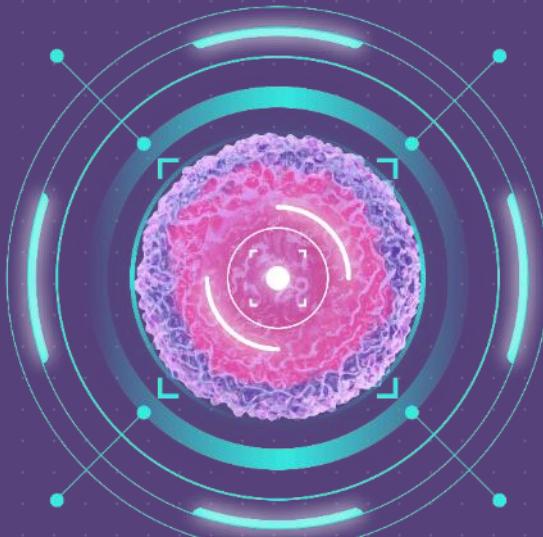




# NEW CHEMOTHERAPY-FREE APPROACHES FOR THE TREATMENT OF LYMPHOID MALIGNANCIES



**Scientific Education Support**

Lymphoma Hub is delivered by Scientific Education Support (SES)



# FL – chemotherapy-free regimens: pros and cons

Nathan Fowler

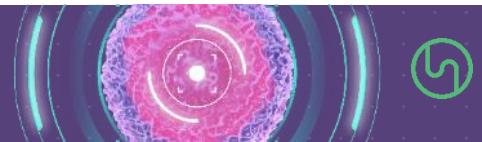
University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Centre  
Houston, TX, USA



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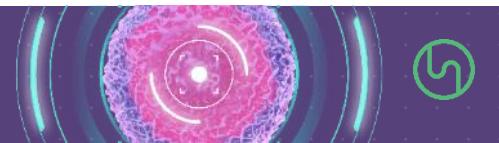
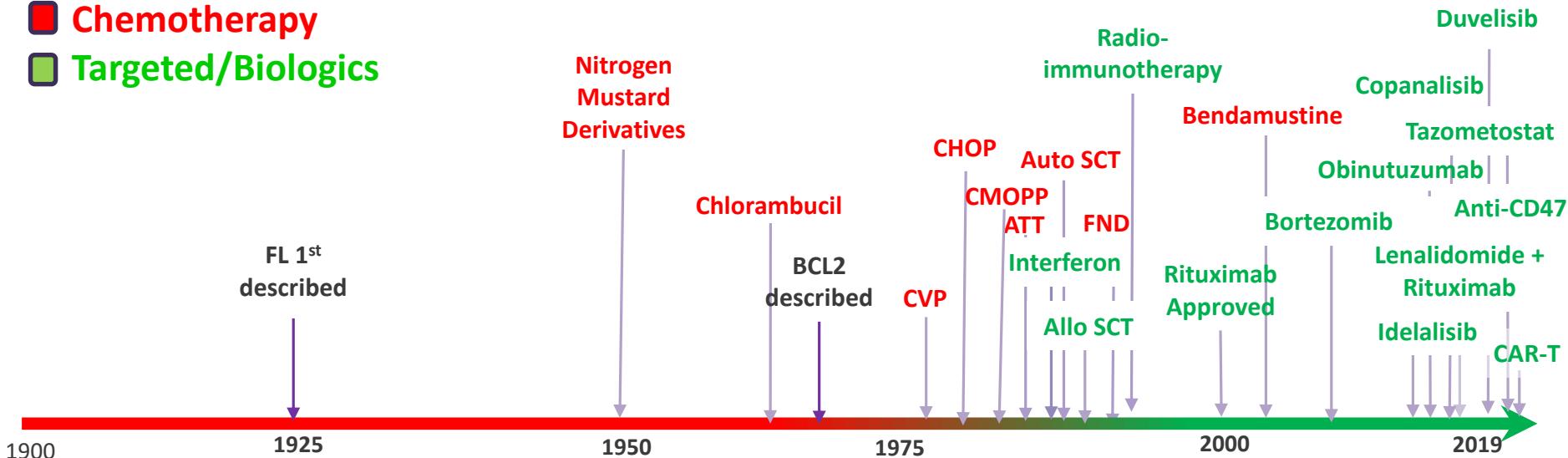
## Disclosures – Nathan Fowler

Research funding	Roche, Verastem, TG Therapeutics, Abbvie, Celgene, Jannsen, Gilead
Honoraria/Advisory Board	Roche, Verastem, TG Therapeutics, Abbvie, Celgene, Jannsen, Gilead

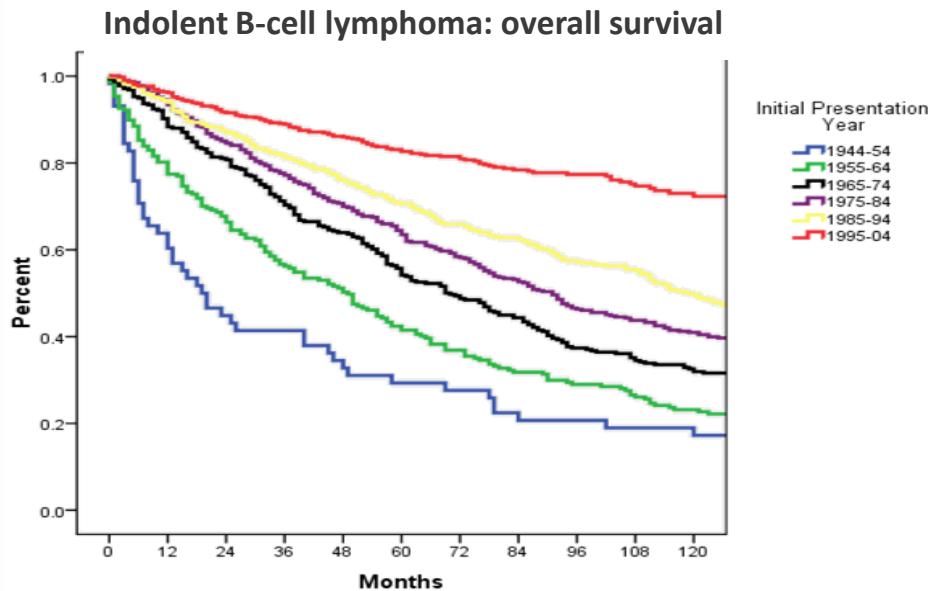


# Short(ish) history of selected therapy development of follicular lymphoma

- Chemotherapy
- Targeted/Biologics

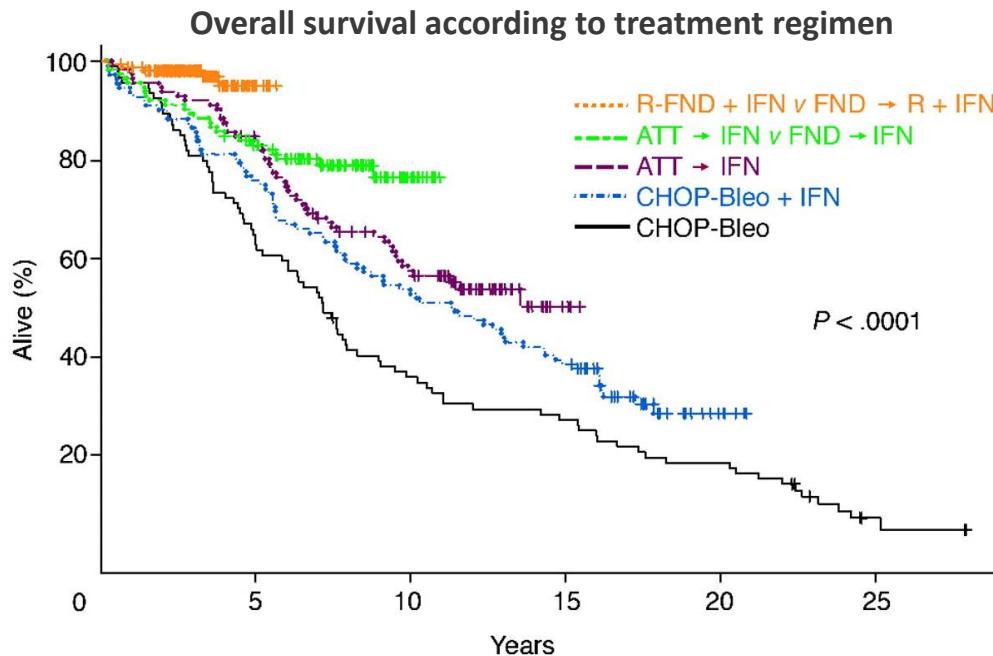


# Indolent lymphoma: improving survival



Year	Percent survival	
	60 months	120 months
1944-54	29.3	17.2
1955-64	41.5	23.2
1965-74	54.1	31.9
1975-84	63.5	41.0
1985-94	70.6	49.6
1995-04	82.7	72.3

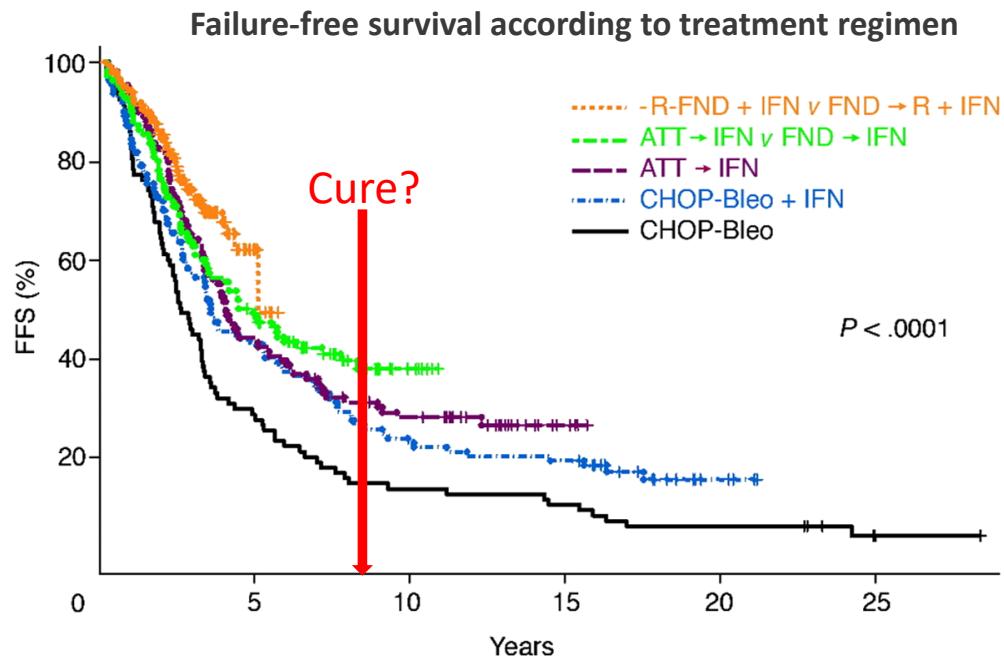
## Historical studies at MD Anderson with chemo overall survival



R, rituximab; FND, fludarabine, mitoxantrone, and dexamethasone; IFN, interferon alfa; ATT, alternating triple therapy with cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, vincristine, dexamethasone, and bleomycin, with etoposide, methylprednisolone, cytarabine, and cisplatin, with mitoxantrone, vincristine, prednisone, and procarbazine with IFN maintenance; CHOP-Bleo, cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, vincristine, prednisone, and bleomycin.  
Liu Q, et al. J Clin Oncol. 2006;24:1582–9



## Historical studies at MD Anderson with failure-free survival (FFS)



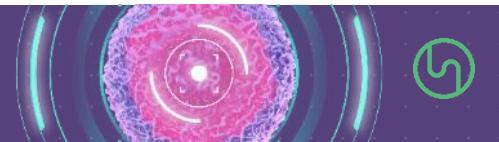
R, rituximab; FND, fludarabine, mitoxantrone, and dexamethasone; IFN, interferon alfa; ATT, alternating triple therapy with cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, vincristine, dexamethasone, and bleomycin, with etoposide, methylprednisolone, cytarabine, and cisplatin, with mitoxantrone, vincristine, prednisone, and procarbazine with IFN maintenance; CHOP-Bleo, cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, vincristine, prednisone, and bleomycin.  
Liu Q, et al. J Clin Oncol. 2006;24:1582–9



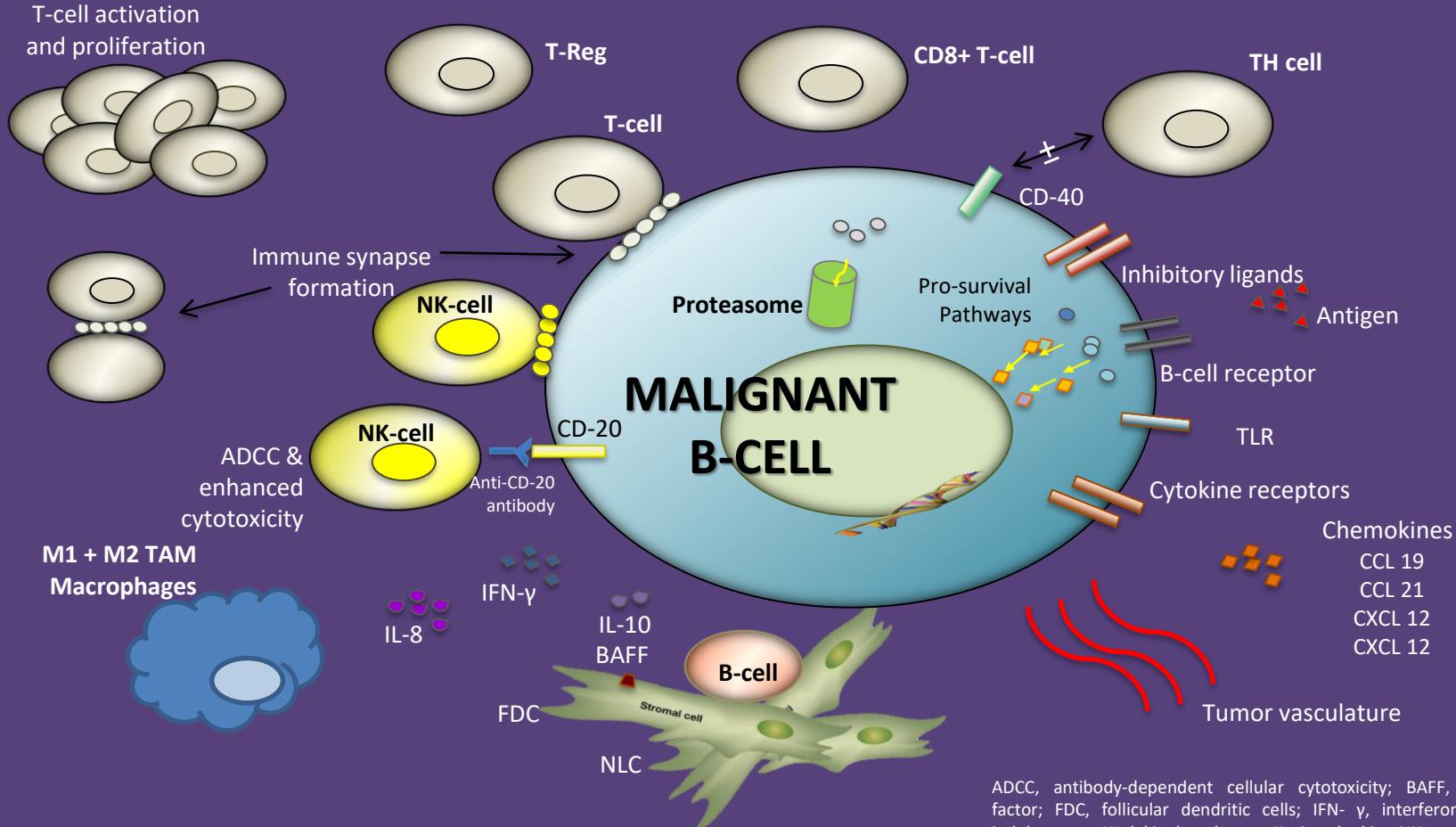
## Why do we need more (*better?*) options?

- Chemotherapy is associated with short- and long-term toxicity<sup>1–5</sup>
  - Infection
  - Fatigue
  - Nausea
  - Cytopenias
  - Secondary malignancies
- Most patients are still not cured with traditional regimens<sup>5–8</sup>
- Unselected therapy does not benefit all populations

1. Green MR, et al. *Blood*. 2013;121(9):1604-1611; 2. Hiddemann W, et al. At: ICML; 2017. Abstract 107; 3. National Cancer Institute. updated August 2018, [www.cancer.gov/about\\_cancer/treatment/side effects](http://www.cancer.gov/about_cancer/treatment/side_effects); 4. Federico M, et al. *J Clin Oncol*. 2013;31(12):1506 1513; 5. Marcus R, et al. *N Engl J Med*. 2017;377(14):1331 1344; 6. Fowler N. *Hematology Am Soc Hematol Educ Program*. 2016;2016(1):277 283; 7. Cabanillas F. *J Clin Oncol*. 2013; 31(1):14; 8. Alperovich A, et al. In: ASH Annual Meeting & Exposition; 2016. Abstract 2955.

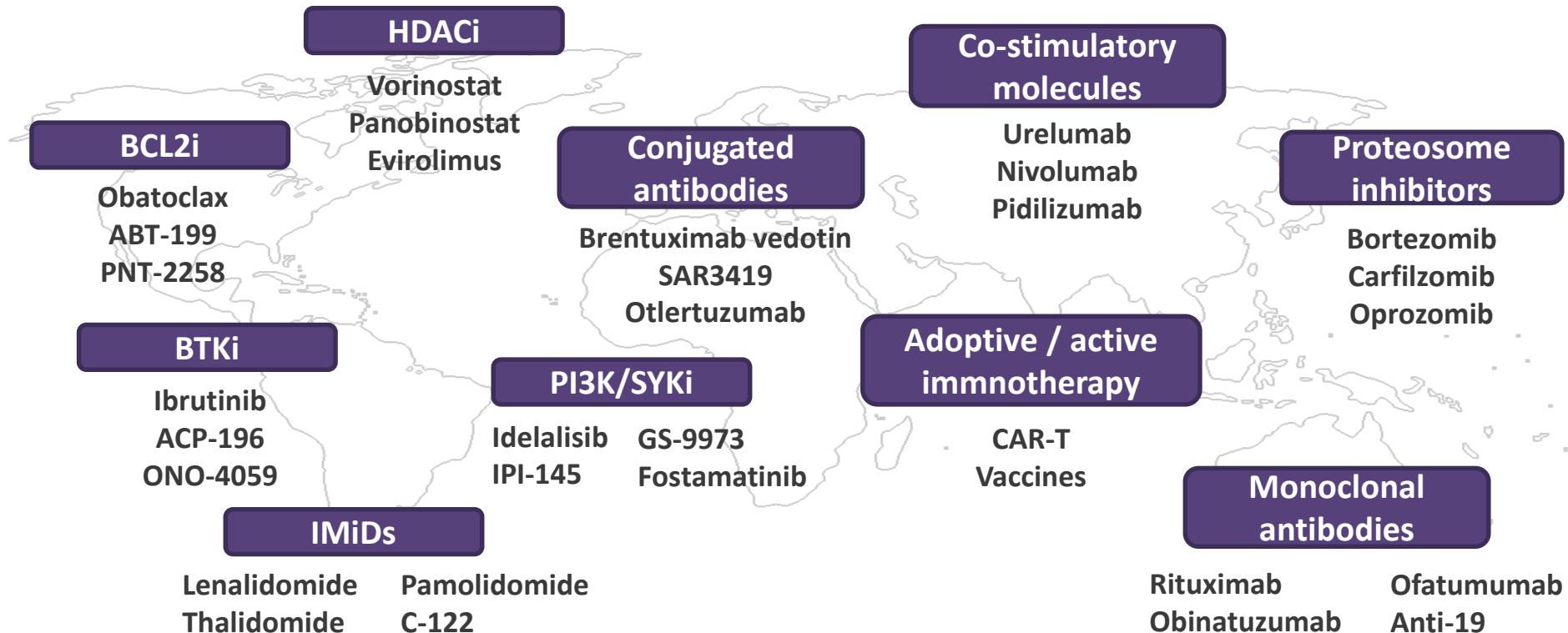


# Survival advantage in iNHL



ADCC, antibody-dependent cellular cytotoxicity; BAFF, B-cell-activating factor; FDC, follicular dendritic cells; IFN- $\gamma$ , interiferon gamma; iNHL, indolent non-Hodgkin lymphoma; IL, interleukin; NK, natural killer; NLC, nurse-like cell; TAM, tumour-associated; TH, T helper; TLR, toll-like receptors

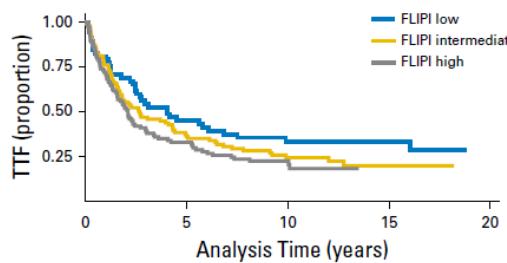
# The world of ‘Biologics’ in indolent lymphoma



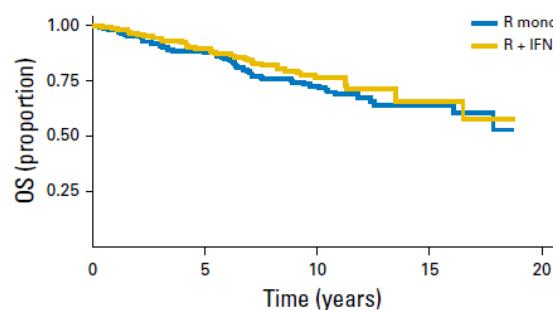
BCL2i, B-cell lymphoma 2 inhibitor; BTKi, Bruton tyrosine kinase inhibitor; CAR-T, chimeric antigen receptor T-cell therapy; IMiDs, immunomodulatory drugs; HDACi, histone deacetylase inhibitor; PI3K, phosphoinositide 3-kinase; SYK, spleen tyrosine kinase inhibitor



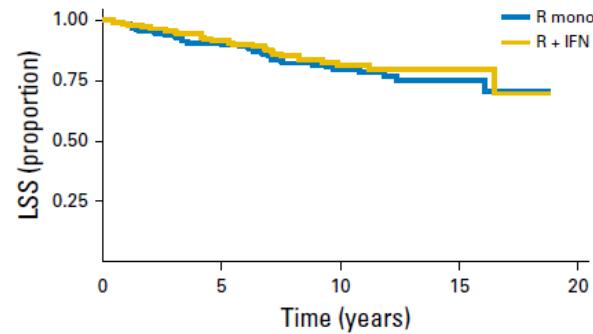
# Long-term outcomes of symptomatic patients treated without initial chemotherapy



No. at risk:  
FLIPI low 58  
FLIPI intermediate 101  
FLIPI high 108



No. at risk:  
R mono 173  
R + IFN 148

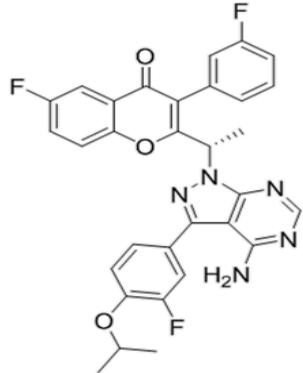


No. at risk:  
R mono 173  
R + IFN 148

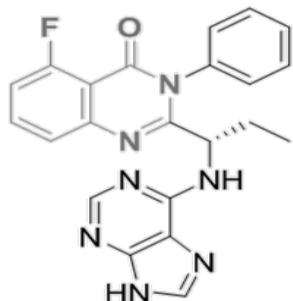


# Selected PI3K inhibitors

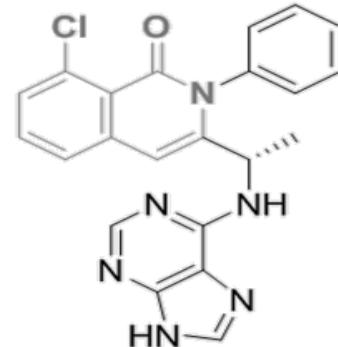
Umbralisib (TGR-1202)



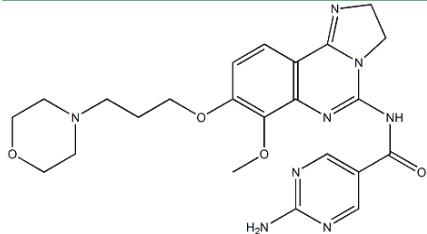
Idelalisib (GS-1101)



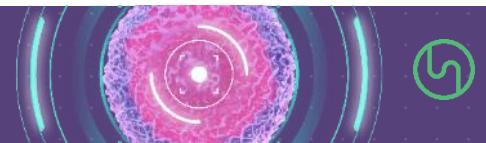
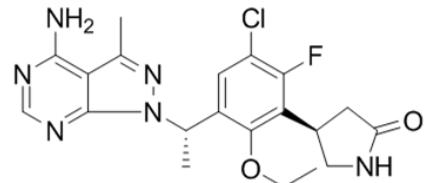
Duvelisib (IPI-145)



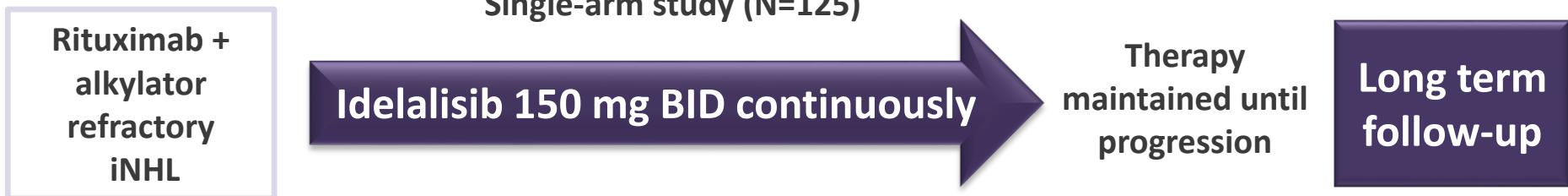
Copanlisib (BAY80-6946)



Parsaclisib (INCB050465)



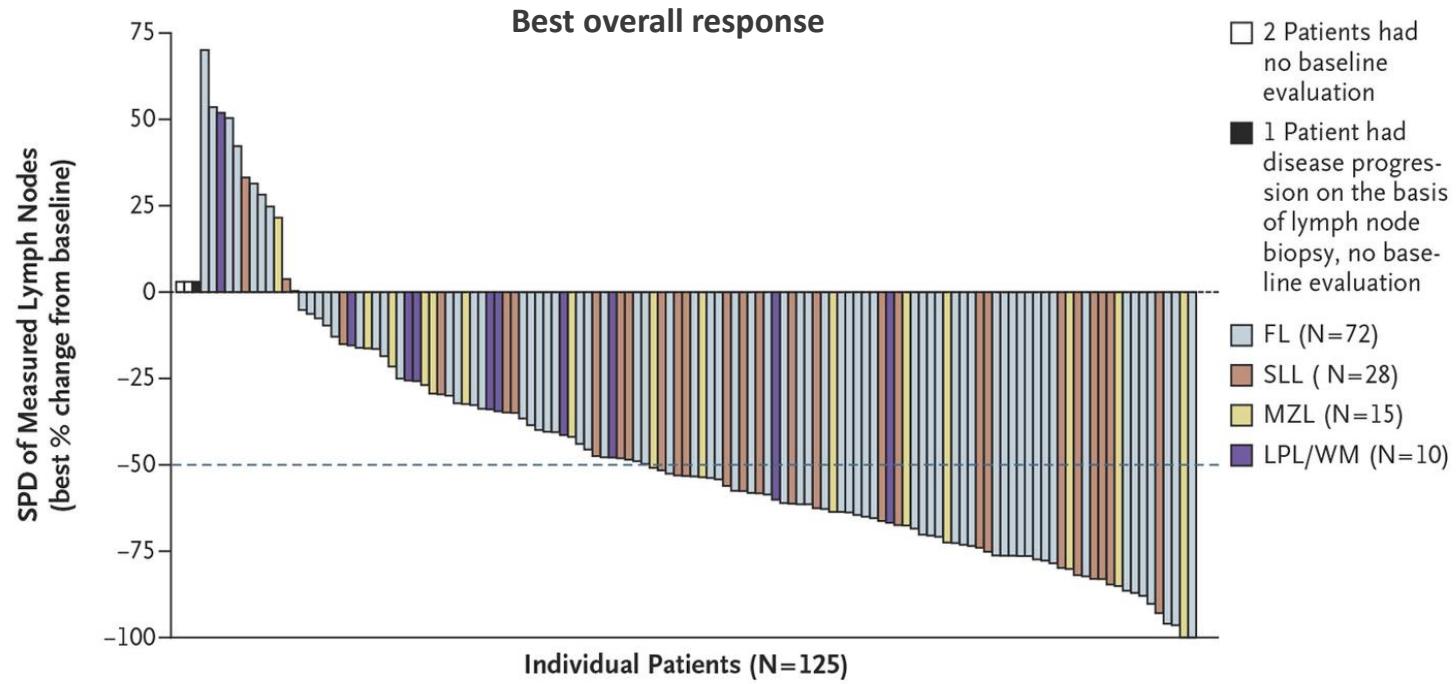
# Idelalisib: Phase II trial in refractory iNHL



- Tumor assessments:
  - Weeks 0, 8, 16, 24, 36, 48
  - Every 12 weeks thereafter
  - Evaluated by IRC
    - Two radiologists with adjudication if needed
    - clinical review
- Primary endpoint:
  - Overall response rate
- Secondary endpoints:
  - Duration of response
  - Progression-free survival
  - Overall survival
  - Safety

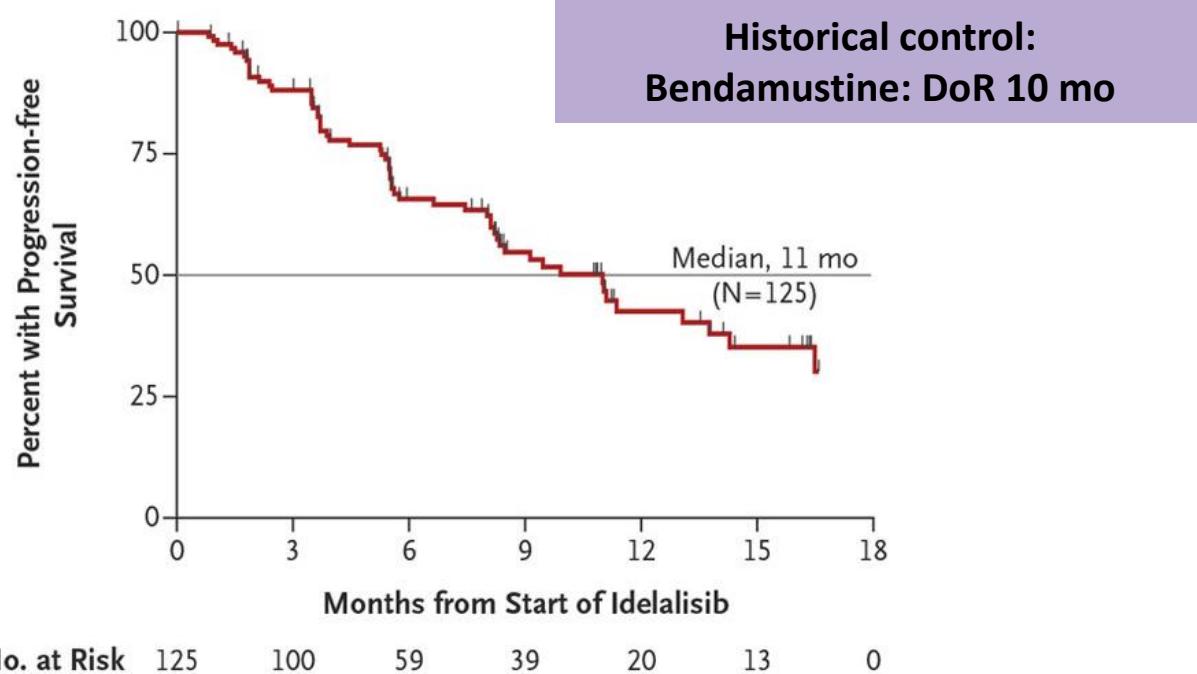


## Tumour response



FL, follicular lymphoma; LPL/WM, lymphoplasmacytic lymphoma with or without Waldenström's macroglobulinemia; MZL, marginal-zone lymphoma; SLL, small lymphocytic lymphoma; SPD, sums of the products of the perpendicular dimensions  
Gopal A, et al. *N Engl J Med.* 2014;370:1008–18

## Progression-free survival



DoR, duration of response; mo, months

Gopal A, et al. *N Engl J Med*. 2014;370:1008–18

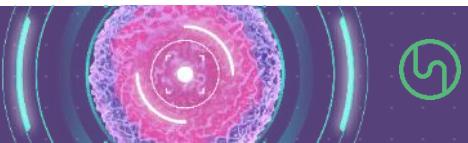


## Adverse events

Event or abnormality, n (%)	Any	Grade ≥3	Event or abnormality, n (%)	Any	Grade ≥3
<b>Adverse event</b>			<b>Hematopoietic laboratory abnormality</b>		
Diarrhoea	54 (43)	16 (13)	Decreased neutrophils	35 (28)	2 (2)
Nausea	37 (30)	2 (2)	Decreased hemoglobin	32 (26)	8 (6)
Fatigue	37 (30)	2 (2)	Decreased platelets		
Cough	36 (29)	0			
Pyrexia	35 (28)	2 (2)			
Decrease appetite	22 (18)	1 (1)			
Dyspnea	22 (18)	4 (3)			
Abdominal pain	20 (16)	3 (2)			
Vomiting	19 (15)	3 (2)			
Upper respiratory tract infection	18 (14)	0			
Weigh decreased	17 (14)	0			
Rash	16 (13)	2 (2)			
Asthenia	14 (11)	3 (2)			
Night sweats	14 (11)	0			
Pneumonia	14 (11)	9 (7)			
Peripheral oedema	13 (10)	3 (2)			
Headache	13 (10)	1 (1)			

ALT, alanine aminotransferase; AST, aspartate aminotransferase

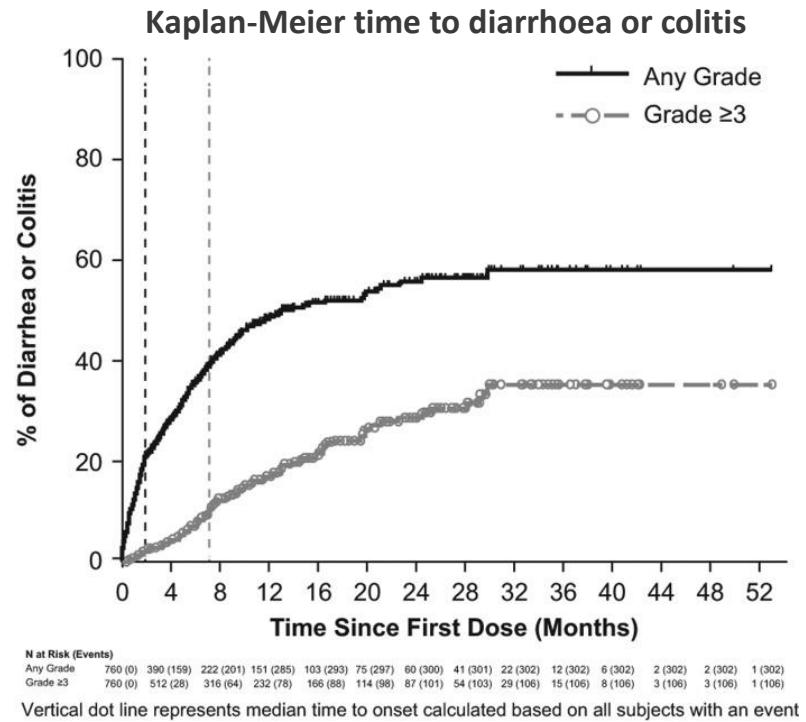
Gopal A, et al. *N Engl J Med.* 2014;370:1008–18



# Diarrhoea incidence with idelalisib

## Bimodal appearance of GI side effects

- Early diarrhoea
  - Usually self-limited
  - Responds to anti-diarrhoeals
- Late diarrhoea/colitis
  - Occurs randomly
  - Can be unresponsive to therapy



# PI3Ki: copanalisib (BAY 80-6946)

- Inhibitor of PI3K- alpha and beta isoforms
- Phase II study (CHRONOS-1):
  - 142 patients with indolent B-cell lymphoma, relapsed or refractory to ≥2 lines of therapy
  - IV administration on Days 1, 8, and 15 of a 28-day cycle
  - Primary endpoint: Overall response rate (ORR)
  - Results:
    - ORR 61%, CR 17% (n=104 FL pts)
    - Median PFS: 12.5 months

Response evaluation by independent assessment

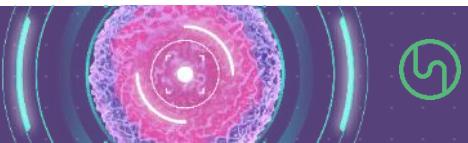
	All patients (n=142) N (%)	FL (n=104) N (%)	MZL (n=23) N (%)
Complete response (CR)	24 (16.9)	21 (20.2)	3 (13.0)
Partial response (PR)	62 (43.7)	40 (38.5)	15 (65.2)
Objective response (ORR)	86 (60.6)	61 (58.7)	18 (78.3)
Stable disease (SD)	40 (28.1)	34 (32.7)	2 (8.7)
Progressive disease (PD)	3 (2.1)	2 (1.9)	0
Unconfirmed early SD	1 (0.7)	1 (0.96)	0
NA/NE	12 (8.5)	6 (5.8)	3 (13.0)

NA, not available, NE, not evaluable

CR, complete response; ORR, overall response rate; PR, partial response; PD, progressive disease; PI3K, phosphoinositide 3-kinases;

SD, stable disease

Dreyling et al. Blood 2018; 132:1595



# Duvelisib (IPI-145)

## Phase II Dynamo study

Refractory iNHL  
patients  
N = 129

Duvelisib 25 mg BID

### Selected inclusion criteria

- iNHL defined as:
  - Follicular lymphoma (FL)
  - Small lymphocytic lymphoma (SLL)
  - Marginal zone lymphoma (MZL)
- Refractory to rituximab
- Refractory to a chemotherapy regimen or radioimmunotherapy

### Study end points

#### Primary:

- Overall response rate (ORR)

#### Secondary:

- Safety
- Duration of response (DoR)
- Progression-free survival (PFS)
- Overall survival (OS)
- Time to response (TTR)
- Pharmacokinetics (PK)

Primary endpoint	ORR by IRC	Secondary efficacy endpoints	All patients (N=129)
All patients (N=129)	47%	mDoR, months	10.0
FL (n=83)	42%	mPFS, months	9.5
SLL (n=28)	68%	mOS, months	28.9
MZL (n=18)	39%	mTTR, months	1.87

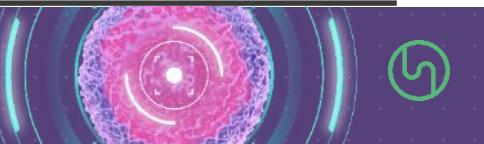
BID, twice a day; DoR, duration of response; FL, follicular lymphoma; iNHL, indolent non-Hodgkin lymphoma; IRC, independent review committee; m, median; MZL, marginal zone lymphoma; ORR, overall response rate; OS, overall response; PFS, progression-free survival; PK, pharmacokinetics; SLL, small lymphocytic lymphoma; TTR, time to response  
Flinn IW, et al. J Clin Oncol. 2019;11:912-22



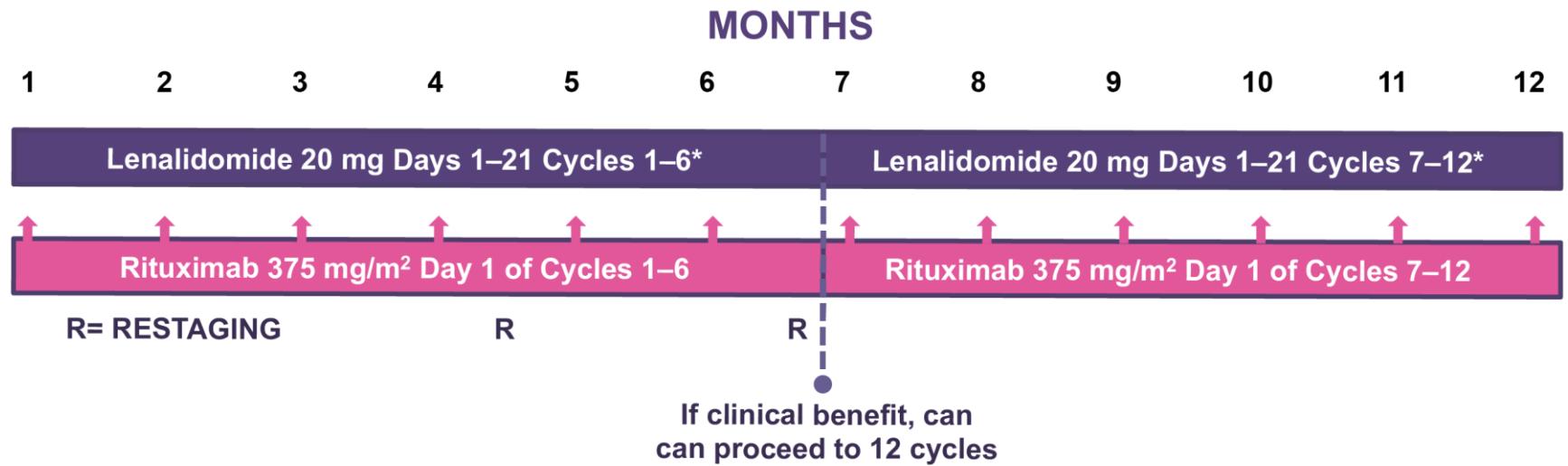
# Selected single-agent PI3K inhibitor trials

Agent	Route	Efficacy	Notes
Idelalisib <sup>1</sup>	PI3K delta	Oral  Ph 2 double refractory iNHL ORR: 57% CR: 6% PFS: 11 mo	• Double refractory population • Transaminitis • Diarrhoea/colitis
Duvelisib <sup>2</sup>	PI3K delta gamma	Oral  Ph 2 double refractory iNHL ORR: 47% CR: 2% PFS: 9.5 mo	• Highly refractory population • ≥ Grade 3 neutropenia: 25% • ≥ Grade 3 diarrhoea: 15% • 5 deaths (n=129) treatment related
Umbralisib <sup>3</sup> (TGR-1202)	PI3K delta	Oral  Ph 1/2 relapsed CLL/NHL ORR (iNHL): 49% CR: 11% ORR (aNHL): 24% CR: 8% PFS (NHL/CLL): 27 mo	• Gr 3 neutropenia 16% • Gr 3 diarrhoea 3% • AST/ALT ↑6% (3% Gr 3/4)
Copanlisib <sup>4</sup>	PI3K alpha delta	IV  Ph 2 relapsed iNHL: ORR: 59%, CR:12% PFS: 11.2 mo Ph 2 relapsed aggressive NHL: <sup>5</sup> ORR: 27%	• ≥ Grade 3 hypertension: 23% • ≥ Grade 3 hyperglycaemia: 40% • Any grade diarrhoea/colitis: 18%/1% • 3 deaths (n=142) treatment related
INCB050465 <sup>6</sup>	PI3K delta	Oral  Ph 1/2 relapsed NHL FL: ORR 78% (7/9 patients) DLBCL: ORR 36% (5/14 patients) MCL: ORR 75% (3/4 patients)	• ≥ Grade 3 diarrhea/colitis 31%/6% • ≥ Grade 3 neutropenia: 21% • No ≥ Grade 2 transaminitis • Exploring weekly dosing beyond Week 9

CLL, chronic lymphocytic leukaemia; CR, complete response; DLBCL, diffuse large B-cell lymphoma; FL, follicular lymphoma; iNHL, indolent non-Hodgkin lymphoma; IV, intravenous; MCL, mantle cell lymphoma; ORR, overall response rate; PFS, progression-free survival; ph, phase; PI3K, phosphoinositide 3-kinase  
 1. Gopal A, et al. *N Engl J Med.* 2014;370:1008–18; 2. Flinn IW, et al. *J Clin Oncol.* 2019;11:912–22; 3. reference TBC; 4. Dreyling M, et al. AACR 2017. Abstract #CT149; 5. Dreyling M, et al. *Annals Oncol.* 2017;28:2169–78; 6. Ramchandren R, et al. ASCO 2017. Abstract #7530



## Phase II study of R2 in untreated indolent lymphoma: study design



- Planned enrollment
  - N = 50 follicular lymphoma (Grade I/II)
  - N = 30 small lymphocytic lymphoma (SLL)
  - N = 30 marginal zone lymphoma
- Groups analysed independently for response and toxicity

\*SLL patients: dose escalation of lenalidomide starting with Cycle 1: (10 mg, 15 mg, 20 mg)

R, restaging; SLL, small lymphocytic lymphoma ; R2, lenalidomide + rituximab

Fowler NH, et al. ASH 2012. Abstract 901



## Response rates

	SLL (N=30)	MZL (N=27)	FL (N=46)	All Patients	
				Eval* (N=103)	ITT (N=110)
ORR, n (%) <sup>1</sup>	24 (80)	24 (89)	45 (98)	93 (90)	93 (85)
CR/CRu <sup>1</sup>	7 (23)	18 (67)	40 (87)	65 (63)	66 (59)
PR <sup>1</sup>	17 (57)	6 (22)	5 (11)	28 (27)	27 (25)
SD, n (%) <sup>2</sup>	4(13)	3(11)	1(2)	8(8)	8(7)
PD, n (%) <sup>2</sup>	2(7)	0	0	2(2)	2(2)

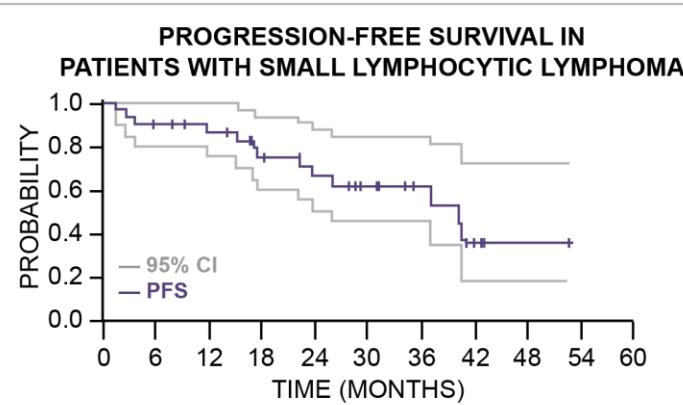
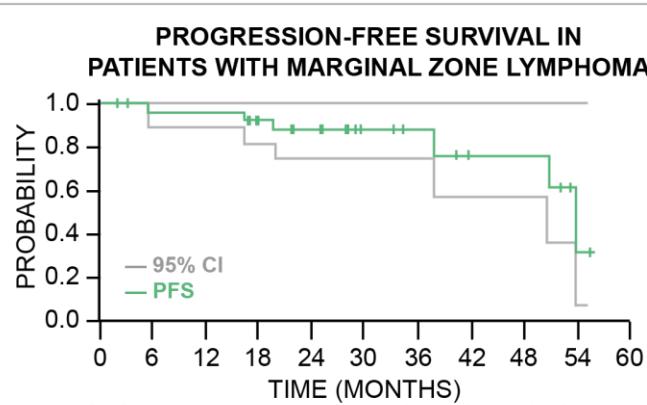
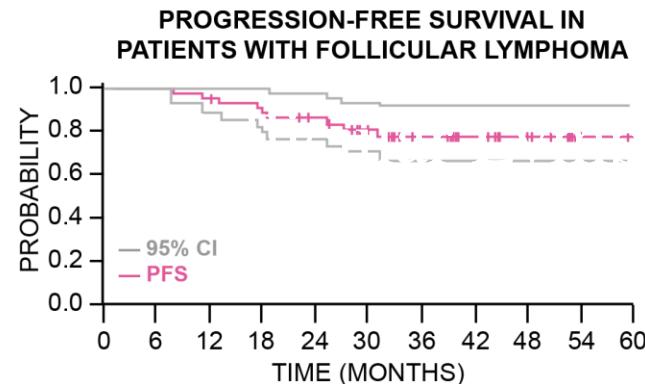
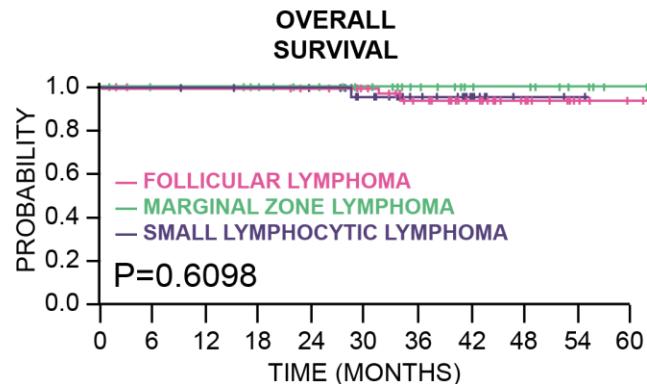
\* 7/110 patients were not evaluable for response: n=5 due to adverse events in Cycle 1 without response assessment, n=1 non-compliance and n=1 withdrawal of consent

CR(u), complete response (unconfirmed); Eval, evaluable; FL, follicular lymphoma; ITT, intent to treat; MZL, marginal zone lymphoma; SLL, small lymphocytic lymphoma

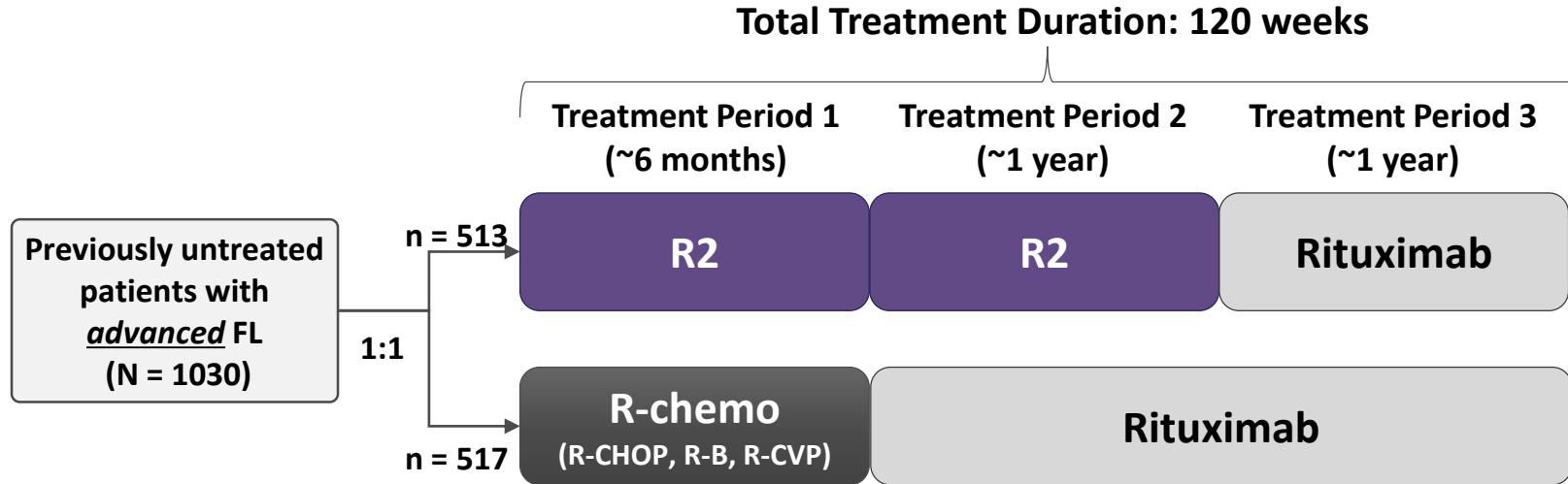
1. Fowler N, et al. Lancet Oncol. 2014;15:1311–8; 2. Fowler NH, et al. ASH 2012. Abstract 901



# Progression-free survival



# RELEVANCE - phase III study in untreated follicular lymphoma



## Stratification

- FLIPI score (0-1 vs 2 vs 3-5)
- Age ( $> 60$  vs  $\leq 60$  years)
- Lesion size ( $> 6$  vs  $\leq 6$  cm)

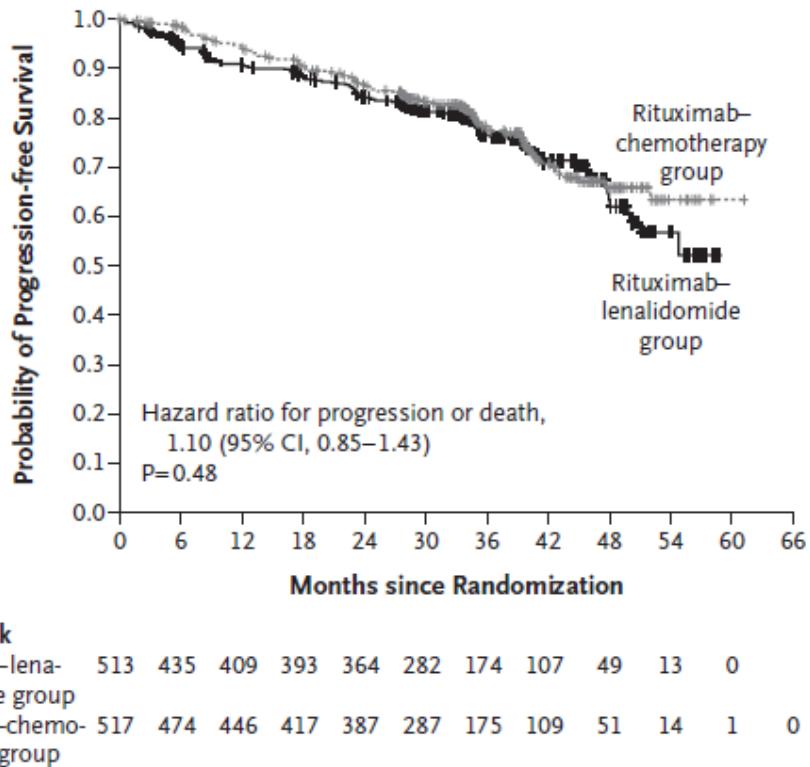
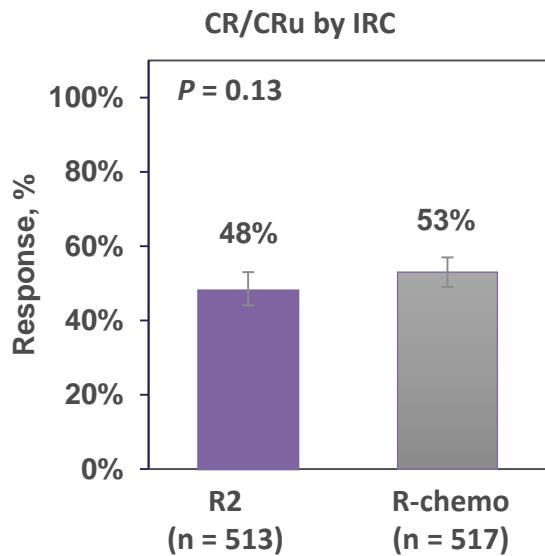
## Co-primary endpoints

- CR/CRu at 120 weeks
- PFS

CR, complete response; CR30, complete response at 30 months; CRu, complete response unconfirmed; FLIPI, follicular lymphoma international prognostic index; GELF, Groupe d'Etude des Lymphomes Folliculaires; R-B, rituximab, bendamustine; R-CHOP, rituximab, cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, vincristine, prednisone; R-CVP, rituximab, cyclophosphamide, vincristine, prednisone; R », lenalidomide + rituximab  
Morschhauser F, Fowler N, et al. *N Engl J Med* 2018;379:934-47

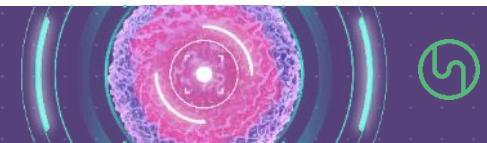
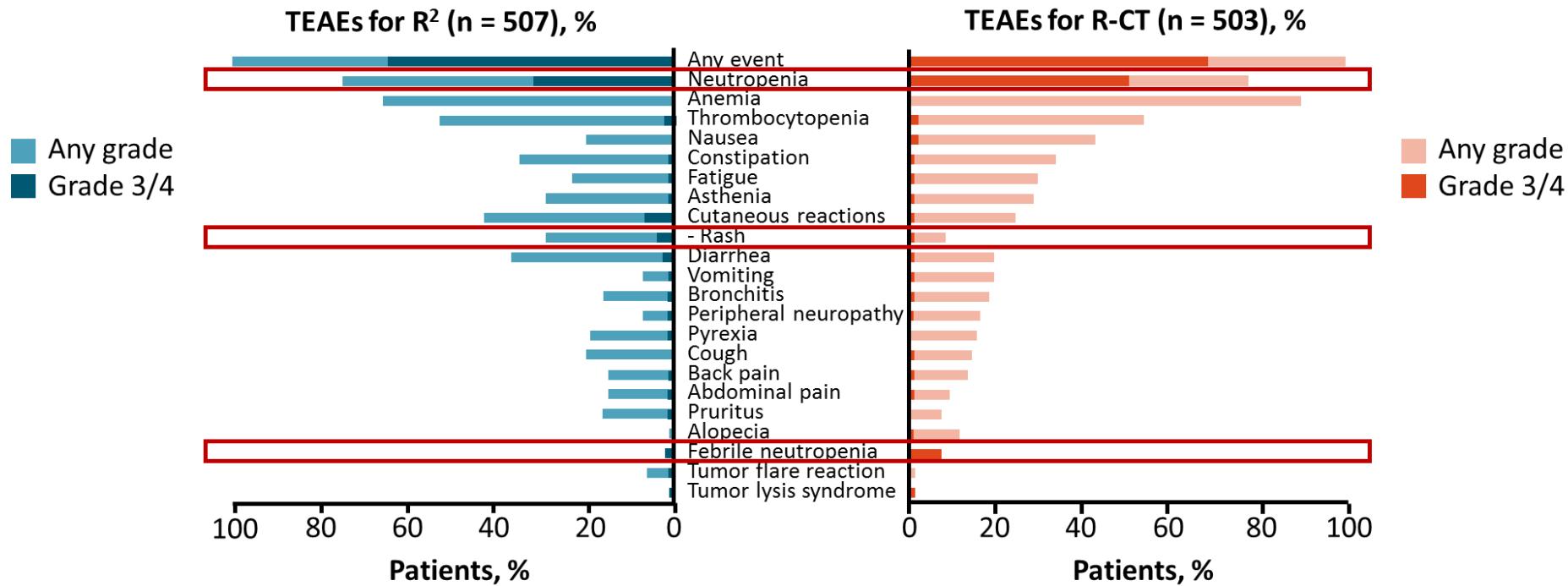


# RELEVANCE -primary endpoints

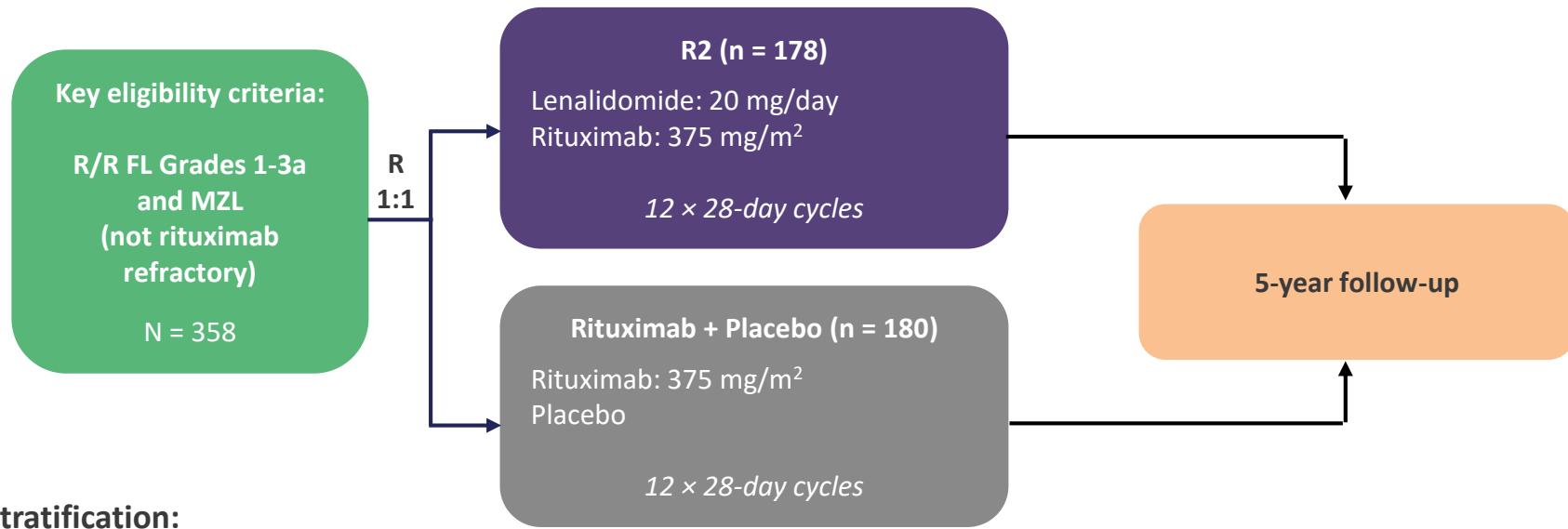


CR, complete response; CRu, complete response unconfirmed, R2, lenalidomide + rituximab;  
Morschhauser F, Fowler N, et al. *N Engl J Med* 2018;379:934–47

## RELEVANCE: adverse events



# AUGMENT - Phase III study of R2 in relapsed or refractory NHL



## Stratification:

- Prior rituximab (yes vs no)
- Time since last therapy ( $\leq 2$  vs  $> 2$  years)
- Histology (FL vs MZL)

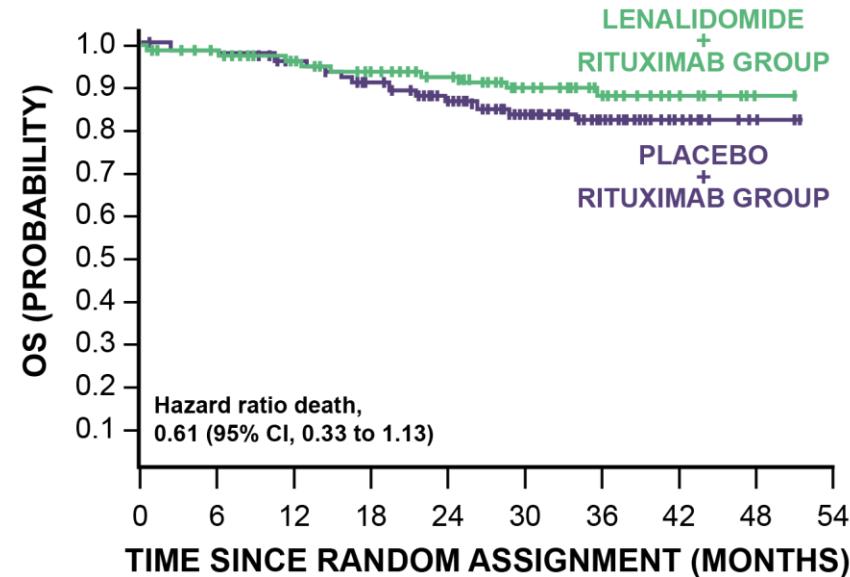
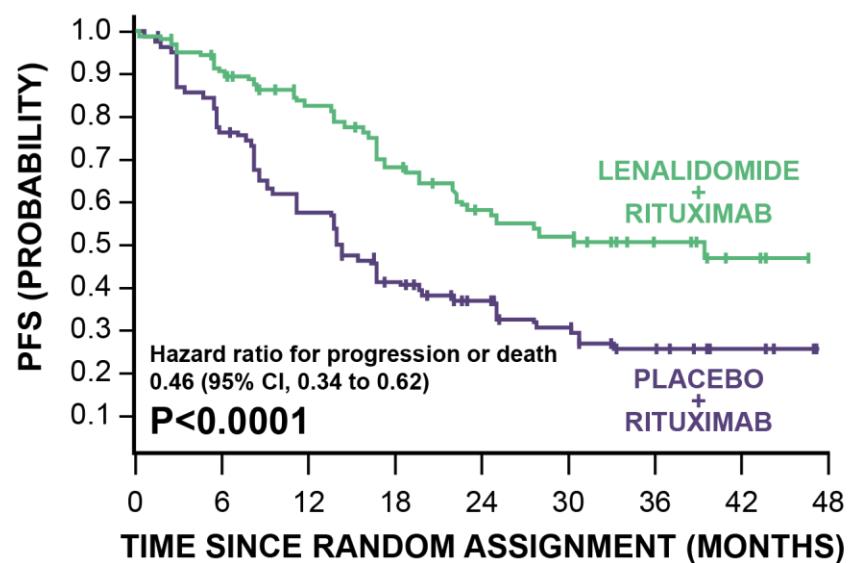
## Endpoints:

- Primary: PFS
- Secondary: ORR, OS, TTNLT

FL, follicular lymphoma; ITT, intent to treat; MZL, marginal zone lymphoma; NHL, non-Hodgkin lymphoma; ORR, overall response rate; OS, overall survival ; TTNLT, time to next anti-lymphoma therapy; R2, lenalidomide + rituximab.

Leonard J, et al. *J Clin Oncol*. 2019;37:1188–99

# AUGMENT – efficacy in ITT patients with relapsed or refractory NHL



NO. AT RISK

LENALIDOMIDE + RITUXIMAB	178	148	124	91	59	39	20	7	0
PLACEBO + RITUXIMAB	180	132	92	58	40	26	10	4	0

178	167	155	143	122	80	44	15	1	0
180	176	167	145	116	79	40	14	3	0

ITT – intended to treat ;OS, overall survival; PFS, progression-free survival.

Leonard J, et al. *J Clin Oncol*. 2019;37:1188–99

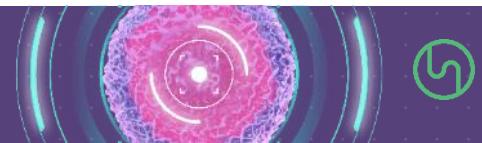
# AUGMENT – side effects

	Any grade AEs		Grade 3/4 AEs	
	R2 (n=176)	Rituximab + placebo (n=180)	R2 (n=176)	Rituximab + placebo (n=180)
<b>Haematological AEs</b>				
Neutropenia*, n (%)	102 (58)	40 (22)	88 (50)	23 (13)
Leukopenia, n (%)	36 (20)	17 (9)	12 (7)	3 (2)
<b>Non-haematological AEs</b>				
Diarrhoea, n (%)	55 (31)	41 (23)	5 (3)	0
Constipation, n (%)	46 (26)	25 (14)	0	0
Cough, n (%)	40 (23)	31 (17)	1 (1)	0
Fatigue, n (%)	38 (22)	33 (18)	2 (1)	1 (1)
Pyrexia, n (%)	37 (21)	27 (15)	1 (1)	3 (2)

\*Febrile neutropenia occurred in 5 patients (3%) and 1 patient (1%) in R2 and placebo plus rituximab groups, respectively; all occurrences were Grade 3 or 4.

AE, adverse event; R2, lenalidomide + rituximab

Leonard J, et al. *J Clin Oncol*. 2019;37:1188–99



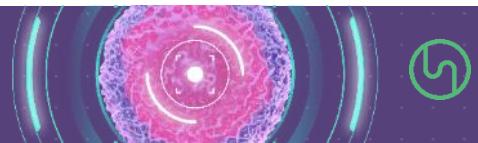
## Tazemetostat Phase II study

- Tazemetostat: first-in-class, oral inhibitor of EZH2
- Phase II, multi-center, open-label study in 6 cohorts of patients with R/R DLBCL or FL

Patients (N=210)	TEAEs	Treatment-related TEAEs
Adverse event (any), n(%)	190 (90)	123 (59)
Grade ≥3	91 (43)	38 (18)
SAE	81 (39)	20 (10)
AE leading to dose interruption	50 (24)	31 (15)
AE leading to dose reduction	8 (4)	7 (3)
AE leading to drug discontinuation or study withdrawal	26 (12)	5 (2)

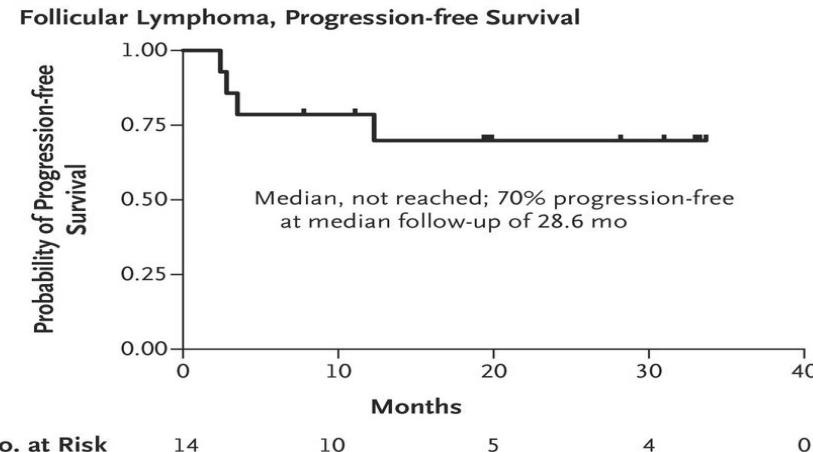
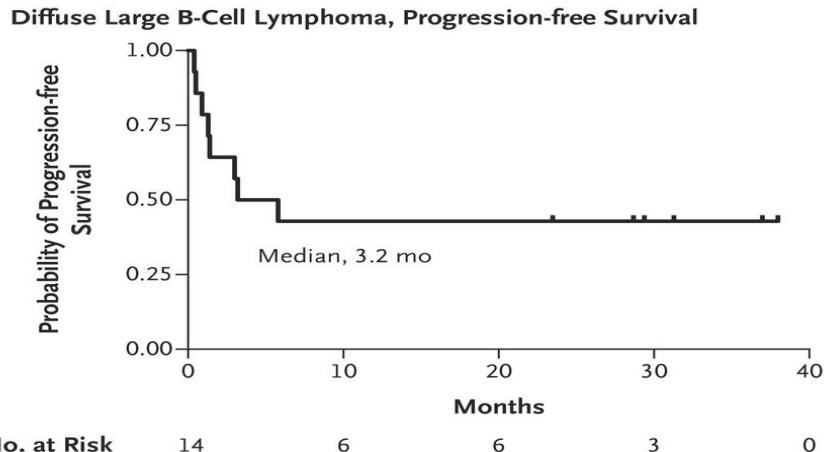
Best response	FL EZH2 MT (n=13)	FL EZH2 WT (n=54)	DLBCL EZH2 MT (n=17)	DLBCL EZH2 WT (n=119)
Objective response rate, n(%)	12 (92)	14 (26)	5 (29)`	18 (15)
Complete response	1 (8)	3 (6)	0	10 (8)
Partial response	11 (85)	11 (20)	5 (29)	8 (7)
Stable disease (SD)	1 (8)	23 (43)	6 (35)	22 (18)
SD study drug ongoing	1 (8)	12 (22)	1 (6)	4 (3)
Progressive disease	0	13 (24)	6 (35)	60 (50)

AE, adverse event; DLBCL, diffuse large B-cell lymphoma; FL, follicular lymphoma; MT, mutated; R/R, relapsed/refractory; SAE, serious adverse event; SD, stable disease; TEAE, treatment-emergent adverse event; WT, wild-type  
Morschhauser F, et al ICML 2017. Abstract #004



## CAR-T cells for FL

- CD19-directed CAR (CTL019)
- Patients with R/R DLBCL or FL
- Complete response rate: 10/14 patients with FL (71%; 95% CI, 42–92)



# Should we switch to 'chemo-free' regimens in follicular lymphoma?

## Chemotherapy Backbones PROS and CONS

- + Long term data available
  - + High efficacy rate
  - + Known toxicities
    - + Inexpensive\*
    - + Limited duration
- Mostly intravenous
- Associated with acute/late toxicity
- High Infection rate
  - Unselected
  - Genotoxic
  - Rarely curative



*\*Costs less than a Ferrari.*

## Biologic Backbones PROS and CONS

- + Improved QOL?
  - + Selected
  - + Mostly Oral
- Expensive\*\*
- Prolonged duration of therapy
  - Unknown long term AEs
  - Unpredictable toxicity
    - No biomarkers
- Single-agent modest activity

*\*\*Costs more than a Ferrari. (>1)*





# Round table discussion



Thank you