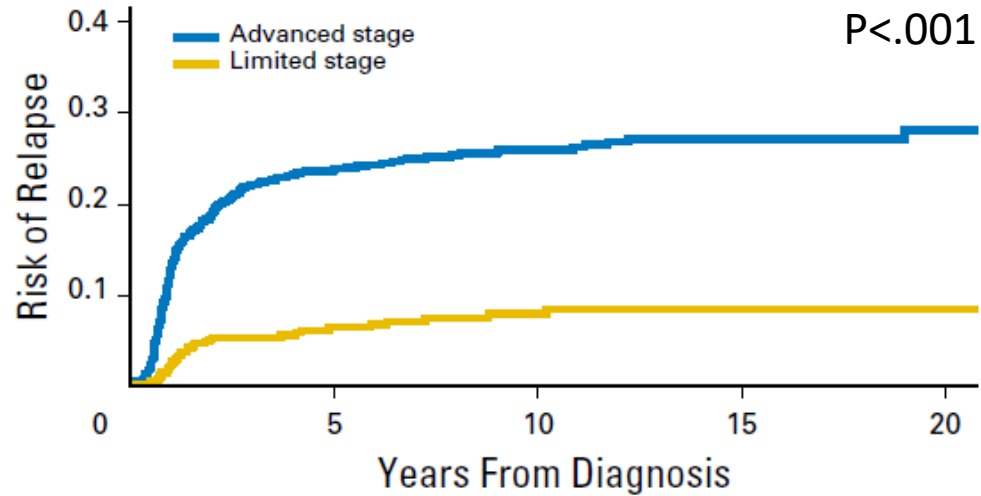
Connors JM, Blood 2003

5-10% of patients are refractory to front-line treatment and 10-30% of patients experience relapse after achieving a complete response

Diehl V, Principles and Practice of Oncology 6th ed 2000

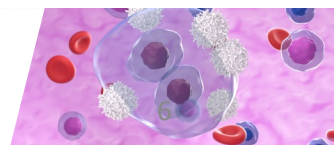


Risk of relapse



Hagood G et al, JCO 2016

Risk of relapse is higher for patients presenting with advanced stage and high Hasenclever score (IPS)



Repeat biopsy whenever possible

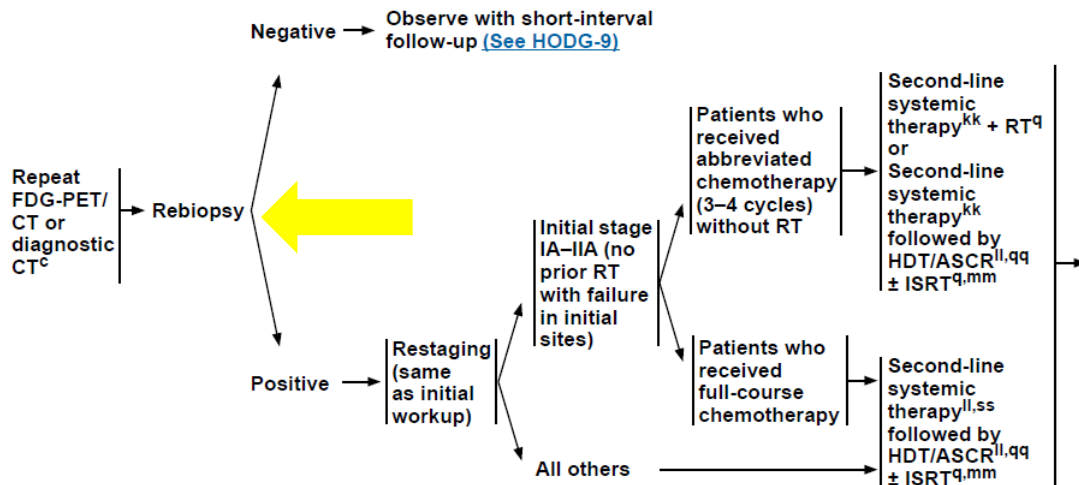


National
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NCCN Guidelines Version 2.2023
Hodgkin Lymphoma (Age ≥18 years)

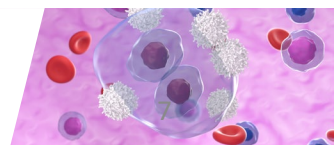
CHL
SUSPECTED RELAPSE

SECOND-LINE THERAPY



I consider to skip histological confirmation if the case of:

- difficult to reach suspected site of relapse/persistence of disease
- surgical intervention that can significantly delay the start of salvage therapy (surgical waiting list, complications)
- suspected site was involved at initial diagnosis and patient is refractory (never achieved PET negative)
- patient refusal



Patients' stratification at relapse

Treatment for r/r cHL differs between **young, fit patients** who are eligible for high-dose chemotherapy and autologous stem cell transplants and **older adults** who are not eligible for intensive therapies

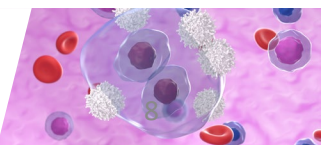
Patient characteristics:

- Age (cut-off: 65 years old; 70 if the patients is fit?)
 - Co-morbidities (adequate pulmonary, cardiac, liver and renal function; pre-existing autoimmune diseases and neuropathy)
- } Eligibility for transplantation

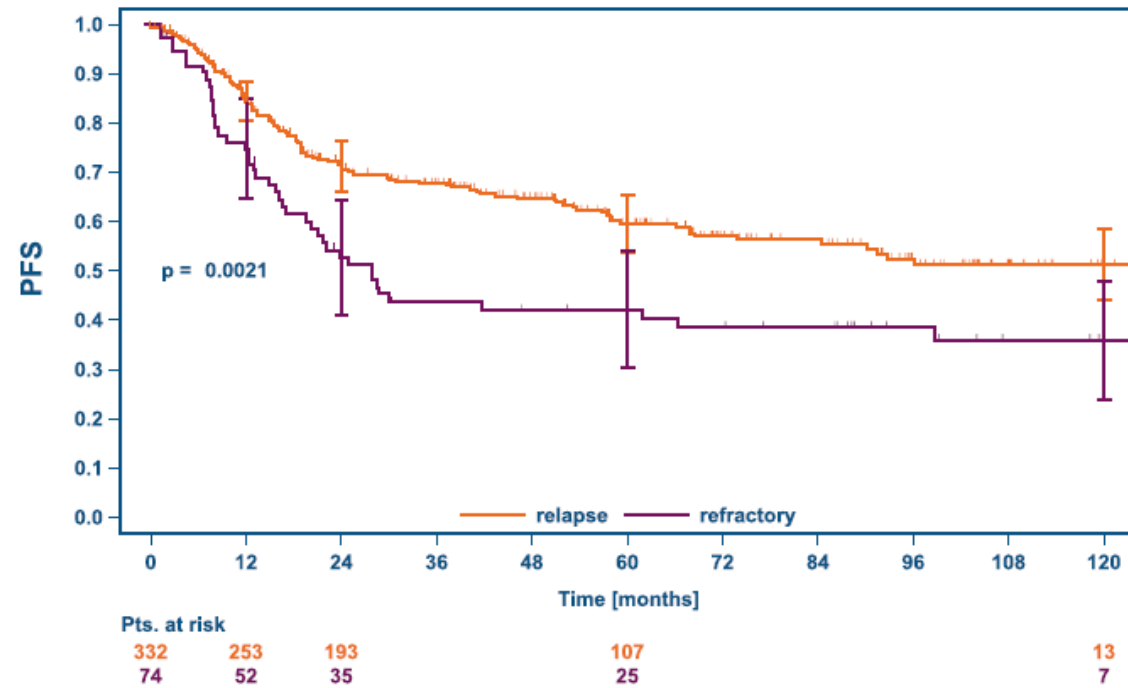
Disease characteristics:

- Time to relapse
- Tumor burden

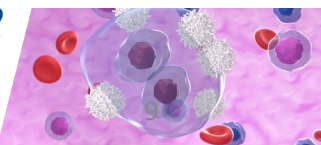
First-line therapy



Time to first treatment failure

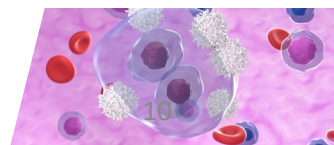
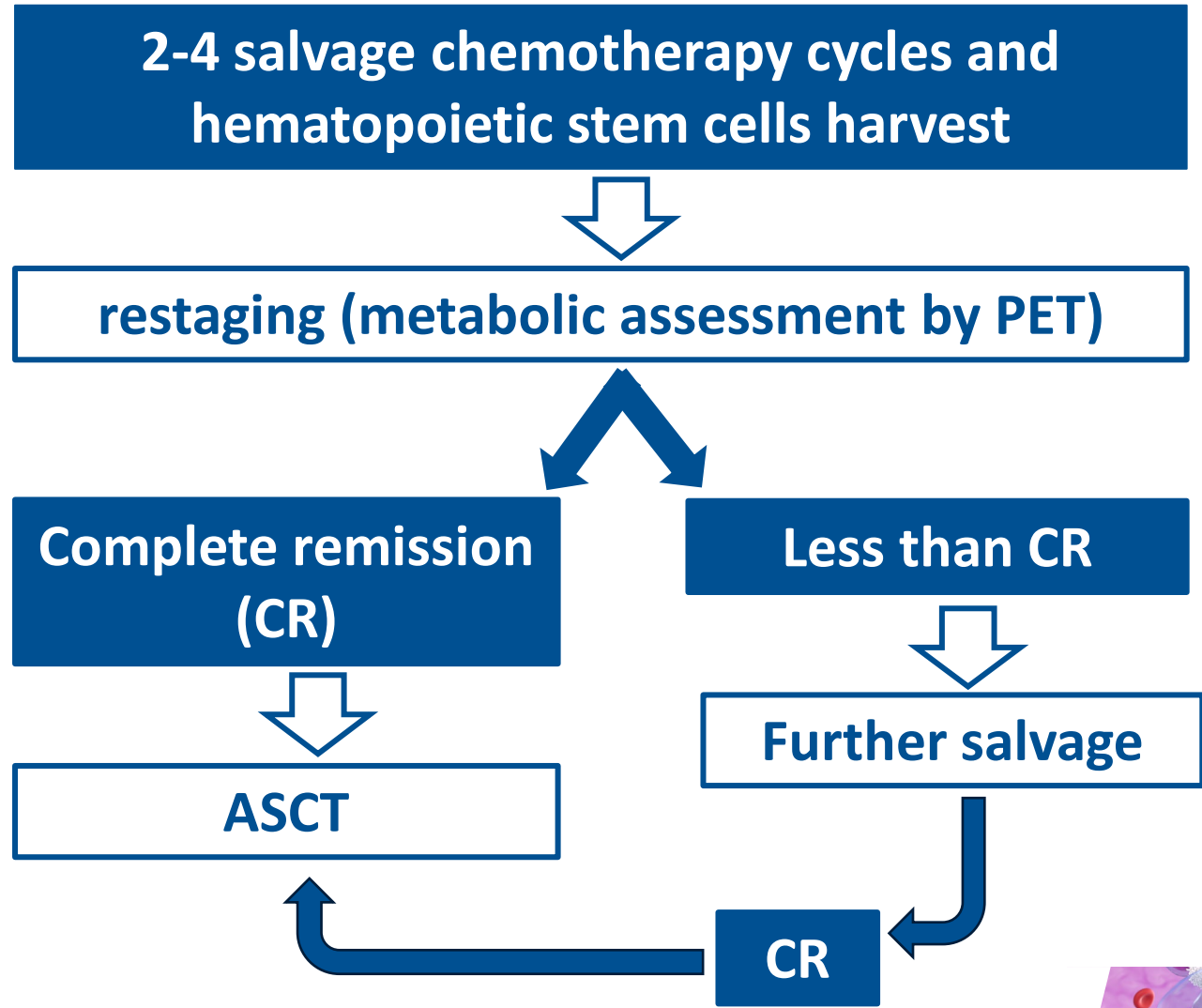


Cut-off for refractory: time to relapse \leq 3 months



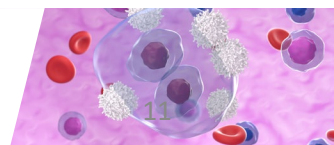
Standard of care for younger r/r HL patients

The current **standard of care** for patients with Hodgkin's lymphoma (HL) who relapse from or are refractory to primary chemotherapy is **salvage chemotherapy** with cytotoxic drugs not-cross-resistant and alternative to those used in front-line, and in those who demonstrate chemotherapy-sensitive disease, **ASCT**

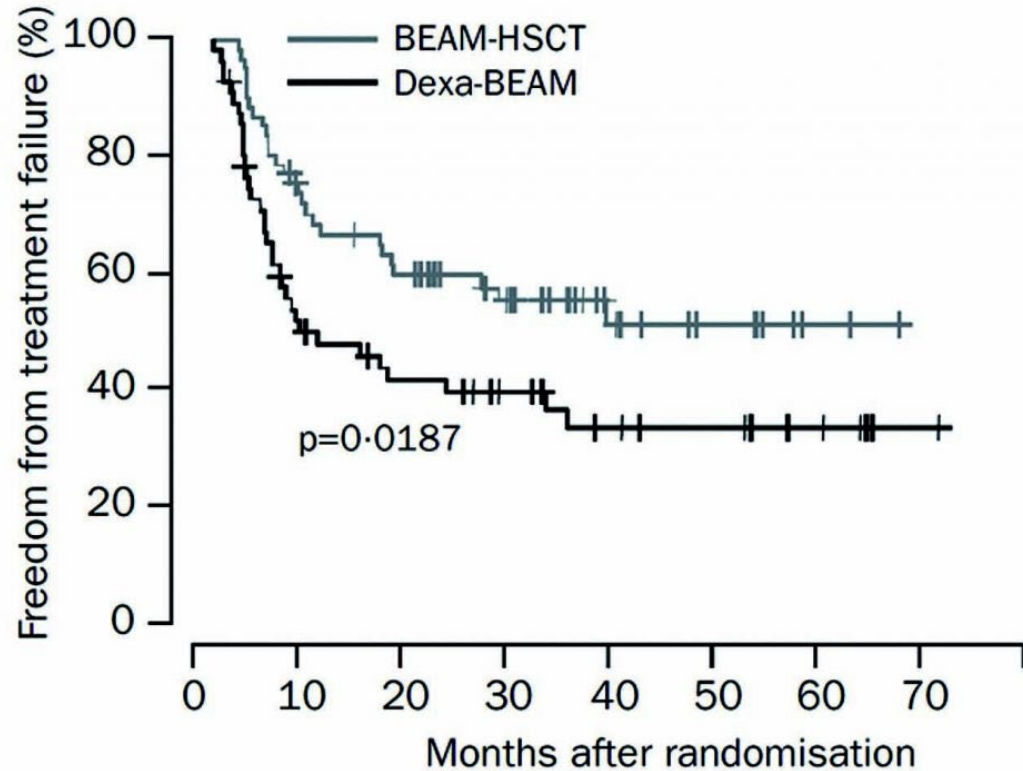


ASCT@relapse: randomized clinical trials

TRIAL	PTS (N)	TREATMENT	OUTCOME
BNLI	40	A: mini-BEAM	A: 3y-EFS 10%
Linch DC, Lancet 1993		B: HD-BEAM+SCT	B: 3y-EFS 58%
HD-R1	161	A: Dexa-BEAMx4	A: FFTF 34%
Schmitz N, Lancet 2002		B: Dexa-BEAMx2+HD- BEAM+SCT	B: FFTF 55%



HD-R1



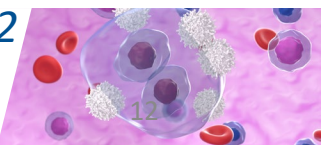
Number of patients

BEAM-HSCT	61	43	34	25	13	8	7	0
Dexa-BEAM	56	27	20	15	10	8	5	1

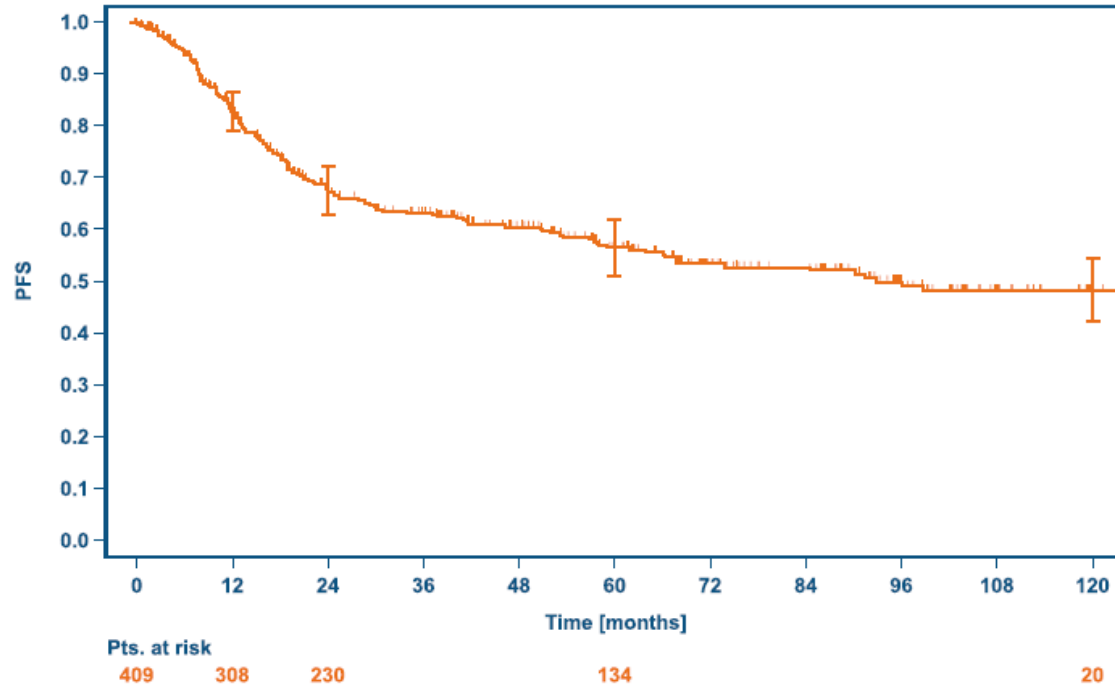
ASCT is associated with significantly greater freedom from treatment failure, which is achieved in around **50%** of patients

Thus, about 50% of patients relapse after ASCT, and the post-progression survival for this group is poor

Schmitz N et al, Lancet 2002

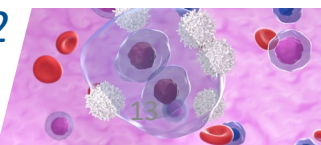


Long-term post ASCT outcome: contemporary era



409 patients with first r/r HL (HD13 HD14 HD15)

Even in the present era, the long-term **cure rate** of r/r HL after ASCT does not exceed 50%



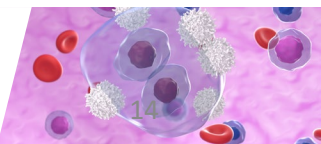
| Salvage therapy as bridge to ASCT: how to choose?

Randomized prospective clinical trials comparing different regimens of conventional chemotherapy are **lacking**

Choose your favorite option among cycles tested in phase 2 trials

The **main goals** of salvage therapy for r/r HL are:

- achieve complete metabolic response → **negative PET** (Deauville Score: 1-3) before ASCT
- **mobilize** (with addition of G-CSF) hematopoietic stem cells in the peripheral blood (PBSC)
- **minimize toxicity**

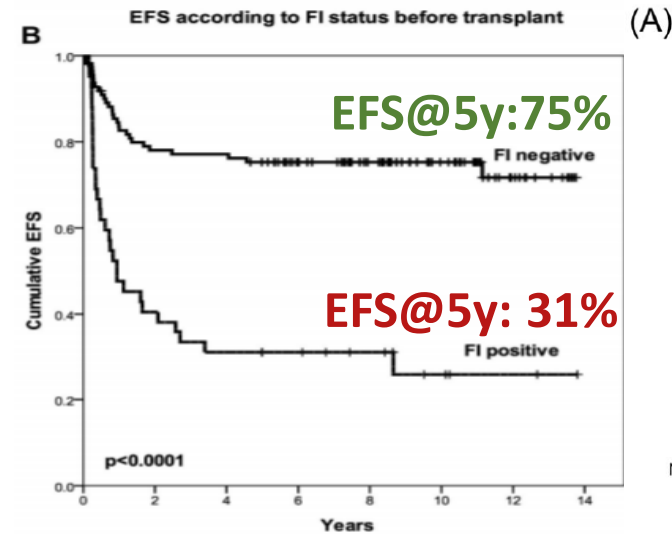


Complete metabolic remission@ASCT and outcome

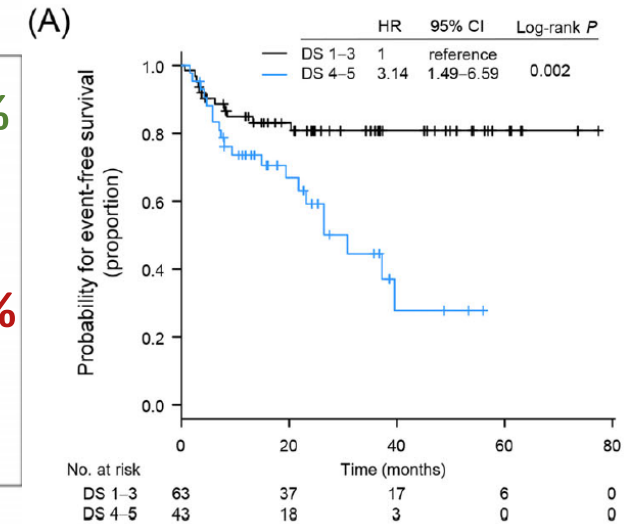
PET/CT before high-dose salvage therapy in relapsed HL

Duration of remission before relapse, and the response to induction therapy are important prognostic factors that predict a good outcome after high-dose chemotherapy with autologous stem cell support (HD + ASCT). Several studies have shown that PET/CT performed after induction therapy and before HD + ASCT can predict which HL patients will achieve long-term remission after the salvage regimen.³⁹⁻⁴¹ These studies all report a poor long-term PFS (after 2-5 years) in patients who are PET⁺ after induction chemotherapy (31%-41%) compared with a PFS of 73%-82% in the patients who reach a PET⁻ remission before HD + ASCT. How-

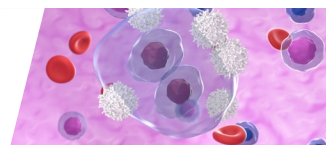
Hutchings M, ASH Edu 2012



Moskowitz A et al, Blood 2010



Yhim HY et al, Am J Hematol 2022

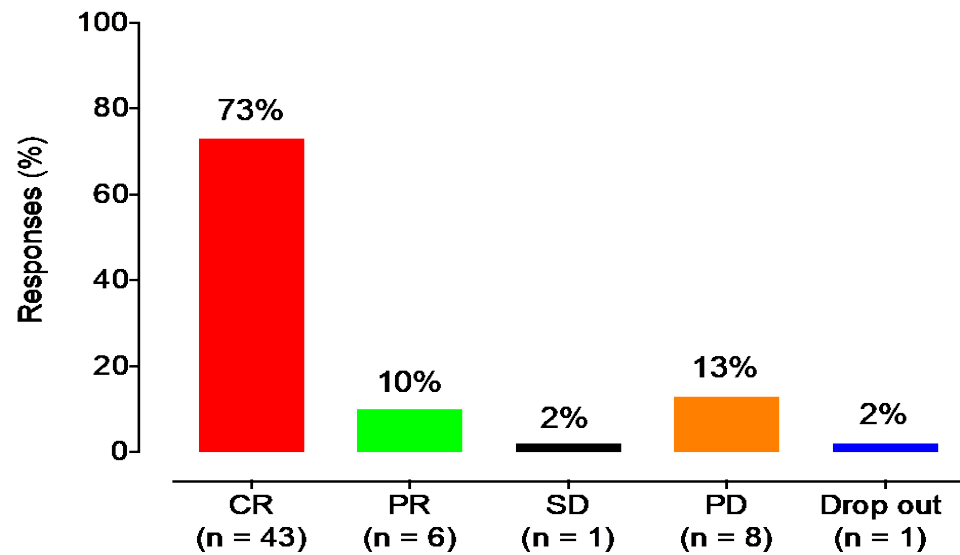


Conventional chemotherapy regimens

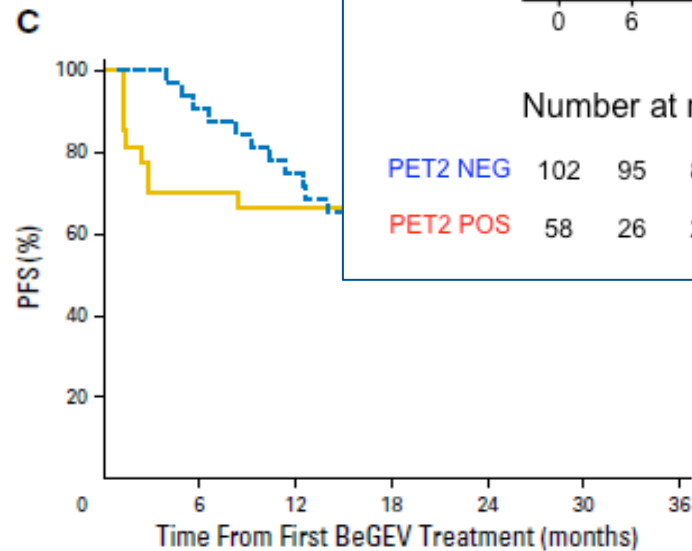
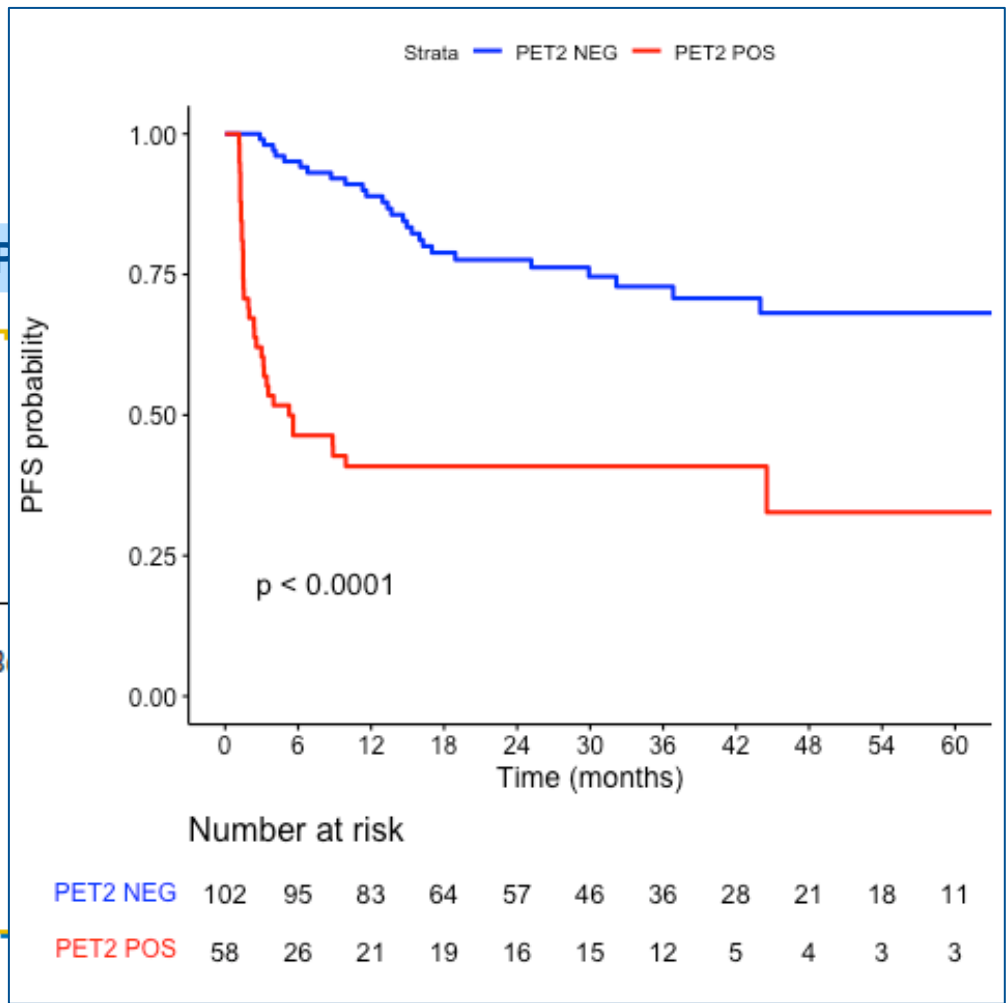
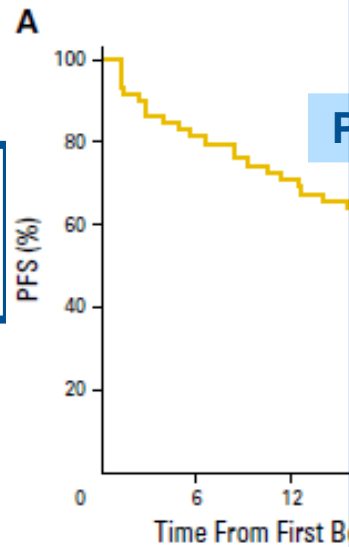
Regimen	Pts N	ORR (%)	CR (%)	Survival	Reference
ICE	65	88	26	@43 ms EFS, 82% in CR pts	Moskowitz, Blood 2001
DHAP	279	71	24	@3 yrs PFS 69%, OS 85%	Josting, Ann Oncol 2003
IGEV	91	81	54	@3yrs FFP 53%, OS 70%	Santoro, Haematol 2007
BeGEV	59	83	73	@2yrs OS 62%, PFS 78%	Santoro, JCO 2016
GDP	23	59	17	NA	Baetz T, Ann Oncol 2003
GVD	91	70	19	@4yrs EFS 52%, OS 70%	Bartlett N et al, Ann Oncol 2007
ESHAP	82	67	50	@5 yrs PFS 83%, OS 59%	Labrador, Ann Hematol 2014

BeGEV

Bendamustine 90 mg/mq d 2-3, Gemcitabine 800 mg/mq d 1-4, Vinorebine 20 mg/mq d 1



Median CD34+ cells/kg 8.8×10^6



Santoro A et al, JCO 2016
 Santoro A et al, Blood Adv 2020
 Rusconi C et al, EHA 2023

| New drugs

Brentuximab-vedotin (BV) and immune check-point inhibitors (CPI), nivolumab and pembrolizumab, proved to be effective in the r/r HL setting when used as single agent beyond first salvage

Younes A et al, NEJM 2012

Chen R et al, Blood 2016

Ansell S et al, NEJM 2015

Armand P et al, Blood Adv 2023

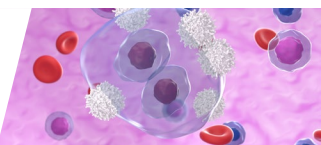
BV and CPI single agent can rescue some of the patients who failed first-salvage with conventional chemo thus allowing to proceed to ASCT

Eyre T et al, BJH 2017

Chen R et al, Biol Blood Marrow Transplant 2015

Zinzani PL et al, The Oncologist 2015

Merryman RW et al, Blood Adv 2021

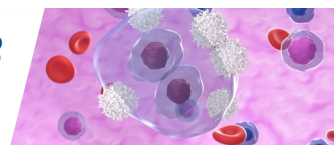


Incorporating new drugs in first salvage

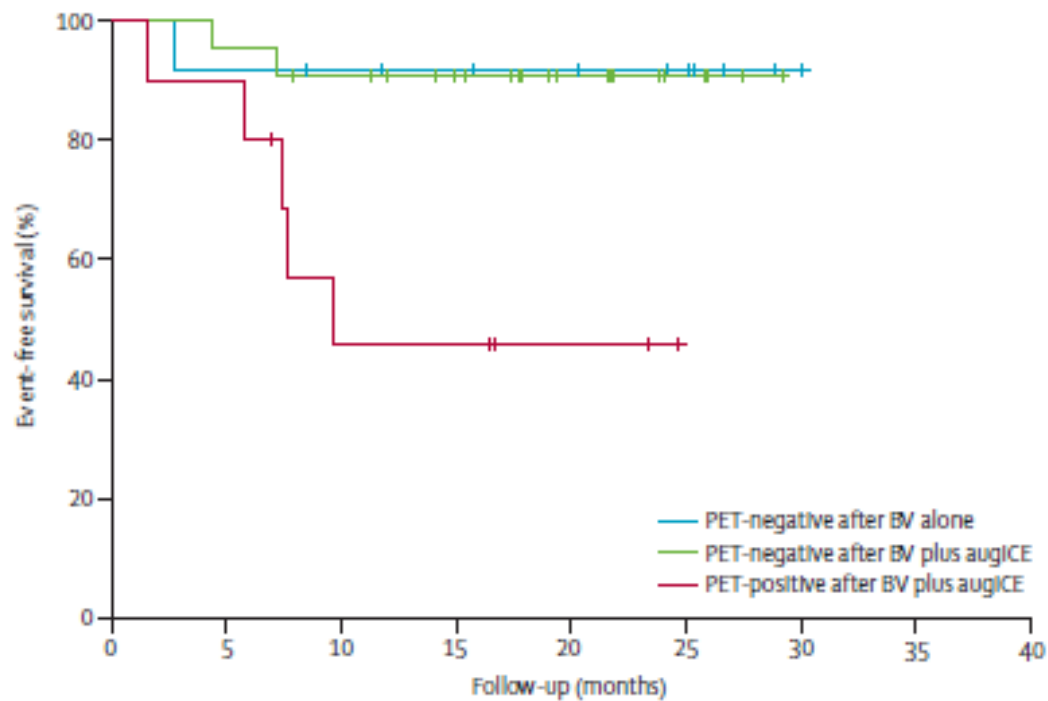
BV and CPI can be combined to first-salvage chemotherapy with the aim to improve CR rate and therefore post-ASCT outcome

	Sample size	Regimen		PET-Neg	PFS	Study
Sequential BV and chemo	65	BV-> augICE		83% 27% (BV alone)	73% @ 6 yr	Moskowitz et al. (74)
	45	DD-BV-ICE		74%	80.4% @ 2 yr	Lynch et al. (90)
Combined BV and chemo	55	BV-benda		74%	62.6% @ 2 yr 69.8% for ASCT pts	LaCasce et al. (75)
	39	ICE	plus BV	69%	69% @ 1 yr	Stamatoullas et al. (91)
	61	DHAP		81%	74% @ 2 yr	Kersten et al. (78)
	66	ESHAP		70%	71% @ 30 mo	Garcia-Sanz et al. (77)
BV plus CPI	91	BV-nivolumab		67%	79% @ 2 yr	Moskowitz et al. (92)
Combined CPI/chemo	43	Nivo-ICE		91% 71% (Nivo alone)	72% @ 2 yr for all 94% @ 2 yr for ASCT	Mei et al. (82)
	39	Pembro-GVD		92%	100% @ 1 yr post-ASCT	Moskowitz et al. (83)

Modified from Ullah F et al, Frontiers 2023

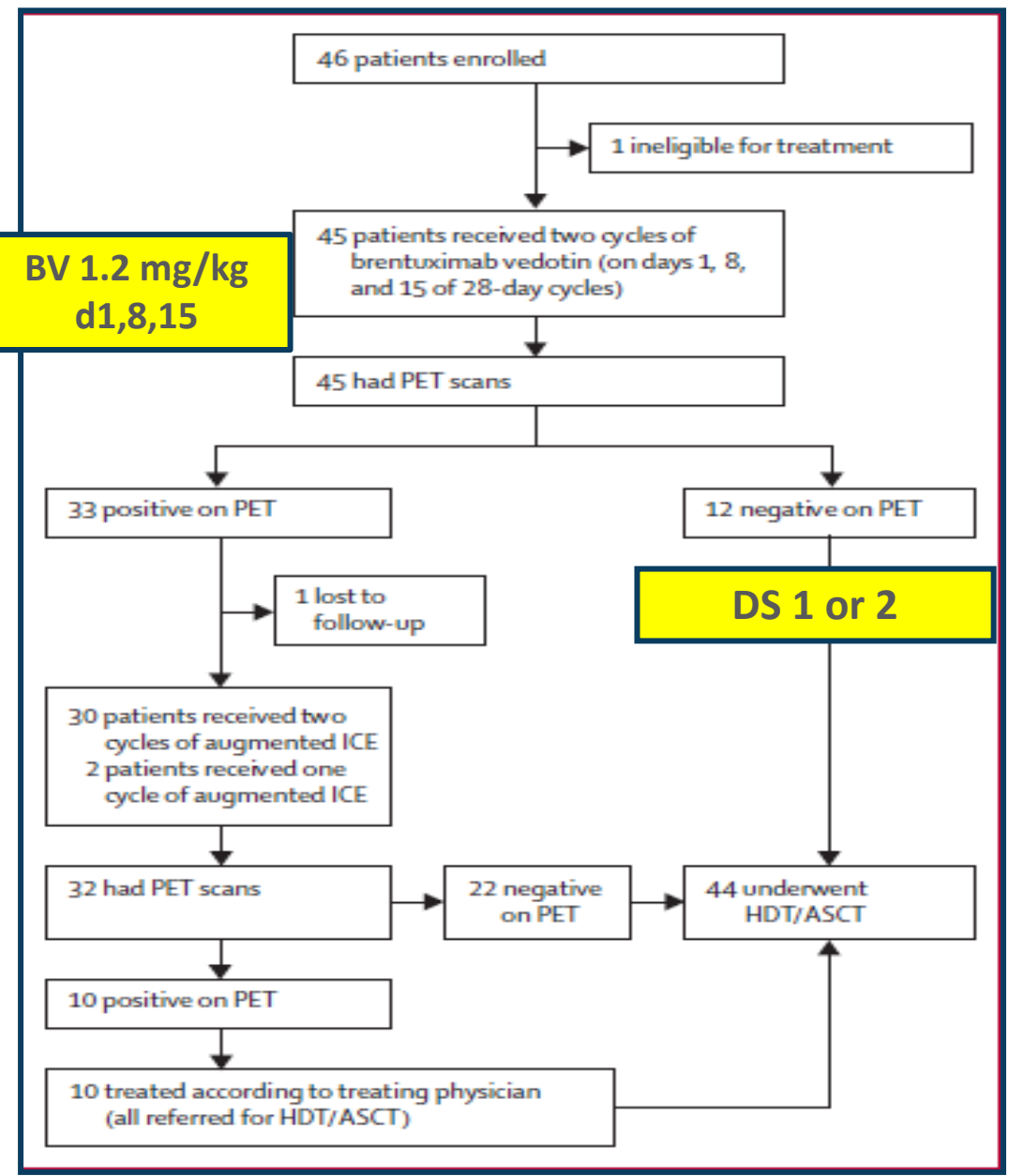


BV +/- augmented ICE pre-ASCT



Number at risk	0	5	10	15	20	25	30
BV PET negative	12	11	10	9	8	5	1
BV-augICE PET negative	22	21	19	15	9	4	0
BV-augICE PET positive	10	9	8	4	2	0	0

**BV 1.2 mg/kg
d1,8,15**



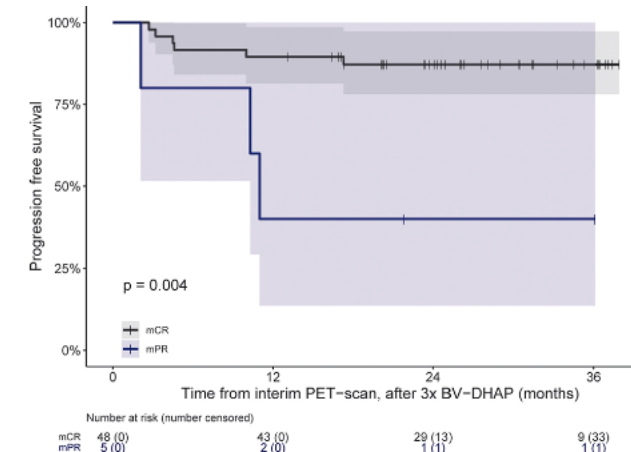
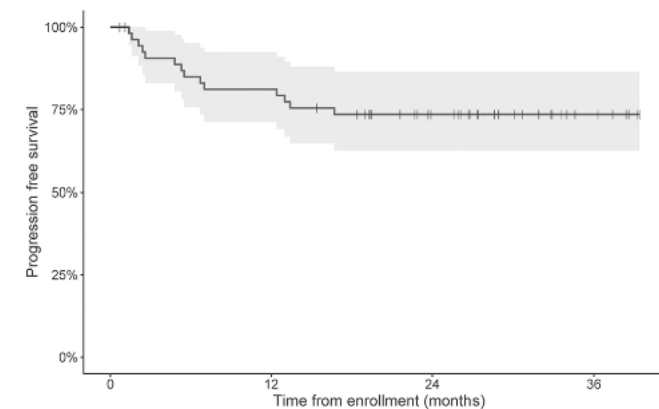
DS 1 or 2

BRaVE study

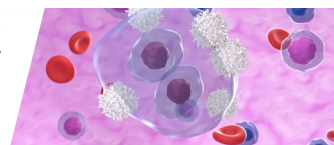
BV (1.8 mg/kg) combined with DHAP (full dose) for 3 cycles every 21 days before ASCT

Serious Adverse Event	Cycle 1 (n=55)		Cycle 2 (n=53)		Cycle 3 (n=51)		Total** (n=55)		Recovered
	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	
Febrile neutropenia	5	1	0	0	3	0	8	1	All
Infection	0	0	1	0	1	0	2	0	All
Renal function disorder	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	With sequela*
Sepsis	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	All
Epistaxis	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	All
Fever	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	All
Elevated liver enzymes	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	All
Infusion related reaction	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	All
Malaise	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	All
Nausea/vomiting	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	All
Periodic paralysis (hypokalemia)	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	All
Total	8	1	4	2	9	0	19	3	
<i>Individual patients†</i>	7	1	4	2	7	0	15	3	
<i>Individual patients total‡</i>	8 (15%)		6 (11%)		7 (14%)		18 (33%)		

	Pre-ASCT response	Post ASCT response
mCR	42 (81%)	46
mPR	5 (10%)	1
PD	5 (10%)	

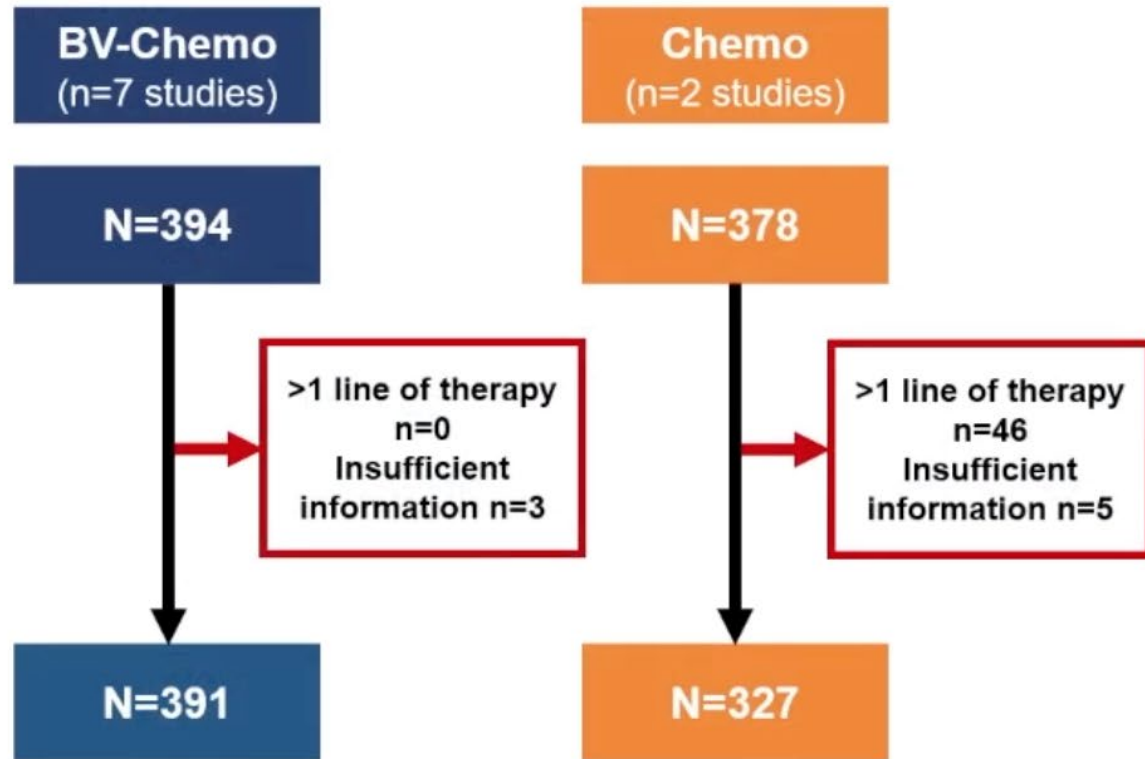


Kersten MJ et al, Haematologica 2021



BV combined with chemo vs chemo only (multi-trial analysis)

Flow-chart of inclusion

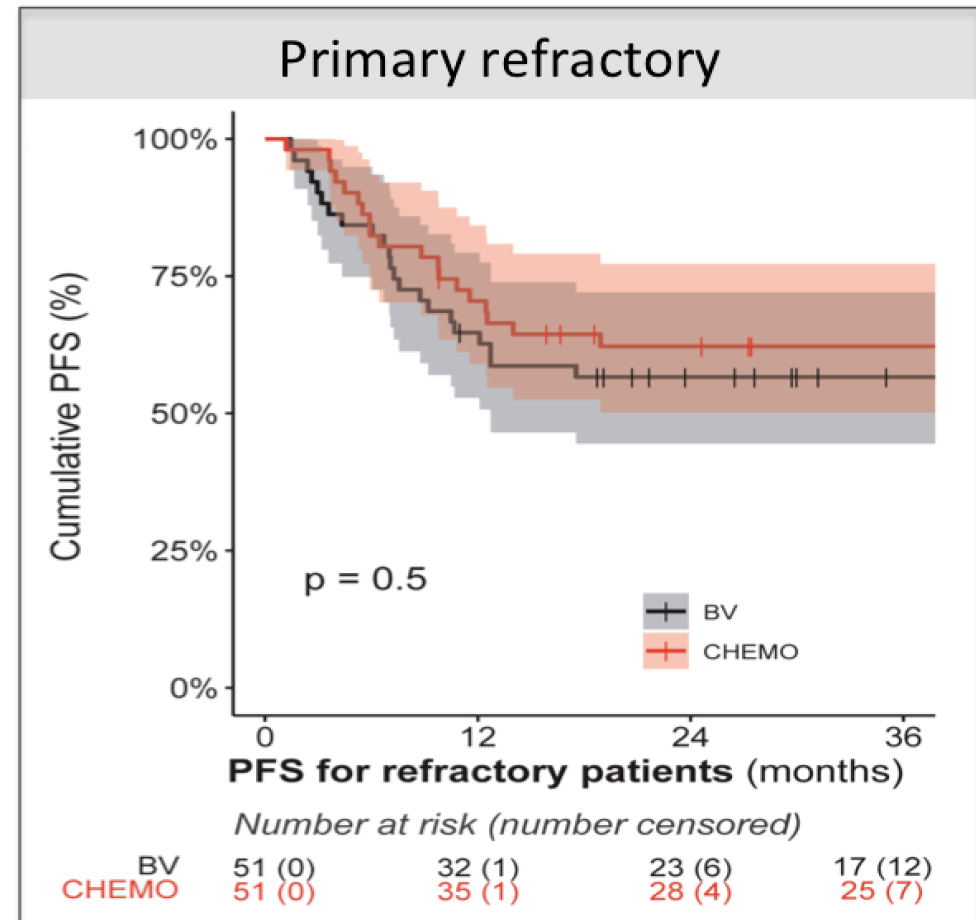
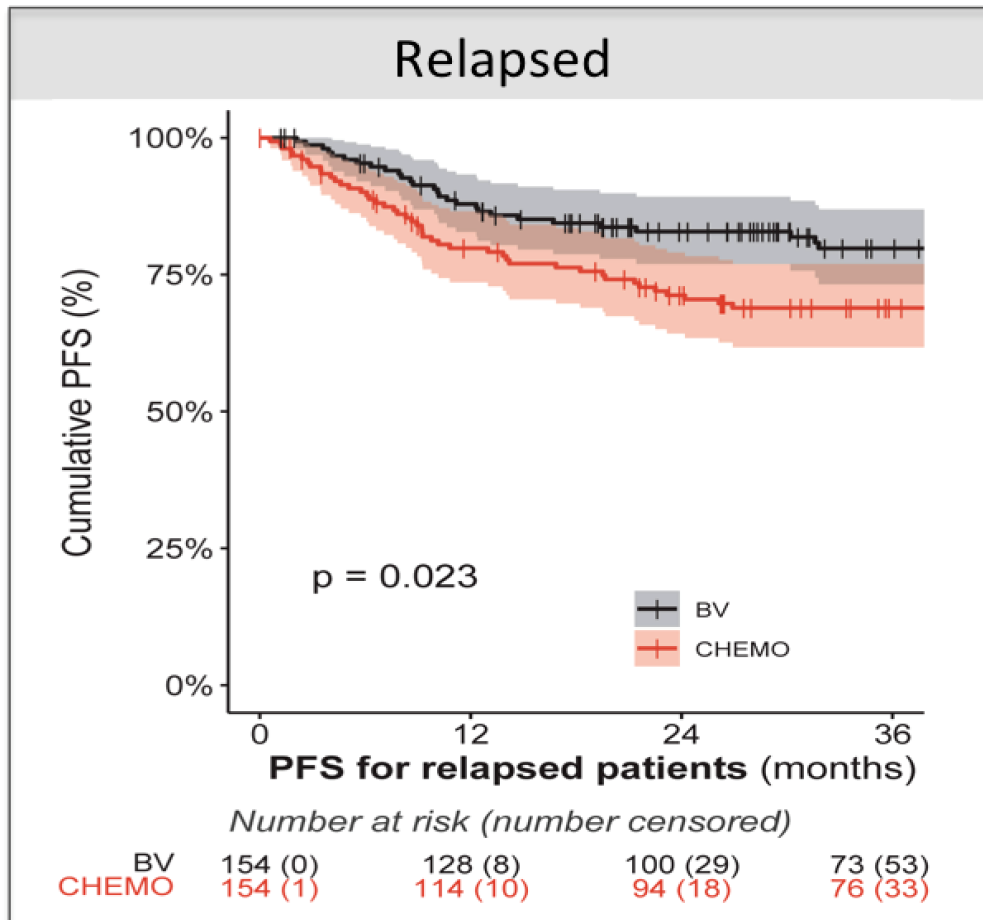


Study characteristics

Study	Regimen	N	Primary refractory
Kersten, 2020	BV-DHAP	65	39%
Garcia-Sanz, 2019	BV-ESHAP	65	60%
Broccoli, 2019	BV-Benda	40	70%
LaCasce, 2018	BV-Benda	55	51%
Cole, 2018	BV-Gem	45	64%
Herrera, 2018	BV-ICE (seq)	57	54%
Moskowitz, 2017	BV-ICE (seq)	64	53%
Moskowitz, 2012	ICE/GVD	94	43%
Jostings, 2010	DHAP	233	5%

Driessen J et al, Blood Adv 2024

BV combined with chemo vs chemo only: PFS

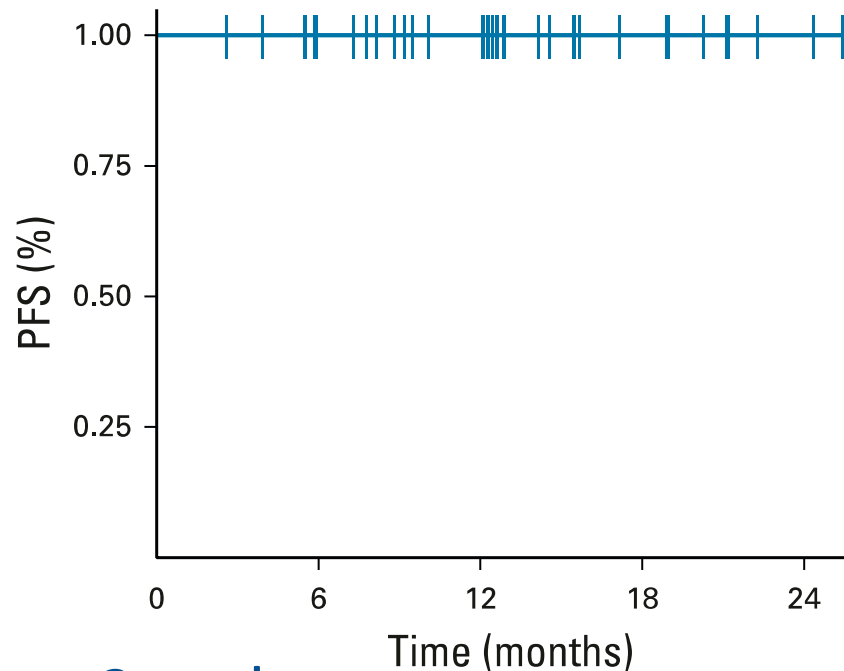
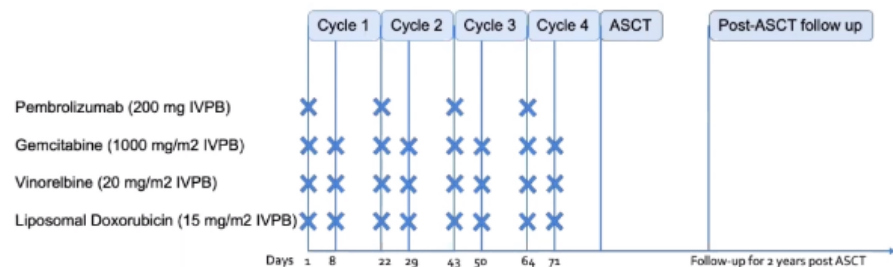


Driessen J et al, Blood Adv 2024

Pembro plus GVD as first salvage

Phase II study of pembro-GVD as second-line therapy for cHL

- **Eligibility:** relapsed or refractory cHL following 1-line of therapy
- **Primary endpoint:** CR (by Deauville 3) rate after 2-4 cycles

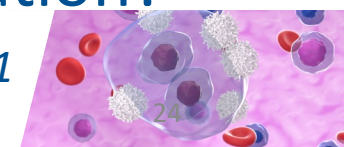


30/39 pts (77%) proceeded to ASCT after 2 cycles

CR rate for the whole study population was 94%

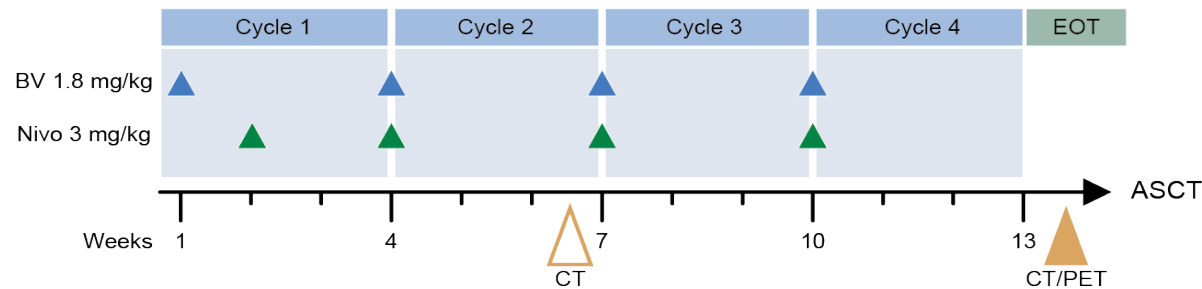
No safety alarms after ASCT

Is it time to identify a subgroup of patients who can spare transplantation?



Nivo&BV as *chemo-free* bridge to ASCT

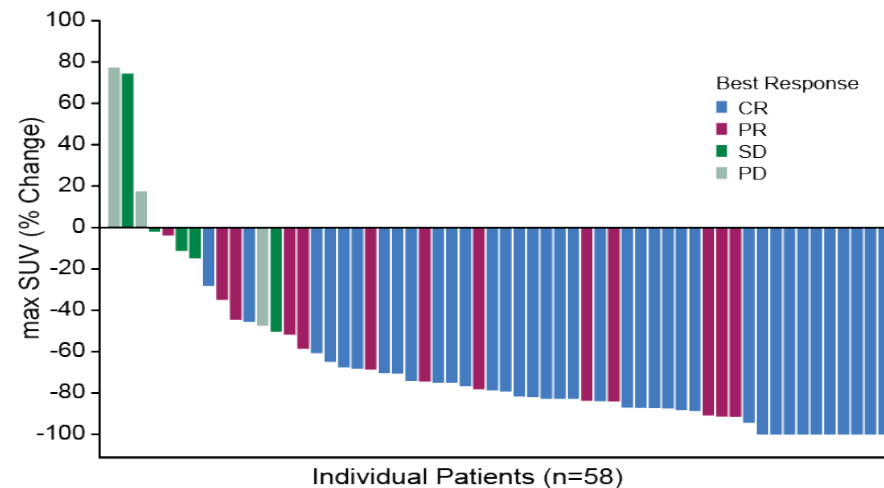
ORR: 83%, CR 62%;
54/62 pts underwent ASCT.
6-months PFS: 89%



Patient demographics and disease characteristics

N = 62

Median age, years (range)	36 (18-69)	←
Gender (M/F)	30/32	
Disease status relative to frontline tx, n (%)		
Primary refractory	28 (45)	←
Relapsed, remission duration ≤1 yr / >1 yr	19 (31) / 15 (24)	
Bulky disease at baseline, n (%)	8 (13)	
Extranodal disease at baseline, n (%)	16 (26)	
Disease stage at initial diagnosis, n (%)		
I/II	37 (60)	
III/IV	24 (39)	
Unknown	1 (2)	
Median prior therapies ^a (range)	1 (1-3)	←
Prior chemotherapy regimens, n (%)		
ABVD	56 (90)	←
BEACOPP	2 (3)	
Stanford V	2 (3)	
Other ^b	6 (10)	
Prior radiation	9 (15)	



IRRs occurred in 25 pts (41%), most frequently during the Cycle 2 BV infusion → mandatory premedication

Herrera AF et al, Blood 2018

Post-ASCT consolidation

**2-4 salvage chemotherapy cycles and
hematopoietic stem cells harvest**

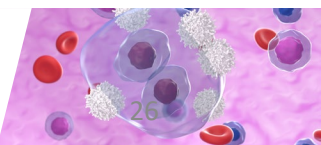


ASCT



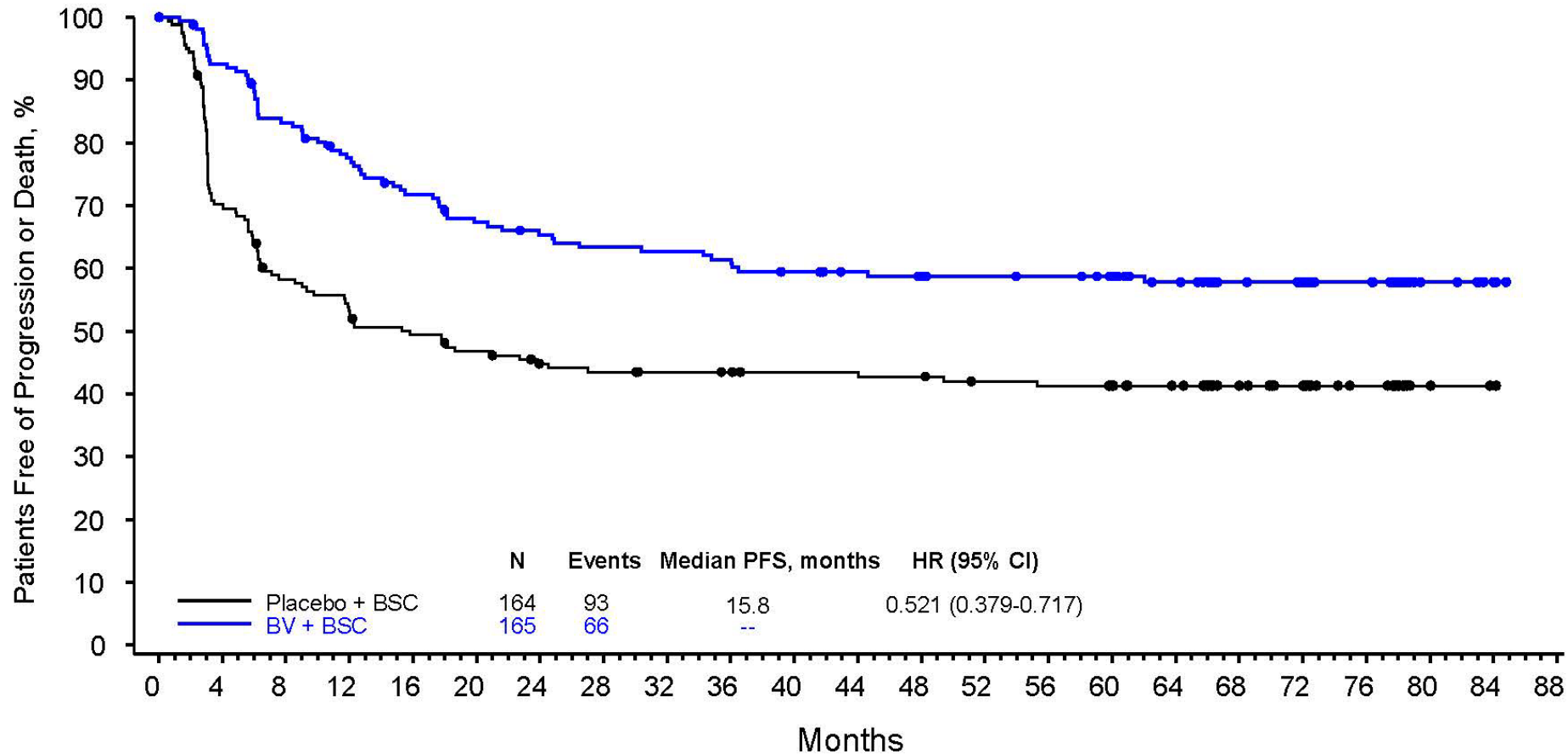
**Consider consolidation for
High-risk patients :
Radiotherapy/
Brentuximab-Vedotin/CPI**

Follow-up



Brentuximab-Vedotin consolidation for high-risk patients

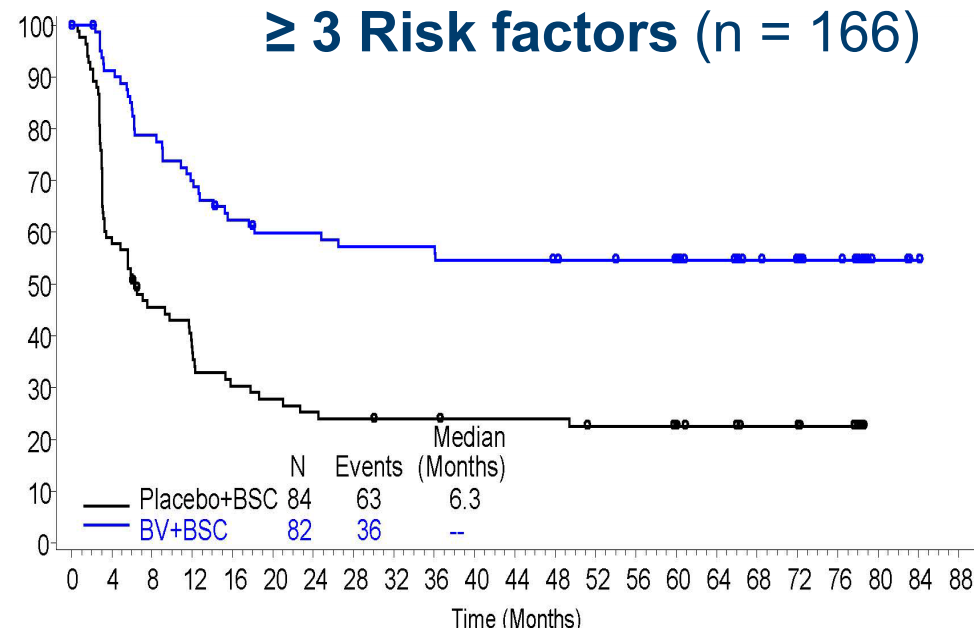
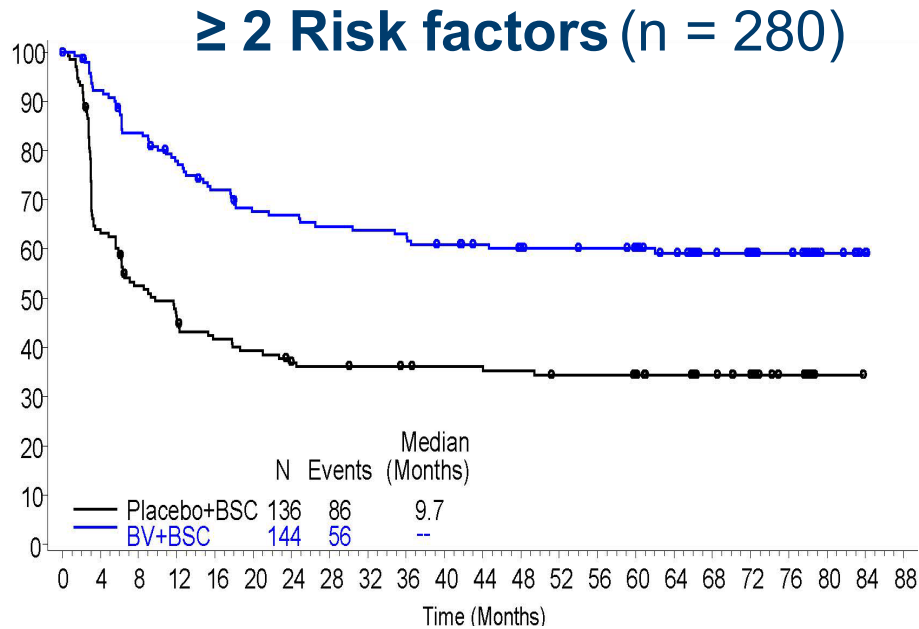
AETHERA Trial



No. at risk (events)

Pla+BSC	164 (0)	113 (48)	92 (67)	83 (76)	77 (81)	72 (85)	66 (88)	64 (90)	62 (90)	61 (90)	59 (90)	58 (91)	58 (91)	55 (92)	54 (93)	52 (93)	44 (93)	32 (93)	27 (93)	17 (93)	2 (93)	1 (93)	0 (93)
BV+BSC	165 (0)	149 (12)	133 (27)	122 (36)	112 (45)	104 (52)	100 (55)	97 (58)	96 (59)	94 (61)	90 (64)	87 (64)	84 (65)	83 (65)	82 (65)	78 (65)	66 (66)	47 (66)	43 (66)	26 (66)	7 (66)	3 (66)	0 (66)

AETHERA Trial



Risk factors:

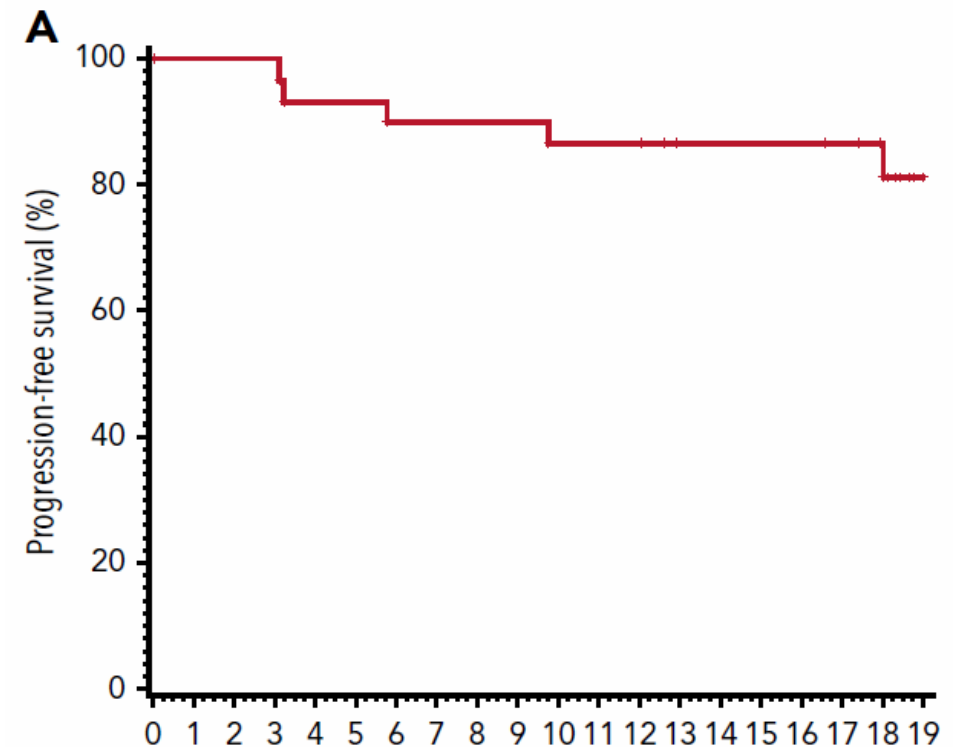
- Primary refractory or relapse < 12 months from completion of front-line tx
- Less than CR achieved with salvage treatment
- >1 previous salvage treatment
- Extranodal disease at relapse or progression after frontline therapy
- B symptoms before starting salvage therapy

Pembro as post ASCT consolidation

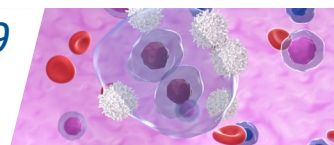
Phase 2 study of pembrolizumab in 30 pts. Pembrolizumab was administered at 200 mg IV every 3 weeks for up to 8 cycles, starting within 21 days of post-ASCT discharge

KEY POINTS

- PD-1 blockade using pembrolizumab administered after ASCT has an acceptable safety profile.
- This treatment results in a high PFS in patients with cHL, including in high-risk patients



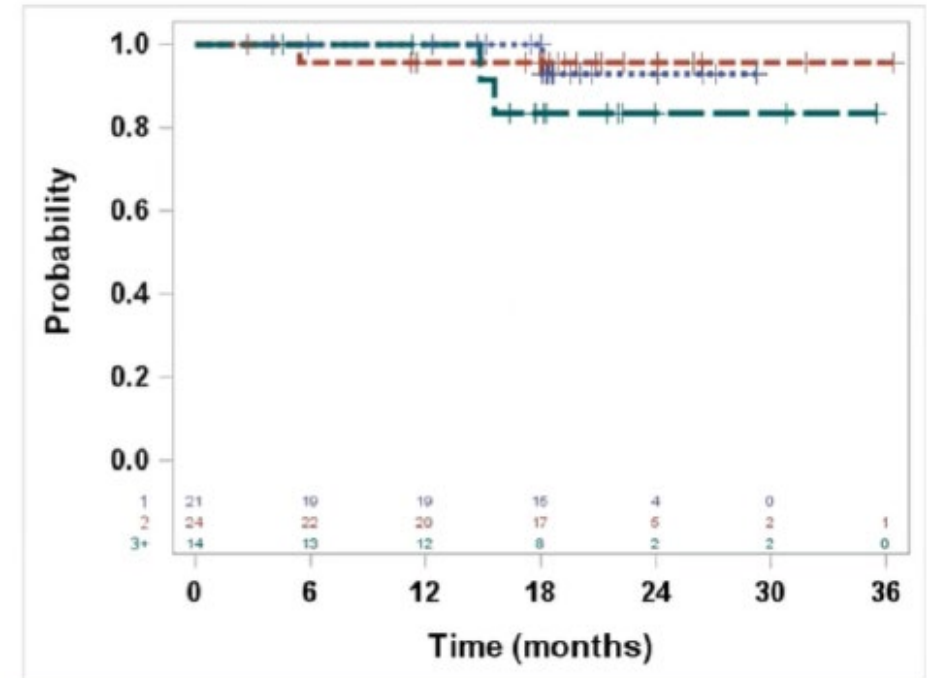
Armand P et al, Blood 2019



Nivo&BV as post-ASCT consolidation

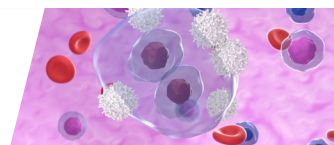
- **59 r/r HL** patients enrolled after ASCT
- Post-ASCT **therapy**: brentuximab vedotin (1.5 mg/kg) intravenously starting 30–60 days after day 1 of each 21-day cycle for up to 8 cycles
- The most common adverse events were **neuropathy** (31 [53%] of 59) and **neutropenia** (29 [49%] of 59)
- **Immune-related adverse events** requiring corticosteroids occurred in 17 (29%) of 59 patients. No treatment-related deaths were observed
- The **18-month PFS** in all 59 patients was **94%** (95% CI 84–98)

PFS according to number of risk factors



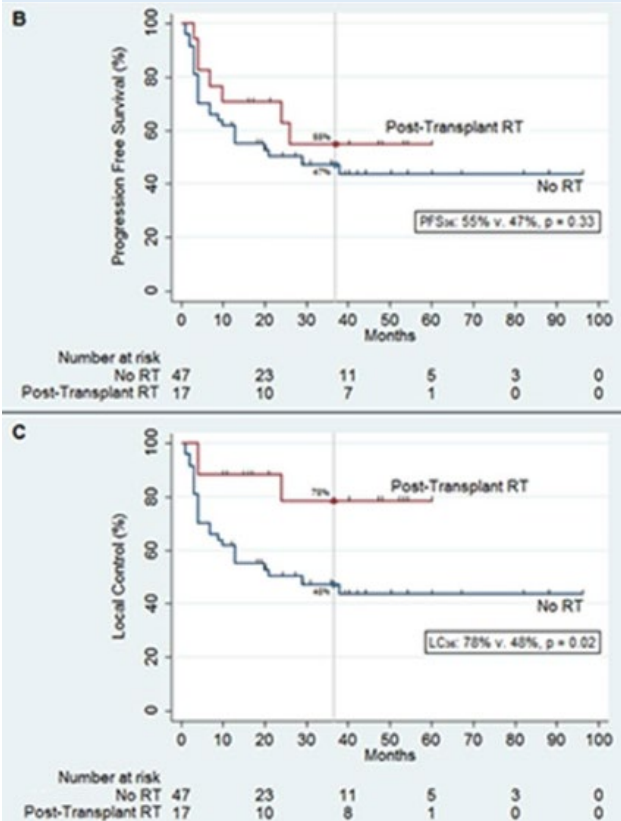
19-month PFS in patients with:

- 1 risk factor (n=1): 93% (95 CI: 59–99)
- 2 risk factors (n=24): 96% (95 CI: 73–99)
- 3+ risk factors (n=14): 83% (95 CI: 48–96)



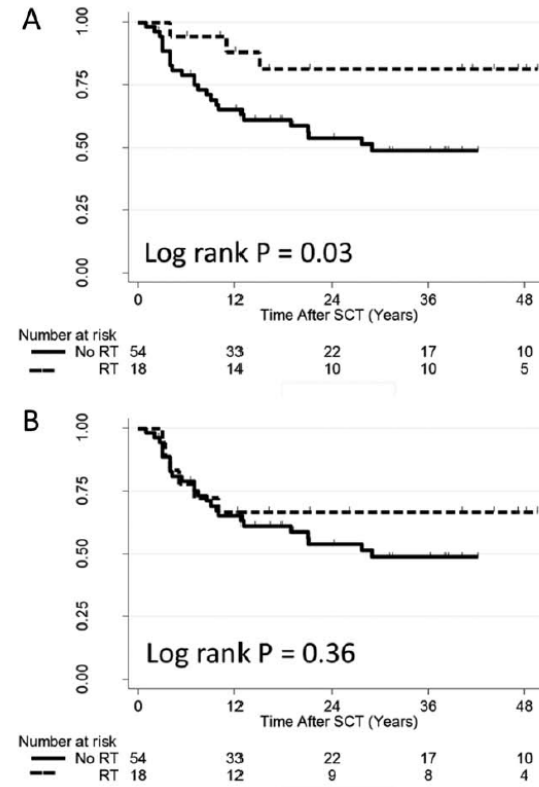
Radiotherapy consolidation after ASCT

UPENN



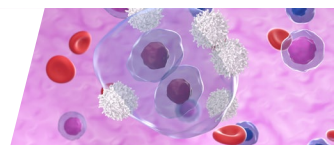
Jauhari S et al, Blood 2015

MD Anderson



Milagros S et al, Cancer 2016

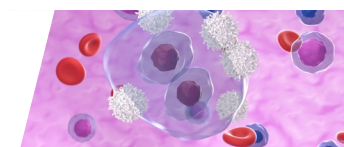
Two retrospective studies from US showing similar results: peri-transplant **RT** achieve a **superior local control** that does not translate into a benefit in survival



Radiotherapy consolidation after ASCT

There is **no randomized prospective trial** evaluating the role of post-transplant radiotherapy (RT) consolidation in R/R cHL; however, several retrospective studies support this strategy, particularly for patients with early-stage disease and bulky sites.

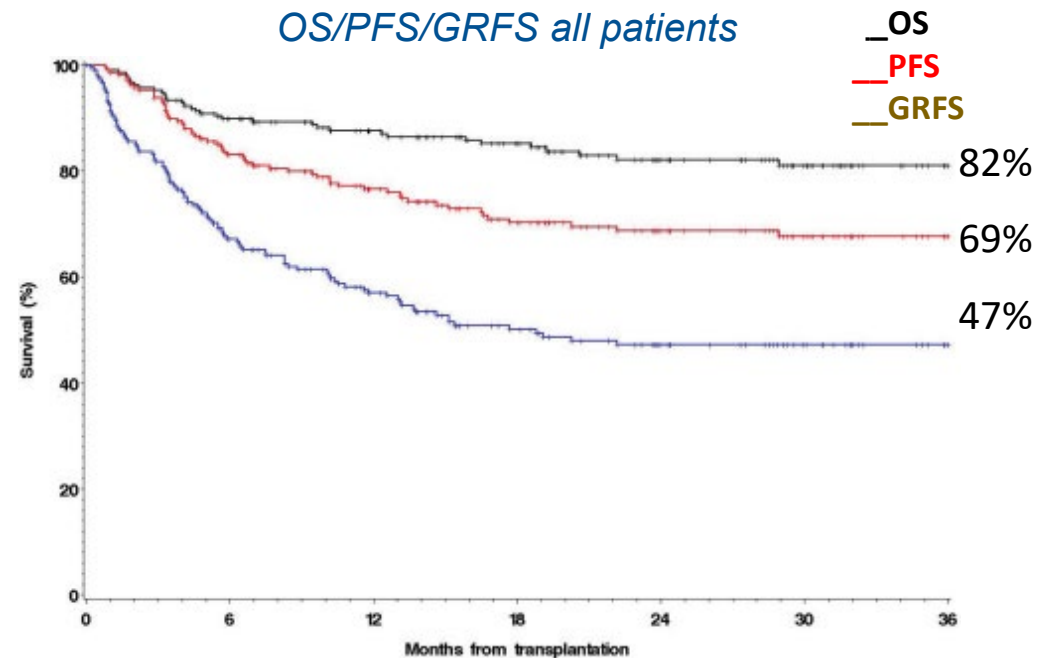
- Consider RT consolidation for patients who are **RT-naïve** with **localized bulky disease**, particularly for those in PR pre-transplant not eligible to further bridge therapy and/or those who are poor candidates for BV maintenance
- Plan and deliver the lowest dose supposed to be effective and limit fields' extension in order to not increase late toxicity in a population considered at high risk for second neoplasia
- Do not exceed **30 Gy for PET negative** and **36 Gy for PET positive** sites



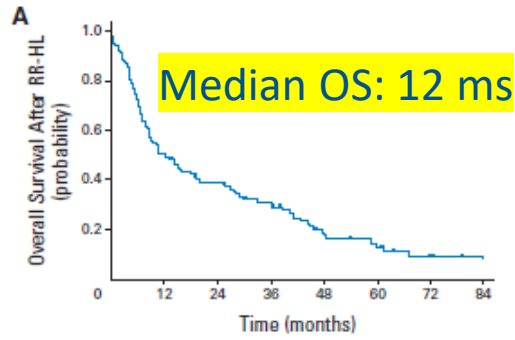
The role of AlloSCT in the era of new drugs

Allogeneic is the only potentially curative approach in younger, fit, very high-risk patients since triple **refractory (to ASCT, BV and CPI)**. Major limitations of allogeneic transplantation are acute and late toxicity, failure to achieve metabolic response and donor availability

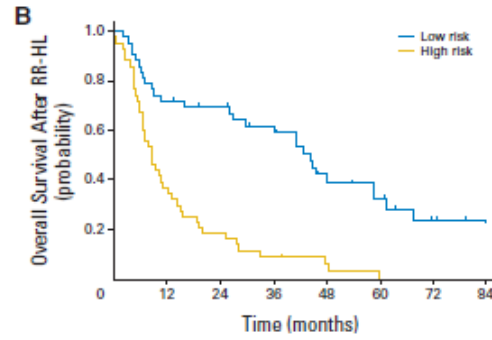
- Consider **early search for donor** in high-risk situation
- Refer patient to a transplant unit with expertise in lymphoma
- Make sure that **wash-out** period from last **CPI** dose is adequate to reduce graft incidence and severity
- Use **reduce-intensity conditioning (RIC)**
- Use post-transplant cyclophosphamide for graft prophylaxis (**PTCy**)



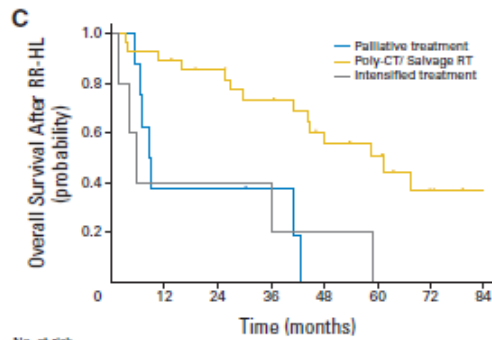
The elderly r/r HL: an unmet need



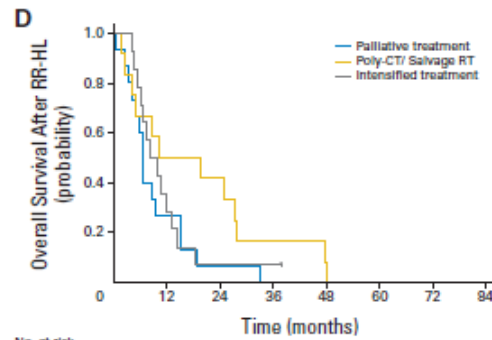
No. at risk	105	52	40	29	16	10	4	1
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No. at risk	43	31	28	22	14	10	4	1
Low risk	43	15	8	4	2	0	0	0
High risk	43	15	8	4	2	0	0	0

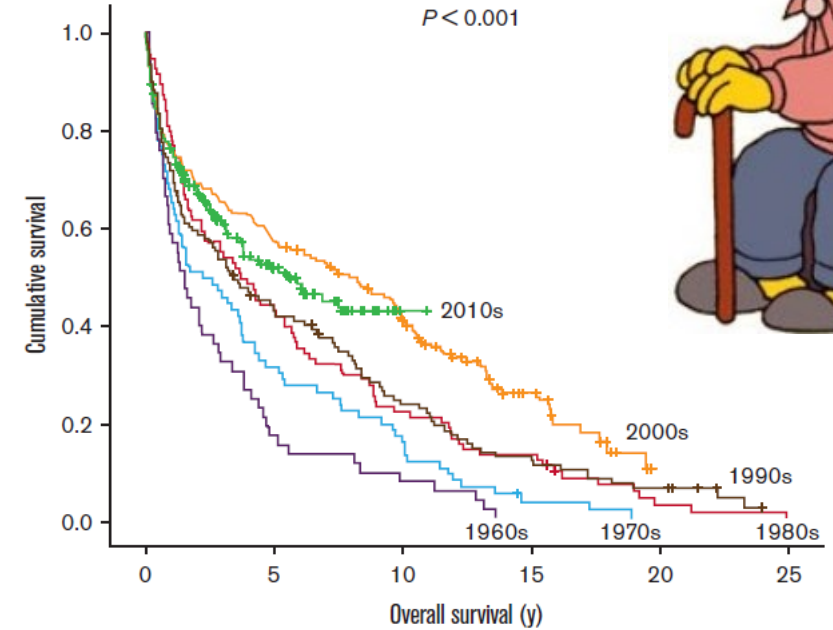


No. at risk	8	3	3	2	0	0	0	0
Palliative treatment	8	3	3	2	0	0	0	0
Poly-CT/ Salvage RT	28	25	22	18	13	10	4	1
Intensified treatment	5	2	2	1	1	0	0	0



No. at risk	15	4	1	0	0	0	0	0
Palliative treatment	15	4	1	0	0	0	0	0
Poly-CT/ Salvage RT	12	6	5	1	0	0	0	0
Intensified treatment	14	4	1	0	0	0	0	0

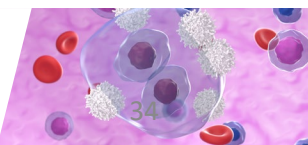
Boll B et al, JCO 2013



Number at risk = 744

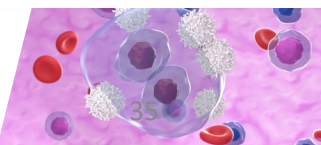
1960s	53	9	4	0	0	0
1970s	77	24	12	2	0	0
1980s	93	39	20	12	2	0
1990s	120	50	26	14	7	0
2000s	183	105	69	20	0	-
2010s	218	56	1	0	-	-

Cheng PTM et al, Blood Adv 2022



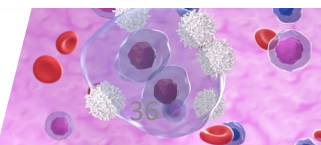
| The elderly r/r HL: treatment options

- Bendamustine alone (be careful to infection rate and keep in mind antimicrobial prophylaxis)
- Brentuximab-vedotin single agent (fit patients, excluded if severe pre-existing polyneuropathy)
- CPI single agent (fit and unfit patients, excluded if previous history of autoimmune disease)
- Combos to be carefully considered due to increased toxicity
- Radiotherapy (but very often the elderly present with advanced stage disease)
- Waiting for a valid option *per os* (CPI)...



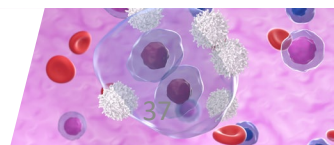
Relapsed/refractory HL: summary and conclusion-I

- 10-40% of HL patients require salvage therapy due to refractory or relapsed disease
- Biopsy should be repeated at relapse whenever possible
- For younger fit patients, the standard of care is salvage therapy followed by ASCT
- Salvage therapy can be chosen among strategies tested in phase 2 trials and randomized data on head-to-head comparison between different regimens are lacking
- The main goal of salvage therapy is to achieve complete metabolic response before transplantation



Relapsed/refractory HL: summary and conclusion-I

- Efficacy of salvage regimens can increase when new drugs (BV and/or CPI) are combined to conventional chemotherapy
- Are we ready to spare ASCT in super-selected patients achieving complete remission after salvage with new combos? Experimental!
- High-risk patients should be offered post-autologous consolidation (BV and/or CPI, radiotherapy)
- For elderly r/r HL patients a standard of care is lacking and they represent an unmet medical need: clinical trial are encouraged in this setting
- The landscape of salvage therapy is partially determined by changes in first-line therapy





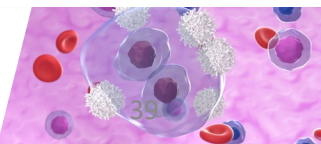
chiara.rusconi@istitutotumori.mi.it



FONDAZIONE IRCCS
ISTITUTO NAZIONALE
DEI TUMORI

Thanks for your attention!

| Back-up slides

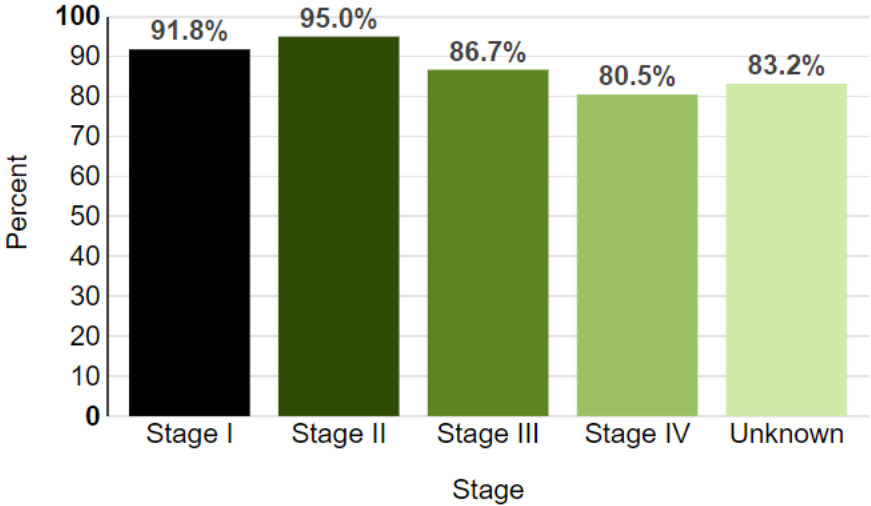


Hodgkin lymphoma and prognosis

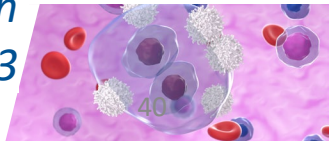


5-Year
Relative Survival
88.9%

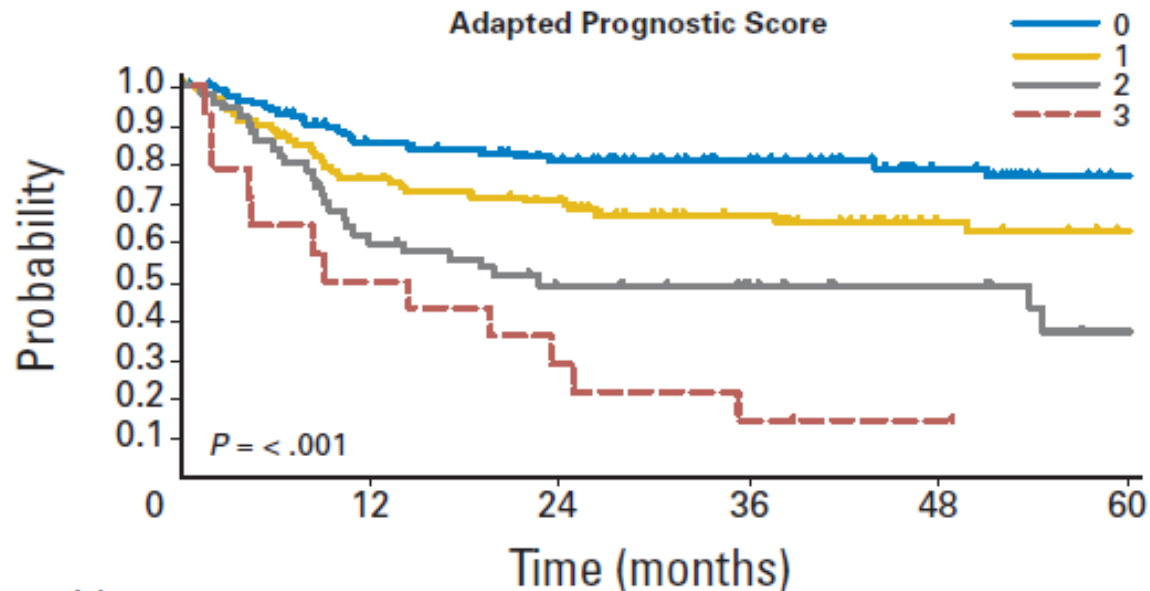
HL prognosis is favourable and long-term relative survival is excellent



5-year survival is over 80% also in patients presenting with advanced stage disease at diagnosis



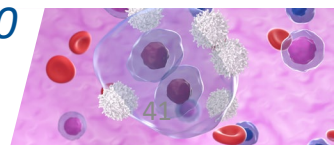
Prognosis at relapse: progression-free survival



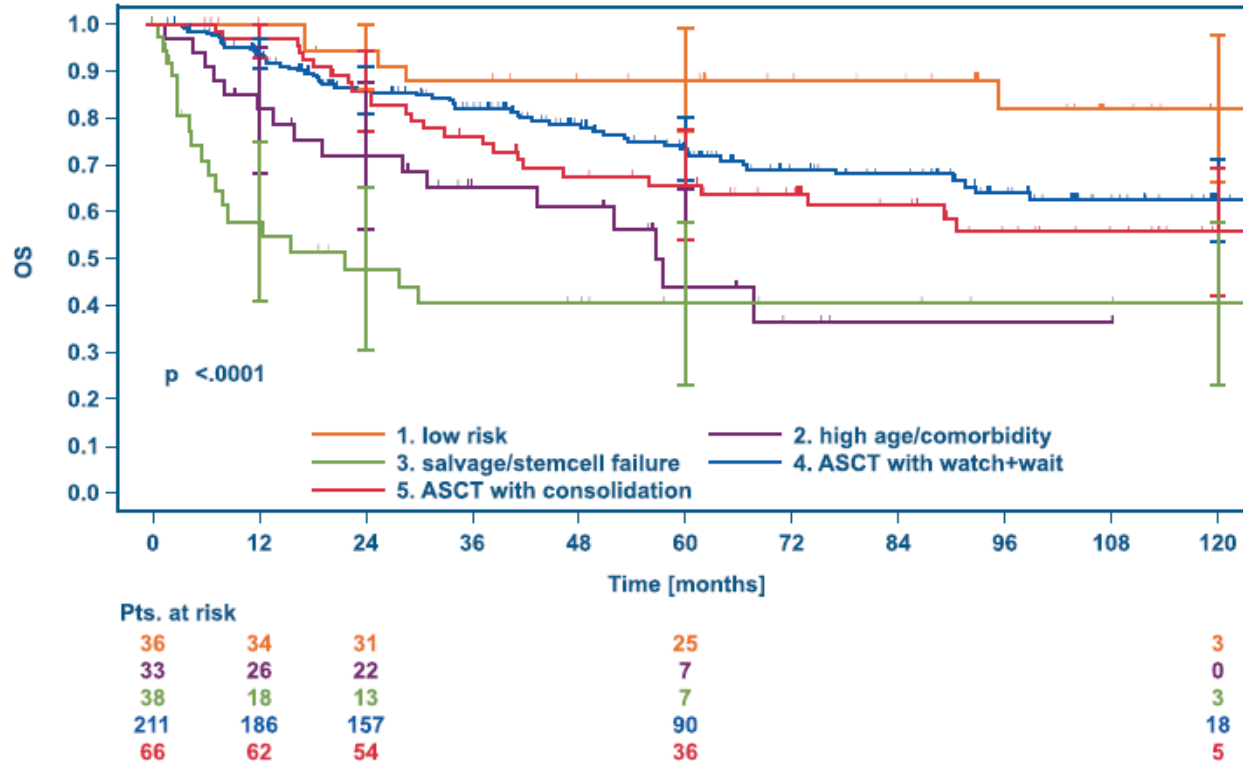
No. at risk	0	12	24	36	48	60
0	117	92	74	53	35	21
1	96	69	59	42	25	19
2	52	29	21	15	10	5
3	14	7	4	2	1	0

Prognostic score based on 3 simple clinical variables at relapse predicts PFS:

- Stage IV
- Early relapse (≤ 12 months)
- Anemia (<10.5 g/dl female or <12 g/dl male)



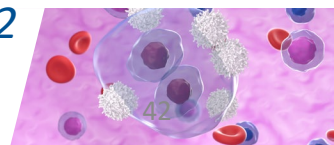
Inferior survival for not transplanted r/r HL patients



Inferior OS for:

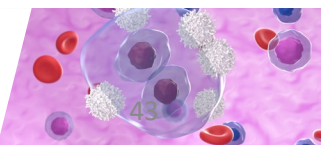
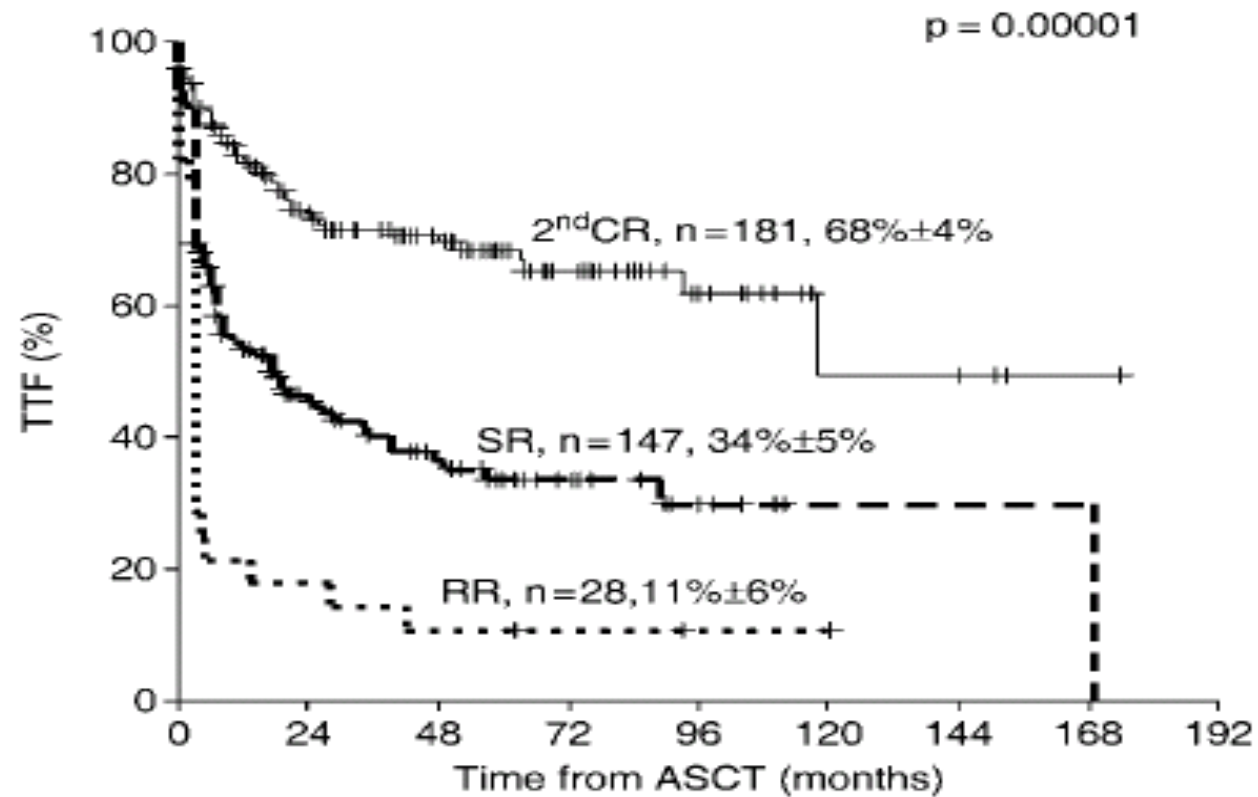
- elderly patients and/or patients with comorbidities
- patients not proceeding to ASCT due to refractoriness to salvage treatment

Bröckelmann PJ et al, *Leukemia* 2022

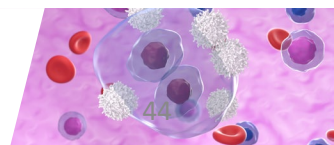
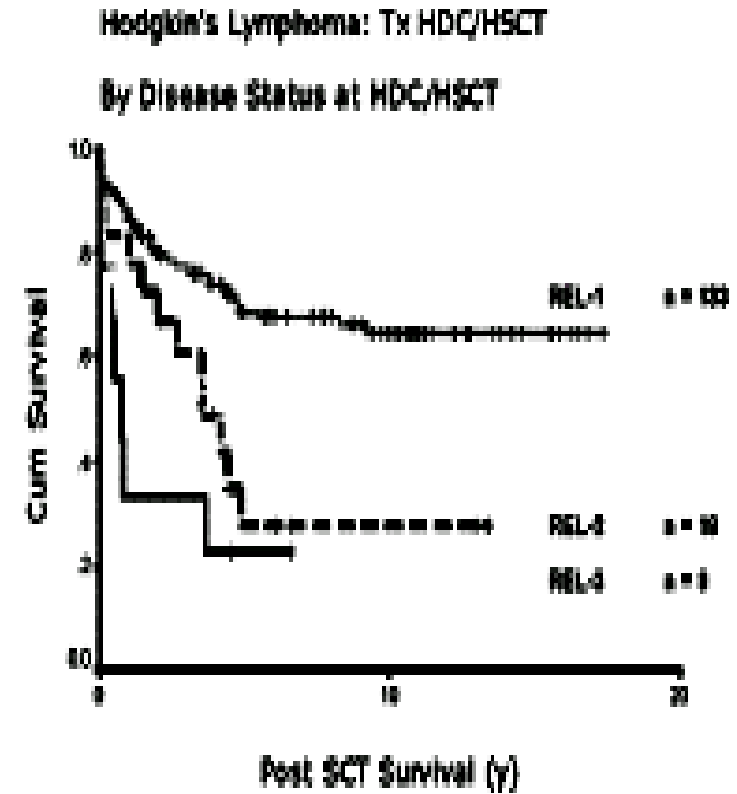
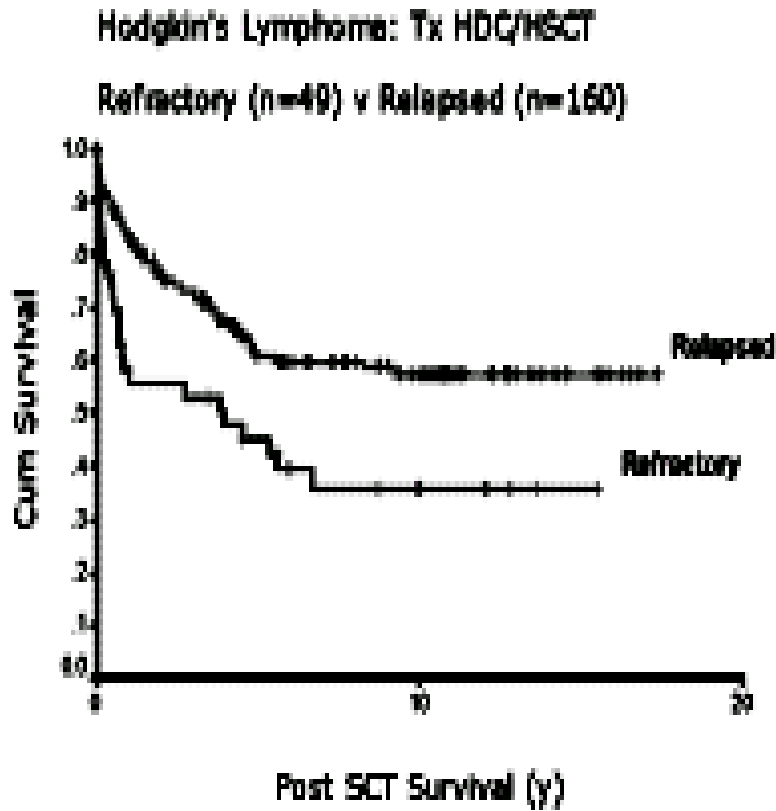


TTF according to disease status

Sureda, 2005



| ASCT and OS: British Columbia experience



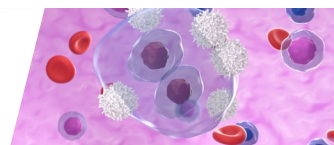
First salvage therapy: conventional CT schemes

Goals:

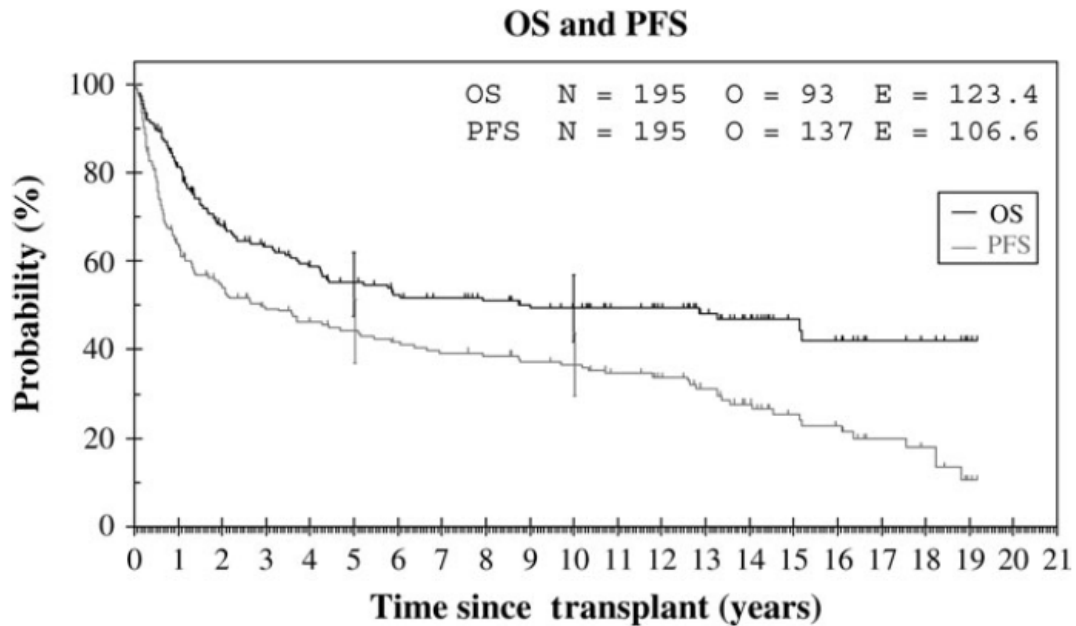
- Achieve CR = negative PET before ASCT
- Mobilize adequate PBSC
- Minimize toxicity

Chemotherapy Regimen	N pts	% CR	% ORR
BeGEV	59	73	83
ICE	65	26	85
ICE/AugICE	97	60	n/a
DHAP	102	21	89
GVD	91	19	70
IGEV	91	54	81
IEV	51	76	84
GDP	23	17	69

No randomized prospective clinical trials available



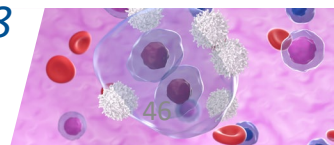
Long-term post-ASCT outcome: historical data



Single center (Royal Marsden Hospital, UK) retrospective analysis on 195 consecutive HL who were autografted from 1985 to 2005. Five-year OS/PFS was 55% of 44% and **10-year OS/PFS was 49.4% of 37%** for whole group

Twenty (10%) patients developed **second cancer** (seven secondary acute myeloid leukaemia/myelodysplastic syndrome). Probability of developing second cancer at 10 years was 14.7% and 24.8% at 19 years

Sirohi B et al, Annals of Oncol 2008



Regimen	Nr patients	ORR (%)	CR (%)	Survival	Biblio
ICE	65	88	26	@43 ms EFS 82% se CR	Moskowitz, Blood 2001
DHAP	102	89	21		Josting, Ann Oncol 2003
IGEV	91	81	54	@3yrs FFP 53%, OS 70%	Santoro, Haematol 2007
BeGEV	59	83	73	@2yrs OS 62%, FFS 78%	Santoro, JCO 2016
BV	37	68	35		Chen, Biol Blood Marrow Transplant 2015
BV ICE	44	NR	27	@2yrsEFS 80%, OS 95%	Cassaday, Blood 2016

Benda-BV

Characteristic	N = 55
Age, median (range), y	36 (19-79)
Male, n (%)	24 (43.6)
White, n (%)	46 (83.6)
ECOG status, n (%)	
0	36 (65.5)
1	18 (32.7)
2	1 (1.8)
Months since HL diagnosis, median (range)	13.8 (3-98)
Disease stage at diagnosis, n (%)	
I	3 (5.5)
II	23 (41.8)
III	14 (25.5)
IV	15 (27.3)
Frontline therapy received, n (%)*	
ABVD†	50 (90.9)
Stanford V	3 (5.5)
AVD	1 (1.8)
VAMP	1 (1.8)
Response to frontline therapy, n (%)	
Primary refractory‡	28 (50.9)
Relapsed	27 (49.1)
CR > 1 y	17
CR ≤ 1 y	10
Prior cancer-related radiotherapy, n (%)	15 (27.3)
Baseline disease characteristics, n (%)	
B symptoms	12 (21.8)
Bulky disease§	5 (9.1)
Extranodal disease	17 (30.9)
Bone marrow involvement	9 (16.4)

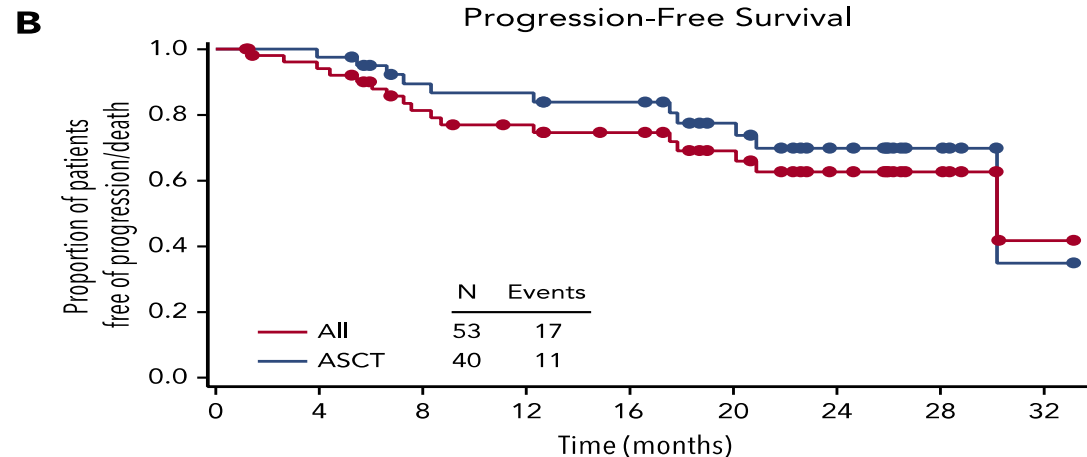
Best clinical response in 53 pts %

ORR 92.5

CR 73.6

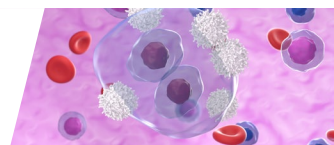
Refractory 64

Relapsed 84



	N at Risk (Events)	0	4	8	12	16	20	24	28	32
All	53(0)	47(3)	37(9)	33(11)	29(12)	22(14)	14(16)	7(16)	1(17)	
ASCT	40(0)	39(1)	32(4)	31(5)	28(6)	21(8)	13(10)	6(10)	1(11)	

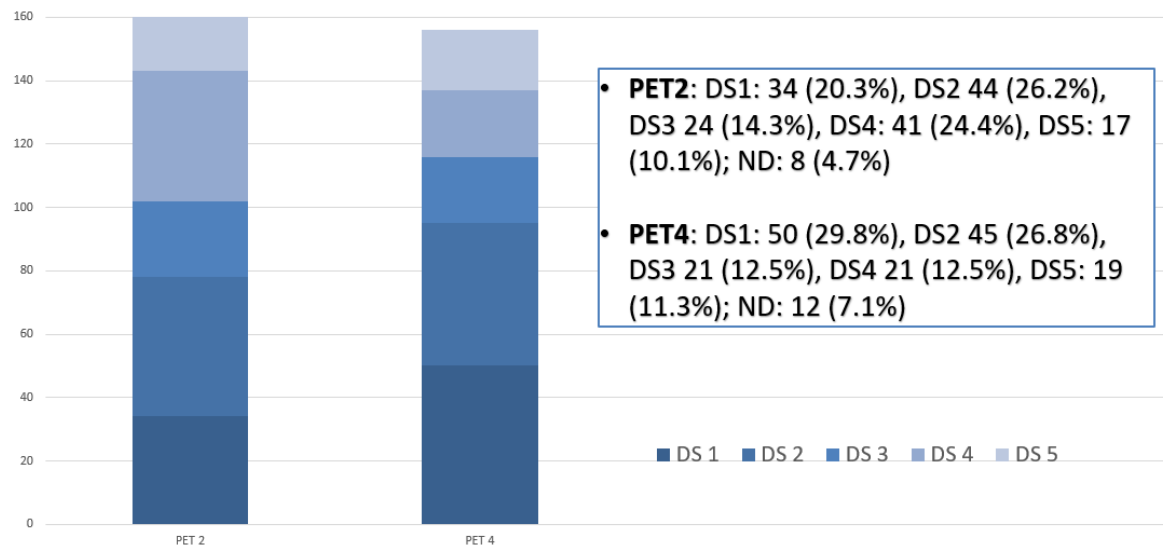
LaCasce A et al, Blood 2018



BeGEV and interim PET

Tab.1 Patients' characteristics at BEGEV start

Number of pts (%)	168 (100)
M (%)	89 (53)
Median age (range)	37 (18-72)
Stage N (%) : I-II	86 (51.2)
III	29 (17.3)
IV	53 (31.5)
B symptoms	28 (17)
EN sites	57 (34)
Second line indication : <u>primary refractory</u>	93 (55)
<u>early relapse (≤ 12 ms)</u>	37 (22)
<u>late relapse (>12 ms)</u>	38 (23)



Multivariate Cox regression model of PFS evaluating PET2 result and presence of adverse clinical characteristics at relapse such as EI (HR 1.01 , CI 95%: 0.59-1.73), time to relapse (primary refractory and early relapse vs late relapse, HR 0.67, CI 95%: 0.37-1.22) and presence of B symptoms (HR 0.97, CI 95%: 0.51-1.85), identified **PET2 positivity as the only predictive factor for PFS** (HR 4.31, CI 95%: 2.54-7.31, p<0.001).

Rusconi C et al, EHA 2023

Pembrolizumab vs Brentuximab for transplant ineligible r/r HL: KEYNOTE-204

Stratified by prior autologous SCT (yes vs no), status after first-line therapy (primary refractory vs relapsed < 12 mos vs relapsed ≥ 12 mos after end of first-line therapy)

Patients with R/R cHL who relapsed after or are ineligible for autologous SCT and failed 1 prior therapy line*; measurable disease per IWG 2007 criteria; ECOG PS 0/1 (N = 304)

Pembrolizumab 200 mg IV Q3W
(n = 151)

Brentuximab Vedotin 1.8 mg/kg IV Q3W
(n = 153)

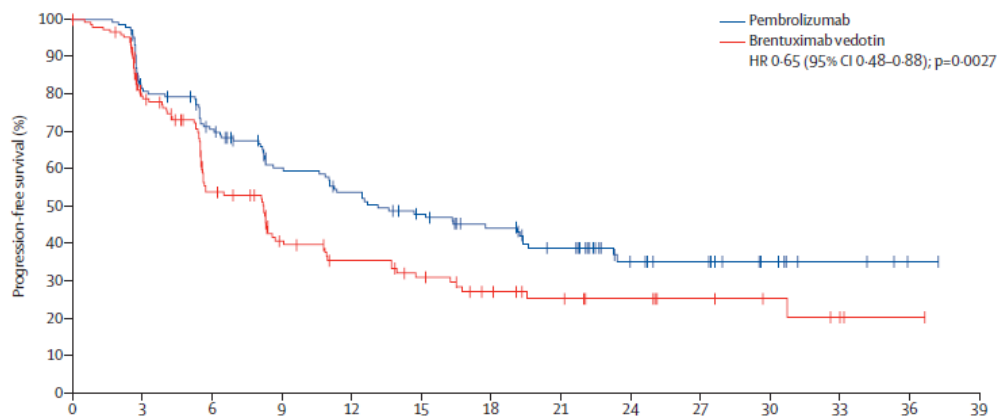
Up to 35 cycles

Follow-up: response, AEs assessed Q12W

*Prior use of brentuximab vedotin permitted. AEs assessed Q3W during trial period.

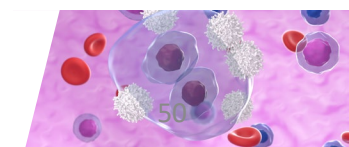
Serious treatment-related adverse events occurred in 24 (16%) of 148 patients receiving pembrolizumab and 16 (11%) of 152 patients receiving brentuximab vedotin.

One treatment-related death due to pneumonia occurred in the pembrolizumab group

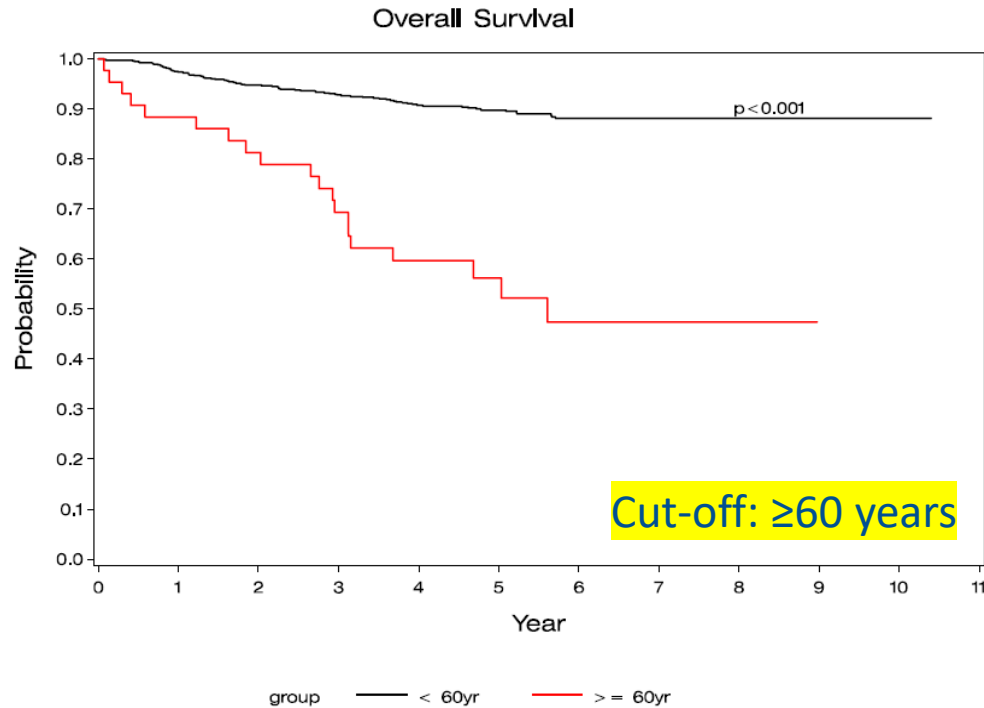


	0	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30	33	36	39
Number at risk	151	116	96	74	65	55	44	35	18	15	9	4	1	0
(number censored)	(0)	(9)	(13)	(22)	(23)	(26)	(33)	(37)	(52)	(55)	(61)	(66)	(69)	(70)
Pembrolizumab	151	116	96	74	65	55	44	35	18	15	9	4	1	0
Brentuximab vedotin	153	103	63	41	32	26	19	14	10	7	5	2	1	0
(number censored)	(0)	(22)	(30)	(38)	(42)	(44)	(48)	(52)	(56)	(59)	(61)	(63)	(64)	(65)

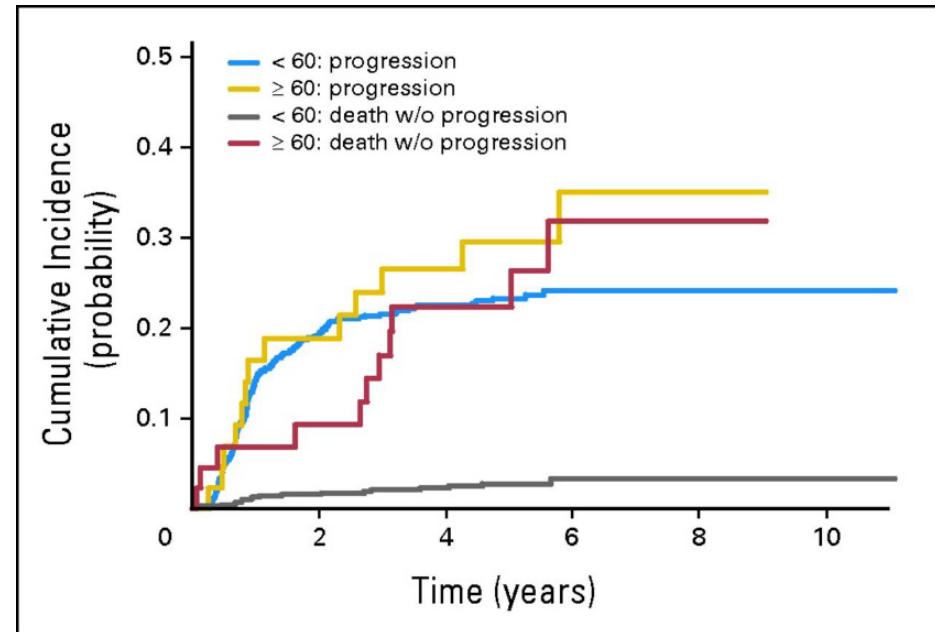
Kuruvilla J et al, Lancet Oncol 2021



The elderly



Evens AM et al, BJH 2013



Evens AM et al, JCO 2013

- Under-represented in clinical trials: <5-10% (vs 15-25% population)
- Outcomes disproportionately inferior to younger patients (and other cancers)
- Toxicity is a major limit for survival
- Growing scientific interest for this population