

Belgische Vereniging voor Analytische Cytologie vzw.
Association Belge de Cytologie Analytique asbl.
Belgian Society for Analytical Cytology.



Module n°: parallel lecture 7a (clinical)

Title : Prognosis in CLL

Lecturer : Jan Philippé

Molecular Biology and Cytometry Course, May 7-8 2009, Mol

Prognostic Factors in B-CLL

Jan Philippé

Mol, May 8, 2009

Clinical course & clinical response to treatment are highly variable in CLL



Intensified search for biological factors predicting the clinical course & response to drugs



Which patients will benefit from intensive therapy at an early stage?
(Or 'watch & wait'?)

Which drugs should be selected in the treatment of a unique patient?

Currently used prognostic biomarkers & relationship with pathophysiology

Intrinsic properties

*Somatic mutations
ZAP 70*

BCR signaling
capacity

Extrinsic properties

*Lymph node, bone marrow & tissue
Involvement: clinical staging*

Microenvironment
interaction

*Cytogenetic
abnormalities*

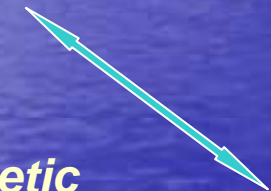


Therapy resistance

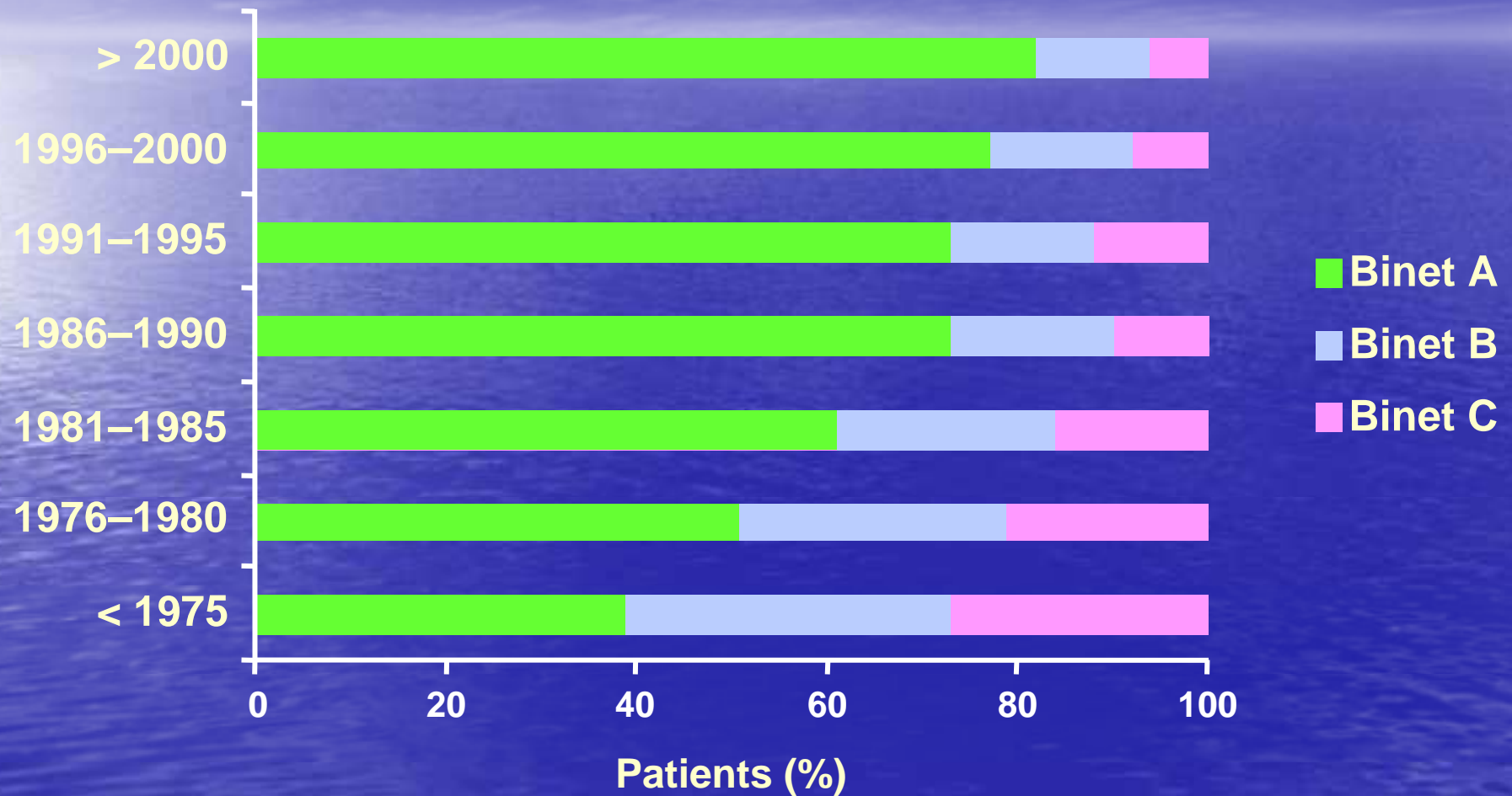
Proliferative
pool

*Serum markers:
LDH, sCD23, sTK, β 2m
“LDT”*

Disease evolution



Staging systems according to Rai and Binet

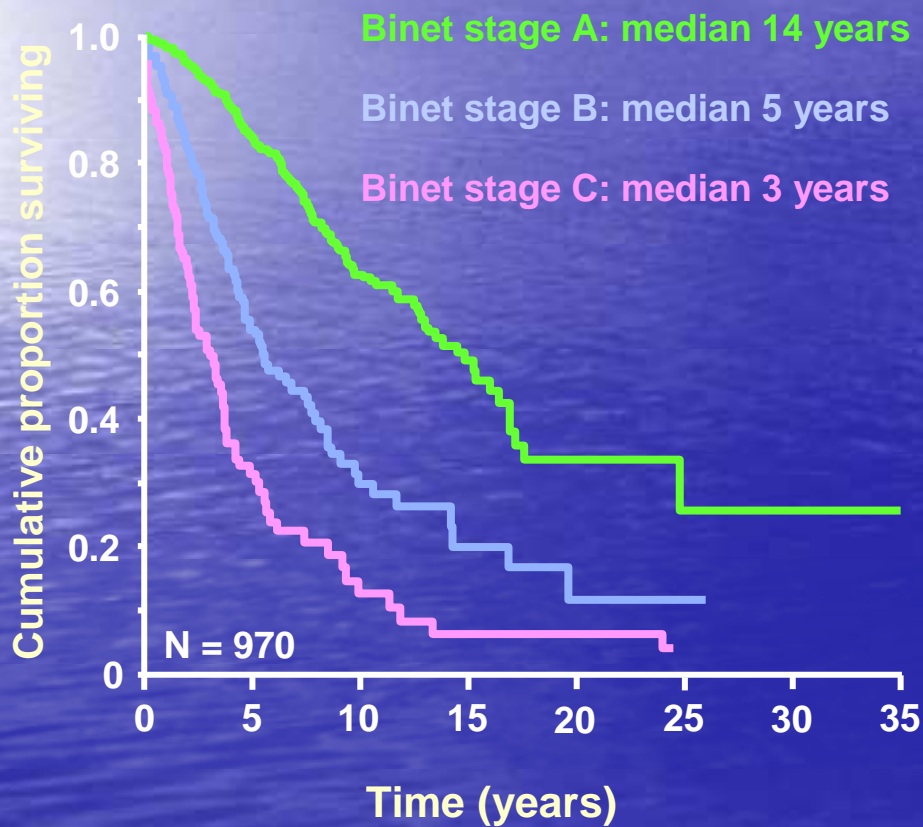


n = 1200

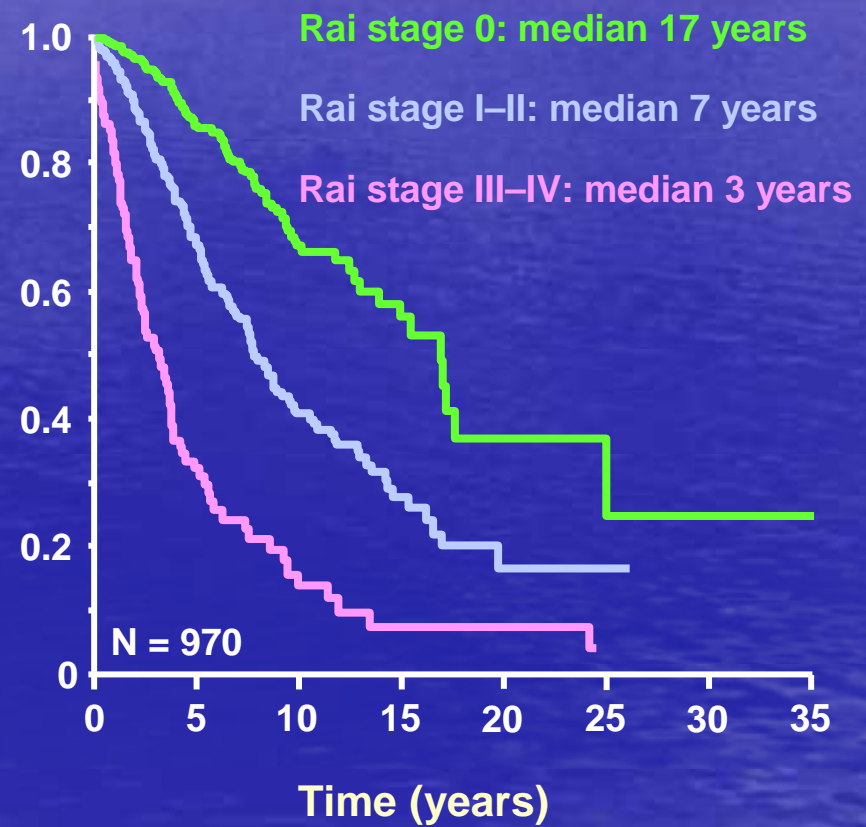
Hospital Clinic Provincial (HCP) Barcelona.

Staging systems according to Rai and Binet

OS according to Binet stage



OS according to Rai stage



Staging systems according to Rai and Binet

- Strengths

- Simple
- Extensively validated

- Weaknesses

- Too many patients in the low grade stages w/o a distinction between indolent and progressive disease
- Lack of prediction of therapy (drug) response

Intrinsic properties

Somatic mutations
ZAP 70 (other surrogate markers)

BCR signaling
capacity

Extrinsic properties

Lymph node, bone marrow & tissue
Involvement: clinical staging

Microenvironment
interaction

**Cytogenetic
abnormalities**

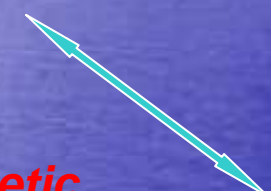


Therapy resistance

Proliferative
pool

Serum markers
(LDH, sCD23, sTK, β 2M)
Lymphocyte Doubling Time

Disease evolution



Chromosomes in B-CLL

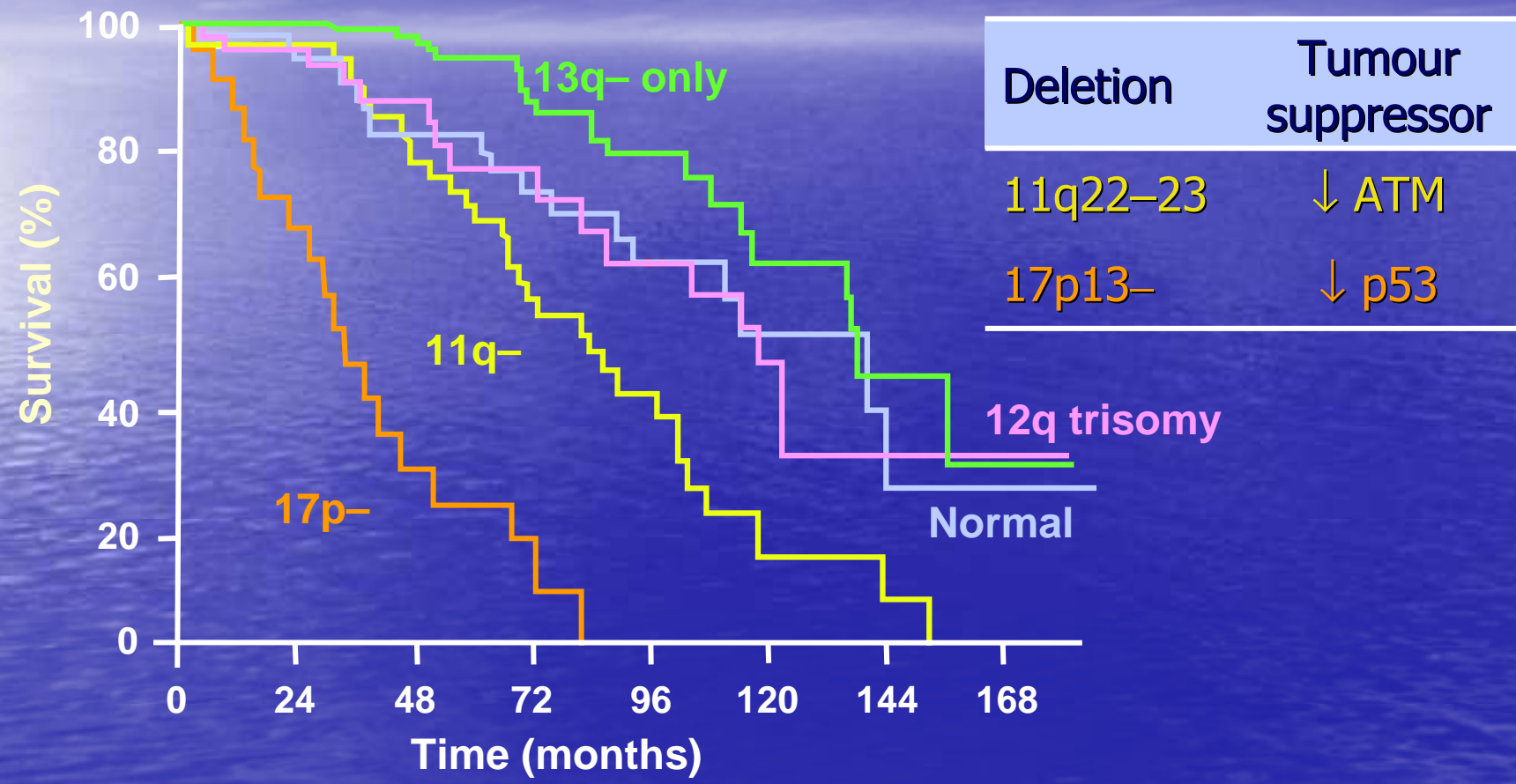
- Conventional cytogenetics 1990

- **t(12)** 16%
- **13q-** 13%
- **14q-** 4%
- **11q-** 3%

- Interphase FISH 1999

- **13q-** 55%
- **11q-** 18%
- **del 17p** 7%
- **t(12)** 16%
- **del 6q** 6%
- **14q-** 4%

Cytogenetic aberrations and OS



N = 325

Döhner H, N Engl J Med 2000

Importance of conventional cytogenetics

- Recent protocols → 97% success with CCA
- B-cell mitogens :
 - 12-O-tetradecanoylphorbol-13-acetate (TPA)
 - CD40L
 - CpG-oligodeoxynucleotides
- Chromosomal aberrancies in 62% after CdA
 - 25% single
 - 17% double
 - 20% multiple
- Complex karyotype ~ TFS and OS

FISH

- Strengths

- Technical & clinical validation, however...
- Prognostic value on top of other markers
- Predicts therapy response/resistance
 - 17p-: fludarabin & rituximab resistance
 - 11q-: alemtuzumab resistance

- Weaknesses

- Incongruent results if scores between 5-20% for 17p-, knowing that these scores are ~ unfavorable prognosis
- In pretreated patients, CCA more info

Intrinsic properties

Somatic mutations
ZAP 70 (other surrogate markers)

BCR signaling
capacity

Extrinsic properties

Lymph node, bone marrow & tissue
Involvement: clinical staging

Microenvironment
interaction

Cytogenetic
abnormalities

Proliferative
pool

Serum markers:

LDH, sCD23 †, sTK ‡, β2M ¥

S: easy

W: cut-offs?

Lymphocyte Doubling Time

S: ~active disease → therapy

W: delayed info

Therapy resistance

Disease evolution

† Sarfati, Blood 1996 ; ‡ Hallek, Blood 1999 ; ¥ Keating, Blood 1998

Serum markers

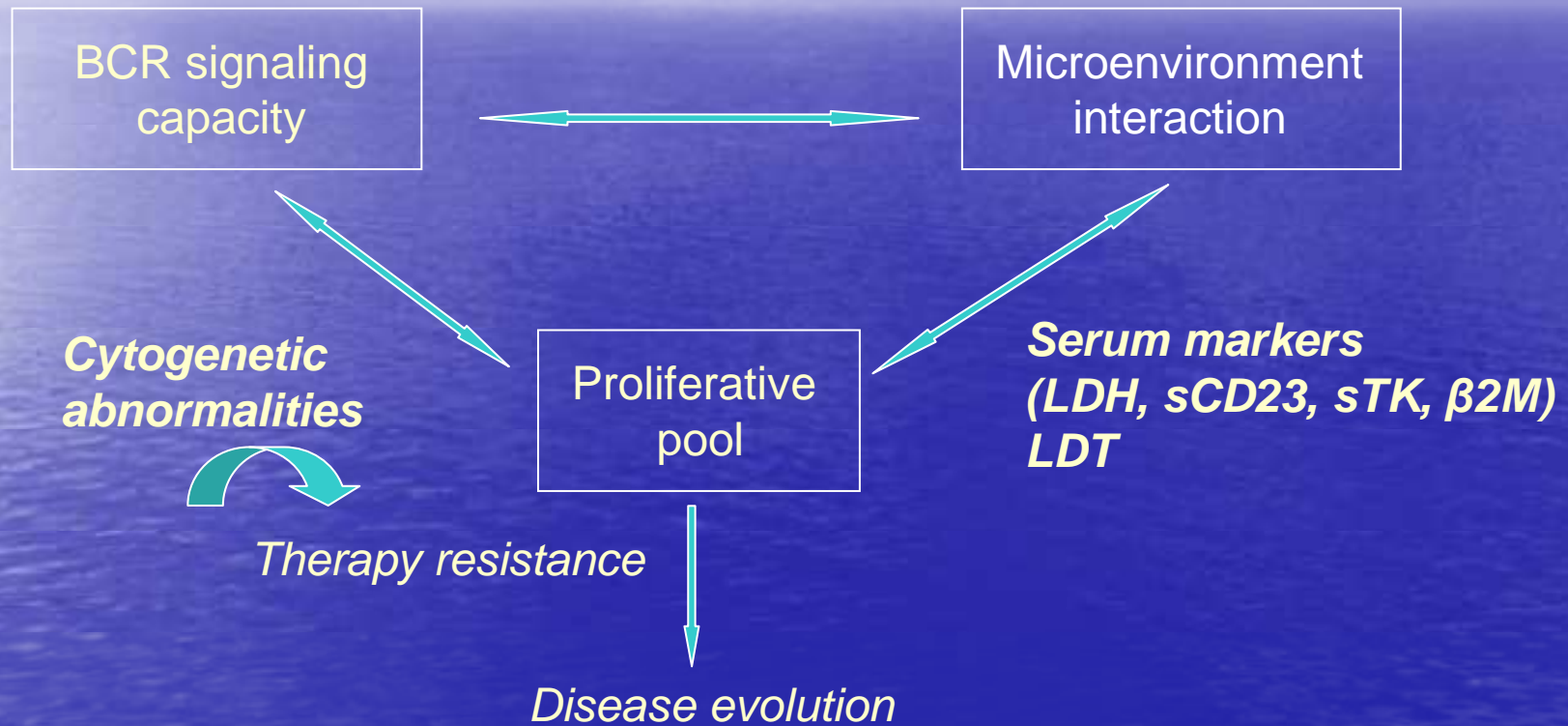
- Several studies have found that serum markers CD23, thymidine kinase, and β 2-microglobulin may predict survival or progression-free survival.
- Assays for these markers should be standardized and used in prospective clinical trials to validate their relative value to the management of patients with CLL

Intrinsic properties

*Ig gene somatic mutations
ZAP 70 (other surrogate markers)*

Extrinsic properties

*Lymph node, bone marrow & tissue
Involvement: clinical staging*



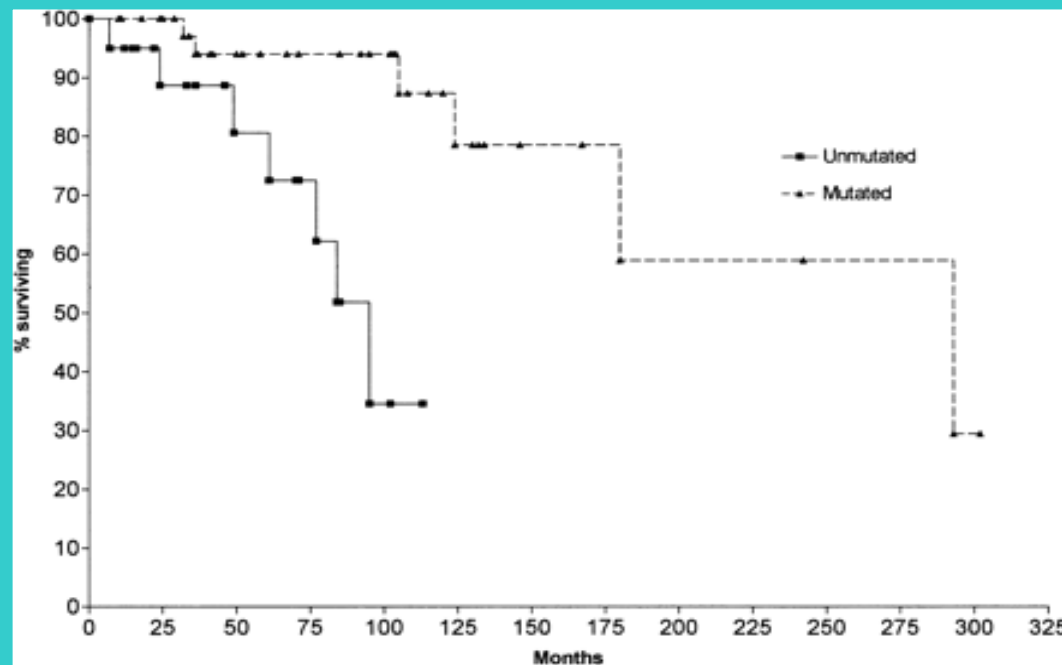
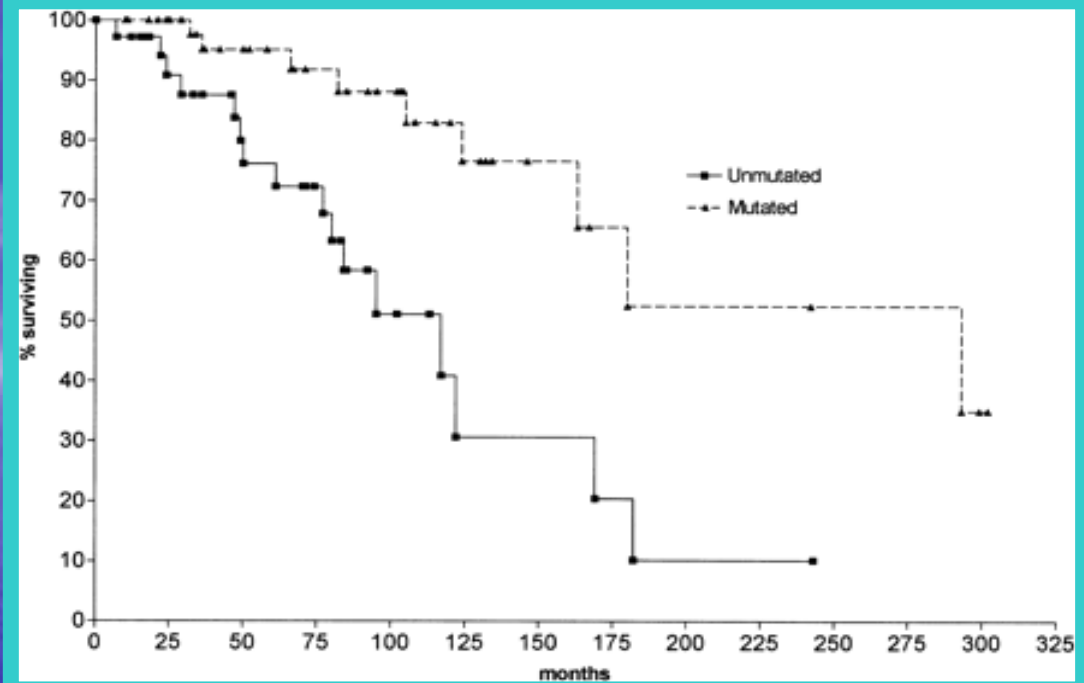
IgVH mutation-analysis

Median survival time

All stages

Mutated: 293m

Unmutated 117m



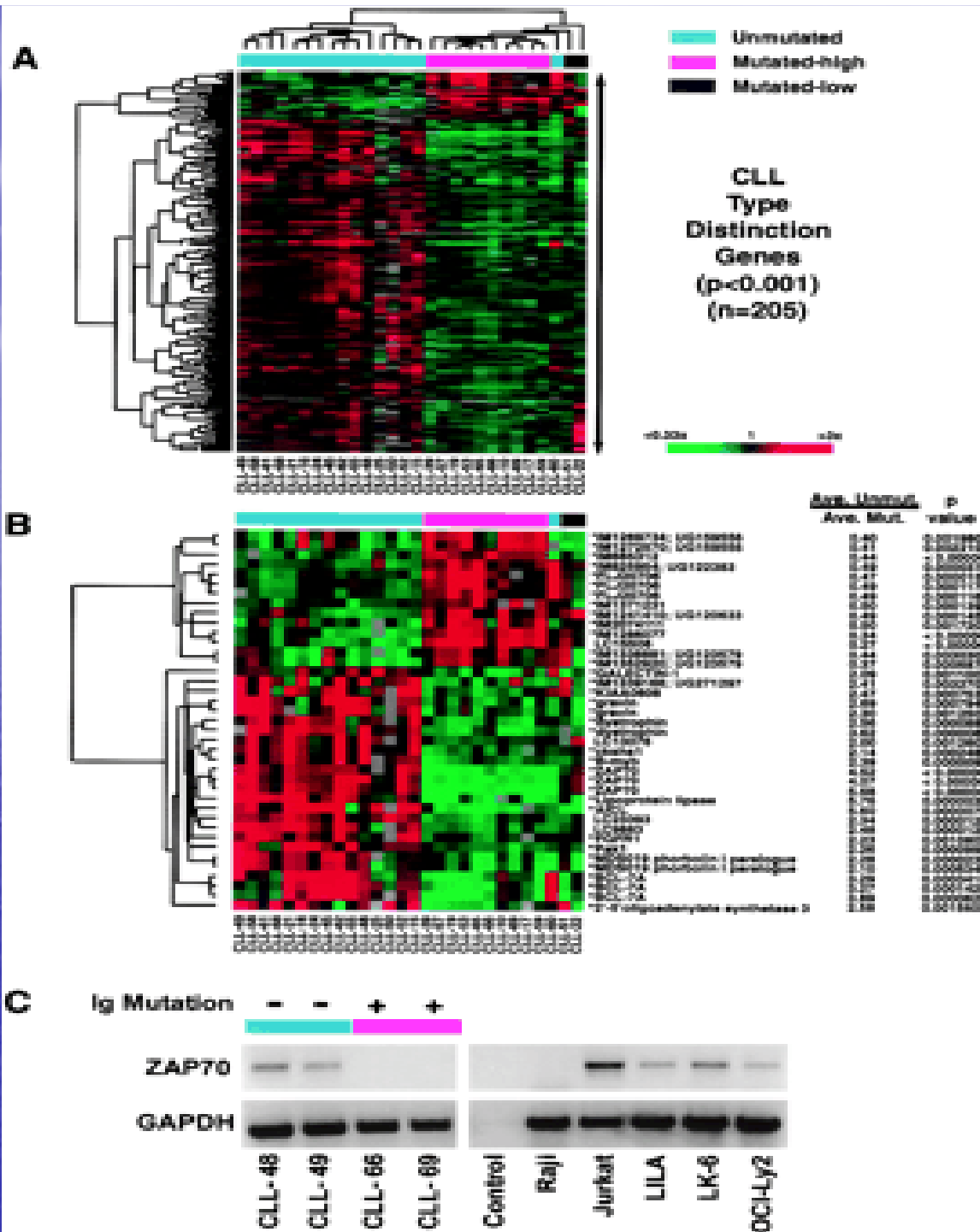
Median survival time
stage A

Mutated: 293m

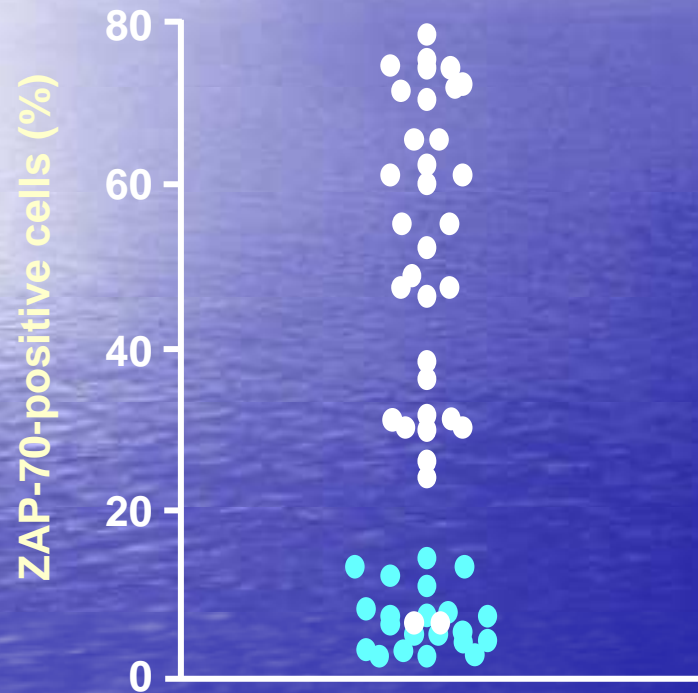
Unmutated: 95m

Weaknesses IgV_H mutation-analysis

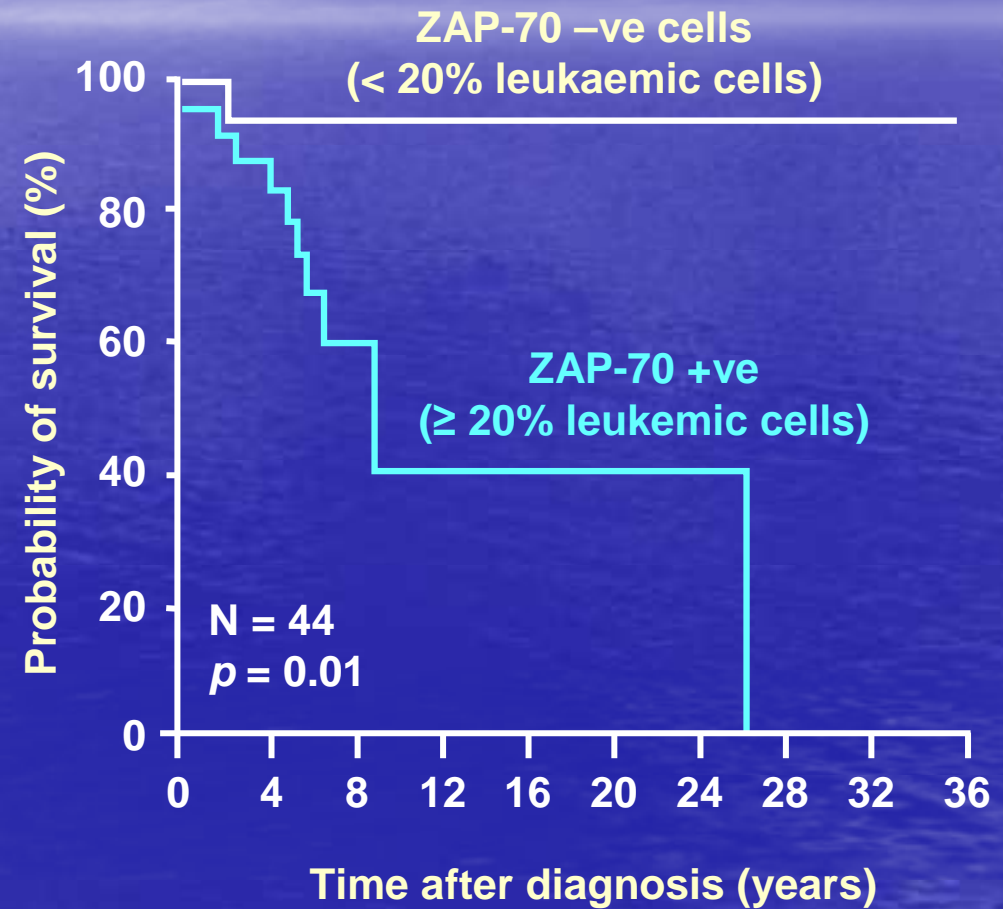
- V_H3.21 expression ~ worse prognosis
- Lack of standardisation
 - Cut-off: 2%, 3%?
 - Which reference database for germline sequences?
VBASE, GenBank/IgBlast, IMGT? *Davi, Leukemia 2008*
 - Educational workshops (Paris, Sept 25-26, 2008).
- Labour intensive → search for surrogate markers



ZAP-70 as surrogate marker



- Unmutated IgV_H
- Mutated IgV_H



ZAP-70 expression measured by FC

Publication	Pts (n)	Endpoint	Median time to endpoint (years)		p-value
			ZAP-70 -ve	ZAP-70 +ve	
Bosch <i>et al.</i> 2004 ¹	222	TTP	NR	3.3	< 0.001
		OS	16.3	8.5	< 0.001
Orchard <i>et al.</i> 2004 ²	167	OS	24.4	9.3	< 0.001
Rassenti <i>et al.</i> 2004 ³	307	TTT	9.2	2.9	< 0.001
Krober <i>et al.</i> 2006 ⁴	133	TFS	7.16	2.5	0.005
		OS	NR	8.5	0.004
del Principe <i>et al.</i> 2006 ⁵	289	PFS	NR	3.3	< 0.001
		OS	NR	12	< 0.001

NR = not reported

1. Bosch F, et al. *Blood* 2004; 104:Abstract 14; 2. Orchard JA, et al. *Lancet* 2004; 363:105–111;
 3. Rassenti LZ, et al. *N Engl J Med* 2004; 351:893–901; 4. Krober A, et al. *J Clin Oncol* 2006; 24:969–975;
 5. del Principe MI, et al. *Blood* 2006; 108:853–861.

ZAP-70

- Strengths

- ZAP-70 might be better than U/M as prognostic marker

Rassenti, NEJM 2004

- Weaknesses

- Clustering of 17p- samples within the ZAP-70- group
- Lack of standardisation of analysis
 - Immunohistochemically
 - RT-PCR (*Van Bockstaele, Clin Cyt 2006 ; Stamatopoulos, Clin Chem 2007*)
 - Flow cytometry
 - Minimal recommendation by ERIC (*Cymbalista, Atlanta 2007*)
 - Every lab its own method?

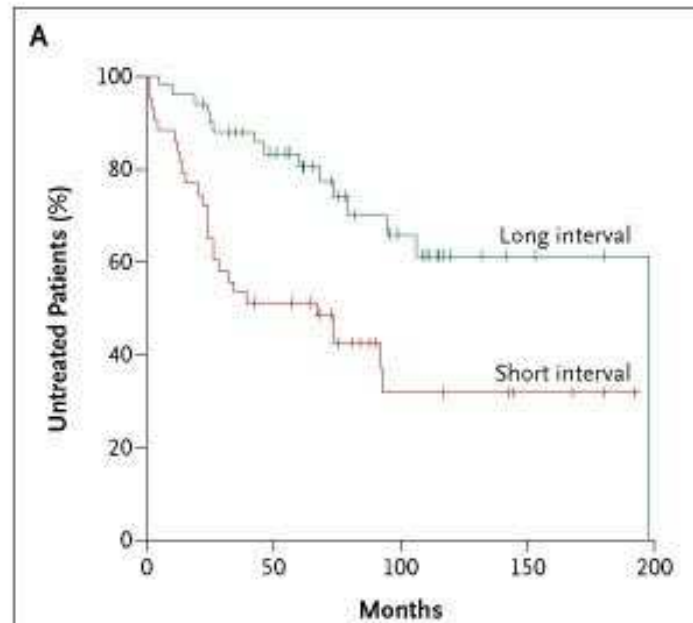
Other surrogate markers

- **CD38** *Damle and Chiorazzi, Blood, 1999*
 - **S: relatively easy, however...**
 - **W: Lack of analytical validation**
- **LPL** *Oppezzo, Blood 2005 ; Heintel, Leukemia 2005*
 - **S: Can be analysed in whole blood** *Van Bockstaele Clin Chem 2007*
 - **W: Lack of analytical validation**
- **PEG10, Septin 10, Dystrophin, AICD, Telomerase, CLLU1, CD49d, BCL-2 polymorphism, +DAT, sVEGF, Sarcoglycan ϵ , L-selectin, Integrin- β 2....**

Dynamic marker: MRD analysis

- A measure of outcome,
but potentially serves to guide therapy in individual patients to tailor maintenance treatment with alemtuzumab or rituximab
(Moreton, JCO 2005 ; Montillo JCO 2006)
- Impact on transplant decisions?
- Analytical approaches
 - Real-time quantitative ASO-PCR
 - Multicolor FC *(Rawstron, Leukemia 2007)*
 - CD5/CD19 , CD20/CD38 , CD81/CD22 , CD79b/CD43
 - Sensitivity 0.01%

MicroRNA and the Time from Diagnosis to Initial Therapy



B

MicroRNA	Level of Expression of MicroRNA	
	Short interval	Long interval
<i>miR-181a</i>	High	Low
<i>miR-155</i>	High	Low
<i>miR-146</i>	High	Low
<i>miR-24-2</i>	High	Low
<i>miR-23b</i>	High	Low
<i>miR-23a</i>	High	Low
<i>miR-222</i>	High	Low
<i>miR-221</i>	High	Low
<i>miR-29c</i>	Low	High

Calin, *N Engl J Med* 2005

MicroRNA Signature Associated with Prognostic Factors (ZAP-70 Expression and IgVH Mutations) and Disease Progression in Patients with CLL

Table 2. MicroRNA Signature Associated with Prognostic Factors (ZAP-70 Expression and IgV_H Mutations) and Disease Progression in Patients with CLL.*

Signature Component	MicroRNA Component	Chromosomal Location	P Value	Level of Expression in Group 1†	Putative Targets‡	Comment§
1	<i>miR-15a</i>	13q14.3	0.02	High	<i>BCL2, CNOT6L, USP15, PAFAH1B1, ESRRG</i>	Cluster <i>miR-15a-miR-16-1</i> Deleted in CLL and prostate carcinoma ¹⁰
2	<i>miR-195</i>	17p13	0.02	High	<i>BCL2, CNOT6L, USP15, PAFAH1B1, ESRRG</i>	Deleted in hepatocellular carcinoma
3	<i>miR-221</i>	Xp11.3	0.01	High	<i>HECTD2, CDKN1B, NOVA1, ZFPM2, PHF2</i>	Cluster <i>miR-221-miR-222</i>
4	<i>miR-23b</i>	9q22.1	0.009	High	<i>FNBP1L, WTAP, PDE4B, SATB1, SEMA6D</i>	Cluster <i>miR-24-1-miR-23b</i> FRA 9D; deleted in urothelial carcinoma ¹³
5	<i>miR-155</i>	21q21	0.009	High	<i>ZNF537, PICALM, RREB1, BDNF, QKI</i>	Amplified in a child with Burkitt's lymphoma ¹⁶
6	<i>miR-223</i>	Xq12-13.3	0.007	Low	<i>PTBP2, SYNCRIP, WTAP, FBXW7, QKI</i>	Expression normally restricted to myeloid lineage ²³
7	<i>miR-29a-2</i>	7q32	0.004	Low	NA	Cluster <i>miR-29a-2-miR-29b-1</i> FRA7H; deleted in prostate carcinoma ¹³
8	<i>miR-24-1</i>	9q22.1	0.003	High	<i>TOP1, FLJ45187, RSBN1L, RAP2C, PRPF4B</i>	Cluster <i>miR-24-1-miR-23b</i> FRA 9D; deleted in urothelial carcinoma ¹³
9	<i>miR-29b-2</i>	1q32.2-32.3	<0.001	Low	NA	
10	<i>miR-146</i>	5q34	<0.001	High	<i>NOVA1, NFE2L1, C1orf16, ABL2, ZFYVE1</i>	
11	<i>miR-16-1</i>	13q14.3	<0.001	High	<i>BCL2, CNOT6L, USP15, PAFAH1B1, ESRRG</i>	Cluster <i>miR-15a-miR-16-1</i> Deleted in CLL and prostate carcinoma ¹⁰
12	<i>miR-16-2</i>	3q26.1	<0.001	High	Same as for <i>miR-16-1</i>	Identical to <i>miR-16-1</i>
13	<i>miR-29c</i>	1q32.2-32.3	<0.001	Low	NA	

* All the members of the signature are mature microRNAs. NA denotes not available, and FRA fragile site.

† Group 1 includes patients with unmutated IgV_H and high expression of ZAP-70, both of which are predictors of poor prognosis.

‡ The top five putative targets identified with use of TargetScan at <http://genes.mit.edu/targetscan>²² were included.

§ Specific gene names are available at www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez.

Calin, N Engl J Med 2005

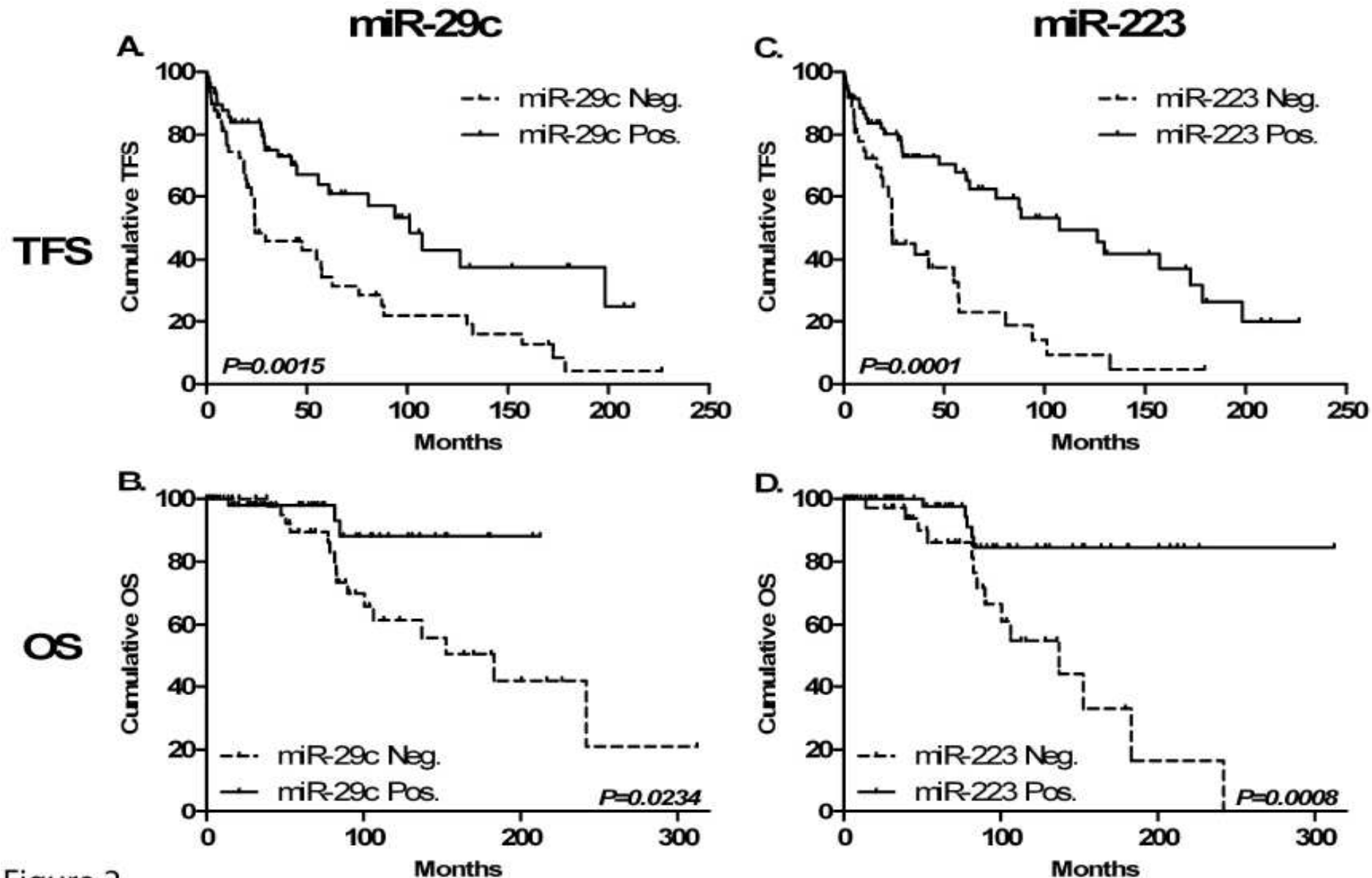


Figure 2



blood

Prepublished online Jan 14, 2009;
doi:10.1182/blood-2008-11-189407

MicroRNA-29c and microRNA-223 downregulation has in vivo significance in chronic lymphocytic leukemia and improves disease risk stratification

Basile Stamatopoulos, Nathalie Meuleman, Benjamin Haibe-Kains, Pascale Saussoy, Eric Van den Neste, Lucienne Michaux, Pierre Heimann, Philippe Martiat, Dominique Bron and Laurence Lagneaux

B.

OS

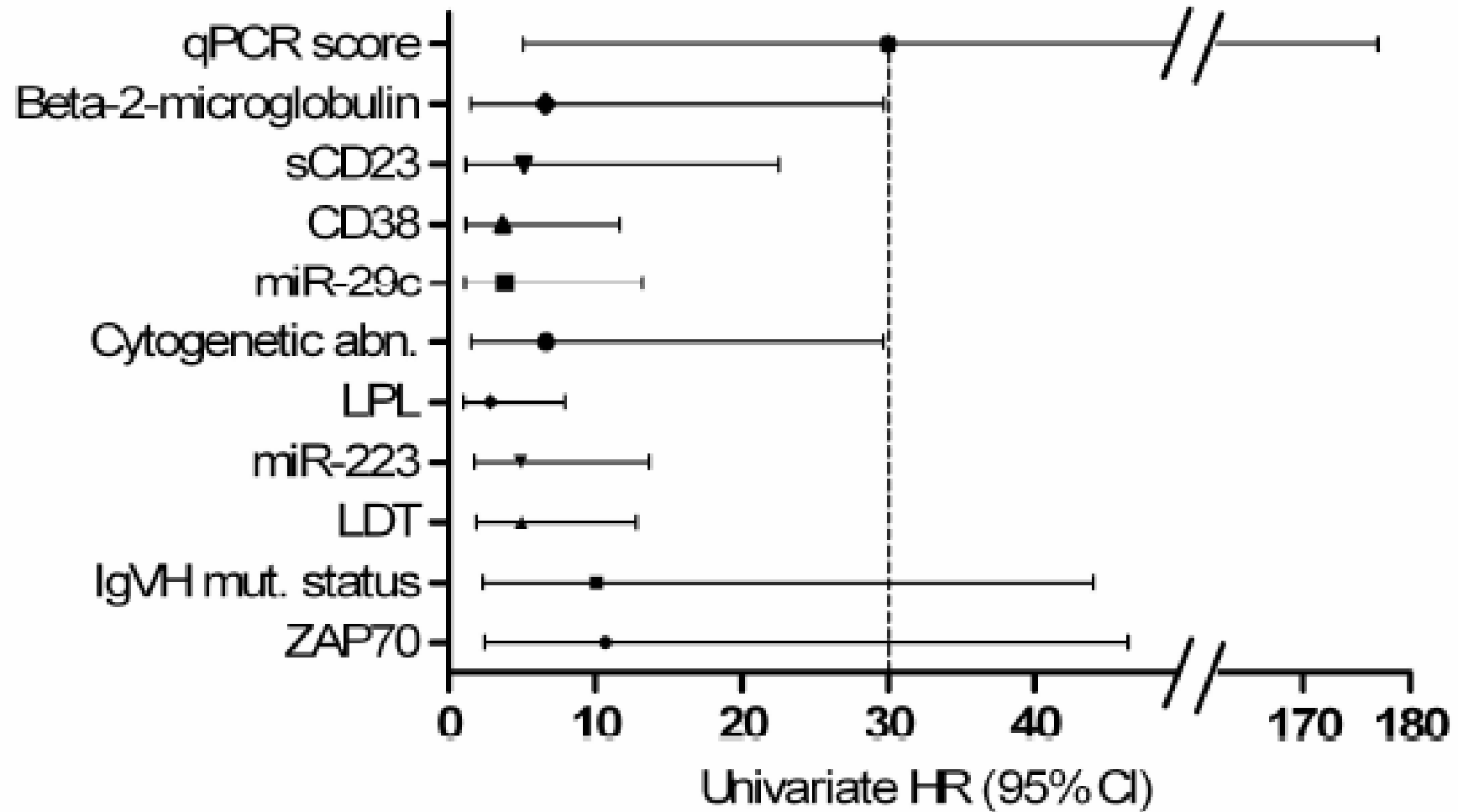


Figure 5

blood

Prepublished online Jan 14, 2009;
doi:10.1182/blood-2008-11-189407

MicroRNA-29c and microRNA-223 downregulation has in vivo significance in chronic lymphocytic leukemia and improves disease risk stratification

Basile Stamatopoulos, Nathalie Meuleman, Benjamin Haibe-Kains, Pascale Saussoy, Eric Van den Neste, Lucienne Michaux, Pierre Heimann, Philippe Martiat, Dominique Bron and Laurence Lagneaux

“keep it simple”

- How is CLL defined?
 - Absolute B-cell count > 5000 cells/ μL (Hallek et al. Blood 2008)
 - This is an arbitrary cut-off
- What is a more relevant (predictive) cut-off?
 - Absolute B-cell count $> 11.000/\mu\text{L}$ (Shanafelt et al. Blood 2009)
 - The predictive value of B-cell count was similar to or slightly better than FISH and CD38.
 - When analyzed together,
 - BALC + ZAP70 \rightarrow best predictor of TFS
 - BALC + FISH \rightarrow best predictor of OS
- What is finally most relevant for the patient?
 - How to evaluate the likelihood of patients (CLL) or persons (MBL) for developing clinical symptoms, requiring chemotherapeutic treatment, or dying of the disorder.

Conclusions

- Numerous reports on promising CLL prognostic markers have been published
- Few have proved analytically valid
- Few have proved clinically useful
- What remains useful in clinical practice?
 - Absolute B-cell count
 - Clinical staging systems (Rai / Binet)
 - 17p deletion
- Elucidation of methodological pitfalls (NCI-EORTC Working group on Cancer Diagnostics) *McShane, J Natl Cancer Inst 2005*
- What remains to be done?
 - Systematic and complete assessment of prognostic markers in clinical trials, for the development of rational, risk-adapted treatment strategies
 - Collection of information into large international databases