# FISHing for Acute Leukemia

Matthew Ulrickson, MD Banner MD Anderson Cancer Center September 12, 2017



# **Objectives**

- \* Discuss the clinical presentation and diagnosis of acute leukemia
- \* Discuss the impact of molecular features on prognosis and management
- \* Discuss the treatment of AML in the elderly
- \* Discuss up front management of APL and ALL



# \*Case Presentation

- \*32yo resident presents with sore throat and fever
- \*Cervical adenopathy is present on exam

\*CBC: 35>35%<35k



# \*Peripheral Smear

- \*92% Other
- \*4% Lymph
- \*4% Neutrophils

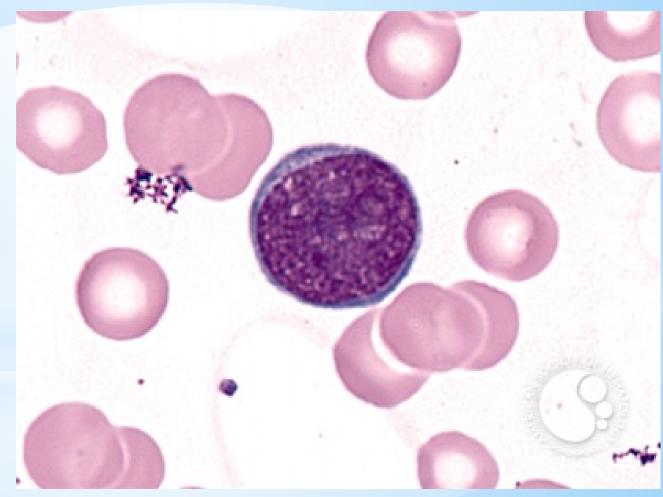
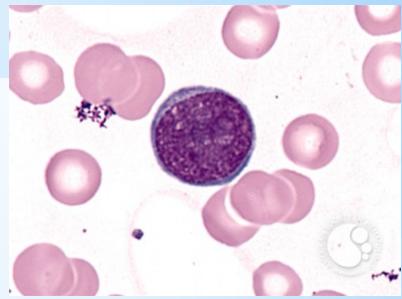




Image courtesy of Peter Maslak

# \*Peripheral Smear

- \*92% Blasts
- \*4% Lymph
- \*4% Neutrophils



- \*He was diagnosed with Ph+ Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia
- \*Induction chemotherapy plus dasatinib was recommended

# \* Case Presentation

- \* 52yo man develops intermittent fevers x 2 weeks
- \* Later, chest pain, dyspnea on exertion, followed by marked fatigue.
- \* No other B symptoms and no bruising or bleeding.
- \* No other PMHx, never smoker, rare EtOH
- \* 1 full brother, 1 full sister
- \* Exam: Temp 37.3, HR 117, BP 107/54, RR 24
- \* Conjunctival rim pallor noted, tachycardic with systolic murmur present at the apex. No LAD or HSM



# \* Initial testing

\* CBC: 6.9>2.6<79 MCV 100



# Initial testing

\* CBC: 6.9>2.6<139 MCV 100

\* 32% neutrophils, 6% bands, 2% lymphocytes, 1% monocytes, 1% metamyelocytes, 1% myelocytes and 53% 'other' cells.

\* Peripheral smear \* Atypical immature cell population with high N:C ratio, nucleoli



\*Reticulocyte 0.3%; absolute 2000/µl

\*Cr 0.8, total bilirubin 0.4, LDH 392, albumin 3.7, AST 45, ALT 145,



# \* Clinical Symptoms of AML

- \* Bone Marrow Failure (Cytopenias)
  - \* Anemia dyspnea, pallor, chest pain
  - \* Neutropenia infections
  - \* Thrombocytopenia bleeding, petechiae
- \* Coagulopathy
  - esp APL, Acute myelomonocytic leukemia
- \* Tissue invasion



# \* Tissue Invasion in AML

\* Associated with high WBC, monocytic subtypes, CD56+

- \* Can Involve
  - spleen
  - gums
  - perianal
  - skin
  - renal
  - lung





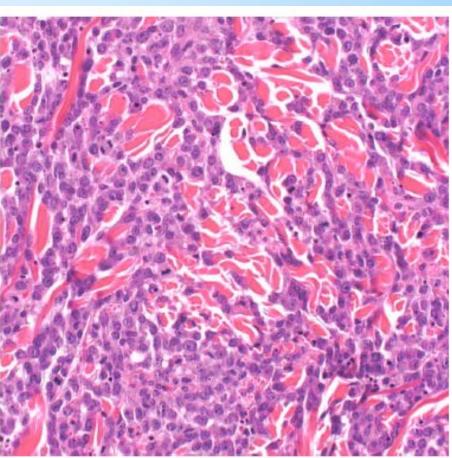
# \* Chloroma





# \* Leukemia Cutis



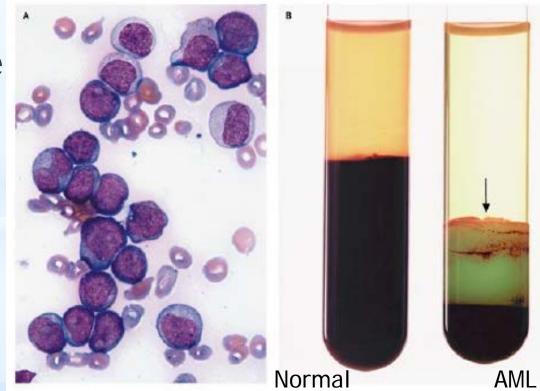




# \* High Circulating Blasts

- \* Hypoglycemia
- \* Hypoxia
- \* Hyperkalemia
- \* Elevated Lactate

Mauro MJ NEJM 2003. 349:767





# Evaluation of patient with AML

- \*Initial triage
  - History and Physical
  - CBC with differential (look at the peripheral smear)
  - BMP, LFTs, uric acid, ABO type and screen
  - •PT, PTT, fibrinogen

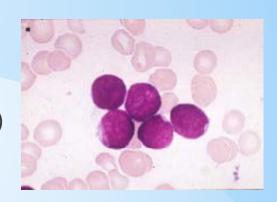




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#### \* Diagnosis

- Bone marrow biopsy
- FISH and cytogenetics, flow cytometry
- Molecular: FLT3, NPM1, CEPBA, IDH, ckit (can be sent on PB)
- If circulating blasts, send peripheral blood for flow cytometry (STAT) to make dx



# **Evaluation of patient with AML**

#### \*Initial triage

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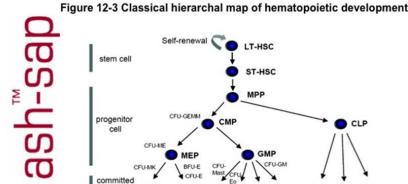
#### \*Plan ahead

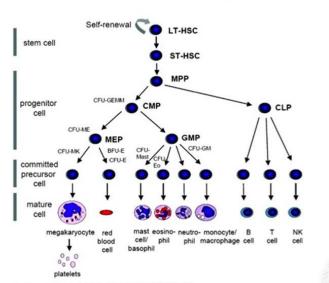
- HLA typing (Type I for platelets, Type I and II for SCT)
- Identify siblings and brief health history, CMV serostatus
- Consideration of future fertility



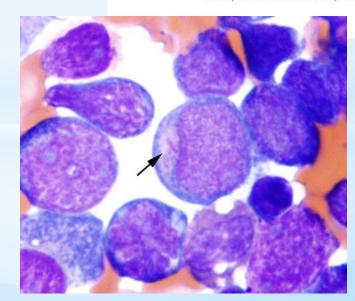
# Differentiate AML vs ALL

- \* Rarely, can see Auer Rods
  - Only in myeloid blasts
- \* Flow cytometry
- \* Cytogenetics t(8;21), inv16, t(9:22)











# \* Immediate Emergency?

- \* Leukostasis (leukapheresis)
  - Pulmonary or neurological symptoms related to increased serum viscosity
  - Can occur
    - \* when myeloid blast count >50-100k
    - \* When lymphoid blast count >400k
    - \* very rare in CLL
- \* DIC (esp APL and monocytic)
  - Aggressive product replacement
- \* Initial treatment can trigger SIRS
- \* Tumor lysis syndrome



### \* How soon to treat the others?

- \* Sekeres et al Blood 2009. 113:38
  - No increase in mortality when treatment started within 5 days for patients >60yo.
  - In younger, earlier the better
- \* Obtain necessary diagnostic information prior to selecting regimen
  - Echocardiogram
  - Central line (anthracycline is vascular irritant, extravasation toxicity)



AML vs ALL with flow cytometry (or IHC)

Myeloid	B-cell (lymphoid)	T-cell (lymphoid)
CD13	CD10	CD2
CD33	CD19	CD3
c-kit	CD20	CD4
CD14	CD22	CD5
CD64	Surface Ig	CD7
Glycophorin A		CD8
CD41		
MPO		
2524		

CD34 marks these cells as immature blasts (rare exceptions of CD34-negative blasts) The same marker as for HPC

# \* Day 1

- \* Only day 0 in transplant
- \* Day 1 = first day of chemotherapy
  - \* Knowing how long since last chemo lets us anticipate and interpret





# \* 7+3 = 3+7

- \* Induction
  - Anthracycline (3 days)
    - Daunorubicin 60-90mg/m2 better than 45mg
    - \* Idarubicin 10-12mg/m2
    - \* Mitoxantrone 12-15mg/m2
  - Cytarabine (ara-C) 7 days continuous infusion
    - \* 100mg/m2 better than 200mg/m2



Berman et al. Blood 1991. 77:1666 Ohtake et al. Blood 2011. 117:2358 Rowe et al. Blood 2004. 103:479 Wiernik et al. Blood 1992. 79:313 \* 3+4 = ?

- \* 3 days of anthracycline (same as 7+3)
- \* 4 days of cytarabine at 1gm/m2
  - Burnett et al. JCO 2013
  - High-dose AraC benefits <45yo (FLAG-Ida)
- \* No data yet published on this regimen
  - Extensive experience in Houston
- \* Day 21 marrow with this regimen



# \*Trials of Induction therapy in AML

Table 1 Results of selected trials of therapy for adult AML

Table 1 | Results of selected trials of therapy for adult AML

Trial	Regimen	n	CR total (%)	CR cycle 1 (%)	Early death (%)	Resistant disease (%)	0S 3-year (%)
PALG <sup>3</sup>	DA	211	56	51	10	34	33
	DAF	219	59	55	9	32	35
	DAC	222	67.5	62	11	21	45
SWOG <sup>6</sup>	DA	300	69	50	1	29	55
JALSG <sup>7</sup>	DA	525	77.5	61.1	2	20	48
	IA	532	78.2	64.1	5	17	48
ECOG <sup>5</sup>	D45A	293	57.3	41.1	4.5	39	33
	D90A	289	70.6	58.8	5.5	25	40
MRC <sup>2</sup>	DA	240	83	NA	6	11	41*

<sup>\*5-</sup>year overall survival. Abbreviations: CR, complete remission; D45A, DA 45 mg/m² per day; D90A, DA 90 mg/m² per day; DA, daunorubicin and cytarabine; DAC, daunorubicin, cytarabine and cladribine; DAF, daunorubicin, cytarabine and fludarabine; IA, idarubicin; NA, not applicable; OS, overall survival.



# \* AML in the elderly

- \* Increased resistance to chemotherapy (MDR1 expression)
- \* More likely to have unfavorable cytogenetics
- \* More likely secondary to MDS
- \* More comorbidities



# Mortality from 7+3 induction at 30 days

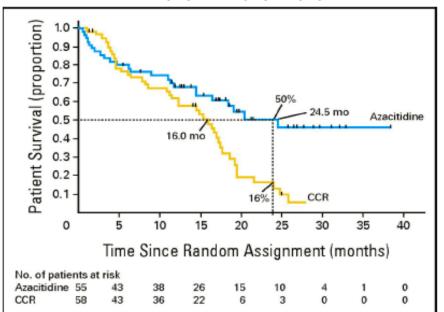
	Age					
	< 56	56 - 65	65 - 75	> 75		
Patient #	364	242	270	79		
ECOG PS						
0	2%	11%	12%	14%		
1	3%	5%	16%	18%		
2	2%	18%	31%	50%		
3	0%	29%	47%	82%		

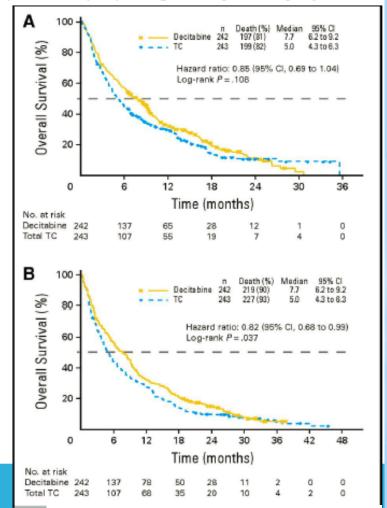


# Hypomethylating agents in AML

Age  $\geq$  65
Dec 20 mg/m<sup>2</sup> daily x 10 days q 4 weeks
TC=SC(28) +/- LDAC (215) 20 mg/m<sup>2</sup> daily x 10 days q 4 weeks

Med Age 70 Aza 75 mg/m² daily X 7 days q 4 weeks CCR=BSC(27),LDAC (20), IC (11)





# \* Day 3-7

- \* The pathology results begin to return
  - inv16 by FISH, confirmed by cytogenetics
  - cKIT mutation added = negative
  - FLT3 ITD, NPM1,CEPBA, IDHnegative

# \* Day 3-7

- \* The pathology results begin to return
  - inv16 by FISH, confirmed by cytogenetics
  - cKIT mutation added = negative
  - FLT3 ITD, NPM1,
     CEPBA negative

Sowhat?!?



# \* WHO AML Categorization

- \* >20% blasts in PB or BM required
  - except for \*

Acute myeloid leukemia with recurrent genetic abnormalities

\*AML with t(8;21)(q22;q22); RUNX1-RUNX1T1

\*AML with inv(16)(p13.1q22) or t(16;16)(p13.1;q22); CBFB-MYH11

\*APL with t(15;17)(q22;q12); PML-RARA

AML with t(9;11)(p22;q23); MLLT3-MLL

AML with t(6;9)(p23;q34); DEK-NUP214

AML with inv(3)(q21q26.2) or t(3;3)(q21;q26.2); RPN1-EVI1

AML (megakaryoblastic) with t(1;22)(p13;q13); RBM15-MKL1

Provisional entity: AML with mutated NPM1

Provisional entity: AML with mutated CEBPA

Acute myeloid leukemia with myelodysplasia-related changes

Therapy-related myeloid neoplasms

Acute myeloid leukemia, not otherwise specified

AML with minimal differentiation

AML without maturation

AML with maturation

Acute myelomonocytic leukemia

Acute monoblastic/monocytic leukemia

Acute erythroid leukemia

Pure erythroid leukemia

Erythroleukemia, erythroid/myeloid

Acute megakaryoblastic leukemia

Acute basophilic leukemia

Acute panmyelosis with myelofibrosis

\*Myeloid sarcoma

Myeloid proliferations related to Down syndrome

Transient abnormal myelopoiesis

Myeloid leukemia associated with Down syndrome

Blastic plasmacytoid dendritic cell neoplasm

Vardiman et al. Blood 2009. 114:937-951

# \* WHO AML Categorization

- \* >20% blasts in PB or BM required
  - except for \*

Acute myeloid leukemia, not otherwise specified

Acute myoloid laukomia with recurrent genetic abnormalities.

MMO, M1, M2, M4, M5, M6, M7
MMMMEAN NOTHING!

AML with t(6;9)(p23;q34); DEK-NUP214

AML with inv(3)(q21q26.2) or t(3;3)(q21;q26.2); RPN1-EVI1

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Pure erythroid leukemia

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Acute megakaryoblastic leukemia

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\*Myeloid sarcoma

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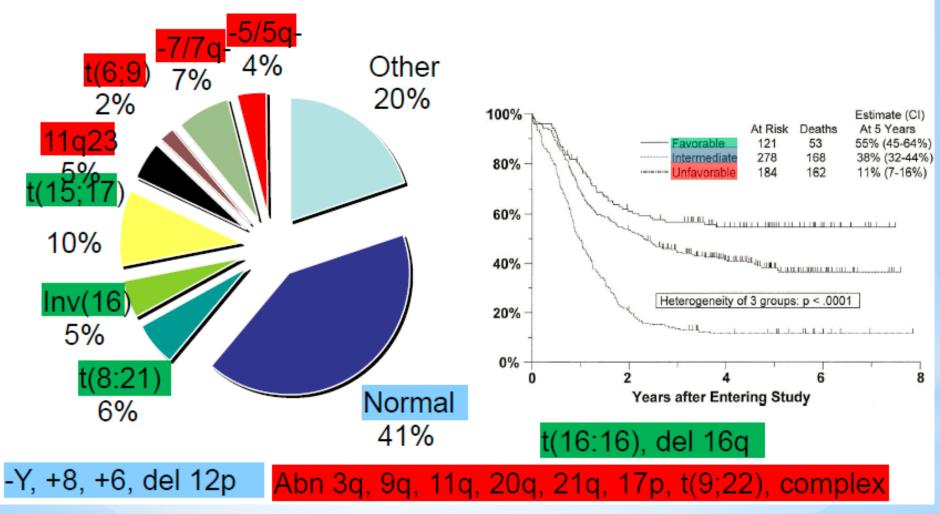
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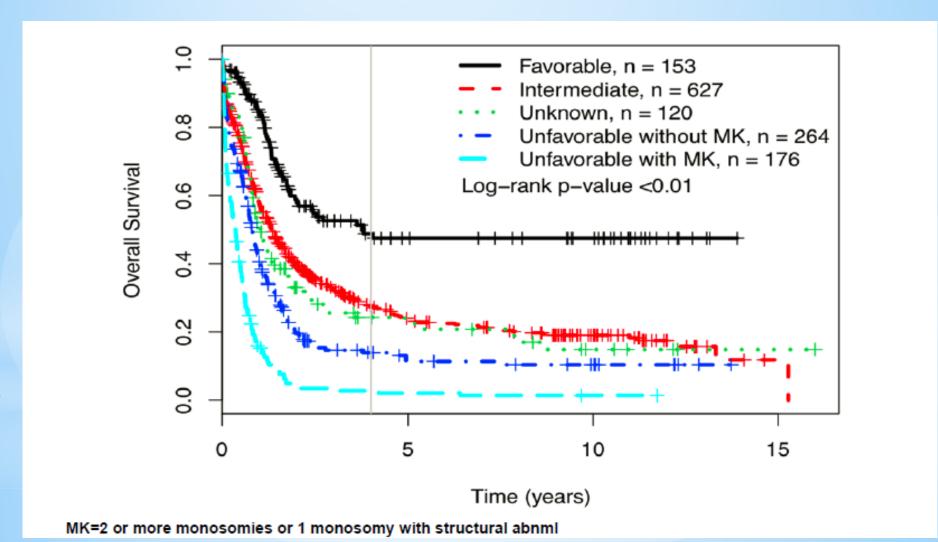
Vardiman et al. Blood 2009. 114:937-951

#### Clonal Cytogenetic Abnormalities in Adult AML



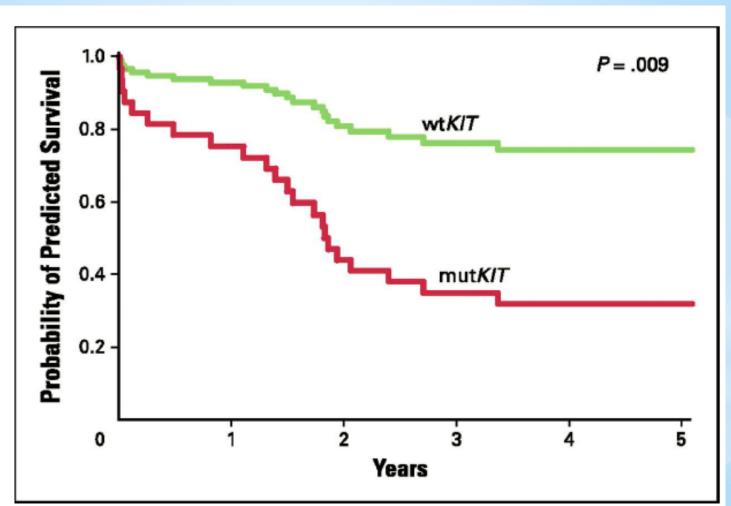


## Cytogenetics and Survival in AML



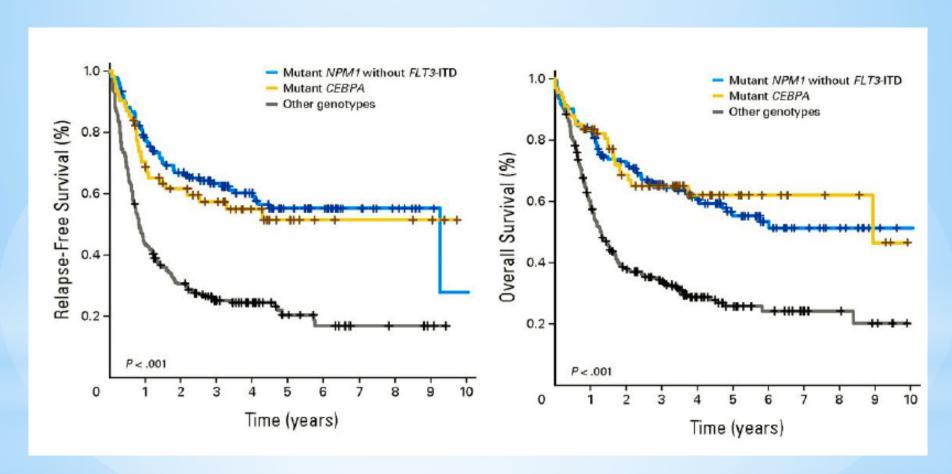
Medeiros et al. Blood 2010. 116:2224

# Survival inv(16) AML based on KIT





# AML with normal cytogenetics





# \*On target Mutations help optimally treat AML

- \*Current targeted medicines available:
  - \*FLT3 + = midostaurin
  - \*IDH + = enasidenib
  - \*Many other in clinical trials

Stein, EM et al. Blood. 2017 Aug 10;130(6):722-731. Enasidenib in mutant IDH2 relapsed or refractory acute myeloid leukemia.

Stone, RM et al. N Engl J Med. 2017 Aug 3;377(5):454-464.

Midostaurin plus Chemotherapy for Acute Myeloid Leukemia with a FLT3 Mutation.

## \* So what is next?

- \* Need to achieve complete remission (CR)
  - <5% blasts by morphology AND PIt >100k and ANC >1.0
  - Day 14 or Day 21 marrow tells us some, but not all of CR definition
  - CR is one of the best predictors of OS for individual patient
- \* If not in CR next line therapy
  - Minimal residual disease = ČR, but with detectable disease by flow/FISH/molecular
- \* If in CR not done yet...



## \* AML in CR1

- \* Consolidation with Cytarabine x 3-4 cycles
  - Burnett et al JCO suggests total of 4 (3 consolidation) is just as good as 5

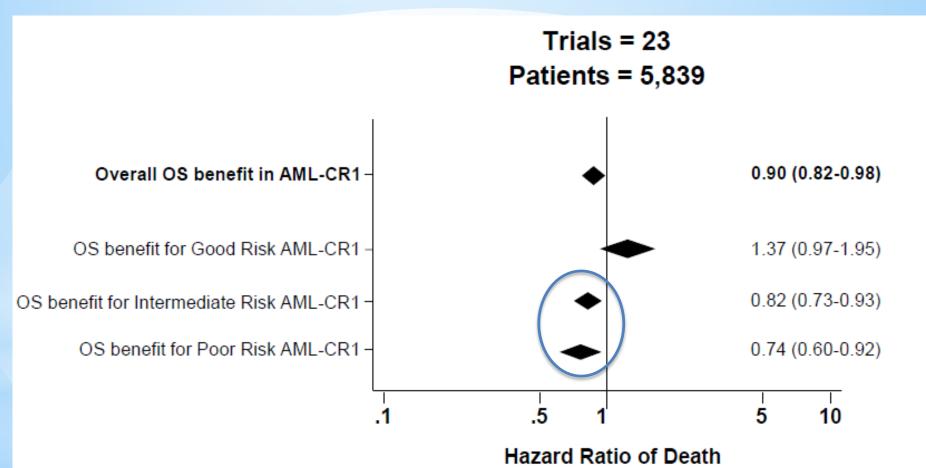
Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplant (HCT)





#### \*

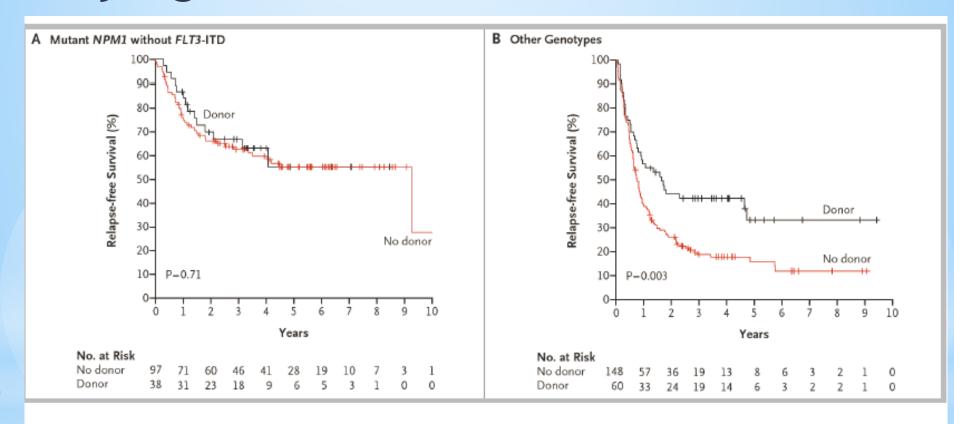
#### Meta-analysis of RCTs of HCT for AML in CR1





#### \*

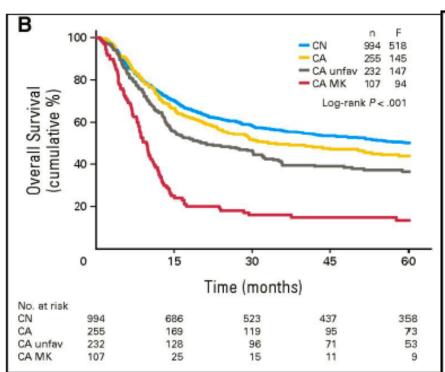
# HCT for AML with normal cytogenetics

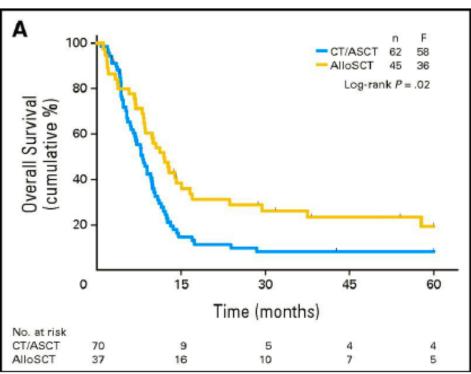






#### **HCT for MK AML**







## \* Indications for Allogeneic SCT in AML

- \* Primary Induction Failure (Primary Refractory)
- \* Second (CR2) or later remission
- \* Relapsed disease
- \* CR1
  - Intermediate risk
  - Adverse risk cytogenetics
  - Secondary AML (MDS, prior chemotherapy)



## \* Our Patient

- \* Enters a complete remission after induction
- \* Completes 3 additional cycles of consolidation
- \* Currently remains in remission, back at work, with regular follow up



## \* Our Patient

- \* Enters a complete remission after induction 3+4
- \* Completes 3 additional cycles of consolidation
- \* Currently remains in remission, back at work, with regular follow up
- \* But what if the disease comes back?



## \* When is enough?

- \*Estey Blood 1996
  - 206 pts, median age 56yo
  - Received chemotherapy for relapsed/refractory AML and did not go to transplant (1991-1994)

First Salvage (n = 206)	68% Conventional 32% investigational (topotecan, 2Cda, taxol)	CR rate 23%
Second Salvage (n = 93)	43% conventional 57% investigational	CR rate 11%
Third Salvage (n=40)		CR rate 10%
Fourth salvage (n=17)		CR rate 6%

#### \*

#### Duration of CR1 and likelihood of response

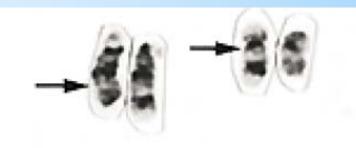
Treatment	Likelihood of CR
CR1 >2yrs, 1st salvage n=15	73% (45-92%)
CR1 1-2yrs, 1st salvage n=30	47% (28-66%)
CR1 <1yr or no CR, 1st salvage n=160	14% (8-21%)
CR1 <1yr or no CR1 2nd - 4th salvage n= 58 (96 tx)	0% (0-4%)



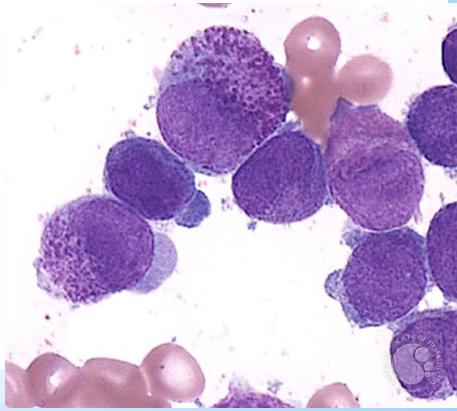
## \* Acute Promyelocytic Leukemia (APL)

#### APL





t(15;17)(q22;q12)



## \* Aggressive early care for APL

- \* Early mortality (within days of diagnosis) ~5-10%
  - Bleeding
  - Bleeding
  - Intracranial bleeding
- \* Start ATRA as soon as suspected
  - If wrong, no harm done
  - Do not wait for testing results to start (t(15;17))

- Long-term cure rate >95%
- ATRA/Arsenic
- Aggressive blood product transfusion to decrease bleeding risk



48

#### \*

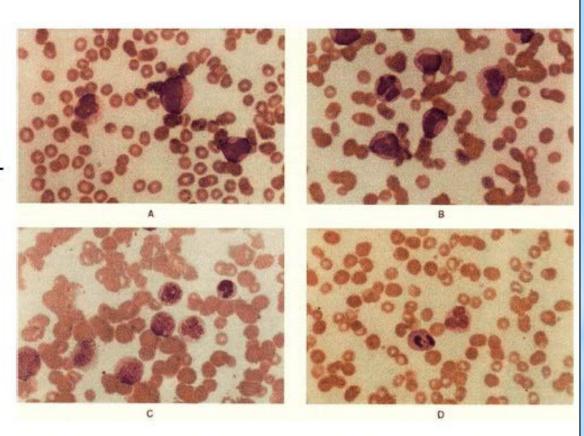
### **All-Trans Retinoic Acid**

#### Tretinoin

#### Clinical response

- Associated with maturation of leukemic clone
- Expression of PML/RAR α decreased

WBC increases Reduced relapse



## **ATRA Toxicity**

#### "APL Differentiation Syndrome"

- Effusions, edema, ↑ Wt., fever, ↓BP
- Chemotherapy if WBC ↑
- Dexamethasone if symptoms

Consider prophylactic if WBC > 10

Pseudotumor Cerebri (venous thromboses)

Dry Skin, Mucus Membranes

Hearing Loss

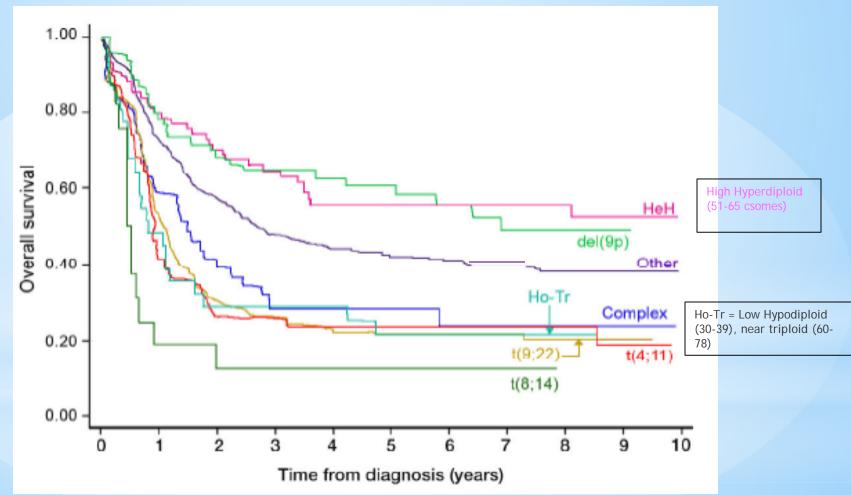
# \*Acute lymphoblastic leukemia/lymphoma (ALL)

- \*Peak age at diagnosis 7yo
- \*But diagnosis possible throughout life
- \*Adolescent and young adult ALL
  - \*Treat with a 'pediatric regimen'
    - \* Anthracycline, steroid, asparaginase, vincristine, 6-MP, cyclophosphamide
- \*Must administer intrathecal chemotherapy
  - \*Without this 50% have CNS relapse

## \*Back to Philly

- \*ALL can also have the Philadelphia Chromosome t(9;22)
  - \*p190 instead of p210
  - \* Respond to Imatininb/Dasatinib/Nilotininb/Ponatinib
    - \* So always use these in Ph+ ALL

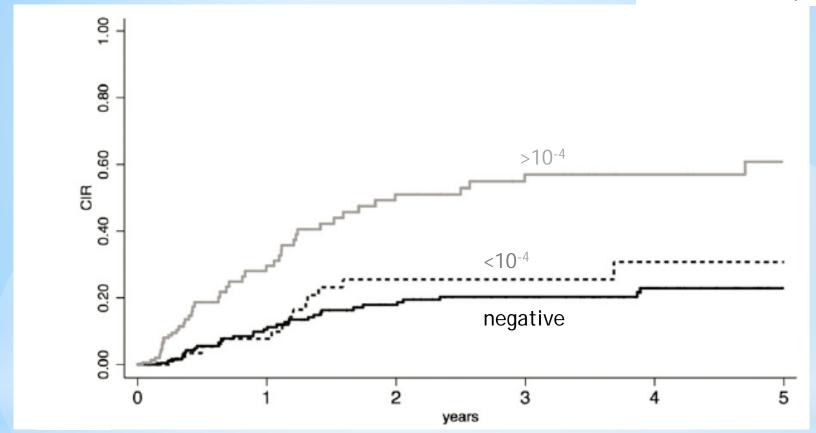
# \*Survival by Cytogenetic Subgroup: MRC UKALL XII/ECOG 2993



## \*What to do with the rest?

- \*Cytogenetic changes without clear prognostic information
- \*Standard-risk patients that respond in nonstandard manner
- \*Risk stratification in UK ALL XII (adverse features)
  - \*Ph+
  - \* >35yo
  - \*WBC >30k B cell or >100k for T cell
  - \* More than 4 weeks for cytologic CR (MRD)





## \*MRD and risk of relapse



## \*Questions and Thanks

Matthew.ulrickson@bannerhealth.com



### **APL: Sanz Prognostic Factors**

Low

WBC <10, Plt >40

Int

WBC <10, Plt <40

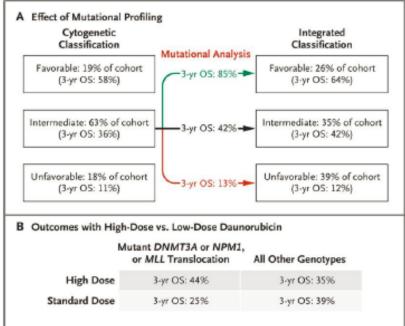
High

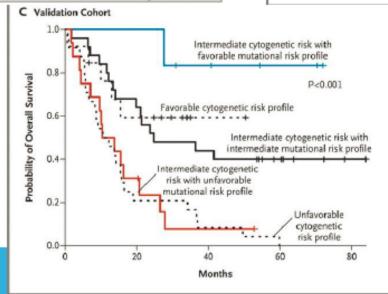
**WBC ≥10** 



#### A Revised Risk Stratification

Cytogenetic Classification		Mutations	Overall Risk Profile
Favorable	Any		
	FLT3-ITD-negative	Mutant NPM1 and IDH1 or IDH2	Favorable
	FLT3-ITD-negative	Wild-type ASXL1, MLL-PTD, PHF6, and TET2	Intermediate
Normal karyo- type or inter-	FLT3-ITD- negative or positive	Mutant CEBPA	
mediate-risk ctyogenetic	FLT3-ITD-positive	Wild-type MLL-PTD, TET2, and DNMT3A and trisomy 8-negative	
lesions	FLT3-ITD-negative	Mutant TET2, MLL-PTD, ASXL1, or PHF6	
	FLT3-ITD-positive	Mutant TET2, MLL-PTD, DNMT3A, or trisomy 8, without mutant CEBPA	
Unfavorable	Any		





#### \*

## Molecular Markers and Prognosis in AML

Effect
fav
fav
fav (HDAC)
fav (MLL)

<u>Marker</u>	Effect
MLL	unfav t(9;11)
FLT3 ITD (Not TKD) (25	%) unfav
EVI1	unfav
IDH1/2 (33%)	unfav
MN1	unfav
WT1 (10%)	unfav
FL1	unfav
BAALC	unfav
CKIT	unfav (i16)
DNMT3A (18%)	unfav
ERG	unfav

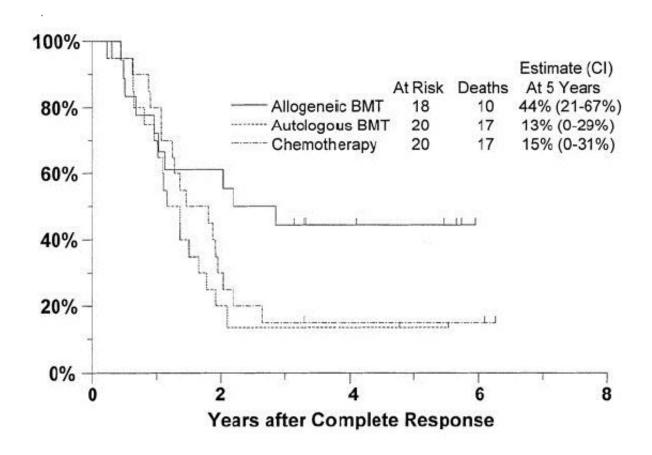
TET2

unfav/fav

Thol et al. J Clin Oncol 2011;29:2889-2896 Metzeler K H et al. J Clin Oncol 2011;29:1373-1381 Neubauer et al. J Clin Oncol 2008;26:4603-4609 Becker et al. J Clin Oncol 2009;28:596-604 Shen et al. J Clin Oncol 2011;118:5593-5603 Green et al. J Clin Oncol 2010:28:2739-2747



#### Therapy of High Risk AML



Slovak et al. *Blood* 2000;96:4080



# Integration of Cytogenetic & Molecular Data in Younger Pts

**EFS > 75%** 

t (15;17)

Inv 16 , +22 Kit -

EFS 50-75%

Other inv 16, Kit -

T(8;21) with low WBC, Kit -

Normal karyotype, CEBPA +

Normal karyotype, FLT3-/NPM +

EFS 25-50%

Inv 16, Kit +

T(8;21) with high WBC or Kit +

Normal karyotype FLT3-/NPM-

Normal karyotype FLT3+/NPM+

or –

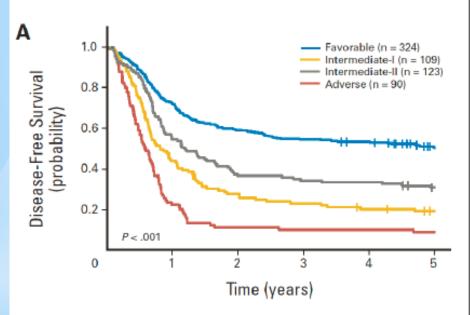
Normal karyotype MLL1 PTD+

**EFS < 20%** 

Others except -5/-7 as sole abnormality w/o AHD



#### Prognosis: European Leukemia Net



**Table 1.** European LeukemiaNet Standardized Reporting System for Correlation of Cytogenetic and Molecular Genetic Data in AML With Clinical Data<sup>12</sup>

Genetic Group	Subsets
Favorable	t(8;21)(q22;q22); RUNX1-RUNX1T1 inv(16)(p13.1q22) or t(16;16)(p13.1;q22); CBFB-MYH11 Mutated NPM1 without FLT3-ITD (normal karyotype) Mutated CEBPA (normal karyotype)
Intermediate-I	Mutated NPM1 and FLT3-ITD (normal karyotype) Wild-type NPM1 and FLT3-ITD (normal karyotype) Wild-type NPM1 without FLT3-ITD (normal karyotype)
Intermediate-II	t(9;11)(p22;q23); MLLT3-MLL Cytogenetic abnormalities not classified as favorable or adverse
Adverse	inv(3)(q21q26.2) or t(3;3)(q21;q26.2); RPN1-EVI1 t(6;9)(p23;q34); DEK-NUP214 t(v;11)(v;q23); MLL rearranged -5 or del(5q) -7 abnl(17p) Complex karyotype*

Abbreviations: AML, acute myeloid leukemia; ITD, internal tandem duplication. \*Complex karyotype is defined as three or more chromosome abnormalities in the absence of one of the WHO designated recurring translocations or inversions: t(8;21), inv(16) or t(16;16), t(15;17), t(9;11), t(v;11)(v;q23), t(6;9), inv(3) or t(3;3).

