#### New developments in AML



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#### Blood cancers and cell of origin



http://daley.med.harvard.edu/assets/Willy/hematopoiesis.jpg

#### AML a disease of recurrent genetic mutations

• Prognostic

• Targets for therapy



www.broadinstitute.org

#### Mutations, small insertions, deletions (Molecular)

PCR (FLT3 ITD)

Next generation sequencing ATACAGGCT TATGTCCGA



www.broadinstitute.org

# Mutations in AML



Pappaemmanuil et al. NEJM 2016

#### Prognostic impact of mutations (mostly with chemo)



Pappaemmanuil et al. NEJM 2016

### Update to AML risk stratification

 Table 6.
 2022 European LeukemiaNet (ELN) risk classification by genetics at initial diagnosis<sup>a</sup>

Table 5. 2017	ELN risk stratification by genetics		Genetic Abnormality			
Risk category*	Genetic abnormality	Risk Category"				
Favorable	t(8;21)(q22;q22.1); <i>RUNX1-RUNX1T1</i> inv(16)(p13.1q22) or t(16;16)(p13.1;q22); <i>CBFB-MYH11</i> Mutated <i>NPM1</i> without <i>FLT3</i> -ITD or with <i>FLT3</i> -ITD <sup>Iow</sup> † Biallelic mutated <i>CEBPA</i>	Favorable	<ul> <li>t(8;21)(q22;q22.1)/RUNX1::RUNX1T1<sup>b,c</sup></li> <li>inv(16)(p13.1q22) or t(16;16)(p13.1;q22)/CBFB::MYH11<sup>b,c</sup></li> <li>Mutated NPM1<sup>b,d</sup> without FLT3-ITD</li> <li>bZIP in-frame mutated CEBPA<sup>e</sup></li> </ul>			
Intermediate	<ul> <li>Mutated NPM1 and FLT3-ITD<sup>Ingit</sup></li> <li>Wild-type NPM1 without FLT3-ITD or with FLT3-ITD<sup>Iow</sup><sup>+</sup> (without adverse-risk genetic lesions)</li> <li>t(9;11)(p21.3;q23.3); MLLT3-KMT2A<sup>+</sup></li> <li>Cytogenetic abnormalities not classified as favorable or adverse</li> </ul>	Intermediate	<ul> <li>Mutated NPM1<sup>b,d</sup> with FLT3-ITD</li> <li>Wild-type NPM1 with FLT3-ITD</li> <li>t(9;11)(p21.3;q23.3)/MLLT3::KMT2A<sup>b,f</sup></li> <li>Cytogenetic and/or molecular abnormalities not classified as favorable or adverse</li> </ul>			
Adverse	t(6;9)(p23;q34.1); <i>DEK-NUP214</i> t(v;11q23.3); <i>KMT2A</i> rearranged t(9;22)(q34.1;q11.2); <i>BCR-ABL1</i> inv(3)(q21.3q26.2) or t(3;3)(q21.3;q26.2); <i>GATA2,MECOM(EV11)</i> -5 or del(5q); $-7$ ; $-17/abn(17p)Complex karyotype,§ monosomal karyotypellWild-type NPM1 and FLT3-ITDhigh†Mutated RUNX1¶Mutated RUNX1¶Mutated ASXL1¶$	Adverse	<ul> <li>t(6;9)(p23;q34.1)/DEK::NUP214</li> <li>t(v;11q23.3)/KMT2A-rearranged<sup>9</sup></li> <li>t(9;22)(q34.1;q11.2)/BCR::ABL1</li> <li>t(8;16)(p11;p13)/KAT6A::CREBBP</li> <li>inv(3)(q21.3q26.2) or t(3;3)(q21.3;q26.2)/GATA2, MECOM(EVI1)</li> <li>t(3q26.2;v)/MECOM(EVI1)-rearranged</li> <li>-5 or del(5q); -7; -17/abn(17p)</li> <li>Complex karyotype,<sup>h</sup> monosomal karyotype<sup>i</sup></li> <li>Mutated ASXL1, BCOR, EZH2, RUNX1, SF3B1, SRSF2, STAG2, U2AF1, or ZRSR2<sup>j</sup></li> <li>Mutated TP53<sup>k</sup></li> </ul>			

#### Most leukemias have multiple mutations

• This makes assessing risk a little harder

• Targeted treatment is also more challenging

Need better combinations



# We have made progress – 9 drugs approved in AML since 2017!



Next challenge: how best to mix and match for different types of AML patients

#### FLT3 inhibitors

• Slow down leukemia cell growth

# FLT3 is the most common mutation in AML



Tyner et al. Nature 2018



#### FLT3 mutations drive leukemia cell growth



- Many inhibitors of FLT3 developed
- FLT3 inhibitors block leukemia cell growth
- Can often get rapid responses

Fletcher L., et al., Cancer Manag Res, 2020.

# Gilteritinib for relapsed/refractory AML

The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

#### Gilteritinib or Chemotherapy for Relapsed or Refractory FLT3-Mutated AML

A.E. Perl, G. Martinelli, J.E. Cortes, A. Neubauer, E. Berman, S. Paolini,
P. Montesinos, M.R. Baer, R.A. Larson, C. Ustun, F. Fabbiano, H.P. Erba,
A. Di Stasi, R. Stuart, R. Olin, M. Kasner, F. Ciceri, W.-C. Chou, N. Podoltsev,
C. Recher, H. Yokoyama, N. Hosono, S.-S. Yoon, J.-H. Lee, T. Pardee, A.T. Fathi,
C. Liu, N. Hasabou, X. Liu, E. Bahceci, and M.J. Levis

# Gilteritinib superior to chemotherapy, but eventually leukemia cells become resistant



#### Combine FLT3 inhibitors with chemotherapy to kill residual leukemia cells?

#### FLT3 inhibitors with chemotherapy

The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

#### Midostaurin plus Chemotherapy for Acute Myeloid Leukemia with a FLT3 Mutation

R.M. Stone, S.J. Mandrekar, B.L. Sanford, K. Laumann, S. Geyer, C.D. Bloomfield,
C. Thiede, T.W. Prior, K. Döhner, G. Marcucci, F. Lo-Coco, R.B. Klisovic, A. Wei,
J. Sierra, M.A. Sanz, J.M. Brandwein, T. de Witte, D. Niederwieser, F.R. Appelbaum,
B.C. Medeiros, M.S. Tallman, J. Krauter, R.F. Schlenk, A. Ganser, H. Serve,
G. Ehninger, S. Amadori, R.A. Larson, and H. Döhner

# RATIFY trial for FLT3 ITD and TKD

- Midostaurin is a FLT3 inhibitor
- Multikinase inhibitor (first generation)
- Less potent than gilteritinib and other FLT3 inhibitors



Stone et al. NEJM 2017

More potent FLT3 inhibitors work better with chemotherapy?

#### More FLT3 inhibitors being tested in combination

- 7+3 + quizartinib
  - Started prior to approval of midostaurin
  - Results reported at EHA 2022
- 7+3 + gilteritinib vs midostaurin
  - Phase 1 reported high CR rate
  - Phase 3 ongoing
- 7+3 + crenolanib vs midostaurin
  - Phase 2 reported high CR rate
  - Phase 3 ongoing

# 7+3 with Quizartinib

- Improved OS
- Only for FLT3 ITD mutations
- Similar side effects seen with previous trials
  - Neutropenia
  - QTc prolongation
- Submitted to FDA



Erba et al. EHA 2022 Abstract 100

# What about FLT3 inhibitors and hypomethylating agents?

#### **Key Eligibility Criteria** Newly diagnosed FLT3<sup>mut+</sup> AML Not eligible for intensive induction chemotherapy Administered over 28-day cycles R Gilteritinib 120 mg PO daily on days 1 to 28 Α Ν D 0 2:1\* Gilteritinib + Azacitidine Gilt 120 mg PO daily, days 1 to 28, Aza 75 mg/m<sup>2</sup> IV or SUBQ daily, days 1 to 7 M Ζ Е Azacitidine (Aza) 75 mg/m<sup>2</sup> IV or SUBQ daily, days 1 to 7 D

Wang et al. ASH 2021 Abstract 700

#### No significant OS difference observed with GILT+AZA vs. AZA



Median follow-up: 9.76 months for GILT/AZA and 17.97 months for AZA

Unclear why the combination did not perform better than azacitidine alone

#### **IDH** inhibitors

• Promote leukemia cell maturation (differentiation)

#### IDH1/2 mutations interfere with DNA methylation

- IDH mutations cause production of 2-HG instead of α-KG
- 2-HG inhibits TET2 and methylation of DNA
- This blocks normal maturation of white blood cells
- Drugs developed to block the mutated IDH1 or IDH2 proteins



Prensner JR and Chinnaiyan AM. Nature Medicine 2011

#### **IDH** mutations block maturation



http://daley.med.harvard.edu/assets/Willy/hematopoiesis.jpg

#### IDH inhibitors release the blockade



http://daley.med.harvard.edu/assets/Willy/hematopoiesis.jpg

### Enasidenib – IDH2 inhibitor

Leukemia https://doi.org/10.1038/s41375-019-0472-2

ARTICLE

Acute myeloid leukemia



Enasidenib, an inhibitor of mutant IDH2 proteins, induces durable remissions in older patients with newly diagnosed acute myeloid leukemia

Daniel A. Pollyea <sup>[b]</sup> · Martin S. Tallman<sup>2</sup> · Stéphane de Botton<sup>3,4</sup> · Hagop M. Kantarjian<sup>5</sup> · Robert Collins <sup>[b]</sup> · Anthony S. Stein<sup>7</sup> · Mark G. Frattini<sup>8</sup> · Qiang Xu<sup>8</sup> · Alessandra Tosolini<sup>8</sup> · Wendy L. See<sup>8</sup> · Kyle J. MacBeth<sup>8</sup> · Samuel V. Agresta<sup>9</sup> · Eyal C. Attar<sup>9</sup> · Courtney D. DiNardo <sup>[b]</sup> · Eytan M. Stein<sup>2,10</sup>

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# Enasidenib in R/R AML (IDH2 inhibitor)

- Enasidenib improves survival
- CR/CRh ~30%
- Improved production of blood cells
- Much less toxic than chemotherapy



Stein et al. Blood 2017

• Very tolerable overall

- Elevated bilirubin
- IDH differentiation syndrome
  - 15-20% of patients
  - Tends to occur 1-2 months into therapy

Patients with newly Adverse event diagnosed AML N = 39All grades Grade ≥3 n (%) Hyperbi lirubinemia 5 (13) 12 (31) Nausea 9 (23) 0 Decreased appetite 7 (18) 1 (**3**) Fatigue 7 (18) 1 (**3**) Thrombocytopenia 7 (18) 3 (8) Rash 7 (18) 0 Anemia 6 (15) 5 (13) IDH differentiation syndrome 5 (13) 4 (10)<sup>a</sup> Dysgeusia 4 (10) 0 Electrocardiogram QT prolongation 4 (10) 1 (**3**) Peripheral neuropathy 4 (10) 0 Tumor lysis syndrome 4 (10) 3 (8) Vomiting 4 (10) 0

<sup>a</sup>The only treatment-related grade 5 event was cardiac tamponade, which was retrospectively adjudicated by the Differentiation Syndrome Review Committee to have potentially been related to IDH differentiation syndrome

Table 2 Enasidenib-related adverse events reported in ≥10% of patients

#### Ivosidenib – IDH1 inhibitor

The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

# Durable Remissions with Ivosidenib in *IDH1-Mutated Relapsed or Refractory AML*

C.D. DiNardo, E.M. Stein, S. de Botton, G.J. Roboz, J.K. Altman, A.S. Mims,
R. Swords, R.H. Collins, G.N. Mannis, D.A. Pollyea, W. Donnellan, A.T. Fathi,
A. Pigneux, H.P. Erba, G.T. Prince, A.S. Stein, G.L. Uy, J.M. Foran, E. Traer,
R.K. Stuart, M.L. Arellano, J.L. Slack, M.A. Sekeres, C. Willekens, S. Choe, H. Wang,
V. Zhang, K.E. Yen, S.M. Kapsalis, H. Yang, D. Dai, B. Fan, M. Goldwasser, H. Liu,
S. Agresta, B. Wu, E.C. Attar, M.S. Tallman, R.M. Stone, and H.M. Kantarjian

# Ivosidenib in R/R AML (IDH1 inhibitor)

- Ivosidenib also improves survival
- CR/CRh rate ~30%
- Good toxicity profile



DiNardo et al. NEJM 2018

# **Differentiation effect**

- Bump in neutrophils between month 1-2
  - Correlates with IDH differentiation syndrome
- Slow decrease in blasts and rise in Hg
- Many patients achieved transfusion independence



# How to improve responses with IDH inhibitors?

- Combine with chemotherapy
  - Frequently found with NPM1 mutations
  - Enasidenib and ivosidenib both being tested with 7+3
  - Reduce relapse?
- Combine with hypomethylating agents
  - Increased response rates with azacytidine: CR rates >50%
  - Aza + enasidenib
    - LLS study on Beat AML trial
  - Aza + ivosidenib (NEJM)
    - LLS study on Beat AML trial

#### Azacitidine + Ivosidenib

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## Ivosidenib and Azacitidine in IDH1-Mutated Acute Myeloid Leukemia

Pau Montesinos, M.D., Ph.D., Christian Recher, M.D., Ph.D., Susana Vives, M.D., Ewa Zarzycka, M.D., Jianxiang Wang, M.D., Giambattista Bertani, M.D., Michael Heuser, M.D., Rodrigo T. Calado, M.D., Ph.D., Andre C. Schuh, M.D., Su-Peng Yeh, M.D., Scott R. Daigle, M.S., Jianan Hui, Ph.D., Shuchi S. Pandya, M.D., Diego A. Gianolio, Ph.D., Stephane de Botton, M.D., Ph.D., and Hartmut Döhner, M.D.

### Improved overall survival

 CR in 53% of patients with aza + ivo

- Differentiation syndrome in 14%
- Median survival of 24 months



# Similar responses found with enasidenib + aza

• Few different studies

• Combination has improved response

• Different approaches to combination

#### Venetoclax

• Sensitize leukemia cells to other drugs

## Venetoclax – makes AML cells more prone to die



AML cells have increased BCL2

Inhibiting BCL2 primes leukemia cells to die

#### VIALE-A trial – landmark trial in AML treatment



#### Azacitidine and Venetoclax in Previously Untreated Acute Myeloid Leukemia

C.D. DiNardo, B.A. Jonas, V. Pullarkat, M.J. Thirman, J.S. Garcia, A.H. Wei, M. Konopleva, H. Döhner, A. Letai, P. Fenaux,
E. Koller, V. Havelange, B. Leber, J. Esteve, J. Wang, V. Pejsa, R. Hájek, K. Porkka, Á. Illés, D. Lavie, R.M. Lemoli,
K. Yamamoto, S.-S. Yoon, J.-H. Jang, S.-P. Yeh, M. Turgut, W.-J. Hong, Y. Zhou, J. Potluri, and K.W. Pratz

#### VIALE-A trial results

- High response rates
- Works for multiple types of AML
- Side effects of cytopenias (low blood counts)



# All genetic subtypes benefit

- But some more than others...
- IDH1/2 mutations have higher response rates and longer duration of remission
- TP53 has good response rate but response doesn't last very long
- FLT3 mutations have shorter duration of response

Subgroup	Azacitidine plus Venetoclax	Azacitidine plus Placebo	Hazard Ratio for Death (95% CI)	
	no. of events,	/total no. (%)		
All patients	161/286 (56.3)	109/145 (75.2)	F-■-1	0.64 (0.50-0.82)
Sex			1	
Female	61/114 (53.5)	41/58 (70.7)	⊢ <b>≡</b> ⊸i	0.68 (0.46-1.02)
Male	100/172 (58.1)	68/87 (78.2)	┝╌┳╌┥╎	0.62 (0.46-0.85)
Age				
<75 yr	66/112 (58.9)	36/58 (62.1)	⊢ <b>≣</b> ¦	0.89 (0.59–1.33)
≥75 yr	95/174 (54.6)	73/87 (83.9)	<b>⊢</b> ₩1	0.54 (0.39-0.73)
Geographic region				
United States	27/50 (54.0)	21/24 (87.5)	F∎1	0.47 (0.26-0.83)
Europe	70/116 (60.3)	46/59 (78.0)	<b>⊢</b> ,	0.67 (0.46-0.97)
China	9/24 (37.5)	5/13 (38.5)	<b>⊢</b>	1.05 (0.35-3.13)
Japan	10/24 (41.7)	9/13 (69.2)	⊧ <b>-</b>	0.52 (0.20-1.33)
Rest of world	45/72 (62.5)	28/36 (77.8)		0.73 (0.45-1.17)
Baseline ECOG score				
Grade <2	89/157 (56.7)	65/81 (80.2)		0.61 (0.44-0.84)
Grade ≥2	72/129 (55.8)	44/64 (68.8)	<b>⊢</b> ;	0.70 (0.48–1.03)
Type of AML	, , ,	, , ,	1	
De novo	120/214 (56.1)	80/110 (72.7)	F-■-1	0.67 (0.51-0.90)
Secondary	41/72 (56.9)	29/35 (82.9)	<b>⊢</b> ∎4	0.56 (0.35-0.91)
Cytogenetic risk	, , ,	, , ,		, ,
Intermediate	84/182 (46.2)	62/89 (69.7)	<b>⊢</b> - <b>∎</b> -4	0.57 (0.41-0.79)
Poor	77/104 (74.0)	47/56 (83.9)	F→ <b>B</b> →1	0.78 (0.54–1.12)
Molecular marker		, , ,		
FLT3	19/29 (65.5)	19/22 (86.4)	F	0.66 (0.35-1.26)
IDH1	15/23 (65.2)	11/11 (100.0)	⊧4 <sup>1</sup>	0.28 (0.12-0.65)
IDH2	15/40 (37.5)	14/18 (77.8)	F	0.34 (0.16-0.71)
IDH1 or IDH2	29/61 (47.5)	24/28 (85.7)	F	0.34 (0.20-0.60)
TP53	34/38 (89.5)	13/14 (92.9)		0.76 (0.40-1.45)
NPM1	16/27 (59.3)	14/17 (82.4)		0.73 (0.36–1.51)
AML with myelodysplasia-related cha	nges			(,
Yes	56/92 (60.9)	38/49 (77.6)		0.73 (0.48-1.11)
No	105/194 (54.1)	71/96 (74.0)	<b>⊢</b> ∎1	0.62 (0.46-0.83)
Bone marrow blast count				(
<30%	46/85 (54.1)	28/41 (68.3)		0.72 (0.45-1.15)
30 to <50%	36/61 (59.0)	26/33 (78.8)		0.57 (0.34-0.95)
≥50%	79/140 (56.4)	55/71 (77.5)		0.63 (0.45-0.89)
/ -			1	
		0.1	1.U	-D.U
			Azacitidine plus Azacitidine plus Venetoclax Better Placebo Better	5

#### If IDH mutated AML is more sensitive to aza + ven and also responds to IDH inhibitors...

• What if you put them all together...

• Triplets

#### Azacitidine + Ivosidenib + Venetoclax



Curtis Andrew Lachowiez, M.D.

#### Azacitidine + Ivosidenib + Venetoclax response



Overall response by cohort\*

\*CRc: CR+CRh+CRi

#### Azacitidine + Ivosidenib + Venetoclax survival

Overall survival by cohort Overall survival by disease **Overall Survival Overall Survival** Cohort: + IVO+VEN400 + IVO+VEN800 + IVO+VEN400+AZA + IVO+VEN800+AZA Cohort: + MDS or MPN + ND-AML + R/R-AML 100%-100% 90% 90% Survival probability Survival probability 80% 80% 70% 70% 60% 60% 50% 50% 40% 40% 30% 30% 20% p = 0.2820% p = 0.2510% 10% 0% 0% 30 12 18 24 36 42 12 18 24 30 36 42 6 48 0 6 48 0 Months Months N at risk (censored) N at risk (censored) IVO+VEN400 4 (0) 5 (0) 3 (0) 4 (0) 3 (0) 4 (0) 3 (0) 4 (0) 3 (0) 4 (0) 3 (0) 2 (2) 3 (0) 0 (4) 0 (2) 0 (4) 6 (0) MDS or MPN 9 (0) 9 (0) 2 (7) 1 (8) 0 (8) 4 (5) 4 (5) 2 (7) 1 (8) IVO+VEN800 6 (0) ND-AML 14 (0) 13 (0) 10(1) 9 (2) 6 (4) 2 (8) 1 (9) 1 (9) 0 (10) 11 (Ó) 0 (6) 5 (5) 0 (6) 0 (10) 0 (6) IVO+VEN400+AZA 13 (0) 13 (Ó) 6 (O) 0 (ÌÓ) 0 (ÌÓ) 10 (1) 0 (10) R/R-AML 8 (0) 6 (0) 4 (0) 4 (0) 4 (0) 3 (1) 3(1) 1 (3) 0 (4) IVO+VEN800+AZA 6 (Ò) 0 (è) 0 (6) 0 (6) 0 (6)

Survival by dose level					Survival by disease				
Survival*	DL#1 (N=6)	DL#2 (N=6)	DL#3 (N=13)	DL#4 (N=6)	Survival*	MDS or MPN (N=9)	ND-AML (N=14)	R/R-AML (N=8)	
Median EFS	7.9 (0-NR)	8.7 (7-NR)	NR (23-NR)	NR (-)	Median EFS	NR (14-NR)	36.4 (23-NR)	6 (2-NR)	
Median OS	26 (3-NR)	NR (5-NR)	NR (21-NR)	NR (-)	Median OS	42.1 (-)	NR (21-NR)	9 (8-NR)	
12-month EFS	50% (20%)	50% (20%)	77% (12%)	NA	12-month EFS	89% (11%)	71% (12%)	50% (18%)	
12-month OS	50% (20%)	67% (19%)	85% (10%)	NA	12-month OS	100% (-)	79% (11%)	50% (18%)	

\*Outcomes reported as median (95%CI) or % (standard error)

# Other triplets

• Early studies with enasidenib + aza + ven (IDH2) are promising

#### FLT3 inhibitors

- Gilteritinib + azacytidine + venetoclax
  - Initial study at MD Anderson
  - Viceroy study will open soon
- Gilteritinib + decitabine + venetoclax
  - LLS BeatAML Study

Combinations with venetoclax and HMA are showing good response rates but low blood counts are challenging

#### Need to balance efficacy and toxicity with triplet therapies

#### Don't overlook doublets – Gilteritinib + Venetoclax

- Gilteritinib + venetoclax combination
  - Daver et al. ASH Abstract 333 -2020
  - Heavily pre-treated with TKI
  - Very high response rate
  - Low blood counts were common!

Table. Summary of Best Response to Ven 400 mg PlusGilteritinib 120 mg in Dose Escalation and Expansion Cohorts

Characteristic	Mutant FLT3 (n=37)ª
Response, n (%)	
mCRc	31 (83.8)
CR	3 (8.1)
CRi	3 (8.1)
CRp	5 (13.5)
MLFS	20 (54.1)
CR/CRh	7 (18.9)
CRh	4 (10.8)
PR	0
Resistant disease	4 (10.8)
Disease progression	1 (2.7)
Discontinued with no response data	1 (2.7)
Early mortality, n (%)	
≤30 days	0
≤60 days	5 (13.5)

<sup>a</sup>Two on-treatment patients did not have the first disease assessment at the cutoff date and are not included in efficacy analysis

CR, complete remission, CRi, CR with incomplete blood count recovery; CRp, CR with incomplete platelet recovery; *FLT3*, FMSlike tyrosine kinase 3; MLFS, morphologic leukemia-free state; PR, partial remission

#### Can even use ven with intensive chemotherapy

Patients with ND-AML (de novo, sAML,tAML, st-AML) treated with intensive chemotherapy (IC) at MDACC on prospective clinical trial protocols



DiNardo et al. Am J Hematol. 2022

#### Venetoclax + intensive chemotherapy overall survival

Overall survival	<b>IC</b> N = 194	<b>VEN</b> N = 85	p-value
OS, months	32	NR	
HR: 0.6	0.13		
2017 ELN Risk			
Favorable	NR	NR	
HR: 1	0.58		
Intermediate	NR	NR	
HR: 0.3	0.42		
Adverse	NR		
HR: 0.3	0.029		

OS favored VEN+IC vs. IC though without a significant benefit in the entire cohort

 ELN adverse-risk patients benefited most from addition of VEN



### Combinations galore with venetoclax

- Improving responses to targeted drugs and chemotherapy
- Being tested with Vyxeos, etc.
- But, toxicity is an issue
- Makes normal blood stem cells more sensitive as well

#### Maintenance chemotherapy

• Suppression of leukemia cells after treatment

#### Maintenance therapy in AML

The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

#### Oral Azacitidine Maintenance Therapy for Acute Myeloid Leukemia in First Remission

A.H. Wei, H. Döhner, C. Pocock, P. Montesinos, B. Afanasyev,\* H. Dombret,
F. Ravandi, H. Sayar, J.-H. Jang, K. Porkka, D. Selleslag, I. Sandhu, M. Turgut,
V. Giai, Y. Ofran, M. Kizil Çakar, A. Botelho de Sousa, J. Rybka, C. Frairia, L. Borin,
G. Beltrami, J. Čermák, G.J. Ossenkoppele, I. La Torre, B. Skikne, K. Kumar,
Q. Dong, C.L. Beach, and G.J. Roboz, for the QUAZAR AML-001 Trial Investigators<sup>+</sup>

### **Onureg maintenance therapy**



AH Wei et al. N Engl J Med 2020;383:2526-2537.

# Univariate analysis

Subgroup	<b>No. of</b> I CC-486	Patients Placebo	2-Yr S CC-486	urvival Placebo						2-Yr	Surviva	l Differer	nce (959	% CI)
			9	%							perc	entage po	oints	
Overall	238	234	50.6	37.1					- i	•				13.5 (4.5 to 22.5)
Age														
≥55 to <65 yr	66	68	61.3	45.1						•	-			16.2 (-0.9 to 33.4)
≥65 yr	172	166	46.7	33.9						•				12.8 (2.3 to 23.3)
≥75 yr	28	24	51.9	24.8						•		-		27.1 (0.7 to 53.4)
Sex									1					
Male	118	127	47.8	39.0						<u> </u>				8.8 (-3.7 to 21.4)
Female	120	107	53.4	34.8					: -	-	-			18.6 (5.7 to 31.5)
WHO AML classification														
AML with recurrent genetic abnormalities	39	46	50.0	47.0				2		-				3.0 (-18.6 to 24.5)
AML with myelodysplasia-related changes	49	42	43.5	29.8						•	-			13.8 (-6.3 to 33.8)
AML not otherwise specified	148	145	53.8	35.6						•				18.1 (6.8 to 29.5)
ECOG performance-status score									-					
0 or 1	217	217	50.9	38.0										13.0 (3.5 to 22.4)
2 or 3	21	17	47.6	25.5				-				-		22.1 (-8.2 to 52.4)
History of MDS or CMML														12 - V
Yes	22	17	66.7	31.4							•			35.3 (4.9 to 65.7)
No	216	217	49.0	37.5					-	-				11.5 (2.1 to 20.9)
Cytogenetic risk at induction														, ,
Intermediate	203	203	54.1	40.4						•				13.6 (3.9 to 23.4)
Poor	35	31	30.3	15.5						•				14.8 (-5.6 to 35.2)
Consolidation after induction														,
Yes	186	192	50.8	39.2					-	-				11.6 (1.4 to 21.7)
No	52	42	50.0	27.4					-		100			22.6 (3.2 to 42.0)
Consolidation cycles														
1 or 2	180	179	50.8	37.6					-	•				13.3 (2.9 to 23.7)
3	6	13	50.0	61.5				•		-	_			-11.5 (-59.5 to 36.4)
Response at randomization														,
Complete remission	183	177	49.7	36.7						-				13.0 (2.7 to 23.3)
Complete remission with incomplete blood count recovery	50	44	55.1	38.6							_			16.5 (-3.8 to 36.8)
MRD status at randomization														
Positive	103	116	39.5	22.0										17.5 (5.3 to 29.8)
Negative	133	111	58.6	51.7						_				6.9 (-5.8 to 19.5)
	22.20				-80	-60	-40	-20	0	20	40	60	80	(
					-	Place	bo Bett	er			C-486 P	Better	-	

AH Wei et al. N Engl J Med 2020;383:2526-2537.

### More thoughts on maintenance

- Idea of maintenance is gaining traction again
- Onureg approved but side effects
- Gilteritinib and other FLT3 inhibitors being used as maintenance after allo SCT, low toxicity
- IDH inhibitors have very few side effects and ideal for maintenance
- Maintenance is making a comeback

# New drugs of interest

- SNDX-5613
  - Menin inhibitor
  - Drives maturation in MLL rearranged and NPM1 AML
  - Early studies encouraging
- Magrolimab
  - Antibody therapy -> binds to CD47
  - Causes macrophages to eat leukemia cells
  - Has shown some promise against TP53 mutated AML

#### SNDX-5613 in MLL rearranged or NPM1-mutated AML



MLLr, mixed lineage leukemia-rearranged.

a. Uckelmann HJ, et al. Blood. 2018;132:546; b. Kuhl MW, Armstrong SA. Cancer Cell. 2015;27:431-433.

#### SNDX-5613 in MLLr or NPM1-mutated AML: Response and survival

Best Respon	se, n (%)	Efficacy Population (n=51)
	Overall response rate	28 (55)
	CR	8 (16)
Response	CRh	4 (8)
	CRp	7 (14)
	MLFS	9 (18)
	CRc MRD neg rate	16/51 (31)
MRD neg	within CR/CRh MRD neg	11/12 (92)
	within CR/CRh/CRp MRD neg	16/19 (84)
MUL	Overall response rate	23/38 (61)
	CR/CRh	9/38 (24)
NPM1 mut	Overall response rate	5/13 (38)
	CR/CRh	3/13 (23)



Stein E, et al. ASH 2021 Abstract 699

# Magrolimab

- Antibody therapy
- Aza + magrolimab with good activity in AML
- Being tested in AML and MDS
- Combine with ven?





Chao et al. Front. Oncol. 2020

#### Azacitidine + Venetoclax + Magrolimab

Chausataviation	Frontline Co	ohort (n=25)	R/R Cohort (n=23)			
Characteristics	TP53 mutated (n=14)	TP53 wild type (n=11)	VEN-naïve (n=8)	Prior VEN (n=15)		
Age, yrs	67 [46 to 77]	71 [32 to 82]	51 [28 to 74]	70 [35 to 79]		
BM blasts, %	37 (9 to 96)	33 (16 to 92)	29 (11 to 87)	57 (6 to 85)		
Diagnosis De novo AML Secondary AML	4 (29) 10 (71)	6 (55) 5 (45)	4 (50) 4 (50)	5 (33) 10 (67)		
ELN 2017 CG Intermediate Adverse	2 (14) 11 (86)	6 (55) 5 (45)	2 (25) 6 (75)	4 (27) 11 (73)		
Prior therapies	0	0	2 (1 to 3)	2 (1 to 5)		
Results expressed as no. (%) or me	dian [range], unless specified.					

Azacitidine 75 mg/m2 once daily D1-7

Venetoclax 400 mg once daily

Magrolimab RP2D



Daver N, et al. ASH 2021 Abstract 371.

#### Azacitidine + Venetoclax + Magrolimab survival



OS by Treatment	<i>TP53</i> Mutated (N=14)	<i>TP53</i> wild-type (N=11)
Median follow-up	3.9 (range: 2.4-9.2)	7.0 (range: 2.1-10.3)
6-month DOR	83%	80%
6-month OS	100%	81%

Magrolimab appears active in *TP53* AML. Longer follow-up needed to confirm early efficacy signal

# Thank you!!

• To all the patients, families, caregivers and support groups

• Leukemia & Lymphoma Society