March 17<sup>th</sup> 2023

An Evening with the Experts:

### LYMPHOMA

### Background and new paradigms in 2023

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Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center<sub>14</sub> 1) Why so many different lymphoma: navigating among various diseases with different prognoses and therapy?

2) New standard of care for patients with the main lymphoma subtypes (diffuse large B-cell, follicular, Hodgkin lymphoma)

3) What to expect from new drugs on the horizon: cellular therapies, bispecific antibodies, targeted therapies, ...



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## What is Lymphoma?

- Cancer of cells of the immune system (lymphocytes)
  - Lymphocytes are primarily found in lymph nodes, spleen, bone marrow, and thymus
  - But also in some epithelial and mucosal tissues
- They participate to the defense against infections (viruses and bacteria) but also react against anything "foreign" to our own body (tissue graft) and eventually against cancer
- **B lymphocytes (B cells):** involved in humoral immunity.
  - Make antibodies to help protect the body from bacteria and viruses.
- **T lymphocytes (T cells):** central role in cell-mediated immunity:
  - Helper, regulatory, or cytoxic t-cells,
- NK cells

### Blood cell manufacturing



### Blood cell manufacturing



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• Lymphoid organs



# **Clinical Presentation of Lymphoma**

- Swollen lymph nodes
- Enlargement of spleen, liver
- Involvement of extra-nodal organs (skin, lung, GI tract, etc...)
- Biological abnormalities (blood counts, ...)

- Unintentional weight loss
- Night sweats
- Unexplained fevers
- Fatigue
- Pruritus (Hodgkin, T-cell)
- Skin Rashes





# Diagnosis & Work up: Biopsy

- Biopsy
  - Excisional biopsy
  - Core biopsy
    - FNA not preferred



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# Many lymphoma entities...

- Non-Hodgkin lymphoma
  - B- cell lymphomas
  - T-cell lymphomas





- Hodgkin lymphoma
  - Reed-Sternberg cells

Normal lymphocyte



Reed-Sternberg Cell



References: 1. American Cancer Society. *Cancer Facts & Figures 2018.* Atlanta, GA: American Cancer Society; 2018. 2. About Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma. American Cancer Society Web site. https://www.cancer.org/cancer/non-hodgkin-lymphoma/about/types-of-non-hodgkin-lymphoma.html. Updated March 24, 2017. Accessed January 15, 2018. 3. Küppers R. Nat Rev Cancer. 2009;9(1):15-27. 4. Vose J et al; International T-Cell Lymphoma Project. *J Clin Oncol.* 2008;26(25):4124-4130.

## Tools to classify lymphoma entities... (1)

Morphology



#### Immunohistochemistry



### FISH (fluorescence in situ hybridization)



# Tools to classify/study lymphoma entities... (2)

#### **Chromosome abnormalities**







Δ



Relative Level of Expression (× median value)

## Tumor biology: mutations ...







Analysis of patient cohorts for which clinical features, morphology, immunophenotype and genetic data are available Class discovery Identification of distinct disease entities through a consensus process aimed to provide terminology and diagnostic criteria Class prediction Use of previously defined diagnostic criteria to determine which entity or category an individual patient belongs to

Figure 1. The classification process.

#### Table 1. 2016 WHO classification of mature lymphoid, histiocytic, and dendritic neoplasms Mature B-cell neoplasms Indolent T-cell lymphoo

Chronic lymphocytic leukemia/small lymphocytic lymphoma Monoclonal B-cell lymphocytosis B-cell prolymphocytic leukemia Splenic marginal zone lymphoma Hairy cell leukernia Splenic B-cell lymphoma/leukemia, unclassifiable Splenic diffuse red pulp small B-cell lymphoma Hairy cell leukemia-variant Lymphoplasmacytic lymphoma Waldenström macroglobulinemia Monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance (MGUS), IgM\* μ heavy-chain disease y heavy-chain disease α heavy-chain disease Monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance (MGUS), IgG/A\* Plasma cell myeloma Solitary plasmacytoma of bone Extraosseous plasmacytoma Monoclonal immunoglobulin deposition diseases\* Extranodal marginal zone lymphoma of mucosa-associated lymphoid tissue (MALT lymphoma) Nodal marginal zone lymphoma Pediatric nodal marginal zone lymphoma Follicular lymphoma In situ follicular neoplasia\* Duodenal-type follicular lymphoma\* Pediatric-type follicular lymphoma\* Large B-cell lymphoma with IRF4 rearrangement\* Primary cutaneous follicle center lymphoma Mantle cell lymphoma In situ mantle cell neoplasia\* Diffuse large B-cell lymphoma (DLBCL), NOS Germinal center B-cell type\* Activated B-cell type\* T-cell/histiocyte-rich large B-cell lymphoma Primary DLBCL of the central nervous system (CNS) Primary cutaneous DLBCL, leg type EBV<sup>+</sup> DLBCL, NOS\* EBV<sup>+</sup> mucocutaneous ulcer\* DLBCL associated with chronic inflammation Lymphomatoid granulomatosis Primary mediastinal (thymic) large B-cell lymphoma Intravascular large B-cell lymphoma ALK<sup>+</sup> large B-cell lymphoma Plasmablastic lymphoma Primary effusion lymphoma HHV8<sup>+</sup> DLBCL, NOS\* Burkitt lymphoma Burkitt-like lymphoma with 11q aberration\* High-grade B-cell lymphoma, with MYC and BCL2 and/or BCL6 rearrangements\* High-grade B-cell lymphoma, NOS\* B-cell lymphoma, unclassifiable, with features intermediate between DLBCL and

classical Hodgkin lymphoma

Chronic lymphoproliferative disorder of NK cells

Systemic EBV<sup>+</sup> T-cell lymphoma of childhood\* Hydroa vacciniforme-like lymphoproliferative disorder\*

Mature T and NK neoplasms

T-cell prolymphocytic leukemia T-cell large granular lymphocytic leukemia

Aggressive NK-cell leukernia

Adult T-cell leukemia/tymphoma Extranodal NK-/T-cell lymphoma, nasal type Enteropathy-associated T-cell lymphoma

Monomorphic epitheliotropic intestinal T-cell lymphoma\* Indolent T-cell lymphoproliferative disorder of the GI tract Hepatosplenic T-cell lymphoma Subcutaneous panniculitis-like T-cell lymphoma Mycosis fungoides Sézary syndrome Primary cutaneous CD30<sup>+</sup> T-cell lymphoproliferative disorders Lymphomatoid papulosis Primary cutaneous anaplastic large cell lymphoma Primary cutaneous vô T-cell lymphoma Primary cutaneous CD8<sup>+</sup> aggressive epidermotropic cytotoxic T-cell lymphoma Primary cutaneous acral CD8+ T-cell lymphoma\* Primary cutaneous CD4<sup>+</sup> small/medium T-cell lymphoproliferative disorder\* Peripheral T-cell lymphoma, NOS Angioimmunoblastic T-cell lymphoma Follicular T-cell lymphoma\* Nodal peripheral T-cell lymphoma with TFH phenotype\* Anaplastic large-cell lymphoma, ALK1 Anaplastic large-cell lymphoma, ALK-\* Breast implant-associated anaplastic large-cell lymphoma\* Hodgkin lymphoma Nodular lymphocyte predominant Hodgkin lymphoma Classical Hodgkin lymphoma Nodular sclerosis classical Hodgkin lymphoma Lymphocyte-rich classical Hodgkin lymphoma Mixed cellularity classical Hodgkin lymphoma Lymphocyte-depleted classical Hodgkin lymphoma Posttransplant lymphoproliferative disorders (PTLD) Plasmacytic hyperplasia PTLD Infectious mononucleosis PTLD Florid follicular hyperplasia PTLD\* Polymorphic PTLD Monomorphic PTLD (B- and T-/NK-cell types) Classical Hodgkin lymphoma PTLD Histiocytic and dendritic cell neoplasms Histiocytic sarcoma Langerhans cell histiocytosis Langerhans cell sarcoma Indeterminate dendritic cell tumor Interdigitating dendritic cell sarcoma Follicular dendritic cell sarcoma Fibroblastic reticular cell tumor Disseminated juvenile xanthogranuloma Erdheim-Chester disease\*

#### **T-cell**

#### Hodgkin

#### PTLD

#### Histiocytic/ Dendritic cell



#### T-cell

Laurent C et al. JCO 2017

#### **B-cell**

# Different diseases, different prognosis, different treatments...



## Staging of lymphoma



Tarec Christoffer El-Galaly, MD, DMSc, Lars Christian Gormsen, MD, PhD, Martin Hutchings, MD, PhD **PET/CT for Staging; Past, Present, and Future. Seminars Nuc Med, vol 48(1):4-16, 2018** https://doi.org/10.1053/j.semnuclmed.2017.09.001

#### **CT, FDG-PET, and FDG-PET/CT fusion**



Thomas C. Kwee et al. Blood 2008;111:504-516





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## Prognostic scores

- Predict overall and progression-free survival of NHL based on risk factors
- International Prognostic Score (IPI)
  - One point is assigned for each of these risk factors:
    - age >60 years;
    - stage III or IV disease;
    - elevated serum LDH;
    - Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group (ECOG) performance status of >1
    - Extranodal sites >1
- aaIPI NHL (stage, LDH, ECOG PS)
- Others: FLIPI1/2 (FL), MIPI (MCL), IPS (HL), PIT (T-cell)

#### Progressively replaced by biology

# Diffuse large B-cell lymphoma treatments: After diagnosis

- Chemotherapy: combination chemo-immunotherapy
  - R-CHOP (Rituximab, Cyclophosphamide, Doxorubicin, Vincristine and Prednisone)
     4 or 6 cycles
  - R-da-EPOCH (Rituximab, Etoposide, Prednisone, Cyclophosphamide, Doxorubicin)

Radiation Consolidation

# Rituximab-CHOP 98-5 GELA study: 10 years follow-up



## Relapsed DLBCL Treatment algorithm in 2021



#### The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

#### ORIGINAL ARTICLE

#### Axicabtagene Ciloleucel as Second-Line Therapy for Large B-Cell Lymphoma

F.L. Locke, D.B. Miklos, C.A. Jacobson, M.-A. Perales, M.-J. Kersten,
O.O. Oluwole, A. Ghobadi, A.P. Rapoport, J. McGuirk, J.M. Pagel, J. Muñoz,
U. Farooq, T. van Meerten, P.M. Reagan, A. Sureda, I.W. Flinn, P. Vandenberghe,
K.W. Song, M. Dickinson, M.C. Minnema, P.A. Riedell, L.A. Leslie, S. Chaganti,
Y. Yang, S. Filosto, J. Shah, M. Schupp, C. To, P. Cheng, L.I. Gordon, and
J.R. Westin, for All ZUMA-7 Investigators and Contributing Kite Members\*

Articles

#### The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

#### ORIGINAL ARTICLE

#### Second-Line Tisagenlecleucel or Standard Care in Aggressive B-Cell Lymphoma

M.R. Bishop, M. Dickinson, D. Purtill, P. Barba, A. Santoro, N. Hamad, K. Kato, A. Sureda, R. Greil, C. Thieblemont, F. Morschhauser, M. Janz, I. Flinn,
W. Rabitsch, Y.-L. Kwong, M.J. Kersten, M.C. Minnema, H. Holte, E.H.L. Chan, J. Martinez-Lopez, A.M.S. Müller, R.T. Maziarz, J.P. McGuirk, E. Bachy,
S. Le Gouill, M. Dreyling, H. Harigae, D. Bond, C. Andreadis, P. McSweeney, M. Kharfan-Dabaja, S. Newsome, E. Degtyarev, R. Awasthi, C. del Corral,
G. Andreola, A. Masood, S.J. Schuster, U. Jäger, P. Borchmann, and J.R. Westin

Lisocabtagene maraleucel versus standard of care with salvage chemotherapy followed by autologous stem cell transplantation as second-line treatment in patients with relapsed or refractory large B-cell lymphoma (TRANSFORM): results from an interim analysis of an open-label, randomised, phase 3 trial

Manali Kamdar, Scott R Solomon, Jon Arnason, Patrick B Johnston, Bertram Glass, Veronika Bachanova, Sami Ibrahimi, Stephan Mielke, Pim Mutsaers, Francisco Hernandez-Ilizaliturri, Koji Izutsu, Franck Morschhauser, Matthew Lunning, David G Maloney, Alessandro Crotta, Sandrine Montheard, Alessandro Previtali, Lara Stepan, Ken Oqasawara, Timothy Mack\*, Jeremy S Abramson, for the TRANSFORM Investigators†

#### Chimeric Antigen Receptor T-cell

(CAR T or CAR T-cell)



# How do CAR T cells work ?

- Gene transfer technology is used to stably express CARs on T cells<sup>1,2</sup>
  - Novel antigen specificity
- CAR-T cells can thus be directed against any tumor cell that expresses the CD19 surface antigen<sup>1,3</sup>
- CAR-T cell therapy takes advantage of the cytotoxic potential of T cells, thereby killing tumor cells in an antigendependent manner<sup>1,3</sup>
- Persistent CAR-T cells consist of both effector (cytotoxic) and central memory T cells<sup>3</sup>



CAR-T cells, chimeric antigen receptor T-cells; CD19, cluster of differentiation 19; TCR, T-cell receptor.

1. Milone MC et al. *Mol Ther* 2009;17:1453-1464. 2. Hollyman D et al. *J Immunother* 2009;32:169-180. 3. Kalos M et al. *Sci Transl Med* 2011;3:95ra73.

# CAR-T: How does it work practically?



## CAR T cell side effects

- Cytokine release syndrome (CRS)
- Neurologic Toxicity
- B-cell aplasia
  - Hypogammaglobulinemia
  - Infections
- Myelosuppression
- GI symptoms
- Hypersensitivity reactions

# CAR T already replaces ASCT in patients with DLBCL and early relapse



### Relapsed DLBCL: Treatment algorithm in 2022



Westin J, Sehn LH. CAR T cells as a second-line therapy for large B-cell lymphoma: a paradigm shift? Blood. 2022 May 5;139(18):2737-2746.

## Follicular Lymphoma Treatment : 1<sup>st</sup> line :

- Observation +++
- Rituximab single agent
- Immuno-chemotherapy:
  - Rituximab or obinutuzumab + Chemo
    - (O=obinutuzumab=G=Gazyva)
  - R/G-CHOP, R/G-bendamustine; R/G-CVP
- +/- Rituximab/Obinutuzumab maintenance
- Rituximab / lenalidomide (Revlimid) R2
- Radiation
  - Boom Boom (2GY x2)

### Moving away from chemotherapy in the first line setting? Rituximab-Lenalidomide:



Gr 3-4 neutropenia and febrile neutropenia

- more frequent with R-chemo

Gr 3-4 Cutaneous reactions - More frequent with R-Len

One of the "preferred options" in NCCN guidelines

# **Options at later lines (3+)**



Always rule out histological transformation - new biopsy recommended

## FOLLICULAR LYMPHOMA

# 53 years old patient

Resistant to 4 lines of subsequent Tx:

- R-CHOP x 6
- R-DHAOx + I
- Obinu + LEN
- Benda + Obinu

#### **Before CAR-T**



#### **3 months post CAR-T**





#### Lyon University Hospital

#### **Bispecific antibodies**



IgG-like Bispecific antibody

Lorenzo Falchi, Santosha A. Vardhana, Gilles A. Salles, Bispecific antibodies for the treatment of B-cell lymphoma: promises, unknowns, and opportunities, Blood, 2023,

## T-cell lymphoma treatments

- 1<sup>st</sup> Line
  - CHO(E)P, BV-CHP\*, clinical trial
    - Cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, vincristine, (etoposide), prednisone
    - Brentuximab vedotin + cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, prednisone
  - Possibly auto-SCT for eligible patients who achieve remission
- Relapsed/refractory
  - Clinical trial
  - Brentuximab vedotin (for CD30+)
  - HDAC inhibitors (romidepsin)
  - Chemotherapy
  - Allogeneic stem cell transplant

## Hodgkin Lymphoma Treatment

- ABVD (doxorubicin, bleomycin, vinblastine, dacarbazine) or AVD + BV (Brentuximab Vedotin)
- BEACOPP (bleomycin, etoposide, doxorubicin, cyclophosphamide, vincristine, prednisone, procarbazine)
- Second line: High dose therapy  $\rightarrow$  auto SCT
  - Brentuximab or Brentuximab + Nivolumab
  - ICE (ifosfamide, carboplatin, etoposide)
  - Pembrolizumab + GVD\*
- Radiation therapy

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### Overview of B-cell lymphoma drug approvals, 2019 – 6/2022



#### Other New Treatment Options for Patients with B-cell Lymphoma

- 1. Monoclonal antibodies:
  - New anti-CD20 (ofatumomab, obinutuzumab, ublituximab, ..), tafasitamab
  - Antibody drug conjugates
  - Bi-specific Abs +++
- Improving rituximab efficacy with other agents:
  Imids (lenalidomide) and Cellmods, anti-PD1, anti-CD47, ...
- 3. Kinase inhibitors:
  - PI3ki: Idelalisib, copanlisib, duvelisib, umbralisib (and Co...);
  - BTKi: ibrutinib (and Co)
- 4. Targeted agents:
  - cell survival: venetoclax, mTORi
  - epigenetic: HDACi (vorinostat), EZH2i (tazemetostat)
- 5. Cellular therapy (CAR-T): axi-cel, tisa-cel and liso-cel,... and others !

### Antibody-Drug Conjugates (ADC)

#### Anatomy of an Antibody-Drug Conjugate (ADC) Linker stable in circulation Linker biochemistry Antibody targeted Acid labile (hydrazone) to tumor Enzyme dipeptides (cleavable) Humanized monoclonal Thioether (uncleavable) Ab (lgG1) Hindered disulfide (uncleavable) mAb with Fc modifications Site of conjugation (modulate ADCC, CDC activity) · Fc. HC. LC Other mAb fragments

# Very potent chemotherapeutic drug Tubulin polymerization inhibitors Maytansines (DM1, DM4) Auristatins (MMAE, MMAF) DNA damaging agents Calicheamicins Duocarmycins Anthracyclines (doxorubicin)

3

- Cytotoxic agent selected as the payload kills target cells after internalization and release inside the targeted cells.
- Stability of the linker has considerable impact on the toxicities that are then exerted by the payload.

### Polatuzumab Vedotin (CD79b-ADC)

- Antibody drug conjugates (ADC) consisting of the microtubule inhibitor monomethyl auristatin E (MMAE) conjugated to CD79b monoclonal antibodies via a proteasecleavable peptide linker
- CD79b is expressed by most B-cell hematologic malignancies



#### Diffuse large B-cell Lymphoma: the Polarix study



Same Quality of Life scales

No difference in overall survival (yet?)

#### Loncastuximab tesirine



1. Hartley JA. The development of pyrrolobenzodiazepines as antitumour agents. Expert Opin Investig Drugs 2011;20(6):733-744.

# Mechanisms of action of lenalidomide in lymphoma cells and the nodal microenvironment



John G. Gribben et al. JCO 2015;33:2803-2811

# Tafasitamab a humanized and engineered anti-CD19 Ab

Previously known as XmAb5574, then MOR208







Morschhauser F et al., Hematol Oncol, June 2019; Pages 154-156

### **Targeted small molecules**

- PI3k inhibitors
- BTK inhibitor
- others



# Activity of different PI3K inhibitors in patients with follicular lymphoma

Compound	Patient characteristics	No. of pts (FL/total)	ORR	CR	PFS in months (median)	DOR in months (median)	Time on drug in months (median)	Most frequent grade 3-4 AE (5% or more of the pts)*
<b>Idelalisib</b> <sup>1</sup> (oral; $\delta$ specific)	Double	DAWN	ì	14%	11	11	7	Neutropenia (27%); transaminitis (13%); diarrhea (13%); pneumonia (7%); thrombocytopenia (6%)
<b>Duvelisib</b> <sup>2</sup> (oral; $\gamma \delta$ specific)	WITH	ORA	42%	1%	10*	10*	7*	Neutropenia (25%); diarrhea (15%); anemia (15%); thrombocytopenia (12%); febrile neutropenia (9%); lipase increased (7%); transaminitis (5%); pneumonia (5%); colitis (5%)
<b>Copanlisib</b> <sup>3</sup> (IV; $\alpha \delta$ specific)	Relapsed or refractory (80%)	104/142	59%	20%	13*	14*	6*	Hyperglycemia (40%); hypertension (24%); neutropenia (24%); pneumonia (11%); diarrhea (9%); anemia (5%); thrombocytopenia (5%)
Umbralisib 4 (oral, δ and CK1 specific)	Relapsed	RAWN	5%	5%	11	11	8	Neutropenia (12%); diarrhea (10%); transaminitis (20%); opportunistic infections (3%); rash (2%)

\*Patients with follicular and other iNHL.

1. Salles G, et al. *Haematologica*. 2017;102(4):e156-e159; 2. Flinn I, et al. *J Clin Oncol*. 2019;37(11):912-922; 3. Dreyling, M, et al. *Am J Hematol*. 2020;95:362-371; 4. Fowler NH, et al. *J Clin Oncol*. 2021. Epub ahead of print.

#### What can we expect from targeted therapies?



Wright GW et al, Cancer Cell 2020

### **Bispecific CD3xCD20 MoAb :**



No ex-vivo T cell manipulation required ('off-the-shelf' and no delay in treatment)

# CD3xCD20 bispecifics antibodies in DLBCL



	<b>Mosunetuzumab</b> <sup>a)</sup> (RG7828)	<b>Odronextumab</b> <sup>b)</sup> (REGN1979)	<b>Glofitamab<sup>c)</sup></b> (RG6026)	<b>Epcoritamab</b> <sup>d)</sup> (GEN3013)
Patients	82	45	155	157
ORR	33%	40%	52%	63%
CR	20%	36%	39%	39%

a) Budde LE et al. J Clin Oncol. 2022;40(5)4810491.

b) Bannerji R et al. Lancet Haematol. 2022;9(5):e339.

c) Dickinson M et al. N Engl J Med. 2022 Dec 15;387(24):2220-2231

d) Thieblemont C et al. J Clin Oncol. 2022 Dec 22: JCO2201725. doi: 10.1200/JCO.22.01725. Online ahead of print.PMID: 36548927

### **Bi-Specifics CD3 x CD20 in patients with R/R FL** (updated January 2023)



	Mosunetuzumab (RG7828) <sup>1</sup>	<b>Odronextumab</b> (REGN1979) <sup>2</sup>	<b>Glofitamab</b> (RG6026) <sup>3</sup>	<b>Epcoritamab</b> (GEN3013) <sup>4</sup>
Patients	90	131	53	10
ORR	78%	82%	81 %	90%
CR	60%	75%	70 %	50%
Median PFS	24 months	20 months	NA	NA

Budde L et al, Lancet Oncology 2022; updated Bartlett N et al, ASH 2022; abstract 610
 Kim TM et al. ASH 2022, abstract 949

Morschhauser F et al. ASH 2021; 3.

Hutchings M, et al. Lancet Onc 2021 4.

### **Challenges in Bispecific developments**

Managing first infusions AEs	<ul> <li>Optimal step-up dosing, drug formulation, prophylaxis</li> <li>Outpatient administration</li> <li>Patient and provider education</li> </ul>
Duration of response	<ul> <li>Optimal duration of BsAb therapy</li> <li>Predictors of durable response</li> </ul>
Moving to earlier lines of therapy	<ul><li>Ongoing studies, in a competitive field</li><li>Randomized studies challenging (high risk patients?)</li></ul>
Optimal combinations	<ul> <li>Moving beyond cytotoxic agents as partners</li> <li>Rational (rather than expedient) combinations</li> </ul>
Understand mechanisms of resistance	<ul> <li>Antigen loss ? Intrinsic resistance to immune killing?</li> <li>T-cell exhaustion ?</li> <li>Other inhibitory signals (cells, molecules) in the microenvironment</li> </ul>

Better monitor the disease during therapy

# Imaging of glucose metabolism with FDG



**Courtesy of Marius E Mayerhoefer** 



### **Personalisation of therapy**



Campo E et al, Blood 2022

### Acknowledgements – Merci !



