

# CAR-T-Zelltherapie – Best Practice und Patientenmanagement in Qualifikationszentren

Prof. Dr. Peter Borchmann (UK Köln)

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# Hinweis: weitere CME der Reihe

## **CAR-T-Zelltherapie – Grundlagen & Patientenidentifikation**

aufgenommener Fachvortrag mit Prof. Dr. Penack, 2 CME-Punkte, [hier klicken](#)

## **CAR-T-Zelltherapie – Überweisungsprozess & ambulante Nachsorge**

aufgenommener Fachvortrag mit Prof. Dr. Penack, 2 CME-Punkte, [hier klicken](#)

Es wird empfohlen, alle Kurse zu durchlaufen, es ist jedoch nicht verpflichtend. Jede CME kann einzeln absolviert werden. Insgesamt können bis zu **6 CME-Punkte** erworben werden.

# Agenda

- Therapievorbereitung (bridging therapy)
- Akut-Toxizität und infektiöse Komplikationen
- Langzeit-Toxizität, Sekundärmalignome und Rezidivtherapie
- Q&A-Lounge: offene Fragerunde



LeitMed  
Campus

Therapievorbereitung  
(bridging therapy)

# Vorstellung

## **Prof. Dr. Peter Borchmann**

Facharzt für Innere Medizin, Hämatologie und Onkologie mit Zusatzbezeichnung Palliativmedizin

- Oberarzt an der Klinik I für Innere Medizin der Uniklinik Köln
- Leiter des DKG-zertifizierten Hämatologischen Zentrums der Uniklinik Köln
- Chairman der Deutschen Hodgkin Studiengruppe (GHSG)

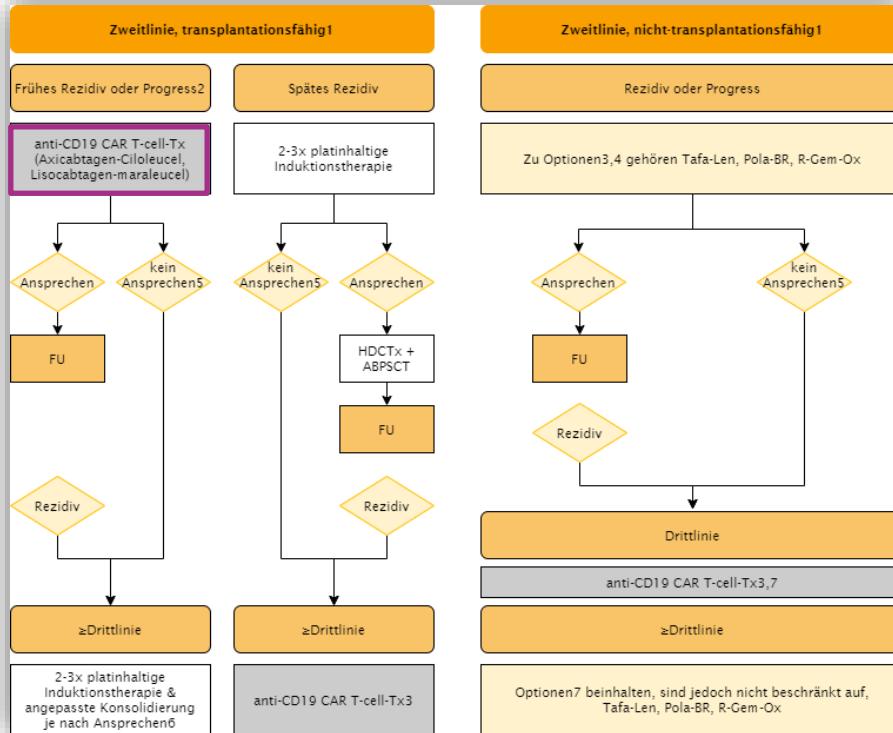


# Interessenkonflikte Prof. Borchmann

Prof. Borchmann hat in den letzten 12 Monaten Zuwendungen von folgenden Unternehmen erhalten:

- Beratende Funktion oder Sachverständigenaussage:  
Takeda Oncology, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Merck Sharp & Dohme, Roche, Novartis, Amgen
- Honorare:  
Takeda Oncology, Novartis, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Roche, Merck Sharp & Dohme, Kite-Gilead, Incyte
- Zuwendungen für Forschungsprojekte:  
Takeda Oncology, MPI, Roche, Novartis, Merck Sharp & Dohme, Amgen

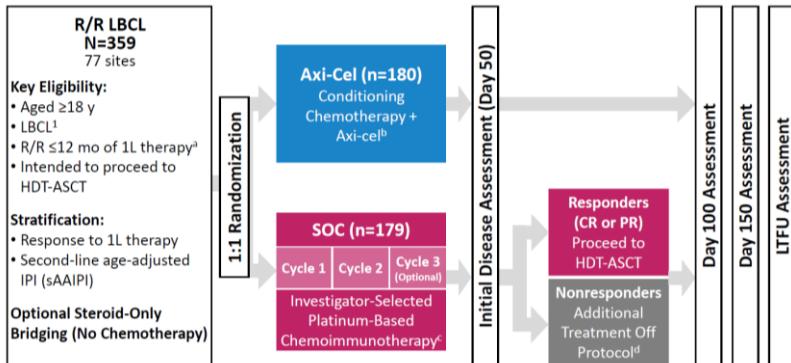
# S3– Schlüsselempfehlungen zur Rezidivtherapie: Zweitlinie



# Zwei Phase-III-Studien

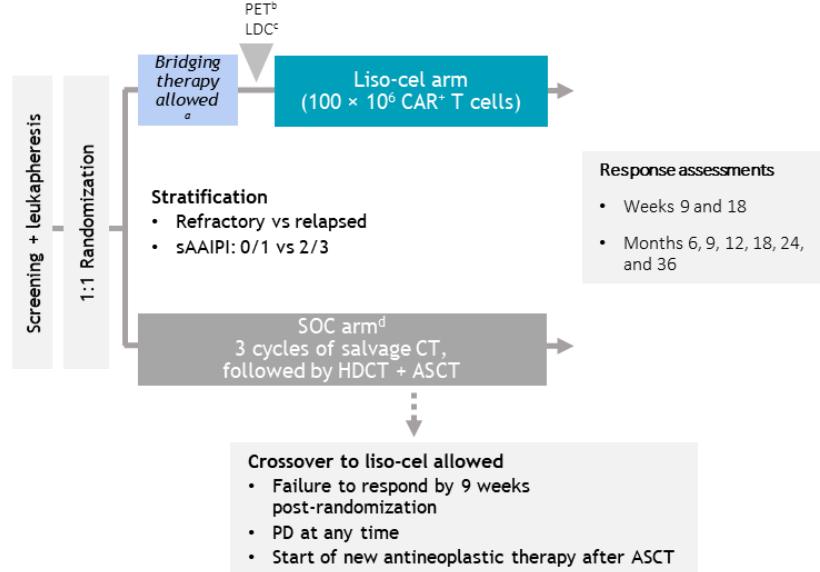
## CAR-T-Zelltherapie ist Hochdosistherapie überlegen

### ZUMA-7



no bridging, no cross-over (out of protocol 56 % CARs in SOC), primary endpoint EFS, HDCT in SOC 36 %

### TRANSFORM

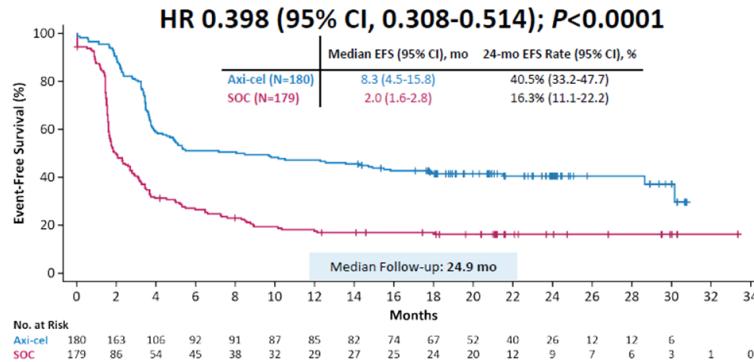


Bridging allowed (63 %), cross-over allowed (51 %), primary endpoint EFS, HDCT in SOC 42 %

# Zwei Phase-III-Studien

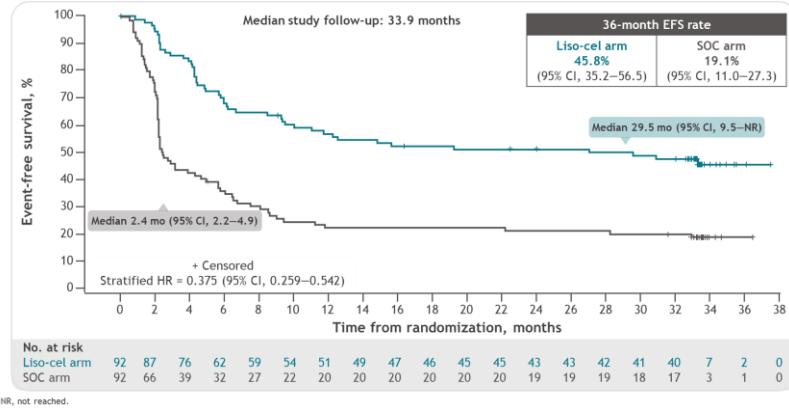
Axi-cel (ZUMA-7) und Liso-cel (TRANSFORM) in "transplant-eligible" patients: **primary endpoint EFS**

## Axi-cel (ZUMA-7)



Locke et al., N Engl J Med. 2022 Feb 17;386(7):640-654

## Liso-cel (TRANSFORM)



Kamdar et al., ASCO 2024 Abstract number 7013

# Zwei Phase-III-Studien

Axi-cel (ZUMA-7) und Liso-cel (TRANSFORM) in "transplant-eligible" patients: **OS**

## Axi-cel (ZUMA-7)

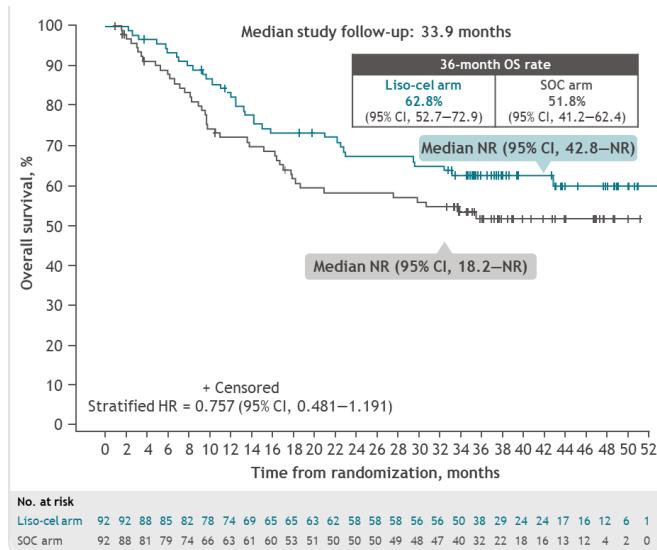


one-sided  $p=0.0168$ ; HR 0.726 (95%CI 0.540–0.977)

27.4 % reduced risk of death compared to SOC,  
despite cross-over in 57 % of out-of-study patients

→ 1st study in 30 years to clearly show  
significant overall survival benefit in 2L DLBCL.

## Liso-cel (TRANSFORM)

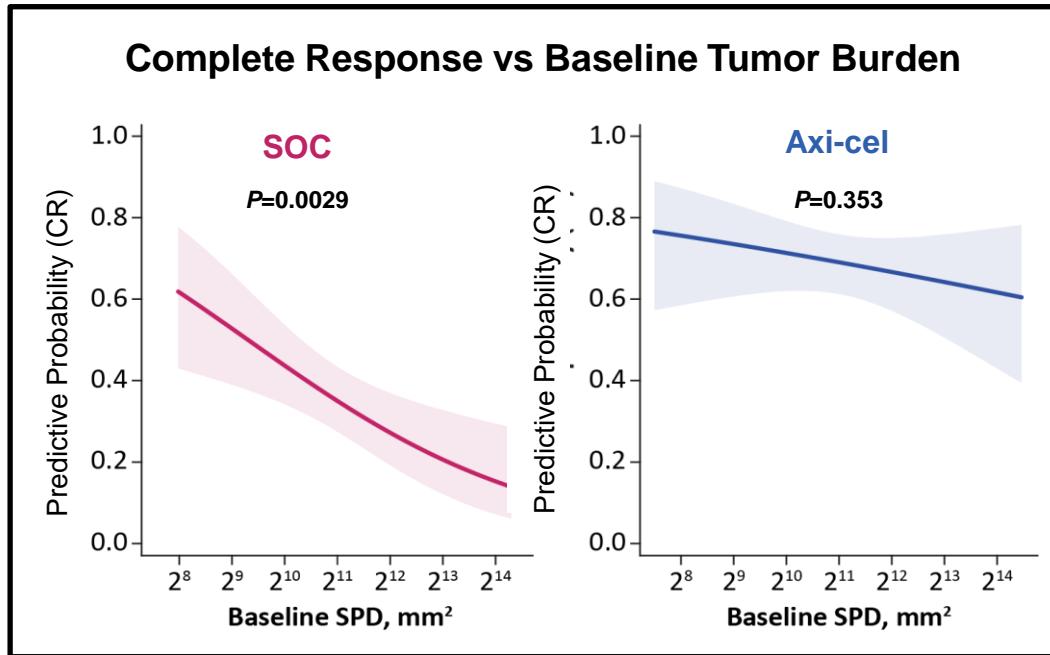


## Frage:

Ist es für das Therapieergebnis unerheblich, ob die PatientInnen vor der CAR-T-Zelltherapie eine aktive Lymphomerkrankung haben oder ob sie in Remission sind?

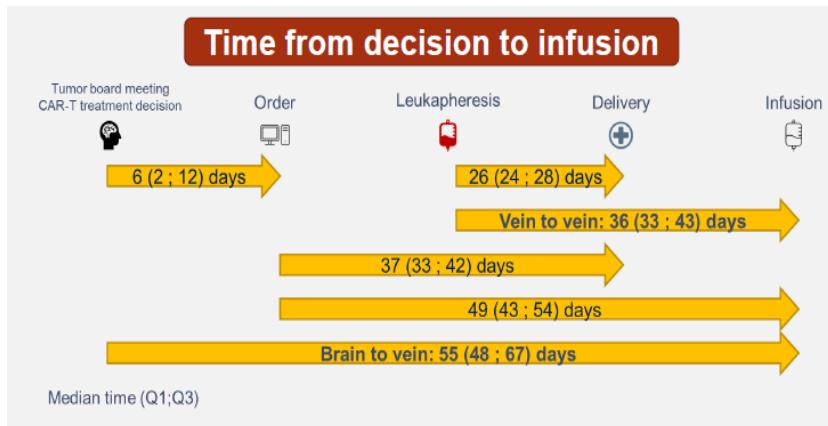
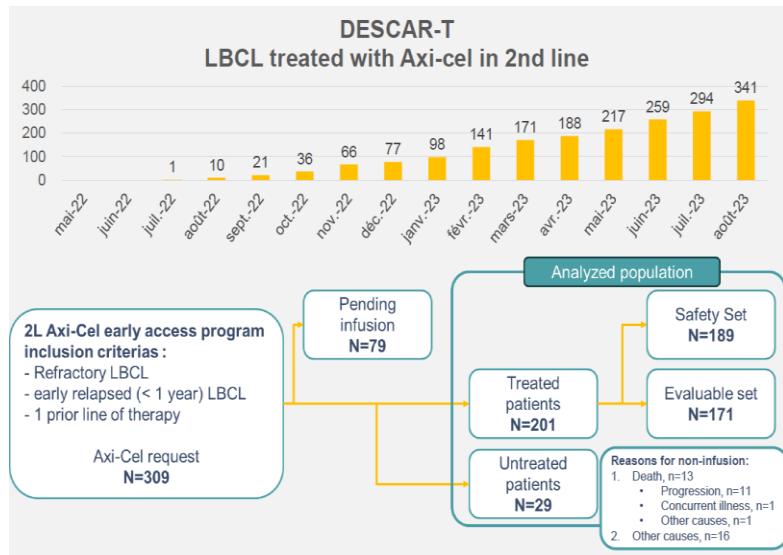
# Phase-III-Studiendaten

ZUMA-7 Tumor Burden Impacted CR Rate in the SOC Cohort,  
but to a much lesser degree in the CAR-T-cell treated cohort



# „Real-World“-Data

Axicabtagene ciloleucel as second line therapy for patients with large b cell lymphoma: first results of a Lysa study from the French Descar-t registry (Lysa, Descar-t)



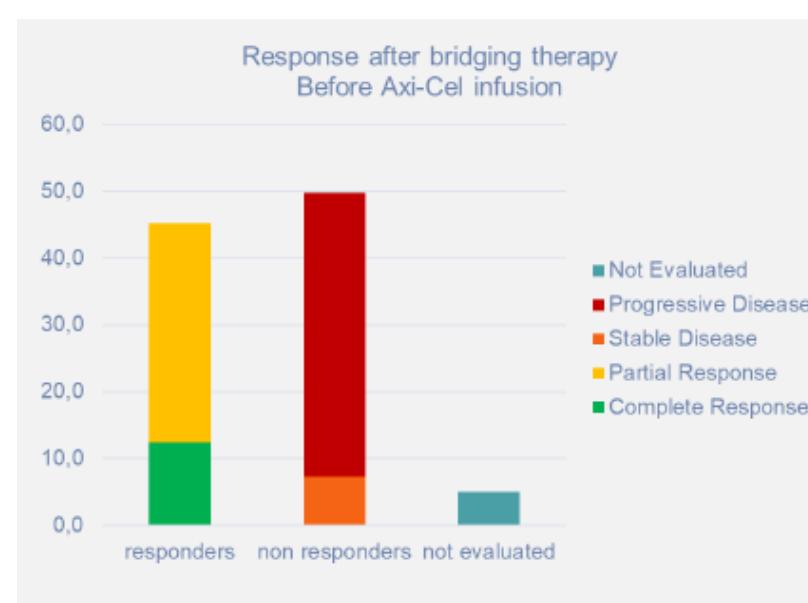
55 Tage sind eine lange Zeit.

# Frage:

## Geht es so wie in der ZUMA-7-Studie ohne Bridging?

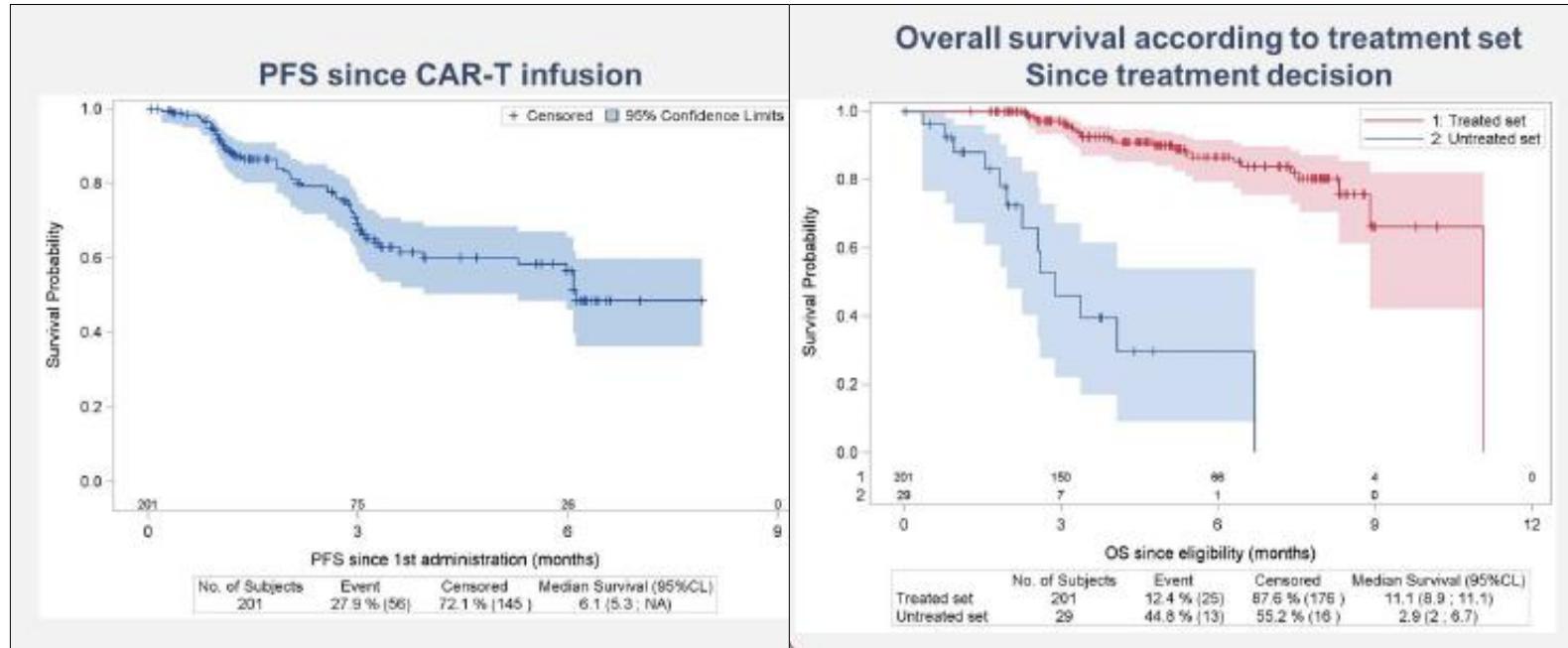
Bridging therapy	177	(88.1%)
<b>Number of bridging lines</b>		
1	153	(86.4%)
2	19	(10.7%)
3	4	(2.3%)
4	1	(0.6%)
<b>Type of treatment*</b>		
Monoclonal antibody	155	(87.6%)
Anti-CD20	153	(86.4%)
Chemotherapy	162	(91.5%)
Platine-based regimen	124	(70.1%)
Radiotherapy	14	(7.9%)
IMiD	11	(6.2%)
Kinase inhibitor	14	(7.9%)
Corticosteroids	13	(7.3%)

\* Several treatment possible



# Frage:

## Wie ist die Wirksamkeit?



→ Tumorkontrolle vor CAR-T-Zelltherapie könnte doch vorteilhaft sein.

# Phase-III-Studie

TRANSFORM: Outcomes by receipt of *bridging therapy* in the liso-cel group (safety set)

	Liso-cel group (n = 92)
Patients who received bridging therapy by regimen, n (%)	58 (63)
R-ICE	29 (32)
R-GDP	16 (17)
R-DHAP	13 (14)
Reasons for receiving bridging therapy <sup>a</sup> , n (%)	58 (63)
High tumor burden	28 (30)
Rapid progression	23 (25)
Other	7 (8)

# Phase-III-Studie

TRANSFORM: Outcomes by receipt of *bridging therapy* in the liso-cel group (safety set)

	Liso-cel group		
	PET-positive disease after bridging therapy (n = 47) <sup>b</sup>	PET-negative disease after bridging therapy (n = 9) <sup>c</sup>	No bridging therapy (n = 34)
Best overall response, n (%)			
CR	31 (66)	8 (89)	22 (65)
PR	9 (19)	0	8 (24)
SD	3 (6)	0	1 (3)
PD	2 (4)	1 (11)	2 (6)
Nonevaluable	2 (4)	0	1 (3)
Median EFS, months (IQR)	8.4 (4.3–NR)	NR (6.1–NR)	11.7 (4.9–NR)
Median PFS, months (IQR)	9.5 (4.4–NR)	NR (6.1–NR)	14.8 (6.2–NR)
Median OS, months (IQR)	NR (0.3–NR)	NR (NR–NR)	NR (NR–NR)

# Therapievorbereitung (bridging therapy)

## Fazit

- Bridging ist in der Regelversorgung oft erforderlich, da die Zeit zwischen Indikationsstellung und Therapie unverändert zu lang ist (55 Tage sind realistisch).
- Es gibt relativ starke Hinweise, dass die Lymphomkontrolle vor CAR-T-Zelltherapie für die Überlebensparameter (EFS, PFS, OS) einen positiven Einfluss hat.
- Offen bleibt daher die Frage nach dem „wie“, nicht so sehr die Frage nach dem „ob überhaupt“.

→ Die Frage nach dem „wie“ ist aktuell unbeantwortet, da es dazu keine belastbaren Daten gibt und es unverändert individuelle Entscheidungen sind.



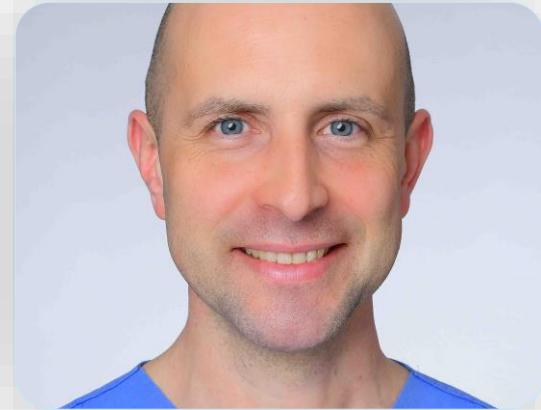
# Akut-Toxizität und infektiöse Komplikationen

# Vorstellung

## **Prof. Dr. Boris Böll**

Facharzt für Innere Medizin, Hämatologie und Onkologie,  
Intensivmedizin

- Oberarzt an der Klinik I für Innere Medizin der Uniklinik Köln
- Studienarzt der Deutschen Hodgkin Studiengruppe (GHSG)

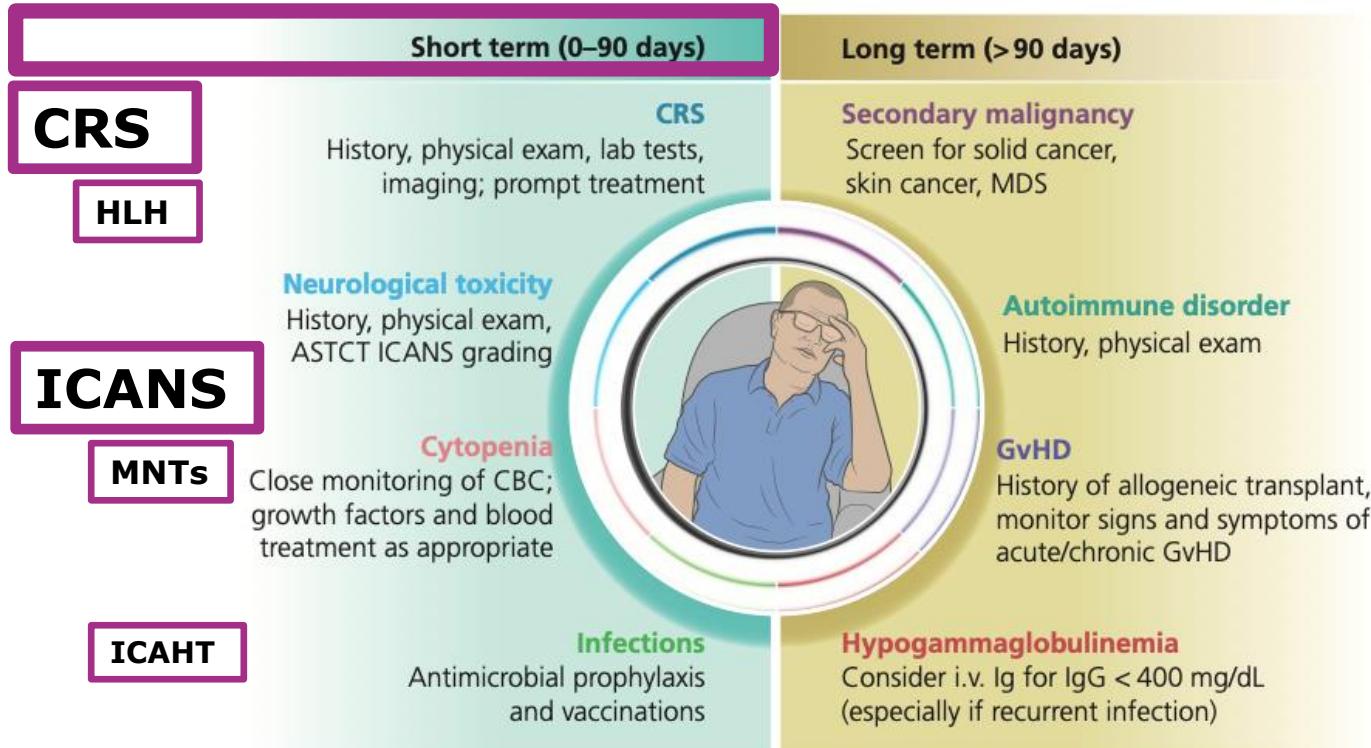


# Interessenkonflikte Prof. Böll

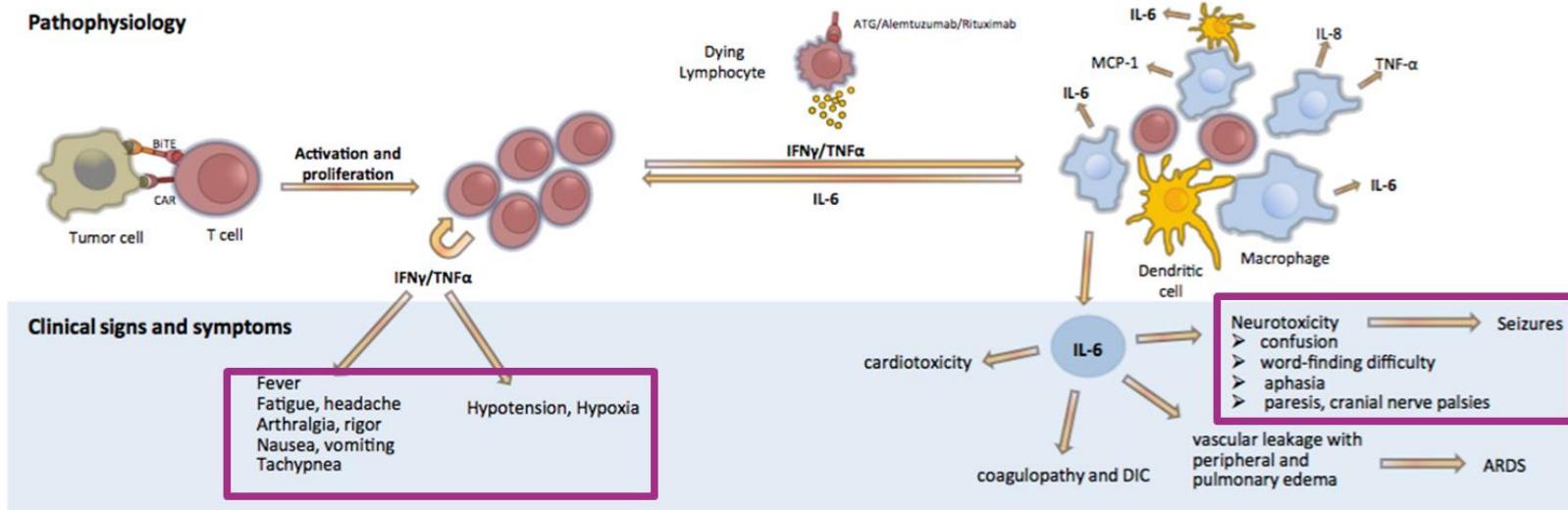
Prof. Böll hat in den letzten 12 Monaten Zuwendungen von folgenden Unternehmen erhalten:

- Beratungs- bzw. Gutachtertätigkeit:  
Amgen, Celgene, Janssen, Kite/Gilead, Miltenyi, MSD, Mundipharma, Noscendo, Novartis, Pfizer, Takeda
- Honorare:  
Amgen, Astellas, Celgene, J&J, Kite/Gilead, MSD, Novartis, Noscendo, Pfizer, Takeda
- Finanzierung wissenschaftlicher Untersuchungen:  
Astellas, Celgene, Kite/Gilead, MSD, Takeda

# CAR-T-cells – common side effects...



# CRS/ICANS – mechanism



# Frequency of CRS/ICANS (CD19 –CAR T-cells) in studies

**TABLE 1.** CRS and ICANS in Clinical Trials of US Food and Drug Administration–Approved CAR T-Cell Products

Disease	Study	CAR T Product	Costim Domain	Target	CRS		ICANS					
					All Grades, %	Grade ≥ 3, %	Start Day	Median Duration Days	All Grades, %	Grade ≥ 3, %	Start Day	Median Duration Days
LBCL	ZUMA-1	Axicabtagene ciloleucel	CD28	CD19	92	11	2	8	67	32	5	17
LBCL	JULIET	Tisagenlecleucel	41BB	CD19	58	22	3	7	21	12	6	14
LBCL	TRANSCEND NHL 001	Lisocabtagene maraleucel	41BB	CD19	42	2	5	5	30	10	9	11
iNHL	ZUMA-5	Axicabtagene ciloleucel	CD28	CD19	nr	11	4	nr	nr	17	7	nr
MCL	ZUMA-2	Brexucabtagene autoleucel	CD28	CD19	91	15	2	11	63	31	7	12
ALL	ELIANA	Tisagenlecleucel	41BB	CD19	77	47	3	8	40	13	nr	6
ALL	ZUMA-3	KTE-X19	CD28	CD19	89	24	5	7	60	25	9	7
MM	KarMMa	Idecabtagene vicleucel	41BB	BCMA	84	6	1	5	18	3	2	3
MM	CARTITUDE-1	Ciltacabtagene autoleucel	41BB	BCMA	95	4	7	4	21	3	8	4

# ASTCT consensus grading and management

Cytokine Release Syndrome					Immune Effector Cell-Associated Neurotoxicity Syndrome							
ICU	Therapy	Hypoxia	Low Blood Pressure	Fever ≥38°C	ICE score	Alert status	Seizure	Cerebral oedema	Therapy	ICU		
No necessary	If grade 1 persists 3 days, consider Tocilizumab	Absent	Absent	Present	Grade 1	7-9	Awakens spontaneously	Absent	Absent	Close monitoring	Alert your ICU and neurologist	
Alert your ICU	Tocilizumab	If present, only requires O2 supplement ≤6l/min	Present Does not require vasopressors	Present	Grade 2	3-6	Awakens to voice	Absent	Absent	DXM * If associated CRS ≥1 → administer also Tocilizumab	Alert your ICU and neurologist	
Management in ICU	Tocilizumab and DXM	If present, requires O2 supplement >6l/min	Present Requires 1 vasopressor	Present	Grade 3	0-2	Awakens only to tactile stimulus	Focal, generalised but fast resolution, non convulsive seizure in EEG	Focal/local oedema on neuroimaging (without bleeding)	DXM * If associated CRS ≥1 → administer also Tocilizumab	Management in ICU	
Management in ICU	Tocilizumab and, DXM or High Dose MP	If present, requires positive pressure (CPAP, BPAP, mechanical ventilation)	Present Requires ≥ 2 vasopressors (excluding vasopressin)	Present	Grade 4	Patient is unable to perform ICE score	Patient is unarousable or requires vigorous stimuli	Life-threatening prolonged seizure (>5 min) or repetitive electric seizures without return to normal activity	Diffuse cerebral oedema on neuroimaging; decerebrate or decorticate posturing; or papilloedema; or cranial nerve IV palsy or Cushing's triad.	High dose MP * If associated CRS ≥1 → administer also Tocilizumab	Management in ICU	

**Figure 1** The American Society for Transplantation and Cellular Therapy (ASTCT) consensus grading and recommended management for cytokine release syndrome (CRS) and neurological toxicity associated with immune effector cells (ICANS). DXM, Dexamethasone; ICE, immune effector cell-associated encephalopathy; ICU, intensive care unit; MP, Methylprednisolone.

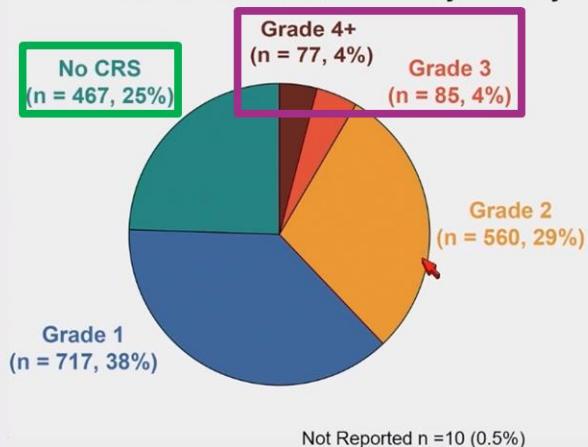
# Real life toxicity of CD19-CAR-T (DESCAR-T, France)

ASTCT GRADE		N=705
CRS	all grades (%)	587 (83,3)
	grade ≥3 (%)	61 (8,6)
	median time to CRS	2 days (Q1-Q3: 1-4)
ICANS	median time to resolution	6 days (Q1-Q3: 4-9)
	all grades (%)	289 (41)
	grade ≥3 (%)	78 (11)
ICU	median time to ICANS	6 days (Q1-Q3: 4-8)
	median time to resolution	7 days (Q1-Q3: 5-12)
	admission	180 (25,5%)
mean duration		2 days (Q1-Q3: 0-3)

# Real life toxicity of CD19-CAR-T (CIMBMR; N=1916)

## Distribution of CRS Following CAR T

Distribution of CRS Grades by Severity



Characteristic	Value
Days from CAR T to CRS onset, median (range)	4.0 (1.0-601.0)
Days from CAR T to CRS resolution, median (range)	9.0 (1.0-606.0)
Days from CRS onset to resolution, median (range)	6.0 (1.0-121.0)
Tocilizumab administration	N (%)
No	524 (27.3)
Yes	917 (47.9)
Not reported	475 (24.8)

# Severe CRS – Risk Factors

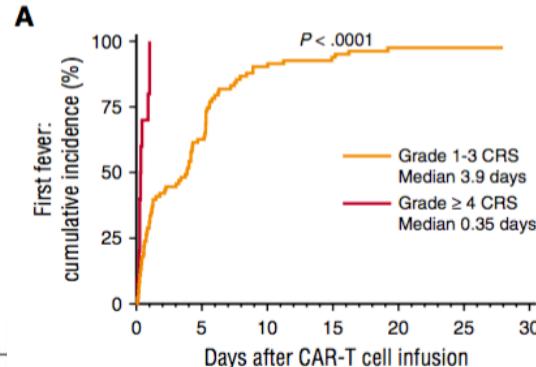
## Konstrukt und Grunderkrankung

- hohe Tumorlast
- vorbestehende Inflammation/Infektion
- hohe CAR-T-Zelldosis/Expansion
- Timing: frühes Fieber
- mEASIX Score, Ferritin, CRP u. a.

Table 2. Characterization of fever in patients who develop CRS

Fever	CRS grade						
	1-3			4-5			
No.	Median	IQR	Range	No.	Median	IQR	Range
No. of patients	83			10			
Fever onset (days after CAR T-cell infusion)	3.9	0.8-5.6	0.1-19	0.4	0.3-0.9	0.2-1.0	
Time to peak temperature (days after CAR T-cell infusion)	5.7	4.3-7.6	0.2-30	2.8	1.3-3.2	0.4-11	
Maximum temperature (°C)	39.4	39.2-39.6	37.7-41.3	40.4	40.1-40.6	39.9-40.9	
Fever duration (days after first fever)	2.5	1.2-4.7	0.02-15	4.4	3.6-5.4	3.1-6.8	

\*Two-sided P values were calculated by using the Wilcoxon test.



# Center-specific management of CAR-T-toxicity

**UNIKLINIK KÖLN | Klinik I für Innere Medizin**

**CAR-T und BiTE Akut Toxizitäten: CRS/ICANS**

CAR-T Tox Team: J. Garcia Borrega, M. Kiehl, J. Schleiffenbaum und B. Böll; Kontakt: boris.boell@uk-koeln.de  
DOI: 10.4126/FRL21-0047289

Stand: 01/2024

**CRS - Cytokine Release Syndrom**  
Gradeinteilung, Diagnostik, Therapie und Management

<b>CRS Grad 1</b>	Isoliertes Fieber, keine Hypotension, grippeähnliche Symptome	Management analog Tocilizumab erwägen	+ Kontaktaufnahme und Rücksprache IMC (85102) oder ITS (88213, 88214)
<b>CRS Grad 2</b>	Fieber, Hypotension (volumenangabe), O-Bedarf > 6L, CRS 1° >24h	Tocilizumab, frühe RS OA ob Start Steroide, zügige Verlegung bei geringem Ansprechen	+ Verlegung IMC oder ITS bahnen
<b>CRS Grad 3</b>	Fieber, Hypotension (Katecholamintherapie) O-Bedarf ≥ 6L/HFO NO CRS 2° >24h	Dexamethason 10 mg alle 6 h i.v. ggfs. Anakinra o.ä. Salvage Medikation	+ Verlegung IMC/ ITS
<b>CRS Grad 4</b>	Fieber, Hypotension (≥ 2 Vasopressoren) O+ PEEP Bedarf (NIV/ITB) CRS 3° >24h	HD-Steroide (1g Methylprednisolon), ggfs. Anästhesie	+ Sofortige Verlegung ITS

**Risikofaktoren für schweres CRS:** Hohes Fieber innerhalb von 36 h nach CAR-T Gabe, hohe Tumorlast (Leukämischer Verlauf, ALL), CAR-T Gabe im Progress, m-EASIX Score

**Management Tocilizumab:** 8 mg/kg KG, maximal 800 mg pro Dosis; Wiederholung maximal 4x alle 8h, maximal 3x in 24h. Bei geringem Ansprechen, frühe Evaluation von Dexamethason

**ICANS - Immune effector cell-associated neurotoxicity syndrome**  
Gradeinteilung, Diagnostik, Therapie und Management

<b>ICANS Grad 1</b>	ICE score: 7-9 Punkte Tremor, Verlangsamung	Dexamethason erneut Tocilizumab nach CRS erwägen, ggfs. weitere neurologische Diagnostik	+ Rücksprache IMC (85102) oder ITS (88213, 88214)
<b>ICANS Grad 2</b>	ICE score: 3-6 Punkte Delir, Somnolenz ICANS 1° >24h	Dexamethason 10mg i.v. alle 6h, bei Ansprechen 1 Tag später Anästhesie o.ä. Salvage Medikation	+ Verlegung IMC/ITS
<b>ICANS Grad 3</b>	ICE score: 0-2 Punkte Krampfanfall, Sopor, lokales Hirnödem	HD-Steriole (Methylprednisolon 1g), ggfs. Anakinra o.ä. Salvage Medikation	+ Sofortige Verlegung ITS
<b>ICANS Grad 4</b>	Lebensdrohlich, diffuses Hirnödem, Status epilepticus	Rescue HD-Steriole, Burst-Suppression-Narkose	+ Sofortige Verlegung ITS

**ICE (Immune Effector Cell-Associated Encephalopathy) SCORE:**  

- Orientierung (max. 4 Punkte); Jahr, Monat, Stadt, Krankenhaus
- 3 Gegenstände benennen (max. 3 Punkte)
- Einfache Aufforderungen befolgen (max. 1 Punkt)
- Standardsatz aufscreiben (max. 1 Punkt)
- Von hundert in Zehnschritten rückwärts zählen (max. 1 Punkt)

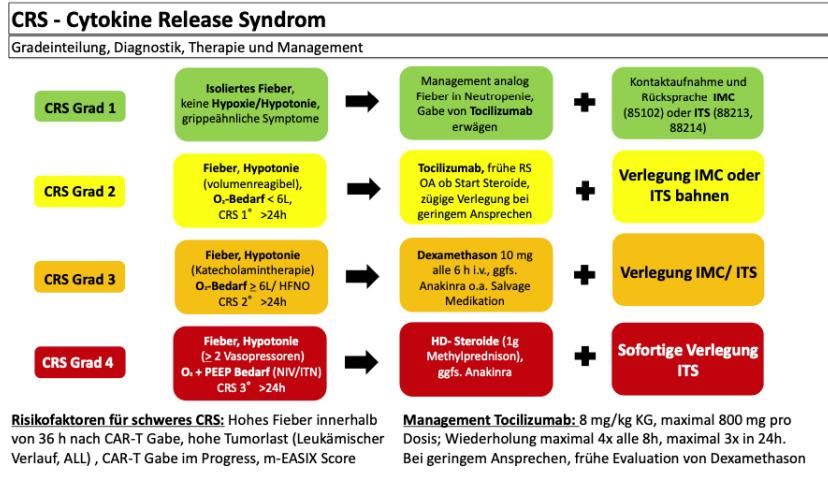
**Risikofaktoren für ein schweres ICANS:** Hohes Fieber innerhalb von 36 h nach CAR-T Gabe, hohe Tumorlast (Leukämischer Verlauf, ALL), CAR-T Gabe im Progress, schweres CRS

**CAR-T und BiTE in Rahmen von Studien: Individuelles Studienprotokoll beachten!**

Reference: Lee DW, Santomaso BD, Locke FL, et al. ASBM Consensus Grading for Cytokine Release Syndrome and Neurological Toxicity Associated with Immune Effector Cells. *Biol Blood Marrow Transplant.* 2018; doi:10.1016/j.bbmt.2018.12.758

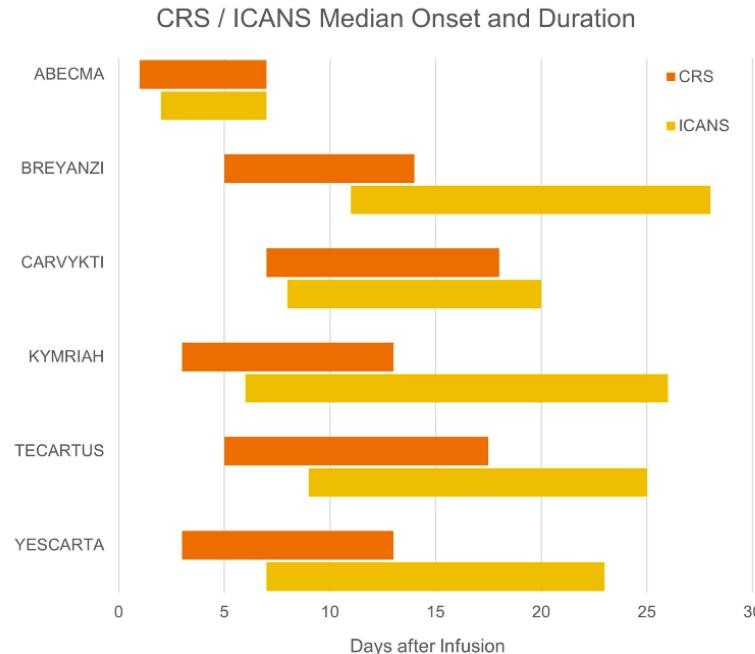


# CRS management UKK



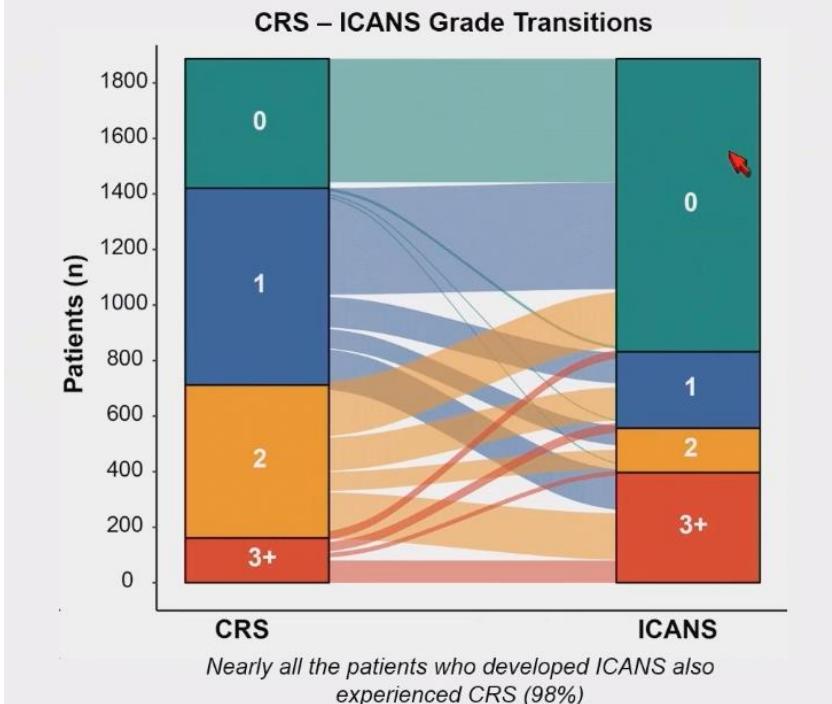
- Lymphodepletion/CAR-T-Gabe auf Normalstation
- CRS Tocilizumab ab Grad 1-2 CRS +/- Steroide
- Kontaktaufnahme IMC/ITS i. d. R. bei persistierendem CRS nach Toci
- repetitive Gabe von Tocilizumab > 2x i. d. R. nicht sinnvoll
- Differentialdiagnosen bedenken
- Ausbleibende Besserung führt zu Steigerung des Schweregrades und zur Reevaluation (DD Infektion, HLH, Progress der Grunderkrankung?).

# Median onset and duration of CRS and ICANS after FDA-approved CAR-T-cell therapies

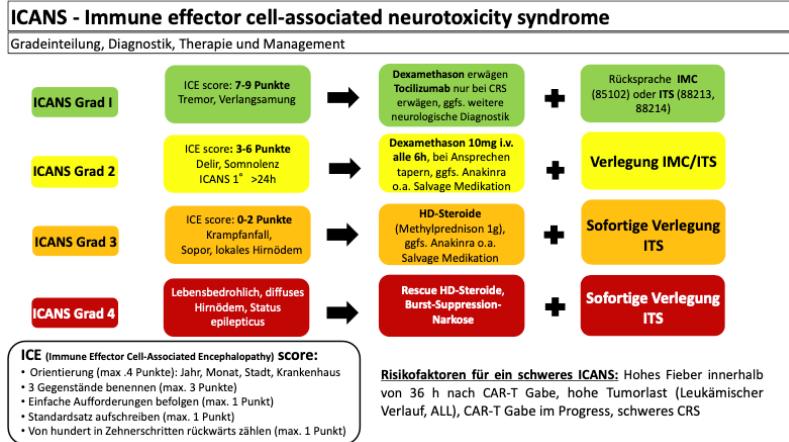


# CRS and ICANS as continuum?

## ICANS Without CRS is Infrequent



# Management of ICANS (UKK)



- Screening nach ICANS (ICE-Score, Nachmittagsvisite mit Pflege, RS Angehörige)
- frühzeitige Verlegung bei ICANS + Diagnostik (CT/MRT, EEG, LP)
- Neuro-Konsil (EEG, MRT?) + Steroide ab Grad 1
- Salvage/Alternative: Anakinra ( HD Steroide i.th., Dasatinib...)
- Ausbleibende Besserung führt zu Steigerung des Schweregrades und zur Reevaluation (DD Infektion, ICB, Progress der Grunderkrankung?).

# ICE-Score: Handwriting

## ICE-Score (Immune Effector cell-associated Encephalopathy)

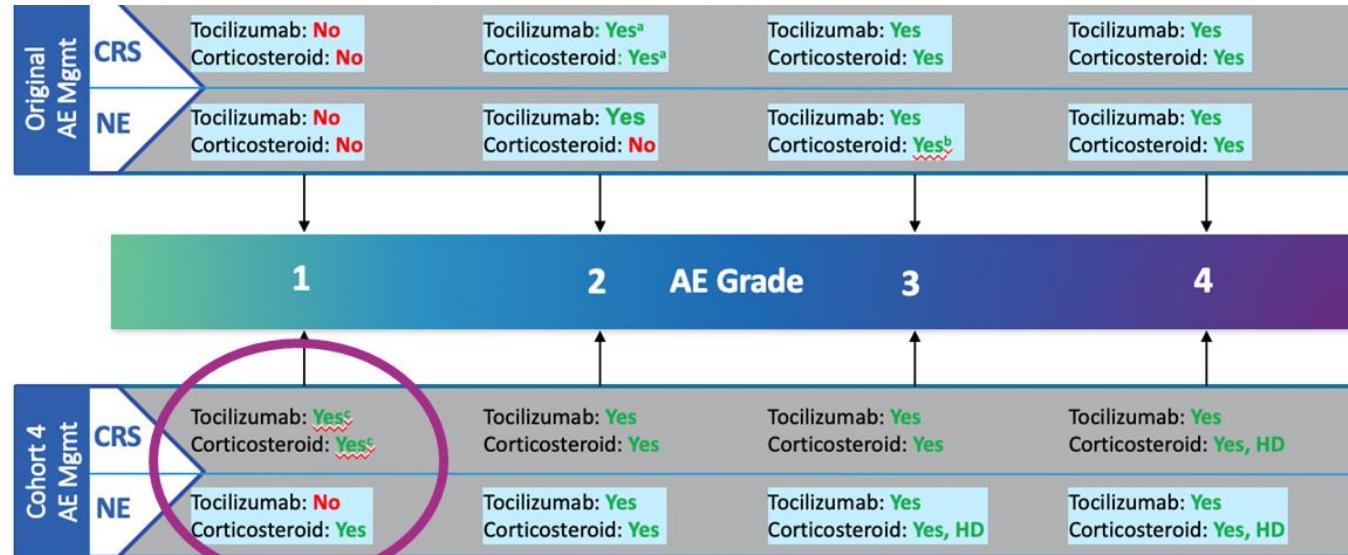
Name:

Datum	Punkte (max. 10)	Jahr, Monat, Stadt, Krankenhaus (4 Pkt.)	3 Gegenstände benennen (3 Pkt.)	Einfache Aufforderung befolgen (1 Pkt.)	Von 100 in 10er-Schritten runterzählen (1 Pkt.)	Standardsatz (immer gleicher Satz), Schriftbild unverändert zu Initialbefund (1 Pkt.)
29.12.2022	10	4	3	1	1	Wann werde ich meine Leukozyten bekommen
30.12.22	10	4	3	1	1	wann werde ich meine Leukozyten bekommen?
31.12.22	10	4	3	1	1	wann werde ich meine Leukozyten bekommen?
01.01.23	10	4	3	1	1	wann werde ich meine Leukozyten bekommen
02.01.23	10	4	3	1	1	wann werde ich meine Leukozyten bekommen
03.01.23	10	4	3	1	1	wann werde ich meine Leukozyten bekommen?
06.01.23	9	4	3	1	0	wann werde ich meine Leukozyten bekommen?
08.01.23	9	4	3	1	0	wann werde ich meine Leukozyten bekommen?
09.01.23	9	4	3	1	0	wann werde ich meine Leukozyten bekommen?
10.01.23	9	4	3	1	0	wann werde ich meine Leukozyten bekommen?
11.01.23	6	2	3	1	0	wann werde ich mich leukozytenoooooooooooooo
12.01.23	9	4	3	1	0	wann werde ich meine Leukozyten bekommen?

Datum: \_\_\_\_\_

Arzt: \_\_\_\_\_

# Earlier use of tocilizumab/steroids (ZUMA-1 cohort 4)



a Only in case of comorbidities or older age.

b Only if no improvement to tocilizumab, use standard dose.

c If no improvement after 3 days.

# Earlier use of tocilizumab/steroids (ZUMA-1 cohort 4)

AE Grade, n (%)		Phase 1 and Phase 2, Cohorts 1 + 2 (N = 108)	Phase 2 Cohort 4 (N = 21)
NEs	Grade 1 or 2	37 (34)	10 (48)
	Grade ≥ 3	35 (32)	2 (10)
CRS	Grade 1 or 2	88 (81)	21 (100)
	Grade ≥ 3	12 (11)	0 (0)

- Lower rate of severe CAR-T-cell treatment-related CRS and NEs
- Lower total cumulative steroid doses

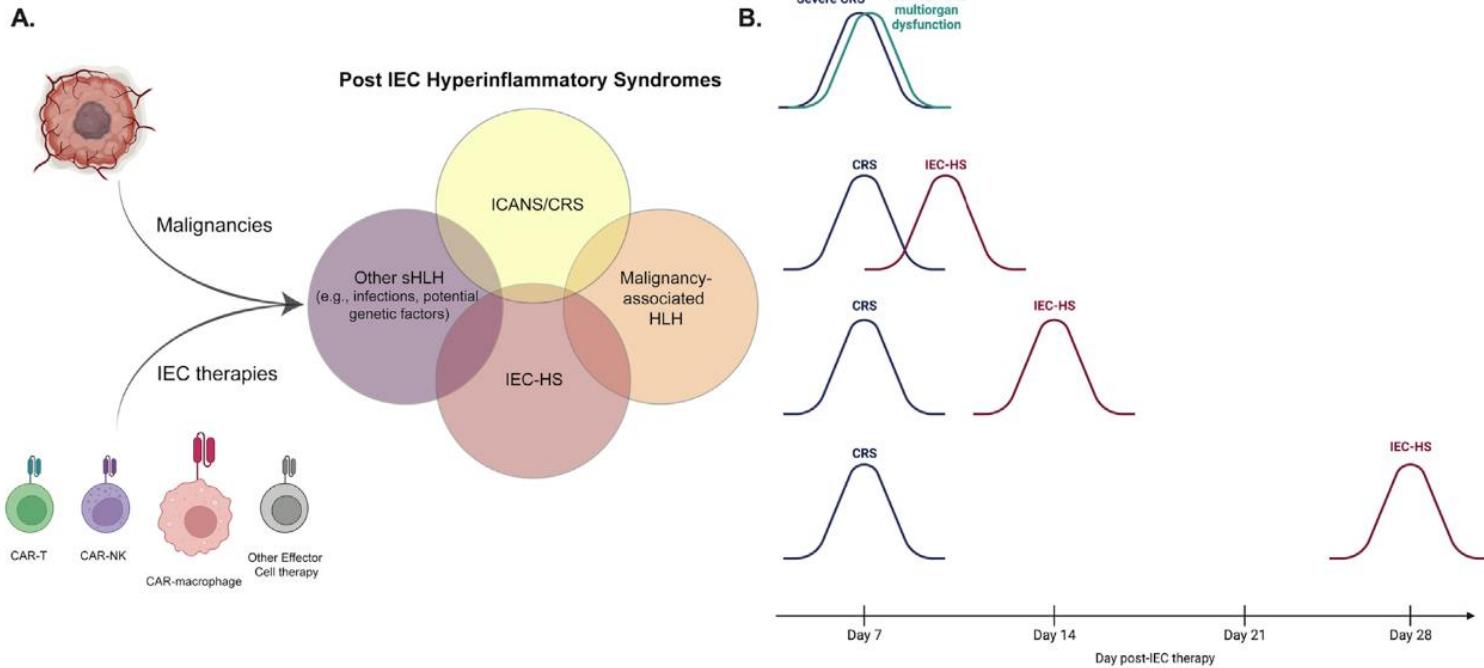
# Earlier use of tocilizumab/steroids (ZUMA-1 cohort 4)

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	Grade ≥ 3	12 (11)	0 (0)

- Lower rate of severe CAR-T-cell treatment-related CRS and NEs
- Lower total cumulative steroid doses

Investigator Assessment, n (%)		Phase 2 Cohorts 1 and 2 (N = 101)	Phase 2 Cohort 4 (N = 21)
ORR		84 (83)	17 (81)
CR		59 (58)	13 (62)
PR		25 (25)	4 (19)
SD		10 (10)	1 (5)
PD		5 (5)	3 (14)
Not evaluable		2 (2)	0

# Immune Effector Cell-associated HLH-like syndrome (IEC-HS)



# Immune Effector Cell-associated HLH-like syndrome (IEC-HS)

## ASTCT expert consensus

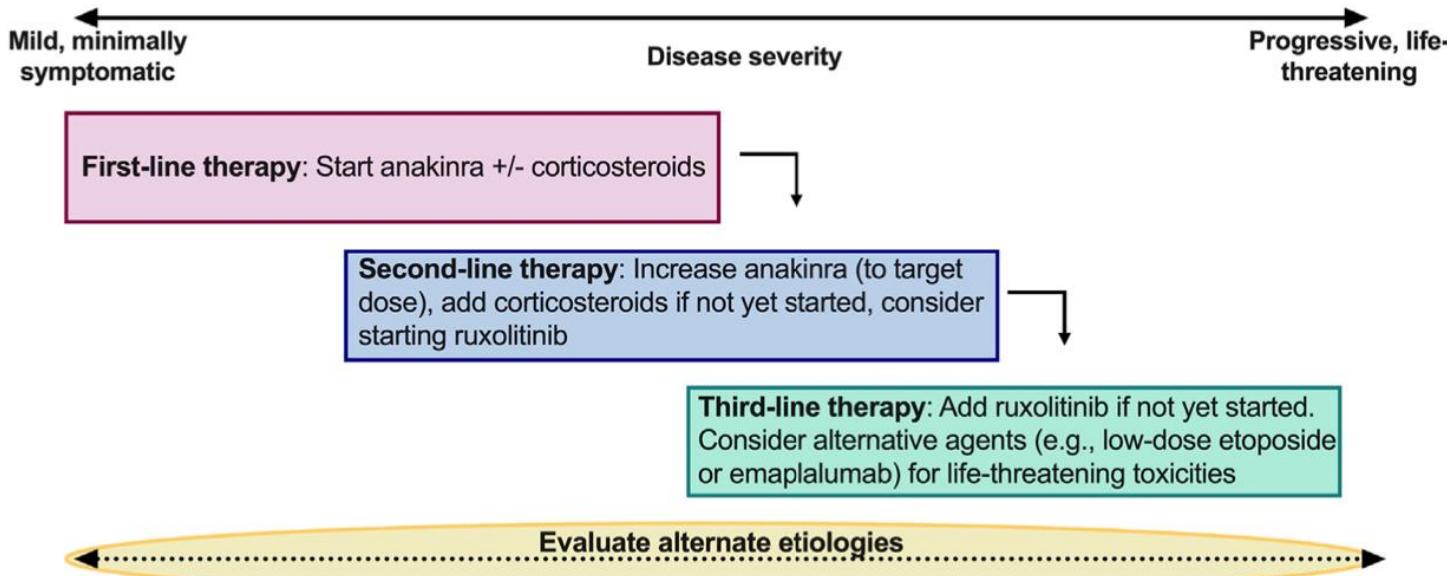
Table 1

IEC-HS: Definition and Identification

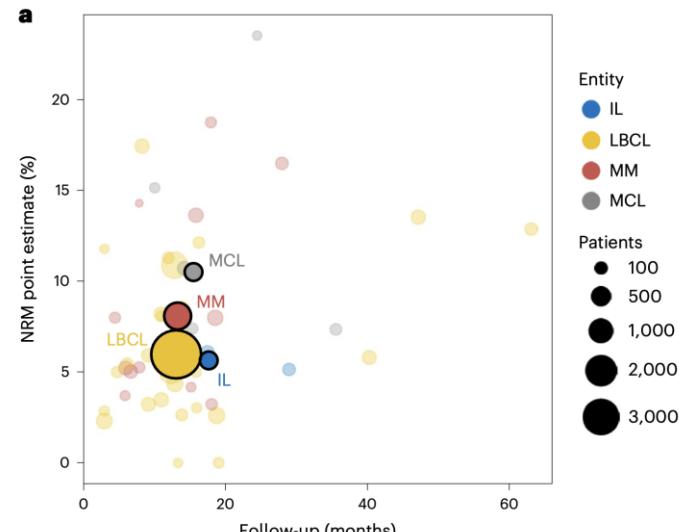
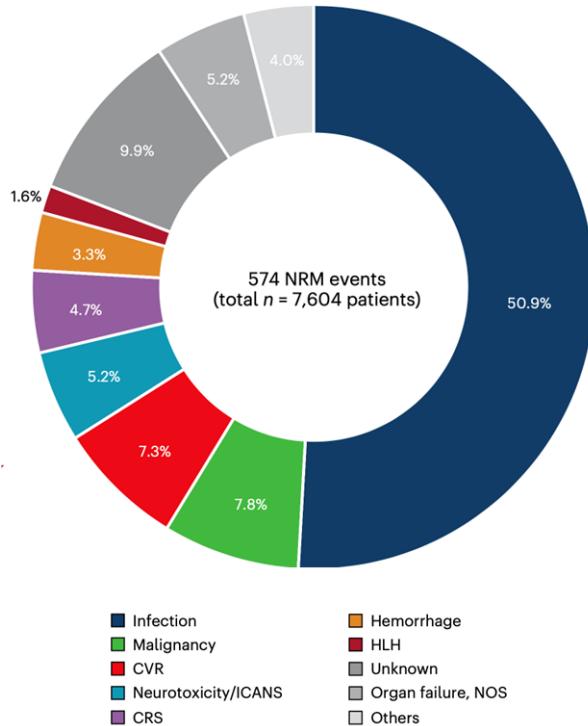
Definition of IEC-HS	The development of a pathological and biochemical hyperinflammatory syndrome independent from CRS and ICANS that (1) manifests with features of macrophage activation/HLH, (2) is attributable to IEC therapy, and (3) is associated with progression or new onset of cytopenias, hyperferritinemia, coagulopathy with hypofibrinogenemia, and/or transaminitis
<b>Criteria for Identifying IEC-HS*</b>	<b>Clinical/Laboratory Manifestations</b>
Most common manifestations <sup>†</sup>	Required: elevated ferritin (>2 × ULN or baseline (at time of infusion)) and/or rapidly rising (per clinical assessment) Onset with resolving/resolved CRS or worsening inflammatory response after initial improvement with CRS-directed therapy <sup>‡</sup> Hepatic transaminase elevation <sup>§</sup> (>5 × ULN (if baseline was normal) or >5 × baseline if baseline was abnormal) Hypofibrinogenemia (<150 mg/dL or <LLN) <sup>  </sup> Hemophagocytosis in bone marrow or other tissue <sup>  </sup> Cytopenias (new onset, worsening, or refractory <sup>¶</sup> )
Other manifestations that may be present	Lactate dehydrogenase elevations (>ULN) Other coagulation abnormalities (eg, elevated PT/PTT) Direct hyperbilirubinemia New-onset splenomegaly Fever (new <sup>#</sup> or persistent) <sup>  </sup> Neurotoxicity Pulmonary manifestations (eg, hypoxia, pulmonary infiltrates, pulmonary edema) Renal insufficiency (new onset) Hypertriglyceridemia (fasting level, >265 mg/dL) <sup>  </sup>

# Immune Effector Cell-associated HLH-like syndrome (IEC-HS)

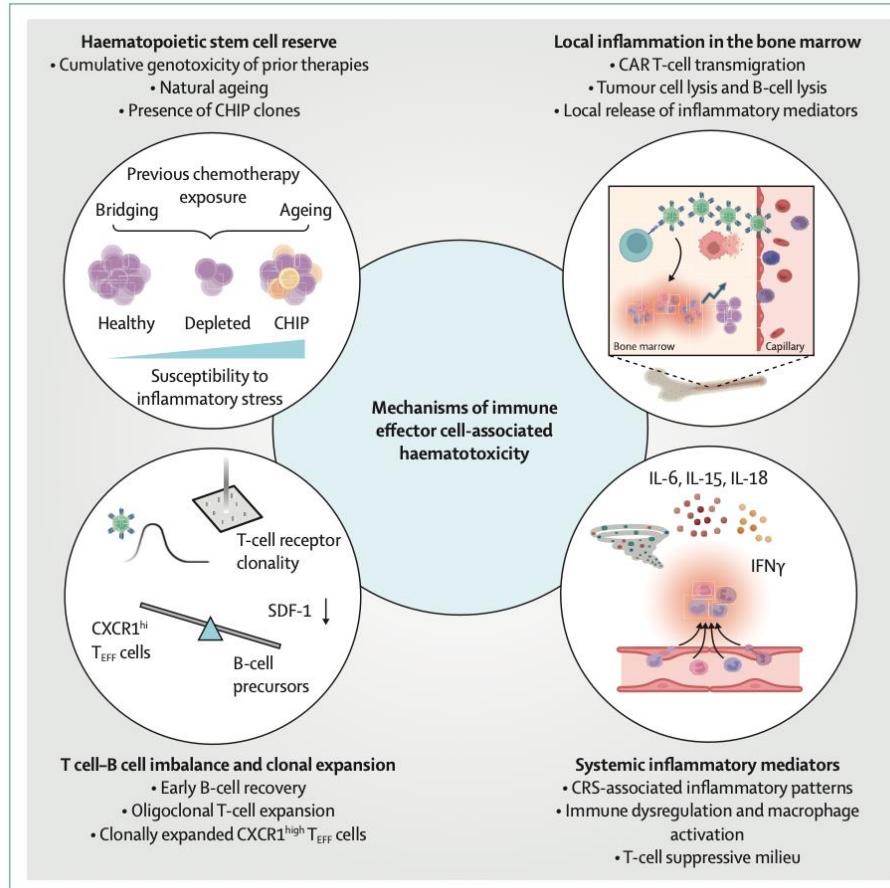
**ASTCT expert consensus**



# Meta Analysis of NRM after CAR-T-cell treatment

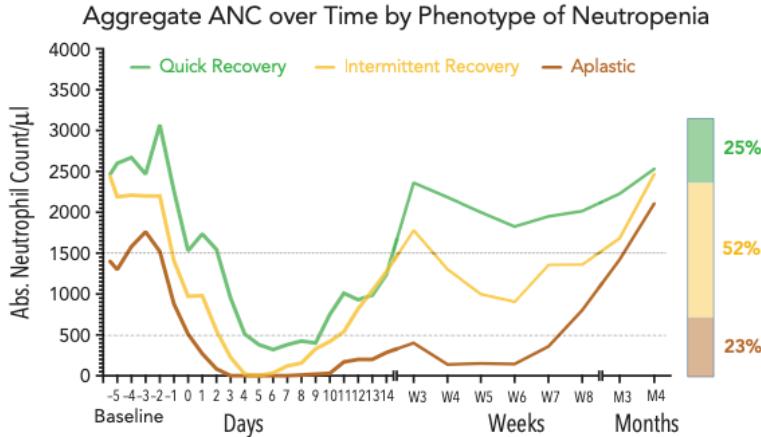


# Cytopenia (ICAHT) – Potential mechanism



# Prolonged cytopenia in CAR-T-cell recipients

D



## IMMUNOBIOLOGY AND IMMUNOTHERAPY

### CAR-HEMATOTOX: a model for CAR T-cell-related hematologic toxicity in relapsed/refractory large B-cell lymphoma

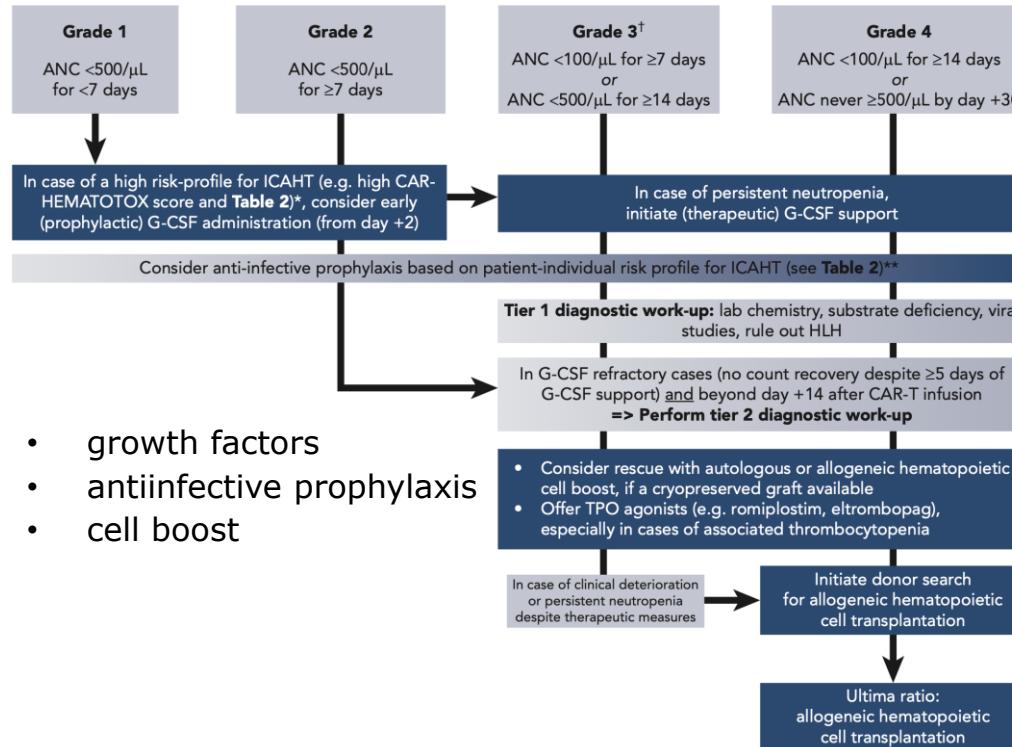
Kai Rejeski,<sup>1-3</sup> Ariel Perez,<sup>4</sup> Pierre Sesques,<sup>5</sup> Eva Hoster,<sup>1,6</sup> Carolina Berger,<sup>7</sup> Liv Jentzsch,<sup>8</sup> Dimitrios Mougialakos,<sup>9</sup> Lisa Fröhlich,<sup>1,3</sup> Josephine Ackermann,<sup>1</sup> Veit Bücklein,<sup>1,2</sup> Viktoria Blumenberg,<sup>1,2</sup> Christian Schmidt,<sup>1</sup> Laurent Jallades,<sup>5</sup> Boris Fehse,<sup>7</sup> Christoph Faul,<sup>8</sup> Philipp Karschnia,<sup>3,10</sup> Oliver Weigert,<sup>1,3</sup> Martin Dreyling,<sup>1</sup> Frederick L. Locke,<sup>6</sup> Michael von Bergwelt-Baldon,<sup>1,3</sup> Andreas Mackensen,<sup>9</sup> Wolfgang Bethge,<sup>8</sup> Francis Ayuk,<sup>7</sup> Emmanuel Bachy,<sup>5</sup> Gilles Salles,<sup>5</sup> Michael D. Jain,<sup>4</sup> and Marion Subklewe<sup>1-3</sup>

- Patterns of hematopoietic reconstitution (n=258, US+Europe)
- Neutropenia ANC < 100/ml in 72 %, median duration 9 days
- ≥ 21 days neutropenia in 64 %
- Predictors: base thrombocytopenia ( $r=-0.43$ ;  $P = .001$ ), hyperferritinemia ( $r=0.54$ ;  $P < .0001$ )
- Age, Incidence and Severity of CRS, ICANS or peak cytokine levels not associated

# ICAHT – EBMT recommendations (work up)

	<b>Categories</b>	<b>Putative causes</b>	<b>Test</b>	<b>Time points</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>TIER 1</b>	<b>Lower threshold to perform – minimal workup</b>				
	<b>Poor bone marrow reserve</b>	Prior treatments including allo-HCT, fludarabine, marrow infiltration	Complete blood count (CBC), reticulocyte production index (RPI), peripheral blood smear	Routinely	Recommended
	<b>Medication – drug side effects</b>	Check for concomitant myelosuppressive medications		Routinely	
	<b>Vitamin deficiencies</b>	Vitamin B12, folic acid	Serum levels	Routinely	Recommended
	<b>Rule out infections</b>	Bacterial/viral/fungal infections	Blood cultures, CMV PCR, procalcitonin, CD4 <sup>+</sup> T-cell, IgG, B-cell levels	Routinely	Recommended
	<b>Rule out macrophage-activation syndrome*</b>	CRS/MAS or IEC-HS	Serum ferritin, triglycerides	Routinely	Recommended
<b>TIER 2</b>	<b>Subsequent work-up – In case of G-CSF refractory state, if tier 1 results are negative and/or risk factors are present</b>				
	<b>Viral PCR considering the clinical presentation</b>	Parvovirus	Parvovirus B19 PCR	In case of prolonged anemia	Recommended
		HHV6, JCV	HHV6, JCV PCR blood/CSF	In case of neurologic symptoms	Recommended
		EBV, adenovirus, HSV	PCR	In case of HLH	Recommended
	<b>Bone marrow disease</b>	(MDS/AML/myelofibrosis) or relapse	BM aspirate, biopsy, flow cytometry, immunohistochemistry, cytogenetics, NGS	In case of prolonged cytopenia	Recommended
		Relapse of leukemia/lymphoma	Flow cytometry peripheral blood / bone marrow, including B-cell panel	Routinely	Recommended
	<b>Other causes</b>	Other rare hematologic diseases, myeloid diseases, PNH, autoimmune processes	Myeloid panel, GPI-linked structures, direct antiglobulin test (DAT)	In case of suspected MPN/PNH/autoimmune processes	Recommended

# ICAHT – EBMT recommendations (grading and treatment)



- growth factors
- antiinfective prophylaxis
- cell boost



LeitMed  
Campus

Langzeit-Toxizität,  
Sekundärmalignome und  
Rezidivtherapie

# Vorstellung

## Prof. Dr. Max Topp

Facharzt für Innere Medizin, Hämatologie und Onkologie

- Schwerpunktleiter der Hämatologie und Leiter des CAR-T-Zellprogramms in der Medizinischen Klinik und Poliklinik II des Universitätsklinikums Würzburg



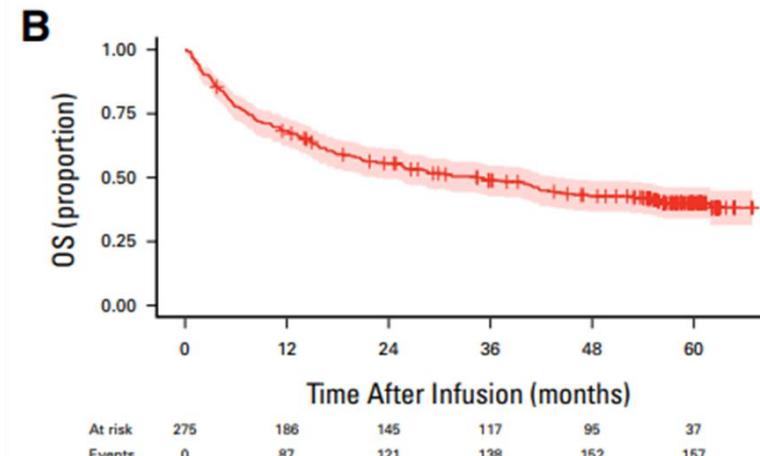
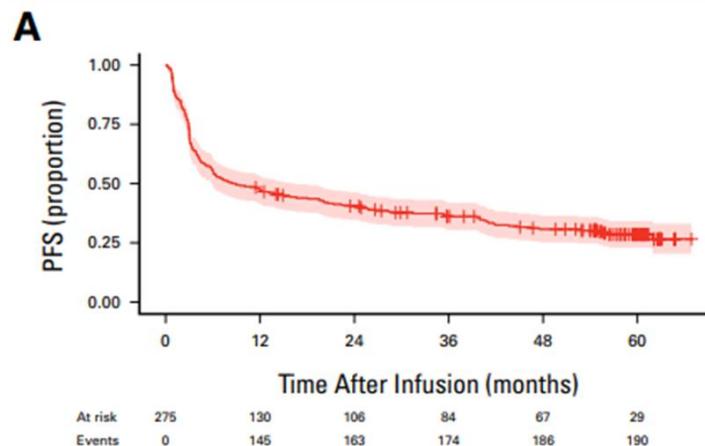
# Interessenkonflikte Prof. Topp

Prof. Topp hat in den letzten 12 Monaten Zuwendungen von folgenden Unternehmen erhalten:

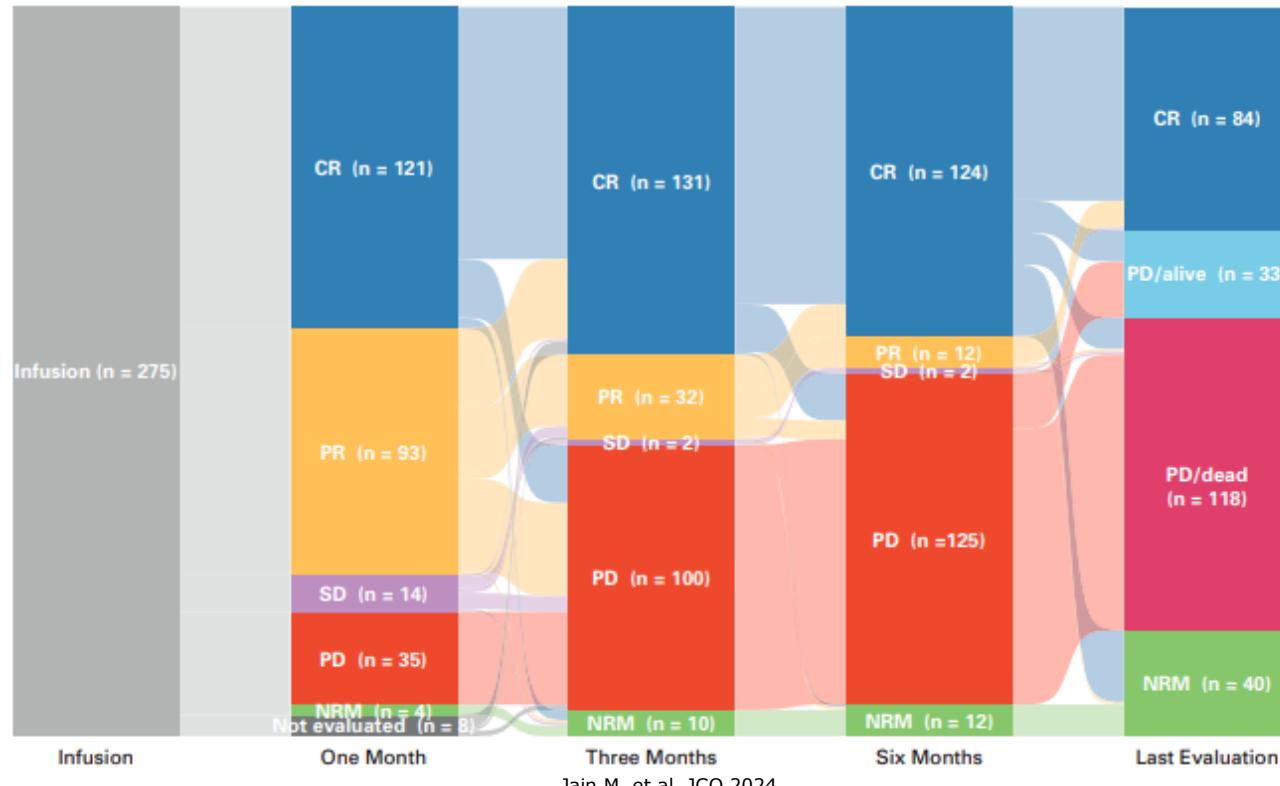
- Beratungs- bzw. Gutachtertätigkeit:  
Astra Zeneca, Beigene, Gilead, Incyte, Janssen
  
- Finanzierung wissenschaftlicher Untersuchungen:  
Astra Zeneca, Abbvie, Janssen, KITE, Regeneron, Roche

# Five Year Follow-Up of Standard of Care Axicabtagene Ciloleucel for Large B-Cell Lymphoma:

**Results from the US Lymphoma CAR Consortium**



# Faith of patients being treated with Axicabtagene Ciloleucel



# Cause of NRM

TABLE 2. Causes of Death by Year After Axi-Cel Infusion

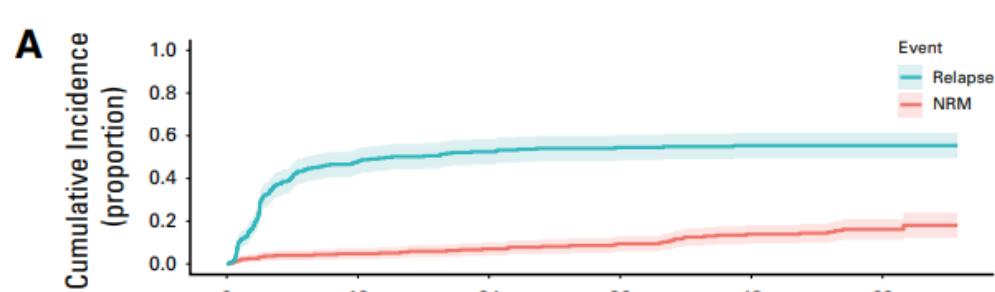
Cause of Death	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6 or Later	Total
Progressive disease	74	28	11	4	1	0	118
Infection	8	2	4	6	1	0	21
Secondary malignancy	0	3	1	3	1	1	9
CAR-T toxicity <sup>a</sup>	3	0	0	0	0	0	3
Unknown/Other <sup>b</sup>	2	1	1	1	2	0	7

NOTE. Infectious causes of death (n = 21) included unclassified infection (n = 6), pneumonia (n = 5), bacterial sepsis (n = 4), COVID-19 disease (n = 2), candidemia (n = 2), candidemia and concomitant pneumocystis jiroveci pneumonia (n = 1), and JC viral encephalitis (n = 1).

Abbreviations: axi-cel, axicabtagene ciloleucel; CAR, chimeric antigen receptor; HLH, hemophagocytic lymphohistiocytosis.

<sup>a</sup>Includes HLH, cerebral edema, and intracranial hemorrhage.

<sup>b</sup>Unknown = 6, suicide = 1.



# Cause of NRM

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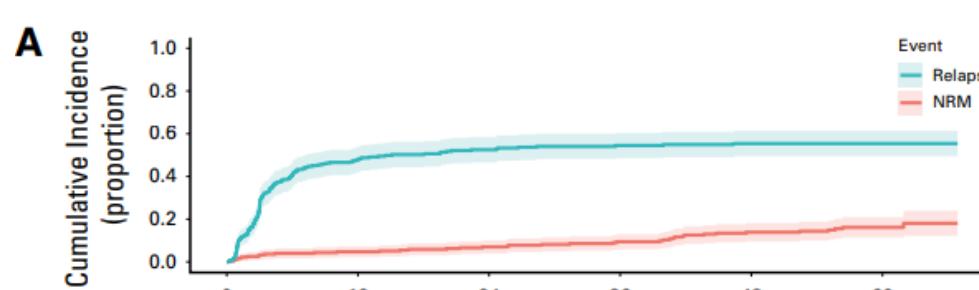
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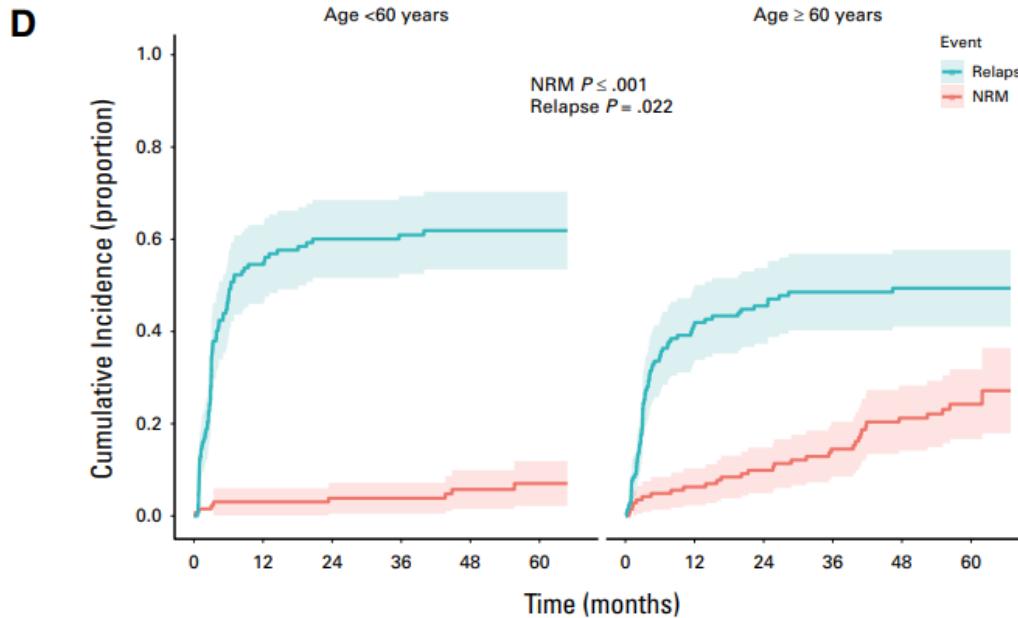
Abbreviations: axi-cel, axicabtagene ciloleucel; CAR, chimeric antigen receptor; HLH, hemophagocytic lymphohistiocytosis.

<sup>a</sup>Includes HLH, cerebral edema, and intracranial hemorrhage.

<sup>b</sup>Unknown = 6, suicide = 1.



# Relapse versus NRM as Cause of Death in Younger and Older DLCBL Patients



# tMN after Axicabtagene Ciloleucel

TABLE 3. tMN After Axi-Cel

Patient	Diagnosis	Lymphoma Progression	Time to tMN Diagnosis From Axi-Cel, months	Mutations	Karyotype	Marrow Blasts, %	Risk Stratification	Therapy for tMN	First tMN Regimen	Response to First tMN Regimen	HSCT	OS From tMN Diagnosis (months)	Vital Status
1	CMMI	Yes	29.7	KRAS, RUNX1	Monosomy 7	3	High risk (CPSS mol 5)	Yes	Azacitidine	HI	No	13.3	Dead
2	MDS	No	16.2	TP53, IDH2	Complex	1	6.5	Yes	Decitabine	SD	Yes	7.2	Dead
3	MDS	No	12.6	PPM1D, PM1D, and BCOR	Del 4q	0.5	2.5	No	Epoetin alfa	HI	No	47.9	Dead
4	MDS	No	8.7	KRAS, SRSF2, and PPM1D	NA	1.5	3	No	Sargramostim	NR	No	8.8	Dead
5	MDS	No	8.5	TP53	Complex	1	Low risk (score = 2)	Yes	Decitabine	SD	Yes	19.2	Dead
6	AML	No	11.5	KMT2A, STAG2, and SF1	t(11;19); MLL2	88	Adverse risk per ELN	Yes	Decitabine + venetoclax	CR	Yes	14.1	Dead
7	MDS-EB2	Yes	2.7	PPM1D	Deletion 7	10	Very high	Yes	Decitabine	SD	No	5.5	Dead
8	MDS-MLD	No	1	NA	20q-	2	Low risk (score = 2)	No	Observation	NA	No	34.3	Dead <sup>a</sup>
9	MDS	Yes	18.3	TP53	Complex	2	NA	Yes	Azacitidine	NA	No	1.9	Dead
10	MDS	No	20	NA	Monosomy 7	2	NA	Yes	Azacitidine	SD	No	58.9	Alive
11	MDS	Yes	4.2	NA	Complex	2	NA	Yes	Azacitidine + venetoclax	SD	No	23.7	Dead
12	MDS	No	18.5	NA	Complex	2	NA	Yes	Azacitidine	CR	No	13	Dead
13	Mast cell leukemia	No	64	NA	Monosomy 7	NA	NA	No	NA	NA	No	2	Alive <sup>b</sup>
14	MDS	No	41	NA	Complex	NA	NA	No	NA	NA	No	0.7	Dead
15	AML	No	61.1	NA	Monosomy 7	NA	Adverse risk per ELN	No	NA	NA	No	0.5	Dead

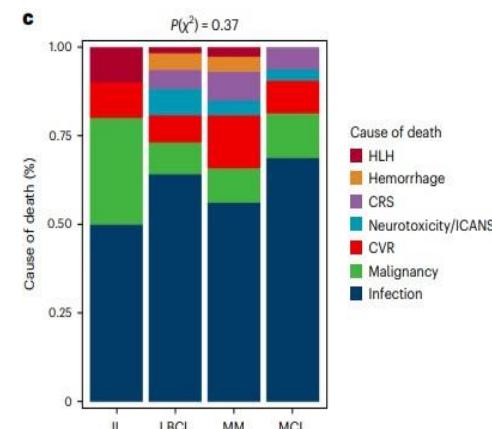
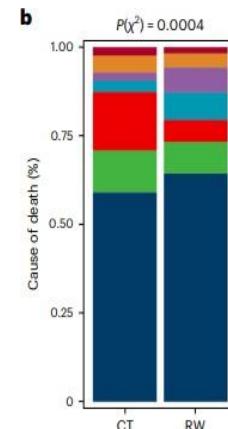
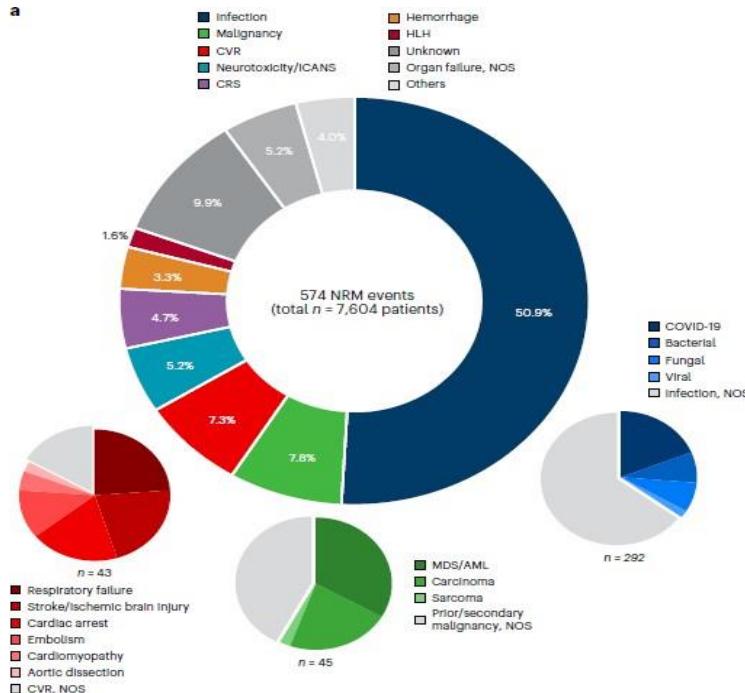
NOTE. Risk stratification for MDS is per R-IPSS, AML per ELN, and CMML per CMML-specific scoring system with molecular features (CPSS Mol).

Abbreviations: axi-cel, axicabtagene ciloleucel; CMML, chronic myelomonocytic leukemia; CR, complete response; ELN, European Leukemia Network; HI, hematologic improvement; HSCT, hematopoietic stem cell transplant; MDS, myelodysplastic syndrome; MLD, multilineage dysplasia; NA, not available; NR, no response; R-IPSS, revised international prognostic scoring system; SD, stable disease; tMN, therapy-related myeloid neoplasms.

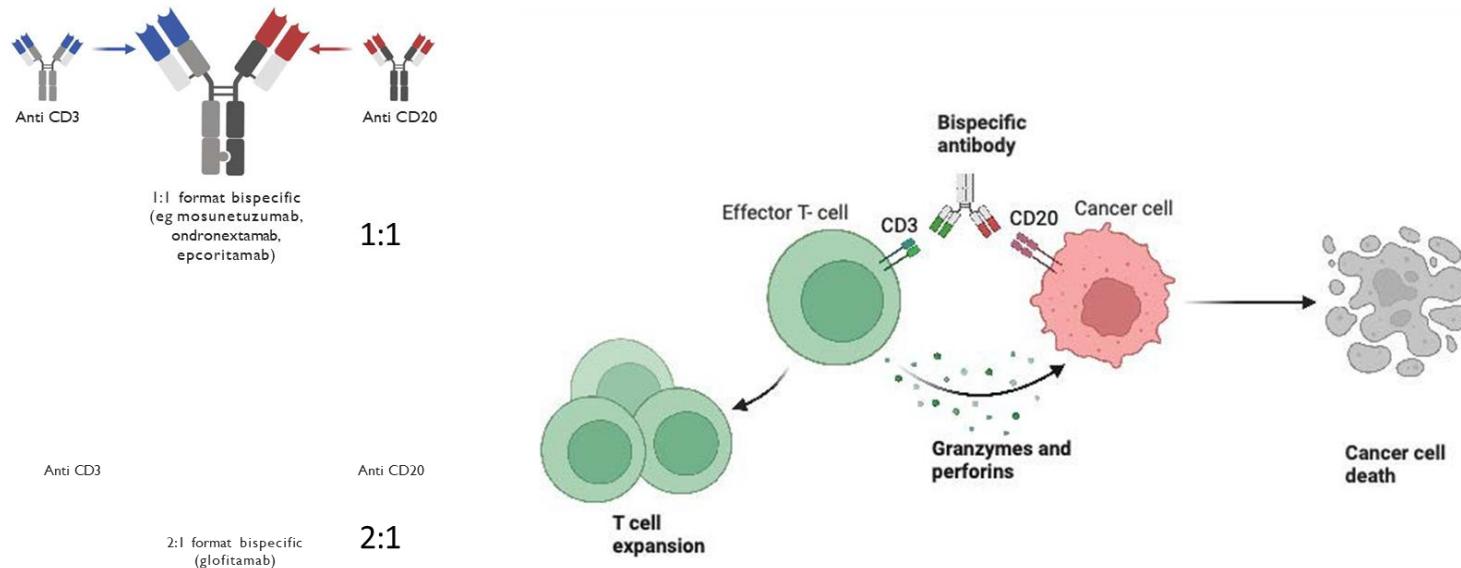
<sup>a</sup>Died of trauma.

<sup>b</sup>In hospice at data cutoff.

# Longterm NRM results are also seen with other CAR-T indications



# How to treat Post-CAR-T relapses?



*T-cell binding, activation, expansion, T-cell mediated target cell death at low receptor occupancy*

# Overview of Clinically Available CD20xCD3 Bispecific Antibodies\*



Name	Format	Technology	CD20:CD3 ratio	CD3 clone	CD20 clone	Fc silencing mutations
<b>Mosunetuzumab</b>	IgG1	Knobs-into-holes (different Fabs)	1:1	UCHT1v9	2H7 (same as rituximab)	Yes
<b>Glofitamab</b>	IgG1	Head-to-tail fusion	2:1	SP34-der.	By-L1 (same as obinutuzumab)	Yes
<b>Epcoritamab</b>	IgG1	Controlled Fab-arm exchange	1:1	huCACAO (SP34-der.)	7D8 (shared by ofatumomab)	Yes (prevents FcγR and C1q binding)
<b>Odronexamab</b>	IgG4	Heavy chains with different affinity	1:1	REG1250	3B9-10 (shared by ofatumomab)	Yes

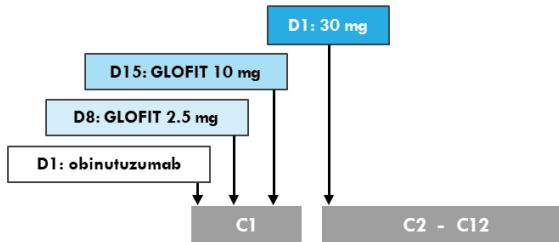
# Glofitamab in 3L+ DLBCL: Expansion Cohort (2.5/10/30 mg)

## Key Inclusion Criteria

- DLBCL NOS, HGBCL, transformed FL or PMBCL
- ≥2 prior therapies (anti-CD20, anthracycline)

## Study Schema

- N=154
- Premedication: acetaminophen, anti H2, and dex or equivalent steroid
- Hospitalization on C1D8 (1<sup>st</sup> GLOFI dose)

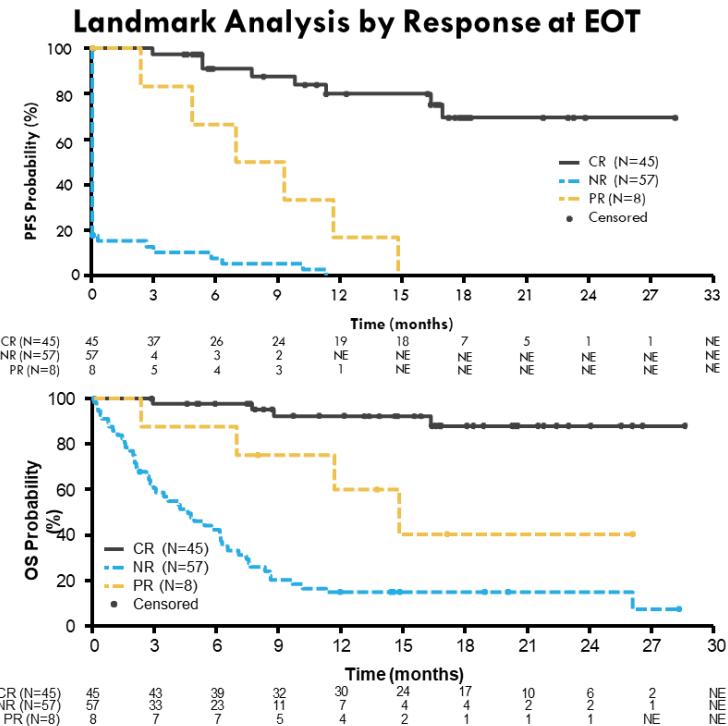
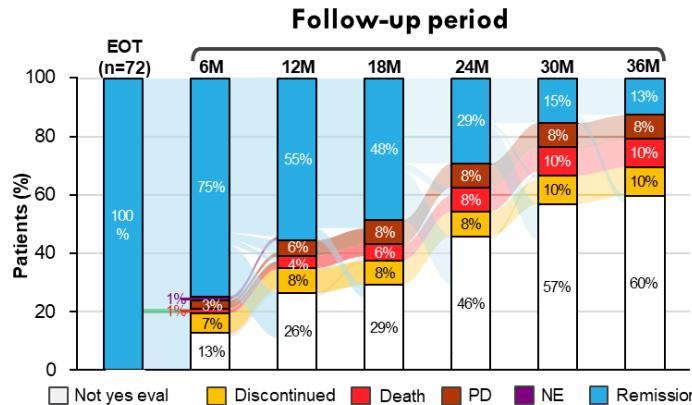


Characteristic	N (%)
Median age, years (range)	66.0 (21 to 90)
DLBCL	110 (71.4)
trFL	27 (17.5)
HGBCL	11 (7.1)
PMBCL	6 (3.9)
Bulky disease	
>6cm	64 (41.6)
>10cm	18 (11.7)
Median no. prior lines, (range)	
2 prior lines	62 (40.3)
≥3 prior lines	92 (59.7)
Prior CAR T	51 (33.1)
Prior ASCT	28 (18.2)
Refractory to prior CAR T	46 (29.9)

# Glofitamab: Responses and Outcomes

Endpoint	IRC (N=155)*
CR, n (%) [95% CI]	62 (40) [32.2 to 48.2]
ORR, n (%) [95% CI]	80 (52) [43.5 to 59.7]
Median follow-up, mos (rng)	18.2 (0 to 33)
Ongoing CRs, n/N (%)	42/62 (68)
Median DoCR, mos (95% CI)	26.9 (18.4 to NE)

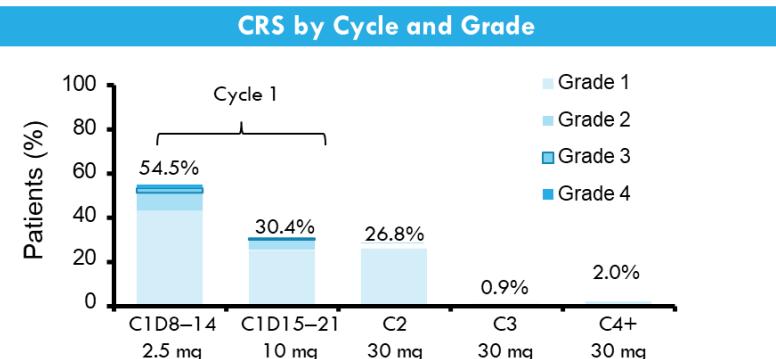
\*ITT population; CI, confidence interval; NE, not estimable.



# Glofitamab: Safety Profile (at the RP2D)

AESI	N (%)
Infections (all grades)	59 (38.3)
Grade ≥3	23 (14.9)
Neutropenia (all grades)	58 (37.7)
Grade ≥3	41 (26.6)
Febrile neutropenia (all grades)	4 (2.6)
Grade ≥3	4 (2.6)
Neurologic AEs (all grades)	59 (38.3)
Grade ≥3	5 (3.2)
ICANS (all grades)	12 (7.8)
Grade ≥3 (CTCAE)	4 (2.6) <sup>§</sup>

CRA Characteristic	n (%)
CRS (any grade)	97 (63.0)
Grade 1	73 (47.4)
Grade 2	18 (11.7)
Grade 3	4 (2.6)
Grade 4	2 (1.3)
Median time to CRS from C1D8, h (range)	13.6 (6.2 to 51.8)
Corticosteroid use	27/97 (27.8)
Tocilizumab use	31/97 (32.0)



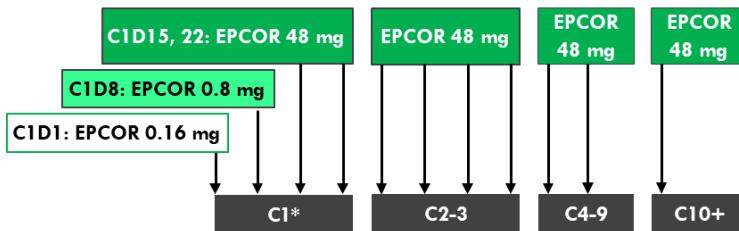
# Epcoritamab in 3L+ DLBCL: Expansion Cohort (0.16/0.8/48 mg)

## Key Inclusion Criteria

- CD20+ B-NHL, including DLBCL, HGBCL, PMBCL, and FL Grade 3B
- ≥2 prior therapies (anti-CD20, anthracycline)
- C1 step-up dosing, target dose 48 mg

## Study Schema

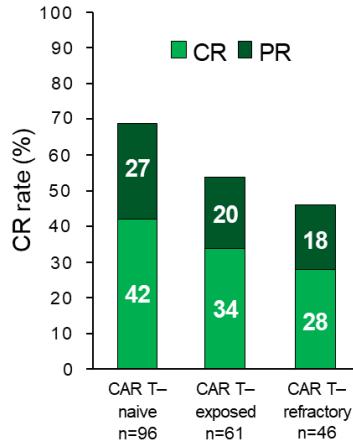
- N=157
- Premed: acetaminophen, anti H2, and prednisone x4 days post-dose
- Hospitalization on C1D15 (1<sup>st</sup> full EPCOR dose)



Characteristic	N=157 (LBCL cohort)
Median age (range), y	64 (20 to 83)
Disease type, n (%)	
DLBCL	139 (89)
De novo	97/139 (70)
Transformed	40/139 (29)
Unknown	2/139 (1)
HGBCL	9 (6)
PMBCL	4 (3)
FL Gr3B	5 (3)
Median n. prior lines (range)	3 (2 to 11)
≥3 Lines of therapy, n (%)	111 (71)
Primary refractory <sup>b</sup> disease, n (%)	96 (61)
Prior ASCT, n (%)	31 (20)
Prior CAR T therapy, n (%)	61 (39)
PD within 6 mos of CAR T	46/61 (75)

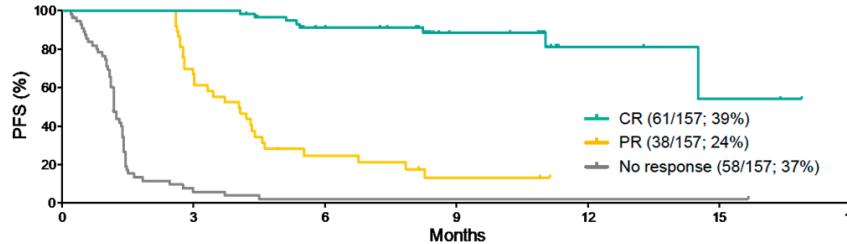
# Epcoritamab: Responses and Outcomes

Response	All LBCL patients (n=157)
ORR	99 (63%) [95% CI: 55 to 71]
CR rate	61 (39%) [95% CI: 31 to 47]

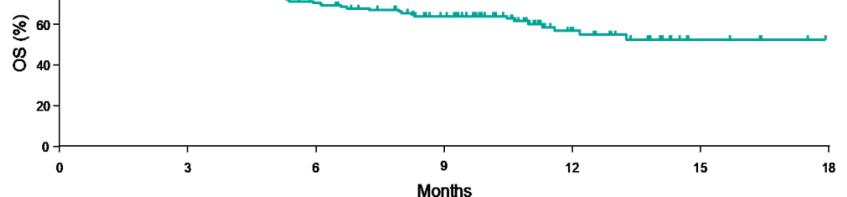


Median Follow-up: 10.7 mos

Median PFS, mo (95% CI)	4.4 (3.0 to 7.9)
Complete responders in CR at 9 mos	89%



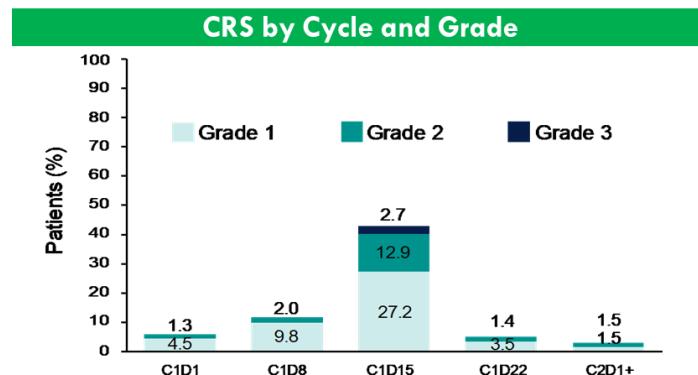
Median OS	Not reached
OS at 12 mos, % (95% CI)	56.9 (47.3 to 65.4)



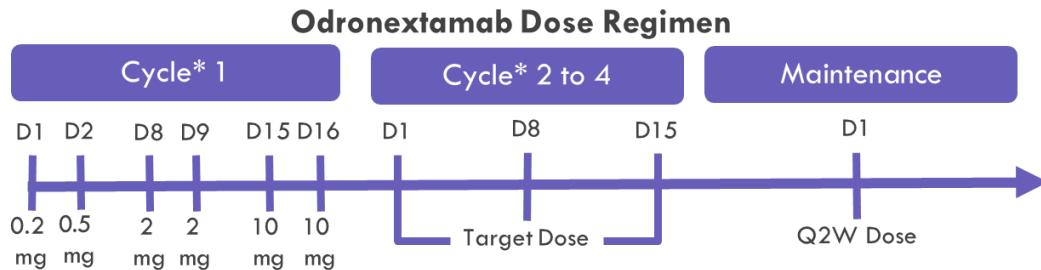
# Epcoritamab: Safety Profile

AE ( $\geq 15\%$ )	%
Neutropenia	28
Grade $\geq 3$	21
Anemia	18
Grade $\geq 3$	10
Fatigue	23
Diarrhea	20
Injection site reactions	20
ICANS	6

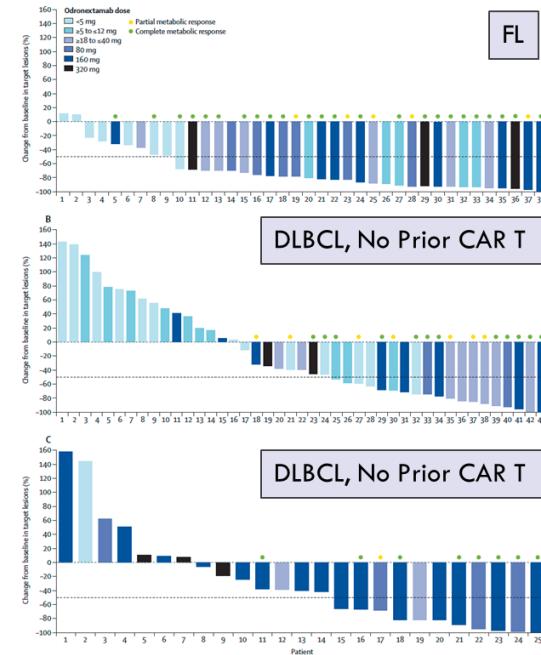
CRS Characteristic	n (%)
CRS events, n (%)	78 (49.7)
• Grade 1	50 (31.8)
• Grade 2	24 (15.3)
• Grade 3	4 (2.5)
Median time to onset from first full dose, d	0.8 (20 h)
Median time to resolution from first full dose, d	2 (48 h)
Treated with tocilizumab, n (%)	22 (14.0)



# Odronextamab in Patients with R/R B-NHL



Characteristic (N=145)	% or median (range)
Median age, years	67 (57 to 73)
DLBCL	59
FL	28
MCL	8
MZL	4
N. prior therapies	3 (2 to 5)
Previous CAR T	29
Double refractory (anti-CD20 Ab and alkylators)	69



# CRS Mitigation and Incidence Across CD20xCD3 BsAb Trials\*

Drug	N	Population	Route (target dose)	Mitigation strategies during Cycle 1			% CRS	% TocI use
Mosunetuzumab	90	FL, R/R	IV (30 mg)	Step-up dosing	Hospitalization	Other	G1 G2 G3 G4	
				Yes	Optional		45	8
				Yes	Optional		15	10
Glofitamab	154	DLBCL, R/R	IV (30 mg)	Yes	Mandatory	Obinutuzumab	45	32
					Mandatory	Obinutuzumab	15	24
Epcoritamab	157	LBCL, R/R	SC (48 mg)	Yes	Mandatory	Post-dose steroids	45	28
Odronextamab	145	B-NHL, R/R	IV (0.5 to 320 mg)	Yes	Mandatory	Split-dose	55	5

0    15    30    45    60

# PRIOR CAR-T – Complete remissions

## Epcoritamab

- CAR-T naive: 42 %
- Exposed: 34 %

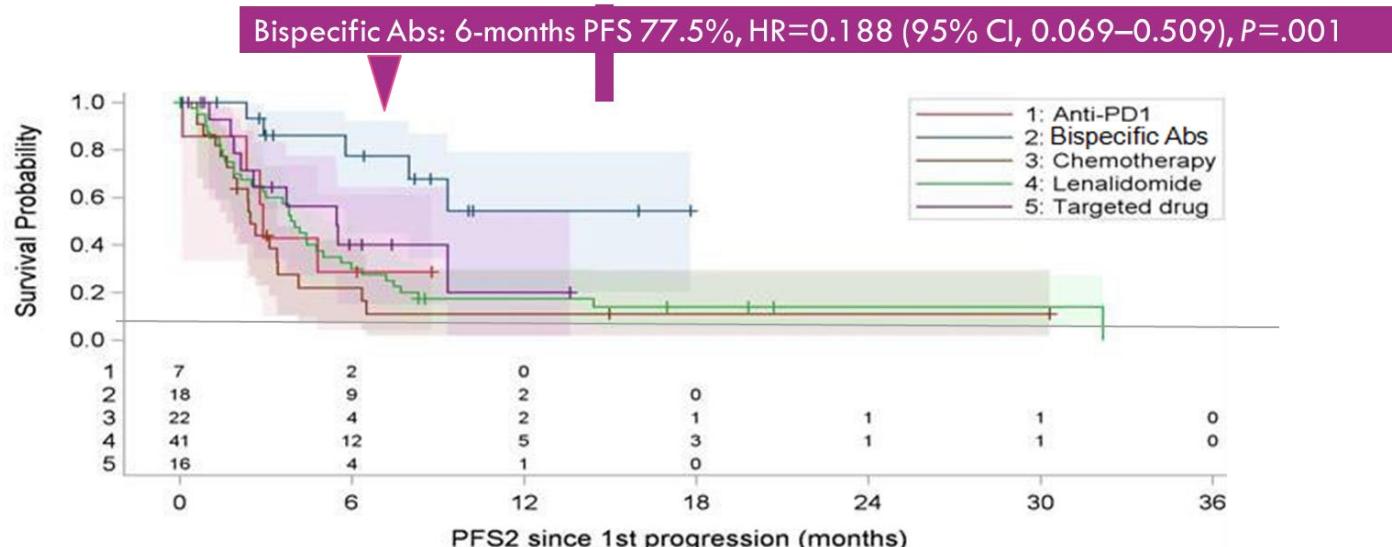
## Glofitamab

- CAR-T naive: 42 %
- Exposed: 35 %

## Ondroextamab

- CAR-T naive: 35 %
- Exposed: 32.3 %

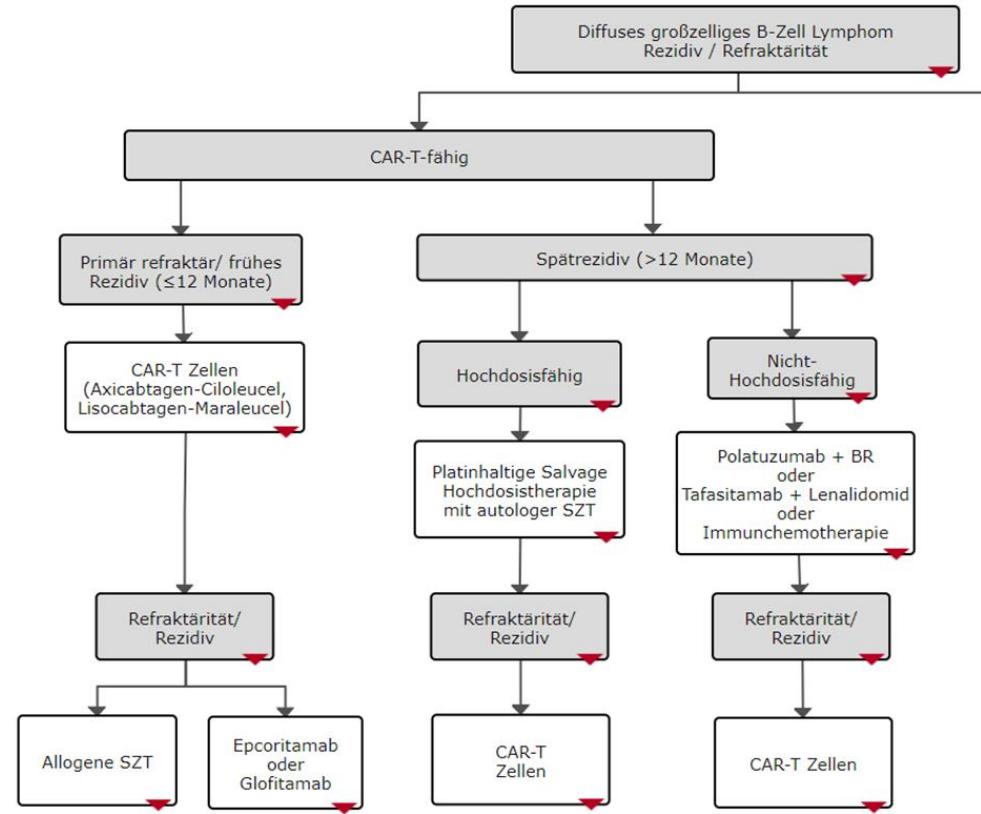
# PFS After Late CAR-T-Cell Therapy Failure by Treatment Group (DESCAR-T Registry)



	No. of Subjects	Event	Censored	Median Survival (95%CL)
Anti-PD1	7	71.4 % (5)	28.6 % (2)	2.9 (0.1 ; NA)
<b>Bispecific Abs</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>27.8 % (5)</b>	<b>72.2 % (13)</b>	<b>Not reached (5.8 ; NA)</b>
Chemotherapy	22	81.8 % (18)	18.2 % (4)	2.5 (1.6 ; 3.4)
Lenalidomide	41	85.4 % (35)	14.6 % (6)	3.9 (2.5 ; 5)
Targeted drug	16	56.3 % (9)	43.8 % (7)	5.5 (1.9 ; NA)

\* BTK Inhibitors, MALT-1 inhibitors, anti-CD19, anti-CD38, second CAR T-cells infusion, others  
Erbella F, et al. Blood. 2022;140(Suppl 1):1325-1327.

# Onkopedia Guidelines 2024





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# Q&A-Lounge: Offene Fragerunde

# Q&A-Lounge

## Fragen Sie die Experten!



**Prof. Borchmann**  
**(UK Köln)**

- Therapievorbereitung  
(bridging therapy)



**Prof. Böll**  
**(UK Köln)**

- Akut-Toxizität
- infektiöse  
Komplikationen



**Prof. Topp**  
**(UK Würzburg)**

- Langzeit-Toxizität
- Sekundärärmalignome
- Rezidivtherapie



**LeitMed**  
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Vielen Dank für Ihre Teilnahme.

# So schließen Sie die CME erfolgreich ab:

 zu den Vortragsfolien

 zum Vortragsvideo

 zum Wissenstest



- Bearbeiten Sie das gesamte Fortbildungsmaterial.
- Absolvieren Sie den Wissenstest mit mindestens 70 % richtigen Antworten.
- Geben Sie uns ein kurzes Feedback über den Feedbacklink.
- Ihre Teilnahmebestätigung wird unter "Meine CME" für den Download hinterlegt.

# Hinweis: weitere CME der Reihe

## **CAR-T-Zelltherapie – Grundlagen & Patientenidentifikation**

aufgenommener Fachvortrag mit Prof. Dr. Penack, 2 CME-Punkte, [hier klicken](#)

## **CAR-T-Zelltherapie – Überweisungsprozess & ambulante Nachsorge**

aufgenommener Fachvortrag mit Prof. Dr. Penack, 2 CME-Punkte, [hier klicken](#)

Es wird empfohlen, alle Kurse zu durchlaufen, es ist jedoch nicht verpflichtend. Jede CME kann einzeln absolviert werden. Insgesamt können bis zu **6 CME-Punkte** erworben werden.