

11:45 AM–12:30 PM

# Smoldering Myeloma

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# Smoldering Multiple Myeloma: To Treat or Not To Treat?



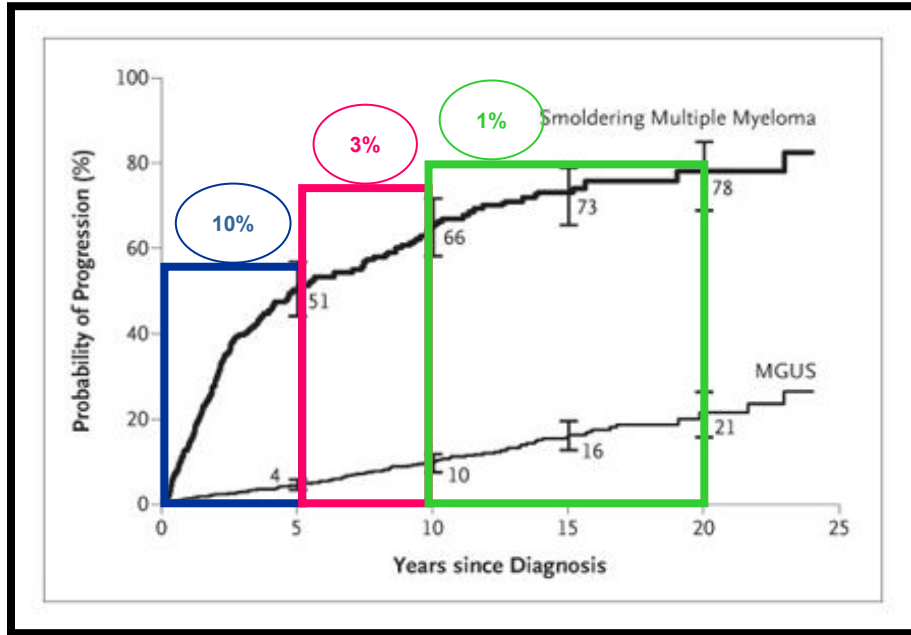


## Binod Dhakai, MD, MS

*Associate Professor of Medicine  
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- **Honorarium:** Karyopharm, BMS, Janssen

# A heterogenous entity!



Diagnosis	Disease definition
Non-IgM MGUS	<p>Both criteria must be met</p> <p>Serum M protein (IgG or IgA) &lt;3 g/dL and clonal BMPCs &lt;10%, and</p> <p>Absence of <b>myeloma defining events (MDEs)</b> or amyloidosis</p>
Smoldering Multiple Myeloma	<p>Both criteria must be met:</p> <p>Serum M protein (IgG or IgA) ≥3 g/dL or urinary M protein ≥500 mg/24 h and/or clonal BMPCs 10%-60%, and</p> <p>Absence of MDEs or amyloidosis</p>

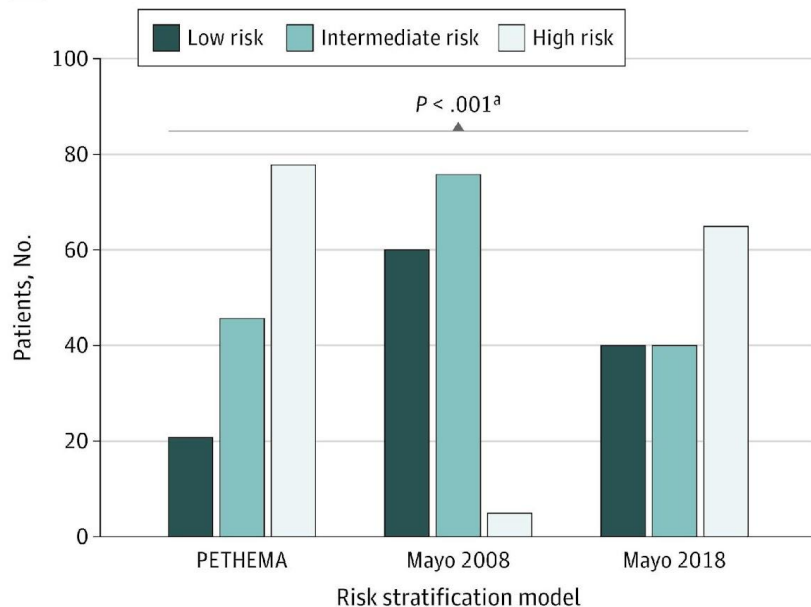
# Models of progression of SMM to MM

PETHEMA	≥95% aberrant PCs Immunoparesis
Mayo 2008	BPMCs ≥10% M spike ≥3 g/dL sFLC ratio ≤0.125 or ≥8
Mayo 2018	BPMC >20% M spike >2 g/dL sFLC ratio < .05 or > 20
IMWG 2020	sFLC ratio M spike BMPs FISH abnormalities*

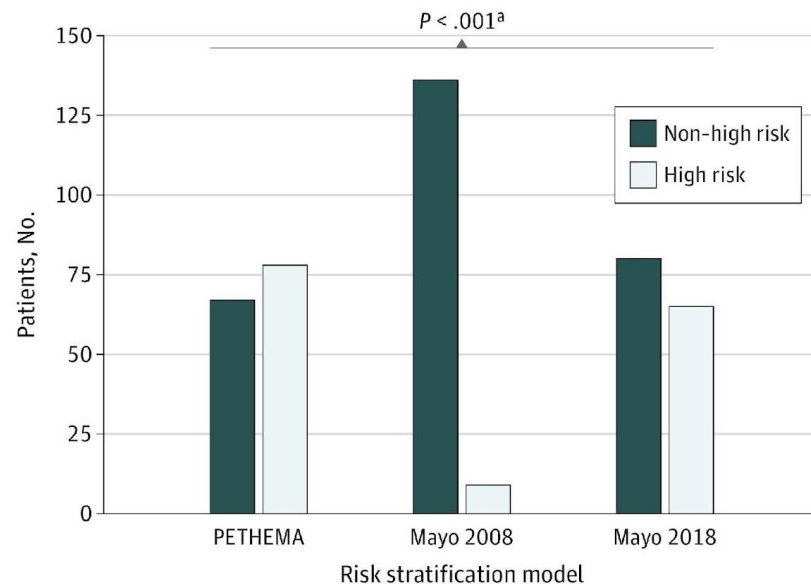
\* t (4;14), t (14;16), 1q gain, del13q/monosomy 13

# High rates of discordance among the models

**A** Stratification of each risk category



**B** Stratification of high risk vs non-high risk

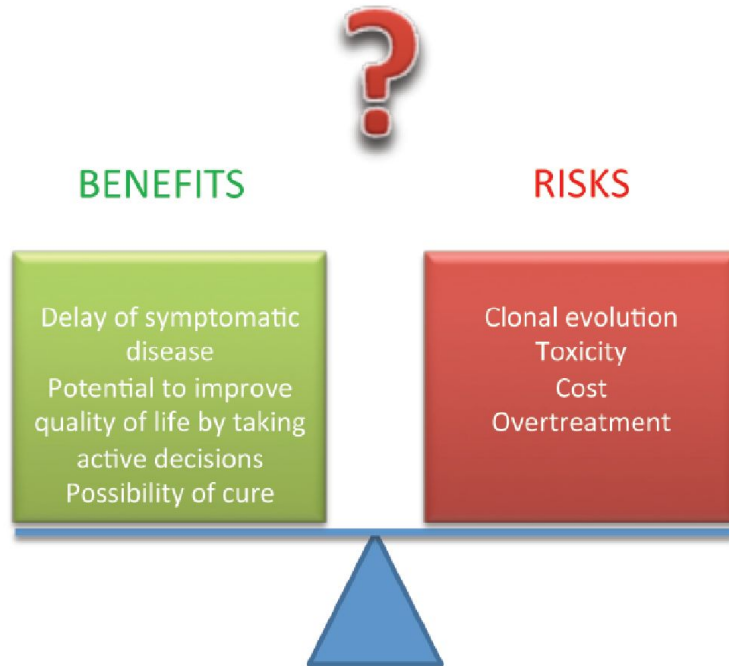


# Therapeutic approaches in SMM: Opportunities and Challenges

- Current guidelines recommend monitoring patients with SMM every 3 to 6 months for active MM before initiating treatment.<sup>1</sup>
- Most patients with high- or intermediate-risk SMM **do** progress to MM.<sup>2,3</sup>
- Intercepting high-/intermediate-risk SMM may yield clinical benefit.



# To treat or not to treat?



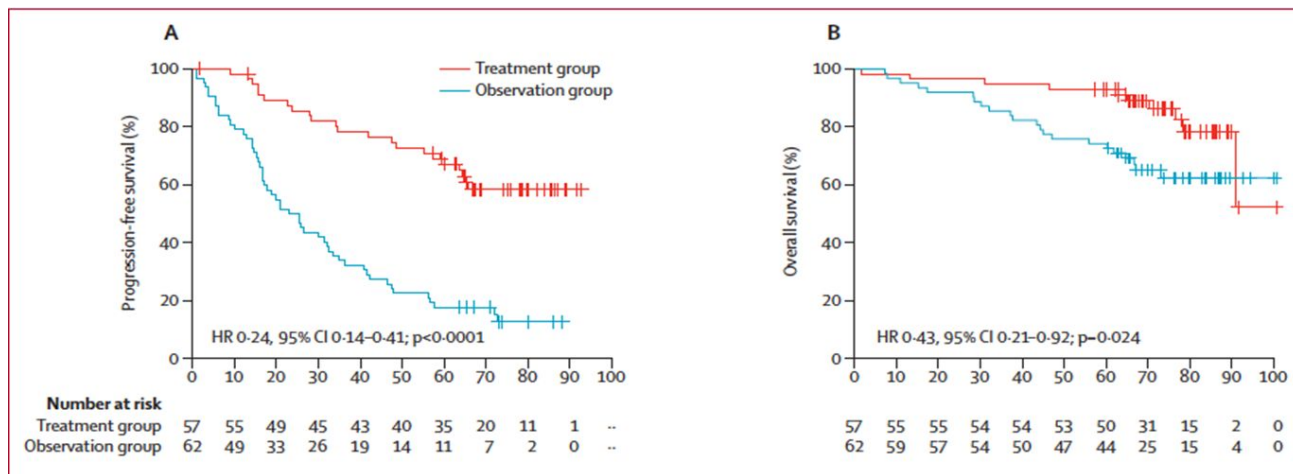
Criteria to identify SMM for high risk of progression: Validation and refinement

True prevalence of SMM: 0.53%

Divergent treatment philosophies:

- CURE (intensive approach)
- CONTROL (less intensive approach)

# QuiRedex Phase 3 trial: First Randomized Trial Showing Benefit in SMM



119 patients with high-risk SMM (by PETHEMA) randomized to:

- Lenalidomide plus dexamethasone for nine cycles followed by Len maintenance for 2 years
- Observation only

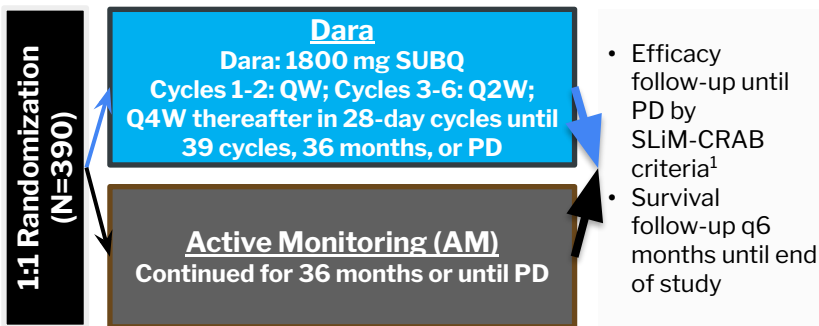
Mateos MV et al. *N Engl J Med*. 2013

Mateos MV et al. *Lancet Oncol*. 2016.

# Phase 3 AQUILA Study of Dara vs Active Monitoring in High-Risk Smoldering MM: Study Design and Patients

## Key Eligibility Criteria

- Confirmed SMM diagnosis (per IMWG) for  $\leq 5$  years
- ECOG PS 0-1
- Clonal BMPCs  $\geq 10\%$  and  $\geq 1$  of the following risk factors:  
Serum M-protein  $\geq 30$  g/dL; IgA SMM; Immunoparesis with  $\downarrow$  of 2 uninvolved Ig isotypes; Serum involved:uninvolved FLC ratio  $\geq 8$  and  $<100$ ; Clonal BPMCs  $>50\%$  to  $<60\%$



**Primary end point:** PFS (by IRC per IMWG SLiM-CRAB criteria)

**Key secondary end points:** ORR, time to 1L treatment for MM, PFS on 1L treatment for MM, OS

Median age (range), years		63.0 (31-86)	64.5 (36-83)
18 to <65 years, n (%)		106 (54.6)	98 (50.0)
65 to <75 years, n (%)		67 (34.5)	74 (37.8)
$\geq 75$ years, n (%)		21 (10.8)	24 (12.2)
ECG PS, n (%)	0	165 (85.1)	160 (81.6)
	1	29 (14.9)	36 (18.4)
Median years from diagnosis of SMM to randomization (range)		0.80 (0-4.7)	0.67 (0-5.0)
Median BMPCs (range), %		20.0 (8.0-59.5)	20.0 (10.0-55.0)
Type of SMM, n (%)	IgG	127 (65.5)	138 (70.4)
	IgA	55 (28.4)	42 (21.4)
	Other	12 (6.2)	16 (8.2)
AQUILA risk factors, n (%)	$<3$	154 (79.4)	156 (79.6)
	$\geq 3$	40 (20.6)	40 (20.4)
Cytogenetic risk profile <sup>a</sup> , n/N (%)		29/167 (17.4)	22/170 (12.9)
Mayo 2018 risk criteria, n (%)	Low	45 (23.2)	34 (17.3)
	Intermediate	77 (39.7)	76 (38.8)
	High	72 (37.1)	86 (43.9)

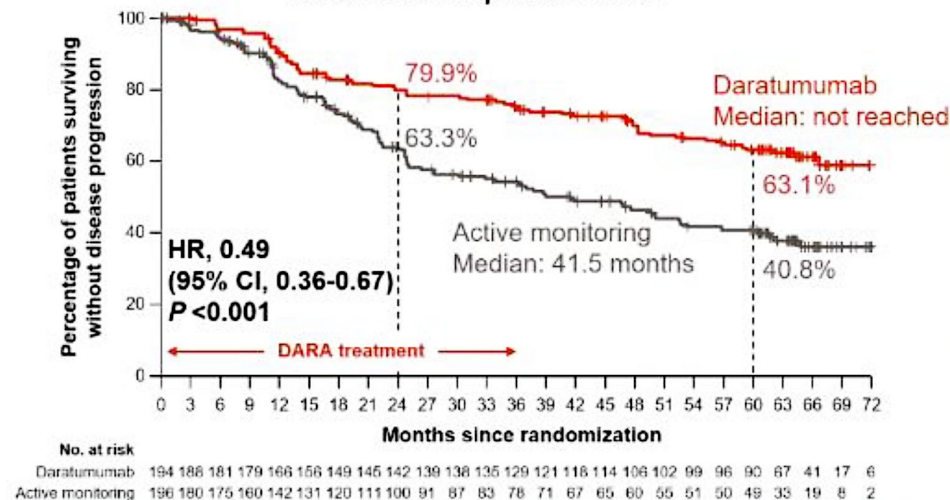
<sup>a</sup>  $\geq 1$  of del(17p), t(4;14), and/or t(14;16).

1. Rajkumar SV et al. *Lancet Oncol.* 2014;15(12):e538-e548.

Dimopoulos MA et al. ASH 2024. Abstract 773. Dimopoulos MA et al. *N Engl J Med.* 2024. Epub ahead of print (12-9-24).<sup>11</sup>

# Phase 3 AQUILA Study of Dara vs Active Monitoring in High-Risk Smoldering MM: PFS and ORR

## Progression to MM by IMWG SLiM-CRAB Criteria (by IRC)



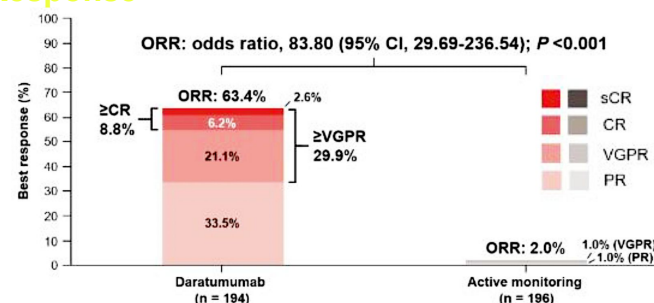
## Retrospective Review of PFS in Patients With High-Risk by Mayo 2018 Criteria

- Median PFS: NR with Dara vs 22.1 months with AM (HR 0.36 [95% CI, 0.23-0.58])

PFS event	67 (34.5)	99 (50.5)
Death without PD	5 (2.6)	5 (2.6)
PD	62 (32.0)	94 (48.0)
CRAB criteria	12 (6.2)	34 (17.3)
Calcium	0	2 (1.0)
Elevation		
Renal	0	0
insufficiency		
Anemia	2 (1.0)	14 (7.1)
Bone disease	10 (5.2)	18 (9.2)
SLiM criteria	50 (25.8)	65 (33.2)
Clonal BPMCs	5 (2.6)	16 (8.2)
Serum FLC	33 (17.0)	33 (16.8)

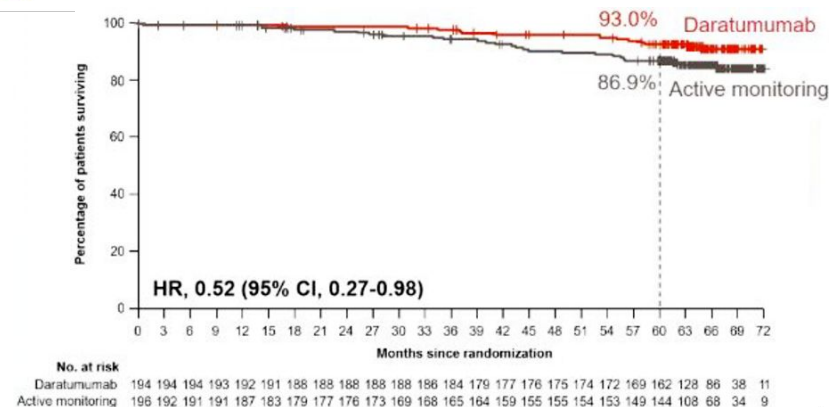
## Best Response

## MRI

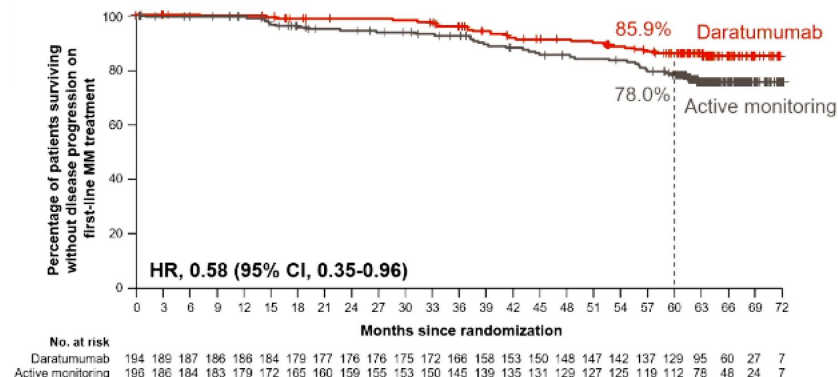


# Phase 3 AQUILA Study of Dara vs Active Monitoring in High-Risk Smoldering MM: OS and PFS2

OS



PFS on 1L Treatment for MM (PFS2)



- VRd was the most common 1L therapy
  - 29.7% (19/64) in the Dara arm
  - 27.6% (29/105) in the AM arm
- Received anti-CD38 mAb-based therapy
  - 25.0% (16/64) in the Dara arm
  - 33.3% (33/105) in the AM arm

OS		Dara (n=194)	AM (n=196)
Deaths, n (%)		15 (7.7)	26 (13.3)
Primary cause, n	PD	3	9
	AE	2	4
	Other <sup>a</sup>	10	13

# Summary of Phase 2 and 3 Studies in SMM

	Patient population	ORR	Additional Notes
<b>Phase 3 Studies</b>			
Len/dex (Mateos)	Int/high-risk SMM	79%	TTP Rd 9.5 vs Observations 2.1 years
Lenalidomide (Lonial)	Low/int/high-risk SMM	48.9%	3-year PFS of 91% for the lenalidomide arm vs 66% for the observation arm
Daratumumab vs observation (Dimopoulos)	High-risk SMM	63.4%	60-month PFS: 63.1% vs 40.8% 60-month OS: 93% vs 86.9% CR rate 8.8%
<b>Phase 2 Studies (Curative Intent)</b>			
KRD + ASCT (GEM-CESAR)	High-risk SMM	94%	MRD-ve ( $10^{-5}$ ): 62% after consolidation, 31% after 4 years TTBP: 70 months
Dara-RVD (B-PRISM)	High-risk SMM	98%	MRD-ve ( $10^{-5}$ ): 65% after 24 months
KRd-D (ASCENT)	High-risk SMM	97%	MRD-ve ( $10^{-5}$ ): 84%; median time to MRD: 6.6 mo

# Immunotherapy in SMM: Rationale

- The immune system is less dysfunctional in SMM and therefore a great opportunity to study **benefit** compared to patients with RRMM
- The tumor burden is lower; therefore, potential for **less CRS and toxicities**
- Avoid **combination therapy** and SCT and reserve for use at the time of progression
- Avoid **resistance by short, fixed duration** of therapy and modify schedule to limit further toxicity
- Compare to previous standard of care such as lenalidomide and dexamethasone to prove superiority

# Immunotherapy Trials in HR-SMM

**ImmunoPRISM:** Teclistamab vs lenalidomide/dex in HR-SMM (NCT05469893)

**Elrantamab** in HR-SMM (NCT06183489)

**Linvoseltamab** in HR-SMM (NCT05955508)

**Linvoseltamab** in HR-MGUS and LR-SMM (NCT06140524)

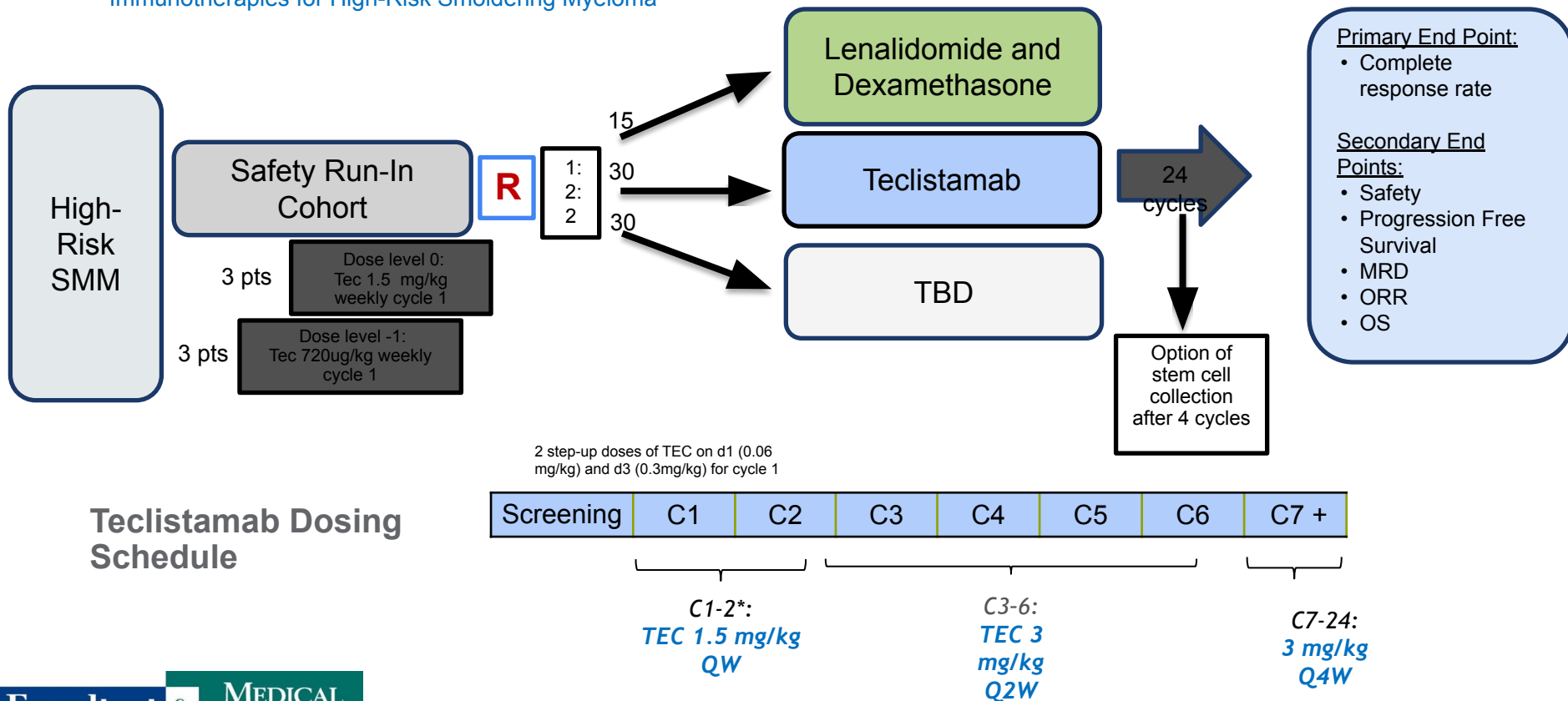
**Teclistamab and talquetamab with daratumumab** in HR-SMM (NCT06100237)

**CAR-PRISM:** Ciltacabtagene autoleucel in HR-SMM (NCT05767359)



# TCE in Smoldering Myeloma

Immuno-PRISM: A Randomized Phase II Platform Study of Select Immunotherapies for High-Risk Smoldering Myeloma



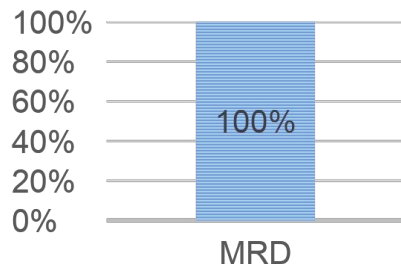
# TCE in Smoldering Myeloma

## TEC-Treated Cohort (12 patients)

Best response	n	%
CR	10	83
VGPR	2	17
<b>Overall response rate</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>100</b>

- No patients have progressed on treatment.

## MRD Negative Rate (10-6)



Infections (Grade 2 or Greater)	N=12	
	Grade 2	Grade 3
Salmonella	0	1
Sinusitis	2	1
<b>Upper respiratory infections</b>		0
COVID-19	1	0
Adenovirus	1	0
Nonspecific	1	0

- CRS occurred in 7 of 12 (58%) patients treated with teclistamab.
- Two patients developed grade 2 CRS requiring tocilizumab.
- No patients with grade 3 or greater CRS.

\*1 patient with 0-1 cells/mL (detected below LOD)

# CAR-T in Smoldering Myeloma

## CAR-PRISM: Cilta-cel in High-Risk Smoldering Myeloma

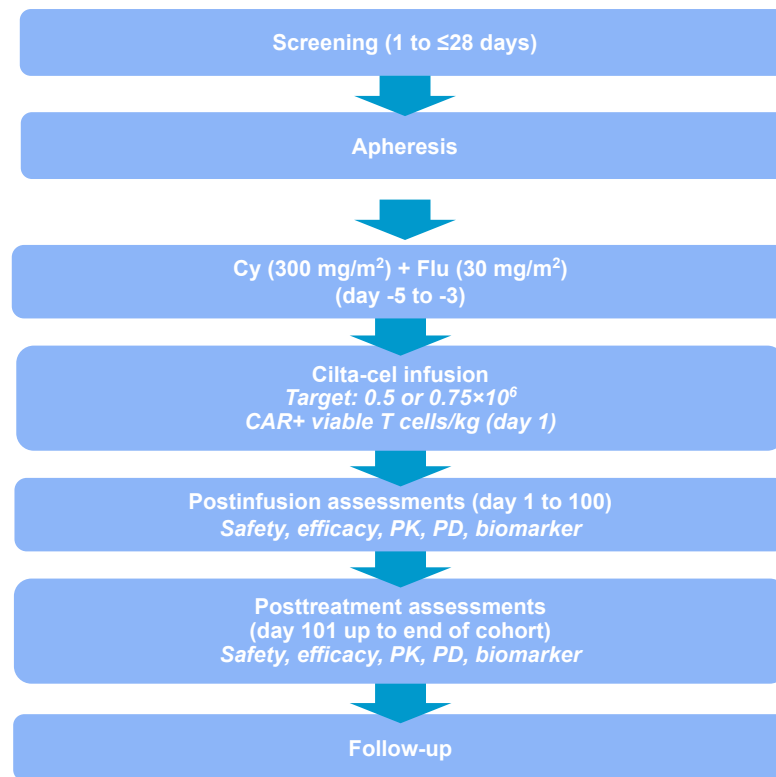
- The first 3 patients treated at a **lower target dose** of  **$0.5 \times 10^6$  CAR + viable T cells/kg** with FDA review of safety prior to dose escalation
- The next 3 patients treated at target dose of  **$0.75 \times 10^6$  CAR + viable T cells/kg**
- **Staggered enrollment** with one patient dosed every 60 days

### Primary end point

- Safety

### Secondary end points

- Efficacy: ORR, CR, MRD negativity, PFS
- Incidence and severity of AEs



# CAR-T in Smoldering Myeloma

## CAR-PRISM: Cilta-cel in High-Risk Smoldering Myeloma

**Safety: No DLTs were observed in the safety run-in cohort**

Cytokine Release Syndrome	N=6
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Grade 1	4
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Grade 2	2
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- **No grade 3 or greater CRS**
- 4 patients received tocilizumab and 2 patients received dexamethasone

### DLT Definition:

- Grade 4 nonhematologic toxicity
- Grade 3 CRS that does not improve to grade 3 within 72 hours
- Grade 3 neurologic toxicity
- Grade 3 toxicity of any vital organs or any grade 3 toxicity lasting > 72 hours
- Grade 4 neutropenia or thrombocytopenia lasting more than 28 days

- One patient experienced grade 1 Bell's palsy that was self-limiting and resolved within 2 weeks.
- One patient experienced grade 4 immune-related thrombocytopenia, which resolved within 2 weeks.

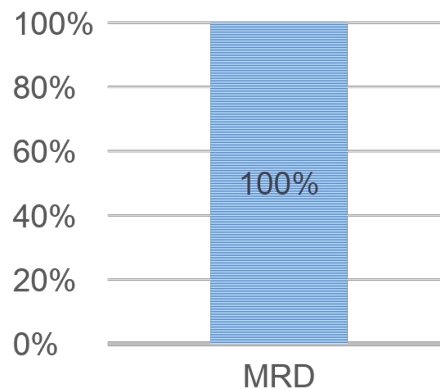
- Hematologic toxicities including grade 3 neutropenia that was transient without any febrile neutropenia
- Transient grade 3 AST/ALT elevation in one patient, which resolved
- No grade 3 infections
- No secondary malignancies to date

## CAR-PRISM: Cilta-cel in High-Risk Smoldering Myeloma

**Median follow-up:** 10.5 months for safety run-in cohort

Best response	n	%
<b>Complete Response</b>	6	100
<b>Overall response rate</b>	6	100

### MRD Negative Rate (10<sup>-6</sup>)

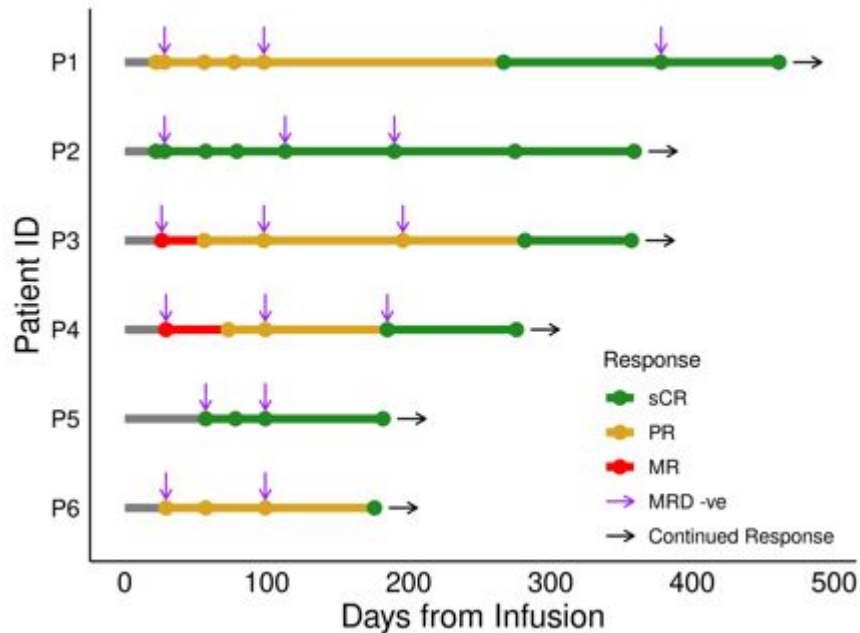


Stem cell collection was successful in all eligible patients with an average stem cell yield of  $8.94 \times 10^6$  CD34+ cells/kg.

# CAR-T in Smoldering Myeloma

## CAR-PRISM: Cilta-cel in High-Risk Smoldering Myeloma

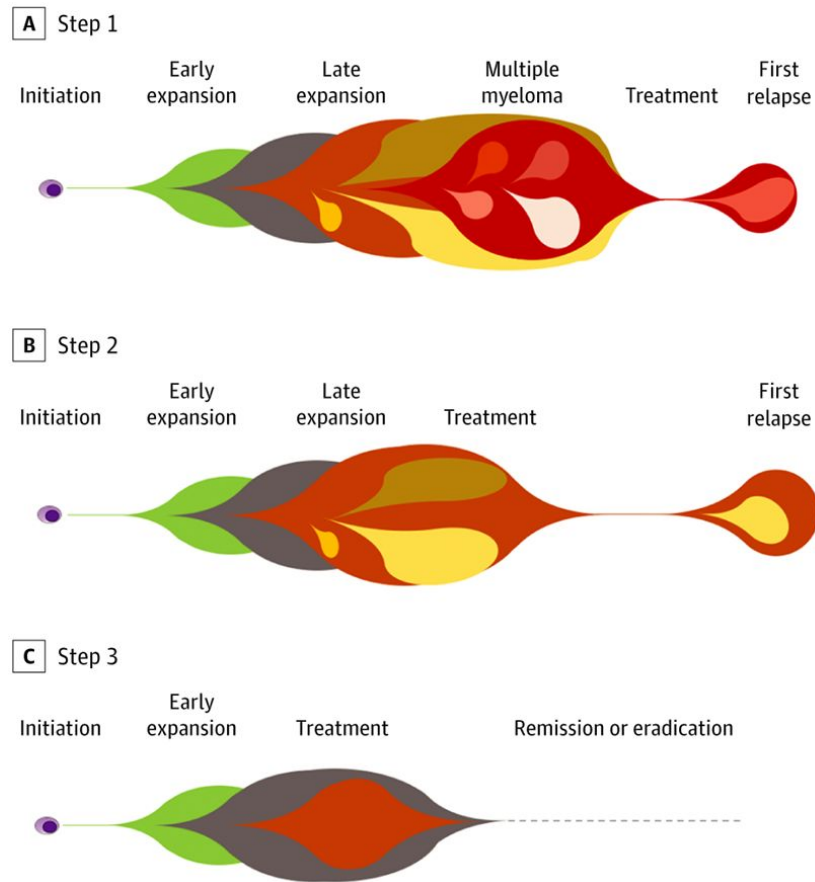
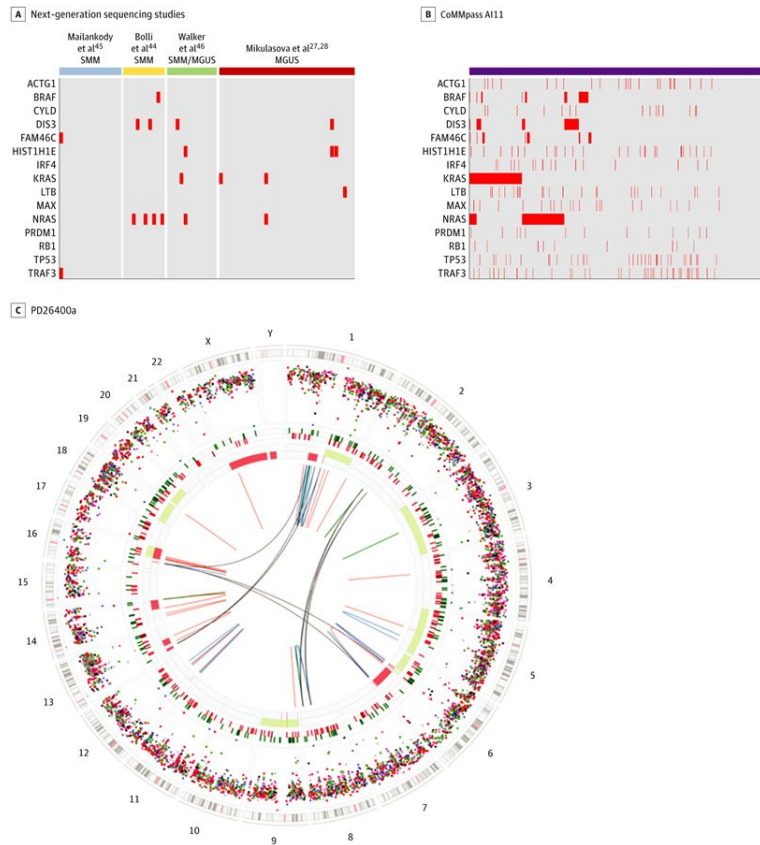
Swimmer's plot and response to therapy



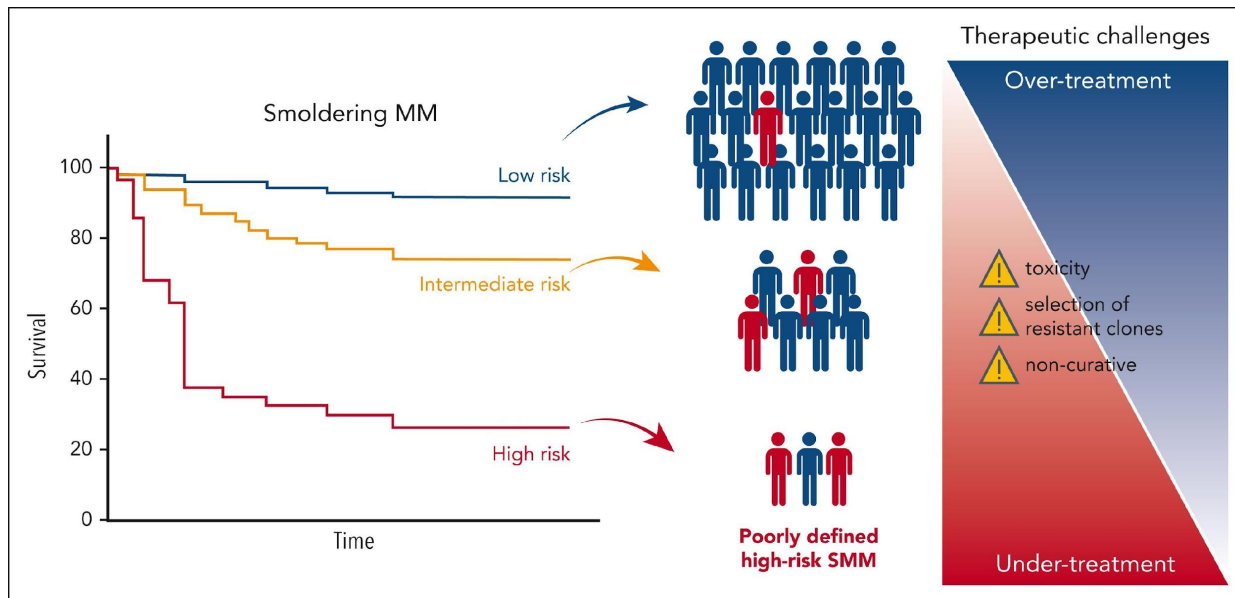
- Responses continue to deepen over time.
- MRD negativity occurs early prior to achieving best serologic response.
- The first 3 patients have **sustained MRD** negativity after 1 year of follow-up.
- The remainder of patients remain MRD negative at the time of their last follow-up.

**No patients have developed biochemical or SLIM-CRAB progression to date.**

# Genomics: Better Stratification?



# Unresolved Questions



Is it a true precancerous condition?

Does early treatment eradicate the clone?

Treated as MM?

Are the current/ongoing trials adequate to answer the question?



# Conclusions

- Not a single disease
- Risk stratification evolving and will be refined with time
- Treatment results are encouraging; fundamental questions remain
- Close “watch and see” vs clinical trials in patients with high-risk SMM
- Risk-benefit ratio and personalized treatment approaches
- Early immunotherapy vs combination?

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# THANK YOU



# PANEL DISCUSSION



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# Q & A



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