



2021 Virtual Nursing Forum:  
**Advancing Oncology Nursing  
in Hematologic Malignancies™**



# New Treatment Options in Multiple Myeloma

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**NCCN.org** – For Clinicians | **NCCN.org/patients** – For Patients

## Outline

- Describe updates in smoldering multiple myeloma (SMM)
  - IMWG diagnostic criteria
  - Progression risk stratification
  - Indication for treatment
- Review new treatment options
  - Newly FDA-approved agents, toxicity profiles, and management in MM.
- Discuss the role of minimum residual disease (MRD) in the monitoring of MM.

## SMM Diagnostic Criteria

- Revised International Myeloma Working Group (IMWG) criteria
- Serum monoclonal protein (IgG or IgA  $\geq 3$  g/dL or
- *Bence-Jones protein*  $\geq 500$  mg / 24 hours and/or
- Bone marrow plasma cells (BMPC)  $\geq 10\%$  and  $< 60\%$

### And

- Absence of myeloma-defining events or amyloidosis

Rajkumar SV, et al. Lancet Oncol. 2014;15(12):e538 - e548.  
Cavo M, et al. Lancet 2017

## Myeloma Defining Events (MDE)

- CRAB features – hypercalcemia, renal insufficiency, anemia, bone lesions
- Clonal BMPC  $\geq 60\%$
- Serum FLC ratio  $\geq 100$  (involved / uninvolved; involved FLC  $\geq 100$  mg/L)
- $>1$  focal lesions ( $\geq 5$  mm) on MRI

Rajkumar SV, et al. Lancet Oncol. 2014;15(12):e538 - e548.  
Cavo M, et al. Lancet 2017

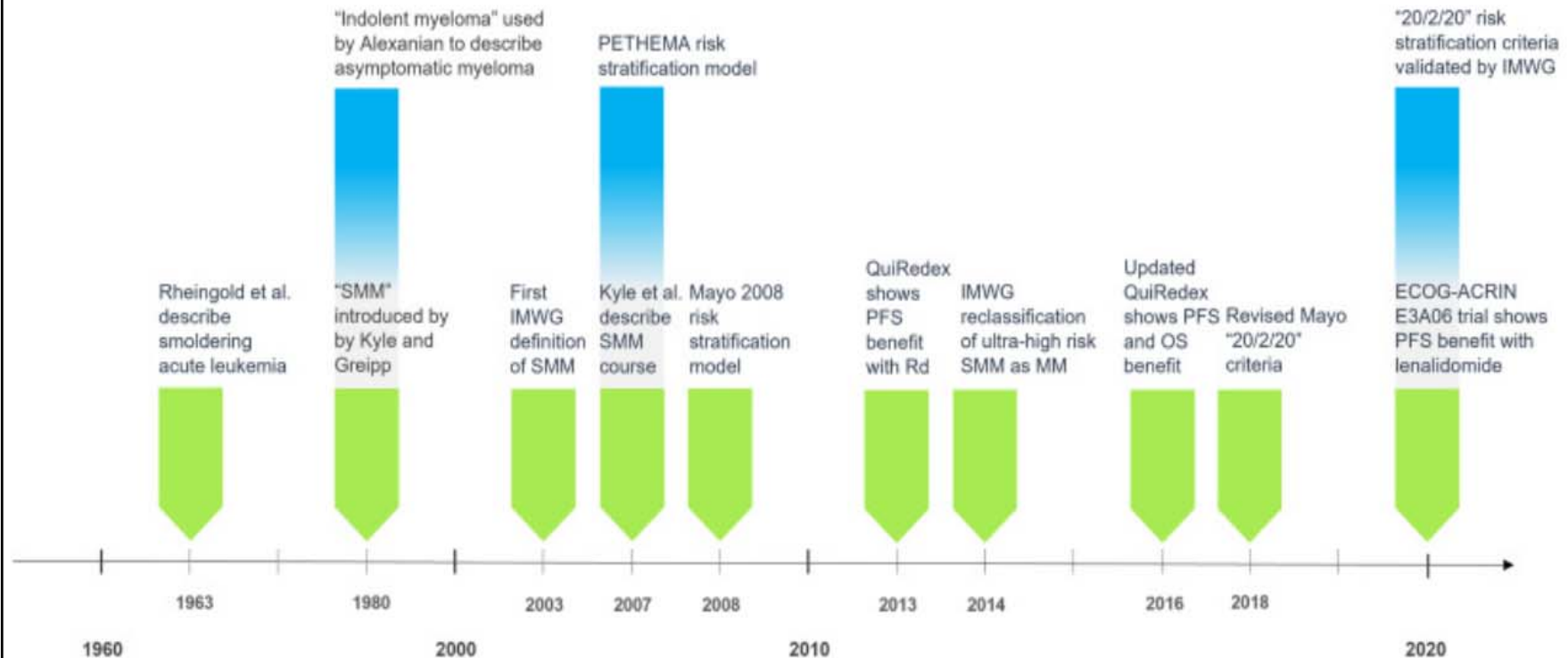
## Differentiate SMM from MGUS and Active Myeloma – Revised IMWG Criteria

MGUS	SMM	MM
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• &lt;10% BMPC</li> <li>• <u>AND</u></li> <li>• &lt;3 gm/dL M protein</li> <li>• <u>AND</u></li> <li>• Absence of end-organ damage</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ≥3 gm/dL M protein</li> <li>• <u>OR</u></li> <li>• Urinary M protein ≥ 500 mg per 24 hours</li> <li>• <u>And / OR</u></li> <li>• ≥10% BMPC</li> <li>• <u>AND</u></li> <li>• No MDE or amyloidosis</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ≥10% BMPC</li> <li>• <u>OR</u></li> <li>• biopsy-proven plasmacytoma</li> <li>• <u>AND</u></li> <li>• ≥1 MDE</li> </ul>

## Risk Factors for Progression

- Bone marrow plasmacytosis
- Size of M protein
- Change in M protein and hemoglobin
- FLC ratio
- Immunoparesis
- Circulating plasma cells
- Immunophenotype
- Cytogenetics
- Imaging features

# Timeline of Milestones in SMM



Mann H et al. Blood Reviews, 2021

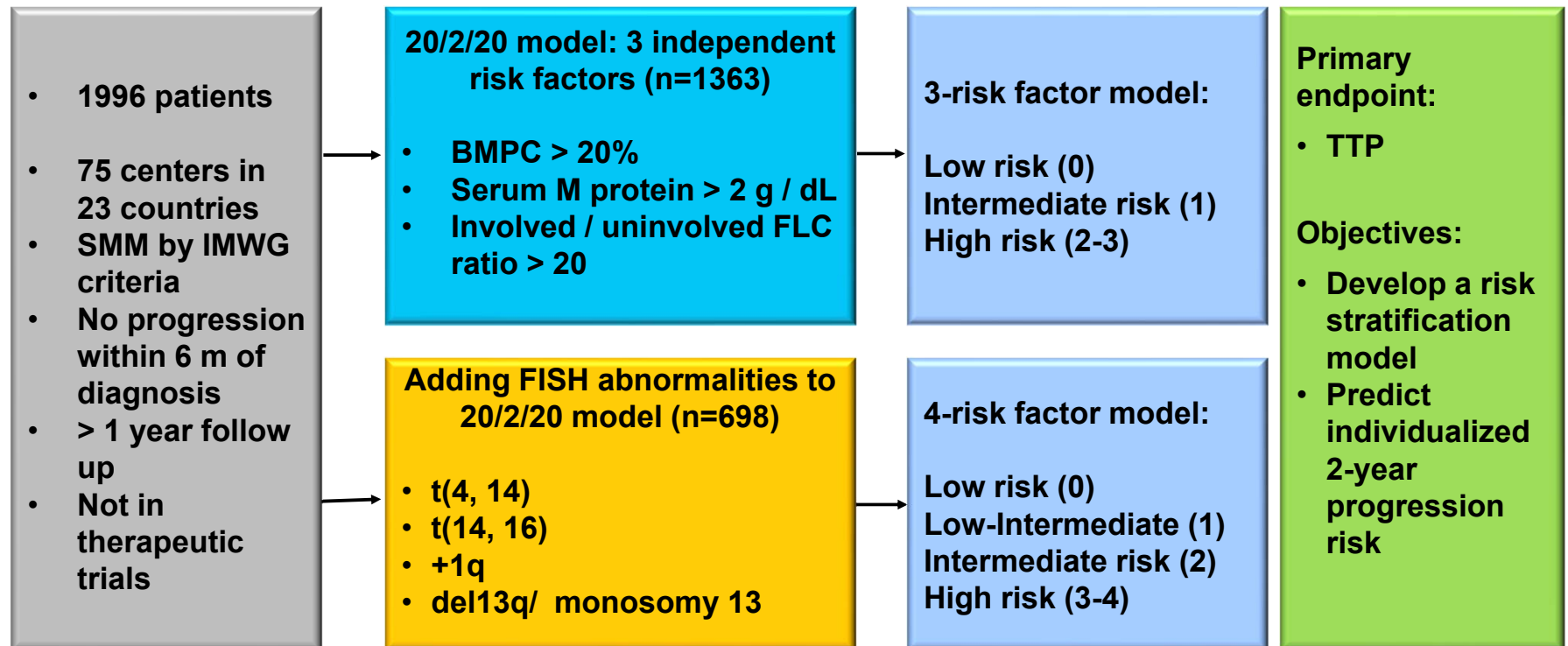
## 20/20 Risk Stratification Model

Risk Group (N)	Risk Factors (N) BMPC > 20% M-protein > 2 g/dL FLC ratio > 20	Median TTP (months)	Risk of Progression at Time from Diagnosis (%)		
			2 years	5 years	10 years
Low Risk (N=143)	0	110	9.7	22.5	52.7
Intermediate Risk (N=121)	1	68	26.3	46.7	65.3
High Risk (N=153)	2-3	29	47.4	81.5	96.5

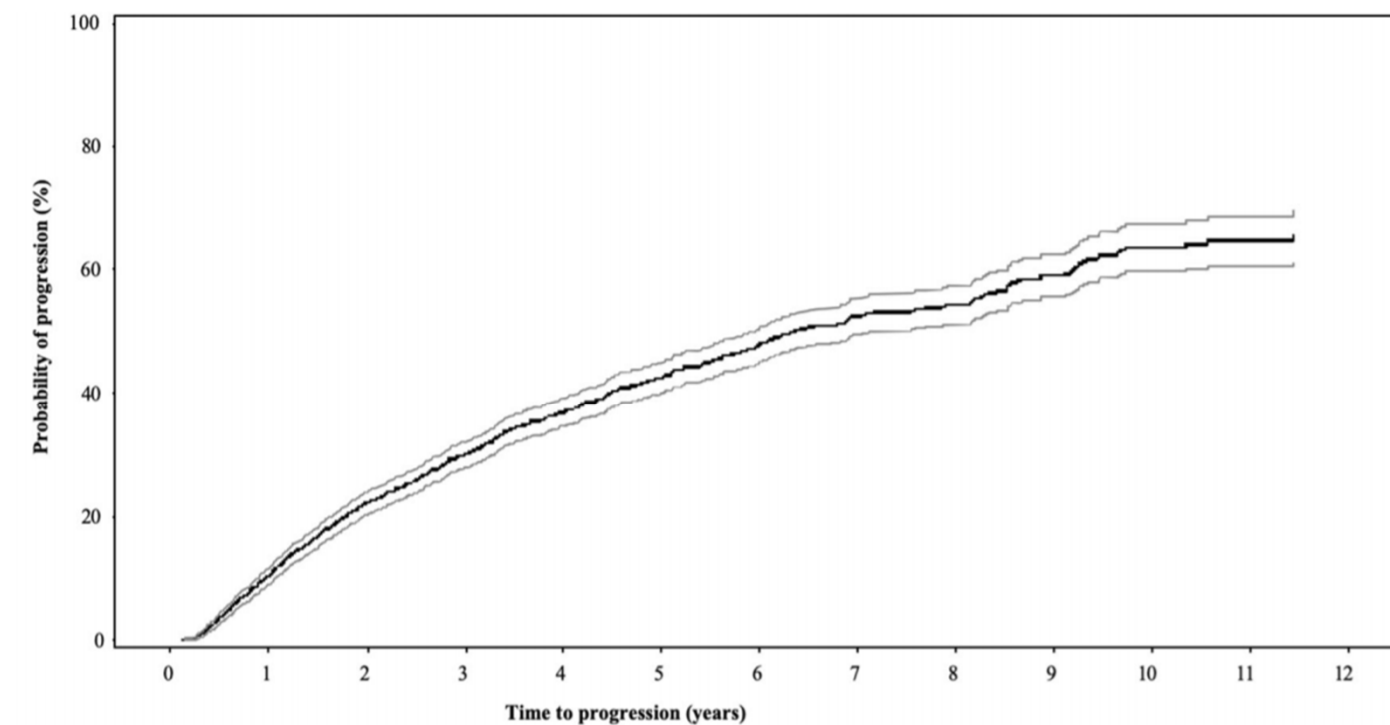
Lakshman A, et al. Blood Cancer J, 2018



# IMWG Risk Stratification Model



Mateos MV, Kumar S et al. Blood Cancer J 2020

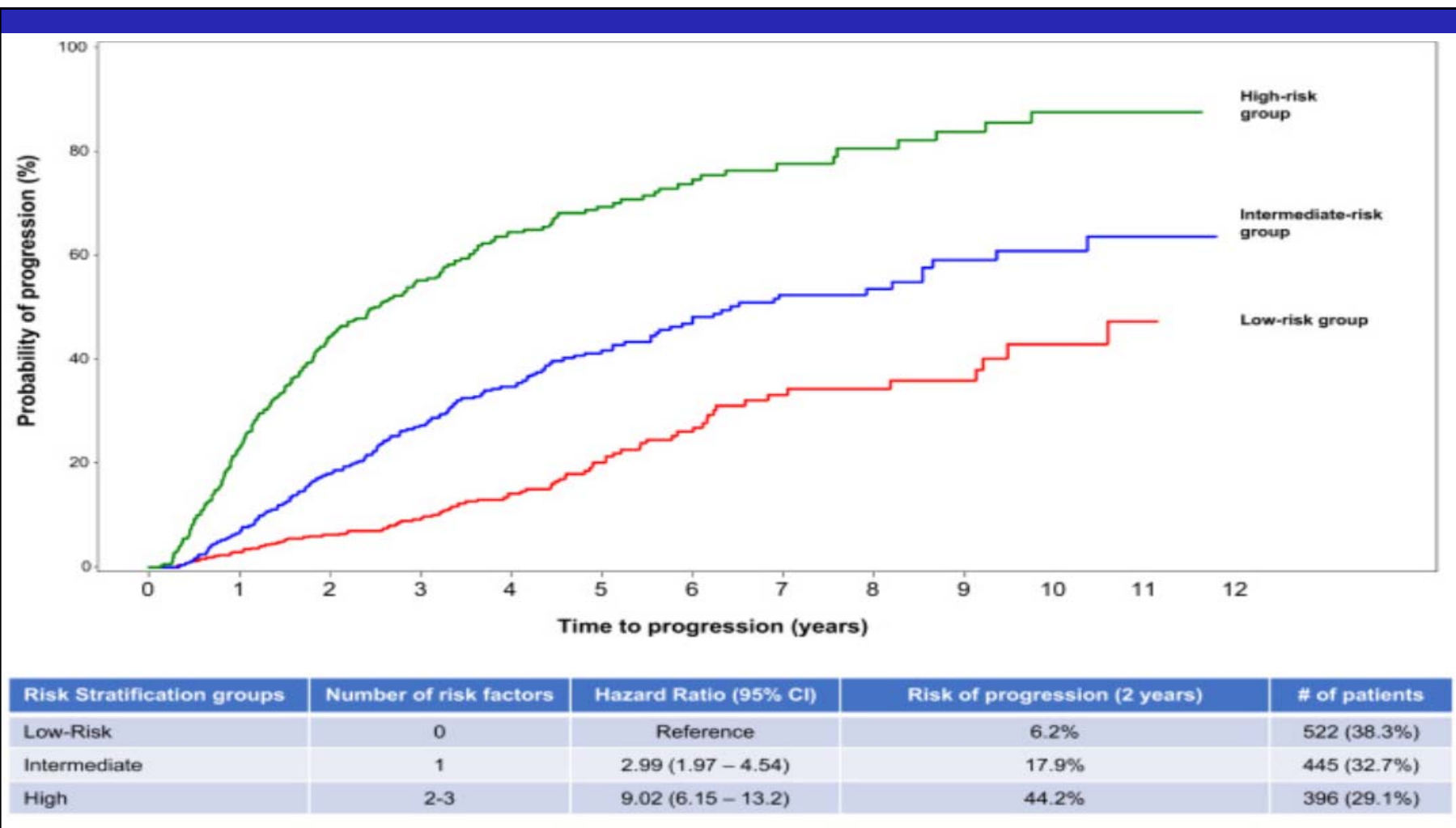


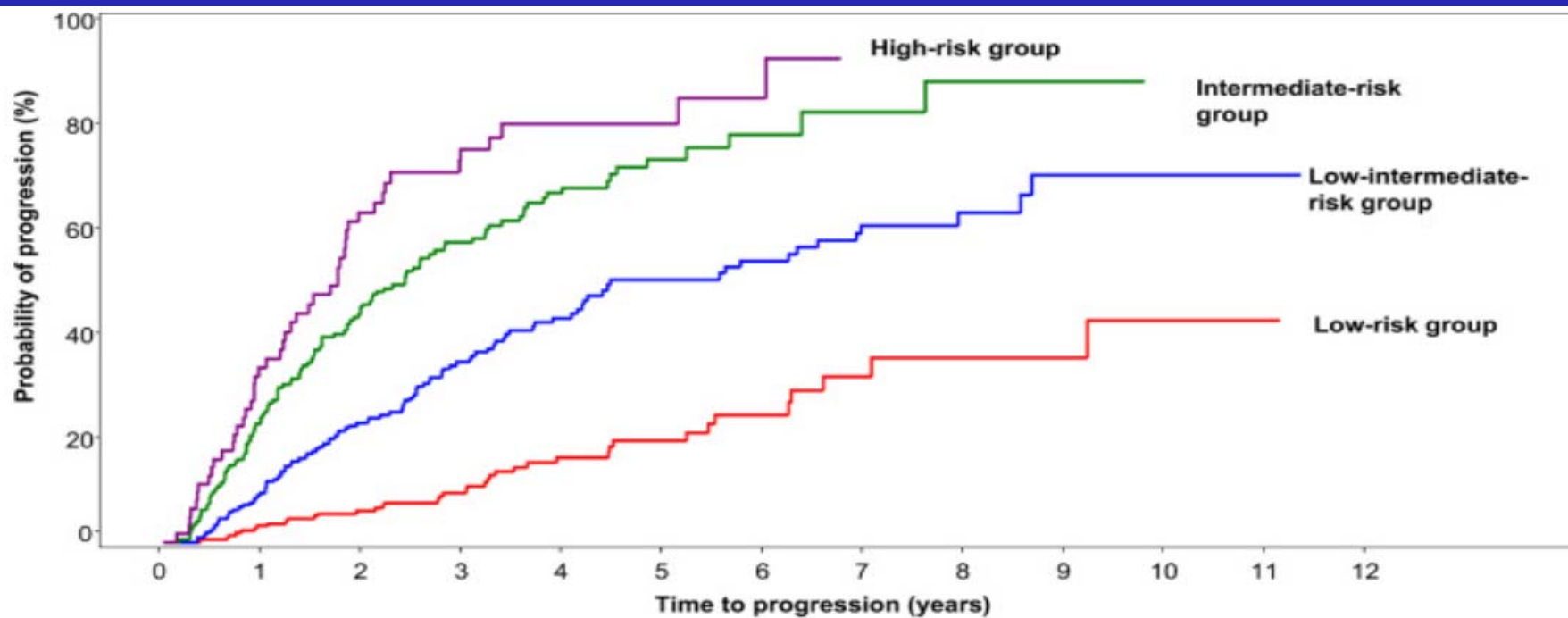
**TTP in entire cohort  
(n=1996)**

- **Median: 6.4 y**
- **2-year: 22%**
- **5-year: 42%**
- **10-year: 64%**

# at Risk      1996      1759      1360      1009      718      513      371      265      194      131      77      57      30

Mateos MV, Kumar S et al. Blood Cancer J 2020





Risk Stratification groups	Number of risk factors	Hazard Ratio (95% CI)	Risk of progression (2 years)	# of patients
Low	0	Reference	6.0%	225 (32.7%)
Low-intermediate	1	4.16 (2.26 – 7.67)	22.8%	224 (32.5%)
Intermediate	2	9.82 (5.46 – 17.7)	45.5%	177 (25.7%)
High	3-4	15.5 (8.23 – 29.0)	63.1%	63 (9.1%)

**To Treat or  
Not to Treat?**

**When to Treat?**

**Whom to Treat?**

**How to Treat?**



## What We Do Know

- Standard care
  - Observation with close surveillance
- Ultra-high risk SMM
  - IMGW revised diagnostic criteria to active MM
  - Treat as MM
- Recommend more sensitive imaging tests
  - CT, PET/CT or MRI
  - At diagnosis and follow up

# Dilemma

## High risk SMM

- Unclear of early intervention
  - Lack of benefits from early studies
    - Melphalan / prednisone
    - Thalidomide
    - Bisphosphonate
  - Treatment-related toxicities
- Two approaches of recent trials
  - Delay progression
  - Intent to cure

## Early Intervention – Delay Progression

- QuiRedex trial
  - Lenalidomide / dexamethasone vs observation
    - Progression: 23% vs 76%
    - 3-year OS: 94% vs 80%
- ECOG trial (E3A06)
  - Lenalidomide vs observation
    - 3-year PFS 91% vs 66%
- CENTAURUS trial
  - Daratumumab at 3 dosing schedule
- AQUILA trial
  - SQ daratumumab



## Early Intervention – Curative Intent

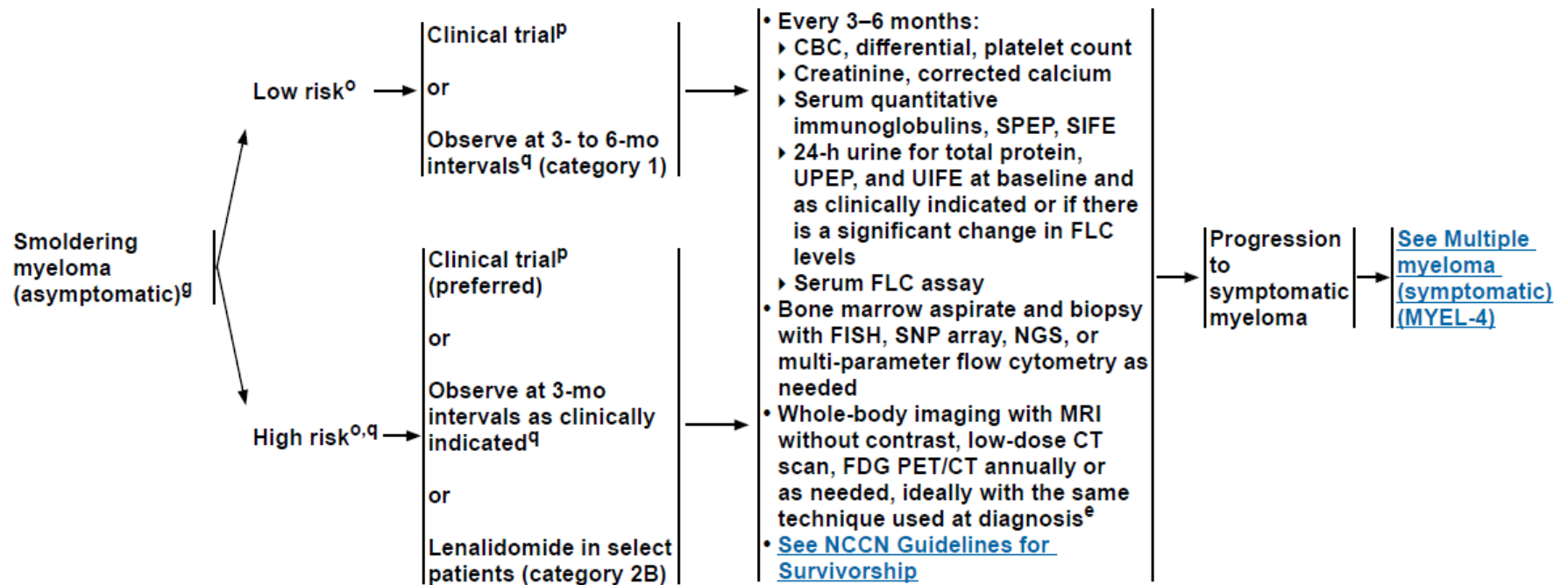
- National Institutes of Health Clinical Center – small pilot study (n=12)
  - Intent for MRD negative state and potentially cure
  - Carfilzomib / Lenalidomide / dexamethasone (8 cycles)
  - Followed by lenalidomide (24 cycles)
- GEM-CESAR
  - Carfilzomib / Lenalidomide /dexamethasone as induction
  - Followed by HDT-ASCT, consolidation with KRd and maintenance with Rd
- ASCENT trial
  - daratumumab, carfilzomib, lenalidomide, and dexamethasone

# NCCN Guidelines Version 1.2022

## CLINICAL FINDINGS

## PRIMARY TREATMENT

## FOLLOW-UP/SURVEILLANCE



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## Selinexor

- Selective inhibitor of nuclear export
- Binding exportin 1 to block cell proliferation
- Relapsed / refractory MM
- Adverse effects
  - Myelosuppression
    - anemia, leukopenia, neutropenia, thrombocytopenia
  - Risk for infection and sepsis
  - GI toxicities
  - Fatigue

## Selinexor / dexamethasone

- FDA-approval in 2019
- NCCN – Useful in certain circumstances
- $\geq 4$  prior lines
- Phase IIb trial (STORM)
  - 122 patients
  - Refractory to Lenalidomide, pomalidomide, bortezomib, carfilzomib, daratumumab
  - $\geq$  PR (26%)
    - PR (20%); VGPR (5%); stringent CR (2%)

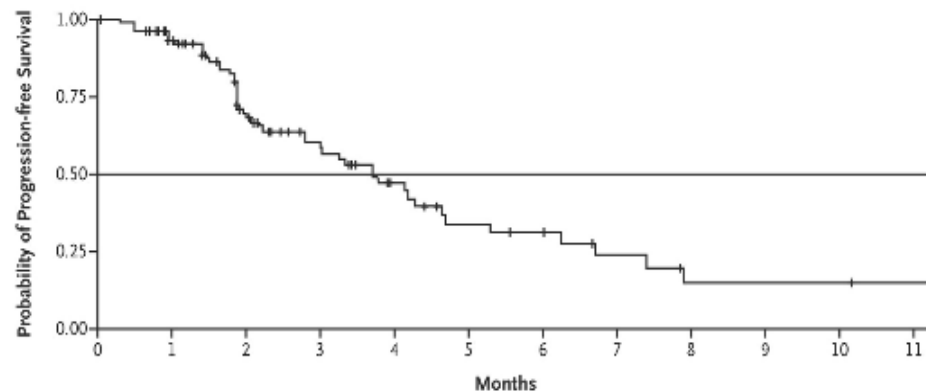
Chari A. et al. *N Engl J Med.* 2019

# STORM Trial

- Median PFS
  - 3.7 months
- Median OS
  - 8.6 months (ALL)
  - 15.6 months ( $\geq$  PR)

Chari A. et al. *N Engl J Med.* 2019

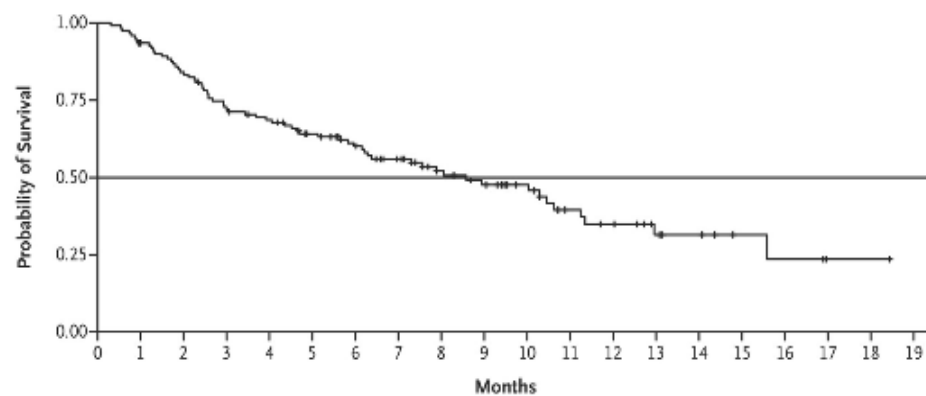
A Progression-free Survival



No. at Risk

122 85 51 33 19 12 10 6 3 3 3 2

B Overall Survival



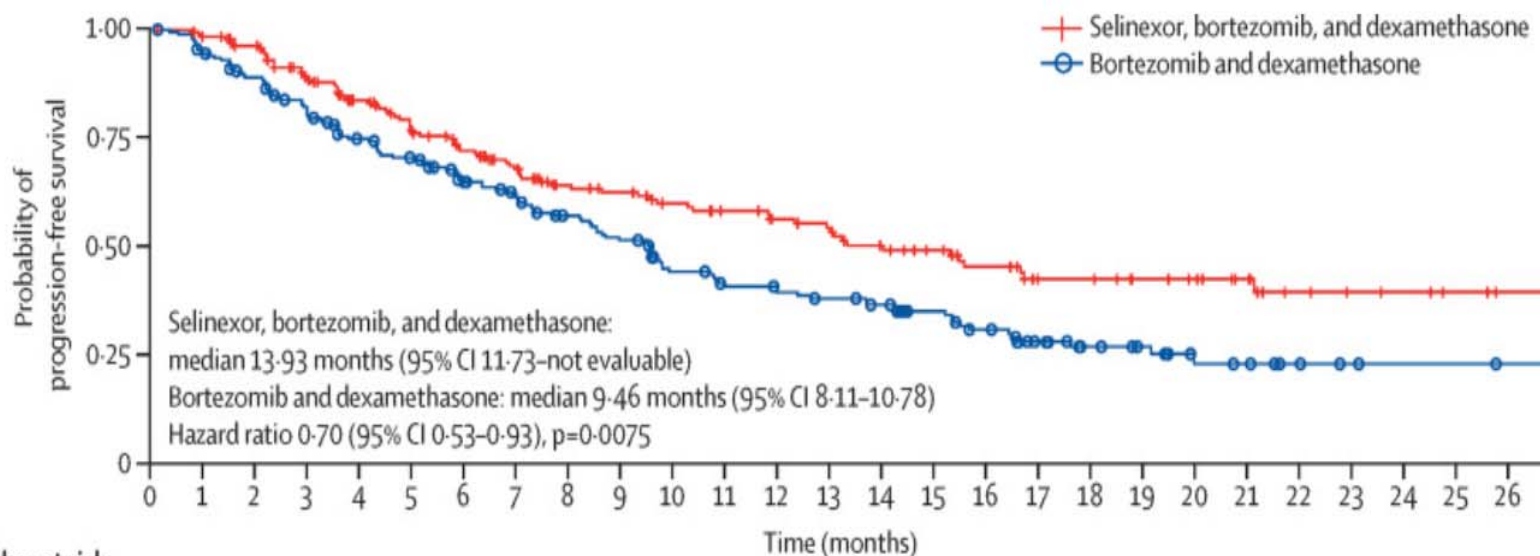
No. at Risk

122 110 99 84 78 68 59 48 36 31 25 17 14 9 7 4 3 1 1 0

## Selinexor / bortezomib / dexamethasone

- FDA approved in December 2020
- $\geq 1$  prior therapies
- NCCN – Other recommended regimens
- Phase III BOSTON trial
  - Selinexor / bortezomib (weekly) / dex
  - **VS**
  - Bortezomib (twice weekly) / dex

# BOSTON Trial - PFS



Number at risk (number censored)		Time (months)																											
Selinexor, bortezomib, and dexamethasone	195 (0)	187 (5)	175 (12)	152 (21)	135 (31)	117 (37)	106 (42)	89 (50)	79 (57)	76 (59)	69 (63)	64 (66)	57 (71)	51 (73)	45 (76)	41 (80)	35 (83)	27 (89)	26 (90)	22 (94)	19 (97)	14 (102)	9 (106)	7 (108)	6 (109)	4 (111)	2 (113)		
Bortezomib and dexamethasone	207 (0)	187 (8)	175 (10)	152 (15)	138 (20)	127 (22)	111 (29)	100 (32)	90 (37)	81 (37)	66 (41)	59 (43)	56 (44)	53 (45)	49 (47)	42 (52)	35 (55)	26 (60)	20 (65)	16 (69)	10 (73)	8 (75)	5 (78)	4 (79)	3 (80)	3 (80)	2 (81)		

Grosicki S. et al. *Lancet*. 2020

## BOSTON Trial – Treatment Response

	<b>Selinexor, bortezomib, and dexamethasone group (n=195)</b>	<b>Bortezomib and dexamethasone group (n=207)</b>
Overall response rate	149 (76·4%)	129 (62·3%)
Stringent complete response	19 (10%)	13 (6%)
Complete response	14 (7%)	9 (4%)
Very good partial response	54 (28%)	45 (22%)
Partial response	62 (32%)	62 (30%)
Minimal residual disease negativity	9 (5%)	8 (4%)

Grosicki S. et al. *Lancet*. 2020



## BOSTON Trial – Adverse Events

	Selinexor, bortezomib, dexamethasone (n=195)		Bortezomib and dexamethasone (n=204)	
	Any grade	Grade 3-4	Any grade	Grade 3-4
<b>Hematological AEs</b>				
Thrombocytopenia	117 (60%)	77 (39%)	55 (27%)	35 (17%)
Anemia	71 (36%)	31 (16%)	47 (23%)	20 (10%)
Neutropenia	29 (15%)	17 (9%)	12 (6%)	7 (3%)
<b>Non-hematological AEs</b>				
Fatigue	82 (42%)	26 (13%)	37 (18%)	2 (1%)
Nausea	98 (50%)	15 (8%)	20 (10%)	0
Diarrhea	63 (32%)	12 (6%)	51 (25%)	1 (<1%)
Peripheral neuropathy	63 (32%)	9 (5%)	96 (47%)	18 (9%)
Decreased appetite	69 (35%)	7 (4%)	11 (5%)	0
Asthenia	48 (25%)	16 (8%)	27 (13%)	9 (4%)
Pneumonia	35 (18%)	24 (12%)	34 (17%)	21 (10%)
Cataract	42 (22%)	17 (9%)	13 (6%)	3 (1%)
Vomiting	40 (21%)	8 (4%)	9 (4%)	0

Grosicki S. et al. *Lancet*. 2020

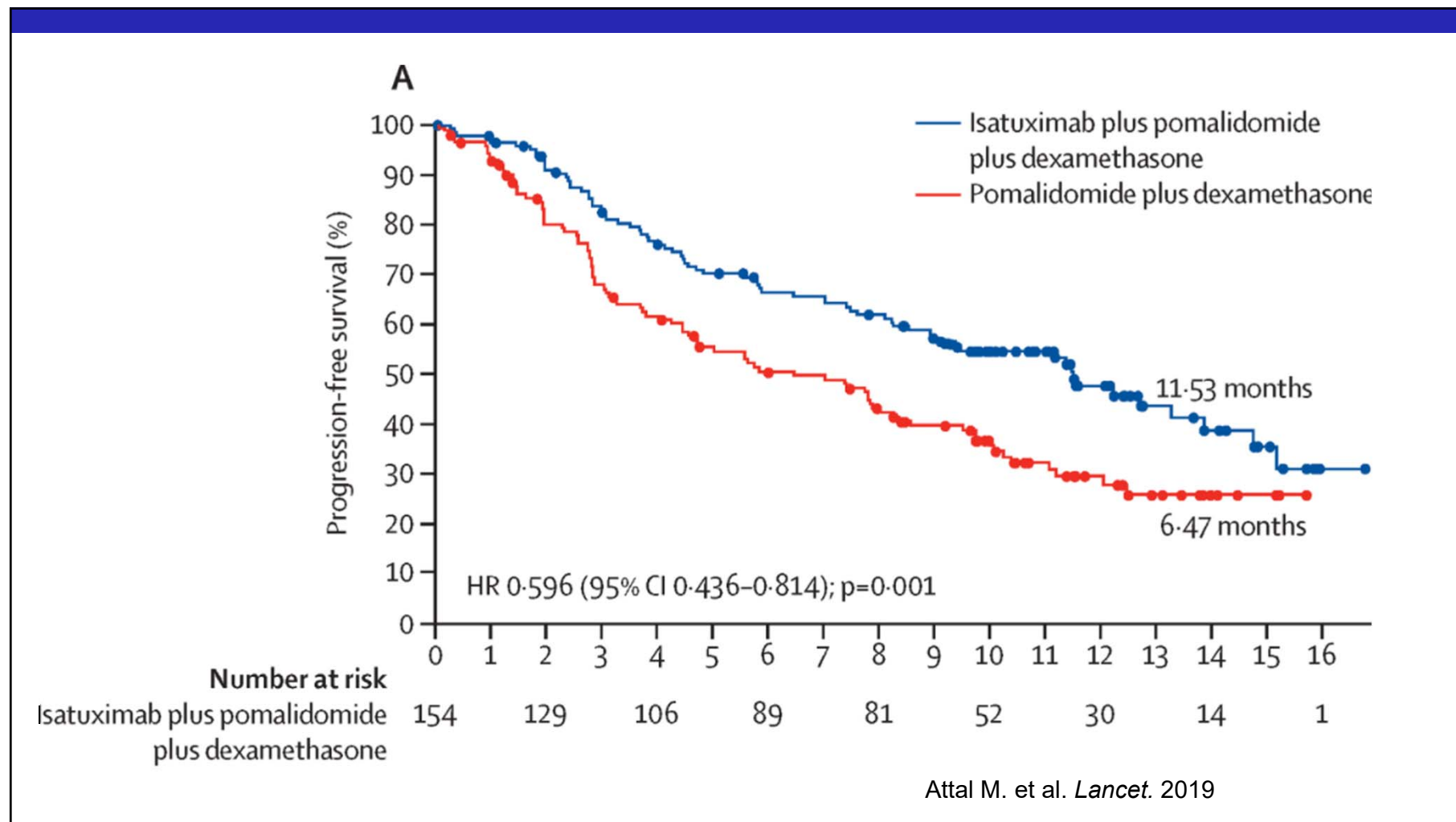
## Isatuximab

- Monoclonal antibody
- CD-38 targeting
- Relapsed / refractory MM
- Adverse effects
  - Infusion – related reactions
    - dyspnea, cough, nasal congestion, nausea
    - Anaphylactic reaction
  - Respiratory infection, pneumonia
  - Neutropenia
  - Diarrhea

## Isatuximab / pomalidomide / dexamethasone

- NCCN – preferred regimen
- Approved by FDA in March 2020
- ICARIA- MM trial
  - $\geq 2$  prior therapies
    - lenalidomide and proteasome inhibitor
  - Randomized to isatuximab / pom/ dex vs pom /dex
  - ORR: 60% vs 35%
  - Median PFS: 11.5 vs 6.5 months
  - Improved ORR and PFS in renal patients

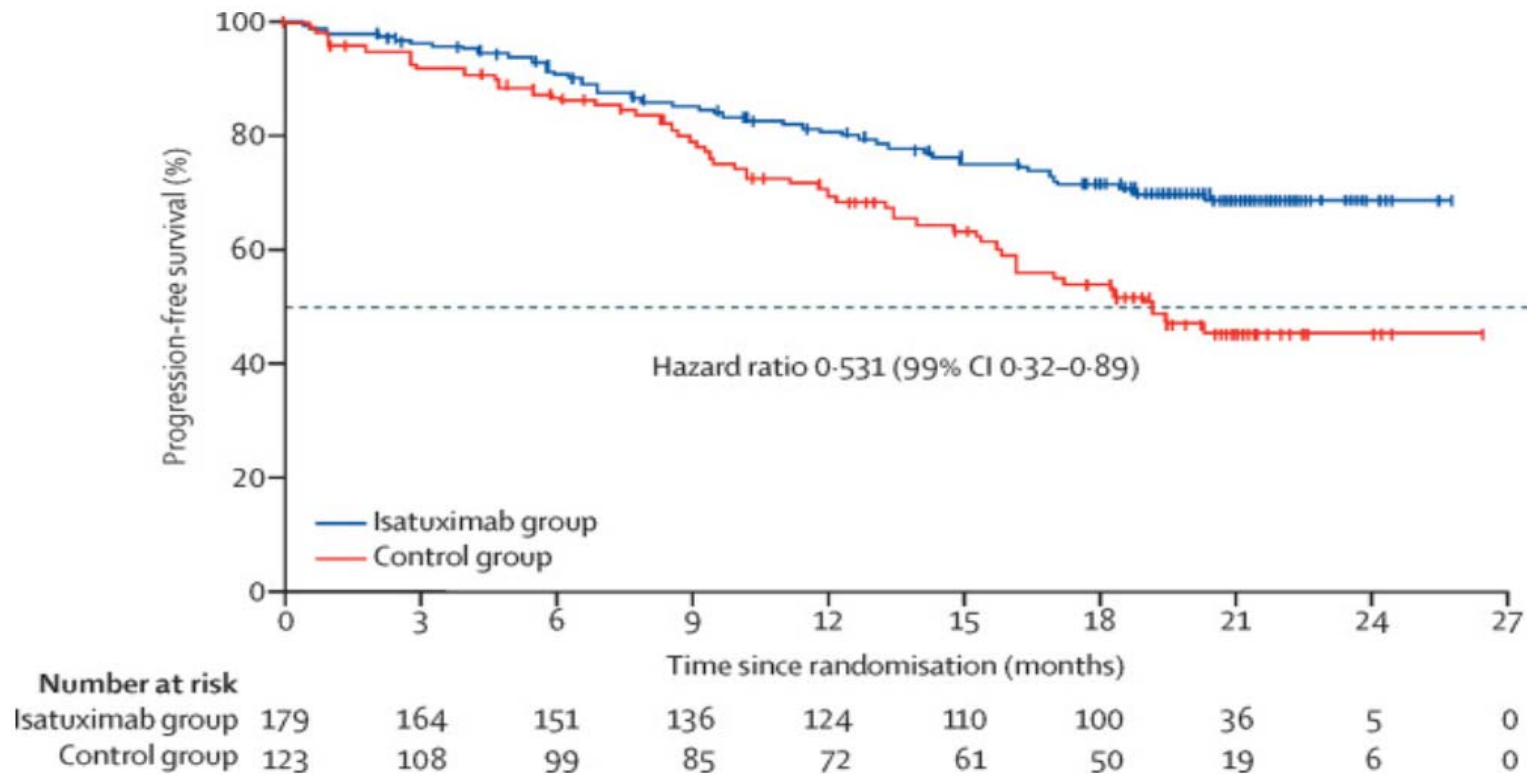
Attal M. et al. *Lancet*. 2019



## Isatuximab / Carfilzomib / dexamethasone

- NCCN – Other recommended regimens
- Approved by FDA in March 2021
- IKEMA phase III trial
  - 302 patients
  - 1-3 prior therapies
  - Randomized to
    - isatuximab / carfilzomib/ dex vs carfilzomib /dex
    - Primary endpoint: PFS

# IKEMA Trial - PFS



Moreau P. et al. *Lancet*. 2021

## Melphalan Flufenamide

- Peptide – drug conjugate
  - Targets aminopeptidases
  - Releases alkylating agents
- FDA – March 2021
- Relapsed / refractory
- $\geq 4$  prior therapies
- NCCN – Other recommended regimens
- Phase II HORIZON trial
  - Melphalan flufenamide / dexamethasone

## HORIZON Trial

- Melphalan flufenamide 40 mg IV, day 1
- Dexamethasone 40 mg weekly (20 mg for age > 75 yr)
- 157 patients ( 119 triple-class-refractory)
  - ORR 29% (26%)
  - Median duration of response 5.5 mon (4.4 mon)
- Adverse events
  - Neutropenia (79%); thrombocytopenia (76%); anemia (43%)
  - GI (62%)
  - No alopecia or neuropathy

Richardson et al. *J Clin Oncol*. 2021



# HORIZON Survival Data

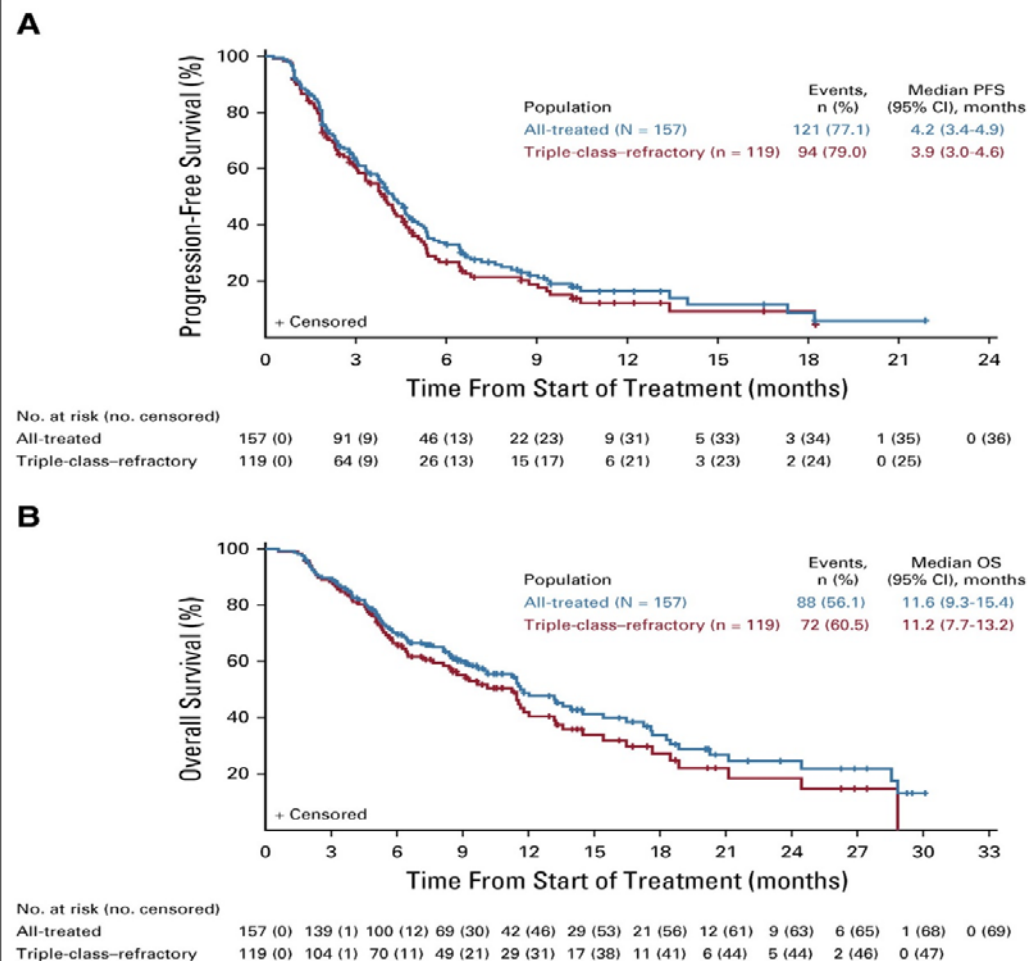
## PFS

- All – 4.2 mon
- Triple-class-refractory – 3.9 mon

## OS

- All – 11.6 mon
- Triple-class-refractory- 11.2 mon

Richardson et al. *J Clin Oncol*. 2021



## Belantamab Mafodotin

- Anti- BCMA
- FDA – August 2020
- Single agent
- Relapsed / refractory
- $\geq 4$  prior therapies
- NCCN – Other recommended regimens
- Phase II DREAMM-2 trial
  - 196 patients (median 7 prior lines)
  - Two dosage arm: 2.5 mg/kg and 3.4 mg/kg
  - IV every 3 weeks

## DREAMM-2 Trial

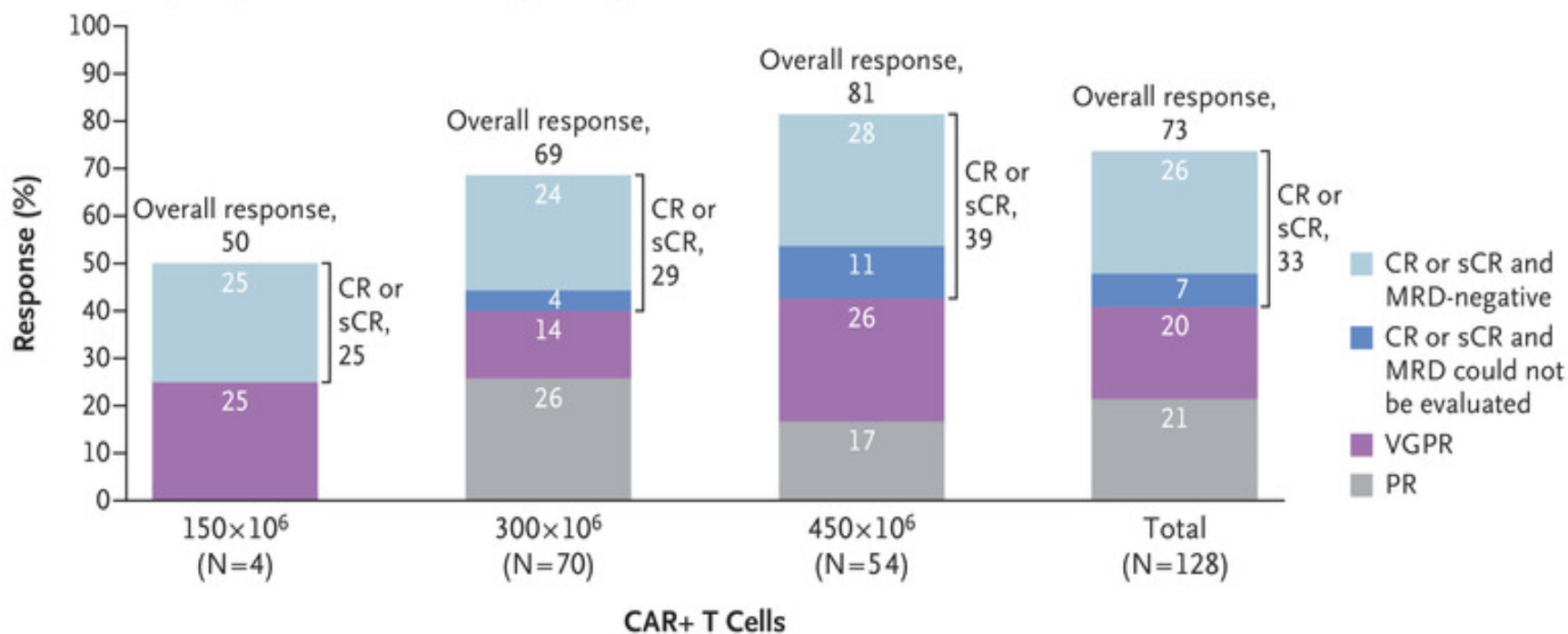
Treatment response	2.5 mg/kg	3.4 mg/kg
Overall response rate (ORR)	31%	34%
≥ Very good partial response (VGPR)	19%	20%
Keratopathy	27%	21%
Thrombocytopenia	20%	33%
Anemia	20%	25%
Serious AEs	40%	47%

Lonial S. et al. *Lancet Oncol.* 2020

## Idecabtagene Vicleucel

- First CAR-T cell therapy for MM
- Targets BCMA
- FDA – March 2021
- Relapsed / refractory
- $\geq 4$  prior therapies
- NCCN – Other recommended regimens
- Phase 2 KarMMa trial
  - 128 patients (median 6 prior lines)
  - target doses
    - $150 \times 10^6$  -  $450 \times 10^6$  CAR+ T cells

# **A Tumor Response, Overall and According to Target Dose**



Munshi NC. et al. *N Engl J Med.* 2021.

## KarMMa Trial

- Response 73% (PR or better)
- CR 33%
- MRD- negative CR 26%
- Median PFS 8.8 months
- Adverse effects
  - Neutropenia (91%); anemia (70%); thrombocytopenia (63%)
  - Cytokine release syndrome (84%)
    - $\geq$  grade 3 (5%)
  - Neurotoxicity (18%)
    - $\geq$  grade 3 (3%)

Munshi NC. et al. *N Engl J Med.* 2021.

## Venetoclax / dexamethasone

- Only for t(11; 14)
- NCCN – Useful in certain circumstances
- Relapse / refractory
- Phase I study (n= 66)
  - Median 5 prior lines
  - ORR - 21%
    - t(11; 14) – 40%
    - without t(11; 14) – 6%

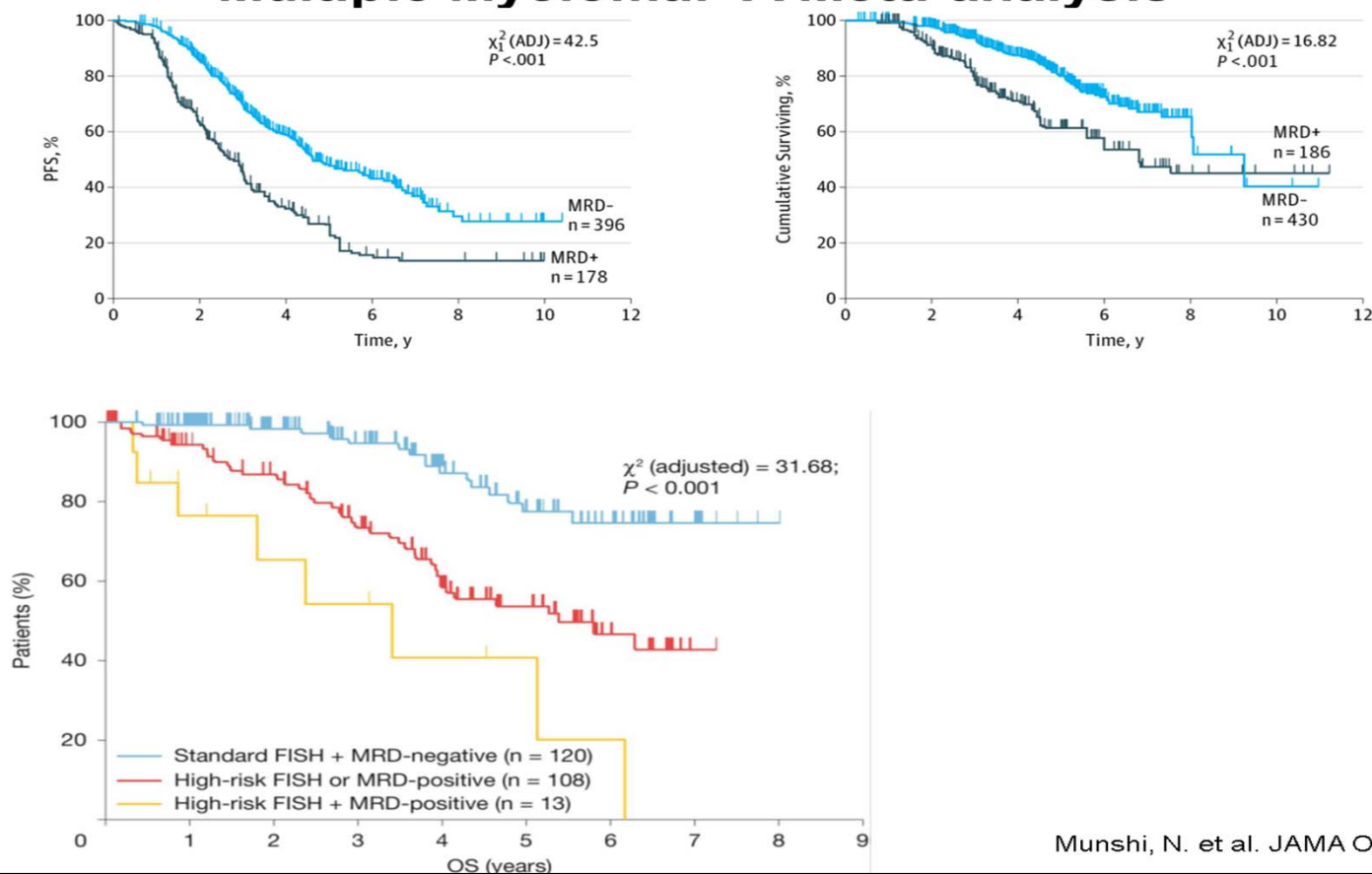
Kumar, S. et al. Blood, 2017

# Minimal Residual Disease (MRD)

- Bone marrow-based technologies
  - Next generation flow
  - Next generation sequencing
- Sensitive detection and monitoring
  - detect  $10^{-6}$  cells or lower
- Prognostic value for MRD negativity
- IMWG updated MM response criteria

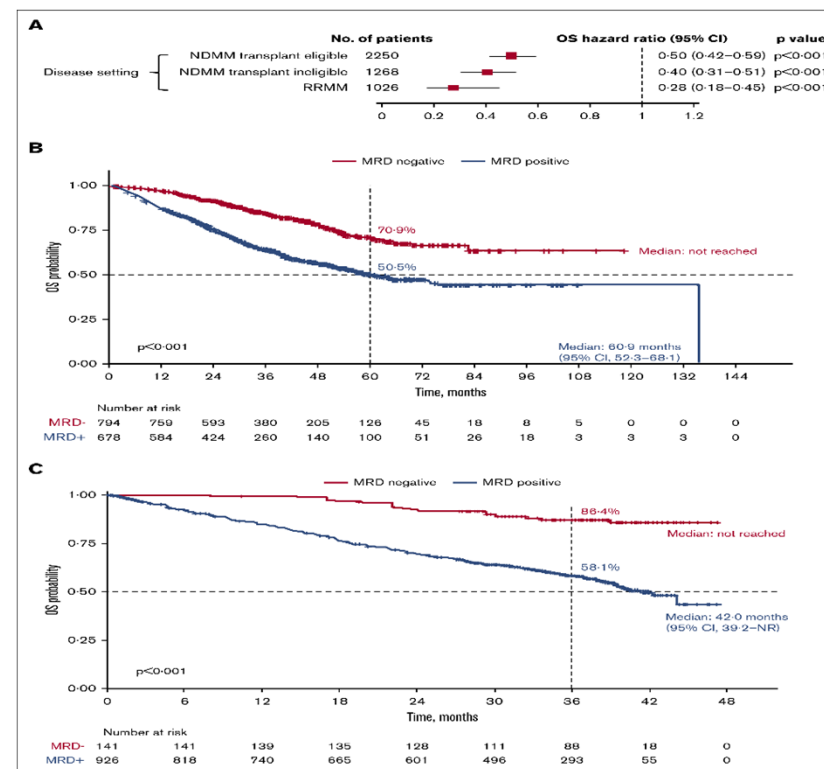
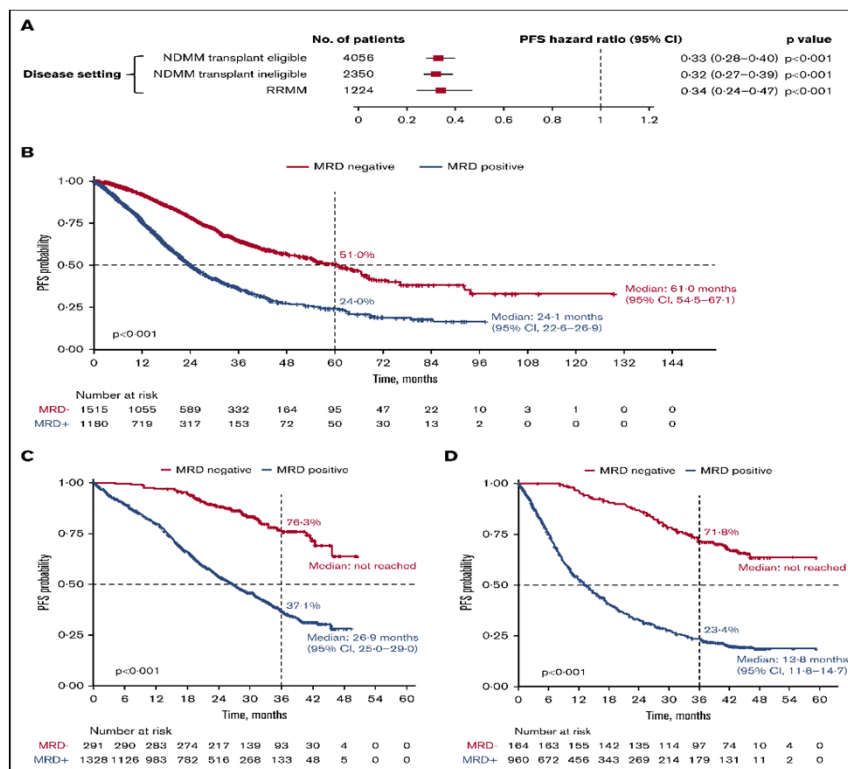


## Association of MRD With Superior Survival Outcomes in Multiple Myeloma: A Meta-analysis



Munshi, N. et al. JAMA Oncol. 2017

# A Large Meta-analysis of the Prognostic Value of MRD



Munshi, N. et al. Blood Adv, 2020

## Updated IMWG Response Criteria

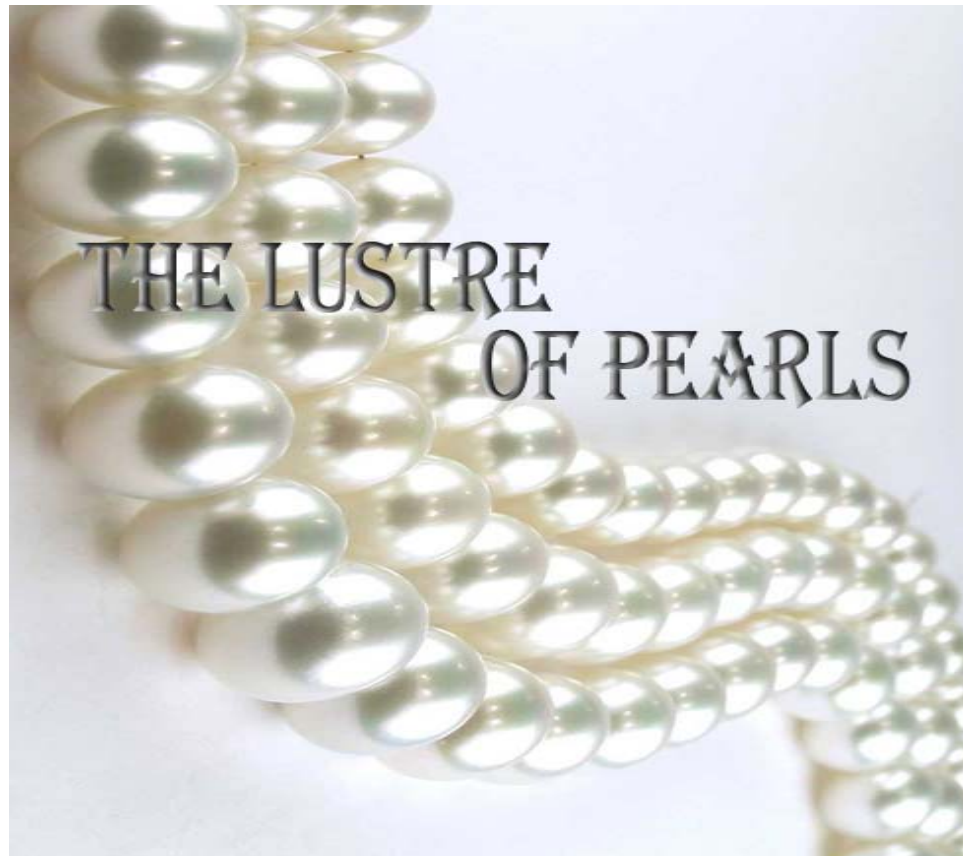
	Standard IMWG Response Criteria				IMWG MRD Criteria	
Lab value reduction	PR	VGPR	CR	sCR	MRD-negative	Imaging plus MRD-negative
Serum M protein	>50%	> 90%	0	0	0	0
24-h urine M protein	≥ 90% or to < 200 mg	< 100 mg	0	0	0	0
IF		positive	negative	negative	negative	negative
BMPC (unmeasurable M protein and dFLC)	≥ 50% (baseline ≥ 30%)		< 5%	No clonal cells	MRD negative in BM	MRD negative in BM
Serum dFLC (unmeasurable M)	≥ 50%			Normal FLC ratio		
PET scan						Negative

Kumar S. et al. Lancet Oncology, August 2016

## MRD in Clinical Application

- FDA guidance
  - Regulatory considerations for use of MRD in drug development
- Clinical trials
  - MRD status as endpoint assessment
- Clinical use of MRD
  - No guideline for treatment decision based on MRD status
  - Data from prospective trials are not yet available

# Take Home Messages

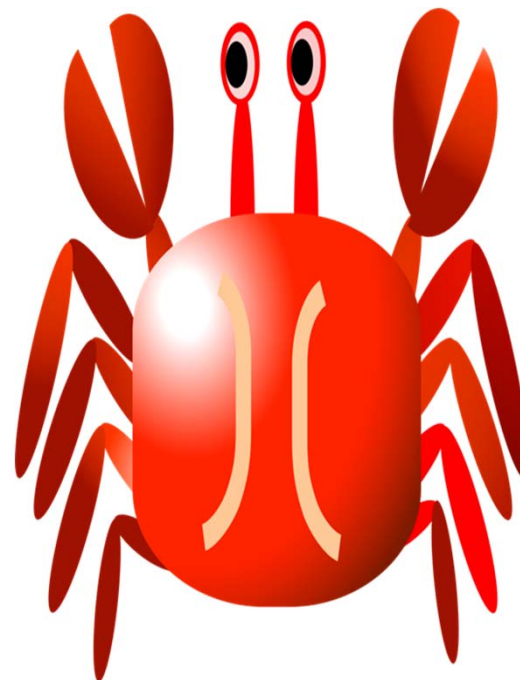


## Pearl: Is It SMM?



## SMM: NO SLiM CRAB

- S** (Sixty % BMPC)
- Li** (Light chains I/U >100)
- M** (MRI >1 focal lesion)
- C** (Calcium elevation)
- R** (Renal insufficiency)
- A** (Anemia)
- B** (Bone disease)



## Pearl # 2



### High-risk SMM (20/2/20)

- 2-year progression risk is ~ 50%
- Strongly recommend clinical trials (NCCN preferred)



## Pearl # 3



### Idecabtagene Vicleucel

- First FDA-approved CAR T for MM
- $\geq 4$  prior lines (IMiDs, PI, CD-38)
- Common AEs
  - CRS
  - Neurotoxicity
  - Cytopenia

## Pearl # 4



MRD-negative

- Improved survival
- No current guideline for treatment decision

# Acknowledgment

Thank Dr. Shaji Kumar for his support



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