

# 2023 UPDATES IN LIGHT CHAIN (AL) AMYLOIDOSIS

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11<sup>th</sup> Feb 2023

# Disclosures

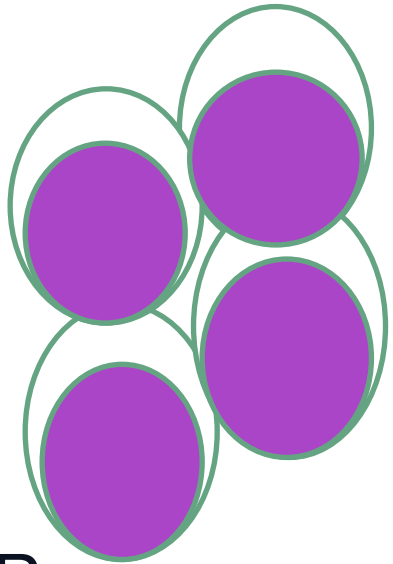
- Clinical Trial Support: Abbvie, Sanofi, Takeda, Janssen, Novartis, Regeneron, TeneoBio, CAELUM, Prothena
- Ad Board and Consulting fees: BMS, Janssen, Prothena

# Objectives

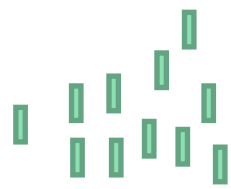
- AL amyloidosis staging and response assessment
- Treatment of newly diagnosed and relapsed/refractory AL
- Supportive care

# When you see a newly diagnosed AL amyloidosis

- Subtype the amyloid so you know what you are treating.  
Whenever possible refer to amyloid center
- Know affected organs and numbers to follow
- Treatment of AL amyloidosis
- Supportive care



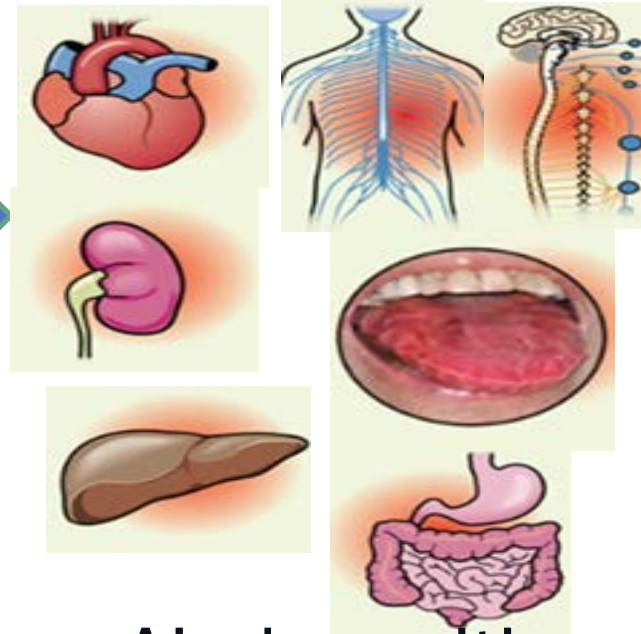
Bone marrow  
plasma cell  
clone



clonal free  
light chains



misfolded  
light chains  
(AL)



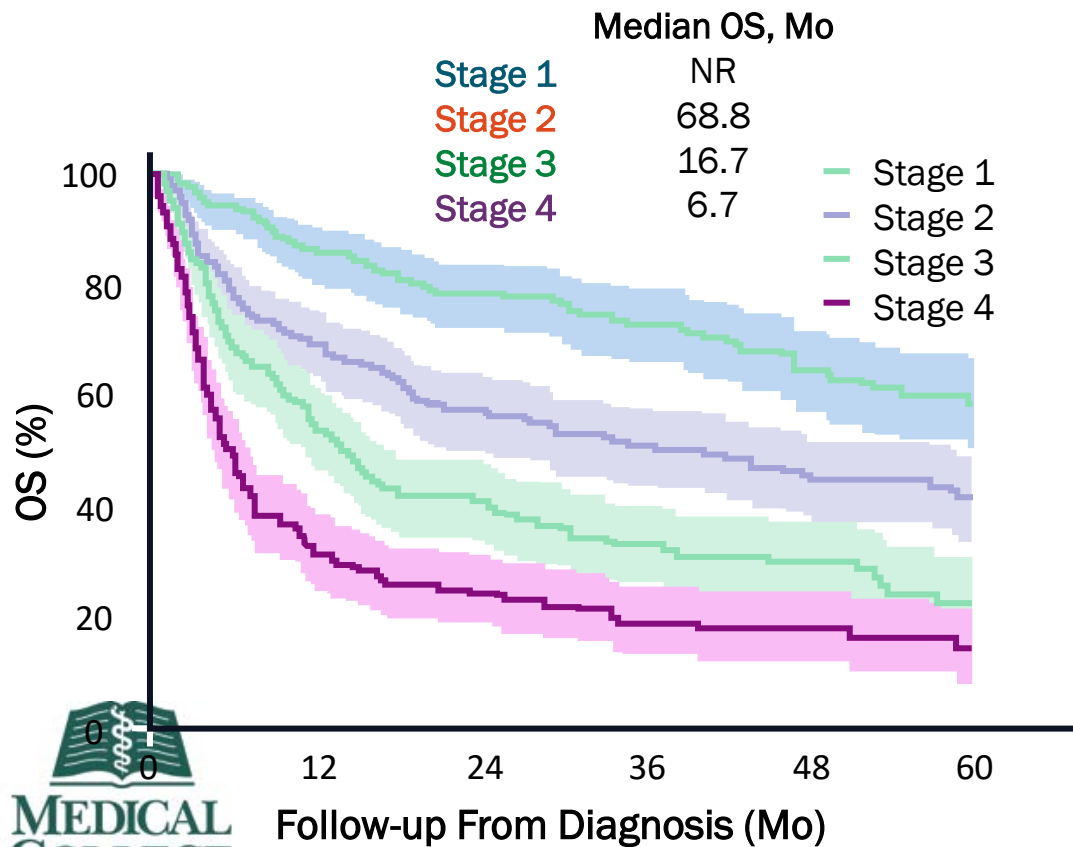
organ AL deposition  
leading to dysfunction

Plasma cell-directed chemotherapy

No effective treatments  
Needs time to improve  
Chemotherapy adverse effects can worsen  
e.g., fluid retention, cardiotoxicity,  
neuropathy

# AL Amyloidosis: Overall Survival by Stage

OS by 2012 Mayo Clinic Stage (n = 758)



Staging System	Markers/Thresholds	Stages
2004 Mayo Clinic Cardiac Staging System with 2015 European modification	NT-proBNP >332 ng/L cTnT >0.035 ng/mL (or cTnl >0.1 ng/mL)	I. 0 markers above cutoff II. 1 marker above cutoff IIIa. Both markers above cutoff and NT-proBNP <8500 ng/L IIIb. Both markers above cutoff and NT-proBNP ≥8500 ng/L
2012 Revised Mayo Clinic Staging System	NT-proBNP >1800 ng/L cTnT >0.025 ng/mL dFLC >180 mg/L	I. 0 markers above cutoff II. 1 marker above cutoff III. 2 markers above cutoff IV. 3 markers above cutoff
2014 Palladini Renal Staging System	eGFR <50 mL/min per 1.73 m <sup>2</sup> proteinuria >5 g per 24 hr	I. Both eGFR above and proteinuria below cutoffs II. Either eGFR below or proteinuria above cutoffs III. Both eGFR below and proteinuria above cutoffs

Kumar et al. JCO. 2012;30:989. Milani et al. Mediterr J Hematol Infect Dis. 2018;10:e2018022.

# AL Amyloidosis Goals for Therapy and Measuring Response

## Goals for Therapy

- **Deep response:** normalization or near normalization of serum free light chain
- **Durable** response
- **Minimizing toxicity:** risk-adapted therapy that does not lead to mortality or decompensate patients
- **Supportive care**

## Measuring Response in AL Amyloidosis

- **Hematologic response**
  - Reduction in M protein (SPEP, UPEP, dFLC)
- **Organ response**
  - **Cardiac:** NT-ProBNP
  - **Renal:** 24-hr urine protein, eGFR
  - **Liver:** liver span, alkaline phosphatase
- **Imaging**
  - **Echo:** Global longitudinal strain
  - **CMR:** Myocardial ECV tracking, T1 mapping, LGE
- **Functional outcomes**
  - **Six-minute walk test**
  - **NYHA Class**
  - **PROs/HRQL:** KCCQ, SF-36, and PROMIS

# Hematologic Response Criteria

Response	Definition
Complete response	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Both criteria must be met</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Absence of amyloidogenic light chains (either free and/or as part of a complete immunoglobulin) defined by negative IFE of both serum and urine +</li> <li>▪ Either a FLC ratio within the reference range or the uninvolved FLC concentration is greater than involved FLC concentration with or without an abnormal FLC ratio</li> </ul>
Very good partial response	dFLC concentration <40 mg/L or 4 mg/dl
Partial response	dFLC decrease >50% compared with baseline
No response	All other patients



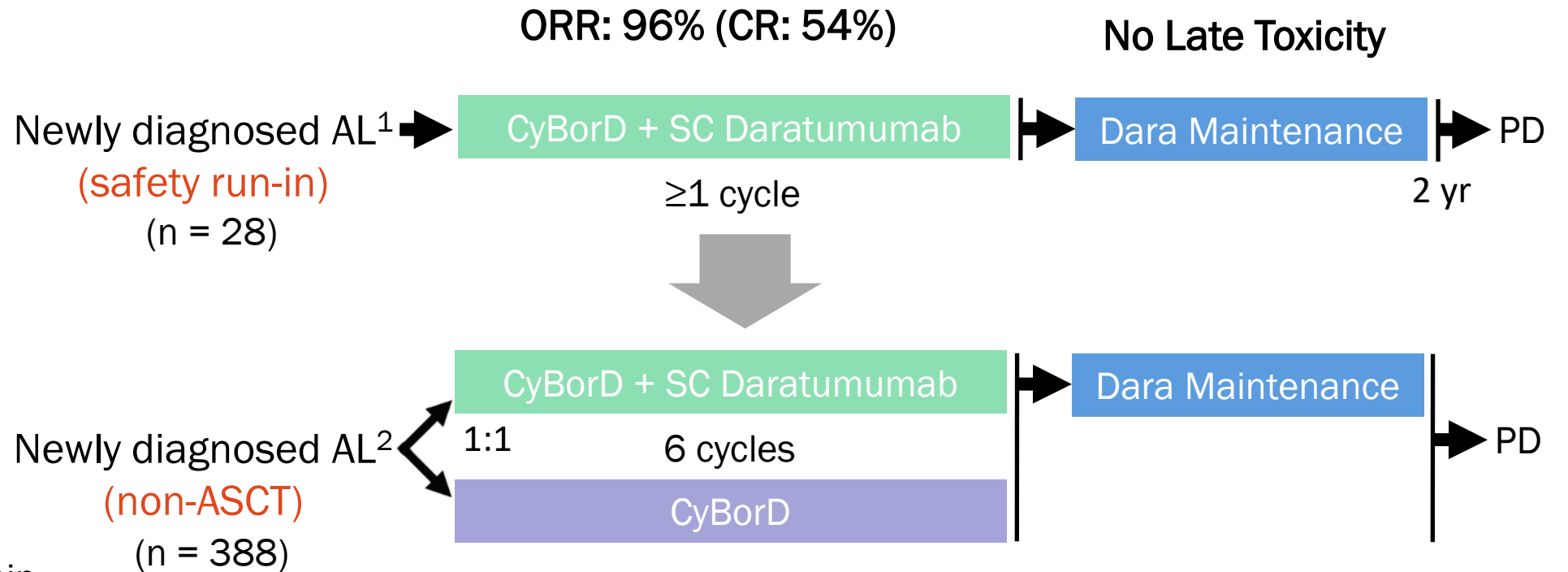
# Organ Response Criteria in AL Amyloidosis

Organ	Response	Progression
Heart	<p><i>NT-proBNP response:</i> &gt;30% and ↓ &gt;300 ng/L in patients w/baseline NT-proBNP ≥650 ng/L</p> <p>or</p> <p><i>NYHA class response:</i> ↓ ≥2 class in patients w/baseline NYHA class 3-4</p>	<p><i>NT-proBNP progression:</i> &gt;30% and ↑ &gt;300 ng/L</p> <p>or</p> <p><i>cTn progression:</i> ↑ ≥33%</p> <p>or</p> <p><i>Ejection fraction progression:</i> ↓ ≥10%</p>
Kidney	<p>↓ 50% (≥0.5 g/d) of 24-hr urine protein (required: &gt;0.5 g/d pretreatment); creatinine and creatinine clearance must not worsen by 25% above BL</p>	<p>50% ↑ (≥1 g/d) of 24-hr urine protein to &gt;1 g/d</p> <p>or 25% worsening of creatinine or creatinine clearance</p>
Liver	<p>50% ↓ in abnormal AP and ↓ ≥2 cm in liver size (radiographic)</p>	<p>50% ↑ of AP above lowest value</p>

# Conversion/Cross-Reference by Biomarkers

	cTnT, $\mu\text{g/L}$	cTnl, $\mu\text{g/L}$	Hs-cTnT, $\text{ng/L}$	NT-proBNP, $\text{ng/L}$	BNP, $\text{ng/L}$
2004 Mayo Stage	$\geq 0.035$	$\geq 0.1$	$\geq 50$	$\geq 332$	81
2015 European modification of Mayo 2004	$\geq 0.035$	$\geq 0.1$	$\geq 50$	$\geq 332$	81
				$> 8,500$	$> 700$
2012 Mayo Stage	$\geq 0.025$	ND	$> 40$	$\geq 1800$	$\geq 400$

# ANDROMEDA: VCD vs Daratumumab/VCD for AL



## Stratification:

- Mayo stage I/II/IIIa
- ASCT availability
- CrCl ≥60 or <60 mL/min

Patients enrolled at 109 sites in 22 countries from  
May 2018 through August 2019

1. Palladini et al. Blood. 2020;136:71. 2. Kastiris et al. NEJM. 2021;385:46.

# ANDROMEDA: Endpoints and Results

## Primary Endpoint

Complete heme response

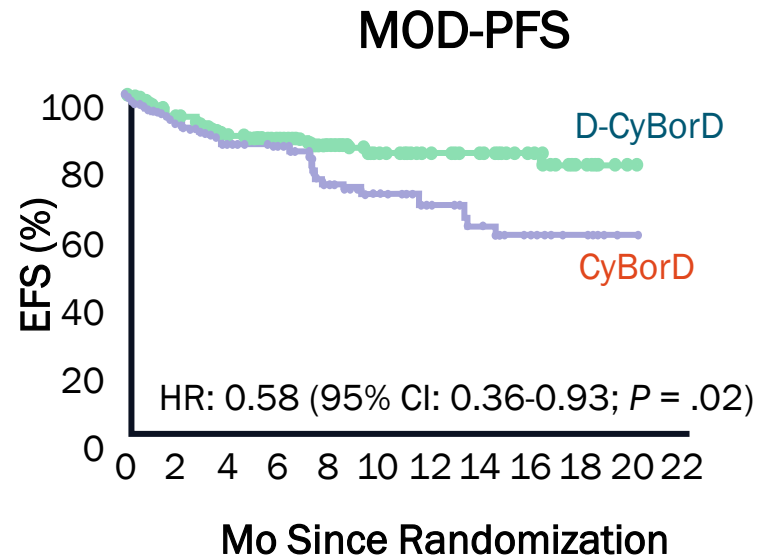
**cHR 53.3% vs 18.1%**

	D-CyBorD (n = 195)	CyBorD (n = 193)
Patients, n		
Heme progression	8	25
Deaths	27	29
Deaths by Day 60	13	13
Treatment change	19	79

## Key Secondary Endpoints

MOD-PFS\*

Overall survival



## Other Endpoints

Organ response/progression

VGPR+

cHR at 6 mo

Time to heme response

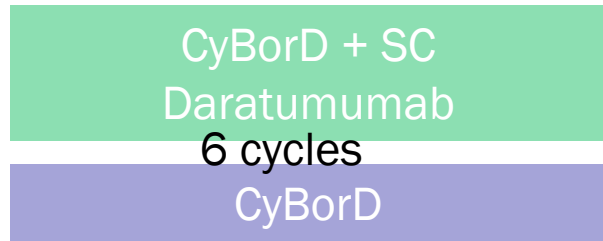
Duration of heme response

Time to next therapy

\*MOD-PFS: death, heme progression, cardiac transplant, LVAD, IABP, ESRD requiring HD, or renal transplant.

# ANDROMEDA: Key Organ Status at 6 months

Evaluable heart (n = 118)  
Evaluable renal (n = 117)



Dara Maintenance

PD



Response		Progress	
44%	2.5%	53%	4%
22%	8%	24%	11.5%

Evaluable heart (n = 117)  
Evaluable renal (n = 113)

Cardiac and renal response rates doubled

Organ progression reduced by approximately two thirds



# What we learned and what we didn't

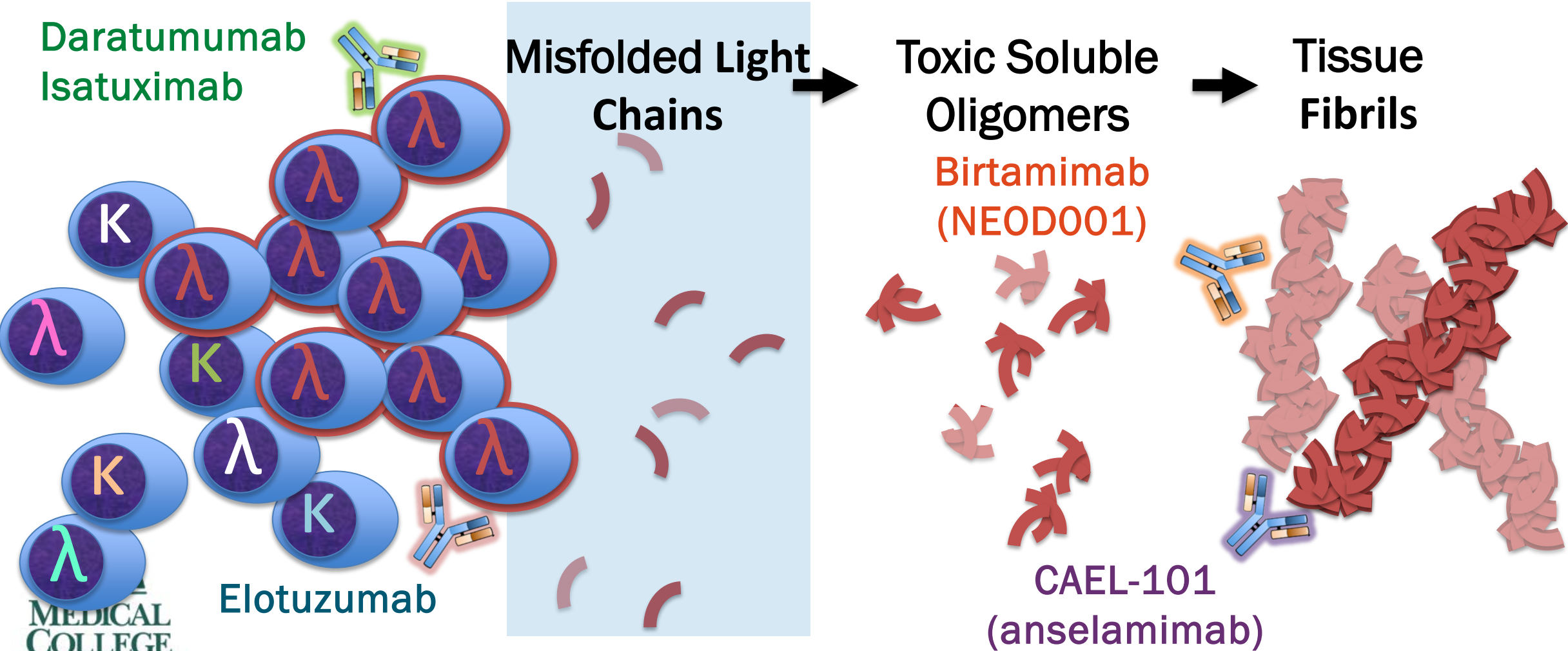
- What we learned

- Adding daratumumab to CyBorD improved complete HR rate and doubled cardiac and renal response at 6 months
- Daratumumab does not improve early (cardiac) mortality

- What we did not learn

- Is there any role for ASCT consolidation in transplant-eligible patients?
- Is daratumumab maintenance needed for those in cHR?
- Will long-term survival be improved with addition of daratumumab?
- Can daratumumab be safely used in patients with advanced cardiac stage?

# Monoclonal antibodies in AL Amyloidosis



# Birtamimab and CAEL 101 phase 3 trials- similarities and differences

	Birtamimab (NEOD001)	Anselamimab (CAEL-101)
<b>Dosing</b>	Every 4 weeks, 1-hour infusion	Weekly for 4 weeks, then bi-weekly, 2-hour infusion
<b>Ongoing Trials</b>	<b>AFFIRM-AL</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Newly diagnosed, treatment naïve Mayo Stage IV patients with cardiac involvement</li> </ul>	<b>CAEL-101 301 and 302 studies</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Newly diagnosed, treatment naïve Mayo Stage IIIA &amp; IIIb patients with cardiac involvement</li> </ul>
<b>Endpoints</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Primary Endpoint: All-cause mortality</li> <li>Secondary Endpoints: SF-36v2 PCS, 6MWT</li> <li>Exploratory Endpoints: GLS, hospitalizations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Primary Endpoint: All-cause mortality</li> <li>Secondary Endpoints: 6MWT, KCCQ-OS, SF-36v2 PCS, GLS</li> </ul>
<b>Key criteria</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2:1 randomization</li> <li>Mayo 2012 stage 4, excludes IIIb stage</li> <li>NT-proBNP 1800-8500/BNP 400, cTnT 0.025/hsTnT 40, dFLC 180</li> <li>Allows daratumumab-based treatment, no intent for ASCT</li> <li>No prior chemotherapy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2:1 randomization</li> <li>Mayo 2004 stage III with European modification</li> <li>NT-proBNP <math>\geq 650</math>, cTnT 0.035/hsTnT 50/cTnI 0.1, measurable hematologic disease</li> <li>Allows daratumumab-based treatment, no intent for ASCT</li> <li>Up to 2 weeks of chemotherapy prior to randomization</li> </ul>

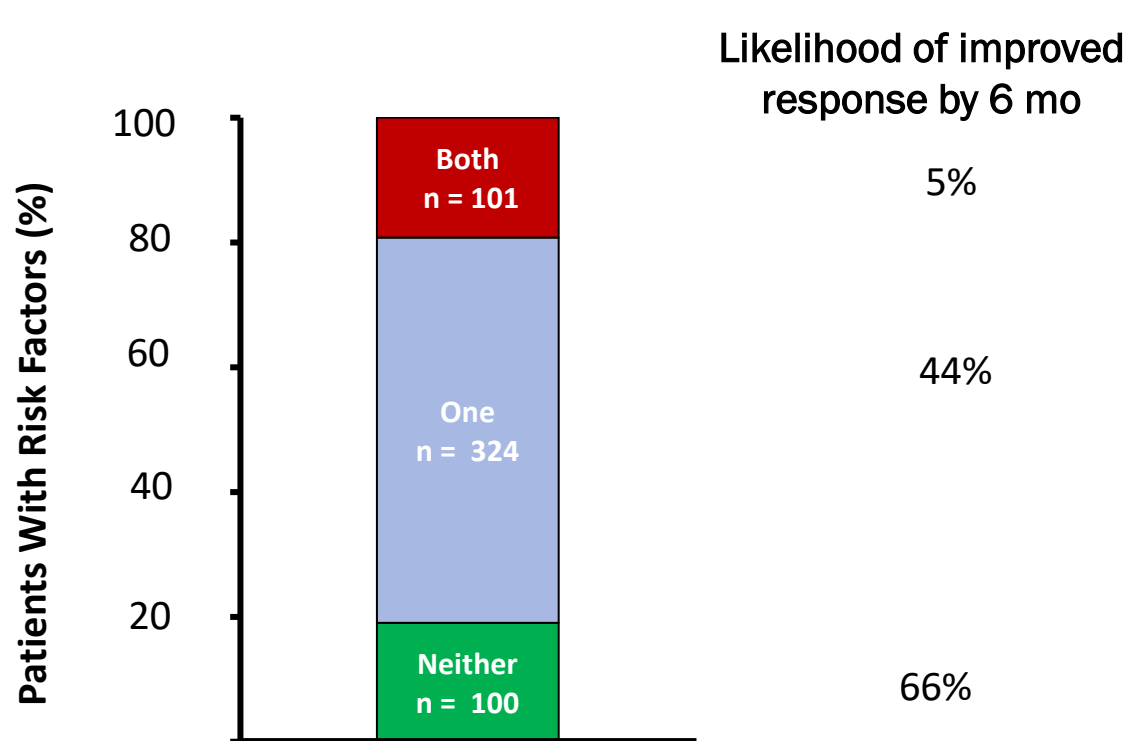


# When to move to Second-line Therapy?

1. Issues with toxicity that cannot be corrected by dose modifications or supportive care
2. Refractory or inadequate response
3. Relapsing or progressive disease



# What is an Inadequate Hematologic Response?



Newly diagnosed AL amyloidosis with <VGPR at 1 mo  
2 risk factors predicted for lack of deepening response by 6 months

- Baseline dFLC >400 mg/L
- < PR at 1 month

- **Recommendation:** At 1 month, change therapy for patients with **both** risk factors (<PR and baseline dFLC > 400 mg/L)
- At 3 mo, among **intermediate-** and **low-**risk patients:
  - Only 23% of patients with < VGPR at 3 mo had an improved response at 6 mo
- **Recommendation:** At 3 months, change therapy in patients not achieving VGPR

# Definition of Hematologic Relapse/Progression

2005 ISA Criteria <sup>1</sup>	Pavia Criteria for High-Risk dFLC Progression <sup>2</sup>
<p><b>From CR</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Any detectable monoclonal protein <i>or</i></li> <li>▪ Abnormal FLC ratio (&amp; doubled light chain)</li> </ul>	<p>Requires all 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ dFLC &gt;20 mg/L (absolute value)</li> <li>▪ dFLC &gt;20% of baseline (diagnostic)</li> <li>▪ dFLC ↑ &gt;50% above nadir of best response</li> </ul>
<p><b>From PR</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ iFLC ↑ 50% (absolute value &gt;100 mg/L) <i>or</i></li> <li>▪ Serum M protein ↑ 50% to 0.5 g/dL, <i>or</i></li> <li>▪ 24-hr urine M protein ↑ 50% to &gt;0.2 g/day</li> </ul>	

# AL Amyloidosis Therapies: Off-Target Toxicities

- **Melphalan**

- High dose for ASCT
- Low dose oral



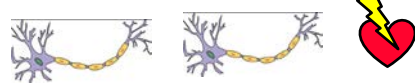
- **Cyclophosphamide**



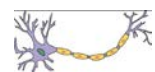
- **Bendamustine**



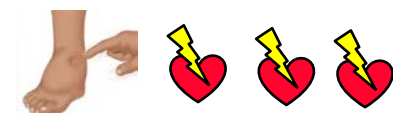
- **Bortezomib**



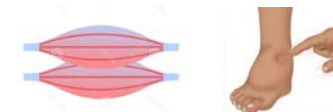
- **Ixazomib**



- **Carfilzomib**



- **Dexamethasone**



- **Pomalidomide**



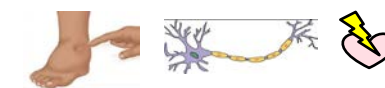
- **Lenalidomide**



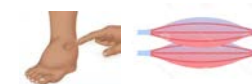
- **Thalidomide**



- **Daratumumab\***



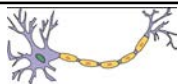
- **Venetoclax**



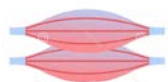
- **Belantamab†**



Cardiotoxic



Neurotoxic



Myopathic



Edema



Myelotoxic



Ocular toxic

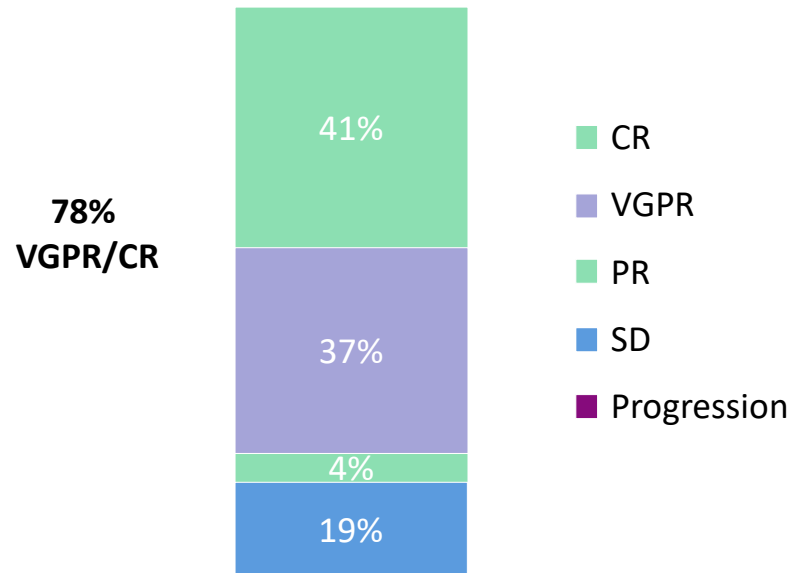
\*Also, isatuximab

†Belantamab was pulled from US market in November 2022

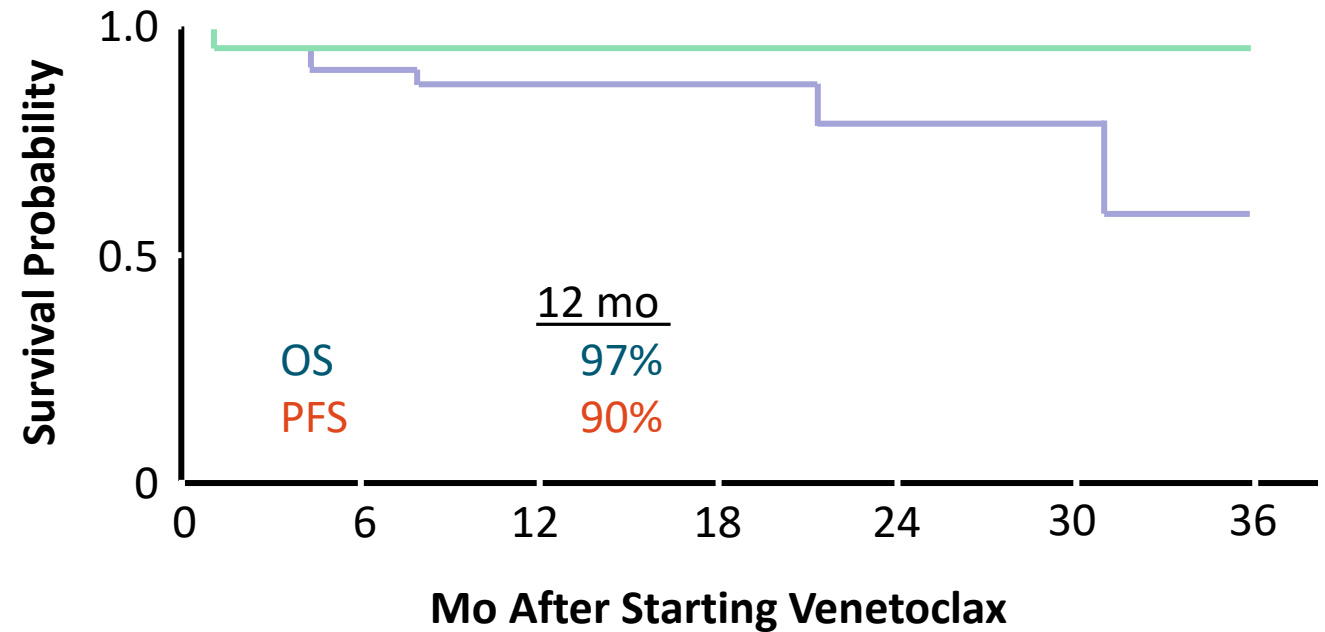
Slide courtesy: CCO

# Venetoclax for AL Amyloidosis with t(11;14)

Best Response in  
Evaluable t(11;14) patients  
(n = 27)



OS and PFS in Patients With t(11;14)



Premkumar. Blood Cancer J. 2021;11:10.

# Hematology-Specific Supportive Care

## Medications

- Antivirals (acyclovir)
- Antinausea
- Acid blockers
- Sleep aids
- Diuretics
- Laxatives



## Counteract

- Risk of shingles
- Bortezomib, cyclophosphamide
- Dexamethasone
- Dexamethasone
- Dexamethasone
- Bortezomib

# Supportive Care for Organ Amyloidosis

## CARDIAC AND RENAL

- ✓ Diuretics
  - Loop
  - Spironolactone
  - Albumin diuresis
- ✓ Daily weight & BP
- ✓ Sodium restriction
- ✓ Compression stockings
- ✓ Avoid nephrotoxic drugs (NSAIDs)
- ✓ Avoid typical heart failure drugs e.g.,  
beta-blockers, Calcium channel blockers
- ✓ Atrial fibrillation- amiodarone or digoxin
- ✓ Anticoagulation as appropriate

## NEUROLOGIC

### Peripheral neuropathy

- ✓ Medications- gabapentin, pregabalin, duloxetine, nortriptyline, amitriptyline, topicals- lidocaine, ketamine
- ✓ Scrambler therapy
- ✓ Acupuncture
- ✓ Gait aids, PT/OT

### Autonomic neuropathy- LOW BP

- ✓ Compression stockings
- ✓ Raise bed head
- ✓ Avoid standing too quickly
- ✓ Exercise (avoid heat, hot tubs)
- ✓ Medications- midodrine, droxidopa, pyridostigmine
- ✓ If no cardiac/renal restriction- salt tablets, fludrocortisone

# Take home points

- Heterogeneous disease with protean manifestations
  - Appropriate staging and measuring response to treatments using biomarkers
- Early treatment goals- rapid and deep hematologic response, fibril-directed agents on clinical trials
  - DaraVCD is the only FDA approved treatment and SOC for newly diagnosed AL
    - Role of daraVCD in advanced cardiac stage
    - Role of ASCT in newly diagnosed AL
- Multiple hematologic treatments are available for relapsed AL amyloidosis
  - When to start treatment
  - Unique toxicities of various treatments
- Supportive care is essential in the management of AL amyloidosis
  - Treating the underlying disease (e.g., chemotherapy) is only half the job



# Acknowledgments

## MCW Plasma Cell Disorders Team, Cancer Center

A D'Souza, MD	C Skoog, PA-C	K Johnson, RN
B Dhakal, MD	A Goff, APNP	J Esselmann, RN
M Mohan, MD	J Kujawa, RN	Plasma Cell DOT, CTO
R Narra, MD	J Loyda, RN	
M Pasquini, MD	K Wojniack, RN	

## Multidisciplinary Amyloidosis Specialists:

Cardiology: C Mueller, MD, E Raichlin, MD

Cardiac Imaging: J Rubenstein, MD

Electrophysiology: M Berger, MD, J Rubenstein, MD

Neurology: M Collins, MD, J Figueroa, MD, N Adaguntla, MD

## Contact:

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**Froedtert**  
HOSPITAL



## Available Clinical Trials at Froedtert & MCW CC

Newly diagnosed AL

-CAEL-101 301 and 302

-NEOD001

Relapsed AL

-DaraPomDex

-STI-6129

-Venetoclax

Imaging

-Florbetapir scan

## Funding Support:

NHLBI K23 HL141445

NHLBI R01 HL166339

Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin

CTSI of SE Wisconsin

MCW & Froedtert Cancer Center