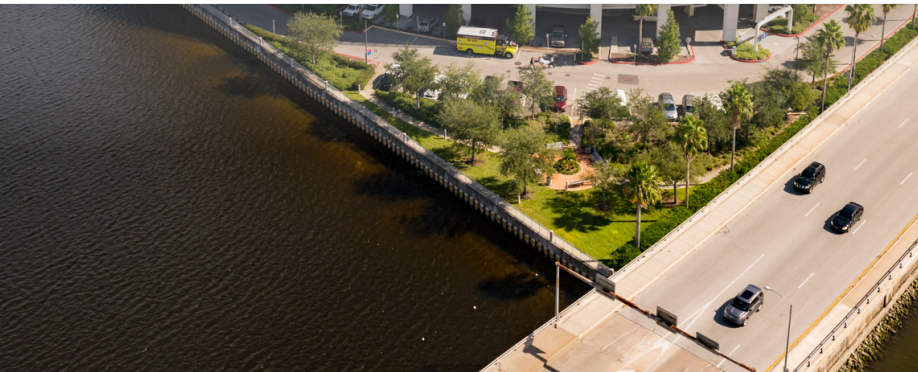




**CANCER  
INSTITUTE**



## **“Modern Challenges and New Options in Lymphoma Treatment”**



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Professor, USF Health Morsani College of Medicine  
University of South Florida

# Modern Challenges and New Options in Lymphoma Treatment

- In the last 10 years we have witnessed an unprecedented approval of novel targeted therapies and immunotherapies for patients with lymphoma.....
- While these are great news, they have also brought “modern challenges”
  - How to combine them, while optimizing efficacy and minimizing side effects
  - How to sequence them.....
  - Finite versus continuous treatment
  - Emergence of resistance: Double refractory.....CAR T refractory....

Regardless, these modern challenges are a “good problem” to have!

# B-cell Lymphomas: Novel Agents

Rituximab  
Ofatumumab  
Obinotuzumab  
Polatuzumab vedotin  
Loncastuximab tesirine  
Tafasitamab (MOR208)  
Ublituximab

Bispecific  
Antibodies

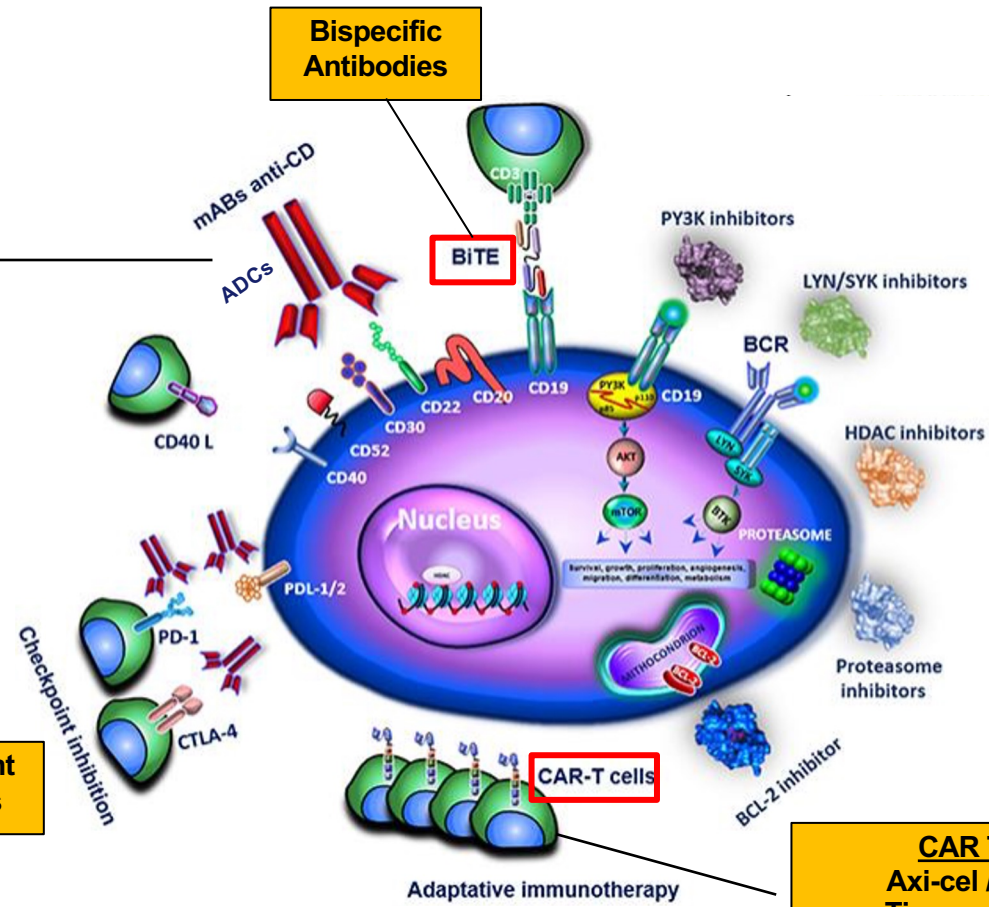
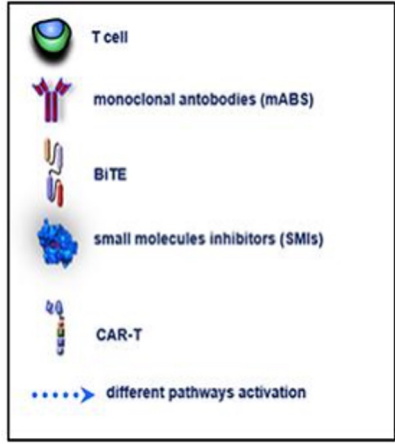
BITE

IMiDs:  
Lenalidomide  
Pomalidomide

Checkpoint  
inhibitors

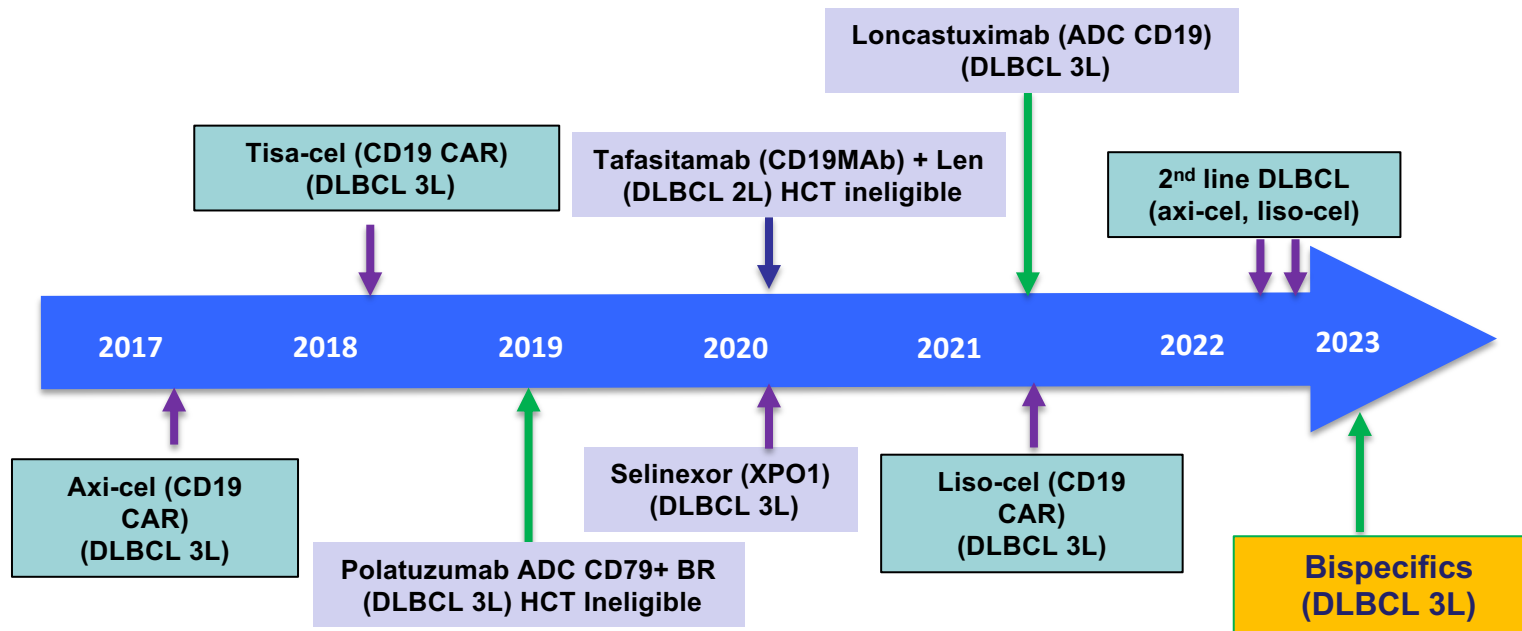
CAR-T cells

CAR T-cells  
Axi-cel / Liso-cel  
Tisagenlecleucel  
Brexucabtagene autoleucel



Adaptative immunotherapy

# FDA Approvals for Relapsed/Refractory DLBCL (2017-2023): Impressive Progress



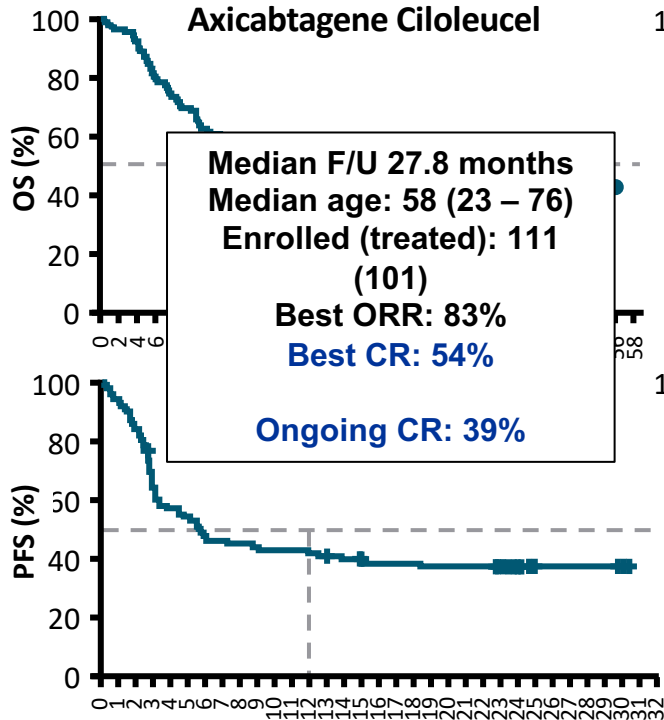
# First Challenge: CAR-T and Bispecific Antibodies in DLBCL: How to use... and sequence them (...a matter of debate)

- *Let's look at the data:*
  - “Curative” versus non-curative modality
- *Factors that would influence their use and/or sequencing:*
  - GOAL of Treatment
  - Product-related factors
  - Patient-related factors
  - Tumor-related factors

# Pivotal Anti-CD19 CAR T Cell Therapy Trials: Third Line DLBCL

## ZUMA-1

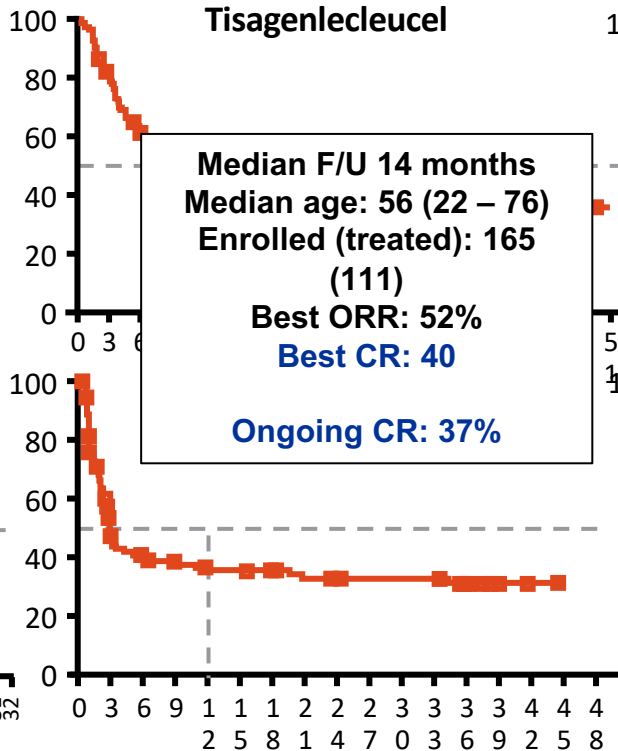
**Axicabtagene Ciloleucel**



**Median F/U 27.8 months**  
**Median age: 58 (23 – 76)**  
**Enrolled (treated): 111 (101)**  
**Best ORR: 83%**  
**Best CR: 54%**  
**Ongoing CR: 39%**

## JULIET

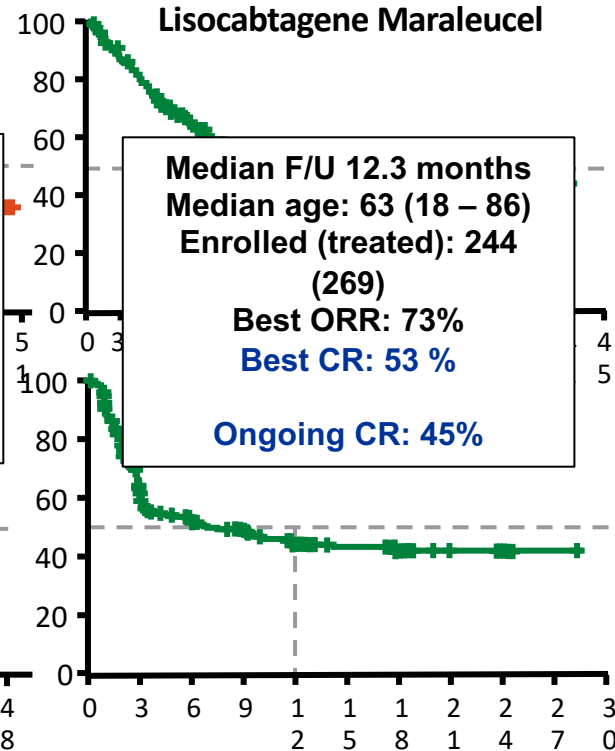
**Tisagenlecleucel**



**Median F/U 14 months**  
**Median age: 56 (22 – 76)**  
**Enrolled (treated): 165 (111)**  
**Best ORR: 52%**  
**Best CR: 40%**  
**Ongoing CR: 37%**

## TRANSCEND NHL 001

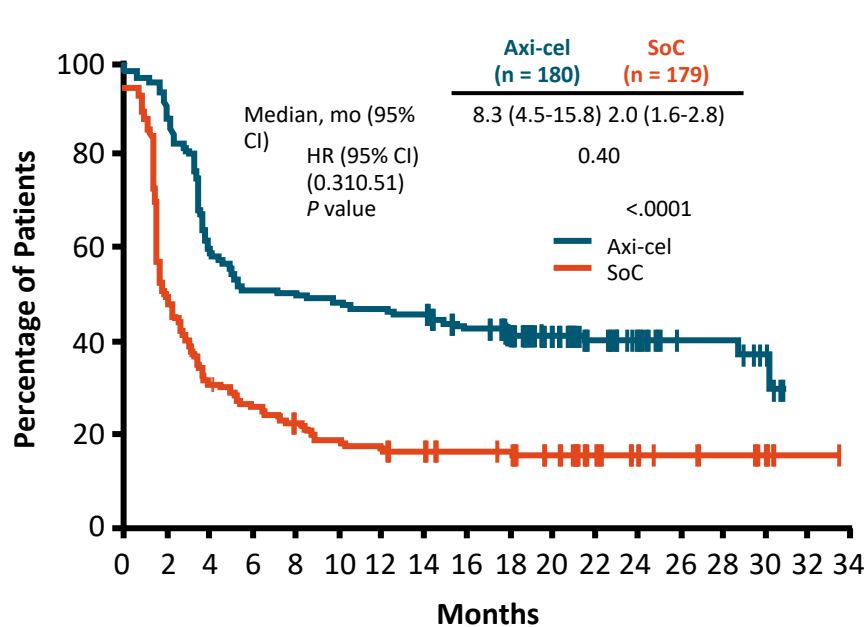
**Lisocabtagene Maraleucel**



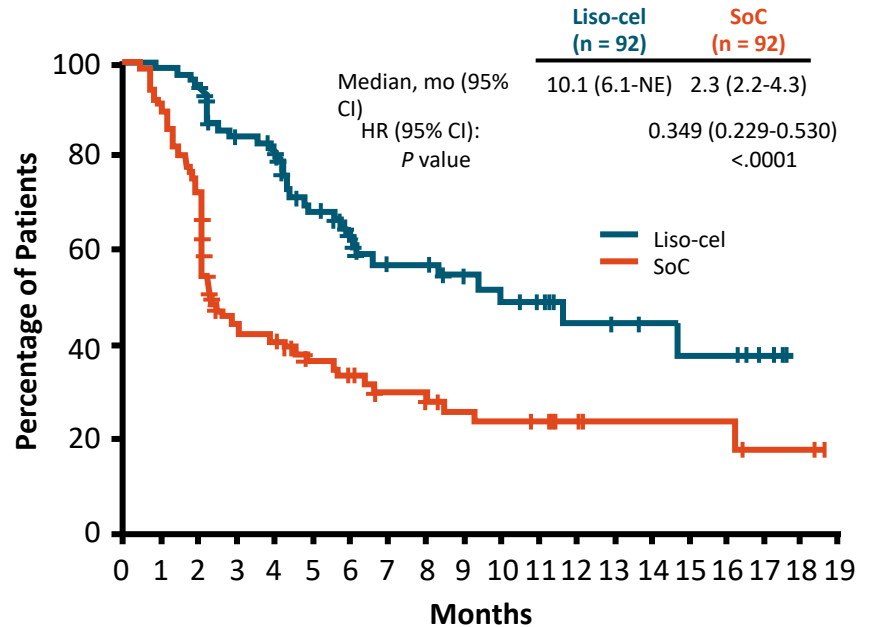
**Median F/U 12.3 months**  
**Median age: 63 (18 – 86)**  
**Enrolled (treated): 244 (269)**  
**Best ORR: 73%**  
**Best CR: 53%**  
**Ongoing CR: 45%**

# CD19 CAR T-cell Therapy: A new SOC in Early Relapsed DLBCL (second line)

ZUMA-7: Median EFS<sup>1</sup>



TRANSFORM: Median EFS<sup>2</sup>



1. Locke. NEJM. 2022;386:640. 2. Kamdar.. Lancet. 2022;399:10343.

## CD19 CAR T-cells in DLBCL

- **Anti-CD19 CAR T-cells** have shown significant efficacy as third line and more recently as second line treatment for patients with relapsed/refractory DLBCL.....
  - *It is estimated that 30-40 percent of patients with relapsed/refractory DLBCL might be cured!*
  - **Remaining 60 percent of patients: Unmet need**
- **Cost, manufacture time, side effects, progression while waiting for engineered T cells and mechanisms of resistance remain a significant challenge....**



# Bispecific Antibodies in B-cell NHL

The Original: Proof of Concept	The New Ones ....and more to come			
<p><b>Blinatumomab<sup>1</sup></b></p>	<p><b>Epcoritamab<sup>2</sup></b></p>	<p><b>Mosunetuzumab<sup>3</sup></b></p>	<p><b>Glofitamab<sup>4</sup></b></p>	<p><b>Odronextamab<sup>5</sup></b></p>
<p>BiTE®</p> <p>α-Target single-chain antibody (scFv)</p> <p>Linker</p> <p>α-CD3 single-chain antibody (scFv)</p>	<p>CD20</p> <p>CD3</p>		<p>High avidity binding to CD20 on B cells*</p> <p>CD3 T-cell engagement</p> <p>Silent Fc region extends half-life and reduces toxicity</p>	
<p><b>CD3 (scFV) x CD19 (scFV)</b></p>	<p><b>DuoBody- CD3 x CD20 BsAb</b></p>	<p><b>CD3 x CD20 Knobs-in-hole Fc BsAb</b></p>	<p><b>CD3 (Fab) x CD20 (Fab x2) Fc BsAb</b></p>	<p><b>CD3 x CD20 Common LC Fc BsAb</b></p>

- Numerous bispecific antibody structures exist
- **Properties of the BsAbs vary by construct**
- Distinguishing features of BsAbs include:
  - **“Off-the-shelf”**– rapid access, relative ease of delivery<sup>6,7</sup>
  - **Adaptable** – lack of persistence and ability to modulate dosing may improve tolerability<sup>6</sup>

1. Queudeville M, et al. *Onco Targets Ther.* 2017;10:3567-3578. 2. Clausen MR, et al. *J Clin Oncol.* 2021;39(suppl 15):7518. 3. Budde LE, et al. *Blood.* 2018;132(suppl 1):399. 4. Hutchings M, et al. *Blood.* 2020;136(suppl 1):45-46. 5. Bannerji R, et al. *Blood.* 2020;136(Suppl\_1):42-43. Presented at: ASH 2020. Abstract 400. 6. Husain B, et al. *BioDrugs.* 2018;32(5):441-464. 7. Schuster S. *SurvivorNet. Bispecific antibodies: an off-the-shelf approach to treating lymphoma.* Accessed June 23, 2022. <https://www.survivornet.com/articles/bispecific-antibodies-an-off-the-shelf-approach-to-treating-lymphoma/>

# Epcoritamab for R/R DLBCL: Phase 2 Pivotal Study EPCORE

## Baseline Characteristics

N= 157 pts

**Median lines: 3 (2-11)**

**Primary refractory: 61%**

**Prior CAR-T: 39%**

**Prior auto HCT: 20%**

**Unlimited treatment (SC)**

## Results

Median f/u: 10.7 months

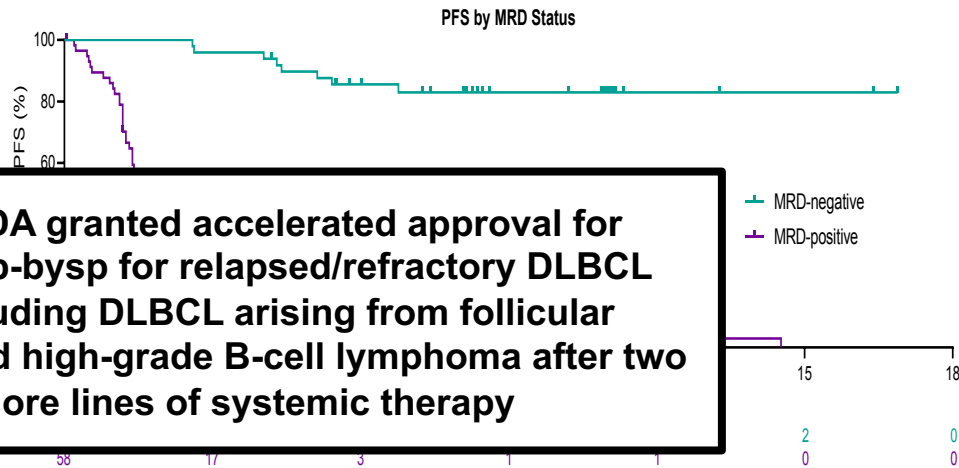
**ORR= 63%**

**CR= 39%**

**PFS in CR pts at EOT: Not reached**

**Median PFS= 4.4 months. Not reached in MRD neg.**

**CRS all: 49.7% Grade  $\geq$ 3: 2.5%. Mainly during C1**



MRD Results per ctDNA Assay	All LBCL n=107
MRD-negative rate, n (%)	49 (45.8) [95% CI: 36.1–55.7]

# Glofitamab for R/R Large B cell lymphoma (3L): Phase 2 Pivotal Results

## Baseline Characteristics

**N= 155 pts**

**Time limited therapy** (12 cycles IV with pretreatment obinutuzumab)

**Median lines: 3 (2-7)**

**Primary refractory: 58%**

**Prior CAR-T: 38%**

**Prior auto HCT: 18%**

## Results

Median f/u: 12.6 months

**ORR= 52%**

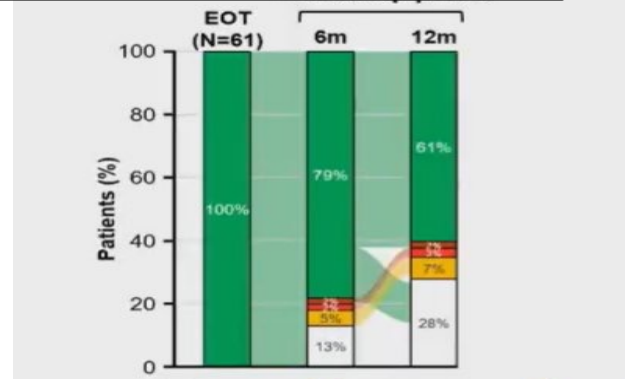
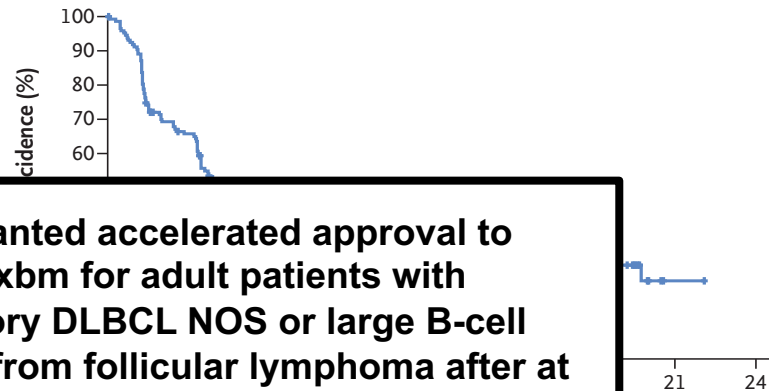
**CR= 39%**

**PFS in CR pts at EOT: Not reached**

Median PFS= 4.9 months

**CRS all: 63%; G<sub>≥</sub>3= 4% Mainly during C1**

Progression-free Survival in the Main Analysis Cohort



# CAR-T and Bispecific Antibodies in DLBCL: How to use... and sequence them (...a matter of debate)

- *Let's look at the data:*
  - “Curative” versus non-curative modality

- *Factors that would influence their use and/or sequencing:*
  - GOAL of Treatment
  - Product-related factors
  - Patient-related factors
  - Tumor-related factors

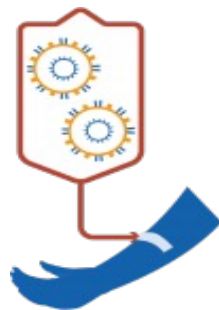
# CAR-T and Bispecifics in DLBCL:

## Factors that would influence their use and/or sequencing



### Treatment Goal:

- Curative Modality
  - CAR T-cells: Yes (30-40%)
  - Bi-specific : Unknown yet



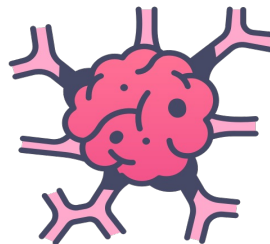
### Product Factors:

- Availability (Clinical trials vs. commercial)
- Regulatory entities approval/indications
- **Need for specialized center:**
  - CAR T: Yes
  - Bispecifics: No
- **Potential administration in outpatient setting**
  - CAR T: No (yet?)
  - Bispecifics: Yes (IV and SC)



### Patient Factors

- Age, comorbidities
- Prior treatments
- Patient preference:
  - One treatment: CAR T
  - Multiple treatments: Bispecifics
- Cost



### Tumor Factors:

- Rapidly growing tumor
  - “Off the shelf”: Bi-specifics
  - Need for some therapy for disease control : CAR T-cells
- Tumor antigen density
- Tumor antigen escape
- Tumor Microenvironment

# Sequencing of CAR T-cells and Bispecifics in R/R DLBCL

- CAR T-cells first...then Bispecifics

- Plenty of data....
- Several clinical trials have shown the efficacy and safety of Bispecifics after CAR T failures

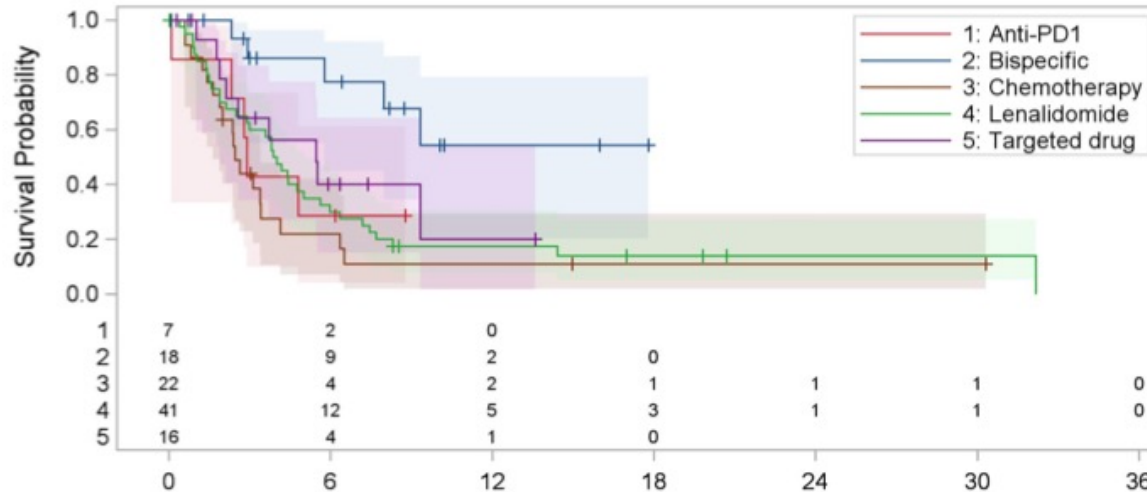


Figure 1: PFS since first progression (months) after CAR T cells therapy according to type of treatment.

# Sequencing of CAR T-cells and Bispecifics in R/R DLBCL

- Bi-specific first...then CAR T-cells

- Data is emerging....
- French **Descar T** Registry: *CAR T-cell therapy remain effective in pts with R/R B-cell NHL after Bispecific antibodies exposure.*  
*Crochet, G. et.al*
  - Retrospective study. 28 pts, 23 with DLBCL
  - Mainly Glofitamab: **ORR:53.6%; CR: 25%. 6mo PFS: 17.4% mDOR: 2.7months.** All pts progressed and went to receive bridge therapy
  - **After CAR T-cells: ORR: 91.6%; CR: 45.8%**
  - Median follow up 12.3 mo: **1-year PFS:37.2; OS:53.5%**
  - No new toxicity signals were identified

# R/R DLBCL: Changing the Treatment Paradigm with CAR T cells and Bispecifics





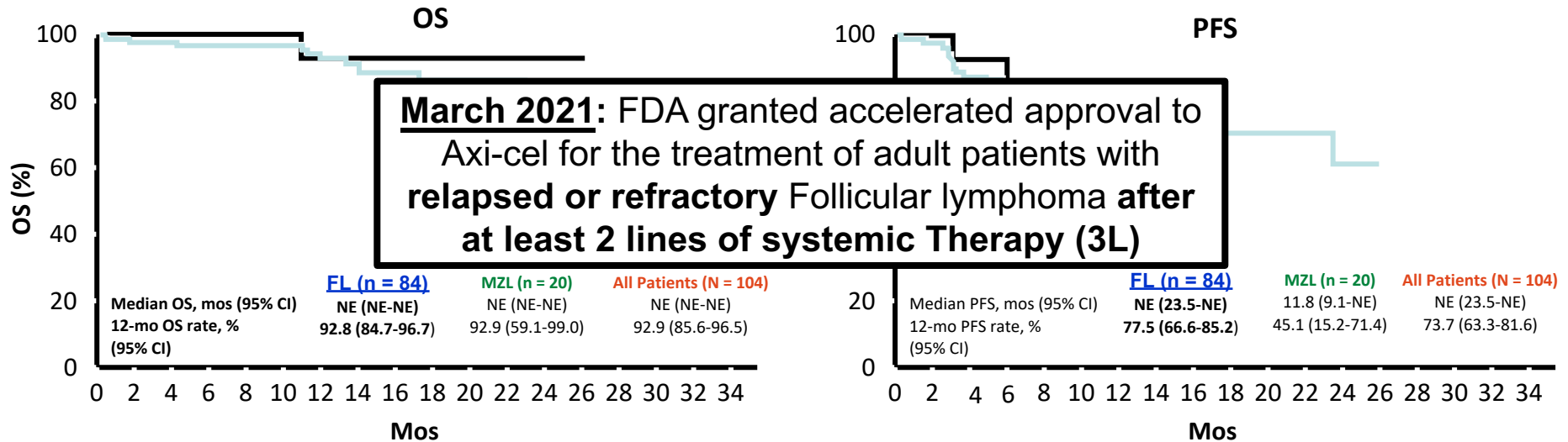
## Second Challenge: CAR-T and Bispecific Antibodies in FL: How to use... and sequence them (...a matter of debate)

- ***Let's look at the data:***
  - “Curative” versus non-curative modality
- ***Factors that would influence their use and/or sequencing:***
  - GOAL of Treatment
  - Product-related factors
  - Patient-related factors
  - Tumor-related factors

# ZUMA-5: Axi-cel for Patients with Relapsed/Refractory Follicular Lymphoma or MZL

Single-arm phase II study of axicabtagene ciloleucel for patients with R/R indolent B-cell NHL (FL or MZL) with  $\geq 2$  prior therapies (N = 104)

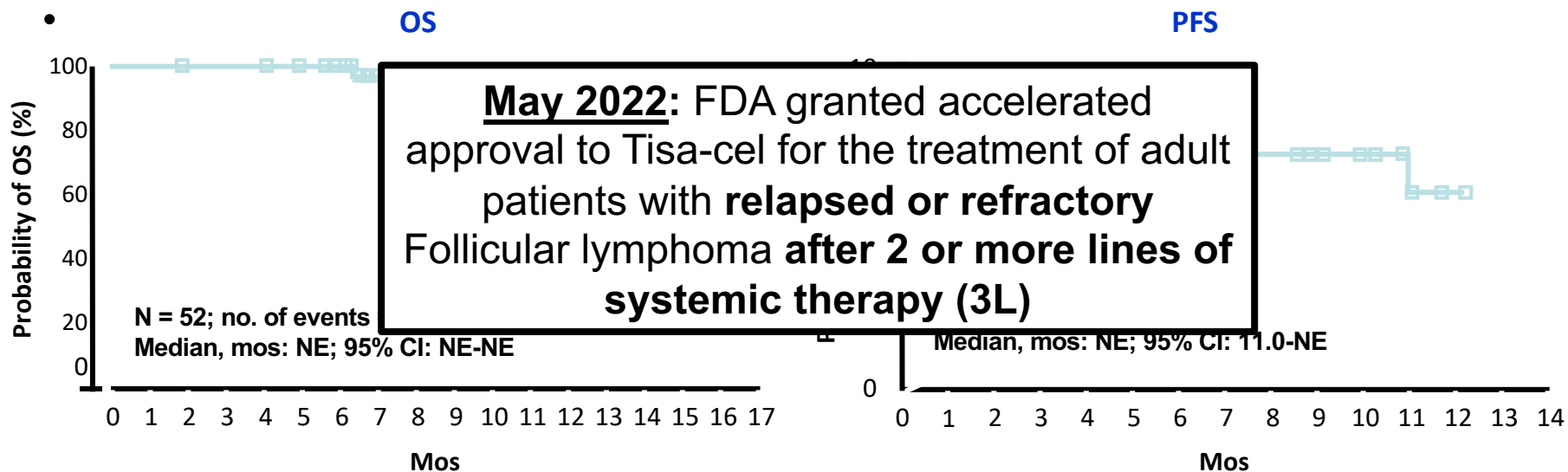
**ORR: 92%; CR rate: 76%**



# ELARA: Tisa-cel for Patients with Relapsed/Refractory Follicular Lymphoma

Single-arm phase II study of tisagenlecleucel for patients with R/R FL (N = 97 at interim analysis)

**ORR: 83%; CR rate: 65%**



# Bispecific: Mosunetuzumab for R/R Follicular Lymphoma after 2L of Therapy

**ORR: 78% CR: 60%**

## Baseline Characteristics:

**N= 90 pts**

Time limited therapy (8 cycles IV if CR but up to 17 cycles if Por less)

Median lines: 3 (2-10)

**Double refractory: 53%**

**POD24: 52%**

**Prior auto HCT: 21%**

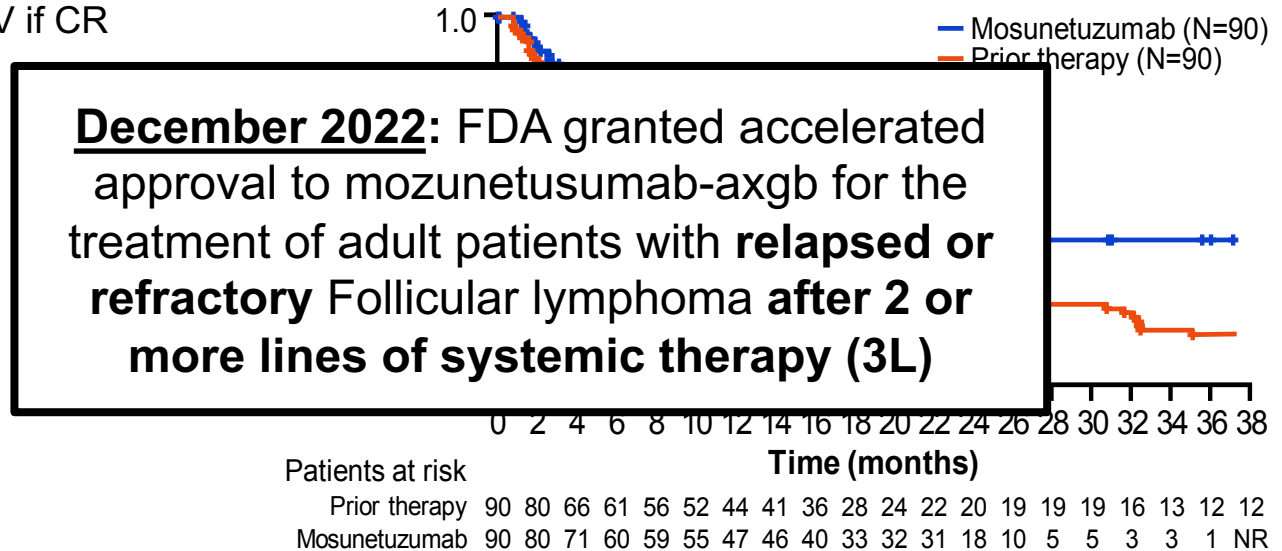
## Results:

**Median f/u: 28.3 months**

**DoR not reached**

**Median PFS= 24%**

**CRS all: 44%; G<sub>≥3</sub>=2%**

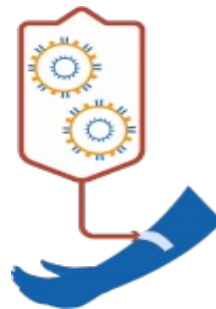


# CAR-T and Bispecific Abs in Follicular Lymphoma: Factors that would influence their use and/or sequencing



## Treatment Goal:

- Cure
  - **CAR T-cells: No**
  - **Bi-specific : No**



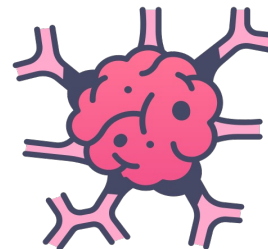
## Product Factors:

- Availability (Clinical trials vs. commercial)
- All approved in 3L
- **Need for specialized center:**
  - **CAR T: Yes**
  - **Bispecifics: No**
- **Potential administration in outpatient setting**
  - **CAR T: No**
  - **Bispecifics: Yes (IV and SC)**

## Patient Factors



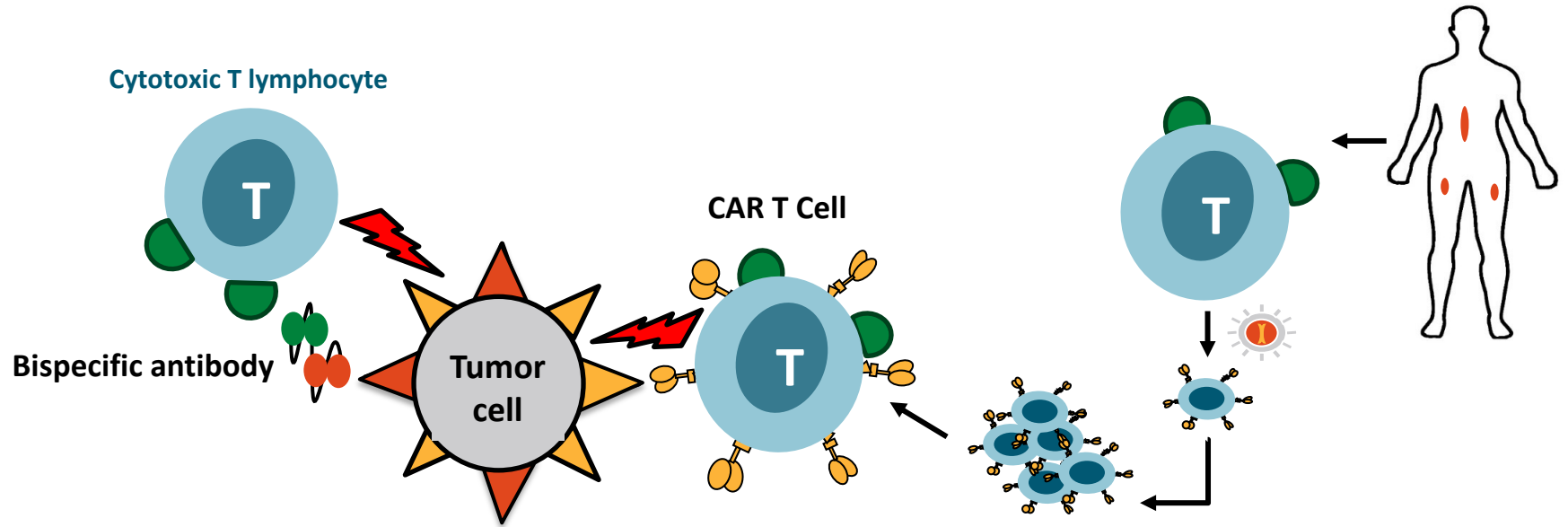
- Age, comorbidities
- Prior treatments
- Patient preference:
  - **One treatment: CAR T**
  - **Multiple treatments: Bispecifics**
- **Cost**



## Tumor Factors:

- Rapidly growing tumor
  - **“Off the shelf”: Bi-specifics**
  - Need for some therapy for disease control : CAR T-cells
- Tumor antigen density
- Tumor antigen escape
- Tumor Microenvironment

# Bispecific Antibodies vs CAR T-Cell Therapy

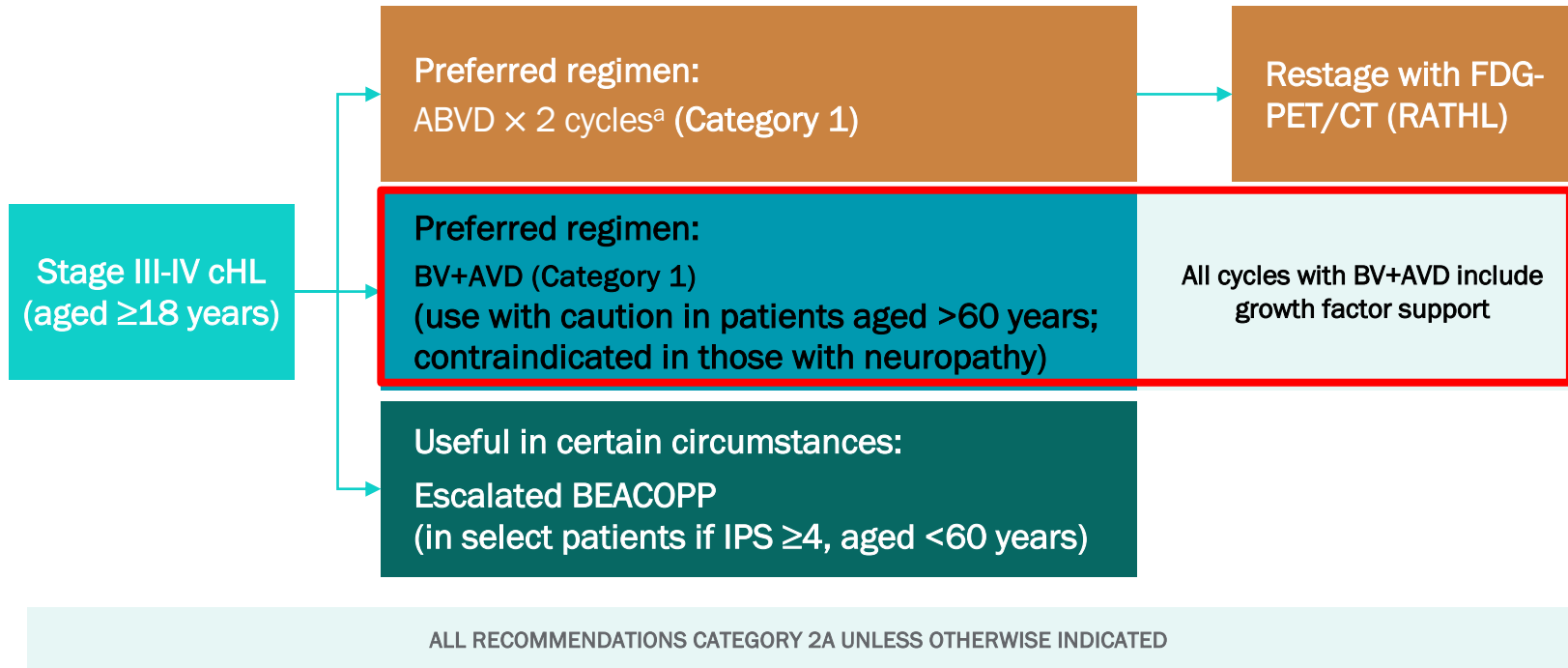


Characteristic	Bispecific Antibodies	CAR T-Cell Therapy
Preparation	"Off the shelf"	<i>In vitro</i> manufacturing (3-4 wks)
Dosing	Repetitive (Lack of persistence and ability to modulate dosing may improve tolerability)	Single (Persistence is associated with some long-lasting side effects)
Side Effects incidence and Grade	Less	Greater

## Third Challenge: Frontline Treatment of Stage III/IV Hodgkin A+AVD or Nivo+AVD?

- ***Let's look at the data:***
  - **GOAL of frontline treatment in Hodgkin Disease:  
CURE**
  - **Side effects**

# NCCN Guidelines in Stage III-IV Classical Hodgkin (Version 2.2023)



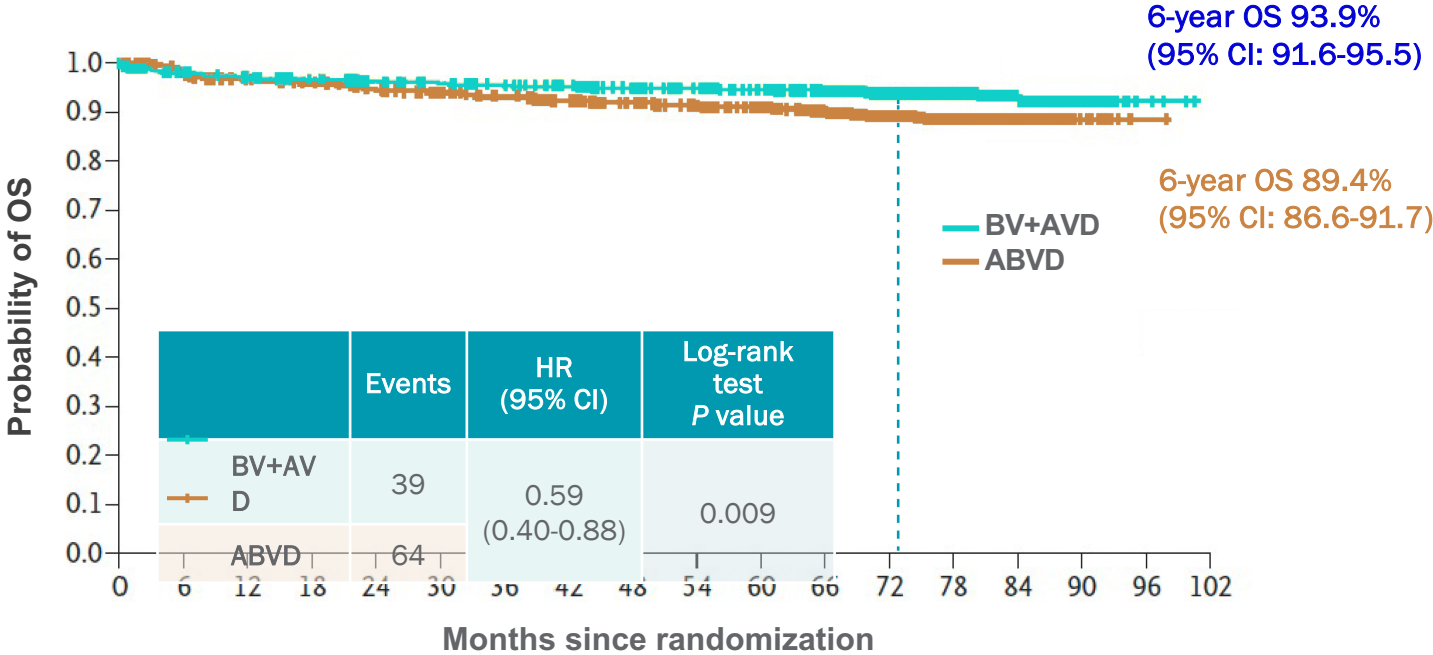
<sup>a</sup> ABVD is preferred based on the toxicity profile and quality of data.

National Comprehensive Cancer Network. Hodgkin Lymphoma (Version 2.2023). Accessed February 2, 2023.

[https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician\\_gls/pdf/hodgkins.pdf](https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician_gls/pdf/hodgkins.pdf)



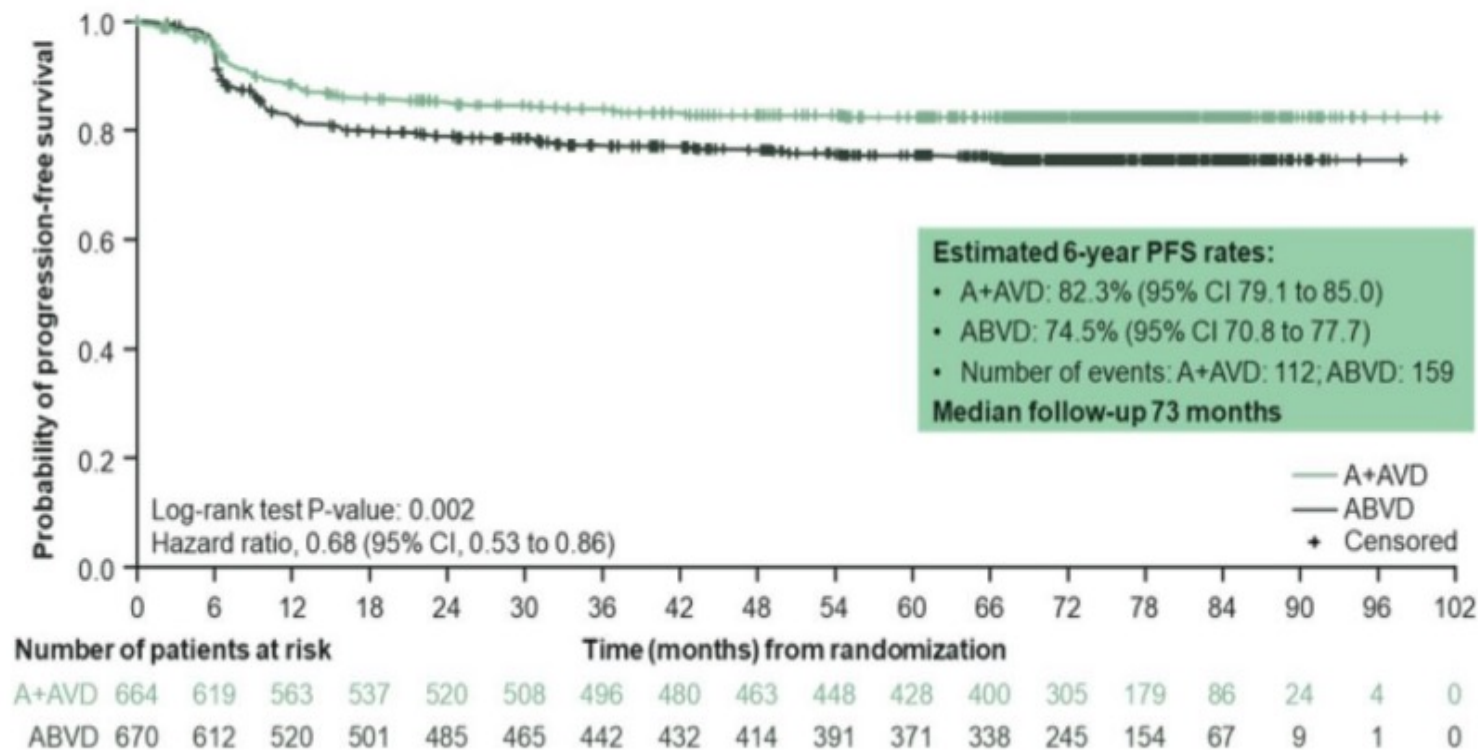
# Echelon-1: OS per Investigator at 6-Year Follow-up



No. of patients at risk

BV+AV	664	638	626	612	598	584	572	557	538	517	494	461	350	209	97	27	4	0
ABVD	670	634	614	604	587	567	545	527	505	479	454	411	308	191	84	11	1	0

# A+AVD reduced the risk of progression or death by 32% when compared with ABVD



## Fewer patients died from HL and disease- or treatment-related complications with A+AVD vs ABVD

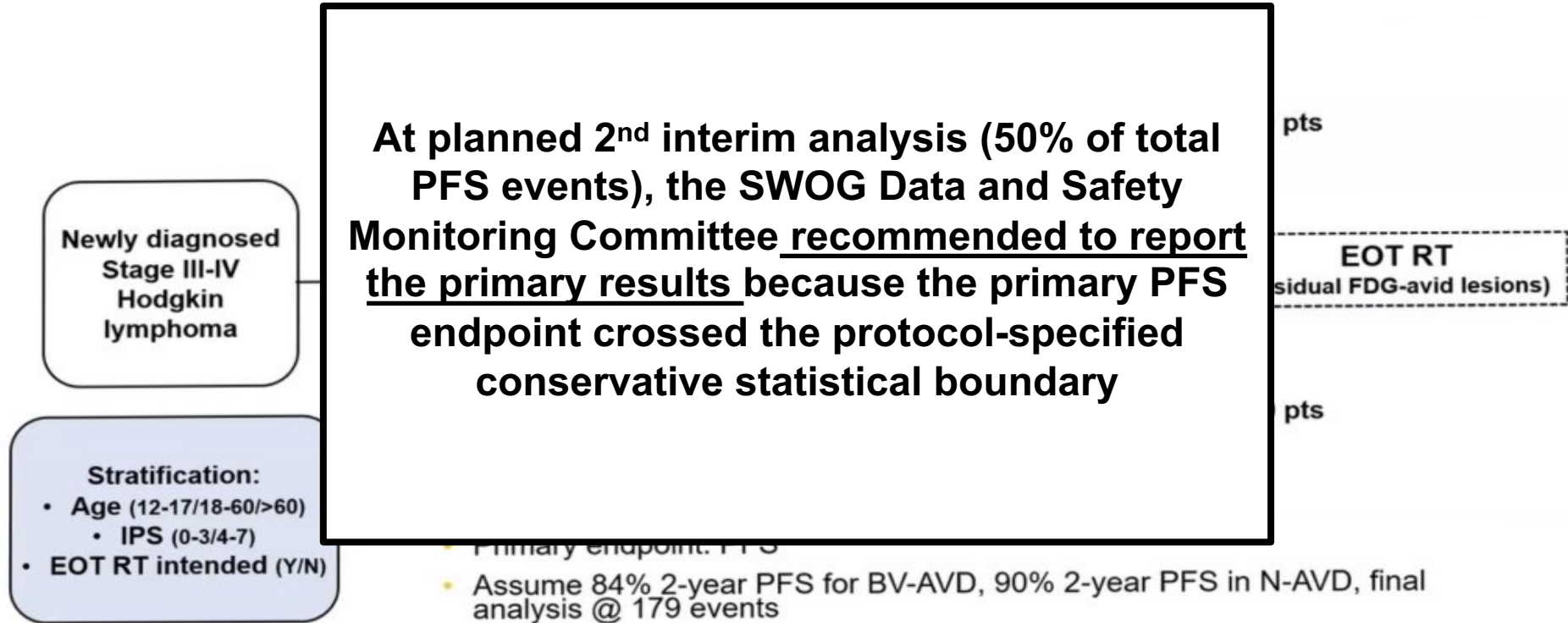
Cause of death per investigator	A+AVD (n=662)	ABVD (n=659)
<b>Total Deaths</b>	<b>39 (5.9%)</b>	<b>64 (9.7%)</b>
Hodgkin lymphoma or complications	32	45
Second malignancies	1	11
<b>Other causes</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>8</b>
Unknown cause	1	5*
Accident or suicide	3	0
COVID-19	0	1
Heart failure	1	1
Intracranial hemorrhage	1	0
Lower respiratory tract infection	0	1

\*In 2 patients in the ABVD arm, death was reported to be of indeterminate cause, but the event occurred following investigator-documented disease progression.

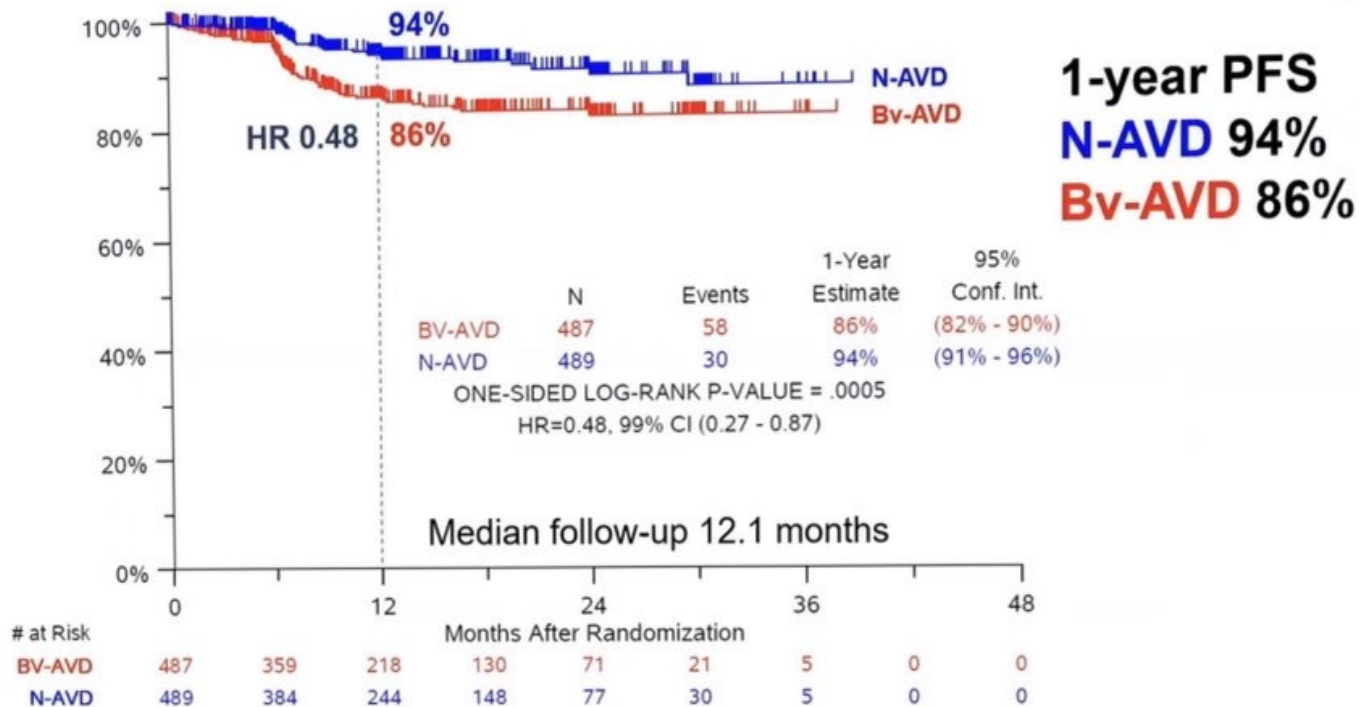
Among those who died:

- A+AVD: 19 patients had prior disease progression (not always the cause of death); 18 received subsequent therapy
- ABVD: 28 patients had prior disease progression, 25 received a subsequent therapy (13 received brentuximab vedotin)

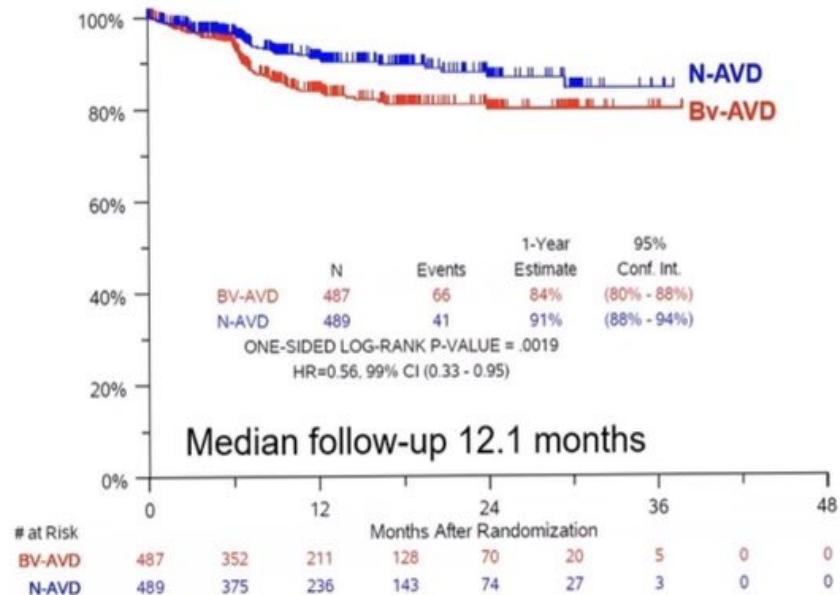
# ASCO 2023: S1826 Intergroup Study Frontline Nivo+AVD vs. BV+AVD in Advanced Stage cHL



# Intergroup Study S1826: PFS



# Intergroup Study S1826: EFS



**1-year EFS**  
**N-AVD 91%**  
**Bv-AVD 84%**

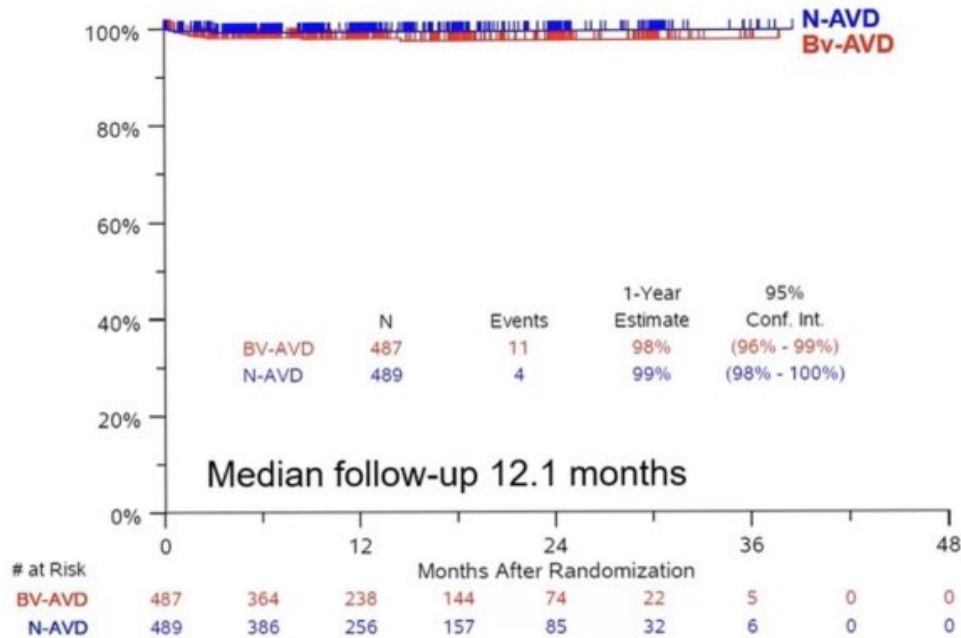
EFS events: death, progression, non-protocol treatment before progression

EFS event	N-AVD	Bv-AVD
Non-protocol chemo before PD	9	6
Non-protocol immunotx before PD	1	0
Non-protocol RT prior to PD	1*	3**
Progression/Relapse	26	47
Death without progression	4	10
<b>Total EFS Event</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>66</b>

\* Intended for RT, EOT DS=3, received RT anyways

\*\*1/3 intended for RT, 1 with EOT DS=2 and off tx due to AE then received RT, 2 with EOT DS=3 and received RT anyways

# Intergroup Study S1826: OS



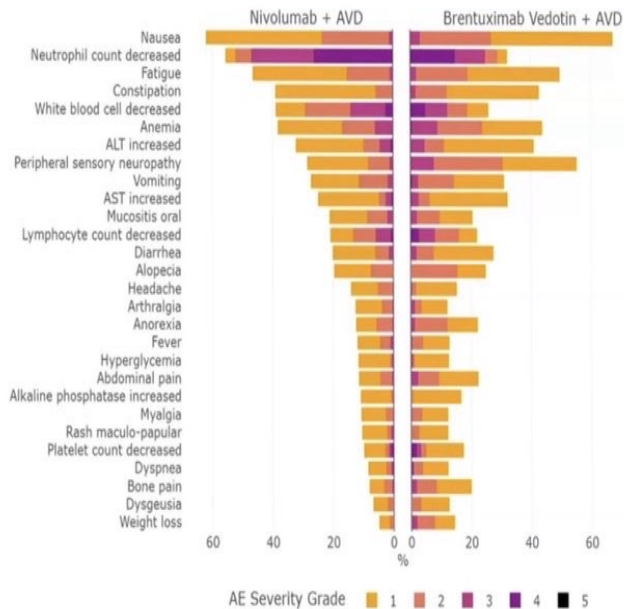
Cause of death	N-AVD	Bv-AVD
Infection	2	4
Sepsis	1	2*
Cardiac arrest	0	1
Pneumonitis	0	1
Dehydration, vomiting, cHL	0	1
cHL	1**	0
Unknown	1	2
<b>Total OS events</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>11</b>

\* 1 death from COVID-19/sepsis

\*\* never received treatment, ineligible on C1D1

# Intergroup Study S1826: Toxicities

## Adverse Events in ≥ 10% patients by Arm



Toxicity	N-AVD n = 483		Bv-AVD n = 473	
	Any Gr N (%)	Gr ≥ 3 N (%)	Any Gr N (%)	Gr ≥ 3 N (%)
<b>Neutropenia</b>	<b>268 (55%)</b>	<b>227 (47%)</b>	<b>152 (32%)</b>	<b>118 (25%)</b>
<b>Anemia</b>	<b>185 (38%)</b>	<b>29 (6%)</b>	<b>207 (44%)</b>	<b>42 (9%)</b>
<b>Thrombocytopenia</b>	<b>48 (10%)</b>	<b>8 (2%)</b>	<b>82 (17%)</b>	<b>15 (3%)</b>
<b>Received G-CSF</b>	<b>265 (54%)</b>		<b>463 (98%)</b>	
<b>Bone pain</b>	<b>39 (8%)</b>		<b>94 (20%)</b>	

**More neutropenia after N-AVD**  
**More growth factor use, bone pain in Bv-AVD arm**

Toxicity	N-AVD n = 483	Bv-AVD n = 473
<b>Febrile Neutropenia</b>	<b>26 (5%)</b>	<b>32 (7%)</b>
<b>Sepsis</b>	<b>9 (2%)</b>	<b>16 (3%)</b>
<b>Infections/Infestations</b>	<b>22 (5%)</b>	<b>36 (8%)</b>

**No increased infectious toxicity in N-AVD arm**



# Intergroup Study S1826: Toxicities

Toxicity	N-AVD n = 483		Bv-AVD n = 473	
	Any Grade No (%)	Grade ≥ 3 No (%)	Any Grade No (%)	Grade ≥ 3 No (%)
ALT increased	156 (32%)	22 (5%)	194 (41%)	22 (5%)
AST increased	120 (25%)	12 (2%)	153 (32%)	13 (3%)
Rash maculo-papular	51 (11%)	4 (1%)	58 (12%)	0 (0)
Hypothyroidism	33 (7%)	1 (0%)	3 (1%)	0 (0)
Rash acneiform	18 (4%)	0 (0)	12 (3%)	0 (0)
Pneumonitis	10 (2%)	2 (0%)	15 (3%)	10 (2%)
Gastritis	10 (2%)	3 (1%)	8 (2%)	0 (0)
Hyperthyroidism	14 (3%)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Colitis	5 (1%)	1 (0%)	6 (1%)	4 (1%)

**Low rates of immune-related adverse events**

Toxicity	N-AVD n = 483		Bv-AVD n = 473	
	Any Gr N (%)	Gr ≥ 3 N (%)	Any Gr N (%)	Gr ≥ 3 N (%)
Peripheral sensory neuropathy	138 (29%)	6 (1%)	262 (55%)	37 (8%)
Peripheral motor neuropathy	20 (4%)	1 (0%)	35 (7%)	6 (1%)

**More neuropathy in Bv-AVD arm**

## Intergroup Study S1826: Treatment Discontinuation

Disposition	N-AVD (n=489) N (%)	Bv-AVD (n=487) N (%)
Treatment ongoing	22	30
Completed treatment	428	400
<b>Discontinued all treatment early</b>	<b>39 (8%)</b>	<b>57 (12%)</b>
Adverse event	22 (4%)	18 (4%)
Refusal unrelated to AE	10	14
<b>Progression/relapse</b>	<b>0 (0%)</b>	<b>7 (1.4%)</b>
<b>Death on treatment</b>	<b>2 (0.4%)</b>	<b>8 (1.6%)</b>
Other – not protocol specified	5	10
<b>Discontinued Bv or Nivolumab</b>	<b>53 (11%)</b>	<b>109 (22%)</b>
<b>Received radiotherapy</b>	<b>2 (0.4%)</b>	<b>4 (0.8%)</b>

## Third Challenge: Frontline Treatment of Stage III/IV Hodgkin A+AVD or Nivo+AVD?

- *Let's look at the data:*
  - **GOAL** of treatment in Hodgkin Disease: **CURE**
    - Curative versus non-curative modality
  - Side effects

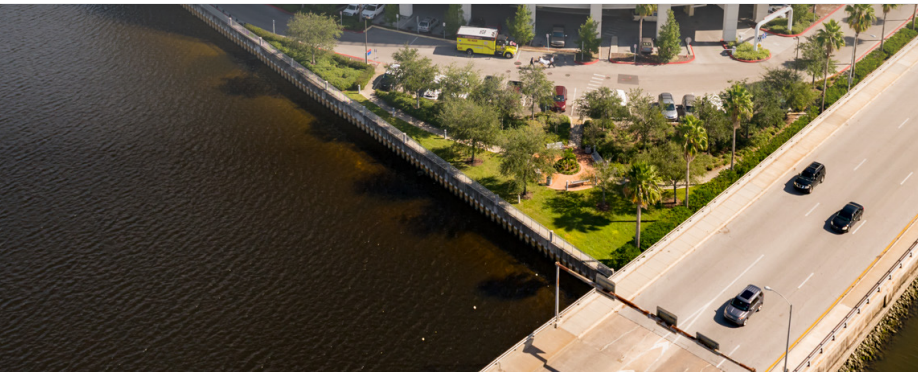
- *Longer follow-up with BV + AVD*
  - Improved OS over ABVD
- *Shorter follow-up with Nivo + AVD*
  - Data from Intergroup Study S1826 is very encouraging, but time will tell whether it will provide (or not) better OS than BV+AVD
- *Both are well tolerated regimens with different set of adverse events*



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**THANK YOU !**



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