

Cellex Symposium, September 14th 2018

Ralf C. Bargou

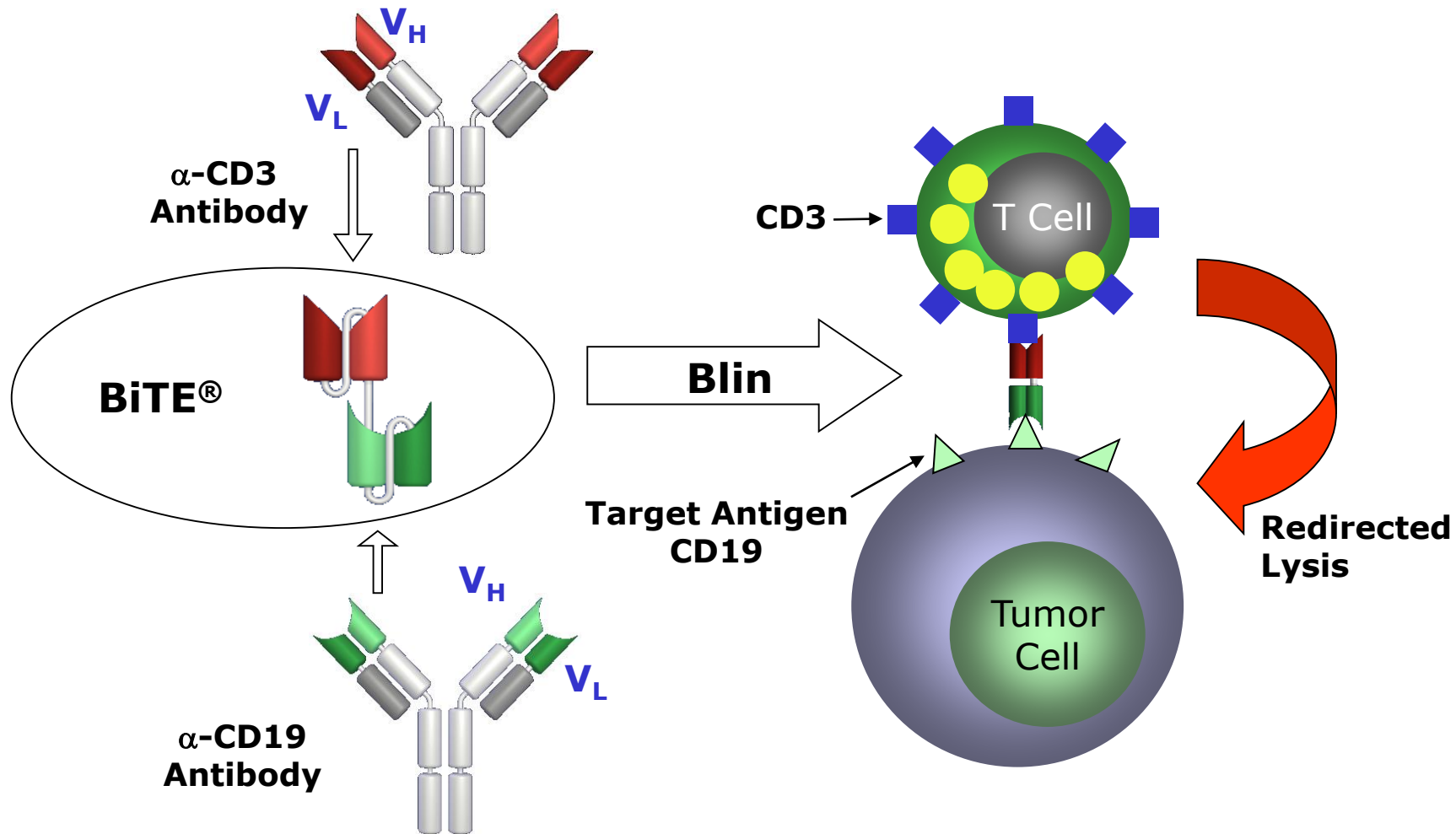
Comprehensive Cancer Center Mainfranken

Universitätsklinikum Würzburg

Blinatumomab and beyond



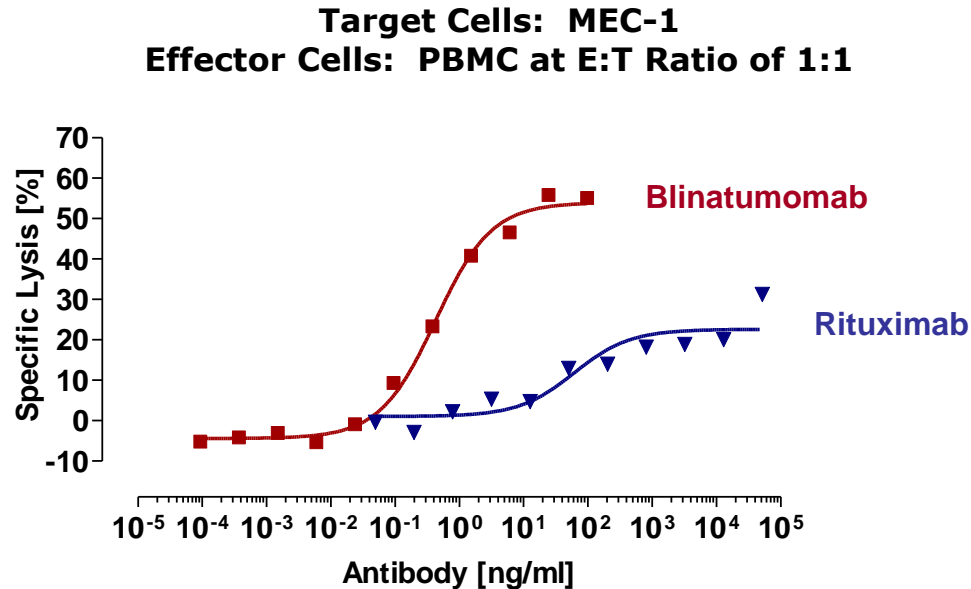
Blinatumomab (MT103), a Bispecific T Cell Engaging Single-chain BiTE[®] Antibody



Löffler...and Bargou, Blood, 2000

Mack, Riethmüller, Kufer, PNAS, 1995

Preclinical Characterization Blinatumomab



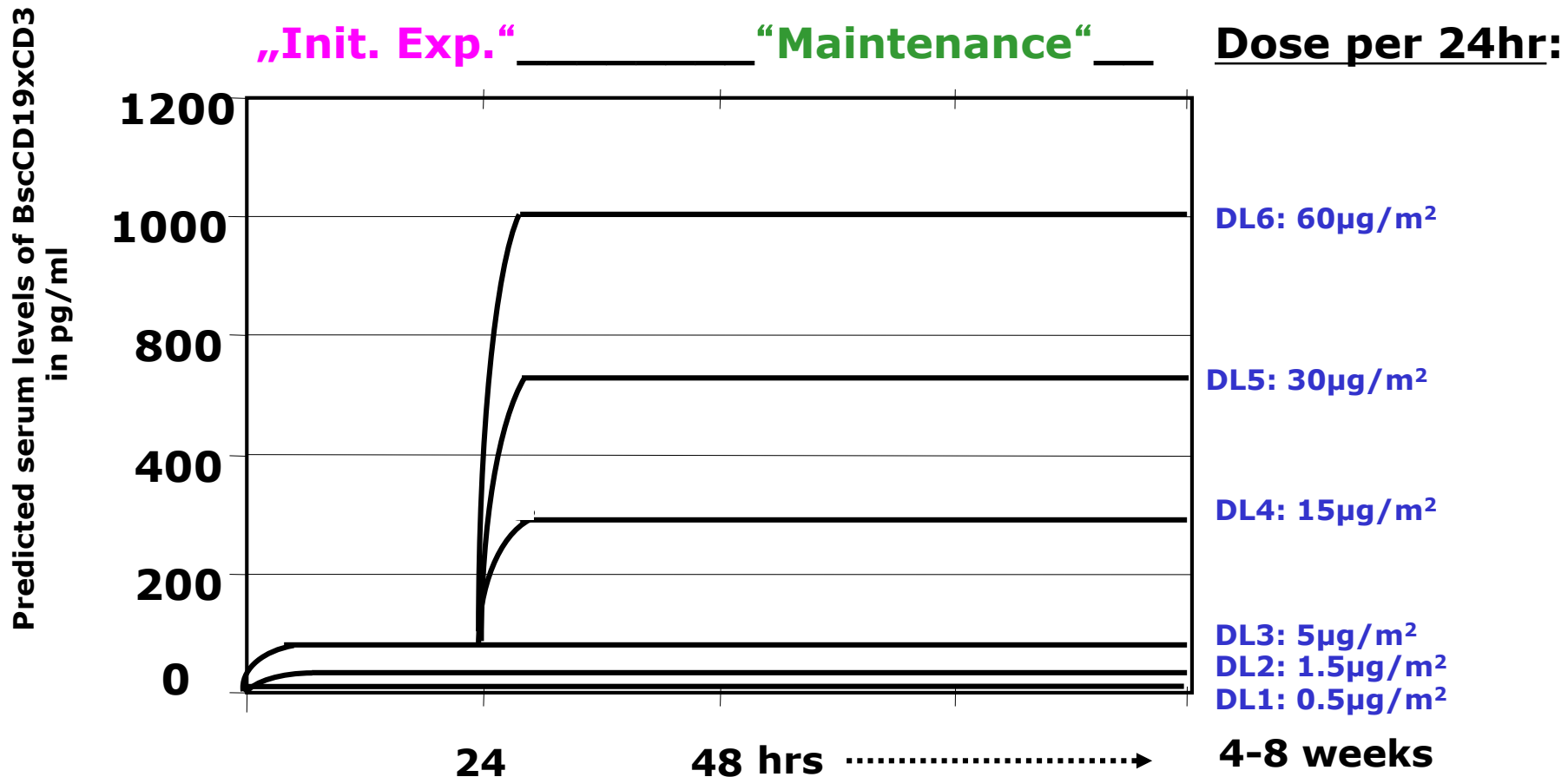
- **Blinatumomab is active at very low concentrations (pg/ml) *in vitro***
- **Blinatumomab-activated T cells do strongly proliferate and perform serial lysis at very low E:T ratios (1:90)**
- **Blinatumomab does not require T cell costimulation**
- **Has anti-tumor activity in animal models at very low concentrations (0.1 µg i.v./day)**
- **Serum half time 2-3 hrs**

Löffler et al., *Blood*, 2000
Dreier et al., *Int.J. Cancer*, 2002
Löffler et al., *Leukemia*, 2003
Dreier et al., *J. Immunol.*, 2003

Grün et al., *Cancer Immunol. Immunther.*, 2004
Hoffmann et al., *Int.J. Cancer*, 2005
Schlereth et al., *Cancer Immunol. Immunther.*, 2006
Brandl et al., *Cancer Immunol. Immunther.*, 2007

D'Argouges et al., *Leuk Res*, 2008
Bauerle et al., *Cur Opin Mol Ther*, 2009
Nagorsen et al., *Leukemia Lymphoma* 2009
Nagorsen et al., *Pharmacol Ther* 2012

Phase I dose escalation study with MT103 (blinatumomab) as continuous infusion in relapsed/refractory B-NHL



Baseline patient characteristics

Baseline demographic and clinical characteristics	Overall (n=76)	Extension phase* (n=34)
Median age, y (range)	65 (20–80)	62 (20–80)
Male sex, n (%)	57 (75)	23 (68)
Median time from diagnosis, y (range)	4 (1–28)	2.3 (1–28)
Median time from last chemotherapy regimen, months (range)	8.3 (0–100)	6.1 (1–81)
Median number of prior treatment regimens (range)	3 (1–10)	3 (1–8)
Type of prior treatment regimen [†]		
Prior rituximab, n (%)	71 (93)	33 (97)
Prior fludarabine, n (%)	23 (30)	5 (15)
Prior autoSCT, n (%)	23 (30)	9 (26)
Lymphoma histology, n (%)		
Indolent lymphoma	52 (68)	18 (53)
FL	28 (37)	10 (29)
MCL	24 (32)	8 (24)
Refractory to prior rituximab treatment [‡]	20 (26)	8 (24)
DLBCL	14 (18)	13 (38)
Relapsed after therapy with CHOP	10 (13)	10 (29)
Relapsed after autoSCT	9 (12)	9 (26)
Other [§]	10 (13)	3 (9)

Blinatumomab: Toxicity Profile

MTD reached at **60 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^2/24 \text{ h}$**

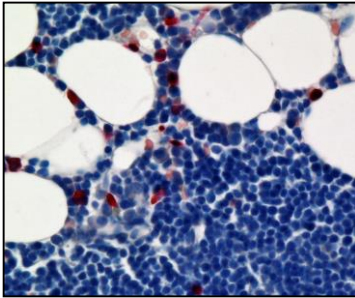
Dose Limiting Toxicity at 90 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^2/24 \text{ h}$: neurol. side effects (toxic encephalopathy like syndrom)

- **Clinically relevant and dose-limiting toxicities**
 - Flu-like symptoms (fever, chills, fatigue)
 - Neurological AEs: toxic encephalopathy-like syndrome - reversibel
 - Majority of side effects within 72 h after treatment start

- **CRS**
 - Dose-limiting in rr ALL with high tumor load
 - Clinically manageable (prephase, stepwise dose escalation, anti-pyretics, hydration, steroids, IL-6 blockade)
 - No severe CRS in NHL and MRD ALL

Clinical activity of blinatumomab in patients with relapsed/refractory B-Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma

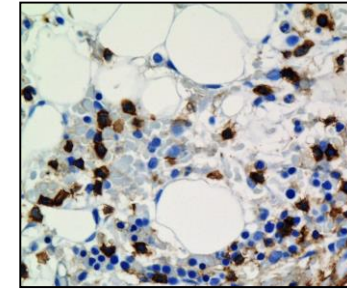
Baseline



MT103
15 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^2/24 \text{ h}$

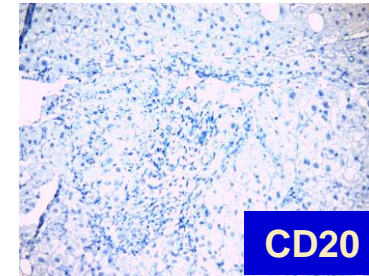
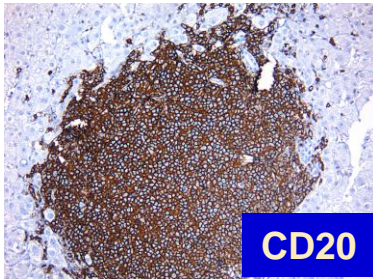
Bone marrow biopsy
Small lymphocytic lymphoma

After Treatment



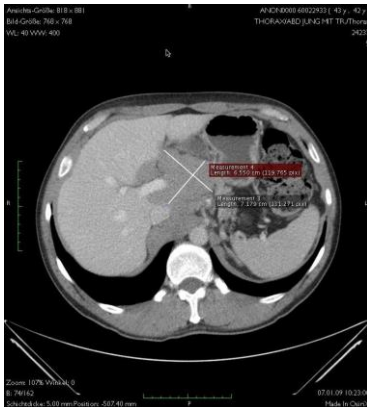
MT103
60 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^2/24 \text{ h}$

Liver biopsy
Mantle cell lymphoma



MT103
60 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^2/24 \text{ h}$

CT scan bulky disease
Mantle cell lymphoma



Ph I Dose Escalating Trial in Patients with rr B Cell Non Hodgkin Lymphoma

4 – 8 week continuous iv administration per cycle

Dose Level	Patients evaluable for response (n=70)	Complete Response	Partial Response	Overall Response Rate
0.5 – 5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^2/24 \text{ h}$	13	0	0	0/13
15 & 30 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^2/24 \text{ h}$	20	2	2	4/20
60 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^2/24 \text{ h}$	35	13	11	24/35
90 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^2/24 \text{ h}$	2	1	1	2/2

MTD reached at **60 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^2/24 \text{ h}$**

Dose Limiting Toxicity at 90 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^2/24 \text{ h}$: neurol. side effects (toxic encephalopathy like syndrom)

Göbeler et al. *J. Clin. Oncol.* 2016

Bargou et al. *Science* 2008

Phase-I trial with blinatumomab in rr NHL: efficacy at MTD level (60 µg/m²/d)

Median number of previous treatment regimens: 3 (1–10)

Actually Exposed to 60 µg/m²/d – N = 35

Histologic subtype	CR + CRu n (%)	PR n (%)	ORR n (%)
All patients	13/35	11/35	24/35 (69)
FL	6/15	6/15	12/15 (80)
DLBCL	4/11	2/11	6/11 (55)
MCL	3/7	2/7	5/7 (71)
Other (MZL, LPL)	0/2	1/2	1/2 (50)

Efficacy in rr DLBCL confirmed in a phase II trial

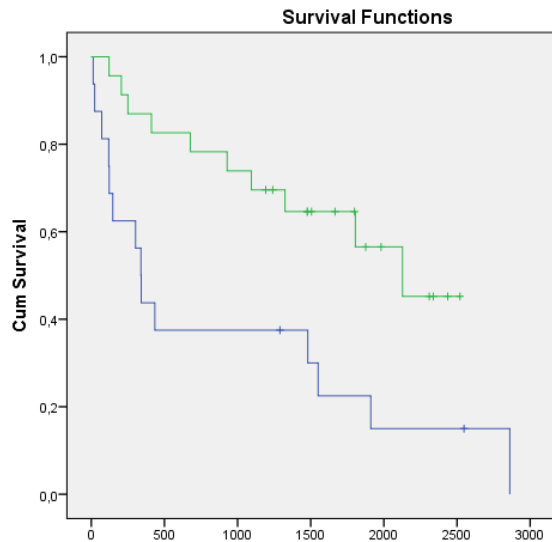
[Viardot et al. Blood 2016](#)

[Göbeler et al. J. Clin. Oncol. 2016](#)

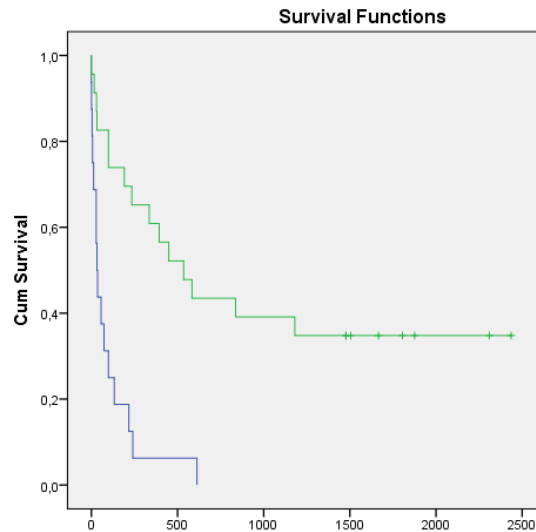
[Bargou et al. Science 2008](#)

Long Term Remission in Patients with r/r NHL treated with single-agent treatment with blinatumomab

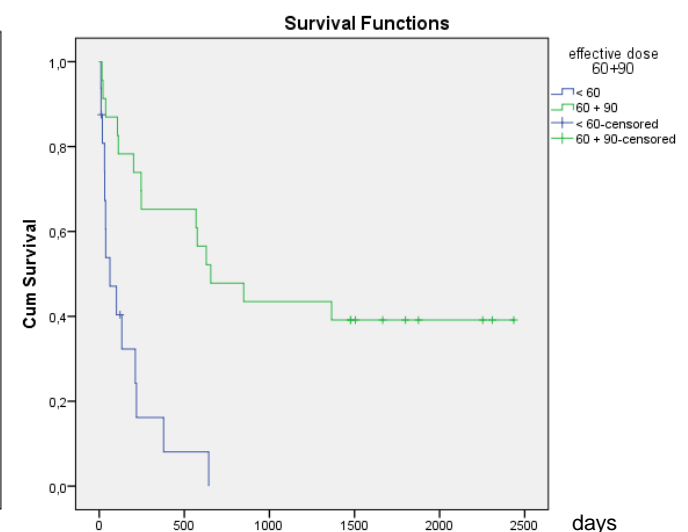
Overall Survival



Progression-Free Survival



Treatment-Free Survival

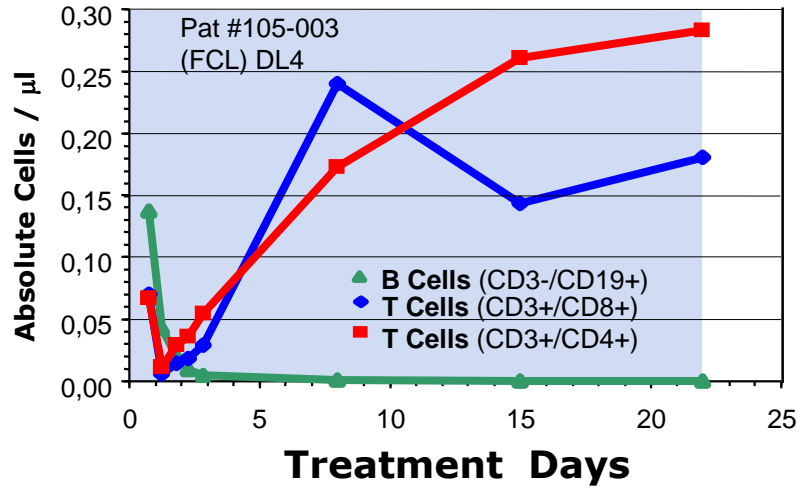


———— effective dose 60 + 90 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^2/\text{day}$
———— effective dose < 60 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^2/\text{day}$

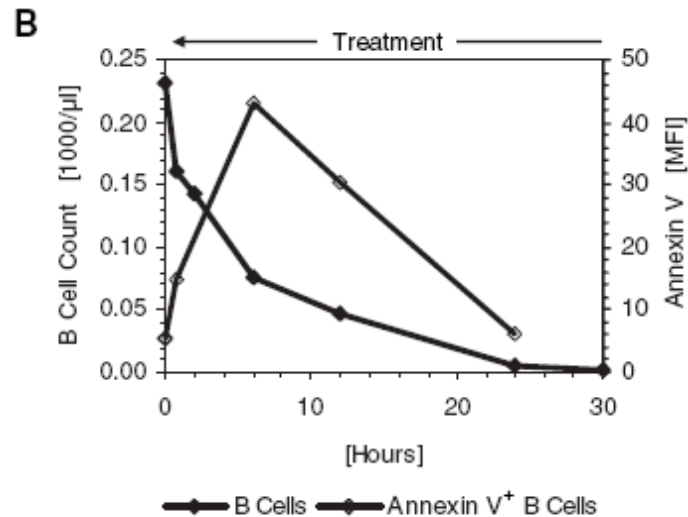
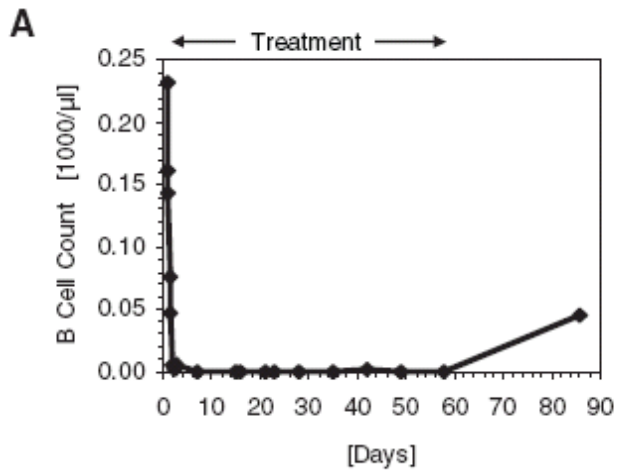
[Study MT103-104, single-center long term remission data in patients with r/r NHL].
Unpublished raw data.

A pathogenetic model and development of mitigation strategies for blinatumomab-associated neurologic events

Pharmacodynamics: Blinatumomab phase I dose escalation study



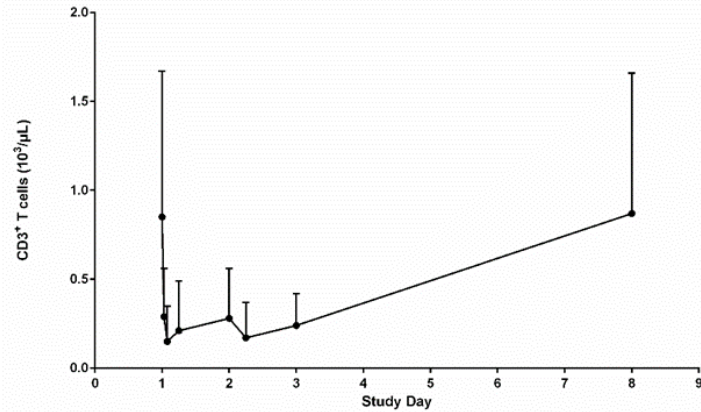
Blin induces B cell depletion and T Cell expansion



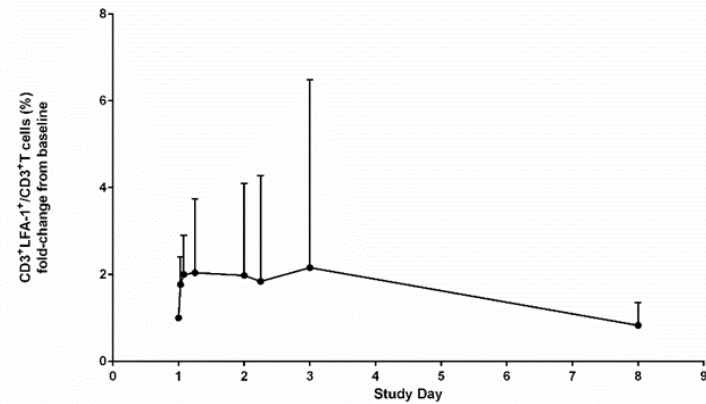
Blin induces apoptosis of circulating B cells

Blinautomab induces rapid T cell adherence to endothelial blood vessels cells in patients

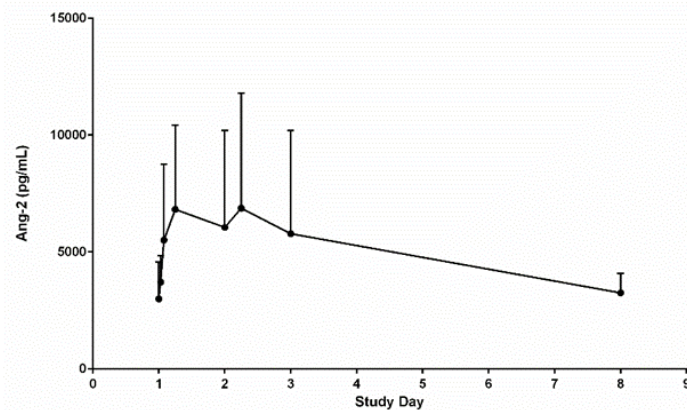
T redistribution



Induction of activated LFA-1 on T cells



Induction of endothelial activation (Ang-2)



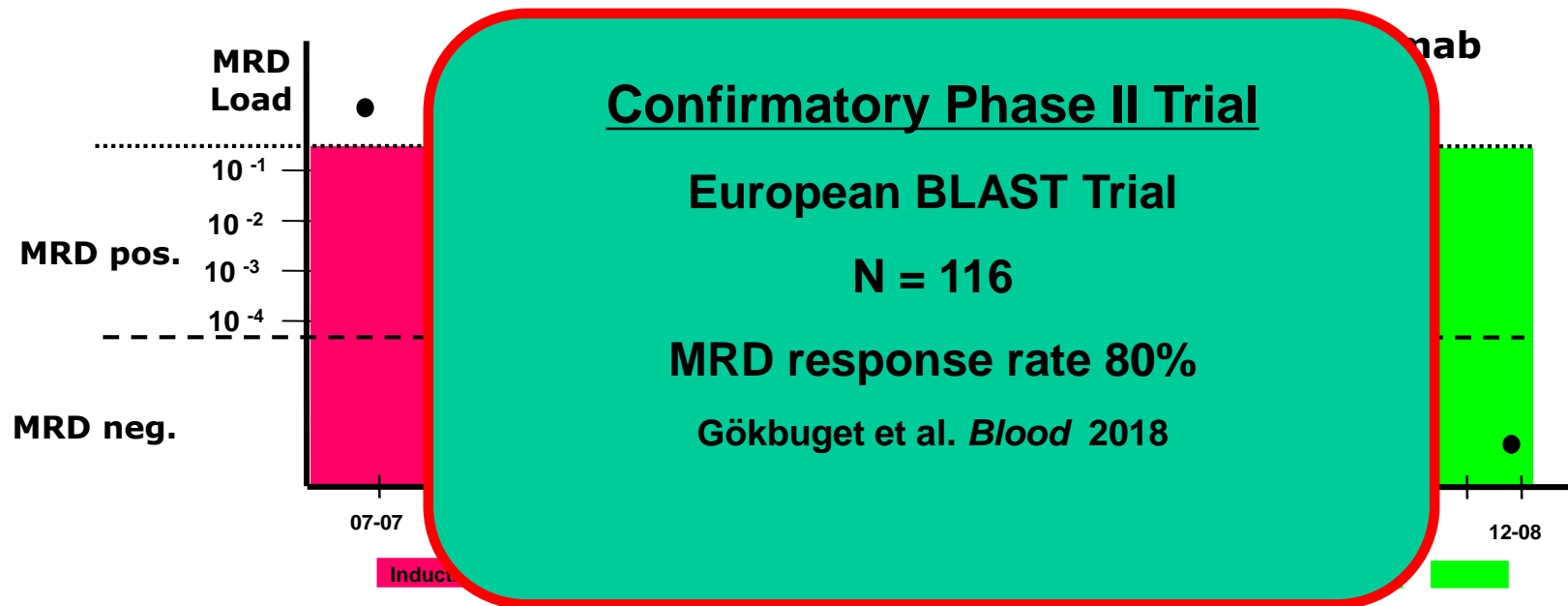
Three high-risk patients treated with blinatumomab (60 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^2/\text{day}$) plus PPS

Patient	Sex	Age	Diagnosis	Prior Lines of Treatment	B/T-cell ratio	Treatment Duration	Best Response	Neurologic Events
1	male	63 years	relapsed FCL grade I, stage IV-AE	2	73/1649	57 days	CRu	grade I tremor, ataxia
2	male	51 years	refractory immunocytoma stage IV-B	5	20/2535	30 days	PD	not observed
3	female	49 years	refractory FCL grade I, stage III-B	1	4/332	56 days	CRu	not observed

**=> effective mitigation of neurotox might allow for higher dosing
and might improve efficacy and long-term outcome**

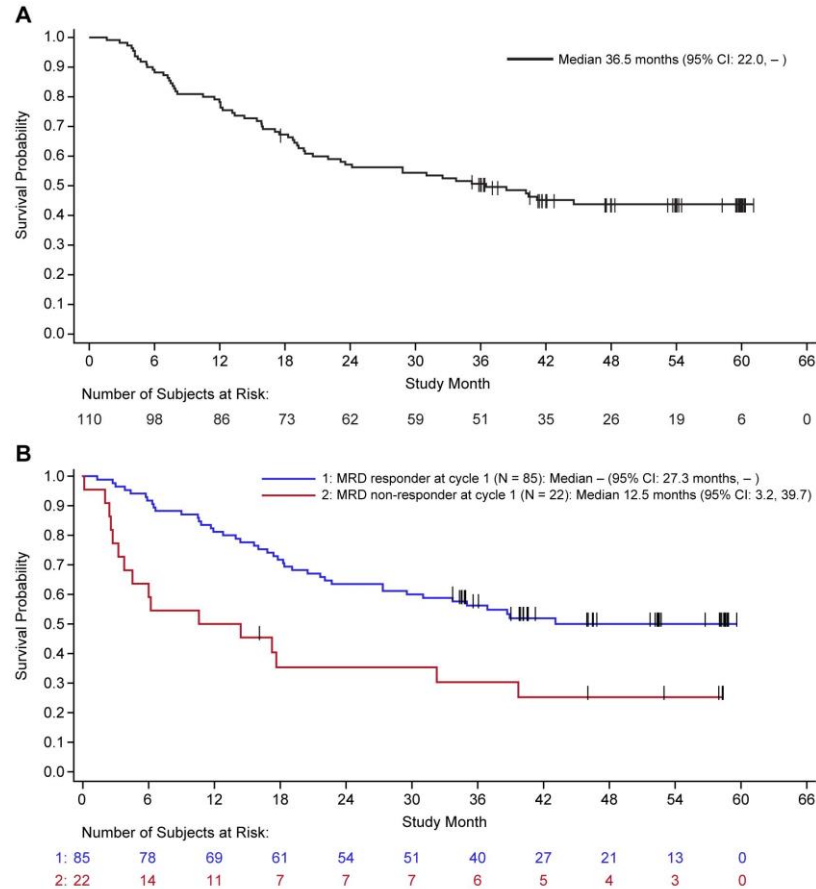
Blinatumomab in B Lineage Acute Lymphoblastic leukemia

Blinatumomab (Anti-CD19 BiTE®) for Targeted Therapy of Minimal Residual Disease (MRD) in Patients with B-Precursor Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (ALL)



Response Rate (MRD negativity): 80% (16/20)

BLAST Trial: Median Overall Survival (OS) Is Not Reached in Complete MRD Responders at a Median Follow-up of 53.1 Months



**Approval of Blin in MRD ALL:
 FDA 29th March 2018**

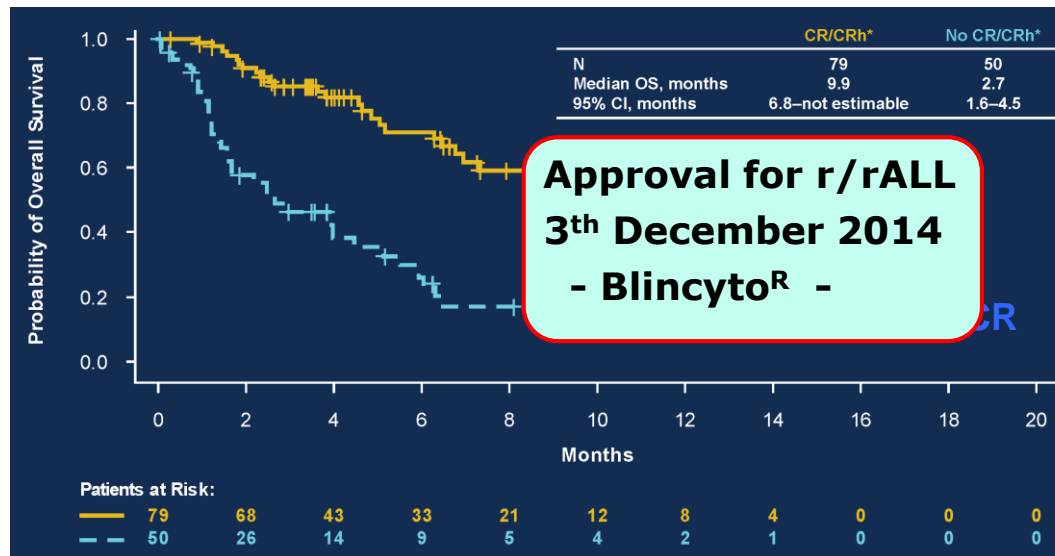
Figure 1. Overall survival. (A) Evaluable patients (Ph-BCP-ALL and <5% blasts at baseline; n = 110). (B) Evaluable patients with adequate MRD response assessment at cycle 1 (n = 107). Vertical bars indicate censoring; -, not estimable.

r/rALL: Confirmatory Open-label, Single-arm, Multicenter Phase 2 Study: N=189

- $\geq 2^{\text{nd}}$ Relapse: 80%
<-> 19% in the exploratory phase II trial
- Post Allo: 34%

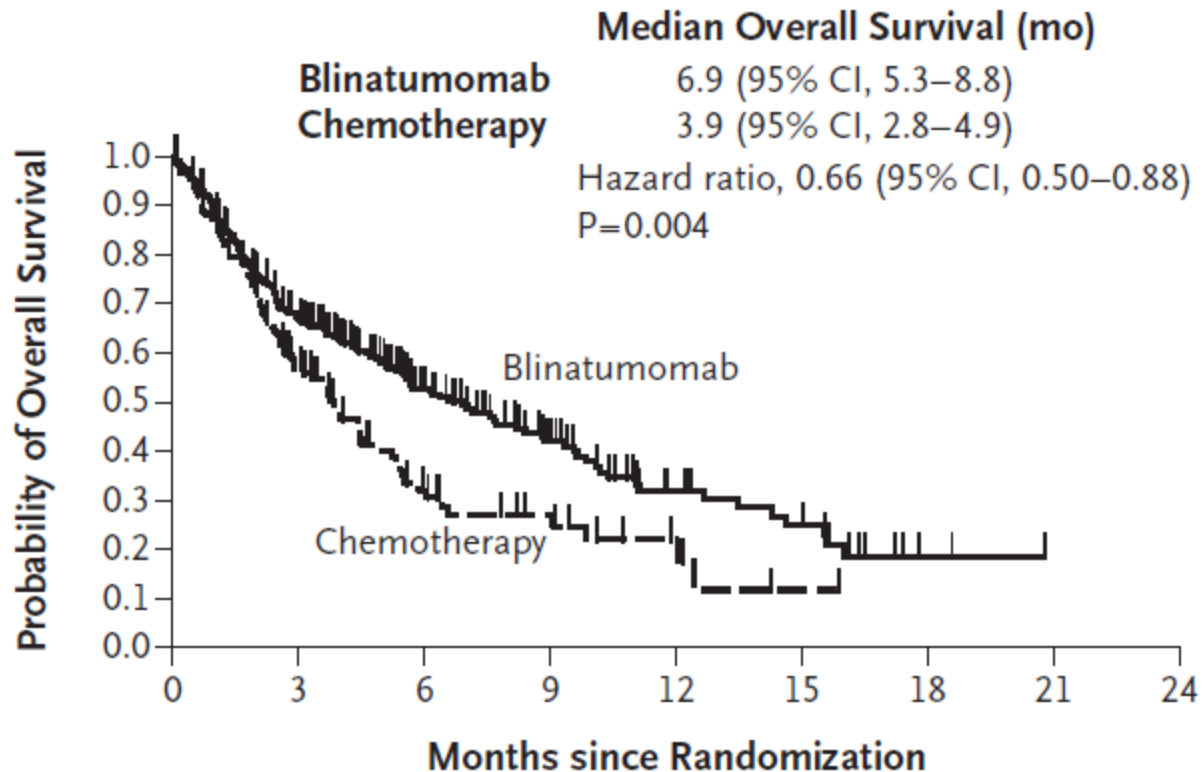
CR/CRh: 81/189 (43%)

Overall Survival



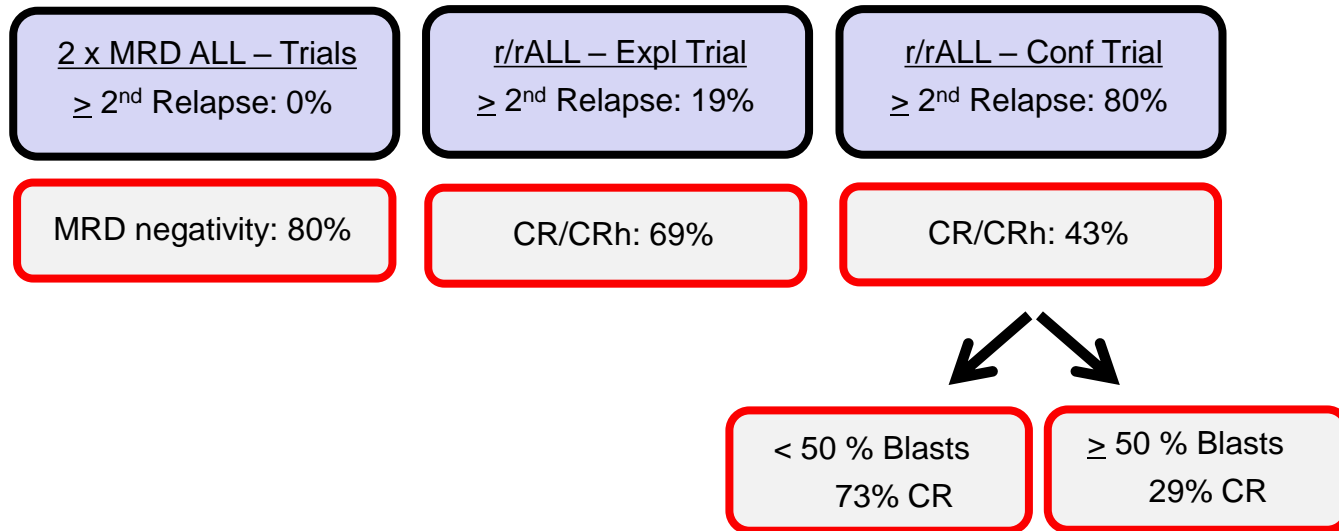
At median follow up of 8.9 months 45% of the responders are alive and in remission

Phase III Trial in rr ALL: Superior OS of blinatumomab compared with chemo - TOWER TRIAL -



Blinatumomab: improved QoL

Efficacy of Blinatumomab in Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia: results from four ph II trials



Gökbuget et al. *Blood* 2018

Gökbuget et al. *Haematol.* 2017

Topp et al. *Lancet Oncol.* 2015

Zugmaier et al. *Blood* 2015

Topp et al. *J Clin Oncol* 2014

Topp et al. *J Clin Oncol* 2011

Blinatumomab : Better Outcome in the MRD Setting

	MRD ALL BLAST N = 116	rrALL Expl Phase II N = 36	rrALL Conf Phase II N = 189	rr ALL TOWER N = 271
	Phase II	Phase II	Phase II	Phase III
RFS	18.9 months	7.6 months	5.9 months	-
OS	36.5 months	9.8 months	6.1 months	7.7 months

⇒ **Next steps**

⇒ **Integrating Blin into 1st line treatment to target MRD: ALL, DLBCL, MCL**

Gökbuget et al. *Blood* 2018

Kantarjian et al. *NEJM* 2017

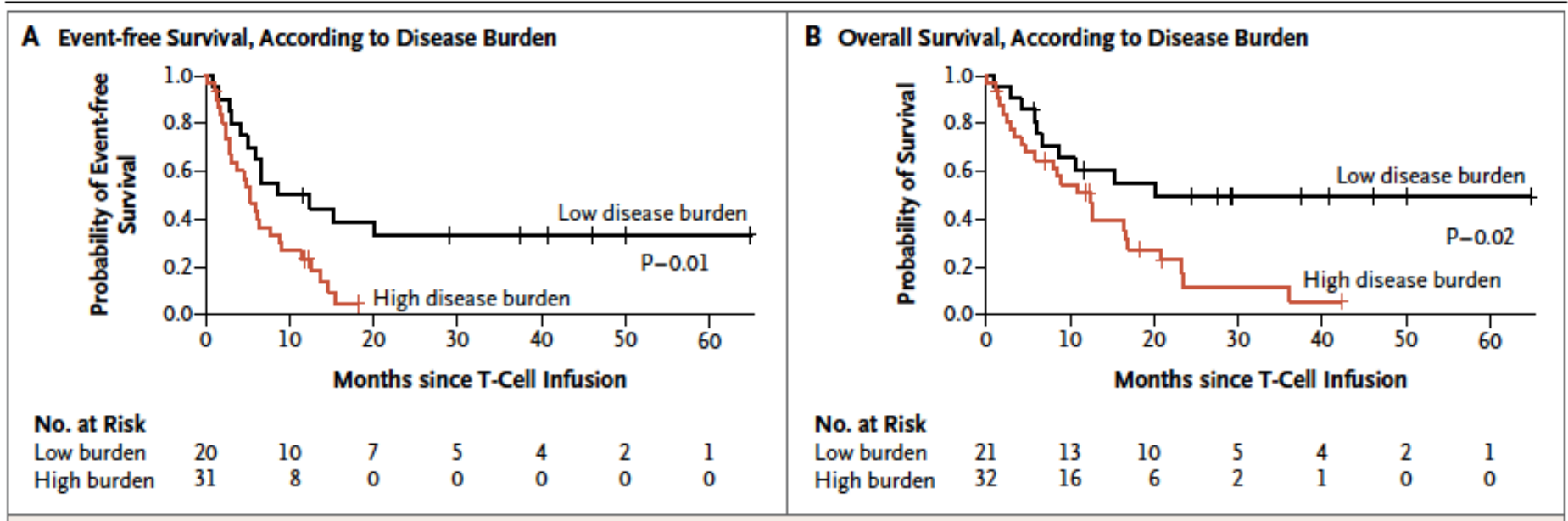
Topp et al. *Lancet Oncol.* 2015

Zugmaier et al. *Blood* 2015

Topp et al. *J Clin Oncol* 2014

Long-term survival of CD19 CAR T cell therapy in rr ALL: Results of a Phase I Trial

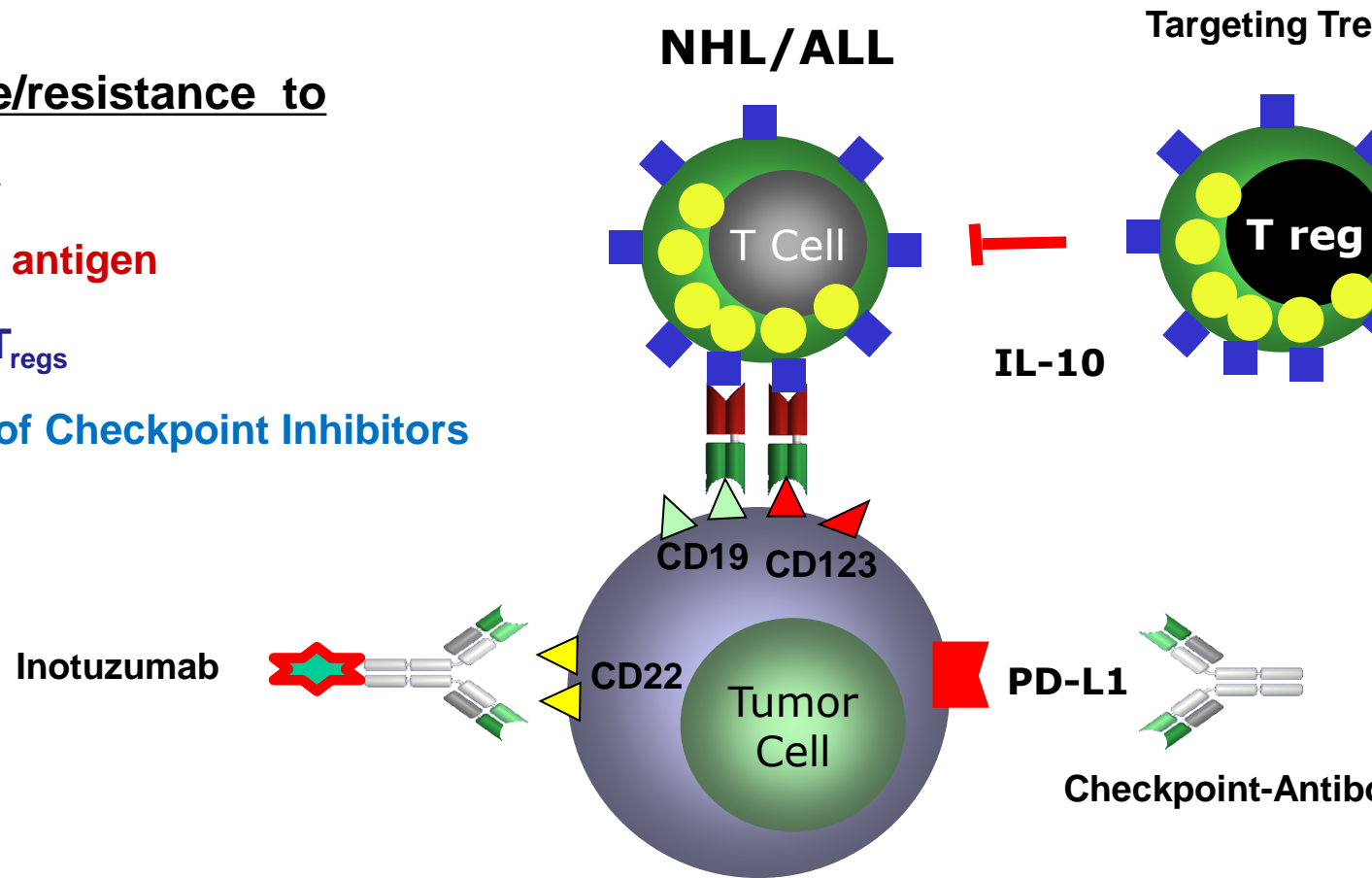
EFS and OS according to disease burden (high: > 5% blasts)



Multi-Targeting to overcome resistance

Immune escape/resistance to anti-CD19 BiTE

- (1) Loss of target antigen
- (2) Activation of T_{regs}
- (3) Upregulation of Checkpoint Inhibitors



Braig Blood 2017

Duell Leukemia 2017

Topp Lancet Oncology 2015

Sotillo Cancer Discov. 2015

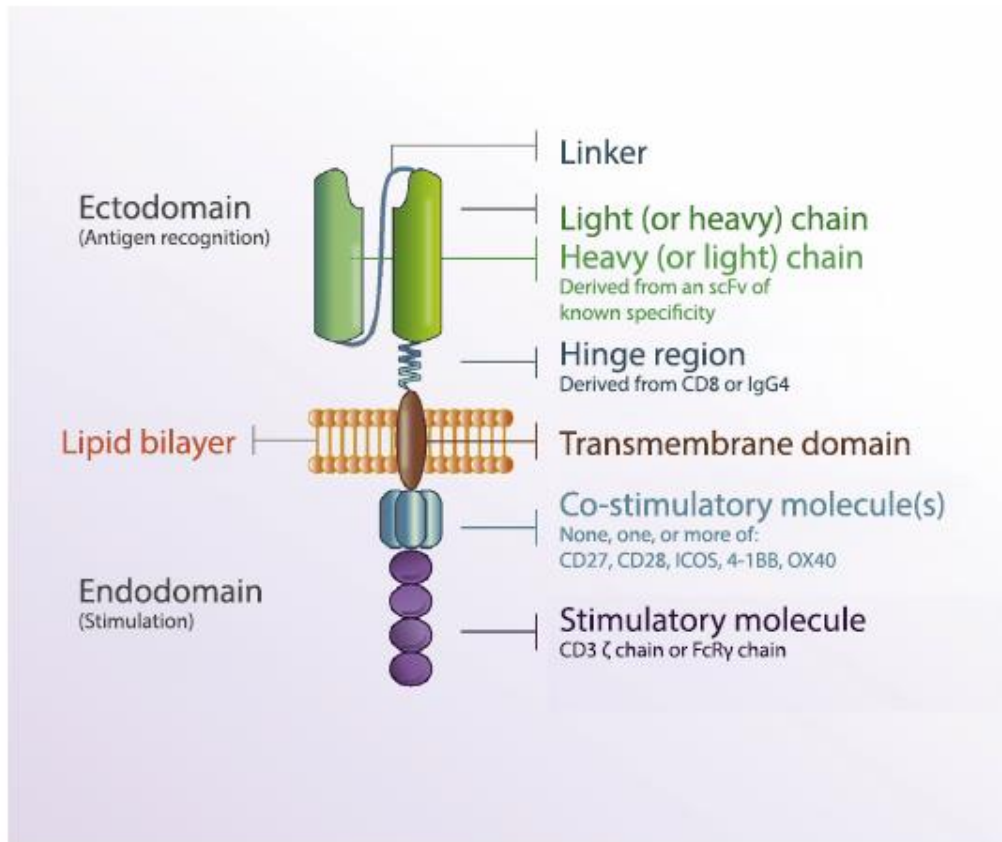
Köhnke Hematol. Oncol. 2015

Combinatorial Ph Ib Trials

e.g. BiTE + Checkpoint Ab

Does the CAR/BiTE approach work beyond CD19-positive diseases?

Anti-BCMA CAR-T Cells: Phase I in rr Multiple Myeloma

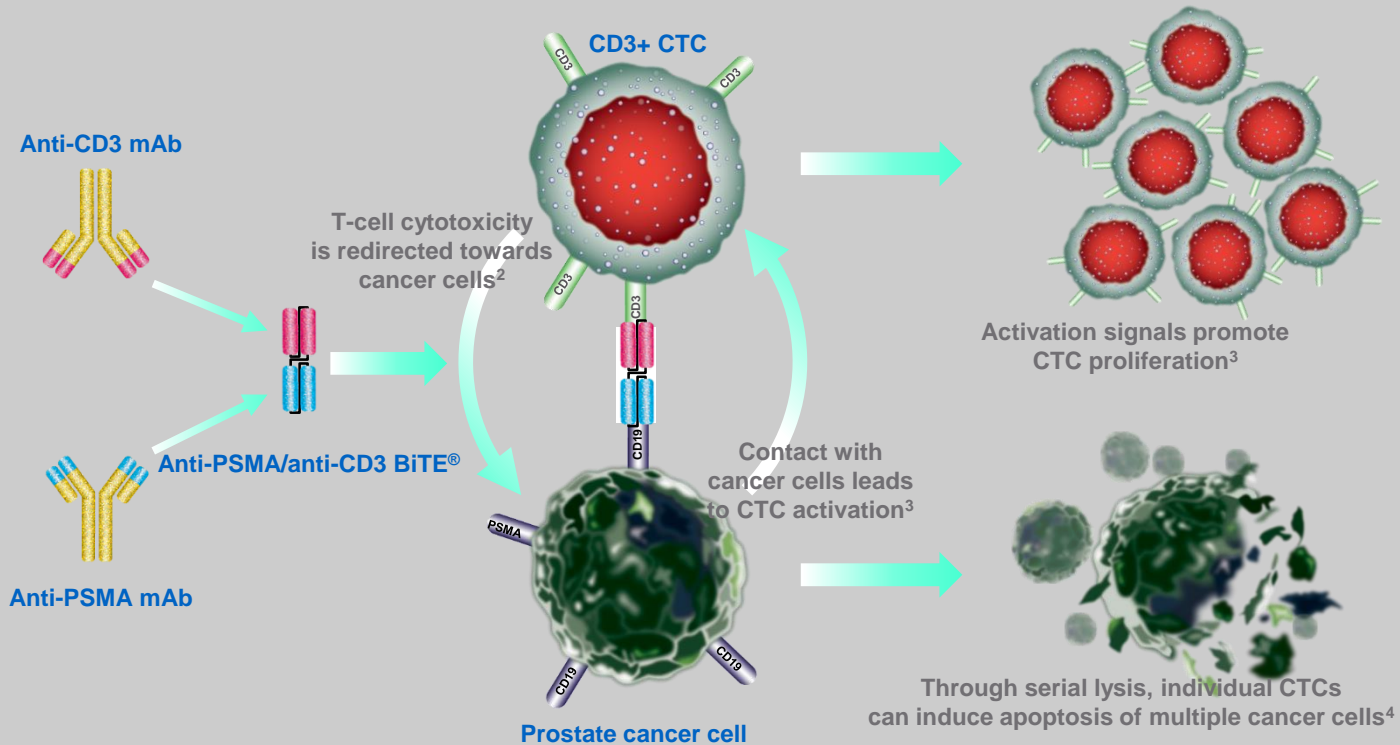


N=16: ORR 81%, 63% CR & VGPR

Brudno et al. JCO 2018

Efficacy in phase I
for CARs/BiTEs
also reported
in AML (CD33, CD123)

PSMA BiTE– First Results of a Phase I Trial in Patients with CR Prostate Cancer



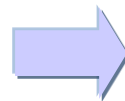
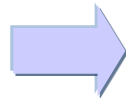
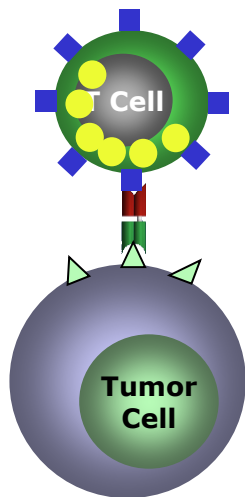
The BiTE Trial Program of the CCC Mainfranken

Genomic and immunological profiling

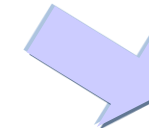
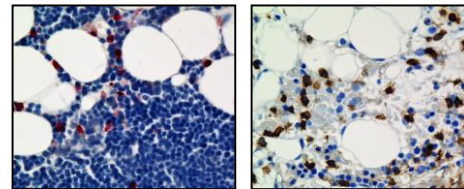
Preclinical
Research

Phase-I and
Phase II

Phase III, pivotal trials



NHL and ALL



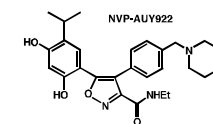
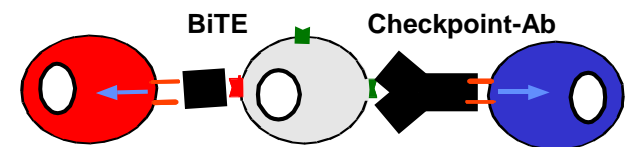
Blinatumomab:

Approval for r/r ALL
2014- 2016 (FDA & EMA)
Approval for MRD ALL
2018 (FDA)

Phase I program:

Prostate Cancer (PSMA)
CRC, Lung Cancer (EpCAM)
Lung Cancer (DLL-3)
Glioblastoma (EGFRvIII)
Her2-pos. Solid Tumors
Multiple Myeloma (BCMA)

Combinatorial approaches



Small Molecules

GEMoAB Trials:

AML (CD33)

New Developments in the Field - Future Directions

- Developing strategies mitigating neurotox -> higher dosing? -> improved efficacy? -> higher cure rates? - **blinatumomab**
- More convenient administration mode - **e.g. half time extended BiTEs**
- Combinatorial trials: targeting antigen escape and T cell exhaustion **e.g. BiTEs + checkpoint antibodies, multi-targeting**
- Targeted therapy of **minimal residual disease** beyond ALL (e.g. NHL, AML, localized HR Prostate Cancer)
- Efficacy & relevance of BiTEs & CARs in solid tumors - **e.g. PSMA BiTE**

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