

# Treatment Landscape of Waldenström's Macroglobulinemia



HARVARD  
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# Disclosures – Steven Treon

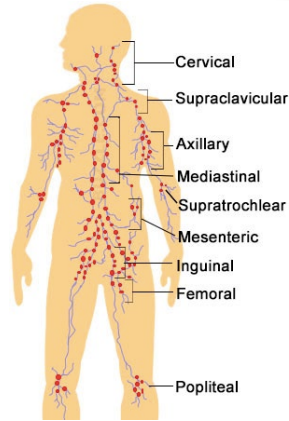
Research Support/P.I.	Janssen, Pharmacyclics, BMS
Consultant	Janssen, Pharmacyclics, Beigene, BMS

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# Manifestations of WM Disease



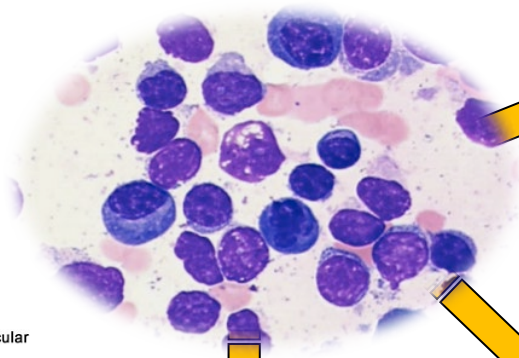
Bing Neel Syndrome



≤20% at diagnosis;  
50-60% at relapse.

## Bone Marrow

↓Hb>>> ↓PLT> ↓WBC



Hyperviscosity Syndrome:  
Epistaxis, Headaches  
Impaired vision  
>6,000 mg/dL or >4.0 CP



Cold Agglutininemia (5%)  
Cryoglobulinemia (10%)  
IgM Neuropathy (22%)  
Amyloidosis (10-15%)



Hepcidin  
↓Fe Anemia

# NCCN Guidelines for Initiation of Therapy in WM

- Hb  $\leq 10$  g/dL on basis of disease
- PLT  $< 100,000$  mm<sup>3</sup> on basis of disease
- Symptomatic hyperviscosity
- Moderate/severe peripheral neuropathy
- Symptomatic cryoglobulins, cold agglutinins, autoimmune-related events, amyloid.

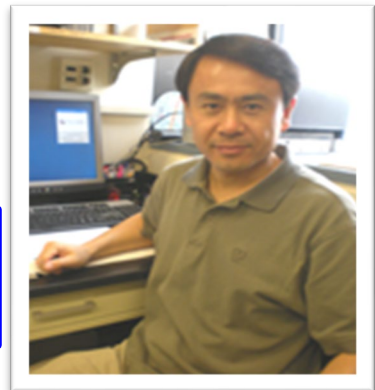
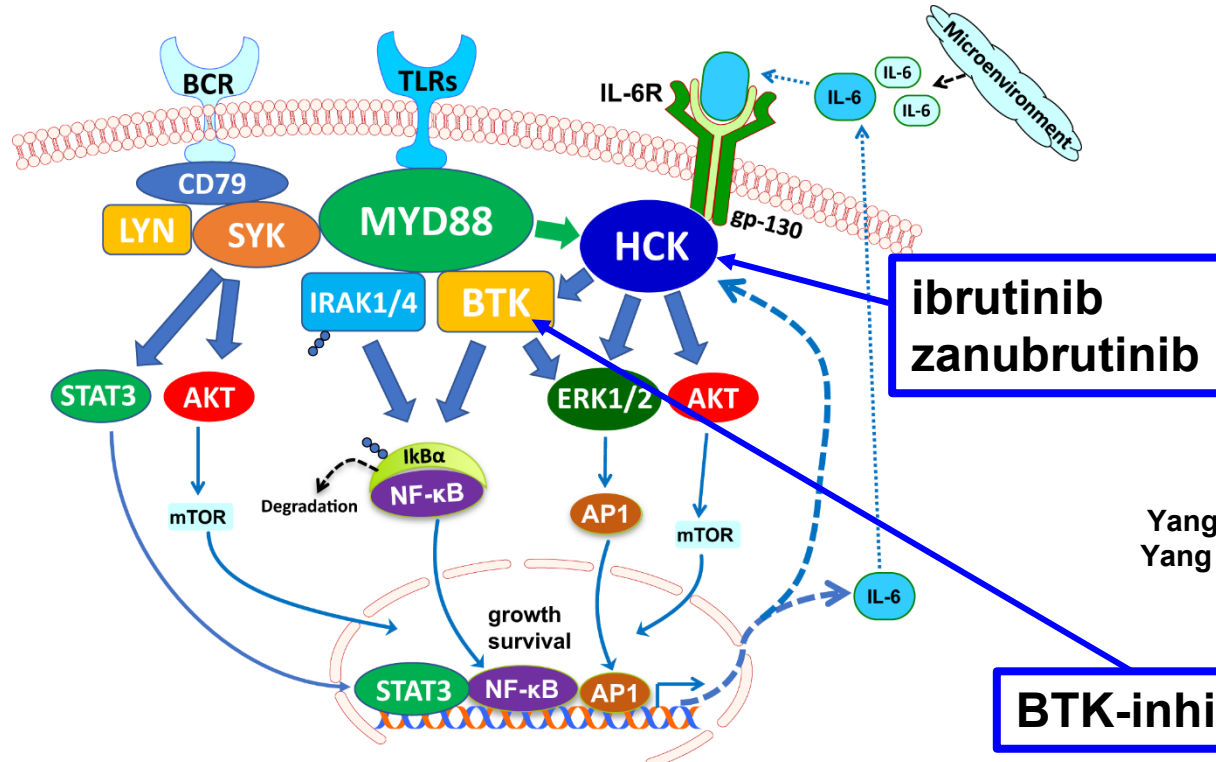
# Primary Therapy of WM with Rituximab

Regimen	ORR	CR	Median PFS (mo)
Rituximab x 4	25-30%	0-5%	13
Rituximab x 8	40-45%	0-5%	16-22
Rituximab/thalidomide	70%	5%	30
Rituximab/cyclophosphamide i.e. CHOP-R, CVP-R, CPR, CDR	70-80%	5-15%	30-36
Rituximab/nucleoside analogues i.e. FR, FCR, CDA-R	70-90%	5-15%	36-62
Rituximab/Proteasome Inhibitor i.e. BDR, VR, CaRD	70-90%	5-15%	42-66
Rituximab/bendamustine	90%	5-15%	69

# WM–centric toxicities with commonly used therapies

Agent	WM Toxicities
<b>Rituximab</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>IgM flare (40-60%)</b>-&gt; Hyperviscosity crisis, Aggravation of IgM related PN, CAGG, Cryos.</li><li>• Hypogammaglobulinemia-&gt; infections, IVIG</li><li>• Intolerance (10-15%)</li></ul>
<b>Fludarabine</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hypogammaglobulinemia-&gt; infections, IVIG</li><li>• <b>Transformation, AML/MDS (15%)</b></li></ul>
<b>Bendamustine</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Prolonged neutropenia, thrombocytopenia (especially after fludarabine)</li><li>• <b>AML/MDS (5-8%)</b></li></ul>
<b>Bortezomib</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Grade 2+3 Peripheral neuropathy (60-70%);</b> High discontinuation (20-60%)</li></ul>

# Pro-Survival Signaling by Mutated MYD88 in Waldenström's Macroglobulinemia



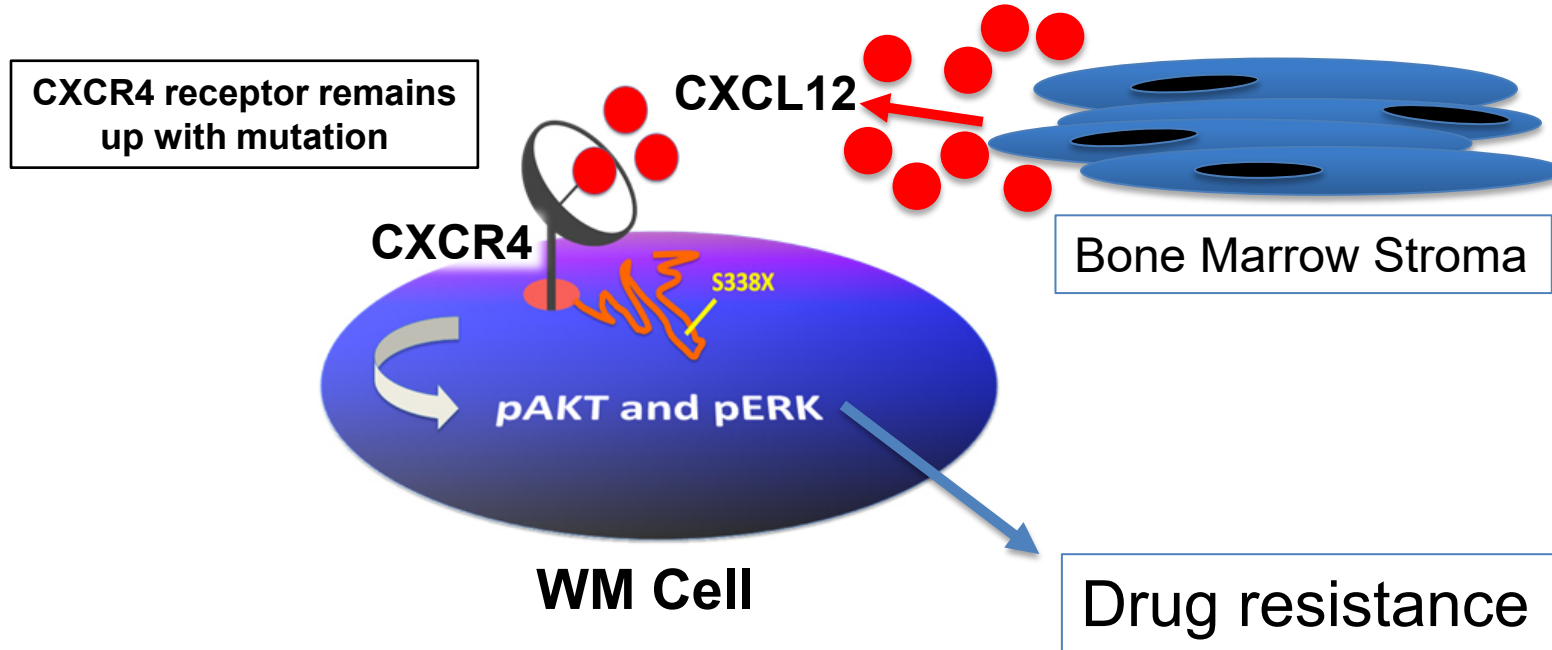
Yang et al, Blood 2013 122(7):1222-32;  
 Yang et al, Blood 2016 127(25):3237-52  
 Munshi and Yang et al, BCJ 2020

**BTK-inhibitors**

95-97% of WM patients have mutations in MYD88

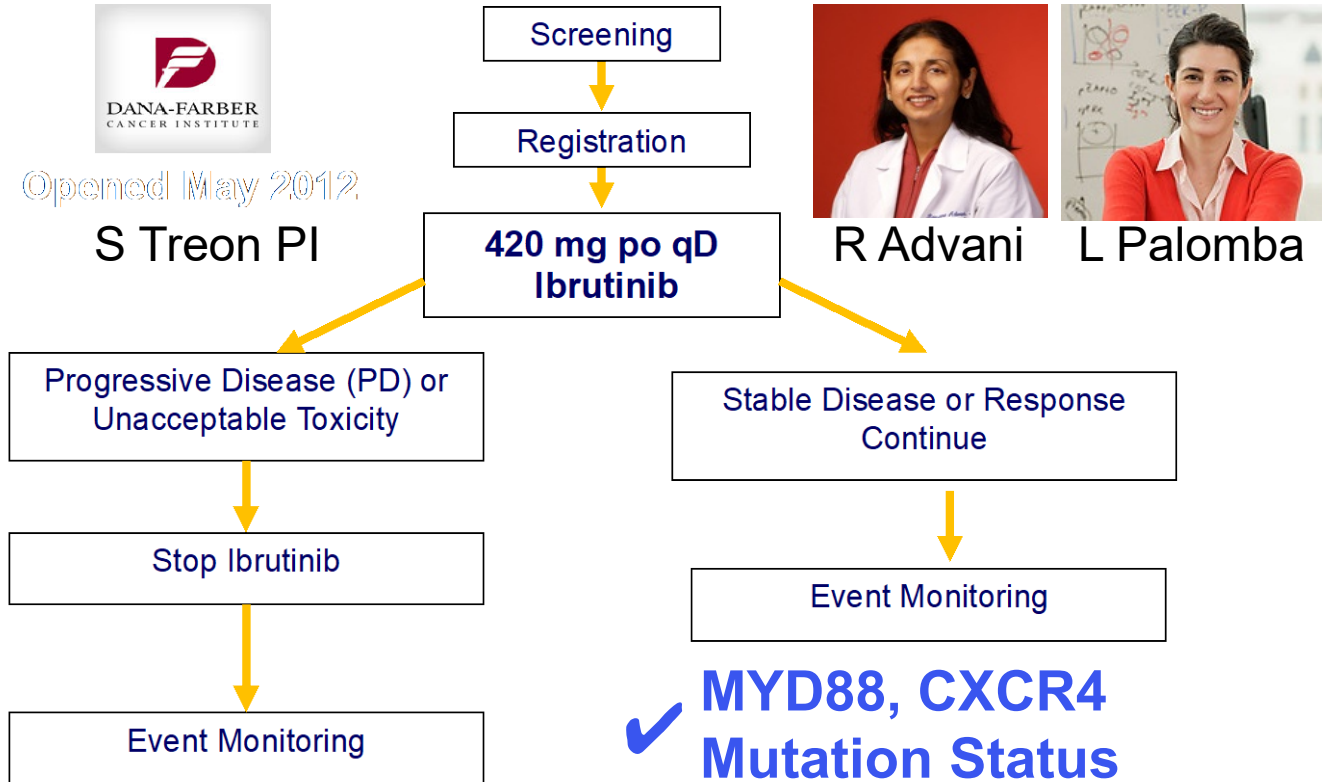
# Mutated CXCR4 permits ongoing pro-survival signaling by CXCL12

30-40% of WM patients have mutations in CXCR4





# Multicenter study of Ibrutinib in Relapsed/Refractory WM (>1 prior therapy)



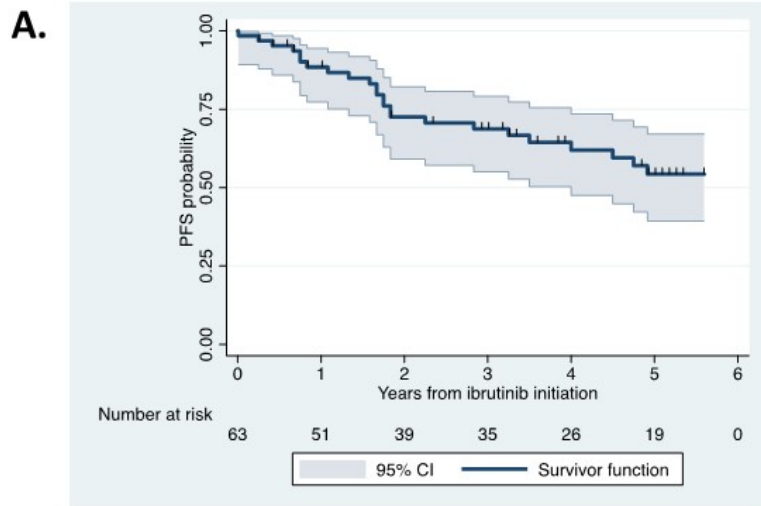
# Ibrutinib Activity in Previously Treated WM: Update of the Pivotal Trial (median f/u 59 mos)

	All Patients	MYD88 <sup>MUT</sup> CXCR4 <sup>WT</sup>	MYD88 <sup>MUT</sup> CXCR4 <sup>MUT</sup>	MYD88 <sup>WT</sup> CXCR4 <sup>WT</sup>	P-value
N=	63	36	22	4	N/A
Overall Response Rate-no. (%)	90.5%	100%	86.4%	50%	<0.01
Major Response Rate-no. (%)	<b>79.4%</b>	<b>97.2%</b>	<b>68.2%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>&lt;0.0001</b>
<b>Categorical responses</b>					
Minor responses-no. (%)	11.1%	2.8%	18.2%	50%	<0.01
Partial responses-no. (%)	49.2%	50%	59.1%	0%	0.03
Very good partial responses-no. (%)	<b>30.2%</b>	<b>47.2%</b>	<b>9.1%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>&lt;0.01</b>
<b>Median time to response (months)</b>					
Minor response (≥Minor response)	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.38
Major response (≥Partial response)	<b>1.8</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>4.7</b>	N/A	<b>0.02</b>

\*One patient had MYD88 mutation, but no CXCR4 determination and had SD.

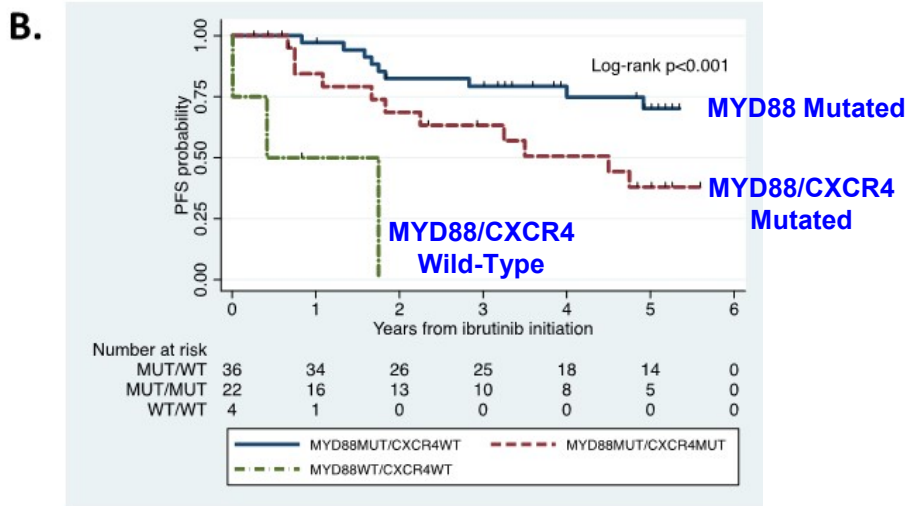
# Ibrutinib in Previously Treated WM: Updated PFS

## All patients



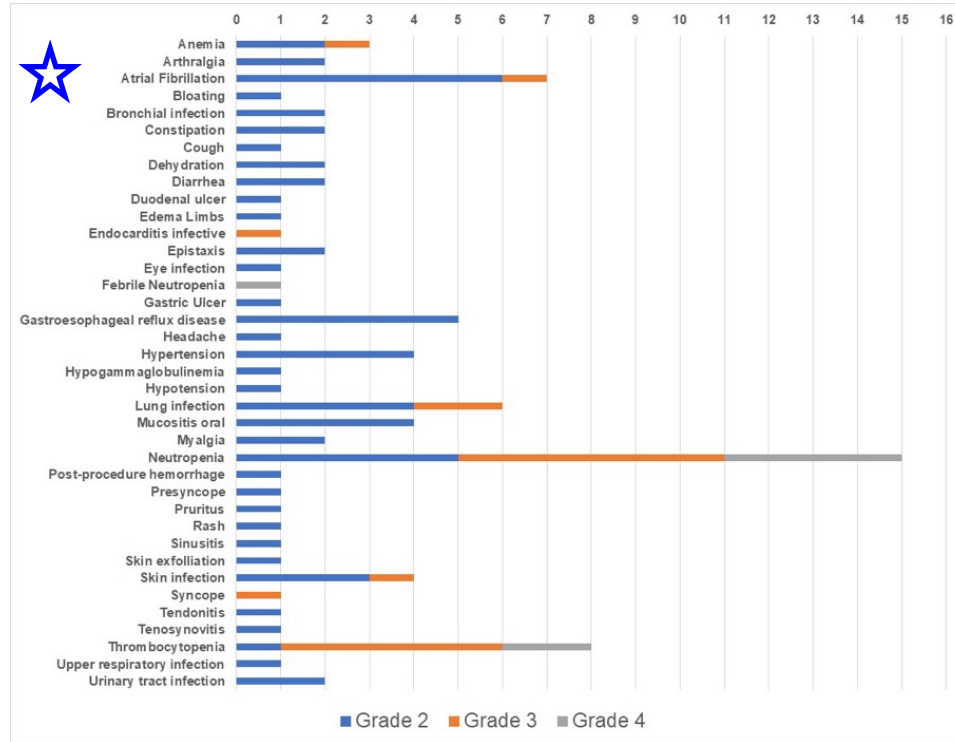
**5 year PFS: 54%**  
**5 year OS: 87%**

## MYD88 and CXCR4 Mutation Status



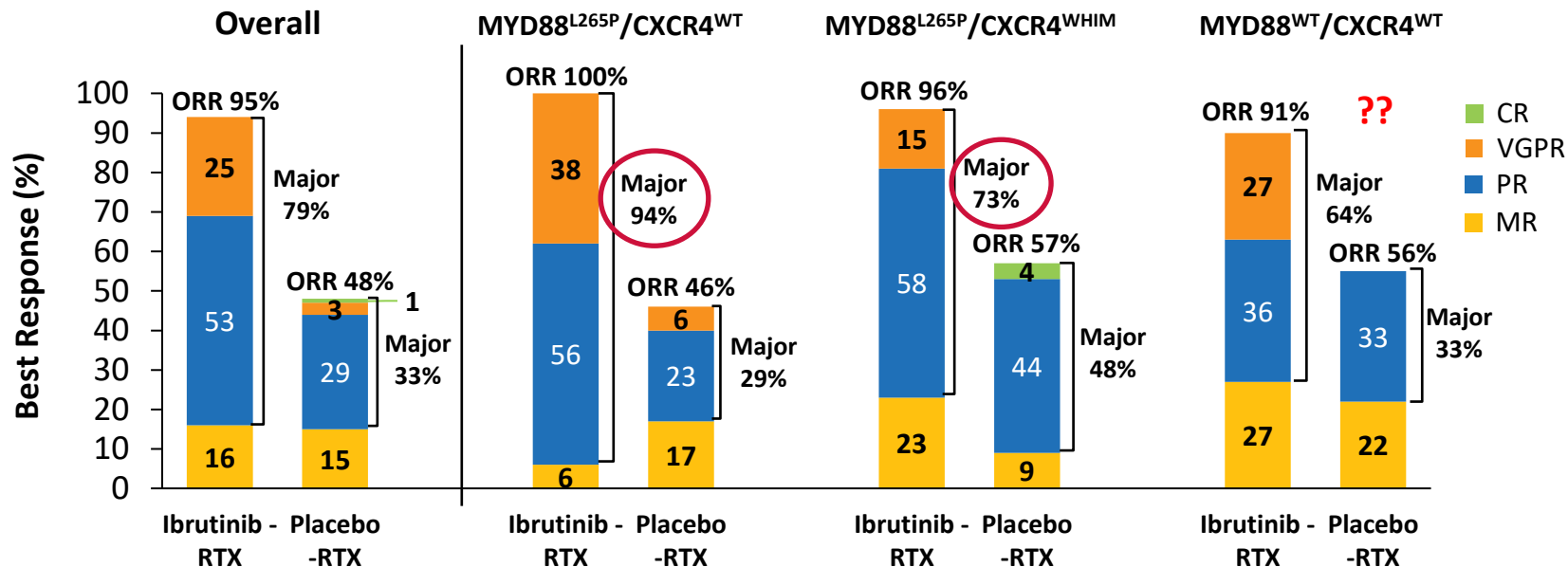
Updated from Treon et al, NEJM 2015

# Long Term Toxicity Findings (grade $\geq 2$ )



Increased since original report. 8 patients (12.7%) with Afib, including grade 1.  
7 continued ibrutinib with medical management.

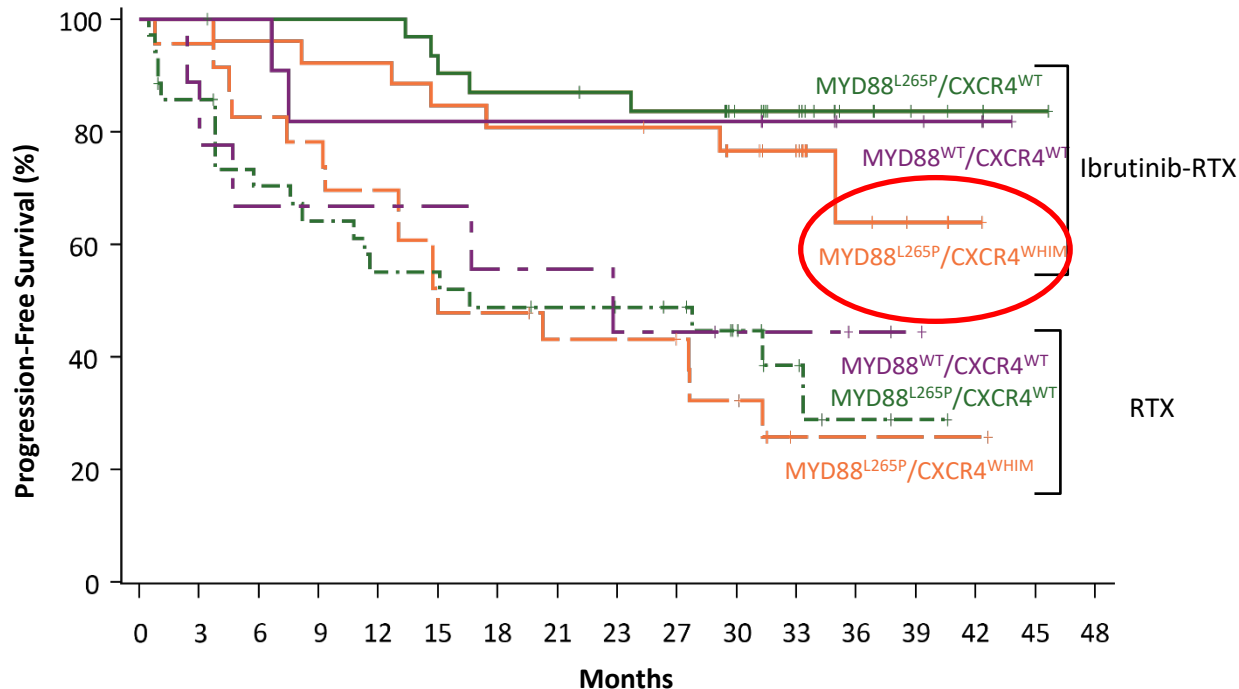
# Responses in Innovate AB Study: Update



\*Following modified 6th IWWM Response Criteria (NCCN 2014); required two consecutive assessments.

Median time to ≥PR, months (range)	2 (1-28)	6 (2-26)	2 (1-28)	5 (2-17)	3 (1-19)	11 (4-18)	6 (1-17)	6 (5-26)
Median time to ≥MR, months (range)	1 (1-18)	3 (1-24)	1 (1-18)	3 (1-24)	1 (1-11)	3 (1-8)	2 (1-17)	3 (2-17)

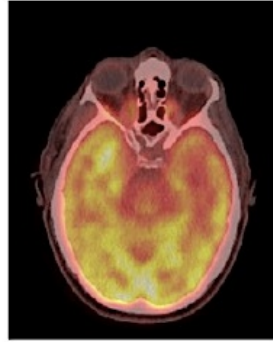
# Progression-Free Survival Benefit: Impact of MYD88/CXCR4 Genotype



- Improved PFS with ibrutinib
- 36-month PFS rates
  - MYD88<sup>L265P</sup>/CXCR4<sup>WT</sup>: 84% vs 29%
  - MYD88<sup>L265P</sup>/CXCR4<sup>WHIM</sup>: 64% vs 26%
  - MYD88<sup>WT</sup>/CXCR4<sup>WT</sup>: 82% vs 44%

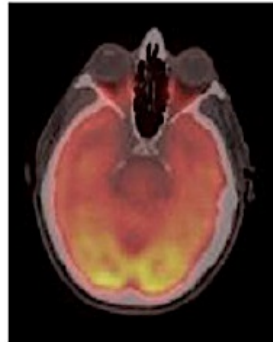
# Ibrutinib induced response in a WM patient with Bing Neel Syndrome

Pre-treatment



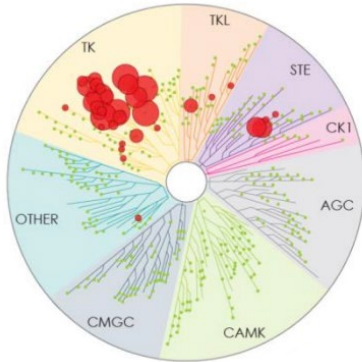
560 mg po one a day

Post-treatment

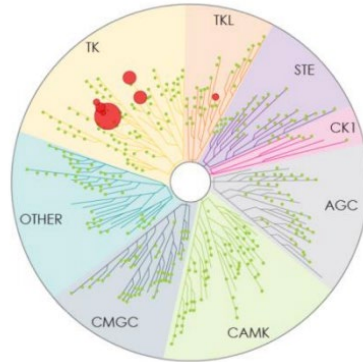


Study Day	Time post-dose (h)	Ibrutinib (nM)		
		CSF	Plasma	%CSF/Plasma
Day 1	0	BLQ	BLQ	NA
	2	34	1133	3.0
1 Month	3	16	463	3.5
4 Months	2.5	7	318	2.2

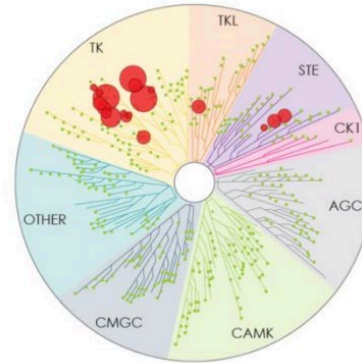
# Covalent BTK-inhibitors in WM (Cys481)



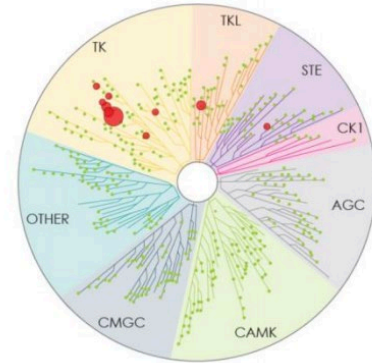
Ibrutinib



Acalabrutinib



Zanubrutinib



Tirabrutinib

	IC <sub>50</sub> /EC <sub>50</sub> (nM)				
	acalabrutinib	ibrutinib	spebrutinib	zanubrutinib	tirabrutinib
BTK	5.1 ± 1.0	1.5 ± 0.2	2.3 ± 0.5	0.5 ± 0.0	5.6 ± 1.0
TEC	126 ± 11	10 ± 12	16 ± 4	44 ± 19	77 ± 7
ITK	>1000	4.9 ± 1.2	24 ± 2	50 ± 5	>1000
TXX	368 ± 141	2.0 ± 0.3	9.1 ± 2.7	2.2 ± 0.6	116 ± 35
BMX	46 ± 12	0.8 ± 0.1	1.6 ± 0.4	1.4 ± 0.4	4.3 ± 0.4
EGFR	>1000	5.3 ± 1.3	199 ± 35	21 ± 1	>1000
ERBB2	~1000	6.4 ± 1.8	>1000	88 ± 26	>1000
ERBB4	16 ± 5	3.4 ± 1.4	49 ± 12	6.9 ± 0.6	991 ± 274
BLK	>1000	0.1 ± 0.0	131 ± 27	2.5 ± 0.4	1133 ± 767
JAK3	>1000	32 ± 15	5.4 ± 1.1	1377 ± 218	>1000
hPBMK	2.9 ± 0.2	0.6 ± 0.0	7.4 ± 0.7	0.9 ± 0.3	6.2 ± 1.9
hWB	9.2 ± 4.4	5.8 ± 3.0	140 ± 85	2.4 ± 0.4	not assessed

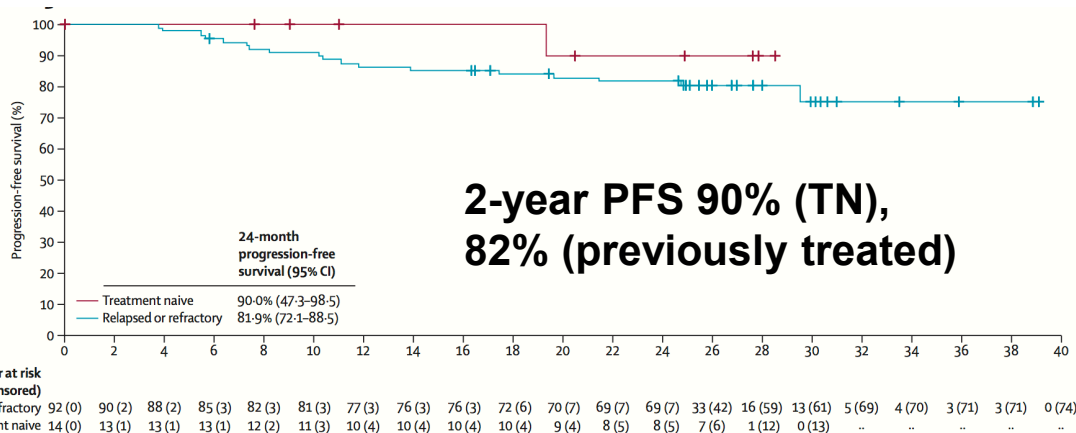
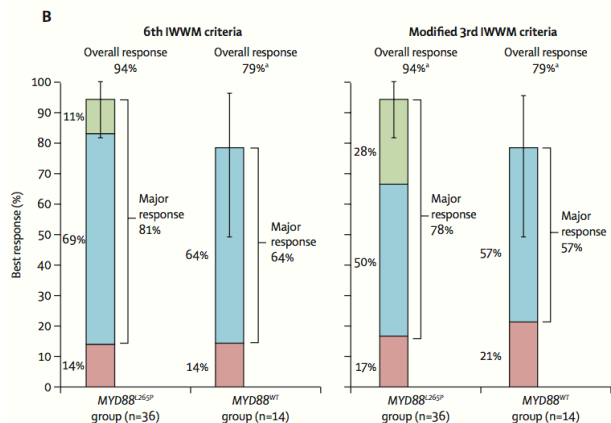
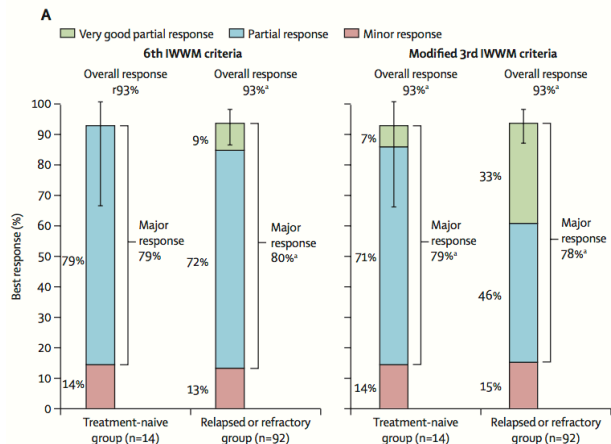
BLK, B lymphocyte kinase; BMX, bone marrow tyrosine kinase gene in chromosome X; ERBB2, erb-b2 receptor tyrosine kinase; ERBB4, erb-b4 receptor tyrosine kinase; ITK, interleukin-2-inducible T-cell kinase; JAK3, Janus kinase 3; TEC, tyrosine kinase expressed in hepatocellular carcinoma; TXX, T and X cell expressed kinase.

Kaptein et al, ASH 2018; Abstract 1871.



# Acalabrutinib in Treatment Naïve and Previously Treated WM

100 mg po BID



**Median follow-up: 27.4 months**

# Acalabrutinib in Treatment Naïve and Previously Treated WM

	Grade 1-2	Grade 3	Grade 4
Headache	41 (39%)	0	0
Diarrhoea	33 (31%)	2 (2%)	0
Contusion	31 (29%)	0	0
Dizziness	27 (25%)	0	0
Fatigue	22 (21%)	2 (2%)	0
Nausea	22 (21%)	2 (2%)	0
Upper respiratory tract infection	23 (22%)	0	0
Constipation	22 (21%)	0	0
Arthralgia	20 (19%)	1 (1%)	0
Back pain	18 (17%)	1 (1%)	0
Cough	18 (17%)	0	0
Lower respiratory tract infection	13 (12%)	5 (5%)	0
Neutropenia	1 (1%)	6 (6%)	11 (10%)
Pyrexia	17 (16%)	1 (1%)	0
Vomiting	17 (16%)	1 (1%)	0
Decreased appetite	14 (13%)	2 (2%)	0
Rash	16 (15%)	0	0
Pain in extremity	12 (11%)	1 (1%)	0
Epistaxis	11 (10%)	1 (1%)	0
Sinusitis	12 (11%)	0	0
Skin lesion	12 (11%)	0	0
Dyspepsia	11 (10%)	0	0
Dyspnoea	10 (9%)	1 (1%)	0
Erythema	11 (10%)	0	0
Increased tendency to bruise	11 (10%)	0	0

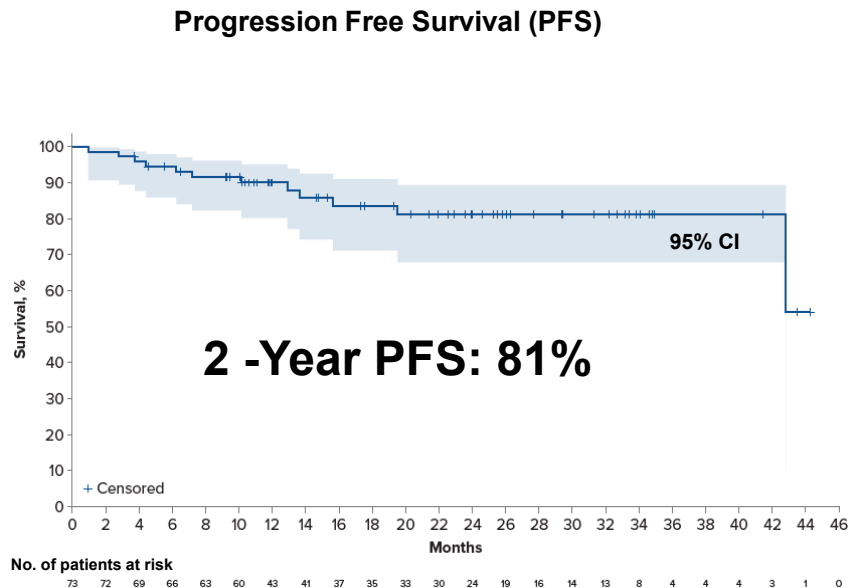
**Afib: 5%**

**No atrial brillation event led to acalabrutinib withholding or discontinuation.**

**Median follow-up: 27.4 months**

# Zanubrutinib in WM: Phase 2 data in TN and previously treated pts.

Best Response in WM	zanubrutinib		
	Overall	TN	RR
Evaluable for efficacy, n	73	24	49
Median Follow-up	23.9 mo	12.3 mo	24.8 mo
Response Criteria	Mod. 6 <sup>th</sup> IWWM (IgM decreases only, and not extramedullary disease)		
Median Prior Lines of Therapy		0	2 (1-8)
ORR	92%	96%	90%
MRR	82%	87%	78%
<b>CR/VGPR<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>49%</b>
PR	40%	58%	31%



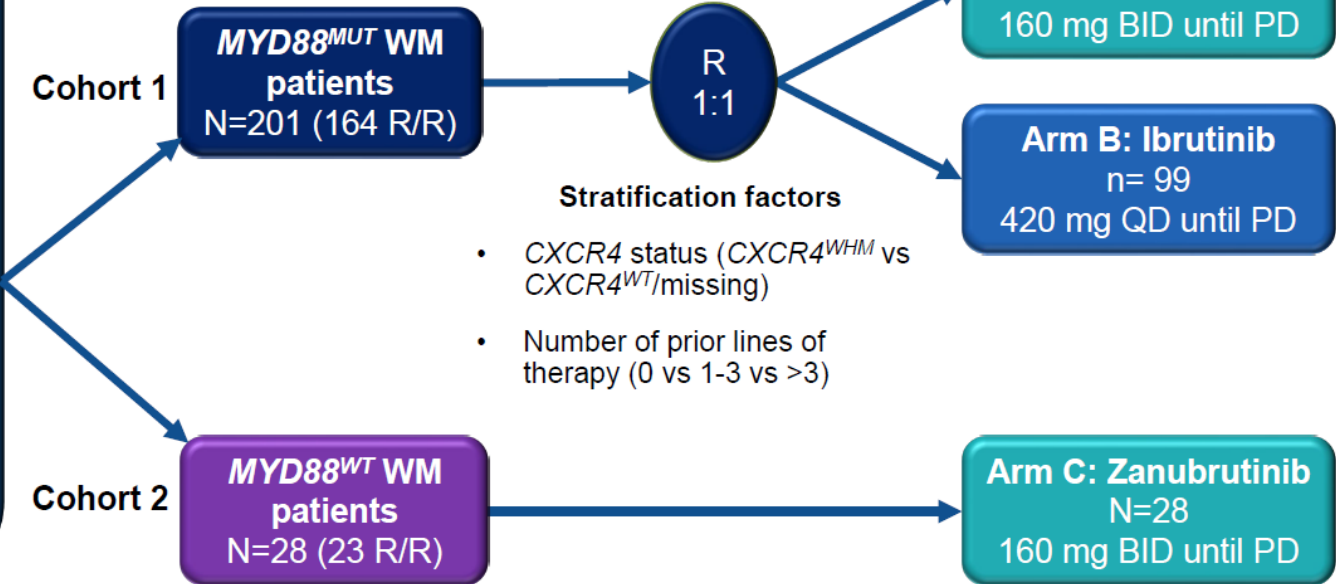
Trotman et al, EHA 2019

# ASPEN Study Design: Zanubrutinib vs Ibrutinib in *MYD88*<sup>MUT</sup> WM

**Eligible Patients**

- Histologic diagnosis of WM
- Meeting ≥1 criterion for treatment initiation<sup>1</sup>
- If treatment naïve (TN\*), must be considered unsuitable for standard chemoimmunotherapy
- No prior BTK inhibitors

Data Cut-off: August 31, 2019  
Median Follow-up: 19.4 months



Abstract: e20056

EUDRACT 2016-002980-33; NCT03053440

BID, twice daily; BTK, Bruton tyrosine kinase; *CXCR4*, C-X-C Motif Chemokine Receptor 4; *MYD88*<sup>MUT</sup>, myeloid differentiation primary response gene 88 mutant; PD, progressive disease; QD, daily; R, randomization; R/R, relapsed/refractory; TN, treatment naïve; WM, Waldenström Macroglobulinemia; WT, wild-type.

\*Up to 20% of the overall population.  
1. Dimopoulos MA, et al. *Blood*. 2014;124:1404-1411.

# ASPEN Study Objectives

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## Primary Objective

- To compare the efficacy of zanubrutinib vs ibrutinib
  - Primary endpoint was CR + VGPR rate in patients with activating mutations (*MYD88<sup>MUT</sup>*) WM

## Secondary Objectives

- To further compare the efficacy, clinical benefit, and anti-lymphoma effects of zanubrutinib vs ibrutinib
- To evaluate safety and tolerability of zanubrutinib versus ibrutinib as measured by the incidence, timing, and severity of TEAEs according to NCI-CTCAE (version 4.03)

## Exploratory Objectives

- To characterize the PK of zanubrutinib in patients with WM
- To compare QoL by EORTC QLQ-C30 and EQ-5D

# ASPEN: Demographics and Disease Characteristics

Characteristics, n (%)	Overall ITT	
	Ibrutinib (n = 99)	Zanubrutinib (n = 102)
★ Age, years median (range)	70.0 (38, 90)	70.0 (45, 87)
	<b>70 (70.7)</b>	61 (59.8)
	22 (22.2)	<b>34 (33.3)</b>
Gender, n (%)		
Male	65 (65.7)	69 (67.6)
Female	34 (34.3)	33 (32.4)
Prior Lines of Therapy, n (%)		
0	18 (18.2)	19 (18.6)
1-3	74 (74.7)	76 (74.5)
>3	7 (7.1)	7 (6.9)
Genotype by central lab*, n (%)		
<i>MYD88</i> <sup>L265P</sup> / <i>CXCR4</i> <sup>WT</sup>	90 (90.9)	91 (89.2)
<i>MYD88</i> <sup>L265P</sup> / <i>CXCR4</i> <sup>WHIM</sup>	8 (8.1)	11 (10.8)
IPSS WM <sup>1</sup>		
Low	13 (13.1)	17 (16.7)
Intermediate	42 (42.4)	38 (37.3)
High	44 (44.4)	47 (46.1)
★ Hemoglobin ≤ 110 g/L	53 (53.5)	<b>67 (65.7)</b>

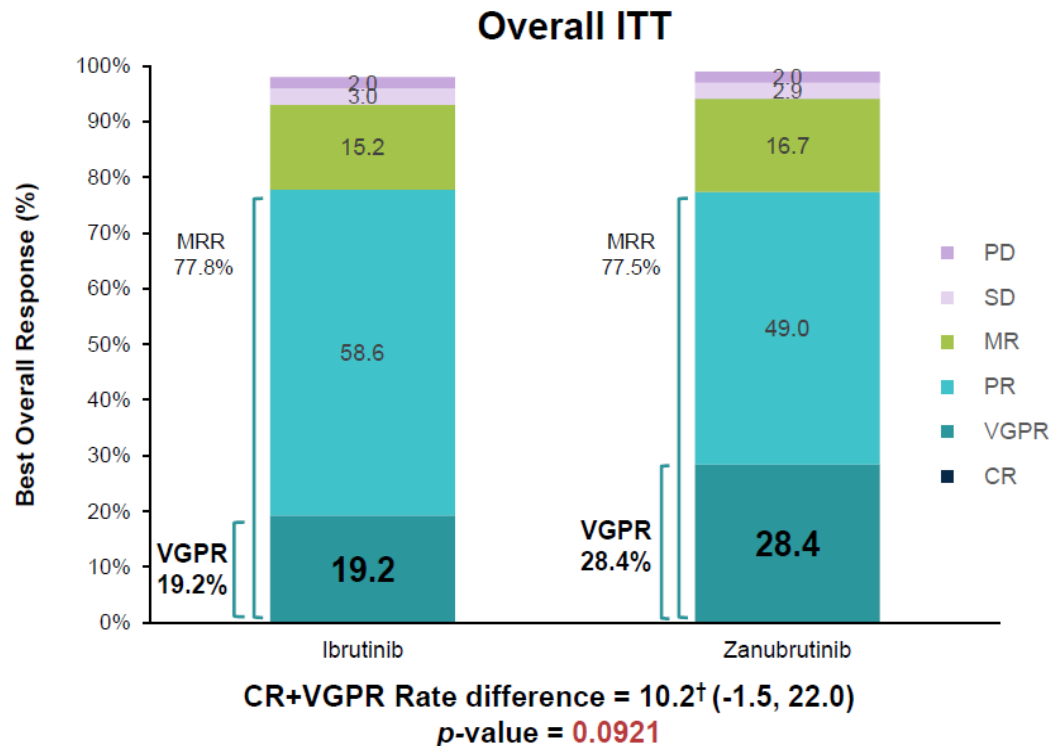
*CXCR4*, C-X-C Motif Chemokine Receptor 4; ITT, intention-to-treat; IPSS WM, International Prognostic Scoring System for Waldenström macroglobulinemia; *MYD88*, myeloid differentiation primary response gene 88; NGS, next-generation sequencing.

\*"Wildtype-blocking PCR" for *MYD88* and Sanger sequencing for *CXCR4* using bone marrow aspirates. One patient had local NGS testing results of *MYD88* L265P/ *CXCR4* Unknown.

1. Morel et al, *Blood*. 2009;113:4163-4170.

# ASPEN: Efficacy – Response by IRC (Data cutoff: 31 August 2019)

- Superiority in CR+VGPR rate compared to ibrutinib in relapsed/refractory population (primary study hypothesis) was not significant\*



CR, complete response; IRC, independent review committee; ITT, intention-to-treat; MRR, major response rate; MR, minor response; ; ORR, overall response rate; PD, progressive disease; PR, partial response; R/R, relapsed/refractory; SD, stable disease; VGPR, very good PR.

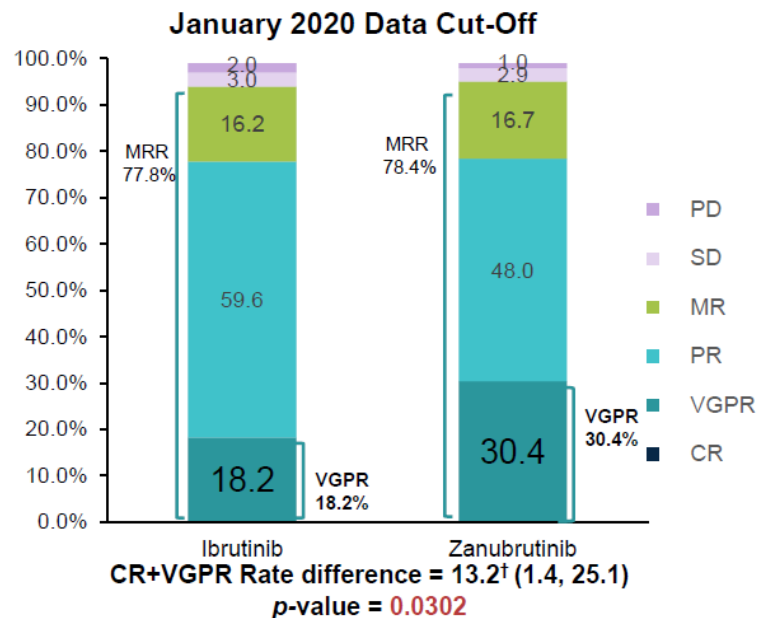
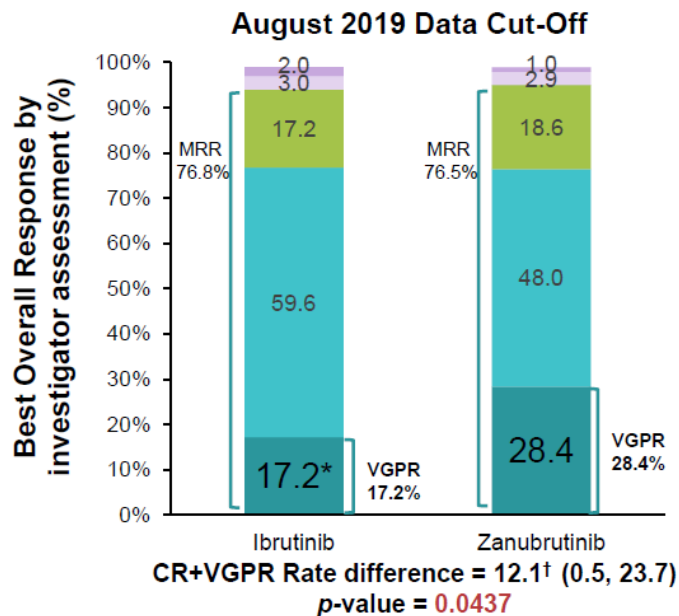
Overall concordance between Independent review and investigators = 94%

\* All other *P* values are for descriptive purposes only. †Adjusted for stratification factors and age group.

# ASPEN: Secondary Efficacy Endpoints

## Assessment of Response According to Investigator and IgM Analysis

### Investigator-Assessed Response



### IgM Reduction

- Area-under-the-curve (AUC) for IgM reduction over time was significantly greater for zanubrutinib vs ibrutinib ( $p=0.037$ )

CR, complete response; EMD, extramedullary disease; IgM, Immunoglobulin M; IRC, independent review committee; MRR, major response rate; MR, minor response; ; ORR, overall response rate; PD, progressive disease; PR, partial response; SD, stable disease; SPEP, serum protein electrophoresis; VGPR, very good PR.

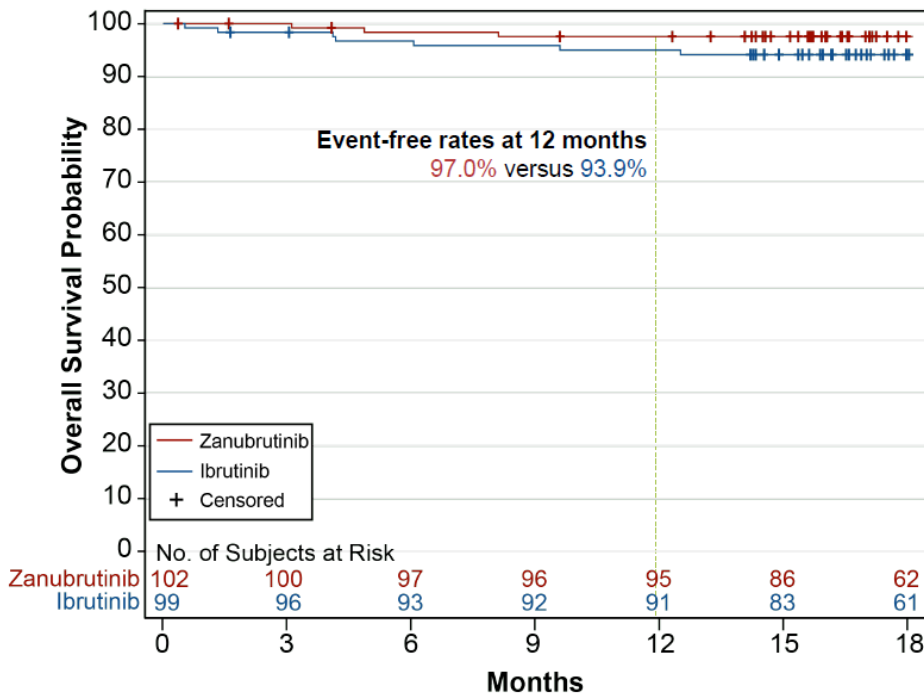
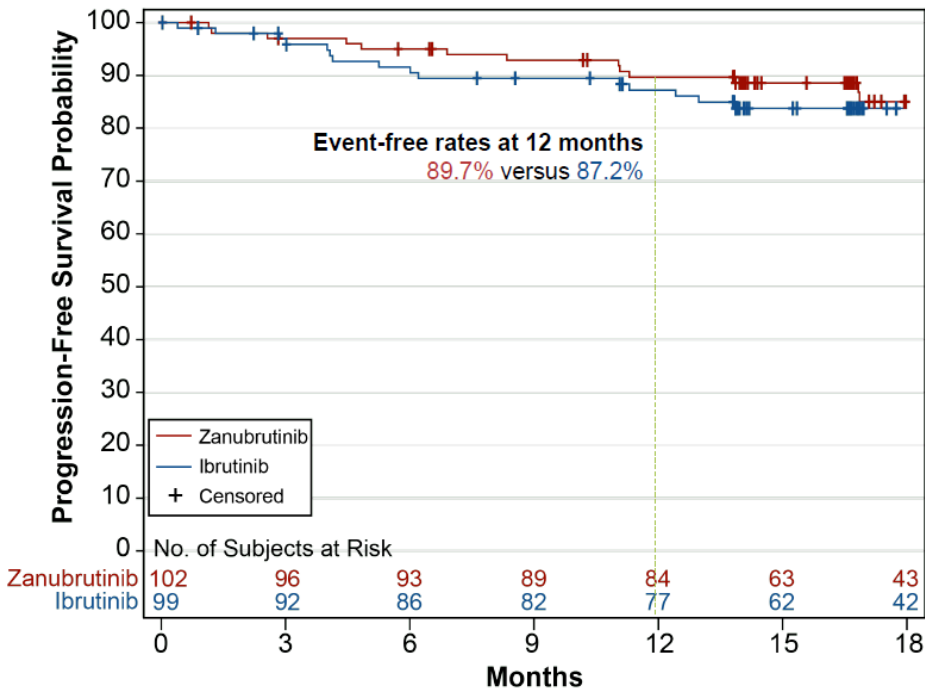
\*Excluded two patients with VGPR by IRC: MR (EMD present) and PR (IgM assessment by local SPEP M-protein)

<sup>†</sup>Adjusted for stratification factors and age group. P value is for descriptive purpose only.

Tam et al, ASCO 2020



# ASPEN: Progression-Free and Overall Survival in ITT population



IRC, independent review committee; VGPR, very good partial response.  
Disease progression determined by IRC.

Tam et al, ASCO 2020

# ASPEN: AE Categories of Interest (BTKi Class AEs)

AE Categories, n (%) (pooled terms)	All Grades		Grade ≥ 3	
	Ibrutinib (n = 98)	Zanubrutinib (n = 101)	Ibrutinib (n = 98)	Zanubrutinib (n = 101)
Atrial fibrillation/ flutter <sup>†</sup>	<b>15 (15.3)</b>	2 (2.0)	4 (4.1)	0 (0.0)
Diarrhea (PT)	<b>31 (31.6)</b>	21 (20.8)	1 (1.0)	3 (3.0)
Hemorrhage	<b>58 (59.2)</b>	49 (48.5)	8 (8.2)	6 (5.9)
Major hemorrhage <sup>a</sup>	9 (9.2)	6 (5.9)	8 (8.2)	6 (5.9)
Hypertension	17 (17.3)	11 (10.9)	<b>12 (12.2)</b>	6 (5.9)
Neutropenia <sup>b†</sup>	13 (13.3)	<b>30 (29.7)</b>	8 (8.2)	<b>20 (19.8)</b>
Infection	66 (67.3)	67 (66.3)	19 (19.4)	18 (17.8)
Second Malignancy	11 (11.2)	12 (11.9)	1 (1.0)	2 (2.0)

Higher AE rate in bold blue with ≥ 10% difference in any grade or ≥ 5% difference in grade 3 or above.

No tumor lysis syndrome was reported. Opportunistic infection ibrutinib (n=2), zanubrutinib (n=1).

AE, adverse event; BTKi, Bruton tyrosine kinase inhibitor; PT, preferred term.

<sup>a</sup>Defined as any grade ≥ 3 hemorrhage or any grade central nervous system hemorrhage.

<sup>b</sup>Including PT terms of neutropenia, neutrophil count decreased, febrile neutropenia, agranulocytosis, neutropenic infection and neutropenic sepsis.

<sup>†</sup> Descriptive two-sided P-value < 0.05.

# Strategies to Enhance BTK Inhibitors



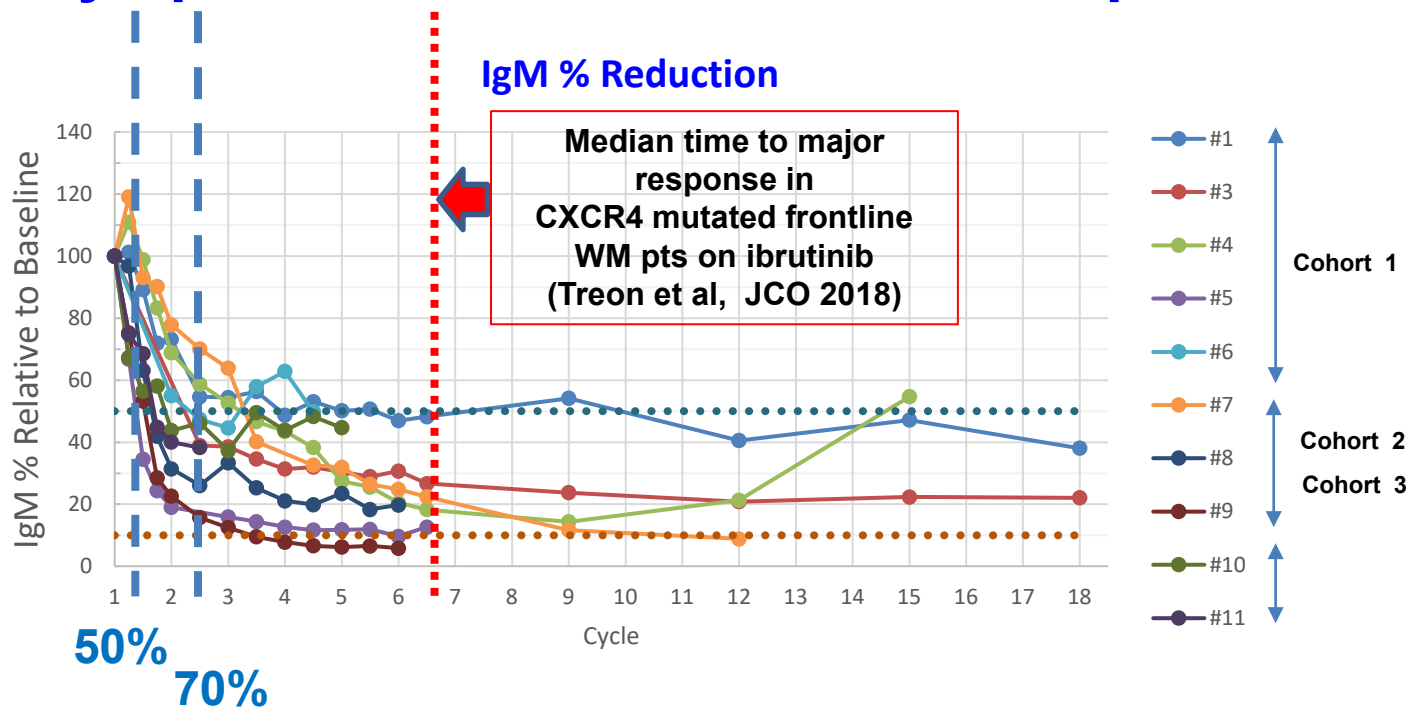
# Phase I/II Trial of Ulocuplumab and Ibrutinib in CXCR4 mutated patients with symptomatic WM

## Schema



Dose Level	Ibrutinib	Ulocuplumab Cycle 1	Ulocuplumab Cycles 2-6
Level 1 –Starting dose	420mg PO DQ	400 mg weekly	800 mg every other week
Level 2	420mg PO DQ	800 mg weekly	1200 mg every other week
Level 3	420mg PO DQ	800 mg weekly	1600 mg every other week

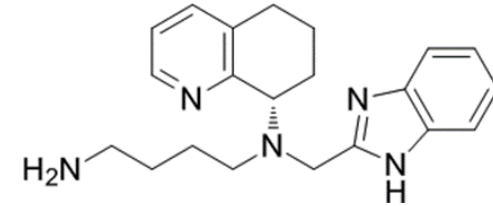
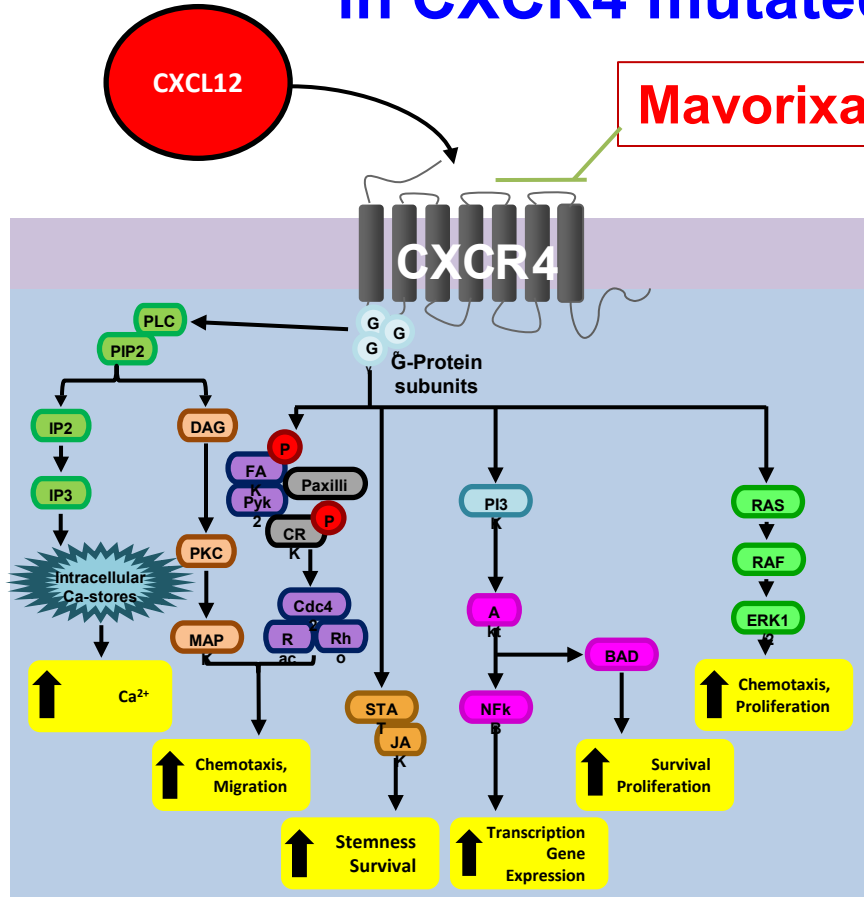
# Responses to Ibrutinib and CXCR4 Inhibitor Ulucuplomab in Symptomatic CXCR4 mutated WM patients



Median prior therapies: 0 (range 0-1)

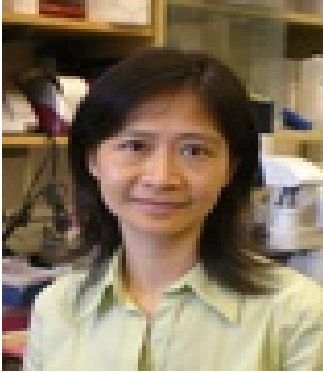
DFCI Unpublished Data

# Mavorixafor in combination with ibrutinib in CXCR4 mutated WM

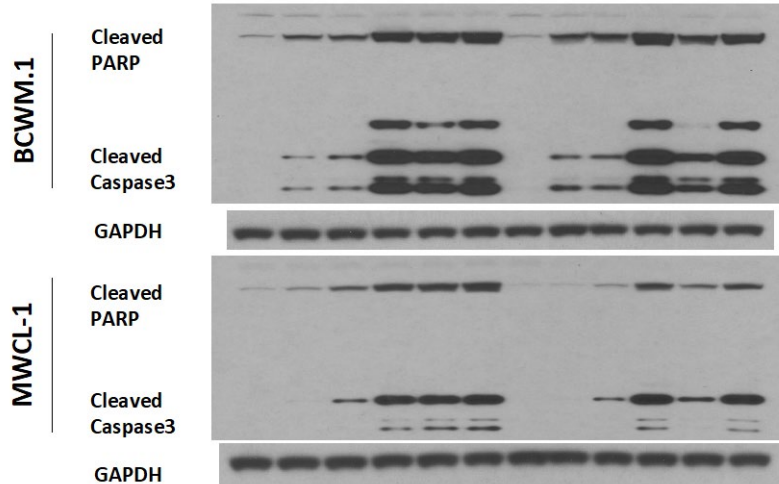
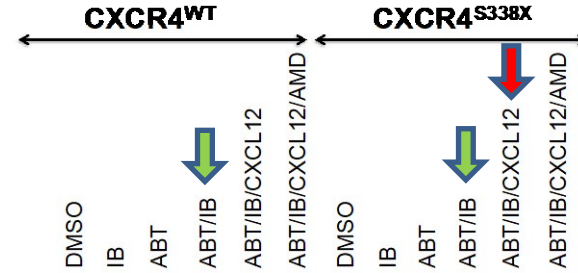
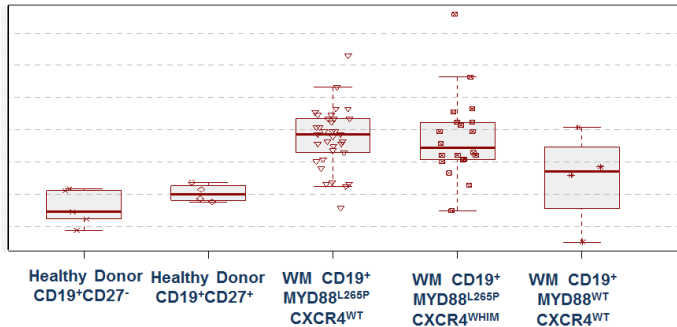


- Non-competitive, allosteric, small molecule antagonist of CXCR4
- Orally Bioavailable; mean  $t_{1/2}$  of ~23 hours
- High volume of distribution

# Venetoclax (ABT-199) augments ibrutinib induced apoptosis



Higher BCL2 levels in MYD88 mutated WM





J. Castillo

# Phase II Study of Venetoclax in Previously Treated WM

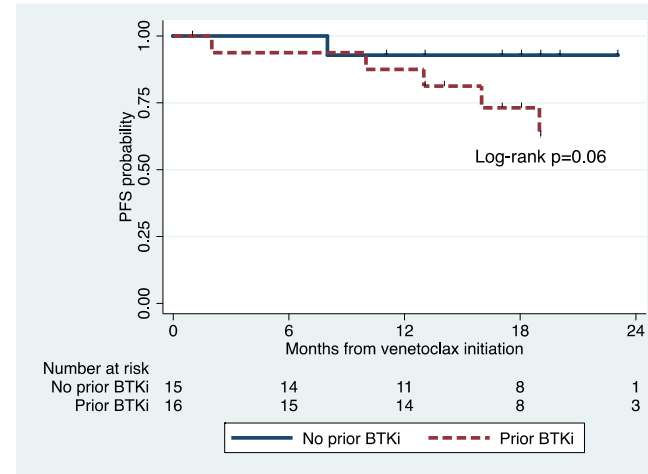
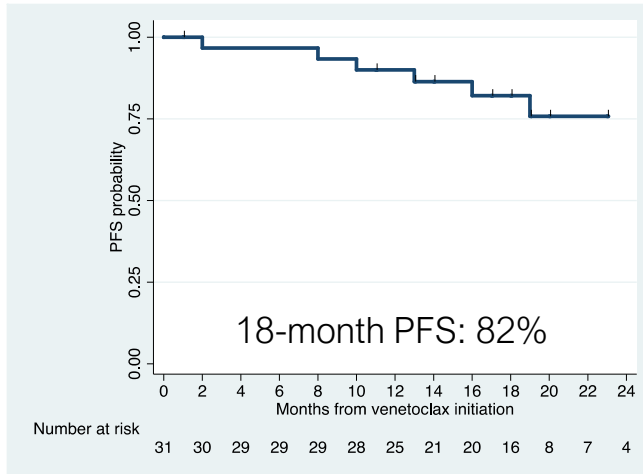
Multicenter Study: Cornell (John Allan, Rick Furman); City of Hope (Tanya Siddiqi)

Response	All patients	Prior BTK inhibitor		CXCR4 mutations	
	n=31	No (n=15)	Yes (n=16)	No (n=14)	Yes (n=17)
Overall (≥Minor)	27 (90%)	14 (93%)	13 (81%)	13 (93%)	14 (82%)
Major (≥Partial)	25 (83%)	13 (87%)	12 (75%)	12 (86%)	13 (76%)
Very good partial	6 (20%)	5 (33%)	1 (6%)	4 (29%)	2 (12%)
Partial	19 (63%)	8 (54%)	11 (69%)	8 (54%)	11 (69%)
Minor	2 (7%)	1 (6%)	1 (6%)	1 (6%)	1 (6%)
Time to response	1.9 months	1.1 months	3.8 months	1.3 months	2.1 months

**BM involvement**  
**At baseline, median 40% (4-95%).**  
**At best response, median 3% (0-50%).**



# Phase II Study of Venetoclax in Previously Treated WM

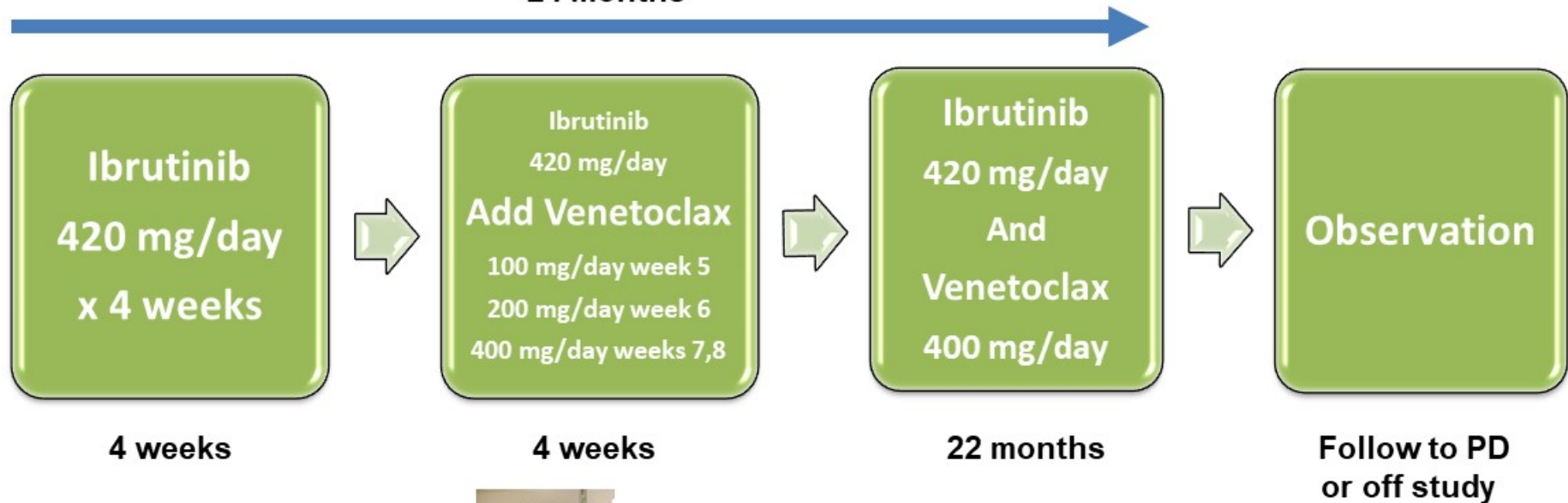


Median 18 months. Range 1-30 months.

Castillo et al, 17<sup>th</sup> IMW 2019

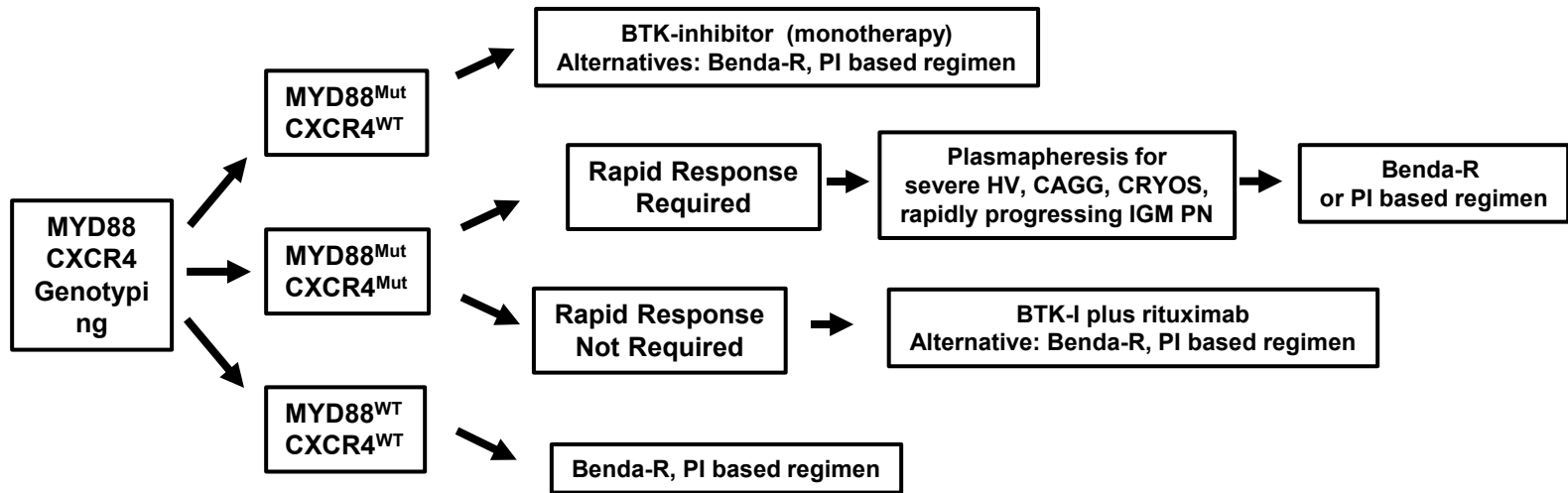
# Ibrutinib and Venetoclax in Treatment Naïve WM

24 months



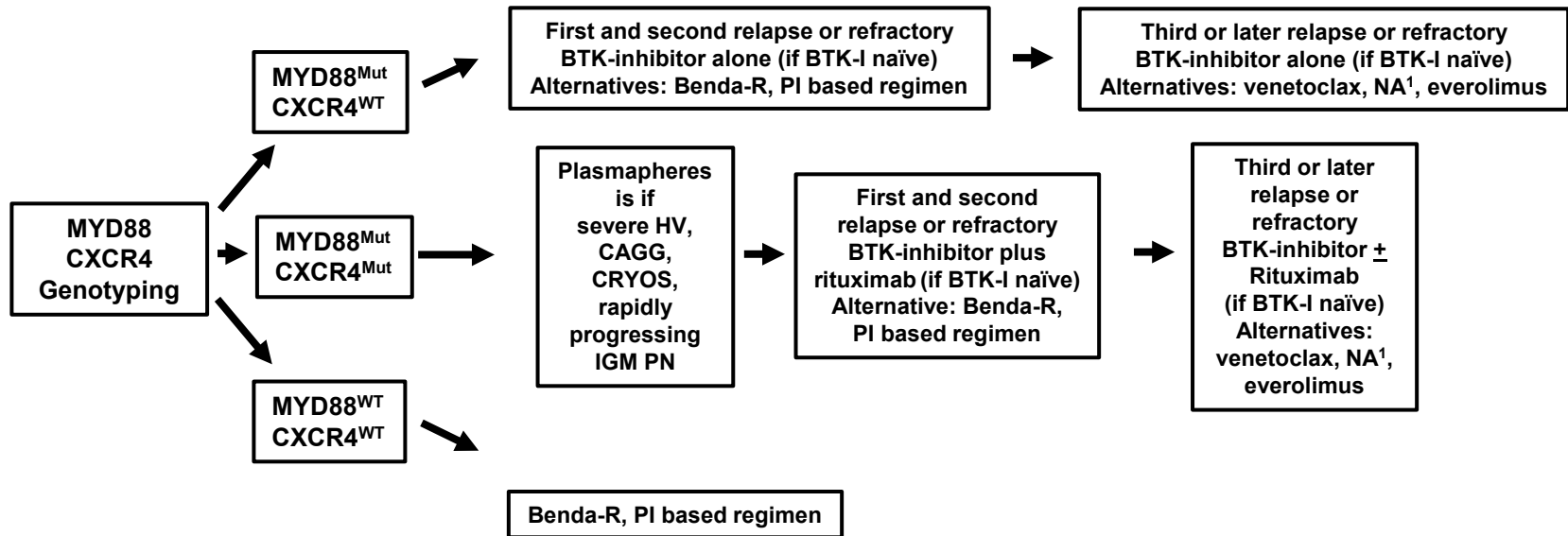
Jorge Castillo, PI (DFCI)

# Genomic Based Treatment Approach to Symptomatic Treatment Naïve WM



- Rituximab should be held for serum IgM  $\geq 4,000$  mg/dL
- Benda-R for bulky adenopathy or extramedullary disease.
- PI based regimen for symptomatic amyloidosis, and possible ASCT as consolidation.
- Rituximab alone, or with ibrutinib if MYD88<sup>Mut</sup> or bendamustine for IgM PN depending on severity and pace of progression.
- Maintenance rituximab may be considered in patients responding to rituximab based regimens.

# Genomic Based Treatment Approach to Symptomatic Relapsed or Refractory WM



- Nucleoside analogues (NA) should be avoided in younger patients, and candidates for ASCT.<sup>1</sup>
- ASCT may be considered in patients with multiple relapses, and chemosensitive disease.