## **Conquering high-risk MDS: are we close?**

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## Redefining Risk stratification and clinical decisions in MDS – IPSS-M

Diagnosis <sup>1</sup>	Classification <sup>1</sup>	Incidence (%) <sup>1</sup>	Median OS (yrs) <sup>1</sup>	Progression risk (yrs)* <sup>,1</sup>	Treatment goal <sup>2</sup>	Current SoC <sup>2</sup>
	Very low (Very low/low)	14	10.6	2.8		Transfusion
<b>F</b>	Low (Very low/low/int)	<b>iii</b> 33	6.0	5.1	Hematologic improvement (lower risk	ESAs Watch & wait
F	Moderate low (Low/int)	🕴 11	4.6	11.4	of infection & bleeding)	
6	Moderate high (Low/int/high)	11	2.8	18.9	Alter disease	HMAs/ICT +/- ASCT
	High (Int/high/very high)	14	1.7	29.2	history (higher risk of infection	
P	Very high (High/very high)	17	1.0	42.8	& bleeding)	

IPSS-M: Improves risk stratification of patients with MDS, providing a valuable tool for clinical decision making



Categorization by IPSS-M and restratified 46% of patients (n=1,223/2,678) and of these, 74% (n=911) were upstaged vs IPSS-R

Categorization by IPSS-M 42% of patients are categorized as Higher risk MDS

Bernard E, et al. NEJM Evid 2022; 1:7

#### IPSS-M vs. IPSS-R based transplantation strategy



- 13% of candidates to be immediately transplanted under an IPSS-R based policy would benefit from a delayed strategy under an IPSS-M based policy, while 32% of candidates to delayed transplantation by IPSS-R, would benefit from immediate HSCT by IPSS.
- The comparison of the average conditional survival time for the optimal transplantation policies obtained using different scoring systems (IPSS-R/IPSS-M) resulted in a significant gain of live expectancy under an IPSS-M based policy across all age groups (P=0.002)

## IPSS-M in the context of AHSCT and HMA



# BMT CTN 1102: RIC Plus Allo-HSCT vs BSC in Older Patients With Higher-Risk MDS



## Baseline and Serial Molecular Profiling Predicts Outcomes With HMAs in MDS



Hunter. Blood Adv. 2021;5:1017.

## Survival of Patients With HR-MDS Remains Poor Despite Use of HMAs



532 patients ≥66 yr at diagnosis who received ≥10 days of HMA therapy

636 HR-MDS of all ages in the MDS Clinical Research Consortium who received HMA (median 5 cycles), 72% received ≥4 cycles. 68% received AZA.

Survival post-AZA failure for patients with HR-MDS

Zeidan. Br J Haematol. 2016;175:829. Zeidan. Leukemia. 2016;30:649. Prebet. JCO. 2011;29:3322.

## ASCERTAIN: Update on Efficacy and Safety of Oral Decitabine/Cedazuridine in Patients With MDS and CMML

Response Category <sup>1,2</sup>	Treated Patients (N = 133)
CR, n (%)	29 (22)
PR, n (%)	0
mCR, n (%)	43 (32.3)
mCR with HI	22 (16.5)
HI, n (%)	10 (7.5)
<ul> <li>HI-erythroid</li> </ul>	2 (1.5)
<ul> <li>HI-neutrophils</li> </ul>	1 (0.8)
<ul> <li>HI-platelet</li> </ul>	7 (5.3)
Overall response (CR + PR + mCR + HI), n (%)	82 (61.7)
RBC transfusion independence, n/N (%)*	27/53 (51)
Platelet transfusion independence, n/N (%)*	6/12 (50)
*# patients TI/# patients TD at baseline.	

- Median CR duration: 14.0 mo (range: 2-29)
- Median duration of best response: 12.7 mo (range: 1-33)
- Number of patients proceeding to HCT: 34 (26%)



#### Lessons Learned from Phase III clinical trials in HR-MDS

Drug	Patient characteristics	Intervention	Study outcomes
Venetoclax	Newly-diagnosed HR-MDS Estimated enrollment: 500	Venetoclax + AZA vs. placebo + AZA	Primary Outcome: - Complete Remission (CR) based on IWG 2006 MDS criteria (Up to 36 Months) - Overall survival (OS) (Up to 5 years)
MBG453 (Sabatolimab)	Newly-diagnosed HR-MDS or CMML-2 Estimated enrollment: 500	MBG453+ AZA vs. placebo + AZA	Primary Outcome: - Overall Survival (Up to 5 years after last patient randomized)
Pevonedistat	Newly-diagnosed HR-MDS, CMML, or Low-Blast AML Estimated enrollment: 502	Pevonedistat + AZA vs. AZA alone Open-label	Primary Outcome: - Event-Free Survival (From randomization until transformation to AML, or death due to any cause; up to 6 years)
Magrolimab	Newly-diagnosed HR-MDS Estimated enrollment: 520	Magrolimab + AZA vs. AZA + placebo	Primary Outcomes: - Complete Remission (CR) based on IWG 2006 MDS criteria (Up to 24 Months) - Overall survival (OS) (Up to 5 years)
APR-246	Newly-diagnosed TP53-mutated HR-MDS Estimated enrollment: 154	APR-246 + AZA Vs. AZA alone Open-label	Primary Outcome: - Complete response rate (CR) with APR 246 + azacitidine vs. azacitidine only
SY-1425 (Tamibarotene)	Newly-diagnosed RARA-positive HR-MDS Estimated enrollment: 190	SY-1425 + AZA Vs. placebo + AZA	Primary outcome: - Complete response rate (CR) with SY-1425 + azacitidine vs. azacitidine only

- Bi-allelic *TP53* MDS specific clinical trials.
- Survival= CR rate x duration
- Studies are under-powered to detect small improvements

#### VERONA: Phase 3 study of Ven+Aza in higher-risk MDS



#### Key inclusion criteria

- ≥18 years old with newly diagnosed MDS according to 2016 WHO classification
- <20% BM blasts</li>
- ECOG PS 0-2
- IPSS-R score of >3 (Intermediate, high, very high)
- No planned HSCT at the time of C1D1

Primary	
endpoints	
• CR	

• OS

- Secondary endpoints
- Modified overall response (mOR)
- Transfusion independence (TI)
- ORR
- QoL

# Phase Ib Study of Venetoclax in Combination With Azacitidine for Frontline Treatment of Patients With HR-MDS

#### **Trial Design**

#### **Baseline Characteristics**

Key Eligibility Criteria		Patient Ch	Patient Characteristics		Patient Characteristics		N = 78
<ul> <li>No prior MDS treatment</li> <li>IPSS ≥1.5</li> <li>BM blasts &lt;20% at screening</li> <li>ECOG score of ≤2</li> </ul>		Median age ECOG PS,	e, yr (range) 0 1	<b>70 (26-87)</b> 33 (42) 38 (49)	(cont'd) IPSS risk, n (%)	Intermediat High	te-2 57 (73) 21 (27)
<ul> <li>Treatment cohorts (28-day cycles); A</li> </ul>	Aza 75 mg/m <sup>2</sup> D1-7	11 (70)	2	7 (9)		Intermediat	:e 14 (18)
Randomization Phase (28-Day Ven): Aza + Ven 400 mg D1-28 (n = 5)	Protocol amendment was	PM blacts	≤5% >5% to <10%	7 (9) 21 (27)	IPSS-R risk	High Very high	16 (20) 48 (62)
<ul> <li>Aza + Ven 800 mg D1-28 (n = 5)</li> <li>Aza (n = 2)</li> </ul>	made to explore 14-day Ven	n (%)	>10% to ≤20%	49 (63)	Baseline Cytopenias,	n (%) Grac	le 3 Grade 4
Dose-escalation Phase (14-Day Ven):			>20%	1(1)	Neutropenia	24 (	31) 22 (28)
Aza + Ven 100 mg D1-14 (n = 8)	Ven RP2D was	IPSS	Good	31 (40)	Thrombocyte	openia 20 (i	26) 6 (8)
Aza + Ven 200 mg D1-14 (n = 9)	400 mg D1-14	karyotype	Intermediate	16 (20)	Leukopenia	30 (	38) 3 (4)
Aza + Ven 400 mg D1-14 (n = 8)	, in the second s	risk, n (%)	Poor	31 (40)	Anemia	10 (	13) 0
Safety Expansion 1 (14-Day Ven): Aza + Ven 400 mg D1-14 (n = 22)		Primary e Secondar	endpoints: Safe ry endpoints: C	ety, establish PRR, OS	RP2D		
Safety Expansion 2 (14-Day Ven): Aza + Ven 400 mg D1-14 (n = 21)							

Garcia. ASH 2021. Abstr 241.

### Phase Ib Study of Venetoclax in Combination With Azacitidine: Efficacy



- 51 patients received the RP2D Ven 400 mg D1-14
- Median follow-up: 23 mo (range 0.1-44.2)
- ORR: 84% at RP2D
- Median TTR: 0.9 mo (95% CI: 0.7-5.8)
- Median DoR: 12.4 mo (95% CI: 9.9-NR)

- Multi-hit/bi-allelic TP53 mutations were found in 7 of 13 patients with TP53 mutation
- Responses in multi-hit/bi-allelic TP53 were similar to responses in patients with any TP53 mutation
  - CR: 28.6% (2/7); mORR: 71.4% (5/7)

Data cutoff: December 15, 2020.

Garcia. ASH 2021. Abstr 241.

#### Ven+Aza associated with rapid, durable response in HR-MDS

Phase 1b, dose-escalation study in untreated patients (N=78)



23% of the study population moved to post-study alloHSCT\* prior to other post-study systemic cancer therapies

ORR, overall response rate (CR+mCR)

Adapted from Wei AH, et al. EHA 2021. Abstract 917 (ePoster)

## Venetoclax and HMA in Higher-Risk MDS: Efficacy of First-line Therapy

Best Response, %	HMA + Ven (n = 35)	HMA Alone (n = 1127)	P Value
ORR	77	40	<.005
■ CR	34	13	
■ mCR	37 (62 + HI)	11	
■ PR	3	1	
■ HI	3	15	
ASXL-1 mut	(n = 16)	(n = 106)	
ASXL-1 mut ORR	<mark>(n = 16)</mark> 87	(n = 106) 32	<.005
ASXL-1 mut ORR • CR	<mark>(n = 16)</mark> 87 44	<mark>(n = 106)</mark> 32 8	<.005
ASXL-1 mut ORR • CR TP53 mut	(n = 16) 87 44 (n = 12)	(n = 106) 32 8 (n = 137)	<.005
ASXL-1 mut ORR • CR TP53 mut ORR	(n = 16) 87 44 (n = 12) 75	(n = 106) 32 8 (n = 137) 44	<.005

Outcome	HMA + Ven (n = 35)	HMA Alone (n = 1127)	P Value
Median OS, mo <ul> <li>From diagnosis</li> <li>(95% CI)</li> <li>From start of</li> </ul>	21 (11-32)	20 (19-22)	.86
treatment*	19.4	17.2	.88
AML transformation, %	23	37	.08
AHSCT cohort <sup>+</sup>	(n = 13)	(n = 256)	
Median OS, mo (95% Cl)	NR	38 (27-50)	.20
2-yr OS, %	91	51	

\*Median time from diagnosis to treatment was 1 mo in both arms. \*Patients who went on to AHCST.

#### **Oral decitabine/cedazuridine + venetoclax in 1L HR MDS or CMML**

IPSS intermediate 2 or high risk

•  $\geq$  18 years of age

Key eligibility criteria

- WHO 2016, with > 5% blasts in bone marrow
- Treatment-naive MDS or CMML



Median age 71 yrs MDS EB2 65%, CMML 2 16% IPSS-M very high 68.7% mTP53 20%. 7/8 multiallelic Median n cycles 2 Median Time to response 1 cycle ORR 94.5% CR 35.9% OS 12 mos 59.2%

Bataller et al, EHA abs S 172





**Ongoing Phase 2 trial (NCT05184842)** 

Metronomic Once Weekly Dosing of Decitabine and Venetoclax in MDS/AML





Courtesy of Dr Goldfinger

### **Interim Results:**

AML patients who	
completed 12 -week	n=14
induction	
Age, median (IQR)	75 (62-87)
Female, n (%)	9 (64)
Median bone marrow blasts at diagnosis, n (range)	29 (15-90)
Adverse risk by ELN, n (%)	7 (50)
Response in evaluable AML patients, n (%)	n=14
CR PR MLFS	8 (57) 1 (7) 1 (7)
MRD negative CR (MFC , Hematologics)	6 (43)
Therapy tolerability in evaluable AML patients, n (%)	n=14
Treatment delays/interruptions	3 (21)
Grade <u>&gt;</u> 3 non-heme Adverse Events	0
60-day mortality	0
30-day mortality	0
Patients hospitalized	5 (36)


Courtesy of Dr Goldfinger

## Tamibarotene + Aza vs Pbo+Aza

Phase 3, double-blind, randomized trial in patients with RARA+ newly diagnosed HR-MDS



#### Key inclusion criteria

- Adults ≥18 years old
- RARA+ based on the investigational biomarker test
- Newly diagnosed with HR-MDS by 2016 WHO classification and classified by IPSS-R as very high, high, or intermediate risk
- Blast count >5% at study entry

#### Key exclusion criteria

· Patients suitable for transplant at the time of screening

#### **Primary endpoint**

• Proportion of participants with CR [Timeframe: up to 5 years]

#### Key secondary endpoints

- ORR
- EFS, OS
- Transfusion independence

## AlloSCT and Investigational Agents Best Salvage Therapy for Patients With HR MDS After HMA Failure





### **Treatment Options in MDS After HMA Failure**

- Add additional agent to HMA
- Intensive chemotherapy
- Mini-CLA ± venetoclax: normal karyotype
- IDH2 (5-10%): enasidenib
- IDH1 (5%): ivosidenib
- *FLT3* (15%): multiple *FLT3* agents
- NPM1 (1%): ara-C based

## Venetoclax and HMA in Higher-Risk MDS: Efficacy in R/R MDS Population

Best Response, %	1L HMA (n = 1127)	HMA + Ven for R/R (n = 31)	1L HMA + Ven (n = 35)	P Value
ORR	77	61	40	
■ CR	34	13	13	
mCR	37 (62 + HI)	48	11	
Median OS from diagnosis, mo (95% CI)	20 (19-22)	33 (31-36)	21 (11-32)	.02

- 31 patients with R/R MDS received median 6 cycles of first-line HMA
- 9 patients who received HMA + venetoclax for R/R MDS underwent AHSCT
  - Median OS: 31 vs 33 mo with no AHSCT (P = .70)

## Targeting R/R *IDH1/IDH2*<sup>mut</sup> MDS with ivosidenib/enasidenib

#### **IDIOME:** phase 2 study of Ivo in 3 cohorts (N=26)<sup>1</sup>

- A: HR-MDS, failed AZA (n=13)
- B: Untreated HR-MDS (n=11)
- C: LR-MDS, failed EPO (n=2)
   Median follow-up: 9.1 months
   Median DoR: 7.4 months
   Median OS: 14 months
   Differentiation syndrome, n=4, febrile neutropenia, n=1



#### IDEAL: phase 2 study of Ena in 3 cohorts (N=26)<sup>2</sup>

- A: HR-MDS, failed AZA (n=11)
- B: Untreated HR-MDS (n=9)
- C: LR-MDS, failed ESA (n=6)

Median follow-up: 8.6 months

#### Median OS: 17.3 months

Differentiation syndrome, n=3; nausea/diarrhea, n=4; thrombocytopenia, n=5 **ORR** 42%

#### Ivosidenib in R/R IDH1/IDH2mut MDS<sup>3</sup>

Updated results of a phase 1 dose-escalation study (500 mg QD)

Efficacy outcomes	N=16	Safety outcomes	
ORR	81%	Grade ≥3 AEs	69%
CR mCR	44% 31%	Grade ≥3 TRAEs	13%
PR	6%	SAEs	44%
н	69%		
12-month duration CR+PR	60%	•	

2. Ades L, *et al.* ASH 2021. Abstract 63 (oral presentation); 3. Sallman DA, *et al.* ASCO 2022. Abstract 7053 (Poster 284)

<sup>1.</sup> Sebert M, et al. ASH 2021. Abstract 62 (oral presentation);

### How do I treat Higher risk MDS 2024?





#### Moffitt MDS team: Only perfect counts !!!

Acknowledgements:

- Our patients and their caregivers
- Moffitt MDS team