



**BEATING  
CANCER  
IS IN  
OUR BLOOD.**

**BLOOD AND MARROW TRANSPLANTATION  
FOR CHILDREN WITH  
ACUTE LYMPHOBLASTIC LEUKEMIA**

**SPEAKERS**

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 LEUKEMIA &  
LYMPHOMA  
SOCIETY

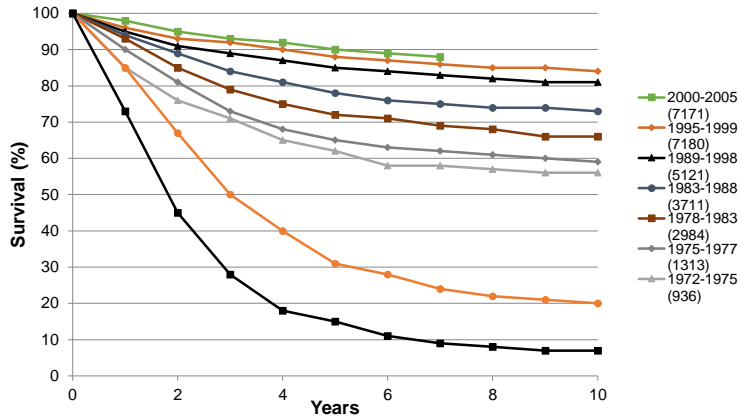
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**Indications for Hematopoietic Cell Transplant in  
Pediatric Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia**

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## Childhood ALL: Achieving Cure for Many



Adamson, Hunger. 2015.

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## Overall Survival in B-ALL

Patient Group	5 yr OS% 2000-05	5 yr OS% 2006-09	P Value
B-ALL	91.1 +/- 0.4% (n=6617)	92.2 +/- 0.5% (n=6078)	0.057
NCI HR B-ALL	84.5 +/- 0.9% (n=1911)	85.0 +/- 1.2% (n=1946)	0.968
NCI SR B-ALL	95.2 +/- 0.3% (n=4546)	96.1 +/- 0.4% (n=4087)	0.037

Hunger et al. SIOP. 2013.

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## Survival Improvements Over 20 Years: T-ALL vs B-ALL

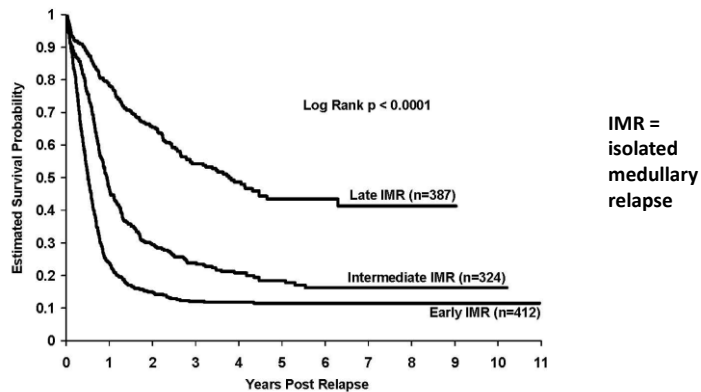
Patient Group	5 yr OS% 1990-94	5 yr OS% 2006-09
B-ALL	84.9 +/- 0.5 (n=5068)	92.2 +/- 0.5% (n=6078)
T-ALL	70.7 +/- 1.7% (n=748)	90.6 +/- 2.7% (n=449)

- OS difference for T-ALL vs B-ALL was 14.2% in 1990-94 and 1.6% in 2006-09
- Improved survival for T-ALL likely helps to explain the improved survival for African Americans over past 20 years

Hunger et al. *JCO*. 2012; *SIOP*. 2013.

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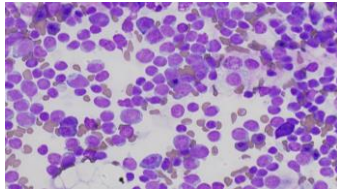
## Limited Ability to Cure ALL After Medullary Relapse



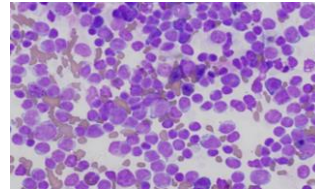
Nguyen. *Leukemia*. 2008.

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# Our Mission



Who will be cured?

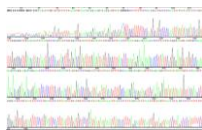


Who will have treatment failure?

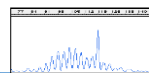
*What 21st century methodologies can we use to identify patients at high risk of treatment failure or increased morbidity?*

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# Assessing the Components of Cure for ALL



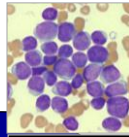
Somatic sequence variations



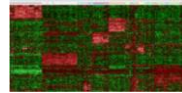
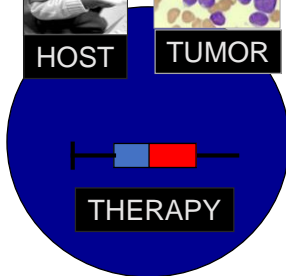
Genetic Polymorphisms Drug Metabolism



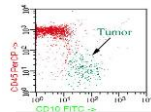
HOST



TUMOR



Gene Expression Profiling

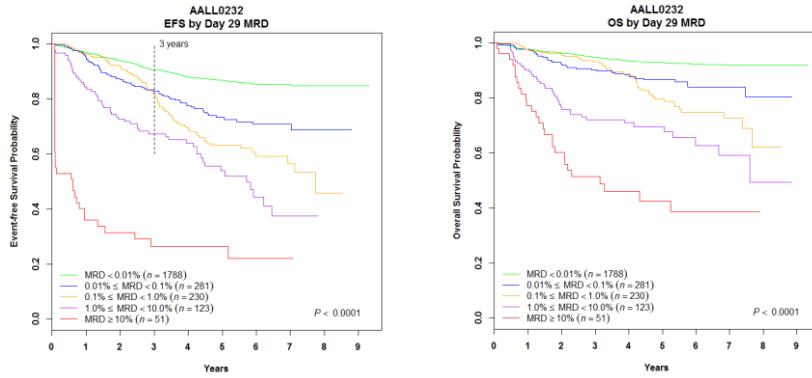


Minimal Residual Disease

Adapted from Bill Carroll.

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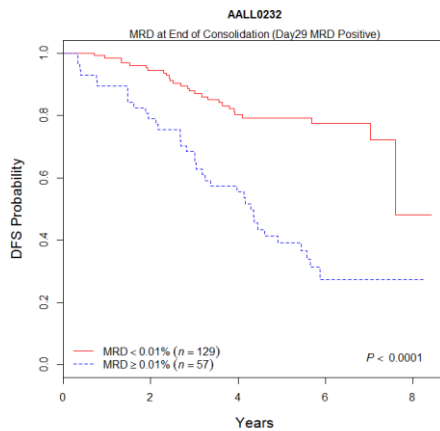
# AALL0232 NCI HR: EFS and OS by Day 29 MRD



Borowitz et al. 2015.

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# End Consolidation MRD Clarifies Outcome of Day 29 MRD $\geq 0.1\%$

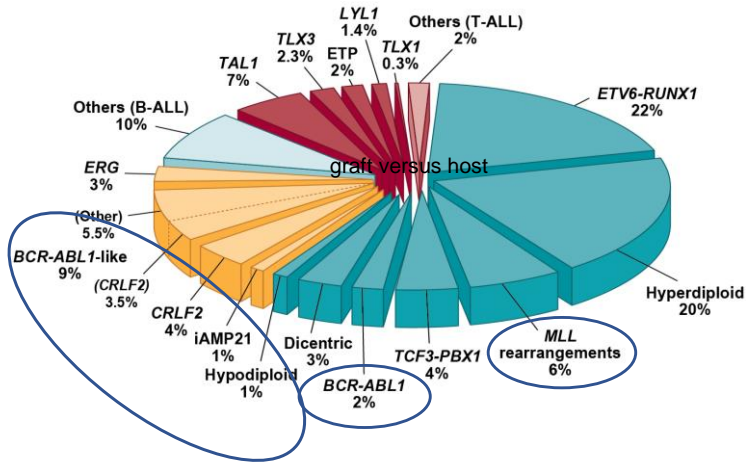


- First COG data clearly showing that EOC MRD predicts outcome in B-ALL patients
- Shows that BMT decisions should not be made based on end of induction MRD
- What to do with EOC MRD+ patients will be a significant discussion point for design of 2018 B-ALL trial

Borowitz et al. 2015.

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# Somatic Blast Alterations Are Prognostically Important

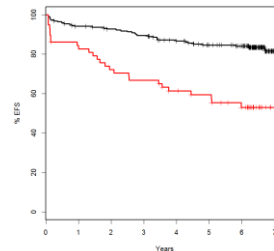
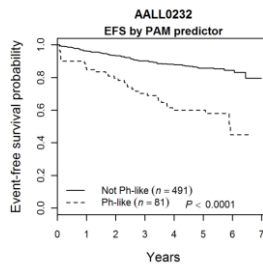
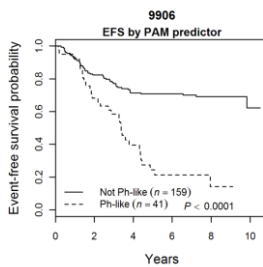


Courtesy of Pui CH.

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# Outcome of Ph-Like ALL

- AALL0232 HR-ALL trial Ph-like ALL pts are more than 3x likely to die than other HR ALL pts
  - 5-yr EFS: 59% v 85%; OR=3.46; p<0.001
- Ph-like ALL may be rapidly identified by LDA card

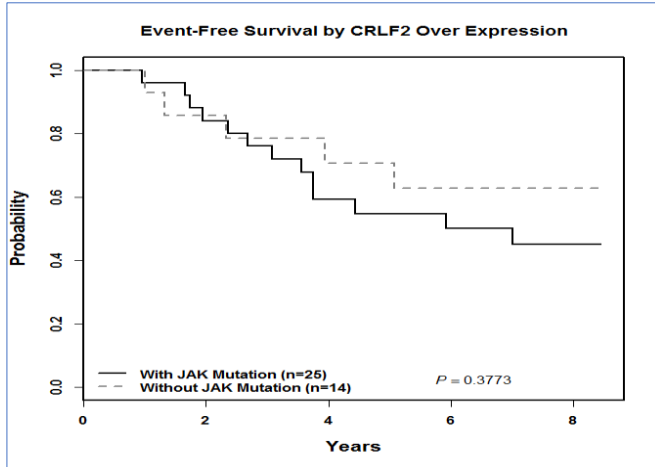


**Multivariable analysis shows Ph-like GEP is independently predictive of poor outcome**

Loh. Blood. 2013.

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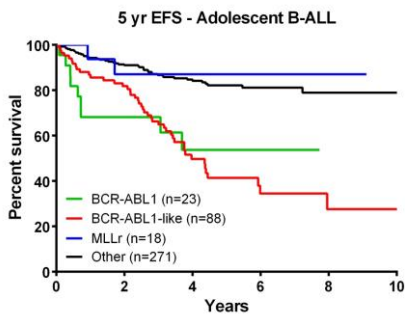
## Poor Outcome of Ph-Like ALL With *CRLF2*-R



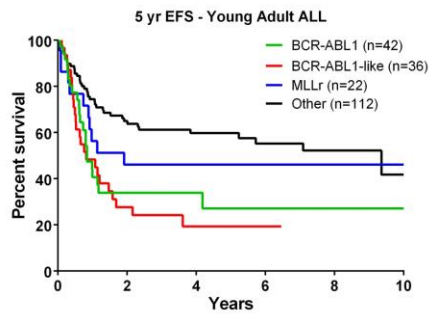
AALL0232 analyses; unpublished.

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## Outcome of AYA B-ALL



5 yr EFS  
BCR-ABL1: 53.7%  
BCR-ABL1-like: 40.0%  
MLL-rearranged: 86.2%  
Other: 82.0%



5 yr EFS  
BCR-ABL1: 23.2%  
BCR-ABL1-like: 16.1%  
MLL-rearranged: 43.2%  
Other: 57.9%

Roberts. *NEJM*. 2014.

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## How Will We Identify Patients at High-Risk for Relapse and Treat Them?



“NCI HR, Ph-like, MRD+, CRLF2-JAK2+”

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## What Is the Indication for Hematopoietic Cell Transplant (HCT) in ALL?

- Generally accepted that predicted event-free survival (EFS) <60% should warrant BMT in first remission (before relapse occurs)
- But the caveat exists that BMT outcomes should be considerably better than chemotherapy alone
  - Example of patients with HR BALL who are end of induction (EOI) MRD-positive AND end of consolidation (EOC) MRD-positive
    - Chemotherapy outcomes predict EFS <40% compared to >80% with BMT
- Using combination of underlying biology and treatment response (EOI MRD, EOC MRD) to best determine role for chemo versus BMT in first remission

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## What Is the Indication for BMT in ALL?

- Any first relapse within 3 years from the diagnosis of ALL is an indication for BMT
- Any first relapse after 3 years from diagnosis of ALL where the MRD is  $>0.1\%$  after re-induction chemotherapy is an indication for BMT
- Any relapse of TALL, Philadelphia chromosome–positive ALL or infant ALL is an indication for BMT

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## Hematopoietic Cell Transplant Process in Pediatric Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia

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Director, Next Steps Survivorship Program  
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### Why Do We Perform HCT in These Patients?

As previously mentioned, studies have shown improved outcomes over chemotherapy alone for high-risk patients

- High-risk patients:
  - very early BM or combined relapse
  - early BM relapse
- Chemotherapy alone resulted in subsequent relapse or death in all patients
- HCT improved outcomes with EFS of almost 50%

Years	N=58, unrelated donor BMT (EFS)	N=53, chemotherapy (EFS)
0	1.0	1.0
1	0.9	0.9
2	0.5	0.0
4	0.5	0.0
6	0.5	0.0
8	0.5	0.0

Borgmann A et al. *Blood*. 2003.

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### How Does HCT Work to Treat ALL?

**Incorporates different treatment modalities:**

Different types and doses of chemotherapy agents

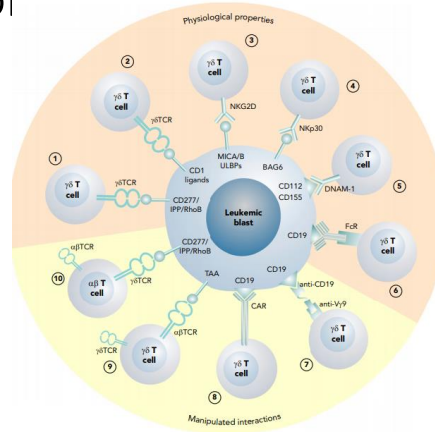
Radiation

New immune system to fend off cancerous cells

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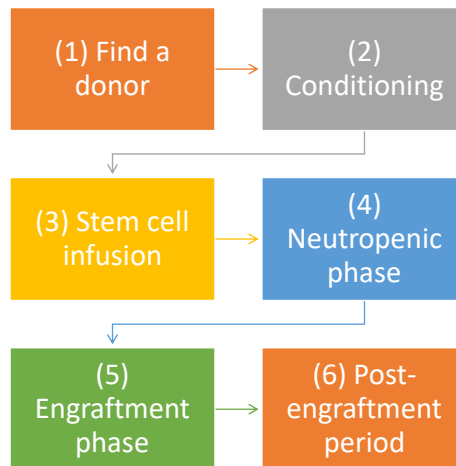
# Our Immune System: The Body's Protection

- Fends off infection (bacterial, viral, fungal)
- Also fights off mutated/cancerous cells
- Consists of multiple types of cells (eg, NK cells, B-cells, T-cells, neutrophils)
- Results in "graft-vs-leukemia"

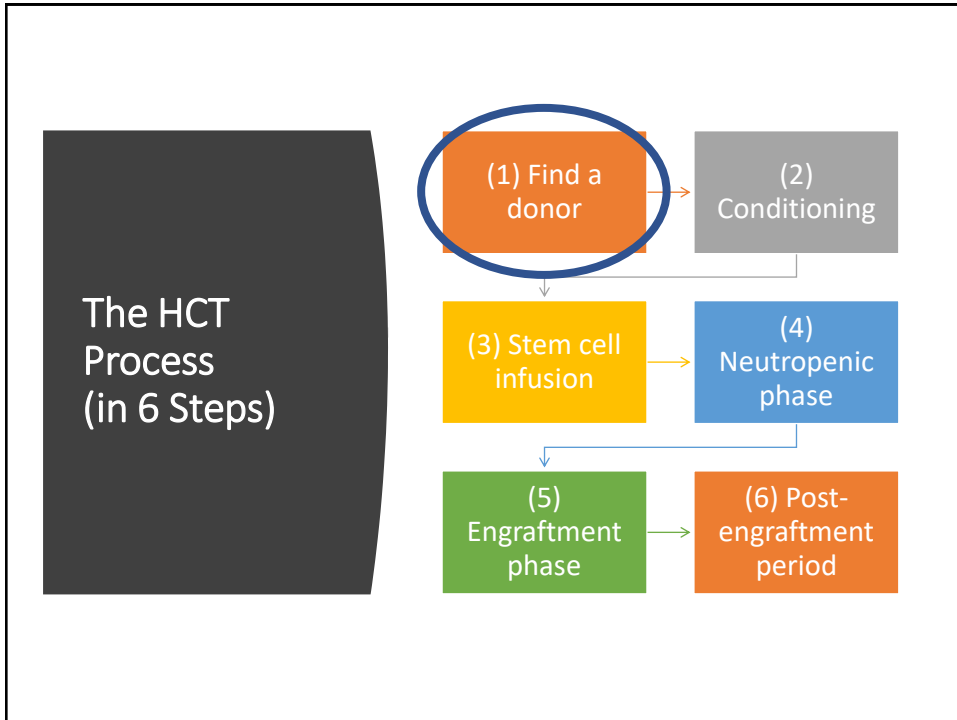


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## The HCT Process (in 6 Steps)




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## Step 1: Find a Donor

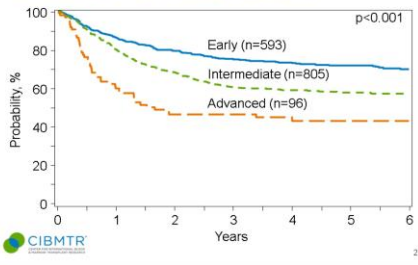


- HLA (human leukocyte antigen—a protein on cell surfaces) typing is performed to ensure the genetics of the donor and recipient immune system cells are similar
  - Close “matches” decreases risk of graft vs host disease (GVHD)
- Matched sibling has been traditionally preferred
  - ~25% chance each sibling will be a match
- National registries (NMDP) to find matched unrelated donors has increased the pool of donor options
  - > 20 million volunteer donors
- Use of umbilical cord blood
- Partially matched related donors

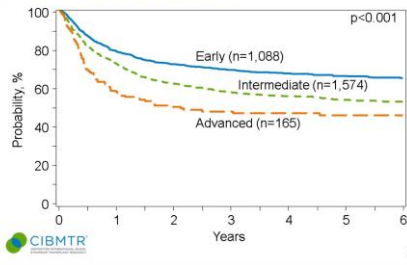
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# Sibling vs Unrelated Donor

Survival after HLA-Matched Sibling Donor HCT for ALL, Age <18 Years, 2006-2016



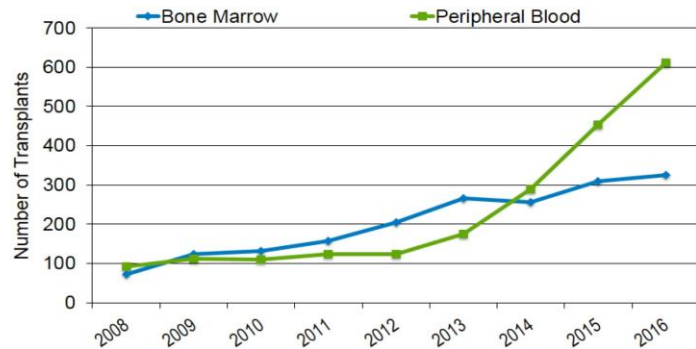
Survival after Unrelated Donor HCT for ALL, Age <18 years, 2006-2016



D'Souza A, Fretham C. CIBMTR Summary Slides. 2018.

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## Haploidentical HCT Recipients in the US, by Graft Type

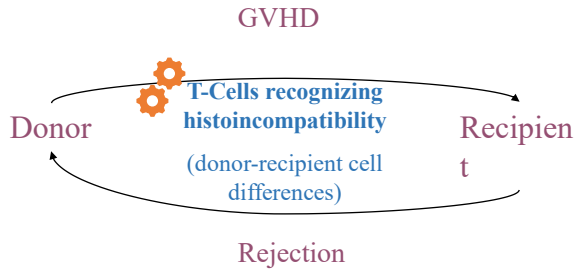


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D'Souza A, Fretham C. CIBMTR Summary Slides. 2018.

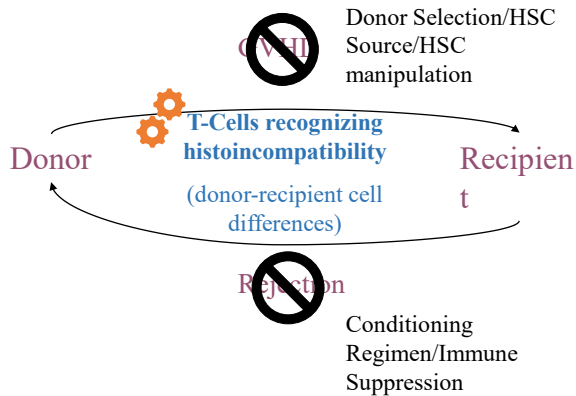
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# The HCT Vicious Circle

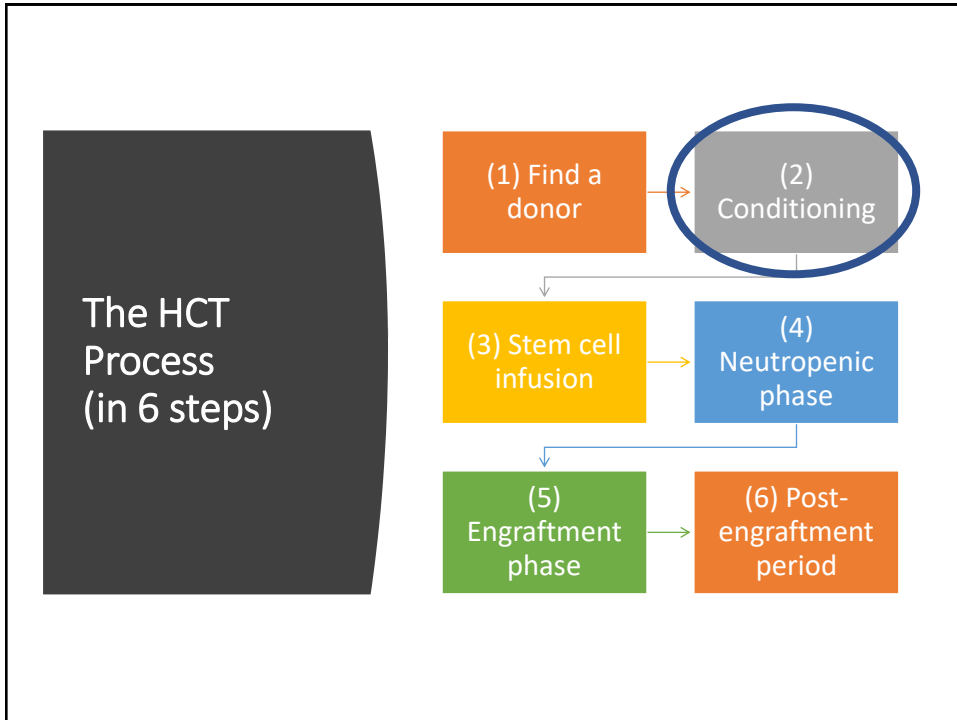


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# The HCT Vicious Circle



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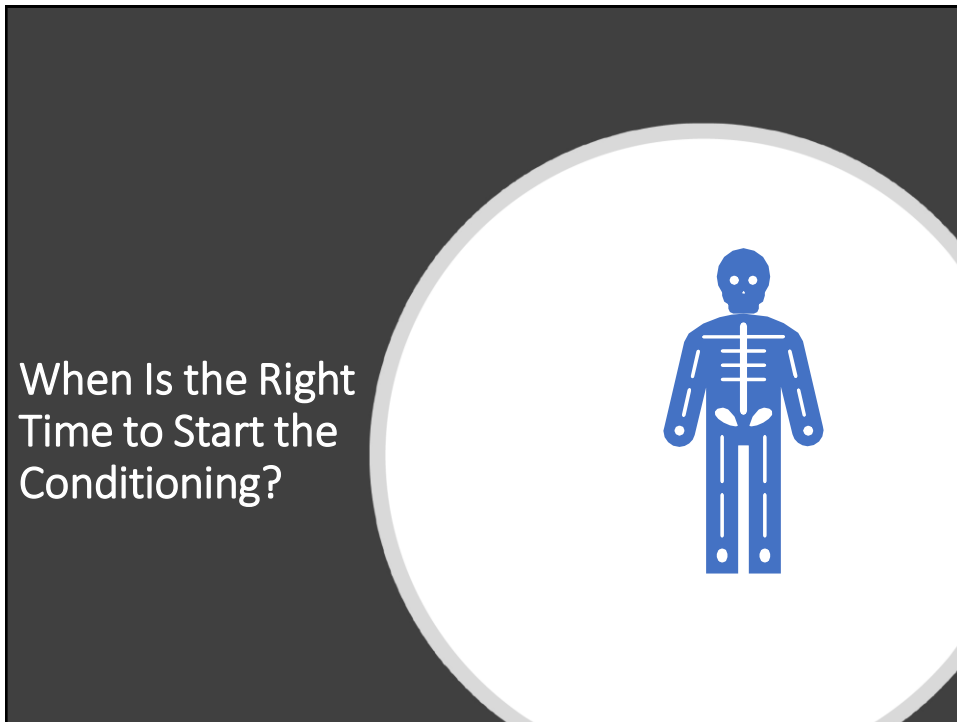
## Step 2: Conditioning

- Consists of the chemotherapy and/or radiation given prior to infusion of the new stem cells (generally given over ~1 week)
  - Eliminates any residual cancer cells
  - Immunosuppresses the donor cells
  - Makes space for the new cells to come in









Common side effects: nausea/vomiting, hair loss, mucositis, decreased appetite, etc.

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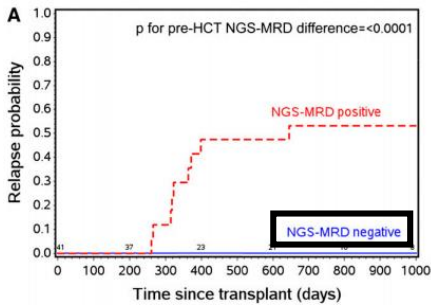
Pre-HCT Evaluations to Make Sure the Patient Can Tolerate HCT

-  Cardiac Function
-  Renal Function
-  Lung Function
-  Liver Function
-  No active or uncontrolled infections
-  Disease status...

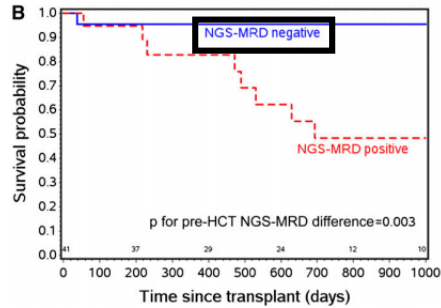
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# Outcomes Improved if MRD Negative State Can be Achieved



**No relapses if MRD negative pre-HCT**

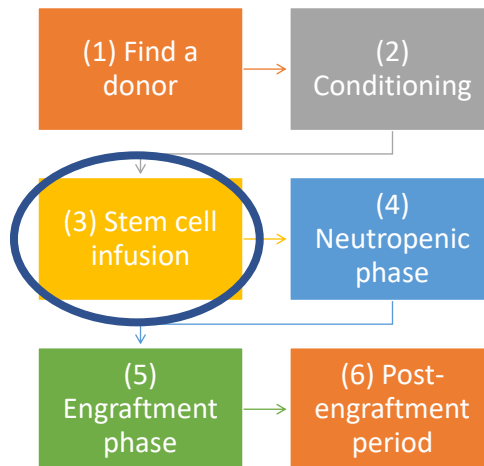


**Survival improved if MRD negative pre-HCT**

Pulsipher et al. *Blood*. 2015.

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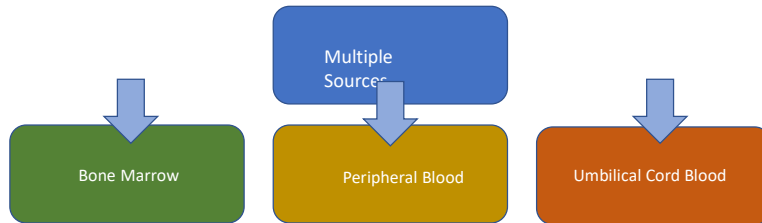
## The HCT Process (in 6 steps)



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## Step 3: Cell Infusion

- Given after conditioning is completed
- Via infusion through a central line



All cell sources with different risks and benefits

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More About  
Infusion

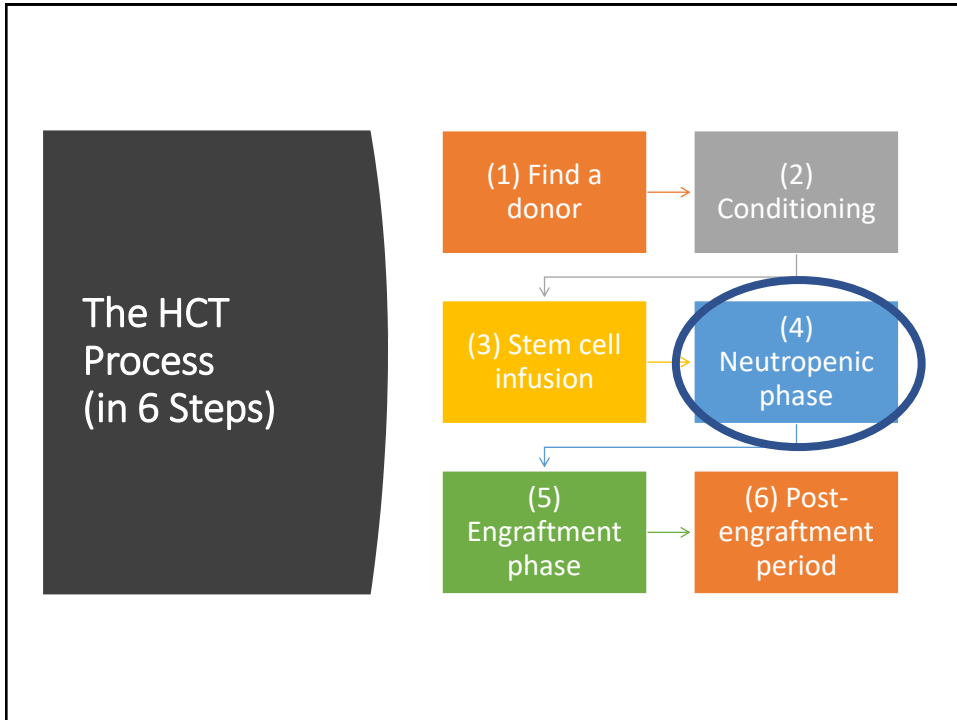


**Anaphylaxis, volume overload, and transient GVHD** are the major potential complications involved



Stem cell products that have been cryopreserved contain dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) as a preservative and potentially can cause renal failure, in addition to the unpleasant smell and taste

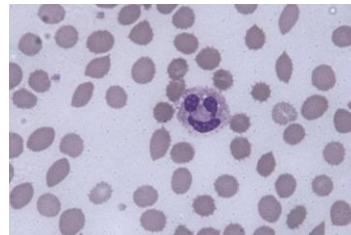
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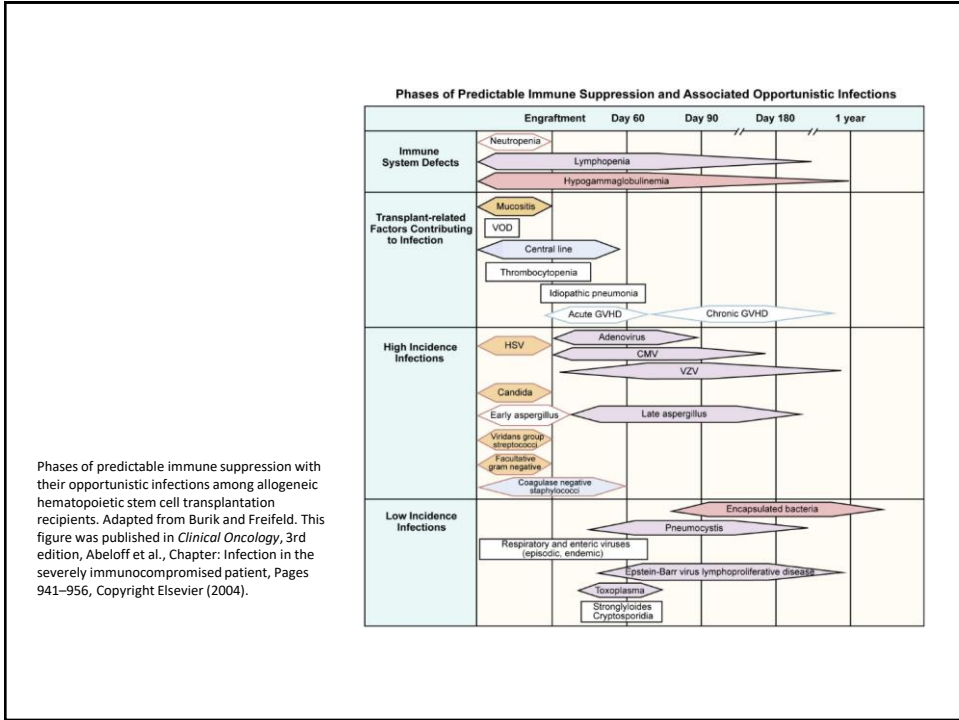
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## Step 4: Neutropenic Phase

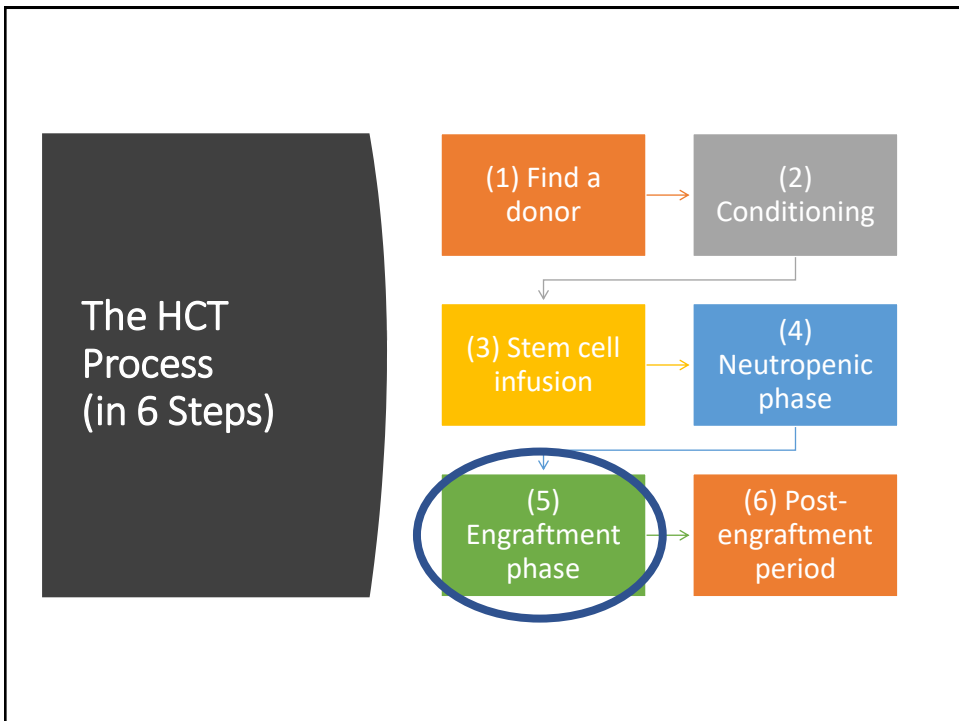
- During this period (2-4 wk), the patient essentially has no effective immune system
- Healing is poor, and the patient is very susceptible to infection
- Supportive care and empiric antibiotic therapy are the mainstays of successful passage through this phase



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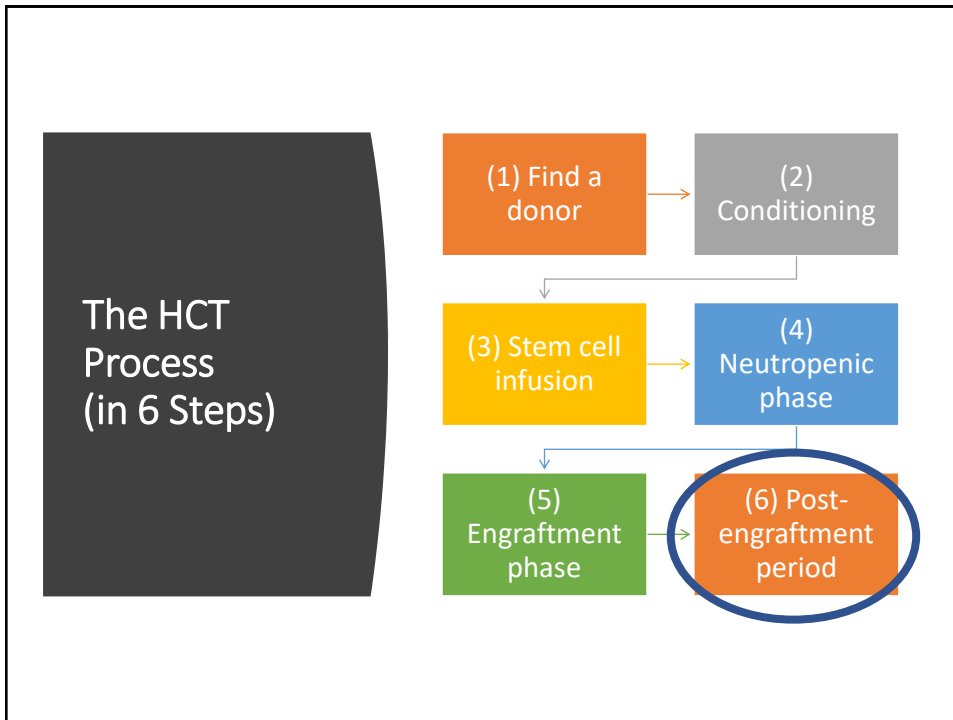
## Step 5: Engraftment Phase

- During this period (several weeks), the healing process begins
  - Resolution of mucositis and other lesions acquired
  - Fever begins to subside and infections often begin to clear
  - The greatest challenges at this time are management of GVHD and prevention of viral infections (especially CMV)

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## Step 6: Post-Engraftment Phase

- This period lasts for months to years
- Hallmarks of this phase:
  - gradual development of tolerance
  - weaning off immunosuppression
  - management of chronic GVHD
  - documentation of immune reconstitution (new immune system beginning to function)

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**Pediatric Vaccination Schema: If NOT vaccinated before 12 months<sup>1,5</sup>**

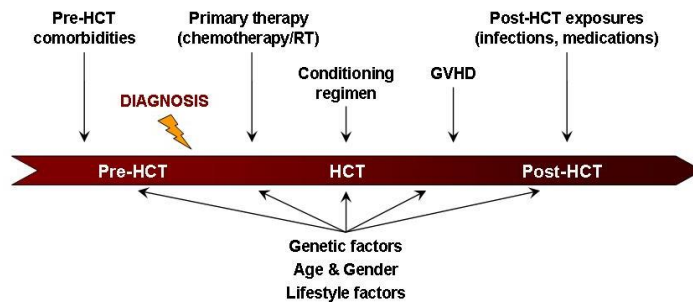
Vaccine	22m	24m	26m	28m	32m	Minimal Interval Between Vaccinations
Influenza (Inactivated): < 9 yr (See Note)	0000	0000				1 mo
H. influenzae type B <sup>6</sup>	0000	0000	0000		< 10ers Inactivated vaccine	1-2 mo
Meningococcal <sup>7</sup> (Menactra, Menveo, MCV4) Men B <sup>8</sup> < 15 mo		0000	0000	0000		
Pneumococcal conjugate (Prevnar 13) <sup>9</sup>	0000	0000	0000	< 10ers <sup>10</sup> Inactivated vaccine	< 10ers <sup>10</sup> Inactivated vaccine	1-2 mo
Pneumococcal polysaccharide (Pneumovax) <sup>11</sup> Polio (Inactivated) <sup>12</sup>					0000 0000	
Hepatitis A <sup>13</sup>	0000	0000	0000			6 mo
Hepatitis B <sup>14,15</sup>	0000	0000		0000	< 10ers Inactivated vaccine	2 mo
HPV (Gardasil) <sup>16-20</sup> years		0000		0000		2 mo after 1 <sup>st</sup> & 4-6 mo after 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Acellular Pertussis-Tetanus-Diphtheria (Infanrix) <sup>21</sup>	0000	0000	0000		< 10ers <sup>22</sup> Inactivated vaccine	1-2 mo
Mumps/Measles/Rubella (MMR) <sup>23-25</sup> Risk <sup>26</sup>				0000	0000	
Varicella-Zoster (Varivax) Seronegative ONLY and 2-5 Risk <sup>27</sup>				0000	0000	2 <sup>nd</sup> dose given 1 mo later <sup>28</sup>

<sup>1</sup>For patients not markedly immunosuppressed (For children transplanted for immunodeficiency disorders see following section, "Post transplant Vaccination of Primary Immunodeficiency Disorders")  
<sup>2</sup>Check sites for 3, Prevnar (IG, 12 serotypes). If time not done at 18 months, do at 24 months.  
<sup>3</sup>In patients with cGVHD who are unlikely to respond to Boostrix it is preferable to administer a 4<sup>th</sup> dose of Prevnar (PCV13).  
<sup>4</sup>Check anti-tetanus titer.  
<sup>5</sup>Check Varicella serology at least 1-2 months after 2<sup>nd</sup> dose of Varivax to assure seroconversion of the VZV negative patient.  
<sup>6</sup>Combination vaccine may be available for certain age groups (Pediaris, Teanac).  
<sup>7</sup>There are 10 months total of four doses at 28 months. Post vaccine testing for serology is Step 9, surface antigen is recommended 1-2 months after 1<sup>st</sup> dose of Step 9. If no response, give a 2<sup>nd</sup> dose within 7-11.2 mo. 2 years post BMT and 1 year after primary completion, and at least 4 months from last dose of VZV.  
<sup>8</sup>Check sites for 3, Prevnar (IG, 12 serotypes). If time not done at 18 months, do at 24 months.  
<sup>9</sup>In patients with cGVHD who are unlikely to respond to Boostrix it is preferable to administer a 4<sup>th</sup> dose of Prevnar (PCV13).  
<sup>10</sup>Check anti-tetanus titer.  
<sup>11</sup>Check Varicella serology at least 1-2 months after 2<sup>nd</sup> dose of Varivax to assure seroconversion of the VZV negative patient.  
<sup>12</sup>Combination vaccine may be available for certain age groups (Pediaris, Teanac).  
<sup>13</sup>There are 10 months total of four doses at 28 months. Post vaccine testing for serology is Step 9, surface antigen is recommended 1-2 months after 1<sup>st</sup> dose of Step 9. If no response, give a 2<sup>nd</sup> dose within 7-11.2 mo. 2 years post BMT and 1 year after primary completion, and at least 4 months from last dose of VZV.

# Revaccination

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## Risk Factors for Early and Late Complications



Majhail N, Rizzo J. *BMT*. 2013.

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## Reminder: Potential Complications

- Infections
- Graft Rejection/Failure
- Liver Disease
- Lung Disease
- Renal Disease
- Heart Disease
- Graft vs Host Disease

Acute and Chronic Forms of all of the above are a risk that we discuss

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**A**

- CVD risk score 0 (n=164)
- CVD risk score 1 (n=191)
- CVD risk score 2 (n=286)
- CVD risk score 3 (n=389)
- CVD risk score 4 (n=355)
- CVD risk score 5 (n=242)
- CVD risk score 6 (n=251)

Pvalue < .001

**B**

- Low risk
- Intermediate risk
- High risk

Pvalue < .001

**C**

- Low risk
- Intermediate risk
- High risk

Pvalue < .001

**D**

- Low risk
- Intermediate risk
- High risk

Pvalue < .001

## Example: Cardiovascular Health

Armenian SH et al. *Blood Adv.* 2018;2:1756-1764.

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**Rated their health as fair or poor**

The spectrum of cutaneous findings in GVHD

*Fraser CJ et al. Blood. 2006.  
Pidala et al. Blood. 2011.  
Curtis et al. Blood. 2005.*

## Example: Chronic GVHD

- Can involve any organ/body system:
  - Skin
  - Eye
  - Mouth
  - Pulmonary disease
  - Immunological dysfunction
  - Esophageal and vaginal strictures/fibrosis
  - Joint contractures
- The strongest association between reduced quality of life following HCT is the presence of chronic GVHD
- Increases the risk of squamous cell carcinoma following HCT

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## Importance of Continued “Survivorship” Care

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    graph TD
      Survivorship[Survivorship] --> cGVHD[cGVHD]
      Survivorship --> Surveillance[Surveillance for new cancers]
      cGVHD --> Coordination[Communication and Coordination of Care]
      Coordination --> Caregivers[Caregivers]
      Caregivers --> OlderAdult[Older Adult Survivors]
      Surveillance --> LongTerm[Long term and late effects]
      LongTerm --> Prevention[Health Promotion and Disease Prevention]
      Prevention --> Psychosocial[Psychosocial Care and QOL]
      OlderAdult --> Childhood[Childhood and AYA Survivors]
      Psychosocial --> Childhood
    
```

*Nekhlyudov et al. Lancet Oncol. 2017;23:1968-73.*

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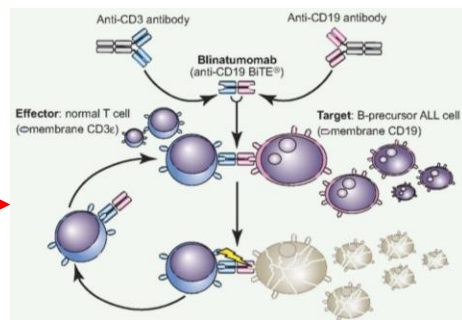
# Novel Therapies

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## Immunotherapy as an Alternative or in Addition to HCT

Harnessing the power of our own immune system to fight leukemia cells

- Targeted monoclonal antibodies (rituximab)
- Bispecific T-cell engagers (blinatumomab, inotuzumab) →
- Chimeric antigen receptor T-cell therapy (CAR-T)

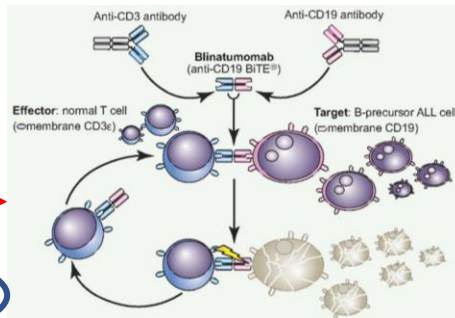


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## Immunotherapy as an Alternative or in Addition to HCT

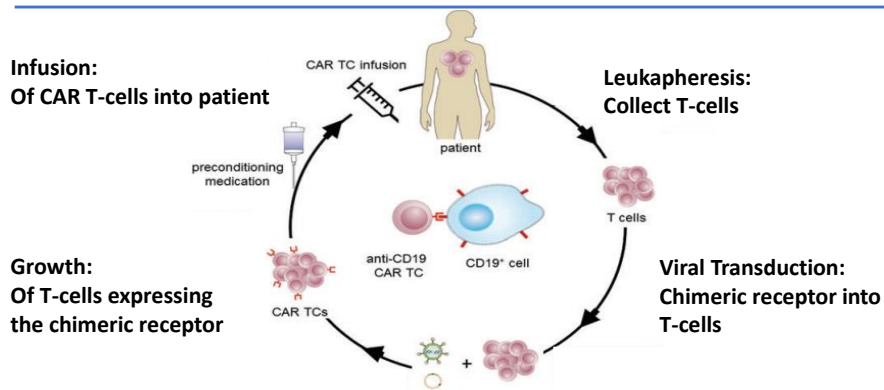
Harnessing the power of our own immune system to fight leukemia cells

- Targeted monoclonal antibodies (rituximab)
- Bispecific T-cell engagers (blinatumomab, inotuzumab)
- Chimeric antigen receptor T-cell therapy (CAR T)



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## Creating Autologous T-Cells to Target Leukemia

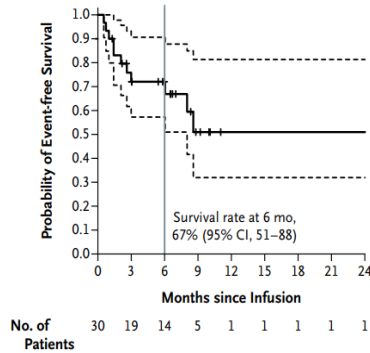


Shubert et al. *Hum Gene Ther.* 2016; Frey NV, Porter DL. *Am J Hematol.* 2016.

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# CART Therapy Leads to High Rates of CR

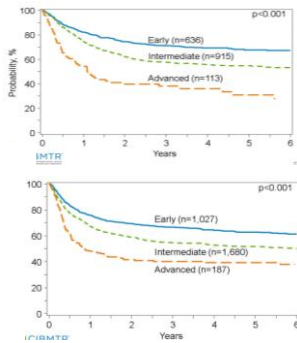
- N=30 children and adults with pre-B-ALL
- 80% of patients had detectable leukemia prior to infusion
- 90% were able to achieved complete remission
- Only 7 of these patients ultimately relapsed
- 6-month EFS = 67%, OS = 78%



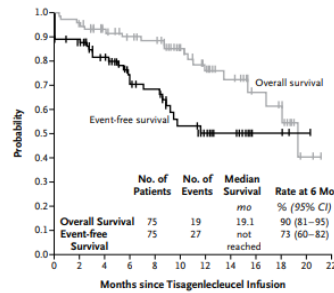
Maude S et al. *New Eng J Med*. 2014.

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# Not Enough Data at This Time to Say That CAR T-Cell Outcomes Are Better Than HCT




Early = ALL in 1<sup>st</sup> CR  
 Intermediate = ALL in ≥2<sup>nd</sup> CR  
 Advanced = Acute leukemia in relapse




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# Summary

-  Overall survival for childhood ALL has dramatically improved in the last 50 years
-  Despite these improvements, some children have poor initial responses or eventually relapse
-  HCT is an available treatment modality for high-risk or relapsed patients Many improvements have been made in recent years  
Requires long-term follow-up care
-  Novel treatments have the potential to change the landscape of short-term and long-term outcomes

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# Questions



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## LLS EDUCATION & SUPPORT RESOURCES

- Information Specialists
  - EMAIL: [infocenter@LLS.org](mailto:infocenter@LLS.org)
  - TOLL-FREE PHONE: 1-800-955-4572
- Free Nutrition Consults: [www.LLS.org/nutrition](http://www.LLS.org/nutrition)
- Caregiver Support: [www.LLS.org/caregiver](http://www.LLS.org/caregiver)
- Free Education Booklets: [www.LLS.org/booklets](http://www.LLS.org/booklets)
- Free Telephone/Web Programs: [www.LLS.org/programs](http://www.LLS.org/programs)
- Live, weekly Online Chats: [www.LLS.org/chat](http://www.LLS.org/chat)
- LLS Community: [www.LLS.org/community](http://www.LLS.org/community)



**BEATING CANCER IS IN OUR BLOOD.**



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## LLS EDUCATION & SUPPORT RESOURCES



- **LLS Podcast, *The Bloodline with LLS***

Listen in as experts and patients guide listeners in understanding diagnosis, treatment, and resources available to blood cancer patients: [www.thebloodline.org](http://www.thebloodline.org)

- **Education Videos**

Free education videos about survivorship, treatment, disease updates, and other topics: [www.LLS.org/educationvideos](http://www.LLS.org/educationvideos)

- **Patti Robinson Kaufmann First Connection Program**

Peer-to-peer program that matches newly diagnosed patients and their families: [www.LLS.org/firstconnection](http://www.LLS.org/firstconnection)

- **What to Ask**

Questions to ask the treatment team: [www.LLS.org/whattoask](http://www.LLS.org/whattoask)

- **Other Support Resources**

LLS Community, discussion boards, blogs, support groups, financial assistance, and more: [www.LLS.org/support](http://www.LLS.org/support)



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**THANK YOU**

We have one goal: A world without blood cancers

