# **Citopenie: le forme acquisite**

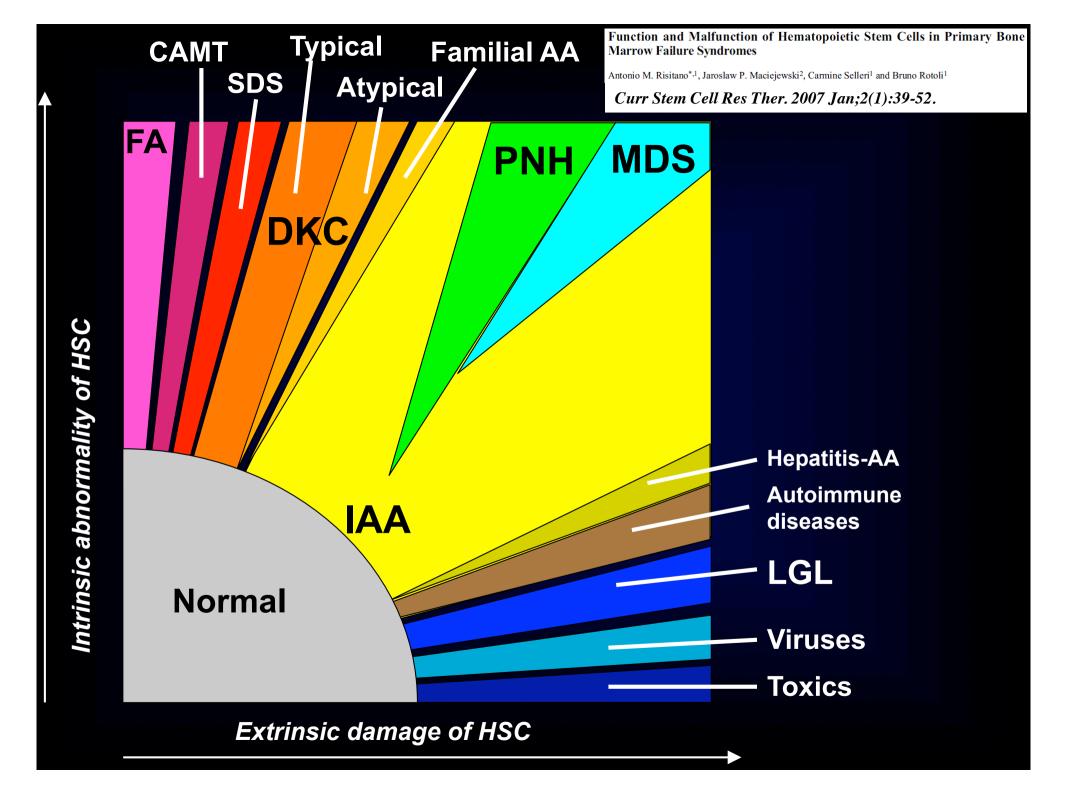


#### 10-11-12 Ottobre 2016 Palazzo Bonin Longare Vicenza

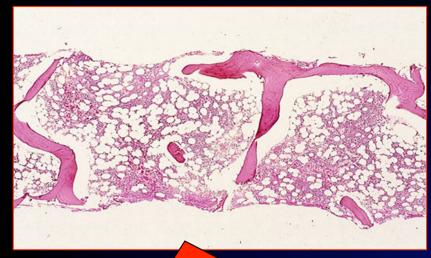


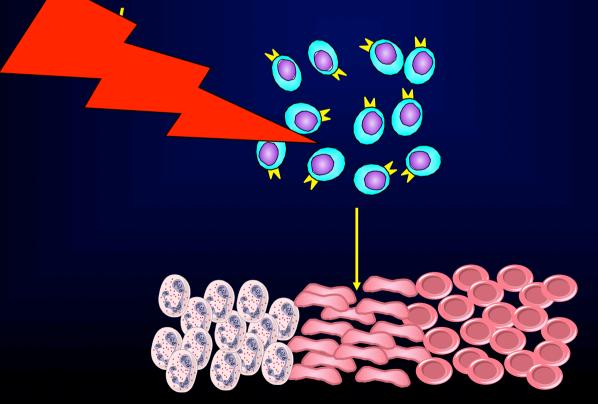
**Antonio M. Risitano, M.D., Ph.D.** Head of Bone Marrow Transplantation Unit Federico II University of Naples



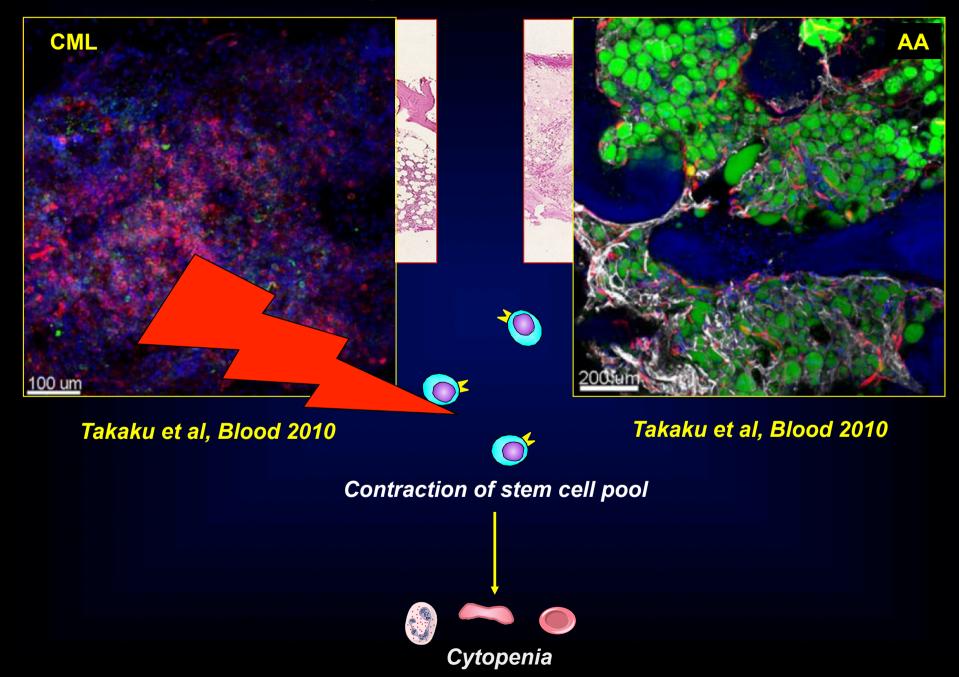


# **Aplastic anemia**



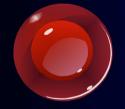


# **Aplastic anemia**



# Pathophysiology of aplastic anemia

# Hematopoietic stem cell



#### Hematopoietic stem cells in AA Hematopoietic progenitor cultures



1990 76: 1748-1757

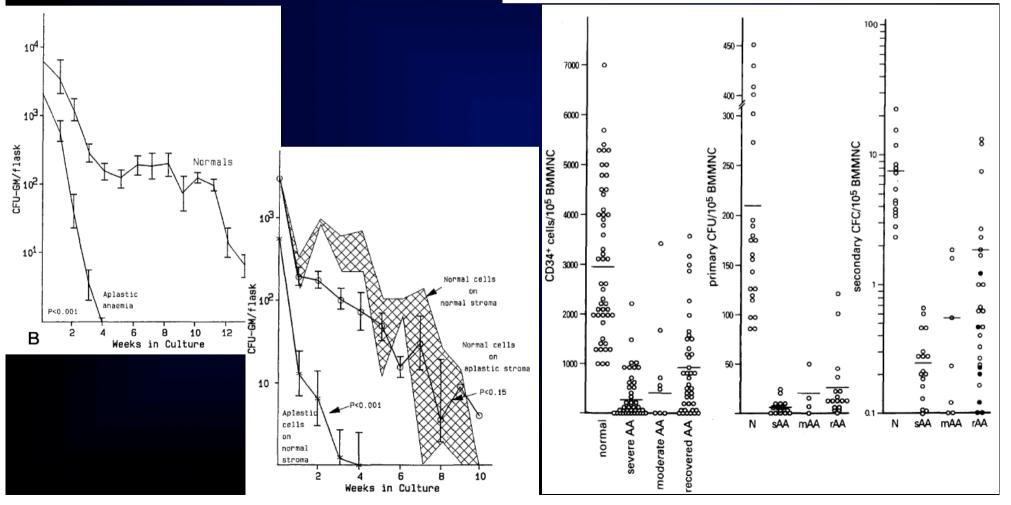


1996 88: 1983-1991

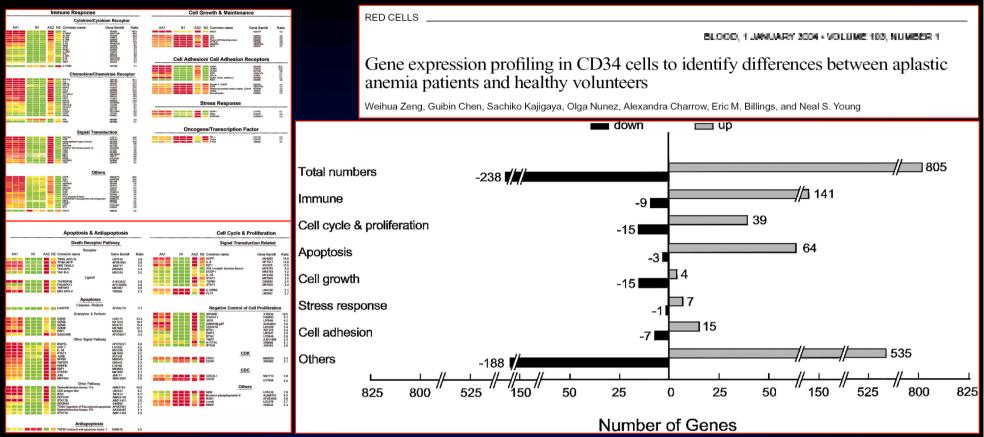
The hematopoietic defect in aplastic anemia assessed by long-1A severe and consistent deficit in marrow and circulating primitive hematopoietic cells (long-term culture-initiating cells) in acquired aplastic anemia

JC Marsh, J Chang, NG Testa, JM Hows and TM Dexter

JP Maciejewski, C Selleri, T Sato, S Anderson and NS Young



# **GENE EXPRESSION PROFILING IN CD34+ FROM AA PATIENTS**



#### <u>Over-expressed</u>

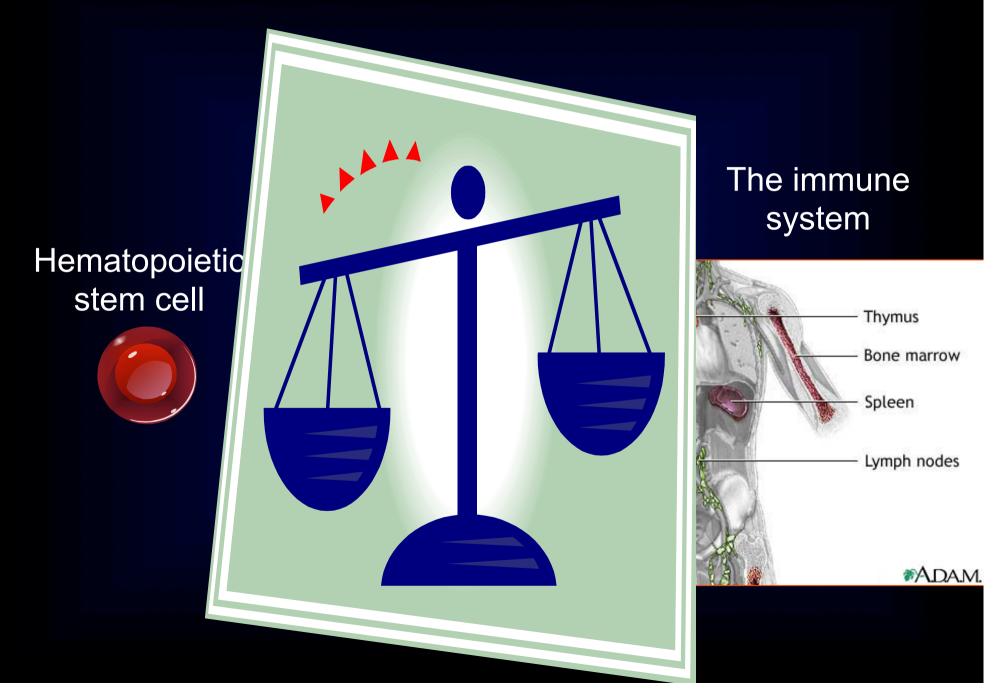
- Apoptosis
- Stress response
- Cytokine/chemokine transduction
- Defense/immune response genes
- Cell cycle/proliferation inhibitors

#### <u>Down-expressed</u>

Cell cycle/proliferation promoters

"...the transcriptome analysis of HSC in AA is consistent with the presence of stressed, immunologically activated or dying target cells rather than of an intrinsically abnormal population."

# Pathophysiology of aplastic anemia



Proc. Natl. Acad. Sct. USA Vol. 73, No. 8, pp.2890–2894, August 1976 Medical Sciences

# Aplastic anemia: Presence in human bone marrow of cells that suppress myelopoiesis\*

(thymus-derived lymphocytes/suppressor cells/differentiation)

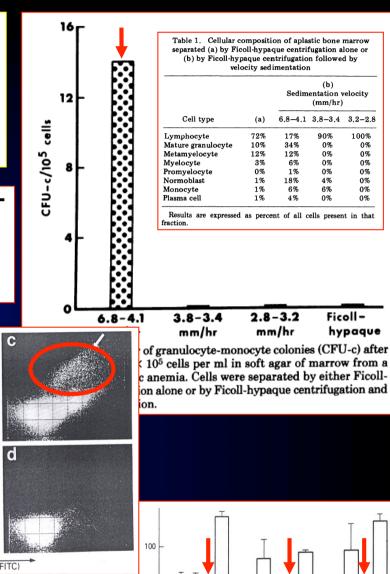
WALT A. KAGAN, JOÃO A. ASCENSÃO, RAJENDRA N. PAHWA, JOHN A. HANSEN, GIDEON GOLDSTEIN, ELISA B. VALERA, GENEVIEVE S. INCEFY, MALCOLM A. S. MOORE, AND ROBERT A. GOOD



#### CIRCULATING ACTIVATED SUPPRESSOR T LYMPHOCYTES IN APLASTIC ANEMIA

N.C. Zoumbos, P. Gascon, J.Y. Djeu, S.R. Trost, and N.S. Young

Volume 312 January 31, 1985 Number 5



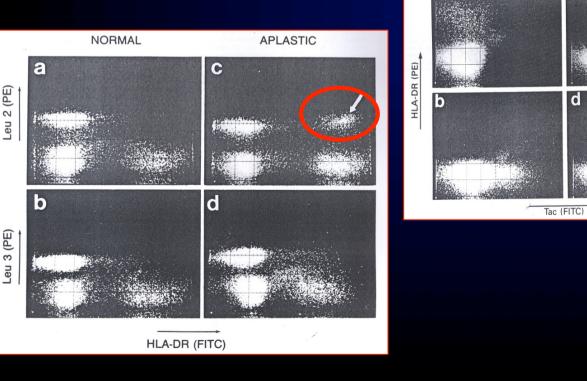
CFU

CONTROL

50

10

TOTAL Tac Tac Tac (+) (+) (-) 1.10 TOTAL Tac Tac Tac (+) (+) (-) 1:10 TOTAL Tac Tac (+) (-)



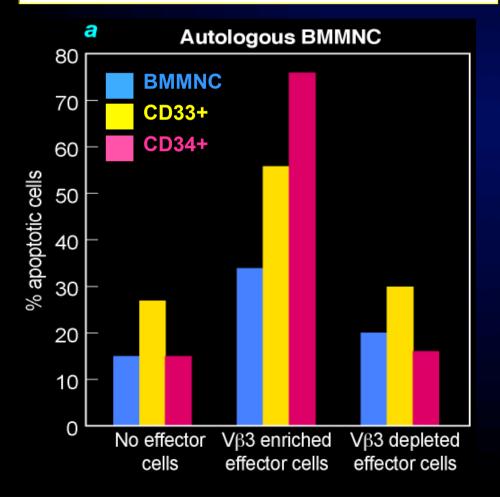
#### **Molecular Tracking of Pathogenic Clonotypic T-cells**

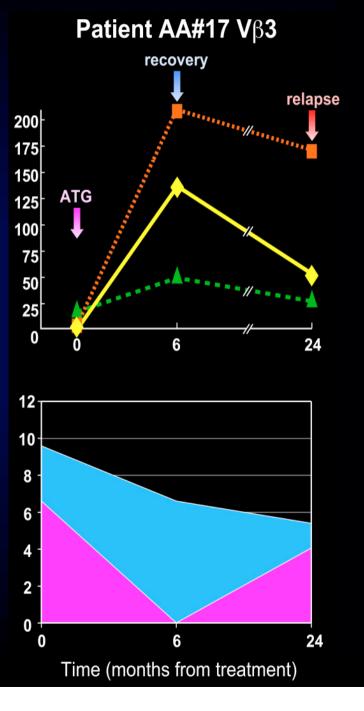
Lancet 2004; 364: 355–64

Mechanisms of Disease

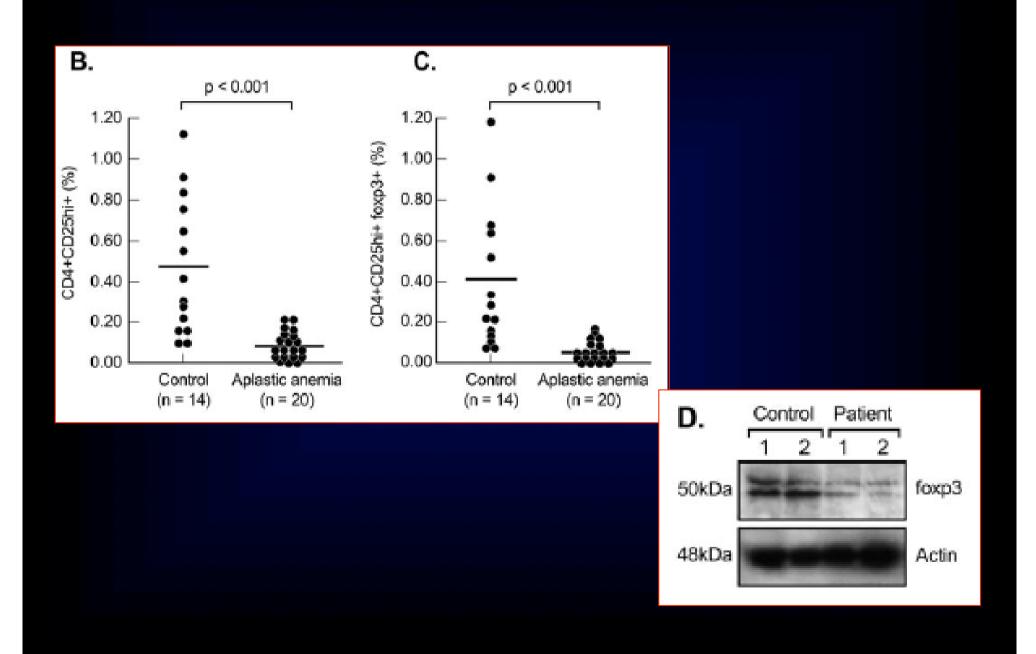
In-vivo dominant immune responses in aplastic anaemia: molecular tracking of putatively pathogenetic T-cell clones by TCR  $\beta$ -CDR3 sequencing

Antonio M Risitano, Jaroslaw P Maciejewski, Spencer Green, Magdalena Plasilova, Weihua Zeng, Neal S Young

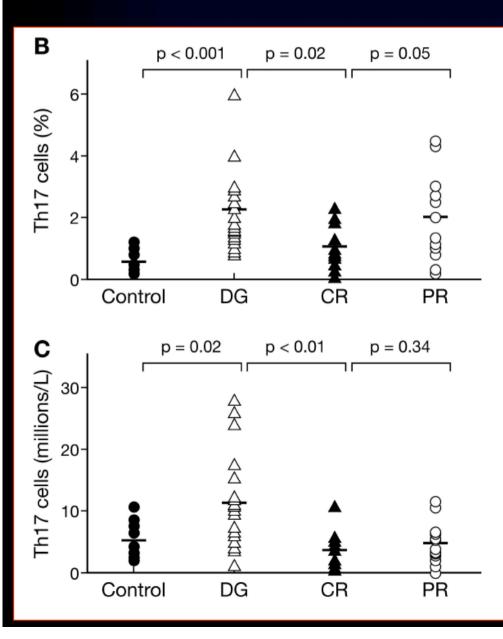




#### T-REGULATORY CELLS IN APLASTIC ANEMIA Solomou et al., Blood 2007



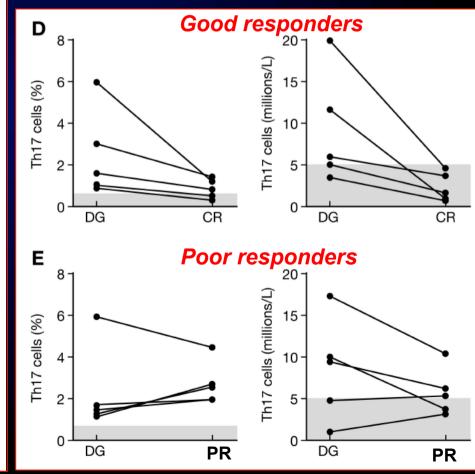
#### Th17 CELLS IN APLASTIC ANEMIA Peffault De Latour et al., Blood 2010 First Edition



Increased in AA patients

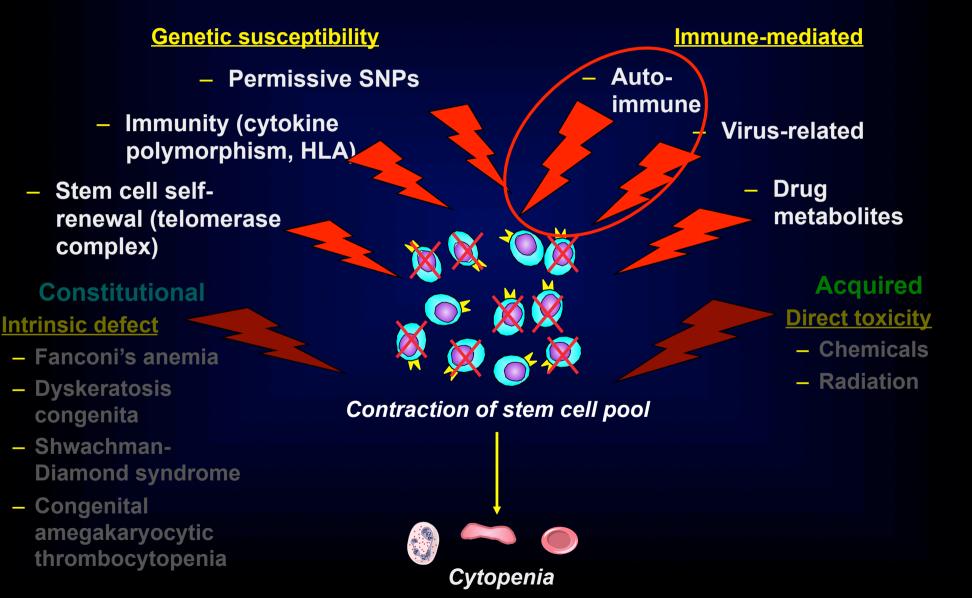
Correlate with disease status

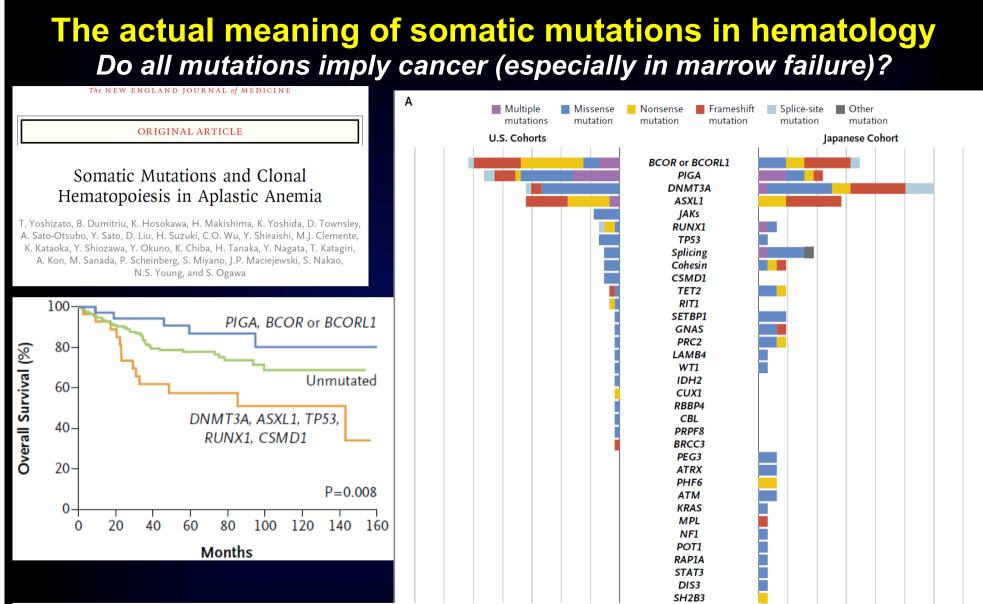
 Normalize after treatment in good responders only



# Pathophysiology of aplastic anemia

#### Acquired Idiopathic: multifactorial?





12

14

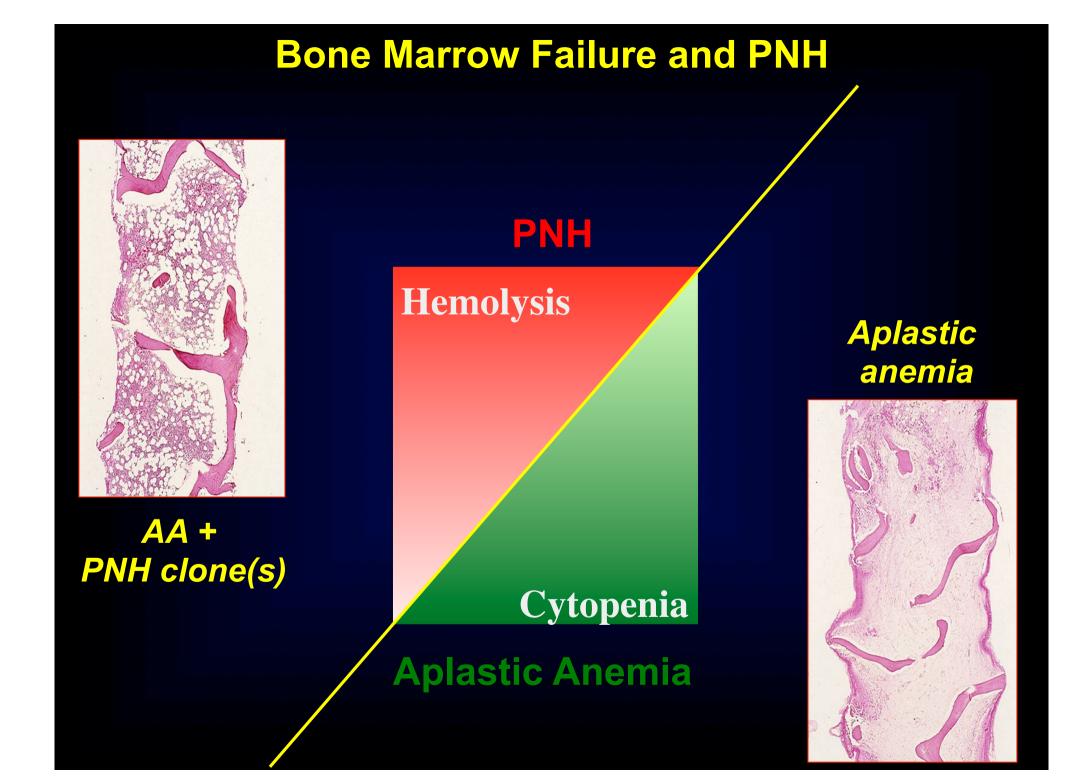
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6

8

#### CONCLUSIONS

Clonal hematopoiesis was prevalent in aplastic anemia. Some mutations were related to clinical outcomes. A highly biased set of mutations is evidence of Darwinian selection in the failed bone marrow environment. The pattern of somatic clones in individual patients over time was variable and frequently unpredictable.



## THE CLINICAL TRIAD OF PNH

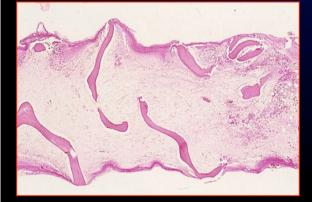
#### **EPIDEMIOLOGY:** rare disease (1-5 per million/year)



# 1. Chronic hemolytic anemia with paroxistic crises Intravascular hemolysis, complement mediated

#### 2. Propensity to thromboembolisms

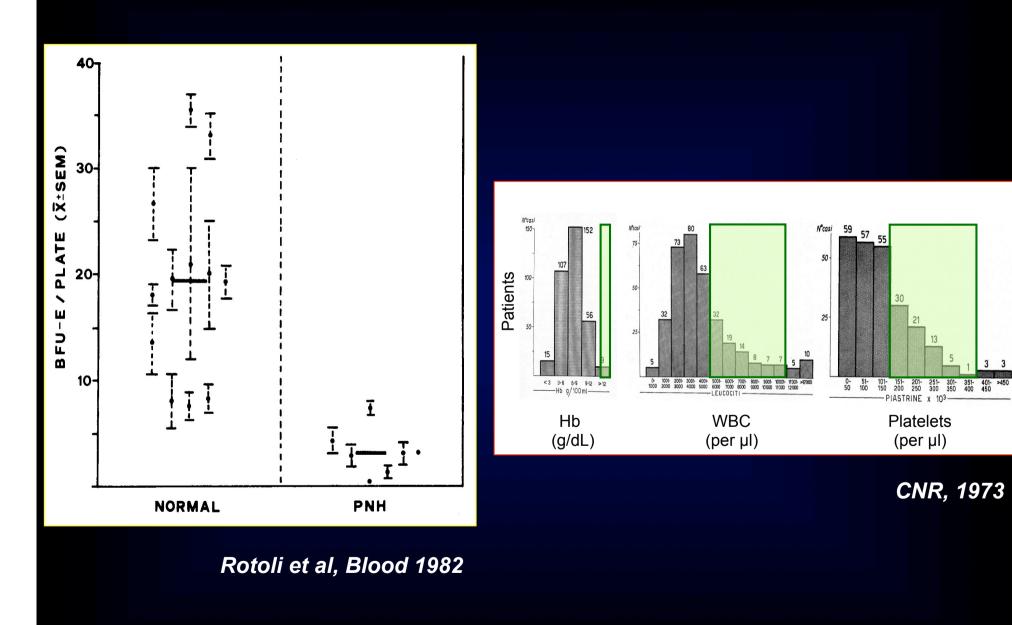
Often at unusual site, especially veins (cerebral veins, hepatic veins, splenic vein)



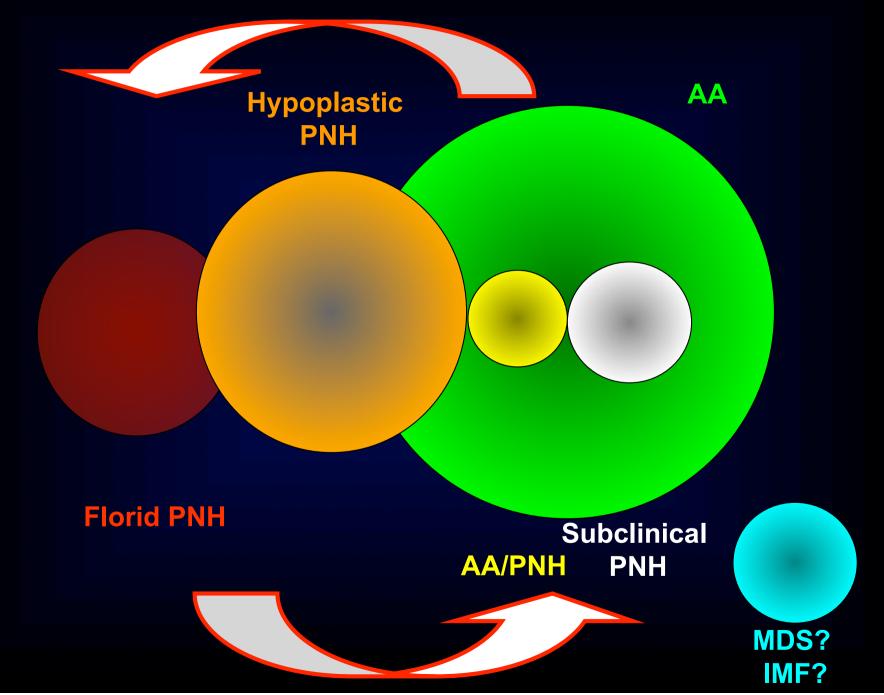
#### 3. Variable cytopenia

Stigmata of marrow failure, possible overlapping with aplastic anemia (AA/PNH)

# **Evidence of marrow failure in PNH**

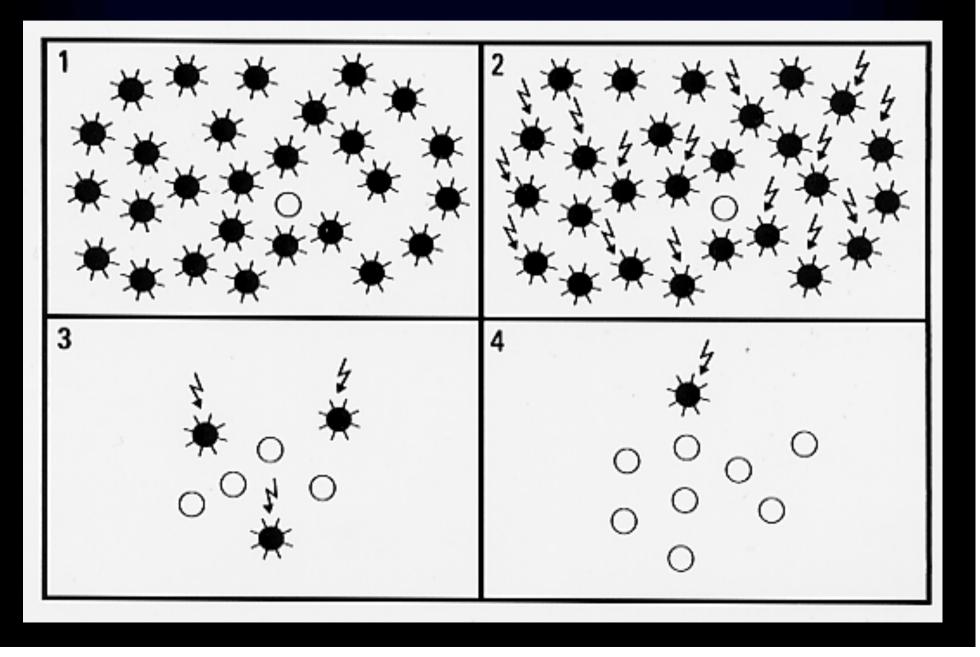


# **CLINICAL OVERLAP BETWEEN PNH AND BMF**

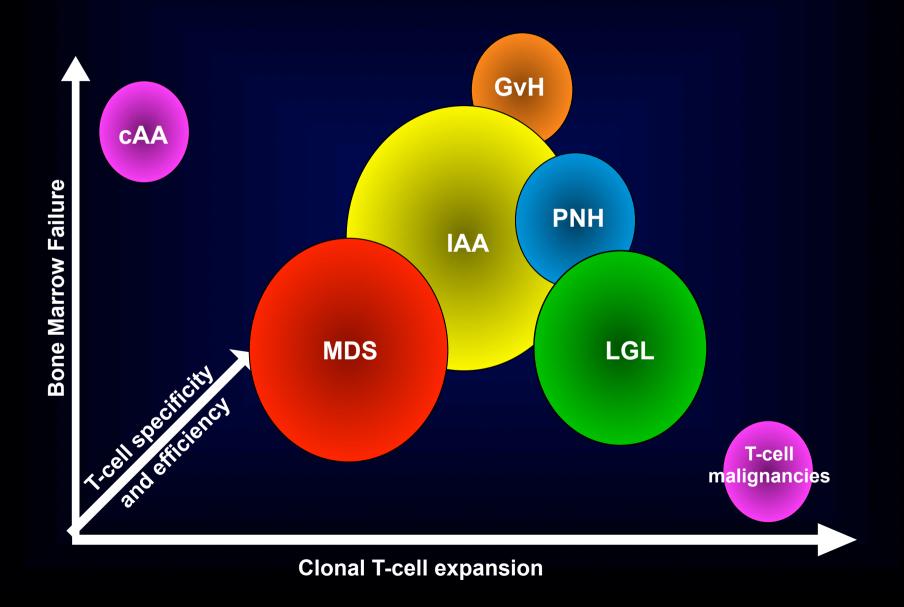


# **PATHOPHYSIOLOGY OF PNH**

The dual hypothesis (Rotoli and Luzzatto, Baillieres Clin Haematol 1989)

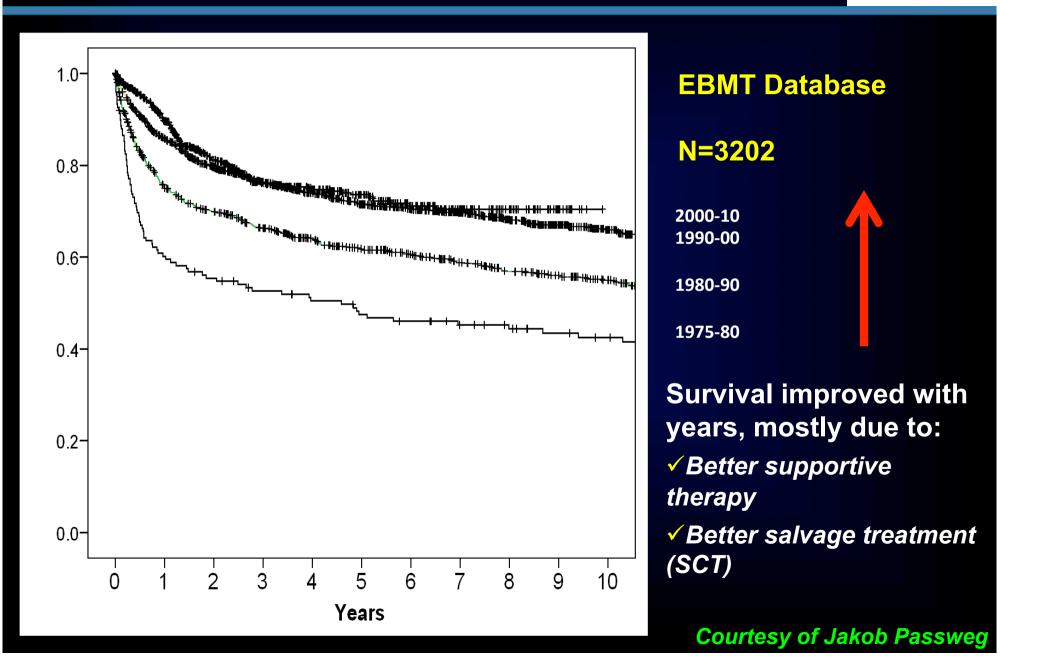


# IMMUNE RESPONSE AND BONE MARROW FAILURE SYNDROMES



AA and... ... the nontransplant treatment

#### **OUTCOME OF IMMUNOSUPPRESSION FOR SAA** Improvement over the years





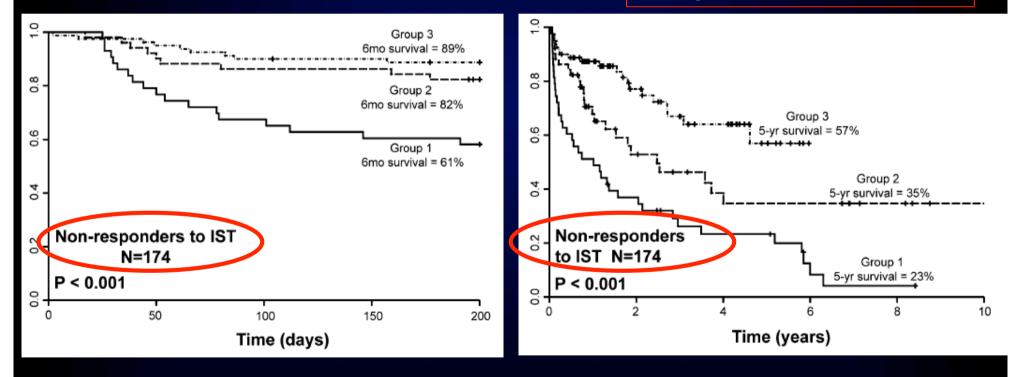
# **Supportive care**

The improvement in anti-infectious management

#### **CID 2011**

n=420 (174 non-responders)
Infection-related mortality from 37% to 11%
Incidence of IFIs from 49% to 8%

Group 1: 12/1989-10/1986 Group 2: 11/1986-10/2002 Group 3: 11/2002-04/2008



The most relevant breakthrough in AA treatment was the anti-infectious supportive care: keeping AA patients alive until they recover (IST or SCT)

# **IMPROVING ATG-BASED IMMUNOSUPPRESSION**

The benefit of combining ATG and cyclosporine A



Treatment of aplastic anemia with antilymphocyte globulin and methylprednisolone with or without cyclosporine. The German Aplastic Anemia Study Group

N Frickhofen, JP Kaltwasser, H Schrezenmeier, A Raghavachar, HG Vogt, F Herrmann, M Freund, P Meusers, A Salama, and H Heimpel 1991

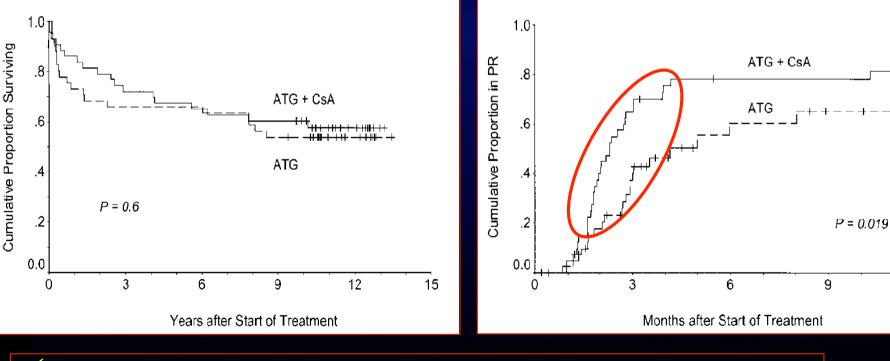


Antithymocyte globulin with or without cyclosporin A: 11-year follow-up of a randomized trial comparing treatments of aplastic anemia

Norbert Frickhofen, Hermann Heimpel, Joachim P. Kaltwasser, and Hubert Schrezenmeier, for the German Aplastic Anemia Study Group

2003

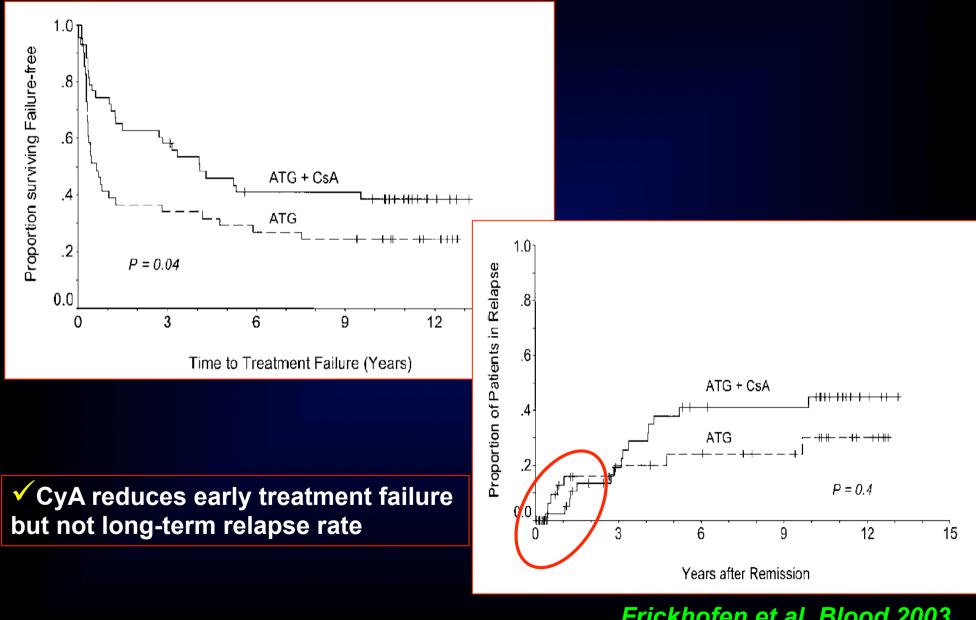
12



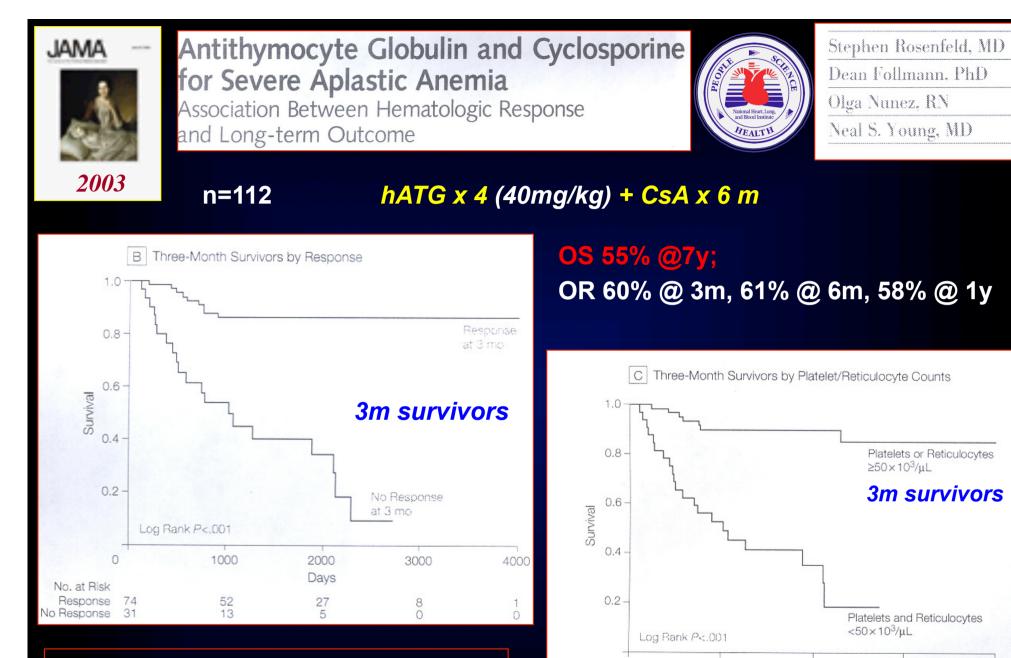
CyA speed hematological response without affecting survival

## **IMPROVING ATG-BASED IMMUNOSUPPRESSION**

The benefit of combining ATG and cyclosporine A



Frickhofen et al, Blood 2003



No. at Risk

≥50×10<sup>3</sup>/uL 71

<50×10<sup>3</sup>/µL 33

Days

# Hematological response is the main predictor for outcome



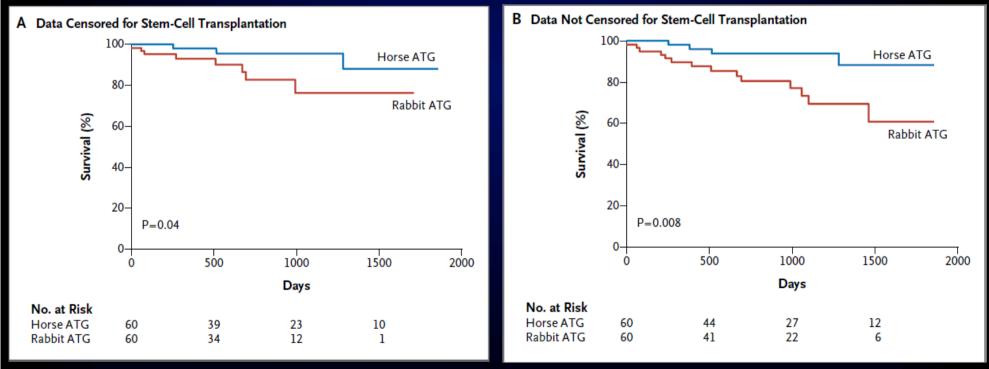
# Horse versus Rabbit Antithymocyte Globulin in Acquired Aplastic Anemia

Phillip Scheinberg, M.D., Olga Nunez, R.N., B.S.N., Barbara Weinstein, R.N., Priscila Scheinberg, M.S., Angélique Biancotto, Ph.D., Colin O. Wu, Ph.D., and Neal S. Young, M.D.



Phase III prospective randomized study, first-line treatment
 hATG + CyA (n=60) vs rATG + CyA (n=60)

✓ OR @ 6m 68% vs 37% (p<0.001)



rATG is inferior to hATG in first line treatment of SAA, as indicated by hematological response and survival

# Prospective study of rabbit antithymocyte globulin and cyclosporine for aplastic anemia from the EBMT Severe Aplastic Anaemia Working Party



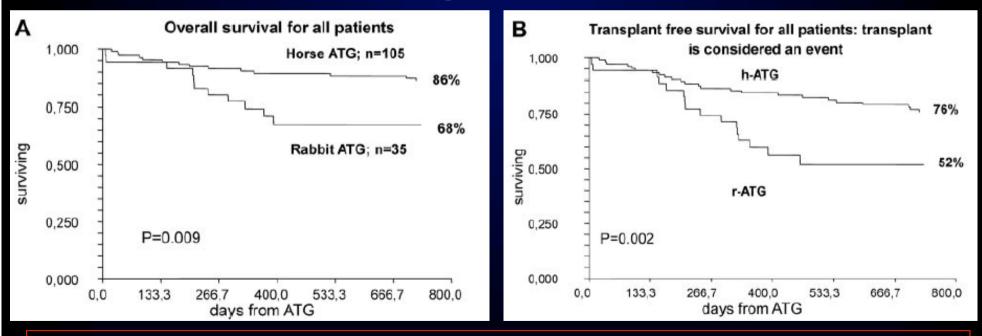
Judith C. Marsh,<sup>1</sup> Andrea Bacigalupo,<sup>2</sup> Hubert Schrezenmeier,<sup>3</sup> Andre Tichelli,<sup>4</sup> Antonio M. Risitano,<sup>5</sup> Jakob R. Passweg,<sup>4</sup> Sally B. Killick,<sup>6</sup> Alan J. Warren,<sup>7</sup> Theodora Foukaneli,<sup>7</sup> Mahmoud Aljurf,<sup>8</sup> H. A. Al-Zahrani,<sup>8</sup> Philip Schafhausen,<sup>9</sup> Alexander Roth,<sup>10</sup> Anke Franzke,<sup>11</sup> Tim H. Brummendorf,<sup>12</sup> Carlo Dufour,<sup>13</sup> Rosi Oneto,<sup>14</sup> Philip Sedgwick,<sup>15</sup> Alain Barrois,<sup>16</sup> Shahram Kordasti,<sup>1</sup> Modupe O. Elebute,<sup>1</sup> Ghulam J. Mufti,<sup>1</sup> and Gerard Socie,<sup>17</sup> on behalf of the European Blood and Marrow Transplant Group Severe Aplastic Anaemia Working Party



#### **Blood 2012**

Phase II pilot study rATG + CyA (n=35)

✓ Retrospective matched comparison (pair-matched) with hATG + CyA (n=105)
 ✓ Pilot rATG + CyA study: OR 40% @ 6m (CR 3%, PR 37%)



rATG is inferior to hATG in first line treatment of SAA, as indicated by hematological response and survival

## **REASONS FOR BAD OUTCOME IN SAA**

# Primary failures

- Refractoriness (about a third: predicting factors and early identification)
- Partial responses

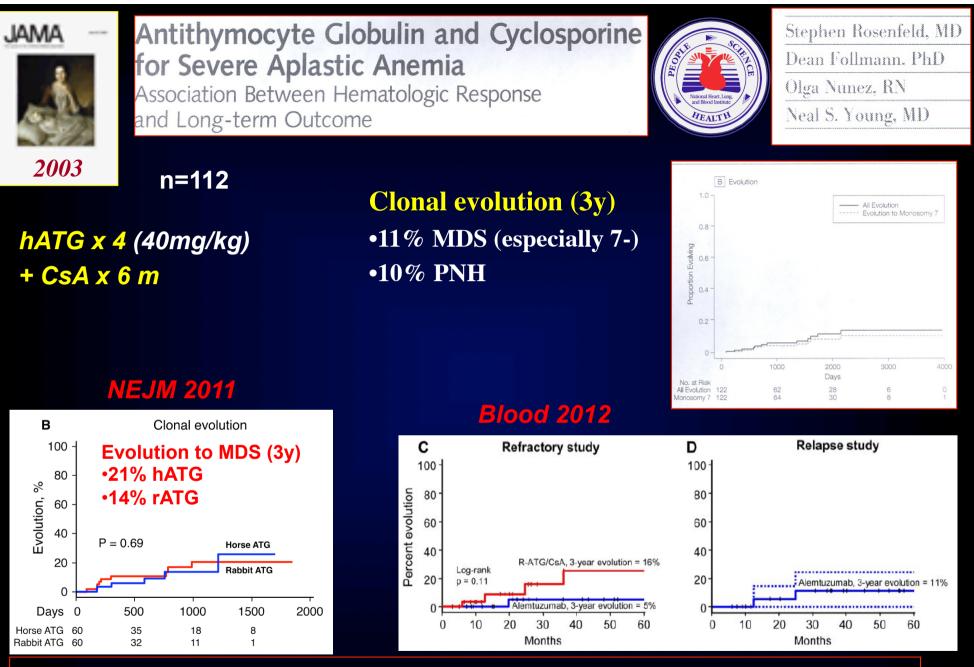
## Secondary failures

- CyA-dependent responses
- Relapses
- Recurrent diseases

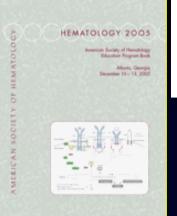
# Late failures

- Clonal evolution
- Secondary malignancies

# Many AA patients are not cured by IST!!!



In all recent studies, the incidence of clonal evolution is about 10%, regardless the specific treatment





# Aplastic Anemia: Management of Adult Patients

Jaroslaw P. Maciejewski and Antonio M. Risitano

# **REASONS FOR TREATMENT FAILURE**

Pathophysiology other than immune-mediated

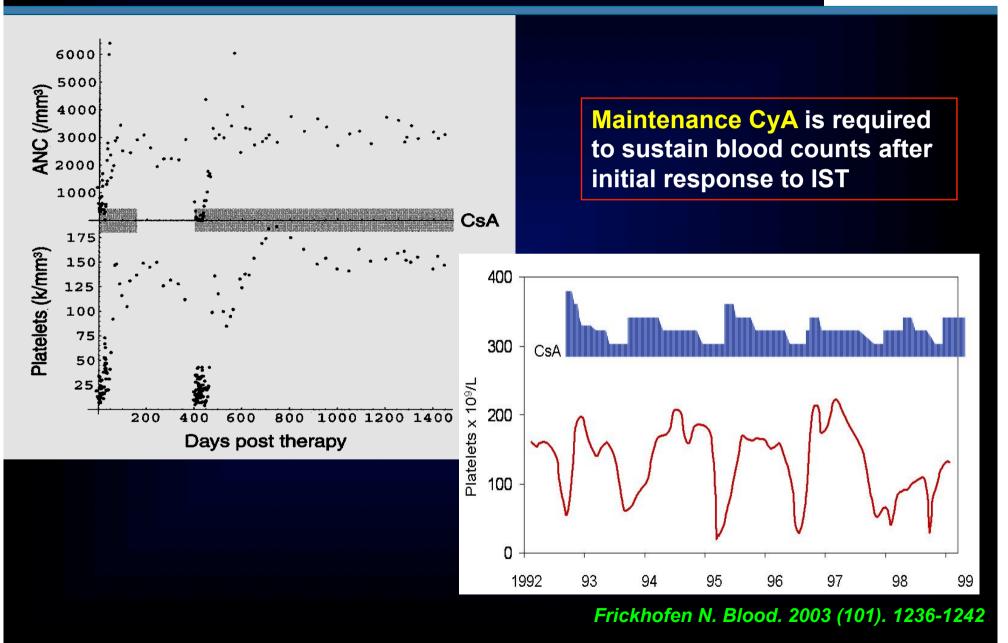
Irreversible stem cell deficit

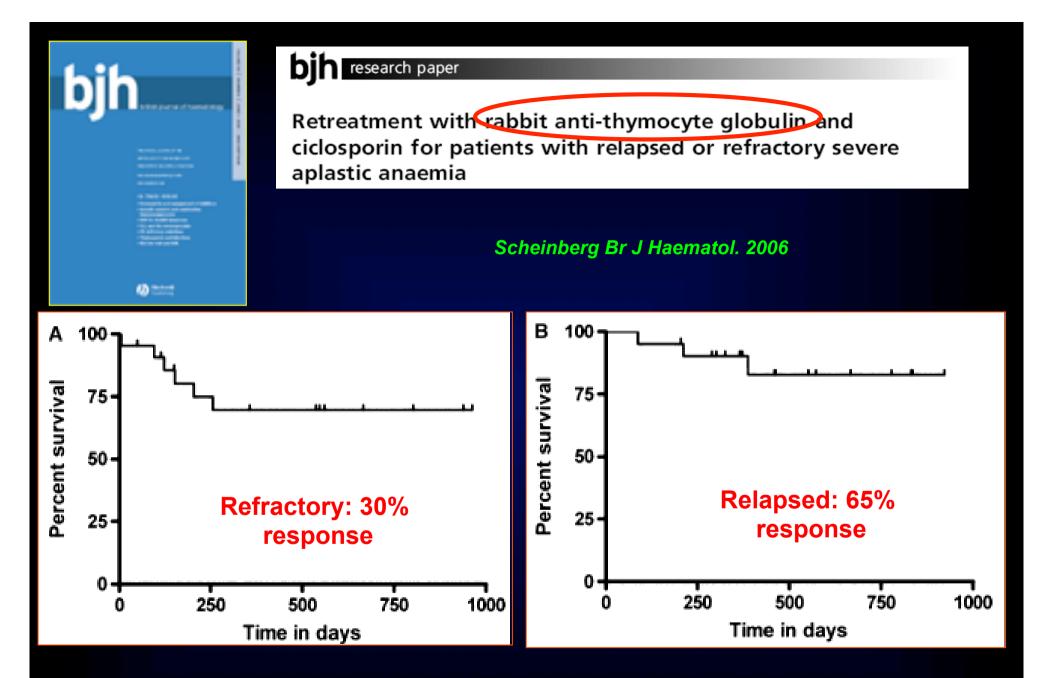
Insufficient immunosuppression

Improve immunosuppressive therapies

#### **RELAPSES AFTER IST** *The role of maintenance CyA therapy*



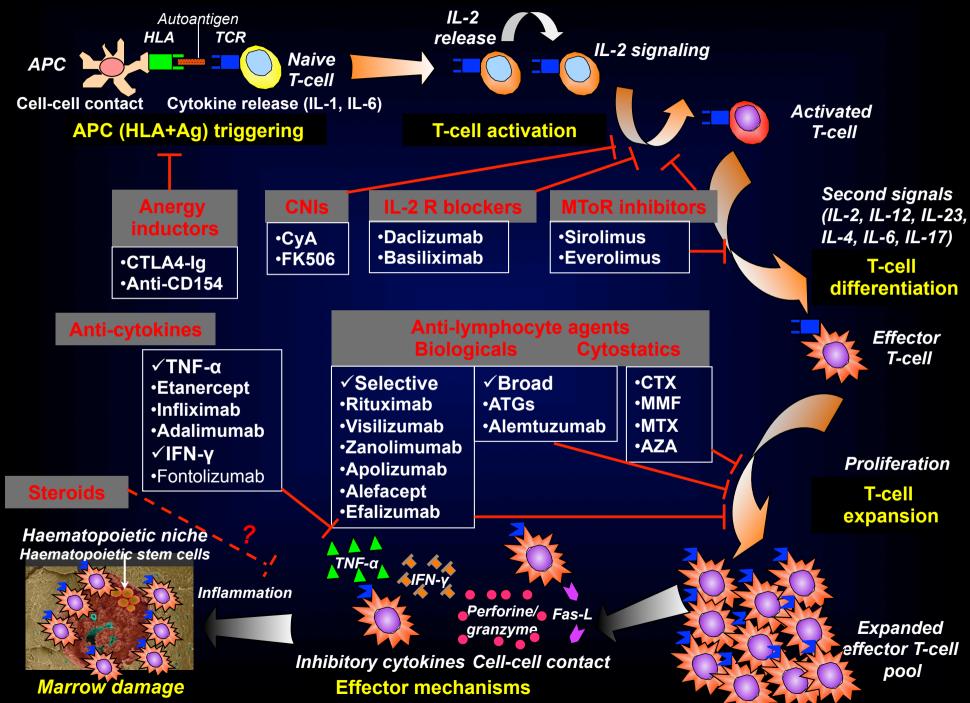


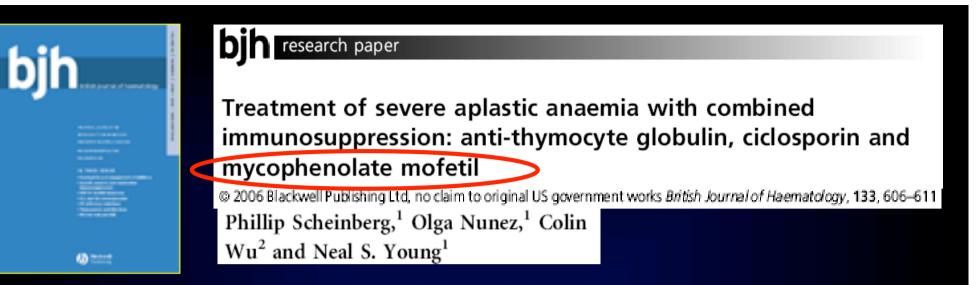


Retreatment by rATG is more effective in relapsed than in refractory patients
 OS not affected due to salvage therapy

# Improving IST: intensification by a third drug

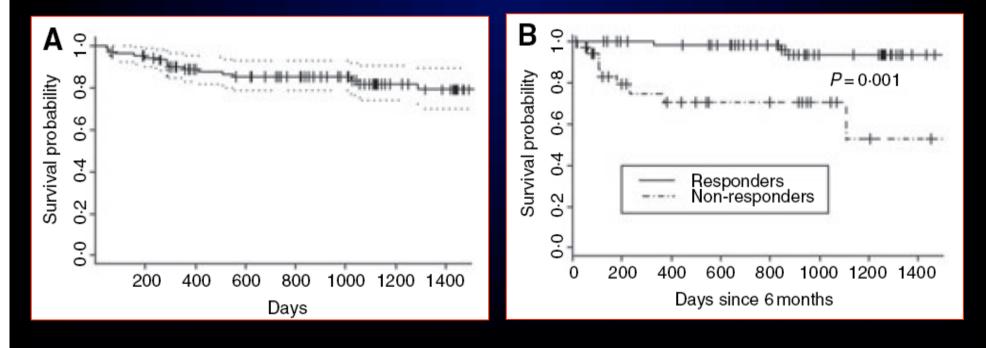
#### **STRATEGIES OF IMMUNOSUPPRESSION (Risitano, BJH 2010)**

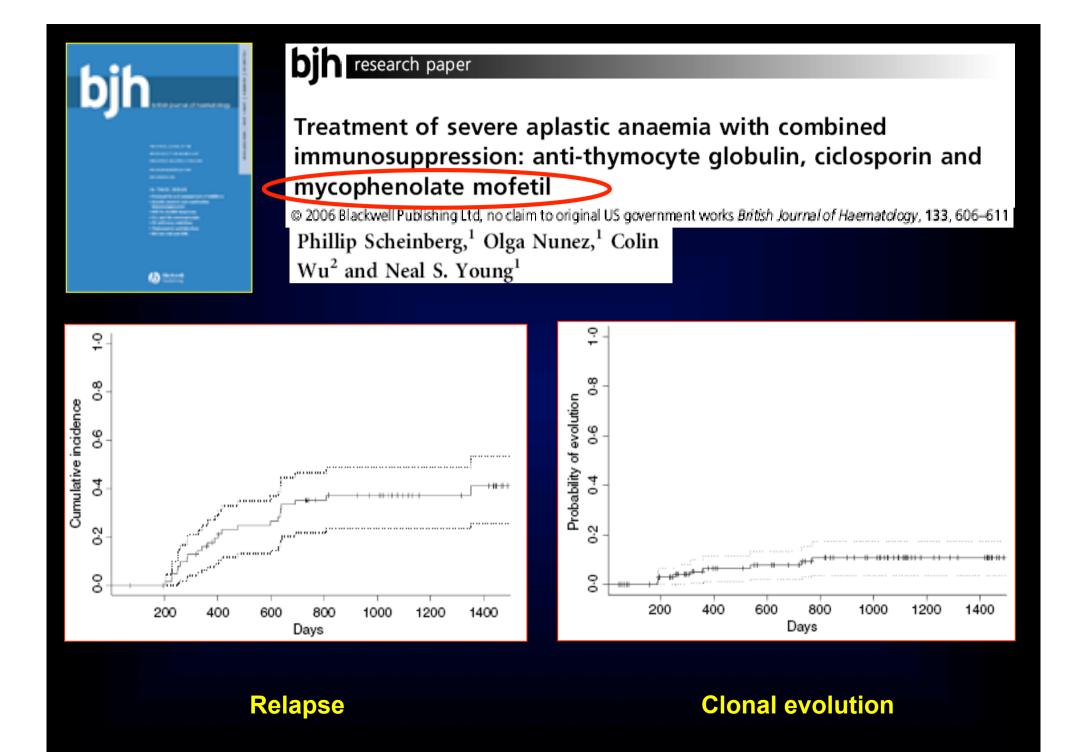




#### n=104 (38% vSAA) hATG+CsA+MMF

#### Overall response 3m 56% (14CR + 43PR) Overall response 6m 62% (16CR + 48PR)



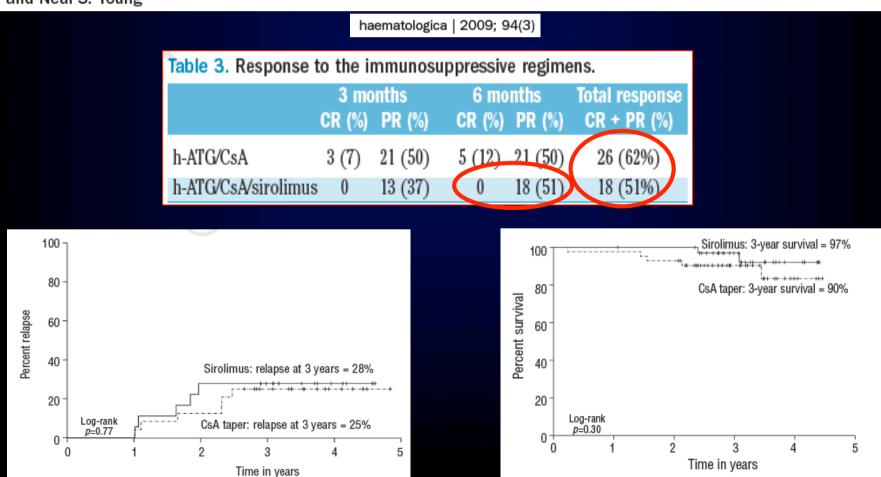


## Sirolimus (Rapamune®)

**Original Article** 

Treatment of severe aplastic anemia with a combination of horse antithymocyte globulin and cyclosporine, with or without sirolimus: a prospective randomized study

Phillip Scheinberg,<sup>1</sup> Colin O. Wu,<sup>2</sup> Olga Nunez,<sup>1</sup> Priscila Scheinberg,<sup>1</sup> Carol Boss,<sup>1</sup> Elaine M. Sloand,<sup>1</sup> and Neal S. Young<sup>1</sup>



# Improving IST: alternative regimens (not ATG-based)

## **CYCLOPHOSPHAMIDE FOR TREATMENT OF SAA** *The Johns Hopkins experience*

BLOOD, 18 MARCH 2010 · VOLUME 115, NUMBER 1

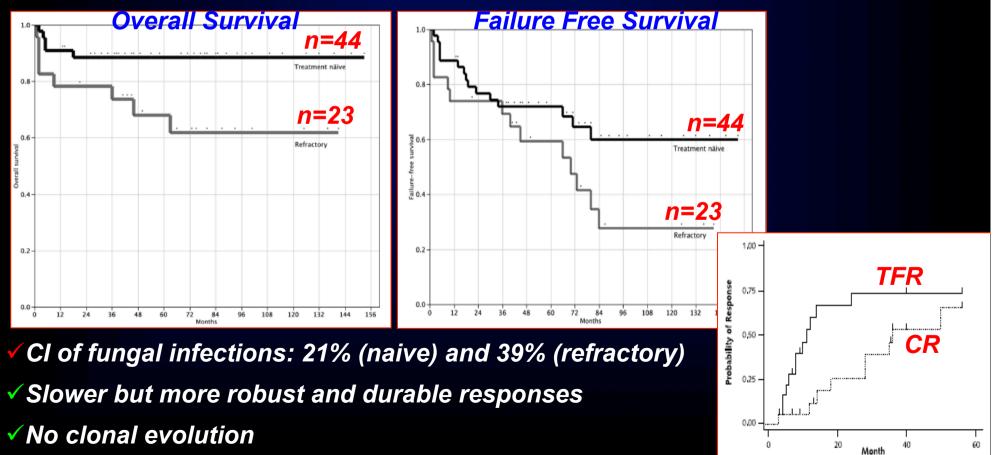
High-dose cyclophosphamide for severe aplastic anemia: long-term follow-up

Robert A. Brodsky,<sup>1,2</sup> Allen R. Chen,<sup>2</sup> Donna Dorr,<sup>1</sup> Ephraim J. Fuchs,<sup>2</sup> Carol Ann Huff,<sup>2</sup> Leo Luznik,<sup>2</sup> B. Douglas Smith,<sup>2</sup> William H. Matsui,<sup>2</sup> Steven N. Goodman,<sup>2</sup> Richard F. Ambinder,<sup>2</sup> and Richard J. Jones<sup>2</sup>

V=67 (44 naive, 23 refractory); 50 mg/kg/day for 4 days (total 200 mg)

✓ OR 71% in naive, 48% in refractory patients

✓ OS and FFS 88% and 58% in naive patients, 62% and 27% in refractory patients



## **CYCLOPHOSPHAMIDE FOR TREATMENT OF SAA** NIH randomized trial

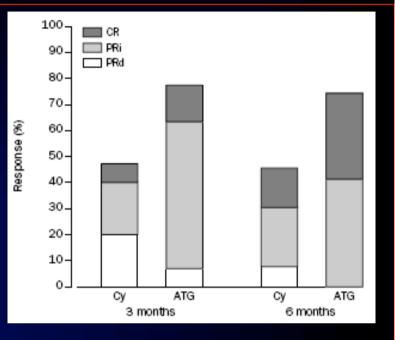
### Lancet 2000: 356: 1554-59 High-dose cyclophosphamide in severe aplastic anaemia: a

#### randomised trial

ARTICLES

lohn F Tisdale, Daniel E Dunn, Nancy Geller, Michelle Plante, Olga Nunez, Cynthia E Dunbar, A John Barrett, Thomas J Walsh. Stephen J Rosenfeld. Neal S Young

n=31 ATG+CsA vs CTX+CsA Early termination due to increased toxicity in the CTX arm (3 early deaths because of infections, plus additional cases rescued by granulocyte transfusions)





Late complications following treatment for severe aplastic anemia (SAA) with high-dose cyclophosphamide (Cy): follow-up of a randomized trial

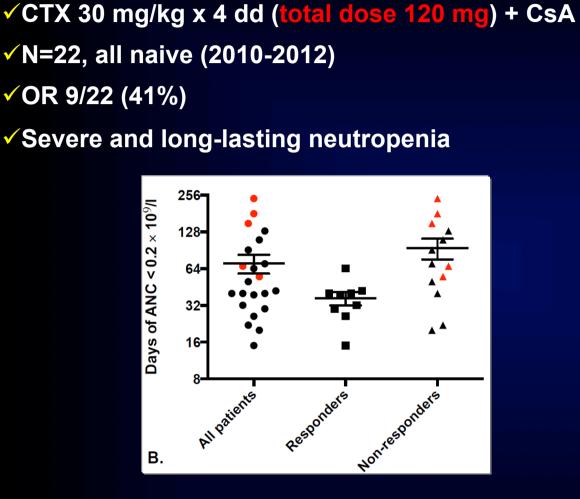
John F. Tisdale, Jaroslaw P. Maciejewski, Olga Nuñez, Stephen J. Rosenfeld, and Neal S. Young

BLOOD, 15 DECEMBER 2002 · VOLUME 100, NUMBER 13

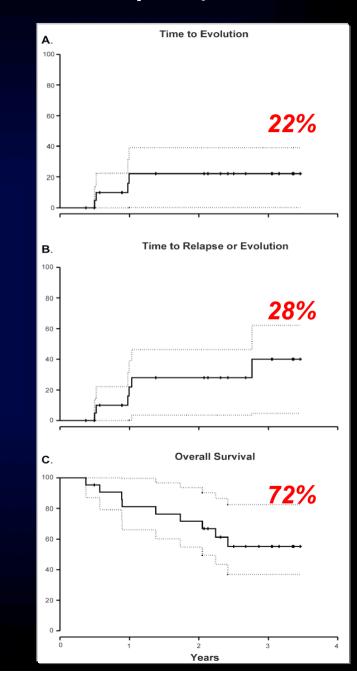
Long-term analysis (median 38m): No difference in response No prevention of late complication of SAA/SAA treatment

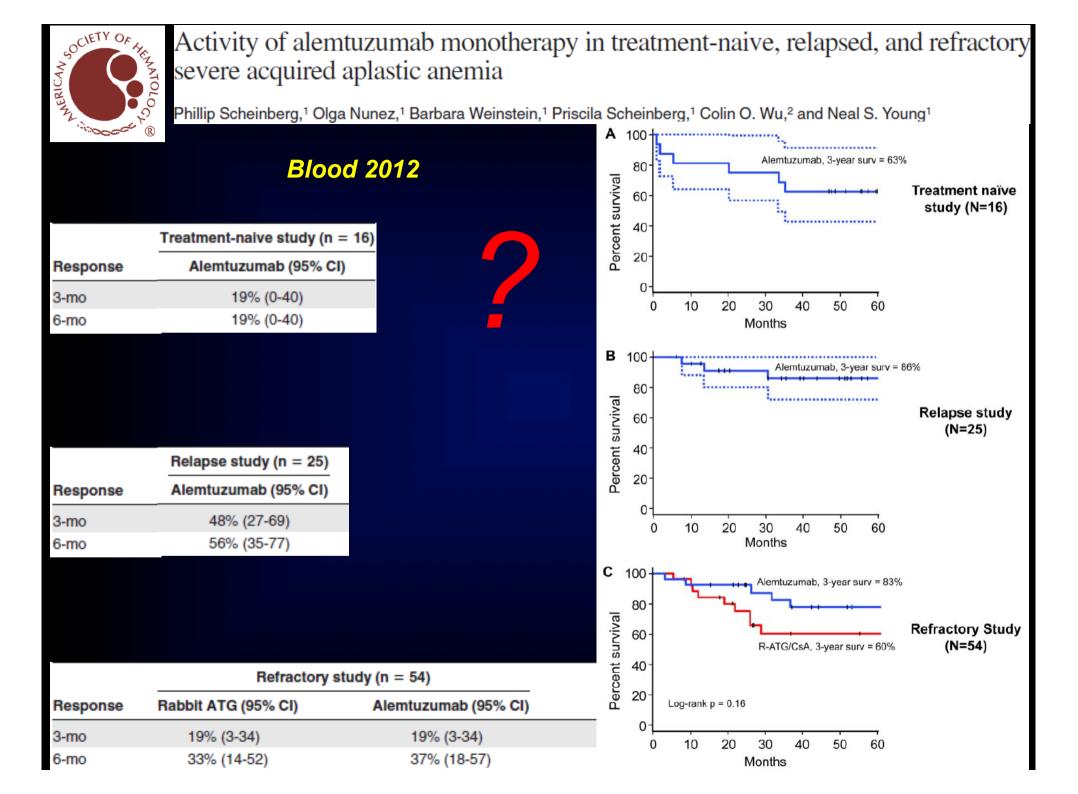
Table 1. Results at median follow-up of 38 months			
	ATG/CSA (%)	Cy/CSA (%)	
Overall response	13/16 (81)	8/15 (53)	
CR	10 (63)	6 (40)	
PRi	3 (18)	2 (13)	
Relapse	6/13 (46)	2/8 (25)	
Cytogenetic evolution	2/14 (14)	1/12 (8)	

## Moderate-dose cyclophospamide plus CsA for AA The NIH experience (Scheinberg et al, Blood 2014 in press)



Confirmed IFI n=6;
 Early termination due to unacceptable toxicity
 No reason to further investigate this regimen





### bjh short report

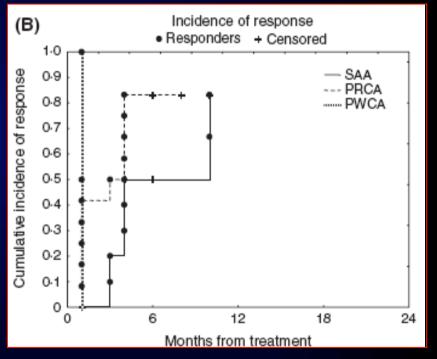
### Risitano et al, 2010

Alemtuzumab is safe and effective as immunosuppressive treatment for aplastic anaemia and single-lineage marrow failure: a pilot study and a survey from the EBMT WPSAA



Phase II prospective study with s.c. alemtuzumab (73-103 mg in 5 days)
 N=28 (AA=13, PRCA=13, PWCA=2); first line and salvage

Best He	matolog	gical Res	sponse	
	n	CR	PR	OR
SAA	13	5	<b>4</b> °	<mark>69%</mark>
PRCA	13	8	3	85%
PWCA	2	2	0	1009

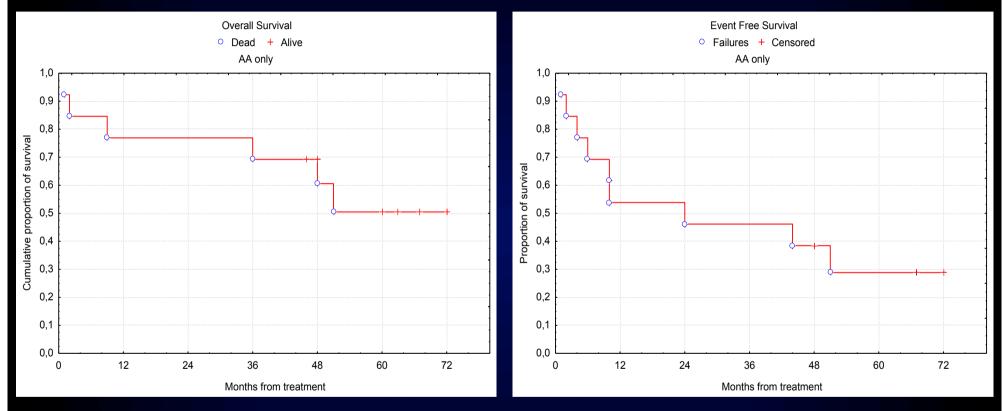


s.c. alemtuzumab is feasible and safe (no increased infectious morbidity)
Remarkably effective, especially in single lineage marrow failures
Frequent relapses (maintenance IS or retreatment needed)
Late failures due to refractory relapses (15%) or clonal evolution (15%)

## Alemtuzumab for marrow failure syndromes Long-term follow up (median 4 years, March 2014)

**Overall Survival** 

**Event Free Survival** 



### Long-term outcome (AA only)

- 4 out 13 in current remission (3 CR, 1 VGPR)
- ✓ Late failures: 2 clonal evolution (non-responders), 2 refractory relapses
  - ✓ No late infectious complications

## The lesson from alternative IST for AA Take home messages

- 1. Different IS agents are biologically active as IST for AA
  - Different ATG preparations, cyclophosphamide, alemtuzumab
  - Other (novel) agents seems failing in demonstrating any benefit (mostly as third drug)
- 2. Lymphocyte depletion remains the most likely mechanisms of action of IST
  - But the equation more profound lymphocyte depletion = better clinical response has been proven wrong
  - Effect on specific lymphocyte subsets?
- 3. Attempts to improve non-transplant treatment for AA may be focused on other mechanism of action
  - Targeted IST agents may have a role in specific phase of AA treatment (i.e. induction or maintenance) or in combination with some standard agents (i.e., synergism)
  - Non-IST agent may play a more relevant role: eltrombopag





## **Aplastic Anemia: Management of Adult Patients**

Jaroslaw P. Maciejewski and Antonio M. Risitano

# **REASONS FOR TREATMENT FAILURE**

Pathophysiology other than immune-mediated
Irreversible stem cell deficit
Insufficient immunosuppression

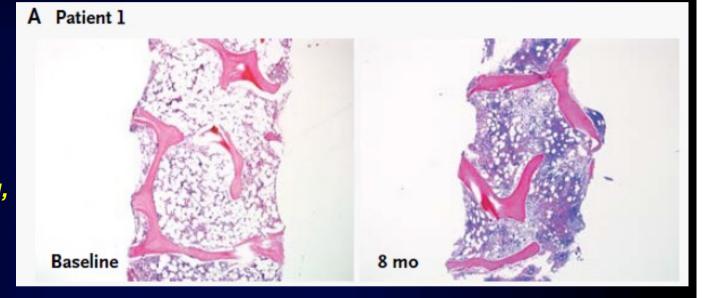
Eltrombopag???

## ELTROMBOPAG IN SAA The status of art



# Eltrombopag and Improved Hematopoiesis in Refractory Aplastic Anemia

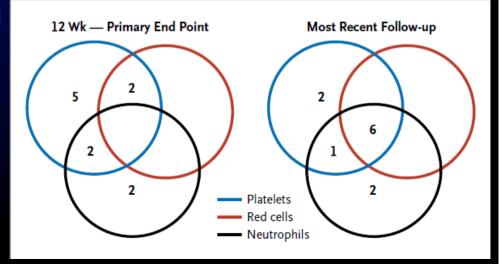
Phase II study n=25 Refractory SAA *Eltrombopag 50-150 mg, orally, for 12 weeks* 



✓ 44% hematological response (at least 1 lineage)

- ✓ Plt response 36%
- ✓ Hb response 24%
- ✓ ANC response 36%
- Increased marrow cellularity (resp.)

Minimal toxicity, no fibrosis



## **ELTROMBOPAG IN SAA** The risk of clonal evolution



#### **Regular Article**

#### CLINICAL TRIALS AND OBSERVATIONS

**CME** Article

Eltrombopag restores trilineage hematopoiesis in refractory severe aplastic anemia that can be sustained on discontinuation of drug

Ronan Desmond,<sup>1</sup> Danielle M. Townsley,<sup>1</sup> Bogdan Dumitriu,<sup>1</sup> Matthew J. Olnes,<sup>2</sup> Phillip Scheinberg,<sup>3</sup> Margaret Bevans,<sup>4</sup> Ankur R. Parikh,<sup>1</sup> Kinneret Broder,<sup>1</sup> Katherine R. Calvo,<sup>5</sup> Colin O. Wu,<sup>6</sup> Neal S. Young,<sup>1</sup> and Cynthia E. Dunbar<sup>1</sup>

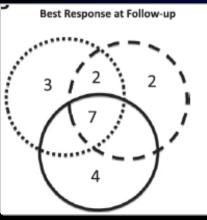
# Additional 18 patients (n=43), OR 17/43 (40%) Long-term follow up

Eltrombopag discontinued in 5 robust VGPR, with sustained response

ССЦ

✓ Clonal evolution in 8/43 (18%), mostly in non-responders (6/8); no RAEB/AML

- NR: 7-/del(7) [n=5], +8 [n=1]
- R: del(13) [n=2]



·	Age (y)	Response	(SNP-based) Baseline	At evolution	Time on eltrombopag (mo)	Dysplasia	Outcome
	60	NR	46XY[20]	-7[20]	3	Ν	Died of progressive cytopenias
	18	NR	46XX[6]	+8[9]/46XX[11]	3	N	Transplanted successfully
	20	NR	46XY[20]	-7[5]t(1;16) [3]/46XY[12]	3	N	Transplanted successfully
	67	R	46XY[20]	del(13)[19]/46XY[1]	13	Mild	Transplanted
						dyserythropoeisis	
	41	NR	46XY[20]	+21[3]/46XY[17]	3	Mild	Awaiting transplant
				-7[2]/46XY[19]	6	dyserythropoeisis	
	66	R	46XY[20]	46XYdel13q[2]/46XY[18]	9	N	Under observation
	23	NR	46XY[20]	-7[5],XY[15]	3	N	Transplanted successfully
	17	NR	No metaphases	+1,der(1;7) [4]/46XY[16]	3	Ν	Transplanted successfully
_			-				

BLOOD, 20 MARCH 2014 ·

VOLUME 123, NUMBER 12

## **ELTROMBOPAG IN SAA** *The status of art*

# FDA U.S. Food and Drug Administration Protecting and Promoting Your Health

#### FDA Approvals > Medscape Medical News

## FDA OKs Eltrombopag (Promacta) for Severe Aplastic Anemia

#### HIGHLIGHTS OF PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

These highlights do not include all the information needed to use PROMACTA safely and effectively. See full prescribing information for PROMACTA.

PROMACTA (eltrombopag) tablets, for oral use Initial U.S. Approval: 2008

#### WARNING: RISK FOR HEPATIC DECOMPENSATION IN PATIENTS WITH CHRONIC HEPATITIS C

See full prescribing information for complete boxed warning

In patients with chronic hepatitis C, PROMACTA in combination with interferon and ribavirin may increase the risk of hepatic decompensation. (5.1)

- Chronic ITP: Initiate PROMACTA at 50 mg once daily for most patients. Reduce initial dose in patients with hepatic impairment and/or patients of East Asian ancestry. Adjust to maintain platelet count greater than or equal to 50 x 10<sup>9</sup>/L. Do not exceed 75 mg per day. (2.1)
- Chronic Hepatitis C-associated Thrombocytopenia: Initiate PROMACTA at 25 mg once daily for all patients. Adjust to achieve target platelet count required to initiate antiviral therapy. Do not exceed a daily dose of 100 mg. (2,2)
- Severe Aplastic Anemia: Initiate PROMACTA at 50 mg once daily for most patients. Reduce initial dose in patients with hepatic impairment or patients of East Asian ancestry. Adjust to maintain platelet count greater than 50 x 10<sup>9</sup>/L. Do not exceed 150 mg per day. (2.3)

----- DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS ------12.5-mg, 25-mg, 50-mg, 75-mg, and 100-mg tablets. (3)



# **EBMT studies for AA**

	moderate AA (EMAA)	vSAA / SAA <mark>(RACE)</mark>
Primary objective	PR + CR at 6 months	CR at 3 months
Inclusion criteria	<ul> <li>- age <u>&gt; 18 years</u></li> <li>- Treatment requiring MAA</li> <li>(transfusion dependency or ANC &lt; 1G/I or Thrombo &lt; 30G/I or Hb &lt; 8,5g/dI &amp; Reti &lt; 60G/I)</li> </ul>	- age <u>&gt;</u> 15 years - SAA/ vSAA - No primary allo-SCT
Treatment	<b>CsA + Eltrombopag</b> versus CsA + Placebo	hATG (ATGAM) + CsA + Eltrombopag versus h ATG + CsA
Eltrombopag Dosage	150 mg (225 mg)	150 mg
Design	Placebo controlled	Open lable
Patient number	2 x 58	2 x 100
Sponsor	University hospital Ulm	EBMT



# Eltrombopag in moderate Aplastic Anemia (MAA) and Supportive Care in Aplastic Anemia





Britta Höchsmann & Hubert Schrezenmeier

Institute of Clinical Transfusion Medicine and Immunogenetics Ulm German Red Cross Blood Donor Services Baden-Wuerttemberg - Hessia & Institute of Transfusion Medicine, University Hospital of Ulm



# **THE RACE trial**

A prospective Randomized multicenter study comparing horse Antithymocyte globuline (hATG) + Cyclosporine A (CsA) ± Eltrombopag as front-line therapy for severe aplastic anemia patients.

## **PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS**

Regis Peffault de Latour (Paris)

Antonio M Risitano (Naples)



A prospective Randomized multicenter study comparing horse Antithymocyte globuline (hATG) + Cyclosporine A (CsA) with or without Eltrombopag as front-line therapy for severe aplastic anemia patients – RACE STUDY(1)

	Working party	Principal investigators	Trial Coordinator
DACE Trial		Antonio M Risitano / Regis Peffault de Latour	Marleen van Os
RACE Trial 11 March 2016	SAA-WP GS trea the pati	To investigate whether <b>Eltron</b> GSK) added to standard in treatment, CsA + hATG ( <u>ATGA</u> the rate of early complete respondents <sup>*</sup> * Patients will be stratified by age an	mmune-suppressive <u>M</u> , Pfizer) increases onse in untreated AA
	Participating countries		



# THE EBMT RACE STUDY Study design

 An EBMT Severe Aplastic Anemia Working Party study (approved by the CTO), entirely funded by Novartis and Pfizer

- Aim of the study: to improve the current standard treatment for SAA
  - To improve the robustness of hematological response of SAA patients receiving IST
- ✓ Prospective, open label, phase III randomized study
  - Control arm: horse ATG (40 mg/kg x 4dd, iv) + cyclosporine (5 mg/kg, os)
  - Investigational arm: horse ATG + cyclosporine + eltrombopag (150 mg/ die, os)

Type B trial, because eltrombopag may theoretically result in a somewhat higher risk (mostly clonal evolution) in comparison to standard medical care

✓ Participating centers: 30 sites from 7 EU Countries (France, Italy, UK, Germany, Spain, Netherlands, Switzerland)



# THE EBMT RACE STUDY Statistical design

## Superiority study

## ✓ Sample size calculation

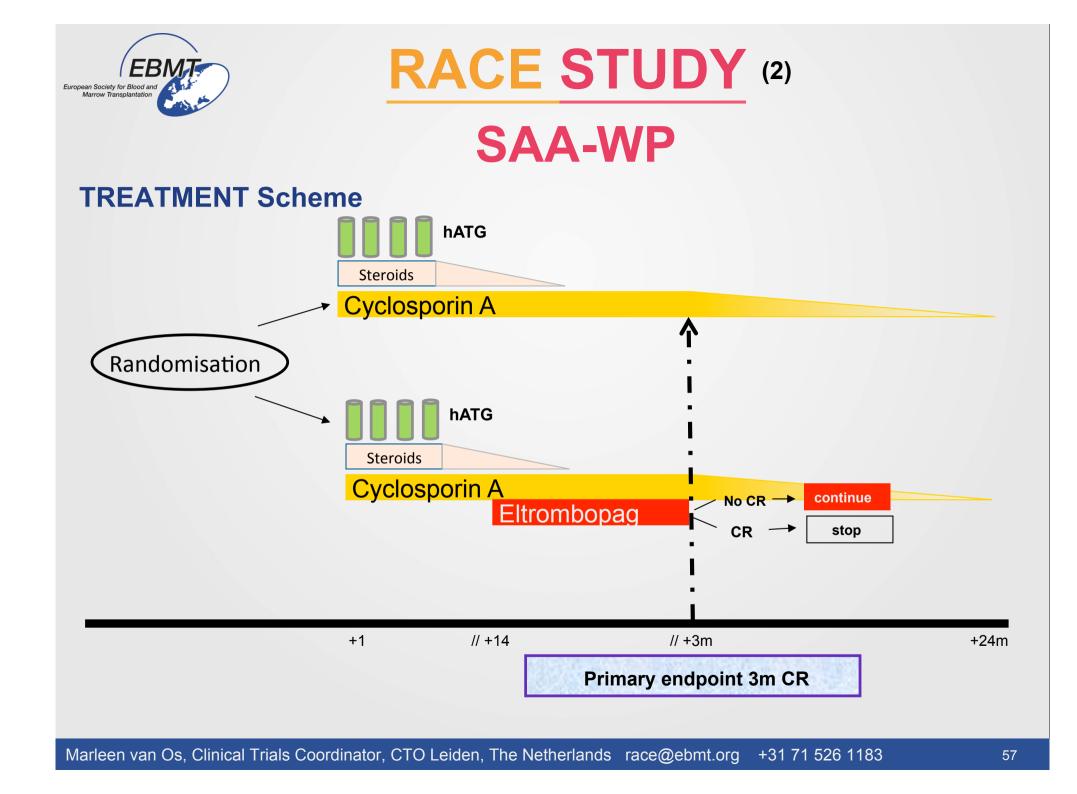
- Aiming to increase the 3m CR rate from 7% (Scheinberg, Haematologica 2010) to 21% (current NIH data)
- Sample size to reject the null hypothesis at 5% significance level (alpha-error) and with 80% power (two-sided test) is n=96 patients for treatment arm
- Sample size increased by 4% to compensate for possibly not evaluable patients: total number of 200 patients (100 each arm)

## ✓ Randomization

- 1:1 randomization, including a stratified block design
- ✓ Stratification according to:
  - Disease severity:
    - Severe aplastic anemia (SAA)
    - Very severe aplastic anemia (VSAA: SAA plus ANC <200/μL)</li>
  - Age:
    - >=15 and <40 year old</p>
    - >=40 year old

✓ No stopping rules (study continuation led to discretion of the DMSB)

✓No interim analysis





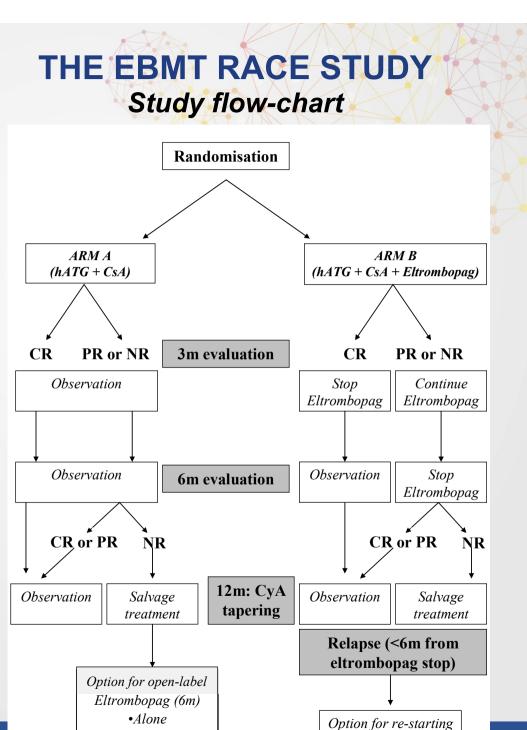
**Initial treatment** 

3 month evaluation: primary endpoint

6 month evaluation: stop eltrombopag Possible cross-over (standard arm only)

12 month evaluation:

Relapse: possible eltrombopag re-starting (investigational arm only) 24 month evaluation: end of the study



 $\bullet + IST$ 

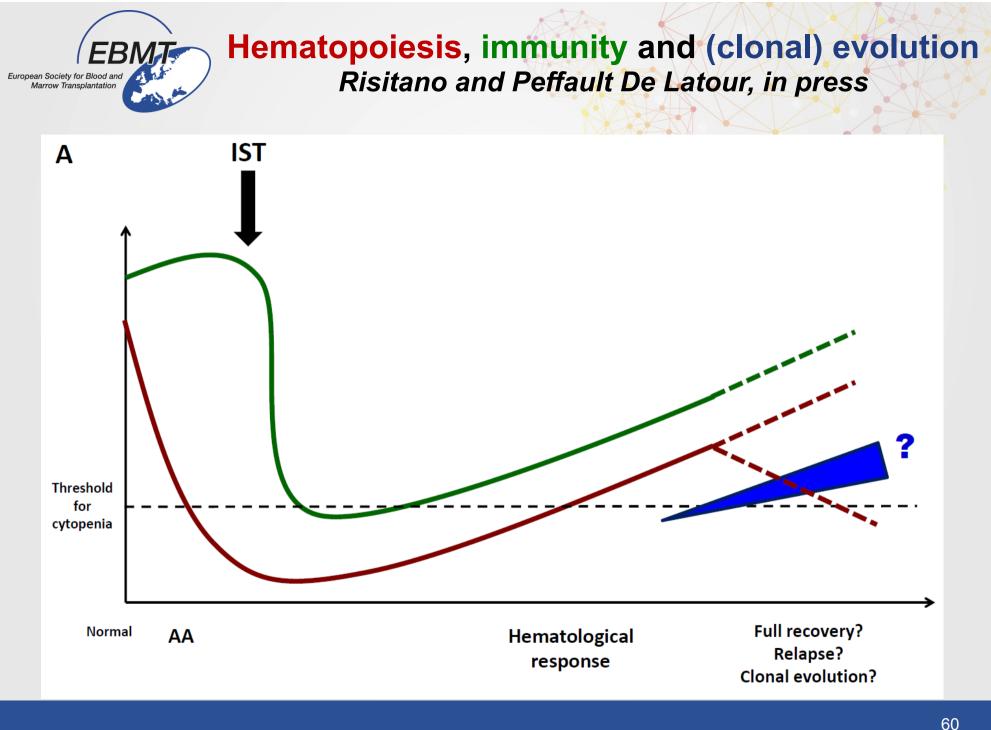
Eltrombopag (6m)

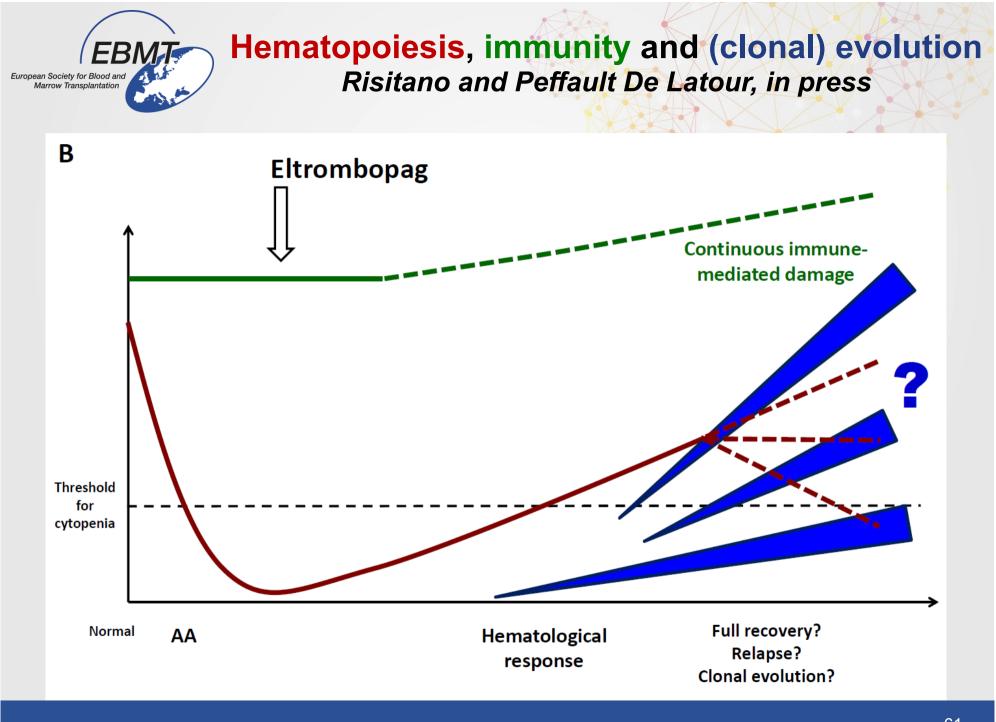


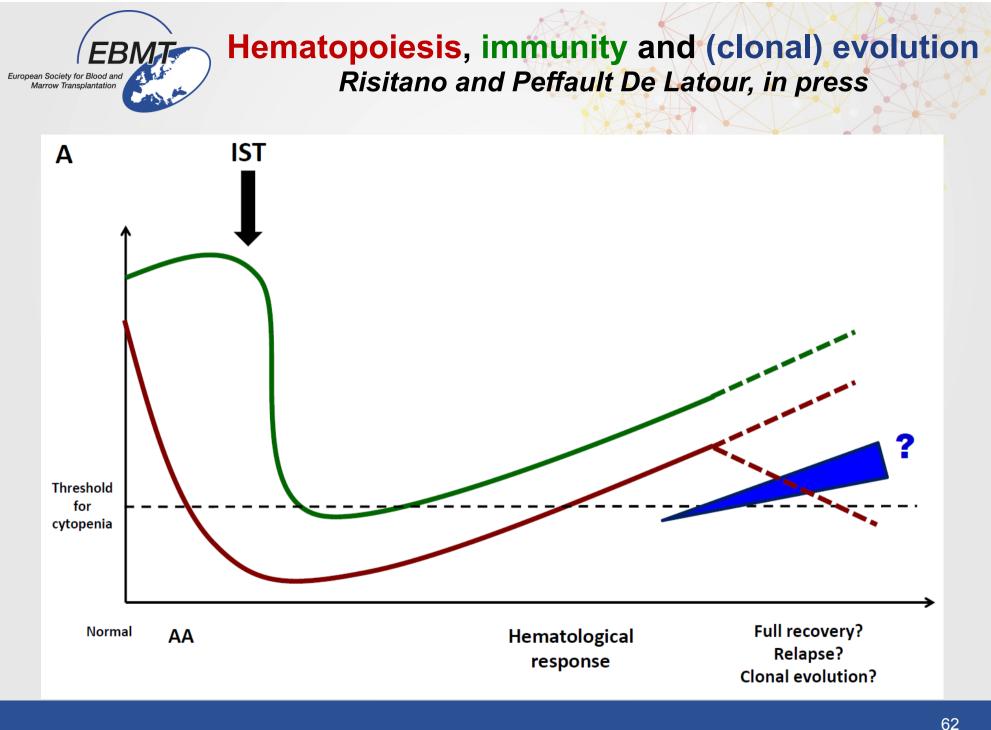
# RACE trial – participating sites

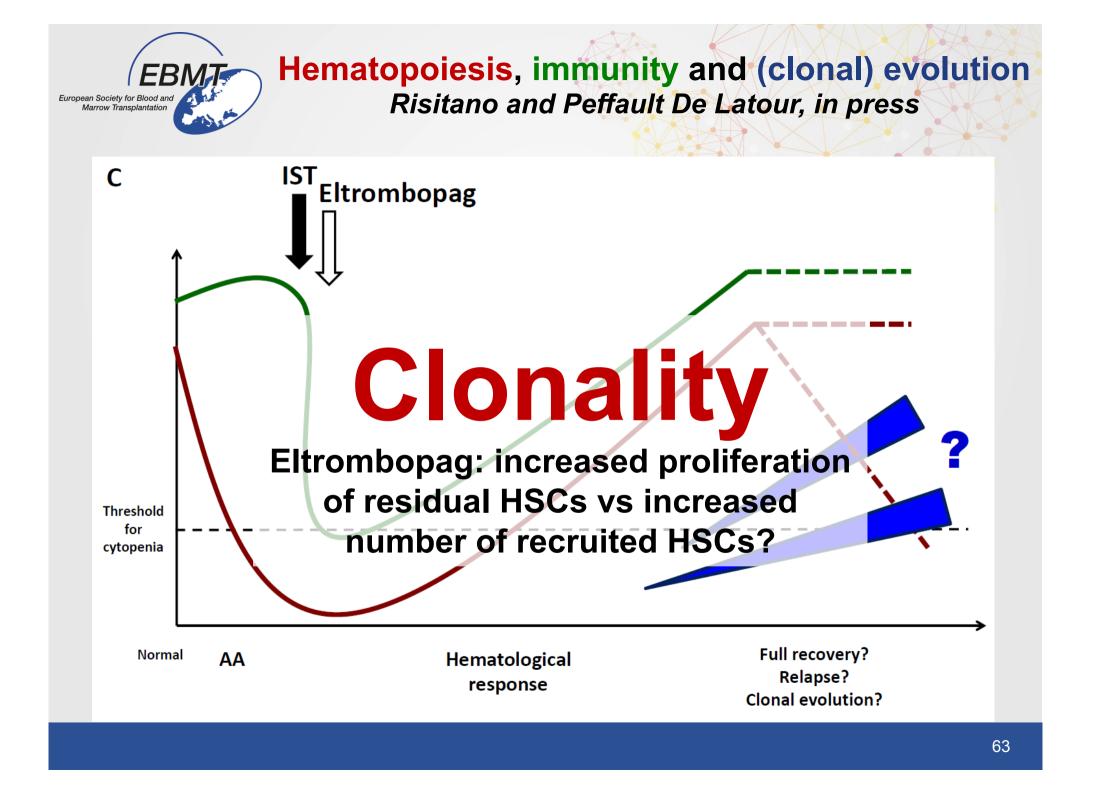


Country	# sites
France	6
Germany	5
Italy	6
Netherlands	4
Spain	5
Switzerland	1
United Kingdom	5
Total	32











# RACE trial – ancillary biological study (King's College)

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#### **Regular Article**

#### **MYELOID NEOPLASIA**

#### Somatic mutations identify a subgroup of aplastic anemia patients who progress to myelodysplastic syndrome

Austin G. Kulasekararaj,<sup>1,2</sup> Jie Jiang,<sup>1,2</sup> Alexander E. Smith,<sup>1,2</sup> Azim M. Mohamedali,<sup>1,2</sup> Syed Mian,<sup>1</sup> Shreyans Gandhi,<sup>2</sup> Joop Gaken,<sup>1</sup> Barbara Czepulkowski,<sup>2</sup> Judith C. W. Marsh,<sup>1,2</sup> and Ghulam J. Mufti<sup>1,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Haematological Medicine, King's College London School of Medicine, London, United Kingdom; and <sup>2</sup>Department of Haematology, King's College Hospital, London, United Kingdom

#### Table 3. Details of all the somatic mutations in the study

UPN	Gene	Mutant allele burden (%)	Variant class	Nucleotide and protein change	Constitutional DN
2*	ASXL1	30	Frameshift insertion	c.1927_1928insG:p.G643fs	Skin
2*	DNMT3A	42	Nonsynonymous SNV	c.C1540G:p.L514V	Skin
2*	ERBB2	44	Nonsynonymous SNV	c.G922A:p.V308M	Skin
5*	TET2	5	Stopgain SNV	c.C3100T:p.Q1034X	Skin
6*	ASXL1	38	Stopgain SNV	c.C2242T:p.Q748X	Buccal
10*	SRSF2	43	Nonsynonymous SNV	c.C284T:p.P95L	Buccal
16*	ASXL1	23	Frameshift insertion	c.2469_2470insAG:p.L823fs	Skin
18*	DNMT3A	31	Nonsynonymous SNV	c.C2644T:p.R882C	Skin
19*	IKZF1	14	Nonsynonymous SNV	c.C640G:p.H214D	Skin
21*	BCOR	5	Stopgain SNV	c.C526T:p.Q176X	Buccal
29*	ASXL1	41	Stopgain SNV	c.G4068A:p.W1356X	Skin
33*	BCOR	68	Stopgain SNV	c.G4832A:p.W1611X	Skin
40*	ASXL1	31	Nonframeshift deletion	c.2894_2896del:p.965_966del	Buccal
46*	MPL	10	Nonsynonymous SNV	c.G1544T:p.W515L	Buccal
64	DNMT3A	47	Nonsynonymous SNV	c.C2644T:p.R882C	Skin
66	ASXL1	37	Frameshift deletion	c.2433delT:p.N811fs	Skin
67	U2AF1	19	Nonsynonymous SNV	c.C101A:p.S34Y	Skin
69	ASXL1	34	Stopgain SNV	c.C2077T:p.R693X	Buccal
70	ASXL1	2	Stopgain SNV	c.G2026T:p.E676X	Buccal
70	BCOR	14	Stopgain SNV	c.T912G:p.Y304X	Buccal
73	BCOR	6	Frameshift insertion	c.4834_4835insC:p.L1612fs	Skin
79	ASXL1	36	Stopgain SNV	c.G2026T:p.E676X	Buccal
81	ASXL1	3	Stopgain SNV	c.T2324G:p.L775X	Skin
88	ASXL1	7	Frameshift deletion	c.2126delC:p.A709fs	Skin
93	DNMT3A	8	Stopgain SNV	C2311T:p.R771X	Skin
94	BCOR	30	Splice site	splice site c.3052-2A>G	Skin
97	DNMT3A	7	Nonsynonymous SNV	c.C2644T:p.R882C	Buccal
107	ASXL1	30	Stopgain SNV	c.T2468G:p.L823X	Buccal
129	DNMT3A	5	Nonsynonymous SNV	c.G2207A:p.R736H	Skin
130	DNMT3A	5	Nonsynonymous SNV	c.G2645A:p.R882H	Skin
140	BCOR	5	Frameshift deletion	c.4760delC:p.P1587fs	Buccal
142	DNMT3A	1.5	Nonsynonymous SNV	c.C2644T:p.R882C	Buccal

RACE trial, 11 Mar

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



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Cleveland Clinic Foundation Hematopoiesis and Experimental Hematology Division Jaroslaw P. Maciejewski



Severe Aplastic Anemia Working Party Regis Peffault De Latour, Carlo Dufour Judith Marsh, Jakob Passweg, Andrea Bacigalupo, Gerard Sociè, Hubert Schrezenmeier

## **APLASTIC ANEMIA** Differential diagnosis with hypoplastic MDS

Characteristics	AA	hypoplastic MDS
dyserythropoiesis	sometimes	yes
abnormal neutrophil	no	yes
dysplastic megakaryocytes	no	yes
fibrosis	no	occasional
increased blasts	no	Sometimes (ALIPS)
CD34+ cells in BM	< 1.0%	sometimes increased
clonality	possible	sometimes
splenomegaly	absent	occasional

Bennett et al. Sem Hemato 2000;37:15-29 Bennett & Orazi. Haematologica 2009 Feb; 94(2):264-843-70 Hama A et al. Rinsho Ketsueki 2011 Aug ;52(8) :653-8

## IMPROVING IMMUNOSUPPRSSIVE TREATMENT FOR AA The history of a failure

- 1. No benefit from the addition of a third drug over the hATG-CsA platform
  - Mycophenolate mofetil (randomized NIH trial)
  - Rapamicine (open-label NIH trial)
- 2. No benefit from using non-hATG based regimens
  - Rabbit ATG (NIH, EBMT, etc)
  - Alemtuzumab (NIH, Naples)
  - Cyclophosphamide (John Hopkins, NIH)
- 3. Novel immunosuppressive strategies
  - Anti-cytokine mAbs (TNF, IFN, IL2/IL23, etc)
  - Daclizumab (anti-IL2R), alefacept (anti-LFA-3), efalizumab (anti-LFA-1)
  - Mesenchimal stem cells
  - Anti-CD26 (Begedina®): in development for aGvHD

Scheinberg et al BJH 2006; Scheinberg et al Haematologica 2009; Risitano et al BJH 2009; Scheinberg et al NEJM 2011; Marsh et al Blood 2013; Scheinberg et al Blood 2012