



Should All Patients Who Achieve Complete Response Receive a Transplant?

William Bensinger, MD
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center
University of Washington
Seattle, Washington



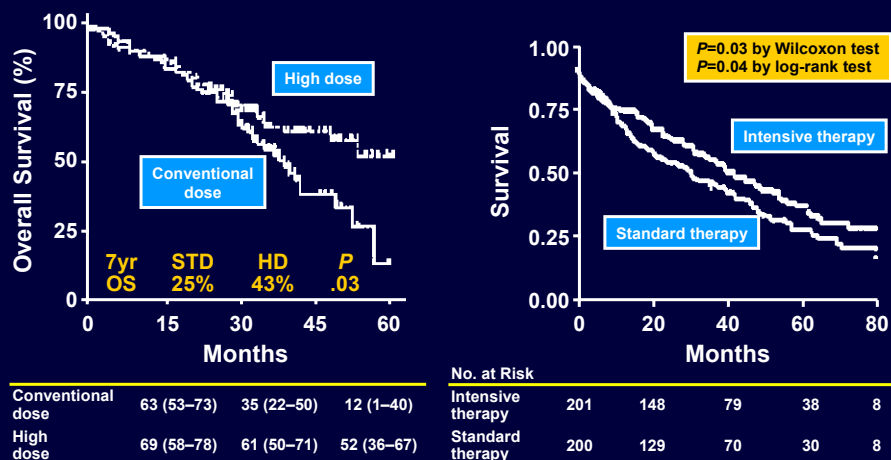
What We Know

- High-dose therapy + auto SCT (ASCT) increases complete response (CR) rates
- CR correlates with survival
- New drugs improve induction CRs → higher CR rates after ASCT
- Tandem ASCT seems to benefit a subgroup of patients
- Post-ASCT maintenance may improve responses, and increase EFS, OS
- Some new drugs can affect stem cell yields
- Reduced-intensity allografting may prolong EFS, OS after ASCT

What We Don't Know

- Do the higher response rates observed after novel-drug combinations + ASCT improve survival?
- Which drug combinations are optimal for patients proceeding to transplant?
- Are tandem ASCTs beneficial after novel induction therapies?
- If your patient achieves a CR after novel induction therapies, is a transplant “optional”?
- Can allografting overcome any of the negative prognostic features?

Conventional Chemotherapy vs ASCT: Survival



STD, standard dose; HD, high dose.

Attal M et al. *N Engl J Med.* 1996;335:91.
 ©1996 Massachusetts Medical Society. All rights reserved.
 Child JA et al. *N Engl J Med.* 2003;348:1875.
 ©2003 Massachusetts Medical Society. All rights reserved.

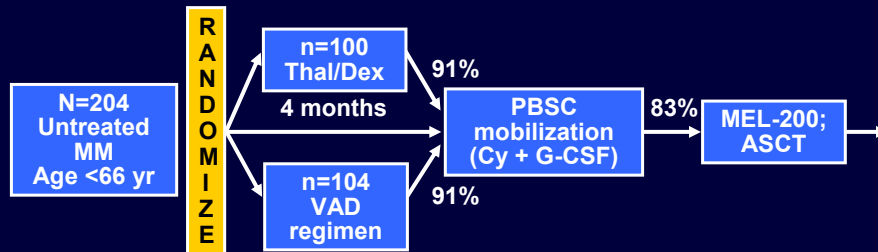
Single vs Double Autografts for MM

- Attainment of CR, near CR, VGPR is important for survival benefit
- Only 1 trial showed overall survival benefit for tandem tx vs single tx
- Patients in CR / near CR / VGPR after 1 autograft do not benefit from a second autograft
 - Confirmed in 2 trials
- Only patients with PR or stable disease (SD) appear to derive benefit from a second autograft

New Induction Therapies Prior to Autologous Transplant

- **Thalidomide, dexamethasone**
- **Bortezomib, dexamethasone**
- **Bortezomib, thalidomide, dexamethasone**
- **Lenalidomide, dexamethasone**
- Cyclophosphamide, bortezomib, dexamethasone
- Bortezomib, peg-doxorubicin, dexamethasone
- Bortezomib, lenalidomide, dexamethasone

Thal/Dex vs VAD as Induction Treatment in Newly Diagnosed MM Prior to SCT



Parameter	Thal/Dex (n=100)	VAD (n=104)	P Value
VGPR before PBSC collection (%)	25	7	.0027
VGPR before MEL-200 (%)	35	13	.002
VGPR 6 mo post-ASCT (%)	44	42	.87 (NS)
Mean duration of hospitalization before PBST (all causes)	8.3 days	20 days	.0001

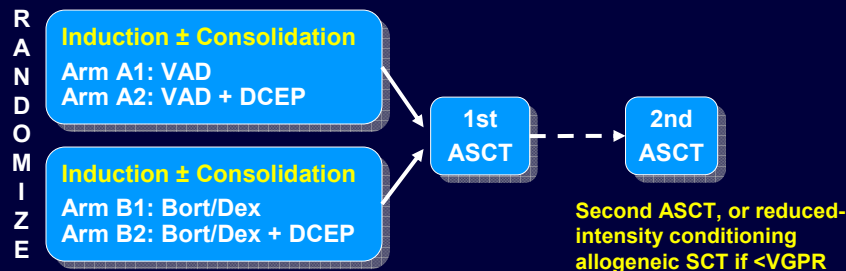
Macro M et al. *Blood*. 2006;108:22a. Abstract 57.

Bort/Dex vs VAD Induction Prior to ASCT IFM 2005/01 Trial

Updated results: Randomized phase III IFM trial comparing Bort/Dex with VAD induction in MM up to age ≤65 yr

- **End points:** Primary include CRIF-+nCR postinduction; secondary include DCEP consolidation, post-SCT outcomes, overall response rate, safety
- **Patients:** 482 enrolled; previously untreated symptomatic MM with measurable paraprotein in serum/urine; age ≤65 yr

Stratification for β_2 microglobulin and Ch 13 abnormalities



Harousseau JL et al. *J Clin Oncol*. 2008;26: Abstract 8505.

Bort/Dex vs VAD

Response* to Induction			
Intention-to-treat analysis	VAD (n=219)	Bort/Dex (n=223)	P Value
CR	3%	10%	0.004
CR + nCR	8%	19%	0.0004
≥VGPR	19%	47%	<0.0001
≥PR	66%	83%	<0.0001

Response* to Consolidation			
Intention-to-treat analysis	No DCEP A1 + B1 (n=222)	DCEP A2 + B2 (n=220)	P Value
CR + nCR	16%	17%	0.73
VGPR	33%	36%	0.47

*Modified EBMT criteria

Harousseau JL et al. *J Clin Oncol.* 2008;26: Abstract 8505.

Bort/Dex vs VAD

Post-First ASCT Response

Intention-to-treat analysis	VAD A1 + A2 (n=219)	Bort/Dex B1 + B2 (n=223)	P Value
CR + nCR	23%	35%	0.0063
≥VGPR	44%	63%	<0.0001
≥PR	79%	84.3%	NS

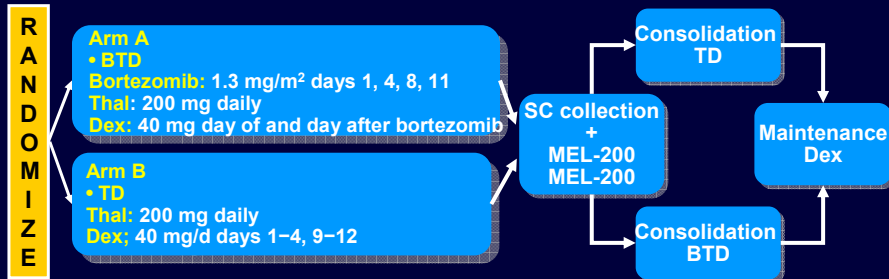
Actual SCT performed	VAD A1 + A1 (n=185)	Bort/Dex B2 + B2 (n=197)	P Value
CR + nCR	28%	40%	0.01
≥VGPR	52%	72%	<0.0001
≥PR	94%	95%	NS

Harousseau JL et al. *J Clin Oncol.* 2008;26: Abstract 8505.

Bort/Thal/Dex vs Thal/Dex for SCT Induction

Phase III study: Planned **interim** analysis

- **End points:** Primary include CR+nCR postinduction; secondary include CR+nCR postconsolidation, time to progression, EFS, OS, stem cell yield, safety
- **Patients:** 450 planned patients: 256 enrolled (Arm A, n=129; Arm B, n=127)
- **Dose:** Three 21-day cycles



- **DVT prophylaxis:** Pts randomized to LMWH (enoxaparin 40 mg/d), aspirin (100 mg/d), or warfarin 1.25 mg/d

Cavo M et al. *Blood*. 2007;110:30a. Abstract 73.

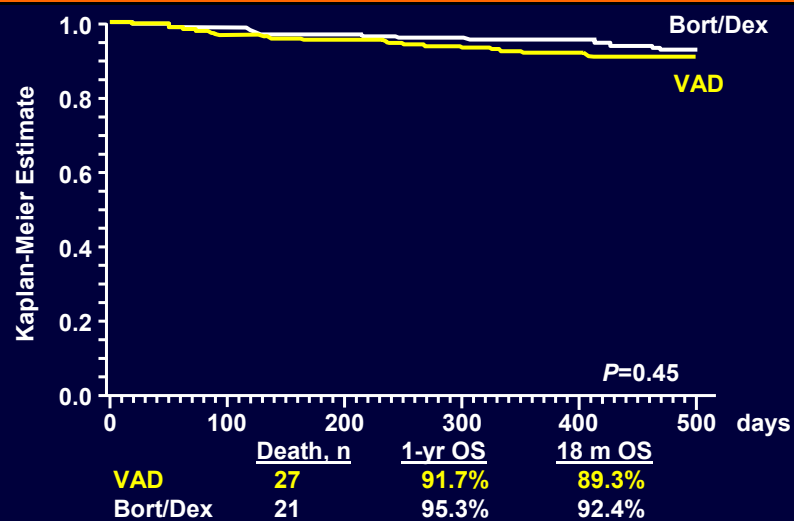
Bort/Thal/Dex vs Thal/Dex for SCT Induction

Response	Induction		P Value	Post-SCT #1	
	TD (n=127)	BTB (n=129)		TD (n=79)	BTB (n=74)
CR + nCR	9%	36%	<0.001	28%	57%
≥VGPR	27%	60%	<0.001	54%	77%
PR	53%	33%	—	—	—

Cavo M et al. *Blood*. 2007;110:30a. Abstract 73.

- Thus: ASCT can improve the response rates after induction with some suboptimal regimens (ie, VAD vs Thal/Dex)
- ASCT can further improve the response rates after induction with more optimal regimens (ie, Bort/Dex vs VAD; Bort/Thal/Dex vs VAD)
- Will this affect survival? (unknown)

**Bort/Dex vs VAD Induction Prior to ASCT:
 IFM 2005/01 Trial
 Overall Survival**



Harousseau JL et al. *J Clin Oncol*. 2008;226. Abstract 8505.

E4A03: Lenalidomide + High-Dose Dexamethasone (RD) vs Lenalidomide + Low-Dose Dexamethasone (Rd) as Primary Induction Therapy for Newly Diagnosed MM

Results of Primary Therapy Beyond 4 Cycles With Rd (Landmark Analysis)

Factor/Result	Primary Rd (N=142)	All Rd Except SCT Group (N=181)	SCT Group (N=85)	ITT Rd Arm (N=222)
Median age, yr	66	64	59	65
>PR @ 4 cycles	86%	74%	70%	69%
1-yr survival	99%	96%	99%	96%
2-yr survival	93%	88%	93%	88%

Rajkumar SV et al. *J Clin Oncol.* 2008;26. Abstract 8504.

Post-ASCT Maintenance

	N	Thal Dose	CR Rate	PFS (yr)	OS (yr)
Barlogie * <i>NEJM</i> 2006	668	400	62% vs 43%	56% vs 44% (5)	ns
Attal <i>Blood</i> 2006	597	400	67% vs 55%	52% vs 36% (3)	87% vs 77% (4)
Abdelkefi † <i>Blood</i> 2008	195	100	68% vs 54%	85% vs 57% (3)	85% vs 65% (3)
Spencer <i>ASH</i> 2006	243	200 ‡	24% vs 15%	63% vs 36% (2)	90% vs 81% (2)

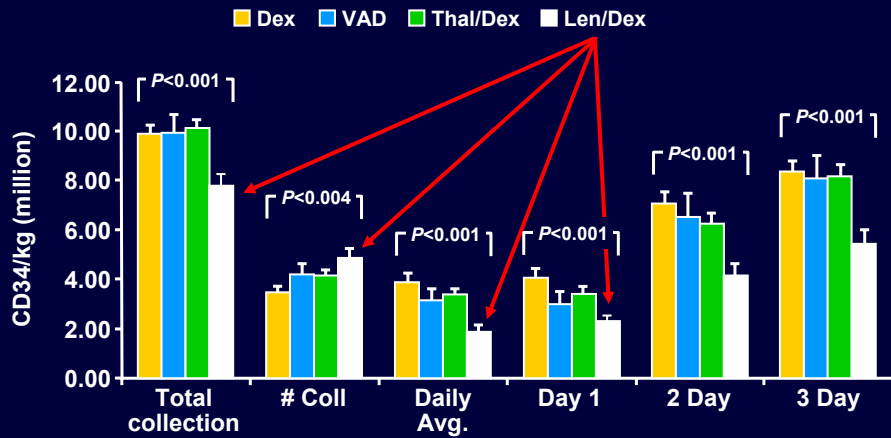
* Continuous thal.

† Compared with double transplant.

‡ Thal + prednisone vs prednisone.

Barlogie B et al. *N Engl J Med.* 2006;354:1021.
 Attal M et al. *Blood.* 2006;108:3289.
 Abdelkefi A et al. *Blood.* 2008;111:1805.
 Spencer A et al. *Blood.* 2006;108:22a. Abstract 58.

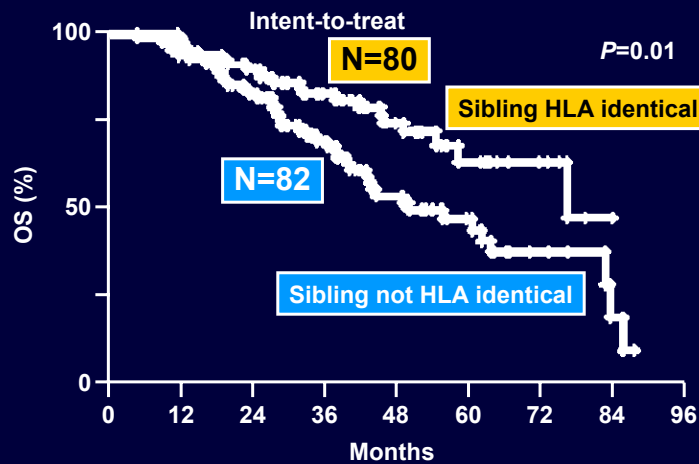
Impact of MM Induction Therapy on Stem Cell Yield: G-CSF Mobilization



CY + GCSF mobilization may overcome this

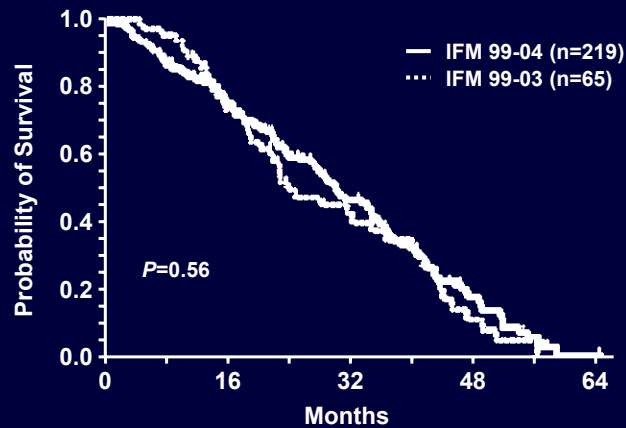
Kumar S et al. *Leukemia*. 2007;21:2035. Reprinted with permission from Macmillan Publishers Ltd: *Leukemia*, ©2007.

Tandem Autologous or Auto → Nonablative Allograft for MM



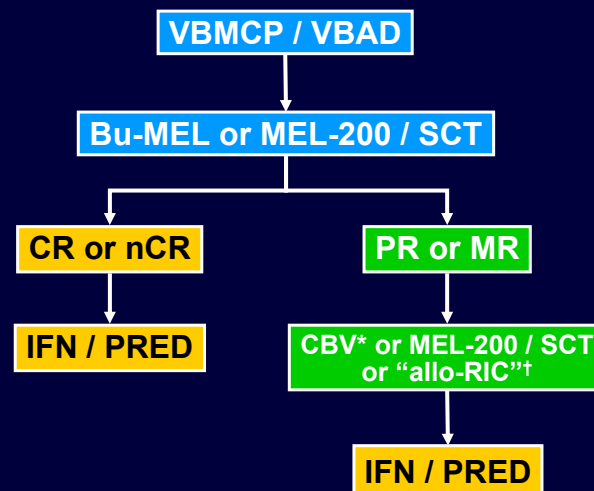
Bruno B et al. *N Engl J Med*. 2007;356:1110. ©2007 Massachusetts Medical Society. All rights reserved.

Tandem Auto vs Auto → Nonablative Allograft for High-Risk MM Patients



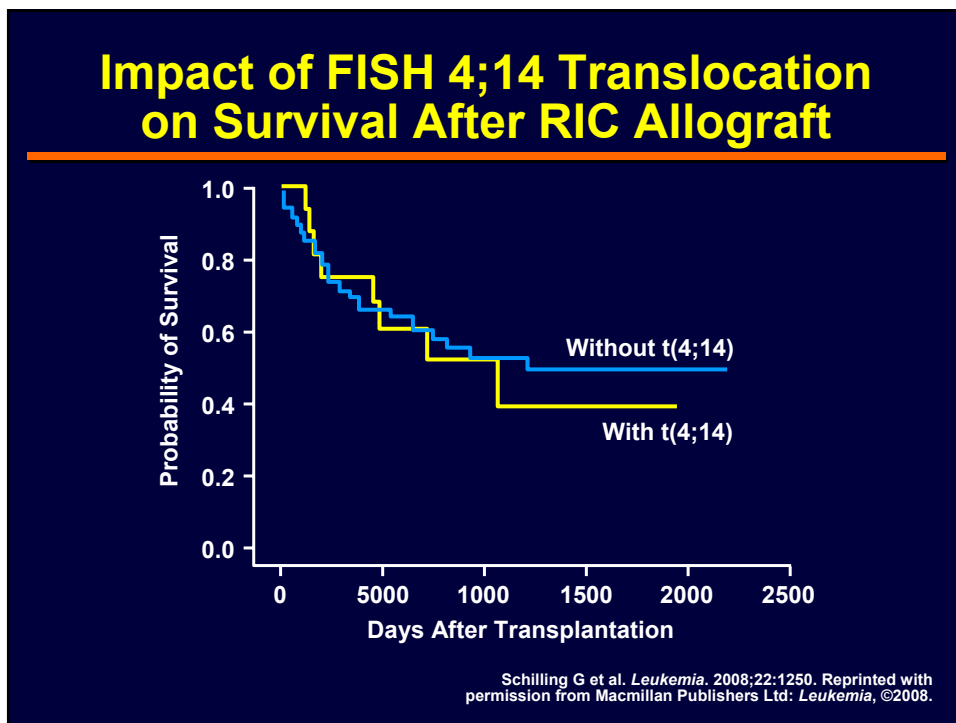
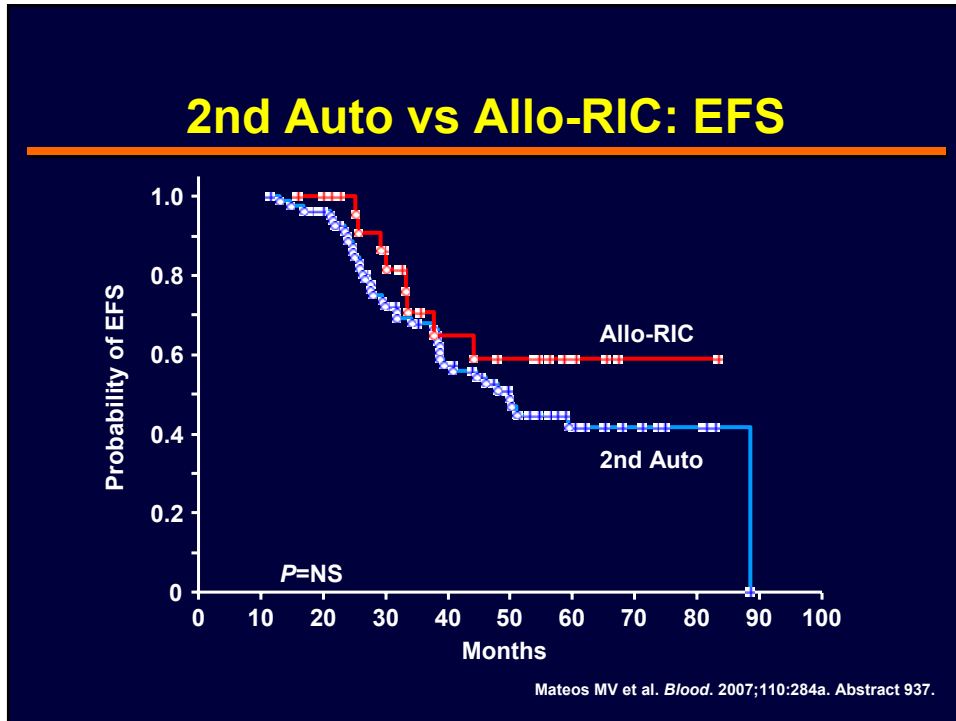
Garban F et al. *Blood*. 2006;107:3474.

Spanish PETHEMA / GEM-2000 Trial



*Cyclophosphamide, etoposide, BCNU.
†Fludarabine / melphalan-140.

Mateos MV et al. *Blood*. 2007;110:284a. Abstract 937.



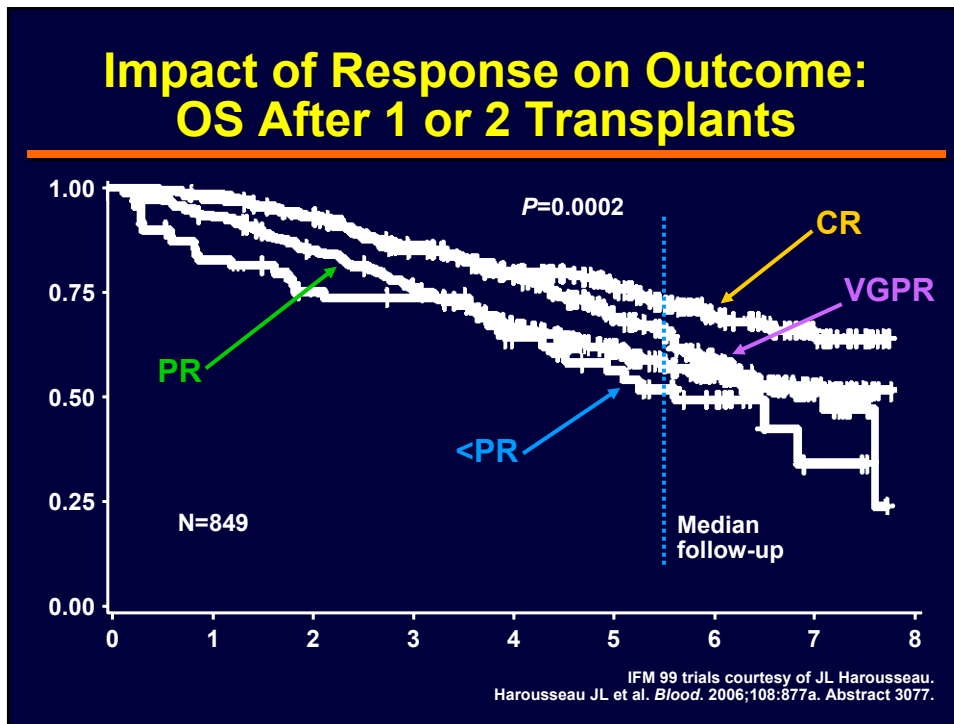


Should All Patients Who Achieve a Complete Response to Induction Therapy Proceed to Autologous Transplant?



Pro-Transplant (ASCT)

- CR is a marker for survival
- Novel drugs alone may or may not produce a “depth of remission” as good as ASCT
- Novel drugs may eliminate “high-risk” cells that lead to relapse, BUT data are lacking at present that suggest novel drugs without transplant improve survival. THUS, ASCT may further improve remission durability
- Early trials of novel drugs prior to ASCT demonstrate added value of ASCT on response



ASCT Improves Responses After Traditional or Novel Induction

	Macro ASH 2006		Harousseau ASCO 2008		Cavo ASH 2007	
	VAD	Thal/D	VAD	Bort/D	Thal/D	Bort/Thal/D
Induction ≥VGPR	7%	25%	19%	47%	27%	60%
Transplant ≥VGPR	42%	44%	44%	63%	54%	77%

Macro M et al. *Blood*. 2006;108:22a. Abstract 57.
 Harousseau JL et al. *J Clin Oncol*. 2008;26: Abstract 8505.
 Cavo M et al. *Blood*. 2007;110:30a. Abstract 73.

ASCT Improves Responses After Traditional or Novel Induction

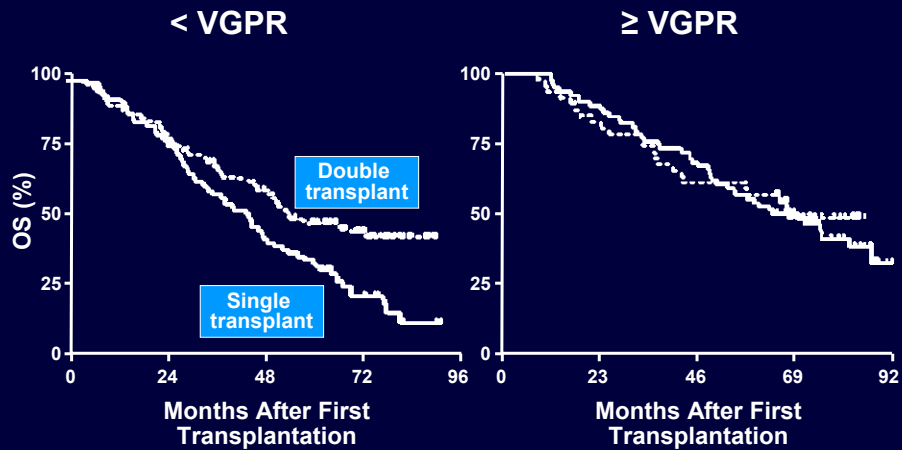
	Harusseau ASCO 2008		Cavo ASH 2007	
	VAD	Bort/D	Thal/D	Bort/Thal/D
Induction ≥nCR	8%	19%	9%	36%
Transplant ≥nCR	23%	35%	28%	57%

Harusseau JL et al. *J Clin Oncol*. 2008;26: Abstract 8505.
Cavo M et al. *Blood*. 2007;110:30a. Abstract 73.

Con-Transplant (ASCT)

- CR is a marker for survival
BUT
 - Tandem ASCT does not benefit VGPR or better patients
 - Retrospective studies suggest patients in CR after induction DO NOT BENEFIT from ASCT
- Novel drugs may eliminate “high-risk” cells that lead to relapse, making ASCT superfluous
- “High risk” patients clearly have less benefit from ASCT

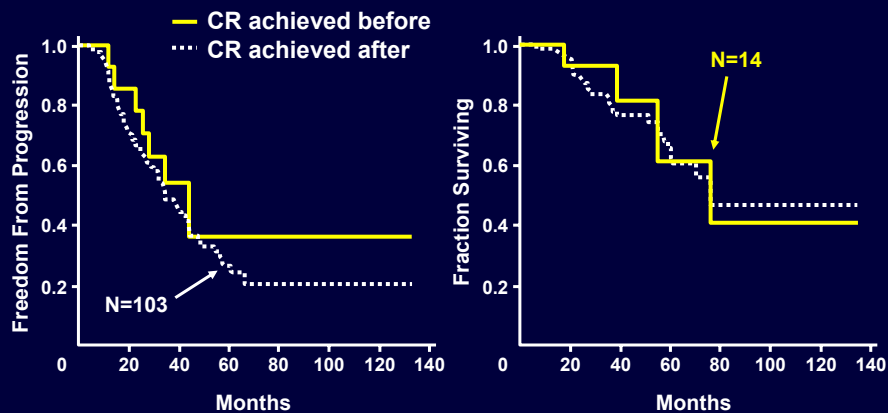
IFM 94: Single vs Double Transplant OS by Response to First Transplant



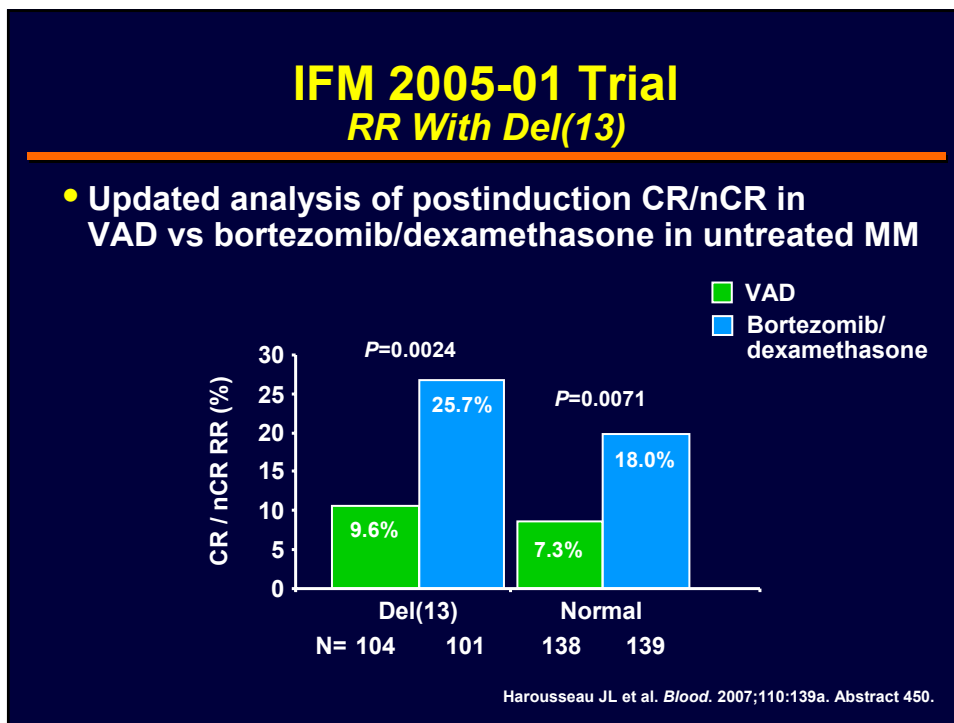
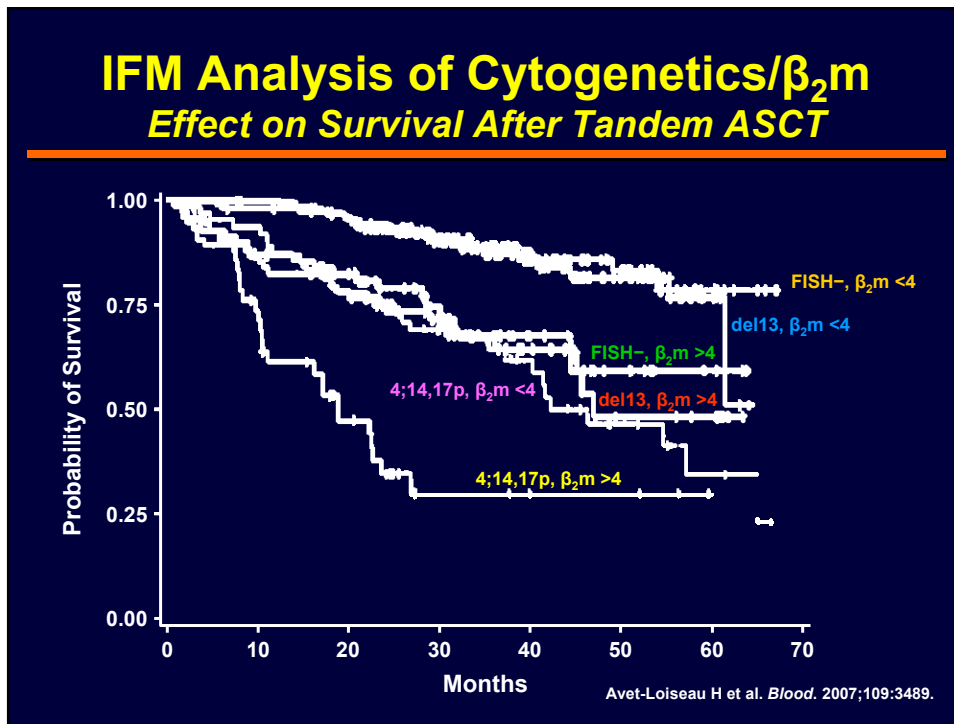
Attal M et al. *N Engl J Med*. 2003;349:2495.
 ©2003 Massachusetts Medical Society. All rights reserved.

PFS and OS Patients Who Achieve CR Before and After ASCT

Caveat: Induction with older drug regimens

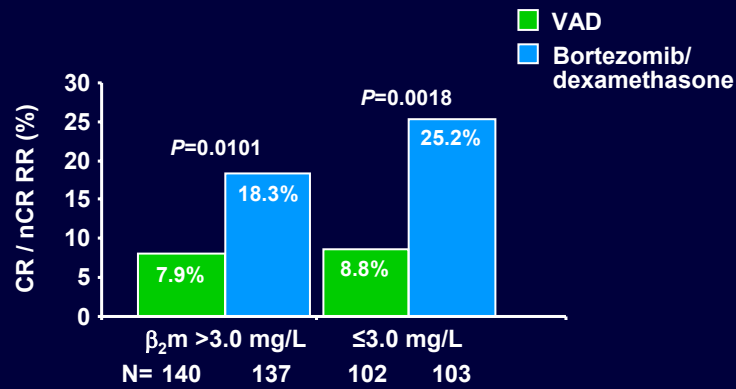


Dingli D et al. *J Clin Oncol*. 2007;25:4933.
 Reprinted with permission. © 2008 American Society of Clinical Oncology. All rights reserved.



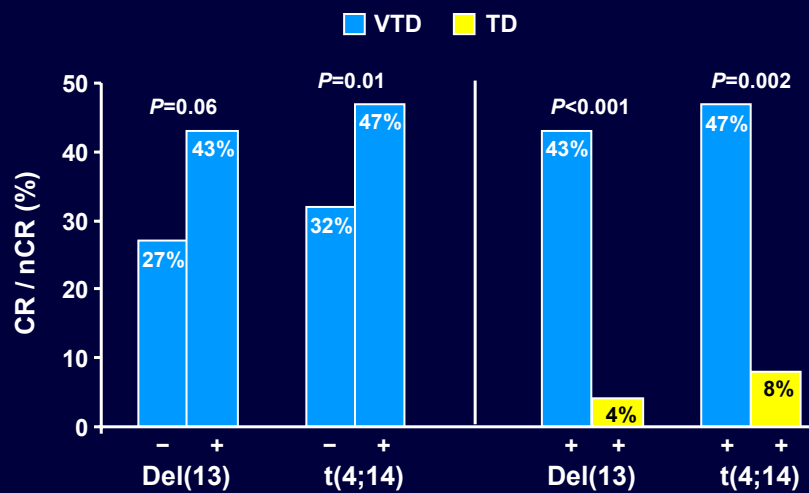
IFM 2005-01 Trial RR With β_2m

- Updated analysis of postinduction CR/nCR in VAD vs bortezomib/dexamethasone in untreated MM

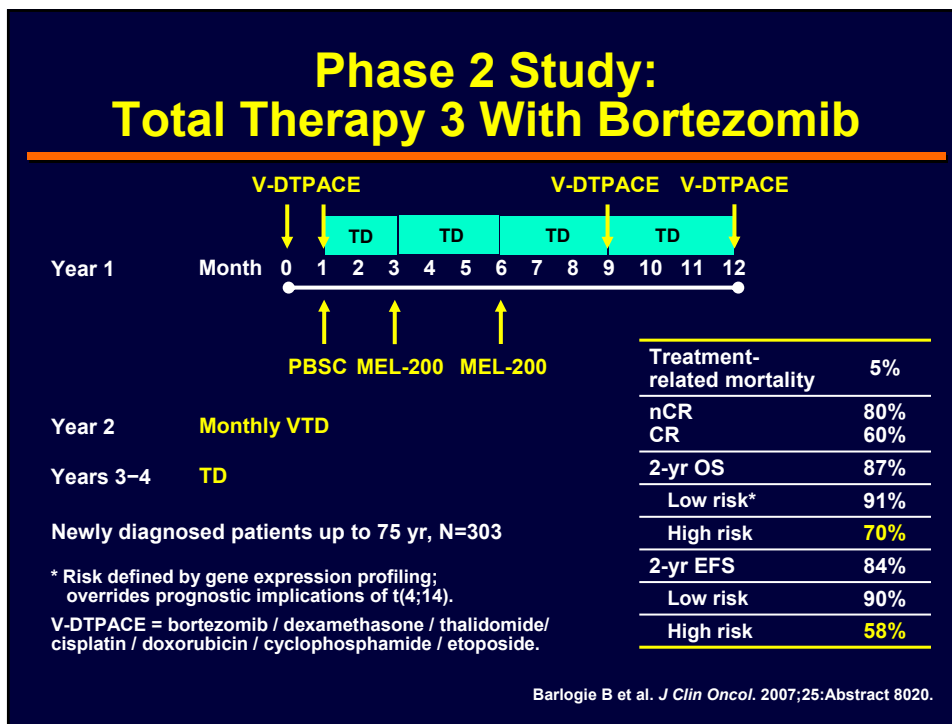


Harousseau JL et al. *Blood*. 2007;110:139a. Abstract 450.

Bort/Thal/Dex vs Thal/Dex as Induction Therapy in MM: Efficacy in High-Risk Groups



Cavo M et al. *Blood*. 2007;110:30a. Abstract 73.



Conclusions

- **ASCT remains as a standard of care, but its relevance with novel drugs is less clear**
- **Novel-drug combinations for front-line therapy confirm higher rates of \geq VGPR after induction AND after ASCT, but their effect on OS with or without transplant is unknown**
- **Very few trials compare novel-drug regimens with each other**
- **Trials are needed to compare outcomes of novel induction regimens \pm ASCT**
- **Maintenance or RIC allografts may improve results**

