





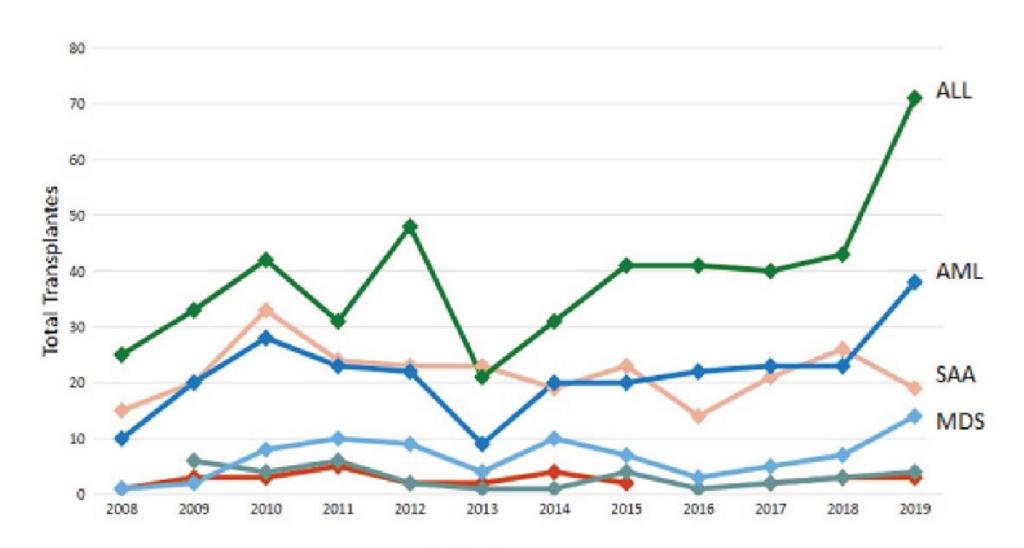
# Como tenho decidido entre TMO e CAR-T na LLA?

### Victor Gottardello Zecchin

Médico Titular - TMO Pediátrico A Beneficência Portuguesa de São Paulo



### Indications for allogeneic transplants (2008-2019; n=1.604)





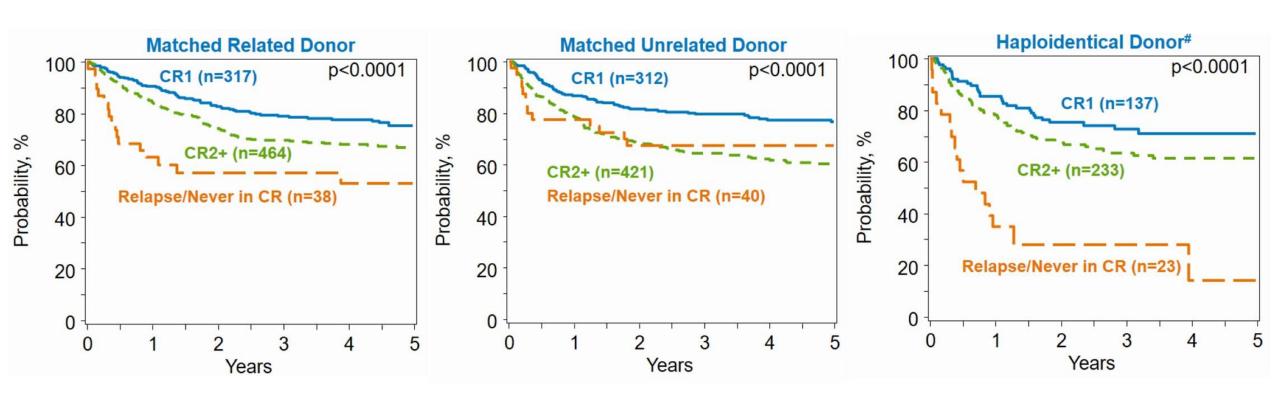








## TCTH em LLA < 18 anos (USA, 2009-2019)

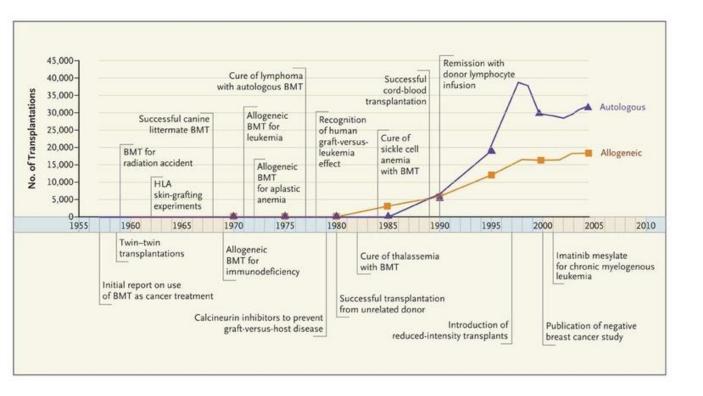






### TCTH e CAR T







614. ACUTE LYMPHOBLASTIC LEUKEMIA: THERAPY. EXCLUDING TRANSPLANTATION | NOVEMBER 15, 2013

#### T Cells Engineered With a Chimeric Antigen Receptor (CAR) Targeting CD19 (CTL019) Produce Significant In Vivo Proliferation, **Complete Responses and Long-Term Persistence Without** Gvhd In Children and Adults With Relapsed, Refractory ALL

Stephan A Grupp, MD, PhD, Noelle V. Frey, MD, Richard Aplenc, MD, PhD, David M Barrett, MD/ PhD, 1 Anne Chew, PhD, 4 Michael Kalos, PhD, Bruce L. Levine, PhD, Manuel Litchman, MD, 5 Shannon L Maude, MD, PhD, Susan R. Rheingold, Angela Shen, MD, Christine Strait, David T. Teachey, MD, \*6 Patricia A. Wood, MD, PhD\*, David Porter, MD\*, Carl H. June, MD\*

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Blood (2013) 122 (21): 67.

http://doi.org/10.1182/blood.V122.21.67.67



## Indicações de Transplante alogênico de células-tronco hematopoiéticas - TCTH

**TABLE 1:** HSCT indications for pediatric ALL

#### HSCT indications for pediatric ALL in first remission:

ALL diagnosed before 6 months of age associated with MLL (KMT2A) rearrangement and with other risk factors, such as hyperleukocytosis (> 300,000/mm3) and non-response to corticosteroids.

Children who fail induction therapy (M2/M3 marrow), except if hyperdiploid ALL and age less than 6 years.

The current evidence does not support the use of HSCT in first remission for children with Ph+ (Bcr/Abl) ALL and hypodiploidy who have a good response to chemotherapy (CT).

HSCT is indicated for B- or T-cell ALL in first remission in patients with an MRD equal to or greater than 10-3, or 0.1%, by the end of the consolidation phase (i.e., after approximately 12 weeks of treatment)

#### HSCT indications for pediatric ALL in second remission:

Early bone marrow (BM) relapse of B-cell ALL (< 36 months after first remission). In late BM or extramedullary relapse of B-cell ALL, CT and HSCT exhibit similar results, so HSCT should be preferred, except in cases with persisting MRD positivity.

Early isolated extramedullary relapse of B-cell ALL (< 18 months of first remission).

Any, early or late, medullary, or extramedullary, relapse of T-cell ALL.



## Indicações atuais de Car T Cells

Tratamento de pacientes pediátricos e adultos jovens até e incluindo 25 anos de idade:

- LLA de precursor B com refratariedade primária
- LLA de precursor B em recidiva refratária
- LLA de precursor B a partir da segunda recidiva
- LLA de precursor B em recidiva após TCTH alogênico
- Pacientes com LLA de precursor B de muito alto risco que têm indicação de TCTH porém não são elegíveis por razões médicas



## Chimeric Antigen Receptor (CAR) T-Cell

- Curto tempo de seguimento:
  - Efeitos colaterais a longo prazo ainda pouco conhecidos mais comuns:
    - Aplasia de células B
    - Hipogamaglobulinemia



## Pontos de atenção - CART

- Doença em remissão ou não (refratária)
- Só LLA B derivada: por enquanto!
- Possibilidade de uso de TBI (idade, RXT prévia, performance)
- Doador disponível para TCTH?
- Transplante prévio ou não
- Doença extramedular (em SNC principalmente)
- Blastos são CD19+? Blinatumomab prévio?
- Paciente aguenta esperar manufatura de CAR T?
- Disponibilidade de acesso ao CAR-T ou não?

Existe uma diferença entre o ideal e o real - não adianta querer algo se é intangível!



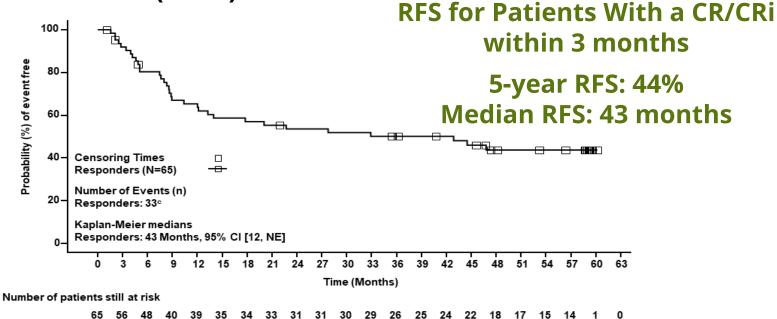
## **ELIANA - 5 Years Follow-up update**

#### Efficacy (n=79)



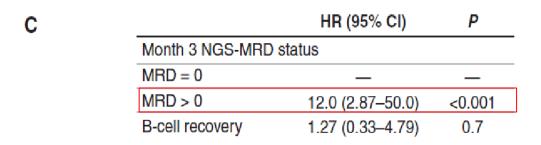


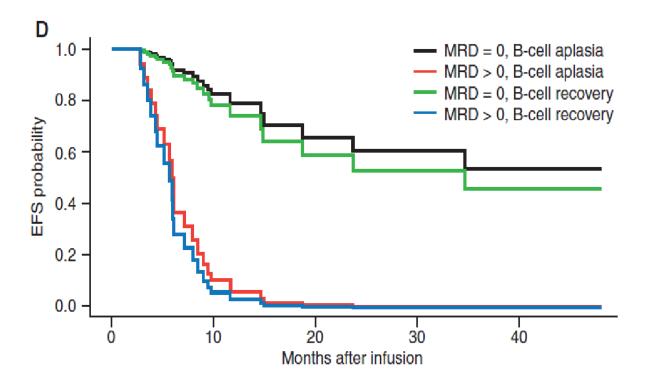
- 82% (CR: 62%+Cri: 20%) in patients who achieved BOR within 3 mo by IRC
- 98% of patients who achieved remission were MRD- (<0.01) at Month 3</li>

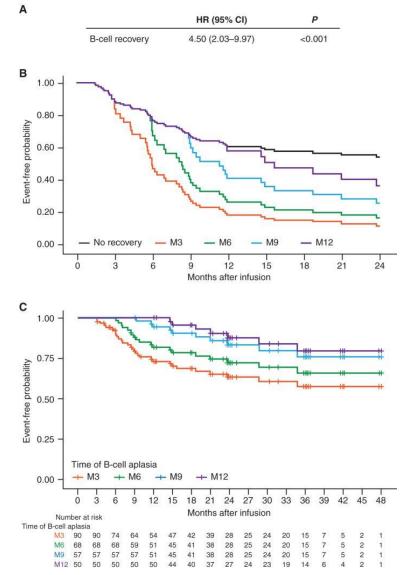


- Post tisagenlecleucel infusion, 25% of patients underwent alloSCT (in remission/after relapse: 14%/10%)
- Median time to B-cell recovery was 39 months in responders

## **B cell recovery and MRD - prognosis**



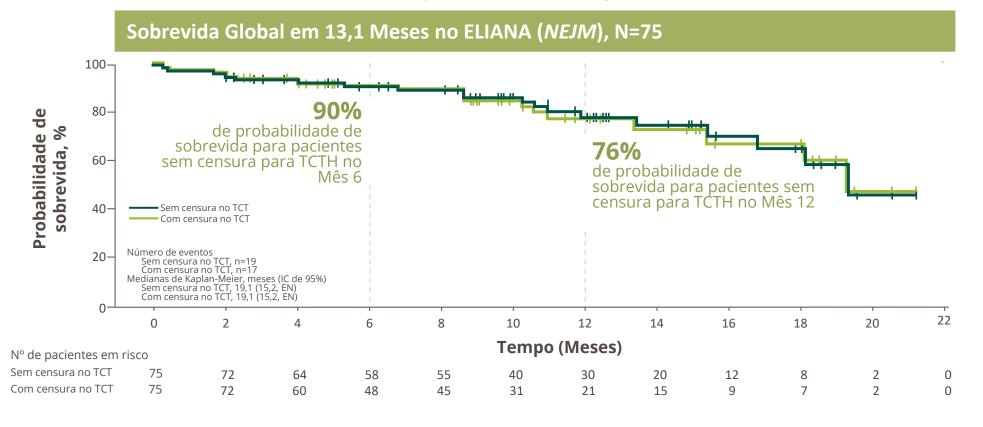




Pulsipher et al. Blood Cancer Discovery, 2022

## Transplante após CAR T

- 13% dos pacientes foram submetidos ao transplante
- Não houve diferença na sobrevida global

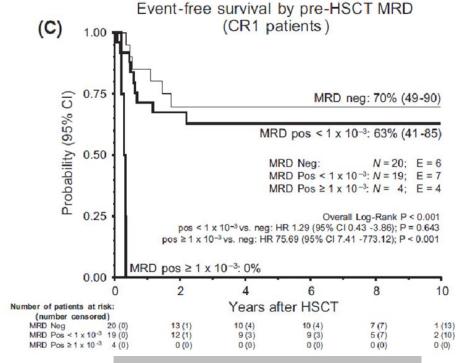


- Apenas 13% dos pacientes receberam transplante durante a remissão após o Kymriah® sem nenhuma melhoria na SG
- Os dados de SG devem ser interpretados com cautela em um estudo de braço único, uma vez que a significância estatística é desconhecida



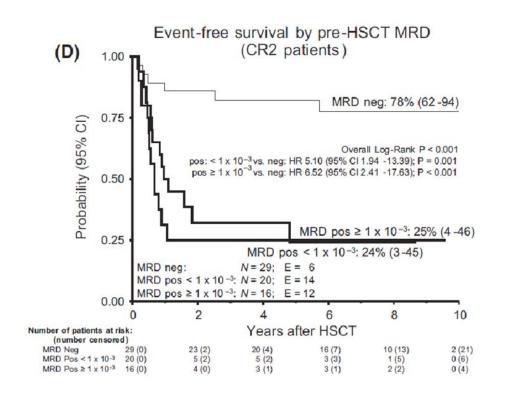
Pre- and post-transplant minimal residual disease predicts relapse occurrence in children with acute lymphoblastic leukaemia

#### DRM pré TMO – RQ-PCR



#### SLE – 1ª remissão:

- DRM negativo 70%
- DRM positivo < 10<sup>-3</sup> 63%
- DRM positivo ≥ 10<sup>-3</sup> zero





## Transplante alogênico de células-tronco hematopoiéticas - TCTH

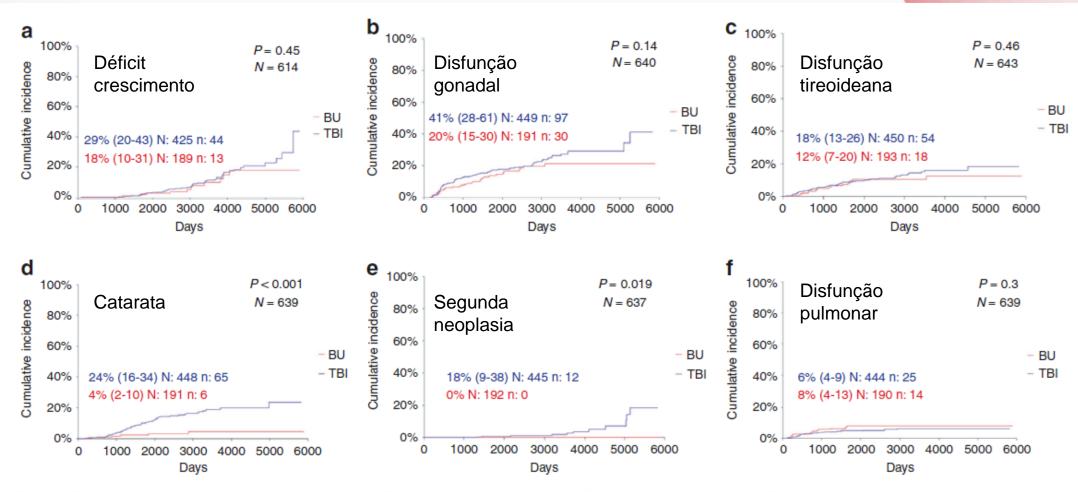


Fig. 1 Cumulative Incidence of long-term effects. Cumulative incidence of (a) growth alteration, (b) alteration of the gonadal function (c) alteration of the thyroid function (d) cataract (e) secondary

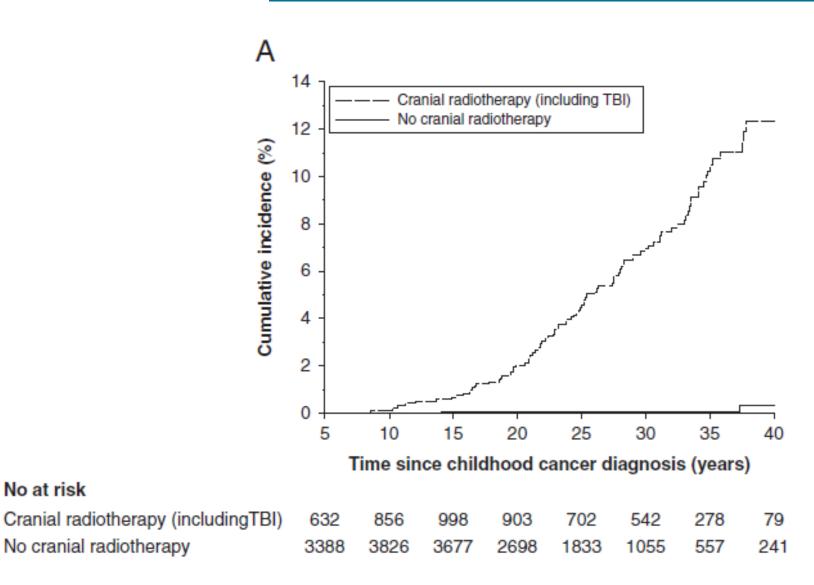
malignant neoplasia and (f) alteration of the pulmonary function according to the conditioning regimen. TBI total body irradiation BU busulfan iv or oral, 95% CI interval of confidence at 95%, n events.



No at risk

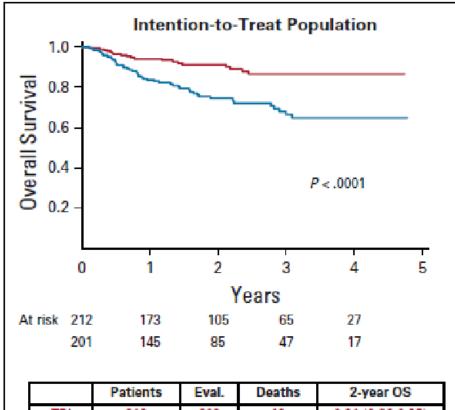
No cranial radiotherapy

Risk of benign meningioma after childhood cancer in the DCOG-LATER cohort: contributions of radiation dose, exposed cranial volume, and age

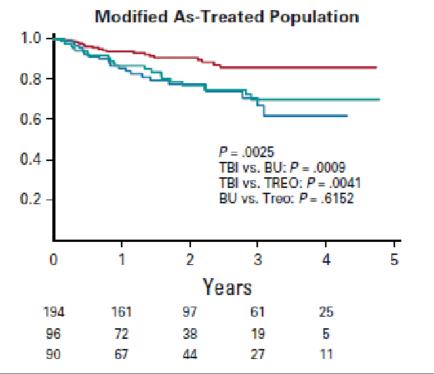




## TBI versus QT para TCTH em LLA



	Patients	Eval.	Deaths	2-year OS
TBI	212	209	19	0.91 (0.86-0.95)
CHC	201	200	49	0.75 (0.67-0.81)



	Patients	Eval.	Deaths	2-year OS
TBI	194	194	19	0.91 (0.85-0.94)
BU	96	96	22	0.77 (0.66-0.85)
TREO	90	90	20	0.77 (0.65-0.85)

MAT

**√** 2% TBI

**√** 9% QT

Recidiva 2a

√ 12% TBI

**√** 33% QT

SG @ 2 anos:

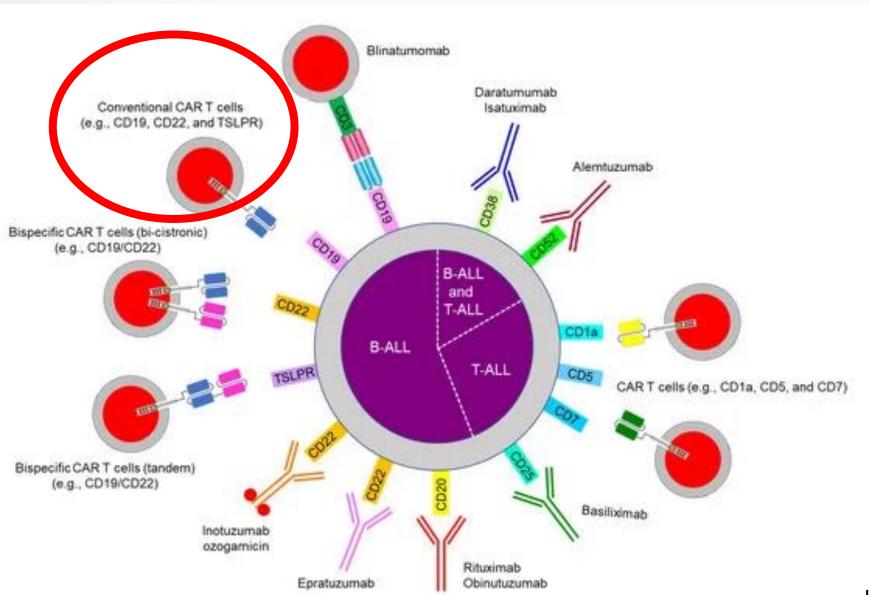
**√** 91% TBI

√ 77% QT

FIG 2. Primary end point: Overall survival. BU, busulfan; CHC, chemo-conditioning; CIR, cumulative incidence of relapse; EFS, event-free survival; OS, overall survival; TBI, total body irradiation; TREO, treosulfan; TRM, treatment-related mortality.



## Imunofenótipo da LLA



LLA B derivada: 85% dos casos em pediatria

LLA T derivada: 10-15% dos casos em pediatria

Tasian et al. Cancer, 2015 Inaba and Pui. J. Clin. Med. 2021



## Por que é difícil construir CAR T contra LLA T derivada?

- Ainda não foi identificado um antígeno alvo específico contra blastos T
- Devido à necessidade de identificar um antígeno presente nos blastos e também nos linfócitos T normais, as células CAR T poderiam induzir ao fratricídio (células CAR T matando outras células CAR T)
- Linfopenia T prolongada é uma condição incompatível com a vida, necessitando resgate com transplante alogênico
- Risco de contaminação do produto de leucoaférese com células tumorais
- Futuro: uso de células NK para gerar células CAR T? CAR T alogênico?



## CAR T e leucemia em SNC

#### ELIANA<sup>11</sup>

Tisagenlecleucel NCT02435849

#### Age

≥ 3 years at screening and ≤ 21 years at diagnosis

#### **Prior Therapies**

r/r B-ALL:

≥ 2 BM relapse

Any BM relapse ≥ 6 months
after alloSCT if
there is no active GVHD
Primary refractory
Ph+ with 2 failed lines
of TKI
Contraindicated for TKI
Incligible for or refuses

#### Disease Burden

alloSCT

BM with ≥ 5% lymphoblasts by morphologic assessment at screening

### CASSIOPEIA<sup>32</sup> Tisagenlecleucel

Tisagenlecleucel NCT03876769

#### Age

1 to 25 years at screening

#### **Prior Therapies**

De novo NCI HR B-ALL who received first-line treatment and are MRD ≥0.01% at EOC

Prior induction and consolidation chemotherapy allowed: first-line subjects: ≤ 3 blocks of standard chemotherapy for first-line B-ALL (defined as 4-drug induction, augmented BFM consolidation, and interim maintenance with high-dose MTX)

#### **Exclusion Criteria**

Patients with Ph+ ALL and prior TKI therapy are excluded

#### CHOP Humanized CAR-T<sup>33</sup> huCART19 NCT03792633

#### Age

1 to 29 years at screening

#### **Prior Therapies**

#### COHORTA

r/r B-ALL:

Newly diagnosed NCI HR B-ALL with induction failure

First BM relapse at < 36 months

≥ 2 relapse

Any relapse ≥ 4 months after alloSCT

Refractory disease<sup>†</sup> Ineligible for alloSCT

## Prior Therapies

#### r/r B-ALL:

Previously treated with B-cell-directed engineered cell therapy:

- Partial response or no response to prior cell therapy
- CD19+ relapse after prior cell therapy
- Demonstrated early (≤ 6 months from infusion) B-cell recovery suggesting loss of engineered cells

#### **CNS** Disease

Patients with prior or current history of CNS3 disease will be eligible if CNS disease is responsive to therapy

#### Anti-CD19 CAR NCT01593696

**National Cancer** 

Institute<sup>10</sup>

Age 1 to 30 years

#### **Prior Therapies**

r/r B-ALL with ≥ 1 standard chemotherapy and 1 salvage regimen

Either ineligible, refused, or has disease activity that prohibits alloSCT

Patients with a history of alloSCT are eligible if ≥ 100 days post-transplant if there is no active GVHD, and if no longer taking immunosuppressive agents for ≥ 30 days prior to enrollment

CNS Disease
Absence of neurologic symptoms suggestive of CNS leukemia

## PLAT-02<sup>7</sup> Seattle Children's Hospital CD19+ CAR-T

#### Age

NCT02028455

12 to 27 years and ≥ 10 kg in weight

#### **Prior Therapies**

Confirmed recurrence defined as ≥ 0.01% disease in the marrow or isolated extramedullary disease following alloSCT



No prior history of alloSCT:

2nd or greater relapse, with or without extramedullary disease

If first relapse,
≥ 0.01% persistent MRD
after reinduction
Primary refractory

alloSCT is indicated but ineligible for alloSCT

#### CHP959<sup>20</sup> Murine CAR-T19 NCT01626495

#### Age

1 to 24 years

#### **Prior Therapies**

Ineligible for alloSCT:

Age

Comorbid disease Contraindications to TBI-based conditioning Lack of donor

Prior SCT

Declines alloSCT

Any relapse after prior SCT

#### **CNS** Disease

With CNS disease if responsive to therapy

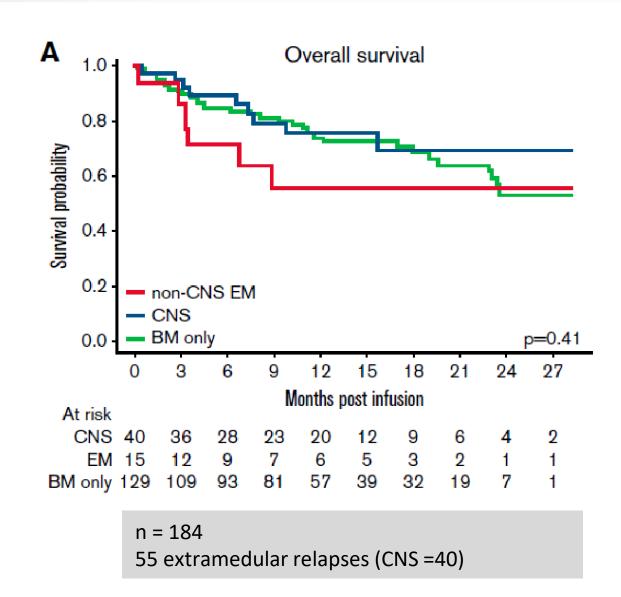


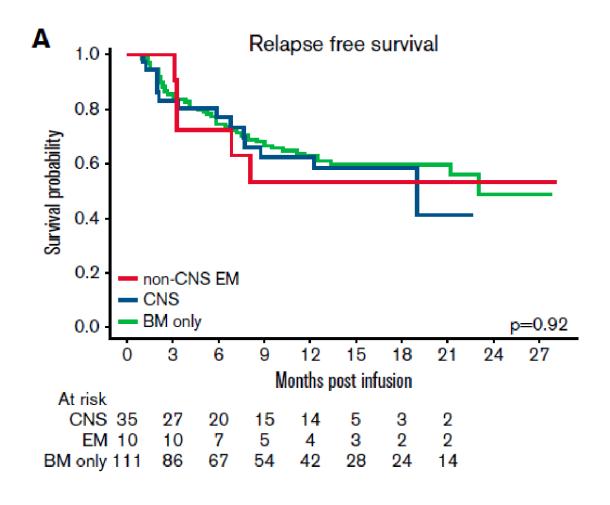
## Durable Remissions in Children with Relapsed/Refractory ALL Treated with T Cells Engineered with a CD19Targeted Chimeric Antigen Receptor (CTL019)

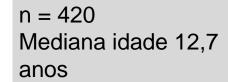
- 53 pacientes 4-24 anos (mediana 11 anos)
- 50 remissões completas = 94% / 45 pacientes com DRM < 0,01%
- Mediana de acompanhamento: 10 meses (1-39)
  - -> 29 se mantinham em remissão
  - -> sobrevida livre de eventos = 70% em 6 meses, 45% em 12 meses
  - -> sobrevida global = 78% em 12 meses
- 46/47 pacientes tinham CAR-T detectável no liquor

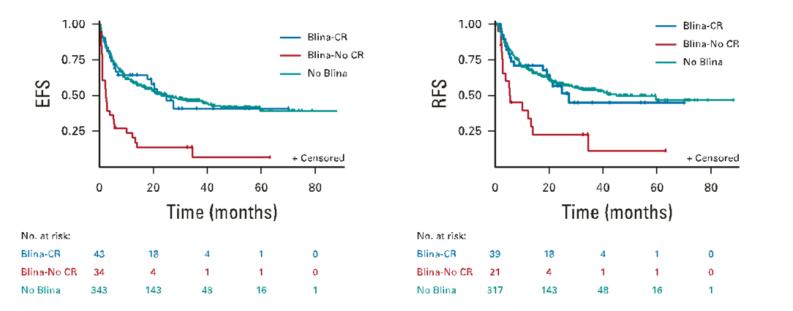


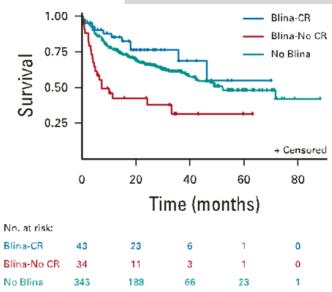
## CAR T e doença extramedular







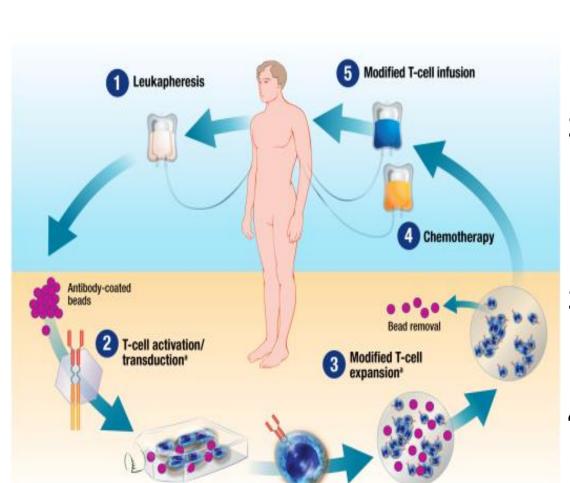




	Resposta completa a Blina	Sem Blina prévio	Refratário a Blina	Р
DRM negativo	93%	90%	61%	<0.0001
Mediana livre de recidiva	27 m	45 m	5,6 m	0.7
SLE (12 meses)	65%	60%	24%	<0.0001
SG (12 meses)	86%	77%	43%	0.0001



## Cadeia de produção CAR T



**Terapia Ponte** 

- 1. Leucaférese: células T são coletadas
- 2.Transdução genéticas das células T ex vivo com um vetor lentivirus codificando o receptor anti-
- **3.Células CAR-T sofrem expansão ex vivo** com beads magnéticos
- **4.Quimioterapia linfodepletora** administrada antes da infusão das células CAR-T
- 5.Infusão das células CAR-T no paciente



published: 25 January 2022

doi: 10.3389/fped.2021.784024

## Chimeric Antigen Receptor T-Cell Therapy in Paediatric B-Cell Precursor Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia: Curative Treatment Option or Bridge to Transplant?

Jochen Buechner<sup>1\*</sup>, Ignazio Caruana<sup>2</sup>, Annette Künkele<sup>3</sup>, Susana Rives<sup>4</sup>, Kim Vettenranta<sup>5</sup>, Peter Bader<sup>6</sup>, Christina Peters<sup>7,8</sup>, André Baruchel<sup>9</sup> and Friso G. Calkoen<sup>10</sup>

#### **LOW RISK**

#### Favourable CAR-T course

- HSCT not recommended

Patient must meet all criteria:

- Age >1 year
- No KMT2A rearrangement
- No blinatumomab or inotuzumab ozogamicin pre-treatment
- · Tisagenlecleucel product
- Infused with low-grade MRD (1-5%)
- MRD negative\* at day 28 (by PCR or NGS)
- BCA lasting beyond 6 months



#### Suggested approach

- No consolidative HSCT
- 'Watch and wait' strategy with regular monitoring of BCA and MRD (including CD19<sup>-</sup> clones)

FIGURE 5 | Proposed approach to HSCT consolidation after CAR-T for paediatric patients and AYA with BCP-ALL based on treatment- and disease-related risk factors for relapse. \*MRD positivity defined at > 0.01%. AUC, area under the curve; AYA, adolescent and young adult; BCA, B-cell aplasia; CAR-T, chimeric antigen receptor T-cell therapy; FCM, flow cytometry; HSCT, haematopoietic stem cell transplantation; KMT2A, lysine methyltransferase 2A; MRD, minimal residual disease; NGS, next-generation sequencing; OOS, out of specification; PCR, polymerase chain reaction.

#### LOW RISK

## Favourable CAR-T course - HSCT not recommended

Patient must meet all criteria:

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#### Suggested approach

- No consolidative HSCT
- 'Watch and wait' strategy with regular monitoring of BCA and MRD (including CD19<sup>-</sup> clones)

#### INTERMEDIATE RISK

## "Ambiguous" risk profile – role of consolidative HSCT unclear

If patient meets ≥1 criterion:

- High blast count at infusion
- TP53 mutation
- Other high-risk cytogenetic subgroup
- Pre-treatment with blinatumomab or inotuzumab ozogamicin
- OOS product
- · Suboptimal pharmacodynamics:
  - 'Low' expansion or 'reduced' AU
  - Loss of BCA 3–6 months post infusion
- Product not tisagenlecleuce



#### Suggested approach

- Unclear: see Figure 6 for a proposed approach
- Further data (retrospective/ prospective) are necessary to evaluate the role of consolidative HSCT

FIGURE 5 | Proposed approach to HSCT consolidation after CAR-T for paediatric patients and AYA with BCP-ALL based on treatment- and disease-related risk factors for relapse. \*MRD positivity defined at > 0.01%. AUC, area under the curve; AYA, adolescent and young adult; BCA, B-cell aplasia; CAR-T, chimeric antigen receptor T-cell therapy; FCM, flow cytometry; HSCT, haematopoietic stem cell transplantation; KMT2A, lysine methyltransferase 2A; MRD, minimal residual disease; NGS, next-generation sequencing; OOS, out of specification; PCR, polymerase chain reaction.

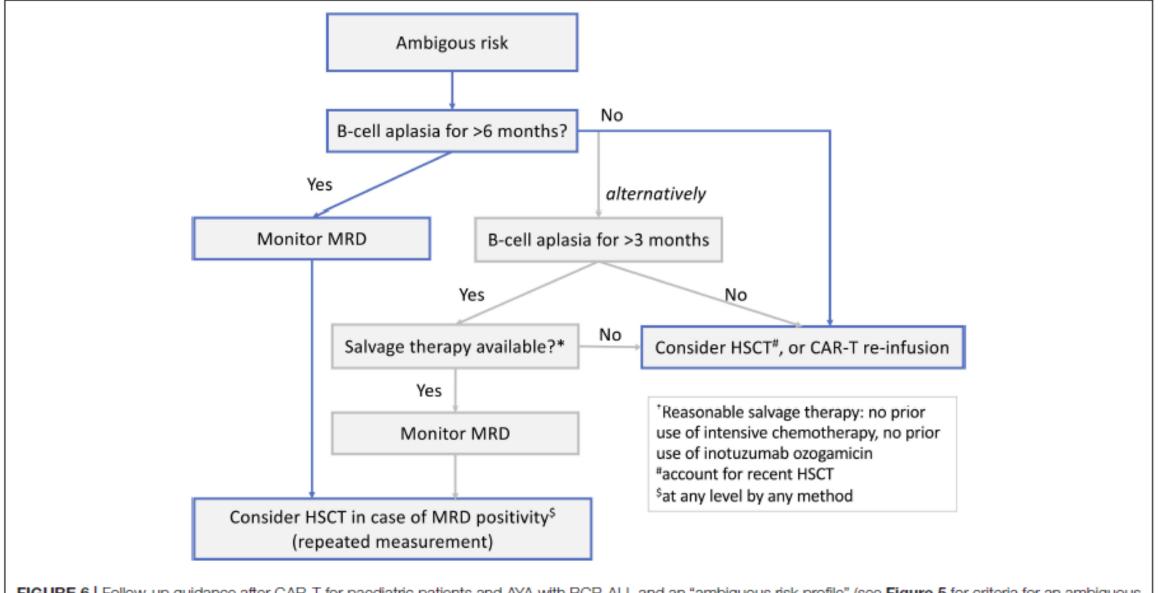


FIGURE 6 | Follow-up guidance after CAR-T for paediatric patients and AYA with BCP-ALL and an "ambiguous risk profile" (see Figure 5 for criteria for an ambiguous risk profile).

#### **LOW RISK**

## Favourable CAR-T course - HSCT not recommended

Patient must meet all criteria:

- Age >1 year
- No KMT2A rearrangement
- No blinatumomab or inotuzumab ozogamicin pre-treatment
- Tisagenlecleucel product
- Infused with low-grade MRD (1-5%)
- MRD negative\* at day 28 (by PCR or NGS)
- BCA lasting beyond 6 months



#### Suggested approach

- No consolidative HSCT
- 'Watch and wait' strategy with regular monitoring of BCA and MRD (including CD19<sup>-</sup> clones)

#### INTERMEDIATE RISK

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- Suboptimal pharmacodynamics:
  - 'Low' expansion or 'reduced' AUC
  - Loss of BCA 3–6 months post infusion
- Product not tisagenlecleuce



#### Suggested approach

- Unclear: see Figure 6 for a proposed approach
- Further data (retrospective/ prospective) are necessary to evaluate the role of consolidative HSCT

#### HIGH RISK

## Unfavorable CAR-T course – HSCT recommended

If patient meets ≥1 criterion:

- MRD positive\* at day 28 (by FCM or PCR) OR
- NGS-MRD positive at ≥3 months
- Any MRD re-appearance in bone marrow
- Early loss of BCA (at <3 months)</li>



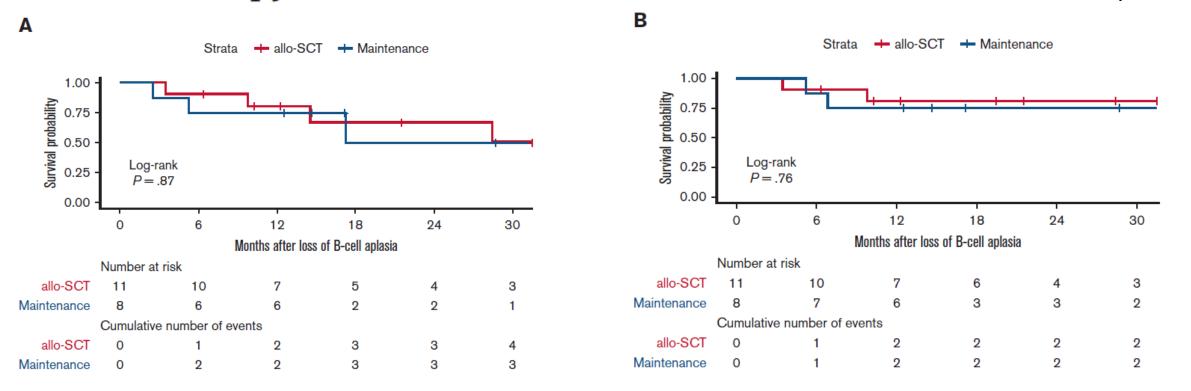
#### Suggested approach

- Offer/discuss consolidative HSCT
- Consider CAR-T re-infusion if recent HSCT

FIGURE 5 | Proposed approach to HSCT consolidation after CAR-T for paediatric patients and AYA with BCP-ALL based on treatment- and disease-related risk factors for relapse. \*MRD positivity defined at >0.01%. AUC, area under the curve; AYA, adolescent and young adult; BCA, B-cell aplasia; CAR-T, chimeric antigen receptor T-cell therapy; FCM, flow cytometry; HSCT, haematopoietic stem cell transplantation; KMT2A, lysine methyltransferase 2A; MRD, minimal residual disease; NGS, next-generation sequencing; OOS, out of specification; PCR, polymerase chain reaction.

Maintenance therapy for early loss of B-cell aplasia after anti-CD19 CAR T-cell therapy

Gabelli et al. Blood Adv, Apr. 2024



- n = 19 / 11 TCTH e 8 manutenção após perda da aplasia B após Tisagenlecleucel ou experimental 41BBz anti-CD19 and anti-CD19/anti-CD22 CAR T (NCT02443831)
- 4,9-12,2 anos
- Manutenção: Mercaptopurina 75 mg/m² + MTX semanal 20 mg/m² + MADIT trimestral por 2 anos (+ pulsos mensais de VCR 1,5 mg/m² e Dexa 6 mg/m²/dia x 5 dias dependendo da toxicidade prévia)



## Take home messages

 A dúvida sobre se CAR T é uma terapia definitiva ou uma ponte para remissões mais profundas para chegar ao TCTH ainda não pode ser respondida para todos os pacientes, com base nos conhecimentos atuais

 As indicações de CAR T cells ainda estão em evolução e devem ser aprimoradas

 No cenário atual, podemos considerar CAR T e TCTH como terapias complementares



## Take home messages

- Principais fatores a ser levados em consideração atualmente na escolha pelo TCTH ou CAR T:
  - TCTH prévio e tempo entre o TCTH e a recidiva
  - Possibilidade de uso de TBI e seus efeitos a longo prazo
  - Imunofenótipo da doença em tratamento presença ou não de CD19
  - Obtenção de remissão profunda com DRM negativa pré TMO ou não
  - Resposta à terapia reindutória doença refratária
  - Recidiva extramedular/SNC
  - Efeitos colaterais a longo prazo de ambas as terapias



## Obrigado!

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