

MANAGEMENT OF CHRONIC LYMPHOCYTIC LEUKEMIA/SMALL LYMPHOCYTIC LYMPHOMA

TANYA SIDDIQI, MD

Associate Professor Director, Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia Program Department of Hematology & Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation City of Hope National Medical Center

Disclosures



- Consultant for AstraZeneca, BeiGene, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Celgene, Juno Therapeutics, Kite Pharma, and Pharmacyclics.
- On the Speakers Bureau for AstraZeneca, Janssen, and Pharmacyclics.

The off-label or investigational use of liso-cel, umbralisib, ublituximab, pirtobrutinib, zanubrutinib, and lisaftoclax will be discussed.

Objectives

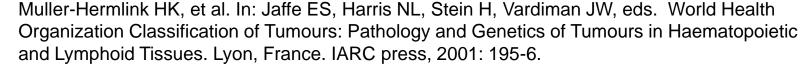


- Epidemiology
- Diagnosis and workup
- Monoclonal B-lymphocytosis
- Prognostic markers
- Staging
- Treatment initiation guidelines
- Frontline therapeutic options updates
- Relapsed/refractory therapeutic options updates

Epidemiology



- Chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL) is a low grade leukemic lymphocytic lymphoma; small lymphocytic lymphoma (SLL) is a nodal form of the same disease
- CLL/SLL is the most common hematological malignancy in the Western world; incidence is ~5/100,000 persons per year in the US
- Median age at diagnosis ~72 years
- Male predominance
- Higher in Caucasians
- ~10% patients with a family history of some lymphoma
- Exact etiology is unknown





Diagnosis and workup



- Rule out masquerading other lymphoma
- History and physical examination; trend of CBCs; B symptoms (fever, night sweats, unexplained weight loss); severe fatigue
- Review CBC/differential, peripheral blood smear, flow cytometry/immunophenotyping: peripheral blood lymphocytosis with the presence of ≥5000 monoclonal B-cells/uL is required
 - CD5/19/23 positive by flow; CD20 dim
- Bone marrow biopsy and imaging typically not needed for diagnosis



Monoclonal B-lymphocytosis (MBL)



 Presence of monoclonal lymphocytosis but with <5000 B-cells/uL in the peripheral blood and no accompanying lymphadenopathy or organomegaly by physical examination or radiographical imaging, cytopenias or diseaserelated symptoms is defined as MBL

Incidence in the US is 3%

• Progression to CLL/SLL can occur @ 1-2% per year



Prognostic markers



- Cytogenetics:
 - Del13q
 - Trisomy 12
 - Normal
 - Del11q
 - Del17p
 - Del6q
 - TP53 mutations
 - Notch1 mutations
 - SF3B1 mutations
 - Karyotype

- IGHV mutation status
- ZAP70
- CD38
- Lymphocyte doubling time (LDT)
- β2 microglobulin
- Stage of disease by Rai or Binet staging



Staging



Rai stage	Risk category	Clinical features
0	Low	Lymphocytosis alone
1	Intermediate	Lymphadenopathy
2	Intermediate	Hepato/splenomegaly
3	High	Anemia (<11g/dl)
4	High	Thrombocytopenia (<100,000/L)

Binet stage	Clinical features
А	HGB≥10 g/dl, platelets ≥100/L, <3 areas of lymphadenopathy/ organomegaly*
В	HGB≥10 g/dl, platelets ≥100/L, ≥3 areas of lymphadenopathy/ organomegaly*
С	Anemia (<10g/dl), thrombocytopenia (<100,000/L), or both

^{*}nodal areas: cervical [head and neck], axillary, inguinal (including femoral lymph nodes), spleen, liver



Who needs treatment?



International workshop on CLL (iwCLL) guidelines for treatment initiation

- progressive marrow failure as manifested by the development of, or worsening of, anemia and/or thrombocytopenia
- massive (≥6cm below left subcostal margin), progressive, or symptomatic splenomegaly
- massive (≥10cm in longest diameter), progressive, or symptomatic lymphadenopathy
- progressive lymphocytosis with an increase of >50% over a 2 month period or LDT of <6
 months
- autoimmune hemolytic anemia and/or thrombocytopenia that is poorly responsive to corticosteroids or other standard therapy
- constitutional symptoms defined as ≥1 of the following:
 - (i) unintentional weight loss of ≥10% within the previous 6months
 - (ii) significant fatigue (ECOG PS ≥2;inability to work or perform usual activities)
 - (iii) fevers >100.5F or 38C for ≥2 weeks without other evidence of infection
 - (iv) night sweats for >1 month without evidence of infection



High risk, previously untreated CLL



- CLL12 trial
 - Ph3
 - Early stage (Binet A)
 - Double blind
 - Ibru vs. placebo
- EVOLVE CLL/SLL study
 - Ph3
 - Within 1 year of diagnosis
 - Early vs. delayed ven/obin

Table 1 The CLL-International Prognostic Index³⁰

Prognostic factor	Points
Del17p on FISH or TP53 mutation	4
Unmutated IGHV genes	2
Serum β2 microglobulin >3.5 mg/L	2
Rai stage I–IV	1
Age >65 years	1

Cumulative CLL- IPI score	Risk category	5-year TFS ^a
0–1	Low risk	78%
2–3	Intermediate risk	54%
4-6	High risk	32%
7–10	Very high risk	0%

FISH fluorescence in situ hybridization, IGHV immunoglobulin heavy chain gene, TFS treatment-free survival



^aFor the Mayo validation cohort

How to pick the right treatment?



- Cytogenetic risk:
 - presence of del17p/TP53 mutation?
 - presence of unmutated IGHV?
- Stage of disease; lymphocyte doubling time and symptoms
 - Need for rapid debulking?
- Fitness of patient
 - Type of therapy
- Response to prior therapy



Frontline therapy

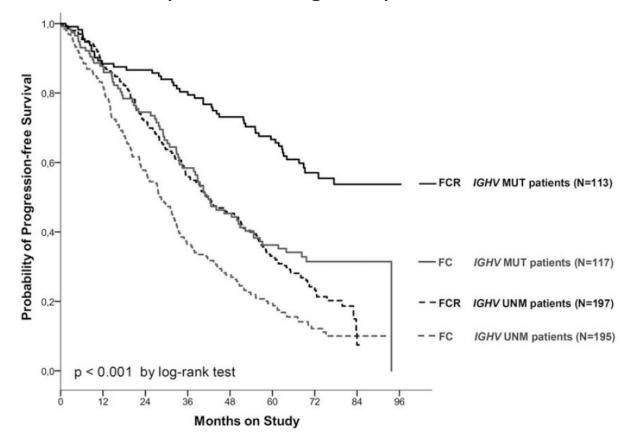


- Chemo-based treatment or not?
- Choice of novel targeted therapies?
- Single agent novel targeted therapy or combination?
- Fixed duration vs. MRD-based duration vs. indefinite treatment?

German CLL study group CLL8 study: FCR vs. FC



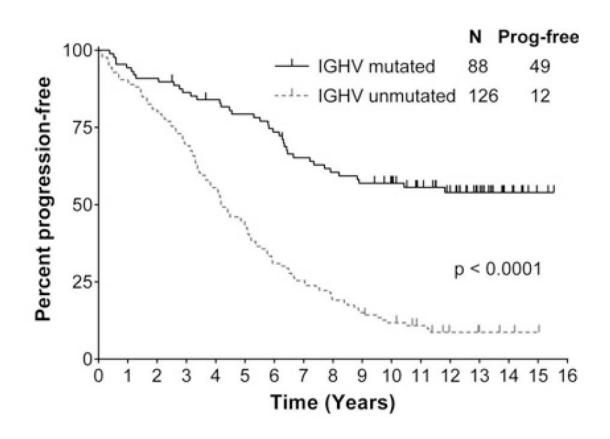
- Subgroup with exceptionally good outcome has right age/fitness, mutated IGHV genes and no del17p/del11q
- plateau after 4 yrs; MRD neg ≥10 yrs later cure?



Eichhorst BF, et al. Hematol J 2006; 107: 885-91 Hallek M, et al. Lancet 2010; 376: 1164-74 Eichhorst B, et al. Blood 2014; 124: abs.19



MDACC FCR experience

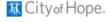


GCLLSG CLL10 trial: FCR vs. BR



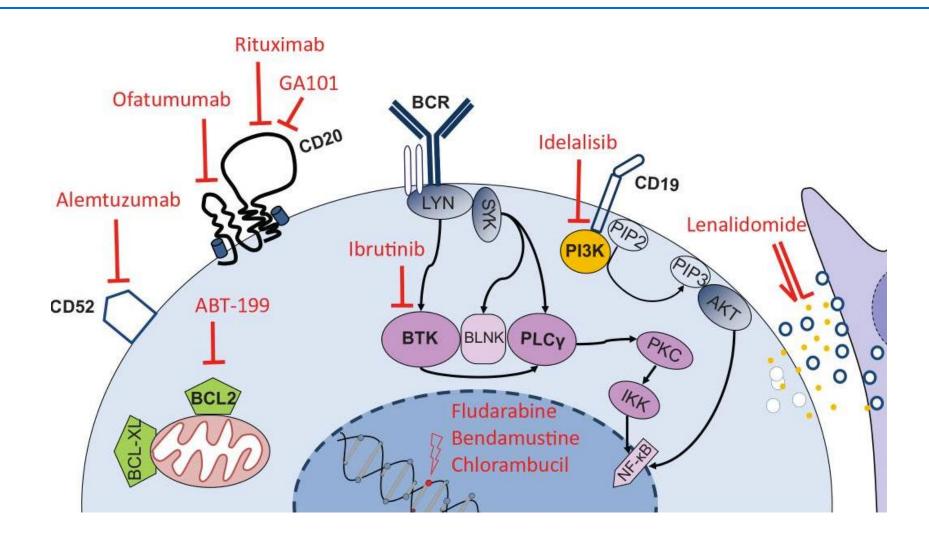
- Phase 3 randomized trial, fit CLL patients (ages 33-81 yrs) with advanced stage disease, previously untreated, no 17p deletion
- N = 564; 6 cycles of either regimen; median followup 37.1 months

	FCR	BR	P-value
ORR	95%	96%	1.0
CR	40%	31%	0.034 [higher MRD negative CRs in FCR arm]
Median PFS	55.2 months	41.7 months	0.001 [better in <65 years old]
OS at 3 years	91%	92%	0.897
Severe neutropenia	84%	59%	<0.001
Severe infections	39%	25%	0.001 [especially in older pts]



Targeted therapy

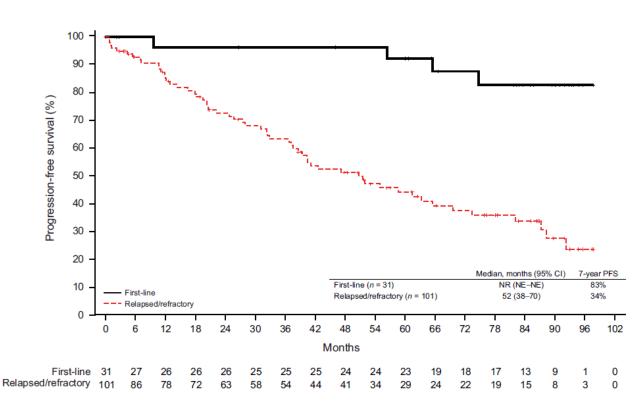




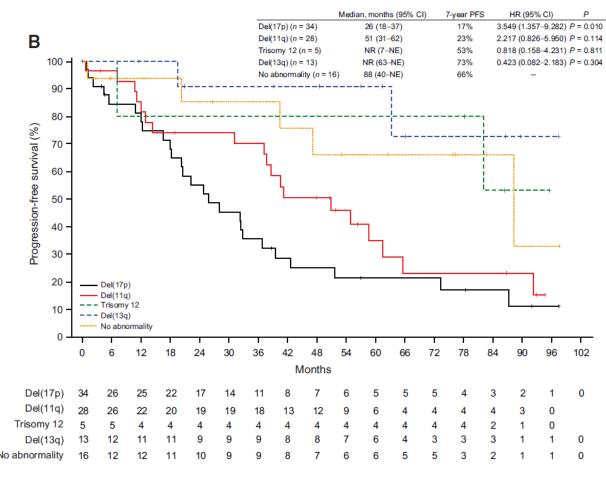


Ibrutinib 8-year followup: Pivotal Ph1b/2 PCYC 1102 trial

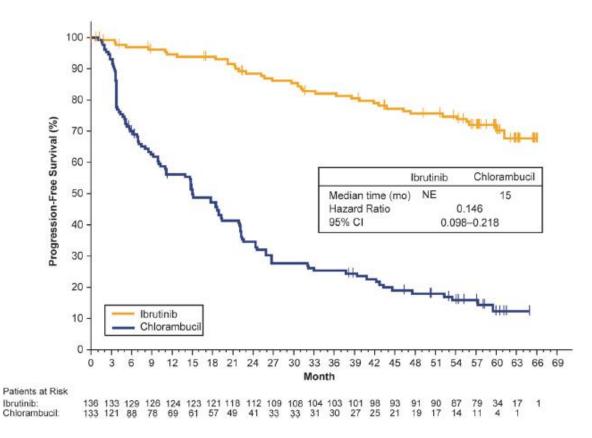




N= 132; frontline n = 31, age >/= 65 yrs; rel/ref n = 101



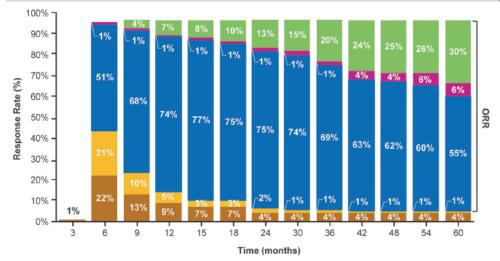
Ibrutinib 5 yr update: RESONATE 2 Ph3 trial



N= 269, age 65 yrs or older

	With del(11q)		Without	del(11q)
	lbr	Chl	lbr	Chl
60 mo PFS	79%	0	67%	18%
Median PFS, mo	NE	9	NE	18
HR (95% CI)	0.034 (0.0)	10, 0.108)	0.205 (0.13	32, 0.318)

	Unmutated IGHV		Mutated IGHV	
	lbr	Chl	lbr	Chl
60 mo PFS	67%	6%	81%	24%
Median PFS, mo	NE	9	NE	17
HR (95% CI)	0.105 (0.05	8, 0.190)	0.153 (0.06	7, 0.349)





Burger JA, et al. Leukemia 2020; 34: 787-98

Other FDA approved targeted therapies

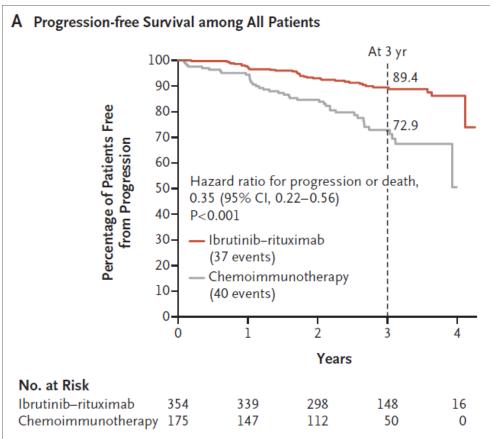


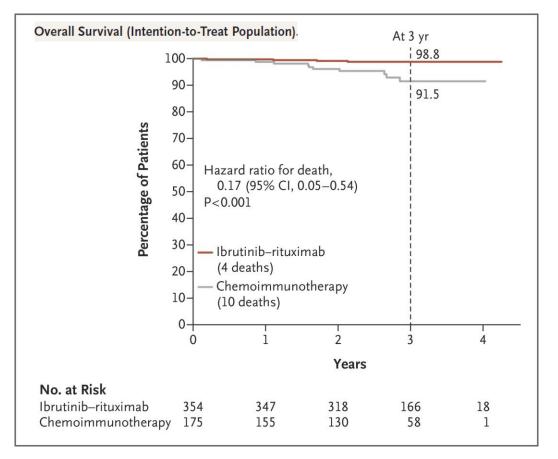
- Acalabrutinib covalent BTKi
- Venetoclax BCL2i
- Idelalisib PI3Kδi (further trials halted due to toxicities)
- Duvelisib PI3K δ and γ inhibitor
- Rituximab, ofatumumab, obinutuzumab CD20 MAbs

E1912 trial: ibru-R vs. FCR



- Ph3 trial with 2:1 randomization
- Age 70 yrs or less; no del17p/TP53 mutation patients
- N= 529





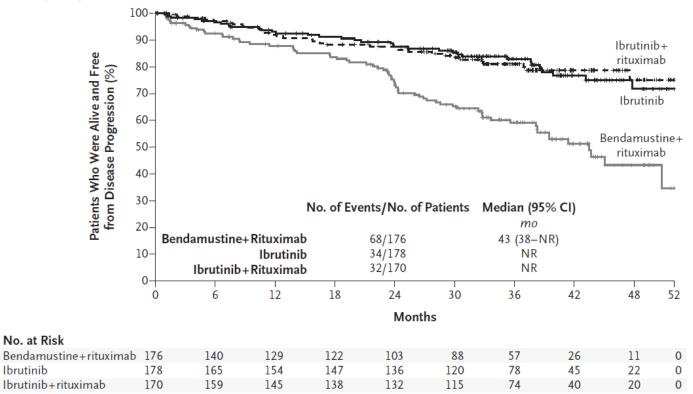


Alliance A041202 trial: ibru vs. ibru-R vs. BR



- Ph3 trial with 1:1:1 randomization
- Age 65 yrs and above
- N = 547

A Primary Analysis





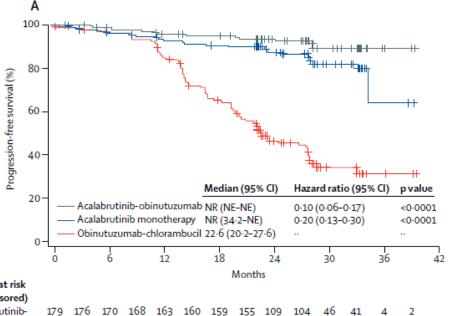
No. at Risk

Ibrutinib

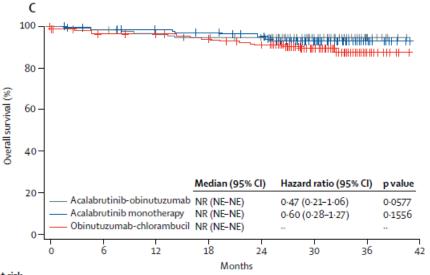
ELEVATE TN trial: acala vs. acala-G vs. clb-G



- Ph3 trial with 1:1:1 randomization
- Age 65 yrs and above (or younger with comorbidities)
- N = 535



Number at risk (number censored) Acalabrutinibobinutuzumab



Number at risk (number censored)

 Acalabrutinibobinutuzumab
 179
 178
 176
 173
 170
 168
 167
 165
 164
 122
 75
 47
 15
 3

 obinutuzumab obinutuzumab
 (0)
 (0)
 (0)
 (2)
 (2)
 (2)
 (3)
 (5)
 (6)
 (48)
 (95)
 (123)
 (155)
 (167)

 Acalabrutinib monotherapy
 179
 175
 173
 171
 169
 167
 166
 163
 159
 119
 77
 49
 19
 5

 monotherapy
 (0)
 (3)
 (4)
 (6)
 (7)
 (7)
 (8)
 (10)
 (11)
 (49)
 (91)
 (119)
 (149)
 (163)

 Obinutuzumabchlorambucil
 177
 168
 165
 163
 163
 160
 158
 154
 150
 111
 70
 44
 17
 4

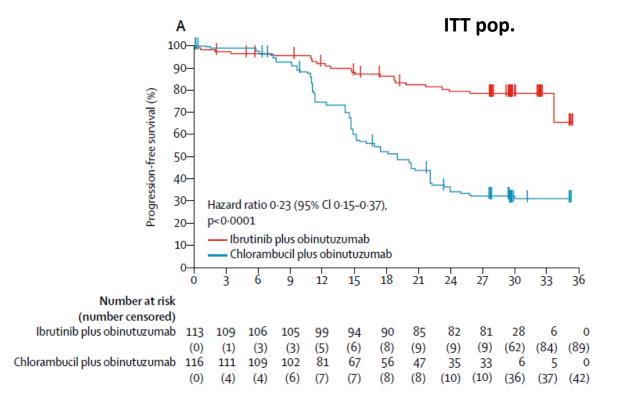
 chlorambucil
 (0)
 (6)
 (7)
 (8)
 (8)
 (10)
 (10)
 (12)
 (13)
 (51)
 (91)</

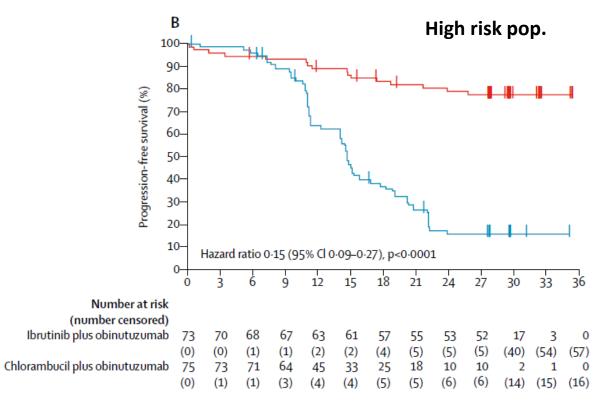


iLLUMUNATE: ibru-G vs. clb-G



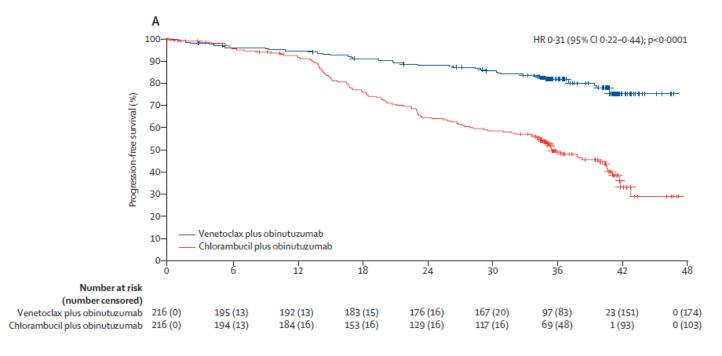
- Ph3 trial with 1:1 randomization
- Age 65 yrs and above OR younger with comorbidities
- N = 229

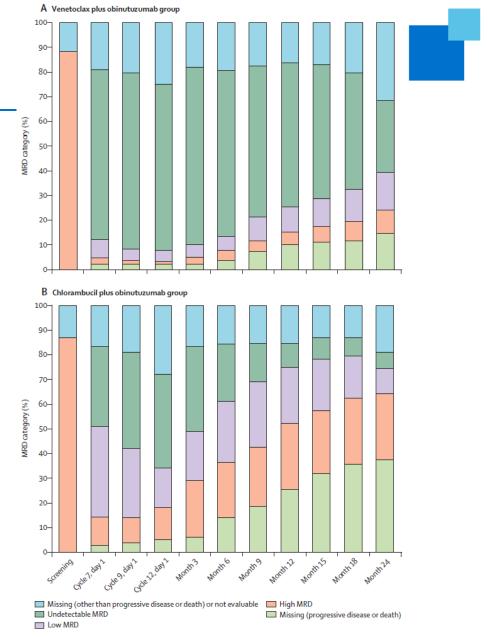




CLL14 trial: ven-G vs. clb-G

- Ph3 with 1:1 randomization
- Age 18 yrs and above AND with comorbidities
- N = 432







Combinations of targeted therapies - frontline

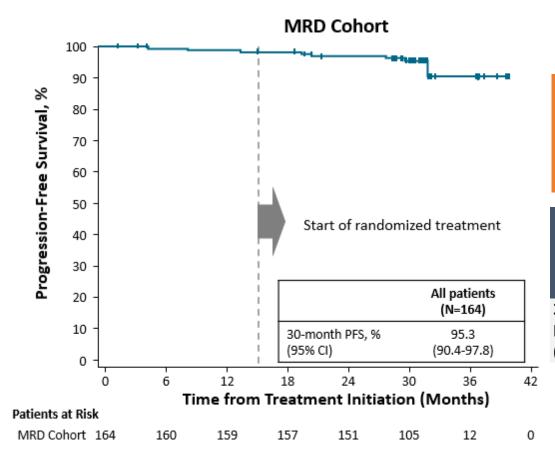


- CAPTIVATE ibru+ven trial MRD and fixed duration cohorts
- MDACC ibru + ven trial frontline and rel/ref patients
- IVO trial OSU
- AVO trial DFCI
- AVO trial OSU
- BOVen trial
- GLOW Ph3 ibru + ven vs. clb + obin trial (older pts)
- ECOG Ph3 iO vs. iVO trial (younger pts) accrual completed
- Alliance Ph3 iO vs. iVO trial (older pts) ongoing



Ibrutinib+venetoclax: CAPTIVATE Ph2 trial – MRD cohort





- Median follow-up on study: 31.3 months
 - Median follow-up post-randomization: 16.6 months
- 30-month PFS rates were > 95% across all randomized arms

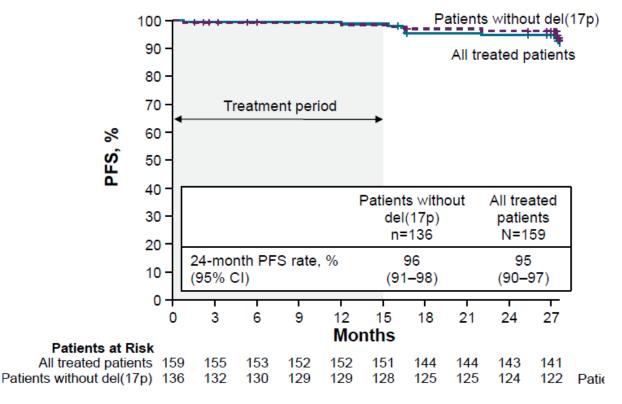
	Confirmed uMRD		uMRD Not Confirmed	
	Placebo (n = 43)	Ibrutinib (n = 43)	Ibrutinib (n = 31)	Ibrutinib + Venetoclax (n = 32)
30-month PFS (95% CI)	95.3 (82.7, 98.8)	100.0 (100, 100)	95.2 (70.7, 99.3)	96.7 (78.6, 99.5)

Ibru + ven: CAPTIVATE Ph2 trial - FD cohort



Median follow-up: 27.9 months (range, 0.8–33.2)

Progression-Free Survival

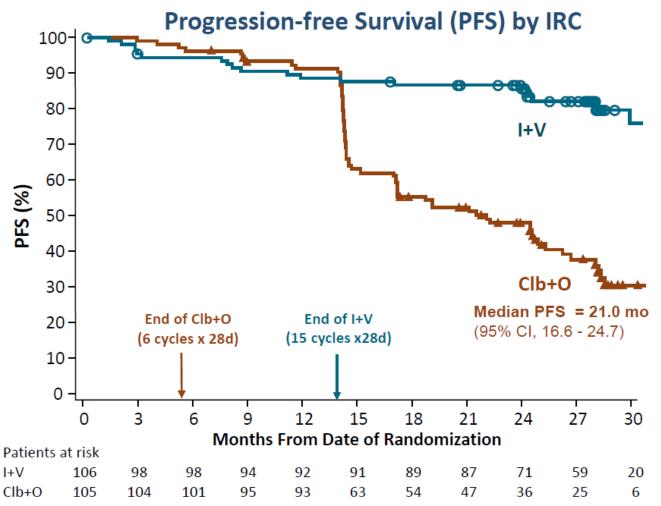


- 3 cycles of ibru lead in followed by ven ramp up and combination therapy for 12 cycles
- Primary endpoint met: CR/Cri rate of 56% with similarly high rates overall and in patients with high risk features of disease
- High rates of uMRD
- 2-yr PFS and OS rates >95%
- Estimated 2-yr PFS rates 93% in unmutated IGHV pts and 97% in mutated IGHV



GLOW Ph3 trial: ibru+ven vs. clb-G





- With a median follow-up of 27.7 months, IRC-assessed PFS for VenI was superior to OClb
- VenI reduced the risk of progression or death by 78% vs OClb
- PFS by INV assessment was consistent with IRC
- Rates of uMRD were significantly higher for VenI, particularly BM uMRD, which was 3 times higher vs OClb

Personal thought: Choice between BTKi and venG as frontline therapy



Favors BTKi:

- Longer follow-up data with ibrutinib
- Use of newer BTKi improves toxicity profile
- High ORR with ven after BTKi vs less data on the reverse
- Intense early monitoring needed with ven

Favors VenG:

- High CR and undetectable MRD
- Fewer long term side effects
- Time-limited therapy, ?avoid selection pressure for resistance
- Less cost?



Adverse event considerations



BTKi:

- Atrial fibrillation
- Hemorrhage
- Arthralgias
- o HTN
- o Rash
- Infections

Ven:

- Tumor lysis syndrome
- Infections

Relapsed/refractory therapy

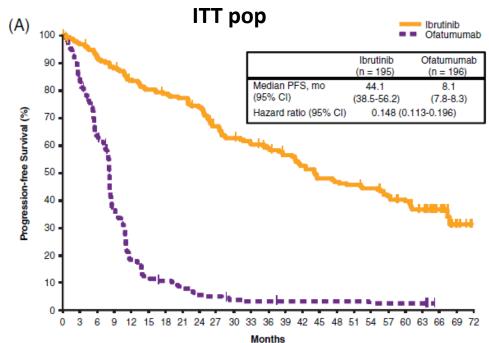


- Chemo-based treatment or not?
- Choice of novel targeted therapies?
- Single agent novel targeted therapy or combination?
- Fixed duration vs. MRD-based duration vs. indefinite treatment?

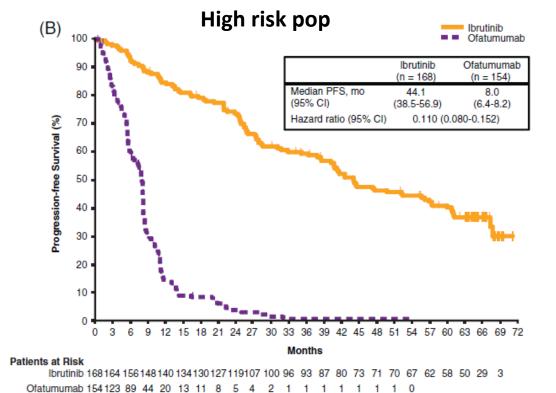
RESONATE Ph3 trial: ibru vs. ofa



- Ph3 trial with 1:1 randomization
- N = 391



Patients at Risk
| Ibrutinib 195189 179 171 161 154 149 146 138 123 115 110 105 99 92 84 82 80 77 70 65 56 33 5
| Ofatumumab 196159 120 67 34 22 19 14 10 9 6 5 5 4 4 4 4 3 3 3 3 3

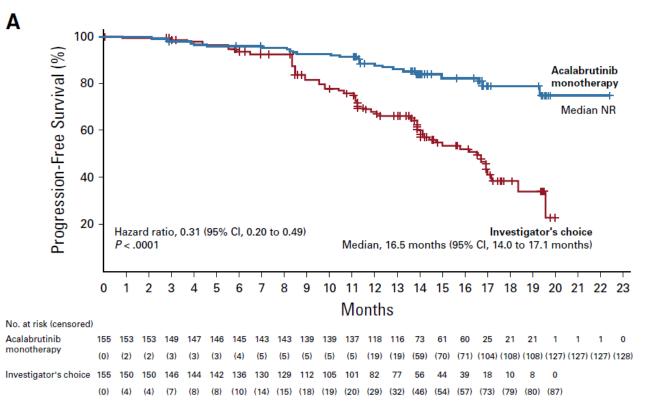


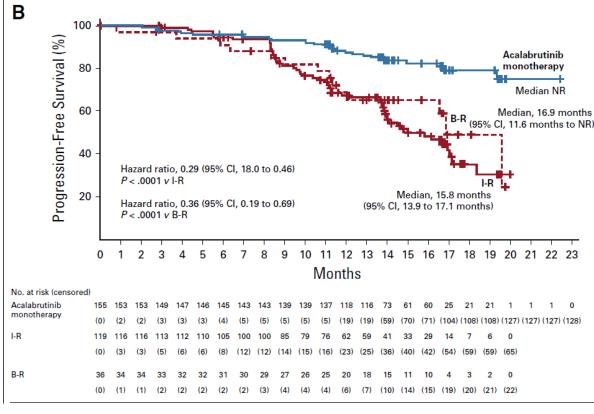
Munir T, et al. Am J Hematol 2019; 94: 1353-63

ASCEND Ph3 trial: acala vs. investigator's choice of idela-R or BR



- Ph3 trial randomized 1:1
- N = 310





ELEVATE-RR: acala vs. ibru

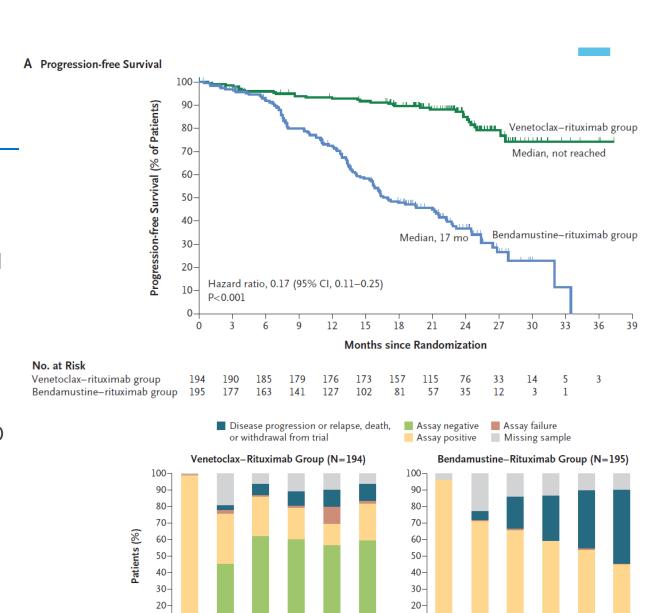


CL-00	6 (ELEVATE-RR)	Primary Endpoint	S	econdary Endpoints		
A Phase 3 S	of Clinical Int	erest			260	OS eriority ^b ?
	Any	grade	Grad	e ≥3		
Events, n (%)	Acalabrutinib (n=266)	Ibrutinib (n=263)	Acalabrutinib (n=266)	Ibrutinib (n=263)		
(ey Inclusion Criteria Cardiac events	64 (24.1)	79 (30.0)	23 (8.6)	25 (9.5)		
At least 1 of the follo - Presence of 17 Atrial fibrillation ^{a*}	25 (9.4)	42 (16.0)	13 (4.9)	10 (3.8)		
laboratory Ventricular arrhyth	mias ^b 0	3 (1.1)	0	1 (0.4)		
Bleeding events*	101 (38.0)	135 (51.3)	10 (3.8)	12 (4.6)	—— Acalat	
Stratification Major bleeding ever	ents ^c 12 (4.5)	14 (5.3)	10 (3.8)	12 (4.6)		
Hypertension ^{d*}	25 (9.4)	61 (23.2)	11 (4.1)	24 (9.1)	_	
ECOG 2 vs =1 Infections<sup e	208 (78.2)	214 (81.4)	82 (30.8)	79 (30.0)		
Number of prior to (1-3 vs > 4) ILD/pneumonitis*	7 (2.6)	17 (6.5)	1 (0.4)	2 (0.8)		+
SPMs excluding NMS	SC 24 (9.0)	20 (7.6)	16 (6.0)	14 (5.3)		"
					48 51	54 57
	d in bold yellow for terms with statistical differences.				13 3 15 8	1 0 2 0
*Two-sided P-value for ev	ent comparisons <0.05 without multiplicity adjustment.	Median follow-up: 40.9 months (range, 0.0	D-59.1).			



MURANO Ph3 trial: ven-R vs. BR

- phase 3 trial with 1:1 randomization
- N = 389 individuals
- 5-yr update (ASH2020):
 - median PFS with ven-R was 53.6 months, compared with 17.0 months with BR;
 - OS rates for VR and BR were 82.1% and 62.2%, respectively;
 - 3-yr post—EOT survival estimates for patients with uMRD and MRD were 95% and 85%, respectively.
 - Of the participants with uMRD, 32 did not have PD at EOT and remained with uMRD at 5 years; a total of 4 pts had PD, and 47 experienced MRD conversion over a median of 19.4 months PD developed in 19 patients over a median period of 25.2 months. Increased risk of MRD conversion and PD correlated with the baseline presence of del(17p), genomic complexity, and unmutated *IGVH*.



10-

Months since Day 1 of Cycle 1

Combinations of targeted therapies – rel/ref



- CLARITY ibru + ven trial
- Ibru + ven Stanford/COH trial

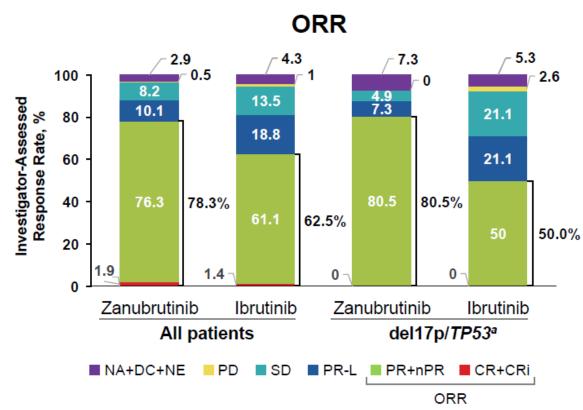
Novel therapeutics



- Zanubrutinib (covalent BTKi)
- LOXO305/pirtobrutinib (non-covalent BTKi)
- APG2575/lisaftoclax (BCL2i)
- Umbralisib/ublituximab (U2)
- Liso-cel CAR T cell therapy

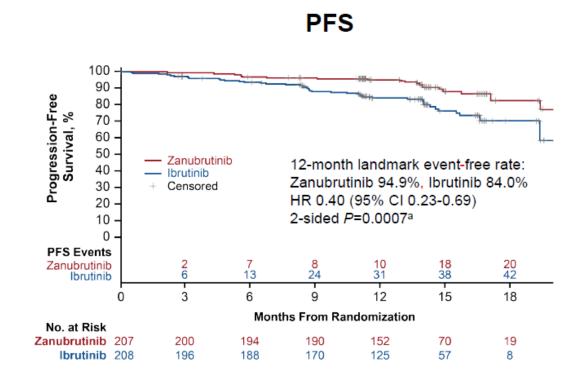
Zanubrutinib: ALPINE Ph3 trial of zanu vs. ibru (interim analysis)





 $^{\rm a} In$ patients with del17p, ORR was zanubrutinib 83.3% and ibrutinib 53.8%.

ORR was significantly^b higher with zanubrutinib vs ibrutinib



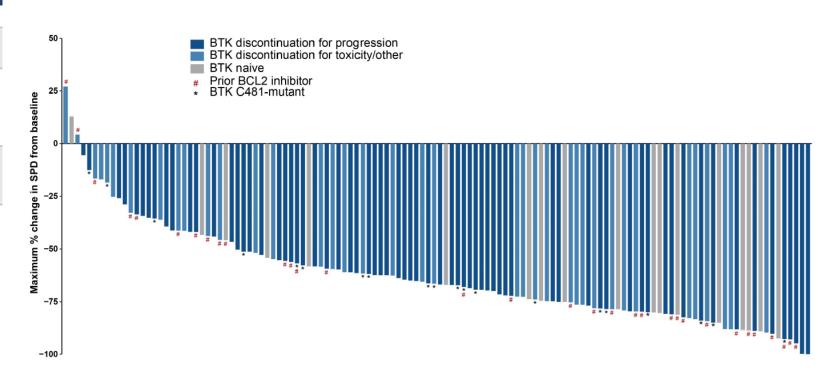
12-month overall survival rates were: Zanubrutinib 97.0% (11 deaths) and ibrutinib 92.7% (19 deaths) HR 0.54 (95% CI 0.25-1.16) 2-sided *P*=0.1081^c



Pirtobrutinib: BRUIN Ph1/2 trial; oral



Characteristics	n=170
Characteristics	n=170
Median age, years (range)	69 (36-88)
Female, n (%)	61 (36)
Male, n (%)	109 (64)
ECOG PS, n (%)	
0	87 (51)
1	69 (41)
2	13 (8)
Median number prior lines of systemic	
therapy (range)	3 (1-11)
BTK pre-treated	4 (1-11)
Prior therapy, n (%)	
BTK inhibitor	146 (86)
Chemotherapy	140 (82)
Anti-CD20 antibody	153 (90)
BCL2 inhibitor	57 (34)
PI3K inhibitor	36 (21)
Lenalidomide	14 (8)
Autologous stem cell transplant	0
Allogeneic stem cell transplant	3 (2)
CAR-T	10 (6)
Reason discontinued any prior BTKi, n (%)	
Progressive disease	98 (67)
Toxicity/other	48 (33)



Mato A, et al. Lancet 2021; 397: 892-901 Jurczak W, et al. 19th iwCLL2021 (virtual) meeting



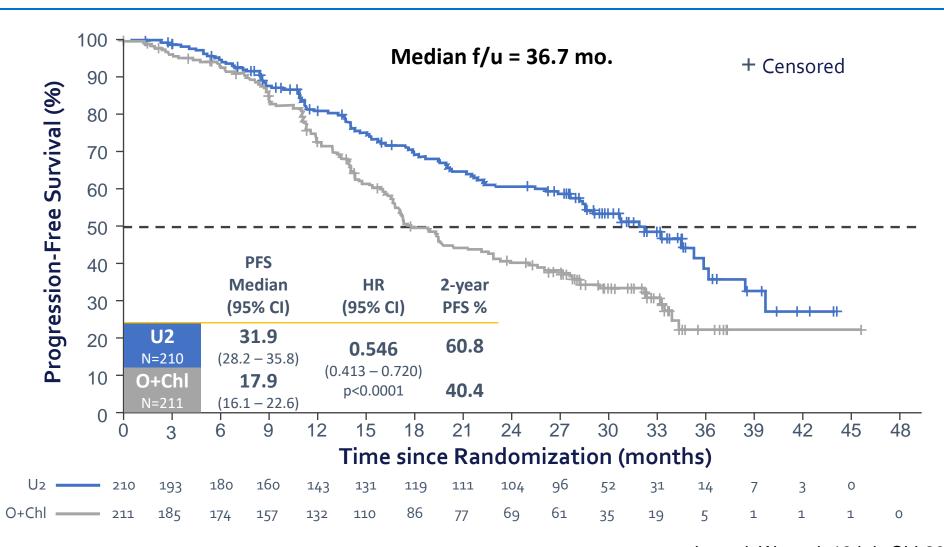
Lisaftoclax: first-in-human Ph1 trial; oral



- N = 36
- The most common treatment-related AEs, occurring in more than 15% of patients, were fatigue (27.8%), neutropenia (22.2%), diarrhea (19.4%), and anemia (16.7%).
- The most common AEs of grade 3 or higher included neutropenia (13.9%), nausea (5.6%), and platelet count decrease (5.6%).
- Among the 15 patients with CLL/SLL, the median duration of treatment was 9 cycles (range, 5-24 cycles). A partial response was seen in 12 patients (80%) with CLL/SLL; no CRs occurred in this group of patients. The median time to response was 2 cycles (range, 2-8 cycles) in this cohort.

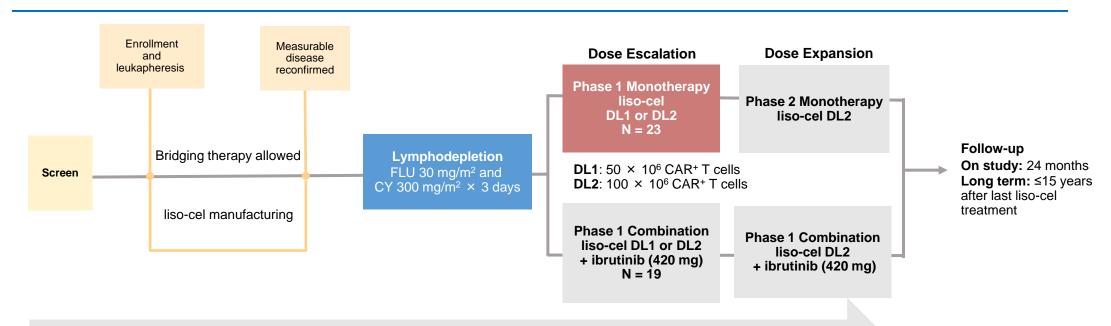
Umbralisib/ublituximab (U2): UNITY Ph3 trial of U2 vs. clb-G





CAR-T cell therapy: TRANSCEND-CLL004 trial





Continue or restart ibrutinib at enrollment through up to 90 days after liso-cel (or longer if clinical benefit)

Key eligibility (monotherapy cohort):

- R/R CLL/SLL
- Ineligible for BTKi or prior BTKi failure
- High-risk disease: ≥2 prior therapies failed
- Standard-risk disease: ≥3 prior therapies failed
- ECOG PS of 0—1

Key eligibility (ibrutinib combination cohort):

- R/R CLL/SLL, and
- Progressing on ibrutinib at enrollment, or
- High-risk features^c and received ibrutinib for ≥6 months with less than a CR, or
- BTK or PLCy2 mutations, or
- Prior ibrutinib with no contraindication to reinitiating ibrutinib



Toxicity: CRS and NE

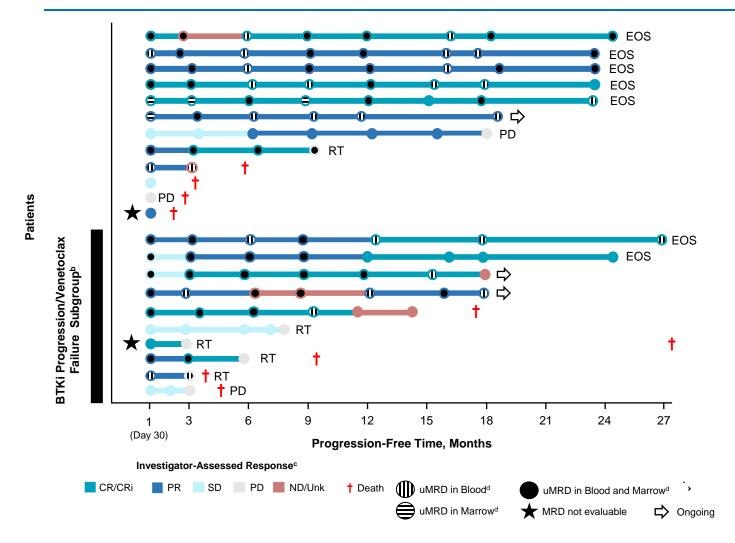


Parameter	Monotherapy cohort (n=23)	Ibrutinib combination cohort (n=23)
Cytokine release syndrome (CRS)		
All-grade CRS, n (%)	17 (74)	18 (78)
Median time to CRS onset, days (range)	3 (1–10)	7 (1—13)
Median duration of CRS, days (range)	12 (2–50)	5.5 (3—13)
Grade 3 CRS, ^a n (%)	2 (9)	1 (4)
Neurological events (NEs)		
All-grade NEs, n (%)	9 (39)	7 (30)
Median time to NE onset, days (range)	4 (2–21)	9 (5—13)
Median duration of NE, days (range)	20.5 (6–50)	7 (1—10)
Grade ≥3 NEs, ^b n (%)	5 (22)	4 (17)



Monotherapy cohort responses: 2-year followup





- •ORR was 82% (CR/CRi, 46%; PR, 36%), with 68% (n = 15/22)^a of patients achieving a rapid response within 30 days
- •27% (n = 6/22) of patients had a deepening of response
- Response was durable. At 12 months, 50% (n = 11/22) were in response and only 2 of these responders progressed beyond 12 months
- Four of the 15 patients with uMRD (blood) response (CR or PR) have progressed, with 3 due to Richter transformation (RT)
- The subgroup also demonstrated rapid and durable responses
- Four of 6 progression events in the subgroup were due to RT



Ibrutinib combination cohort responses: 10-month followup







Overall Conclusions



- Explosion of novel therapies for CLL in recent years, including monoclonal antibodies (like obinutuzumab), small molecule inhibitors of various kinases (like BTK and PI3K) and the antiapoptotic pathway (especially Bcl2), and CD19-specific CAR-T cells
- These novel, non-chemotherapeutic agents seem to have done away with the need for standard chemoimmunotherapy in CLL
- Combination studies are underway to improve outcomes further and possibly find a cure







TSIDDIQI@COH.ORG

