



# Treatment of Acute Myeloid Leukemia: Managing the AML Patient When Transplant is NOT an Option

Harry P. Erba, MD PhD

Professor, Medicine

Director, Leukemia Program

Division of Hematologic Malignancies and Cellular Therapy

Duke University

Durham, NC



**DukeHealth**

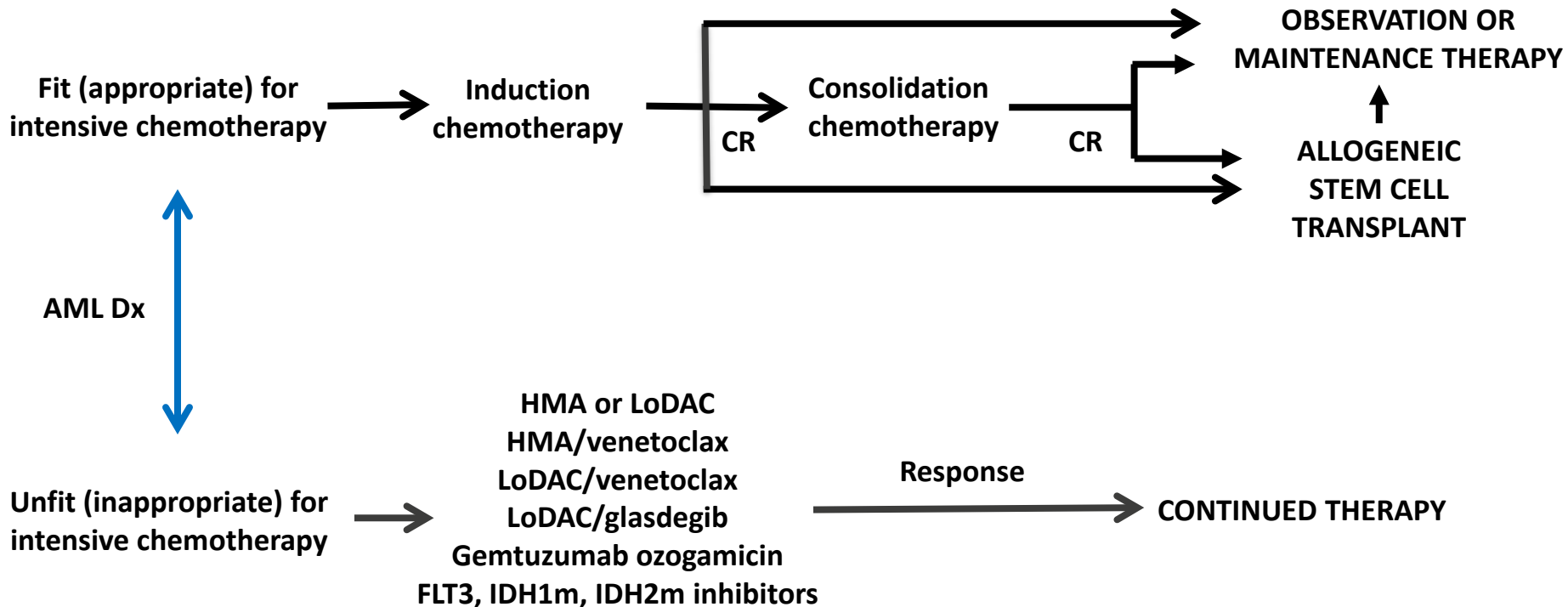


## **Disclosures of Potential Conflicts of Interest (09/01/2021 to 11/12/2023)**

- **Speaker Bureau: AbbVie, BMS, Incyte, Jazz, Novartis, Servier**
- **Consultant: AbbVie, Astellas, BMS, Daiichi Sankyo, Glycomimetics, Incyte, Jazz, Kura Oncology, Novartis, Pfizer, Servier, Stemline, Sumitomo Pharma**
- **Contracted Research: AbbVie, ALX Oncology, Amgen, Aptose, Ascentage, Daiichi Sankyo, Forma, Gilead, Glycomimetics, Immunogen, Jazz, Kura Oncology, MacroGenics, Novartis, PTC, Sumitomo Pharma**
- **Other: BMS (Chair, AML Registry Steering Committee), AbbVie (Chair, IRC for VIALE A and VIALE C), Glycomimetics (Scientific Steering Committee)**



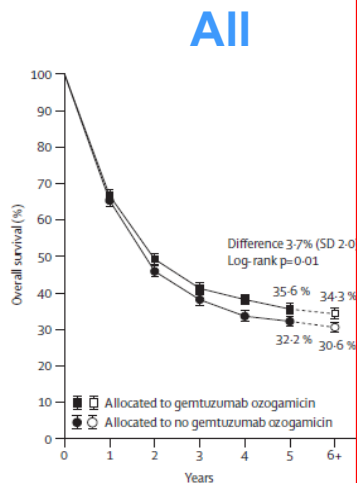
# The Current AML Treatment Algorithm



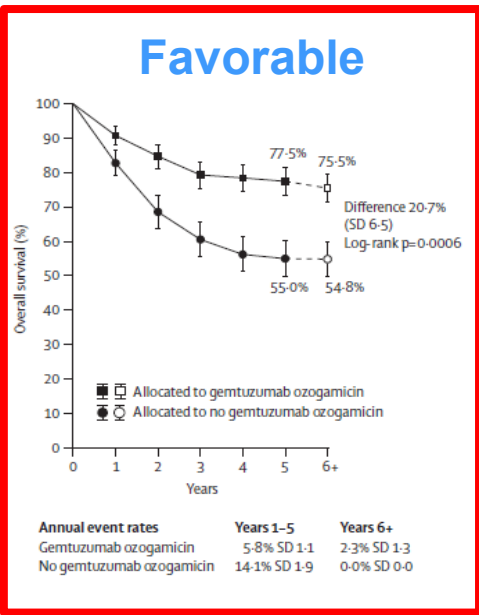


# Addition of GO to Induction Chemotherapy for AML

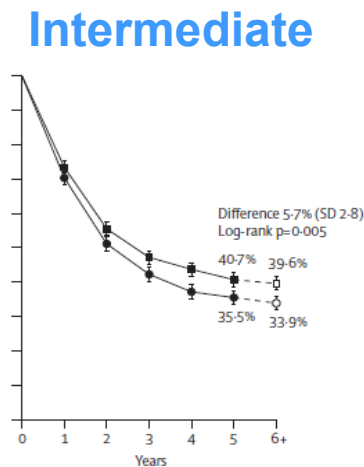
## A Meta-Analysis of Data from 3325 Individual Patients



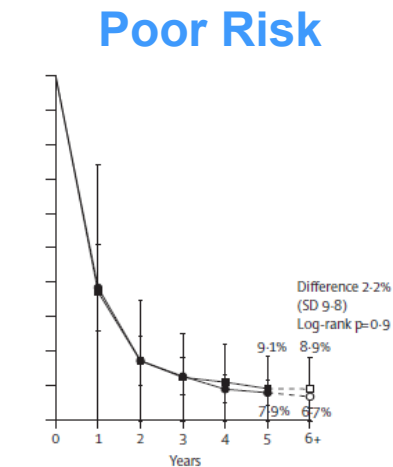
Annual event rates	Years 1-5	Years 6+
Gemtuzumab ozogamicin	26.7% SD 0.8	3.5% SD 0.4
No gemtuzumab ozogamicin	29.5% SD 0.9	5.2% SD 1.0



Annual event rates	Years 1-5	Years 6+
Gemtuzumab ozogamicin	5.8% SD 1.1	2.3% SD 1.3
No gemtuzumab ozogamicin	14.1% SD 1.9	0.0% SD 0.0



Annual event rates	Years 1-5	Years 6+
Gemtuzumab ozogamicin	22.4% SD 1.0	2.7% SD 0.9
No gemtuzumab ozogamicin	26.2% SD 1.1	4.9% SD 1.3

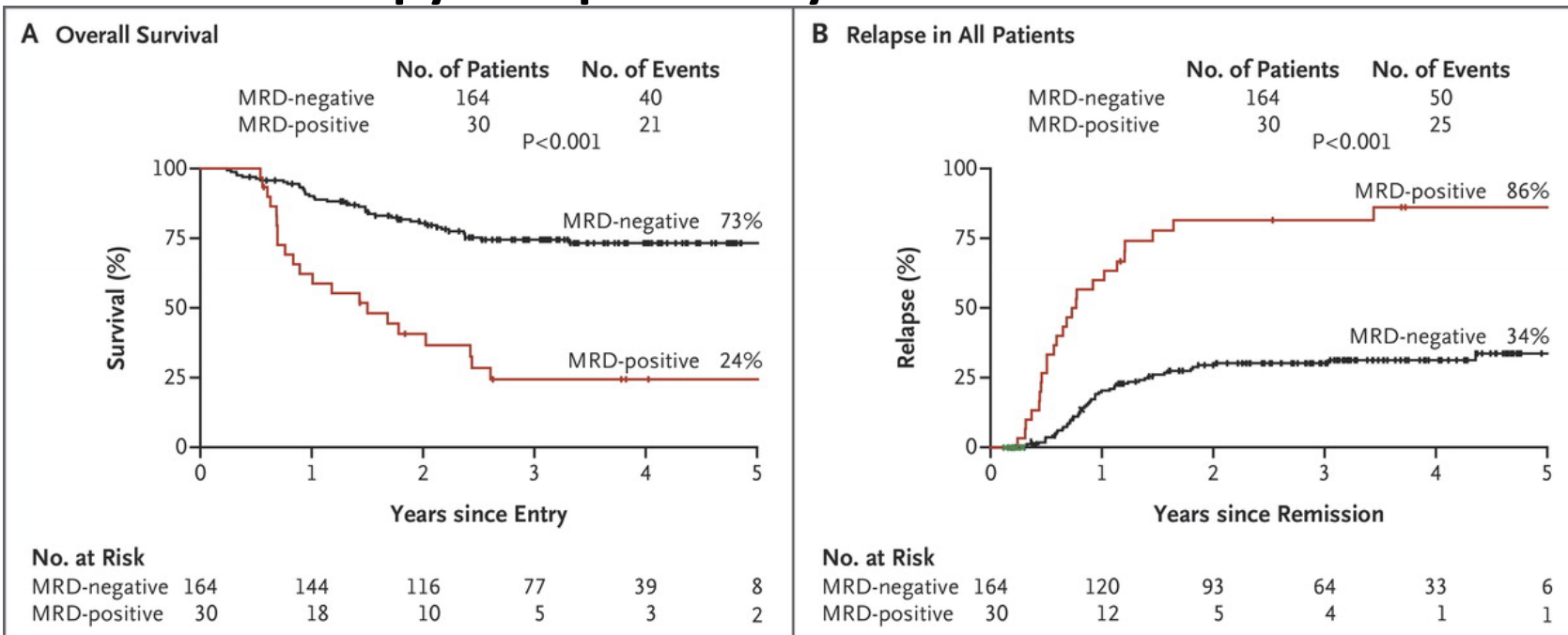


Annual event rates	Years 1-5	Years 6+
Gemtuzumab ozogamicin	73.8% SD 4.6	2.4% SD 2.4
No gemtuzumab ozogamicin	76.7% SD 4.8	21.1% SD 10.5

Hills RK, et al. *Lancet Oncol* 2014; 15: 686-96.



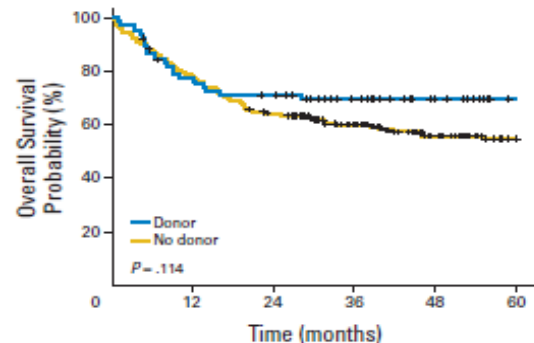
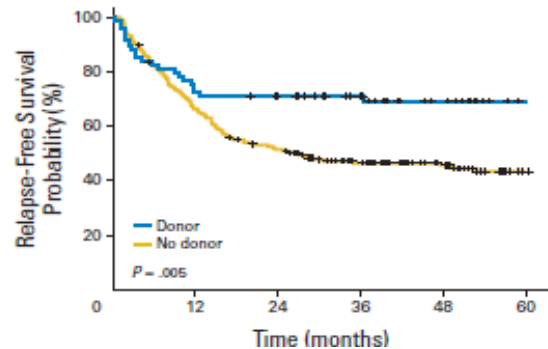
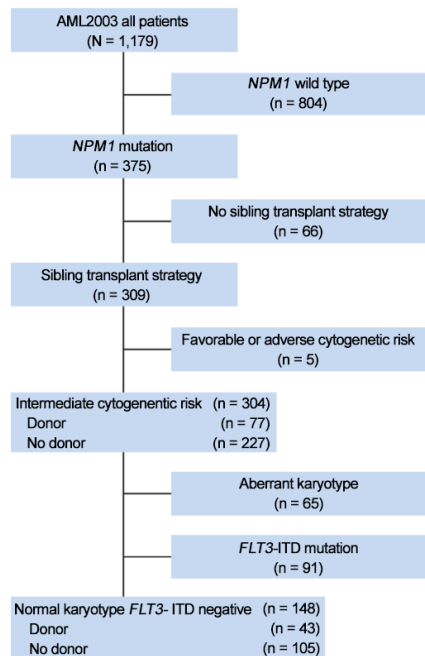
# MRD Based on PCR for Mutant *NPM1* After Second Cycle of Chemotherapy Independently Predicts Clinical Outcomes



MRD = minimal residual disease; PCR = polymerase chain reaction.



# Allogeneic HSCT in Younger Adults with AML with *NPM1*m without *FLT3* ITD: Donor vs. No-Donor Analysis

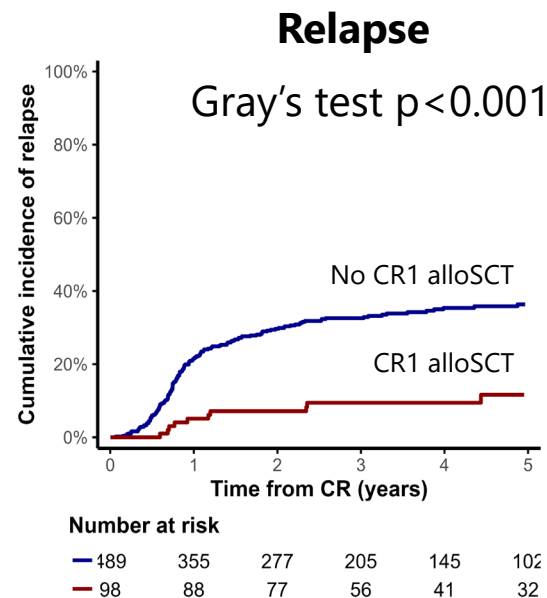
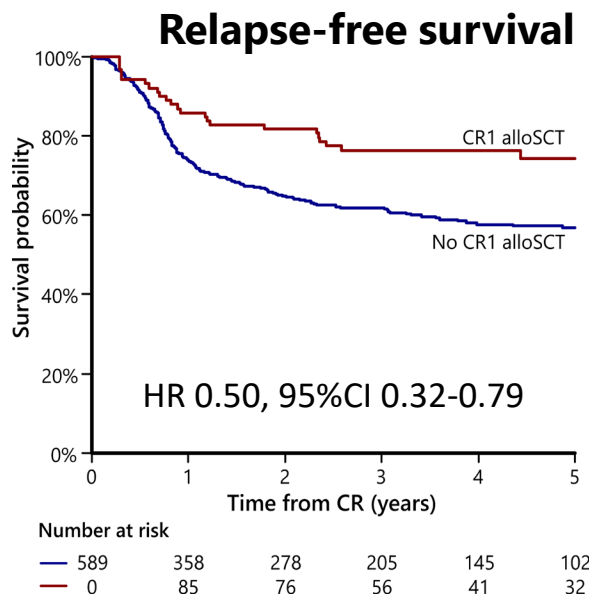
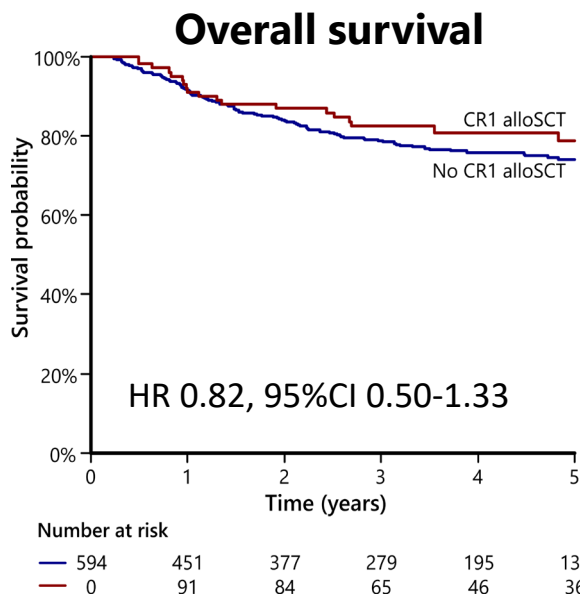


Rollig C, et al. *J Clin Oncol.* 2015; 33(5): 403-410

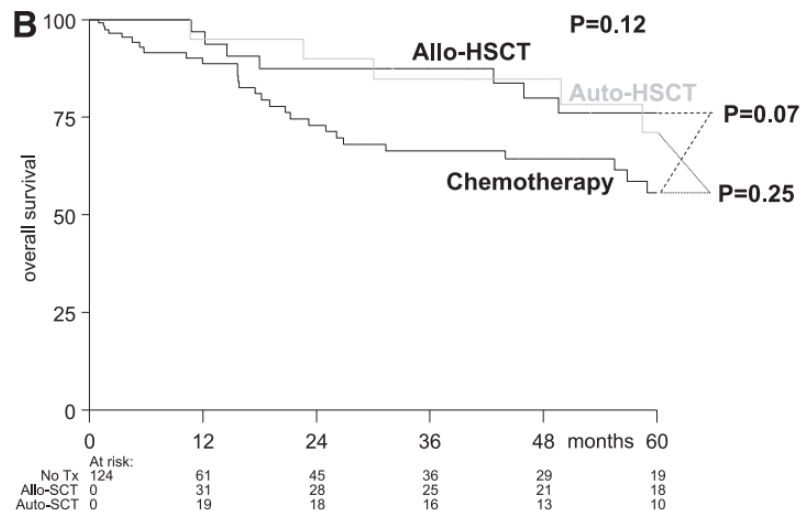
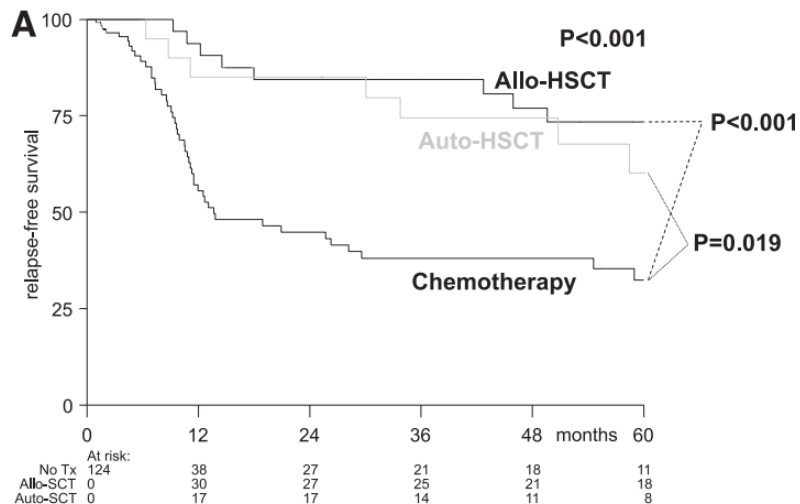
71% of donor group had allo HSCT in CR1; 9% later



# CR1-allo HSCT does not improve OS in *NPM1*<sup>mut</sup> AML in PB MRD negative complete remission after induction



# Allogeneic HSCT Improves Relapse-free Survival but Not Overall Survival in AML with Biallelic *CEBPA*m



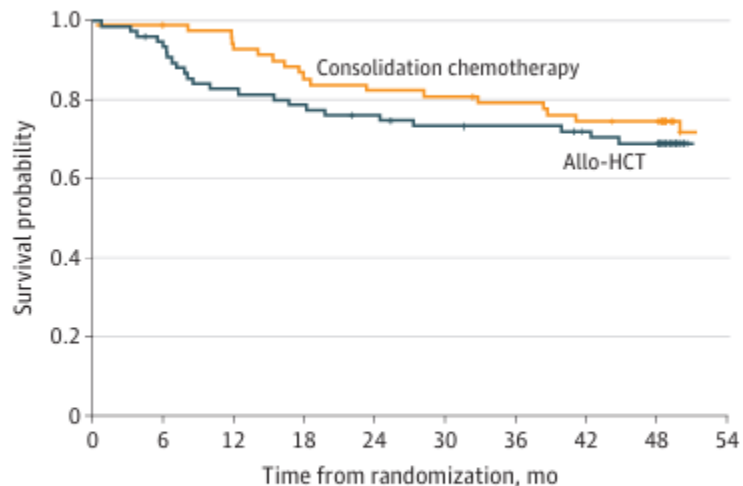
- Rate of CR2 = 83%
- 33 of 35 underwent allo HSCT in CR2
- Survival 46% at 3 years post relapse





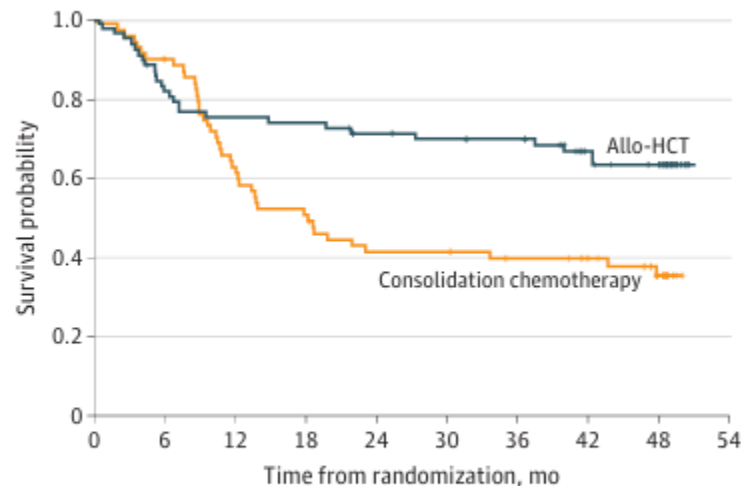
# Allogeneic HSCT vs Consolidation for Intermediate Risk\* AML in CR1

**A** Overall survival



No. at risk	0	6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48
Consolidation chemotherapy	67	66	62	57	55	54	52	49	48
Allo-HCT	76	70	62	59	56	53	52	49	47

**B** Disease-free survival



No. at risk	0	6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48
Consolidation chemotherapy	67	59	41	33	26	26	23	20	12
Allo-HCT	76	61	56	55	50	48	47	39	34

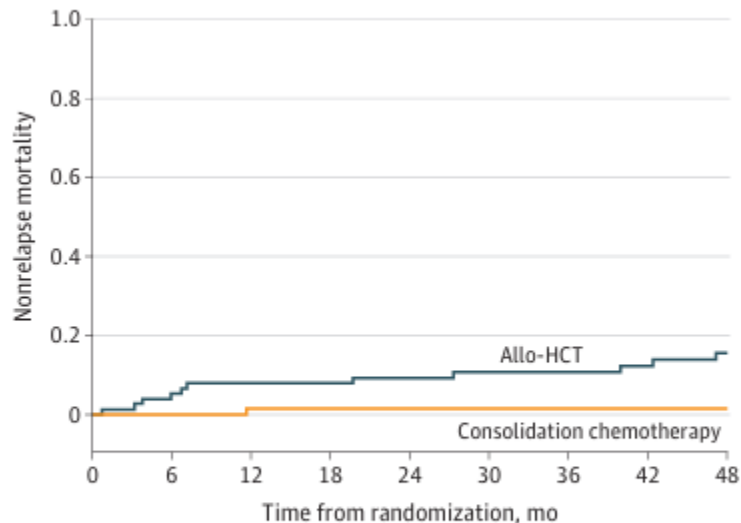
Bornhauser M, et al. *JAMA Oncol.* 2023; 9(4): 519-526.

\*cytogenetically defined



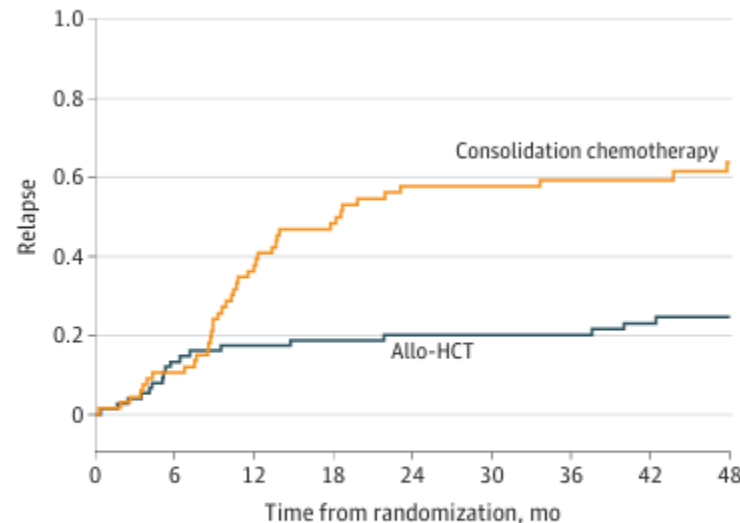
# Allogeneic HSCT vs Consolidation for Intermediate Risk\* AML in CR1

**A** Cumulative incidence of nonrelapse mortality



No. at risk	0	6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48
Consolidation chemotherapy	67	66	62	57	55	54	52	49	48
Allo-HCT	76	70	62	59	56	53	52	49	47

**B** Cumulative incidence of relapse



No. at risk	0	6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48
Consolidation chemotherapy	67	59	41	33	26	26	23	20	12
Allo-HCT	76	61	56	55	50	48	47	39	34

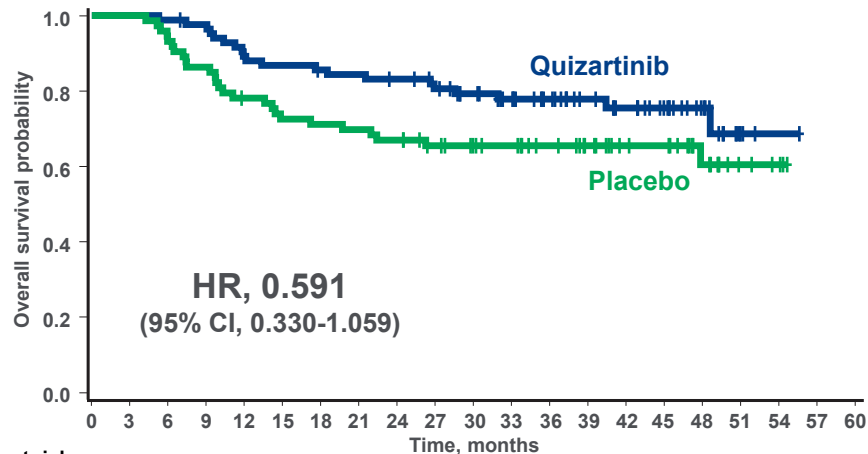
Bornhauser M, et al. *JAMA Oncol.* 2023; 9(4): 519-526.

\*cytogenetically defined



# QuANTUM-First: Overall Survival in Patients Who Achieved CR

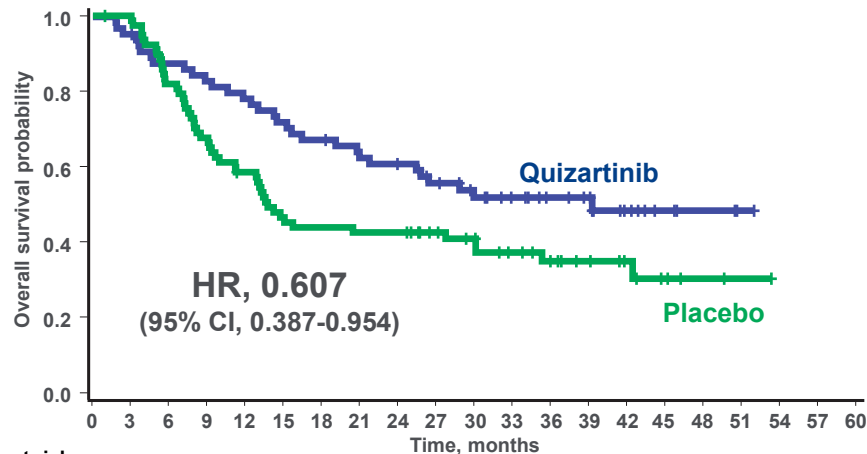
## Patients With CR Who Received Allo-HCT in CR1



No. at risk

Quizartinib	84	84	83	81	74	72	70	69	67	63	57	50	42	34	29	22	14	3	1	0	0
Placebo	73	73	68	63	56	52	51	50	48	43	39	37	32	27	21	20	12	5	3	0	0

## Patients With CR NOT Receiving Allo-HCT in CR1



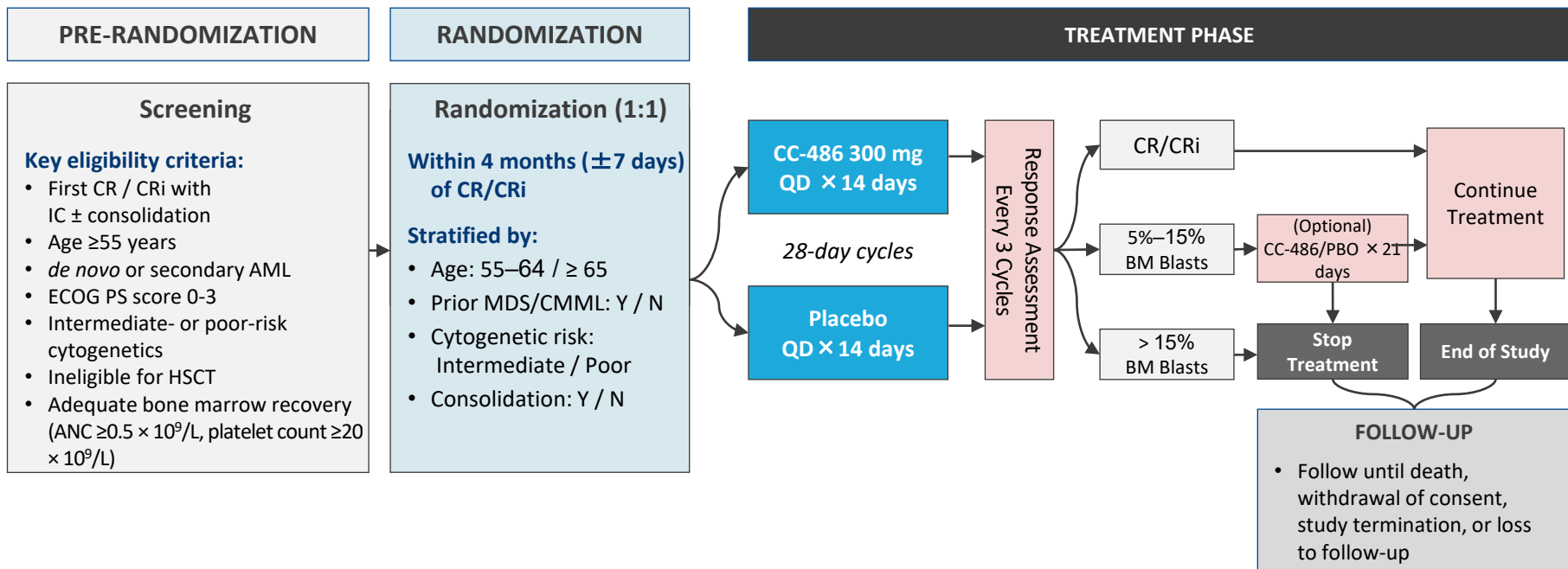
No. at risk

Quizartinib	63	60	54	51	48	44	41	37	35	30	25	21	17	15	9	5	3	1	0	0	0
Placebo	77	76	61	50	42	33	31	30	30	25	22	17	14	10	7	4	2	1	0	0	0



# QUAZAR AML-001: Study design

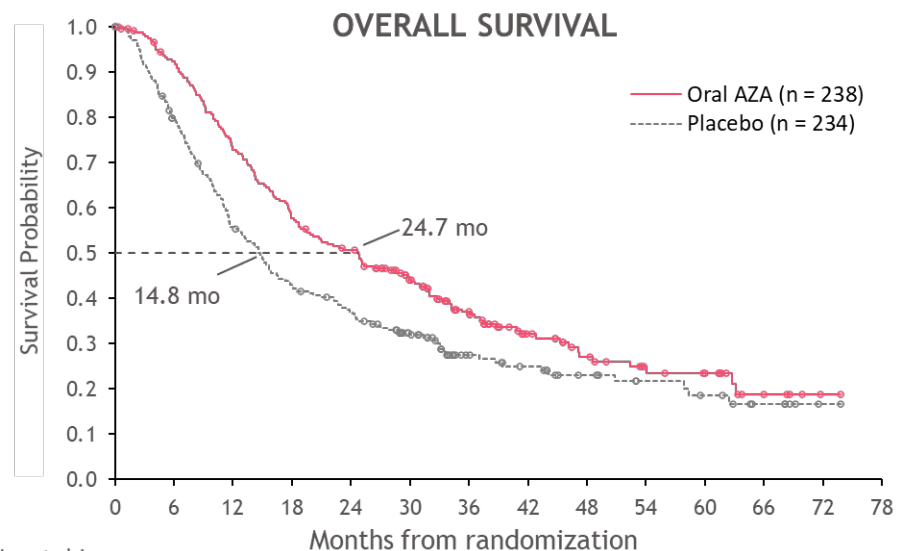
International, multicenter, placebo-controlled, double-blind, randomized, phase III study that enrolled patients from 148 sites in 23 countries (NCT01757535)





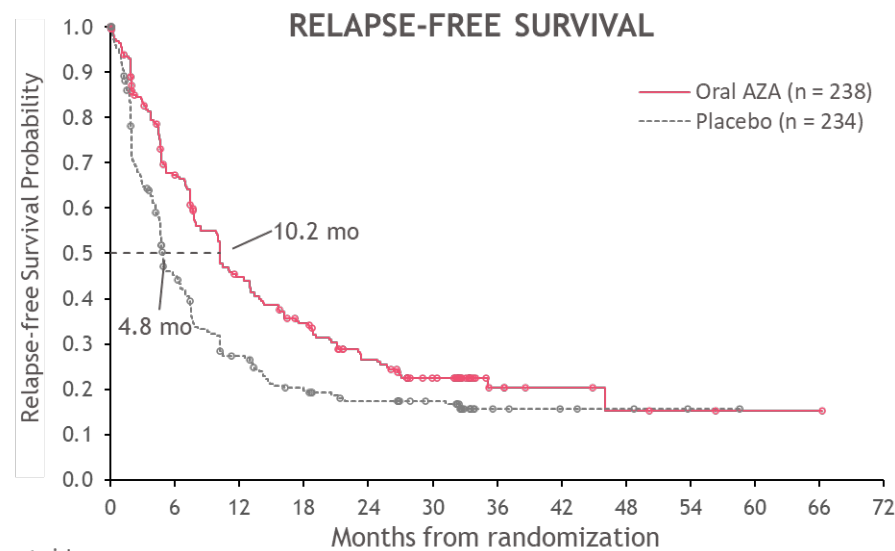
# QUAZAR: Overall and Relapse-free Survival

Oral AZA 300 mg QD was associated with significantly improved overall survival (OS) ( $P = 0.0009$ ) and relapse-free survival (RFS) ( $P = 0.0001$ ) vs. PBO



No. at risk:

Oral AZA	238	213	168	133	115	87	59	37	26	18	15	5	1	0
Placebo	234	183	127	96	82	58	34	27	19	14	11	6	1	0

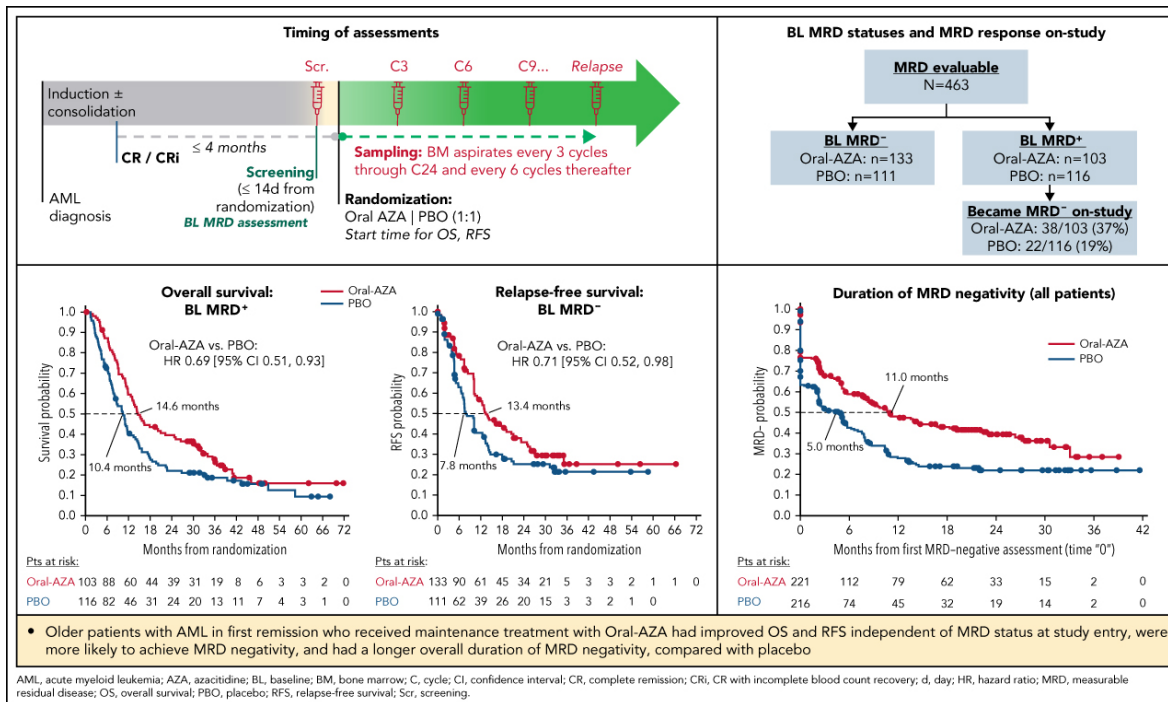


No. at risk:

Oral AZA	238	143	92	68	47	30	8	5	3	2	1	1	0
Placebo	234	96	55	37	29	23	6	4	3	1	0		

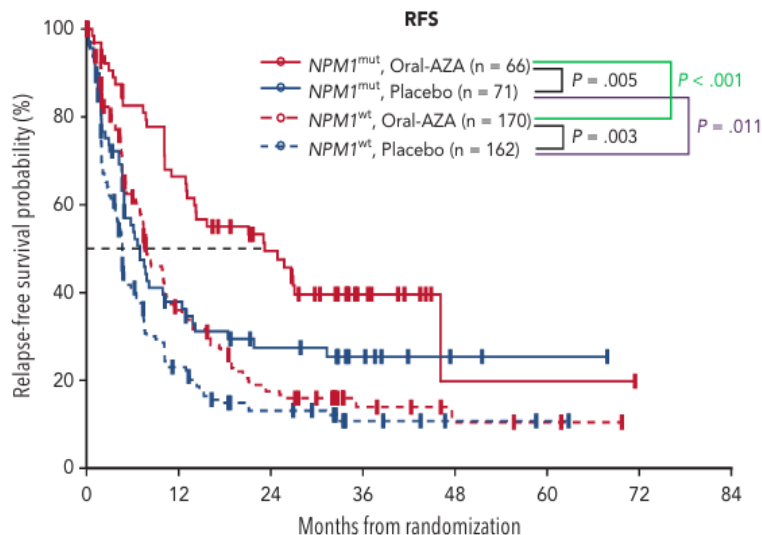


# Oral azacitidine prolongs survival of patients with AML in remission independently of measurable residual disease status



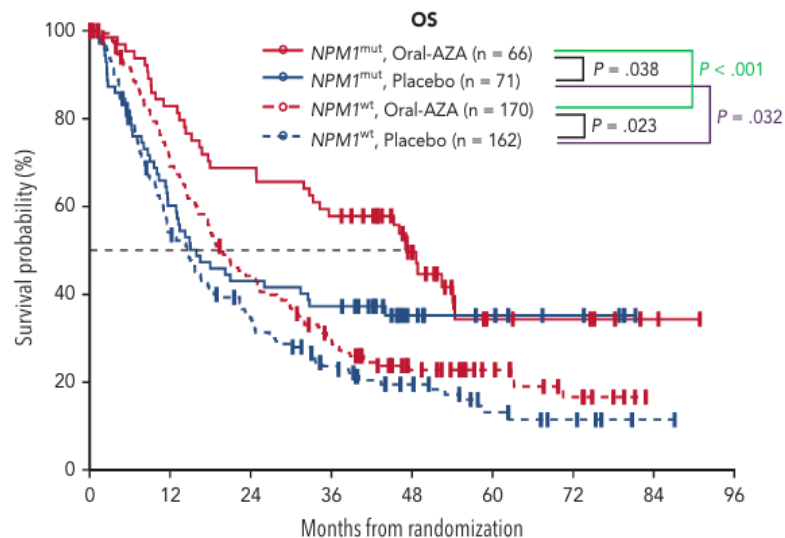


# Prognostic Impact of NPM1 Mutation in Patients with AML in CR1 Treated with Oral Azacitidine Maintenance Therapy



Median RFS, months

$NPM1^{mut}$ , Oral-AZA	23.2	$NPM1^{wt}$ , Oral-AZA	7.7
$NPM1^{mut}$ , Placebo	6.9	$NPM1^{wt}$ , Placebo	4.6



Median OS, months

$NPM1^{mut}$ , Oral-AZA	47.2	$NPM1^{wt}$ , Oral-AZA	19.6
$NPM1^{mut}$ , Placebo	15.9	$NPM1^{wt}$ , Placebo	14.6



# VIALE-A Study Design

## Eligibility

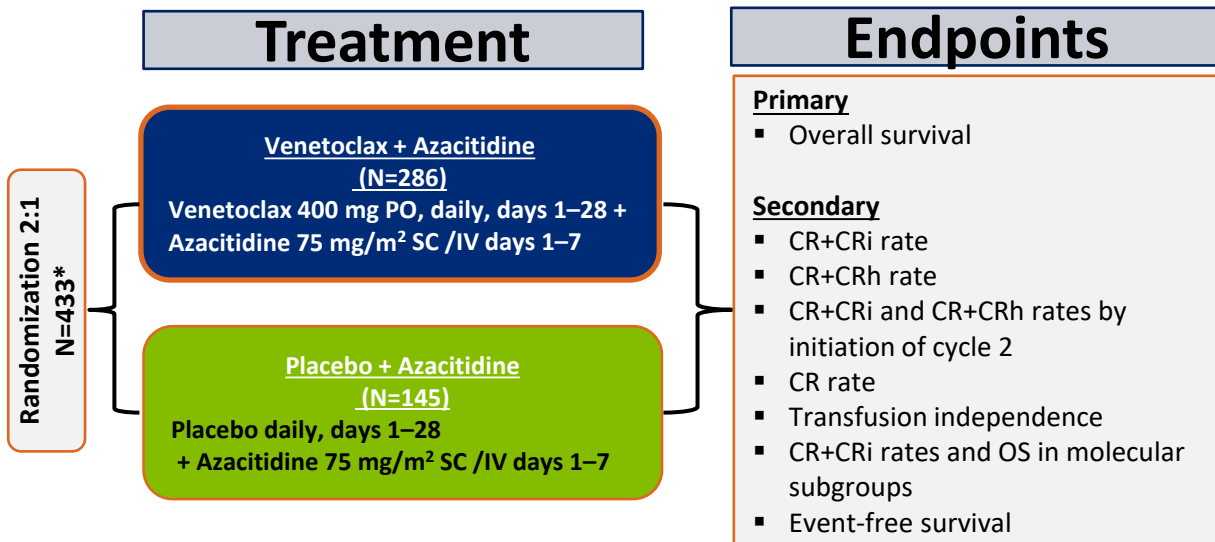
### Inclusion

- Patients with newly diagnosed confirmed AML
- Ineligible for induction therapy defined as **either**
  - ❖  $\geq 75$  years of age
  - ❖ 18 to 74 years of age with at least one of the co-morbidities:
    - CHF requiring treatment or Ejection Fraction  $\leq 50\%$
    - Chronic stable angina
    - DLCO  $\leq 65\%$  or FEV1  $\leq 65\%$
    - ECOG 2 or 3

### Exclusion

- Prior receipt of any HMA, venetoclax, or chemotherapy for myelodysplastic syndrome
- Favorable risk cytogenetics per NCCN
- Active CNS involvement

## Treatment



## Endpoints

### Primary

- Overall survival

### Secondary

- CR+CRi rate
- CR+CRh rate
- CR+CRi and CR+CRh rates by initiation of cycle 2
- CR rate
- Transfusion independence
- CR+CRi rates and OS in molecular subgroups
- Event-free survival

### Randomization Stratification Factors

Age (<75 vs.  $\geq 75$  years); Cytogenetic Risk (intermediate, Poor); Region

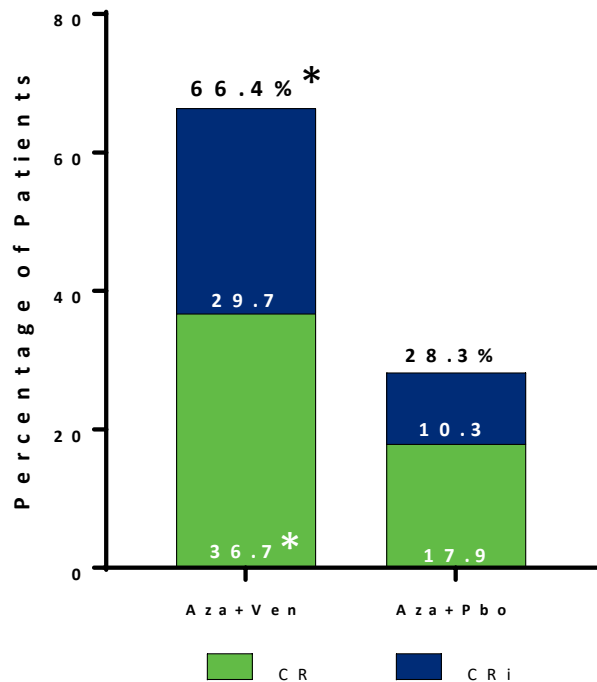
### Venetoclax dosing ramp-up

**Cycle 1 ramp-up** Day 1: 100 mg, Day 2: 200 mg, Day 3 - 28: 400 mg  
**Cycle 2** → Day 1-28: 400 mg





# VIALE A: Composite Response Rate (CR+CRi)



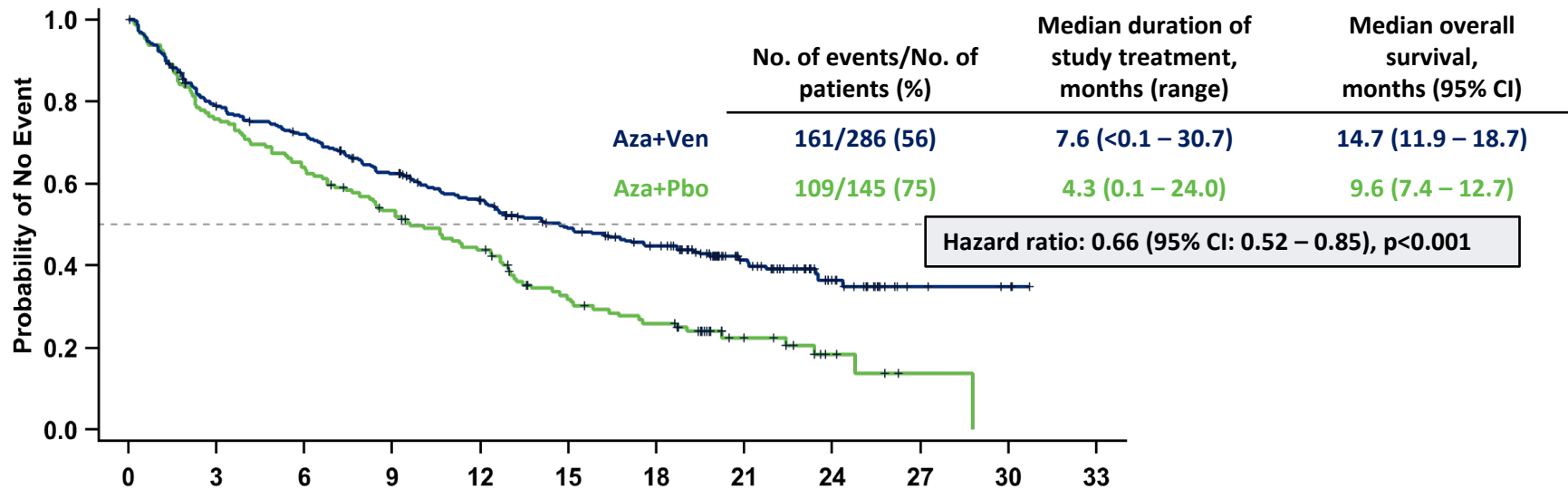
	No. of treatment cycles, median (range)	Median time to CR/CRi, Months (range)	*CR+CRi by initiation of Cycle 2, n (%)
Aza+Ven (n=286)	7.0 (1.0 – 30.0)	1.3 (0.6 – 9.9)	124 (43.4)
Aza+Pbo (n=145)	4.5 (1.0 – 26.0)	2.8 (0.8 – 13.2)	11 (7.6)

\*CR+CRi rate, CR rate, and CR+CRi by initiation of cycle 2 are statistically significant with p<0.001 by CMH test

Aza: Azacitidine; Pbo: Placebo; Ven: Venetoclax; CR: Complete remission; CRi: CR with incomplete-count recovery; CR was defined as absolute neutrophil count >10<sup>3</sup>/μL, platelets >10<sup>5</sup>/μL, red cell transfusion independence (TI), and bone marrow with <5% blasts; CRi was defined as all criteria for CR, except for neutropenia ≤10<sup>3</sup>/μL or thrombocytopenia ≤10<sup>5</sup>/μL. CR + CRi rate was compared using Cochran-Mantel-Haenszel (CMH) test stratified by age (18 – < 75, ≥ 75) and cytogenetic risk (intermediate, poor).



# VIALE A: Overall Survival



## Patients at Risk

	0	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30	33
Aza+Ven	286	219	198	168	143	117	101	54	23	5	3	0
Aza+Pbo	145	109	92	74	59	38	30	14	5	1	0	0

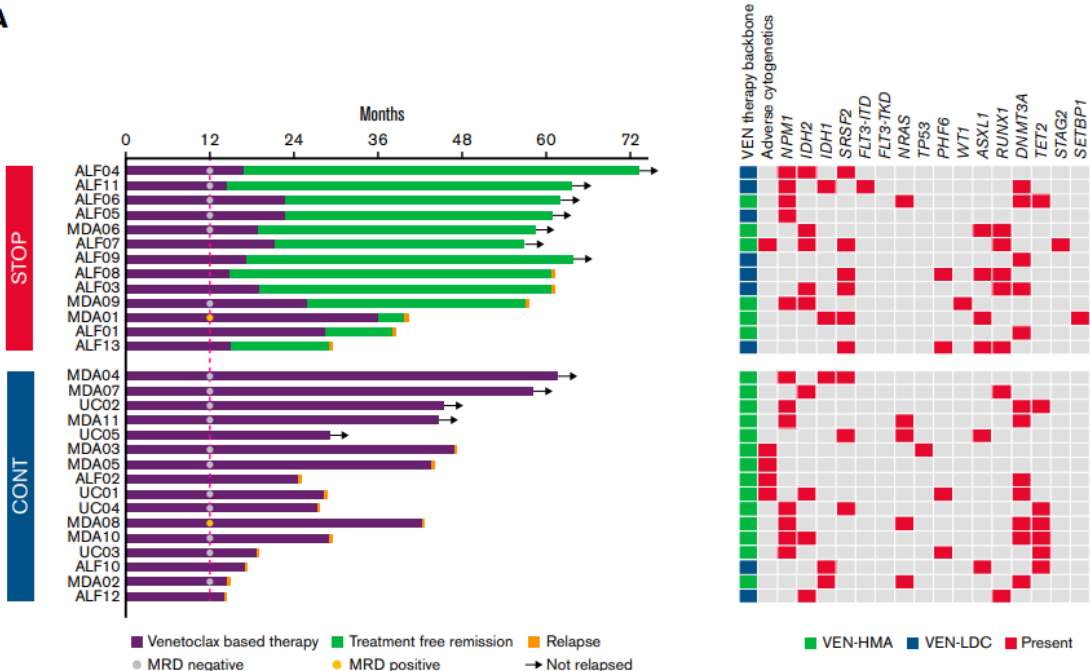
Median follow-up time: 20.5 months (range: <0.1 – 30.7)

DiNardo C, et al. *N Engl J Med* 2020; 383(7): 617-629.

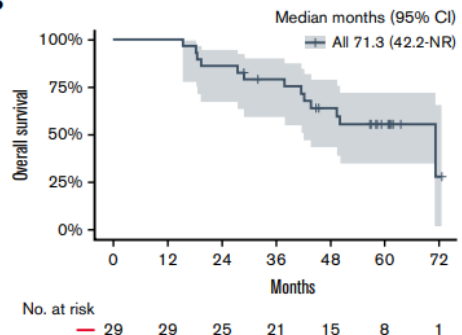


# Treatment-Free Remission for AML Patients in CR following > 12 months VEN/AZA or VEN/LoDAC

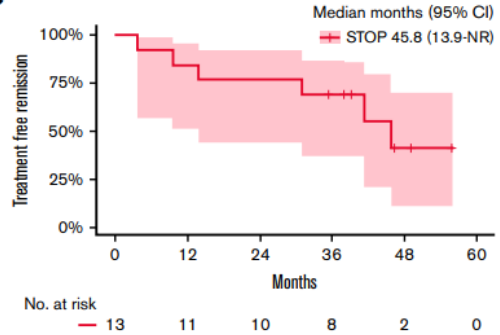
**A**



**B**



**C**





## STOP-VEN Study design

### **Objective:**

- To study the outcome of patients who stopped AZA and/or VEN while in remission.

### **Key inclusion/exclusion criteria:**

- Adult AML patients treated with  $\geq 1$  VEN-AZA cycle
- in response (CR, CRi or MLFS)
- VEN and/or AZA cessation  $> 3$  months
- Patients who stopped VEN for progression or lack of response or allogeneic stem cell transplantation were not included in the study.



## Patient characteristics at AML diagnosis

ND (n=62)	
Male gender, n (%)	33 (53.2)
Age, Median (range)	75 (26-89)
<b>WHO 2016 classification</b>	
De Novo, n (%)	34 (54.8)
MRC-AML, n (%)	23 (37)
Therapy-related AML, n (%)	5 (8)
Prior AZA exposure, n (%)	6 (9.7)
WBC, Median (range)	2.7 (0.6-200)
ANC, Median (range)	0.7 (0-31.6)
Platelets, Median (range)	52 (9-296)
<b>Cytogenetics</b>	
Favorable, n (%)	3 (4.8)
Intermediate, n (%)	47 (75.8)
Poor-risk, n (%)	12 (19.4)
<b>Main mutations</b>	
NPM1 (n=61), n (%)	11 (18)
IDH (n=61), n (%)	20 (32.7)
FLT3-ITD (n=60), n (%)	4 (6.6)
TP53 (n=54), n (%)	4 (7.4)

### Reasons for VEN-AZA discontinuation:

- hematological toxicities = 36 (58%),
- patient preference = 8 (13%)
- extra-hematological toxicities = 5 (8%)
- poor general status = 3 (5%)

### Response to VEN-AZA:

ORR= 57 (92%)

CR= 44 (79%)

CRi = 13 (21%).

MLFS = 5 (8%).

CR MRDneg 21/25 (78%)

11 molecular MRD (NPM1)

10 flow cytometry MRD

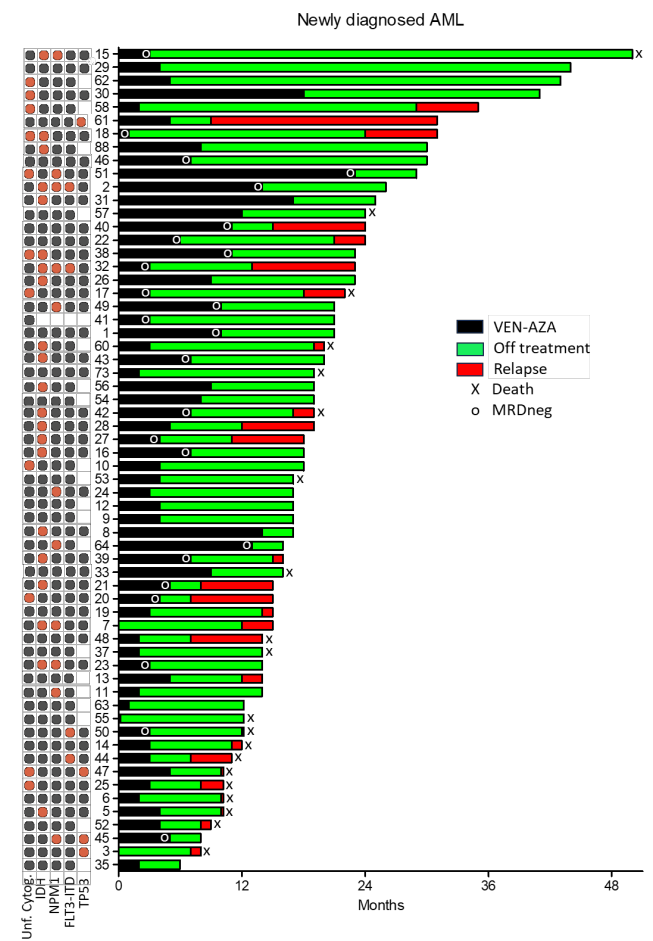
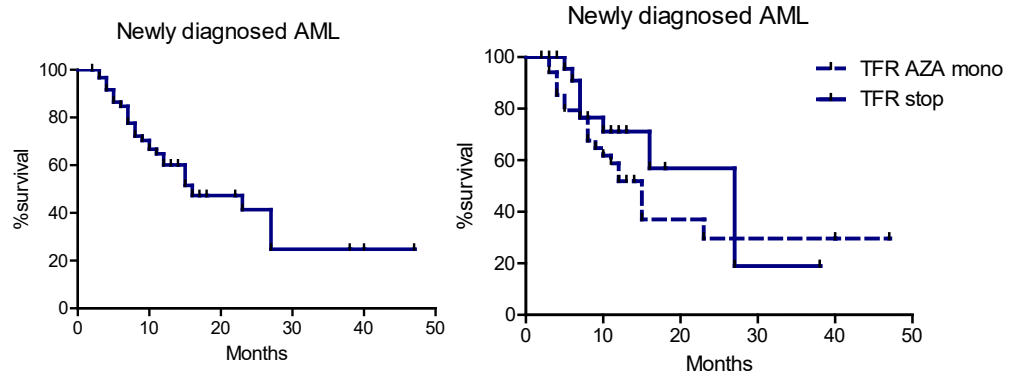


## Correction of cytopenias

- 23/39 documented cases (59%)

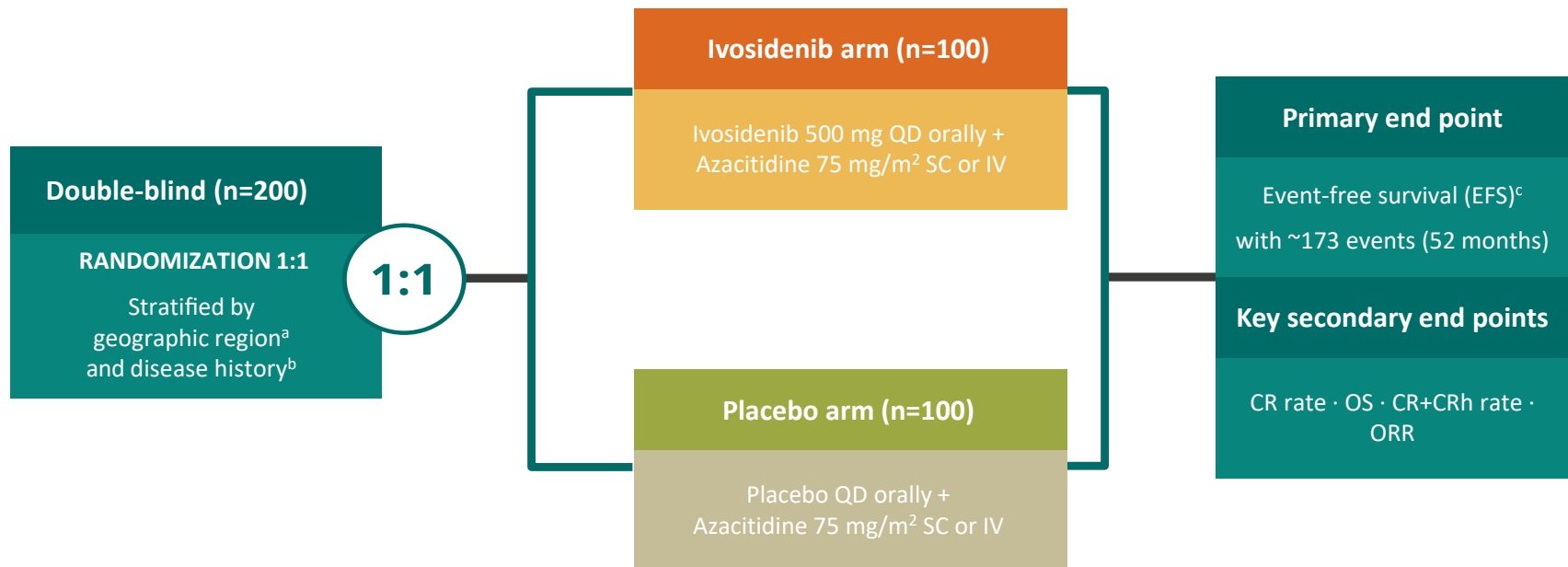
## Treatment-free remission

- 16 months
- 45 patients (72.5%) had a time without treatment longer than time with treatment or with disease recurrence





# AGILE: study design and end points



- As of the data cutoff date (18March2021), 146 patients have been randomized (IVO+AZA, n=72; PBO+AZA, n=74).
- As of 12May2021, the IDMC recommended to halt enrollment based on a noted difference in clinical importance between the treatment groups, not related to safety.
- A total of 148 patients were enrolled at 155 active sites in 20 countries.



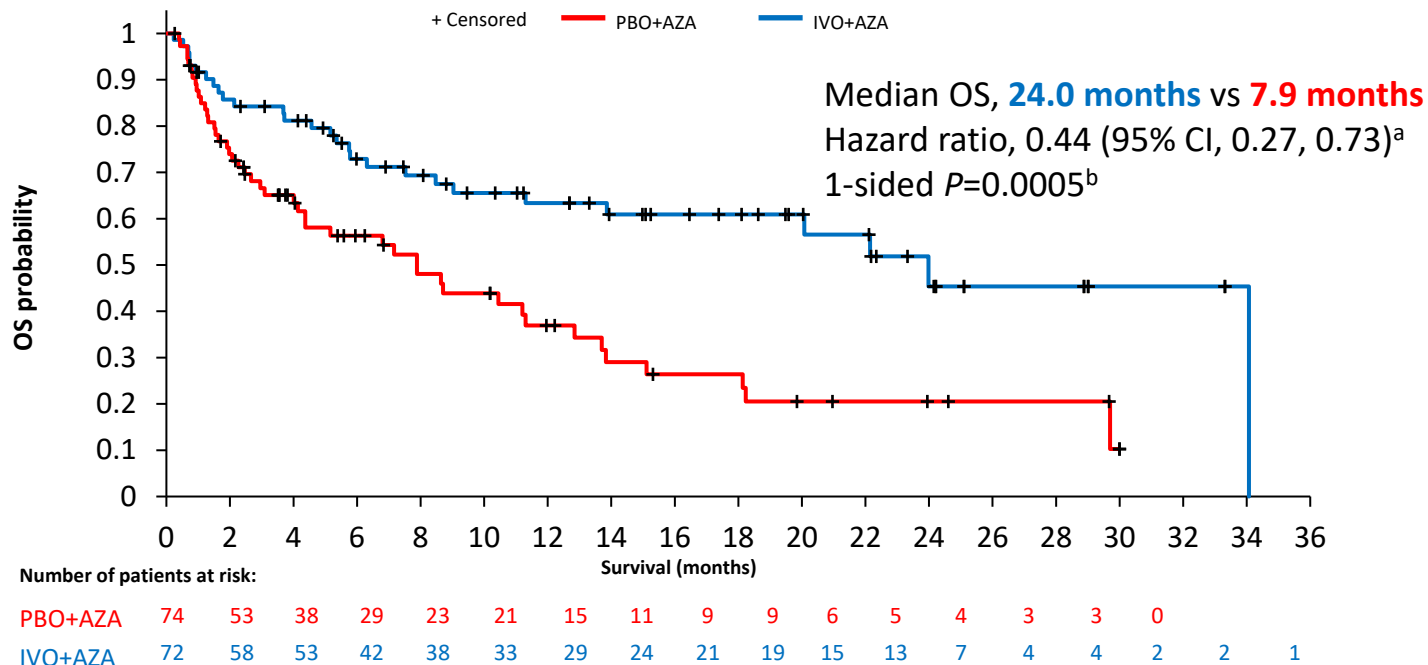
# AGILE: Baseline demographic and disease characteristics

Characteristic	IVO+AZA (n=72)	PBO+AZA (n=74)
Median (range) age, years	76 (58–84)	75.5 (45–94)
Sex, n (%)		
Male/Female	42 (58.3)/30 (41.7)	38 (51.4)/36 (48.6)
ECOG PS score, n (%)		
0/1/2	14 (19.4)/32 (44.4)/26 (36.1)	10 (13.5)/40 (54.1)/24 (32.4)
Disease history (per investigator), n (%)		
De novo AML	54 (75.0)	53 (71.6)
Secondary AML <sup>a</sup>	18 (25.0)	21 (28.4)
Median (range) <i>mIDH1</i> VAF in BMA, % (range) <sup>b</sup>	36.7 (3.1–50.5)	35.5 (3.0–48.6)
Cytogenetic risk, n (%) <sup>c</sup>		
Favorable/intermediate/poor	3 (4.2); 48 (66.7); 16 (22.2)	7 (9.5); 44 (59.5); 20 (27.0)
Median (range) bone marrow blasts, %	54 (20–95)	48.0 (17–100)





# AGILE: IVO+AZA significantly improves OS compared with PBO/AZA



OS benefit was consistent across subgroups: de novo status, region, age, baseline ECOG PS score, sex, race, baseline cytogenetic risk status, WHO classification of AML, baseline white blood cell count, baseline BM blast percentage.

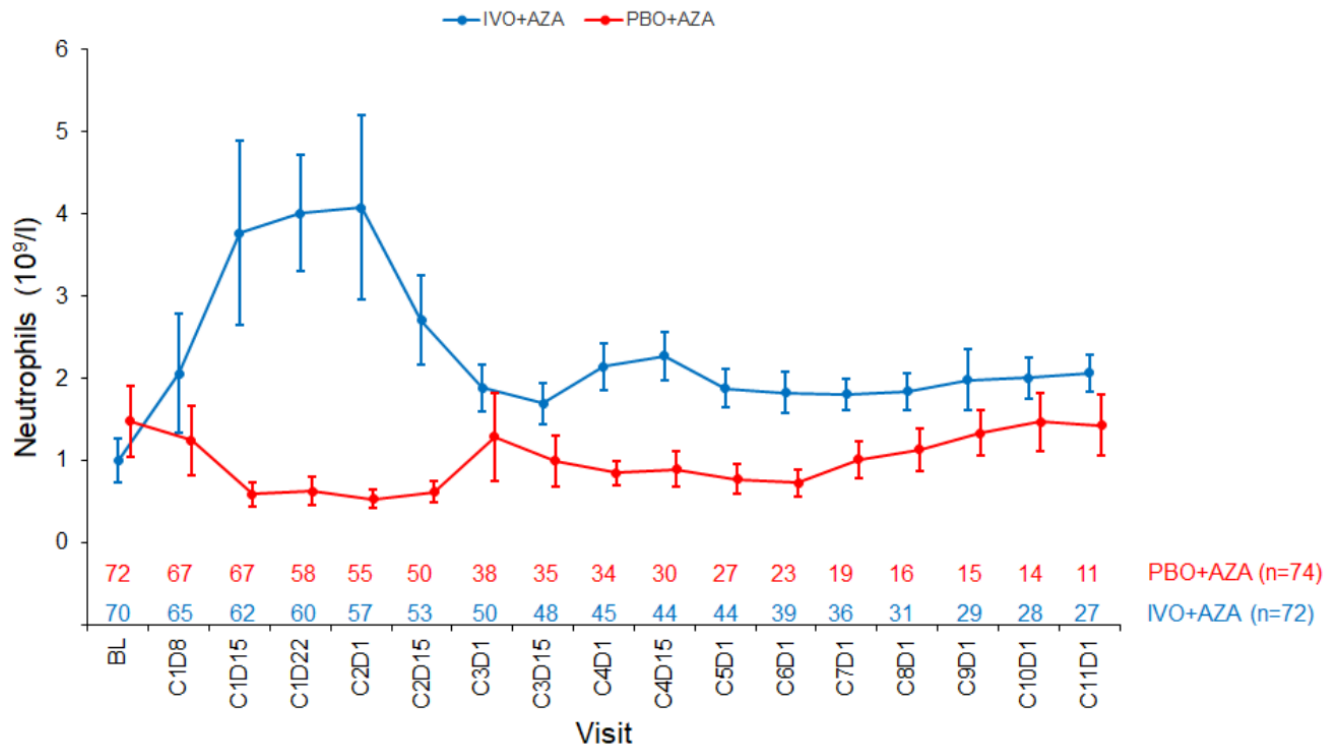


# AGILE: Response Rate, Response Duration, and Time to Response

Response Category	Ivosidenib + Azacitidine (N=72)	Placebo + Azacitidine (N=74)	
Complete remission			
Percentage of patients (95% CI)	47 (35–59)	15 (8–25)	←
Odds ratio vs. placebo (95% CI); P value	4.8 (2.2–10.5); two-sided P<0.001		
Median duration of complete remission (95% CI) — mo	NE (13.0–NE)	11.2 (3.2–NE)	←
Median time to complete remission (range) — mo	4.3 (1.7–9.2)	3.8 (1.9–8.5)	←
Complete remission or complete remission with partial hematologic recovery			
No. of patients	38	13	
Percentage of patients (95% CI)	53 (41–65)	18 (10–28)	←
Odds ratio vs. placebo (95% CI); P value	5.0 (2.3–10.8); two-sided P<0.001		
Median duration of complete remission or complete remission with partial hematologic recovery (95% CI) — mo	NE (13.0–NE)	9.2 (5.8–NE)	←
Median time to complete remission or complete remission with partial hematologic recovery (range) — mo	4.0 (1.7–8.6)	3.9 (1.9–7.2)	←

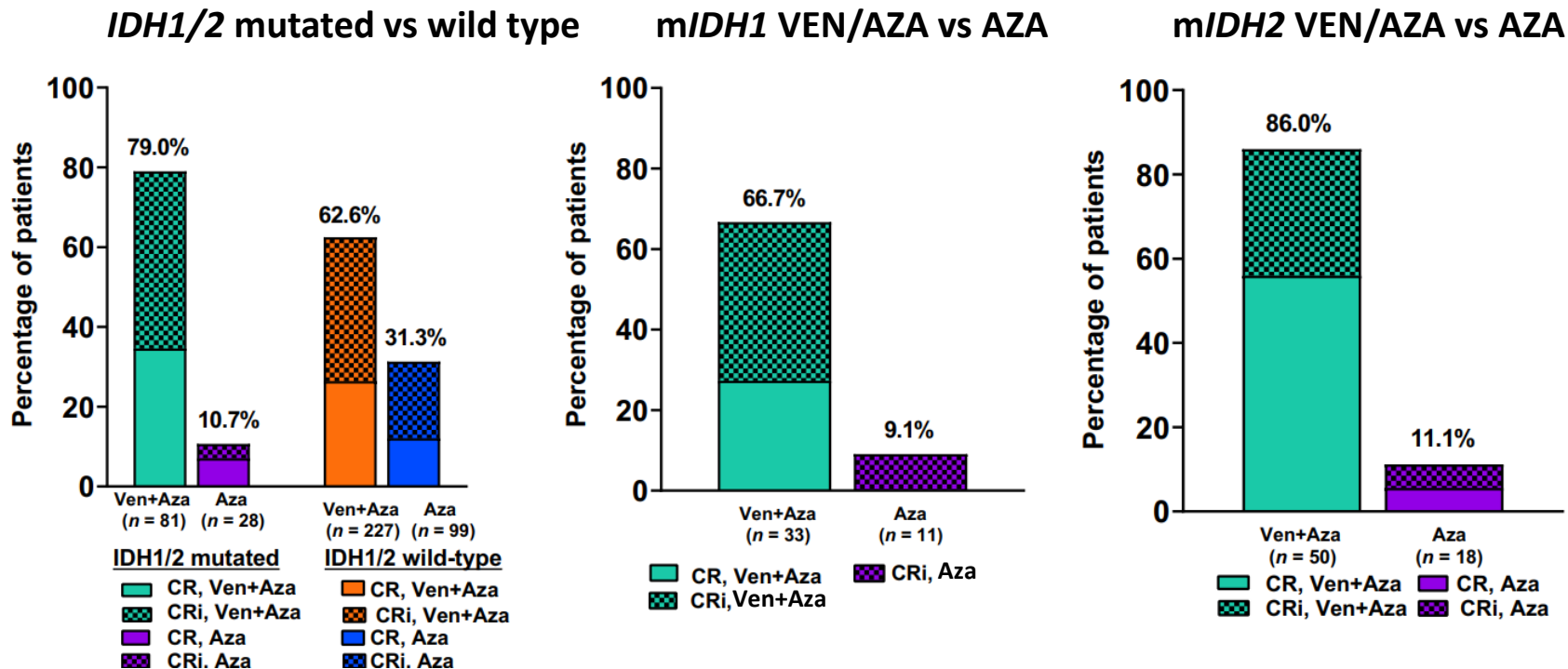


# AGILE: Neutrophil Recovery from Baseline





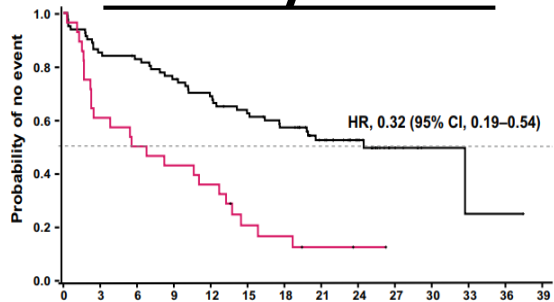
# VEN/AZA in IC-Ineligible *mIDH* AML: Response Rates





# VEN/AZA in IC-Ineligible *mIDH* AML: Overall Survival

## *mIDH1/mIDH2*



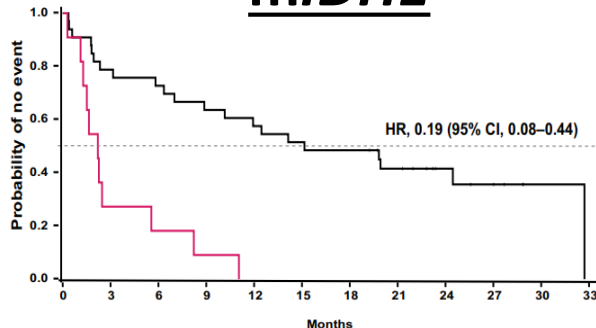
Patients at risk		Months												
	0	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30	33	36	39
Ven+AzA	81	69	66	60	54	48	43	30	20	7	2	1	1	0
AzA	28	17	14	12	10	5	4	2	1	0				
		Events					Survival estimate (%) (95% CI)		Median (months) (95% CI)					
Ven+AzA (N = 81)	39	82.7 (72.5-89.4)	68.8 (57.4-77.7)	52.4 (40.6-62.9)	24.5 (15.2, -)									
AzA (N = 28)	24	50.0 (30.6-66.6)	35.7 (18.9-53.0)	12.2 (3.2-27.8)	6.2 (2.3-12.7)									

### Median OS

Ven+AzA **24.5 months**

Aza **6.2 months**

## *mIDH1*



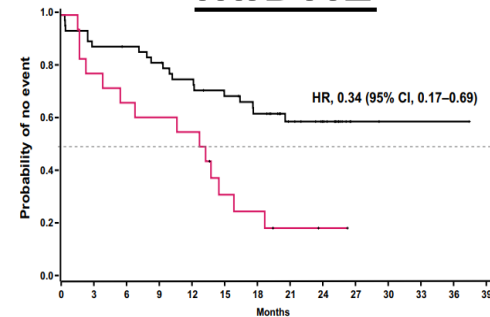
Patients at risk		Months												
	0	3	6	9	12	15	16	17	18	21	24	27	30	33
Ven+AzA	33	26	24	21	19	17	16	12	7	5	1	0		
AzA	11	3	2	1	0									
		Events					Survival estimate (%) (95% CI)		Median (months) (95% CI)					
Ven+AzA (N = 33)	21	72.7 (54.1-84.8)	57.6 (39.1-72.3)	41.6 (24.6-57.7)	15.2 (7.0, -)									
AzA (N = 11)	11	18.2 (2.9-44.2)	NA	NA	2.2 (1.1-5.6)									

### Median OS

Ven+AzA **15.2 months**

Aza **2.2 months**

## *mIDH2*



Patients at risk		Months														
	0	3	6	9	12	15	18	19	20	21	24	27	30	33	36	39
Ven+AzA	50	44	43	40	36	32	28	19	14	2	1	1	1	1	0	
AzA	18	14	12	11	10	5	4	2	1	0						
		Events					Survival estimate (%) (95% CI)		Median (months) (95% CI)							
Ven+AzA (N = 50)	19	88.0 (75.2-94.4)	75.6 (61.0-85.3)	59.5 (43.9-72.2)	- (17.6, -)											
AzA (N = 18)	14	66.7 (40.4-83.4)	55.6 (30.5-74.8)	19.0 (4.8-40.3)	13.0 (3.8-15.8)											

### Median OS

Ven+AzA **Not Reached**

Aza **13.0 months**



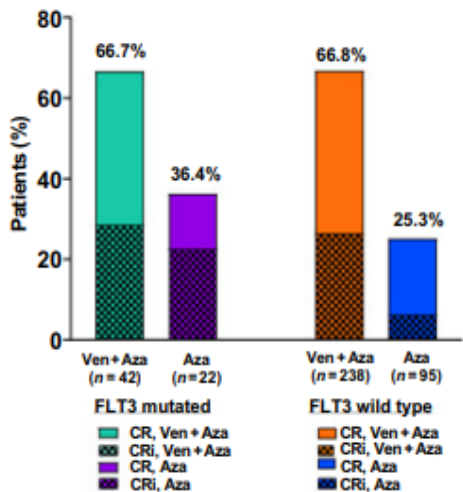
## VEN/AZA vs IVO/AZA in IC-Ineligible *mIDH1* AML

	VEN/AZA	IVO/AZA
Mutation agnostic	Yes	No
Response Rate	CR/CRi 67%	CR/CRh 53%
Time to response	1 month	4 month
Median overall survival	15 months	24 months
Options in second line	IVO (if <i>mIDH1</i> present)	VEN/HMA
Toxicity	Myelosuppression, Tumor lysis syndrome	Differentiation syndrome, QT prolongation
Ease of administration	Dose modifications for cytopenias	

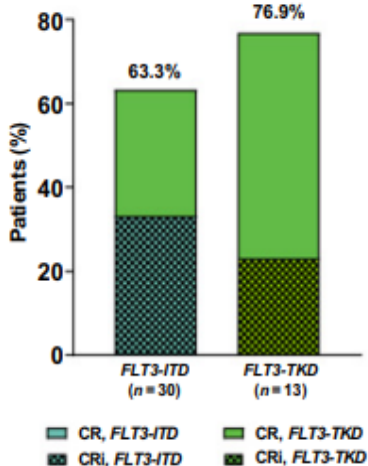


# Impact of *FLT3* Mutation on Outcome after Venetoclax and Azacitidine for Patients with Treatment-Naïve Acute Myeloid Leukemia

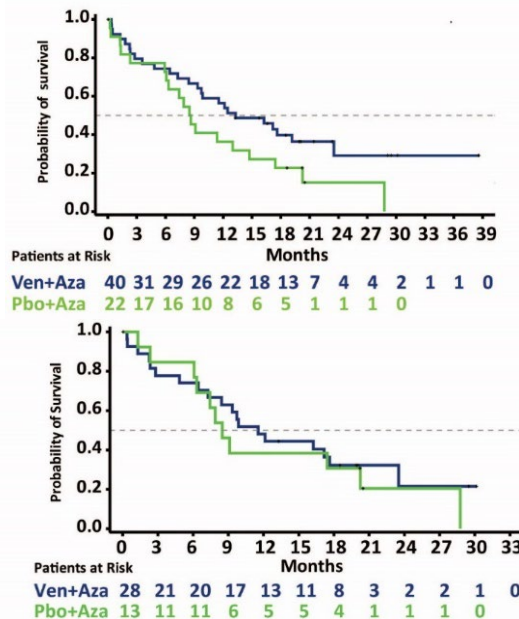
Remission rates in patients with *FLT3*<sup>mut</sup> versus *FLT3*<sup>wt</sup>



Remission rates in patients with *FLT3-ITD* and *FLT3-TKD* in the venetoclax and azacitidine group



VEN/AZA v PBO/AZA

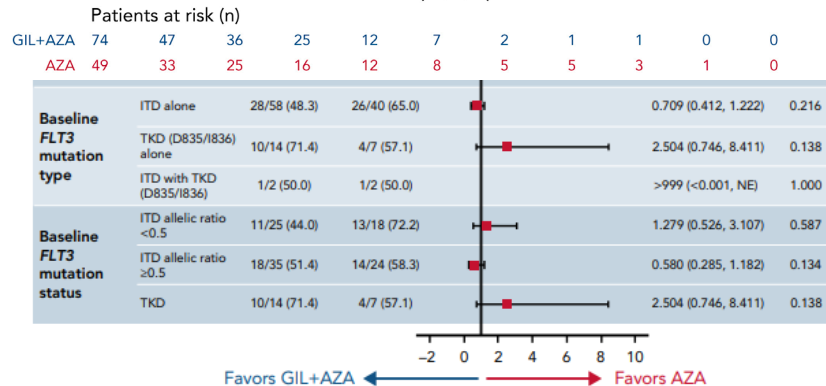
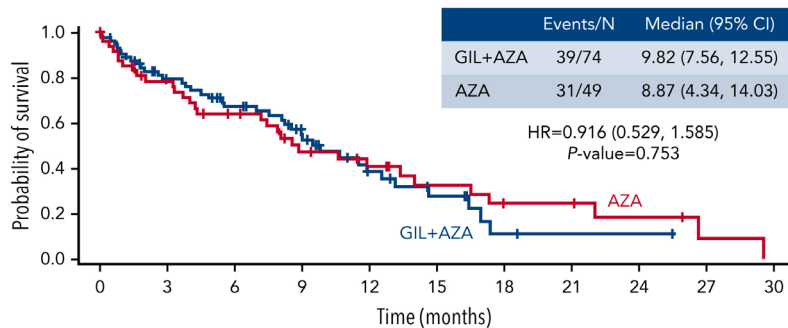
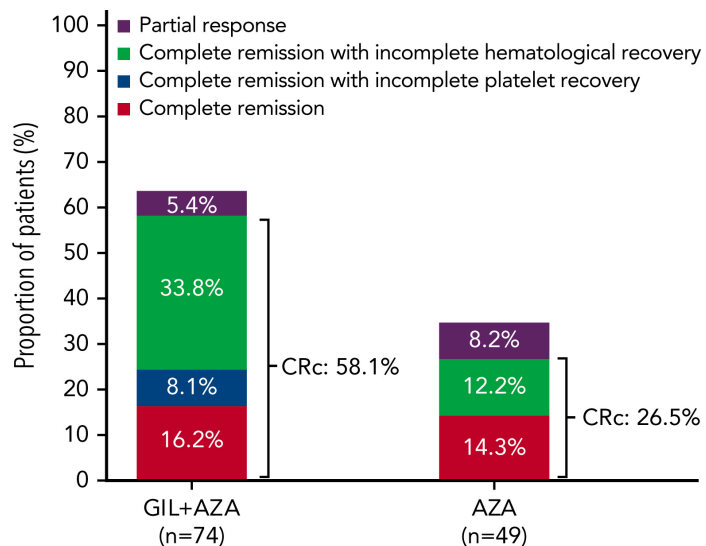


Konopleva M, et al. *Clin Cancer Res.* 2022; 28: 2744-2752

Konopleva M, et al. ASH 2020.



# Phase 3 Trial of Gilteritinib plus Azacitidine versus Azacitidine for Newly Diagnosed *FLT3m+* AML Ineligible for Intensive Chemotherapy: LACEWING



Wang ES, et al. *Blood* 2022; 140(17): 1845-1857.

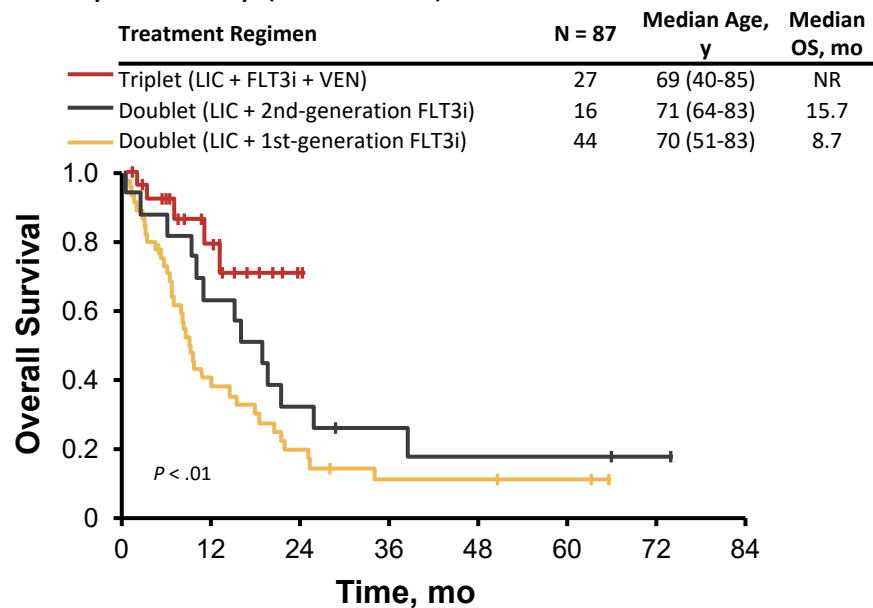
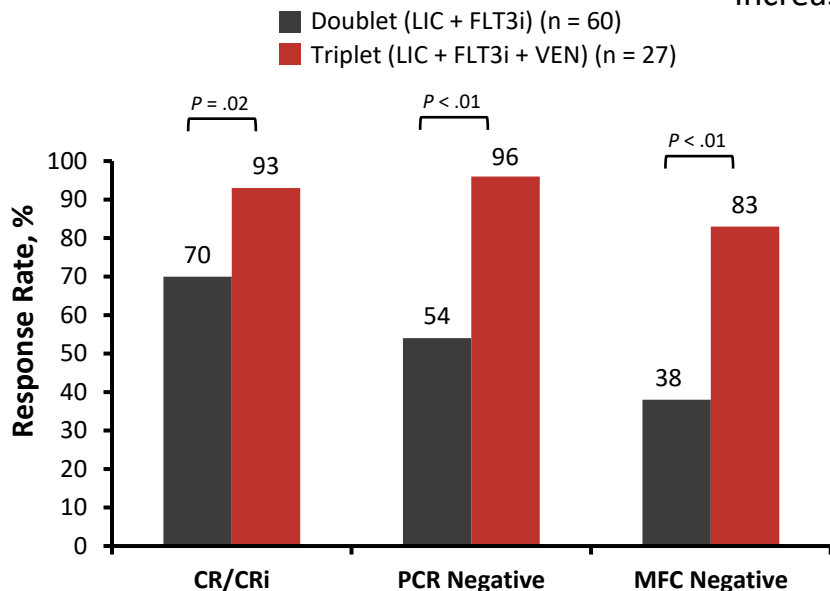




# Retrospective Assessment Suggests That Triplets May Be Highly Active in *FLT3*-Mutated AML

First- and second-generation *FLT3i*-based doublets and triplets in older, IC-ineligible adults with ND *FLT3*-mutated AML (N = 87)

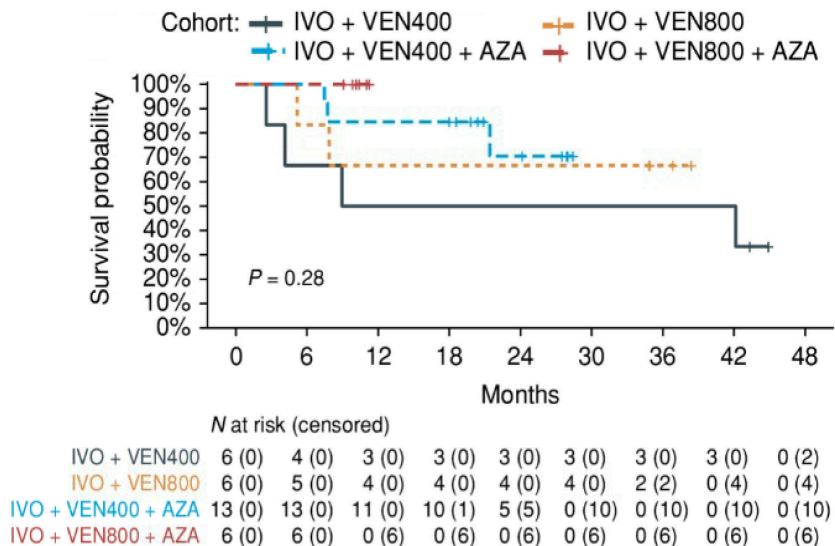
- **Doublets** (*FLT3i* + low-intensity chemo) CRc: 70%; OS 9-16 months
- **HMA + venetoclax + *FLT3i* combination** significantly improved CR/CRi rates, CR rates, *FLT3*-PCR and MFC MRD rates, as well as OS, without increasing 60-day mortality (7% vs 10%)



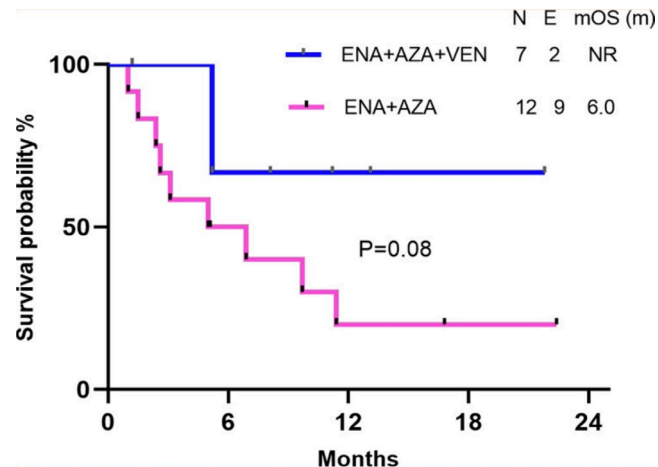


# Triplet Therapy in IDH Mutated AML

## IVO + VEN + Azacitidine



## ENA + AZA ± VEN



CRc of IVO + VEN + Aza 90% vs. 83% for IVO + VEN in overall cohort (both ND and R/R)

CRc of 61% in patients with R/R AML (n=18) with CRc of 86% with ENA + Aza + VEN (n=7)



# The Current AML Treatment Algorithm

