

# THERAPIE DER CHRONISCHEN LYMPHATISCHEN LEUKÄMIE (CLL)

Hämatologie/Onkologie im Dialog

10. Mai 2023

Barbara Eichhorst

# **DISCLOSURES**

**Barbara Eichhorst**

## **Consulting or Advisory Boards:**

AbbVie, AstraZeneca, BeiGene, Gilead, Lilly, Janssen, MSD, Miltenyi

## **Speaker / Speaker's Bureau**

AbbVie, AstraZeneca, BeiGene, Janssen, MSD, Roche

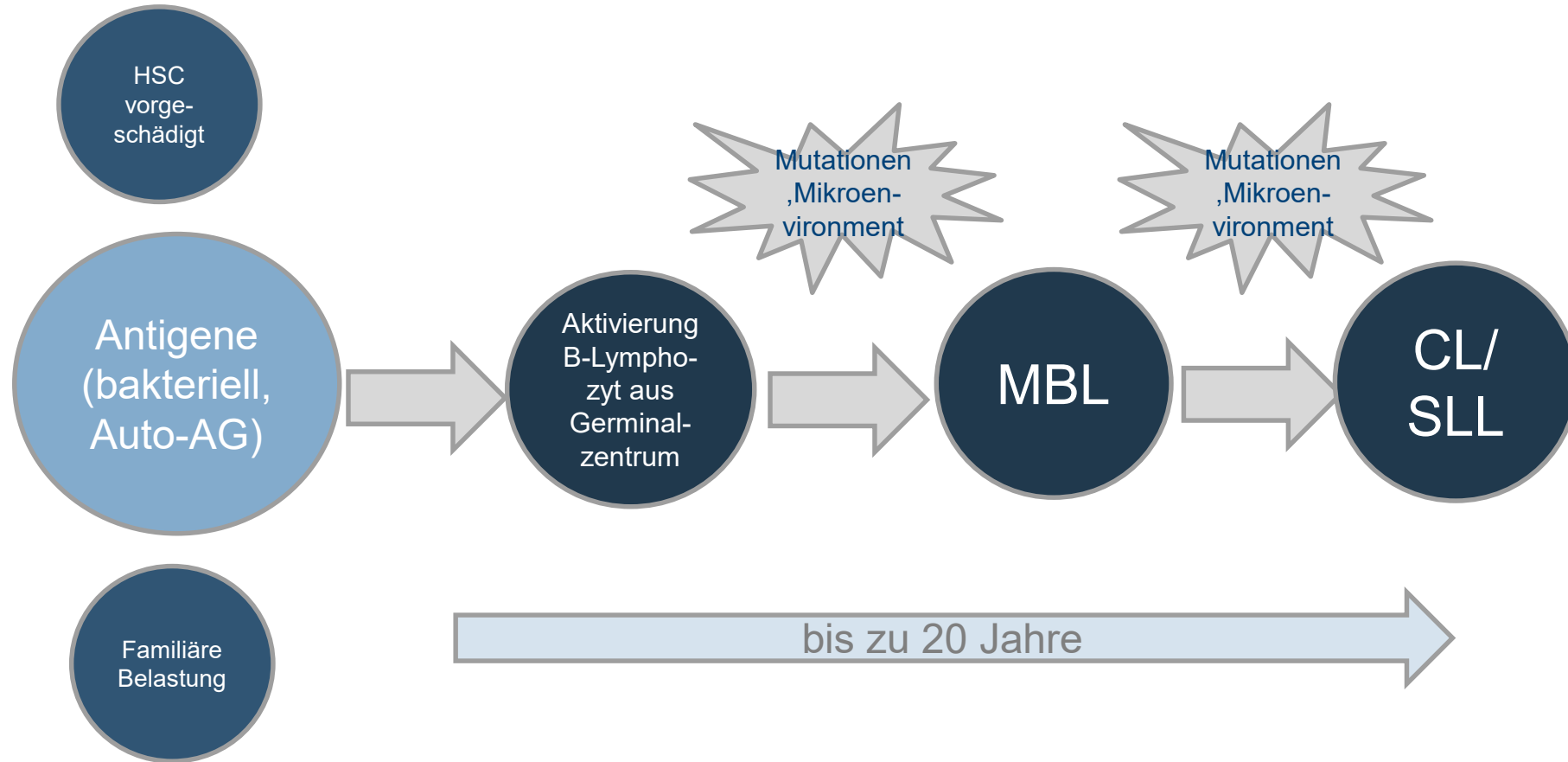
## **Research funding:**

AbbVie, Astra Zeneca, BeiGene, Janssen, Roche

# Pathogenese und Prognosefaktoren

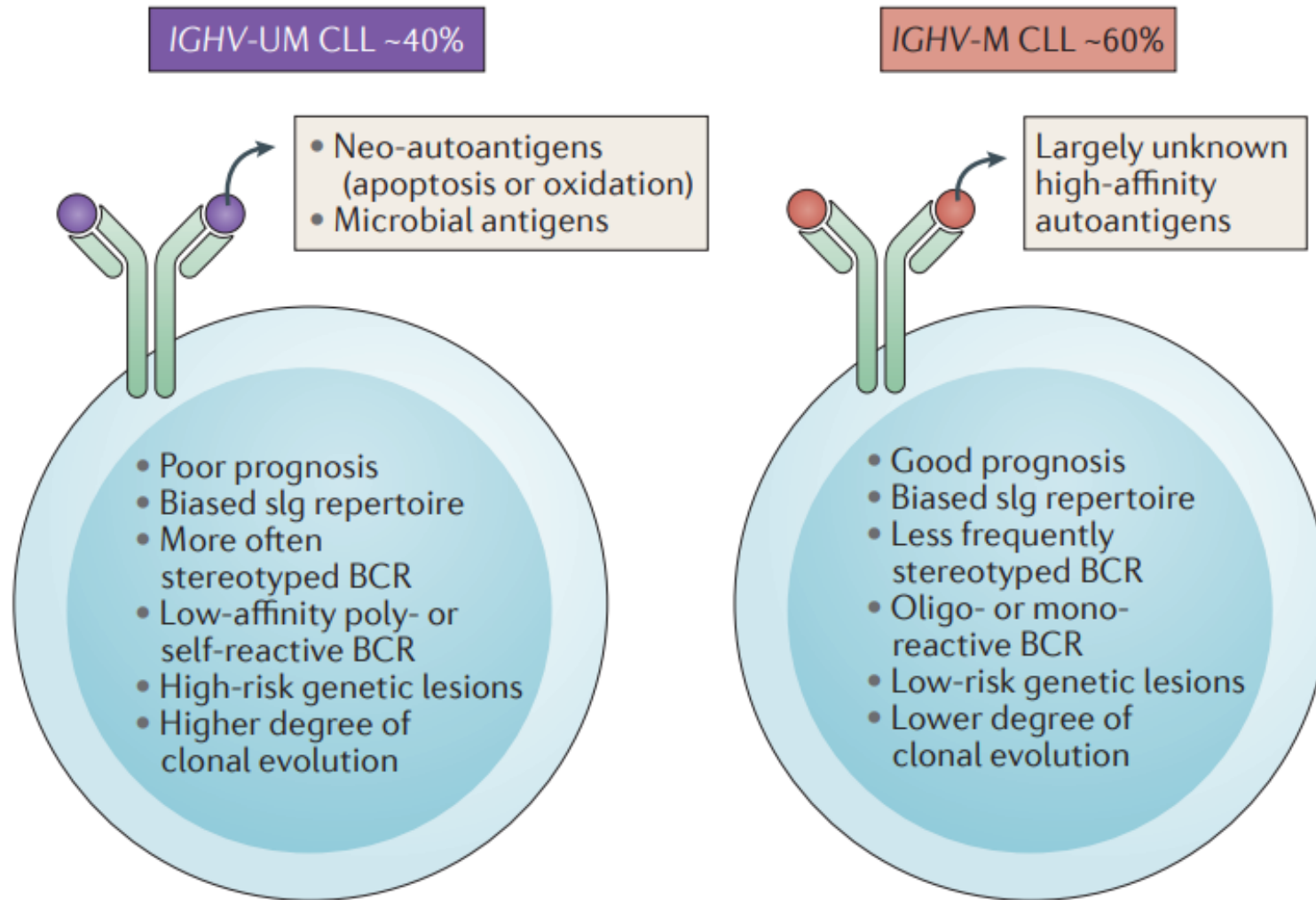
# Pathogenese

Sehr vereinfacht !

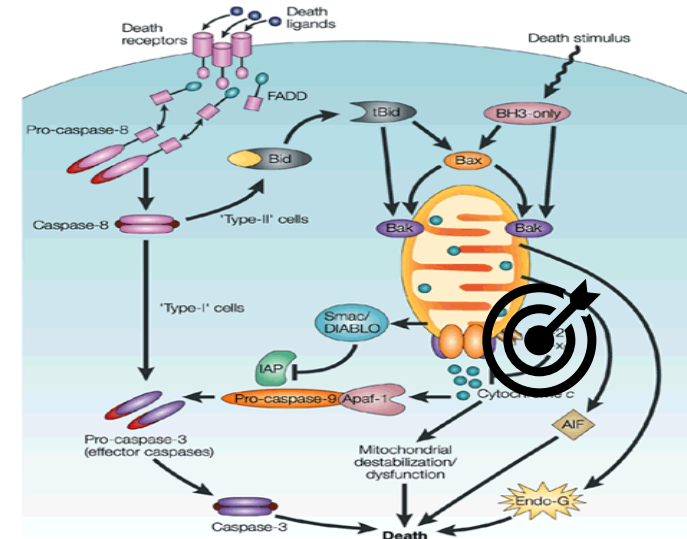
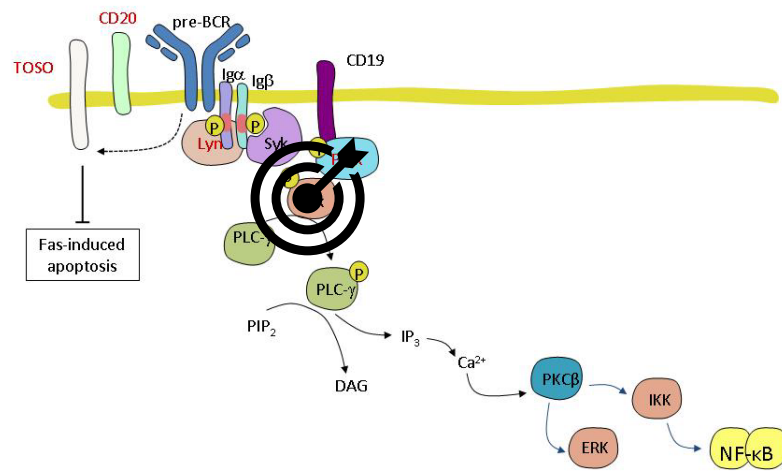


# Biologische Charakterisierung der 2 Subtypen der CLL

Unmutierter und mutierter IGHV



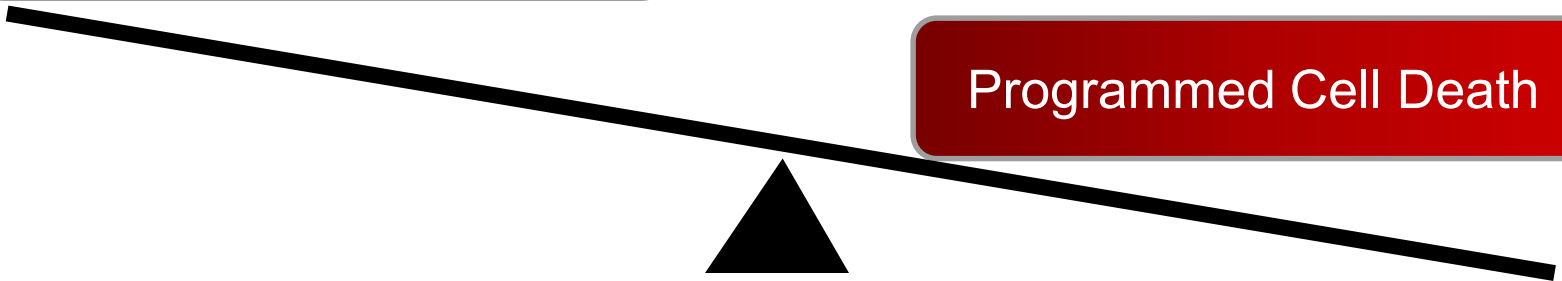
# Targeted therapies in CLL: Restoration of balance of survival and cell death



Nature Reviews | Molecular Cell Biology

Cell Survival

Programmed Cell Death



# Therapieindikation

Keine Indikation im frühen,  
asymptomatischen  
Binetstadium A oder B !

# Wann, welche Prognosefaktoren ?

## ESMO guidelines CLL 2020

	Pre-treatment evaluation	Staging	FU before treatment/treatment-free interval
History, physical examination and performance status	+	+	+
Complete blood count and differential	+	+	+
Serum chemistry including serum immunoglobulin and direct antiglobulin test	+	+	-
Cytogenetics (FISH) and molecular genetics for TP53 mutation or del(17p)	+	-	(+) <sup>a</sup>
IGHV mutational status	+	-	(+) <sup>a</sup>
Marrow aspirate and biopsy	+ <sup>b</sup>	+ <sup>c</sup>	-
HBV, HCV, CMV and HIV serology	+	-	-
Radiologic imaging (CT scan)	+ <sup>d</sup>	+ <sup>d</sup>	-

<sup>a</sup>Only if patient requests the evaluation of his prognostic score.

<sup>b</sup>Only if clinically indicated.

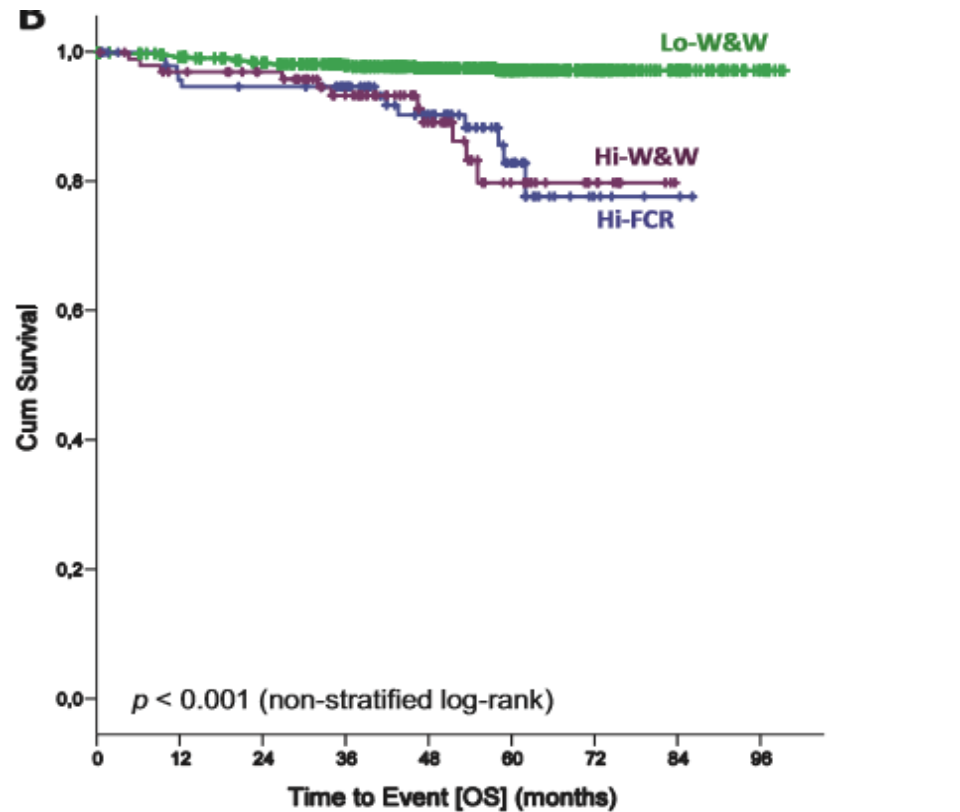
<sup>c</sup>Only for confirmation of CR within clinical studies.

<sup>d</sup>Only within clinical studies, in patients with clinical symptoms and before any venetoclax treatment.

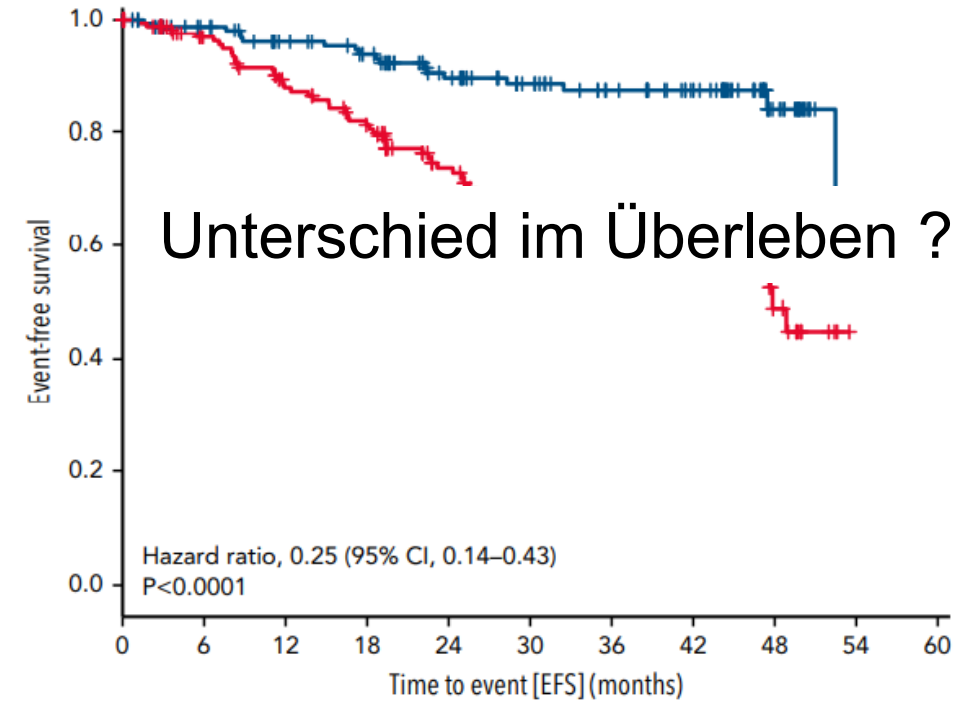


# Frühes asymptomatisches Stadium: Kein Benefit durch frühzeitigen Start einer CIT bei HR. Aber evtl. mit Ibrutinib?

Herling CD et al., Leukemia. 2020; 34:2038-2050: FCR im frühen Stadium



Langerbeins P et al., Blood. 2022; 139: 177: Ibrutinib im frühen Stadium



Patients at risk

Ibrutinib	182	145	130	121	99	83	71	59	21
Placebo	181	141	122	108	83	64	45	33	13

Erstlinientherapie fortgeschrittenes Stadium

Symptomatisches

Binetstadium A oder B und Binet C

# Erstlinientherapie-Optionen bei der CLL

## Dauertherapie



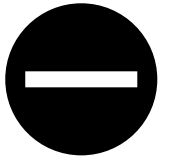
### **BTKi +/- Anti-CD20**

- Ibrutinib +/- R or O
- Acalabrutinib +/- O
- Zanubrutinib

### **BCL2i**

- Venetoclax  
only in pts with *TP53* aberration\*

## Zeitlich limitierte Therapie



### **BCL2i + Anti-CD20**

- Venetoclax + O  
12 cycles

### **BTKi + BCL2i**

- Ibrutinib + Venetoclax  
15 cycles

### **CIT** nur bei mut.IGHV / keine *TP53* Aberration

- FCR/BR/C1b+O

# Erstlinientherapie-Optionen bei der CLL

## Dauertherapie



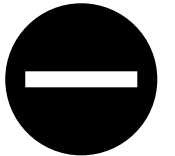
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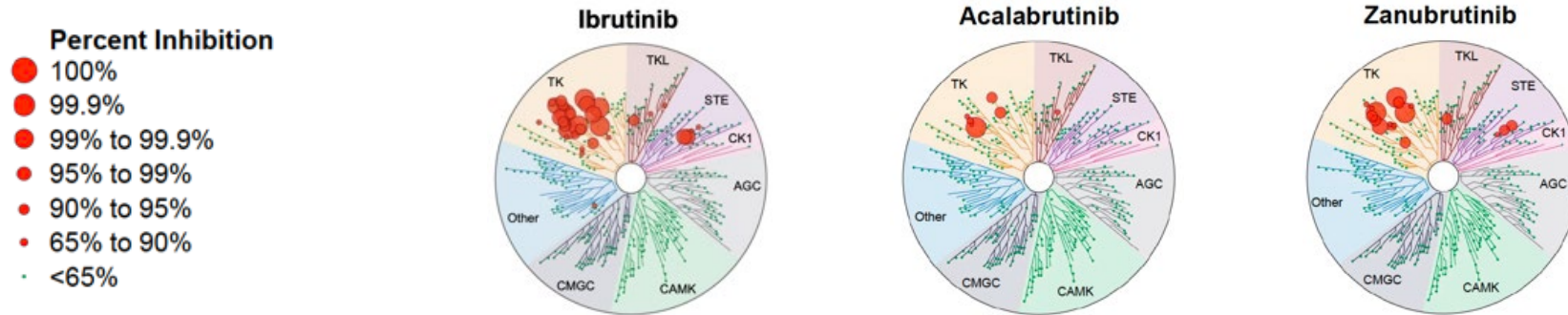
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**CIT** nur bei mut.IGHV / keine TP53 Aberration

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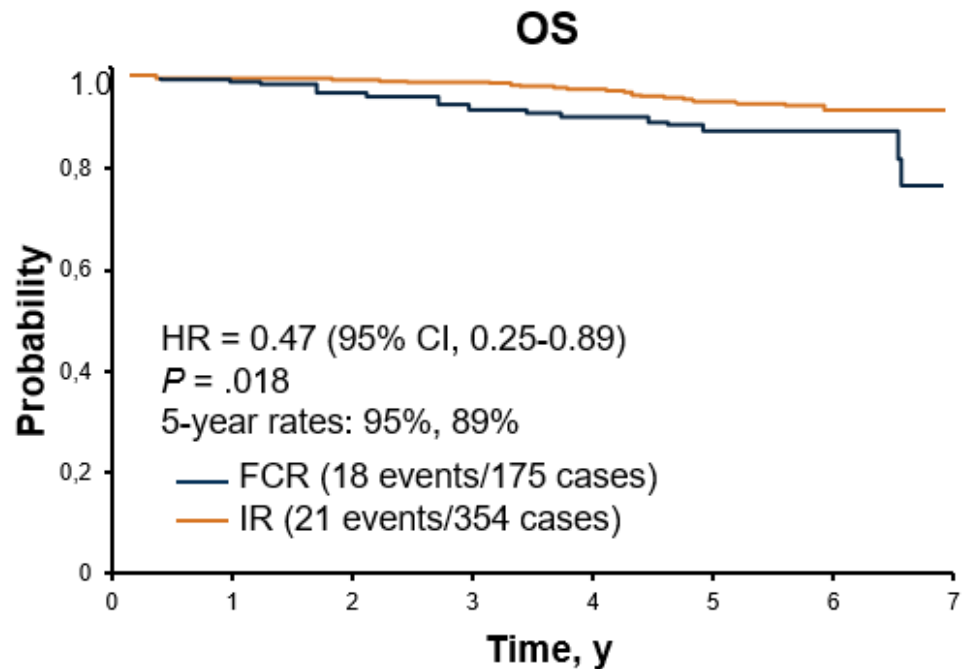
# Wahl des BTK-Inhibitors: Selektivität des Inhibitors (Average IC50 nmol/L)



TEC Kinases	Ibrutinib	Acalabrutinib	Zanubrutinib
BTK	1.5	5.1	0.5
TEC	10	126	44
BMX	0.8	46	1.4
TXK	2.0	368	2.2
ERBB2/HER2	6.4	~1,000	88
EGFR	5.3	>1,000	21
ITK	4.9	>1,000	50
JAK3	32	>1,000	1,377
BLK	0.1	>1,000	2.5

# Ibrutinib + Rituximab and Acalabrutinib + Obinutuzumab improve OS in comparison to CIT

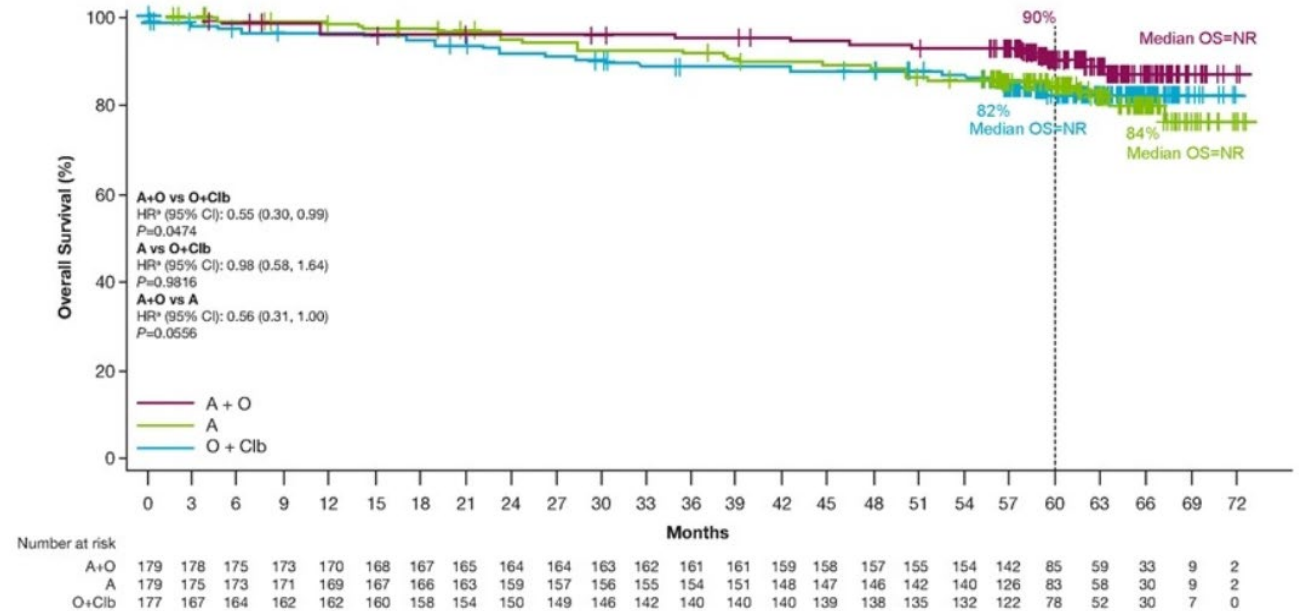
ECOG1912: Ibrutinib + R vs FCR



No. at Risk	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
FCR	175	155	143	131	126	96	47	3
IR	354	347	343	338	329	300	139	20

Shanafelt T et al. *Blood*. 2022;140:112-120.

ELEVATE TN:  
 Acalabrutinib + O vs Acalabrutinib vs Clb +O



Sharman JP, et al. EHA 2022. Abstract P666.

# Nebenwirkungsprofile der verschiedenen BTK Inhibitoren

AE ≥ CTC Grade 3	Ibrutinib			Acalabrutinib	Zanubrutinib
	E1912 (I + Rituximab) <sup>1</sup>	RESONATE-2 <sup>2</sup>	ALLIANCE <sup>3</sup>	ELEVATE-TN <sup>4</sup>	SEQUOIA <sup>5</sup>
Median observation time, mo	70	60	38	47	24
Hypertension, %	11.4	8	29	2.8	6.3
Cardiac, %	7.7	N/A	N/A	8.4	N/A
AF, %	4.5	5	9	1.1	0.4
Neutropenia, %	28.4	13	15	11.2	11.3
Infection, %	11.4	12 <sup>a</sup>	19	16.2	16.3

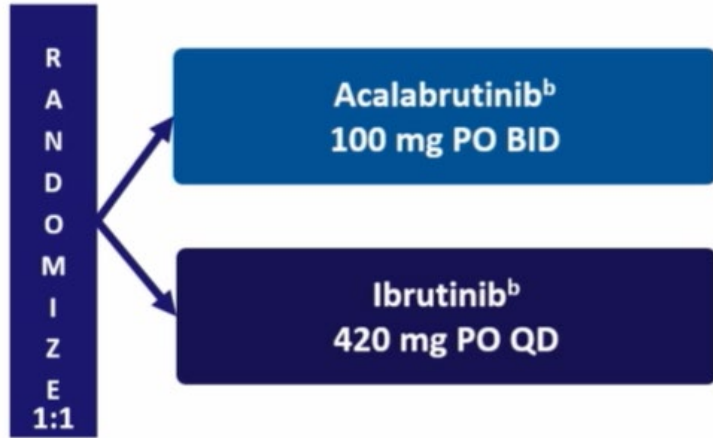
<sup>a</sup> Pneumonia only.

1. Shanafelt TD et al. *Blood*. 2022;140:112-120. 2. Barr PM et al. *Blood Adv*. 2022;6:3440-3450. 3. Woyach JA et al. *N Engl J Med*. 2018;379:2517-2528. 4. Sharman JP et al. *Lancet*. 2020;395:1278-1291. 5. Tam C et al. ASH 2021. Abstract 396.

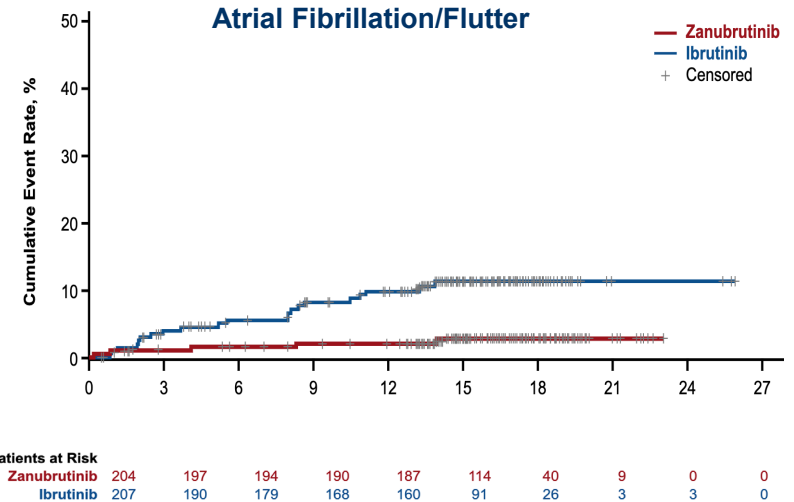
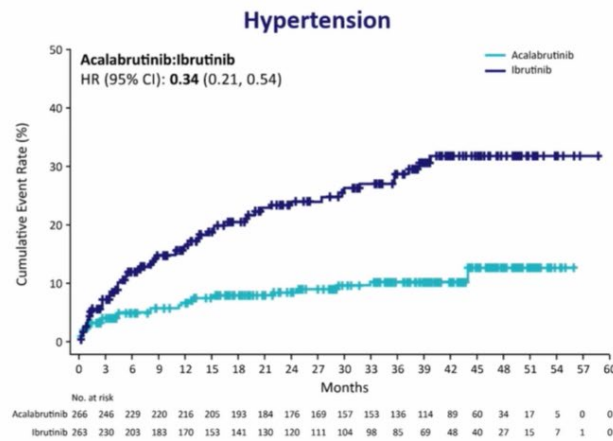
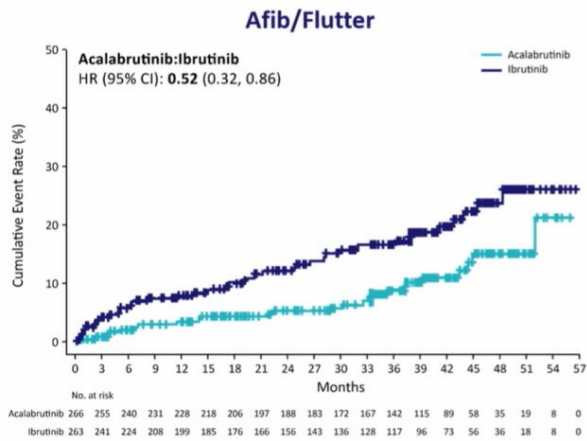
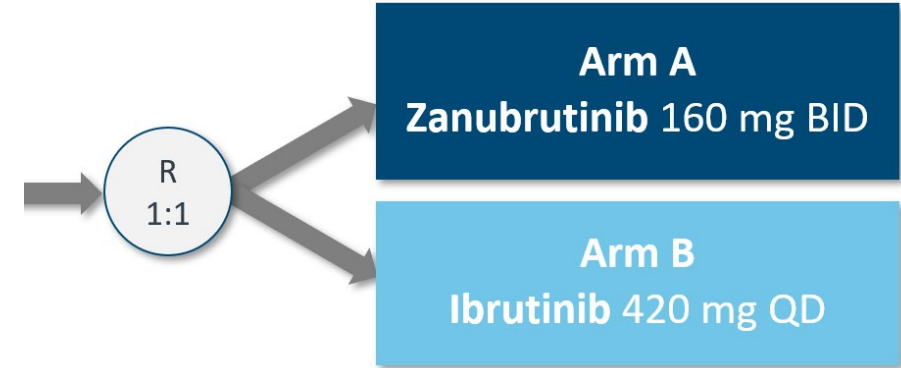


# Direkter Vergleich verschiedener BTK Inhibitoren (Rezidivstudien!)

## Acalabrutinib

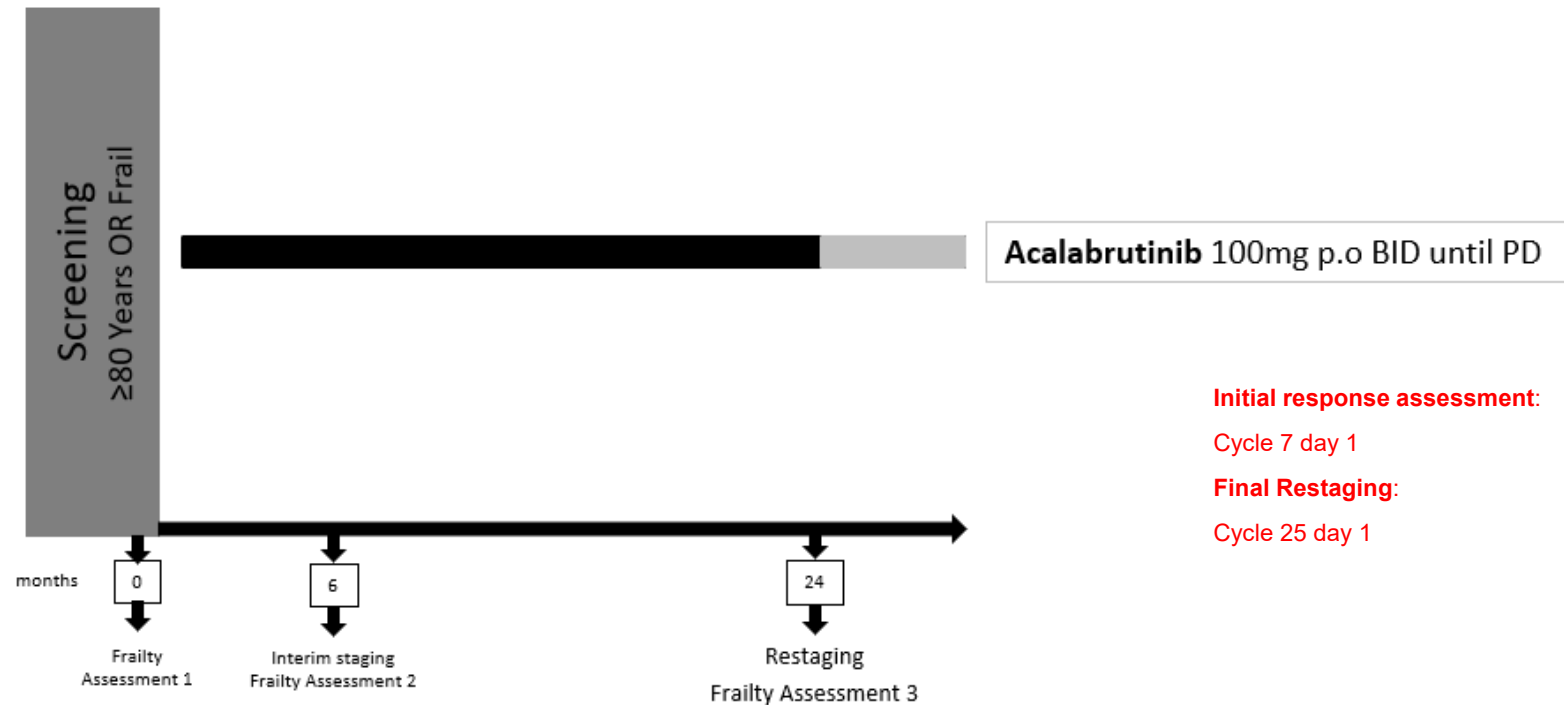


## Zanubrutinib



# CLL-FRAIL STUDY

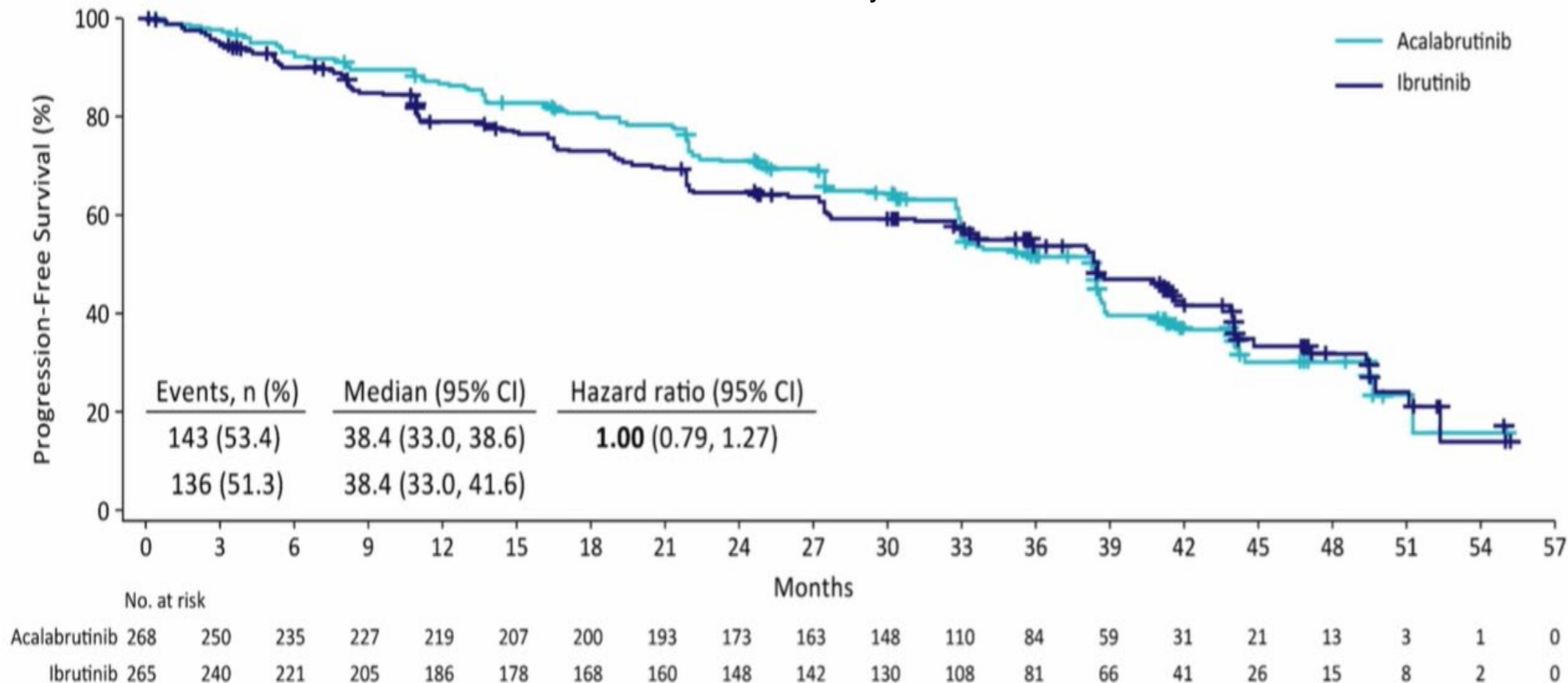
- Prospective, multicenter, single-arm phase-II study
- Approximately 50 eligible patients to be included in 20 sites in Germany and Austria
- Target population: Pts very old ( $\geq 80$ y) AND/OR frail patients with treatment-naive or relapsed/ refractory CLL



# ELEVATE RR phase 3 trial in **relapsed** CLL: acalabrutinib vs ibrutinib

PFS

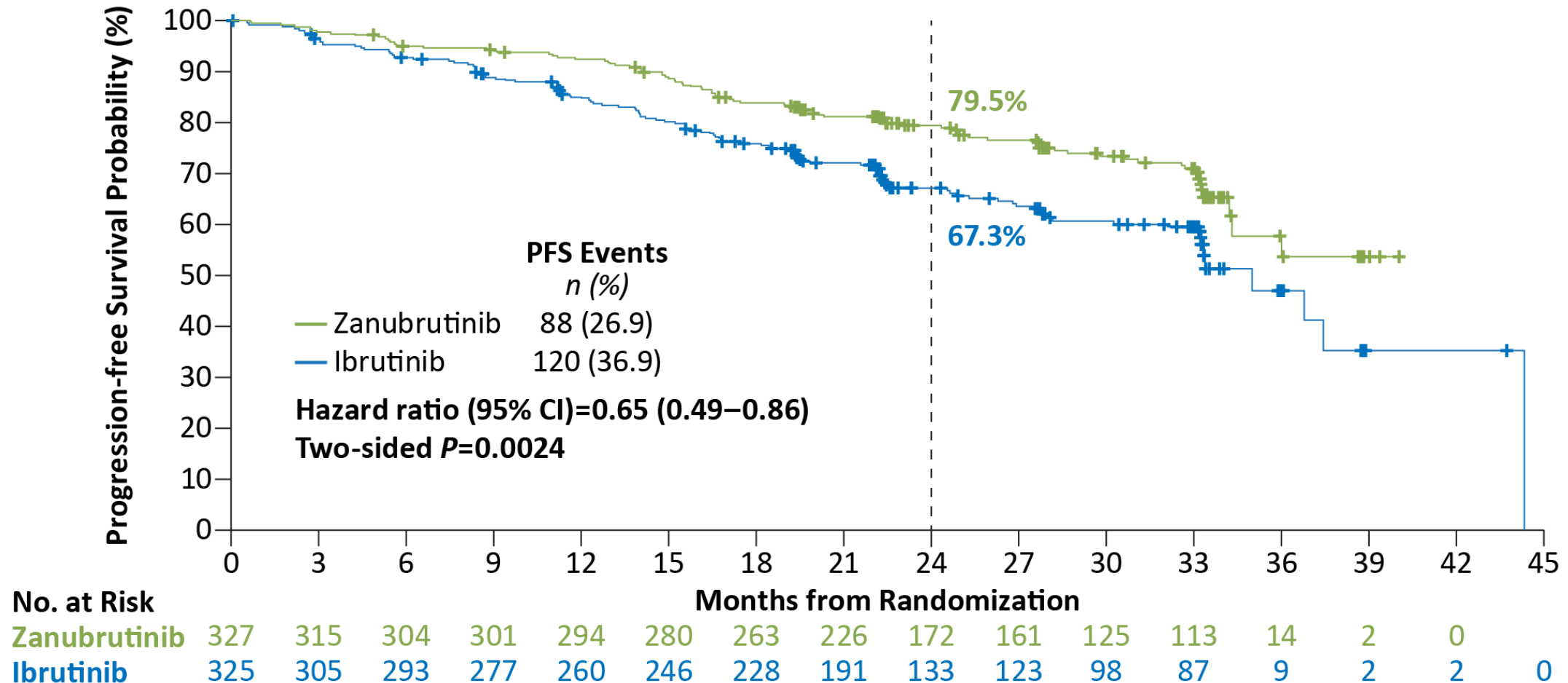
Acalabrutinib vs Ibrutinib: ELEVATE RR study after 41 months FU



# Alpine phase 3 trial in **relapsed** CLL: Zanubrutinib vs. ibrutinib

## PFS

Median study follow-up of 29.6 months



# Erstlinientherapie-Optionen bei der CLL

## Dauertherapie



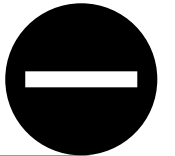
### **BTKi +/- Anti-CD20**

- Ibrutinib +/- R or O
- Acalabrutinib +/- O
- Zanubrutinib (neu)

### **BCL2i**

- Venetoclax  
only in pts with *TP53* aberration\*

## Zeitlich limitierte Therapie



### **BCL2i + Anti-CD20**

- Venetoclax + O  
12 cycles

### **BTKi + BCL2i**

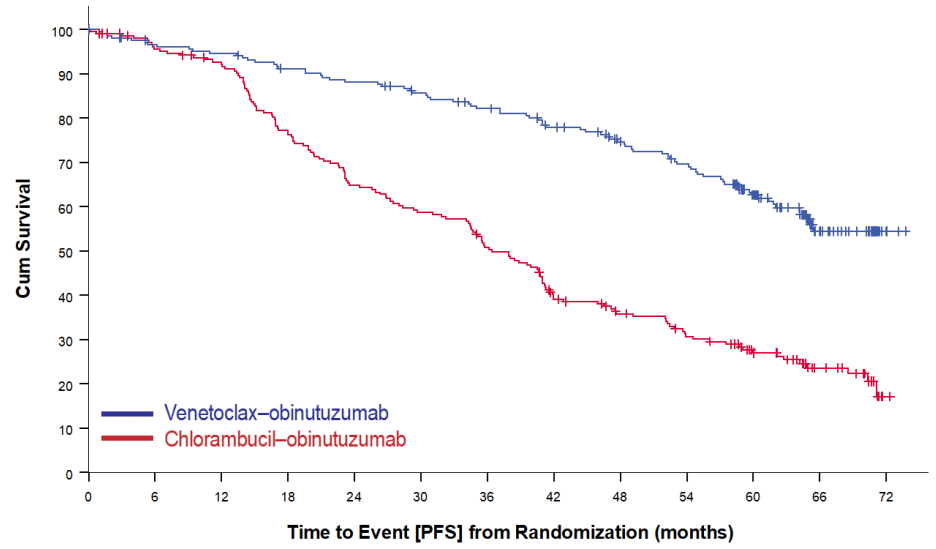
- Ibrutinib + Venetoclax  
15 cycles

**CIT** nur bei mut.IGHV / keine TP53 Aberration

- FCR/BR/C1b+O

# CLL14-Studie: Venetoclax + Obinutuzumab vs Chlorambucil + Obinutuzumab

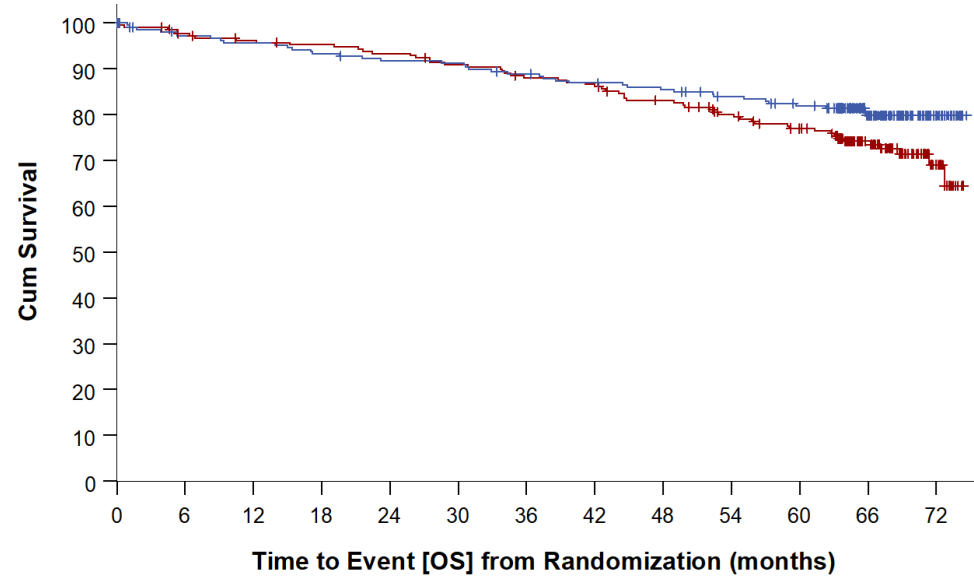
## 5 Jahre Follow-up



**Median PFS**  
 Ven-Obi: not reached  
 Clb-Obi: 36.4 months

**5-year PFS rate**  
 Ven-Obi: 62.6%  
 Clb-Obi: 27.0%

HR 0.35, 95% CI [0.26-0.46]  
 P<0.0001



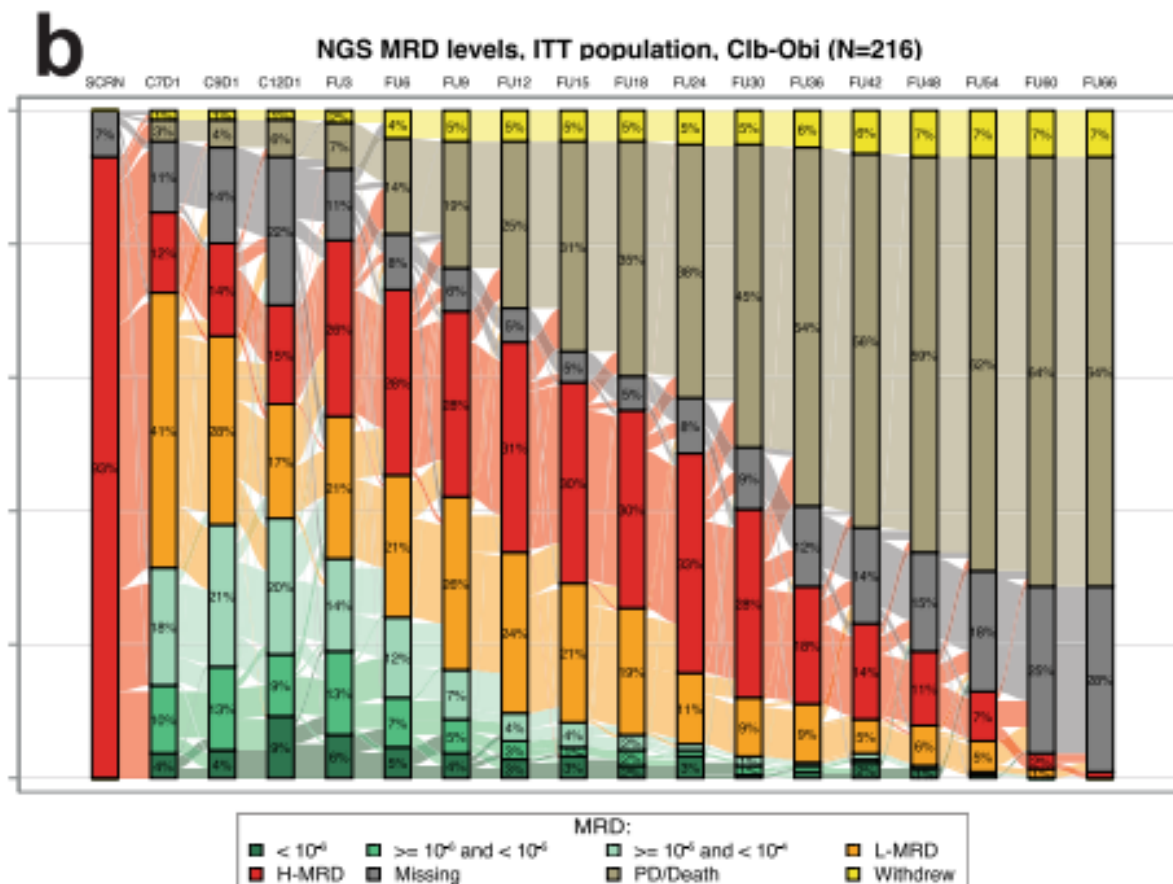
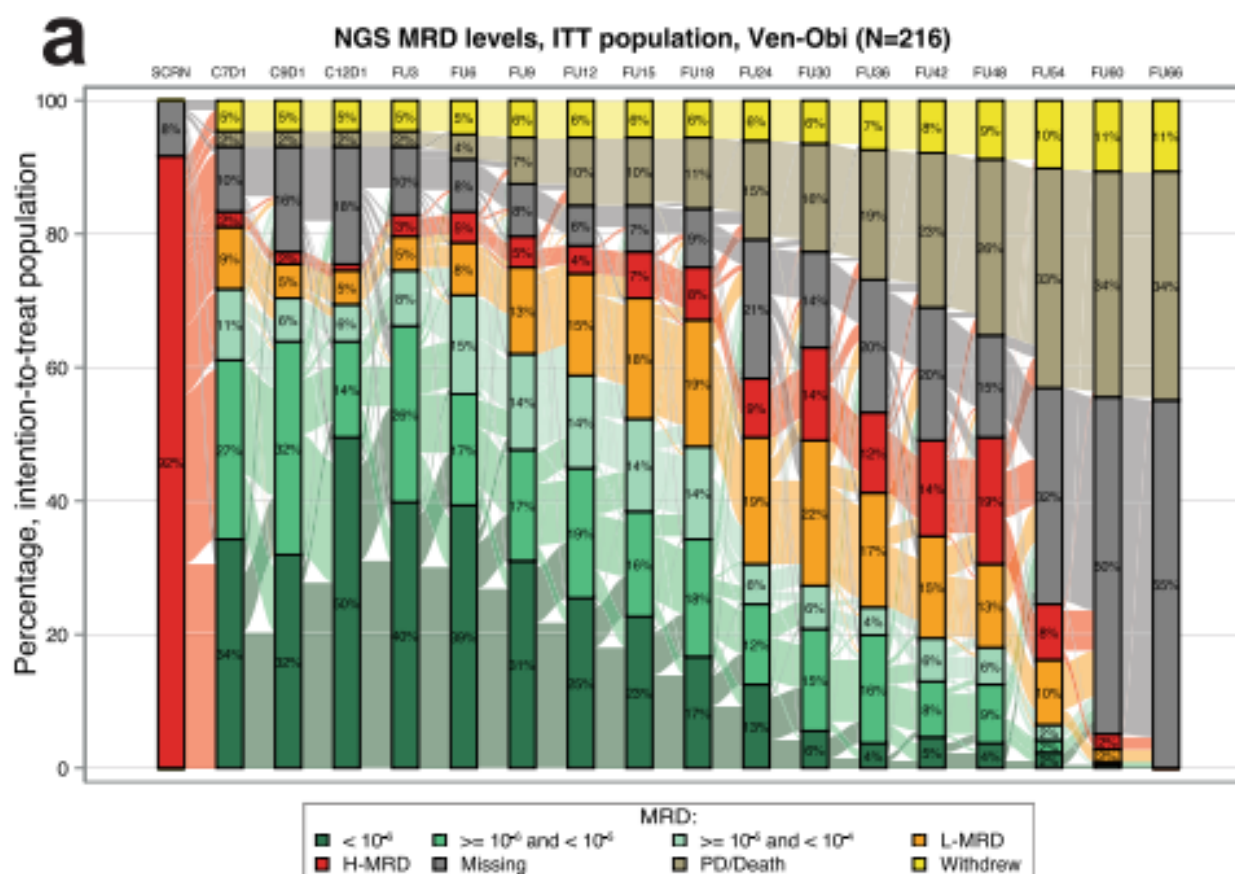
**Median OS**  
 Ven-Obi: not reached  
 Clb-Obi: not reached

**5-year OS rate**  
 Ven-Obi: 81.9%  
 Clb-Obi: 77.0%

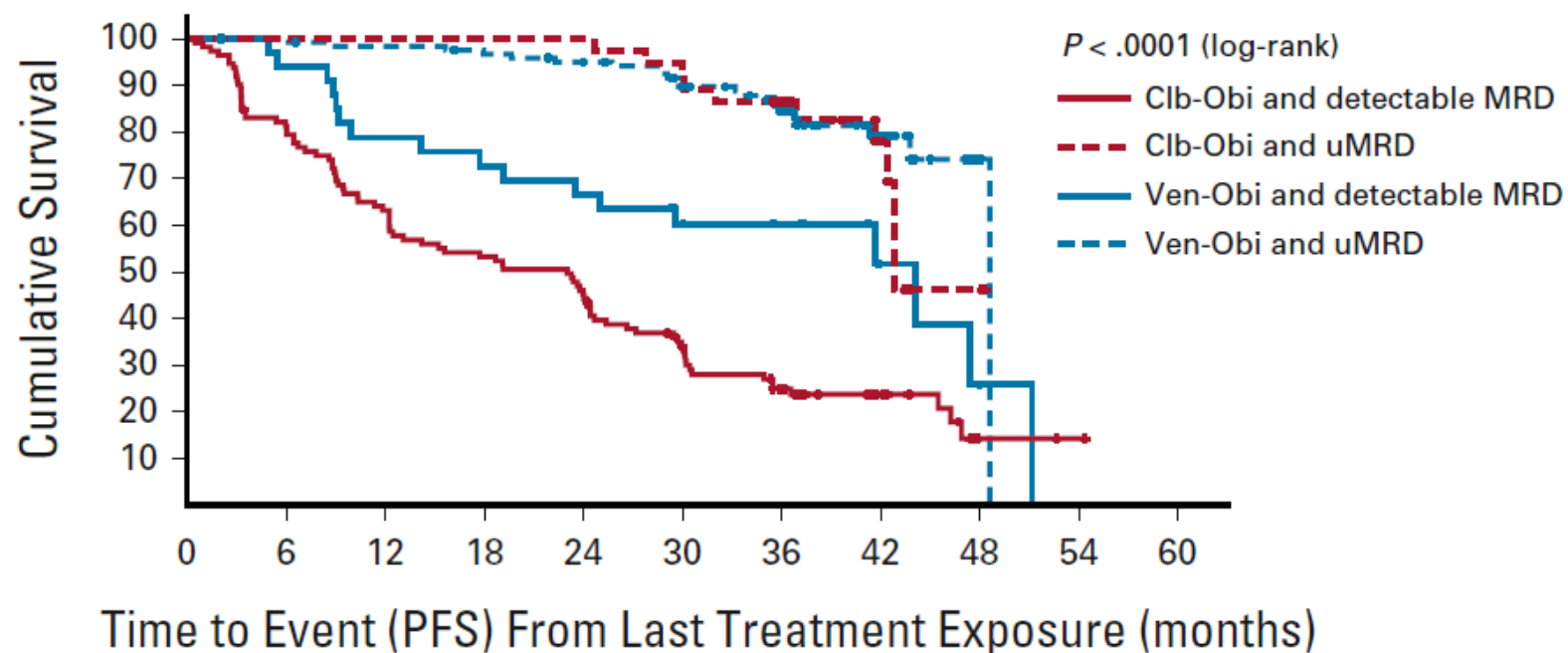
HR 0.72, 95% CI [0.48-1.09]  
 P=0.12

Ven-Obi	216	201	198	193	189	188	182	177	173	166	159	97	25
Clb-Obi	216	206	201	198	194	188	181	177	167	155	144	101	21

# CLL14-Studie: nicht nachweisbarer MRD nach Therapie und im FU



# CLL14-Studie: PFS nach MRD zum Therapieende



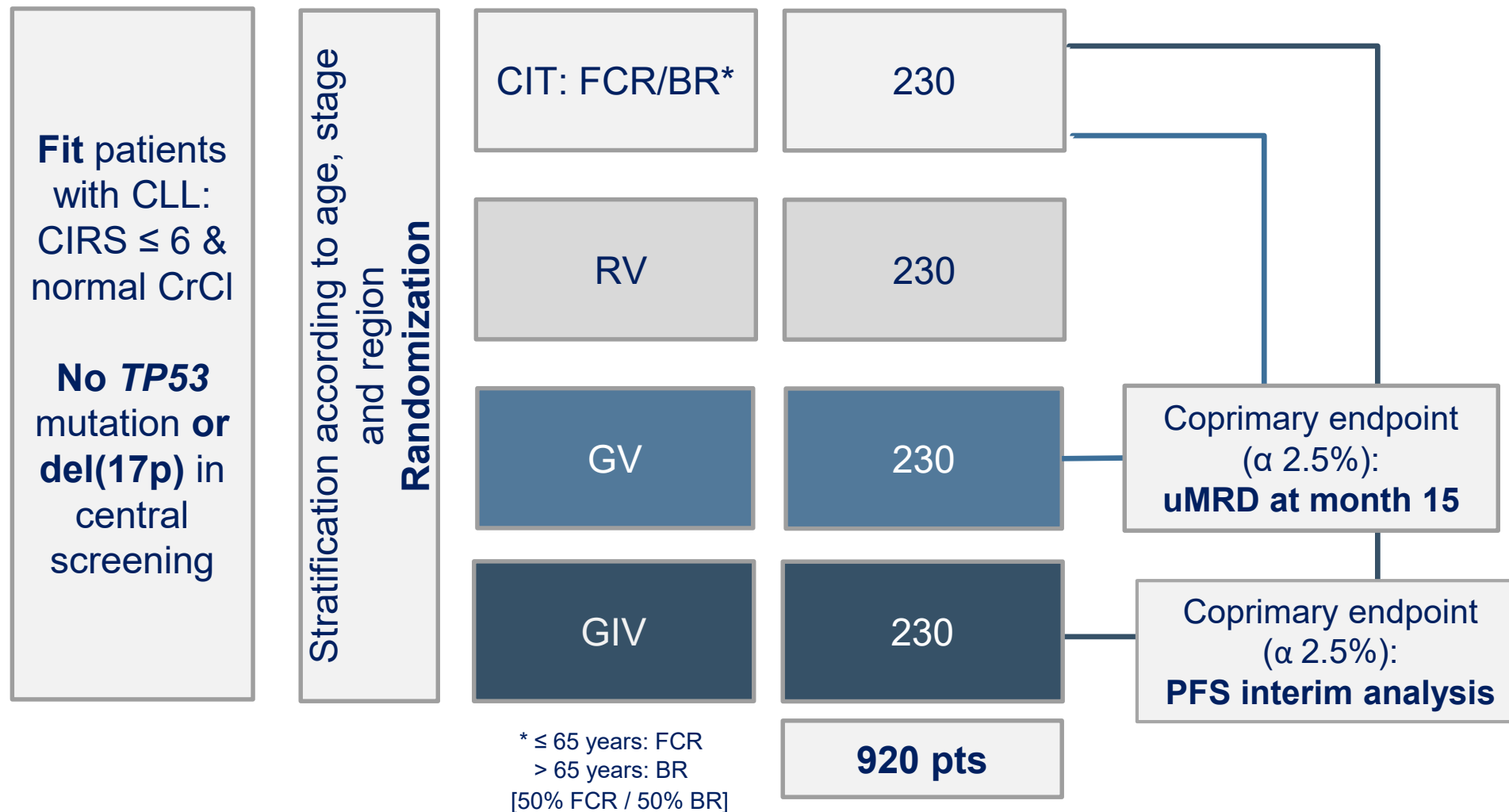
No. at risk:

	0	6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48	54	60
Ven-Obi & uMRD	123	121	119	115	111	96	66	25	3	0	0
Ven-Obi & detectable MRD	33	31	26	24	22	18	12	4	2	0	0
Clb-Obi & uMRD	37	37	37	37	37	34	27	12	2	0	0
Clb-Obi & detectable MRD	112	90	70	59	50	34	22	12	2	1	0

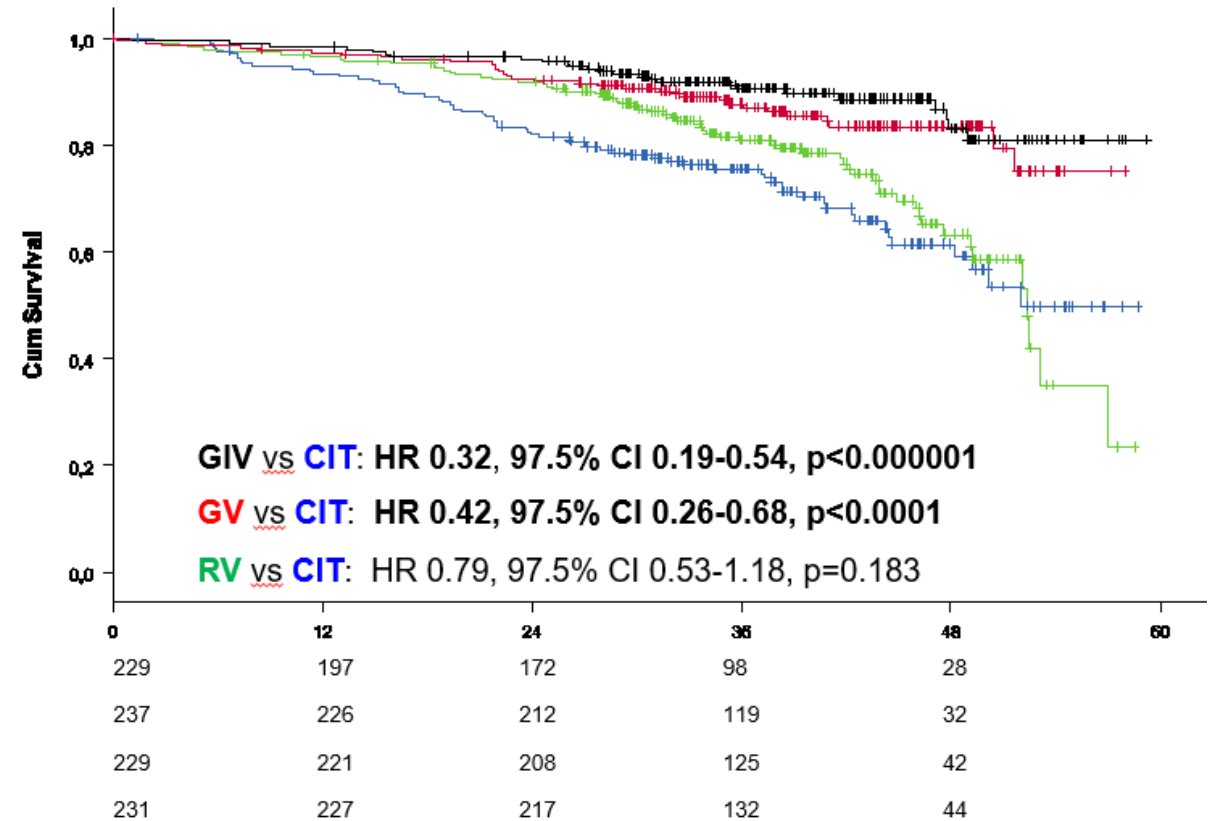
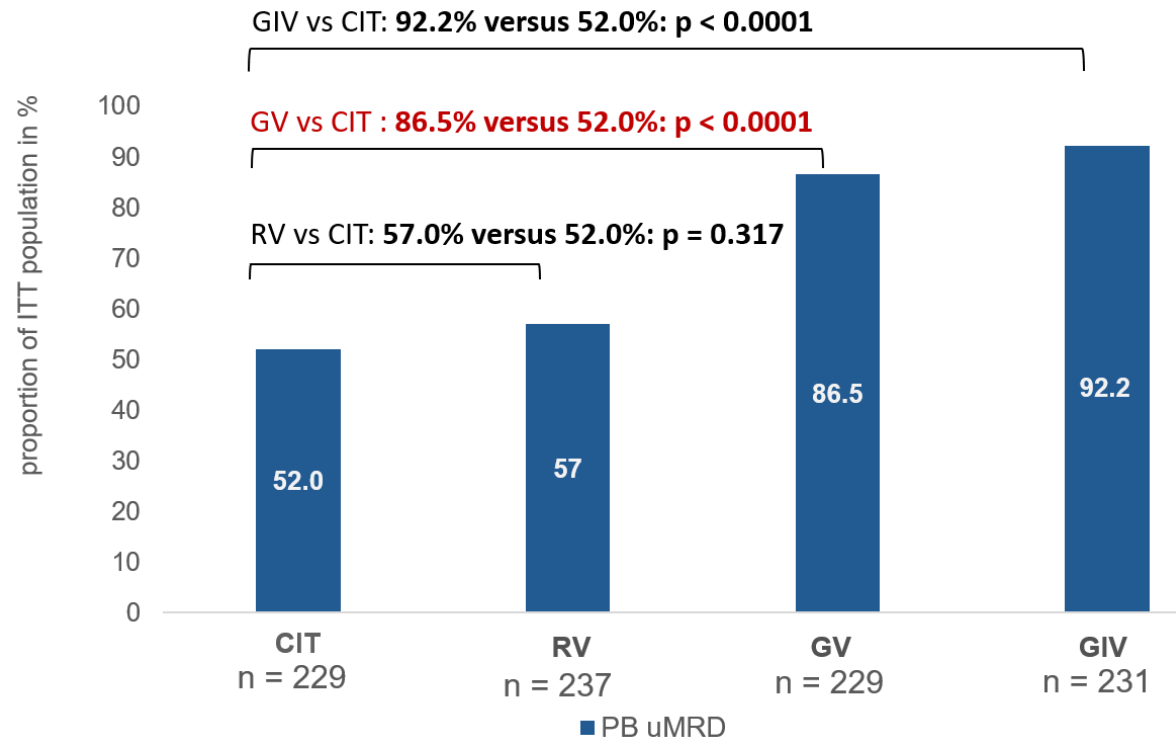


# GAIA/CLL13 study design for **fit** patients with CLL

Chemoimmunotherapy (**FCR/BR**) versus Rituximab + Venetoclax versus Obinutuzumab (**G**) + V versus **G** + Ibrutinib + V  
 Recruitment in 10 countries (DE, AT, CH, NL, BE, DK, SE, FI, IE, IL)



# Higher efficacy of targeted agents over FCR/BR: Venetoclax+Obinutuzumab and Venetoclax+Obinutuzumab+Ibrutinib



Eichhorst B. et al., ASH 2021: abstract 72

Median observation time: 38.8 months

Eichhorst et al., NEJM in press

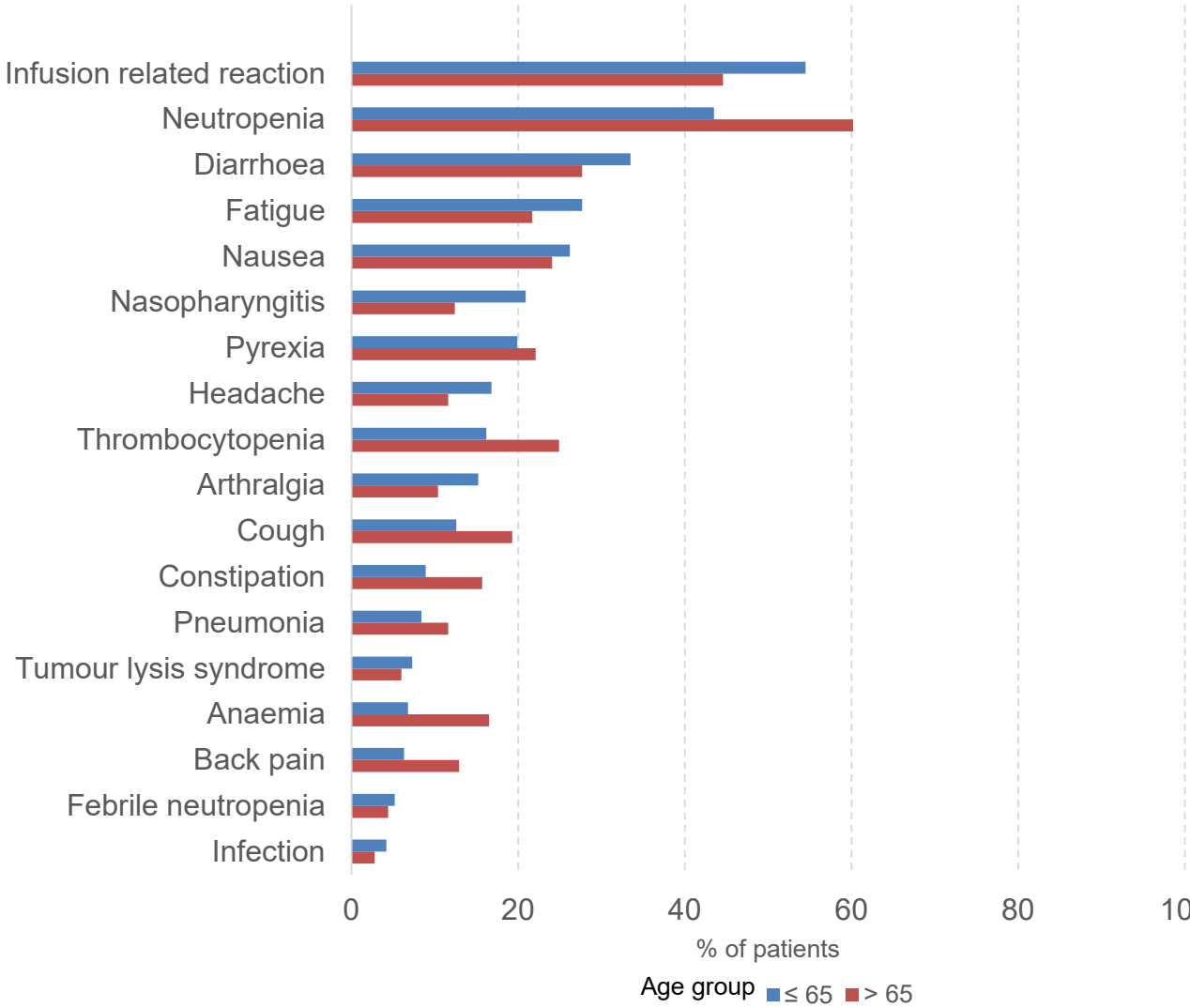
Rolle von Alter und Begleiterkrankungen:

Meta-Analyse zu Ven+Obin aus CLL13 (fit = 229) und CLL14 (unfit = 214)

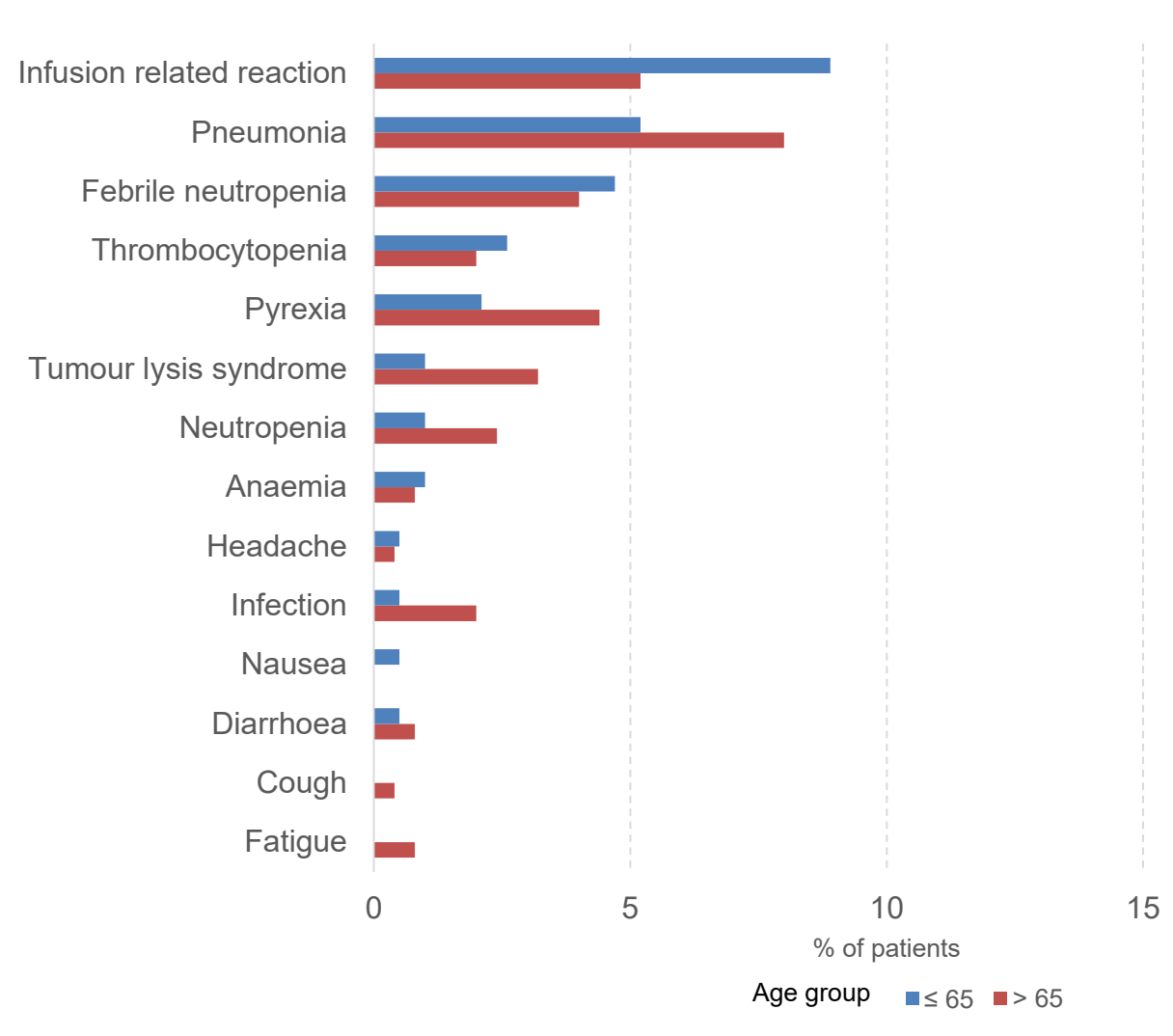
# Pooled safety analysis of Ven+Obin from CLL13 (fit = 229) and CLL14 (unfit = 214)

Adverse events/Severe adverse events according to age

### AEs

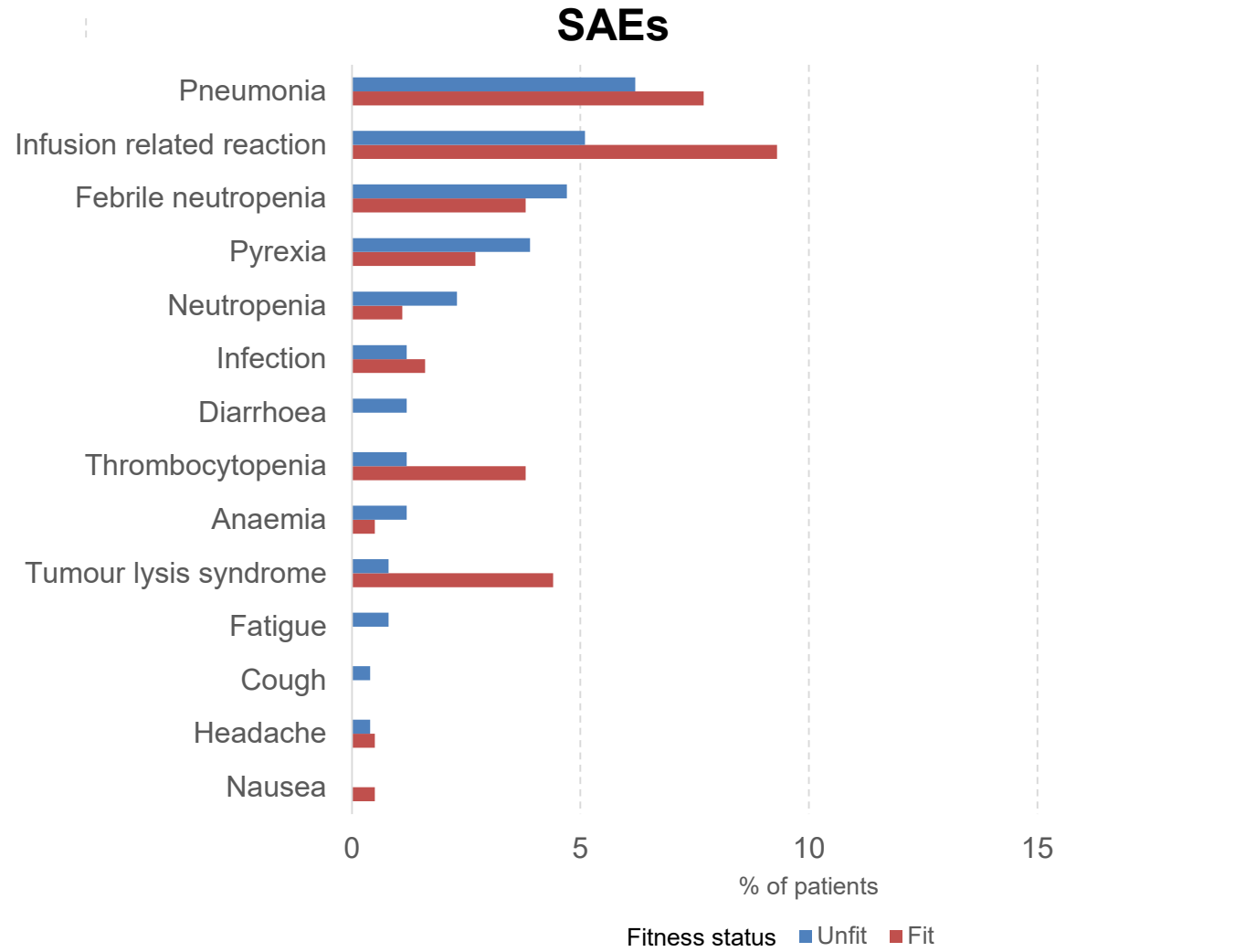
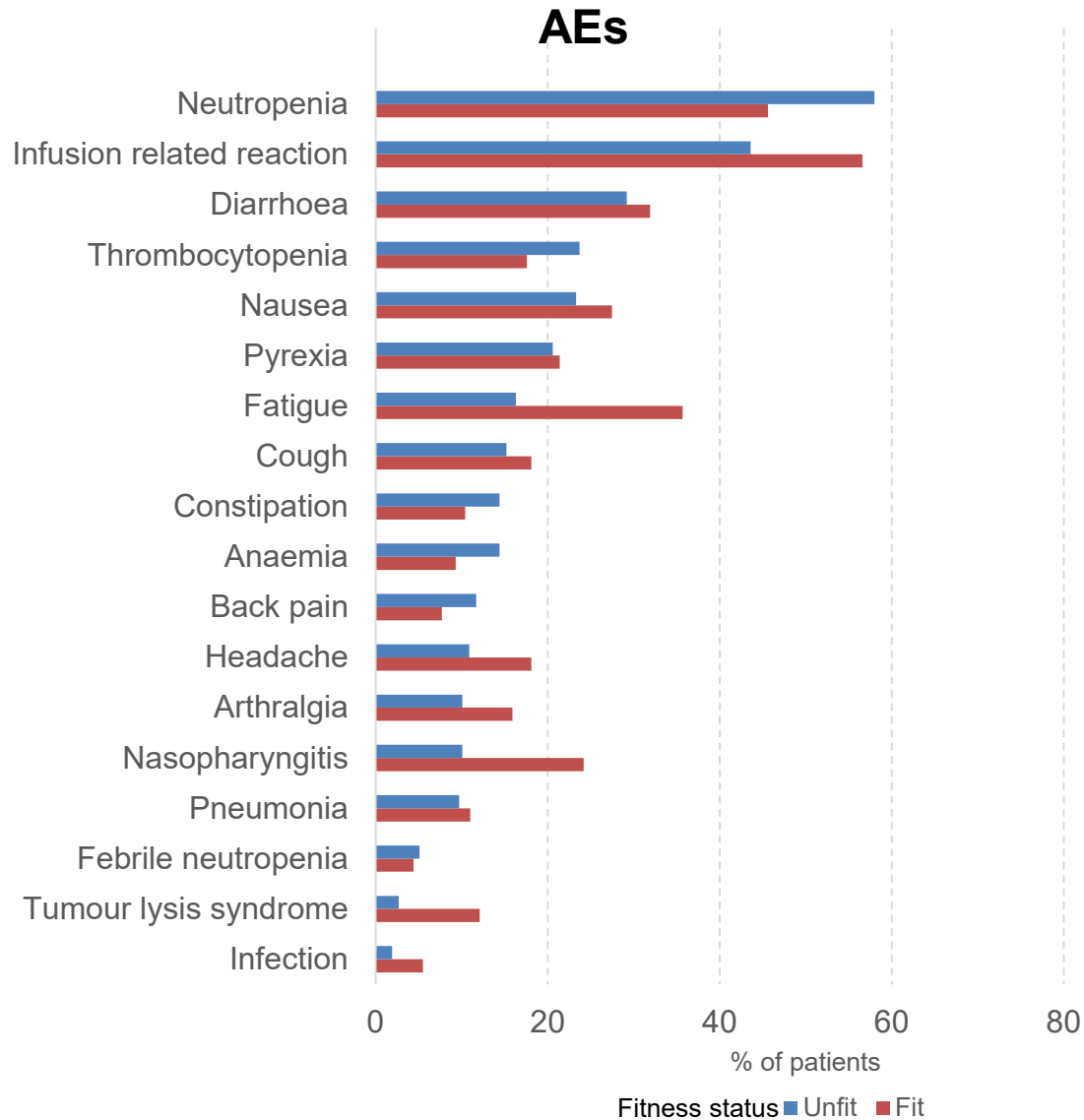


### SAEs



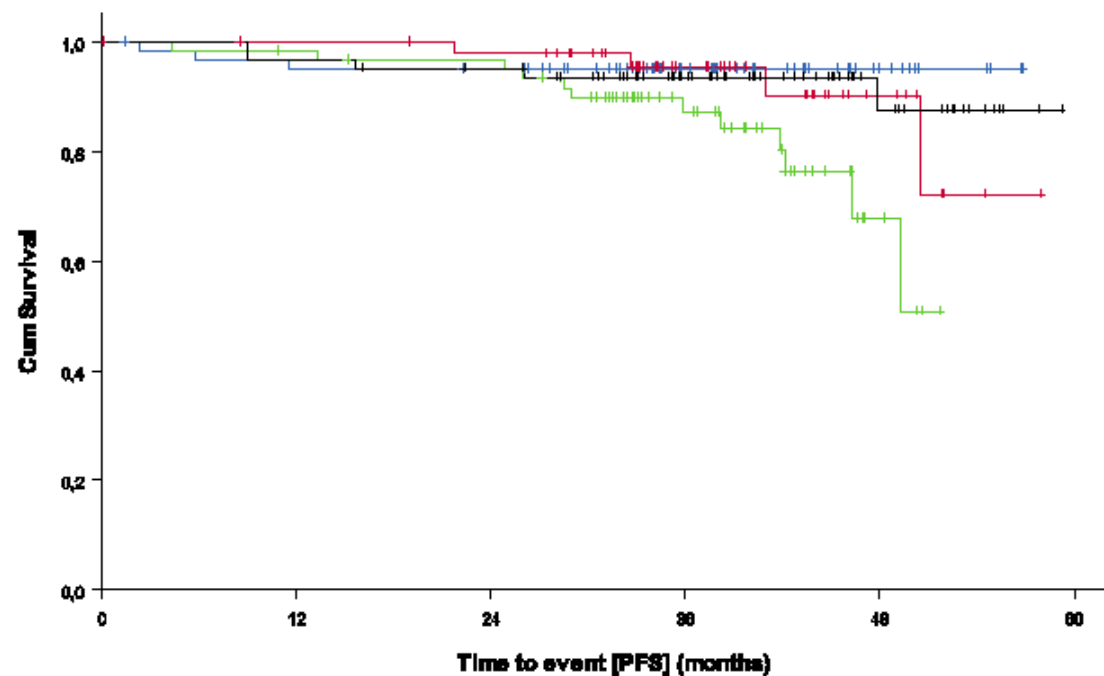
# Pooled safety analysis of Ven+Obin from CLL13 (fit = 229) and CLL14 (unfit = 214)

Adverse events/Severe adverse events according to fitness



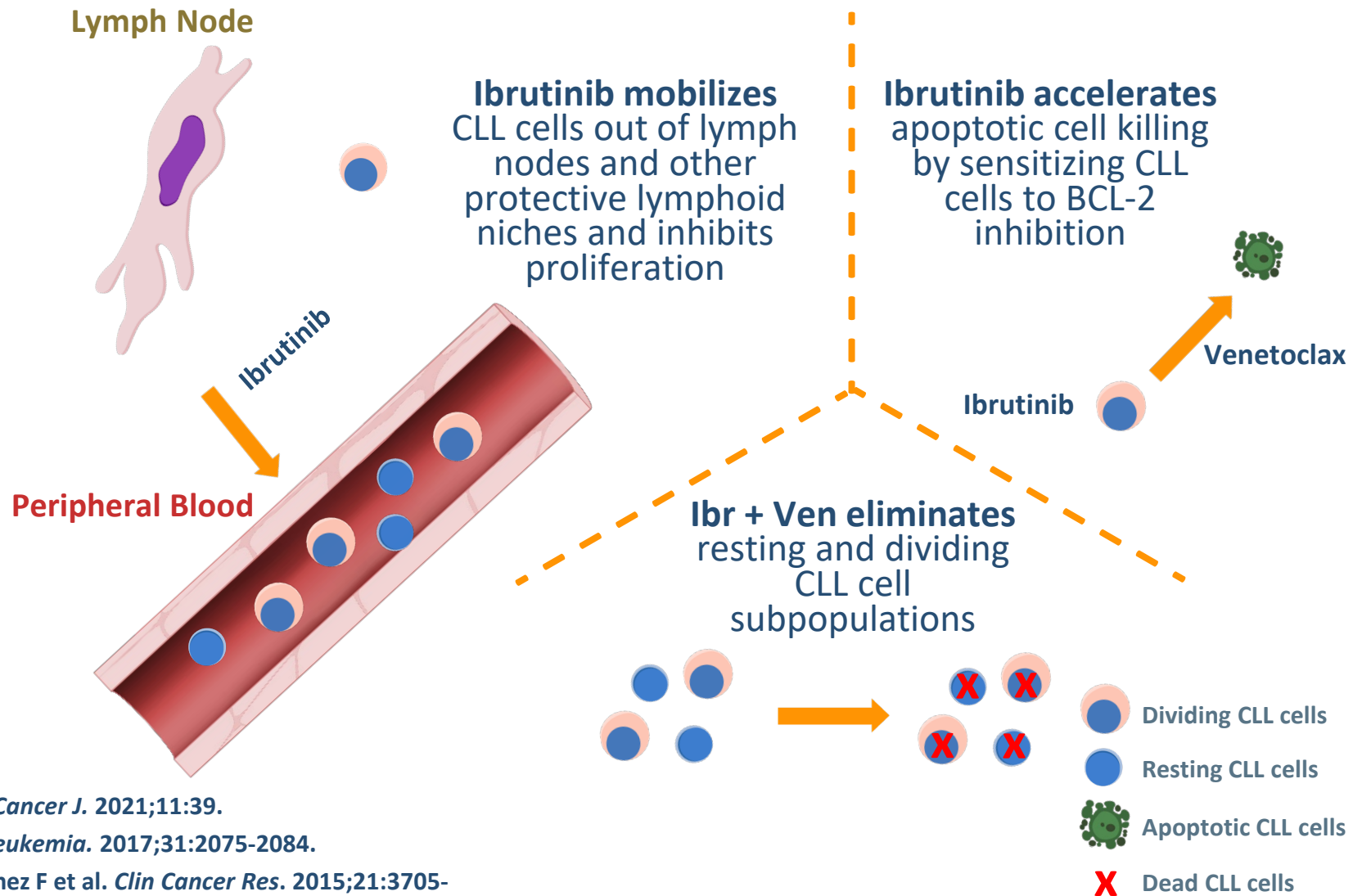
# CLL13: PFS according to IGHV status and age

PFS for patients with mutated IGHV status and up to 65 years only, receiving FCR treatment in the control arm



Patients at risk	0	12	24	36	48
SCIT (FCR)	65	57	56	34	10
RVe	62	60	58	33	5
GVe	50	48	46	27	8
GIVe	63	61	58	40	15

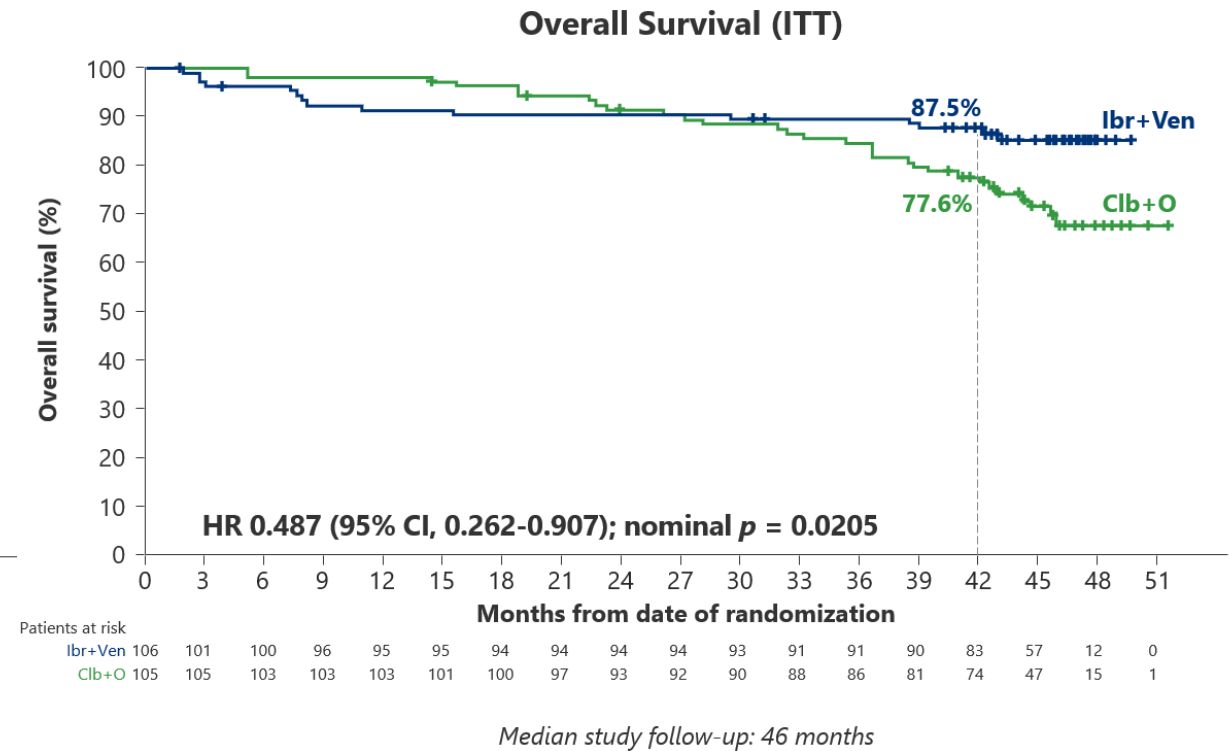
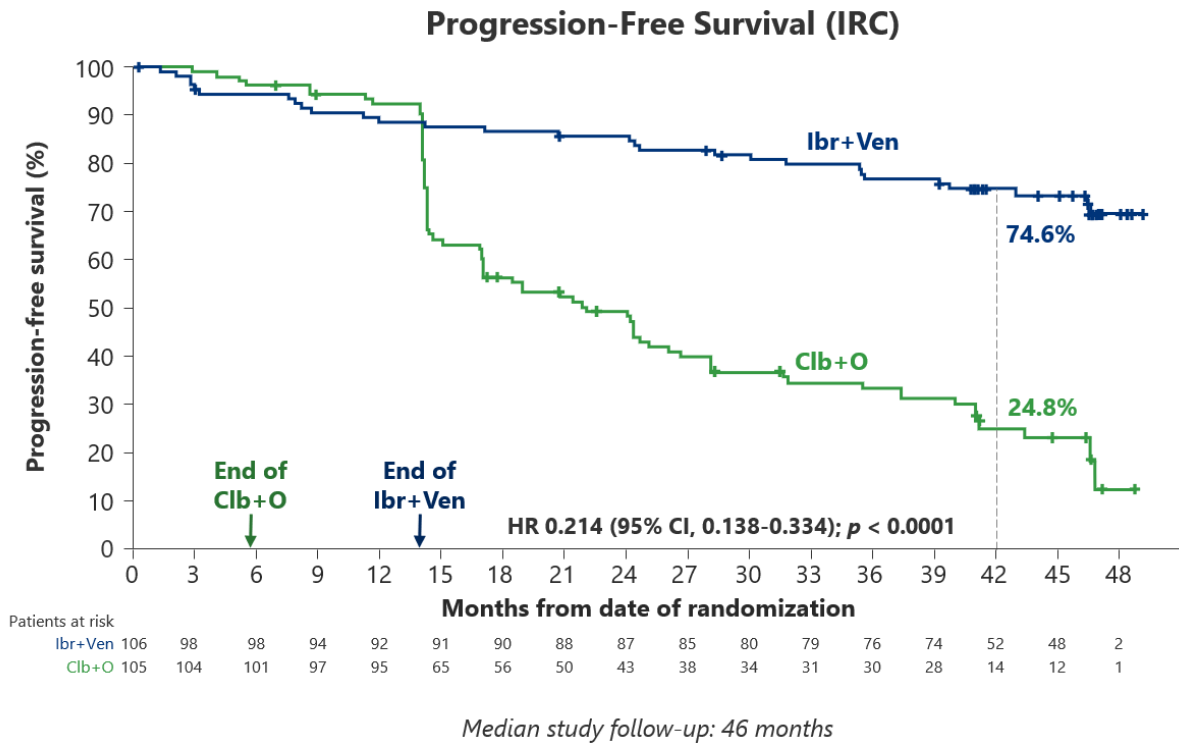
# Rational for combining Ibrutinib + Venetoclax



1. Lu P et al. *Blood Cancer J.* 2021;11:39.
2. Deng J et al. *Leukemia.* 2017;31:2075-2084.
3. Cervantes-Gomez F et al. *Clin Cancer Res.* 2015;21:3705-3715.

# Frontline therapy ibrutinib + venetoclax (IV): GLOW-study in elderly patients

PFS and OS





# CL17

## A PROSPECTIVE, RANDOMIZED, OPEN-LABEL, MULTICENTRE PHASE-III TRIAL OF **IBRUTINIB** VERSUS **VENETOCLAX PLUS OBINUTUZUMAB** VERSUS **IBRUTINIB PLUS VENETOCLAX** FOR PATIENTS WITH PREVIOUSLY UNTREATED CHRONIC LYMPHOCYTIC LEUKAEMIA

### Patients with previously untreated CLL

Incl. fit and unfit patients  
Incl. patients with del17p/TP53 mut

### 1:1:1 Randomization

Stratification according to fitness, del17p/TP53, IGHV



**Ibrutinib**



**Venetoclax  
Obinutuzumab**

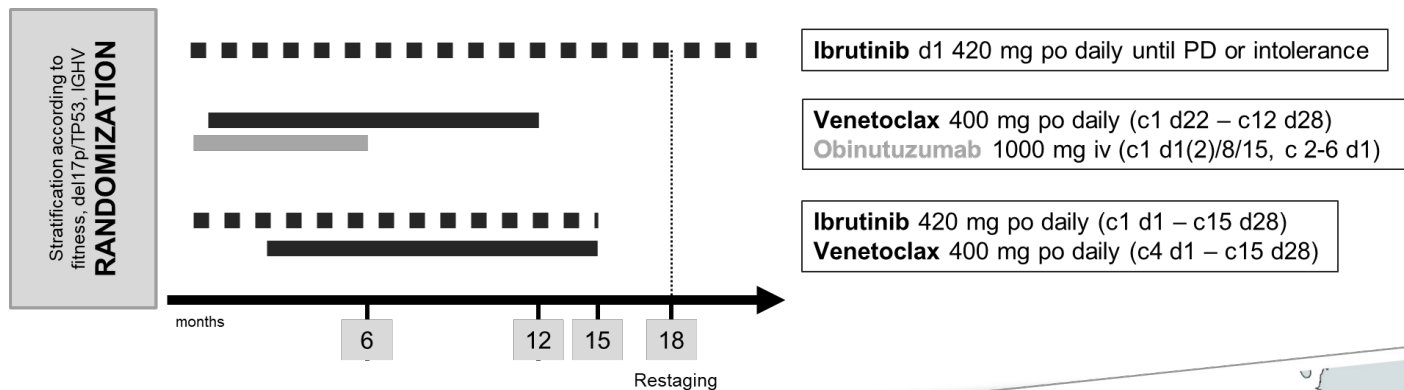


**Venetoclax  
Ibrutinib**

897 patients

Primary endpoint:  
**Progression-free survival**

### TREATMENT SCHEDULE



### TIMELINES

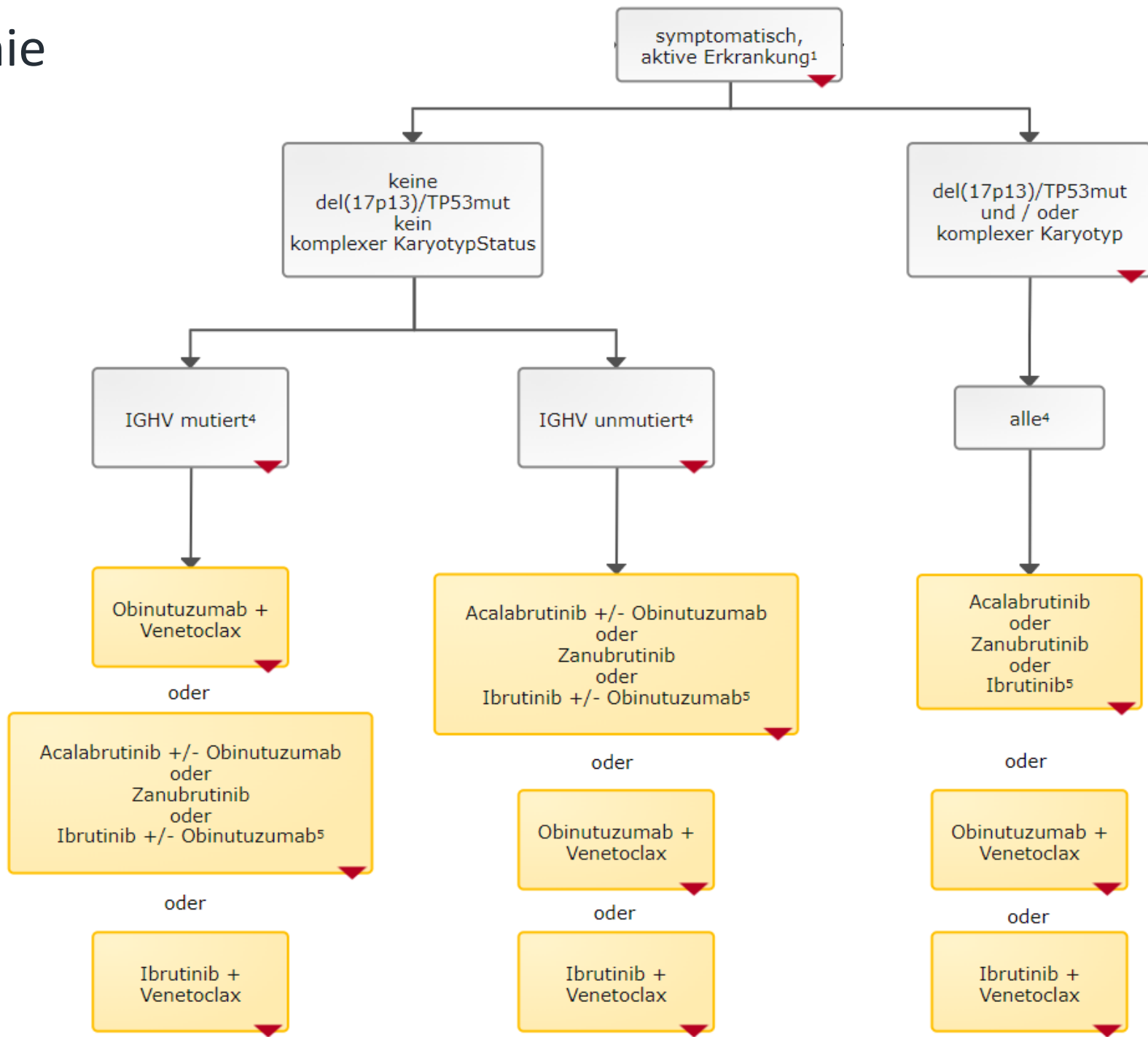
Start of recruitment	Q4/2020
Expected end of recruitment	Q4/2023
End of study	Q1/2027



### Participating countries

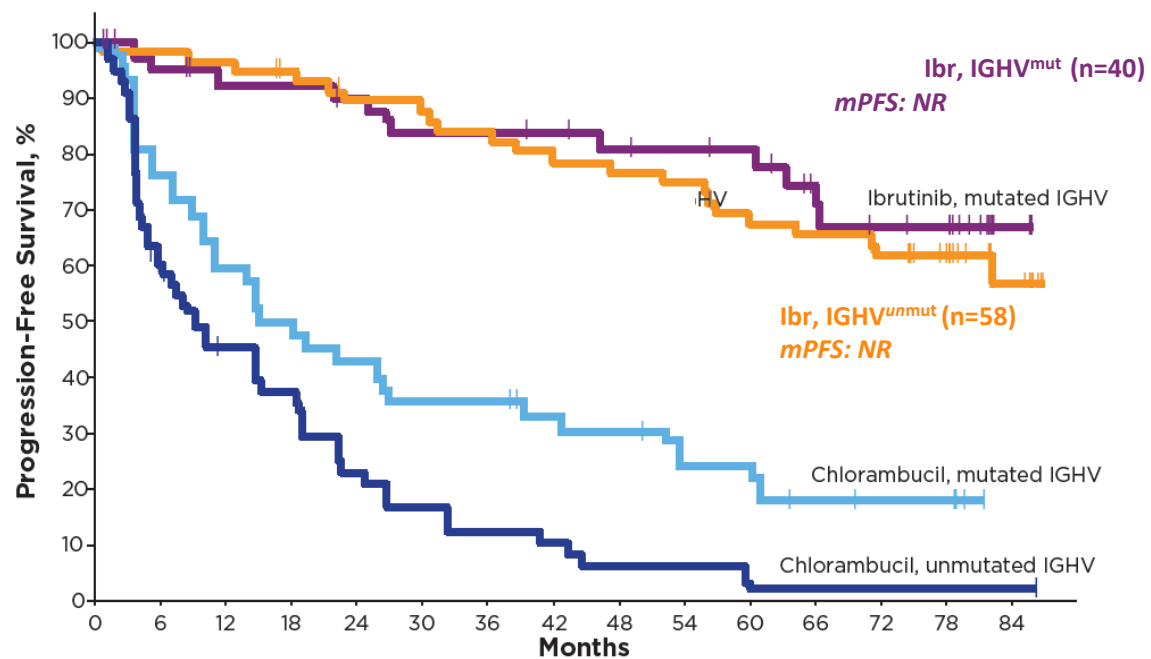


# Erstlinie



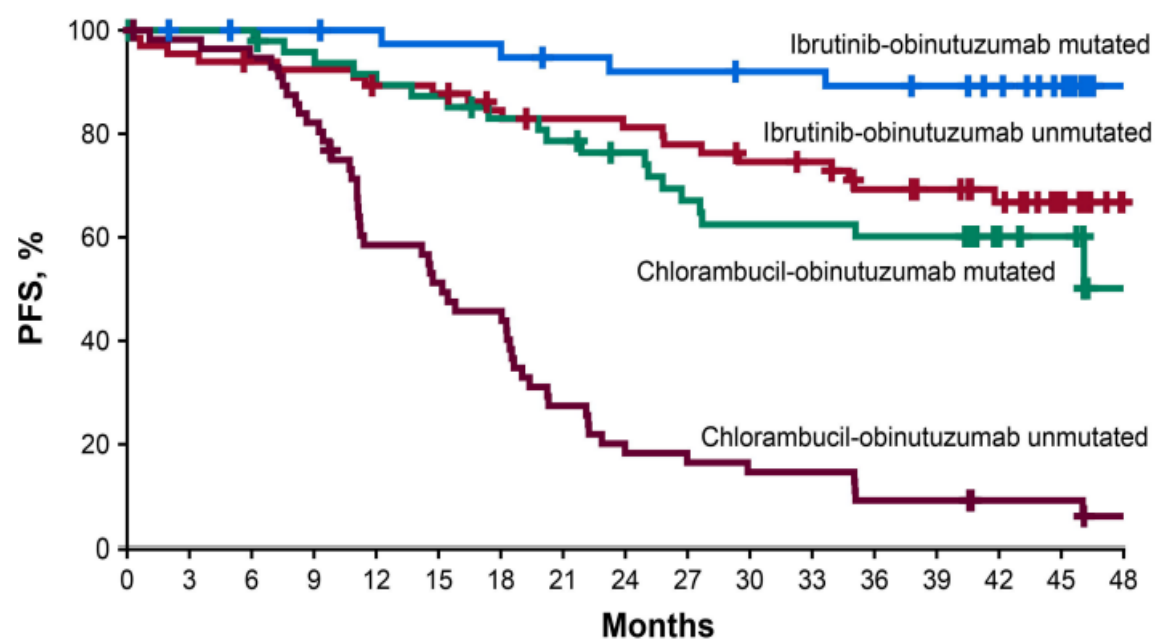
# BTK-Inhibitoren in der Erstlinientherapie der CLL nach IGHV Status

**RESONATE2-Studie:**  
Ibrutinib vs. CLB bei älteren Pat



Ghia P et al., EHA. 2021; Abstract EP 636

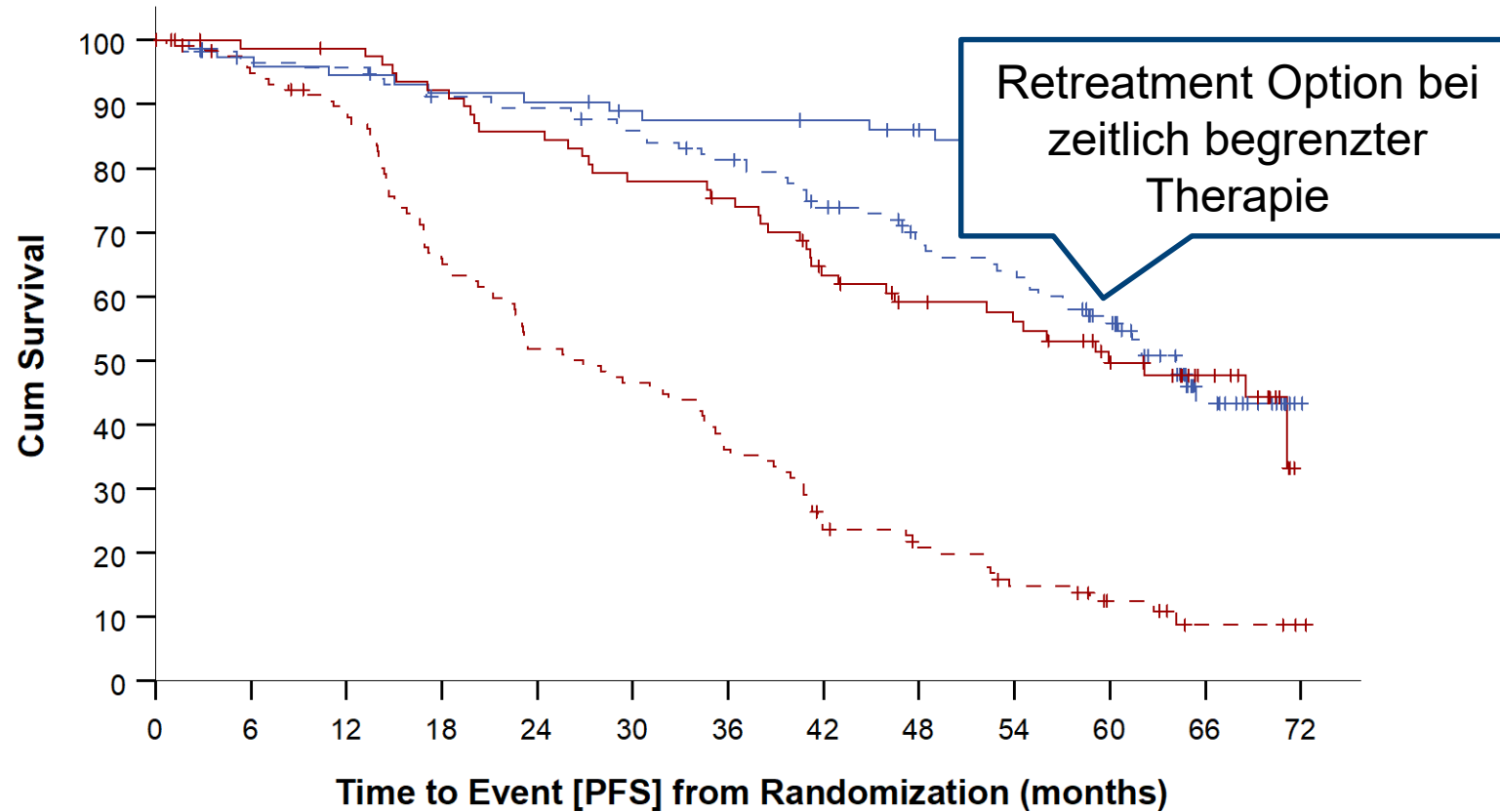
**ILLUMINATE:**  
PFS für Ibruto bei Pat. mit mut/unmut IGHV status



Moreno C et al., Haematologica. 2022; online

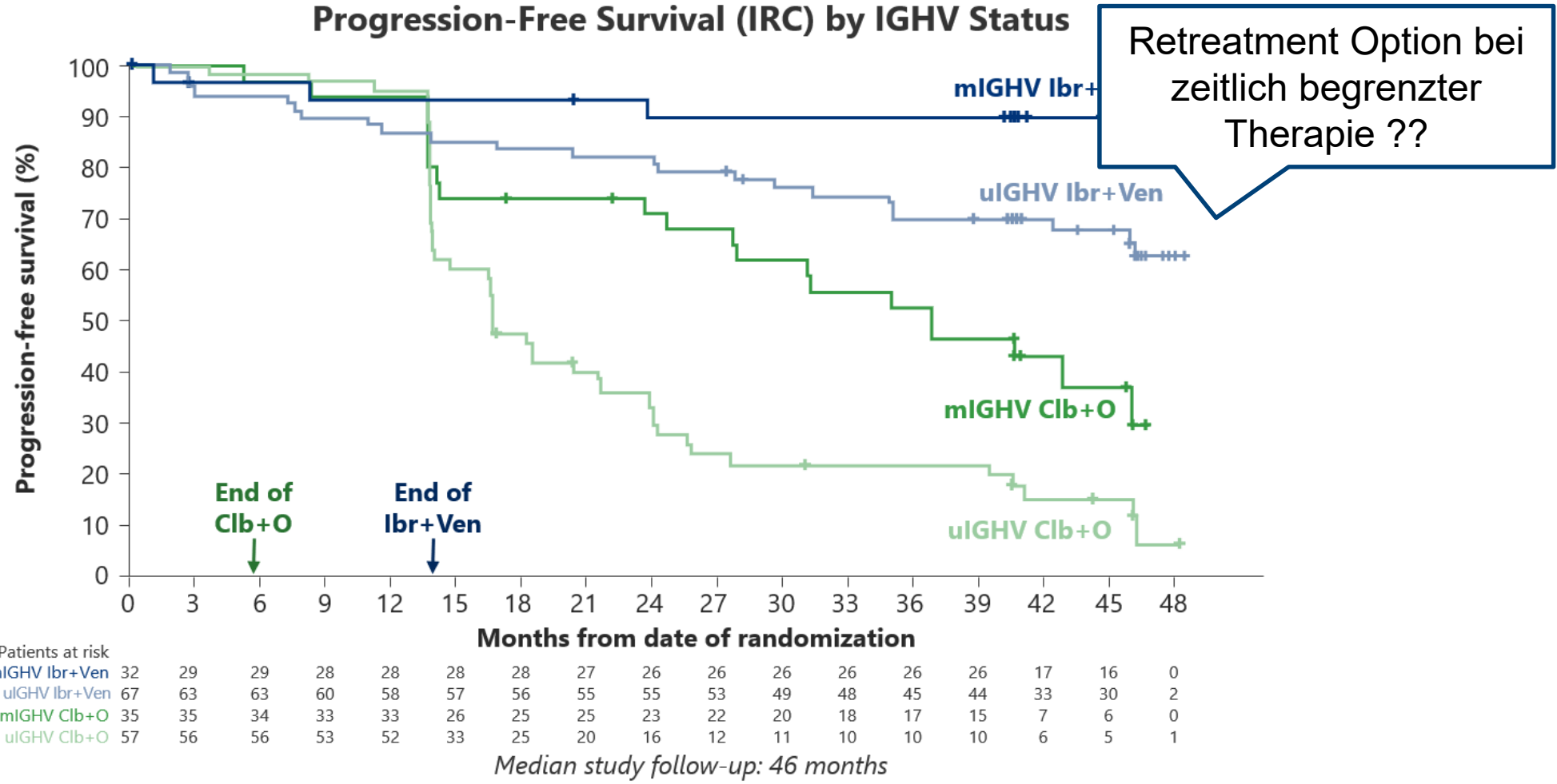
# Venetoclax + CD20-Antikörper in der Erstlinientherapie der CLL nach IGHV Status

CLL14: PFS für VenO bei Pat. mit mut/unmut IGHV status



Ven-Obi & IGHV mutated	76	70	68	66	65	62	61	59	56	53	45	18	3
Ven-Obi & IGHV unmutated	121	110	109	102	100	95	89	79	69	64	49	16	1
Clb-Obi & IGHV mutated	83	77	76	71	66	60	57	46	40	37	29	17	0
Clb-Obi & IGHV unmutated	123	110	101	75	59	53	41	26	21	14	8	3	1

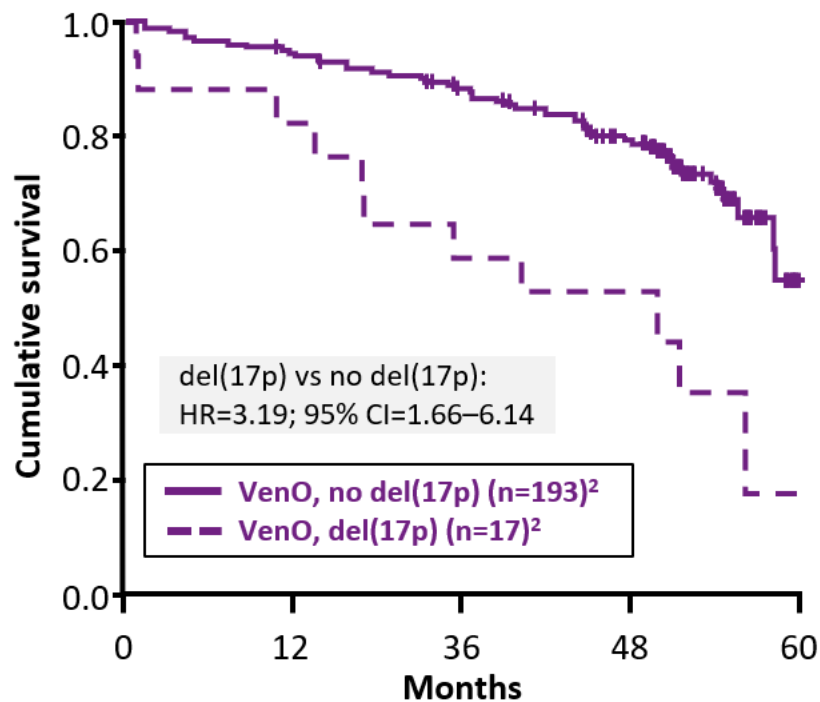
# Ibrutinib + venetoclax (IV): PFS nach Therapie und IGHV Status



# Behandlung der Hochrisiko - CLL: zeitlich unbegrenzt versus begrenzt: Phase III Studien im Vgl

## Venetoclax + Obinutuzumab

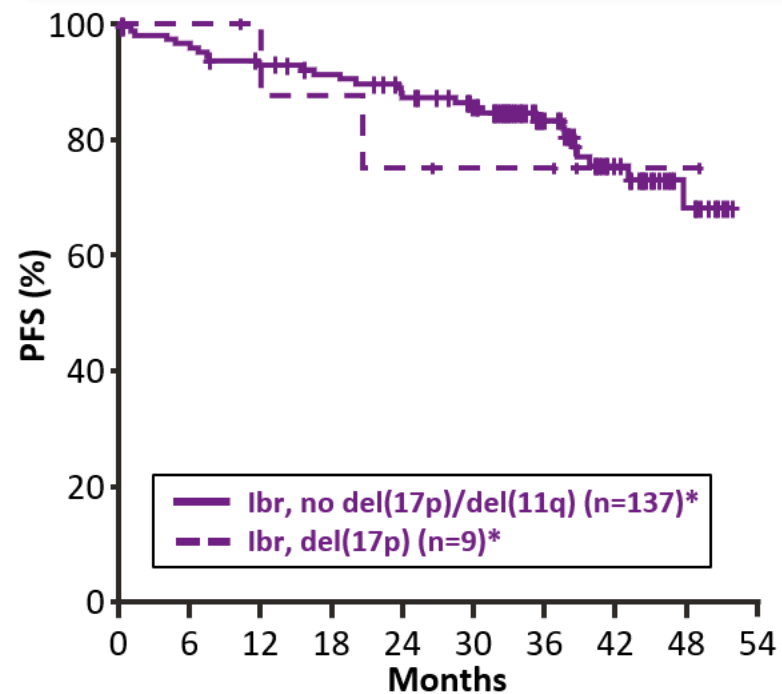
CLL14: PFS für VenO bei Pat. mit *TP53*



Al Sawaf O et al., JCO. 2021; 39(36):4049-4060

## Ibrutinib Dauertherapie

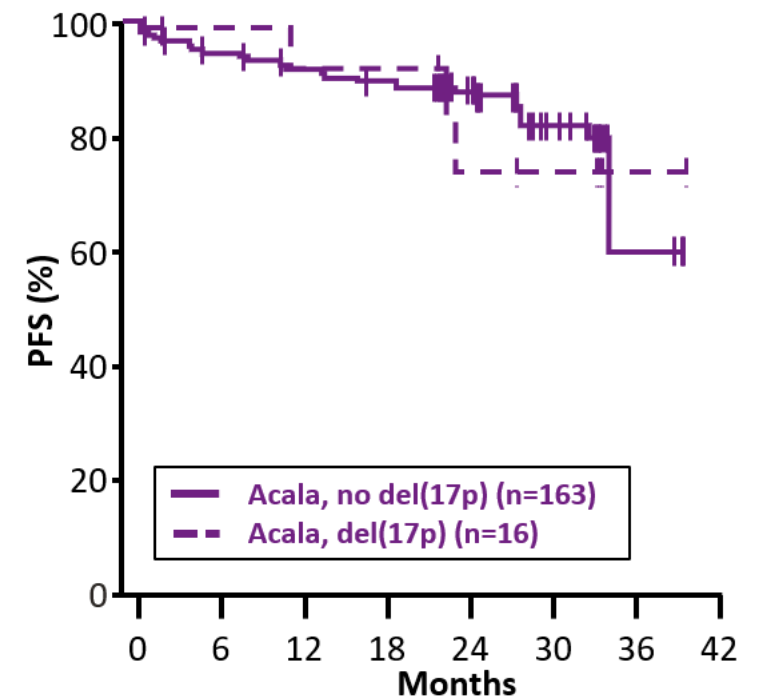
Alliance: PFS für Ibr bei Pat mit *TP53*



Woyach JA et al., NEJM. 2018; 379(26):2517-28; Suppl.

## Acalabrutinib Dauertherapie

ELEVATE: PFS für Ibr bei Pat mit *TP53*



Sharman J et al., Lancet. 2020; 395:1278

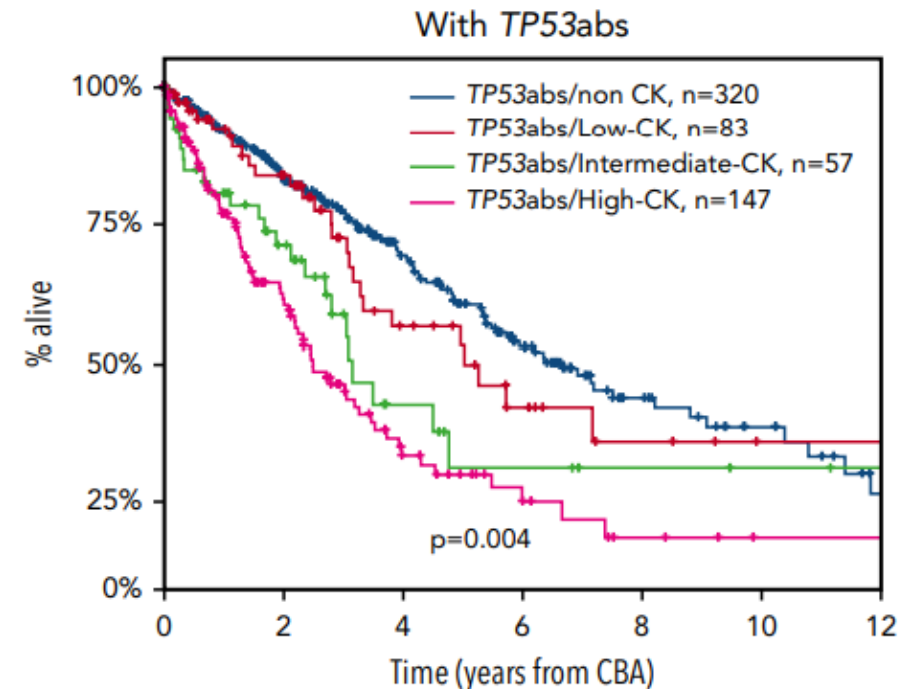
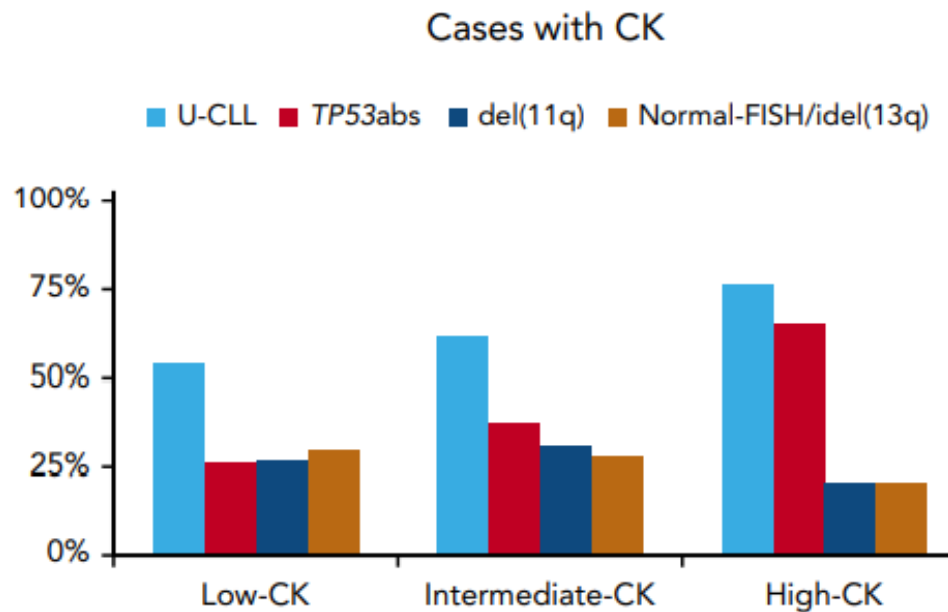
# Definition of Complex Karyotype (CKT): an ERIC (european research initiative on CLL) approach

Evaluation on 5290 CLL patients

Definition of low CKT: 3 chromosomal aberrations

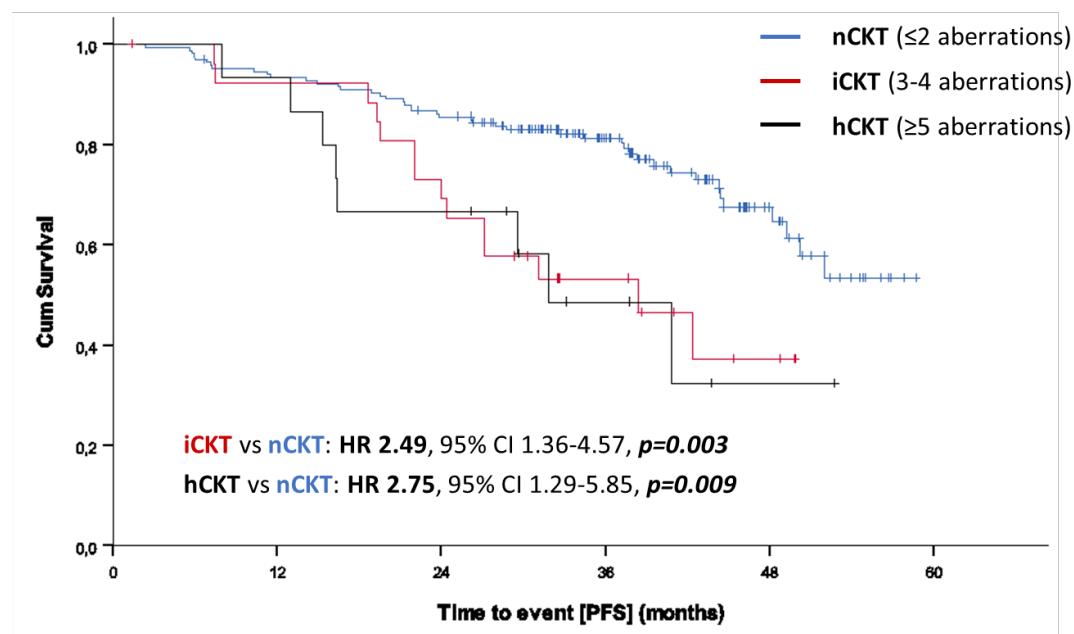
Definition of intermediate CKT: 4 chromosomal aberrations

Definition of high CKT:  $\geq 5$  chromosomal aberrations



# High and intermediate complex karyotype in CLL13 and association with PFS

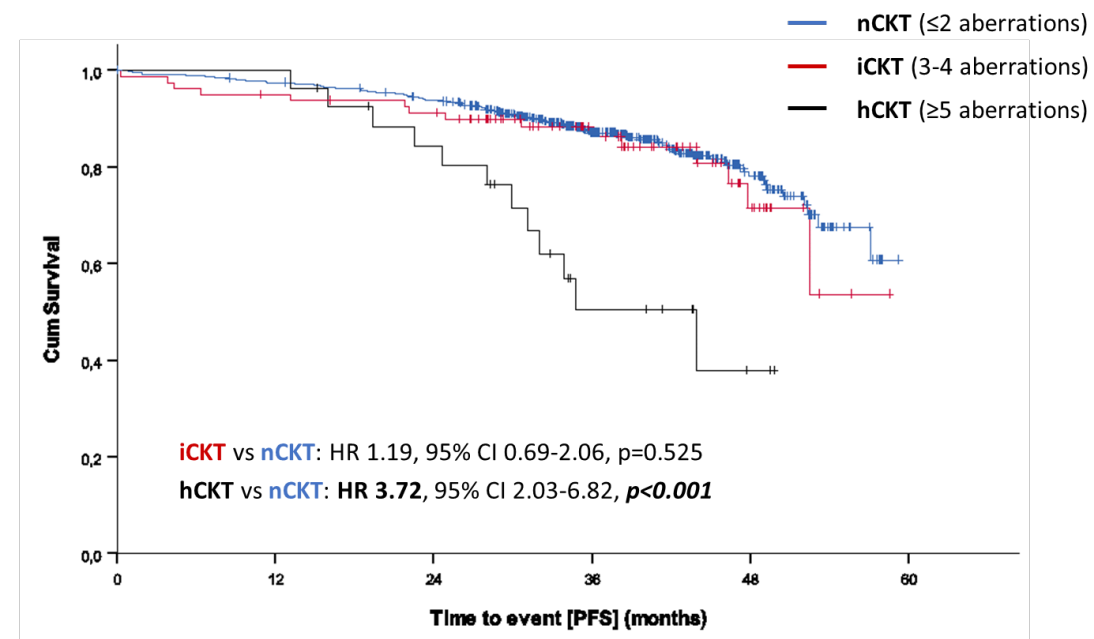
## PFS, chemoimmunotherapy arm



Patients at risk

	0	12	24	36	48
nCKT	177	155	141	84	24
iCKT	30	24	18	9	3
hCKT	16	14	10	4	1

## PFS, pooled venetoclax arms



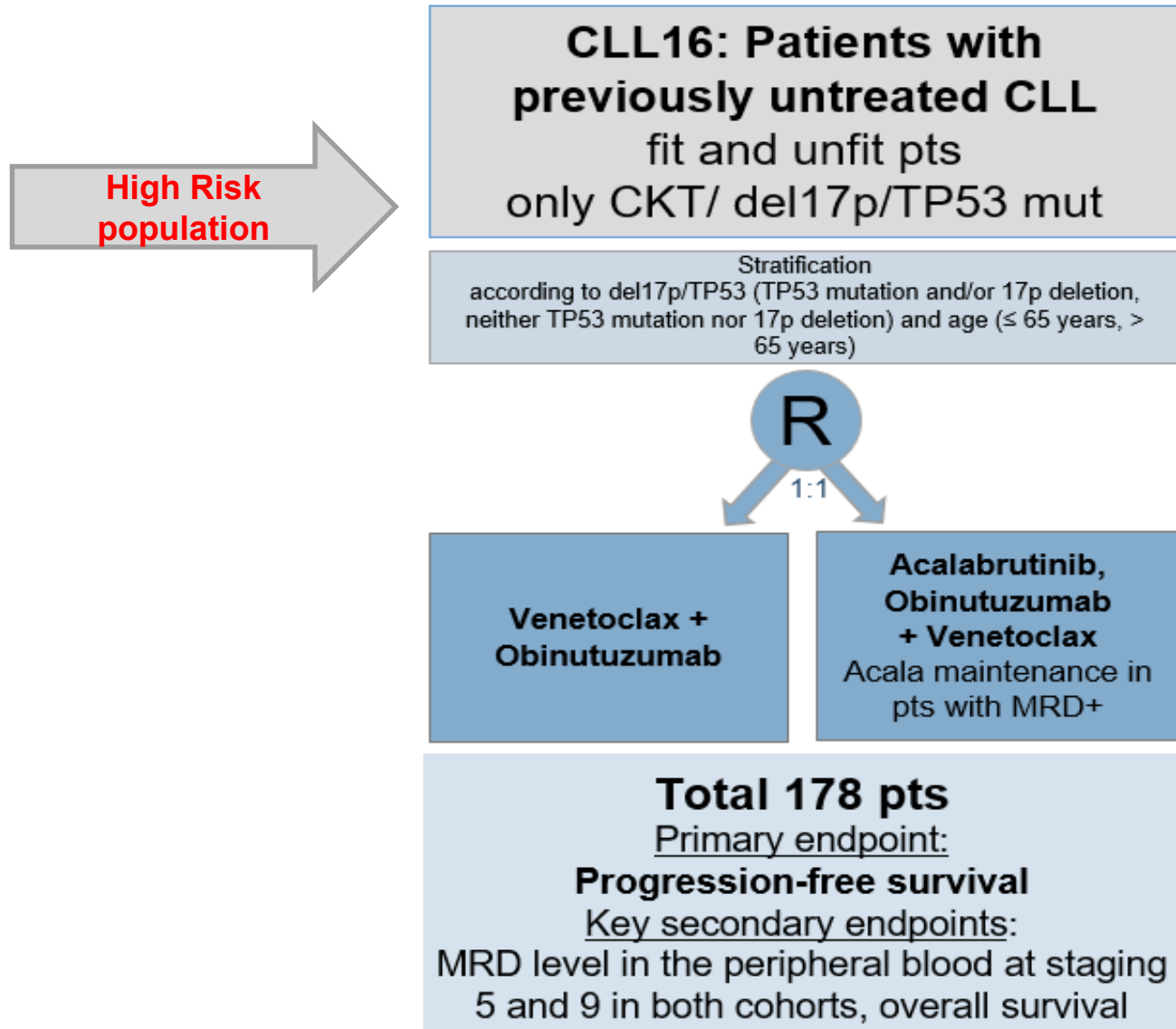
Patients at risk

	0	12	24	36	48
nCKT	565	547	522	308	99
iCKT	80	75	71	44	14
hCKT	27	27	21	8	2

→ Presence of hCKT but not iCKT is associated with shorter PFS in in pooled venetoclax arms



# CLL16 phase 3 trial: Ven+O vs Ven+O+Acalabrutinib in HR-CLL



Rezidivtherapie

## Therapieindikation Rezidiv

Erst bei **symptomatischen** Progrefß –  
außer bei PD unter laufender Therapie

# Rezidivtherapie-Optionen bei der CLL

## Dauertherapie



### **BTKi**

- Ibrutinib
- Acalabrutinib
- Zanubrutinib in regulatory review

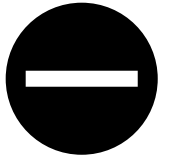
### **BCL2i**

Venetoclax in *TP53* & after BTKi

### **PI3K inhibitors**

- Idelalisib + R
- Duvelisib

## Zeitlich limitierte Therapie



### **BCL2i + Anti-CD20**

- Venetoclax + R  
24 cycles

## Zelluläre Therapien



### **Cellular therapies**

- Allo SCTx
- CART only within clinical trials

# Rezidivtherapie: Faktoren zur Überlegung zur Wahl der Therapie

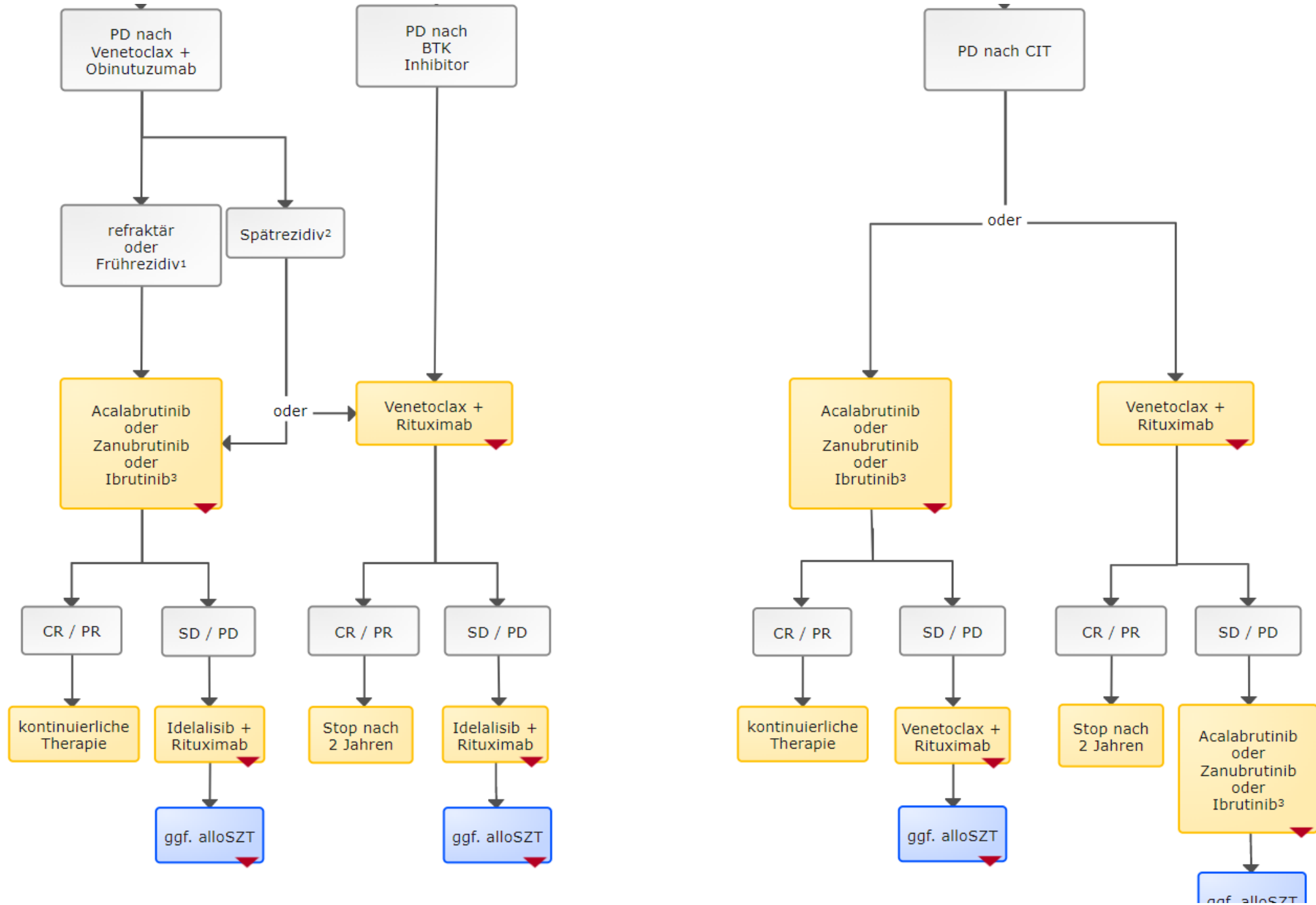
Vorherige Therapie:  
Ansprechen  
Verträglichkeit

Genetische Evolution:  
Neue TP53 Veränderung  
Resistenzmutation

Begleiterkrankung und  
Begleitmedikation

Optimale  
Therapiesequenz

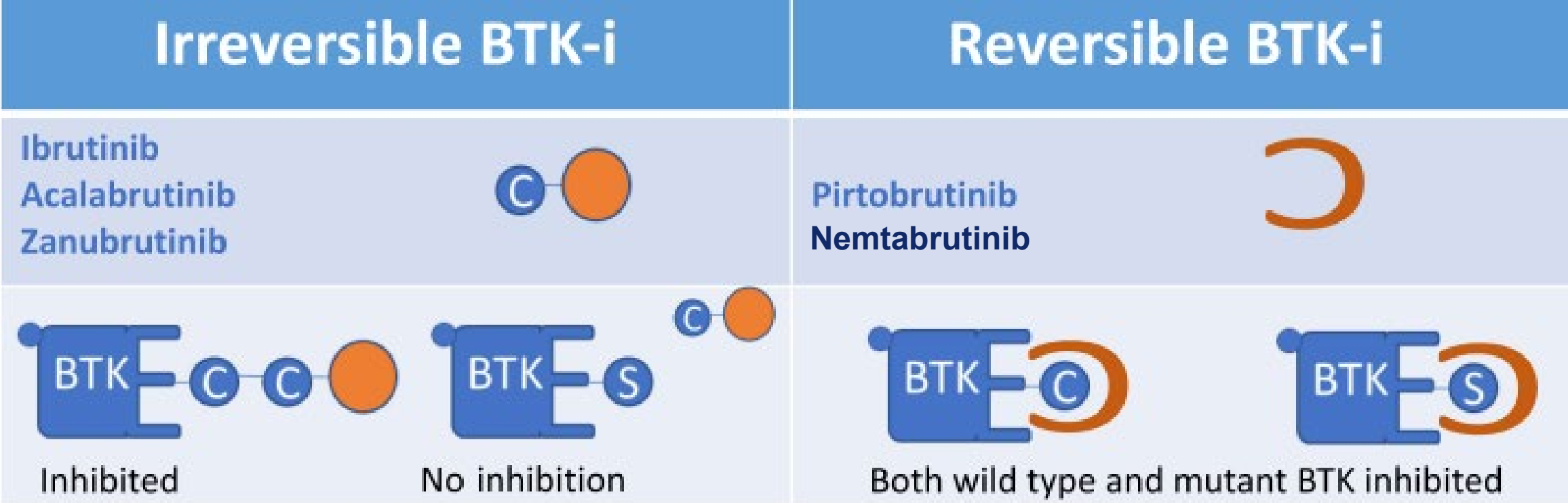
# Rezidiv



## Relapse treatment after prior therapy with targeted agents

Last prior Treatment	Relapse Treatment	N pts	ORR	PFS	Reference
<b>BCRi → Ven</b>					
Ibrutinib	Venetoclax	92	65%	med 25 mo.	Jones et al., Lancet Oncol 2018; 19: 65
Idelalisib	Venetoclax	36	67%	79% at 12 mo.	Coutre et al., Blood 2018;131(15):1704
BCR inhibitor	Ventoclax	26	74%	n.r. after 17 mo.	Mato et al., Ann Oncol 2017; 28(5):1050
<b>Ven → BCRi</b>					
VenetoclaxR	Ibrutinib	18	100%	-	Seymour J. et al., Blood 2022; Vol 140, Nr 8
Venetoclax	Ibrutinib/Acalabrutinib	44	84%	32 mo.	Mato et al., ASH 2019; Abstract 502
<b>VenR → Ven</b>					
VenentoclaxR	Venetoclax	32	72%	-	Seymour J. et al., Blood 2022; Vol 140, Nr 8
<b>Covalent BTKi → Non-covalent BTKi</b>					
Ibr/Acala/Zan u	Pirtobrutinib	121	62%	-	Mato A. et al., Lancet 2021; 397: 892–901 2021; 397: 892–901

# Noncovalent BTK Inhibitors

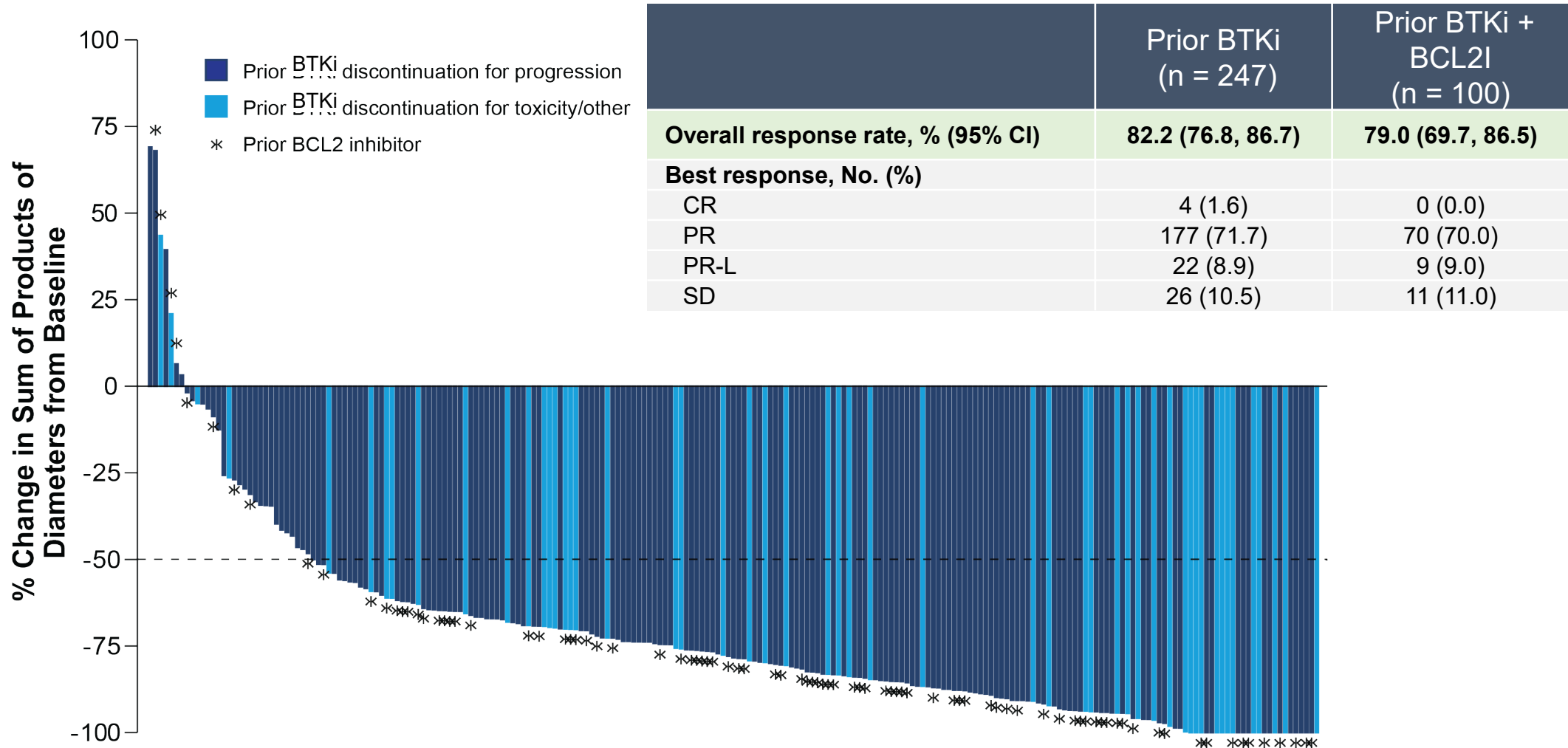


BTK = Bruton tyrosine kinase; BTK-i = Bruton tyrosine kinase inhibitor.  
 Tambaro FP et al. *J Exp Pharmacol.* 2021;13 923–935.



# Pirtobrutinib in Covalent BTKi-Pretreated R/R CLL/SLL

## BRUIN: Efficacy

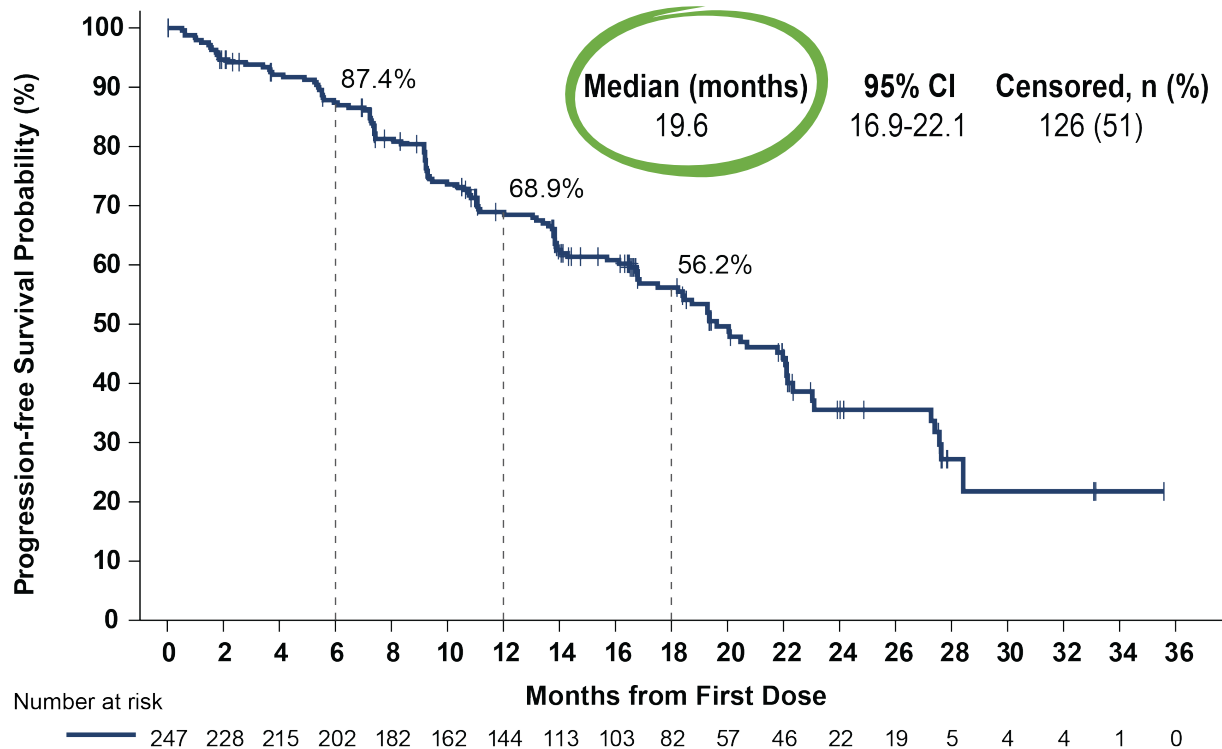


	Prior BTKi (n = 247)	Prior BTKi + BCL2i (n = 100)
<b>Overall response rate, % (95% CI)</b>	<b>82.2 (76.8, 86.7)</b>	<b>79.0 (69.7, 86.5)</b>
<b>Best response, No. (%)</b>		
CR	4 (1.6)	0 (0.0)
PR	177 (71.7)	70 (70.0)
PR-L	22 (8.9)	9 (9.0)
SD	26 (10.5)	11 (11.0)

# Pirtobrutinib in Covalent BTKi-Pretreated R/R CLL/SLL

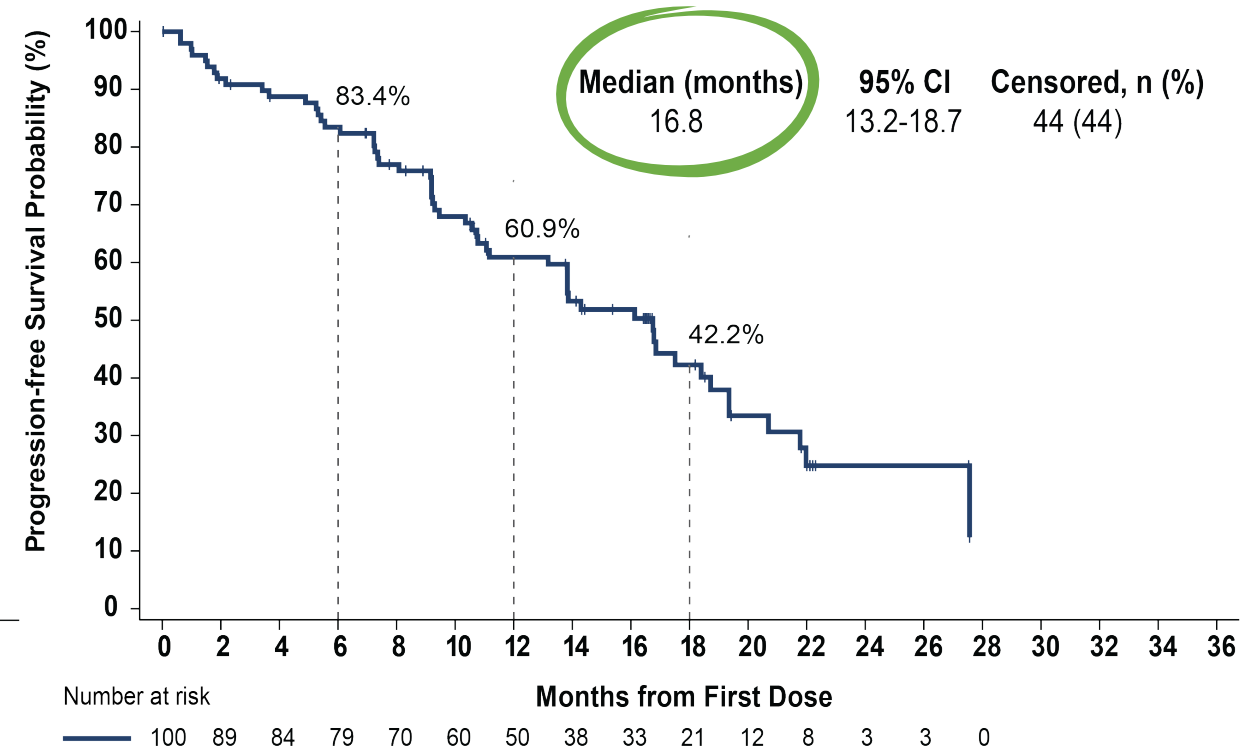
## BRUIN: PFS

**All Prior BTKi Patients**  
Median prior lines = 3



- Median follow-up of 19.4 mo for patients who received prior BTKi

**Prior BTKi and BCL2I Patients**  
Median prior lines = 5



- Median follow-up of 18.2 mo for patients who received prior BTKi and BCL2I

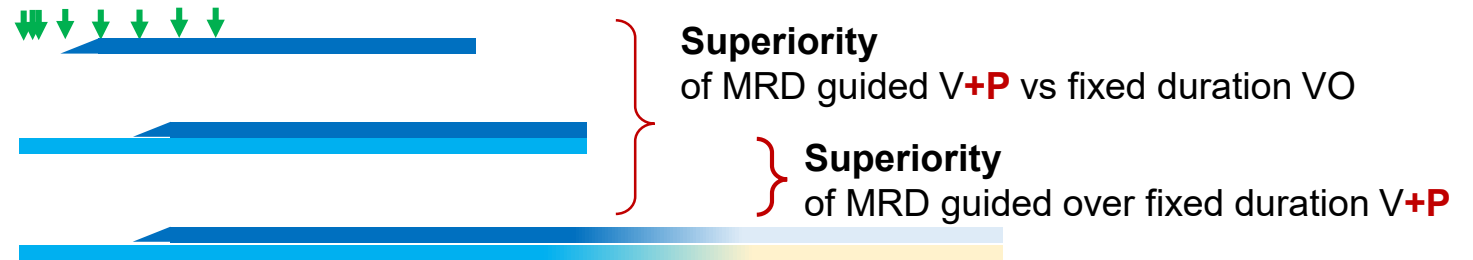
# CLL18: Next phase 3 trial for frontline of CLL

## Venetoclax + Pirtobrutinib (VP) MRD guided vs VP fixed vs. VO

**Arm A:** V+O fixed-duration (12 mo)

**Arm B:** V+P fixed-duration (15 mo)

**Arm C:** V+P MRD guided



**Primary endpoint:** PFS

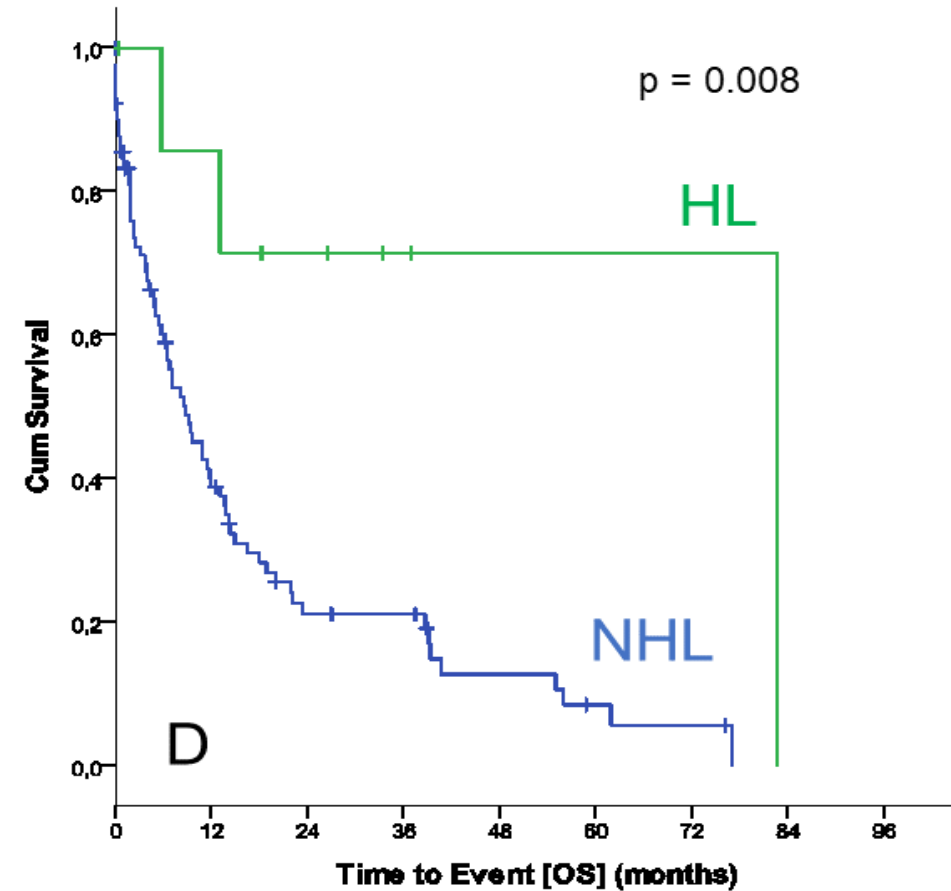
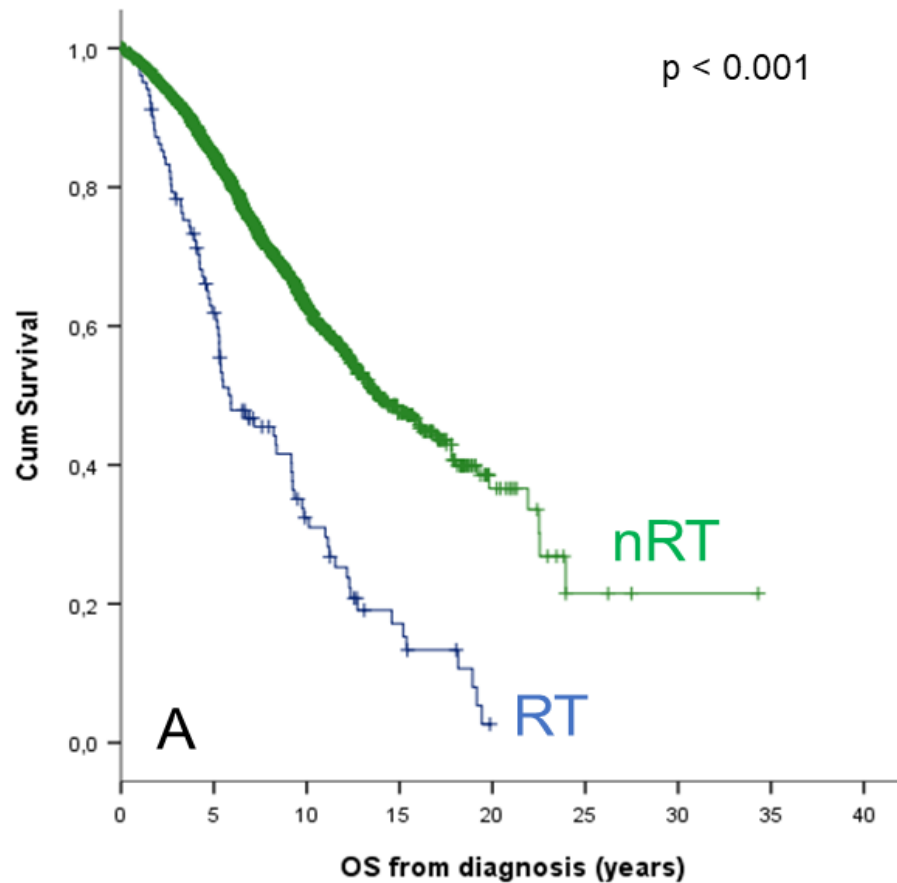
**Assumptions:** PFS @36 months: 80% for arms A & B, 90% for arm C.

**Test design:** Two-sided 2.5% significance level per each superiority testing with targeted hazard ratio = 0.472

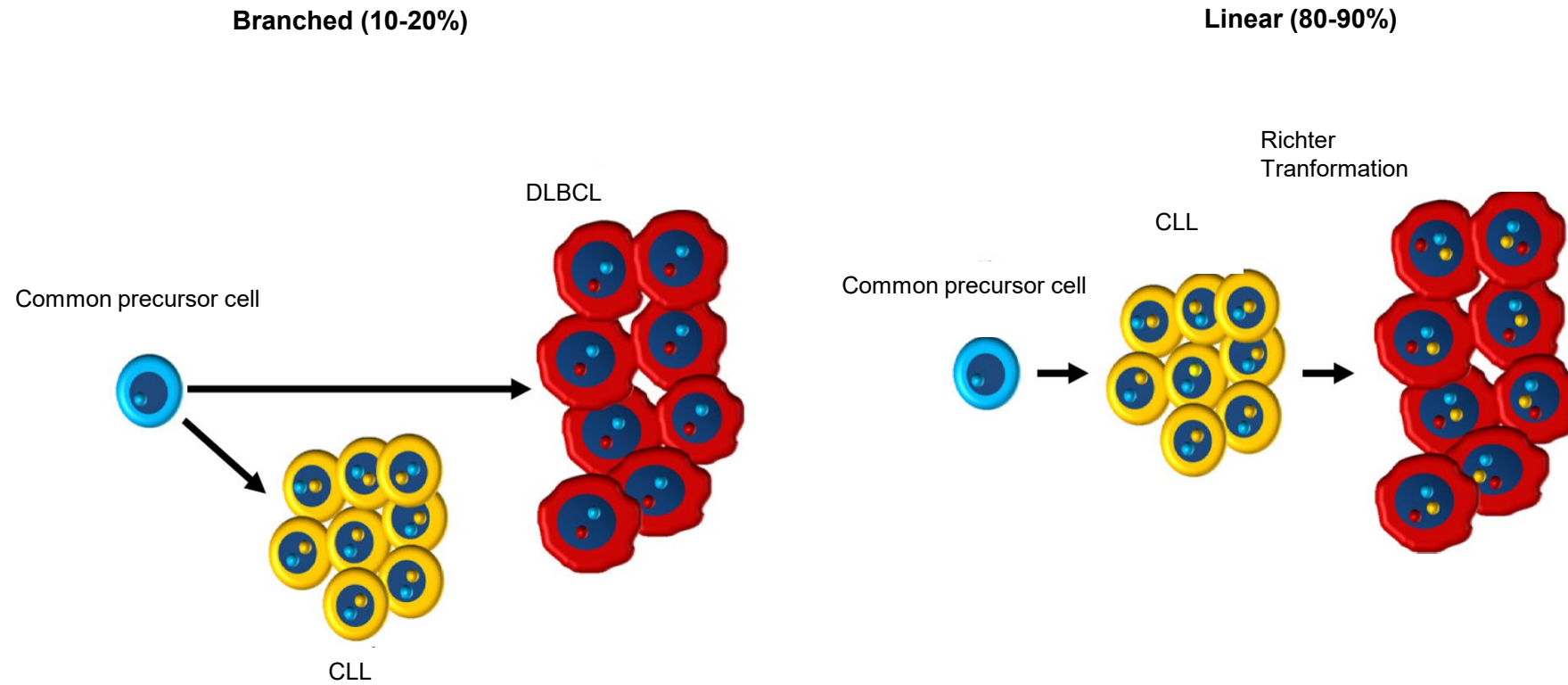
**Total required sample size:** 813 pts (271 per arm, 1:1:1 randomization)

# Worst case scenario RT: Pooled analysis of the GCLLSG of 2975 patients

103 patients (3%) developed RT (95 NHL and 8 HL) after 53 months median observation time



# Differenzierung de novo vs klonal verwandtes DLBCL



# Definition Richter-Transformation

- DLBCL (>90%):
  - 80% genetisch verwandt zur CLL (Leichtkettenrestriktion, IGHV)
  - 20% de novo DLBCL
  - ABC-type 90%
- Hodgkin Lymphom (<10%)
  - Nur 30% genetisch verwandt zur CLL
  - 70% de novo HL !

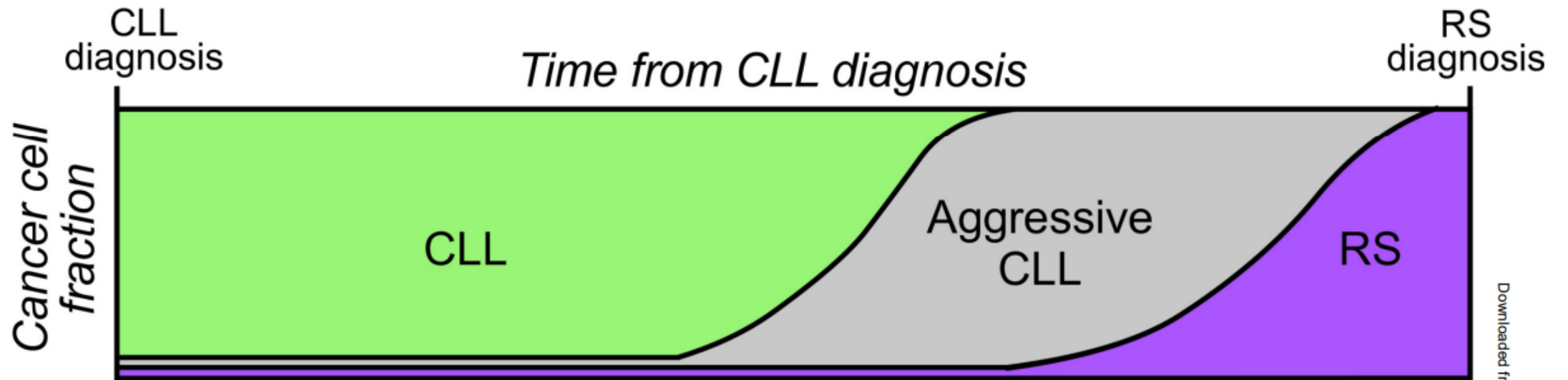
NICHT:

Prolymphozyten Leukämie, bzw. nach neuer WHO CLL mit erhöhtem Anteil an Prolymphozyten

# Epidemiologie

Trial	Treatment	Nr of RT/nr of CLL	% RT
CLL4 LRF	F vs FC vs Clb	13/777	1.7
CLL8 GCLLSG	FC vs FCR	38/800	4.8
CLL10 GCLLSG	FCR vs BR	13/561	2.3
Alliance	I vs IR vs BR	3/547	0.5
ECOG 1912	IR vs FCR	3/529	0.6
CLL14 GCLLSG	VG vs ClbR	5/432	1.2
CLL13 GCLLSG	FCR/BR vs VR vs VG vs IVG	18/926	1.9

# Entwicklung der CLL über die Zeit



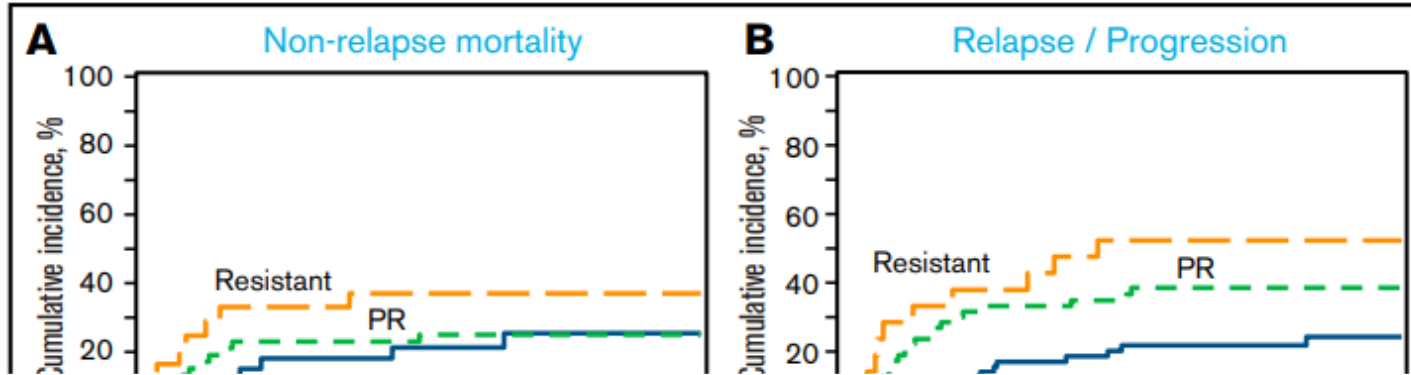


# Chemoimmuntherapien bei RT vom DLBCL Typ

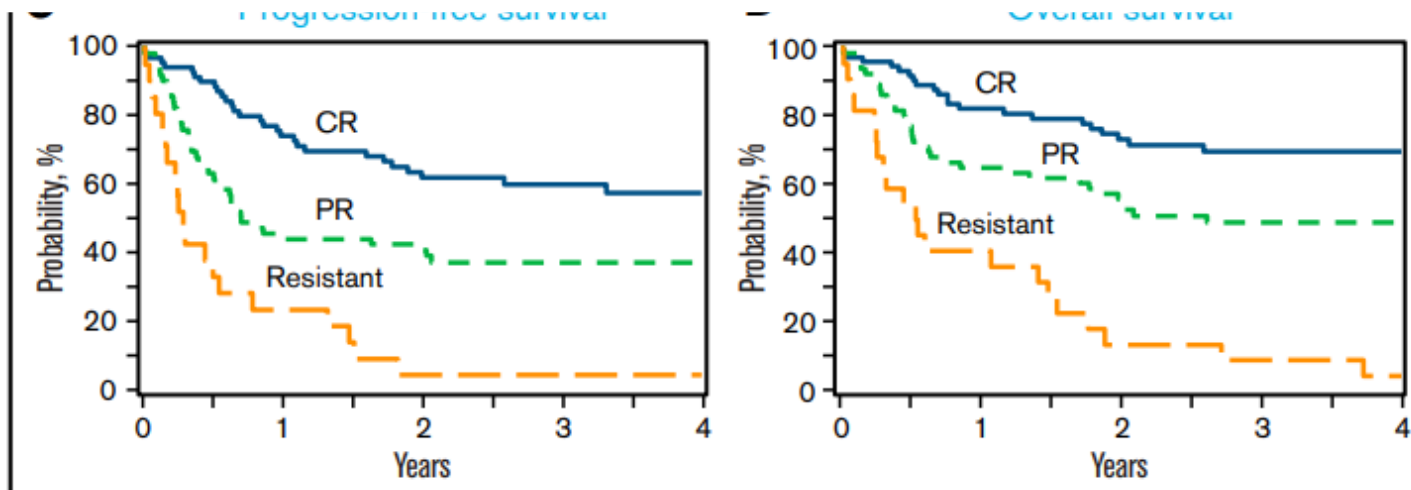
Regimen	Author	Trial Design	No. of Patients	Treatment-Related Mortality, %	ORR, %	CR, %	PFS Median, months	OS Median, months
R-CHOP	Langerbeins et al <sup>54</sup>	Prospective phase II	15	0	67	7	10	21
O-CHOP + O maintenance	Eyre et al <sup>43</sup>	Prospective phase II	37	0	46	27	6	11
Platinum and high-dose AraC regimens <sup>a</sup>	Durot et al <sup>55</sup>	Retrospective	28	15 <sup>b</sup>	43	25	7	8
R Hyper-CVAD + GMCSF/R HDM + AraC	Tsimberidou et al <sup>56</sup>	Prospective phase II	30 <sup>c</sup>	Early mortality rate: 18% <sup>b</sup>	43	27	NR separately for RT cohort	12 month survival rate: 28%
R-EPOCH	Rogers et al <sup>57</sup>	Retrospective	44	30	39	NR	3.5	6
Hyper CVAD	Dabaja et al <sup>58</sup>	Prospective phase II	29 <sup>d</sup>	14	41	38	NR	10
OFAR2	Tsimberidou et al <sup>59</sup>	Prospective phase I/II	31	8	38	6	3	6
OFAR1	Tsimberidou et al <sup>60</sup>	Prospective phase I/II	20	5	50	20	3	8

# Allogene SCTx bei RT

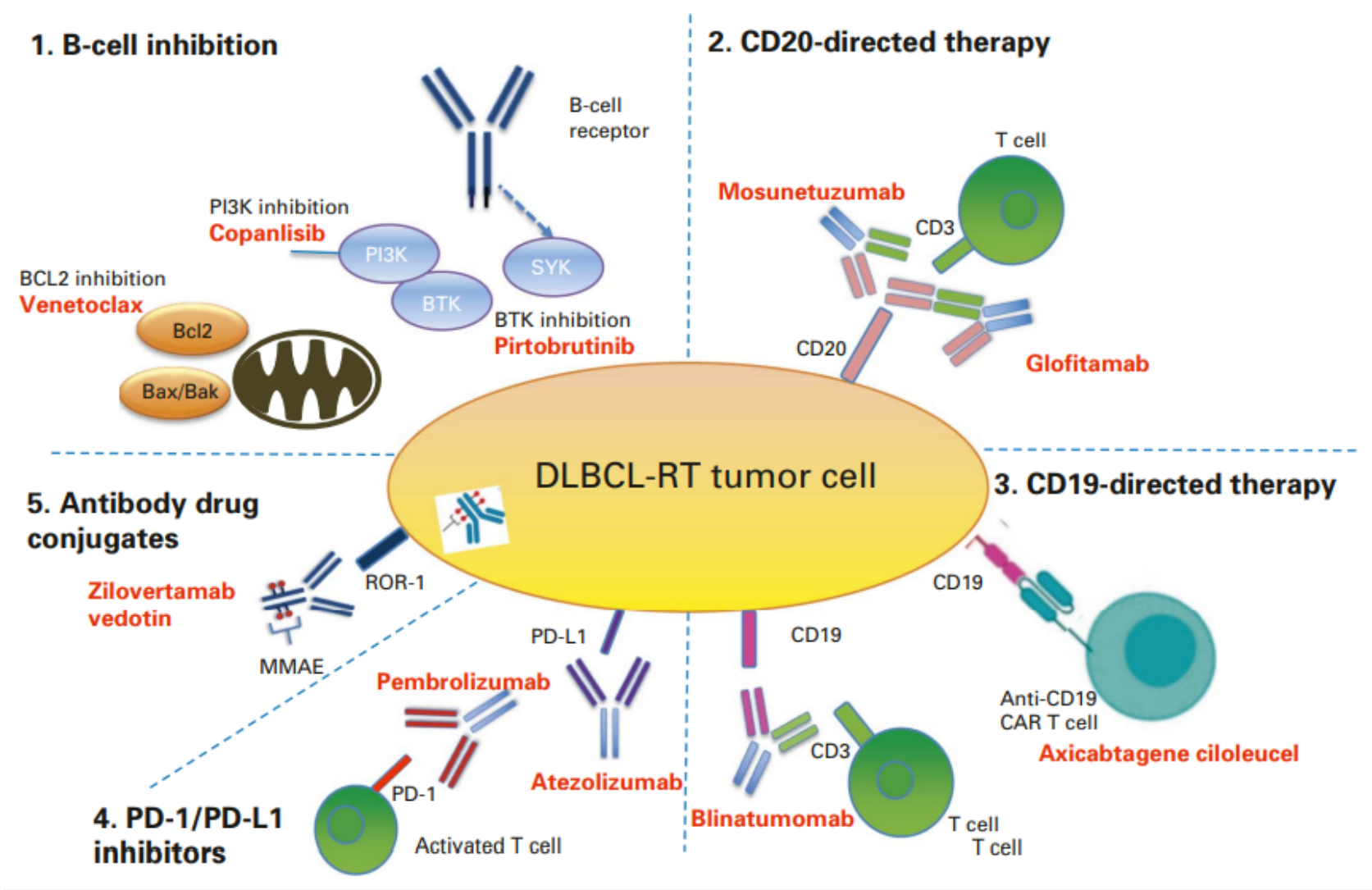
Retrospective Registeranalyse in 118 Patienten



Nur 40% hatten eine del(17p)/TP53 Mutation

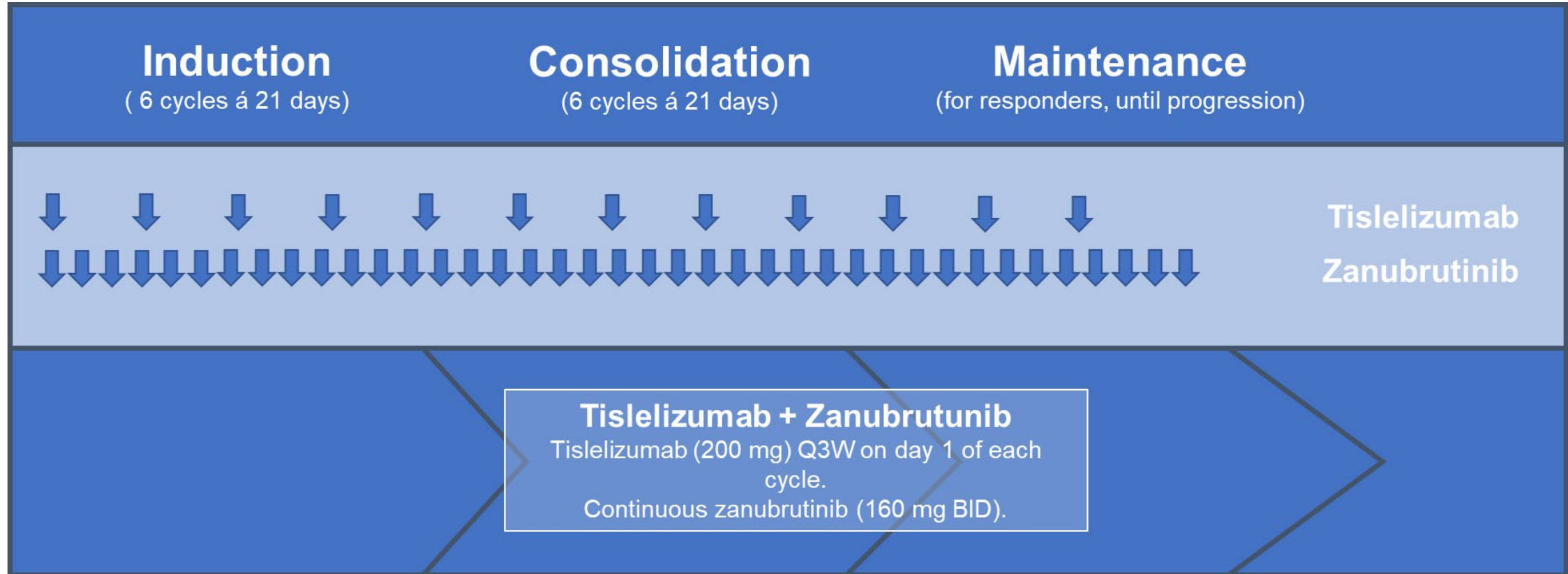


# Neue Kombinationstherapien ?



# RT1-trial: Checkpointinhibitor + BTK inhibitor

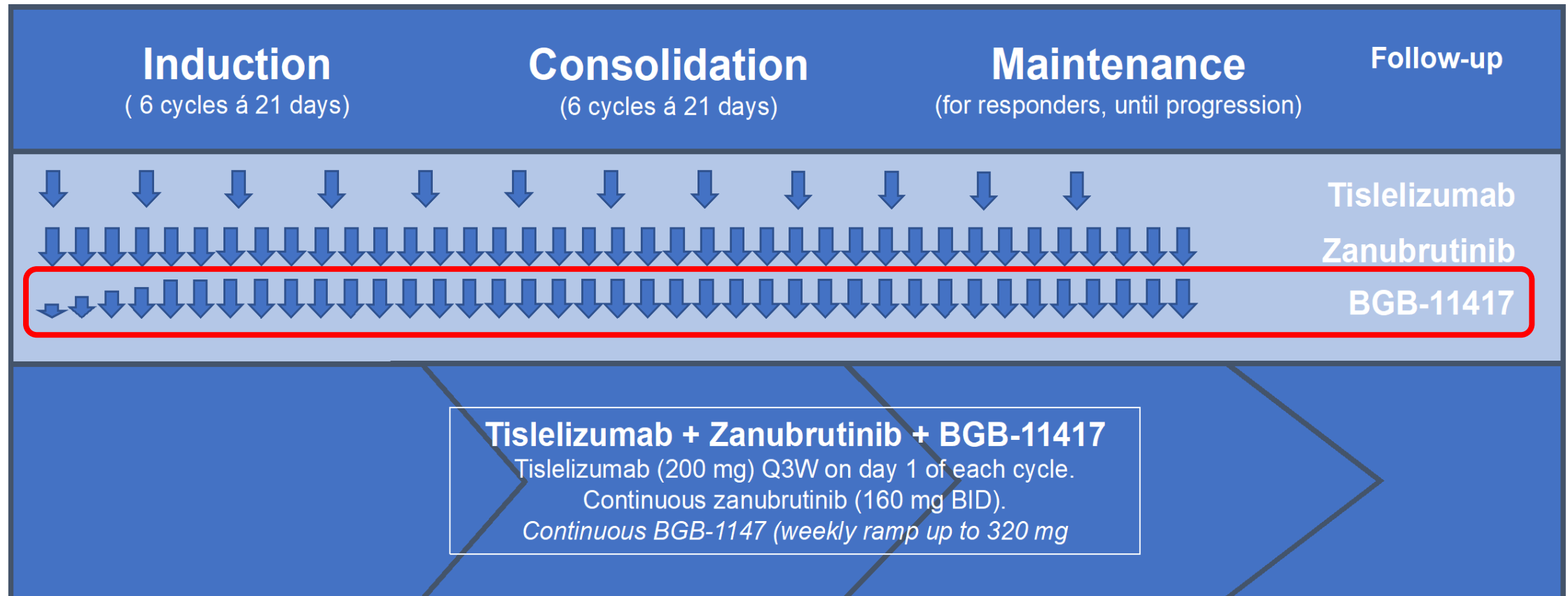
## Treatment regimen



### Primary endpoint:

- Overall response rate (ORR) after induction therapy and according to the refined Lugano Classification
- > 60% ORR
- N=48

# RT 1-Studie der DCLLSG: Studienextensions-Kohorte (n=26)



# Zusammenfassung CLL

- Behandlung immer noch erst bei Symptomen.
- Erstlinientherapie mit:
  - BTKi: Acalabrutinib, Zanubrutinib, Ibrutinib
  - Venetoclax + Obinutuzumab
  - Venetoclax + Ibrutinib
- Bei Unverträglichkeit von BTKi:
  - Dosisreduktion
  - Wechsel BTKi
- Rezidiv:
  - Wechsel der Substanzklasse
  - Nach zeitlich begrenzter Therapie: erneute Therapie (Ausnahme: CIT)
  - RT ausschließen bei raschem PD



