

## **Waldenström macroglobulinemia**

### Current Treatment Options

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1

### **Topics to be covered -**

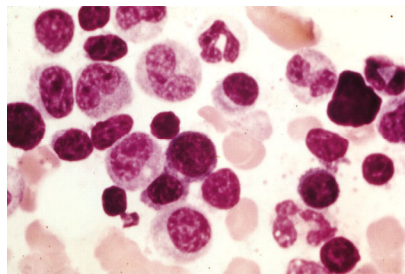
- What is Waldenström macroglobulinemia?
- Who needs treatment?
- Standard treatment options –
  - Newly diagnosed patients
  - Relapsed patients

2

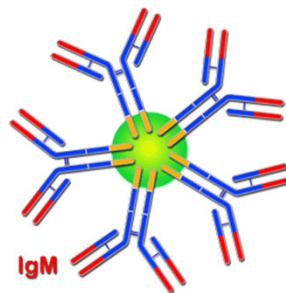
## What is Waldenström macroglobulinemia?

3

### Waldenström macroglobulinemia “A disease with two problems”



Lymphoplasmacytic infiltrate

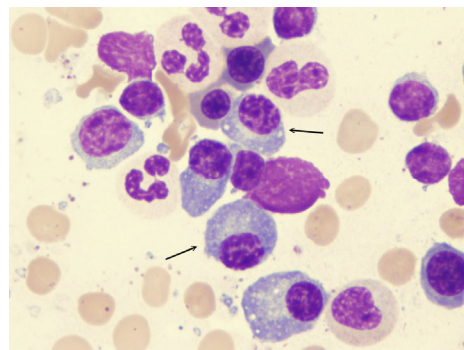


Monoclonal IgM protein

Gertz et al. The Oncologist 2000;5:63-67

4

## Waldenström macroglobulinemia Morphology and Immunophenotype



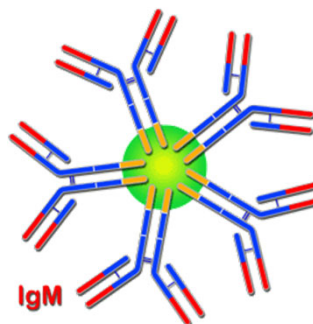
- Lymphoplasmacytic infiltrate (usually intertrabecular)
- Immunophenotype - surface IgM+, CD19+, CD20+, CD79a+ and PAX5+. CD5-, CD10-, CD23-.
- exclude CLL and mantle cell lymphoma
- MYD88 L265P is the most common genetic abnormality seen
- del(6)(q21) and CXCR4 mutations are also seen

Treon et al. *N Engl J Med.* 2012;367(9):826-33.  
Hunter et al. *Blood.* 2014;123(11):1637-46.

5

## Waldenström macroglobulinemia Monoclonal IgM

- Symptoms related to the monoclonal IgM protein are attributable to -
  - its characteristics in the circulation,
  - its interaction with various body tissues when deposited,
  - and its autoantibody activity.



6

### **Patient 1**

- 66 year old man
- Went for an executive physical – in good health with no symptoms
- Found to be mildly anemic (Hgb 12.8g/dl). Other blood counts – normal
- Also noted to have increased total protein with an increased gammaglobulin level.
- Monoclonal IgM – 1.4 g/dl
- Bone marrow biopsy – 20% involvement by lymphoplasmacytic lymphoma
- CT scan – no lymph nodes

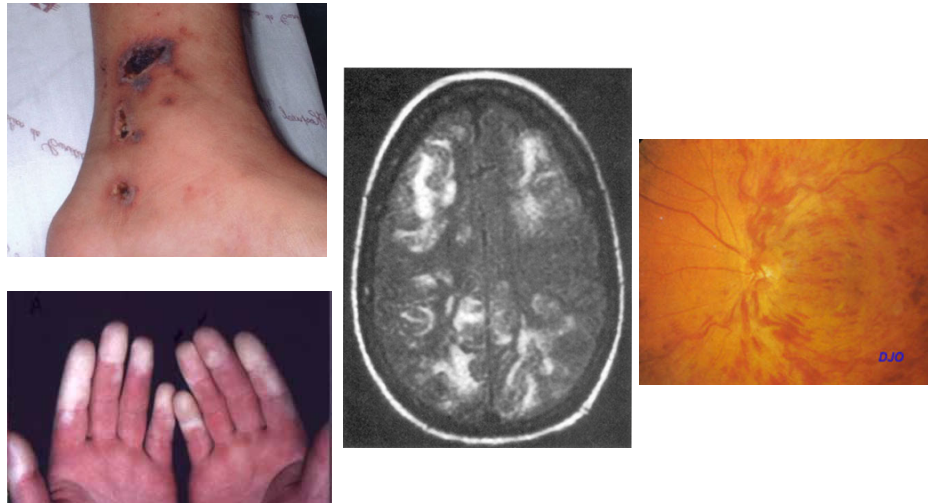
7

### **Patient 2**

- 67 year old man
- Severe fatigue, nausea, visual difficulties, increasing confusion and sleepiness, gums bleed easily.
- Anemic (Hgb 8.8g/dl). Platelets decreased to 96,000.
- Ulcers have developed on his ankles
- Monoclonal IgM – 6.6 g/dl. Viscosity – 5.8
- Bone marrow biopsy – 85% involvement by lymphoplasmacytic lymphoma
- CT scan – enlarged liver and spleen and multiple bulky lymph nodes in the abdomen

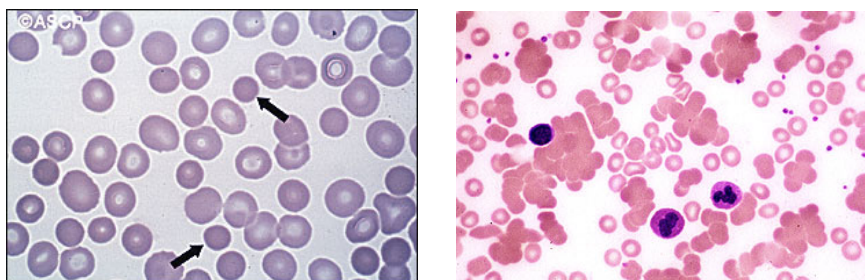
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**Hyperviscosity due to Waldenström  
macroglobulinemia**



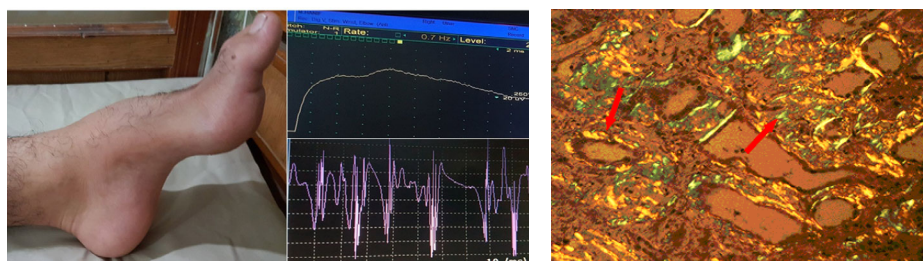
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**Autoimmune hemolysis and cold agglutinin  
disease secondary to Waldenström  
macroglobulinemia**



10

## IgM deposition due to Waldenström macroglobulinemia



11

## Diagnostic Criteria for Waldenström macroglobulinemia

### Waldenström macroglobulinemia

IgM monoclonal gammopathy (regardless of the size of the M protein) with >10% bone marrow lymphoplasmacytic infiltration (usually intertrabecular) by small lymphocytes that exhibit plasmacytoid or plasma cell differentiation and a typical immunophenotype (surface IgM<sup>+</sup>, CD5<sup>-</sup>, CD10<sup>-</sup>, CD19<sup>+</sup>, CD20<sup>+</sup>, CD23<sup>-</sup>) that satisfactorily excludes other lymphoproliferative disorders, including chronic lymphocytic leukemia and mantle cell lymphoma

### IgM MGUS

Serum IgM monoclonal protein level <3 g/dL, bone marrow lymphoplasmacytic infiltration <10%, and no evidence of anemia, constitutional symptoms, hyperviscosity, lymphadenopathy, or hepatosplenomegaly

### Smoldering Waldenström macroglobulinemia (also referred to as indolent or asymptomatic Waldenström macroglobulinemia)

Serum IgM monoclonal protein level ≥3 g/dL and/or bone marrow lymphoplasmacytic infiltration ≥10% and no evidence of end-organ damage, such as anemia, constitutional symptoms, hyperviscosity, lymphadenopathy, or hepatosplenomegaly, that can be attributed to a lymphoplasmacytic proliferative disorder

Kyle et al. Leukemia. 2009 Jan;23(1):3-9.

12

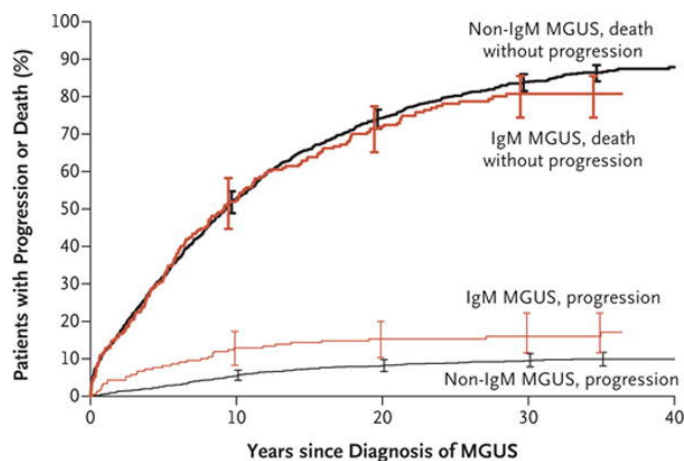
## Waldenström macroglobulinemia – presenting symptoms

- 217 patients with serum monoclonal IgM protein  $\geq 3$  g/dl and  $> 20\%$  bone marrow involvement -
  - Asymptomatic (27%)
  - Anemia (38%),
  - Hyperviscosity (31%),
  - B symptoms (23%),
  - Bleeding (23%)
  - Neurological symptoms (22%)

García-Sanz et al. Brit J Haematol. 115: 575-582, 2001

13

## Risk of progression and death from IgM MGUS to WM or another B-cell malignancy

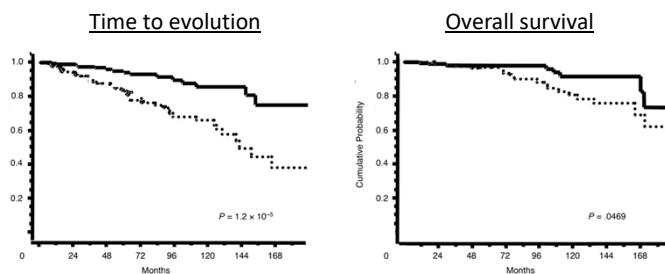


The risk of progression among patients with IgM MGUS is 2% per year in the first 10 years after diagnosis and 1% per year thereafter

Kyle R A et al. N Engl J Med. 2018;378(3):241-249.

14

### Time to developing WM and Survival in patients with Indolent WM or IgM MGUS

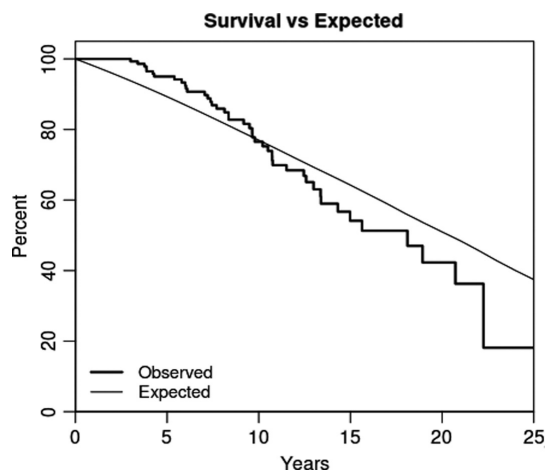


(— MGUS; ...IWM)  
 MGUS (217 patients) and indolent Waldenström's macroglobulinemia (201 patients) groups

Baldini L et al. J Clin Oncol 2005;23:4662-4668

15

### Disease outcome in smoldering Waldenström macroglobulinemia



Zanwar et al. Br J Haematol. 2021 Aug 2. doi: 10.1111/bjh.17691.

16



**Does everyone need treatment at diagnosis?**

17

**What clinical findings suggest that treatment should be started?**

- Fever, night sweats, or weight loss.
- Lymphadenopathy or splenomegaly.
- Hemoglobin  $\leq$  10 g/dL or a platelet count  $<$  100 x 10<sup>9</sup>/L due to marrow infiltration.
- Complications such as hyperviscosity syndrome, symptomatic sensorimotor peripheral neuropathy, systemic amyloidosis, renal insufficiency, or symptomatic cryoglobulinemia.

Kyle et al. Semin Oncol. 2003 Apr;30(2):116-20

18

## Plasmapheresis for Waldenström patients with hyperviscosity

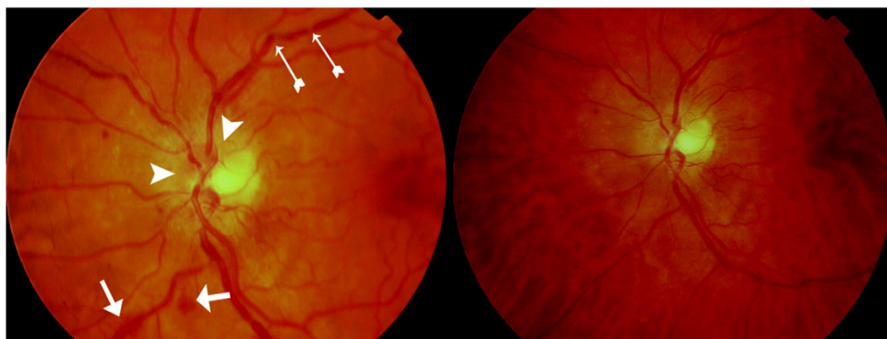
- Symptoms of hyperviscosity –
  - Visual deterioration
  - Neurological symptoms
  - Bleeding
- Rarely seen with IgM <4g/dL

19

## Efficacy of Plasmapheresis for Waldenström patients with hyperviscosity

Before Plasmapheresis

After Plasmapheresis



Before plasmapheresis - optic disc edema (arrowheads), central retinal hemorrhages (bold arrows), and venous “sausaging” (thin arrows).

Menke et al. Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci. 2008Mar;49(3):1157-60.

20

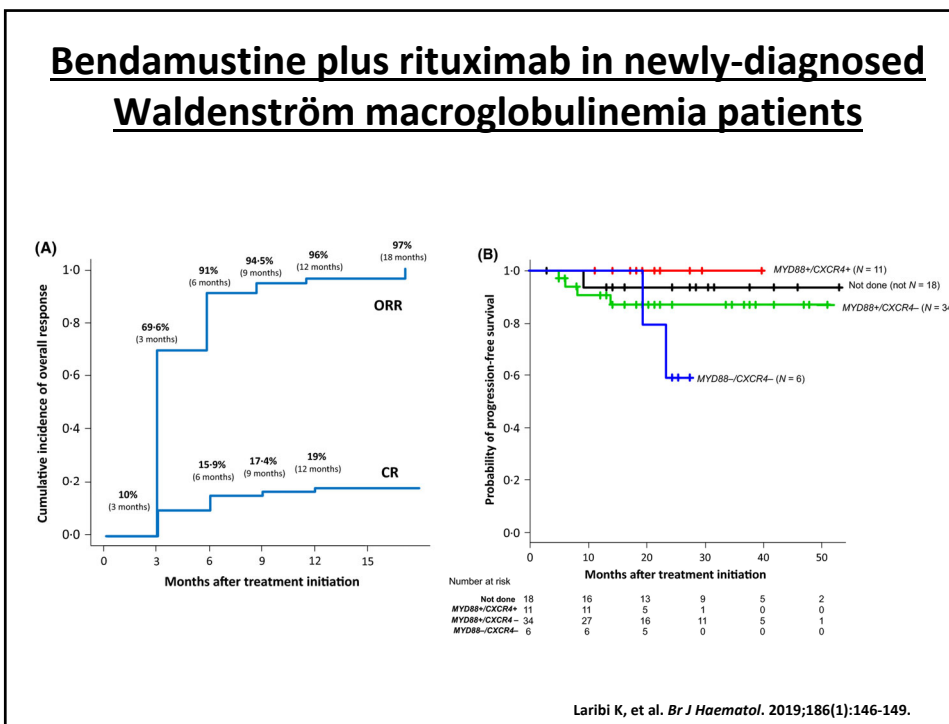
## **Initial treatment for untreated symptomatic WM patients**

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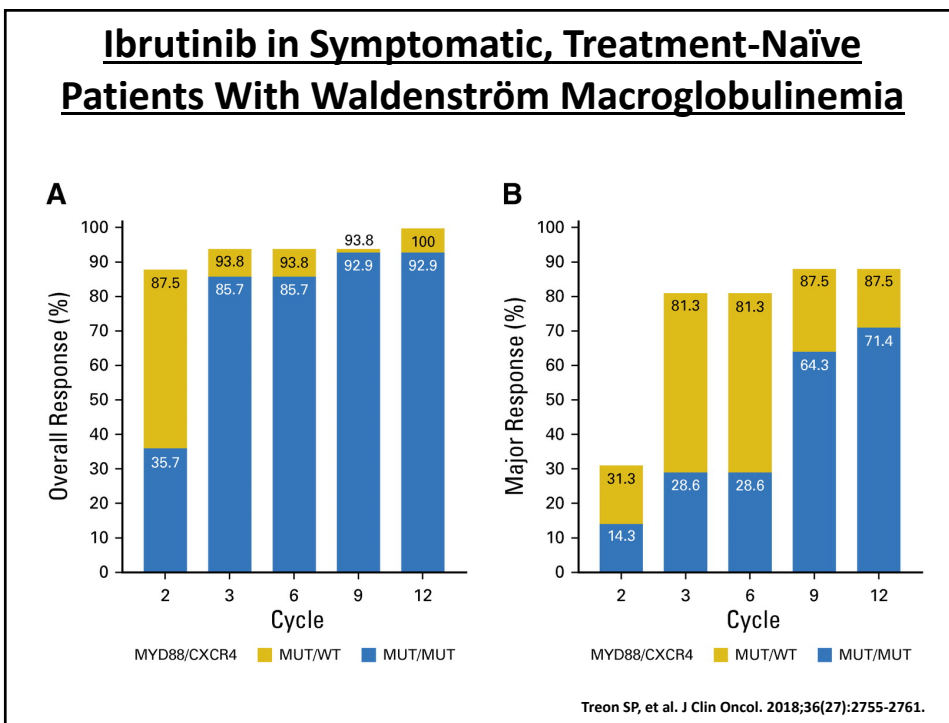
### **Common Treatments used as initial therapy for WM**

- Alkylating agent based combinations –
  - R-Bendamustine
  - DRC
  - R-CHOP
- BTK inhibitors – Ibrutinib, acalabrutinib, zanubrutinib
- Proteasome inhibitor based combinations –
  - BDR
  - IDR
- Rituximab alone

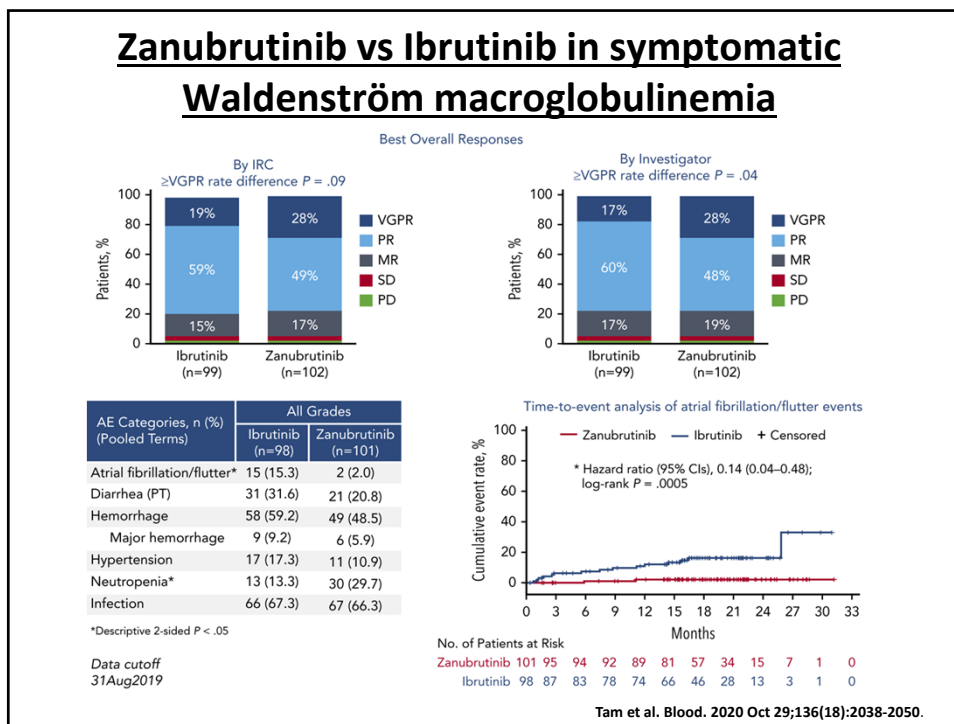
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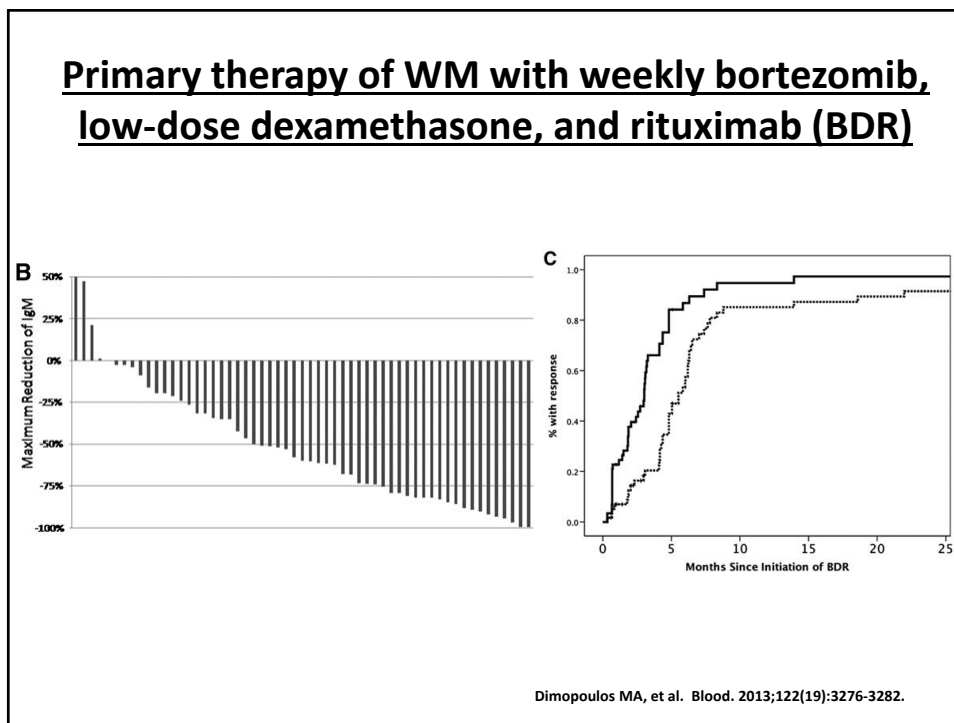
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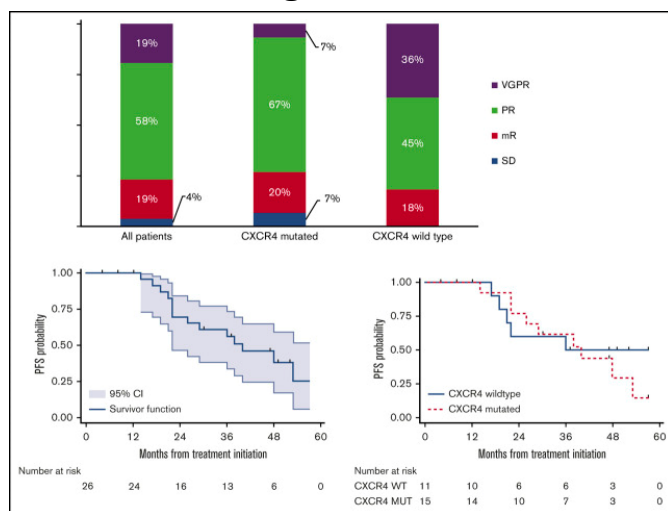


25



26

## Ixazomib, dexamethasone, and rituximab in treatment-naive patients with Waldenström macroglobulinemia



Castillo JJ, et al. *Blood Adv.* 2020;4(16):3952-3959.

27

## Rituximab alone for Waldenström macroglobulinemia

69 symptomatic WM patients – rituximab x 4 doses

ORR 52% - 27% PR, 25% MR

Median duration of response – 27 months

Gertz et al, *Leuk Lymphoma.* 2004 Oct;45(10):2047-55.

Same study – evaluated IgM levels for “flare”

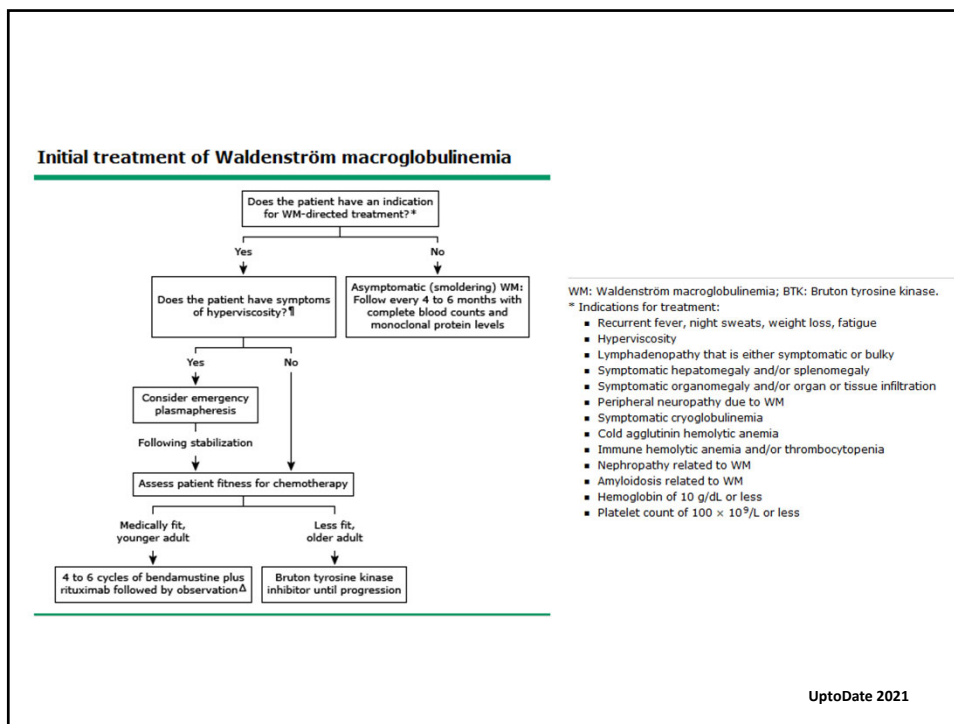
54% had an increase in IgM

27% still elevated at 4 months

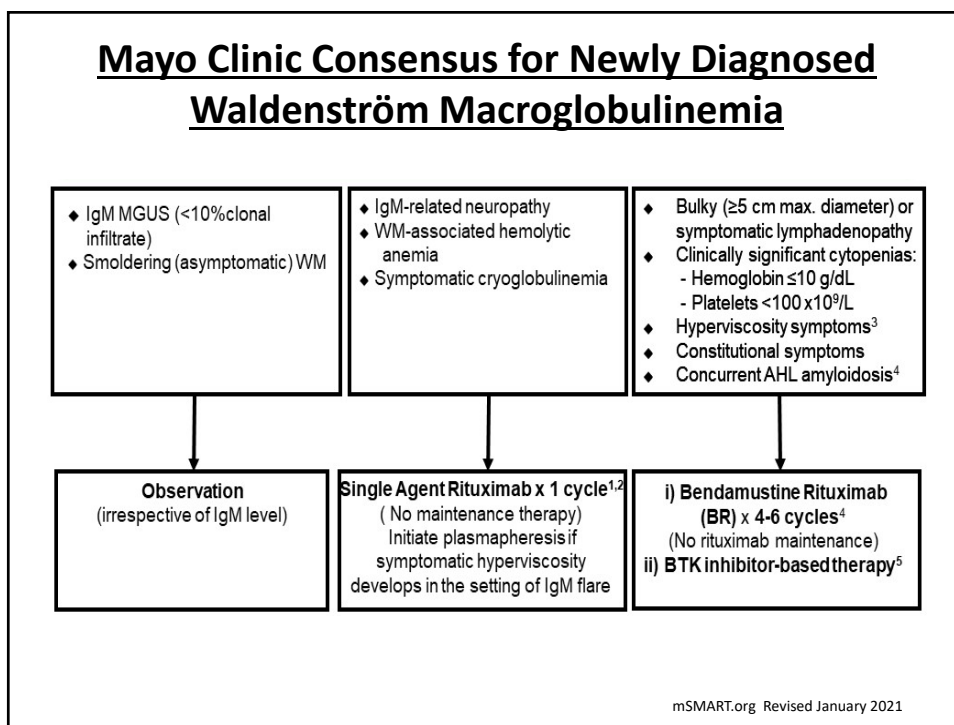
No factors predicting an increase in IgM levels could be identified.

Ghobrial et al. *Cancer.* 2004 Dec 1;101(11):2593-8.

28



29

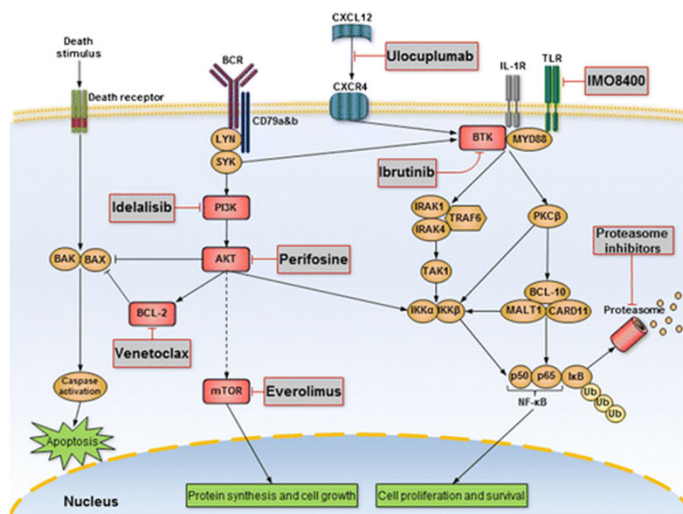


30

## Subsequent treatment in relapsed WM patients

31

## Therapeutic opportunities afforded by the biology of Waldenström macroglobulinemia

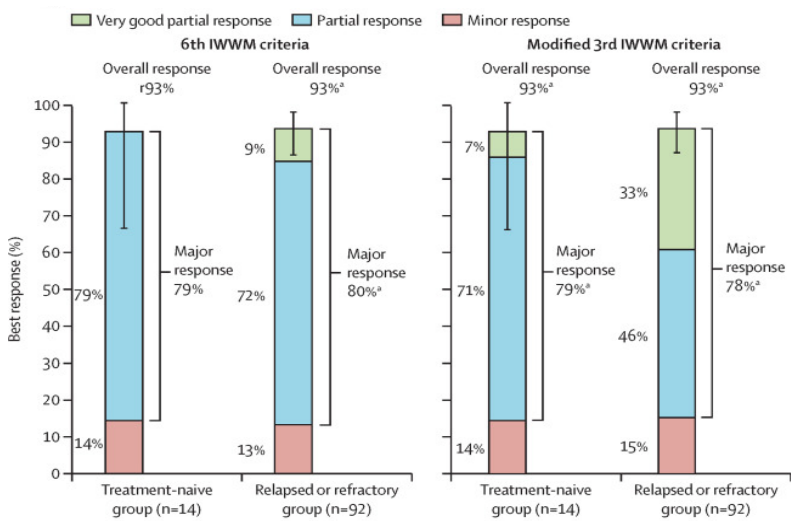


Kapoor et al. *Curr Treat Options Oncol.* 2016 Mar;17(3):16.

32



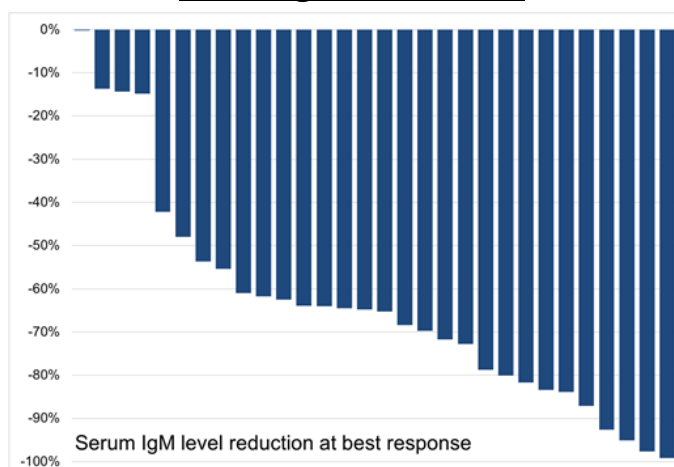
## Acalabrutinib Monotherapy in Patients With Waldenström Macroglobulinemia



Owen RG, et al. *Lancet Haematol.* 2020;7(2):e112-e121.

33

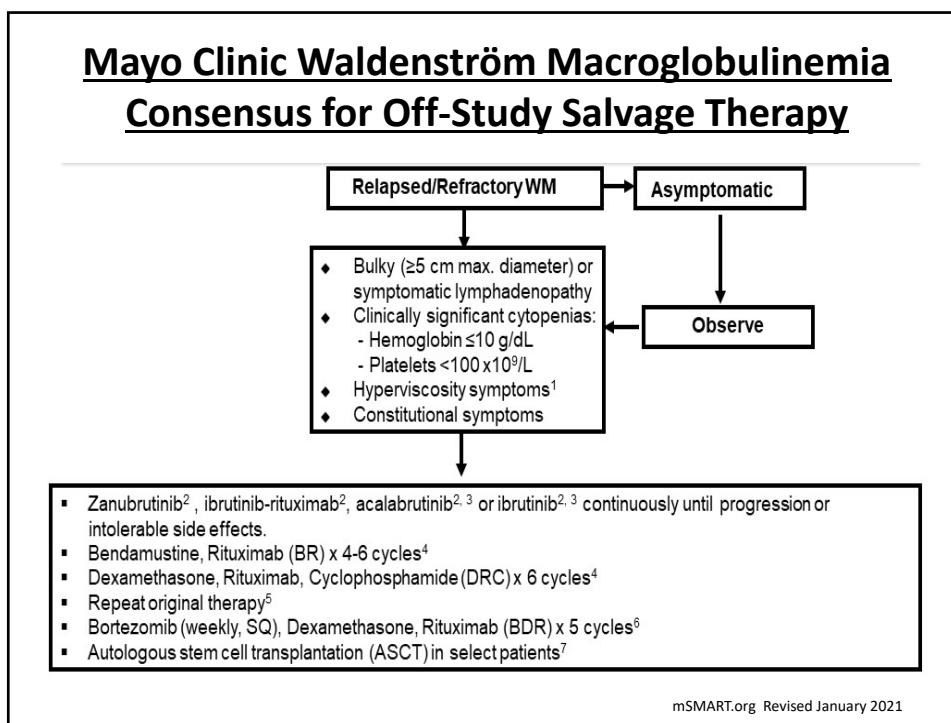
## Phase II Study of Venetoclax in Patients with Previously Treated Waldenström Macroglobulinemia



Castillo J, et al. *Blood* (2018) 132 (Supplement 1): 2888.

34

## Mayo Clinic Waldenström Macroglobulinemia Consensus for Off-Study Salvage Therapy



35

## Transplantation in relapsed Waldenström macroglobulinemia.

Autologous transplant –

158 WM patients

Non-relapse mortality – 3.8%

5-year PFS – 40%

5-year OS – 68%

Kyriakou et al, J Clin Oncol. 2010 May 1;28(13):2227-32.

Allogeneic transplant –

86 WM patients (37 MAC and 49 RIC)

Non-relapse mortality – 33%(MAC), 23% (RIC)

5-year PFS – 56%

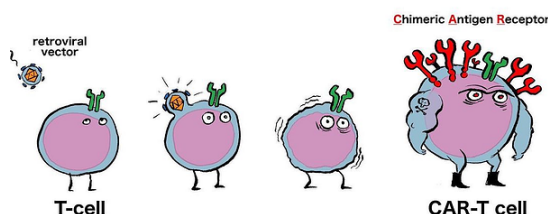
5-year OS – 62%

Kyriakou et al. J Clin Oncol. 2010 Nov 20;28(33):4926-34.

36

## CAR T-cells - ZUMA-5: Efficacy endpoints in relapsed/refractory FL and MZL

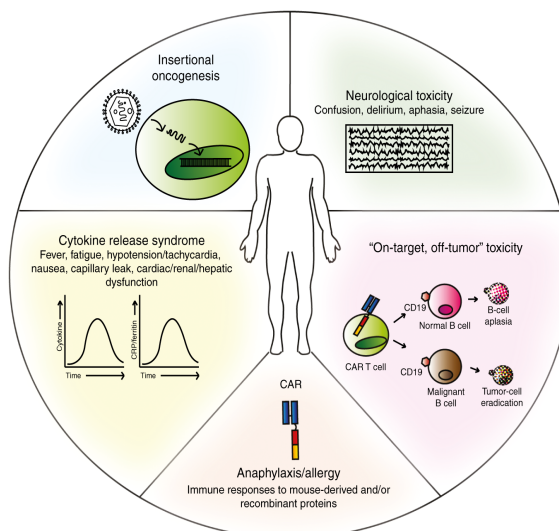
Endpoint	FL (n = 80)	MZL (n = 16)
Overall response	95%	81%
Complete response	81%	75%
Partial response	14%	6%
Median DOR	20.8 months	10.6 months
Median PFS	23.5 months	11.8 months
12-month OS	93.4%	100%



Jacobson CA, et al. ASCO Virtual Scientific Program. 2020. Abstract 8008.

37

## Toxicities of chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) T-cell therapy



Bonifant et al. Molecular Therapy — Oncolytics 3: 16011 (2016)

38

**Questions?**