



# **Integrazione dei nuovi farmaci nel programma trapiantologico dei linfomi: un caso clinico**

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# STORIA CLINICA (1)

- Paziente di 42 anni, maschio; normopeso; forte fumatore (circa 30 sigarette al giorno); non bevitore di alcolici
- Professione : Assicuratore; Ciclista amatoriale
- Anamnesi Familiare: Padre deceduto per neoplasia polmonare, madre in abs, due germani in abs, un figlio di 5 anni in abs
- Anamnesi Pat. Remota: Nessuna rilevante comorbidity, ad eccezione di una rinocongiuntivite allergica
- Anamnesi Patologica Prossima: Dicembre 2011, dopo un intenso allenamento in bicicletta, comparsa di prurito diffuso. Assume antistaminico ed il prurito nei primi giorni si attenua in maniera significativa per poi ricomparire. Successivamente la sviluppa una tosse secca, febbre (37.5°C), sudorazione notturna.

# STORIA CLINICA

**Gennaio 2012:** si reca al P.S. del nosocomio cittadino per una crisi recidivante di dispnea ed il riscontro fortuito di una tumefazione in regione sovraclaveare sinistra

**Esame obiettivo:** presenza di edema sottocutaneo del volto con turgore delle vene giugulari; modesto pallore cutaneo; linfadenomegalie laterocervicali a sinistra di circa 2 cm; ipofonesi plessica e assenza del fremito vocale tattile e del murmure vescicolare in regione interscapolo-vertebrale e sottoscapolare sinistra

**Radiografia del torace:** presenza di versamento pleurico basale sinistro e slargamento del mediastino superiore soprattutto a destra.

**Il paziente è ricoverato in reparto di Chirurgia Toracica**

# ITER DIAGNOSTICO

**Ematochimica**: Emocromo: Globuli Bianchi 15.000 mmc (N.76%, E.15%, L6%, M3%), Hb 11.5 gr/dl normocromica, normocitica, Piastrine 445.000 mmc; LDH 1032 U/L, Ferritinemia alta, transferrina bassa, sidermia bassa; Beta 2 microglobulinemia 3 mg/L, HIV, HCV, HBV, TOXO, CMV ed EBV negativi per infezioni attive, VES 60 mm/h

**TAC del torace e dell'addome**: conferma del versamento pleurico e della presenza di linfadenomegalie nel mediastino antero-superiore (no bulky), escludendo linfadenomegalie addominali e/o l'interessamento viscerale epato-splenico

**Esame citologico del liquido pleurico**: presenza di linfociti, granulociti eosinofili, istiociti e cellule mesoteliali iperplastiche, ma non cellule con caratteri di malignità.

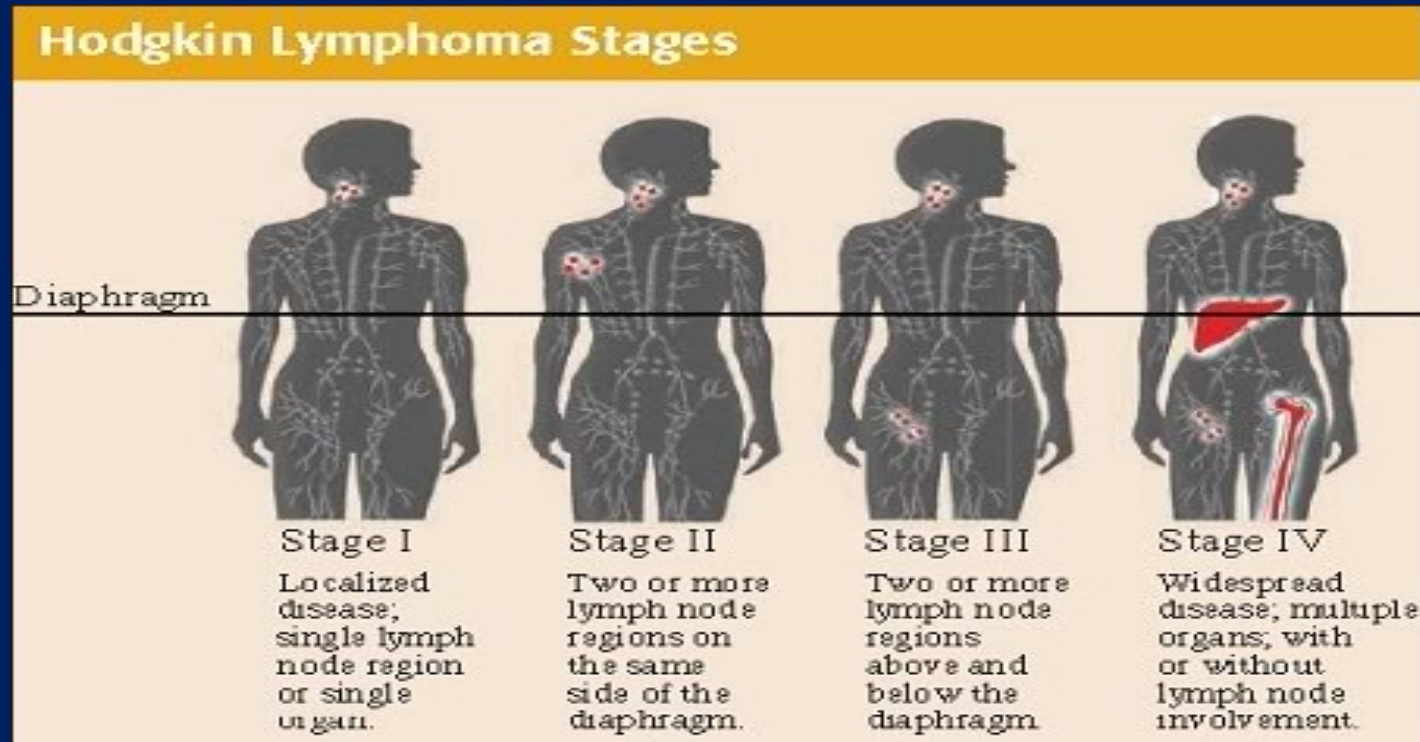
**Chiesta consulenza ematologica**

# ITER DIAGNOSTICO

Si decise di sottoporre il paziente alle seguenti indagini diagnostiche:

- a) **Biopsia linfonodale laterocervicale sinistra**: diagnosi istologica di Linfoma di Hodgkin classico-varietà scleronodulare
- b) **Biopsia osteo-midollare**: quadro complessivo di ipocellularità, con infiltrato linfo-plasmacellulare reattivo
- c) **Esame citofluorimetrico su sangue midollare**: presenza di linfociti T (CD3+, CD5+, con rapporto CD4/CD8 0.6) e linfociti B (CD19+, CD20+), con normale rapporto di distribuzione fra le varie popolazioni
- d) **18-FGT PET-TC**: conferma di linfadenomegalie sovraclaveari e nel mediastino antero-superiore

# DIAGNOSI



**Linfoma di Hodgkin classico-varietà scleronodulare**

**Stadio clinico di Ann Arbor: II B**

**Unfavorable (VES e sintomi B)- No-bulky disease**



# TRATTAMENTO DI PRIMA LINEA

Marzo 2012

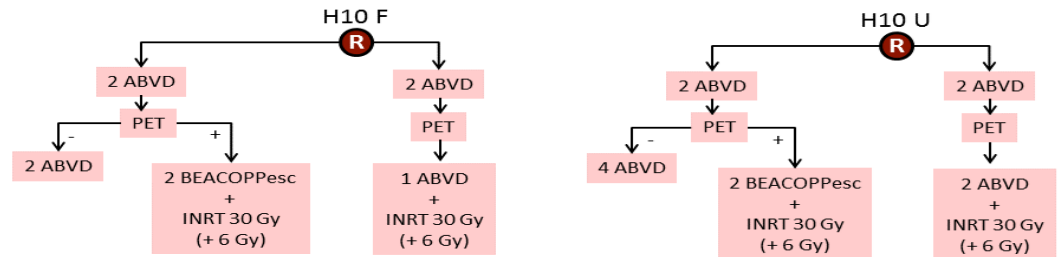
ABVD 2 cicli  
(interim PET)

ABVD 4 cicli

Agosto 2012

## H10: PET-Driven Therapy in Early HL

- EORTC/LYSA/FIL H10 study of 1137 patients with stage I/II HL



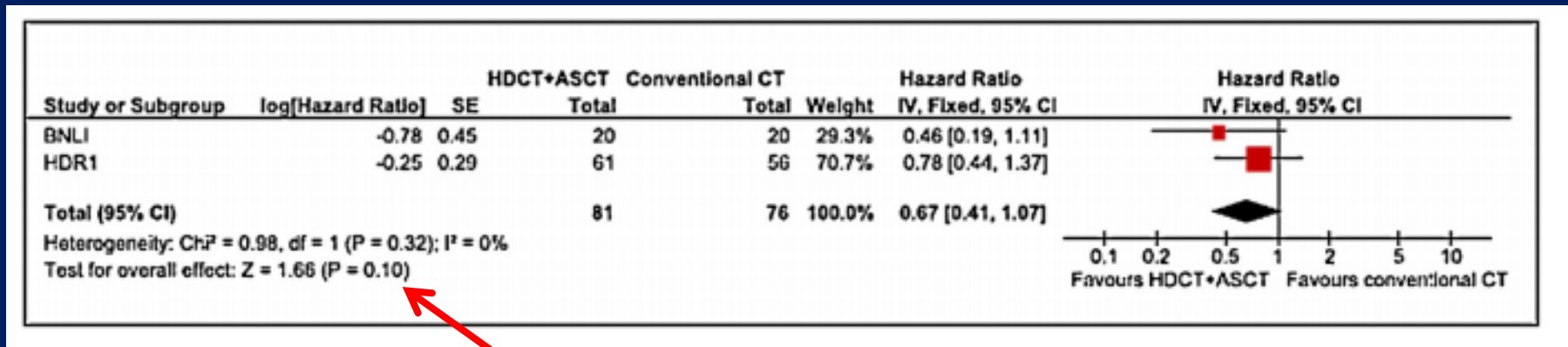
- Primary objective: noninferiority of chemotherapy alone vs combined modality in PET-negative
- Interim analysis: not met, closed accrual to PET-negative arms

Raemaekers JM, et al. *J Clin Oncol.* 2014;32:1189-1194.

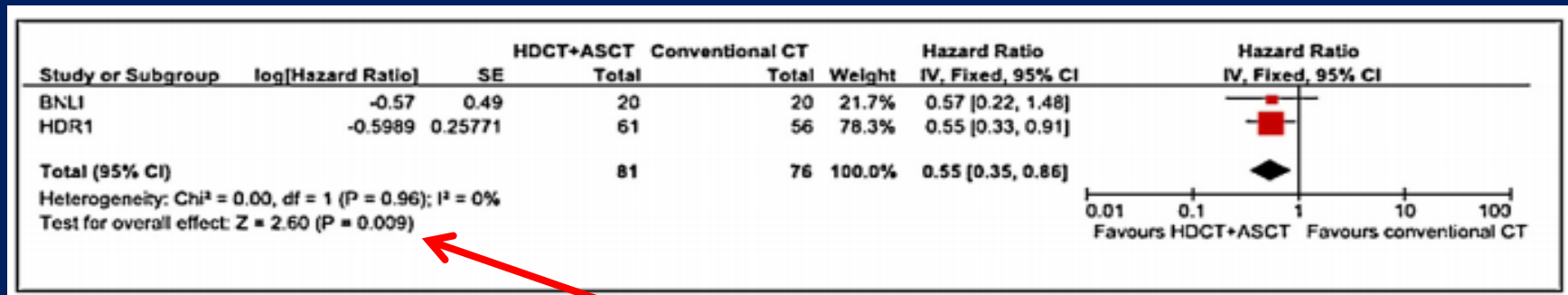
- La sintomatologia riferita, l'edema del volto, il turgore delle vene giugulari e le linfadenomegalie laterocervicali regredirono dopo 2 cicli.
- Interim PET, dopo 2 cicli : negativa
- PET-CT dopo 6 cicli: adenopatie iperfissanti in regione sovra-etroclaveare e base collo sx, ilo polmonare

# Treatment for relapsed/refractory HL patients

Currently, the standard of care is salvage chemotherapy followed by high-dose chemotherapy and consolidation with ASCT



Forest-plot for overall survival.



Forest plot: progression-free survival

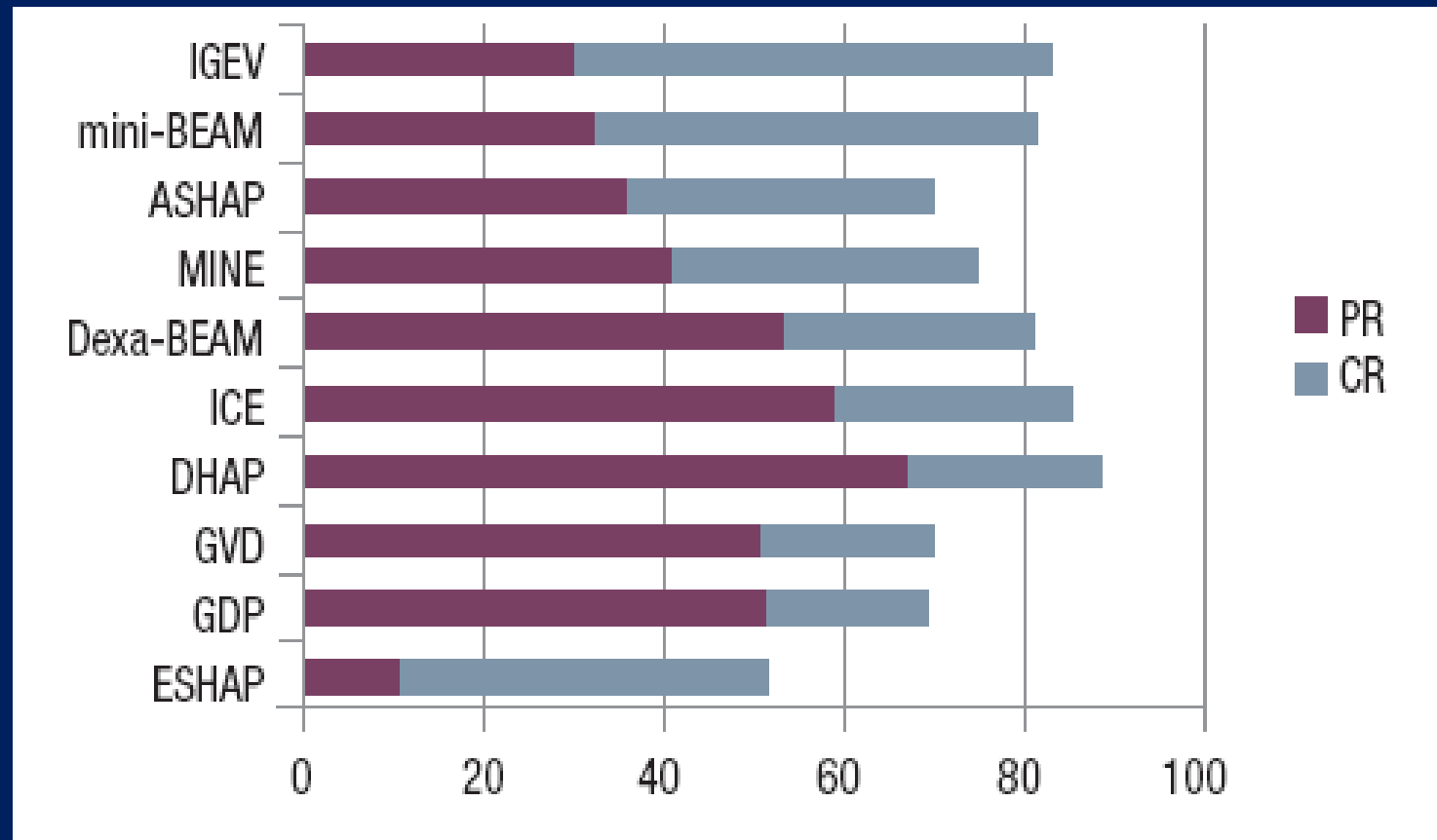
High-dose chemotherapy followed by autologous stem cell transplantation for patients with relapsed or refractory Hodgkin lymphoma: A systematic review with meta-analysis



# Treatment for relapsed/refractory HL patients

Several questions remain:

First, which salvage chemotherapy do we use?



# CHEMIOTERAPIA DI SALVATAGGIO

## Settembre-Dicembre 2012:

IGEV (Ifosfamide, gemcitabina, vinorelbina e prednisolone) 4 cicli.

Collezione cellule staminali al 2° ciclo ( $10 \times 10^6$  CD34+ cells/kg).

## *Several questions remain: Which salvage chemotherapy?*

### **BV + ESHAP as Second-Line Salvage Chemotherapy Before ASCT (BRESHAP)**

- Phase 1/2 (n=70) GELTAMO study of 3 doses of BV (0.9-1.8 mg/kg) + ESHAP as salvage chemotherapy after 1 prior therapy
- Initial results of phase 1

#### **Patients**

- 9 evaluable for response after 3 cycles

#### **Grade $\geq 3$ AEs**

- 2 neutropenia, 1 thrombocytopenia

#### **Stem cell mobilization**

- 9/9 after first or second cycle, with no Grade  $\geq 3$  AEs

#### **PET-CT before ASCT**

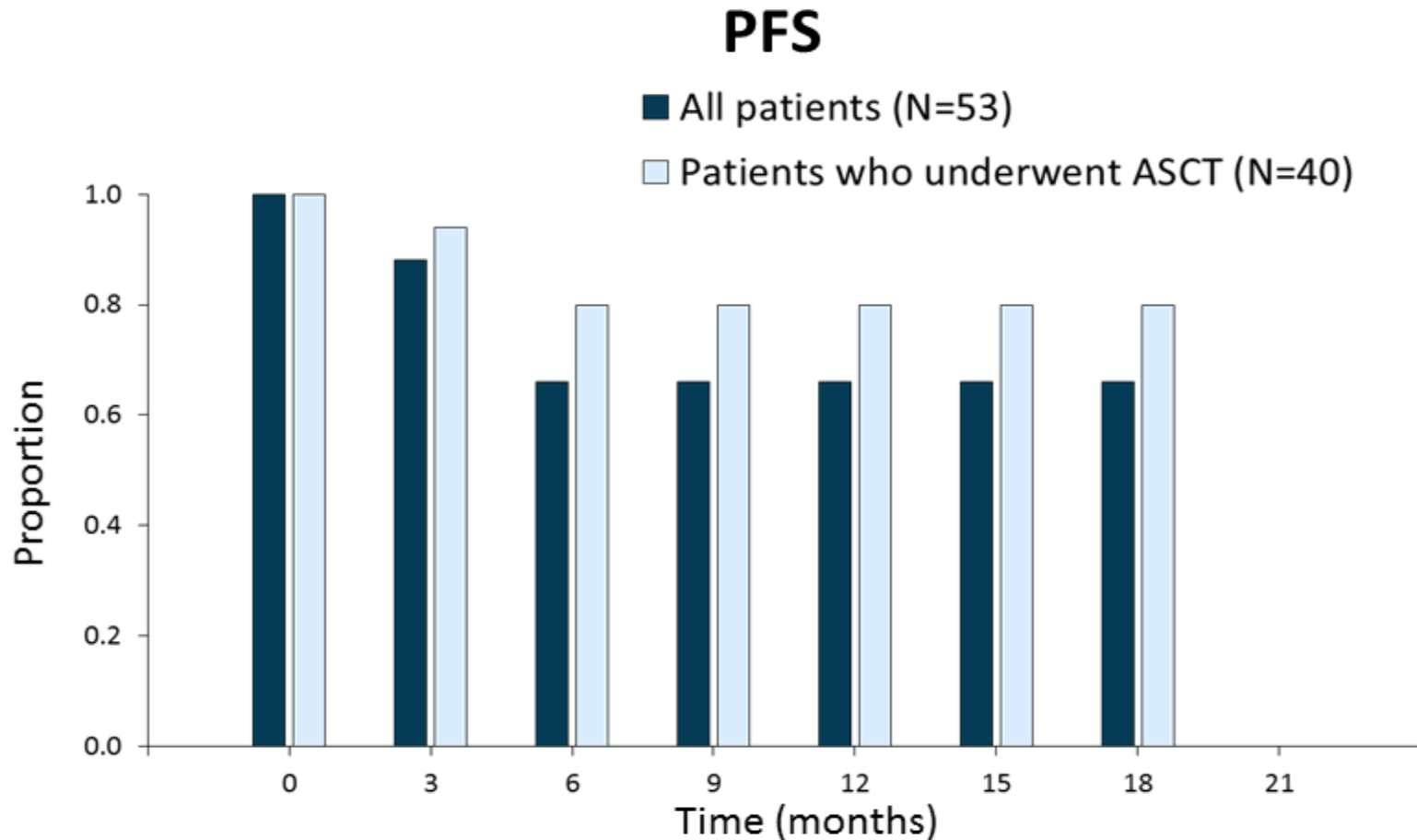
- 8/9 no evidence of disease
- 1 PET-positive with no lesions on CT

#### **ASCT**

- 6/9 transplanted; median 9 days neutrophil recovery, 10 days platelet recovery
- All 9 patients reached CR after ASCT

*Several questions remain: Which salvage chemotherapy?*

## **BV + Bendamustine as Salvage Chemotherapy Before ASCT**



## ***Several questions remain: Which salvage chemotherapy?***

# **BeGEV as Salvage Chemotherapy Before ASCT** (Bendamustine, Gemcitabine And Vinorelbine)

### **Responses**

- ORR 83%, CR 73%
- Overall: PFS 51%, OS 69%
- In responders: OS 86%

### **2-year survival**

- OS was higher for BeGEV-responding (CR+PR) patients compared with those in whom the induction regimen failed (2-year OS: 86% vs 0%,  $P < .001$ )

### **ASCT**

- 43 (88%) patients transplanted
- Median 11 days neutrophil recovery
- 12 days platelet recovery

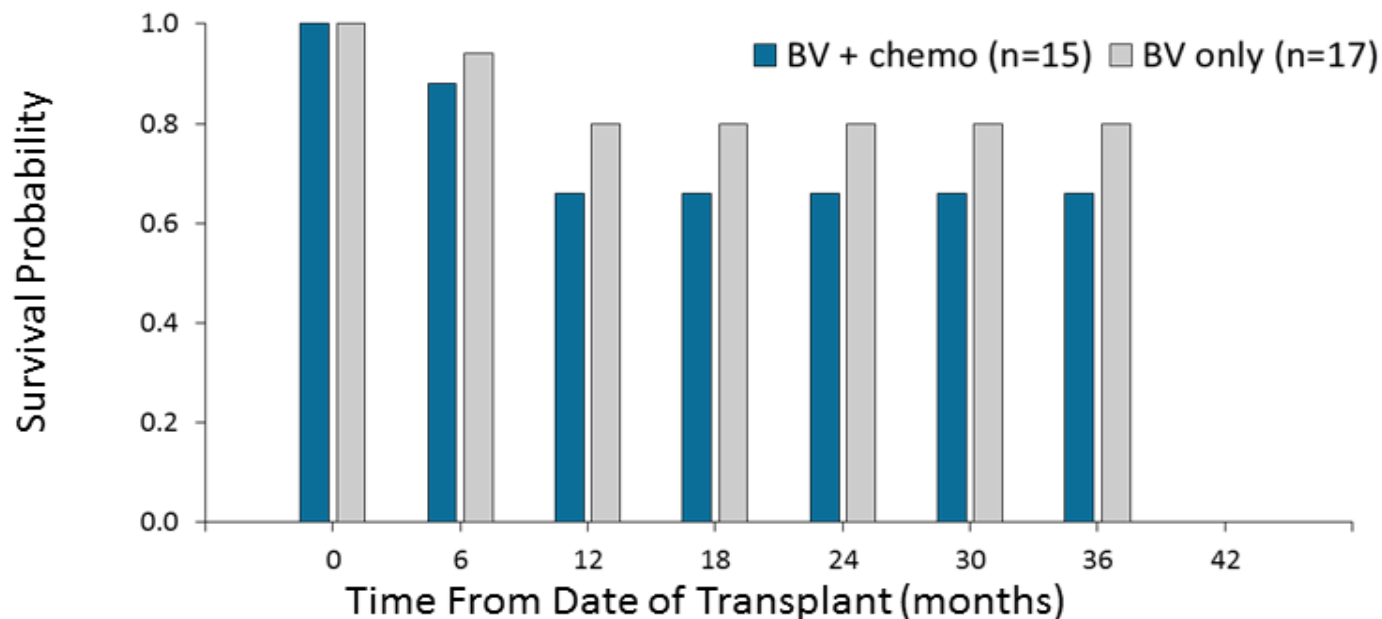
### **Grade $\geq 3$ AEs**

- 7 febrile neutropenia
- 4 infection
- 8 thrombocytopenia and neutropenia

# Several questions remain: Which salvage chemotherapy?

## BV (+ Chemotherapy) as First-Line Salvage Before ASCT

### PFS Stratified by Second Salvage Therapy



#### 18-month results by CR status

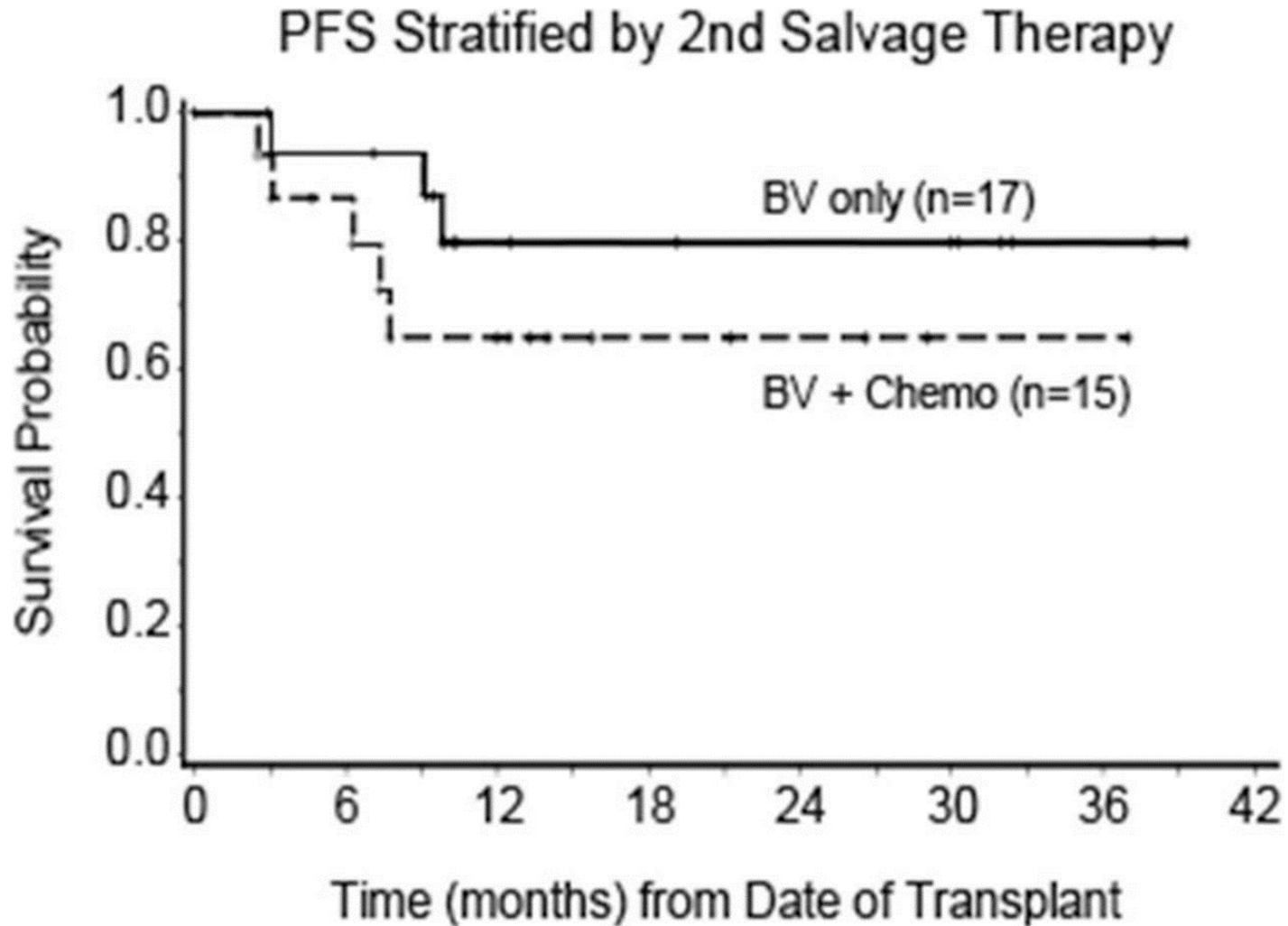
- PFS=78% CR, 50% non-CR
- OS=89% CR, 88% non-CR

#### 18-month PFS by additional chemotherapy

- PFS=80% BV only
- 65% BV + chemotherapy



# *Several questions remain: Which salvage chemotherapy?*



Robert Chen et al. Blood 2015;126:519

# CHEMIOTERAPIA DI SALVATAGGIO

## Settembre-Dicembre 2012:

IGEV (Ifosfamide, gemcitabina, vinorelbina e prednisolone) 4 cicli.

Collezione cellule staminali al 2° ciclo ( $10 \times 10^6$  CD34+ cells/kg).

18F-FDG PET scan pre-trapianto : riduzione globale della captazione a livello delle precedenti sedi linfonodali → risposta parziale

# ALTE DOSI DI CHEMIOTERAPIA

Non donatore disponibile (1 sorella HLA compatibile al terzo mese di gravidanza; 1 fratello aploidentico; attivazione registro MUD)

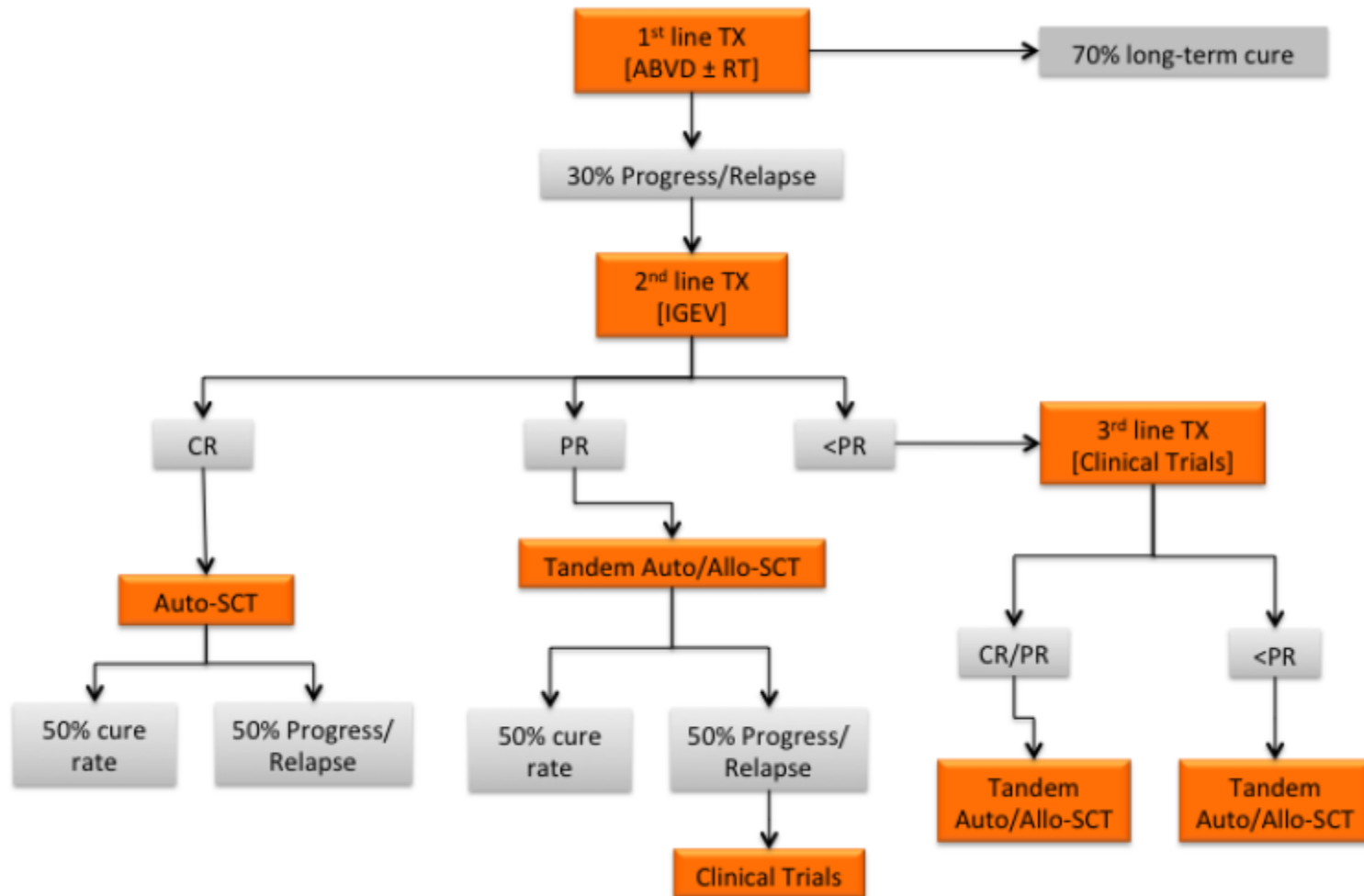
## Febbraio 2013:

Alte dosi di chemioterapia (Condizionamento FEAM– Fotemustine, Etoposide, Citarabina e melphalan) + ASCT (reinfusione di  $5 \times 10^6$  CD34+/kg). Mucosite WHO 3, Nausea/Vomito WHO 2, Diarrea WHO 1

## Maggio 2013: (3 mesi post-ASCT)

18F-FDG PET: Remissione Completa

# Treatment algorithm for relapsed/refractory cHL



# FOLLOW-UP

**Novembre 2013**: (8 mesi post-ASCT)

18F-FDG PET scan: captazione del segnale a livello sovraclavicolare dx laterocervicale sx (SUV 4.6). Esame Obiettivo: linfadenopatie palpabili. Biopsia linfonodale: Conferma della recidiva

## **Treatment for relapsed/refractory HL patients**

- Several questions remain:
  - which patients do we treat with standard of care?
  - which patients do we consider to be high-risk?

## Which patients do we consider to be high-risk?

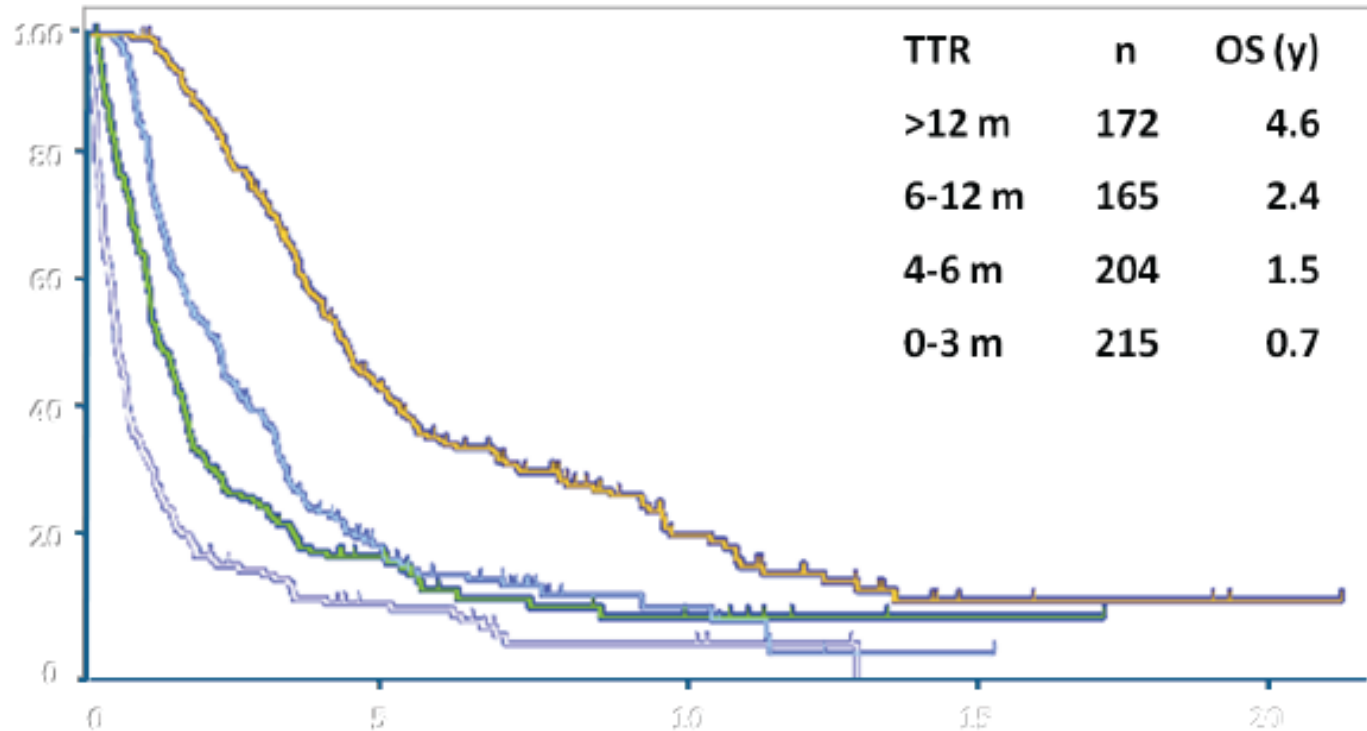
### Defining the High-risk Relapsed/Refractory HL Patient

Author	n	Factor	Outcome
Brice, et al. 1997	214	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Time to relapse (<math>\leq 12</math> m vs <math>&gt; 12</math> m)</li><li>– Stage III or IV at relapse</li><li>– Relapse within previously irradiated sites</li></ul>	0 RF: 4-yr OS 93% 1 RF: 4-yr OS 59% 2 RF: 4-yr OS 43%
Josting, et al. 2002	422	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Time to relapse (<math>\leq 12</math> m vs <math>&gt; 12</math> m)</li><li>– Stage III or IV at relapse</li><li>– Anemia at relapse</li></ul>	0/1 RF: FF2F 45% 2 RF: 32% 3 RF: 18%
Moskowitz, et al. 2001	65	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– B symptoms</li><li>– Extranodal disease</li><li>– CR <math>&lt; 12</math> mo</li></ul>	0/1 RF: EFS 83% 2 RF: 27% 3 RF: 10%
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Chemosensitivity</li></ul>	Very adverse factor in many analyses

The different scores are based on the most important factors: early relapse, (relapsing within the first year after first-line therapy), refractory disease, and tumor burden (higher risk with higher disease tumor burden)



# Overall Survival After Relapse After Autologous Stem Cell Transplantation

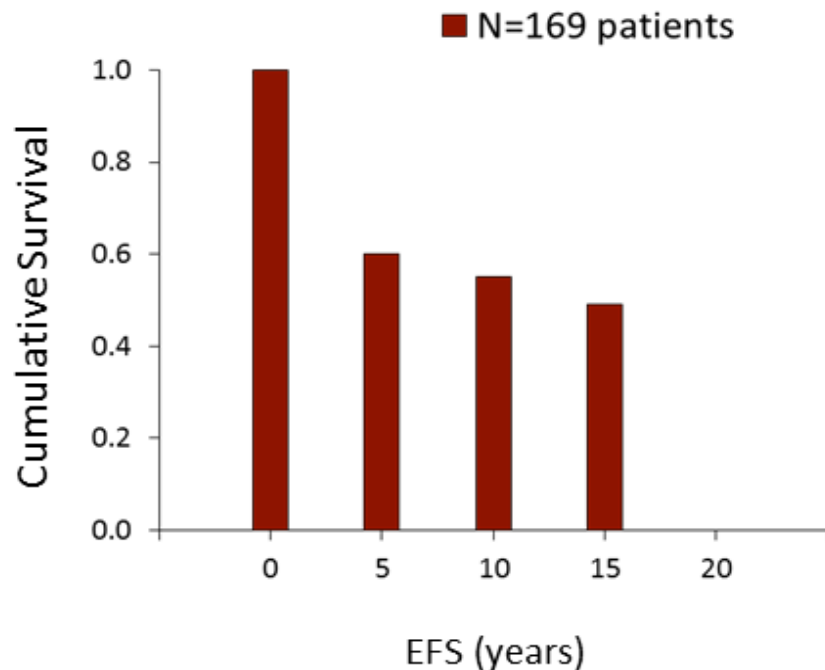


An analysis of 800 patients from Europe and the United States showed that three-quarters of patients relapsed within the first year after high-dose chemotherapy,

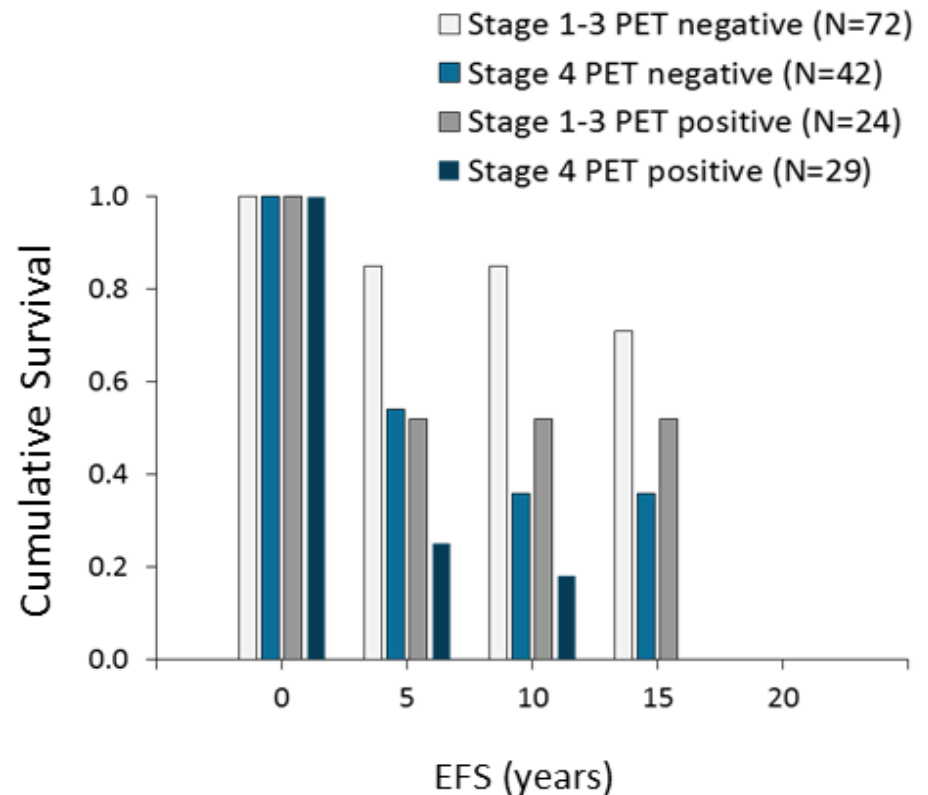
## Which patients do we consider to be high-risk?

# Predictors of Response in Primary Refractory HL

EFS for the Transplanted Patients



EFS for the Transplanted Patients Based on the Presence of pre-ASCT Risk Factors (PET Status and Stage)



Which patients do we consider to be high-risk?

## RisPACT: Risk Factors Post-ASCT

- **Goal:** identify and validate risk factors for survival post-ASCT
- **Patient population:** 656 patients treated with single ASCT, plus separate validation cohort of 390 patients
- **Risk factors represent different dimensions:**
  - Spread of disease = stage IV disease
  - Proliferation rate = time to relapse  $\leq$  3 months
  - Patient constitution = ECOG PS  $\geq$  1
  - Tumor mass = bulk  $\geq$  5 cm
  - Chemosensitivity = nonresponse to salvage therapy (< PR or PET-positive residues)

## Which patients do we consider to be high-risk?

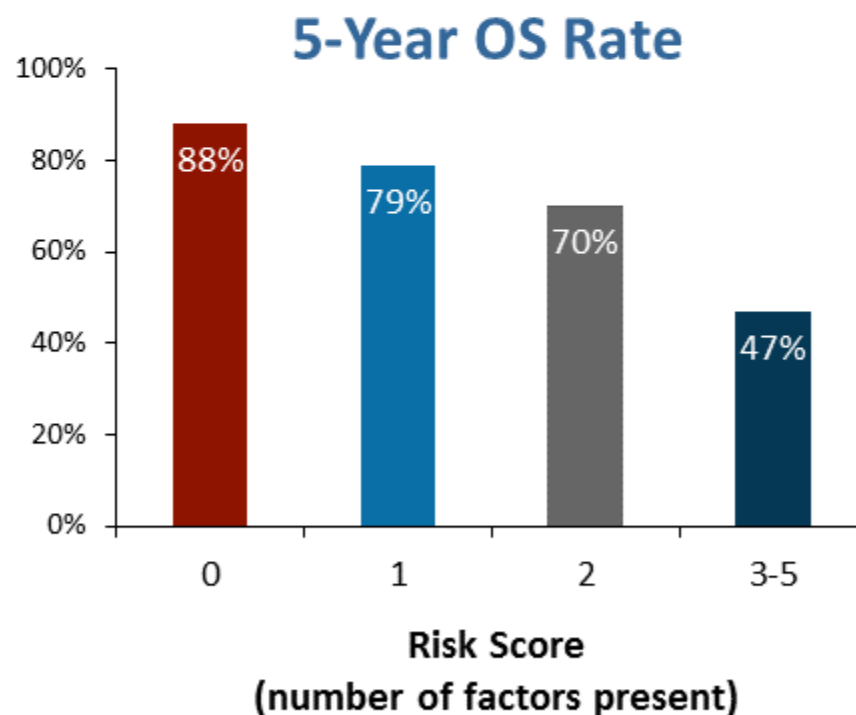
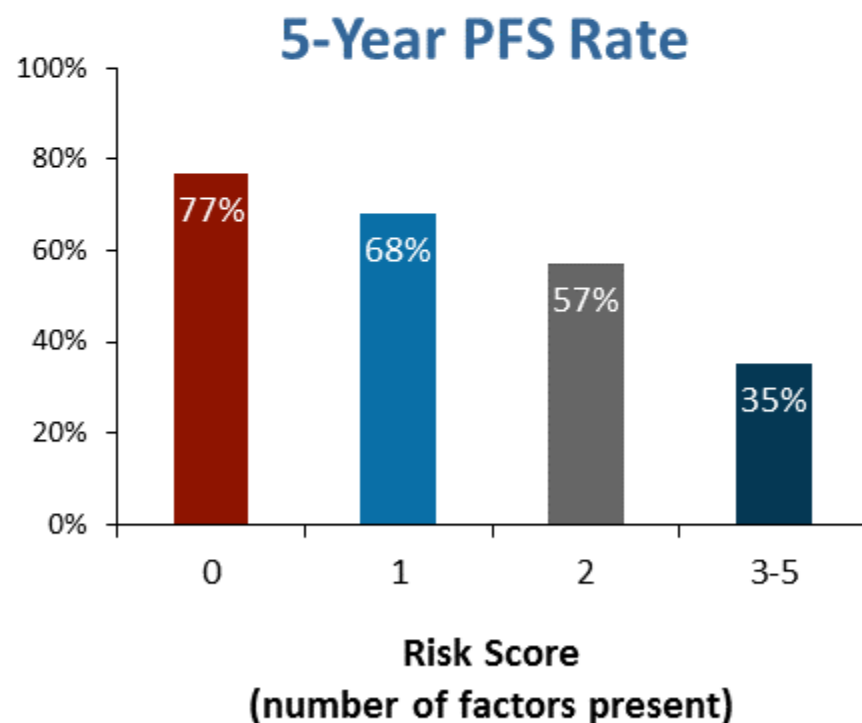
# Prognostic Score for PFS After ASCT in HL

	5-Year PFS	5-Year OS	Multivariate Analysis
<b>Stage IV disease</b>			
Yes	66.9%	76.6%	
No	48.1%	58.1%	HR 1.85, <i>P</i> =.0009
<b>TTR ≤3 months</b>			
Yes	63.7%	75.4%	
No	45.6%	47.9%	HR 1.96, <i>P</i> =.0261
<b>ECOG PS ≥1</b>			
Yes	65.8%	76.0%	
No	55.4%	68.2%	HR 1.51, <i>P</i> =.0392
<b>Bulk ≥5 cm</b>			
Yes	66.9%	76.0%	
No	50.2%	64.2%	HR 1.60, <i>P</i> =.0114
<b>&lt;PR to salvage chemotherapy</b>			
Yes	65.9%	77.3%	
No	46.8%	58.0%	HR 1.59, <i>P</i> =.0416
<b>Prognostic score</b>			
0	76.8%	87.7%	
1	67.9%	79.1%	HR 1.58, <i>P</i> =.0764
2	56.7%	70.0%	HR 2.33, <i>P</i> =.0012
3-5	34.8%	46.5%	HR 5.04, <i>P</i> <.0001

## Which patients do we consider to be high-risk?

# RisPACT: Risk Factors Post-ASCT (cont)

- **Prognostic score:** increasing number of equally weighted factors predicts poorer prognosis



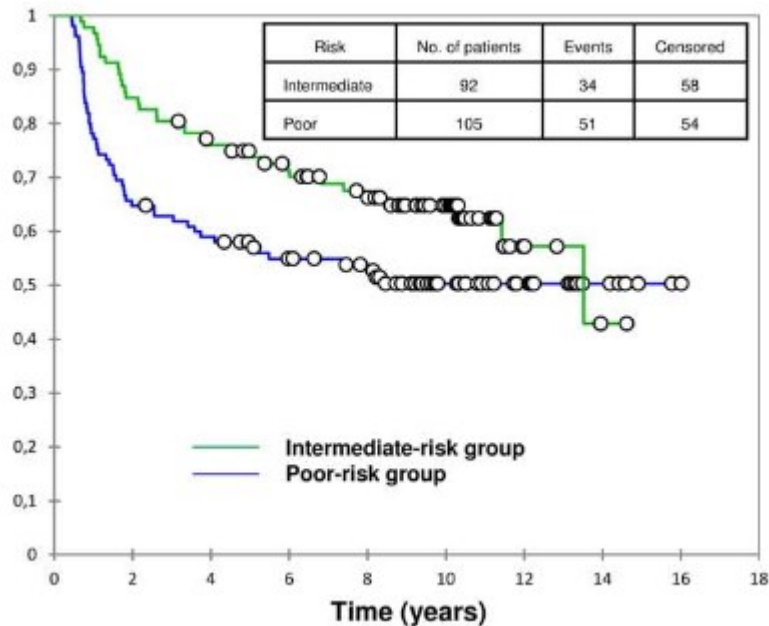
# Improving the Outcome of High-risk Patients

*Treatment strategies that focus on intensification:*

1. Tandem transplantation: phase 2 data only
2. PET response adapted: phase 2 data only
3. Brentuximab vedotin: phase 3 data



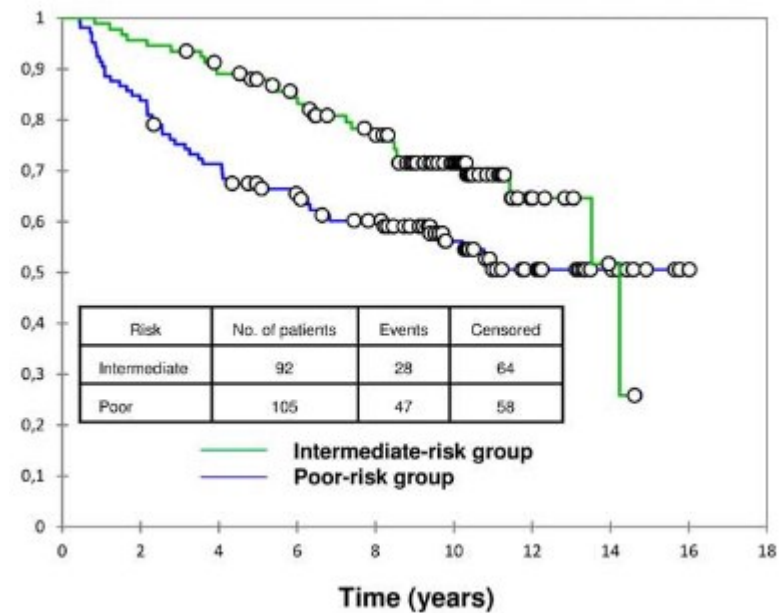
## Outcomes of patients completing autologous stem-cell transplantation.



### Freedom from second failure (FF2F)

Risk assessed at the onset of salvage treatment based on:

- ✓ primary refractory status
- ✓ number of risk factors at first relapse
  - relapse <12 months after the end of first-line treatment,
  - stage III or IV at relapse,
  - and/or relapse in previously irradiated site (>30 Gy)



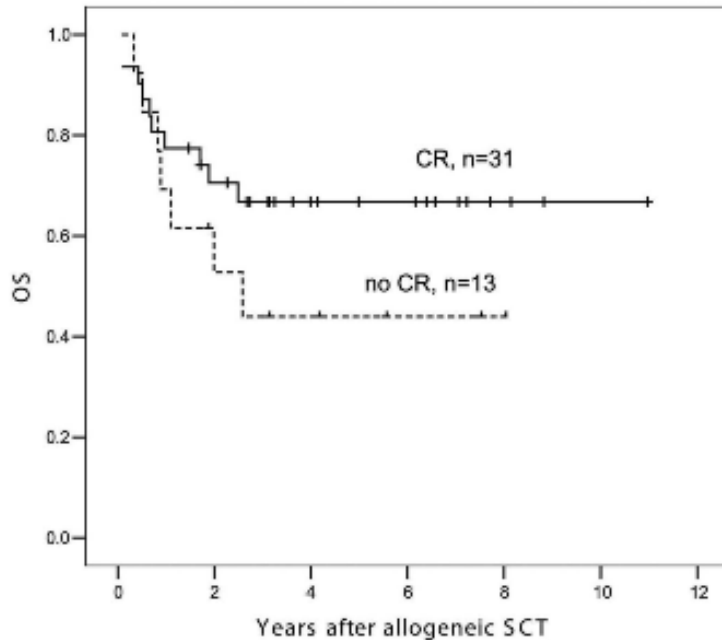
### overall survival

**Poor-risk group:** primary refractory HL or two or more risk factors at relapse;  
**Intermediate-risk group:** only one risk factor at relapse.

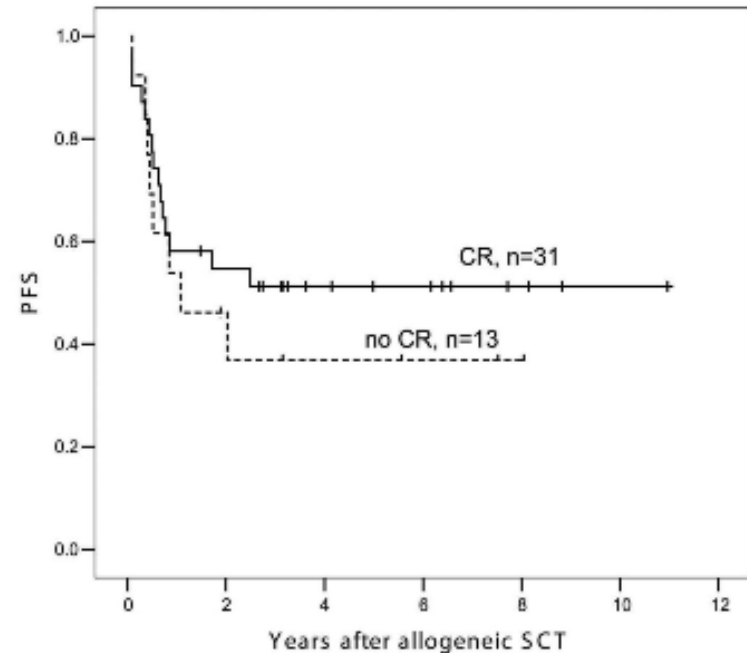
Single Or Tandem Autologous Stem-Cell Transplantation For First-Relapsed Or Refractory Hodgkin Lymphoma: 10-Year Follow-Up Of The Prospective H96 Trial By The LYSA / SFGM-TC Study Group

[Sibon et al. Haematologica. 2015 Dec 31](#)

# Tandem autologous-allogeneic stem cell transplantation as a feasible and effective procedure in high-risk HL patients.



**OS according to CR vs. *active disease* before allogeneic SCT in HL patients (n=44): 67% (95%CI: 50-84) vs. 44% (95%CI: 16-72)**



**PFS according to CR vs. *active disease* before allogeneic SCT in HL patients (n=44): 51% (95%CI: 33-69) vs. 37% (95%CI: 10-64)**

# AETHERA Study Design

A randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, phase 3 study of BV and BSC vs placebo and BSC in the treatment of patients at high risk for residual HL following ASCT

Post-ASCT in patients at high risk for residual disease

Patients (n=329):

- Received ASCT in the previous 30-45 days and at high risk for residual HL post ASCT
- ECOG PS 0-1

Primary Outcome:

- PFS by IRF

Secondary Outcomes:

- OS
- Tolerability

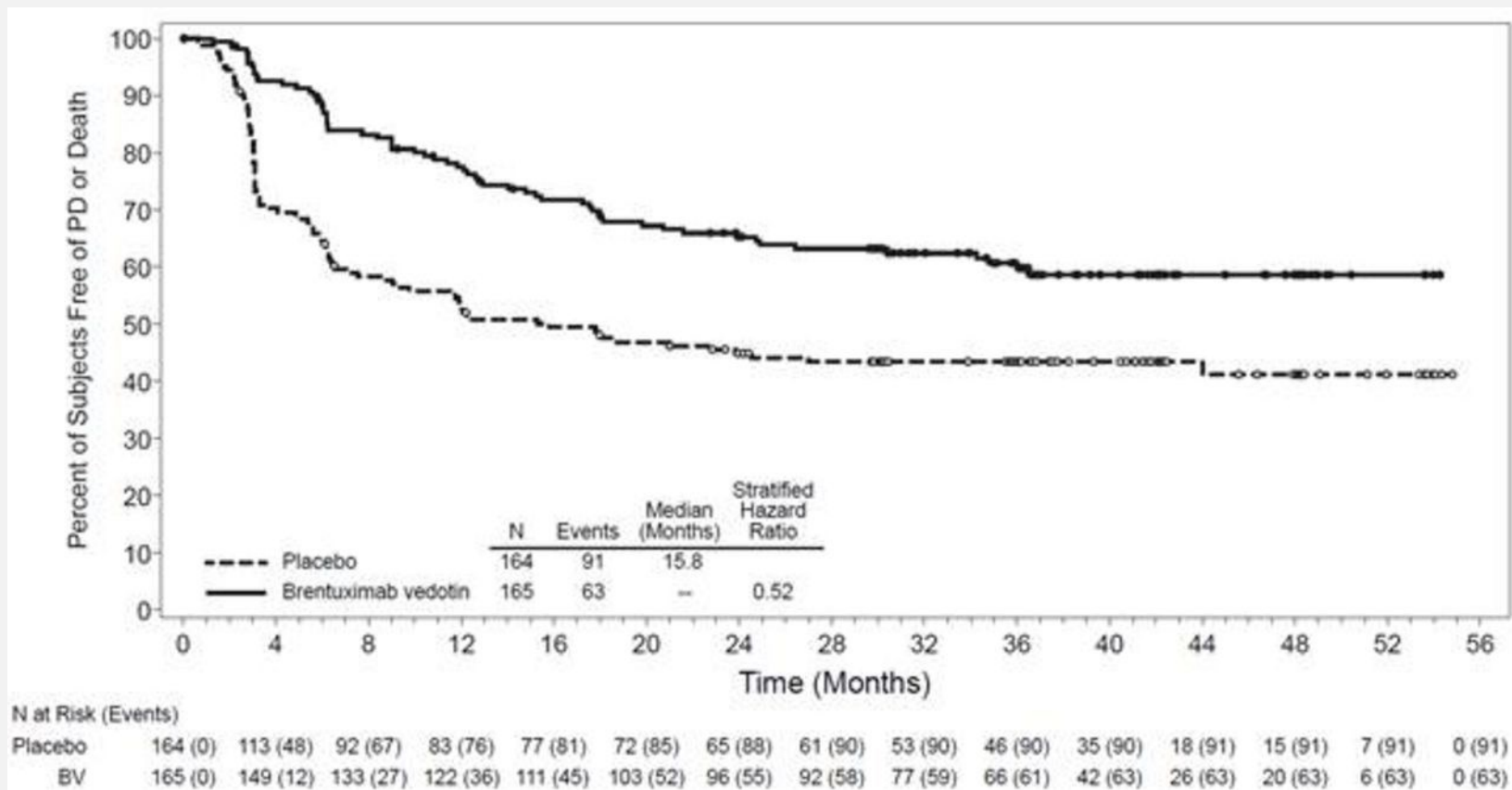
**RANDOMIZE**

**BV (1.8 mg/kg) IV every 21 days up to a maximum of 16 cycles + BSC (48 weeks)**

**Placebo IV every 21 days + BSC**

# Additional 1-Year Update on AETHERA

## Progression-Free Survival per Investigator Assessment.



Sweetenham et al. Blood 2015;126:3172



# TRATTAMENTO DI TERZA LINEA

**Dicembre 2013**: Brentuximab vedotin 1.8 mg/kg x 14 cicli ogni 21 giorni (Neuropatia sensoriale periferica di grado lieve; Fatigue).

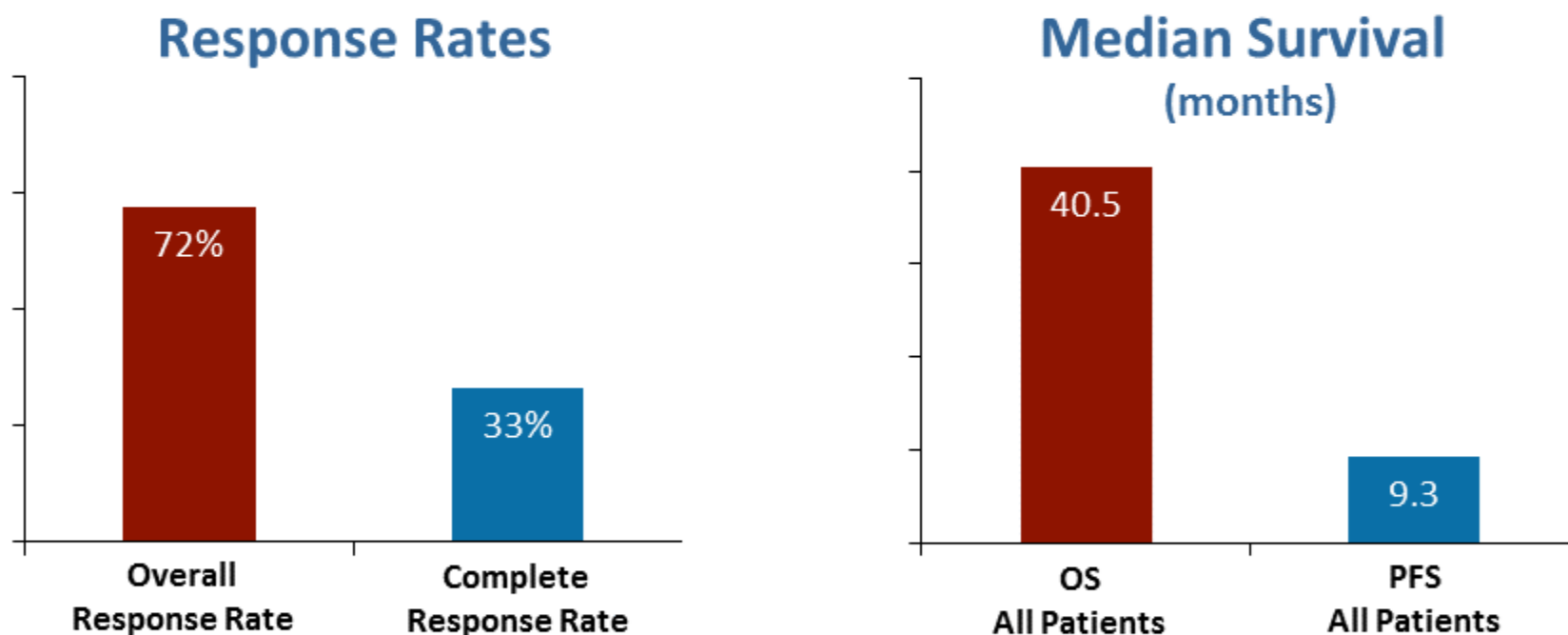
*18F-FDG PET scan (dopo il 3° ciclo)*: riduzione del metabolismo a livello delle documentate linfadenopatie sovra-claveari; due aree di aumentato metabolismo a livello del polmone di destra (possibile espressione di infiammazione).

*18F-FDG PET scan (dopo il 6° ciclo)*: due nuove aree di aumentato metabolismo a livello paratracheale destro. Esame negativo a livello sovraclaveare e laterocervicale.

18F-FDG PET scan (dopo il 13 ciclo): negativa

# Long-term Outcomes With Brentuximab Vedotin Post-ASCT

## Final 5-Year Results of Pivotal Trial



- Median OS and median PFS not reached in patients achieving CR



# ALLOGENEIC STEM CELLS TRANSPLANTATION

Effettuato in remissione completa nel Novembre 2014.

Donatore: 34 anni , femmina, germano, matched.

Condizionamento: Thiotepa, Fludarabina, Ciclofosfamide

Profilassi GVHD: ciclosporina A e metotrexate.

No GVDH acuta.

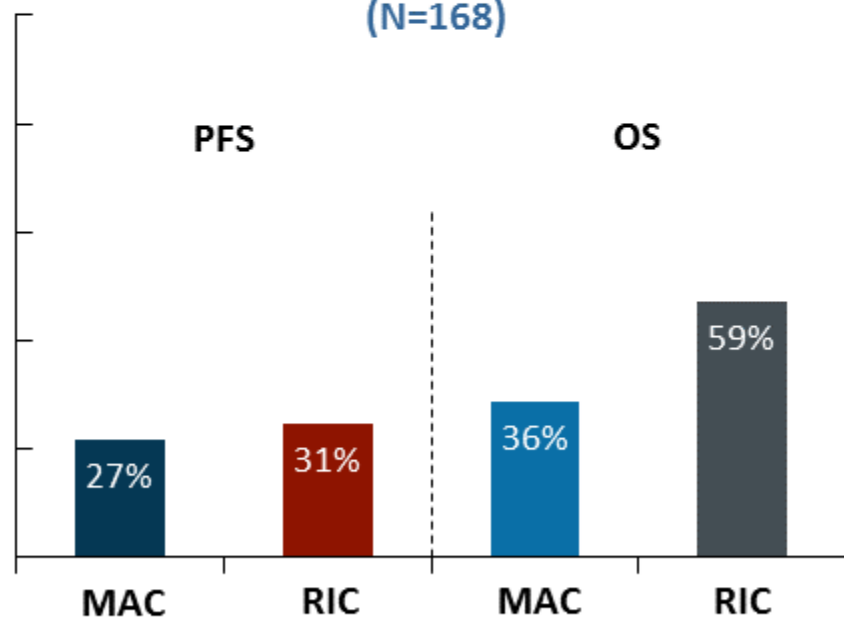
December 2015: Remissione Completa. GVHD Cronica limitata

# Allogeneic Transplantation in HL

- **Most common use:** Post-ASCT in young patients with chemosensitive disease<sup>[a]</sup>

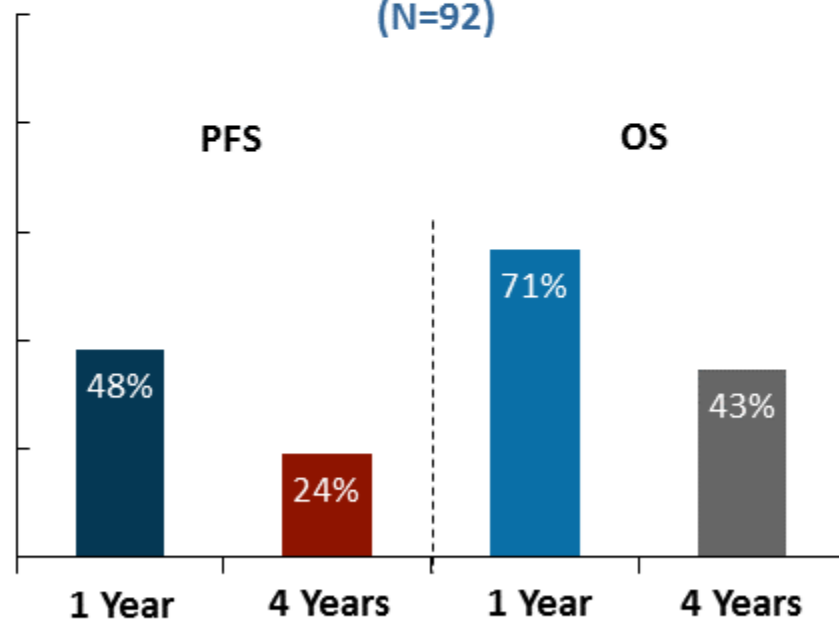
## EGBMT Trial: Myeloablative vs Reduced-Intensity Conditioning<sup>[b]</sup>

(N=168)



## GELTAMO/EGBMT Trial: Reduced-Intensity Conditioning<sup>[c]</sup>

(N=92)

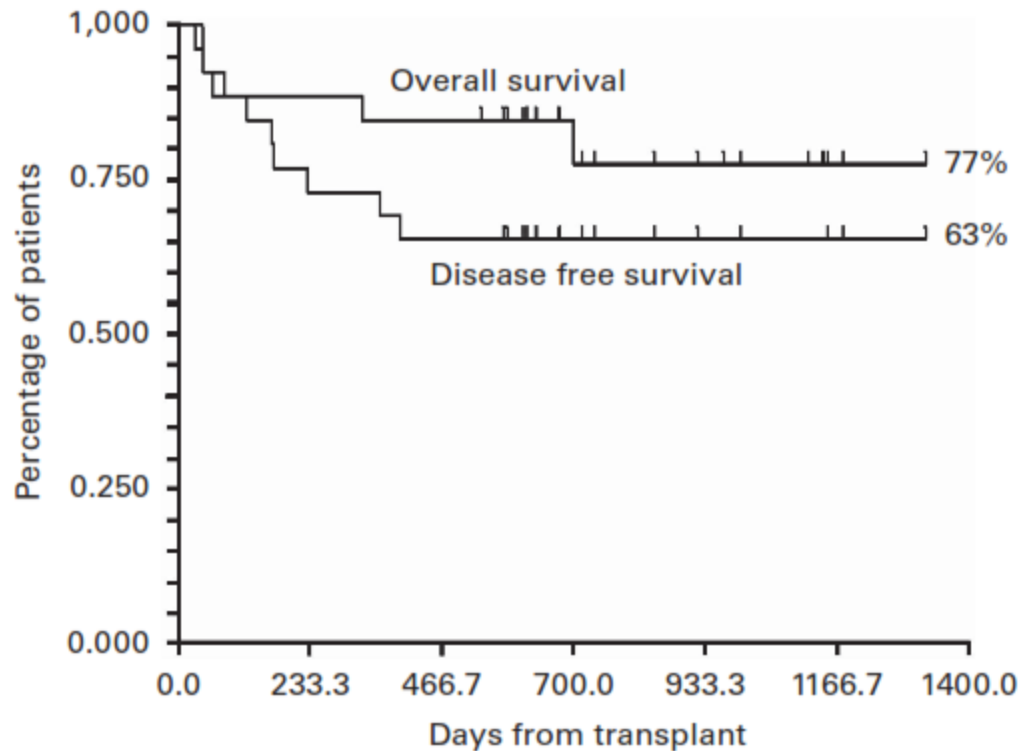


a. Sureda A, et al. *Curr Treat Options Oncol*. 2014;15:238-247.

b. Sureda A, et al. *J Clin Oncol*. 2008;26:455-462.

c. Sureda A, et al. *Haematologica*. 2012;97:310-317.

# Unmanipulated haploidentical BMT following non-myeloablative conditioning and post-transplantation CY for advanced Hodgkin's lymphoma



**Actuarial overall survival (77%) and disease-free survival (63%) in 26 patients with advanced Hodgkin's disease**

[Raiola et al. Bone Marrow Transplant. 2014 Feb;49\(2\):190-4.](#)

# Incorporating Novel Therapies in the Treatment Paradigm for Relapsed HL

How can a novel therapy be used to maximize effect on tumor burden?

```
graph TD; A[How can a novel therapy be used to maximize effect on tumor burden?] --> B[Patients likely to achieve CR: caution not to overtreat; consider single-agent therapy]; A --> C[Patients unlikely to achieve CR: caution not to undertreat; consider adding to combination chemotherapy]; B <--> C;
```

Patients likely to achieve CR:  
caution not to overtreat;  
consider single-agent therapy

Patients unlikely to achieve CR:  
caution not to undertreat;  
consider adding to  
combination chemotherapy

