

A background image of the Chicago skyline at dusk, with the Willis Tower and other skyscrapers illuminated against a twilight sky. The city lights reflect on the water in the foreground.

**20<sup>TH</sup>**

**INTERNATIONAL  
ULTMANN  
CHICAGO  
LYMPHOMA  
SYMPOSIUM**

**APRIL 21-22, 2023**

**Caring for Older  
Patients with Hodgkin  
Lymphoma**



**Andrew M. Evens, DO, MBA, MSc**  
**Professor of Medicine, Rutgers RWJ Medical School**  
**Associate Director (Clinical Services), Rutgers CINJ**  
**Medical Director, Oncology Service Line, RWJBH System**  
**Associate Vice Chancellor, RBHS, Rutgers University**



# Disclosures

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- I hereby declare the following potential conflicts of interest concerning my presentation:
  - Consultancy and Honoraria (research or educational): Epizyme; MorphoSys; Hutchmed; Daiichi Sankyo, OncLive; Abbvie; Seattle Genetics, Pharmacyclics; Novartis; Research to Practice
  - Research Funding: LLS, ORIEN, and NCI/NIH
  - Patents and Royalties: none
  - Membership on an Entity's Board of Directors or Advisory Committees: none
  - Discussion of off-label drug use: checkpoint inhibitor therapy in frontline



# Older Hodgkin Lymphoma

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- **Defined: ages  $\geq 60$  years**
- **Under-represented in clinical trials:  $<5-10\%$  (vs.  $15-25\%$  population)**
- **Standard treatment approach has been absent**
- **Outcomes disproportionately inferior to younger pts**
- **Why?**
  - **Different biology/disease (e.g., mix cell, EBV)**
  - **Advanced stage (60-80%)**
  - **Co-morbidities precluding adequate treatment**
  - **'Uniqueness' of ABVD (vs CHOP, etc)**
  - **Treatment-related toxicities (esp. bleomycin)**
  - **? Therapeutic nihilism**

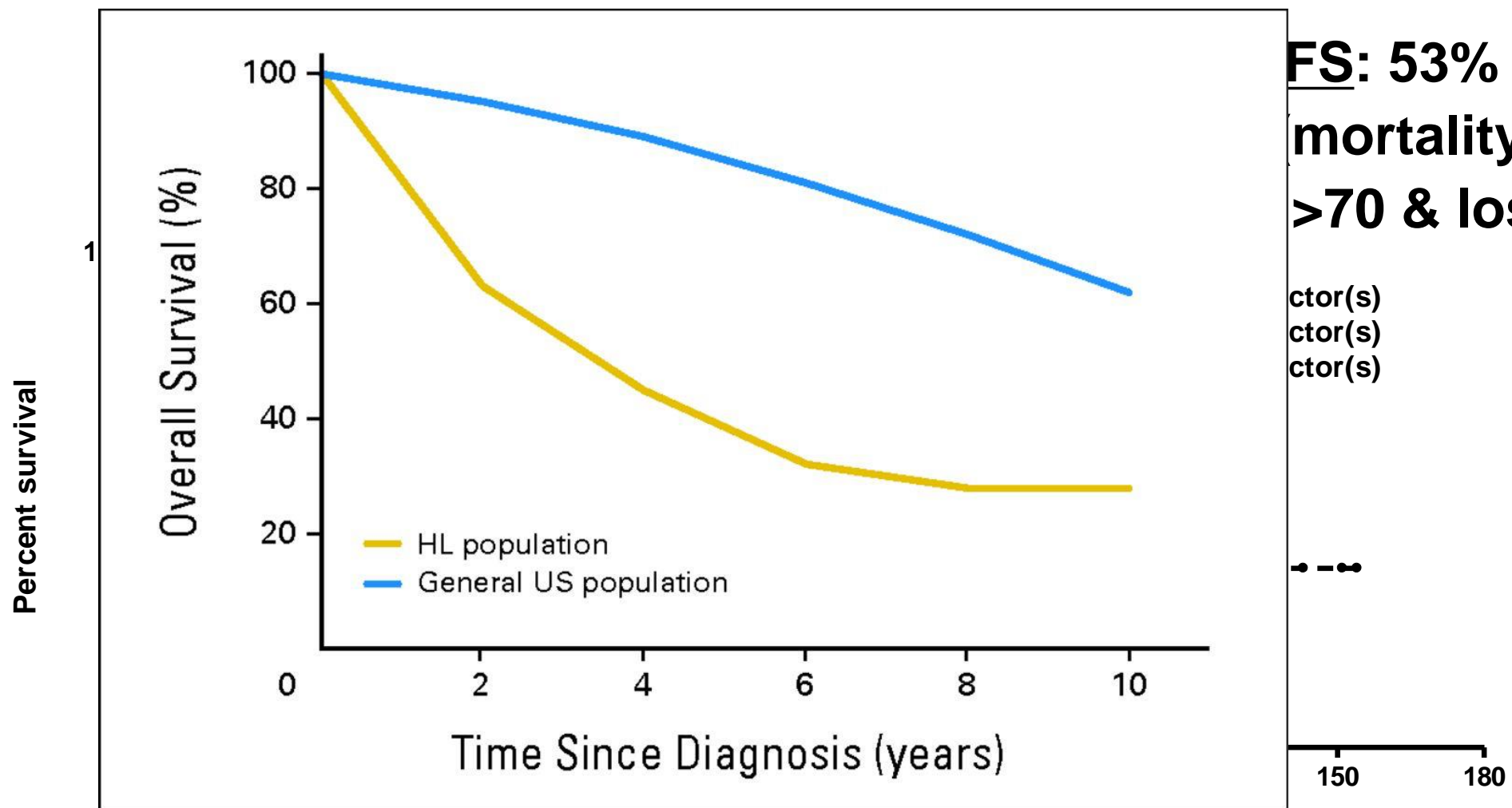


# Treatment of Elderly HL (1970 to 2000)

- **Decreased intensity of chemotherapy and individualized dosing**
  - e.g., CVP/CEB, ChIVPP +/- OEPA, VEPEMB
- **Non-anthracycline options**
  - e.g., VBM, ChIVPP, BCVPP
- **Dose intensity important?**
  - 5-year CSS 51%, OS 39% (MOPP/ABV)
  - RDI > 65% improved OS (P=0.001)
- **BEACOPP *baseline*: 21% TRM**

Levis A et al. Haematologica 1996; Enblad G et al. Acta Oncol 2002; Bakemeier RF et al. Ann Intern Med 1984; Zinzani PL et al. Haematologica 2000; McElwain TJ et al. Br J Cancer. 1977; Levis et al Ann Oncol. 2004; Weekes, et al. JCO. 2002; Landren et al. Haematologica. 2003;

# Chicago Elderly HL: EFS + OS (2000-2009): A Prognostic Model

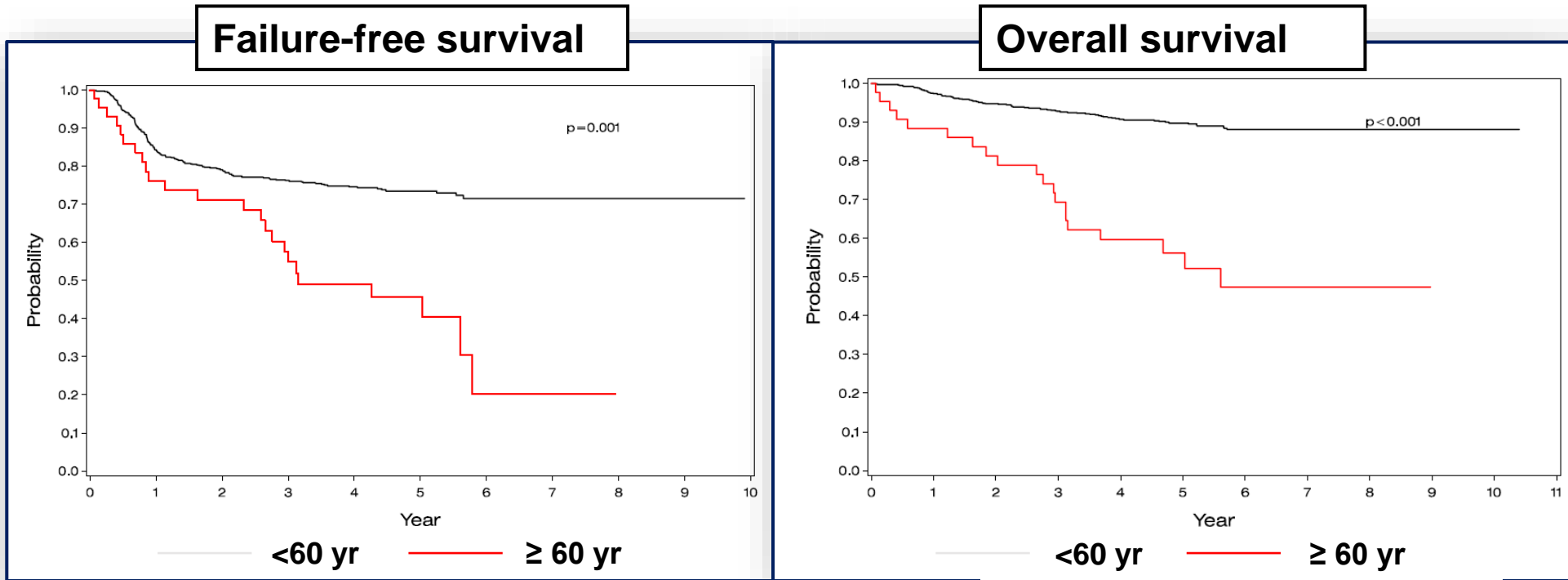


Evens AM and Hong F. JCO 2013

2012; 119:692-5




# E2496 (ABVD vs Stanford V): Older vs Younger HL



		< 60 years	=/≥ 60 years	P
FFS	3-year	76%	56%	0.002
	5-year	74%	48%	
OS	3-year	93%	70%	<0.0001
	5-year	90%	58%	

# E2496 Older Patients: Toxicity

- Overall treatment-related mortality: 9.3% (vs 0.3% <60 years,  $p<0.001$ )
  - Grade 5: 2 ABVD (bleomycin lung toxicity n=2) and 2 Stanford V (GI bleed/RF+ colitis/sepsis)
- Bleomycin lung toxicity
  - CTCAE coding: grade 3 or 4 hypoxia, DLCO, pneumonitis, pulmonary other, etc
  - Overall incidence: 26% (*fatality rate: 18%*)
  - Age 69 yrs (61-78) and 50% non-smokers
  - 91% (10/11) received ABVD
  - Timing: Cycle 3 (n=2), cycle 4 (n=2), cycle 5 (n=2), cycle 6 (n=3), month 3 (n=1)  **2 Fatalities**

# Are anthracyclines important?

- From 1982 to 1998: 56 pts ages  $\geq 60$  years with ChIVPP or ChIVPP/ABV
  - 5-year EFS & OS pts  $<60$ : 75% & 87% vs  $\geq 60$  yrs: 31% & 39%
  - 5-year OS ages  $>60$ : 30% w/ ChIVPP (n=31) vs 67% w/ ChIVPP/ABV (n=25),  $P 0.0086$

Weekes, et al.  
JCO. 2002.

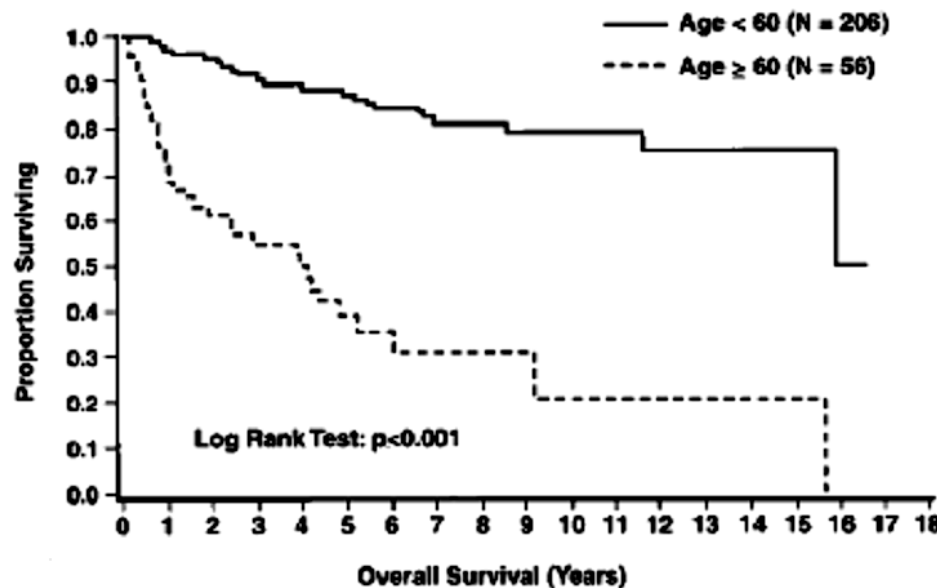


Fig 1. Overall survival by age group. The difference between the curves is significant (log-rank test;  $P < .001$ ).

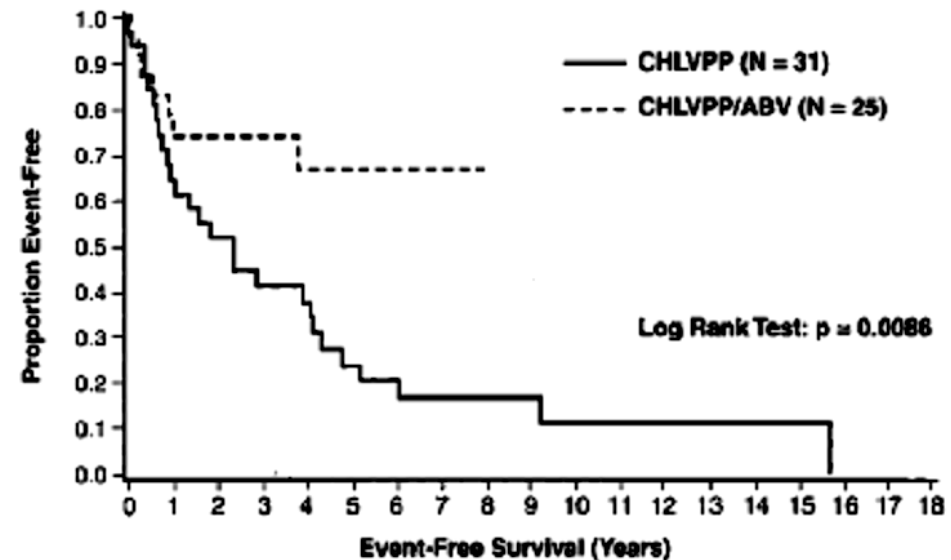


Fig 3. Overall survival of patients  $\geq 60$  years old segregated on the basis of treatment regimen. The difference between the curves was significant (log-rank test;  $P = .0086$ ).

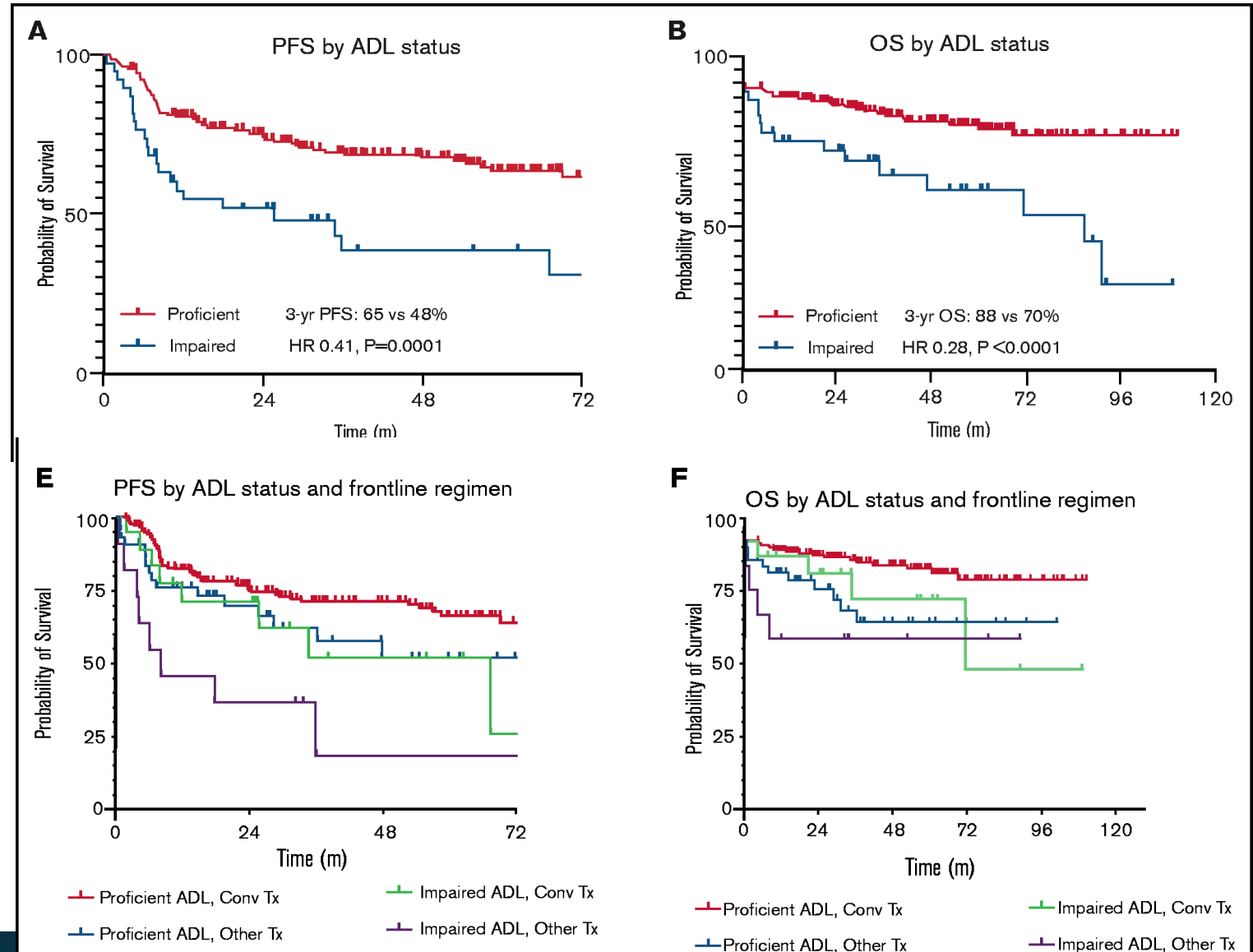


# Threading the Older Patient Needle

- Multicenter analysis of geriatric fitness and real-world outcomes in older patients with classical Hodgkin lymphoma (2010-2018)
  - 244 pts, median age 68 yrs, 63% stage III/IV, 12% loss of  $\geq 1$  ADL, 18% CIRS-G score  $\geq 10$  (conventional Tx = anthracycline-based)

Goh Z et al. Clin Lymphoma Myeloma Leuk. 2023 Feb 1;S2152-2650.

Orellana-Noia V et al. Blood Adv 2021

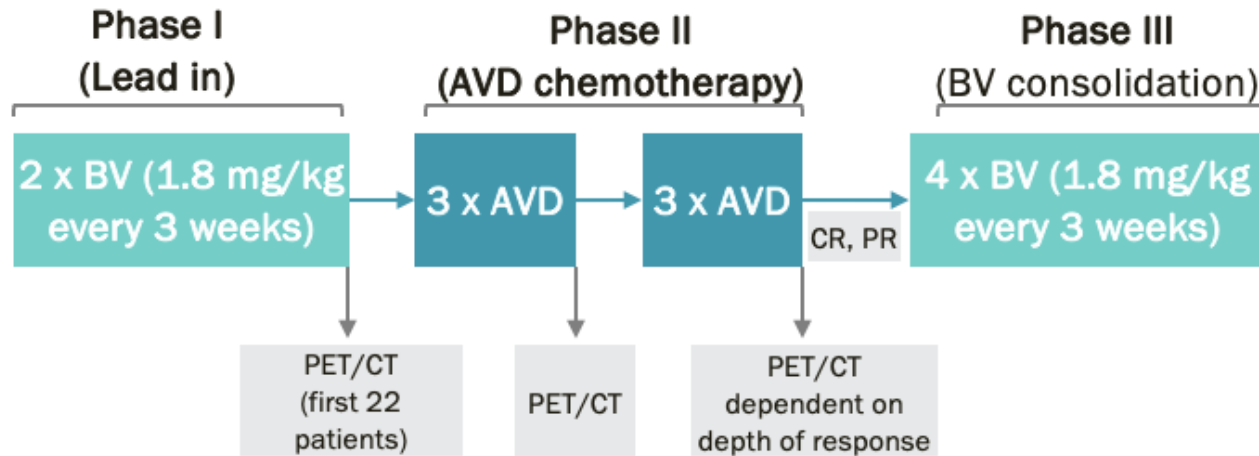


**2018 to Current:**

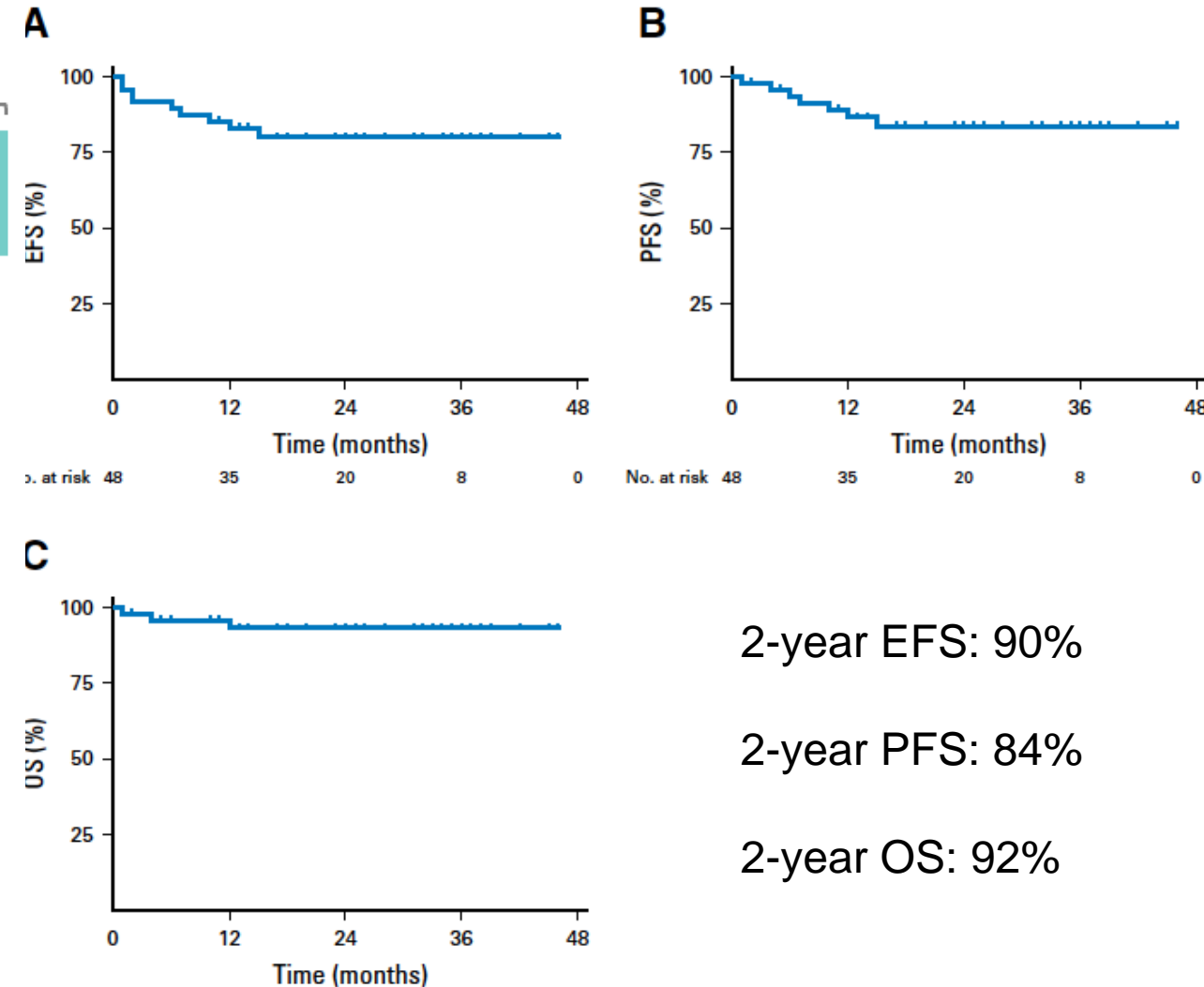
**Clinical Trial Data with Targeted  
Therapeutic Platforms (Fit vs Unfit/Frail)**



# Phase 2 1L BV-AVD in Older HL Patients: Efficacy/Safety



- Among all 48 patients, 77% completed all 6 cycles of AVD therapy
- Grade 3 or 4 adverse events occurred in 42% of patients, with the highest incidence of neutropenia (44%)
  - 4% of patients grade 3 peripheral neuropathy (27% grade 2); 69% events were reversible to grade 1 or lower at 90 days after completion of treatment

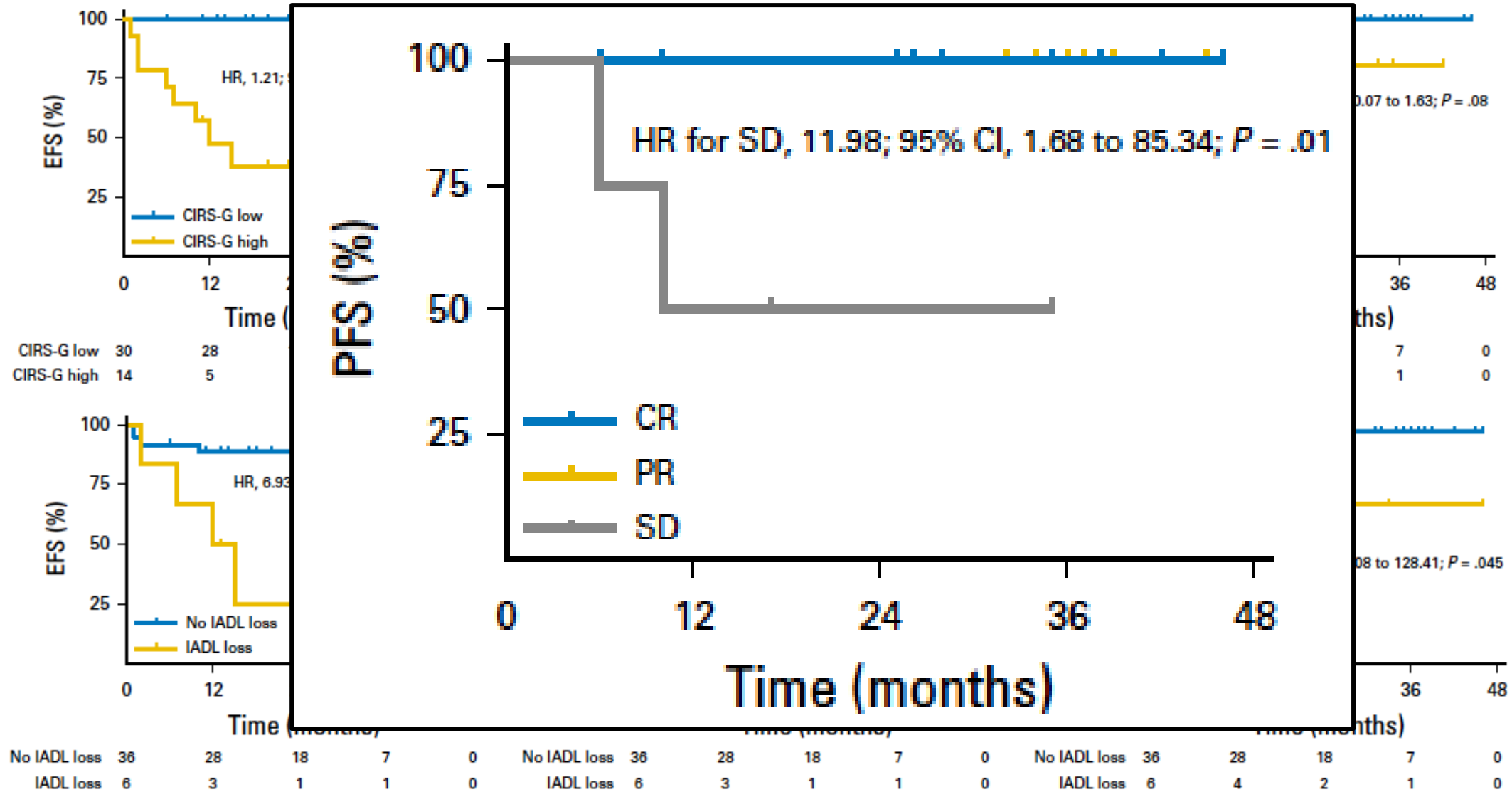


2-year EFS: 90%

2-year PFS: 84%

2-year OS: 92%

# Was “functional status” prognostic of outcome?



# ECHELON-1 Older HL Patients (n=186)

	≥60 yrs A+AVD	≥60 yrs ABVD	<60 yrs A+AVD	<60 yrs ABVD
24-month PFS	70.3%	71.4%	83.7%	78.2%
60-month PFS	67.1%	61.6%	84.3%	77.8%

- Toxicity Older pts (A+AVD vs ABVD)
  - Fatal AEs: 4% vs 5%, respectively
  - Any grade febrile neutropenia: 37% vs 17%, respectively
  - Pulmonary AE: 2% vs. 13%, respectively

	≥60 yrs A+AVD	≥60 yrs ABVD	<60 yrs A+AVD	<60 yrs ABVD
Any grade PN	65%	43%	67%	43%
Grade 2 PN	19%	13%	20%	8%
Grade 3/4 PN	18%	3%	9%	1%
Resolution/Imp	80% (56%/24%)	83% (71%/12%)	86% (74%/12%)	86% (81%/5%)

# “Unfit” Older HL: BV +/- DTIC or Bendamustine or Nivo

Efficacy Evaluable Set	Part A BV mono N=25	Part B BV+DTIC N=19	Part C BV+benda N=17	Part D BV+nivo N=19
<b>ORR, n (%)</b>	<b>23 (92)</b>	<b>19 (100)</b>	<b>17 (100)</b>	<b>18 (95)</b>
Best overall response				
Complete response	18 (72)	13 (68)	15 (88)	15 (79)
Partial response	5 (20)	6 (32)	2 (12)	3 (16)
Stable disease	2 (8)	0	0	1 (5)
Progressive disease	0	0	0	0
<b>Duration of response, n</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
Median (min, max)	9.1 (2.8, 81.4+)	45.4 (0.0+, 67.3)	39.0 (0.0+, 56.8+)	NR (1.4+, 27.5+)

Grade 3 PN

35%

25%

20%

33%

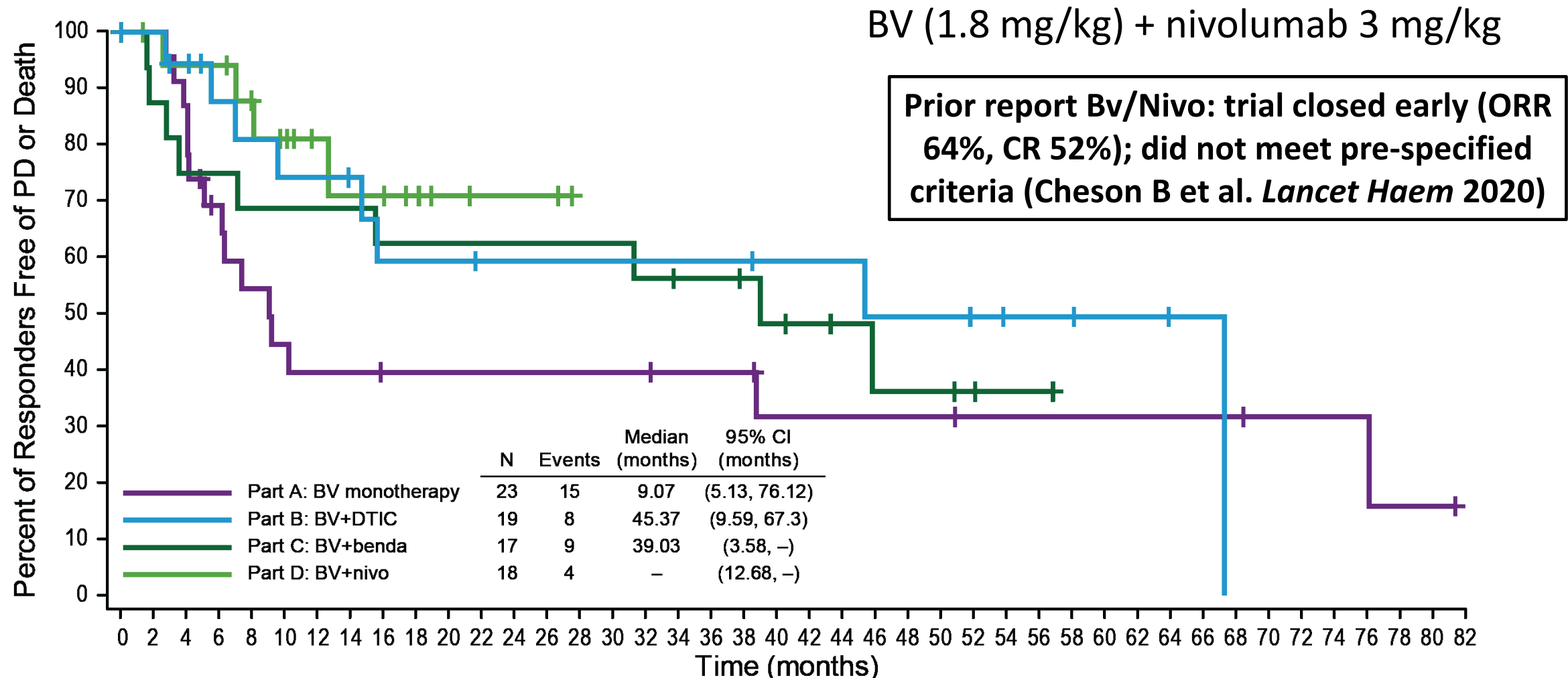
Closed early due to  
toxicity (2 toxic deaths)

Friedberg J et al. Blood, 2017

Yasenchak CA et al. ASH 2020; Abstract 471.

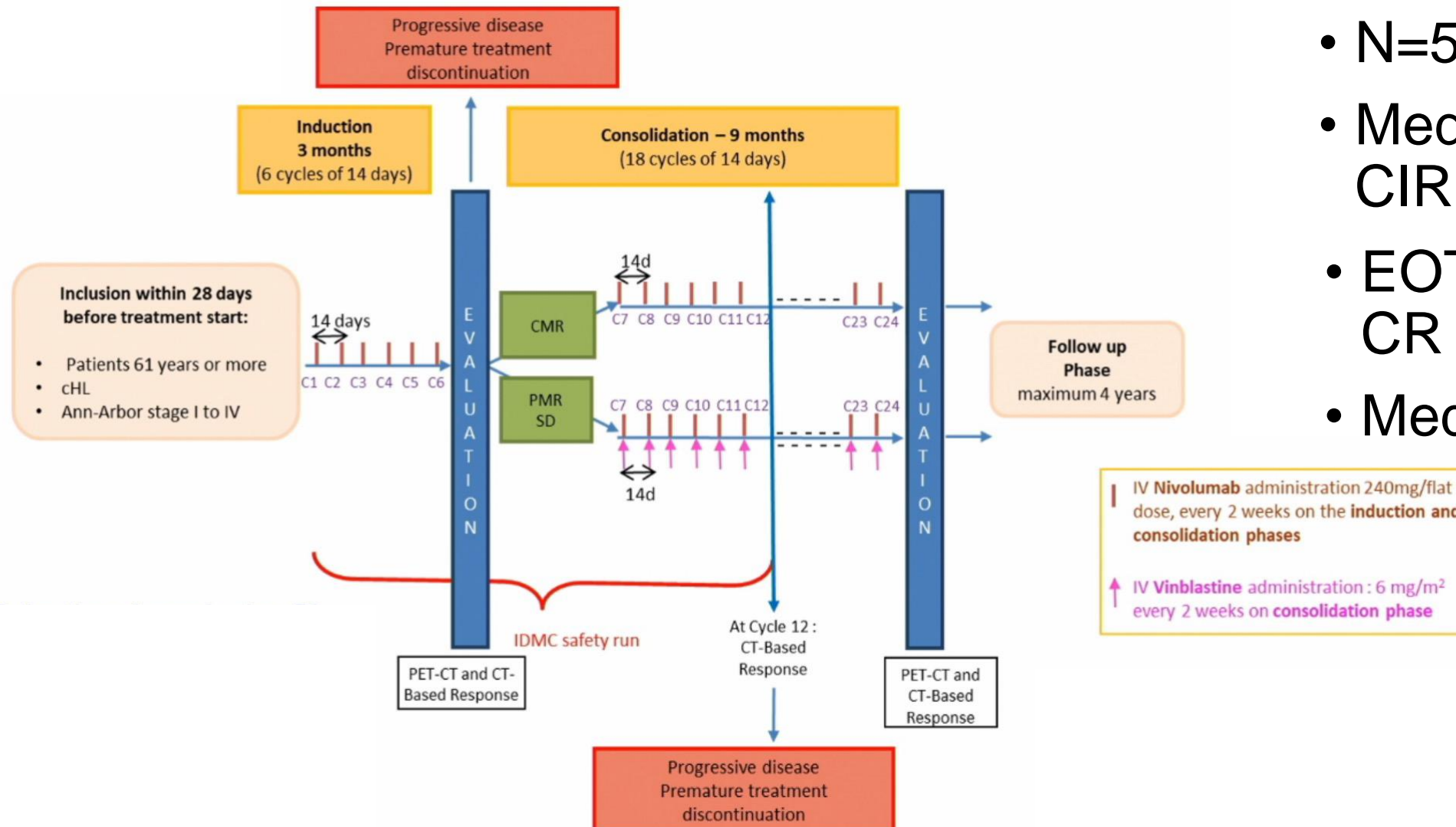


# BV +/- DTIC or Bendamustine or Nivolumab



# Nivolumab for untreated frail older HL pts: NIVINIHO trial, Ph 2 LYSA group study

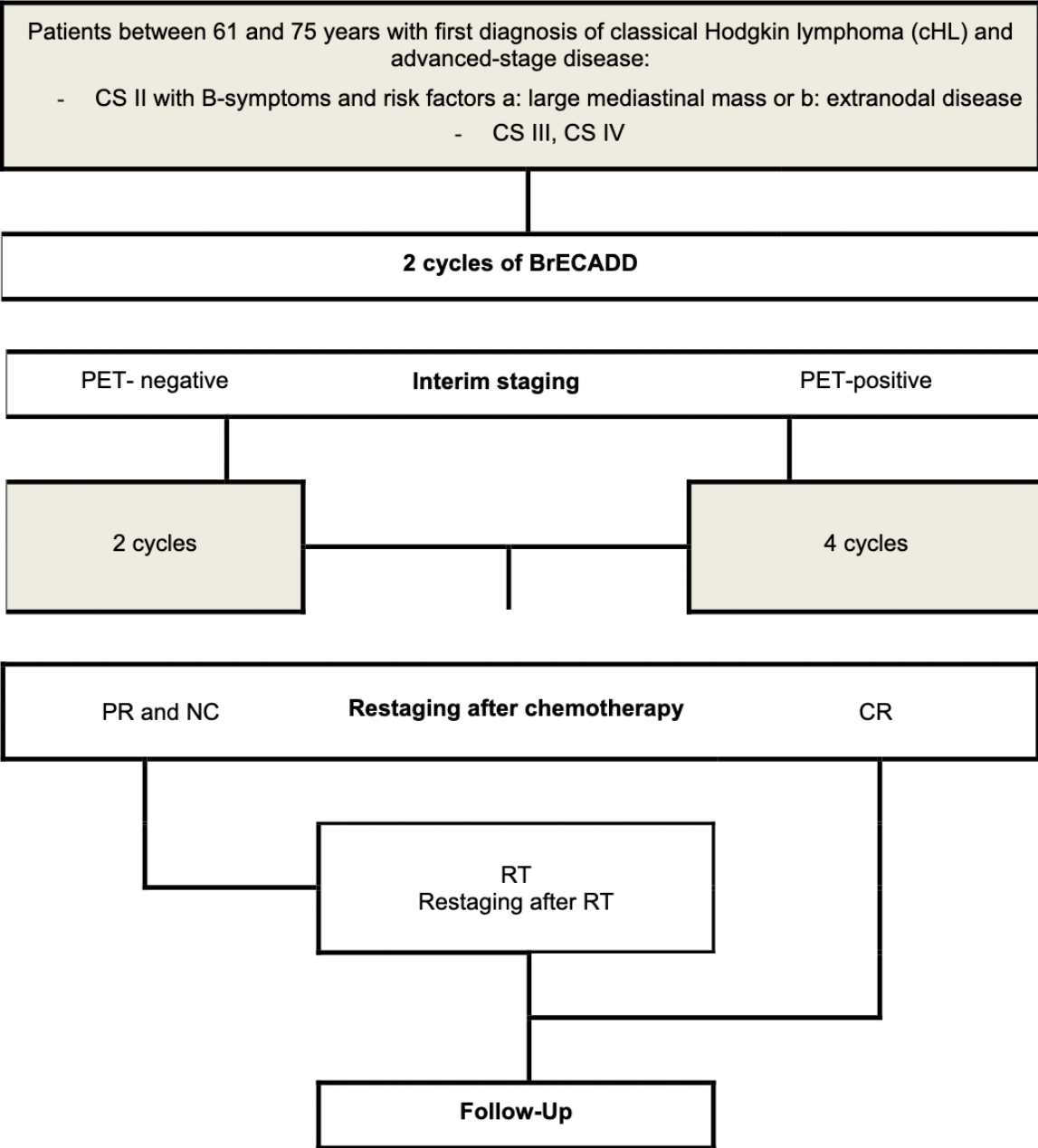
- N=56 pts efficacy
- Med age 75 yrs, med CIRS-G 10 (6-18)
- EOT ORR 47% w/ CR 29% (16% EOI)
- Median PFS 9.8 mos



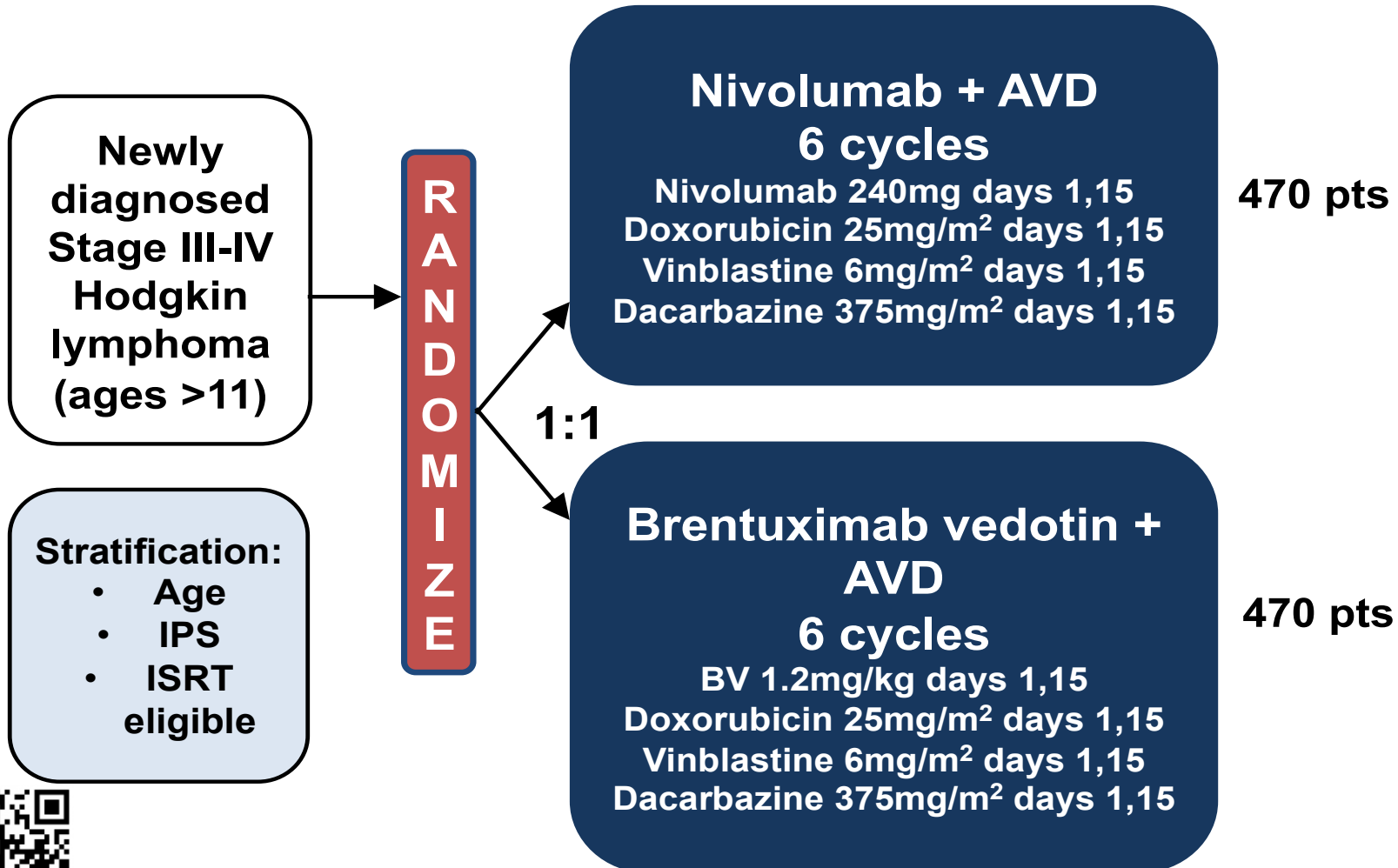
# Ongoing and New Studies



# Ongoing / future studies in older HL: GHSG HD21



# North American Cooperative Group Study for Advanced Stage HL: S1826



 **SWOG** | CANCER RESEARCH NETWORK

 **ECOG-ACRIN**  
cancer research group  
Reshaping the future of patient care

 **Alliance**  
for Clinical Trials  
in Oncology

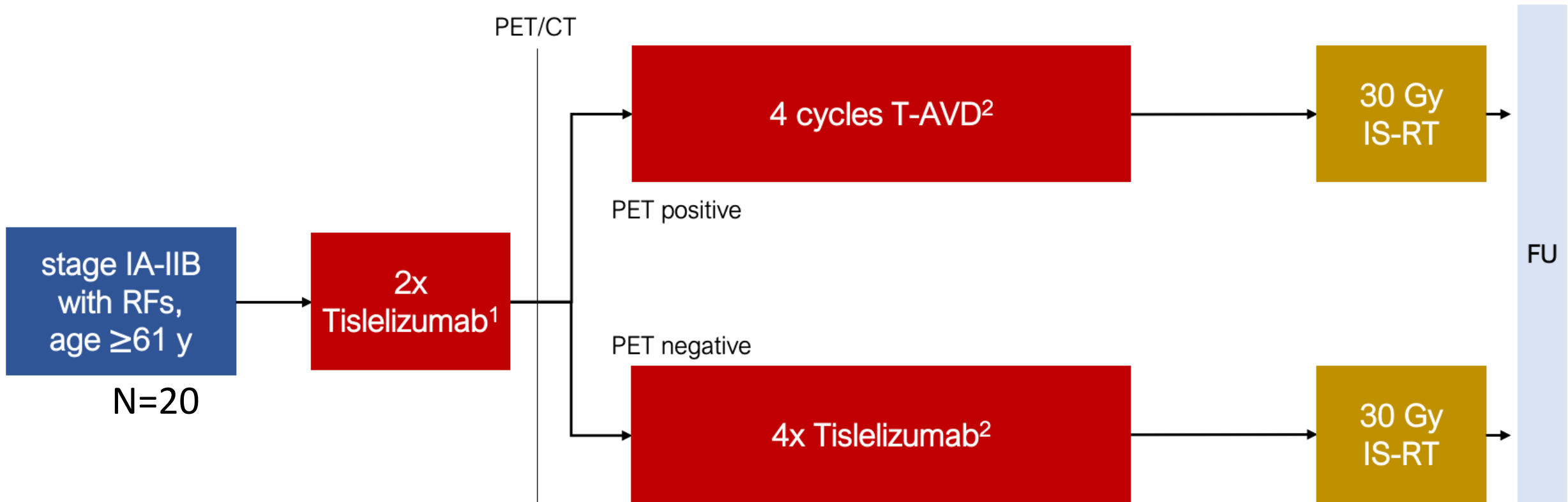
 **CHILDREN'S ONCOLOGY GROUP**  
The world's childhood cancer experts

 **Canadian Cancer Trials Group**  
A national program of the Canadian Cancer Society

SWOG: A.Herrera; COG: K.Kelly; Alliance: S.Rutherford; ECOG: A.Evens



# INDIE: Elderly Cohort



\*chemotherapy should start as soon as central PET evaluation is available. Up to 1 further dose tislelizumab is allowed in case of severe delay of PET panel assessment.

<sup>1</sup>Tislelizumab 200mg Q3W <sup>2</sup>Tislelizumab 300mg Q4W, on day 1 of each 28-day AVD cycle if combined with AVD. RFs: GHSG risk factors for early-stage unfavorable; y: years

Supported with drug & funding by BeiGene. <sup>1</sup> 200mg 3-weekly <sup>2</sup> 400mg 4-weekly.  
Abbreviations: RF: risk factors, y: years, T-AVD: tislelizumab and AVD, FU: follow-up



# UK Older cHL Patient Study

## Early (fav):

- stage I/II with no bulk;
- ESR < 50 (or < 30 with B Symptoms),
- no E-disease;
- 1-2 nodal sites involved

Newly diagnosed  
cHL > 60 chemo fit  
but for whom ABVD  
not recommended  
by the investigators

Tislelizumab x3

PET

CMR

Early stage (fav)  
T x2

RT<sup>1</sup>

PET

T every 3 weeks  
until PD, tox or 2y  
from first dose

Early stage (unfav)  
T+AVD x2

RT<sup>1</sup>

PET

Advanced stage  
T+AVDx4

RT<sup>1</sup>

PET

Early stage  
T+AVD x4

PET

RT<sup>1</sup>

PET

Advanced stage  
T+AVDx6

PET

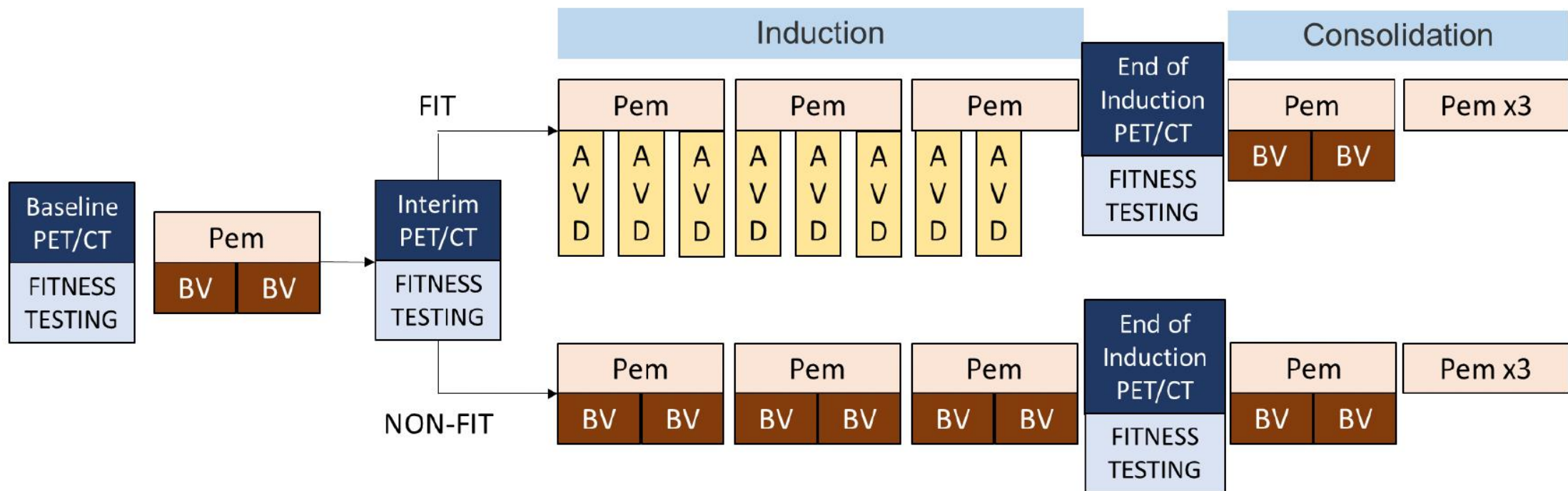
RT<sup>1</sup>

PMR, SD, PD

 *RATIFY*

<sup>1</sup>Radiotherapy integrated as per local recommendations

# New 1L Ph. 2 Study for Older HL pts



**Pem:** Pembrolizumab 400mg IV q6W

**BV:** Brentuximab vedotin 1.8 mg/kg IV q3W

**4 week cycles:**

**A:** Doxorubicin/Adriamycin 25 mg/m<sup>2</sup> IV q2W

**V:** Vinblastine 6 mg/m<sup>2</sup> IV q2W

**D:** Dacarbazine 375 mg/m<sup>2</sup> IV q2W

**NON-FIT - Any of the following:**

ECOG Performance Status  $\geq 3$

CIRS-G total score  $\geq 10$

LVEF < 40% at screening or anytime after

Loss of  $\geq 1$  basic ADL

Loss of  $\geq 2$  instrumental ADLs

NCT05404945

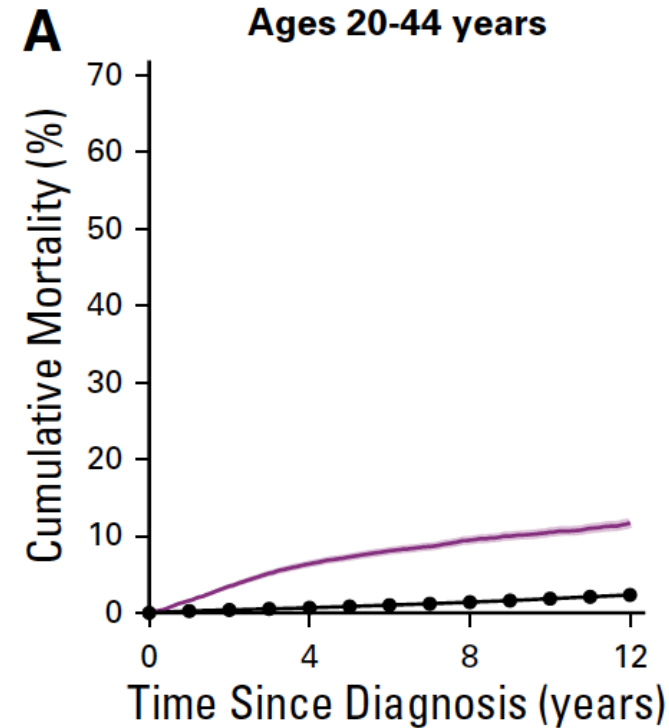
# How I Treat Newly-Diagnosed Older HL Patients

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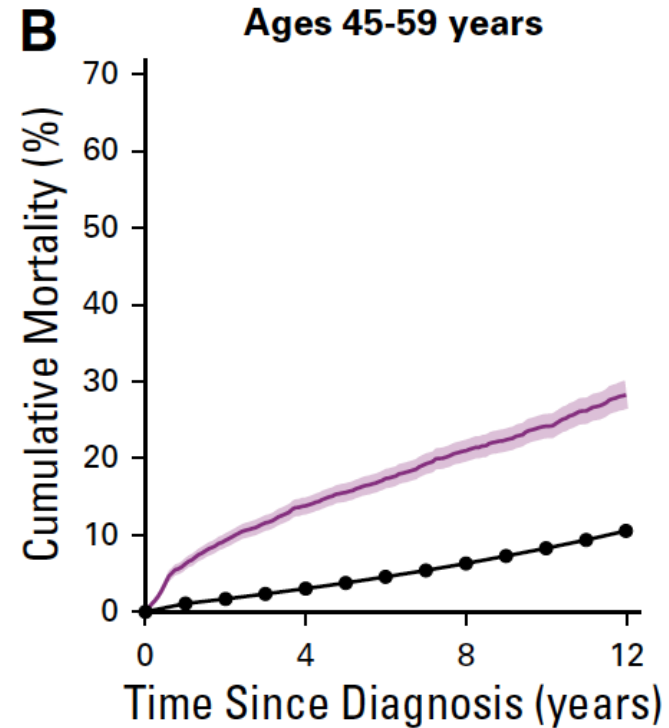
- **Pre-treatment Geriatric Assessment (and pre-phase Rx!)**
- **Early-stage**
  - **FIT: AVD x 2-4 cycles + ISRT (other: VEPEMB)**
  - **UNFIT/FRAIL: ChIVPP + ISRT, Bv +/- Nivo + ISRT**
- **Advanced-stage**
  - **FIT: sequential Bv-AVD-Bv (AVD, PVAG, ? CHOP/Bv-CAP)**
    - **With full supportive care measures (PCP, HSV, GCSF, etc)**
  - **FRAIL: Bv +/- DTIC or Nivo (other: ChIVPP)**
  - **UNFIT: Stanford V (low EF), ?? mini-AVD**



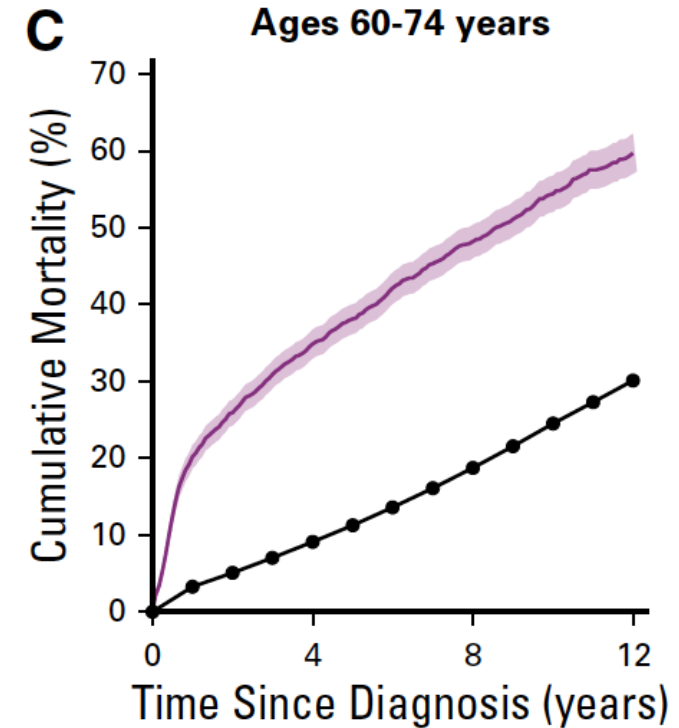
# Cumulative mortality: US population vs 20,007 individuals with cHL (SEER 17, 2000-2015)



No. cHL at risk:  
13,195    9,743    6,382    3,243



No. cHL at risk:  
4,105    2,738    1,636    744



No. cHL at risk:  
2,707    1,329    685    256

EARs  
heart  
disease  
60-74 yrs  
SMR  
stage I/II  
38.5; and  
stage  
III/IV  
59.6

Cumulative mortality as a result of all causes in the general population and classical Hodgkin lymphoma (cHL) population according to age group

# Overall Summary

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- Outcomes historically suboptimal; recent data suggest survival improvement
- Geriatric measures important (*minimum to evaluate*: co-morbidities & ADLs)
- Extreme caution (or avoid) bleomycin lung toxicity!
- Importance of anthracycline
  - More nuance than 6 cycles chemotherapy vs. none (? mini-AVD)
- Need continued prospective studies
  - More translational studies (eg, immunosenescence, EBV, etc)
  - Incorporate geriatric assessments to evaluate tailored Rx
  - Integrate newer targeted therapeutics (vis-à-vis Intl collaborations)
  - Surveillance of older cHL patient survivors (esp. cardiac)

# Acknowledgements

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- **HL mentors: Leo Gordon, Sandra Horning, Jane Winter, and Volker Diehl**
- **International collaborators (HoLISTIC: [hodgkinconsortium.com](http://hodgkinconsortium.com))**
- **NCI R01 CA262265, NCI R01 CA261752, NCI R01 CA260064, LLS TRP, and ORIEN**
- **Our Patients**

