

22nd

INTERNATIONAL
**ULTMANN
CHICAGO
LYMPHOMA
SYMPOSIUM**

APRIL 4 - 5, 2025

**WESTIN CHICAGO RIVER NORTH
#IUCLS2025**



This activity is jointly provided by:



Globalizing Lymphoma Research Opportunities and Challenges

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Assistant Professor

Department of Lymphoma/Myeloma

DISCLOSURES

- Dikal Pharma
- Bristol Myers Squibb Foundation
- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation / ASH Harold AMFDP
- Leukemia Lymphoma Society
- Lymphoma Research Foundation

Why investing on lymphoma studies in diverse populations?

- **Lymphotropic viruses** (EBV, HIV, HHV8, HTLV-1) are a common cause of aggressive NHL and are associated to poor outcomes.
 - Limited advances have been done in the field of rare lymphomas due to low prevalence in the USA.
- **Geographic variations of NHL** are well documented (i.e. T-cell lymphomas are commonly seen in Latin American countries).
- **Genetic mutations** in certain lymphomas vary **depending on ancestry** (i.e. HLA class II and predisposition to EBV lymphomas).
- **Race and ethnicity are underreported** as demographic variables particularly in clinical trials and genomic studies of lymphoma.

HERE AN EXAMPLE: LYMPHOMA IN LATIN AMERICA

How did I start my research question in LATAM?

- What makes us unique?

- Racial diversity



- Geographic diversity

- Cultural diversity



- Do these factors influence cancer? If so, how?



Grupo de Estudio Latinoamericano de Linfoproliferativos (GELL)

- 19 Latin American countries (including Puerto Rico)
- >210 oncologists/24 centers
- 140-160 new NHL/year/center



Epidemiology of Lymphomas in Latin America



EPIDEMIOLOGY of LYMPHOMAS in LATIN AMERICA (ELLA)

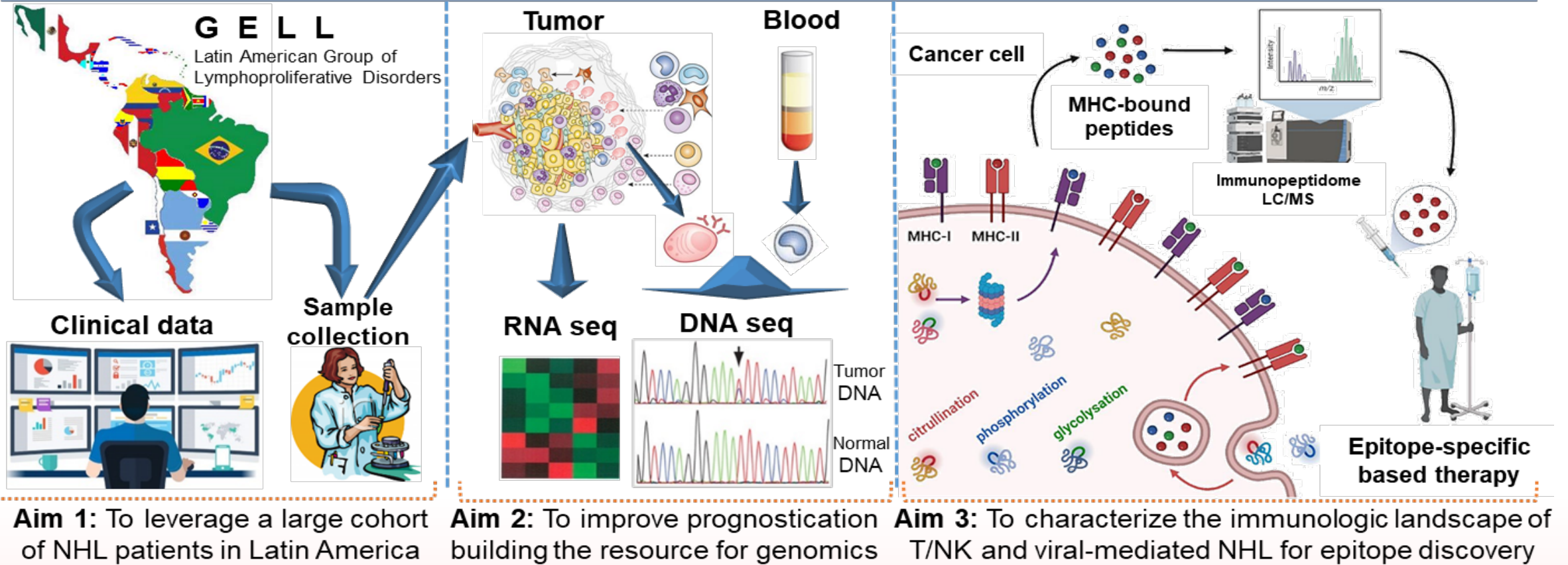
Degree of immune dysregulation and patient stressors

EBV / HIV / HTLV-1 negative

EBV / HIV / HTLV-1 positive

Impact of immunogenomics on the outcomes of B- and T-cell lymphomas

Impact of race/ethnicity, socioeconomic status, and healthcare access



EXAMPLE OF HOW DATA CAN CREATE OPPORTUNITIES

ELLA, Brazilian, and International T cell project 2.0

- **LATAM PTCL:**

- International TCP: 529 pts

Dr. Pavlovsky

Dr. Federico

- Brazil: 593 pts

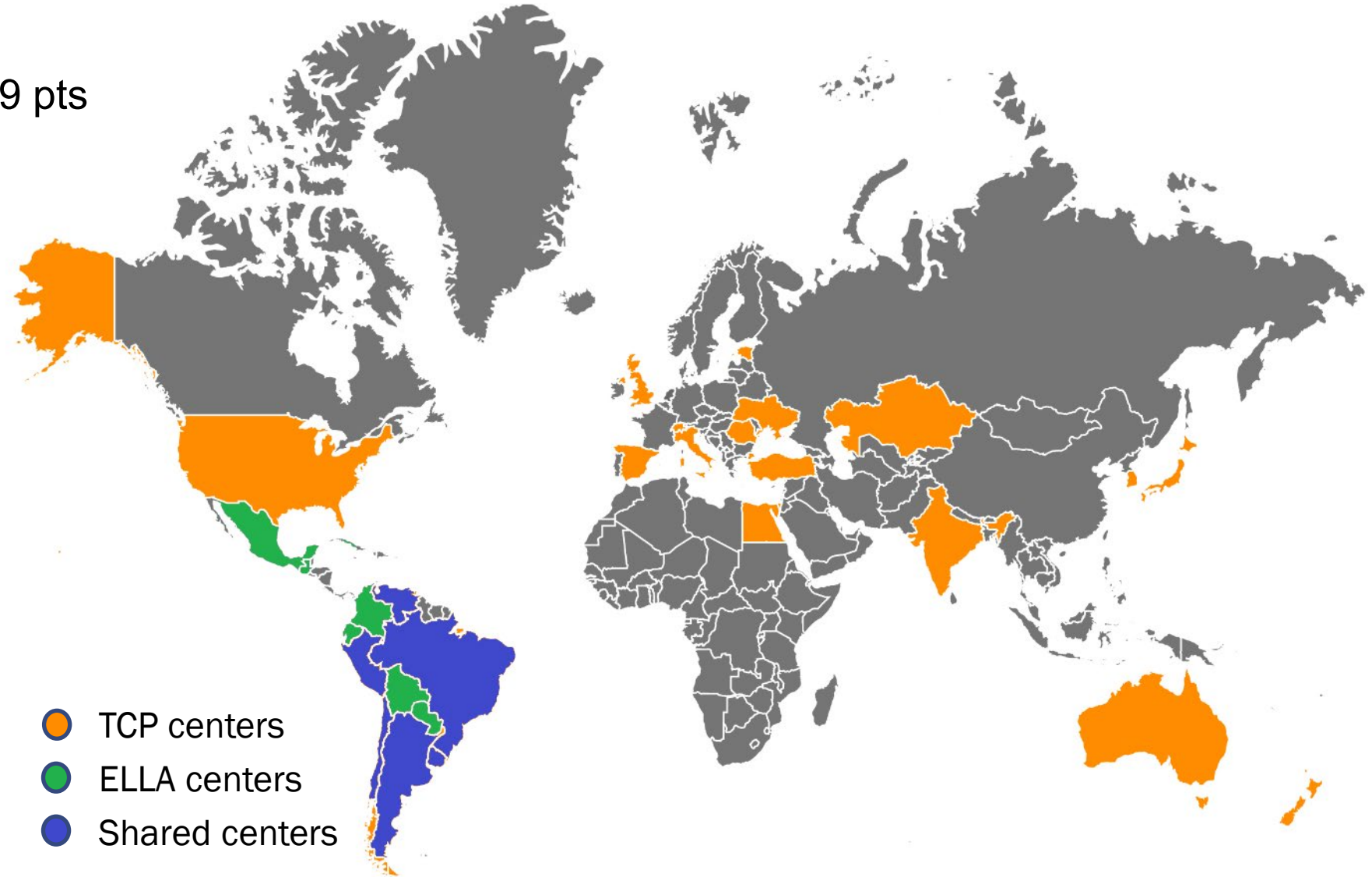
Dr. Chiattonne

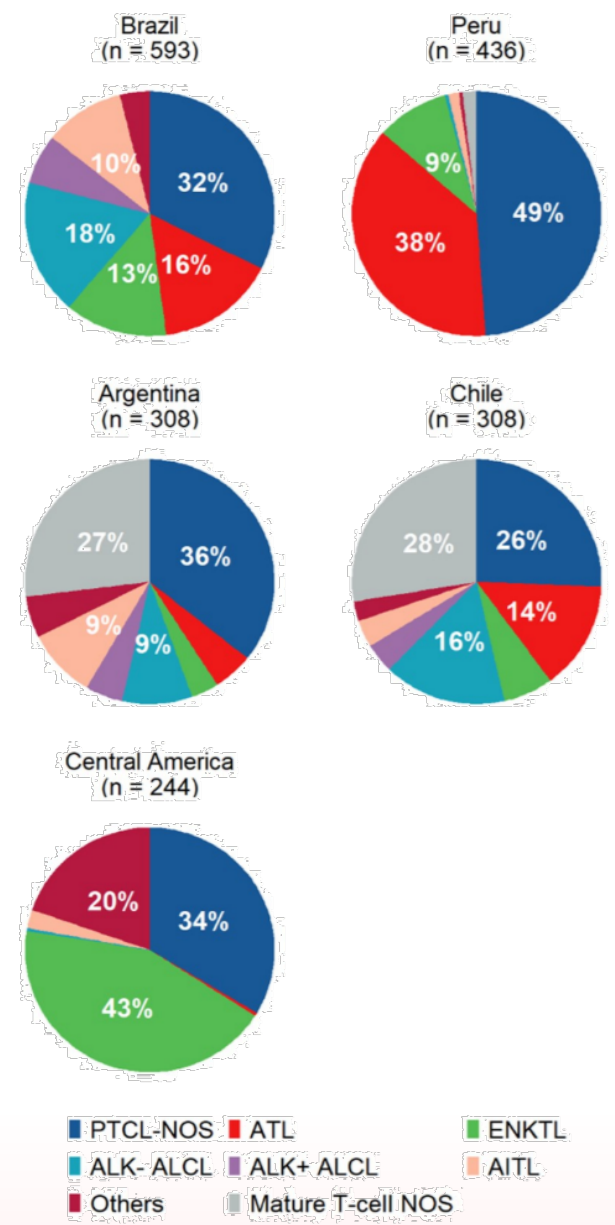
Dr. Thais

- GELL: 988 pts

Dr. Idrobo

Dr. Malpica



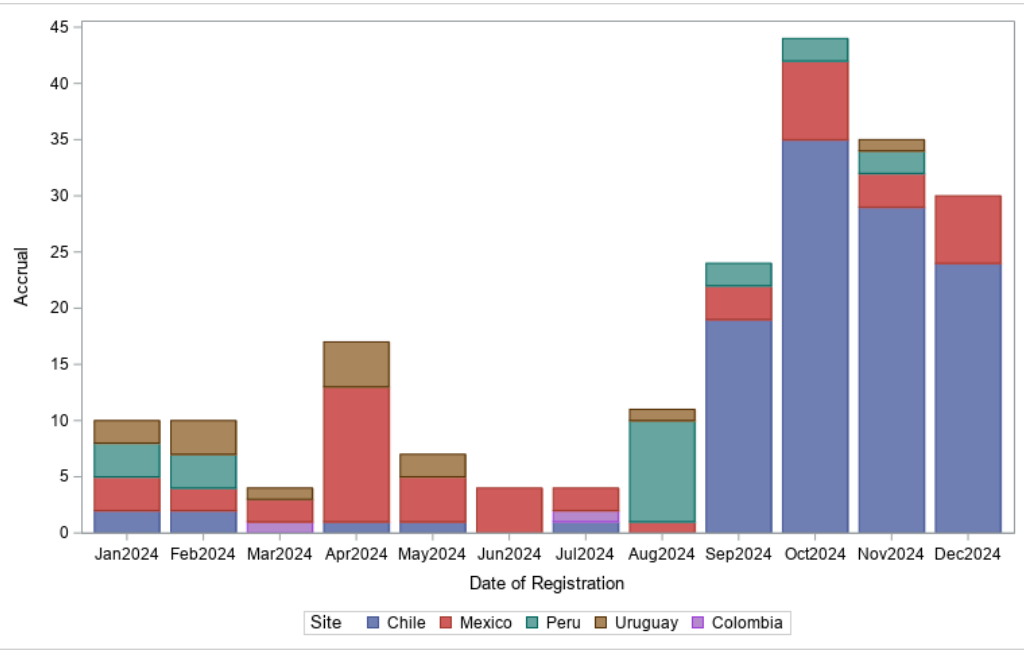




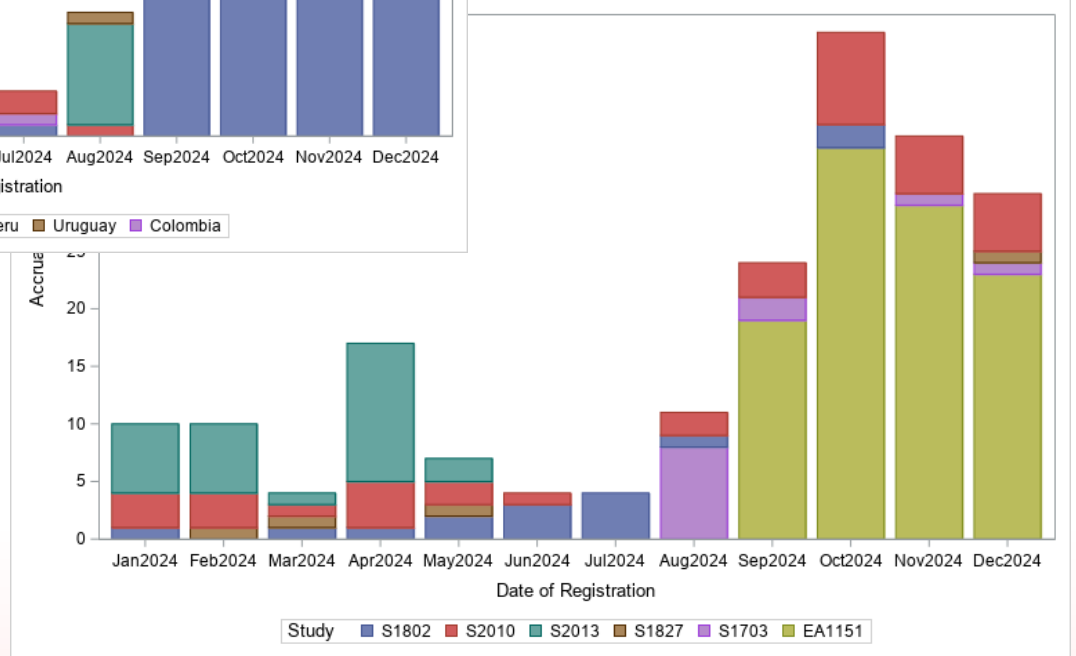
CLINICAL TRIALS FOR LYMPHOMA THROUGH SWOG LATIN AMERICA INITIATIVE (SLAI)



Feasibility: The SLAI experience (updated 2/2/2025)



Patients enrolled in other NCTN groups (ECOG)



227 patients enrolled in 2024



Research – Grants / Trials

Clinical trials

PI on **2 clinical trials** in T cell lymphomas (1 of which **led enrollment - Lancet Oncology**. We are conducting the exploratory studies at MD Anderson, **\$220,000 grant support by Dizal**)

Grants and Awards since faculty

Lymphoma Research Foundation Scientific Research Mentoring Program Award, 4/2021-11/2023 (**\$10,000**)

Chike Springer Foundation Legacy Scholar Award, 7/2021-6/2023 (**\$70,000**)

Robert A Winn Diversity in Clinical Trials Career Development Program Award, 11/2021-11/2023 (**\$240,000**)

Harold Amos Medical Faculty Development Program (AMFDP), 7/2022-7/2026 (**\$460,000**)

NKT cell lymphoma/leukemia MD Anderson Moonshot Program, 9/2022-9/2023 (**\$330,000**) – PI: Drs. Iyer and Malpica

NCI/NIH Administrative Supplement Opportunity to Strengthen Global Cancer Health Disparities Research, 9/2023-9/2024 (**\$192,000**)

Investigator Award by Dizal /Astrazeneca for the Study of Exploratory Biomarkers in T-cell Lymphomas, 7/2023-7/2025 (**\$220,000**)

Winn ASCO Conquer Foundation and BMS Foundation: Clinical Investigator Leadership Award, 4/2024-4/2027 (**\$360,000**)

AACR MONARCA for Latin America, 4/2024-3/2026 in funded, (**\$100,000**)

LLS Specialized Center of Research Program (SCOR), 7/2025-6/2030, (**\$5'000,000.00 – \$1.7 M to MD Anderson**)

\$ >3.5 Million

Grant to submit / resubmit in 2026

November 2026 – Andrew Sabin Fellowship Award, 1/2027-12/2028 if funded (**\$100,000**)

June 2026 - RO1 NCI Cancer Moonshot Scholars Diversity Program, 12/2026-12/2030 if funded (**\$1,200,000**)

June 2026 – UO1 NCI Building a new infrastructure, 12/2026-12/2031 if funded (**\$5,200,000**)

Building mentor – mentee relationships

Mentee / Position / Institution / Country of origin	Achievement
Denisse Castro, MD / Assistant Professor / Hospital Rebagliati / Peru	ASH CRTI 2019-, AACR MONARCA 2024-
Daniel Enriquez, MD, PhD / Fellow / Miyazaki University / Peru	ASH CRTI 2019-
Bryan Valcarcel, MD, MPH / Fellow / George Washington Univ. / Peru	NIH-NCI iCURE 2019-, ASH AAA 2020, 2022, ASH CRTI 2023-
Gabriel Aleixo, MD / Resident / Clevelan Clinic / Brazil	ASH HONORS 2019-, UPenn Match Hem/Onc 2023-
Eduardo Saul, MD / Resident / Univ. of Miami / Brazil	ASH HONORS 2019-, MDA Match Hem/Onc 2023-
Gustavo Sandival, MD / Med Stud / Univ. Ciencias Aplicadas / Peru	ASH AAA 2019-, Faculty at INEN 2023-
Cristobal Frutos, MD / Professor / Instituto de Prevision / Paraguay	ASH CRTI 2020-
Carlos Fuentes, MD / College Stud / UTHSC Houston / Mexican American	UTHSC Match 2022-
Maria Fernandez, MD / Resident / BIDMC / Colombia	ASH Minority Resident Award 2023-
Maria Salazar, MD / Resident / Univ. of Caracas / Venezuela	UM/JMH Match in IM 2023-
Kelly Meza, MD / Resident / Univ. San Marcos / Peru	BCM Match in IM 2023-; ASH MRI 2024-
Fabiola Valvert, MD / Assistant Professor / INCAN / Guatemala	ASH CRTI for Latin America 2023-
Thais Fischer, MD / Fellow / Camargo Cancer Center / Brazil	ASH AAA 2023-
Sofia Rivarola, MD / Fellow / Hosp Britanico Buenos Aires / Argentina	ASH AAA 2023-
Gabriela Garrido, MD / Resident / Univ Cayetano Heredia / Peru	AACR MONARCA for Latin America 2024-
Alana von Glasenapp, MD / Professor / Instituto de Prevision / Paraguay	ASH CRTI for Latin America 2024-

December 19, 2019
Orlando, FL, USA



CAN WE EXPAND TO OTHER HEMATOLOGIC DISEASES?

Genomics and Epidemiology of Myeloma (GEM study)



Dr. Veronica Leautaud
MD Anderson



Dr. Michelle Hildebrandt
MD Anderson



Dr. Camila Pena
Chile



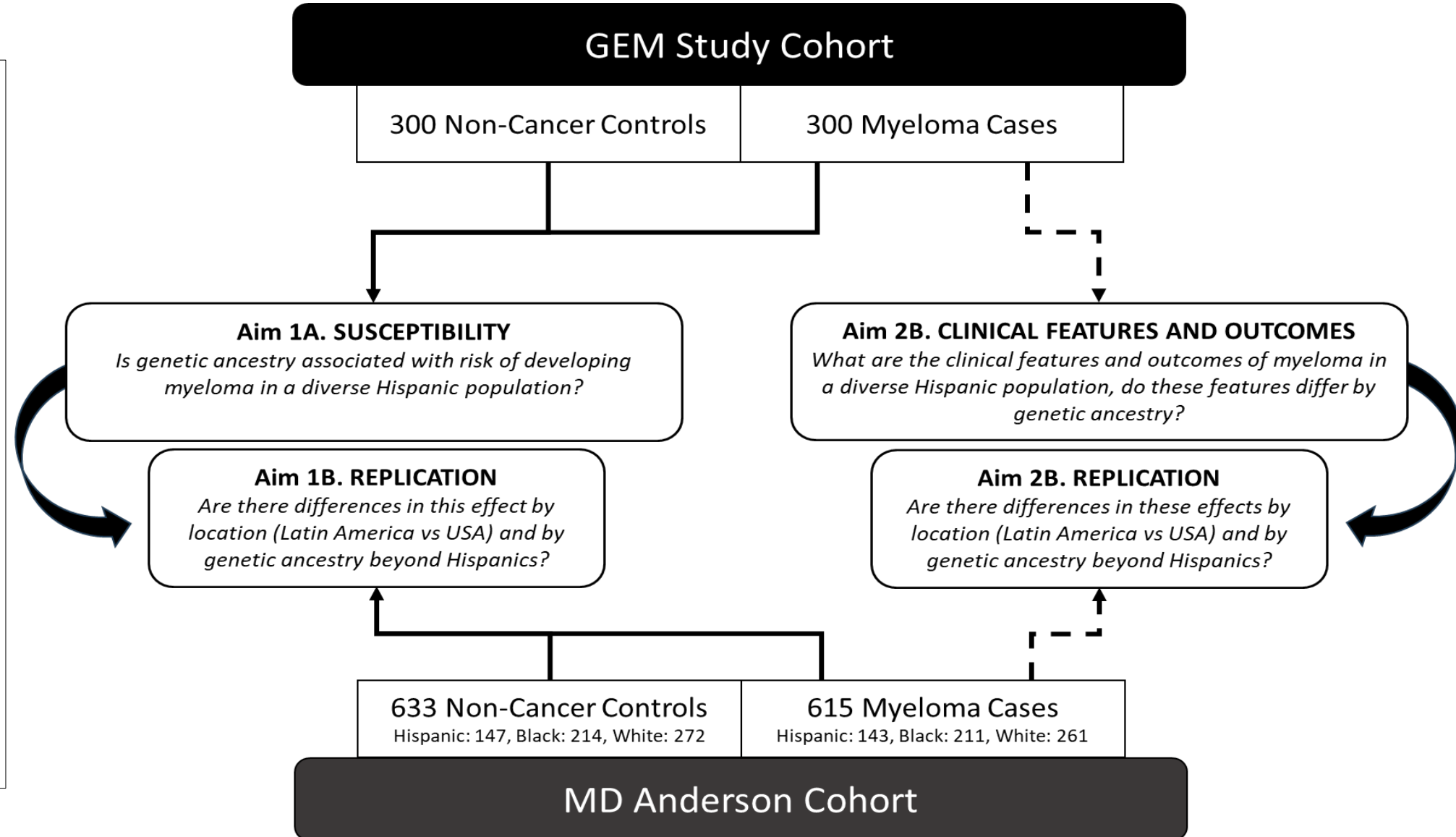
Dr. Eloisa Riva
Uruguay



Dr. Alana von Glasenapp
Paraguay

Role of ancestry in myeloma outcomes

SNV	median PFS (days)	p-value
<i>XRCC1 rs25487</i>		
GG	1378	0.9
GA/AA	820	
<i>BRCA1 rs799917</i>		
TT	228	<0.01
CT/CC	1445	
<i>BRCA1 rs4986850</i>		
GG	889	0.5
GA/AA	507	
<i>BRCA1 rs1799949</i>		
GG	727	0.9
GA/AA	1445	
<i>CDKN1A rs1801270</i>		
CC	1378	0.9
CA/AA	889	
<i>TP53BP1 rs560191</i>		
GG	889	0.9
GC/CC	1378	





LLAMAS

Leukemia in Latin America Mapping And Sequencing

PICO QUESTION

Population: Patients with acute leukemia in Latin America

Intervention: In-house long-read sequencing for genomic characterization (**Chromo-Seq**)

Comparison: Standard molecular testing (external, delayed results – will be performed at MD Anderson)

Outcomes: Improved prognostication and outcomes thru treatment decisions in real time.



Dr. Samuel Urrutia
Washington University
(Honduras)

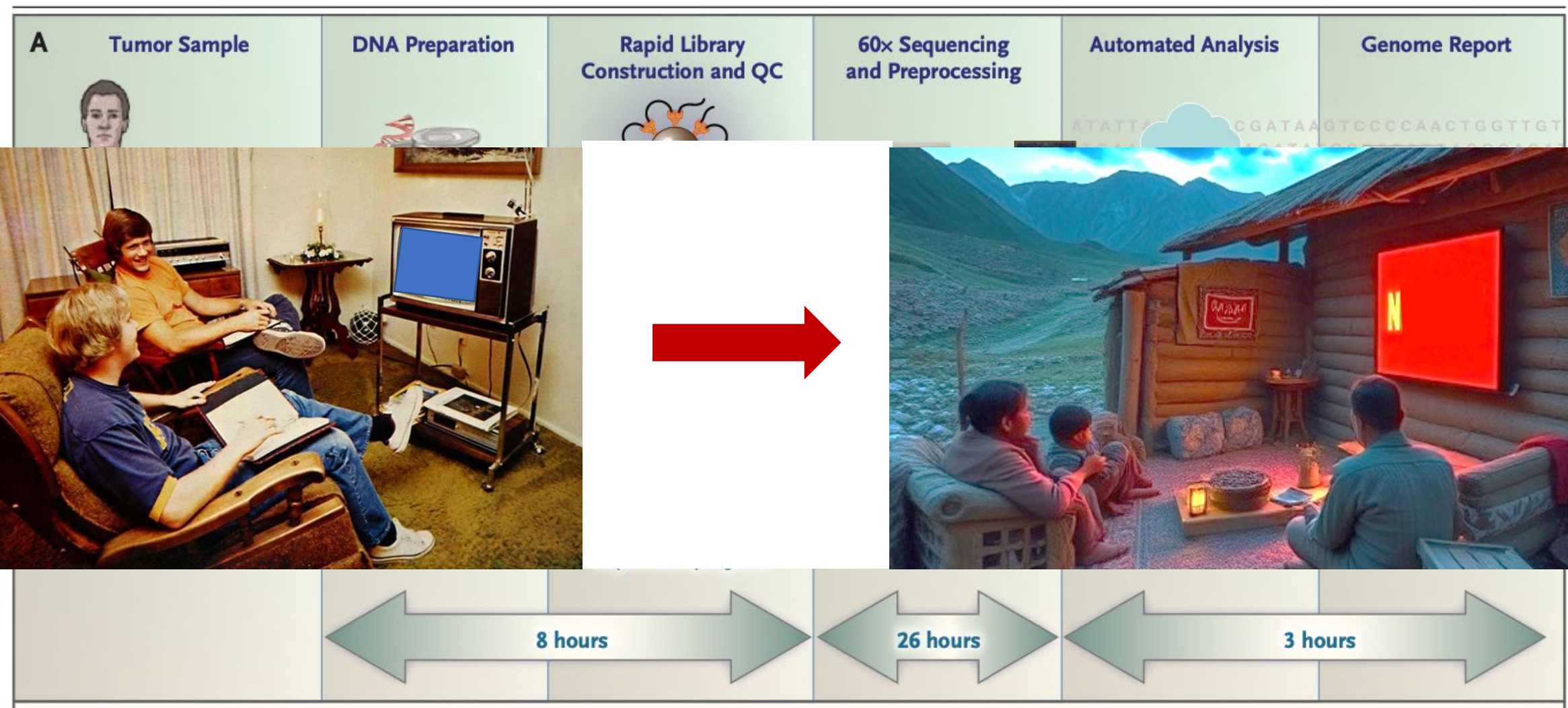


Dr. Cristobal Frutos
Instituto de Prevision Social
(Paraguay)



Dr. Lidiane Andino
Instituto de Prevision Social
(Paraguay)

Chromo-Seq results are available in ~37 hours



AND THE CHALLENGES?

There are many but nothing that
creativity cannot overcome 😊

Conclusions

1. Research in LMIC is feasible and provides valuable insights locally and globally.
2. International partnerships open access to advanced technologies and mentorship.
3. Networking and meetings are a great way to establish collaborations.
4. Resource limitations drive unique, impactful innovations for local communities.
5. International grants and high-impact publications are achievable with persistence.
6. Do not forget to get students and residents involved in your research! 😊

Acknowledgement



MD Anderson

- Christopher Flowers (**mentor**)
- Cassian Yee (**mentor**)
- Michael Wang
- Swami Iyer
- Professor Hun Lee
- Lymphoma/Myeloma Department



Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

GELL (Grupo de Estudio Latinoamericano de Linfoproliferativos)

University of North Carolina

- Paul Armistead (**mentor**)
- Raymond Zhang
- Sally Hunsucker
- Ben Vincent



University of Miami

- Juan Carlos Ramos (**mentor**)
- Glen Barber
- Agustin Pimentel



George Washington University

- Eduardo Sotomayor



Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

- Jorge Castillo



Northwestern University

- Jae Choi





V JORNADA | GELL
2025
CLÍNICA DEL GRUPO DE ESTUDIO
LATINOAMERICANO DE LINFOPROLIFERATIVOS

14 Y 15
| NOVIEMBRE 2025 |
PROXIMAMENTE
CUENCA - ECUADOR

INFORMES DMC ECUADOR:

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coordinadora1@groupdmc.com
pbarrera@groupdmc.com



Thank you

Cusco, Peru
August 2023





Thank you

Pereira, Colombia
October 2024