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Transplantation

GVHD prophylaxis in matched sibling donor transplant

The case for "post-cyclophosphamide"

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TRANSPLANTATION

Comment on Kanakry et al, page 1389

How much immunosuppression do we need?

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GvHD prevention

Peri-transplant

- Immunosuppr. drugs
- Antiproliferative drugs
- Lymphodepletion

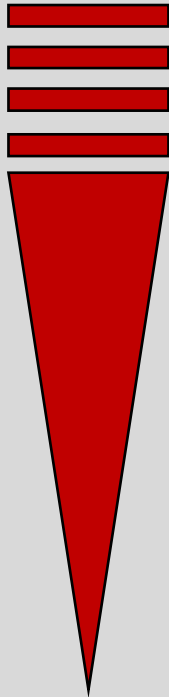


Post-transplant

- No IS
- Time restricted IS
- Longer IS



Total
(NRM, REL, OS)

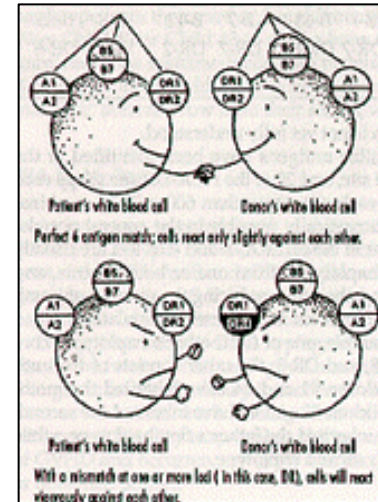


CNI/mTOR
MTX/MMF
ATG / CD34
PTCY

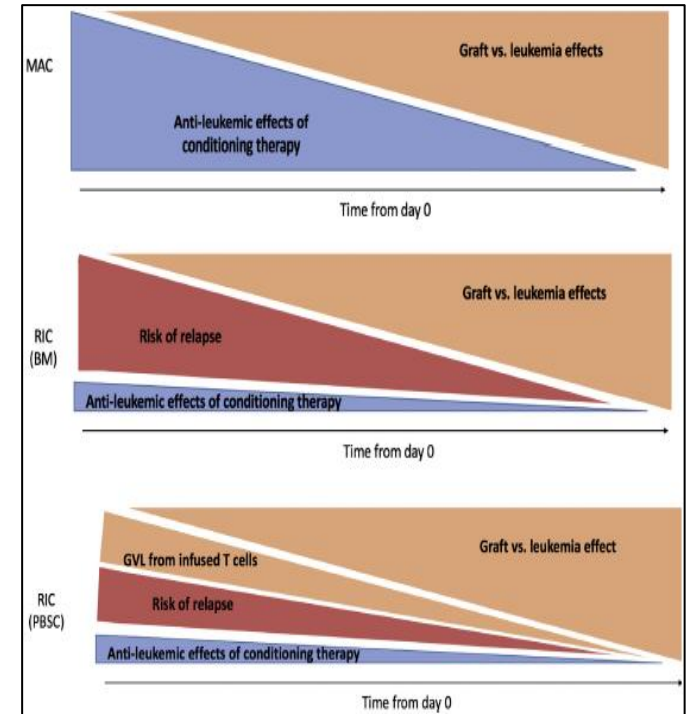


CNI

HLA-match



Graft, conditioning

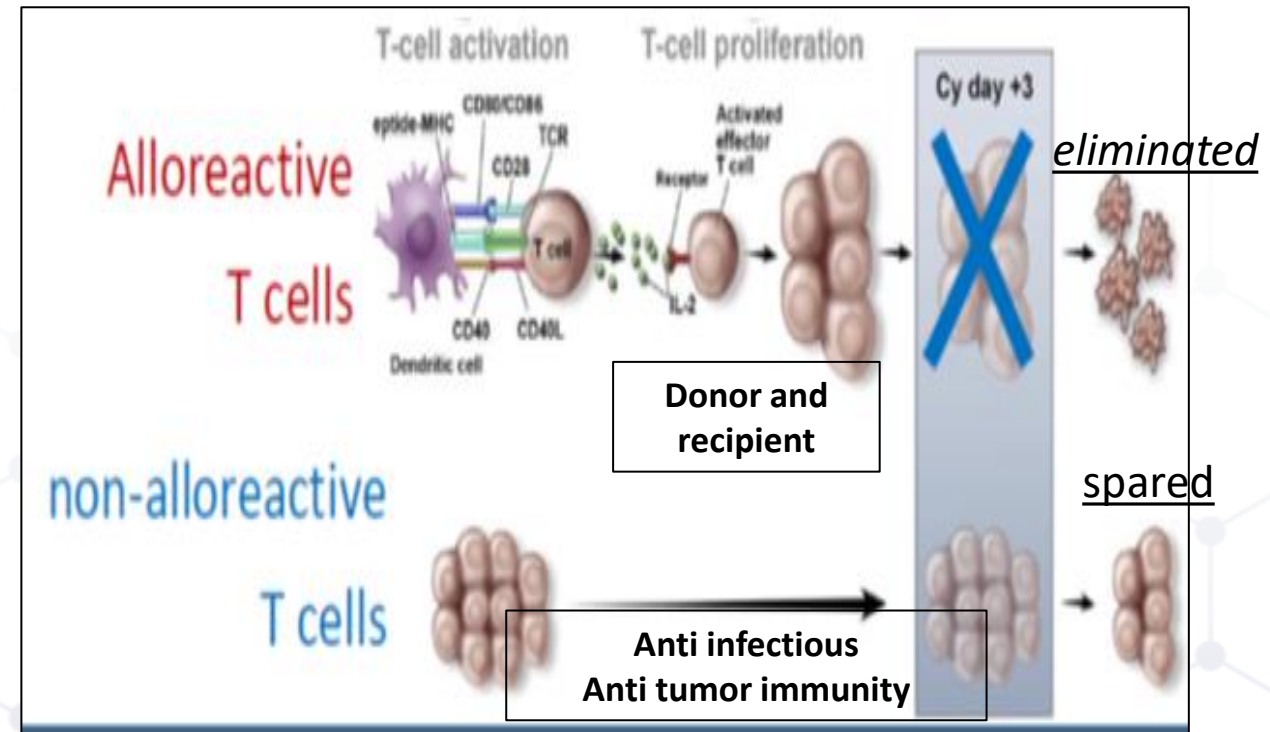
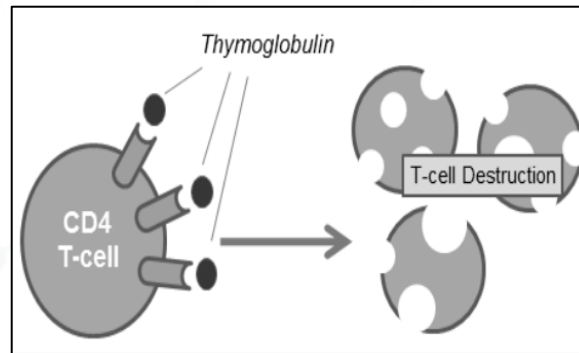
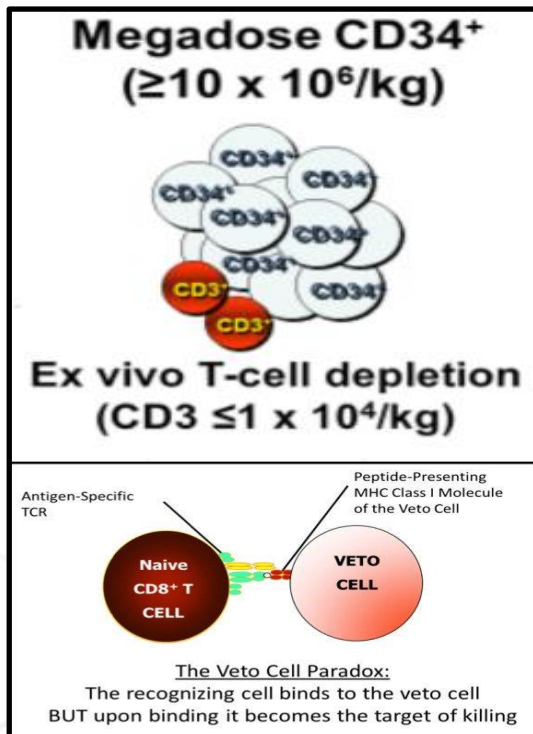


Transplant across HLA barriers: PTCY is the winner

**CD34 megadose:
Ex vivo TCD (graft)
+ veto suppression (host)**

**ATG: In vivo TCD
(graft and host)**

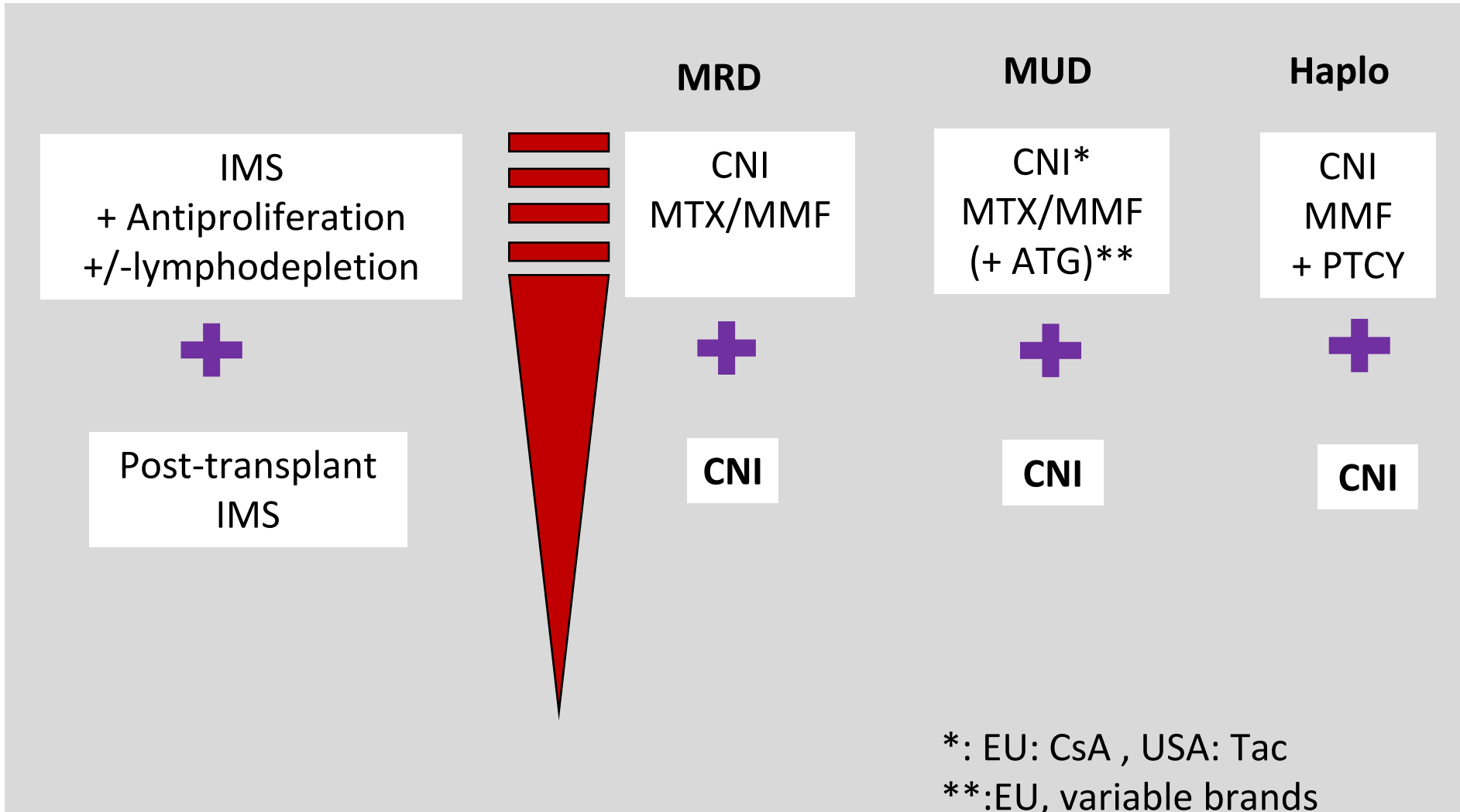
**Putative Mechanism of PTCy:
in vivo selective (clonal) TCD of alloreactive cells
(graft and host)**



PTCy has Markedly Changed the Field of GVHD prophylaxis

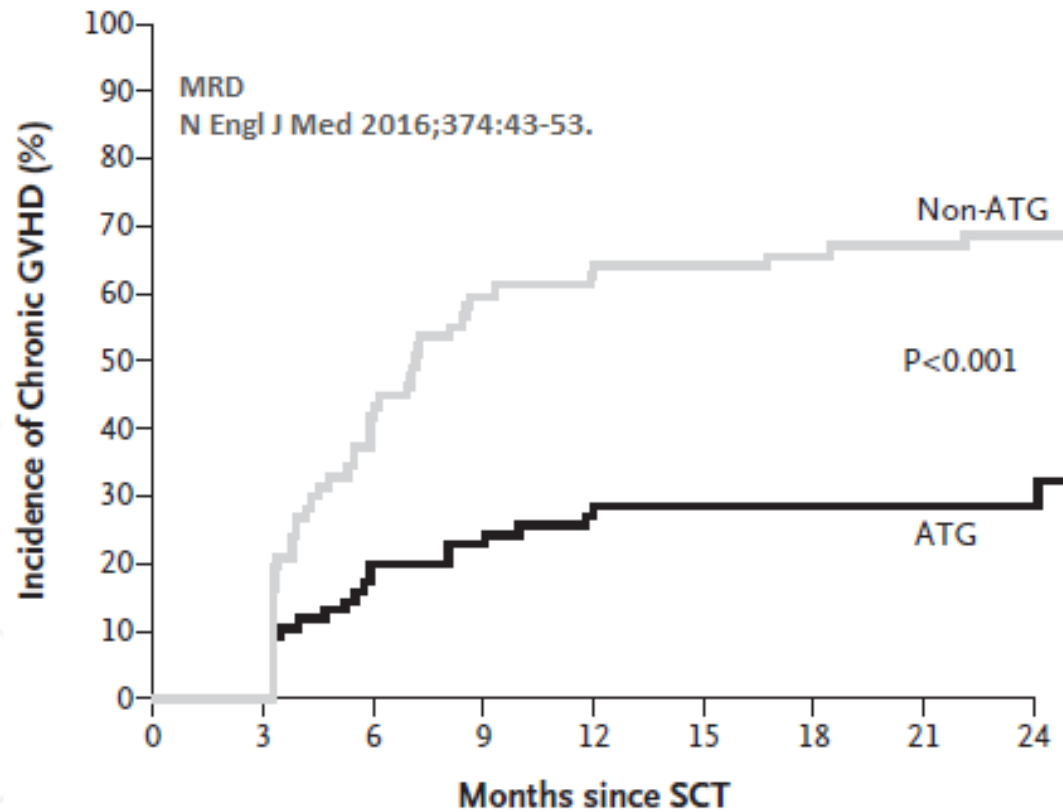
- Already a standard of care for HLA-haploidentical HCT (EU and USA)
- Low rates of severe acute and chronic GVHD and NRM
- Allows Haplo-related donors to be used about as safely as HLA-matched donors
- Enables even “haplo” - MMUD (4/8 to 7/8) transplant (better results as historical serological HLA class I matched UD HCT)

Standard (?) GvHD prophylaxis in 2023

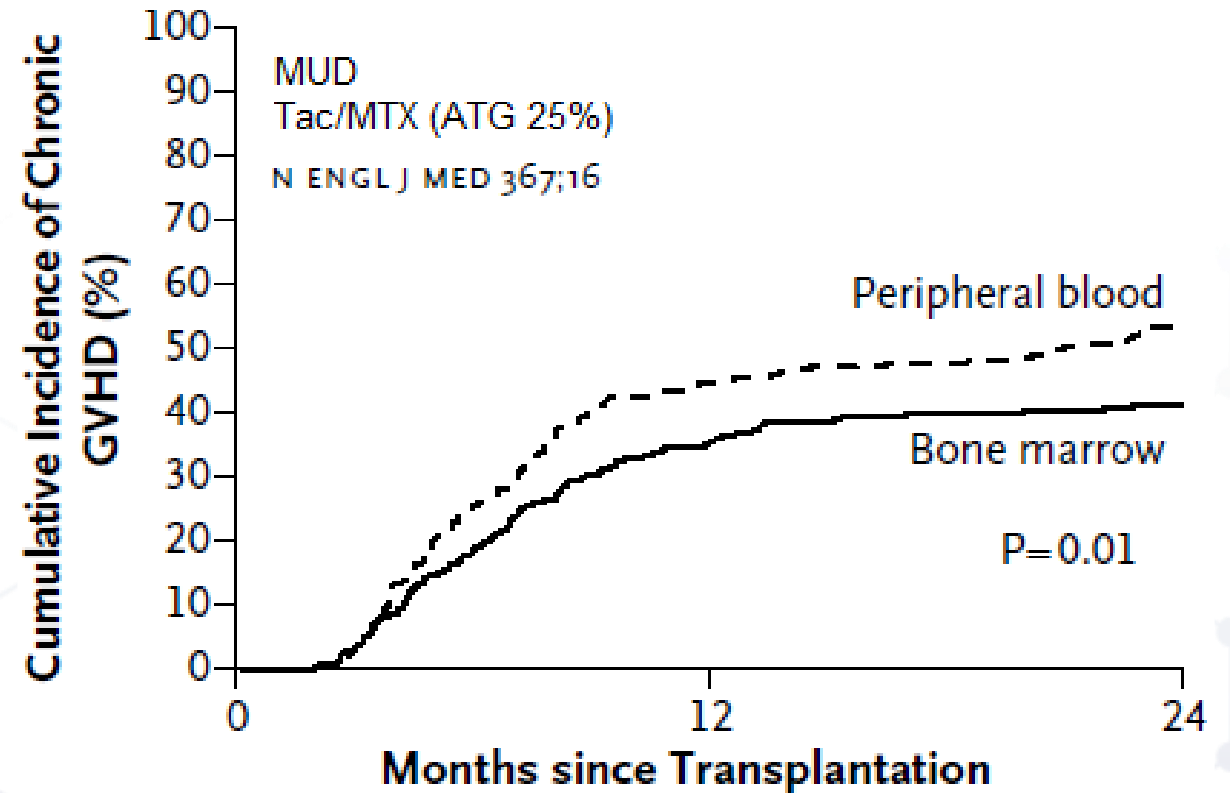


Should we change our standard GVHD prophylaxis in HLA-matched HCT?

CsA/ MTX is not enough



Tac/MTX is not enough



What to add/ change for GVHD prophylaxis in HLA-matched HCT?

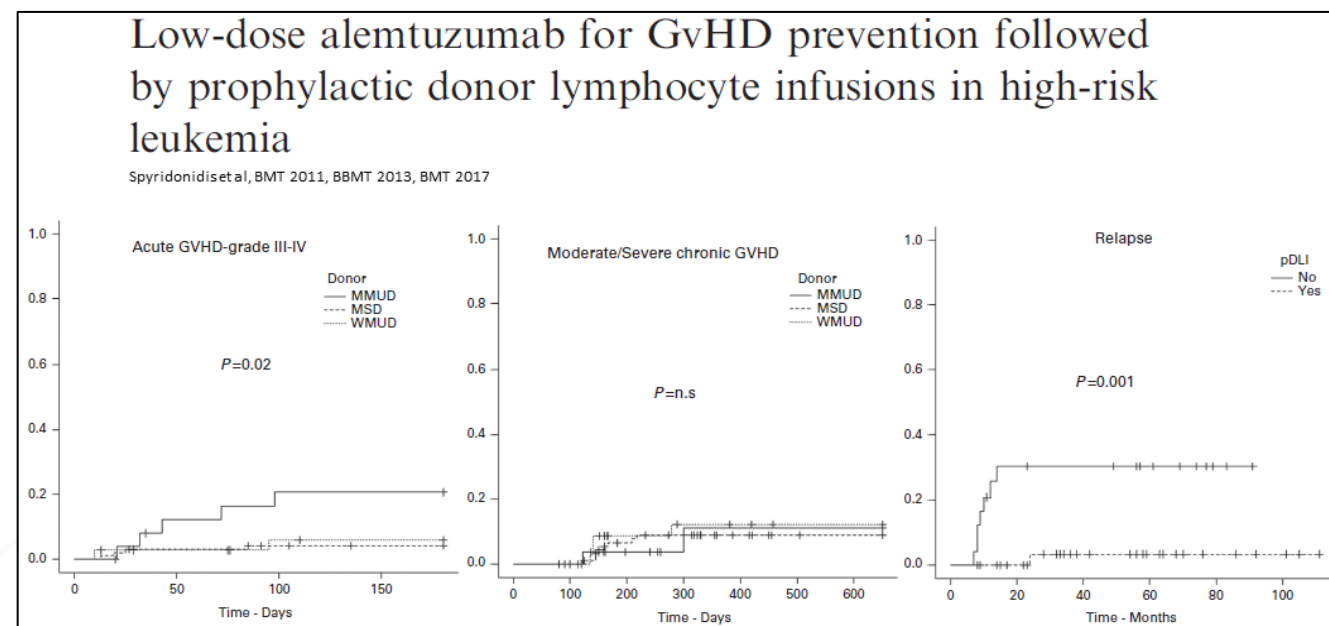
ATG

- Europe: Standard for MUD, viable option for MRD
- Various doses, Various formulations
- Improves GVHD, GRFS, may increase relapse when RIC is used

PTCY

PTCY + ATG

Other (abatacept, vedolizumab, JAKI, Treg)



EudraCT Number: 2021-006367-26 Sponsor Protocol Number: IGTRegs Start Date : 2023-01-03

Sponsor Name: Πανεπιστήμιο Πατρών

Full Title: Phase I / II study of HLA-G + induced T-regulatory cells (iG-Tregs) in patients after allogeneic hematopoietic stem cell transplantation from HLA compatible sibling / donor.

PTCY is increasingly used in HLA –Matched HCT

- Is it safe?
- Is it efficient?
- Is it better than the standard GVD prophylaxis?
- Endpoints? (GVHD outcomes, REL, OS, GRFS)
- Other outcomes: Engraftment, toxicity, infections,
- How to use and optimize clinically ? (dose, timing etc)
- Preferable in specific cases?



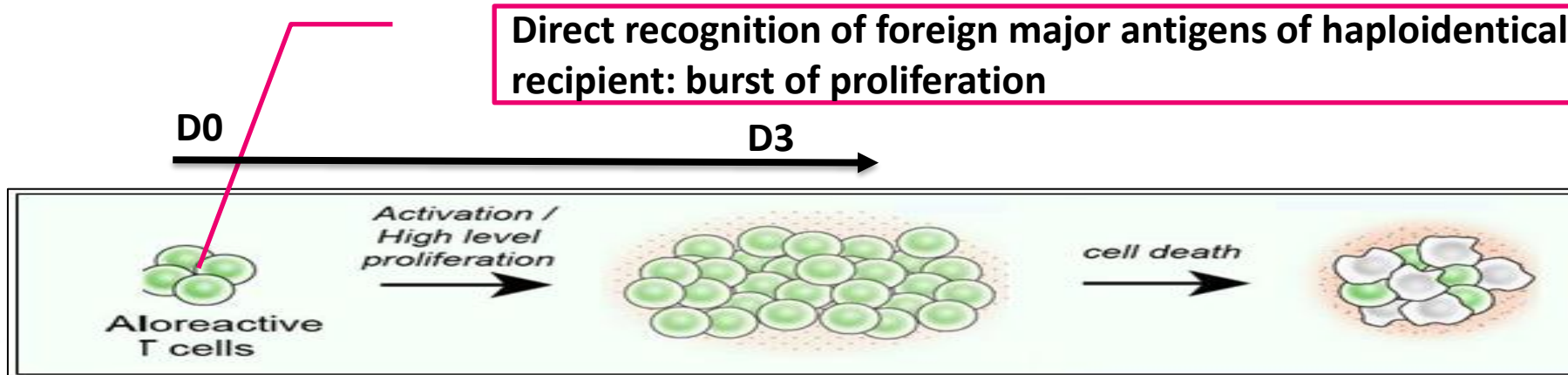
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Concerns for the efficacy of PTCY in the HLA- matched setting

Direct recognition of foreign major antigens of haploidentical recipient: burst of proliferation

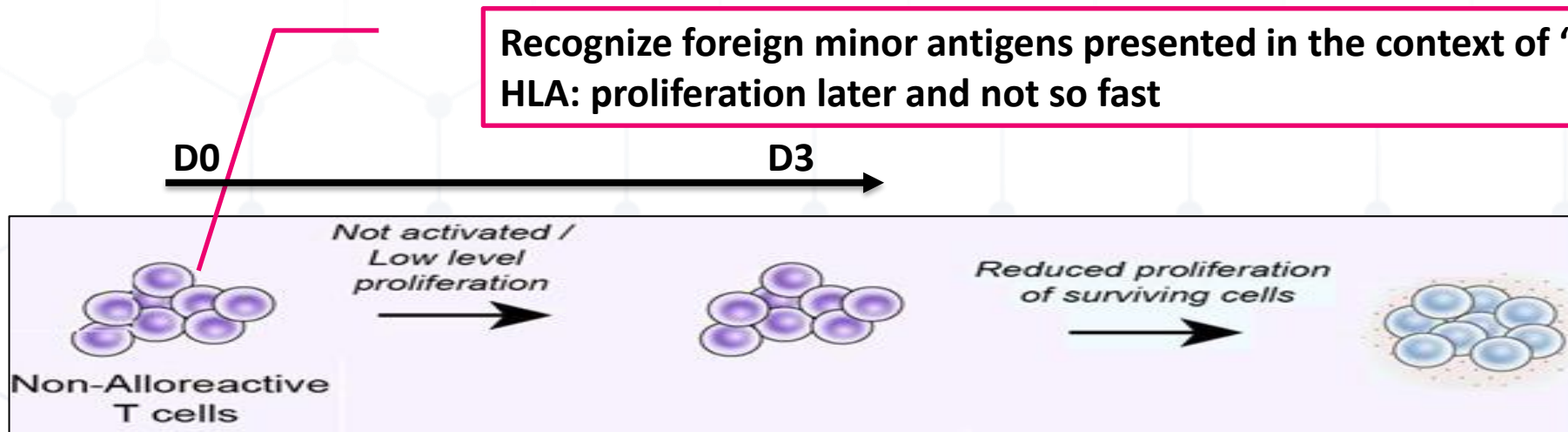
PTCY in mismatch



clonal depletion

Recognize foreign minor antigens presented in the context of "self"
HLA: proliferation later and not so fast

PTCY in match?



Antiproliferative drug?
(as MTX /MMF?)

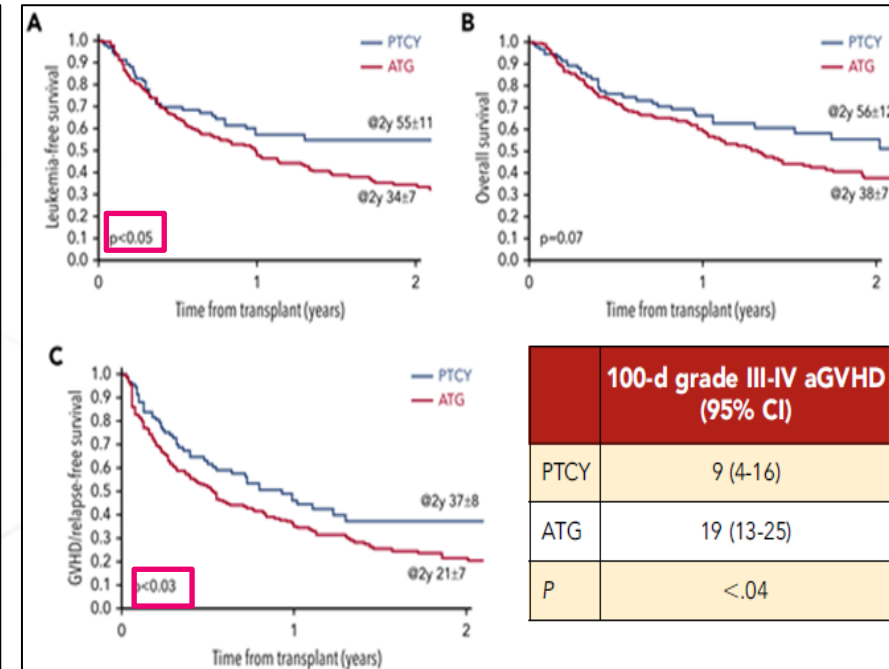
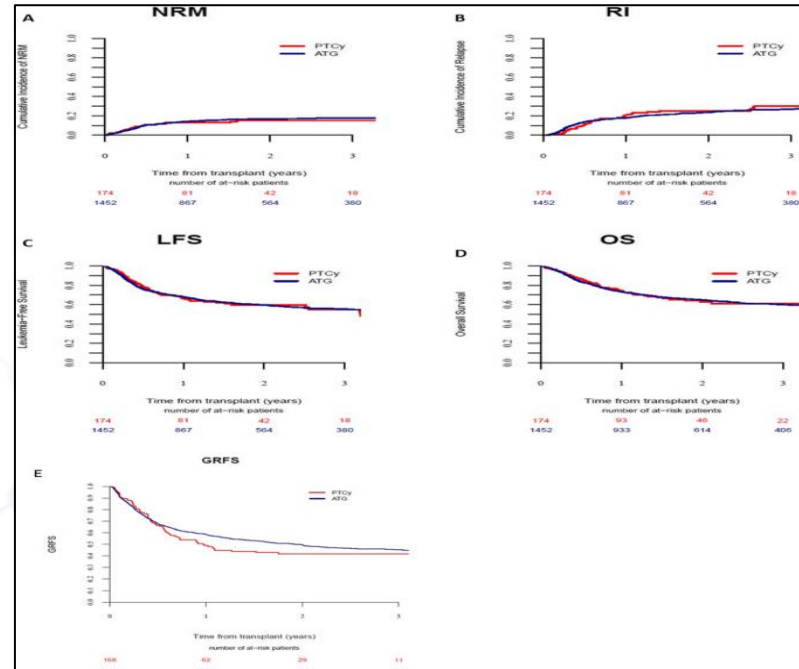
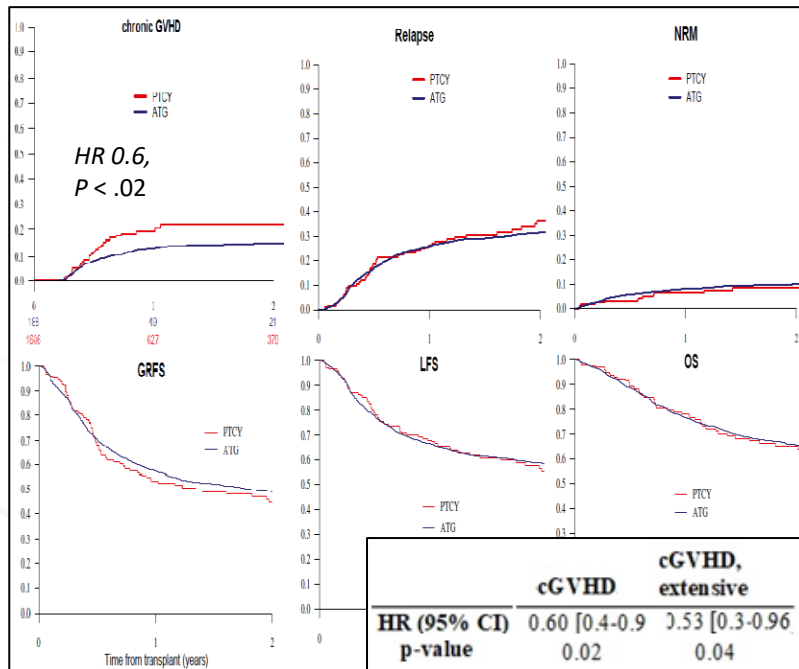
Support for the classical model of PTCY: PTCy efficacy predominantly in mismatch

PTCY vs ATG (EBMT, matched-paired)

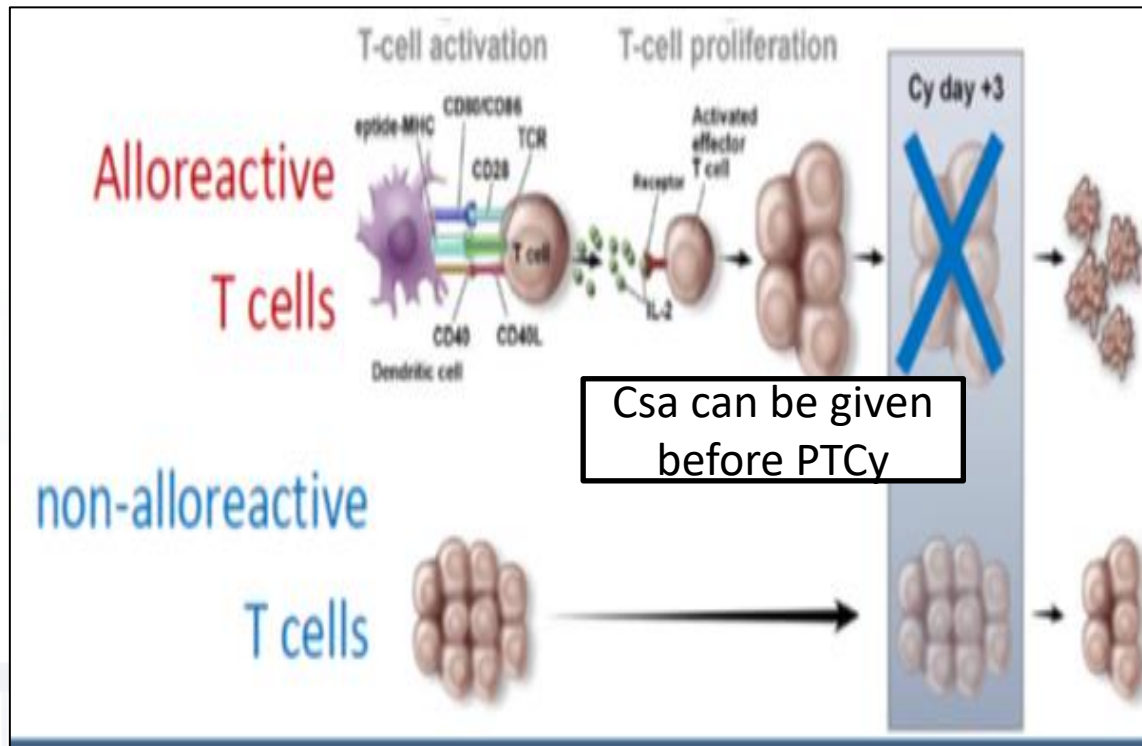
MRD
ATG better for cGVHD

WMUD (10/10)
ATG= PTCY

MMUD (9/10)
PTCY better for aGVHD



Clinical Observations that do not support the Classical Model of PTCy



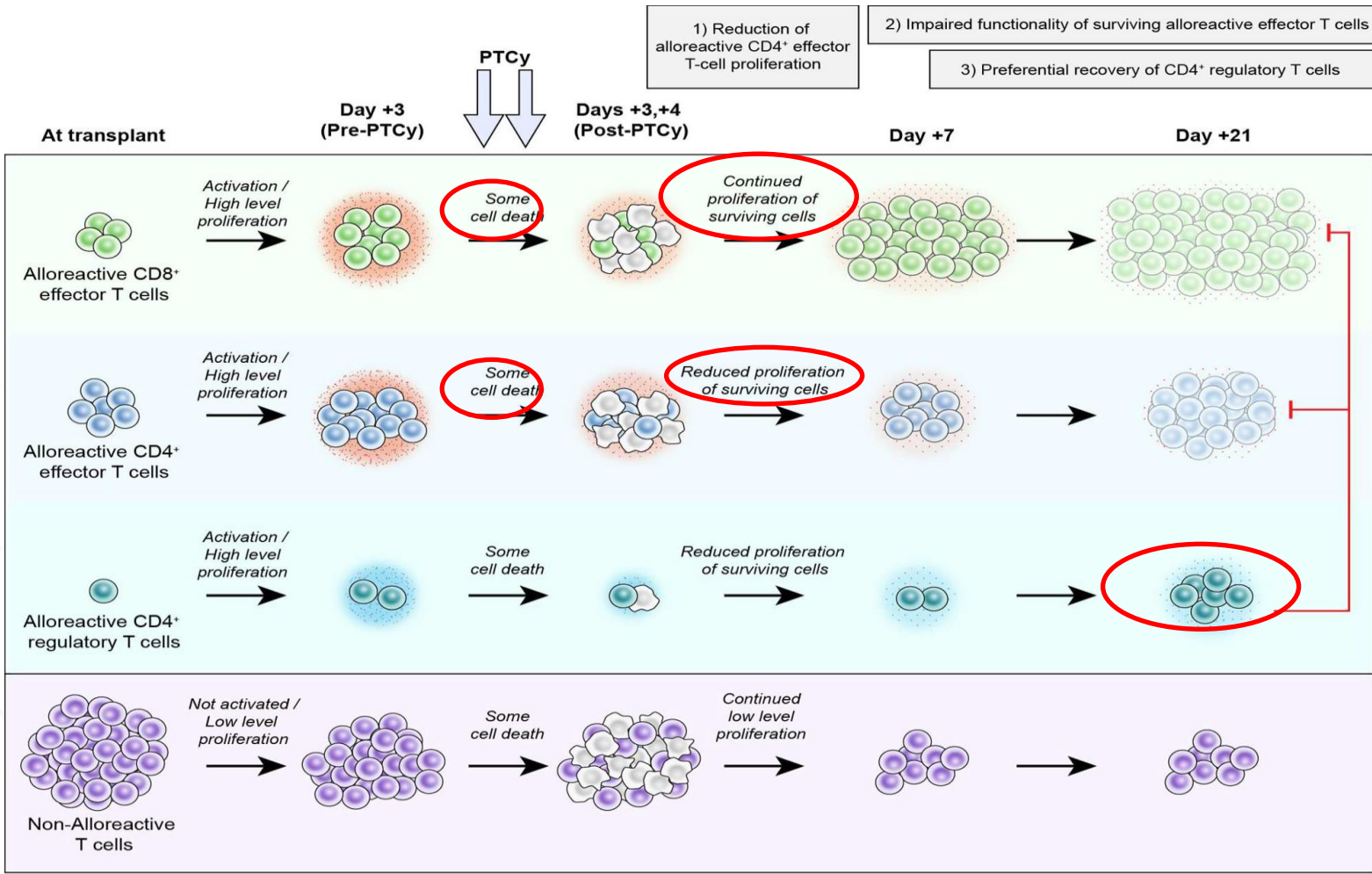
Alloreactive T cells SURVIVE (incomplete elimination)

- Grade II acute GVHD is frequent despite PTCy (~30-80%)

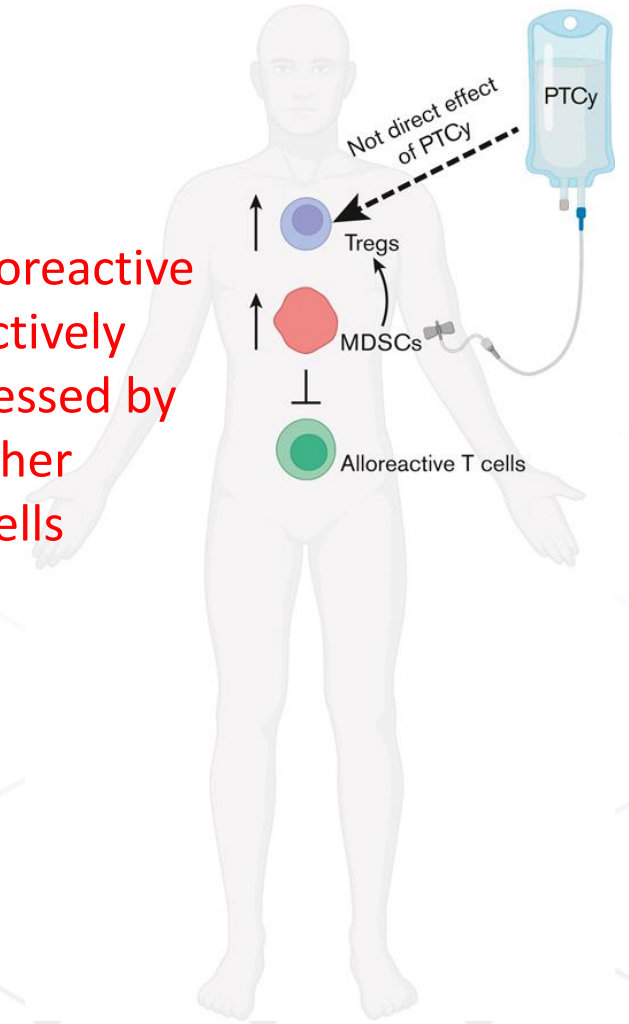
DYSFUNCTIONAL (Impaired functionality)

- Severe GVHD is still Prevented (10-20%)

How does PTCy work? preferential recovery of regulatory cells



Surviving alloreactive T cells are actively being suppressed by Tregs and other regulatory cells



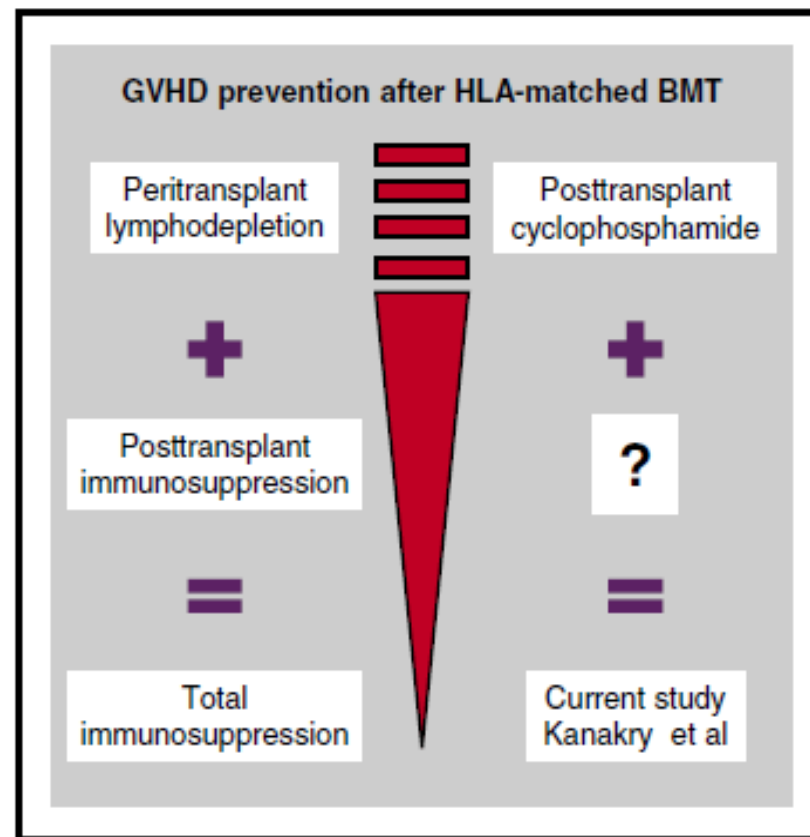
Can PTCY be used as Single Agent in HLA matched HCT (CNI-free HCT)?

PTCy in MRD/MUD BMT.

Single and multi-institutional cohorts

N=117 (1), N=92 (2), N=209 (3),
N=339 (4), N=298 (5)

MAC BMT,
MRD 30% , MUD approx. 70%
PTCY single agent,
no further ISD as prophylaxis

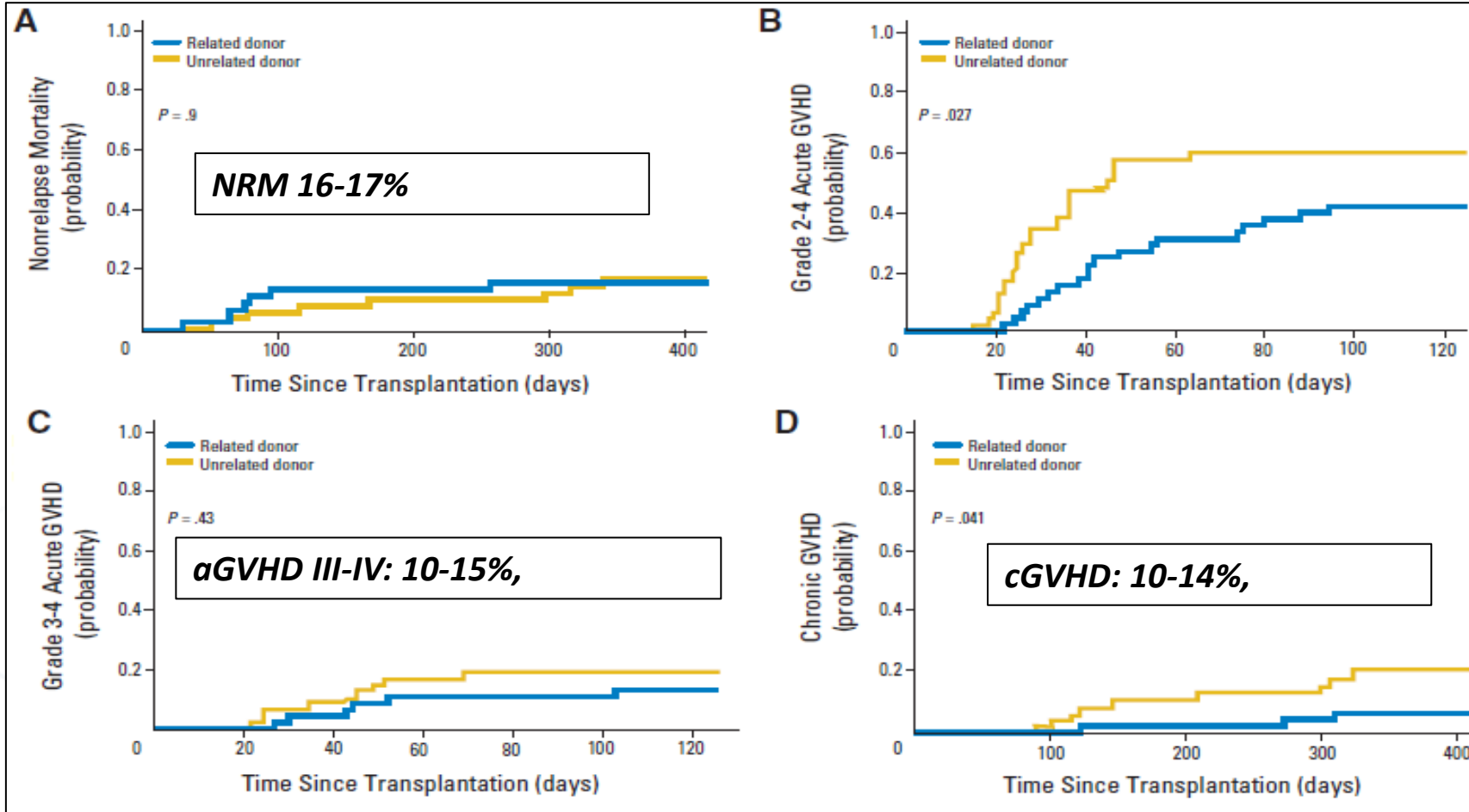




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PTCy Single Agent in MRD/MUD BMT is Safe and Effective

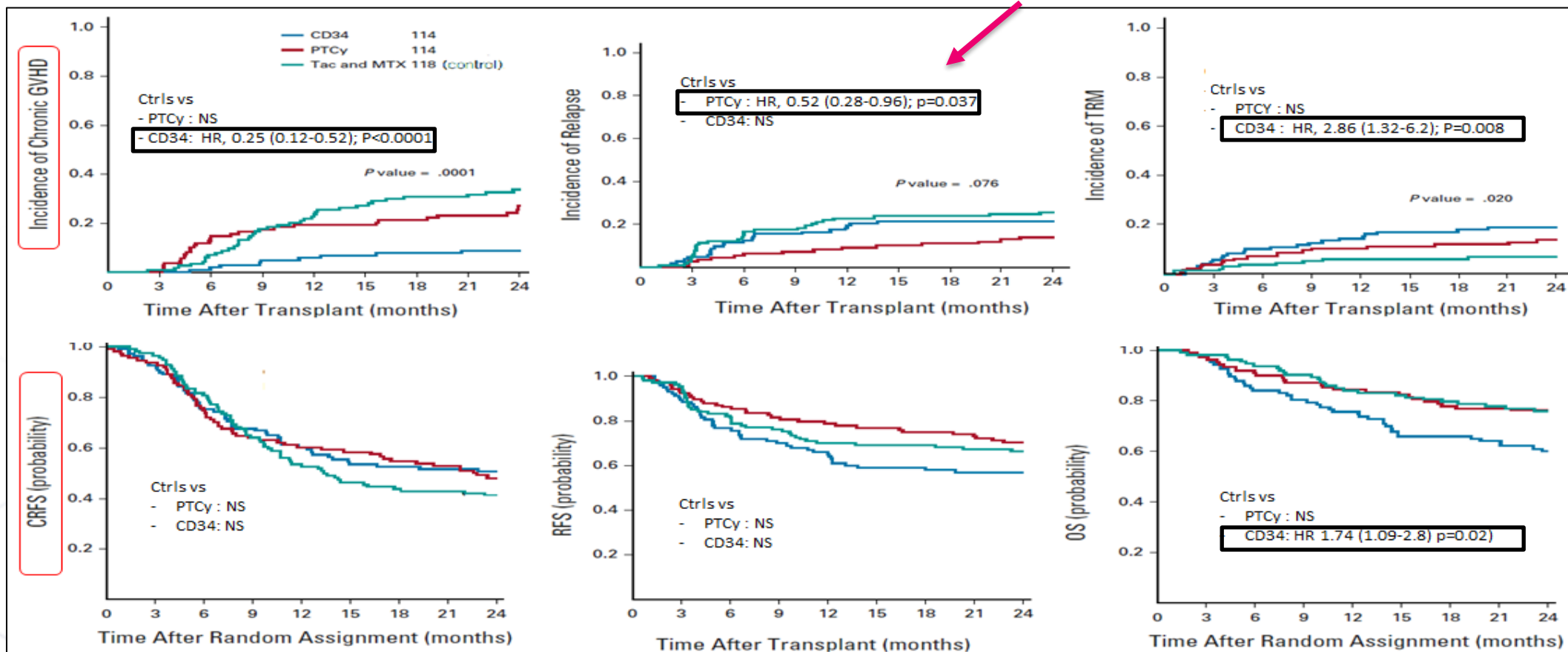


Low IS burden

- 50% MRD / 30% MUD never required any further IS
- Rest 1-2 IS drugs med 5 mo
- nearly all with no IMS at 1y
-
- aGVHD GII → improved OS

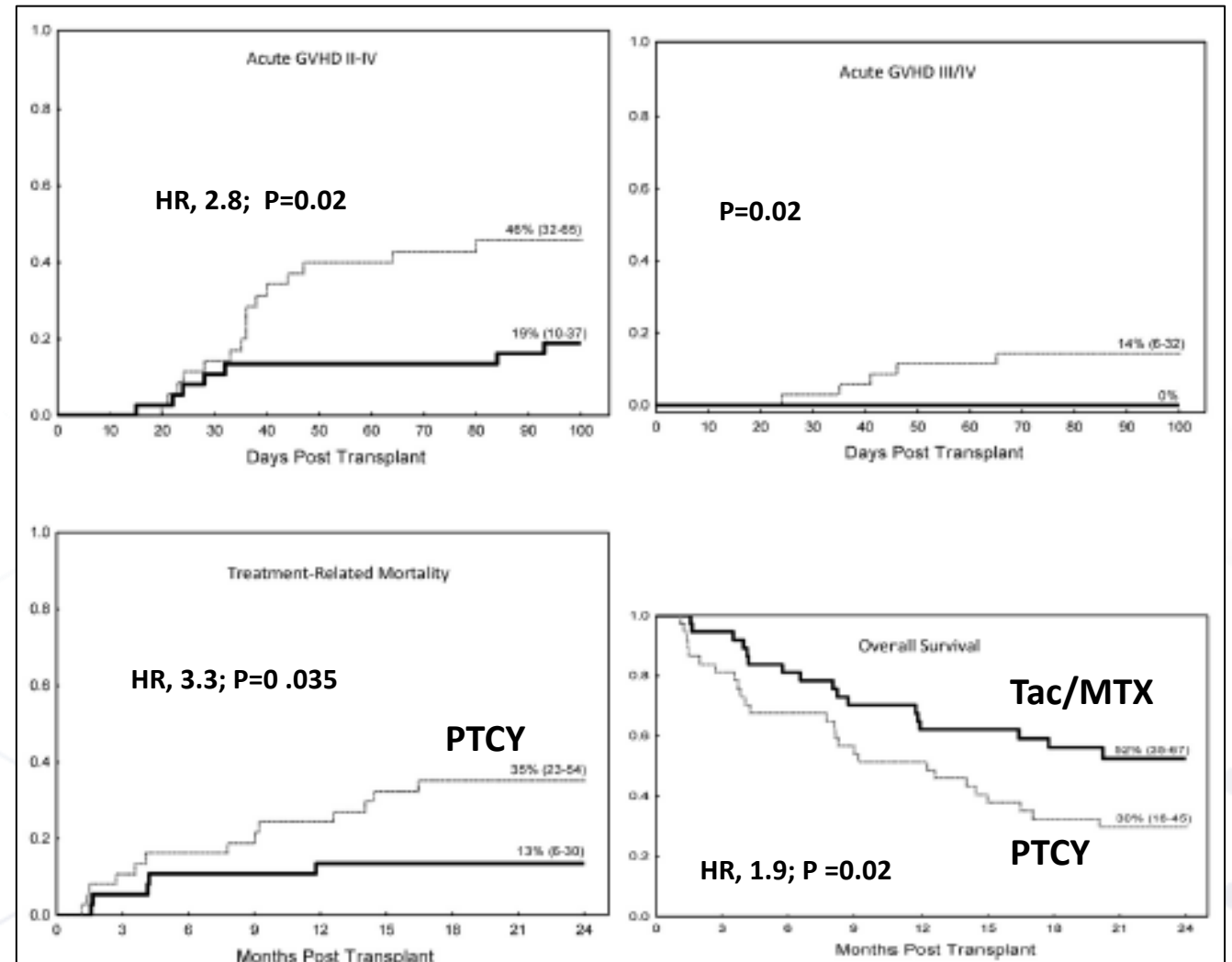
PTCy Single Agent is not superior vs Tac/MTX in MRD/MUD MAC-BMT

Phase III, BMT CTN 1301, n=346, MRD: 38%, MUD: 62% (CNI-free interventions, peak the winner)



PTCy Single Agent in MRD/MUD is probably Not Sufficient

- N=49, PTCy mono
- BM:38, **PBSCT:11**
- vs matched historical TAC/MTX
- cGVHD 20% vs 22% (NS)



PTCY single agent: not safe

Increased rates of life threatening aGVHD

- Bradstock et al: 4/5 pts aGVHD III-IV (6)
- Holtick et al: TRM 36%, principally attributable to severe intestinal aGVHD (7)

PTCY + ISD : safe and effective

PTCY+CNI

N=43, aGVHD III-IV 0%, cGVHD: 16%, NRM 14% (1)

N=35, aGVHD III-IV 0%, cGVHD: 7%, NRM: 3 % (2)

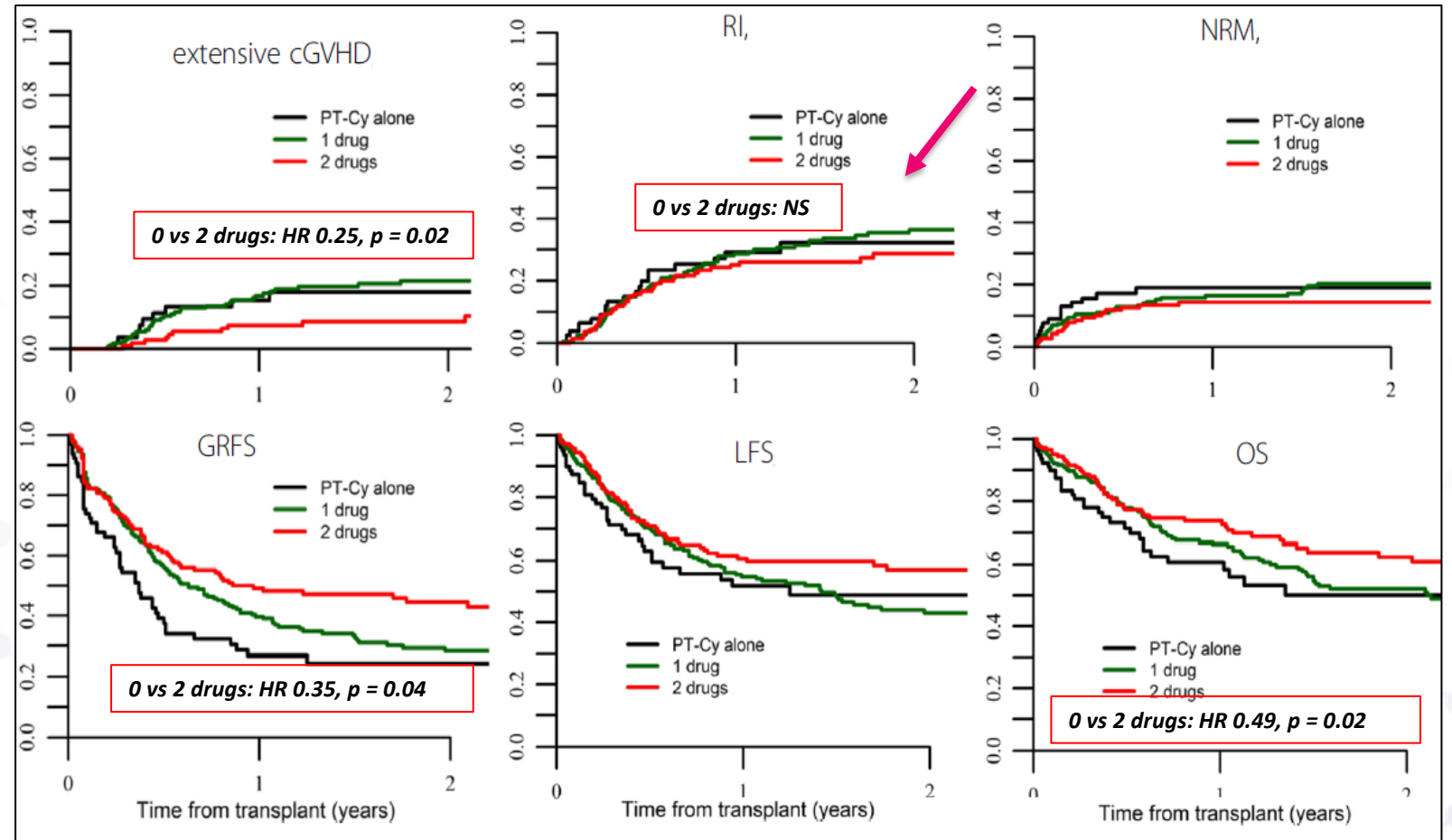
PTCY+ mTORI

N=28, aGVHD III-IV 4%, cGVHD: 13%, NRM 14 % (4)

N=26, aGVHD III-IV 15%, cGVHD: 31%, NRM 4% (5)

PTCY in MRD/MUD: The role of additional IS (EBMT)

	PTCy alone (n = 78)	1 drug (n = 204)	2 drugs (n = 141)
MSD	63 (81%)	114 (56%)	64 (45%)
UD	15 (19%)	90 (44%)	77 (54%)
BM	58 (74%)	25 (12%)	25 (18%)
PB	20 (26%)	179 (88%)	116 (82%)



The case for PTCY in the HLA-matched setting

1. PTCy in BMT

- Can be used as single agent GvHD prophylaxis
- PTCY mono = Tac/MTX: Equal GvHD, GRFS, OS, LFS, less Rel? (CTN 1301)

2. PTCY in PBSCT

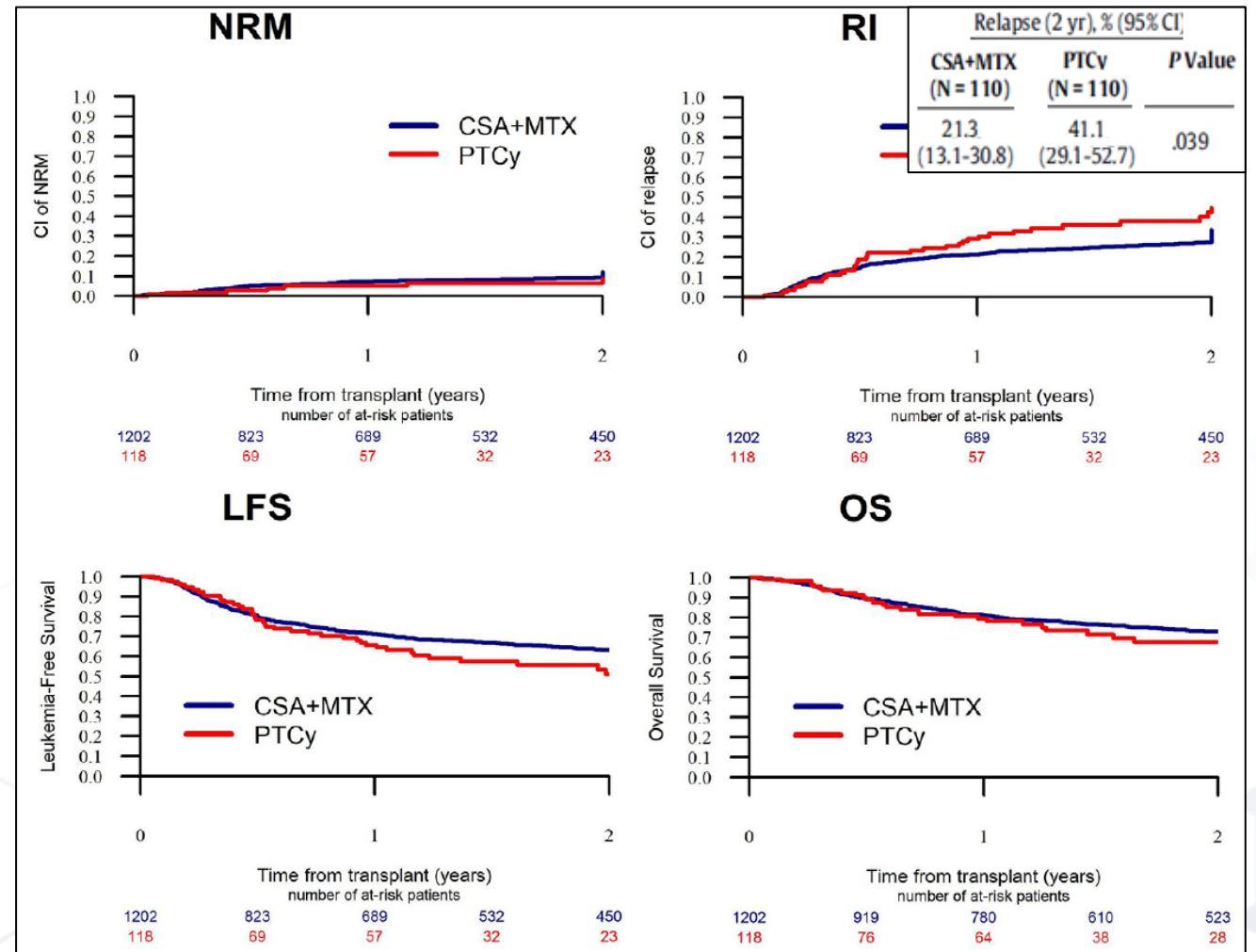
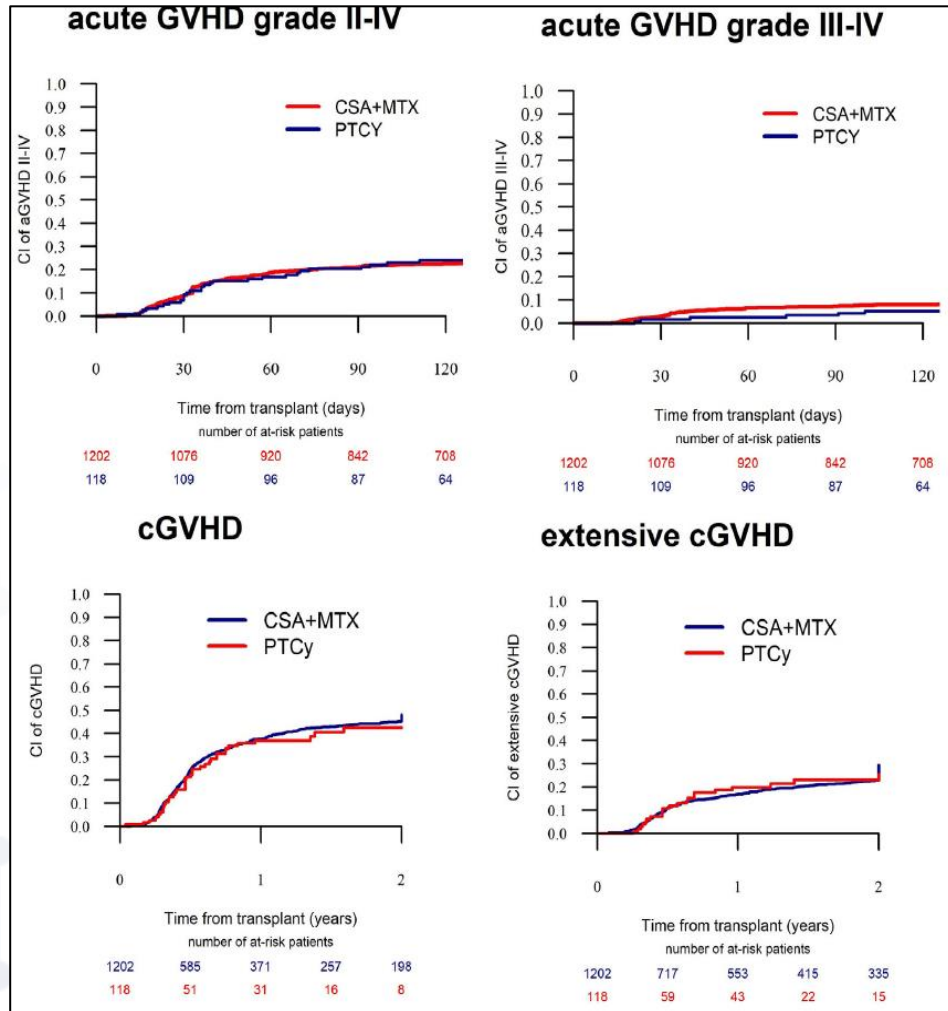
- Inadequate as monotherapy
- Viable option as PTCY + CNI
- **PTCY+CNI vs standard?**



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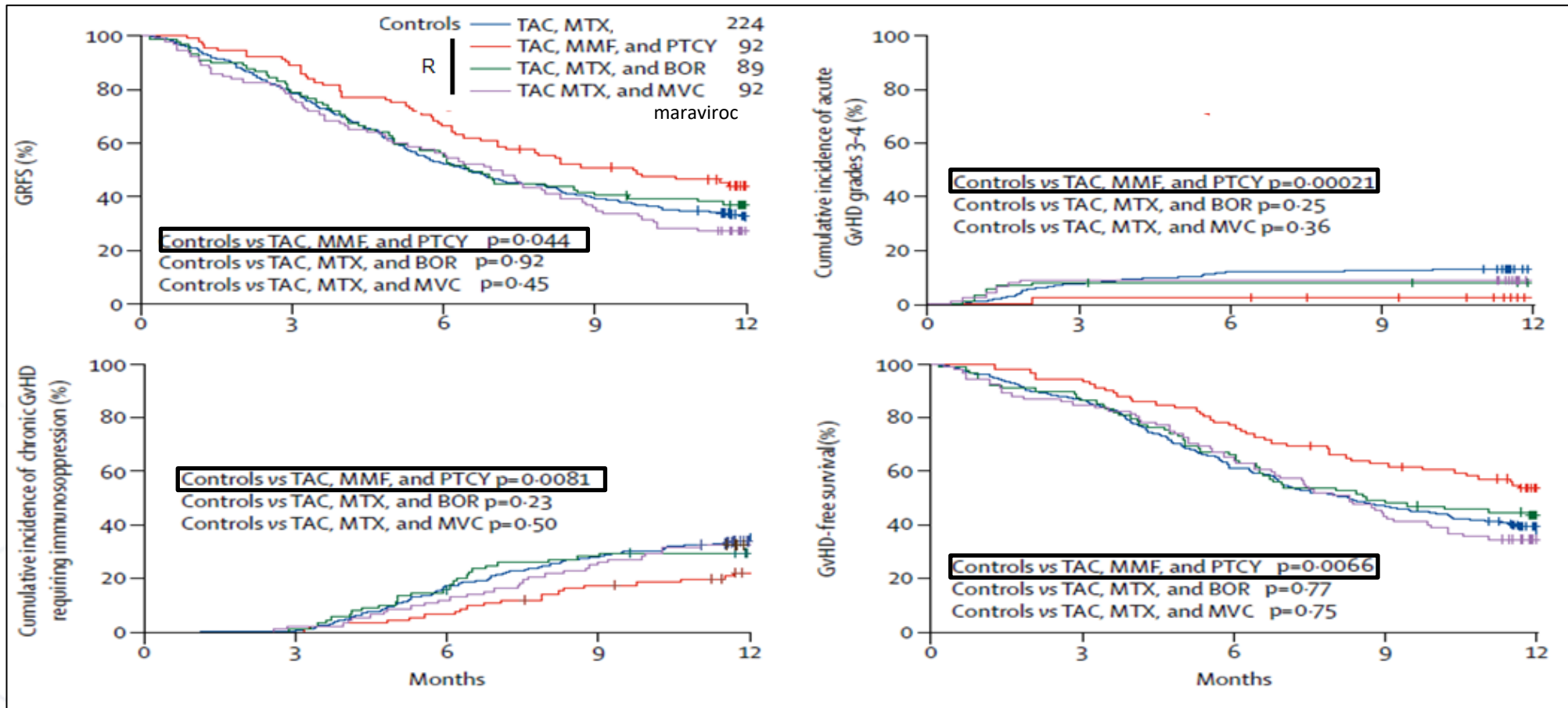
PTCY + CNI comparable as CsA + MTX in MRD PBSCT (EBMT)



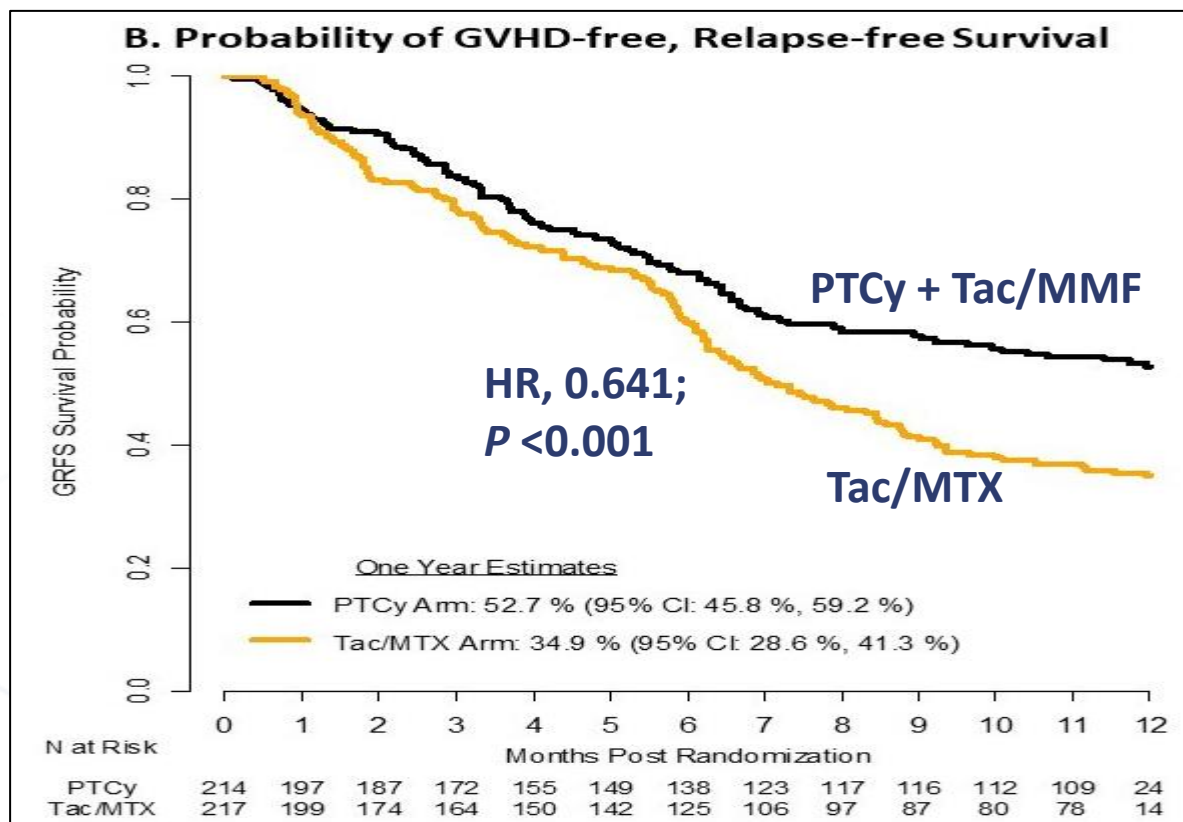


PTCy+Tac/MMF Favorable vs Tac/MTX

BMT-CTN 1203 (rand. Ph. II, including prospective Ctrl, MRD/MUD RIC- PBSCT)



Phase III BMT CTN 1703, N=431, MRD/WMUD RIC-PBSCT
MRD ~30% in both arms

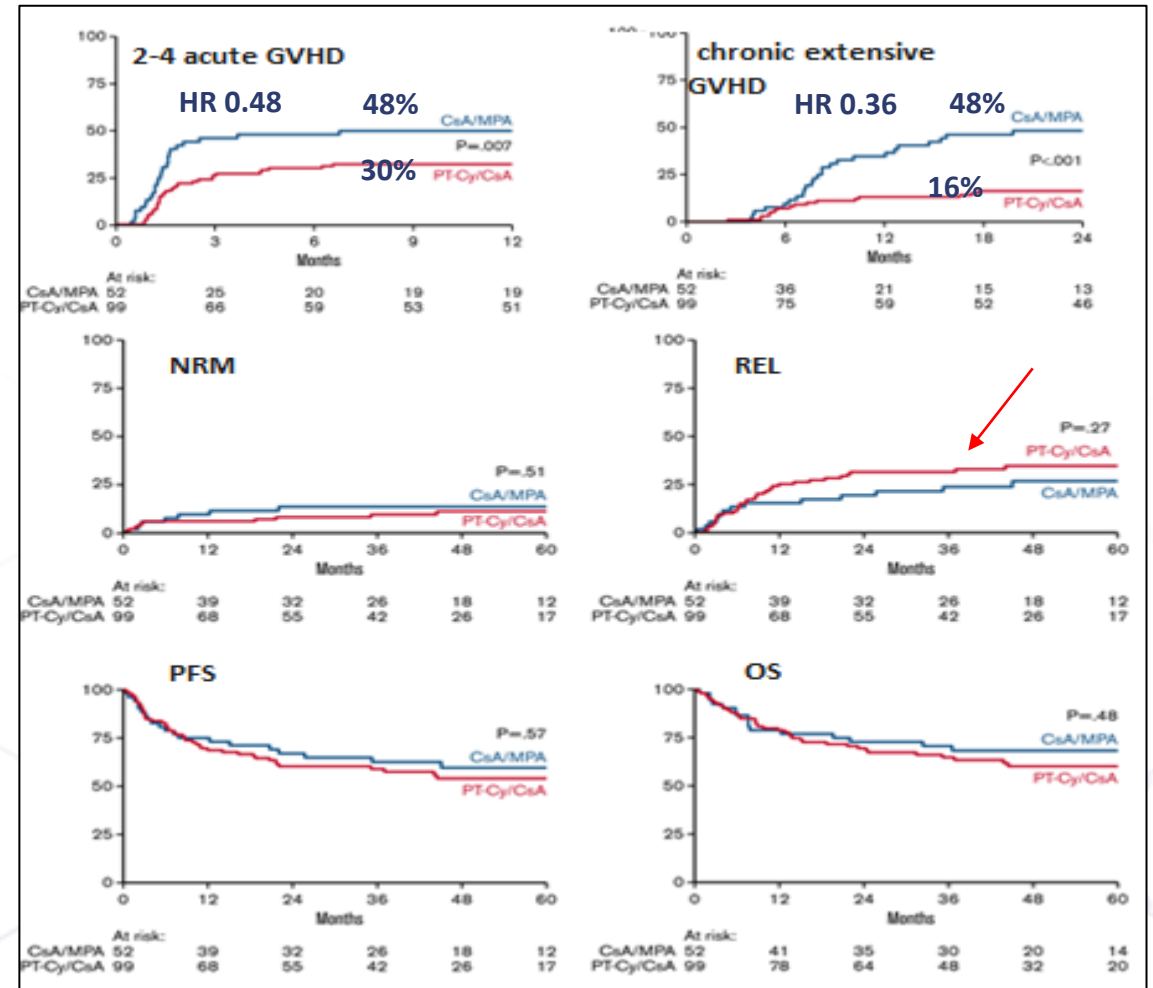
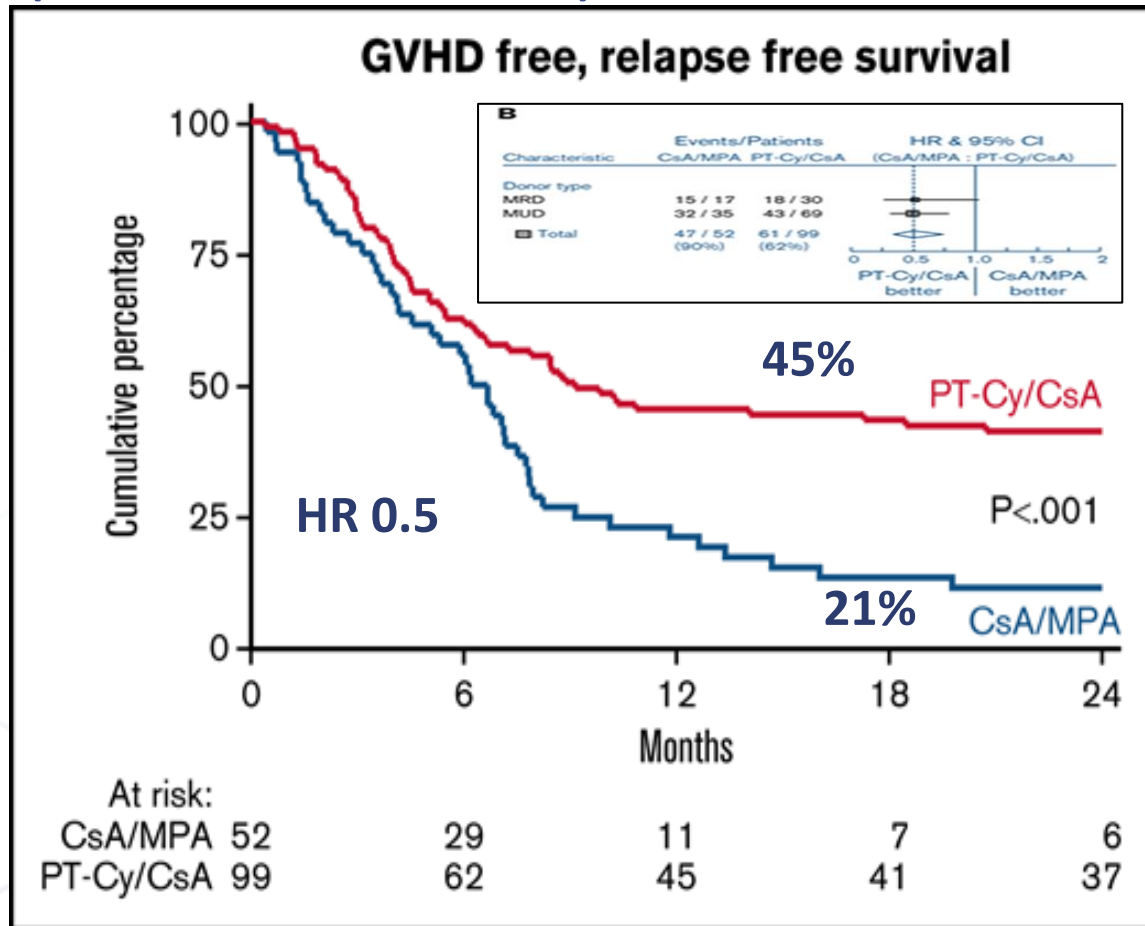


- The improvement in GRFS was driven primarily by a reduction in severe acute and chronic GVHD.
- aGVHD III-IV: 6.3% vs 14.7% ($P = 0.001$)
- \geq mod. cGVHD 12.5% vs 25% ($P = 0.001$)
- IMPROVED GVHD outcomes not at expense of REL or NRM,
- REL: 20.8% vs 20.2%, $p = 0.906$
- NRM: 12.3% vs 17.2%, ($P = .167$).
- **PTCy/Tac/MMF should be the standard GVHD prophylaxis in well matched RIC PBSCT**



PTCY + CsA Superior vs CsA/MMF

Phase III HOVON NL2128, MRD/WMUD NMA-PBSCT
(MRD ~30% in both arms)



The case for PTCY in the HLA-matched setting

1. PTCy single agent

- Can be used with BMT
- Inadequate in PBSCT

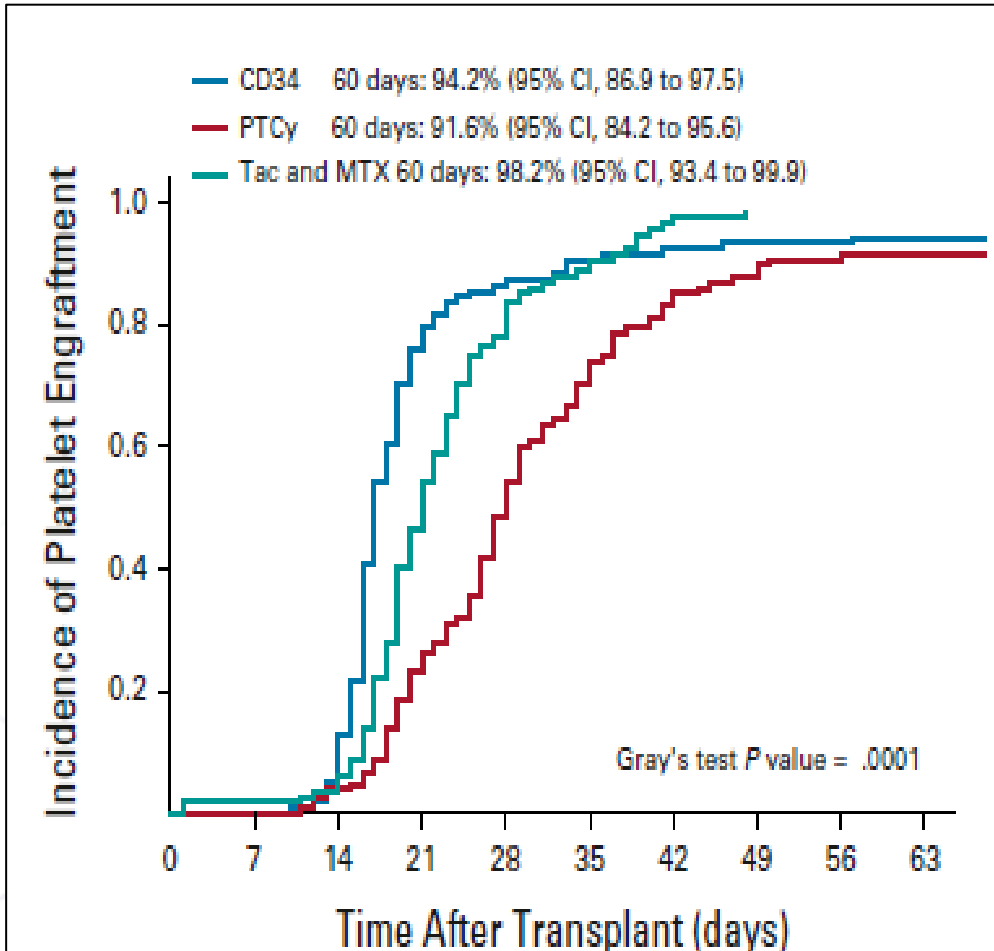
2. Add PTCY to CNI > CNI based

- Better GVHD outcomes, not at expense of Rel (?)
- PTCY+ Tac/MMF > Tac/MTX (CTN 1203 and 1703, RIC-PBSCT)
- PTCY + CsA > CsA/MMF (Hovon, NMA-PSBCT)

Is PTCY + CN1 the new standard in HLA matched HCT?

Side Effects of PTCY

BMT CTN 1301, (BMT)



BMT CTN 1703, PTCy + Tac/MMF vs Tac/MTX (RIC-PBSCT)

Slightly poorer graft function with PTCY

- Graft rejection 3% vs 0.5% ($P = .198$)
- D28 Neutrophil recovery 90.3 vs 93.4% ($P = .032$)
- D100 PLT >20.000: 90.3 vs 92.8% ($P < .001$)
- secondary GF 2.9% vs 0.9% ($P = .172$)

Infections

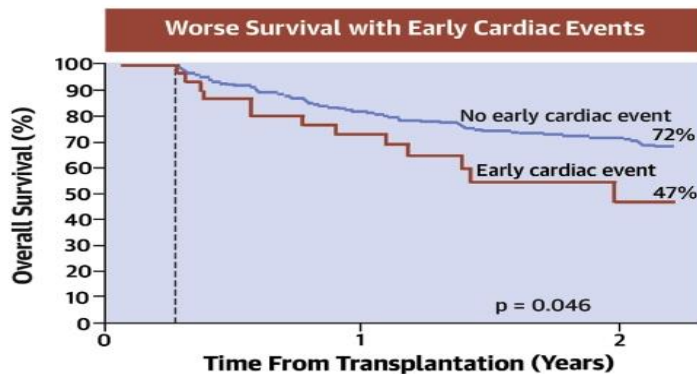
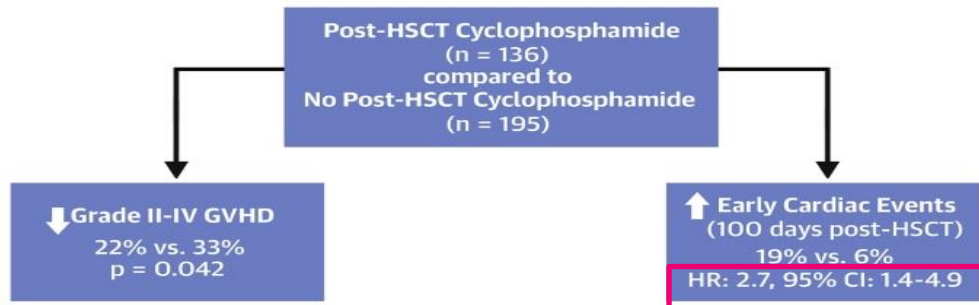
- Gr 2-3: PTCY 40% vs 30% ($P = 0.018$), GR3: NS
- CMV reactivation 7% vs 7% (letermovir)
- No PTLD

TRM Deaths

- due to aGVHD more common in Ctrl (14.3% vs 4.2%)
- due to organ failure more common in PTCy (23 vs 11%)

Specific toxicities of PTCY

CENTRAL ILLUSTRATION: Impact of Post-Transplant Cyclophosphamide on Early Cardiac Events and Overall Survival According to the Occurrence of These Cardiac Events



Number Patients at Risk			
No early cardiac event	253	180	129
Early cardiac event	30	19	6

Duléry, R. et al. J Am Coll Cardiol CardioOnc. 2021;3(2):250-9.

PTCy can be Optimized Clinically (Haplo)

□ 100 mg/kg → 80mg/kg (1)

□ 100 mg/kg → 50 → 25 (2)
(NCT03983850)

- sufficient for GVHD
- faster NEU and PLT recovery,
- less severe mucositis,
- less Hemorrhagic cystitis,

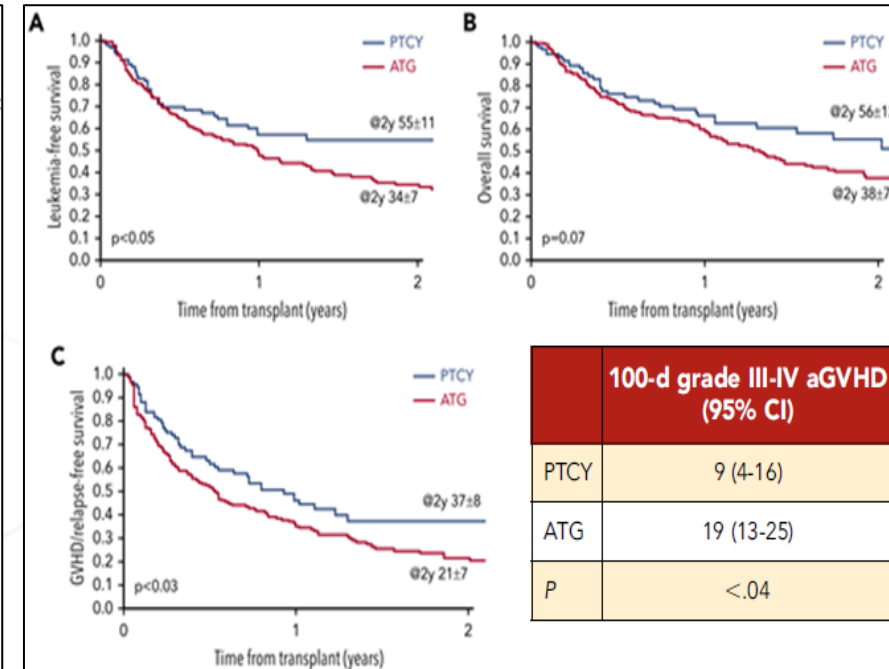
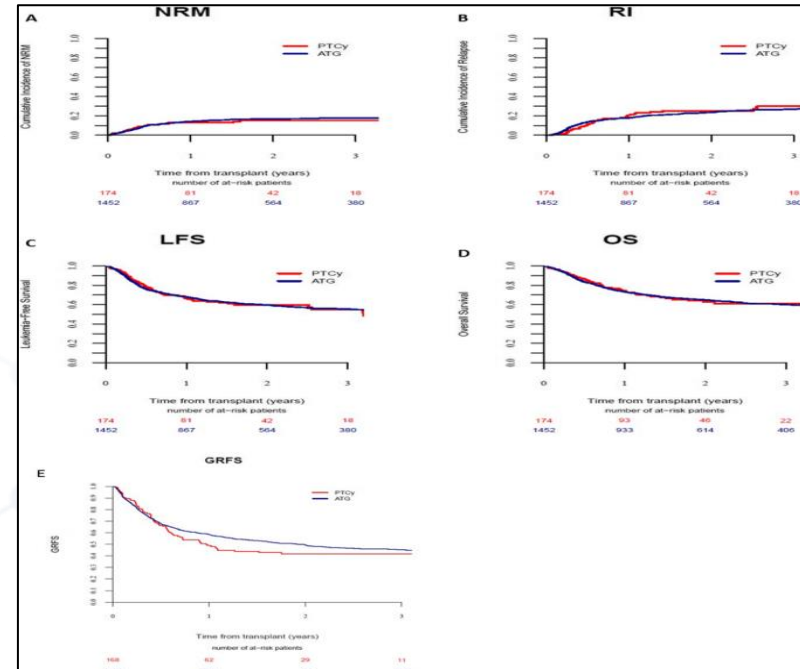
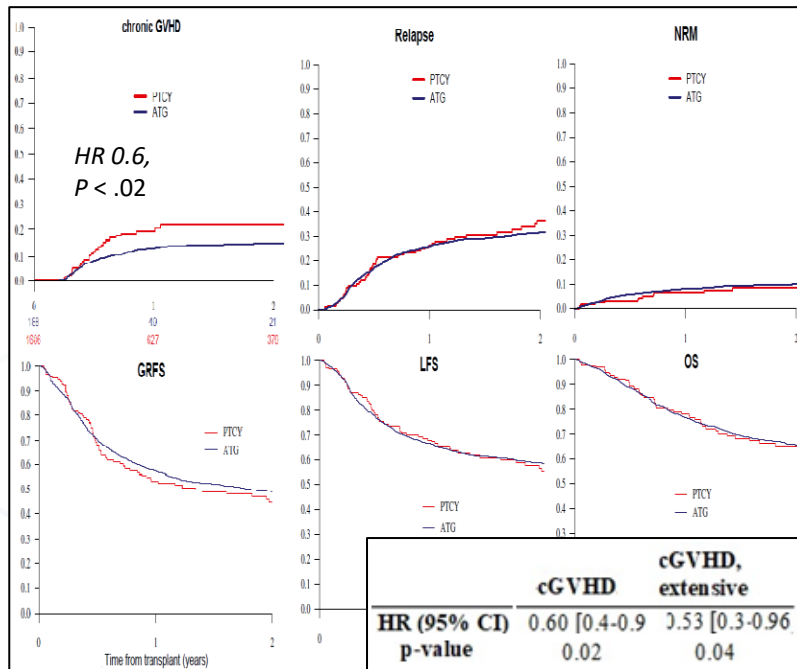
Should PTCY replace (or add to) ATG?

PTCY vs ATG (EBMT)

MRD
ATG better for cGVHD

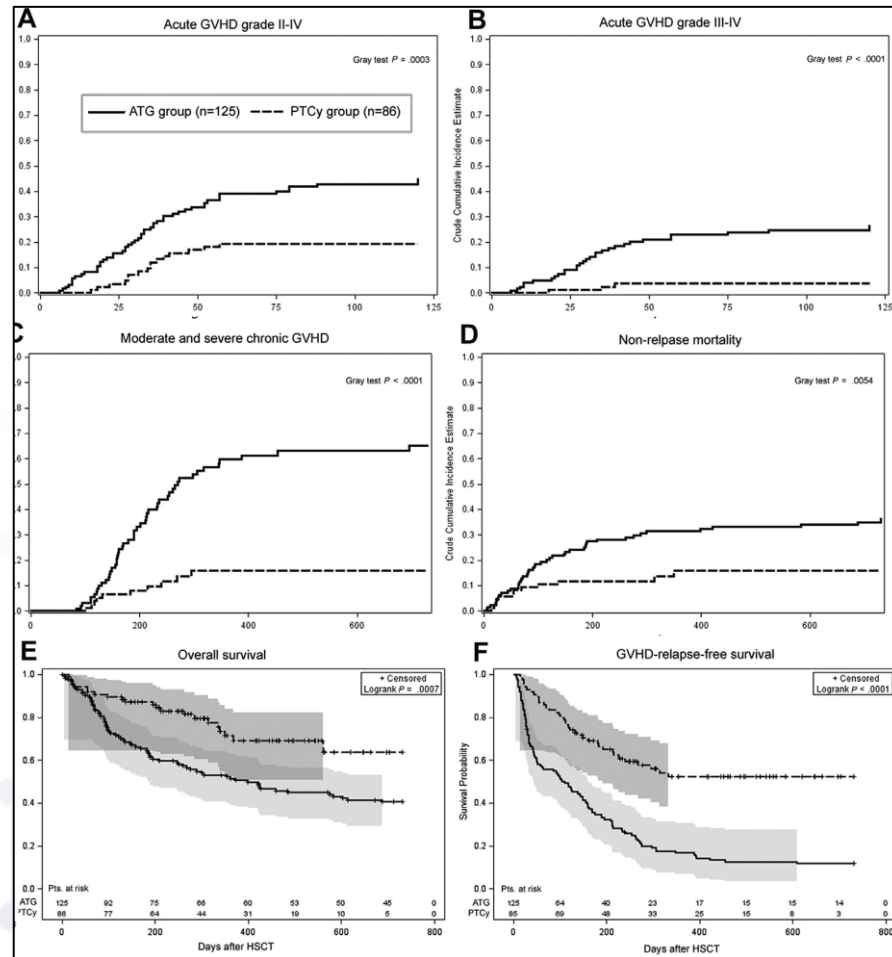
WMUD (10/10)
ATG= PTCY

MMUD (9/10)
PTCY better for aGVHD



PTCy favorable vs ATG in MUD PBSCT (Historical, single center)

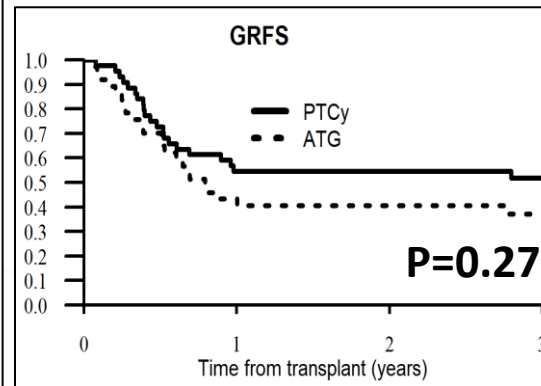
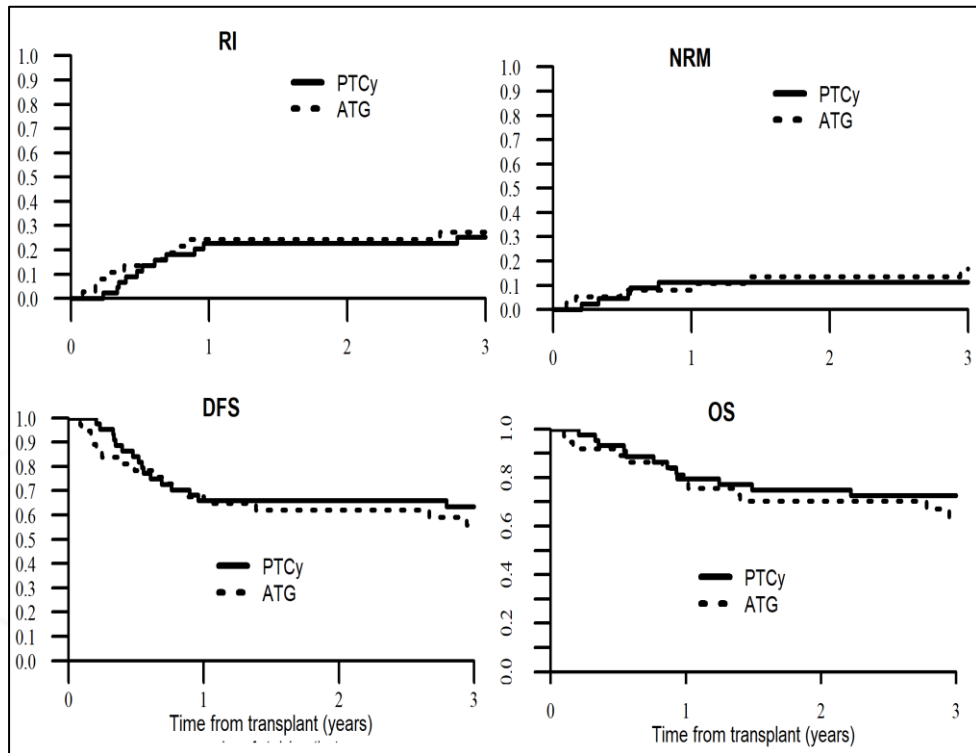
PTCY+ IS (MUD 79% / MMUD 21%) N=86, vs historical ATG+IS



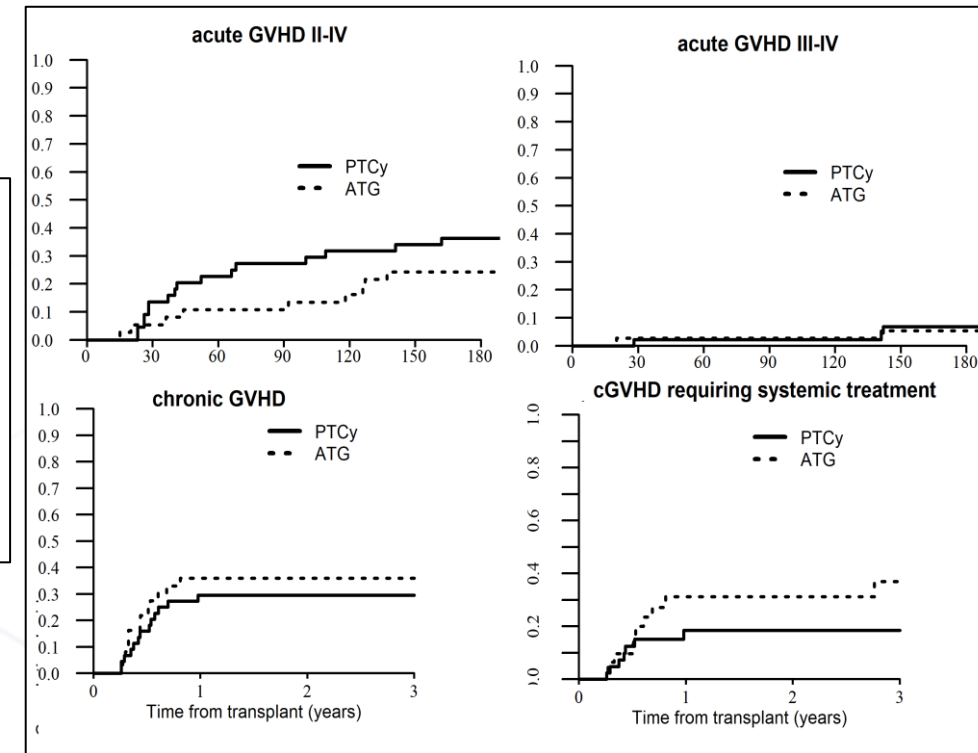
Factor	HR, 95% CI	HR (95% CI)	P-value
Acute GVHD grade II-IV			
ALL vs AML		1.33 (0.77-2.27)	.304
Age		1.06 (0.84-1.32)	.645
CMV status		0.78 (0.55-1.11)	.169
RIC vs MAC		0.48 (0.27-0.86)	.014
Female donor for male		0.52 (0.20-1.37)	.521
Disease status		1.07 (0.77-1.50)	.672
HLA-mismatch		0.66 (0.33-1.30)	.225
PTCy vs ATG		0.31 (0.17-0.56)	<.0001
Moderate and severe chronic GVHD			
ALL vs AML		0.78 (0.42-1.45)	.430
Age		1.01 (0.79-1.29)	.959
CMV status		0.88 (0.57-1.34)	.538
RIC vs MAC		0.85 (0.43-1.70)	.652
Female donor for male		0.61 (0.21-1.75)	.358
Previous aGVHD		3.87 (1.71-8.74)	.001
HLA-mismatch		1.21 (0.53-2.77)	.659
PTCy vs ATG		0.39 (0.19-0.81)	.011
Event-free survival			
ALL vs AML		1.00 (0.64-1.56)	.992
HCT-CI		1.35 (1.08-1.69)	.008
Age		1.08 (0.89-1.32)	.423
CMV reactivation		0.82 (0.54-1.23)	.338
Cytogenetic risk		1.24 (0.85-1.80)	.262
RIC vs MAC		0.70 (0.43-1.17)	.174
CD34+> 3.0x10 ⁶ /kg		0.35 (0.16-0.76)	.007
Disease status		2.60 (2.02-3.35)	<.0001
HLA-mismatch		0.79 (0.46-1.35)	.380
PTCy vs ATG		0.49 (0.31-0.78)	.003

PTCy comparable vs ATG in MRD/ MUD PBSCT (rand)

ATG+IS vs PTCY+ IS, MRD 40% / WMUD 60%, FluBu2, PBSC, median 64y, N=89 (randomized, NCT02876679)

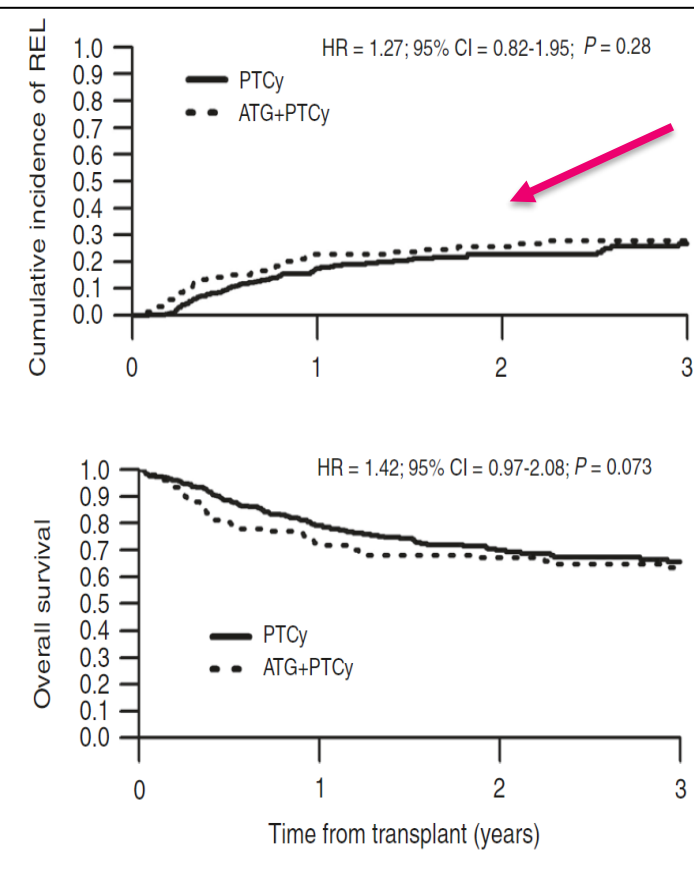
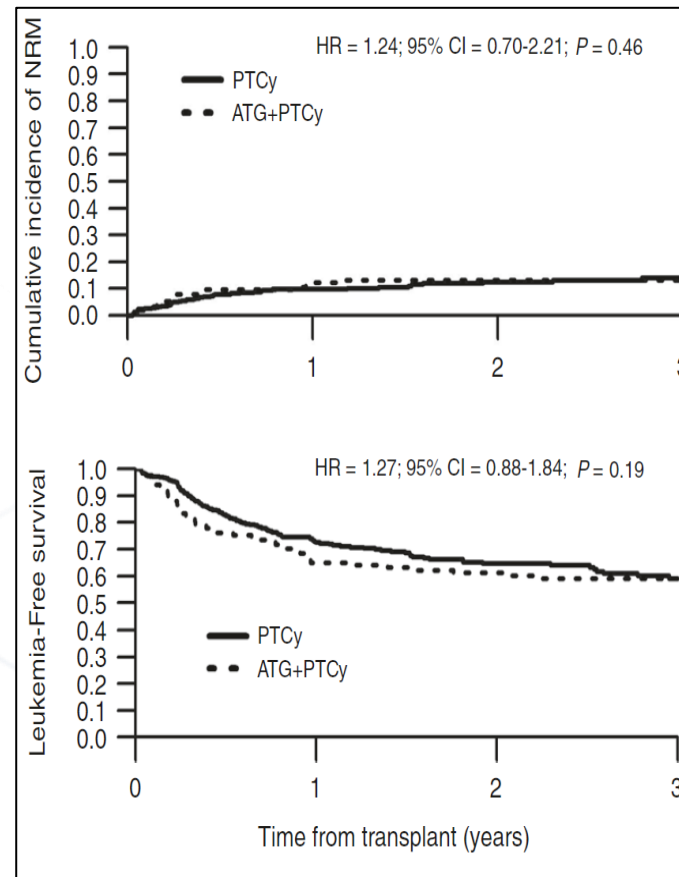
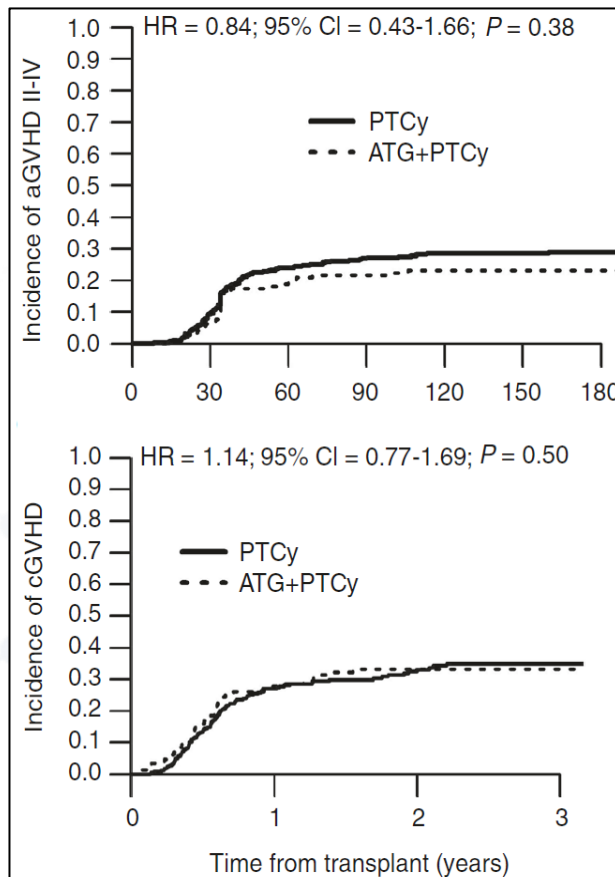


EORTC QLQ-C30



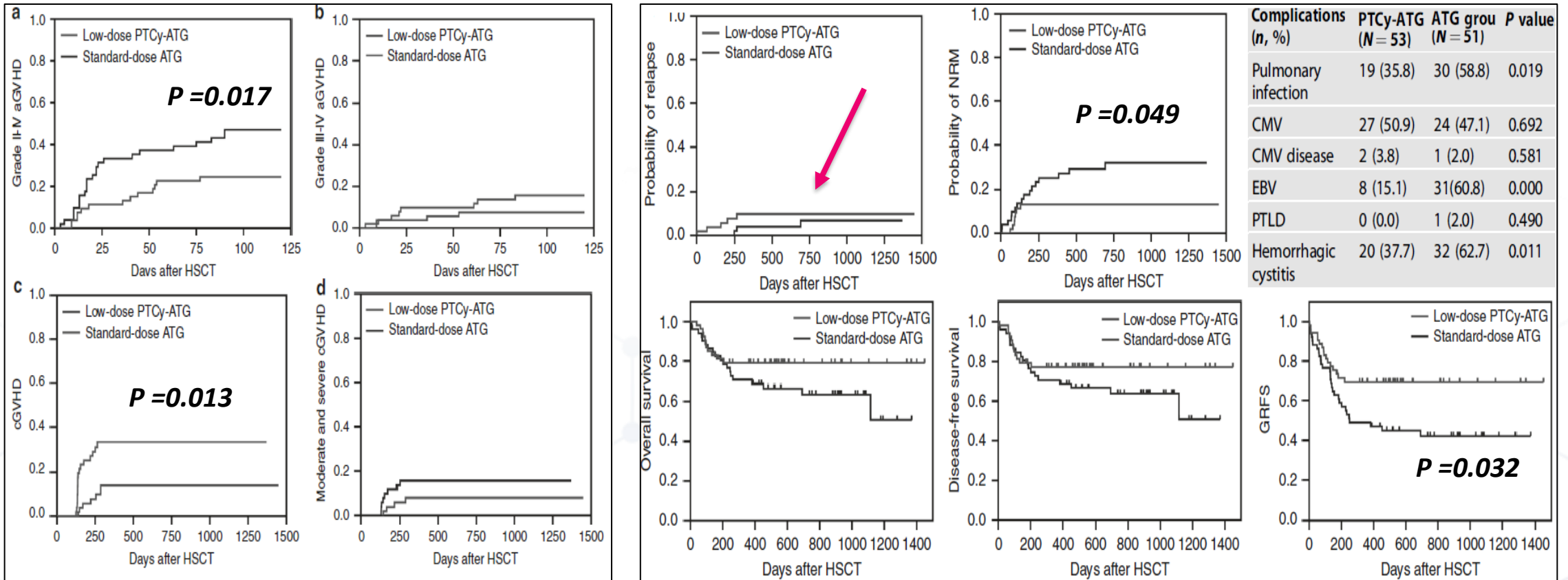
PTCy platform (MUD PSBCT): add ATG

PTCy+ATG vs PTCy: feasible but does not provide any extra benefit (EBMT)



ATG platform (WMUD, PBSCT): Add PTCY

LD PTCY (40mg) + LD ATG favorable vs ATG (rand., WMUD, single center)





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PTCy preferable in specific cases (?)

Previously exposure to checkpoint inhibitors

1. Increased severe GVHD after PD-1 pretreatment (1)
2. Clinical observations suggested reduced GVHD rates in CPI recipients when PTCY was used as GVHD prophylaxis (2,3,4)
3. PTCy ameliorates GVHD by restoring regulatory and effector T-cell homeostasis after PD-1 blockade (5)
4. PTCY based GVHD prophylaxis became standard following CPI pretreatment

The case for PTCY in the HLA-matched setting

1. PTCy single agent

- Can be used in BMT, comparable with Tac/MTX
- Inadequate in PBSCT

2. Add PTCY to CNI > CNI

- Better GVHD outcomes, no effect on Rel (?)
- PTCY+ Tac/MMF > Tac/MTX, PTCY + CsA > CsA/MMF

3. PTCY based vs ATG based

- Evtl. PTCY > ATG in mismatched 7/8 MUD (EBMT)
- One prospective analysis MRD / WMUD: comparable results (NCT02876679)
- Rand. PTCY vs ATG (NCT05153226, NCT03852407)

4. PTCY + ATG?

- feasible
- Enables long term free IS? (with PTCY is safe to d/c CNI at day 60 (MRD) and day 90 (MUD))
- Rand PTCy + ATG vs ATG (NCT04202835)

Should we change to PTCY in HLA matched HCT?

1. PTCY has a role in MRD/MUD HCT, improves GVHD outcomes
2. There is room for clinical optimization
3. Has the potential to replace ATG-based GVHD prophylaxis
4. Combination of PTCY and ATG may enable CNI-free / long term IS-free HCT
5. Concerns that PTCY increase REL (not true), unknown
6. Infections (?)
7. Effects of PTCY on Microbiome/ Immunobiome are awaited (companion study CTN 1703)

GVHD prophylaxis in matched sibling donor transplant

The case for "post-cyclophosphamide"

“In the current world of drug development, the real work often begins after a drug is approved”



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GIEBEL	Sebastian	Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia	Leader
PERIC	Zina	Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia	Co-leader
SAVANI	Bipin	Conditioning	Leader
SPYRIDONIDIS	Alexandros	Conditioning	Co-leader
BARON	Frédéric	Cord blood	Leader
RUGGERI	Annalisa	Cord blood	Co-leader
SCHMID	Christoph	Immunotherapy and cellular therapy	Leader
MOHTY	Mohamad	Immunotherapy and cellular therapy	Co-leader
GORIN	Norbert-Claude	AUTO-SCT and graft composition	Leader
LANZA	Francesco	AUTO-SCT and graft composition	Co-leader
SHOUVAL	Roni	Data mining	Leader
VERSLUIS	Jurjen	Data mining	Co-leader
BUG	Gesine	Post-transplant pharmacologic modulation	Leader
BAZARBACHI	Ali	Post-transplant pharmacologic modulation	Co-leader
SANZ	Jaime	Alternative donor	Leader
PIEMONTESE	Simona	Alternative donor	Co-leader

PEOPLE



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ΕΠΙΧΕΙΡΗΣΙΑΚΟ ΠΡΟΓΡΑΜΜΑ ΔΥΤΙΚΗ ΕΛΛΑΔΑ 2014-2020
Με τη συγχρηματοδότηση της Ελλάδας και της Ευρωπαϊκής Ένωσης



Ευρωπαϊκή Ένωση
Ευρωπαϊκά Διαρθρωτικά
και Επενδυτικά Ταμεία

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