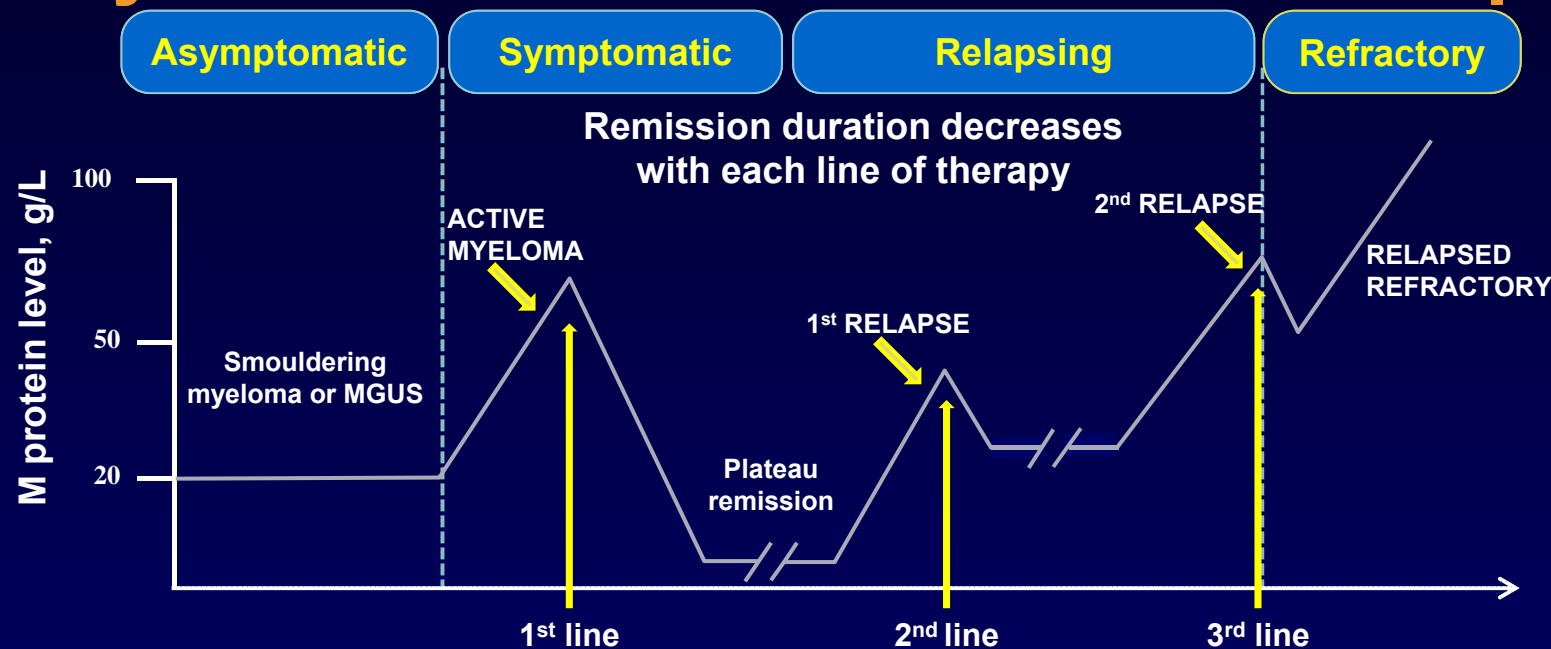


# First do no Harm (*Primum non nocere*): Balancing Quality of Life With Quantity of Life

**Antonia Palumbo, MD**  
University of Torino  
Torino, Italy

# Course of Disease: MM is Characterised by a Pattern of Remission and Relapse



	1 <sup>st</sup> line	2 <sup>nd</sup> line	>3 <sup>rd</sup> line
Median OS, months	20–50	14–16	6–10
Sensitivity to chemotherapy	Sensitive	Resistant	Resistant
Adverse events	Lower risk SAE	High risk SAE	High risk SAE

MGUS, monoclonal gammopathy of unknown significance; MM, multiple myeloma; OS, overall survival; SAE, serious adverse event

Adapted from: Durie BGM. 2008/2009 edition. North Hollywood, CA: International Myeloma Foundation; 2008.

# Therapeutic Algorithm

	Young fit	Elderly fit	Elderly unfit/frail
Diagnosis	VTD - ASCT	MPV	Rd
1° Relapse	Bort- Dex	Len-Dex	Bort-Dex
2° Relapse	Len-Dex	Bort-Dex	Len-Dex
3° Relapse	Pom-Dex	Pom-Dex	Pom-Dex
3° Relapse	Carf-Dex	Carfilzomib	Carfilzomib
4° Relapse	Thal-Dex	Thal-Dex	Thal-Dex

ASCT, autologous stem cell transplant; BTZ, bortezomib; CFZ, carfilzomib; CYC, cyclophosphamide; DEX, dexamethasone; DOXO, doxorubicin; LEN, lenalidomide; MPT, melphalan+prednisone+thalidomide; MPV, melphalan+prednisone+thalidomide; POM, pomalidomide; Rd, lenalidomide +dexamethasone; THAL, thalidomide; VTD, bortezomib+thalidomide+dexamethasone

**Asymptomatic Progressive Disease**

**Symptomatic Progressive Disease**

**Switch -- Rechallenge**

# When Should We Start/Change Treatment in R/R MM Patients?

## 1. Asymptomatic progressive disease

- Confirmed increase >25% M protein

## 2. Symptomatic progressive disease

- CRAB criteria

CRAB: C = Calcium (elevated), R = Renal failure, A = Anemia, B = Bone lesions; PDN, prednisone

# When to Start Treatment: Asymptomatic Progressive Disease

- Diagnostic criteria
  - No CRAB
  - Confirmed increase >25% M protein
  - Absolute increase >1 g/dl or >500 mg/24 h
  - Bone marrow plasma cell >10%
- Treatment choice
  - Increase dose-intensity
    - Len (10mg→25mg) Bort (once → twice weekly)
  - Add 2<sup>nd</sup> agent corticosteroids
    - Dex (40 mg weekly), PDN (50mg bid), Len (10mg→25mg)
  - Add 3<sup>rd</sup> agent
    - Cyclo – Doxo – Len – Bort

Bort, bortezomib

Rajkumar SV, et al. Blood 2011;117: 4691–4695; Palumbo A, et al. N Engl J Med. 2011;364(11):1046–1060

# When to Start Treatment: Symptomatic Progressive Disease

- Diagnostic criteria
  - CRAB
    - New bone lesion
    - Hypercalcemia ( $>11.5$  mg/dL)
    - Hemoglobin ( $<10$  g/dL)
    - Serum creatinine ( $>2$  mg/dL)
  - Confirmed doubling M protein within  $\leq 2$  months
    - Absolute increase  $>1$  g/dL or  $>500$  mg/24 h
- Treatment choice
  - Switch bortezomib  $\rightarrow$  lenalidomide combination
  - Switch lenalidomide  $\rightarrow$  bortezomib combination
  - Introduce pomalidomide combination
  - Introduce carfilzomib combination

# When to Start Treatment: Switch or Rechallenge

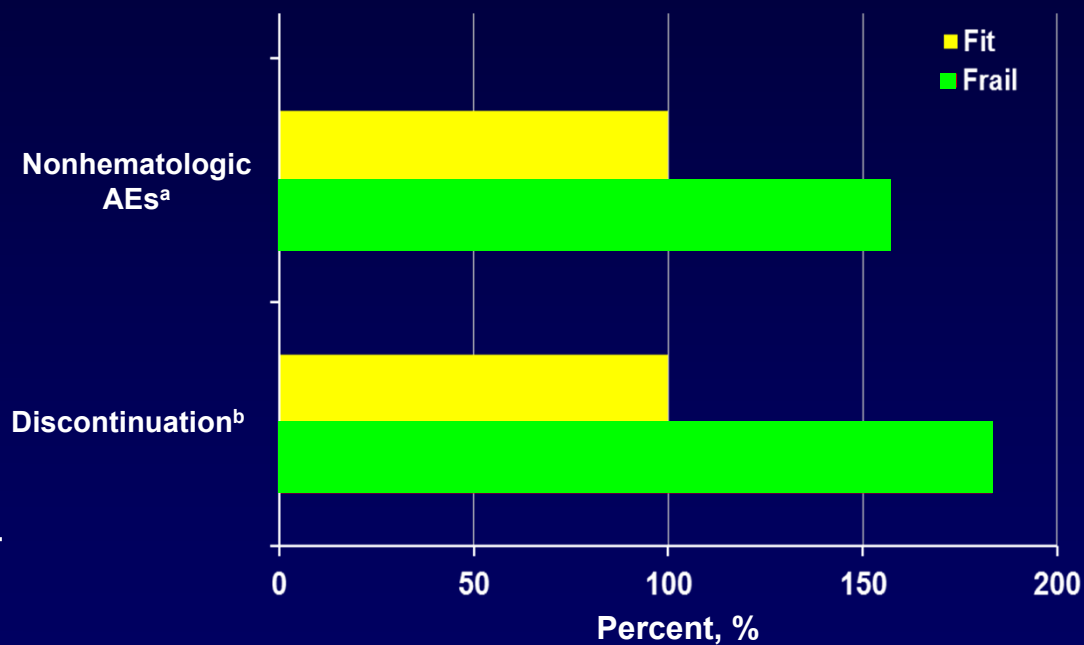
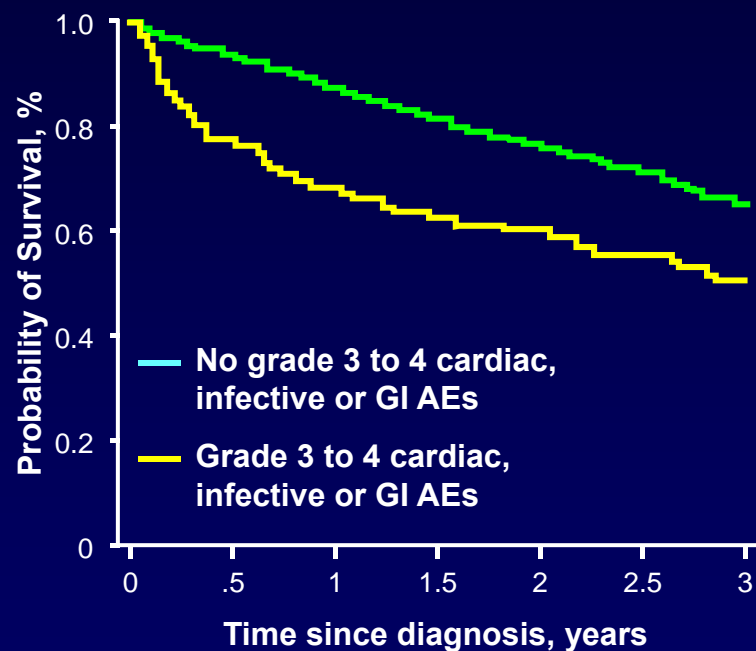
- Previous progression-free survival (PFS) <6 months CRAB
  - Switch bortezomib → lenalidomide combination
  - Switch lenalidomide → bortezomib combination
  - Introduce pomalidomide combination
  - Introduce carfilzomib combination
- Previous PFS/free interval >6 months
  - Rechallenge previous regimen

# **In R/R MM Treatment Choice is Mainly Determined By:**

- 1. Disease aggressiveness**
- 2. Age**
- 3. Co-morbidities**
- 4. Patient's choice**



# Grade 3/4 Cardiac Infective, GI AEs Impact on survival of 1435 myeloma patients: multivariate analysis



<sup>a</sup>at least one adverse event; <sup>b</sup>Due to AEs, withdrawal of consent, patient compliance, unknown; progressive disease was excluded.

GI, gastrointestinal; AE, adverse event

Brinchen S, et al. *Haematologica*. 2013;98(6):980-987.

# New Treatment Algorithm for Elderly MM

## Patient Status Assessment

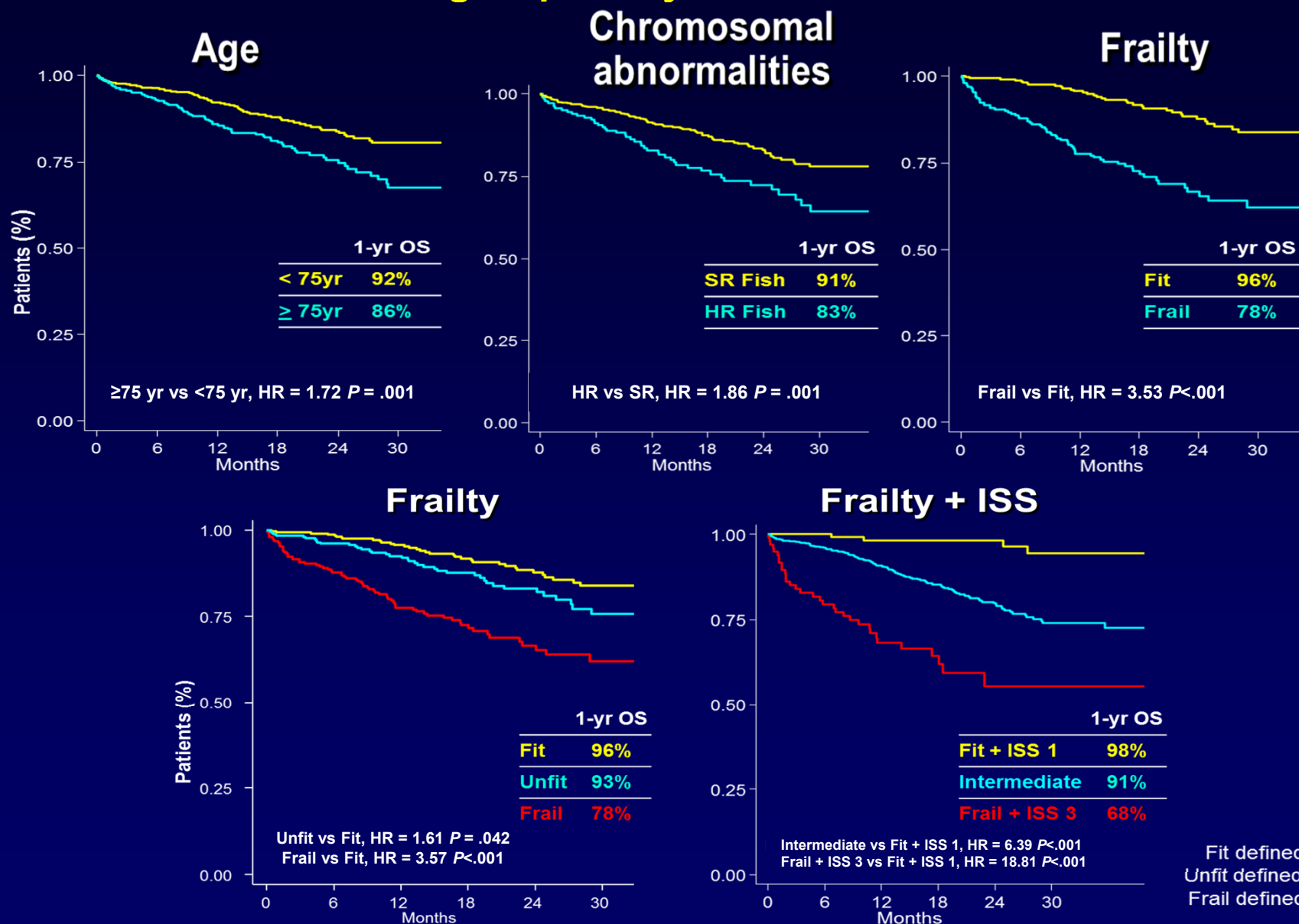
- Age
- ADL
- IADL
- Charlson comorbidity score

FIT	UNFIT	FRAIL
Age <80 years	Fit >80 years	Unfit >80 years
ADL 6	ADL 5	ADL ≤4
IADL 8	IADL 6-7	IADL ≤5
Charlson 0	Charlson 1	Charlson ≥2
<b>go-go</b>	<b>moderate-go</b>	<b>slow-go</b>
Full-dose regimens Dose level 0	Reduced-dose regimens Dose level -1	Reduced-dose Palliative approach Dose level -2

ADL, Activity of Daily Living; IADL, Instrumental Activity of Daily Living; MM, multiple myeloma  
Palumbo A, et al. *Blood*. 2011;118(17):4519-4529

# Overall Survival

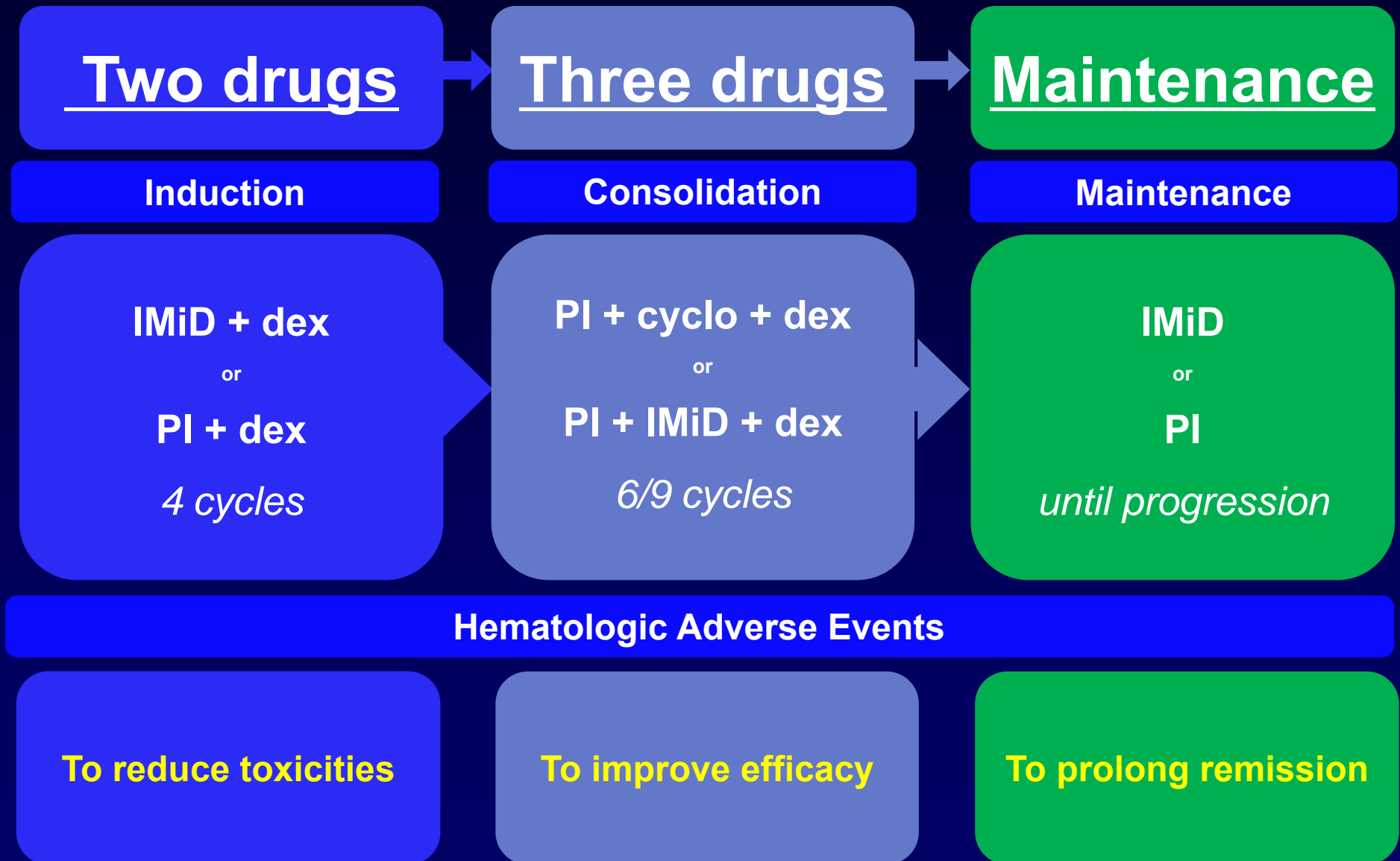
## Subgroup Analysis in All Patients



FISH, fluorescence *in situ* hybridization; HR, hazard ratio; HR FISH, cytogenetically defined high risk by FISH; SR FISH, cytogenetically defined standard risk by FISH

Larocca A, et al. *Blood*. 2013;122: Abstract 687 and oral presentation.

# Treatment Strategy



IMiD, immunomodulatory drug; PI, proteasome inhibitor; dex, dexamethasone; cyclo, cyclophosphamide  
Falco P, et al. *Leukemia*. 2013;27(3): 695-701. Palumbo A, et al. *Blood*. 2010;116(21): Abstract 1940.

# Therapeutic Algorithm

	Young fit	Elderly fit	Elderly unfit/frail
Diagnosis	VTD - ASCT	MPV	Rd
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3° Relapse	Pom-Dex	Pom-Dex	Pom-Dex
3° Relapse	Carf-Dex	Carfilzomib	Carfilzomib
4° Relapse	Thal-Dex	Thal-Dex	Thal-Dex

ASCT, autologous stem cell transplant; BTZ, bortezomib; CFZ, carfilzomib; CYC, cyclophosphamide; DEX, dexamethasone; DOXO, doxorubicin; LEN, lenalidomide; MPT, melphalan+prednisone+thalidomide; MPV, melphalan+prednisone+thalidomide; POM, pomalidomide; Rd, lenalidomide +dexamethasone; THAL, thalidomide; VTD, bortezomib+thalidomide+dexamethasone

**Asymptomatic Progressive Disease**

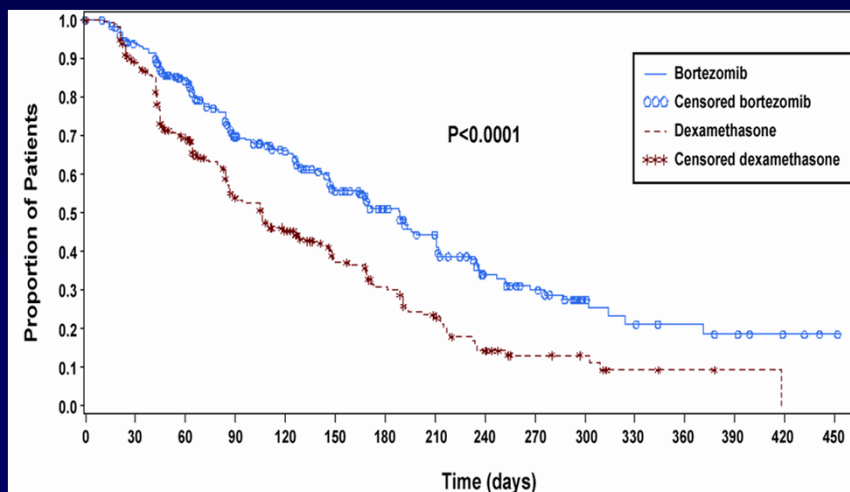
**Symptomatic Progressive Disease**

**Switch -- Rechallenge**

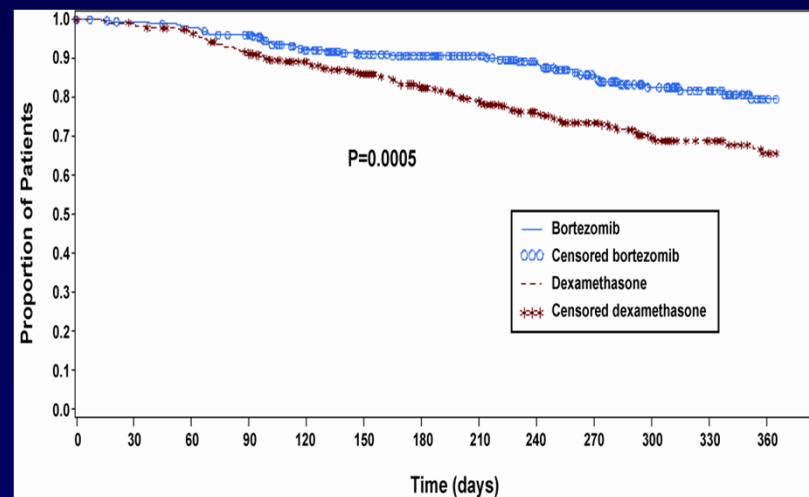
# Bortezomib vs Dexamethasone in Relapsed MM

Bortezomib 1.3 mg/m<sup>2</sup> IV push  
Days 1, 4, 8, 11 Q3W cycle, 8 cycles

**Time to progression (N = 669)**  
78% improvement in median TTP with  
bortezomib



**1-year survival (N = 669)**



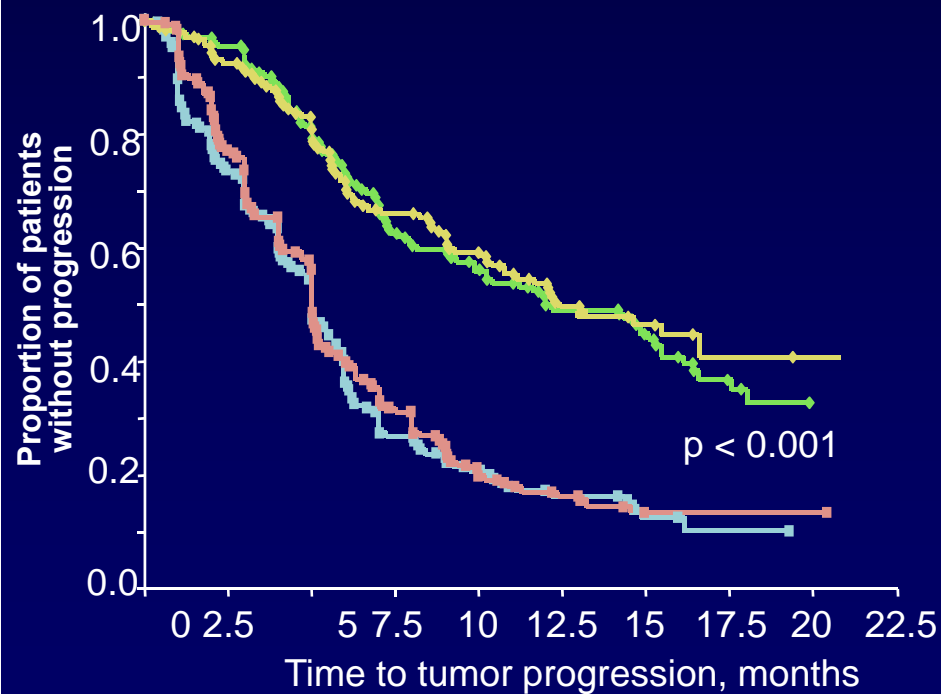
# Len/Dex vs Dex in Relapsed MM (MM09-MM010)

Lenalidomide 25 mg d 1–21  
Dex 40 mg d 1–4, 9–12, 17–20

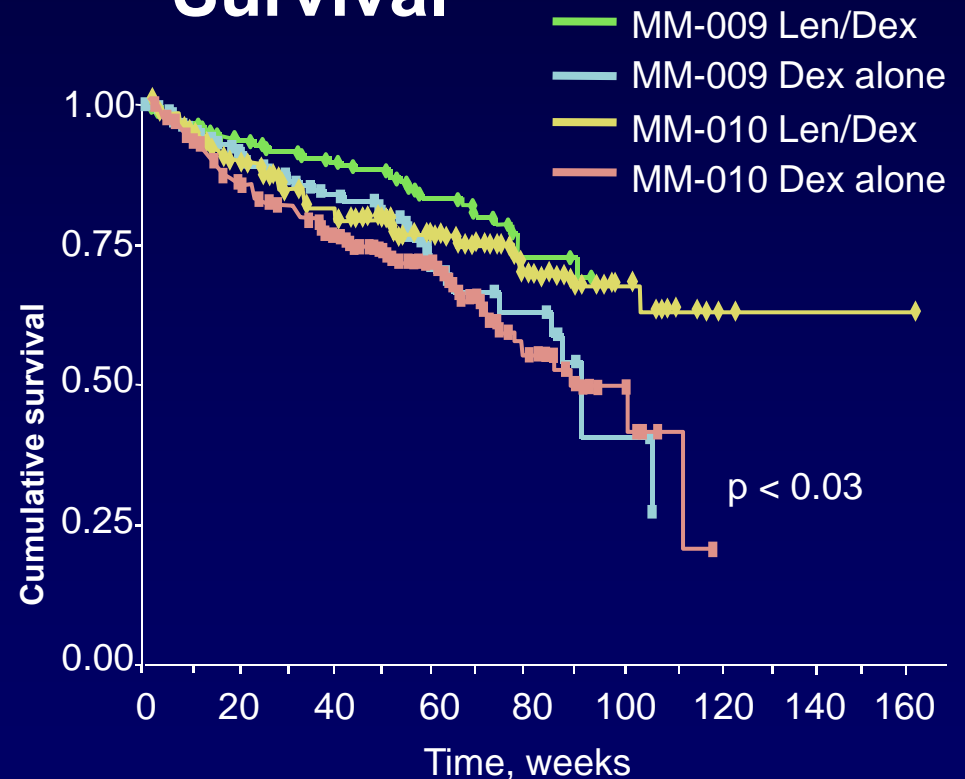
vs

Dex 40 mg d 1–4, 9–12, 17–20

## TTP



## Survival



# Current Standard Regimens

Induction regimen	Schedule
Bortezomib-Dexamethasone <sup>1</sup>	<b>21-day cycles</b> Bor: 1.3 mg/m <sup>2</sup> , d 1-4-8-11 Dex: 40 mg, d 1-4, 9-12
Bortezomib-Cyclophosphamide-Dexamethasone <sup>2</sup>	<b>28-day cycles</b> Bor: 1.3 mg/m <sup>2</sup> d 1-4-8-11 or 1.5 mg/m <sup>2</sup> d 1-8-15-22 Cycl: 300 mg/m <sup>2</sup> d 1-8-15-(22) Dex: 40 mg d 1, 8, 15, 22
Bortezomib-Doxorubicin-Dexamethasone <sup>3</sup>	<b>28-day cycles</b> Bor: 1.3 mg/m <sup>2</sup> d 1-4-8-11 Dox: 9 mg/m <sup>2</sup> d 1-4 Dex: 40 mg d 1, 8, 15, 22
Bortezomib-Thalidomide-Dexamethasone <sup>4</sup>	<b>21-day cycles</b> Bor: 1.3 mg/m <sup>2</sup> d 1-4-8-11 Thal: 100 - 200 mg/d Dex: 40 mg, d 1-4, 9-12
Bortezomib-Lenalidomide-Dexamethasone <sup>5</sup>	<b>28-day cycles</b> Bor: 1.3 or 1 mg/m <sup>2</sup> d 1-4-8-11 Len: 15 or 25 mg d 1-21 Dex: 40 mg d 1, 8, 15, 22
Lenalidomide-Dexamethasone <sup>6</sup>	<b>28-day cycles</b> Len: 25 mg d 1-21 Dex: 40 mg d 1, 8, 15, 22
Lenalidomide-Cyclophosphamide-Dexamethasone <sup>7</sup>	<b>28-day cycles</b> Len: 15 or 25 mg d 1-21 Cycl: 300 mg/m <sup>2</sup> d 1-8-15-(22) Dex: 40 mg d 1, 8, 15, 22

<sup>1</sup>Harousseau JL, et al. J Clin Oncol. 2010;28(30):4621-4629; <sup>2</sup>Khan ML, et al. Br J Haematol. 2012;156(3):326-333;

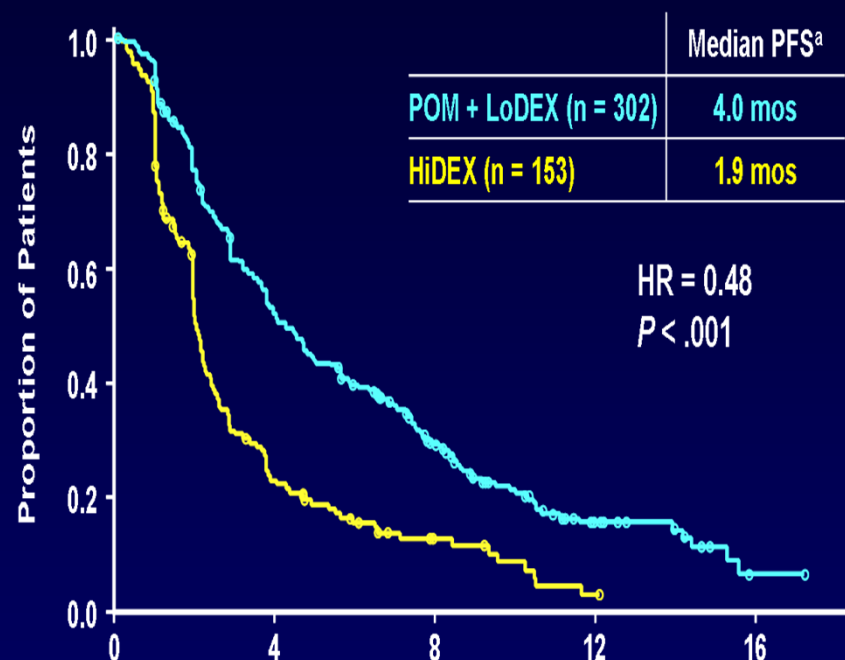
<sup>3</sup>Sonneveld P, et al. J Clin Oncol. 2012;30(24):2946-5295; <sup>4</sup>Cavo M, et al. Lancet. 2010;376(9758):2075-2085;

<sup>5</sup>Richardson PG, et al. Blood 2010; 116(5):679-686.



# POM-Dex vs Dex in Relapsed MM

## MM-003



At Risk (N)

POM + LoDEX

302

140

63

15

1

HiDEX

153

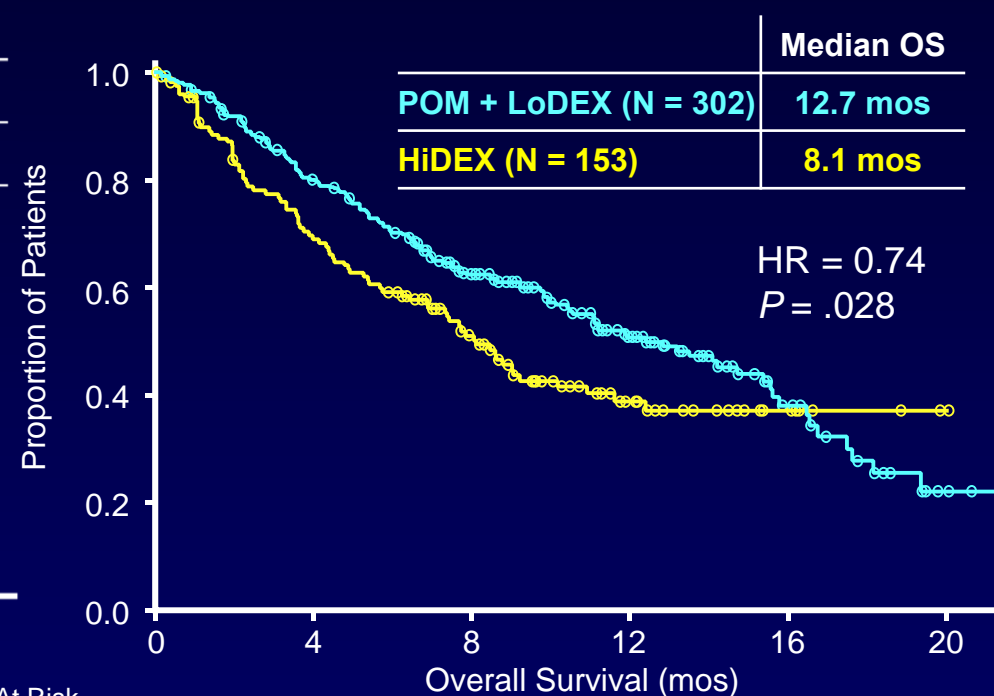
29

9

0

0

Progression-Free Survival (mos)



At Risk

POM + LoDEX

302

231

145

71

24

2

HiDEX

153

100

59

26

7

0

Overall Survival (mos)

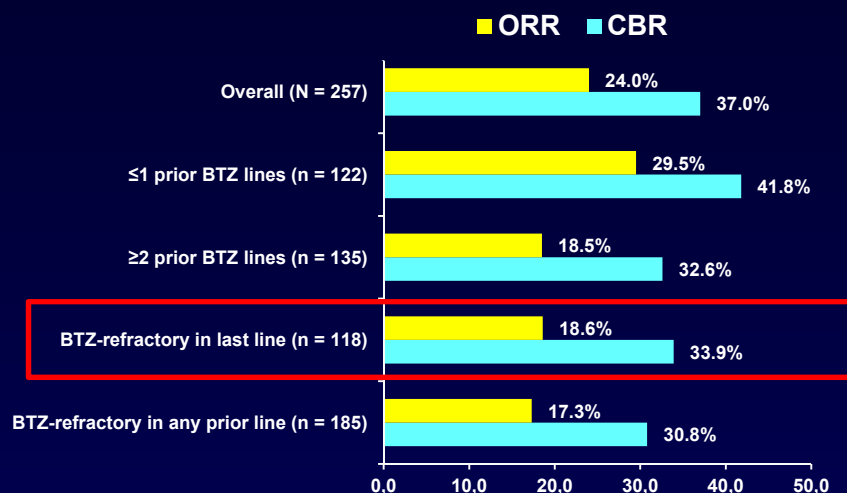
**76 pts (50%) in the HiDEX arm received POM**

<sup>a</sup> Based on IMWG criteria.

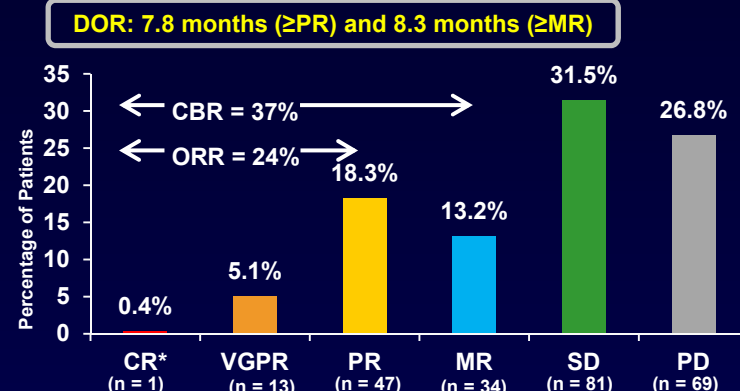
San-Miguel JF, et al. *J Clin Oncol*. 2013;31(Suppl): Abstract 8510.

# Carfilzomib in Bortezomib-Refractory MM Patients (PX-171-003-A1)

## Response Rates



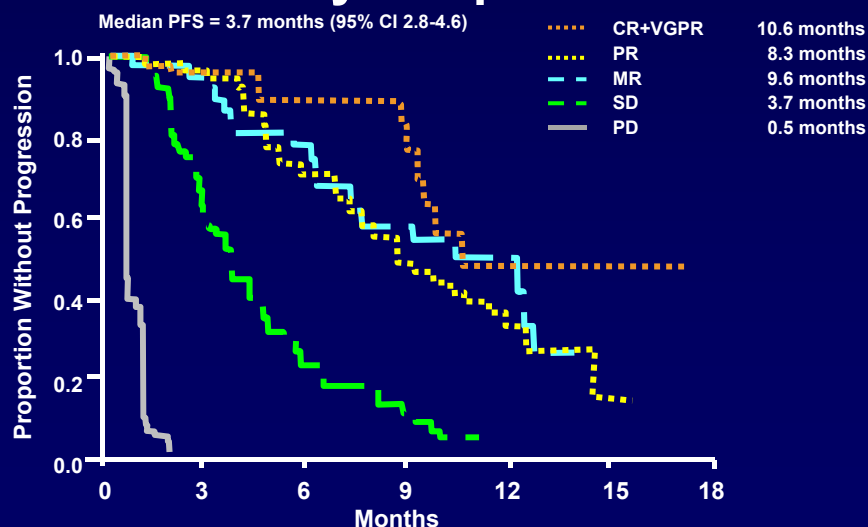
## Response Rates



Subset analyses of higher-risk populations showed similar response rates (eg, unfavorable cytogenetics, baseline peripheral neuropathy)

\* CR IRC determined; 11 patients had unconfirmed response

## PFS by Response



CR, complete response; DOR, duration of response; MR, minimal response; ORR, overall response rate; PD, progressive disease; PR, partial response; SD, stable disease; VGPR, very good PR

Siegel DS, et al. *J Clin Oncol*. 2011; 29(15S): Abstract 8027.

## Treatment-Emergent AEs

N = 266	Grade 3-4, %
<b>Hematologic</b>	
Thrombocytopenia	29
Anemia	24
Neutropenia	11
<b>Nonhematologic (&gt;1.5%)</b>	
Fatigue	7.5
Upper respiratory tract infection	4.5
Dyspnea	3.4
Blood creatinine increased	2.6
<b>Other AEs of Interest (&gt;1.5%)</b>	
Peripheral neuropathy	1.1

# Bendamustine in R/R MM

Study details	Results
+ Thal + Dex <sup>1</sup> (two doses of bendamustine: 60mg/m <sup>2</sup> vs 100mg/m <sup>2</sup> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• n=95</li> <li>• B100TD stopped due to lack of tolerability</li> <li>• <b>B60TD: ≥ PR46%, median PFS 7.5 mos</b></li> <li>• Grade 3/4: neutropenia 32%, thrombocytopenia 25%, anemia 14%</li> </ul>
+ Bortezomib + Dex <sup>2</sup> (6 cycles + 6 cycles maintenance)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• n=73, median age 75.8 years</li> <li>• <b>≥ PR 69.8%, VGPR 16.5%, CR 13.6%</b></li> <li>• <b>Median PFS 10.8 mos</b></li> <li>• <b>Median OS 23 mos</b></li> <li>• Grade 3/4: neutropenia: 19.1%, thrombocytopenia 10.9%, sepsis: 19.1%</li> </ul>
+ Bortezomib + Dex <sup>3</sup> (up to 6 cycles + 12 mos consolidation)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• n=75, median age 68</li> <li>• <b>≥ PR 71.5%, VGPR 18.5%, CR 16%</b></li> <li>• <b>Prior bortezomib reduced ORR</b></li> <li>• <b>Median TTP 16.5 mos, PFS 15.5 mos</b></li> <li>• Severe AEs: thrombocytopenia (30.5%), neutropenia (18.5%), infections (12%)</li> </ul>

1. Schey S, et al. *Blood*. 2013;120: Abstract 286; 2. Rodon G, et al. *Blood*. 2013;120: Abstract 1971; 3. Offidani M, et al. *Blood*. 2013;120: Abstract 1974

# Management of Hematologic Toxicity

## Neutropenia

## Action

**During the cycle**

**< 500/ $\mu$ L ANC**

**Withhold until grade 1,**

**reinitiate at lower dose**

**On the first day of next cycle**

**> 1,500/ $\mu$ L ANC**

## Thrombocytopenia

## Action

**During the cycle**

**< 25-50,000/ $\mu$ L PLT**

**Withhold until grade 1,**

**reinitiate at lower dose**

**On the first day of next cycle**

**< 75,000/ $\mu$ L PLT**

ANC, absolute neutrophil count; PLT, platelet

# Management of Non-Hematological Toxicity

## Thromboembolism: risk factors

## Action

No risk factors

Aspirin 100 mg/d

Previous TE, infection, immobilization, CVC

Doxorubicin, high-dose dexamethasone (> 160 mg/mo),

Enoxaparin 40 mg/d (4 months)  
→ Aspirin

## Peripheral neuropathy symptoms

## Action

Grade 1 (paresthesia)

No action

Grade 1 with pain or grade 2-3

Withhold until grade 1,  
reinitiate at lower dose

ADL, Activity of Daily Living; CVC, central venous catheter; TE, thromboembolism

# Dose Reduction Strategies

## Dexamethasone-Dose

Age	Action
≤ 65 years	40 mg/day - twice weekly
65–75 years	40 mg/day - weekly
≥ 75 years	10-20 mg/day - weekly

## Lenalidomide-Dose

Renal function	Action
≥ 50ml/min $CL_{Cr}$	25 mg once daily
30-50 ml/min $CL_{Cr}$	10 mg once daily
< 30ml/min $CL_{Cr}$	5 mg once daily

$CL_{Cr}$  , creatinine clearance

# Prophylactic Antibiotic

Infection	Action
At least for the first 3 cycles	Prophylactic antibiotic
Low blood counts	Immediate antibiotic treatment
Bortezomib, ASCT/allo-SCT	Prophylactic acyclovir
	Vaccination against influenza, Streptococcus pneumonia and Haemophilus influenzae

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ASCT, autologous stem cell transplantation; allo-SCT, allogeneic stem cell transplantation

# Pomalidomide + Low-Dose dexamethasone MM-008

A phase 1 study in patients with R/R MM and impaired renal function

Renal function	Action
$\geq 60\text{ml/min CL}_{\text{Cr}}$	POM 4 mg/day d 1-21/28
$< 30\text{ml/min CL}_{\text{Cr}}$	POM 2 mg/day escalating to 4 mg/day

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# Management of Adverse Events in MM Patients Treated With Novel Agents

## Skin toxicity

## Action

Grade 1

Steroids and antihistamines

Grade 1 with pain or grade 2-3

Steroids and antihistamines,  
withhold until grade 1, reinitiate at lower dose

---

## Gastrointestinal toxicity

## Action

Grade 1

Supportive therapy

Grade 1 with pain or grade 2-3

Supportive therapy,  
withhold until grade 1, reinitiate at lower dose

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# prIME Points™

- ☑ Evaluation of disease status
  - Early –Late relapse
  - Sensitive – Resistant disease
  
- ☑ Evaluation of patient status
  - Fit - Frail condition
  
- ☑ Prompt action on adverse event
  - withhold until grade 1
  - reinitiate at lower dose