



**WBMT Scientific Symposium  
Salvador, Bahia  
October, 2013**

*Daniela Gama*

# Transplants for Multiple Myeloma

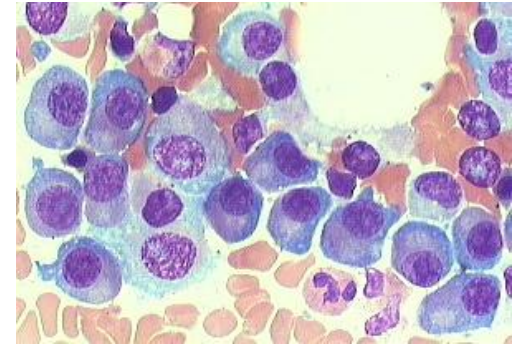
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Medical College of Wisconsin

Center for International Blood and  
Marrow Transplant Research (CIBMTR)



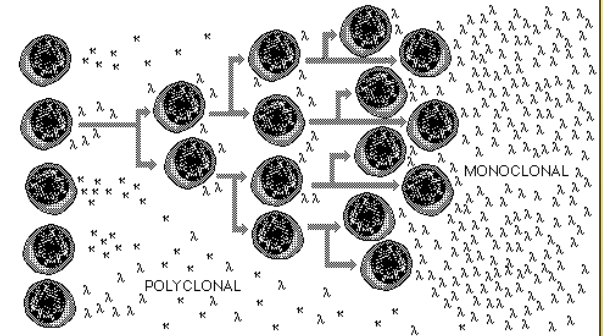
# Transplants for Multiple Myeloma



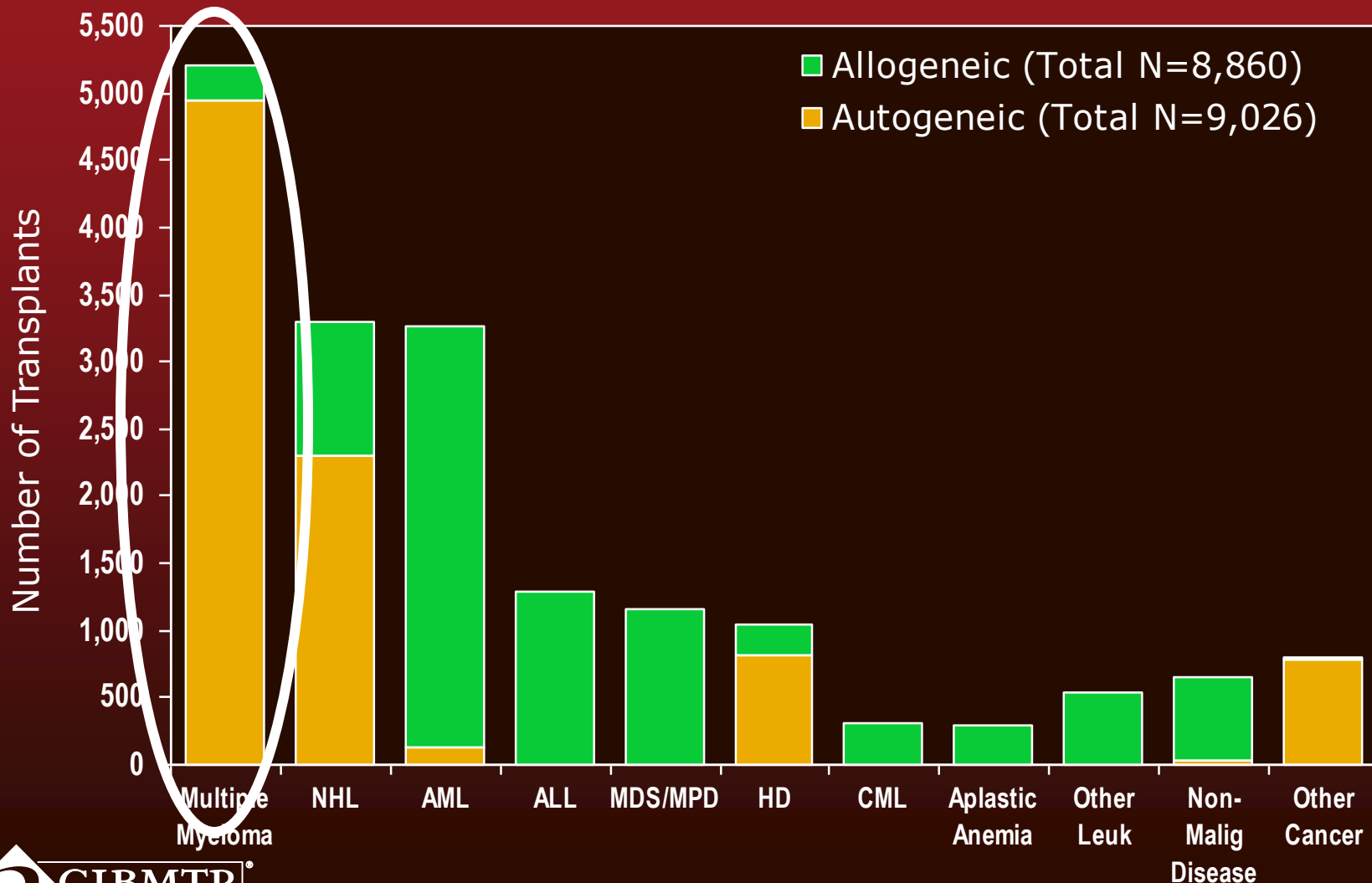
- Multiple myeloma is an incurable plasma cell disorder.
- Clinical presentation includes:
  - Anemia, lytic bone lesion, kidney failure, hypercalcemia and repetitive infections
- Most common indication of autologous transplants
- Many new regimens available for disease control.

# TOPICS

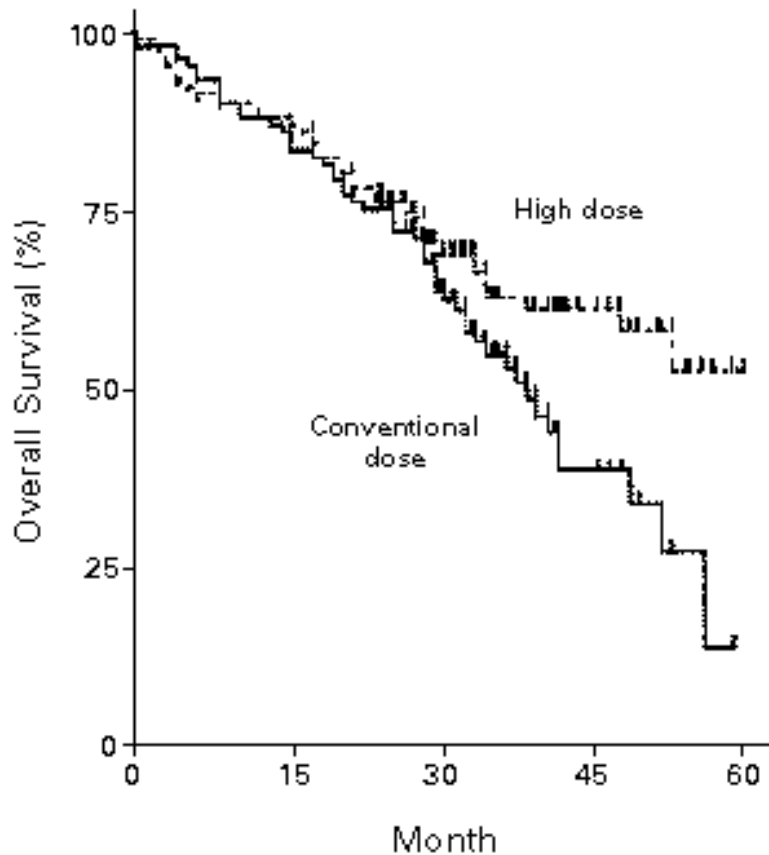
- Impact of novel agents on myeloma outcomes
- Trends in treatment practices
- Is transplant needed at all?
- Role of allogeneic transplant



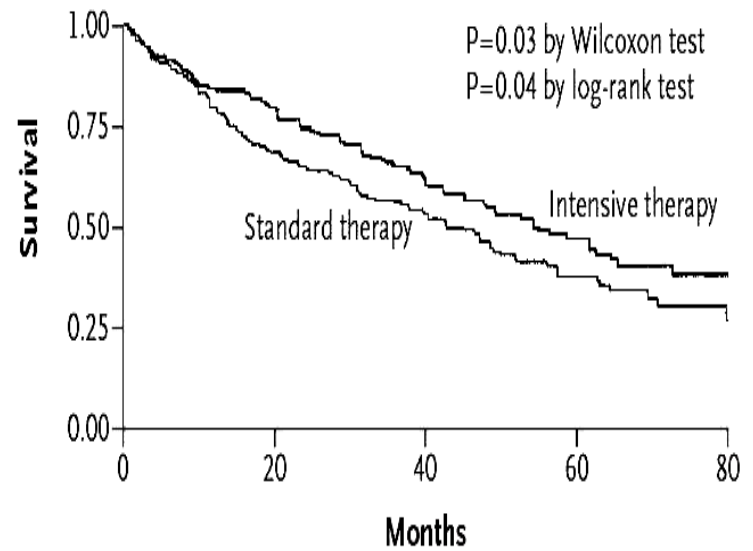
# Indications for Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplants in the United States, 2010



# Autologous HCT vs. Chemotherapy



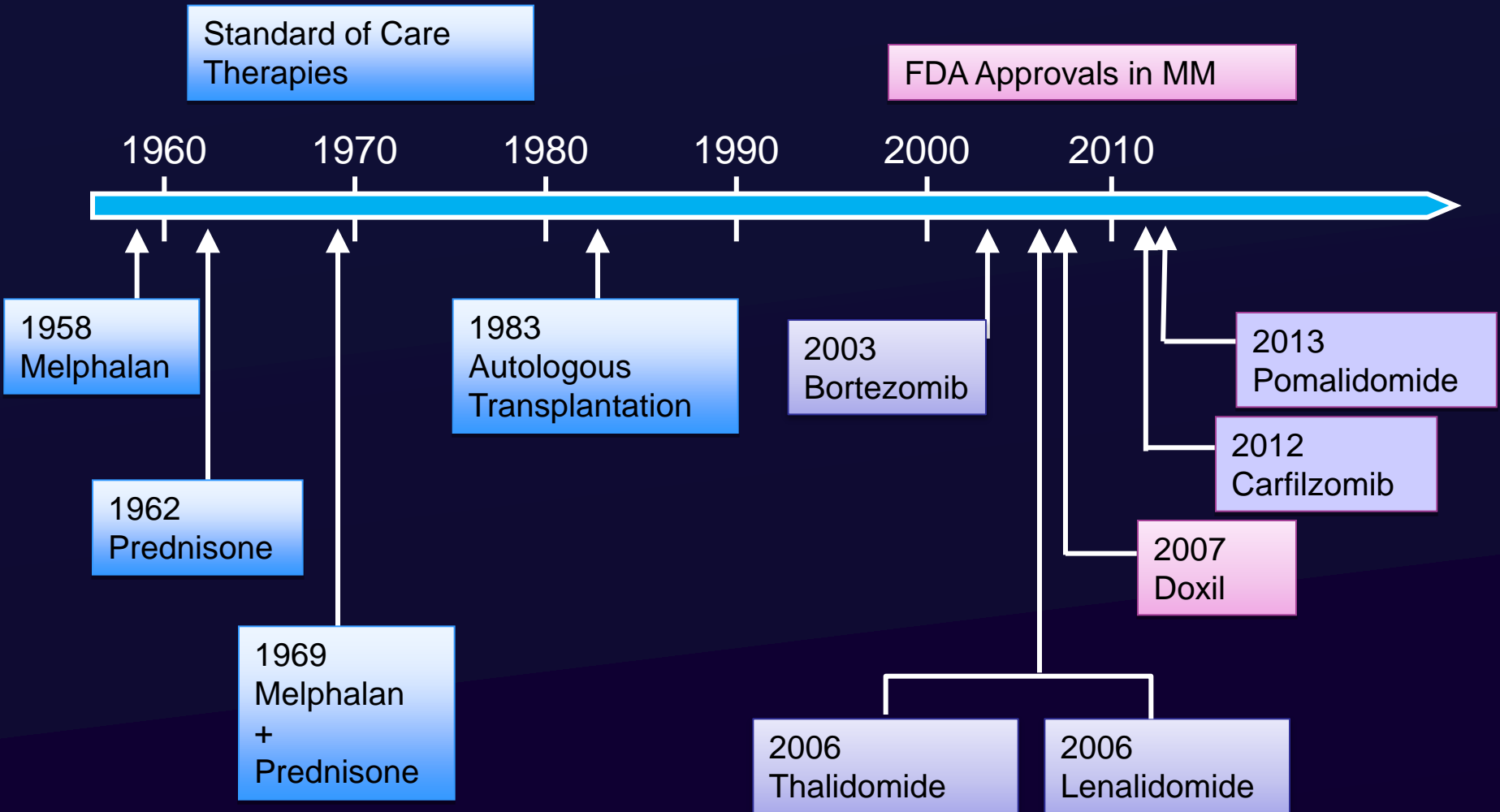
Conventional dose	63 (53-73)	35 (22-50)	12 (1-40)
High dose	69 (58-78)	61 (50-71)	52 (36-67)



## No. at Risk

Intensive therapy	201	148	79	38	8
Standard therapy	200	129	70	30	8

# History Myeloma Therapy



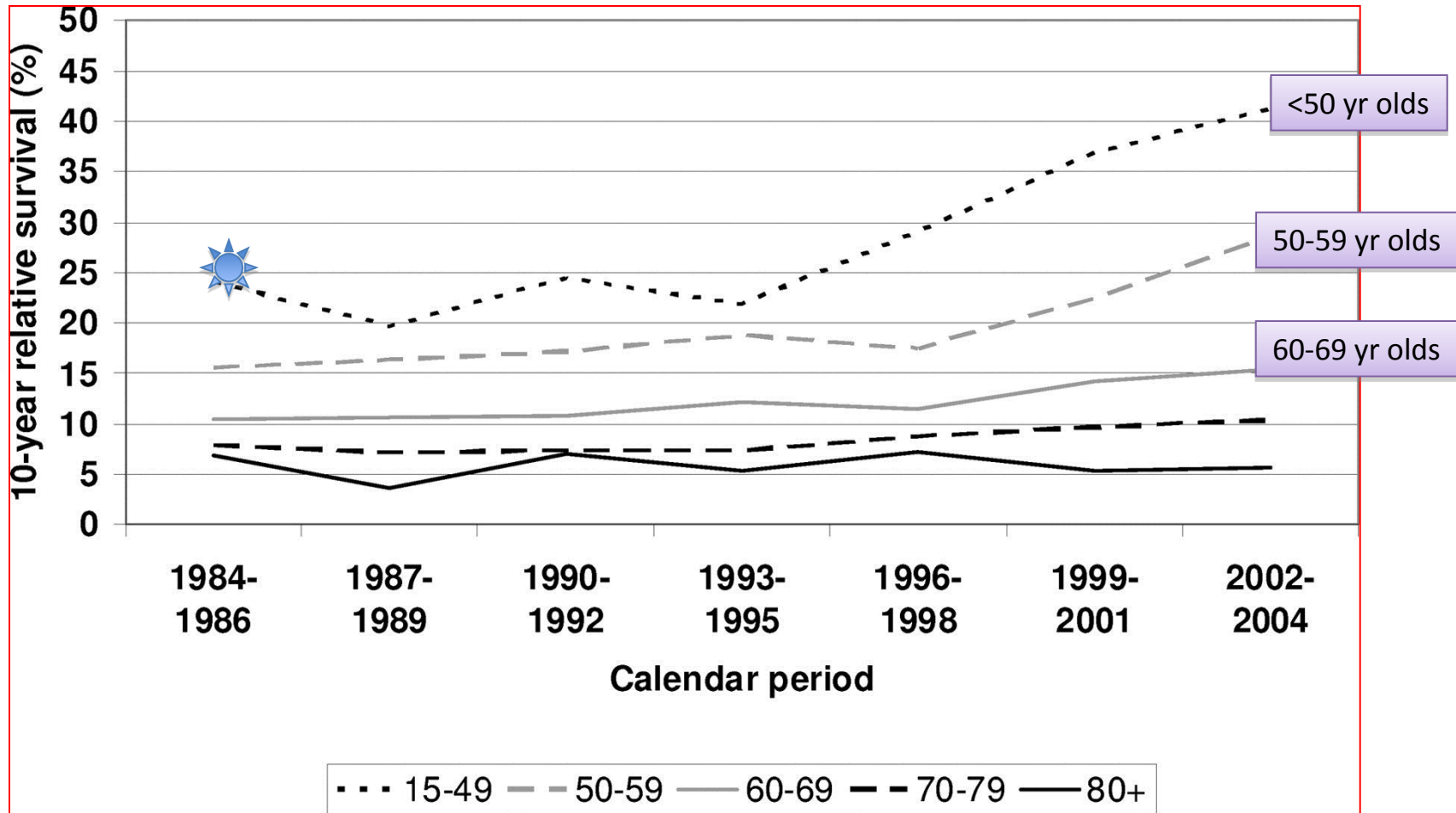
# Major Question

## Time to abandon autotransplant?

- Excellent Outcomes of newer drug induction
- OS advantage of autotransplant was proven in comparison to “old” conventional chemotherapy
- Is there evidence of benefit in the modern era?



# MYELOMA SURVIVAL Over Time



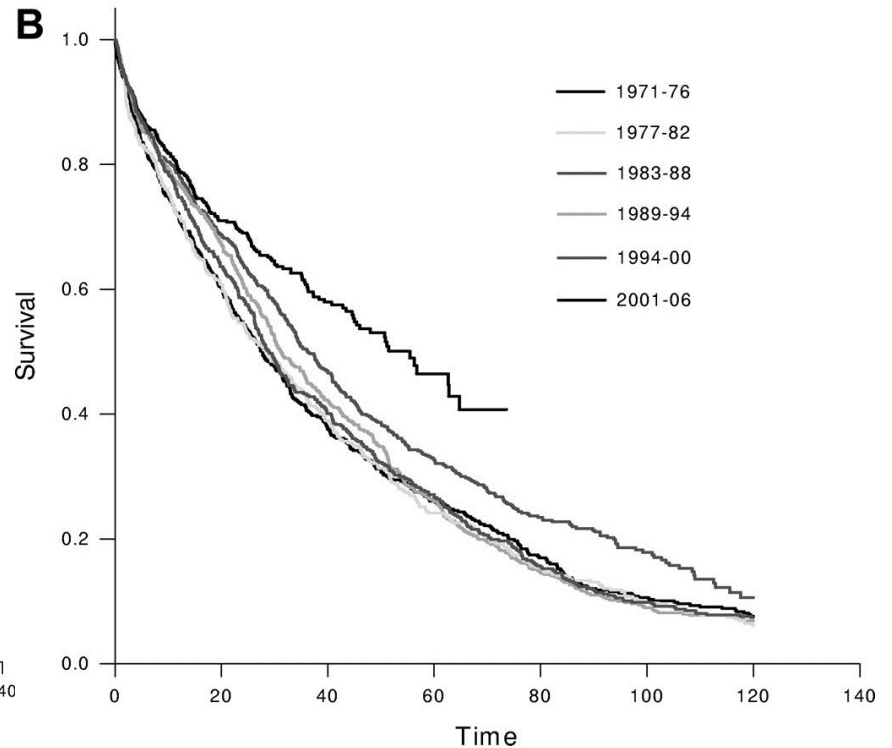
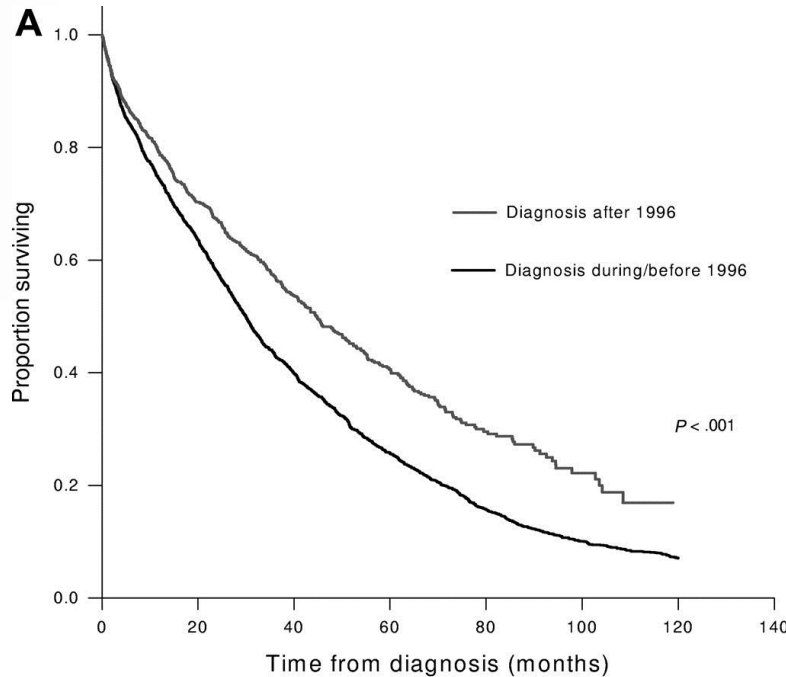
## Reasons????

Brenner, H. et al. Blood 2008;111:2521-2526



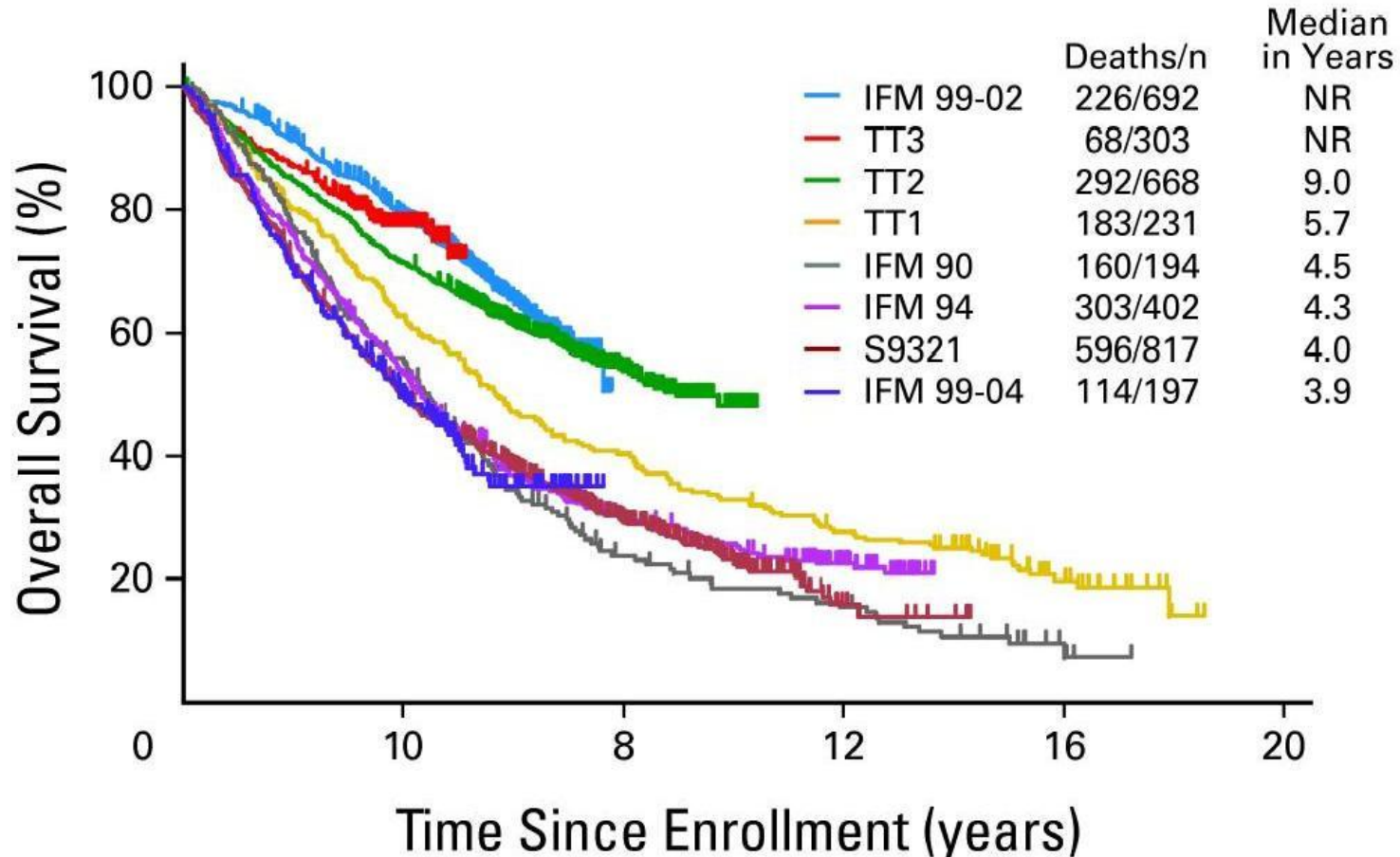


# Overall survival from diagnosis of multiple myelomas.



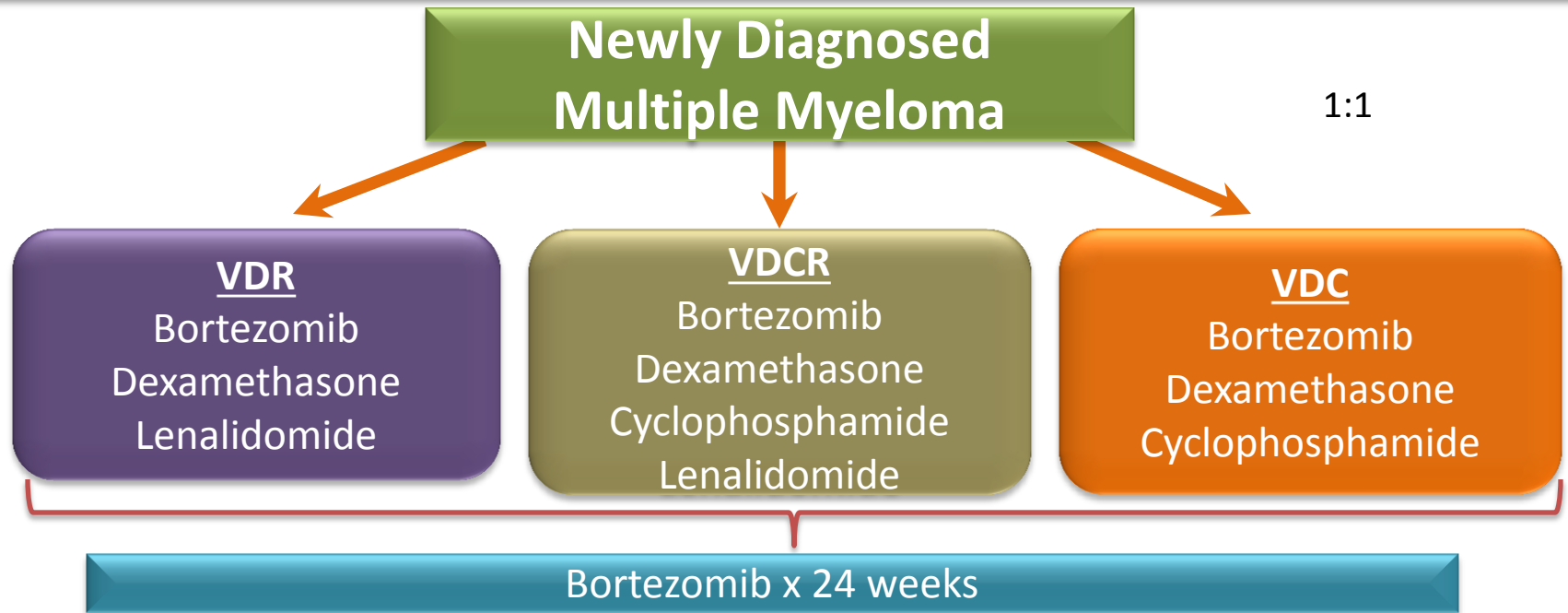
Kumar S K et al. Blood 2008;111:2516-2520

# Overall Survival of Autotransplantation in MM



# EVOLUTION, Phase II

Kumar et al. Accepted by JCO



	VDCR N = 41	VDR N = 42	VDC N = 32	VDC-modified* N = 15
CR	20%	24%	22%	40%
<b>≥ VGPR</b>	<b>59%</b>	<b>55%</b>	<b>47%</b>	<b>60%</b>
≥ PR	93%	93%	91%	93%

Compare to RVD regimen phase II – 67-74% VGPR rate. Richardson et al JCO 2011

# Aggressive Induction Choices - Summary

- Transplant “eligible”
  - 3 drug combination excellent VGPR rate in phase II
  - RVD = CVD (CyBorD) with D15 Cytoxan
  - Another 3 drug regimen PAD (Bz+Doxo+Dex)
  - Comparison to 2 drug combination unlikely to happen in US.
  - 4 drugs – CVRD or RVDD (anthracycline) – no evidence of benefit at this time
  - 4 drugs regimens maybe a role in relapsed setting / plasma cell leukemia induction
  - Caveat –
    - NO data with SQ Bortezomib or weekly Bortezomib in combination

Were novel agents the sole responsible for improvement in myeloma survival?

# Len + High-Dose Dex vs. Low-Dose Dex in Patients with Newly Diagnosed Myeloma

**Trial primary end-point:  
Response rate and adverse events**

Patients  
(n = 445)

**Len + high-dose Dex, 4 cycles, cycle length 28 days**

Len 25 mg/day, days 1–21

Dex 40 mg/day, days 1–4, 9–12, 17–20

**Len + low dose Dex, 4 cycles**

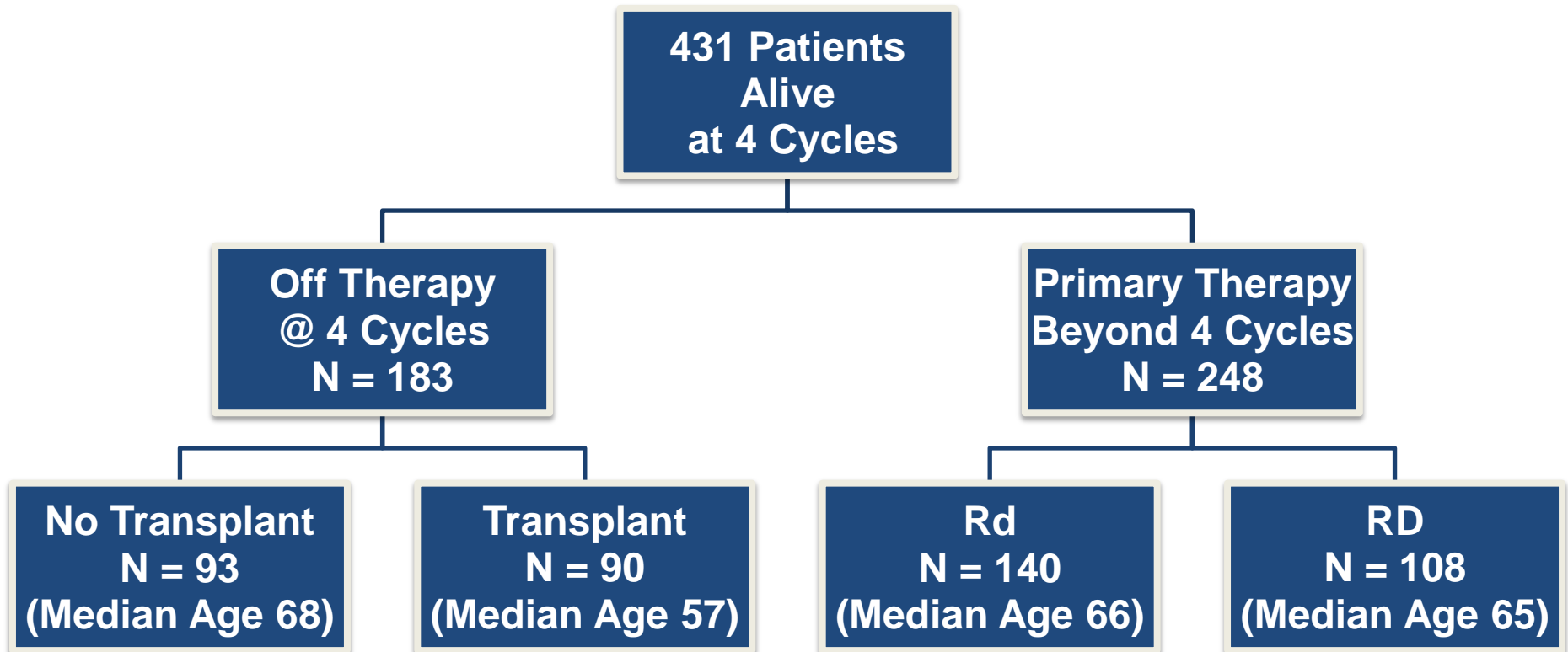
Len 25 mg/day, days 1–21

Dex 40 mg/day, days 1, 8, 15, 22

**Survival rate in patients  $\geq$  65 years old**

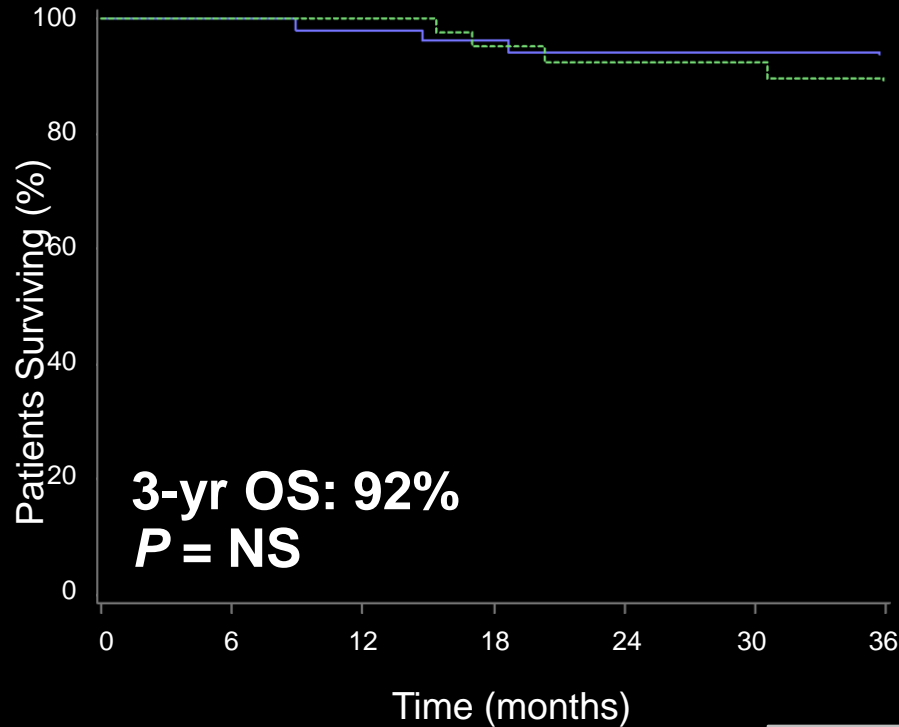
	<b>Patients (n)</b>	<b>2-year survival probability (95% CI)</b>	
RD	119	0.67 (0.56–0.77)	} p = 0.009
Rd	114	0.82 (0.74–0.91)	

# ECOG E4A03: Landmark Analysis

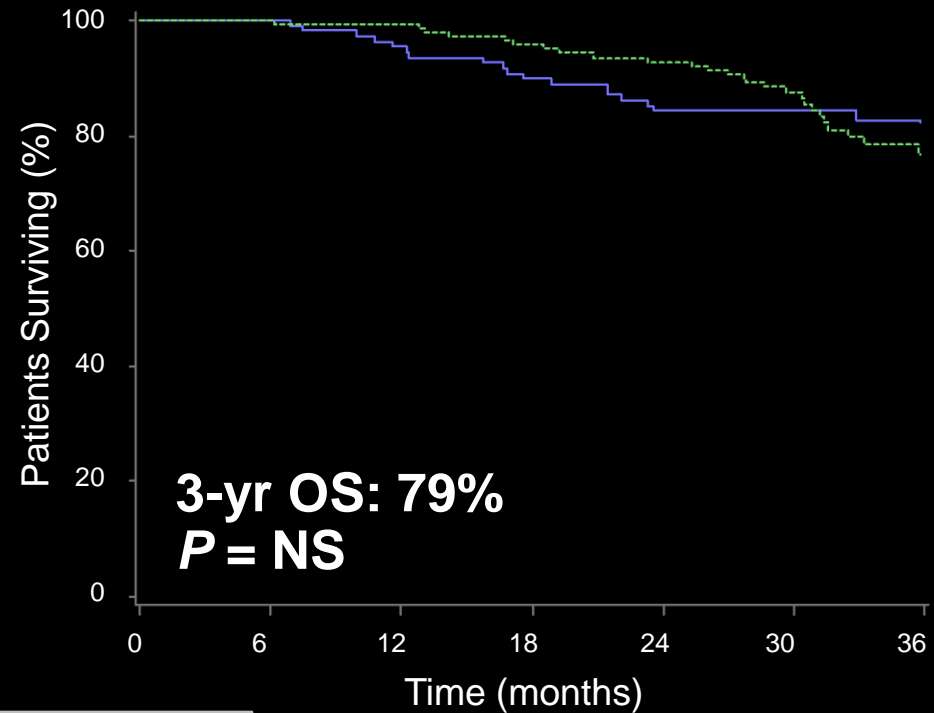


# ECOG E4A03: Overall Survival

## SCT After 4 Therapy Cycles



## Continued Primary Therapy (Beyond 4 Cycles)

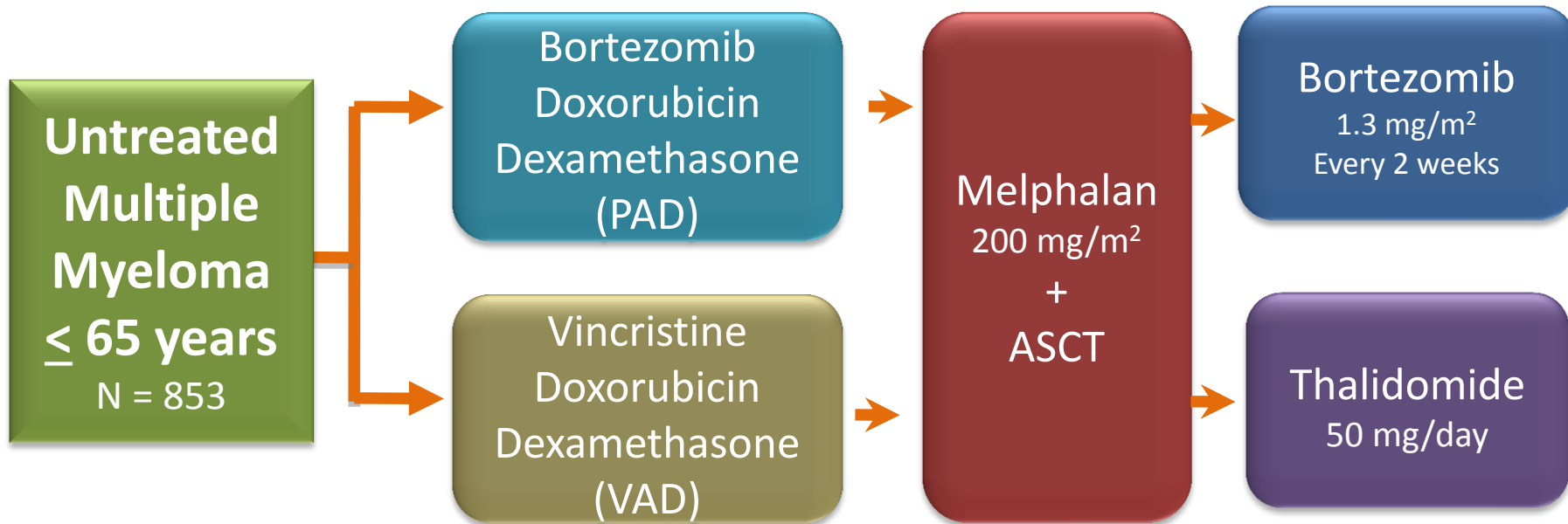


— Rd — RD

Unplanned analysis, includes unbalanced arms



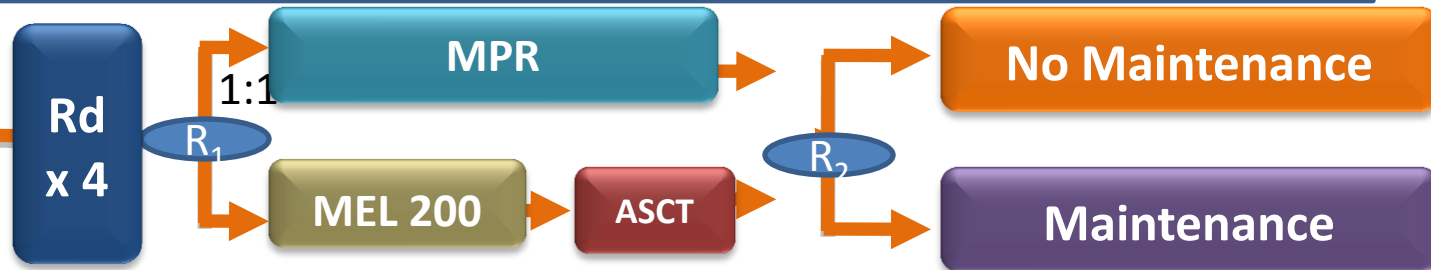
# HOVON-65 / GMMG-HD4, VAD vs PAD



Response	VAD n = 150	PAD n = 150	P
≥ VGPR pre ASCT	15%	42%	<0.001
≥ VGPR after ASCT	50%	80%	0.002

# Rd → MPR vs Rd → MEL200 / ASCT

Untreated MM  
< 65 yrs  
Rd x 4 cycles



Thromboprophylaxis : randomized between aspirin and low molecular weight heparin

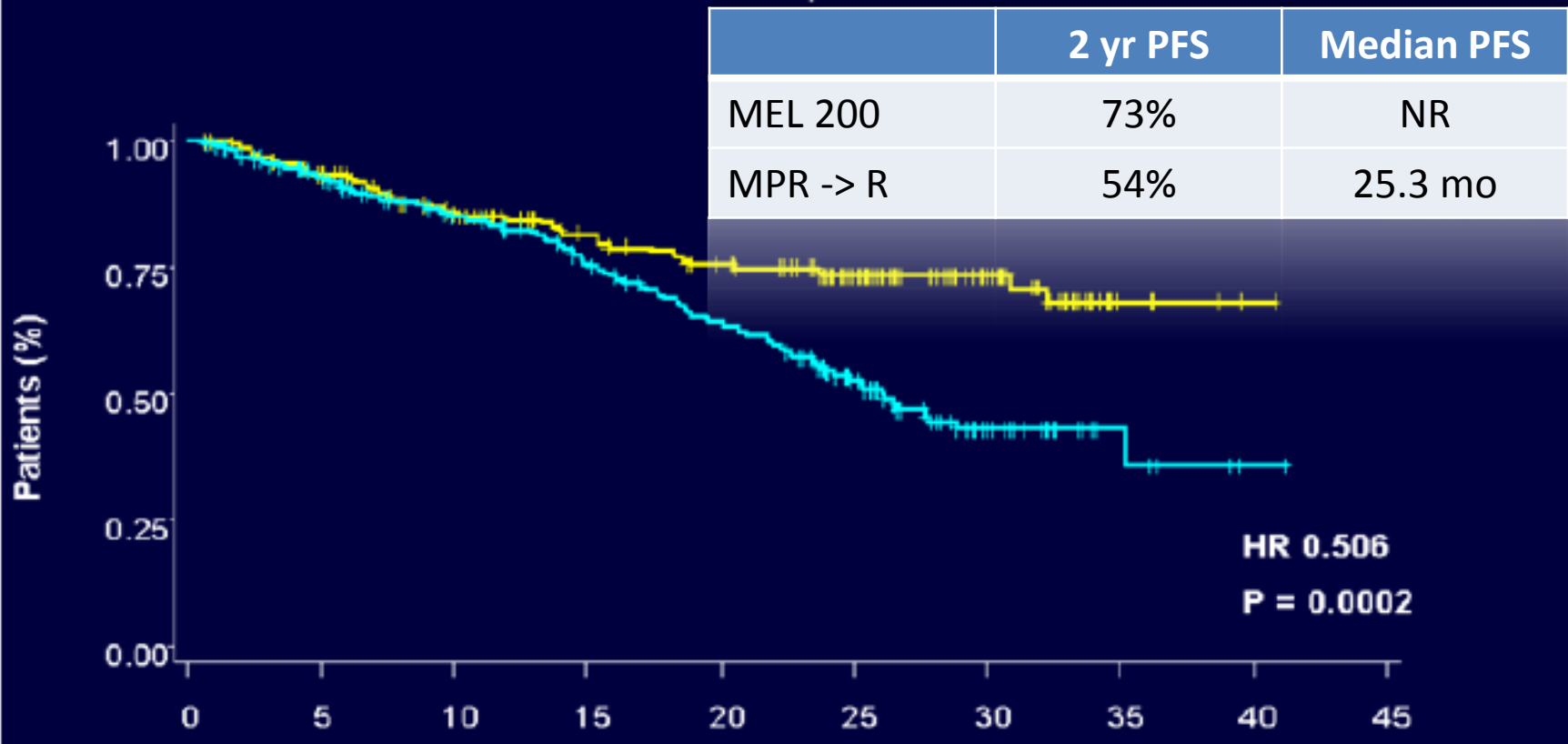
Median follow-up = 20 months.

Response to Protocol	MPR n = 130	MEL200 n = 143	P
CR	20%	25%	0.49
≥ VGPR	60%	37%	0.24
<b>24-month PFS</b>	<b>59%</b>	<b>73%</b>	<b>0.003</b>

# Progression Free Survival

**49.4% Reduced Risk of Progression**

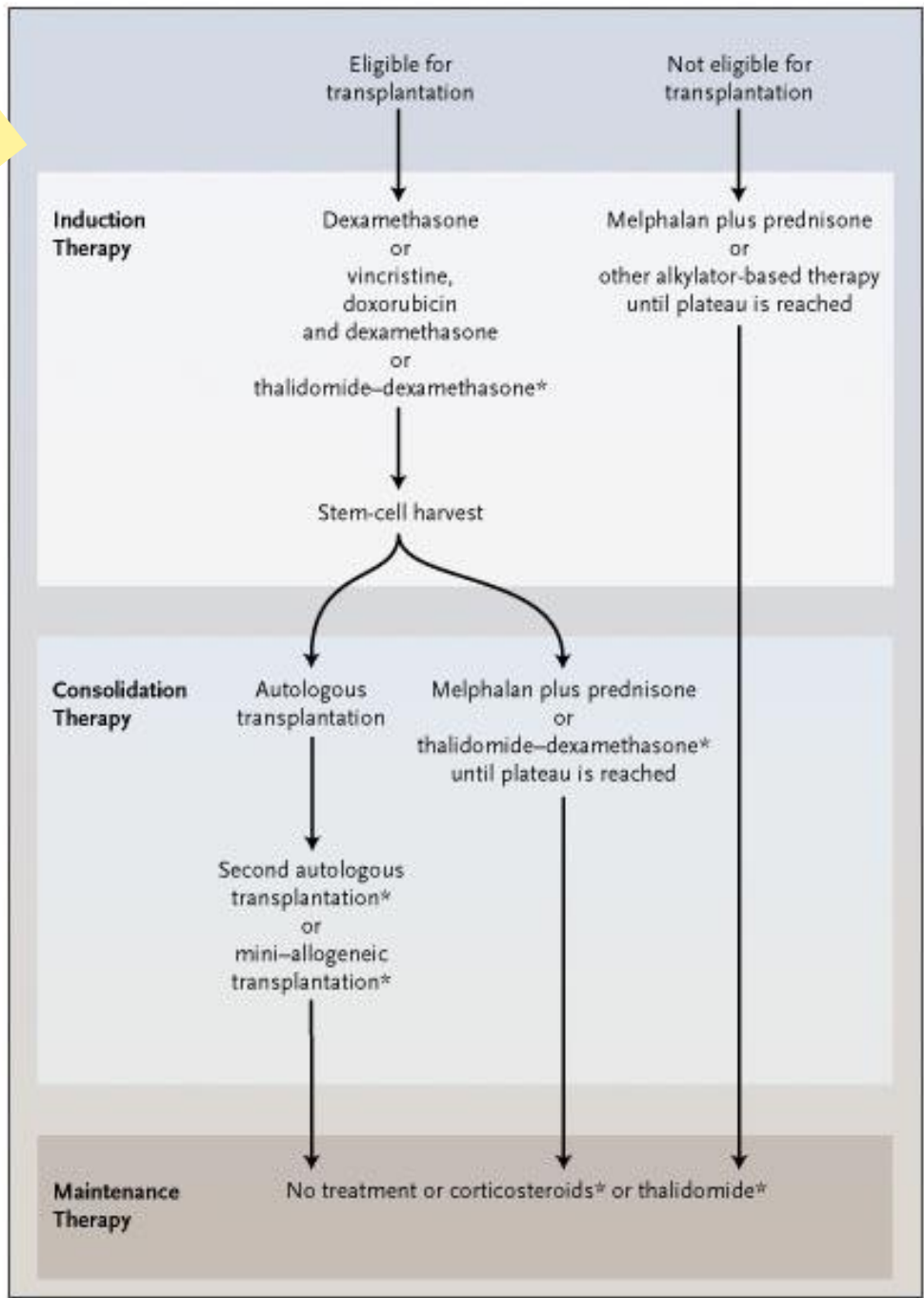
Median follow-up 26 months



Overall Survival is no different

How did this data impact practice?

**Recommendations  
In 2004**



# Autologous HCT for multiple myeloma in US and Canada within 12 months from diagnosis from 1995 to 2010 registered with CIBMTR

Characteristics of patients	1995-1999	2000-2004	2005-2010	P-value
Registered patients	<b>2226</b>	<b>6408</b>	<b>11644</b>	
Number of centers	189	195	174	
Median Age	54 (19-77)	57 (22-80)	58 (18-89)	
18-50 years	734 (33)	1445 (23)	2079 (18)	<0.001
50-65 years	1330 (60)	3875 (61)	6945 (60)	
<b>65-80 years</b>	<b>162 ( 7)</b>	<b>1088 (17)</b>	<b>2620 (23)</b>	

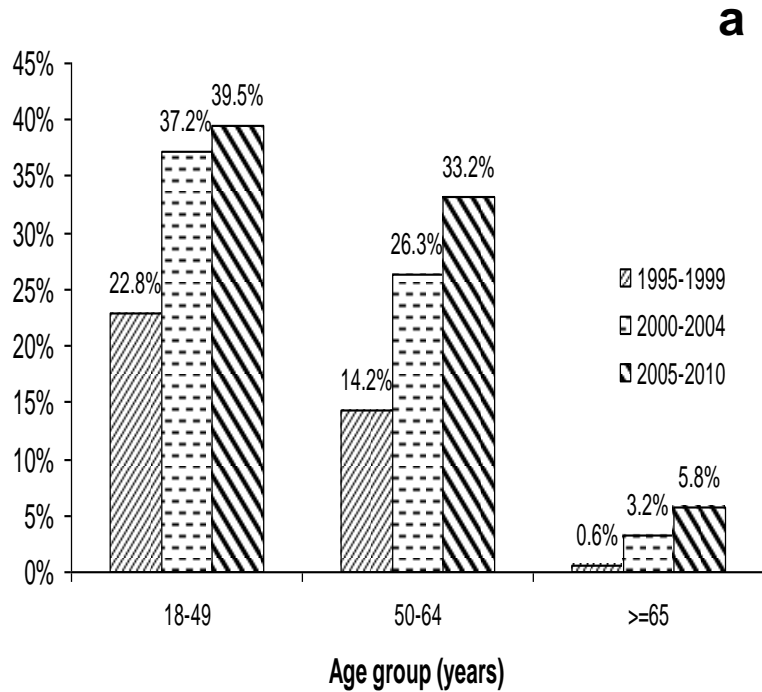


Costa L. et al

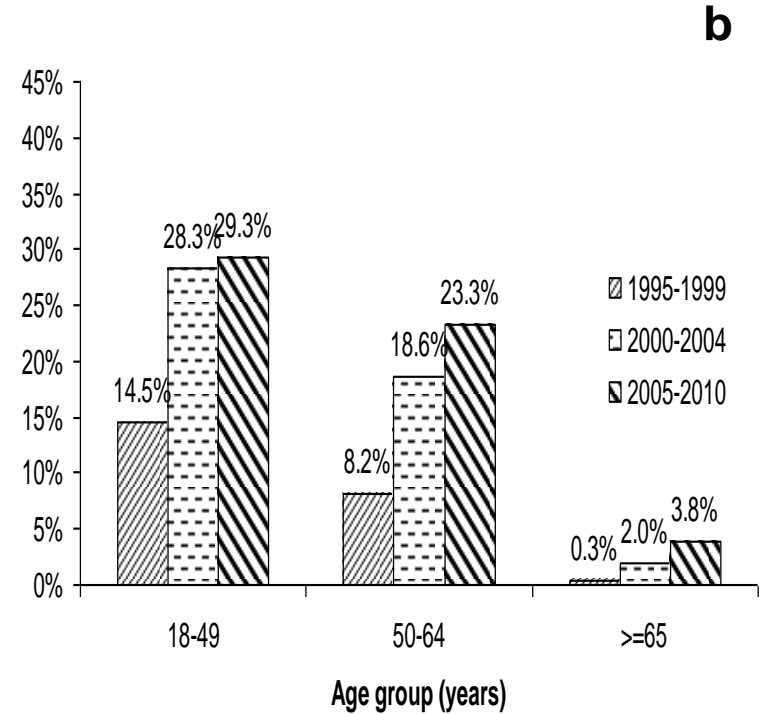
# Subset of patients from Research CIBMTR centers

Characteristics of patients	1995-1999	2000-2004	2005-2010	P-value
Number of patients	686	1464	2223	
Cytogenetics				
Abnormal	26 ( 4)	57 ( 4)	487 (22)	
Normal	105 (15)	78 ( 5)	473 (21)	
Untested/Missing	555 (81)	1329 (91)	1263 (57)	
Disease status				
CR/PR	539 (79)	1273 (87)	1966 (88)	<0.001
Mobilization				
GCSF alone	167 (24)	358 (24)	921 (41)	<0.001
Conditioning regimen				
Melphalan alone	370 (54)	1363 (93)	2198 (99)	<0.001

**Ratio between first transplants/ newly diagnosed MM cases in U.S.A**

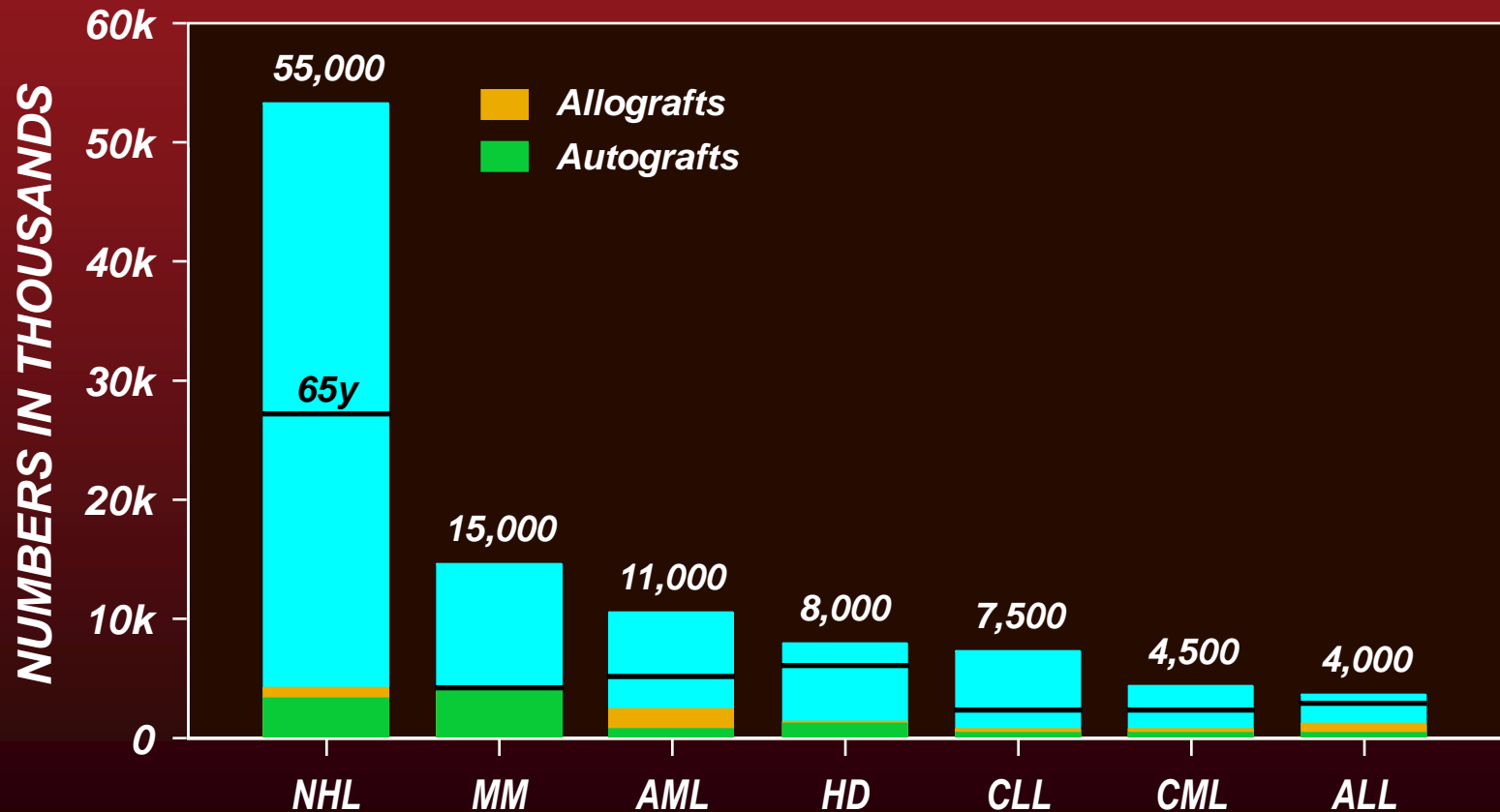


**Ratio between upfront transplants (<12 months)/ newly diagnosed MM cases in U.S.A.**





# ESTIMATED NUMBERS OF POTENTIAL TRANSPLANT CANDIDATES vs TRANSPLANT RECIPIENTS IN U.S.



# Question

## Is it time to abandon autotransplant?

- No clear evidence that transplant is worse
  - Overall treatment related mortality is low (<1%)
  - Relative benefit over non-transplant therapy may have decreased. But no proof for this.
  - OS is improving over time but majority of benefit has gone to those of transplantable age.
- What are current outcomes and what can patients expect?**

# Summary of randomized trials – Novel agent induction followed by ASCT

Trial	Induction	ASCT	VGPR Rate	Median PFS	OS
IFM 2005	VD vs. VAD	1 or 2 ASCT	VAD – 37%	30 mo	77% at 3 yrs
			VD – 54%	36 mo	81% at 3 yrs
GMMG- HOVON	VAD vs. PAD	1 or 2	VAD- 61%	42% @ 3 yrs	71% @ 3 yrs
			PAD- 75%	48% @ 3 yrs	78% @ 3 yrs
IFM 2007	VD vs. vTD	1 or 2	VD – 59%	Not reported yet	
			vTD - 73%		
GIMEMA	TD vs. VTD	2	TD – 69%	75% @ 2 yrs	91% @ 2 yrs
			VTD – 87%	85% @ 2 yrs	96% @ 2 yrs

**Majority did not mandate maintenance  
Major triplet in the US – RVD – not included**

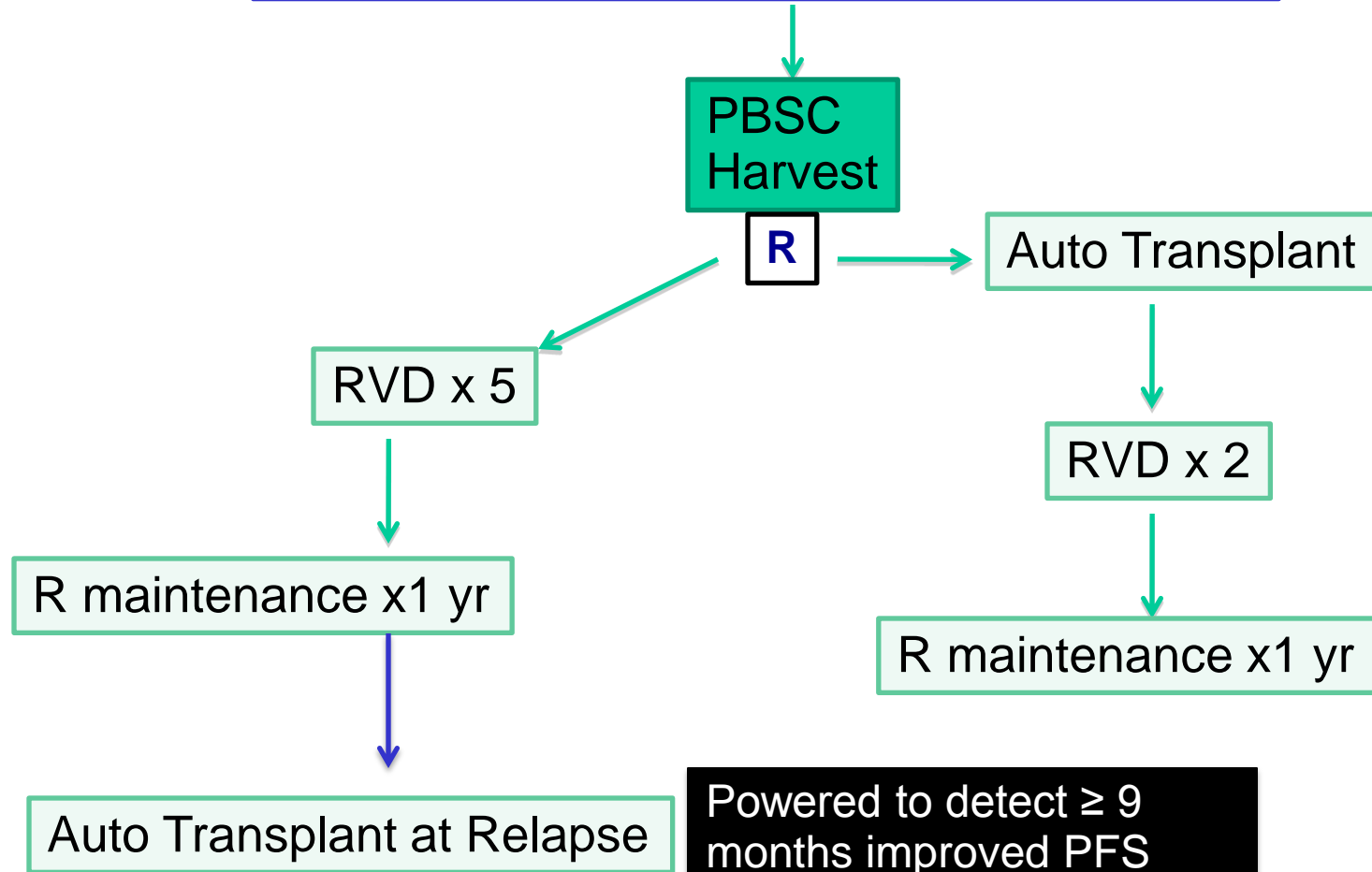
# For those in VGPR or CR – can upfront ASCT be eliminated / delayed?

- Additional benefit from deeper reduction of MRD even for those in CR
- Collect PBSCT early but delay transplant till first relapse
- Early vs. Late transplant trial ongoing
- **Delayed ASCT:**
  - Does it improve QOL?
  - How many who plan to have a late ASCT actually receive it?

# Role of up-front ASCT – current study

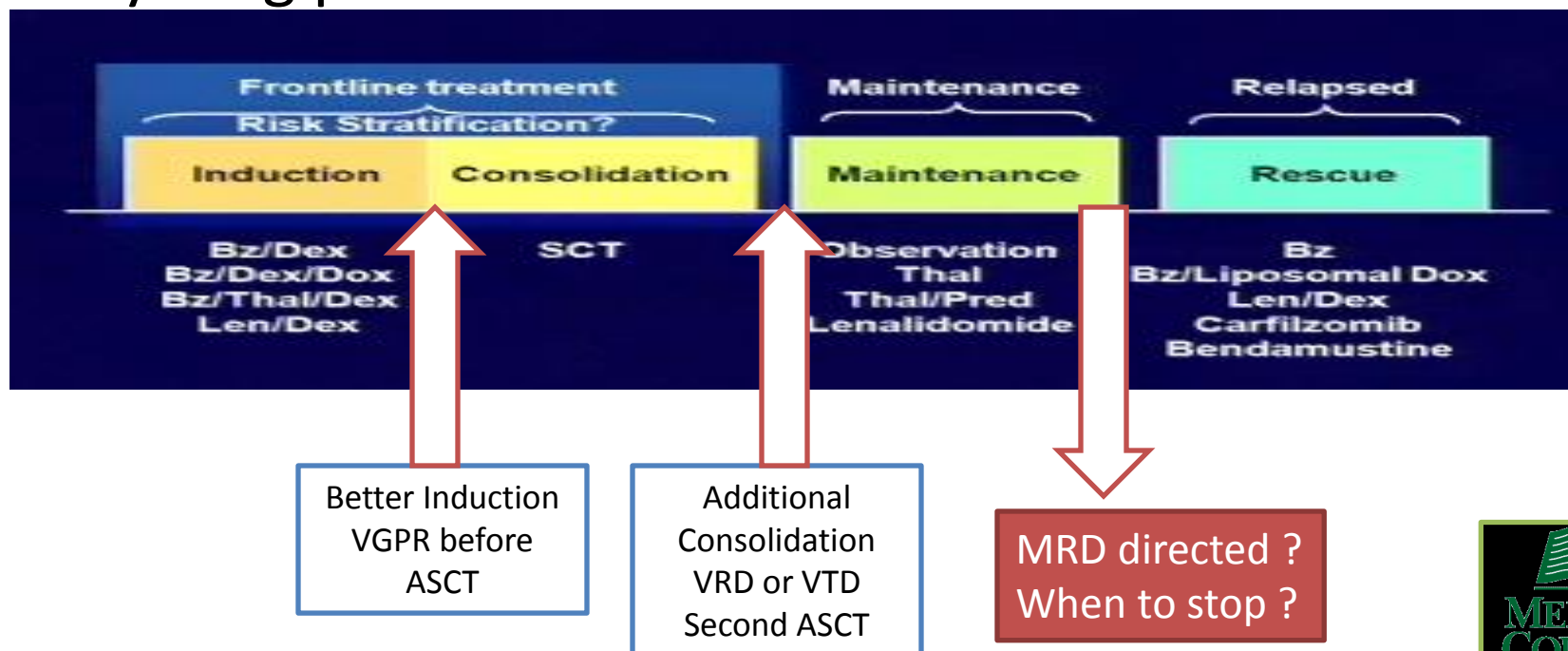
*IFM 2009 / Dana Farber study*

Revlimid / Velcade / Dexamethasone  
(RVD) x 3



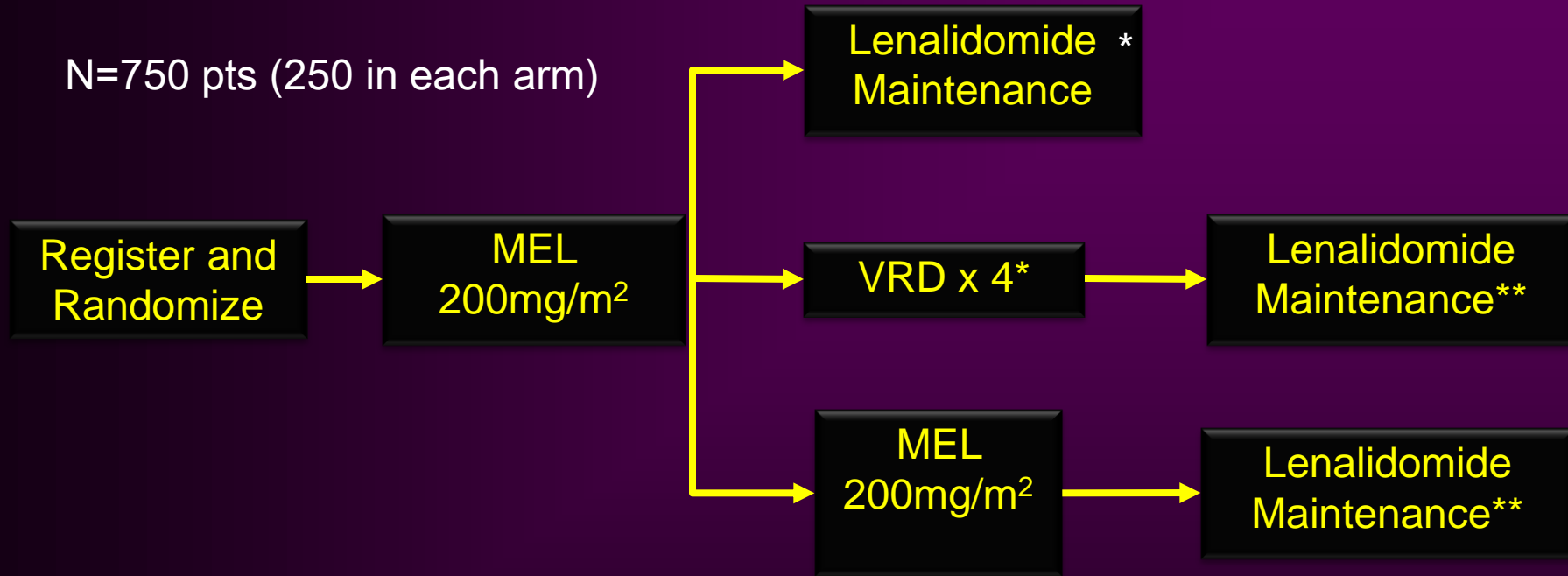
# Goal of initial therapy in terms of Response

- Randomized trials – Achievement of VGPR or better
- Emerging data – PCR or Multicolor Flow Remission
- Standard Single Autotransplant may be changing esp. in young patients.



# BMT CTN 0702 – STaMINA Trial: SCHEMA

N=750 pts (250 in each arm)



**Bortezomib 1.3mg/m<sup>2</sup>**  
**days 1, 4, 8,11**

**Lenalidomide 15mg days 1-15**  
**Dexamethasone 40mg**  
**days 1, 8, 15**

**\*\*Lenalidomide x 3years :**  
**10mg /d for 3 cycles , then 15**  
**mg /d**

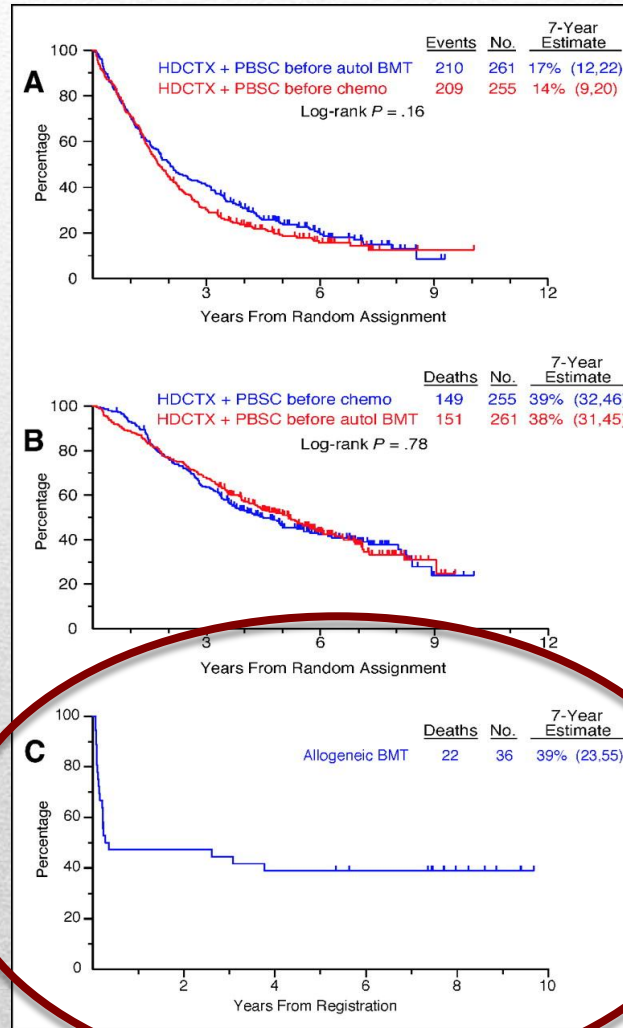


# Allogeneic Transplants in Myeloma





# Final Results of Phase III US Intergroup Trial S9321



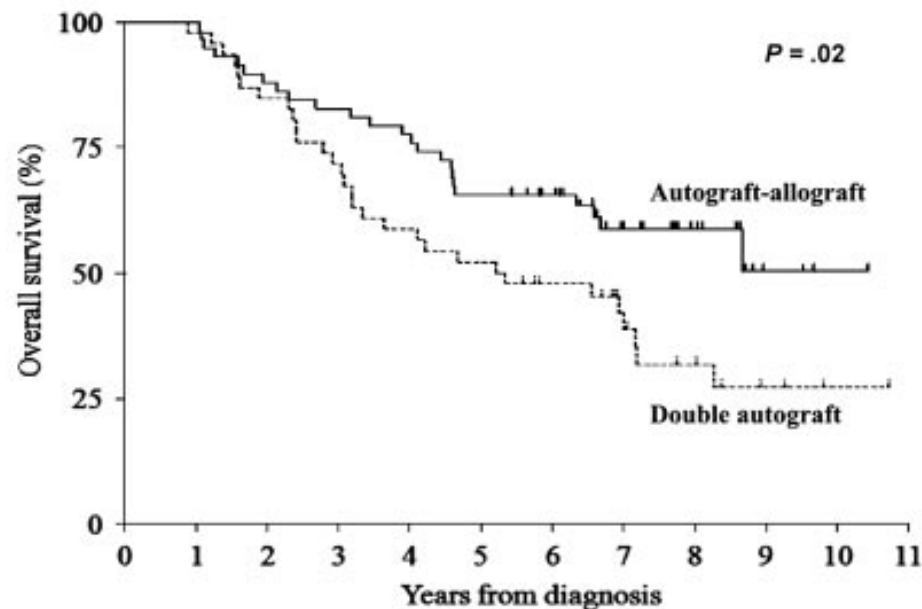
PFS 7 years  
Auto 17%  
Chemo 14%

OS 7 years  
Auto 39%  
Chemo 38%

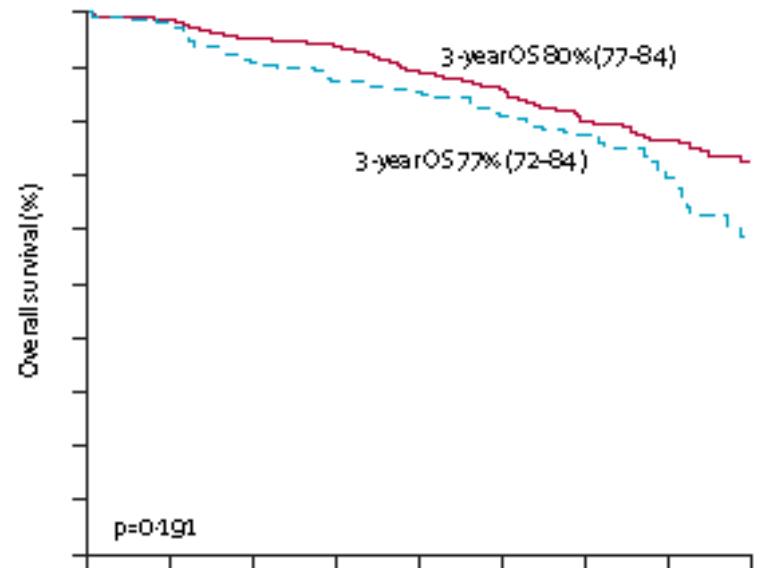
Allogeneic  
7 years  
**PFS 22%**  
OS 39%

# Allogeneic Transplant

- Controversial
- US Trial – Negative (ASCT+ Allo no better than ASCTx2)
- European Trials – OS benefit esp. in high risk disease



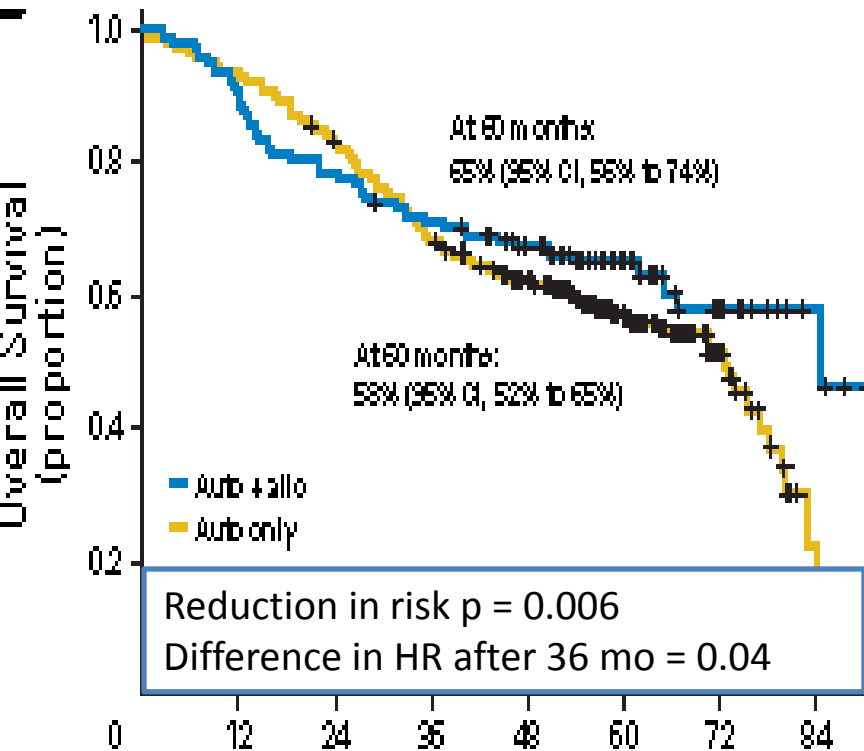
Giaccone et al 2011 117: 6721-6727



Krishnan et al Lancet Oncol 2011;  
12: 1195–203

Study	Transplant type	TRM	CR rate	EFS/PFS	OS	Relapse rate
Garban et al <sup>9*</sup>	tandem auto HCT	5%		35 m	47.2 m (P = .07)	
	auto/allo HCT	10.9% at 100-day		31.7 m	35 m	
Bruno et al <sup>47</sup>	tandem auto HCT	2% (CI at 2-yr)	26%	29 m	<b>54 m</b>	
	auto/allo HCT	10% (CI at 2-yr)	55% (P = .004)	35 m (P = .02)	<b>80 m (P = .01)</b>	
Knop et al <sup>53</sup>	tandem auto HCT	-	32%		72% (P = .22)	
	auto/allo HCT	12.7%	59% (P = .003)		60%	
Rosiñol et al <sup>50</sup>	tandem auto HCT	5%	11%	31 m	58 m	
	auto/allo HCT	16% (P = .07)	40% (P = .001)	not reached (P = .08)	not reached (P = .9)	
Krishnan et al <sup>52</sup>	tandem auto HCT	4% (CI at 3-yr)	45%	46% (P = .671)	80% (P = .191)	
	auto/allo HCT	11% (CI at 3-yr)	58% (P = .007)	43%	77%	
Björkstrand et al <sup>55,56</sup>	tandem auto HCT	3% (CI at 6-yr)	44% within 60m	12% at 96 m	<b>36% at 96 m</b>	82% (P = .0002)
	auto/allo HCT	18% (CI at 6-yr; P < .001)	56% within 60m (P = .007)	22% at 96 m (P = .027)	<b>49% at 96 m (P = .03)</b>	60%
Lokhorst et al <sup>54**</sup>	tandem auto HCT & maintenance post 1 <sup>st</sup> auto HCT	3%	37%	22% at 6 ys	55% at 6 yr	77%
	auto/allo HCT	16% (P < .001)	43% (P = .67)	28% at 6 yr	55% at 6 yr	55%

# Why not give up Allotransplant?



Bjorkstrand JCO 2011; 29: 3016 -22

- Intriguing European studies
- Longer follow up for a difference to show
- Young high risk pt – what to do?
- Low TRM - ~5% in the best centers
- Allo → Maintenance paradigm
- Backing off from “Mini” regimens
- **New trial being planned**

# BMT CTN 0102 Study Schema

Multiple Myeloma meeting eligibility criteria

HLA typing of all patients with siblings

High-dose melphalan (200 mg/m<sup>2</sup>) + autologous PBSC transplant

Biologic assignment\*

Eligible HLA-matched sibling donor

No eligible HLA-matched sibling donor

60 to 120 days

Non-myeloablative conditioning  
TBI 200 cGY  
allogeneic PBSC transplant

High-dose melphalan (200 mg/m<sup>2</sup>) + autologous PBSC transplant

Randomization†

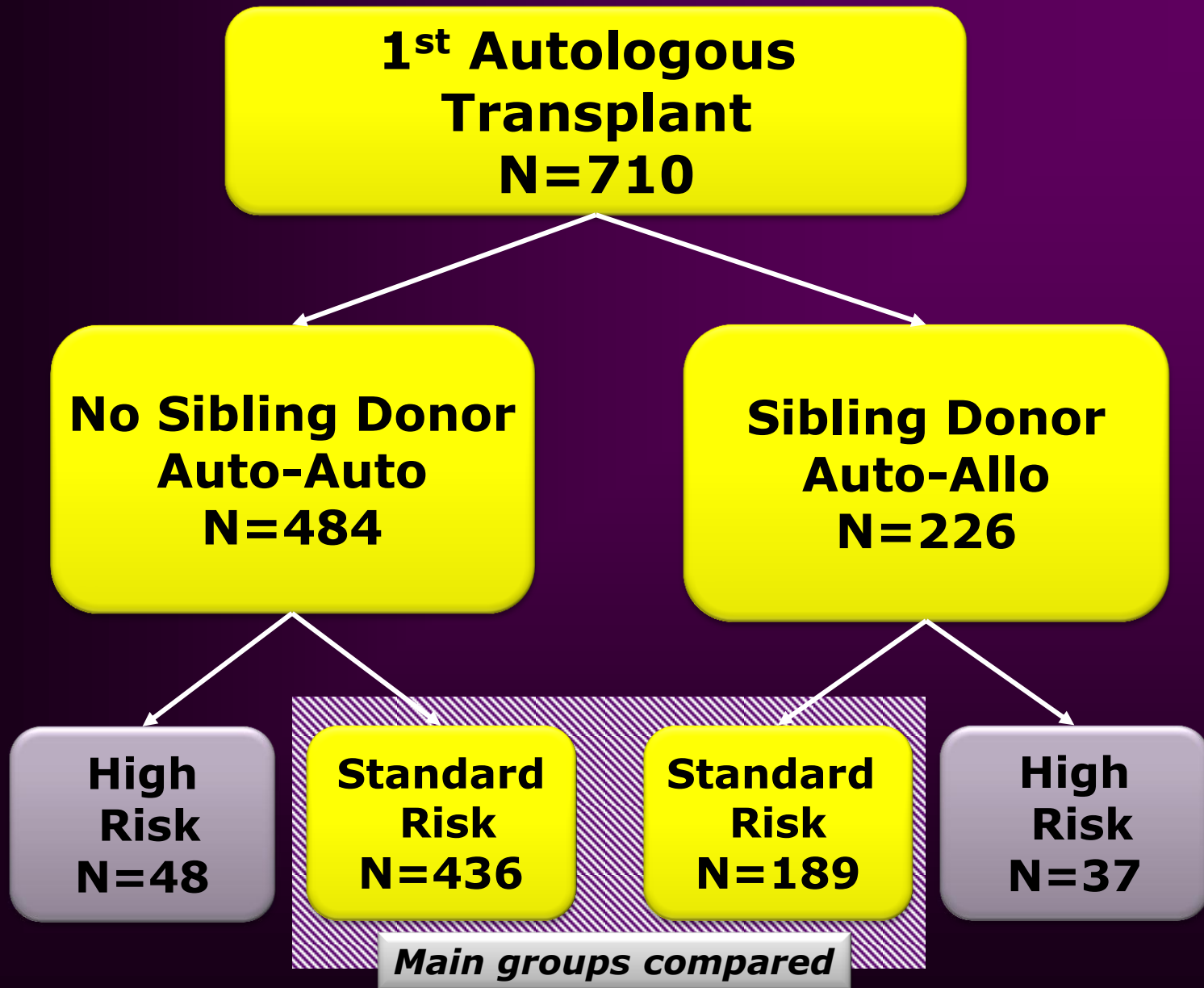
Observation

Thalidomide  
Dexamethasone  
x12 months.

\*Biologic assignment occurred when HLA-typing results were available after enrollment.

† Randomization occurred once patients were assigned to auto-auto

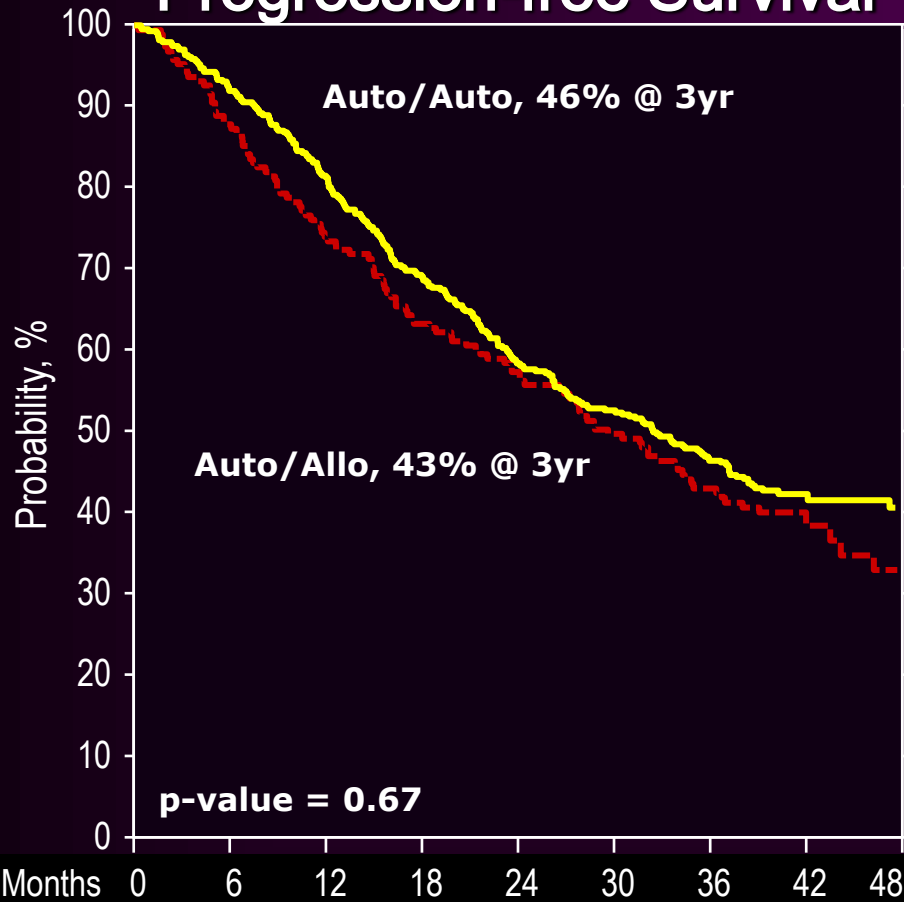
**PRIMARY ENDPOINT : 3yr Progression Free Survival**



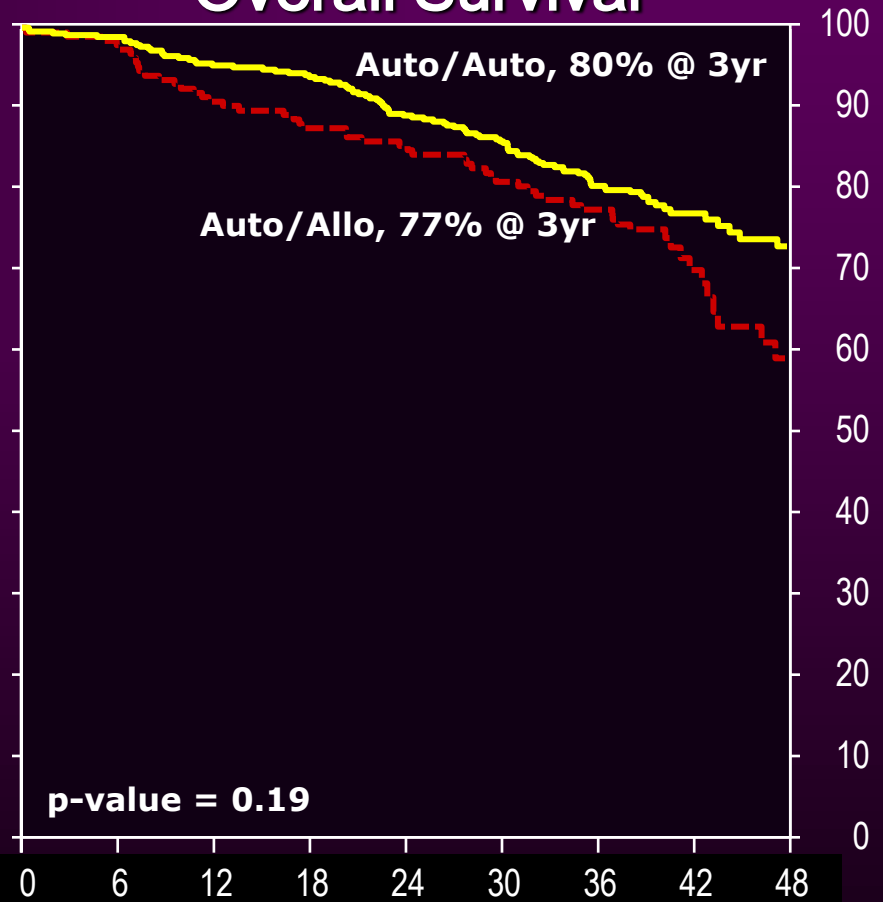


# Survival Outcomes after the First Transplant: Auto-Auto vs. Auto-Allo: Intent-to-treat analysis

## Progression-free Survival



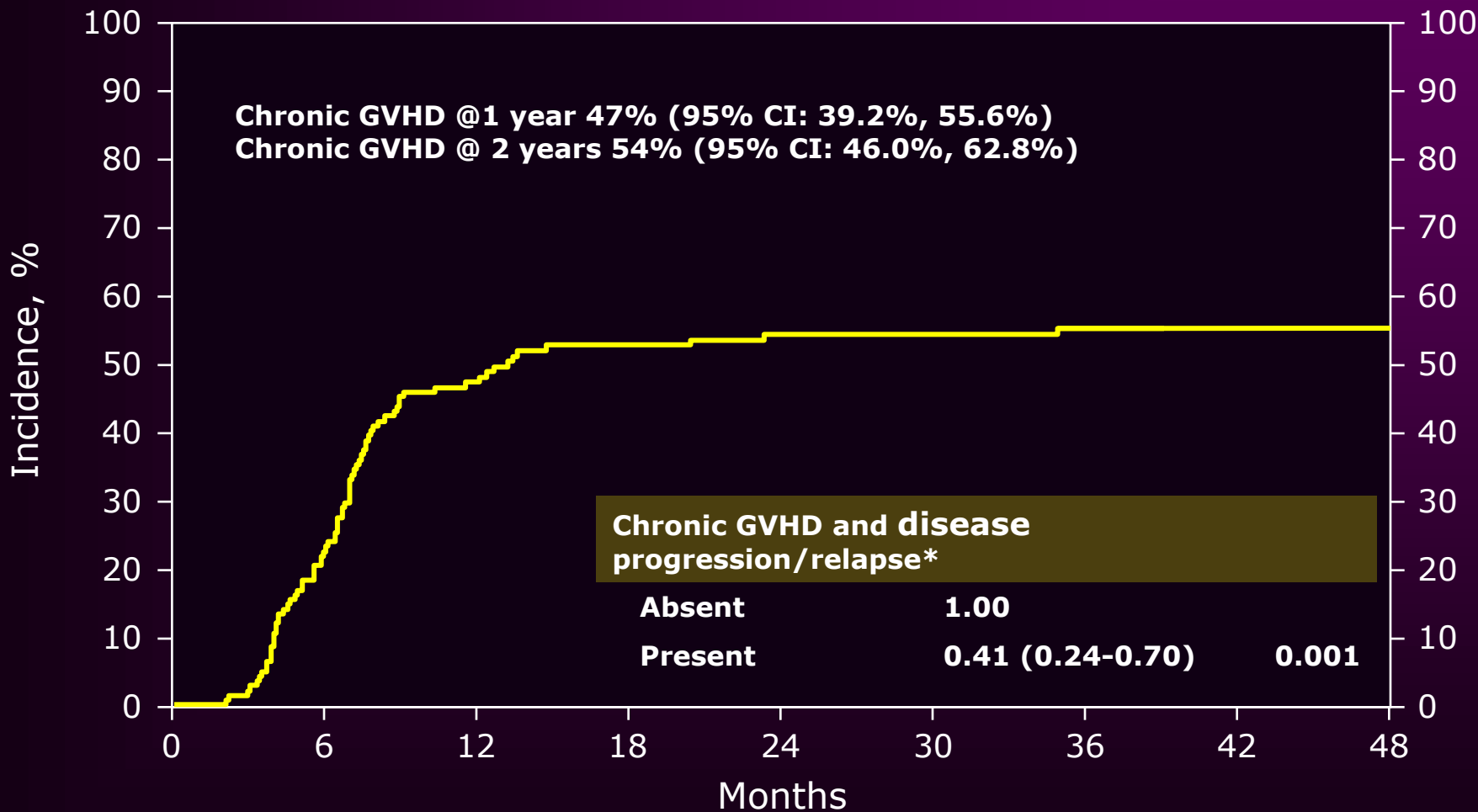
## Overall Survival



Months	0	6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48	0	6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48
# at risk:																		
Auto/Auto	436	395	348	292	242	213	178	54	42	436	424	406	395	370	348	305	107	79
Auto/Allo	189	165	138	117	105	89	71	23	16	189	183	167	160	156	143	124	43	27



# Cumulative Incidence of Chronic GVHD after Allogeneic Transplant



\* Chronic GVHD treated as time-dependent covariate and adjusted for disease status at transplant.

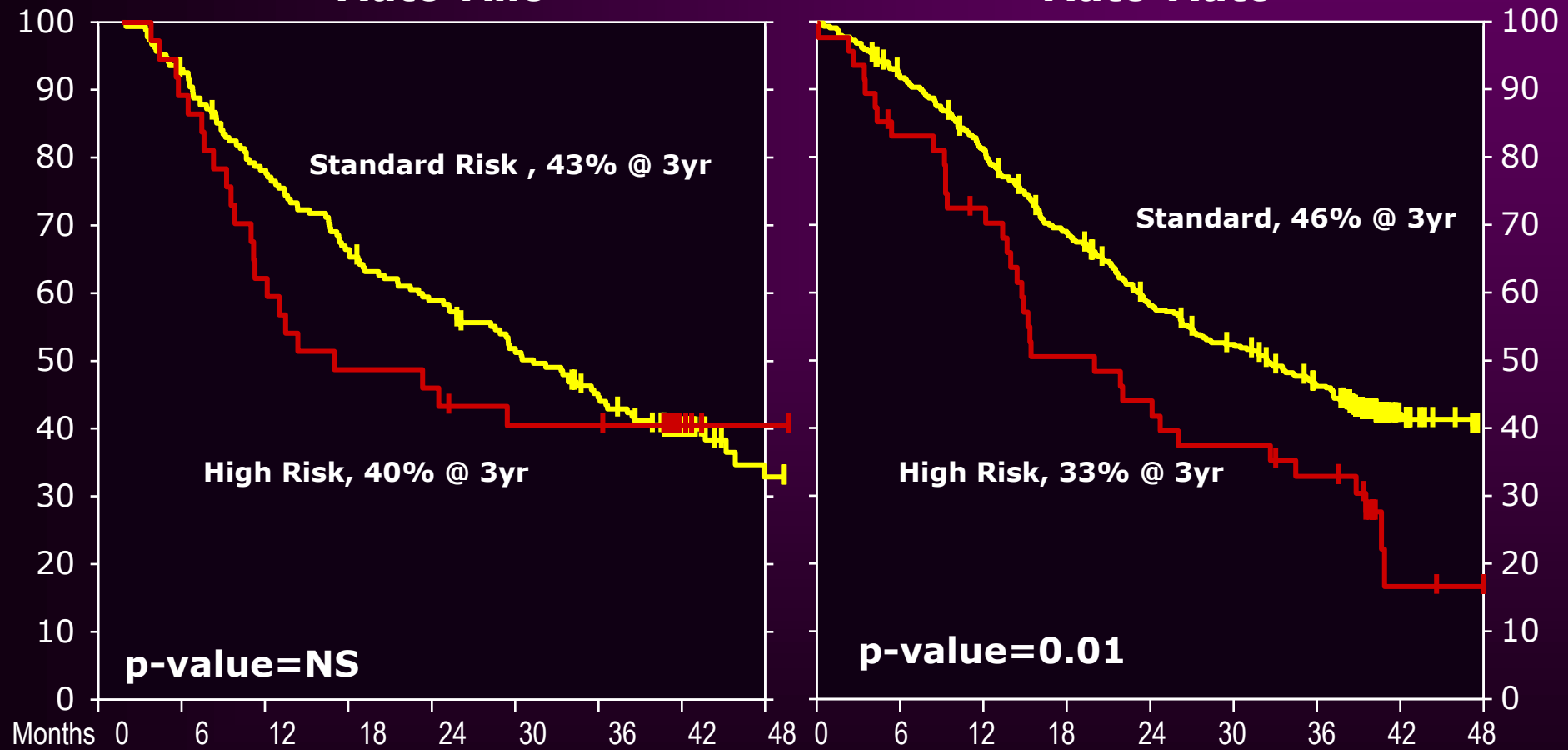




# High Risk vs Standard Risk Myeloma as Defined in this Protocol did Predict for an Inferior PFS

## Auto-Allo

## Auto-Auto



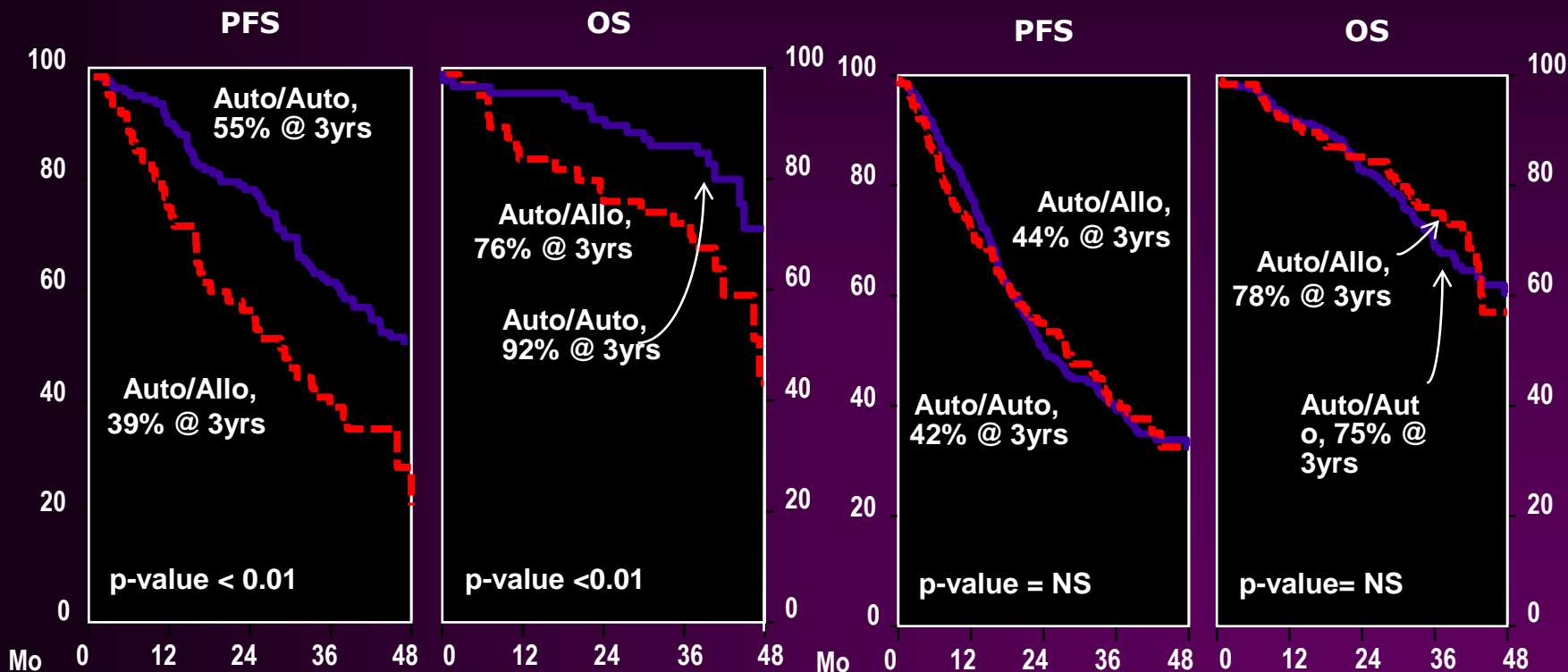
Number at risk:

High	85	55	41	29	8	85	65	58	42	10
Standard	624	483	349	221	56	624	562	509	375	102

# Tandem Autologous HCT (auto-auto) versus Single Autologous HCT Followed by HLA Matched Sibling Non-Myeloablative Allogeneic HCT (auto-allo) for Patients with Standard Risk Multiple Myeloma: Results from the BMT-CTN 0102 Trial

## Durie-Salmon Stage I/II Patients

## Durie-Salmon Stage III Patients



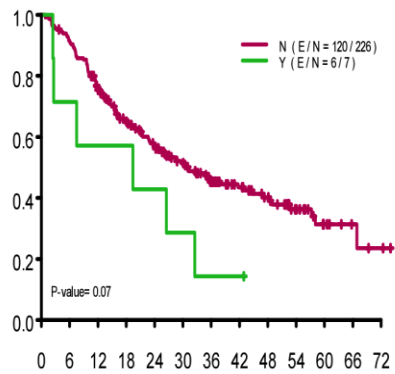
# High Risk FISH abnormalities

Abnormality	Frequency	Prognosis
Hyperdiploidy	50%–60%	Good/neutral
t(4;14)	15%	Poor (neutral if bortezomib therapy ??)
t(11;14)	20%	Neutral
t(14;16)	3%	Poor/neutral
Monosomy 13	45%	Neutral if by FISH
del(17p)	8%	Poor
1q gain	35%	Poor
del(1p)	30%	Poor
5q gain	50%	Good
del(12p)	10%	Poor

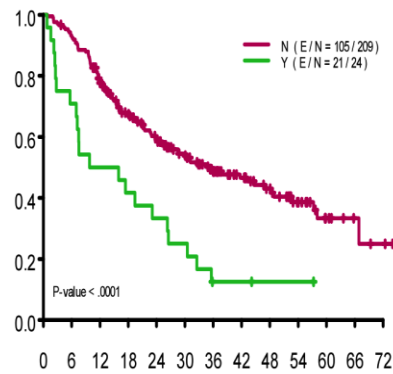
# High-risk Chromosomal Abnormalities (MDACC; N=679; 2006 – 2010)

PFS

17p- Cytogenetic at DX

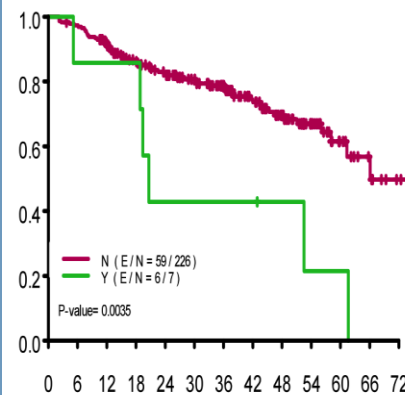


Chromosome 1 Cytogenetic at DX

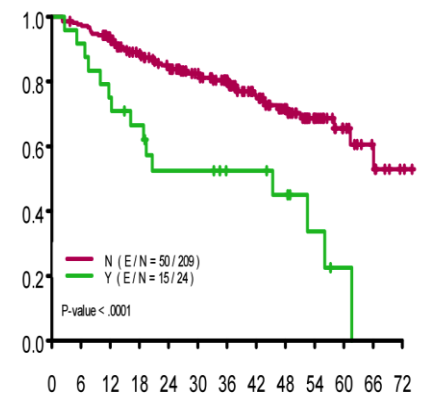


OS

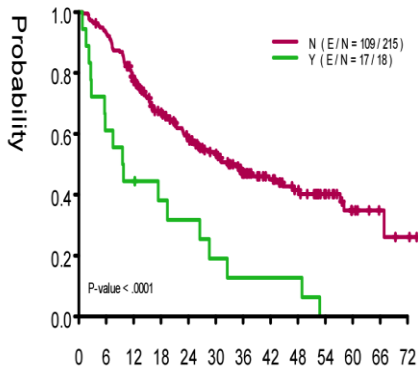
17p- Cytogenetic at DX



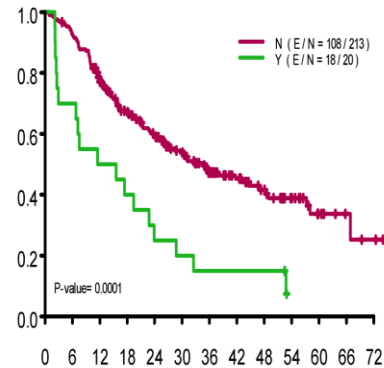
Chromosome 1 Cytogenetic at DX



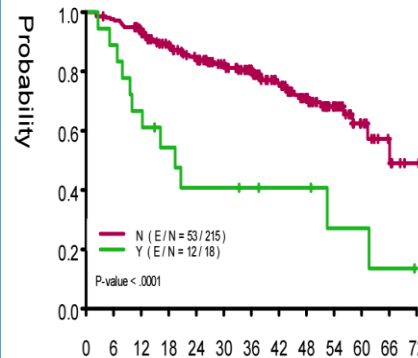
Deletion 13 Cytogenetic at DX



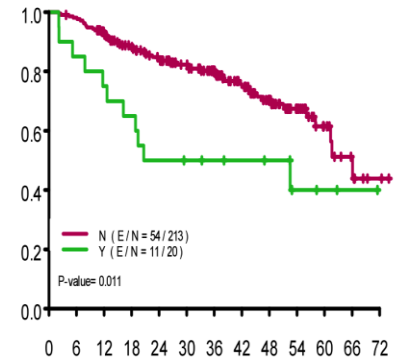
Hypodiploid Cytogenetic at DX



Deletion 13 Cytogenetic at DX



Hypodiploid Cytogenetic at DX



Time (months)

Time (months)

## REVIEW

# Plasma cell leukemia: consensus statement on diagnostic requirements, response criteria and treatment recommendations by the International Myeloma Working Group

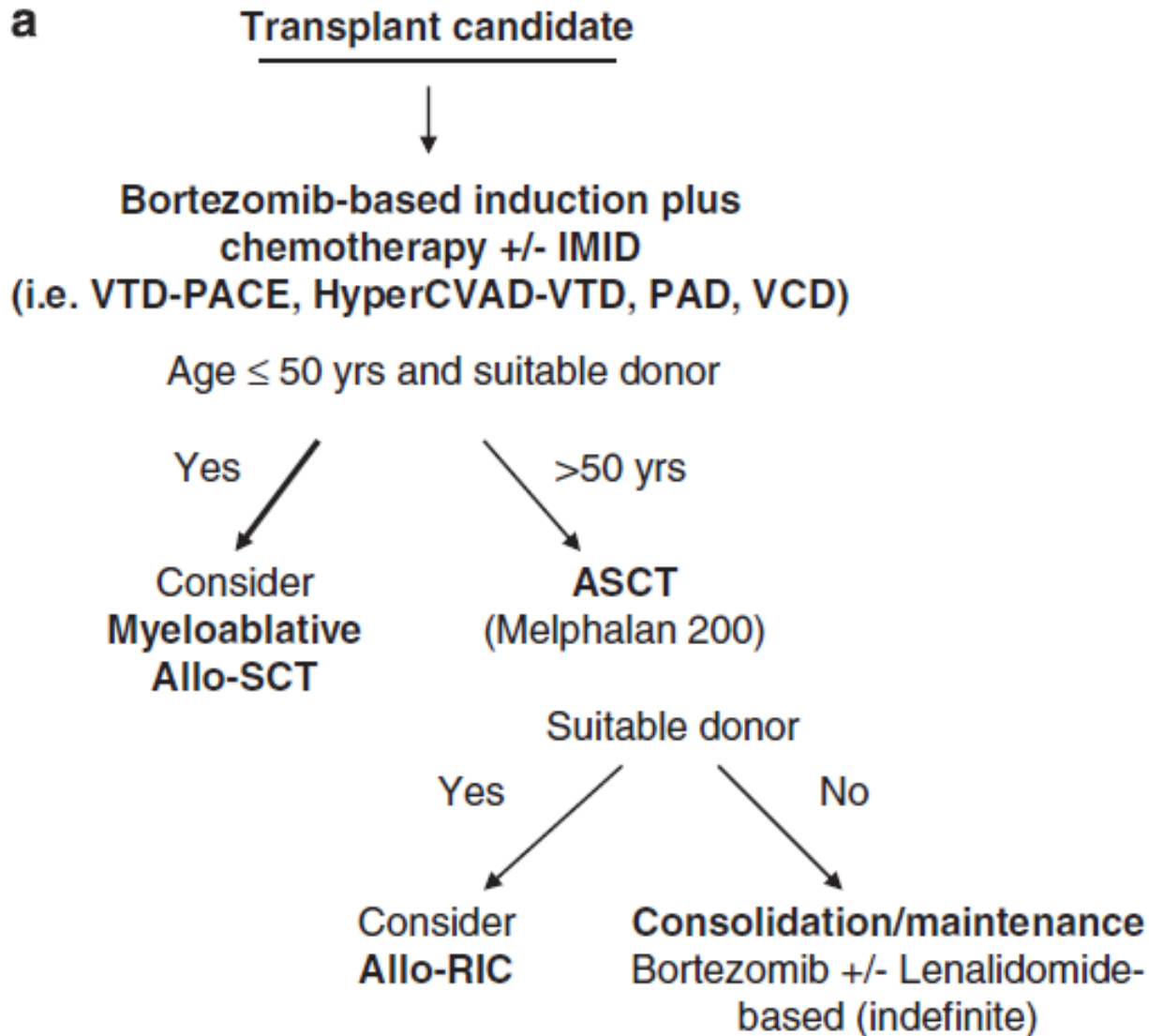
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Plasma cell leukemia (PCL) is a rare and aggressive variant of myeloma characterized by the presence of circulating plasma cells. It is classified as either primary PCL occurring at diagnosis or as secondary PCL in patients with relapsed/refractory myeloma. Primary PCL is a distinct clinic-pathological entity with different cytogenetic and molecular findings. The clinical course is aggressive with short remissions and survival duration. The diagnosis is based upon the percentage ( $\geq 20\%$ ) and absolute number ( $\geq 2 \times 10^9/l$ ) of plasma cells in the peripheral blood. It is proposed that the thresholds for diagnosis be re-examined and consensus recommendations are made for diagnosis, as well as, response and progression criteria. Induction therapy needs to begin promptly and have high clinical activity leading to rapid disease control in an effort to minimize the risk of early death. Intensive chemotherapy regimens and bortezomib-based regimens are recommended followed by high-dose therapy with autologous stem cell transplantation if feasible. Allogeneic transplantation can be considered in younger patients. Prospective multicenter studies are required to provide revised definitions and better understanding of the pathogenesis of PCL.

Leukemia (2013) 27, 780–791; doi:10.1038/leu.2012.336

**Keywords:** plasma cell leukemia; cytogenetics; bortezomib; transplantation; myeloma; prognosis

- 20% circulating plasma cells or  $>2 \times 10^9/L$  absolute
- Consider plasma cell leukemia when:
  - 5% circulating plasma cells or  $>0.5 \times 10^9/L$  absolute



# High Risk MM & allogeneic Transplant

- Del17p and del 13q after allo (Flu/Mel+/-ATG, n=101):  
Schiling G et al Leukemia 2008
  - Higher relapse rate (HR 2.2)
  - Shorter event free survival (only del17p)
- Poor risk group (t(4;14), del17p, del13q, n=143)  
– No difference in PFS or OS between standard vs. poor risk groups.  
Ros-Weil, et al Haematologica 2011
- Del13q (EBMT NMAM-2000 study)
  - Auto/Allo with better PFS than Auto/Auto
  - No impact of del13q in the auto-allo cohort

Garthon, G et al Blood 2013



# Conclusions

- Transplant remains the main backbone for the treatment of myeloma.
- Myeloma outcomes are now much better with combination of novel agents and transplant
- Results of upfront autologous followed by allogeneic HCT are comparable to tandem autologous.
- High risk myeloma remains a challenge and novel approaches are needed





Thank  
You!



Hvala



Merci

ขอบคุณ

תודה

Köszönettel

Obrigado!

Gracias



Bedankt

Grazie



Vielen  
Dank

شكراً

Teşekkürler

Dikey



Ευχαριστώ

cảm ơn bạn

# Transplant considerations



Scenario:  
Young patients with acute promyelocytic leukemia (APL)



Scenario:  
Patient with AML with poor risk cytogenetics with a sibling donor



# Autotransplants in AML

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## Pro

- Lower toxicity
- Use of PBSC and fast recovery
- Different AML subtypes might respond more beneficial to autoHCT



## Con

- Lack of enthusiasm
- Relapse rates
- No graft versus leukemia effect.
- Toxicity

# Determinants of transplant related toxicity

## Transplant-related:

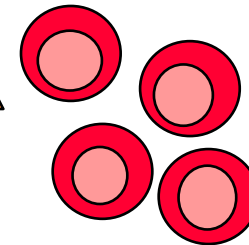
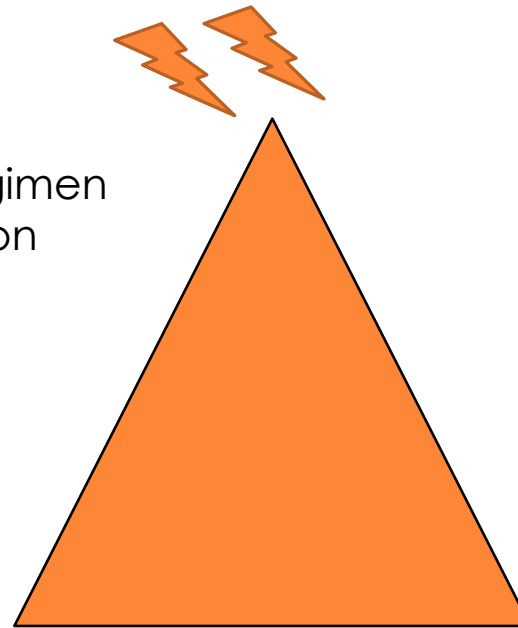
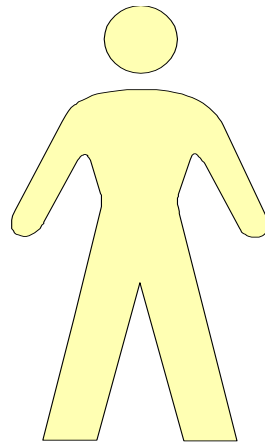
- Donor type
- HLA matching
- Graft source
- Conditioning Regimen
- Need for Radiation
- Intensity
- GVHD proph

## Disease-related:

- Prior treatment
- Disease status

## Patient-related:

- Age
- Weight
- Performance score
- Comorbidities
- Genetics



# Transplant for Leukemia: Conclusions



- Most common indication but still many patients have no access to transplant
- Transplant still has an important role as curative therapy for leukemia
- Important to estimate the risk of disease relapse and transplant-related mortality
- Improvements in transplant related toxicity expanded the number of eligible patients.