



WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Advances in Treating Myeloproliferative Neoplasms

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We are a community of blood cancer patients, survivors and caregivers. We're here to support you, give you trusted information and resources, and help you feel connected. No one should have to face a blood cancer diagnosis alone.



To join LLS Community, visit www.LLS.org/community.

Program will begin shortly

BEATING CANCER IS IN OUR BLOOD.



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**BEATING
CANCER
IS IN
OUR BLOOD.**

ADVANCES IN TREATING MYELOPROLIFERATIVE NEOPLASMS

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DISCLOSURES

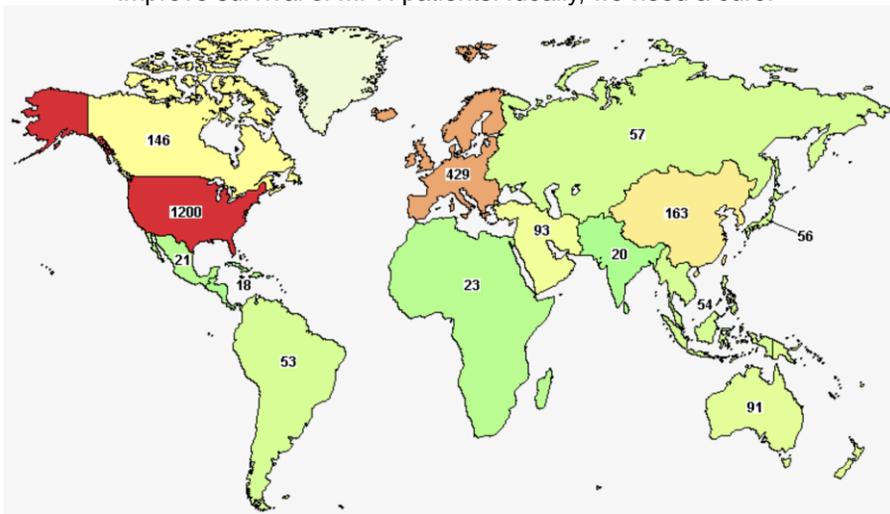
Advances in Treating Myeloproliferative Neoplasms

Ghaith Abu-Zeinah, MD has affiliations with PharmaEssentia.**BEATING CANCER IS IN OUR BLOOD.**

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As of 1/19/21, there are 1763 clinical trials worldwide registered in clinicaltrials.gov to advance MPN treatment

We need treatments to improve quality of life, prevent complications, and improve survival of MPN patients. Ideally, we need a cure!



<https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/results/map?cond=myeloproliferative+neoplasm&map=>

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Outline

- MPN diagnosis, symptoms and complications
- Treatment of PV
- Treatment of ET
- Treatment of MF

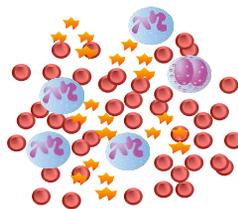
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Classical Myeloproliferative Neoplasms (MPN) are classified into 3 major subtypes

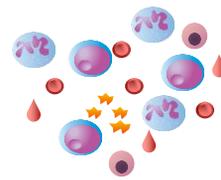
Essential Thrombocythemia (ET)



Polycythemia Vera (PV)



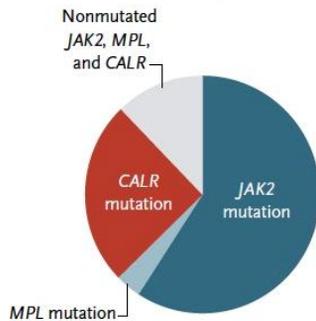
Primary Myelofibrosis (PMF)



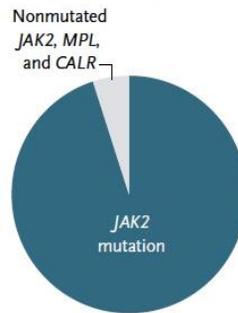
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>90% of MPNs share driver mutations in JAK2, CALR, or MPL

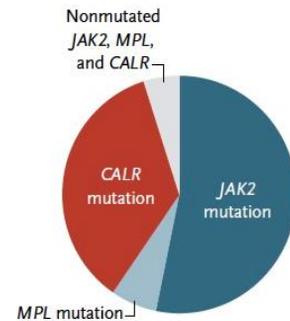
Essential Thrombocythemia (ET)



Polycythemia Vera (PV)



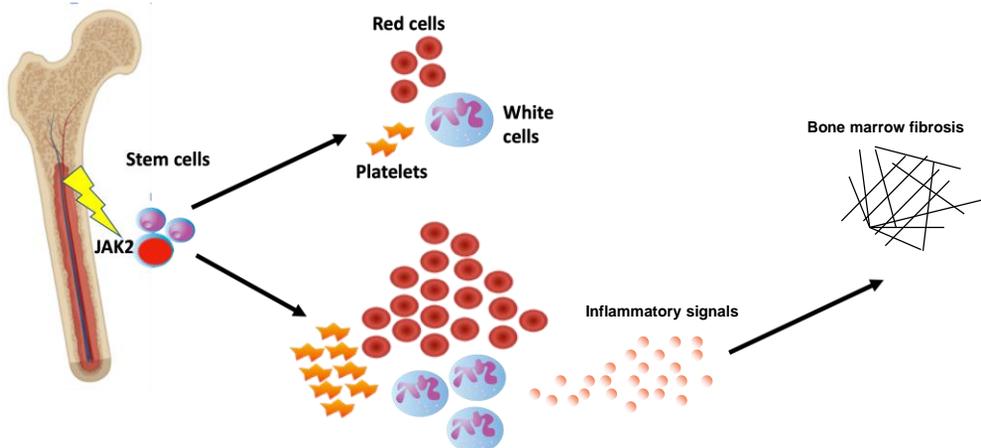
Primary Myelofibrosis (PMF)



Klampfl T. et al. NEJM 2013

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Driver mutations occur in blood stem cells and lead to overproduction of cells, inflammation and fibrosis



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**First step towards optimal treatment is making an accurate diagnosis
Bone marrow histology is crucial!**

Essential
Thrombocythemia
(ET)

A
Essential thrombocythemia

B
Polycythemia vera

Primary
Myelofibrosis
(PMF)

Polycythemia Vera
(PV)

Overt Myelofibrosis

Rumi E, Cazzola M, Blood 2017
Courtesy of Geoffrey Mikita

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MPNs can impair quality of life

MPN Landmark Study

"My MPN symptoms reduce my quality of life."

MPN Type	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree
MF (81% total)	50%	31%
PV (66% total)	28%	38%
ET (56% total)	20%	36%

= Remaining percentage of MPN patients who responded "neither agree nor disagree," "disagree" or "strongly disagree."

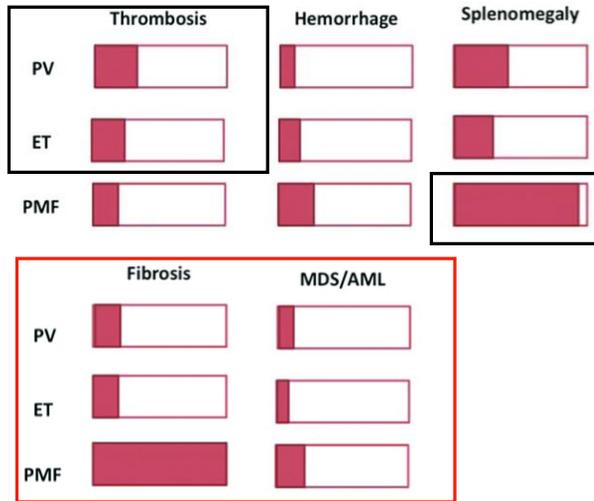
Data adapted from MPN-SAF, Robyn S et al. Blood 2011

Mesa R, Miller CB, Thyne M, et al. Myeloproliferative neoplasms (MPNs) have a significant impact on patients' overall health and productivity: the MPN Landmark survey. BMC Cancer. 2016;16:167.

Courtesy of Maureen Thyne, PA-C

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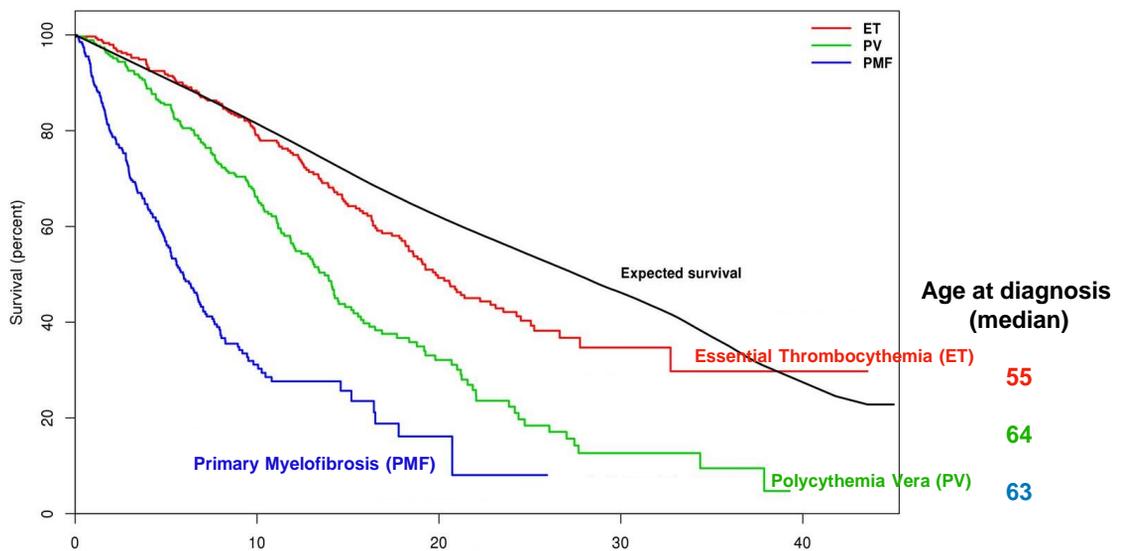
MPNs can cause serious complications



Jean-Jacques Kiladjian Hematology 2012

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MPNs MAY shorten survival



Tefferi A et al. Blood 2014

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Disease-modifying treatments are needed in MPN treatment

- A disease-modifying treatment is one that not only improves symptoms, spleen size, blood counts, and prevents complications, but also prevents natural progression and enforces disease regression.
- By doing so, a disease-modifying treatment is potentially capable of inducing long-term remission and improving survival.

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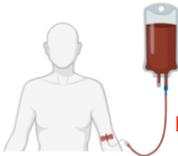
Outline

- MPN diagnosis, symptoms and complications
- Treatment of PV
- Treatment of ET
- Treatment of MF
- COVID-19 and MPN

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PV initial treatment approach: What do guidelines recommend? What do we recommend?

PHLEBOTOMY (PHL)



National guidelines

Initial treatment by risk group	
Age < 60 No thrombosis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess for new blood clots and major bleeding Manage cardiovascular risk factors Aspirin
Low risk	
RISK of THROMBOSIS	
High risk Age 60+ + thrombosis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess for new blood clots and major bleeding Manage cardiovascular risk factors Aspirin Hydroxyurea or interferons

NCCN Guidelines for Patients®: Myeloproliferative Neoplasms, 2019

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Weill Cornell practice

? + INTERFERON (IFN)

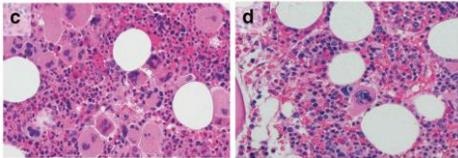
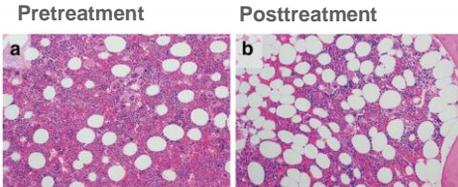
IFN or Hydroxyurea (HU)

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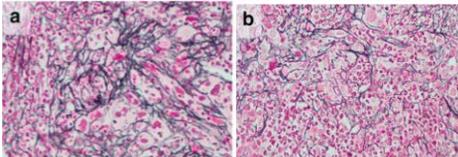
IFN in PV is disease-modifying

Histologic response

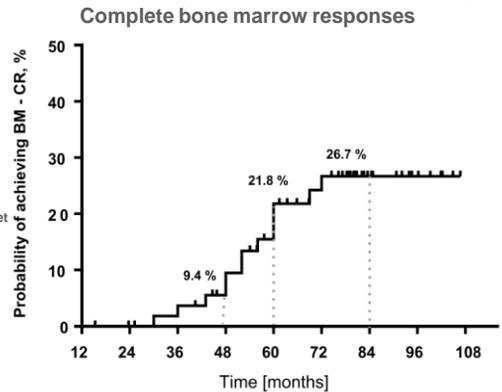


Pizzi M, Silver RT, et al. Modern Pathology. 2015

Fibrosis reversion



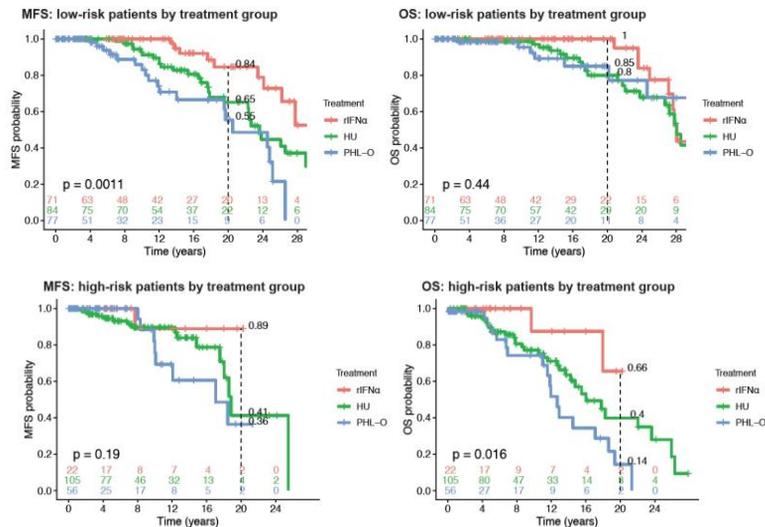
Silver RT et al. Blood 2011



Masarova L et al. Hematol Oncol. 2017

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IFN is associated with improved survival outcomes in PV



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Side effects leading to discontinuation of treatment (IFN vs HU)

	IFN (n = 199)	HU (n = 285)
Time on therapy (patient-years)	1137	1671
Organ system adverse events, n (%)		
Hematologic		
Anemia	2 (1.0)	3 (1.0)
Neutropenia	0 (0.0)	1 (0.4)
Thrombocytopenia	1 (0.5)	7 (2.5)
Other	2 (1.0)	7 (2.5)
Allergy & Immunology		
Allergic response	2 (1.0)	1 (0.4)
Autoimmune disorder	2 (1.0)	0 (0.0)
Musculoskeletal		
Arthralgia	4 (2.0)	0 (0.0)
Myalgia	3 (1.5)	0 (0.0)
Other	1 (0.5)	2 (1.0)
Gastrointestinal		
Mucositis oral	0 (0.0)	3 (0.7)
Nausea & Vomiting	0 (0.0)	5 (1.8)
Other	1 (0.5)	2 (0.7)
Neuropsychiatric		
Agitation	1 (0.5)	0 (0.0)
Depression	1 (0.5)	0 (0.0)
Peripheral neuropathy	3 (1.5)	4 (1.4)
Other	1 (0.5)	1 (0.4)
Constitutional		
Fatigue & Malaise	5 (2.5)	3 (0.7)
Fever	1 (0.5)	1 (0.4)
Other	2 (1.0)	1 (0.4)
Cardiopulmonary		
Cardiomyopathy	1 (0.5)	0 (0.0)
Heart failure	1 (0.5)	0 (0.0)
Pericarditis	1 (0.5)	0 (0.0)
Skin & soft tissue		
Rash	1 (0.5)	1 (0.4)
Skin ulceration	1 (0.5)	9 (3.2)
Other	0 (0.0)	6 (2.1)
Total of events	37 (18)	57 (20)
Total of patients	25 (13)	46 (16)

- 13% had IFN discontinued for side effects.

- 16% had HU discontinued for side effects.

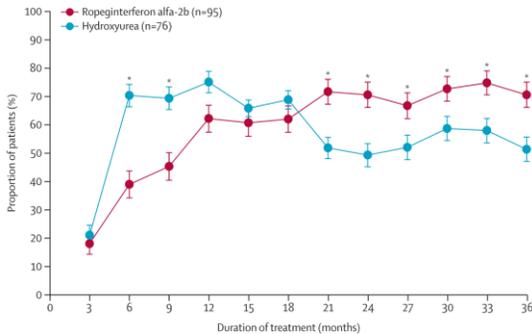
Abu-Zeinah G et al. Oral abstract at the 2020 annual meeting of the American Society of Hematology
 Manuscript accepted to *Leukemia*

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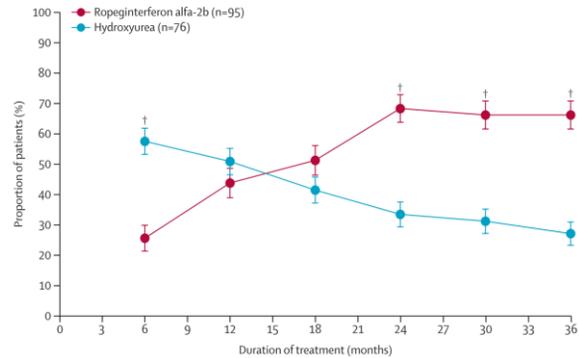
Ropeg-IFN is possibly better than HU in a randomized trial of high-risk PV (CONTI-PV)

Ropeginterferon α -2b (Ropeg-FN) is a longer-acting, biweekly dosed form of Interferon-alpha

Complete hematologic response



Partial molecular response



Gisslinger H et al. Lancet Hematology 2020

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PV initial treatment approach: What do guidelines recommend? What do we recommend?

	Initial treatment by risk group	
	Low risk	High risk
NCCN	PHL-O	HU or IFN
ELN	PHL-O	HU or IFN
WCM	IFN > PHL-O	IFN > HU

PHL-O causes chronic iron deficiency, Chronic iron deficiency is associated with:

1. Fatigue
2. Decline in physical performance
3. Cognitive impairment

Ginzburg et al, Leukemia 2018

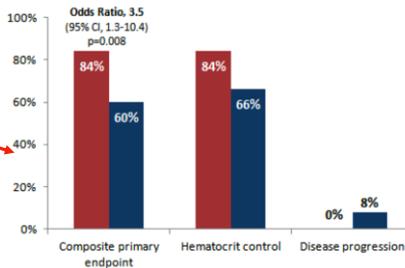
Bose P et al. NCCN 2020 Myeloproliferative Neoplasms.
Barbui T, et al. Leukemia 2018

PHL-O increased fibrosis risk

Abu-Zeinah et al. ASH 2020
Najean Y et al. Br. J. Haematol. 1994

IFN > PHL-O in recent randomized trial of low-risk PV
Better hematocrit control, less progression at 1 year

Experimental arm (Ropeginterferon alpha-2b) Standard arm

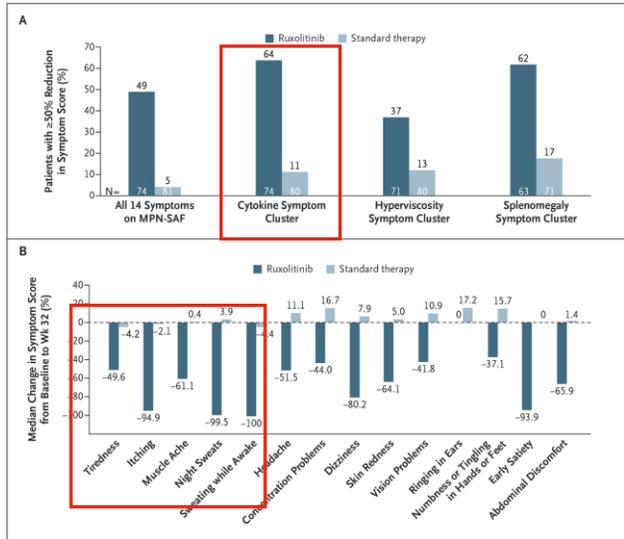
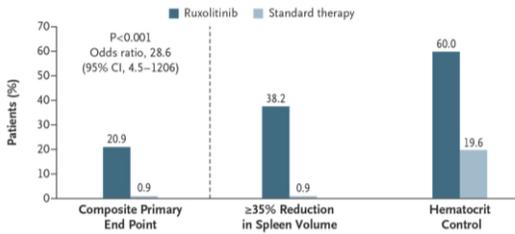


Barbui T et al. EHA oral abstract 2020

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Second-line treatments and clinical trials in PV: Ruxolitinib

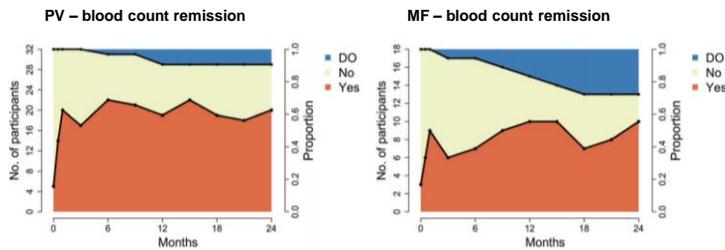
RESPONSE trial: Ruxolitinib versus "Standard therapy"



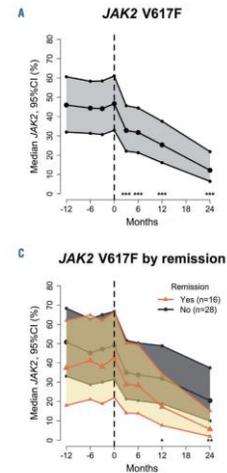
Vannucchi et al. N Engl J Med. 2015

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Second-line treatments and clinical trials in PV: Rux+IFN for patients refractory to IFN alone



Sørensen et al. Haematologica. 2020



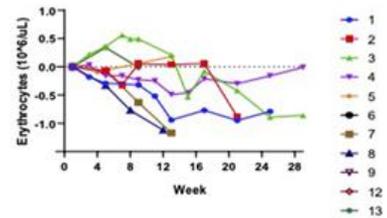
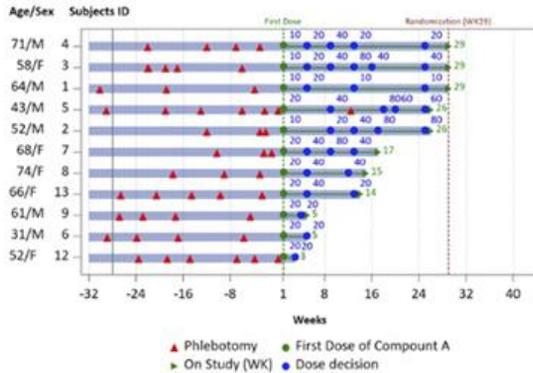
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Second-line treatments and clinical trials in PV: PTG-300 hepcidin mimetic

634.MYELOPROLIFERATIVE SYNDROMES: CLINICAL | NOVEMBER 5, 2020

PTG-300 Eliminates the Need for Therapeutic Phlebotomy in Both Low and High-Risk Polycythemia Vera Patients

Marina Kremyanskaya, Yelena Ginzburg, MD, Andrew T. Kuykendall, MD, Abdulraheem Yacoub, MD, Jay Yang, MD, Suneel K Gupta, PhD, Frank Valone, MD, Sarita Khanna, PhD, Srdan Verstovsek, MD PhD, Ronald Hoffman, MD



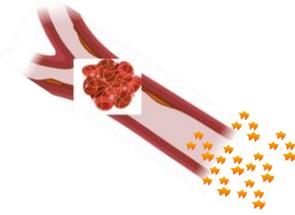
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Outline

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Risk adapted treatment of ET by IPSET-thrombosis score: Interferon or HU is recommended first line for high-risk ET



Risk factor	HR	Score
Age > 60 years	1.50	1
Cardiovascular risk factors	1.56	1
Previous thrombosis	1.93	2
JAK2V617F	2.04	2

Low risk implies a score = 0–1; intermediate risk, score = 2; and high risk, score ≥ 3

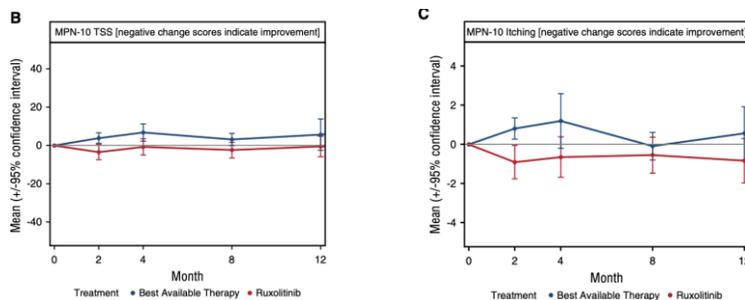
- **Low- Intermediate risk (0-2):** Low dose ASA for select cases
- **High risk patients (>=3):**
 - Low dose ASA
 - **First line** Hydroxyurea (HU) or **Interferon (rIFN α)**
- **Special considerations to prompt cytoreductive treatment:**
 - Plt count > 1500 x10⁹/L (or less with acquired von willebrand disease)
 - myeloproliferative symptoms exist
 - Young women desiring pregnancy

Barbui T et al.
the European LeukemiaNet recommendations. Leukemia 2018

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Second-line treatments and clinical trials in ET: MAJIC-ET trial: For HU resistant or intolerant patients, **Ruxolitinib is NOT superior** to best available therapy (BAT)

- BAT = HU(71.1%), anagrelide (48.1%), and interferon (40.4%).
- No evidence of improvement in complete response within 1 year reported in **27 (46.6%) ruxolitinib** patients vs **23 (44.2%) with BAT** (P 5 .40). At 2 years, rates of thrombosis, hemorrhage, and transformation were not significantly different.



Harrison C, et al. Blood 2017

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Second-line treatments and clinical trials in ET: Ropeg-IFN

NIH U.S. National Library of Medicine

ClinicalTrials.gov

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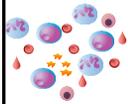
Ropeginterferon Alfa-2b (P1101) vs. Anagrelide in Essential Thrombocythemia Patients With Hydroxyurea Resistance or Intolerance

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Outline

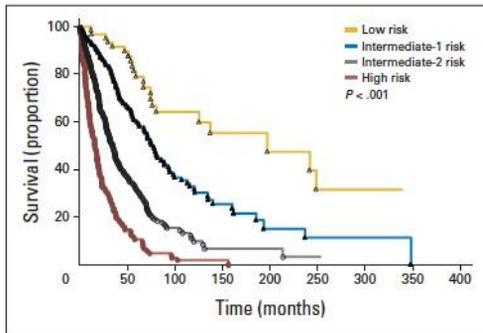
- MPN diagnosis, symptoms and complications
- Treatment of PV
- Treatment of ET
- **Treatment of MF**
- COVID-19 and MPN

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Management of PMF depends on prognosis/risk: DIPSS-plus is a widely used risk score in clinic and clinical trials

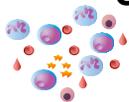
DIPSS-plus stratified OS of PMF patients



Clinical factor	Points
Age >65	1
WBC >25 x10 ³ /μL	1
Hgb <10 g/dL	2
Circulating blasts ≥1%	1
Constitutional symptoms	1
PLUS:	
• Platelet count <100 x10 ³ /μL	1
• Anemia requiring transfusion	1
• Unfavorable karyotype	1

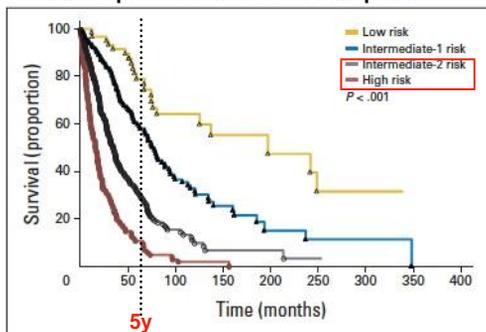
Gangat N, et al. JCO 2011

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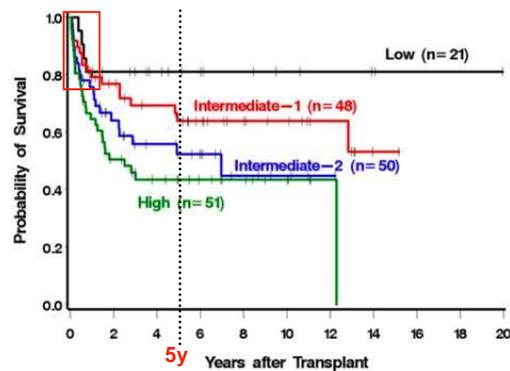


Stem cell transplant is currently the only potentially curative therapy but is not suitable for all patients

DIPSS-plus stratified OS of PMF patients



HSCT for PMF: OS after transplant by DIPSS plus score



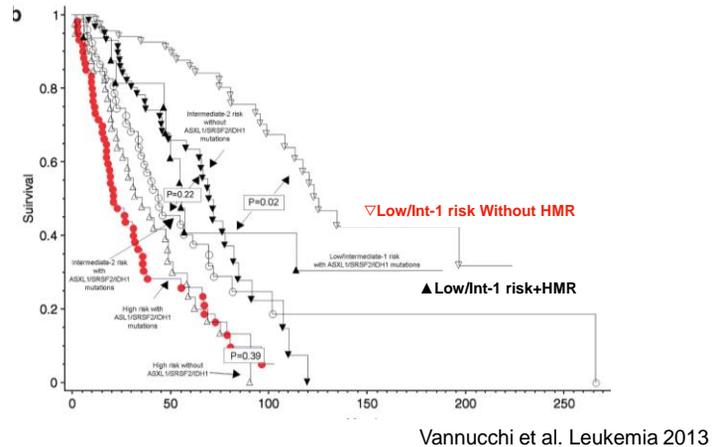
Gangat N, et al. JCO 2011
Scott BL, et al. Blood 2012

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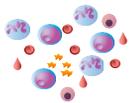
Molecular risk should be considered in the management of MF

- High molecular risk (HMR): mutations in **ASXL1**, **SRSF2**, **IDH1/2**, **EZH2**.
ASXL1 portends worse outcome independent of DIPSS

Gene	Overall Frequency (%)
JAK2	59.2
ASXL1	21.7
TET2	9.7
SRSF2	8.5
DNMT3A	5.7
MPL	5.2
EZH2	5.1
CBL	4.4
IDH1/2	2.6



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Risk-adapted treatment guidelines for myelofibrosis

- Low to intermediate-1 risk** (by IPSS/DIPSS/DIPSS-plus score)
 - Observation alone for asymptomatic patients
 - First line HU for symptomatic splenomegaly
 - Ruxolitinib for highly symptomatic splenomegaly or constitutional symptoms
 - consider **Interferon (rIFN α)**
- Intermediate-2 to High risk** (by IPSS/DIPSS/DIPSS-plus score)
 - Allogeneic **stem cell transplant (SCT)** for eligible patients
 - First line **Ruxolitinib** for splenomegaly

Additional considerations:

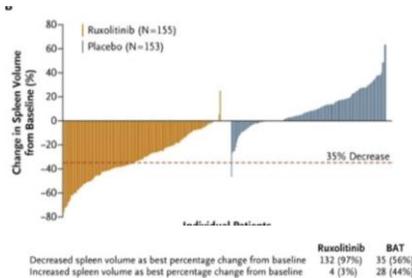
- Anemia treatment with transfusion and ESAs, +/- prednisone, androgens, iMids,

Barbui T et al; the European LeukemiaNet recommendations. Leukemia 2018

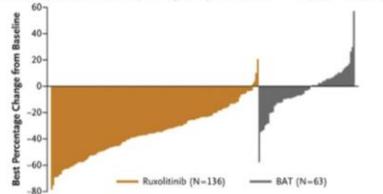
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**JAK inhibitor, Ruxolitinib was first FDA approved (2011) treatment for MF based on symptom and spleen size improvements.
Fedratinib later approved (2019)**

COMFORT I

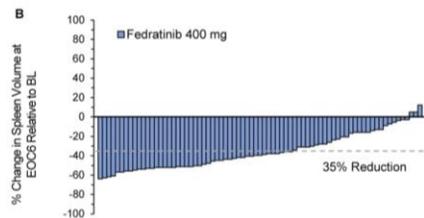
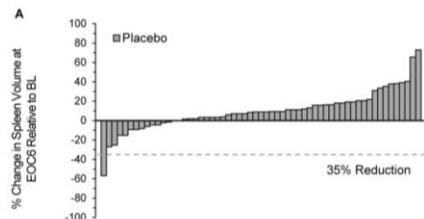


COMFORT II



Verstovsek et al. N Engl J Med. 2012
Harrison C, et al. N Engl J Med. 2012

JAKARTA Trial



Pardanani et al. JAMA Oncol. 2015

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What about Interferon in Myelofibrosis?

WCM experience:

- IFN should be used at low doses for sufficient duration (>12mo).
- Patients who are most likely to benefit are those with:
 - low-grade (grade 1-2) BM fibrosis,
 - No massive splenomegaly (<10cm on exam),
 - lower DIPPS score (low-int 1),
 - absence of high molecular risk mutations.

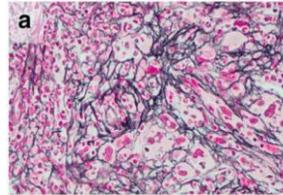
Silver RT et al. Blood 2011
Silver RT, the 10th international Congress on Myeloproliferative Neoplasms and Chronic Myeloid Leukemia
Silver RT et al. Cancer 2017

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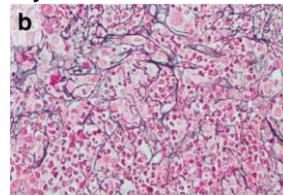
rIFN- α may delay progression of early MF

- **Patients:**
 - 17 Primary MF patients with Low (11) and Intermediate-1 (6) DIPSS.
 - "early" by virtue of grade 1-2 bone marrow reticulin fibrosis
- **Results**
 - >80% had clinical benefit or stable disease (2 CR, 7 PR, 1 CI, 4 SD, 3 PD)
 - Improvement in marrow morphology occurred in 4 patients

Before rIFN- α



3 years after rIFN- α



Silver RT et al. Blood 2011
Silver RT, the 10th international Congress on Myeloproliferative Neoplasms and Chronic Myeloid Leukemia
Pizzi M et al. Mod Path 2015

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HMR correlates with poor response to rIFN- α in early MF

DIPSS Prognostic	IWG-MRT Response: No. of Patients (%) ^b						
	Total	CR	PR	CI	SD	PD	Died
Prognostic Risk							
Low	22 (73)	1 (3)	8 (27)	2 (6)	4 (13)	4 (13) ^c	3 (10)
Intermediate-1	8(27)	1 (3)	1 (3)	2 (6)	3 (10)	0 (0)	1 (3)
Total	30	2 (6)	9 (30)	4 (13)	7 (23)	4 (13)	4 (13)

Mutation	No. of Responses						
	Total	CR	PR	CI	SD	PD	Death
JAK2							
Single mutation	5	1	2			1	1
ASXL1	1				1		
ASXL1 + MISC	1					1	
DNMT3A	2			1	1		
MISC	1			1			
SH2B3	1				1		
TET2	4			1	2	1	
TET2 + MISC	1	1					
WT1	1				1		
CALR							
Single mutation	2	2					
ASXL1 + SETBP1	1						1
MISC	1	1	1				
SETBP1 + KDM6A + FLT3	1					1	
TET2	1	1					
MPL							
Single mutation	1	1					
SRSF2 + TET2	1						1
Total	25	2	7	3	6	4	3

Silver RT et al. Cancer 2017

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Therapies in the clinical trial pipeline for Myelofibrosis:

- JAK inhibitor: pacritinib
- BET inhibitor: CPI-0610
- Bcl-xl/ Bcl2 inhibitor: navitoclax
- Telomerase inhibitor: imetelstat
- TGF-beta pathway inhibitors: vactosertib, luspatercept, AVID 200
- Many others....

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How do we select the most promising therapies for myelofibrosis to advance in clinical trials?

- It is difficult to study overall survival in a clinical trial in MPN. It would require several years and many patients because of the chronicity of these diseases.
- **Symptom and spleen size** responses are important but are not optimal endpoints to decide if a treatment is disease modifying and potentially life-prolonging
- **Molecular responses** (reduction in JAK2, CALR, MPL mutation burden) do not strongly correlate with clinical responses.
- **Marrow fibrosis reversion** is hypothesized but not proven to be translated to a survival benefit.
- **We need a reliable biomarker** to predict disease-modifying benefits of drugs and patients at risk of progression

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Outline

- MPN diagnosis, symptoms and complications
- Treatment of PV
- Treatment of ET
- Treatment of MF
- COVID-19 and MPN

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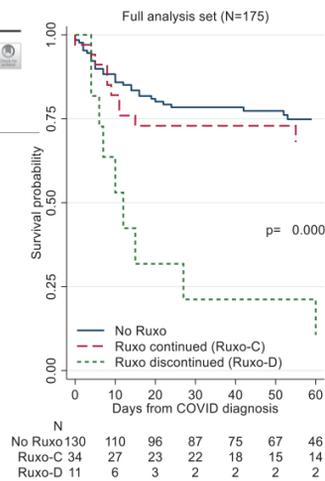
Treatment of MPN during COVID-19: Lessons learned

Leukemia
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41375-020-01107-y>

ARTICLE

Chronic Myeloproliferative Neoplasms

High mortality rate in COVID-19 patients with myeloproliferative neoplasms after abrupt withdrawal of ruxolitinib



Barbui et al. Leukemia 2020

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COVID-19 vaccination recommendations from the CDC

Vaccination of persons with underlying medical conditions

mRNA COVID-19 vaccines may be administered to persons with underlying medical conditions who have no contraindications to vaccination (see 'contraindications' section below). Clinical trials

Contraindications

CDC considers a history of the following to be a contraindication to vaccination with both the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines:

- Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous dose of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine or any of its components
- Immediate allergic reaction of any severity to a previous dose of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine or any of its components (including polyethylene glycol [PEG])*
- Immediate allergic reaction of any severity to polysorbate (due to potential cross-reactive hypersensitivity with the vaccine ingredient PEG)*



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CDC 24/7: Saving Lives, Protecting People™

CDC recommendations: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/clinical-considerations.html>

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Thank you for your attention!



Acknowledgements

Our patients!
Richard T Silver, MD
Maureen Thyne, PA-C
Joseph Scandura, MD/PhD
Ellen Ritchie, MD
Andrew Schafer, MD

Funding



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Q&A SESSION

Advances in Treating Myeloproliferative Neoplasms

- **Ask a question by phone:**
 - Press star (*) then the number 1 on your keypad.
- **Ask a question by web:**
 - Click “Ask a question”
 - Type your question
 - Click “Submit”

Due to time constraints, we can only take one question per person. Once you’ve asked your question, the operator will transfer you back into the audience line.

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LLS EDUCATION & SUPPORT RESOURCES

HOW TO CONTACT US:

To contact an **Information Specialist** about disease, treatment and support information, resources and clinical trials:



Call: (800) 955-4572

Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. ET

Chat live online: www.LLS.org/InformationSpecialists

Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. ET

Email: infocenter@LLS.org

All email messages are answered within one business day.



CLINICAL TRIAL SUPPORT CENTER

Work one-on-one with an LLS Clinical Trial Nurse Navigator who will help you find clinical trials and personally assist you throughout the entire clinical-trial process.

www.LLS.org/Navigation

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NUTRITION CONSULTATIONS
Our registered dietitian has expertise in oncology nutrition and provides free one-on-one consultations by phone or email.
www.LLS.org/Consult



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LLS EDUCATION & SUPPORT RESOURCES



Online Chats

Online Chats are free, live sessions, **moderated by oncology social workers**. To register for one of the chats below, or for more information, please visit www.LLS.org/Chat.



Education Videos

View our free education videos on disease, treatment, and survivorship. To view all patient videos, please visit www.LLS.org/EducationVideos.



Patient Podcast

The Bloodline with LLS is here to remind you that after a diagnosis comes hope. To listen to an episode, please visit www.TheBloodline.org.

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LLS EDUCATION & SUPPORT RESOURCES

877.557.2672

LEUKEMIA & LYMPHOMA SOCIETY

Help With Finances

The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) offers financial assistance* to help individuals with blood cancer.

The **LLS Patient Aid** Program provides financial assistance to blood cancer patients in active treatment. Eligible patients will receive a \$100 stipend. Visit www.LLS.org/PatientAid

The **Urgent Need** Program, established in partnership with Moppie's Love, helps pediatric and young adult blood cancer patients, or adult blood cancer patients who are enrolled in clinical trials, with acute financial need. The program provides a \$500 grant to assist with non-medical expenses, including utilities, rent, mortgage, food, lodging, dental care, child care, elder care, and other essential needs. Visit www.LLS.org/UrgentNeed

The **Susan Lang Pay-It-Forward Patient Travel Assistance** Program provides blood cancer patients a \$500 grant to assist with transportation and lodging-related expenses. Visit www.LLS.org/Travel

The **Co-Pay Assistance** Program offers financial support toward the cost of insurance co-payments and/or insurance premiums for prescription drugs. Visit www.LLS.org/CoPay

*Funding for LLS's Co-pay Assistance Program is provided by pharmaceutical companies. Funding for other LLS financial assistance programs is provided by donations from individual donors, companies, and LLS campaigns.

The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) offers the following financial assistance programs to help individuals with blood cancer: www.LLS.org/Finances



To order free materials: www.LLS.org/Booklets

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THANK YOU

We have one goal: A world without blood cancers

 **LEUKEMIA &
LYMPHOMA
SOCIETY**