

Updates in Indolent Lymphoma

Sameer Mahesh

Hematology-Oncology

Summa Cancer Institute

- No disclosures or conflicts of interest

Overview

- Follicular Lymphoma: Initial treatment

Relapsed disease

- Lymphoplasmacytic Lymphoma/Waldenstrom's Macroglobulinemia
- Hairy Cell Leukemia

Follicular Lymphoma- Case 1

68 male presents in 2011 with fatigue, enlarged lymph nodes in neck and axilla

Excision biopsy of axillary lymph node shows Follicular Lymphoma grade 1-2/3

CT scan of Chest/Abd/Pelvis shows enlarged lymph nodes in the chest, axilla, upper abdomen, and pelvis (> 4 areas)

Blood counts normal. Hemoglobin 13. LDH 280 (elevated)

Bone marrow biopsy shows presence of FL (30%) marrow

Follicular Lymphoma- Case 1 (contd)

FLIPI score (Follicular Lymphoma International Prognostic Index)

Age > 60 (yes)

LDH (lactate dehydrogenase) > upper limit of normal (yes)

Hemoglobin > 12 (no)

Ann Arbor Stage III or IV (yes)

Number of involved areas > 4 (yes)

FLIPI high risk (has 4/5) factors

Follicular Lymphoma- Case 1 (contd)

- Does the patient need treatment: Yes. He has symptoms

Treatment: He was placed on ECOG 2408 study. Phase 2 three arm study

BR → R maintenance

BVR → R maintenance

BR → R + L maintenance

B (Bendamustine, TREANDA); R (Rituximab, RITUXAN)

V (Bortezomib, VELCADE); L (Lenalidomide, REVLIMID)

Follicular Lymphoma- Case 1 (contd)

- He was randomized to BR → R maintenance arm
- Received 6 cycles of BR. Tolerated well. Enlarged lymph nodes normalized clinically and on imaging. Bone marrow cleared.
- Tolerated rituximab maintenance well (borderline white count which improved once rituximab completed)
- Continues to be in complete remission

Discussion points

- Symptoms indicating immediate treatment (fever, night sweats, weight loss, fatigue, bothersome lymphadenopathy, low blood counts)
- What is initial frontline treatment in high FLIPI score FL (role of bendamustine)
- Role of lenalidomide
- Role of maintenance rituximab after chemotherapy

Role of bendamustine

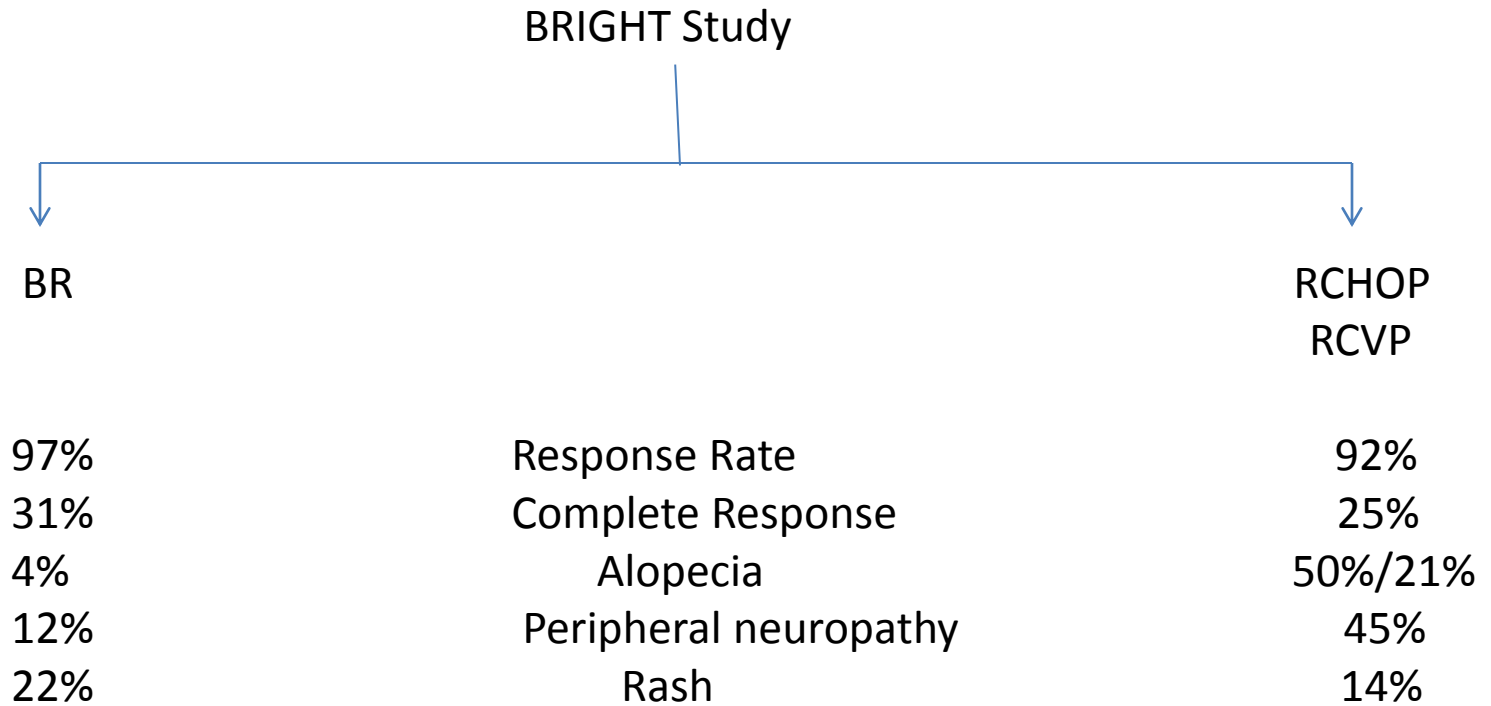
German NHL1 study

514 patients with FL, iNFL (indolent non follicular lymphoma) and MCL

A flowchart starting from a central point at the top, branching down to two columns: BR on the left and RCHOP on the right. A horizontal line connects the two columns, with a vertical line extending upwards from the center of this line to the text 'German NHL1 study' and '514 patients with FL, iNFL (indolent non follicular lymphoma) and MCL'. Below the horizontal line, two arrows point downwards to the 'BR' and 'RCHOP' labels.

BR		RCHOP
94%	overall response rate	94%
40%	complete response rate	30%
70	progression free survival (months)	31
0%	alopecia when 3 or more cycles	100%
37%	infections	60%
7%	peripheral neuropathy	29%
30%	hematologic toxicity	68%
6%	mouth sores	19%
16%	rash/skin reactions	9%

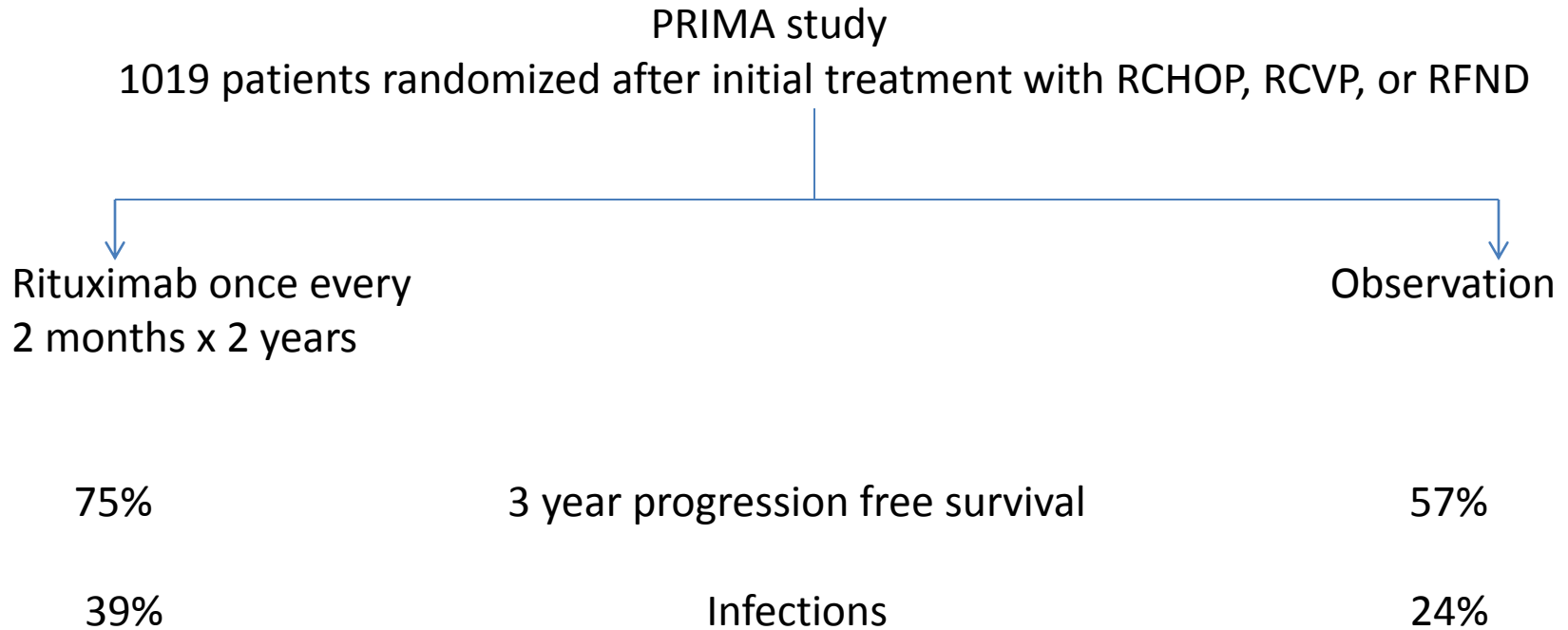
Role of bendamustine



Role of Lenalidomide

- Oral immunomodulator
- FDA approved for multiple myeloma, a subtype of MDS and mantle cell lymphoma
- Has single agent activity but exciting in combination with rituximab
- M.D. Anderson study had 110 patients (FL 50). Overall response rate was 98% and complete response rate 87%.
- Significant adverse effects (neutropenia, rash, muscle pain, cough, dyspnea, fatigue, thrombosis)
- RELEVANCE: Ongoing phase 3 studies assessing R2 versus R-chemo (**STAY TUNED!**)

Rituximab maintenance after R-chemotherapy



Follicular Lymphoma Case 2

- 46 female presented in 2012 with cervical lymphadenopathy of 3 months duration. No fever, B symptoms. Otherwise asymptomatic
- Hemoglobin 13; LDH 180
- CT C/A/P neck, upper abdominal lymphadenopathy (max size 3 cm)
- Bone marrow biopsy (10% involvement by FL)

Follicular Lymphoma Case 2

FLIPI score (Follicular Lymphoma International Prognostic Index)

Age > 60 (no)

LDH (lactate dehydrogenase) > upper limit of normal (no)

Hemoglobin > 12 (no)

Ann Arbor Stage III or IV (yes)

Number of involved areas > 4 (no)

FLIPI Low risk (1 risk factor) category

Follicular Lymphoma Case 2

- Management: Watchful waiting

Rituximab single agent

Rituximab with chemotherapy

- Options 1 and 2 discussed.
- Sought 2nd opinion. Discussed 1,2 and 3
- Patient elected to do single agent rituximab

Follicular Lymphoma Case 2

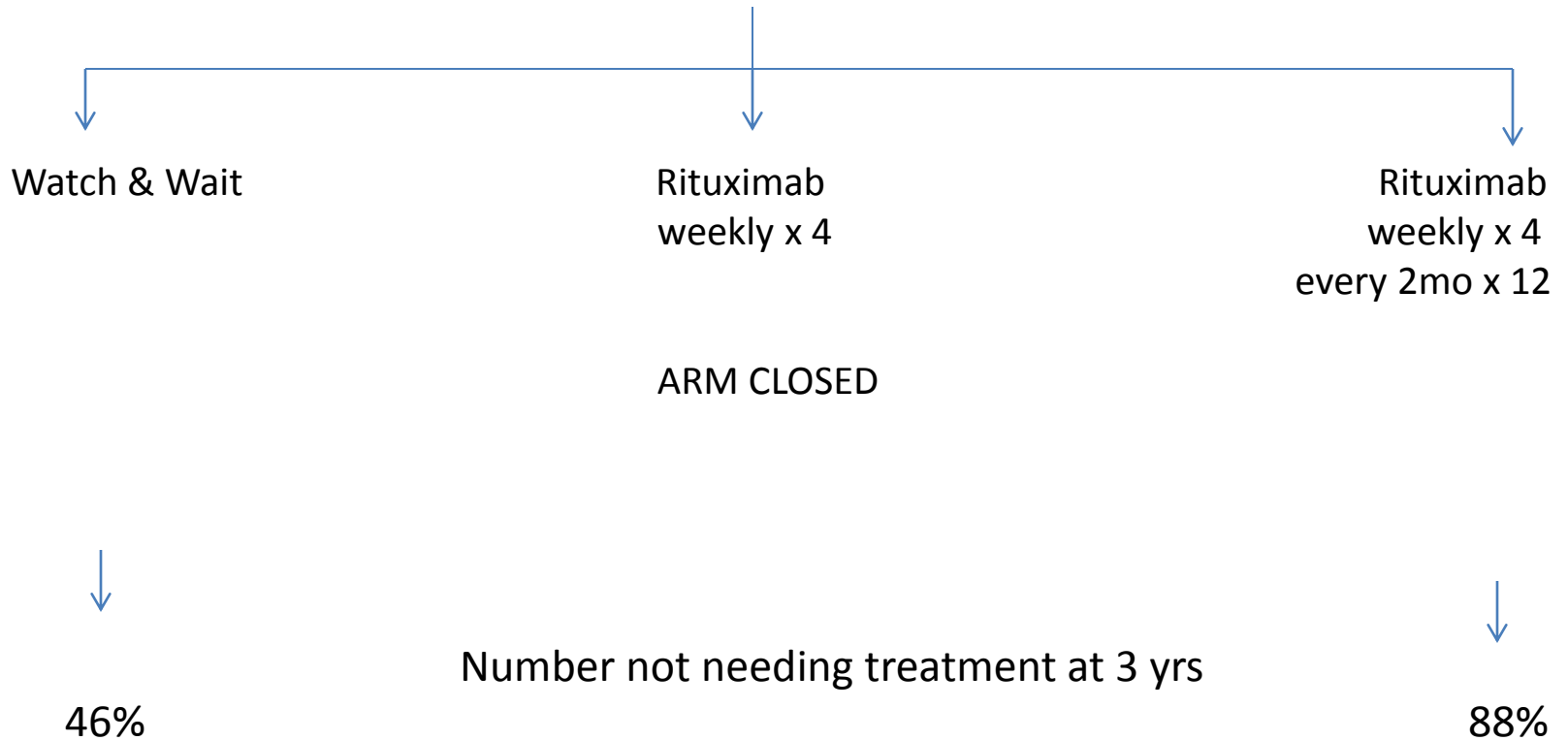
- She received weekly rituximab x 4
- Lymph nodes resolved clinically and on imaging
- Continues to do well.
- Follows up every 4 months for history and physical and blood count

Discussion points

- Watch and wait versus treat?
- Maintenance rituximab after single agent rituximab

UK Study

379 patients low tumor burden FL in UK, Aus, NZ, Poland and Turkey



RESORT Study (E4402)

Previously untreated low tumor burden FL received rituximab x 4

↓
Responders



Rituximab re-treatment

Rituximab maintenance

Treatment at time of progression

Once every 3 months till progression

3.9 yrs

Time to treatment failure

4.3 yrs

84%

3 year freedom from cytotoxic therapy

95%

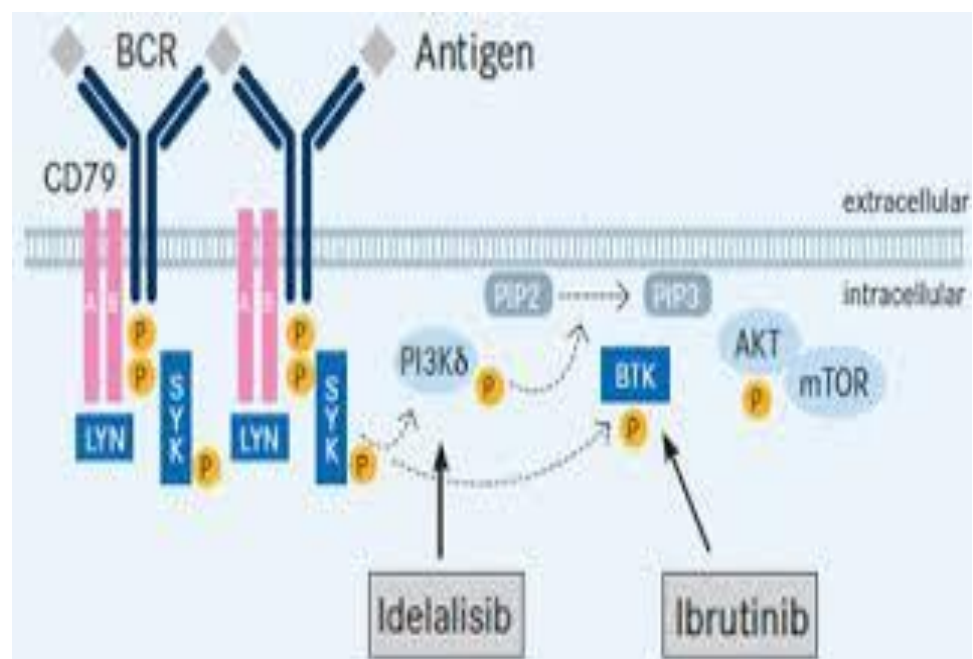
4

Median number of rituximab doses

18

Relapsed/ Refractory Disease

- Idelasib (Zydelig) a PI3K δ inhibitor most recent drug to be approved
- PI3K δ highly expressed in hematologic cell surface and is important in conducting signals that allow normal cell development and function.
- Hyperactive in B cell cancers making it an attractive target

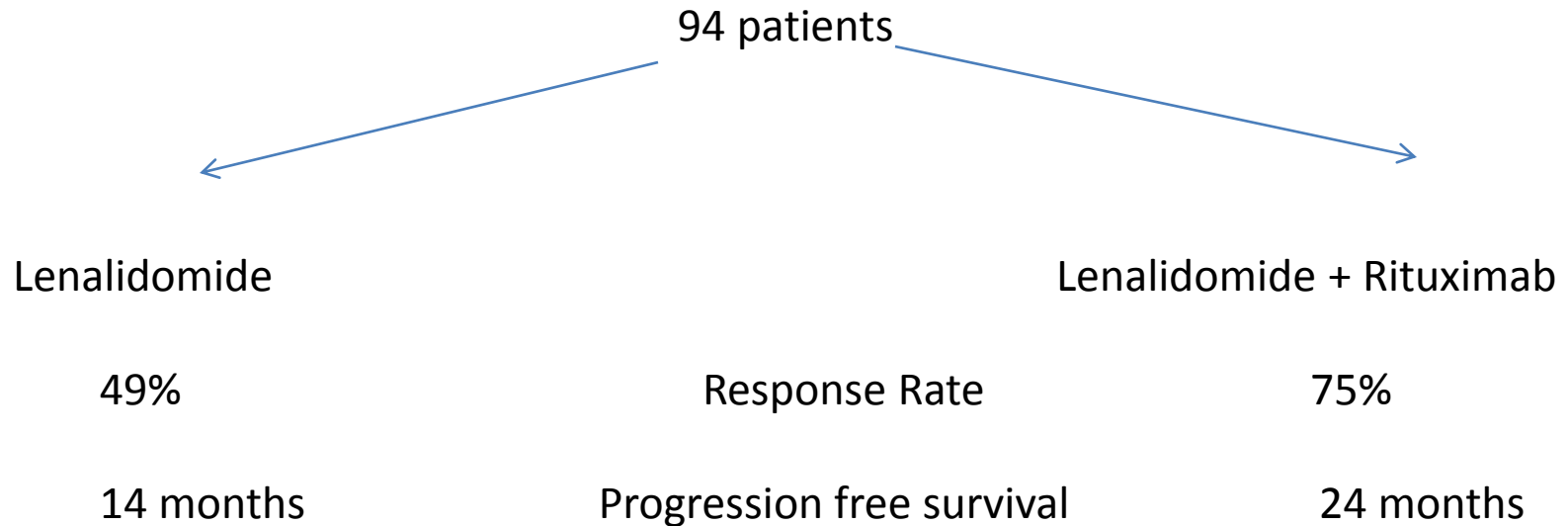


Relapsed/ Refractory Disease

- Study 101-09 included 125 patients with indolent lymphoma that were refractory to rituximab and chemotherapy
- Median number of previous regimens was 4
- Overall response rate 57% (6% complete response)
- Median time to response was 2 months and duration was 12.5 months
- Diarrhea (43%/13%), neutropenia (56%/27%), liver enzyme elevation (40%/10%),
- Pneumonia 10%

CALGB 50401

Phase 2 study of relapsed lymphoma more than 6 months after last rituximab treatment



GADOLIN

396 patients with rituximab refractory iNHL. Patients had received average of 2 prior therapies



Bendamustine

Bendamustine + obinutuzumab

63%

Response Rate

69%

14 mo

Progression free survival

29 mo

63%

≥ grade 3 adverse events

69%

Waldenstrom's Macroglobulinemia

- WM is an indolent B-cell lymphoma associated with clonal lymphoplasmacytic cells and monoclonal IgM secretion
- Current active drugs used in 1st line settings include cyclophosphamide, steroids, bortezomib, bendamustine, rituximab. Fludarabine that was used previously is not go-to drug anymore
- First line treatment is highly active with durable responses. However, relapses do occur and approach to treatment is on the lines of other iNHL
- Ibrutinib (BTK-bruton tyrosine kinase) inhibitor approved for CLL, relapsed MCL and relapsed Waldenstrom's Macroglobulinemia

Waldenstrom's Macroglobulinemia

- 63 patients with WM that received at least 1 prior treatment received ibrutinib at 420mg daily
- Overall response 90%; major response 73%
- At 2 years, 69% were estimated to be progression free and 90% expected to be alive
- Neutropenia and thrombocytopenia were main adverse effects

Hairy Cell Leukemia

- HCL is a chronic, indolent B-cell cancer characterized by low blood counts (and its complications) and enlarged spleen
- Treatment is initiated at onset of symptoms or when counts significantly low
- Purine analogues (cladribine and pentostatin) are used in first line setting. Appx 30-50% relapse and with retreatment (rituximab also used in retreatment setting) duration of response will shorten and/or bone marrow reserve declines due to stem-cell toxic nature of the above drugs
- BRAF V600E mutation is seen in almost 100% of HCL cases making drugs that target the above mutation potential treatment options

Vemurafinib in HCL

- Vemurafinib is an oral BRAF inhibitor
- Patients with relapsed/refractory HCL to purine analogues were treated with vemurafinib 960mg twice a day
- 2 studies were conducted. One in Italy and other in US
- Overall response rates were 96% and 100% respectively
- Complete responses were 35% and 42% respectively
- Average relapse free time was 19 months for patients with CR and 6 months in patients with partial response.

- Thank you for your attention!
- Questions