

# Traitements des lymphomes à grandes cellules B

Bertrand Coiffier



Hôpitaux de Lyon

Service d' Hématologie  
Hospices Civils de Lyon

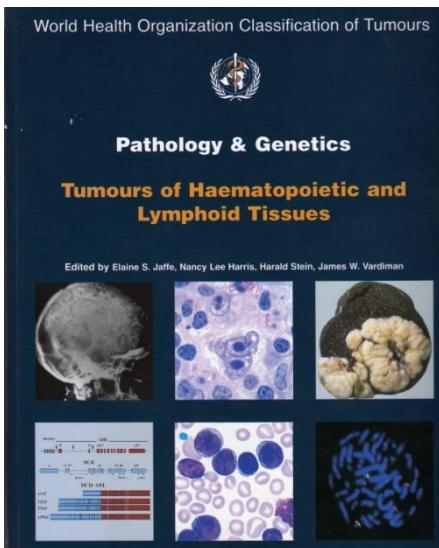


Equipe  
« Pathologie des Cellules Lymphoïdes »  
UMR 5239 CNRS – UCB – ENS - HCL



The Lymphoma  
Study Association

# DLBCL WHO Classification (2008)



## Diffuse large B-cell lymphoma (DLBCL), not otherwise specified (NOS)

### Common morphologic variants

Centroblastic

Immunoblastic

Anaplastic

### Molecular subgroups

Germinal-centre B-cell-like (GCB)

Activated B-cell-like (ABC)

### Immunohistochemical subgroups

CD5-positive DLBCL

Germinal-centre B-cell-like (GCB)

Non-germinal-centre B-cell-like (Non-GCB)

### DLBCL subtypes

T-cell/histiocyte-rich large B-cell lymphoma

Primary DLBCL of the CNS

Primary cutaneous DLBCL, leg type

Epstein-Barr virus-positive DLBCL of the elderly

### Other lymphomas of large B cells

Primary mediastinal (thymic) large B-cell lymphoma

Intravascular large B-cell lymphoma

DLBCL associated with chronic inflammation

Lymphomatoid granulomatosis

ALK-positive DLBCL

Plasmablastic lymphoma

Large B-cell lymphoma arising in HHV8-associated multicentric Castleman disease

Primary effusion lymphoma

### Borderline cases

between DLBCL and Burkitt lymphoma

between DLBCL and classical Hodgkin lymphoma

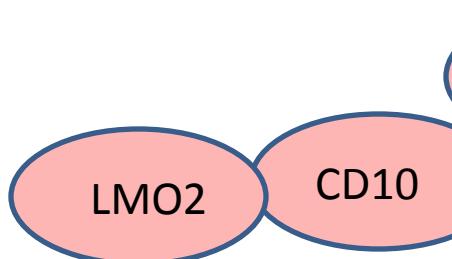
# DLBCL – Pathology (WHO)

- Some subtypes worse than others
- No indication that treatment must be different for each subtype
  - Primary CNS lymphoma
  - Intermediate Burkitt or Hodgkin
  - Plasmablastic (CD20-)
  - “Double hit” myc+ bcl2+

# Two distinct diseases

## GC B-cell like

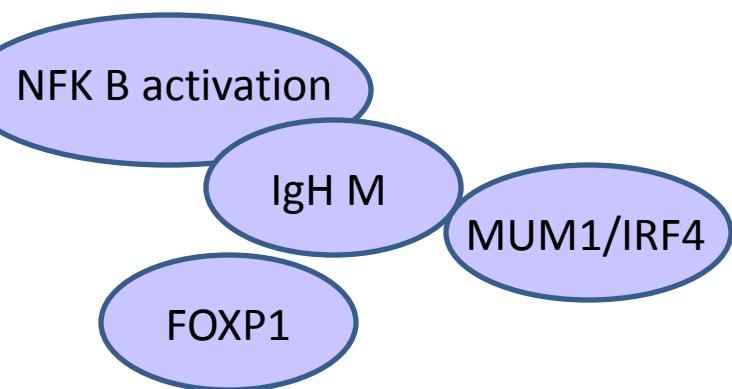
BCL2 translocations, t(14;18)  
C-rel amplification



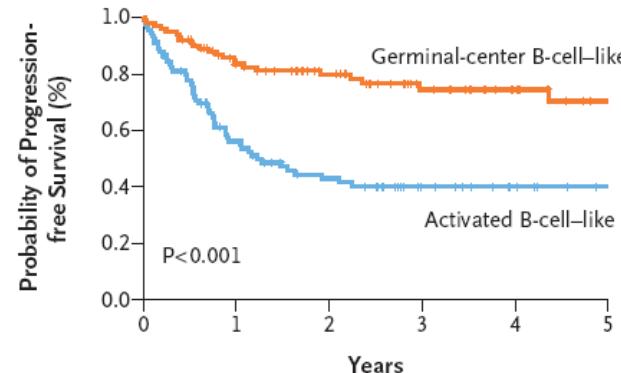
Mir-125b  
Mir-17-92

## Activated B-cell like

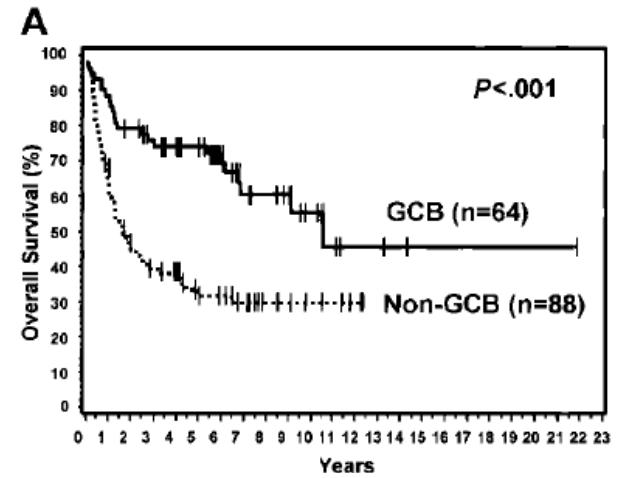
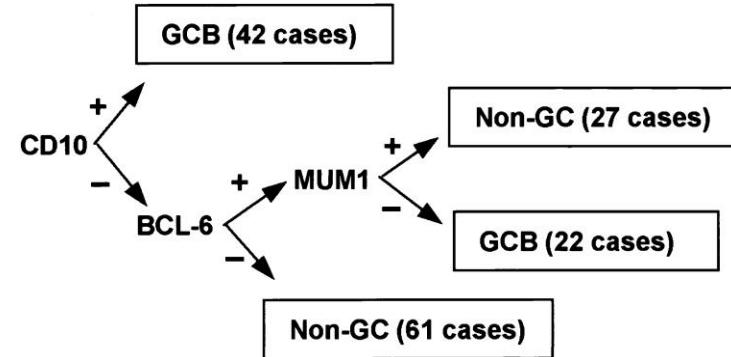
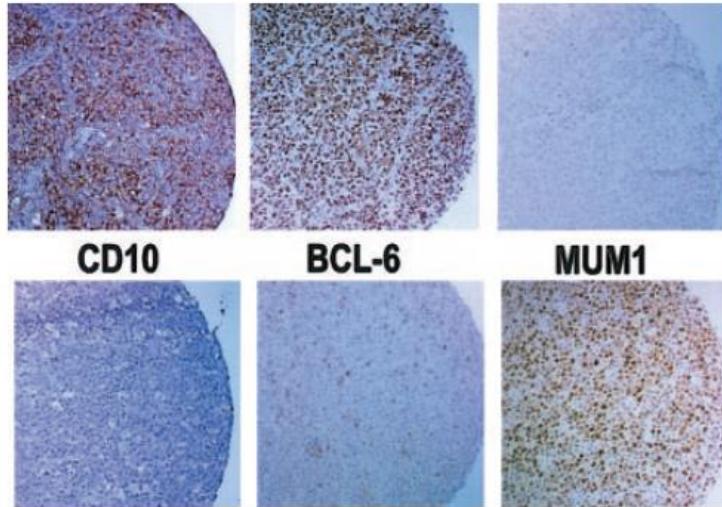
+3  
18q21 amplification  
BCL6 translocations



Mir-155  
Mir-21  
Mir-223



# Immunohistochemistry as surrogate

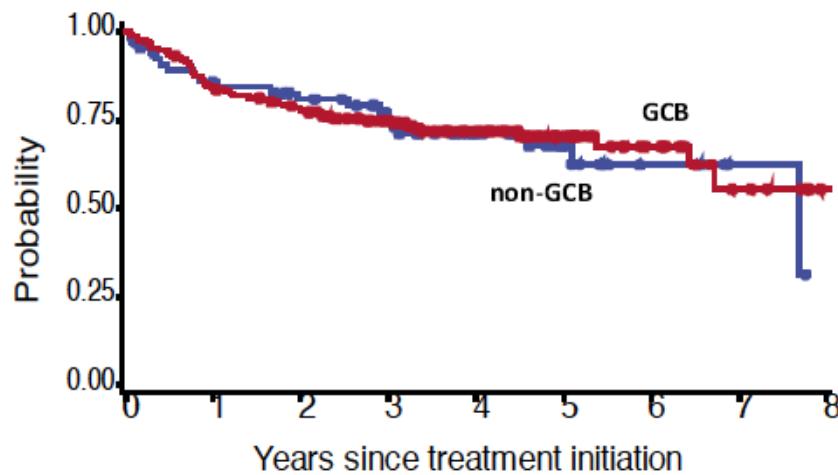


Discordances with cDNA : 20%

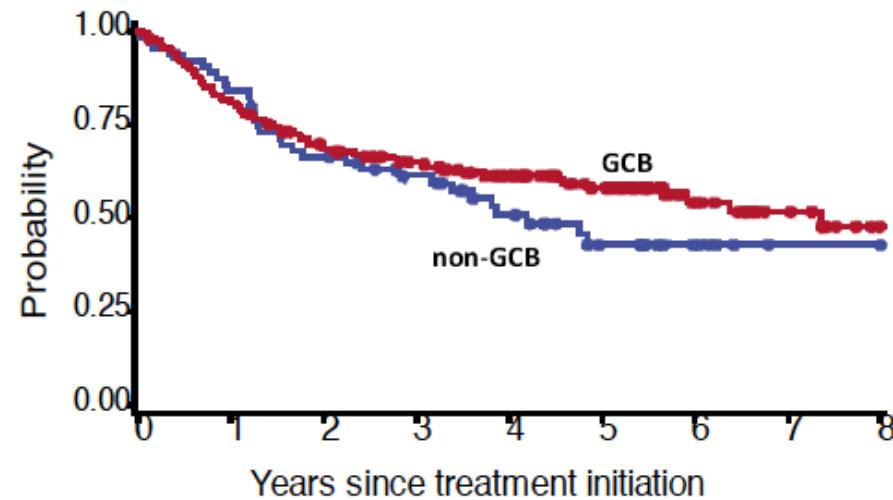
# Prognostic significance of immunohistochemical biomarkers in DLBCL

A study from Lunenburg Lymphoma Biomarker Consortium

2 randomized studies comparing R-CHOP to CHOP



R-CHOP  
347 patients



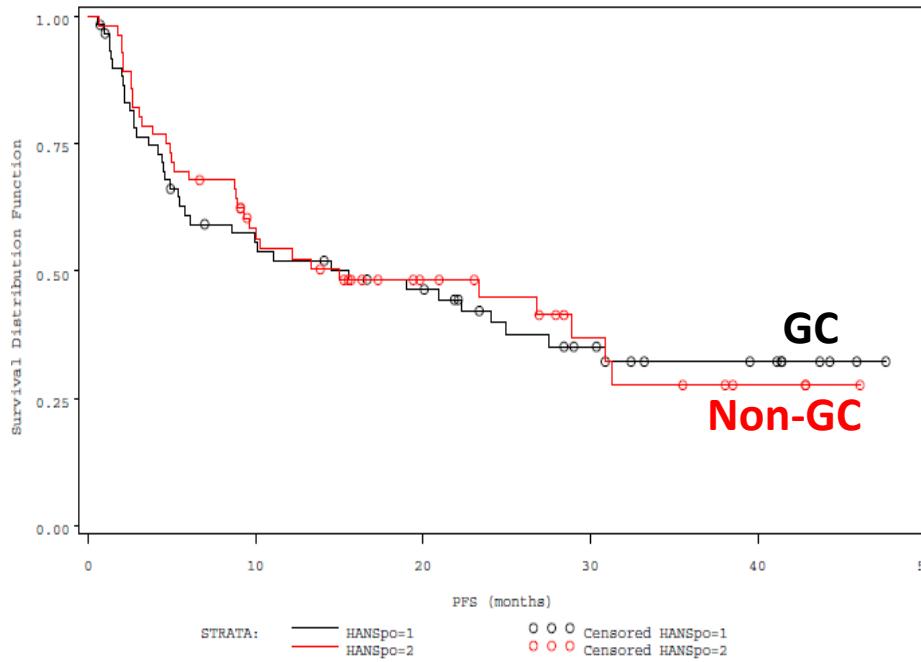
CHOP  
289 patients

1514/2451 patients from 12 studies with TMA material

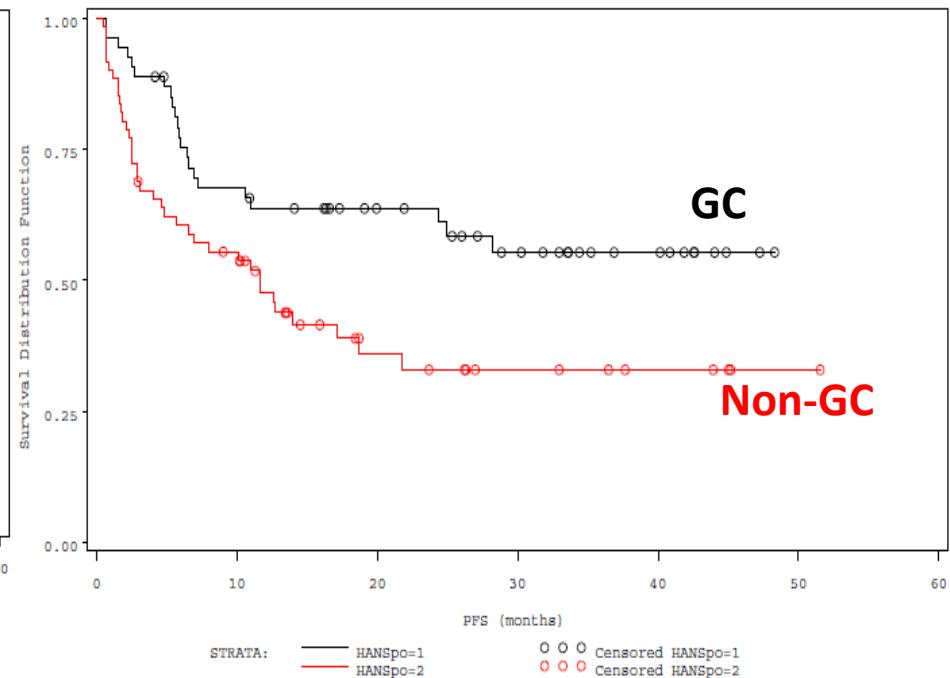
# Progression-free survival

*According to salvage regimen and phenotype*

R-ICE



R-DHAP



Interaction test     $p = 0.035$

Thieblemont C et al. J Clin Oncol. 2011;29: Sept 26

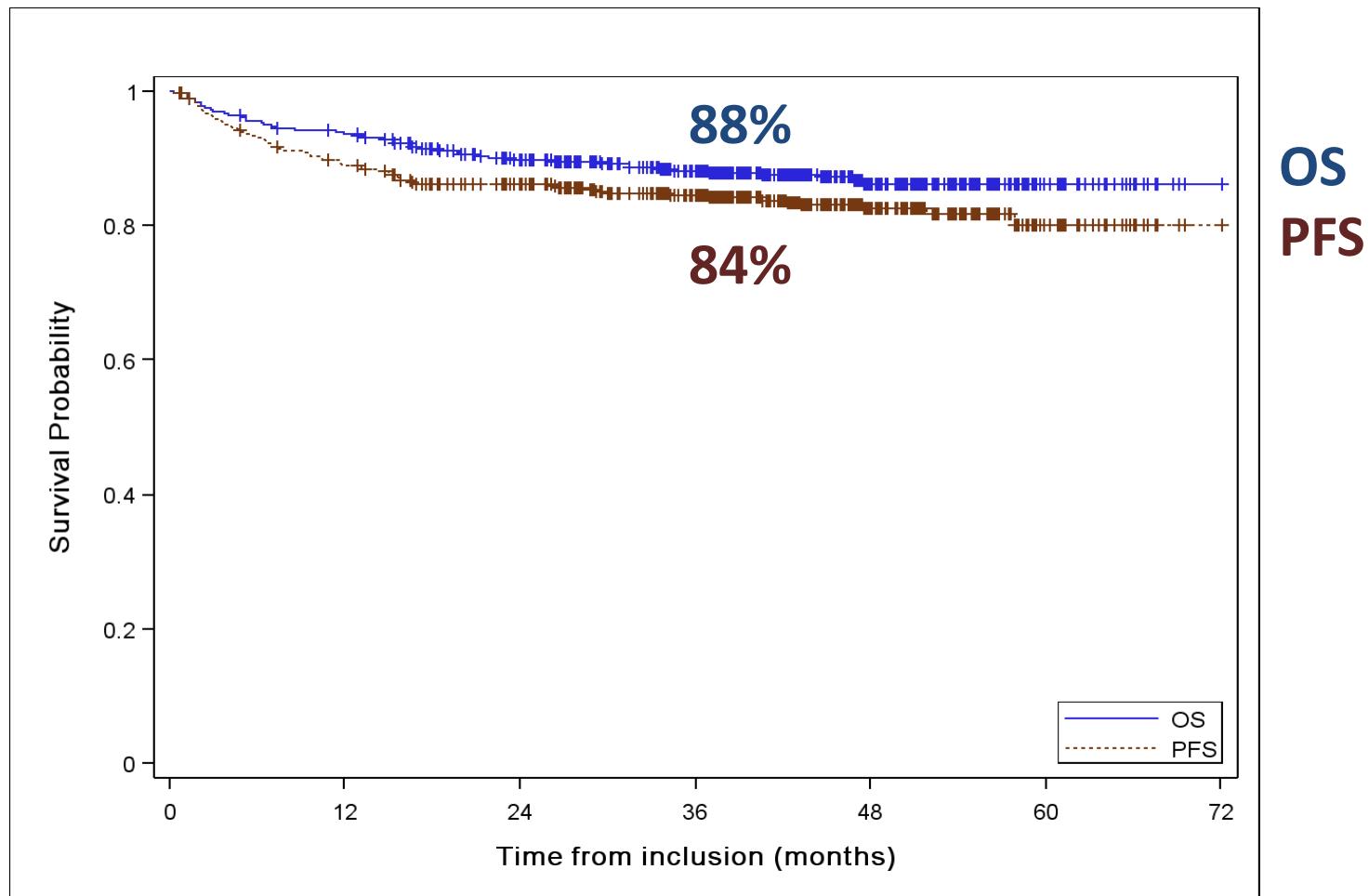
# DLBCL = One Shot Cancer

- Only patients who reached a CR with the first line chemotherapy have a chance to be cured
  - Most true (with positive PET scan) PR progress
- A minority of patients who progressed responded to salvage chemotherapy and will be transplanted
  - Only 40% of transplanted patients did not relapse

**Objective of treatment: Reach a CR and prevent a relapse**

# PFS / OS in DLBCL, patients < 60 years

## GELA studies 2003-2009, first line R-ACVBP



# What is important to know before treating a patient with DLBCL

- Age
  - Young (<61 y)
  - Elderly (60-80 y)
  - Very old (>80 y)
- IPI – age-adjusted IPI
  - Score 0
  - Score 1
  - Score 2 or 3

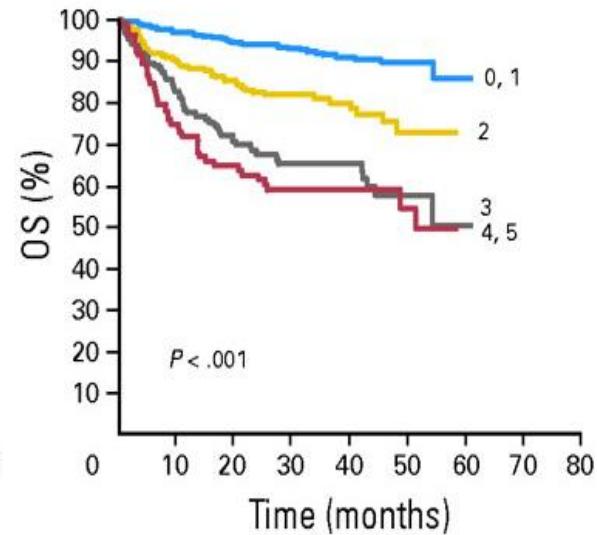
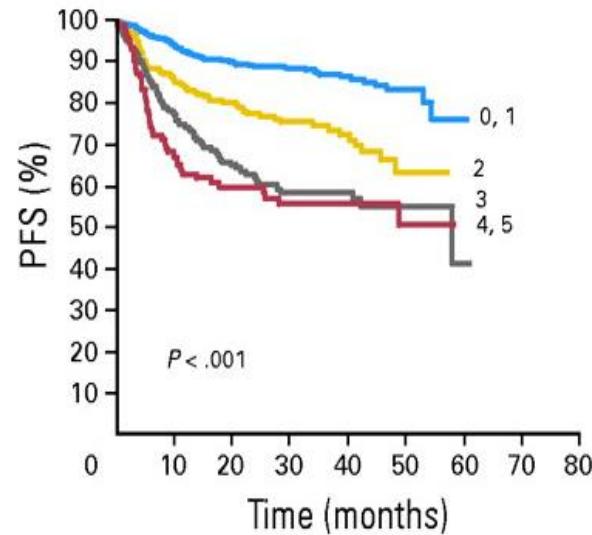
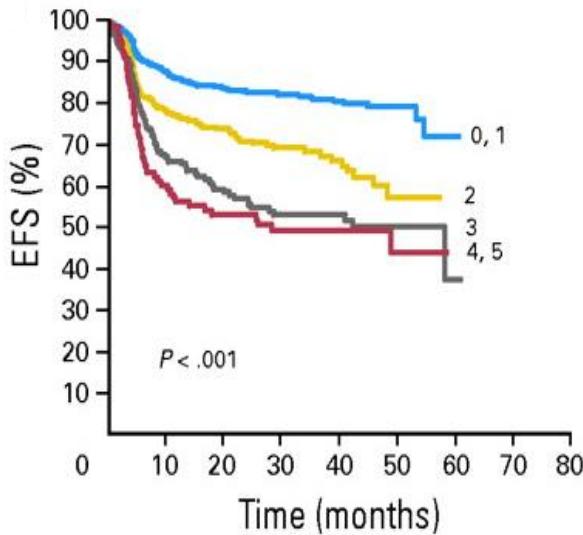
# EFS, PFS, and OS, according to IPI score

MInT ( $\leq 60$  years, age-adjusted IPI [aaIPI] 0, 1; n = 380)

MegaCHOEP trial ( $\leq 60$  years, aaIPI 1-3; n = 72)

RICOVER-60 ( $> 60$  years, all IPI groups; n = 610)

All trials (18 to 80 years of age, all IPI groups; n = 1,062)



# How to chose the good treatment?

- Patient
  - Age, concomitant diseases
  - Expectations
- Lymphoma
  - Prognostic factors
    - IPI, biological parameters ...
  - Cell of origin

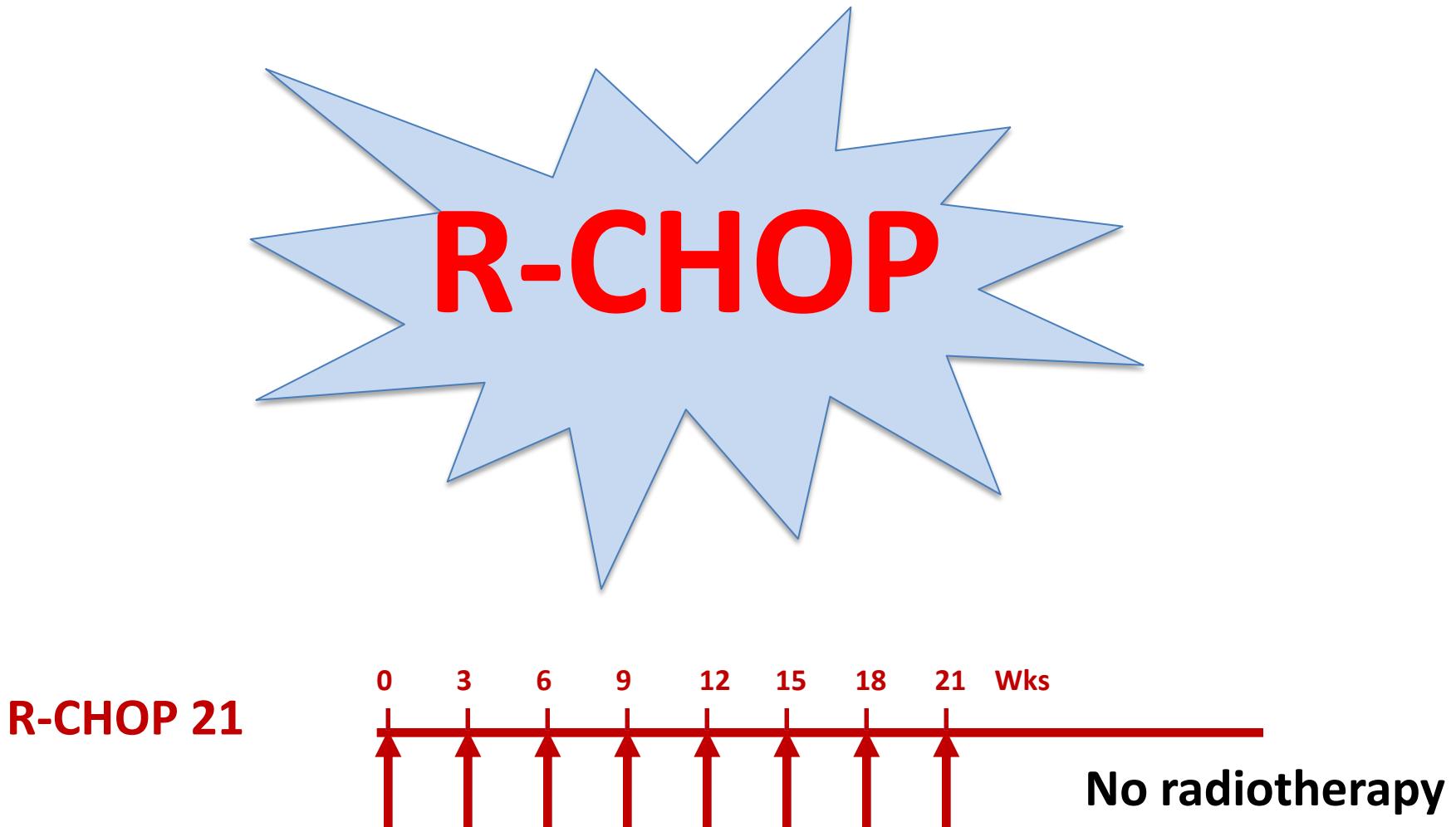


No single solution for all DLBCL patients

# How many subgroups?

- Young (<60 or 65 y)
  - Localized: stage I or aaPI=0
  - Standard risk: aaPI=1
  - Poor risk: aaPI=2 or 3
- Elderly (65 – 80 y)
  - Localized: stage I or aaPI=0
  - aaPI=1 to 3
- Very old (>80 y)

# Standard Regimen for DLBCL patients



# Usual results with R-CHOP in DLBCL

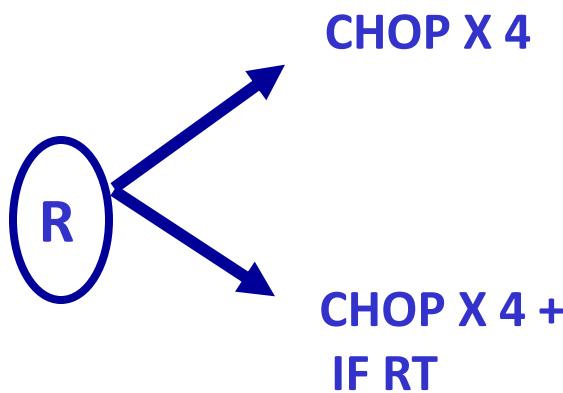
- 5-year survival according to aaIPI & age
  - aaIPI score = 0: over 85%
  - Young, aaIPI score = 1: over 80%
  - Young, aaIPI score >1: around 60%
  - Elderly, aaIPI score >0: around 50%
  - Very old: around 30%
- For 30-40% of patients, R-CHOP is not satisfactory

Young & elderly patient, score 0  
(Localized disease)

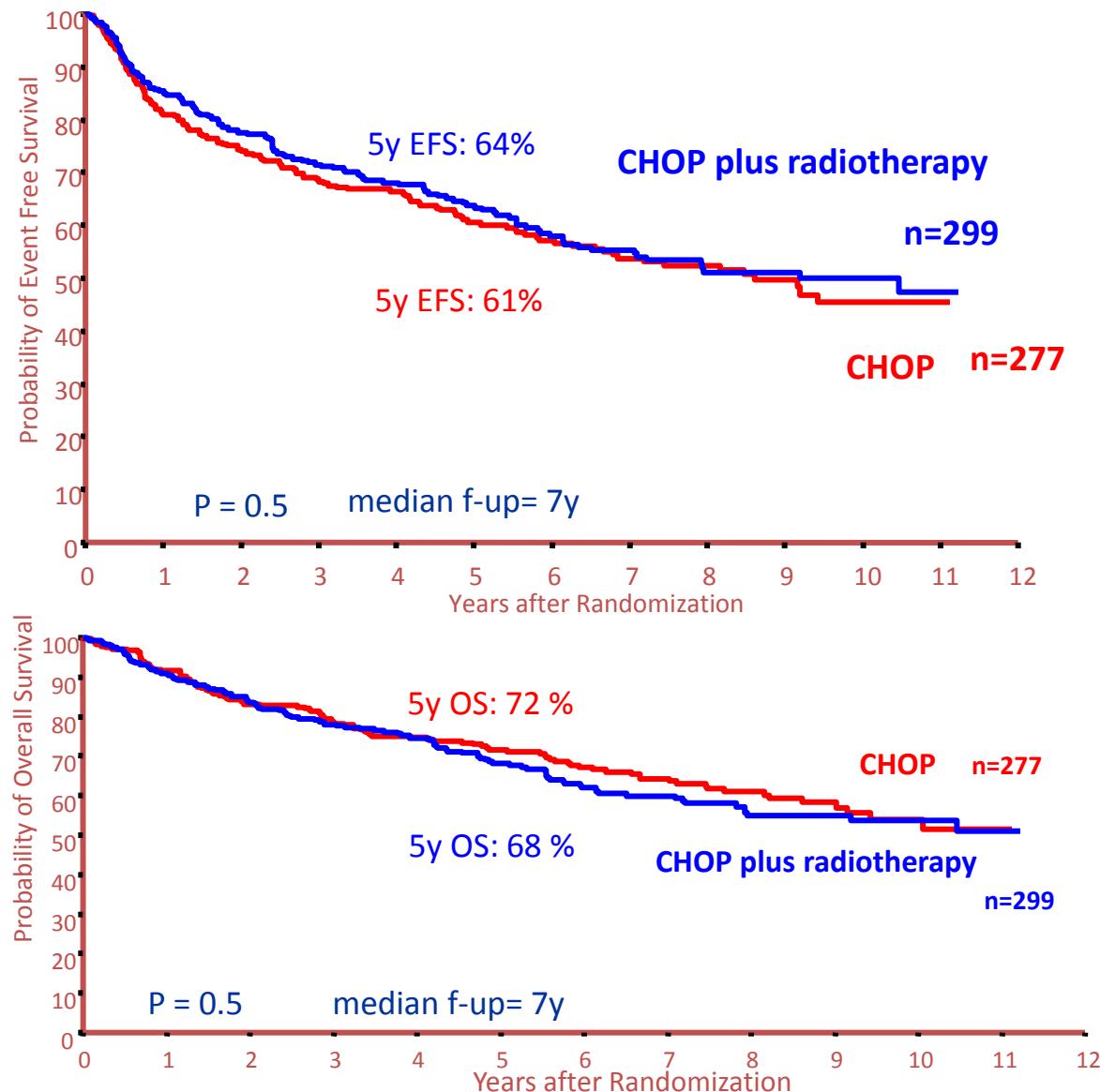
R-CHOP x 6

No radiation therapy  
(Some do RT)

## LNH 93-4 study: IPI=0; &gt;60y



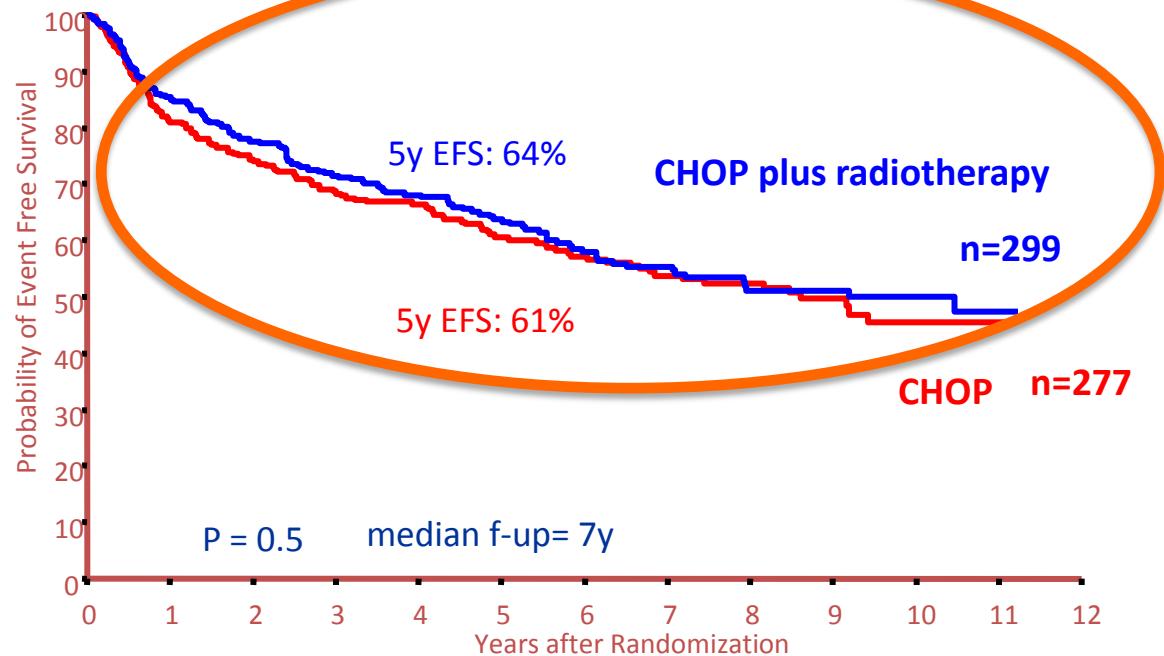
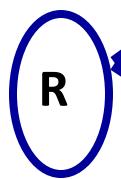
- Identical CR rates
- More secondary cancers with RT



# LNH 93-4 study: IPI=0; >60y

CHOP X 4

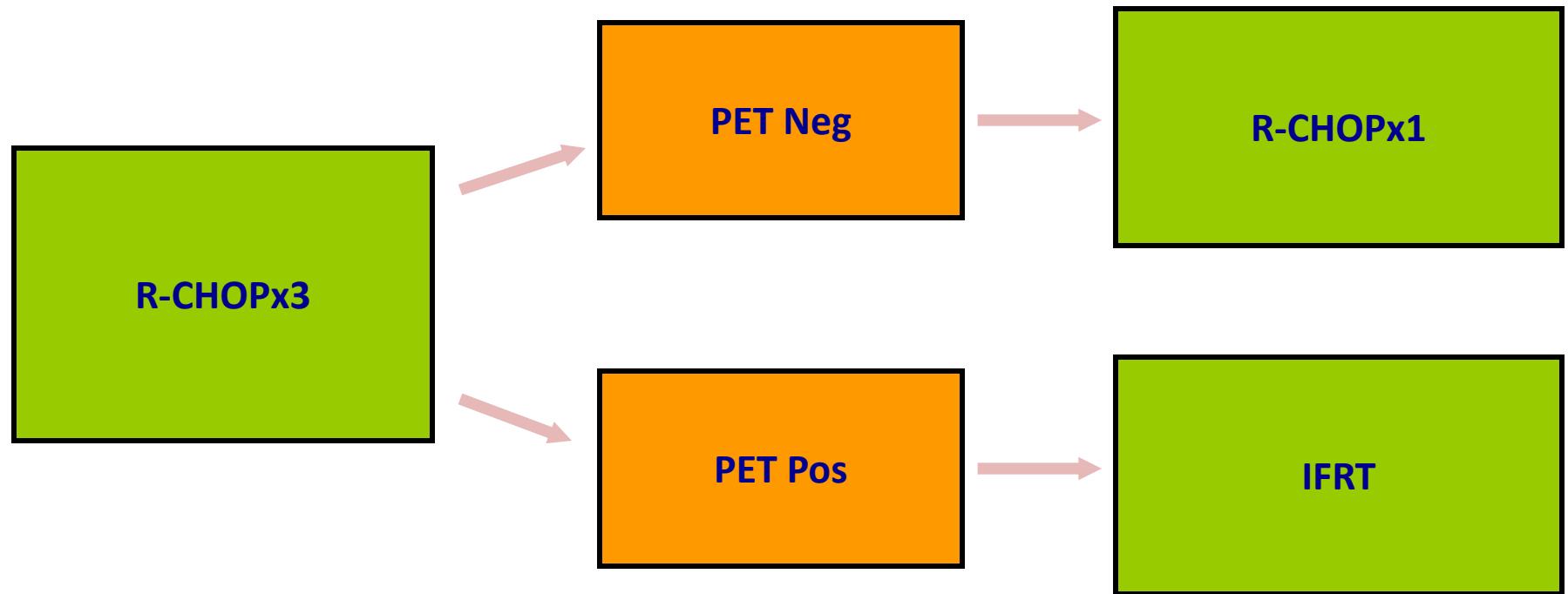
CHOP X 4 +  
IF RT



In good risk patients, 50% survival is not a satisfactory result

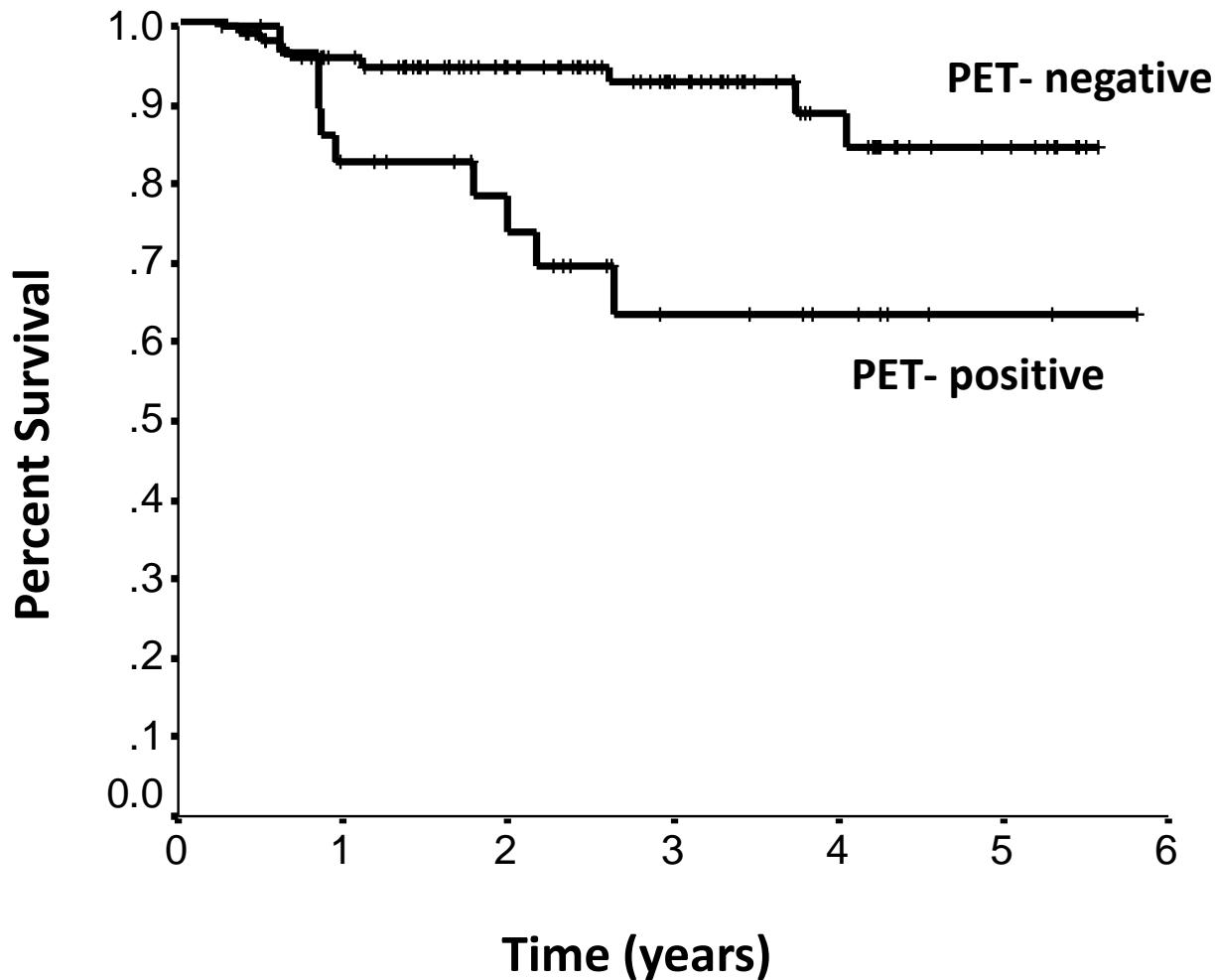
- Add rituximab
- Use 6 cycles of R-CHOP

# PET-Based Treatment Algorithm for Limited-Stage DLBCL



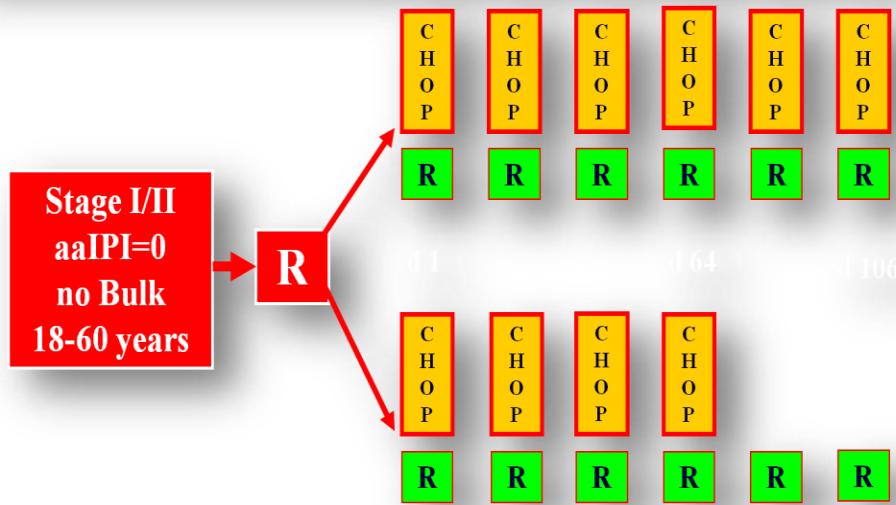
134 patients, 57% stage I & 43% stage II

# TTP According to PET Status

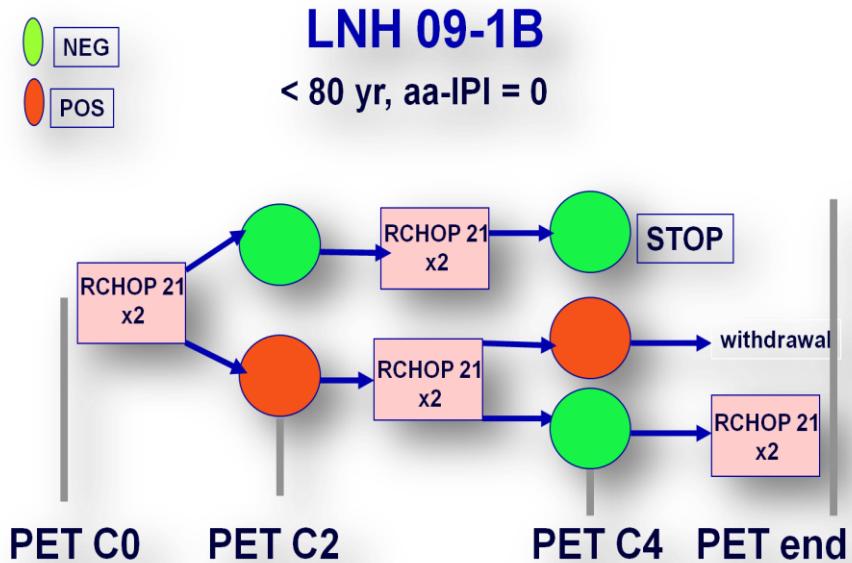


# Ongoing studies, aaIPI = 0

## FLYER (6-6/6-4) STUDY DESIGN



Stage I/II  
aaIPI=0  
no Bulk  
18-60 years



Gela

Elderly patient, score > 0

R-CHOP x 8

Is there something better?

# GELA study: 10 years follow-up

Figure 3. Event-free survival.

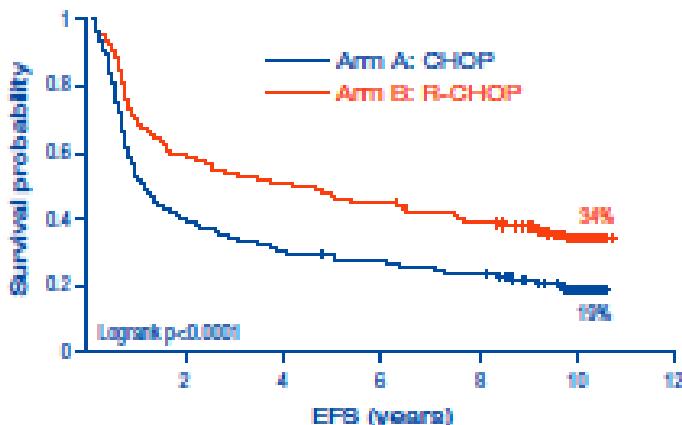


Figure 4. Progression-free survival.

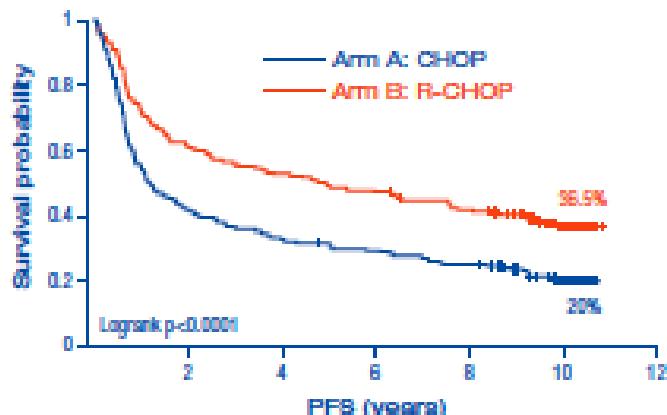


Figure 5. Disease-free survival for patients in CR.

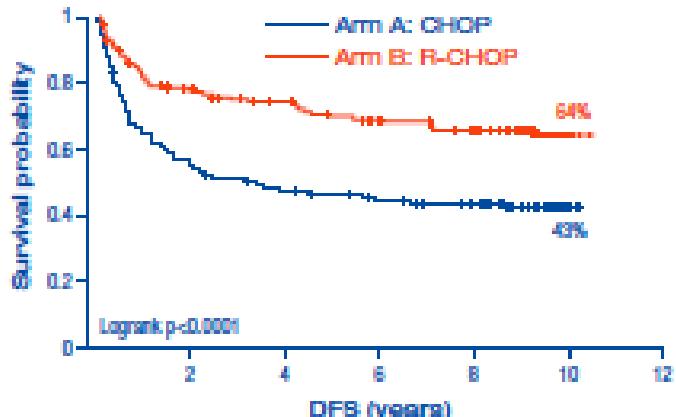
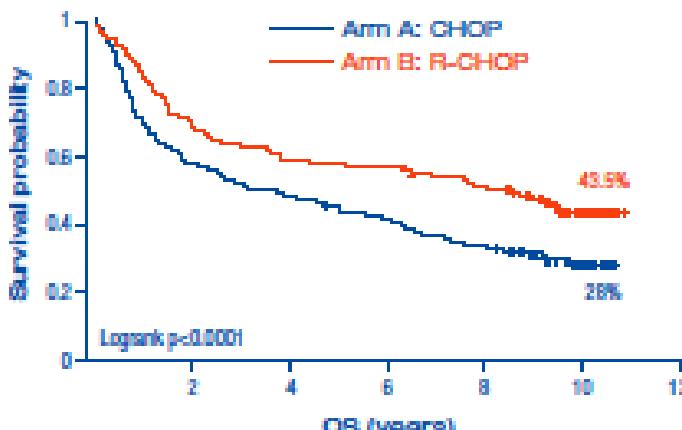


Figure 6. Overall survival.

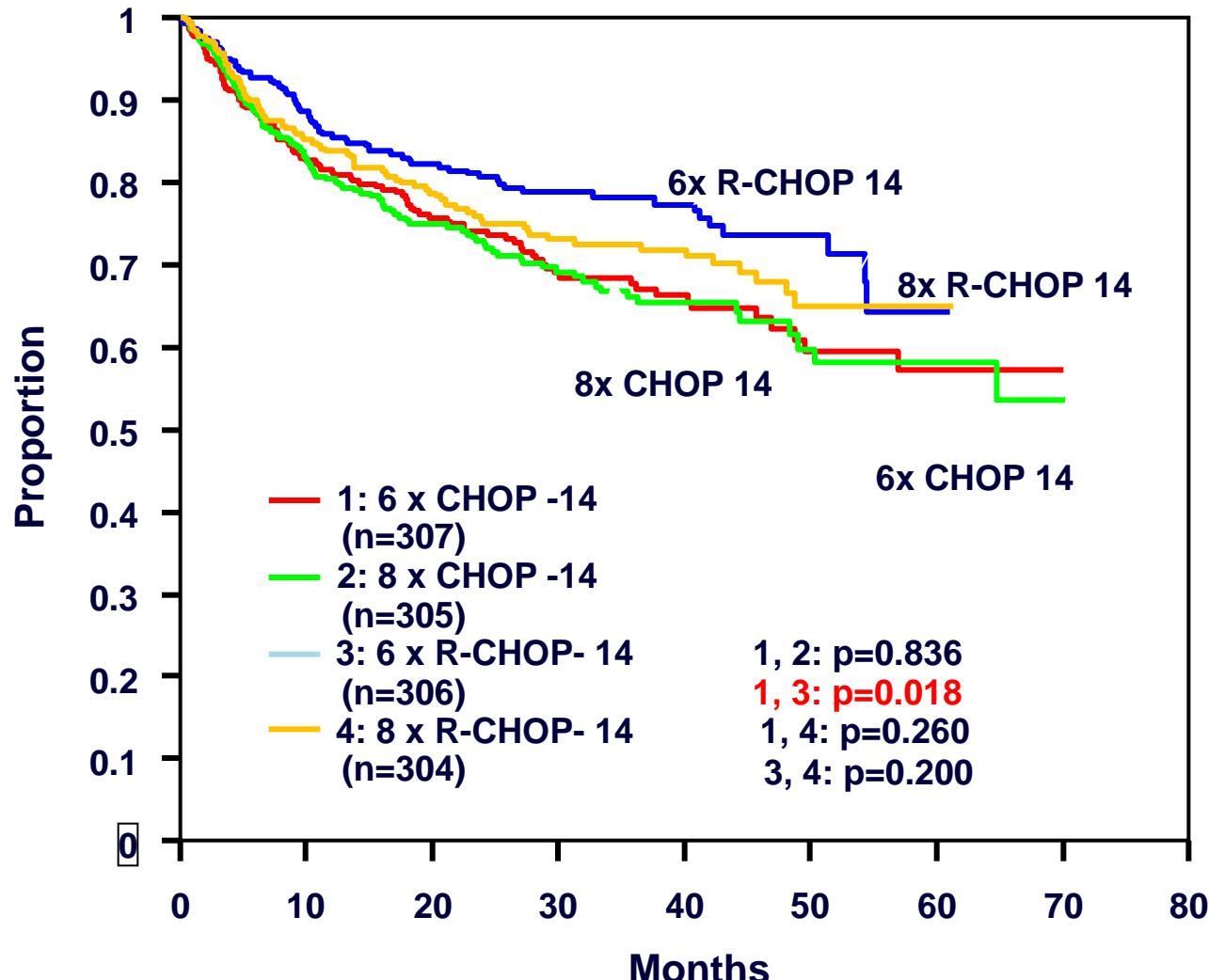


# Elderly (<80 y) - Possibilities

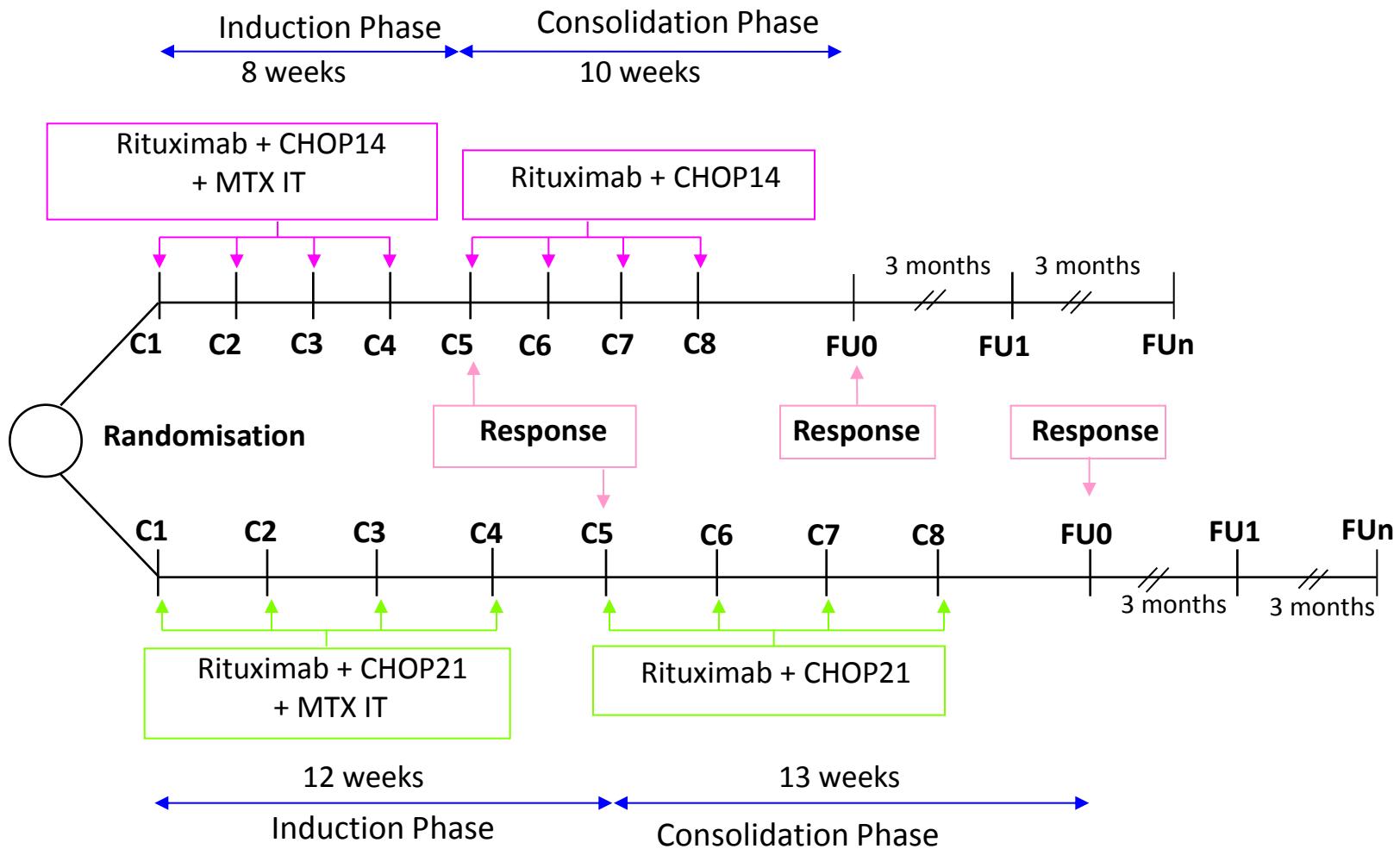
- R-CHOP-14
- Replace one component of R-CHOP by a better drug
- R-CHOP + X
- R-CHOP followed by X
- Higher dose regimens

# RICOVER-60

## Overall Survival



# LNH 03-6B: Study design

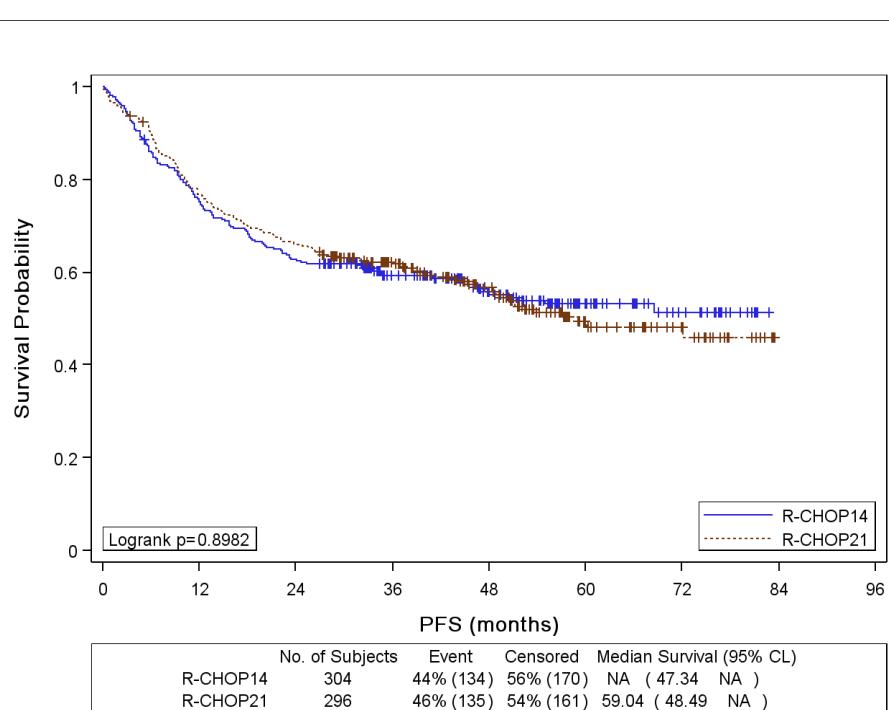


Araneesp®, one weekly subcutaneous injection in Arms A1 and B1  
Filgrastim ou Pegfilgrastim according to physician decision

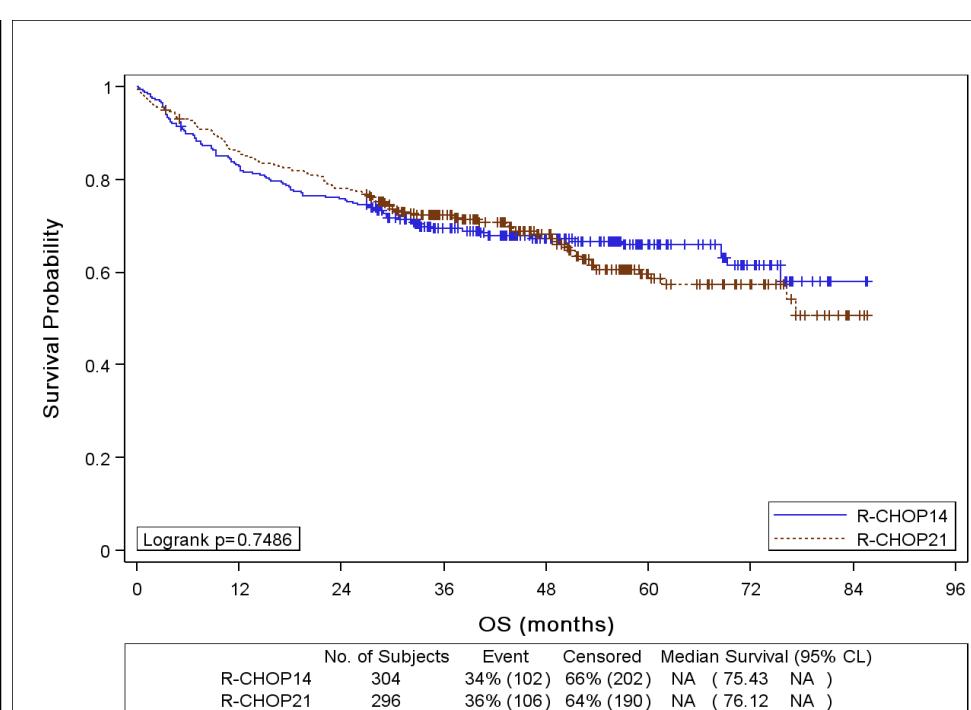
R Delarue et al. ICML 2011

# R-CHOP 14/21 Study

## PFS



## OS



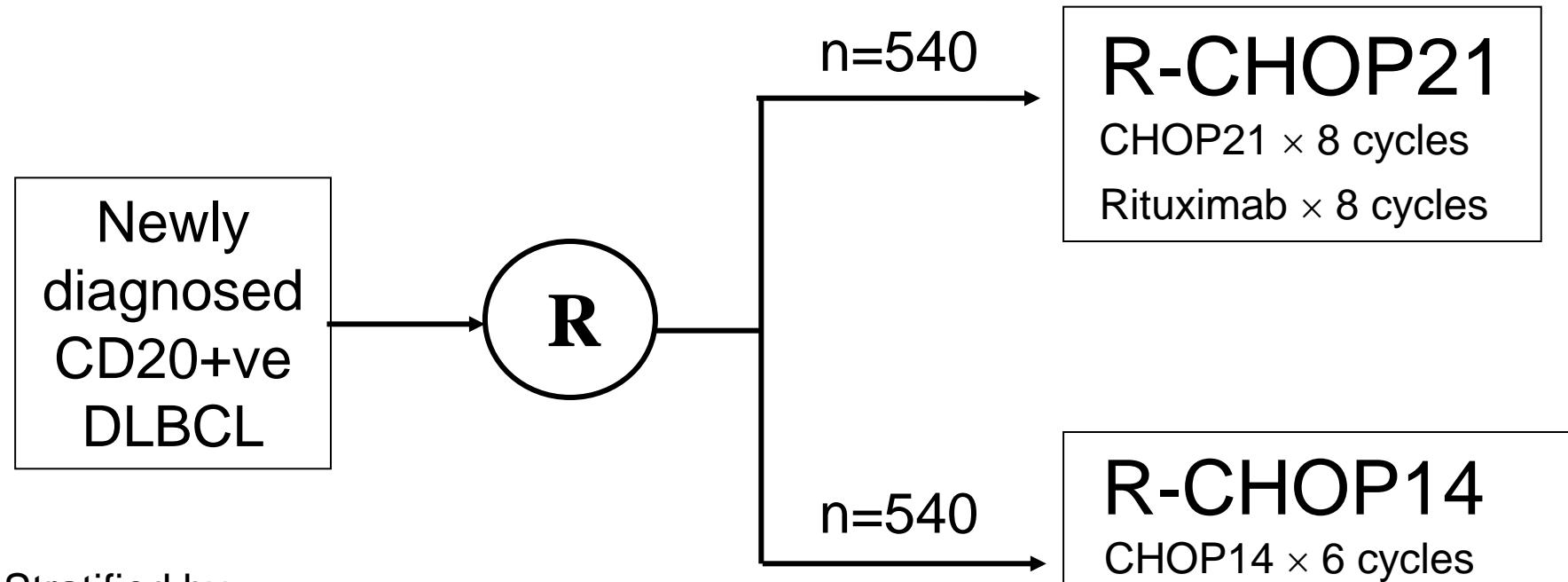
**3y-PFS : 60% vs 62%**

**HR: 0.99 (95%CI: 0.78-1.26); p=0.94**

**3y-OS : 69% vs 72%**

**HR: 0.93 (95%CI: 0.76-1.26); p=0.76**

# Trial design: R-CHOP14 vs. 21

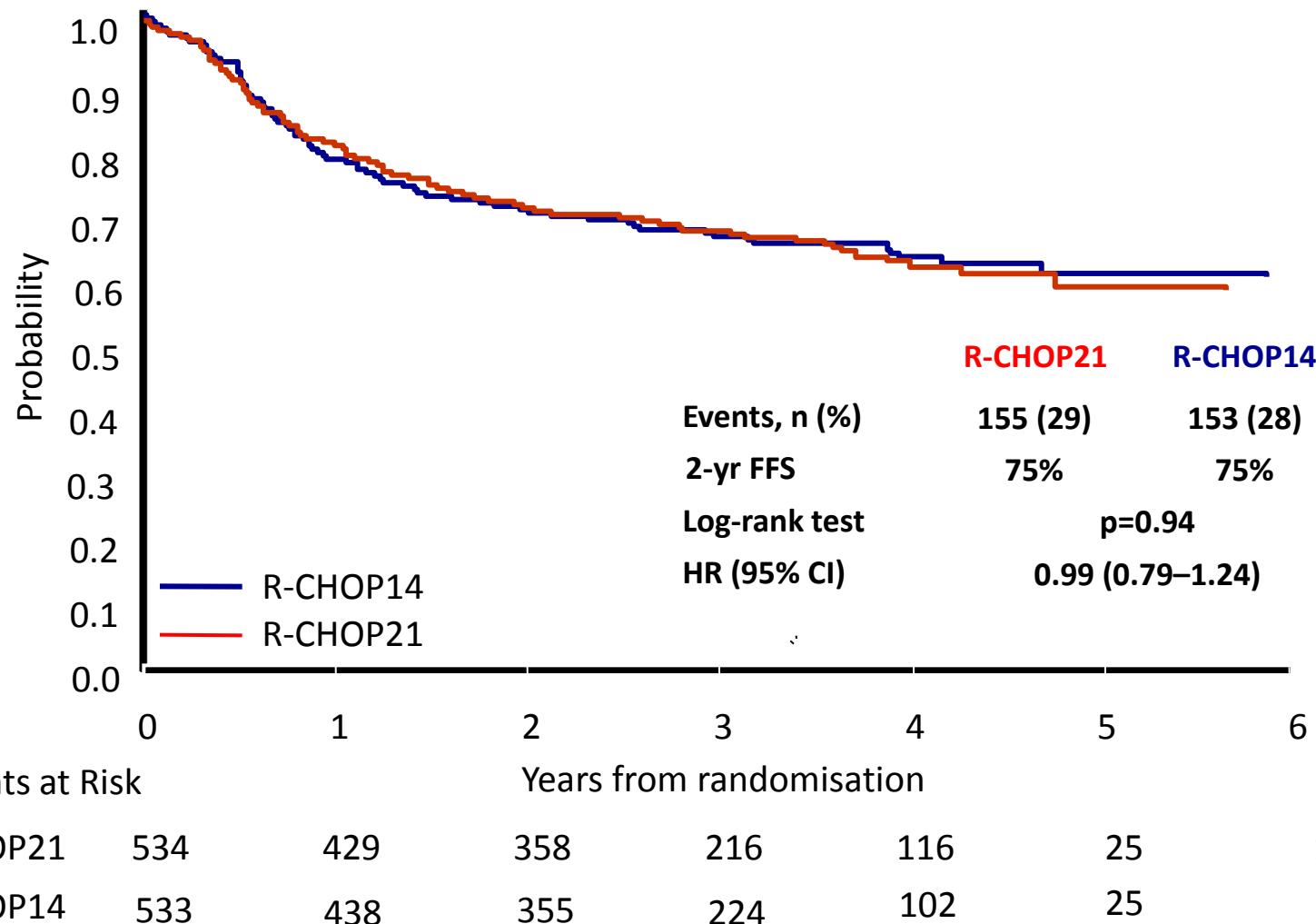


Stratified by

- IPI (0-1, 2, 3, 4-5)
- Age ≤60 vs. >60
- Treatment centre

1080 patients; 119 sites  
Recruitment March 2005 - Nov 2008

# Failure-free survival



Young patient, score 1

R-CHOP 14 vs. 21

R-ACVBP

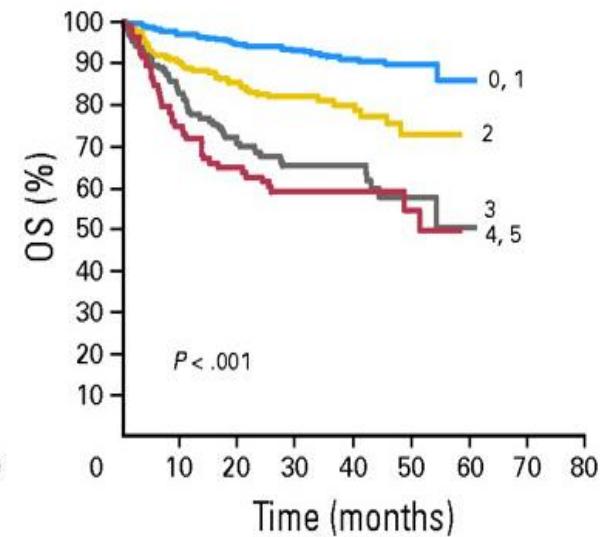
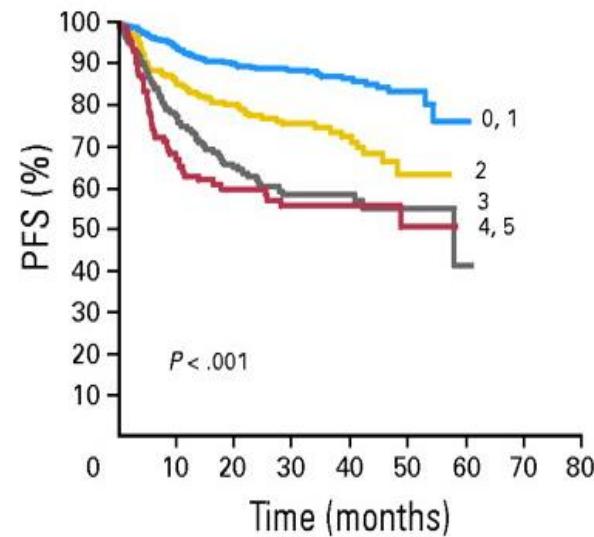
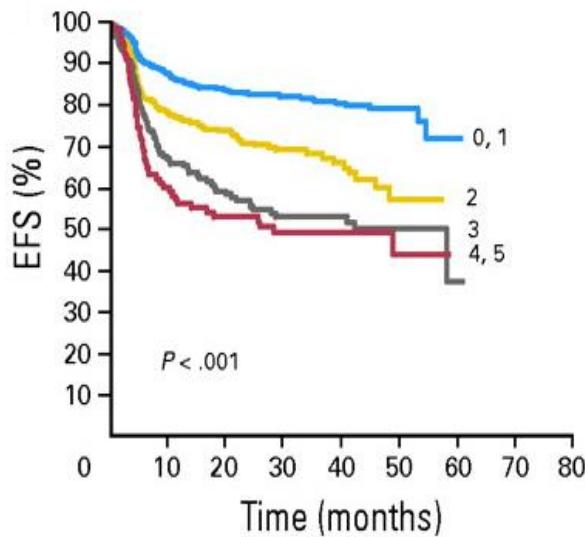
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MegaCHOEP trial ( $\leq 60$  years, aaIPI 1-3; n = 72)

RICOVER-60 ( $> 60$  years, all IPI groups; n = 610)

All trials (18 to 80 years of age, all IPI groups; n = 1,062)

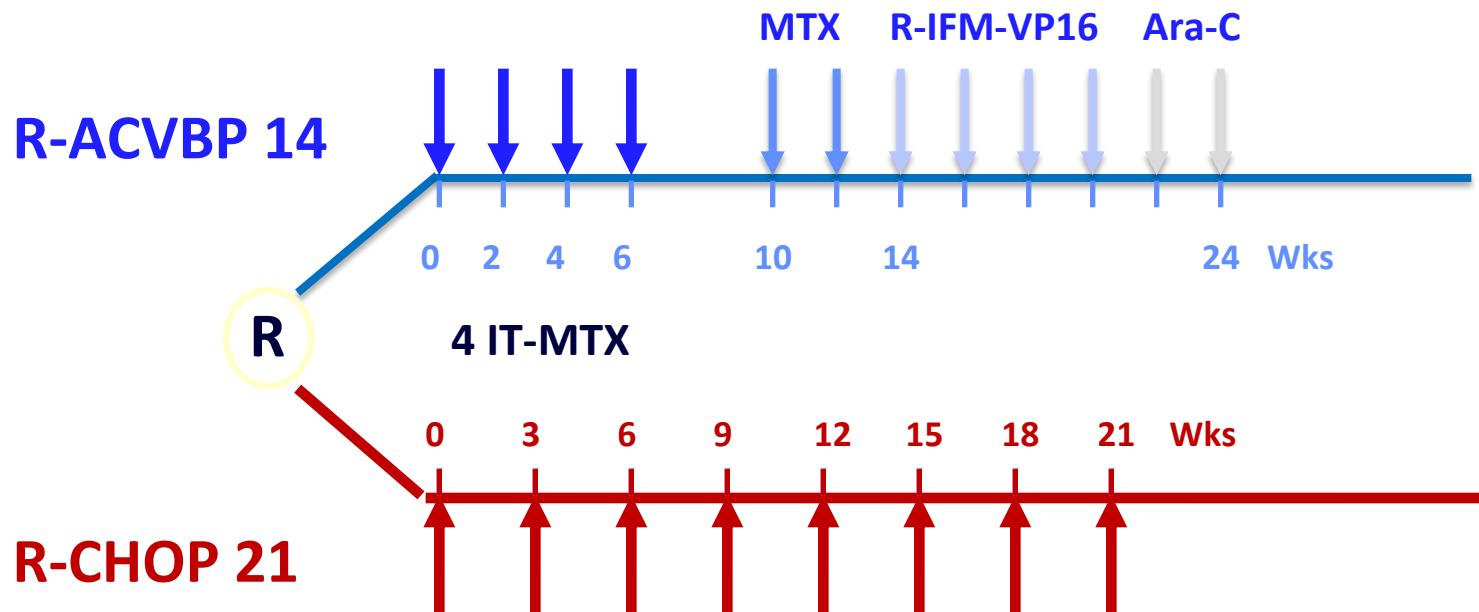


EFS

PFS

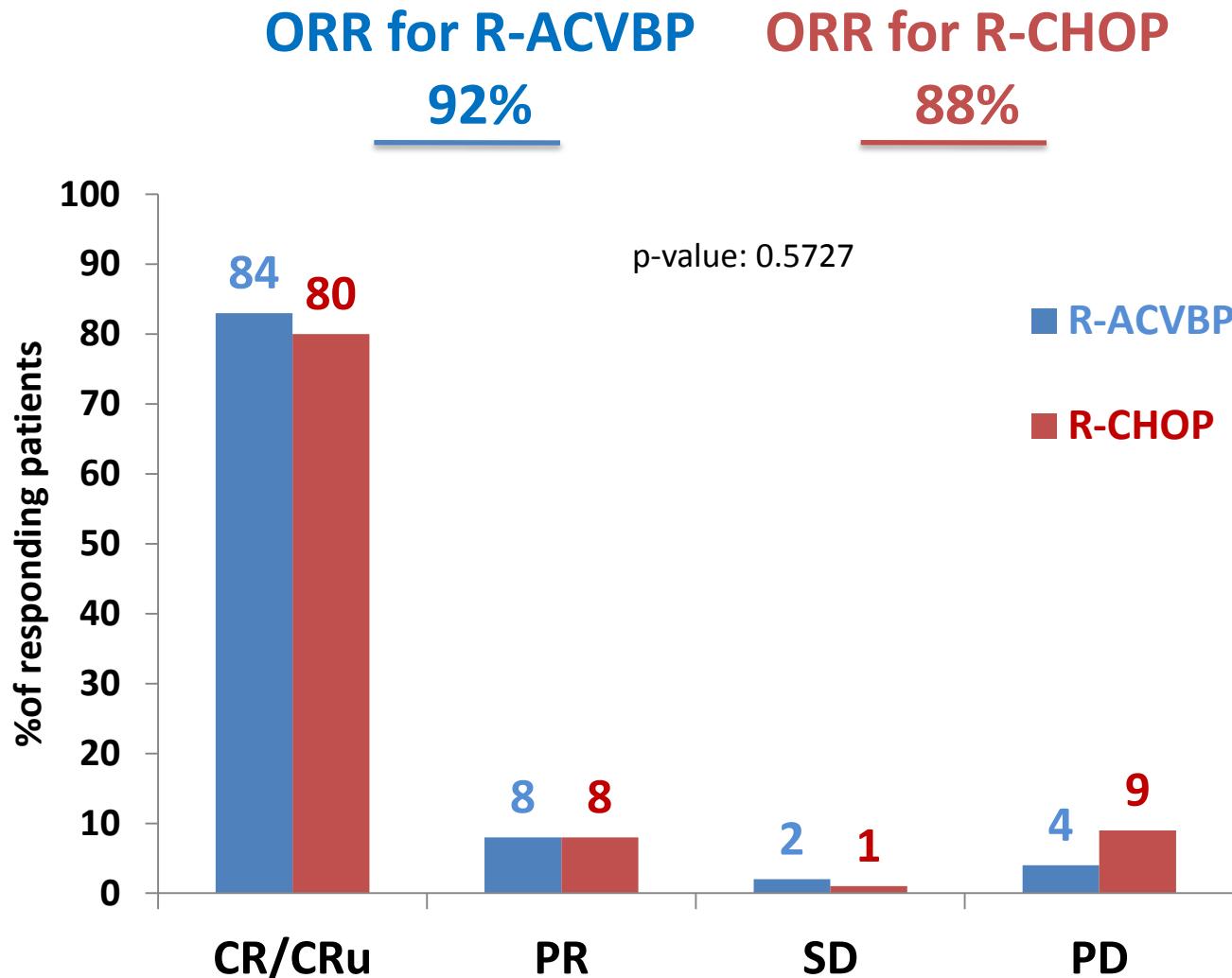
OS

# LNH 03-2B study



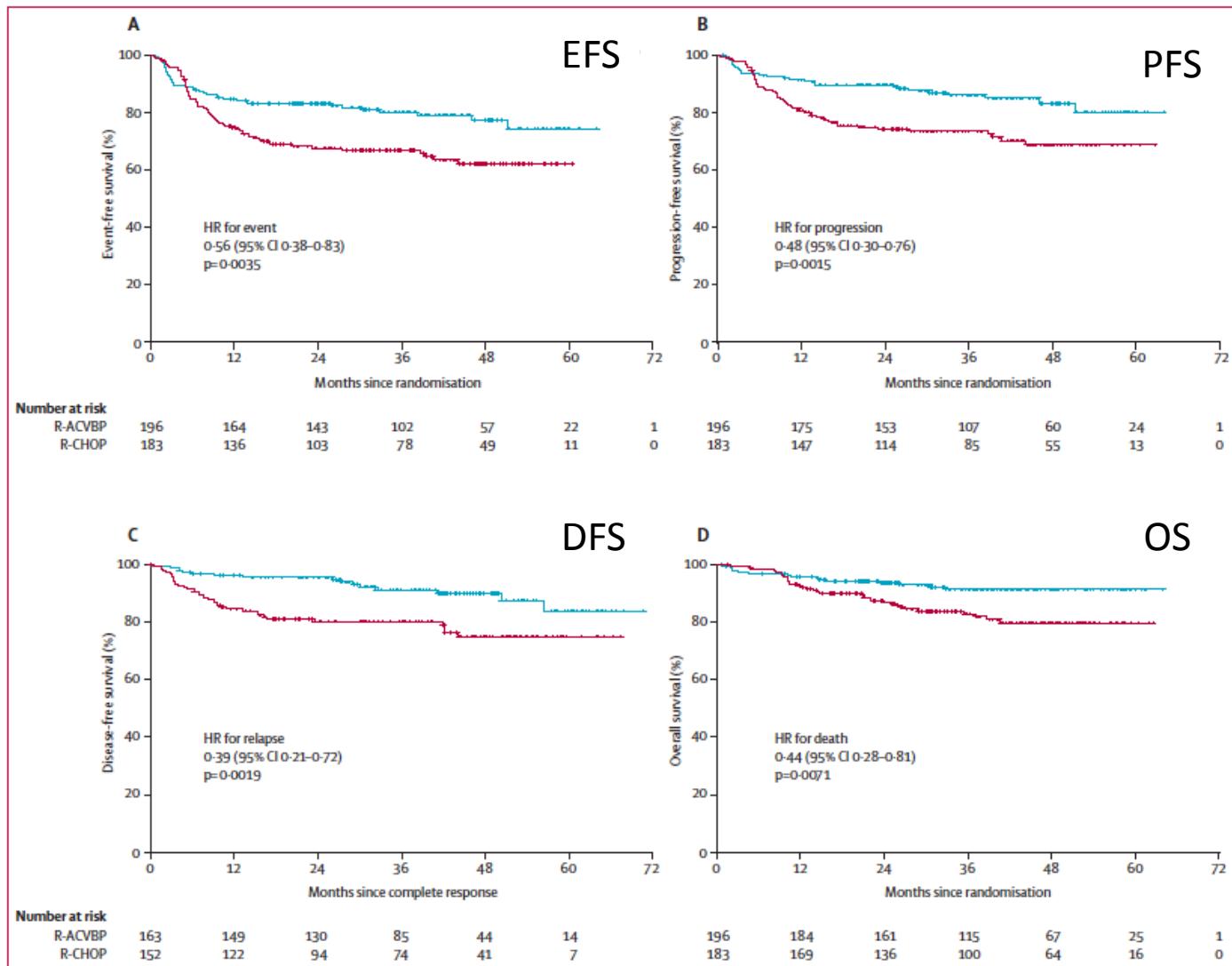
\*No radiotherapy  
in both arms

# Response at the end of treatment



# LNH 03-2B study

 R-ACVBP  
 R-CHOP

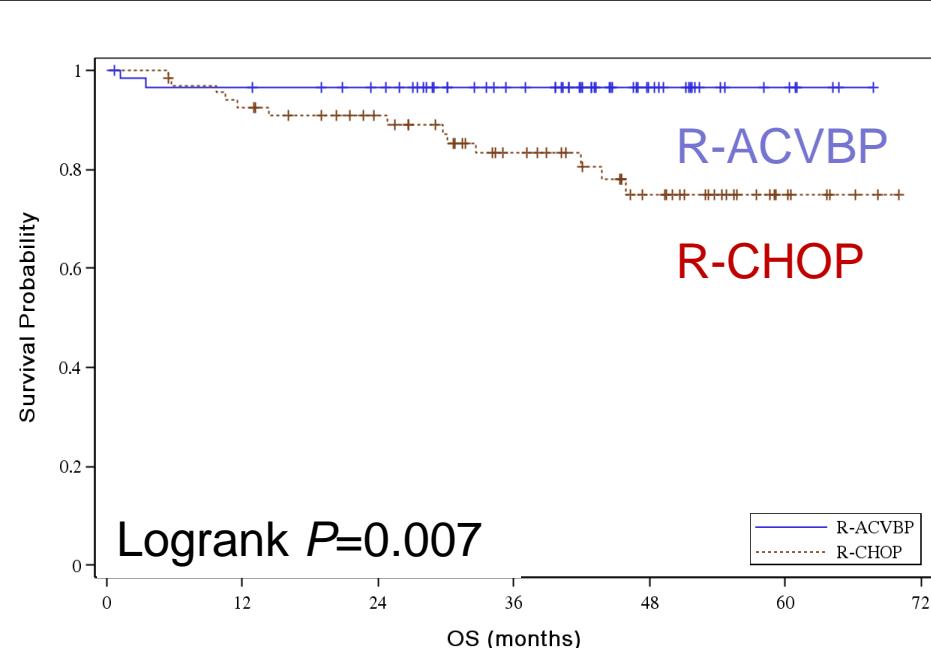
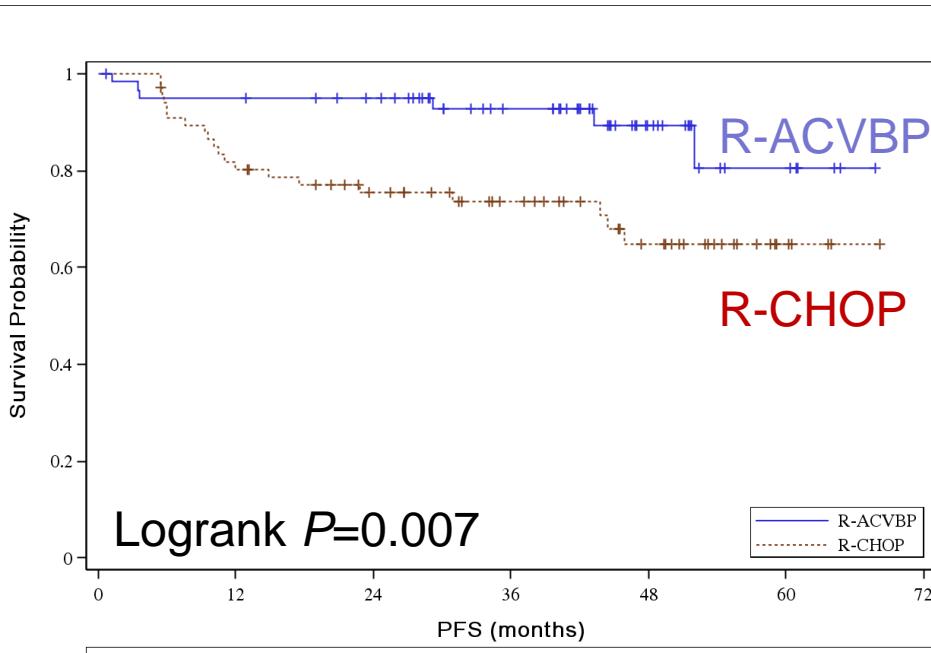


# 03 2B trial : PFS and OS according to treatment arm in patients with non GC phenotype

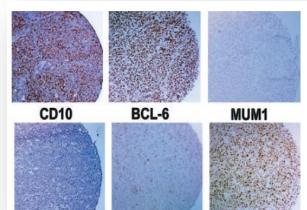
PFS

non-GC tumors

OS



aalPI score 1 DLBCL patients (18-59) with non-GC DLBCL benefit from Intensified chemotherapy with R-ACVBP compared to RCHOP



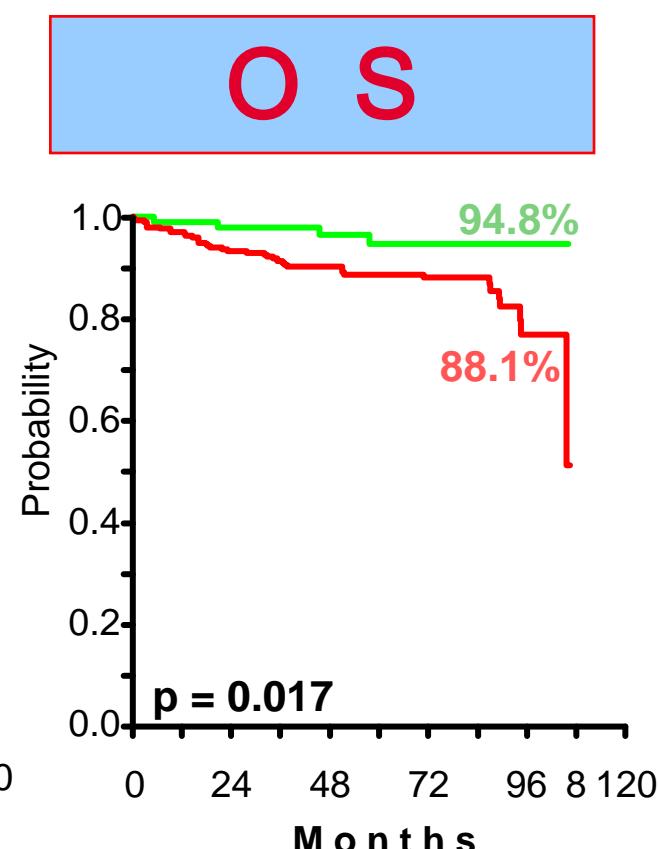
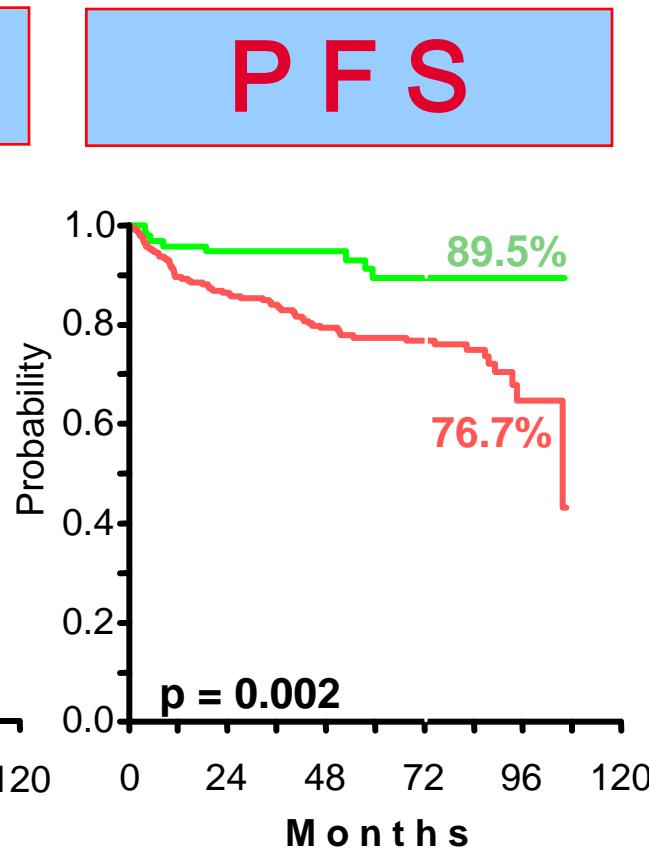
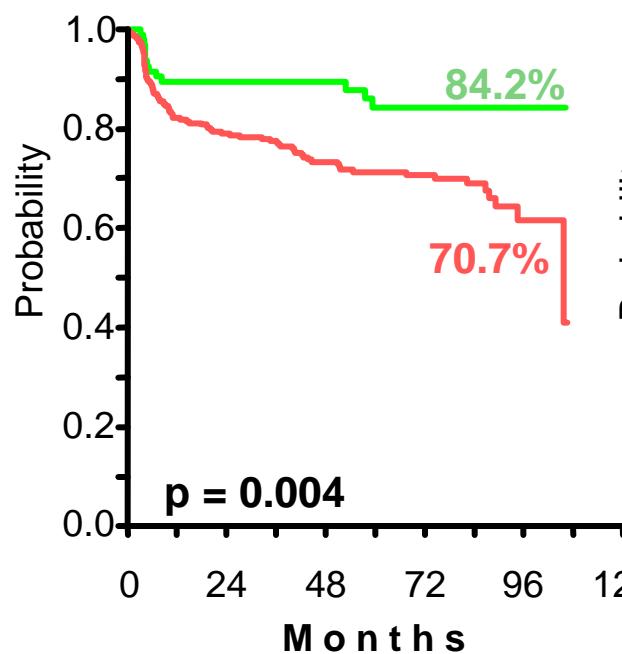


# Prognostic Groups in the Rituximab Era: Favourable vs. Unfavourable

EFS

PFS

OS



Favourable: IPI=0 /  $\emptyset$  bulk

Unfavourable: IPI=1 and / or bulk

# R-ACVBP or R-CHOP?

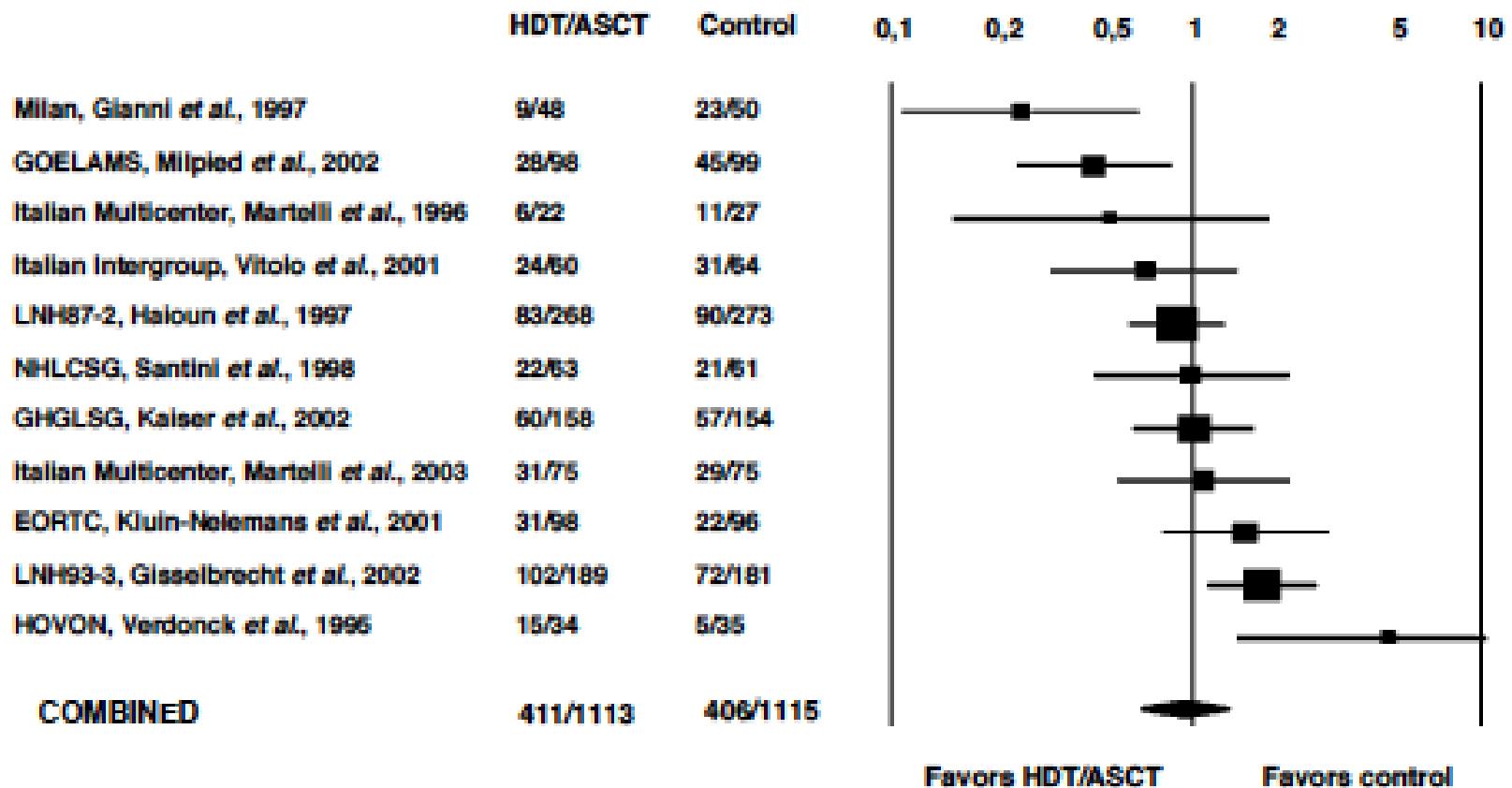
- R-CHOP is easier for patients and physicians
- R-CHOP is a good but significantly inferior to R-ACVBP
- Solution:
  - Find prognostic parameters before treatment
  - R-CHOP for good risk patients
  - R-ACVBP for poor risk patients
  - ? R-CHOP + radiation therapy?

Young patient, score 2/3

R-ACVBP  
(or other high-dose regimen)

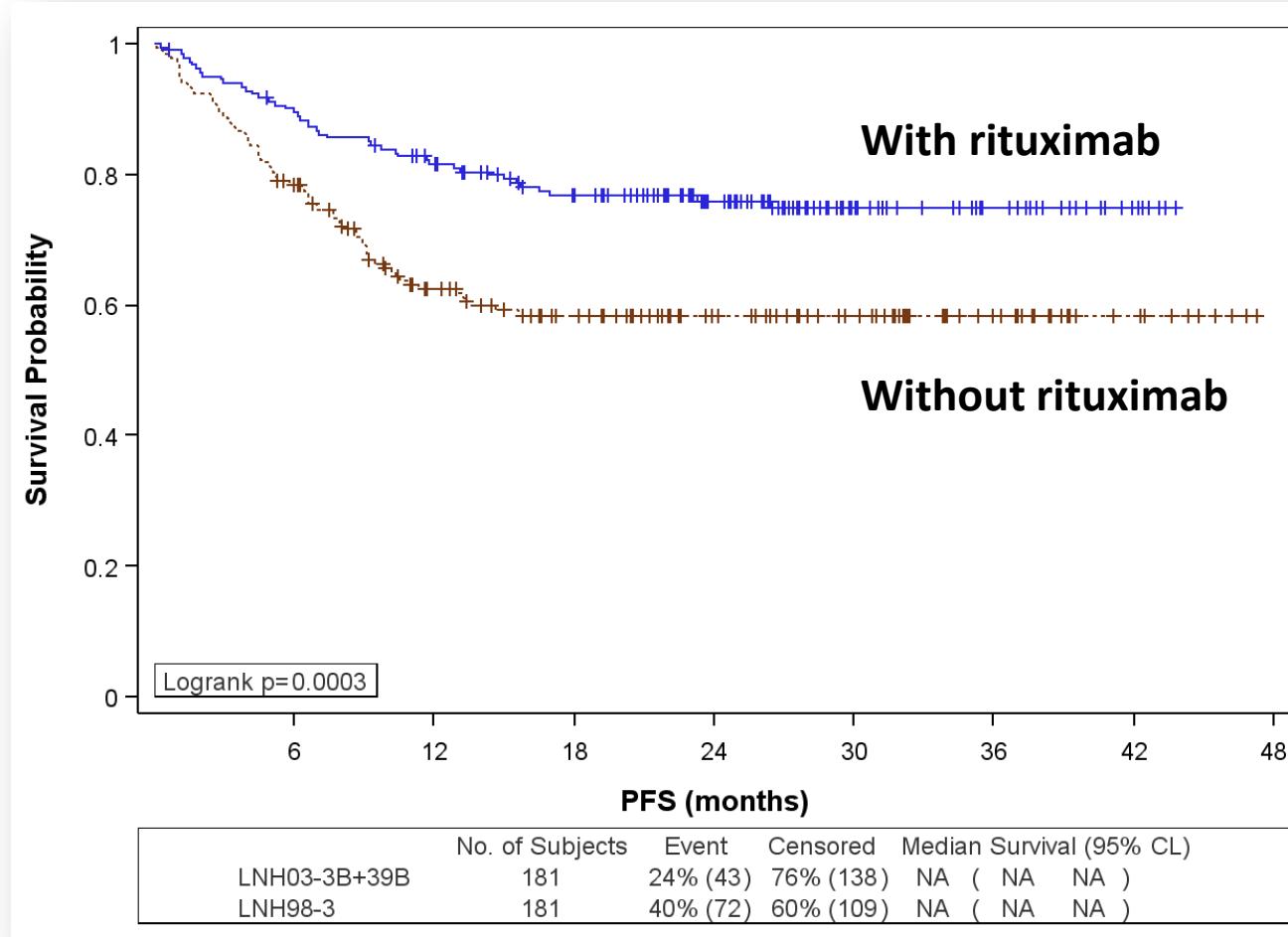
Any role for HDT and autologous transplant?

# Meta-analysis of High Dose Chemotherapy +ASCT as first-line therapy in aggressive NHL



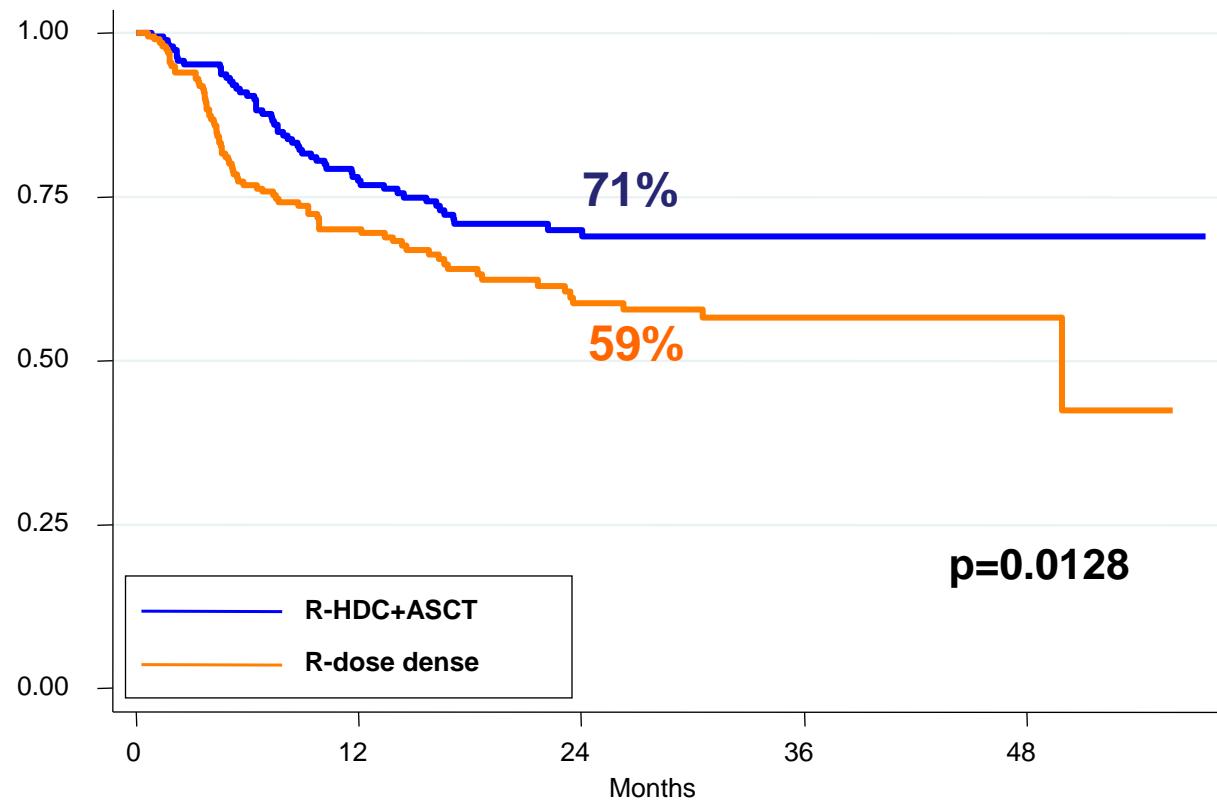
# ACVBP vs R-ACVBP + PSCT

LNH98-3/LNH03-3B aaPI=2,3



# 2-year PFS: R-HDC+ASCT vs R-CHOP/R-MegaCHOP median follow-up 24 months

aalPI=2/3



At risk:

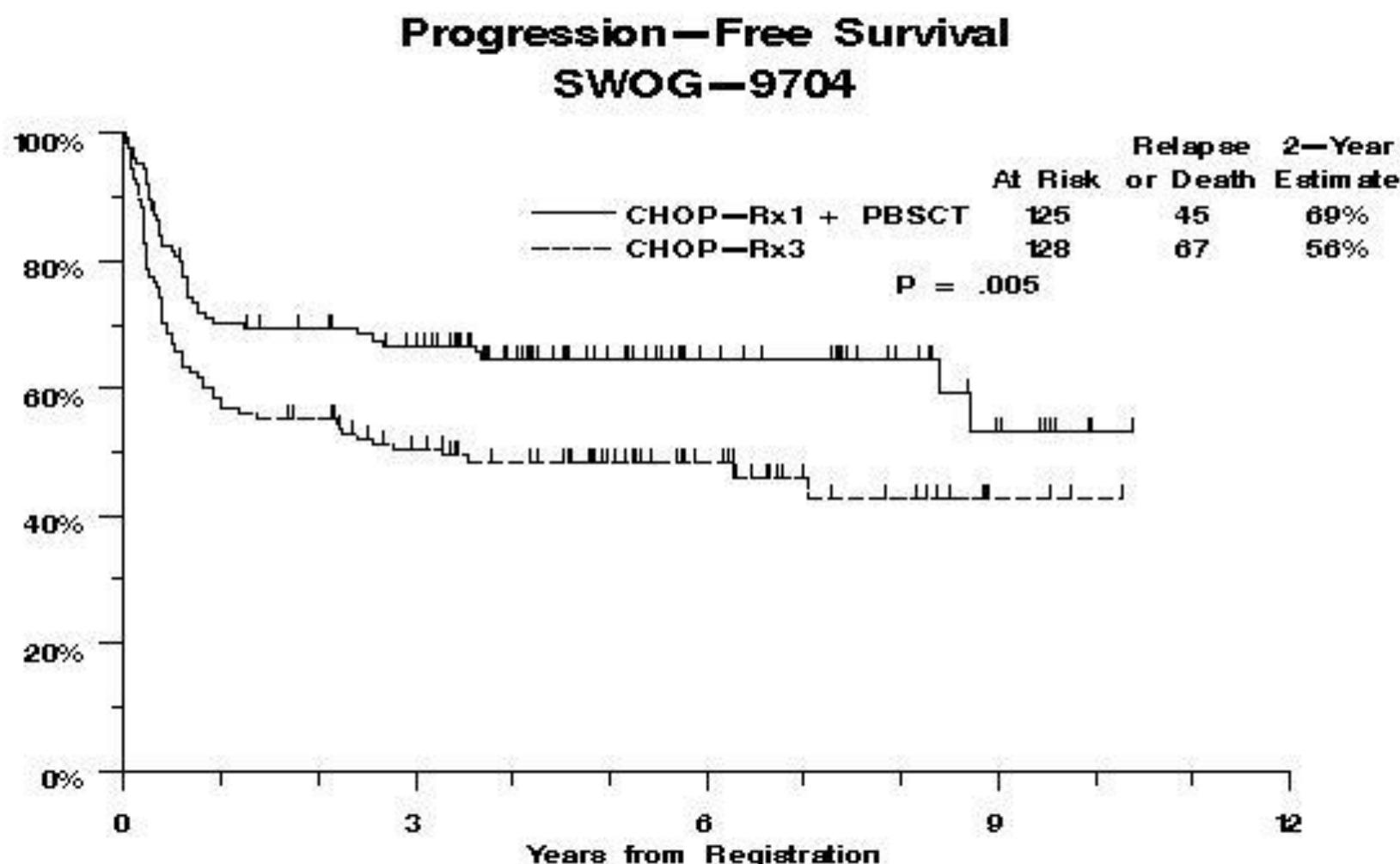
R-HDC+ASCT	192	166	124	99	74	60	49	32	14
R-dose dense	200	143	115	77	63	46	30	19	5

Randomized phase III US / Canadian Intergroup trial (SWOG S9704)  
comparing CHOP±R x 8 vs CHOP±R x 6 followed by high dose therapy and  
auto transplant for patients with diffuse aggressive non-Hodgkin's  
lymphoma (NHL) in high-intermediate (H-Int) or high IPI risk groups.

P.J. Stiff<sup>1</sup>, J.M. Unger<sup>2</sup>, J.R. Cook<sup>3</sup>, L.S. Constine<sup>4</sup>, S. Couban<sup>5</sup>, T.C. Shea<sup>6</sup>,  
J.N. Winter<sup>7</sup>, T.P. Miller<sup>8</sup>, R.R. Tubbs<sup>3</sup>, D.C. Marcellus<sup>9</sup>, J. Friedberg<sup>4</sup>, K.  
Barton<sup>1</sup>, G. Mills<sup>10</sup>, M. LeBlanc<sup>2</sup>, L. Rimsza<sup>8</sup>, S.J. Forman<sup>11</sup>, R.I. Fisher<sup>4</sup>

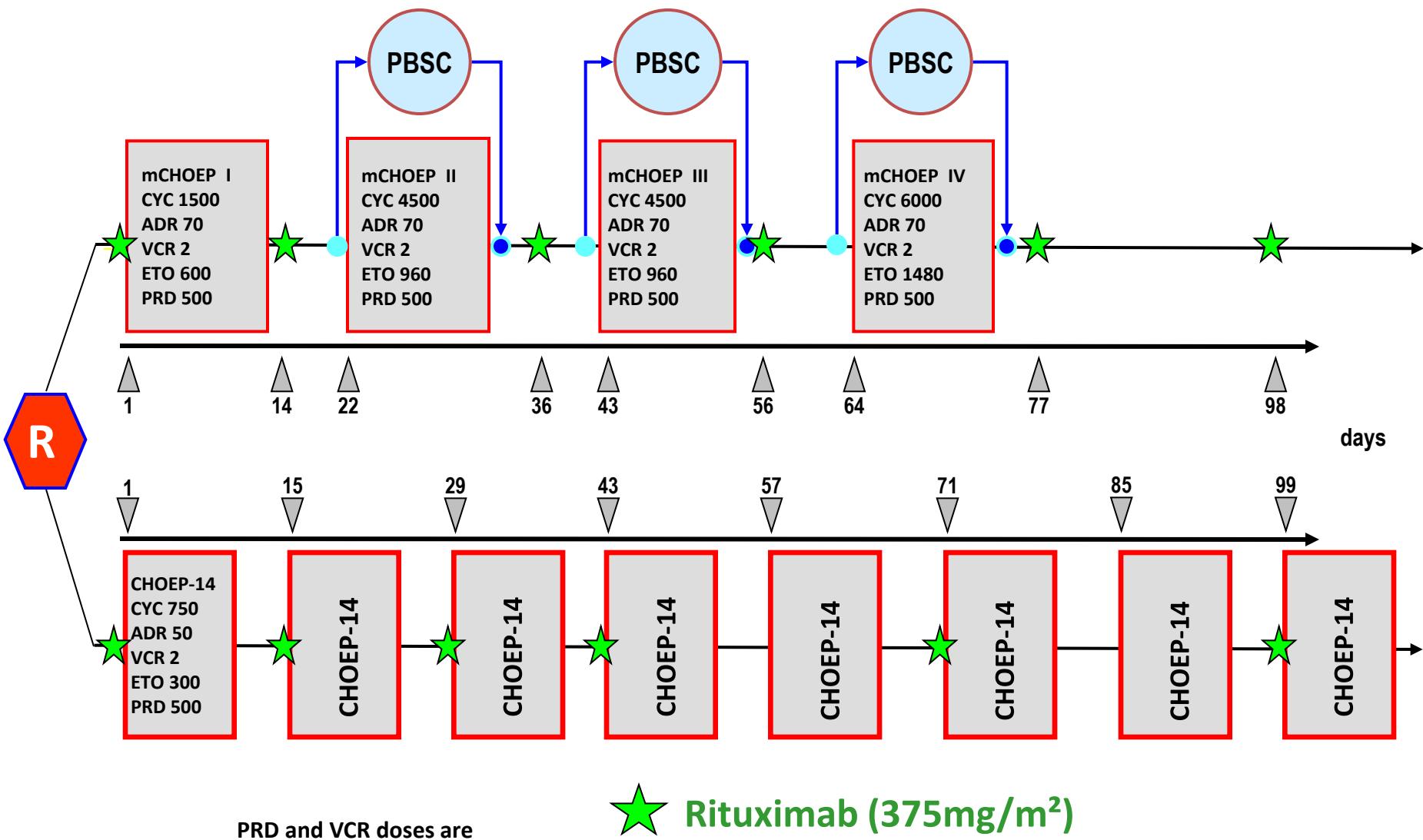
<sup>1</sup>Loyola University Medical Center, Maywood, IL; <sup>2</sup>SWOG Statistical Center, Seattle, WA; <sup>3</sup>Cleveland Clinic Foundation, Cleveland, OH; <sup>4</sup>University of Rochester, Rochester, NY; <sup>5</sup>Queen Elizabeth II Health Sciences Centre, Halifax, Nova Scotia, CAN; <sup>6</sup>University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC; <sup>7</sup>Northwestern University, Chicago, IL; <sup>8</sup>University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ; <sup>9</sup>Margaret and Charles Juravinski Cancer Centre, Hamilton, Ontario, CAN; <sup>10</sup>Louisiana State University Medical Center, Shreveport, LA; <sup>11</sup>City of Hope Medical Center, Duarte, CA

# Overall Outcome : PFS



# DSHNHL 2002-1 -- R-MegaCHOEP vs R-CHOEP-14

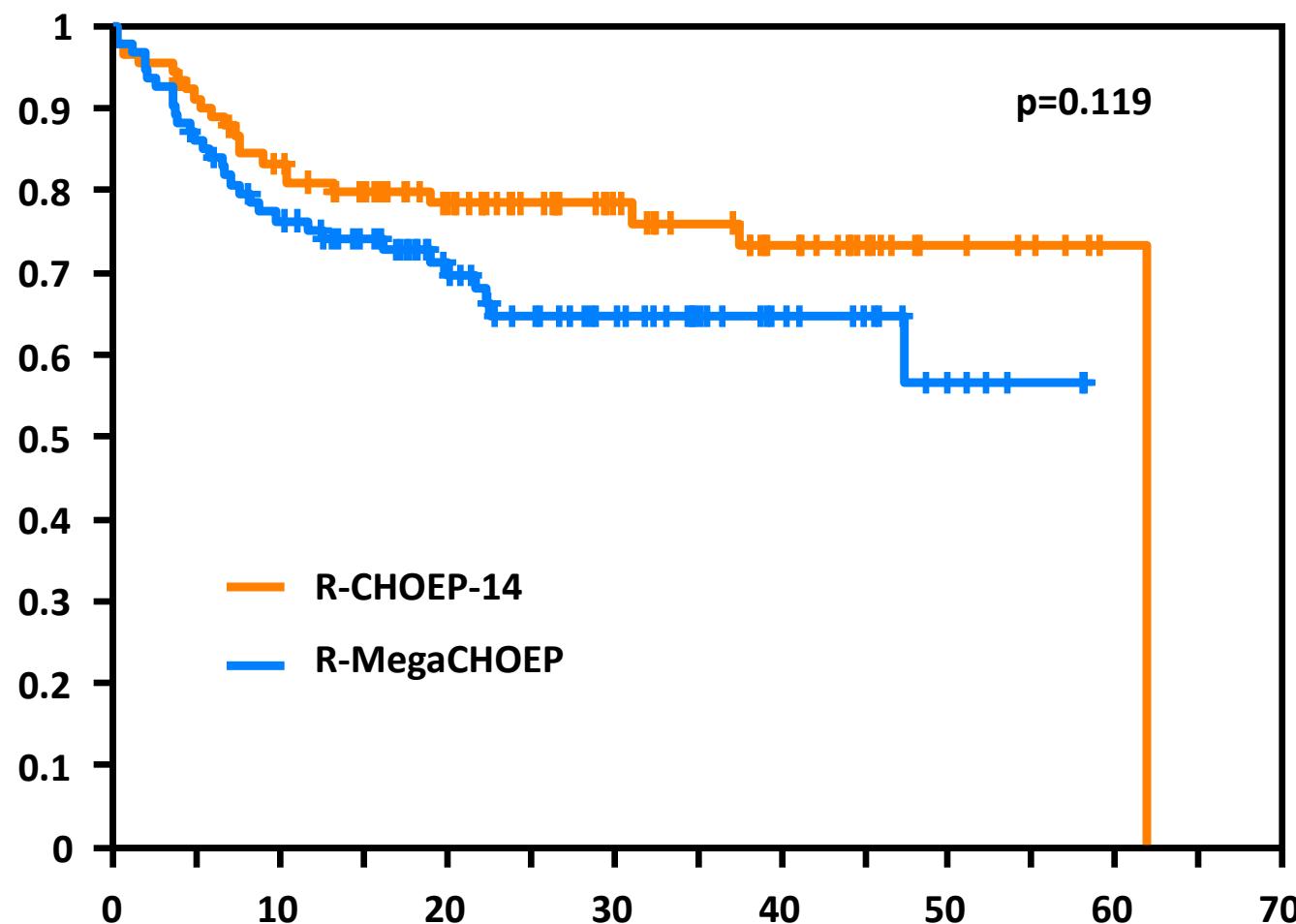
Age 18-60, aa-IPI=2-3



★ Rituximab (375mg/m<sup>2</sup>)

Schmitz N et al. ASH 2009

## Progression-free survival



# Which patients to intensify?

- True PR (PET+ or pathology +)
- All young patients with aaPI >1
- All young patients with high risk
- Slow responding patients (interim PET)



Very old patients

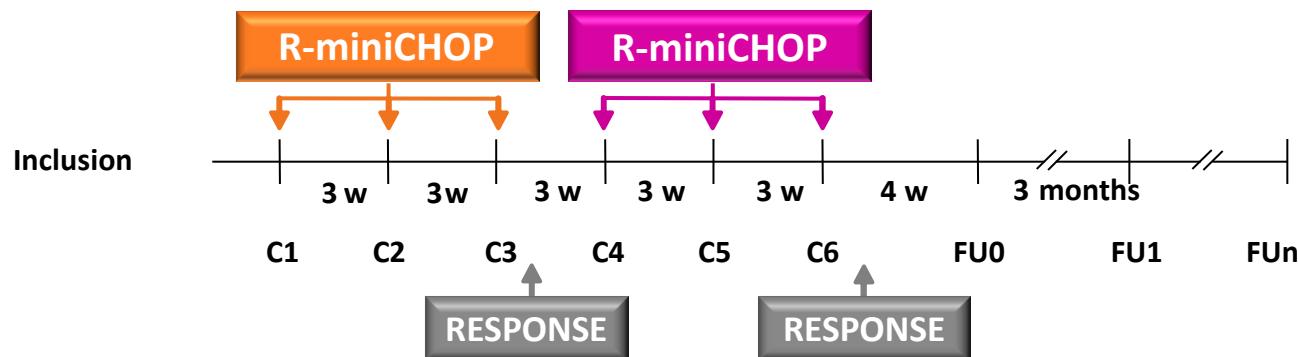
Fit patients: R-mCHOP

Non-fit patients: R-Chemo

# Patients aged >80

- CD20+ Diffuse large B-cell lymphoma histologically proven
- Age > 80 years
- Non pretreated patient
- aaPI 0, 1, 2 or 3
- Ann Arbor Stages I bulky to IV
- Performance status 0 to 2
- Bone marrow biopsy, lumbar puncture and TEP-TDM were non mandatory

R-miniCHOP	Dose	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5
Prednisone	40 mg/m <sup>2</sup>	X	X	X	X	X
Rituximab	375 mg/m <sup>2</sup>	X				
Doxorubicin	25 mg/m <sup>2</sup>	X				
Cyclophosphamide	400 mg/m <sup>2</sup>	X				
Vincristine	1 mg DT	X				

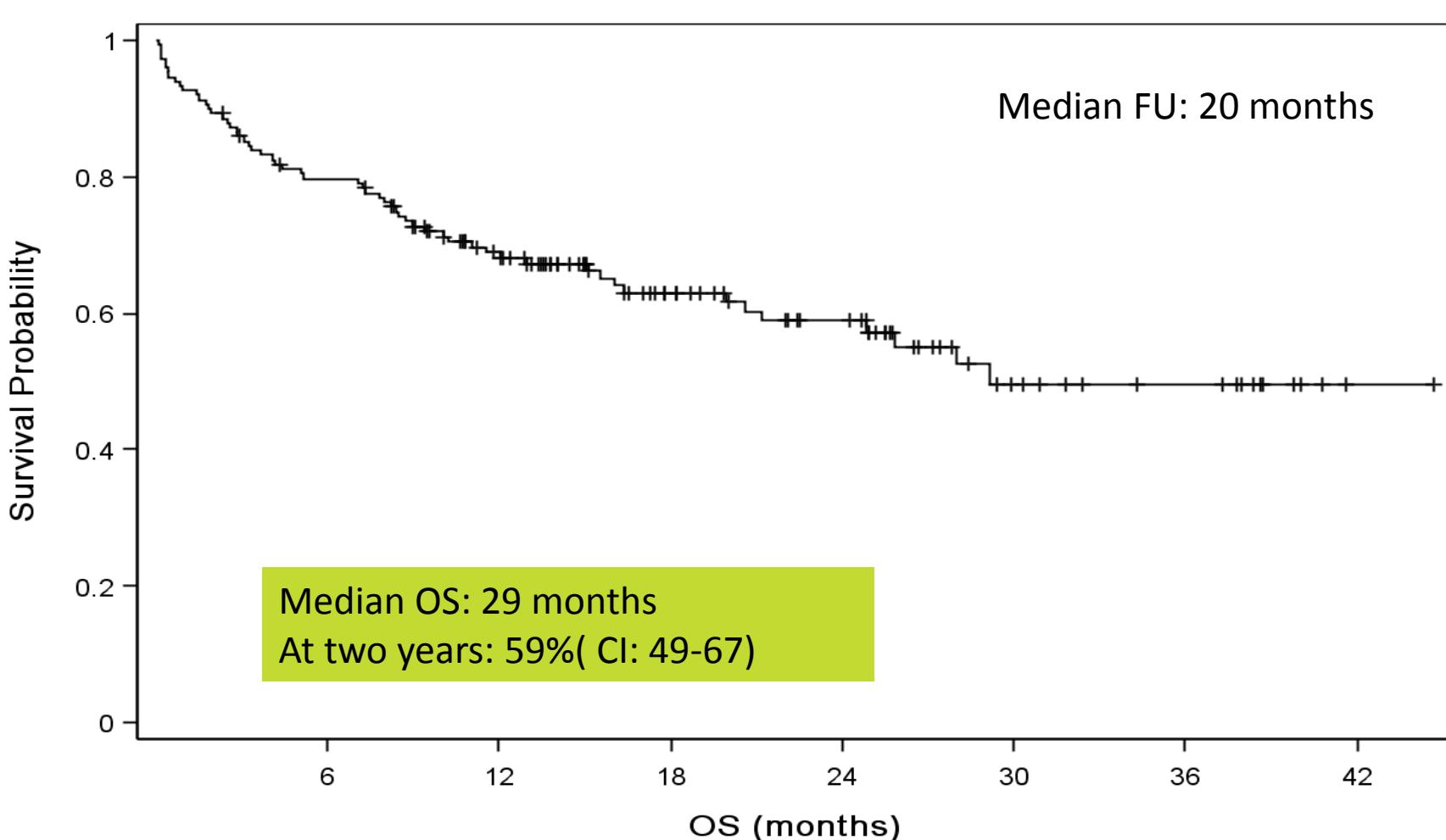


# Causes of death

	Toxicity	Lymphoma progression		Others	Total
Treatment Period	12 <i>(including 5 during the first cycle)</i>	8	7	1 bleeding 2 chest pain 1 poor general condition 1 pneumopathy 2 unknown causes	27
Follow-up Period	0	25	6	1 stroke 1 acute renal insufficiency 1 poor general condition 3 unknown	31
Total	12	33		13	58

# Primary endpoint: Overall survival

## Intent-to-treat population



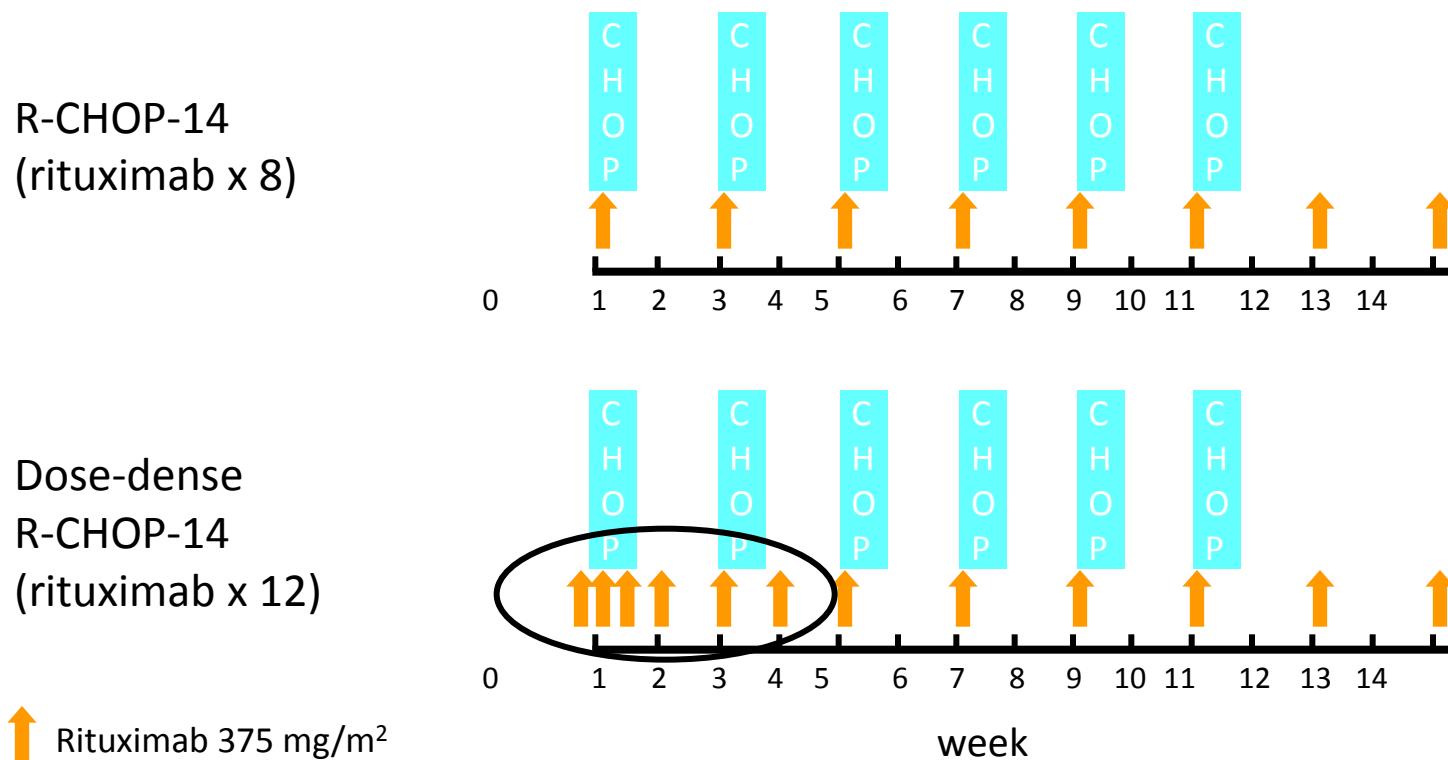
No. of Subjects	Event	Censored	Median Survival (95% CL)
149	39% (58)	61% (91)	29.14 ( 21.22 NA )

# R-CHOP

- Rituximab: better anti-CD20?
- Cyclophosphamide
- Doxorubicin: analogs
- Vincristine: other tubulin binders
- prednisone

# DENSE-R-CHOP-14 for elderly patients with DLBCL: treatment schedule

- 6 cycles biweekly CHOP-14 with 12 doses of rituximab  $375 \text{ mg/m}^2$

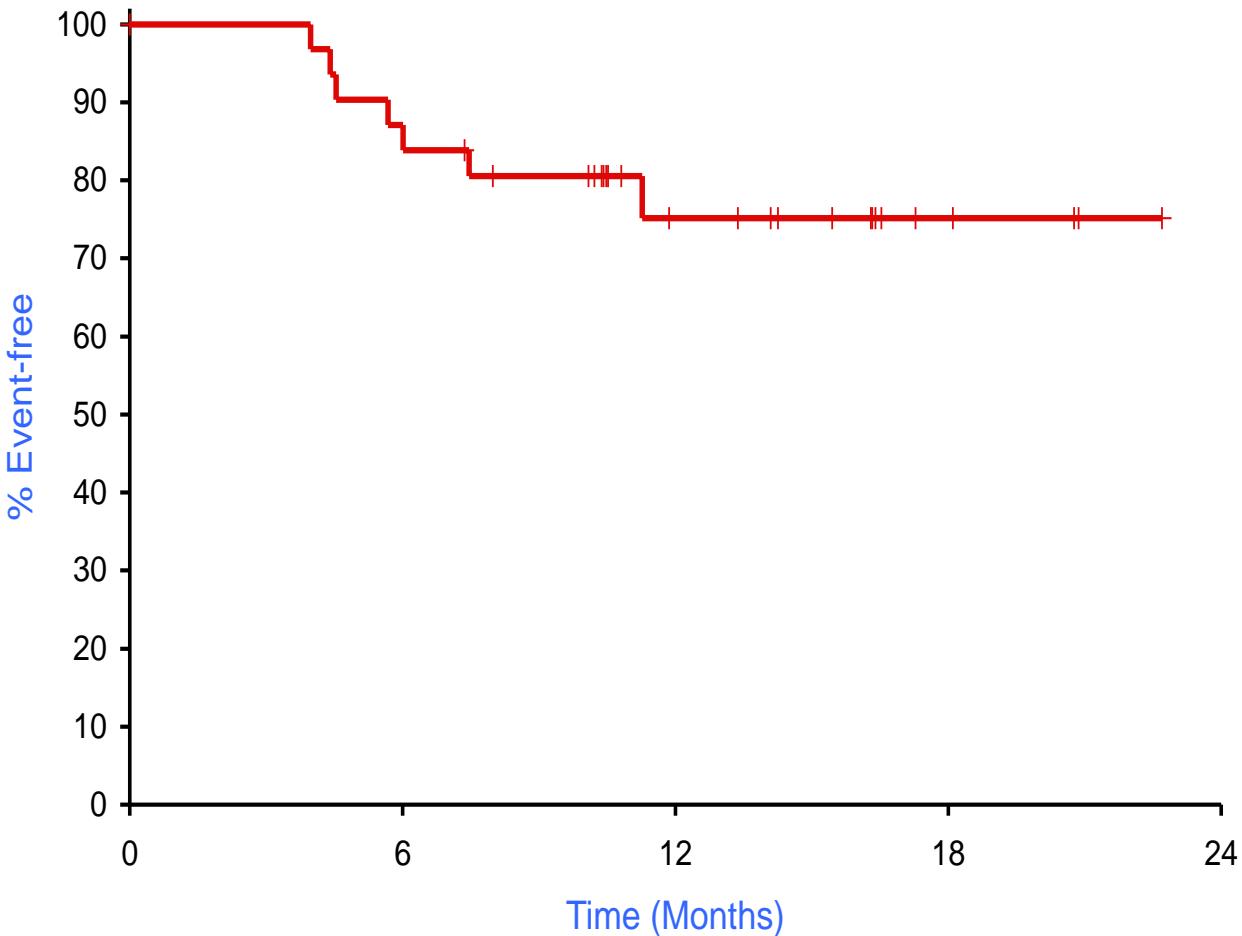


# R-CHOP + X

- RA-CHOP: stopped because of Avastin toxicity
- R2-CHOP: lenalidomide
  - Only phase II, no demonstration of superiority
- R-CHOP + bortezomib
- R-CHOP + enzastaurin
- R-CHOP + ibrutinib
- R-CHOP + idelalisib

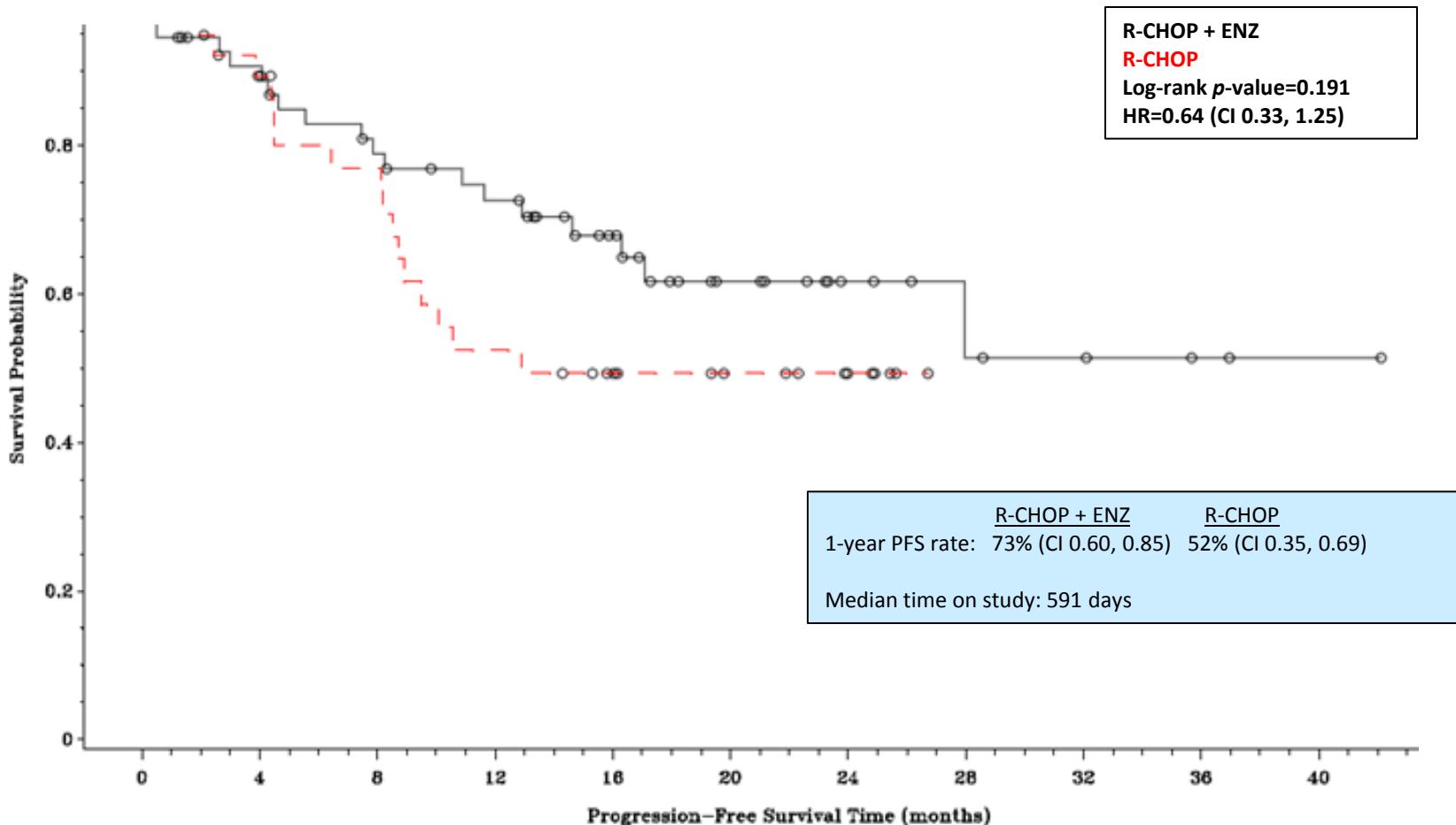
# R2CHOP – Event-free Survival

## Phase 2 part (N=32)



- Intend to treat analysis
- 30 patients evaluable
  - CR rate 83%
- Of 8 events,
  - 7 relapses
  - 1 death without disease from unrelated causes

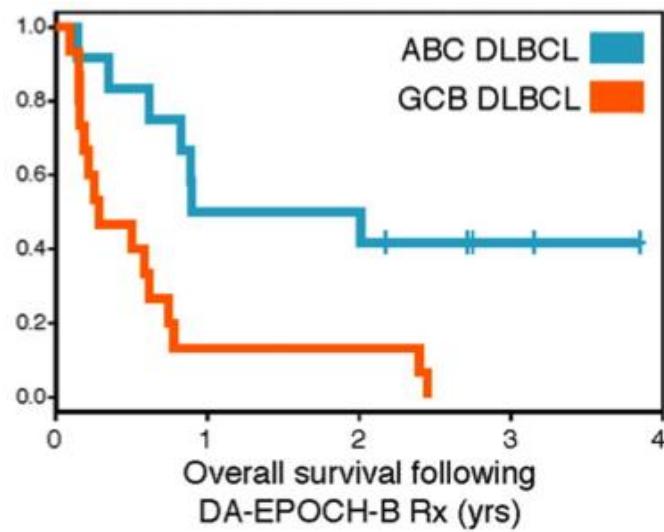
# Progression-free Survival (R-CHOP + ENZ Versus R-CHOP)



Abbreviations: HR=hazard ratio; CI=confidence interval

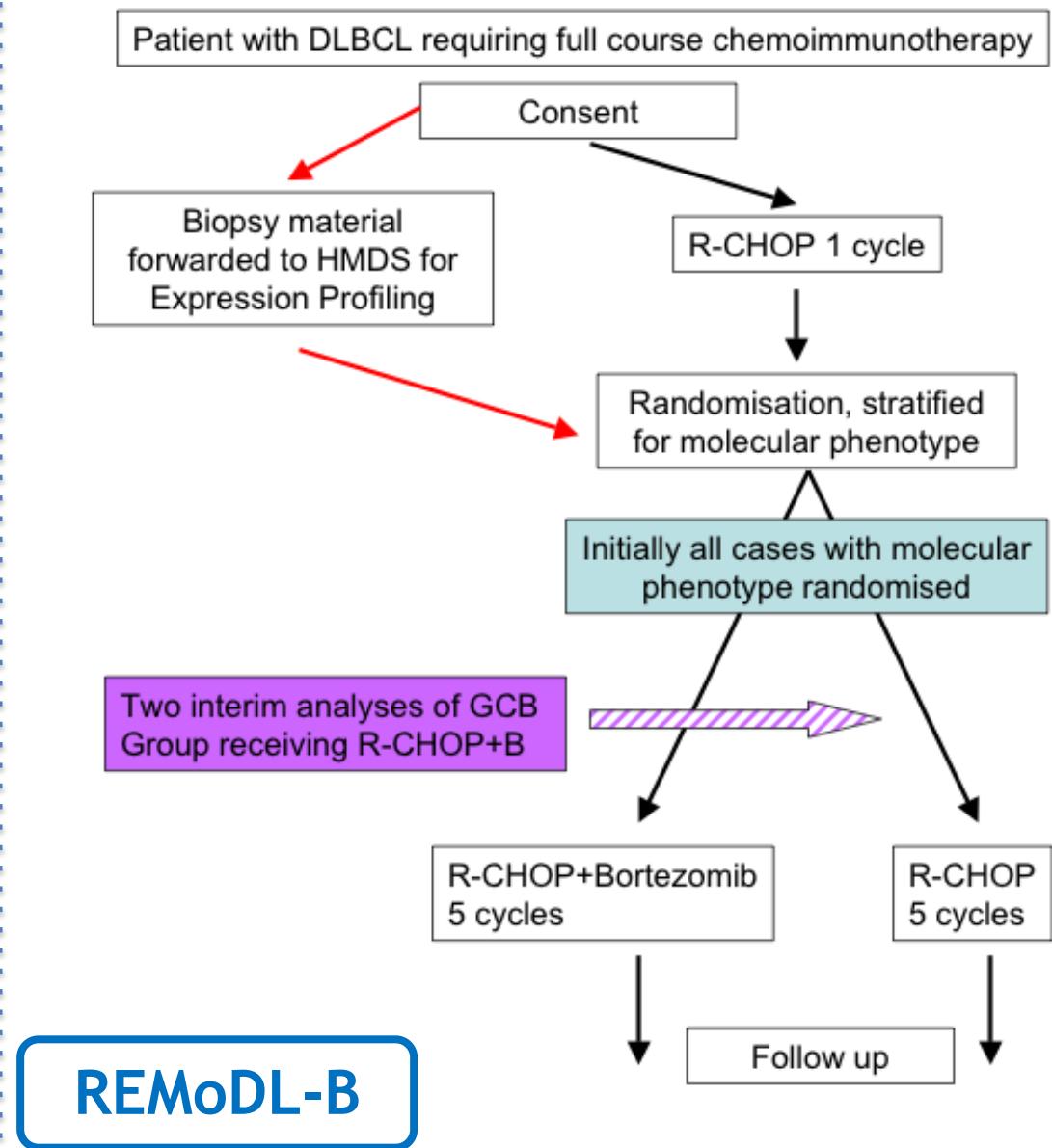
J Hainsworth ICML 2011

# Differential efficacy of bortezomib plus chemotherapy within molecular subtypes of DLBCL



Dunleavy, K. et al. Blood 2009;113:6069-6076

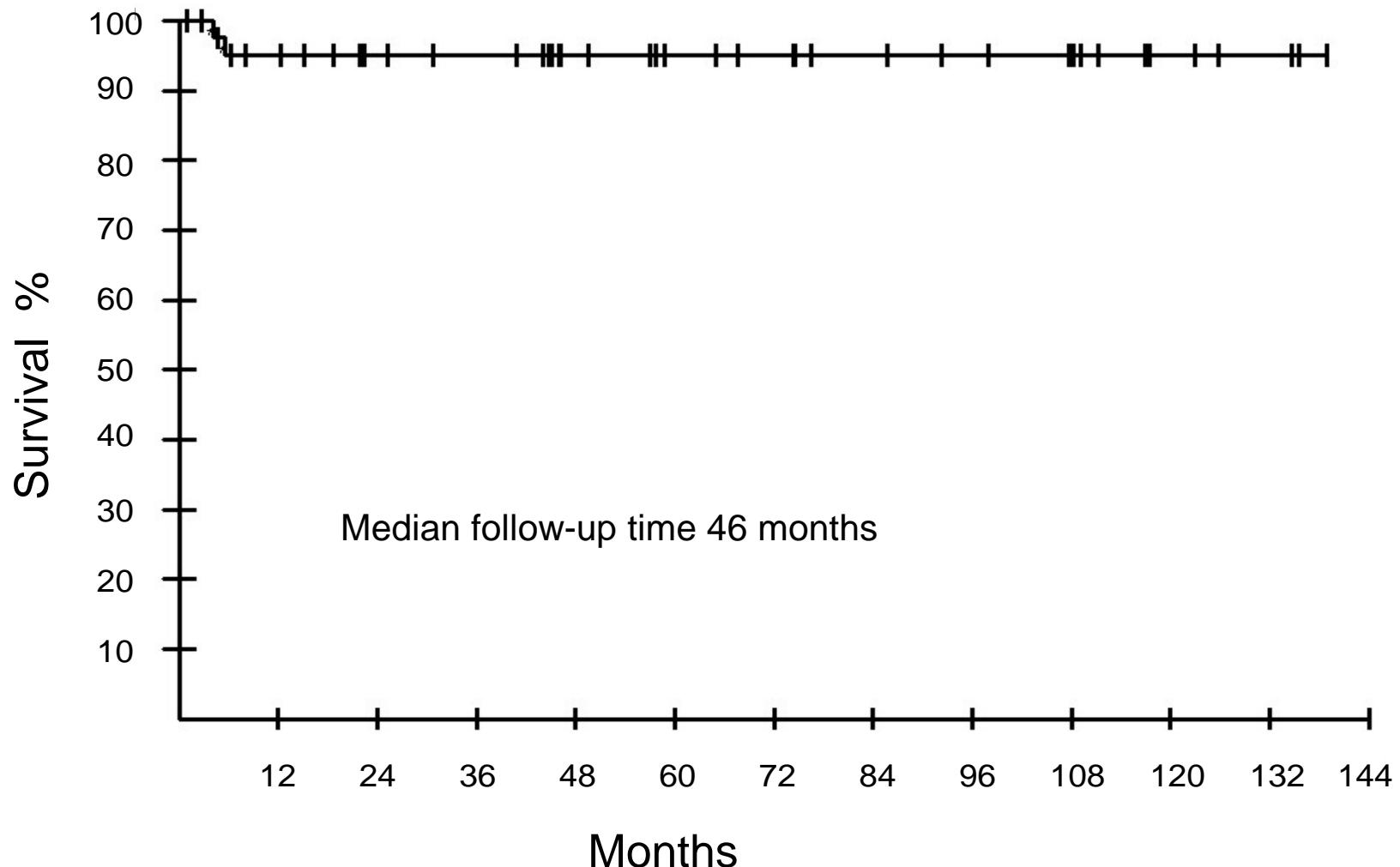
## Trial Outline:



# DA-EPOCH-R

- Mostly used in NCI
- No randomized comparison
- Only phase II or retrospective analyses
- Most of them is more aggressive subgroups
- Currently tested in a phase III against R-CHOP

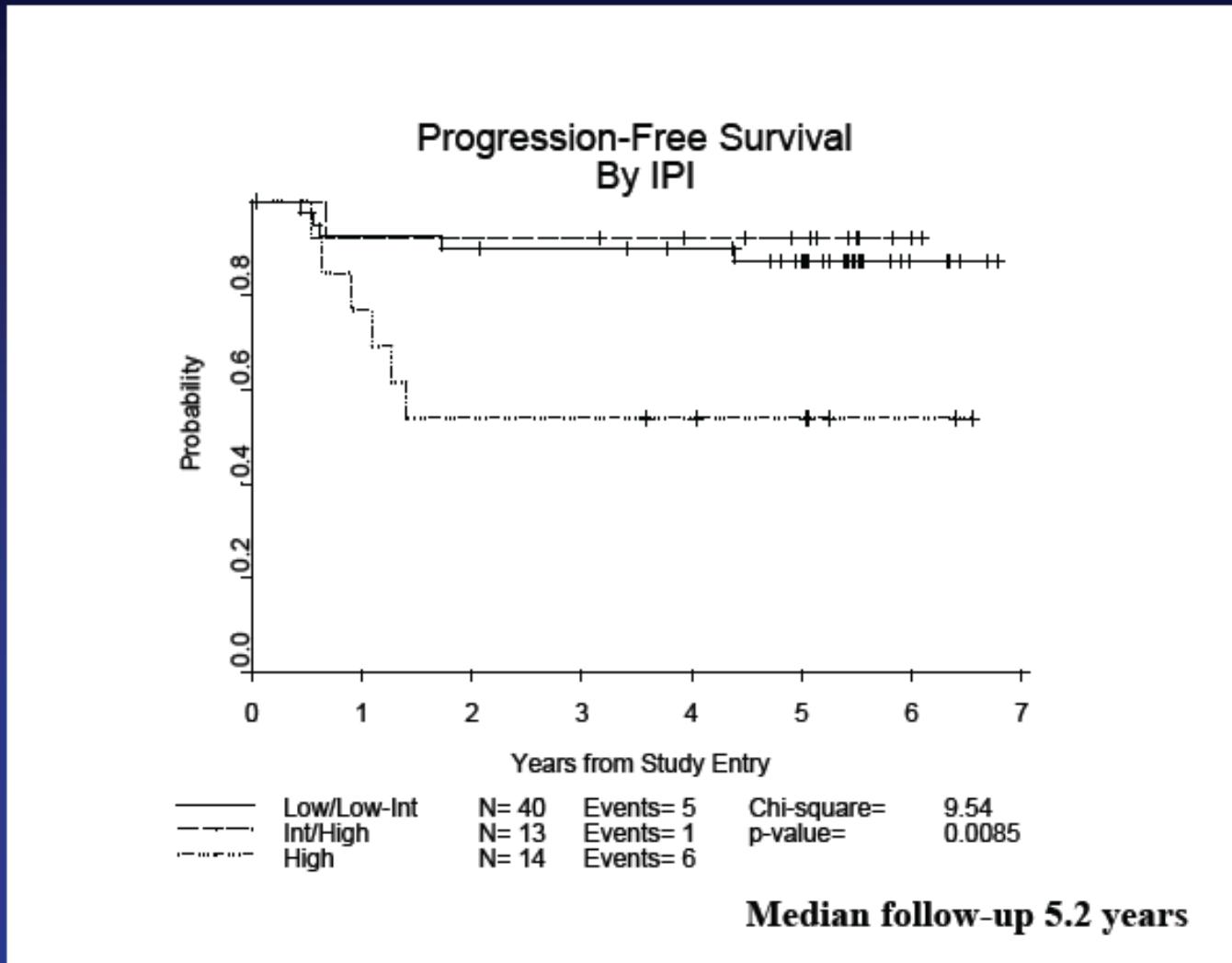
# Event-Free Survival : DA-EPOCH-R - PMBL



# CALGB Phase II

## DA-EPOCH-R

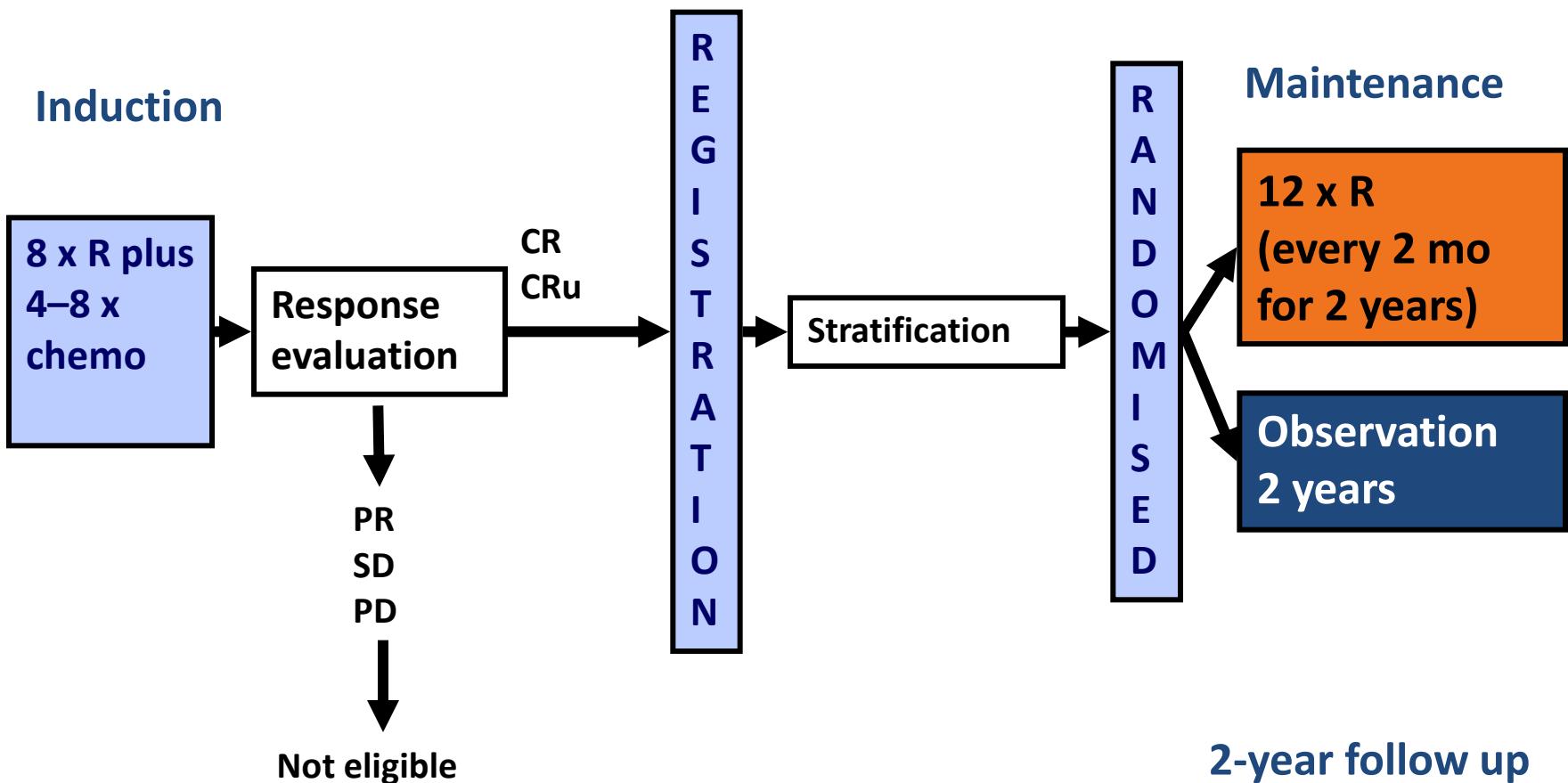
R Fisher Bologna 2010



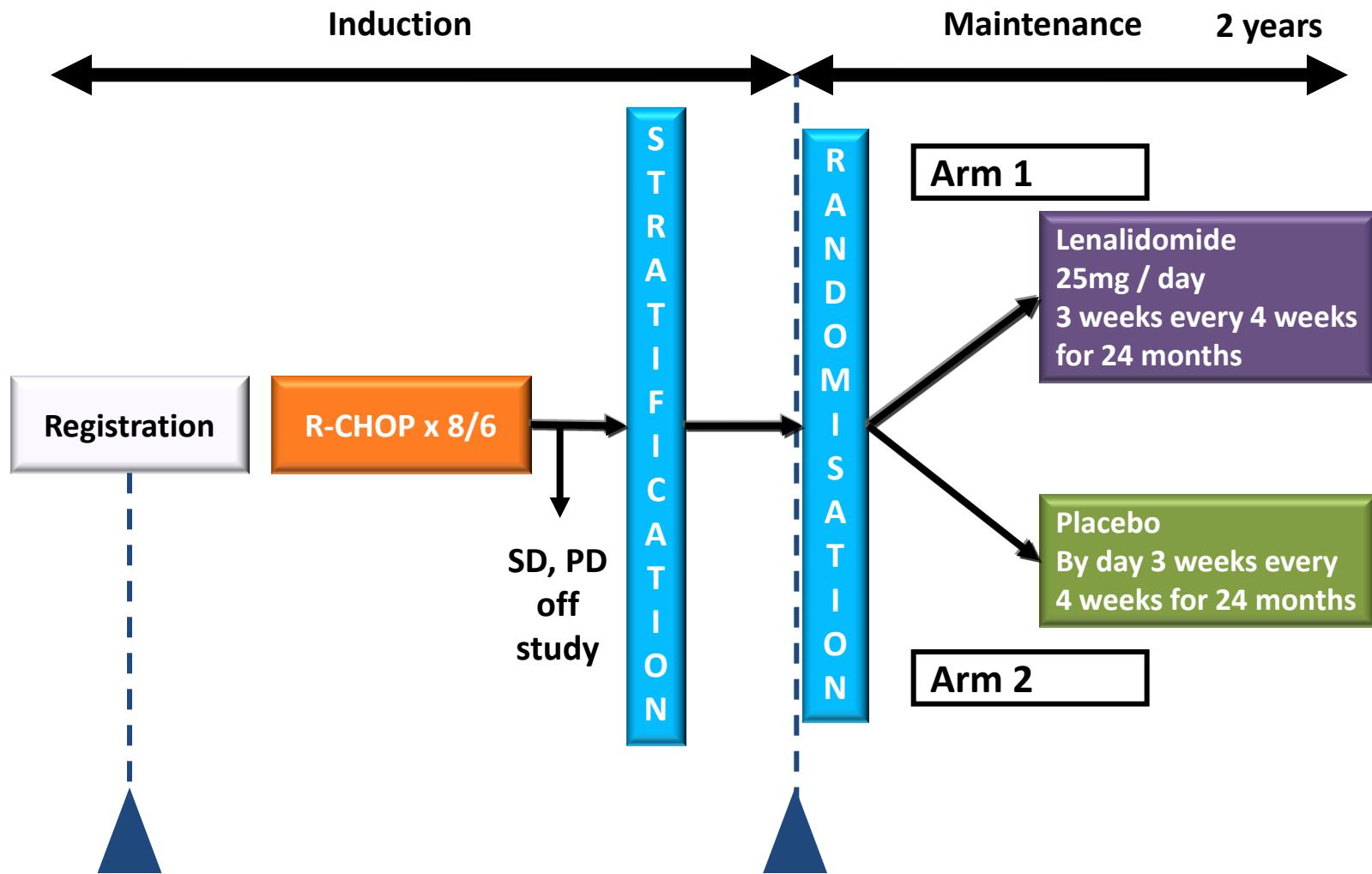
# R-CHOP followed by X

- May only decrease relapse rate but not increase CR rate
- Rituximab:
  - No proof of activity in DLBCL
  - NHL-13 not yet reported
- Lenalidomide
  - Studies ongoing
- Others?

# Rituximab maintenance therapy in DLBCL or follicular NHL grade 3b: NHL-13 trial



# ReMaRC study: Design



# Important small points

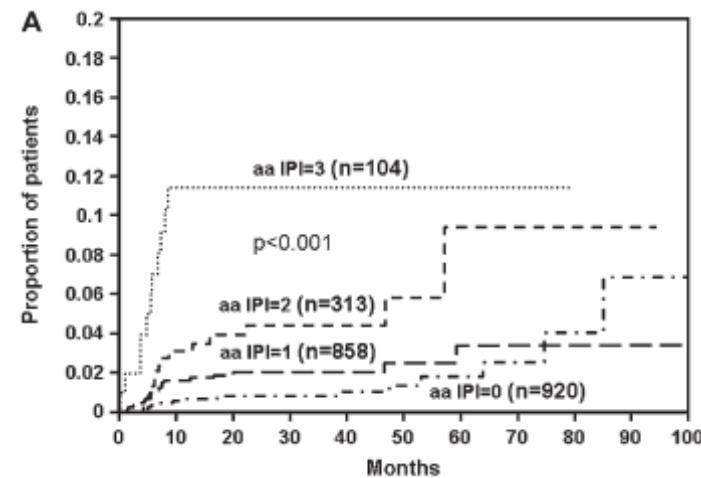
- Double hit DLBCL
- CNS prophylaxis
- Transformed DLBCL
- Primary CNS lymphoma
- Primary cutaneous lymphoma
- *Helicobacter pylori*-related gastric DLBCL

# Double hit DLBCL

- Concurrent BCL2 and MYC translocation or hyperexpression
- Rare, in GCB subtype
  - Incidence <10% in primary DLBCL
  - Around 20% in transformed DLBCL
- Associated to poor response to chemotherapy and short survival
- Outcome related to other genetic abnormalities

# CNS prophylaxis

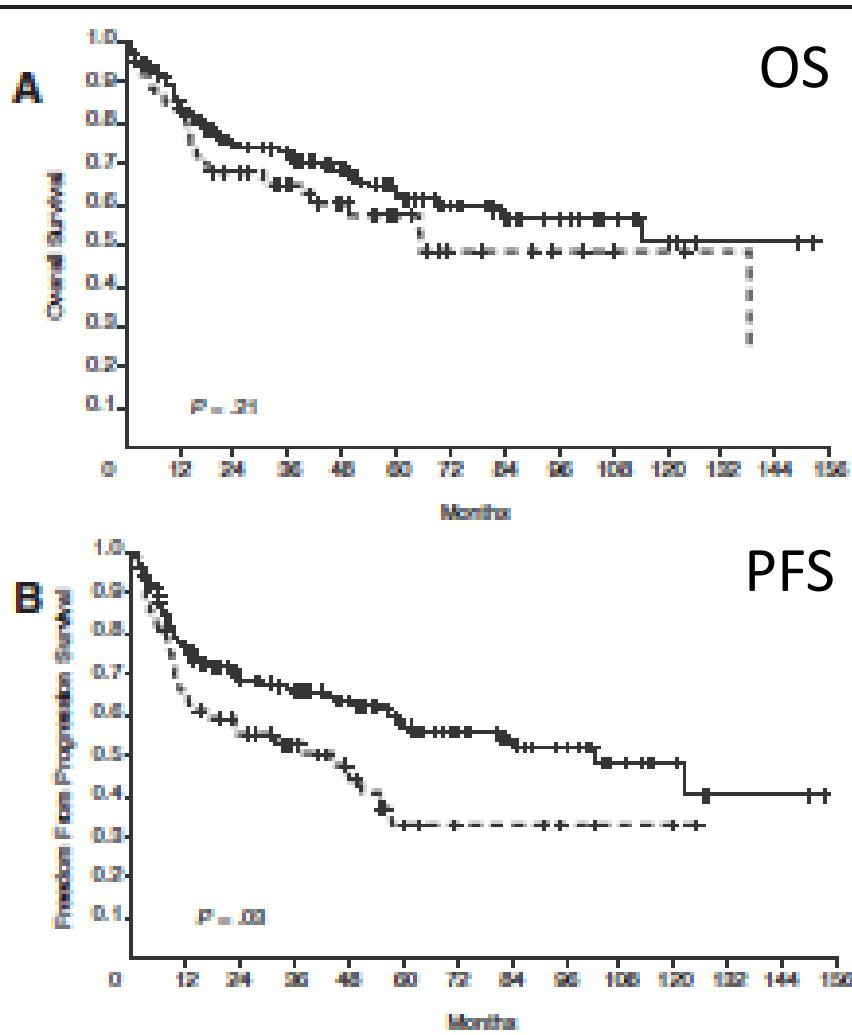
- Incidence of CNS relapse is related to initial picture
- No change with rituximab-containing regimens
- Question on the value of IT methotrexate
  - DSHNHL: 2210 patients with DLBCL, 620 with prophylaxis
  - Low risk (aaIPI 0/1): 0 to 0.5%
  - High risk (aaIPI 2/3): 4% to 10%
    - No difference if prophylaxis
- Benefit of HD methotrexate?
- Poor outcome



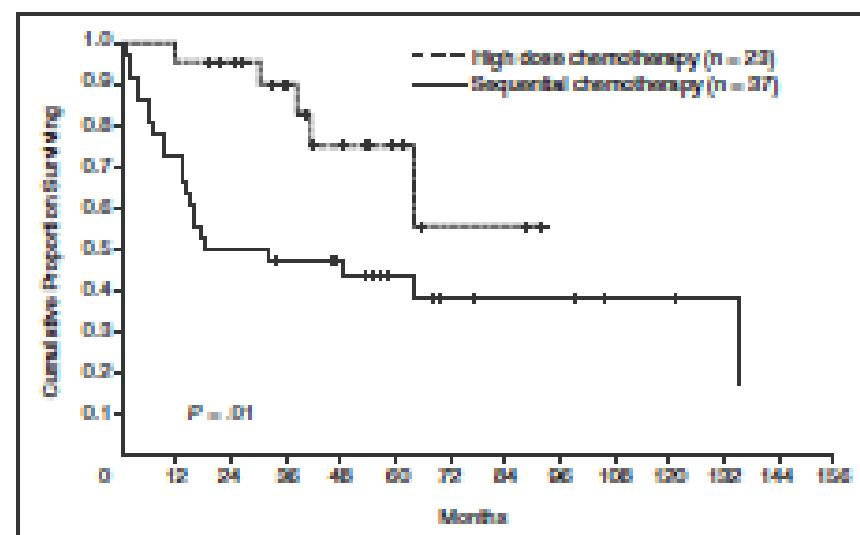
# Transformed indolent L at diagnosis

- Frequent situation, undiagnosed
- To be treated like DLBCL
  - HDT with autologous transplant in first CR?
- More frequent (late) relapses
  - Indolent lymphoma (one third)
  - DLBCL
- Poorer outcome than primary DLBCL

# Transformed DLBCL



HDT and autologous transplant  
in first CR



# Primary CNS lymphoma

- Uncommon but associated with poor outcome
- Most are localized to CNS
- HD methotrexate-containing regimen is the standard treatment
  - Best regimen not yet described
- Dose and timing of whole brain radiation therapy still unclear

# Primary cutaneous BLBCL

- Elderly women patients
- Few large reports
- Most frequent in legs (leg-type)
- Radiation therapy
  - High response rate but high relapse rate
- Standard chemotherapy (R-CHOP) is the recommended choice

# *Helicobacter pylori*-related gastric DLBCL

- Retrospective analysis of 50 stage I/II patients
- Previously untreated
- Antibiotic treatment: 69% CR
  - 11/16 pure DLBCL in CR
  - 18/32 DLBCL (MALT) in CR
- Median follow-up of 7.7 years: All CR patients alive and free of disease\*
- Same experience by A Ferreri (personal communication)

\* Except one lung cancer

Kuo et al. *Blood* 2012;119:4838

# Conclusion

- The addition of rituximab to CHOP has dramatically changed the outcome of these patients
- If R-CHOP is the standard for the majority of patients, more intensive regimens are needed for subgroups of patients
- New targeted drug will be add in the future to cure more patients